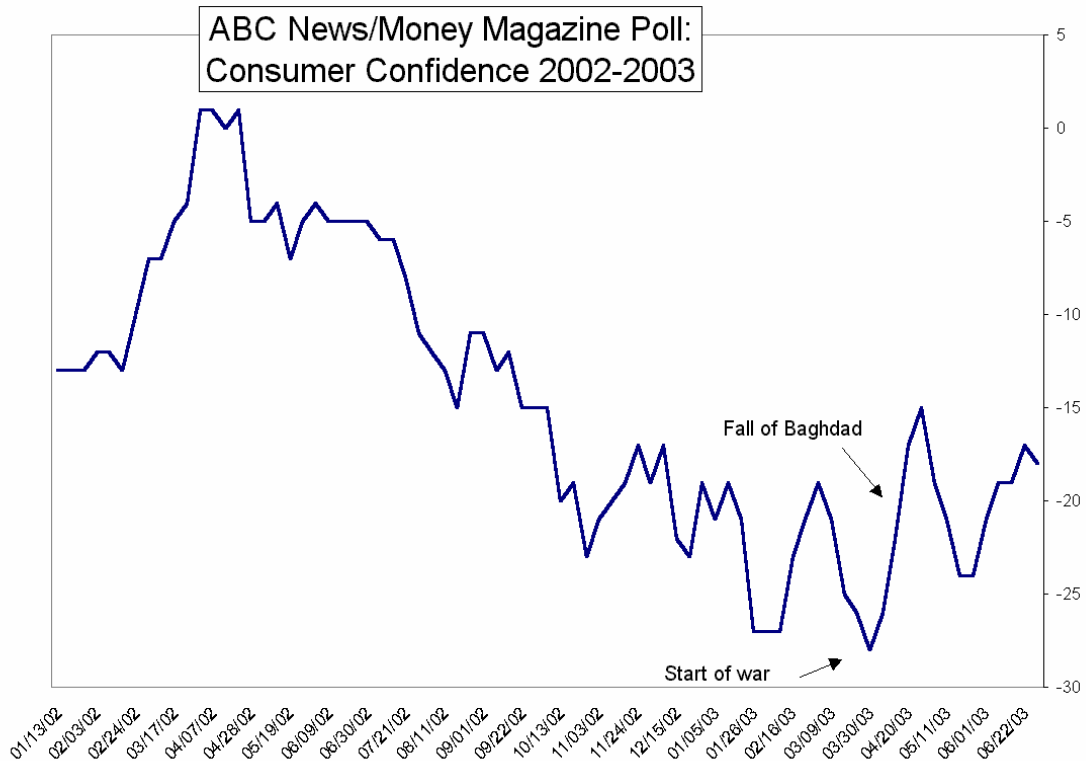


Confidence Marks Time

Consumer confidence was flat this week, leveling out in June after jumping from a postwar slump in May. While up from its 2003 lows, it's still weaker than average.

The ABC News/Money magazine Consumer Comfort Index, based on public views of current economic conditions, stands at -18 on its scale of +100 to -100. It's hovered from -17 to -19 each week this month, up from -24 in mid-May and -28 in March.

While it's off the floor, the index remains a good bit worse than its 17-year average, -9.



