

## MONTHLY POLL

November 2023 Job Creators Network Foundation Small Business Monthly Poll

**Conducted By:** John McLaughlin Scott Rasmussen

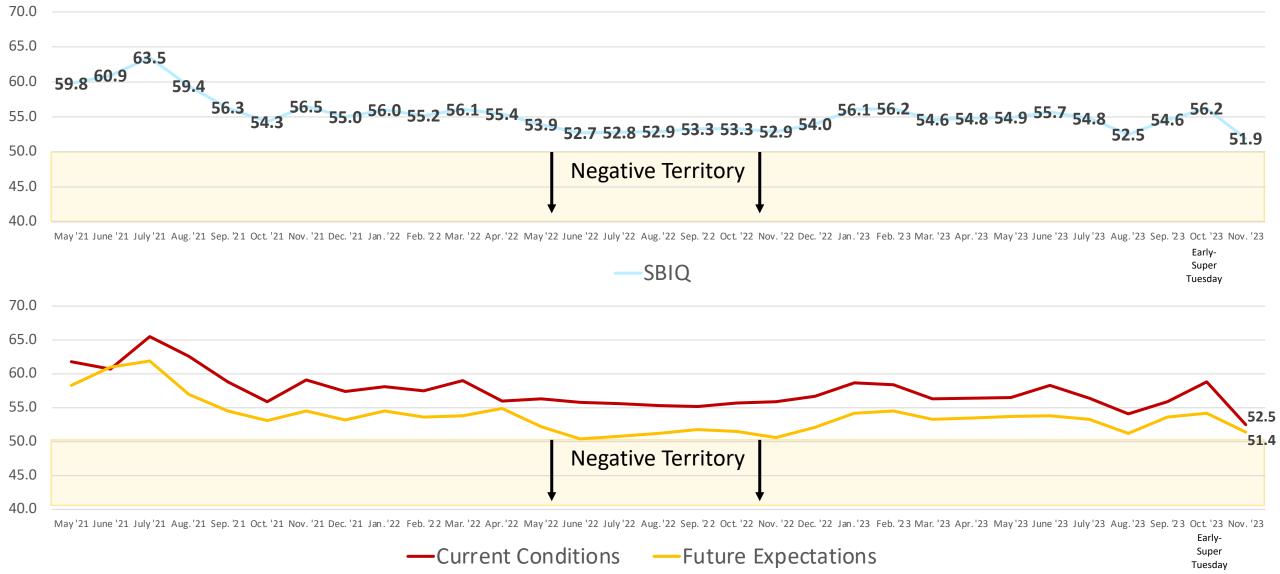


# Methodology

This national survey of 400 small business employers was conducted between November 4-30, 2023. This presentation includes JCNF's SBIQ (Small Business Intelligence Quotient). The Small Business IQ Monthly Poll tracks its SBIQ, identifies key trends, and offers valuable insights into policies impacting small business employers.

All interviews were conducted online with randomly distributed invitations. The geographic and demographic profiles were structured to represent the population of small business employers in the United States. The sample of 400 small business employers has an accuracy of +/- 4.9% at a 95% confidence interval. The numbers in this presentation have been rounded and may not equal 100%. The JCNF SBIQ is calculated on a scale from 0 to 100, with 100 being best possible conditions and 0 being worst possible conditions.
Small Business
A score of 50 is neutral, anything above 50 is positive and anything below is negative. The JCNF SBIQ is based on 7-questions:
Current Conditions: Employer's Business, U.S. Economy, and Climate for Small Businesses
Future Expectations: Employer's Business Next 3-Months, Employer's Hiring Next 3-Months, Direction of U.S. Economy, and Direction

**Future Expectations:** Employer's Business Next 3-Months, Employer's Hiring Next 3-Months, Direction of U.S. Economy, and Direction of Climate for Small Business

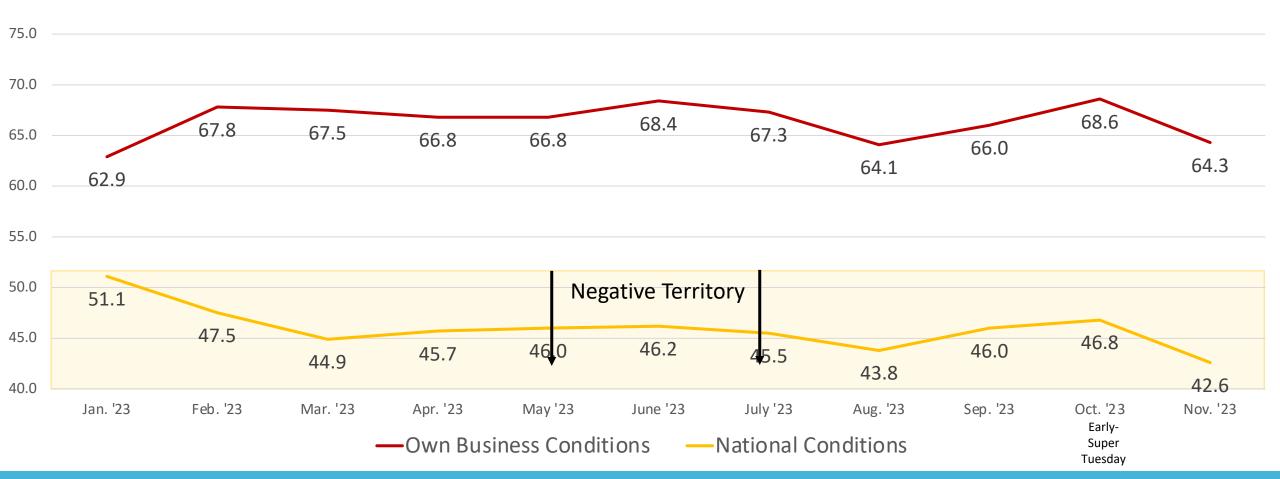


#### November 2023 | JCNF SBIQ Monthly Poll



The JCNF SBIQ is calculated on a scale from 0 to 100, with 100 being best possible conditions and 0 being worst possible conditions.
Small Business
Intelligence
Quotient
The JCNF SBIQ is calculated on a scale from 0 to 100, with 100 being best possible conditions and 0 being worst possible conditions.
A score of 50 is neutral, anything above 50 is positive and anything below is negative. The JCNF SBIQ is based on 7-questions:
Own Business Conditions: Employer's Business, Employer's Business Next 3-Months, and Employer's Hiring Next 3-Months
National Conditions: U.S. Economy, and Climate for Small Businesses, Direction of U.S. Economy, and Direction of Climate for Small Business

