



# **ISTMA-AMERICAS BUSINESS CONDITIONS REPORT**

**For The 6-Month Period Ending  
December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2005**

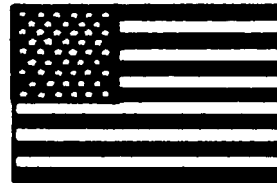
*Data Provided by the Members of:*



**CTMA**  
Canadian Tooling &  
Machining Association

**CAMM**  
Canadian Association of  
Moldmakers

**MMC / CPIA**  
Moldmakers Council of  
Canadian Plastics Industry Association



**NTMA**  
National Tooling &  
Machining Association

*Results Compiled By:  
Canadian Tooling & Machining Association  
March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006*

**ISTMA-AMERICAS BUSINESS CONDITIONS REPORT  
(For the Period Ending December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2005)**

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The ISTMA-Americas Business Conditions Survey Report is a bi-annual geographical snapshot of business trends and conditions in the special tooling and machining sector. This survey covering the six-month period ending December 31, 2005 was conducted in January and February of 2006.

### **ARGENTINA:**

Information was not provided.

### **CANADA:**

A total of 39 CTMA, CAMM and CPIA/MMC member companies (21% of CTMA membership) participated in the survey. Sixty-one percent (61%) of respondents reported business conditions as good, very good or excellent up from 59% in July 2005.

Thirty-one percent (31%) project business to increase during the first half of 2006 with a slight increase in order backlog.

A common remark from most members is a concern with lower profits and difficult business conditions. A major factor contributing to the busy work load of members is partly due to shortened delivery times.

*Les Payne,  
Executive Director - CTMA*

### **USA:**

Business conditions continued to be strong for most U.S. special tooling and machining companies during the second half of 2005.

A total of 258 NTMA member companies (15% of membership) participated in the survey. Eighty-one percent (81%) of the respondents reported business conditions as good, very good, or excellent ... up from 76% in July 2005.

Respondents were also optimistic concerning continued strong business levels over the next six-months. Two-thirds of the respondents project business to increase in their companies during the first half of 2006. Average reported backlogs increased slightly from 13.6 to 14.0 weeks.

*Tom Garcia, Director  
Global Industry Marketing & Meetings - NTMA*

**Our thanks to all of the member companies who participated in this survey.  
We value your input and comments and hope that you find the  
report to be informative.**

