European Investment Bank

Greece

Overview

EIB INVESTMENT SURVEY

2022

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European
Investment Bank

EIB Investment Survey Country Overview 2022: Greece

About the EIB Investment Survey (EIBIS)
The EIB Group Survey on Investment, which has been administered since 2016, is a unique, annual survey of some 13 000 firms. It covers firms in all European Union Member States and also includes a sample of firms in the United States.

The survey collects data on firm characteristics and performance, past investment activities and future plans, sources of finance, financing issues and other challenges that businesses face, such as climate change and digital transformation. The EIBIS, which uses a stratified sampling methodology, is representative across all 27 EU Members States and the United States, as well as across four classes of firm size (micro to large) and four main economic sectors (manufacturing, construction, services and infrastructure). The survey is designed to build a panel of observations, supporting the analysis of time-series data. Observations can also be linked back to data on firm balance sheets and profit and loss statements. The EIBIS was developed by the EIB Economics Department. It is managed by the department with the support of Ipsos MORI.

About this publication
These reports provide an overview of data collected for the 27 EU Member States and the United States. They are intended to provide a snapshot of the data. For the purpose of these publications, data are weighted by value-added to better reflect the contribution of different firms to economic output. Contact: eibis@eib.org.

Download the findings of the EIB Investment Survey for each EU country or explore the data portal at www.eib.org/eibis.

About the Economics Department of the EIB
The mission of the EIB Economics Department is to provide economic analyses and studies to support the Bank in its operations and in the definition of its positioning, strategy and policy. The department and its team of 40 economists is headed by Debora Revoltella, director of economics.

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EIBIS 2022 – Greece Overview

KEY RESULTS

Investment Dynamics and Focus
EIBIS 2022 shows that on average, at the time of interviews (April-July 2022), Greek firms were exiting from COVID-19 in a relatively decent shape and with an, on balance, positive outlook.

The proportion of Greek firms that report to have carried out investments in 2021 is similar to the one from previous years, with only sight decrease since EIBIS 2019. Regarding their future investments, more firms plan to increase rather than decrease investment (net balance of 28%), which is higher than last year (10%) and slight higher than the EU average (20%).

Investment Needs and Priorities
Overall, Greek firms do not perceive major investment gaps and 62% consider their investments over the past three years as optimal. However, Greek firms are more likely than the EU average to think they have underinvested (24% versus 14% EU). Looking ahead to the next three years, capacity expansion is the most frequently cited investment priority by Greek firms (34%).

Covid-19 Impact
The pandemic was a major shock for Greek firms and half of them reported having been negatively impacted by it. More than half of Greek firms (57%) expected their 2022 sales to be higher than the ones registered in 2019, prior to COVID-19. This expectation is aligned with the EU average (57%).

More than half of Greek firms (63%) received some form of financial support as a response to COVID-19, which is in line with the EU overall (60%). A tenth of Greek firms continues to receive said support, which corresponds to the EU average.

Firms' Transformation, Innovation and Digitalisation
Possibly helped by the support received, 65% of Greek firms now say they have taken at least one action in response to COVID-19. This is somewhat higher than what was reported in EIBIS 2021 (56%) and in line with the EU average (63%). Greek firms have continued reacting to COVID-19 by becoming more digital (61% compared to 49% in EIBIS 2021) and developing new products, services or processes (31% versus 22% in the previous EIBIS).

Overall, 60% of Greek firms are using at least one advanced digital technology, which is slightly below the EU average (69%), while 25% of Greek firms developed or introduced new products, processes or services as part of their investment activities.

International Trade
Most Greek firms (80%) are facing international trade disruptions and, not surprisingly, exporters and importers are even more affected (85%). The latter is close to the proportion of firms affected in the EU overall (87%). The proportion of firms that reports to be taking actions to mitigate the impact of the international trade disruptions is lower in Greece (39%) than in the EU on average (57%).

Almost three quarters of Greek firms (73%) report that they are impacted by either the Russia-Ukraine conflict or COVID-19 or both shocks.

EIBIS 2022 – Greece Overview

Drivers and Constraints

After last year's general improvement in sentiment, Greek firms are now more pessimistic about the investment conditions they will face in the year ahead. Economic climate expectations have turned negative again in net terms (declining from +48% to -18%) as have political or regulatory climate expectations (declining from +32% to -7%).

The most frequently mentioned long-term barriers to investment in Greece are uncertainty about the future (97%) and energy costs (96%), which are both higher than in EIBIS 2021 (91% and 81% respectively).

Investment Finance

The share of financially constrained firms in Greece (16.0%) remains unchanged since EIBIS 2021 and is higher than the EU average (6.2%). Internal finance accounts for a larger share of investment finance among Greek firms than in the EU overall (75% versus EU 65%). Out of the Greek firms that carried out investments in the previous financial year, 41% financed at least some of their investment through external finance, which is similar to the findings of EIBIS 2021 (48%) and to the EU average (45%).

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency

Around half of Greek firms (55%) report that weather events have an impact on their business, which is in line with EIBIS 2021 (59%) and the EU average (57%). Less than half of those firms (17% of the total) considers that said events have a major impact. Similar to the EU average, 31% of Greek firms have already developed or invested in measures to build resilience to the physical risks to their firm caused by climate change.

The proportion of Greek firms that considers the transition to stricter climate standards and regulations as a risk is similar to the one that considers it as an opportunity (20% compared to 18%). 59% of Greek firms are taking actions to reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, which is below the EU average (88%).

Greek firms are less likely than those across the EU to have invested in tackling the impacts of weather events and reducing carbon emissions (27% versus 53%) or to have plans to invest in these areas in the next three years (24% versus 51%). The share of Greek firms investing to improve their energy efficiency in 2021 (25%) is also below the EU average (40%). 30% of Greek firms report that they set and monitor targets for their own Greenhouse Gas emissions, which stands below the EU average (41%).

Firm Management, Gender Balance and Employment

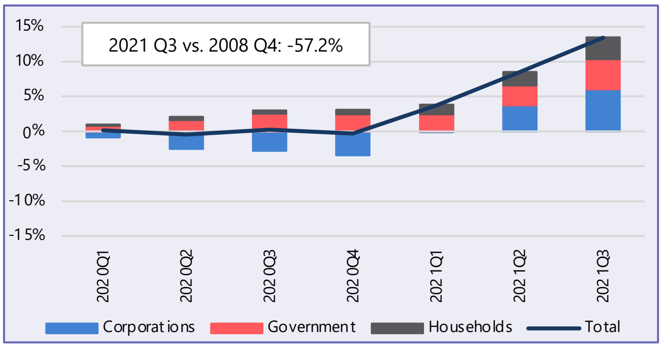
More than half of Greek firms (58%) use a strategic monitoring system that compares the firm's current performance against a series of key performance indicators. This is close to the EU average (51%). Eight in ten Greek firms (82%) are striving for gender balance within their business, which is higher than the EU overall (58%).

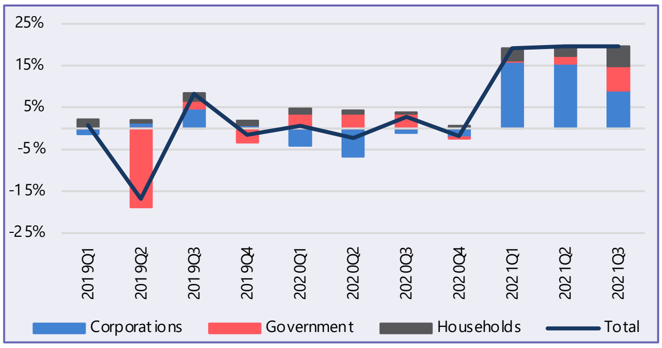
Around a third (34%) of Greek firms have increased their number of employees since 2019. This is in line with the EU average (38%).

Investment dynamics and focus

INVESTMENT DYNAMICS BY INSTITUTIONAL SECTOR

- During the first year of the pandemic, aggregate investment levels fluctuated closely around the pre-pandemic level, mainly because greater government investment compensated for the fall in corporate investment.
- Between Q1 2021 and Q3 2021, aggregate investment levels followed an upward trajectory and Q3 2021 they were 13.4% higher than in Q4 2019.
- The increase in the aggregate investment level in 2021 was driven by the rebound in corporate investment and by increased household and government investments.

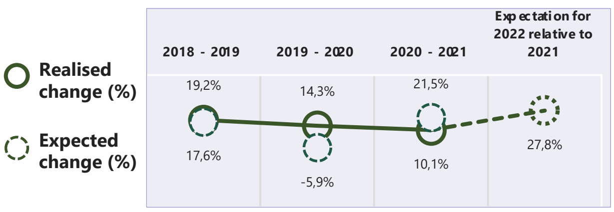




The LHS chart shows the evolution of total gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) by institutional sector, in real terms and non seasonally nor calendar adjusted. The nominal GFCF source data was transformed into four-quarter sums and deflated using the implicit deflator for total GFCF (2015=100 euro). The four-quarter sum of total GFCF in 2019Q4 is normalised to 0.
The RHS chart shows the y-o-y % change in total real GFCF by institutional sector. The implicit deflator for total GFCF (2015=100 euro) was used for deflating the nominal GFCF source data.
Source: Eurostat, authors' own calculations.

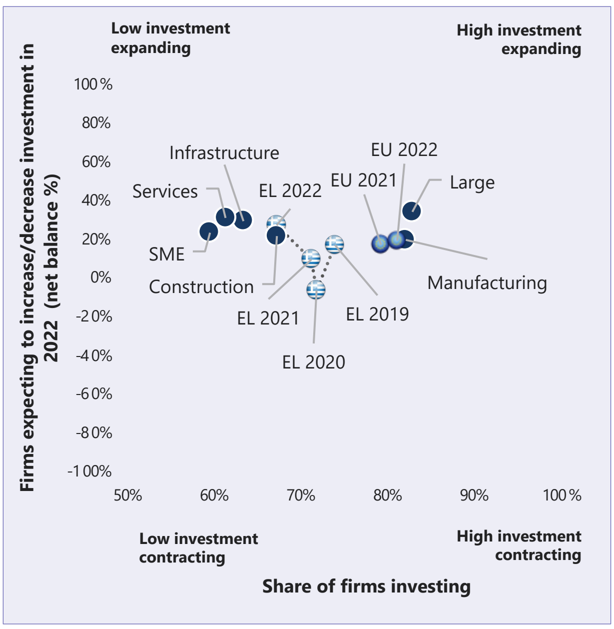
INVESTMENT CYCLE AND EVOLUTION OF INVESTMENT EXPECTATIONS

- The proportion of Greek firms that has been carrying out investments in 2021 is similar to the previous survey waves,- registering only a sight decline since EIBIS 2019.
- The balance of firms expecting to increase rather than decrease their investment (28%) is higher than the previous year (10%) and slightly greater than the EU average (20%).
- Large firms are more likely to invest than SMEs (83% versus 59%), and manufacturing firms (82%) are more likely to invest than firms in other sectors. The investment outlook is positive among different sizes and sectors.



