

SOUTH TEXAS ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT CENTERCorpus Christi  
REGIONAL ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

# SURVEY OF BUSINESS CONDITIONS

## 2018 Quarter 1

Released: 4/1/2018

## SUMMARY

Corpus Christi's economy as a whole continues to show strengths, according to the latest *Survey of Business Conditions*. On the heels of Hurricane Harvey, local businesses are also expecting growth opportunities as coastal communities in the region are on the road to recovery.

About 13 percent of survey respondents saw substantial improvement in the overall business condition, compared to less than 10 percent in past surveys. On the other hand, the share of respondents experiencing no change in business conditions at 44 percent was also much higher than the share of 24 percent in the previous quarter. Similarly, relatively more respondents (25 percent) were expecting no change in the overall economy or their own business over the next six months.

Compared to the quarter immediately following Harvey, relatively more respondents indicated that they were hiring or incurring capital expenses. Financing has also become easier, according to the survey. However, despite business opportunities related to post-Harvey rebuilding efforts, increasingly more respondents indicated tight labor markets as major risks to the economic outlook.

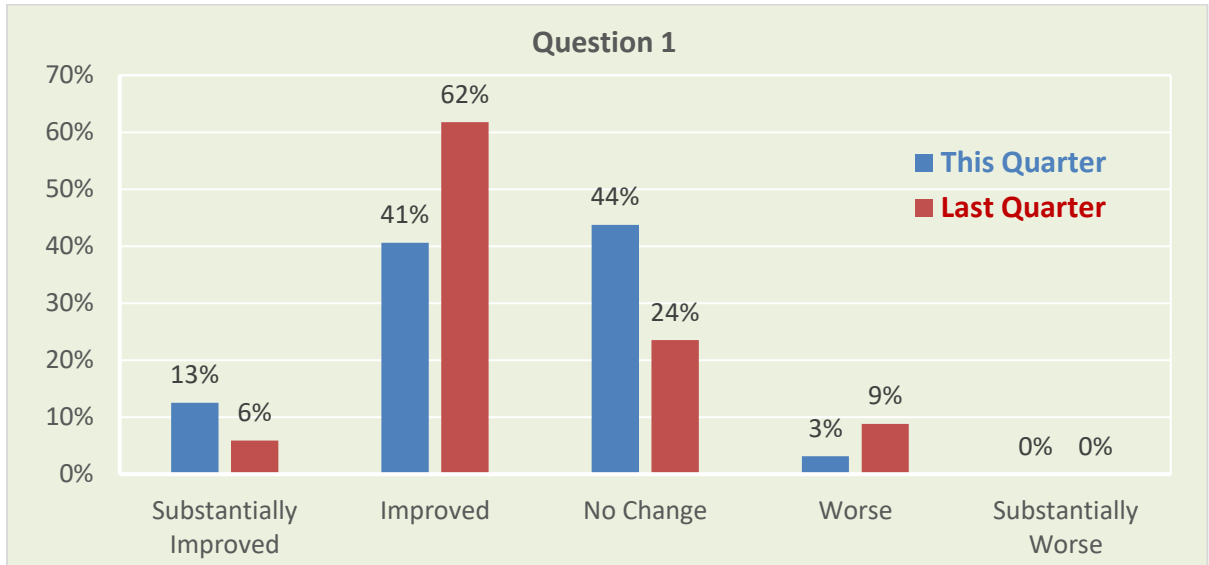
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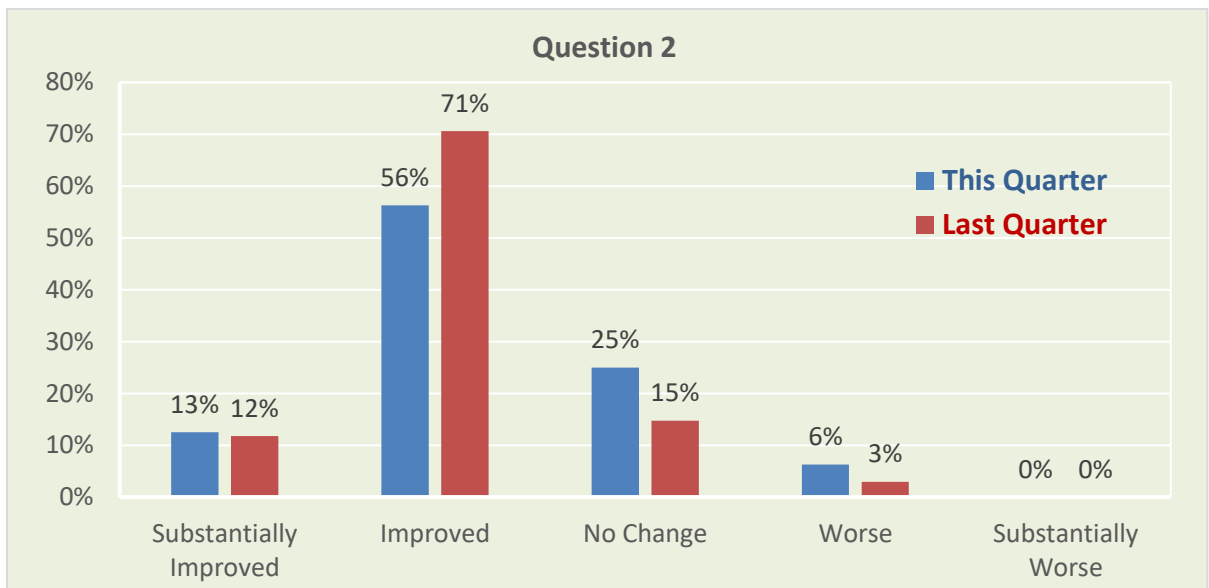
URL of the online survey: <http://tinyurl.com/stxoutlook>

