

Advance Release

NRW.BANK.ifo Business Climate April 2019

Manufacturing sector slows down economic recovery in NRW

After the slight recovery in the two previous months, the business climate again cooled somewhat in April. The North Rhine-Westphalian companies participating in the Ifo business survey no longer assessed their current business situation quite as positively as in March and tended to be more sceptical about the six-month outlook.

The climate indicator for the manufacturing sector fell into negative territory for the first time since February 2016. Manufacturers not only rated their current business situation less favourably than before but were also more pessimistic about their business prospects.

The business climate in the construction sector improved slightly in April. Although the construction firms reported an improvement in their current situation, the scepticism about the future, which had emerged in the previous month, increased.

The climate indicator for the retail/wholesale sector dropped noticeably in April. There were only few retailers/wholesalers left who rated their current business situation favourably and they were even more sceptical about their business prospects than before. The business climate in the services sector also deteriorated somewhat, as the respondents assessed their current business situation less favourably. Companies in the service sectors remained optimistic about the future.

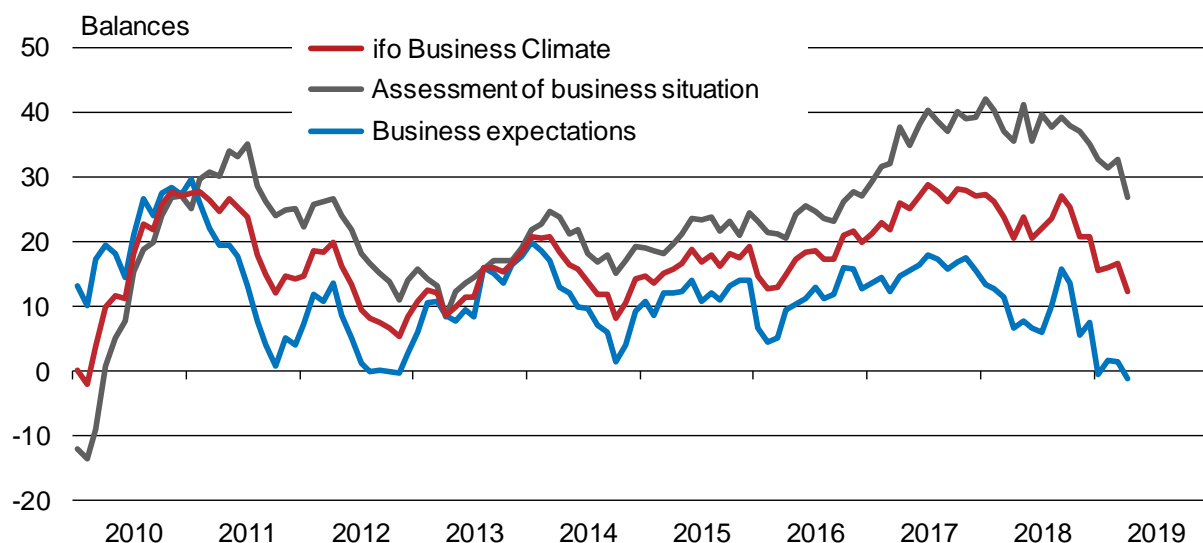
ifo Business Climate in North Rhine-Westphalia (balances, seasonally adjusted)

Month/Year	04/18	05/18	06/18	07/18	08/18	09/18	10/18	11/18	12/18	01/19	02/19	03/19	04/19
Climate	20,6	23,8	20,6	22,1	23,5	27,1	25,4	20,7	20,8	15,5	16,0	16,6	12,4
Situation	35,5	41,1	35,5	39,6	37,7	39,1	37,8	37,0	35,1	32,7	31,3	32,7	26,8
Expectations	6,7	7,7	6,6	6,0	10,2	15,7	13,6	5,5	7,5	-0,5	1,7	1,5	-1,2

Source: Ifo Business Survey.

