

# Business Outlook Survey of Mykolaiv Oblast\*

Q3 2025



\* This survey only reflects the opinions of respondents in Mykolaiv oblast (top managers of companies) who were polled in Q3 2025, and does not represent NBU forecasts or estimates.

A survey of companies carried out in **Mykolaiv oblast** in Q3 2025 showed that, on the back of the war, qualified staff shortages and weak demand, respondents expected a drop in the output of Ukrainian goods and services. In spite of that, respondents had positive expectations for the performance of their companies over the next 12 months. Inflation was expected to decelerate. Depreciation expectations remained strong.

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

- the output of Ukrainian goods and services would drop: the balance of expectations was (-12.5%), compared to 21.4% in Q2 2025 (Figure 1) and 6.1% across Ukraine
- prices for consumer goods and services would rise at a slower pace: 50.0% of respondents (compared to 57.1% in Q2 2025) expected the inflation rate to be higher than 10.0%, the figure across Ukraine being 57.9%. Respondents referred to military actions and their consequences, production costs, and the hryvnia exchange rate as the main inflation drivers (Figure 2)
- the hryvnia would depreciate: 93.8% of respondents (85.7% in the previous quarter) expected the hryvnia to weaken against the US dollar, the figure across Ukraine being 83.9%
- the financial and economic standings of their companies would improve: the balance of expectations was 6.3%, compared to (-7.1%) in Q2 2025 (see Table) and 1.7% across Ukraine
- total sales would decrease: the balance of responses was (-6.3%), down from 28.6% in the previous quarter. Meanwhile respondents expected that external sales would rise: the balance of responses 28.6%, as in Q2 2025 (see Table). The balances of responses across Ukraine were 11.0% and 16.1% respectively
- investment in construction and in machinery, equipment, and tools would drop at a faster pace: the balances of responses were (-40.0%) and (-46.7%) respectively, compared to (-36.4%) and (-21.4%) in Q2 2025 (see Table). Across Ukraine, the balances of responses were 0.0% and 4.3% respectively
- staff numbers at their companies would decrease: the balance of responses was (-21.4%) (these were the dimmest expectations across the regions), compared to (-28.6%) in Q2 2025 (Figure 4). Overall, across Ukraine the balance of responses was (-4.4%)
- purchase and selling prices would rise at a slower pace: the balances of responses were 81.3% and 56.3%, compared to 92.9% and 85.7% in the previous quarter (Figure 6). High energy prices, raw material and supplies prices and weak demand (the impact of this driver was reported to have increased noticeably) 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 31.3%, compared to 28.6% in Q2 2025. Meanwhile, per-unit production costs were expected to rise more quickly: the balance of responses was 40.0%, up from 7.1% in the previous quarter (Figure 4, 6).

Respondents referred to military actions and their consequences, qualified staff shortages and weak demand as the main drags on the ability of their companies to boost production. The impact of energy prices was reported to have increased compared to the previous quarter (Figure 5).

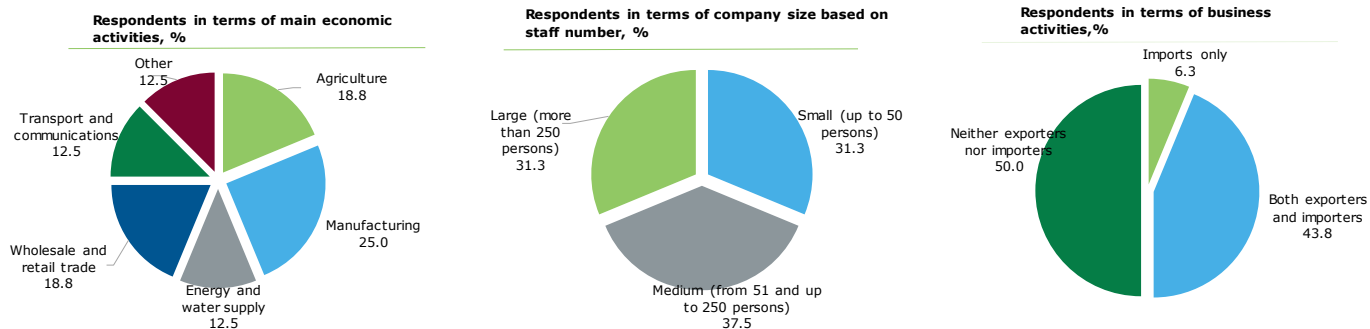
Respondents said that their borrowing needs would increase in the near future (Figure 8). The respondents who planned to take out bank loans (37.5% of those surveyed) usually opted for domestic currency loans. Respondents said that lending conditions had tightened (Figure 9). High loan rates, collateral requirement and the availability of other funding sources were cited as the major factors deterring companies from taking out loans (Figure 10).

