

Business Perception Survey

Results of the Quarter 3 - 2013 Survey | Vol. 11.3 | 29 January 2014

Overview

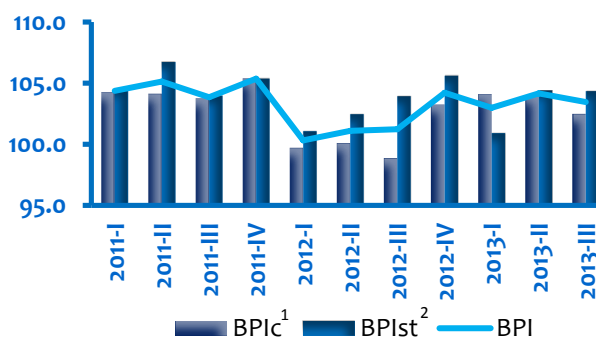
- Despite the continuation of positive economic conditions, respondents to the third quarter's survey reported a slowing in sales and profitability. Employment activities picked up slightly, as the corresponding index moved upward.
- Investment activities diminished in the quarter under review, while intentions to invest in the short-term is on the rise. Companies anticipate the credit conditions to remain quite unchanged.
- Pricing conditions are expected to rise, along with a modest inflation rate.

Economic Activity

During the third quarter of 2013, the current economic condition index stood at 102.5, down from 104.0 in the previous quarter, but still reflecting a continuation of the positive sentiment registered subsequent to the third quarter of 2012. Contributory sectors for this decline were wholesale and retail, hotels and restaurants, financial intermediation, construction, and real estate and other business activities, while the sectors of health, other community and personal activities, and transport indicated increases.

The short-term future economic conditions noted a modest decline, as the corresponding index moved to 104.3, down from 104.4 in the second quarter of 2013 (Chart 1). The drops were noted in the manufacturing, the hotel and restaurant, and the wholesale and retail sectors, while transport and real estate were among the sectors registering the highest increases.

Chart 1: Business Perception Index



Despite the drops registered in both the current and the short-term future economic indices, the level of optimism remains positive and consistent with the medium-term future economic expectations, as the percentage of respondents believing there will be positive economic growth over the next twelve months grew to 71.0 percent during the third quarter of 2013, up from 68.8 percent in the second quarter of 2013. The majority of the respondents still perceive that the economic growth would be between 1 and 5 percent over the next twelve months.

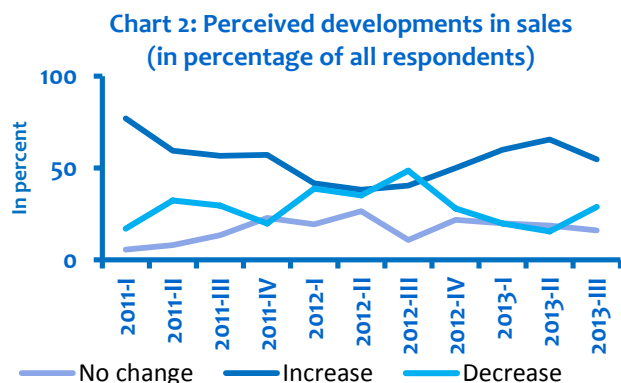
Sales and Profitability

During the third quarter of 2013, about 55 percent of the respondents reported an increase in sales,

¹BPIc: current Business Perception Index

²BPIst: short-term Business Perception Index

compared to 65.6 percent during the previous quarter. The wholesale and the hotel and restaurant sectors represented the highest share of growth within sales during the quarter under review (Chart 2, Annex 6).



Profitability showed a notable drop during the third quarter of 2013, as 87.1 percent of the respondents reported to achieve profitability, compared to 93.9 percent in the second quarter of 2013 (Annex 8).

Investment and Financing Activity

In the third quarter of 2013, investment activities noted a significant decline, as the number of respondents with an increase in investment moved downward by 14.2 percentage points, compared to the previous quarter (Annex 8). On the other hand, in the short-term future, the percentage of respondents perceiving a rise in investment during the six months following the third quarter of 2013 grew by 2.5 percentage points.

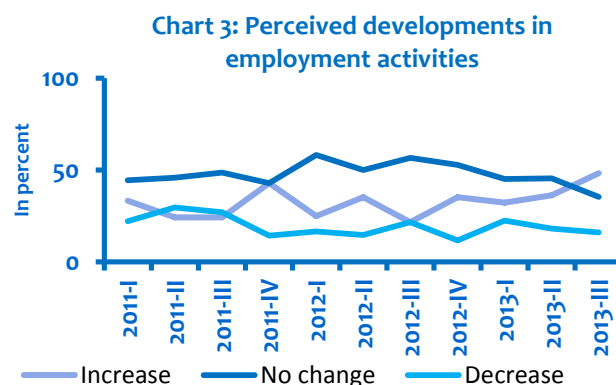
For the next 12 months following the third quarter of 2013, 80.7 percent of the respondents indicated that investments would be made, of which 48.4 percent indicated investments below Afl. 1 million, 12.9 percent between Afl. 1 and Afl. 5 million, and 19.4 percent above Afl. 5 million. The level of intended investment over the next 12 months fell in the third quarter's survey results by 0.6 percentage point, compared to the survey in the previous quarter (Annex 7).

