

# 2012



## Chamber of Commerce Bryan/College Station

# CHAMBER DAY



*Chamber Day is An Economic Development partnership between Brazos County and the Bryan/College Station Chamber of Commerce to engage with the local business community for information on the current state of business in Brazos County.*



# 2012 Bryan/College Station Chamber Day

Sponsored by Brazos County

March 29, 2012

**The purpose of the day is related to three "A's".**

**Awareness:** Determine how our local businesses are doing. The other side of awareness includes promotion of local economic development and education on the Chamber, its programs and activities, and how we strive to support business in our community.

**Appreciation:** Expression of our thanks for being in business in the Bryan/College Station area. If business is a chamber member we express our appreciation for their membership as well.

**Access:** Joining the more than 1500 Chamber members by accessing benefits designed to enhance the economic well-being of the businesses in our community and to improve the quality of life we all enjoy here.

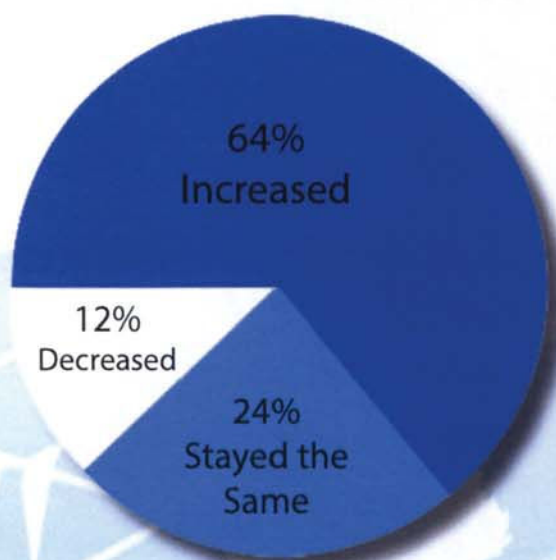
## Summary of 2012 Chamber Day:

- 130 Volunteer Participated
- 679 Businesses Visited
- Chamber Day Business After Hours at Allen Honda
  - Approximately 400 in attendance
- Participation by:
  - Brazos County
  - City of Bryan
  - City of College Station
  - Bryan Police Department
  - College Station Police Department
  - College Station Fire Department

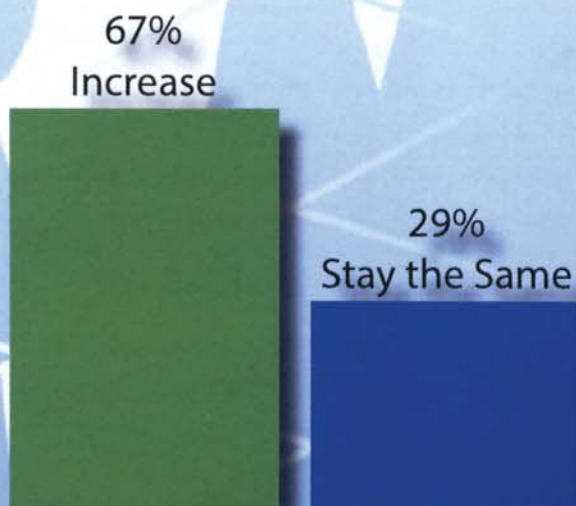
# CHAMBER DAY

On March 29th, over 130 volunteers converged on the Brazos County business community and interviewed over 675 area businesses. Their purpose was to gather enough information to create a snapshot of the state of business affairs in the Brazos Valley. Some of the results of the survey questions are below.

Compared to the past 12 months, How have sales changed?



Do you expect your number of employees to change over the coming year?



What do you expect our local economy to do?

**BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE****Summary of Statistics - Sales****Chamber Day, 2012****Sponsored by Brazos County**Compared to Previous Year How Have Sales Changed?

