

Press Release

ZEW

Zentrum für Europäische
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Centre for European
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ZEW Indicator of Economic Sentiment for Germany

53.3 points (-1.5 vs. previous month)

ZEW Indicator of Economic Sentiment for the Eurozone

64.8 points (+2.4 vs. previous month)

Assessment of the Current Situation in Germany

70.2 points (+15.1 vs. previous month)

Assessment of the Current Situation in the Eurozone

-28.3 points (+8.3 vs. previous month)

31/2015

April 21, 2015

ZEW Indicator of Economic Sentiment

Economic Sentiment declines slightly

In April 2015, the ZEW Indicator of Economic Sentiment for **Germany** has fallen for the first time since October 2014. Compared to the previous month, the indicator has declined by 1.5 points to a reading of 53.3 points (long-term average: 24.8 points).

“The German economy is in good shape. A stable labour market and increasing wages are strengthening confidence and boosting consumption. However, the current weakness of

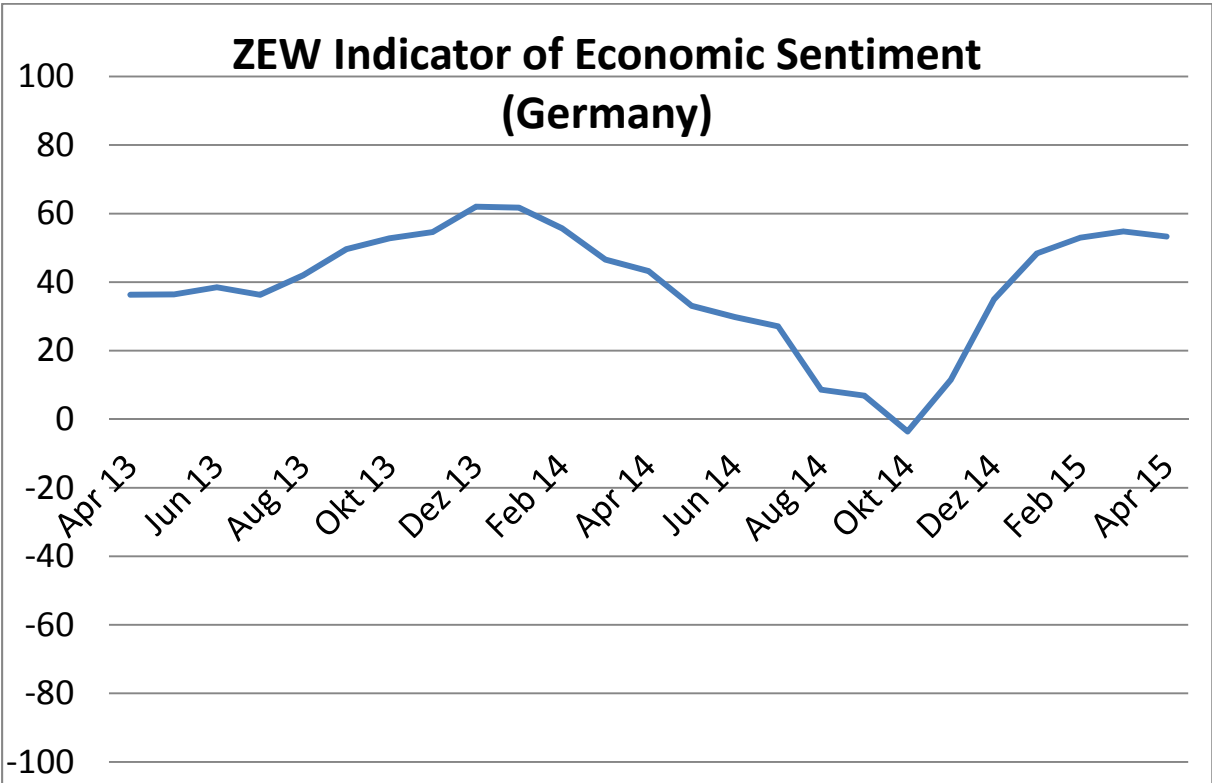
the world economy is dampening export prospects and reducing the scope for further improvements of the economic situation in Germany,” says ZEW President Professor Clemens Fuest. The assessment of the current situation in Germany has improved notably. Increasing by 15.1 points, the index now stands at 70.2 points.

The financial market experts’ sentiment concerning the economic development of the Eurozone is improving. ZEW’s Indicator of Economic Sentiment for the Eurozone has increased by 2.4 points to a reading of 64.8 points. Gaining 8.3 points in April 2015, the indicator for the current situation in the euro area has reached a value of minus 28.3 points.

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Source: Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW)

238 analysts participated in the April 2015 ZEW Financial Market Survey, which was conducted in the period 7–20 April 2015. Analysts were surveyed about their mid-term expectations concerning economic trends in Germany and the euro area. The ZEW Indicator of Economic Sentiment reflects the balance of positive and negative assessments of the economic development on a six-month time horizon.

The Mannheim Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW)

ZEW is one of Germany's leading economic research institutes and enjoys a strong reputation throughout Europe. The institute works in the field of frontier empirical research in economics and maintains important scientific data bases, e.g. the Mannheim Innovation Panel (MIP) and the ZEW Start-up Panel. ZEW is integrated into an extensive international network of universities and research institutions. ZEW's key objectives are to conduct excellent economic research, provide science-based economic policy advice and transfer knowledge. ZEW was founded in 1991 and employs a staff of approximately 200, two thirds of whom are researchers.

Research at ZEW:

Labour Markets, Human Resources and Social Policy; Industrial Economics and International Management; Information and Communication Technologies; International Finance and Financial Management; Environmental and Resource Economics, Environmental Management; Corporate Taxation and Public Finance; International Distribution and Redistribution; Competition and Regulation

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