According to 87.1 percent of the survey's responses, financing rates during the 12 months following the

third quarter of 2013 are expected to be below 8 percent (Annex 7).

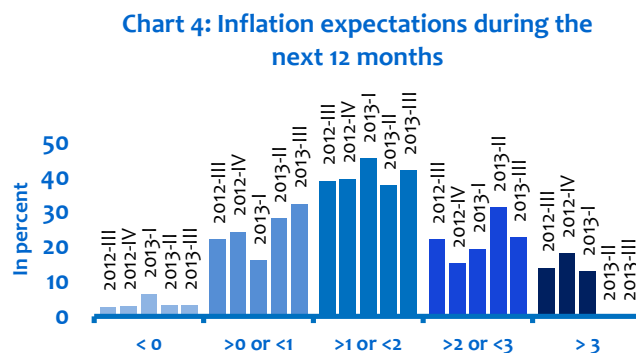
Employment

Almost half (48.5 percent) of the firms surveyed reported increases in their staff. Expansions in employment were mainly observed in the health, other community and personal service activities, the wholesale and retail, and the hotel and restaurant sectors (Chart 3, Annex 6 and 8).



Inflation and Pricing

The level of inflation is expected to continue to hover below 3 percent during the 12 months following the third quarter of 2013. About 42 percent of respondents indicated that the inflation rate would lie between 1 and 2 percent (Chart 4). Consistent with this expectation, most respondents (51.6 percent) perceive that the price level of products and/or services would either remain the same or decrease (Annex 7).



Annex 1: Response rate and indices 1]

| | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 | | | | 2012 | | | | 2013 | | |
|---|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | | | | I | II | III | IV | I | II | III | IV | I | II | III |
| 1. Response and non-response rates | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| a. Average response rate | 76.0 | 70.0 | 76.1 | 71.5 | 77.9 | 78.7 | 78.7 | 76.1 | 78.3 | 72.3 | 78.7 | 72.0 | 65.6 | 70.0 | 66.0 |
| b. Average non-response rate | 24.0 | 30.0 | 23.9 | 28.5 | 22.1 | 21.3 | 21.3 | 23.9 | 21.7 | 27.7 | 21.3 | 28.0 | 34.4 | 30.0 | 34.0 |
| 2. Indices | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| a. Index current economic condition | 94.6 | 98.2 | 106.1 | 104.0 | 104.3 | 104.1 | 103.8 | 105.4 | 99.7 | 100.1 | 98.9 | 103.2 | 104.1 | 104.0 | 102.5 |
| b. Index short-term future economic condition | 98.2 | 106.3 | 107.0 | 107.5 | 104.5 | 106.7 | 104.0 | 105.4 | 101.1 | 102.5 | 103.9 | 105.6 | 100.9 | 104.4 | 104.3 |
| c. Business Perception Index | 96.0 | 101.7 | 106.5 | 105.5 | 104.4 | 105.1 | 103.8 | 105.4 | 100.3 | 101.1 | 101.2 | 104.2 | 103.0 | 104.2 | 103.4 |

Source: CBA.

- 1] Index value = between 100 and 110: Optimistic perception
Index value = 100: Neutral
Index value = between 90 and 100: Pessimistic perception

