



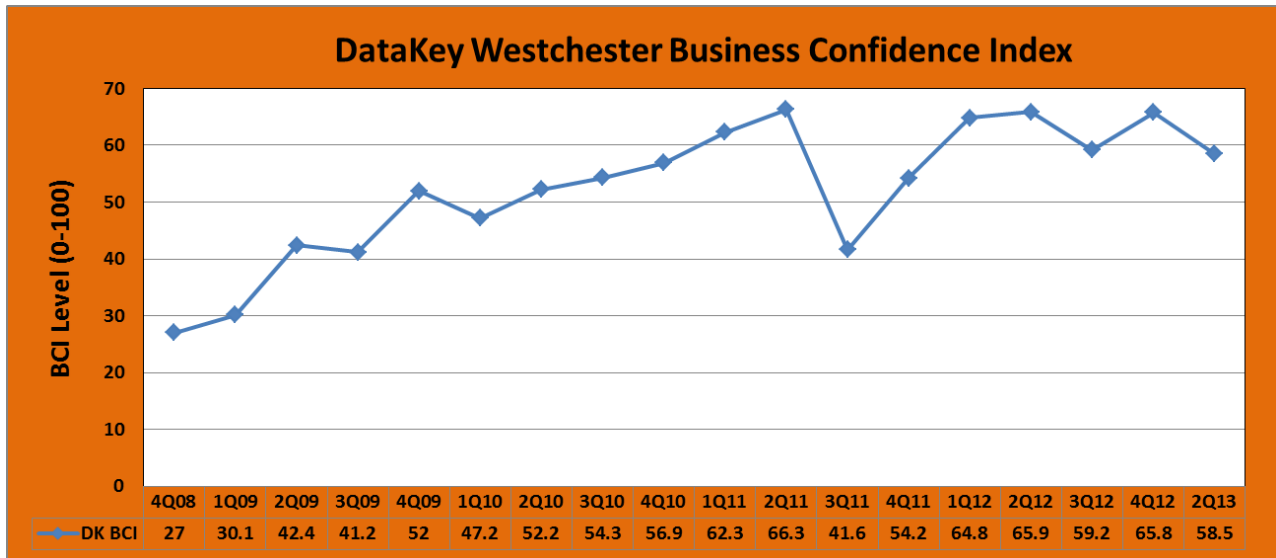
# Business Confidence Index - 2Q-2013

Prepared by DataKey Consulting, LLC

DataKey Consulting

## 2Q-2013 – Westchester Business Confidence Index Dips Slightly

The Westchester Business Confidence Index is sponsored by the Business Council of Westchester and designed/conducted by DataKey Consulting®. The Index focuses on key business metrics, such as trends in staffing levels, top line revenues, bottom line profits, capital spending budgets, and other industry performance data. Critical data was captured and analyzed against comparison points of one quarter and one year ago.



(Note: a score of 50 means an equal number of businesses are optimistic about the future as are pessimistic)

*The 2Q-2013 Westchester Business Confidence Index reading of 58.5 (on a scale of 1 to 100) indicates a decline in the outlook from the previous quarter (65.8). This quarter’s reading of 58.5 is also lower than the index (65.9) of the same quarter last year, and represents a slight decline in business outlooks.*

The Westchester unemployment rate of 6.1% in April continues to consistently run below the national (7.5%, per Bloomberg) and state (7.3%, per NYS Department of Labor) rates of unemployment, but at the time of the survey, businesses were still cautious about the near future due to concerns about the local and national political and regulatory environments. As one Business Council of Westchester member commented, *“Until state policies change, the opportunity to improve the county economic condition will continue to be limited.”*