### **Divergence Between Perception of Own Business & National Economic Conditions**

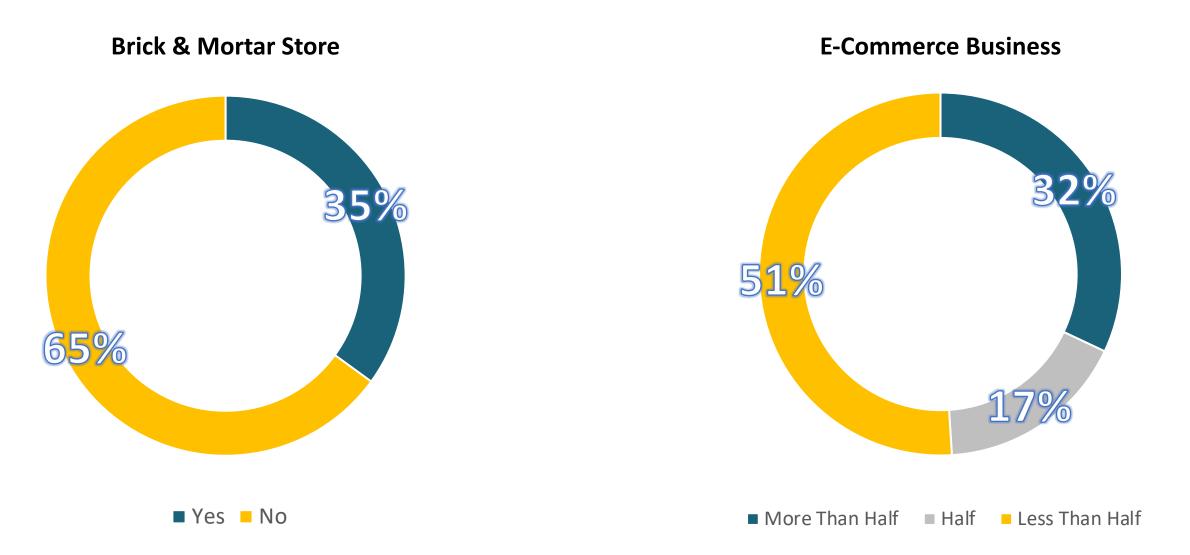


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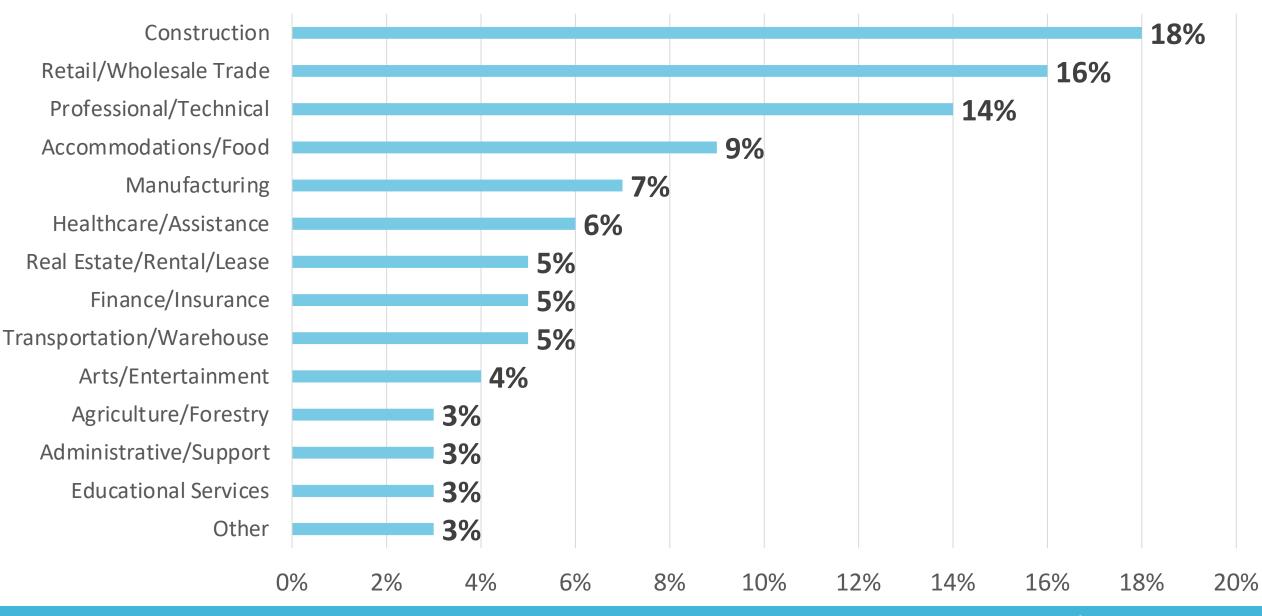
#### **Small Business Employer Profile** Who are the 400 respondents? Minority Owned 21% 19% Female Owned 21% 79% 36% 21% Annual \$250-\$500K 10-19 Region **Employee** 20% Revenue Veteran Size 10% Owned South 9% 35% \$500K-\$1M 20-499 20% 11% West C-Corp \$1M/More 32% 25% 21% S-Corp 68%

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## **Small Business Employer Profile**



