



Research Foundation

Q1 2018 Ohio Chamber Research Foundation Survey

As an organization, we are committed to promoting a healthy economy in Ohio. As business leaders, you have the power to strengthen our communities and grow our economy. We need your insight to ensure public policy is supporting your business and economic freedom. Please take a few moments to complete this survey. Thank you in advance.

1. Please enter your email address (we won't sell it, or spam you - we just need it for our records, and to send you a copy of the survey results!)

2. **OVERALL BUSINESS OUTLOOK:** Thinking now about the overall economic climate here in Ohio, would you say the economic climate is excellent, good, only fair or poor?

- Excellent
- Good
- Only fair
- Poor
- Not sure

3. **COMPANY PROFITS - LOOKING BACK:** In the business quarter just past, were your company's profits or "income" after taxes higher, lower or about the same as the quarter just

before it? Choose one:

- Much higher
- A little higher
- About the same
- A little lower
- Much lower

4. **COMPANY PROFITS - OUTLOOK:** In the business quarter **JUST AHEAD, DO YOU ANTICIPATE** your company's profits or "income" after taxes will be higher, lower or about the same as the quarter just past? Please choose one:

- Much higher
- A little higher
- About the same
- A little lower
- Much lower

5. **EMPLOYEES - LOOKING BACK:** During the business quarter just past, did the total number of employees in your company increase, decrease or stay the same?

6. **EMPLOYEES OUTLOOK:** During the business quarter **JUST AHEAD, DO YOU ANTICIPATE** the total number of employees in your company will increase, decrease or stay the same?

7. Do you currently have any job openings that you are **NOT** able to fill?

- Yes - for skilled labor
- Yes - for unskilled labor

- Yes - for both skilled and unskilled labor
- No

8. CAPITAL EXPENDITURES - LOOKING BACK: During the last quarter, did your company invest in any capital expenditures (equipment, buildings, vehicles, etc.) to help your business grow?

- Yes, under \$1,000
- Yes, \$1k - \$4,999
- Yes, \$5k - \$9,999
- Yes, \$10k - \$19,999
- Yes, \$20k - \$49,999
- Yes, \$50k - \$99,999
- Yes, \$100k - \$499,999
- Yes \$500k - \$999,999
- Yes \$1M +
- We did not make any capital expenditures in the last quarter

9. CAPITAL EXPENDITURES - LOOKING FORWARD: Looking ahead to the quarter **JUST AHEAD, DO YOU ANTICIPATE** that your company will be investing in any capital expenditures?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

10. OVERALL EXPENSES - LOOKING BACK: In the past quarter, did your overall business expenses – materials, labor, taxes, leases, utilities, insurance, etc. – increase, decrease or stay the same?

-- Please Select --

11. **OVERALL EXPENSES - OUTLOOK:** In the next quarter **JUST AHEAD, DO YOU ANTICIPATE** your overall business expenses – materials, labor, taxes, leases, utilities, insurance, etc. – increase, decrease or stay the same?

12. **OVERALL ECONOMIC OUTLOOK:** Thinking about the economy in Ohio, do you think the **NEXT THREE MONTHS** will be better, worse or stay the same for your business?

- Much better
- A little better
- About the same
- Somewhat worse
- Much worse

Next

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Issue Matrix - How are Key Issues Affecting Your Business?

13. **HOW CONCERNED ARE YOU** about . . . **Regulatory or other interference by the Federal Government?**

- Very Concerned
- Somewhat Concerned
- Not Very Concerned
- Not Concerned At All

14. **HOW CONCERNED ARE YOU** about . . . **Regulatory or other interference by the State Government?**

- Very Concerned
- Somewhat Concerned
- Not Very Concerned
- Not Concerned At All

15. HOW CONCERNED ARE YOU about . . . **Economic Uncertainty?**

- Very Concerned
- Somewhat Concerned
- Not Very Concerned
- Not Concerned At All

16. HOW CONCERNED ARE YOU about . . . **Attracting/Hiring/Retaining Qualified Employees?**

- Very Concerned
- Somewhat Concerned
- Not Very Concerned
- Not Concerned At All

17. HOW CONCERNED ARE YOU about the . . . **Cost of Energy?**

- Very Concerned
- Somewhat Concerned
- Not Very Concerned
- Not Concerned At All

18. HOW CONCERNED ARE YOU about . . . **Competition?**

- Very Concerned
- Somewhat Concerned
- Not Very Concerned
- Not Concerned At All

19. HOW CONCERNED ARE YOU about the . . . **Cost of Healthcare?**

- Very Concerned
- Somewhat Concerned

Not Very Concerned

Not Concerned At All

20. **HOW CONCERNED ARE YOU** about the . . . **Cost of All Employee Benefits?**

Very Concerned

Somewhat Concerned

Not Very Concerned

Not Concerned At All

21. **HOW CONCERNED ARE YOU** about . . . **Employee Productivity?**

Very Concerned

Somewhat Concerned

Not Very Concerned

Not Concerned At All

22. **HOW CONCERNED ARE YOU** about . . . **Data Security?**

Very Concerned

Somewhat Concerned

Not Very Concerned

Not Concerned At All

23. **HOW CONCERNED ARE YOU** about . . . **Global Trade and Markets?**

Very Concerned

Somewhat Concerned

Not Very Concerned

Not Concerned At All

24. **HOW CONCERNED ARE YOU** about . . . **Rising Salaries and Wages?**

Very Concerned

- Somewhat Concerned
- Not Very Concerned
- Not Concerned At All

25. **HOW CONCERNED ARE YOU** about the . . . **Political Environment in Ohio?**

- Very Concerned
- Somewhat Concerned
- Not Very Concerned
- Not Concerned At All

26. **HOW CONCERNED ARE YOU** about . . **Technology Changes?**

- Very Concerned
- Somewhat Concerned
- Not Very Concerned
- Not Concerned At All

27. **HOW CONCERNED ARE YOU** about . . **State and Local Taxes?**

- Very Concerned
- Somewhat Concerned
- Not Very Concerned
- Not Concerned At All

28. What is the single most important problem facing your business today?

- Taxes
- Inflation
- Poor sales
- Financing and interest rates
- Cost of labor

- Government relations
- Competition
- Labor issues
- Insurance
- Other

[Back](#) [Next](#)

33%



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Important Final Questions . . . For Statistical Purposes only

29. What is your title?

- C-suite
- President/Owner
- EVP/VP
- Exec Assistant
- Other

30. In what industry classification does your company identify? (NAICS 2017)

- Agriculture/Fishery/Forestry
- Mining/Oil/Gas
- Utilities
- Construction
- Manufacturing

- Wholesale
- Retail
- Transportation/Warehousing
- Information Services
- Finance/Insurance
- Real Estate
- Professional/Technical Services
- Education
- Healthcare/Social
- All Others

31. What is your company's gross revenue range?

Less than \$500k

- Less than \$500k
- \$500k - \$999k
- \$1M - \$5M
- \$6M - \$10M
- \$11M - \$50M
- \$51M - \$100M
- \$101M - \$500M
- \$501M - \$999M
- \$1B +

32. How many employees does your company have in Ohio?

- 1-99 employees
- 100-400
- 401 - 1000

1001 – 5000

5000+

33. What region in Ohio is your company located?

North West

North East

Central

South West

South East

Back

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