

BUSINESS CONDITIONS SURVEY – REGIONAL RESULTS

Key Business Conditions

June 2016

NSW TOTAL											
1055 respondent	S		CUR	RENT		EXPECTED					
Indicator	PREVIOUS	Up	Same	Down	INDEX	↑or↓	Up	Same	Down	INDEX	
Performance of the NSW economy	15.1	33.7%	42.7%	23.6%	10.1	\	41.2%	44.3%	14.5%	26.7	
Total capital spending	4.9	27.6%	49.9%	22.5%	5.0	↑	25.5%	50.2%	24.4%	1.1	
Total operating costs	27.6	36.6%	53.0%	10.4%	26.2	\	33.4%	56.5%	10.0%	23.4	
Total sales revenue	14.1	35.9%	38.9%	25.2%	10.7	\	39.4%	45.2%	15.4%	24.0	
Total profit	0.2	29.9%	37.9%	32.2%	-2.3	4	32.8%	44.4%	22.8%	10.0	
Total staff numbers	7.3	18.3%	67.9%	13.8%	4.5	4	14.9%	75.7%	9.5%	5.4	
Capacity Utilisation	22.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	20.8	\	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	

CENTRAL COAS	Т									
41 respondents			CUR	RENT				EXPE	CTED	
Indicator	PREVIOUS	Up	Same	Down	INDEX	↑or↓	Up	Same	Down	INDEX
Performance of the NSW economy	38.1	26.8%	53.7%	19.5%	7.3	4	34.1%	43.9%	22.0%	12.2
Total capital spending	10.5	38.2%	38.2%	23.5%	14.7	↑	17.1%	60.0%	22.9%	-5.7
Total operating costs	22.0	47.2%	50.0%	2.8%	44.4	↑	30.6%	63.9%	5.6%	25.0
Total sales revenue	22.0	44.4%	19.4%	36.1%	8.3	4	36.1%	50.0%	13.9%	22.2
Total profit	7.5	33.3%	22.2%	44.4%	-11.1	4	19.4%	61.1%	19.4%	0.0
Total staff numbers	15.4	22.9%	68.6%	8.6%	14.3	4	11.4%	82.9%	5.7%	5.7
Capacity Utilisation	18.8	N/A	N/A	N/A	22.2	↑	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

CENTRAL WEST ORANA												
70 respondents			CUR	RENT				EXPE	CTED			
Indicator	PREVIOUS	Up	Same	Down	INDEX	个or↓	Up	Same	Down	INDEX		
Performance of the NSW economy	-1.1	41.4%	30.0%	28.6%	12.9	1	44.3%	38.6%	17.1%	27.1		
Total capital spending	1.2	25.4%	47.6%	27.0%	-1.6	4	20.3%	53.1%	26.6%	-6.3		
Total operating costs	32.2	32.3%	53.8%	13.8%	18.5	4	28.1%	57.8%	14.1%	14.1		
Total sales revenue	1.2	32.3%	35.4%	32.3%	0.0	4	36.5%	41.3%	22.2%	14.3		
Total profit	1.2	27.0%	33.3%	39.7%	-12.7	4	32.3%	35.4%	32.3%	0.0		
Total staff numbers	7.2	14.1%	71.9%	14.1%	0.0	4	9.2%	76.9%	13.8%	-4.6		
Capacity Utilisation	15.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	22.2	↑	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		

HUNTER										
70 respondents			CUR	RENT				EXPE	CTED	
Indicator	PREVIOUS	Up	Same	Down	INDEX	↑or↓	Up	Same	Down	INDEX
Performance of the NSW economy	17.4	40.0%	45.7%	14.3%	25.7	↑	45.7%	51.4%	2.9%	42.9
Total capital spending	-8.1	29.7%	48.4%	21.9%	7.8	↑	23.4%	57.8%	18.8%	4.7
Total operating costs	9.1	26.2%	58.5%	15.4%	10.8	↑	28.1%	59.4%	12.5%	15.6
Total sales revenue	19.8	38.5%	43.1%	18.5%	20.0	↑	50.8%	38.1%	11.1%	39.7
Total profit	4.7	30.8%	41.5%	27.7%	3.1	4	44.4%	38.1%	17.5%	27.0
Total staff numbers	3.5	13.8%	70.8%	15.4%	-1.5	4	25.0%	64.1%	10.9%	14.1
Capacity Utilisation	31.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	13.7	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A



