

Informations Rapides

24 juillet 2018 - n° 188

Main indicators

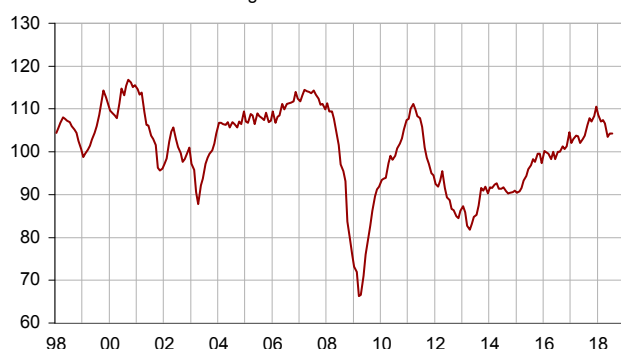
Monthly business survey in services – July 2018

In July 2018, the business climate remains stable in services

According to business managers surveyed in July 2018, the business climate remains stable in services. The composite indicator which measures it has stood at 104 since May 2018, above its long-term average (100).

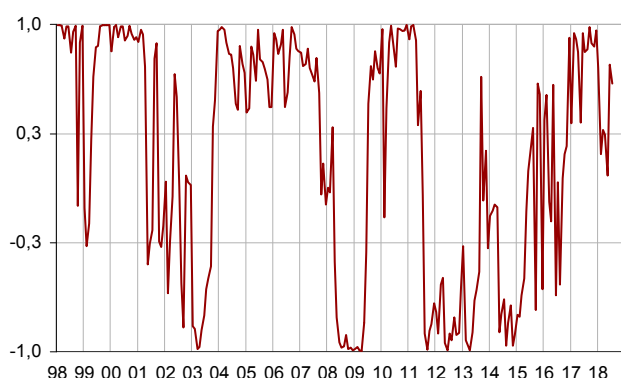
Business climate composite indicator

Standardized indicator: average = 100 and standard deviation = 10



The turning point indicator remains 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). The uncertainty area is between -0.3 and +0.3.

The balances of opinion on expected activity and demand on increase

The balances of opinion on expected activity and on expected demand have increased again whereas that on past activity has declined sharply. The balance on general outlook has bounced back slightly. These balances stand above their long-term average.

The balances on selling prices have weakened markedly and stand well below their average.

The balance on past employment has deteriorated, including temporary work agencies, and comes back to its average. That on expected employment is virtually stable and remains well above its average level.

The balance on past result has recovered whereas that on expected result has decreased. They stand both above their long-term average.

The balance on difficulties in recruitment has gone down but remains at a high level.

Economic outlook in the services sector

Balances of opinion, in %, seasonally adjusted

	Average *	April 18	May 18	June 18	July 18
Composite indicator	100	107	104	104	104
General outlook	-7	3	0	-2	-1
Past activity	2	8	1	6	3
Expected activity	2	5	1	3	4
Expected demand	0	4	2	3	5
Past selling prices	-4	0	-2	-1	-7
Expected selling prices	-3	-3	-3	-5	-7
Past employment except temporary work agencies	3	3	3	9	3
Expected employment except temporary work agencies	1	1	0	5	1
Expected employment except temporary work agencies	3	12	12	7	8
Investments					
Past investments	2	7	7	3	5
Expected investments	2	4	8	6	6
Operating balance result					
Past result	-2	1			3
Expected result	-2	2			0
Cash position	-11	-7			-6
Difficulties of supply and demand					
difficulties of supply and demand	10	8			6
difficulties of supply only	22	31			32
difficulties of demand only	32	23			23
Difficulties in recruitment	28	37			33

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

Source: Insee, business survey in services

The business climate is above its average in all sub-sectors except in real estate where it stands below and in information-communication where it has returned to it. It has improved in road transport and in accommodation and food service activities. It has weakened in information-communication, in real estate activities and in professional, scientific and technical activities. It remains steady in administrative and support service activities.

In road transport, the business climate has grown again

In road transport, the business climate has gained two points (114) and remains sharply above its average level. All the balances of opinion have gone up, particularly that on past activity. Moreover, they are all clearly above their long-term average.

The business climate has bounced back in accommodation and food service activities

In accommodation and food service activities, the business climate has increased by two points (109), well above its long-term average. The balances on past activity and on past employment have fallen whereas that on expected activity and on expected employment have recovered clearly. The balances on expected activity and general outlook are markedly above their average.

In information and communication, the business climate has decreased slightly

In information and communication, the climate has weakened and reached its average (100). The balances on general outlook, on past activity, and on past employment have declined slightly. The balances on expected activity and on expected demand have increased again but remain below their average level.

The business climate remains deteriorated in real estate activities

In real estate activities, the business climate, sharply below its average, has lost two points (86) due to the decline of the balances on past activity, on expected demand and on employment. The balances on general outlook and expected activity have recovered but are still markedly below their average.

The business climate has decreased in professional, scientific and technical activities

In professional, scientific and technical activities, the business climate has lost two points. At 106, it stands however above its average level. All balances of opinion have worsened except that on expected demand. Nevertheless, all the balances remain above their average.

In administrative and support service activities, the business climate remains stable

The climate has been stable since May 2018 in administrative and support service activities. At 108, it remains well above its average. The balances on past activity and on past employment have weakened whereas that on general outlook, on expected demand and on expected activity have increased. Only the balance on past employment is below its average.

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 18	May 18	June 18	July 18
Road transport (8%)					
Composite indicator	100	110	110	112	114
Past activity	-6	14	5	5	16
Expected activity	-7	6	6	10	13
Expected demand	-10	8	9	16	17
Past employment	-5	-1	7	3	9
Expected employment	-8	2	5	0	5
General outlook	-20	6	7	1	5
Accommodation and food service activities (11%)					
Composite indicator	100	112	108	107	109
Past activity	-7	9	-3	-1	-11
Expected activity	-7	3	-1	0	7
Expected demand	-9	2	-1	-3	-1
Past employment	-4	-4	-4	2	-7
Expected employment	-5	-3	3	-5	1
General outlook	-13	-1	-6	-5	-3
Information and communication (24%)					
Composite indicator	100	102	100	101	100
Past activity	8	5	-10	6	3
Expected activity	9	5	1	6	7
Expected demand	10	4	-1	0	2
Past employment	6	18	12	9	7
Expected employment	11	13	13	13	14
General outlook	0	3	4	3	2
Real estate activities (13%)					
Composite indicator	100	86	89	88	86
Past activity	7	-1	5	6	1
Expected activity	7	-7	-6	-10	-8
Expected demand	2	0	3	5	4
Past employment	3	-3	2	2	-2
Expected employment	3	11	6	6	-1
General outlook	-3	-17	-16	-19	-15
Professional, scientific and technical activities (24%)					
Composite indicator	100	109	105	108	106
Past activity	-1	7	7	9	1
Expected activity	-2	2	0	5	3
Expected demand	-5	3	-1	-2	2
Past employment	1	10	4	13	7
Expected employment	1	11	12	10	6
General outlook	-9	4	-3	-1	-4
Administrative and support service activities (18%)					
Composite indicator	100	110	108	108	108
Past activity	6	14	11	19	13
Expected activity	5	17	10	8	10
Expected demand	3	13	11	13	14
Past employment	10	0	6	13	7
Expected employment	8	23	22	13	13
General outlook	-4	10	9	6	8

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

*Composite indicator: 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>
- Press contact: bureau-de-presse@insee.fr
-  Follow us on Twitter @InseeFr_News: https://twitter.com/InseeFr_News

Next publication: 23 August 2018 at 08:45 am