## Services and Infrastructure Outlook Survey for Q2:2023-24

Today, the Reserve Bank released the results of $38^{\text {th }}$ round of its quarterly Services and Infrastructure Outlook Survey (SIOS) conducted during Q2:2023-24. This forward-looking survey ${ }^{1}$ captures qualitative assessment and expectations of Indian companies engaged in the services and infrastructure sectors on a set of business parameters relating to demand conditions, price situation and other business conditions. In the latest round of the survey, 685 companies provided their assessment for Q2:2023-24 and expectations for Q3:2023-24 as well as outlook on key parameters for the subsequent two quarters.

## Highlights:

## A. Services Sector

## Assessment for Q2:2023-24

- Service sector firms retained their positive assessment about their overall business situation, turnover and employment position in Q2:2023-24 with somewhat lower sanguinity vis-à-vis the previous quarter (Chart 1 and Table A).
- Pressures emanating from cost of finance, input prices and wages witnessed some moderation during Q2:2023-24.
- Service sector firms assessed subdued rise in selling prices and profit margins during Q2:2023-24.


## Expectations for Q3:2023-24

- Respondents remain optimistic about overall business situation, turnover, and employment conditions in Q3:2023-24, though their optimism was lower vis-à-vis the previous quarter (Chart 1 and Table A).
- Pressures from wage bill, input cost and cost of finance are likely to ease but service firms are less optimistic for selling price and profit margin in Q3:2023-24.


## Expectations for Q4:2023-24 and Q1:2024-25

- Overall business situation is expected to improve further till Q1:2024-25 with positive sentiments on turnover and employment (Table C).
- Service sector firms expect lower input cost pressures and selling price growth in sync with it.

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## B. Infrastructure Sector

## Assessment for Q2:2023-24

- Infrastructure companies remained positive on overall business situation as well as their turnover, though their assessment was a shade lower when compared to the previous round of the survey (Chart 2 and Table B).
- Enterprises gauged higher cost pressures stemming from input costs and cost of finance; however, pressures from salary outgo are assessed to have declined marginally.
- Respondents assessed lower growth in their selling prices and moderation in profit margin for the third successive quarter.


## Expectations for Q3:2023-24

- Infrastructure firms remain highly confident on overall business conditions and turnover (Chart 2 and Table B).
- Both selling price and profit margin are expected to rise in Q3:2023-24, though the optimism is somewhat lower when compared to the previous survey round.


## Expectations for Q4:2023-24 and Q1:2024-25

- Infrastructure firms remain optimistic on overall business situation and their own turnover; they also expect rise in input costs and selling prices up to Q1:2024-25 (Table D).
- Respondents remain optimistic on employment situation in the ensuing quarters.

Chart 2: Turnover of Infrastructure Companies -Net Response





—Assessment ——— Expectations

Summary of Net Responses ${ }^{2}$ on Survey Parameters

| Table A: Services Sector |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Parameters |  |  |  |  |
|  | Assessment period |  | Expectations period |  |
|  | Q1:2023-24 | Q2:2023-24 | Q2:2023-24 | Q3:2023-24 |
| Overall Business Situation | 42.0 | 34.4 | 56.0 | 43.1 |
| Turnover | 49.0 | 28.9 | 54.9 | 30.5 |
| Full-time Employees | 27.9 | 17.3 | 42.0 | 16.5 |
| Part-time Employees | 21.0 | 6.2 | 31.4 | 14.4 |
| Availability of Finance | 19.7 | 18.0 | 36.0 | 24.2 |
| Cost of Finance | -33.7 | -30.1 | -33.7 | -26.6 |
| Salary \& Wages | -43.2 | -39.2 | -44.8 | -29.5 |
| Cost of Inputs | -35.7 | -28.1 | -40.9 | -22.2 |
| Selling Price | 17.4 | 6.5 | 32.7 | 14.2 |
| Profit Margin | 4.9 | 4.3 | 41.2 | 13.8 |
| Inventories | 19.6 | 16.5 | 34.8 | 22.9 |
| Technical/Service Capacity | 25.1 | 25.3 | 49.8 | 40.0 |
| Physical Investment | 20.7 | 27.6 | 41.5 | 22.3 |


| Table B: Infrastructure Sector |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Parameters |  |  |  |  |
|  | Assessment period |  | (per cent) |  |
|  | Q1:2023-24 | Q2:2023-24 | Q2:2023-24 | Q3:2023-24 |
| Overall Business Situation | 48.4 | 29.8 | 56.0 | 64.4 |
| Turnover | 49.5 | 31.7 | 55.6 | 50.0 |
| Full-time Employees | 33.3 | 16.3 | 46.7 | 39.4 |
| Part-time Employees | 37.0 | 31.0 | 47.2 | 55.2 |
| Availability of Finance | 12.2 | 26.0 | 45.6 | 42.7 |
| Cost of Finance | -42.4 | -44.8 | -41.7 | -54.2 |
| Salary \& Wages | -37.4 | -35.9 | -47.8 | -39.2 |
| Cost of Inputs | -43.2 | -45.1 | -46.6 | -45.0 |
| Selling Price | 22.0 | 20.7 | 41.0 | 38.0 |
| Profit Margin | 12.2 | 7.8 | 40.4 | 31.4 |
| Inventories | 15.0 | 36.8 | 33.3 | 57.9 |
| Technical/Service Capacity | 31.0 | 36.2 | 51.2 | 66.7 |
| Physical Investment | 27.1 | 34.2 | 33.8 | 46.8 |

