



AGENCE
FRANCE
TRESOR
is tasked with
handling
government debt
and cash
management
under the most
secure
conditions in the
interest of the
taxpayer.

MONTHLY BULLETIN - N° 236 – January 2010

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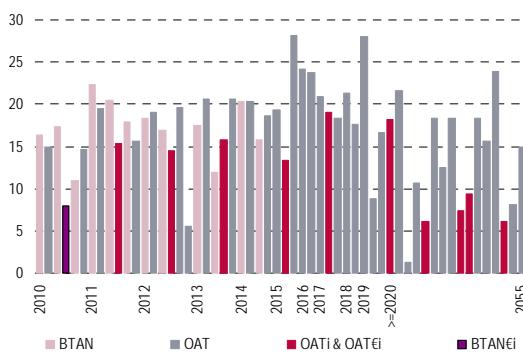
Available in French and English
Publication manager: Philippe Mills
Editor: Agence France Trésor



DEBT GENERAL DATA

► French government long- and medium-term negotiable debt on December 31, 2009

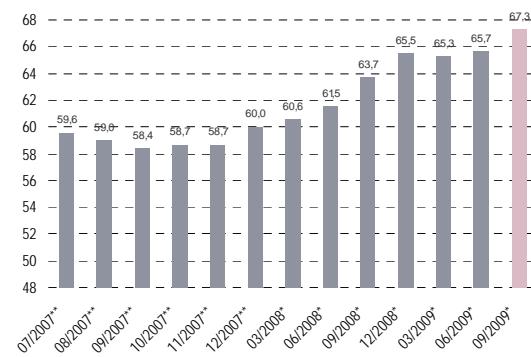
nominal value of each line, €bn



Source: Agence France Trésor

► Non-resident holdings of French government negotiable debt securities

as a % of negotiable debt outstanding



Source: balance of payments

Note: following the revised figures of the French securities held by non-residents at the end of 2006, the Banque de France has readjusted the outstanding amount related to the negotiable Government debt securities held by non-residents in 2006 (**).

(*) figures revised quarterly (**) figures revised annually

► Auction indicative calendar

		BTF				BTAN / index linked OAT	OAT
		4	11	18	25		
January 2010	auction date					21	7
	settlement date	7	14	21	28	-	12
February 2010	auction date	1	8	15	22	-	4
	settlement date	4	11	18	25	-	9

■ anticipated or delayed auctions (bank holidays, etc.)

Source: Agence France Trésor

NEWS

A commitment to creating new indexed benchmarks

The Agence France Trésor has launched the OATi 1.30% 25 July 2019, a new 10-year benchmark linked to France's inflation rate. This bond, issued for the first time on 21 January 2010, was set at an issue price of 99.01%. The issue came to €2.57 billion, and total demand was €5.31 billion.

As it reaffirmed in its recent announcement of the State's medium- and long-term borrowing programme for 2010, AFT is thus holding firm to its strategy of issuing OATs linked to both French and European inflation rates. Following the introduction of this new 10-year OATi, AFT will next offer a new 15-year benchmark linked to European inflation.

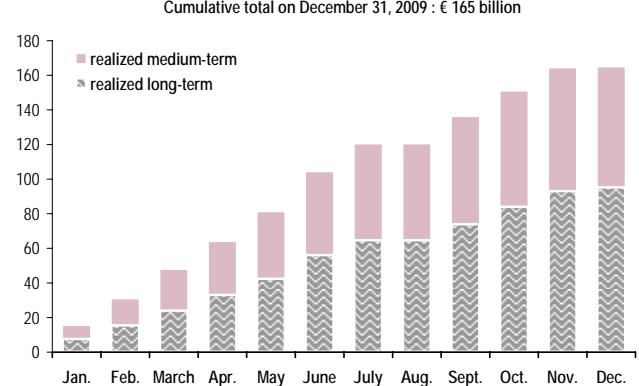
French inflation-linked bonds outstanding total €66.3 billion, against €68 billion for those linked to European inflation; this shows France's willingness and capacity to have a major presence in both compartments.

For 2010, AFT is carrying over its commitment to having indexed benchmarks represent about 10% of net issuance of medium- and long-term securities.