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**CANADA**



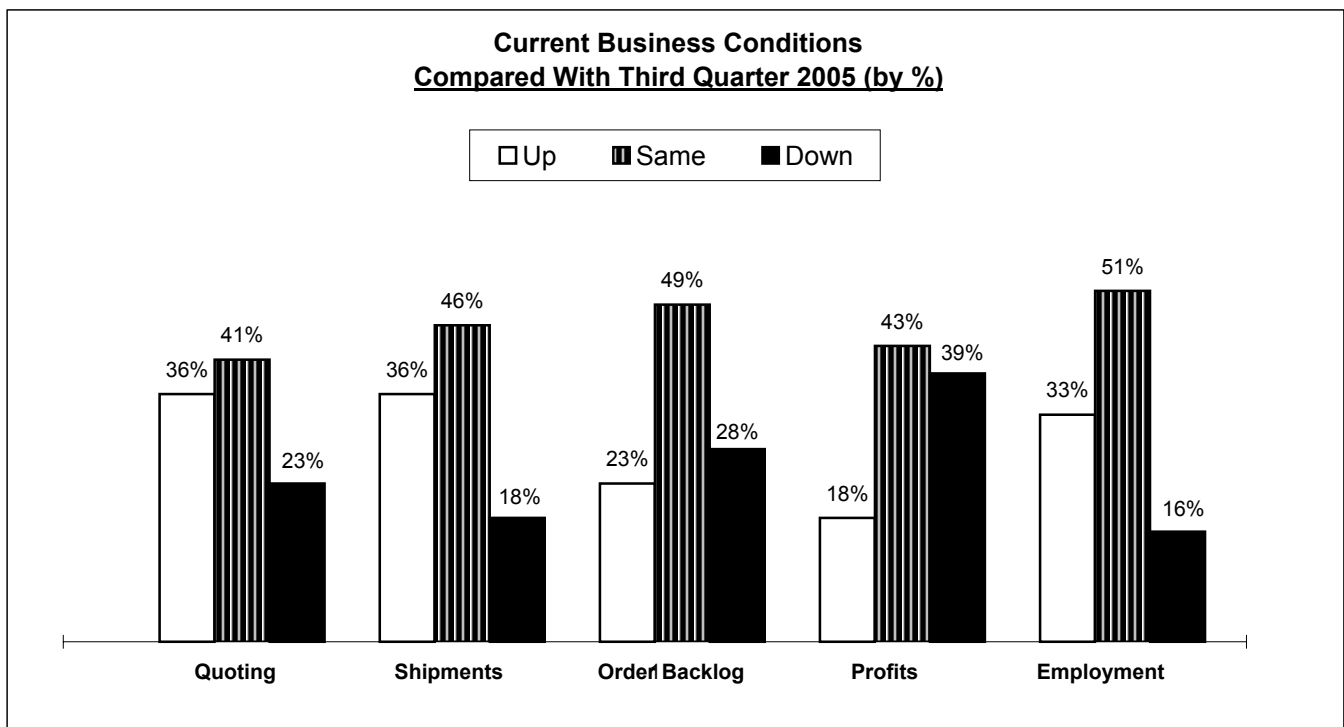
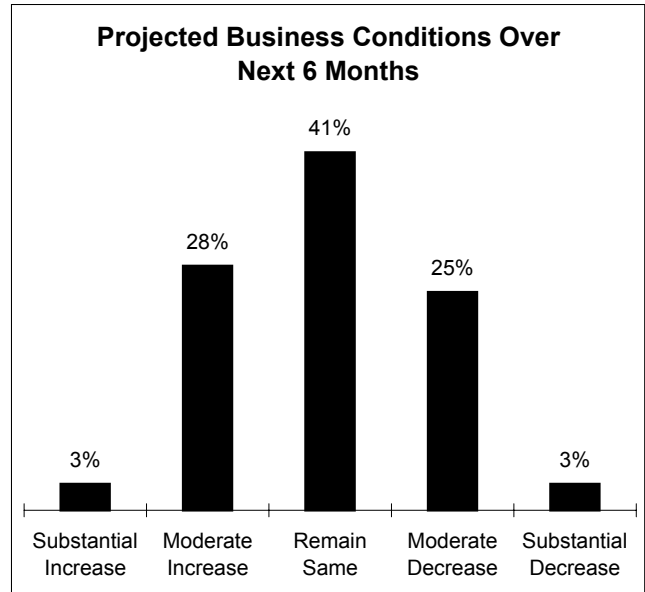
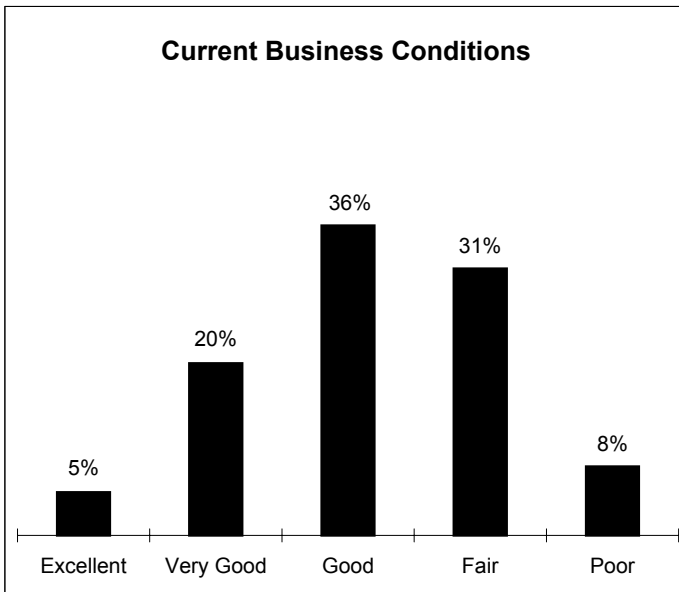
**ALL SECTORS**

(39 survey responses ... 24% of membership)

**Total Number of Skilled Employees:** 1,992 (at June 30, 2005) 2,036 (at Dec. 31, 2005)

**Current Average Work Week Per Skilled Employee:** 44.9 hours

**Average Future Work on Order Books:** 11.1 weeks

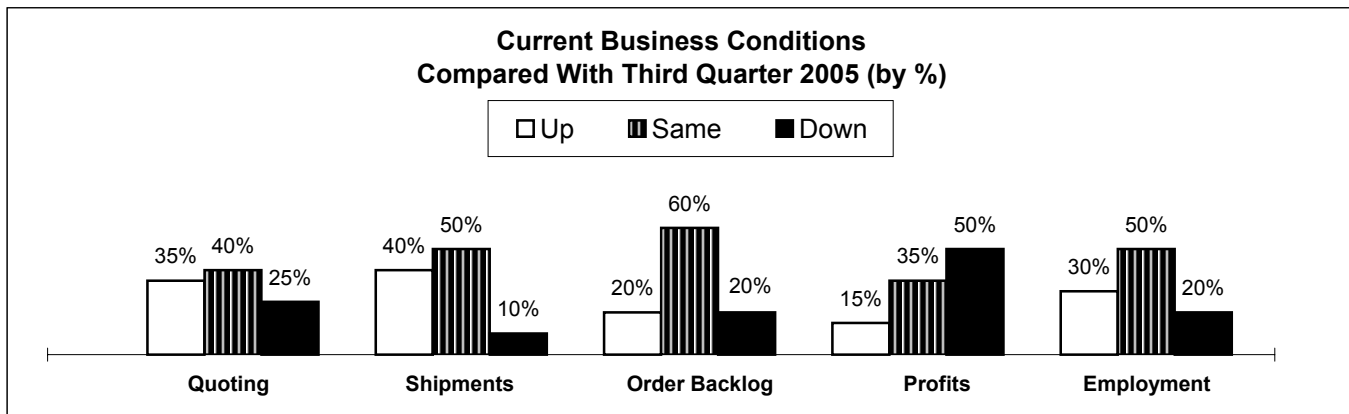
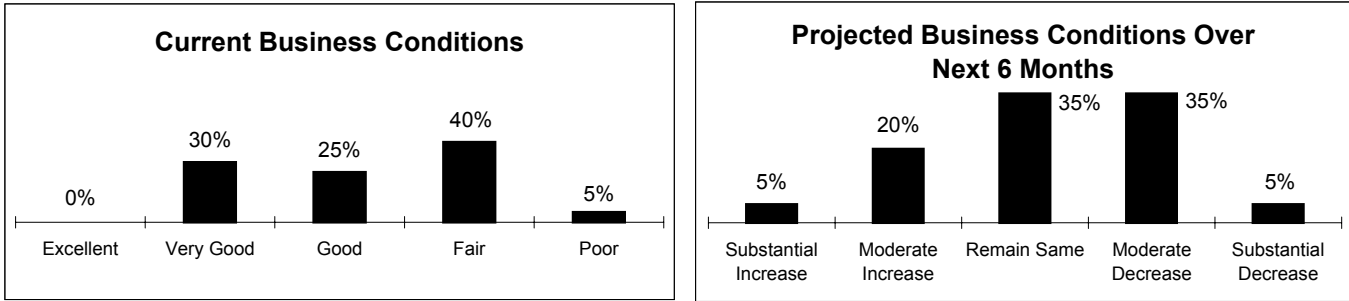


