

**Documentation of
the Bundesbank Online Panel –
Firms (BOP-F)**

Questionnaire 17

Waves 39, 40, 41

April, May, June 2024

Deutsche Bundesbank
Research Centre

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1 Notes

a General coding

For all questions, the following codes apply.

Code	Output
-9999	Dropout: The respondent did not answer the question due to dropout.
-9998	No answer: The respondent clicked "No answer" instead of answering the question.
-9997	Don't know: The respondent clicked "Don't know" instead of answering the question.
-9996	Does not apply: The respondent clicked "Does not apply to my enterprise" instead of answering the question.
-6666	Does not apply: The question or response option was not shown to the respondent due to filters or prior item non-response.
-5555	Recoded by BBk: A coding or data error that was recoded by the Bundesbank.

b Legend for question header

Each question header includes information on the name of the question, whether it was part of the core questionnaire ("Core"), included for a specific project ("Pro"), or part of descriptive statistics ("Descript"), the broad topic and the variable name(s).

Legend	Question name	Question source	Topic	Variable name
Example 1	003	Core	Perceived problems	percprob_[a-j]
Example 2	103	Pro	Supply chains qualitative	suppchains_[a-b]

c Question filtering and coding

Coding details, filters and conditional redirects are highlighted using *Courier*. If questions are posed to all respondents, this is not explicitly stated. For filtered questions, the filter is listed at the top and refers to the question name, e.g.:

103 | Pro | Supply chain problems domestic or foreign | suppchain_[a-b]

Input filter: 001_d = 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10

d Variable names

Variable **names** are indicated in the top right corner. If the question has multiple items, the items are indicated by underscores and a **letter**. Enumeration letters correspond to variable names. The **coding** of the variables is numeric and indicates the scale.

X01 | Core | Perceptions qualitative | percmacro_[a-i]

QUESTION: Please consider the period from **end-June 2022** to **end-June 2023**. How did the following metrics develop in your enterprise during this period?

Note: Please select one answer for each row.

- 1 = Decreased significantly
- 2 = Decreased
- 3 = Stayed roughly the same
- 4 = Increased
- 5 = Increased significantly
- 9996 = Does not apply to my enterprise

- a = Access to intermediate inputs <i>:
- b = Current trade receivables:
- c = Current trade payables:
- d = Short-term liquidity:
- e = Need for credit financing:
- f = Access to financing sources <i>:
- g = Inventories (stock of intermediate products and finished goods):
- h = Sales <i>:
- i = Expenditure on energy and fuels:

2 List of questions

Variable name	Topic	Question number	Origin
percmacro_[a-g]	Perceptions qualitative	X01	Core
expmacro_[a-g]	Expectations qualitative	X02	Core
keyrateprob_[f-r]	Development key rate probabilistic	X04A	Core
inflexpoint	Inflation expectations quantitative	X04B	Core
inflexpoint_3y	Inflation expectations quantitative – 3 years	811A	Pro 6
inflexpoint_5y	Inflation expectations quantitative – 5 years	811B	Pro 6
salespast	Sales past quarter quantitative	X05A	Core
salesfuture_[a-e]	Sales comparable quarter prediction	X05B	Core
salesprob_[a-e]	Sales comparable quarter probabilistic	X05C	Core
pricepast	Price change past year quantitative	X06A	Core
pricefuture	Price change next year quantitative	X06B	Core
priceunc	Price change uncertainty	X06C	Core
emplpast_[a, b]	Employment past quarter	X09A	BiQ Core
emplfuture	Employment comparable quarter prediction	X09B	BiQ Core
emplunc	Employment uncertainty	X09C	BiQ Core
creduse1	Microfinance credit negotiations	X07A	Core
creduse2_[a-f]	Microfinance negotiations result	X07B	Core
why_cred_neg_[a-e]	Reason credit negotiations	1701	Pro F 11
why_nocred_neg_[a-i]	Reason no credit negotiations	1702	Pro F 11
no_success_[a-h]	Reason unsuccessful credit negotiations	1703	Pro F 11
neg_ended_[a-i]	Reason negotiations ended	1704	Pro F 11
financingpast_[a-g]	Financing sources past	X08A	Core
financingfuture_[a-g]	Financing sources future	X08B	Core
use_AI_[a-d]	Extent of use AI	1705	Pro Vo 52
imp_gen_AI	Importance generative AI	1706	Pro Vo 52
reas_AI_[a-d]	Reasons for use AI	1707	Pro Vo 52
reas_robotic_[a-d]	Reasons for use robotic	1708	Pro Vo 52
invest_CO2_[a-c]	Investment climate	1709	Pro Vo 40, N 1
climfinshare_short	Finshare climate short term	1710A	Pro Vo 40, N 1
climfinshare_long	Finshare climate long term	1710B	Pro Vo 40, N 1
changeCO2_[a-b]	Change CO ₂ emissions	1711	Pro Vo 40, N 1
sales_exp_[a, b]	Sales expectations	1712	Pro Vo 40, N 1
consent	Firm characteristics implicit	D01	Descript
firmemploy_[a-b]	Firm characteristics explicit employment	D02	Descript
firmturnover_[a-b]	Firm characteristics explicit turnover	D03	Descript
firmsector	Firm characteristics explicit economic sector	D04	Descript
firmtype	Firm characteristics explicit ownership	D05	Descript
firmregion	Firm characteristics explicit region	D06	Descript
respondenttype_[a-k]	Characteristics of respondent	D07	Descript
feedback_[a-b]	Feedback questions	F01	Core
feedbackopen	Open feedback question	F02	Core
panel	Panel participation	P01	Core
contact	Contact	P02	Core

3 Introduction

000 | Core | OPENING 1

Welcome to the survey of firms conducted on behalf of the Deutsche Bundesbank.

Important information concerning the survey:

- To navigate through the survey, please only use the “Continue” button at the bottom of the screen. Please do **not** use the buttons in your browser or the back button on your phone or tablet.
- To ensure that the individual questions are displayed correctly, use an up-to-date browser such as Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox (version 12 or later), Apple Safari (version 6 or later), Opera (version 20 or later) or Microsoft Edge. Using older browsers, particularly Internet Explorer 8 or earlier, can result in limited functionality in terms of design and ease of use.
- During the survey, there is **no** option to go back to questions previously answered. If you would like an overview of the full questionnaire, please send a request to unternehmensbefragung@bundesbank.de.
- If you have any questions, problems or comments about navigating this questionnaire, you can contact the forsa support team from Monday to Friday between 09:00 and 18:00 on the free telephone number 0800 3677202 or by email at bundesbank-unternehmensbefragung@forsa.de. If you have any questions or comments on the content of the survey, please contact the Bundesbank’s project team by telephone at +49 (0)69 9566 32080 or by email at unternehmensbefragung@bundesbank.de.