PRIMARY MARKET

► Long- and medium-term financing over the year on December 31, 2009

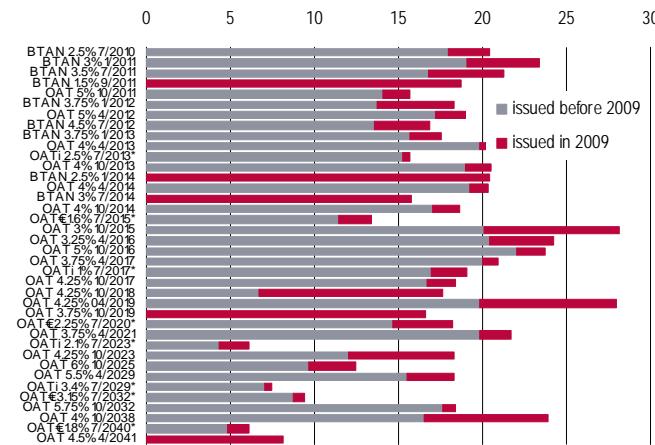
€bn Cumulative total on December 31, 2009 : € 165 billion



Source: Agence France Trésor

► OATs and BTANs issues and cumulative total on December 31, 2009

€bn



* nominal value

Source: Agence France Trésor

► OATs and BTANs: indicative repayment schedule on December 31, 2009

€bn



Source : Agence France Trésor

► OAT and BTAN auctions – December 2009

€m

	BTAN 3 years	BTAN 5 years	OAT 6 years	OAT 20 years
	7/12/2012	1/12/2014	10/25/2015	4/25/2029
	4,50%	2,50%	3,00%	5,50%
Auction date	12/3/2009	12/3/2009	12/3/2009	12/3/2009
Settlement date	12/8/2009	12/8/2009	12/8/2009	12/8/2009
Amount announced	< 4,500 --- 5,500 >			
Bid amount	3,860	4,200	3,065	2,195
Amount served	1,415	1,975	0,810	1,250
<i>of which: NCTs before auction</i>				
NCTs after auction	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,068
Total issued amount	1,415	1,975	0,810	1,318
Bid-to-cover ratio	2,73	2,13	3,78	1,76
Weighted average price	107,22%	100,93%	101,45%	118,57%
Yield to maturity	1,63%	2,26%	2,73%	4,09%
Indexation coefficient*	-	-	-	-

* as of the settlement date

Source: Agence France Trésor

► BTF auctions – December 2009

€m

	BTF 1 month	BTF 2 month	BTF 3 month	BTF 4 month	BTF 6 month	BTF 9 month	BTF 1 year
Auction date			12/7/2009	12/7/2009	12/7/2009		12/7/2009
Settlement date			12/10/2009	12/10/2009	12/10/2009		12/10/2009
Maturity			3/4/2010	4/22/2010	5/20/2010		11/18/2010
Total issued amount			4,382	2,126	2,137		2,244
Weighted average rate			0,383%	0,427%	0,440%		0,772%
Auction date	12/14/2009	12/14/2009			12/14/2009		12/14/2009
Settlement date	12/17/2009	12/17/2009			12/17/2009		12/17/2009
Maturity	2/11/2010	3/18/2010			5/6/2010		12/16/2010
Total issued amount	2,073	4,116			2,002		2,135
Weighted average rate	0,351%	0,393%			0,435%		0,811%
Auction date	12/21/2009	12/21/2009	12/21/2009				12/21/2009
Settlement date	12/24/2009	12/24/2009	12/24/2009				12/24/2009
Maturity	2/18/2010	3/18/2010	4/22/2010				12/16/2010
Total issued amount	2,001	3,500	1,502				2,004
Weighted average rate	0,340%	0,347%	0,400%				0,756%

