Centrale Bank van Aruba

Consumer Confidence Survey Report

2026-II

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Summary

The Consumer Confidence Index expanded by 0.9 percentage point to 93.6 in the second quarter of 2026.

The Central Bank of Aruba (CBA) concluded its Consumer Confidence Survey (CCS) for the second quarter of 2026. The CCS assesses the economic sentiments of local consumers. Consumers remained pessimistic, as the Consumer Confidence Index grew by 0.9 percentage point to 93.6[1] in the second quarter of 2026.

The Consumption and Borrowing Habits Index grew by 1.2 index points to 94.5 during the second quarter of 2026. The Future Expectation Index and the Present Situation Index increased by 0.9 index point and 0.7 index point, to 93.6 and 93.2. As for the Price Expectation Index, this rose to 90.4 during the second quarter of 2026.

Higher price expectation in the next 6 months remains a major concern for respondents, as 93% of consumers expect prices to be higher in the next 6 months. Respondents stating that they cannot “purchase as much with their income compared to 6 months ago” decreased by 3 percentage points to 90% in the second quarter of 2026.

As for the percentage of respondents expressing that they “saved less compared to 6 months ago”, this remained unchanged at 46% in the second quarter of 2026.

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[1] [1] The consumer confidence index can vary between 90 and 100 (pessimistic sentiments), and 100 and 110 (optimistic sentiments). An index of 100 indicates relatively neutral sentiments.

Top of Mind

Key Consumer Concerns during 2026-II for the following 6 months

1. Deteriorating business and economic conditions contracted to 50% (2026-I: 68%).

2. About 42% of respondents expected it to be more difficult to find a new job (2026-I: 53%).

3. Roughly 36% of respondents foresaw the government's financial position to worsen (2026-I: 41%).

4. An estimated 29% of respondents expected their household to be financially worse off (2026-I: 35%).

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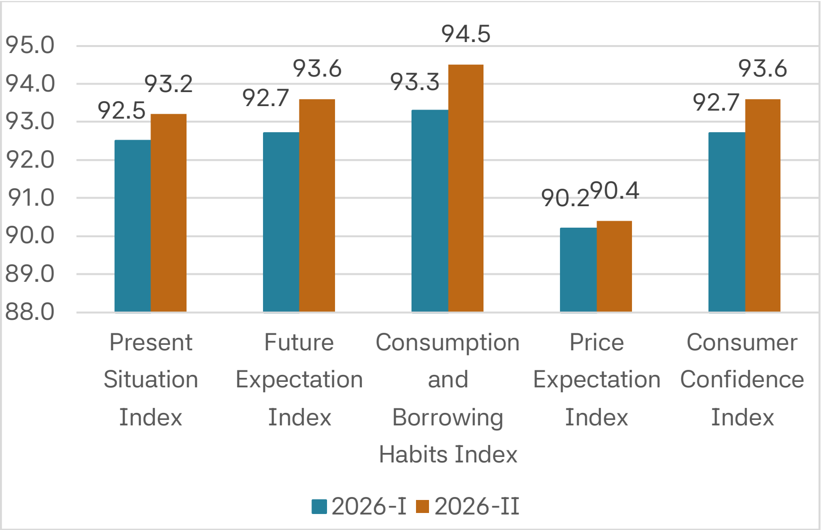
Chart 1: Consumer Confidence Index results.

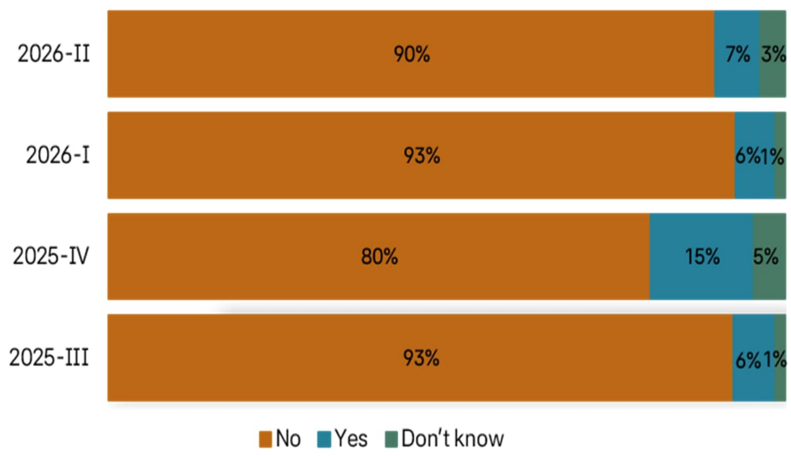


Source: Centrale Bank van Aruba

As for the purchasing power, 90% of respondents stated that they "cannot purchase as much with their income compared to 6 months ago" in the second quarter of 2026.

