

NATIONAL CENTER FOR THE MIDDLE MARKET

WHOLESALE TRADE

MIDDLE MARKET INDICATOR

Year-End 2022

IN COLLABORATION WITH







Wholesale Trade's Revenue Growth vs. National

Wholesale Trade's Employment Growth vs. National



BUSINESS GROWTH

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

TALENT MANAGEMENT

Preparing For Growth Through Capital Investment

WHOLESALE TRADE BUSINESSES REPORT AN INCREASE IN WILLINGNESS TO INVEST COMPARED TO 69% REPORTED IN 2Q'22.



55%	18%	12%								
VS. NATIONAL MIDDLE MARKET										
TALENT MANAGEMENT	FINANCIAL	BUSINESS GROWTH								
48%	19%	18%								

\$

ECONOMY

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	22%	22%	22%	28%	18%	22%	25%	34%	19%
ONGOING UNCERTAINTY	30%	26%	27%	14%	33%	21%	30%	40%	31%
EMPLOYEE COMMUNICATION, ENGAGEMENT, AND PRODUCTIVITY	34%	26%	35%	32%	27%	37%	29%	42%	40%
MAINTAINING CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIPS AND ENGAGEMENT	29%	31%	34%	29%	31%	27%	34%	18%	27%
WORKING CAPITAL MANAGEMENT/CASH	25%	18%	19%	46%	30%	31%	25%	18%	24%
FOSTERING COMPANY CULTURE	14%	21%	11%	11%	15%	8%	18%	11%	15%
TRANSFORMING TO BE A MORE DIGITALIZED COMPANY	24%	24%	19%	12%	33%	24%	25%	16%	23%
STAYING CURRENT WITH TECH AND DIGITAL SOLUTIONS	33%	32%	35%	41%	35%	28%	36%	23%	33%
INCREASED RISKS (E.G. CYBER, CLIMATE/WEATHER)	27%	35%	30%	24%	24%	32%	33%	30%	20%
AVOIDING LAYOFFS	27%	28%	24%	30%	27%	26%	22%	29%	29%
MAINTAINING SALES/ REVENUE LEVELS	30%	36%	35%	27%	24%	41%	23%	32%	31%

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

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

Wholesale Trade's Middle Market Defined



Source: 2014 D&B Data

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