

Business and consumer survey results for June 2020

## Recovery of euro area and EU Economic Sentiment intensifies – Employment Expectations again up

In June 2020, the recovery of the *Economic Sentiment Indicator* (ESI), which had tentatively started in May, intensified. Registering the sharpest month-on-month increase on record in the euro area (+8.2 points up to 75.7) and the EU (+8.1 points up to 74.8), the ESI in both regions has so far recovered some 30% of the combined losses of March and April. Also the Employment Expectations Indicator (EEI) improved sharply for the second month in a row (by 12.7 points to 82.8 in the euro area and by 11.9 points to 82.7 in the EU).

### Euro-area developments

Graph 1: EA Economic sentiment & Employment expectations (s.a.)

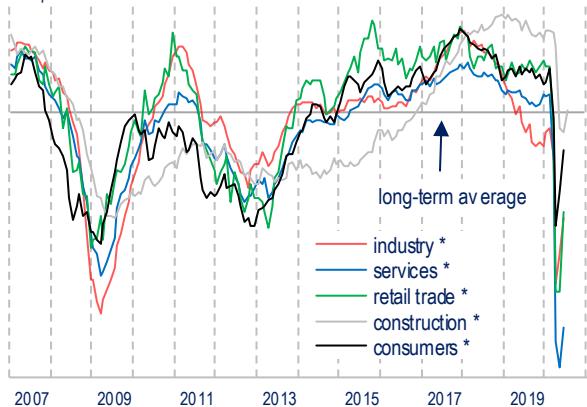


source: European Commission services

In the euro area, the ESI's recovery was propelled by significant increases in confidence across all surveyed business sectors (i.e. industry, services, retail trade, construction) and among consumers. This contrasts with last month which had only seen industry and consumer confidence significantly improve. The largest gain, compensating for about a third of the combined losses over March and April, was registered in retail trade. From a country-perspective, the ESI recovered in all of the largest euro-area economies, namely in France (+9.4), the Netherlands (+8.3), Spain and Italy (both +8.2), as well as Germany (+6.6).

**Industry confidence** continued last month's forceful recovery (+5.8), driven by another hefty improvement in *production expectations*, which are now almost back to their February level. Yet, appraisals of the adequacy of *stocks of finished products* continued deteriorating, while they remained broadly unchanged in respect of the *current level of overall order books*. Of the questions not entering the calculation of the confidence indicator, a sharp rebound in the *level of past production* indicates that the recovery of the sector heralded by last month's heightened production expectations started materialising. The assessments of *export order books* continued deteriorating. After its record slide over the last three months, **services confidence** rebounded (+8.0), thanks to a second month of rallying *demand expectations*, which were, this time around, coupled with a comparatively small deterioration of *past demand* and assessments of the *past business situation* edging up. The latter hints at the expected recovery starting to gain traction. **Consumer confidence** (+4.1) continued last month's recovery on the back of households' much improved expectations in respect of their *financial situation*, their *intentions to make major purchases* and, particularly, the *general economic situation*. Same as in May, households' assessments of their *past financial situation* deteriorated, but on a much smaller scale. **Retail trade confidence** bounced back (+10.4) from rock bottom, thanks to managers' drastically improved *business expectations* and views on the adequacy of the *volume of stocks*, as well as, to a

Graph 2: EA confidence indicators



\* standardised over the period 2000-2019

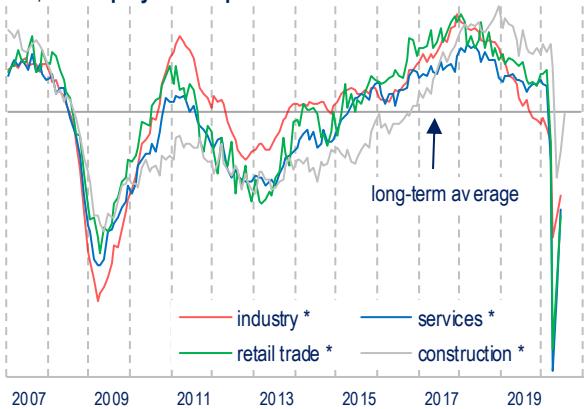
lesser extent, more benign appraisals of the present business situation. **Construction confidence** rebounded (+4.9), as managers' employment expectations recovered markedly and their assessments of the level of order books improved moderately. Finally, **financial services confidence** (not included in the ESI) booked sharp increases, reverting some 40% of the confidence crunch experienced between February and April. The surge was driven by all components of the indicator, i.e. assessments of the past business situation and past demand, as well as managers' demand expectations.