Annex 2: Trends in perception

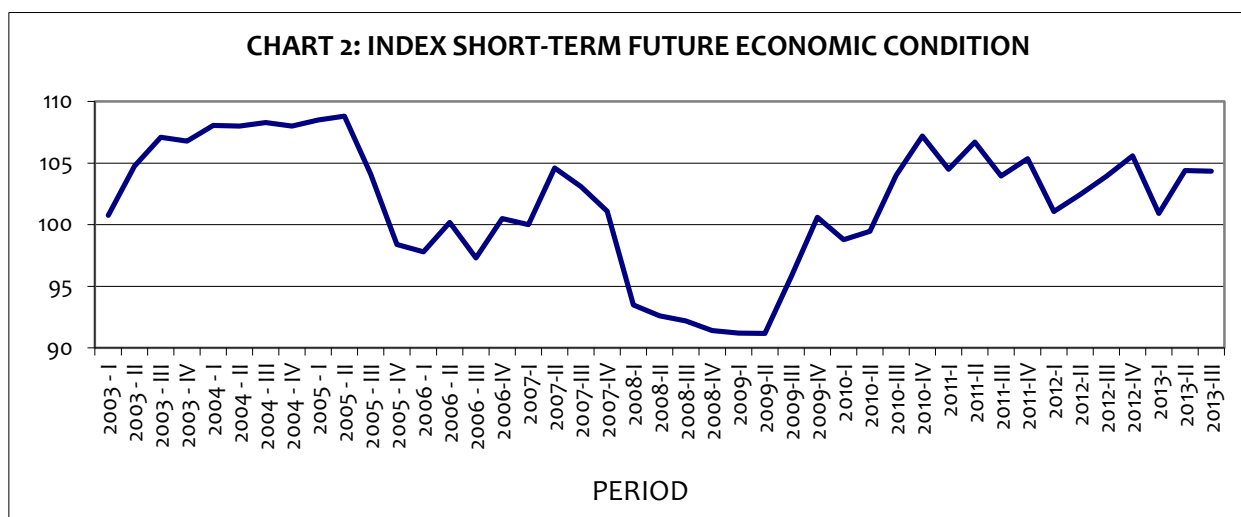
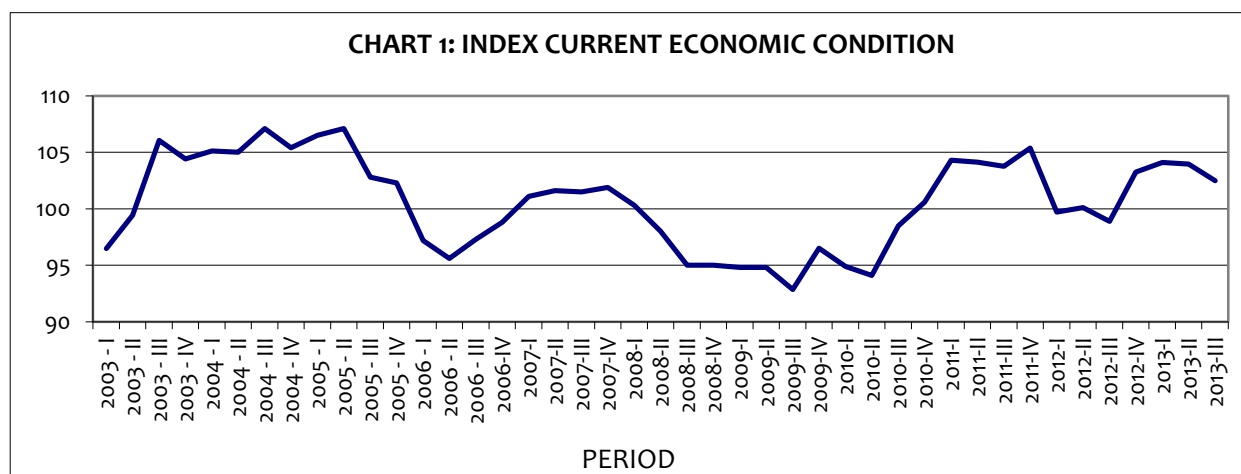
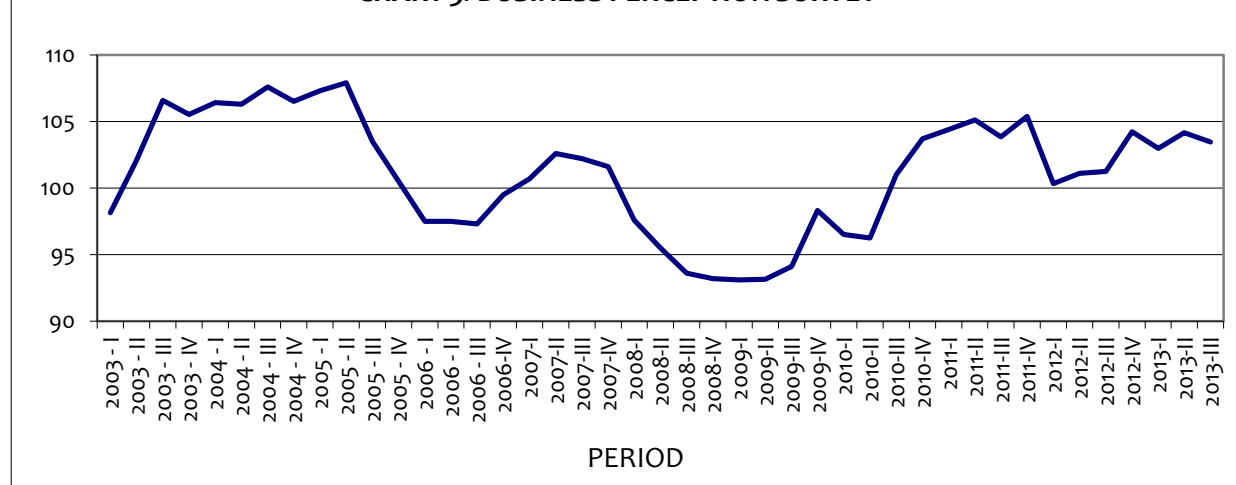


