

## Decline in production activities continued in domestic economy

~ Rapid economic contraction has come to a halt, but global economic outlook is a cause for concern ~

e-mail : [keiki@mail.tdb.co.jp](mailto:keiki@mail.tdb.co.jp)

(Companies researched: 23,675; Valid responses: 11,979; Response rate: 50.6%; Survey start date: May 2002)

### < Overview of May 2020: Recession phase >

The economic diffusion index (DI) in May 2020 was 25.2, down 0.6 points from the previous month, worsening for the eighth consecutive month. Rapid contraction of the domestic economy came to a halt, but production activities continued to decline.

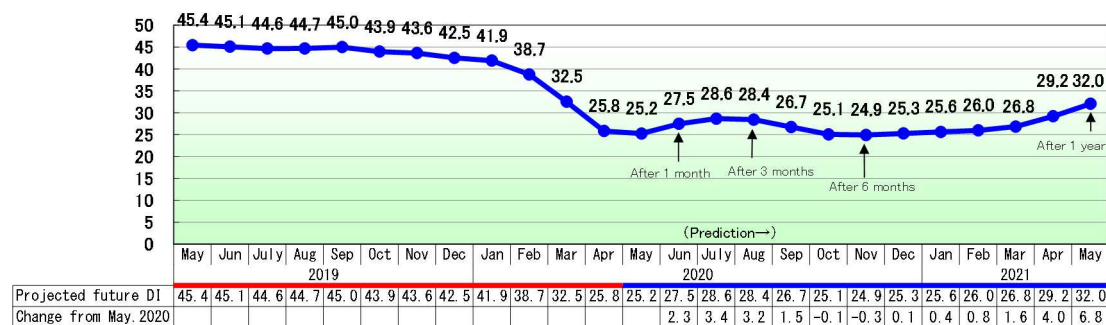
### < Future outlook: Recession continues >

The recessionary trend is expected to temporarily stop, while there are domestic and foreign matters of concern.

**By industry :** Five of the ten industries deteriorated. Lowest-ever economic DI was recorded in seven business categories.

**By size :** Decline in all sizes for the eighth consecutive month, while creating new demands.

**By region :** Nine of the ten regions, and 33 prefectures deteriorated, with the impact of reduced movement of people and goods.



\*: Economic DIs are calculated based on the structural ARIMA model, in which economic statistics are incorporated to the ARIMA model.

## Economic Diffusion Index (Economic DI)1/2

	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Ratio to tHM PrFDious Month
Total	45.4	45.1	44.6	44.7	45.0	43.9	43.6	42.5	41.9	38.7	32.5	25.8	25.2	▲ 0.6
Large Firms	48.8	48.7	47.7	47.9	48.0	47.1	47.0	45.7	45.3	42.0	34.8	28.2	28.1	▲ 0.1
Small to Medium-sized Firms	44.6	44.2	43.9	43.9	44.2	43.2	42.8	41.7	41.1	38.0	32.0	25.3	24.6	▲ 0.7
Micro Firms	44.5	44.1	43.8	44.2	45.1	43.9	43.5	42.1	41.4	38.8	32.3	25.4	24.6	▲ 0.8

