SURVEY OF BUSINESS CONDITIONS

2015 Quarter 3

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SUMMARY

In this Survey of Business Conditions for Corpus Christi collected during the end of the third quarter of 2015, nearly 80 percent of respondents indicated that their businesses have improved or experienced no change in the past three months. However, the outlook for business conditions over the next 6 months was less bright. Nearly one third of the businesses expected a small decline in business activity.

More than one in three respondents (35%) saw better business conditions in the past 3 months. The percentage of respondents experiencing worse or substantially worse business conditions was slightly lower at 21 percent. With oil-related headwinds facing South Texas, the proportion of respondents anticipating their business to worsen in the near future jumped from 18 percent to 34 percent. Still 37 percent of them expected future improvement in economic conditions and 58 percent of them expected growth in their own business. The slowdown in local business activity might have led to an overall decline in hiring and capital investment.

While financing continued to be viewed as relatively easy, regulatory requirements were considered the top business challenge, followed by weak sales. Labor costs and low oil prices were also cited as ongoing concerns.

URL for the online survey: http://tinyurl.com/stxoutlook

Survey results are posted quarterly at SouthTexasEconomy.com. For questions, please contact Jim Lee at jlee@tamucc.edu.
1. How have overall business conditions changed since the last time you responded to this survey (or the last 3 months)?

![Question 1 Chart]

2. How do you expect overall business conditions to change over the next 6 months?

![Question 2 Chart]
3. What changes in your company's sales or business activity do you expect over the next 6 months?

![Question 3 chart]

4. Is your company hiring?

![Question 4 chart]
5. Is your company investing in new equipment or software?

6. Is your company investing in new office or other space?
7. How easy is it for your company to obtain financing on reasonable terms?

![Graph showing the ease of obtaining financing](image)

8. What is the most significant problem facing your company?

![Graph showing the most significant problems](image)