The **Employment Expectations Indicator** continued last month's steep recovery (+12.7), thanks to markedly improved employment plans in all surveyed sectors. Depending on the sector looked at, employment plans have so far recovered some 40 to 60% of the record losses incurred in March and April. Chiming with the recovering employment plans, consumers' unemployment expectations (which are not included in the EEI) saw the first significant easing since the outbreak of the crisis.

**Selling price expectations** bounced back markedly in industry, services and retail trade, while remaining broadly flat in construction. Consumer price expectations, by contrast, plummeted to an extent last seen in the financial crisis.

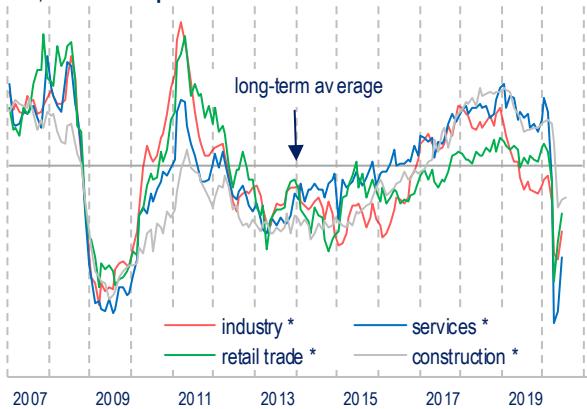
Data collection period: 1 June to 22 June.

Graph 3: Employment expectations in the EA



\* standardised over the period 2000-2019

Graph 4: Price expectations in the EA



\* standardised over the period 2000-2019

Graph 5: Consumer expectations in the EA



Graph 6: EA Financial services confidence indicator



















TABLE 3 (continued) : Monthly survey of services (s.a.)

