

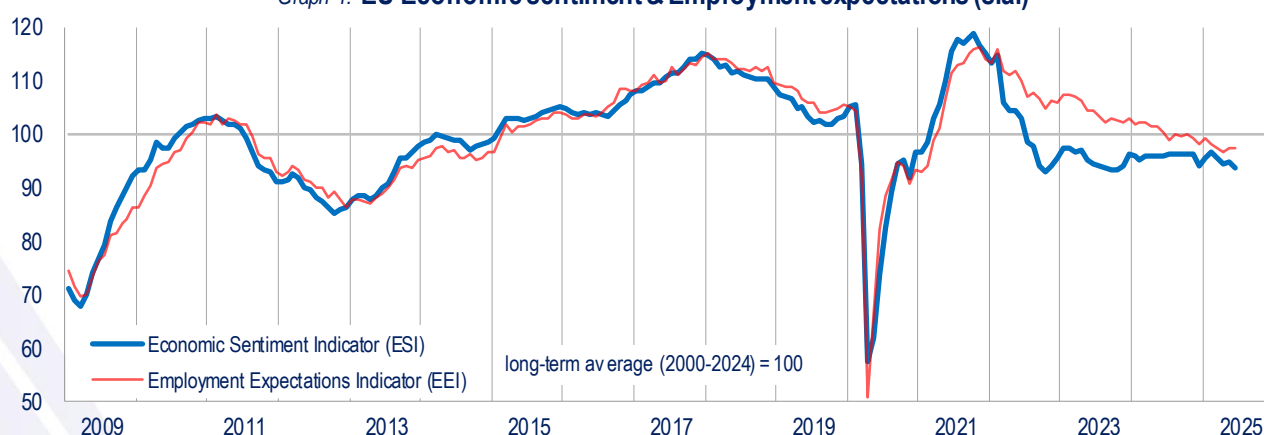
Business and consumer survey results for June 2025

Economic Sentiment down in the EU and the euro area; Employment Expectations broadly stable in both regions

In June 2025, the *Economic Sentiment Indicator* (ESI) decreased in both the EU (-1.0 points to 94.0) and the euro area (-0.8 points to 94.0).¹ The *Employment Expectations Indicator* (EEI) stayed broadly unchanged compared to May (EU: ± 0.0 at 97.5, euro area: +0.1 points to 97.1). Both indicators score below their long-term average of 100.

EU developments

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



source: European Commission services

The decline in the ESI was primarily driven by reduced confidence in the industry sector, with retail trade contributing to the downturn to a lesser degree. Confidence in the services sector and among consumers remained broadly stable, while construction confidence continued to pick up. Among the largest EU economies, the ESI dropped most significantly in France (-3.4), followed by Spain (-1.4) and Germany (-0.8). Conversely, the ESI increased in Poland (+1.0) and remained broadly stable in Italy and the Netherlands (+0.2 each).

Industry confidence receded by 1.1 points in June, driven by declines across all three components (i.e. managers' assessments of the current level of order books, stocks of finished products, and production expectations). Among the questions not included in the confidence indicator, managers expressed increased pessimism regarding recent changes in past production and their export order books. **Services confidence** held steady for the second month in a row (+0.2). Managers reported a slight improvement in their assessments of *past demand*, while their *expectations for future demand* and assessments of the *past business situation* remained largely unchanged. Similarly, **consumer confidence** remained broadly stable (-0.3). Although consumers were notably less pessimistic about the *future general economic situation* in their respective country, their intentions to make major purchases over the next 12 months dropped. Additionally, their perceptions of both their household's *past and expected financial situation* deteriorated somewhat. **Retail trade confidence** fell slightly (-0.5), due to a deterioration in retailers' assessment of the *volume of stocks* and their *business expectations for the next 3 months*. However, their evaluation of the *past business situation* improved. **Construction confidence** increased further in June (+0.7), fuelled by builders' *employment expectations*, while their assessments of the level of order books fell back. The percentage of construction managers indicating insufficient demand as a factor limiting their

Graph 2: EU confidence indicators²



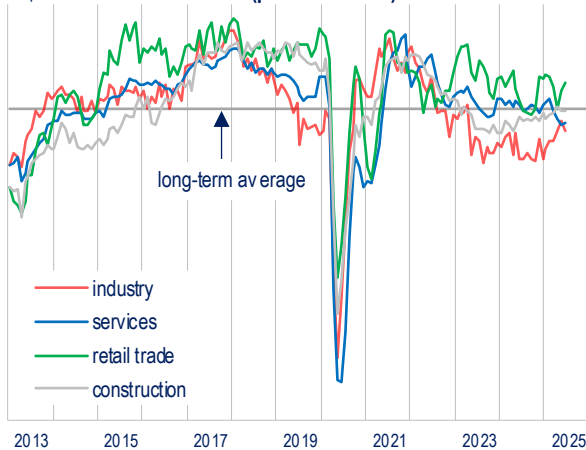
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¹ Past survey data were revised due to seasonal adjustment.