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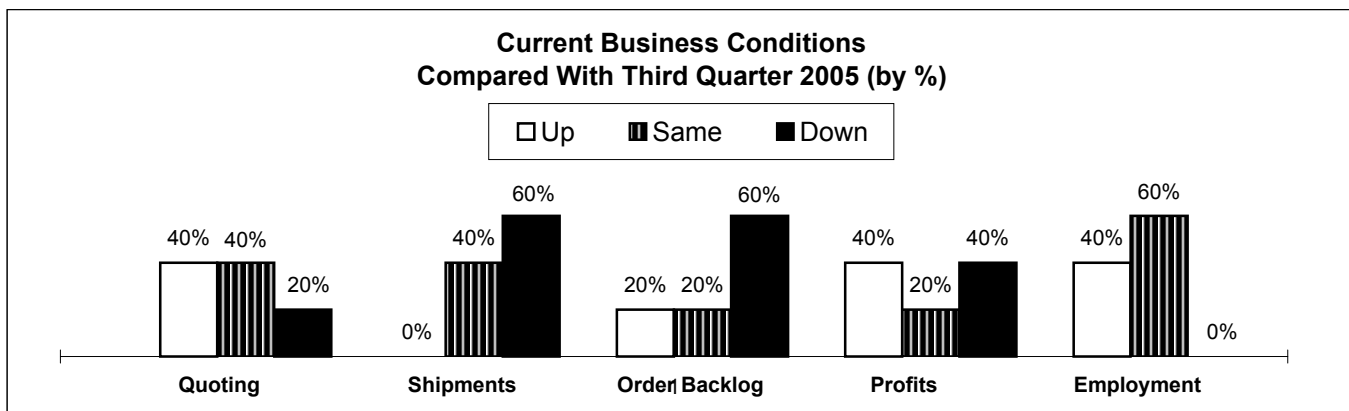
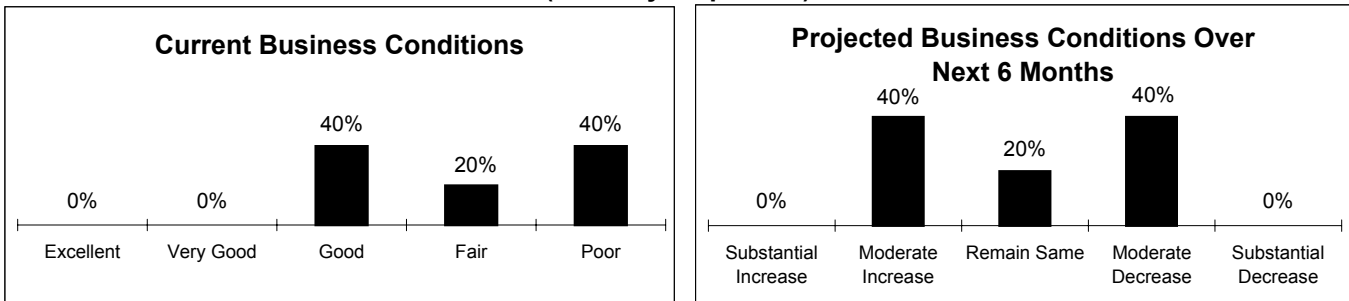
**TOOL, DIE & FIXTURE SECTOR**

(20 survey responses)



**MOULD SECTOR**

(5 survey responses)

