

Business Outlook Survey of Mykolaiv Oblast^{*}

Q2 2025



^{*} This survey only reflects the opinions of respondents in Mykolaiv oblast (top managers of companies) who were polled in Q2 2025, and does not represent NBU forecasts or estimates.

A survey of companies carried out in **Mykolaiv oblast** in Q2 2025 showed that, despite the war, qualified staff shortages and a lack of working assets, respondents expected a rise in the output of Ukrainian goods and services. Respondents also downgraded their expectations for the performance of their companies over the next 12 months. Inflation was expected to decelerate. Depreciation expectations had weakened somewhat, but still remained strong.

The top managers of companies said they expected that over the next 12 months:

- the output of Ukrainian goods and services would rise: the balance of expectations was 21.4%, compared to 0.0% in Q1 2025 (Figure 1) and 9.2% overall, across Ukraine
- prices for consumer goods and services would rise at a slower pace: 57.1% of respondents (compared to 71.4% in Q1 2025) expected the inflation rate to be higher than 10.0%, the figure across Ukraine being 58.4%. Respondents referred to military actions and their consequences, production costs, the hryvnia exchange rate and household income (the impact of this factor was reported to have increased significantly compared to the previous survey) as the main inflation drivers (Figure 2)
- the hryvnia would depreciate: 85.7% of respondents (92.9% in the previous quarter) expected the hryvnia to weaken against the US dollar, the figure across Ukraine being 83.4%
- the financial and economic standings of their companies would deteriorate: the balance of expectations was (-7.1%), compared to (-14.3%) in Q1 2025 (see Table) and 2.4% across Ukraine
- total sales and external sales would increase: the balances of responses were 28.6% for each, compared to 14.3% and (-20.0%) respectively in the previous quarter (see Table). The balances of responses across Ukraine were 10.5% and 9.4% respectively
- investment in construction and in machinery, equipment, and tools would drop: the balances of responses were (-36.4%) and (-21.4%) respectively, compared to (-41.7%) and (-14.3%) in Q1 2025 (see Table). Across Ukraine, the balances of responses were (-0.7%) and 7.8% respectively
- staff numbers at their companies would decrease: the balance of responses was (-28.6%) (these were among the dimmest expectations across the regions), compared to (-35.7%) in Q1 2025 (Figure 4). Overall, across Ukraine the balance of responses was (-4.4%)
- purchase and selling prices would rise at a fast pace: the balances of responses were 92.9% and 85.7%, compared to 92.3% and 92.9% in the previous quarter (Figure 6). High energy prices, raw material and supplies prices and wage costs (the impact of this driver was reported to have increased) were cited as the main selling price drivers. The impact of logistical problems was reported to have increased compared to the previous survey (Figure 7)
- wage costs per staff member would grow: the balance of responses was 28.6%, compared to 30.8% in Q1 2025. Meanwhile, per-unit production costs were expected to rise more slowly: the balance of responses was 7.1%, down from 69.2% in the previous quarter (Figure 4, 6).

Respondents referred to military actions and their consequences (mentioned by 92.9% of those surveyed), qualified staff shortages and a lack of working assets as the main drags on the ability of their companies to boost production. The impact of raw material and supplies prices was reported to have increased compared to the previous quarter (Figure 5).

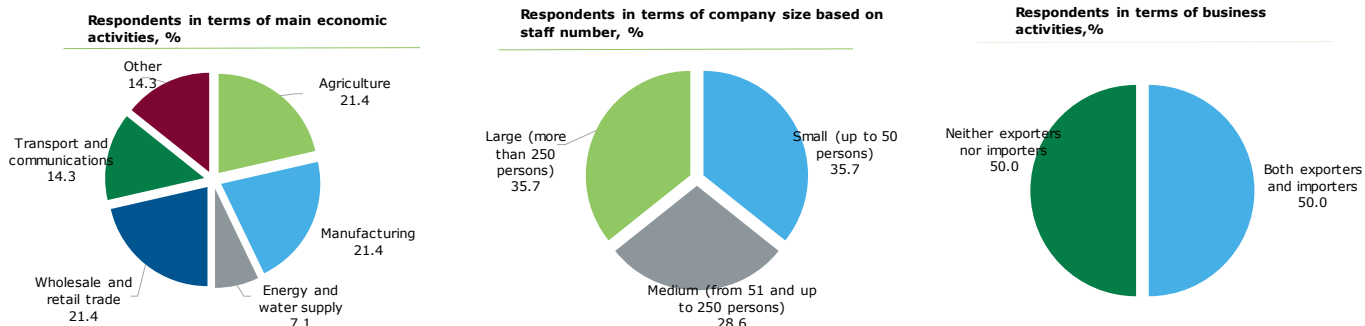
Respondents said that their borrowing needs would increase in the near future (Figure 8). The respondents who planned to take out bank loans (57.1% of those surveyed) usually opted for domestic currency loans. Respondents said that lending conditions had tightened (Figure 9). High loan rates, collateral requirement and the availability of other funding sources were cited as the major factors deterring companies from taking out loans (Figure 10).

