## 2023 STATE OF MANUFACTURING FALL SURVEY

Field Dates: August 16-September 14, 2023
Sample Size:

$\mathrm{N}=400$ Manufacturing Executives

Question 1
From a financial perspective, how do you feel right now about the future for your company?

| $\underline{2015}$ | $\underline{2016}$ | $\underline{2017}$ | 3/18 | 4/19 | 3/20 | 9/20 | 9/21 | 8/22 | 8/23 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 40\% | 44\% | 57\% | 51\% | 50\% | 49\% | 43\% | 45\% | 50\% | 46\% | VERY CONFIDENT |
| 48\% | 47\% | 37\% | 41\% | 43\% | 40\% | 42\% | 42\% | 34\% | 40\% | SOMEWHAT CONFIDENT |
| 7\% | 5\% | 5\% | 5\% | 5\% | 7\% | 10\% | 9\% | 11\% | 11\% | NOT VERY CONFIDENT |
| 3\% | 4\% | 1\% | 1\% | 1\% | 3\% | 3\% | 3\% | 4\% | 1\% | NOT AT ALL CONFIDENT |
| 1\% | 1\% | -- | 1\% | 1\% | 1\% | 1\% | * | * | 2\% | DON'T KNOW/UNSURE |
| -- | -- | -- | -- | 1\% | * | * | 1\% | 1\% | * | REFUSED |
| 89\% | 90\% | 94\% | 93\% | 93\% | 89\% | 85\% | 87\% | 85\% | 86\% | TOTAL CONFIDENT |
| 11\% | 9\% | 6\% | 6\% | 5\% | 10\% | 14\% | 12\% | 14\% | 12\% | TOTAL NOT CONFIDENT |

## Question 3

Thinking about the business climate in Minnesota compared to say five years ago, would you say the business climate has gotten better, gotten worse or stayed about the same?

| $\underline{2017}$ | 3/18 | 4/19 | 3/20 | 9/20 | 9/21 | 8/22 | 8/23 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 41\% | 54\% | 45\% | 48\% | 27\% | 20\% | 16\% | 14\% | GOTTEN BETTER |
| 18\% | 14\% | 15\% | 19\% | 35\% | 46\% | 46\% | 50\% | GOTTEN WORSE |
| 39\% | 32\% | 37\% | 30\% | 35\% | 32\% | 37\% | 34\% | STAYED ABOUT THE SAME |
| 3\% | 1\% | 2\% | 3\% | 2\% | 2\% | 1\% | 2\% | DON'T KNOW |
| -- | -- | -- | * | 1\% | * | * | -- | REFUSED |

## Question 2

And, even though we only have a few months left in 2023, as you think about this year, 2023, as a whole, do you think this year will be one of economic expansion, a flat economy, or a recession?

| $\underline{2015}$ | $\underline{2016}$ | $\underline{2017}$ | 3/18 | 4/19 | 3/20 | 9/20 | 9/21 | 8/22 | 8/23 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 42\% | 32\% | 58\% | 64\% | 49\% | 27\% | 20\% | 35\% | 19\% | 16\% | ECONOMIC EXPANSION |
| 42\% | 48\% | 32\% | 28\% | 39\% | 39\% | 40\% | 44\% | 35\% | 45\% | A FLAT ECONOMY |
| 13\% | 15\% | 4\% | 4\% | 5\% | 24\% | 36\% | 18\% | 43\% | 33\% | A RECESSION |
| 3\% | 4\% | 5\% | 4\% | 6\% | 8\% | 4\% | 3\% | 3\% | 5\% | DON'T KNOW/UNSURE |
| -- | * | -- | -- | 1\% | 1\% | * | * | -- | * | REFUSED |

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 SQuestion 2A
And, what about next year? If you had to make a projection about the year 2024, do you think 2024 as a whole will be a time of economic expansion, a flat economy, or a recession?

| $\frac{\mathbf{8 / 2 2}}{19 \%}$ | $\frac{\mathbf{8 / 2 3}}{22 \%}$ |  |
| ---: | ---: | :--- |
| $34 \%$ | $36 \%$ | A FLANOMIC EXPANSION |
| $43 \%$ | $37 \%$ | A RECESSIONOMY |
| $4 \%$ | $4 \%$ | DON'T KNOW/UNSURE |

Question 2B
How confident are you that your company could withstand an economic downturn in the next year?

| $\frac{\mathbf{8 / 2 2}}{43 \%}$ | $\frac{\mathbf{8 / 2 3}}{38 \%}$ |  |
| ---: | ---: | :--- |
| $45 \%$ | $48 \%$ | VERY CONFIDENT |
| $6 \%$ | $10 \%$ | NOT VERY CONFIDENT |
| $4 \%$ | $3 \%$ | NOT AT ALL CONFIDENT |
| $1 \%$ | $1 \%$ | DON'T KNOW/UNSURE |
| $*$ | $*$ | REFUSED |
|  |  |  |
| $\mathbf{8 8 \%}$ | $\mathbf{8 5 \%}$ | TOTAL CONFIDENT |
| $\mathbf{1 0 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 3 \%}$ | TOTAL NOT CONFIDENT |

## Question 5

As you look to the year-end, do you project your company's gross revenues for 2023 to increase or decrease compared to 2022, or will they probably stay the same?