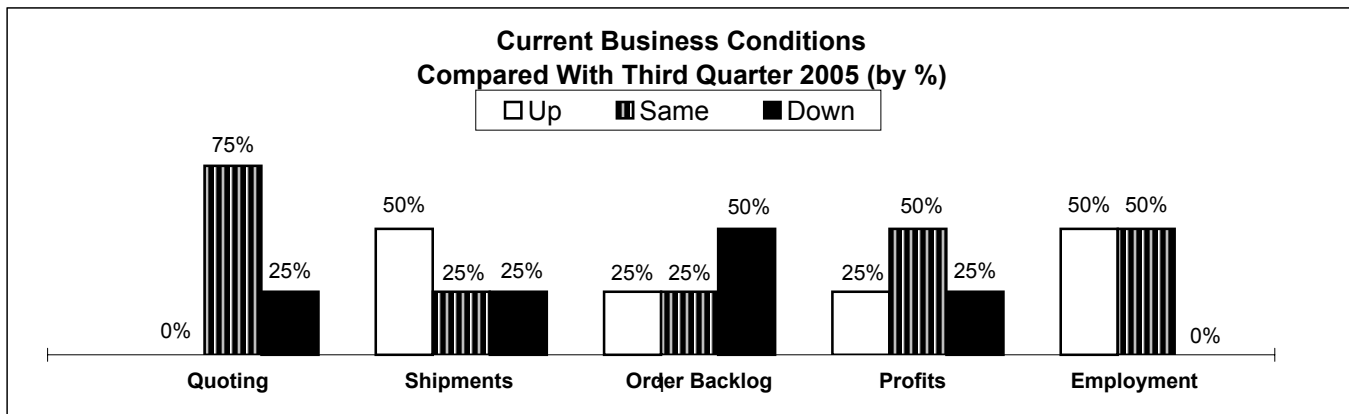
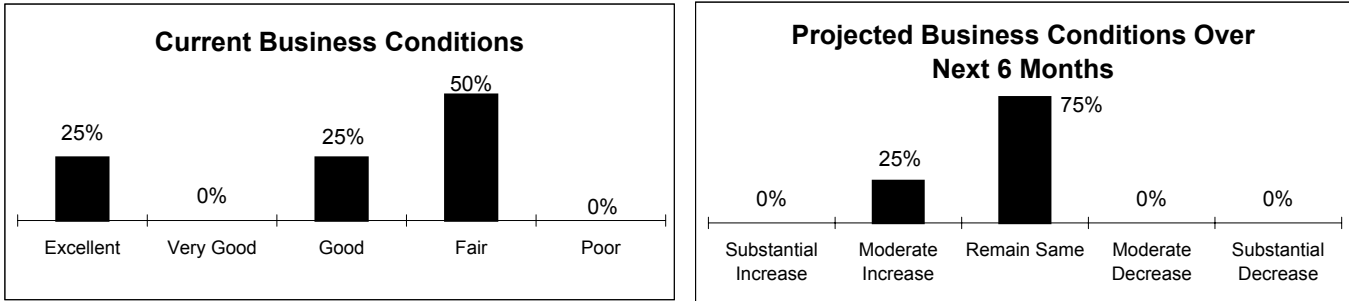


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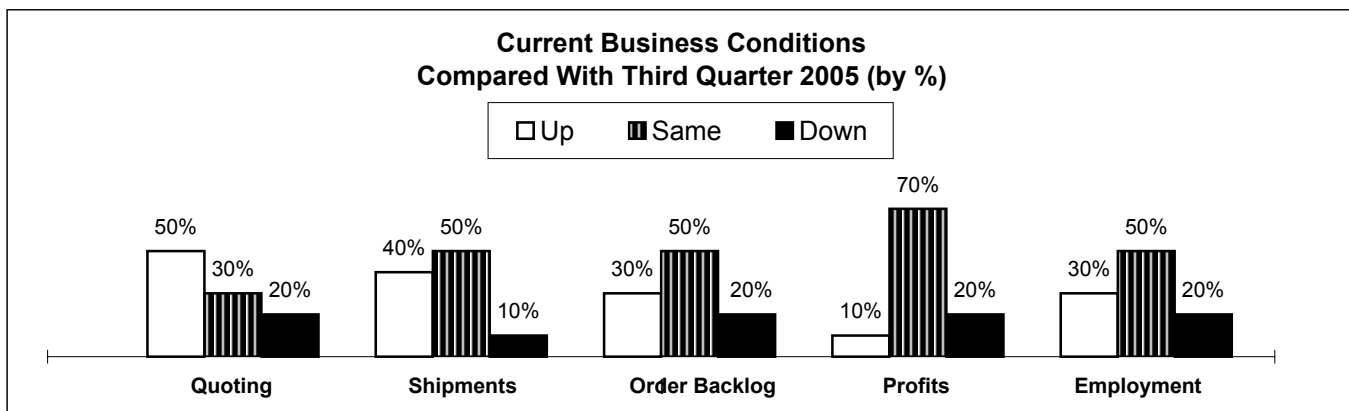
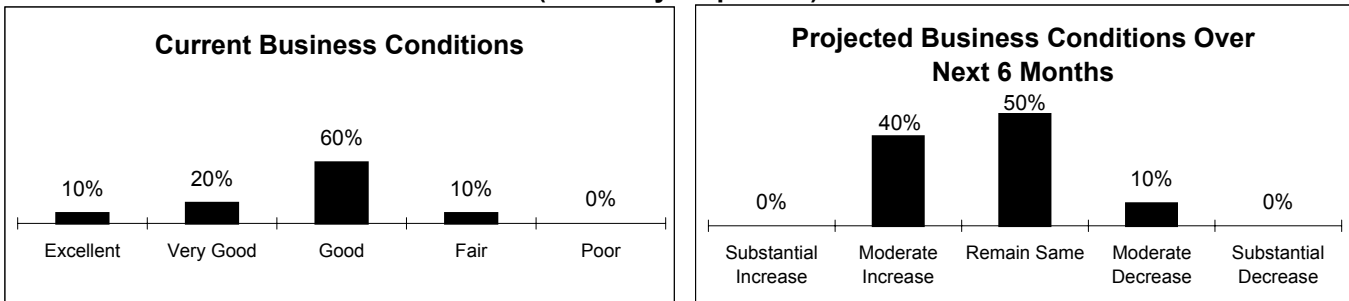
**SPECIAL MACHINES SECTOR**

