

Informations Rapides

■ Monthly business survey in services – March 2015

In March 2015, the business climate is virtually stable in services

- All services

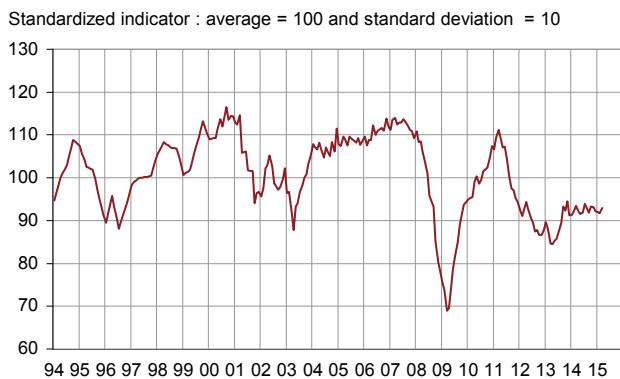
According to business managers, the business climate in services is virtually stable in March 2015. The business climate composite indicator increases by one point and stands at 93, still below its long-term average (100). The turning point indicator still indicates a favorable dynamic.

The balance on the general outlook, which relates the assessment of business leaders over their whole sector, is practically stable and remains far below its long-term average.

The balance of opinion on past activity has decreased again and deviates further from its long-term average. By contrast, business leaders' expectations on activity and demand are more optimistic than in February. Nevertheless, the corresponding balances remain clearly below their long-term average.

The balance of opinion on past employment has deteriorated whereas the balance on expected employment is steady. Both of the balances are below their long-term average.

Composite indicator



Economic outlook in the services sector

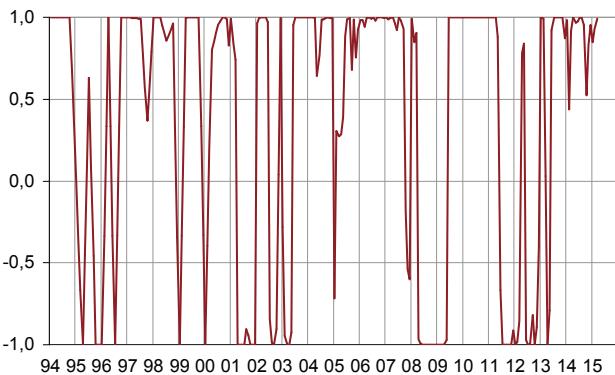
Balances of opinion, in %, seasonally adjusted

	Average*	Dec. 14	Jan. 15	Feb. 15	March 15
Composite indicator	100	92	92	92	93
General outlook	-8	-16	-17	-17	-16
Past activity	2	-4	-9	-10	-13
Expected activity	2	-8	-6	-7	-5
Expected demand	-1	-9	-8	-8	-6
Business situation	-3	-8	-11	-9	-9
Past selling prices	-4	-11	-10	-12	-12
Expected selling prices	-2	-12	-13	-9	-10
Past employment <i>except temporary work agencies</i>	2	-2	-6	-2	-7
Expected employment <i>except temporary work agencies</i>	1	-1	-5	-1	-6
Investments	2	0	-6	-2	-2
<i>Past investments</i>	-1	-3	-8	-5	-6
<i>Expected investments</i>	1	1	0	0	-3

* Average of the balances of opinion since 1988

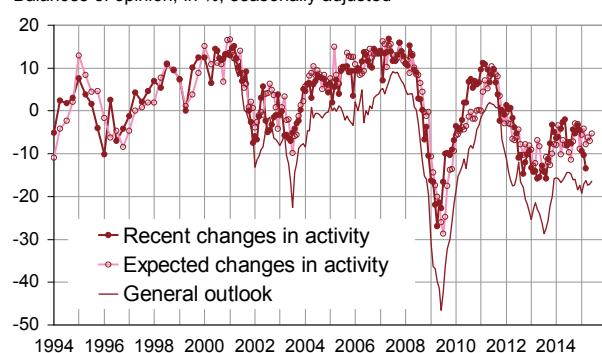
Source: Insee

Turning point indicator



Activity

Balances of opinion, in %, seasonally adjusted



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

• Road transport

In road freight and mail activities much more business leaders have indicated that their past activity has declined. The expectations on activity and demand remain deteriorated. The balance on past employment has gone down and stands below its long-term average.