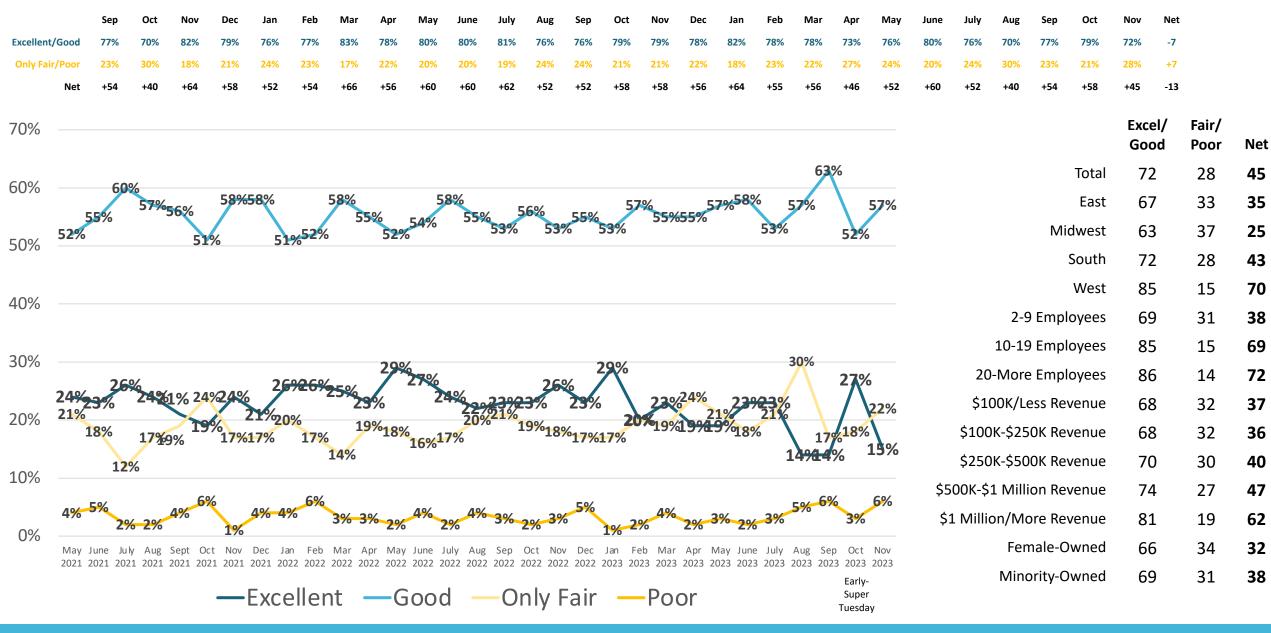
## **Small Business Employer Industry**



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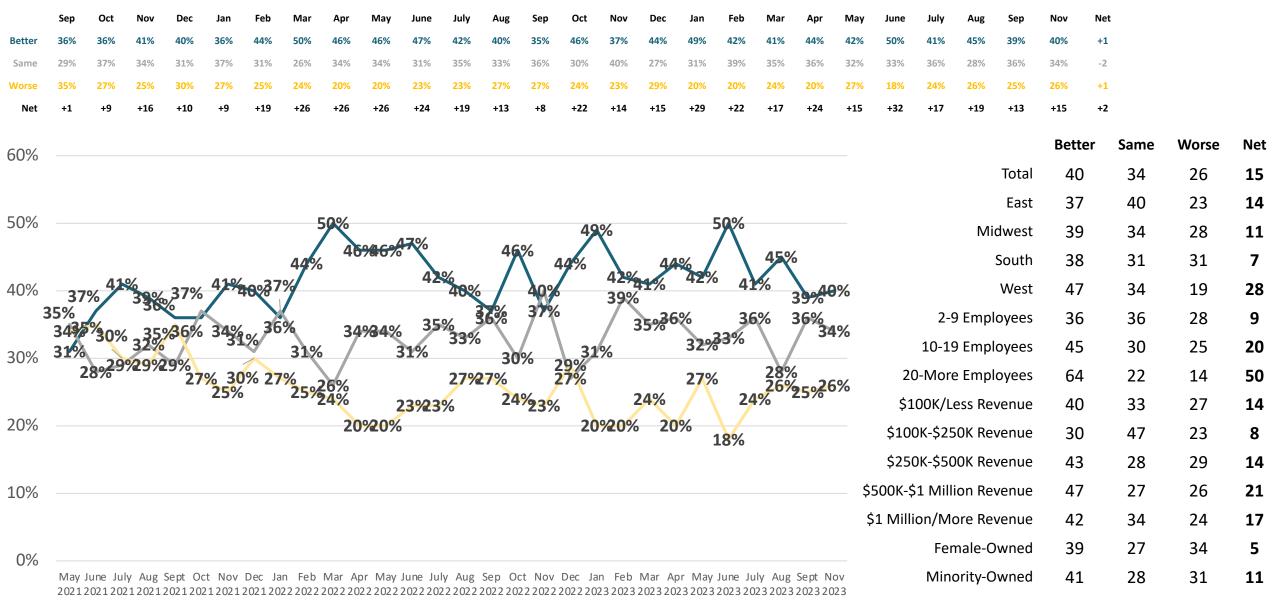
John McLaughlin | Scott Rasmussen

## **Current Financial Condition**



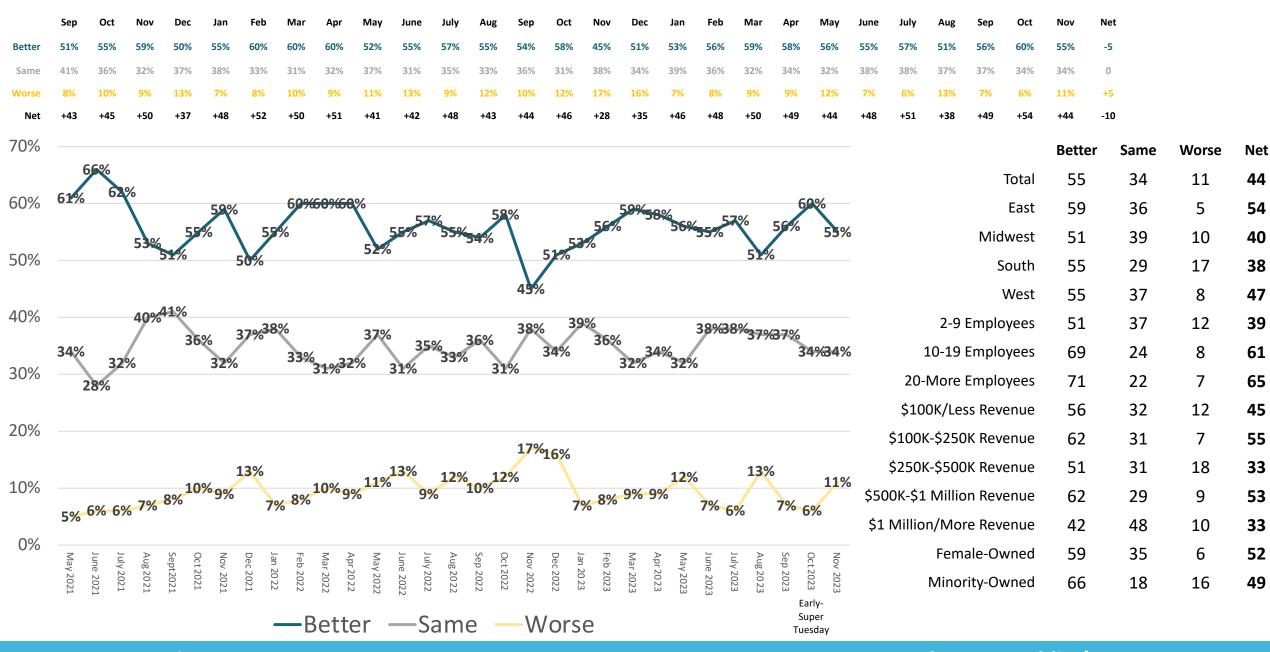
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### **Financial Condition Over Last Year**



-Better -Same -Worse

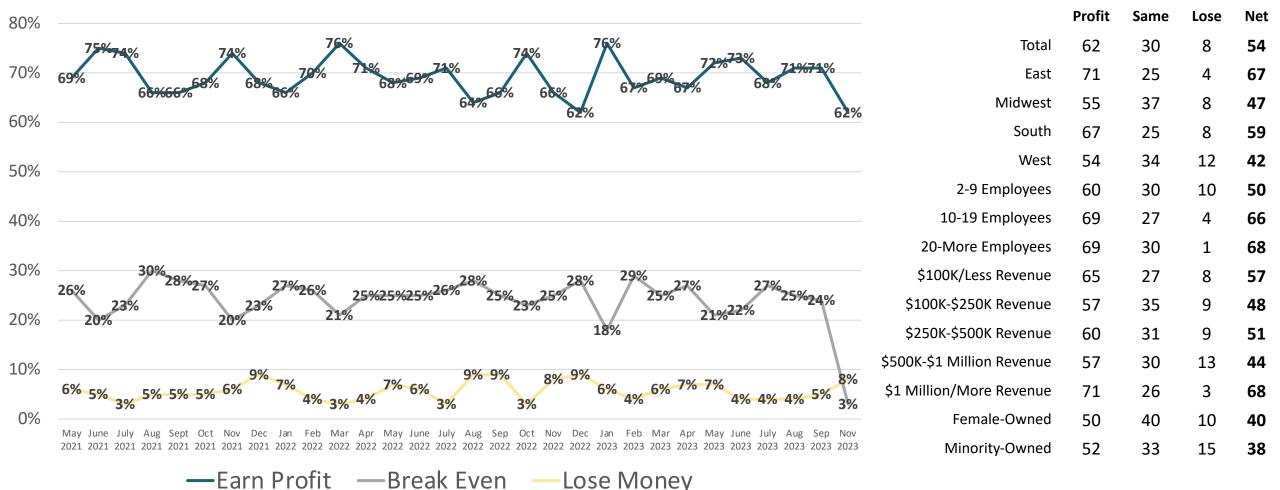
### **Financial Condition Next 3-Months**



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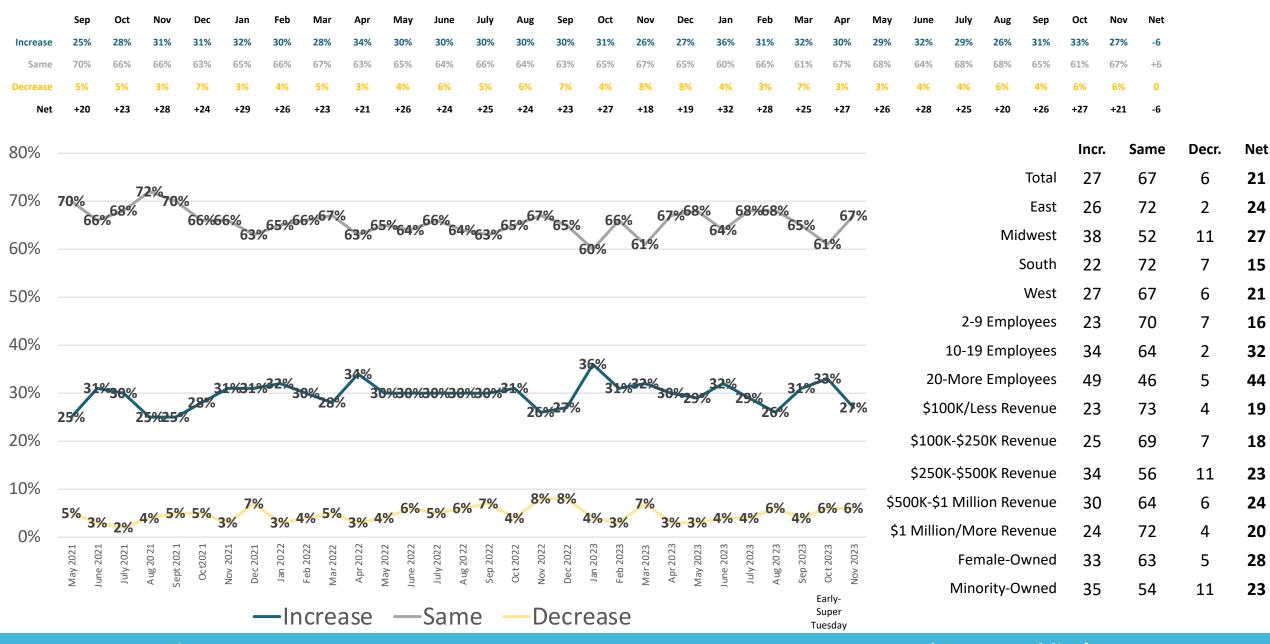
## **Profitability Next 12-Months**

