

EUROPEAN ECONOMY

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES • DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Supplement B — No 10 — October 1988

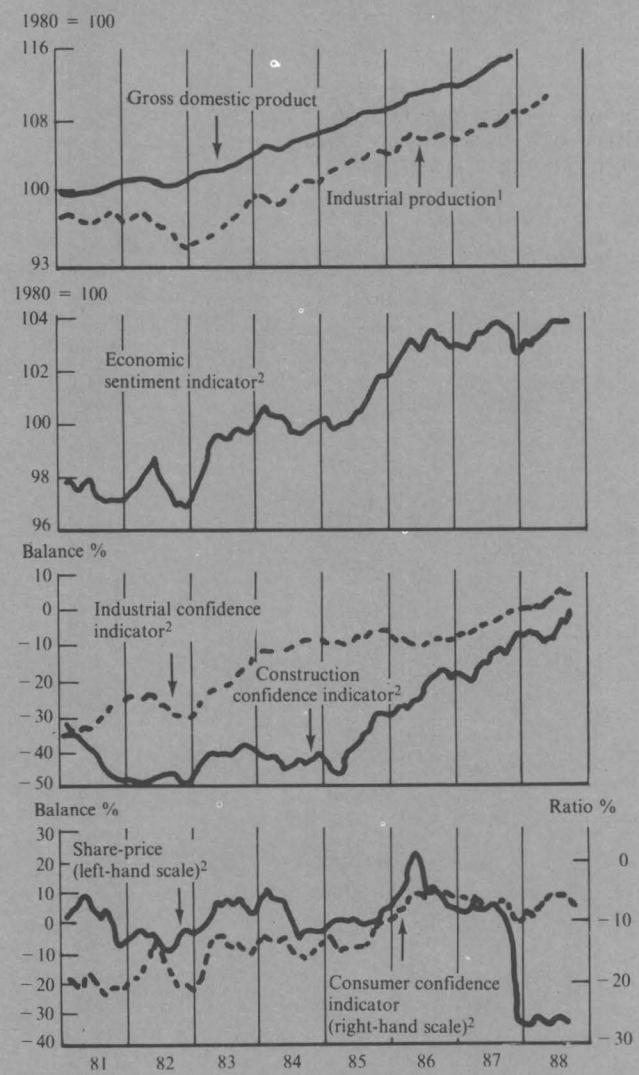
Business and consumer survey results

*In this number:
Employment expectations
in industry, construction
and the retail trade*

THE MAIN POINTS IN BRIEF

- Industrial activity in Europe remains at a high level. The indicators available up to September point to continuing economic growth in the Community.
- Domestic demand is still the driving force behind growth, with investment becoming increasingly more vigorous. Foreign trade has recently been making an important contribution to the persistently high level of economic activity in the Community.
- Throughout the world the leading economic indicators are signalling a favourable outlook. In June 1988, 500 economic experts in over 50 countries were questioned in connection with the IFO Institute's 'Economic Survey International' (ESI); they considered that the economic situation in the industrialized countries, the newly industrialized countries and the developing countries was again better than in the autumn of 1987 and the spring of 1988.
- The number of persons employed in the Community is continuing to rise. *Industrialists* are less pessimistic about the future of employment, and because of the marked improvement in business, *construction firms* and *retailers* have recently shown themselves ready to take on more staff.
- Because the number of persons employed in Europe is rising, *consumers* are also less pessimistic in their assessment of how unemployment will develop over the next twelve months.
- Taking the average for the last few months, the Community leading indicator has, however, stabilized at a high level, therefore giving no sign that economic activity, which is now on an upward path, will accelerate further.

GRAPH 1: Indicators of output and economic sentiment — European Community



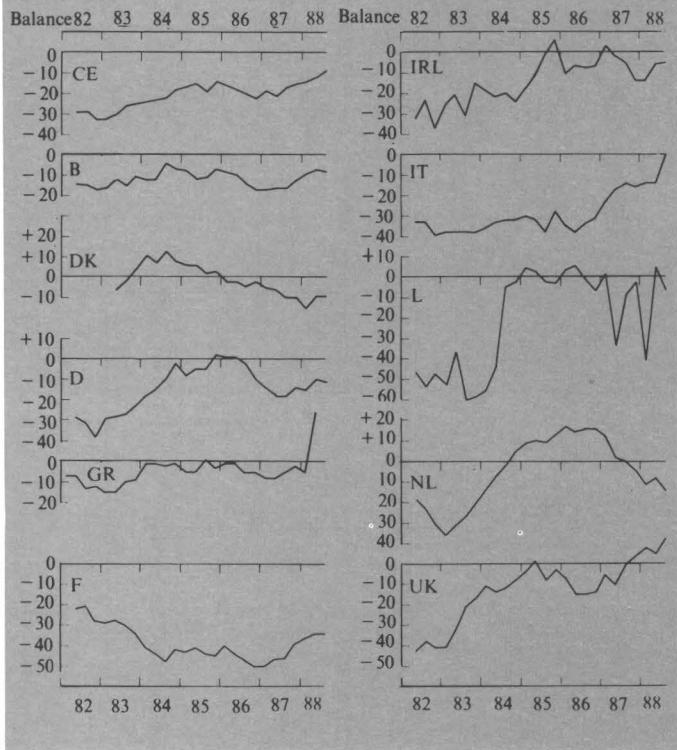
¹ Three-month moving average.

² See notes to Table 3.

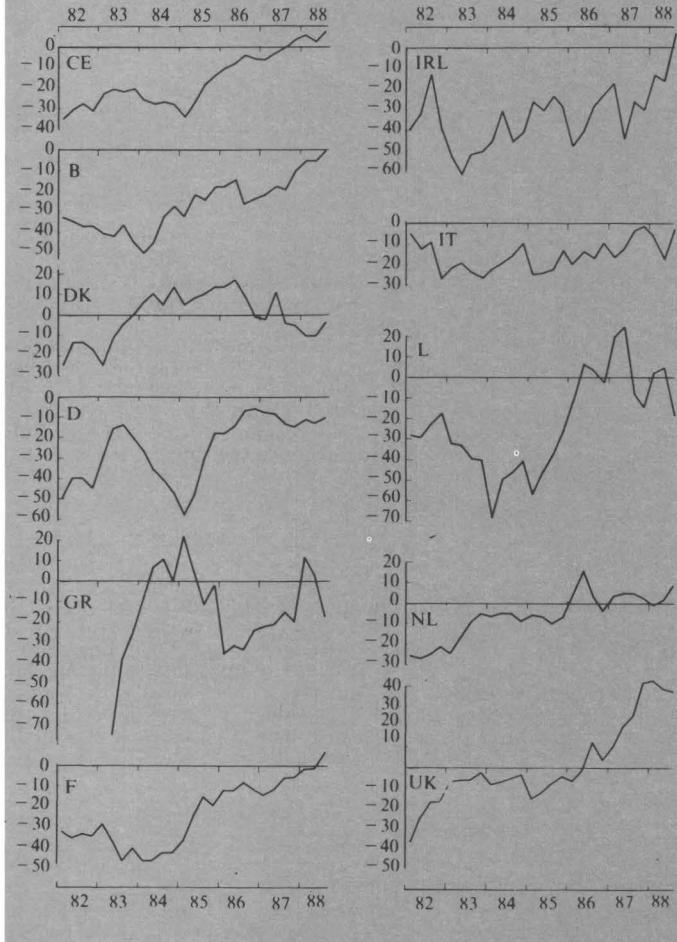
³ Deviations from trend in %.

GRAPH 2: Employment expectations in industry

Balances of answers expecting increase, stability or reduction of employment (s.a.)

**GRAPH 3: Employment expectations in construction**

Balances of answers expecting increase, stability or reduction of employment (s.a.)



Industrial activity in the Community remains at a high level. — With its vigour remaining unchanged, in early autumn 1988, industrial activity in the Community is still at the high level reached in the summer. The indicators available up to September point to continuing economic growth in the Community. The composite indicator for confidence in the economy as a whole is stationary at a high level and thus gives no sign that economic activity which is now on an upward path, will accelerate further.

Investment and foreign trade are the engine of growth. — Domestic demand is still the main driving force behind the growth of the economy, with investment becoming increasingly more vigorous. In view of the less buoyant growth of incomes, consumers, taking the average for the Community, seem however to be somewhat more guarded in their optimism regarding the future state of the economy. The indicators up to the late summer now available suggest that recently foreign trade has been making an increasingly important contribution to the persistently high level of economic activity in the Community. Order-books in industry indicate firmer demand from abroad and industrialists are expecting their exports to rise in the near future (see Supplement B, N° 8/9 1988).

Throughout the world the leading economic indicators are signalling a favourable outlook. — The leading economic indicators in the United States and Japan have staged a marked recovery since the turmoil on the stock markets and foreign exchanges in the autumn

GRAPH 4: Employment expectations in retail trade

Balances of answers expecting increase, stability or reduction of employment (s.a.)

