



National Business Survey 2025

Q4 Business Sentiments

EDITION




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Business Outlook

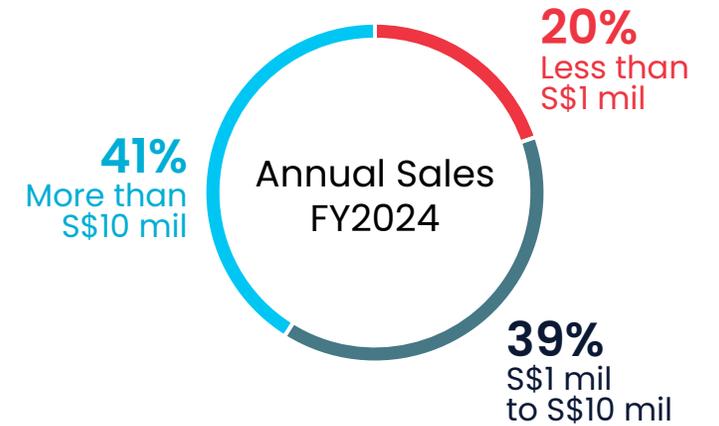

14 **SECTION 2**
Business Sentiment Index

The survey was carried out from **16 December 2025 to 16 January 2026** and drew responses from **645 businesses** across all key industries .

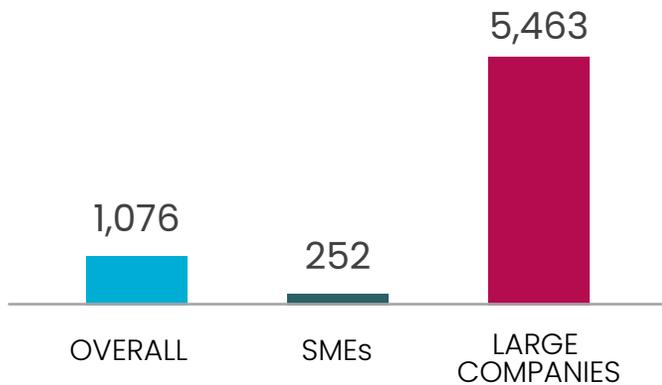
The sample included both SMEs (84%) and large companies (16%) and largely mirrors SBF's membership base.

| | SBF Database | Q4 2025 |
|--|--------------|-------------|
| Wholesale Trade | 20% | 19% |
| Other Financial and Insurance Activities (e.g. Holding/Investment companies) | 14% | 13% |
| Manufacturing (e.g. Food, Textiles, Paper products, Chemicals, Metals etc.) | 11% | 14% |
| Professional Services | 11% | 11% |
| IT & Related Services | 8% | 7% |
| Construction and Civil Engineering | 8% | 13% |
| Banking & Insurance | 7% | 2% |
| Logistics & Transportation | 5% | 6% |
| Administrative and Support Service Activities | 4% | 4% |
| Retail Trade | 3% | 3% |
| Hotels, Restaurants & Accommodations | 3% | 2% |
| Real Estate Activities | 2% | 1% |
| Others* | 1% | 2% |
| Health and Social Services | 1% | 1% |
| Education | 1% | 1% |
| Other Service Activities | 1% | 2% |
| TOTAL | 100% | 100% |

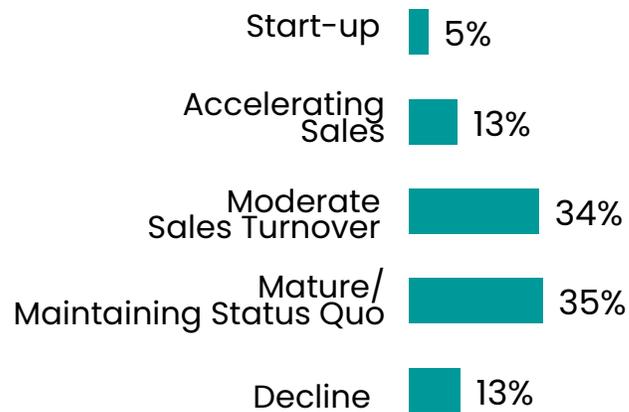
*Others (e.g. Agriculture and Fishing/Mining and Quarrying/Water Supply, Sewerage, Waste management/Public Administration and Defence/Arts, Entertainment and Recreation/ Electricity, Gas and Air-Conditioning Supply)



