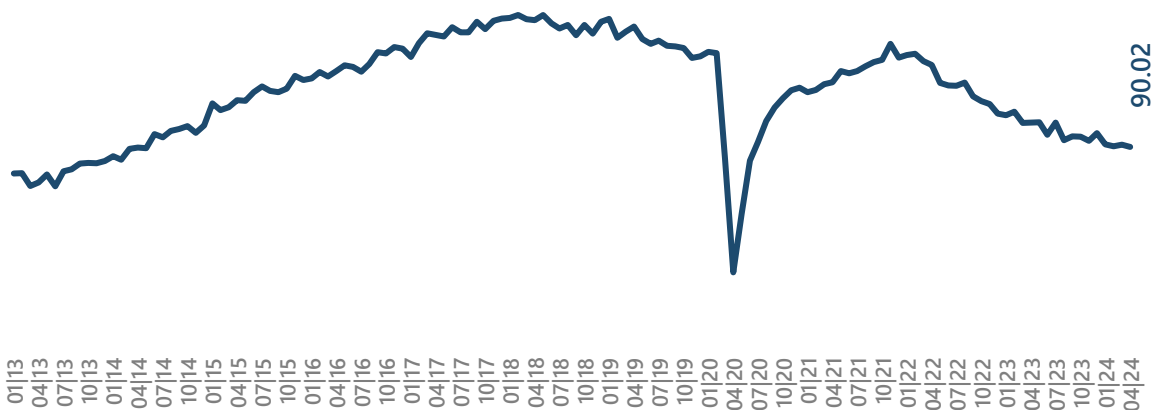


Market Update 04/2024

Temporary staffing activity experiences a decline in April

FEDERAGON INDEX



This Index reflects the level of business in the month concerned in comparison with the situation in January 2007 (base 100), on the basis of seasonally adjusted data.

PAUL VERSCHUEREN
DIRECTOR RESEARCH & ECONOMIC AFFAIRS



Activity in the temporary staffing sector also experienced a downturn in the month of April. There was a notable contraction in the job student segment and the impact of challenges in the manufacturing industry also weighed on staffing activity.

More: @VerschuerenPaul



"Compared to the same period last year, the industry activity is -8.65% lower. Seasonally adjusted figures indicate an increase of the TAW activity (-0.53%) on a monthly basis."



	White collar	Blue collar
M/M-1:	-1.19%	-0.17%
M/M-12:	-12.19%	-5.73%

REGIONAL EVOLUTION



	M/M-1	M/M-12
Flanders	-0.77%	-10.93%
Brussels	-0.73%	-5.85%
Wallonia	+1.16%	-3.90%

Market Update 04/2024

BELGIUM		YEARLY GROWTH (M/M-12)			MONTHLY GROWTH (M/M-1)		
	Total	White collar	Blue collar	Total	White collar	Blue collar	
November 2023	-9.64%	-7.99%	-10.93%	-0.98%	0.88%	-2.85%	
December 2023	0.05%	2.91%	-2.33%	1.71%	0.71%	2.80%	
January 2024	-5.39%	-6.22%	-4.73%	-2.43%	-3.34%	-1.23%	
February 2024	-7.60%	-8.94%	-6.56%	-0.46%	-1.05%	-0.06%	
March 2024	-1.29%	-2.49%	-0.35%	0.40%	0.34%	0.38%	
April 2024	-8.65%	-12.19%	-5.73%	-0.53%	-1.19%	-0.17%	
FLANDERS		YEARLY GROWTH (M/M-12)			MONTHLY GROWTH (M/M-1)		
	Total	White collar	Blue collar	Total	White collar	Blue collar	
November 2023	-11.46%	-9.85%	-12.59%	-1.25%	0.81%	-2.66%	
December 2023	-3.45%	-2.41%	-4.22%	0.61%	-1.23%	2.18%	
January 2024	-7.86%	-10.76%	-5.72%	-1.82%	-2.80%	-1.02%	
February 2024	-10.23%	-13.76%	-7.72%	-1.17%	-1.90%	-0.65%	
March 2024	-3.56%	-6.80%	-1.27%	0.65%	0.65%	0.49%	
April 2024	-10.93%	-16.13%	-7.02%	-0.77%	-1.42%	-0.23%	
WALLONIA		YEARLY GROWTH (M/M-12)			MONTHLY GROWTH (M/M-1)		
	Total	White collar	Blue collar	Total	White collar	Blue collar	
November 2023	-7.12%	-3.02%	-9.63%	-1.74%	0.15%	-3.41%	
December 2023	3.93%	11.20%	-0.87%	2.42%	1.99%	2.52%	
January 2024	-1.98%	2.15%	-4.63%	-2.09%	-3.12%	-1.19%	
February 2024	-2.36%	-1.06%	-3.17%	1.48%	1.00%	2.31%	
March 2024	3.74%	7.52%	1.37%	0.44%	1.10%	-0.12%	
April 2024	-3.90%	-5.91%	-2.52%	-1.03%	-2.12%	-0.26%	
BRUSSELS		YEARLY GROWTH (M/M-12)			MONTHLY GROWTH (M/M-1)		
	Total	White collar	Blue collar	Total	White collar	Blue collar	
November 2023	-4.65%	-7.98%	4.70%	-0.26%	0.14%	-2.02%	
December 2023	11.23%	10.07%	14.73%	5.03%	6.39%	7.95%	
January 2024	1.96%	-0.55%	9.06%	-5.51%	-7.25%	-7.90%	
February 2024	-3.78%	-1.46%	-9.80%	-0.75%	2.11%	-7.78%	
March 2024	0.36%	-0.38%	2.36%	-0.68%	-2.34%	4.90%	
April 2024	-5.85%	-5.82%	-5.93%	1.16%	1.03%	-5.53%	