	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Ratio to tHM PrFDious Month	
Agriculture,Forestry,Fisheries	40.5	43.2	39.1	41.5	41.8	42.3	42.5	41.7	38.4	37.9	32.8	28.2	25.1	▲ 3.1	
Finance	44.7	44.8	45.1	44.7	45.8	45.4	46.8	44.5	44.8	42.2	33.3	27.3	28.7	1.4	
Construction	51.7	51.6	51.7	52.1	53.1	52.1	52.2	51.6	50.0	47.8	41.5	33.9	33.5	▲ 0.4	
Real Estate	47.6	48.3	47.4	46.5	48.0	45.9	46.0	44.2	45.9	42.0	31.6	21.9	23.5	1.6	
Manufacturing	Food,BEWerages,Livestock Feed	41.3	40.3	40.4	41.1	39.8	39.1	39.7	39.9	38.0	34.5	28.4	24.6	▲ 0.2	
	Textile,Textile Products,Clothing	36.6	36.5	36.4	36.9	36.3	36.1	34.6	32.6	30.5	29.3	23.2	17.7	1.0	
	Construction Materials,Furniture, Ceramics,Stone and Clay Products	45.4	43.5	43.8	45.2	44.1	44.8	43.8	40.2	39.9	37.2	33.4	29.2	26.5	▲ 2.7
	Pulp, Paper and Paper Products	43.0	41.7	39.6	42.3	42.8	40.2	41.7	40.6	37.3	32.0	29.2	24.0	21.4	▲ 2.6
	Publishing,Printing	34.3	33.9	32.5	33.1	34.1	33.0	32.7	32.9	30.9	29.7	23.1	16.8	14.4	▲ 2.4
	Chemical	43.9	42.5	41.9	41.8	41.0	41.2	40.6	40.1	39.0	35.8	32.1	27.5	25.3	▲ 2.2
	Steel,Nonferrous Metals,Mining	42.9	41.8	41.5	41.2	40.4	39.8	38.1	37.6	36.3	32.9	29.0	23.6	21.5	▲ 2.1
	General Machinery	46.0	45.1	44.0	41.5	41.1	40.8	39.9	38.4	37.3	35.4	31.1	25.3	23.6	▲ 1.7
	Electrical Machinery	43.1	43.0	42.8	43.9	41.2	42.2	40.5	40.4	41.0	38.5	32.7	27.6	26.1	▲ 1.5
	Transportation Machinery,Equipment	48.1	47.5	46.4	43.4	42.3	43.5	41.2	40.9	39.4	36.5	34.2	22.2	18.2	▲ 4.0
	Precision Machinery, Medical Instruments and Equipment	44.4	42.4	43.9	43.4	42.0	41.3	42.0	39.9	40.4	39.0	34.8	27.2	26.3	▲ 0.9
Other	40.2	40.2	38.0	40.7	41.8	37.4	38.4	38.0	36.9	36.8	31.1	20.7	19.8	▲ 0.9	
Total	42.9	42.0	41.5	41.4	40.6	40.3	39.6	38.6	37.6	34.9	30.3	24.7	23.0	▲ 1.7	
Wholesale	Food,BEWerages	40.8	40.4	38.8	39.0	38.8	38.1	37.9	37.4	37.3	33.1	25.6	21.3	21.0	▲ 0.3
	Textile,Textile Products,Clothing	33.2	31.6	29.8	30.8	31.6	28.8	28.8	26.5	26.2	22.0	16.4	10.3	11.4	1.1
	Construction Materials, Furniture,Ceramics, Stone and Clay Products	44.7	43.8	44.7	44.6	46.0	45.1	43.4	43.1	42.8	38.5	34.4	27.9	27.7	▲ 0.2
	Paper Products,Stationery,Books	39.0	36.4	37.0	37.1	38.0	37.7	36.3	35.0	34.9	33.5	27.5	22.0	19.1	▲ 2.9
	Chemical	41.8	41.2	42.7	42.0	42.7	41.0	40.4	39.0	38.7	35.5	33.2	28.9	27.4	▲ 1.5
	Recycled Resources	40.2	37.1	32.8	32.8	30.6	34.8	29.0	33.3	30.8	27.1	21.2	18.7	18.8	0.1
	Steel,Nonferrous Metals, Mining Products	40.8	40.4	39.0	38.8	37.6	38.0	37.0	34.8	33.9	31.9	27.8	23.2	22.8	▲ 0.4
	Machinery,Equipment	44.2	44.4	43.8	43.3	44.6	42.7	42.3	41.7	41.2	38.2	33.0	25.9	25.1	▲ 0.8
	Other	40.6	40.6	40.2	40.2	40.7	37.9	37.6	37.1	36.7	31.5	26.5	21.4	19.8	▲ 1.6
	Total	41.9	41.4	41.0	40.8	41.4	39.9	39.3	38.4	37.9	34.4	29.4	23.7	23.0	▲ 0.7

