

January 2024
Job Creators Network Foundation
Small Business Monthly Poll

Conducted By:
John McLaughlin
Scott Rasmussen

# Small Business

#### MONTHLY POLL



### Methodology

This national survey of 400 small business employers was conducted between January 3-29, 2024. 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%.

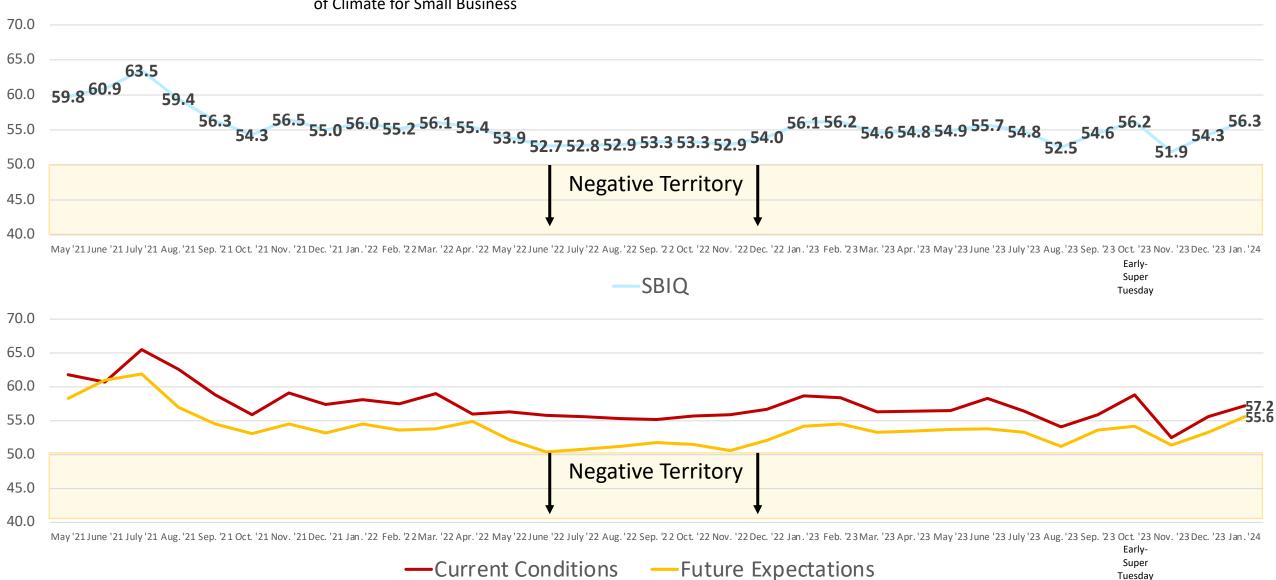


The JCNF SBIQ is calculated on a scale from 0 to 100, with 100 being best possible conditions and 0 being worst possible conditions.

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 of Climate for Small Business

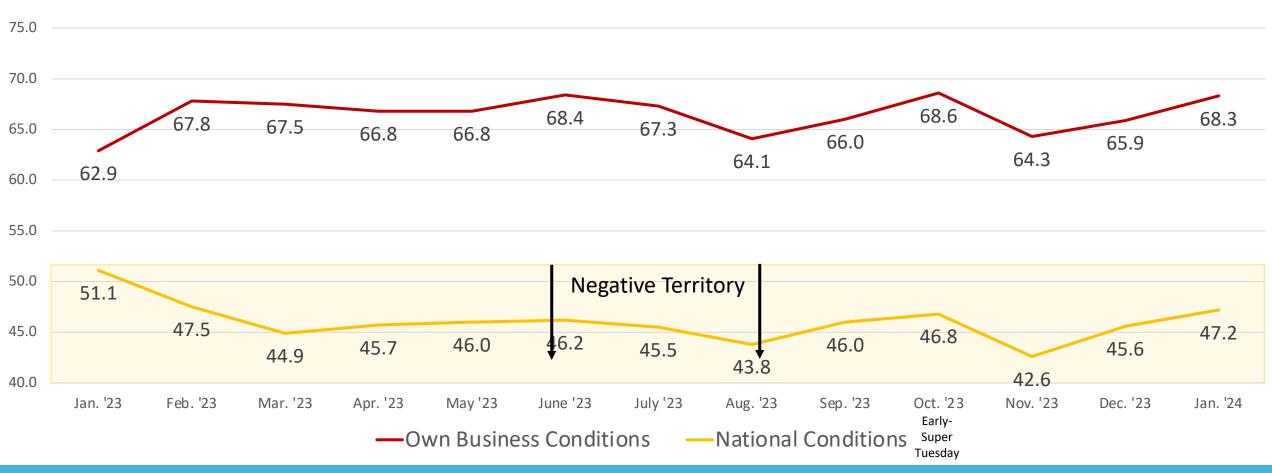




The JCNF SBIQ is calculated on a scale from 0 to 100, with 100 being best possible conditions and 0 being worst possible conditions. A score of 50 is neutral, anything above 50 is positive and anything below is negative. The JCNF SBIQ is based on 7-questions:

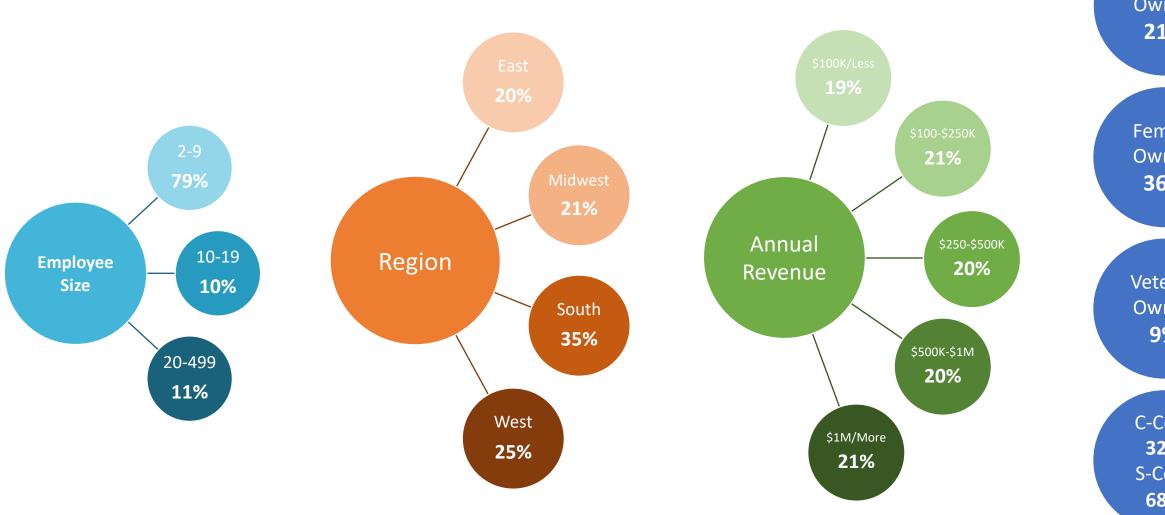
**Own Business Conditions:** Employer's Business, Employer's Business Next 3-Months, and Employer's Hiring Next 3-Months **National Conditions:** U.S. Economy, and Climate for Small Businesses, Direction of U.S. Economy, and Direction of Climate for Small Business

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



### **Small Business Employer Profile**

Who are the 400 respondents?



