

Informations Rapides

Main indicators

Monthly business survey in services – July 2017

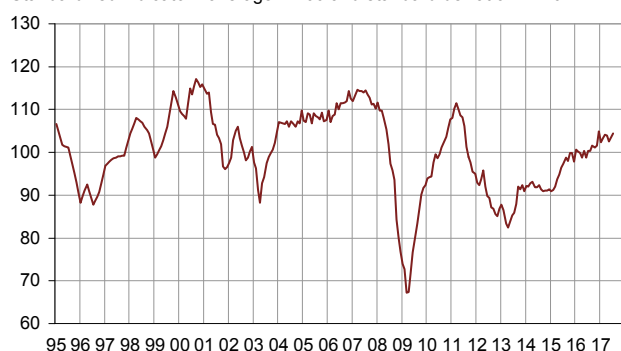
In July 2017, the business climate increases slightly in services

Warning : the seasonal coefficients have been updated in July 2017, as well as the parameters of the composite indicators. That has led to revisions in the set of results previously published in this survey may have changed.

According to business managers surveyed in July 2017, the business climate in services has improved slightly: the composite indicator which measures it has gained one point. At 104, it stands above its long-term average (100).

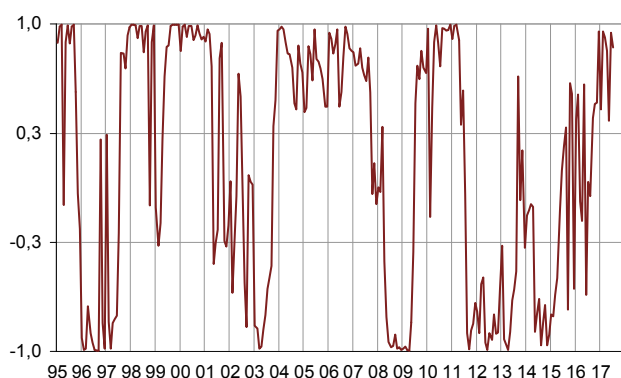
Business climate composite indicator

Standardized indicator : average = 100 and standard deviation = 10



The turning point indicator stays in the area indicating a favourable short-term economic situation.

Turning point indicator



Note: close to 1 (respectively -1), this indicator indicates a favourable short-term economic situation (respectively unfavourable). Between +0.3 and -0.3: uncertainty area.

Increasing business prospects

The balance of opinion on past activity has gone down just below its long-term average. However, for the coming months, more business leaders than in June anticipate an increase in activity, for their

own firm as well as for their whole sector. The corresponding balances have gone up and stand above their long-term average.

The balances on past and expected operating balance have increased and stand slightly above their long-term average.

The balance on past employment has decreased, whereas that on expected employment is virtually stable. Both balances stand clearly above their long-term average.

Economic outlook in the services sector

Balances of opinion, in %, seasonally adjusted

	Average *	April 17	May 17	June 17	July 17
Composite indicator	100	104	102	103	104
General outlook	-8	-1	0	0	2
Past activity	2	5	1	2	0
Expected activity	2	1	0	1	5
Expected demand	-1	2	-2	1	1
Past selling prices	-4	-6	-6	-5	-9
Expected selling prices	-3	-5	-6	-4	-6
Past employment except temporary work agencies	3	13	13	14	10
Expected employment except temporary work agencies	1	4	4	6	4
Investments					
Past investments	2	9	8	4	4
Expected investments	1	1	8	4	4
Operating balance result					
Past result	-2	-3			-1
Expected result	-2	-3			-1
Cash position	-11	-10			-9
Difficulties of supply and demand					
difficulties of supply and demand	10	13			8
difficulties of supply only	22	24			29
difficulties of demand only	32	30			27
Difficulties in recruitment	28	29			32

* Average since 1989 for the composite indicator and since 1988 for the balances of opinion

Source: INSEE, business survey in services

The business climate indicator stands above its long-term average (100) in all services sub-sectors. It is particularly favourable in road transport (110), real estate (108) and professional, scientific and technical activities (106). However, it stands just at its average in accommodation and food service activities and in information and communication.

