



# Shropshire – Quarterly Economic Update

Each quarter Shropshire Chamber takes part in the British Chambers of Commerce national economic survey. Below you will see the results for Shropshire, trending from as far back as 2009.

If you and your company would like to take part in these surveys please contact [policy@shropshire-chamber.co.uk](mailto:policy@shropshire-chamber.co.uk) giving your name, company name and the e mail to which reminders should be sent. Please note this is only open to businesses in Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin. Those in neighbouring counties should approach the [British Chambers of Commerce](#) to locate their nearest BCC accredited chamber. This survey is open to businesses from all sectors including public sector and third sector. The survey is open to any size of business from micro to massive.

The data is used both locally and nationally to lobby those in power on the main topics of concern. The national survey is highly respected and is used by Central Government to understand the economic situation and pressures facing businesses in the UK.

## EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

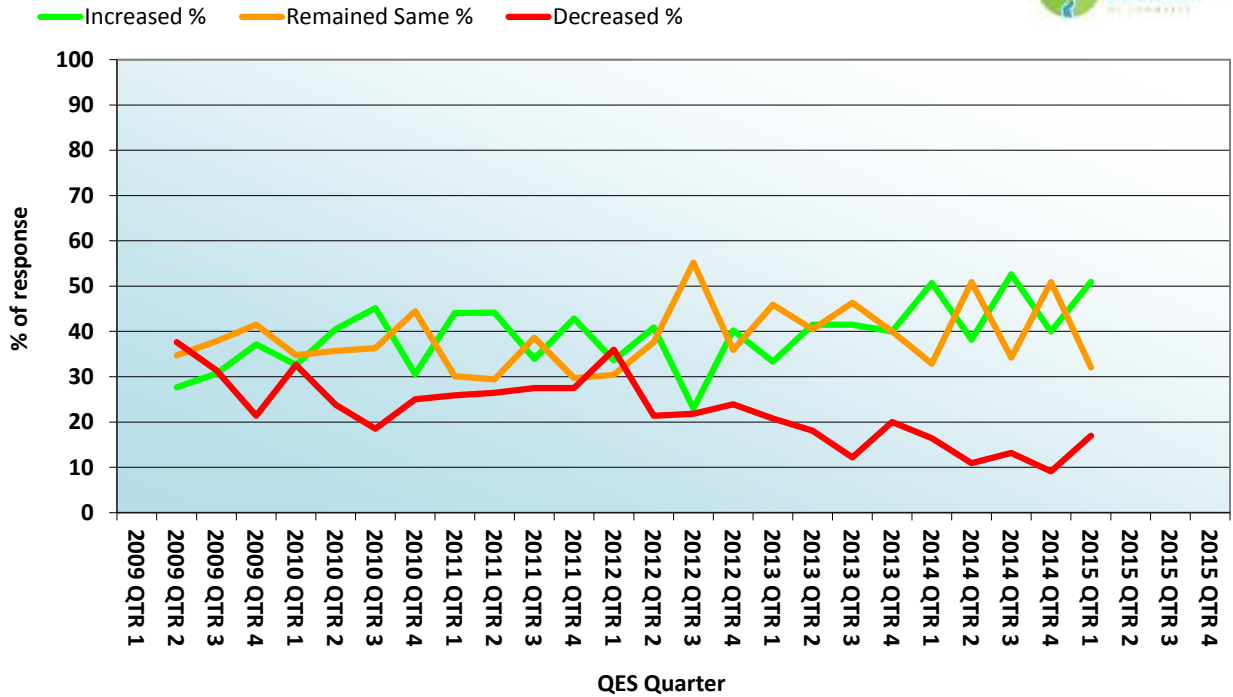
**Executive Overview**      **Qtr. 1 – 2015 (Survey undertaken over three weeks in Feb/March 2015)**  
**for Qtr.**