CHART 3: BUSINESS PERCEPTION SURVEY



Annex 3: Business perception Survey (by sectors)

| | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 | | | | 2012 | | | | 2013 | | |
|---|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | | | | I | II | III | IV | I | II | III | IV | I | II | III |
| 1. Index current economic condition | 94.6 | 98.2 | 106.1 | 104.0 | 104.3 | 104.1 | 103.8 | 105.4 | 99.7 | 100.1 | 98.9 | 103.2 | 104.1 | 104.0 | 102.5 |
| a. Manufacturing (excl. manufacture of refined petroleum products) | 95.0 | 105.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 105.0 | 105.0 | 110.0 | 90.0 | 96.7 | 90.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 |
| b. Electricity, gas and water supply, manufacture of refined petroleum products | 90.0 | 110.0 | 100.0 | 110.0 | 90.0 | 90.0 | 110.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 103.3 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 |
| c. Construction | 101.7 | 92.0 | 105.6 | 102.7 | 98.6 | 104.5 | 105.0 | 103.3 | 100.0 | 97.5 | 101.1 | 105.6 | 99.1 | 100.0 | 98.9 |
| d. Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and household goods | 95.3 | 97.3 | 108.1 | 108.7 | 105.0 | 107.3 | 106.8 | 108.7 | 103.8 | 102.9 | 102.9 | 106.0 | 106.0 | 102.0 | 97.5 |
| e. Hotels and restaurants | 92.2 | 110.0 | 108.5 | 104.5 | 108.2 | 110.0 | 103.8 | 105.7 | 94.3 | 96.7 | 94.3 | 106.0 | 107.1 | 107.1 | 102.7 |
| f. Transport, storage and communication | 91.3 | 91.4 | 110.0 | 102.7 | 108.2 | 105.6 | 110.0 | 105.0 | 98.0 | 97.3 | 95.0 | 103.3 | 108.0 | 108.0 | 110.0 |
| g. Financial intermediation | 98.6 | 97.5 | 110.0 | 90.0 | 104.5 | 105.0 | 108.0 | 102.5 | 103.3 | 110.0 | 96.7 | 93.3 | 93.3 | 94.0 | 90.0 |
| h. Real estate and other business activities | 94.0 | 97.3 | 97.5 | 110.0 | 98.6 | 96.0 | 90.0 | 102.0 | 100.0 | 107.8 | 110.0 | 104.3 | 110.0 | 107.1 | 105.0 |
| i. Health, other community and personal service activities | 91.3 | 98.8 | 102.2 | 100.0 | 105.0 | 102.6 | 99.6 | 103.7 | 101.3 | 99.5 | 97.8 | 100.0 | 103.3 | 104.5 | 108.0 |
| 2. Index short-term future economic condition | 98.2 | 106.3 | 107.0 | 107.5 | 104.5 | 106.7 | 104.0 | 105.4 | 101.1 | 102.5 | 103.9 | 105.6 | 100.9 | 104.4 | 104.3 |
| a. Manufacturing (excl. manufacture of refined petroleum products) | 100.0 | 110.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 90.0 | 90.0 | 90.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 96.7 |
| b. Electricity, gas and water supply | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 100.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 100.0 | 110.0 | 103.3 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 |
| c. Construction | 94.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 106.7 | 110.0 | 95.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 100.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 |
| d. Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and household goods | 100.0 | 105.3 | 107.6 | 108.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 108.8 | 108.6 | 105.0 | 101.7 | 102.5 | 104.5 | 98.0 | 98.0 | 95.7 |
| e. Hotels and restaurants | 103.3 | 106.7 | 102.5 | 105.6 | 95.0 | 110.0 | 96.7 | 107.1 | 92.9 | 96.7 | 105.4 | 107.1 | 103.3 | 110.0 | 105.6 |
| f. Transport, storage and communication | 94.6 | 108.0 | 105.6 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 106.7 | 110.0 | 102.5 | 98.6 | 99.1 | 99.2 | 110.0 | 106.0 | 106.0 | 110.0 |
| g. Financial intermediation | 102.0 | 105.6 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 107.8 | 105.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 106.0 | 106.0 | 103.3 | 103.3 | 105.0 |
| h. Real estate and other business activities | 102.5 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 98.6 | 100.0 | 94.0 | 110.0 | 106.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 105.0 | 110.0 | 106.0 | 110.0 |
| i. Health, other community and personal service activities | 94.0 | 99.1 | 102.2 | 100.0 | 105.0 | 102.6 | 99.6 | 103.7 | 101.3 | 99.5 | 97.8 | 100.0 | 103.3 | 104.5 | 108.0 |
| 3. Business Perception Index | 96.0 | 101.7 | 106.5 | 105.5 | 104.4 | 105.1 | 103.8 | 105.4 | 100.3 | 101.1 | 101.2 | 104.2 | 103.0 | 104.2 | 103.4 |
| a. Manufacturing (excl. manufacture of refined petroleum products) | 95.0 | 106.7 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 105.0 | 105.0 | 110.0 | 90.0 | 94.0 | 90.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 103.3 | 100.0 |
| b. Electricity, gas and water supply, manufacture of refined petroleum products | 100.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 90.0 | 95.0 | 110.0 | 100.0 | 110.0 | 102.0 | 106.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 |
| c. Construction | 97.4 | 99.4 | 106.7 | 105.0 | 102.3 | 105.4 | 100.0 | 106.0 | 110.0 | 100.9 | 104.7 | 106.4 | 99.1 | 101.7 | 104.7 |
| d. Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and household goods | 97.3 | 100.8 | 107.9 | 108.4 | 107.4 | 108.5 | 107.8 | 108.6 | 104.3 | 102.3 | 102.8 | 105.2 | 102.0 | 100.0 | 96.7 |
| e. Hotels and restaurants | 93.8 | 108.8 | 106.2 | 105.0 | 102.6 | 110.0 | 101.6 | 106.2 | 93.8 | 96.7 | 99.6 | 106.5 | 106.0 | 108.3 | 104.0 |
| f. Transport, storage and communication | 92.9 | 98.3 | 108.1 | 105.8 | 108.9 | 106.0 | 110.0 | 103.8 | 98.2 | 98.2 | 97.2 | 105.3 | 107.3 | 107.3 | 110.0 |
| g. Financial intermediation | 100.0 | 101.8 | 110.0 | 105.0 | 107.0 | 107.5 | 107.9 | 104.7 | 104.0 | 107.1 | 104.0 | 100.0 | 96.7 | 99.1 | 96.7 |
| h. Real estate and other business activities | 97.8 | 103.3 | 103.3 | 110.0 | 99.6 | 97.8 | 92.0 | 105.0 | 103.3 | 108.8 | 110.0 | 104.7 | 110.0 | 106.7 | 108.2 |
| i. Health, other community and personal service activities | 92.4 | 98.9 | 104.0 | 102.1 | 103.3 | 103.1 | 100.5 | 103.3 | 101.5 | 101.8 | 101.1 | 101.9 | 98.8 | 105.2 | 104.3 |