| $\mathbf{2 0 1 5}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 7}$ | $\mathbf{3 / 1 8}$ | $\mathbf{4 / \mathbf { 1 9 }}$ | $\mathbf{3 / 2 0}$ | $\mathbf{9 / 2 0}$ | $\mathbf{9 / 2 1}$ | $\mathbf{8 / 2 2}$ | $\mathbf{8 / 2 3}$ |  |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- |
| $\mathbf{2 5 \%}$ | $\mathbf{2 5 \%}$ | $35 \%$ | $36 \%$ | $\mathbf{2 9 \%}$ | $\mathbf{2 4 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 7 \%}$ | $\mathbf{3 7 \%}$ | $\mathbf{2 7 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 9 \%}$ | INCREASE BY MORE THAN 10\% |
| $\mathbf{1 9 \%}$ | $19 \%$ | $20 \%$ | $24 \%$ | $30 \%$ | $20 \%$ | $5 \%$ | $14 \%$ | $12 \%$ | $12 \%$ | INCREASE BY LESS THAN 10\% |
| $\mathbf{2 \%}$ | $5 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $9 \%$ | $5 \%$ | $6 \%$ | $7 \%$ | DECREASE BY LESS THAN 10\% |
| $\mathbf{4 \%}$ | $6 \%$ | $5 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $4 \%$ | $10 \%$ | $39 \%$ | $13 \%$ | $15 \%$ | $19 \%$ | DECREASE BY MORE THAN 10\% |
| $\mathbf{4 7 \%}$ | $43 \%$ | $36 \%$ | $33 \%$ | $32 \%$ | $40 \%$ | $29 \%$ | $30 \%$ | $38 \%$ | $40 \%$ | STAY THE SAME |
| $1 \%$ | $1 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $1 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $1 \%$ | $1 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $3 \%$ | TOO SOON TO SAY/DON'T KNOW |
| $*$ | -- | -- | -- | $1 \%$ | $*$ | $1 \%$ | $1 \%$ | -- | $1 \%$ | REFUSED |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathbf{4 5 \%}$ | $\mathbf{4 4 \%}$ | $\mathbf{5 5 \%}$ | $\mathbf{6 0 \%}$ | $\mathbf{5 9 \%}$ | $\mathbf{4 4 \%}$ | $\mathbf{2 1 \%}$ | $\mathbf{5 1 \%}$ | $\mathbf{3 9 \%}$ | $\mathbf{3 1 \%}$ | TOTAL INCREASE |
| $\mathbf{7 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 2 \%}$ | $\mathbf{7 \%}$ | $\mathbf{5 \%}$ | $\mathbf{6 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 3 \%}$ | $\mathbf{4 8 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 8 \%}$ | $\mathbf{2 1 \%}$ | $\mathbf{2 6 \%}$ | TOTAL DECREASE |

Question 6
And, as you look to the year-end, do you project your company's profitability for 2023 to increase or decrease compared to 2022, or will it probably stay the same?

| $\underline{2015}$ | $\underline{2016}$ | $\underline{2017}$ | 3/18 | 4/19 | 3/20 | 9/20 | 9/21 | 8/22 | 8/23 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 14\% | 20\% | 27\% | 27\% | 23\% | 21\% | 14\% | 27\% | 19\% | 15\% | INCREASE BY MORE THAN 10\% |
| 16\% | 16\% | 17\% | 19\% | 22\% | 17\% | 10\% | 14\% | 12\% | 11\% | INCREASE BY LESS THAN 10\% |
| 4\% | 6\% | 2\% | 3\% | 4\% | 3\% | 8\% | 9\% | 8\% | 9\% | DECREASE BY LESS THAN 10\% |
| 5\% | 6\% | 5\% | 4\% | 5\% | 9\% | 33\% | 12\% | 17\% | 17\% | DECREASE BY MORE THAN 10\% |
| 60\% | 51\% | 46\% | 44\% | 43\% | 47\% | 34\% | 36\% | 42\% | 46\% | STAY THE SAME |
| * | * | 2\% | 1\% | 2\% | 2\% | 1\% | * | 2\% | 1\% | TOO SOON TO SAY/DON'T KNOW |
| * | -- | 1\% | 1\% | 1\% | * | 1\% | 2\% | * | 1\% | REFUSED |
| 30\% | 36\% | 44\% | 47\% | 45\% | 38\% | 24\% | 41\% | 31\% | 26\% | TOTAL INCREASE |
| 9\% | 12\% | 7\% | 7\% | 9\% | 13\% | 41\% | 21\% | 25\% | 26\% | TOTAL DECREASE |

Question 7
And, as you look to the year-end, do you project your company's capital expenditures for 2023 to increase or decrease compared to 2022 , or will they probably stay the same?

| $\underline{2015}$ | $\underline{2016}$ | $\underline{2017}$ | 3/18 | 4/19 | 3/20 | 9/20 | 9/21 | 8/22 | 8/23 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 14\% | 17\% | 15\% | 22\% | 19\% | 15\% | 17\% | 32\% | 22\% | 18\% | INCREASE BY MORE THAN 10\% |
| 13\% | 8\% | 8\% | 10\% | 11\% | 11\% | 8\% | 12\% | 8\% | 14\% | INCREASE BY LESS THAN 10\% |
| 6\% | 8\% | 4\% | 5\% | 6\% | 7\% | 10\% | 4\% | 7\% | 8\% | DECREASE BY LESS THAN 10\% |
| 11\% | 12\% | 8\% | 5\% | 10\% | 12\% | 24\% | 11\% | 10\% | 14\% | DECREASE BY MORE THAN 10\% |
| 55\% | 54\% | 63\% | 56\% | 52\% | 54\% | 40\% | 41\% | 51\% | 45\% | STAY THE SAME |
| * | 2\% | 2\% | 1\% | 1\% | 2\% | 2\% | 1\% | 1\% | 1\% | TOO SOON TO SAY/DON'T |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | KNOW |
| * | * | -- | -- | 1\% | * | * | * | * | -- | REFUSED |
| 27\% | 25\% | 23\% | 32\% | 31\% | 26\% | 25\% | 44\% | 30\% | 32\% | TOTAL INCREASE |
| 17\% | 20\% | 12\% | 11\% | 15\% | 19\% | 33\% | 14\% | 17\% | 22\% | TOTAL DECREASE |

## Questions 8-18

Now, I would like to read you a list of factors that some companies are concerned about. For each one, please rate how concerned your company is about that particular factor using a scale from 1 to 10, where one means that your company is NOT AT ALL CONCERNED about it and where ten means your company is VERY CONCERNED about it. You can choose any number between one and ten depending on how strongly you feel about it.
RANKED BY \%8-10