	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Nov	Net
Earn Profit	66%	68%	74%	68%	66%	<b>70%</b>	<b>76%</b>	71%	68%	<b>69%</b>	71%	64%	66%	74%	66%	<b>62</b> %	76%	<b>67%</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>72%</b>	73%	68%	71%	71%	<b>62%</b>	-9
Break Even	28%	27%	20%	23%	27%	26%	21%	25%	35%	25%	26%	28%	25%	23%	25%	28%	18%	29%	25%	27%	21%	22%	27%	25%	24%	30%	+6
Lose Money	5%	5%	<mark>6%</mark>	<mark>9%</mark>	7%	4%	<b>3%</b>	4%	7%	<mark>6%</mark>	<b>3%</b>	<mark>9%</mark>	<mark>9%</mark>	<mark>3%</mark>	<mark>8%</mark>	<mark>9%</mark>	<mark>6%</mark>	4%	<mark>6%</mark>	7%	7%	4%	4%	4%	5%	<mark>8%</mark>	+3
Net	+61	+63	+68	+59	+59	+66	+73	+67	+61	+63	+69	+55	+57	+71	+58	+53	+70	+63	+63	+60	+65	+69	+64	+67	+66	+54	-12



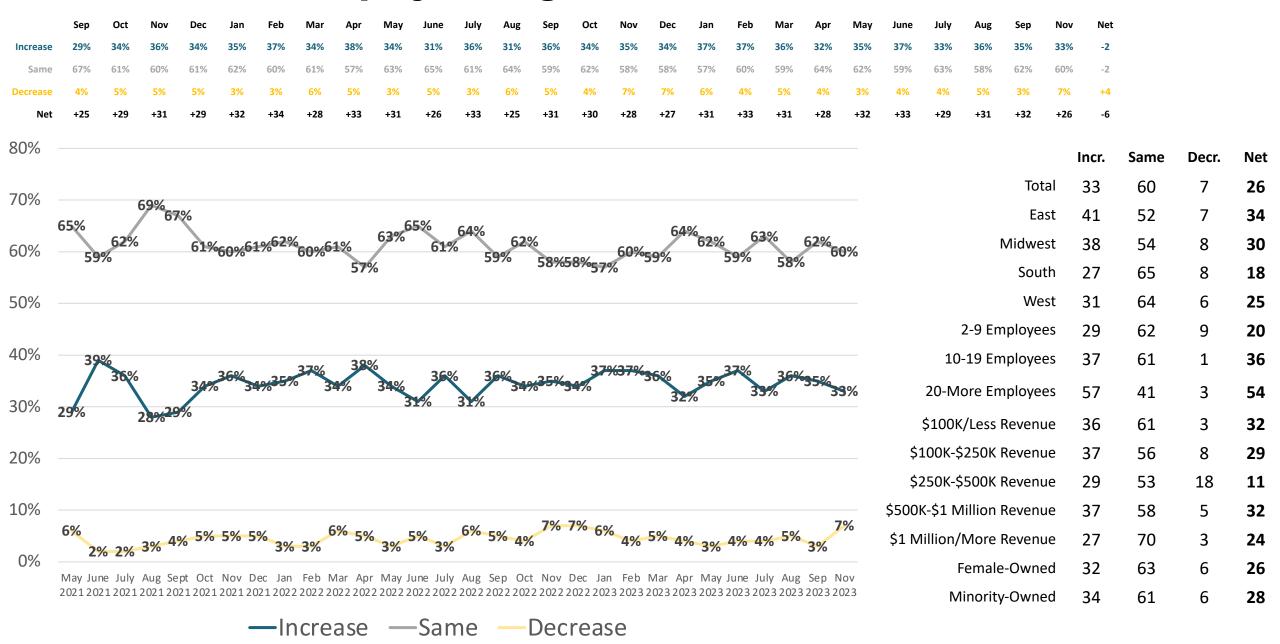
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## **Employment Next 3-Months**



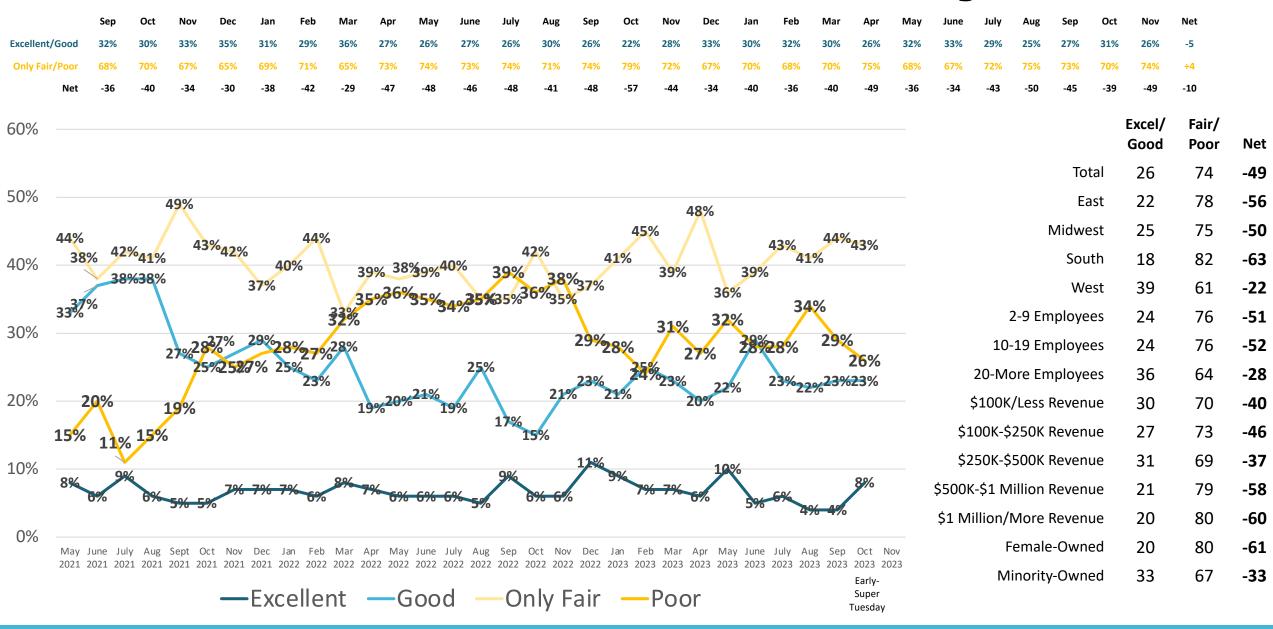
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### **Employee Wages/Hours Next 3-Months**