Source: CBA.

Annex 4: Survey questionnaire for the third quarter of 2013
(as a percentage of the total)

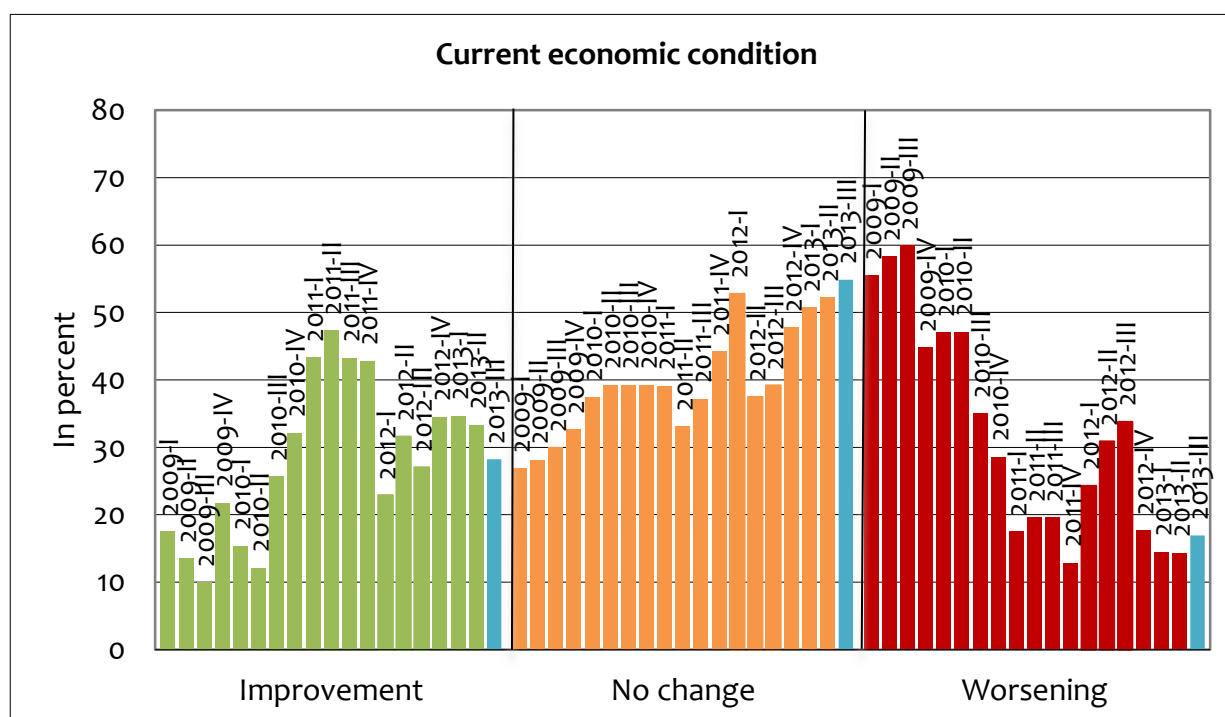
| | Improvement | No change | Worsening |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| A. Current economic condition 1] | 28.2 | 54.8 | 16.9 |
| 1. The economic conditions in Aruba | 22.6 | 71.0 | 6.5 |
| 2. The activities of your business | 29.0 | 54.8 | 16.1 |
| 3. The investments of your business | 16.1 | 54.8 | 29.0 |
| 4. The number of employees that work for your company | 45.2 | 38.7 | 16.1 |
| B. Expected short-term economic conditions 2] | 34.7 | 51.6 | 13.7 |
| 1. The economic conditions in Aruba | 32.3 | 48.4 | 19.4 |
| 2. The activities of your business | 38.7 | 51.6 | 9.7 |
| 3. The investments of your business | 41.9 | 48.4 | 9.7 |
| 4. The number of employees that work for your company | 25.8 | 58.1 | 16.1 |

Source: CBA.

