

**EIB INVESTMENT SURVEY 2025**

# **IRELAND**

**OVERVIEW**



**European  
Investment Bank**



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**OVERVIEW**

## **EIB Investment Survey 2025: Ireland overview**

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### **About the EIB Economics Department**

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 economists is headed by Debora Revoltella, director of economics.

Main contributors EIB: Chiara Fratto

### **About Ipsos Public Affairs**

Ipsos Public Affairs works closely with national governments, local public services and the not-for-profit sector, as well as international and supranational organisations. Its research staff in London and Brussels focus on public service and policy issues. Its research makes a difference for decision-makers and communities. For further information on activities of Ipsos, visit [www.ipsos.com/en-uk](http://www.ipsos.com/en-uk).

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Published by the European Investment Bank.

Printed on FSC® paper.

pdf: QH-01-25-065-EN-N

ISBN 978-92-861-6041-7

ISSN 2599-8005

doi: 10.2867/2006191

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## About the EIB Investment Survey

The EIB Group Investment Survey (EIBIS), conducted annually since 2016, is a unique survey of approximately 13 000 firms across all European Union Member States, with an additional sample from 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, such as climate change and digital transformation. The EIBIS uses a stratified sampling methodology and is representative across all 27 EU Member States and the United States, as well as across four categories 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. Developed and managed by the EIB Economics Department, the survey is conducted in collaboration with Ipsos.

More background and technical details can be found at [www.eib.org/eibis](http://www.eib.org/eibis).

## About this publication

The reports resulting from EIBIS 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](mailto:eibis@eib.org).

Due to rounding, charts may not add up to 100%.

Please note that in this year's report, the weighting targets for the 2023, 2024, and 2025 survey waves have been updated to align with the latest 2022 Structural Business Statistics (SBS). Data for all prior waves remain weighted against the 2014 SBS targets. Consequently, figures for 2023 and 2024 presented in this report may differ from those in previously published reports.

Please note that due to reweighting of data all numbers below 10% will not be shown on the charts.

Download the findings of the EIB Investment Survey for each EU country and explore the data portal at [www.eib.org/eibis](http://www.eib.org/eibis).

# EIBIS 2025 – Ireland overview

## Key messages

Irish firms have shown robust investment activity, with a notable focus on capacity expansion and replacement of assets.

Given their high exposure to international trade, Irish firms perceive the recent changes in customs and tariffs more as an obstacle than the EU average. They are also affected by the fragmentation of the EU single market, as they more often say that their main product or service must comply with differentiated regulatory requirements, standards or consumer protection rules across EU member states.

Energy costs, availability of skills and uncertainty about the future are the most important obstacles to investment for Irish firms.

In EIBIS 2025, Irish firms faced lower difficulties to find funding than the EU average, as they are more likely to rely on internal finance, while those that request external finance are less likely to be rejected. Access to finance is mentioned as a barrier to investment by 29% of the firms, significantly lower than the EU average (45%). However, the share of finance-constrained companies remains high among micro and small companies and manufacturing companies, who have been complaining in particular about the cost of finance.

## Executive summary

### Investment dynamics, needs and priorities

The proportion of Irish firms investing has remained high, consistent with EIBIS 2024 at 85%, closely aligning with the EU average of 86%. Additionally, there is a sustained positive net balance of 8% expecting increased investment. Manufacturing firms are predominant investors, with 90% participation and 27% anticipating increased investment.

However, compared to EIBIS 2024, the composition of investment has changed, with firms more focused on capacity development (31% compared to 25% in EIBIS 2024), particularly manufacturing firms. While only about 30% of the investment in construction and infrastructure was devoted to capacity expansion in EIBIS 2025, these companies are planning a significant increase for the future (48% are planning to expand capacity).

In the last financial year, just under half (49%) of Irish firms' investment was aimed at replacement, in line with EIBIS 2024 (47%) and slightly below the EU average (54%). Notably, the investment in new products/services has declined since EIBIS 2024 from 24% to 12%, aligning closely with the EU average of 13%. In the next three years, a slightly larger percentage of Irish firms plan to focus on capacity expansion (39%) over replacement (34%), with the emphasis on replacement rising from 21% in EIBIS 2024. Expectations for investment in new products/services have decreased from 34% in EIBIS 2024 to 16%, falling below the EU average of 20%. In net terms, Irish firms are increasingly pessimistic about the political and regulatory environment and the overall economic climate. The negative figure for the political environment is over double the already pessimistic EU average (-48% vs -22%). The outlook on business prospects (3%) has significantly deteriorated compared to EIBIS 2024 (43%), but it is no worse than the current EU average (0%). There is also a significant decline in economic climate outlook (-49% compared to 10% in EIBIS 2024).

In the last financial year, over half of the investment by Irish firms was directed towards tangible assets (55%), reflecting EIBIS 2024 at 56%, although it remains below the current EU average of 65%. Ten per cent of Irish business investment was dedicated to Research and Development (R&D).

### Global value chains, climate change and innovation

Irish firms are highly engaged in international trade: just under eight in ten (77%) Irish firms are involved with international trade, with manufacturers (87%) the most engaged, reflecting Ireland's open, export-oriented economy. Irish firms are more concerned about the recent changes in customs and tariffs: 69% of them perceive them as an obstacle to trade, more than the EU average of 48% (US: 77%). Across Irish firms as a whole, one of the biggest obstacles is compliance with new regulations, standards or certifications (57% vs 59% EU average), followed by disruptions of logistics and transport (51% vs 43% EU average). Many other obstacles to international trade have subsided relative to EIBIS 2024, particularly access to commodities and raw materials, which dropped to 31% from 51% in EIBIS 2024.

As geopolitical uncertainty remains high, over three in ten (31%) Irish importers are diversifying or increasing the number of countries from which they import, which is significantly higher than both EIBIS 2024 or the current EU average (17% and 19% respectively; US: 39%). Irish firms are more likely than firms across the EU to have increased stocks and inventory (23% vs 17%), while 13% of importers are reducing the share of imported goods or services (vs 7% EU average).

Two thirds (68%) of Irish firms acknowledge facing an impact from climate change, aligning with the EU average. Nearly half of Irish firms (47%) have proactively addressed these physical risks. A greater portion of medium/large firms have taken action compared to micro/small firms (52% vs 38%). 93% of Irish firms have implemented measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, with waste minimisation and recycling (77%) and investment in energy efficiency (59%) being the primary strategies.

Irish firms are aware of the transition to stricter climate standards and regulations and perceive it more as a risk (32%) than an opportunity (27%), consistent with the EU averages (36% and 27% respectively). Infrastructure (43%), construction (35%) and medium/large firms (35%) are particularly prone to view the transition as a risk. Similar to the EU average, most Irish firms (57%) have performed an energy audit over the past three years, maintaining consistency from EIBIS 2024 (56%). This year, construction companies have been significantly more active in establishing targets to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions compared to the previous year (48%), a trend that contrasts the average Irish firm, which set targets for greenhouse gas emissions only in 32% of the cases, below the EU average of 47%.

Participation in innovation activities has dropped from EIBIS 2024 (29% vs 45%), driven by a reduction in the share of companies that invested in products processes or services new to the country or the global market. Manufacturing firms invest more in innovation (34%).

Around a third (34%) of Irish firms are systematically using generative AI tools like ChatGPT, Bard, or Copilot, which is close to the EU average (37%). Where adopted, AI is primarily used by Irish firms to enhance internal processes (61%) and for marketing and sales (47%), broadly similar to the EU averages. Additionally, Irish firms show a greater tendency to use AI for product development than the EU average (39% vs 25%).

### **Investment barriers**

The most significant barriers to investment for Irish firms are the availability of skilled staff (88%) and uncertainty about the future (87%), both of which exceed the EU averages (79% and 83% respectively). Additionally, 82% of firms perceive energy costs as a hurdle to investment, compared to 75% across the EU. Since EIBIS 2024, there has been a notable reduction in firms viewing transport infrastructure as a barrier (34% down from 59% in EIBIS 2024).

To a greater extent than the EU average (62%), Irish exporters are facing a fragmented EU market. Eight in ten (80%) say their main product or service must comply with differentiated regulatory requirements, standards or consumer protection rules across EU member states. Despite this, the proportions of staff required to comply with regulation is below the EU average.

### **Access to finance and policy support**

The share of Irish firms funding investment from external sources is significantly lower than the EU average (15% vs 25%). Likewise, the proportion of Irish firms' total investment financed from external sources is significantly lower than EIBIS 2024 (30% vs 46%). Consequently, when compared to the EU average, a larger share of total investment is funded from internal sources (83% vs 66%).

Just under seven in ten (69%) Irish firms receiving external finance obtained it from a bank, and among those using external finance, fewer are dissatisfied with the cost of borrowing compared to the EU average (10% vs 15%). The share of finance constrained Irish firms is lower than the EU average (4.3% vs 6.1%), and lower than EIBIS 2024 (7.2%). Manufacturing firms (6.3%) and micro/small firms (6.7%) have the highest proportions of financially constrained firms.

The share of Irish firms receiving policy support for their finance investment is lower than the EU average (4% vs 16%) and they are notably less likely to benefit from bank finance with favourable conditions (1% vs 11% EU average).

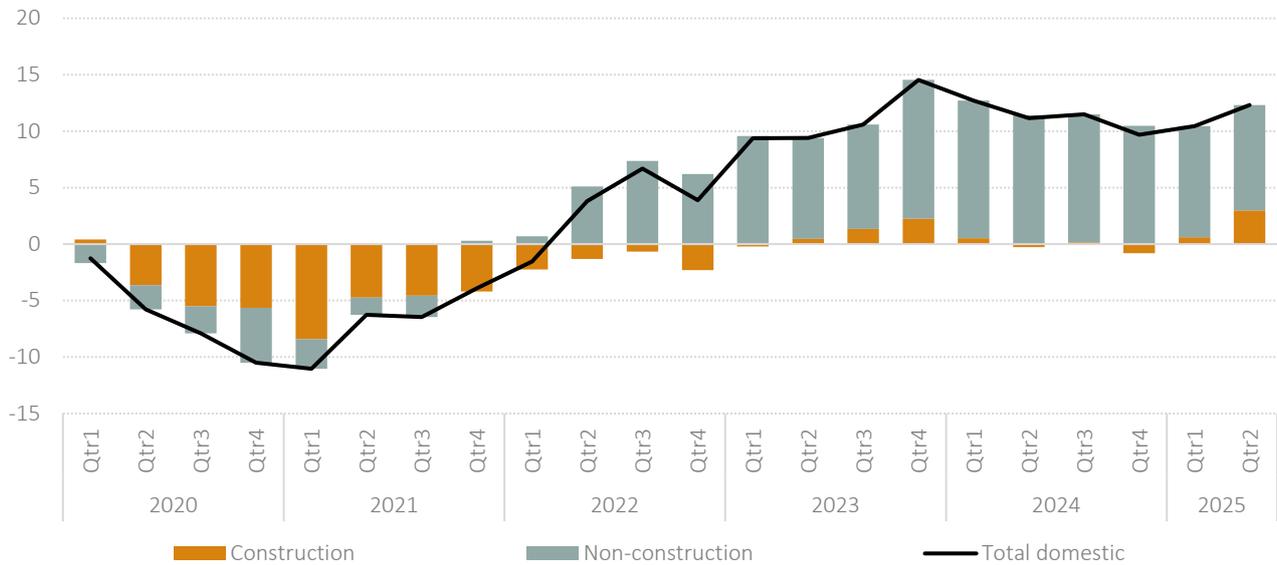
### **Gender equality in business**

Irish firms have greater female representation in senior roles than the EU average (38% vs 25%) and, in line with the EU average, 13% of Irish firms report that at least 50% of company owners are women. More specifically, within Ireland's services sector, almost half the firms (46%) have at least 40% of senior roles performed by women, while 14% report that 50% or more of their owners are women.

# Investment dynamics and focus

## Investment dynamics by institutional sector

Evolution of total gross fixed capital formation (in real terms, non-seasonally and non-calendar adjusted), by institutional sector



Year-on-year growth of total gross fixed capital formation (in real terms), by institutional sector



The graph at the top shows the evolution of total gross fixed capital formation (in real terms, non-seasonally and non-calendar adjusted), by institutional sector. The nominal GFCF source data are transformed into four-quarter sums, deflated using the implicit deflator for total GFCF (2015 = 100). The four-quarter sum of total GFCF in the fourth quarter of 2019 is normalised to 0.