[^1]Expectations of Select Parameters for extended period - Net response (in per cent)

| Table C: Services Sector |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Parameter | Round 37 | Round 38 |  |  |
|  | Q2:2023-24 | Q3:2023-24 | Q4:2023-24 | Q1:2024-25 |
| Overall Business Situation | 56.0 | 43.1 | 39.5 | 39.6 |
| Turnover | 54.9 | 30.5 | 39.2 | 37.6 |
| Full-time Employees | 42.0 | 16.5 | 29.1 | 29.4 |
| Part-time Employees | 31.4 | 14.4 | 33.4 | 33.1 |
| Cost of Inputs | -40.9 | -22.2 | -28.5 | -29.3 |
| Selling Price | 32.7 | 14.2 | 25.7 | 25.4 |


| Table D: Infrastructure Sector |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: | :---: |
| Parameter |  | Round 37 |  | Round 38 |  |  |
|  | Q2:2023-24 | Q3:2023-24 | Q4:2023-24 | Q1:2024-25 |  |  |
| Overall Business Situation | 56.0 | 64.4 | 51.0 | 49.0 |  |  |
| Turnover | 55.6 | 50.0 | 52.9 | 49.0 |  |  |
| Full-time Employees | 46.7 | 39.4 | 41.2 | 42.2 |  |  |
| Part-time Employees | 47.2 | 55.2 | 60.7 | 62.5 |  |  |
| Cost of Inputs | -46.6 | -45.0 | -41.8 | -41.8 |  |  |
| Selling Price | 41.0 | 38.0 | 38.7 | 39.1 |  |  |

Note: Please see the excel file for time series data.

## Services Sector

Table S1: Assessment and Expectation for Overall Business Situation (Percentage responses)@

| Quarter | Assessment |  |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Better | No <br> Change | Worse | Net <br> response | Better | No <br> Change | Worse | Net <br> response |  |  |
| Q2:22-23 | 45.9 | 48.7 | 5.4 | $\mathbf{4 0 . 5}$ | 59.6 | 36.7 | 3.7 | $\mathbf{5 5 . 9}$ |  |  |
| Q3:22-23 | 52.4 | 43.3 | 4.3 | $\mathbf{4 8 . 1}$ | 57.4 | 38.1 | 4.4 | $\mathbf{5 3 . 0}$ |  |  |
| Q4:22-23 | 59.8 | 30.0 | 10.3 | $\mathbf{4 9 . 5}$ | 55.0 | 40.0 | 5.0 | $\mathbf{5 0 . 1}$ |  |  |
| Q1:23-24 | 55.0 | 32.0 | 13.0 | $\mathbf{4 2 . 0}$ | 64.2 | 27.4 | 8.4 | $\mathbf{5 5 . 8}$ |  |  |
| Q2:23-24 | 48.4 | 37.7 | 14.0 | $\mathbf{3 4 . 4}$ | 62.3 | 31.3 | 6.4 | $\mathbf{5 6 . 0}$ |  |  |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

'Increase' in Overall business situation is optimistic.
@: Due to rounding off percentage may not add up to 100.
\#: Net Response (NR) is the difference of percentage of the respondents reporting optimism and that reporting pessimism. The range is -100 to 100 . Any value greater than zero indicates expansion/ optimism and any value less than zero indicates contraction/ pessimism.

Table S2: Assessment and Expectation for Turnover
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response |
| Q2:22-23 | 51.2 | 40.3 | 8.5 | $\mathbf{4 2 . 7}$ | 54.6 | 41.4 | 4.0 | $\mathbf{5 0 . 6}$ |
| Q3:22-23 | 49.2 | 45.2 | 5.5 | $\mathbf{4 3 . 7}$ | 61.6 | 34.0 | 4.4 | $\mathbf{5 7 . 1}$ |
| Q4:22-23 | 57.4 | 34.0 | 8.5 | $\mathbf{4 8 . 9}$ | 51.5 | 42.5 | 6.0 | $\mathbf{4 5 . 5}$ |
| Q1:23-24 | 59.4 | 30.2 | 10.4 | $\mathbf{4 9 . 0}$ | 60.0 | 33.1 | 6.9 | $\mathbf{5 3 . 1}$ |
| Q2:23-24 | 43.8 | 41.3 | 14.9 | $\mathbf{2 8 . 9}$ | 59.3 | 36.3 | 4.4 | $\mathbf{5 4 . 9}$ |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  |  | 40.3 | 49.9 | 9.8 |
| $\mathbf{3 0 . 5}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