|  | $\mathbf{1 0}$ | $\mathbf{8 - 1 0}$ | $\mathbf{5 - 7}$ | $\mathbf{1 - 4}$ | MEAN |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $(12)$ | Attracting qualified workers |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathbf{8 / 2 3}$ | $21 \%$ | $44 \%$ | $32 \%$ | $23 \%$ | $\mathbf{6 . 5}$ |
| $\mathbf{8 / 2 2}$ | $26 \%$ | $53 \%$ | $27 \%$ | $19 \%$ | 6.9 |
| $\mathbf{9 / 2 1}$ | $35 \%$ | $61 \%$ | $23 \%$ | $15 \%$ | $\mathbf{7 . 4}$ |
| $9 / 20$ | $20 \%$ | $36 \%$ | $34 \%$ | $27 \%$ | 6.1 |
| $\mathbf{3 / 2 0}$ | $14 \%$ | $40 \%$ | $31 \%$ | $27 \%$ | 6.1 |
| $\mathbf{4 / 1 9}$ | $21 \%$ | $46 \%$ | $33 \%$ | $19 \%$ | 6.7 |
| $\mathbf{3 / 1 8}$ | $19 \%$ | $47 \%$ | $30 \%$ | $22 \%$ | 6.5 |
| $\mathbf{2 0 1 7}$ | $12 \%$ | $31 \%$ | $36 \%$ | $31 \%$ | 5.7 |
| $\mathbf{2 0 1 6}$ | $10 \%$ | $32 \%$ | $33 \%$ | $34 \%$ | 5.5 |
| $\mathbf{2 0 1 5}$ | $12 \%$ | $33 \%$ | $36 \%$ | $30 \%$ | 5.7 |


| $21 \%$ | 6.6 |
| :--- | :--- |
| $22 \%$ | 6.4 |
| $15 \%$ | 7.0 |
| $18 \%$ | 6.9 |
| $20 \%$ | 6.9 |
| $12 \%$ | 7.5 |
| $14 \%$ | 7.4 |
| $17 \%$ | 7.2 |
| $22 \%$ | 6.8 |
| $20 \%$ | 7.0 |

(8) Overall inflation

| $8 / 23$ | $20 \%$ | $38 \%$ | $44 \%$ | $17 \%$ | 6.6 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $8 / 22$ | $27 \%$ | $55 \%$ | $34 \%$ | $11 \%$ | 7.4 |

(11) Costs of employee salaries and benefits

| $\mathbf{8 / 2 3}$ | $13 \%$ | $36 \%$ | $43 \%$ | $20 \%$ | 6.2 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- |
| $8 / 22$ | $15 \%$ | $41 \%$ | $37 \%$ | $19 \%$ | 6.5 |
| $9 / 21$ | $19 \%$ | $46 \%$ | $36 \%$ | $17 \%$ | 6.7 |
| $9 / 20$ | $9 \%$ | $24 \%$ | $46 \%$ | $28 \%$ | 5.5 |
| $3 / 20$ | $8 \%$ | $23 \%$ | $45 \%$ | $28 \%$ | 5.6 |
| $4 / 19$ | $11 \%$ | $29 \%$ | $46 \%$ | $22 \%$ | 5.9 |
| $3 / 18$ | $9 \%$ | $27 \%$ | $46 \%$ | $26 \%$ | 5.7 |
| 2017 | $7 \%$ | $20 \%$ | $42 \%$ | $37 \%$ | 5.0 |
| 2016 | $6 \%$ | $19 \%$ | $41 \%$ | $39 \%$ | 4.8 |
| 2015 | $8 \%$ | $18 \%$ | $44 \%$ | $36 \%$ | 5.0 |

(Continued...)

10
8-10
5-7
1-4
MEAN
(13) Retaining qualified workers

| $\mathbf{8 / 2 3}$ | $15 \%$ | $35 \%$ | $38 \%$ | $26 \%$ | 6.0 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathbf{8 / 2 2}$ | $19 \%$ | $43 \%$ | $28 \%$ | $27 \%$ | 6.3 |
| $9 / 21$ | $24 \%$ | $49 \%$ | $28 \%$ | $22 \%$ | 6.7 |
| $9 / 20$ | $15 \%$ | $36 \%$ | $34 \%$ | $29 \%$ | 5.9 |
| $\mathbf{3 / 2 0}$ | $12 \%$ | $33 \%$ | $30 \%$ | $35 \%$ | 5.5 |
| $4 / 19$ | $13 \%$ | $37 \%$ | $35 \%$ | 6.0 |  |
| $\mathbf{3 / 1 8}$ | $15 \%$ | $36 \%$ | $33 \%$ | $30 \%$ | 5.8 |
| $\mathbf{2 0 1 7}$ | $12 \%$ | $31 \%$ | $36 \%$ | $31 \%$ | 5.7 |
| $\mathbf{2 0 1 6}$ | $10 \%$ | $32 \%$ | $33 \%$ | $34 \%$ | 5.5 |
| $\mathbf{2 0 1 5}$ | $12 \%$ | $33 \%$ | $36 \%$ | $30 \%$ | 5.7 |

(9) Recession

| $8 / 23$ | $16 \%$ | $31 \%$ | $40 \%$ | $29 \%$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $8 / 22$ | $17 \%$ | $41 \%$ | $41 \%$ | $18 \%$ |

(16) Developing future leaders

| $\mathbf{8 / 2 3}$ | $13 \%$ | $29 \%$ | $40 \%$ | $30 \%$ | $\mathbf{5 . 6}$ |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathbf{8 / 2 2}$ | $13 \%$ | $28 \%$ | $38 \%$ | $32 \%$ | 5.6 |
| $9 / 21$ | $16 \%$ | $30 \%$ | $45 \%$ | $23 \%$ | 6.0 |
| $9 / 20$ | $11 \%$ | $28 \%$ | $43 \%$ | $28 \%$ | 5.6 |
| $\mathbf{3 / 2 0}$ | $8 \%$ | $23 \%$ | $43 \%$ | $31 \%$ | 5.2 |
| $\mathbf{4 / 1 9}$ | $8 \%$ | $23 \%$ | $44 \%$ | $31 \%$ | 5.3 |
| $\mathbf{3 / 1 8}$ | $8 \%$ | $25 \%$ | $40 \%$ | $34 \%$ | 5.2 |
| 2017 | $12 \%$ | $26 \%$ | $38 \%$ | $35 \%$ | 5.3 |
| 2016 | $6 \%$ | $12 \%$ | $27 \%$ | $60 \%$ | 3.7 |
| 2015 | $4 \%$ | $13 \%$ | $32 \%$ | $54 \%$ | 3.9 |

