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### Survey finds Kentucky Chamber members growing more optimistic about economy

**FRANKFORT, Ky.** (Oct. 20, 2009) – A recent survey to the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce’s membership shows a gradual increase in optimism about employment and revenue growth for Kentucky’s economy. Of the more than 200 companies that responded to the survey, 52 percent predict that employment at their firms will increase within the next 12 months; 12 percent predict employment will decrease; and 36 percent predict no change.

These and other numbers show a more optimistic outlook of the economy than when the Chamber conducted the same survey six months ago. In April, only 39 percent of the companies responding to the survey predicted an increase in employment over a 12-month period; 18 percent predicted a decrease; and 43 percent predicted no change. Sixty-nine percent of those responding to the October survey also predicted an increase in revenue in 12 months, and only 55 percent expected a revenue increase in the April survey.

“The overall outlook of the Kentucky economy seems slightly rosier than it did six months ago,” said Kentucky Chamber president and CEO Dave Adkisson. “While some companies are still experiencing tough times in the short-term, the general feeling is that the economy is finally on the road to recovery.”

Results from the April survey can be found online at [www.kychamber.com/AprilSurvey](http://www.kychamber.com/AprilSurvey). Results of the October survey are as follows:

#### Revenue

- One year ago:
  - 24% companies increased
  - 60% companies decreased
  - 16% companies report no change
- Three months from now:
  - 43% of companies will increase
  - 22% of companies will decrease
  - 35% predict no change
- Six months from now:
  - 61% of companies will increase
  - 14% of companies decrease
  - 25% predict no change
- One year from now we predict our revenue will:
  - 69% of companies will increase
  - 8% of companies will decrease
  - 23% predict no change

#### Employment

- One year ago:
  - 19% of companies increased
  - 52% of companies decreased
  - 29% report no change
- Three months from now:
  - 20% of companies will increase
  - 14% of companies will decrease
  - 66% predict no change
- Six months from now:
  - 35% of companies will increase
  - 15% of companies will decrease
  - 50% predict no change
- One year from now:
  - 52% of companies will increase
  - 12% of companies will decrease
  - 36% predict no change