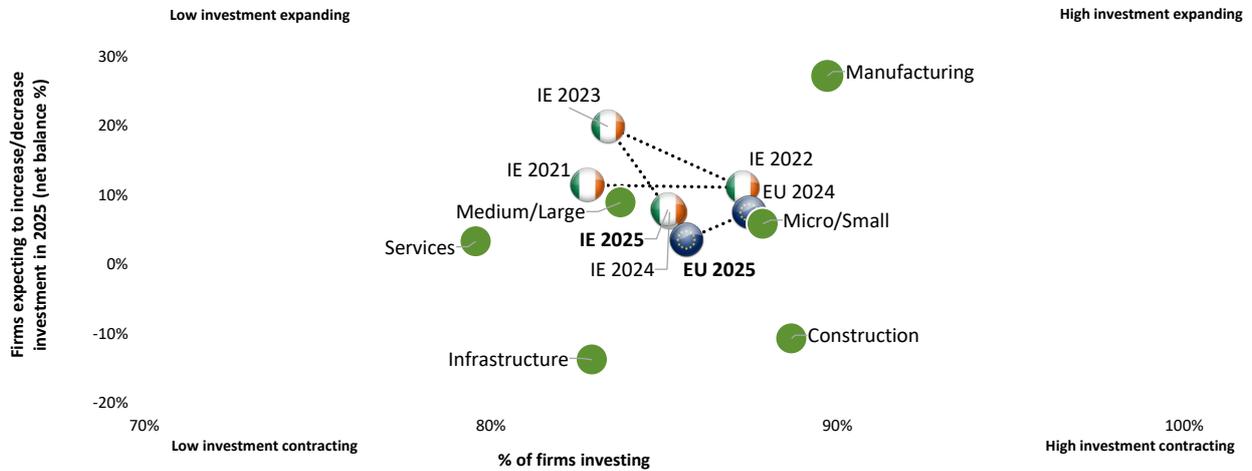
Source: Eurostat.

The graph at the bottom shows the year-on-year growth of total gross fixed capital formation (in real terms), by institutional sector. The data are deflated using the implicit deflator for total GFCF.

Source: Eurostat.

# Investment dynamics and focus

## Investment cycle and evolution of investment expectations



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

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

Base for expected and realised change: all firms.

## Expected and realised investment changes over time



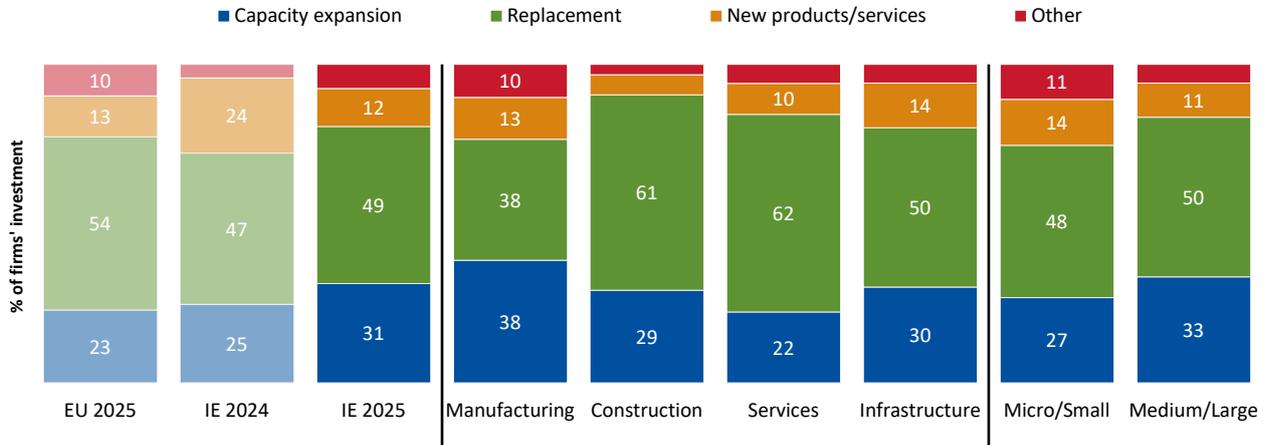
“Realised change” is the share of firms that invested more, minus those that invested less.

“Expected change” is the share of firms that expect(ed) to invest more, minus those that expect(ed) to invest less.

Base for expected and realised change: all firms.

# Investment dynamics and focus

## Purpose of investment in last financial year

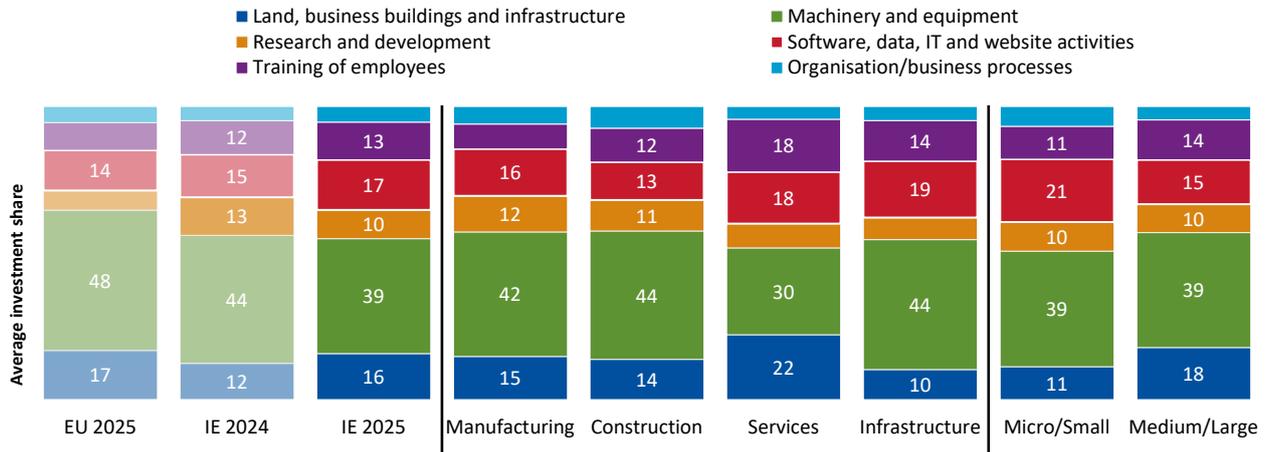


Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

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

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

## Investment areas



Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

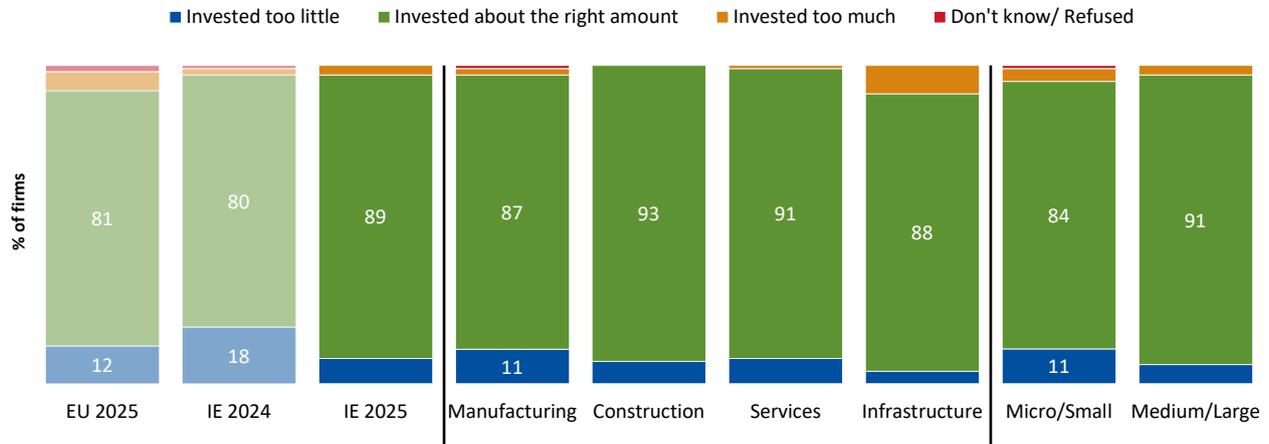
Q. In the last financial year, how much did your business invest in each of the following with the intention of maintaining or increasing your company's future earnings?

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

Note: Tangible assets are land and machinery; intangible assets are research and development, software, data, IT and website activities, training of employees and organisation/business processes.

# Investment needs and priorities

## Perceived investment gap

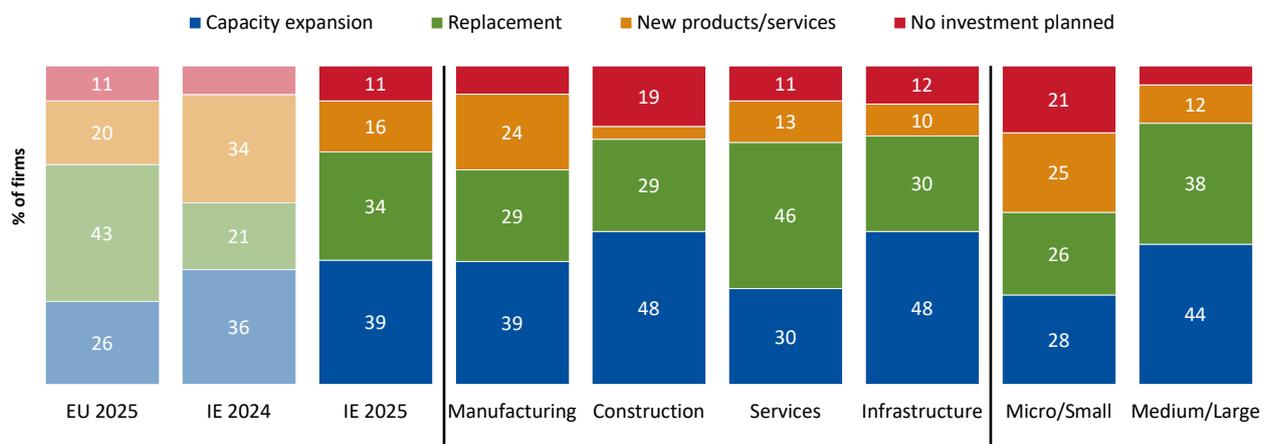


Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

Q. Looking back at your investment over the last three years, was it too much, too little, or about the right amount to ensure the success of your business going forward?

Base: All firms (excluding response "Company didn't exist three years ago").

## Future investment priorities



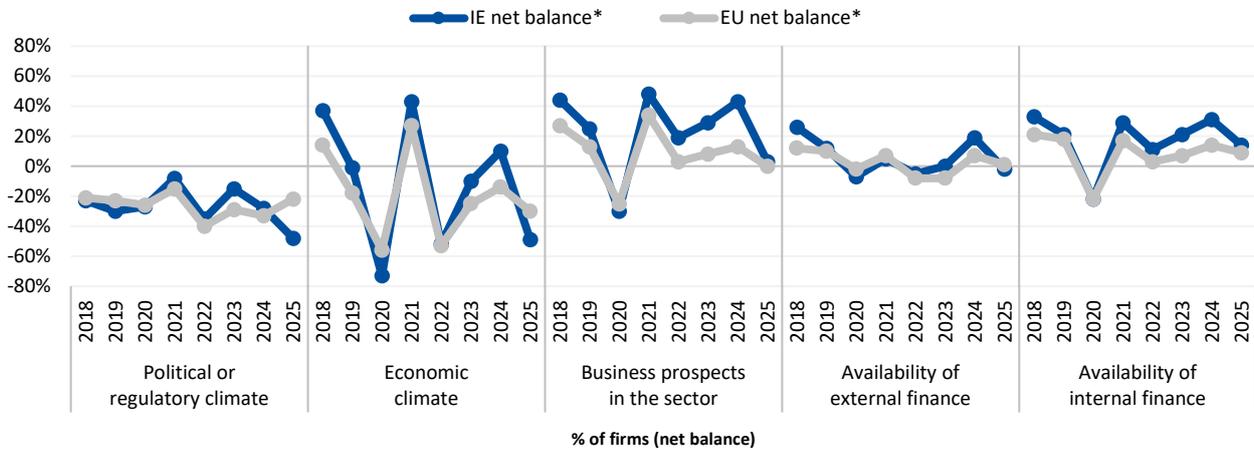
Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

Q. Looking ahead to the next three years, which of the following is your investment priority: (a) developing or introducing new products, processes and services; (b) replacing capacity (including existing buildings, machinery, equipment and IT); or (c) expanding capacity for existing products/services; or (d) no investment planned?

