

Press Release

Consumer confidence in Ukraine, September 2018: index equaled 62.6

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Kyiv, 23 October 2018 – In September 2018, the consumer confidence index (CCI) equaled 62.6 that is 2.3 points higher than in August 2018. The Index of Expectations of the Country's Economic Development over the Next Year has undergone the greatest changes. It is proved by the data of the consumer confidence survey conducted monthly by GfK Ukraine.

In September 2018, *Consumer Confidence Index (CCI)* equaled 62.6 that is 2.3 points higher than in the previous month.

Index of the Current Situation (ICS) has somewhat increased and amounted to 60.5. The components of this index have changed as follows:

- *Index of Current Personal Financial Standing (x1)* made up 49.4, which is 0.4 points lower than in August;
- *Index of Propensity to consume (x5)* increased by 2.1 points and reached 71.5.

In September, *Index of Economic Expectations (IEE)* increased by 3.2 points reaching 64.0. The components of this index have changed as follows:

- *Index of Expected Changes in Personal Financial Standing (x2)* decreased by 2.2 points comparing to the previous month and equalled 57.9;
- *Index of Expectations of the Country's Economic Development Over the Next Year (x3)* increased by 10 points and made up 62.6;
- *Index of Expectations of the Country's Economic Development over the Next 5 Years (x4)* has also increased and equalled 71.5, which is 1.9 points higher than in August.

In September, the expectations of Ukrainians of changes in unemployment did not undergo great changes: *Index of Expectations of Changes in Unemployment* was equal to 133.9. *Index of Inflationary Expectations* has also remained quite unchanged and totalled 190.4, which is 0.4 points higher than in the previous month. The expectations of Ukrainians about the hryvna's exchange rate in the coming three months have not changed either: *Index of Devaluation Expectations* decreased by 0.6 points and equalled 170.3.

"In August and September, Index of Devaluation Expectations and Index of Inflationary Expectations have drastically increased. In our opinion, the

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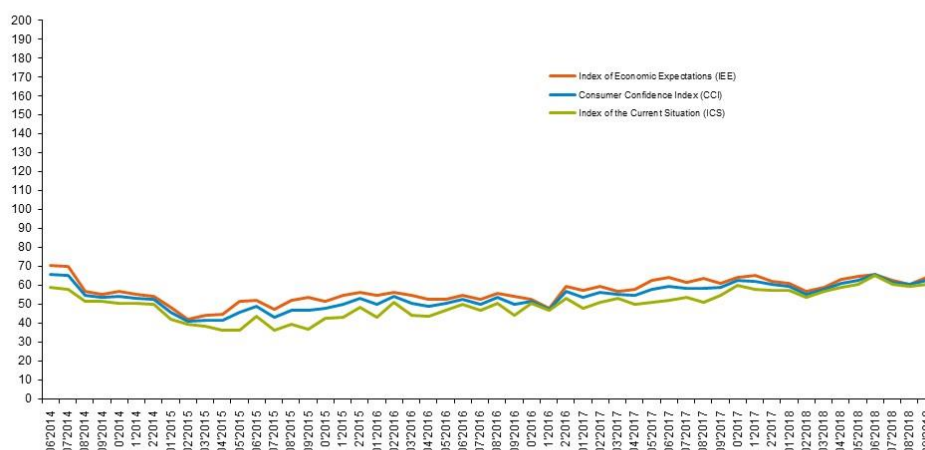
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increase of these indices is rather an emotional short-term response to the news on the hryvnia exchange rate. It is proved by the fact that a significant rise in devaluation and inflationary expectations indices did not lead to worsening of the consumer confidence index as a whole. Furthermore, in September, the index of expectations of the country's economic development over the next year has significantly increased", the GfK Ukraine analysts report.



Consumer Confidence Index in Ukraine (16+ target group)



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Dynamics of the Consumer Confidence Index in Ukraine (16+ target group)

Month, year	Consumer Confidence Index (CCI)	Index of the Current Situation (ICS)	Index of Economic Expectations (IEE)	Index of Expectations of Changes in Unemployment (IECU)	Index of Inflationary Expectations (IIE)	Index of Devaluation Expectations (IDE)
09'18	62.6	60.5	64.0	133.9	190.4	170.3
08'18	60.3	59.6	60.8	133.6	190.0	170.9
09'17	59.0	55.0	61.6	130.9	185.2	157.1

How the indices are calculated

The consumer confidence survey is conducted in Ukraine since June 2000. From January 2009 consumer confidence survey is conducted on a monthly basis.

In Ukraine, the Consumer Confidence Index is determined through a random survey of domestic households. The poll involves 1,000 individuals aged 16+. (Up to April 2014 the poll involved 1,000

respondents aged 15-59). A representative sample is selected by gender and age, also by type and size of settlement. In April 2014 Autonomous Republic of Crimea was excluded from the sample of consumer confidence research in Ukraine. The margin of error is 3.2%. The survey is carried out on 1-15th every month.

To define the CCI, respondents are asked these questions:

1. How has the financial standing of your family changed over the last six months?
2. How do you think your family's financial standing will change in the next six months?
3. Looking at economic conditions in the country as a whole, do you think the next 12 months will be good or bad?
4. Looking at the next five years, will they be good ones or bad ones for the country's economy?
5. In terms of large purchases for your home, do you think now is generally a good time or a bad time to make such purchases?

Each of these questions is related to a corresponding index:

- Index of Current Personal Financial Standing (x1);
- Index of Expected Changes in Personal Financial Standing (x2);
- Index of Expected Economic Conditions in the Country Over the Next Year (x3);
- Index of Expected Economic Conditions in the Country Over the Next 5 Years (x4);
- Index of Propensity to Consume (x5).

Indices are constructed thus: the share of negative answers is deducted from the share of positive answers, and 100 is added to this difference in order to eliminate negative values. On the basis of these five indices, three aggregate indices are calculated:

- Consumer Confidence Index (CCI) as the arithmetic average of indices x1–x5;
- Index of the Current Situation (ICS) as the arithmetic average of indices x1 and x5;
- Index of Economic Expectations (IEE) as the arithmetic average of indices x2, x3, and x4.

Index values range from 0 to 200. The index equals 200 when all respondents positively assess the economic situation. It totals 100 when the shares of positive and negative assessments are equal. Indices of less than 100 indicate the prevalence of negative assessments.

To determine the Index of Expected Changes in Unemployment (IECU), the Index of Inflationary Expectations (IIE) and the Index of Devaluation Expectations (IDE), the respondents are asked these three questions:

1. Do you think that within next 12 months the number of unemployed (people who do not have job and are looking for work) will increase, will remain roughly the same, or will decrease?
2. How do you think that prices for major consumer goods and services will change in the next 1–2 months?
3. How do you think the USD value will change towards the UAH value during the next 3 months?

The IECU, the IIE and the IDE are calculated thus: the share of answers that indicate a decrease of unemployment/inflation/devaluation is subtracted from the share of answers that indicate the growth of unemployment/inflation/devaluation, and 100 is added to the difference to eliminate negative values. The values of indices can vary from 0 to 200. The index totals 200 when all residents expect an increase in unemployment/inflation/devaluation.

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