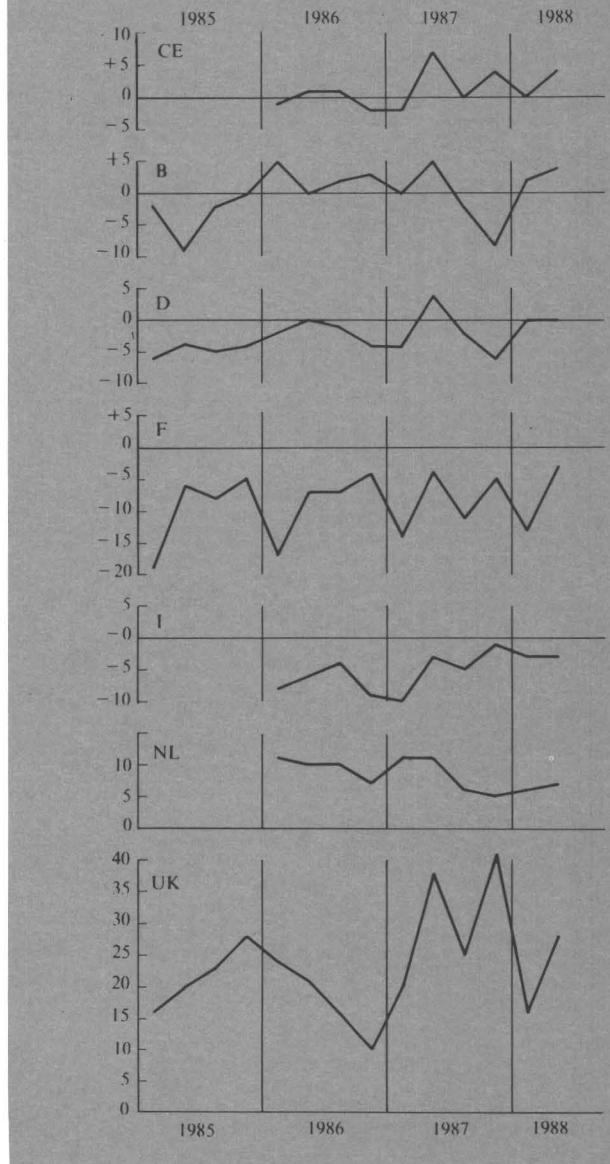


TABLE 1: Employment expectations

	Max. 1978/81	Min. 1980/83	1987				1988								
			I	II	III	IV	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S
B	Manufacturing industry	-2	-17	-17	-16	-16	-12	-9	:	:	-7	:	:	-8	:
	Construction	+7	-53	-22	-18	-19	-10	-6	-3	-6	-9	-4	-3	-4	-2
	Retail trade(a)	:	:	0	+5	-2	-8	:	:	+2	:	+4	:	:	:
	Unemployment expectations(a)(b)	+31	+69	+37	+35	+36	+32	+26	+35	+31	+28	+22	+21	+22	+23
DK	Manufacturing industry	:	-14	-5	-6	-10	-10	-15	:	:	-9	:	:	-9	:
	Construction	:	-39	-2	+11	-4	-5	-10	:	:	-10	:	:	-3	:
	Unemployment expectations(a)(b)	+9	+45	+19	+27	+28	+39	+39	+40	+34	+30	+23	+30	:	+36
D	Manufacturing industry	+2	-38	-13	-17	-17	-14	-15	:	:	-10	:	:	-11	:
	Construction	+20	-53	-8	-9	-13	-14	-13	-12	-8	-11	-11	-13	-13	-8
	Retail trade(a)	:	:	-4	+4	-2	-6	:	:	0	:	0	:	:	:
	Unemployment expectations(a)(b)	-5	+54	+11	+13	+22	+29	+37	+36	+33	+27	+26	+22	+26	+25
GR	Manufacturing industry	:	:	-7	-7	-3	-2	-5	:	:	-5	:	:	-8	:
	Construction	:	-77	-22	-21	-15	-20	+12	:	:	+3	:	:	-17	:
	Unemployment expectations(a)(b)	:	:	+37	+36	+36	+35	+27	+26	+30	+27	+26	+28	+28	+21
E	Manufacturing industry(a)	:	:	:	-20	-14	-17	-12	:	:	-7	:	:	-11	:
	Unemployment expectations(a)(b)	:	:	+38	+33	+23	+31	+33	+34	+27	+26	+17	+16	+17	+19
F	Manufacturing industry	-23	-48	-48	-44	-44	-39	-36	:	:	-34	:	:	-34	:
	Construction	-8	-47	-14	-12	-6	-5	-1	:	:	-1	:	:	+7	:
	Retail trade(a)	:	:	-14	-4	-11	-5	:	:	-13	:	:	-3	:	:
	Unemployment expectations(a)(b)	+16	+59	+43	+46	+36	+30	+24	+29	+30	+31	+19	+33	+36	:
IRL	Manufacturing industry	+4	-35	+4	0	-8	-14	-14	:	:	-6	:	:	-5	:
	Construction	+11	-61	-17	-44	-26	-30	-13	:	:	-16	:	:	+7	:
	Unemployment expectations(a)(b)	-1	+71	+36	+43	+52	+49	+42	+46	+42	+30	+35	+33	+32	+31
I	Manufacturing industry	+3	-39	-22	-19	-12	-16	-14	:	:	-14	:	:	0	:
	Construction	+2	-39	-16	-12	-3	-1	-3	-3	-13	-17	-17	-18	-5	-11
	Retail trade(a)	:	:	-10	-3	-5	-1	:	:	-3	:	:	-3	:	:
	Unemployment expectations(a)(b)	+37	+64	+37	+40	+42	+44	+41	+44	+46	+46	+45	+43	+43	+39
L	Manufacturing industry	-1	-62	+2	-33	-8	-2	-41	:	:	+5	:	:	-6	:
	Construction	+46	-75	+20	+25	-7	-14	+9	-4	+3	+8	-1	+9	-25	-6
NL	Manufacturing industry	-6	-36	+9	-1	-2	-4	-11	:	:	-8	:	:	-14	:
	Construction	+15	-31	+4	+5	+5	+3	0	-2	+1	-3	+5	+5	+4	+7
	Retail trade(a)	:	:	+11	+11	+6	+5	:	:	+6	:	+7	:	:	+1
	Unemployment expectations(a)(b)	+24	+81	+1	+7	+14	+13	+25	+22	+23	+9	+7	+11	+16	+14
P	Manufacturing industry(a)	:	:	-3	+1	0	-1	-2	:	:	-1	:	:	-4	:
	Unemployment expectations(a)(b)	:	:	+22	+19	+8	+12	+15	+17	+13	+17	+10	+10	+9	+15
UK	Manufacturing industry	:	-43	-10	-8	0	+4	+8	:	:	+5	:	:	+13	:
	Construction	+15	-50	+10	+21	+26	+42	+43	:	:	+39	:	:	+38	:
	Retail trade(a)	:	:	+20	+38	+25	+41	:	:	+16	:	:	+28	:	+33
	Unemployment expectations(a)(b)	+10	+60	+16	+6	+4	0	-3	+3	+1	-4	-5	-8	-6	-9
EUR	Manufacturing industry	-6	-40	-20	-20	-17	-15	-14	:	:	-12	:	:	-9	:
	Construction	+2	-36	-6	-3	0	+4	+6	(+6)	(+6)	+3	(+4)	(+3)	+6	(+7)
	Retail trade(a)	:	:	-2	+7	0	+4	:	:	0	:	+4	:	:	:
	Unemployment expectations(a)(b)	+23	+54	+27	+26	+26	+27	+26	+29	+28	+24	+20	+22	+24	+23

(a) Not seasonally adjusted

(b) Households' opinion.

of 1987, and have now stabilized during the summer months. The leading indicators for Canada, Australia and Taiwan were until recently signalling the persistence of buoyant economic activity in those countries. In June 1988, 500 economic experts in over 50 countries were questioned on behalf of the IFO Institute's 'Economic Survey International' (ESI): these experts considered that the economic situation in the industrialized countries, the newly industrialized countries and the developing countries was again better than in the autumn of 1987 and the spring of 1988. In their opinion, the economic outlook had also improved markedly since the spring throughout the world, except for the developing countries, for which the experts forecast that economic growth will slacken.

The leading world economic indicator compiled from the leading indicators of the abovementioned industrialized and newly industrialized countries and from the (ESI) experts' assessments has shown a marked rise since the beginning of 1988, going slightly higher than the peak level reached at the end of 1987 (see graph 5).

The number of persons employed in Europe is continuing to rise. — The latest business survey results, some of which are available to September 1988, confirm that as a Community average the employment figures are moving in a positive direction. Industrialists are less pessimistic about the future of employment. In the United Kingdom, Italy, Greece and Luxembourg, they are actually expecting industrial employment to rise. Because of the marked improvement in business, construction firms have recently shown themselves ready to expand their employment considerably, particularly in France, Belgium and Ireland, where the number of firms planning to take on more labour is steadily increasing, and in the United Kingdom, where again on balance a large number of construction firms are offering additional jobs.

Retailers still intend to take on more staff, due to their continuing optimism. In particular in the Federal Republic of Germany, the United Kingdom, Belgium and the Netherlands, the latest optimistic survey results point to lively growth in the retail trade.

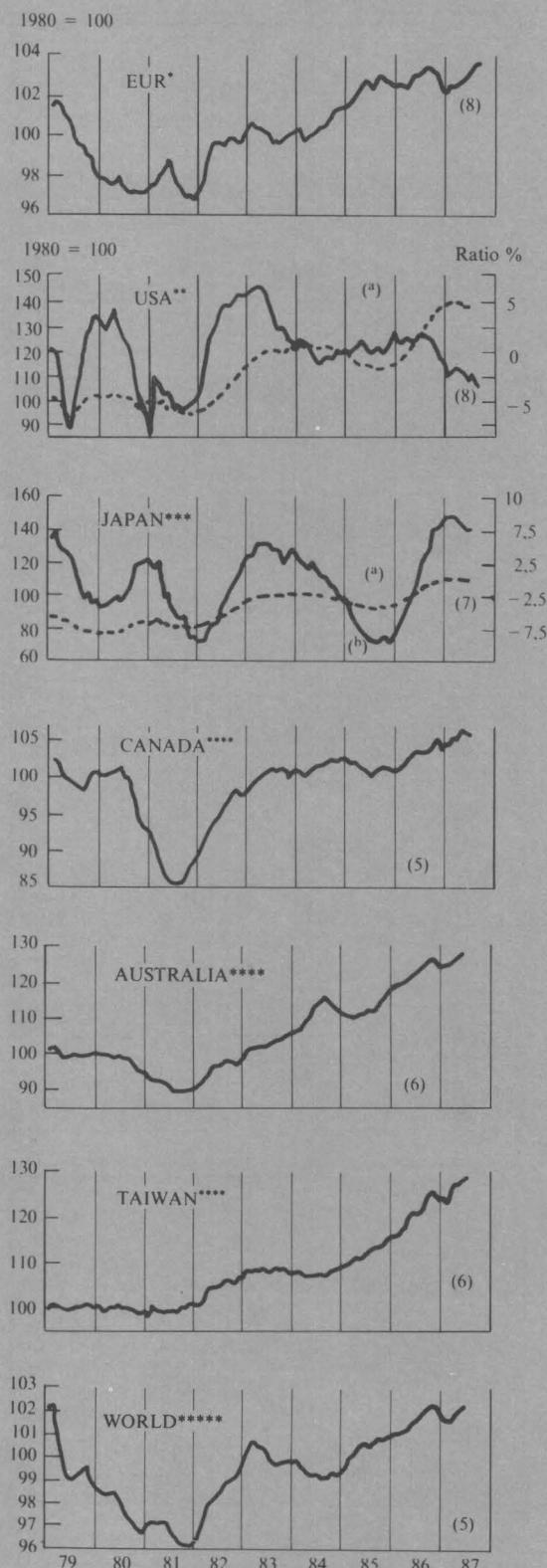
Because the number of persons employed in the Community is continuing to rise, the September survey results show that consumers are less pessimistic in their assessment of how unemployment will develop over the next twelve months. This is particularly true of consumers in the Federal Republic of Germany, Spain and Italy. In the United Kingdom more and more consumers are expecting the unemployment figures to fall.

Confidence in industry and construction have helped to stabilize the Community leading indicator at a high level. — Taking the average for the Community, the *industrial confidence indicator* did not change between August and September. This was mainly due to the judgments of firms in the Federal Republic of Germany, Spain, Belgium, the Netherlands, Ireland and Greece concerning the improvement in the order-book situation compared with the previous month. Because demand for industrial goods is steady, the number of industrialists who on balance consider their level of orders to be relatively high rose again in September. In most countries of the Community, there has been no change in the stable judgments of industrialists on stock levels.

