

## CONSUMER SURVEY, JULY 2020

In July 2020, the total consumer confidence indicator increases by 3.3 percentage points in comparison with April (Annex, Figure 1), as for the urban population the increase is 2.7 percentage points and for the rural population - 4.5 percentage points.

According to the consumers' assessments, there is certain positive change in the development of the general economic situation in the country over the last 12 months (Annex, Figure 2). The expectations of living in the villages also are that positive it will continue over the next 12 months, as opposed the urban population are slightly more pessimistic than they were 3 months ago (Annex, Figure 3).

As regards the financial situation of the households the assessments of the rural population slightly improve, while the opinions of living in the cities are more reserved (Annex, Figure 4). However, the forecasts of both urban and rural population over the next 12 months are more unfavourable, as a result of which the total balance indicator decreases by 1.8 percentage points (Annex, Figure 5).

The consumers consider that over the last 12 months there has been a slight decrease of consumer prices, as their inflation expectations about the next 12 months are less intense (Annex, Figure 6).

Concerning the unemployment in the country over the next 12 months the forecasts are shifting towards more moderate opinions, as a result of that the balance indicator decreases by 10.9 percentage points (Annex, Figure 7).

The last inquiry registers a slightly more positive attitude of the consumers' intentions to make expenditures on 'buying a car' over the next 12 months (Annex, Figure 8).

## Methodological notes

The survey is a part of the harmonized program of European Union for business and consumer surveys and it is representative for the population of 16 years and older.

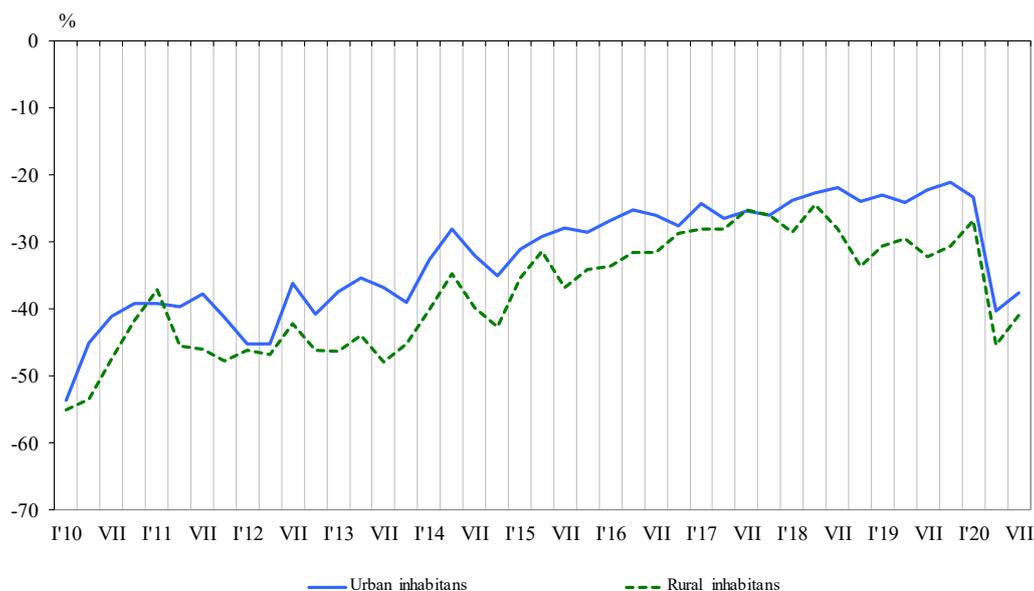
The persons of 16 years and older are the object of the survey; the sample method is random, clustered, proportional to the population by regions, incl. urban/rural inhabitants (154 clusters with 8 persons per cluster). The interviewing method is face to face. The questionnaire contains standardized questions about the financial situation of households, general economic situation, inflation, unemployment, saving, intentions of making major purchases on durable goods or purchasing/building a home or buying a car. The proposed variants of answers give an opportunity to arrange them from optimistic, through neutral to pessimistic. The balance of opinions is calculated as a difference between relative shares of positive opinions and relative shares of negative opinions, as there is one specification: the strong positive opinions and the strong negative opinions are given a coefficient of 1, and the more moderate positive and negative opinions - a coefficient of 0.5.

The survey results are used to capture the direction of change of surveyed variables incl. that of the consumer confidence level, which gives an opportunity to analyze the tendencies in the development of public opinions on significant economic phenomena.