(4 survey responses)



**PRECISION MACHINING SECTOR**

(10 survey responses)



**NOTE:** Patternmaking Sector - insufficient data to report.

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**USA**



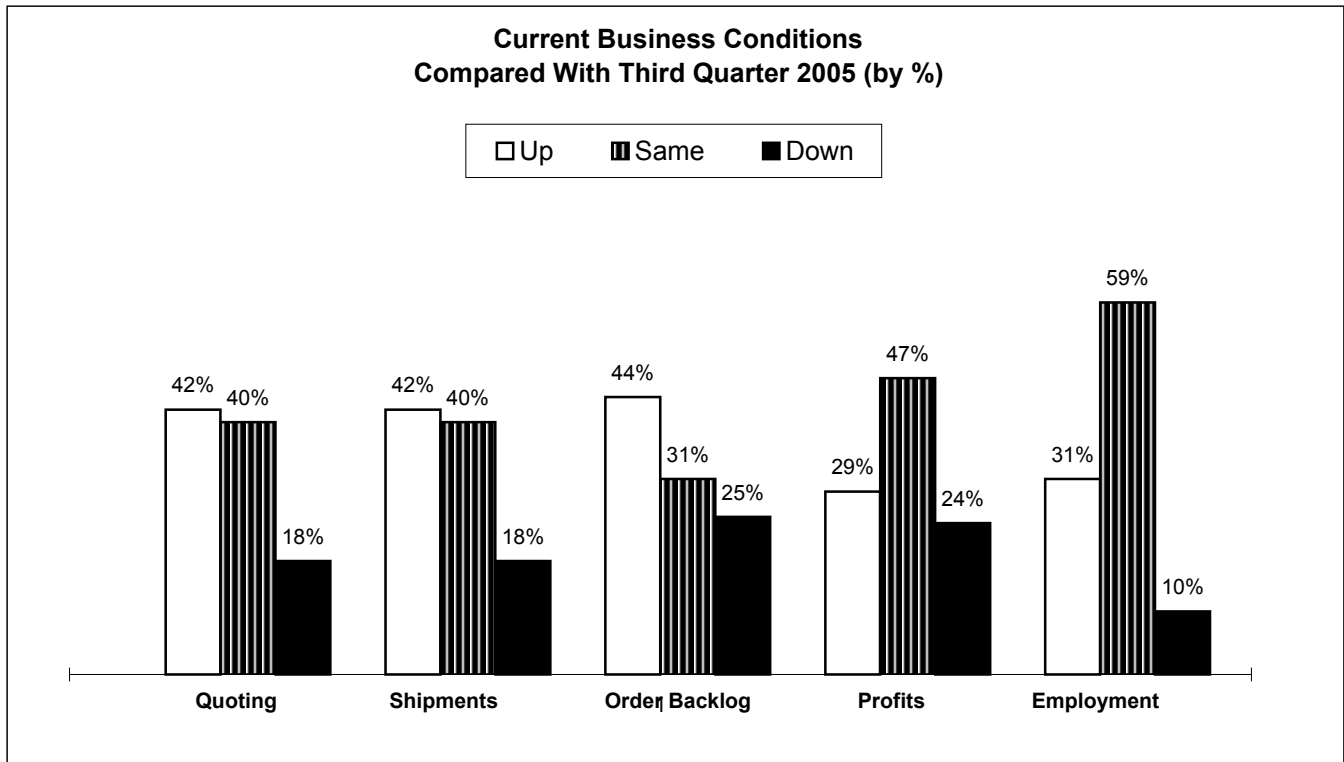
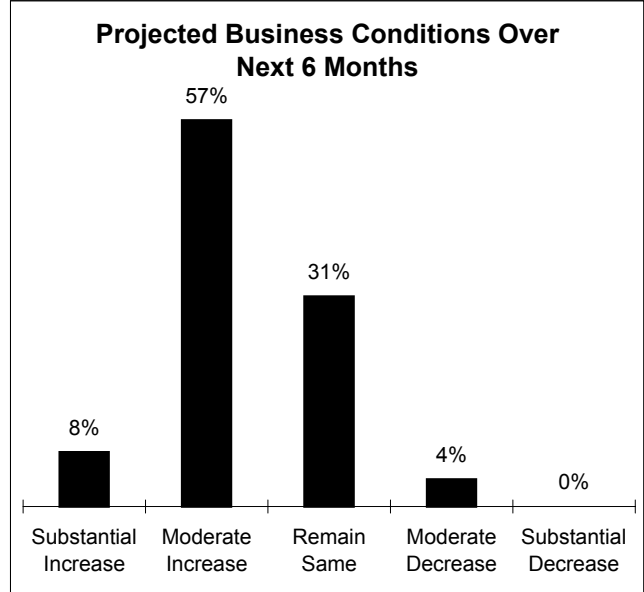
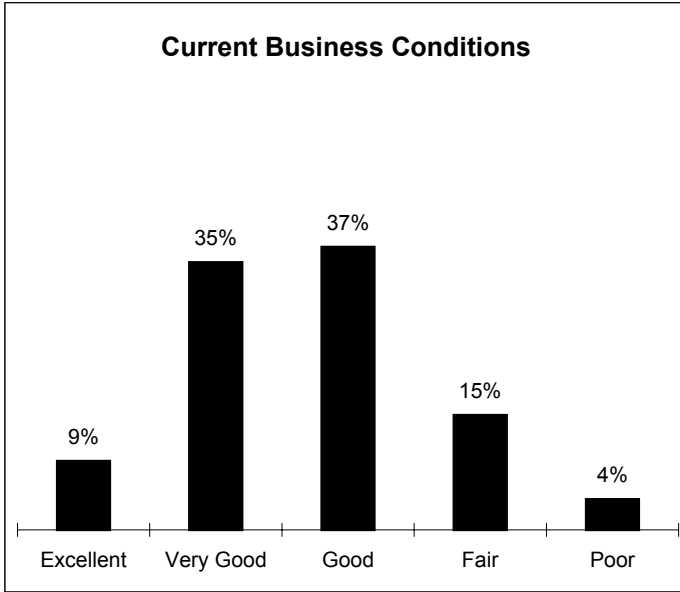
**ALL SECTORS**

