

Table 1 Views on Expected Changes in Business Situation, Volume of Business/Output, Number of Persons Engaged and Selling Price/Service Charge, Q1 2008 as Compared with Q4 2007 ⁽¹⁾

Sector	Business situation				Volume of business/output ⁽²⁾				Number of persons engaged				Selling price/service charge ⁽³⁾			
	Percentage of establishments choosing			Net balance ⁽⁴⁾ = Difference between the % of establishments choosing "better" over that choosing "worse" (iv)=(i)-(iii)	Percentage of establishments choosing			Net balance ⁽⁴⁾ = Difference between the % of establishments choosing "up" over that choosing "down" (iv)=(i)-(iii)	Percentage of establishments choosing			Net balance ⁽⁴⁾ = Difference between the % of establishments choosing "up" over that choosing "down" (iv)=(i)-(iii)	Percentage of establishments choosing			Net balance ⁽⁴⁾ = Difference between the % of establishments choosing "up" over that choosing "down" (iv)=(i)-(iii)
	Better (i)	Same (ii)	Worse (iii)		Up (i)	Same (ii)	Down (iii)		Up (i)	Same (ii)	Down (iii)		Up (i)	Same (ii)	Down (iii)	
Manufacturing	19	63	18	+1	22	46	32	-10	19	63	18	+1	20	72	8	+12
Construction	29	51	21	+8	39	44	17	+22	24	69	7	+17	17	75	8	+9
Wholesale and Retail	25	68	8	+17	48	43	9	+39	32	66	1	+31	39	56	6	+33
Import and Export Trade	30	61	9	+21	32	51	17	+15	31	64	4	+27	17	69	14	+3
Restaurants and Hotels	42	50	8	+34	35	47	18	+17	25	74	1	+24	47	47	6	+41
Transport and Related Services	34	61	5	+29	33	55	12	+21	26	65	10	+16	15	79	6	+9
Communications	31	66	3	+28	43	53	4	+39	13	84	2	+11	6	89	5	+1
Real Estate	41	57	2	+39	31	53	17	+14	53	46	1	+52	32	65	2	+30
Business Services	27	73	0	+27	29	65	6	+23	19	78	3	+16	14	83	3	+11
Banks, Financing and Insurance	48	46	6	+42	56	40	3	+53	44	49	7	+37	15	78	8	+7
All Sectors Above ⁽⁵⁾	34	58	8	+26												

Notes :

- (1) In collecting views on the quarter-to-quarter changes, if the variable in question may be subject to seasonal variations, respondents are asked to provide the expected changes after excluding the normal seasonal variations.
- (2) The exact variable asked in the questionnaire varies slightly according to the characteristics of the sector : "Volume of Production" in manufacturing; "Volume of Construction Output" in construction; "Volume of Sales" in the wholesale and retail, and import and export trade; and "Volume of Business" in other sectors.
- (3) The exact variable asked in the questionnaire varies slightly according to the characteristics of the sector : "Selling Price" in manufacturing, wholesale and retail, and import and export trade; "Tender Price" in construction; "Price of Food Provided" in restaurants; "Premium Rate" in insurance; "Price of Properties Sold/Management Fee/Commission Rate" in real estate; and "Charge for Services Rendered" in other sectors.
- (4) The "net balance", with its appropriate sign, indicates the direction of expected change in the variable concerned. A positive sign indicates a likely upward trend while a negative sign, a likely downward trend.
- (5) Figures are weighted averages of sectoral figures.