'Realised change' is the share of firms who invested more minus those who invested less; 'Expected change' is the share of firms who expect(ed) to invest more minus those who expect(ed) to invest less.

Base for expected and realised change: All firms



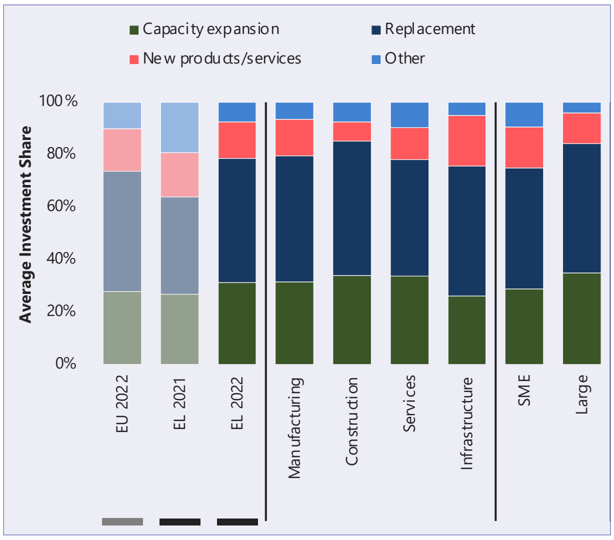
Share of firms investing shows the percentage of firms with investment per employee greater than EUR 500.

Base for share of firms investing: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)

Investment dynamics and focus

PURPOSE OF INVESTMENT IN LAST FINANCIAL YEAR (% of firms' investment)

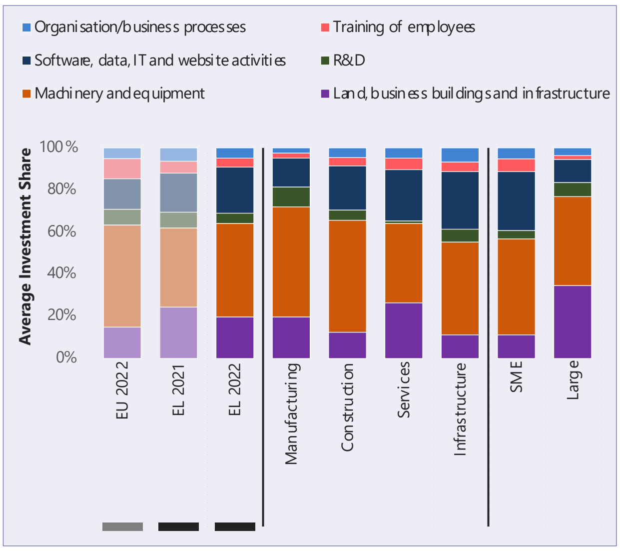
- Currently, almost half of Greek firms' investment is directed towards replacement (47%), which is more than in EIBIS 2021 (37%). The second most frequent investment (31%) goes towards capacity expansion. These numbers are in line with EU averages.
- Infrastructure firms have the highest proportion (19%) of investment in new products and services, while construction has the lowest (7%).



Q. What proportion of total investment was for (a) replacing capacity (including existing buildings, machinery, equipment, IT) (b) expanding capacity for existing products/services (c) developing or introducing new products, processes, services?

Base: All firms who have invested in the last financial year (excluding don't know/ refused responses)

INVESTMENT AREAS



- Greek firms mention machinery and equipment most frequently (44%) as an area of investment in the previous year. This is similar to the responses in the previous year (38%) and the EU average (49%).
- Around a third (36%) of Greek firms' investment was in intangible assets (R&D, software, training and business processes) in 2021. This is virtually unchanged since EIBIS 2021 (38%) and similar to the EU average (37%).
- Infrastructure firms have exhibited the highest share of investment in intangible assets (45%) in 2021, while manufacturing firms had the lowest share of investment in this area (28%).
- SMEs had a larger investment share in intangible assets than large firms (43% versus 23%); with their investment much more focused on software, data, IT and website activities than larger firms (28% versus 11%).

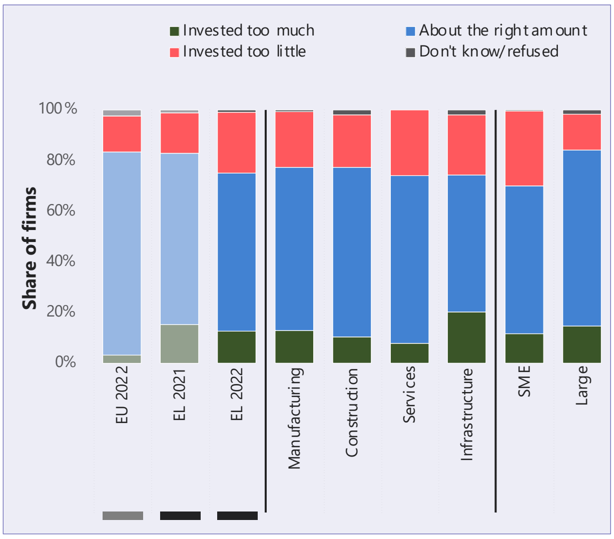
Q. In the last financial year, how much did your business invest in each of the following with the intention of maintaining or increasing your company's future earnings?

Base: All firms who have invested in the last financial year (excluding don't know/refused responses)

Investment needs and priorities

PERCEIVED INVESTMENT GAP

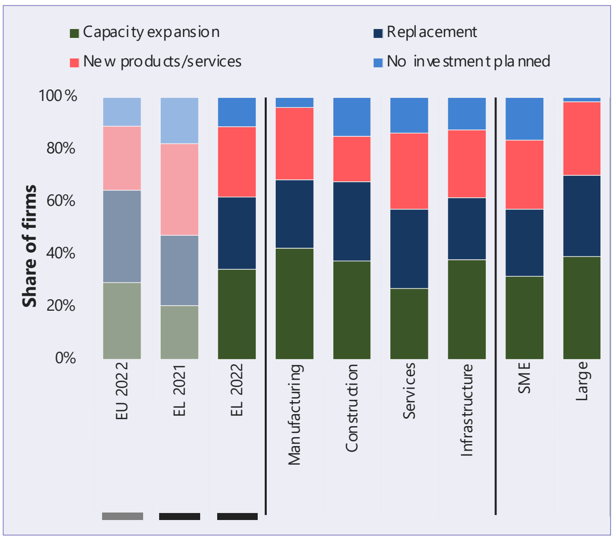
- Most Greek firms believe that they invested the right amount over the past three years (62%). This is in line with EIBIS 2021 (68%) but below the EU as a whole (80%).
- Compared to the EU average, Greek firms are more likely to say that they have invested too much (13% versus EU 3%) or too little (24% versus EU 14%).
- Infrastructure firms are most likely to say they have invested too much (20%).
- SMEs are more likely than large firms to say they have invested too little (24% versus 14%).



Q. Looking back at your investment over the last 3 years, was it too much, too little, or about the right amount?

Base: All firms (excluding 'Company didn't exist three years ago' responses)

FUTURE INVESTMENT PRIORITIES



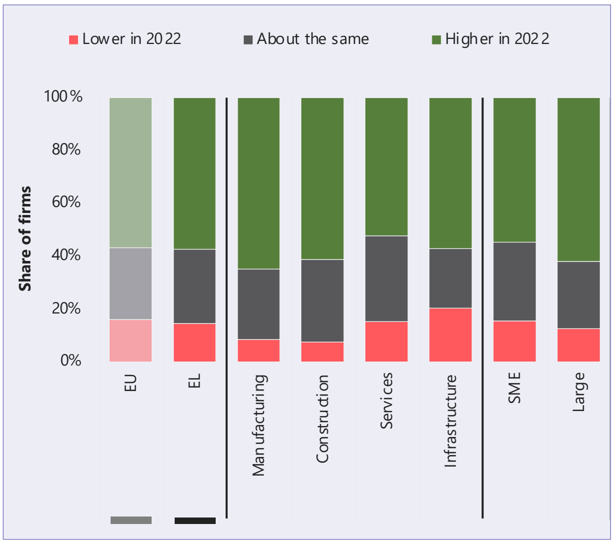
Q. Looking ahead to the next three years, which is your investment priority (a) replacing capacity (including existing buildings, machinery, equipment, IT) (b) expanding capacity for existing products/services (c) developing or introducing new products, processes, services?

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)

- Capacity expansion is named as the most frequent (34%) investment priority for the next three years by Greek firms.
- Investment priorities have changed since EIBIS 2021, capacity expansion has become more prominent (mentioned by 34% of the firms this year, compared to 21% in the previous one) and the mention of investment in new products has decreased slightly (27% versus 35%).
- Compared to the EU overall, Greek firms are somewhat more likely to prioritise capacity expansion (34% versus EU 29%) and slightly less likely to prioritise replacement (27% versus EU 35%).
- Manufacturing firms has the lowest share of firms that do not have any investment planned for the next three years (4%).
- SMEs are more likely than large firms to have no investment planned for the next three years (16% versus 2%).

Impact of COVID-19

IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON SALES OR TURNOVER BY END OF 2022 COMPARED TO 2019



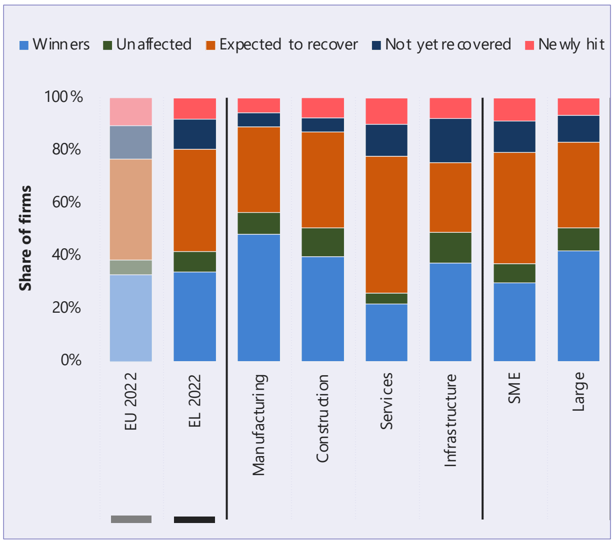
- More than half of Greek firms (57%) expected their 2022 sales to be above those registered prior to COVID-19. This is in line with overall EU share.
- Among infrastructure firms, 20% expected their sales in 2022 to be lower than in 2019. This compares to 9% of manufacturing firms and 8% of construction firms which shared this pessimistic outlook.
- SMEs and large firms were not significantly different in their expectations for sales in 2022.