**Headline**                      **THE SLOW MARCH TO RECOVERY CONTINUES.**

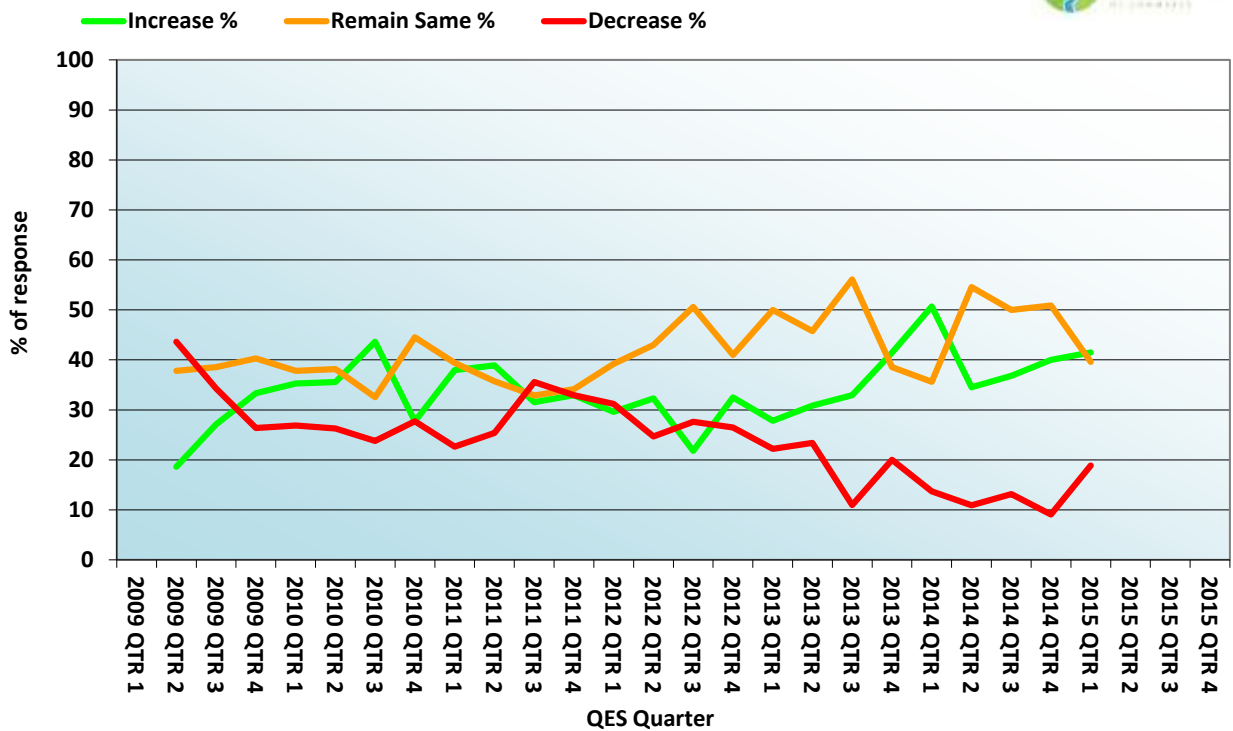
No major headlines again this quarter but there is still clear signs of the slow march to recovery. Confidence grows ever stronger as positive minds & results help build positive economies. The previous gentle emphasis on investing in plant seems to have shifted to employment and through that training. Exports have shown a slight decline, but with the slowing down in the Far East, the economic issues across Europe and many other global factors this is only to be expected. Competition is still seen as the greatest danger by far, but even that is slowing a little.

