

Informations Rapides

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Main indicators



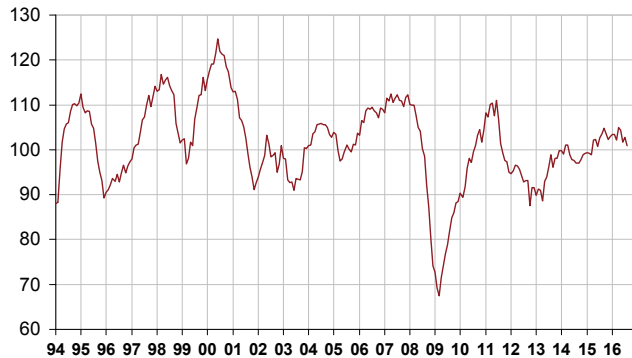
Monthly business survey in industry – August 2016

In August 2016, the business climate in manufacturing has fallen back

According to the business managers surveyed in August 2016, the business climate in industry is less favourable. The composite indicator has lost 2 points. At 101, it is slightly above its long-term average (100).

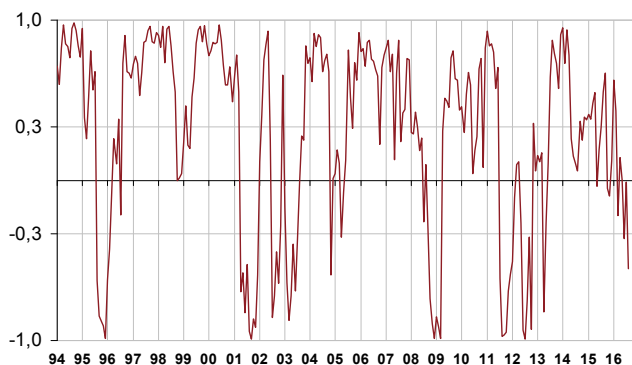
Business climate in industry - Composite indicator

Standardised indicator: average = 100 and standard deviation = 10



The turning-point indicator is now in the zone indicating an unfavourable economic outlook.

Turning-point indicator



How to read it: close to 1 (respectively -1), the indicator points to a favourable short-term economic situation (respectively unfavourable). Between -0.3 and +0.3: uncertainty area.

Deterioration of the opinion on activity

In August 2016, the balance of opinion on past activity has deteriorated (-6 points) and has returned to its long-term average. That on personal production, already below normal in July, has decreased further (-3 points).

Business managers in manufacturing are a few less optimistic than in July on general production prospects in the sector (-2 points). The corresponding balance has remained above its long-term average since February 2015.

In August, order books have deteriorated as a whole but export ones are stable; the corresponding balances of opinion remain above their mean.

Finally, fewer industrialists than in July consider that finished-goods inventories are above normal: the corresponding balance has decreased by 6 points and has returned below its long-term average.

Industrialists' opinion on manufacturing activity

Balance of opinion, in %

Manufacturing industry	Ave.*	May 16	June 16	July 16	Aug. 16
Composite indicator	100	104	102	103	101
Past activity	4	13	-1	10	4
Finished-goods inventory	13	11	14	16	10
Global order books	-18	-13	-13	-12	-15
Export order books	-14	-8	-9	-9	-9
Personal production expectations	5	7	9	2	-1
General production expectations	-9	5	1	2	0

* Long-term average since 1976.

Source: INSEE - Monthly business tendency survey

The downturn in the business climate in the industry stems mainly from the manufacture of food products and beverages. In the manufacture of transport equipment and in “other manufacturing”, the business climate has slightly worsened. In the manufacture of machinery and equipment goods, it holds steady.

In the manufacture of food products and beverages, the business climate has slumped

In the manufacture of food products and beverages, the business climate has decreased by 7 points in August and has returned to its long-term average. This deterioration is mainly due to the balances of opinion on past activity and on global order books that have fallen below normal.

In the manufacture of machinery and equipment goods, the business climate is stable

In the manufacture of machinery and equipment goods, the business climate is stable slightly below its long-term average. The balance on past activity has decreased but that on export order books has increased.

On a sub-sector level, the composite indicator, already below normal, has deteriorated in electrical equipment (-2 points). In computer, electronic and optical product industry, the business climate is stable at 104, above its mean level. In the machinery and equipment sector, the business climate has recovered (+2 points) but remains below normal.

The business climate in the manufacture of transport equipment remains above its mean

In the manufacture of transport equipment, the business climate has lost one point again albeit remaining above its long-term average. This slight decrease is due to the decline in the balances on past activity and on global order books.

The business climates have slightly weakened in both the manufacture of motor vehicle, trailers and semi trailers and in that of other transport equipment. However, both remain above their long-term average.

The business climate is just above normal in “other manufacturing”

In overall “other manufacturing”, the business climate has decreased by one point and is just above normal. The balances of opinion on past activity and on global order books have worsened, but that on production prospects has improved.

The business climate has deteriorated in the manufacture of wood-paper and has become slightly inferior to its long-term average. It is little changed in other sub-sectors, remaining close to normal, excepted in textile industries where it is significantly above its mean.

Business climates in a sector-based approach

Standardised indicators: average = 100 and standard deviation = 10

NA* : (A17) et [A38 et A64]	Weights** (%)	June 16	July 16	Aug. 16
(C1) Man. of food products and beverages	21	104	107	100
(C3) Machinery and equipment goods	11	98	99	99
[CJ] Computer, electronic and optical products	3	107	104	104
[CJ] Electrical equipment	3	92	98	96
[CK] Machinery and equipment	5	97	95	97
(C4) Man. of transport equipment	15	106	105	104
[CL1] Motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers	7	106	106	104
[CL2] Other transport equipment	8	103	104	103
(C5) Other manufacturing	46	102	102	101
[CB] Textiles, clothing industries, leather and footwear industry	2	108	111	112
[CC] Wood, paper, printing	5	105	103	99
[CE] Chemicals and chemical products	9	97	100	100
[CG] Rubber and plastic products	7	103	102	100
[CH] Basic metals and fabricated metal products	11	104	102	101
[CM] Other manufacturing industries	9	97	101	100

* NA: aggregated classification, based on the French classification of activities NAF rév.2.

** Weights used to aggregate sub-sector's balances of opinion.

Source: INSEE - Monthly business tendency survey

For more information:

- Complementary data (long series) and metadata (methodology, weblinks, classification, etc.) are available on the web page of this index: <http://www.insee.fr/en/themes/indicateur.asp?id=11>
- Historical data are available on the BDM: [G1262](#), [G1263](#), [G1264](#), [G1265](#)
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