

Consumer and Business Confidence

December 2015

With regard to the consumer survey, the confidence climate index decreased in December 2015 from 118.4 to 117.6. All components decreased: economic, personal, current and future, which lowered from 157.9 to 152.9, from 105.0 to 104.5, from 111.6 to 109.1 and from 128.0 to 127.3, respectively. The balance concerning expectations on unemployment increased from -8 to 2. The balance on inflation perceptions referring to the last 12 months and on inflation expectations for next 12 months grown from -19 to -16 and from -20 to -11 respectively.

With regard to business surveys, the composite business confidence climate index (IESI, Istat Economic Sentiment Indicator) decreased from 107.1 in November to 105.8.

The confidence index in manufacturing fell from 104.4 to 104.1. Assessments on order books and production expectations remained stable (to -11 and to 12, respectively), and inventories increased (from 3 to 4).

The confidence index in construction fell from 121.4 to 114.8. Assessments on order books and construction plans worsened (from -29 to -37) while employment expectations remained stable (to -11).

The market services confidence index rose from 113.8 to 114.3. The index increased in Transportation and storage (from 117.6 to 120.5) and in Tourism services (from 107.0 to 110.6), while it decreased in Information and communication (from 109.6 to 107.4) and in Business services and Other services (from 112.5 to 110.0).

The retail trade confidence index fell from 115.0 to 109.1. The confidence increased in small and medium scale distribution (from 106.4 to 110.6) while it decreased in the large scale distribution (from 118.6 to 109.2).

TABLE 1 – CONSUMER CONFIDENCE CLIMATES, ISTAT ECONOMIC SENTIMENT INDICATOR AND BUSINESS CONFIDENCE CLIMATE (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED INDEXES 2010=100)

	2015				
	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Confidence climate	109.6	113.1	117.0	118.4	117.6
Economic climate	133.6	143.9	153.0	157.9	152.9
Personal climate (a)	101.4	103.6	103.9	105.0	104.5
Current climate (a)	104.0	108.0	109.3	111.6	109.1
Future climate	118.0	122.4	127.2	128.0	127.3
Confidence climate IESI	103.7	106.2	107.2	107.1	105.8
Manufacturing	102.8	104.2	105.7	104.4	104.1
Construction (a)	119.5	123.3	119.8	121.4	114.8
Market services	110.0	112.3	113.2	113.8	114.3
Retail trade	108.1	108.8	116.3	115.0	109.1

(a) Not seasonal effect present.

For more details please refer to the Italian version

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

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