Table 1 Views on Expected Changes in Business Situation, Volume of Business/Output, Number of Persons Engaged and Selling Price/Service Charge, Q1 2009 as Compared with Q4 2008 (1)

		Business situation				Volume of business/output (2)				Number of persons engaged				Selling price/service charge ⁽³⁾			
	Percentage of establishments choosing ⁽⁴⁾			Net balance ⁽⁵⁾ = Difference between the % of establishments	f establishr		ents	Net balance ⁽⁵⁾ = Difference between the % of establishments	establishments			Net balance ⁽⁵⁾ = Difference between the % of establishments	Percentage of establishments choosing ⁽⁴⁾		Net balance ⁽⁵⁾ = Difference between the % of establishments		
Sector	Better (i)	Same (ii)	Worse (iii)	choosing "better" over that choosing "worse" (iv)=(i)-(iii)	Up (i)	Same (ii)	Down (iii)	choosing "up" over that choosing "down" (iv)=(i)-(iii)	Up (i)	Same (ii)	Down (iii)	choosing "up" over that choosing "down" (iv)=(i)-(iii)	Up (i)	Same (ii)	Down (iii)	choosing "up" over that choosing "down" (iv)=(i)-(iii)	
Manufacturing	3	44	53	-50	7	42	52	-45	5	66	29	-24	7	60	33	-26	
Construction	2	29	69	-67	6	40	54	-48	1	64	35	-34	1	69	30	-29	
Import/Export Trade and Wholesale	5	26	69	-64	7	29	64	-57	3	69	28	-25	3	65	32	-29	
Retail	5	31	64	-59	9	38	52	-43	9	83	8	+1	2	59	39	-37	
Accommodation and Food Services ⁽⁶⁾	0	22	78	-78	3	27	70	-67	3	91	6	-3	4	67	29	-25	
Transportation, Storage and Courier Services	4	38	58	-54	3	40	57	-54	2	85	13	-11	9	65	25	-16	
Information and Communications	15	55	30	-15	22	43	35	-13	8	81	10	-2	10	76	14	-4	
Financing and Insurance	9	30	62	-53	5	43	52	-47	6	63	32	-26	8	79	13	-5	
Real Estate ⁽⁷⁾	15	69	16	-1	17	52	31	-14	47	28	24	+23	3	78	19	-16	
Professional and Business Services ⁽⁸⁾	0	58	42	-42	0	61	39	-39	6	84	10	-4	2	84	15	-13	
All Sectors Above ⁽⁹⁾	6	35	59	-53													

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 import/export trade and wholesale, and retail; 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, import/export trade and wholesale, and retail; "Tender Price" in construction; "Price of Food Provided" in food services; "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 percentages for the three response categories may not add up to 100% owing to rounding.
- (5) 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.
- (6) Accommodation and food services mainly cover services rendered by hotels and restaurants.
- (7) Real estate sector covers real estate development, leasing, brokerage and agency, maintenance management, and other real estate services.
- (8) Professional and business services cover legal, accounting and other professional, scientific and technical services, and administrative and support services.
- (9) Figures are weighted averages of sectoral figures.