

# Press Release

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## **ZEW Indicator of Economic Sentiment for Germany**

+31.7 points (+11.8 vs. previous month)

## **ZEW Indicator of Economic Sentiment for the Eurozone**

+33.5 points (+8.5 vs. previous month)

## **Assessment of the Current Situation in Germany**

-80.5 points (+1.2 vs. previous month)

## **Assessment of the Current Situation in the Eurozone**

-54.8 points (-1.4 vs. previous month)

33/2024

19 March 2024

## **ZEW Indicator of Economic Sentiment**

### **Economic Outlook Brightens; Interest Rate Turnaround Expected**

The ZEW Indicator of Economic Sentiment for Germany again recorded an increase in the current March 2024 survey. At 31.7 points, it is 11.8 points above the February 2023 value. In contrast, the assessment of the economic situation in Germany has barely changed. The corresponding indicator increased by 1.2 points to a new value of minus 80.5 points. “Economic expectations for Germany are significantly improving. At the same time, more than 80 per cent of those surveyed anticipate that the ECB will cut interest rates in the next six months. This could explain the more optimistic

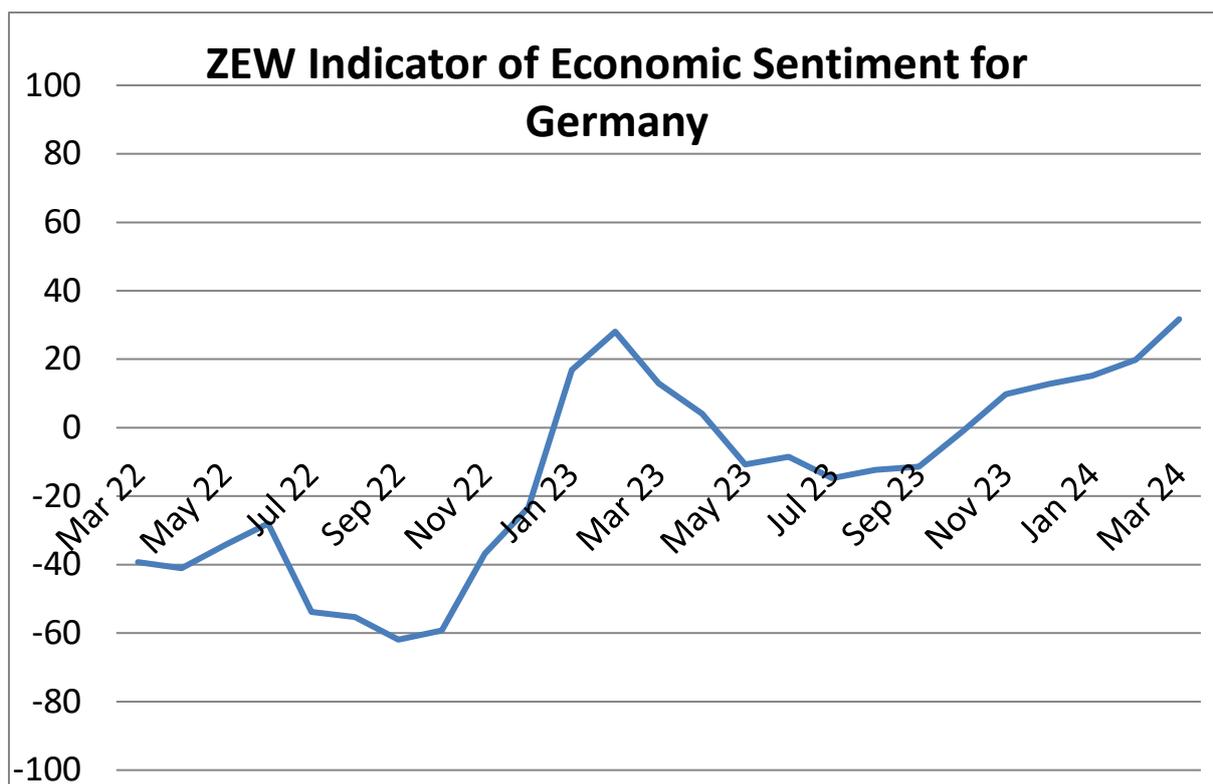
outlook for the German construction industry. The German export sector benefits from the increased economic expectations for China as well as the expected depreciation of the dollar against the euro. Meanwhile, the assessment of the economic situation remains at a very low level. This development somewhat diminishes the increased economic expectations,” comments ZEW President Professor Achim Wambach on the survey results.

The financial market experts’ sentiment concerning the economic development of the eurozone also experienced a considerable increase in March. At 33.5 points, the indicator rose by 8.5 points compared to February. In contrast, the situation indicator for the eurozone decreased, falling 1.4 points to a new reading of minus 54.8 points.

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Source: ZEW – Leibniz Centre for European Economic Research

166 analysts participated in the March 2024 ZEW Financial Market Survey, which was conducted in the period 11–18 March 2024. The analysts were surveyed regarding their mid-term expectations concerning economic development and capital market trends. The ZEW Indicator of Economic Sentiment is the balance between positive and negative expectations of the future economic development in Germany over a timeframe of six months.

### ZEW – Leibniz Centre for European Economic Research

ZEW Mannheim conducts research in the field of applied and policy-oriented economics and provides access to important data sets for national and international researchers. The institute provides advice to policymakers, private companies, and government institutions at both the national and EU level on how to tackle current economic policy challenges. The central concern of ZEW's research is to analyse and design markets and institutions that allow for the sustainable and efficient development of knowledge-based economies in Europe. By keeping the public informed on its latest research and providing further training to researchers and business leaders alike, ZEW acts as a guide through economic change. ZEW was founded in 1991 and is a member of the Leibniz Association. ZEW currently employs a staff of approximately 200, two thirds of whom are researchers.

### Research at ZEW:

Pensions and Sustainable Financial Markets; Labour Markets and Social Insurance; Digital Economy; Health Care Markets and Health Policy; Economics of Innovation and Industrial Dynamics; Market Design; Environmental and Climate Economics; Inequality and Public Policy; Corporate Taxation and Public Finance.