

## Financially Speaking...

It's a mixed bag as to how businesses have fared in the first six months of this year, according to respondents to the **New Jersey Chamber of Commerce/NJBIZ Poll**. Of the 276 respondents, 33 percent reported their companies have done "somewhat worse than projected," while 21 percent said "much worse than projected." But 17 percent said results have been "somewhat better than projected." Another 14 percent responded with "right on track," and 13 percent said "much better than projected." The remaining 2 percent were split between "not sure," and "much better than projected."

Much of the feedback rang of hope. **Dawn Nakash**, of **Daybreak Marketing**, said, "I don't expect the trend to continue into 2009," and **Barbara Davis**, of **Barbara Davis Employment Services**, said, "Our temp and direct-hire businesses are doing 15 percent better than last year." Several readers expressed concern over outstanding invoices, and increased costs in health insurance, labor and gasoline. Finally, **Michele Caron**, of **OED Global**, summed up her thoughts in one word: "HELP!"

### New Jersey Chamber of Commerce/ NJBIZ Poll

The presidential election is only a few months away and the economy is a major issue. Which candidate do you feel will do a better job at helping the economy grow?

- John McCain
- Barack Obama
- Not sure

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