As for the respondents indicating that they can "purchase as much with their income compared to 6 months ago", this grew to 7%, compared to 6% in the first quarter of 2026 (see chart 2).

Chart 2: Respondents purchasing power has at least stayed the same compared to 6 months ago.

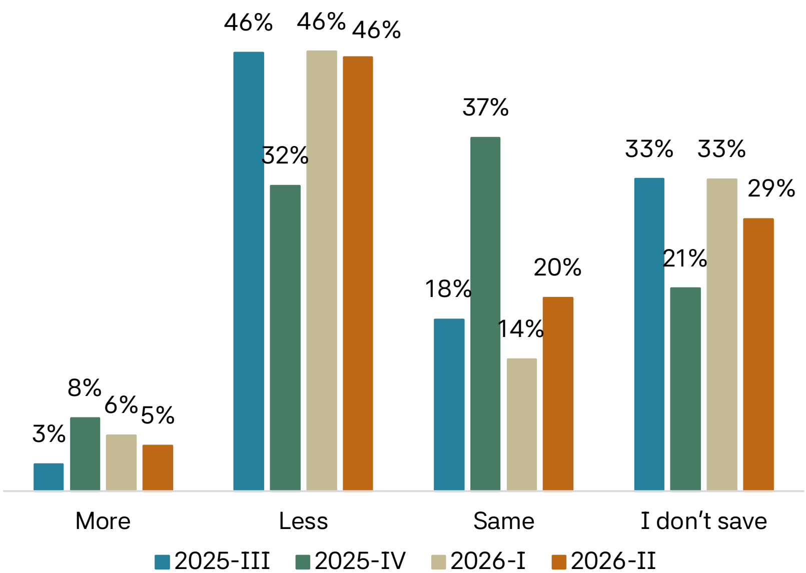


Source: Centrale Bank van Aruba

The share of respondents indicating that they were saving less remained unchanged at 46% in the second quarter of 2026.

In the second quarter of 2026, the respondents that reported that they save the same rose to 20%. As for the respondents that indicated that they don't save, this fell to 29% during the second quarter of 2026 (see chart 3).

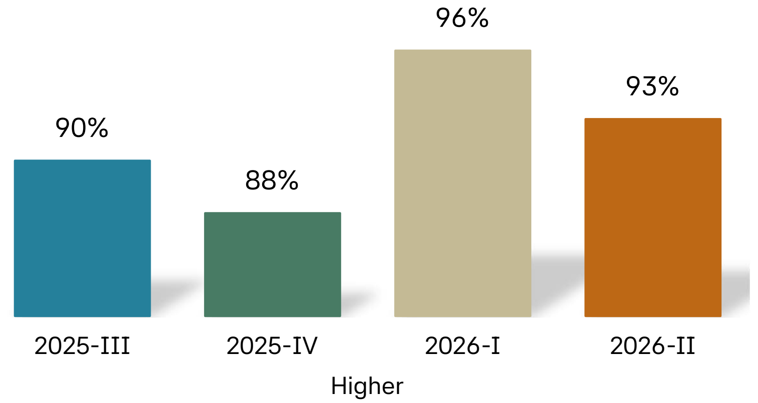
Chart 3: Respondents savings behaviour.



Source: Centrale Bank van Aruba

Higher price expectation in the next 6 months remains a major concern for respondents, as 93% of consumers expect prices to be higher in the next 6 months.

