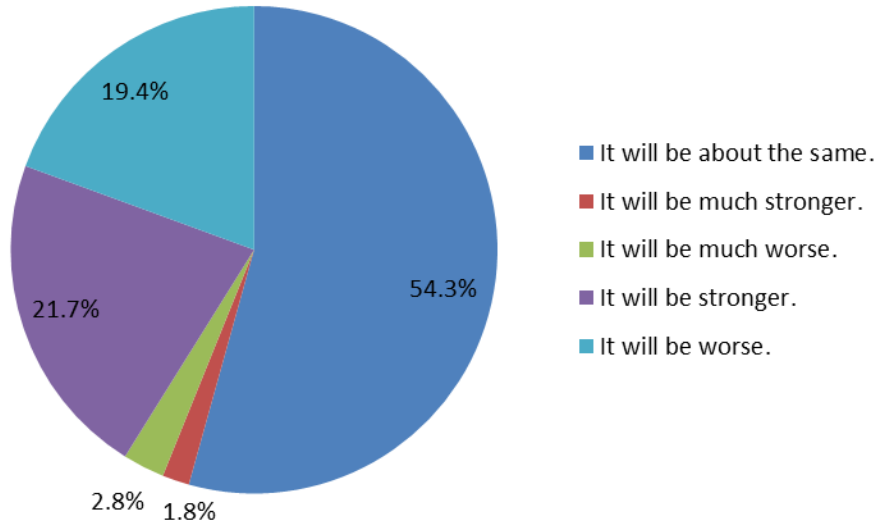


Sageworks Financial Professionals Economic Confidence (FPEC) Survey Results September 12, 2011

Poll Results

According to a survey of U.S. accounting firms and financial institutions released by Sageworks, the majority of financial professionals think the economy is stuck in its present state. Based on interactions with their business clients, 54.3% of bankers and accountants surveyed indicated that they expect the economy to be about the same in a year from now as it is today. This data starkly contrasts the optimism that Sageworks noted in its two previous polls. A [January 2011 poll](#) found that 89% of accountants surveyed believed that businesses will either hire more in 2011 than they did in 2010 or maintain their employee count. Additionally, 57.3% of financial institutions surveyed in an [October 2010 poll](#) said they plan to make more or significantly more commercial loans in 2011 as compared to 2010.

Sageworks FPEC Survey: In a year from now, based upon what you see with your clients, will the economy be better or worse?



The new Sageworks data suggests a general sense of malaise about the economy in which, despite better business results, business owners are apprehensive to hire due to continued uncertainty about the direction of the economy and the proposed solutions from Washington. The survey responses indicate that people are not confident in the stability of the economy even looking out as far as a year. They may not presently see any solutions in place that will resolve their current economic woes in a year from now.

According to the survey results, 54.3% of accountants and bankers believe the economy will be about the same a year from now as it is today. In surprisingly parallel results, 19.4% and 21% of those surveyed respectively believe the economy will

either be worse in a year from now or stronger in a year from now. Meanwhile, 2.8% of those surveyed believe the economy will be much worse in a year from now than it is today. Only 1.8% of respondents believe it will be much stronger than it is today.

About the Sageworks FPEC Survey

Sageworks surveyed 613 accounting and banking professionals at CPA firms, banks, and credit unions across the U.S. from August 19, 2011 through September 9, 2011. In this single question survey, Sageworks asked each recipient to characterize their sense of what the economy will look like in a year from now as compared to today based on conversations with their business clients.

About Sageworks, Inc.

Raleigh, NC-based Sageworks, Inc. is a financial information company. Sageworks' data and applications are used by thousands of accounting firms and banks across North America. The company has been named to the Inc. 500 list of the fastest growing privately-held companies in the US and to the Deloitte Technology Fast 500.

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