TDB Trends Research (Research & Summary for November 2020)

Domestic economy has picked up moderately, albeit at a low level

 \sim Downside risks remain large due to the future status of infections \sim

(Companies researched: 23,695; Valid responses: 11,448; Response rate: 48.3%; Survey start date: May 2002)

< Overview of November 2020: Picking up >

The economic diffusion index (DI) in November 2020 was 35.4, up (1.6 points) from the previous month for the sixth consecutive month. The domestic economy continued to pick up moderately, although it slowed slightly towards the end of the month.

< Future outlook: Moderately upward, albeit temporarily stagnant >

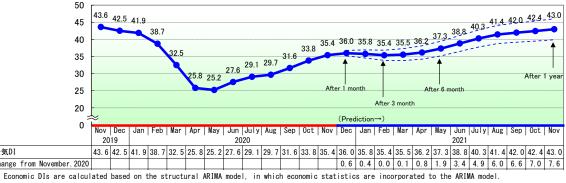
The economy is expected to improve gradually, albeit with downward risks associated with the response to the ongoing resurgence of infection.

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By industry: Business confidence was positive in nine industries, with a pickup centered on the sightseeing related sectors.

By size: Business confidence was positive in all sizes for the sixth consecutive month. The capacity utilization rate is also gradually improving.

By region: Of the ten regions, business confidence was positive in nine, but the resurgence of infection became a negative factor.



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TDB Trends Research November 2020

Economic Diffusion Index (Economic DI)1/2

	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Ratio to the Previous Month
Total	43.6	42.5	41.9	38.7	32.5	25.8	25.2	27.6	29. 1	29.7	31.6	33.8	35.4	1.6
Large Firms		45.7	45.3	42.0	34.8	28.2	28.1	30.1	31.7	32. 4	33.9	36.4	37.6	1.2
Small to Medium-sized Firms		41.7	41.1	38.0	32.0	25.3	24.6	27.0	28.5	29. 1	31.1	33.3	34. 9	1.6
Micro Firms	43.5	42. 1	41.4	38.8	32.3	25.4	24.6	27.8	29.4	30.0	32.0	33.9	35. 2	1.3

		Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Ratio to the Previous Month
Agriculture,Forest	ry,Fisheries	42.5	41.7	38. 4	37. 9	32.8	28.2	25.1	29.6	31. 4	31.0	30.3	34.4	38.7	4.3
Finance		46.8	44. 5	44.8	42.2	33. 3	27.3	28.7	32.4	31.5	32.6	35.3	38.3	37.7	▲ 0.6
Construction		52.2	51.6	50.0	47.8	41.5	33.9	33.5	36. 3	37. 5	38. 4	40.4	41.1	41.8	0.7
Real Estate		46.0	44. 2	45.9	42.0	31.6	21.9	23.5	29. 2	32.5	33. 1	35.6	36.4	36.8	0.4
	Food,BEWerages,Livestock Feed	39.7	39. 9	38. 0	34. 5	28. 4	24.8	24.6	27. 2	29.6	30.5	32.0	34.2	36.0	1.8
	Textile,Textile Products,Clothing	34.6	32.6	30.5	29. 3	23. 2	16.7	17.7	17.9	19.8	20.3	23.5	24.7	26.8	2.1
	Construction Materials, Furniture, Ceramics, Stone and Clay Products	43.8	40. 2	39. 9	37. 2	33. 4	29. 2	26.5	28. 1	28. 3	29.8	31.3	35. 1	35. 4	0.3
	Pulp, Paper and Paper Products	41.7	40.6	37. 3	32.0	29. 2	24.0	21.4	19.3	21.0	22. 9	24. 1	26.2	29.2	3.0
	Publishing, Printing	32.7	32. 9	30.9	29.7	23. 1	16.8	14.4	16.0	15.8	18.8	20.4	21.9	22.7	0.8
Manufacturing	Chemical	40.6	40.1	39.0	35.8	32. 1	27.5	25.3	25.9	27.3	27.8	31.1	34.4	37.7	3.3
	Steel, Nonferrous Metals, Mining	38.1	37. 6	36. 3	32. 9	29.0	23.6	21.5	20.8	22. 3	23.6	25.4	29.2	33. 1	3.9
	General Machinery	39.9	38. 4	37. 3	35. 4	31. 1	25.3	23.6	23.5	24.6	25.0	26.5	29.1	31.7	2.6
	Electrical Machinery	40.5	40.4	41.0	38. 5	32. 7	27.6	26.1	27.0	27.5	27.7	28.9	33.0	34.8	1.8
	Transportation Machinery, Equipment	41.2	40.9	39. 4	36. 5	34. 2	22.2	18.2	18. 1	21.2	24. 2	27.8	34.9	36.3	1.4
	Precision Machinery, Medical Instruments and Equipment	42.0	39. 9	40. 4	39. 0	34. 8	27. 2	26. 3	28. 6	28. 1	29. 6	30. 2	32. 7	35. 5	2.8
	Other	38.4	38. 0	36. 9	36.8	31. 1	20.7	19.8	23. 9	25. 2	22.8	26.3	29.0	29.6	0.6
	Total	39.6	38. 6	37. 6	34. 9	30. 3	24.7	23.0	23.6	24.9	25. 9	27.8	31.0	33.3	2.3
	Food,BEWerages	37.9	37. 4	37. 3	33. 1	25. 6	21.3	21.0	24. 5	27.3	27. 2	30.2	32.0	31.6	▲ 0.4
	Textile,Textile Products,Clothing	28.8	26.5	26. 2	22.0	16. 4	10.3	11.4	15.8	18.2	18.0	19.4	22.6	22.3	▲ 0.3
	Construction Materials, Furniture, Ceramics, Stone and Clay Products	43.4	43. 1	42.8	38. 5	34. 4	27.9	27.7	29. 6	30. 2	30. 4	31.7	33.9	35.9	2.0
Wholesale	Paper Products, Stationery, Books	36.3	35.0	34. 9	33. 5	27.5	22.0	19.1	19.0	21.9	23. 2	24.0	26.9	26.7	▲ 0.2
	Chemical	40.4	39.0	38. 7	35. 5	33. 2	28.9	27.4	27.6	29. 2	29.5	30.1	32.3	36. 1	3.8
	Recycled Resources	29.0	33. 3	30.8	27. 1	21.2	18.7	18.8	23.8	24. 5	27.8	30.2	32.9	38.7	5.8
	Steel,Nonferrous Metals, Mining Products	37. 0	34.8	33. 9	31. 9	27. 8	23. 2	22. 8	24.0	24. 5	25. 3	26. 4	30. 5	32. 1	1.6
	Machinery, Equipment	42.3	41.7	41.2	38. 2	33.0	25.9	25.1	27.4	29.0	28.6	30.6	33. 1	34.6	1.5
	Other	37. 6	37.1	36.7	31.5	26. 5	21.4	19.8	23. 1	25.1	25.4	27.6	30.6	33.0	2. 4
	Total	39. 3	38. 4	37.9	34.4	29.4	23.7	23.0	25. 3	27.0	27.1	28.9	31.5	33.0	1.5

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Economic Diffusion Index (Economic DI)2/2