# UK SALES

## UK Sales - for the past three month

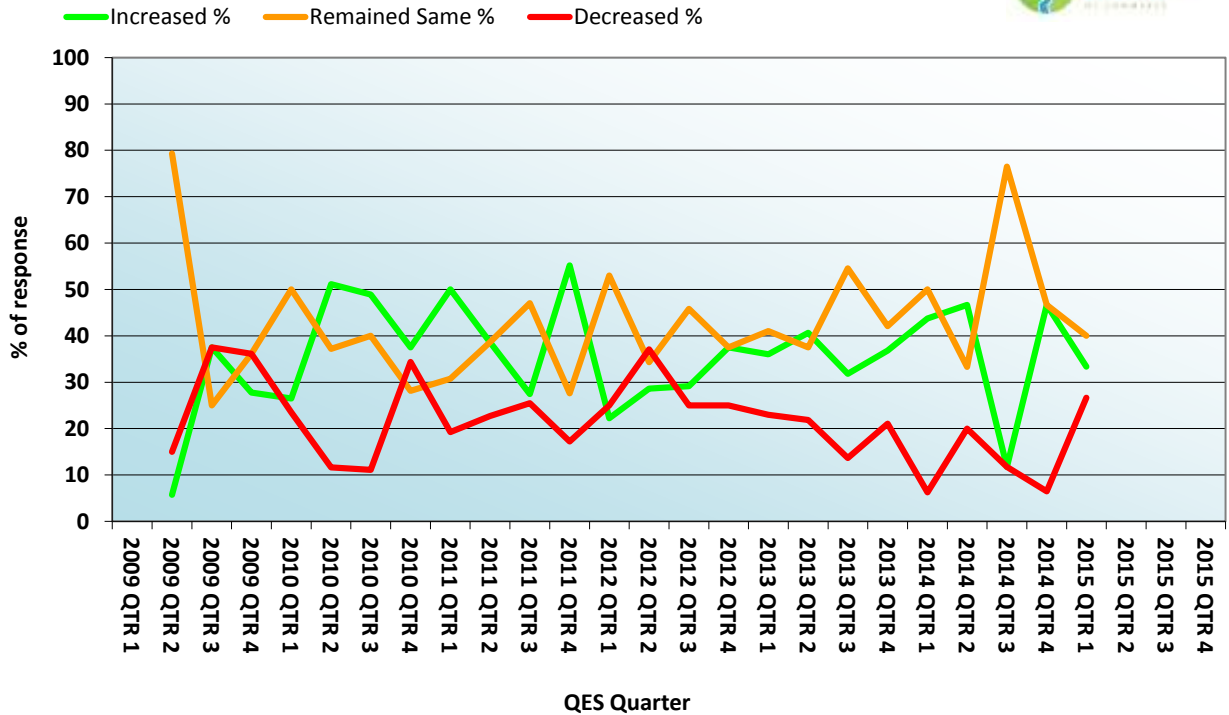


## UK Orders - anticipated for the next three months

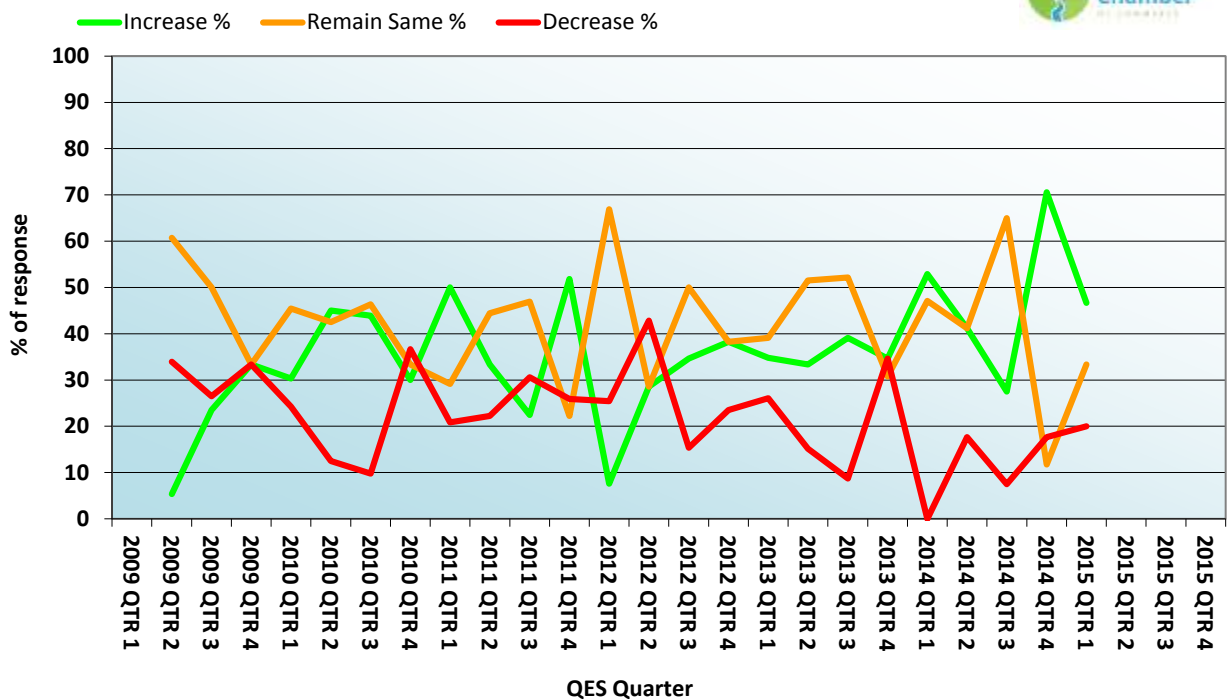


# EXPORTS

## Export Sales - for the past three months

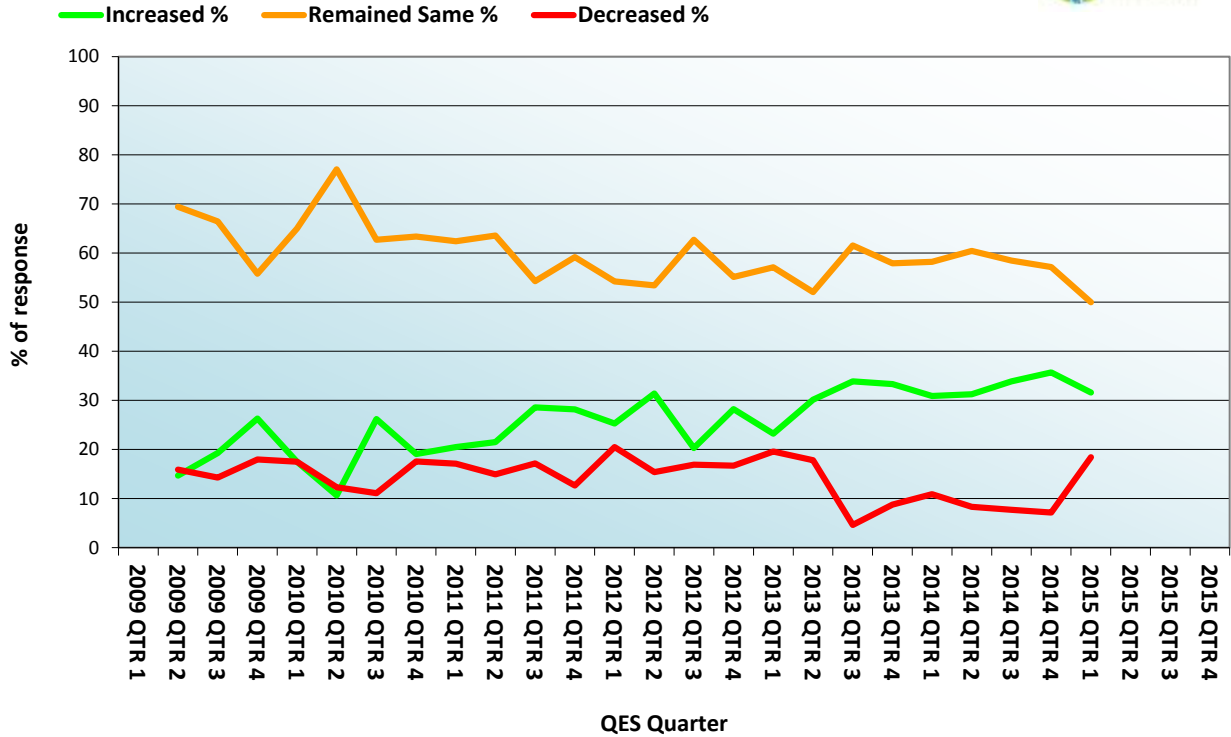