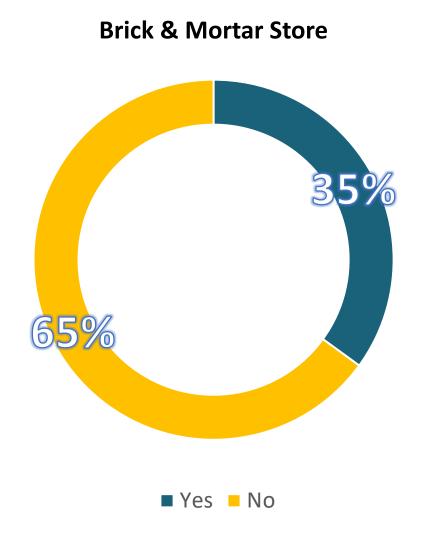
Minority Owned 21%

**Female** Owned 36%

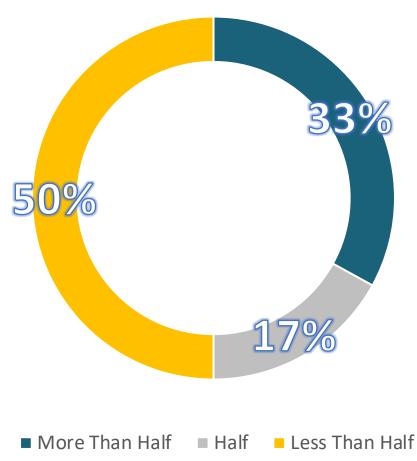
Veteran Owned 9%

C-Corp 32% S-Corp 68%

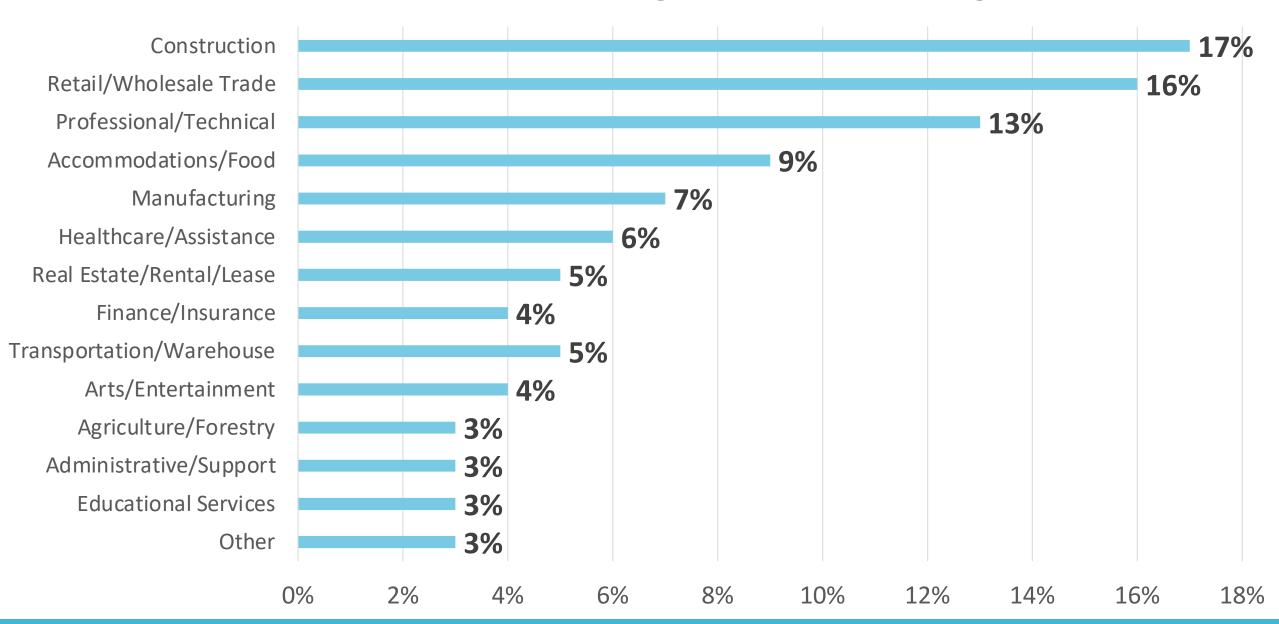
### **Small Business Employer Profile**





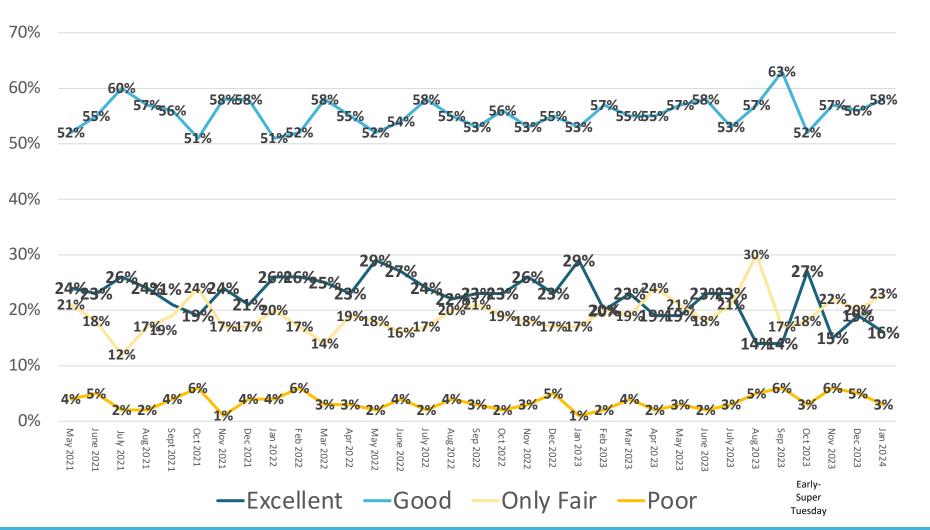


### **Small Business Employer Industry**



#### **Current Financial Condition**

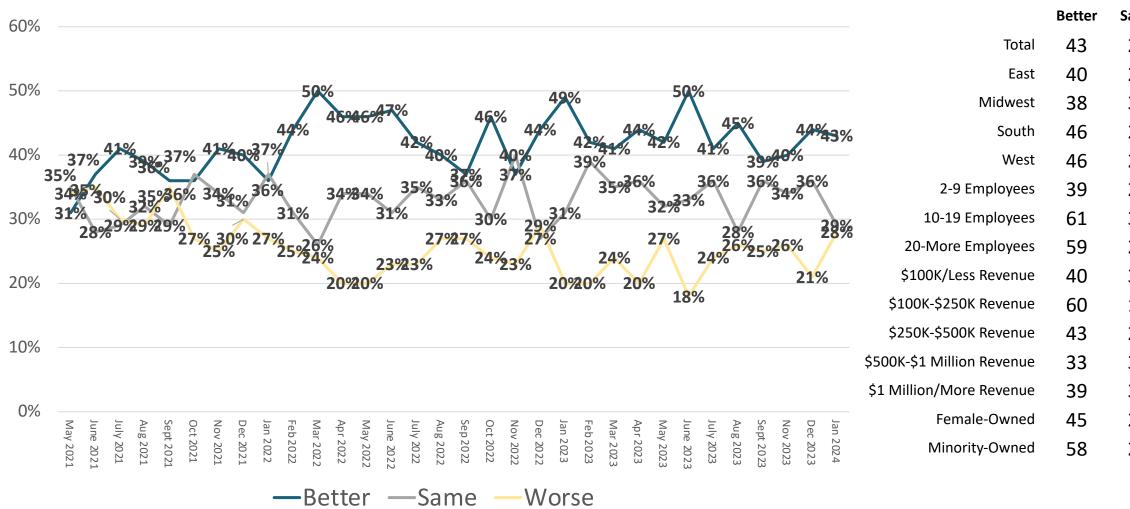




	Excel/ Good	Fair/ Poor	Net
Total			
Total	74	26	47
East	70	30	40
Midwest	72	28	44
South	81	19	<b>62</b>
West	67	33	35
2-9 Employees	68	32	<b>37</b>
10-19 Employees	91	9	82
20-More Employees	96	4	91
\$100K/Less Revenue	51	49	2
\$100K-\$250K Revenue	74	26	48
\$250K-\$500K Revenue	81	19	62
\$500K-\$1 Million Revenue	74	26	48
\$1 Million/More Revenue	86	14	72
Female-Owned	73	27	46
Minority-Owned	80	20	61