Source: Agence France Trésor

SECONDARY MARKET

► French government yield curve

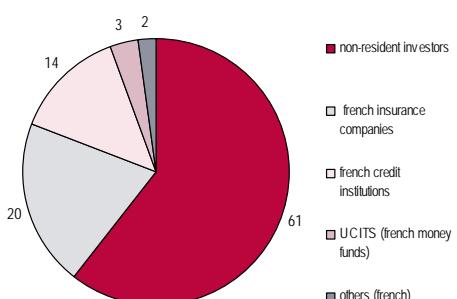
quote at end of the month, in %



Source: Bloomberg

► OAT ownership by type of holder third quarter 2009

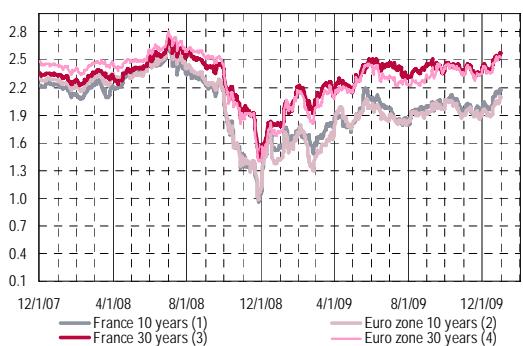
structure in %



Source: Banque de France

► Breakeven inflation

daily quotes in %



Source: Bloomberg

- (1) difference between the yield of the OAT 3.75% April 2017 and the yield of the OATi 1% July 2017
- (2) difference between the yield of the OAT 4.25% April 2019 and the yield of the OAT€i 2.25% July 2020
- (3) difference between the yield of the OAT 5.5% April 2029 and the yield of the OATi 3.4% July 2029
- (4) difference between the yield of the OAT 5.75% October 2032 and the yield of the OAT€i 3.15% July 2032

