

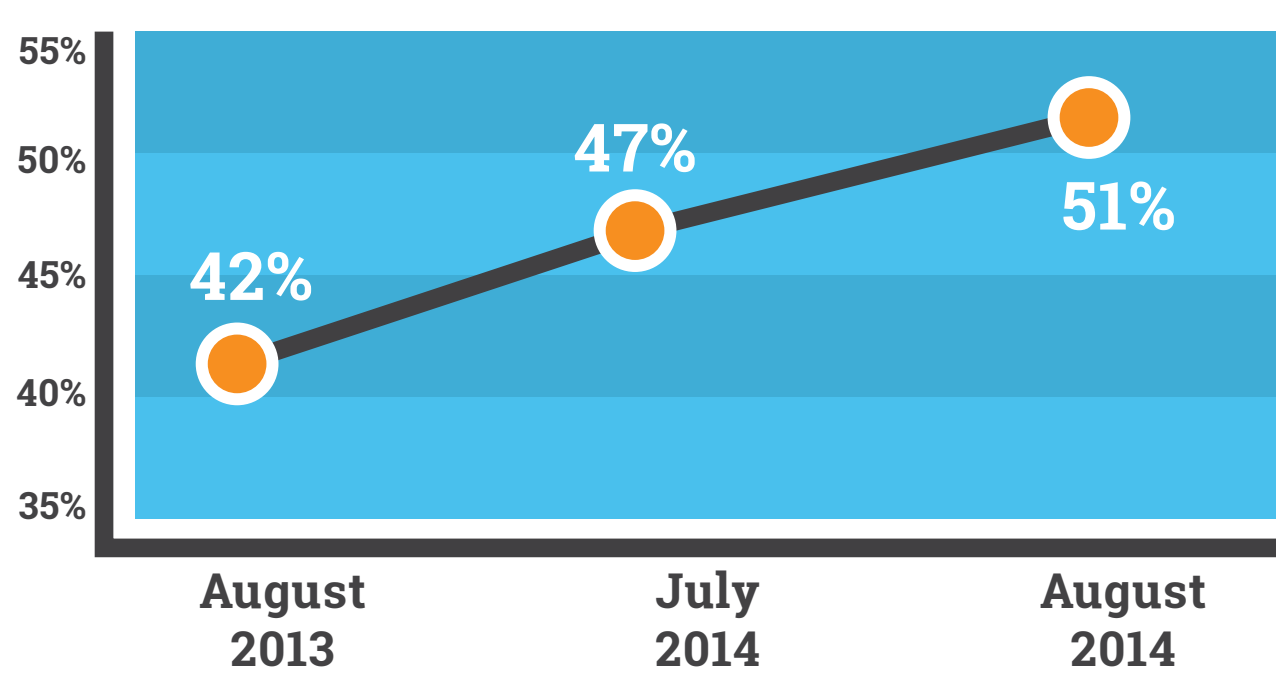
CEO Optimism Rises to Highest Levels Since January

AUGUST 2014

The WSJ/Vistage Small Business CEO Confidence Index was 109.8 in the August survey, a significant increase over July's 107.7 and last year's 104.2.

INVESTMENTS

New investments in plant and equipment were **planned by 51% of all firms in August**, up from 47% in July and 42% last August.



[Read the WSJ story](#)

