

# Informations *Rapides*

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Principaux indicateurs



## ■ Monthly business survey in the building industry – August 2013

### The economic climate stays unfavourable in building industry in August 2013

According to the business managers surveyed in August 2013, the situation stays unfavourable in building industry: the composite indicator stays stable and below its long-term average. The turning-point indicator is in the unfavourable zone.

#### Activity remains deteriorated

The business managers consider that their activity remains deteriorated in the recent period. The business managers stay pessimistic about their activity in the next months.

#### Decreasing employment

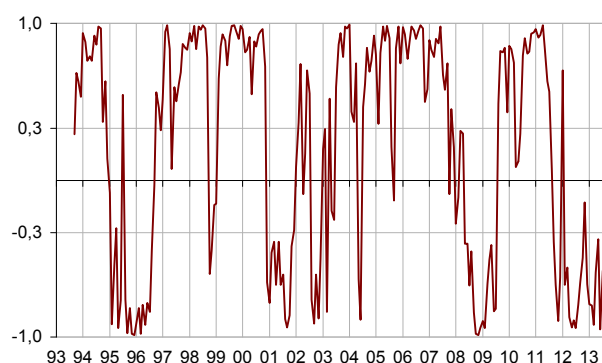
Employment in the building industry is grim: the balances of opinion corresponding to past employment and expected employment stay significantly below their long-term average.

#### Composite indicator

Standardized with mean equal to 100 and a standard deviation equal to 10



#### Turning-point indicator



Lecture : close to 1 (respectively -1), it indicates a favorable climate (respectively unfavorable).

#### Building industry economic outlook

Balances of opinion, in %, SA

	Mean*	May 13	June 13	July 13	Aug. 13
Composite indicator	100	93	91	91	91
Past activity	-2	-24	-27	-28	-20
Expected activity	-5	-21	-26	-25	-23
Gen. business outlook	-17			-47	
Past employment	-3	-15	-19	-21	-22
Expected employment	-2	-19	-19	-18	-19
Opinion on order books	-20	-46	-48	-48	-50
Order books (in month)	5,2	7,1	7,0	7,0	7,1
Productive capacity utilisation rate	89,0	85,9	86,0	86,2	86,2
Obstacles to production increase (in %)	33	21	21	22	23
- Because of workforce shortage (in %)	15,7	5,1	5,0	4,9	5,3
Recruiting problems (in %)	60			47	
Expected prices	-12	-38	-40	-43	-33
Cash-flow position	-9			-27	
Repayment period	28			47	

\* Mean since September 1993.

### **Order books are again considered significantly lower than normal**

In August, business managers are slightly more numerous than in June to consider their order books lower than normal. The corresponding balance of opinion is in a level inferior to its long-term average.

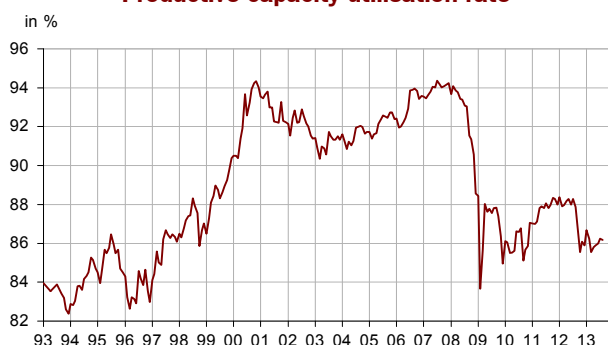
### **Productive capacity underused again**

The productive capacity utilisation rate stabilize and stays below its long-term average. At the same time, almost one business manager out of four declare having difficulties to increase his activity.

### **Prices not very dynamic**

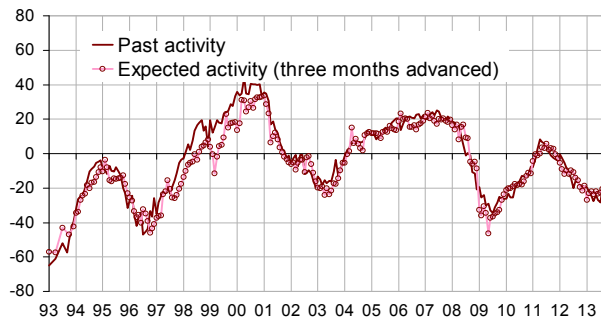
In August, business managers are less numerous than in July to indicate price downturns. The corresponding balance of opinion remains sharply inferior to its long-term average.

### **Productive capacity utilisation rate**



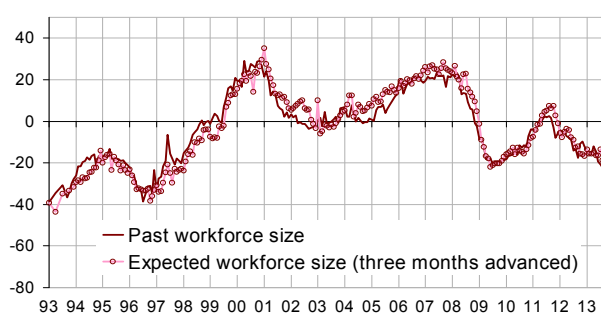
### **Activity tendency in the building industry**

Balances of opinion, in %, SA



### **Workforce size tendency in the building industry**

Balances of opinion, in %, SA



### **Order books**

Balance of opinion, in %, SA



#### **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=56>
- Historical data are available on the BDM: [G1273](#), [G1276](#), [G1274](#).
- Press contact: [bureau-de-presse@insee.fr](mailto:bureau-de-presse@insee.fr)

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