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

# Investment needs and priorities

## Short-term drivers and constraints (net balance)

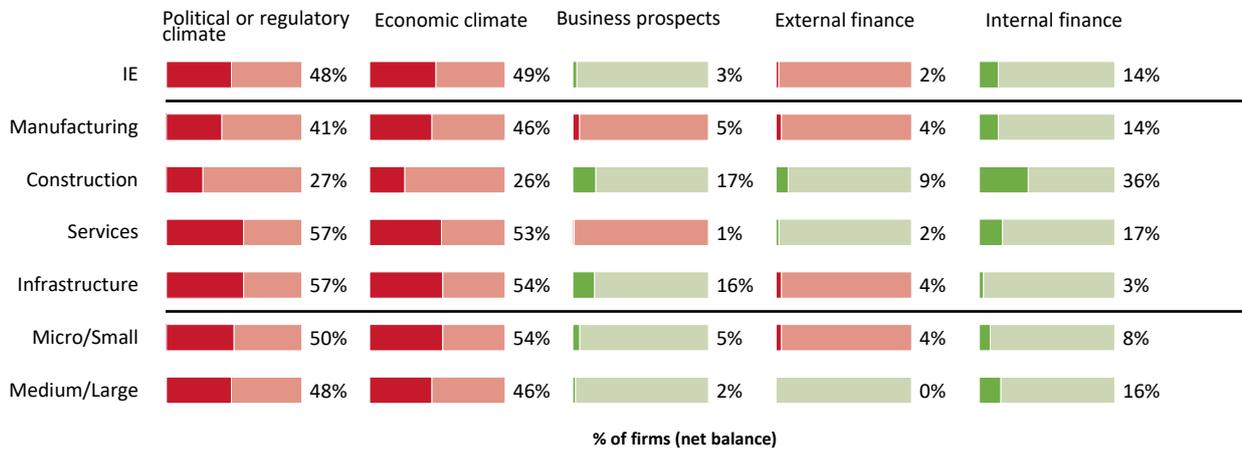


Q. Do you think that each of the following will improve, stay the same, or get worse over the next 12 months?

Base: All firms.

\* Net balance is the share of firms expecting an improvement minus the share of firms anticipating a deterioration. Negative values thus imply that more firms expect a deterioration than an improvement.

## Short-term drivers and constraints by sector and firm size (net balance)



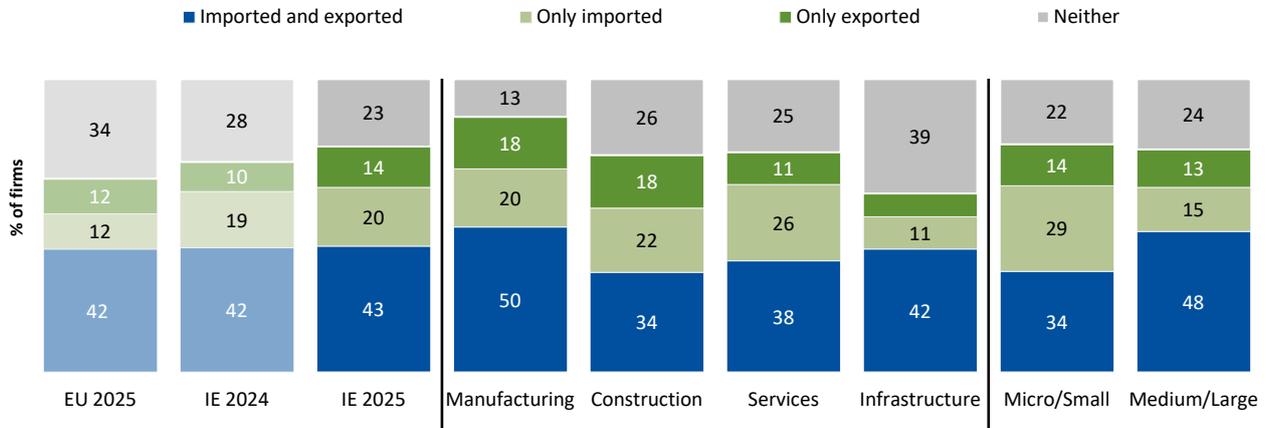
Please note: Green figures represent a positive net balance, while red figures represent a negative net balance. Sector and firm size show IE data only.

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

Base: All firms.

# International trade

## Engagement in international trade

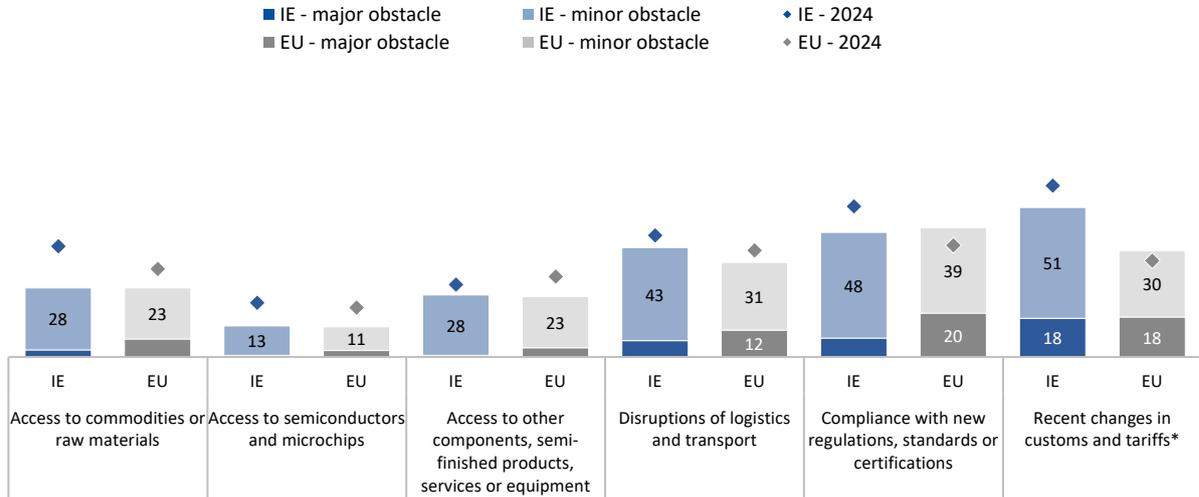


Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

Q. In 2024, did your company export or import goods and/or services?

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

## Obstacles related to international trade



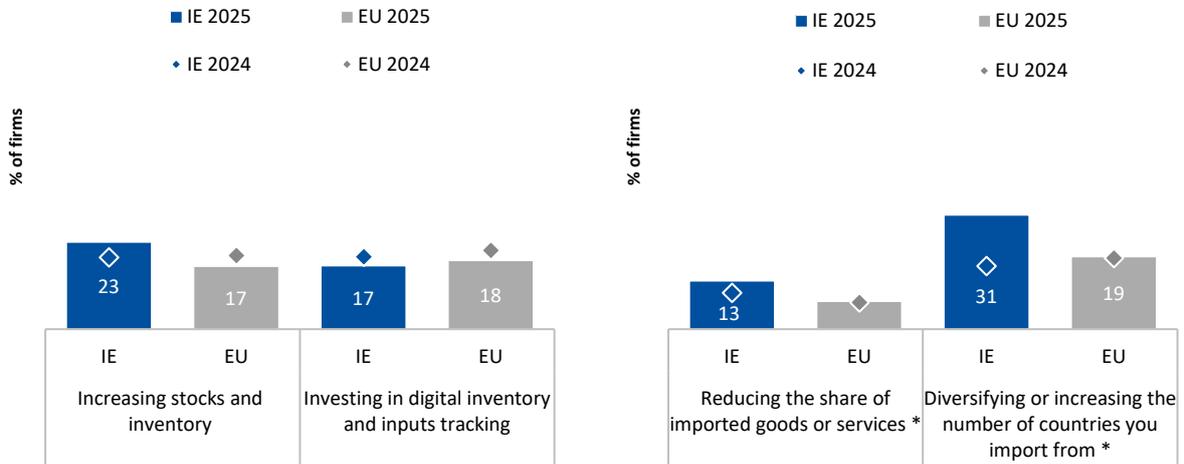
Q. Since the beginning of 2024, were any of the following an obstacle to your business's activities?

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

\* Base: All importers and exporters (excluding don't know/refused responses/not applicable responses).

# International trade

## Change in sourcing strategy



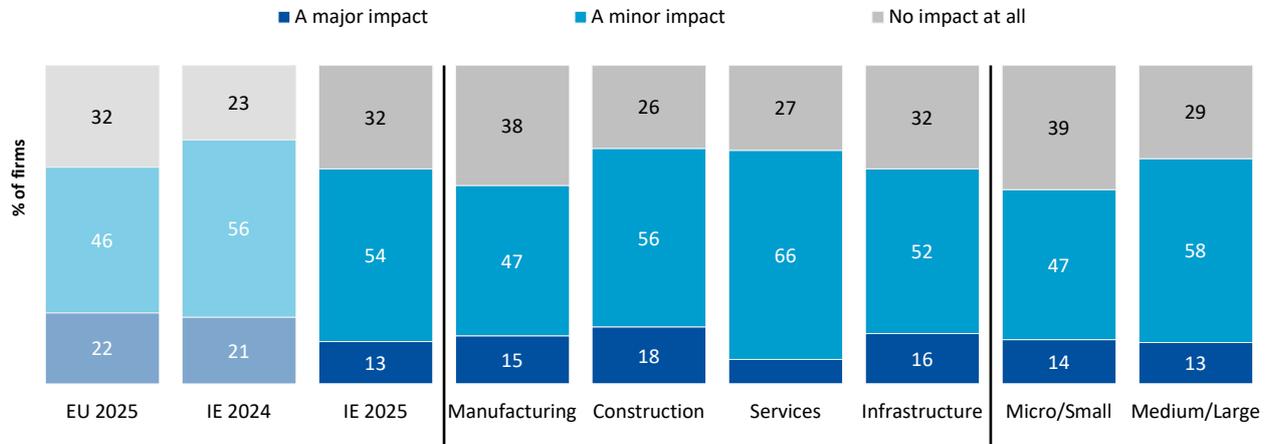
Q. Since the beginning of 2024, has your company made any of the following changes to your sourcing strategy, or are you planning to make any of these changes this year?

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

\* Base: All firms that import (excluding don't know/refused responses).

# Climate change and energy efficiency

## Impact of climate change — physical risk

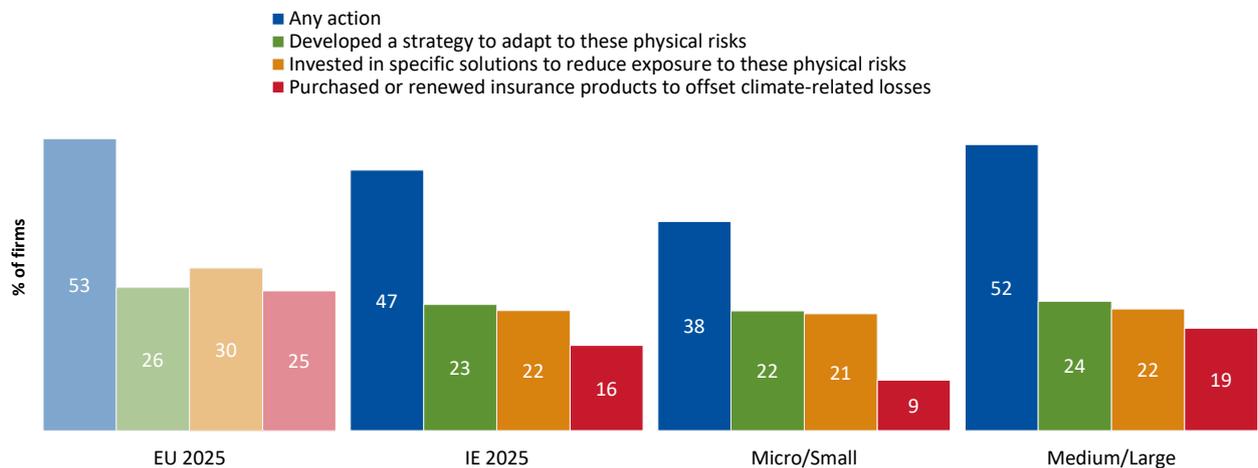


Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

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 temperatures and rainfall. What is the impact, also called physical risk, of this on your company?