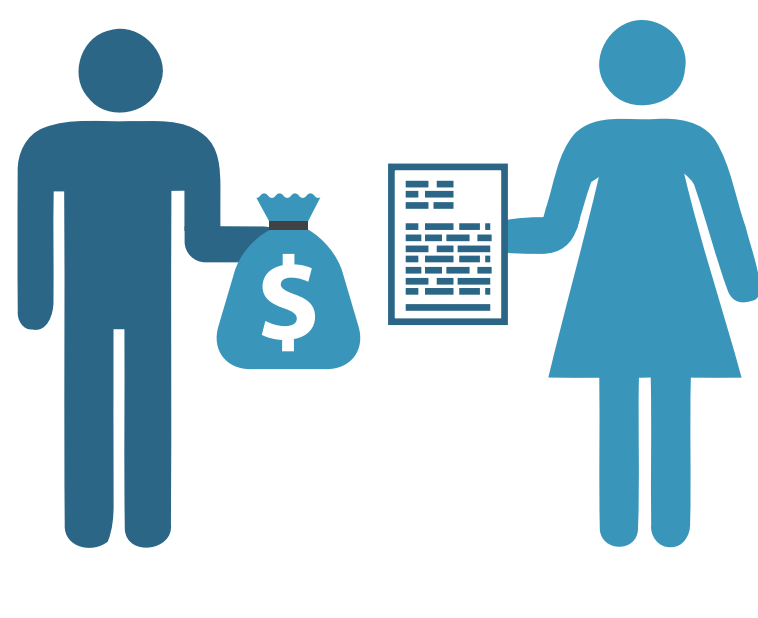


Just 8% of small firms planned cutbacks in their fixed investment expenditures, unchanged from last month and the lowest figure in two years.

“Overall, the data suggests a growing sense of confidence that the economic expansion has regained its legs, demonstrating renewed upward momentum.”

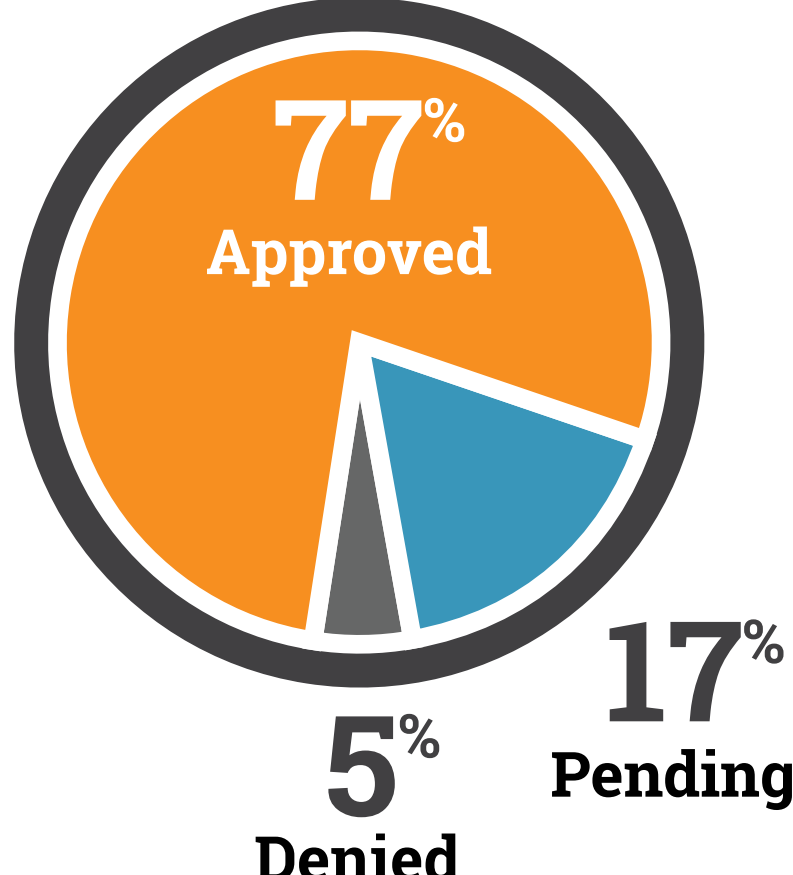
Dr. Richard Curtin, University of Michigan

