

April 2009 Houston Economic Recovery Outlook Summary

The Houston Metro Area has definitely felt the impact of the economic recession, according to firms polled for Pro Staff's Houston Economic Recovery Outlook. Sixty percent of the respondents indicated that production or sales have decreased as a result of the economy, however 57% believe they will see a rebound this year. Additionally, 54% of the companies will be adding new products or services over the next six months as a key business initiative.

Employment indicators show almost half of the companies making no staff changes, but only 5% indicating they will be adding regular or contract staff due to the current conditions.

For a complete report including regional, industry and detailed survey comments, please contact your local Pro Staff representative.

What impact have the current economic conditions had on your business?	
Decreased production or sales.	60%
Increased production or sales.	5%
No change.	25%
Other	10%

What decisions have you made regarding staff levels based on the current economic conditions?	
Increase regular staff.	5%
Increase contract staff.	5%
No staff changes.	46%
Decrease regular staff.	39%
Decrease contract staff.	30%

Approximately how many employees work at your company?	
<50	34%
51-100	13%
101-200	7%
201-300	7%
301-500	8%
501-1,000	3%
1,000+	28%

In the next 6 months, what are your key business initiatives?	
Add and develop new products/services.	54%
Reduce products/services.	7%
Purchase new equipment.	9%
Expand facility.	8%
Downsize facility.	11%
Other	30%

What percentage of your current workforce consists of contract employees (temporary, contract workers, consultants)?	
0%	30%
1-10%	53%
11-20%	14%
21-30%	1%
31-40%	0%
41-50%	1%
50%+	1%

If your production/revenue has been flat or down, when do you expect to see improvement?	
Within 3 months.	8%
Within 6 months.	30%
Within 9 months.	19%
Within 12 months.	22%
Within 18 months.	19%
Within 24 months or more.	2%