000 | Core | OPENING 2

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. The Deutsche Bundesbank would like to know how the economic situation in your firm has changed over time and what you are currently expecting for the future.

The survey will take roughly 15 to 20 minutes to complete. Your answers will be treated confidentially. It would be a great help to us if you could answer the questions as carefully as possible.

000 | Core | OPENING 3

The Deutsche Bundesbank attaches particular importance to protecting your data. All of the information you provide will be treated confidentially in accordance with legal provisions. Only a few employees at a Bundesbank data trustee will see your survey data after pseudonymisation. Bundesbank employees will receive your data only after they have been further anonymised. Published results are completely anonymous and therefore cannot be traced back to your enterprise. Your answers will help the Deutsche Bundesbank fulfil its statutory tasks (to learn more about the Bundesbank’s tasks, please click [here](#)).

Only effectively anonymised data can be passed on to research institutions for research purposes that are related to the Bundesbank’s tasks. You will find more information, details of how to contact the project team, and selected results of the survey on the Bundesbank’s website: <https://www.bundesbank.de/en/bundesbank/research/survey-on-firms>.

Your participation in our survey is of course voluntary. By participating in this survey, you give your consent for your data to be stored, processed and shared for the purposes of the Deutsche Bundesbank fulfilling its tasks. You may withdraw your consent at any time. However, withdrawal of your consent shall not affect the lawfulness of any processing that took place on the basis of this declaration of consent before it was withdrawn.

Input filter: `newcomer = █`

During the survey, there will be two further requests for consent to link the survey data to business statistics and for another survey (if you would like to know more about this, please click [here](#)). Of course, you can choose not to consent to the above, though we would ask you to take part in the survey and fill in the other information. Your data will help the Deutsche Bundesbank fulfil its statutory tasks.

4 Questions

X01 Core Perceptions qualitative percmacro_[a-i]
"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".
After the term "Access to intermediate inputs", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "If access to intermediate inputs has deteriorated, please state "decreased" or "decreased significantly"."
After the term "Access to financing sources", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Access to financing sources describes the possibility of using various forms of external financing to finance your business activities, e.g. bank loans, trade credits, equity, debt securities or other financing instruments. If the possibilities of using these financing sources have deteriorated, please state "decreased" or "decreased significantly"."
After the term "Sales", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Please consider your sales in the first quarter of 2024 (January to March 2024) and compare them with sales in the first quarter of 2023 (January to March 2023). In place of sales growth, banks/credit institutions should consider the development of their gross interest and commission income and their net trading income. Insurers should consider the development of their gross premiums written."
QUESTION: Please consider the period from end-March 2023 to end-March 2024 . How did the following metrics develop in your enterprise during this period?
<i>Note: Please select one answer for each row.</i>
<p>1 = Decreased significantly 2 = Decreased 3 = Stayed roughly the same 4 = Increased 5 = Increased significantly -9996 = Does not apply to my enterprise</p>
<p>a = Access to intermediate inputs <i>: b = Current trade receivables: c = Current trade payables: d = Short-term liquidity: e = Need for credit financing: f = Access to financing sources <i>: g = Inventories (stock of intermediate products and finished goods): h = Sales <i>: i = Expenditure on energy and fuels:</p>

X02 Core Expectations qualitative expmacro_[a-i]
"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".
After the term "Access to intermediate inputs", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "If you expect access to intermediate inputs to deteriorate, please state "decrease" or "decrease significantly"."
After the term "Access to financing sources", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Access to financing sources describes the possibility of using various forms of external financing to finance your business activities, e.g. bank loans, trade credits, equity, debt securities or other financing instruments. If you expect the possibilities of using these financing sources to deteriorate, please state "decrease" or "decrease significantly"."
After the term "Sales", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Please consider your expected sales in the first quarter of 2025 (January to March 2025) and compare them with sales in the first quarter of 2024 (January to March 2024). In place of sales growth, banks/credit institutions should consider the development of their gross interest and commission income and their net trading income. Insurers should consider the development of their gross premiums written."
QUESTION: How do you expect the following metrics to develop in your enterprise from end-March 2024 to end-March 2025 ?

Note: Please select one answer for each row.

- 1 = Decrease significantly
- 2 = Decrease
- 3 = Stay roughly the same
- 4 = Increase
- 5 = Increase significantly
- 9996 = Does not apply to my enterprise

- a = Access to intermediate inputs <i>:
- b = Current trade receivables:
- c = Current trade payables:
- d = Short-term liquidity:
- e = Need for credit financing:
- f = Access to financing sources <i>:
- g = Inventories (stock of intermediate products and finished goods):
- h = Sales <i>:
- i = Expenditure on energy and fuels:

--- | SPLIT SAMPLE 1 - OVERVIEW | RANDOMISATION 1

Randomisation dummy: *draterandom1*

The dummy *draterandom1* splits the sample into three groups of roughly equal size (1, 2, 3). This split is linked to the randomisation in waves 36-38. Firms that were assigned to one of the three randomisation groups in waves 36-38 (irrespective of whether they responded or not in the end) should be assigned to the same group in waves 39-41.

$draterandom1 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{(firms that were in group 1 in waves 36-38 + one-third of newcomers)} \\ 2 & \text{(firms that were in group 2 in waves 36-38 + one-third of newcomers)} \\ 3 & \text{(firms that were in group 3 in waves 36-38 + one-third of newcomers)} \end{cases}$

X04A | Core | Development key rate probabilistic | keyrateprob_[a-r]

Input filter: *draterandom1* = 1 OR 2 OR 3

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no value is entered and the participant clicked "Continue".

If no values are entered, the following error message is shown: "Please enter a value in the fields or select one of the possible responses below."

Values between 0 and 100 are supported. No decimals are allowed.