Q. Compared to 2019, do you expect your sales or turnover in 2022 to be higher, lower or about the same?

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)

IMPACT ON FIRMS' SALES OR TURNOVER AND EXPECTED RECOVERY

- Half (50%) of Greek firms report having been negatively impacted by COVID-19. This is line with the EU average. Nevertheless, 39% expected to recover in 2022 by at least returning to their 2019 sales' level.
- One third of firms (34%) are COVID-19 winners (i.e. they never experienced a loss of sales or turnover due to COVID-19 and expected sales in 2022 to be higher than in 2019), while a small proportion (8%) say they were unaffected by COVID-19.
- Services firms were less likely than firms in other sectors to be 'winners' (22%) but the majority of services firms (52%) expected their sales to recover in 2022 back to, at least, their 2019 level.



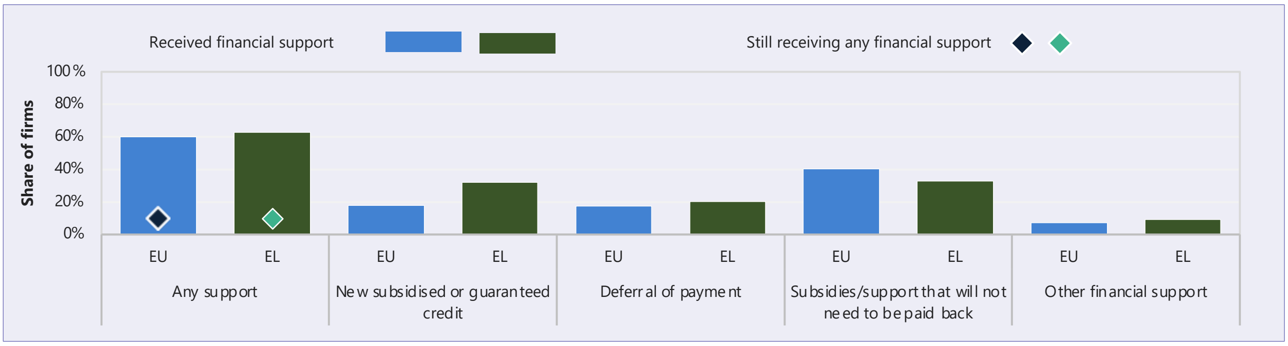
Q. Compared to 2019, before the pandemic started, did your companies sales and turnover in 2020 decline, increase or stay the same?
Q. Compared to 2020, did your companies sales and turnover in 2021 decline, increase or stay the same?
Q. Compared to 2019, do you expect your sales or turnover in 2022 to be higher, lower or about the same?

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)

Impact of COVID-19

FINANCIAL SUPPORT RECEIVED IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

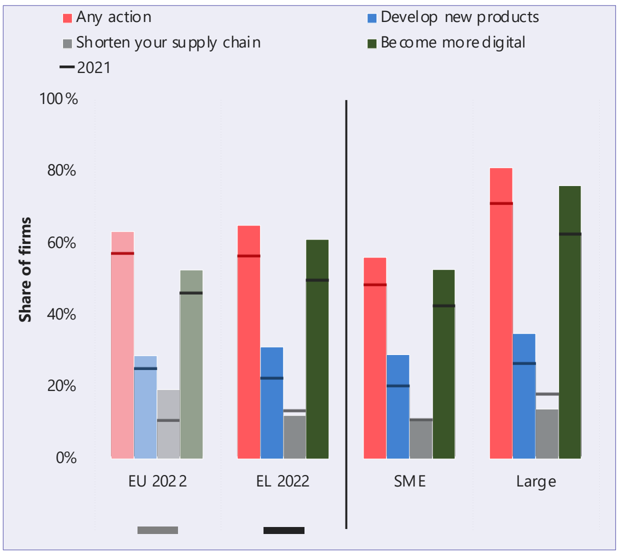
- Six in ten Greek firms (63%) received some form of financial support as a response to COVID-19, in line with the EU overall (60%).
- Greek firms that have been beneficiaries of financial support have most frequently received subsidies or support that they do not need to pay back (33%). This proportion is below the EU average of 40%. This is closely followed by receiving new subsidised or guaranteed credits (32%), proportion that is higher than the EU average (18%).
- One in ten Greek firms are still receiving financial support, which is in line with the EU average (both 10%).



Q. Since the start of the pandemic, have you received any financial support?
Q. Are you still receiving (any of) this financial support?

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)

ACTIONS AS A RESULT OF COVID-19



- Two thirds of Greek firms (65%) report having taken at least one action in response to COVID-19. This is somewhat higher than in EIBIS 2021 (56%), but in line with the EU average (63%).
- Greek firms have continued reacting to COVID-19 by becoming more digital (61% compared to 49% in EIBIS 2021) and developing new products, services or processes (31% versus 22% in the previous EIBIS).
- A higher proportion of large firms than SMEs has responded to COVID-19 with some sort of action (81% versus 56%), particularly responding by becoming more digital.

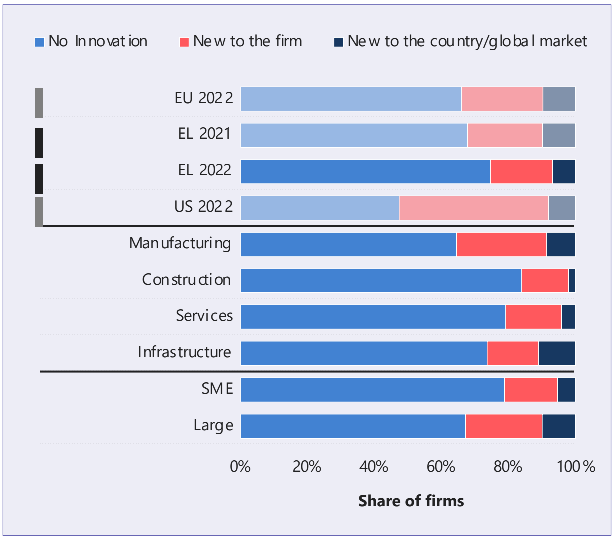
Q. As a response to the COVID-19 pandemic, have you taken any actions or made investments to…?

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)

Innovation activities

INNOVATION ACTIVITY

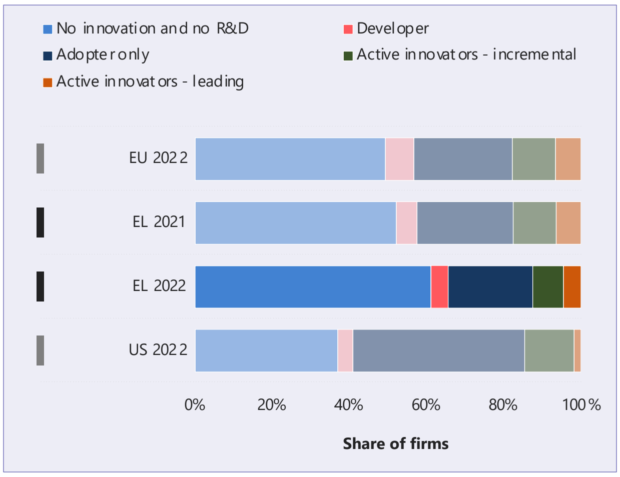
- A quarter (25%) of Greek firms developed or introduced new products, processes or services as part of their investment activities. This is below the EU average (34%) and slightly below EIBIS 2021 (32%).
- The Greek manufacturing sector has the highest proportion of innovating firms (36%). In the other sectors this proportion ranges from 16% to 26%. A greater proportion of large firms than SMEs making investments in developing or introducing new products, processes or services (33% versus 21%).
- Innovation that was new to the firm was most likely among firms in manufacturing (27%) and large firms (23%).
- Innovation that was new to the country or global market was most likely among infrastructure firms (11%) and large firms (10%).



Q. What proportion of total investment was for developing or introducing new products, processes, services?
Q. Were the products, processes or services new to the company, new to the country, new to the global market?

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)

INNOVATION PROFILE



- 13% of Greek firms can be classified as active innovators – firms that invested significantly in research and development and introduced a new product, process or service. This is slightly lower than the proportion of active innovators in EIBIS 2021 (18%) and the EU overall (18%).
- 61% of Greek firms did not innovate or invest in R&D in 2021, proportion that is slightly higher than in EIBIS 2021 (52%) and higher than in the EU overall (49%).

Q. What proportion of total investment was for developing or introducing new products, processes, services?
Q. Were the products, processes or services new to the company, new to the country, new to the global market?
Q. In the last financial year, how much did your business invest in Research and Development (including the acquisition of intellectual property) with the intention of maintaining or increasing your company's future earnings?

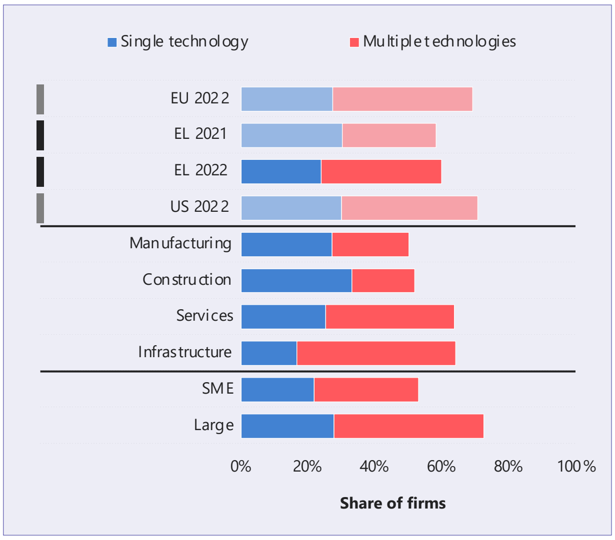
Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)

The 'No innovation and no R&D' group comprises firms that did not introduce any new products, processes or services in the last financial year. The 'Adopter only' introduced new products, processes or services but without undertaking any of their own research and development effort. 'Developers' are firms that did not introduce new products, processes or services but allocated a significant part of their investment activities to research and development. 'Incremental' and 'Leading innovators' have introduced new products, processes and services and also invested in research and development activities. The two profiles differ in terms of the novelty of the new products, processes or services. For incremental innovators these are 'new to the firm'; for leading innovators' these are new to the country/world'.

Innovation activities

USE OF ADVANCED DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

- Overall, 60% of Greek firms report that they are using at least one advanced digital technology, which is in line with EIBIS 2021 (58%) and slightly below the EU average (69%).
- Firms in the infrastructure (47%) and services (39%) sectors are more likely than firms in manufacturing (23%) and construction (19%) to be using multiple digital technologies.
- A slightly greater proportion of large firms than SMEs has implemented multiple technologies (45% compared to 31%).
- Compared to the EU average, Greek firms are less likely to be have implemented Internet of Things, 3D printing and robotics.



EIBIS 2022
Q. To what extent, if at all, are each of the following digital technologies used within your business? Please say if you do not use the technology within your business?