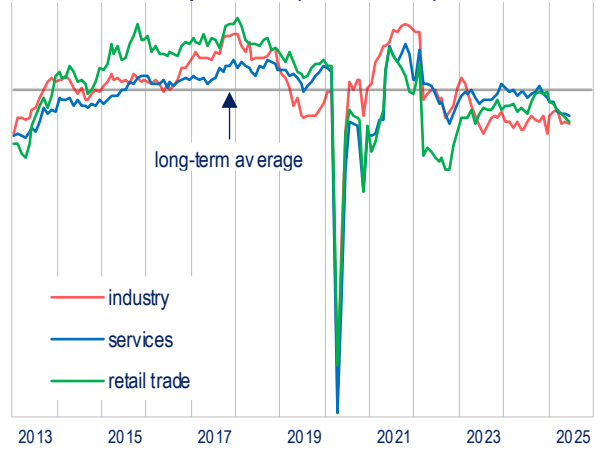
² The graph presents standardised series to correct for differences in means and standard deviations.

business decreased to 31.2%. Meanwhile, the percentage of builders citing labour shortages rose to 28.7%, and the percentage experiencing financial constraints rose to 8.6%. Conversely, the percentage reporting material/equipment shortages as a limiting factor remained broadly stable at 4.8% between May and June.

Graph 3: Business situation (past 3 months) in the EU²

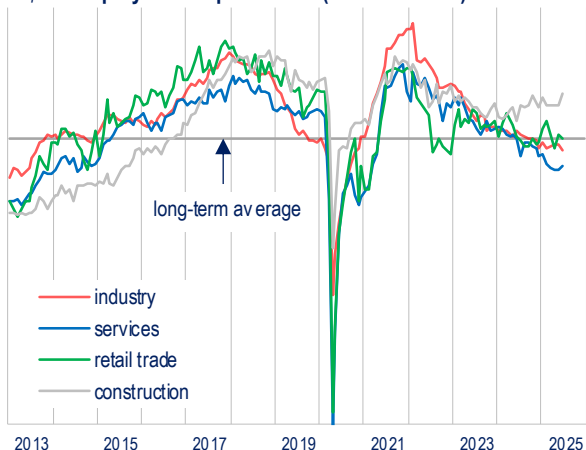


Graph 4: Business expectations (next 3 months) in the EU²

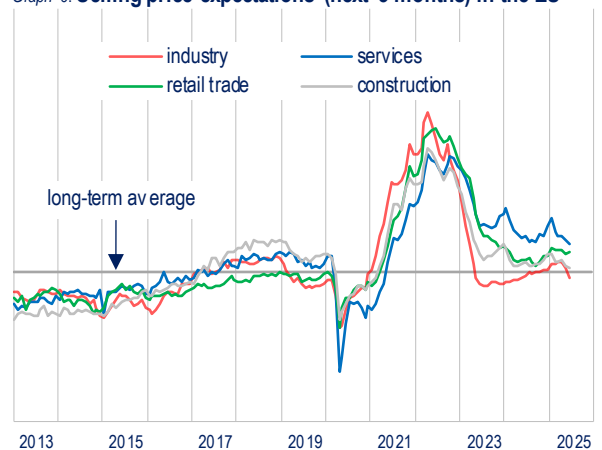


The **Employment Expectations Indicator** was unchanged (± 0.0 at 97.5), below its long-term average, as declines in employment plans in the industry and retail trade sectors were balanced by improved employment expectations in the construction and services sectors. Consumers' unemployment expectations, which are not included in the headline indicator, improved. The EU **Labour Hoarding Indicator** edged down for a second month in a row (-0.2 points to 10.2), while remaining above its long-term average of 9.7.³

