# Informations Rapides 19 décembre 2014 - n° 294



Monthly business survey in services - December 2014

### In December 2014, the business climate stagnates in services

#### All services

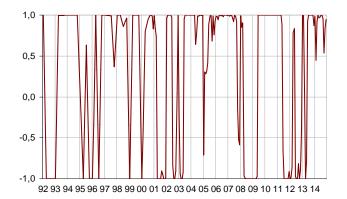
According to business managers, the economic situation in services is stable in December 2014. The business climate composite indicator stands at 93 for the third consecutive month, still below its long-term average (100). The turning point indicator still indicates a favorable dynamic.

The balance on the general outlook, which relates the assessment of business leaders over their whole sector, remains low.

**Composite indicator** 



#### **Turning point indicator**



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

The balances of opinion on past and expected activity have decreased slightly and stand below their longterm average. Business leaders' expectations on demand remain pessimistic.

The balance of opinion on past employment has declined moderately whereas the balance on expected employment has recovered. These balances stand below their long-term average.

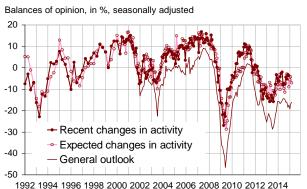
#### **Economic outlook in the services sector**

Balances of opinion, in %, seasonally adjusted

		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Average*	14	14	14	14
Composite indicator	100	92	93	93	93
General outlook	-8	-17	-19	-17	-16
Past activity	2	-4	-5	-3	-4 -7
Expected activity	2	-9	-6	-4	-7
Expected demand	-1	-7	-7	-9	-8
Business situation	-3	-12	-8	-6	-9
Past selling prices	-3	-10	-9	-8	-11
Expected selling prices	-2	-10	-10	-10	-13
Past employment	3	-1	4	-2	-4
except temporary					
work agencies	1	0	0	0	-3
Expected employment	2	0	0	-1	1
except temporary					
work agencies	-1	-3	-5	-5	-3
Investments					
Past investments	1	3	-1	-1	-6
Expected investments	1	-1	-1	-2	1

\* Average of the balances of opinion since 1988 Source: Insee

#### **Activity**



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#### Road transport

In road freight and mail activities, the balances of opinion on past activity and expected demand have gone down significantly. They stand below their long-term average. Business leaders' expectations on activity are also more pessimistic than in November. However, the balances of opinion on past and expected employment have gone up and stand above their long-term average.

### Accommodation and food service activities

In accommodation and food service activities, the balance of opinion on past activity has declined and comes back to its long-term average. Business leaders' expectations on activity and demand over the next few months are quasi stable. The corresponding balances remain below their long-term average. The balances of opinion on employment have recovered.

#### Information and communication

In information and communication, the balance of opinion on past activity has recovered sharply and comes closer to its long-term average. Nevertheless, business managers are more pessimistic than in November on expected activity and their prospects on demand remain deteriorated.

#### Real estate

In real estate, the balances of opinion on past and expected activity are quasi stable and stand close to their long-term average. More business managers than in November anticipate an increase in demand.

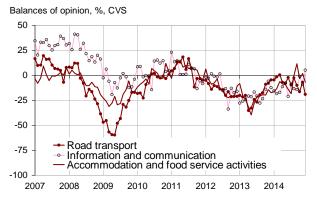
## Professional, scientific and technical activities

In professional, scientific and technical activities, the balances of opinion and past activity, expected activity and expected demand are quasi stable and below their long-term average.

### Administrative and support service activities

In administrative and support service activities, the balance of opinion on past activity has declined. The balances on expected activity and expected demand have increased slightly but they stay below their long-term average.

#### **Past activity**



#### **Detailed data**

Balances of opinion, in %, seasonally adjusted

14	-19 -11 -17 -3 -3 -7 -9 -13 -2
(H) Road transport         -8         -10         -16         -7         -7           Expected activity         -10         -8         -10         -8         -           Expected demand         -13         -13         -10         -9         -           Past employment         -8         -8         -16         -8           Expected employment         -11         -1         -9         -10           (I) Accommodation and food service activities         -7         12         -3         2	-11 -17 -3 -3 -7 -9 -13
Past activity	-11 -17 -3 -3 -7 -9 -13
Expected demand	-17 -3 -3 -7 -9 -13
Past employment	-3 -3 -7 -9 -13
Expected employment -11 -1 -9 -10  (I) Accommodation and food service activities  Past activity -7 12 -3 2	-3 -7 -9 -13
(I) Accommodation and food service activities Past activity  -7 12 -3 2	-7 -9 -13
and food service activities Past activity -7 12 -3 2	–9 -13
activities     Past activity   -7     12   -3     2	–9 -13
Past activity	–9 -13
	–9 -13
Francisco 40 40 0	-13
Expected activity -7 -19 -10 -9	
	-2
Past employment -4 13 7 -5	
1 1 1	-12
(J) Information and	
communication	_
Past activity 9 -14 -1 -9	5
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	-15
Expected demand 11 -11 -5 -8	-8
Past employment 6 -12 -9 -4	-2
Expected employment 11 1 3 5	2
(L) Real estate	
activities	0
Past activity	8 5
	-1
Expected demand	0
Expected employment 2 10 5 1	-2
(M) Professional,	
scientific and	
technical activities	
Past activity	-8
Expected activity -2 -14 -7 -8	<b>-9</b>
	-14
Past employment 1 -3 0 1	2
Expected employment 0 -5 -3 -7	<u>-4</u>
(N) Administrative	
and support service	
activities	
Past activity 6 -2 -4 -3 -	-10
Expected activity 5 2 -1 -1	1
Expected demand 3 -2 -3 -4	2 –2
Past employment 8 -1 12 1	-2
Expected employment 6 3 6 11	9

<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 "increase" responses and the percentage of "decrease" responses.

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