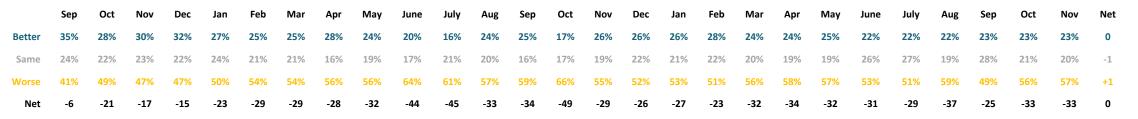
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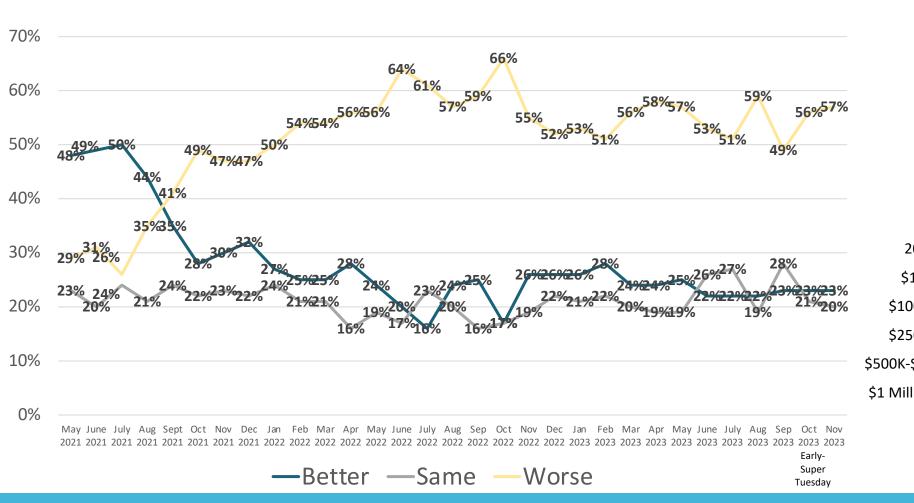
## **Condition of U.S. Economy**



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## **Direction of U.S. Economy**

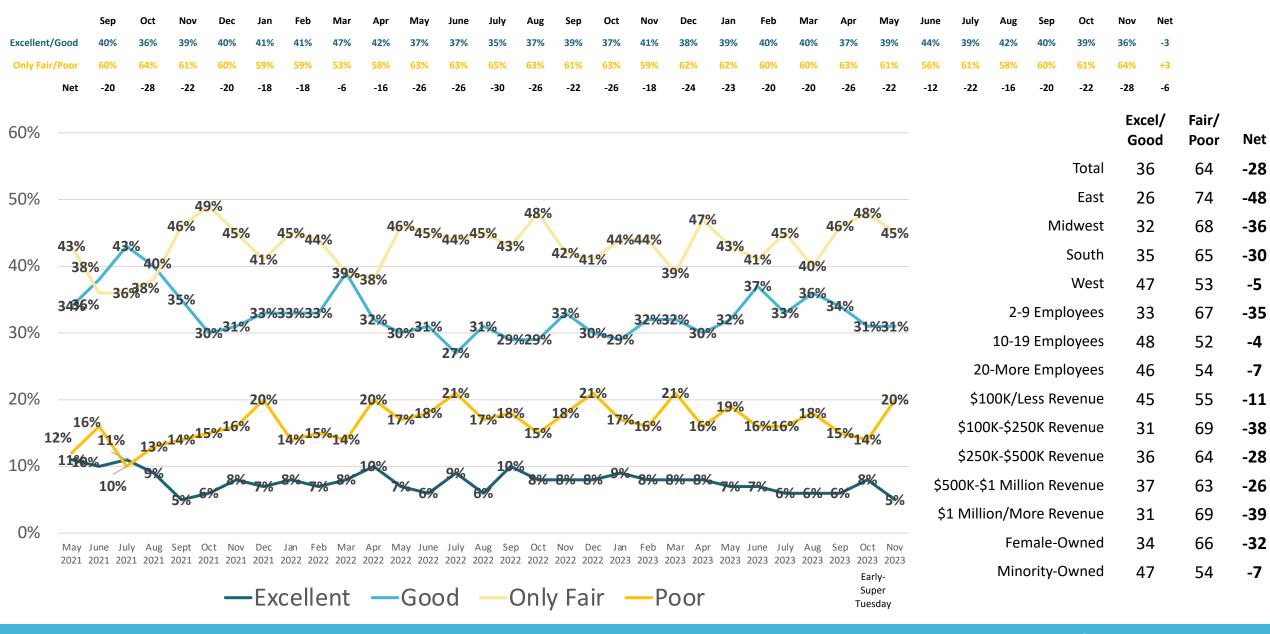




	Better	Same	Worse	Net
Total	23	20	57	-33
East	29	19	53	-24
Midwest	19	19	62	-43
South	16	20	64	-49
West	33	22	45	-12
2-9 Employees	22	19	59	-37
10-19 Employees	27	22	52	-25
20-More Employees	31	26	43	-11
\$100K/Less Revenue	24	15	61	-37
100K-\$250K Revenue	29	16	54	-25
250K-\$500K Revenue	32	18	49	-17
K-\$1 Million Revenue	17	26	58	-41
1illion/More Revenue	15	24	61	-46
Female-Owned	24	20	56	-32
Minority-Owned	22	24	55	-33

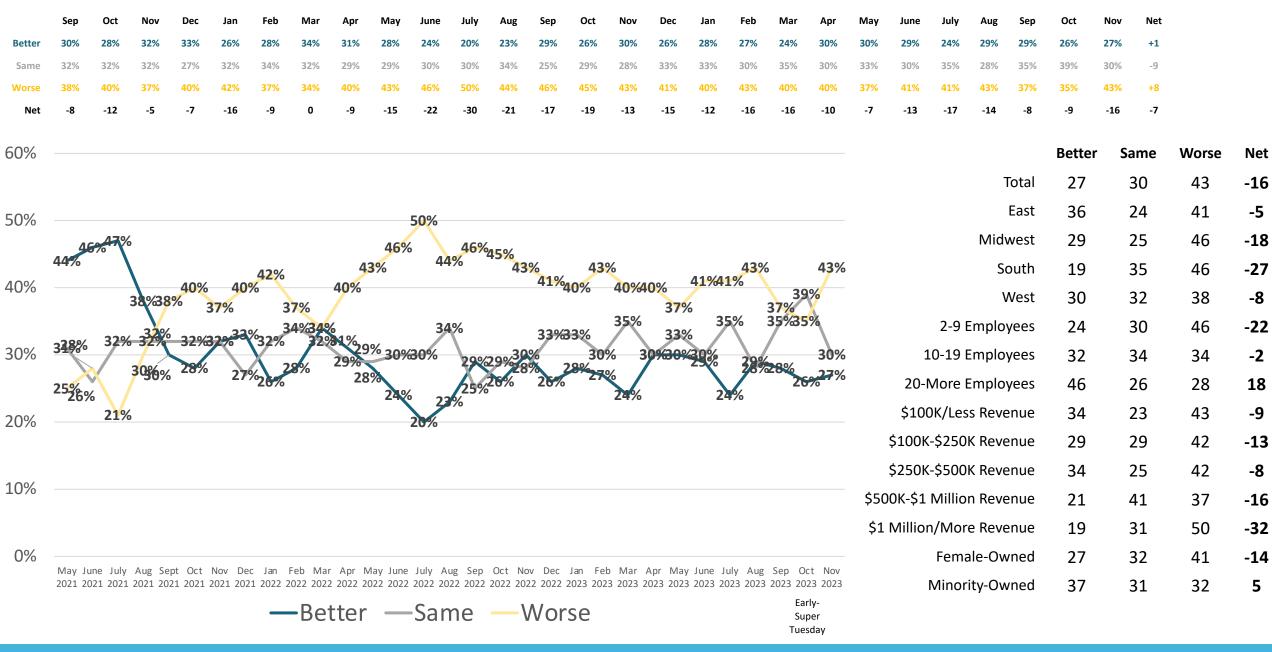
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## **Climate for Small Businesses**