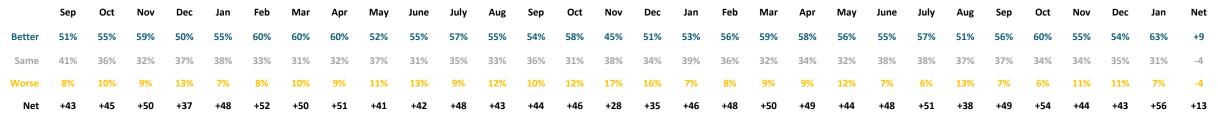
#### **Financial Condition Over Last Year**

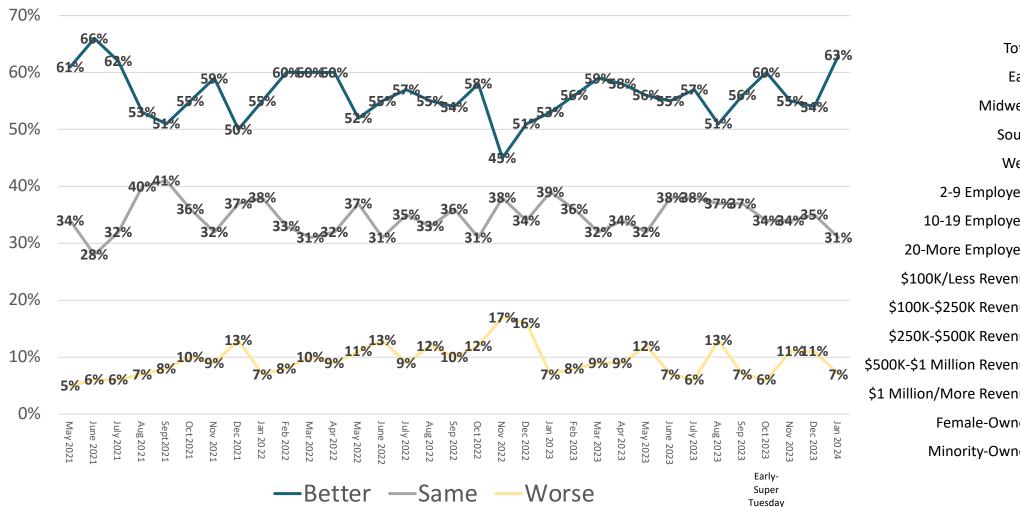
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Nov	Dec	Jan	Net
Better	36%	36%	41%	40%	36%	44%	50%	46%	46%	47%	42%	40%	35%	46%	37%	44%	49%	42%	41%	44%	42%	50%	41%	45%	39%	40%	44%	43%	-1
Same	29%	37%	34%	31%	37%	31%	26%	34%	34%	31%	35%	33%	36%	30%	40%	27%	31%	39%	35%	36%	32%	33%	36%	28%	36%	34%	36%	29%	-7
Worse	35%	27%	25%	30%	<b>27</b> %	25%	24%	20%	20%	23%	23%	27%	27%	24%	23%	29%	20%	20%	24%	20%	27%	18%	24%	26%	25%	26%	21%	28%	+7
Net	+1	+9	+16	+10	+9	+19	+26	+26	+26	+24	+19	+13	+8	+22	+14	+15	+29	+22	+17	+24	+15	+32	+17	+19	+13	+15	+23	+15	-8



	Better	Same	Worse	Net
Total	43	29	28	15
East	40	29	30	10
Midwest	38	34	28	9
South	46	28	25	21
West	46	25	30	16
2-9 Employees	39	28	33	6
10-19 Employees	61	32	7	53
20-More Employees	59	28	13	46
\$100K/Less Revenue	40	30	30	11
\$100K-\$250K Revenue	60	16	24	36
\$250K-\$500K Revenue	43	28	29	14
\$500K-\$1 Million Revenue	33	32	36	-3
\$1 Million/More Revenue	39	38	23	16
Female-Owned	45	25	30	14
Minority-Owned	58	27	16	42

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

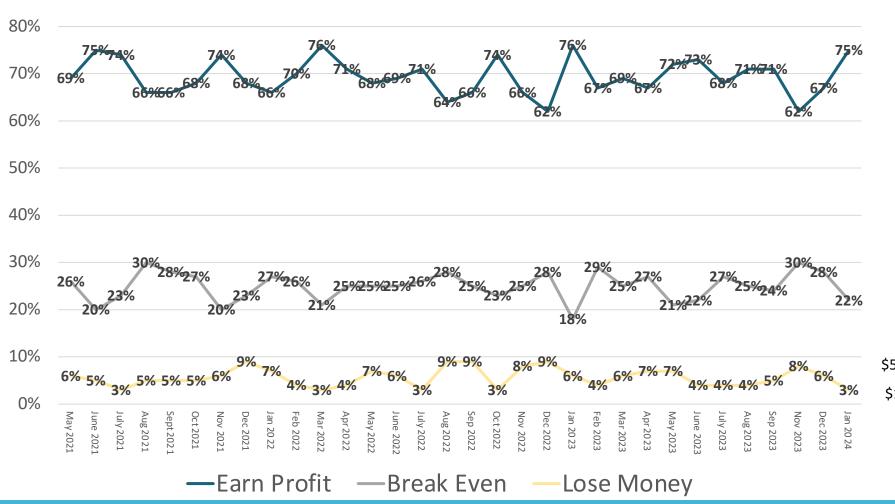




	Better	Same	Worse	Net
Total	63	31	7	56
East	69	30	1	68
Midwest	53	32	15	38
South	64	31	6	58
West	63	31	6	58
2-9 Employees	63	30	7	56
10-19 Employees	57	36	7	51
20-More Employees	64	29	7	<b>57</b>
\$100K/Less Revenue	64	30	6	58
\$100K-\$250K Revenue	77	22	2	<b>75</b>
\$250K-\$500K Revenue	58	34	8	50
\$500K-\$1 Million Revenue	57	28	15	42
\$1 Million/More Revenue	58	40	3	55
Female-Owned	72	22	6	66
Minority-Owned	74	20	6	68

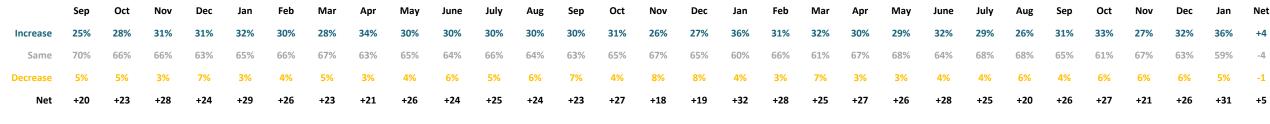
#### **Profitability Next 12-Months**

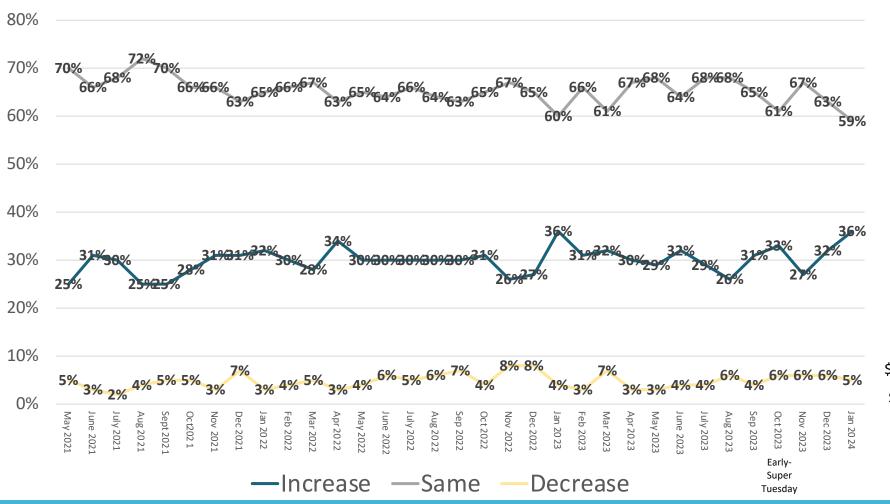
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Nov	Dec	Jan	Net
Earn Profit	66%	68%	74%	68%	66%	70%	76%	71%	68%	69%	71%	64%	66%	74%	66%	<b>62</b> %	76%	67%	69%	67%	<b>72</b> %	73%	68%	71%	71%	62%	67%	75%	+8
Break Even	28%	27%	20%	23%	27%	26%	21%	25%	35%	25%	26%	28%	25%	23%	25%	28%	18%	29%	25%	27%	21%	22%	27%	25%	24%	30%	28%	22%	-6
Lose Money	5%	5%	6%	9%	7%	4%	3%	4%	7%	6%	3%	9%	9%	3%	8%	9%	6%	4%	6%	7%	7%	4%	4%	4%	5%	8%	6%	3%	-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	+61	+72	+11



