

Investment Survey

October 2008

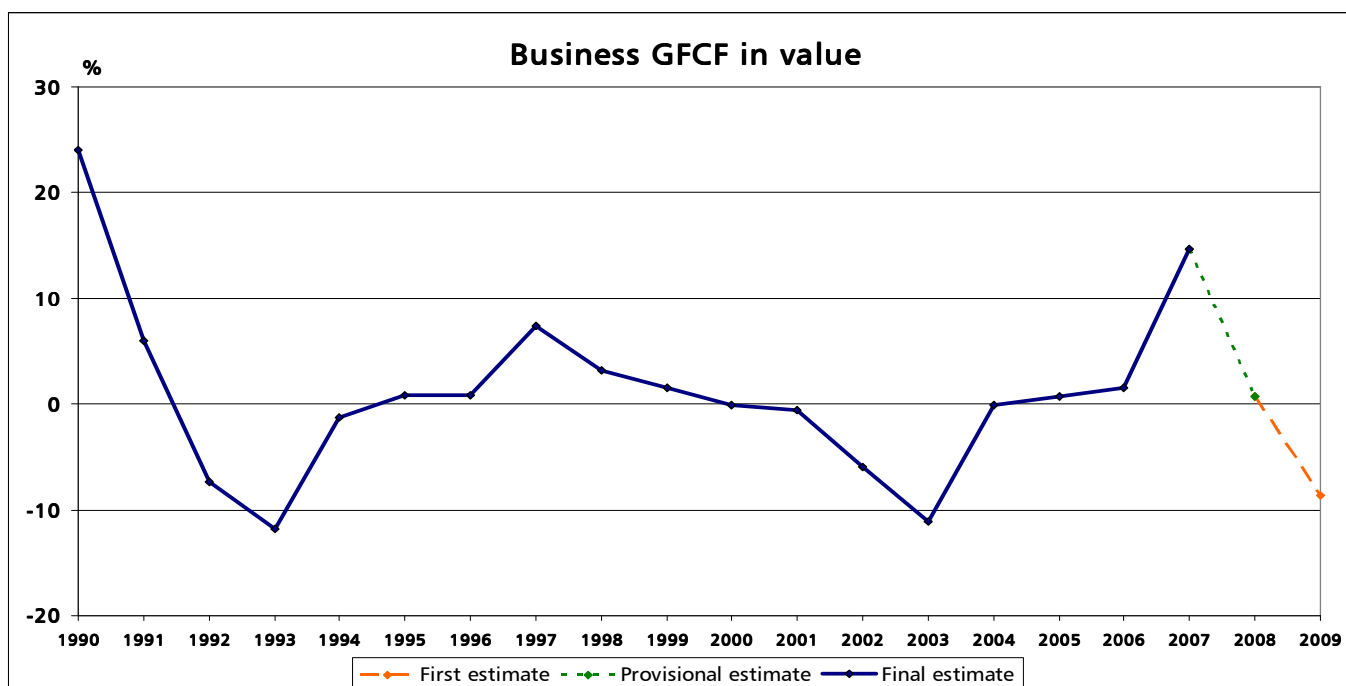
Perspectives of strong reduction in business investment for 2009. Investment for 2008 revised downward relatively to the perspectives revealed in the previous survey.

According to the results of the October 2008 Investment Survey (occurred between the 1st October 2008 and the 21st January 2009), the entrepreneurial investment might decrease 8.6% in 2009 in nominal terms. The same survey indicates a nominal growth of 0.7% for 2008, representing a strong decrease relatively to the perspectives revealed in the previous survey.

The results from the October 2008 Investment Survey (occurred between the 1st October 2008 and the 21st January 2009) revealed a strong downward revision of the investment growth for 2008, when compared with the information from the previous survey (occurred between the 1st April 2008 and the 30th June 2008). In fact, the values obtained in the present survey point to a nominal growth of the entrepreneurial Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF) of 0.7%, 10.3 percentage points (p.p.) less than the result for 2008 obtained in the April 2008 Survey. This strong revision might reflect the revaluation of the previously revealed investment expectations as the economic indications became more negative, mainly due to the worsening of the international economic situation in the last four months of the year. Notice that the growth of 0.7% for 2008 was only led by the largest enterprises' investments (from 250 workers on), that still registered high growth rates, although revised downward in relation to the previous survey results, since the smaller enterprises had already registered strong reductions of investment.