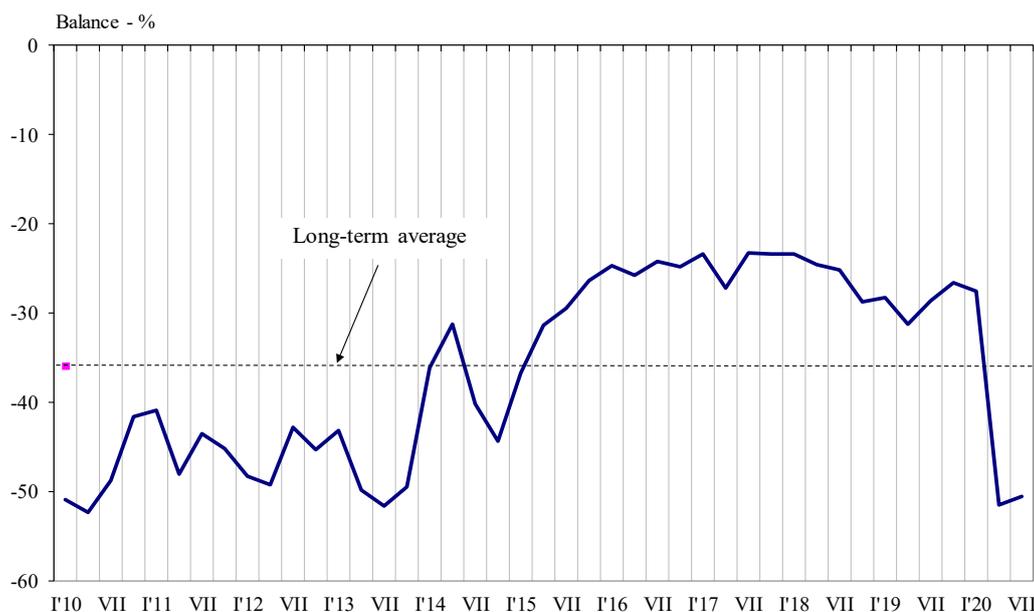
**The consumer confidence indicator** is an arithmetic mean of the balances of the expectations about the development over the next 12 months of the financial situation of households, general economic situation, savings and unemployment, as the last is taken with a negative sign.

**Annex**

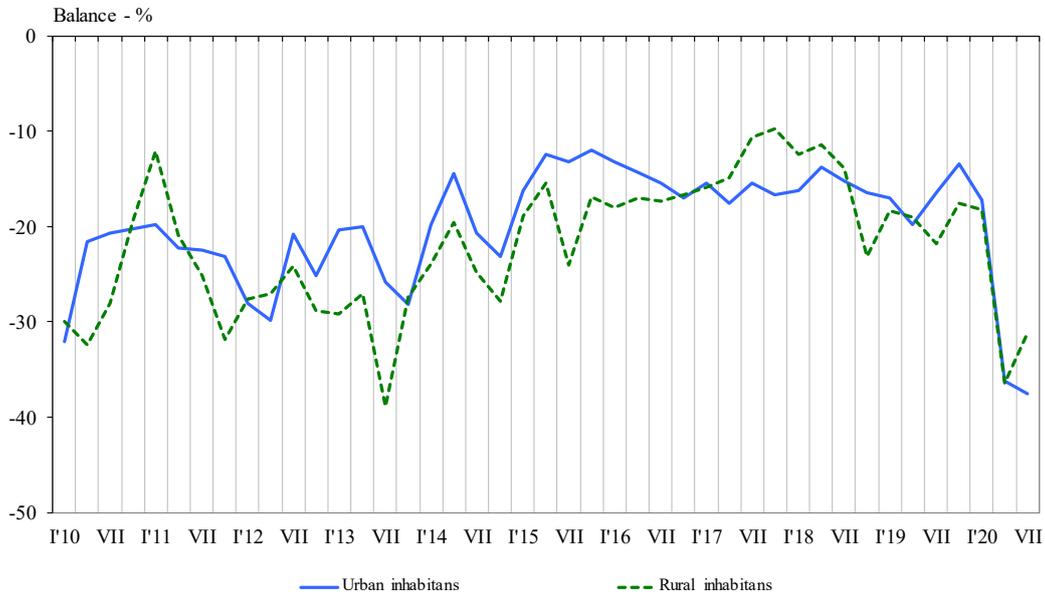
**Figure 1. Consumer confidence indicator**



