

CCI

Corporate Confidence Indices Q1 2007

Organisation Financial Performance

- Executive opinion on the Financial Performance of their organisations fell by 17 CCI points over the past 6-months from 61 to 44 points in this quarter.
- Sixty-six percent of respondents said that their organisation performed better /much better than 6 months ago while 14% said that their organisation performed worse /much worse.
- Twenty percent said that there was no significant change in their organisation's financial performance during this period.

Financial Outlook

- Executive confidence in the Financial Outlook for their organisations over both the 6 and 12-month time periods worsened in this quarter.
- The index fell over the 6-month horizon from 77 to 54 CCI points, while it declined from 80 to 72 CCI points over the 12-month horizon.
- Despite an increase in the proportion of negative responses over two-thirds of the Executives surveyed still thought that their financial performance would improve over the coming year.

Investment Outlook

- The Investment Outlook Index decreased over both the 6 and-12 month horizons.
- The index fell by 14 index points over the 6-month horizon from 66 to 52 and by 7 index points over the 12-month horizon from 60 to 53.
- The majority of organisations said that they would be investing in fixed capital rather than technological or human capital.

About the Corporate Confidence Indices (CCI)

The key objective of the CCI is to provide the most current and accurate business outlook for Trinidad and Tobago and the global economy as seen by the Executives and Business Leaders of local organizations. There are six (6) dimensions to the CCI. These are:

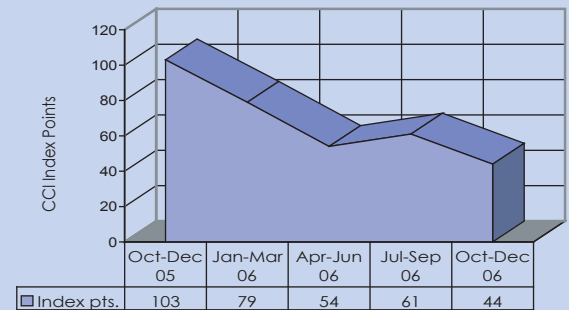
- Financial Performance**
- Investment Outlook**
- Local Economic Outlook**
- Financial Outlook**
- Employment Outlook**
- Global Economic Outlook**

The CCI for the **First Quarter** 2007 was disseminated during December 2006; 75 Executives responded.

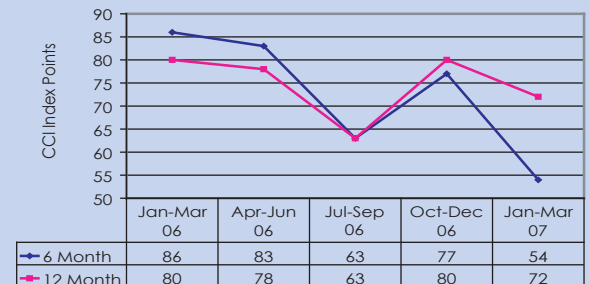
Key Findings

- In this quarter, the Financial Performance Index shows that executive confidence in their organisation's financial performance decreased over the last quarter.
- Executive opinion also deteriorated with respect to the Financial, Investment, Employment and Local Economic outlooks for their organisations in the coming year.
- On the other hand, confidence in the Global Economic outlook improved over both the 6 and 12-month horizons.