## Economic Diffusion Index (Economic DI)2/2

		May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Ratio to tHM PrFDious Month
Retail	Food,BEWerages	44.8	42.9	41.5	41.3	41.8	40.5	40.2	38.4	39.1	36.7	25.8	26.3	27.4	1.1
	Textile,Textile Products,Clothing	36.9	36.6	34.6	36.5	37.9	32.7	31.5	28.7	28.0	24.2	16.2	11.4	8.8	▲ 2.6
	Drugs,Sundries	41.0	38.5	40.0	37.7	40.6	35.8	37.3	40.2	37.7	34.7	27.5	28.7	25.3	▲ 3.4
	Furniture	39.6	48.5	40.9	45.0	53.0	33.3	26.9	31.8	31.9	29.2	22.6	10.8	15.5	4.7
	Electrical Household Appliances, Information Machinery and Equipment	39.1	43.5	34.3	38.9	45.0	34.3	32.3	38.1	38.2	36.0	28.4	19.3	21.9	2.6
	Motor Vehicles,Motor Vehicle Parts	41.5	42.5	39.2	41.1	41.4	34.5	31.4	31.9	36.7	32.9	27.9	17.0	15.8	▲ 1.2
	Special Merchandise	41.3	41.1	40.6	40.7	43.5	38.2	39.1	36.0	35.2	34.7	27.4	20.2	19.9	▲ 0.3
	Various Merchandise	43.8	44.7	39.3	38.9	43.1	36.5	36.5	36.2	37.4	34.4	29.3	32.3	29.9	▲ 2.4
	Other	39.6	46.3	41.7	41.7	40.5	48.1	40.7	47.9	48.1	43.9	31.8	26.9	30.6	3.7
	Total	41.6	42.0	39.5	40.2	42.6	37.0	36.1	35.8	36.3	34.1	26.7	21.2	21.1	▲ 0.1
Transportation,Warehousing		46.7	45.6	44.5	45.5	46.0	44.9	45.1	42.6	39.5	34.0	27.7	22.4	22.7	0.3
Service	Restaurants	40.6	42.9	39.6	38.1	43.6	37.3	39.4	40.7	41.0	32.3	14.2	4.3	5.5	1.2
	Postal,Telecommunications	56.7	60.0	58.3	60.6	56.9	56.1	59.5	52.8	64.6	57.1	50.0	30.3	33.3	3.0
	Electricity,Gas,Water,Heat	55.6	54.5	54.2	52.6	51.3	51.2	52.2	47.4	52.4	46.7	40.5	28.4	32.4	4.0
	Leasing,Rentals	50.9	52.5	51.8	51.7	53.5	54.5	53.1	50.4	50.8	46.9	34.0	27.8	29.1	1.3
	Lodging, Hotels	50.0	44.9	40.3	39.9	47.2	41.3	42.0	39.1	38.5	23.2	7.0	1.5	2.9	1.4
	Recreation	42.0	41.5	41.8	40.9	38.7	38.2	40.7	37.5	39.4	35.7	17.0	5.6	9.3	3.7
	Broadcasting	44.1	43.3	41.1	45.2	43.1	42.9	41.7	38.2	38.1	38.9	29.8	22.9	22.5	▲ 0.4
	Maintenance,Guarding,Testing	48.2	48.8	49.3	49.8	48.6	49.1	47.3	46.6	46.4	42.6	36.0	27.5	26.6	▲ 0.9
	Advertising	40.5	40.7	40.4	38.9	40.3	40.4	39.6	37.8	40.0	34.1	21.3	11.3	10.7	▲ 0.6
	Information	58.0	57.8	58.5	58.7	57.7	57.4	57.8	56.2	56.5	54.2	43.9	33.7	34.0	0.3
	Labor Dispatching	53.9	52.8	52.7	51.0	53.2	53.3	50.9	46.2	49.2	42.5	34.1	21.0	20.0	▲ 1.0
	Special Services	49.5	50.1	49.9	51.1	51.8	51.5	50.8	49.9	50.3	45.8	40.4	31.4	32.2	0.8
	Medical,Welfare,Public Health	47.8	47.0	48.7	46.5	47.3	46.5	48.5	47.7	47.8	43.2	35.9	26.4	26.1	▲ 0.3
	Education	43.6	44.0	41.1	39.5	40.0	42.4	37.8	43.1	41.4	40.0	29.7	13.9	18.8	4.9
Other	47.9	48.5	47.9	48.3	48.4	47.9	47.9	45.6	46.2	39.8	29.2	21.2	21.8	0.6	
Total	50.6	50.8	50.8	50.7	51.0	50.6	50.4	48.8	49.5	45.1	35.3	25.8	26.1	0.3	
Other		43.2	42.6	44.1	43.2	42.1	43.1	40.4	41.7	42.7	39.2	29.8	24.4	26.2	1.8