	Profit	Same	Lose	Net
Total	75	22	3	72
East	77	23	0	77
Midwest	68	23	9	60
South	76	22	2	74
West	77	23	0	77
2-9 Employees	72	25	3	69
10-19 Employees	89	10	1	88
20-More Employees	86	12	2	84
\$100K/Less Revenue	67	28	4	63
\$100K-\$250K Revenue	83	17	0	83
\$250K-\$500K Revenue	71	26	3	69
500K-\$1 Million Revenue	71	23	6	65
1 Million/More Revenue	80	19	1	<b>79</b>
Female-Owned	68	30	2	66
Minority-Owned	82	18	1	81

#### **Employment Next 3-Months**

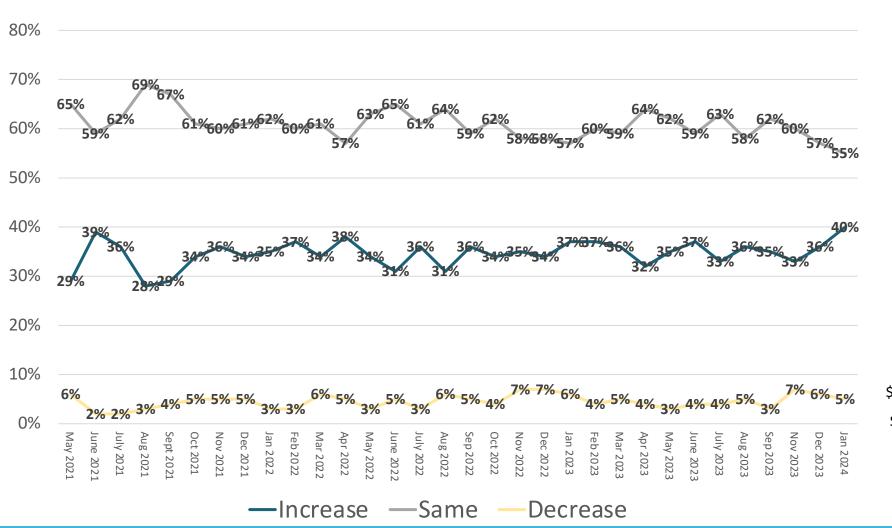




	Incr.	Same	Decr.	Net
Total	36	59	5	31
East	31	68	1	31
Midwest	45	46	9	35
South	38	57	5	33
West	29	66	5	25
2-9 Employees	32	62	5	27
10-19 Employees	54	42	4	50
20-More Employees	46	53	2	44
\$100K/Less Revenue	18	78	4	14
\$100K-\$250K Revenue	54	44	2	52
\$250K-\$500K Revenue	32	63	4	28
500K-\$1 Million Revenue	31	58	11	20
1 Million/More Revenue	42	55	4	38
Female-Owned	34	61	4	30
Minority-Owned	49	51	0	49

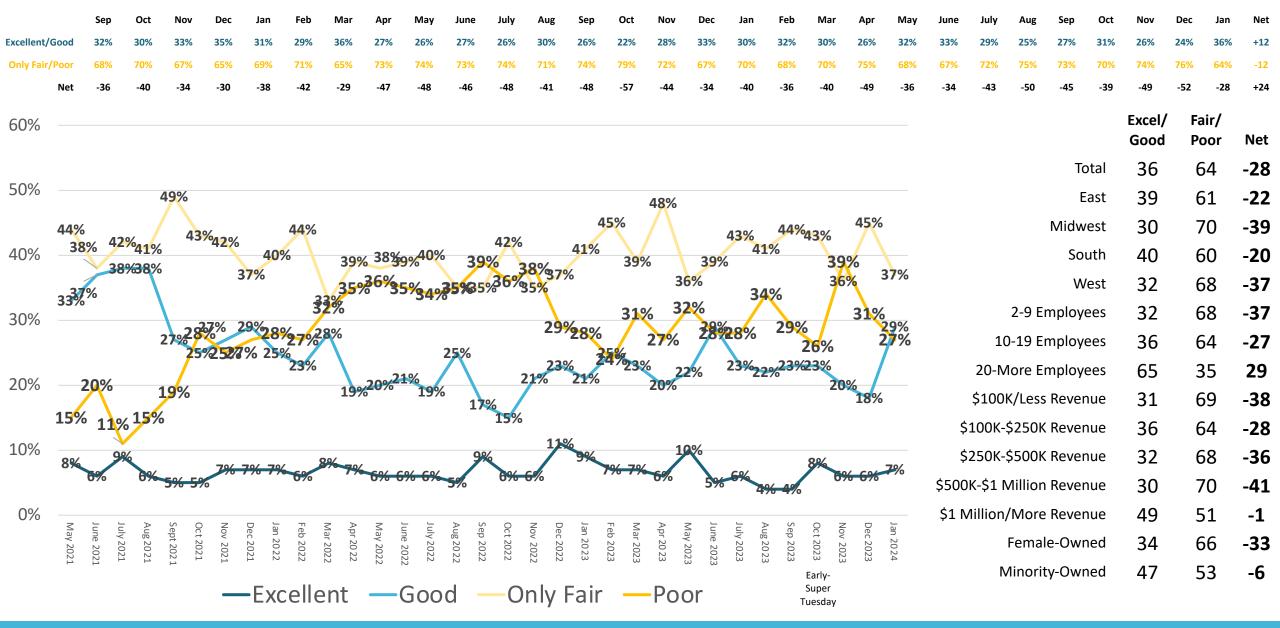
#### **Employee Wages/Hours Next 3-Months**

	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	Dec	Jan	Net
Increase	29%	34%	36%	34%	35%	37%	34%	38%	34%	31%	36%	31%	36%	34%	35%	34%	37%	37%	36%	32%	35%	37%	33%	36%	35%	33%	36%	40%	+4
Same	67%	61%	60%	61%	62%	60%	61%	57%	63%	65%	61%	64%	59%	62%	58%	58%	57%	60%	59%	64%	62%	59%	63%	58%	62%	60%	57%	55%	-2
Decrease	4%	5%	5%	5%	3%	3%	6%	5%	3%	5%	3%	6%	5%	4%	7%	7%	6%	4%	5%	4%	3%	4%	4%	5%	3%	7%	6%	5%	-1
Net	+25	+29	+31	+29	+32	+34	+28	+33	+31	+26	+33	+25	+31	+30	+28	+27	+31	+33	+31	+28	+32	+33	+29	+31	+32	+26	+30	+35	+5