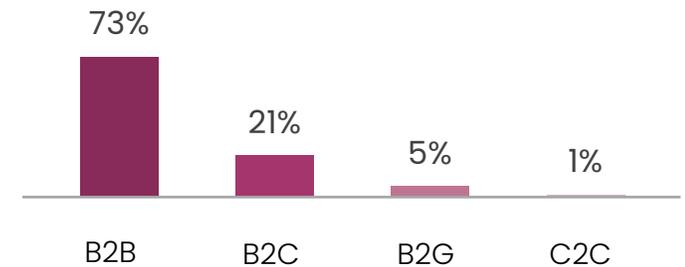
Avg. Employee Size



Stage of Development



Main Mode of Business



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 1/4

Business Outlook

- Business outlook has improved slightly, as satisfaction with the current business climate in Singapore edges up from 35% to 36%, and the proportion of businesses expecting the Singapore economy to improve in the next 12 months rises from 14% to 18%.
- Both SMEs and large companies expect the business outlook to improve in the next 12 months, with optimism among SMEs rising from 14% in Q3 2025 to 18% in Q4 2025, and optimism among large companies increasing from 12% to 18% over the same period.
- Sectors that are more bullish include Banking & Insurance, Construction & Civil Engineering and Wholesale Trade, while sectors that are more bearish include Real Estate Activities, Retail Trade and Hotels, Restaurants & Accommodations.
- More businesses are dissatisfied with the global business climate (25%) than satisfied (14%). However, the converse is true for ASEAN with more businesses satisfied with the ASEAN business climate (23%) than dissatisfied (16%).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 2/4

Business Sentiment Index

The Business Sentiment Index (BSI) measures business confidence in Singapore, offering key insights into business trends such as cost and revenue expectations, hiring, business expansion and capital investment, in a shifting economic landscape. The Index comprises of 7 key components, each assigned a fixed weight to ensure consistent interpretation and comparability.

Overall BSI rose by 1.2 points to 53.4 in Q4 2025, reversing the downward trend over the past 3 quarters and aligning with Singapore's strong Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth. Businesses in IT & Related Services, Banking & Insurance and Other Financial & Insurance Activities (e.g. Holding/Investment Companies) sectors are comparatively more bullish, while those in Retail Trade, Real Estate Activities and Hotels, Restaurants & Accommodations sectors are more bearish.

Among the 7 key components of the index, cost expectations recorded the most significant increase, rising sharply from 56.6 in Q3 2025 to 71.0 in Q4 2025.

A) **Profitability expectations** stand at 52.1, up from 48.5 in Q3 2025, reversing the decline over the past 2 quarters. Most sectors report stronger profitability sentiment, led by the IT & Related Services sector which reported the strongest rebound of 11.8 points. Sectors with the highest profitability expectations include Other Financial & Insurance Activities (e.g. Holding/Investment Companies), IT & Related Services and Banking & Insurance sectors, while sectors with the lowest profitability expectations include Retail Trade, Education and Hotels, Restaurants & Accommodations sectors.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 3/4

Business Sentiment Index

B) **Business growth confidence level** stands at 57.7, an increase of 2.3 points from 55.4 in Q3 2025. Businesses are cautiously optimistic about growth prospects, supported by strong year-end economic performance. The most optimistic sectors are Banking & Insurance, IT & Related Services and Other Financial & Insurance Activities (e.g. Holding/Investment Companies) sectors, while the least optimistic sectors are Retail Trade, Hotels, Restaurants & Accommodations and Administrative & Support Service Activities sectors.

C) **Operational Capacity Utilisation** rises to 57.9, from 55.2 in Q3 2025, reflecting stronger economic activity in the quarter. Sectors with the highest operational capacity utilisation include Professional Services, IT & Related Services and Hotels, Restaurants & Accommodations sectors, while sectors with the lowest operational capacity utilisation include Real Estate Activities, Retail Trade and Wholesale Trade sectors.