Survey results are released quarterly at [SouthTexasEconomy.com](http://SouthTexasEconomy.com). This survey generated a total of 43 responses. We appreciate the time of our participants and our partners who helped distribute this survey. For questions, please contact Jim Lee at [jlee@tamucc.edu](mailto:jlee@tamucc.edu).

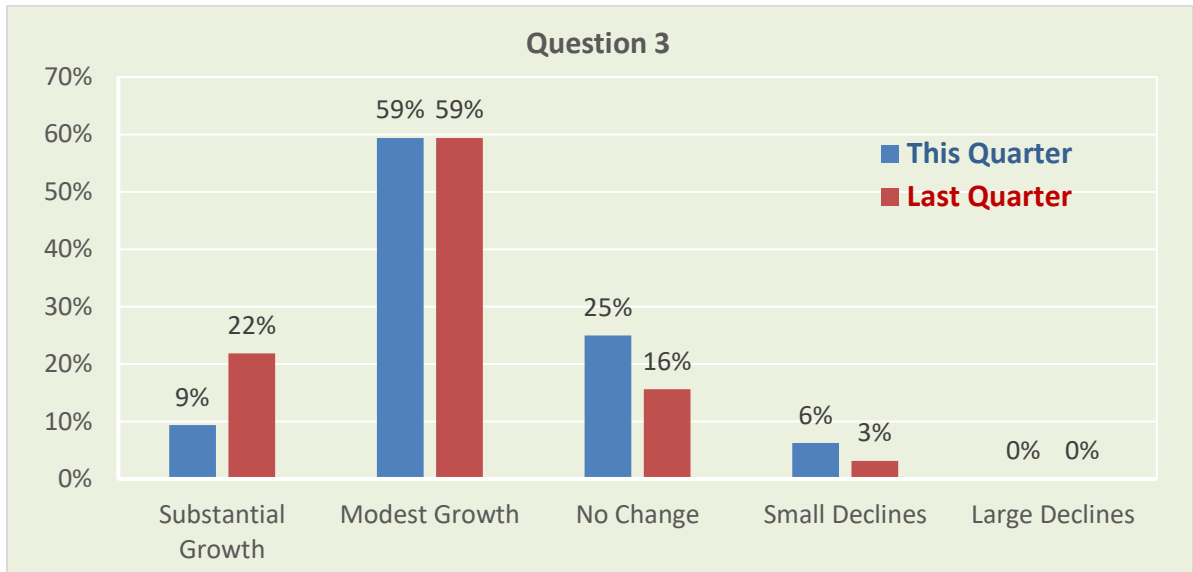
**1. How have overall business conditions changed since the last time you responded to this survey (or the last 3 months)?**



