



30th October 2024
BUSINESS AND CONSUMER SURVEYS
October 2024

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDICATOR DECREASES AND ECONOMIC CLIMATE INDICATOR INCREASES

The Consumer confidence indicator decreased in October^{1,2}, after the increase observed in the previous month.

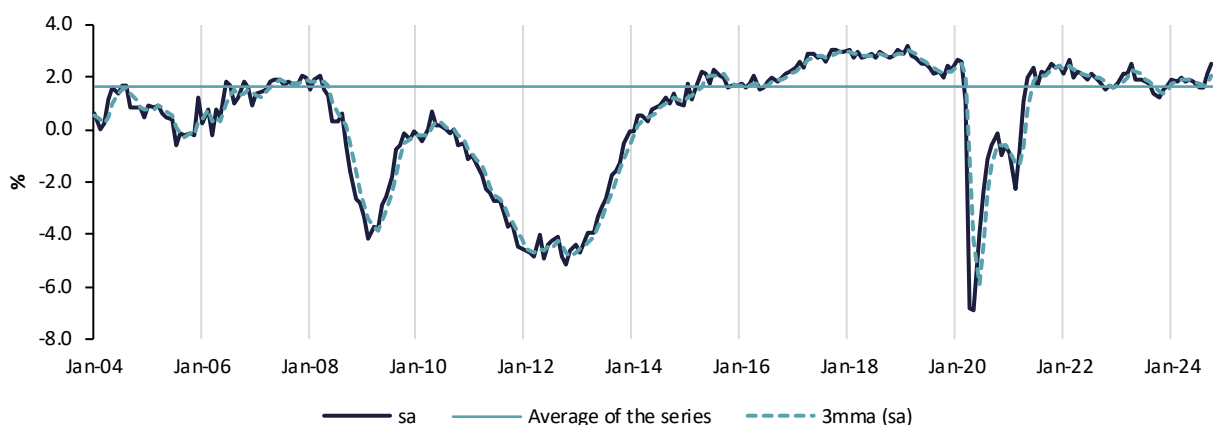
The balance of Consumer opinions on past price developments increased significantly in October, after decreasing in the previous two months. The balance of perspectives regarding future price developments also increased significantly in the last month, surpassing the significant decrease recorded in September.

The economic climate indicator³ increased in September and October, attaining a new maximum since April 2023. Confidence indicators increased sharply in Construction and Public Works and in Services, having stabilized in Trade and decreased in the Manufacturing Industry.

The balance of entrepreneurs' expectations regarding the future evolution of selling prices decreased in October in Construction and Public Works, with increases in this balance in the other sectors, moderately in Trade and Services, while in the Manufacturing Industry it increased significantly, registering the maximum since January 2023.

According to information collected about the evolution of investment in the context of the business survey for the manufacturing industry, 58.5% of firms foresee that investment will stabilize in 2025 compared to 2024, while 30.1% foresee an increase and 11.4% a decrease.

Figure 1. Economic climate indicator
- Manufacturing Industry, Construction and Public Works, Trade and Services-



¹ The collection period (see final notes) of the consumer survey occurred from 01 to 18 of October (working days), in the case of the consumer survey, and from 01 to 24 of October in the case of business surveys.

² As part of the review of harmonized questionnaires for Business and Consumer Surveys, conducted by the European Commission with the aim of identifying potentially redundant questions and to reduce the burden on respondents, the methodological note (page 24) outlines the questions that will be discontinued starting in May 2025.

³ The economic climate indicator summarizes the balances of business surveys' questions.



Consumer Survey

The Consumer confidence indicator decreased in October, after increasing in the previous month. The evolution of the indicator in October resulted mostly from the negative contribution of the expectations on the future evolution of the country's economic situation, with perspectives on major purchases by households and opinions on the past evolution of households' financial situation also contributing negatively. In the opposite direction, expectations on the future evolution of households' financial situation registered a positive contribution.

The balance of perspectives regarding the future evolution of the country's economic situation decreased significantly in the last month, after increasing in September.

The balance of expectations about household's future financial situation increased in the last two months, marginally in October, following the slight decrease in August, resuming the ascending path initiated in December of 2023.

The balance of opinions on the past evolution of the price level increased significantly in October, after decreasing in the previous two months. The balance of perspectives on future price developments also increased considerably this last month, surpassing the significant decrease observed in September.

Figure 2. Consumer confidence indicator and components

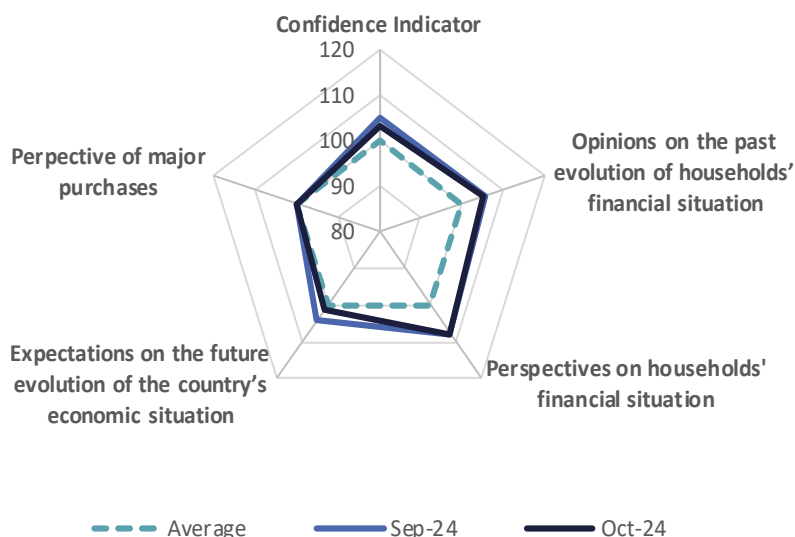




Figure 3. Consumer confidence indicator

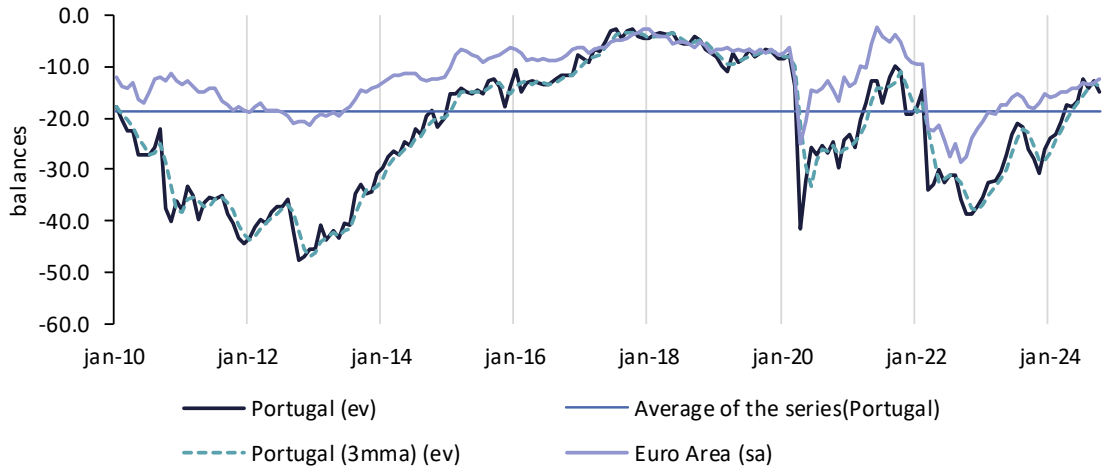
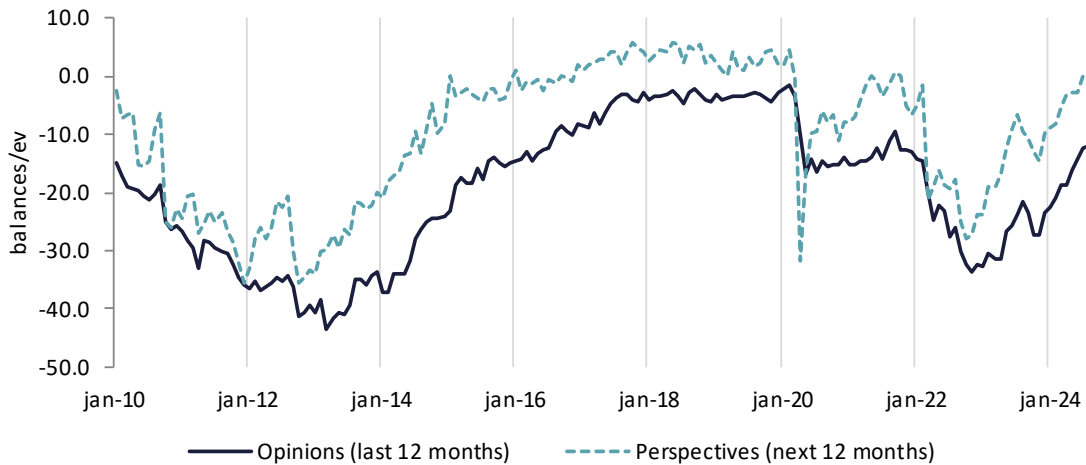


Figure 4. Opinions and expectations about household's financial situation





Manufacturing Industry Survey

The Manufacturing Industry confidence indicator decreased in October, after having increased in the two previous months. The behaviour of the indicator reflected the negative contributions of all components, the opinions on the evolution of the overall order books in the last three months, the opinions on the current stocks of finished products and the firm's production perspectives over the next three months.