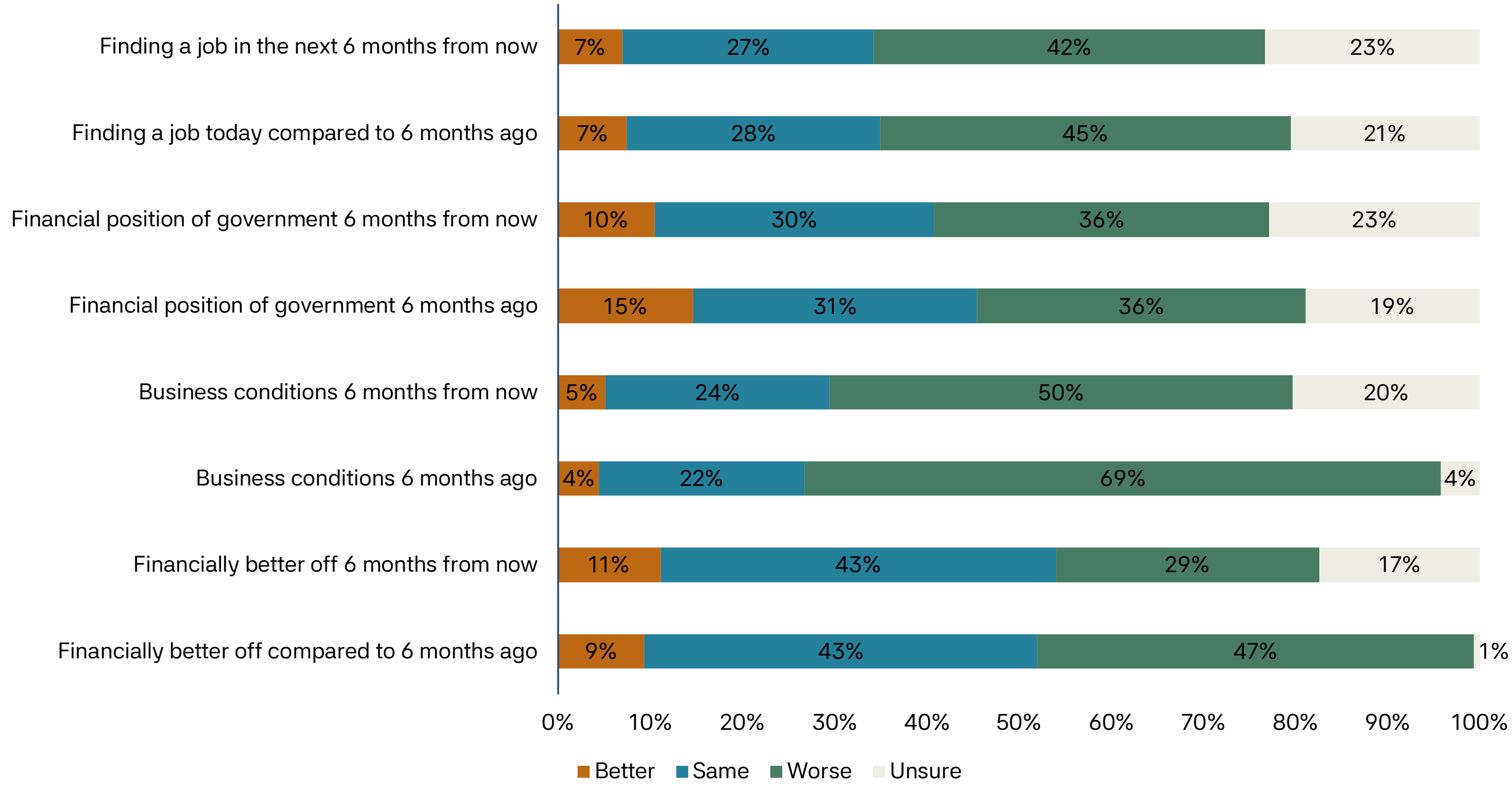
Chart 4: Respondents price expectation - next 6 months.



Source: Centrale Bank van Aruba

An estimated 69% of the respondents reported that the business and economic conditions worsened compared to 6 months ago. The percentage of respondents stating that their financial household situation worsened compared to 6 months ago dropped to 47%, compared to 50% in the first quarter of 2026. About 45% find it more difficult to find a job now compared to 6 months ago. As for the government's financial position 36% foresaw it to worsen compared to 6 months ago (see chart 5).

Chart 5: Respondents sentiments – 6 Months ago versus 6 months from now.

