

Informations *Rapides*

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■ Quarterly business survey in the building crafts sector - April 2013

In April 2013, the economic climate stays deteriorated in the building crafts sector

Activity is deteriorating

In April 2013, craftsmen are more numerous than in January to indicate a decrease of their activity in the recent period. The corresponding balance of opinion stays significantly below its long-term average. According to them, the activity would go on decreasing in the next three months.

The general business outlook, which translates the craftsmen's opinion on the overall change of the sector, decrease slightly and the corresponding balance of opinion remains sharply below its long-term average.

Decreasing employment

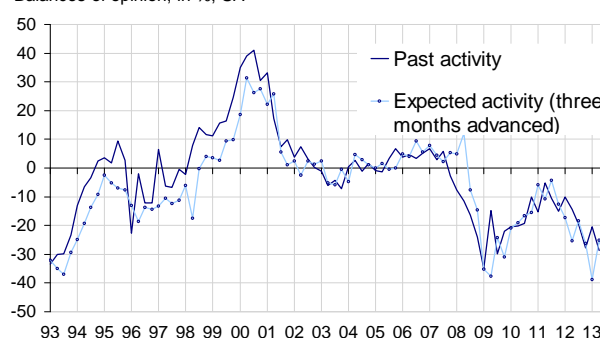
According to the craftsmen, the workforce size declined last quarter: the corresponding balance of opinion stays below its long-term average. The employment contraction would continue in the next quarter.

Recruiting problems are almost stable

Recruiting problems concerned almost one firm out of three. This proportion remains inferior to its long-term average. The rate of businesses training apprentices remains stable at 41 %.

Activity tendency in the building crafts sector

Balances of opinion, in %, SA



Building crafts sector economic outlook

Balances of opinion, in %, SA

	Mean*	July 12	Oct. 12	Jan. 13	April 13
Past activity	-4	-19	-28	-21	-29
Expected activity	-7	-26	-39	-25	-33
General business outlook	-19	-47	-57	-51	-54
Past employment	-3	-7	-9	-8	-9
Expected employment	-3	-10	-12	-15	-16
Recruiting problems (in %)	43	36	34	30	31
Apprentice training (in %)	38	45	44	41	41

* Mean since October 1990.

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=59>
- Historical data are available on the BDM : [G1269](#), [G1271](#).
- Press contact: bureau-de-presse@insee.fr

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