

# Informations *Rapides*

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## ■ Quarterly business survey in the building crafts sector - October 2015

### In October 2015, the economic climate has improved in the building crafts sector

According to the business managers surveyed in October 2015, the economic outlook climate in the building crafts sector remains deteriorated.

#### **Renewed pessimism about the activity**

In October 2015, more building craftsmen than in July declare a fall in their activity in the recent period and, to a lesser extent, for the next three months. The corresponding balances of opinion are well below their long-term average. However, the craftsmen's opinion on the general business outlook in their sector has continued to improve; the corresponding balance remains far below its long-term average.

#### **Craftsmen are less pessimistic about workforce again**

Fewer craftsmen than in April declare a fall in their staff size in the recent period and for the next few months. The corresponding balances of opinion, which has increased since the beginning of the year, are close to their long-term average.

#### **Only a quarter of companies has recruiting problems**

Recruiting problems have concerned 27% of firms. This proportion has decreased since April and stands well below its long-term average (41%). The rate of businesses training apprentices has increased and has come back to its long-term average (38%).

#### **Building crafts sector economic outlook**

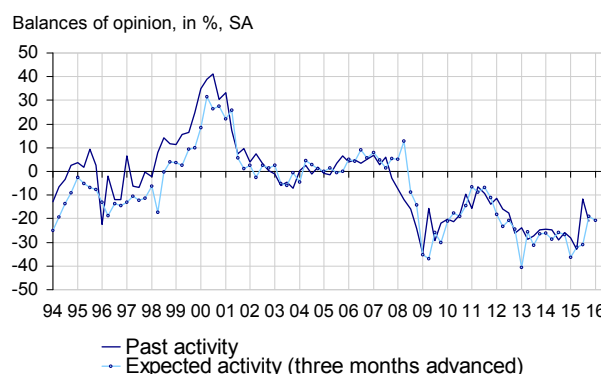
*Balances of opinion, in %, SA*

	Mean*	Jan. 15	April 15	July 15	Oct. 15
Past activity	-6	-28	-33	-12	-21
Expected activity	-9	-32	-31	-19	-21
General business outlook	-22	-50	-39	-33	-28
Past employment	-4	-24	-21	-9	-5
Expected employment	-4	-24	-23	-9	-6
Recruiting problems (in %)	41	38	40	29	27
Apprentice training (in %)	38	45	30	33	38

\* Mean since October 1990.

Source: French business survey, building crafts sector - INSEE

#### **Activity tendency in the building crafts sector**



#### **For further information:**

The balance of opinion is calculated as 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=59>
- Historical data are available on the BDM : [G1269](#), [G1271](#).
- Press contact: [bureau-de-presse@insee.fr](mailto:bureau-de-presse@insee.fr)
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