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### **Direction of Climate for Small Businesses**



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### How would you grade Joe Biden's Job Performance helping small businesses

	Nov. 2022	Dec. 2022	Aug 2023	Sep 2023	Early-Sup Oct 20		Nov 2023	East	Mid- West	South	West	2-9 Employ	10-19 Employ	20/More Employ
Positive	24%	23%	20%	24%	24%	6	19%	18%	15%	13%	32%	18%	23%	25%
A-Grade	7%	9%	5%	4%	9%	, )	6%	4%	8%	5%	9%	6%	7%	6%
B-Grade	18%	13%	15%	20%	15%	6	13%	14%	7%	8%	23%	11%	15%	19%
Negative	71%	75%	78%	73%	72%	6	80%	82%	83%	85%	68%	81%	77%	72%
C-Grade	18%	22%	18%	16%	21%	6	23%	19%	27%	17%	29%	23%	21%	23%
D-Grade	11%	16%	16%	18%	16%	6	16%	24%	12%	17%	11%	15%	21%	19%
F-Grade	43%	37%	43%	39%	35%	6	41%	38%	44%	51%	28%	44%	35%	30%
GPA	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.4	Ļ	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.0	1.7	1.2	1.4	1.5
	•	100K- ss Rev.	\$10 \$250k		\$250K- \$500K Rev.	\$500 \$1 Mill		\$1 Mi More R		Female Owned	Minor Owne		S- Corp	
Positive		24%	16	%	26%	169	%	13%	, 5	19%	24%	5 <b>22%</b>	18%	
A-Grade		8%	59	%	15%	1%	6	3%		5%	6%	7%	6%	
B-Grade		16%	11	%	11%	159	%	10%	, D	14%	17%	5 15%	11%	
Negative		73%	82	%	74%	849	%	85%	5	79%	76%	5 <b>78%</b>	81%	
C-Grade		19%	25	%	15%	339	%	20%	, D	31%	25%	5 <b>28</b> %	20%	
D-Grade		13%	21	%	16%	119	%	17%	, D	11%	17%	5 <b>15</b> %	16%	
F-Grade		41%	35	%	42%	399	%	49%	, D	37%	34%	35%	44%	
GPA		1.4	1.	3	1.4	1.3	3	1.0		1.4	1.4	1.4	1.2	

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		Big	ges	st E	Bus	ine	SS	Coi	nce	erns	s (1	st <b>8</b>	& 2'	nd C	;ho	ice	Co	omb	<b>)</b> )			Early- Super Tuesday	
	Jan '22	Feb '22	Mar '22	Apr '22	May '22	June '22	July '22	Aug '22	Sep '22	Oct '22	Nov '22	Dec '22	Jan '23	Feb '23	Mar '23	Apr '23	May '23	Jun '23	July '23	Aug '23	Sep '23	Oct '23	Nov '23
Higher Prices/Inflation	40%	40%	43%	42%	41%	46%	48%	43%	48%	40%	49%	49%	41%	47%	45%	49%	53%	53%	48%	52%	48%	48%	44%
Economy/Client Spending	21%	19%	20%	23%	26%	22%	28%	27%	26%	29%	31%	31%	27%	27%	29%	31%	31%	28%	32%	27%	31%	16%	36%
General Operating Costs	21%	24%	21%	28%	14%	18%	23%	26%	20%	23%	26%	26%	19%	23%	30%	20%	25%	31%	24%	26%	25%	19%	33%
Taxes	14%	15%	13%	15%	11%	12%	16%	12%	12%	12%	15%	14%	21%	13%	17%	15%	15%	12%	17%	17%	13%	19%	12%
Interest Rates	6%	2%	4%	5%	6%	6%	6%	6%	6%	10%	8%	10%	10%	10%	13%	9%	8%	6%	9%	11%	10%	15%	12%
Supply-Chain Disruptions	20%	20%	14%	16%	15%	16%	12%	18%	21%	14%	14%	11%	13%	14%	9%	12%	14%	11%	14%	8%	10%	11%	10%
Available Workers	11%	14%	12%	15%	14%	13%	8%	12%	12%	13%	12%	13%	10%	15%	16%	14%	12%	8%	13%	17%	10%	7%	10%
Political Climate	10%	9%	12%	8%	9%	9%	11%	8%	7%	12%	4%	8%	11%	6%	8%	10%	10%	13%	11%	4%	9%	6%	10%
Gas Prices	9%	10%	25%	19%	23%	27%	26%	19%	19%	13%	15%	13%	11%	9%	11%	11%	10%	9%	5%	10%	14%	19%	9%
Healthcare Costs	5%	7%	7%	4%	8%	7%	3%	5%	7%	6%	6%	6%	7%	7%	6%	4%	7%	3%	5%	8%	5%	10%	8%
Government Regulations	14%	10%	10%	8%	10%	4%	8%	5%	7%	9%	4%	7%	11%	8%	6%	6%	7%	9%	9%	6%	6%	11%	6%
Expansion Costs	4%	4%	4%	4%	6%	6%	3%	6%	6%	5%	7%	2%	7%	8%	4%	8%	2%	6%	4%	4%	3%	4%	4%
Loan Accessibility	3%	4%	4%	4%	6%	4%	4%	3%	3%	3%	4%	2%	3%	3%	3%	4%	1%	3%	4%	5%	7%	7%	3%
Covid Restrictions/Sales	21%	16%	9%	7%	5%	6%	4%	10%	5%	5%	3%	5%	5%	6%	2%	3%	2%	1%	4%	2%	4%	4%	3%
Compensation/Insurance	2%	6%	3%	4%	6%	4%	3%	2%	2%	4%	4%	5%	3%	4%	3%	3%	4%	5%	2%	3%	4%	5%	2%

### November 2023 | JCNF SBIQ Monthly Poll

## **Bidenomics Good or Bad for the Economy & Your Business**

	Nov		Mid-			2-9	10-19	20/More
	Total	East	West	South	West	Employ	Employ	Employ
Good	26%	24%	20%	19%	41%	23%	31%	41%
Bad	66%	65%	74%	72%	53%	68%	65%	53%
Unsure	8%	12%	6%	9%	7%	9%	4%	6%

	\$100K- Less Rev.	\$100K- \$250K Rev.	\$250K- \$500K Rev.	\$500K- \$1 Mill Rev.	\$1 Mill- More Rev.		-	_	S- Corp
Good	31%	25%	26%	25%	21%	28%	35%	34%	22%
Bad	62%	67%	71%	62%	68%	62%	61%	57%	70%
Unsure	6%	8%	3%	13%	11%	11%	4%	9%	8%