D) **Ease of access to financing** remains stable at 54.7 (slight increase from 54.5 in Q3 2025), indicating that financing conditions for businesses remain largely consistent. Sectors with the greatest access to financing include Education, Banking & Insurance and Other Financial & Insurance Activities (e.g. Holding/Investment Companies) sectors. Conversely, sectors with the least access to financing are Retail Trade, Administrative & Support Service Activities and Hotels, Restaurants & Accommodations sectors.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 4/4

Business Sentiment Index

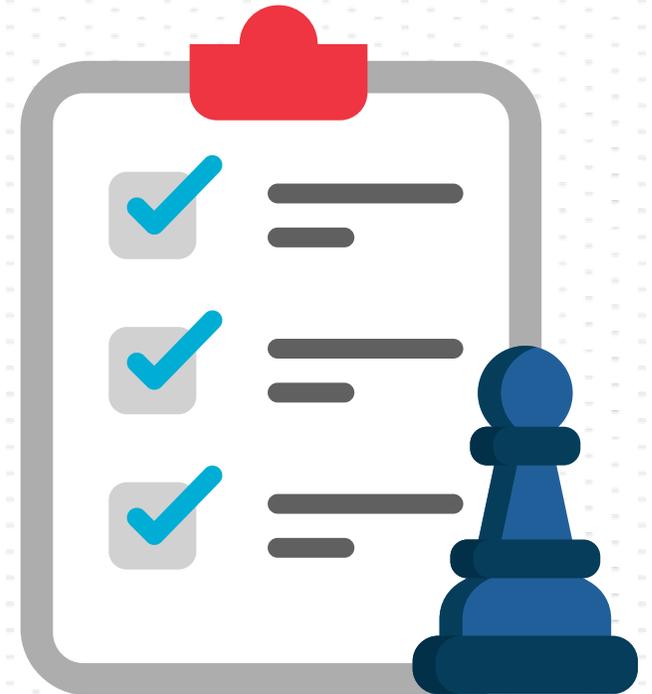
E) **Cost expectations** rose sharply from 56.6 in Q3 2025 to 71.0 in Q4 2025. Most businesses expect cost conditions to increase over the next six months. Sectors with the highest cost expectations are Retail Trade, and Administrative & Support Service Activities sectors, which also reported tighter access to financing. In contrast, sectors such as Real Estate Activities, Wholesale Trade and Construction & Civil Engineering sectors, have the lowest cost expectations.

F) **Hiring outlook** increases marginally to 56.5 from 56.2 in Q3 2025., indicating that businesses largely intend to maintain current workforce levels. Sectors with the most optimistic hiring outlook include IT & Related Services, Professional Services and Hotels, Restaurants & Accommodations sectors, while sectors with the least optimistic hiring outlook include Retail Trade, Real Estate Activities and Construction & Civil Engineering sectors.

G) **Sentiment towards Government Policies** stands at 55.7, down from 56.2 in Q3 2025. The decline is more significant among Large Companies (decrease from 55.7 to 53.4) than among SMEs (decrease from 56.3 to 56.1). The IT & Related Services, Banking & Insurance and Education sectors are the most optimistic about Government policies, while the Hotels, Restaurants & Accommodations, Real Estate Activities and Retail Trade sectors are the least optimistic.