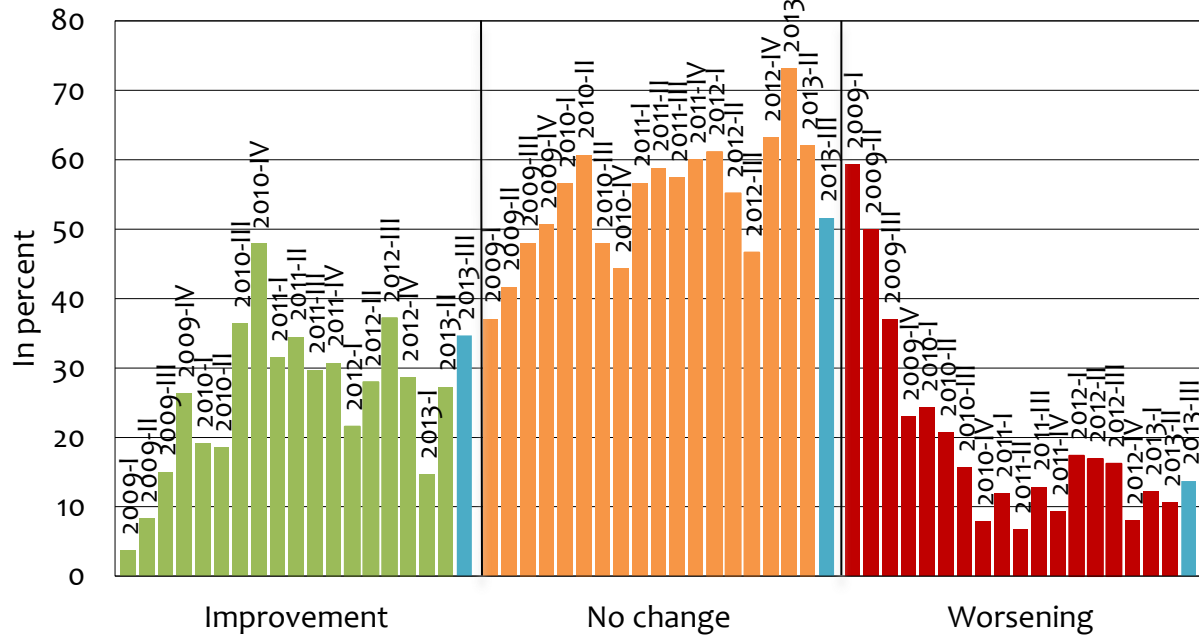
1] Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2012.

2] During the next 6 months.

Annex 5: Trends in the current and the expected short-term economic condition



Expected short-term economic condition (during the next 6 months)



Annex 6: Economic indicators by sector (2013-III)

| | No Change | Decrease | | | Increase | | |
|---|--------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | | Less than 5.1 percent | Between 5.1 - 10.1 percent | More than 10.1 percent | Less than 5.1 percent | Between 5.1 - 10.1 percent | More than 10.1 percent |
| 1. Employment, in percentages of all responding sectors | 35.5 | 9.7 | 6.5 | 0.0 | 32.3 | 9.7 | 6.5 |
| a. Manufacturing (excl. manufacture of refined petroleum products) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 6.5 |
| b. Electricity, gas and water supply, manufacture of refined petroleum products | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| c. Construction | 3.2 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| d. Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and household goods | 3.2 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 0.0 |
| e. Hotels and restaurants | 6.5 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 0.0 |
| f. Transport, storage and communication | 9.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| g. Financial intermediation | 0.0 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| h. Real estate and other business activities | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| i. Health, other community and personal service activities | 9.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 12.9 | 3.2 | 0.0 |
| 2. A. Profitability (profits), in percentages of all responding sectors | 12.9 | 3.2 | 6.5 | 22.6 | 25.8 | 3.2 | 12.9 |
| a. Manufacturing (excl. manufacture of refined petroleum products) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 6.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| b. Electricity, gas and water supply, manufacture of refined petroleum products | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| c. Construction | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 |
| d. Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and household goods | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 6.5 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 3.2 |
| e. Hotels and restaurants | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 6.5 | 3.2 | 0.0 |
| f. Transport, storage and communication | 0.0 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 6.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| g. Financial intermediation | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 |
| h. Real estate and other business activities | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| i. Health, other community and personal service activities | 9.7 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 3.2 |
| 2. B. Profitability (losses), in percentages of all responding sectors | 3.2 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 |
| a. Manufacturing (excl. manufacture of refined petroleum products) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| b. Electricity, gas and water supply, manufacture of refined petroleum products | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| c. Construction | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| d. Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and household goods | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| e. Hotels and restaurants | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 |
| f. Transport, storage and communication | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| g. Financial intermediation | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| h. Real estate and other business activities | 0.0 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| i. Health, other community and personal service activities | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

Source: CBA.