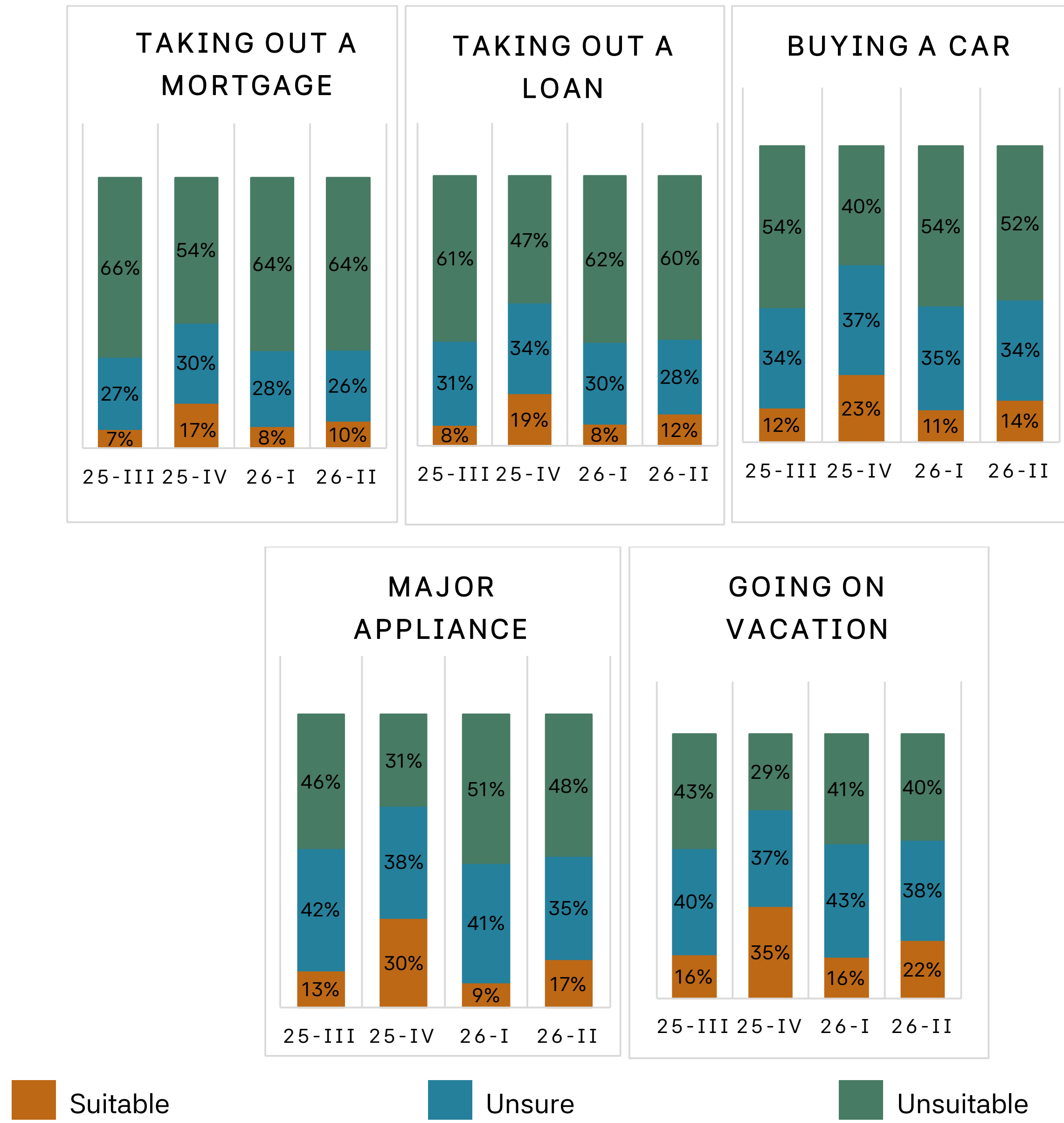


Source: Centrale Bank van Aruba

Consumers remained concerned about their consumption and borrowing habits, with an 1.2 index points increase in the second quarter of 2026.

Respondents still consider it unsuitable to take out a mortgage, as it remained unchanged at 64%. As for taking out a loan, 60% of respondents judged it unsuitable, while buying a car was considered unsuitable by 52%. Meanwhile, 48% still find it unsuitable to buy a major appliance and 40% deemed it unsuitable to go on vacation (see chart 6).

