

Business Confidence

April 2014

In April 2014 the composite business confidence climate index (IESI, Istat Economic Sentiment Indicator), obtained by summarizing the confidence climates of manufacturing, construction, market services and retail trade, decreased to 88.8 from 89.5 in March.

The confidence index in manufacturing rose to 99.9 from 99.3. Assessments on order books improved (from -23 to -21) while production expectations and inventories remained stable (to 5 and to -1, respectively).

The confidence index in construction fell to 74.8 from 75.6. Assessments on order books and construction plans improved (from -54 to -50) while employment expectations worsened (from -18 to -24).

The market services confidence index fell to 91.4 from 92.3. The index increased in Tourism services (from 91.1 to 96.6), in Information and communication (from 75.0 to 79.4) and in Business services and other services (from 92.0 to 94.0) while it decreased in Transportation and storage (from 113.4 to 99.5).

The retail trade confidence index rose to 98.0 from 94.5. The confidence increased in the large-scale distribution (from 92.1 to 92.4) and in small and medium scale distribution (from 97.0 to 102.7).

Business confidence climate (lesi) and sector climates (indexes 2005=100)

	2013		2014		
	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Confidence climate IESI	84.0	86.8	88.1	89.5	88.8
Manufacturing	98.3	97.8	99.1	99.3	99.9
Construction	81.8	76.1	76.7	75.6	74.8
Market services	81.0	88.7	90.3	92.3	91.4
Retail trade	90.7	93.9	96.6	94.5	98.0

For more details please refer to the Italian version

Time series are available at <http://dati.istat.it/?lang=en>

Date of previous release: 27 March 2014

Date of next release: 28 May 2014

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