93.8% of the respondents said that they had encountered no difficulties in effecting transactions with funds deposited in bank accounts (96.1% across Ukraine).

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

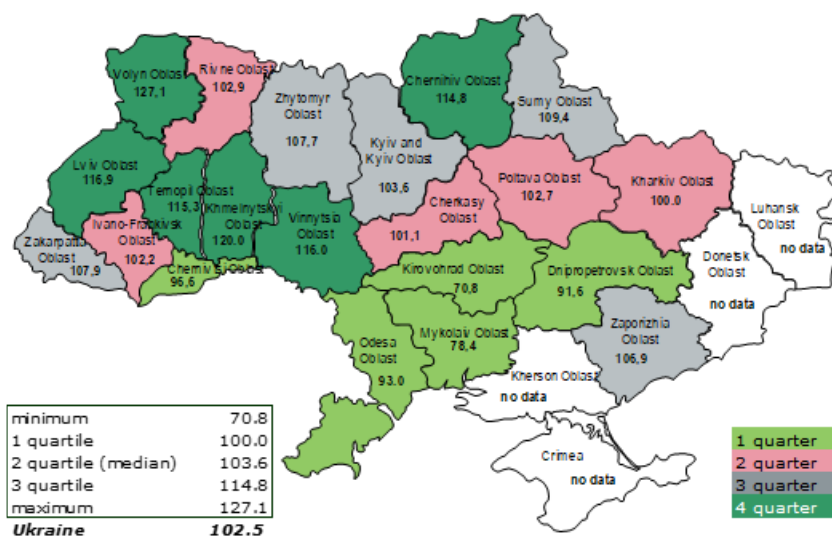
- Companies assesses their current financial and economic standings as satisfactory: the balance of responses was 0.0%, compared to (-7.1%) in the previous quarter, the figure across Ukraine being (-4.5%).
- Finished goods stocks had increased and were assessed at higher than normal levels: the balance of responses was 14.3%, up from (-25.0%) in Q2 2025.
- Companies said they would need additional capacity to meet any unexpected rise in demand: the balance of responses was (-18.8%), compared to 7.1% in the previous quarter.

### Survey Details<sup>1,2</sup>



- Period: 4 August through 27 August 2025.
- A total of 16 companies were polled.
- A representative sample was generated on the basis of the manufacturing industry.

### Business Outlook Index for Next 12 Months in Terms of Oblasts<sup>3</sup>, %



\*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, %				
	Q3 24	Q4 24	Q1 25	Q2 25	Q3 25
Financial and economic standings	-6.3	0.0	-14.3	-7.1	6.3
Total sales	0.0	6.7	14.3	28.6	-6.3
Investment in construction	-33.3	-46.2	-41.7	-36.4	-40.0
Investment in machinery, equipment, and tools	-25.0	-20.0	-14.3	-21.4	-46.7
Staff numbers	-18.8	-13.3	-35.7	-28.6	-21.4

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

<sup>2</sup> Data for totals and components may be subject to rounding effects.