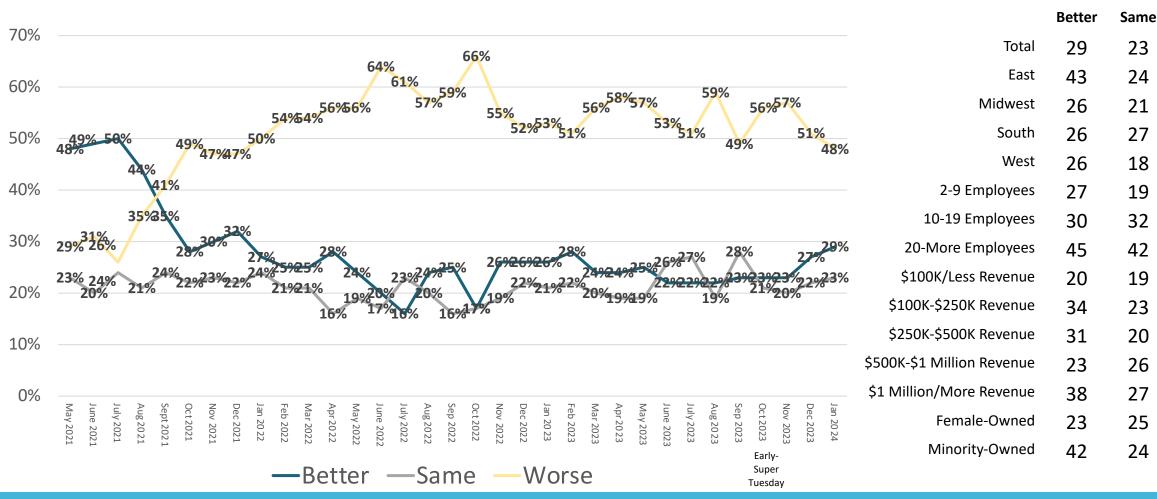
	Incr.	Same	Decr.	Net
Total	40	55	5	35
East	34	66	0	33
Midwest	51	44	5	46
South	42	49	8	34
West	31	64	4	27
2-9 Employees	37	58	5	32
10-19 Employees	41	53	6	35
20-More Employees	57	38	5	53
\$100K/Less Revenue	23	71	6	17
\$100K-\$250K Revenue	55	41	4	51
\$250K-\$500K Revenue	35	60	5	30
\$500K-\$1 Million Revenue	39	57	4	34
\$1 Million/More Revenue	45	50	5	<b>39</b>
Female-Owned	36	60	5	31
Minority-Owned	48	47	5	43

### Condition of U.S. Economy



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

	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	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Net
Better	35%	28%	30%	32%	27%	25%	25%	28%	24%	20%	16%	24%	25%	17%	26%	26%	26%	28%	24%	24%	25%	22%	22%	22%	23%	23%	23%	27%	29%	+2
Same	24%	22%	23%	22%	24%	21%	21%	16%	19%	17%	21%	20%	16%	17%	19%	22%	21%	22%	20%	19%	19%	26%	27%	19%	28%	21%	20%	22%	23%	+1
Worse	41%	49%	47%	47%	50%	54%	54%	56%	56%	64%	61%	57%	59%	66%	55%	<b>52</b> %	53%	51%	56%	58%	<b>57</b> %	53%	51%	59%	49%	56%	<b>57</b> %	51%	48%	-3
Net	-6	-21	-17	-15	-23	-29	-29	-28	-32	-44	-45	-33	-34	-49	-29	-26	-27	-23	-32	-34	-32	-31	-29	-37	-25	-33	-33	-23	-18	+5



Worse

48

33

53

47

56

54

38

13

61

43

50

51

35

51

35

Net

-18

9

-27

-21

-29

-26

-9

31

-41

-8

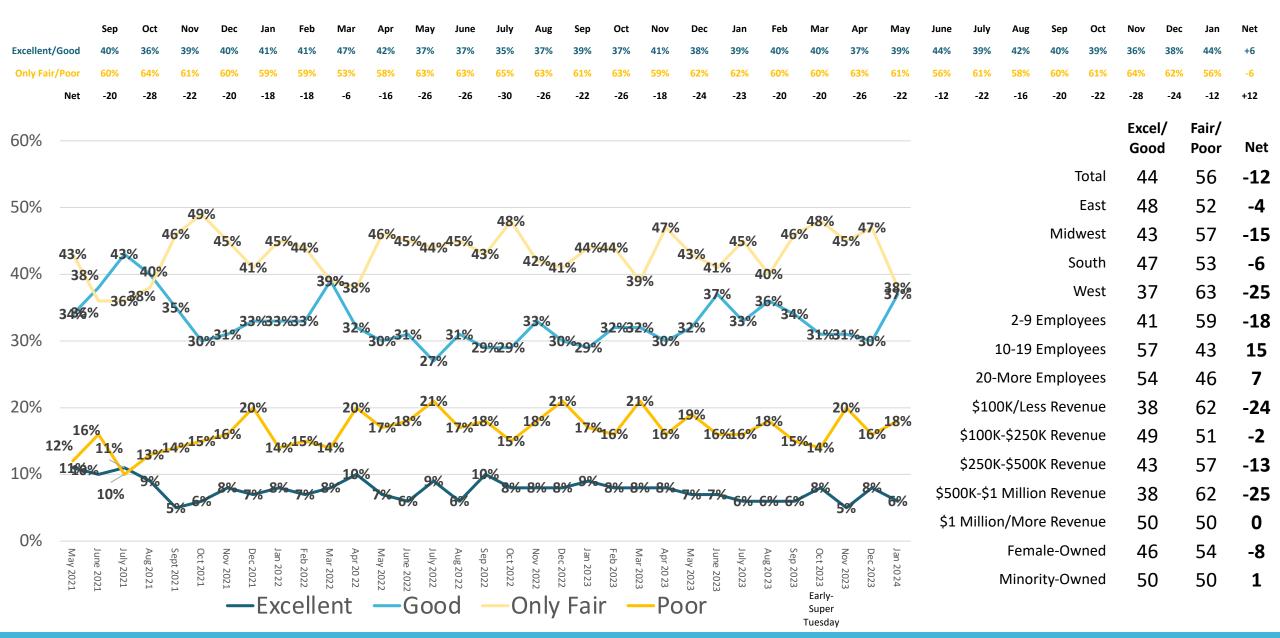
-19

-29

3

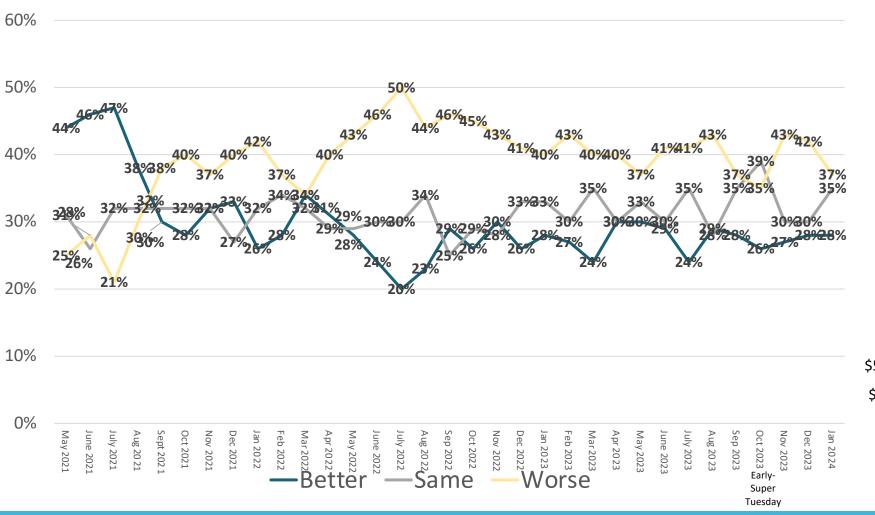
-28

#### **Climate for Small Businesses**



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

	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	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Net
Better	30%	28%	32%	33%	26%	28%	34%	31%	28%	24%	20%	23%	29%	26%	30%	26%	28%	27%	24%	30%	30%	29%	24%	29%	29%	26%	27%	28%	28%	+-0
Same	32%	32%	32%	27%	32%	34%	32%	29%	29%	30%	30%	34%	25%	29%	28%	33%	33%	30%	35%	30%	33%	30%	35%	28%	35%	39%	30%	30%	35%	+5
Worse	38%	40%	<b>37</b> %	40%	42%	37%	34%	40%	43%	46%	50%	44%	46%	45%	43%	41%	40%	43%	40%	40%	37%	41%	41%	43%	37%	35%	43%	42%	37%	-5
Net	-8	-12	-5	-7	-16	-9	0	-9	-15	-22	-30	-21	-17	-19	-13	-15	-12	-16	-16	-10	-7	-13	-17	-14	-8	-9	-16	-14	-9	+5