With regard to production expectations over the next few months, a clear majority of industrialists, on average for the Community, intend to expand their production. However, in September this majority was slightly down on the previous month.

The *consumer confidence indicator* in the Community has weakened slightly after several months of stability. This is mainly because

GRAPH 5: International leading indicators



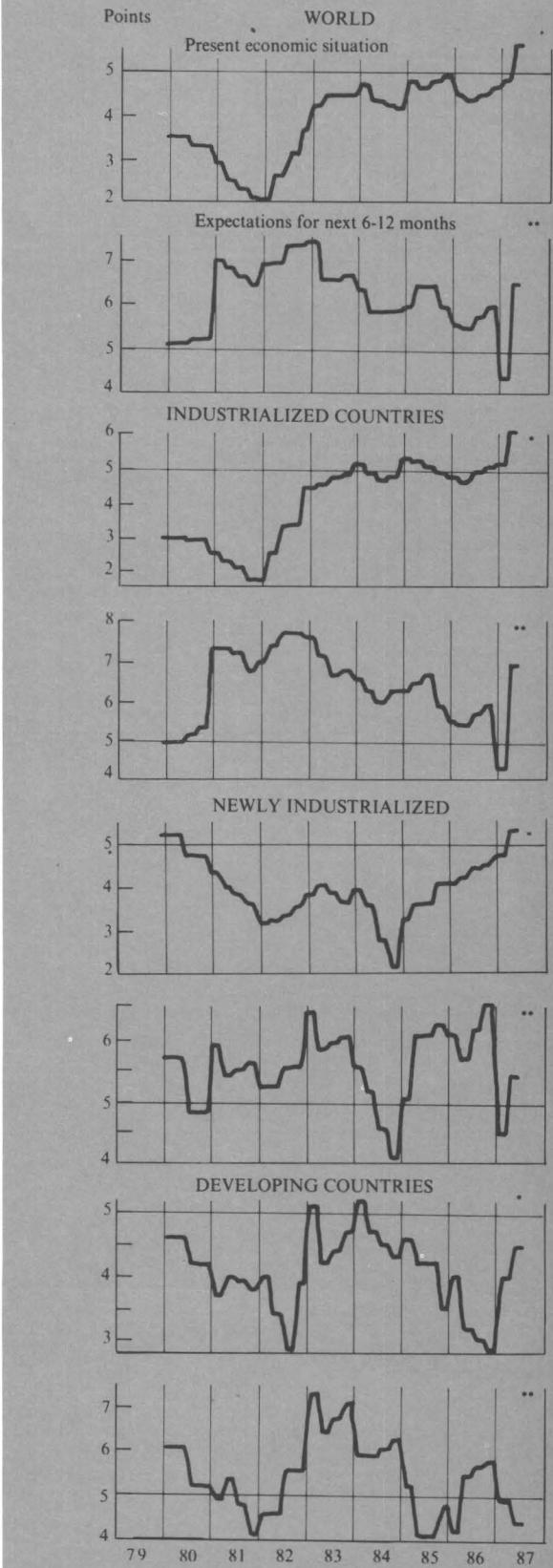
(a) Index 1980 = 100 (left-hand scale).

(b) Deviation from trend in % (right-hand scale).

Arabic number indicates last month for which data are available ('8 August).

Sources: * Commission of the European Communities; ** US Department of Commerce;
 *** Economic Planning Agency of the Japanese Government; **** Columbia University, New York; ***** Components of the composite leading world indicator are the 6 regional leading indicators presented in Graph 5 and the 4 series of the Economic Survey International for newly industrialized and developing countries (see Graph 6).

GRAPH 6: Economic survey international



The Economic Survey International has been conducted by the Ifo-Institute 3 times per year (February, June, September) and is based on the answers of about 500 economic experts in about 50 countries. The replies are «graded»: positive responses (+) receive a grade of 9, indifferent ones (=) a grade of 5 and negative ones (-) a grade of 1. Grades between 5 and 9 imply a preponderance of positive replies or increases, while grades between 5 and 1 indicate that negative replies or decreases predominated.

Source: Ifo-Institute for Economic Research, Munich.

the propensity to purchase of consumers has weakened (see Graph 8). Compared with the previous month, on balance the propensity to purchase has fallen by 4 points. A majority of consumers are now of the opinion that it is not advisable to make major purchases at the present time. At the same time, on average

for the Community, there is a definite increase in the number of consumers who wish to save more.

TABLE 2: Monthly survey of manufacturing industry — Monthly questions and the composite industrial confidence indicator (a)
 Balances: i.e. differences between the percentages of respondents giving positive and negative replies (s.a.)

		Ranges (b)				1987			1988				1988				
		Peak 1972/73	Trough 1974/75	Peak 1979/80	Trough 1981/83	I	II	III	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.			
INDUSTRIAL CONFIDENCE INDICATOR	B	19	-56	-4	-35	-14	-10	-3	-3	-3	-5	-2	-4	-3	-2		
	DK	:	:	:	-22	-7	-3	0	-1	0	:	-1	:	:	:		
	D	10	-49	2	-40	-12	-10	-5	-1	-6	-5	-4	-1	-1	0		
	GR	:	:	:	:	-6	-5	-2	-2	-4	-4	1	2	1	-1		
	E	:	:	:	:	-5	-5	-2	-5	-2	-3	-2	-2	-4	-8		
	F	29	-49	5	-39	-8	-1	1	6	0	0	2	6	6	5		
	IRL	:	-41	20	-40	-2	-6	2	7	0	0	5	6	6	8		
	I	31	-59	13	-41	-2	1	3	6	2	1	6	7	6	6		
	L	:	:	16	-65	-18	1	5	5	7	2	7	8	5	3		
	NL	12	-44	4	-31	-5	-5	-2	-1	-2	-2	-2	-2	0	-1		
	P	:	:	11	-25	9	0	1	-2	2	1	1	-5	0	0		
	UK	:	:	9	-60	11	19	16	18	16	18	15	18	18	18		
	EUR	16	-49	3	-36	-3	0	2	4	1	1	3	5	4	4		
PRODUCTION EXPECTATIONS	B	31	-56	-4	-37	-8	-7	2	8	-1	1	7	8	7	8		
	DK	:	:	:	8	4	1	3	2	3	:	2	:	:			
	D	17	-32	10	-30	-1	-1	5	7	3	5	6	8	6	6		
	GR	:	:	:	:	16	22	21	16	18	24	21	19	16	13		
	E	:	:	18	-20	11	8	11	9	6	13	13	11	14	2		
	F	33	-29	18	-20	4	7	9	13	7	10	9	13	13	13		
	IRL	:	-21	40	-33	9	-3	9	14	8	9	10	11	14	16		
	I	40	-43	24	26	11	11	9	19	3	9	16	18	19	19		
	L	84	-80	40	-66	-13	5	6	6	12	-2	7	7	5	6		
	NL	26	-26	20	-13	3	0	3	6	4	2	4	5	8	4		
	P	:	:	30	-13	19	10	15	8	17	14	15	5	8	12		
	UK	:	:	29	-52	30	33	30	34	29	33	29	33	34	34		
	EUR	24	-30	15	-24	9	9	11	15	9	12	13	15	15	14		
ORDER BOOKS	B	13	-74	-14	-49	-28	-17	-10	-10	-10	-10	-10	-11	-11	-9		
	DK	:	:	:	-34	-15	-10	-1	4	-1	:	:	:	:			
	D	5	-73	-6	-59	-23	-20	-15	-9	-16	-16	-14	-11	-9	-6		
	GR	:	:	:	:	-23	-20	-19	-10	-20	-26	-12	-9	-10	-10		
	E	26	-45	:	:	-14	-9	-8	-13	-4	-11	-10	-9	-15	-14		
	F	26	-69	0	-56	-18	-5	1	10	0	-1	3	10	10	10		
	IRL	:	-68	18	-55	-11	-12	-4	8	-6	-5	0	5	4	16		
	I	30	-82	7	-66	-10	-2	-1	3	0	-4	1	5	3	2		
	L	:	:	8	-70	-40	-6	4	9	3	3	6	7	13	6		
	NL	7	-48	-5	-42	-14	-11	-8	-6	-8	-7	-8	-8	-6	-3		
	P	:	:	3	-35	4	-5	-6	-8	-6	-6	-6	-10	-5	-8		
	UK	:	:	-2	-85	5	21	18	19	19	18	16	19	19	18		
	EUR	15	-70	-7	-56	-13	-6	-3	1	-3	-4	-2	1	1	2		
EXPORT ORDER BOOKS	B	15	-82	-19	-55	-30	-22	-15	-12	-13	-16	-16	-10	-13	-14		
	DK	:	:	:	14	-12	1	5	15	5	:	15	:	:			
	D	:	:	-14	-50	-31	-25	-21	-16	-23	-20	-20	-18	-16	-13		
	GR	:	:	:	:	-26	-18	-26	-20	-25	-27	-25	-21	-20	-18		
	E *	:	:	:	:	-28	-29	-22	-24	-22	-21	-24	-20	-25	-27		
	F	24	-66	10	-52	-22	-2	2	13	1	3	3	12	13	13		
	I	13	-67	-6	-59	-25	-20	-13	-9	-11	-13	-14	-4	-10	-13		
	L	:	:	9	-80	-52	-16	-6	28	-11	-8	1	3	40	41		
	P	:	:	4	-35	2	-6	-12	-6	-15	-12	-10	-7	-6	-4		
	UK	:	:	-11	-72	1	10	3	6	4	2	3	8	4	7		
	EUR	:	:	-12	-50	-25	-14	-11	-5	-11	-11	-11	-5	-6	-5		
STOCKS OF FINISHED PRODUCTS	B	-14	37	2	18	8	4	2	6	-3	5	3	8	5	4		
	DK	:	:	:	24	11	-1	1	8	1	:	8	:	:			
	D	-7	43	-2	31	10	7	4	0	4	5	4	0	1	0		
	GR	:	:	:	:	11	18	9	4	11	9	7	3	4	5		
	E	-17	24	15	35	12	12	10	10	9	11	9	9	11	11		
	F	-14	50	3	42	8	6	7	5	8	8	6	4	5	7		
	IRL	:	35	-6	33	5	4	1	2	2	4	-4	-2	1	7		
	I	-24	53	-8	32	7	5	-1	3	-2	1	-2	2	5	2		
	L	-14	74	0	58	0	-4	-5	-1	-5	-4	-7	-9	3	2		
	NL	-3	57	3	39	4	4	2	3	2	1	2	4	3	3		
	P	:	:	1	26	-5	4	5	5	5	4	6	9	3	4		
	UK	:	:	-1	42	2	-2	-1	-2	0	-3	-1	-1	-2	-2		
	EUR	-10	48	-1	31	7	5	3	3	3	4	3	2	3	3		
SELLING-PRICE EXPECTATIONS	B	64	-10	39	12	5	8	18	21	16	16	23	21	21	21		
	D	55	4	38	4	13	12	18	21	17	17	19	22	21	21		
	GR	:	:	:	:	23	25	24	25	31	22	18	25	26	25		
	E *	:	:	:	:	11	18	9	9	11	7	9	9	8	10		
	F	76	15	62	17	16	13	13	24	14	14	11	22	24	25		
	IRL	:	64	77	20	9	2	9	11	6	11	11	13	11	8		
	I	76	10	87	37	18	18	21	24	17	22	24	26	23	22		
	L	:	-46	74	-38	18	55	50	51	53	48	48	62	58	33		
	P *	:	:	:	:	23	27	21	21	24	18	20	22	19	23		
	UK	:	:	70	7	26	27	26	29	28	21	29	28	28	32		
	EUR	64	9	53	22	18	16	19	24	19	18	20	24	23	24		

(a) The indicator is an average of the responses (balances) to the questions on production expectations, order-books and stocks (the latter with inverted sign).