► Negotiable government debt and swaps

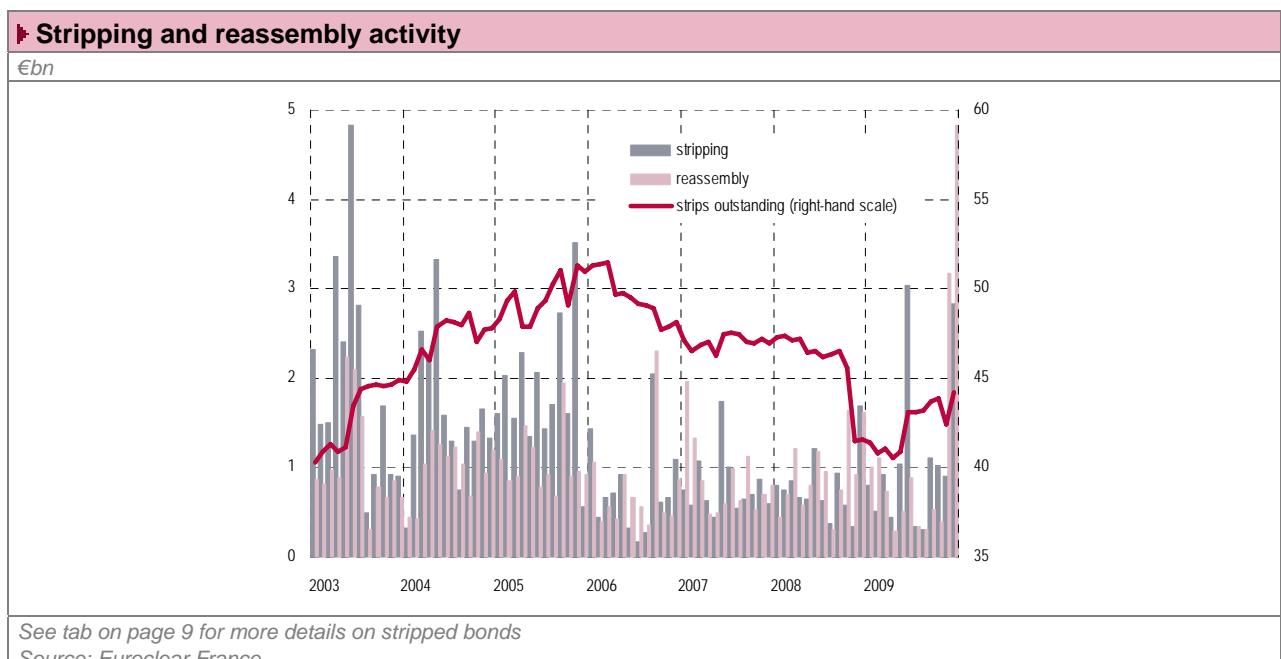
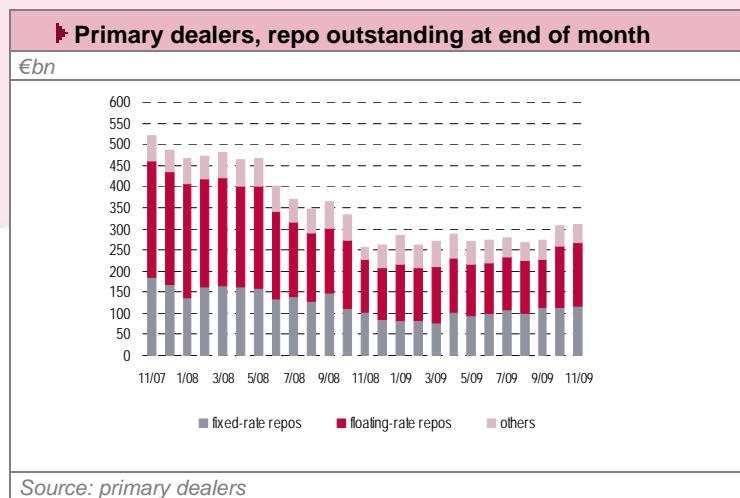
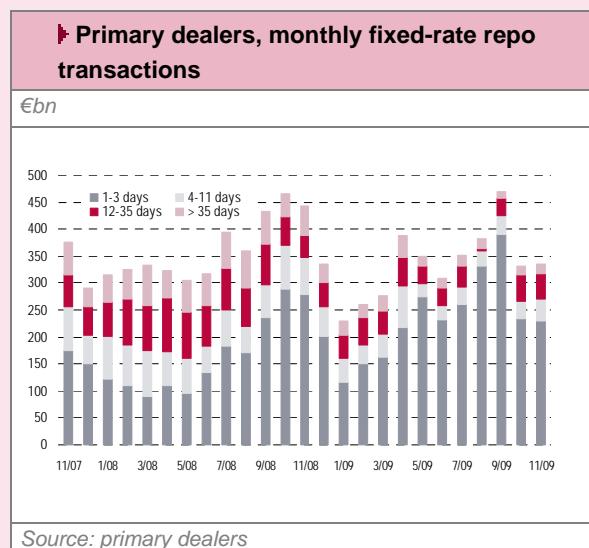
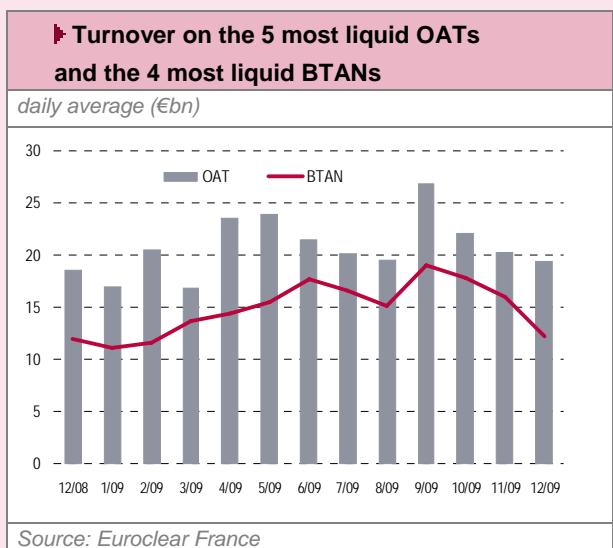
€bn

	end 2002	end 2003	end 2004	end 2005	end 2006	end 2007	end 2008	end of November 2009	end of December 2009
Negotiable government debt outstanding									
OAT	478	512	552	593	610	641	681	717	719
BTAN	151	168	184	189	200	202	198	216	215
BTF	88	109	97	95	66	79	138	220	214
Swaps outstanding	61	61	61	52	44	42	28	21	20