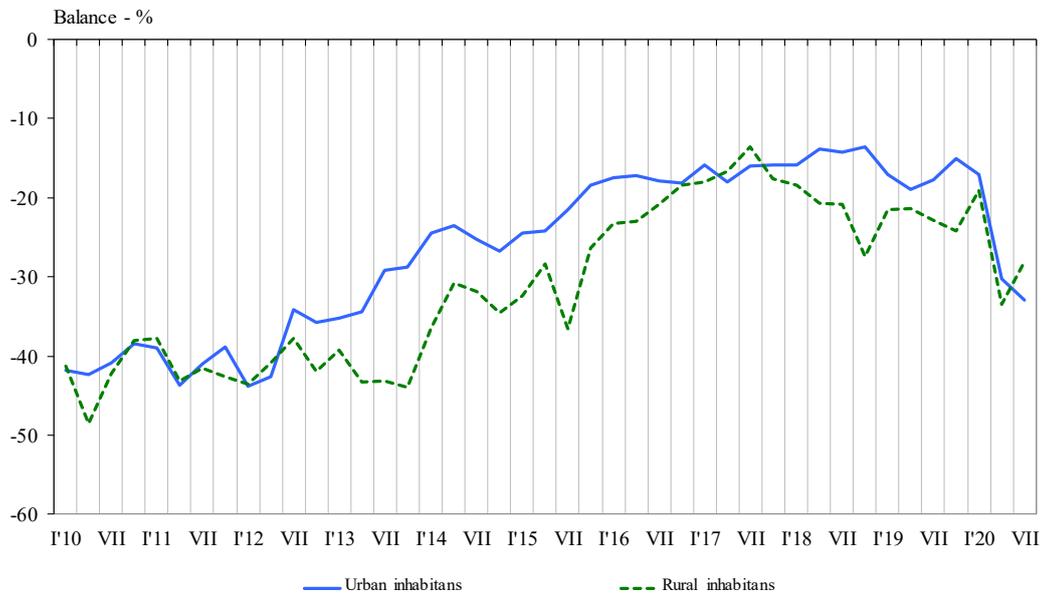
**Figure 2. Assessment of the general economic situation in the country over the last 12 months**



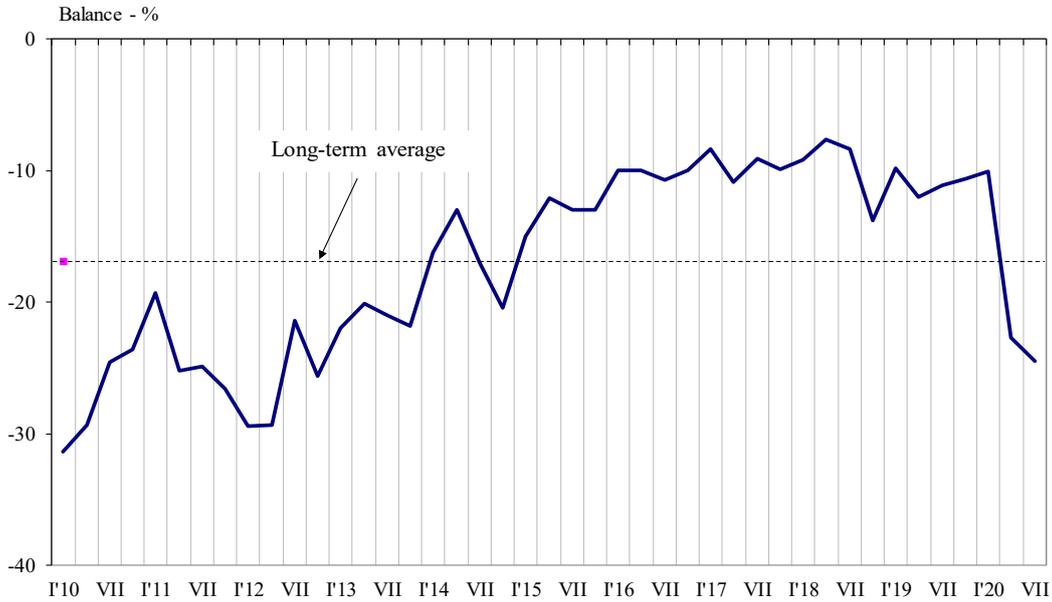
**Figure 3. Expectations about the general economic situation in the country over the next 12 months**