ILLAWARRA /SOUTH COAST 157 respondents - includes Illawarra (117 respondents) and Capital Far South (40 respondents) **EXPECTED** Indicator PREVIOUS Up Same Down INDEX **↑or**↓ Up INDEX Same Down Performance of the 11.0 33.1% 42.0% 24.8% 43.9% 40.1% 15.9% 28.0 8.3 $\mathbf{\downarrow}$ NSW economy Total capital 5.5 28.8% 46.8% 24.5% 4.3 \downarrow 19.4% 47.8% 32.8% -13.4 spending Total operating 31.7% 57.7% 10.6% 1 24.4% 65.2% 10.4% 14.1 21.1 21.1 costs Total sales revenue 6.9 41.1% 39.0% 19.9% 21.3 1 38.6% 43.2% 18.2% 20.5 Total profit 34.8% 40.4% 24.8% 9.9 1 35.3% 41.2% 23.5% 11.8 -6.9 Total staff numbers 0.0 22.0% 65.2% 12.8% 9.2 \uparrow 14.6% 80.0% 5.4% 9.2

N/A

23.0

↑

N/A

N/A

N/A

N/A

Capacity Utilisation

20.4

N/A

N/A

MID NORTH COAST											
62 respondents			CUI	RRENT			EXPECTED				
Indicator	PREVIOUS	Up	Same	Down	INDEX	↑or↓	Up	Same	Down	INDEX	
Performance of the NSW economy	24.0	30.6%	43.5%	25.8%	4.8	4	41.9%	51.6%	6.5%	35.5	
Total capital spending	8.1	21.8%	54.5%	23.6%	-1.8	4	34.0%	49.1%	17.0%	17.0	
Total operating costs	21.6	39.3%	53.6%	7.1%	32.1	↑	31.5%	61.1%	7.4%	24.1	
Total sales revenue	10.5	28.6%	51.8%	19.6%	8.9	4	28.8%	69.2%	1.9%	26.9	
Total profit	7.1	29.1%	50.9%	20.0%	9.1	↑	28.3%	56.6%	15.1%	13.2	
Total staff numbers	3.4	12.5%	75.0%	12.5%	0.0	4	11.3%	83.0%	5.7%	5.7	
Capacity Utilisation	30.9	N/A	N/A	N/A	22.2	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	

MURRAY RIVERINA											
152 respondents	- includes M	lurray (62	responde	nts) and Ri	verina (90	responde	nts)				
			CL	JRRENT				EXPE	CTED		
Indicator	PREVIOUS	Up	Same	Down	INDEX	↑or↓	Up	Same	Down	INDEX	
Performance of the NSW economy	4.2	31.6%	42.1%	26.3%	5.3	↑	39.5%	41.4%	19.1%	20.4	
Total capital spending	3.1	31.5%	46.2%	22.3%	9.2	↑	27.7%	44.6%	27.7%	0.0	
Total operating costs	38.9	35.3%	55.9%	8.8%	26.5	4	38.1%	52.2%	9.7%	28.4	
Total sales revenue	10.1	33.1%	39.7%	27.2%	5.9	↓	39.4%	42.4%	18.2%	21.2	
Total profit	-3.1	27.9%	38.2%	33.8%	-5.9	4	34.4%	41.4%	24.2%	10.2	
Total staff numbers	1.5	15.9%	68.1%	15.9%	0.0	4	14.2%	74.8%	11.0%	3.1	
Capacity Utilisation	21.8	N/A	N/A	N/A	22.2	↑	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	