Average maturity of the negotiable debt

before swaps	5 years	5 years	6 years	6 years	7 years	7 years	6 years	6 years	6 years
	343 days	297 days	79 days	267 days	45 days	51 days	292 days	248 days	246 days
after swaps	5 years	5 years	6 years	6 years	7 years	7 years	6 years	6 years	6 years
	265 days	235 days	34 days	228 days	16 days	29 days	276 days	235 days	233 days

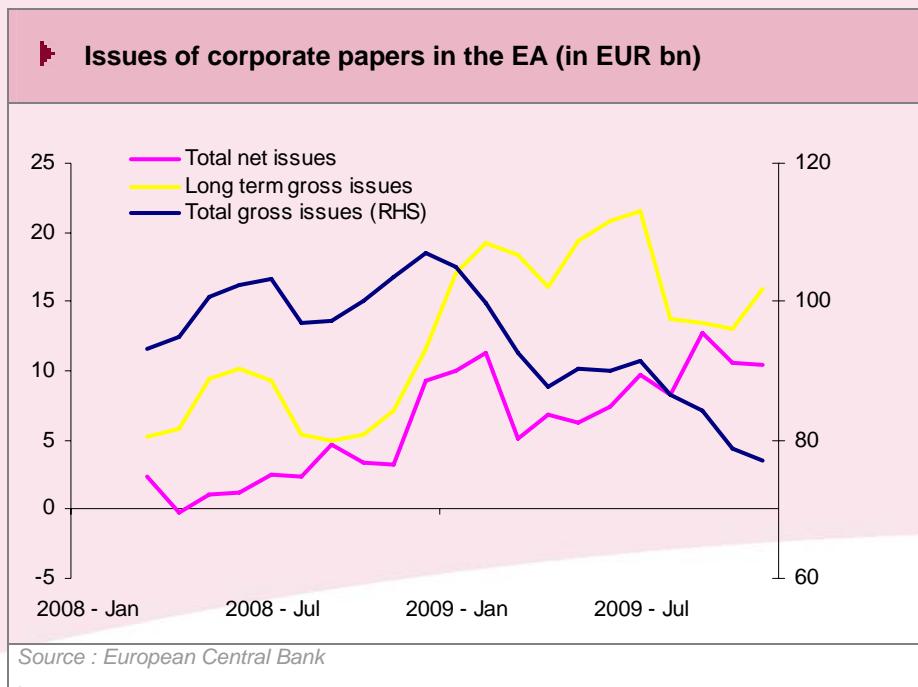
Source: Agence France Trésor



Demand-led credit strike

By Gilles Moëc, senior economist Deutsche Bank

In the Euro area, credit patterns have started to diverge across sectors. Overall bank new lending flows to the private sector have stabilized in the last few months, after a steep deceleration in the winter, at the height of the financial market turmoil. However, this is solely attributable to mortgage origination while corporations' origination seems to lag behind. Flows to this sector remain negative, to the tune of around EUR 10bn per month on average since September 2009, not significantly above their trough at EUR -17Bn in the three months to August. This is fuelling fears of a persisting "corporate credit crunch", i.e. an exceptional restriction of the supply of funds to the business sector from banks, which would prefer to extend their investment in government securities. We do not share this view.



True, purchases of government securities by monetary and financial institutions (MFIs) have stepped up to EUR 25bn per month in the year to November 2009, against 3bn per month on average since 1999. However, when looking at national data from the time of the recession of the early 1990s, a similar pattern emerges. It seems to be a regular feature of economic downturns that banks shift their assets away from the private sector and towards government papers. This does not simply reflect a flight to safety. This is also a natural response to a lack of credit demand from firms. In this matter, nothing exceptional is happening this time.

To substantiate this we look at the alternative source of funding open to non-financial issuers. True, net issues of corporate debts rose to a monthly average of EUR 8bn since last autumn, up from EUR 4bn before the recession started. This is however a pure statistical effect. Indeed, businesses have shifted their issuances towards longer duration, which transitorily depletes the pace of redemption. Gross issues have actually decelerated since the recession. If firms were faced with banks reluctant to respond to their funding needs, we should observe a rise in their recourse to the disintermediated credit. It did not happen. The most obvious explanation to the fall in total credit to the business sector is simply that in a context of continuing correction in inventories and decline in investment, external financing needs are very limited.

