

Informations *Rapides*

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■ Quarterly business survey in the building crafts sector - July 2013

In July 2013, the economic climate stays deteriorated in the building crafts sector

Activity stays sluggish

In July 2013, craftsmen are slightly more numerous than in April to indicate a decrease of their activity in the recent period. The corresponding balance of opinion stays significantly below its long-term average. According to them, the activity would go on decreasing in the next three months.

The general business outlook, which express the craftsmen's opinion on the overall change of the sector, are almost stable and the corresponding balance of opinion remains sharply below its long-term average.

Decreasing employment

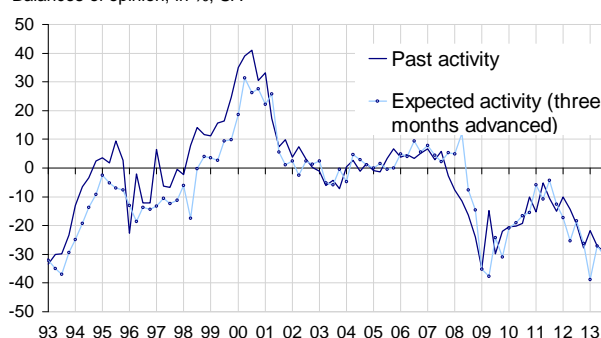
According to the craftsmen, the workforce size declined last quarter: the corresponding balance of opinion stays below its long-term average. The employment contraction would continue in the next quarter.

Recruiting problems are almost stable

Recruiting problems concerned almost one firm out of four. This proportion remains inferior to its long-term average. The rate of businesses training apprentices improves slightly and reaches 41 %.

Activity tendency in the building crafts sector

Balances of opinion, in %, SA



Building crafts sector economic outlook

Balances of opinion, in %, SA

	Mean*	Oct. 12	Jan. 13	April 13	July 13
Past activity	-4	-28	-22	-27	-29
Expected activity	-8	-39	-27	-30	-27
General business outlook	-20	-57	-51	-52	-51
Past employment	-3	-9	-8	-8	-11
Expected employment	-3	-12	-15	-15	-16
Recruiting problems (in %)	42	34	30	30	28
Apprentice training (in %)	38	44	41	40	41

* Mean since October 1990.

For further information:

- The balance of opinion is calculated as the difference between the percentage of response «increase» and the percentage of response « decrease ».

- Additional information (long series, methodology, links...) are available on the HTML page of this indicator: <http://www.insee.fr/en/themes/info-rapide.asp?id=59>
- Historical data are available on the BDM : [G1269](#), [G1271](#).
- Press contact: bureau-de-presse@insee.fr

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