(b) These are the extreme (high and low) values of the balances of the different questions, reached in the course of 1972-1975 and 1979-1983, respectively.

Note: (s.a.) = seasonally adjusted. : = not available. () = estimated. Source: European Community business surveys.

TABLE 3: Indicators of output and economic sentiment

		Ranges (b)				1987			1988			1988					
		Peak 1972/73	Trough 1974/75	Peak 1979/80	Trough 1981/83	I	II	III	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.			
B	gross domestic product	1980 = 100	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		
	index of industrial production		102,5	76,5	106,3	92,4	106,3	109,4	:	109,3	107,1	:	:	:	:		
1.	industrial confidence indicator		19	-56	-4	-35	-14	-10	-3	-3	-3	-5	-2	-4	-3		
2.	construction confidence indicator		9	-36	-7	-65	-32	-19	-17	-14	-19	-17	-15	-16	-18		
3.	consumer confidence indicator (c)		7	-18	-7	-31	-12	-9	-7	-5	-9	-7	-6	-6	-5		
4.	share-price index (c)		155,1	98,0	114,3	75,0	318,2	294,3	316,8	332,7	313,6	312,8	324,0	329,4	327,4		
= 5.	economic sentiment indicator		109,0	98,9	103,9	96,8	101,7	102,1	102,9	103,2	102,6	102,8	103,2	103,0	103,1		
			103,5														
DK	gross domestic product	1980 = 100	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		
	index of industrial production		:	:	107,7	95,5	121,9	123,8	:	122,0	123,3	:	:	:	:	:	
1.	industrial confidence indicator		:	:	:	-22	-7	-3	0	-1	0	(0)	(0)	-1	(-1)		
2.	construction confidence indicator		:	:	:	-37	1	2	-9	-18	-9	(-9)	(-9)	-18	(-18)		
3.	consumer confidence indicator (c)		:	-16	5	-22	-10	-16	-12	-16	-12	-13	-12	-12	-20		
4.	share-price index (c)		:	:	:	:	351,8	329,0	377,1	402,4	347,1	381,6	402,7	406,8	398,4		
= 5.	economic sentiment indicator		:	:	:	:	101,9	102,0	102,5	:	102,3	102,5	102,6	102,5	102,2		
			:	:	:												
D	gross domestic product	1980 = 100	85,1	83,3	101,2	98,9	110,8	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		
	index of industrial production		92,0	82,4	103,1	91,4	106,9	108,7	109,5	:	108,6	108,9	110,9	:	:	:	
1.	industrial confidence indicator		10	-49	2	-40	-12	-10	-5	-1	-6	-5	-4	-1	-1	0	
2.	construction confidence indicator		-4	-72	11	-64	-30	-32	-31	-28	-31	-30	-32	-30	-28	-25	
3.	consumer confidence indicator (c)		:	-22	9	-31	-1	-8	-6	-4	-6	-6	-5	-6	-4	-3	
4.	share-price index (c)		109,0	75,2	115,6	97,6	257,5	197,1	208,6	225,9	208,3	202,7	214,7	222,5	222,7	232,5	
= 5.	economic sentiment indicator		103,8	97,0	103,6	94,7	100,6	98,9	99,5	100,2	99,4	99,4	99,6	99,9	100,1	100,5	
F	gross domestic product	1980 = 100	85,4	84,2	99,8	102,4	112,1	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
	index of industrial production		96,7	82,2	105,2	94,8	103,7	106,0	106,3	:	105,0	106,0	108,0	:	:	:	
1.	industrial confidence indicator		29	-49	5	-39	-8	-1	1	6	0	0	2	6	6	5	
2.	construction confidence indicator		:	:	-17	-57	-16	-7	-8	2	-8	(-8)	(-8)	2	(2)	(2)	
3.	consumer confidence indicator (c)		:	-9	3	-27	-18	-12	-11	-10	-13	-10	-10	-10	-9		
4.	share-price index (c)		86,6	53,6	101,2	82,7	367,1	269,0	300,3	337,3	282,8	294,8	323,3	336,0	332,9	343,1	
= 5.	economic sentiment indicator		107,8	97,6	101,8	95,1	99,1	99,8	100,2	101,2	99,7	100,2	100,6	101,0	101,1	101,4	
IRL	gross domestic product	1980 = 100	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		
	index of industrial production		80,4	72,3	103,8	99,6	145,3	157,5	:	153,8	:	:	:	:	:	:	
1.	industrial confidence indicator		:	-41	20	-40	-2	-6	2	7	0	0	5	6	6	8	
2.	construction confidence indicator		:	:	:	-60	-31	-14	-26	7	-26	(-26)	(-26)	7	(7)	(7)	
3.	consumer confidence indicator (c)		:	-41	12	-44	-29	-22	-15	-15	-12	-16	-17	-15	-16	-15	
4.	share-price index (c)		85,8	29,9	112,2	79,4	333,9	282,0	318,1	371,3	303,9	307,9	342,6	360,5	369,4	:	
= 5.	economic sentiment indicator		109,1	96,7	103,6	98,1	100,5	101,0	101,9	102,6	102,2	101,6	102,0	102,5	102,5	102,8	
I	gross domestic product	1980 = 100	80,4	77,2	101,2	98,2	115,3	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
	index of industrial production		87,9	72,6	104,7	98,1	102,3	106,5	:	109,3	105,0	:	:	:	:	:	:
1.	industrial confidence indicator		31	-59	13	-41	-2	1	3	6	2	1	6	7	6	6	
2.	construction confidence indicator		-8	-56	-5	-51	-15	-13	-20	-8	-22	-22	-16	-2	-18	-5	
3.	consumer confidence indicator (c)		:	-39	-12	-30	-4	-6	-5	-4	-4	-6	-4	-4	-4	-4	
4.	share-price index (c)		169,6	68,5	185,0	116,9	644,5	479,6	492,2	519,1	511,2	482,4	483,0	509,4	523,7	524,3	
= 5.	economic sentiment indicator		103,8	97,4	101,6	97,6	103,3	102,3	102,4	102,7	102,5	102,0	102,6	102,9	102,5	102,8	
NL	gross domestic product	1980 = 100	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
	index of industrial production		94,8	87,1	117,5	90,7	106,9	105,3	:	103,0	103,0	:	:	:	:	:	:
1.	industrial confidence indicator		12	-44	4	-31	-5	-5	-2	-1	-2	-2	-2	-2	0	-1	
2.	construction confidence indicator		3	-47	3	-46	-2	-4	-2	5	-4	-1	-1	2	5	9	
3.	consumer confidence indicator (c)		6	-15	5	-37	-2	-2	-1	3	0	0	-2	1	5	2	
4.	share-price index (c)		:	86,3	122,8	92,8	350,0	290,3	305,7	339,6	292,6	305,0	319,4	335,4	345,0	338,5	
= 5.	economic sentiment indicator		107,8	100,7	105,3	97,1	104,8	103,6	104,1	105,0	104,0	104,2	104,0	104,5	105,4	105,0	
UK	gross domestic product	1980 = 100	94,6	91,0	102,5	97,7	117,3	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
	index of industrial production		92,7	89,6	110,0	93,8	113,0	114,4	:	116,0	116,7	:	:	:	:	:	:
1.	industrial confidence indicator		:	:	9	-60	11	19	16	18	16	18	15	18	18	18	
2.	construction confidence indicator		:	:	7	-62	12	29	27	30	27	(27)	(27)	30	(30)	(30)	
3.	consumer confidence indicator (c)		:	-33	14	-26	5	5	7	2	5	8	9	7	2	-2	
4.	share-price index (c)		78,5	23,3	111,6	104,4	397,0	350,3	357,6	367,6	354,1	353,6	365,0	375,3	369,8	357,7	
= 5.	economic sentiment indicator		103,8	97,7	104,9	98,8	105,7	106,2	106,1	105,9	106,0	106,2	106,2	106,3	106,0	105,5	
EUR	gross domestic product (a)(b)	1980 = 100	85,1	85,5	101,1	101,0	113,7	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
	index of industrial production		92,9	83,0	103,2	94,6	107,1	109,4	:	109,5	110,1	:	:	:	:	:	:
1.	industrial confidence indicator		16	-49	3	-36	-3	0	2	4	1	1	3	5	4	4	
2.	construction confidence indicator		:	:	-1	-50	-14	-7	-8	-3	-9	(-8)	(-8)	-3	(-4)	(-1)	
3.	consumer confidence indicator (c)		5	-17	1	-22	-6	-6	-4	-4	-5	-4	-4	-4	-4	-5	
4.	share-price index (c)		:	47,0	115,4	111,7	364,4	302,3	317,7	337,0	311,9	313,4	327,7	338,5	336,7	335,8	
= 5.	economic sentiment indicator		107,5	96,6	104,1	97,4	103,4	103,0	103,4	104,0	103,2	103,5	103,6	104,1	104,0	103,9	

(a) Weighted total of quarterly figures for the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Italy and the UK.

(b) For the Federal Republic of Germany, gross national product for quarterly data.

(c) Not seasonally adjusted.