		Nov-19						May-20						Nov-20	Ratio to the Previous Month
	Food,BEWerages	40.2	38. 4	39.1	36.7	25.8	26.3		30.8	30.7	29.1	34.0	38.8	37. 0	▲ 1.8
	Textile,Textile Products,Clothing	31.5	28.7	28.0	24. 2	16. 2	11.4	8.8	23.6	24. 7	24.0	19.9	27.8	23. 7	▲ 4.1
	Drugs,Sundries	37. 3	40.2	37.7	34.7	27.5	28.7	25.3	32.7	32. 7	31.3	32.6	33.3	29.8	▲ 3.5
	Furniture	26. 9	31.8	31.9	29.2	22.6	10.8	15.5	31.7	40.0	38.9	38. 5	37.5	38. 9	1.4
Retail	Electrical Household Appliances, Information Machinery and Equipment	32. 3	38. 1	38. 2	36.0	28. 4	19.3	21.9	33.8	29.8	30.5	30.6	34. 2	33. 3	▲ 0.9
	Motor Vehicles, Motor Vehicle Parts	31.4	31.9	36.7	32.9	27. 9	17.0	15.8	25.4	29.3	29.3	32.4	34.6	40.2	5.6
	Special Merchandise	39. 1	36.0	35. 2	34.7	27. 4	20.2	19.9	27.7	30. 2	30.0	31.6	33. 9	33. 3	▲ 0.6
	Various Merchandise	36. 5	36. 2	37.4	34. 4	29. 3	32.3	29.9	34. 5	40.9	36.9	37.0	37.6	37. 3	▲ 0.3
	Other	40.7	47.9	48.1	43.9	31.8	26.9	30.6	31.8	26. 7	25.9	33. 3	33. 3	34.8	1.5
	Total	36. 1	35.8	36.3	34. 1	26.7	21.2	21.1	29. 1	31.0	30.3	32.1	34.8	35.0	0.2
Transportatio	n,Warehousing	45. 1	42.6	39.5	34.0	27.7	22.4	22.7	21.5	24. 2	25.4	28.1	30.1	32. 5	2.4
	Restaurants	39. 4	40.7	41.0	32.3	14. 2	4.3	5.5	13.8	13.7	12.7	14.5	18.2	21.0	2.8
	Postal, Telecommunications	59.5	52.8	64.6	57.1	50.0	30.3	33.3	43.3	41.7	42.6	46.7	41.7	47.2	5.5
	Electricity, Gas, Water, Heat	52. 2	47.4	52.4	46.7	40.5	28.4	32.4	34. 4	34. 9	42.5	42.5	40.4	40.0	▲ 0.4
	Leasing, Rentals	53. 1	50.4	50.8	46.9	34.0	27.8	29.1	30. 2	31. 4	32.7	34.5	34. 9	37. 5	2.6
	Lodging, Hotels	42.0	39. 1	38.5	23.2	7.0	1.5	2.9	4.8	5.1	6.0	12.4	27.2	28.8	1.6
	Recreation	40.7	37. 5	39.4	35.7	17.0	5.6	9.3	11.5	17.5	22.9	22.4	23.7	29.0	5.3
	Broadcasting	41.7	38. 2	38.1	38.9	29.8	22.9	22.5	26.7	25.6	34.5	33.3	34. 4	38. 6	4.2
Service	Maintenance,Guarding,Testing	47.3	46.6	46.4	42.6	36.0	27.5	26.6	29.9	33. 2	34.1	36.5	38.5	38. 5	0.0
	Advertising	39.6	37.8	40.0	34. 1	21.3	11.3	10.7	14. 3	19.0	18.0	20.4	21.1	22. 3	1.2
	Information	57.8	56. 2	56.5	54. 2	43.9	33.7	34.0	35.8	37. 2	37.9	38.9	40.1	41.6	1.5
	Labor Dispatching	50.9	46. 2	49.2	42.5	34. 1	21.0	20.0	25.3	24.6	25.4	26.7	29.2	34. 3	5.1
	Special Services	50.8	49.9	50.3	45.8	40.4	31.4	32.2	35.0	36.7	36.1	40.0	40.7	42.5	1.8
	Medical, Welfare, Public Health	48.5	47.7	47.8	43.2	35. 9	26.4	26.1	30.5	29. 9	31.0	31.4	33.6	34. 9	1.3
	Education	37.8	43. 1	41.4	40.0	29.7	13.9	18.8	28.0	29.5	31.7	34.0	34.7	34.0	▲ 0.7
	Other	47. 9	45.6	46.2	39.8	29. 2	21.2	21.8	26.6	28.7	28.4	31.1	31.6	31. 4	▲ 0.2
Total		50.4	48.8	49.5	45. 1	35. 3	25.8	26.1	29.4	31. 2	31.8	33.9	35. 1	36.8	1.7
Other		40.4	41.7	42.7	39. 2	29.8	24.4	26.2	27. 1	29. 3	28.8	31.5	28. 2	29. 4	1.2

