Table 1 Views on expected changes in business situation, volume of business/output, number of persons engaged and selling price/service charge, Q1 2013 as compared with Q4 2012 (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	Percentage of establishments choosing ⁽⁴⁾			Net balance ⁽⁵⁾ = Difference between the % of establishments	Percentage of establishments choosing ⁽⁴⁾			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" and that choosing "worse" (iv)=(i)-(iii)	Up (i)	Same (ii)	Down (iii)	choosing "up" and that choosing "down" (iv)=(i)-(iii)	Up (i)	Same (ii)	Down (iii)	choosing "up" and that choosing "down" (iv)=(i)-(iii)	Up (i)	Same (ii)	Down (iii)	choosing "up" and that choosing "down" (iv)=(i)-(iii)
Manufacturing	11	57	32	-21	21	48	31	-10	7	88	5	+2	14	79	8	+6
Construction	18	59	23	-5	20	55	25	-5	17	82	1	+16	27	70	3	+24
Import/export trade and wholesale	9	66	25	-16	9	66	25	-16	7	81	11	-4	6	88	6	0
Retail	18	74	8	+10	20	70	10	+10	18	79	3	+15	7	93	0	+7
Accommodation and food services ⁽⁶⁾	14	70	16	-2	18	68	14	+4	12	84	4	+8	22	71	7	+15
Transportation, storage and courier services	10	69	20	-10	14	67	20	-6	13	83	4	+9	15	83	2	+13
Information and communications	20	69	11	+9	20	69	11	+9	25	75	0	+25	14	82	4	+10
Financing and insurance	23	72	6	+17	29	65	6	+23	18	80	2	+16	8	92	0	+8
Real estate ⁽⁷⁾	18	75	7	+11	18	75	7	+11	25	75	0	+25	18	80	2	+16
Professional and business services ⁽⁸⁾	14	81	5	+9	17	75	7	+10	15	77	8	+7	10	90	0	+10
All sectors above ⁽⁹⁾	15	70	16	-1												

Notes:

- (1) In collecting views on the quarter-to-quarter changes, if the variable in question is 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 the manufacturing sector; "volume of construction output" in the construction sector; "volume of sales" in the import/export trade and wholesale, and retail sectors; 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 the manufacturing, import/export trade and wholesale, and retail sectors; "tender price" in the construction sector; "price of food provided" in the food services sector; "premium rate" in the insurance sector; "price of properties sold/management fee/commission rate" in the real estate sector; 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 sector mainly covers 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 sector covers professional, scientific and technical services, and administrative and support services.
- (9) Figures are weighted averages of sectoral figures.