	Since 2000 (*)				2019						2020							
	Min.		Ave.	Max.		Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	
	Date	Value		Date	Value													
SELLING-PRICE EXPECTATIONS (Question 6)	EU	04-20	-10.6	4.2	12-07	14.4	8.2	8.4	7.2	7.6	7.0	8.0	9.9	8.9	2.9	-10.6	-9.3	-4.1
	EA	04-20	-9.9	4.1	12-07	14.1	8.6	8.9	7.7	8.0	7.3	8.4	10.4	9.1	2.8	-9.9	-8.8	-3.9
	BE	01-10	-13.8	7.5	07-08	28.8	5.8	10.4	10.1	8.8	3.7	-2.5	10.0	12.2	6.3	-1.2	0.8	2.9
	BG	01-11	-11.9	5.8	07-04	37.5	8.7	7.9	5.3	8.8	6.0	7.2	4.9	6.7	2.1	-9.5	-8.1	-4.5
	CZ	05-20	-12.6	4.5	01-04	23.6	5.2	5.2	2.9	1.7	1.1	7.7	-1.0	6.4	4.4	-9.6	-12.6	-3.1
	DK	04-20	-18.7	0.1	12-10	16.2	-1.2	2.0	-1.2	-0.1	-0.4	-0.7	-0.5	0.9	-2.2	-18.7	-14.3	-7.5
	DE	04-03	-8.5	12.2	01-19	26.3	19.3	21.5	17.3	18.8	15.8	20.2	23.6	19.3	9.6	-0.9	3.5	6.0
	EE	03-09	-31.5	8.8	01-18	26.8	5.7	9.1	5.1	6.5	7.7	5.2	6.9	8.3	10.5	-31.0	-26.3	-23.2
	IE	08-09	-51.0	1.3	11-18	29.9	13.9	15.4	15.8	16.5	18.5	13.4	15.7	11.6	1.9	-10.7	-9.6	-7.7
	EL	09-12	-40.2	-4.1	06-06	24.2	-0.1	-0.1	0.8	0.5	-4.3	-4.0	-0.9	9.4	2.0	-17.9	-29.3	-32.6
	ES	05-20	-19.0	3.0	09-04	20.3	6.2	9.5	8.1	5.0	5.8	5.6	9.5	8.0	1.7	-13.6	-19.0	-5.5
	FR	07-09	-21.0	-3.2	12-00	7.1	1.6	-1.5	-2.1	0.6	0.0	0.4	1.0	0.5	-2.9	-19.0	-19.7	-12.0
	HR	04-20	-19.8	0.2	07-08	25.4	9.7	8.7	6.6	11.6	8.8	9.3	10.0	8.5	5.0	-19.8	-7.2	-7.7
	IT	04-13	-15.6	-0.5	05-04	17.7	2.3	1.4	3.4	-0.2	2.2	1.8	-0.6	1.0	-5.2	:	-12.5	-7.3
	CY	04-13	-38.9	0.7	06-03	72.7	-1.6	1.8	7.0	9.6	1.2	2.5	0.5	4.5	-7.3	-27.5	-25.4	-18.1
	LV	12-09	-31.1	5.8	12-07	35.8	3.1	4.0	3.5	3.0	4.1	1.6	6.1	3.6	-0.5	-16.7	-14.8	-9.5
	LT	06-09	-23.0	1.3	08-06	20.8	1.1	6.1	6.8	12.7	12.2	10.6	13.9	12.2	7.7	-9.8	-4.1	-0.3
	LU	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
	HU	02-09	-8.5	7.0	09-06	28.0	15.8	12.3	11.1	16.8	15.9	11.9	19.5	17.4	22.0	5.1	9.6	10.7
	MT	11-16	-45.0	3.1	11-18	39.0	13.2	18.2	23.2	18.2	31.9	24.4	21.3	18.4	4.9	-19.2	-17.7	-12.7
	NL	08-09	-5.5	9.2	01-07	30.7	10.4	9.8	9.2	10.4	9.8	13.7	15.4	14.6	10.0	-3.8	-1.7	4.2
	AT	05-09	-10.3	9.8	11-07	30.4	12.4	9.4	10.1	9.0	12.2	12.5	14.2	9.5	3.5	-0.8	-0.8	-4.4
	PL	04-20	-16.1	1.1	04-08	16.8	2.2	2.7	1.8	2.0	4.4	3.7	11.4	10.1	5.7	-16.1	-13.9	-7.6
	PT	04-20	-21.8	-0.5	11-05	13.7	4.8	3.3	3.6	4.2	4.3	3.8	2.9	3.8	-2.6	-21.8	-13.9	-14.5
	RO	06-20	-12.2	11.4	04-04	54.5	6.7	5.4	7.6	6.4	5.2	5.6	5.0	4.7	3.1	-12.0	-8.0	-12.2
	SI	02-10	-16.4	1.7	01-08	23.1	3.5	6.0	6.1	5.7	9.1	8.4	12.7	12.3	3.3	-13.7	-8.7	-9.7
	SK	12-10	-17.5	10.9	07-02	68.9	-0.2	7.9	14.9	21.3	18.4	12.6	16.6	9.5	19.9	15.2	28.6	8.2
	FI	07-04	-25.1	8.6	01-08	40.7	7.4	12.3	4.3	8.5	7.9	12.6	16.0	13.7	12.0	-10.0	-4.7	-8.3
	SE	05-20	-23.3	8.9	11-07	32.4	10.3	5.3	5.0	6.0	7.8	7.6	7.7	7.8	-1.2	-20.2	-23.3	-6.2

(\*) Minimum, maximum and averages are calculated over the period of availability which is not necessarily as from 01/2000.

(a) The indicator is the arithmetic average of the balances (%) for the questions on business situation and recent and expected evolution of demand.













TABLE 5 (continued) : Monthly survey of retail trade (s.a.)

