

TEC CEO Confidence Index

Q4//2018

There's no denying that businesses are operating in an unpredictable, volatile and complex time. International trade tensions, a looming federal election, financial market volatility and falling property prices are a challenging combination for business leaders at present. However, there is a sense of positivity in the air as leaders prepare to address productivity, efficiency and talent challenges to ensure on-going growth and long-term success.

CEOs concerned about the economy

Sentiment towards economic conditions reveals a concerning perspective on how the Australian economy has

performed. The results saw a decline of economic perceptions in Q4, with the index reaching its lowest level in late 2017.

The Index for economic conditions compared to a year ago is down 24 points.

TIMING AND NET BALANCE



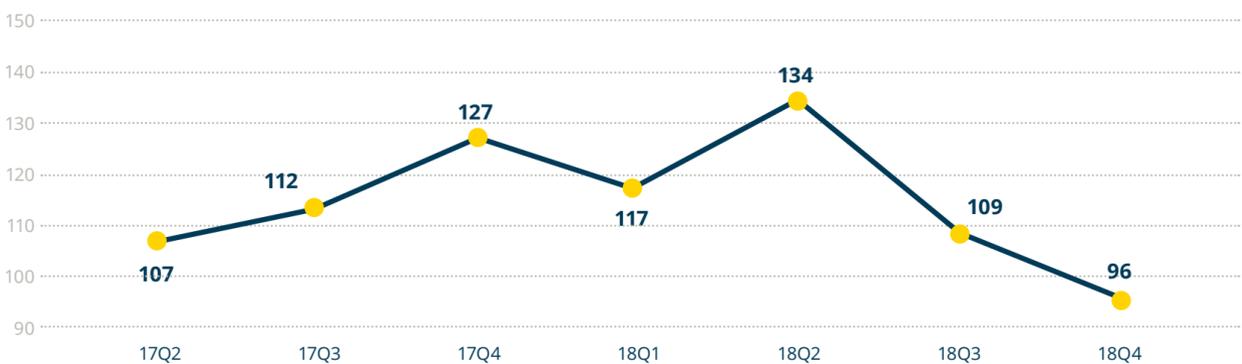
Expectations for economic conditions over the year ahead

The data reveals CEOs positive economic outlook peaked in early 2018; which is reflective of the good performance of the economy during that time.

The clear downward trend and lack of confidence in economic conditions in the latter half of 2018 is worrying and is likely to be a direct response to mounting

local and global external challenges; including the Trump trade war, volatile global markets and the slowdown in economic indicators seen in recent months.

TIMING AND NET BALANCE



Business confidence stronger than economic confidence

CEOs and business owners have greater confidence in their businesses to perform well in the year ahead than they do in the broader economy.

The findings suggest that overall, business leaders and CEOs believe there is opportunity for growth in the market. Despite external headwinds, leaders

retain confidence in the strategies they have in place to ensure a positive operating environment for the year ahead.

INDICATORS AND NET BALANCE