## Export Orders - anticipated for the next three months

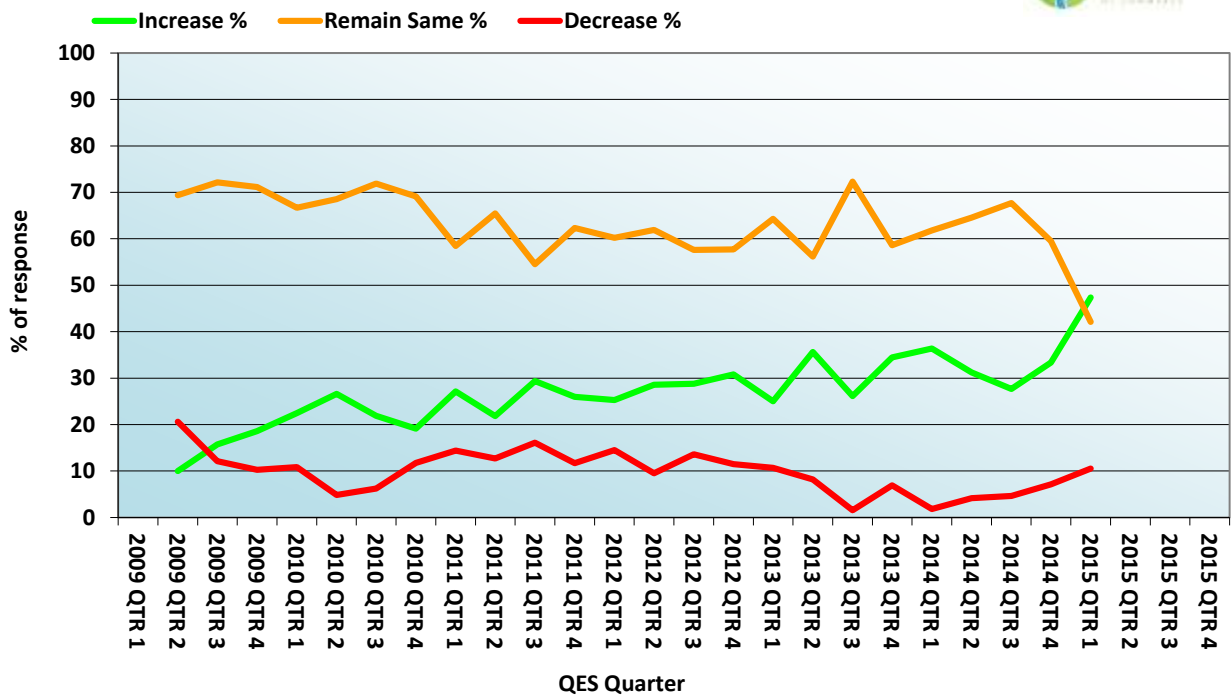


# STAFF

## Workforce - past 3 months

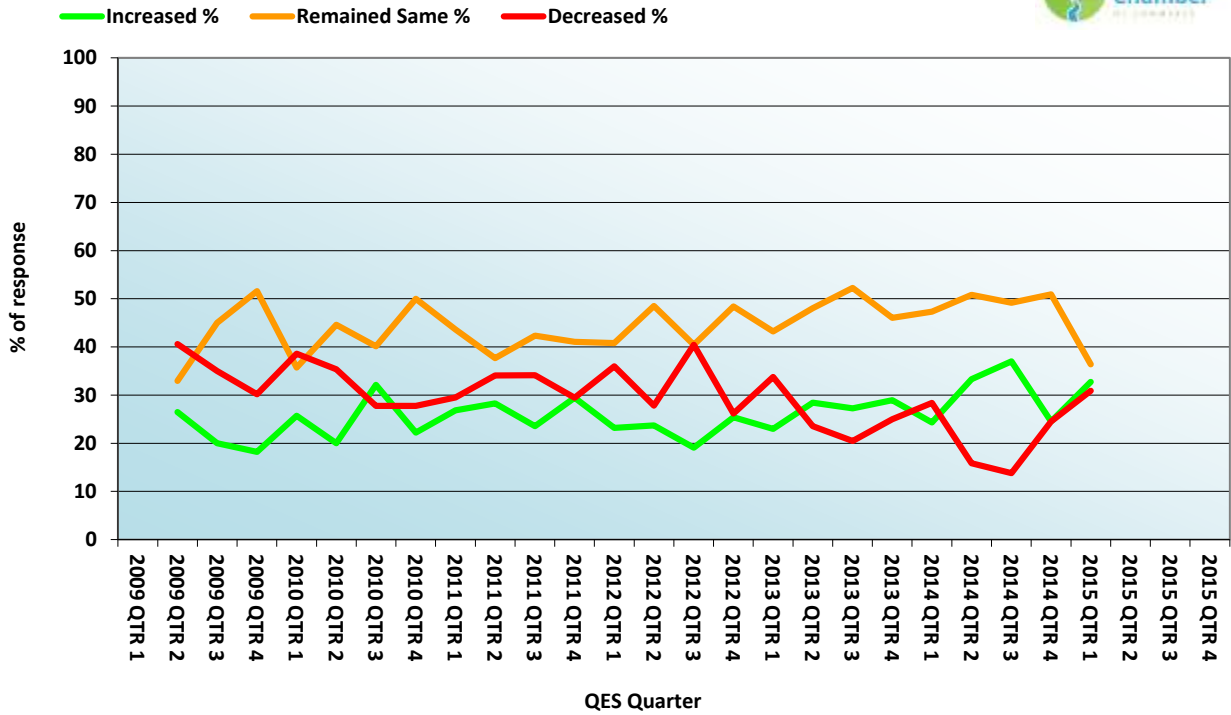


## Workforce - anticipated in the next