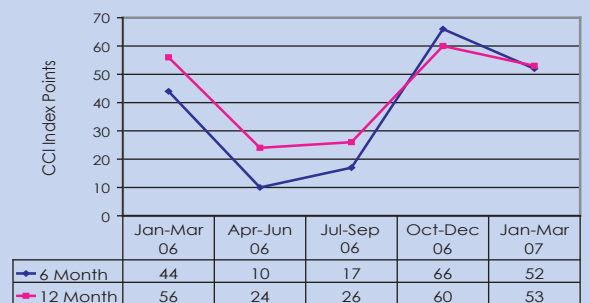
Financial Performance

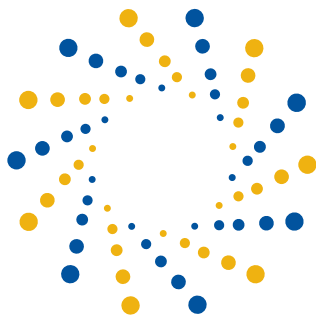


Financial Outlook



Investment Outlook



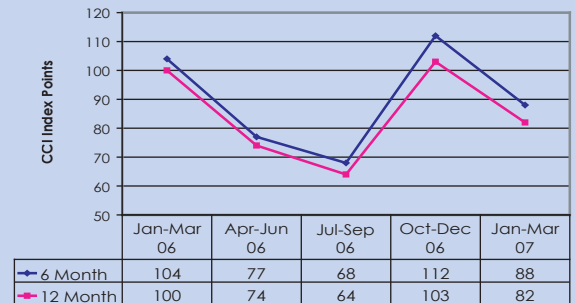


CCI Q1 2007

Employment Outlook

- The outlook for Employment also declined over both the 6 and 12-month horizons.
- The index fell by 24 CCI points over the 6-month horizon and by 21 CCI points over the 12-month horizon.
- The majority of executives indicated that any changes in employment (i.e. either increases or decreases) within their organisations would affect primarily the permanent employees.
- With respect to the organisations that are hiring, the majority said that these positions would be new vacancies in existing departments in the same country as the company's head office.

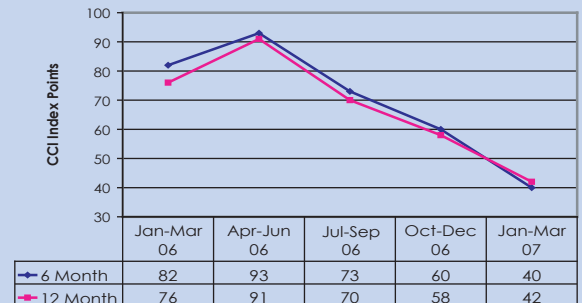
Employment Outlook



Local Economic Outlook

- Executive confidence in the Local Economy continued to decrease over both the 6 and 12-month horizons.
- The index fell from 60 to 40 CCI points over the 6-month time period and from 58 to 42 CCI points over the 12-month time period.
- Once again, over 80% of executives attributed their declining confidence in the Local Economy primarily to perceptions of uncontrolled government spending, while rising inflation remained the second most influential factor.

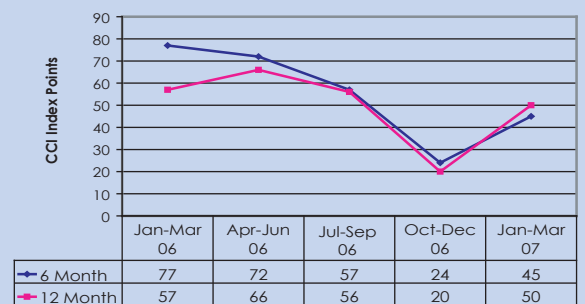
Local Economic Outlook



Global Economic Outlook

- Executive confidence in the performance of the Global Economy rose significantly during both the 6 and 12-month time periods.
- The index increased from 24 to 45 CCI points over the 6-month horizon and from 20 to 50 CCI points over the 12-month horizon.
- This was mainly attributed to rising consumer spending worldwide, the stabilisation of world energy prices and increasing international trade flows.

Global Economic Outlook

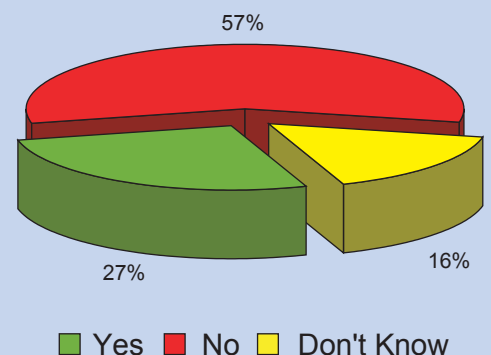


Current Pulse

Each quarter, we gauge Executive opinion on a prominent issue impacting the business environment.