All of the respondents said that they had encountered no difficulties in effecting transactions with funds deposited in bank accounts (96.2% across Ukraine).

Assessments of financial and economic standings as of the time of the survey (Figure 3)

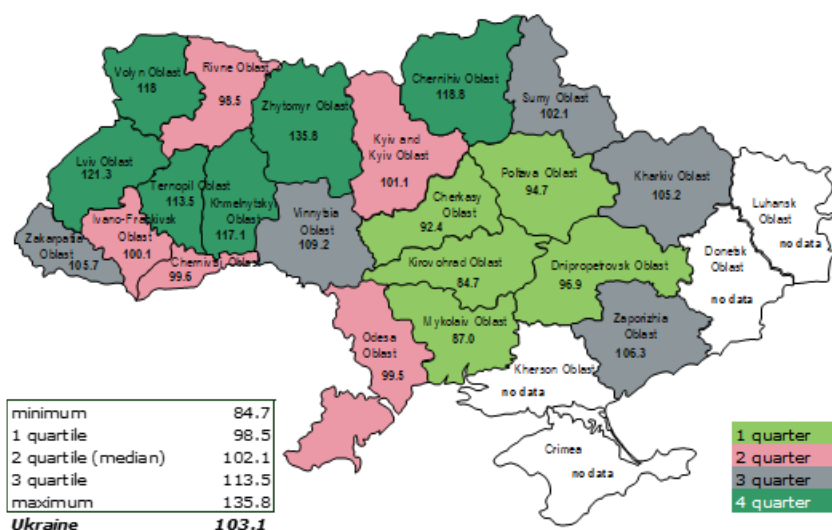
- Companies' current financial and economic standings had deteriorated and were assessed as bad: the balance of responses was (-7.1%), compared to 0.0% in the previous quarter, the figure across Ukraine being (-5.3%).
- Finished goods stocks were assessed at lower than normal levels: the balance of responses was (-25.0%), down from (-11.1%) in Q1 2025.
- Companies had a sufficient amount of unutilized production capacity to meet any unexpected rise in demand: the balance of responses was 7.1%, compared to 14.3% in the previous quarter.

Survey Details^{1,2}



- Period: 30 April through 26 May 2025.
- A total of 14 companies were polled.
- No economic activity was able to generate a representative sample.

Business Outlook Index for Next 12 Months in Terms of Oblasts³, %



*a quartile is the value of the BOI where an ordered sample is divided into four equal-sized subgroups

**a median is the value of the BOI in the middle of an ordered sample where the sample is divided into two equal-sized subgroups

Table. The Business Outlook Index of Companies in Mykolaiv Oblast and Its Components

Expectations over next 12 months for	Balances of responses, %				
	Q2 24	Q3 24	Q4 24	Q1 25	Q2 25
Financial and economic standings	-6.3	-6.3	0.0	-14.3	-7.1
Total sales	-18.8	0.0	6.7	14.3	28.6
Investment in construction	-25.0	-33.3	-46.2	-41.7	-36.4
Investment in machinery, equipment, and tools	-25.0	-25.0	-20.0	-14.3	-21.4
Staff numbers	-33.3	-18.8	-13.3	-35.7	-28.6

¹ This sample was generated in proportion to the contribution of each region and each economic activity to Ukraine's gross value added.

² Data for totals and components may be subject to rounding effects.

³ The business outlook index (BOI) is an aggregate indicator for expected business performance over the next 12 months. It is calculated using the balances of respondents' responses regarding changes in the financial and economic standings of their companies and future economic activity.