Annex 6: Economic indicators by sector (2013-III) (continued)

| | No Change | Decrease | | | Increase | | |
|---|--------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | | Less than 5.1 percent | Between 5.1 - 10.1 percent | More than 10.1 percent | Less than 5.1 percent | Between 5.1 - 10.1 percent | More than 10.1 percent |
| 3. Sales, in percentages of all responding sectors | 16.1 | 12.9 | 9.7 | 6.5 | 29.0 | 16.1 | 9.7 |
| a. Manufacturing (excl. manufacture of refined petroleum products) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 6.5 |
| b. Electricity, gas and water supply, manufacture of refined petroleum products | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| c. Construction | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 |
| d. Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and household goods | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 6.5 | 0.0 |
| e. Hotels and restaurants | 0.0 | 6.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 6.5 | 0.0 |
| f. Transport, storage and communication | 0.0 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 9.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| g. Financial intermediation | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| h. Real estate and other business activities | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| i. Health, other community and personal service activities | 9.7 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 6.5 | 3.2 | 0.0 |
| 4. Average wage costs, in percentages of all responding sectors | 16.1 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 6.5 | 54.8 | 19.4 | 0.0 |
| a. Manufacturing (excl. manufacture of refined petroleum products) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 6.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| b. Electricity, gas and water supply, manufacture of refined petroleum products | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| c. Construction | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 6.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| d. Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and household goods | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 6.5 | 6.5 | 0.0 |
| e. Hotels and restaurants | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 9.7 | 3.2 | 0.0 |
| f. Transport, storage and communication | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 9.7 | 3.2 | 0.0 |
| g. Financial intermediation | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| h. Real estate and other business activities | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 0.0 |
| i. Health, other community and personal service activities | 9.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 12.9 | 3.2 | 0.0 |

Source: CBA.

Annex 7: Future expectations and activities

| | 2012 | | 2013 | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | III | IV | I | II | III |
| A. Inflation over the next 12 months | | | | | |
| 1. Below 0 percent | 2.8 | 3.0 | 6.5 | 3.1 | 3.2 |
| 2. Between 0 and 1 percent | 22.2 | 24.2 | 16.1 | 28.1 | 32.3 |
| 3. Between 1 and 2 percent | 38.9 | 39.4 | 45.2 | 37.5 | 41.9 |
| 4. Between 2 and 3 percent | 22.2 | 15.2 | 19.4 | 31.3 | 22.6 |
| 5. Above 3 percent | 13.9 | 18.2 | 12.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| B. Investment plans over the next 12 months | | | | | |
| 1. Below Afl. 1 million | 48.6 | 44.1 | 50.0 | 40.6 | 48.4 |
| 2. Between Afl. 1 and Afl. 5 million | 5.4 | 26.5 | 10.0 | 18.8 | 12.9 |
| 3. Above Afl. 5 million | 21.3 | 11.8 | 23.3 | 21.9 | 19.4 |
| 4. Not applicable | 24.3 | 17.6 | 16.7 | 18.8 | 19.4 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| C. Annual effective financing rate over the next 12 months | | | | | |
| 1. Below 5 percent | 5.6 | 3.0 | 3.4 | 6.5 | 6.5 |
| 2. Between 5 and 8 percent | 61.1 | 66.7 | 79.3 | 77.4 | 80.6 |
| 3. Between 8 and 12 percent | 30.6 | 27.3 | 17.2 | 16.1 | 12.9 |
| 4. Above 12 percent | 2.8 | 3.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| D. Product and/or service pricing over the next 12 months | | | | | |
| 1. Increase | 32.4 | 47.1 | 45.2 | 33.3 | 48.4 |
| 2. Decrease | 18.9 | 11.8 | 9.7 | 18.2 | 16.1 |
| 3. Remain the same | 48.6 | 41.2 | 45.2 | 48.5 | 35.5 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| E. Economic growth (GDP growth) over the next 12 months | | | | | |
| 1. Below negative 10 percent | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 2. Between negative 10 percent and negative 5 percent | 18.8 | 6.1 | 3.3 | 9.4 | 3.2 |
| 3. Between negative 5 percent and 1 percent | 25.0 | 9.1 | 26.7 | 21.9 | 25.8 |
| 4. Between 1 and 5 percent | 53.1 | 81.8 | 66.7 | 68.8 | 64.5 |
| 5. Between 5 and 10 percent | 3.1 | 3.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 6.5 |
| 6. Above 10 percent | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

Source: CBA.