The indicator decreased in the groups of Investment Goods and Intermediate Goods, having increased in the case of Consumer Goods.

The balance of opinions on current overall order books increased in October, contrary to the decrease in September. Opinions regarding domestic order books recovered in October, after having deteriorated in the last month. Opinions on export order books, also recovered compared to September.

The balance of opinions on the evolution of sale prices increased significantly in the reference month, after decreasing in August and September. This balance increased in Intermediate Goods and Investment Goods, having increased in Consumer Goods.

Figure 5. Manufacturing industry confidence indicator and components

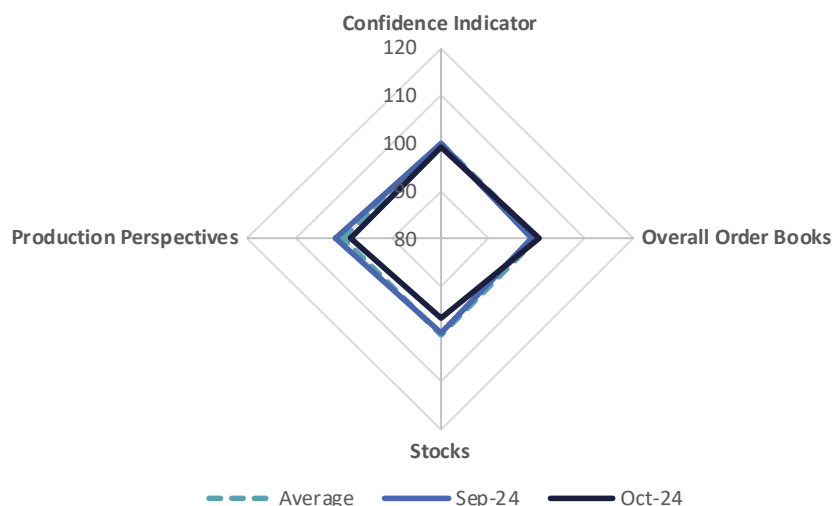




Figure 6. Manufacturing industry confidence indicator

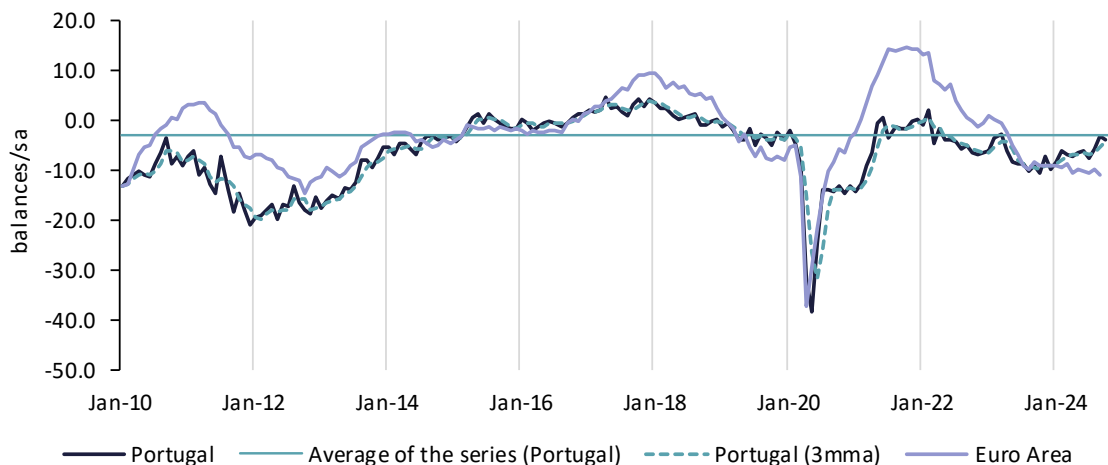
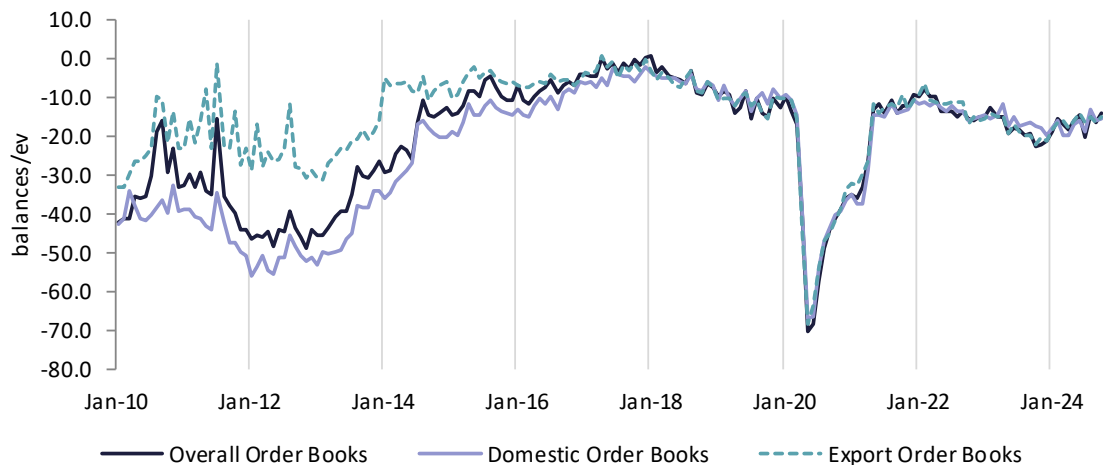


Figure 7. Opinions on current overall order books





Construction and Public Works Survey

The confidence indicator of Construction and Public Works increased in October, after decreasing in September. The increase in the last month reflected the positive contribution of both components, balance of opinions on current order books and perspectives on employment.

The confidence indicator increased significantly in the division of Civil Engineering, and decreased in the divisions of Construction of Buildings and Specialized Construction Activities.

The balance of opinions on the firm's activity in the last three months increased in October, after decreasing in August and in September.

The balance of perspectives regarding the selling prices charged by the firm in the next three months attained the minimum since June 2020, decreasing in the last three months, after increasing in July.

The main factor limiting activity indicated by firms continued to be the shortage of labour force, although there was in the last two months a decrease in the percentage of firms that mentioned it, which had reached a new maximum of the series in August.