<sup>3</sup> 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

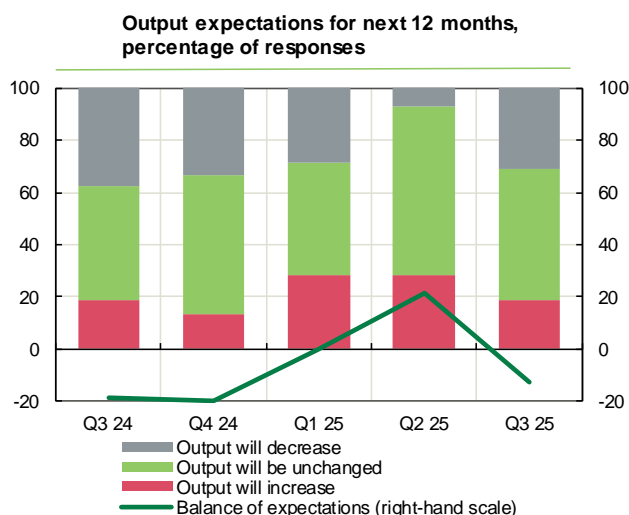


Figure 2

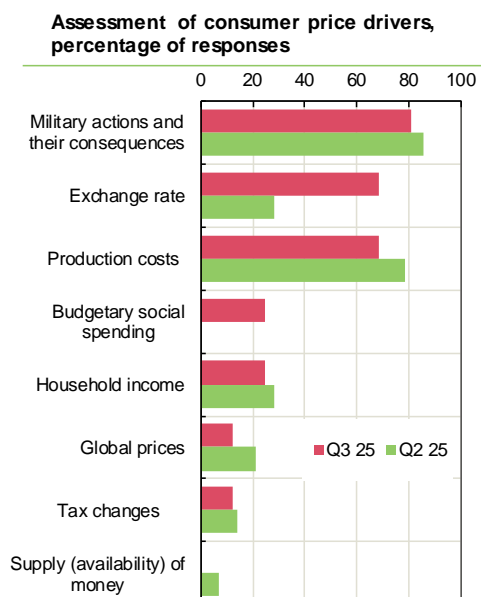


Figure 3

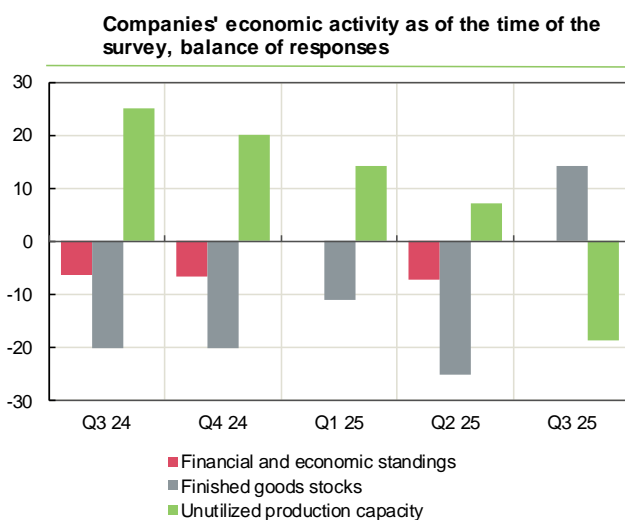


Figure 4



Figure 5