• Accommodation and food service activities

In accommodation and food service activities, the balances of opinion on past and expected activity have deteriorated again. The expectations on demand have also fallen back but the corresponding balance stays above its long-term average.

• Information and communication

In information and communication, the balance of opinion on past activity has fallen again and deviates further from its long-term average. Nevertheless, business leader's expectations on activity are more optimistic than in February even if the corresponding balance remains below its long-term average. The balance on expected demand is practically stable.

• Real estate

In real estate, the balances of opinion on past activity, expected activity and expected demand have increased slightly and come closer to their long-term average. The balance on expected employment remains above its long-term level.

• Professional, scientific and technical activities

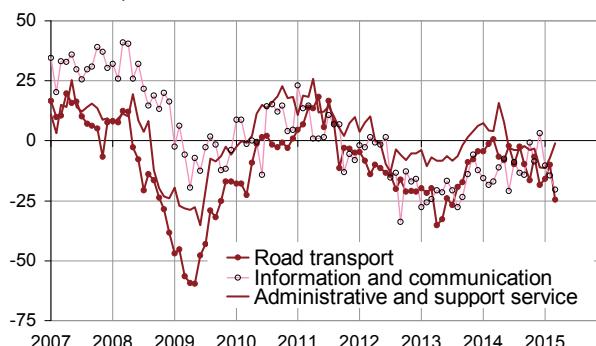
In professional, scientific and technical activities, business leaders stay more pessimistic than in average on past and expected activity and on expected demand. The balances on past and expected employment have gone down and become negative.

• Administrative and support service activities

In administrative and support service activities, business leaders are more optimistic on past activity, expected activity and expected demand. More of them consider that the past employment has decreased and that the employment will increase significantly in the next three months.

Past activity

Balances of opinion, %, CVS



Detailed data

Balances of opinion, in %, seasonally adjusted

A21	Average*	Dec. 14	Jan. 15	Feb. 15	March 15
(H) Road transport					
Past activity	-8	-18	-16	-10	-25
Expected activity	-10	-10	-20	-24	-21
Expected demand	-13	-17	-23	-24	-23
Past employment	-8	-4	-5	-4	-12
Expected employment	-11	-4	-15	-14	-16
(I) Accommodation and food service activities					
Past activity	-7	-10	-14	-17	-26
Expected activity	-7	-5	-9	-10	-13
Expected demand	-9	-11	-8	-1	-4
Past employment	-4	-2	-8	-9	-18
Expected employment	-6	-9	-13	-18	-13
(J) Information and communication					
Past activity	9	3	-10	-14	-20
Expected activity	10	-18	-5	-6	3
Expected demand	11	-10	4	5	4
Past employment	6	0	2	-2	-3
Expected employment	11	1	-5	1	0
(L) Real estate activities					
Past activity	7	8	7	0	1
Expected activity	7	3	3	1	5
Expected demand	1	-1	-4	-4	-1
Past employment	3	0	-1	3	0
Expected employment	2	-3	6	4	6
(M) Professional, scientific and technical activities					
Past activity	-1	-8	-9	-11	-12
Expected activity	-2	-12	-12	-11	-13
Expected demand	-6	-15	-14	-20	-17
Past employment	1	2	0	2	-5
Expected employment	0	-4	-1	1	-4
(N) Administrative and support service activities					
Past activity	6	-11	-11	-7	-1
Expected activity	5	3	-4	-3	3
Expected demand	3	1	-7	-10	-2
Past employment	8	-2	-8	0	-7
Expected employment	6	7	-3	1	7

* 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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