Economic Environment


Executives are more downbeat about the state of the global economy now than at any time this year, according to latest survey on economic conditions.

Recent turmoil in global markets has fueled concern over the strength of respondents’ home economies — and of the world economy, too. At the same time, executives cite volatile economic conditions and exchange rates as emerging threats to both domestic and global growth in the short term.

A majority predict that oil prices will stay low in the next year, which could potentially spur future growth. It's unclear, though, how much a growth spurt from oil prices could offset the economic risks posed by increased volatility.

Executives in emerging markets are particularly concerned with volatility at home — especially in China, where four-fifths of respondents say their economy has worsened in the past six months. Across regions, the domestic and global economic outlook for the coming months is more tempered. The same is true of expectations for China’s economy, which most respondents believe will meet (or come close to) the Chinese government’s 2015 growth target of 7 percent.

Global Trends - Wine Industry Key Elements

Aldi is planning to launch online wine sales early in 2016.

The initiative will be the German discounter’s first foray into ecommerce in the UK and will be followed by a non-food selection in the spring.

The wine launch will focus on by-the-case sales and will include delivery and click and collect options.

Aldi has won awards and plaudits from wine critics and industry observers for its wine range developed by buying director Mike James.
The rise of the discounters in wine has been partly credited with forcing Tesco to revamp its wine range with fewer SKUs and suppliers.

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