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

## Building resilience to physical risk



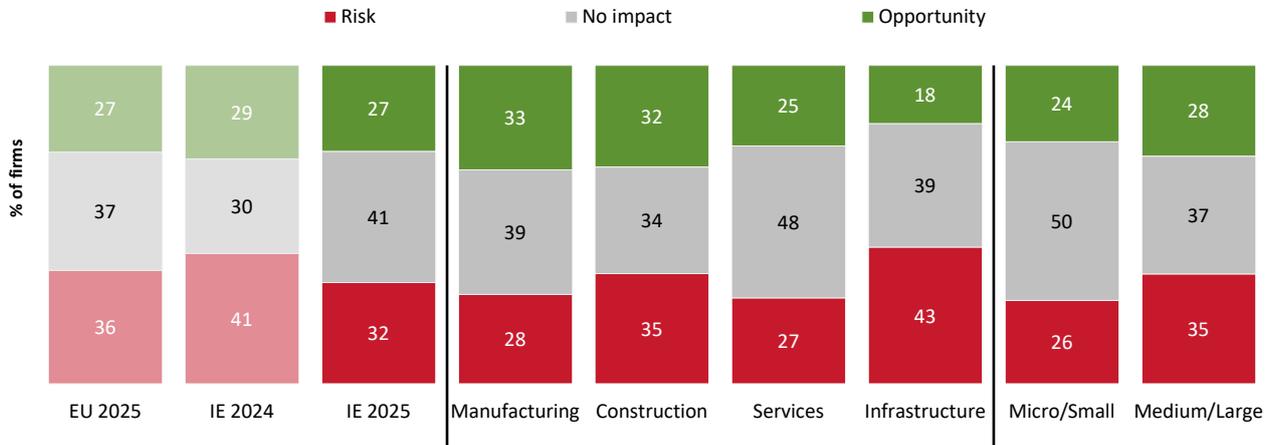
Please note: Firm size shows IE data only.

Q. Has your company done any of the following to address these physical risks?

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

# Climate change and energy efficiency

## Risks associated with the transition to a net zero emission economy over the next five years

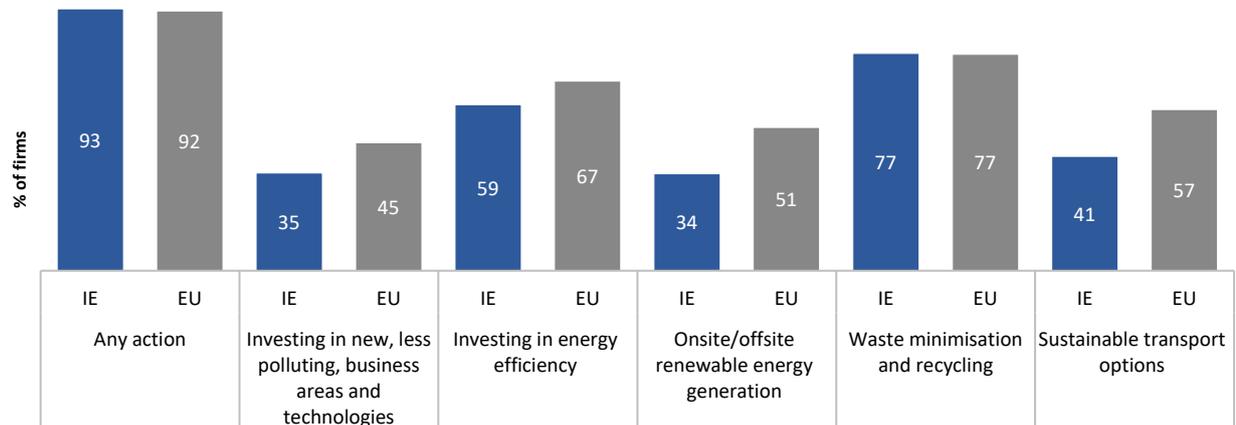


Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

Q. What impact do you expect the 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).

## Measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions

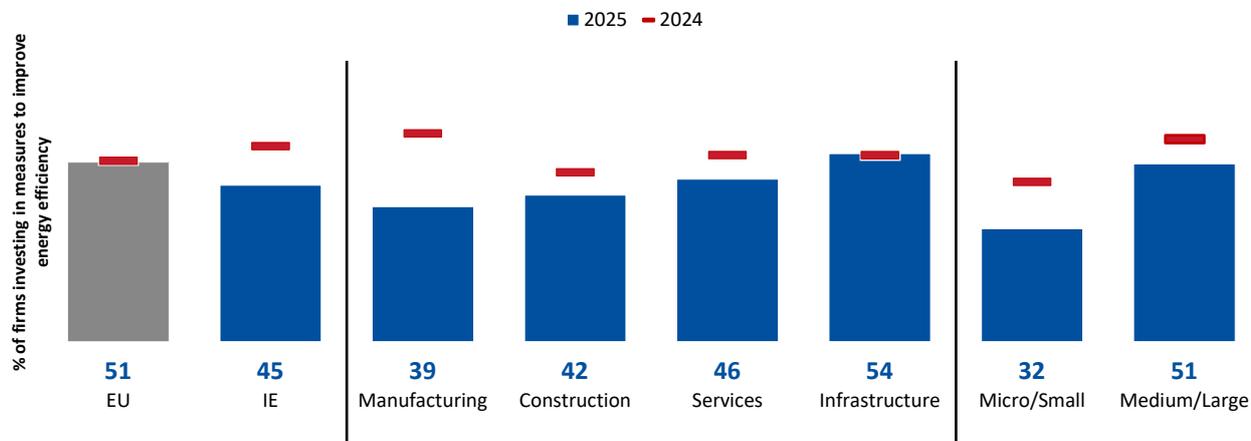


Q. Has your company invested or implemented the following, to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions?

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

# Climate change and energy efficiency

## Share of firms investing in measures to improve energy efficiency

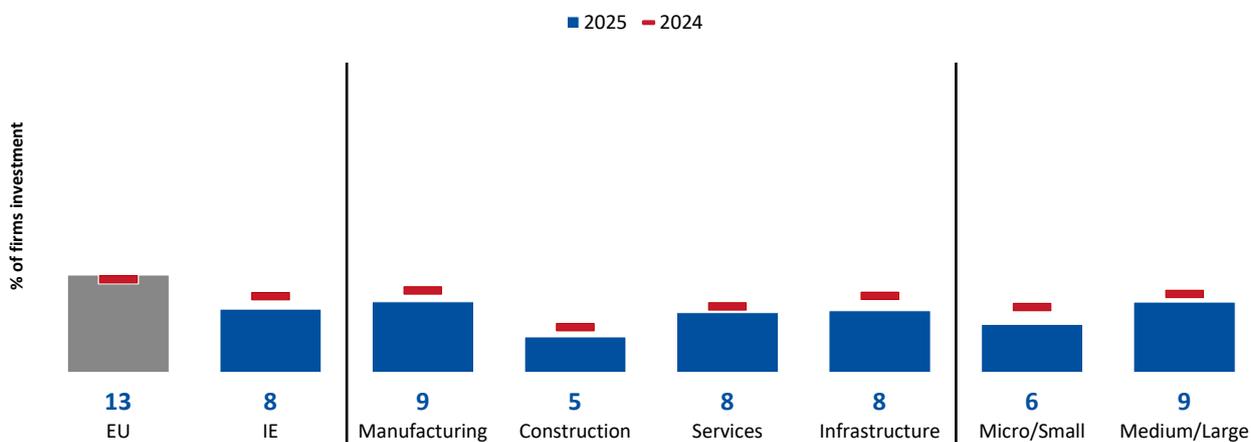


Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only. Derived indicator based on the number of firms that reported a percentage above 0% for the amount they invested in the last financial year to improve energy efficiency.

Q. Thinking again about your total investments in the last financial year, approximately what proportion of those investments included measures specifically intended to improve energy efficiency in your organisation?

Base: All firms.

## Share of investment in measures to improve energy efficiency



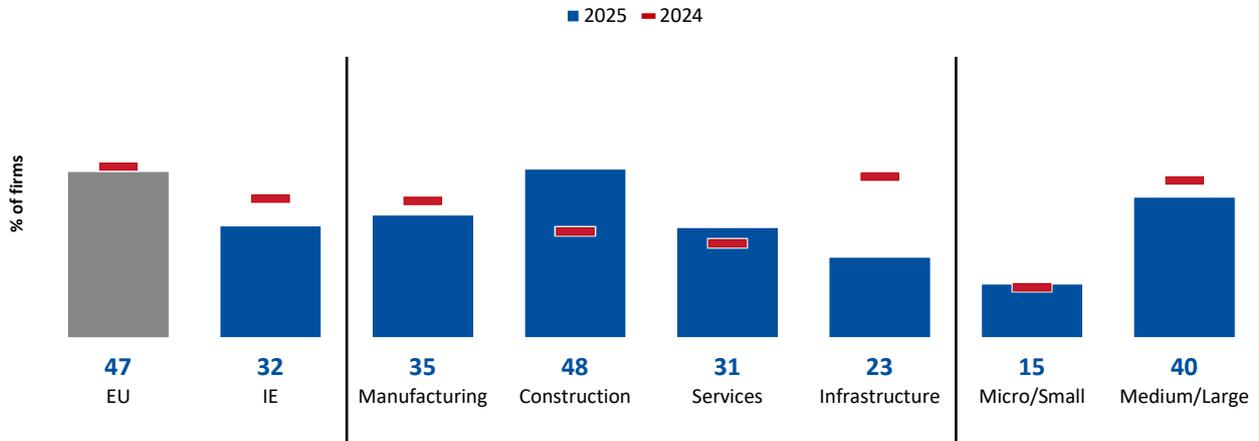
Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

Q. Thinking again about your total investments in the last financial year, approximately what proportion of those investments included measures specifically intended to improve energy efficiency in your organisation?