(15) Data breaches and cybersecurity

8/23 7\% 24\%
(18) Incoming and outgoing supply chain issues

| $\mathbf{8 / 2 3}$ | $8 \%$ | $22 \%$ | $45 \%$ | $32 \%$ | $\mathbf{5 . 5}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{8 / 2 2}$ | $22 \%$ | $48 \%$ | $35 \%$ | $16 \%$ | $\mathbf{7 . 0}$ |
| $9 / 21$ | $36 \%$ | $67 \%$ | $24 \%$ | $8 \%$ | 8.0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $(17)$ | Implementing automation |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathbf{8 / 2 3}$ | $3 \%$ | $7 \%$ | $35 \%$ | $55 \%$ | $\mathbf{3 . 8}$ |

Question 19
What would you say are the one or two biggest challenges your company is facing that might negatively impact future growth? (ACCEPTED UP TO TWO OPTIONS)

Combined Choices

| $\mathbf{2 0 1 5}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 7}$ | $\mathbf{3 / 1 8}$ | $\mathbf{4 / 1 9}$ | $\mathbf{3 / 2 0}$ | $\mathbf{9 / 2 0}$ | $\mathbf{9 / 2 1}$ | $\mathbf{8 / 2 2}$ | $\mathbf{8 / 2 3}$ |  |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- |
| $\mathbf{2 9 \%}$ | $\mathbf{2 6 \%}$ | $\mathbf{3 4 \%}$ | $\mathbf{4 9 \%}$ | $\mathbf{4 8 \%}$ | $\mathbf{4 0 \%}$ | $\mathbf{3 2 \%}$ | $\mathbf{5 0 \%}$ | $\mathbf{4 4 \%}$ | $\mathbf{3 9 \%}$ | ATTRACTING AND RETAINING A |
| -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | $19 \%$ | $25 \%$ | $32 \%$ | QUALIFIED WORKFORCE |
| -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | $48 \%$ | $44 \%$ | $31 \%$ | INCREASING COSTS OF MATERIALS FOR |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | YOUR PRODUCTS |
| -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | $16 \%$ | $13 \%$ | $15 \%$ | INCREASING COSTS OF WAGES |
| $43 \%$ | $40 \%$ | $38 \%$ | $18 \%$ | $19 \%$ | $33 \%$ | $33 \%$ | $10 \%$ | $9 \%$ | $14 \%$ | UNFAVORABLE BUSINESS CLIMATE |
| $41 \%$ | $34 \%$ | $36 \%$ | $36 \%$ | $30 \%$ | $31 \%$ | $26 \%$ | $9 \%$ | $12 \%$ | $14 \%$ | COST OF HEALTH CARE INSURANCE |
| -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | $4 \%$ | $8 \%$ | RISING INTEREST RATES |
| -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | $5 \%$ | $6 \%$ | COST OR AVAILABILITY OF CAPITAL TO |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | INVEST |
| -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | $1 \%$ | $2 \%$ | APPLYING AUTOMATION |
| $4 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $1 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $1 \%$ | $8 \%$ | $4 \%$ | OTHER |
| $1 \%$ | $1 \%$ | $1 \%$ | $*$ | $2 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $1 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $1 \%$ | $1 \%$ | DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE |
| $*$ | $*$ | -- | -- | $1 \%$ | $*$ | -- | -- | -- | $*$ | REFUSED |

Question 20
Is your company currently having challenges meeting customer demand? (ACCEPTED UP TO TWO OPTIONS)

| $\frac{\mathbf{9 / 2 1}}{39 \%}$ | $\frac{\mathbf{8 / 2 2}}{43 \%}$ | $\frac{\mathbf{8 / 2 3}}{\mathbf{7 3 \%}}$ | NOT HAVING CHALLENGES |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- |
|  |  |  |  |
| -- | - | $12 \%$ | ATTRACTING NEW EMPLOYEES |
| $33 \%$ | $30 \%$ | $10 \%$ | SUPPLIERS/MATERIALS ISSUES |
| -- | -- | $4 \%$ | TRAINING EMPLOYEES |
| $11 \%$ | $5 \%$ | $2 \%$ | SHIPPING/LOGISTICS ISSUES |
| $4 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $1 \%$ | CUSTOMER ISSUES |
| $3 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $1 \%$ | EQUIPMENT/PRODUCTION ISSUES |
| $1 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $3 \%$ | SOMETHING ELSE |
| $1 \%$ | $4 \%$ | $1 \%$ | DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE |
| $*$ | -- | $1 \%$ | REFUSED |
|  |  |  |  |
| $\mathbf{4 4 \%}$ | $\mathbf{3 8 \%}$ | $\mathbf{2 5 \%}$ | TOTAL YES, HAVING CHALLENGES |
| $\mathbf{3 9 \%}$ | $\mathbf{4 3 \%}$ | $\mathbf{7 3 \%}$ | NOT HAVING CHALLENGES |

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Question 23
Thinking ahead, what would you say are the two or three most important drivers of your company's future growth? (ACCEPTED UP TO THREE OPTIONS)

## Combined Choices

| $\mathbf{2 0 1 5}$ | $\underline{\mathbf{2 0 1 6}}$ | $\underline{\mathbf{2 0 1 7}}$ | $\mathbf{3 / 1 8}$ | $\underline{\mathbf{4 / 1 9}}$ | $\mathbf{3 / 2 0}$ | $\underline{\mathbf{9 / 2 0}}$ | $\mathbf{9 / 2 1}$ | $\mathbf{8 / \mathbf { 2 2 }}$ | $\mathbf{8 / \mathbf { 8 3 }}$ |  |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- | :--- |
|  | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | $50 \%$ | $\mathbf{4 4 \%}$ | $\mathbf{4 3 \%}$ | HIRING NEW EMPLOYEES |
| $\mathbf{7 5 \%}$ | $82 \%$ | $74 \%$ | $61 \%$ | $53 \%$ | $57 \%$ | $59 \%$ | $38 \%$ | $37 \%$ | $40 \%$ | NEW CUSTOMERS AND MARKETS |
| -- | -- | -- | $38 \%$ | $49 \%$ | $45 \%$ | $27 \%$ | $18 \%$ | $22 \%$ | $18 \%$ | INCREASING PRODUCTIVITY |
| $\mathbf{2 5 \%}$ | $27 \%$ | $24 \%$ | $22 \%$ | $18 \%$ | $14 \%$ | $15 \%$ | $19 \%$ | $15 \%$ | $16 \%$ | DEVELOPING MANAGERS AND LEADERS |
| $40 \%$ | $51 \%$ | $41 \%$ | $35 \%$ | $27 \%$ | $26 \%$ | $24 \%$ | $18 \%$ | $15 \%$ | $15 \%$ | NEW PRODUCTS |
| -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | $8 \%$ | $13 \%$ | CAPITAL INVESTMENTS |
| -- | -- | -- | $27 \%$ | $20 \%$ | $22 \%$ | $16 \%$ | $14 \%$ | $12 \%$ | $11 \%$ | EFFECTIVE STRATEGIC PLANNING AND |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | IMPLEMENTATION |
| -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | $18 \%$ | $7 \%$ | $10 \%$ | IMPLEMENTING AND USING |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | AUTOMATION |
| $6 \%$ | $6 \%$ | $6 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $1 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $1 \%$ | $6 \%$ | $7 \%$ | OTHER |
| $1 \%$ | $5 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $1 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $2 \%$ | DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE |
| $*$ | $*$ | -- | $*$ | $1 \%$ | -- | $2 \%$ | $*$ | $1 \%$ | -- | REFUSED |