TABLE 4: Results of business surveys in the retail trade (a) (b)

		1986												1987												1988											
		Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	Apr.	May	June	July(h)	Aug.															
PRESENT BUSINESS SITUATION	B	15	-5	-21	-16	-35	-20	-15	-13	-10	-13	-17	-1	-3	-23	-2	14	-21	8	3	-8	8															
	D	6	-13	5	-1	1	-23	-13	-14	-3	4	-14	13	19	-1	8	21	6	-12	-13	-5	-16															
	F(c)	:	3	:	16	:	10	:	-23	:	-13	:	-6	:	17	:	-3	:	12	:	4	:															
	I(c)	:	11	:	1	:	8	:	0	:	4	:	-5	:	-8	:	-3	:	-1	:	7	:															
	NL	53	37	35	50	49	44	37	29	55	48	59	45	50	36	41	53	42	40	62	52	50															
	UK(e)	27	31	24	19	14	29	17	12	11	19	25	30	41	21	35	18	12	6	24	6	11															
	EUR 6(f)	(12)	8	(10)	9	(8)	6	(6)	-5	(-1)	5	(2)	9	(12)	7	(13)	11	(4)	3	(8)	5	(4)															
— Textiles, clothing, footwear	B	-1	-9	-1	1	9	-8	-20	-7	0	-25	-23	-20	-28	-8	-23	-8	-33	-23	-17	-14	1															
	D	14	14	-8	-12	25	-28	-15	18	4	-38	15	14	10	-11	6	13	-15	25	-8	7	-7															
	F(c)	:	-38	:	-23	:	-23	:	-63	:	-45	:	-43	:	-29	:	-38	:	-43	:	-26	:															
	I(c)	:	-2	:	-27	:	-21	:	-14	:	-33	:	-24	:	-13	:	-16	:	-19	:	-18	:															
	NL	57	36	34	7	45	39	29	37	20	18	29	11	15	14	0	-9	11	12	39	17	15															
	UK(e)	57	45	14	17	13	29	-16	40	-7	-10	28	3	17	40	37	25	-25	47	37	20	37															
	EUR 6(f)	(13)	8	(-5)	-9	(4)	-9	(-15)	2	(-13)	-28	(-4)	-8	(-6)	-3	(1)	-2	(-20)	6	(-5)	-2	(-2)															
— Household goods (total)	B	9	-19	-28	-25	-24	-43	-12	-21	-15	2	-10	1	1	6	3	3	-17	-20	-16	-11	1															
	D	8	-20	-5	-9	-23	-29	-20	-12	-12	-11	1	6	14	4	-1	7	-18	-26	-12	-7	15															
	F(c)	:	-8	:	-24	:	-22	:	-25	:	-11	:	-4	:	-11	:	-5	:	-21	:	-42	:															
	I(c)	:	-6	:	-3	:	2	:	17	:	0	:	10	:	-3	:	7	:	6	:	7	:															
	NL	52	37	35	63	48	46	49	37	40	46	59	53	47	50	39	47	40	41	42	65	48															
	UK(e)	48	28	29	12	0	-29	32	50	29	19	18	-18	8	60	36	-1	24	38	59	64	71															
	EUR 6(f)	(11)	-5	(0)	-5	(-13)	-19	(-5)	1	(-1)	-1	(3)	3	(10)	11*	(5)	5	(-1)	-6	(2)	2	(10)															
— Motor vehicles	B	13	20	-10	34	-3	-1	-5	-13	-7	18	30	15	1	69	43	45	-27	-6	14	-6	-24															
	D	3	-31	-12	-4	16	8	-8	0	19	-15	-13	-13	-12	-12	-18	-5	9	-4	-6	-4	-9															
	F(c)	:	3	:	3	:	27	:	-10	:	-15	:	-10	:	-16	:	-18	:	-27	:	-21	:															
	I(c)	:	21	:	7	:	1	:	-8	:	-2	:	1	:	22	:	14	:	11	:	13	:															
	NL	68	47	67	57	42	34	53	33	36	23	17	21	31	30	13	23	17	15	28	23	7															
	UK(e)	27	-2	48	31	38	21	16	42	49	34	16	30	17	42	46	45	18	7	17	25	77															
	EUR 6(f)	(12)	-1	(13)	11	(16)	14	(9)	5	(1)	0	(-3)	1	(-1)	10	(6)	9	(4)	-4	(-1)	2	(8)															
— Retail trade— Total	B	8	-5	-13	-3	-12	-16	-16	-11	-6	-12	-13	-7	-12	-2	-4	7	-26	-9	-6	-11	0															
	D	7	-10	-3	-6	3	-21	-15	-3	-5	-12	-3	7	10	-7	0	11	-8	-5	-10	-4	-8															
	F(c)	:	-9	:	-9	:	-10	:	-30	:	-20	:	-11	:	1	:	-8	:	-11	:	-16	:															
	I(c) (d)	:	6	:	-2	:	2	:	4	:	-2	:	-1	:	0	:	3	:	0	:	5	:															
	NL	56	36	39	38	47	41	39	36	41	33	45	35	35	32	26	30	30	30	47	40	31															
	UK(e)	36	20	29	20	20	21	9	32	22	21	22	20	24	38	37	27	10	21	27	23	46															
	EUR 6(f)	(10)	1	(5)	1	(4)	-3	(-3)	0	(-2)	-4	(0)	5	(6)	6	(8)	9	(-1)	1	(2)	2	(5)															
VOLUME OF STOCKS	B	11	4	11	9	18	8	2	11	-6	8	13	13	2	4	-1	5	16	13	9	15	16															
	D	30	22	18	15	26	27	21	33	22	22	21	10	15	15	22	7	24	16	13	20	13															
	F(c)	:	10	:	-1	:	6	:	16	:	11	:	5	:	13	:	6	:	5	:	10	:															
	I(c)	:	4	:	6	:	8	:	8	:	2	:	3	:	5	:	8	:	6	:	8	:															
	NL	-2	-2	-3	-5	-7	4	-2	0	-2	-2	3	3	2	5	2	3	0	0	-3	2	0															
	UK	21	12	18	28	19	5	-1	-3	11	2	5	4	10	11	7	5	9	2	9	2	9															
	EUR 6(f)	(13)	11	(11)	10	(11)	11	(8)	14	(13)	9	(10)	6	(8)	10	(11)	6	(11)	7	(8)	10	(10)															
— Textiles, clothing, footwear	B	13	15	19	27	25	25	39	26	34	31	36	23	17	29	25	13	25	25	26	27	18															
	D	20	22	26	29	27	51	43	29	26	42	34	30	32	39	35	35	46	31	36	31	32															
	F(c)	:	36	:	26	:	38	:	39	:	37	:	45	:	33	:	35	:	42	:	29	:															
	I(c)	:	42	:	36	:	53	:	45	:	49	:	49	:	50	:	45	:	49	:	41	:															
	NL	3	8	11	18	10	35	29	10	16	35	25	24	29	19	31	36	27	28	10	20	19															
	UK	25	10	4	15	8	7	10	12	19	13	25	21	19	14	14	16	41	3	26	36	-2															
	EUR 6(f)	(34)	25	(25)	26	(24)	38	(36)	29	(30)	36	(35)	34	(34)	33	(33)	32	(40)	30	(35)	33	(25)															
— Household goods (total)	B	14	26	22	20	16	20	25	22	5	17	18	9	19	22	21	25	16	19	16	9	1															
	D	18	22	27	30	33	31	33	26	25	25	24	25	17	19	23	25	35	35	37	29	28															
	F(c)	:	11	:	2	:	16	:	21	:	5	:	10	:	10	:	13	:	11	:	21	:															
	I(c)	:	25	:	31	:	34	:	33	:	28	:	32	:	24	:	24	:	31	:	30	:															
	NL	1	13	10	9	4	15	7	4	-3	6	13	17	7	-1	1	6	19	18	9	6	-3															
	UK	24	27	40	41	26	53	24	18	24	19	33	14	19	36	56	46	61	4																		

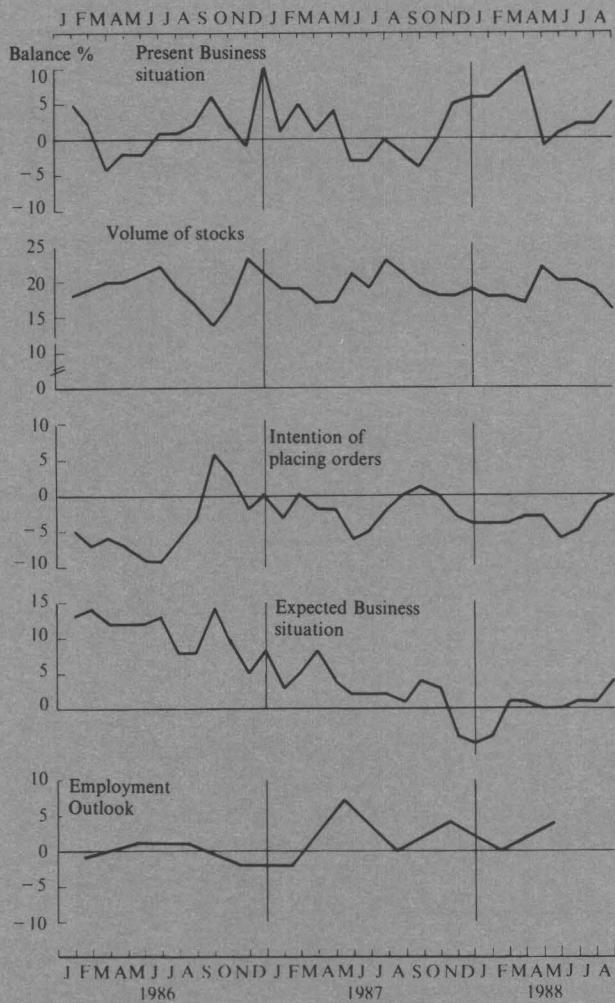
TABLE 4: (continued) Results of business surveys in the retail trade (a) (b)