The programming of the question requires the sum of the ten variables to be 100. The current sum of all entered points is shown to the respondent when answering the question. If the sum is not equal to 100, the following error message is shown: "Please note that your answers to all scenarios have to add up to 100."

Fields that were left empty should be assigned 0 after moving to the next question.

After the term "key interest rate of the European Central Bank", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "The European Central Bank sets three different key interest rates. The one currently referred to is the deposit facility rate at which commercial banks can deposit their money with the ECB in the short term."

QUESTION: We would now like to ask you some questions about macroeconomic developments. In your opinion, how likely is it that the key interest rate of the European Central Bank (ECB) <i> will fluctuate within the following bands at the **end of March 2025**?

Note: The aim of this question is to determine how likely you think it is that something specific will happen in the future. You can rate the likelihood on a scale from 0 to 100, with 0 meaning you are certain that an event will not happen and 100 meaning that you are absolutely certain it will happen. Use values between the two extremes to moderate the strength of your opinion. Please note that your answers to the categories have to add up to 100. You can also leave fields empty; these will be saved as a 0.

r = Below 0.00%:	[Input field]
f = Between 0.00% and 0.50%:	[Input field]
g = Between 0.51% and 1.00%:	[Input field]
h = Between 1.01% and 1.50%:	[Input field]
i = Between 1.51% and 2.00%:	[Input field]
j = Between 2.01% and 2.50%:	[Input field]
k = Between 2.51% and 3.00%:	[Input field]
m = Between 3.01% and 3.50%:	[Input field]
n = Between 3.51% and 4.00%:	[Input field]
o = Between 4.01% and 4.50%:	[Input field]
p = Between 4.51% and 5.00%:	[Input field]
q = Above 5.00%:	[Input field]

--- | **SAMPLE SPLIT 1 – End** | ---

X04B | Core | Inflation expectations quantitative | inflexpoint

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no value is entered and the participant clicked "Continue".

Values between -100.0 and 999.0 are supported. If an invalid number is entered, the following error message is shown: "Please enter a value between -100.0 and 999.0. Only one decimal place is permitted."

After the term "rate of inflation", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Inflation is the percentage increase in the general price level. It is mostly measured using the consumer price index. A decrease in the price level is generally described as deflation."

QUESTION: What do you expect the rate of inflation <i> to be over the next **twelve months**?

Note: If you expect the price level to increase, please enter a positive percentage value. If you expect the price level to decrease, please enter a negative percentage value. Please enter a value with a maximum of one decimal place.

[Input field] percent

--- | **SPLIT SAMPLE 2 – OVERVIEW | RANDOMISATION 2**

Randomisation dummy: *dsalesrandom1*

The dummy *dsalesrandom1* splits the sample into two groups of roughly equal size. Firms that were assigned to one of the two randomisation groups in the waves listed below (irrespective of whether they responded or not in the end) should be assigned to the same group again this time.

dsalesrandom1 = (firms that were in group in waves 36-38 + one-half of newcomers)

dsalesrandom1 = (firms that were in group in waves 36-38 + one-half of newcomers)

dsalesrandom1 = *dsalesrandom1* =

<i>inflexpoint_3y</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>inflexpoint_5y</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>sales</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>

811A | Pro 6 | Inflation expectations quantitative – 3 years | inflexpoint_3y

Input filter: *dsalesrandom1* =

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no value is entered and the participant clicked "Continue".

Values between -100.0 and 999.0 are supported. If an invalid number is entered, the following error message is shown: "Please enter a value between -100.0 and 999.0. Only one decimal place is permitted."

After the term "rate of inflation", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Inflation is the percentage increase in the general price level. It is mostly measured

using the consumer price index. A decrease in the price level is generally described as deflation."

QUESTION: What do you expect the rate of inflation <i> to be on average over the next **three years**?

Note: If you expect the price level to increase on average, please enter a positive percentage value. If you expect the price level to decrease on average, please enter a negative percentage value. Please enter a value with a maximum of one decimal place.

[Input field] percent

811B | Pro 6 | Inflation expectations quantitative – 5 years | inflexpoint_5y

Input filter: *dsalesrandom1* =

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no value is entered and the participant clicked "Continue".

Values between -100.0 and 999.0 are supported. If an invalid number is entered, the following error message is shown: "Please enter a value between -100.0 and 999.0. Only one decimal place is permitted."

After the term "rate of inflation", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Inflation is the percentage increase in the general price level. It is mostly measured using the consumer price index. A decrease in the price level is generally described as deflation."

QUESTION: What do you expect the rate of inflation <i> to be on average over the next **five years**?

Note: If you expect the price level to increase on average, please enter a positive percentage value. If you expect the price level to decrease on average, please enter a negative percentage value. Please enter a value with a maximum of one decimal place.

[Input field] percent

X05A | Core | Sales past quarter quantitative | salespast

Input filter: *dsalesrandom1* =

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

If an invalid number (negative or including a comma or period) is entered, the following error message is shown: "Please enter a valid value, without a comma or period (possible input values are 0 to 999999999)."

Info box after the term "sales": "In place of sales, banks/credit institutions should state their gross interest and commission income and their net trading income. Insurers should state their gross premiums written."

QUESTION: We would now like to ask you some more questions about your enterprise. What were your enterprise's sales <i> in the **first quarter of 2024** (January to March 2024)?

Note: Please enter an amount in full thousands of euro. If your sales were €123,500, please enter only 123 in the field. If your sales were €1,234,500, please enter only 1,234 in the field.

Sales (excluding VAT): [Input field],000 euro

X05B | Core | Sales comparable quarter prediction | salesfuture_[a-e]

Input filter: *dsalesrandom1* =

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Values between -100.0 and 999.9 are supported. If an invalid number is entered, the following error message is shown: "Please enter a value between -100.0 and 999.9. Only one decimal place is permitted."

Firms are expected to provide at least one number. Firms may not be forced to provide all five values.

When programming the questionnaire, please be mindful of scenarios in which firms provide, for instance, only three values (e.g. 1, 2, 4, NA, NA; or 1, NA, 2, NA, 3) or only two values (e.g. 1, NA, NA, NA, 2; or NA, 1, 2, NA, NA).

After the term "sales", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "In place of sales, banks/credit institutions should state their gross interest and commission income and their net trading income. Insurers should state their gross premiums written."

