

Your Business Outlook

Please let us know how you expect your business to perform. Your response is important because it will help ensure that policymakers have the most accurate and up-to-date information on the performance of the economy. All information you give will be kept strictly confidential and it should take no more than 5 minutes to complete.

1. How do you expect your firm to be performing in 12 months compared to now? (select one)

- Much stronger
- Somewhat stronger
- About the same
- Somewhat weaker
- Much weaker
- Planning on closing my business

2. Allowing for normal seasonal influences, what are your business performance and expectations? (select one answer for each)

Up Same Down

- a. Business performance in past 3 or 4 months
- b. Performance expectations next 3 or 4 months

3. Currently, what is the general business situation of your company? (select one)

- Good
- Satisfactory
- Bad

4. Allowing for normal seasonal influences, what are the following? (select one answer for each)

Above normal Normal Below normal Not applicable /None

- a. Unfilled customer orders
- b. Staff overtime
- c. Investments in computers, communications, office technology
- d. Investments in process machinery, equipment

5. Allowing for normal seasonal influences, what are the following? (select one answer for each)

	Not applicable/ None	Better than normal	Normal	Worse than normal	Don't know
a. Unsold inventories	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Unpaid accounts receivable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Revenues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Expenditures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Profits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Debt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. In the next year, how much do you expect average prices and wages to change? (select % amount)

- Your firm's unit selling prices % (drop-down menu)
- Your firm's individual wages % (drop-down menu)

7. What types of input costs are currently causing difficulties for your business? (select as many as apply)

- Fuel costs
- Electricity costs
- Other energy costs
- Wage costs
- Borrowing costs
- Product input costs
- Capital equipment, technology costs
- Occupancy costs (rent, mortgage, property taxes)
- Insurance costs
- Tax, regulatory costs

Employment

8. What factors are limiting your ability to increase sales or production? (select as many as apply)

- Insufficient demand (domestic or foreign)
- Shortage of skilled labour
- Shortage of unskilled, semi-skilled labour
- Shortage of working capital
- Shortage of input products
- Product distribution constraints
- Limited physical space

9. Taking into consideration your factors of production for this time of year (normal levels of staff, space, equipment, means of transport, etc.), at what capacity is your firm currently operating? (Your best estimate as a percentage of full capacity)

- 100% or more
- 90%
- 80%
- 70%
- 60%
- 50%
- 40%
- 30%
- 20%
- 10%
- 0%
- Don't know, too difficult to say, off season

10. Allowing for normal seasonal influences, how are your expected employment levels to change in the next 3 or 4 months? (select one answer for each)

- | | Up | Same | Down |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Full-time employment | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Part-time employment | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

11. How many employees do you have on your payroll at present, including yourself? (enter approximate numbers)

	Total number				
Full-time employees (30 hrs/week or more)	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; border-collapse: collapse; width: 100px; height: 20px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px;"></td> </tr> </table>				
Part-time employees (less than 30 hrs/week)	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; border-collapse: collapse; width: 100px; height: 20px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px;"></td> </tr> </table>				

12. How many jobs in your firm currently have been vacant for at least 4 months because you have been unable to find suitable employees? (enter approximate number)

	Total number			
Full- or part-time vacancies	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; border-collapse: collapse; width: 60px; height: 20px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px;"></td> </tr> </table>			

Comments