

July 2019



IMPACT

Small business confidence bounces back



The MetLife & U.S. Chamber of Commerce Small Business Index rebounded 3.1 points after dropping in the first quarter.

The uptick is largely due to more positive perceptions of the national economy (outlooks on local economies were statistically unchanged) and continued optimism about business health and cash flow.

Some of the key findings of this quarter include:

- 59% of small businesses say the U.S. economy is in good health, up six percentage points from last quarter.
- 27% of small business owners plan to increase investment in their company over the next year, continuing a trend from the last two quarters.
- Small businesses' local outlooks are statistically unchanged from last quarter with 51% saying their local economy is in good health compared to 53% last quarter.
- 69% of manufacturers feel positive about the national economic outlook, up 16 percentage points from last quarter.

[More 2Q Highlights](#)

Essential components of a business plan



How does a business assess its financial strength? No doubt they refer to their income statement (also called profit and loss statement or P&L) and their bank account for the basics.

But the truth is... most businesses ignore the most powerful financial tools in the accounting arsenal: the balance sheet and the cash flow statement.

These three basic financial statements provide the most comprehensive view of any business. That's why they're considered **essential components of a business plan**.

But what role does each of these financial statements play, and how is the data they produce interpreted?

[An overview of how these financial tools can help keep one on top of their company's financial position.](#)

State of Iowa implements new online Fast Track Filing system

The Iowa Secretary of State's office started a new Fast Track Filing system.

This means that you will now be able to register your new business, change your registered agent and file using this easy-to-use new system.



[Details on the new State of Iowa Fast Track Filing system.](#)

Upcoming SBDC Events For Small Business Owners

July 23 - 24 - Jefferson

8:30 am - 12:30 pm

Greene County ISU Extension Office
Understanding the Basics - Quickbooks Training

August 14 - Pochantas

Location and Time TBD

Marketing 101 - Small Business, Small Town Marketing

August 28 - Fort Dodge

6 - 9 pm

ICCC East Campus
Smart Start

September 18 - Greene County

6 - 9 pm

Location TBD
Smart Start

October 9 - Eagle Grove

6 - 9 pm

ICCC Career Academy
Smart Start



Be sure to follow us on Facebook to stay up to date on all our upcoming classes and workshops.

*Subject to change

North Central Iowa SBDC is your small business support team

America's SBDC supports a well-established, respected, and accredited network, recognized by public and private sector entities as the preeminent provider of small/medium business counseling, education and information. The SBDC network provides uniform, high quality, cost-effective assistance throughout its network, resulting in a positive long-term economic impact.

Did you know that the North Central Iowa SBDC provides free, confidential, customized, professional business advice available in 12 Iowa counties to entrepreneurs & existing businesses?

We provide services in Pocahontas, Humboldt, Wright, Sac, Calhoun, Webster, Hamilton, Hardin, Carroll, Greene, Audubon and Guthrie counties.

We are proud of the work we have done to help small businesses launch and thrive.

Take a look at the positive impact in Iowa that SBDC services made in 2018.



Visit our Website

For more information on how we can assist you and your clients, contact Kimberly Tiefenthaler, North Central Iowa SBDC Regional Director, by calling 515.576.6242 or connect via [email](#).



Funded in part through a Cooperative Agreement with the US Small Business Administration



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