QUESTION: What changes in your sales <i> do you consider possible from the **first quarter of 2024** (January to March 2024) to the **first quarter of 2025** (January to March 2025)? Please indicate what percentage change in your sales you would expect in the following scenarios.

Note: If you expect sales to increase, please enter a positive percentage value. If you expect sales to decrease, please enter a negative percentage value.

- a = The **lowest** potential percentage change would be: [Input field] percent
- b = A **low** potential percentage change would be: [Input field] percent
- c = A **medium** potential percentage change would be: [Input field] percent
- d = A **high** potential percentage change would be: [Input field] percent
- e = The **highest** potential percentage change would be: [Input field] percent

X05C | Core | Sales comparable quarter probabilistic | salesprob_[a-e]

Input filter: `dsalesrandom1 =`

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Values between 0 and 100 are supported. No decimals are allowed.

The programming of the question requires the sum of the five variables to be 100. The current sum of all entered points is shown to the respondent when answering the question. If the sum is not equal to 100, the following error message is shown: "Please note that your answers to all scenarios have to add up to 100."

Only those fields should be active for which a value has been provided in sales_future_[a-e]. If only one value has been provided, this question should not be shown.

After the term "sales", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "In place of sales, banks/credit institutions should state their gross interest and commission income and their net trading income. Insurers should state their gross premiums written."

QUESTION: How likely do you think it is that the individual scenarios for the change in your sales <i> from the **first quarter of 2024** (January to March 2024) to the **first quarter of 2025** (January to March 2025) will materialise?

Note: The aim of this question is to determine how likely you think it is that something specific will happen in the future. You can rate the likelihood on a scale from 0 to 100, with 0 meaning you are certain that an event will not happen and 100 meaning that you are absolutely certain it will happen. Use values between the two extremes to moderate the strength of your opinion. Please note that your answers to all scenarios have to add up to 100.

- a = The likelihood of a change of around {salesfuture[a]}% is: [Input field]
- b = The likelihood of a change of around {salesfuture[b]}% is: [Input field]
- c = The likelihood of a change of around {salesfuture[c]}% is: [Input field]
- d = The likelihood of a change of around {salesfuture[d]}% is: [Input field]
- e = The likelihood of a change of around {salesfuture[e]}% is: [Input field]

X06A | Core | Price change past year quantitative | pricepast

Input filter: `dsalesrandom1 =` OR

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Values between -100.0 and 999.9 are supported. Only one decimal place is permitted. If an invalid number is entered, the following error message is shown: "Please enter a value between -100.0 and 999.9. Only one decimal place is permitted."

Input filter: `dsalesrandom1 =`

QUESTION: We would now like to ask you some more questions about your enterprise. Please consider the period from **end-March 2023** to **end-March 2024**. Please enter the average percentage change in the prices charged for your products and services in this period.

Input filter: `dsalesrandom1 = █`

QUESTION: Please consider the period from **end-March 2023** to **end-March 2024**. Please enter the average percentage change in the prices charged for your products and services in this period.

Note: If prices increased, please enter a positive percentage value. If prices decreased, please enter a negative percentage value. Please enter a value with a maximum of one decimal place.

[Input field] percent

X06B | Core | Price change next year quantitative | pricefuture

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Values between -100.0 and 999.9 are supported. Only one decimal place is permitted. If an invalid number is entered, the following error message is shown: "Please enter a value between -100.0 and 999.9. Only one decimal place is permitted."

QUESTION: Please consider the period from **end-March 2024** to **end-March 2025**. What average percentage change in the prices charged for your products and services do you expect in this period?

Note: If you expect prices to increase, please enter a positive percentage value. If you expect prices to decrease, please enter a negative percentage value. Please enter a value with a maximum of one decimal place.

[Input field] percent

X06C | Core | Price change uncertainty | priceunc

Input filter: a number provided in `pricefuture` (Question X06B)

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Input filter: `pricefuture > 0`

QUESTION: How certain are you that the prices charged for your products and services will increase by around {`pricefuture`}% on average in the period from **end-March 2024** to **end-March 2025**?

- 1 = Very uncertain
- 2 = Rather uncertain
- 3 = Neither certain nor uncertain
- 4 = Rather certain
- 5 = Very certain

Input filter: `pricefuture < 0`

QUESTION: How certain are you that the prices charged for your products and services will decrease by around {`pricefuture`}% on average in the period from **end-March 2024** to **end-March 2025**?

- 1 = Very uncertain
- 2 = Rather uncertain
- 3 = Neither certain nor uncertain
- 4 = Rather certain
- 5 = Very certain

Input filter: `pricefuture = 0`

QUESTION: How certain are you that the prices charged for your products and services will remain roughly the same on average in the period from **end-March 2024** to **end-March 2025**?

a = Very uncertain

b = Rather uncertain
c = Neither certain nor uncertain
d = Rather certain
e = Very certain

X09A | BiQ Core | Employment past quarter | emplpast_[a, b]

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

No negative values are permitted. No decimals are allowed. If an invalid number is entered, the following error message is shown: "Please enter a value between 0 and 999999."

QUESTION: How many employees did your enterprise have at the end of the **first quarter of 2023** (end-March 2023) and at the end of the **first quarter of 2024** (end-March 2024)?

Note: Please consider all employees, including those working part-time.

a = Number of employees at end-March 2023: [Input field]

b = Number of employees at end-March 2024: [Input field]

X09B | BiQ Core | Employment comparable quarter prediction | emplfuture

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

No negative values are permitted. No decimals are allowed. If an invalid number is entered, the following error message is shown: "Please enter a value between 0 and 999999."

QUESTION: How many employees do you expect your enterprise to have at the end of the **first quarter of 2025** (end-March 2025)?

Note: Please consider all employees, including those working part-time.

Number of employees at end-March 2025: [Input field]

X09C | BiQ Core | Employment uncertainty | emplunc

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

QUESTION: How certain are you that the number of employees at your enterprise will be around {emplfuture} at the end of the **first quarter of 2025** (end-March 2025)?

Note: Please select one answer.

1 = Very uncertain
2 = Rather uncertain
3 = Neither certain nor uncertain
4 = Rather certain
5 = Very certain

X07A | Core | Microfinance credit negotiations | creduse1

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

After the term "credit line", an info box with the following text is shown: "A credit line corresponds to a credit facility with a specified maximum amount. Similar to an overdraft facility for households, a firm can use a credit line at any time without notifying the counterparty (bank)."

