

Forward Looking Surveys

RBI releases the results of Forward Looking Surveys. The forward Looking Surveys are:

1. Consumer Confidence Survey (CCS) – March 2023
2. Inflation Expectations Survey of Households (IESH) – March 2023
3. OBICUS Survey on manufacturing sector – Q3:2022-23
4. Industrial Outlook Survey of the Manufacturing Sector for Q4:2022-23
5. Survey of Professional Forecasters on Macroeconomic Indicators – Round¹ 81st
6. Bank Lending Survey for Q4:2022-23
7. Services and Infrastructure Outlook Survey for Q4:2022-23

Lets discuss them one by one:

Consumer Confidence Survey (CCS)

- a. The RBI conducts this survey every couple of months by asking households in 13 major cities — such as Ahmedabad, Bhopal, Guwahati, Patna, Thiruvananthapuram — about their current perceptions and future expectations on a variety of economic variables.
- b. These variables include the general economic situation, employment scenario, overall price situation, own income and spending levels.
- c. Based on these specific responses, the RBI constructs two indices: the Current Situation Index (CSI) and the Future Expectations Index (FEI).
- d. The main variables of the survey are- Economic situation, Employment, Price Level, Income and Spending.

Highlights :

- a. Consumer confidence continues to recover from the historic low recorded in mid-2021, though it remained in the pessimistic zone; the current situation index (CSI)² rose by 2.2 points on account of improved perception on general economic situation, employment, and household income
- b. Households' overall outlook for the year ahead remained in positive terrain despite marginally lower optimism

Inflation Expectations Survey of Households (IESH)

1. **the survey aims at capturing subjective assessments on price movements and** inflation of about 6,000 households based on their individual consumption baskets across 19 cities
2. The survey seeks qualitative responses from households on price changes (general prices as well as prices of specific product groups) in the three months ahead as well as in the one year ahead period and quantitative responses on current, three months ahead and one year ahead inflation rates

Highlights :

- i. Households' perception for the current inflation declined by 70 basis points (bps) to 8.9 per cent in the latest survey round
- ii. Both three months and one year ahead inflation expectations moderated by 30 bps each to 10.2 per cent and 10.5 per cent, respectively, as compared to that in January 2023

OBICUS Survey on manufacturing sector

- a. Reserve Bank released the results of its 60th round of the quarterly Order Books, Inventories and Capacity Utilisation Survey (OBICUS) conducted during Q4:2022-23 covering 762 manufacturing companies.
- b. The RBI has been conducting the **OBICUS of the manufacturing sector** on a quarterly basis **since 2008**.
- c. The survey also gives out the **ratio of total inventories to sales** and **ratio of raw material (RM) and finished goods (FG) inventories to sales in percentages**
- d. These are considered as important indicators to **measure economic activity, inflationary pressures and the overall business cycle**.

Industrial Outlook Survey of the Manufacturing Sector

The survey encapsulates qualitative assessment of the business climate by Indian manufacturing companies and their expectations as well as outlook on selected parameters for the two subsequent quarters. In all, 1,066 companies responded in this round of the survey, which was conducted quarterly

Survey of Professional Forecasters on Macroeconomic Indicators

The Reserve Bank has been conducting the survey of professional forecasters (SPF) since September 2007. Respondents to the Survey of Professional Forecasters are experts employed by financial or non-financial institutions, such as economic research institutions.

They forecast: GDP, GVA, Inflation parameters etc.

Bank Lending Survey

It captures qualitative assessment and expectations of major scheduled commercial banks (SCBs) on credit parameters (viz., loan demand and terms & conditions of loans) for major economic sectors. The survey questionnaire is canvassed among major 30 SCBs, which together account for over 90 per cent of credit by SCBs in India.

Net Response (NR) is computed as the difference of percentage of banks reporting increase/optimism and those reporting decrease/pessimism in respective parameter

Services and Infrastructure Outlook Survey

This forward-looking survey captures qualitative assessment and expectations of Indian companies in the services and infrastructure sectors on a set of business parameters relating to demand conditions, price situation and other business conditions. In the latest round of the survey, 638 companies provided their assessment