

CFSBC Diffusion Index Questions

1. In the past four to six weeks, demand for my firm's products or services has¹
 - increased substantially.
 - increased moderately.
 - increased slightly.
 - not changed.
 - decreased slightly.
 - decreased moderately.
 - decreased substantially.
2. My outlook for the U.S. economy in the next six to 12 months is
 - very positive.
 - moderately positive.
 - slightly positive.
 - neutral.
 - slightly negative.
 - moderately negative.
 - very negative.
3. In the past four to six weeks, my firm's work force has
 - increased substantially.
 - increased moderately.
 - increased slightly.
 - not changed.
 - decreased slightly.
 - decreased moderately.
 - decreased substantially.
4. In the next six to 12 months, I expect my firm's work force to
 - increase substantially.
 - increase moderately.
 - increase slightly.
 - not change.
 - decrease slightly.
 - decrease moderately.
 - decrease substantially.
5. My firm is hiring or looking to hire for these occupations:
 - managerial (executive, accountant, HR manager, marketing, etc.)
 - professional and technical (engineer, IT support, lawyer, etc.)
 - sales
 - administrative support
 - maintenance (mechanic, custodian, etc.)

¹ In the survey, this question is tailored to be sector-specific.

- production (operator, assembler, quality assurance, laborer, etc.)
 - transportation (driver, material handling, etc.)
 - other
6. In the past four to six weeks, my firm's capital spending has
- increased substantially.
 - increased moderately.
 - increased slightly.
 - not changed.
 - decreased slightly.
 - decreased moderately.
 - decreased substantially.
- A. My firm's capital spending has been for:
- replacing equipment or remodeling structures
 - capacity expansion
 - research and development
 - mergers and acquisitions
- B. My firm's capital spending has been on:
- industrial equipment
 - IT equipment
 - transportation equipment
 - structures
 - intellectual property
 - other
7. In the next six to 12 months, I expect my firm's capital spending to
- increase substantially.
 - increase moderately.
 - increase slightly.
 - not change.
 - decrease slightly.
 - decrease moderately.
 - decrease substantially.
8. In the past four to six weeks, my firm's overall wage costs have
- increased substantially.
 - increased moderately.
 - increased slightly.
 - not changed.
 - decreased slightly.
 - decreased moderately.
 - decreased substantially.
- A. Please select the occupations for which wage costs have increased:
- managerial (executive, accountant, HR manager, marketing, etc.)
 - professional and technical (engineer, IT support, lawyer, etc.)

- sales
- administrative support
- maintenance (mechanic, custodian, etc.)
- production (operator, assembler, quality assurance, laborer, etc.)
- transportation (driver, material handling, etc.)
- other

9. In the past four to six weeks, my firm's overall nonwage costs have

- increased substantially.
- increased moderately.
- increased slightly.
- not changed.
- decreased slightly.
- decreased moderately.
- decreased substantially.

A. Please select the areas where nonwage costs have increased:

- raw materials or wholesale goods
- energy
- equipment
- property
- benefits (health insurance, retirement, etc.)
- shipping costs
- taxes and regulations
- other