NEW ENGLAND NORTH WEST											
45 respondents			CUR	RENT				EXPE	CTED		
Indicator	PREVIOUS	Up	Same	Down	INDEX	↑or↓	Up	Same	Down	INDEX	
Performance of the NSW economy	-4.6	24.4%	48.9%	26.7%	-2.2	↑	33.3%	46.7%	20.0%	13.3	
Total capital spending	-4.9	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%	0.0	↑	22.0%	46.3%	31.7%	-9.8	
Total operating costs	29.3	35.7%	45.2%	19.0%	16.7	4	33.3%	54.8%	11.9%	21.4	
Total sales revenue	-7.7	22.0%	48.8%	29.3%	-7.3	↑	40.0%	40.0%	20.0%	20.0	
Total profit	-28.2	23.8%	35.7%	40.5%	-16.7	↑	21.4%	50.0%	28.6%	-7.1	
Total staff numbers	2.4	7.0%	69.8%	23.3%	-16.3	4	7.3%	70.7%	22.0%	-14.6	
Capacity Utilisation	27.3	N/A	N/A	N/A	23.5	\	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	



NORTHERN RIVERS												
79 respondents			CL	JRRENT			EXPECTED					
Indicator	PREVIOUS	Up	Same	Down	INDEX	↑or↓	Up	Same	Down	INDEX		
Performance of the NSW economy	24.0	30.4%	36.7%	32.9%	-2.5	\	36.7%	49.4%	13.9%	22.8		
Total capital spending	7.5	29.0%	44.9%	26.1%	2.9	4	22.9%	57.1%	20.0%	2.9		
Total operating costs	47.8	37.5%	59.7%	2.8%	34.7	\	33.8%	57.7%	8.5%	25.4		
Total sales revenue	22.7	32.4%	40.8%	26.8%	5.6	\	29.4%	55.9%	14.7%	14.7		
Total profit	-7.6	22.5%	40.8%	36.6%	-14.1	\	24.3%	52.9%	22.9%	1.4		
Total staff numbers	8.8	8.6%	90.0%	1.4%	7.1	4	7.4%	85.3%	7.4%	0.0		
Capacity Utilisation	13.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	13.0	\	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		

SYDNEY										
373 respondents	- includes Ea	stern Syc	dney (201 r	esponden	ts) and Wes	stern Sydi	ney (172 r	espondent	s)	
			CUR	RENT				EXPE	CTED	
Indicator	PREVIOUS	Up	Same	Down	INDEX	↑or↓	Up	Same	Down	INDEX
Performance of the NSW economy	18.6	35.7%	43.4%	20.9%	14.7	4	41.6%	44.5%	13.9%	27.6
Total capital spending	7.7	25.4%	55.1%	19.5%	6.0	4	29.2%	49.2%	21.6%	7.5
Total operating costs	27.7	40.6%	48.1%	11.3%	29.3	↑	38.1%	52.0%	9.9%	28.2
Total sales revenue	19.4	38.3%	36.5%	25.1%	13.2	4	42.7%	43.0%	14.3%	28.3
Total profit	3.9	31.2%	36.1%	32.7%	-1.5	4	34.9%	43.2%	21.9%	13.0
Total staff numbers	12.4	23.4%	61.6%	15.0%	8.4	4	18.1%	72.6%	9.3%	8.7
Capacity Utilisation	22.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	21.6	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Skills

DO YOU HAVE ACCESS TO SUITABLY QUALIFIED	PREV	IOUS	CURR	FNT
STAFF?	MAR		JUNE	
Region	Yes	No	Yes	No
Central Coast	75.7%	24.3%	71.0%	29.0%
Central West Orana	77.9%	22.1%	67.8%	32.2%
Hunter	80.3%	19.8%	82.0%	18.0%
Illawarra / South Coast	77.2%	22.8%	84.9%	15.1%
- Capital Far South	75.0%	25.0%	85.7%	14.3%
- Illawarra	78.4%	21.6%	84.6%	15.4%
Mid North Coast	65.8%	34.2%	61.7%	38.3%
Murray-Riverina	72.9%	27.1%	68.9%	31.1%
- Murray only	72.1%	27.9%	73.5%	26.5%
- Riverina only	73.7%	26.3%	65.7%	34.3%
New England North West	68.4%	31.6%	73.2%	26.8%
Northern Rivers	73.2%	26.8%	78.8%	21.2%
Sydney (Combined)	81.1%	18.9%	83.6%	16.4%
- Eastern Sydney	80.9%	19.1%	83.3%	16.7%
- Western Sydney	81.5%	18.5%	84.0%	16.0%
Total NSW	77.1%	22.9%	78.0%	22.0%