	Better	Same	Worse	Net
Total	28	35	37	-9
East	36	33	31	5
Midwest	33	25	42	-8
South	23	44	33	-10
West	24	32	44	-20
2-9 Employees	25	33	42	-17
10-19 Employees	40	39	21	19
20-More Employees	40	41	20	20
\$100K/Less Revenue	22	28	51	-29
\$100K-\$250K Revenue	36	26	38	-2
\$250K-\$500K Revenue	29	34	38	-9
500K-\$1 Million Revenue	24	35	40	-16
\$1 Million/More Revenue	29	49	22	7
Female-Owned	25	34	40	-15
Minority-Owned	38	37	25	13

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

	Nov. '22	Dec. '22	Aug '23	Sep '23	Early-Super Tue. Oct '23	Nov '23	Dec '23	Jan '24	East	Mid- West	South	West	2-9 Employ	10-19 Employ	20/More Employ
Positive	24%	23%	20%	24%	24%	19%	22%	22%	35%	12%	18%	26%	19%	28%	40%
A-Grade	7%	9%	5%	4%	9%	6%	5%	7%	8%	5%	4%	11%	6%	12%	10%
B-Grade	18%	13%	15%	20%	15%	13%	16%	15%	27%	7%	14%	15%	13%	16%	30%
Negative	71%	75%	78%	73%	72%	80%	76%	77%	63%	86%	80%	73%	80%	71%	59%
C-Grade	18%	22%	18%	16%	21%	23%	20%	21%	27%	26%	20%	12%	21%	18%	22%
D-Grade	11%	16%	16%	18%	16%	16%	15%	17%	5%	13%	18%	26%	17%	12%	19%
F-Grade	43%	37%	43%	39%	35%	41%	42%	39%	31%	47%	42%	35%	42%	41%	18%
GPA	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.7	1.1	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.5	2.0
		\$100K- ess Rev.	•	5100K- 50K Rev	\$250K- v. \$500K Rev.	\$500k \$1 Mill I		\$1 Mil More R		Female Owned	Min Ow	ority ned	C- Corp	S- Corp	
Positive			•		•	•	Rev.	•	lev.		Ow	•		_	
Positive A-Grade		ess Rev.	•	50K Rev	v. \$500K Rev.	\$1 Mill I	Rev.	More R	ev.	Owned	Ow 35	ned	Corp	Corp	
		ess Rev. 20%	•	50K Rev 28%	7. \$500K Rev.	\$1 Mill I	Rev.	More R	ev.	Owned 21%	Ow 35 13	ned %	Corp 31%	Corp 18%	
A-Grade		20% 2%	\$2	50K Rev 28% 7%	7. \$500K Rev. 13% 7%	\$1 Mill I 22% 8%	Rev.	More R 26% 9%	ev.	Owned <b>21%</b> 7%	Ow 35 13 22	ned 5% 8%	Corp 31% 10%	Corp 18% 5%	
A-Grade B-Grade		20% 2% 18%	\$2	50K Rev 28% 7% 21%	7% 6%	\$1 Mill I 22% 8% 14%	Rev.	9% 17%	ev.	Owned 21% 7% 14%	Ow 35 13 22 64	ned 5% 8% 2%	Corp 31% 10% 21%	Corp 18% 5% 13%	
A-Grade B-Grade Negative		20% 2% 18% 77%	\$2	50K Rev 28% 7% 21% 71%	7% 6% 85%	\$1 Mill I 22% 8% 14% 78%	Rev.	9% 17%	ev.	Owned 21% 7% 14% 76%	Ow 35 13 22 64 21	ned 5% 3% 2%	Corp 31% 10% 21% 67%	Corp 18% 5% 13% 81%	
A-Grade B-Grade Negative C-Grade		20% 2% 18% 77% 20%	\$2	50K Rev 28% 7% 21% 71% 24%	7% 5500K Rev. 7% 6% 85% 21%	\$1 Mill I 22% 8% 14% 78% 17%	Rev.	9% 17% 72% 21%	ev.	Owned 21% 7% 14% 76% 16%	Ow 35 13 22 64 21 21	ned 5% 8% 2% 4%	Corp 31% 10% 21% 67% 24%	Corp 18% 5% 13% 81% 19%	
A-Grade B-Grade Negative C-Grade D-Grade		20% 2% 18% 77% 20% 20%	\$2	28% 7% 21% 71% 24% 16%	7% 6% 85% 21% 12%	\$1 Mill I 22% 8% 14% 78% 17% 18%	Rev.	9% 17% 72% 21% 18%	ev.	Owned 21% 7% 14% 76% 16% 14%	Ow 35 13 22 64 21 21 22	ned 5% 8% 2% 4% 4%	Corp 31% 10% 21% 67% 24% 14%	Corp 18% 5% 13% 81% 19% 18%	

January 2024 | JCNF SBIQ Monthly Poll

John McLaughlin | Scott Rasmussen

#### Biggest Business Concerns (1st & 2nd Choice Combo)

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	Dec '23	Jan '24
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%	55%	48%
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%	28%	31%
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%	25%	32%
Taxes	14%	15%	13%	15%	11%	12%	16%	12%	12%	12%	15%	14%	21%	13%	17%	15%	15%	12%	17%	17%	13%	19%	12%	12%	16%
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%	9%	13%
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%	16%	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%	6%	9%
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%	5%	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%	8%	7%
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%	10%	6%
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%	7%	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%	6%	5%
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%	6%	5%
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%	8%	4%
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%	3%	2%

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

	Nov '23	Dec '23	Jan '24	East	Mid- West	South	West	2-9 Employ	10-19 Employ	20/More Employ
Good	26%	26%	29%	42%	18%	27%	29%	25%	39%	45%
Bad	66%	61%	63%	51%	75%	63%	62%	65%	58%	52%
Unsure	8%	13%	8%	7%	7%	9%	9%	10%	3%	3%

	\$100K- Less Rev.	\$100K- \$250K Rev.	\$250K- \$500K Rev.	\$500K- \$1 Mill Rev.	•		-	C- Corp	S- Corp
Good	31%	33%	20%	23%	36%	29%	42%	39%	24%
Bad	56%	65%	69%	72%	53%	62%	50%	56%	66%
Unsure	13%	1%	11%	6%	11%	8%	7%	5%	10%