Question 24
For the entire year of 2023, do you expect an increase investment in any of the following areas? (ACCEPTED MULTIPLE RESPONSES)

| 3/18 | 4/19 | 3/20 | 9/20 | 9/21 | 8/22 | 8/23 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 63\% | 56\% | MANAGING COSTS DUE TO INFLATION |
| 57\% | 58\% | 62\% | 51\% | 68\% | 54\% | 51\% | GROWING REVENUE AND PROFITABILITY |
| 55\% | 54\% | 62\% | 44\% | 63\% | 51\% | 50\% | MAXIMIZING PRODUCTIVITY |
| 30\% | 32\% | 37\% | 48\% | 53\% | 43\% | 46\% | EXPANDING SALES WITHIN THE UNITED STATES |
| 27\% | 37\% | 33\% | 29\% | 44\% | 34\% | 34\% | STAFF DEVELOPMENT |
| 30\% | 37\% | 38\% | 30\% | 38\% | 29\% | 30\% | SYSTEMS AND TECHNOLOGY |
| -- | -- | 28\% | 24\% | 30\% | 21\% | 24\% | CYBER SECURITY |
| -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 22\% | 19\% | AUTOMATION |
| 10\% | 13\% | 11\% | 10\% | 15\% | 15\% | 13\% | EXPANDING SALES GLOBALLY |
| * | * | * | -- | 1\% | * | 2\% | OTHER |
| 8\% | 11\% | 9\% | 14\% | 7\% | 7\% | 10\% | NONE OF THE ABOVE |
| 1\% | 2\% | 1\% | 1\% | -- | 1\% | 1\% | DON'T KNOW/REFUSED |

Question 25
Does your company currently have positions that are open and are hiring?
(ASKED IF YES) And what percentage of positions are currently open?

```
22% 1-5%
12% 6-10%
    5% 10-20%
    5% MORE THAN 20%
55% 0% - NO CURRENT POSITIONS OPEN
    1% DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
    * REFUSED
44% TOTALYES
55% 0% - NO CURRENT POSITIONS OPEN
```


## Question 26

Overall, how difficult do you think it is to attract qualified candidates to manufacturers like you?

| $\mathbf{9 / 2 1}$ | $\frac{\mathbf{8 / 2 2}}{25}$ | $\frac{\mathbf{8 / 2 3}}{}$ |  |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- | :--- |
|  | $48 \%$ | $40 \%$ | VERY DIFFICULT |
| $32 \%$ | $36 \%$ | $43 \%$ | SOMEWHAT DIFFICULT |
| $7 \%$ | $7 \%$ | $12 \%$ | NOT TOO DIFFICULT |
| $4 \%$ | $6 \%$ | $4 \%$ | NOT DIFFICULT AT ALL |
| $1 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $1 \%$ | DON'T KNOW |
| $*$ | $*$ | -- | REFUSED |
|  |  |  |  |
| $\mathbf{8 7 \%}$ | $\mathbf{8 4 \%}$ | $\mathbf{8 3 \%}$ | TOTAL DIFFICULT |
| $\mathbf{1 2 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 3 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 5 \%}$ | TOTAL NOT DIFFICULT |

## Question 27

When thinking about attracting and hiring new employees, what does your company want to be known for? (ACCEPTED MULTIPLE RESPONSES)

| 3/20 | 9/20 | 9/21 | 8/22 | 8/23 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 12\% | 15\% | 58\% | 56\% | 59\% | WORK-LIFE BALANCE |
| 11\% | 8\% | 61\% | 62\% | 58\% | COMPETITIVE SALARY |
| -- | 5\% | 57\% | 62\% | 56\% | SAFE WORK ENVIRONMENT |
| 7\% | 3\% | 47\% | 47\% | 50\% | FLEXIBLE SHIFTS AND WORK SCHEDULES |
| 13\% | 15\% | 42\% | 43\% | 43\% | INDUSTRY LEADER |
| 5\% | 5\% | 45\% | 38\% | 42\% | CAREER GROWTH |
| 5\% | 3\% | 45\% | 43\% | 40\% | GREAT BENEFITS |
| -- | 4\% | 2\% | 2\% | 5\% | OTHER |
| 5\% | 1\% | 2\% | 3\% | 2\% | DON'T KNOW |
| 1\% | 2\% | * | 1\% | 1\% | REFUSED |

${ }^{\wedge}$ Note: Sept 2021 begin allowing multiple responses

Question 28
On a different topic, does your company's senior leadership have an exit or succession plan?

| $\mathbf{2 0 1 7}$ | $\frac{\mathbf{3 / 2 0}}{50 \%}$ | $\frac{\mathbf{9 / 2 0}}{42 \%}$ | $\frac{\mathbf{9 / 2 1}}{43 \%}$ | $\frac{\mathbf{8 / 2 2}}{50 \%}$ | $\frac{\mathbf{8 / 2 3}}{45 \%}$ |  |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- |
| $\mathbf{5 0 \%}$ | $54 \%$ | $45 \%$ | $50 \%$ | $45 \%$ | $48 \%$ | NO |
| $\mathbf{2 \%}$ | $4 \%$ | $6 \%$ | $6 \%$ | $4 \%$ | $7 \%$ | DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE |
| $*$ | $*$ | $*$ | $1 \%$ | -- | -- | REFUSED |