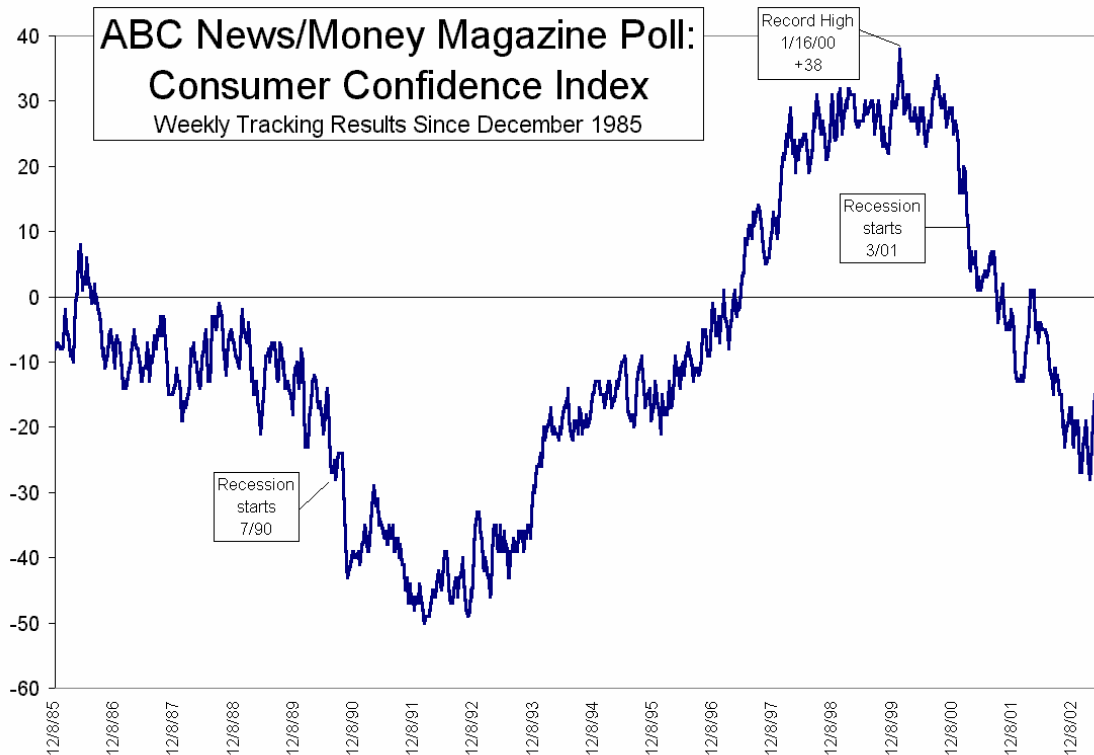
INDEX – The index is based on public ratings of current economic conditions – the economy, personal finances and the buying climate. Views of the economy remain the weakest of the three, now 28 percent positive. It was 31 percent, a 2003 high, last week. Those compare to a 17-year weekly average of 41 percent.

The other two gauges are closer to average. Fifty-eight percent say their personal finances are in good shape; the 17-year average is 57 percent. And 37 percent rate the buying climate positively, two points off the long-term average.

ABC News/Money magazine poll					
Positive ratings of:	This week	Last month	2003 high	2003 low	17-yr. avg.
National economy	28%	26	31	21	41
Buying climate	37	36	38	32	39
Personal finances	58	52	60	52	57
Consumer Comfort Index	-18	-24	-15	-28	-9

TREND – At -18, the index is well below its record high, +38 in January 2000, and far from its record low, a dismal -50 in February 1992. But as noted, on average it's performed better over the course of 17 years, averaging -9.