EIBIS 2021
Q. Can you tell me for each of the following digital technologies if you have heard about them, not heard about them, implemented them in parts of your business, or whether your entire business is organised around them?

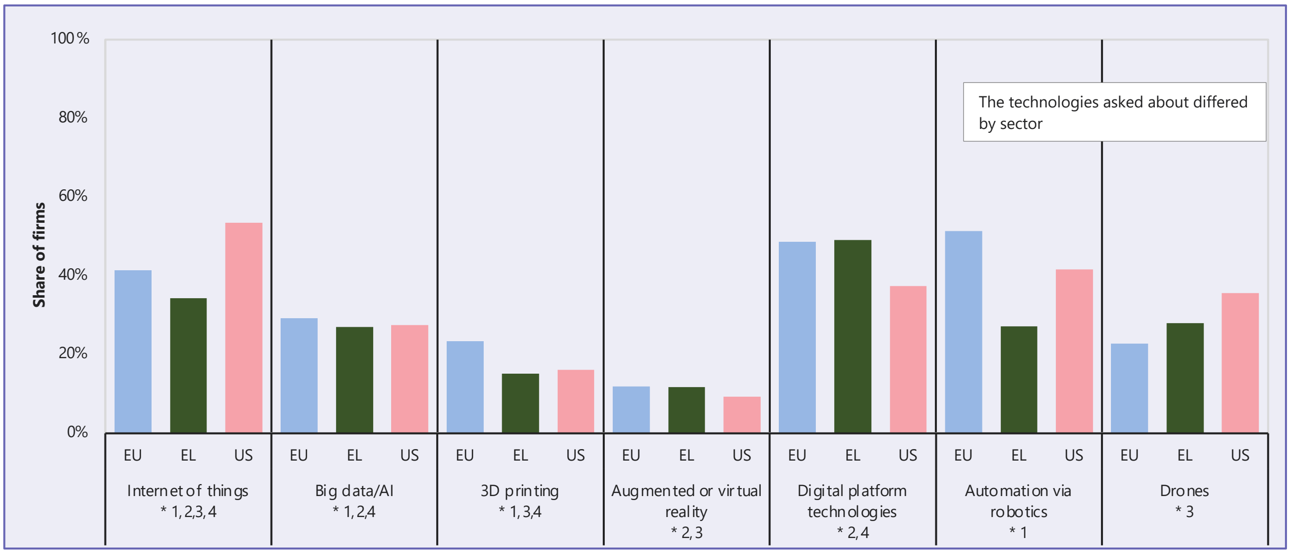
Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)

Please note: question wording and definition changed between 2021 and 2022, comparisons between the two waves should not be made.

Reported shares combine used the technology 'in parts of business' and 'entire business organised around it'

Single technology is where firms have used one of the technologies asked about. Multiple technologies is where firms have used more than one of the technologies asked about

ADVANCED DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES



*** Sector: 1 = Asked of Manufacturing firms, 2 = Asked of Services firms, 3 = Asked of Construction firms, 4 = Asked of Infrastructure firms**

Q. To what extent, if at all, are each of the following digital technologies used within your business? Please say if you do not use the technology within your business?

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses);
Sample size EL: Manufacturing (118); Construction (89); Services (100); Infrastructure (89)

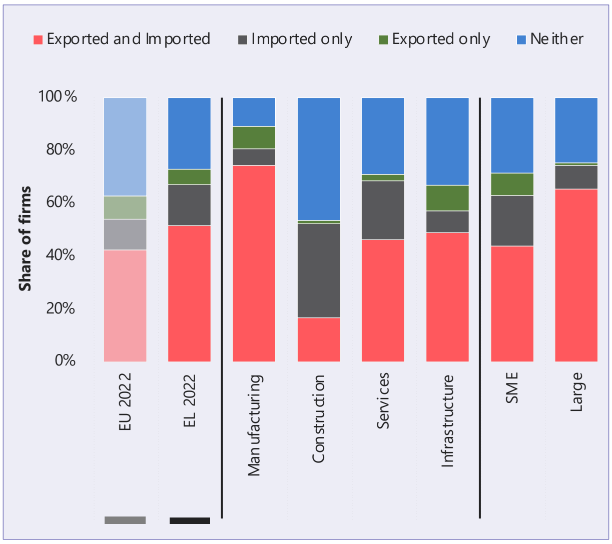
Reported shares combine used the technology 'in parts of business' and 'entire business organised around it'

Please note: question wording changed between 2021 and 2022, comparisons between the two waves should not be made.

International trade

ENGAGEMENT IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE

- Around three quarters of Greek firms are involved with international trade (73%), which is above the EU average (63%). Most of these firms are both exporters and importers.
- Manufacturing firms are far more likely to be involved with international trade (89%) than firms in other sectors (where the proportion ranges from 54% to 71%).
- Large firms are more likely than SMEs to be both exporters and importers (65% versus 44%).

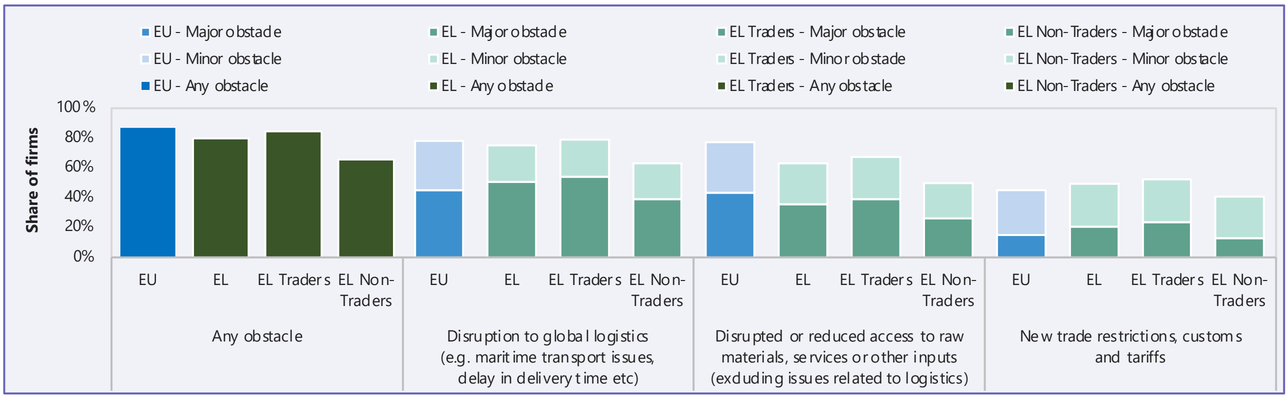


Q. In 2021, did your company export or import goods and/or services?

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)

DISRUPTIONS RELATED TO INTERNATIONAL TRADE

- 80% of Greek firms are facing disruptions associated with international trade. This is higher among Greece's traders (85%).
- Overall, a slightly lower proportion of Greek firms is facing disruptions related to international trade than across the EU overall (80% versus EU 87%).
- Disruptions to global logistics represent the most frequently cited (75%) obstacle by Greek firms.
- Greek firms are less likely than the EU average to report reduced access to raw materials, services or other inputs (63% versus EU 77%).



Any obstacle combines 'minor' and 'major' obstacles into one category

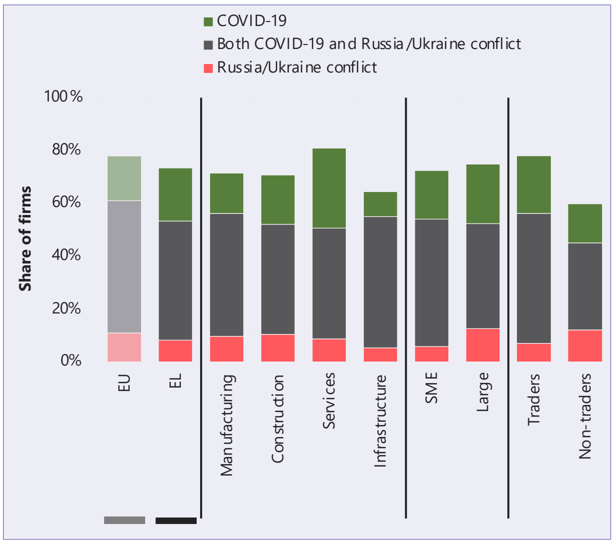
Q. Since 2021, did any of the following present an obstacle to your business's activities?

Base: "Any obstacle" - All firms (excluding those who said don't know/refused/not applicable responses to all three international trade obstacles)
Base: Individual obstacles - All firms (excluding those who said don't know/refused/not applicable)

International trade

EXTERNAL FACTORS IMPACTING INTERNATIONAL TRADE

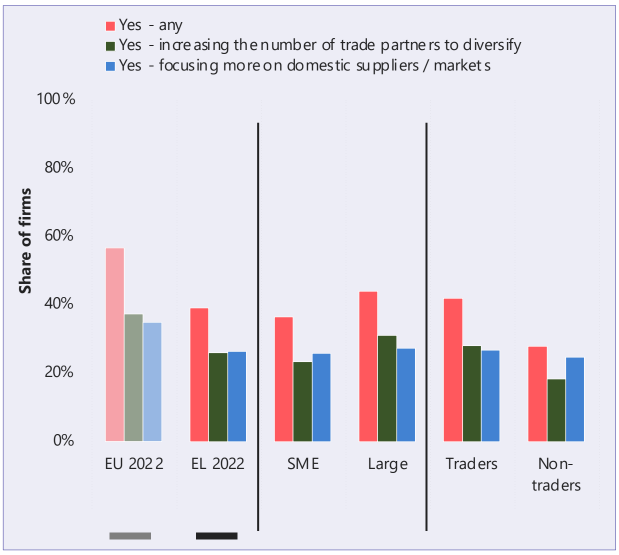
- Nearly three quarters (73%) of Greek firms state that they have been affected by at least one of the two shocks asked about.
- Around 45% of Greek firms report that they have been impacted by the Russia-Ukraine conflict and COVID-19, which is similar to the EU average (50%).
- The infrastructure sector has the lowest share of firms impacted by at least one of these external factors (64%) and the services sector the highest (81%).
- More traders than non-traders are impacted by COVID-19 and/or the conflict (78% versus 60%).
- Indistinctly of the sector and number of employees, a higher proportion reported having been impacted by COVID-19 than by the Russia-Ukraine conflict (interviews were conducted in the first half of 2022).



Q. You have just said that you experienced {an obstacle/obstacles} to your business activities since 2021. Did Covid-19 and/or the Russia-Ukraine conflict, including the sanctions imposed by the International community, contribute to this in anyway?