Figure 8. Construction and Public Works confidence indicator and components

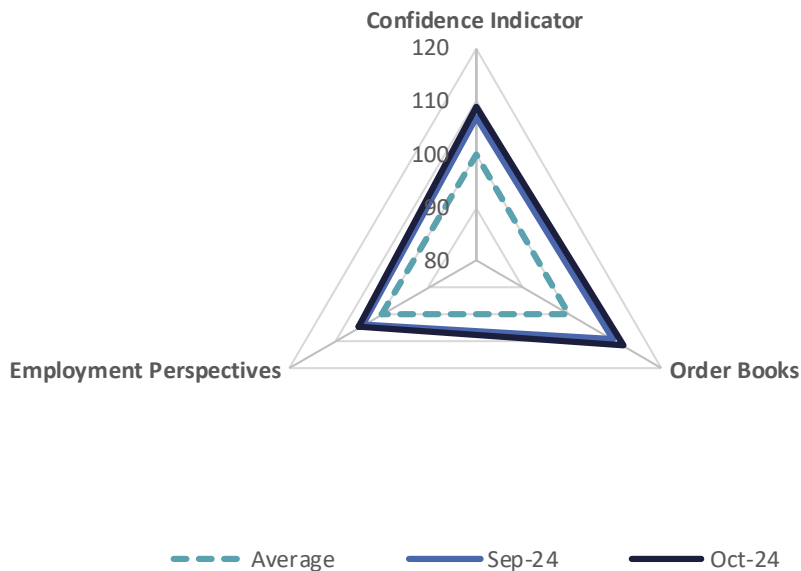




Figure 9. Construction and Public Works confidence indicator

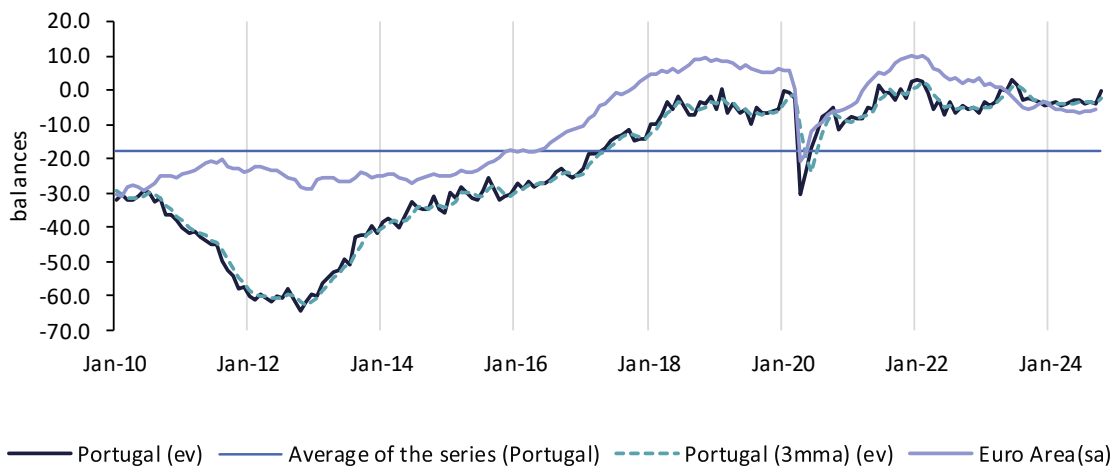
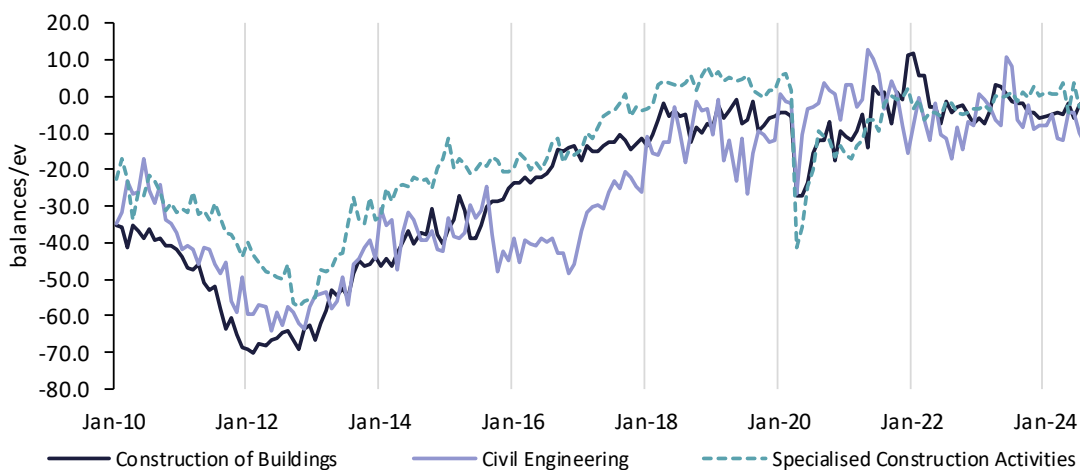


Figure 10. Construction and Public Works confidence indicators by NACE divisions





Trade Survey

The trade confidence indicator stabilized in October, after increasing moderately between July and September. The evolution of the indicator in the last month resulted from the positive contribution of the opinions on the current volume of stocks, while the assessments on the volume of sales and the expectations on the firm's activity contributed negatively. In October, the confidence indicator increased in Retail Trade and decreased in Wholesale Trade.

The balance of opinions on the volume of sales decreased in October, after increasing in the previous month. In turn, the perspectives for activity deteriorated in September and October, contrary to the recovery recorded in August.

The balance of opinions on selling prices evolution increased in October, after decreasing significantly in August and slightly in September. The balance of price expectations over the next three months has also increased in October, having decreased in the previous two months.

Figure 11. Trade confidence indicator and components

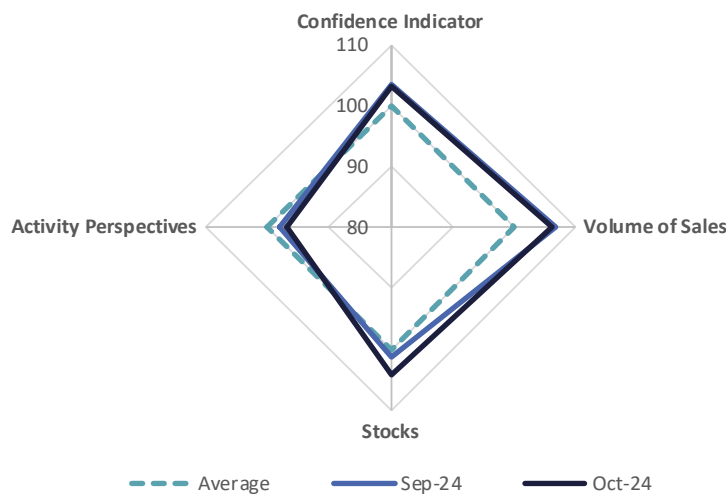




Figure 12. Trade confidence indicator

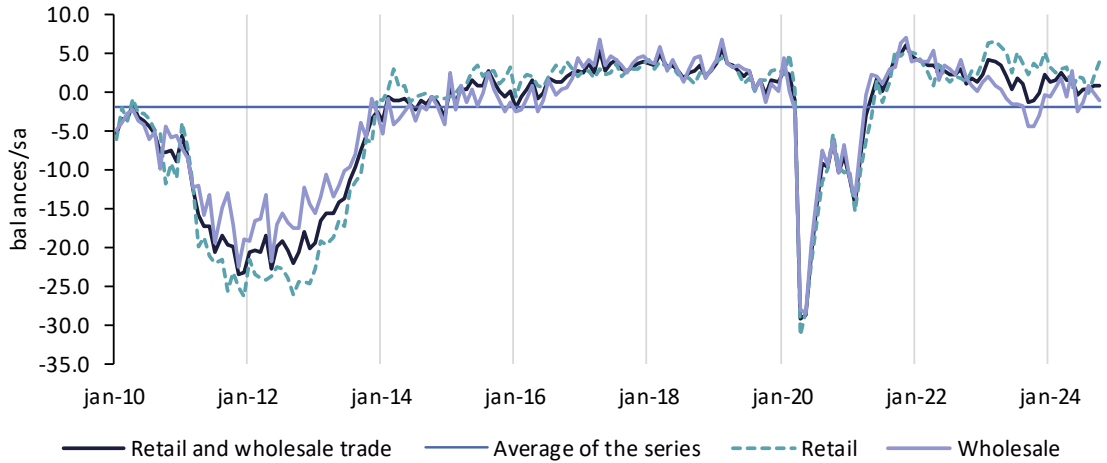
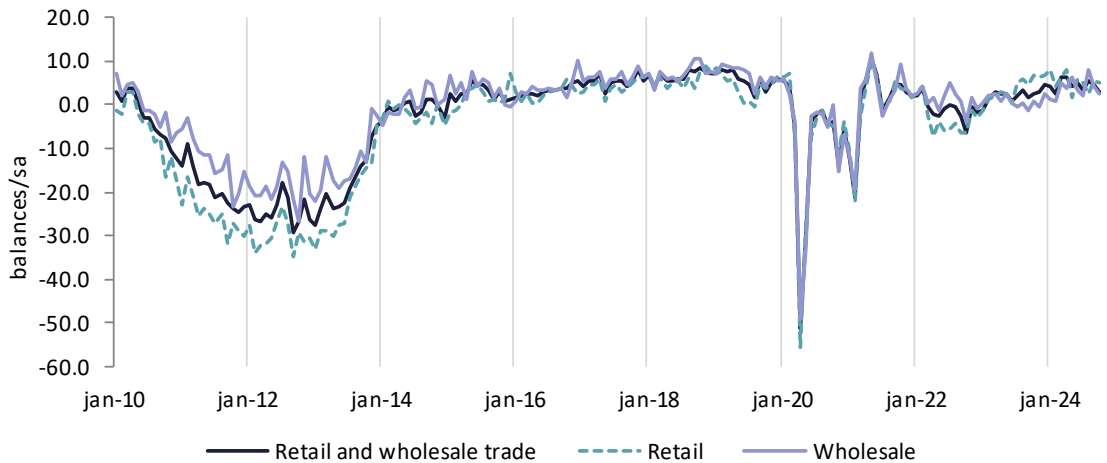


Figure 13. Perspectives on business activity (sales) over the next three months





Services Survey

The Services' confidence indicator increased in the last two months, after decreasing in August. The indicator's behaviour resulted from the positive contributions of the opinions on the evolution of the business and the opinions on the evolution of the order books, while the perspectives on the evolution of demand contributed negatively.

In October, the confidence indicator increased in four of the eight sections of Services, with emphasis on the sections of Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities and Real estate activities.

The balance of perspectives on the evolution of demand decreased in October, after having increased in the last three months, more significantly in September.

The balance of expectations for prices of services increased in the reference month, after having decreased in September.