		1986												1987												1988											
		Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	Apr.	May	June	July(h)	Aug.															
VOLUME OF STOCKS (continued)	B	-19	-38	-18	-14	-18	-30	-17	-25	-36	-28	-33	-39	-28	-32	-54	-54	-23	-9	-9	2	-4															
	D	31	38	35	31	25	28	37	31	21	23	22	28	29	26	28	27	21	26	29	26	23															
	F(c)	:	10	:	6	:	17	:	26	:	7	:	12	:	13	:	28	:	15	:	5	:															
	I(c)	:	6	:	6	:	7	:	37	:	25	:	28	:	17	:	9	:	17	:	-8	:															
	NL	8	30	21	17	32	30	31	28	25	32	32	34	23	37	25	31	35	35	15	24	21															
	UK	1	24	5	-1	-19	-16	-14	-6	-19	-17	-23	-6	-3	-19	-19	-17	-12	-15	-7	-4	-34															
		EUR 6(f)	(13)	19	(15)	12	(7)	11	(15)	22	(16)	11	(9)	15	(16)	11	(10)	12	(13)	13	(15)	8	(1)														
— Motor vehicles	B	9	6	12	15	16	12	17	14	7	13	17	10	6	12	6	4	14	16	14	17	12															
	D	25	23	24	23	27	33	30	29	23	28	25	21	22	23	26	21	32	25	26	26	22															
	F(c)	:	19	:	8	:	18	:	27	:	19	:	20	:	19	:	18	:	22	:	20	:															
	I(c)(d)	:	18	:	19	:	20	:	26	:	19	:	23	:	19	:	18	:	22	:	16	:															
	NL	4	12	9	8	10	24	16	12	11	16	16	18	17	16	15	21	21	20	7	14	11															
	UK	18	18	16	20	10	7	4	8	8	5	6	7	13	8	8	9	18	6	13	12	1															
		EUR 6(f)	(21)	19	(19)	17	(17)	21	(19)	23	(21)	19	(18)	18	(19)	18	(18)	17	(22)	20	(20)	19	(16)														
— Retail trade—Total	B	-25	2	14	6	-1	0	-12	9	24	18	24	3	-13	10	10	14	6	9	-9	4	13															
	D	-3	-11	11	-1	5	-6	-10	5	7	11	20	6	-1	7	8	-4	4	-9	-7	7	10															
	F(c)	:	-1	:	6	:	10	:	7	:	6	:	2	:	-8	:	8	:	11	:	3	:															
	I(c)	:	9	:	8	:	-4	:	16	:	5	:	-6	:	-5	:	2	:	1	:	13	:															
	NL	15	8	12	15	13	13	4	2	18	9	22	24	19	2	22	21	19	20	17	43	33															
	UK	32	43	35	16	32	46	33	50	40	51	39	58	68	54	37	31	62	35	45	47	42															
		EUR 6(f)	(15)	8	(12)	7	(11)	9	(5)	16	(17)	16	(17)	12	(12)	9	(7)	9	(16)	8	(10)	17	(16)														
— Textiles, clothing, footwear	B	9	11	-3	-8	-7	-30	-8	-15	-13	-21	-46	-41	-33	-3	-21	-11	-19	-15	-19	0	-12															
	D	-3	13	4	-4	-3	-18	-6	-2	2	-9	-1	-7	-6	-11	-8	-3	-19	-2	-11	-10	-5															
	F(c)	:	-51	:	-39	:	-43	:	-63	:	-45	:	-56	:	-56	:	-43	:	-53	:	-50	:															
	I(c)	:	-19	:	-24	:	-52	:	-48	:	-40	:	-29	:	-36	:	-36	:	-33	:	-22	:															
	NL	11	21	25	-4	2	17	2	2	2	-11	-23	-21	-19	-16	-22	-29	-28	-27	-7	-22	-29															
	UK	15	34	46	40	48	31	35	45	54	38	47	25	10	45	40	18	9	8	11	35	55															
		EUR 6(f)	(-11)	0	(-1)	-5	(-3)	-18	(-13)	-13	(-10)	-13	(-10)	-16	(-18)	-13	(-14)	-14	(-21)	-17	(-18)	-11	(-6)														
— Household goods (total)	B	-37	-10	24	1	20	-14	-2	12	12	-2	-24	-7	-23	12	25	11	26	-8	-17	14	30															
	D	-19	-24	-14	-20	-30	-35	-31	-19	-13	-12	-7	-19	-19	-3	-12	-13	-15	-27	-15	-4	-4															
	F(c)	:	-29	:	-29	:	-31	:	-39	:	-16	:	-15	:	-36	:	-26	:	-36	:	-52	:															
	I(c)	:	-18	:	-7	:	-14	:	4	:	-11	:	-20	:	-14	:	-7	:	-16	:	-16	:															
	NL	29	32	40	41	34	23	16	39	28	29	18	20	16	12	24	20	7	9	5	37	29															
	UK	31	33	19	26	17	41	49	48	37	71	2	8	14	33	38	60	23	18	20	27	42															
		EUR 6(f)	(-10)	-12	(-8)	-8	(-13)	-15	(-12)	-5	(-5)	3	(-8)	-11	(-12)	-5	(-6)	-1	(-7)	-18	(-14)	-9	(-6)														
— Motor vehicles	B	3	11	27	8	-1	-6	-12	-10	14	-11	32	15	7	3	29	7	-5	1	16	2	26															
	D	-14	-11	-14	-14	-8	-23	-28	-15	-12	-12	-18	-14	-11	-20	-7	-11	-22	-19	-22	-27	-17															
	F(c)	:	-32	:	-6	:	-1	:	-31	:	-26	:	-29	:	-33	:	-15	:	-14	:	-36	:															
	I(c)	:	-7	:	10	:	-2	:	-28	:	-54	:	-20	:	14	:	-1	:	-11	:	14	:															
	NL	17	24	27	23	9	-23	-11	7	-11	-13	-30	-13	-10	-9	-12	-23	-36	-33	-40	-31	-37															
	UK	27	-2	20	16	5	33	40	11	38	26	22	15	21	18	37	35	29	29	39	45	29															
		EUR 6(f)	(2)	-11	(-7)	1	(0)	-3	(-3)	-15	(-9)	-17	(-18)	-12	(-10)	-8	(1)	-1	(-7)	-8	(-6)	-7	(-6)														
— Retail trade—Total	B	-10	6	10	1	-1	-15	-9	-3	8	-4	-9	-14	-20	5	2	2	-2	-4	-11	3	6															
	D	-9	-8	-1	-7	-8	-17	-14	-5	-1	-3	3	-6	-7	-6	-5	-8	-11	-13	-12	-5	-2															
	F(c)	:	-24	:	-17	:	-18	:	-27	:	-17	:	-19	:	-28	:	-16	:	-20	:	-28	:															
	I(c)(d)	:	-6	:	-6	:	-15	:	-8	:	-11	:	-12	:	-12	:	-8	:	-11	:	1	:															
	NL	20	24	28	19	17	7	8	19	13	7	4	6	1	6	1	-3	-1	-2	6	-1																
	UK	24	24	30	23	26	37	37	42	43	30	32	35	36	32	37	29	33	39	41	39																
		EUR 6(f)	(0)	-3	(0)	-2	(-2)	-6	(-5)	-2	(0)	1	(0)	-3	(-4)	-4	(-4)	-2	(-3)	-6	(-5)	-1	(0)														
EXPECTED BUSINESS SITUATION	B	-40	17	38	35	15	11	-14	5	42	29	43	27	-42	20	42	32	34	7	-18	21	16															
	D	4	5	18	12	1	2	-3	15	5	16	12	3	9	7	21	2	10	4	15	0	14															
	F(c)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:															
	I(c)	:	22	:	20	:	17	:	3	:	7	:	16	:	7	:	7	:	8	:	6	:															
	NL	35	17	17	16	24	31	15	23	34	20	26	23	28	18	26	26	19	20	25	52	39															
	UK	:	:	35	:	:	22	:	42	:	:	32	:	25	:	34	:	34	:	47	:																
		EUR 5(g)	:	(19)	(24)	(21)	:	14	:	(13)	(17)	(20)	:	17	:	(14)	(19)	(12)	:	14	(16)	(15)	(21)														
— Textiles, clothing, footwear	B	26	17	8	2	-16	-28	5	20	7	-28	-27	-20	-17	8	-14	-5	-32	-23	-9	12	-1															
	D	14	11	9	13	10	9	4	14	2	11	15	6	1	6	20	13	3	10	12	5	15															
	F(c)	:	-49	:	-40	:	-34	:	-60	:	-51	:	-56	:	-57	:	-48	:	-46	:	-48	:															
	I(c)	:	-7	:	13	:	-15	:	-2	:	-3	:	-20	:	-16	:	-10	:	-16	:	-18	:															
	NL	57	60	57	51	28	48	35	37	36	36	23	21	32	24	30	19	24	23	24	16	21															
	UK	:	:	54	:	:	49	:	60	:	31	:	60	:	60	:	68	:	68	:	53																
		EUR 6(f)	:	(7)	(8)	(14)	:	5	:	(7)	(4)	(7)	:	-5	:	(-3)	(6)	(7)	:	6	(7)	(5)	(5)														

TABLE 4: (continued) Results of business surveys in the retail trade (a) (b)

		1986												1987												1988																			
		Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	Apr.	May	June	July(h)	Aug.																							
EXPECTED BUSINESS SITUATION (continued)	B	-43	16	64	63	29	25	30	36	36	8	-13	3	-38	33	67	51	35	55	36	46	52																							
	D	-1	-3	-3	0	-14	-12	-8	1	9	7	4	-2	-6	4	8	12	4	1	4	12	17																							
	F(c)	:	-37	:	-34	:	-34	:	-44	:	-28	:	-37	:	-44	:	-36	:	-37	:	-34	:																							
	I(c)	:	10	:	13	:	15	:	16	:	13	:	1	:	2	:	15	:	3	:	-7	:																							
	NL	55	54	56	69	56	23	42	57	38	49	39	27	31	31	35	36	32	34	23	51	46																							
	UK	:	:	40	:	:	60	:	:	58	:	:	18	:	40	:	19	:	75	:																									
	EUR 6(f)	:	(3)	(5)	(8)	:	2	:	(7)	(9)	(10)	:	-5	:	(-2)	(5)	(10)	:	1	(0)	(4)	(14)																							
— Motor vehicles	B	38	10	58	-8	-28	-18	-34	15	59	-28	41	12	64	-21	14	-8	-11	5	12	-2	23																							
	D	8	3	3	1	0	-21	-18	-11	-6	-10	-11	-13	-18	-10	-9	-10	-16	-25	-26	-30	-23																							
	F(c)	:	-23	:	-20	:	-7	:	-36	:	-17	:	-31	:	-27	:	-18	:	-10	:	-30	:																							
	I(c)	:	11	:	38	:	-9	:	-5	:	-32	:	1	:	13	:	20	:	-8	:	4	:																							
	NL	39	35	38	26	7	-20	-9	9	9	4	-14	-14	-10	-7	-7	-31	-31	-27	-27	-19	-29																							
	UK	:	:	32	:	:	48	:	:	19	:	:	20	:	32	:	38	:	19	:	19	:																							
	EUR 6(f)	:	(4)	(8)	(10)	:	-3	:	(-3)	(-4)	(-11)	:	-7	:	(-4)	(0)	(1)	:	-6	(-6)	(-9)	(-10)																							
— Retail trade Total	B	-4	16	32	19	-1	-6	-4	16	29	-4	8	3	-18	12	19	15	2	0	-4	17	15																							
	D	5	3	6	7	-1	-2	-4	8	3	8	7	-1	-1	1	11	4	1	0	5	-1	9																							
	F(c)	:	-39	:	-34	:	-30	:	-48	:	-35	:	-44	:	-47	:	-38	:	-35	:	-36	:																							
	I(c) (d)	:	10	:	20	:	8	:	6	:	2	:	2	:	1	:	9	:	-1	:	2	:																							
	NL	46	44	42	38	31	25	24	38	32	30	22	20	23	18	26	18	18	19	16	25	19																							
	UK	:	:	39	:	:	41	:	42	:	28	:	35	:	40	:	43	:																											
	EUR 6(f)	:	(3)	(5)	(8)	:	2	:	(2)	(1)	(4)	:	-4	:	(-4)	(1)	(2)	:	0	(1)	(1)	(4)																							
		1987												1988												1988																			
		I	II	III	IV									I	II	III																													
EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK	B	3	:		-6		-4							3		10																													
	D	0	:		2		-1							6		2																													
	F	:			:		:							:																															
	I	0		2		-5		7		-4		8			-4		8																												
	NL	2		14		1		4						9		9		9																											
	UK	13		44		27		47						37		25		33																											
	EUR 5(g)	3		12		5		13						10		10																													
— Food, drink, and tobacco	B	1		12		1		-13						2		0																													
	D	-9		-1		-6		-10						-7		1																													
	F	-8		-4		-5		-9						-13		-13																													
	I	-19		-8		-14		-12						-11		-7																													
	NL	16		7		7		1		2				2		7		7																											
	UK	40		65		55		50						20		40		29																											
	EUR 6(f)	1		11		6		3						-2		5																													
— Textiles, clothing, footwear	B	-9		0		0		0						-4		-4		0																											
	D	-2		0		-1		-4						2		2		0																											
	F	-11		-4		-6		-2						-7		-7		-1																											
	I	-9		-1		4		-2						1		1		-9																											
	NL	12		11		7		7						8		8		5																											
	UK	19		44		8		39						-41		20		31		35		35		29																					
	EUR 6(f)	-2		6		1		4						-7		2																													
— Household goods (total)	B	-9		0		-1		-4						-4		-4		0																											
	D	-2		0		-1		-4						2		2		0																											
	F	-11		-4		-6		-2						-7		-7		-1																											
	I	-9		-1		4		-2						1		1		-9																											
	NL	12		11		7		7						8		8		5																											
	UK	19		44		8		39						-41		20		31		35		35		20		62																			
	EUR 6(f)	-2		6		1		4						-7		2																													
— Motor vehicles	B	0		1		0		-13						9		8		-7																											
	D	-7		12		-6		-12						-5		-5		0																											
	F	5		3		-9		-7						0		1		-1																											
	I	-23		-16		-17		-15						1		1		-6																											
	NL	21</																																											

