

Profitability

Gross Profit Margin
 $Gross\ profit / Sales \times 100$
Shows gross profit as a percentage of sales. This is the profit made from buying and selling before paying expenses

40% Gross profit percentage tells the manager that 40% of the money received from customers is profit, but the business still must deduct expenses

A decreasing ratio means that selling price is falling or cost of making/buying is increasing
Can be corrected by increasing the selling price or buying from a cheaper supplier

Shows how successful management was in making profit for the business
100,000 profit for a company with two employees
100,000 profit for a company with 300 employees

Net Profit
 $Net\ Profit / Sales \times 100$
Net profit as a percentage of sales
Profit made after payment of expenses

40% net profit percentage tells the manager that 40% of the money received from customers is profit to keep

A decreasing ratio suggests that expenses are increasing
Can be corrected by cutting overtime or other business expenses

Return on Capital Employed
 $Net\ Profit / capital\ employed \times 100$
%
Shows return on total amount of money invested in the business

E.g., ROCE = 10 %. For every 1 invested in the business , the business made 10 back

Importance
A decreasing ratio means that mangers are not as good at turning business resources into profit
Increasing net profit or reducing capital employed or hiring more efficient managers
Should be compared with return from risk-free investments from financial institutions.

Capital employed = ordinary share capital + retained earnings + long- term loans + preference shares (if any)