Figure 14. Services confidence indicator and components

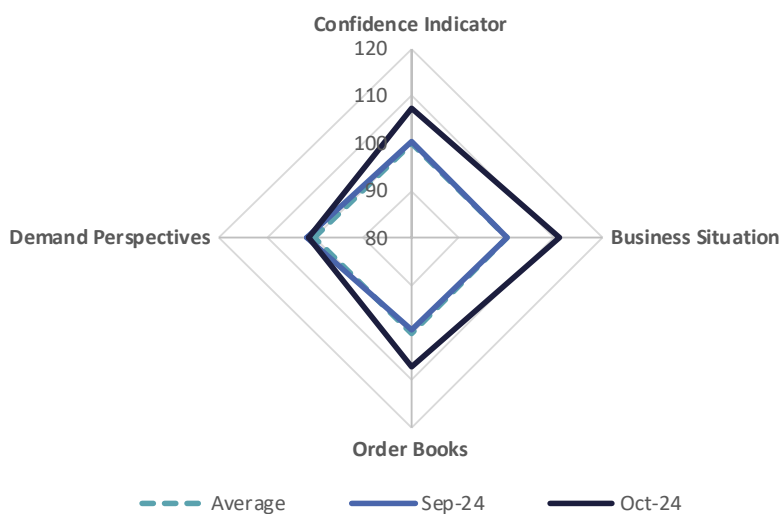




Figure 15. Services confidence indicator

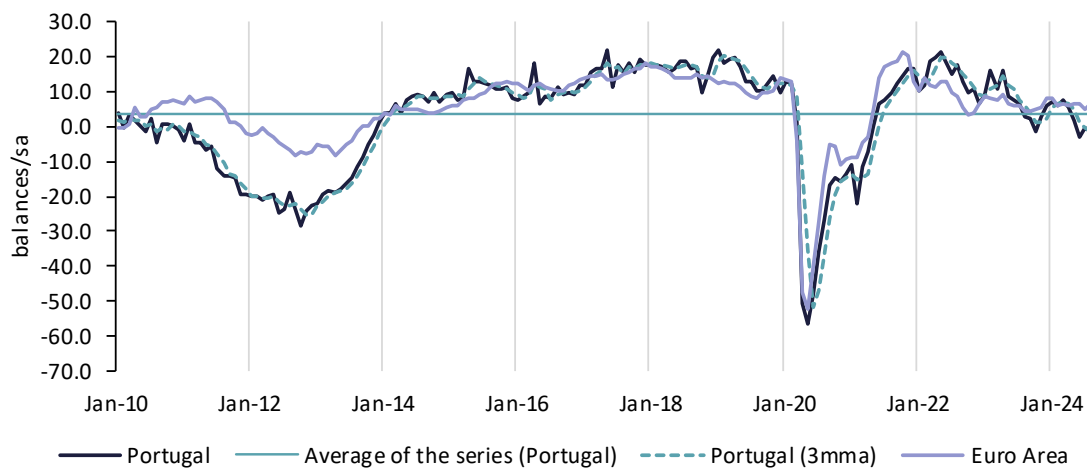
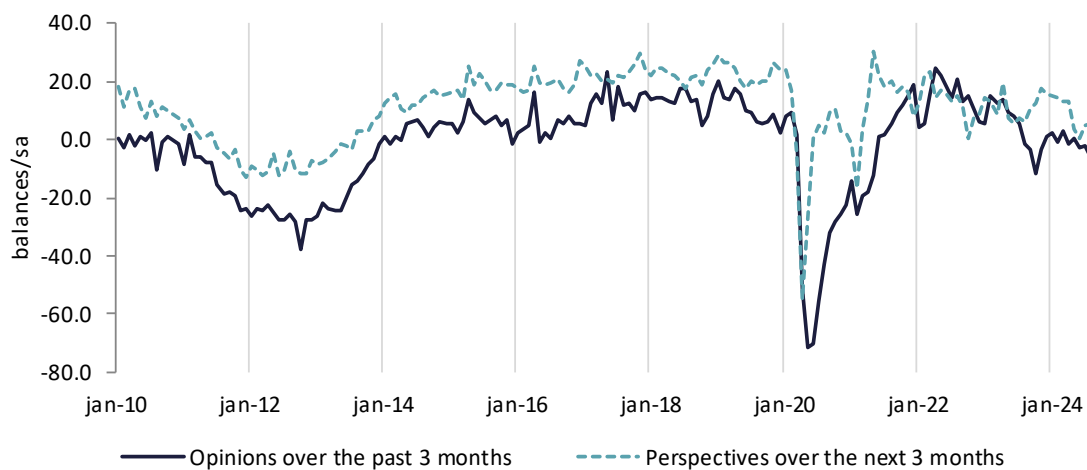


Figure 16. Opinions and perspectives on the evolution of demand (order books)





Monthly series of Consumer and Business Surveys

Table 1. Confidence and climate economic indicators

	Unit	Minimum		Maximum		2023			2024									
		Value	Date	Value	Date	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Confidence indicator																		
Consumers	bal/ev	-47.8	Oct-12	-0.1	Sep-97	-27.7	-30.8	-26.0	-23.9	-23.2	-20.7	-17.4	-17.6	-16.5	-12.3	-14.1	-12.8	-14.7
Manufacturing industry	bal/sa	-38.5	May-20	19.4	Mar-87	-10.4	-7.3	-9.8	-8.3	-6.1	-6.9	-7.3	-6.3	-6.0	-7.7	-5.8	-2.9	-3.7
Construction and public works	bal/ev	-64.5	Oct-12	25.6	Sep-97	-2.9	-3.3	-4.7	-4.0	-3.4	-4.4	-4.2	-3.1	-2.7	-4.1	-3.3	-3.8	-0.3
Trade	bal/sa	-29.3	Apr-20	11.7	Jun-98	-0.9	-0.1	2.4	1.3	1.6	2.5	1.5	1.7	-0.2	0.3	0.4	0.9	0.9
Services	bal/sa	-56.4	May-20	29.5	Jun-01	-1.3	2.7	6.1	7.2	6.0	7.9	5.3	1.8	-2.8	-0.2	-1.7	4.3	13.8
Economic climate indicator																		
	%/sa	-6.9	May-20	5.8	Apr-98	1.2	1.5	1.7	2.0	1.8	2.0	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.6	2.1	2.5

Table 2. Monthly series of Consumer Survey

	Unit	Minimum		Maximum		2023			2024									
		Value	Date	Value	Date	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Confidence indicator (a+b+c+d)/4																		
General economic situation in the country over the next 12 months (c)	bal/ev	-72.7	Apr-20	16.6	Jun-17	-35.2	-42.6	-33.7	-32.1	-28.3	-24.2	-17.0	-18.8	-14.3	-11.6	-14.3	-12.9	-19.1
Financial situation of the households over the last 12 months (a)	bal/ev	-43.5	Mar-13	0.5	Aug-99	-27.3	-27.4	-23.5	-22.4	-21.0	-18.6	-18.6	-16.2	-14.4	-12.4	-12.2	-11.1	-11.6
Financial situation of the households over the next 12 months (b)	bal/ev	-35.6	Oct-12	8.6	Feb-99	-13.0	-14.4	-9.9	-8.9	-8.3	-5.5	-3.0	-2.7	-2.8	0.0	-0.1	0.4	0.5
Major purchases over the next 12 months (d)	bal/ev	-51.6	Apr-20	-6.4	Sep-97	-35.2	-38.6	-37.1	-32.4	-35.1	-34.4	-31.0	-32.5	-34.5	-25.0	-29.8	-27.7	-28.5
General economic situation in the country over the last 12 months																		
Major purchases over the last 12 months	bal/sa	-87.7	Dec-08	-14.5	Sep-97	-78.9	-77.9	-76.5	-73.7	-74.5	-72.9	-71.2	-73.5	-71.9	-70.3	-64.9	-63.2	-58.3
Savings over the next 12 months	bal/ev	-43.4	Nov-22	0.9	Oct-97	-34.3	-37.7	-33.5	-27.9	-32.4	-30.9	-27.0	-28.9	-26.6	-23.6	-22.7	-22.9	-24.1
Unemployment next 12 months	bal/ev	-20.0	Jun-17	85.5	Feb-09	30.1	36.5	36.7	31.0	31.4	26.6	19.2	21.8	16.7	19.2	22.2	22.5	23.3
Prices over the last 12 months	bal/ev	-14.6	Sep-09	87.0	Oct-22	69.9	67.9	63.9	66.4	64.9	60.1	60.7	50.9	47.8	47.9	41.1	38.3	49.3
Prices over the next 12 months	bal/sa	-7.5	Dec-15	81.2	Mar-22	18.2	20.0	16.0	27.1	23.8	18.2	20.9	21.1	19.8	17.6	19.3	13.4	20.9

