Table 1 Views on expected changes in business situation, volume of business/output, number of persons engaged and selling price/service charge, Q2 2018 as compared with Q1 2018 (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	est	ercentage of tablishments 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	13	70	18	-5	28	68	5	+23	18	79	3	+15	21	76	3	+18	
Construction	6	75	19	-13	13	74	12	+1	3	86	11	-8	8	85	7	+1	
Import/export trade and wholesale	14	78	9	+5	16	75	10	+6	7	89	5	+2	8	89	4	+4	
Retail	13	78	9	+4	17	72	11	+6	12	83	5	+7	11	89	0	+11	
Accommodation and food services ⁽⁶⁾	15	63	22	-7	19	65	16	+3	12	83	5	+7	15	78	7	+8	
Transportation, storage and courier services	12	68	20	-8	22	70	8	+14	10	88	2	+8	4	92	4	0	
Information and communications	26	68	6	+20	25	69	6	+19	15	79	6	+9	10	88	2	+8	
Financing and insurance	32	65	4	+28	29	69	2	+27	28	70	2	+26	5	94	1	+4	
Real estate ⁽⁷⁾	14	84	3	+11	19	81	0	+19	5	95	0	+5	12	88	0	+12	
Professional and business services ⁽⁸⁾	5	87	7	-2	10	83	7	+3	6	90	4	+2	3	97	0	+3	
All sectors above ⁽⁹⁾	17	74	9	+8													

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. The magnitude of the "net balance" reflects only the prevalence of optimism or pessimism, but not the magnitude of expected change.
- (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.