	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Ratio to the Previous Month
Hokkaido	45.0	43.8	42.4	39.0	31.0	28.4	27.5	30.6	32. 3	33.4	34. 4	36.0	34. 4	▲ 1.6
Tohoku	42.2	40.9	38.8	36. 7	30.7	26.0	25.3	28.5	29.7	30.4	32.6	34. 4	36.0	1.6
kitakanto	40.0	40.0	39.4	36. 9	31.8	25.8	24.5	26. 2	27.1	28.0	30.6	33.2	36.6	3. 4
minamikanto	45.5	44.3	44. 5	41.1	34. 1	26.3	25. 5	28.4	29.7	30.4	32. 3	34.2	35.3	1. 1
Hokuriku	40.4	39. 5	37.6	35.6	29.7	24. 9	25.1	26.5	27.5	28.5	30.0	31.8	34.7	2. 9
Tokai	42.7	41.8	40.6	37.3	31.4	23.7	23.4	25.3	27.0	27.7	30.3	32.6	35.6	3.0
Kinki	41.9	40.5	39.8	36.3	30.4	23.9	23.8	25.9	27.8	28.1	29.5	32.4	34.1	1.7
Chugoku	43.6	42.6	41.2	39. 0	33.8	27.0	25.7	27. 2	29.4	29.7	32.0	34.3	35.5	1.2
Shikoku	44.0	43.8	42.7	39.5	36. 4	30.8	28. 5	30.3	30.5	31.5	32. 6	33. 9	35.3	1. 4
Kyushu	46.8	45. 1	45. 2	41.5	35. 3	27.5	27. 4	29.7	32.5	31.8	34.2	36. 9	37.7	0.8

Appendix

1.Research Subjects(Companies researched: 23,686; Valid responses: 11,363; Response rate: 48.0%)

Appendix

1.Region

8			
Hokkaido	584	Tokai	1,286
Tohoku	784	Kinki	1,851
kitaKanto	850	Chugoku	657
minamikanto	3,495	Shikoku	384
Hokuriku	613	Kyushu	859
		Total	11,363

2.Industry (10 Industries 51 Lines of business)

Agriculture, For	estry, Fisheries	72
Finance		130
Construction		1,863
Real Estate		369
	Food, Beverages, Livestock Feed	384
	Textile,Textile Products,Clothing	119
Manufacturing (3,138)	Construction Materials, Furniture, Ceramics, Stone and Clay Products	246
	Pulp, Paper and Paper Products	105
	Publishing, Printing	186
	Chemical	435
	Steel, Nonferrous Metals, Mining	544
	General Machinery	505
	Electrical Machinery	336
	Transportation Machinery, Equipment	112
	Precision Machinery, Medical Instruments and Equipment	77
	Others	89
	Food,Beverages	389
	Textile,Textile Products,Clothing	204
	Construction Materials, Furniture, Ceramics, Stone and Clay Products	349
Wholesale	Paper Products, Stationery, Books	105
(2,986)	Chemical	291
	Recycled Resources	37
	Steel, Nonferrous Metals, Mining Products	314
	Machinery, Equipment	929
	Others	368

3.Size

Large Firms	2,019	17.8%
Small to Medium-sized Firms	9,344	82.2%
micro Firms	3,393	29.9%
Total	11,363	100.0%

