



**Chamber Survey  
THE ECONOMY IN 2007**

Survey conducted: January 9, 2007 to January 18, 2007

Number of Responses: 203

**How do you think the economy will perform in 2007 compared with 2006?**

- Better than 2006 38%
- About the same as 2006 46%
- Worse than 2006 16%

**How do you think your business will perform in 2007 compared with 2006?**

- Better than 2006 67%
- About the same as 2006 26%
- Worse than 2006 7%

**What will happen with employment levels in your company in 2007 compared with 2006?**

- Increase 39%
- About the same 52%
- Decrease 9%

**Which of the following external factors will have the biggest impact on how your company will perform in 2007?**

- Business taxes 6%
- Government red tape 10%
- Consumer confidence 36%
- Education (hiring qualified employees) 13%
- Canadian dollar exchange rate 12%
- Other (please specify) 23%

**Which of the following operating costs will have the biggest impact on how your company will perform in 2007?**

- Employment costs (payroll, benefits, etc.) 50%
- Energy costs 12%
- Transportation costs 8%
- Capital spending 10%
- Technology costs 14%
- Other (please specify) 6%

**How will your spending capital and technology items in 2007 compare with that in 2006?**

- More than 2006 40%
- About the same as 2006 42%
- Less than 2006 18%

**What do you think will happen to your company's pay levels in 2007?**

- Increase by more than the inflation rate 30%
- Increase by the inflation rate 40%
- Increase by less than the inflation rate 5%
- Stay the same as 2006 pay levels 23%
- Decrease from 2006 pay levels 2%

**OTHER INTERESTING STATISTICS**

- The number of respondents who felt consumer confidence will have the biggest impact on their business dropped significantly (47% in 2006 to 36% in 2007)
- The number of respondents who felt energy cost will have the biggest impact on their businesses dropped significantly (22% in 2006 to 12% in 2007)
- The number of respondents who felt employment costs will have a significant impact on their business rose significantly (40% in 2006 to 50% in 2007)