





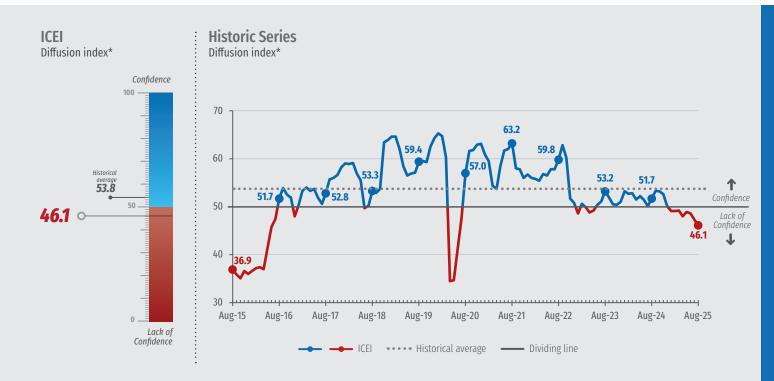


Industrial lack of confidence intensifies in August

In August 2025, the Industrial Business Confidence Index (ICEI) registered 46.1 points, its lowest reading for the year, following a contraction of 1.2 points from July. Having commenced the year already below the 50-point threshold, the ICEI has trended further away from the dividing line over subsequent months: between January and August, the

indicator contracted on five separate occasions. This sustained deviation from the 50-point threshold, which separates confidence from pessimism, signals a progressively more intense and widespread deterioration in sentiment among industrial business leaders.

The erosion of confidence in August was primarily driven by a weakening in sectoral expectations, as the assessment of current conditions did not regress during the month.



^{*}The index ranges from 0 to 100. A score above 50 points indicates entrepreneurs' confidence. The further above 50 points, the greater and more widespread is the confidence. A score below 50 points indicates a lack of confidence among entrepreneurs. The further below 50 points, the greater and more widespread is the lack of confidence.

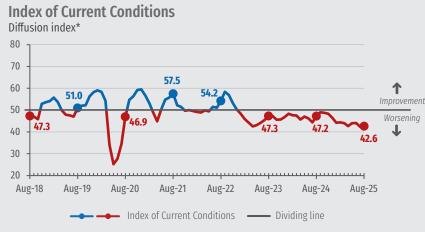
Components of the ICEI

The Current Conditions Index stood at 42.6 points in August 2025, remaining virtually unchanged (+0.2 points) from July. A reading below the 50-point benchmark indicates that, in the assessment of business leaders, the prevailing conditions of both the Brazilian economy and their individual firms are worse than in the past six months.

This month's stability results from a combination of a deterioration in the perception of the Brazilian economy's current state (-0.6 points, to 34.8 points) and an improvement in the evaluation of firms' own current conditions (+0.6 points, to 46.5 points), which became less negative.

The Expectations Index, conversely, registered 47.8 points in August, after contracting by 1.9 points from its July reading. Moving further away from the dividing line, this component indicates that the sector's expectations for the next six months have become more pessimistic.

Business leaders reported a deterioration in expectations for the Brazilian economy, which became more negative in the month (-1.9 points, to 38.6 points), as well as for their own firms, which became less optimistic in August (-1.9 points, to 52.4 points).



*The index ranges from 0 to 100. A score above 50 indicates improved current conditions and a score below 50 indicates worse current conditions.



*The index ranges from 0 to 100. A score above 50 points indicates optimistic expectations. A score above 50 indicates pessimistic expectations.

ICEI and its components

Diffusion indices*

	AUG 24	JUL 25	AUG 25
ICEI	51.7	47.3	46.1
Current conditions (compared to the last six months):	47.2	42.4	42.6
Brazilian economy	40.6	35.4	34.8
Company	50.4	45.9	46.5
Expectations (for the next six months):	53.9	49.7	47.8
Brazilian economy	46.2	40.5	38.6
Company	57.8	54.3	52.4

*Indices range from 0 to 100. A score above 50 points indicates entrepreneurs' confidence, improved current conditions or optimistic expectations. A score below 50 points indicates a lack of confidence among entrepreneurs, worse current conditions or pessimistic expectations.



Technical specifications

Sample profile

1,177 companies, of which 474 are small, 423 are medium and 280 are large.

Collection period

From August 1 to 7, 2025.

Document completed on July 10, 2025.



Learn More

For further information on previous issues, methodology and historical series, please visit: www.cni.com.br/e_icei

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