|                                   |     | <u>Increased</u> | <u>Decreased</u> | <u>Same</u> |
|-----------------------------------|-----|------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Total                             | 679 | 64%              | 12%              | 24%         |
| <hr/>                             |     |                  |                  |             |
| Arts & Culture                    | 18  | 54%              | 15%              | 31%         |
| Auto Sales                        | 1   | 100%             | 0%               | 0%          |
| Constuction                       | 16  | 33%              | 20%              | 47%         |
| Education                         | 5   | 20%              | 20%              | 60%         |
| Energy                            | 2   | 50%              | 0%               | 50%         |
| Government                        | 2   | 50%              | 0%               | 50%         |
| Health & Wellness                 | 38  | 74%              | 8%               | 18%         |
| Human & Social Services           | 4   | 33%              | 33%              | 33%         |
| Information Technology            | 3   | 67%              | 0%               | 33%         |
| Manufacturing                     | 2   | 100%             | 0%               | 0%          |
| Other                             | 44  | 65%              | 2%               | 33%         |
| Professional Services             | 68  | 70%              | 5%               | 25%         |
| Real Estate Development           | 13  | 69%              | 8%               | 23%         |
| Restaurant, Food & Beverage       | 110 | 68%              | 13%              | 19%         |
| Retail                            | 225 | 62%              | 16%              | 22%         |
| Services, Other                   | 97  | 56%              | 16%              | 28%         |
| Tourism, Hospitality & Recreation | 21  | 81%              | 5%               | 14%         |
| Transportation                    | 7   | 86%              | 0%               | 14%         |

**BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
**Summary of Statistics - Employees**  
**Chamber Day, 2012**  
**Sponsored by Brazos County**

Do you expect your number of Employees to Change Next Year?

|                                   |     | <u>Increase</u> | <u>Decrease</u> | <u>Same</u> |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Total                             | 679 | 67%             | 4%              | 29%         |
| <hr/>                             |     |                 |                 |             |
| Arts & Culture                    | 18  | 54%             | 8%              | 38%         |
| Auto Sales                        | 1   | 100%            | 0%              | 0%          |
| Constuction                       | 16  | 81%             | 0%              | 19%         |
| Education                         | 5   | 40%             | 0%              | 60%         |
| Energy                            | 2   | 50%             | 0%              | 50%         |
| Government                        | 2   | 50%             | 0%              | 50%         |
| Health & Wellness                 | 38  | 63%             | 5%              | 32%         |
| Human & Social Services           | 4   | 50%             | 0%              | 50%         |
| Information Technology            | 3   | 67%             | 0%              | 33%         |
| Manufacturing                     | 2   | 100%            | 0%              | 0%          |
| Other                             | 44  | 82%             | 2%              | 16%         |
| Professional Services             | 68  | 77%             | 3%              | 20%         |
| Real Estate Development           | 13  | 85%             | 0%              | 15%         |
| Restaurant, Food & Beverage       | 110 | 65%             | 1%              | 34%         |
| Retail                            | 225 | 65%             | 6%              | 29%         |
| Services, Other                   | 97  | 59%             | 4%              | 37%         |
| Tourism, Hospitality & Recreation | 21  | 81%             | 5%              | 14%         |
| Transportation                    | 7   | 100%            | 0%              | 0%          |

**BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
**Summary of Statistics - Local Economy**  
**Chamber Day, 2012**  
**Sponsored by Brazos County**

What do you expect our Local Economy to do?

|                                   |     | <u>Increase</u> | <u>Decrease</u> | <u>Same</u> |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Total                             | 679 | 40%             | 2%              | 58%         |
| <hr/>                             |     |                 |                 |             |
| Arts & Culture                    | 18  | 8%              | 8%              | 84%         |
| Auto Sales                        | 1   | 100%            | 0%              | 0%          |
| Constuction                       | 16  | 19%             | 6%              | 75%         |
| Education                         | 5   | 40%             | 0%              | 60%         |
| Energy                            | 2   | 50%             | 0%              | 50%         |
| Government                        | 2   | 0%              | 0%              | 100%        |
| Health & Wellness                 | 38  | 50%             | 0%              | 50%         |
| Human & Social Services           | 4   | 33%             | 0%              | 67%         |
| Information Technology            | 3   | 67%             | 0%              | 33%         |
| Manufacturing                     | 2   | 100%            | 0%              | 0%          |
| Other                             | 44  | 52%             | 0%              | 48%         |
| Professional Services             | 68  | 43%             | 0%              | 57%         |
| Real Estate Development           | 13  | 54%             | 0%              | 46%         |
| Restaurant, Food & Beverage       | 110 | 44%             | 2%              | 54%         |
| Retail                            | 225 | 40%             | 4%              | 56%         |
| Services, Other                   | 97  | 27%             | 2%              | 71%         |
| Tourism, Hospitality & Recreation | 21  | 38%             | 0%              | 62%         |
| Transportation                    | 7   | 43%             | 0%              | 57%         |

**BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
**Summary of Statistics**  
**Chamber Day, 2012**  
**Sponsored by Brazos County**

|                                |     | <u>Sales versus Last Year</u> |                  |             | <u>What do you expect our<br/>Local Economy to do?</u> |                 |             | <u>Do you expect your number of<br/>employees to change next year?</u> |                 |             |
|--------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
|                                |     | <u>Increased</u>              | <u>Decreased</u> | <u>Same</u> | <u>Increase</u>                                        | <u>Decrease</u> | <u>Same</u> | <u>Increase</u>                                                        | <u>Decrease</u> | <u>Same</u> |
| Total                          | 679 | 64%                           | 12%              | 24%         | 40%                                                    | 2%              | 58%         | 67%                                                                    | 4%              | 29%         |
| Arts & Culture                 | 18  | 54%                           | 15%              | 31%         | 8%                                                     | 8%              | 84%         | 54%                                                                    | 8%              | 38%         |
| Auto Sales                     | 1   | 100%                          | 0%               | 0%          | 100%                                                   | 0%              | 0%          | 100%                                                                   | 0%              | 0%          |
| Constuction                    | 16  | 33%                           | 20%              | 47%         | 19%                                                    | 6%              | 75%         | 81%                                                                    | 0%              | 19%         |
| Education                      | 5   | 20%                           | 20%              | 60%         | 40%                                                    | 0%              | 60%         | 40%                                                                    | 0%              | 60%         |
| Energy                         | 2   | 50%                           | 0%               | 50%         | 50%                                                    | 0%              | 50%         | 50%                                                                    | 0%              | 50%         |
| Government                     | 2   | 50%                           | 0%               | 50%         | 0%                                                     | 0%              | 100%        | 50%                                                                    | 0%              | 50%         |
| Health & Well                  | 38  | 74%                           | 8%               | 18%         | 50%                                                    | 0%              | 50%         | 63%                                                                    | 5%              | 32%         |
| Human/Social<br>Services       | 4   | 33%                           | 33%              | 33%         | 33%                                                    | 0%              | 67%         | 50%                                                                    | 0%              | 50%         |
| Info Technology                | 3   | 67%                           | 0%               | 33%         | 67%                                                    | 0%              | 33%         | 67%                                                                    | 0%              | 33%         |
| Manufacturing                  | 2   | 100%                          | 0%               | 0%          | 100%                                                   | 0%              | 0%          | 100%                                                                   | 0%              | 0%          |
| Other                          | 44  | 65%                           | 2%               | 33%         | 52%                                                    | 0%              | 48%         | 82%                                                                    | 2%              | 16%         |
| Professional<br>Service        | 68  | 70%                           | 5%               | 25%         | 43%                                                    | 0%              | 57%         | 77%                                                                    | 3%              | 20%         |
| Real Estate<br>Development     | 13  | 69%                           | 8%               | 23%         | 54%                                                    | 0%              | 46%         | 85%                                                                    | 0%              | 15%         |
| Restaurant/Food<br>& Beverage  | 110 | 68%                           | 13%              | 19%         | 44%                                                    | 2%              | 54%         | 65%                                                                    | 1%              | 34%         |
| Retail                         | 225 | 62%                           | 16%              | 22%         | 40%                                                    | 4%              | 56%         | 65%                                                                    | 6%              | 29%         |
| Services, Other                | 97  | 56%                           | 16%              | 28%         | 27%                                                    | 2%              | 71%         | 59%                                                                    | 4%              | 37%         |
| Tourism, Hosp.<br>& Recreation | 21  | 81%                           | 5%               | 14%         | 38%                                                    | 0%              | 62%         | 81%                                                                    | 5%              | 14%         |
| Transportation                 | 7   | 86%                           | 0%               | 14%         | 43%                                                    | 0%              | 57%         | 100%                                                                   | 0%              | 0%          |

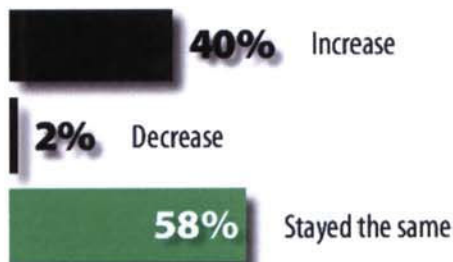
# Chamber Day 2012 Summary

On March 29, one-hundred thirty volunteers spoke with 679 different business owners and managers from eighteen different industries, asking them a variety of questions and listening to their concerns. This is a summary of their findings.

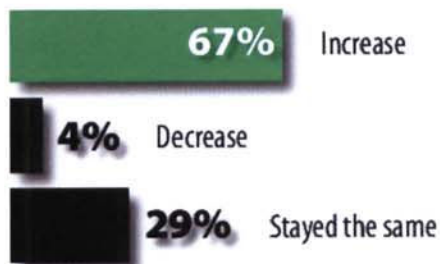
Compared to the previous 12 months, how have sales changed?