	Food, Beverages	68
	Textile, Textile Products, Clothing	31
	Drugs,Sundries	19
Retail	Furniture	12
(452)	Electrical Household Appliances, Information Machinery and Equipment	34
	Motor Vehicles, Motor Vehicle Parts	90
	Special Merchandise	141
	Various Merchandise	46
	Others	11
ansportation	n,Warehousing	488
	Restaurants	54
	Telecommunications	12
	Electricity, Gas, Water, Heat	20
	Leasing, Rentals	121
	Lodging, Hotels	33
	Recreation	58
Service	Broadcasting	19
(1,818)	Maintenance, Guarding, Testing	189
	Advertising	104
	Information	494
	Labor Dispatching	72
	Special Services	303
	Medical,Welfare,Public Health	119
	Education	24
	Others	196
thers		47
	Total	11,363

2.Research Items

*Business Confidence (current, in 3 months, in 6 months, in 1 year)

*Business Conditions (sales, purchasing and selling unit price, inventory, capacity utilization ratio, number of employees, overtime work hours)

3. Research Period and Methodology

Internet-based survey conducted November 16 – 30 2020

The explanation of the Economic Diffusion Index

Research Purpose/Researched Terms

TDB Economic Trend Research (started from May 2002) is a monthly statistical survey conducted for over 20,000 nationwide corporations on their general business activities including the current condition and future outlook of the industry business performance and operating climate. The primary purpose of such a survey is to assess the current state of Japan's economy.

Selection of the Subject Corporations

Companies of all sizes in all domestic industries are eligible to participate in the survey.

DI Calculation

The DI (Diffusion Index) is calculated by multiplying the number of responses for each assessment category by the number given in parentheses in the table below, to a seven-level assessment rated by companies.

Selection category	Extremely good	good	fairly good	neither good nor bad	fairly bad	bad	very bad
points	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
number of responses for each category	N ₆	N_5	N ₄	N ₃	N ₂	N_1	N_0

Economic DI

$$= \frac{\text{Total of (Points for each category} \times \text{Number of responses for each category)}}{\text{Number of valid responses} V} \times \frac{1}{6} \times 100$$

$$\equiv \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{6} i \times N_i}{N} \times \frac{1}{6} \times 100$$

An economic DI of 50 is **the point separating good and bad**, so a DI over 50 means "good," and below 50 means "bad." (The numbers are rounded off to one decimal place.) No weight is given according to a company's size, and calculations are made on the basis of "one company, one vote."

Size Classification

Industry	Large Firms	Small to Medium-Sized Firms (Micro Firms included)	Micro Firms
Manufacturing and	Capital: More than 300 million yen	Capital: Below 300 million yen	
Other Industries*	and	or	No. of Employee: Below 20
	No. of Employee: Over 300	No. of Employee: Below 300	
Wholesale Trade	Capital: More than 100 million yen	Capital: Below 100 million yen	
	and	or	No. of Employee: Below 5
	No. of Employee: Over 100	No. of Employee: Below 100	
Retail Trade	Capital: More than 50 million yen	Capital: Below 50 million yen	
	and	or	No. of Employee: Below 5
	No. of Employee: Over 50	No. of Employee: Below 50	
Service**	Capital: More than 50 million yen	Capital: Below 50 million yen	
	and	or	No. of Employee: Below 5
	No. of Employee: Over 100	No. of Employee: Below 100	

Note1: Large Firms refer to companies that rank in the top 3% in terms of sales volume according to the type of business, among small to midium-sized corporations excluding micro firms, which are defined in Small and Medium Enterprises Basic Act.

Note2: Small to Medium-Sized Firms refer to companies that rank in the bottom 50% in terms of sales volume according to the type of business, among those not categorized as small to midium-sized comparations in Small to Medium-Sized Enterorises Basic Act.