	Since 2000 (*)				2019						2020							
	Min.		Ave.	Max.		Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	
	Date	Value		Date	Value													
SELLING-PRICE EXPECTATIONS (Question 6)	EU	08-09	-6.0	6.7	11-07	22.2	8.0	7.7	8.0	7.9	7.6	9.2	9.7	8.8	5.5	-5.9	-1.0	1.8
	EA	03-09	-8.7	5.7	11-07	21.5	6.8	6.1	7.0	6.6	6.4	7.9	8.6	7.4	3.9	-8.0	-3.1	0.1
	BE	08-09	-13.2	6.5	04-11	26.4	4.9	4.0	12.9	4.9	4.4	14.7	12.2	5.9	4.4	-7.9	-10.3	5.0
	BG	11-09	-9.2	10.2	07-08	45.8	8.4	9.7	9.3	5.4	8.6	7.3	15.3	10.3	4.3	-8.4	-5.5	0.5
	CZ	01-15	-11.9	4.3	01-04	22.5	10.0	7.7	9.7	12.8	4.0	10.3	17.8	12.6	8.3	22.4	22.3	18.7
	DK	04-20	-16.4	0.3	02-11	24.2	-2.2	-1.2	-0.9	-1.6	-0.2	1.8	-2.1	-0.7	-2.0	-16.4	-10.9	-7.6
	DE	04-20	-9.6	10.7	11-06	38.6	14.1	11.3	14.0	12.9	15.0	17.4	19.0	12.6	8.3	-9.6	3.0	-1.3
	EE	03-09	-35.9	28.8	04-11	54.9	19.9	37.4	35.4	35.4	32.6	33.0	33.4	35.5	35.3	2.4	2.5	14.3
	IE	07-09	-51.4	7.9	11-07	39.0	18.9	19.0	18.9	29.5	10.0	16.1	17.6	19.4	13.7	-2.0	0.0	11.3
	EL	06-12	-35.2	-0.5	05-08	33.6	11.1	9.6	0.8	4.9	8.4	9.8	9.9	12.8	13.1	4.5	-10.9	-9.4
	ES	02-09	-18.6	4.7	01-05	28.7	9.0	7.7	7.1	4.7	3.5	6.1	5.8	9.2	4.5	-12.3	-7.5	-3.1
	FR	03-09	-29.4	-2.8	11-07	14.0	-1.7	-0.6	1.6	2.4	1.4	1.5	1.0	2.2	-0.6	-6.0	-6.1	-2.3
	HR	04-20	-16.9	1.4	06-08	31.6	9.5	4.6	6.4	4.7	4.9	8.2	13.0	4.8	6.4	-16.9	-10.9	-0.1
	IT	08-05	-14.5	7.3	06-08	33.1	1.7	2.0	1.5	0.1	-0.6	-2.5	1.8	1.3	-1.8	:	-5.1	2.1
	CY	04-13	-27.7	4.0	07-08	34.3	5.0	5.0	4.6	1.1	8.2	11.0	14.8	8.1	8.3	-5.6	-1.6	0.2
	LV	01-10	-22.5	19.7	05-04	55.7	8.5	11.9	10.4	5.8	6.5	11.9	15.1	12.5	5.0	-7.3	0.7	9.0
	LT	07-09	-46.5	8.2	04-11	61.7	4.4	2.9	7.1	7.1	8.6	7.1	7.2	6.6	1.2	-6.7	-3.9	2.6
	LU	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
	HU	03-10	3.6	32.4	06-00	80.8	15.4	21.6	10.1	24.0	25.2	17.4	12.8	11.6	14.3	18.8	31.8	25.8
	MT	02-19	-32.9	4.7	04-15	33.7	2.6	-11.5	0.2	-28.4	3.8	-5.7	0.6	0.6	-7.8	5.9	13.0	24.8
	NL	11-10	-18.7	5.7	10-12	26.2	6.9	3.8	3.9	4.6	5.8	6.2	2.5	6.6	6.4	-2.6	0.5	4.9
	AT	09-09	-1.0	13.7	02-08	34.1	9.8	15.6	8.4	16.8	13.1	24.6	16.2	19.4	7.1	4.6	5.5	13.7
	PL	07-02	-7.0	14.1	03-09	39.4	14.9	17.6	14.9	15.3	16.0	17.9	21.5	22.5	22.5	6.2	8.8	14.6
	PT	07-03	-21.5	3.5	07-05	25.3	0.6	1.5	2.6	2.4	1.8	1.6	2.8	2.6	0.8	-9.3	-8.5	-2.3
	RO	01-16	-14.9	24.5	10-04	56.0	15.4	25.5	14.2	10.4	17.0	25.8	23.7	15.0	11.8	13.0	18.8	25.0
	SI	03-09	-32.6	9.3	02-08	40.2	11.3	12.5	7.5	17.0	-21.5	3.0	27.1	19.7	6.8	-5.1	-5.8	23.2
	SK	07-09	-36.9	15.8	11-02	73.9	25.1	23.9	18.8	19.1	23.0	27.6	25.9	19.3	23.3	-3.7	-6.8	0.2
	FI	03-15	-48.9	4.2	07-11	59.6	4.8	1.5	1.4	-1.1	4.4	-1.2	-0.2	-0.4	-3.4	-21.4	-11.3	-2.9
	SE	07-05	-10.3	14.6	11-18	38.8	29.1	29.3	25.5	32.6	26.9	28.1	20.2	28.4	22.9	12.5	18.8	8.1

(\*) Minimum, maximum and averages are calculated over the period of availability which is not necessarily as from 01/2000.

(a) The indicator is the arithmetic average of the balances (%) for the present and the future business situation, and for stocks – with inverted sign.





