

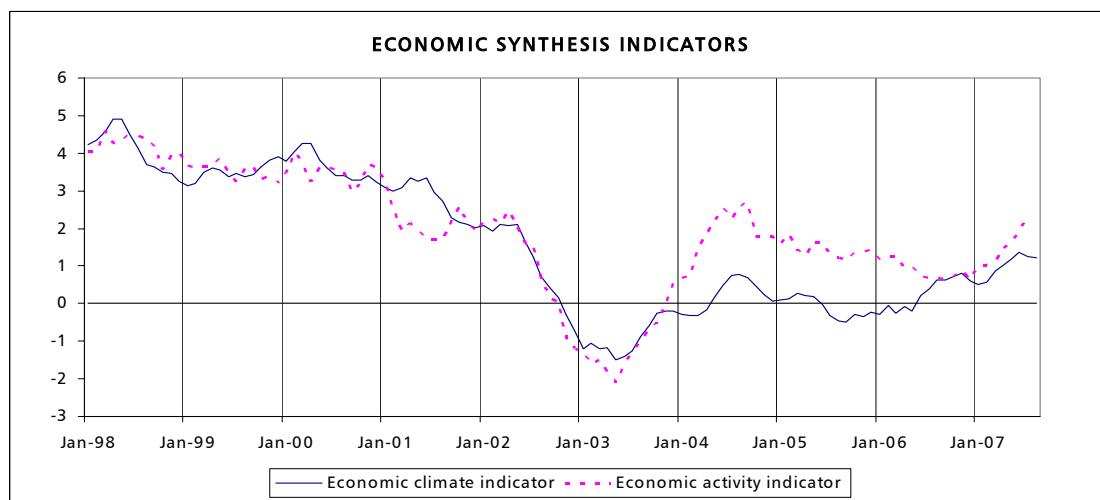
19th September, 2007

Monthly Economic Survey

August 2007

Investment and consumption continued to recover in July. Nominal exports decelerate.

Globally, the indications on the international background were less favourable. On the domestic side, the economic climate indicator became worse in July and August, although staying close to the maximum of the five previous years, presented in June. The economic activity indicator, available until July, continued the upward trend started in January, mainly reflecting a stronger domestic demand. Effectively, the quantitative consumption indicator continued to accelerate in July due to a higher growth of the consumption of durable and non-durable goods. Investment might have recovered as well, with the GFCF indicator improving in the last six months and reaching the best value since the end of 1998 in July. The information from the short-term statistics revealed favourable evolutions, between June and July, in services and construction, while industry continued to deteriorate. External trade data, with preliminary results up to July, showed decelerations of both imports (1.4 p.p.) and exports (1.8 p.p.), though exports maintained a higher growth rate than imports. The available information on the labour market, presented mixed indications. On one hand, in July, data from the short-term statistics points to an evolution of employment slightly less unfavourable and the job vacancies along the month increased more intensely accordingly to the information from the employment centres. On the other hand, in July there was a less intense reduction of the unemployment registrations along the month. Inflation was 2.1% in August, 0.3 p.p. more than in July, reaching the minimum value since June 2005.



Report based on information available up to September 17, 2007.

Next report will be released on October 18, 2007.

NOTES

With exception of situations duly identified, the values presented in tables and graphs and others that also serve for the analysis are, in the case of quantitative series, year-on-year rates of change (y.r.) under three-month moving average (3-mma) or, in the case of qualitative series, 3-mma of seasonally adjusted values (s.a.) or of effective values (e.v). Annual information correspond to 12-mma, with the exception of variables presented as y.r. on stocks, where the annual value corresponds to the variation of the balance at the end of the year.

Balances: differences between the percentage of respondents giving positive and negative replies. Annualised variation (a.v.). Weight (w.).