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

# Climate change and energy efficiency

## Targets for own greenhouse gas emissions

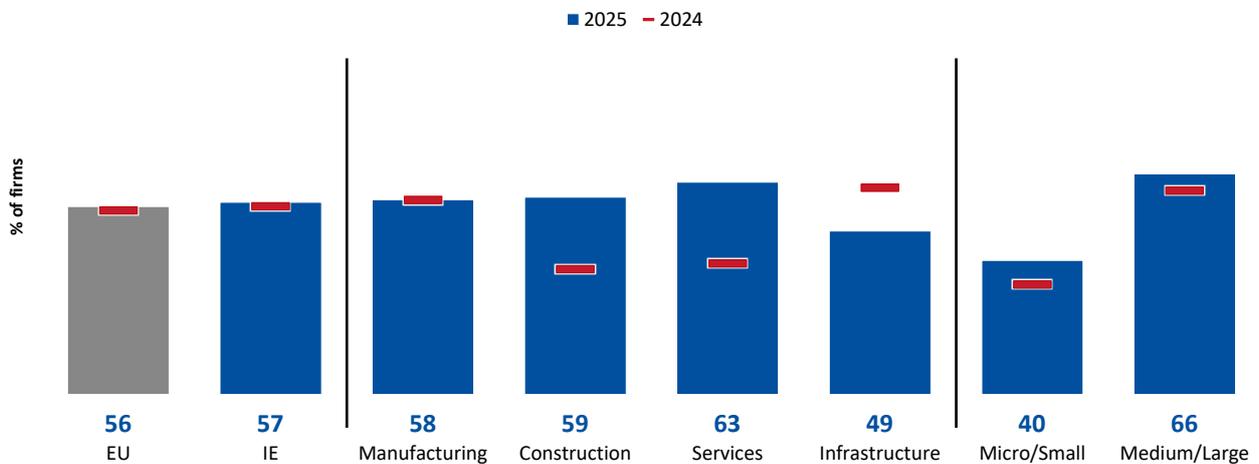


Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

Q. Does your company set and monitor targets for its own greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions?

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

## Energy audit



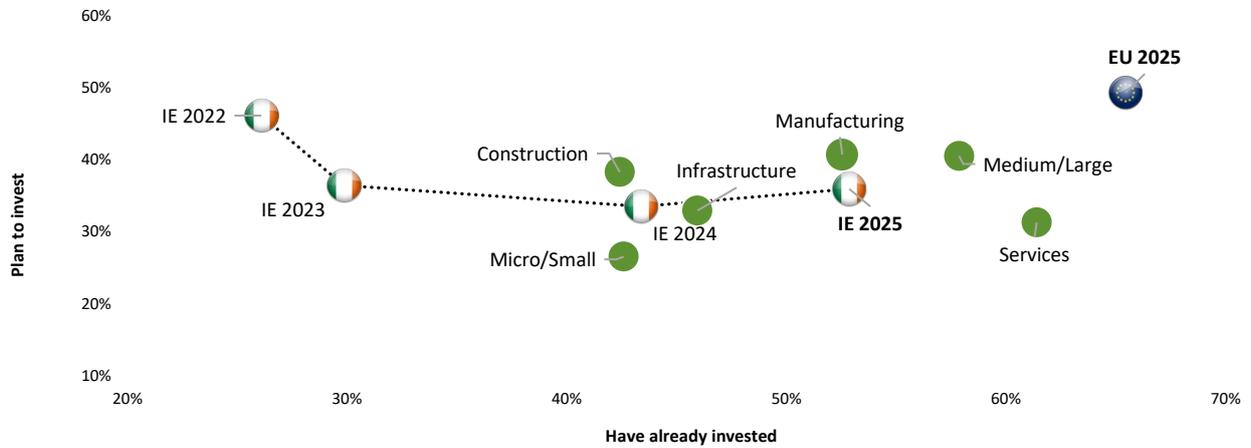
Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

Q. In the past three years, has your company had an energy audit? By this I mean an assessment of the energy needs and efficiency of your company's building or buildings.

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

# Climate change and energy efficiency

## Investment plans to deal with climate change impact



Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

Q. Which of the following applies to your company regarding investments to tackle the impacts of weather events and/or to help reduce carbon emissions?

(a) Before this year the company had already made such investments; (b) The company is investing this year; (c) The company intends to invest over the next three years; (d) The company has no investment planned for the next three years.

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

# Innovation activities

## Innovation activities



Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

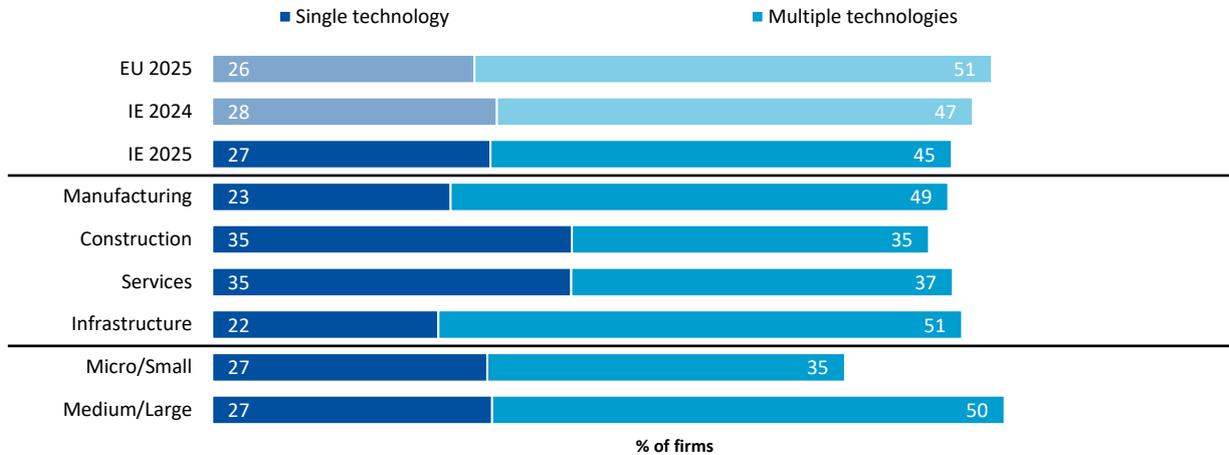
Q. What proportion of the total investment in the last financial year was for developing or introducing new products, processes or services?

Q. Were the products, processes or services new to the company, new to the country or new to the global market?

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

# Innovation activities

## Use of advanced digital technologies



Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

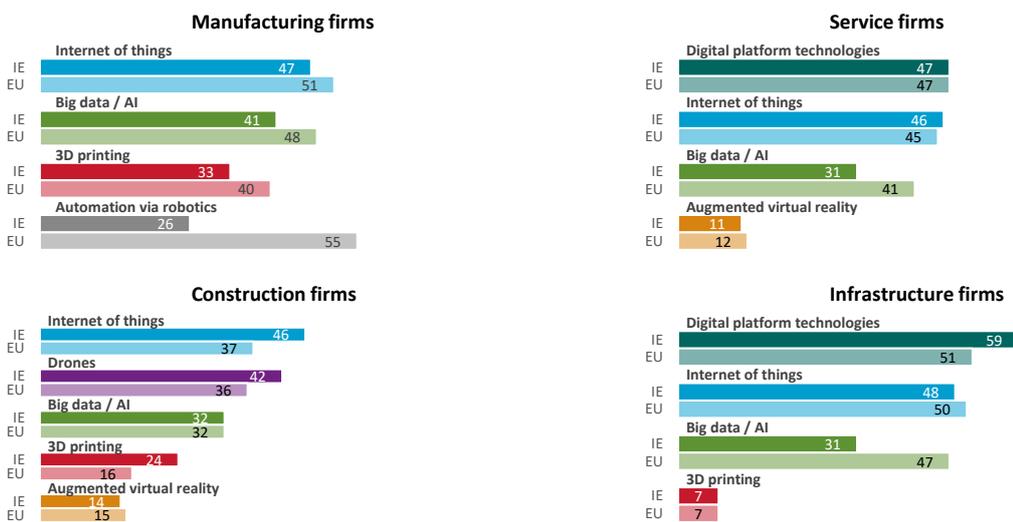
Q. To what extent, if at all, are each of the following digital technologies used within your business? Please say if you do not use the technology within your business.

Reported shares group responses of firms that “used” the technology, used it “in parts of business” or had the “entire business organised around it.” Single technology refers to firms using one of the technologies surveyed for. Multiple technologies refers to firms using more than one of the technologies surveyed for.

Please note that the selection of advanced digital technologies surveyed varies by sector. While firms are usually asked about four technologies, construction firms were presented with five this year. To maintain consistency with previous years' analysis, the data for construction firms in the chart above excludes the newly added 'Big Data and artificial intelligence'. A detailed breakdown of all technologies surveyed per sector is provided on the following chart.

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

## Use of advanced digital technologies, by sector



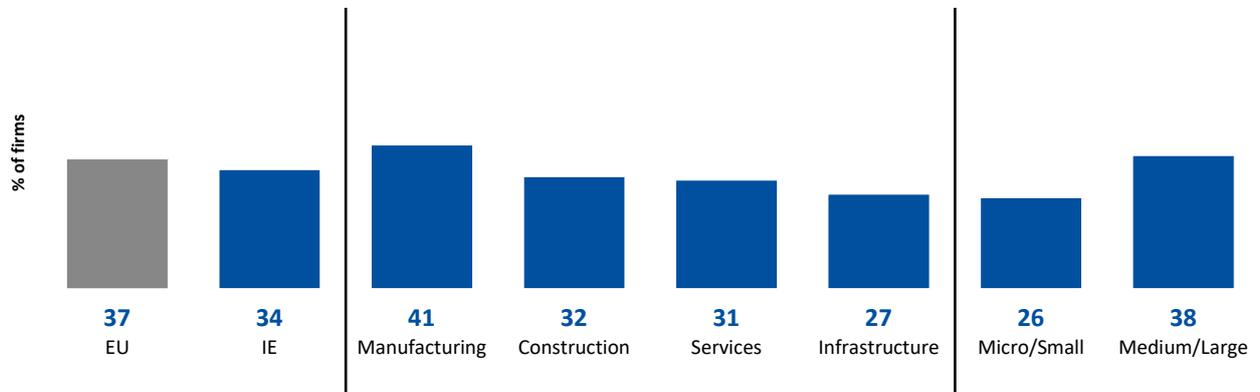
Q. To what extent, if at all, are each of the following digital technologies used within your business? Please say if you do not use the technology within your business.

Reported shares group the responses of firms that implemented the technology “in parts of business” or had the “entire business organised around it.” The survey questions were customised by sector. All firms were asked about 'Internet of things' and 'Big Data analytics and artificial intelligence'. Additionally, '3-D printing' was included for manufacturing, construction, and infrastructure firms; 'Digital platform technologies' for service and infrastructure firms; and 'Augmented or virtual reality' for service and construction firms. 'Automation via advanced robotics' was surveyed exclusively for manufacturing firms, and 'Drones' only for construction firms.

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

# Use of artificial intelligence

## Firms using generative artificial intelligence



Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

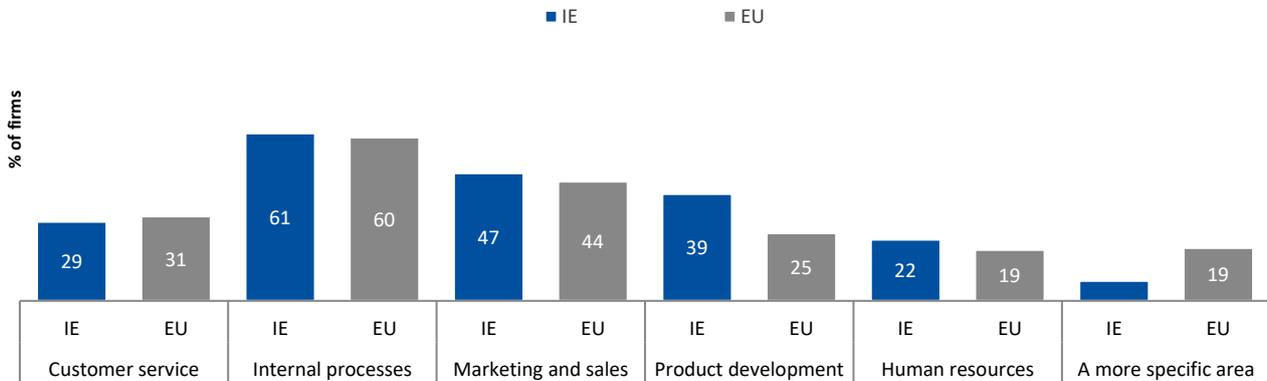
Q. To what extent, if at all, are each of the following digital technologies used within your business?

Q. I would like to ask about your company's systematic use of generative AI tools to improve processes. These are tools like ChatGPT, Bard, or Copilot that can create new content, like text, images, or codes. Does your company invest in these kinds of tools in any of the following areas?

Base: All firms.

# Use of artificial intelligence

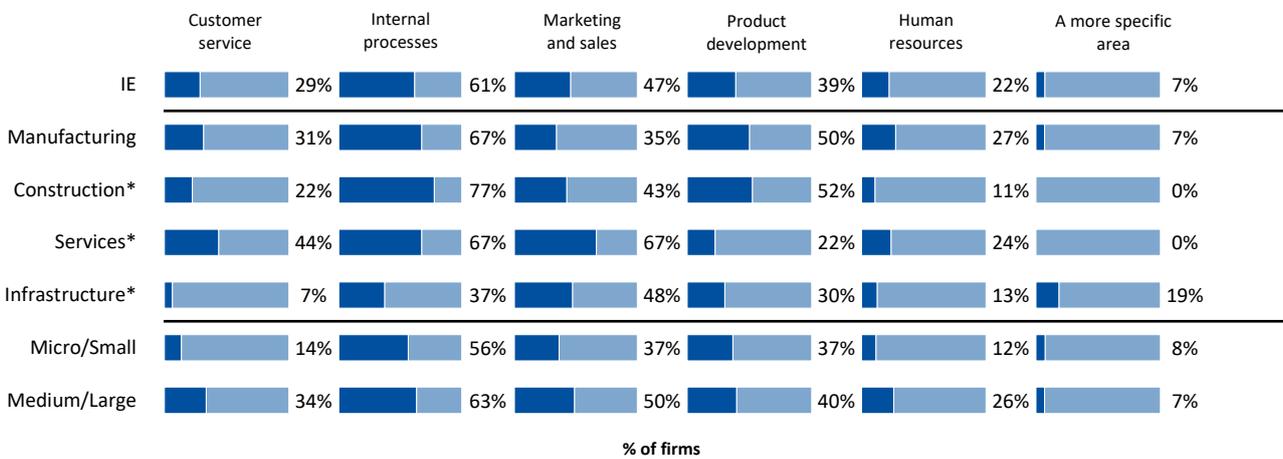
## Areas in which AI tools are used



Q. I would like to ask about your company's systematic use of generative AI tools to improve processes. These are tools like ChatGPT, Bard, or Copilot that can create new content, like text, images, or codes. Does your company invest in these kinds of tools in any of the following areas?

