# Informations Rapides 25 septembre 2013 - n° 218



Monthly business survey in services – September 2013

# In September 2013, the business climate improves again in services

# • All services sector

According to business managers, the economic situation in services has improved again in September 2013. The business climate composite indicator rises by four points, and reaches 93, yet still below its long-term average (100).

Business managers consider that their activity has slightly picked up in the last few months and anticipate a further upturn. The general outlook rises by five points compared with August but remains below its long-term average. The turning point indicator indicates a favorable economic outlook dynamic.

# Employment is still sluggish

In services sector (except temporary employment agencies), business managers remain pessimistic in their expectations for recruitment.

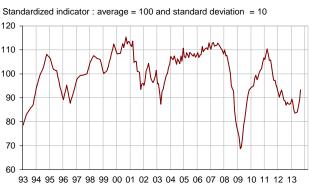
# **Economic outlook in the services sector**

Balances of opinion, in %, seasonally adjusted

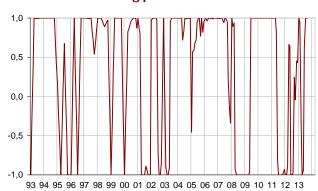
		June	July	Aug.	Sept.
	Average*	13	13	13	13
Composite indicator	100	84	86	89	93
General outlook	-7	-27	-22	-20	-15
Past activity	3	-12	-16	-16	-13
Expected activity	3	-14	-14	-11	-7
Expected demand	0	-16	-13	-8	-3
Business situation	-2	-16	-13	-14	-10
Past selling prices	-3	-12	-12	-11	-11
Expected selling prices	-2	-12	-13	-10	-10
Past employment	3	<b>-</b> 5	-6	-7	-1
except temporary					
work agencies	1	-8	-5	-11	-7
Expected employment	2	-8	-7	-4	-1
except temporary					
work agencies	0	-10	-10	-7	-8
Investments					
Past investments	1	-4	<b>-</b> 5	<b>-</b> 5	-4
Expected invest-					
ments	1	-5	1	-1	1

<sup>\*</sup> Average of the balances of opinion since 1988 Source: Insee

# **Composite indicator**



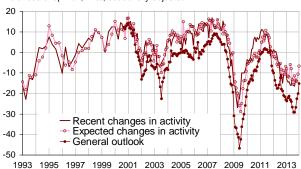
### **Turning point indicator**



Note: close to 1 (respectively -1), this indicator indicates a favorable short-term economic situation (respectively unfavorable).

# **Activity**

Balances of opinion, in %, seasonally adjusted



# Road transport

In road freight and mail activities, business managers assess that activity has remained dull in the recent period. However, their expectations of activity and demand are recovering.

# Accommodation and food service activities

In accommodation and food service activities, business managers consider that activity has been sluggish in the recent months. However, they anticipate a recovery of demand for the coming months.

# • Information and communication

In information and communication, business managers indicate that activity has remained deteriorated over the last few months, but their expectations of demand for the next months are recovering.

## Real estate activities

In real estate activities, the balance of opinion on past activity is almost steady. Business managers' expectations of activity and demand are better than in august.

# Professional, scientific and technical activities

In professional, scientific and technical activities, more business managers than in august estimate that activity has improved in the recent period. Conversely, their expectations of activity and demand remain gloomy.

# Administrative and support service activities

In administrative and support service activities, business managers indicate that activity has recovered in the recent period. They revise their forecasts of activity and recruitment upward for the next few months.

# **Expected activity**



### **Detailed data**

Balances of opinion, in %, seasonally adjusted

A21	Average*	June 13	July 13	Aug.	Sept.
(H) Road transport		-13	10	- 10	13
Past activity	-8	-26	-31	-21	-20
Expected activity	-10	-30	-24	-21	-10
Expected demand	-13	-31	-29	-21	-13
Past employment	–8	-17	<u>-</u> 9	<u>-</u> 8	-11
Expected employment	-11	-18	-17	-15	-10
(I) Accommodation		-10		- 10	10
and food service					
activities					
Past activity	-7	-28	-19	-21	-21
Expected activity	_ <del>-</del> 7	-21	-27	-26	-18
Expected demand	_9	-27	-31	-27	-15
Past employment	-4	-14	-11	-22	-14
Expected employment	-5	-14	-13	-17	-14
(J) Information and					
communication					
Past activity	11	-8	-24	-33	-29
Expected activity	12	-14	-16	-12	_7
Expected demand	12	-11	0	0	9
Past employment	7	-3	<b>-</b> 7	-11	-15
Expected employment	12	-10	-11	<b>-7</b>	-6
(L) Real estate activi-					
ties					
Past activity	7	0	-2	2	3
Expected activity	8	1	-1	0	4
Expected demand	2	-3	-4	-4	2
Past employment	3	-3	1	-5	-1
Expected employment	2	-5	-5	1	-4
(M) Professional,					
scientific and tech-					
nical activities					
Past activity	-1	-14	-14	-13	-8
Expected activity	-2	-14	-16	-9	-10
Expected demand	-5	-21	-21	-13	-12
Past employment	1	-7	-4	-6	-7
Expected employment	0	-7	-6	-5	-7
(N) Administrative					
and support service					
activities					
Past activity	6	-8	-11	-8	-4
Expected activity	5	-9	-6	-3	3
Expected demand	3	-12	-8	3	1
Past employment	8	4	-6	1	12
Expected employment	6 es of opinior	-5	2	8	13

<sup>\*</sup> 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 response "increase" and the percentage of response "decrease".

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

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