CPA

Practice **Advisor**

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Southing the Langenine Sourcedon

Small businesses are preparing for a new type of market. One that's not driven by the direct impact of COVID-19 – but rather, one determined by the economic aftermath of the pandemic. Economic indicators like inflation will require adjustments, but the...

Apr. 28, 2022



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COVID Concerns Wane

Our data suggests U.S. small businesses are now less impacted by the pandemic. In the latest *Small Business Recovery Report*, responses showed over 90% of businesses did not have to stop, slow, limit or shut down their companies due to the Omicron COVID-19 variant, while 70% stated they weren't affected at all.

With pandemic challenges subsiding, U.S. small businesses are growing. Respondents reported their average monthly revenues increased 77% in the past six months, from \$47,900 in July 2021 to \$84,935 in February 2022. Additionally, average monthly profits have increased an average of 39% in the same period.

Although, these growth percentages are heavily weighted toward larger small businesses. The smallest small businesses—those with fewer than 20 employees—reported a 13% increase in average monthly revenues and a 12% increase in average monthly profits from July 2021 to February 2022, while large businesses reported 145% and 29%, respectively.

Adjusting for Inflation

Respondents reported increasing prices by an average of 21% across industries, largely due to increased costs from their vendors (54%) and of raw materials (45%).

Looking ahead, 65% of businesses plan to keep prices at this inflated, current rate for the next six months, while nearly one in five (18%) said they plan to raise prices even more. Combating increasing costs of their own is a primary contributor, and over half (53%) expect their business to be impacted by supply chain issues for the next three months to a year.

A Shift in Hiring

The Department of Labor's February jobs report shows that employers added

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Kathryn Petralia is the co-founder of Kabbage, an American Express Company.

Small Business

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