

Informations *Rapides*

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Main Indicators

French business climate and turning point indicators – October 2018

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

The business climate indicator has lost one point

In October 2018, the business climate has deteriorated a little, while remaining at a high level. The composite indicator, compiled from the answers of business managers in the main sectors, has lost one point and stands at 104, above its long-term mean (100). Compared to September, the business climate has lost four points in retail trade and three points in manufacturing industry. It is stable in building construction and in services. The business climate remains above its long-term mean in all the sectors.

The employment climate is stable at a high level

In October 2018, the employment climate is stable. The associated composite indicator stands at 107 for the third month in a row, well above its long-term average. Mostly, the rise in the balances of opinion on employment in the services sector has offset decreases in the other considered sectors.

Revisions

Compared to their first estimate in September 2018, the composite indicator for the whole economy and the composite indicator for the employment climate have been lowered by one point. These revisions result from the integration of late answers from businesses. The other climate indicators are unchanged.

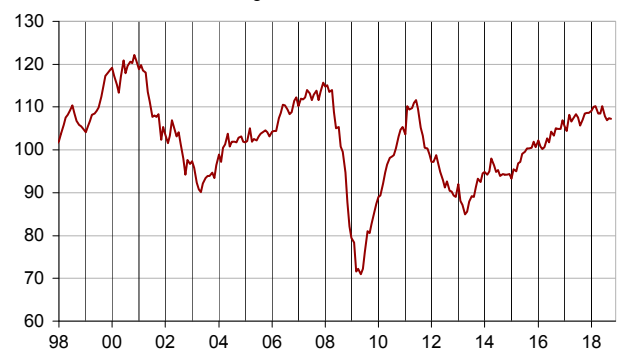
French business climate composite indicator

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

	June 18	July 18	Aug. 18	Sept. 18	Oct. 18
Business climates					
France	107	106	105	105	104
Manufacturing	110	109	110	107	104
Building	108	109	108	108	108
Services	105	105	104	105	105
Retail trade	112	114	111	109	105
Wholesale trade	-	102	-	104	-
Employment climate					
Employment	110	108	107	107	107

Source: INSEE, Business tendency surveys

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

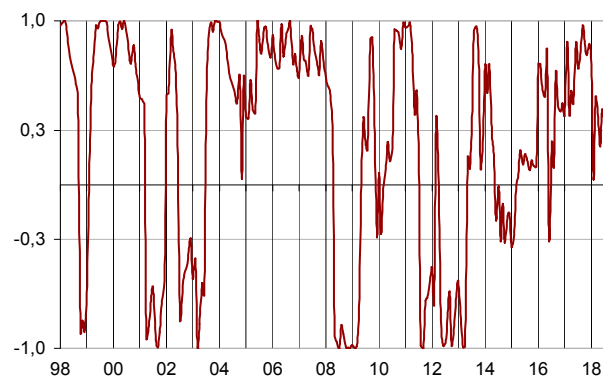
The turning point indicator for the French economy as a whole remains in the area indicating a favourable short-term economic outlook.

Turning point indicators

	June 18	July 18	Aug. 18	Sept. 18	Oct. 18
France	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.5
Manufacturing	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3
Building	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.5	0.5
Services	0.6	0.4	-0.3	0.0	0.0
Wholesale trade	-	0.1	-	-0.2	-

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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