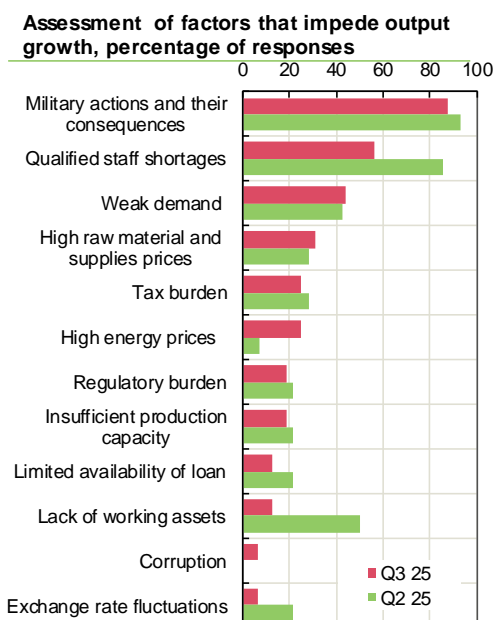


Figure 6

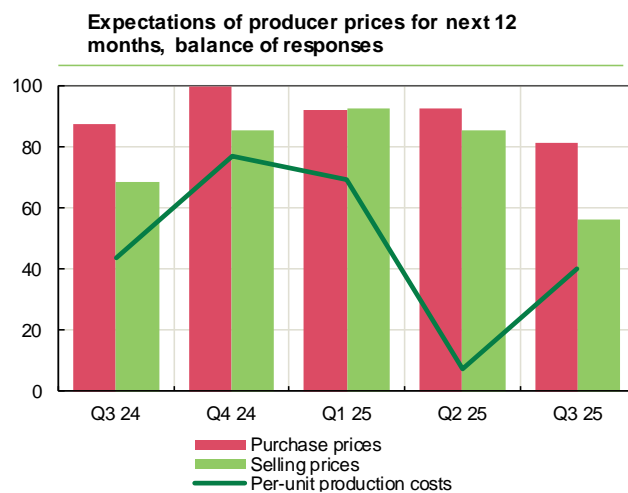


Figure 7

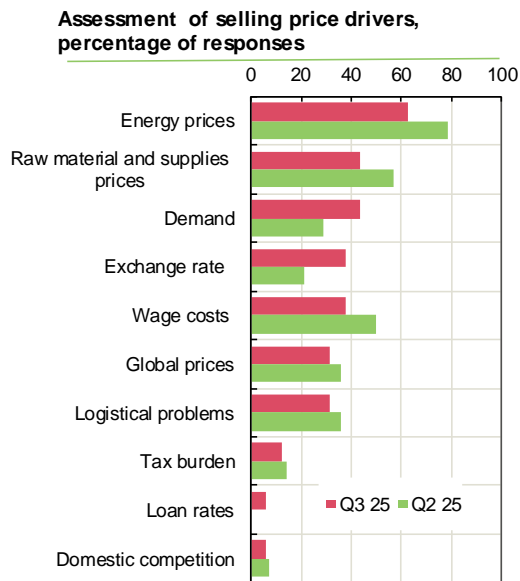


Figure 8

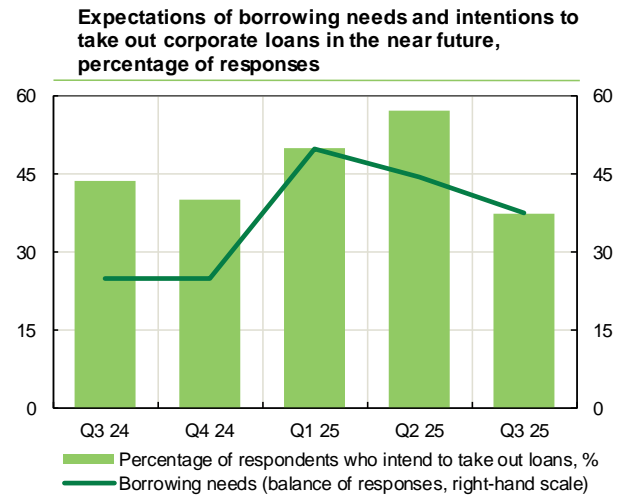


Figure 9

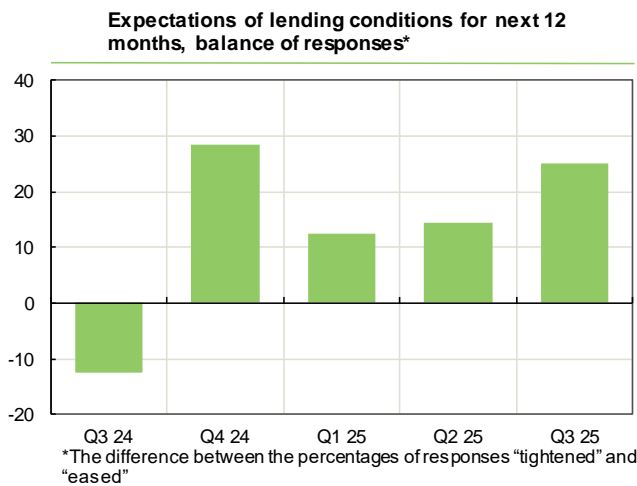


Figure 10

