

# Informations *Rapides*

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## ■ Quarterly business survey in public works – April 2014

### The economic climate worsens in public works in the second quarter 2014

#### Public works economic outlook

According to the business managers surveyed in April 2014, activity in public works may deteriorate in the second quarter.

#### *In April 2014, the judgment about past activity gets worse*

The balance of opinion on past activity declined and reached a level close to its long-term average. The balance of opinion corresponding to expected activity went down compared to the previous quarter, and remains below its long-term average.

Far more business managers than in January consider their order books lower than normal for this period of the year.

#### *Still few obstacles to production*

Obstacles to production remain at a very low level: only 5 % of businesses indicate being hampered because of a workforce shortage.

#### *More business managers than in January anticipate a fall in their staff size*

In April 2014, sharply more business managers than in January anticipate a fall in their staff size for the next quarter. The corresponding balance of opinion falls below its long-term average.

Balances of opinion, in %, SA

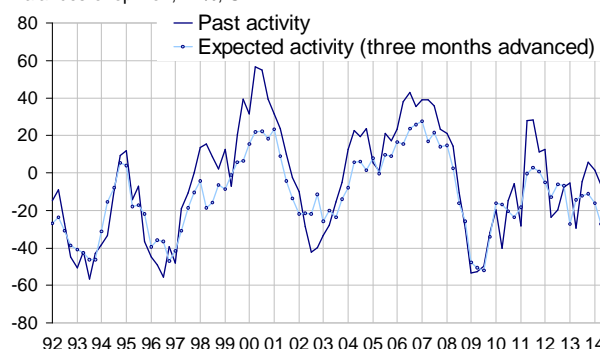
	Mean*	July 13	Oct. 13	Jan. 14	April 14
Past activity	-6	-5	6	2	-7
- of which public-sector project	-11	-20	-1	-2	-19
- of which private-sector project	-11	-15	-1	-6	-9
Expected activity	-14	-11	-16	-27	-29
- of which public-sector project	-17	-20	-19	-29	-40
- of which private-sector project	-17	-10	-14	-18	-22
Opinion on order books	-25	-18	-17	-23	-37
Obstacles to production increase because of workforce shortage (in %)	15	5	7	6	5
Expected workforce	-15	-15	-14	-15	-32

\* Mean since January 1981

Sources: FNTF and INSEE

#### Activity tendency in public works

Balances of opinion, in %, SA



#### For further information:

The balance of opinion is the difference between the percentage of responses «increase» and the percentage of responses «decrease».

- Additional information (long series, methodology, links...) is available on the HTML page of this indicator: <http://www.insee.fr/en/themes/info-rapide.asp?id=58>
- Historical data are available on the BDM : [G1281](#).
- Press contact: [bureau-de-presse@insee.fr](mailto:bureau-de-presse@insee.fr)

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