		May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Ratio to tHM PrFDious Month
Hokkaido		45.3	45.1	45.7	46.4	46.6	45.7	45.0	43.8	42.4	39.0	31.0	28.4	27.5	▲ 0.9
Tohoku		42.2	41.9	41.7	41.7	43.2	41.9	42.2	40.9	38.8	36.7	30.7	26.0	25.3	▲ 0.7
kitakanto		43.1	42.5	42.5	42.6	42.2	40.9	40.0	40.0	39.4	36.9	31.8	25.8	24.5	▲ 1.3
minamikanto		46.0	46.0	45.5	45.7	46.1	45.5	45.5	44.3	44.5	41.1	34.1	26.3	25.5	▲ 0.8
Hokuriku		44.6	44.2	43.5	44.1	43.5	42.1	40.4	39.5	37.6	35.6	29.7	24.9	25.1	0.2
Tokai		46.8	45.8	44.7	45.0	45.2	43.6	42.7	41.8	40.6	37.3	31.4	23.7	23.4	▲ 0.3
Kinki		45.0	44.6	44.0	43.8	43.9	42.2	41.9	40.5	39.8	36.3	30.4	23.9	23.8	▲ 0.1
Chugoku		45.6	45.5	45.0	44.8	45.0	44.0	43.6	42.6	41.2	39.0	33.8	27.0	25.7	▲ 1.3
Shikoku		46.7	44.8	43.1	43.8	43.9	44.4	44.0	43.8	42.7	39.5	36.4	30.8	28.5	▲ 2.3
Kyushu		46.9	47.0	47.6	46.3	47.1	46.5	46.8	45.1	45.2	41.5	35.3	27.5	27.4	▲ 0.1

---

---

## **Survey of Corporate Attitudes towards Business Continuity Plan (BCP) (2020)**

### **Companies that have formulated a BCP stood at 16.6%, a low level but rising**

#### **- Companies which assume 'infectious diseases' as a risk to business continuity have increased rapidly -**

Companies are required to minimize the impacts on business assets, continue business, and recover early while facing natural disasters such as earthquakes, typhoons and heavy rains, and risks of infectious diseases including COVID-19. Therefore, it is important not only for business continuity but also from the perspective of maintaining and improving corporate value, to assume the impacts of various risks on corporate activities and prepare in advance response measures after these occur.

Teikoku Databank has conducted a survey on corporate attitudes towards Business Continuity Plan (BCP). This survey was conducted in conjunction with the May 2020 TDB Trends Research.

\*Survey period: May 18 – May 31, 2020, Companies Surveyed: 23,675, Valid Responses: 11,979 (Response Rate: 50.6%). The survey for Business Continuity Plan (BCP) has been conducted every year since June 2016 and this is the 5th survey.

\*Details of this survey can be found on the dedicated Economic Trend Survey HP (<http://www.tdb-di.com>).

## **Survey results (Summary)**

1. With respect to company status in terms of formulating a BCP, companies that 'have formulated' a BCP stood at 16.6% (y-o-y increase of 1.6 points). Even those that 'are currently formulating' (9.7%) and 'are considering formulating' (26.6%) have increased, respectively, and showed the highest percentage since the survey began. Awareness of formulating a BCP is increasing. On the other hand, a large gap has emerged by company size, with large companies at 30.8% and SMEs at 13.6%.

2. Among companies that are active in formulating a BCP, risks in which business continuity is assumed to be difficult were 'Natural disasters' such as earthquakes, storms and flood damages, and eruptions, with the highest percentage (70.9%), followed by 'Infectious diseases' (69.2%), an upsurge y-o-y of 44.3 points, and 'Bankruptcy of client companies' (39.0%). For matters that have been implemented/considered in preparation for business interruption risks, 'Establishment of means to confirm employees' safety' (67.3%) ranked top, while the results showed that 40% of companies are promoting 'Plans for diverse workstyles' (40.4%), such as working at home.