Figure 1

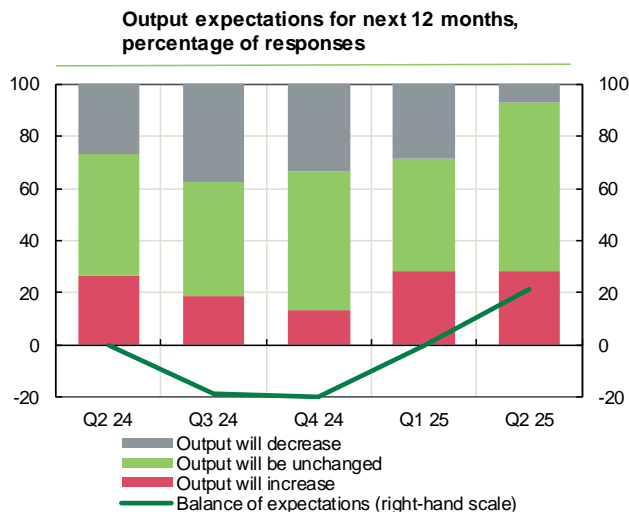


Figure 2

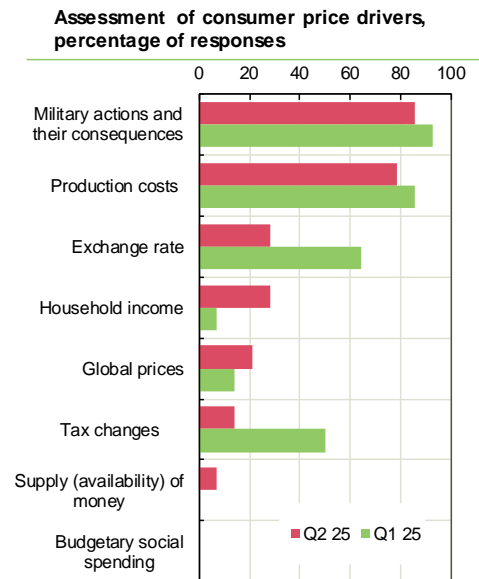


Figure 3

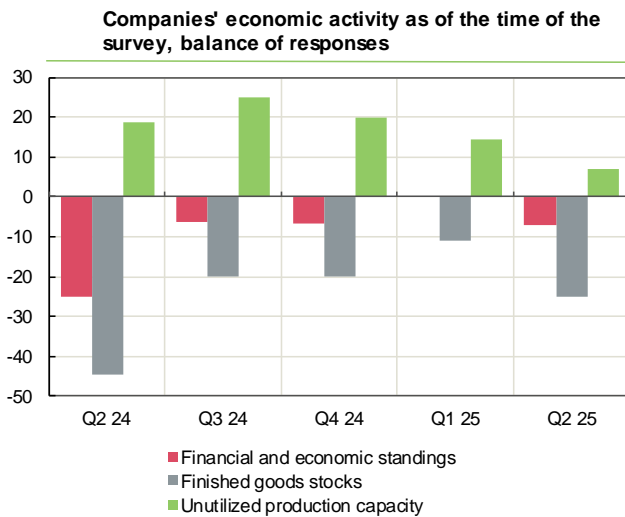


Figure 4



Figure 5

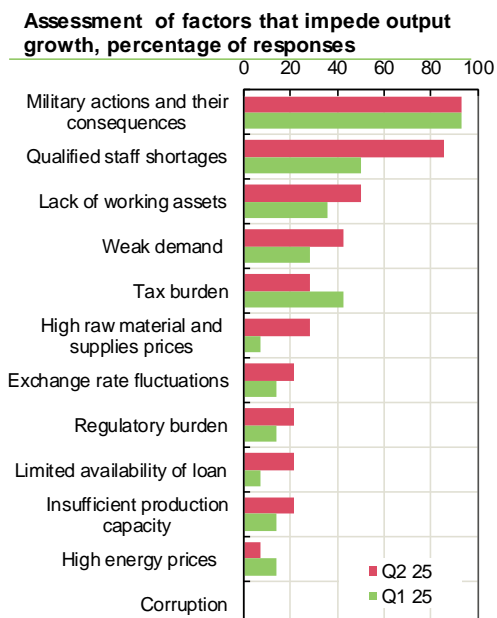