'Increase' in Turnover is optimistic. Footnotes @ and \# given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table S3: Assessment and Expectation for Full-time Employees
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Assesment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response |
| Q2:22-23 | 35.6 | 57.7 | 6.7 | $\mathbf{2 8 . 9}$ | 29.1 | 67.8 | 3.1 | $\mathbf{2 6 . 0}$ |
| Q3:22-23 | 42.9 | 52.5 | 4.6 | $\mathbf{3 8 . 4}$ | 38.4 | 55.9 | 5.8 | $\mathbf{3 2 . 6}$ |
| Q4:22-23 | 45.1 | 48.0 | 7.0 | $\mathbf{3 8 . 1}$ | 47.1 | 48.0 | 4.8 | $\mathbf{4 2 . 3}$ |
| Q1:23-24 | 40.1 | 47.8 | 12.1 | $\mathbf{2 7 . 9}$ | 47.8 | 45.9 | 6.3 | $\mathbf{4 1 . 6}$ |
| Q2:23-24 | 34.3 | 48.7 | 17.0 | $\mathbf{1 7 . 3}$ | 44.7 | 52.6 | 2.7 | $\mathbf{4 2 . 0}$ |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

'Increase' in Full-time Employees is optimistic. Footnotes @ and \# given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table S4: Assessment and Expectation for Part-time Employees (Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Increase | $\begin{gathered} \text { No } \\ \text { Change } \end{gathered}$ | Decrease | Net response | Increase | $\begin{gathered} \text { No } \\ \text { Change } \end{gathered}$ | Decrease | Net response |
| Q2:22-23 | 22.2 | 71.8 | 6.0 | 16.2 | 29.0 | 64.5 | 6.6 | 22.4 |
| Q3:22-23 | 40.1 | 54.8 | 5.1 | 34.9 | 27.8 | 67.3 | 5.0 | 22.8 |
| Q4:22-23 | 36.2 | 58.5 | 5.3 | 30.9 | 41.8 | 53.1 | 5.1 | 36.7 |
| Q1:23-24 | 30.9 | 59.1 | 9.9 | 21.0 | 35.3 | 60.6 | 4.2 | 31.1 |
| Q2:23-24 | 24.4 | 57.5 | 18.1 | 6.2 | 36.7 | 57.9 | 5.3 | 31.4 |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  | 31.0 | 52.3 | 16.7 | 14.4 |

'Increase' in Part-time Employees is optimistic. Footnotes @ and \# given in Table 1 are applicable here.
Table S5: Assessment and Expectation for Availability of Finance (Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Improve | No <br> Change | Worsen | Net <br> response | Improve | No <br> Change | Worsen | Net <br> response |  |  |
| Q2:22-23 | 26.9 | 65.8 | 7.3 | $\mathbf{1 9 . 6}$ | 33.2 | 61.7 | 5.1 | $\mathbf{2 8 . 2}$ |  |  |
| Q3:22-23 | 42.1 | 53.4 | 4.6 | $\mathbf{3 7 . 5}$ | 32.9 | 61.0 | 6.2 | $\mathbf{2 6 . 7}$ |  |  |
| Q4:22-23 | 34.9 | 61.6 | 3.6 | $\mathbf{3 1 . 3}$ | 42.3 | 52.4 | 5.4 | $\mathbf{3 6 . 9}$ |  |  |
| Q1:23-24 | 29.3 | 61.2 | 9.5 | $\mathbf{1 9 . 7}$ | 36.0 | 61.4 | 2.6 | $\mathbf{3 3 . 4}$ |  |  |
| Q2:23-24 | 30.6 | 56.8 | 12.6 | $\mathbf{1 8 . 0}$ | 39.5 | 57.0 | 3.5 | $\mathbf{3 6 . 0}$ |  |  |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

'Improve' in Availability of Finance is optimistic. Footnotes @ and \# given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table S6: Assessment and Expectation for Cost of Finance (Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Assessment |  |  |  | Increase |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Change |  |  |  |  |  | Decrease | Net |
| :---: |
| response | Increase | No |
| :---: |
| Change | Decrease | Net |
| :---: |
| response |$|$

'Decrease' in Cost of Finance is optimistic. Footnotes @ and \# given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table S7: Assessment and Expectation for Salary/Wages
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Assent |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response |
| Q2:22-23 | 46.1 | 51.0 | 2.9 | $\mathbf{- 4 3 . 3}$ | 28.4 | 70.5 | 1.1 | $\mathbf{- 2 7 . 3}$ |
| Q3:22-23 | 47.9 | 48.4 | 3.7 | $\mathbf{- 4 4 . 2}$ | 42.4 | 56.0 | 1.6 | $\mathbf{- 4 0 . 9}$ |
| Q4:22-23 | 47.6 | 48.4 | 3.9 | $\mathbf{- 4 3 . 7}$ | 43.3 | 52.1 | 4.6 | $\mathbf{- 3 8 . 7}$ |
| Q1:23-24 | 48.8 | 45.6 | 5.6 | $\mathbf{- 4 3 . 2}$ | 45.9 | 46.7 | 7.5 | $\mathbf{- 3 8 . 4}$ |
| Q2:23-24 | 44.5 | 50.3 | 5.3 | $\mathbf{- 3 9 . 2}$ | 46.4 | 52.0 | 1.6 | $\mathbf{- 4 4 . 8}$ |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  |  | 33.6 | 62.3 | 4.1 |

