



National Bank  
of Ukraine

# Business Outlook Survey of Mykolaiv Oblast\*

Q3 2024



\*This survey only reflects the opinions of respondents in Mykolaiv oblast (top managers of companies) who were polled in Q3 2024, and does not represent NBU forecasts or estimates

A survey of companies carried out in **Mykolaiv oblast** in Q3 2024 showed that, on the back of the war, qualified staff shortages and high raw material and supplies prices, respondents downgraded their expectations for the output of Ukrainian goods and services and for the performance of their companies over the next 12 months. Inflation was expected to accelerate. Depreciation expectations remained high.

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

- the output of Ukrainian goods and services would decrease: the balance of expectations was (-18.8%), down from 0.0% in Q2 2024 (Figure 1). Overall, across Ukraine, respondents expected that the output would rise 3.7%
- prices for consumer goods and services would rise at a faster pace: 68.8% of respondents (compared to 56.3% in Q2 2024) expected the inflation rate to be higher than 10.0%, the figure across Ukraine being 45.5%. Respondents referred to production costs, military actions and the hryvnia exchange rate as the main inflation drivers (Figure 2)
- the hryvnia would depreciate: 81.3% of respondents (87.5% in the previous quarter) expected the hryvnia to weaken against the US dollar, the figure across Ukraine being 88.5%
- the financial and economic standings of their companies would deteriorate: the balance of expectations was (-6.3%), as in Q2 2024 (see Table) and (-0.9%) across Ukraine
- total sales, including external sales, would remain unchanged: the balances of responses were 0.0% for each, up from (-18.8%) and (-20.0%) respectively in the previous quarter (see Table). The balances of responses across Ukraine were 10.5% and 11.2% respectively
- investment in construction and in machinery, equipment, and tools would drop: the balances of responses were (-33.3%) and (-25.0%) respectively, compared to (-25.0%) for each in Q2 2024 (see Table). Across Ukraine, the balances of responses were (-3.2%) and 7.5% respectively
- staff numbers at their companies would decrease at a slower pace: the balance of responses was (-18.8%), up from (-33.3%) in Q2 2024 (Figure 4). Overall, across Ukraine the balance of responses was (-10.9%)
- purchase prices would rise more slowly: the balance of responses was 87.5%, down from 100.0% in the previous quarter. Respondents also expected that selling prices would rise: the balance of responses was 68.8%, as in Q2 2024 (Figure 6). High raw material and supplies prices, energy prices and the hryvnia exchange rate were cited as the main selling price drivers (Figure 7)
- per-unit production costs would grow: the balance of responses was 43.8% (compared to 37.5% in Q2 2024). Respondents expected that wage costs per staff member would grow more slowly: the balance of responses was 31.3%, compared to 50.0% in the previous quarter (Figure 4, 6).

Respondents referred to military actions and their consequences (mentioned by 93.8% of those surveyed), qualified staff shortages and high raw material and supplies prices (the impact of this factor was reported to have increased compared to the previous survey) as the main drags on the ability of their companies to boost production (Figure 5).

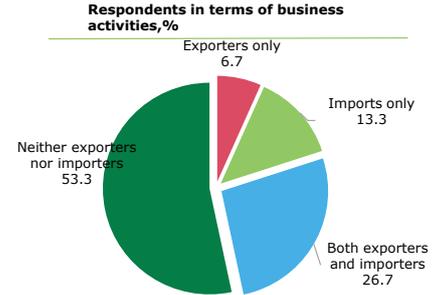
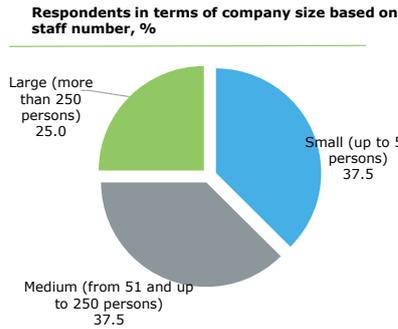
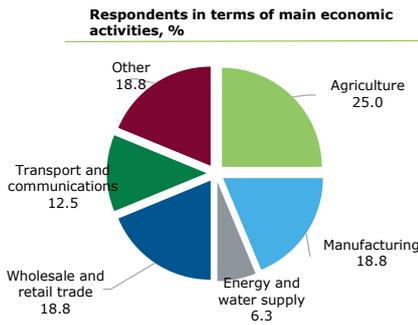
Respondents said that their borrowing needs would increase in the near future (Figure 8). The respondents who planned to take out bank loans (43.8% of those surveyed) usually opted for domestic currency loans. Respondents said that bank lending standards had eased (Figure 9). High loan rates, complicated paperwork and collateral requirements (the impact of this factor was reported to have increased significantly compared to the previous quarter) were cited as the major factors deterring companies from taking out loans (Figure 10).