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

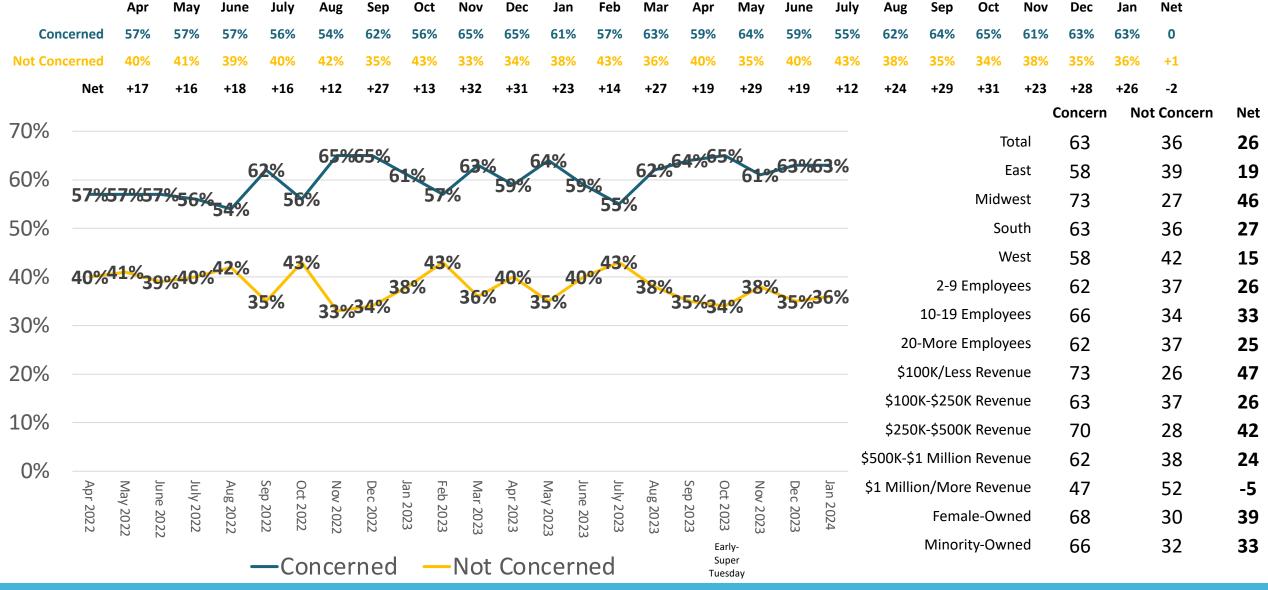
	Nov '23	Dec '23	Jan '24	East	Mid- West	South	West	2-9 Employ	10- Emp		O/More Employ		
More	65%	63%	63%	47%	70%	65%	66%	64%	60	%	59%		
Same	26%	25%	32%	49%	24%	29%	30%	31%	32	%	36%		
Less	7%	10%	5%	4%	7%	6%	4%	5%	8%	%	5%		
Unsure	2%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	%	0%		
	\$10 Less		\$100K \$250K R		\$250K- \$500K Re	•	5500K- Mill Rev.	\$1 Mi More F		Female Owned	Minority Owned	C- Corp	_
More	•	Rev.			. •	•		•	lev.		•		S- Cor
More Same	Less	Rev. %	\$250K R		\$500K Re	•	Mill Rev.	More R	lev.	Owned	Owned	Corp	Cor
	Less 55	Rev. % %	\$250K R		\$500K Re	•	Mill Rev. 58%	More F	lev.	Owned 59%	Owned 64%	Corp 63%	639

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

	Sep '23	Nov '23	Dec '23	Jan '24	East	Mid- West	South	West	2-9 Employ	10-19 Employ	20/More Employ
Yes	14%	12%	13%	15%	28%	11%	12%	11%	10%	20%	40%
No	78%	83%	80%	78%	64%	85%	78%	81%	82%	73%	52%
Unsure	8%	5%	7%	8%	8%	3%	10%	9%	8%	7%	8%

	\$100K- Less Rev.	\$100K- \$250K Rev.	\$250K- \$500K Rev.	\$500K- \$1 Mill Rev.	-		•	C- Corp	
Yes	17%	17%	10%	5%	24%	12%	27%	27%	9%
No	74%	74%	81%	90%	69%	76%	68%	65%	83%
Unsure	9%	9%	9%	5%	7%	11%	5%	8%	8%

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



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

	April '23	May '23	June '23	July '23	Aug '23	Sep '23	Nov '23	Dec '23	Jan '24	East	Mid- West	South	West	2-9 Employ	10-19 Employ	20/More Employ
Concerned	59%	57%	57%	55%	59%	61%	60%	62%	60%	57%	68%	60%	55%	57%	68%	69%
Very	16%	20%	19%		20%	19%	20%	22%	21%	19%	34%	19%	18%	22%	12%	29%
Somewhat	43%	37%	38%	43%	39%	41%	40%	41%	38%	38%	34%	42%	37%	36%	56%	40%
Not Concerned	40%	42%	42%	44%	40%	37%	39%	36%	38%	39%	32%	37%	41%	39%	32%	30%
Unsure	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	3%	5%	0%	3%	4%	3%	0%	1%

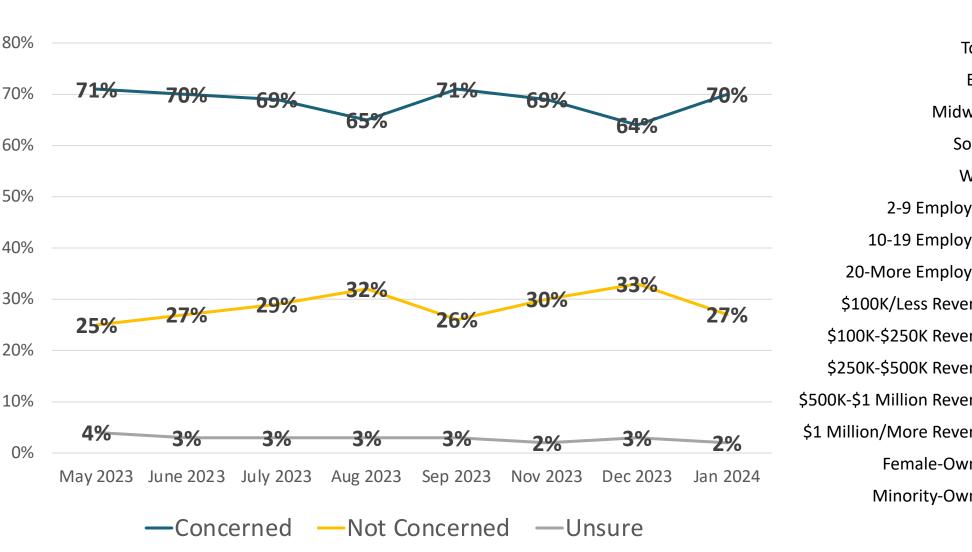
	\$100K- Less Rev.	\$100K- \$250K Rev.	\$250K- \$500K Rev.	\$500K- \$1 Mill Rev.	\$1 Mill- More Rev.	Female Owned	Minority Owned	C- Corp	S- Corp
Concerned	70%	66%	58%	52%	53%	61%	67%	74%	53%
Very	23%	34%	23%	18%	10%	26%	26%	26%	19%
Somewhat	48%	32%	35%	33%	43%	35%	42%	48%	34%
Not Concerned	23%	31%	39%	46%	47%	34%	27%	25%	43%
Unsure	6%	3%	3%	2%	0%	5%	5%	1%	4%

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

	March '23	April '23	May '23	June '23	July '23	Aug '23	Sep '23	Nov '23	Dec '23	Jan '24	East	Mid- West	South	West
Time Consuming	61%	56%	62%	60%	49%	56%	57%	50%	56%	55%	58%	50%	59%	53%
Not Consuming	36%	43%	36%	39%	50%	42%	42%	50%	42%	44%	40%	50%	40%	45%
Unsure	3%	2%	3%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	0%	1%	2%

	2-9 Employ	10-19 Employ	20/More Employ	\$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	53%	70%	57%	49%	57%	65%	48%	57%	68%	72%	63%	52%
Not Consuming	45%	30%	43%	48%	42%	35%	50%	43%	31%	26%	35%	48%
Unsure	1%	1%	1%	3%	1%	0%	2%	0%	2%	2%	2%	1%