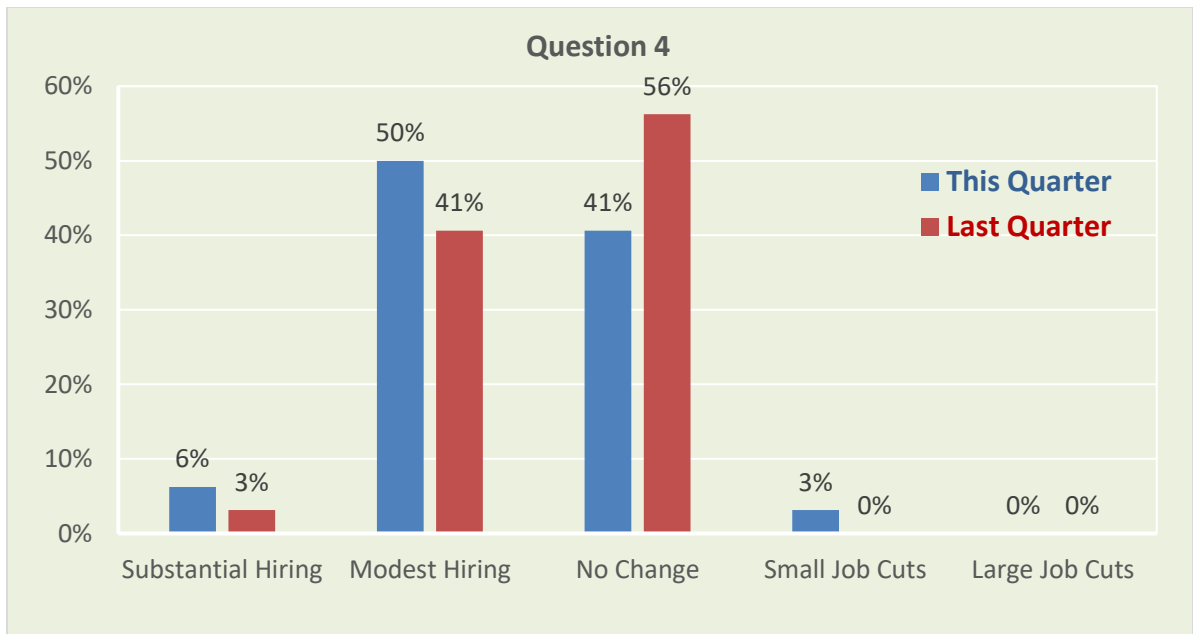
**2. How do you expect overall business conditions to change over the next 6 months?**



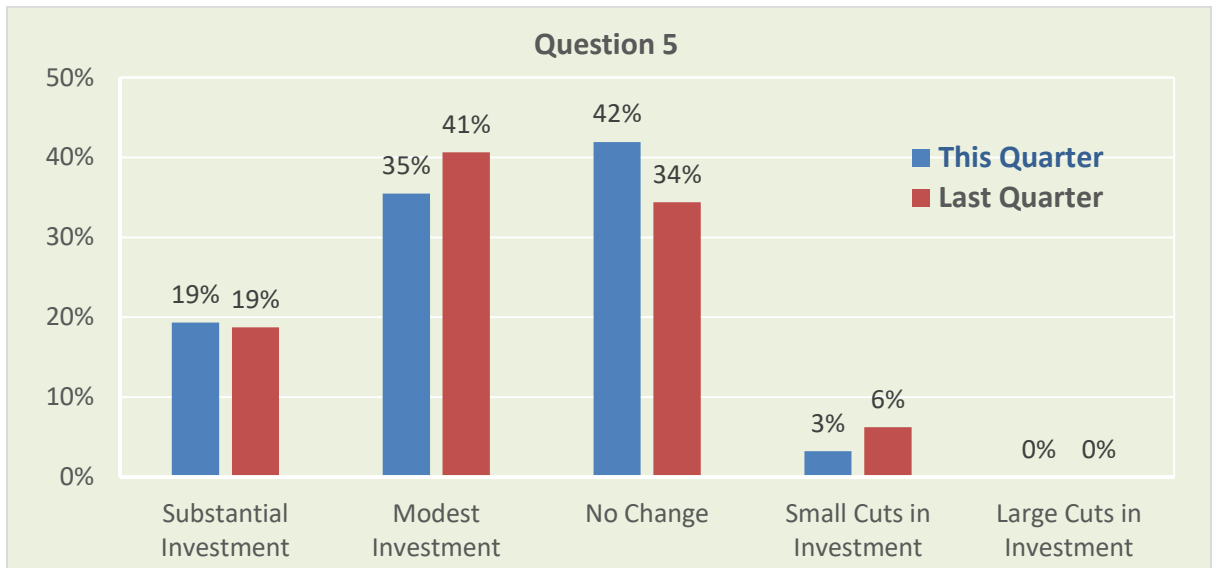
**3. What changes in your company's sales or business activity do you expect over the next 6 months?**