'Decrease' in Salary/Wages is optimistic. Footnotes @ and \# given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table S8: Assessment and Expectation for Cost of Inputs
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response |
| Q2:22-23 | 46.0 | 50.3 | 3.6 | $\mathbf{- 4 2 . 4}$ | 62.0 | 36.1 | 1.9 | $\mathbf{- 6 0 . 2}$ |
| Q3:22-23 | 46.1 | 49.2 | 4.7 | $\mathbf{- 4 1 . 4}$ | 49.4 | 45.6 | 4.9 | $\mathbf{- 4 4 . 5}$ |
| Q4:22-23 | 41.9 | 53.4 | 4.7 | $\mathbf{- 3 7 . 2}$ | 50.1 | 44.5 | 5.3 | $\mathbf{- 4 4 . 8}$ |
| Q1:23-24 | 45.2 | 45.4 | 9.5 | $\mathbf{- 3 5 . 7}$ | 43.8 | 53.6 | 2.7 | $\mathbf{- 4 1 . 1}$ |
| Q2:23-24 | 39.1 | 49.9 | 11.0 | $\mathbf{- 2 8 . 1}$ | 47.0 | 46.8 | 6.1 | $\mathbf{- 4 0 . 9}$ |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

'Decrease' in Cost of Inputs is optimistic. Footnotes @ and \# given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table S9: Assessment and Expectation for Selling Price
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response |
| Q2:22-23 | 19.1 | 74.9 | 5.9 | $\mathbf{1 3 . 2}$ | 33.3 | 63.1 | 3.6 | $\mathbf{2 9 . 8}$ |
| Q3:22-23 | 40.8 | 54.4 | 4.8 | $\mathbf{3 6 . 0}$ | 25.7 | 68.3 | 6.1 | $\mathbf{1 9 . 6}$ |
| Q4:22-23 | 34.4 | 62.2 | 3.5 | $\mathbf{3 0 . 9}$ | 38.9 | 55.6 | 5.5 | $\mathbf{3 3 . 4}$ |
| Q1:23-24 | 28.8 | 59.8 | 11.4 | $\mathbf{1 7 . 4}$ | 35.7 | 60.0 | 4.3 | $\mathbf{3 1 . 3}$ |
| Q2:23-24 | 21.9 | 62.7 | 15.4 | $\mathbf{6 . 5}$ | 39.5 | 53.7 | 6.8 | $\mathbf{3 2 . 7}$ |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

'Increase' in Selling Price is optimistic. Footnotes @ and \# given in Table 1 are applicable here.
Table S10: Assessment and Expectation for Profit Margin
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response |
| Q2:22-23 | 21.9 | 58.3 | 19.9 | $\mathbf{2 . 0}$ | 30.1 | 58.1 | 11.8 | $\mathbf{1 8 . 3}$ |
| Q3:22-23 | 41.9 | 52.0 | 6.1 | $\mathbf{3 5 . 8}$ | 36.3 | 54.3 | 9.5 | $\mathbf{2 6 . 8}$ |
| Q4:22-23 | 43.6 | 46.7 | 9.7 | $\mathbf{3 3 . 9}$ | 44.8 | 49.7 | 5.4 | $\mathbf{3 9 . 4}$ |
| Q1:23-24 | 26.3 | 52.3 | 21.4 | $\mathbf{4 . 9}$ | 48.4 | 42.3 | 9.3 | $\mathbf{3 9 . 1}$ |
| Q2:23-24 | 26.3 | 51.8 | 22.0 | $\mathbf{4 . 3}$ | 50.3 | 40.6 | 9.1 | $\mathbf{4 1 . 2}$ |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

'Increase' in Profit Margin is optimistic. Footnotes @ and \# given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table S11: Assessment and Expectation for Inventories
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response |
| Q2:22-23 | 33.7 | 62.7 | 3.6 | $\mathbf{3 0 . 1}$ | 27.5 | 68.9 | 3.6 | $\mathbf{2 4 . 0}$ |
| Q3:22-23 | 48.3 | 46.9 | 4.8 | $\mathbf{4 3 . 5}$ | 40.5 | 56.8 | 2.7 | $\mathbf{3 7 . 8}$ |
| Q4:22-23 | 38.1 | 58.1 | 3.8 | $\mathbf{3 4 . 2}$ | 48.8 | 46.0 | 5.2 | $\mathbf{4 3 . 5}$ |
| Q1:23-24 | 30.4 | 58.8 | 10.8 | $\mathbf{1 9 . 6}$ | 38.6 | 57.7 | 3.7 | $\mathbf{3 4 . 8}$ |
| Q2:23-24 | 30.2 | 56.2 | 13.6 | $\mathbf{1 6 . 5}$ | 40.3 | 54.3 | 5.4 | $\mathbf{3 4 . 8}$ |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

