

# Informations *Rapides*

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## ■ Quarterly business survey in public works – October 2014

### In October 2014, the economic climate worsens in public works

According to the business managers surveyed in October 2014, the economic climate has still deteriorated sharply in public works.

#### **In October 2014, the judgment about activity slumps**

The balances of opinion on past and expected activity have plummeted. They stay well below their long-term average and reach their lowest level since 1984.

More business managers than in July consider their order books lower than normal for this period of the year.

#### **Few obstacles to production**

Obstacles to production remain at a very low level: only 3 % of businesses indicate being hampered because of a workforce shortage.

#### **Increased pessimism about expected workforce**

In October 2014, more business managers than in July anticipate a fall in their staff size for the next quarter. The corresponding balance of opinion falls well below its long-term average.

#### Public works economic outlook

Balances of opinion, in %, SA

	Mean*	Jan. 14	April 14	July 14	Oct. 14
Past activity	-7	2	-7	-43	-58
- of which public-sector project	-12	-2	-19	-55	-70
- of which private-sector project	-11	-6	-9	-30	-39
Expected activity	-14	-27	-29	-47	-54
- of which public-sector project	-17	-29	-40	-55	-58
- of which private-sector project	-17	-18	-22	-36	-41
Opinion on order books	-25	-23	-37	-56	-63
Obstacles to production increase because of workforce shortage (in %)	15	6	5	4	3
Expected workforce	-16	-15	-32	-42	-49

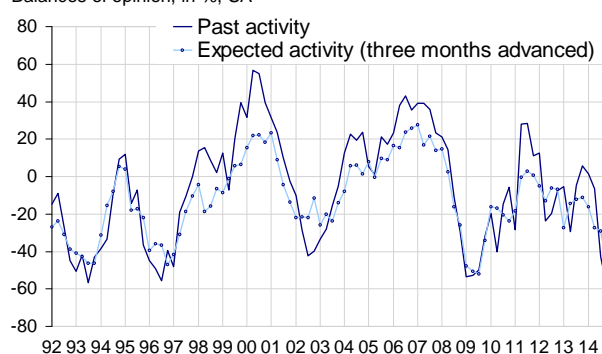
Note: the balances of opinion by customer may differ from the balance of the whole, because sometimes the firms don't distinguish public-sector project and private-sector project.

\* Mean since January 1981

Sources: FNTP and INSEE

#### Activity tendency in public works

Balances of opinion, in %, SA



#### For further information:

The balance of opinion is the difference between the percentage of responses «increase» and the percentage of responses «decrease».

- Additional information (long series, methodology, links, etc.) is available on the web page of this indicator: <http://www.insee.fr/en/themes/info-rapide.asp?id=58>
- Historical data are available on the BDM : [G1281](http://www.insee.fr/en/themes/info-rapide.asp?id=58).
- Press contact: [bureau-de-presse@insee.fr](mailto:bureau-de-presse@insee.fr)
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