

# Small Businesses Pessimistic Over Economy

| Optimism Components         | Net % | Change |
|-----------------------------|-------|--------|
| Plan to Increase Employment | -1%   | -1     |
| Expect Economy to Improve   | -8%   | 7      |
| Now a Good Time to Expand*  | 4%    | -1     |
| Earnings Trends             | -30%  | 3      |

\* Note: These components are measured as actual percentages of all respondents and are not net percentages. A net percentage is the percent positive minus percent negative.

Source: National Federation of Independent Business