'Increase' in Inventories is optimistic. Footnotes @ and \# given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table S12: Assessment and Expectation for Technical/Service Capacity (Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Assessment |  |  |  | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response |  |  |  | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 24.0 | 73.8 | 2.2 | $\mathbf{2 1 . 8}$ | 33.9 | 63.8 | 2.3 | $\mathbf{3 1 . 7}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Q3:22-23 | 41.7 | 53.6 | 4.7 | $\mathbf{3 7 . 1}$ | 29.5 | 68.8 | 1.7 | $\mathbf{2 7 . 7}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Q4:22-23 | 36.4 | 60.9 | 2.7 | $\mathbf{3 3 . 7}$ | 41.5 | 53.9 | 4.6 | $\mathbf{3 7 . 0}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Q1:23-24 | 30.0 | 65.1 | 4.9 | $\mathbf{2 5 . 1}$ | 36.4 | 61.1 | 2.5 | $\mathbf{3 4 . 0}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Q2:23-24 | 28.1 | 69.2 | 2.7 | $\mathbf{2 5 . 3}$ | 51.2 | 47.5 | 1.3 | $\mathbf{4 9 . 8}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

'Increase' in Technical/Service Capacity is optimistic. Footnotes @ and \# given in Table 1 are applicable here.
Table S13: Assessment and Expectation for Physical Investment
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response |
| Q2:22-23 | 21.4 | 76.7 | 2.0 | $\mathbf{1 9 . 4}$ | 32.5 | 66.5 | 1.0 | $\mathbf{3 1 . 5}$ |
| Q3:22-23 | 41.3 | 54.4 | 4.3 | $\mathbf{3 7 . 0}$ | 22.8 | 75.8 | 1.5 | $\mathbf{2 1 . 3}$ |
| Q4:22-23 | 32.2 | 65.5 | 2.3 | $\mathbf{3 0 . 0}$ | 41.4 | 53.9 | 4.7 | $\mathbf{3 6 . 7}$ |
| Q1:23-24 | 26.9 | 66.8 | 6.3 | $\mathbf{2 0 . 7}$ | 33.0 | 64.3 | 2.7 | $\mathbf{3 0 . 3}$ |
| Q2:23-24 | 30.7 | 66.1 | 3.1 | $\mathbf{2 7 . 6}$ | 43.4 | 54.8 | 1.8 | $\mathbf{4 1 . 5}$ |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

'Increase' in Physical Investment is optimistic. Footnotes @ and \# given in Table 1 are applicable here.

## Infrastructure Sector

Table 11: Assessment and Expectation for Overall Business Situation (Percentage responses) ${ }^{\text {@ }}$

| Quarter | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Better | No <br> Change | Worse | Net <br> response | Better | No <br> Change | Worse | Net <br> response |  |  |
| Q2:22-23 | 41.9 | 46.8 | 11.3 | $\mathbf{3 0 . 6}$ | 53.1 | 36.9 | 10.0 | $\mathbf{4 3 . 1}$ |  |  |
| Q3:22-23 | 55.5 | 38.0 | 6.5 | $\mathbf{4 9 . 0}$ | 49.2 | 46.7 | 4.1 | $\mathbf{4 5 . 1}$ |  |  |
| Q4:22-23 | 60.9 | 28.7 | 10.4 | $\mathbf{5 0 . 4}$ | 56.8 | 37.2 | 6.0 | $\mathbf{5 0 . 9}$ |  |  |
| Q1:23-24 | 62.6 | 23.1 | 14.3 | $\mathbf{4 8 . 4}$ | 60.5 | 34.2 | 5.3 | $\mathbf{5 5 . 3}$ |  |  |
| Q2:23-24 | 44.2 | 41.3 | 14.4 | $\mathbf{2 9 . 8}$ | 62.6 | 30.8 | 6.6 | $\mathbf{5 6 . 0}$ |  |  |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

'Increase' in Overall business situation is optimistic.
@: Due to rounding off percentage may not add up to 100.
\#: Net Response (NR) is the difference of percentage of the respondents reporting optimism and that reporting pessimism.
The range is -100 to 100. Any value greater than zero indicates expansion/ optimism and any value less than zero indicates contraction/ pessimism.