All of the respondents said that they had encountered no difficulties in effecting transactions with funds deposited in bank accounts (97.1% across Ukraine).

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

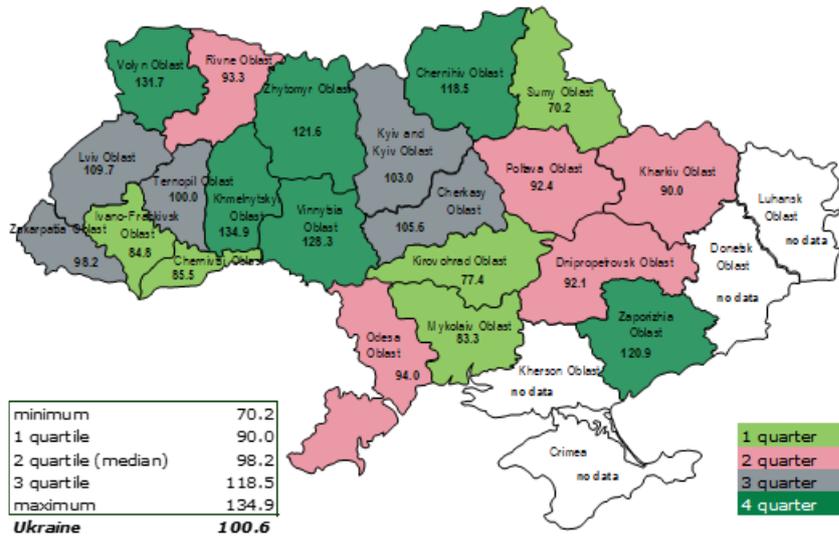
- Companies assessed their current financial and economic standings as bad: the balance of responses was (-6.3%), up from (-25.0%) in the previous quarter, the figure across Ukraine being (-6.0%).
- Finished goods stocks were assessed at lower than normal levels: the balance of responses was (-20.0%), up from (-44.4%) in Q2 2024.
- Companies had a sufficient amount of unutilized production capacity to meet any unexpected rise in demand: the balance of responses was 25.0%, compared to 18.8% in the previous quarter.

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



- Period: 31 July through 23 August 2024.
- A total of 16 companies were polled.
- A representative sample was generated on the basis of the agricultural sector.

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



<sup>3</sup>a quartile is the value of the BOI where an ordered sample is divided into four equal-sized subgroups  
<sup>4</sup>a median is the value of the BOI in the middle of an ordered sample where the sample is divided into two equal-sized subgroups

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

| Expectations over next 12 months for          | Balances of responses, % |       |       |       |       |
|---|--------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|   | Q3 23                    | Q4 23 | Q1 24 | Q2 24 | Q3 24 |
| Financial and economic standings              | 20.0                     | 26.7  | 12.5  | -6.3  | -6.3  |
| Total sales                                   | 13.3                     | 13.3  | 6.3   | -18.8 | 0.0   |
| Investment in construction                    | -15.4                    | -15.4 | -37.5 | -25.0 | -33.3 |
| Investment in machinery, equipment, and tools | 0.0                      | 7.1   | 0.0   | -25.0 | -25.0 |
| Staff numbers                                 | 0.0                      | 0.0   | -6.3  | -33.3 | -18.8 |

<sup>1</sup> This sample was generated in proportion to the contribution of each region and each economic activity to Ukraine's gross value added.  
<sup>2</sup> Data for totals and components may be subject to rounding effects.  
<sup>3</sup> The business outlook index (BOI) is an aggregate indicator for expected business performance over the next 12 months. It is calculated using the balances of respondents' responses regarding changes in the financial and economic standings of their companies and future economic activity.