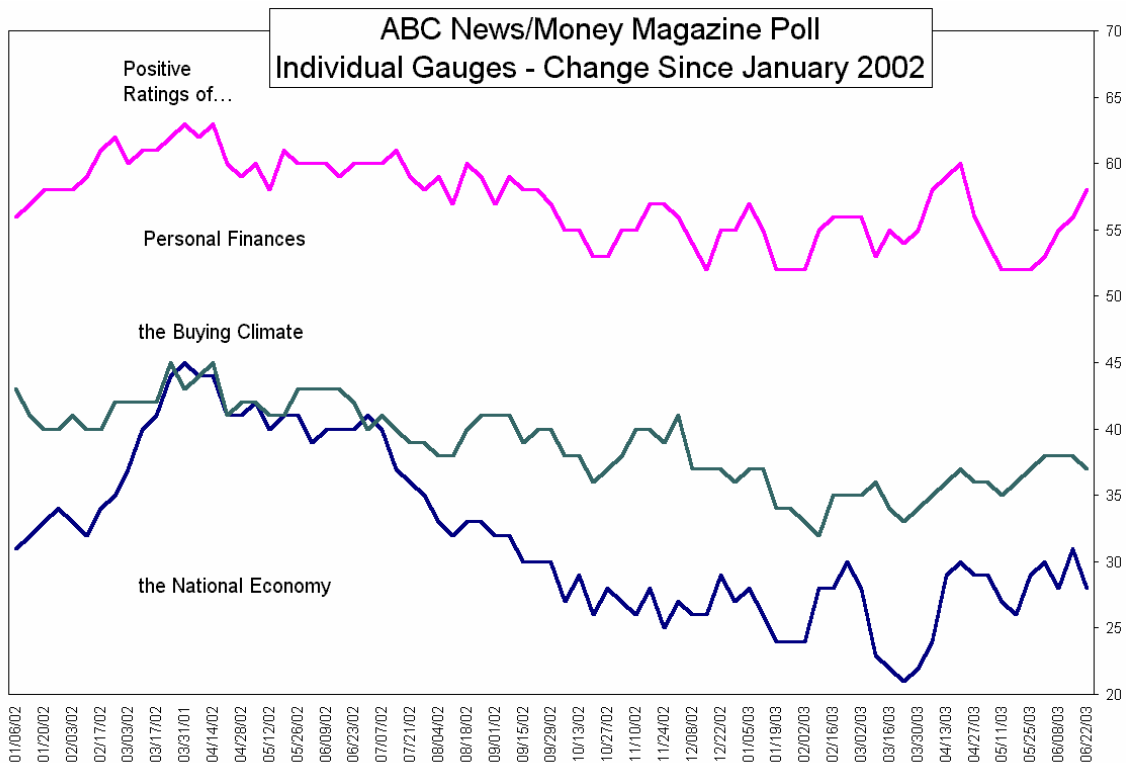
ABC/Money Index	
Today	-18
One month ago	-24
Two months ago	-15
Recent low	-28
Recent high	+1
2003 average	-22
2002 average	-11
2001 average	+4
2000 average	+29
1992 average	-44
Jan. 16, 2000	+38
Feb. 9, 1992	-50
Average since 12/85	-9



GROUPS –As always, confidence is higher among better-off Americans. The index is +13 among people earning \$50,000 or more, compared with -66 for those in households with the lowest income. People who own their homes are more confident (-14) than renters (-27). Among men, the index is -7; for women, it's -27.

The index continues an unusual trend of being highest in the South, -9. It's -27 in the northeast, -24 in the Midwest and -15 in the West. Among Republicans, it's +13, compared with -23 among independents and -28 among Democrats.

Here's a closer look at the three components of the ABC/Money index:



NATIONAL ECONOMY – Twenty-eight percent of Americans rate the nation's economy as excellent or good; it was 31 percent last week. The best was 80 percent on Jan. 16, 2000. The worst was seven percent in late 1991 and early 1992.

	Pos. NET	Excel.	Good	Neg. NET	Not good	Poor
This week	28	1	27	72	47	25
Avg. since 12/85	41	4	37	59	40	19

PERSONAL FINANCES – Fifty-eight percent rate their own finances as excellent or good; it was 56 percent last week. The best was 70 percent, set Aug. 30, 1998, and last matched in January 2000. The worst was 42 percent, on March 14, 1993.

Pos. NET	Excel.	Good	Neg. NET	Not good	Poor
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This week	58	4	54	42	29	13
Avg. since 12/85	57	5	53	43	30	12

BUYING CLIMATE - Thirty-seven percent say it's an excellent or good time to buy things they want and need, compared with 38 percent last week. The best was 57 percent Jan. 16, 2000. The worst was 20 percent in fall 1990.