Table 3. Monthly series of Manufacturing Industry Survey

	Unit	Minimum		Maximum		2023			2024									
		Value	Date	Value	Date	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Confidence Indicator (a+b-c)/3																		
Consumer goods	bal/sa	-27.7	Apr-20	12.6	Jan-99	-9.6	-8.7	-9.2	-10.3	-6.1	-8.3	-7.3	-7.4	-7.3	-10.2	-6.9	-3.6	-4.9
Investment goods	bal/ev	-36.0	Apr-20	24.3	Feb-07	0.8	-3.9	-4.7	0.1	-2.9	-2.4	-6.5	-4.1	-5.2	-5.3	-4.3	0.8	-6.7
Intermediate goods	bal/sa	-49.9	May-20	17.3	Oct-94	-16.7	-9.5	-12.8	-10.2	-7.1	-7.5	-8.0	-5.1	-4.3	-6.5	-4.8	-5.3	-2.6
Current overall order books (a)																		
Consumer goods	bal/ev	-70.2	May-20	14.6	Mar-98	-22.7	-21.9	-21.0	-18.9	-15.5	-17.1	-18.1	-15.7	-14.3	-20.4	-14.3	-16.5	-14.1
Investment goods	bal/ev	-60.9	May-20	6.1	Dec-17	-21.9	-22.6	-19.6	-22.0	-16.3	-17.8	-14.8	-16.1	-17.0	-22.3	-16.3	-14.2	-13.2
Intermediate goods	bal/ev	-84.0	May-20	33.8	Jan-08	-10.8	-7.0	-9.6	-4.5	-13.5	-9.0	-18.3	-12.8	-10.7	-15.2	-10.5	-13.6	-16.9
Production over next 3 months (b)																		
Consumer goods	bal/sa	-53.2	Apr-20	34.8	Feb-87	-1.2	7.8	1.1	2.6	1.5	1.7	1.6	0.5	0.7	1.8	1.0	10.5	7.5
Investment goods	bal/ev	-49.9	Apr-20	39.5	Aug-98	0.4	3.7	0.8	-0.1	0.2	-2.0	-1.8	-1.9	-0.6	-3.0	0.2	4.6	4.4
Intermediate goods	bal/sa	-44.9	Feb-09	50.6	Aug-00	15.1	-4.3	-0.4	6.2	7.2	4.3	2.5	3.4	-0.6	3.9	2.1	19.8	1.2
Current stock finished products (c)																		
Consumer goods	bal/ev	-17.6	Jan-08	22.5	Jun-93	7.2	8.0	9.5	8.7	4.2	5.4	5.4	3.9	4.2	4.6	4.1	2.8	4.5
Investment goods	bal/ev	-11.5	Jan-10	22.3	Aug-07	7.4	7.3	8.9	8.8	2.1	5.0	5.3	4.3	4.1	5.4	4.7	1.3	5.8
Intermediate goods	bal/ev	-37.9	Jan-09	22.4	Jun-10	1.8	0.5	4.0	1.5	2.6	2.7	3.8	2.9	4.3	4.7	4.5	3.8	4.4
Firm's employment next 3 months																		
	bal/ev	-28.4	Apr-20	13.0	Sep-17	1.0	6.4	6.2	9.6	8.7	3.3	1.6	1.2	0.8	0.9	1.7	2.7	1.0
Selling prices next 3 months																		
	bal/sa	-24.6	Apr-20	44.2	Apr-22	2.3	0.8	2.2	5.0	4.7	2.7	3.5	3.3	6.2	8.3	3.7	1.2	10.6



Table 4. Monthly series of Construction and Public Works Survey

	Unit	Minimum		Maximum		2023			2024									
		Value	Date	Value	Date	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Confidence Indicator (a+b)/2	bal/ev	-64.5	Oct-12	25.6	Sep-97	-2.9	-3.3	-4.7	-4.0	-3.4	-4.4	-4.2	-3.1	-2.7	-4.1	-3.3	-3.8	-0.3
Construction of buildings	bal/ev	-70.2	Feb-12	26.4	Sep-97	-4.6	-4.2	-5.9	-5.2	-5.0	-4.4	-5.1	-1.9	-5.7	-2.5	-1.0	-2.2	-3.2
Civil engineering	bal/ev	-64.3	May-12	16.7	Jul-97	-2.4	-9.0	-8.0	-8.0	-5.0	-11.3	-12.2	-4.4	-4.2	-9.9	-12.9	-13.2	7.2
Specialised construction activities	bal/ev	-57.7	Oct-12	8.2	Dec-18	-0.1	2.8	0.0	1.1	0.6	0.6	3.5	-4.3	3.9	-2.7	-0.3	0.3	-0.5
Current overall order books (a)	bal/ev	-77.5	Oct-12	23.3	Sep-97	-9.8	-8.3	-11.0	-10.8	-11.2	-10.7	-8.8	-12.1	-9.0	-10.0	-10.1	-10.4	-5.0
Construction of buildings	bal/ev	-85.6	Oct-12	22.1	Sep-97	-7.0	-8.4	-12.1	-10.2	-11.1	-11.1	-8.7	-9.4	-8.8	-6.9	-5.9	-6.5	-7.5
Civil engineering	bal/ev	-71.5	Jul-12	12.1	Jul-97	-27.0	-21.1	-24.1	-20.9	-19.2	-16.8	-19.4	-20.4	-16.9	-18.5	-24.9	-21.9	2.8
Specialised construction activities	bal/ev	-73.3	Oct-12	2.1	Jul-19	-2.1	1.4	0.7	-4.4	-5.4	-5.4	-1.0	-10.8	-3.4	-9.1	-6.6	-9.1	-6.0
Employment next 3 months (b)	bal/ev	-51.8	Jan-12	35.9	Jun-97	4.0	1.8	1.6	2.8	4.3	1.9	0.4	5.9	3.6	1.8	3.5	2.8	4.4
Construction of buildings	bal/ev	-59.0	Jan-12	37.6	Jun-97	-2.3	-0.1	0.3	-0.2	1.0	2.4	-1.6	5.6	-2.6	1.9	3.9	2.1	1.2
Civil engineering	bal/ev	-61.7	May-12	31.2	Jul-01	22.2	3.1	8.1	4.8	9.2	-5.9	-5.0	11.6	8.6	-1.2	-1.0	-4.5	11.7
Specialised construction activities	bal/ev	-43.6	Dec-12	16.3	Dec-18	1.8	4.2	-0.8	6.7	6.6	6.6	8.0	2.1	11.2	3.8	6.0	9.7	5.0
Activity past 3 months	bal/ev	-65.5	Apr-12	26.7	May-98	5.5	6.4	2.7	4.7	-2.1	-2.5	1.8	7.4	5.6	6.0	4.3	0.6	4.0
Selling prices next 3 months	bal/ev	-29.3	Aug-12	43.0	Jun-22	14.1	13.9	16.4	16.6	18.4	15.3	11.8	9.7	8.4	11.4	9.9	7.9	5.5

Table 5. Monthly series of Trade Survey

	Unit	Minimum		Maximum		2023			2024									
		Value	Date	Value	Date	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Confidence indicator (a+b+c)/3	bal/sa	-29.3	Apr-20	11.7	Jun-98	-0.9	-0.1	2.4	1.3	1.6	2.5	1.5	1.7	-0.2	0.3	0.4	0.9	0.9
Wholesale	bal/sa	-28.6	May-20	13.3	Apr-98	-4.3	-3.0	-0.2	-0.6	0.7	1.8	-0.5	2.7	-2.4	-1.3	0.8	-0.1	-1.1
Retail	bal/sa	-31.3	Apr-20	13.1	Jul-98	3.8	3.0	5.1	3.3	2.5	2.9	3.2	0.5	2.1	2.0	-0.2	2.0	4.0
Business activity past 3 months (a)	bal/sa	-57.1	Jun-20	16.4	Feb-89	-2.8	1.6	6.7	4.1	5.6	5.1	2.2	4.3	-2.8	0.1	-2.2	2.6	2.0
Wholesale	bal/sa	-58.5	Jun-20	19.3	Feb-89	-9.3	-2.3	1.9	1.1	5.1	3.3	-2.7	4.6	-8.4	-5.1	-3.7	1.9	-3.3
Retail	bal/sa	-58.5	Aug-12	19.2	Apr-99	5.1	5.3	11.7	6.9	6.0	7.1	7.0	3.9	4.0	5.1	-0.9	3.5	9.2
Business activity next 3 months (b)	bal/sa	-51.5	Apr-20	40.1	Oct-89	2.7	2.8	4.7	4.2	2.5	6.3	6.2	4.3	4.9	3.3	5.6	4.8	3.1
Wholesale	bal/sa	-49.4	Apr-20	49.6	Oct-89	1.0	-0.3	2.7	1.3	1.0	5.1	3.8	6.4	3.3	2.2	8.2	4.2	2.7
Retail	bal/sa	-55.5	Apr-20	40.8	Jul-94	6.9	6.5	6.8	7.8	4.4	6.5	8.1	1.8	5.7	5.0	2.6	5.5	5.2
Current volume of stocks (c)	bal/ev	-14.9	Feb-13	26.4	Jul-90	2.7	4.7	4.3	4.5	3.4	4.0	4.0	3.5	2.7	2.5	2.1	4.7	2.5
Wholesale	bal/ev	-15.3	Oct-12	28.2	Jul-90	4.7	6.3	5.3	4.3	4.1	3.2	2.7	2.9	2.1	0.9	1.9	6.3	2.7
Retail	bal/ev	-17.5	Feb-13	32.6	Jul-89	0.6	2.9	3.1	4.7	2.7	4.8	5.3	4.2	3.4	4.3	2.3	3.0	2.3
Orders next 3 months	bal/sa	-43.9	Apr-20	20.4	Aug-98	-4.2	-3.9	-2.5	-0.5	-1.2	-0.6	-0.9	0.0	0.2	-2.5	-3.6	1.0	2.2
Employment next 3 months	bal/ev	-29.2	Oct-12	22.8	Sep-97	0.0	-0.4	-0.6	0.9	1.5	1.2	3.4	4.5	4.1	2.5	3.3	-0.9	0.7
Selling prices past month	bal/sa	-11.7	Apr-09	39.4	Apr-22	6.9	6.3	7.0	6.5	12.4	3.9	6.2	1.1	1.3	8.6	1.9	1.8	4.7
Selling prices next 3 months	bal/sa	-11.9	Jul-03	41.9	Mar-22	7.7	5.0	9.8	13.7	9.7	8.6	8.8	6.7	7.1	10.3	6.8	3.5	5.8