three months

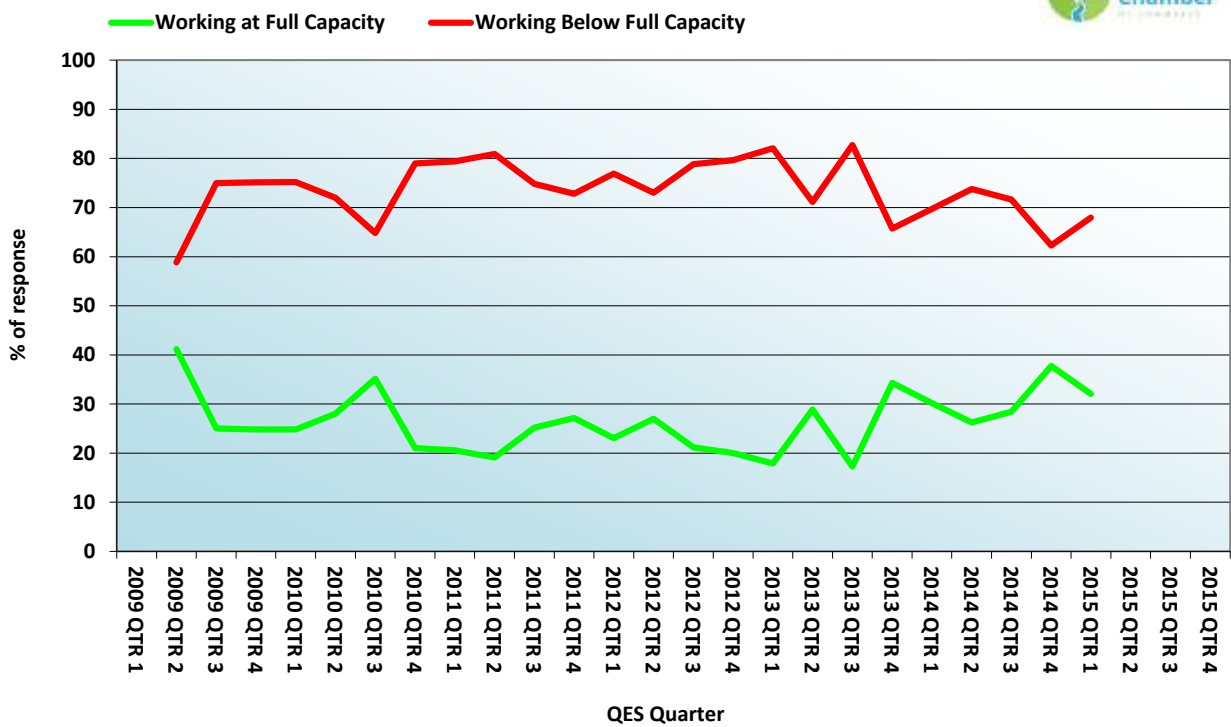


# CASH & CAPACITY

## Cash Flow - how has it performed in the past three months

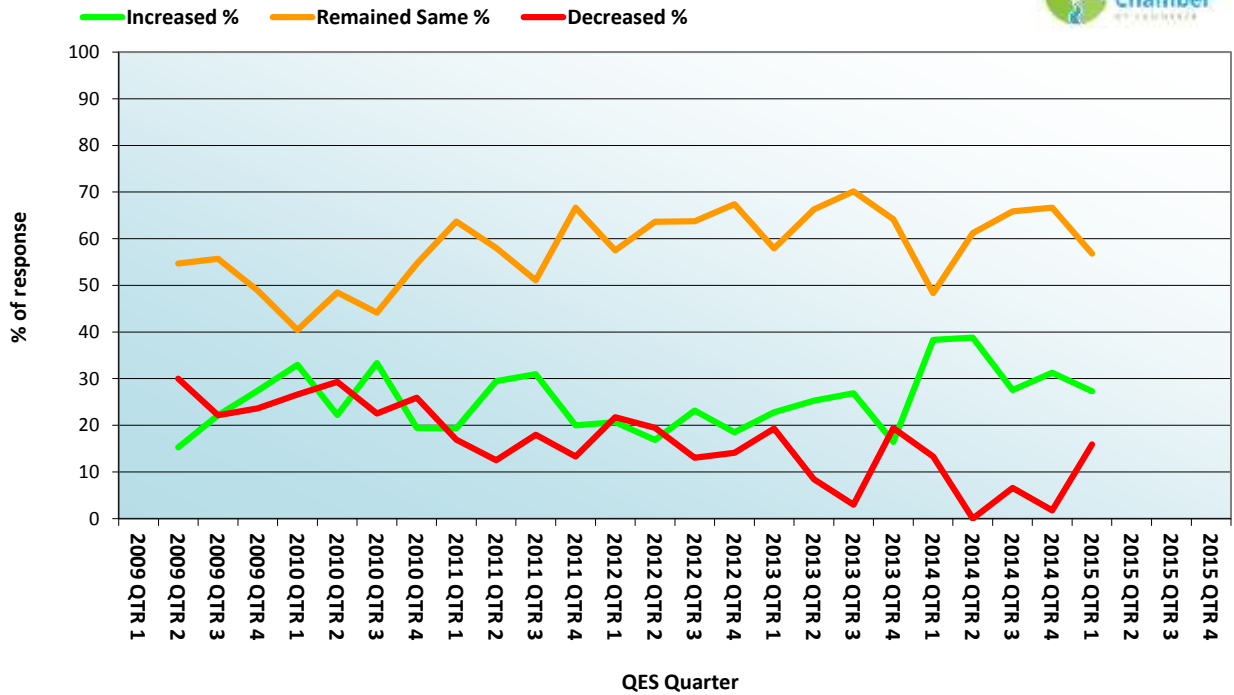


## Capacity - working at full or below capacity

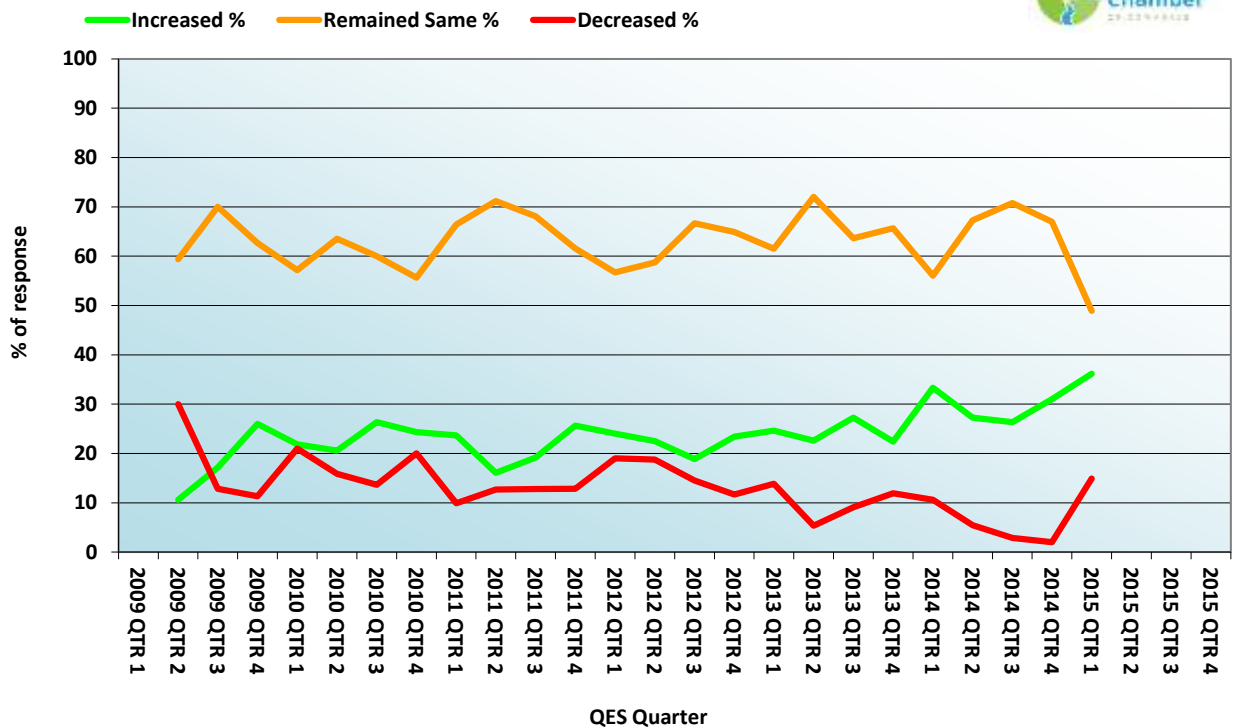