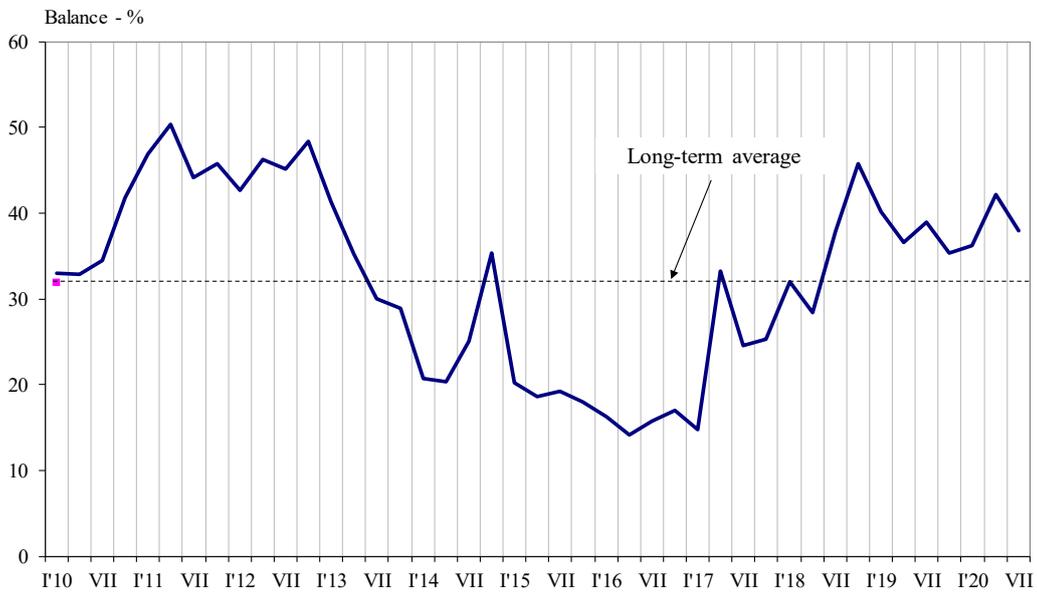
**Figure 4. Assessment of the financial situation of households over the last 12 months**



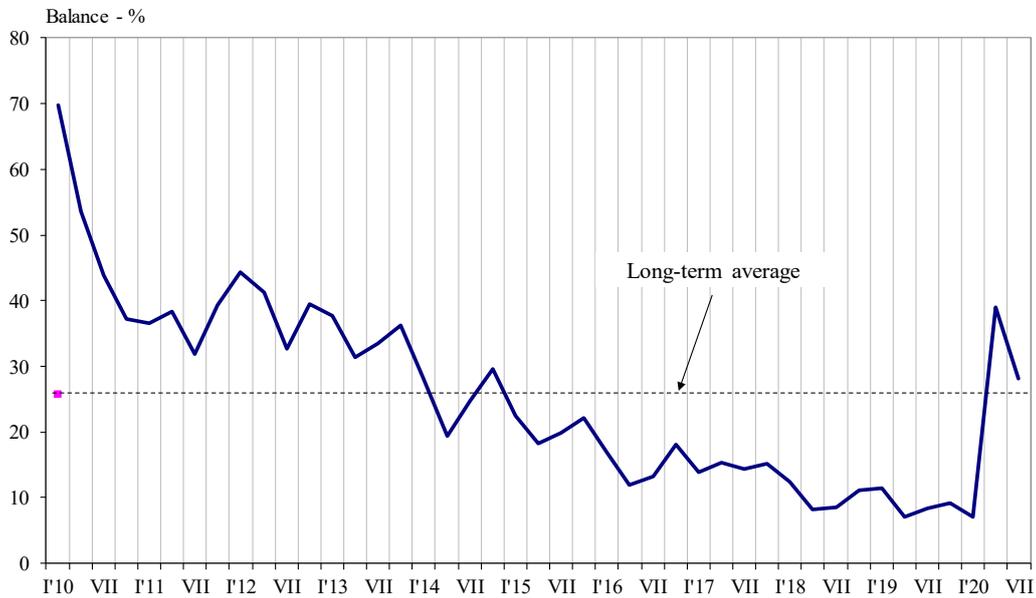
**Figure 5. Expectations about the financial situation of households over the next 12 months**



**Figure 6. Expectations about inflation over the next 12 months**



**Figure 7. Unemployment expectations over the next 12 months**



**Figure 8. Intentions of buying a car over the next 12 months**

