

Monthly business survey in services - September 2015

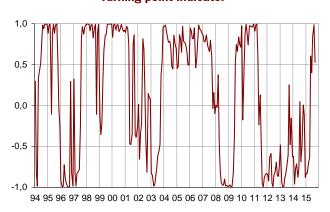
In September 2015, the business climate has gone down in services

All services

According to business managers, the business climate in services has gone down in September 2015. The business climate composite indicator has slipped from 99 to 97, below its long-term average (100). The turning point indicator remains in the favourable area.







Turning point indicator

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

The balance on the general outlook, which relates the assessment of business leaders over their whole sector, has recovered slightly.

The balance on past activity has improved slightly again. However, business leaders are more pessimistic than in August in their anticipations on activity and demand. The balance on expected activity has fallen below its long-term average.

The balance on past employment has fallen back, whereas the balance on expected employment is virtually stable. Both balances stand above their longterm average.

The balance on past investments is virtually stable, whereas the balance on expected investments has gone down. Both balances stay slightly above their long-term average.

Economic outlook in the services sector Balances of opinion, in %, seasonally adjusted June Julv Aug. Sept. Average 15 15 15 15 **Composite indicator** 97 100 95 99 97 General outlook -8 -12 -10 -11 -9 Past activity 2 -3 -8 -7 -5 Expected activity 2 -3 -4 2 -1 -4 -6 -3 -2 _4 -9 -11 -8 -5 -2 -6 -7 -8 -9 2 9 6 except temporary 2 work agencies 1 -2 2 2 2 2 10 11 1

Expected demand Past selling prices Expected selling prices Past employment Expected employment except temporary work agencies -1 -3 -3 0 2 Investments Past investments 3 1 2 3 4

Average of the balances of opinion since 1988, and since 2005 for the balances on investments

Source: INSEE, business survey in services

Expected investments

3

Road transport

In road freight, the balances on past and expected activity have improved. However, the balances on past and expected employment have declined. Nevertheless, all the balances are still above their longterm average.

• Accommodation and food service activities

In accommodation and food service activities, the balance on past activity has increased again. The balances on employment have gone up and stand well above their long-term average. However, the balances on expected activity and demand have fallen back significantly, the latter dropping below its long-term average.

Information and communication

In information and communication, the balance on past activity is stable. However, business leaders are far more pessimistic than in August in their expectations on activity and demand; the corresponding balances stand well below their long-term average. The balances on past and expected employment have gone down slightly.

Real estate

In real estate, the balance of opinion on past activity has recovered slightly. The balances on employment have improved. Nevertheless, expectations on activity and demand have deteriorated and the corresponding balances have fallen below their long-term average.

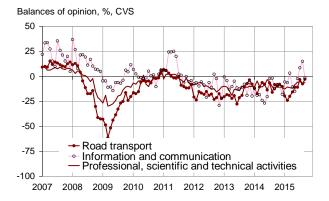
• Professional, scientific and technical activities

In professional, scientific and technical activities, the balances of opinion on activity and demand have increased slightly. They remain below their long-term average.

• Administrative and support service activities

In administrative and support service activities, the balances of opinion on past and expected activity have decreased slightly; the balance on expected activity stands slightly below its long-term average. The balance on past employment has shrunk, whereas the balance on expected employment is almost stable. These two balances remain above their long-term average.

Expected activity in services



Detailed data

Balances of opinion, in %, seasonally adjusted					
A21	Average*	June 15	July 15	Aug. 15	Sept. 15
(H) Road transport					
Past activity	-8	-3	-17	-6	-2
Expected activity	-10	-11	-3	-7	-3
Expected demand	-13	-12	-11	-5	-6
Past employment	-8	-8	-7	-3	-6
Expected employment	-11	-7	-3	-3	-9
(I) Accommodation and food service					
activities					
Past activity	-7	-1	-15	-4	-1
Expected activity	-7	-10	-15	-3	-6
Expected demand	-9	-15	-10	-7	-17
Past employment	-4	8	13	7	14
Expected employment	-5	-8	-12	0	9
(J) Information and					
communication	0	05		40	10
Past activity	8	-25	-11	-10 15	-10 -2
Expected activity Expected demand	10 11	-2 5	9 10	15	-2 -4
Past employment	6	-4	-8	-6	-4 -9
Expected employment	10	-4 -1	-0 -3	-0	-3
(L) Real estate	10		0	0	
activities					
Past activity	7	13	2	0	2
Expected activity	7	0	0	6	-1
Expected demand	1	-5	-6	3	-8
Past employment	3	-6	3	-2	2
Expected employment	2	-6	-4	1	6
(M) Professional,					
scientific and					
technical activities	4	-	•	-	
Past activity	-1	-7	-8	-5	-4
Expected activity	-2 -6	-6 -8	-5 -6	-7 -9	-6 -7
Expected demand Past employment	-0 1	-8 -2	0—	_9 3	-/
Expected employment	0	-2 -4	_2	-2	-2
(N) Administrative	0	-4	-2	-2	-2
and support service					
activities					
Past activity	5	-7	7	12	8
Expected activity	5	2	7	6	4
Expected demand	2	-3	1	3	4
Past employment	8	-2	22	23	12
Expected employment	6	10	17	25	24

* 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: <u>http://www.insee.fr/en/themes/indicateur.asp?id=62</u>

- Historical data are available on the BDM: G1244, G1245, G1246.
- Press contact: <u>bureau-de-presse@insee.fr</u>
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