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)

ACTIONS TO MITIGATE INTERNATIONAL TRADE DISRUPTIONS



- 39% of Greek firms that are facing international trade disruptions, are taking mitigating actions, a proportion that is below the EU average (57%).
- Compared to the EU overall, somewhat fewer Greek firms are increasing the number of trade partners to diversify (26% versus EU 37%) or focusing on domestic suppliers or markets (26% versus EU 35%).
- Around 42% of traders are taking action to mitigate the impact of the disruptions, higher than among non-traders (28%).

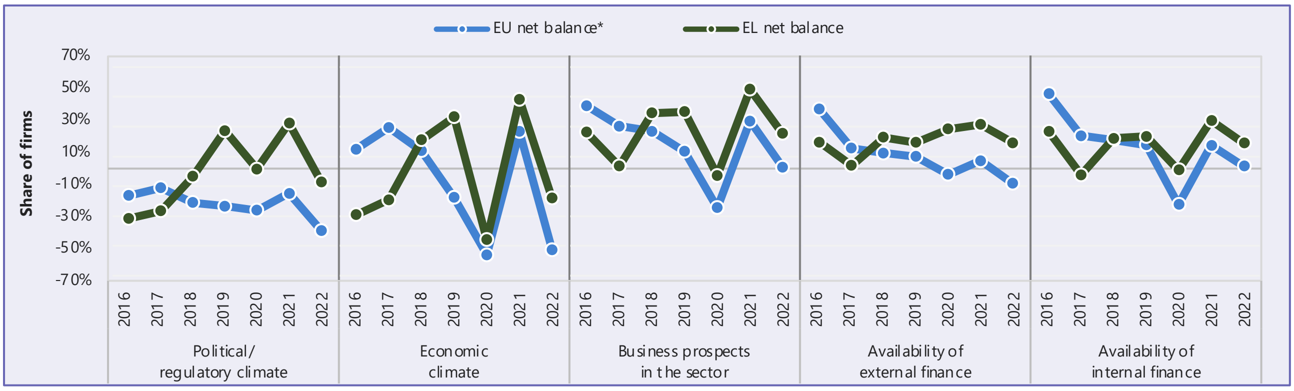
Q. Is your company taking any actions to mitigate the impact of these disruptions?

Base: All firms facing trade disruptions (excluding don't know/refused responses)

Drivers and constraints

SHORT-TERM FIRM OUTLOOK

- Despite the upward trend in outlook last year, Greek firms are again more pessimistic about the investment conditions for the next year.
- Economic climate expectations have turned negative again in net terms (declining from +48% to -18%) as have political/regulatory climate expectations (declining from +32% to -7%).
- The outlook for the other elements of the wider trading environment remains positive but below the one in EIBIS 2021.
- The downward trend in sentiment reflects the trend across the EU, although Greek firms remain more optimistic than the EU average for each element.



Q, Do you think that each of the following will improve, stay the same, or get worse over the next 12 months?

**Net balance is the share of firms seeing improvement minus the share of firms seeing a deterioration*

Base: All firms

SHORT-TERM FIRM OUTLOOK BY SECTOR AND SIZE (net balance %)

	Political / regulatory climate	Economic climate	Business prospects	External finance	Internal finance
Greece	7%	18%	25%	19%	19%
Manufacturing	17%	31%	14%	17%	7%
Construction	3%	5%	40%	27%	13%
Services	5%	22%	21%	19%	28%
Infrastructure	5%	4%	37%	20%	19%
SME	12%	17%	21%	18%	14%
Large	2%	20%	33%	21%	28%

Please note: green figures are positive, red figures are negative

- Firms are consistently more negative than positive about the economic climate across different sectors and firm sizes.
- Only construction firms and large firms are weakly positive about the political/regulatory climate (+3% and +2% respectively).
- Firms are consistently more positive than negative about business prospects, the availability of external finance and the availability of internal finance across different sectors and firm sizes.
- Construction firms are the most optimistic about the political/regulatory climate, business prospects and the availability of external finance.
- Large firms are more optimistic than SMEs about the political/regulatory climate, business prospects and the availability of internal finance.

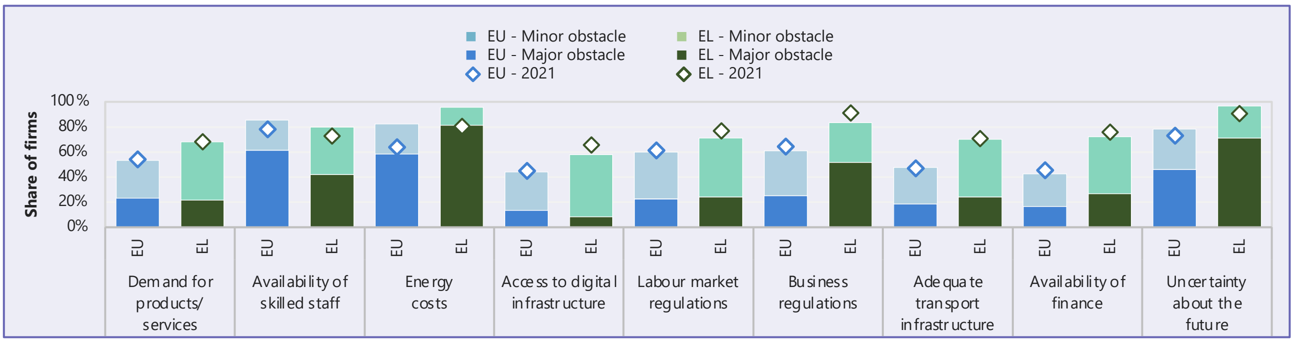
Q. Do you think that each of the following will improve, stay the same, or get worse over the next twelve months?

Base: All firms

Drivers and constraints

LONG-TERM BARRIERS TO INVESTMENT

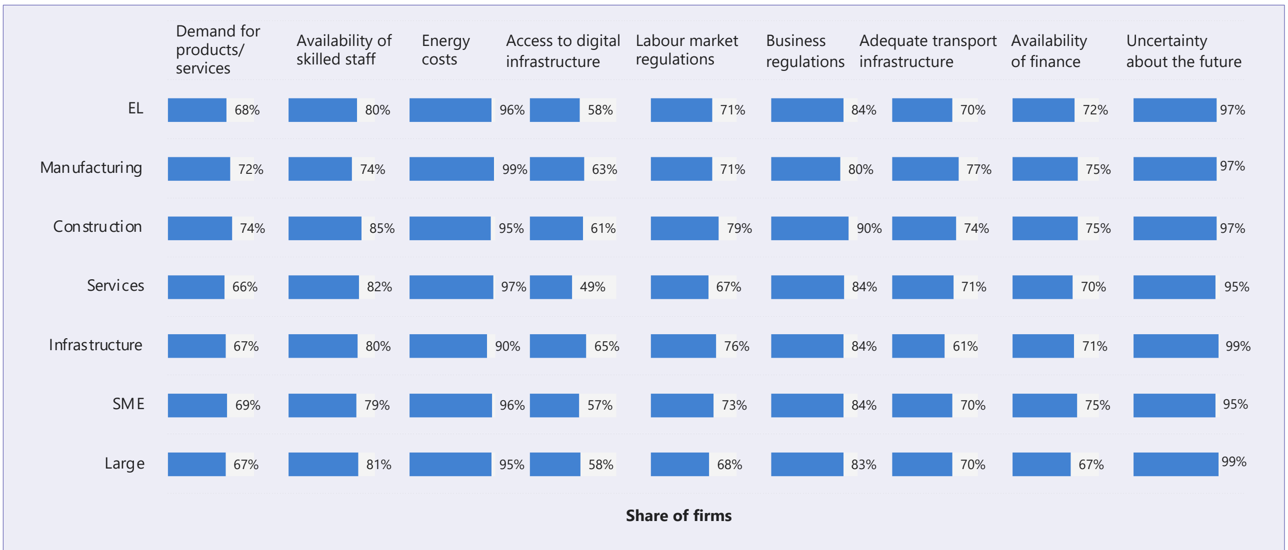
- The most frequently mentioned long-term barriers to investment in Greece are uncertainty about the future (97%) and energy costs (96%), both higher than in EIBIS 2021 (91% and 81% respectively).
- Access to digital infrastructure is mentioned as a barrier by a somewhat smaller proportion of firms than in EIBIS 2021 (58% compared to 66%) and the same pattern holds for business regulations (84% compared to 91%).
- Compared to the EU overall, Greek firms are more likely to mention most of the proposed elements as long-term barriers to investment. The only exception is the availability of skilled staff, which is less likely to be mentioned as a barrier than the EU average (80% versus EU 85%).



Q. Thinking about your investment activities, to what extent is each of the following an obstacle? Is it a major obstacle, a minor obstacle or not an obstacle at all?

Base: All firms (data not shown for those who said not an obstacle at all/don't know/refused)

LONG-TERM BARRIERS BY SECTOR AND SIZE



Reported shares combine 'minor' and 'major' obstacles into one category

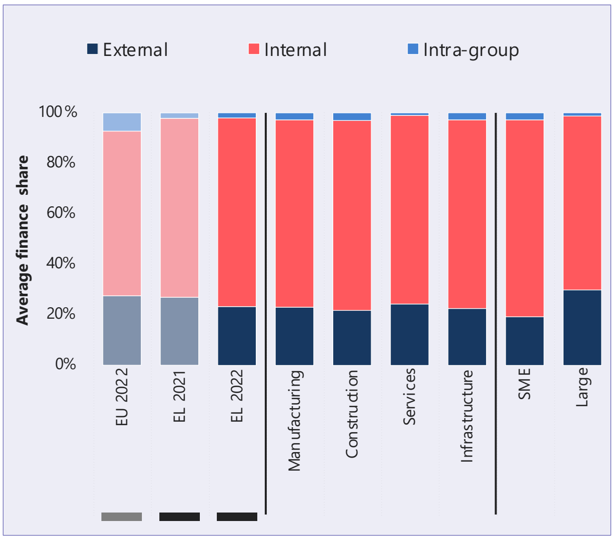
Q. Thinking about your investment activities, to what extent is each of the following an obstacle? Is it a major obstacle, a minor obstacle or not an obstacle at all?

Base: All firms (data not shown for those who said not an obstacle at all/don't know/refused)

Access to finance

SOURCE OF INVESTMENT FINANCE

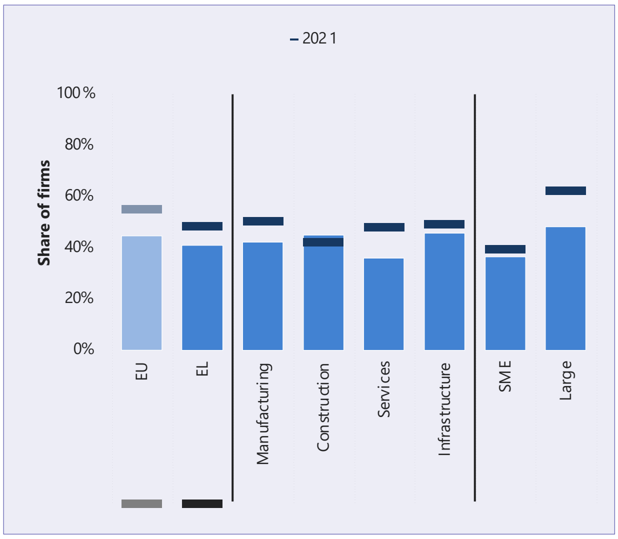
- As in EIBIS 2021, internal sources account for the largest share of investment finance for Greek firms (75%). This is above the EU average (65%).
- Compared to the EU overall, intra-group funding accounts for a smaller share of investment finance among Greek firms (2% versus EU 7%).
- The sources of investment finance are similar across different sectors.
- A slightly greater proportion of large firms than SMEs has used external finance (30% versus 19%).



