

TABLE 25

CURRENT BUSINESS CONDITIONS COMPARED WITH A YEAR AGO

	Feb 2025	Mar 2025	Apr 2025	May 2025	Jun 2025	Jul 2025	Aug 2025	Sep 2025	Oct 2025	Nov 2025	Dec 2025	Jan 2026	Feb 2026
BETTER NOW	17%	13%	14%	13%	17%	19%	19%	14%	16%	15%	15%	17%	18%
SAME	36	26	17	17	17	17	17	16	15	14	16	18	19
WORSE NOW	47	61	69	70	66	63	64	70	69	71	69	65	63
DK, NA	*	*	*	*	*	1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
CASES	977	1482	1104	1181	1095	1287	1066	1241	1184	1129	1079	1283	1297
INDEX SCORE	70	52	45	43	51	56	55	44	47	44	46	52	55

**CURRENT BUSINESS CONDITIONS COMPARED WITH A YEAR AGO - INDEX SCORE
THREE MONTH MOVING AVERAGES**

All	84	70	56	47	46	50	54	52	49	45	46	47	51
Age 18 to 44	81	65	47	39	37	41	42	38	35	30	33	33	38
Age 45 to 64	80	69	59	49	50	51	58	56	56	51	51	50	55
Age 65+	91	74	55	46	44	50	55	55	51	47	48	51	55
Income Bottom Third	70	60	52	48	49	50	55	51	49	43	44	46	48
Income Middle Third	84	73	59	48	46	49	54	54	51	46	47	48	52
Income Top Third	98	77	53	41	41	48	50	49	45	43	43	44	50
Educ High School or Less	70	69	65	66	70	71	71	69	68	67	61	67	68
Educ Some College	71	66	62	58	60	60	66	61	59	50	54	54	59
Educ College Degree	91	71	49	37	34	40	45	44	41	38	38	39	43
Democrat	97	63	28	13	9	11	13	13	11	10	11	12	16
Independent	80	68	52	40	38	41	46	44	44	38	39	40	44
Republican	74	87	105	113	118	124	131	134	132	124	121	120	128

The question was: "Would you say that at the present time business conditions are better or worse than they were a year ago?"

*: Less than half of one percent. Index Score is the percent favorable minus the percent unfavorable plus 100