		Year 2005	Year 2006	Quarter 2 2006	Quarter 3 2006	Quarter 4 2006	Quarter 1 2007	Quarter 2 2007	Feb-07	Mar-07	Apr-07	May-07	Jun-07	Jul-07	Aug-07
International background															
GDP of customer countries	s.a/y.r.	2.2	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.3	3.1	2.8	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Industrial production index of customer countries	s.a/y.r./3-mma	0.8	3.3	3.3	3.5	3.6	3.0	2.3	3.2	3.0	3.0	2.7	2.3	-	-
Order books in industry of EU	balance/s.a.-3mma	-18.0	-3.5	-4.2	0.0	2.7	4.3	6.2	3.4	4.3	5.7	6.4	6.2	5.2	4.9
Consumer confidence indicator in EU	balance/s.a.-3mma	-10.7	-7.5	-7.9	-7.4	-6.1	-5.0	-2.3	-5.5	-5.0	-4.2	-3.1	-2.3	-1.6	-1.9
Unemployment rate in EU	s.a/%	8.7	7.9	8.0	7.8	7.5	7.2	7.0	7.2	7.1	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.8	-
Harmonised index of consumer price in EU	y.r.	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.1	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.7
Production price index of supplying countries	y.r./3-mma	3.8	4.2	4.8	4.5	3.2	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.5	-
Crude oil price (Brent)	y.r./3-mma	42.7	18.2	34.9	8.4	-3.4	-14.2	-8.1	-11.9	-14.2	-11.6	-10.4	-8.1	-4.9	-5.0
Economic activity															
GDP	y.r.	0.5	1.3	0.9	1.5	1.6	2.0	1.6	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Economic climate indicator	balance/3-mma	-0.1	0.3	0.2	0.6	0.6	0.9	1.4	0.6	0.9	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.2
Economic activity indicator	3-mma	1.4	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6	1.1	1.9	1.0	1.1	1.5	1.6	1.9	2.3	-
Total turnover index	y.r./3-mma	0.6	2.6	1.5	4.5	2.7	4.8	4.2	3.6	4.8	5.3	4.6	4.2	4.2	-
Manufacturing industry production index	y.r./3-mma	-1.5	2.3	1.5	3.5	2.5	4.7	3.6	3.5	4.7	5.2	4.6	3.6	2.1	-
Production index in construction	y.r./3-mma	-4.9	-6.6	-7.4	-7.9	-7.2	-6.8	-4.7	-7.9	-6.8	-5.9	-5.4	-4.7	-3.7	-
Retail trade turnover index (real)	y.r./3-mma	1.7	1.2	0.0	3.4	1.1	1.7	-0.1	1.1	1.7	1.0	0.5	-0.1	0.1	-
Consumption															
Consumer confidence indicator	balance/3-mma	-37.7	-34.2	-36.2	-31.9	-31.0	-33.2	-32.9	-31.4	-33.2	-33.4	-33.0	-32.9	-33.2	-34.6
Quantitative indicator of consumption	y.r./3-mma	2.7	1.3	0.8	2.0	1.1	1.6	2.0	1.2	1.6	1.6	1.6	2.0	2.2	-
Indicator of non-durable consumer goods	y.r./3-mma	2.4	1.5	1.8	1.8	1.3	1.9	1.3	1.6	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.3	1.6	-
Indicator of durable consumer goods	y.r./3-mma	4.9	-0.4	-6.4	3.7	0.0	-0.4	6.5	-1.5	-0.4	0.8	1.9	6.5	6.8	-
Sales of passenger vehicles	y.r./3-mma	5.4	-5.9	-12.7	0.0	-6.2	-5.1	8.8	-9.0	-5.1	-2.4	-0.3	8.8	8.4	-
Credit for consumption	y.r./stocks	3.8	21.0	17.2	23.2	21.0	16.3	11.6	23.3	16.3	15.9	13.5	11.6	-	-
Investment															
GFCF indicator		-2.2	-3.6	-5.3	-3.0	-4.6	-1.5	6.3	-2.5	-1.5	0.3	2.2	6.3	9.9	-