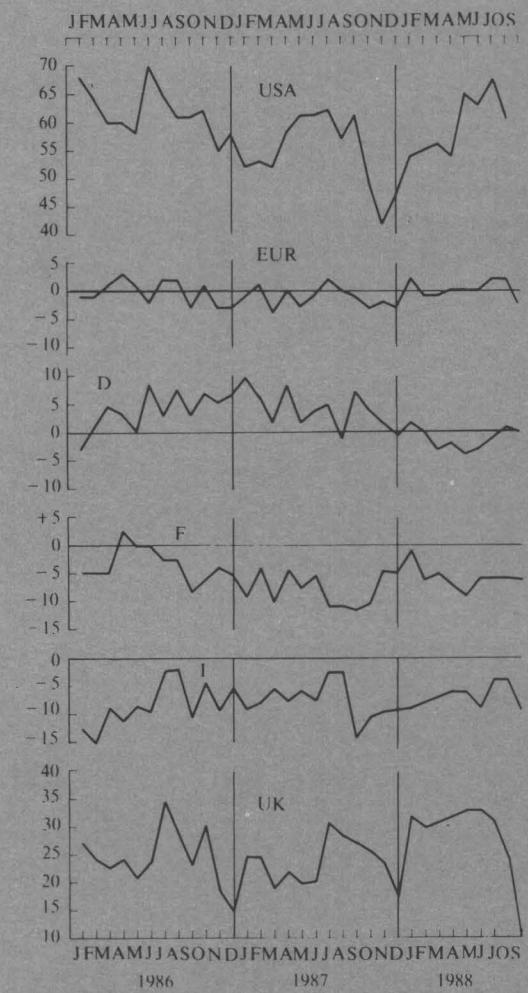
GRAPH 7: Results of business surveys in the retail trade — European Community (n.s.a.)



Source: EC Survey in the retail trade.

**GRAPH 8: Buying attitudes of consumers
USA and Europe compared net balances**

Net balances of answers regarding present time as good for large purchases (+) or not (-)



Source: European Community consumer survey; University of Michigan, Institute for Social Research.

TABLE 5: Consumer opinion on economic and financial conditions^(a)

		1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988								
		1979									Jan.	Feb.	March	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDICATOR ^(b)	B	-10	-20	-27	-27	-28	-27	-21	-17	-12	-8	-10	-9	-9	-7	-6	-6	-5	-5
	DK	-2	-19	-17	-12	0	6	4	-3	-10	-13	-16	-18	-12	-13	-12	: -16	-20	
	D	6	-5	-22	-26	-15	-10	-7	3	-1	-8	-8	-7	-6	-6	-5	-6	-4	-3
	GR	:	:	:	0	-11	-4	-5	-20	-29	-22	-20	-20	-22	-20	-20	-23	-21	-20
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	-9	-8	-7	-8	-6	-4	0	-2	1	4	1	
	F ^(d)	-5	-10	-9	-5	-15	-23	-21	-14	-18	-12	-13	-12	-13	-10	-10	-10	: -9	
	IRL	-10	-22	-28	-34	-39	-33	-29	-28	-29	-21	-24	-20	-12	-16	-17	-15	-16	-15
	I	-17	-22	-22	-18	-24	-15	-12	-4	-4	-5	-6	-7	-4	-6	-4	: -4	: -4	
	NL	-8	-25	-31	-32	-30	-22	-7	5	-2	-3	0	-4	0	-2	1	5	2	
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	-7	0	-5	-5	-6	-7	-6	-7	-10	-13	-16	
	UK	-4	-18	-21	-12	-3	-4	-10	-7	5	7	3	5	5	8	9	7	2	-2
	EUR ^(c)	-3	-13	-19	-17	-15	-14	-12	-6	-6	-6	-7	-6	-5	-4	-4	-4	-4	-5
FINANCIAL SITUATION OF HOUSEHOLDS	B	-11	-15	-19	-25	-29	-31	-23	-14	-9	-7	-7	-5	-6	-7	-4	-6	-3	-5
	DK	1	-10	-12	-7	-4	-2	-3	-2	-1	-5	-5	-8	-5	-4	-5	: -2	-3	
	D	2	-4	-16	-18	-14	-11	-8	1	1	1	-2	-1	-1	-1	0	0	0	
	GR	:	:	:	-2	-13	-8	-8	-24	-31	-23	-23	-19	-21	-22	-20	-24	-22	
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	-10	-9	-8	-7	-7	-1	-3	-5	-2	-2	-3	
	F ^(d)	-4	-7	-8	-7	-11	-15	-13	-11	-14	-11	-11	-12	-10	-9	-10	-9	: -6	
	IRL	-21	-32	-38	-41	-43	-42	-37	-34	-31	-23	-27	-28	-22	-24	-27	-21	-22	
— over last 12 months	I	-13	-14	-14	-13	-15	-12	-10	-6	-4	-3	-3	-5	-3	-6	-3	: -1		
	NL	1	-9	-18	-20	-28	-26	-17	-3	0	4	3	2	3	3	2	2	4	
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	-8	-2	-4	-3	-4	-5	-3	-3	-4	-8		
	UK	-11	-24	-30	-27	-15	-15	-16	-13	-5	-5	-7	-5	-5	-3	-4	-1	-5	
	EUR ^(c)	-5	-11	-17	-16	-15	-15	-12	-8	-6	-5	-6	-6	-5	-5	-4	-4	-3	

TABLE 5 (continued): Consumer opinion on economic and financial conditions(a)