✓ SECTION 1

Business Outlook

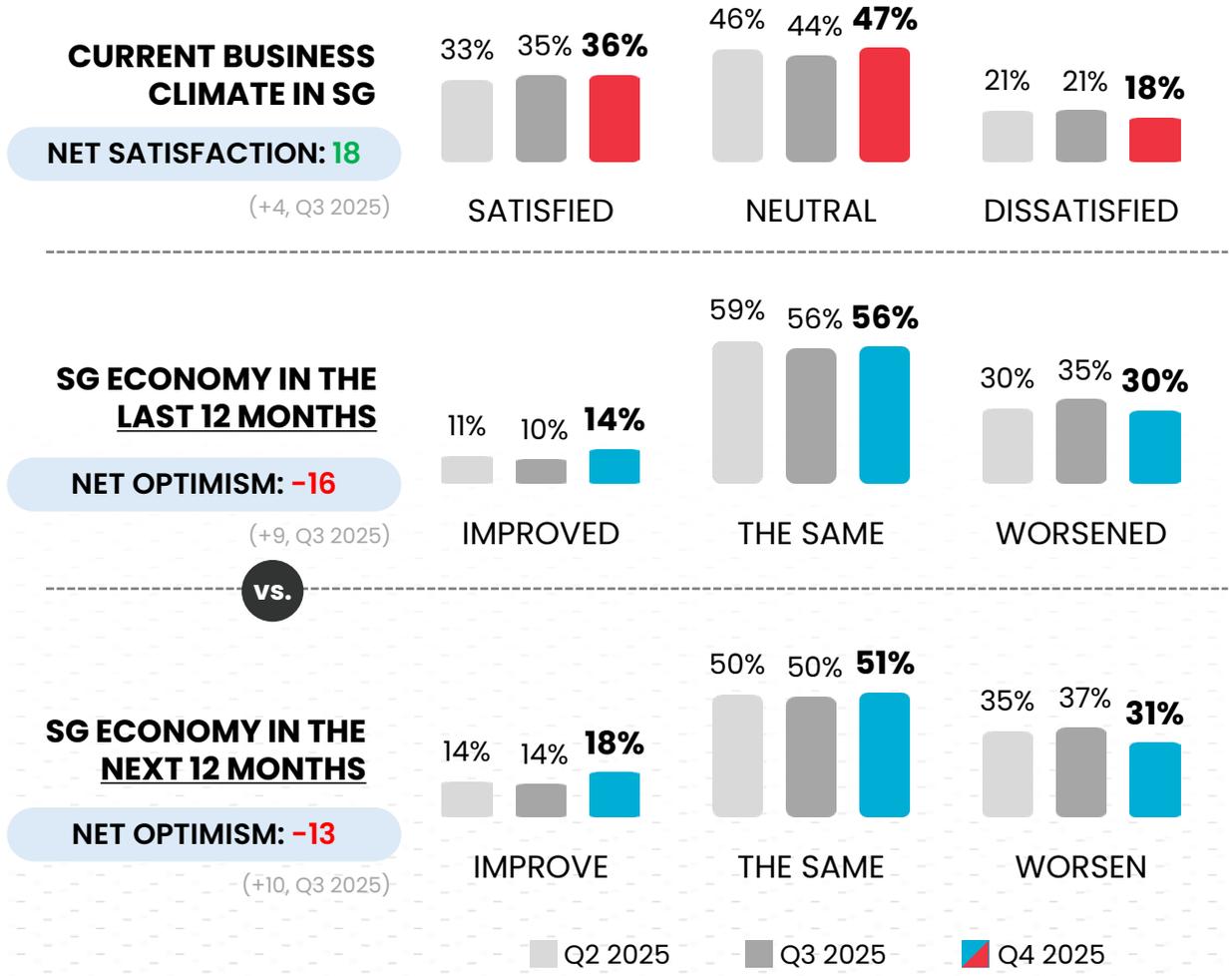


Current business satisfaction remains stable from last quarter, while outlook on next 12 months shows a gradual improvement in business confidence

Business sentiment is beginning to brighten in Q4 2025, with rising confidence in both Singapore's economic performance in 2025 and the anticipated economic trajectory for 2026.