After the term "government-sponsored loans", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Government-sponsored loans include, for example, public sector support in the form of guarantees, reduced interest rates or funding grants."

QUESTION: In the **first quarter of 2024** (January to March 2024), did your enterprise negotiate with one or more banks with a view to taking out a loan or establishing a credit line <i> ?

Note: This does not include any government-sponsored loans <i>.

1 = Yes

2 = No

X07B | Core | Microfinance negotiations result | creduse2_[a-f]

Input filter: creduse1 = 1

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

QUESTION: What was the outcome of these negotiations?

Note: Please select all answers that apply.

0 = Category not selected

1 = Category selected

- a = Loan/credit line was approved for the desired amount at the desired conditions (interest, collateral, etc.).
- b = Loan/credit line was approved for the desired amount but at less favourable conditions (interest, collateral, etc.).
- c = Loan/credit line was approved for a smaller amount but at the desired conditions (interest, collateral, etc.).
- d = Loan/credit line was approved for a smaller amount and at less favourable conditions (interest, collateral, etc.).
- e = No decision has yet been made regarding the loan application.
- f = Loan negotiations were concluded without a deal.

1701 | Pro F11 | Reason credit negotiations | why_cred_neg_[a-e]

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Input filter: creduse1 = 1

After the term "credit line", an info box with the following text is shown: "A credit line corresponds to a credit facility with a specified maximum amount. Similar to an overdraft facility for households, a firm can use a credit line at any time without notifying the counterparty (bank)."

QUESTION: You indicated that in the **first quarter of 2024** you conducted negotiations to take out a loan or to set up a credit line <i>. Why did you start credit negotiations?

Note: Please select all answers that apply.

0 = Category not selected

1 = Category selected

- a = To finance an investment.
- b = To finance running costs.
- c = To renegotiate or restructure an existing loan.
- d = To renegotiate or restructure an existing credit line <i>.
- e = Other reasons

1702 | Pro F11 | Reason no credit negotiations | why_nocred_neg_[a-i]

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Input filter: creduse1 = 2

QUESTION: Why did you not conduct any loan negotiations in the **first quarter of 2024**?

Note: Please select all answers that apply.

0 = Category not selected

1 = Category selected

- a = There was no need for financing.
- b = Financing needs could be met using own resources.
- c = Other debt financing options were more attractive.
- d = The expected financing costs were too high.
- e = We could not have provided sufficient collateral.
- f = The effort involved in submitting an application would have been too great (e.g. time, disclosure requirements).
- g = The loan could not have been made available quickly enough.
- h = Dependence on debt financing was not wanted.
- i = Other reasons

1703 | Pro F11 | Reason unsuccessful credit negotiations | no_success_[a-h]

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Input filter: `creduse1 = 1 AND creduse2_a ≠ 1 AND (creduse2_b = 1 OR creduse2_c = 1 OR creduse2_d = 1)`

QUESTION: You indicated that the outcome of the credit negotiations you conducted in the **first quarter of 2024** was worse than expected. Which elements of the outcome were worse than expected?

Note: Please select all answers that apply.

0 = Category not selected

1 = Category selected

- a = The interest rate offered was higher.
- b = The loan size offered was lower.
- c = The loan term offered was shorter.
- d = The fixed interest rate period offered was shorter.
- e = The fixed interest rate period offered was longer.
- f = More collateral had to be provided.
- g = The loan was made available at a later date.
- h = Other conditions were worse.

1704 | Pro F11 | Reason negotiations ended | neg_ended_[a-i]

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Input filter: `creduse1 = 1 AND creduse2_a ≠ 1 AND (creduse2_b ≠ 1 AND creduse2_c ≠ 1 AND creduse2_d ≠ 1) AND creduse2_f = 1`

QUESTION: You indicated that the credit negotiations conducted in the **first quarter of 2024** were ended without a deal. Why did this happen?

Note: Please select all answers that apply.

0 = Category not selected

1 = Category selected

- a = The interest rate offered was too high.
- b = The loan size offered was too small.
- c = The loan term offered was not sufficient.
- d = The fixed interest rate period offered was not acceptable.
- e = The required collateral could not be provided.

- f = Our creditworthiness or equity was not sufficient.
- g = The loan could not be made available quickly enough.
- h = Negotiations were concluded without the bank submitting an offer.
- i = Other reasons

X08A | Core | Financing sources past | financingpast_[a-g]

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

After the term "government-sponsored loans", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Government-sponsored loans include, for example, public sector support in the form of guarantees, reduced interest rates or funding grants."

QUESTION: Has your enterprise used the following financing sources over the past **three months**?

Note: Please select one answer for each row. Please consider the last three full calendar months when answering this question.

1 = Yes

2 = No, but used prior to this period

3 = No, never used to date

a = Retained earnings:

b = Bank loans (excluding overdrafts):

c = Overdrafts:

d = Government-sponsored loans <i>:

e = Trade credits (including advances and trade payables):

f = Equity:

g = Other instruments (debt securities, other loans (including to affiliated enterprises), leases/hire purchase and factoring):

X08B | Core | Financing sources future | financingfuture_[a-g]

Input filter: only show items if financingpast_[a-g] = 2 OR 3

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

After the term "government-sponsored loans", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Government-sponsored loans include, for example, public sector support in the form of guarantees, reduced interest rates or funding grants."

QUESTION: Is your enterprise planning to use the following financing sources over the next **three months**?

Note: Please select one answer for each row. Please consider the next three calendar months when answering this question.

1 = Yes

2 = No, but there are plans to use them at a later point in time

3 = No, no use at all planned

a = Retained earnings:

b = Bank loans (excluding overdrafts):

c = Overdrafts:

d = Government-sponsored loans <i>:

e = Trade credits (including advances and trade payables):

f = Equity:

g = Other instruments (debt securities, other loans (including to affiliated enterprises), leases/hire purchase and factoring):

1705 | Pro Vo 52 | Extent of use AI | use_AI_[a-d]

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

After the term "cloud computing", an info box with the following text is shown: "Cloud computing refers to hardware and software resources for storing and/or editing content online."