TABLE 7: Monthly survey of financial services sector <sup>(a)</sup>

	Since 04/2006				2019						2020							
	Min.		Ave.	Max.		Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	
	Date	Value		Date	Value													
FINANCIAL SERVICES	EU	04-20	-51.1	13.1	04-06	43.3	10.5	6.4	12.9	8.8	15.1	17.0	19.7	13.9	-2.1	-51.1	-49.5	-25.4
CONFIDENCE INDICATOR <sup>(b)</sup>	EA	04-20	-51.9	11.5	04-06	42.6	10.1	5.3	11.6	4.1	13.6	15.2	19.4	12.4	-2.6	-51.9	-48.6	-22.8
ASSESSMENT OF BUSINESS SITUATION OVER THE PAST 3 MONTHS <sup>(c)</sup>	EU	05-20	-63.4	10.4	04-06	38.6	11.5	4.9	7.0	5.4	13.8	18.3	24.5	16.0	0.6	-50.1	-63.4	-38.1
EVOLUTION OF DEMAND OVER THE PAST 3 MONTHS <sup>(c)</sup>	EA	05-20	-62.4	9.1	04-06	39.6	11.4	4.1	5.9	1.4	12.8	17.5	24.1	14.1	1.5	-50.5	-62.4	-35.6
EVOLUTION OF DEMAND EXPECTED OVER THE NEXT 3 MONTHS <sup>(c)</sup>	EU	05-20	-51.6	12.2	04-06	41.6	16.8	9.8	14.9	10.8	19.2	19.8	22.9	15.7	3.4	-41.6	-51.6	-34.4
EVOLUTION OF DEMAND EXPECTED OVER THE NEXT 3 MONTHS <sup>(c)</sup>	EA	05-20	-50.8	10.9	04-06	40.3	16.3	9.3	13.3	5.6	16.9	19.3	24.4	14.1	2.8	-43.8	-50.8	-31.8
EVOLUTION OF EMPLOYMENT OVER THE PAST 3 MONTHS	EU	04-20	-61.6	16.8	04-06	49.5	3.3	4.3	16.9	10.3	12.3	12.9	11.8	10.0	-10.2	-61.6	-33.5	-3.8
EVOLUTION OF EMPLOYMENT OVER THE PAST 3 MONTHS	EA	04-20	-61.5	14.6	04-06	47.8	2.7	2.4	15.5	5.2	10.9	8.8	9.8	8.9	-12.1	-61.5	-32.5	-1.2
EVOLUTION OF EMPLOYMENT EXPECTED OVER THE NEXT 3 MONTHS	EU	02-09	-11.2	6.0	01-07	23.3	3.5	3.2	6.6	6.5	10.2	5.4	1.6	1.0	2.5	-9.9	-10.9	-6.4
EVOLUTION OF EMPLOYMENT EXPECTED OVER THE NEXT 3 MONTHS	EA	03-13	-12.4	4.1	09-08	25.7	3.0	3.0	5.2	7.6	11.2	3.1	1.0	0.7	3.1	-9.7	-11.4	-5.5
EVOLUTION OF EMPLOYMENT EXPECTED OVER THE NEXT 3 MONTHS	EU	04-20	-26.6	7.6	04-06	30.0	6.0	3.4	9.4	13.7	11.7	6.4	6.7	6.7	1.8	-26.6	-17.5	-7.7
EVOLUTION OF EMPLOYMENT EXPECTED OVER THE NEXT 3 MONTHS	EA	04-20	-26.6	5.0	04-06	29.5	5.7	1.8	8.7	11.5	13.8	6.1	6.6	7.0	2.7	-26.6	-17.5	-6.7

(a) Data are not seasonally adjusted.

(b) The confidence indicator is the arithmetic average of the balances (%) for the questions on business situation and past and expected evolution of demand.

(c) Component of the confidence indicator.

## Information

The Directorate-General Financial and Economic Affairs (DG ECFIN) of the European Commission publishes the Business and Consumer Survey Results every month. The issues of January, April, July and October also include the quarterly survey results for the manufacturing industry and consumers. The April and November issues also include the investment survey results.

The data of the surveys is processed by DG ECFIN's Unit Economic situation, forecasts, business and consumer surveys (A3), Sector Business and consumer surveys and short-term forecast.

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To obtain additional information regarding these survey results you can contact DG ECFIN at the following addresses:

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**Website:** [https://ec.europa.eu/economy\\_finance/bcs](https://ec.europa.eu/economy_finance/bcs)

**Upcoming releases:** Flash Consumer Confidence Indicator 23 July 2020  
Full Business and Consumer Survey Results (incl. ESI, EEI, sectoral CIs) 30 July 2020