## Question 29

On a different topic, does your company have a formal strategic plan?

| $\frac{\mathbf{2 0 1 5}}{30 \%}$ | $\frac{\mathbf{2 0 1 6}}{38 \%}$ | $\frac{\mathbf{2 0 1 7}}{54 \%}$ | $\frac{\mathbf{3 / 1 8}}{53 \%}$ | $\frac{\mathbf{4 / 1 9}}{49 \%}$ | $\frac{\mathbf{3 / 2 0}}{52 \%}$ | $\frac{\mathbf{9 / 2 1}}{55 \%}$ | $\frac{\mathbf{8 / 2 2}}{48 \%}$ | $\frac{\mathbf{8 / 2 3}}{47 \%}$ | YES |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- |
| $59 \%$ | $61 \%$ | $45 \%$ | $47 \%$ | $49 \%$ | $44 \%$ | $41 \%$ | $51 \%$ | $47 \%$ | NO |
| $\mathbf{1 \%}$ | $1 \%$ | $1 \%$ | -- | $1 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $4 \%$ | $1 \%$ | $6 \%$ | DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE |
| $*$ | $*$ | $*$ | $*$ | $1 \%$ | $*$ | -- | $*$ | -- | REFUSED |

## Question 29B

(ASKED IF YES, HAVE FORMAL PLAN, $\mathbf{N}=187$ )
And, have you conducted strategic planning within the last 12 months?

| $\frac{8 / 22}{84 \%}$ |  | $\frac{8 / 23}{7}$ |  |
| ---: | ---: | :--- | :--- |
| $15 \%$ | $19 \%$ | YES |  |
| $1 \%$ | $2 \%$ | NO |  |
|  |  |  |  |

## Question 30

How does your company plan to grow? I'll read you a few options below and please tell me which comes closest to your current strategy?

| 3/18 | 4/19 | 3/20 | 9/21 | 8/22 | 8/23 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 27\% | 28\% | 28\% | 31\% | 25\% | 29\% | WE HAVE A 1 TO 3 YEAR WRITTEN PLAN AND ALL |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | STAFF KNOW THEIR ROLES. |
| 18\% | 15\% | 11\% | 14\% | 12\% | 8\% | WE HAVE A WRITTEN PLAN, BUT THAT NEEDS TO BE |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | BETTER COMMUNICATED. |
| 20\% | 16\% | 19\% | 22\% | 20\% | 19\% | OUR COMPANY HAS SOME IDEAS. |
| 28\% | 32\% | 33\% | 26\% | 29\% | 27\% | THE STRATEGY IS STRICTLY THE ROLE OF THE CEO. |
| 2\% | 1\% | 1\% | 1\% | 7\% | 6\% | DON'T HAVE A PLAN |
| 1\% | 1\% | 2\% | 2\% | 2\% | 4\% | OTHER |
| 3\% | 4\% | 5\% | 4\% | 4\% | 6\% | DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE |
| -- | 2\% | * | * | 2\% | 1\% | REFUSED |

Question 31
Does your organization have a formal, published Vision, Mission, and Values?

43\% YES
54\% NO
2\% DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE

## Question 33

Thinking about quality and business management systems certifications, is your company ISO-certified?

| $\frac{8 / 22}{17 \%}$ |  | $\frac{8 / 23}{18 \%}$ |  |
| ---: | ---: | :--- | :--- |
| $74 \%$ | $71 \%$ | NES |  |
| $9 \%$ | $10 \%$ | DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE |  |
| -- | $*$ | REFUSED |  |

## Question 33B

(ASKED IF NO, NOT ISO CERTIFIED, $\mathbf{N}=\mathbf{2 8 5}$ ) And, is your company getting ISO-certified or have a plan to become ISO-certified?

7\% YES
91\% NO
1\% DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE

## Question 33C

(ASKED IF NO, NOT PLANNING TO GET ISO CERTIFIED, $\mathbf{N}=\mathbf{2 5 9}$ ) What are some of the reasons your company does not have an ISO-certification and is not considering obtaining one?

SEE VERBATIM RESPONSES

Question 34
(ASKED IF YES ISO CERTIFIED, $\mathbf{N}=\mathbf{7 3}$ ) Why have you implemented a quality/business management system? Please choose the top one or two reasons.

| $\mathbf{9 / 2 1}$ | $\frac{\mathbf{8 / 2 2}}{30 \%}$ | $\frac{\mathbf{8 / 2 3}}{\mathbf{4 0 \%}}$ |  |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- |
|  | IMPROVE PROCESSES AND PERFORMANCE |  |  |
| $35 \%$ | $27 \%$ | $34 \%$ | CUSTOMER REQUIRED IT |
| $39 \%$ | $40 \%$ | $29 \%$ | TO IMPROVE QUALITY |
| -- | -- | $19 \%$ | GROW PROFITABLY |
| $17 \%$ | $19 \%$ | $13 \%$ | DIFFERENTIATION AND COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE |
| $11 \%$ | $20 \%$ | $12 \%$ | RETAIN AND DEVELOP ORGANIZATIONAL KNOWLEDGE |
| $1 \%$ | -- | $4 \%$ | OTHER |
| $1 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $4 \%$ | DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE |
| -- | $3 \%$ | $3 \%$ | REFUSED |

## Question X1

## (ONLY ASKED 8/31-9/14, $\mathrm{N}=180$ )

Thinking about some of these issues, I will read you a few short descriptions of recent developments coming out of the legislative session, and I want to know how concerned you are about this legislation and its effect on your business. RANKED BY \% TOTAL WORRIED

| TOTAL | TOTAL NOT | VERY | SMWT | NOT VERY | NOT AT ALL | DON'T KNOW/ |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| WORRIED | WORRIED | WORRIED | WORRIED | WORRIED | WORRIED | UNSURE |