After the term "artificial intelligence", an info box with the following text is shown: "Predictive artificial intelligence includes, amongst other things, machine learning, text mining and voice and image recognition. Generative artificial intelligence includes, in particular, tools for the autonomous creation of original text, code, images, audio and video content as well as virtual assistants and chatbots (text-based dialogue systems for communicating with a computer program)."

After the term "robotics", an info box with the following text is shown: "Automatically controlled, programmable and multifunctional machines."

After the term "production processes", an info box with the following text is shown: "Such as the internet of things, radio-frequency identification (RFID), etc."

QUESTION: To what extent does your enterprise **currently** use the following digital technologies?

Note: Please select one answer for each row.

- 1 = Extensive use
- 2 = Limited use
- 3 = Experimental use
- 4 = Currently not in use, but implementation planned before the end of 2024
- 5 = Currently not in use, no implementation planned before the end of 2024

a = Cloud computing <i>:

b = Predictive or generative artificial intelligence <i>:

c = Robotics <i>:

d = Infrastructure for networking work and/or production processes <i>:

1706 | Pro Vo 52 | Importance generative AI | imp_gen_AI

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

After the term "generative artificial intelligence", an info box with the following text is shown: "Generative artificial intelligence includes, in particular, tools for the autonomous creation of original text, code, images and audio and video content as well as virtual assistants and chatbots (text-based dialogue systems for communicating with a computer program)."

After the term "predictive artificial intelligence", an info box with the following text is shown: "Predictive artificial intelligence includes, amongst other things, machine learning, text mining and voice and image recognition."

Input filter: use AI b = 1 OR 2 OR 3

QUESTION: To what extent does your enterprise use generative artificial intelligence <i> compared to predictive artificial intelligence <i>?

Note: Please select one answer.

- 1 = More than predictive artificial intelligence
- 2 = To roughly the same extent as predictive artificial intelligence
- 3 = Less than predictive artificial intelligence
- 4 = No use of generative artificial intelligence

1707 | Pro Vo 52 | Reasons for use AI | reas_AI_[a-d]

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Input filter: use AI b = 1 OR 2 OR 3 OR 4

QUESTION: How relevant are the following objectives to your enterprise with regard to implementing artificial intelligence?

Note: Please select one answer for each row.

- 1 = Not relevant

2 = Not very relevant
3 = Quite relevant
4 = Very relevant

a = Automating activities previously performed by employees:
b = Improving already automated working methods and/or processes:
c = Improving supporting processes, such as human resources, marketing, etc.:
d = Increasing the range of goods and/or services provided:

1708 | Pro Vo 52 | Reasons for use robotics | reas_robotic_[a-d]

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Input filter: use AI c = 1 OR 2 OR 3 OR 4

QUESTION: How relevant are the following objectives to your enterprise with regard to implementing robotics?

Note: Please select one answer for each row.

1 = Not relevant
2 = Not very relevant
3 = Quite relevant
4 = Very relevant

a = Automating activities previously performed by employees:
b = Improving already automated working methods and/or processes:
c = Improving supporting processes, such as human resources, marketing, etc.:
d = Increasing the range of goods and/or services provided:

1709 | Pro Vo 40, N 1 | Investment climate | invest_CO2_[a-c]

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no value is entered and the participant clicked "Continue".

If an invalid number (negative or including a comma or period) is entered, the following error message is shown: "Please enter a valid value, without a comma or period (possible input values are 0 to 999999999)."

After the term "CO₂ emissions", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Please consider only investments that serve to reduce direct CO₂ emissions, i.e. owing to your enterprise's operations or service provision. Indirect CO₂ emissions, such as those arising from electricity consumption, from suppliers or from use of the product, should not be taken into account when answering this question. Similarly, do not include carbon offsetting measures, such as the purchase of emissions allowances or the planting of trees, when answering this question."

After the term "2019 to 2023", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: If your enterprise was established after 2019, please consider the period from when it was established to 2023.

QUESTION: We would now like to ask you about your investment in environmental protection. How much has your enterprise invested so far in reducing CO₂ emissions <i> and how high is your planned investment expenditure in this area in **the coming years**?

Note: Please enter an amount in full thousands of euro. If your investment expenditure was €123,500, please enter only 123 in the field. If your investment expenditure was €1,234,500, please enter only 1234 in the field.

a = Total investment expenditure to reduce CO₂ emissions from **2019 to 2023** <i>: [Input field],000 euro
b = Total planned investment expenditure to reduce CO₂ emissions from **2024 to 2028**: [Input field],000 euro
c = Total planned investment expenditure to reduce CO₂ emissions from **2029 to 2033**: [Input field],000 euro

1710A | Pro Vo 40, N 1 | Finshare climate short term | climfinshare_short

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

After the term "government-sponsored loans", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Government-sponsored loans include, for example, public sector support in the form of guarantees, reduced interest rates or funding grants."
After the term "reduction of CO2 emissions", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Please consider only investments that serve to reduce direct CO2 emissions, i.e. owing to your enterprise's operations or service provision. Indirect CO2 emissions, such as those arising from electricity consumption, from suppliers or from use of the product, should not be taken into account when answering this question. Similarly, do not include carbon offsetting measures, such as the purchase of emissions allowances or the planting of trees, when answering this question."
Input filter: invest_CO2_b > 0
QUESTION: How does your enterprise expect to <u>finance</u> its planned investment expenditure for the reduction of CO ₂ emissions <i> from 2024 to 2028 ?
<i>Note: Please enter a percentage value between 0 and 100 for each financing source. Please note that your entries for the above-mentioned financing sources have to add up to 100. You can also leave fields empty; these will be saved as a 0.</i>
1= Retained earnings: [Input field]
2= Bank loans including government-sponsored loans <i>:[Input field]
3= Bond finance or short-term debt securities:[Input field]
4= Other financing sources:[Input field]

1710B Pro Vo 40, N 1 Finshare climate long term climfinshare_long
"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".
After the term "government-sponsored loans", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Government-sponsored loans include, for example, public sector support in the form of guarantees, reduced interest rates or funding grants."
After the term "reduction of CO ₂ emissions", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Please consider only investments that serve to reduce direct CO ₂ emissions, i.e. owing to your enterprise's operations or service provision. Indirect CO ₂ emissions, such as those arising from electricity consumption, from suppliers or from use of the product, should not be taken into account when answering this question. Similarly, do not include carbon offsetting measures, such as the purchase of emissions allowances or the planting of trees, when answering this question."
Input filter: invest_CO2_c > 0
QUESTION: How does your enterprise expected to <u>finance</u> its planned investment expenditure for the reduction of CO ₂ emissions <i> from 2029 to 2033 ?
<i>Note: Please enter a percentage value between 0 and 100 for each financing source. Please note that your entries for the above-mentioned financing sources have to add up to 100. You can also leave fields empty; these will be saved as a 0.</i>
1= Retained earnings: [Input field]
5= Bank loans including government-sponsored loans <i>:[Input field]
2= Bond finance or short-term debt securities:[Input field]
3= Other financing sources:[Input field]