Figure 6

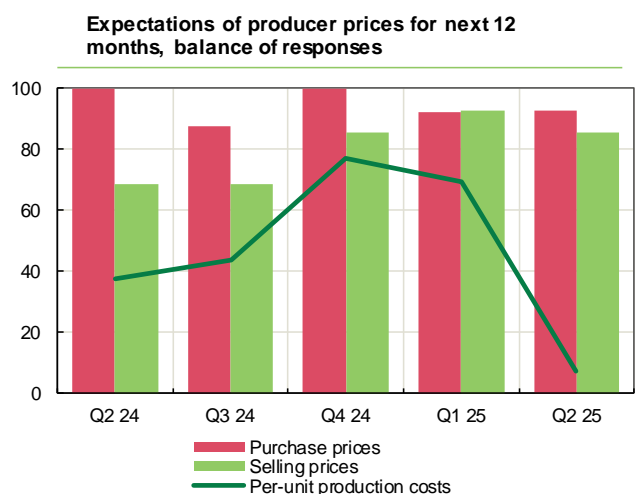


Figure 7

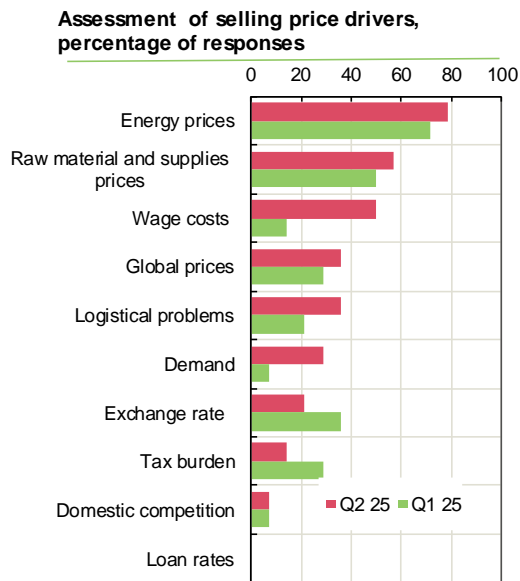


Figure 8

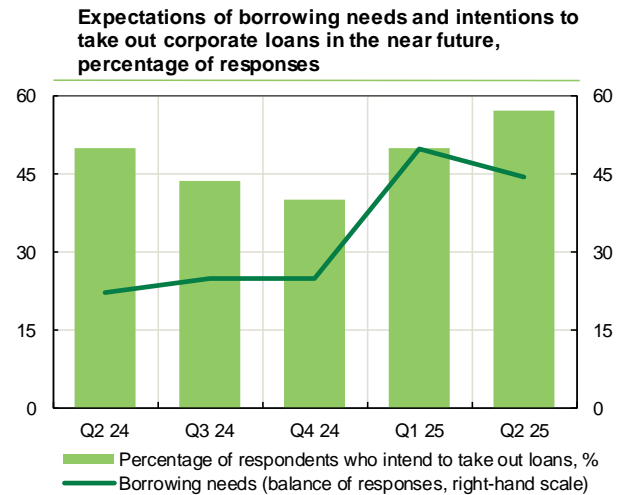


Figure 9

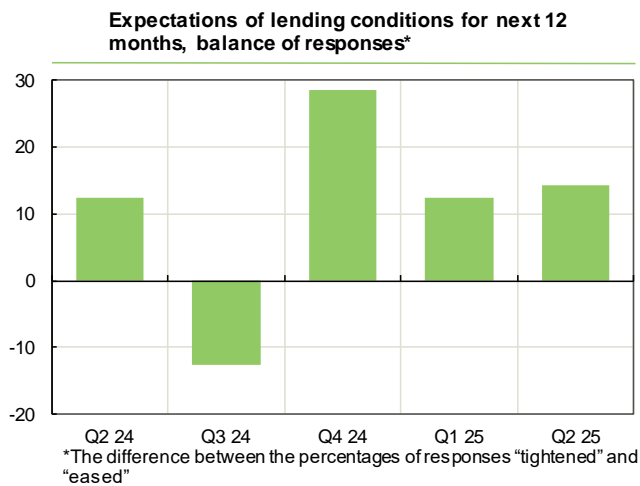


Figure 10