Base: All firms using artificial intelligence.

## Areas in which AI tools are used, by sector and firm size



Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

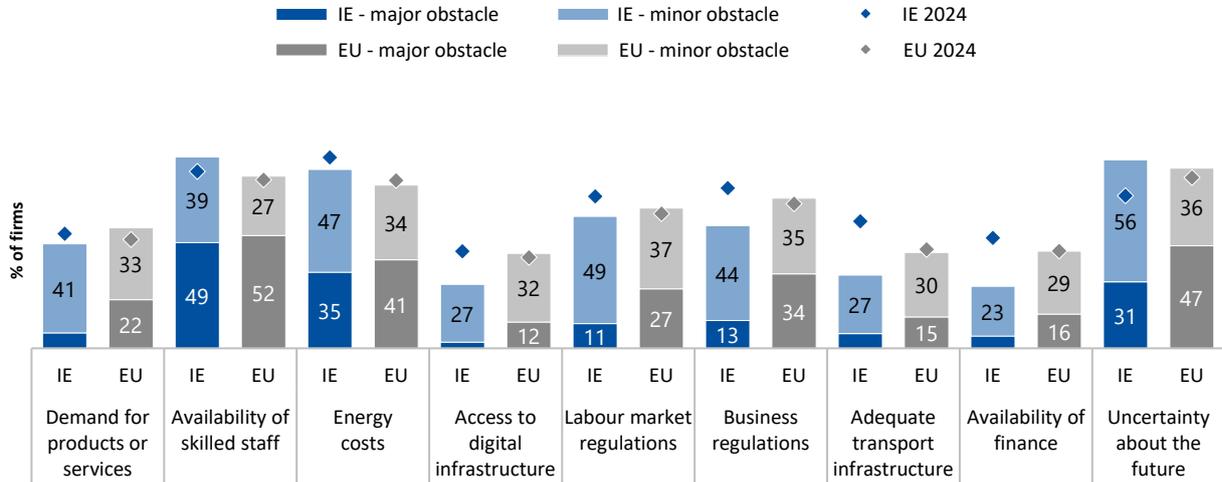
Q. I would like to ask about your company's systematic use of generative AI tools to improve processes. These are tools like ChatGPT, Bard, or Copilot that can create new content, like text, images, or codes. Does your company invest in these kinds of tools in any of the following areas?

Base: All firms using artificial intelligence.

\* Caution: base size is low, it is less than 30 observations.

# Investment barriers

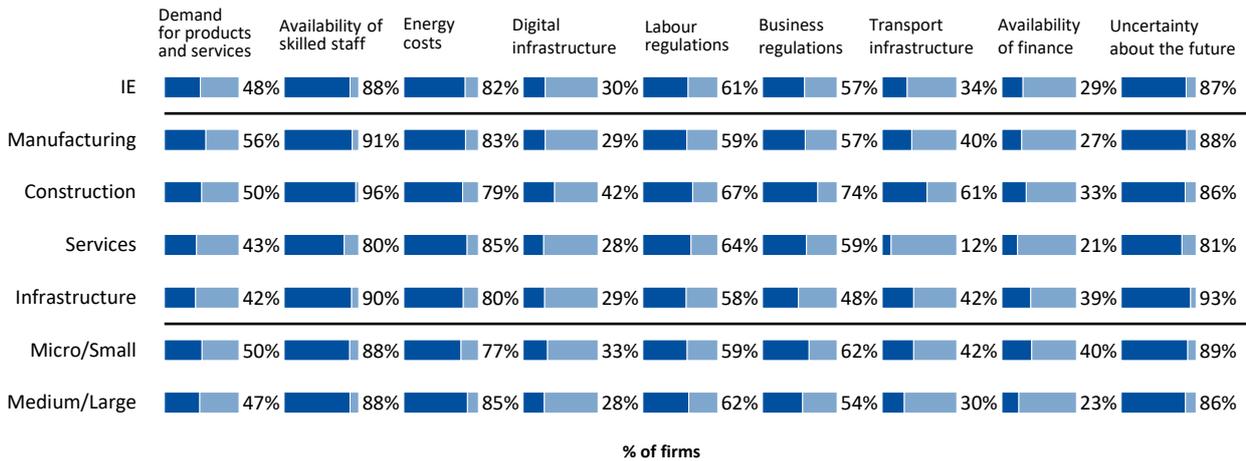
## Obstacles to investment



Q. Thinking about your investment activities in the last financial year, 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 not an obstacle at all/don't know/refused responses).

## Obstacles to investment, by sector and firm size



Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

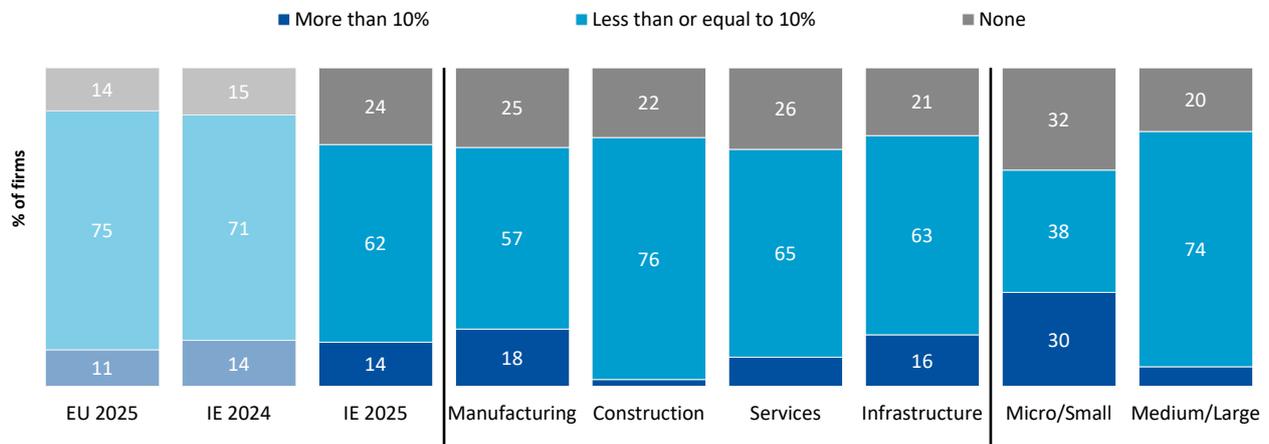
Q. Thinking about your investment activities in the last financial year, to what extent is each of the following an obstacle? Is it a major obstacle, a minor obstacle or not an obstacle at all?

Reported shares combine "minor" and "major" obstacles into one category.

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

# Room for streamlining, and for strengthening the single market

## Firms by share of staff employed to meet regulatory requirements

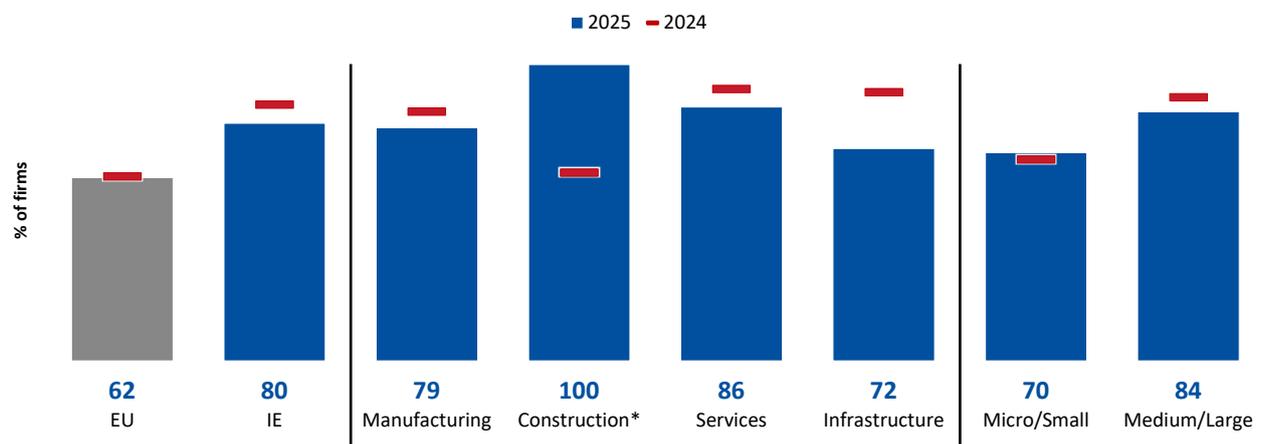


Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

Q. How many staff does your company employ to assess and comply with mandatory or voluntary regulatory requirements and standards and to fulfil reporting requirements related to those?

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

## Main product or service subject to varying requirements and standards



Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

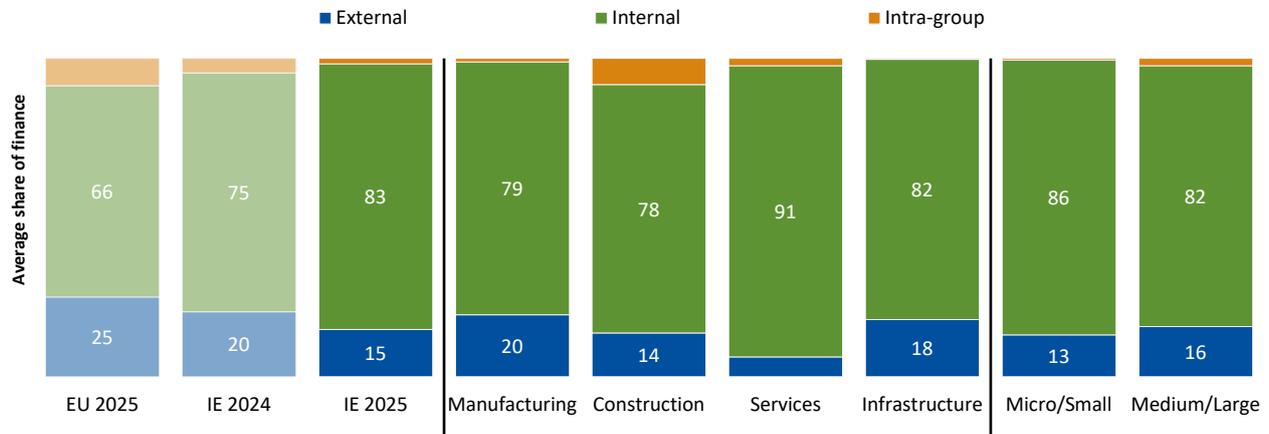
Q. Does your main product or service have to comply with differentiated regulatory requirements, standards or consumer protection rules across EU member states?

Base: All EU firms that export (excluding don't know/refused responses).

\* Caution: base size is low, it is less than 30 observations.

