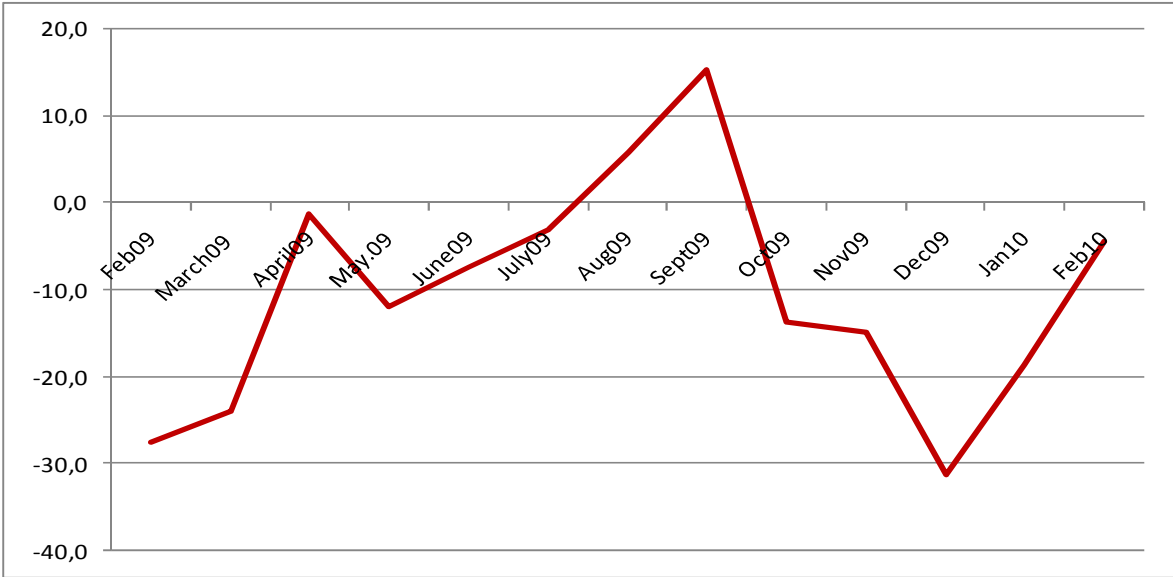






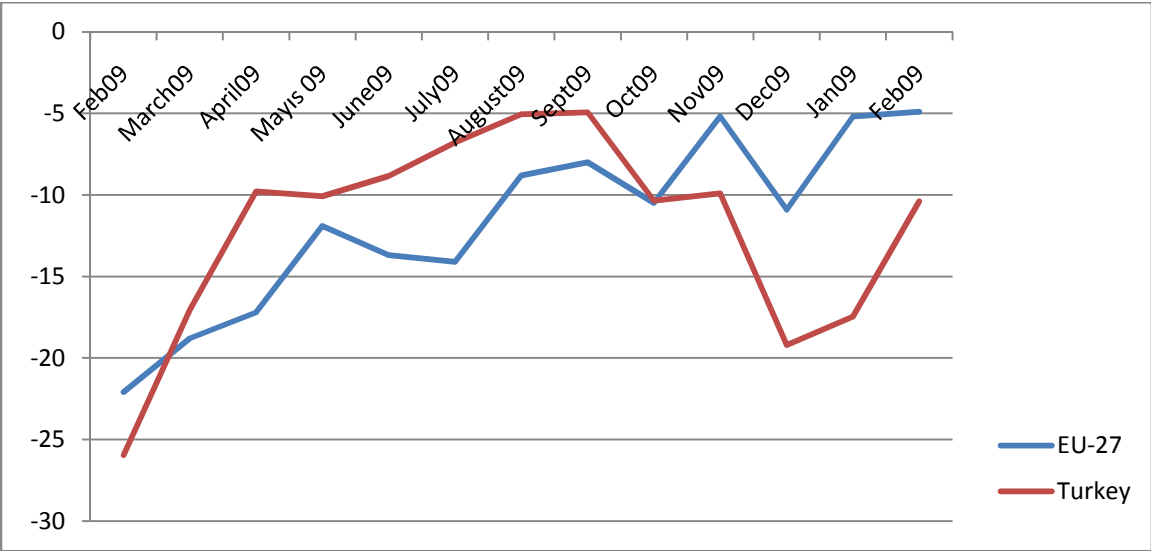
**C. The recovery appears more significant in prospective expectations. In February 2010, 30.4 percent of survey participants expect an increase in their business activities over the next three months while 23.1 percent expect a deterioration in their business activities over the same period.**