(258 survey responses ... 15% of membership)

**Total Number of Skilled Employees:** Unavailable

**Current Average Work Week Per Skilled Employee:** Unavailable

**Average Future Work on Order Books:** 14.0 weeks



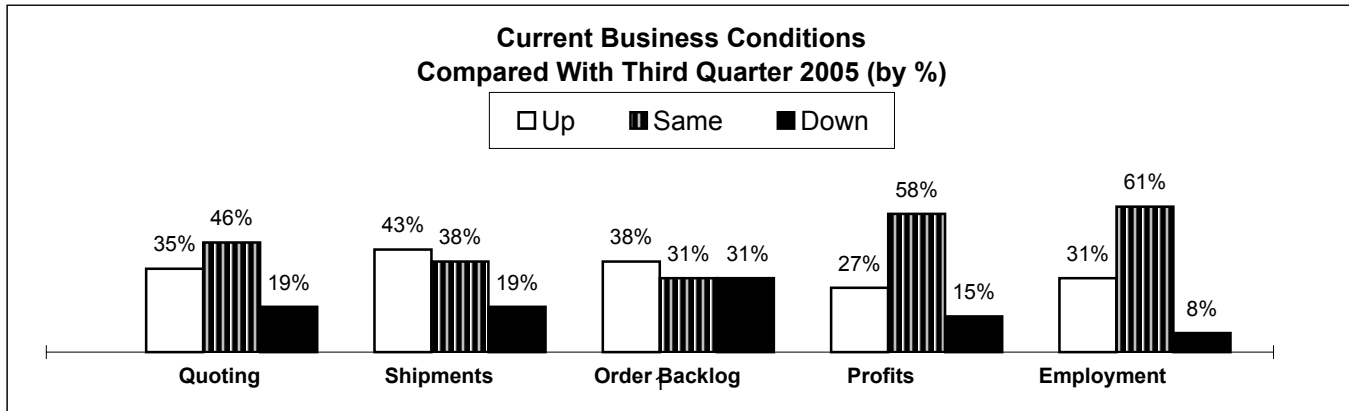
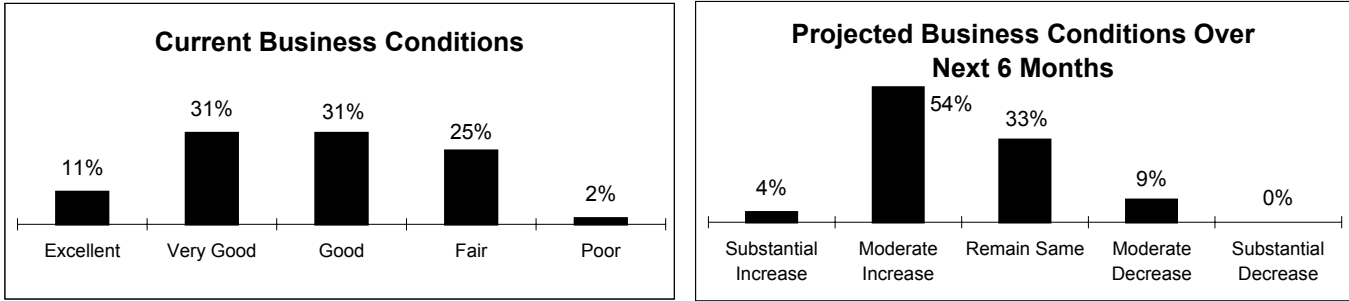
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**USA**