A similar mechanism seems to be at play in the US. Flows of bank loans to firms were deeply negative in Q3 (USD -140bn annualized), but net bond issuances, which had risen to USD 579bn annualized in early 2009, have since then corrected to USD 262bn.

Gradually, a turnaround in inventory behaviour and a tentative improvement in investment will trigger some credit demand. Banks should respond positively to this, in order to maintain their margins. Indeed, the shift in households' portfolio towards extremely liquid but non-interest bearing assets such as overnight deposits, which had resulted from the episode of extreme financial and economic uncertainty in the winter of 2008/2009, will reverse, as improved economic prospects will trigger a search for a better return on savings.

NB: this Agence France Trésor forum offers economists an opportunity to express their personal opinion. Thus, the above article strictly reflects the author's view, and should not be construed as expressing the viewpoints of Agence France Trésor or the Ministry of the Economy, Industry and Employment.



THE FRENCH ECONOMY

► Macro-economic forecast

Real growth rate as a %

	2008	2009	2010
French GDP	0,4	-2,2	1,2
Household consumption	1,0	0,6	0,8
Business investment	2,6	-7,9	0,6
Exports	-0,2	-11,4	2,6
Imports	0,8	-8,8	3,4
Consumer prices (on an annual average basis)	2,8	0,1	1,2

Source: Ministry of the Economy, Industry and Employment
Draft budget Bill 2010, European Commission

► Recent economic indicators

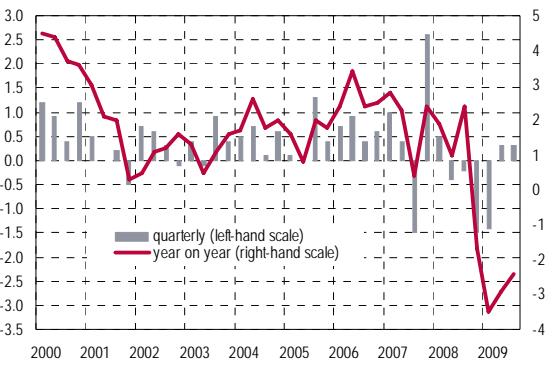
Industrial output*, year-on-year	-3.8%	11/2009
Household consumption*, year-on-year	3.2%	11/2009
Unemployment rate (ILO)	9.1%	9/2009
Consumer prices, year-on-year		
all items	0.9%	12/2009
all items excluding tobacco	0.8%	12/2009
Trade balance, fob-fob, sa	-5.3 EUR bn	11/2009
" "	-4.4 EUR bn	10/2009
Current account balance, sa	-3.8 EUR bn	11/2009
" "	-4.2 EUR bn	10/2009
10-year constant maturity rate (TEC10)	3.59%	12/31/2009
3-month interest rate (Euribor)	0.700%	12/31/2009
EUR / USD	1.4406	12/31/2009
EUR / JPY	133.16	12/31/2009

*manufactured goods –

Source: Insee; Ministry of the Economy, Industry and Employment; Banque de France