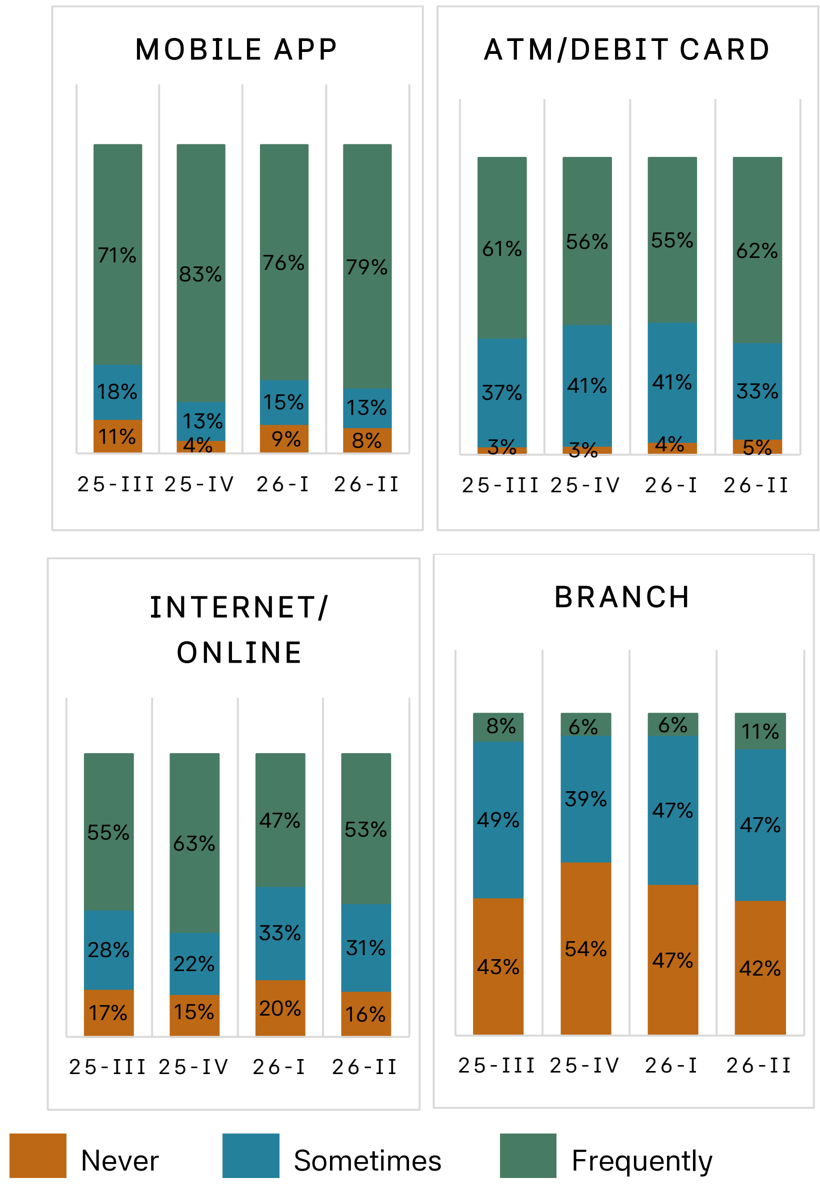
Chart 6: Respondents consumption and borrowing habits.

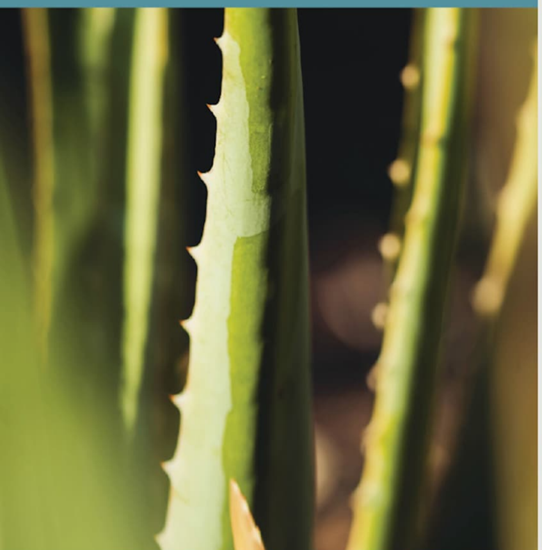


At 79%, the mobile banking app maintained its position as the most frequently used and preferred personal banking channel in the second quarter of 2026.

The percentage of consumers who use ATM/debit card frequently increased to 62%. As for, the consumers using online banking on a frequent basis this increased to 53%. Consumers who never visit a branch fell to 42% (see chart 7).

Chart 7: Respondents personal banking preferred method.





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