1711 Pro Vo 40, N 1 Change CO₂ emissions changeCO2_[a-b]
"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".
After the term "CO ₂ emissions", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Please consider only direct CO ₂ emissions that arise as a result of your enterprise's operations or service provision". Indirect CO ₂ emissions, such as those arising from electricity consumption, from suppliers or from use of the product, should not be taken into account when answering this question. Similarly, do not include carbon offsetting measures, such as the purchase of emissions allowances or the planting of trees, when answering this question."

QUESTION: What changes do you expect to see in your enterprise's annual CO₂ emissions <i> over the following periods?

Note: The base year for the change in emissions is 2023 in each case. Please select a response option from the drop-down menus for each of the following two periods.

a = Up until **2028**:

b = Up until **2033**:

- 1 = Increase in emissions of more than 50%
- 2 = Increase in emissions of 25% to 50%
- 3 = Increase in emissions of 20% to 25%
- 4 = Increase in emissions of 15% to 20%
- 5 = Increase in emissions of 10% to 15%
- 6 = Increase in emissions of 5% to 10%
- 7 = Increase in emissions of 2% to 5%
- 8 = Emissions expected to remain roughly unchanged (change of +/-2%)
- 9 = Reduction in emissions of -2% to -5%
- 10 = Reduction in emissions of -5% to -10%
- 11 = Reduction in emissions of -10% to -15%
- 12 = Reduction in emissions of -15% to -20%
- 13 = Reduction in emissions of -20% to -25%
- 14 = Reduction in emissions of -25% to -50%
- 15 = Reduction in emissions of -50% to -100%

1712 | Pro Vo 40, N 1 | Sales expectations | sales_exp_[a, b]

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

If an invalid number (negative or including a comma or period) is entered, the following error message is shown: "Please enter a valid value, without a comma or period (possible input values are 0 to 999999999)."

After the term "annual sales", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "In place of sales, banks/credit institutions should state their gross interest and commission income and their net trading income. Insurers should state their gross premiums written."

QUESTION: What do you expect your enterprise's average annual sales <i> to be over **the next few years**?

Note: Please enter an amount in full thousands of euro for each of the following two periods. If you expect your annual sales to be €12,345,000, please enter only 12345 in the field.

a = Average annual sales from **2024** to **2028**: [Input field],000 euro

b = Average annual sales from **2029** to **2033**: [Input field],000 euro

5 Descriptive questions

D01 | Descript | Firm characteristics implicit | firmid

Input filter: `newcomer =`

QUESTION: The information collected needs to be categorised in order to complete it. When evaluating the survey data, the Bundesbank would therefore like to merge this information with data it has on record to fulfil its tasks and which are kept in a separate database of enterprises at its premises in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. If you do not consent to this, the Bundesbank will rely on you to categorise this information yourself by means of additional questions. As you can see there, these data relate to the size, balance sheet, legal form, economic sector and other structural details of your enterprise. Your consent is required to merge these data with the survey data.

The data records will be merged at a data trustee – the Deutsche Bundesbank’s Data Service Centre (DSC). The security of your data is ensured when this information is subsequently processed at the DSC. Your consent is of course voluntary. You may withdraw it at any time. However, withdrawing your consent shall not affect the lawfulness of any processing that has taken place on the basis of this declaration of consent before it was withdrawn.

1 = Yes, consent granted.

2 = No, consent not granted.

3 = I am not authorised to grant consent.

D02 | Descript | Firm characteristics explicit employment | firmemploy

Input filter: `newcomer =` OR `ask_again =`

“Don’t know” and “No answer” shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked “Continue”.

Supported values are ≥ 0 . No decimals are allowed. If an invalid number (negative or including a comma or period) is entered, the following error message is shown: “Please enter a valid value, without a comma or period (possible input values are 0 to 999999).”

QUESTION: Approximately how many employees did your enterprise have on **31 December 2023**?

Note: Please indicate the number of persons employed, regardless of full-time or part-time employment. No decimals are allowed.

[Input field]

D03 | Descript | Firm characteristics explicit turnover | firmturnover

Input filter: `newcomer =` OR `ask_again =`

“Don’t know” and “No answer” shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked “Continue”.

Supported values are ≥ 0 . No decimals are allowed. If an invalid number (negative or including a comma or period) is entered, the following error message is shown: “Please enter a valid value, without a comma or period (possible input values are 0 to 999999999).”

After the term “sales”, an info box *<i>* with the following text is shown: “In place of sales, banks/credit institutions should state their gross interest and commission income and their net trading income. Insurers should state their gross premiums written.”

QUESTION: What were the sales*<i>* of your enterprise in **2023**?

Note: Please enter an amount in full thousands of euro. If your sales were €123,500, please enter only 123 in the field. If your sales were €1,234,500, please enter only 1234 in the field.

