

Informations *Rapides*

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Principaux indicateurs

■ Monthly confidence consumer survey – July 2013

In July 2013, households' confidence bounced (+3 points)

In July 2013, households' confidence bounced. The synthetic confidence index gained 3 points compared with June.

• Personal situation

Financial situation : slightly increasing

In July, households' appreciation of their *past financial situation* was almost stable (+1 point). Their opinion on their *future financial situation* increased slightly (+2 points). Households were more numerous than in June to consider July as a *suitable time to make major purchases* (+6 points), the corresponding balance recovered last year's end level. These three balances remained clearly below their long term averages.

Savings: sharply increasing

In July, households' opinion about their *current saving capacity* gained 5 points, reaching its maximum of February. Their opinion about their *savings capacity in the next 12 months* gained 5 points as well, remaining considerably above its long term average.

In July, the part of households to consider it *opportune to save* was almost stable (+1 point). This balance stood distinctly above its long term average.

Consumer synthetic index



CONSUMER OPINION: synthetic index and opinion balances

Balance of responses, seasonally adjusted

	Average (1)	2013			
		April	May	June	July
Synthetic index (2)	100	84	79	79	82
Financial sit., past 12 m.	-19	-27	-37	-35	-34
Financial sit., next 12 m.	-4	-25	-28	-28	-26
Current saving capacity	8	15	14	14	19
Expected saving capacity	-10	-4	-2	-6	-1
Savings intentions, next 12 m.	18	32	30	31	32
Major purchases intentions, next 12 m.	-14	-29	-32	-33	-27
General economic sit., past 12 m.	-43	-76	-79	-80	-78
General economic sit., next 12 m.	-23	-62	-64	-66	-60
Unemployment, next 12 m.	32	73	78	82	65
Consumer prices, past 12 m.	-13	-15	-18	-13	-9
Consumer prices, next 12 m.	-34	-21	-17	-17	-16

(1) Average value between January 1987 and December 2012

(2) This indicator is normalised in such a way that its average equals 100 and standard error equals 10 over the estimation period (1987-2012).

• Economic situation in France

General economic situation in France: on the up-swing

In July, households' opinion about the *past general economic situation* in France increased (+2 points). Their opinion on the *expected general economic situation* noticeably rose (+6 points), after a continuous deterioration since January. Nevertheless, these balances remained clearly below their long term averages.

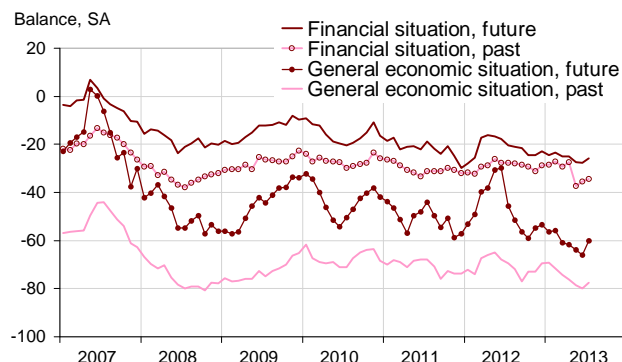
Future unemployment: fears decreasing

In July, households were largely less numerous than in June to forecast an increase in unemployment. The corresponding balance lost 17 points and reached its lowest level since June 2012. However, it remained above its long term average.

Inflation's appreciation: increasing anew

In July, households were more numerous than in June to estimate that *past inflation* increased. The corresponding balance increased by 4 points and went above its long term average. Households' opinion about *future inflation* was however almost stable (+1 point) and remained above its long term average.

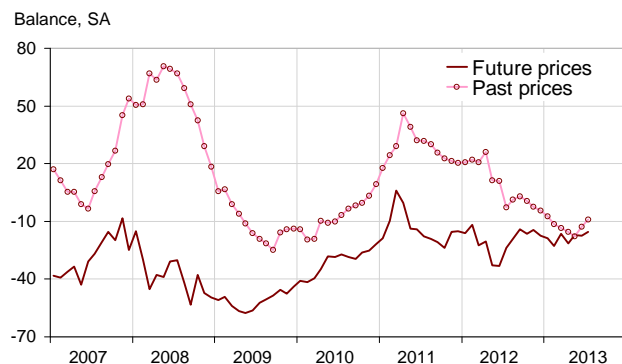
Balances on personal financial situation and general economic situation



Households' unemployment expectations



Households' perception of prices



For more information :

Definition - The synthetic households confidence index summarizes their opinion about the economic situation : a higher value means a more favorable households' judgment about the economic situation. It is calculated using factor analysis technique. This technique enables to summarize concomitant movements of variables that display high correlations with each other . The index describes here the common factor of 8 balances of opinion: past and future general economic situation in France, past and future personal financial situation, unemployment, timeliness to make major purchases, current savings capacity (balance named until 2010 « current financial situation ») and expected savings capacity (formerly named « savings capacity »).

Calculation method - Around 2000 households are surveyed each month by telephone. Surveys occur during the first three weeks of each month. The estimate of August that appears on the graphs comes from the linear interpolation of data resulted from July and September surveys.

Answers to this survey were collected between 29th June and 18th July 2013.

For each question asked, a balance of opinion is calculated as the difference between the percentages of positive and negative answers. Since the level of these balances is not directly significant, comments above only lean on their changes and their distance to long-term average.

Seasonal coefficients are calculated again each month, hence the slight revision of seasonal adjusted balances history for each publication.

- Further data (historical data, methodology, connected web pages ...) are available on the HTML page of this indicator : <http://insee.fr/en/themes/info-rapide.asp?id=20>
- Historical data are available on the BDM : [G389](#)
- Press contact : bureau-de-presse@insee.fr

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