Table 6. Monthly series of Services Survey

	Unit	Minimum		Maximum		2023			2024									
		Value	Date	Value	Date	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Confidence indicator (a+b+c)/3	bal/sa	-56.4	May-20	29.5	Jun-01	-1.3	2.7	6.1	7.2	6.0	7.9	5.3	1.8	-2.8	-0.2	-1.7	4.3	13.8
Business activity past 3 months (a)	bal/sa	-74.2	Jun-20	33.4	Jun-01	-5.1	-6.3	2.0	4.2	4.1	7.9	4.3	1.3	-6.1	-3.6	-4.5	-1.0	16.6
Demand next 3 months (b)	bal/sa	-54.9	Apr-20	34.6	Jan-02	12.6	17.8	15.4	15.2	14.4	12.9	13.3	3.8	0.4	4.9	5.7	14.4	13.7
Demand past 3 months (c)	bal/sa	-71.8	May-20	29.1	Apr-01	-11.6	-3.3	1.0	2.1	-0.6	2.8	-1.7	0.5	-2.6	-2.1	-6.1	-0.6	11.3
Employment next 3 months	bal/sa	-29.8	Apr-20	19.2	Aug-19	6.0	4.9	3.6	0.5	11.4	10.7	9.6	3.3	4.2	9.9	7.8	9.3	17.6
Selling prices next 3 months	bal/sa	-24.1	Apr-20	24.5	Jun-22	10.5	10.8	12.3	16.1	10.8	5.7	4.8	8.9	7.8	8.5	10.2	8.2	9.6



Box – Results of bi-annual qualitative questions on investment

Manufacturing Industry Survey

Considering the opinions on the evolution of investment in 2024 for the manufacturing industry, 54.6% of firms considered that investment stabilized when compared with 2023, while 32.9% of firms reported an increase from the previous year and 12.4% a decrease. For 2025, 58.5% of firms foresee that investment will stabilize compared to the current year, while 30.1% foresee an increase and 11.4% a decrease.

Table 7. Evolution of investment made/planned (%)

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY	YEAR	INCREASE	REMAIN UNCHANGED	DECREASE	BALANCE
Consumer Goods	2024	27.2	60.0	12.8	14.3
	2025	26.3	63.2	10.5	15.8
Investment Goods	2024	27.4	63.5	9.1	18.2
	2025	25.7	60.9	13.4	12.4
Intermediate Goods	2024	39.4	47.1	13.6	25.8
	2025	34.6	54.3	11.2	23.4
TOTAL	2024	32.9	54.6	12.4	20.5
	2025	30.1	58.5	11.4	18.7

Regarding the investment structure, replacement investment is preponderant for 2024 and 2025 (38.0% and 34.2% of total investment in the Manufacturing Industry, respectively for both years considered), followed by investment to streamline production (26.2% and 27.4%, in the same order). Considering the investment structure in the three groupings, replacement investment is also the most relevant destiny in 2024 of investment for both years considered for all the groups. For 2025, investment in extension of production capacity is predominant in Investment Goods and streamline production is the most relevant for Intermediate Goods.

Table 8. Structure of investment (%)

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY	YEAR	REPLACEMENT OF WORN-OUT PLANT OR EQUIPMENT	EXTENSION OF PRODUCTION CAPACITY	INVESTMENT DESIGNED TO STREAMLINE PROCESSES	OTHER INVESTMENTS
Consumer Goods	2024	42.3	16.0	25.8	15.9
	2025	40.3	18.4	25.1	16.3
Investment Goods	2024	37.0	23.3	27.3	12.4
	2025	31.4	28.7	26.4	13.5
Intermediate Goods	2024	35.3	19.9	26.0	18.7
	2025	31.0	18.2	29.6	21.3
TOTAL	2024	38.0	19.3	26.2	16.5
	2025	34.2	20.3	27.4	18.1



Table 9. Main factors stimulating investment (%)

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY	YEAR	DEMAND	FINANCIAL CONDITIONS	TECHNICAL FACTORS	OTHER FACTORS
Consumer Goods	2024	66.6	25.3	48.2	25.4
	2025	60.7	28.0	47.9	25.3
Investment Goods	2024	55.2	24.9	62.7	29.4
	2025	56.9	25.8	62.0	33.4
Intermediate Goods	2024	56.8	39.2	68.9	23.9
	2025	57.2	37.8	69.5	25.1
TOTAL	2024	59.7	31.8	60.8	25.5
	2025	58.3	32.1	60.8	26.9

For 2024 and 2025, technical factors are the most mentioned as stimulating investment, followed by demand in both years for the total of the Manufacturing Industry.

Services Survey

Considering the opinions regarding the evolution of investment on the firms inquired by the services' survey, 65.1% of the firms consider that investment has stabilized in 2024 compared to 2023, while 22.4% of the firms reported an increase compared to the previous year and 12.6% a decrease. For 2024, 70.0% of firms believe that investment will stabilize compared to the current year, 19.2% of firms believe that investment will increase and 10.7% believe that it will decrease.

Table 10. Evolution of investment made/planned (%)

SERVICES	YEAR	INCREASE	REMAIN UNCHANGED	DECREASE	BALANCE
Transportation and storage (Section H)	2024	33.1	53.8	13.1	20.1
	2025	26.4	61.4	12.2	14.3
Accommodation and food service activities (Section I)	2024	19.2	65.6	15.2	3.9
	2025	18.1	72.1	9.8	8.3
Information and communication (Section J)	2024	25.0	59.5	15.5	9.5
	2025	19.3	65.0	15.8	3.5
Real estate activities (Section L)	2024	17.8	70.9	11.3	6.4
	2025	15.8	77.8	6.4	9.5
Professional, scientific and technical activities (Section M)	2024	14.4	76.1	9.5	4.8
	2025	11.0	80.1	8.9	2.1
Administrative and support service activities (Section N)	2024	25.0	64.1	10.9	14.0
	2025	25.8	63.2	11.0	14.8
Arts, entertainment and recreation (Section R)	2024	32.0	50.8	17.2	14.8
	2025	30.3	56.6	13.1	17.2
Other service activities (Section S)	2024	11.3	72.5	16.2	-5.0
	2025	16.2	66.9	16.9	-0.6
TOTAL	2024	22.4	65.1	12.6	9.8
	2025	19.2	70.0	10.7	8.5



Regarding the investment structure, replacement investment assumes preponderance for 2024 and 2025 (42.9% and 39.5% of total investment respectively for the two years considered), followed by investment on extension of capacity in 2024 (22.7%) and investment to streamline processes (24.6%) for 2025. Replacement investment is the most relevant as the main destination of investment in seven of the eight sections for 2024. For 2025, investment to streamline processes is the most relevant in the Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities section, followed by investment in capacity extension in the Other Services Activities, as opposed to the other sections, in which replacement investment is the most predominant.

Table 11. Structure of investment

SERVICES	YEAR	REPLACEMENT OF WORN-OUT BUILDINGS, EQUIPMENT AND IT	EXTENSION OF CAPACITY	INVESTMENT DESIGNED TO STREAMLINE PROCESSES	OTHER INVESTMENTS
Transportation and storage (Section H)	2024	40.0	21.1	19.6	19.2
	2025	34.3	22.6	23.9	19.2
Accommodation and food service activities (Section I)	2024	47.7	28.8	14.1	9.4
	2025	46.8	26.7	8.3	18.2
Information and communication (Section J)	2024	34.5	29.6	23.1	12.8
	2025	33.7	27.1	25.5	13.7
Real estate activities (Section L)	2024	54.0	29.3	12.6	4.1
	2025	41.3	32.8	17.1	8.8
Professional, scientific and technical activities (Section M)	2024	41.6	9.9	31.7	16.8
	2025	42.4	14.5	35.5	7.7
Administrative and support service activities (Section N)	2024	41.5	19.0	31.9	7.6
	2025	40.6	16.6	35.4	7.4
Arts, entertainment and recreation (Section R)	2024	45.4	33.3	12.8	8.5
	2025	44.5	30.3	13.6	11.5
Other service activities (Section S)	2024	25.7	26.6	30.4	17.3
	2025	34.7	35.5	17.4	17.8
TOTAL	2024	42.9	22.7	22.3	12.2
	2025	39.5	23.5	24.6	12.4

Demand is the most mentioned stimulating factor of investment by firms (62.7% and 58.9% in 2024 and 2025, respectively), followed by technical factors in both years (44.4% and 46.1%). This behaviour is observed in six of the eight sections of Services, since in the Information and communication activities, for both years analysed, technical factors are preponderant, followed by demand.