Table 12: Assessment and Expectation for Turnover
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response |
| Q2:22-23 | 45.5 | 40.7 | 13.8 | $\mathbf{3 1 . 7}$ | 43.0 | 46.1 | 10.9 | $\mathbf{3 2 . 0}$ |
| Q3:22-23 | 52.6 | 40.2 | 7.2 | $\mathbf{4 5 . 4}$ | 56.1 | 35.0 | 8.9 | $\mathbf{4 7 . 2}$ |
| Q4:22-23 | 60.9 | 27.0 | 12.2 | $\mathbf{4 8 . 7}$ | 55.8 | 37.2 | 7.0 | $\mathbf{4 8 . 8}$ |
| Q1:23-24 | 64.8 | 19.8 | 15.4 | 49.5 | 61.4 | 32.5 | 6.1 | $\mathbf{5 5 . 3}$ |
| Q2:23-24 | 46.2 | 39.4 | 14.4 | $\mathbf{3 1 . 7}$ | 61.1 | 33.3 | 5.6 | $\mathbf{5 5 . 6}$ |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

'Increase' in Turnover is optimistic. Footnotes @ and \# given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table I3: Assessment and Expectation for Full-time Employees (Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response |
| Q2:22-23 | 31.5 | 60.5 | 8.1 | $\mathbf{2 3 . 4}$ | 20.6 | 74.6 | 4.8 | $\mathbf{1 5 . 9}$ |
| Q3:22-23 | 51.2 | 42.3 | 6.5 | $\mathbf{4 4 . 7}$ | 36.4 | 57.0 | 6.6 | $\mathbf{2 9 . 8}$ |
| Q4:22-23 | 47.0 | 47.8 | 5.2 | $\mathbf{4 1 . 7}$ | 52.4 | 40.7 | 6.9 | $\mathbf{4 5 . 5}$ |
| Q1:23-24 | 46.7 | 40.0 | 13.3 | $\mathbf{3 3 . 3}$ | 50.9 | 44.7 | 4.4 | $\mathbf{4 6 . 5}$ |
| Q2:23-24 | 28.8 | 58.7 | 12.5 | $\mathbf{1 6 . 3}$ | 48.9 | 48.9 | 2.2 | $\mathbf{4 6 . 7}$ |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

'Increase' in Full-time Employees is optimistic. Footnotes @ and \# given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table 14: Assessment and Expectation for Part-time Employees
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response |
| Q2:22-23 | 19.7 | 71.3 | 9.0 | $\mathbf{1 0 . 7}$ | 21.8 | 72.7 | 5.5 | $\mathbf{1 6 . 4}$ |
| Q3:22-23 | 50.3 | 43.2 | 6.5 | $\mathbf{4 3 . 8}$ | 24.6 | 68.6 | 6.8 | $\mathbf{1 7 . 8}$ |
| Q4:22-23 | 46.4 | 50.0 | 3.6 | $\mathbf{4 2 . 9}$ | 52.1 | 41.7 | 6.2 | $\mathbf{4 5 . 9}$ |
| Q1:23-24 | 48.1 | 40.7 | 11.1 | $\mathbf{3 7 . 0}$ | 43.8 | 55.4 | 0.9 | $\mathbf{4 2 . 9}$ |
| Q2:23-24 | 37.9 | 55.2 | 6.9 | $\mathbf{3 1 . 0}$ | 50.9 | 45.3 | 3.8 | $\mathbf{4 7 . 2}$ |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  |  | 60.3 | 34.5 | 5.2 |
| $\mathbf{5}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

'Increase' in Part-time Employees is optimistic. Footnotes @ and \# given in Table 1 are applicable here.
Table 15: Assessment and Expectation for Availability of Finance
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Improve | No Change | Worsen | Net response | Improve | No Change | Worsen | Net response |
| Q2:22-23 | 30.9 | 60.2 | 8.9 | 22.0 | 33.9 | 59.8 | 6.3 | 27.6 |
| Q3:22-23 | 50.5 | 43.7 | 5.8 | 44.7 | 43.4 | 50.8 | 5.7 | 37.7 |
| Q4:22-23 | 45.1 | 49.6 | 5.3 | 39.8 | 52.2 | 41.9 | 5.8 | 46.4 |
| Q1:23-24 | 28.9 | 54.4 | 16.7 | 12.2 | 46.8 | 50.5 | 2.7 | 44.1 |
| Q2:23-24 | 36.5 | 52.9 | 10.6 | 26.0 | 51.1 | 43.3 | 5.6 | 45.6 |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  | 46.6 | 49.5 | 3.9 | 42.7 |

'Improve' in Availability of Finance is optimistic. Footnotes @ and \# given in Table 1 are applicable here.
Table 16: Assessment and Expectation for Cost of Finance (Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response |
| Q2:22-23 | 43.8 | 48.8 | 7.4 | $\mathbf{- 3 6 . 4}$ | 39.8 | 58.5 | 1.7 | $\mathbf{- 3 8 . 1}$ |
| Q3:22-23 | 51.0 | 42.8 | 6.2 | $\mathbf{- 4 4 . 9}$ | 47.5 | 46.7 | 5.8 | $\mathbf{- 4 1 . 7}$ |
| Q4:22-23 | 43.4 | 49.6 | 7.1 | $\mathbf{- 3 6 . 3}$ | 49.7 | 44.5 | 5.8 | $\mathbf{- 4 3 . 8}$ |
| Q1:23-24 | 50.6 | 41.2 | 8.2 | $\mathbf{- 4 2 . 4}$ | 43.8 | 53.6 | 2.7 | $\mathbf{- 4 1 . 1}$ |
| Q2:23-24 | 51.0 | 42.7 | 6.3 | $\mathbf{- 4 4 . 8}$ | 44.0 | 53.6 | 2.4 | $\mathbf{- 4 1 . 7}$ |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