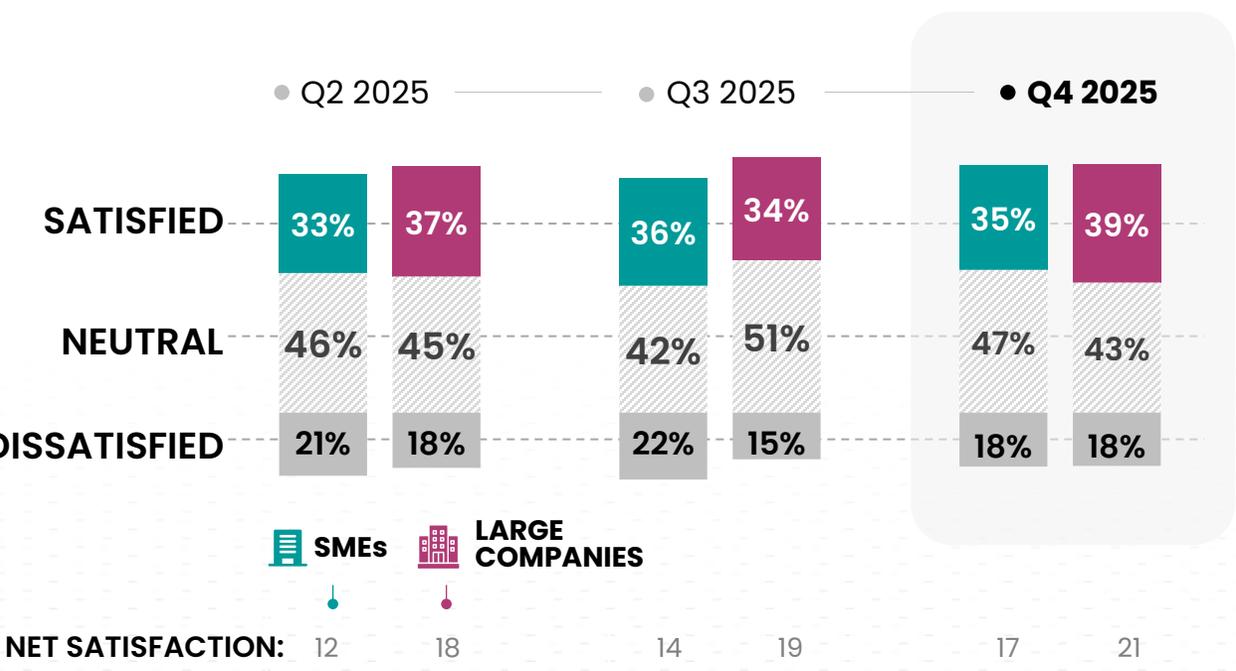
Growth confidence climbed to 18%, up from 14% in Q3 2025. But majority of business remain cautious, with 50% of businesses anticipating no change in economic conditions, and nearly a third (31%) remain wary of further headwinds in the next 12 months.

Business Sentiment In Singapore

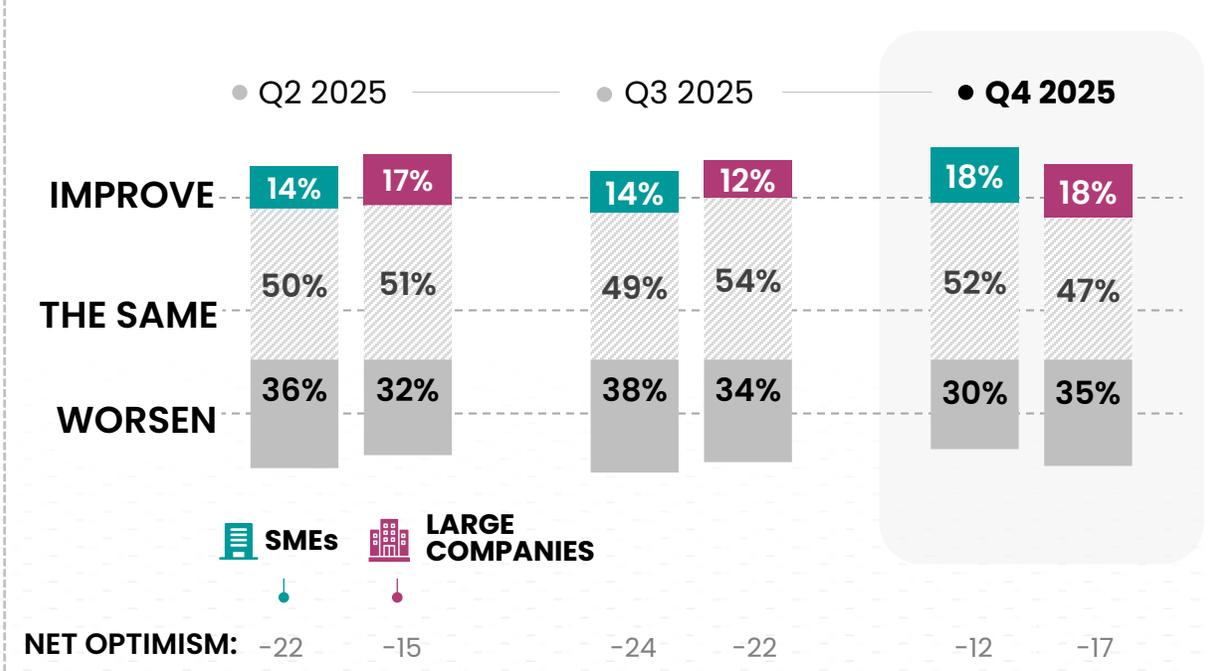


Satisfaction with the current business climate is higher among large companies than SMEs.