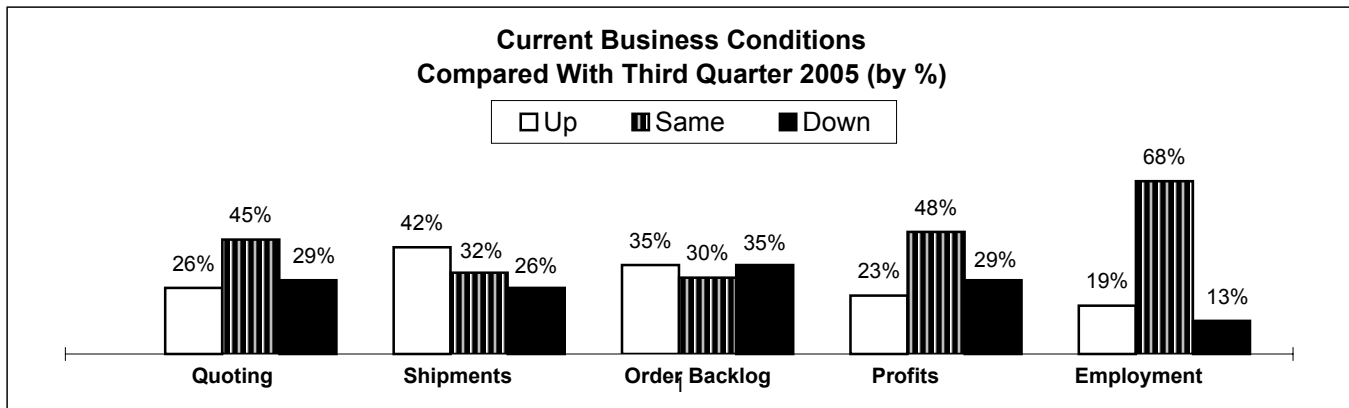
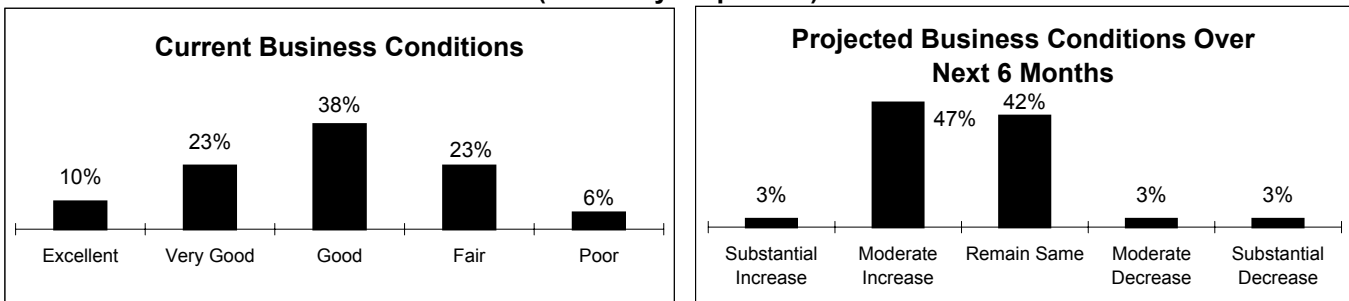
**TOOL, DIE & FIXTURE SECTOR**

(48 survey responses)



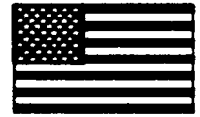
**MOLD SECTOR**

(31 survey responses)



