

Informations *Rapides*

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Main indicators



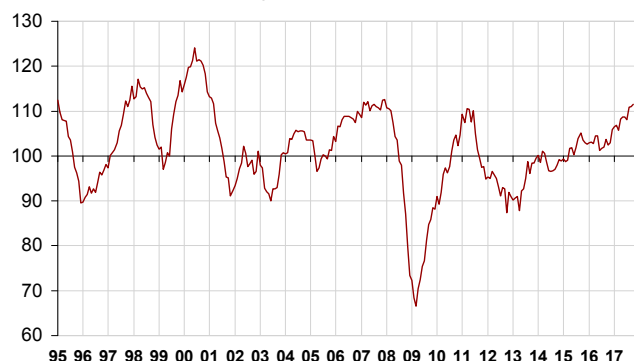
■ Monthly business survey in industry – October 2017

In October 2017, the business climate in manufacturing stabilises at its highest level since December 2007

According to the business managers surveyed in October 2017, the business climate in industry remains stable. At 111, it stands at its highest level since December 2007.

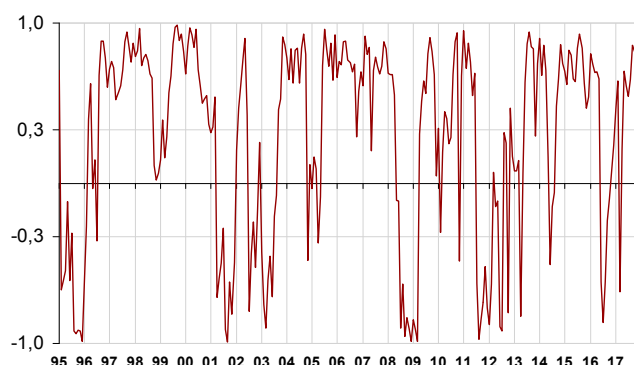
Business climate in industry - Composite indicator

Standardised indicator: average = 100 and standard deviation = 10



The turning-point indicator remains in the zone indicating a further favourable economic outlook.

Turning-point indicator



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

Manufacturers are very upbeat about general production prospects, somewhat less about their own perspectives

The balance of opinion on past activity, already significantly above its average in September, is back on track. The one about their personal production expectations has dipped but remains well above its long-run average.

Manufacturers are increasingly optimistic about general production prospects for the sector. The corresponding balance has continued to rise and reached its highest level since October 2000.

The balances on overall and export order books are virtually stable in October, standing at their highest point since March 2008.

Lastly, more industrialists than in September consider that their finished-goods inventories are above normal: the corresponding balance nevertheless remains well below its long-term mean.

Industrialists' opinion on manufacturing activity

Balance of opinion, in %

Manufacturing industry	Ave.*	July 17	Aug. 17	Sept. 17	Oct. 17
Composite indicator	100	108	111	111	111
Past activity	5	9	21	12	16
Finished-goods inventory	13	5	4	3	6
Overall order books	-18	-3	-3	0	0
Export order books	-14	-1	0	1	2
Personal production expectations	5	11	14	20	17
General production expectations	-8	21	20	23	31

* Long-term average since 1976.

Source: INSEE - Monthly business tendency survey in industry

Revisions

The business climate in manufacturing in September 2017 has been slightly raised since its first estimation last month, from 110 to 111, mainly due to the inclusion of late responses from businesses.

In the food and beverage production industry, the business climate has picked up

The business climate in the manufacture of food products and beverages has increased by four points in October, after a decline in the previous month. At 111 it is well above its long-term average. This upturn mainly comes from a sharp rise in the balance of opinion on past activity, and to a lesser extent, on global order books.

The business climate has further improved in the manufacture of machinery and equipment goods

In the overall manufacture of machinery and equipment goods, the business climate has continued to expand significantly above its mean. This improvement is mainly due to a rebound in the balance on export orders.

The business climate has improved in electrical equipment and in machinery and equipment. It remains steady in the computer, electronic and optical product industry.

The business climate remains stable in the transport equipment manufacture

In the transport equipment manufacture, the business climate holds steady at 109 for the fourth month in a row, well above its long-term average. The decrease in the balances of opinion on order books has been offset by the rise in that on past activity, due to motor vehicles.

The business climate has improved in the manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers while it has inched down in other transport equipment.

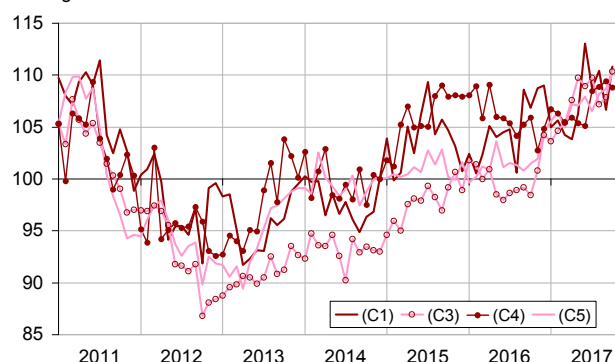
The business climate in "other manufacturing industries" reached a level unseen since the end of 2007

In overall "other manufacturing", the business climate has improved and reached its highest level since the end of 2007. This expansion has been driven by an increase in the balance of opinion on past activity and on global and export order books.

In particular, the business climate indicator has brightened in "other manufacturing industries", basic metals and clothing-textiles. It is stable in rubber and plastic products and virtually stable in chemicals. In contrast it has edged down in wood-paper, returning to its August level.

Business climates in a sector-based approach

Average = 100 and standard deviation = 10 since 1990



Legend: (C1): Manufacture of food products and beverages - (C3): Machinery and equipment goods - (C4): Manufacture of transport equipment - (C5): Other manufacturing

Business climates in a sector-based approach

Average = 100 and standard deviation = 10 since 1990

NA* : (A17) et [A38 et A64]	Weights** (%)	Aug. 17	Sept. 17	Oct. 17
(C1) Man. of food products and beverages	22	110	107	111
(C3) Machinery and equipment goods	11	107	108	110
[CI] Computer, electronic and optical products	3	112	112	112
[CJ] Electrical equipment	3	108	103	107
[CK] Machinery and equipment	5	103	106	109
(C4) Man. of transport equipment	15	109	109	109
[CL1] Motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers	7	111	111	112
[CL2] Other transport equipment	8	104	105	104
(C5) Other manufacturing	46	108	109	111
[CB] Textiles, clothing industries, leather and footwear industry	2	103	105	107
[CC] Wood, paper, printing	5	111	113	111
[CE] Chemicals and chemical products	9	109	109	108
[CG] Rubber and plastic products	7	112	114	114
[CH] Basic metals and fabricated metal products	11	105	106	109
[CM] Other manufacturing industries	9	104	104	110

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

** Weights used to aggregate sub-sectors balances of opinion.

Source: INSEE - Monthly business tendency survey in industry

For more information:

- Complementary data (long series) and metadata (methodology, weblinks, classification, etc.) are available on the web page of this index: <https://www.insee.fr/en/statistiques?debut=0&theme=30&conjoncture=4>
- Historical data are available on the BDM: <https://www.insee.fr/en/statistiques/series/102393833>
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