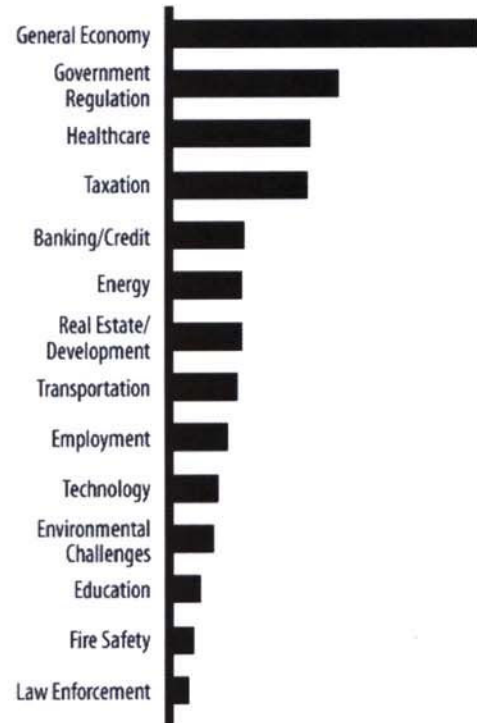
What do you expect our local economy to do?



Do you expect your number of employees to change over the coming year?



When asked what their concerns were, the following answers were given, in order of frequency:

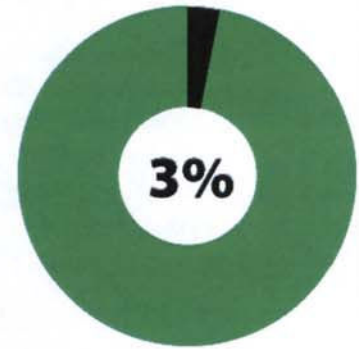


# Arts and Culture

18 out of 679 surveys

Survey results were collected on March 29, 2012 as a part of the Bryan/College Station Chamber of Commerce Chamber Day, an area-wide canvassing of local businesses by 30 people who spoke with 179 different businesses.

% is portion of category within survey >



## Compared to the previous 12 months, how have sales changed?



Overall survey results: 64% increase, 12% decrease, 24% stayed the same

## What do you expect our local economy to do?



Overall survey results: 40% increase, 2% decrease, 58% stayed the same

## Do you expect your number of employees to change over the coming year?



Overall survey results: 67% increase, 4% decrease, 29% stayed the same

## Which of the following do you think are the biggest issues facing this business in 2012? (# of responses)

- Taxation ..... 1
- Government Regulation..... 6
- Environmental Challenges..... 1
- Employment..... 1
- Education..... 1
- Healthcare..... 2
- Transportation..... 1
- Energy..... 1
- Law Enforcement..... 1
- Fire Safety ..... 1
- Banking/Credit ..... 2
- Real Estate/Development..... 2
- Technology ..... 2
- General Economy ..... 5

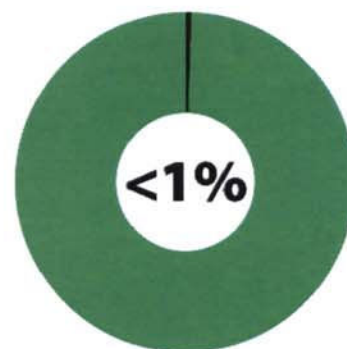
## Additional comments (verbatim)

- Going out of business
- Fuel costs - transportation
- Govt regs
- Giving is down significantly compared to last year.
- Feeling like over development is driving down leasing/sales.
- New location at Tower Pointe

# Auto Sales

1 out of 679 surveys

Survey results were collected on March 29, 2012 as a part of the Bryan/College Station Chamber of Commerce Chamber Day, an area-wide canvassing of local businesses by 130 people who spoke with 679 different businesses.