Figure 1



Figure 2

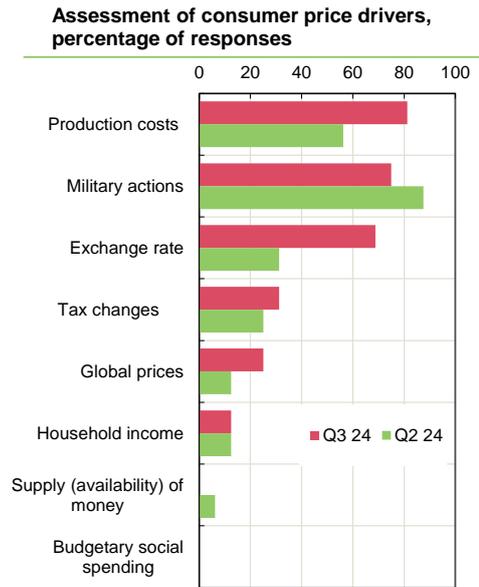


Figure 3

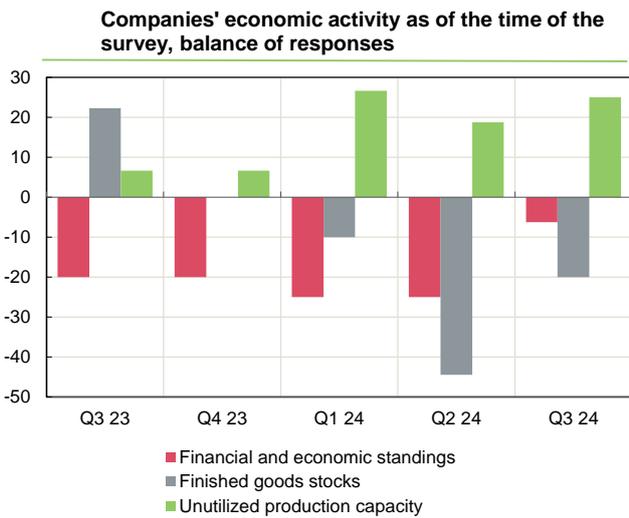


Figure 4

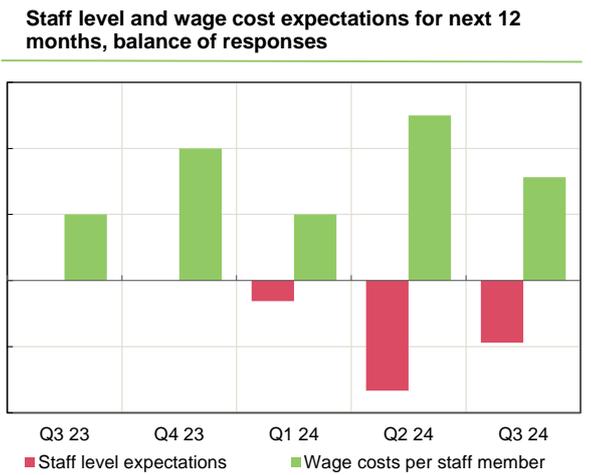


Figure 5

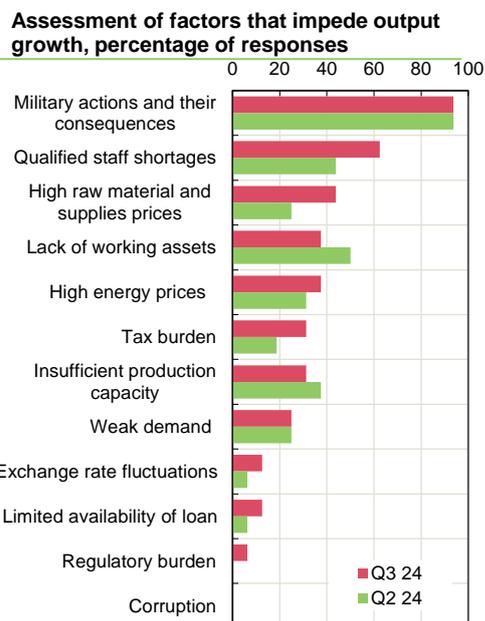


