

Informations *Rapides*

25 juillet 2018 - n° 196



■ Quarterly business survey in the building crafts sector - July 2018

In July 2018, the economic climate has improved in the building crafts sector

Craftsmen are more optimistic about their past and expected activity

In July 2018, more building craftsmen than in April have indicated an increase in their past activity. The corresponding balance of opinion has bounced back and has returned to its level hit at the beginning of the year. Likewise, the balance on expected activity has recovered after falling in April. Both balances have exceeded more largely their long-term average.

However, building craftsmen are less optimistic than in April about the general business outlook in the building sector : the corresponding balance has decreased again while remaining well above its long-term average.

Craftsmen's opinion on employment has improved markedly

Many more craftsmen than in April 2018 plan to raise their staff size over the next few months. The corresponding balance has bounced back strongly and stands far above its long-term average. Also, more craftsmen have indicated an increase in their staff size over the last few months. The corresponding balance has bounced back and has exceeded its long-term average.

Recruitment problems have strengthened again

In July 2018, 51% of building craftsmen have experienced recruiting problems, a share ten points higher than its long-term average and the highest in ten years. At the same time, 37% of building craftsmen have indicated training apprentices, a share close to its long-term average.

Revisions

Data for April 2018 have been revised following a renewal of the survey sample.

Building crafts sector economic outlook

Balances of opinion, in %, SA

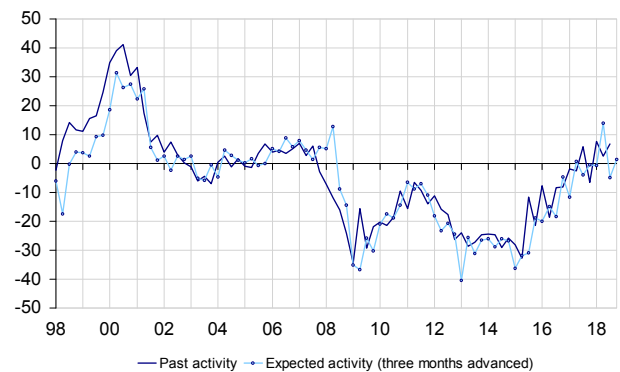
	Mean*	Oct. 17	Jan. 18	April 18	July 18
Past activity	-5	-6	8	3	7
Expected activity	-9	-1	14	-5	1
General business outlook	-20	5	11	8	3
Past employment	-4	3	-1	-4	0
Expected employment	-4	3	4	0	7
Recruiting problems (in %)	41	40	40	43	51
Apprentice training (in %)	38	40	39	38	37

* Mean since October 1990.

Source: French business survey, building crafts sector - INSEE

Activity tendency in the building crafts sector

Balances of opinion, in %, SA



For further information

The balance of opinion is calculated as the difference between the percentage of responses "increase" and the percentage of responses "decrease".

- 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=13>
- Historical data are available on the BDM : <https://www.insee.fr/en/statistiques/series/102874985>
- Press contact: bureau-de-presse@insee.fr
- Follow us on Twitter @InseeFr_News: https://twitter.com/InseeFr_News

Next publication: 26 October 2018 at 12:00