**Compared to the previous 12 months, how have sales changed?**



Overall survey results: 64% increase, 12% decrease, 24% stayed the same

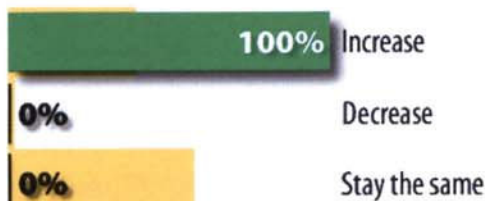
**Which of the following do you think are the biggest issues facing this business in 2012? (# of responses)**

- General Economy ..... 1

**Additional comments (verbatim)**

- None

**What do you expect our local economy to do?**



Overall survey results: 40% increase, 2% decrease, 58% stayed the same

**Do you expect your number of employees to change over the coming year?**

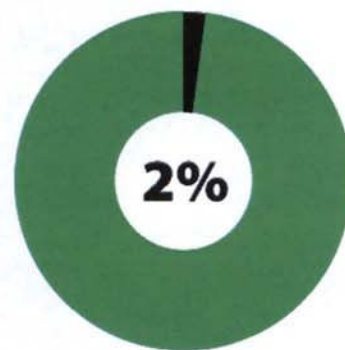


Overall survey results: 67% increase, 4% decrease, 29% stayed the same

# Construction

16 out of 679 surveys

Survey results were collected on March 29, 2012 as a part of the Bryan/College Station Chamber of Commerce Chamber Day, an area-wide canvassing of local businesses by 30 people who spoke with 179 different businesses.

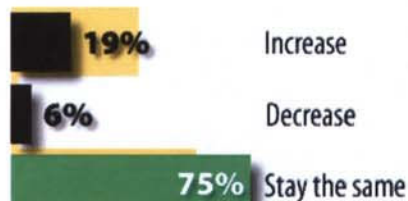


**Compared to the previous 12 months, how have sales changed?**



Overall survey results: 64% increase, 12% decrease, 24% stayed the same

**What do you expect our local economy to do?**



Overall survey results: 40% increase, 2% decrease, 58% stayed the same

**Do you expect your number of employees to change over the coming year?**



Overall survey results: 67% increase, 4% decrease, 29% stayed the same

**Which of the following do you think are the biggest issues facing this business in 2012? (# of responses)**

- Taxation ..... 1
- Environmental Challenges..... 1
- Education..... 1
- Healthcare..... 1
- Energy..... 2
- Banking/Credit ..... 2
- Real Estate/Development..... 1
- Technology ..... 1
- General Economy ..... 4

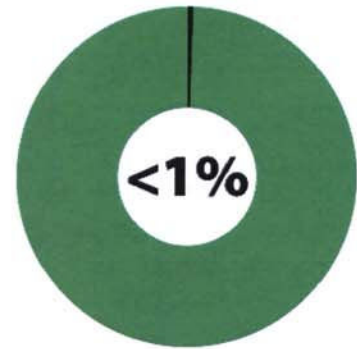
**Additional comments (verbatim)**

- Improvements to wellborn hurt business
- Business owner feels Chamber favors CS business and Downtown Bryan areas.
- Business has decreased some in the last few months because they have opened 2 new branches in February nearby.

# Education

5 out of 679 surveys

Survey results were collected on March 29, 2012 as a part of the Bryan/College Station Chamber of Commerce Chamber Day, an area-wide canvassing of local businesses by 130 people who spoke with 679 different businesses.

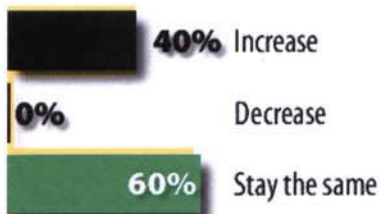


**Compared to the previous 12 months, how have sales changed?**



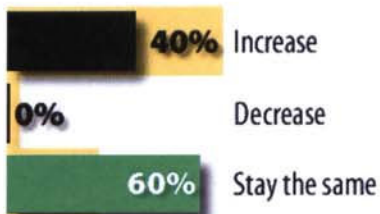
Overall survey results: 64% increase, 12% decrease, 24% stayed the same

**What do you expect our local economy to do?**



Overall survey results: 40% increase, 2% decrease, 58% stayed the same

**Do you expect your number of employees to change over the coming year?**



Overall survey results: 67% increase, 4% decrease, 29% stayed the same

**Which of the following do you think are the biggest issues facing this business in 2012? (# of responses)**

- Taxation ..... 1
- Government Regulation..... 2
- Environmental Challenges..... 1
- Healthcare..... 1
- General Economy ..... 2

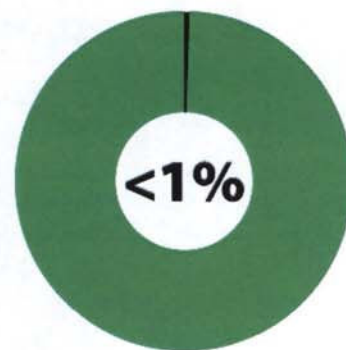
**Additional comments (verbatim)**

- None

# Energy

2 out of 679 surveys

Survey results were collected on March 29, 2012 as a part of the Bryan/College Station Chamber of Commerce Chamber Day, an area-wide canvassing of local businesses by 130 people who spoke with 679 different businesses.