► Gross domestic product at chain-linked previous year prices

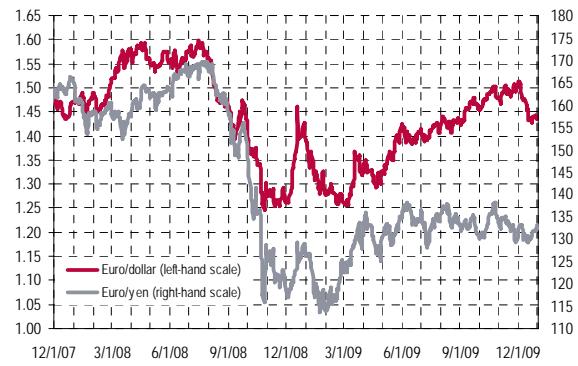
Variation in %



Source: Insee, quarterly national accounts

► Euro exchange rate

Daily quotes



Source: European Central Bank

► Government budget monthly position

€bn

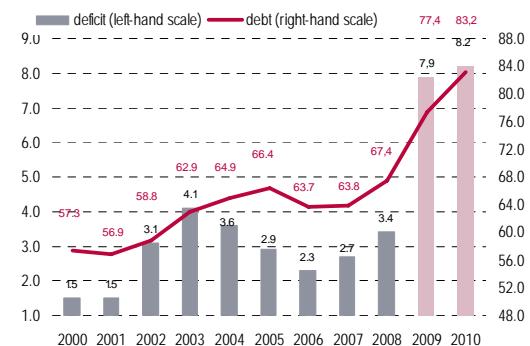
	2007	2008	end of November level		
			2007	2008	2009
General budget balance	-38,19	-56,99	-46,83	-59,17	-126,66
revenue	299,22	291,12	259,89	256,67	203,03
expenditure	337,41	348,11	306,72	315,83	329,69
Balance of special Treasury accounts	-0,21	0,40	-8,43	-7,42	-16,69
General budget outturn	-38,40	-56,59	-55,27	-66,58	-143,35

Source: Ministry of the Budget, Public Accounts and the Civil Service

for more information: <http://www.budget.gouv.fr/>

► Public finance: general government deficit and debt

As a % of GDP



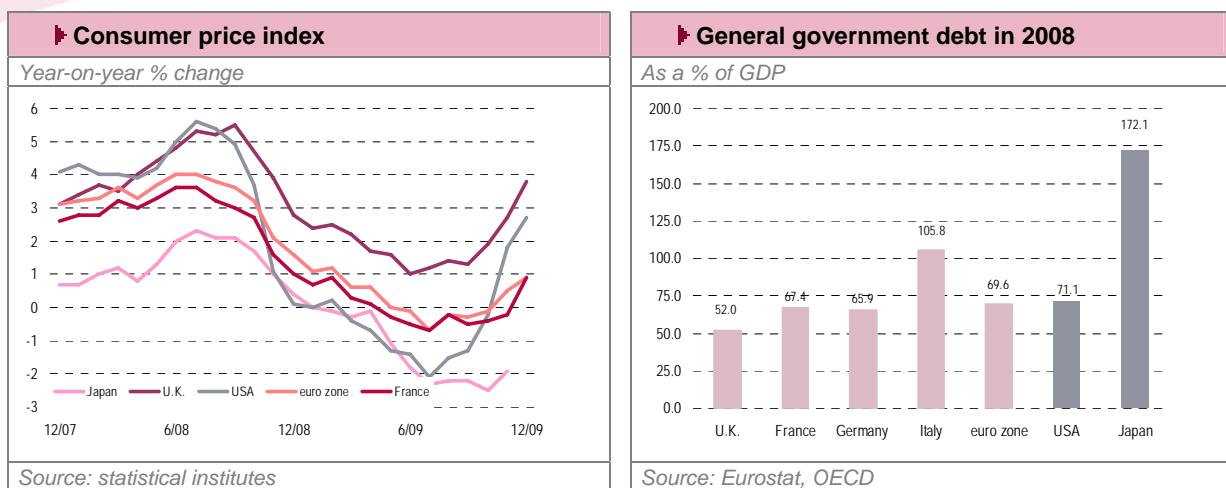
Source: according to Maastricht Treaty, Insee and Ministry of the Economy, Industry and Employment, European Commission



► Timetable for the release of French economic indicators

January 2010	February 2010
5 Household confidence survey: December survey	5 Foreign trade in December
8 Foreign trade in November	5 Central government budget: statement at end of December
11 Industrial output in November	10 Industrial output in December
12 Central government budget: statement at end of November	10 Balance of payments in December
13 Balance of payments in November	11 Industrial Investments: January survey
13 Consumer prices: index for December	12 National quarterly accounts: first results Q4-2009
22 Industrial trends: monthly survey for January	12 Payroll employment: provisional results Q4-2009
26 Household consumption of manufactured goods in December	12 Wages: provisional statistics Q4-2009
26 New building starts in December	19 Industrial trends: February survey
27 Household confidence survey: January survey	23 Household consumption of manufactured goods in January
27 Industrial trends: quarterly survey for January	23 New building starts in January
27 Job seekers in December	23 Consumer prices: index for January
	25 Household confidence survey: February survey
<i>Harmonized index of consumer prices – Eurostat</i>	
Index for December: January 15	
Index for January: February 26	

INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS



► BTAN au 31 décembre 2009

Treasury notes at December 31, 2009

En euros

CODE ISIN	Emprunt / Bond	Encours / Outstanding	Coefficient d'indexation / indexation coefficient	Valeur nominale / face value
	Échéance 2010	53 336 592 543		
FR0107369672	BTAN 3% 12 janvier 2010	16 284 814 043		
FR0107674006	BTAN 2,5% 12 juillet 2010	17 349 000 000		
FR0108664055 I	BTANGI 1,25% 25 juillet 2010	8 685 778 500 (1) 1.08234	8 025 000 000	
FR0113872776	BTAN 3,75% 12 septembre 2010	11 017 000 000		
	Échéance 2011	60 798 410 534		
FR0108354806	BTAN 3% 12 janvier 2011	22 372 000 000		
FR0108847049	BTAN 3,5% 12 juillet 2011	20 505 410 534		
FR0116843519	BTAN 1,5% 12 septembre 2011	17 921 000 000		
	Échéance 2012	35 199 000 000		
FR0109970386	BTAN 3,75% 12 janvier 2012	18 333 000 000		
FR0110979186	BTAN 4,5% 12 juillet 2012	16 866 000 000		
	Échéance 2013	29 530 000 000		
FR0113087466	BTAN 3,75% 12 janvier 2013	17 553 000 000		
FR0114683842	BTAN 4,5% 12 juillet 2013	11 977 000 000		
	Échéance 2014	36 154 000 000		
FR0116114978	BTAN 2,5% 12 janvier 2014	20 385 000 000		
FR0116843535	BTAN 3% 12 juillet 2014	15 769 000 000		

(1) Encours BTAN indexés = valeur nominale x coefficient d'indexation / indexed bonds outstanding = face value x indexation coefficient

Total BTAN / total Treasury notes**215 018 003 077****Durée de vie moyenne des BTAN****2 ans et 11 jours**

Average maturity of BTANs

2 years and 11 days

Dette négociable de l'Etat au 31 décembre 2009 /
French government negotiable debt at December 31, 2009

Encours total / total outstanding

1 147 984 573 702**Durée de vie moyenne****6 ans et 246 jours**

Average maturity

6 years and 246 days

► BTF au 31 décembre 2009

Treasury bills at December 31, 2009

En euros

	Échéance / Maturity	Encours / Outstanding
BTF	7 janvier 2010	10 077 000 000
BTF	14 janvier 2010	10 762 000 000
BTF	21 janvier 2010	11 138 000 000
BTF	28 janvier 2010	9 274 000 000
BTF	4 février 2010	10 126 000 000
BTF	11 février 2010	11 072 000 000
BTF	18 février 2010	11 391 000 000
BTF	25 février 2010	9 226 000 000
BTF	4 mars 2010	9 068 000 000
BTF	11 mars 2010	9 583 000 000
BTF	18 mars 2010	7 616 000 000
BTF	25 mars 2010	7 275 000 000
BTF	8 avril 2010	9 769 000 000
BTF	22 avril 2010	9 549 000 000
BTF	6 mai 2010	9 916 000 000
BTF	20 mai 2010	6 823 000 000
BTF	3 juin 2010	7 729 000 000
BTF	1 juillet 2010	10 872 000 000
BTF	29 juillet 2010	7 936 000 000
BTF	26 août 2010	6 425 000 000
BTF	23 septembre 2010	7 759 000 000
BTF	21 octobre 2010	8 143 000 000
BTF	18 novembre 2010	8 452 000 000
BTF	16 décembre 2010	4 139 000 000

Total BTF / total Treasury bills**214 120 000 000****Durée de vie moyenne des BTF****113 jours**

Average maturity of BTFs

113 days

Réserve de titres de la Caisse de la dette publique au 31 décembre 2009 /
Securities held in reserve by Caisse de la dette publique at December 31, 2009**néant / void**