Figure 6

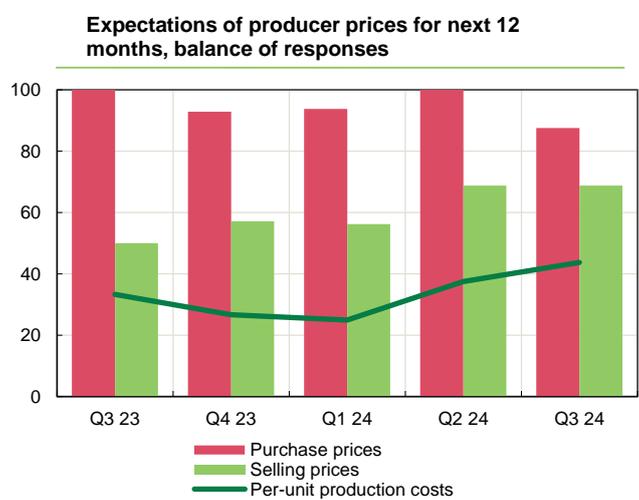


Figure 7

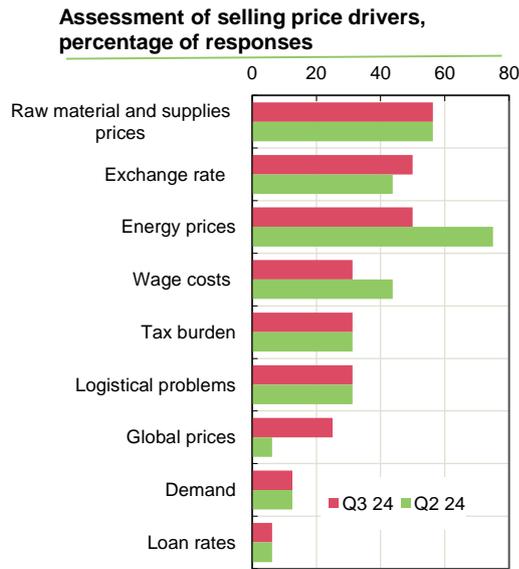


Figure 8

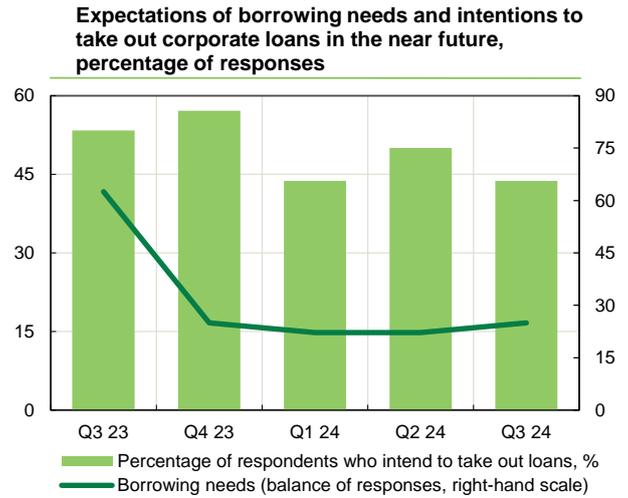


Figure 9

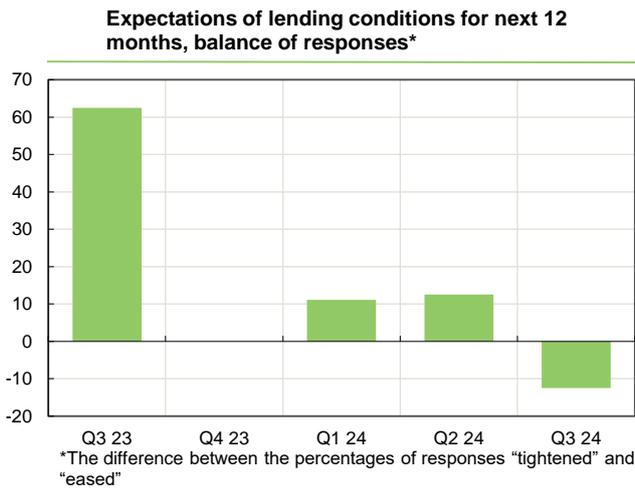


Figure 10

