D&B U.S. Economic Health Tracker
A multi-dimensional view of the U.S. Economy

June 2014

Small Business Health Index

D&B’s Small Business Health Index stabilized during the reporting period as small businesses delivered on-time bill and credit-card payments. Access to traditional forms of credit remains a challenge, however.

U.S. Jobs Health

D&B estimates 297,000 new jobs were added to U.S. payrolls in May 2014, with substantial gains in business services and trade/transportation/utilities.

Source: D&B Global Data, Insights & Analytics
The D&B U.S. Economic Health Tracker exhibited resilience in May 2014. Readings on the small business community continued to stabilize although the anticipated bounce back has so far failed to materialize. In the meantime, some 297,000 new jobs were created, driven by strong gains in the business services and trade/transportation/utilities segments. Finally, the U.S. Business Health Index strengthened once again in May, registering a 54-percent index value, the highest recorded level since the index began in December 2010. U.S. businesses show sustained balance sheet and financial health, based on the weighted average of D&B’s Viability Rating, Delinquency Predictor, and Total Loss Predictor. In spite of accelerating business expansion, lackluster economic growth and uncertainty remain significant restraints and should be monitored closely headed into the third quarter.

The Small Business Health Index measures year-over-year small business performance through equally weighted payment patterns and credit use. U.S. Jobs Health combines Small Business Health Index industry data with BLS figures to forecast monthly nonfarm payroll employment. The U.S. Business Health Index provides a year-over-year equally weighted average of D&B’s Viability Score, Delinquency Predictor and Total Loss Predictor. The index ranges from zero (with all businesses recording high levels of risk) to 100% (with all businesses recording low levels of risk). Data available as of May 30, 2014.

Methodology

To learn more, visit www.dnb.com/tracker

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