

Introduction to the Cleveland Fed Survey of Regional Conditions and Expectations (SORCE) Indexes: Online Appendix with Survey Questions

Joel A. Elvery
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These are the SORCE questions that are common to all respondents and have been included in all the survey rounds since March 2016.

Q1: How has customer demand for your firm's products or services changed in the last two months?

- Greatly increased (2)
 - Increased (1)
 - No change (0)
 - Decreased (-1)
 - Greatly decreased (-2)
 - N/A (99)
-

Q2: Please outline any factors influencing customer demand in the past two months.

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Q3: How do you expect customer demand to change over the remainder of the current quarter and into the next quarter?

- Greatly increase (2)
 - Increase (1)
 - No change (0)
 - Decrease (-1)
 - Greatly decrease (-2)
 - N/A (99)
-

Q4: Please outline any factors influencing your expectation for customer demand over the remainder of the current quarter and into the next quarter.

Q5: How have your staffing levels changed in the last two months?

- Greatly increased (2)
 - Increased (1)
 - No change (0)
 - Decreased (-1)
 - Greatly decreased (-2)
 - N/A (99)
-

Q6: Please select which of the following activities your firm has engaged in during the past two months.

- Replacing prior staff (1)
 - Seasonal change (2)
 - Creating new positions (3)
 - Cutting positions (4)
 - Other (please explain) (5)
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Q7: Please outline any factors influencing your staffing levels in the past two months.

Q8: How do you expect your staffing levels to change over the remainder of the current quarter and into the next quarter?

- Greatly increase (2)
- Increase (1)
- No change (0)
- Decrease (-1)
- Greatly decrease (-2)
- N/A (99)

Q9: Please outline any factors influencing your expectations for staffing levels over the remainder of the current quarter and into the next quarter.

Q10: How have the wages and salaries you pay changed in the last two months?

- Greatly increased (2)
 - Increased (1)
 - No change (0)
 - Decreased (-1)
 - Greatly decreased (-2)
 - N/A (99)
-

Q11: Please outline any factors influencing the wages and salaries you paid in the last two months.

Q12: How have input costs (excluding employee compensation) changed in the last two months?

- Greatly increased (2)
 - Increased (1)
 - No change (0)
 - Decreased (-1)
 - Greatly decreased (-2)
 - N/A (99)
-

Q13: Please outline any factors influencing input costs (excluding employee compensation) in the last two months.

Q14: How do you expect input costs (excluding employee compensation) to change over the remainder of the current quarter and into the next quarter?

- Greatly increase (2)
 - Increase (1)
 - No change (0)
 - Decrease (-1)
 - Greatly decrease (-2)
 - N/A (99)
-

Q15: Please outline any factors influencing your expectation for input costs (excluding employee compensation) over the remainder of the current quarter and into the next quarter.

Q16: How have the prices of your products or services changed in the last two months?

- Greatly increased (2)
- Increased (1)
- No change (0)
- Decreased (-1)
- Greatly decreased (-2)
- N/A (99)

Two sectors, transportation and banking, are asked modified versions of this question.

Firms in the transportation sector (NAICS code begins with 48):

How have the prices of your services changed in the last two months, excluding fuel surcharges?

Firms in the banking sector (NAICS code begins with 522):

How have the fees for your products and services changed in the last two months?

Q17: Please outline any factors influencing your prices in the last two months.

Q18: Have you made any changes to this fiscal year's capital investment plan in the last two months?

- Greatly increased anticipated investments (2)
- Increased anticipated investments (1)
- No change (0)
- Decreased anticipated investments (-1)
- Greatly decreased anticipated investments (-2)
- N/A (99)

If the response to Q18 indicates a change, then Q19 is given.

Q19: Is this a routinely scheduled change in plans for capital expenditures, or an off-schedule change?

- Routinely scheduled (1)
 - Off-schedule (2)
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Q20: Please outline any factors influencing your plans for capital investment in the last two months.