Annex 8: BUSINESS PERCEPTION RESULTS

Survey questionnaire responses

Business perception index

| | Improvement | | | | No change | | | | Worsening | | | | Current | Short-term | Business perception index | | |
|---|-------------|------|------|------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|------|------|------|---------|------------|---------------------------|-------|-------|
| | 2012 | | 2013 | | 2012 | | 2013 | | 2012 | | 2013 | | | | | | |
| | IV | I | II | III | IV | I | II | III | IV | I | II | III | | | | | |
| <hr/> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| A. Current economic conditions | 34.6 | 34.7 | 33.3 | 28.2 | 47.8 | 50.8 | 52.3 | 54.8 | 17.6 | 14.5 | 14.4 | 16.9 | 2009 | 94.6 | 98.2 | 96.0 | |
| 1. The economic conditions in Aruba | 35.3 | 35.5 | 30.3 | 22.6 | 44.1 | 54.8 | 63.6 | 71.0 | 20.6 | 9.7 | 6.1 | 6.5 | 2010 | 98.2 | 106.3 | 101.7 | |
| 2. The activities of your business | 44.1 | 29.0 | 39.4 | 29.0 | 35.3 | 61.3 | 48.5 | 54.8 | 20.6 | 9.7 | 12.1 | 16.1 | 2011 | 106.1 | 107.0 | 106.5 | |
| 3. The investments of your business | 26.5 | 41.9 | 30.3 | 16.1 | 55.9 | 41.9 | 51.5 | 54.8 | 17.6 | 16.1 | 18.2 | 29.0 | 2012 | 104.0 | 107.5 | 105.5 | |
| 4. The number of employees that work for your company | 32.4 | 32.3 | 33.3 | 45.2 | 55.9 | 45.2 | 45.5 | 38.7 | 11.8 | 22.6 | 21.2 | 16.1 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | 2012 | I | 99.7 | 101.1 | 100.3 |
| B. Expected short-term economic conditions 1) | 28.7 | 14.6 | 27.3 | 34.7 | 63.2 | 73.2 | 62.1 | 51.6 | 8.1 | 12.2 | 10.6 | 13.7 | | II | 100.1 | 102.5 | 101.1 |
| 1. The economic conditions in Aruba | 29.4 | 6.5 | 18.2 | 32.3 | 58.8 | 77.4 | 72.7 | 48.4 | 11.8 | 16.1 | 9.1 | 19.4 | | III | 98.9 | 103.9 | 101.2 |
| 2. The activities of your business | 32.4 | 6.7 | 30.3 | 38.7 | 64.7 | 80.0 | 63.6 | 51.6 | 2.9 | 13.3 | 6.1 | 9.7 | | IV | 103.2 | 105.6 | 104.2 |
| 3. The investments of your business | 38.2 | 29.0 | 39.4 | 41.9 | 47.1 | 61.3 | 48.5 | 48.4 | 14.7 | 9.7 | 12.1 | 9.7 | | | | | |
| 4. The number of employees that work for your company | 14.7 | 16.1 | 21.2 | 25.8 | 82.4 | 74.2 | 63.6 | 58.1 | 2.9 | 9.7 | 15.2 | 16.1 | 2013 | I | 104.1 | 100.9 | 103.0 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | II | 104.0 | 104.4 | 104.2 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | III | 102.5 | 104.3 | 103.4 |

1) During the next 6 months.

Perceived developments of employment, profitability, sales, and average wage costs 1)

| | Employment | | | | Operational results | | | | | | | | Sales | | | | Average wage costs | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | | | | Profits | | | | Losses | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 2012 | 2013 | | | 2012 | 2013 | | | 2012 | 2013 | | | 2012 | 2013 | | | 2012 | 2013 | | |
| | IV | I | II | III | IV | I | II | III | IV | I | II | III | IV | I | II | III | IV | I | II | III |
| 1. no change | 52.9 | 45.2 | 45.5 | 35.5 | 17.6 | 16.1 | 15.2 | 12.9 | 2.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 21.9 | 20.0 | 18.8 | 16.1 | 29.4 | 22.6 | 24.2 | 16.1 |
| 2. increase of less than 5.1 percent | 29.4 | 12.9 | 18.2 | 32.3 | 14.7 | 29.0 | 27.3 | 25.8 | 2.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 18.8 | 33.3 | 40.6 | 29.0 | 55.9 | 58.1 | 54.5 | 54.8 |
| 3. increase between 5.1 and 10.1 percent | 2.9 | 9.7 | 9.1 | 9.7 | 5.9 | 6.5 | 12.1 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 9.4 | 20.0 | 12.5 | 16.1 | 5.9 | 12.9 | 6.1 | 19.4 |
| 4. increase of more than 10.1 percent | 2.9 | 9.7 | 9.1 | 6.5 | 20.6 | 25.8 | 15.2 | 12.9 | 5.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 21.9 | 6.7 | 12.5 | 9.7 | 2.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 5. decrease of less than 5 percent | 8.8 | 9.7 | 9.1 | 9.7 | 11.8 | 3.2 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 18.8 | 6.7 | 3.1 | 12.9 | 2.9 | 0.0 | 12.1 | 0.0 |
| 6. decrease between 5.1 and 10.1 percent | 0.0 | 12.9 | 9.1 | 6.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 6.1 | 6.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.0 | 0.0 | 6.3 | 3.3 | 9.4 | 9.7 | 2.9 | 0.0 | 3.0 | 3.2 |
| 7. decrease of more than 10.1 percent | 2.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 8.8 | 16.1 | 15.2 | 22.6 | 8.8 | 3.2 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 3.1 | 10.0 | 3.1 | 6.5 | 0.0 | 6.5 | 0.0 | 6.5 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 79.4 | 96.8 | 93.9 | 87.1 | 20.6 | 3.2 | 6.1 | 12.9 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

1) In percentages of all respondents.