# INVESTMENT

## Investment Plans - Plant & Machinery

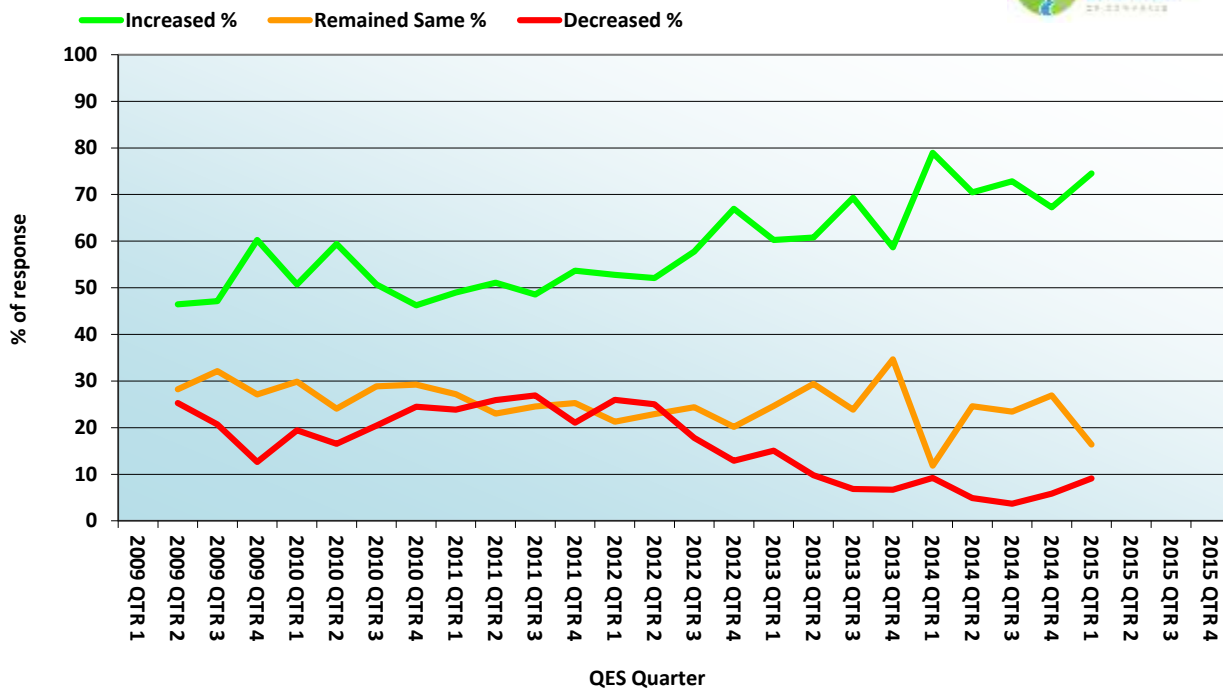


## Investment Plans - Training

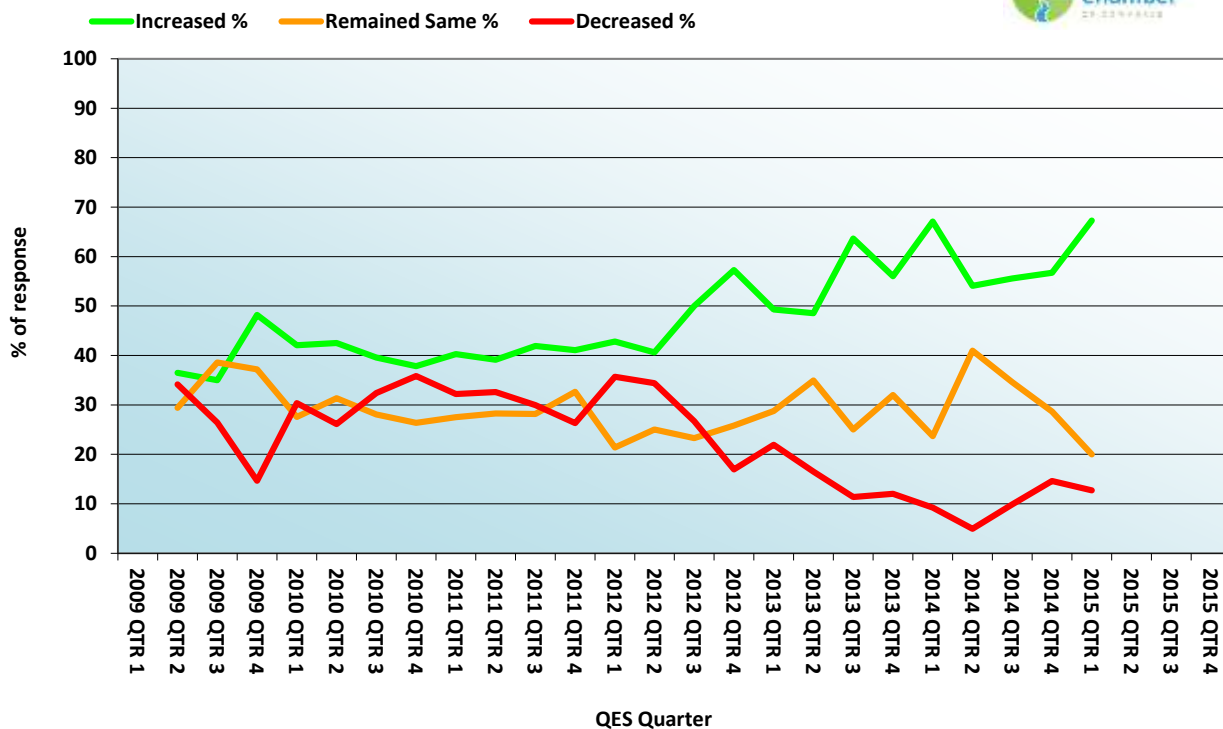


# CONFIDENCE

## Turnover Confidence - view of the next 12 months