Table 12. Main factors stimulating investment

SERVICES	YEAR	DEMAND	FINANCIAL CONDITIONS	TECHNICAL FACTORS	OTHER FACTORS
Transportation and storage (Section H)	2024	74.3	31.0	40.7	31.0
	2025	70.3	32.6	42.8	27.9
Accommodation and food service activities (Section I)	2024	55.6	40.0	28.4	33.5
	2025	46.2	49.6	31.7	31.6
Information and communication (Section J)	2024	74.8	35.9	72.0	34.1
	2025	74.7	33.6	68.0	37.2
Real estate activities (Section L)	2024	73.7	50.7	20.2	23.8
	2025	68.7	53.9	27.3	29.8
Professional, scientific and technical activities (Section M)	2024	35.9	21.4	61.0	20.2
	2025	31.6	19.7	59.7	24.3
Administrative and support service activities (Section N)	2024	62.3	38.9	36.3	17.3
	2025	60.9	45.0	43.7	17.8
Arts, entertainment and recreation (Section R)	2024	72.0	31.6	27.7	17.3
	2025	58.9	29.0	35.7	27.7
Other service activities (Section S)	2024	69.3	36.7	58.0	23.9
	2025	74.2	58.7	39.7	23.6
TOTAL	2024	62.7	35.8	44.4	26.3
	2025	58.9	37.8	46.1	28.1



METHODOLOGICAL NOTE

The Business and Consumer Qualitative Surveys published by Statistics Portugal are developed in the framework of the harmonized Business and Consumer Surveys Programme of the European Commission (EC) DG-ECFIN (Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs) and are financially supported in the framework of the agreement signed between these two institutions. The questionnaires are harmonized among the European countries, as well as the respective confidence indicators' methodology. The surveys' results are sent to the EC in effective values, and, therefore, the seasonally adjusted values published by the EC are computed by this entity. The seasonal adjustment method used by the EC is available on the user guide, accessible in:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/files/user-guide-joint-harmonised-eu-programme-business-and-consumer-surveys_en

The seasonal adjustment uses the X13-Arima method (combination of moving averages process and auto-regressive integrated moving average models) developed in the JDemetra+, software provided by Eurostat. This application relies on the use of probabilistic models to correct seasonal effects from the original series. The seasonal treatment is updated for monthly and quarterly series in January, for consumer survey, and in May, for business surveys, which might result on a revision of the series previously published.

The seasonally adjusted series of trade confidence indicators were revised in June 2024 compared to the previous month's release, in order to correspond to the arithmetic averages of the respective balances adjusted for seasonality (indirect method of seasonal correction), instead of applying the direct seasonal correction method, consistent with the correction method for the remaining sectoral confidence indicators.

The use of moving averages smoothes out the series by removing the irregular movements, allowing the detection of the short-term trends. Since the average is not centered (the information is used to analyze the evolution of the last month) there is a small lag compared with the trend that is supposed to detect. In order to compare the difference between original and moving average series, the graphical representation of the confidence indicators presents both types of series.

The balances of the questions are the difference between the positive and negative answers, that is $\text{Balance} = \text{\%answer(+)} - \text{\%answer(-)}$. In the Consumer Survey, there are questions with more than one option of positive/negative answer. In these cases, to the most positive/negative answers is given the weight 1 and to the others the weight 0.5, that is $\text{Balance} = [\text{\%answer(++)} * 1 + \text{\%answer(+)} * 0.5] - [\text{\%answer(--)} * 1 + \text{\%answer(-)} * 0.5]$. The percentage of answers that correspond to "equal" is not considered.

The analysis of this press release is based on monthly series of effective values (raw or seasonally adjusted data), which allows for a clearer identification of very short-term movements, particularly relevant in the context of worsening impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The monthly series in three-months moving average (3mma) and the quarterly series in two-quarters moving averages (2qma) are available in the excel file that supports this press release.

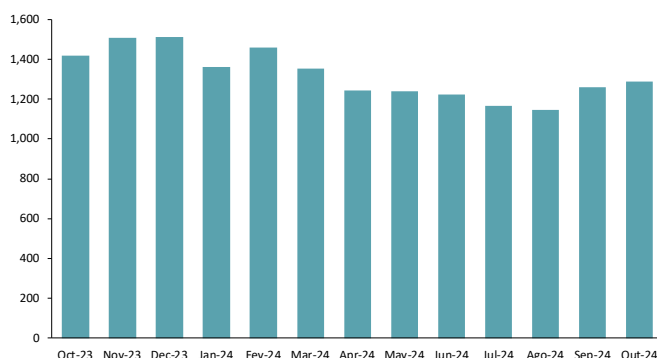


INFORMATION ON DATA COLLECTION

In the results obtained from business and consumer surveys for the collection October 2024, the data collecting period occurred from 01 to 18 in the case of the consumer survey, with 1287 responses obtained (telephone interviews) and from 01 to 24 for business surveys ([Webing](#)).

The distribution of the number of responses by data collection's months to the consumer is presented in the next figure.

Figure 17. Consumer Survey - Number of responses by data collection's months



The response and weighted response rates for business surveys were:

Table 13. Response and weighted response rates

Business Surveys	Response Rate				Weighted Response Rate ⁽²⁾			
	2023 ⁽¹⁾	August 2024	September 2024	October 2024	2023 ⁽¹⁾	August 2024	September 2024	October 2024
Manufacturing Industry	78.8%	76.3%	78.9%	81.0%	91.2%	90.7%	92.3%	92.5%
Construction and Public Works	73.6%	71.7%	78.1%	79.0%	87.7%	81.8%	87.4%	89.5%
Trade	78.8%	76.4%	78.6%	79.7%	93.0%	92.2%	93.6%	94.1%
Services	78.1%	76.3%	78.1%	77.6%	91.8%	93.5%	93.5%	93.4%

⁽¹⁾ Annual average.

⁽²⁾ Corresponds to the ratio between the turnover of the firms that answered to the survey and the turnover of all the firms in the sample.

The following graphs show the distribution of the number of responses by data collection's months to the business surveys.



Figure 18. Manufacturing Industry Survey - Number of responses by data collection's months

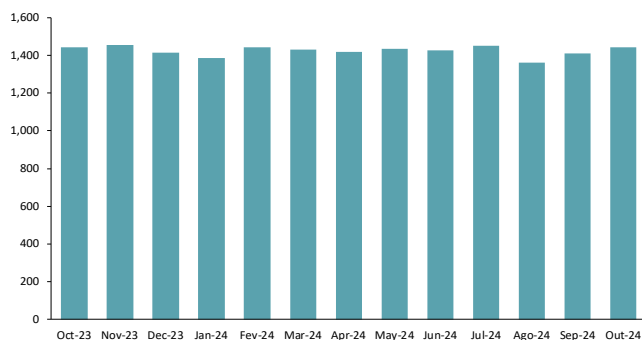


Figure 19. Construction and Public Works - Number of responses by data collection's months

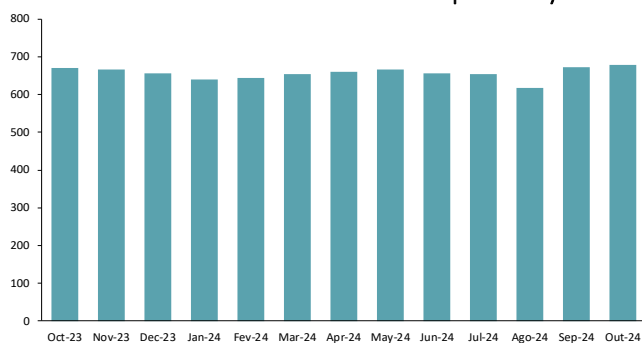


Figure 20. Trade Survey - Number of responses by data collection's months

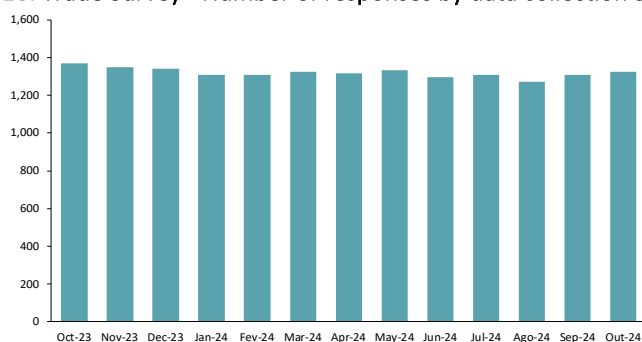
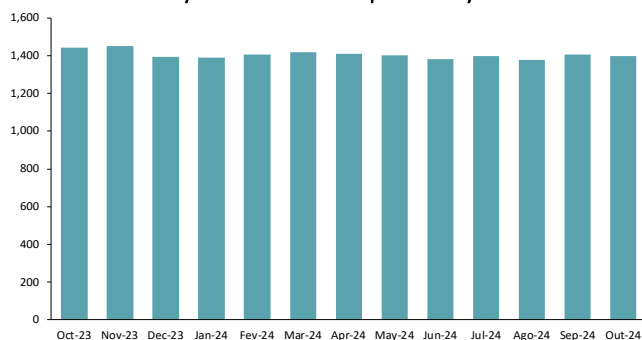