# Access to finance

## Source of investment finance

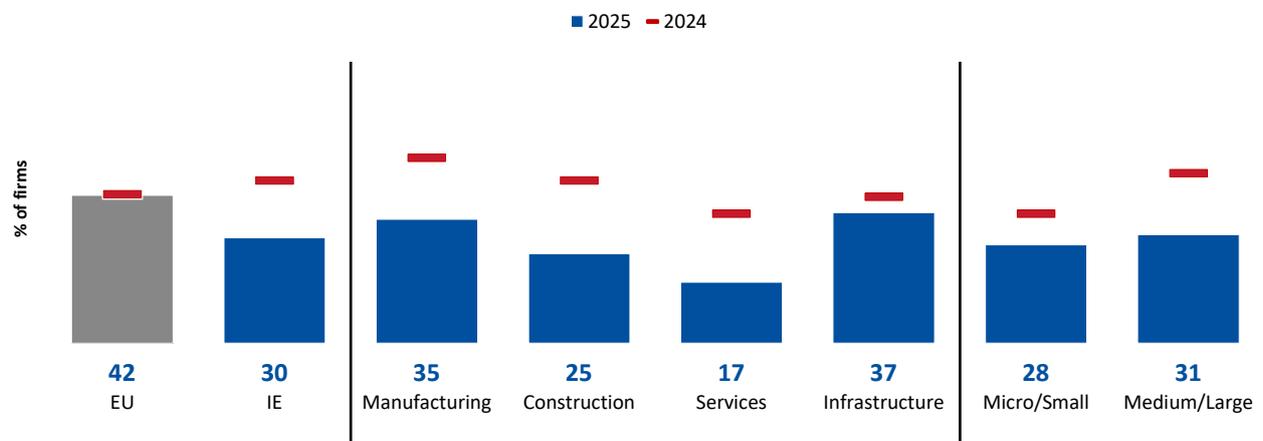


Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

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

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

## Share of firms using external finance



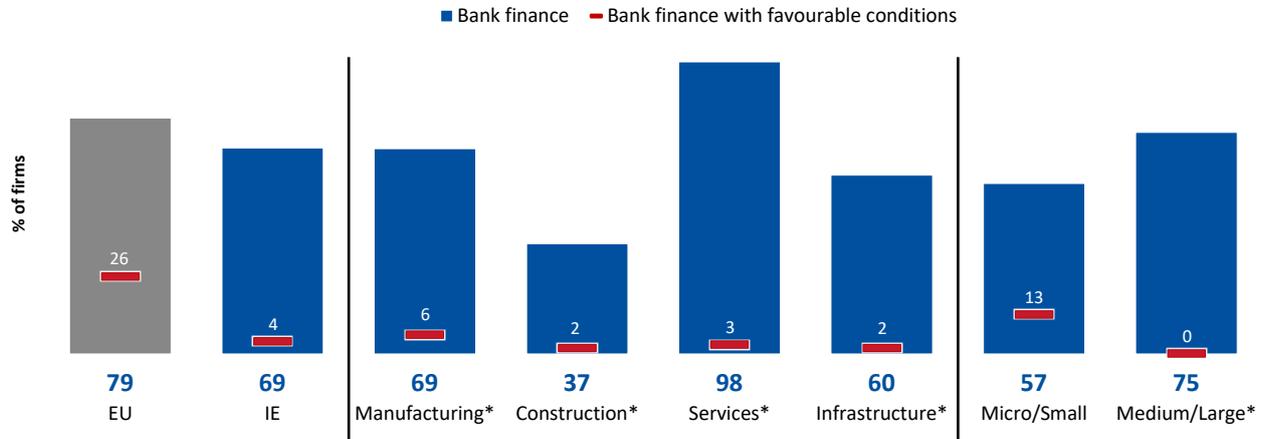
Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

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

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

# Access to finance

## Use of bank finance and bank finance with favourable conditions



Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

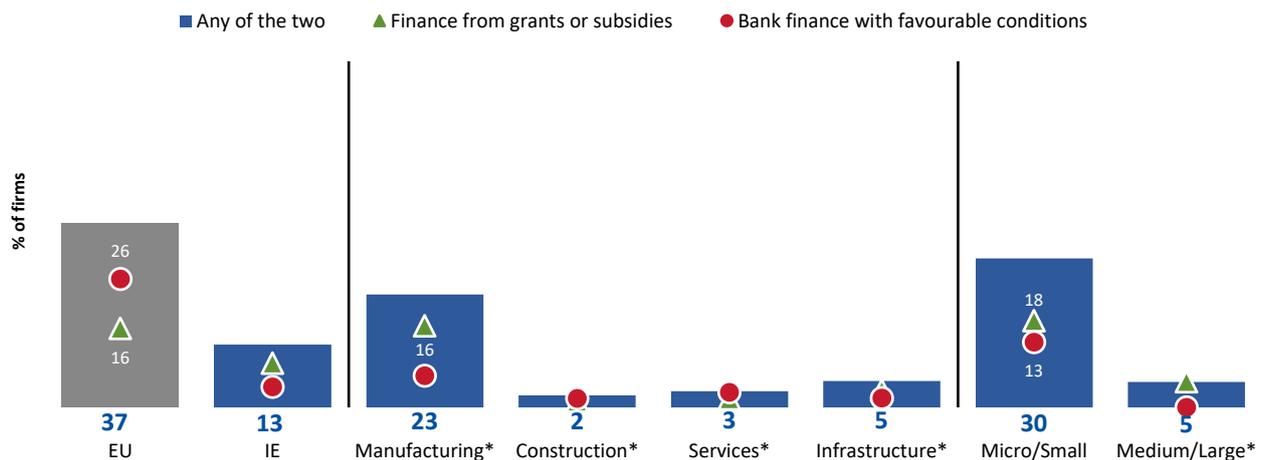
Q. Which of the following types of external finance did you use for your investment activities in the last financial year?

Q. Was any of the bank finance you received on concessional terms (e.g., subsidised interest rate, longer grace period to make debt payments or very favourable conditions)?

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

\* Caution: base size is low, it is less than 30 observations.

## Firms with finance from grants or subsidies or bank finance with favourable conditions



Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

Q. Which of the following types of external finance did you use for your investment activities in the last financial year?

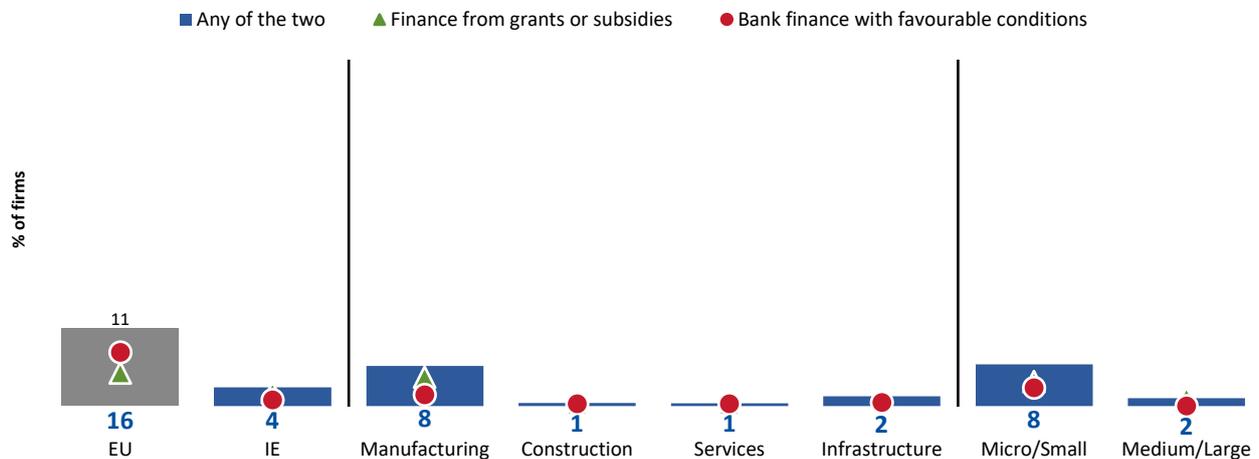
Q. Now thinking about the bank finance you obtained, was any of the bank finance you received on concessional terms (e.g. subsidised interest rate, longer grace period to make debt payments or very favourable conditions)?

Base: All firms using external finance (excluding don't know and refused responses).

\* Caution: base size is low, it is less than 30 observations.

# Access to finance

## Investing firms with finance from grants or subsidies or bank finance with favourable conditions



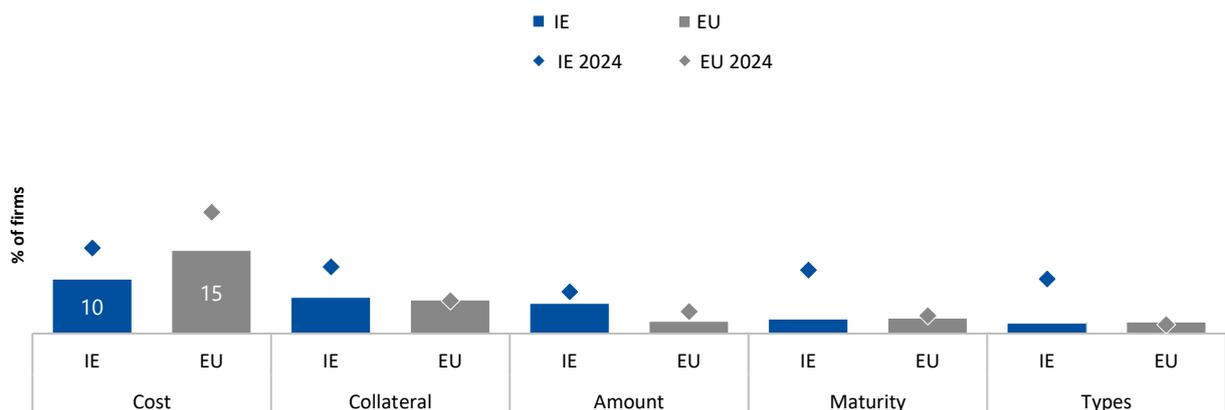
Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

Q. Which of the following types of external finance did you use for your investment activities in the last financial year?

Q. Now thinking about the bank finance you obtained, was any of the bank finance you received on concessional terms (e.g. subsidised interest rate, longer grace period to make debt payments or very favourable conditions)?

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

## Dissatisfaction with external finance received

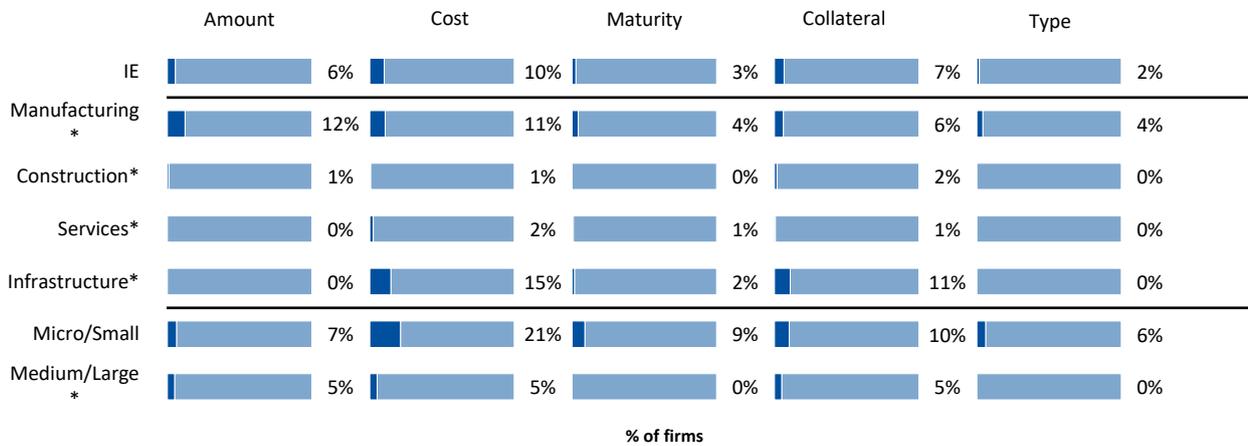


Q. Thinking about all of the external finance you obtained for your investment activities, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with it in terms of ...?