														1988								
														Jan.	Feb.	March	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
														1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
FINANCIAL SITUATION OF HOUSEHOLDS (cont.)	B	-3	-6	-9	-12	-15	-18	-13	-5	-1	2	1	2	1	1	3	1	1	0			
	DK	3	-8	-4	-2	0	3	3	2	2	0	3	-1	4	3	2	1	1	-2			
	D	2	-3	-12	-14	-9	-6	-4	2	1	-1	-1	0	0	-1	-2	-2	0	0			
	GR	:	:	:	15	0	6	2	-12	-21	-12	-10	-14	-13	-12	-12	-15	-15	-12			
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	3	2	3	4	4	4	4	8	5	7	10	6			
	F (d)	0	-2	0	0	-4	-7	-3	-2	-4	0	-1	0	0	3	2	0	0	1			
	IRL	-13	-19	-24	-23	-26	-22	⋮	-15	-15	-10	-13	-13	-6	-10	-10	-8	-11	-8			
	I	-7	-10	-8	-6	-8	-3	-2	1	2	2	2	0	3	1	3	1	⋮	2			
	NL	1	-9	-13	-14	-21	-17	-6	2	2	4	5	1	6	4	1	3	5	5			
	P	:	:	:	⋮	⋮	⋮	2	5	3	4	2	-2	1	1	0	-4	-6				
— over next 12 months	UK	-1	-13	-15	-9	-2	-3	-5	-3	4	4	1	2	-2	2	4	3	3	1			
	EUR (c)	0	-6	-9	-8	-7	-6	-4	0	0	1	0	1	1	2	1	1	2	1			
GENERAL ECONOMIC SITUATION	B	-44	-58	-69	-68	-62	-57	-33	-29	-20	-21	-25	-22	-23	-18	-16	-15	-16	-13			
	DK	-34	-56	-47	-42	-4	4	2	-10	-22	-32	-33	-30	-29	-24	-26	⋮	-29	-37			
	D	3	-18	-46	-51	-29	-14	-11	7	-2	-18	-19	-17	-13	-11	-8	-11	-9	-4			
	GR	:	:	⋮	-2	-11	-4	-10	-28	-34	-26	-22	-20	-22	-21	-20	-23	-22	-21			
	E	:	:	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	-15	-18	-17	-13	-13	-10	-7	-7	-4	-5	-7			
	F (d)	-27	-39	-37	-28	-41	-54	-52	-34	-39	-32	-32	-31	-32	-27	-28	-26	⋮	-24			
	IRL	-35	-56	-66	-74	-77	-65	-61	-58	-58	-45	-43	-38	-29	-32	-30	-28	-26	-28			
	I	-43	-57	-60	-51	-57	-36	-26	-10	-7	-13	-14	-16	-11	-15	-12	-12	⋮	-11			
	NL	-30	-55	-64	-64	-54	-19	8	18	-1	-9	-7	-8	-4	-2	-5	-1	8	4			
	P	:	:	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	-5	5	-1	-5	-4	-3	-3	-2	-4	-8	-13		
— over last 12 months	UK	-33	-55	-62	-40	-23	-25	-37	-29	-4	4	-2	-1	3	4	7	2	-3	-8			
	EUR (c)	-22	-41	-51	-44	-37	-31	-28	-15	-14	-16	-17	-17	-17	-14	-12	-11	-12	-12	-11		
— over next 12 months	B	-29	-45	-51	-43	-38	-33	-17	-12	-9	-5	-12	-11	-10	-9	-7	-7	-7	-4	-4	-4	
	DK	-24	-42	-29	-23	3	6	4	-7	-15	-25	-23	-23	-21	-12	-18	⋮	-21	-26			
	D	1	-19	-33	-32	-14	-10	-6	3	-8	-22	-19	-17	-14	-14	-12	-16	-12	-11			
	GR	:	:	⋮	25	6	10	3	-13	-22	-13	-10	-11	-13	-13	-12	-16	-16	-13			
	E	:	:	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	3	-2	-3	-3	1	3	4	7	6	6	4			
	F (d)	-29	-40	-27	-23	-36	-45	-34	-18	-24	-17	-15	-13	-14	-6	-8	-9	⋮	-10			
	IRL	-26	-35	-38	-42	-45	-29	-26	-26	-29	-21	-20	-16	-4	-7	-9	-11	-10	-11			
	I	-19	-30	-30	-24	-25	-9	-8	3	-2	-3	-6	-6	-1	-4	0	-4	⋮	-1			
	NL	-26	-48	-42	-42	-28	-5	10	12	-8	-14	-9	-14	-5	-5	-5	-9	-6	1	-1		
	P	:	:	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	5	9	2	0	1	-1	0	-2	0	-5	-10		
— over last 12 months	UK	-16	-24	-23	-10	-5	-10	-16	-14	4	2	-5	0	-2	4	3	3	-2	-7	-10		
	EUR (c)	-16	-30	-30	-24	-21	-18	-14	-5	-8	-11	-11	-9	-7	-5	-4	-7	-7	-7			
PRICE TRENDS	B	55	65	69	77	78	78	72	49	32	24	20	21	21	23	23	26	26	26			
	DK	39	50	51	48	26	26	26	10	0	0	4	3	4	6	4	4	4	6			
	D	25	44	52	46	23	15	9	-15	-14	-6	-7	-7	-4	-3	-1	1	1	-2			
	GR	:	:	⋮	15	30	24	26	39	42	27	24	28	28	22	26	25	25	22			
	E	:	:	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	46	35	29	30	26	29	20	20	23	23	35			
	F (d)	70	79	77	62	55	58	44	12	12	2	1	1	3	1	5	8	⋮	9			
	IRL	80	85	87	87	80	71	59	47	35	29	35	30	21	30	31	30	28	25			
	I	72	80	79	72	69	55	49	36	29	35	34	35	32	35	34	33	33	33			
	NL	43	62	68	63	43	41	22	-2	-19	-22	-19	-18	-10	-13	-10	-14	-15	-9			
	P	:	:	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	31	30	45	46	41	43	42	40	40	48	48			
— over next 12 months	UK	48	59	41	31	15	19	24	15	11	9	12	11	15	13	13	17	19	24			
	EUR (c)	49	63	62	53	40	37	30	13	11	10	10	10	12	11	12	14	14	16			
— over last 12 months	B	33	42	40	45	40	37	36	27	19	20	15	12	14	17	20	22	24	28			
	DK	29	38	31	31	12	16	15	7	6	3	9	8	3	4	6	4	5				
	D	44	51	50	43	30	28	25	5	12	23	21	19	18	21	26	30	28	22			
	GR	:	:	⋮	25	37	38	42	44	47	34	32	35	37	35	36	32	31	31			
	E	:	:	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	19	18	15	15	12	16	4	5	11	12	18			
	F (d)	46	50	39	42	37	32	27	19	12	1	-2	-2	6	-1	11	12	12	8			
	IRL	59	56	52	46	39	35	32	23	25	24	23	22	12	17	20	22	22	18			
	I	56	60	58	56	54	46	48	35	42	48	46	46	39	46	43	47	47	46			
	NL	48	61	52	50	38	25	17	6	2	5	9	6	12	12	12	18	13	22			
	P	:	:	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	14	17	27	29	22	21	23	24	32	40	39			
— over next 12 months	UK	34	43	31	29	27	40	43	32	36	39	45	41	43	42	45	52	54	53			
	EUR (c)	44	51	44	42	35	35	32	20	22	24	23	22	22	26	30	30	28	28			
UNEMPLOYMENT	B	42	57	67	60	57	44	37	33	35	26	35	31	28	22	21	22	23	24			
	DK	22	39	37	29	30	5	-4	1	29	39	40	34	30	23	30	30	36	43			
	D	3	20	43	43	30	20	16	4	19	37	36	33	27	26	22	26	27	25			
	GR	:	:	⋮	11	10	11	17	31	36	27	26	30	27	26	28	28	21	23			
	E	:	:	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	26	31	33	34	27	26	17	16	17	19	16			
	F (d)	44	47	43	30	41	62	50	33	39	24	29	30	31	19	33	36	⋮	37			
	IRL	12	34	47	56	67	52	48	45	45	42	46	42	30	35	33	32	31	33			
	I	41	51	52	56	57	49	47														

TABLE 5 (continued) : Consumer opinion on economic and financial conditions^(a)

	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988									
										Jan.	Feb.	March	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	
MAJOR PURCHASES	B	30	23	15	13	6	6	-18	-26	-21	-11	-8	-9	-5	0	-7	-5	-2	-2
	DK	42	21	10	16	7	14	14	0	-15	-3	-20	-27	-6	-27	-15	:	-27	-32
	D	25	18	-1	-17	-8	-9	-8	4	4	2	0	-3	-2	-4	-3	-1	1	0
	GR	:	:	:	-35	-35	-24	-20	-22	-36	-35	-34	-34	-39	-32	-36	-39	-31	-30
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	-27	-14	-11	-18	-14	-13	-4	-11	-1	9	5	
	F ^(d)	35	39	28	30	19	6	-4	-3	-8	0	-6	-5	-7	-9	-6	-6	:	-7
	IRL	46	30	24	13	-6	-9	-2	-10	-11	-6	-15	-8	3	-9	-9	-6	-11	-5
	I	-3	2	4	1	-13	-15	-15	-8	-8	-9	-8	-7	-6	-6	-9	-4	:	-8
	NL	13	-2	-17	-21	-18	-44	-29	-6	-3	1	6	0	2	3	1	9	7	1
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	-28	-17	-26	-21	-22	-25	-27	-29	-42	-40	-41	
— at present	UK	43	28	26	25	32	31	24	24	24	32	30	31	32	33	33	31	24	10
	EUR (c)	27	22	12	6	5	0	-3	0	-1	2	-1	-1	0	0	0	2	2	-2
— over next 12 months	B	-29	-26	-28	-28	-30	-28	-30	-28	-20	-20	-18	-15	-18	-17	-13	-19	-18	-12
	DK	-8	-14	-12	-10	-8	-7	-8	-12	-11	-11	-13	-13	-9	-11	-13	:	-16	-15
	D	-15	-19	-25	-28	-29	-28	-26	-20	-20	-22	-23	-21	-20	-21	-21	-23	-20	-18
	GR	:	:	:	-24	-33	-38	-33	-42	-45	-40	-47	-51	-50	-39	-39	-43	-39	-32
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	-26	-23	-25	-21	-20	-21	-22	-25	-25	-18	-19	
	F ^(d)	-16	-18	-13	-9	-10	-10	-9	-3	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	:	0
	IRL	-17	-19	-22	-27	-31	-25	-22	-20	-19	-16	-11	-17	-16	-12	-12	-11	-11	-8
	I	-10	-17	-18	-22	-22	-21	-21	-21	-21	-21	-21	-21	-20	-22	-23	-22	:	-20
	NL	-19	-23	-27	-27	-29	-27	-20	-15	-12	-11	-14	-10	-11	-12	-13	-11	-14	-14
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	6	5	12	15	-2	2	-3	-9	2	2	0
SAVINGS	UK	-6	-14	-19	-18	-15	-12	-14	-12	-10	-11	-12	-10	-6	-6	-8	-9	-9	-14
	EUR (c)	-12	-17	-20	-20	-21	-19	-18	-16	-14	-15	-15	-14	-14	-14	-15	-14	-14	-14
— at present	B	40	38	41	40	46	46	43	52	55	56	55	59	57	56	56	59	59	59
	DK	11	15	23	26	40	41	50	46	50	59	46	42	52	45	47	:	43	48
	D	46	43	32	27	33	38	41	44	43	29	30	29	33	32	38	34	30	38
	GR	:	:	:	-25	-29	-20	-18	-31	-40	-41	-41	-44	-41	-35	-41	-38	-32	-32
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	36	43	45	46	40	41	46	43	40	47	44	
	F ^(d)	8	-3	-2	-5	0	6	11	12	20	22	20	23	22	23	27	24	:	26
	IRL	8	5	-3	-9	-3	-8	-1	-3	-7	-5	-5	-5	0	-3	4	5	8	5
	I	4	-6	-7	10	21	33	37	47	49	48	46	45	50	46	50	46	:	48
	NL	19	19	27	38	35	34	41	48	50	56	48	50	50	55	50	53	55	58
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	-42	-27	-33	-34	-39	-41	-32	-39	-43	-45	-51	
— over next 12 months	UK	-5	6	5	5	10	17	20	23	31	32	31	29	29	23	29	31	30	34
	EUR (c)	21	15	12	12	19	24	29	31	35	33	32	31	33	32	35	33	33	36
FINANCIAL SITUATION OF HOUSEHOLDS	B	-14	-20	-21	-25	-26	-27	-33	-9	-3	0	-2	5	3	4	0	6	-1	1
	DK	-12	-20	-19	-18	-12	-11	-7	-6	-5	-4	-5	-6	-4	-7	-9	:	-8	-3
	D	46	44	23	-2	1	3	3	11	13	11	11	10	14	9	11	12	15	14
	GR	:	:	-37	-41	-39	-40	-47	-57	-53	-55	-47	-47	-46	-47	-50	-45	-47	
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	-36	-35	-34	-36	-36	-34	-26	-33	-32	-25	-35	
	F ^(d)	-29	-32	-32	-32	-35	-37	-36	-31	-34	-30	-30	-29	-31	-29	-28	-28	:	-27
	IRL	-11	-13	-19	-22	-25	-37	-28	-30	-31	-27	-27	-31	-27	-24	-18	-25	-25	-28
	I	-34	-32	-30	-22	-27	-20	-17	-10	-6	-4	-5	-7	-4	-7	1	-1	:	-1
	NL	8	0	-1	-3	-8	-2	6	12	17	27	26	23	22	23	25	25	28	22
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	-39	-27	-27	-26	-31	-32	-32	-31	-30	-27	-31	
— indicator of net acquisition of financial assets	UK	-4	-16	-20	-17	-13	-12	-14	-12	-6	-4	-6	-9	-7	-8	-3	-5	-5	
	EUR (c)	2	-4	-11	-17	-17	-16	-15	-11	-10	-9	-9	-10	-9	-9	-8	-7	-6	-7

(a) The sum of the replies for each Member State are weighted in the Community total with the value of consumers' expenditure.

(b) The indicator represents the arithmetic average of results for five questions, namely the two on the financial situation of the household, the two on the general economic situation, and that concerning major purchases at present.

(c) If monthly data are not available, the EUR-averages incorporate the most recent available results.

(d) Data of an experimental and provisional nature from June 1986 onwards; they do not involve the responsibility of the INSEE.

Source: European Community consumer survey.

Prices (excluding VAT) in Luxembourg

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