3. With respect to the effect of formulating a BCP, 'Employees' risk awareness has improved' was ranked top, at 57.4% for companies that have formulated a BCP, followed by 'Operational priority has become clear' (37.7%), and 'Standardized and manualized operations have advanced' (35.5%). There were also opinions that formulating a BCP led to positive factors for subsidy from the national government and gaining credibility from shareholders.

4. Reasons for not formulating a BCP were 'Do not have the skills and know-how necessary to formulate', with the highest percentage (41.9%). The same reasons as last year ranked highly, such as 'Cannot secure human resources to formulate such a plan' (28.7%), and 'Ends in document creation, and difficult to make a practical-to-use plan' (28.6%). In particular, many SMEs say they feel the need for a BCP but find it difficult to formulate.

## Appendix

### 1. Research Subjects (Companies researched: 23,675; Valid responses: 11,979; Response rate: 50.6%)

Appendix

#### 1. Region

Hokkaido	596	Tokai	1,341
Tohoku	823	Kinki	2,010
kitaKanto	926	Chugoku	655
minamikanto	3,696	Shikoku	364
Hokuriku	665	Kyushu	903
		<b>Total</b>	<b>11,979</b>

#### 2. Industry (10 Industries 51 Lines of business)

Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries		63
Finance		133
Construction		1,974
Real Estate		384
Manufacturing (3,280)	Food, Beverages, Livestock Feed	396
	Textile, Textile Products, Clothing	131
	Construction Materials, Furniture, Ceramics, Stone and Clay Products	250
	Pulp, Paper and Paper Products	113
	Publishing, Printing	205
	Chemical	452
	Steel, Nonferrous Metals, Mining	573
	General Machinery	510
	Electrical Machinery	360
	Transportation Machinery, Equipment	110
	Precision Machinery, Medical Instruments and Equipment	85
Others	95	
Wholesale (3,171)	Food, Beverages	426
	Textile, Textile Products, Clothing	210
	Construction Materials, Furniture, Ceramics, Stone and Clay Products	365
	Paper Products, Stationery, Books	111
	Chemical	287
	Recycled Resources	40
	Steel, Nonferrous Metals, Mining Products	335
	Machinery, Equipment	1,012
	Others	385

Retail (513)	Food, Beverages	79
	Textile, Textile Products, Clothing	34
	Drugs, Sundries	27
	Furniture	14
	Electrical Household Appliances, Information Machinery and Equipment	45
	Motor Vehicles, Motor Vehicle Parts	96
	Special Merchandise	158
	Various Merchandise	48
	Others	12
Transportation, Warehousing		508
Service (1,906)	Restaurants	55
	Telecommunications	8
	Electricity, Gas, Water, Heat	18
	Leasing, Rentals	134
	Lodging, Hotels	34
	Recreation	63
	Broadcasting	17
	Maintenance, Guarding, Testing	205
	Advertising	121
	Information	509
	Labor Dispatching	75
	Special Services	304
	Medical, Welfare, Public Health	132
Education	31	
Others	200	
Others		47
<b>Total</b>		<b>11,979</b>

#### 3. Size

Large Firms	2,143	17.9%
Small to Medium-sized Firms	9,836	82.1%
micro Firms	3,509	29.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,979</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## 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 May 18 – 31 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 <sub>6</sub>	N <sub>5</sub>	N <sub>4</sub>	N <sub>3</sub>	N <sub>2</sub>	N <sub>1</sub>	N <sub>0</sub>

Economic DI

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

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

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 Other Industries*	Capital: More than 300 million yen and No. of Employee: Over 300	Capital: Below 300 million yen or No. of Employee: Below 300	No. of Employee: Below 20
Wholesale Trade	Capital: More than 100 million yen and No. of Employee: Over 100	Capital: Below 100 million yen or No. of Employee: Below 100	No. of Employee: Below 5
Retail Trade	Capital: More than 50 million yen and No. of Employee: Over 50	Capital: Below 50 million yen or No. of Employee: Below 50	No. of Employee: Below 5
Service**	Capital: More than 50 million yen and No. of Employee: Over 100	Capital: Below 50 million yen or No. of Employee: Below 100	No. of Employee: Below 5

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 medium-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 medium-sized corporations in Small to Medium-Sized Enterprises Basic Act.