29.04.2019 © ifo

ifo Business Climate^{a)} in North Rhine-Westphalia Balances, Seasonally adjusted



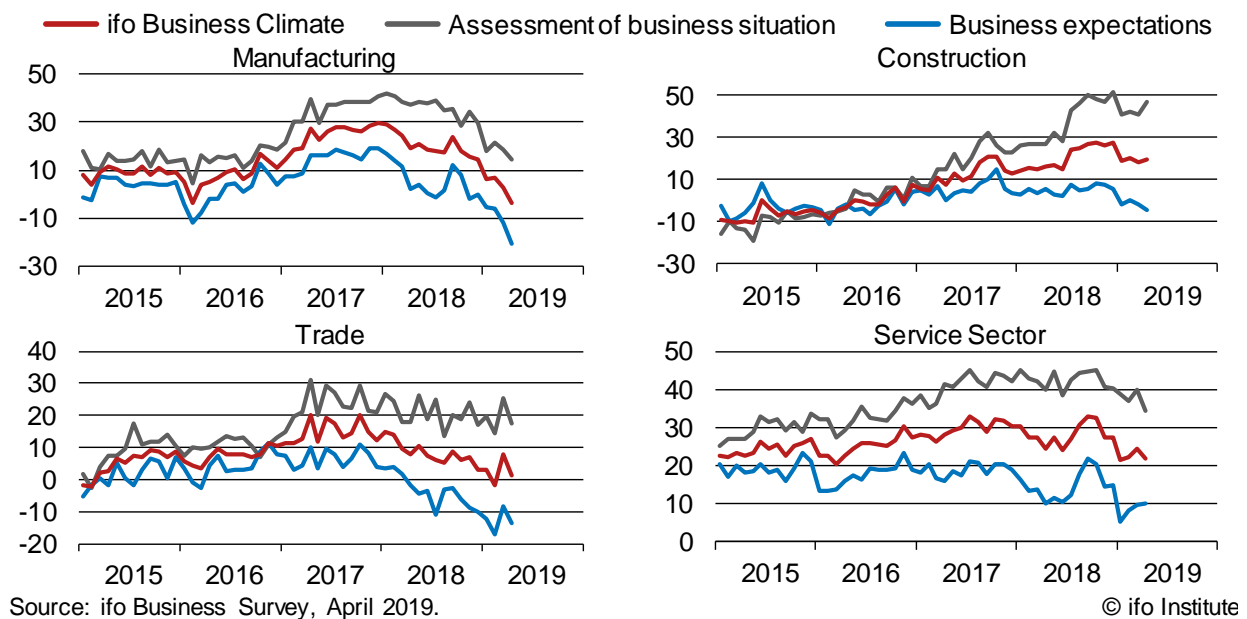
^a Manufacturing, construction, trade, service-sectoring.

Source: Ifo Business Survey, April 2019.

© Ifo Institute

Business Situation and Expectations by Sector

Balances, seasonally adjusted



ifo Business Climate in North Rhine-Westphalia (balances, seasonally adjusted)

Month/Year	04/18	05/18	06/18	07/18	08/18	09/18	10/18	11/18	12/18	01/19	02/19	03/19	04/19
Total Economy	20,6	23,8	20,6	22,1	23,5	27,1	25,4	20,7	20,8	15,5	16,0	16,6	12,4
Manufacturing	19,1	20,5	18,2	17,8	17,4	23,6	18,1	15,4	14,2	6,1	7,1	2,5	-3,7
Construction	15,9	16,9	14,7	24,3	24,8	26,7	27,5	26,3	27,3	18,7	20,0	18,5	19,8
Trade	7,8	10,3	7,3	6,2	5,0	8,6	6,0	7,0	3,1	3,1	-1,9	7,7	1,2
Service Sector	24,5	27,4	24,0	26,8	30,6	32,9	32,4	27,2	27,2	21,4	22,0	24,3	21,9

Source: Ifo Business Survey.

29.04.2019 © ifo