Investment/Staff Movement

INITIATING CAPITAL SPENDING - Did your business initiate any major capital spending between April 2016 to June 2016?

Response	TOTAL NSW MAR 16	TOTAL NSW JUN 16	Central Coast	Central West Orana	Hunter	Illawarra & South Coast	Mid North Coast	Murray Riverina	New England NW	Northern Rivers	Sydney
No	58.8%	55.6%	46.9%	54.7%	45.0%	49.6%	62.0%	62.8%	57.5%	44.9%	59.1%
Yes (total)	41.2%	44.4%	53.1%	45.3%	55.0%	50.4%	38.0%	37.2%	42.5%	55.1%	40.9%
Yes, to replace aging assets	22.2%	25.1%	34.4%	32.8%	26.7%	26.8%	20.0%	20.2%	22.5%	34.8%	22.6%
Yes, to improve product range or quality	13.6%	12.6%	12.5%	10.9%	11.7%	16.3%	12.0%	10.1%	17.5%	15.9%	11.5%
Yes, to increase capacity/meet increased demand	13.7%	13.0%	18.8%	9.4%	11.7%	14.6%	18.0%	11.6%	12.5%	15.9%	12.2%
Yes, to lower operational costs	8.1%	9.0%	6.3%	6.3%	10.0%	9.8%	12.0%	8.5%	10.0%	10.1%	8.8%
Yes, other reason	3.4%	3.9%	0.0%	3.1%	10.0%	3.3%	0.0%	5.4%	0.0%	8.7%	3.0%

NEW STAFF HIRINGS - Did your business hire any new staff between April 2016 to June 2016?												
Response	TOTAL NSW MAR 16	TOTAL NSW JUN 16	Central Coast	Central West Orana	Hunter	Illawarra & South Coast	Mid North Coast	Murray Riverina	New England NW	Northern Rivers	Sydney	
No	51.8%	50.8%	62.5%	54.7%	46.0%	57.3%	49.0%	49.6%	68.3%	51.4%	46.0%	
Yes (total)	48.2%	49.2%	37.5%	45.3%	54.0%	42.7%	51.0%	50.4%	31.7%	48.6%	54.0%	
Yes, to replace staff that left	30.2%	30.9%	21.9%	28.1%	38.1%	22.6%	37.3%	31.0%	24.4%	37.1%	32.5%	
Yes, to obtain new skills	9.9%	9.9%	9.4%	9.4%	11.1%	9.7%	0.0%	3.9%	4.9%	7.1%	15.1%	
Yes, to increase capacity/meet increased demand	19.0%	18.7%	21.9%	12.5%	14.3%	18.5%	19.6%	21.7%	14.6%	11.4%	21.2%	
Yes, other	2.6%	1.8%	0.0%	1.6%	3.2%	3.2%	0.0%	1.6%	2.4%	2.9%	1.3%	

