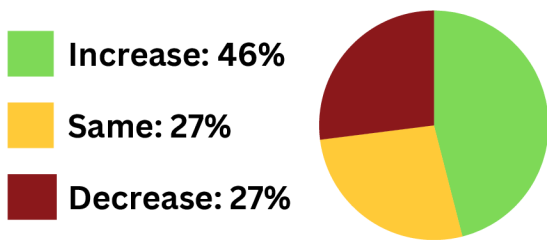


WHAT LOCAL BUSINESS OWNERS ARE SAYING:

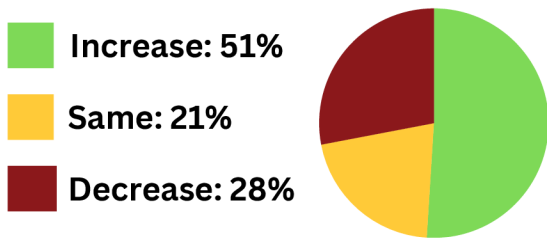
SALES

How are top line sales expected to change in the next 12 months?



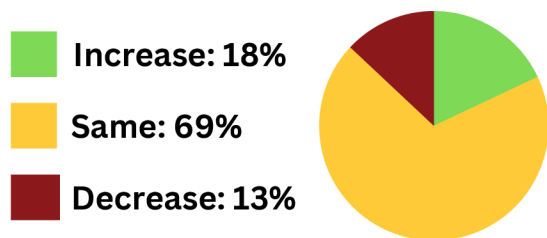
PROFITS

How is profit expected to change in the next 12 months?



EMPLOYMENT

How is the level of employment expected to change in the next 12 months?



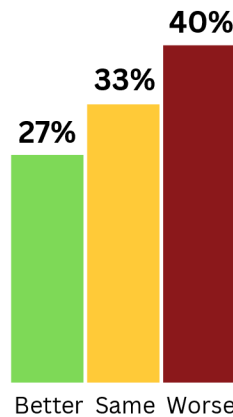
Business Confidence
Aggregate Score:



NEUTRAL = 50

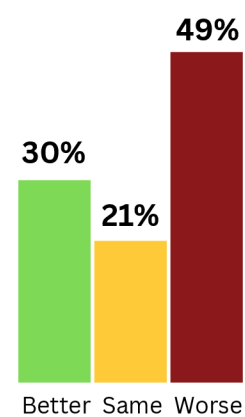
LOCAL BUSINESS CONDITIONS

How will general business conditions in Butte County change in the next 12 months?



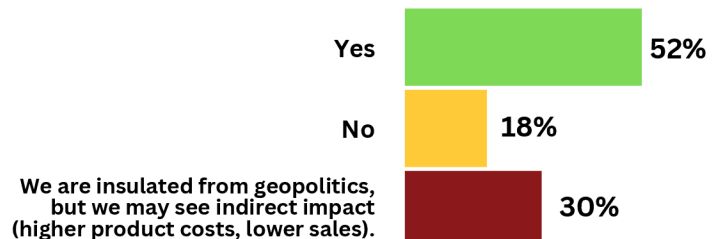
US BUSINESS CONDITIONS

How will general business conditions in the U.S. change in the next 12 months?



HOT TOPIC

If war in the Middle East is protracted, are you concerned about the health of our North State economy?



Results are based upon an email survey of business owners in Butte County.

Want to participate in our next survey?
Email: marketing@goldenvalley.bank for more information!

BUTTE COUNTY ECONOMIC DASHBOARD

Spring 2026

Butte County Key Economic Indicators contain a broad group of measures that can be used to assess the economic performance and competitiveness of the county. Economic Indicators are grouped under broad categories measuring economic change in the county along with key factors gauging the area's future competitiveness.

View the full dashboard at goldenvally.bank/Economic-Dashboard



ECONOMIC HEALTH

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
AS OF FEB 2026
6.4%
+.7 from Dec 2024
31st out of 58 Counties

TAXABLE SALES
AS OF Q1 2025
\$948 mil
-\$19.7mil from Q1 2024
29th out of 58 Counties



QUALITY OF LIFE

POPULATION
AS OF SEP 2025
205.4k
-18 from March 2025
28th out of 58 Counties

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS
AS OF Q1 2025
161
-157 from Q1 2024
20th out of 58 Counties



Quinn Velasquez

Executive Vice President,
Chief Credit Officer
Golden Valley Bank

Economic activity in 2026 has started off with a bang. For some, that has resulted in strong financial results including increased sales revenue and increased profits. The stock market is up over 5% so far in 2026 and up over 20% in the past twelve months. Employment trends, housing prices, and interest rates have all remained stable.

For others, rising costs (that have perpetuated stock market growth) have eroded purchasing power in some of the most basic commodity goods. Consumer disposable income has generally declined and has disproportionality impacted service based industries such as restaurants and hospitality.

Geopolitical posturing in the middle-east has continued to muddy the outlook on further economic growth as we look forward into latter 2026-2027. A clear trend of GDP growth and directional interest rates currently support a “wait and see” approach. Locally, housing costs remained around \$300/PSF for home purchases in Chico and \$225/PSF for Oroville. 30-year mortgage rates remained in the 6-7% range – still impacting affordability in Butte County where average per capita income is \$61,200.

Although the results of the most recent business confidence survey show uncertainty around local and national business conditions in the upcoming year, overall – a business confidence aggregate score of 50.1 shows positive net economic sentiment for the North State.

Read past reports at: goldenvally.bank/economic-dashboard