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

# Access to finance

## Dissatisfaction with external finance received, by sector and firm size



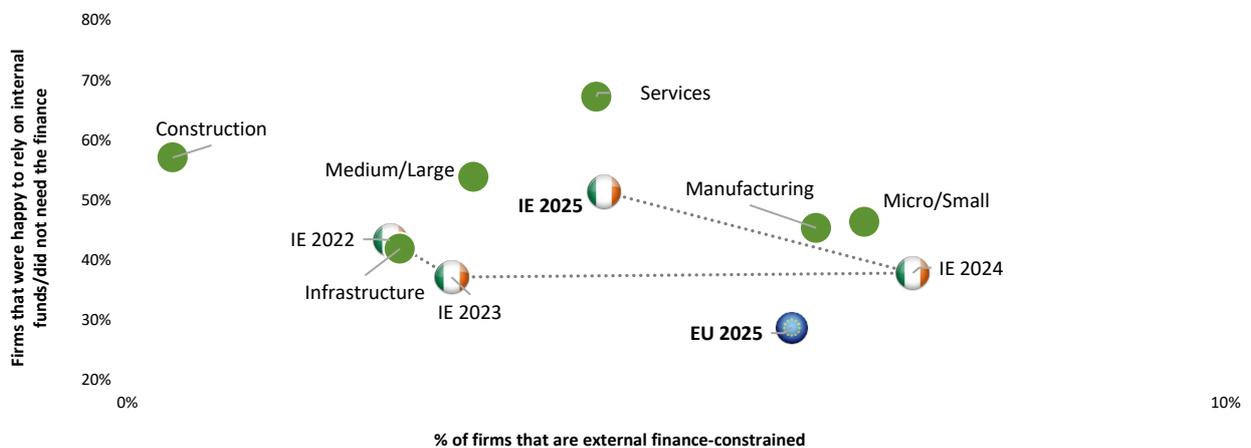
Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

Q. Thinking about all of the external finance you obtained for your investment activities, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with it in terms of ...?

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

\* Caution: base size is low, it is less than 30 observations.

## Financing cross



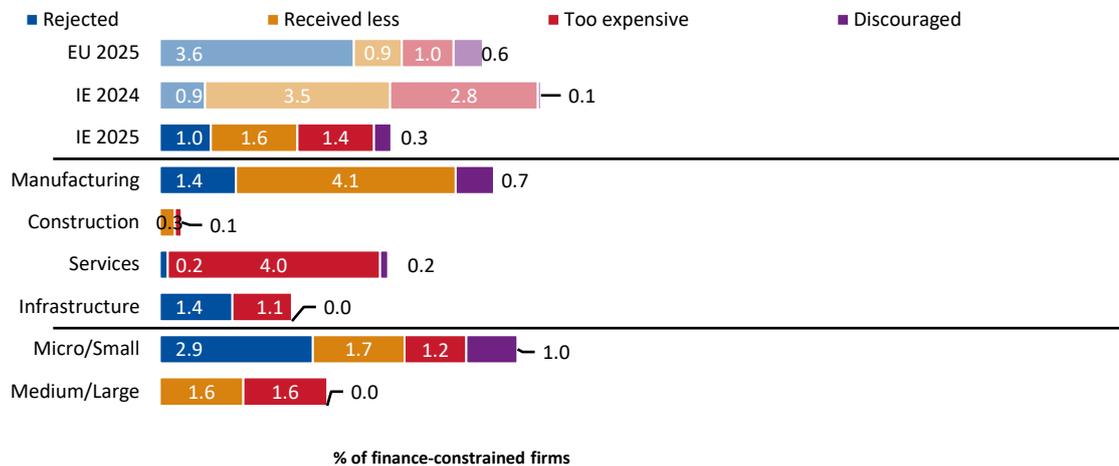
Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

Data derived from the financial constraint indicator and firms indicating that the main reason for not applying for external finance was "happy to use internal finance/didn't need finance."

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

# Access to finance

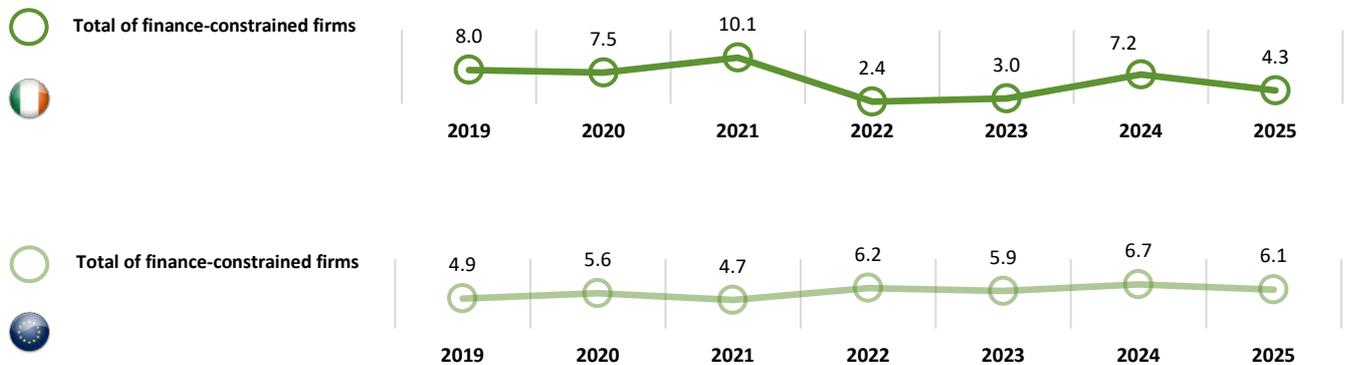
## Share of finance-constrained firms



Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

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

## Share of finance-constrained firms over time

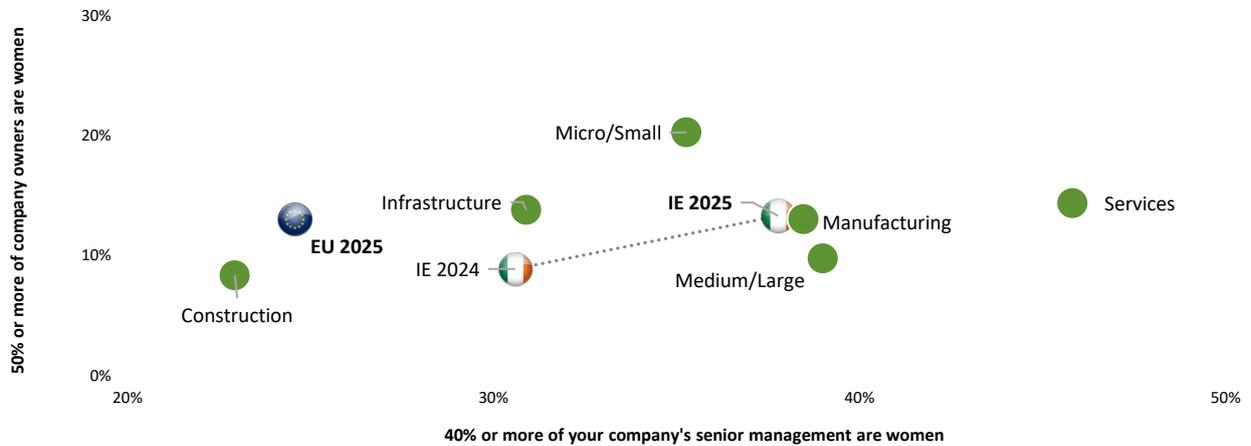


Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses). Trend data is based on total net.

# Gender equality in business

## Firms by share of women in senior roles



Please note: Sector and firm size show IE data only.

Q. Which of the following, if any, apply to your company: 50% or more of your company's owners are women; 40% or more of your company's senior management are women?

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

# EIBIS 2025: Country technical details

## Sampling tolerances applicable to percentages at or near these levels

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

	EU (11 990)	IE (402)	Manufacturing (102)	Construction (78)	Services (146)	Infrastructure (74)	Micro/Small (310)	Medium/Large (92)	EU vs. IE (11 990 vs. 402)	Manuf. vs. Constr. (78 vs. 102)	Micro/Small vs. Medium/Large (310 vs. 92)
10% or 90%	1.2%	4.0%	6.1%	8.8%	8.3%	8.1%	3.7%	5.7%	4.1%	10.6%	6.8%
30% or 70%	1.8%	6.1%	9.3%	13.4%	12.6%	12.4%	5.7%	8.7%	6.3%	16.2%	10.3%
50%	1.9%	6.7%	10.1%	14.6%	13.8%	13.6%	6.2%	9.4%	6.9%	17.7%	11.3%

## Glossary

<b>Construction sector</b>	Based on the NACE classification of economic activities: firms in group F (construction).
<b>Infrastructure sector</b>	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).
<b>Investment</b>	A firm is considered to have invested if it spent more than €500 per employee on investment activities with the intention of maintaining or increasing the company's future earnings.
<b>Investment cycle</b>	Based on the expected investment in the current financial year compared to the last one, and on the share of firms with investment greater than €500 per employee.
<b>Large firms</b>	Firms with at least 250 employees.
<b>Manufacturing sector</b>	Based on the NACE classification of economic activities: firms in group C (manufacturing).
<b>Services sector</b>	Based on the NACE classification of economic activities: firms in group G (wholesale and retail trade) and group I (accommodation and food services activities).
<b>SMEs</b>	Small and medium companies (firms with between five and 249 employees).

# EIBIS 2025: Country technical details

The country overview presents selected findings based on telephone interviews with 402 firms in Ireland (carried out between April and July 2025).

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

	EU 2025	IE 2025 / 2024	Manufacturing	Construction	Services	Infrastructure	Micro/Small	Medium/Large
All firms, p. 4 (bottom), p. 7 (top), p. 7 (bottom), p. 12 (top), p. 17 (top)	11 990	402/400	102	78	146	74	310	92
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 4 (top)	11 724	379/389	94	74	137	72	294	85
All firms that invested in the last financial year (excluding don't know/ refused responses), p. 5 (top)	10 163	348/351	87	69	122	68	267	81
All firms that invested in the last financial year (excluding don't know/ refused responses), p. 5 (bottom)	9 979	345/350	84	71	123	65	264	81
All firms (excluding 'Company didn't exist three years ago' responses), p. 6 (top)	11 982	402/400	102	78	146	74	310	92
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 6 (bottom)	11 743	401/398	102	78	145	74	309	92
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 8 (top)	11 961	400/395	102	78	144	74	309	91
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses/not applicable responses), p. 8 (bottom)	11 927	401/398	102	78	145	74	309	92
All importers and exporters (excluding don't know/refused responses/not applicable responses), p. 8 (bottom)	7 338	282/248	90	48	100	44	213	69
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 9 (top)	11 916	402/397	102	78	146	74	310	92
All firms that import (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 9 (top)	6 073	235/223	72	36	91	36	179	56
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 10 (top)	11 921	401/395	101	78	146	74	309	92
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses) p. 10 (bottom)	11 920	402/399	102	78	146	74	310	92
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 11 (top)	11 393	394/378	99	76	143	74	302	92
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 11 (bottom)	11 969	402/398	102	78	146	74	310	92
All firms that have invested in the last financial year (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 12 (bottom)	10 251	348/353	87	71	121	67	266	82
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 13 (top)	11 816	369/376	90	70	134	73	287	82

All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 13 (bottom)	11 463	392/384	97	78	142	73	302	90
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 14 (top)	11 691	399/394	101	78	145	73	307	92
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 15 (top)	11 810	399/392	102	77	146	72	307	92
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 16 (top)	11 959	402/395	102	78	146	74	310	92
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 16 (bottom)	11 868	401/395	102	77	146	74	309	92
All firms using artificial intelligence, p. 18	3 984	106/NA	34	25	24	23	71	35
All firms (data not shown for not an obstacle at all/don't know/refused responses), p. 19	11 990	402/400	102	78	146	74	310	92
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 20 (top)	11 611	382/384	94	73	142	71	297	85
All EU firms that export (excluding don't know/refused responses), p.20 (bottom)	5 404	167/133	61	23	51	32	112	55
All firms that invested in the last financial year (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 21 (top)	10 532	350/351	86	70	124	68	269	81
All firms that invested in the last financial year (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 21 (bottom)	10 532	350/351	86	70	124	68	269	81
All firms using external finance (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 22 (top)	3 985	92/119	25	20	22	25	68	24
All firms using external finance (excluding don't know and refused responses), p. 22 (bottom)	3 981	91/125	25	20	21	25	68	23
All firms that have invested in the last financial year (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 23 (top)	10 532	350/351	86	70	124	68	269	81
All firms that used external finance in the last financial year (excluding don't know and refused responses), p. 23 (bottom), p. 24 (top)	3 916	92/122	25	20	22	25	68	24
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 24 (bottom)	11 630	369/376	90	70	134	73	287	82
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 25	11 630	369/376	90	70	134	73	287	82
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 26	11 477	390/388	95	76	144	74	303	87



**EIB INVESTMENT SURVEY 2025**

# **IRELAND**

**OVERVIEW**