## Profitability Confidence - view of the next 12 months



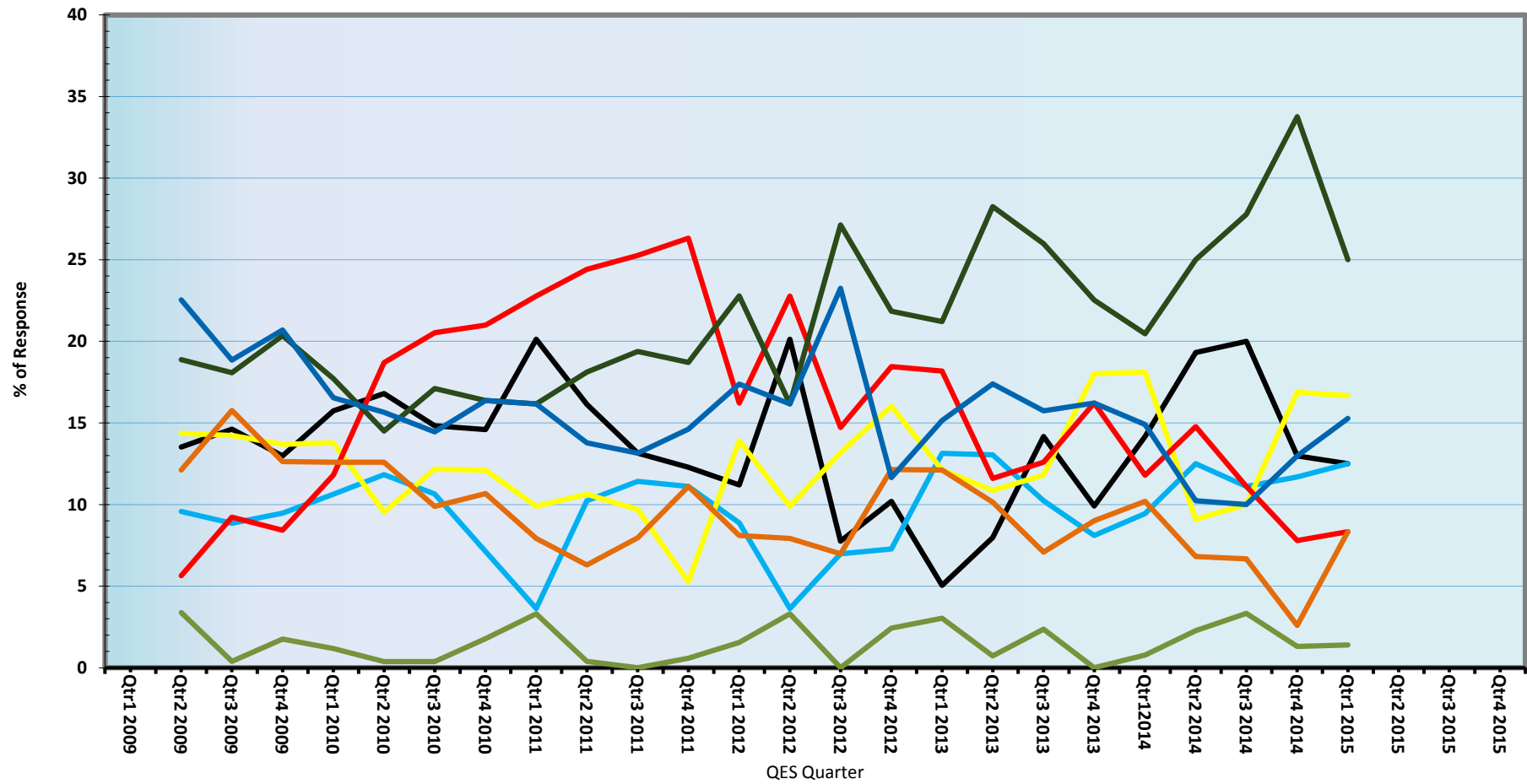
# FEAR FACTORS

## External Factors - Fear Factors

This chart depicts the most feared external factors that are felt may affect the respondents business