## **Price Increases Your Business Faced Are More, Same, or Less Than Inflation**

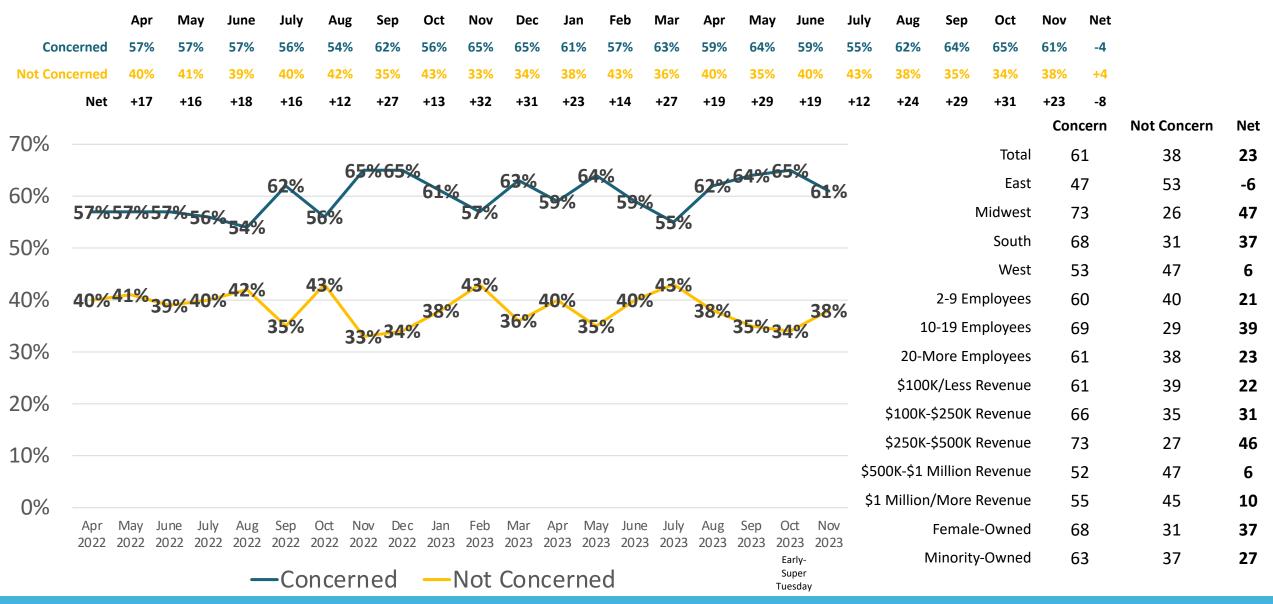
	Nov Total	East	Mid- West	South	West	2-9 Employ	10-19 Emplo	•				
More	65%	64%	77%	63%	61%	69%	57%	45%				
Same	26%	25%	17%	27%	31%	24%	31%	33%				
Less	7%	5%	5%	8%	9%	4%	12%	21%				
Unsure	2%	6%	1%	3%	0%	3%	0%	2%				
	\$10 Less		\$100 \$250K		\$250K- 500K Rev.	\$50 \$1 Mil		\$1 Mill- More Rev.	Female Owned	Minority Owned	C- Corp	S- Corp
More	•	Rev.		Rev. \$	•		ll Rev.	•		•	_	_
More Same	Less	Rev. %	\$250K	Rev. \$	500K Rev.	\$1 Mil	ll Rev. %	More Rev.	Owned	Owned	Corp	Corp
	Less 60 35	Rev. %	\$250K	Rev. \$	500K Rev. 70%	\$1 Mil 68	ll Rev. % %	More Rev. 63%	Owned 61%	Owned 62%	Corp 62%	Corp 67%

## **Biden Administration Highlights Inflation Reduction: Have Costs of Doing Business Gone Down?**

	Sep	Nov		Mid-			2-9	10-19	20/More
	Total	Total	East	West	South	West	Employ	Employ	Employ
Yes	14%	12%	10%	8%	13%	14%	10%	4%	34%
No	78%	83%	86%	90%	83%	77%	86%	86%	59%
Unsure	8%	5%	4%	2%	4%	9%	4%	9%	7%

	\$100K- Less Rev.	\$100K- \$250K Rev.	\$250K- \$500K Rev.	\$500K- \$1 Mill Rev.	\$1 Mill- More Rev.		_		S- Corp
Yes	19%	16%	7%	2%	14%	18%	23%	23%	6%
No	75%	82%	86%	92%	81%	78%	74%	74%	88%
Unsure	6%	2%	7%	5%	4%	4%	3%	3%	6%

## How Concerned That Economic Conditions Could Force You to Close Your Business



#### John McLaughlin | Scott Rasmussen

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### **Concerned Bank Failures & Instability Will Impact Their Small Business**

	April Total	May Total	June Total	July Total	Aug Total	Sep Total	Nov Total	East	Mid- West	South	West	2-9 Employ	10-19 Employ	20/More Employ
Concerned	59%	57%	57%	55%	59%	61%	60%	46%	69%	67%	54%	61%	58%	57%
Very	16%	20%	19%		20%	19%	20%	18%	29%	19%		20%	23%	24%
Somewhat	43%	37%	38%	43%	39%	41%	40%	28%	40%	48%	37%	41%	35%	33%
Not Concerned	40%	42%	42%	44%	40%	37%	39%	52%	30%	33%	46%	39%	41%	42%
Unsure	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	2%

	\$100K- Less Rev.	\$100K- \$250K Rev.	\$250K- \$500K Rev.	\$500K- \$1 Mill Rev.	\$1 Mill- More Rev.	Female Owned	Minority Owned	C- Corp	S- Corp
Concerned	62%	62%	69%	64%	44%	65%	67%	57%	61%
Very	25%	19%	29%	16%	14%		26%	24%	19%
Somewhat	37%	43%	40%	48%	30%	43%	40%	33%	43%
Not Concerned	36%	38%	30%	36%	55%	35%	33%	42%	38%
Unsure	1%	0%	2%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%

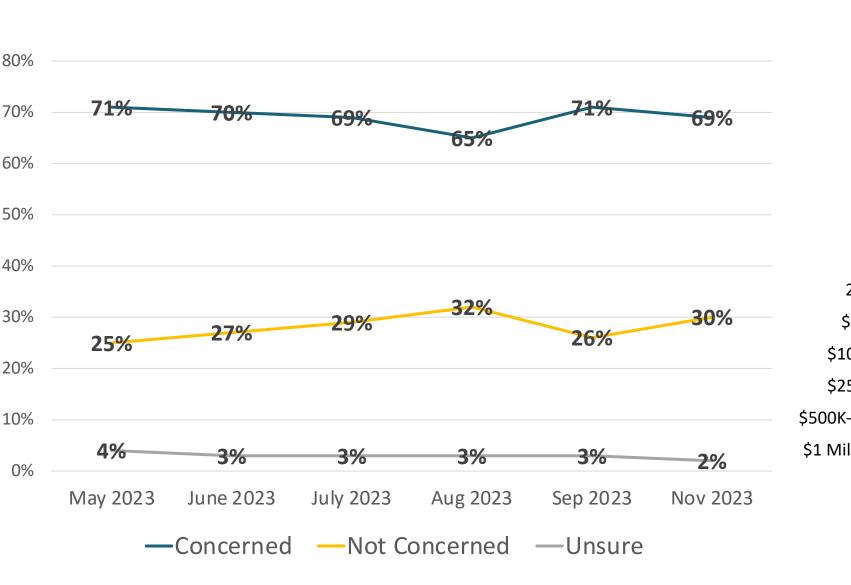
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### **Amount of Time Your Business Deals with Local, State & Federal Regulations**

	March Total	April Total	May Total	June Total	July Total	Aug Total	Sep Total	Nov Total	East	Mid- West	South	West	2-9 Employ	10-19 Employ	20/More Employ
Time Consuming	61%	56%	62%	60%	49%	56%	57%	50%	56%	49%	54%	39%	47%	67%	56%
Not Consuming	36%	43%	36%	39%	50%	42%	42%	50%	43%	50%	45%	61%	53%	32%	44%
Unsure	3%	2%	3%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%

	\$100K- Less Rev.	\$100K- \$250K Rev.	\$250K- \$500K Rev.	\$500K- \$1 Mill Rev.	\$1 Mill- More Rev.	Female Owned	Minority Owned	C- Corp	S- Corp
Time Consuming	50%	38%	61%	54%	47%	51%	65%	59%	45%
Not Consuming	49%	62%	39%	44%	53%	49%	35%	40%	54%
Unsure	1%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%