Figure 21. Services Survey - Number of responses by data collection's months





It should also be noted that the representativeness of the branches of activity covered by Business Surveys, considering the Gross Added Value (GVA) at current prices (Final Annual National Accounts) as the economic variable, is as follows:

Table 14. Weight of the GVA of the branches

Qualitative Business Surveys	Weight of the GVA of the branches of each survey in the total GVA of the economy
	2022
Manufacturing Industry	14.7%
Construction and Public Works	4.8%
Trade	12.3%
Services	39.4%

ECONOMIC CLIMATE INDICATOR

Synthetic Indicator estimated using balances of questions from the Manufacturing Industry, Trade, Construction and Public Works and Services Surveys. The method for this indicator uses the factor analysis and the estimated series (the common component) is calibrated using the GDP change rates. The questions that integrate the indicator are:

Qualitative Manufacturing Industry survey

- How has your production developed over the past 3 months? It has... 1. + increased; 2. = remained unchanged; 3. - decreased.
- Do you consider your current overall order books to be...? 1. + more than sufficient (above normal); 2. = sufficient (normal for the season); 3. - not sufficient (below normal).
- Do you consider your current export order books to be...? 1. + more than sufficient (above normal); 2. = sufficient (normal for the season); 3. - not sufficient (below normal).
- How do you expect your production to develop over the next 3 months? It will... 1. + increase; 2. = remain unchanged; 3. - decrease. (seasonally adjusted)

Qualitative Trade survey

- How has (have) your business activity (sales) developed over the past 3 months? It has... (They have...) 1. + improved (increased); 2. = remained unchanged; 3. - deteriorated (decreased). (seasonally adjusted)
- How do you expect your orders placed with suppliers to change over the next 3 months? They will... 1. + increase; 2. = remain unchanged; 3. - decrease. (seasonally adjusted)
- Your business activity is currently...: 1. + more than sufficient; 2. = sufficient; 3. - not sufficient.
- How do you expect your business activity (sales) to change over the next 3 months? It (They) will... 1. + improve (increase); 2. = remain unchanged 3. - deteriorate (decrease). (seasonally adjusted)

Qualitative Construction and Public Works survey

- How has your building activity developed over the past 3 months? It has...; 1. + increased; 2. = remained unchanged; 3. - decreased.
- Do you consider your current overall order books to be...?: 1. + more than sufficient (above normal); 2. = sufficient (normal for the season); 3. - not sufficient (below normal).
- How do you expect your firm's total employment to change over the next 3 months? It will...; 1. + increase; 2. = remain unchanged; 3. - decrease.



Qualitative Services survey

- How has your business situation developed over the past 3 months? It has... 1. + improved; 2. = remained unchanged; 3. - deteriorated. (seasonally adjusted)
- How has demand (turnover) for your company's services changed over the past 3 months? It has... 1. + increased; 2. = remained unchanged; 3. - decreased. (seasonally adjusted)
- How do you expect the demand (turnover) for your company's services to change over the next 3 months? It will... 1. + increase; 2. = remain unchanged; 3. - decrease. (seasonally adjusted)

SECTORIAL CONFIDENCE INDICATORS

The confidence indicators (CI) are the result of the arithmetic average of balance of the following questions:

Manufacturing Industry confidence indicator

- Do you consider your current overall order books to be...? 1. + more than sufficient (above normal); 2. = sufficient (normal for the season); 3. - not sufficient (below normal).
- How do you expect your production to develop over the next 3 months? It will... 1. + increase; 2. = remain unchanged; 3. - decrease.
- [Inverted Sign] Do you consider your current stock of finished products to be...? 1. + too large (above normal); 2. = adequate (normal for the season); 3. - too small (below normal).

Trade confidence indicator

- How has (have) your business activity (sales) developed over the past 3 months? It has... (They have...) 1. + improved (increased); 2. = remained unchanged; 3. - deteriorated (decreased).
- How do you expect your business activity (sales) to change over the next 3 months? It (They) will... 1. + improve (increase); 2. = remain unchanged; 3. - deteriorate (decrease).
- [Inverted Sign] Do you consider the volume of stock you currently hold to be...? 1. + too large (above normal); 2. = adequate (normal for the season); 3. - too small (below normal).

Construction and Public Works confidence indicator

- Do you consider your current overall order books to be...?: 1. + more than sufficient (above normal); 2. = sufficient (normal for the season); 3. - not sufficient (below normal).
- How do you expect your firm's total employment to change over the next 3 months? It will...; 1. + increase; 2. = remain unchanged; 3. - decrease.

Services confidence indicator

- How has your business situation developed over the past 3 months? It has... 1. + improved; 2. = remained unchanged; 3. - deteriorated.
- How has demand (turnover) for your company's services changed over the past 3 months? It has... 1. + increased; 2. = remained unchanged; 3. - decreased.
- How do you expect the demand (turnover) for your company's services to change over the next 3 months? It will... 1. + increase; 2. = remain unchanged; 3. - decrease.



CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDICATOR

The consumer confidence indicator results of the arithmetic average of the balances of the following questions:

- How has the financial situation of your household changed over the last 12 months? It has...1. ++ got a lot better; 2. + got a little better; 3.= stayed the same; 4.- got a little worse; 5. -- got a lot worse; 6. N don't know.
- How do you expect the financial position of your household to change over the next 12 months? It will...1. ++ get a lot better; 2. + get a little better; 3.= stay the same; 4.- get a little worse; 5. -- get a lot worse; 6. N don't know.
- How do you expect the general economic situation in this country to develop over the next 12 months? It will... 1. ++ get a lot better; 2. + get a little better; 3.= stay the same; 4.- get a little worse; 5. -- get a lot worse; 6. N don't know.
- Compared to the past 12 months. do you expect to spend more or less money on major purchases (furniture. electrical/electronic devices. etc.) over the next 12 months? I will spend...1. ++much more; 2. + a little more; 3.- a little less; 4. -- much less; 5. N don't know.



DISCONTINUATION OF QUESTIONS

In a recent context of increased availability of short-term quantitative information, a review process was conducted by the [European Commission](#) for the harmonized questionnaires used in business and consumer surveys. This review aimed to identify potentially redundant questions, thereby reducing the statistical burden on respondents.

In addition to the harmonized questions identified by the European Commission, Statistics Portugal has also identified additional questions that are not part of the harmonized questionnaire. The questions to be discontinued starting in May 2025 are as follows:

Surveys	Questions
Consumer	<p>Monthly questions: B12. In view of the general economic situation, do you think that now is...? 1. a very good moment to save; 2. a fairly good moment to save; 3. not a good moment to save; 4. a very bad moment to save; N. don't know.</p> <p>Quarterly questions: B15. How likely are you to buy a car over the next 12 months? 1. very likely; 2. fairly likely; 3. not likely; 4. not at all likely; N. don't know.</p>
Industry	<p>Quarterly questions: B10. At the current production rate and under normal conditions, how many weeks of production are assured by your current overall order books approximately? B12. Taking into account the contracts concluded and the negotiations in progress, how do you expect your export orders to develop over the next 3 months: 1. increase; 2. remain unchanged; 3. decrease B15. Regarding the last three months and excluding seasonal movements, do you consider that the purchase prices of raw materials, intermediate products and energy at the end of the reference month: 1. increase; 2. remain unchanged; 3. decrease</p>
Trade	<p>Monthly questions: A4. Comparing with the previous month, do you consider your selling prices path to be: 1. increasing; 2. remain unchanged; 3. decreasing A5. Considering the time of the year, your business activity is currently: 1. more than sufficient; 2. sufficient; 3. not sufficient</p> <p>Quarterly questions: B9. Considering the season and comparing with the previous quarter, your total sales in the reference quarter: 1. increased; 2. remain unchanged; 3. decreased B10. How do you expect your total sales to develop over the next 3 months: 1. increase; 2. remain unchanged; 3. decrease</p>
Construction	<p>Quarterly questions: B6. At the current production rate and under normal conditions, your total order books or production plan guarantees production for approximately how many months? B9. How do you expect the turnover over the next 3 months to develop compared with the previous quarter? It will... 1. increase; 2. remain unchanged; 3. decrease.</p>
Services	<p>Monthly questions: A2: How has your firm's total employment changed over the past 3 months: 1. increased; 2. remain unchanged; 3. decreased A4. Comparing with the previous month, do you consider your sales path to be: 1. increasing; 2. remain unchanged; 3. decreasing</p> <p>Quarterly questions: B8. Taking into account the time of year and in relation to the previous quarter, how has your business situation developed over the past 3 months: 1. Improved; 2. remain unchanged; 3. deteriorated</p>



ABBREVIATIONS

Bal: Balances correspond to weighted difference between the percentages of positive and negative responses.

EV: Effective Values.

SA: Seasonally Adjusted values.

3MMA: Three-Months Moving Average.

2QMA: Two-Quarters Moving Average

Next monthly press release – November 28th 2024