Q. What proportion of your investment was financed by each of the following?

Base: All firms who invested in the last financial year (excluding don't know/ refused responses)

USE OF EXTERNAL FINANCE



- 41% of the Greek firms that had invested in the last financial year, financed at least some of their investment through external finance. This is similar to the proportion in EIBIS 2021 (48%) and in line with the EU average (45%).
- Services firms and SMEs that had invested in the last financial year are the least likely to have used external finance (both have a proportion of 36%).

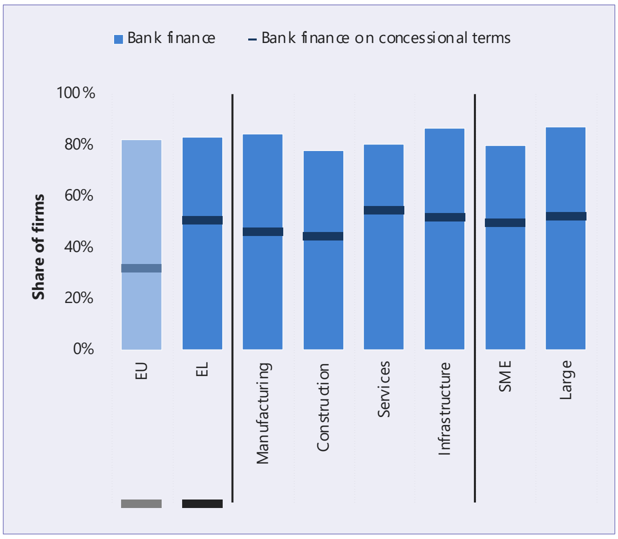
Q. Approximately what proportion of your investment in the last financial year was financed by each of the following

Base: All firms who invested in the last financial year (excluding don't know/ refused responses)

Access to finance

ACCESS TO BANK FINANCE AND CONDITIONS

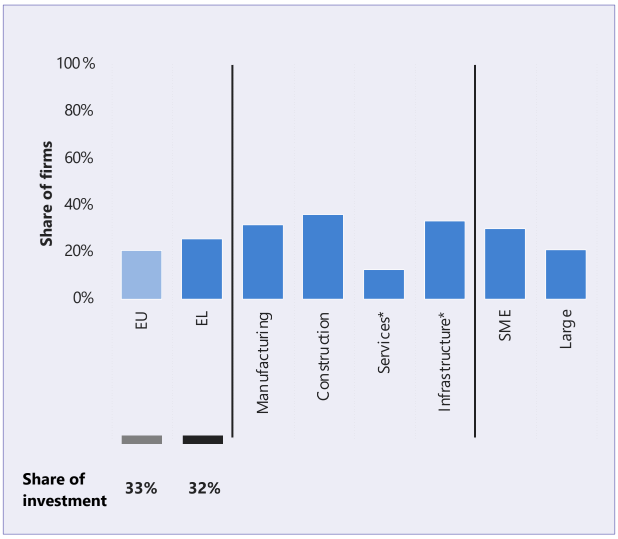
- Around 83% of Greek firms using external finance received bank finance, in line with the EU average (82%). Half (51%) obtained bank finance on concessional terms, a higher proportion than the EU average (32%).
- Access to bank finance and the share of firms receiving concessional terms are similar across different sectors and firm sizes.



Q. Which of the following types of external finance did you use for your investment activities in the last financial year?
Q. Was any of the bank finance you received on concessional terms (e.g. subsidised interest rates, longer grace period to make debt payments)?

Base: All firms who used external finance (excluding don't know/refused responses)

SHARE OF FIRMS WITH FINANCE FROM GRANTS



- Around a quarter (26%) of Greek firms that use external finance are grant recipients. This is similar to the EU average (21%).
- On average, almost a third (32%) of Greek firms' total investment is financed by grants.

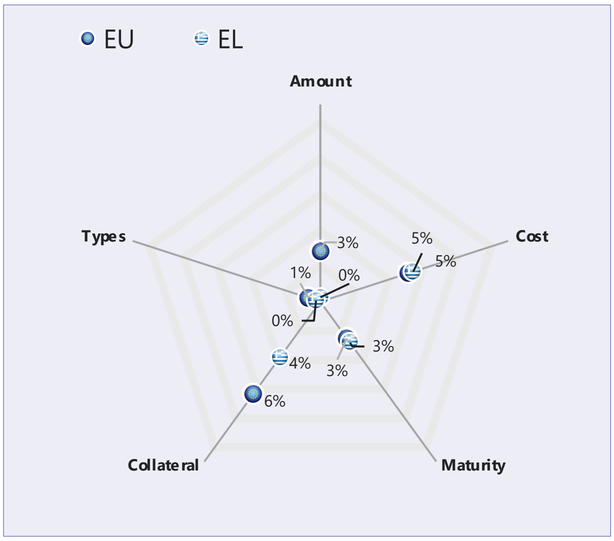
Q. What proportion of your total investment in your last financial year was financed by grants?

Base: All firms using external finance (excluding don't know/refused responses)
Base: All firms that received grants (excluding don't know/refused responses)

Access to finance

DISSATISFACTION WITH EXTERNAL FINANCE RECEIVED (% of firms)

- Only a very small proportion of Greek firms that used external finance in the last financial year are dissatisfied with the conditions received. For none of the conditions did more than 5% say they are dissatisfied.
- Greek firms are most dissatisfied with the cost of the external finance they obtained, in line with the EU average (both 5%).



Q. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with …?

Base: All firms who used external finance in the last financial year (excluding don't know/refused responses)

DISSATISFACTION BY SECTOR AND SIZE (% of firms)

	Amount	Cost	Maturity	Collateral	Type
EL	0%	5%	3%	4%	0%
Manufacturing	0%	7%	5%	2%	0%
Construction	3%	8%	5%	8%	3%
Services	0%	3%	3%	0%	0%
Infrastructure	0%	6%	0%	9%	0%
SME	0%	8%	5%	4%	0%
Large	0%	2%	0%	4%	0%

- Overall dissatisfaction levels are low.
- The highest levels of dissatisfaction are among infrastructure firms around collateral requirements (9%).
- Construction firms report relatively high levels of dissatisfaction around cost and collateral requirements (both 8%).

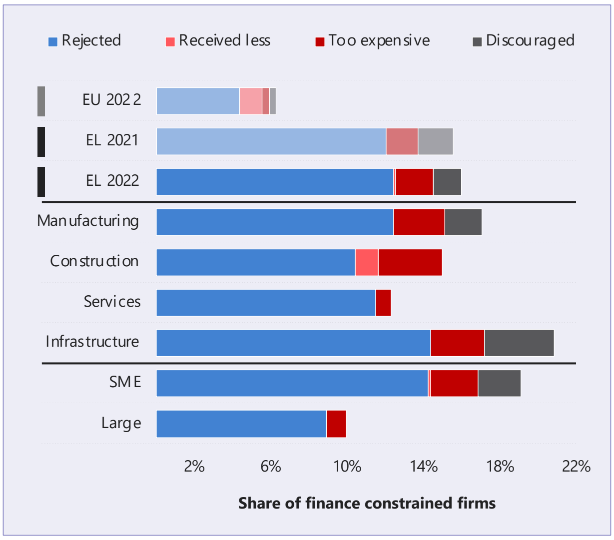
Q. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with …?

Base: All firms who used external finance in the last financial year (excluding don't know/refused responses)

Access to finance

SHARE OF FINANCE CONSTRAINED FIRMS

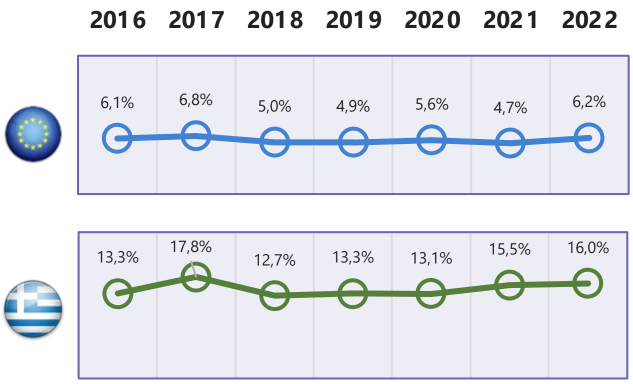
- The share of financially constrained firms in Greece (16.0%) is similar to EIBIS 2021 (15.5%) and higher than the EU average (6.2%).
- Greek firms are most likely to report rejection (12.4%).
- Infrastructure firms (20.8%) and SMEs (19.1%) are the most finance constrained.



Finance constrained firms include: those dissatisfied with the amount of finance obtained (received less), firms that sought external finance but did not receive it (rejected) and those who did not seek external finance because they thought borrowing costs would be too high (too expensive) or they would be turned down (discouraged)

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)

FINANCING CONSTRAINTS OVER TIME



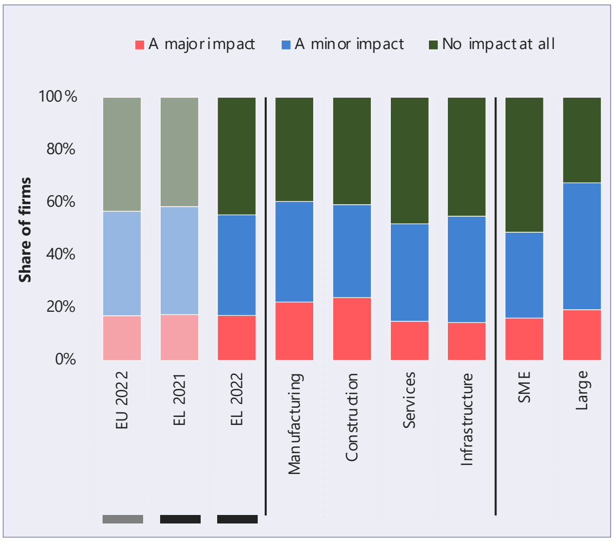
- The proportion of Greek firms that are finance constrained is similar to that recorded in EIBIS 2021 and all previous waves of the study. It is higher than the EU average, as in previous years.