Cement sales	y.r./3-mma	-6.0	-8.3	-10.9	-9.6	-9.9	-2.2	0.8	-6.6	-2.2	1.2	3.5	0.8	-	-
Sales of steel for concrete	y.r./3-mma	-6.8	5.9	12.8	14.3	-11.5	-6.9	-4.0	-13.5	-6.9	0.4	-2.8	-4.0	-	-
Credit for purchase of habitation	y.r./stocks	11.9	15.6	16.2	15.2	15.6	9.6	9.0	14.7	9.6	9.6	9.1	9.0	-	-
Licenses for construction of new habitations	y.r./3-mma	-2.0	-6.8	-5.0	-8.3	-13.3	-10.3	-11.9	-15.1	-10.3	-10.7	-10.8	-11.9	-9.3	-
Machinery and equipment indicator		-1.9	0.0	-3.5	0.2	3.3	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.1	2.8	2.7	3.2	3.8	4.2
Sales of light commercial vehicles	y.r./3-mma	-1.8	-7.3	-15.7	-6.4	-1.0	1.5	48.0	-3.3	1.5	5.2	14.5	48.0	38.8	30.0
Sales of new heavy commercial vehicles	y.r./3-mma	0.1	12.9	26.0	52.0	-31.9	2.7	-9.0	-5.2	2.7	-31.1	-21.8	-9.0	80.5	56.6
External demand															
External demand indicator in value	s.a/y.r./3-mma	10.4	10.5	12.2	8.9	7.0	5.3	4.5	5.8	5.3	4.8	3.9	4.5	-	-
External order books	balance/3-mma	-23.7	-14.4	-14.0	-13.7	-10.7	-7.0	-2.0	-10.3	-7.0	-6.7	-4.0	-2.0	0.7	0.0
Exports of merchandises in value	y.r./3-mma	2.8	12.4	12.3	13.1	12.7	11.6	7.0	12.6	11.6	10.9	7.6	7.0	5.2	-
Imports of merchandises in value	y.r./3-mma	5.5	8.1	7.1	8.7	5.7	1.9	4.6	3.9	1.9	2.4	3.8	4.6	3.2	-
Labour market															
Unemployment rate	%	7.6	7.7	7.3	7.4	8.2	8.4	7.9	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Employment	y.r.	0.0	0.7	1.0	1.1	0.2	0.2	-0.5	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Unemployed registration along the month	s.a/y.r./3-mma	4.1	1.2	-0.8	-1.1	2.6	-5.3	-3.8	-2.5	-5.3	-4.8	-5.8	-3.8	-2.8	-
Unemployment expectations	balance/3-mma	49.0	43.8	45.2	40.0	39.3	40.5	40.4	38.0	40.5	41.4	40.9	40.4	40.6	42.1
Vacancies along the month	s.a/y.r./3-mma	5.4	3.6	3.8	6.9	-0.1	15.1	3.0	7.5	15.1	11.3	5.1	3.0	4.9	-
Employment indicator (short-term statistics)	y.r./3-mma	-2.2	-1.9	-1.8	-1.8	-1.9	-1.1	-0.8	-1.5	-1.1	-0.9	-0.9	-0.8	-0.7	-
Wage negotiation	a.v./3-mma/qw.	2.7	2.8	3.1	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.9	2.7	2.5	2.7	2.8	2.9	2.9	-
Prices and exchange rates															
Consumer price index	y.r.	2.3	3.1	3.7	3.0	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.7	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.1
Core inflation indicator	y.r.	1.6	2.0	2.0	2.1	1.9	1.6	2.0	1.6	1.6	1.9	1.9	2.2	2.4	2.1
Consumer price index - goods	y.r.	1.9	3.2	4.0	3.2	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.6	2.1	2.1	2.1	1.5
Consumer price index - services	y.r.	3.0	2.9	3.1	2.7	2.6	2.6	3.1	2.6	2.4	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.0
Manufacturing industry production price index	y.r./3-mma	3.5	4.6	5.6	4.9	2.8	1.5	1.6	2.2	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.5	-
Exchange rate euro/USD	y.r.	0.1	0.9	-0.2	0.0	8.5	9.0	7.3	9.5	10.2	10.1	5.8	6.1	8.1	6.3
Exchange rate euro/JPY	y.r.	1.8	6.6	6.2	0.0	8.9	11.3	13.2	12.0	10.1	11.9	14.4	13.4	13.7	7.1