

# Long Island Business News

<https://libn.com/2019/09/12/poll-ceos-split-on-impact-of-import-tariffs>



Jeffrey M. Weiner, managing partner of Marcum LLP (Photo courtesy of Marcum LLP)

## Poll: CEOs split on impact of import tariffs

By: Adina Genn September 12, 2019

When it comes to import tariffs, CEOs of midmarket companies are split on their impact on the U.S. economy.

That's according to the Marcum LLP-Hofstra University CEO Survey, released this week.

According to the poll, 60 percent of CEOs said they felt the effects of new tariffs on imports from Mexico and China.

Still seven out of 10 had a favorable view of the upcoming year.

"The nearly even dichotomy among middle-market CEOs regarding the impact of U.S trade policy and how it is affecting their businesses is remarkable, although not completely unexpected," Jeffrey Weiner, Marcum's chairman and CEO and Hofstra alum, said in a statement about the findings.

“It speaks to the underlying uncertainty business leaders are facing in a highly volatile economic environment,” he added. “The good news is that CEOs are clearly optimistic about the short-term future, even more so now than earlier in the year. It will be interesting to see how the anomaly plays out when – or if – U.S.-China trade talks resume, as was announced last week.”

According to the survey, more than 45 percent said they believe the current trade policies benefit the economy, while 41.6 percent believed them to be harmful.

And asked to assess how trade policies affected their own companies, 35.7 percent said the policies were favorable, 31.8 percent said business suffered and 27.1 percent reported no impact.

Conducted this summer, the survey included 258 c-suite executives from across the nation, in a wide range of industries. The poll’s margin of error was plus or minus 6 percent.

Dr. Andrew Forman, associate professor of marketing and director of Hofstra’s co-op MBA program, said in a statement that the affiliation with Marcum enables students the opportunity to see corporate decisions “being made in real time, through the lens of the current business environment, which provides valuable insights about the perceived impact and strategic response on the part of company leaders.”