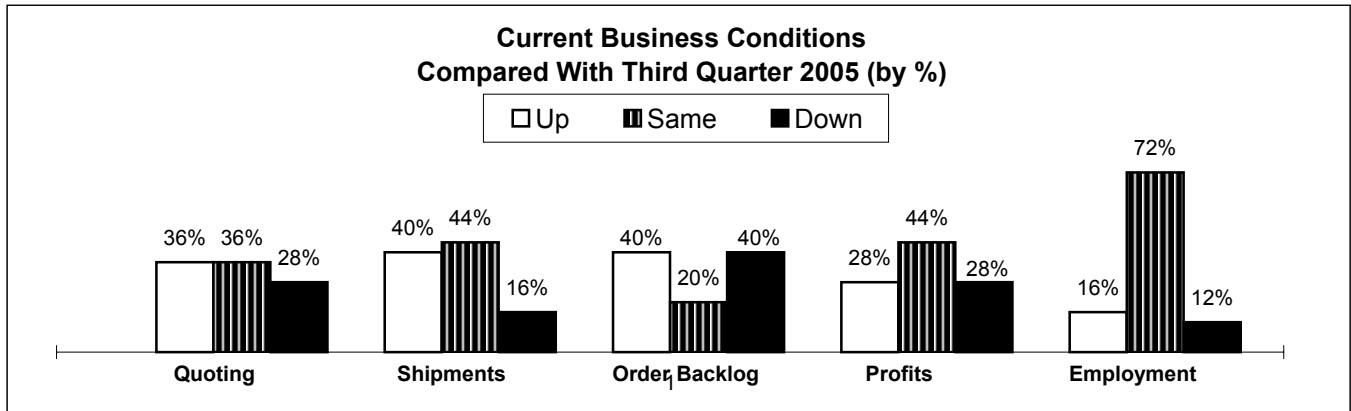
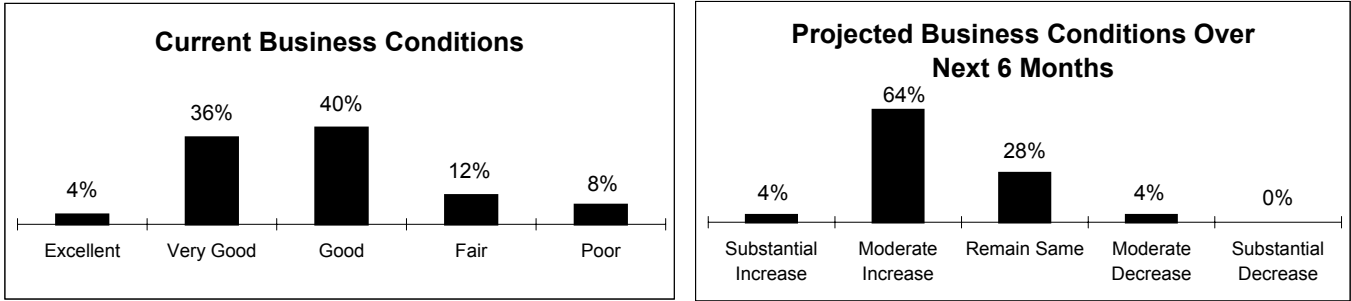
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**USA**



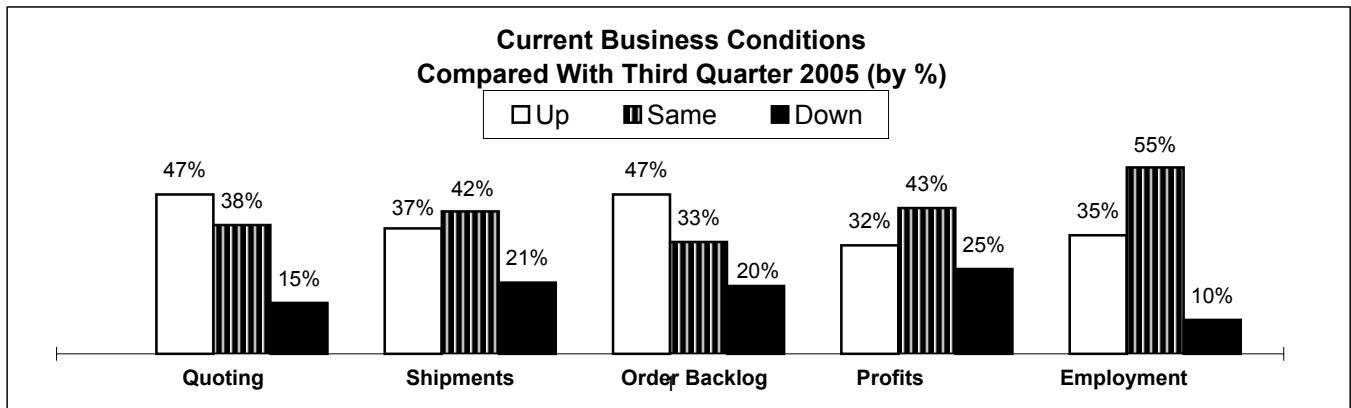
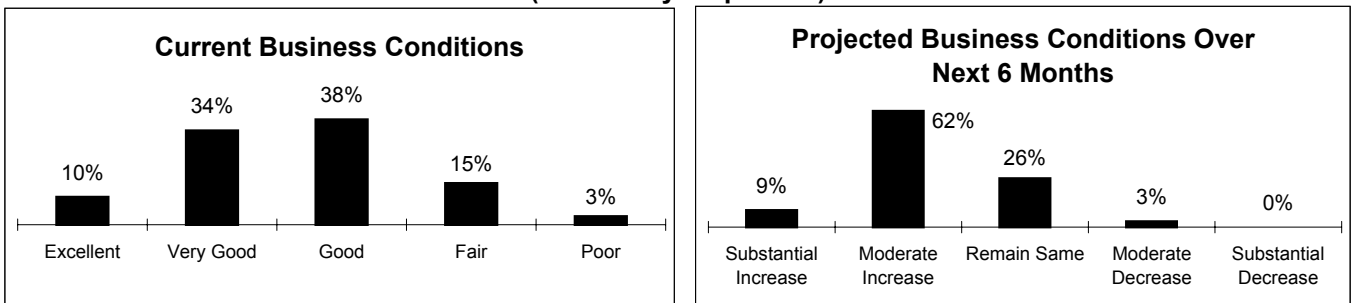
**SPECIAL MACHINES SECTOR**

(25 survey responses)



**PRECISION MACHINING SECTOR (excluding Aerospace)**

(115 survey responses)



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**USA**



**AEROSPACE MACHINING & FABRICATION SECTOR**

(39 survey responses)