	Pos. NET	Excel.	Good	Neg. net	Not good	Poor
This week	37	2	35	63	45	18
Avg. since 12/85	39	3	36	61	41	20

METHODOLOGY - The ABC News/Money magazine Consumer Comfort Index represents a rolling average based on telephone interviews with a random sample of about 1,000 adults nationwide each month. This week's results are based on 1,006 interviews in the month ending June 22, 2003, and have an error margin of plus or minus three percentage points. Field work by ICR-International Communications Research of Media, Pa.

The ABC/Money index is derived as follows: The negative response to each index question is subtracted from the positive response to that question. The three resulting numbers are then added and divided by three. The index can range from +100 (everyone positive on all three measures) to -100 (all negative on all three measures). The survey began in December 1985.

Analysis by David Morris.

ABC News polls can be found at ABCNEWS.com on the Internet, at:
<http://abcnews.go.com/sections/us/PollVault/PollVault.html>

Media contact: Cathie Levine, (212) 456-4934.

06/22/03	This Week	Last Week	4 Wks Ago	3 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago	12 Mo High	12 Mo Low	12 Mo Avg

Group	-----							
GENERAL POPULATION:								
Overall Index	-18	-17	-21	-28	-5	-5	-28	-18
State of Economy	-44	-38	-42	-58	-20	-18	-58	-42
Personal Finances	16	12	4	8	20	22	4	12
Buying Climate	-26	-24	-26	-34	-16	-16	-36	-25

OVERALL INDEX BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS								
Sex:								
Men	-7	-8	-12	-16	1	1	-19	-11
Women	-27	-25	-28	-37	-11	-9	-38	-25
Age:								
18 - 34	-15	-14	-18	-25	-3	3	-25	-12
35 - 44	-18	-18	-17	-16	-4	-1	-31	-17
45 - 54	-17	-9	-33	-41	1	1	-41	-23
55 - 64	-20	-22	-8	-21	-6	-2	-39	-20
65 +	-20	-21	-25	-32	-16	-14	-36	-25

Income:								
Under \$15K	-66	-67	-57	-53	-40	-26	-67	-48
\$15K To \$24.9K	-46	-48	-41	-53	-33	-19	-55	-39
\$25K To \$39.9K	-21	-21	-43	-44	-20	-9	-49	-28
\$40K To \$49.9K	-15	-20	-32	-15	4	12	-32	-14
Over \$50K	13	15	5	3	25	25	-15	4
Region:								
Northeast	-27	-28	-34	-36	-5	-4	-38	-24
Midwest	-24	-25	-14	-34	-11	-6	-34	-18
South	-9	-7	-14	-23	-3	4	-29	-19
West	-15	-13	-26	-18	-3	9	-34	-13
Race:								
White	-15	-15	-16	-22	-1	0	-23	-15
Black	-38	-35	-52	-53	-40	-21	-60	-40
Politics:								
Republican	13	15	9	1	15	15	-3	8
Democrat	-28	-31	-43	-45	-18	-14	-46	-34
Independent	-23	-24	-24	-30	-10	-9	-38	-22
Education:								
< High School	-40	-39	-51	-50	-38	-18	-59	-39
High Sch. Grad.	-20	-20	-22	-30	-11	-4	-40	-24
College +	-9	-7	-9	-17	9	9	-18	-7
Home:								
Own	-14	-12	-16	-22	0	0	-24	-14
Rent	-27	-31	-36	-37	-19	-9	-40	-28
Marital Status:								
Single	-23	-18	-28	-25	-11	1	-32	-15
Married	-10	-9	-10	-20	2	2	-27	-14
Sep/Wid/Div	-35	-39	-50	-52	-21	-21	-52	-34
Employ. Status:								
Full-Time	-7	-6	-15	-17	3	3	-20	-11
Part-Time	-34	-29	-25	-37	-6	3	-40	-20
Not Employed	-26	-24	-25	-37	-19	-16	-40	-28

END