More figures?

[Kenniscentrum](#)

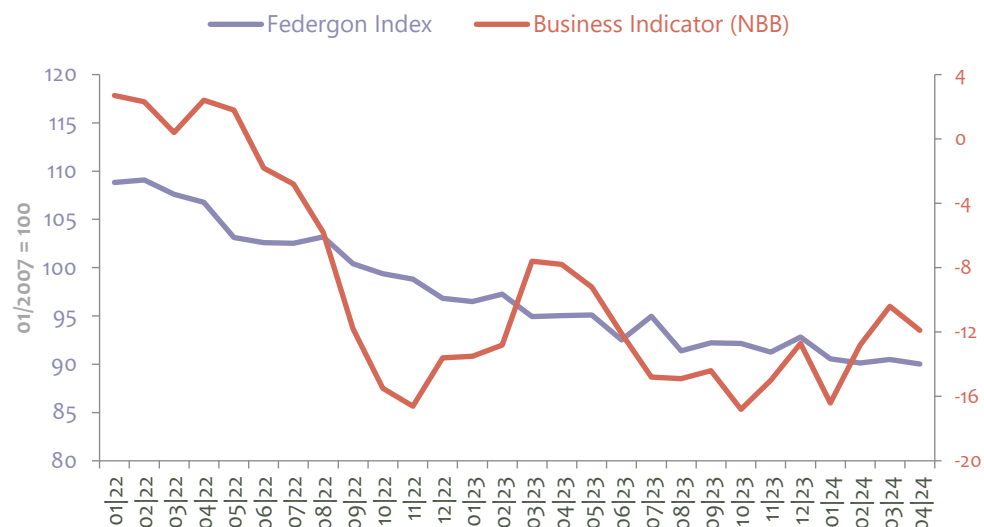
[Centre de connaissances](#)

[European Employment Barometer by SIA and WEC](#)

Market Update 04/2024

BELGIAN BUSINESS INDEX

"Business confidence falls in April"



- After rising for two consecutive months, the business confidence indicator fell in April.
- The noticeable rise in confidence seen in manufacturing in March has taken a big hit this month. Confidence is also weakening in the business-related services sector, albeit to a lesser extent. In the building industry and trade, the indicator is essentially holding steady.

In the manufacturing industry, the loss of confidence after two months of gains was mainly due to a significantly less encouraging assessment of stock levels and a sharp downward revision of demand expectations. On top of this, employment expectations were also downgraded, but to a much lesser extent.

In the business-related services sector, the indicator slipped back for a second consecutive month, with waning confidence mainly due to a clear deterioration in demand expectations which more than completely wiped out the strong uptick seen last month.

In the building industry, equipment use intensified and order books strengthened for the third month in a row, although the latter were assessed more negatively, taking into account the season.

In trade, worsening demand expectations and more negative intentions of placing orders with suppliers were offset by improved employment expectations.

As an indicator of the underlying economic trend, the overall smoothed synthetic curve continues to rise slightly.

Finally, the capacity utilisation rate in the manufacturing industry marginally decreased quarter-on-quarter, from 74.4% in January 2024 to 73.8% in April 2024. (source: NBB).

Visit our Expertise Center for more figures related to the Temporary Agency Work industry in Belgium:

NL: <https://federgon.be/kennis-centrum/cijfers>

FR: <https://federgon.be/fr/centre-de-connaissances/centre-de-connaissances>

METHODOLOGICAL NOTE:

The monthly structural survey is conducted among a fixed sample of 39 Federgon members accounting for 70.41% of the temporary agency work industry in Belgium in 2023.

• All figures in this monthly report relate to daily averages in order to neutralize the differences in number of working days per month.

• The year-on-year evolution is calculated from gross figures.

• The month-on-previous-month changes are calculated from seasonally adjusted figures (the seasonal adjustment is performed by the Surveys Department of the National Bank of Belgium using the Demetra+ method).

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FEDERAGON RESEARCH & ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

TOUR & TAXIS
Koninklijk Pakhuis / Entrepôt Royal
Havenlaan 86C bus 302
Avenue du Port 86C bte 302

1000 BRUSSELS

stat@federgon.be

@Federgon

@VerschuerenPau

T: 0032 (0)2/203 38 03

www.federgon.be