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)

Climate change and energy efficiency

IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE – PHYSICAL RISK

- Around half of Greek firms (55%) report that weather events are currently having an impact on their business, which is in line with EIBIS 2021 (59%) and the EU average (57%). Less than half of those firms (17% of the total) considers that said events have a major impact.
- Manufacturing and construction firms are the most likely to report that weather events are having an impact on their business (both 60%).
- Large firms are more likely than SMEs to say climate change has presented a physical risk to their company (68% versus 49%), in particular in having a minor impact (48% versus 33%).

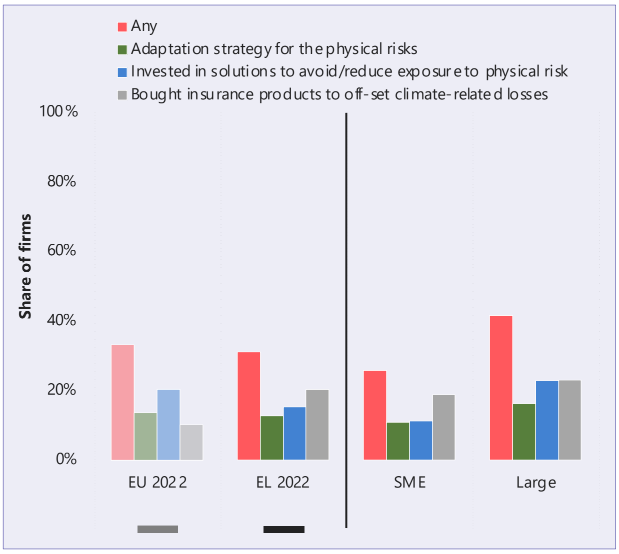


Q. Thinking about the impact of climate change on your company, such as losses due to extreme climate events, including droughts, flooding, wildfires or storms or changes in weather patterns due to progressively increasing temperature and rainfall. What is the impact, also called physical risk, of this on your company?

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)

Please note: question wording changed between 2021 and 2022. Comparisons should be treated with caution.

BUILDING RESILIENCE TO PHYSICAL RISK



Q. Has your company developed or invested in any of the following measures to build resilience to the physical risks to your company caused by climate change?

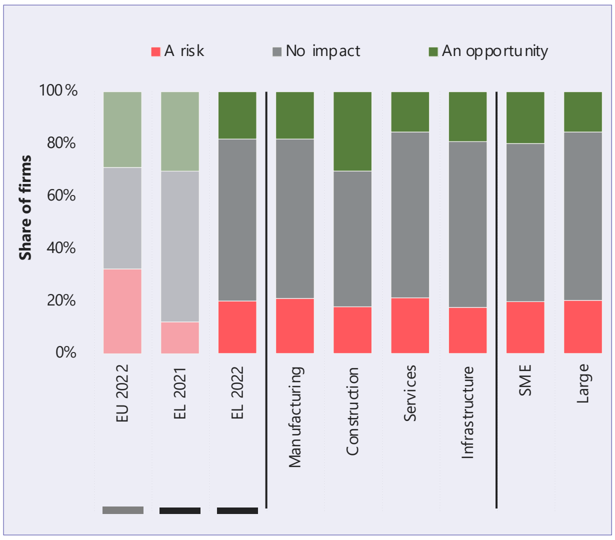
Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)

- Similar to the EU average, 31% of Greek firms have already developed or invested in measures to build resilience to the physical risks that climate change poses to their company.
- Compared to the EU average, Greek firms are more likely to have bought insurance products to off-set climate-related losses (20% versus EU 10%) but slightly less likely to have invested in solutions to avoid or reduce exposure to physical risk (15% versus EU 20%).
- Large firms are more likely than SMEs to have already developed or invested in measures to build resilience to the physical risks to their company (42% versus 26%). The proportion of large firms that have invested in solutions to avoid or reduce exposure to physical risk is greater than the one of SMEs (23% vs. 11%).

Climate change and energy efficiency

IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE – RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THE TRANSITION TO A NET ZERO EMISSION ECONOMY OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS

- The proportion of Greek firms that considers the transition to stricter climate standards and regulations as a risk is similar to the one that considers it as an opportunity (20% compared to 18%).
- Compared to EIBIS 2021, a slightly higher proportion of Greek firms now see the transition as a risk (increased from 12% to 20%) and a lower proportion sees it as an opportunity (from 30% to 18%).
- Compared to the EU as a whole, Greek firms are more likely to see the transition as having no impact on their firm (62% versus 39% EU).
- Construction firms are the most likely to see the transition as an opportunity (30%).
- Firm size does not influence the perception of risk as an opportunity or a risk.

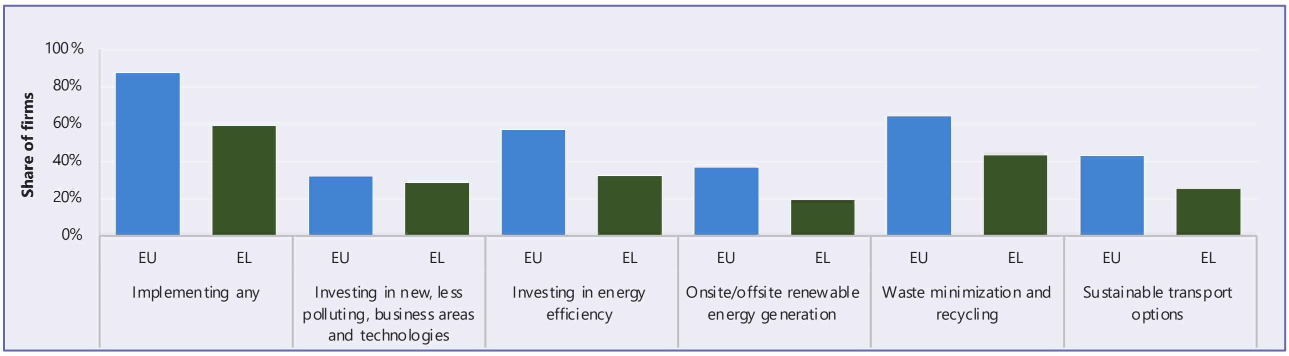


Q. Thinking about your company, what impact do you expect this transition to stricter climate standards and regulations will have on your company over the next five years?

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)

ACTIONS TO REDUCE GHG EMISSIONS

- 59% of Greek firms are taking actions to reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, which is below the EU average (88%).
- The main action in Greece is waste minimization and recycling (43%), followed by investing in energy efficiency (32%).
- Except for investing in new, less polluting, business areas and technologies, Greek firms are far less likely than the EU overall to be taking each of the actions mentioned in the question below.



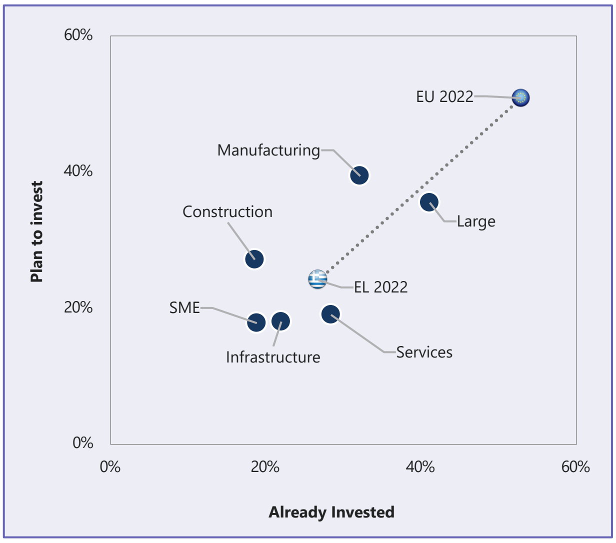
Q. Is your company investing or implementing any of the following, to reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions?

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)

Climate change and energy efficiency

INVESTMENT PLANS TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT

- Greek firms are less likely than those across the EU to have invested in tackling the impacts of weather events and reducing carbon emissions (27% versus 53%) or to have plans to invest in these areas in the next three years (24% versus 51%).
- Manufacturing firms are more likely to be planning to invest (39%), compared with firms in services (19%) and infrastructure (18%).
- Large firms are more likely than SMEs to have already invested (41% versus 19%) and to be planning to invest in tackling climate change impacts in the next three years (36% versus 18%).

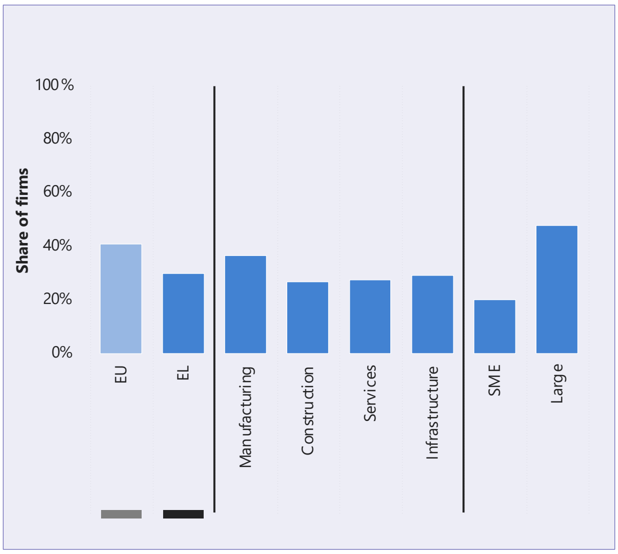


Please note: question change and an additional answer option was included in 2022, this may have influenced the data. Treat comparison to previous waves with caution.

EIBIS 2022
Q. Which of the following applies to your company regarding investments to tackle the impacts of weather events and to help reduce carbon emissions?
EIBIS 2021
Q. Now thinking about investments to tackle the impacts of weather events and to deal with the process of reduction in carbon emissions, which of the following applies?

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)

CLIMATE CHANGE TARGETS FOR OWN GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) EMISSIONS



- 30% of Greek firms report that they set and monitor targets for their own Greenhouse Gas emissions, which stands below the EU average (41%).
- The manufacturing sector has the highest share of firms who set and monitor their Greenhouse Gas emissions (37%). Among the other sectors this share ranges between 27% and 29%.
- Large firms are far more likely than SMEs to be setting and monitoring targets for their own Greenhouse Gas emissions (48% versus 20%).