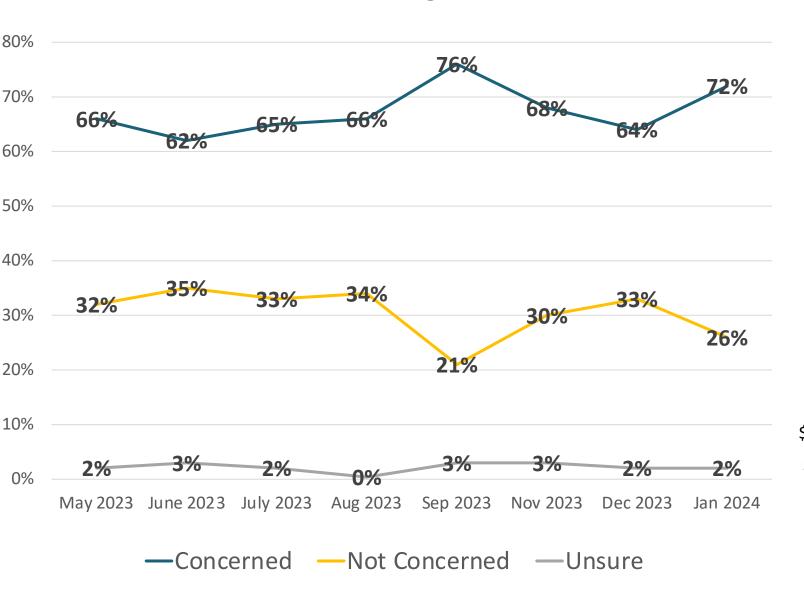
### **Concerned About New Banking Regulations Will Make It More Expensive to Give Loans**



	Concerned	Concerned	Net
Total	70	27	43
East	64	36	29
Midwest	76	22	54
South	72	26	47
West	68	28	40
2-9 Employees	69	29	40
10-19 Employees	79	16	63
20-More Employees	72	27	46
\$100K/Less Revenue	68	25	43
\$100K-\$250K Revenue	68	32	35
\$250K-\$500K Revenue	83	16	<b>67</b>
\$500K-\$1 Million Revenue	65	33	32
\$1 Million/More Revenue	69	30	38
Female-Owned	71	27	44
Minority-Owned	74	25	49

Not

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



		NOT	
	Concerned	Concerned	Net
Total	72	26	46
East	72	27	45
Midwest	74	24	50
South	71	28	43
West	73	24	49
2-9 Employees	72	26	45
10-19 Employees	75	25	50
20-More Employees	74	24	49
\$100K/Less Revenue	71	22	49
\$100K-\$250K Revenue	77	22	55
\$250K-\$500K Revenue	73	27	46
\$500K-\$1 Million Revenue	64	35	29
\$1 Million/More Revenue	76	24	51
Female-Owned	70	29	41
Minority-Owned	79	21	58

Not

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

	May '23	June '23	July '23	Aug '23	Sep '23	Nov '23	Dec '23	Jan '24	East	Mid- West	South	West
Big Bank	22%	26%	29%	26%	29%	25%	28%	27%	29%	22%	29%	26%
Small Bank/Credit Union	60%	57%	51%	51%	52%	57%	52%	55%	38%	61%	55%	63%
Fintech/Online Bank	6%		9%	9%	8%	6%		7%	14%	5%	5%	5%
Unsure	12%	10%	10%	14%	11%	12%	14%	12%	19%	12%	12%	7%

	2-9 Employ	10-19 Employ	20/More Employ	\$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	25%	32%	34%	16%	29%	22%	24%	39%	19%	38%	30%	25%
Small Bank/Credit Union	56%	45%	53%	62%	58%	57%	47%	50%	54%	40%	55%	55%
Fintech/Online Bank	6%		10%	6%	4%		13%	3%	9%	3%	9%	6%
Unsure	13%	15%	2%	16%	9%	14%	15%	7%	17%	19%	7%	15%

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

	Sep '23	Nov '23	Dec '23	Jan '24		Mid- West	South	West	2-9 Employ	10-19 Employ	20/More Employ
Yes	78%	70%	74%	78%	73%	87%	79%	75%	77%	80%	86%
No	21%	29%	25%	21%	26%	13%	21%	24%	23%	20%	11%
Unsure	1%	1%	2%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	3%

	\$100K- Less Rev.	\$100K- \$250K Rev.	\$250K- \$500K Rev.	\$500K- \$1 Mill Rev.	•		•	C- Corp	
Yes	74%	84%	74%	87%	73%	79%	82%	86%	75%
No	25%	16%	26%	13%	26%	21%	17%	14%	24%
Unsure	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%

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

	Sep '23	Nov '23	Dec '23	Jan '24	East	Mid- West	South	West	2-9 Employ	10-19 Employ	20/More Employ
Yes	56%	56%	58%	64%	64%	64%	64%	65%	65%	67%	58%
No	34%	41%	38%	34%	34%	36%	34%	33%	34%	32%	40%
Unsure	10%	3%	5%	2%	2%	0%	2%	2%	1%	1%	3%

	\$100K- Less Rev.	\$100K- \$250K Rev.	\$250K- \$500K Rev.	\$500K- \$1 Mill Rev.	<u>-</u>		•	C- Corp	S- Corp
Yes	78%	63%	65%	59%	58%	67%	68%	59%	67%
No	20%	36%	35%	38%	41%	31%	31%	39%	31%
Unsure	2%	2%	0%	3%	1%	2%	1%	2%	2%

# 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 '23	Nov '23	Dec '23	Jan '24	East	Mid- West	South	West	2-9 Employ	10-19 Employ	20/More Employ		
Support	78%	79%	79%	77%	85%	72%	77%	76%	75%	76%	93%		
Oppose	11%	8%	6%	8%	10%	9%	8%	7%	10%	4%	3%		
Unsure	12%	12%	14%	14%	6%	18%	15%	17%	15%	20%	4%		
			\$100K- \$250K Rev.		\$250K- v. \$500K Rev.		\$500K- \$1 Mill Rev.						
	\$10 Less	OK- Rev.		_					\$1 Mill- More Rev.	Female Owned	Minority Owned	C- Corp	S- Corp
Support	Less			Rev.	\$500			l Rev.	•		•		_
Support Oppose	Less	Rev.	\$250k	K Rev.	\$500	OK Rev.	\$1 Mill	l Rev. %	More Rev.	Owned	Owned	Corp	Corp

## S-CORP Businesses: Will Use Qualified Business Income Deduction

2-9

	<b>'24</b>	East	West	South	West	Emplo	y Employ	Employ				
Yes	50%	56%	48%	51%	48%	52%	30%	54%				
No	14%	4%	11%	22%	11%	13%	11%	25%				
Unsure	36%	40%	41%	28%	41%	35%	58%	21%				
	•	LOOK- ss Rev.		OOK- K Rev.	\$250 \$500K I		\$500K- \$1 Mill Rev.	\$1 Mill- More Rev.	Female Owned	Minority Owned	C- Corp	S- Corp
Yes		<b>47%</b>	•	9%	41%	-	76%	36%	43%	56%	0%	50%
No	:	15%	10	0%	13%		10%	20%	12%	12%	0%	14%
Unsure	3	38%	4(	0%	47%		14%	44%	45%	31%	0%	36%

10-19

20/More

Mid-

Jan

# **Brick & Mortar Businesses: Has Neighborhood Crime Increased Business Costs**

20/Mara

	Jan <b>'</b> 24	East	West	South	West	2-9 Emplo	y Employ	Employ				
Yes	31%	29%	27%	33%	35%	29%	33%	36%				
No	66%	64%	68%	66%	64%	67%	63%	61%				
Unsure	4%	8%	5%	1%	1%	4%	3%	3%				
	•	LOOK- ss Rev.	. •	OK- K Rev.	\$250 \$500K I	_	\$500K- 61 Mill Rev.	\$1 Mill- More Rev.	Female Owned	Minority Owned	C- Corp	S- Corp
Yes	4	47%	53	3%	35%	•	21%	16%	38%	55%	35%	28%
No		46%	4	4%	65%		72%	81%	60%	42%	61%	69%
Unsure		8%	3	%	0%		6%	3%	3%	4%	4%	3%

Min