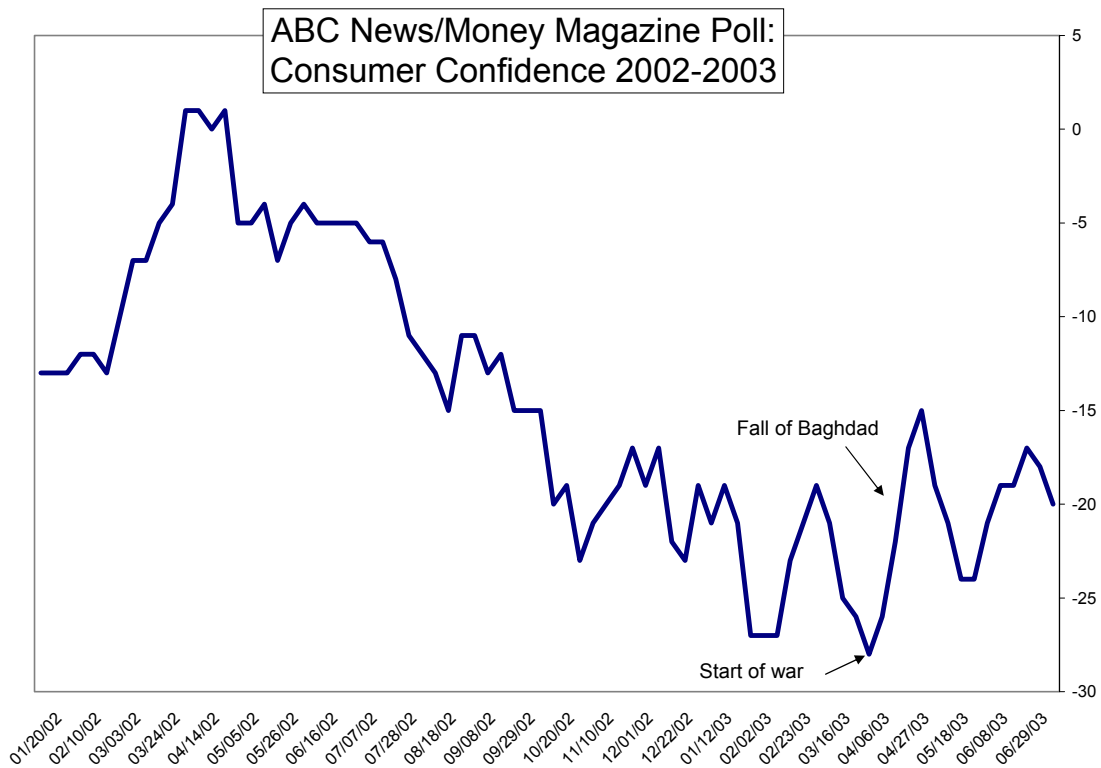


Confidence in a June Lull

Consumer confidence was stagnant this week, finishing the first half of 2003 above this year's low, but well off its 17-year average.

The ABC News/Money magazine Consumer Comfort Index, based on public views of current economic conditions, stands at -20 on its scale of +100 to -100. It held between -17 and -20 all month.

The index has averaged -9 since its inception 17 years ago. So far this year, it's averaged -22, on pace to be the worst year since 1993. This year it's been as low as -28 on March 23, leading up to the war with Iraq, and as high as -15 on April 20.