In this quarter, 57% of executives said that the 2006-2007 budget did not cater adequately to the needs of the business community, whereas 27% said that it did. Sixteen percent said that they did not know.

Do you think that the 2006-2007 budget adequately caters to the needs of the business community?



Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business
Corporate Confidence Indices
Second Quarter 2007 (April - June 2007)

Please complete (also available online) and return to us by March 12th, 2007.
This is to ensure that results are released promptly. Please note that all responses will remain confidential.

PLEASE TICK THE MOST APPROPRIATE ANSWERS

1. How is your organisation's current Financial Performance as compared to six (6) months ago?

- Much Better Better No Change Worse Much Worse

2. What is the Financial Outlook for your organisation during the next six (6) months?

- Much Better Better No Change Worse Much Worse

3. What is the Financial Outlook for your organisation in the next twelve (12) months?

- Much Better Better No Change Worse Much Worse

4. Are there any major Capital Investments planned for your organisation during the next six (6) months?
(Tick all that Apply)

- No Investments Foreseen Fixed Capital Technological Capital
 Human Capital Don't Know Other.....

5. Are there any major Capital Investments planned for your organisation over the next twelve (12) months?
(Tick all that Apply)

- No Investments Foreseen Fixed Capital Technological Capital
 Human Capital Don't Know Other.....

6. What is the outlook for Employment in your organisation during the next six (6) months?

- Increase No Change Decrease

7. What is the outlook for Employment in your organisation during the next twelve (12) months?

- Increase No Change Decrease

If you have answered 'No Change' to BOTH Questions 6 & 7 please go to Question 11

8. If there is an increase or decrease, what status of employment would be affected? (Tick all that Apply)

- Permanent Temporary Full-Time Part-Time Contract

9. What type of vacancies will any new employees be filling? (Tick all that apply)

- Already existing positions New positions in new departments
 New positions in existing departments Don't know

10. Where will these employees be located? (Tick all that apply)

- The same country as company's head office A different country from the company's head office
 Don't know

11. What is your outlook for the Local Economy during the next six (6) months?

- Very Positive Positive No Change Negative Very Negative

12. What do you think would be the main reason for this? (Tick all that apply)

- Consumer Spending Government Spending
 Imports Exports Other.....

13. What is your outlook for the Local Economy during the next 12 months?

- Very Positive Positive No Change Negative Very Negative

14. What do you think would be the main reason for this? (Tick all that apply)

- Consumer Spending Government Spending
 Imports Exports Other.....

15. What is your outlook for the Global Economy during the next 6 months?

- Very Positive Positive No Change Negative Very Negative

16. What do you think would be the main reason for this? (Tick all that apply)

- Consumer Spending Imports
 Exports Other.....

17. What is your outlook for the Global Economy during the next 12 months?

- Very Positive Positive No Change Negative Very Negative

18. What do you think would be the main reason for this? (Tick all that apply)

- Consumer Spending Imports
 Exports Other.....

19. Do you think that the proposed aluminium smelters would be beneficial to the sustainable economic development of Trinidad and Tobago?

- Yes No Not Sure/Don't Know

20. Please indicate the sector to which your organisation belongs:

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> | Educational & cultural community services | <input type="checkbox"/> | Government | <input type="checkbox"/> | SME |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Assembly-type & related industries | <input type="checkbox"/> | Energy & energy related industries | <input type="checkbox"/> | Hotels & Guesthouses | <input type="checkbox"/> | Textiles, garments, footwear & headwear |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Chemicals & non metallic minerals | <input type="checkbox"/> | Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> | Miscellaneous Manufacturing | <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation, communication & storage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Construction | <input type="checkbox"/> | Finance, insurance, real estate & business services | <input type="checkbox"/> | Personal services | <input type="checkbox"/> | Wood & related products |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Distribution | <input type="checkbox"/> | Food & drink processors | <input type="checkbox"/> | Printing, publishing & paper converters | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other |

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