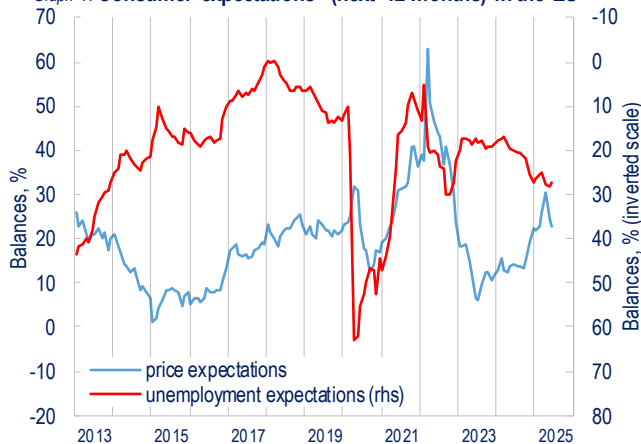
Graph 5: Employment expectations (next 3 months) in the EU²



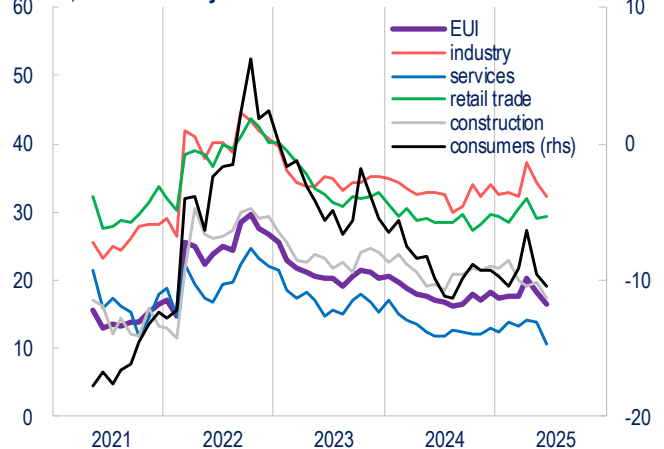
Graph 6: Selling price expectations (next 3 months) in the EU²



Graph 7: Consumer expectations (next 12 months) in the EU



Graph 8: Uncertainty in the EU



³ The LHI measures the percentage of managers expecting their firm's output to decrease, but employment to remain stable or increase. See the special topic of the [2023-Q2 EBCI](#) for background, and section 3.6.9 of the [BCS User Guide](#) for methodological details. Detailed LHI results per sector and country are available for download in the [time series section](#) of the BCS website.

Managers' **selling price expectations** continued to decline in industry, services, and construction. In industry, selling price expectations fell below long-term average, while remaining above the average in the other two sectors. In contrast, selling price expectations in the retail trade sector picked up. Consumers' price expectations for the next twelve months and their perceptions of price developments over the past twelve months decreased. However, both assessments remain elevated.

The **Economic Uncertainty Indicator** (EUI) continued to decline (-2.0 points to 16.4) after the temporary pick-up of April. Managers' uncertainty about their future business situation reduced notably in the services, construction, and industry sectors, while remaining stable among managers in retail trade. Consumers' uncertainty about their future financial situation also decreased in June.

Data collection period: 1 to 20 June.

Annex tables displaying results for the ESI, EEI, confidence indicators and individual survey questions for the past 12 months (as well as historical min, max and averages) are available [here](#).

Methods and definitions

The Commission's harmonised Business and Consumer Survey (BCS) programme, managed by the Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs (DG ECFIN), was set up in 1961, and its scope has since expanded considerably in terms of both countries and sectors covered. Five surveys are conducted on a monthly basis in the following areas: manufacturing industry, construction, consumers, retail trade, and services. Some additional questions are asked on a quarterly basis in the January, April, July and October surveys in industry, services, and among consumers. In addition, questions on manufacturing and services companies' investment plans are included twice a year (April and November). The surveys are conducted by national institutes in the Member States and the candidate countries based on harmonized questionnaires and a common timetable.

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.

The **confidence indicators** are produced to reflect overall perceptions and expectations at the individual sector level in a one-dimensional index. For each of the five surveyed sectors, they are calculated as the simple arithmetic average of the (seasonally adjusted) balances of answers to specific questions chosen from the full set of questions in each individual survey.

The **Economic Sentiment Indicator (ESI)** is a composite indicator combining judgements and attitudes of businesses (in industry, construction, retail trade, services) and consumers by means of a weighted aggregation of standardised input series.

The **Employment Expectations Indicator** is constructed as a weighted average of the employment expectations of managers in four surveyed business sectors (i.e. industry, services, retail trade and construction).

More information on methods and definitions can be found in the [methodological guidelines](#) section of the [BCS website](#). All press releases can be found [here](#). Detailed data results of all surveys are freely available for download in the BCS [time series](#) section of the website.

You can also contact DG ECFIN at the following address: ECFIN-BCS-MAIL@ec.europa.eu

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	Full Business and Consumer Survey Results (incl. ESI, EEI, sectoral CIs)	30 July 2025