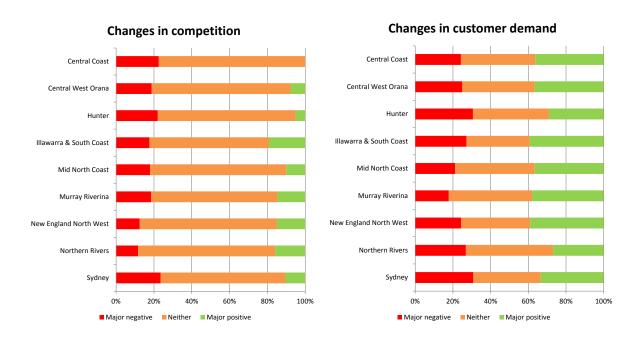
STAFF DEPARTURES - Did any staff members leave your business between April 2016 to June 2016?											
Response	TOTAL NSW MAR 16	TOTAL NSW JUN 16	Central Coast	Central West Orana	Hunter	Illawarra & South Coast	Mid North Coast	Murray Riverina	New England NW	Northern Rivers	Sydney
No	55.4%	54.4%	68.8%	59.4%	49.2%	62.6%	47.1%	53.8%	58.5%	52.9%	51.3%
Yes (total)	44.6%	45.6%	31.3%	40.6%	50.8%	37.4%	52.9%	46.2%	41.5%	47.1%	48.7%
Yes, employee initiated	35.2%	35.8%	18.8%	37.5%	41.3%	28.5%	41.2%	33.8%	29.3%	35.7%	40.1%
Yes, employer initiated, to reduce costs	5.5%	5.9%	6.3%	3.1%	14.3%	7.3%	3.9%	1.5%	4.9%	5.7%	6.1%
Yes, employer initiated, due to performance issues	8.7%	12.2%	12.5%	4.7%	14.3%	8.1%	13.7%	13.1%	12.2%	12.9%	14.1%
Yes, employer initiated, other	3.9%	2.9%	6.3%	1.6%	3.2%	1.6%	0.0%	2.3%	4.9%	1.4%	3.8%



Cost Reduction Priorities

Cost	ALL REGIONS MAR 16	ALL REGIONS JUNE 16	Central Coast	Central West Orana	Hunter	Illawarra & South Coast	Mid North Coast	Murray Riverina	New England NW	Northern Rivers	Sydney
Administration	28.8%	26.7%	27.3%	20.0%	32.2%	29.1%	14.6%	22.8%	37.5%	16.7%	30.3%
Electricity / Energy	30.3%	29.2%	27.3%	41.7%	22.0%	27.4%	50.0%	33.1%	47.5%	34.8%	20.1%
Errors / Wastage	43.6%	43.3%	48.5%	43.3%	45.8%	32.5%	60.4%	48.8%	45.0%	40.9%	41.5%
Freight / Distribution	15.4%	17.2%	33.3%	21.7%	16.9%	9.4%	12.5%	18.1%	30.0%	13.6%	17.0%
Inefficiency / Unproductive work	59.8%	61.2%	57.6%	48.3%	71.2%	59.0%	62.5%	66.1%	55.0%	65.2%	60.9%
Labour / Staff	24.2%	23.9%	21.2%	16.7%	27.1%	23.9%	18.8%	26.8%	22.5%	27.3%	23.8%
Marketing and Advertising	15.3%	13.0%	15.2%	13.3%	3.4%	14.5%	14.6%	13.4%	12.5%	9.1%	14.6%
Operating costs	42.9%	40.8%	36.4%	40.0%	37.3%	41.9%	33.3%	45.7%	50.0%	47.0%	38.1%
Overheads	35.6%	34.4%	39.4%	41.7%	27.1%	29.1%	43.8%	33.9%	35.0%	31.8%	35.0%
Rent	9.6%	11.1%	9.1%	10.0%	15.3%	9.4%	12.5%	7.9%	15.0%	10.6%	11.9%
Telecommunications (Phone/Internet)	21.5%	22.6%	15.2%	36.7%	15.3%	22.2%	33.3%	26.0%	30.0%	18.2%	19.4%
Transport (vehicle/fuel)	13.3%	13.0%	15.2%	18.3%	10.2%	9.4%	8.3%	16.5%	20.0%	9.1%	12.6%
Wages	16.3%	17.2%	9.1%	18.3%	16.9%	15.4%	22.9%	20.5%	17.5%	21.2%	15.3%

Business Influences



Industry and state-wide results can be found at:

http://www.nswbusinesschamber.com.au/Issues/Business-Surveys/Business-Conditions

Contact Mark Frost on (02) 9458 7259 or mark.frost@nswbc.com.au for queries.