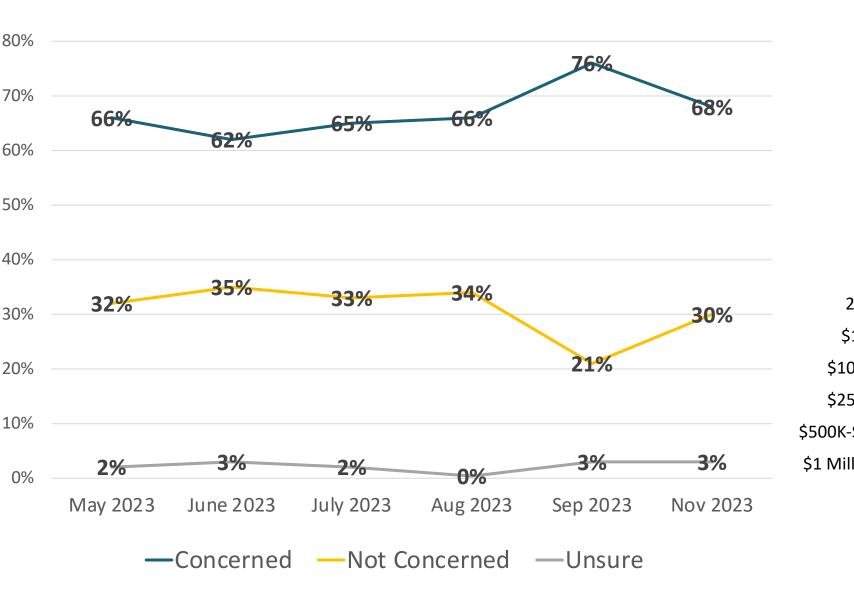
## **Concerned About New Banking Regulations Will Make It More Expensive to Give Loans**



		Not	
	Concerned	Concerned	Net
Total	69	30	39
East	75	24	51
Midwest	68	28	39
South	75	24	51
West	57	43	13
2-9 Employees	70	29	40
10-19 Employees	62	34	28
20-More Employees	69	30	40
\$100K/Less Revenue	77	22	56
00K-\$250K Revenue	70	30	40
50K-\$500K Revenue	62	37	25
-\$1 Million Revenue	68	31	37
illion/More Revenue	68	29	38
Female-Owned	67	32	35
Minority-Owned	76	25	51

#### November 2023 | JCNF SBIQ Monthly Poll

## **Concerned About Rising Interest Rates Will Affect Business' Ability to Access Credit**



		Not		
	Concerned	Concerned	Net	
Total	68	30	38	
East	74	24	50	
Midwest	57	40	17	
South	70	28	43	
West	68	29	40	
2-9 Employees	67	30	37	
10-19 Employees	64	33	31	
20-More Employees	74	24	50	
\$100K/Less Revenue	64	36	28	
\$100K-\$250K Revenue	73	24	49	
\$250K-\$500K Revenue	64	30	34	
00K-\$1 Million Revenue	74	24	50	
. Million/More Revenue	63	35	28	
Female-Owned	75	24	50	
Minority-Owned	72	26	46	

### Where are you most likely to go if your business wanted to get a financial loan?

	May Total	June Total	July Total	Aug Total	Sep Total	Nov Total	East	Mid- West	South	West	2-9 Employ	10-19 Employ	20/More Employ
Big Bank	22%	26%	29%	26%	29%	25%	25%	22%	25%	27%	24%	27%	33%
Small Bank/Credit Union	60%	57%	51%	51%	52%	57%	64%	60%	57%	47%	57%	58%	54%
Fintech/Online Bank	6%		9%	9%	8%	6%	8%		3%	9%	5%	9%	11%
Unsure	12%	10%	10%	14%	11%	12%	3%	11%	16%	17%	15%	7%	2%

	\$100K- Less Rev.	\$100K- \$250K Rev.	\$250K- \$500K Rev.	\$500K- \$1 Mill Rev.	\$1 Mill- More Rev.	Female Owned	Minority Owned	C- Corp	S- Corp
Big Bank	17%	14%	33%	21%	37%	23%	31%	40%	18%
Small Bank/Credit Union	57%	64%	49%	61%	51%	59%	49%	48%	61%
Fintech/Online Bank			5%	5%	3%	8%		6%	6%
Unsure	19%	9%	13%	13%	9%	10%	13%	7%	15%

## **Do you accept credit cards for customer payments?**

	Sep	Nov		Mid-			2-9	10-19	20/More
	Total	Total	East	West	South	West	Employ	Employ	Employ
Yes	78%	70%	58%	70%	77%	70%	65%	86%	92%
No	<b>21%</b>	<b>29%</b>	41%	29%	22%	26%	34%	14%	5%
Unsure	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	3%	1%	0%	3%

	\$100K- Less Rev.	\$100K- \$250K Rev.	\$250K- \$500K Rev.	\$500K- \$1 Mill Rev.	\$1 Mill- More Rev.		•	_	
Yes	68%	55%	74%	72%	82%	72%	80%	85%	63%
No	32%	41%	26%	28%	17%	25%	20%	15%	35%
Unsure	1%	4%	0%	1%	1%	3%	0%	0%	2%

# IF ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS: Are increasing credit card swipe fees a cost that you are concerned about?

	Sep	Nov		Mid-			2-9	10-19	20/More
	Total	Total	East	West	South	West	Employ	Employ	Employ
Yes	56%	56%	57%	50%	55%	61%	55%	55%	64%
No	34%	41%	38%	48%	43%	34%	42%	43%	33%
Unsure	10%	3%	4%	3%	2%	5%	3%	2%	3%

	\$100K- Less Rev.	\$100K- \$250K Rev.	\$250K- \$500K Rev.	\$500K- \$1 Mill Rev.	\$1 Mill- More Rev.		-		S- Corp
Yes	56%	45%	70%	53%	53%	61%	55%	61%	53%
No	42%	52%	22%	46%	45%	36%	40%	37%	44%
Unsure	2%	3%	8%	1%	2%	2%	5%	2%	4%

There is a bill in Congress right now that would lower credit card swipe fees by increasing competition. Do you support or oppose this legislation?

	Sep Total	Nov Total	East	Mid- West	South	West	2-9 Employ	10-19 Employ	20/More Employ			
Support	78%	79%	91%	79%	80%	69%	80%	81%	74%			
Oppose	11%	8%	3%	8%	10%	11%	6%	17%	17%			
Unsure	12%	12%	6%	14%	10%	20%	14%	2%	9%			
	\$100 Less F	-	\$100k 250k r		\$250K- 500K Rev.		00K- 1ill Rev.	\$1 Mill- More Rev.	Female Owned	Minority Owned	C- Corp	S- Corp
Support	•	Rev. \$	•	Rev. \$	•	\$1 N		•			_	-
Support Oppose	Less F	Rev. \$ %	250K R	Rev. \$	500K Rev.	\$1 N	1ill Rev.	More Rev.	Owned	Owned	Corp	Corp

## **General Election for President:**

Who Would Do Most to Help Small Businesses

	Early-Super Oct 202		Nov Total	East	Mid- West	South	West	2-9 Employ	10-19 Employ	20/More Employ	2	
Trump	61%		57%	58%	55%	71%	40%	57%	57%	64%		
Biden	28%		<mark>28</mark> %	30%	24%	18%	45%	29%	29%	23%		
Unsure	11%		14%	13%	21%	11%	15%	14%	15%	14%		
	\$100K- Less Rev.	\$10 \$250	-	\$25 \$500k		\$500k \$1 Mill F		\$1 Mill- More Rev.	Female Owned	Minority Owned	C- Corp	S- Corp
Trump	•		K Rev.		K Rev.		Rev. I	•		•	-	-
Trump Biden	Less Rev.	\$250H	<b>K Rev.</b>	\$500k	K Rev. %	\$1 Mill F	Rev. I	More Rev.	Owned	Owned	Corp	Corp