OUTLOOK ON CURRENT BUSINESS CLIMATE



OUTLOOK ON NEXT 12 MONTHS



Weaker optimism for the next 12 months seen across service sectors such as Real Estate, Retail Trade and Hotels, Restaurants, & Accommodations

| Base, n= | | PAST 12 MONTHS | | | NEXT 12 MONTHS | | |
|----------|--|----------------|----------|----------|----------------|----------|------------|
| | | WORSENERD | THE SAME | IMPROVED | WORSENERD | THE SAME | IMPROVE |
| 7* | Education | 57% | 14% | 29% | 43% | 43% | 14% |
| 19* | Retail Trade | 53% | 47% | 0% | 47% | 53% | 0% |
| 15* | Hotels, Restaurants & Accommodations | 47% | 47% | 7% | 47% | 40% | 13% |
| 13* | Banking & Insurance | 15% | 46% | 38% | 23% | 54% | 23% |
| 1* | Health & Social Services | 100% | 0% | 0% | 100% | 0% | 0% |
| 36 | Logistics & Transportation | 31% | 56% | 14% | 39% | 44% | 17% |
| 4* | Real Estate Activities | 50% | 50% | 0% | 75% | 25% | 0% |
| 43 | IT & Related Services | 33% | 53% | 14% | 30% | 51% | 19% |
| 93 | Manufacturing (e.g. Food, Textiles, Paper products, Chemicals, Metals etc.) | 29% | 59% | 12% | 27% | 55% | 18% |
| 29* | Administrative & Support Service Activities | 34% | 59% | 7% | 41% | 48% | 10% |
| 68 | Professional Services | 24% | 59% | 18% | 28% | 54% | 18% |
| 124 | Wholesale Trade | 31% | 54% | 15% | 33% | 46% | 21% |
| 10* | Others | 50% | 40% | 10% | 40% | 40% | 20% |
| 87 | Construction & Civil Engineering | 29% | 59% | 13% | 21% | 57% | 22% |
| 10* | Other Service Activities | 30% | 60% | 10% | 50% | 30% | 20% |
| 86 | Other Financial and Insurance Activities (e.g. Holding/Investment companies) | 21% | 63% | 16% | 23% | 57% | 20% |

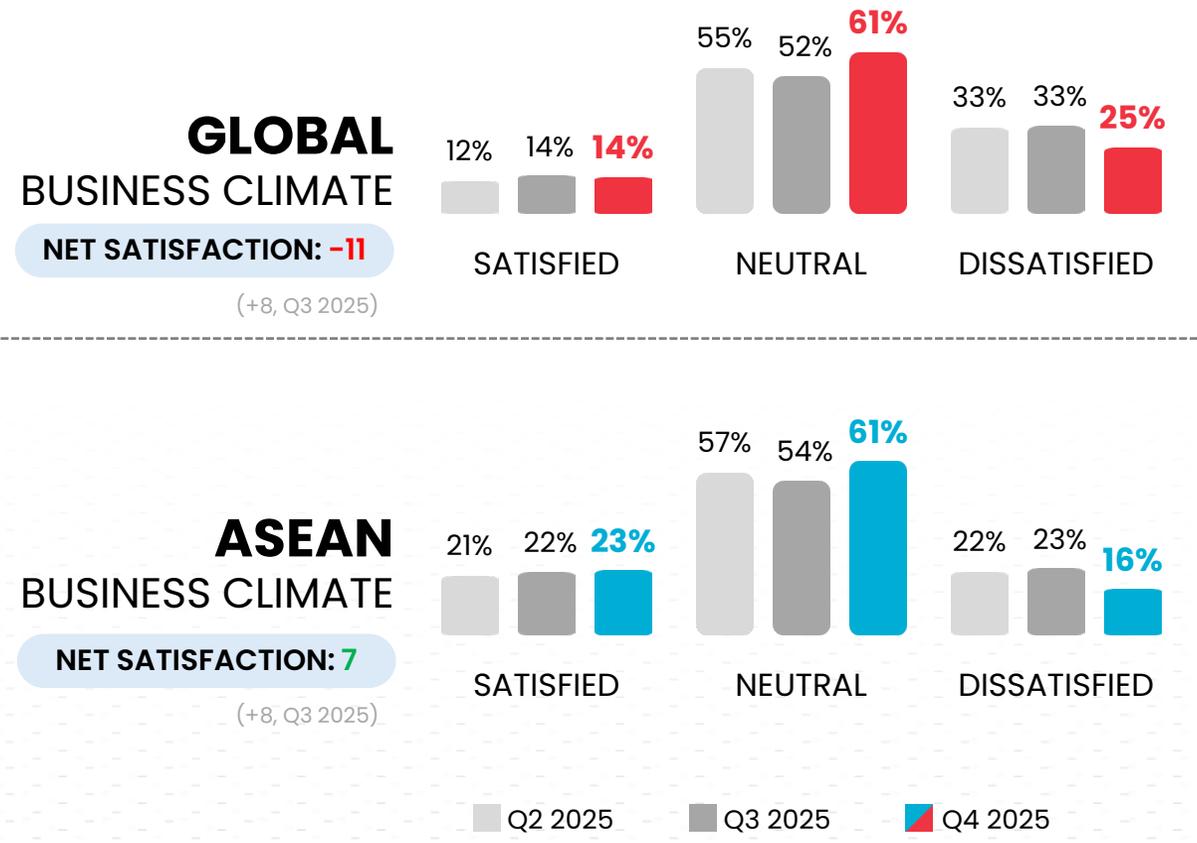
***Caveat:** Low sample size limits statistical robustness, and results should be interpreted as directional insights.