The business climate remains high in road transport

In road transport, the business climate is stable (110), clearly above its long-term average. The balances on past activity and employment and on general outlook have gone up. The balance on expected activity has declined but remains clearly above its long-term average.

The business climate has returned to its mean in accommodation and food service activities

In accommodation and food service activities, the business climate has lost three points and has come back to its long-term average (100). The balance on past activity has fallen back clearly below its long-term average. The balances on past employment and general outlook have gone down too. However, the balance on expected activity, on the rise, remains above its long-term average.

In information and communication, the business climate fluctuates slightly around its long-term average

In information and communication, the business climate has gained one point and has come back to its long-term average. The personal expectations on activity have improved markedly; the corresponding balance has returned just above its long term average. However, the balance on past activity has declined, deviating further from its long-term average. The balances on employment are almost unchanged, above their long-term average.

The real estate business climate has improved again

In real estate, the business climate has gained three points. At 108, it stands clearly above its long-term average. The balances on activity and general outlook have increased and stand even more above their long-term average.

The business climate has improved slightly in professional, scientific and technical activities

In professional, scientific and technical activities, the business climate has gained one point (106). The balance on expected activity has increased, returning above its long term average. The balances on employment have declined but remain above their long-term average.

In administrative and support service activities, the business climate is less favourable

In administrative and support service activities, the business climate has decreased by two points (to 103) but remains above its long term average. The balances on past activity and demand have gone down; that on expected activity has returned below its mean.

The balance on past employment has edged down, while remaining far above its long-term average; that on expected employment has bounced back.

Business climate composite indicator and balances of opinion by sub-sector in services

Balances of opinion, in %, seasonally adjusted

Aggregated classification (NA 2008) at level A21	Mean *	April 17	May 17	June 17	July 17
Road transport (8%)					
Composite indicator	100	106	108	110	110
Past activity	-8	2	-11	2	7
Expected activity	-9	-4	4	6	3
Expected demand	-12	-2	0	6	6
Past employment	-7	6	8	5	8
Expected employment	-9	1	7	5	4
General outlook	-22	-9	1	-2	4
Accommodation and food service activities (11%)					
Composite indicator	100	108	102	103	100
Past activity	-7	-6	-8	-6	-19
Expected activity	-7	-4	-2	-3	1
Expected demand	-10	4	-8	-10	-9
Past employment	-4	-4	-1	-4	-12
Expected employment	-6	-4	-8	-7	-7
General outlook	-14	-5	-15	-6	-15
Information and communication (24%)					
Composite indicator	100	100	99	99	100
Past activity	8	0	-3	-5	-10
Expected activity	9	-3	-9	-3	10
Expected demand	10	-2	-5	1	0
Past employment	6	9	5	10	11
Expected employment	10	14	15	11	12
General outlook	0	-1	2	3	4
Real estate activities (13%)					
Composite indicator	100	103	103	105	108
Past activity	7	10	8	12	16
Expected activity	8	8	10	10	12
Expected demand	1	4	2	5	6
Past employment	3	6	4	5	7
Expected employment	2	7	5	1	0
General outlook	-2	2	6	6	8
Professional, scientific and technical activities (24%)					
Composite indicator	100	105	103	105	106
Past activity	-1	4	4	5	6
Expected activity	-2	-2	-3	-3	2
Expected demand	-6	1	-2	-3	1
Past employment	1	6	7	12	6
Expected employment	0	8	9	13	6
General outlook	-9	-2	-5	-1	-2
Administrative and support service activities (18%)					
Composite indicator	100	107	107	105	103
Past activity	6	15	11	13	8
Expected activity	5	11	11	8	1
Expected demand	3	9	7	8	3
Past employment	9	30	30	29	25
Expected employment	7	25	20	5	10
General outlook	-5	5	6	2	6

The figures in parentheses indicate the weights used to aggregate the sub-sector balances of opinion.

*Composite indicators: average since 1989 (2006 for road transport); balances of opinion : average since 1988 (2006 for road transport)

Source: INSEE, monthly business survey in services.

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: <https://www.insee.fr/en/statistiques?debut=0&theme=30&conjoncture=16>
- Historical data are available on the BDM: <https://www.insee.fr/en/statistiques/series/102391902>
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