'Decrease' in Cost of Finance is optimistic. Footnotes @ and \# given in Table 1 are applicable here.
Table 17: Assessment and Expectation for Salary/Wages
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response |
| Q2:22-23 | 31.1 | 64.8 | 4.1 | $\mathbf{- 2 7 . 0}$ | 20.8 | 76.9 | 2.3 | $\mathbf{- 1 8 . 5}$ |
| Q3:22-23 | 56.3 | 39.2 | 4.4 | $\mathbf{- 5 1 . 9}$ | 35.0 | 62.4 | 2.6 | $\mathbf{- 3 2 . 5}$ |
| Q4:22-23 | 47.0 | 49.6 | 3.5 | $\mathbf{- 4 3 . 5}$ | 50.5 | 43.6 | 5.8 | $\mathbf{- 4 4 . 7}$ |
| Q1:23-24 | 40.7 | 56.0 | 3.3 | $\mathbf{- 3 7 . 4}$ | 46.5 | 50.9 | 2.6 | $\mathbf{- 4 3 . 9}$ |
| Q2:23-24 | 42.7 | 50.5 | 6.8 | $\mathbf{- 3 5 . 9}$ | 47.8 | 52.2 | 0.0 | $\mathbf{- 4 7 . 8}$ |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

[^2]Table 18: Assessment and Expectation for Cost of Inputs
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response |
| Q2:22-23 | 50.0 | 44.2 | 5.8 | $\mathbf{- 4 4 . 2}$ | 76.0 | 23.1 | 0.8 | $\mathbf{- 7 5 . 2}$ |
| Q3:22-23 | 52.2 | 41.6 | 6.2 | $\mathbf{- 4 6 . 0}$ | 53.0 | 42.7 | 4.3 | $\mathbf{- 4 8 . 7}$ |
| Q4:22-23 | 46.9 | 50.4 | 2.7 | $\mathbf{- 4 4 . 2}$ | 55.3 | 37.8 | 6.9 | $\mathbf{- 4 8 . 5}$ |
| Q1:23-24 | 47.7 | 47.7 | 4.5 | $\mathbf{- 4 3 . 2}$ | 49.6 | 48.7 | 1.8 | $\mathbf{- 4 7 . 8}$ |
| Q2:23-24 | 50.0 | 45.1 | 4.9 | $\mathbf{- 4 5 . 1}$ | 51.1 | 44.3 | 4.5 | $\mathbf{- 4 6 . 6}$ |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

'Decrease' in Cost of Inputs is optimistic. Footnotes @ and \# given in Table 1 are applicable here.
Table 19: Assessment and Expectation for Selling Price (Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response |
| Q2:22-23 | 27.5 | 60.0 | 12.5 | $\mathbf{1 5 . 0}$ | 34.1 | 62.4 | 3.5 | $\mathbf{3 0 . 6}$ |
| Q3:22-23 | 51.4 | 41.8 | 6.8 | $\mathbf{4 4 . 5}$ | 32.2 | 62.6 | 5.2 | $\mathbf{2 7 . 0}$ |
| Q4:22-23 | 46.8 | 48.6 | 4.5 | $\mathbf{4 2 . 3}$ | 50.3 | 43.1 | 6.6 | $\mathbf{4 3 . 8}$ |
| Q1:23-24 | 29.3 | 63.4 | 7.3 | $\mathbf{2 2 . 0}$ | 43.5 | 53.7 | 2.8 | $\mathbf{4 0 . 7}$ |
| Q2:23-24 | 33.7 | 53.3 | 13.0 | $\mathbf{2 0 . 7}$ | 43.4 | 54.2 | 2.4 | $\mathbf{4 1 . 0}$ |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  | 42.4 | 53.3 | 4.3 | $\mathbf{3 8 . 0}$ |

'Increase' in Selling Price is optimistic. Footnotes @ and \# given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table I10: Assessment and Expectation for Profit Margin (Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Increase | No Change | Decrease | Net response | Increase | No Change | Decrease | Net response |
| Q2:22-23 | 22.0 | 54.5 | 23.6 | -1.6 | 22.5 | 62.0 | 15.5 | 7.0 |
| Q3:22-23 | 52.2 | 40.1 | 7.6 | 44.6 | 34.7 | 47.1 | 18.2 | 16.5 |
| Q4:22-23 | 46.0 | 44.2 | 9.7 | 36.3 | 52.8 | 39.6 | 7.6 | 45.1 |
| Q1:23-24 | 36.7 | 38.9 | 24.4 | 12.2 | 47.3 | 45.5 | 7.1 | 40.2 |
| Q2:23-24 | 24.5 | 58.8 | 16.7 | 7.8 | 46.1 | 48.3 | 5.6 | 40.4 |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  | 37.3 | 56.9 | 5.9 | 31.4 |

