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CONTACT: Katie Kogelman, (614) 629-0921

Ohio Chamber Research Foundation Reveals First Quarter *Prosperity Pulse* of Ohio Statewide *Prosperity Pulse* = 5.0 Steady

COLUMBUS, OH –The Ohio Chamber of Commerce Research Foundation released the findings of its initial quarterly business leader’s survey today. The Quarter 1 findings reveal the statewide “*Prosperity Pulse*” is a 5.0 which means the economic health of Ohio businesses – their economic health – is steady. However, projections for Q2 indicate a higher *Prosperity Pulse* of 5.4 - strengthening.

“The Prosperity Pulse will be monitored over time and we look forward to the pulse getting stronger as the economy strengthens” stated Brian Hicks, President of the Board, Ohio Chamber Research Foundation.

Over the last few weeks, more than 400 business leaders state wide were surveyed by the Ohio Chamber Research Foundation with the help of a third party polling firm Clout Research. Survey respondents comprise a representative sample of industry type, size and geographic location.

The *Prosperity Pulse* is presented on a 1 to 10 scale¹ and includes both quantitative and qualitative factors, including:

1. Profits
2. Change in number of employees
3. Capital Investments
4. Expenses
5. Overall business economic outlook

“While we would prefer to see Ohio’s *Prosperity Pulse* read at a 9.1 or higher – (Robust), a 5.0 reading reflects a stable operating climate for businesses across the State – and that is good news,” said Katie Kogelman, Executive Director, Ohio Chamber Research Foundation. When you take into consideration the 64% of business leaders who characterized the current state of the economy as good to excellent, and the fact that 69% are optimistic about quarter 2, this represents an encouraging and positive future.”

Each region was also given their own *Prosperity Pulse*:

Northwest - 5.16

Southwest – 5.10

Northeast – 4.92

Southeast – 4.86

Central – 5.16

¹ A high score of 9.1 – 10 would mean Ohio businesses were thriving and flourishing and economic health would be robust, while a low score of 1 – 2 would mean they’re encountering significant challenges and the economic health would be weak.

For more information, including a summary report, full report and additional cross tab details please contact Katie Kogelman at 614.629.0921 kkogelman@ohiochamber.com or visit www.ohiochamberfoundation.com/projects/

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The Ohio Chamber of Commerce Research Foundation is a registered 501(c) (3) organization dedicated to the economic well-being of Ohio. Although an affiliate organization of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, Ohio's leading business association, the Research Foundation operates under separate by-laws and a separate board of directors.