

# Informations Rapides

25 septembre 2013 - n° 219

Principaux indicateurs



## ■ Monthly business survey in the building industry – September 2013

### The economic climate shows a slight improvement in building industry in September 2013

According to the business managers surveyed in September 2013, the situation has improved slightly in the building industry: the composite indicator has increased by one point but stays below its long-term average. The turning-point indicator has gone into the favorable zone.

#### Activity remains deteriorated

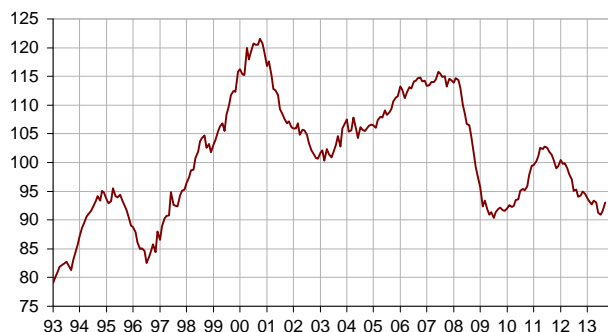
Business managers consider that their activity is still deteriorated in the recent period. However, far fewer business managers than in August indicate a fall in their activity in the next months. The corresponding balance of opinion stays below its long-term average.

#### Decreasing employment

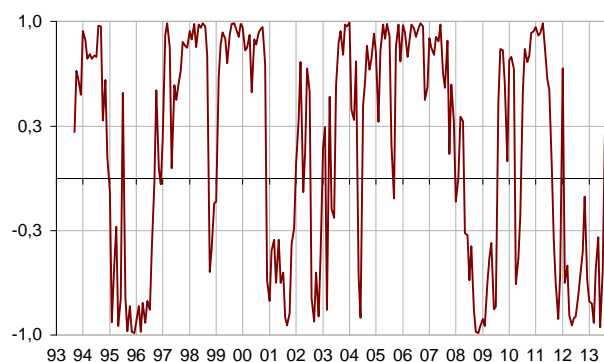
Employment in the building industry is grim: the balances of opinion corresponding to past employment and expected employment stay significantly below their long-term average.

#### Composite indicator

Standardized with mean equal to 100 and a standard deviation equal to 10



#### Turning-point indicator



Lecture : close to 1 (respectively -1), it indicates a favorable climate (respectively unfavorable).

#### Building industry economic outlook

Balances of opinion, in %, SA

	Mean*	June 13	July 13	Aug. 13	Sept. 13
Composite indicator	100	91	91	92	93
Past activity	-2	-27	-28	-18	-17
Expected activity	-5	-26	-25	-23	-12
Gen. business outlook	-17		-47		
Past employment	-3	-19	-21	-22	-21
Expected employment	-2	-19	-18	-18	-14
Opinion on order books	-20	-48	-48	-48	-44
Order books (in month)	5,3	7,0	7,0	7,1	7,0
Productive capacity utilisation rate	89,0	86,0	86,2	86,4	86,5
Obstacles to production increase (in %)	33	21	22	22	26
- Because of workforce shortage (in %)	15,7	5,0	4,9	5,0	4,8
Recruiting problems (in %)	60		47		
Expected prices	-13	-40	-43	-33	-30
Cash-flow position	-9		-27		
Repayment period	28		47		

\* Mean since September 1993.

### Order books are still considered lower than normal

In September, less business managers than in August consider their order books lower than normal. The corresponding balance of opinion stands at a level inferior to its long-term average.

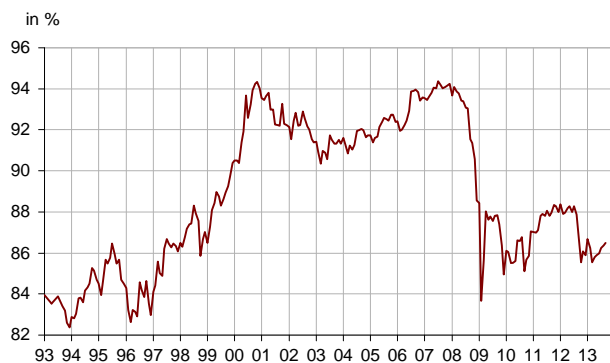
### Productive capacity underused again

The productive capacity utilization rate has stabilized and stays below its long-term average. At the same time, almost one business manager out of four declares having difficulties increasing his activity.

### Prices not very dynamic

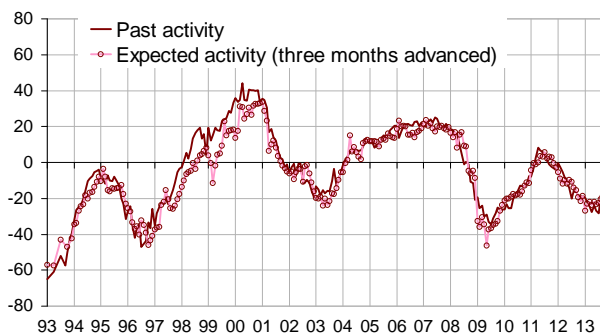
In September, slightly fewer business managers than in August indicate price downturns. The corresponding balance of opinion remains sharply inferior to its long-term average.

#### Productive capacity utilization rate



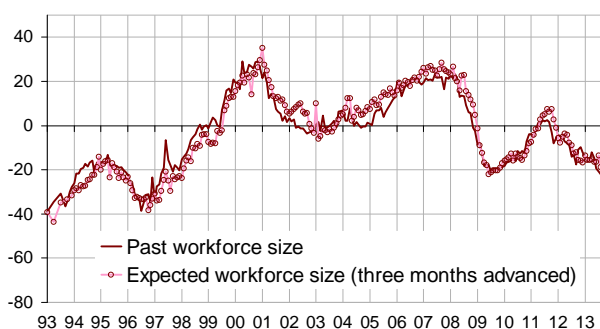
### Activity tendency in the building industry

Balances of opinion, in %, SA



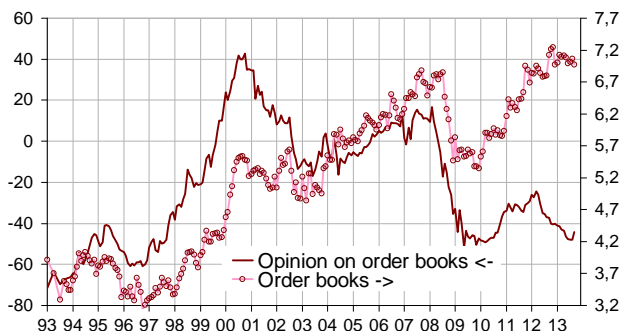
### Workforce size tendency in the building industry

Balances of opinion, in %, SA



### Order books

Balance of opinion, in %, SA



#### 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=56>
- Historical data are available on the BDM: [G1273](#), [G1276](#), [G1274](#).
- Press contact: [bureau-de-presse@insee.fr](mailto:bureau-de-presse@insee.fr)

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