'Increase' in Profit Margin is optimistic. Footnotes @ and \# given in Table 1 are applicable here.
Table I11: Assessment and Expectation for Inventories
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Increase | No Change | Decrease | Net response | Increase | No Change | Decrease | Net response |
| Q2:22-23 | 36.4 | 55.9 | 7.6 | 28.8 | 25.8 | 71.2 | 3.0 | 22.7 |
| Q3:22-23 | 52.4 | 41.0 | 6.6 | 45.9 | 45.8 | 47.5 | 6.8 | 39.0 |
| Q4:22-23 | 48.7 | 46.0 | 5.3 | 43.4 | 53.6 | 39.2 | 7.2 | 46.4 |
| Q1:23-24 | 28.3 | 58.3 | 13.3 | 15.0 | 48.2 | 50.0 | 1.8 | 46.4 |
| Q2:23-24 | 42.1 | 52.6 | 5.3 | 36.8 | 36.7 | 60.0 | 3.3 | 33.3 |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  | 60.5 | 36.8 | 2.6 | 57.9 |

'Increase' in Inventories is optimistic. Footnotes @ and \# given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table 112: Assessment and Expectation for Technical/Service Capacity (Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response |
| Q2:22-23 | 25.5 | 68.2 | 6.4 | $\mathbf{1 9 . 1}$ | 29.4 | 67.6 | 2.9 | $\mathbf{2 6 . 5}$ |
| Q3:22-23 | 50.2 | 43.9 | 6.0 | $\mathbf{4 4 . 2}$ | 27.7 | 70.5 | 1.8 | $\mathbf{2 5 . 9}$ |
| Q4:22-23 | 45.9 | 50.5 | 3.7 | $\mathbf{4 2 . 2}$ | 50.5 | 43.5 | 6.0 | $\mathbf{4 4 . 6}$ |
| Q1:23-24 | 35.7 | 59.5 | 4.8 | $\mathbf{3 1 . 0}$ | 45.0 | 53.2 | 1.8 | $\mathbf{4 3 . 1}$ |
| Q2:23-24 | 38.3 | 59.6 | 2.1 | $\mathbf{3 6 . 2}$ | 51.2 | 48.8 | 0.0 | $\mathbf{5 1 . 2}$ |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

'Increase' in Technical/Service Capacity is optimistic. Footnotes @ and \# given in Table 1 are applicable here.
Table 113: Assessment and Expectation for Physical Investment
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response | Increase | No <br> Change | Decrease | Net <br> response |
| Q2:22-23 | 22.0 | 72.5 | 5.5 | $\mathbf{1 6 . 5}$ | 38.9 | 58.3 | 2.8 | $\mathbf{3 6 . 1}$ |
| Q3:22-23 | 49.7 | 44.1 | 6.3 | $\mathbf{4 3 . 4}$ | 26.9 | 70.4 | 2.8 | $\mathbf{2 4 . 1}$ |
| Q4:22-23 | 45.9 | 50.5 | 3.7 | $\mathbf{4 2 . 2}$ | 49.8 | 43.6 | 6.6 | $\mathbf{4 3 . 2}$ |
| Q1:23-24 | 37.1 | 52.9 | 10.0 | $\mathbf{2 7 . 1}$ | 43.9 | 52.3 | 3.7 | $\mathbf{4 0 . 2}$ |
| Q2:23-24 | 38.0 | 58.2 | 3.8 | $\mathbf{3 4 . 2}$ | 36.8 | 60.3 | 2.9 | $\mathbf{3 3 . 8}$ |
| Q3:23-24 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

'Increase' in Physical Investment is optimistic. Footnotes @ and \# given in Table 1 are applicable here.


[^0]:    1 The survey results reflect the respondents' views, which are not necessarily shared by the Reserve Bank. Results of the previous survey round were released on the Bank's website on August 10, 2023.

[^1]:    ${ }^{2}$ Net Response (NR) is the difference between the percentage of respondents reporting optimism and those reporting pessimism. It ranges between -100 to 100. Positive value indicates expansion/optimism and negative value indicates contraction/pessimism. In other words, NR = (I - D); where, I is the percentage response of 'Increase/optimism', $D$ is the percentage response of 'Decrease/pessimism' and $E$ is the percentage response as 'no change/ equal' (i.e., $1+D+E=100$ ). For example, increase in turnover is optimism whereas decrease in cost of inputs is optimism.

[^2]:    'Decrease' in Salary/Wages is optimistic. Footnotes @ and \# given in Table 1 are applicable here.