For 2009, the survey points to a nominal change rate of the enterprises' investment of -8.6%, when compared to 2008. Notice that this variation is the lowest since 2003, however this first estimate based on investment perspectives is not strictly comparable with the previous values of the series based on actual investments. Considering the first estimates series, the change rate of entrepreneurial investment obtained for 2009 is the most negative since the beginning of the series in 1990.

From 2008 to 2009, the change of the investment behaviour change reflects especially the investment of enterprises with more than 250 workers, which goes from an expressive growth in 2008 to a negative variation in 2009. The smaller enterprises registered negative variations on both years.



STRUCTURE, CHANGE AND DIFFUSION OF INVESTMENT

NACE-Rev.1	STRUCTURE (a)			CHANGE (b)		DIFFUSION (c)		
	2007	2008	2009	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
MINING AND QUARRYING (10 to 14)	1,5	1,9	1,6	28,6	-24,0	100,0	100,0	95,3
MANUFACTURING (15 to 37)	21,2	21,7	21,7	2,9	-8,4	88,4	75,2	62,9
ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER SUPPLY (40+41)	17,1	16,4	16,3	-3,8	-9,2	97,6	97,6	95,6
CONSTRUCTION (45)	7,8	6,9	6,7	-11,0	-11,8	81,9	75,3	69,4
TRADE (50 to 52)	12,2	12,3	11,4	1,6	-15,1	80,8	67,4	54,0
SALE OF VEHICLES AND FUEL (50)	6,4	3,8	3,4	-39,7	-24,0	68,0	61,6	35,2
WHOLESALE TRADE (51)	40,5	39,9	47,3	0,2	0,7	83,4	69,4	59,2
RETAIL TRADE (52)	53,1	56,3	49,3	7,6	-25,6	83,8	67,6	56,2
HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS (55)	2,8	1,4	1,3	-48,2	-18,7	98,4	71,5	67,3
TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATION (60 to 64)	21,6	21,6	23,9	0,6	1,3	72,1	62,0	38,7
TRANSPORT AND STORAGE (60 to 63)	51,7	51,1	52,1	-0,4	3,2	71,2	60,7	36,6
COMMUNICATION (64)	48,3	48,9	47,9	1,8	-0,6	100,0	100,0	100,0
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (65 to 67)	4,6	5,0	5,5	9,3	0,2	85,4	74,7	72,2
FINANCIAL INTERMEDIATION (65)	89,5	87,7	80,7	7,0	-7,8	93,7	93,7	89,5
INSURANCE (66)	9,5	11,5	18,5	32,7	61,2	62,3	62,3	62,3
ACTIVITIES AUXILIARY TO FINANCIAL INTERMEDIATION (67)	1,0	0,8	0,8	-9,2	-6,9	82,6	35,3	35,3
REAL ESTATE, RENTING AND BUSINESS ACTIVITIES (70 to 74)	11,1	12,8	11,7	15,8	-16,8	88,3	81,1	72,3
TOTAL	100,0	100,0	100,0	0,7	-8,6	84,5	72,1	60,6

(a) Weight of the activities, on percentage

(b) Year-on-year rates of change

(c) Percentage of enterprises with investments on the period

Technical note:

The Investment Survey was based on a sample of 4146 firms with more than 4 workers, that belong to the activities of NACE 13 to 74 and that have a yearly turnover of, at least, €125000. The firms of the referred activities with more than 199 workers were exhaustively surveyed.

The survey occurred between the 1st October 2008 and the 21st of January 2009 and the global response rate was 70.2%.

These firms represent 84.2% of the sample, considering the stratification/extrapolation variable (number of workers).

Next report will be released on 9th July, 2009.

For further information, please consult the website of INE.