Sales (excluding VAT) in 2023: [Input field]000 euro

D04 Descript Firm characteristics explicit economic sector firmsector
Input filter: <i>newcomer</i> = █
"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".
After the term "economic sector", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "All economic sectors are listed here as classified in the IAB Establishment Panel."
After the term "Agriculture, hunting and forestry, fishing", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Crop and animal production, hunting and related services; forestry and logging; fishing and aquaculture."
After the term "Mining and quarrying, electricity and water supply", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Mining of coal and lignite; petroleum and natural gas extraction; mining of metal ores; other mining and quarrying; mining support service activities; electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; water supply."
After the term "Manufacture of non-durable consumer products", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Manufacture of textiles; apparel; leather, leather goods and shoes; wood and of products of wood and cork, except furniture; paper and paper products; printing; reproduction of recorded media."
After the term "Manufacture of industrial goods", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Coke and refined petroleum products, manufacture of: chemical products; pharmaceutical products; rubber and plastic products; other non-metallic mineral products; metal production and processing."
After the term "Manufacture of capital and durable consumer goods", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Machinery and equipment; manufacture of motor vehicles and motor vehicle parts, other transport equipment, other manufacturing, repair and installation of machinery and equipment; fabricated metal products; computers and electronic and optical products; electrical equipment; furniture."
After the term "Information and communication", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Publishing activities; film, video and television programme production; cinemas; sound recording and music publishing activities; programming and broadcasting activities; telecommunication; computer programming, consultancy and related activities; information service activities."
After the term "Financial and insurance activities", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Provision of financial services; insurance, reinsurance and pension funding (excluding compulsory social security); activities auxiliary to financial and insurance services."
After the term "Business support, scientific and other professional services", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Real estate activities; legal and accounting activities; activities of head offices, management consultancy; architectural and engineering activities; technical testing and analysis; research and development; advertising and market research; other professional, scientific and technical activities; veterinary activities; rental and leasing activities; employment activities; travel agency, tour operator reservation service and related activities; security and investigation activities; services to buildings and landscape activities; office administrative, office support and other business support activities."
After the term "Other service activities", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Creative, arts and entertainment activities; libraries, archives, museums and other cultural activities; gambling and betting activities; sports activities and amusement and recreation activities; repair of computers and personal and household goods; other personal service activities."
QUESTION: To which <u>economic sector</u> <i> can your enterprise best be assigned?
<i>Note: Please select one answer.</i>
1 = Agriculture, hunting and forestry, fishing <i>
2 = Mining and quarrying, electricity and water supply <i>
3 = Sewerage and waste management
4 = Food products, beverages and tobacco
5 = Manufacture of non-durable consumer products <i>
6 = Manufacture of industrial goods <i>
7 = Manufacture of capital and durable consumer goods <i>
8 = Construction
9 = Wholesale, sale and repair of motor vehicles
10 = Retail (except of motor vehicles and motorcycles)

- 11 = Transportation and warehousing
- 12 = Information and communication <i>
- 13 = Accommodation and food service activities
- 14 = Financial and insurance activities <i>
- 15 = Business support, scientific and other professional services <i>
- 16 = Education
- 17 = Health and social services
- 18 = Other service activities <i>
- 19 = Activities of membership, religious and other organisations (excluding social work activities and sport)
- 20 = Public administration, defence, social security

D05 | Descript | Firm characteristics explicit ownership | firmtype

Input filter: *newcomer* =

QUESTION: How would you describe your enterprise?

Note: Please select all answers that apply.

1 = Yes

2 = No

- a = Independent profit-driven enterprise with financial autonomy
- b = Branch of another enterprise
- c = Subsidiary of another enterprise
- d = Non-profit institution
- e = Family business

D06 | Descript | Firm characteristics explicit region | firmregion

Input filter: *newcomer* =

QUESTION: In which federal state is your enterprise's head office in Germany based?

- 1 = Baden-Württemberg
- 2 = Bavaria
- 3 = Berlin
- 4 = Brandenburg
- 5 = Bremen
- 6 = Hamburg
- 7 = Hesse
- 8 = Mecklenburg-West Pomerania
- 9 = Lower Saxony
- 10 = North Rhine-Westphalia
- 11 = Rhineland-Palatinate
- 12 = Saarland
- 13 = Saxony
- 14 = Saxony-Anhalt
- 15 = Schleswig-Holstein
- 16 = Thuringia

D07 | Descript | Characteristics of respondent | respondenttype_[a-k]

No input filter

QUESTION: We would now like to learn more about your role in your enterprise. In which area of your enterprise do you work?

Note: Please select all answers that apply.

1 = Yes

2 = No

a = Management board

b = Finance/controlling/accounting

c = Sales/marketing/communication

d = Another area (please specify): [Input field] respondenttype_e

QUESTION: Which job title best describes your role?

Note: Please select all answers that apply.

1 = Yes

2 = No

f = Owner/managing director/executive board member/holder of general commercial power of attorney

g = Head of department

h = Team leader

i = Administrator

j = Other (please specify): [Input field] respondenttype_k

F01 | Core | Feedback questions | feedback_[a-b]

No input filter

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response is selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

QUESTION: How **difficult** did you find the survey overall?

- 1 = Very difficult
- 2 = Somewhat difficult
- 3 = Neither easy nor difficult
- 4 = Somewhat easy
- 5 = Very easy

QUESTION: How did you find **the length** of the survey?

- 1 = Far too long
- 2 = Somewhat too long
- 3 = Just right
- 4 = Somewhat too short
- 5 = Far too short

F02 | Core | Open feedback question | feedbackopen

No input filter

QUESTION: Thank you for taking part in the survey of firms. If you have any suggestions or criticism about the survey, please let us know here.

- 1 = [Input field]
- 2 = No, nothing/no answer

P01 | Core | Panel participation | panelInput filter: *newcomer* =

QUESTION: In order to find out how your enterprise is dealing with the current economic challenges and to see how your enterprise develops over the next few years, we would, going forward, like to invite you to complete additional surveys at intervals of three months. We will need to keep your contact details on file so that we can get in touch with you about the new surveys. To do this, we require your consent under the German Data Protection Act (*Datenschutzgesetz*).

Your contact details will be kept separately from the questionnaire and solely for the purpose of this further survey. They will never be traced back to the answers you have provided. Your information will remain anonymous as described previously and your data will never be passed on to third parties. Once the final survey has been completed, your contact details will be permanently deleted. The data protection statement on the processing of personal contact details, as well as contact details for the data protection officer and information about the rights of data subjects can be found in the general data protection notice at <https://www.bundesbank.de/en/bundesbank/research/survey-on-firms/survey-on-the-expectations-of-firms-855892>.

We would be very grateful if you decided to continue participating in our research project. Of course, this is also voluntary and you can withdraw your consent at any time.

I agree that my address may be kept on file for further surveys:

1 = Yes

2 = No

P02 | Core | Contact | contactInput filter: *newcomer* =

QUESTION: To make it easier for us to contact you about new surveys, please provide us with an email address that we can use to contact your enterprise. This email address will not be used for any other purpose and will be treated with the same level of confidentiality as your other contact details.

Note: Please type your email address in the text field.

[Input field]

-9998 No answer