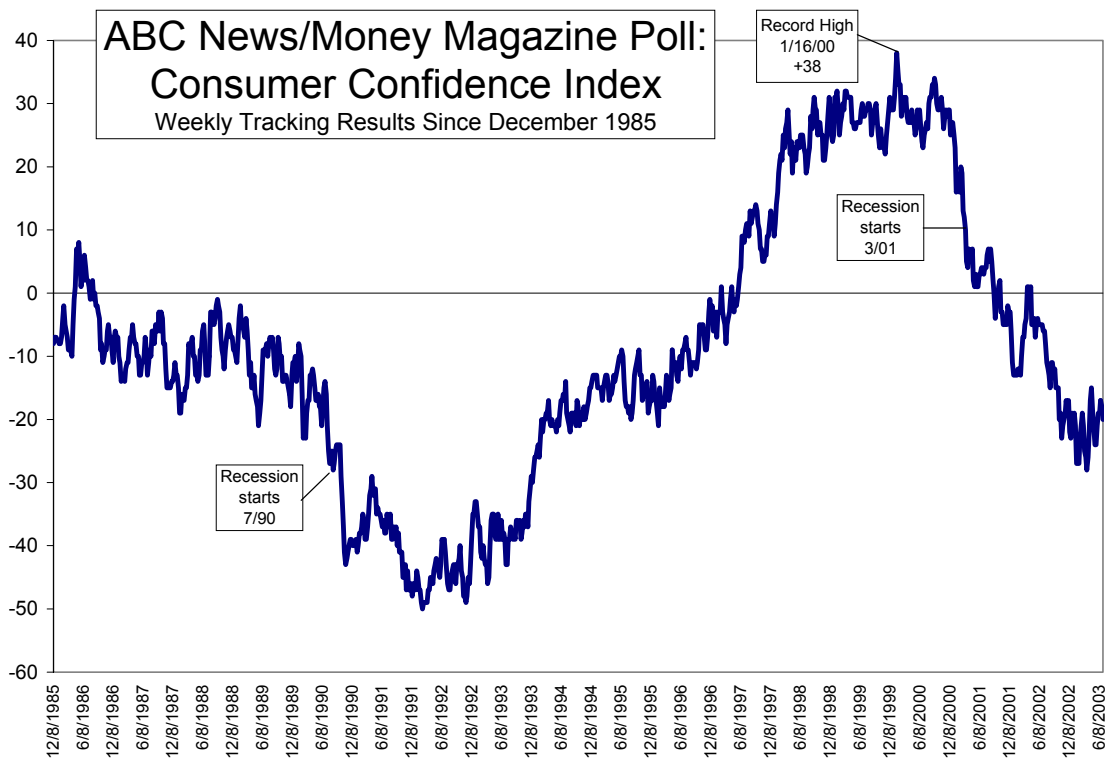
INDEX – The index is based on public ratings of the economy, personal finances and the buying climate. Weak views of the economy continue to be the biggest drag on the overall index, with just 27 percent rating it positively this week, compared with its average of 41 percent since December 1985.

The other two gauges are holding close to their lifetime averages. Fifty-six percent say their personal finances are in good shape; the 17-year average is 58 percent. And 37 percent rate the buying climate positively, just two points off its long-term average.

		ABC News/Money magazine poll			
Positive ratings of:	This week	6/15/03	2003 high	2003 low	17-yr. avg.
National economy	27%	31	31	21	41
Buying climate	37	38	38	32	39
Personal finances	56	56	60	52	57
Consumer Comfort Index	-20	-17	-15	-28	-9

TREND – The ABC/Money index peaked at +38 in January 2000, and bottomed out at -50 in February 1992. Its best year on record was 2000, when it averaged +29; its worst, 1992 when it averaged -44.

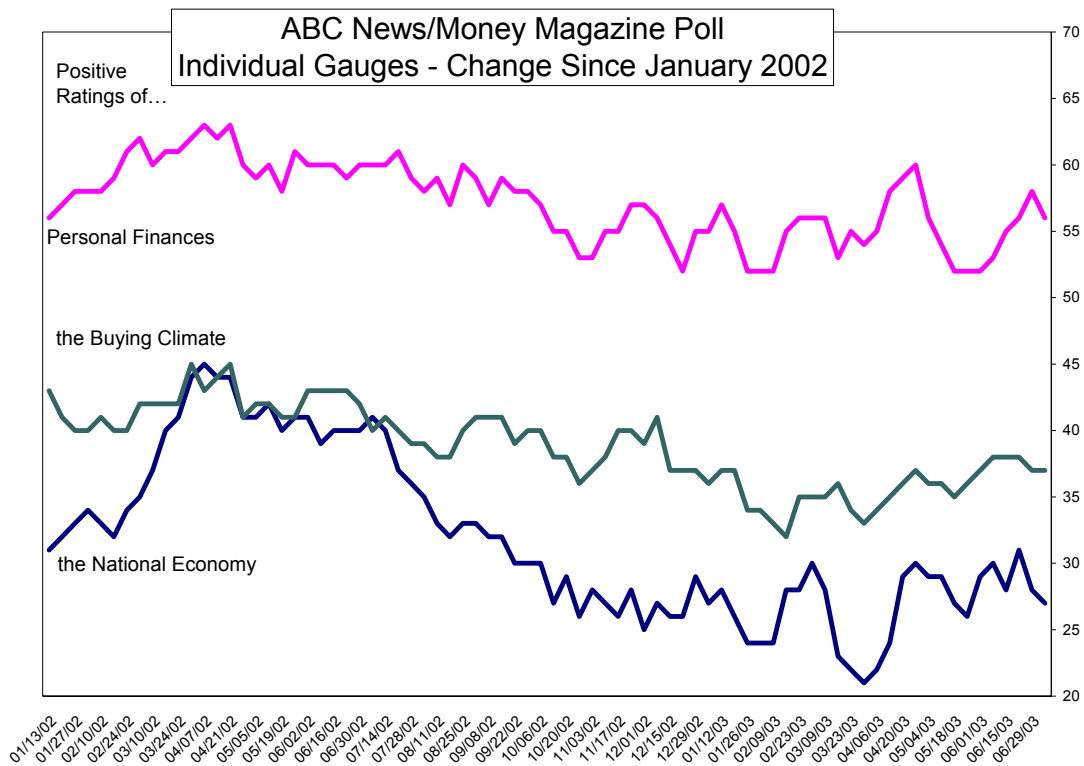
ABC/Money Index		
Today	-20	
Two weeks ago	-17	
Six weeks ago	-24	
Recent low	-28	March 2003
Recent high	+1	March, April 2002
2003 average	-22	To date
2002 average	-11	
2001 average	+4	
2000 average	+29	Best full year
1992 average	-44	Worst full year
Jan. 16, 2000	+38	Record high
Feb. 9, 1992	-50	Record low
Average since 12/85	-9	