**Figure-3.** TRCI – Expectations for business activities over the next three months (% increase - % decrease)



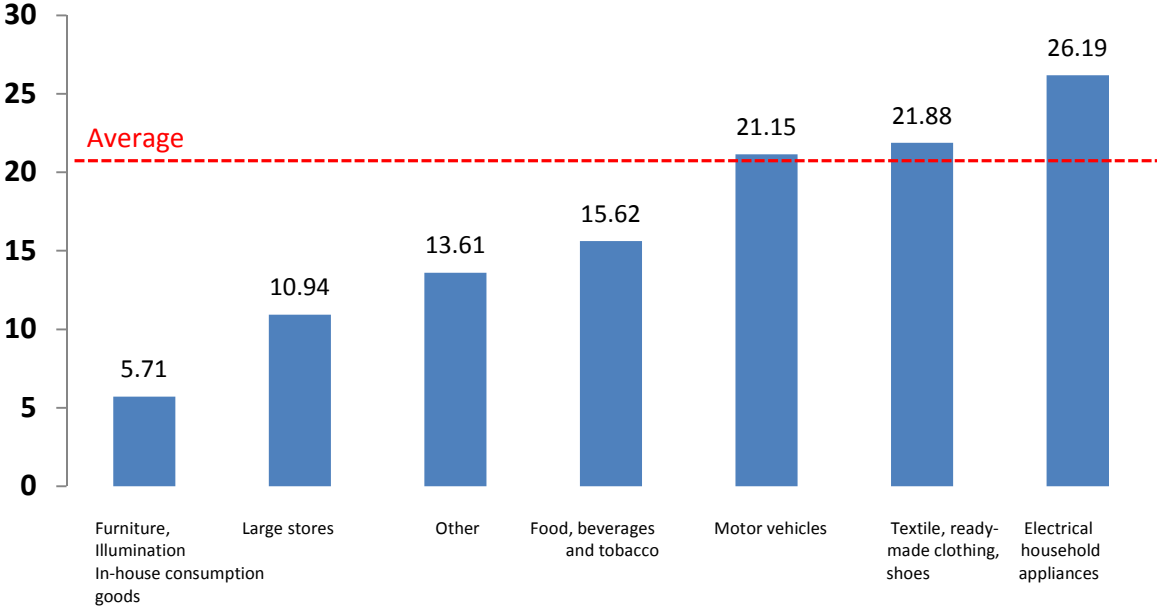
**D. In February 2010, TRCI converged to the EU average. Over the last months TRCI varied significantly below the average retail confidence index in EU countries. However, with the recovery witnessed in February 2010, TRCI converged to the EU average.**

**Figure-4.** Comparison of TEPE and EU-27 Retail Index (February -2009, February -2010)



**E. In February 2010, the improvement in TRCI values compared to the same month in the year before was above the average in electrical household appliances, ready-made clothing, and motor vehicles sectors and below the average in Furniture-illumination sectors and large stores.**

**Figure-5.** Change in TRCI in February-2010 compared to the same period in the last year (points)



**F. A comprehensive analysis of TRCI questions reveals that expectations for the coming period signal a significant positive trend along with the impact of seasonality factor. Nonetheless, it is yet an important problem that these expectations were not translated in employment prospects. That following the price increases in January, prices fell back onto the previous course pushes down inflation expectations for February.**

**Table 3.** Detailed TRCI results by questions (%)

Questions <sup>1</sup>	Index 02/2009	Index 01/2010	Index 02/2010	Change compared to the month before 02/2010	Change compared to the same month in the last year 02/2010
How has your business activity developed over the past three months ? It has...	-74.2	-58.4	<b>-54.7</b>	2.8	18.6
Do you consider the volume of stock you currently hold to be...? <sup>2</sup>	23.9	24.7	<b>28.9</b>	4.1	4.9
How do you expect your orders placed with suppliers to change over the next 3 months? They will...	-32.4	-20.7	<b>-21.8</b>	-1.0	10.6
How do you expect your business activity (sales) to change over the next 3 months? It will...	-27.6	-18.7	<b>-4.5</b>	14.2	23.1
How do you expect your firm's total employment to change over the next 3 months? It will...	-17.5	-9.8	<b>-13.9</b>	-4.1	3.6
How do you expect the prices you charge to change over the next 3 months? They will...	-6.3	12.1	<b>-5.0</b>	-17.1	1.2
How has your business activity developed this year compared to the same period in the last year ? It has...	-73.2	-47.7	<b>-53.1</b>	-5.4	20.1
Do you expect an increase in the number of your stores next year?	-4.4	0.1	<b>2.5</b>	2.4	6.9

<sup>1</sup> (-) values in Table 3 indicate that negative expectations surpass positive expectations.

<sup>2</sup> Positive stock level indicates that current level of stocks stand below the normal.