(X1E) The lack of small business exemption for paid leave, meaning small businesses will be forced to provide the same benefits as larger corporations
77\% 21\% $50 \%$ 21\% $\quad 10 \% \quad 11 \% \quad 2 \%$
(X1D) The costs associated with funding the new paid family and medical leave program through a new payroll tax, split between employer and employee
72\% 25\% $47 \%$ 25\% $14 \% \quad 3 \%$
(X1C) The new requirements on an employer for paid sick and safe time
$68 \% \quad 31 \% \quad 38 \% \quad 17 \% ~ 14 \%$
(X1B) Cannabis in the workplace and limits on being able to regulate it
60\% 38\% $38 \% \quad 22 \% \quad 15 \% \quad 23 \% ~ 2$
(X1F) The new wage theft law that makes property owners and developers responsible for any wage theft by construction subcontractors
$44 \% \quad 51 \% \quad 20 \% \quad 20 \% \quad 31 \%$
(X1A) The ban on non-competes
35\% 58\%
15\%
20\%
24\%
33\%
7\%

## Question X2

(ONLY ASKED 8/31-9/14, N=180)
Do you think these legislative developments have made Minnesota more attractive or less attractive for businesses, or does it have no real effect one way or the other?

| $2 \%$ | MUCH MORE ATTRACTIVE |
| ---: | :--- |
| $4 \%$ | SOMEWHAT MORE ATTRACTIVE |
| $21 \%$ | SOMEWHAT LESS ATTRACTIVE |
| $43 \%$ | MUCH LESS ATTRACTIVE |
| $24 \%$ | NO EFFECT ONE WAY OR THE OTHER |
| $4 \%$ | TOO SOON TO SAY/DON'T KNOW |
| $1 \%$ | REFUSED |
|  |  |
| $\mathbf{6 \%}$ | TOTAL MORE ATTRACTIVE |
| $\mathbf{6 4 \%}$ | TOTAL LESS ATTRACTIVE |

Question 35
How many people does your company employ in all its facilities in Minnesota?

| $\underline{2015}$ | $\underline{2016}$ | $\underline{2017}$ | 3/18 | 4/19 | 3/20 | 9/20 | 9/21 | 8/22 | 8/23 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 55\% | 55\% | 58\% | 53\% | 51\% | 61\% | 55\% | 49\% | 51\% | 51\% | UNDER 10 |
| 14\% | 15\% | 14\% | 18\% | 20\% | 14\% | 18\% | 20\% | 21\% | 20\% | 11-25 |
| 9\% | 10\% | 8\% | 10\% | 9\% | 6\% | 7\% | 11\% | 9\% | 10\% | 26-50 |
| 5\% | 7\% | 10\% | 12\% | 9\% | 8\% | 12\% | 10\% | 5\% | 7\% | 51-100 |
| 5\% | 2\% | 5\% | 3\% | 6\% | 7\% | 3\% | 5\% | 4\% | 3\% | 101-150 |
| 2\% | 2\% | 1\% | 2\% | 1\% | 1\% | 1\% | 1\% | 3\% | 1\% | 151 TO 250 |
| 4\% | 2\% | 3\% | 3\% | 4\% | 4\% | 4\% | 4\% | 4\% | 4\% | MORE THAN 250 |
| * | 6\% | * | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 2\% | 2\% | DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE |
| 5\% | 2\% | 1\% | * | * | -- | * | * | 1\% | 3\% | REFUSED |
| 79\% | 80\% | 80\% | 80\% | 80\% | 80\% | 80\% | 80\% | 81\% | 81\% | UNDER 50 |
| 10\% | 9\% | 15\% | 15\% | 15\% | 15\% | 15\% | 15\% | 9\% | 9\% | 51-150 |
| 6\% | 3\% | 4\% | 5\% | 5\% | 5\% | 5\% | 5\% | 6\% | 5\% | 151+ |

Question 36
What are your annual business revenues? Just stop me when I get to the category that includes your company's total annual revenues.

| $\underline{2015}$ | 2016 | 2017 | 3/18 | 4/19 | 3/20 | 9/20 | 9/21 | 8/22 | 8/23 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 42\% | 47\% | 44\% | 45\% | 42\% | 47\% | 44\% | 37\% | 35\% | 34\% | UNDER \$1 MILLION |
| 23\% | 25\% | 23\% | 24\% | 27\% | 24\% | 22\% | 28\% | 29\% | 28\% | MORE THAN \$1 MILLION TO \$5 MILLION |
| 6\% | 8\% | 6\% | 7\% | 9\% | 3\% | 5\% | 11\% | 8\% | 11\% | MORE THAN \$5 MILLION TO \$10 MILLION |
| 5\% | 5\% | 6\% | 6\% | 7\% | 9\% | 10\% | 8\% | 5\% | 6\% | MORE THAN \$10 MILLION TO \$20 MILLION |
| 10\% | 5\% | 7\% | 9\% | 10\% | 10\% | 10\% | 10\% | 9\% | 7\% | MORE THAN \$20 MILLION |
| 14\% | 9\% | 13\% | 8\% | 6\% | 7\% | 9\% | 6\% | 13\% | 14\% | DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE/REFUSED |
| 42\% | 47\% | 44\% | 45\% | 42\% | 47\% | 44\% | 37\% | 35\% | 34\% | UNDER \$1 MILLION |
| 44\% | 44\% | 43\% | 47\% | 52\% | 46\% | 47\% | 57\% | 51\% | 52\% | TOTAL \$1M OR MORE |
| 21\% | 19\% | 20\% | 23\% | 25\% | 22\% | 25\% | 29\% | 22\% | 23\% | \$5 MILLION+ |

Question 37
Which one of the following best describes your company's primary business?