GROUPS – Confidence, as expected, is higher among better-off Americans. The index is +10 in higher-income households, compared with -64 for those in the lowest, -11 among college graduates while -43 among high-school dropouts, -16 among whites while -30 among blacks, and -10 among men while -27 among women.

The index continues an unusual trend of being highest in the South, -12. It's -23 in the Northeast and Midwest, and -22 in the West. Among Republicans, it's +9, compared with -26 among independents and -25 among Democrats.

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



NATIONAL ECONOMY – Twenty-seven percent of Americans rate the nation's economy as excellent or good; it was 28 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	27	1	26	73	47	26
Avg. since 12/85	41	4	37	59	40	19

PERSONAL FINANCES – Fifty-six percent rate their own finances as excellent or good; it was 58 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
This week	56	4	52	44	32	12

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, the same as last week. The high was 57 percent on 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 1,004 interviews in the month ending June 29, 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 Telis Demos.

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.

06/29/03	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	-20	-18	-19	-26	-6	-6	-28	-19
State of Economy	-46	-44	-40	-56	-18	-18	-58	-43
Personal Finances	12	16	6	10	20	22	4	12
Buying Climate	-26	-26	-24	-32	-20	-18	-36	-25

OVERALL INDEX BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS								
Sex:								
Men	-10	-7	-9	-12	-2	-1	-19	-11
Women	-27	-27	-29	-37	-9	-9	-38	-26
Age:								
18 - 34	-15	-15	-15	-17	1	3	-25	-12
35 - 44	-24	-18	-17	-17	-9	-1	-31	-18
45 - 54	-15	-17	-33	-41	-3	0	-41	-23
55 - 64	-25	-20	-9	-22	-5	-2	-39	-21
65 +	-15	-20	-25	-33	-15	-14	-36	-25
Income:								

Under \$15K	-64	-66	-61	-53	-36	-26	-67	-48
\$15K To \$24.9K	-41	-46	-34	-54	-28	-19	-55	-39
\$25K To \$39.9K	-29	-21	-48	-40	-20	-9	-49	-28
\$40K To \$49.9K	-11	-15	-29	-10	6	12	-32	-15
Over \$50K	10	13	8	7	22	22	-15	4
Region:								
Northeast	-23	-27	-32	-32	-4	-4	-38	-24
Midwest	-23	-24	-13	-31	-15	-6	-34	-18
South	-12	-9	-12	-22	-1	4	-29	-19
West	-22	-15	-28	-18	-4	9	-34	-13
Race:								
White	-16	-15	-16	-21	0	0	-23	-15
Black	-30	-38	-50	-49	-31	-21	-60	-40
Politics:								
Republican	9	13	7	-1	14	15	-3	8
Democrat	-25	-28	-46	-45	-14	-14	-46	-34
Independent	-26	-23	-21	-22	-11	-9	-38	-22
Education:								
< High School	-43	-40	-50	-38	-35	-18	-59	-39
High Sch. Grad.	-19	-20	-18	-32	-4	-4	-40	-24
College +	-11	-9	-11	-15	3	4	-18	-8
Home:								
Own	-16	-14	-16	-21	-1	-1	-24	-15
Rent	-28	-27	-31	-36	-16	-9	-40	-28
Marital Status:								
Single	-25	-23	-25	-21	-6	1	-32	-15
Married	-14	-10	-11	-20	1	1	-27	-15
Sep/Wid/Div	-30	-35	-50	-45	-24	-21	-52	-34
Employ. Status:								
Full-Time	-9	-7	-15	-16	2	2	-20	-11
Part-Time	-34	-34	-16	-40	0	3	-40	-20
Not Employed	-27	-26	-26	-32	-18	-16	-40	-28

END