

Informations *Rapides*

23 octobre 2013 - n° 243



Main indicators

■ Monthly survey in the retail trade and in the trade and repair of motor vehicles - October 2013

In October 2013, the business climate is pausing in the retail trade and in the trade and repair of motor vehicles

According to the managers, the business climate is pausing in October 2013 in the retail trade and in the trade and repair of motor vehicles: the composite indicator stabilized after the strong increase of the two last months, and is remaining near its long term average.

Business climate synthetic indicator

Mean=100, standard deviation=10

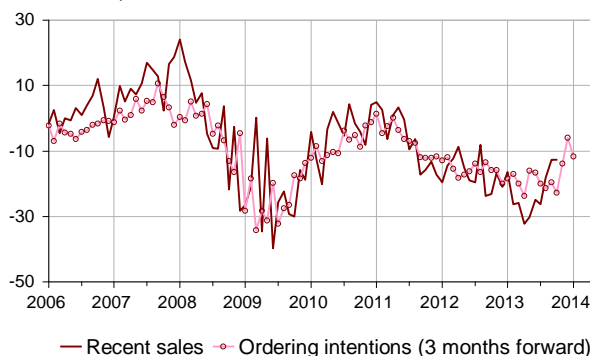


Past and previous activity under their average

According to the business leaders, the past activity kept on reducing over the last few months, the corresponding balance remaining slightly under its average. About forecasts, the balances concerning expected sales and ordering intentions declined, going under their mean level again. The general business outlook remained near their long term average. The level of stocks was considered higher, but was still significantly under the standard level. The balance concerning expected prices remained near its average.

Recent sales and ordering intentions

Balances of opinion, %, S.A.



Global data

Balances of opinion, in %, S.A.

	Ave. (1)	July 13	Aug. 13	Sept. 13	Oct. 13
Business climate	100	86	95	101	99
General business outlook	-30	-48	-36	-31	-29
Recent sales	-7	-26	-18	-13	-13
Expected sales	-3	-18	-10	-3	-10
Ordering intentions	-9	-23	-14	-6	-12
Stocks	11	13	7	5	9
Past selling prices (2)	-6	-9		-7	
Expected selling prices	-3	-2	-4	-1	-4
Cash position (2)	-15	-27		-23	
Workforce size: recent trend	0	-10	-7	-10	-7
Workforce size: future trend	-2	-12	-9	-6	-6

(1) Average since 1991 (2004 for recent and expected sales and ordering intentions).

(2) Bi-monthly question (odd-numbered months).

Source: monthly survey in the retail trade and in the trade and repair of motor vehicles - INSEE

A little less unfavourable employment

According to the business managers, employment slightly slowed down over the last few months, and should stabilize over the next few months.

- **Retail trade**

Decline of expected activity

Less trade retailers than in September declared a decrease in their past activity. In non-specialized trade, the corresponding balance is going over its average, but in specialized trade, it is still low.

Retailers forecasts were pessimistic again: each of the two balances concerning expected sales and ordering intentions declined, becoming significantly under its mean level.

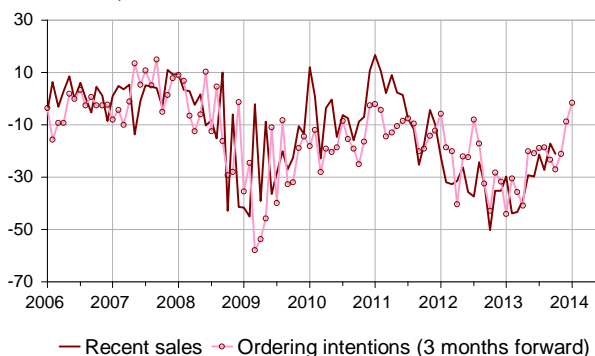
Stocks were declared heavier, going back to their standard level.

The expected prices balance remained near its long term average.

- **Trade and repair of motor vehicles**

Recent sales and ordering intentions in motor vehicles

Balances of opinion, %, SA



Optimistic forecasts

As many vehicle traders than over the last month declared a fall in their past activity, but they were more optimistic concerning their previous activity: expected sales and ordering intentions balances kept on progressing, being now over their averages.

The level of stocks was considered slighter again, getting very low under its standard level.

Less managers than in September declared a fall in prices over the next few months.

Detailed data

Balances of opinion, in %, S.A.

	Moy. (1)	July 13	Aug. 13	Sept. 13	Oct. 13
Retail trade - Global data					
Recent sales	-4	-28	-14	-11	-9
Expected sales	0	-17	-6	-3	-12
Ordering intentions	-7	-23	-11	-4	-16
Stocks	10	16	5	2	11
Past selling prices (2)	-8	-7		-7	
Expected selling prices	-4	-2	-4	-1	-4
Cash position (2)	-13	-26		-21	
Workforce size: recent trend	1	-6	-4	-6	-3
Workforce size: future trend	-1	-11	-7	-4	-5
Non-specialized retail trade					
Recent sales	-1	-24	-5	-1	1
Expected sales	6	-6	6	7	0
Ordering intentions	2	-16	-3	11	-4
Stocks	7	19	4	4	10
Past selling prices (2)	-7	-1		-3	
Expected selling prices	-4	4	-8	2	3
Cash position (2)	-7	-13		-6	
Specialized retail trade					
Recent sales	-9	-34	-25	-22	-21
Expected sales	-6	-33	-19	-12	-21
Ordering intentions	-17	-32	-19	-23	-21
Stocks	14	13	7	1	12
Past selling prices (2)	-7	-15		-12	
Expected selling prices	-4	-9	1	-4	-12
Cash position (2)	-22	-40		-38	
Trade and repair of motor cars and motorcycles					
Recent sales	-11	-21	-27	-17	-21
Expected sales	-9	-20	-21	-4	-2
Ordering intentions	-14	-27	-21	-9	-2
Stocks	16	7	12	10	7
Past selling prices (2)	1	-13		-6	
Expected selling prices	5	-1	-3	-1	0
Cash position (2)	-26	-31		-28	
Workforce size: recent trend	-9	-21	-17	-19	-22
Workforce size: future trend	-7	-20	-15	-14	-12

(1) Average since 1991 (2003 for trade and repair of motor vehicles and 2004 for recent and expected sales and ordering intentions).

(2) Bi-monthly question (odd-numbered months).

Source: monthly survey in the retail trade and in the trade and repair of motor vehicles - INSEE

Learn more:

* A balance of opinion is the difference between weighted percentage of 'increase' or 'above normal' answers and weighted percentage of 'decrease' or 'below normal' answers.

** Non-specialized food retail trade (supers et hypermarkets) is 89 % of non-specialized retail trade, non-specialized non-food retail trade (department stores, retail sale via home-shopping) 11 %. The survey doesn't include specialized food retail trade.

- Complementary data (long series) and metadata (methodology, linked internet pages...) are available on the HTML page of this index: <http://www.insee.fr/en/themes/info-rapide.asp?id=86>
- Historical data are available on the BDM: [G1229](#), [G1230](#).
- Press contact: bureau-de-presse@insee.fr.

Next issue: November 25 2013, 8:45 AM