

WHOLESALE TRADE

MIDDLE MARKET INDICATOR

Mid-Year 2022



IN COLLABORATION WITH







Wholesale Trade's Revenue Growth vs. National

WHOLESALE TRADE'S **MIDDLE MARKET**

PAST 12 MO.

Past 12 Months National

WHOLESALE TRADE'S **MIDDLE MARKET**

NEXT 12 MO.

Next 12 Months National

National

Past 12 Months

Wholesale Trade's Employment Growth vs. National

WHOLESALE TRADE'S **MIDDLE MARKET**

PAST 12 MO.

WHOLESALE TRADE'S **MIDDLE MARKET**

NEXT 12 MO.

Next 12 Months National

\$ \$ \$ \$ \$



Wholesale Trade's Top Internal Challenges Over The Next 12 Months



TALENT MANAGEMENT



TECHNOLOGY



FINANCIAL

Preparing For Growth Through Capital Investment

WHOLESALE TRADE **BUSINESSES REPORT** AN INCREASE IN **WILLINGNESS TO INVEST COMPARED** TO 64% REPORTED IN 4Q'21.



VS. NATIONAL MIDDLE MARKET

TALENT MANAGEMENT

50%

FINANCIAL

19% 15%

BUSINESS GROWTH

Most Difficult Aspects of Running a Business in the Current Environment

	ALL MIDDLE MARKET COMPANIES	BUSINESS SERVICES	MANUFACTURING	WHOLESALE TRADE	RETAIL TRADE	CONSTRUCTION	FINANCIAL SERVICES	HEALTHCARE	TECHNOLOGY*
CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS	36%	31%	33%	14%	31%	37%	29%	32%	37%
ONGOING UNCERTAINTY	42%	35%	37%	57%	38%	42%	30%	26%	38%
EMPLOYEE COMMUNICATION, ENGAGEMENT, AND PRODUCTIVITY	49%	49%	48%	22%	41%	51%	44%	60%	42%
MAINTAINING CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIPS AND ENGAGEMENT	47%	33%	30%	47%	42%	34%	38%	33%	36%
WORKING CAPITAL MANAGEMENT/CASH	29%	30%	24%	31%	26%	24%	37%	27%	32%
FOSTERING COMPANY CULTURE	26%	25%	17%	30%	26%	14%	24%	15%	26%
TRANSFORMING TO BE A MORE DIGITALIZED COMPANY	23%	25%	36%	35%	33%	24%	36%	26%	21%
STAYING CURRENT WITH TECH AND DIGITAL SOLUTIONS	27%	37%	34%	40%	28%	34%	31%	39%	36%
INCREASED RISKS (E.G. CYBER, CLIMATE/WEATHER)	17%	33%	35%	25%	31%	37%	28%	39%	30%
SOMETHING ELSE	4%	3%	5%	0%	2%	4%	1%	3%	2%

Percent of respondents ranking these as first, second, or third most difficult

Wholesale Trade's Middle Market Defined

\$10 MM-\$1B

REPRESENTS

OF ALL WHOLESALE TRADE COMPANIES

17,400
BUSINESSES

EMPLOYS

37.6%

OF THE WHOLESALE TRADE WORKFORCE

MORE THAN



Source: 2014 D&B Data

Copyright © 2022 The Ohio State University. All rights reserved. This publication provides general information and should not be used or taken as business, financial, tax, accounting, legal, or other advice, or relied upon in substitution for the exercise of your independent judgment. For your specific situation or where otherwise required, expert advice should be sought. The views expressed in this publication reflect those of the authors and contributors, and not necessarily the views of The Ohio State University or any of their affiliates. Although The Ohio State University believes that the information contained in this publication has been obtained from, and is based upon, sources The Ohio State University believes to be reliable, The Ohio State University makes no representation or warranties of any kind whatsoever in respect of such information. The Ohio State University accepts no liability of any kind for loss arising from the use of the material presented in this publication.

^{*}Includes companies also represented in other industries, e.g., computer manufacturers, IT services, healthtech, fintech.