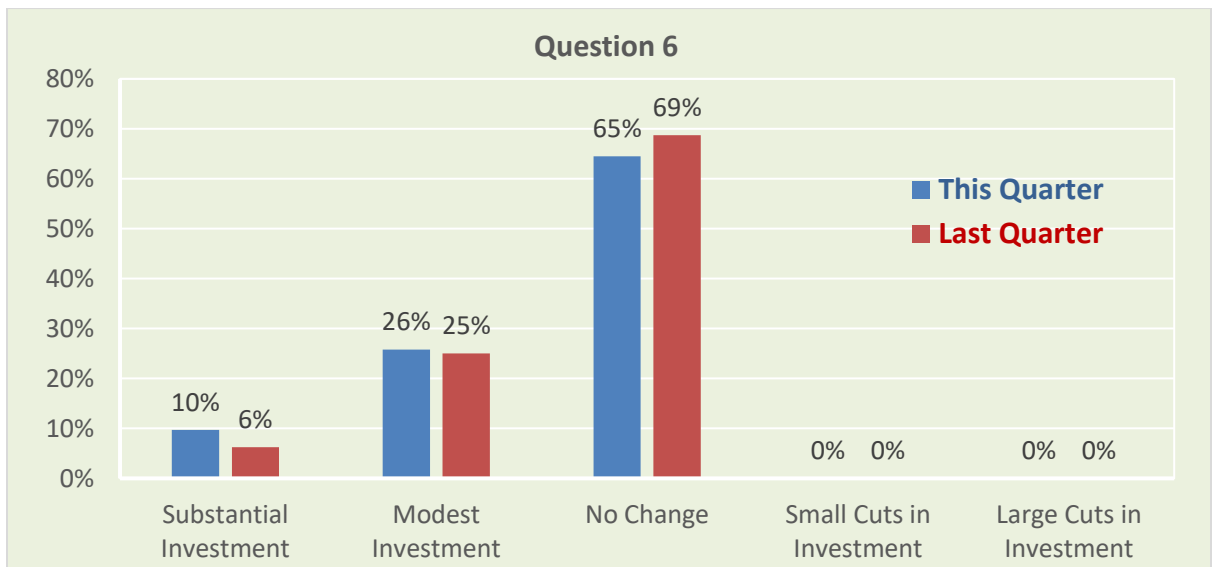
**4. Is your company hiring?**



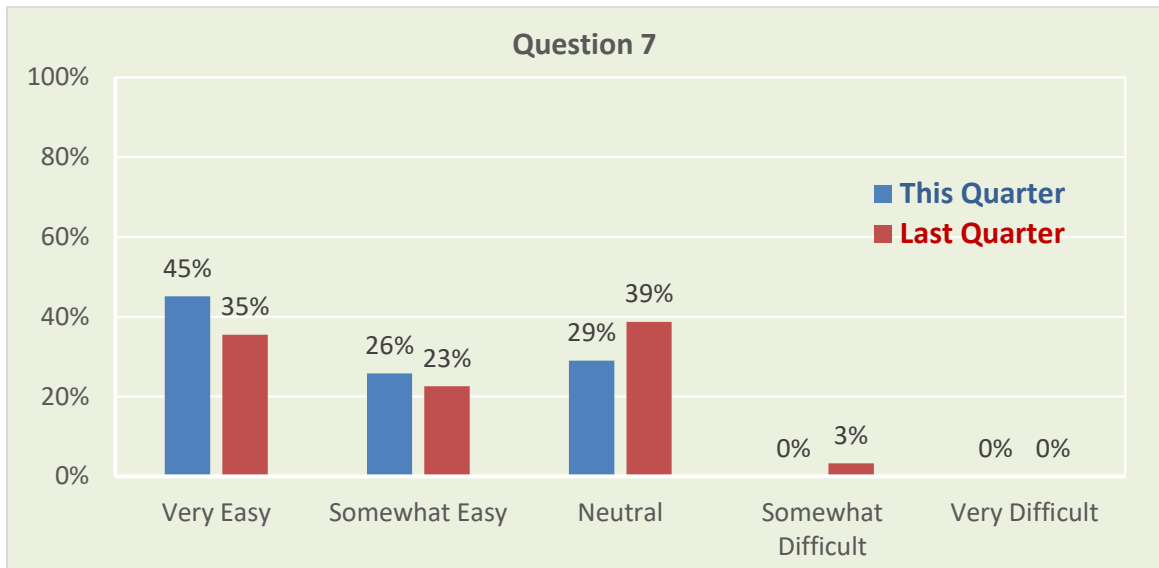
**5. Is your company investing in new equipment or software?**



**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?**



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

