Informations Rapides
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Conjoncture
Main indicators

French business climate and turning point indicators – July 2018

In July 2018, the French business climate remains stable and the employment climate is slightly less favourable

The French business climate remains stable above its mean

In July 2018, the business climate is stable and remains at a relatively high level. The composite indicator, compiled from the answers of business managers in the main sectors, stands at 106, for the third month in a row, above its long-term mean. Compared to June, the business climate is stable in building construction and in services. It has gained one point in retail trade and has lost one in manufacturing industry. Compared to May, it has lost three points in wholesale trade. It remains well above its long-term mean in all the sectors.

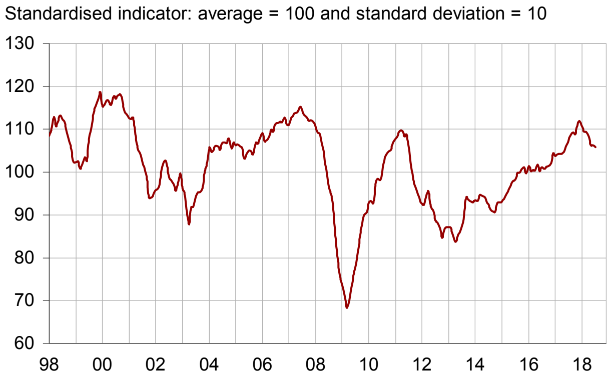
The employment climate is slightly less favourable

In July 2018, the employment climate has weakened. The associated composite indicator has lost two points: it stands at 108, moving back to its level of May, well above its long-term average. This decrease mainly comes from a decline in the balance of opinion on past workforce size in services sector excluding temporary employment.

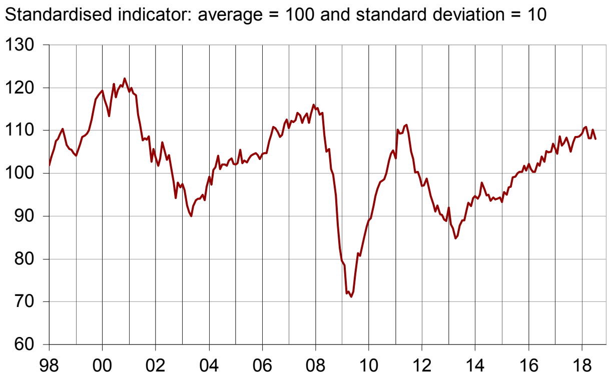
Revisions

Compared to its first estimate in June 2018, the composite indicator for the manufacturing industry has been lowered by one point. This revision results from the integration of late answers from businesses. As for the other indicators, they are unchanged.

French business climate composite indicator



French employment climate composite indicator



Business and employment climates

	March 18	April 18	May 18	June 18	July 18
Business climates					
France	**109**	**108**	**106**	**106**	**106**
Manufacturing	110	109	110	109	108
Building	107	108	108	109	109
Services	107	107	104	104	104
Retail trade	113	112	112	112	113
Wholesale trade	110	-	104	-	101
Employment climate					
Employment	**111**	**108**	**108**	**110**	**108**

Source: INSEE, Business tendency surveys

The turning point indicator points out a favourable short-term economic outlook

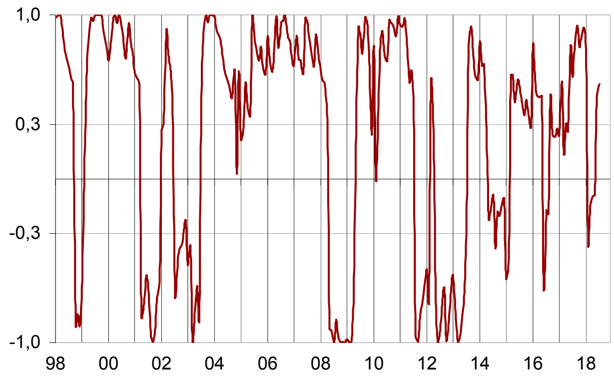
The turning point indicator for the French economy as a whole remains in the area indicating a favourable short-term economic outlook.

Turning point indicators

	March 18	April 18	May 18	June 18	July 18
France	–0.2	–0.1	–0.1	0.5	0.6
Manufacturing	–0.6	–0.5	–0.2	–0.1	0.1
Building	–0.3	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.5
Services	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.8	0.6
Wholesale trade	0.6	-	–0.8	-	–0.3

Source: INSEE. Business tendency surveys

Turning point indicator



Close to +1 (resp. –1), the indicator shows a favourable business climate (resp. unfavourable). The uncertainty area is between –0.3 and +0.3.

For further information

The business climate and turning point indicators summarise the information provided by the surveys in manufacturing, services, trade (retail and wholesale), and construction. The business climate is built from 26 balances of opinion from these surveys while the turning point indicator is built from 14 balances of opinion from surveys in manufacturing, services and construction. The employment indicator is based on the 10 balances of employment, past and expected, from the surveys in manufacturing, services, retail trade and construction.

The balances of opinion concerning employment in services that are used in the employment climate distinguish the services excluding temporary work employment sector from temporary work agencies. For the latter, the balances on past and expected workforce size are not weighted, unlike the other sectors.

- Additional information (historical data, methodology, links, etc.) are available on the web page of this indicator: https://www.insee.fr/en/statistiques?debut=0&theme=30&conjoncture=23
- Historical data are available on the BDM: https://www.insee.fr/en/statistiques/series/103047029
- Press contact: bureau-de-presse@insee.fr
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