

Supplemental Report:

Downstate Manufacturers Report Severe Disruptions from Sandy

Supplementary questions in the November 2012 *Empire State Manufacturing Survey* focused on the extent to which firms were affected by the “superstorm” Sandy. Among firms based in upstate New York, only 21 percent reported any loss of activity due to the storm—and in most cases, for no more than one day. However, 100 percent of firms in the New York City area—which also includes Long Island and the lower Hudson Valley (up to Putnam and Orange counties)—reported some reduction in activity.

Moreover, when asked how long (if at all) their business was completely shut down or severely crippled, more than 90 percent of these downstate respondents indicated at least one day, and more than 40 percent reported this status as lasting for five days or more. Businesses in Long Island, including Brooklyn and Queens, reported the most widespread and severe effects from the storm.

In a separate query, respondents were asked to identify the major factors that contributed to a

reduction in business activity. The most widely cited problems were loss of power and loss of communications—reported as major factors by more than 70 percent of downstate businesses. Among upstate respondents, the channels through which the storm hurt business—mostly to a minor extent—were the negative effects on the firms’ customers and disruptions to their supply chains. ■

Supplemental Report, *continued*

QUESTION 1

For how many days, if any, did your establishment experience . . .

	A Reduction in Business Activity		A Complete Shutdown (Business Severely Crippled)	
	Percentage of Respondents		Percentage of Respondents	
	NYC Area (Downstate)	Upstate New York	NYC Area (Downstate)	Upstate New York
None	0.0	79.0	8.3	93.5
One to four days	37.5	21.0	50.0	6.5
Five days or more	62.5	0.0	41.7	0.0
Average number of days	4.8	0.5	3.4	0.1
Median number of days	5.0	0.0	3.5	0.0

QUESTION 2

To what extent did each of the following contribute to a reduction in business activity at your firm?

	NYC Area (Downstate)			Upstate New York		
	Percentage of Respondents			Percentage of Respondents		
	Not at All	Minor Extent	Major Extent	Not at All	Minor Extent	Major Extent
Facility was damaged	64.0	36.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0
Loss of power	16.0	8.0	76.0	96.6	3.4	0.0
Loss of communications	8.0	20.0	72.0	87.9	12.1	0.0
Other infrastructure damage	68.0	24.0	8.0	98.3	1.7	0.0
Workers could not get to work	8.0	60.0	32.0	87.9	6.9	5.2
Supply chain disruptions	20.0	60.0	20.0	50.8	47.5	1.7
Our customers were negatively impacted	32.0	52.0	16.0	44.1	40.7	15.3