**Compared to the previous 12 months, how have sales changed?**



Overall survey results: 64% increase, 12% decrease, 24% stayed the same

**What do you expect our local economy to do?**



Overall survey results: 40% increase, 2% decrease, 58% stayed the same

**Do you expect your number of employees to change over the coming year?**



Overall survey results: 67% increase, 4% decrease, 29% stayed the same

**Which of the following do you think are the biggest issues facing this business in 2012? (# of responses)**

- Energy..... 1
- Banking/Credit ..... 1
- Real Estate/Development..... 1
- General Economy ..... 2

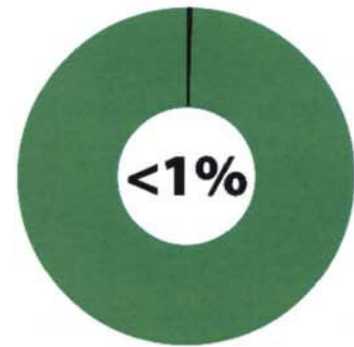
**Additional comments (verbatim)**

- Planning/zoning has forced them to change parking lot which has resulted in drastic decrease in business.

# Government

2 out of 679 surveys

Survey results were collected on March 29, 2012 as a part of the Bryan/College Station Chamber of Commerce Chamber Day, an area-wide canvassing of local businesses by 130 people who spoke with 679 different businesses.



**Compared to the previous 12 months, how have sales changed?**



Overall survey results: 64% increase, 12% decrease, 24% stayed the same

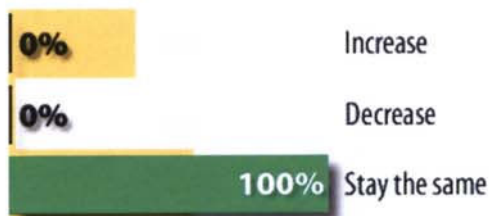
**Which of the following do you think are the biggest issues facing this business in 2012? (# of responses)**

- No response

**Additional comments (verbatim)**

- Can't compete with specs

**What do you expect our local economy to do?**



Overall survey results: 40% increase, 2% decrease, 58% stayed the same

**Do you expect your number of employees to change over the coming year?**



Overall survey results: 67% increase, 4% decrease, 29% stayed the same

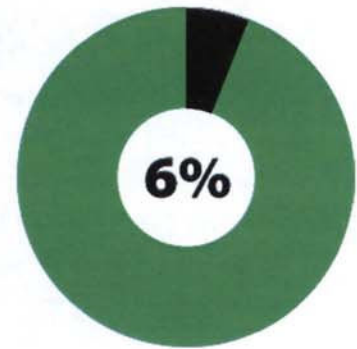


The total number of responses may not exactly match the number of surveys due to some questions being non-applicable or left blank.

# Healthcare & Wellness

38 out of 679 surveys

Survey results were collected on March 29, 2012 as a part of the Bryan/College Station Chamber of Commerce Chamber Day, an area-wide canvassing of local businesses by 130 people who spoke with 179 different businesses.



**Compared to the previous 12 months, how have sales changed?**



Overall survey results: 64% increase, 12% decrease, 24% stayed the same

**What do you expect our local economy to do?**



Overall survey results: 40% increase, 2% decrease, 58% stayed the same

**Do you expect your number of employees to change over the coming year?**



Overall survey results: 67% increase, 4% decrease, 29% stayed the same

**Which of the following do you think are the biggest issues facing this business in 2012? (# of responses)**

- Taxation ..... 6
- Government Regulation..... 5
- Environmental Challenges..... 2
- Employment..... 3
- Education..... 1
- Healthcare..... 3
- Transportation..... 3
- Energy..... 1
- Fire Safety ..... 1
- Banking/Credit ..... 3
- Real Estate/Development..... 2
- Technology ..... 3
- General Economy ..... 8

**Additional comments (verbatim)**

- City of CS won't allow them to put a sign up and their business doesn't have a back door due to being close to George Bush Drive.
- Struggling economy
- Because of fire code, rear door must be unlocked and someone came in and robbed employees purses.
- Water runoff from rain
- Election cycle
- Anything that can news about the arts. Not all about A&M and football