

Snap | 23 August 2017

Eurozone consumer confidence increases slightly in August

Confidence is now at levels previously seen at the peak of economic strength in 2000 and 2007, which bodes well for consumer spending.



Strong job growth, low inflation and an improving economy, what's not to like for Eurozone consumers? Confidence is sky-high at the moment, which is boosting the outlook for domestic spending in the months ahead. Just under the June peak, confidence among consumers currently exactly the same as it was at the 2007 peak.

While confidence plummeted immediately after reaching this peak a decade ago, this is unlikely to happen again right now. The outlook for the economy remains quite robust, businesses are indicating that hiring is likely to continue at a fast pace and inflation is likely to remain subdued for a while to come. This means that all the ingredients are there for the Goldilocks economy to continue to please consumers.

Together with this morning's PMI, August is shaping up to be another good month for Eurozone growth. Optimism among businesses and consumers rides high for the moment, which means that Q3 promises to be a continuation of strength in the Eurozone economy.

Snap | 23 August 2017 1

Author

Bert ColijnChief Economist, Netherlands bert.colijn@ing.com

Disclaimer

This publication has been prepared by the Economic and Financial Analysis Division of ING Bank N.V. ("ING") solely for information purposes without regard to any particular user's investment objectives, financial situation, or means. ING forms part of ING Group (being for this purpose ING Group N.V. and its subsidiary and affiliated companies). The information in the publication is not an investment recommendation and it is not investment, legal or tax advice or an offer or solicitation to purchase or sell any financial instrument. Reasonable care has been taken to ensure that this publication is not untrue or misleading when published, but ING does not represent that it is accurate or complete. ING does not accept any liability for any direct, indirect or consequential loss arising from any use of this publication. Unless otherwise stated, any views, forecasts, or estimates are solely those of the author(s), as of the date of the publication and are subject to change without notice.

The distribution of this publication may be restricted by law or regulation in different jurisdictions and persons into whose possession this publication comes should inform themselves about, and observe, such restrictions.

Copyright and database rights protection exists in this report and it may not be reproduced, distributed or published by any person for any purpose without the prior express consent of ING. All rights are reserved. ING Bank N.V. is authorised by the Dutch Central Bank and supervised by the European Central Bank (ECB), the Dutch Central Bank (DNB) and the Dutch Authority for the Financial Markets (AFM). ING Bank N.V. is incorporated in the Netherlands (Trade Register no. 33031431 Amsterdam). In the United Kingdom this information is approved and/or communicated by ING Bank N.V., London Branch. ING Bank N.V., London Branch is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and is subject to regulation by the Financial Conduct Authority and limited regulation by the Prudential Regulation Authority. ING Bank N.V., London branch is registered in England (Registration number BR000341) at 8-10 Moorgate, London EC2 6DA. For US Investors: Any person wishing to discuss this report or effect transactions in any security discussed herein should contact ING Financial Markets LLC, which is a member of the NYSE, FINRA and SIPC and part of ING, and which has accepted responsibility for the distribution of this report in the United States under applicable requirements.

Additional information is available on request. For more information about ING Group, please visit www.ing.com.

Snap | 23 August 2017 2