

Informations *Rapides*

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Main Indicators

■ French business climate and turning point indicators – November 2018

**In November 2018, the French business climate is stable
and the employment climate is slightly less favourable**

The business climate indicator is stable

In November 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 104, as in October, above its long-term mean (100). Compared to the previous survey, the business climate is stable in services and in wholesale trade. It has gained one point in manufacturing industry and in building construction, and two points in retail trade. The business climate remains above its long-term mean in all the sectors.

The employment climate has faltered but remains favourable

In October 2018, the employment climate is slightly less favourable. The associated composite indicator has lost two points. At 105, it has returned to its level of the beginning of 2017, while remaining firmly above its long-term average. Mostly, this decrease comes from the decline in the balance of opinion on expected employment in the services sector excluding temporary employment.

Revisions

Compared to its first estimate, the composite indicator for the business climate in services in October 2018 has been lowered by two points. This revision results from the integration of late answers from businesses. Moreover, for September 2018, the composite indicator for the business climate in retail trade has been lowered by one point and the composite indicator for the overall employment climate has been raised by one point, after standardisation and rounding of these indicators.

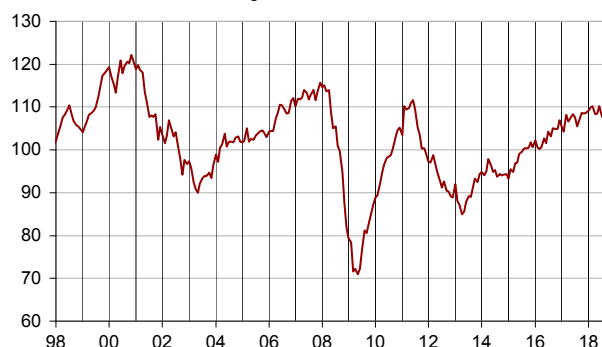
French business climate composite indicator

Standardised indicator: average = 100 and standard deviation = 10



French employment climate composite indicator

Standardised indicator: average = 100 and standard deviation = 10



Business and employment climates

	July 18	Aug. 18	Sept. 18	Oct. 18	Nov. 18
Business climates					
France	106	105	106	104	104
Manufacturing	109	110	107	104	105
Building	109	108	108	108	109
Services	105	104	105	103	103
Retail trade	114	111	108	105	107
Wholesale trade	102	-	104	-	104
Employment climate					
Employment	108	107	108	107	105

Source: INSEE, Business tendency surveys

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

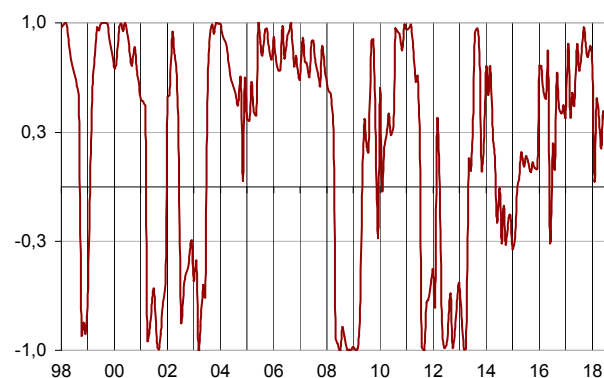
The turning point indicator for the French economy as a whole remains in the area indicating a favourable short-term economic outlook.

Turning point indicators

	July 18	Aug. 18	Sept. 18	Oct. 18	Nov. 18
France	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.4	0.5
Manufacturing	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.5
Building	-0.5	-0.5	0.0	0.1	0.5
Services	0.4	-0.3	0.0	-0.9	-0.7
Wholesale trade	0.1	-	-0.2	-	0.7

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>
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Next issue: 21 November 2018 at 08:45 am