| $\underline{2015}$ | $\underline{2016}$ | $\underline{2017}$ | 3/18 | 4/19 | 3/20 | 9/20 | 9/21 | 8/22 | 8/23 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 14\% | 19\% | 14\% | 16\% | 23\% | 13\% | 25\% | 17\% | 12\% | 12\% | PROCESS MANUFACTURING |
| 20\% | 17\% | 20\% | 16\% | 15\% | 14\% | 12\% | 14\% | 14\% | 11\% | METAL FABRICATION |
| 18\% | 26\% | 12\% | 18\% | 24\% | 16\% | 14\% | 17\% | 11\% | 10\% | PRECISION MANUFACTURING |
| 14\% | 18\% | 11\% | 10\% | 12\% | 9\% | 6\% | 8\% | 11\% | 8\% | AN ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | MANUFACTURER, OEM |
| -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 2\% | 6\% | 4\% | 5\% | 6\% | RETAIL/RETAIL SALES/WHOLESALE |
| -- | -- | -- | 5\% | 4\% | 5\% | 6\% | 5\% | 6\% | 6\% | PRINTING/PAPER |
| -- | -- | -- | 7\% | 3\% | 2\% | 2\% | 3\% | 3\% | 5\% | WOODWORKING/WOOD |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | MANUFACTURING |
| 5\% | 4\% | 5\% | 7\% | 5\% | 5\% | 3\% | 5\% | 2\% | 5\% | PLASTICS |
| * | -- | -- | 3\% | 1\% | 4\% | 3\% | 3\% | 4\% | 4\% | FOOD MANUFACTURING |
| -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 2\% | 1\% | 3\% | MEDICAL MANUFACTURING |
| -- | -- | -- | 1\% | 1\% | 1\% | 2\% | 2\% | 3\% | 3\% | ANIMAL/AGRICULTURAL |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | MANUFACTURING |
| 3\% | 4\% | 3\% | 4\% | 4\% | 3\% | 2\% | 2\% | 2\% | 3\% | ELECTRONICS COMPONENTS |
| -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 2\% | 4\% | 3\% | 1\% | 2\% | CONSTRUCTION |
| -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 1\% | 2\% | * | 2\% | 2\% | SIGN MANUFACTURING |
| -- | -- | -- | 7\% | 2\% | 2\% | 1\% | 1\% | 3\% | 2\% | TEXTILE MANUFACTURING/ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | EMBROIDERY/APPAREL |
| -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 1\% | * | 1\% | 2\% | GRAPHIC DESIGN/ART |
| -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 1\% | -- | 1\% | PAINTING/COATING |
| 1\% | 2\% | 2\% | 1\% | 1\% | 2\% | * | -- | * | 1\% | INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, IT |
| -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 1\% | 1\% | 1\% | 1\% | CONSULTING |
| -- | -- | -- | -- | 1\% | * | 2\% | 2\% | 2\% | 1\% | AUTOMOTIVE/REPAIR/ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | TRANSPORTATION/TRUCKING |
| -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 1\% | 1\% | * | DISTRIBUTION |
| -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 1\% | * | 1\% | * | REPAIRS/MAINTENANCE |
| -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 2\% | * | 1\% | * | SERVICE/HOSPITALITY |
| 3\% | -- | -- | 2\% | 2\% | 2\% | 3\% | -- | 2\% | * | CABINET MANUFACTURING/ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | COUNTERTOPS/DOORS |
| -- | -- | -- | -- | 1\% | -- | * | -- | * | -- | RECYCLING |
| 17\% | 8\% | 31\% | 3\% | 3\% | 17\% | 4\% | 5\% | 10\% | 7\% | SOMETHING ELSE |
| * | 1\% | -- | -- | -- | * | * | -- | 1\% | 1\% | DON'T KNOW |
| 4\% | 1\% | * | -- | -- | -- | * | * | 1\% | 4\% | REFUSED |

Question 38
How many years has your company been in operation?

| $\underline{2015}$ | $\underline{2016}$ | $\underline{2017}$ | 3/18 | 4/19 | 3/20 | 9/20 | 9/21 | 8/22 | 8/23 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| * | 1\% | * | -- | -- | * | * | 1\% | 1\% | * | LESS THAN 1 YEAR |
| 1\% | 5\% | 3\% | 3\% | 2\% | 3\% | 3\% | 1\% | 2\% | 1\% | 1-3 YEARS |
| 4\% | 6\% | 7\% | 6\% | 4\% | 5\% | 4\% | 3\% | 3\% | 2\% | 4-6 YEARS |
| 5\% | 7\% | 9\% | 7\% | 10\% | 11\% | 7\% | 10\% | 5\% | 5\% | 7-10 YEARS |
| 12\% | 11\% | 8\% | 10\% | 9\% | 8\% | 8\% | 10\% | 7\% | 7\% | 11-15 YEARS |
| 74\% | 69\% | 73\% | 73\% | 75\% | 73\% | 77\% | 75\% | 80\% | 79\% | 16 YEARS OR MORE |
| * | -- | -- | -- | -- | * | -- | -- | 1\% | 1\% | DON'T KNOW |
| 4\% | 1\% | -- | * | * | -- | * | -- | 1\% | 5\% | REFUSED |
| 22\% | 30\% | 27\% | 27\% | 25\% | 27\% | 23\% | 25\% | 17\% | 16\% | TOTAL <16 YEARS |
| 74\% | 69\% | 73\% | 73\% | 75\% | 73\% | 77\% | 75\% | 80\% | 79\% | TOTAL 16+ YEARS |

Question 39
In what year were you born?

| $\underline{2015}$ | $\underline{2016}$ | $\underline{2017}$ | 3/18 | 4/19 | 3/20 | 9/20 | 9/21 | 8/22 | 8/23 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3\% | 5\% | 8\% | 6\% | 6\% | 7\% | 5\% | 7\% | 9\% | 9\% | 18-34 |
| 7\% | 11\% | 10\% | 12\% | 10\% | 12\% | 14\% | 15\% | 12\% | 12\% | 35-44 |
| 26\% | 23\% | 21\% | 22\% | 20\% | 22\% | 20\% | 24\% | 19\% | 19\% | 45-54 |
| 37\% | 37\% | 36\% | 37\% | 39\% | 34\% | 37\% | 32\% | 33\% | 32\% | 55-64 |
| 19\% | 18\% | 17\% | 20\% | 22\% | 24\% | 20\% | 16\% | 19\% | 19\% | 65 AND ABOVE |
| 8\% | 6\% | 8\% | 3\% | 4\% | 1\% | 3\% | 5\% | 7\% | 7\% | REFUSED |

Question 40
Gender

| $\underline{2015}$ | $\underline{2016}$ | $\underline{2017}$ | 3/18 | 4/19 | 3/20 | 9/20 | 9/21 | 8/22 | 8/23 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 81\% | 80\% | 76\% | 76\% | 80\% | 80\% | 79\% | 73\% | 73\% | 75\% | MALE |
| 19\% | 20\% | 24\% | 24\% | 20\% | 20\% | 21\% | 27\% | 27\% | 25\% | FEMALE |