CREDIT & LOANS

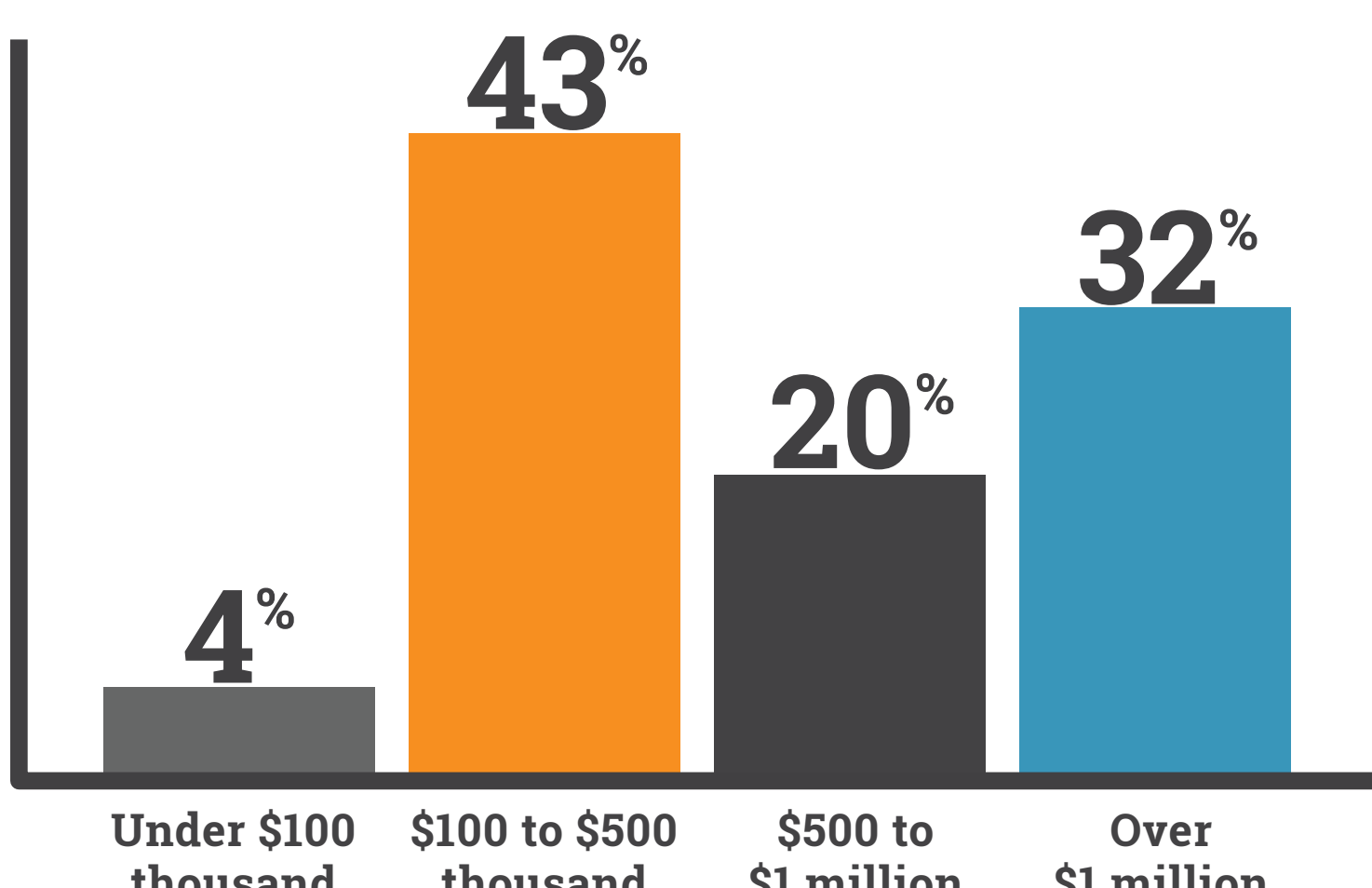


29% of CEOs said they applied for a small business loan or line of credit in the prior six months.

Among these firms, **77% reported that their loan request was approved**, 5% reported it was denied, and 17% said the application was still pending.



The amount of the requested loans were reported as:



PROFESSIONAL LICENSES

When asked if their firm required a professional license or permit, **just over half (52%)** of all small firms reported that requirement from a city, state, or federal agency.



[Read the WSJ story](#)

It ain't what you don't know that gets you into trouble.
It's what you know for sure that just ain't so.

Mark Twain

What do you think you know about your company? Who challenges your answers? What's the biggest obstacle your company faces? With your Vistage "board of advisors," you can find the solution. Vistage Members get unbiased decision-making support from a team of trusted peers along with professional coaching/mentoring face-to-face every month.

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Please contact Tim Kinane if you would like to learn more about Vistage.

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