# Informations Rapides 17 décembre 2015 - n° 308



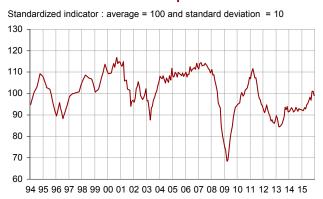
Monthly business survey in services - December 2015

## In December 2015, the business climate has decreased slightly in services

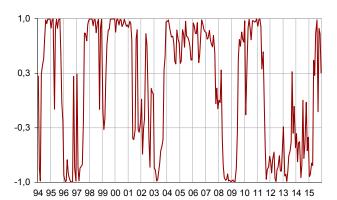
#### All services

According to business managers, the business climate in services has declined in December 2015. The business climate composite indicator has decreased by two points and has fallen back (99) below its long-term average (100). The balances of opinion have decreased particularly in accomodation and food service activities, probably because of the consequences of the attacks of 13 November in Paris and Saint-Denis. The turning point indicator is on the edge of the uncertainty area.

#### **Business climate composite indicator**



#### **Turning point indicator**



Note: close to 1 (respectively -1), this indicator indicates a favourable short-term economic situation (respectively unfavourable). Between +0.3 and -0.3: uncertainty area.

The balance of opinion on the general outlook, which relates the assessment of business leaders over their whole sector, has decreased by two points and has fallen back slightly below its long-term average.

The balance on past activity has gone down and has come back to its long-term level. Slightly more business leaders than in November report a decrease of expected activity and demand. The corresponding balances are slightly below their long-term average.

The balances on past and expected employment are virtually stable and stand clearly above their long-term average.

The balance on past investments is steady, whereas the balance on expected investments has improved. Both balances are above their long-term average.

#### **Economic outlook in the services sector**

Balances of opinion, in %, seasonally adjusted

	Average*	Sept. 15	Oct. 15	Nov. 15	Dec. 15
Composite indicator	100	97	101	101	99
General outlook	-8	-9	-7	-7	-9
Past activity	2	-3	4	4	2
Expected activity	2	-3	1	1	0
Expected demand	-1	-5	-2	1	-2
Past selling prices	-4	<b>-</b> 9	-7	-5	-7
Expected selling prices	-3	-8	-6	-6	<b>–</b> 9
Past employment	3	4	10	14	15
except temporary					
work agencies	1	1	3	7	5
Expected employment	2	9	8	8	8
except temporary					
work agencies	-1	1	-1	3	4
Investments					
Past investments	1	4	8	7	7
Expected investments	1	1	2	4	8

<sup>\*</sup> Average of the balances of opinion since 1988 Source: Insee, business survey in services

#### Road transport

In road freight, the balance on past activity has increased slightly, the balance on expected activity has improved markedly. However, more business leaders than last month expect a decrease in demand for the coming months. The balances on past and expected employment stand above their long-term average.

## Accommodation and food service activities

In accommodation and food service activities, all the balances have decreased sharply. Almost all of them have come back to their level of October, after an increase in November (most responses were registered before the attacks of 13 November) and remain above their long-term average.

#### Information and communication

In information and communication, the balance on past activity has gone down slightly again and has deviated further from its long-term average. The balance on expected activity has recovered but remains below its long-term average. The balance on expected demand has decreased slightly, fluctuating below its long-term average. The balances on employment remain close to their long-term average.

#### Real estate

In real estate, the balances of opinion on past and expected activity and on expected demand have declined significantly. Only the balances on past activity and on employment stand above their long-term average.

### Professional, scientific and technical activities

In professional, scientific and technical activities, the balances on activity and demand have decreased slightly. They remain close to their long-term average. The balances on employment are virtually stable, above their long-term average.

## Administrative and support service activities

In administrative and support service activities, the balance of opinion on past activity has gone up whereas the balance on expected activity is stable. The balance on expected demand is virtually stable. The balances on employment remain at a very high level, particularly in temporary work agencies. All the balances stand clearly above their long-term average.

#### **Expected activity in services**



#### **Detailed data**

Balances of opinion, in %, seasonally adjusted

A21	Average*	Sept. 15	Oct. 15	Nov. 15	Dec. 15	
(H) Road transport						
Past activity	-8	-2	-8	<b>–</b> 9	-7	
Expected activity	-10	-3	-3	-5	0	
Expected demand	-13	-6	-6	-6	<b>–</b> 9	
Past employment	-8	-6	-4	3	-2	
Expected employment	-11	<b>-</b> 9	-4	-2	-3	
(I) Accommodation						
and food service						
activities						
Past activity	-7	-5	-3	3	-5	
Expected activity	<b>–</b> 7	-3	-8	8	-5	
Expected demand	<b>–</b> 9	-20	-9	7	-6	
Past employment	-4	7	2	11	2	
Expected employment	<b>–</b> 5	7	-2	-5	-8	
(J) Information and						
communication						
Past activity	8	-7	3	-2	-4	
Expected activity	10	-1	3	-5	1	
Expected demand	10	-2	3	3	1	
Past employment	6	<b>-</b> 9	1	4	7	
Expected employment	10	7	8	9	9	
(L) Real estate						
activities						
Past activity	7	2	16	15	8	
Expected activity	7	-3	7	3	0	
Expected demand	1	-10	<b>–</b> 5	2	-5	
Past employment	3	1	7	6	6	
Expected employment	2	4	10	10	6	
(M) Professional,						
scientific and						
technical activities				_	_	
Past activity	-1	-4	4	3	2	
Expected activity	-2	-4	0	-1	-3	
Expected demand	-6	-7	-4	-4	<b>-</b> 5	
Past employment	1	3	2	5	6	
Expected employment	0	0	-1	4	4	
(N) Administrative and						
support service						
activities	_	_	40	0	4.4	
Past activity	6 5	6 –1	10	8	11	
Expected activity	5 2	-1 3	5	7	7	
Expected demand		10	5	3	4	
Past employment	8	-	25	27 16	34	
Expected employment	nent 7 22 20 16 17 alances of opinion since 1988 (2006 for road					

\* Average of the balances of opinion since 1988 (2006 for road transport)

#### For further information:

A balance of opinion is calculated as the difference between the percentage of "increase" responses and the percentage of "decrease" responses.

- Additional information (long series, methodology, links, etc.) is available on the web page of this indicator: http://www.insee.fr/en/themes/indicateur.asp?id=62
- Historical data are available on the BDM: G1244, G1245, G1246.
- Press contact: bureau-de-presse@insee.fr
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