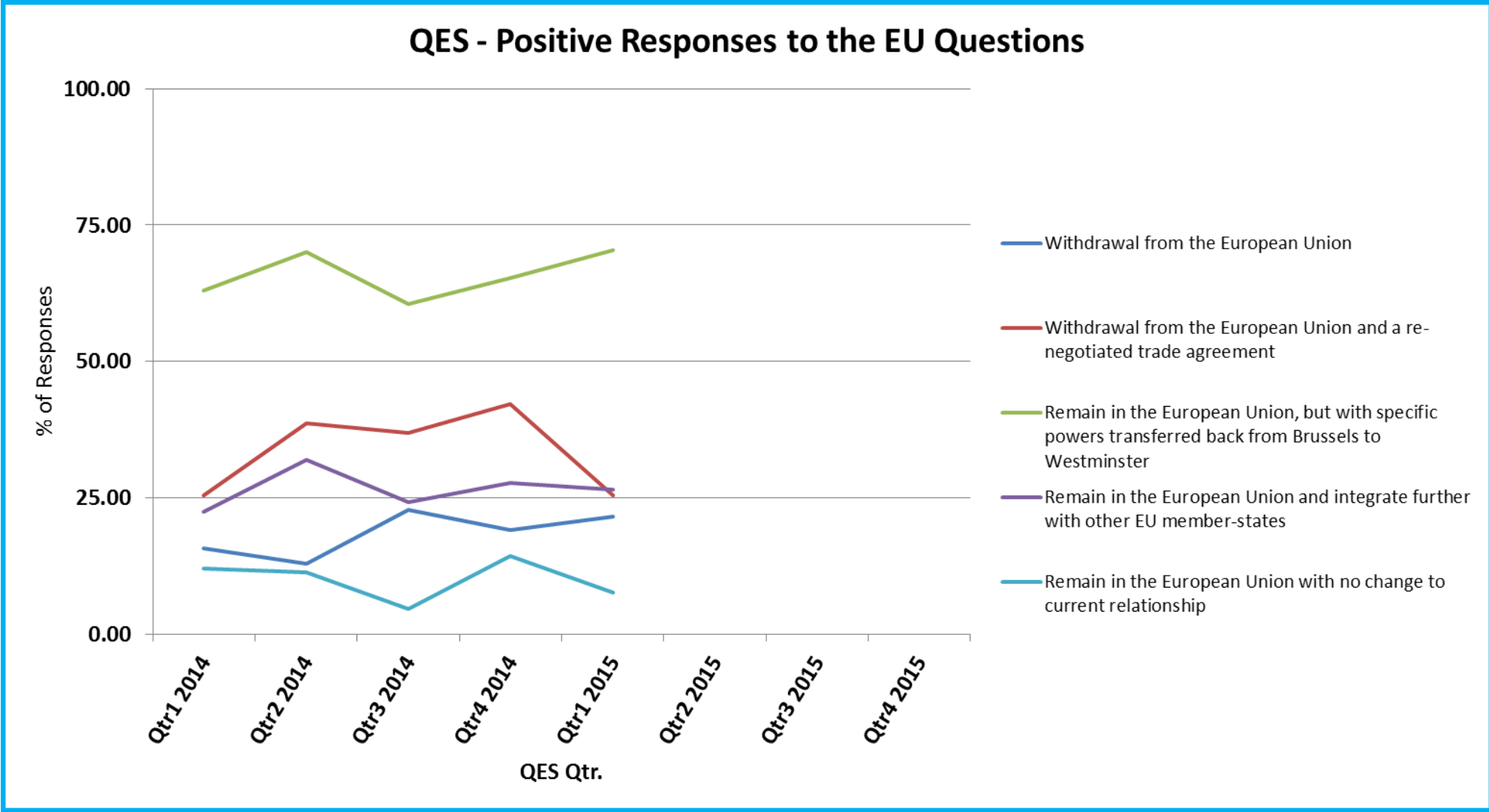


— Interest Rates — Exchange Rates — Business Rates — Inflation — Competition — Corporate Taxation — Better Industrial Relations — Improved Cash Availability





# Europe – What if ?



# Europe – The detail...