Q. Does your company... set and monitor targets for its own Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)

Climate change and energy efficiency

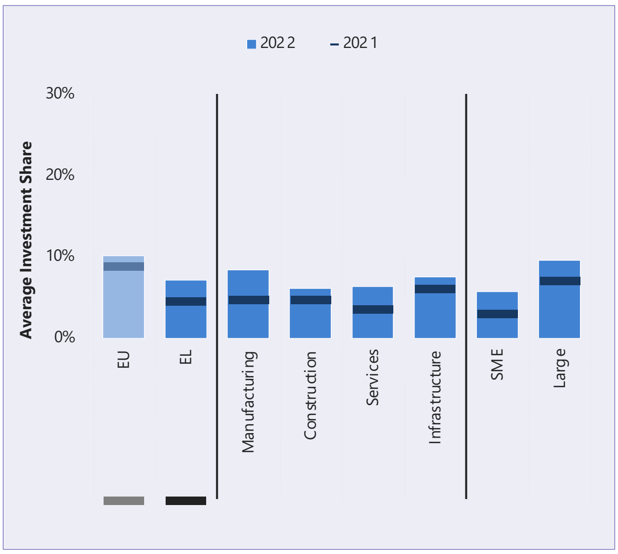
SHARE OF FIRMS INVESTING IN MEASURES TO IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY

- A quarter (25%) of Greek firms are investing in measures to improve energy efficiency in 2022, a similar proportion to EIBIS 2021 (25%) , but below the EU average (40%).
- The share of firms investing in energy efficiency is highest among those in the manufacturing sector (30%).
- Large firms are almost three times as likely as SMEs to be investing in energy efficiency (42% versus 15%).

Q. What proportion of the total investment in the last financial year was primarily for measures to improve energy efficiency in your organisation?

Base: All firms

AVERAGE SHARE OF INVESTMENT IN MEASURES TO IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY



- Among Greek firms, the average share of total investment directed towards measures to improve energy efficiency is (7%). This is in line with EIBIS 2021 (5%) but below the EU average (10%).
- The highest share of investment directed towards energy efficiency is among large firms (10%) and firms in the manufacturing and infrastructure sectors (both 8%).

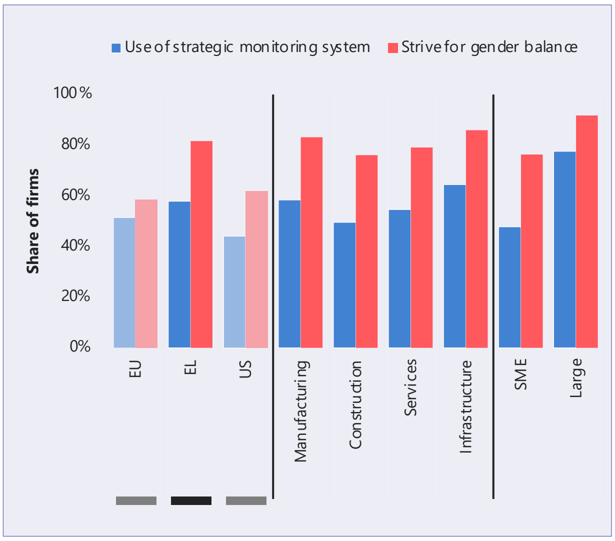
Q. What proportion of the total investment in the last financial year was primarily for measures to improve energy efficiency in your organisation?

Base: All firms who have invested in the last financial year (excluding don't know/refused responses)

Firm management, gender balance and employment

FIRM MANAGEMENT AND GENDER BALANCE

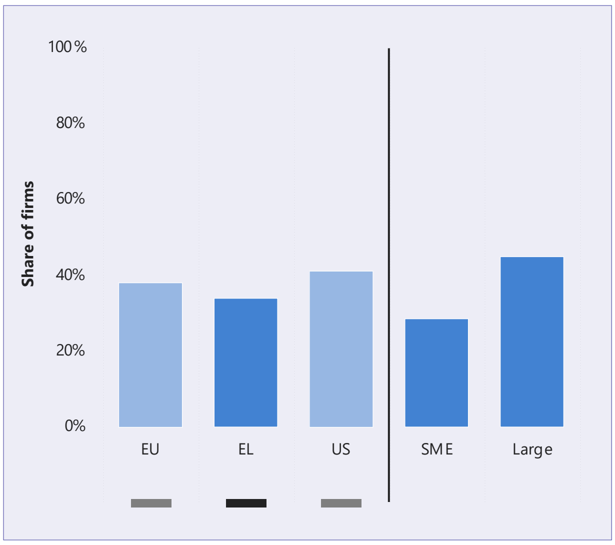
- Almost six in ten Greek firms (58%) use a strategic monitoring system that compares the firm's current performance against a series of key performance indicators. This is somewhat above the EU average (51%) and the US average (44%).
- With respect to gender balance, 82% of Greek firms (82%) are striving to achieve it within their business, which is higher than the overall rate in the EU (58%) and the US (62%).
- Infrastructure firms are the most likely to use a strategic monitoring system and to strive for gender balance (64% and 86% respectively).
- The use of strategic monitoring systems is more prevalent among large firms than SMEs (77% versus 48%) as is striving for gender balance (92% versus 76%).



Q Does your company...?

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)

FIRMS WHO HAVE INCREASED EMPLOYEE NUMBERS SINCE 2019



- Around a third (34%) of Greek firms have increased the number of employees since 2019. This is in line with the EU average (38%).
- Large firms are more likely than SMEs to have increased their staff since 2019 (45% versus 29%).

Q. How many people does your company employ either full or part time at all its locations, including yourself?

Q. How many people did your company employ either full or part time at all its locations at the beginning of 2019, before the COVID-19 pandemic?

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused/did not exist in 2019 responses)

EIBIS 2022 – Country technical details

SAMPLING TOLERANCES APPLICABLE TO PERCENTAGES AT OR NEAR THESE LEVELS

The final data are based on a sample, rather than the entire population of firms in Greece, so the percentage results are subject to sampling tolerances. These vary with the size of the sample and the percentage figure concerned.

	EU	EL	Manufacturing	Construction	Services	Infrastructure	SME	Large	EU vs EL	Manuf vs Constr	SME vs Large
	(12021)	(400)	(119)	(89)	(100)	(89)	(324)	(76)	(12021 vs 400)	(119 vs 89)	(324 vs 76)
10% or 90%	1.1%	3.0%	4.9%	5.5%	5.3%	5.6%	3.1%	6.2%	3.2%	7.4%	6.9%
30% or 70%	1.7%	4.5%	7.6%	8.4%	8.1%	8.6%	4.7%	9.5%	4.8%	11.2%	10.5%
50%	1.8%	4.9%	8.2%	9.1%	8.9%	9.3%	5.1%	10.3%	5.3%	12.3%	11.5%

GLOSSARY

Investment	A firm is considered to have invested if it spent more than EUR 500 per employee on investment activities with the intention of maintaining or increasing the company's future earnings.
Investment cycle	Based on the expected investment in current financial year compared to last one, and the proportion of firms with a share of investment greater than EUR 500 per employee.
Manufacturing sector	Based on the NACE classification of economic activities: firms in group C (Manufacturing).
Construction sector	Based on the NACE classification of economic activities: firms in group F (Construction).
Services sector	Based on the NACE classification of economic activities: firms in group G (wholesale and retail trade) and group I (accommodation and food Services activities).
Infrastructure sector	Based on the NACE classification of economic activities: firms in groups D and E (utilities), group H (transportation and storage) and group J (information and communication).
SME	Firms with between 5 and 249 employees.
Large firms	Firms with at least 250 employees.

Note: the EIBIS 2022 country overview refers interchangeably to 'the past/last financial year' or to '2021'. Both refer to results collected in EIBIS 2022, where the question is referring to the past financial year, with the majority of the financial year in 2021 in case the financial year is not overlapping with the calendar year 2021.

EIBIS 2022 – Country technical details

The country overview presents selected findings based on telephone interviews with 400 firms in Greece (carried out between April and July 2022).

BASE SIZES *(*Charts with more than one base; due to limited space, only the lowest base is shown)*

Base definition and page reference	EU 2022/2021	US 2022	EL 2022/2021	Manufacturing	Construction	Services	Infrastructure	SME	Large
All firms, p. 3, p.12, p.13, p. 21 (top)	12021/11920	800	400/402	119	89	100	89	324	76
All firms who have invested in the last financial year (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 4 (top)	9704/9670	668	312/297	96	77	71	65	248	64
All firms who have invested in the last financial year (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 4 (bottom)	9501/9523	668	291/302	90	73	68	57	235	56
All firms (excluding 'Company didn't exist three years ago' responses), p. 5 (top)	11735/11648	778	395/394	117	88	99	88	320	75
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 5 (bottom)	11814/11765	780	393/396	116	86	99	89	319	74
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 6 (top)	11810/NA	795	392/NA	115	88	97	89	318	74
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 6 (bottom)	11725/NA	784	389/NA	114	87	96	89	316	73
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 7 (top)	11945/11857	762	396/399	119	87	100	87	321	75
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 7 (bottom)	11989/11891	796	398/401	118	88	100	89	322	76
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 8 (top)	11735/11648	778	395/394	117	88	99	88	320	75
All firms (excluding not applicable/don't know/refused responses to all 3 questions), p. 8 (bottom)	8728/8780	615	280/279	85	71	66	55	226	54
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 9	11980/NA	800	399/NA	118	89	100	89	324	75
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 10 (top)	11975/NA	798	397/NA	119	87	100	88	321	76
All firms (excluding those who said don't know/refused/not applicable responses to all three international trade obstacles) p. 10 (bottom)	11382/NA	790	368/NA	113	81	91	81	299	69
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 11 (top)	9339/NA	680	288/NA	92	63	78	54	234	54
All firms facing trade disruptions (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 11 (bottom)	9265/NA	707	284/NA	90	61	78	54	231	53
All firms who have invested in the last financial year (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 14	10051/8675	665	320/294	100	77	73	67	253	67
All firms who used external finance (excluding don't know/ refused responses), p. 15 (top)	4107/4059	275	127/130	41	33	24	29	96	31
All firms who used external finance (excluding don't know and refused) p. 15 (bottom)	4155/4100	280	128/131	41	34	24	29	96	32
All firms who used external finance in the last financial year (excluding don't know/refused responses) , p. 16	3988/3964	270	124/125	39	33	24	27	92	31
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 17	11504/11518	715	387/393	116	84	98	86	316	71
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 18 (top)	11911/11849	790	398/399	118	89	99	89	324	74
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 18 (bottom)	11909/NA	784	396/NA	117	89	100	87	324	72
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 19 (top)	11172/11384	759	386/390	114	88	96	85	311	75
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 19 (bottom)	11964/NA	794	399/NA	118	89	100	89	323	76
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 20 (top)	11685/NA	763	393/NA	117	87	99	87	318	75
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 20 (bottom)	11712/NA	783	393/NA	116	87	99	88	318	75
All firms who have invested in the last financial year (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 21 (bottom)*	9752/9617	677	317/288	98	77	72	67	252	65
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses) p. 22 (top)	11696/11616	785	398/396	118	89	100	88	323	75
All firms (excluding don't know/refused/did not exist in 2019 responses) p. 22 (bottom)	11662/11718	783	387/397	114	87	95	88	317	70

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