Rising neutrality emerges in Global and ASEAN business sentiment in Q4 2025, as satisfaction remain limited

The move from dissatisfaction to neutrality towards global and ASEAN economic conditions suggest businesses are entering a phase of cautious stabilisation, even as optimism remains at a standstill in Q4 2025.

Although ASEAN business sentiment remains more positive than global markets, satisfaction levels across both regions have seen no significant improvement over the last three quarters.

Business Sentiment on Global & Regional Economic Climate



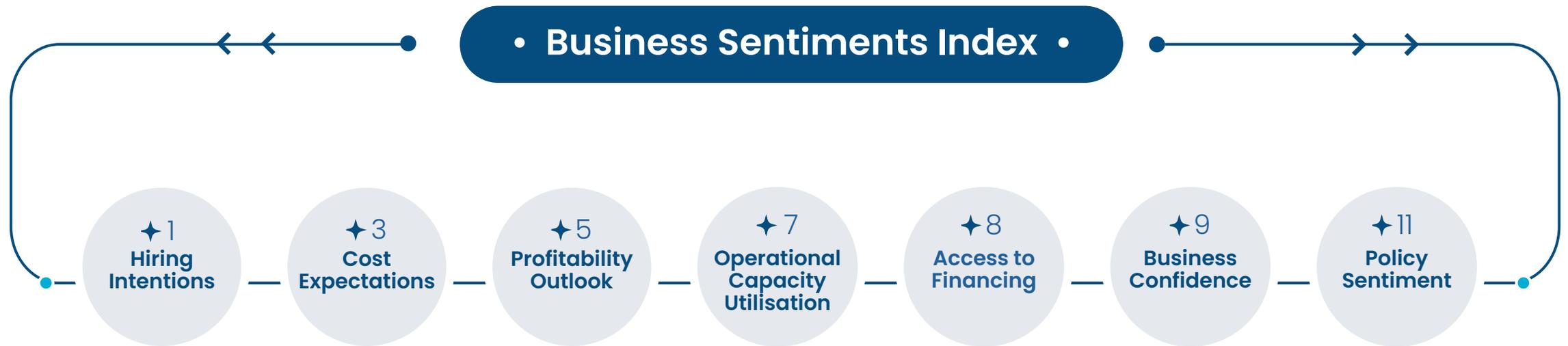
✓ SECTION 2

Business Sentiment Index



The **Business Sentiment Index (BSI)** measures business confidence in Singapore, offering insights into revenue, hiring, and investment trends to support informed decision-making in a shifting economic landscape.

The index comprises of **7 key business sentiment** components. Each component is assigned a **fixed weight** to ensure consistent interpretation and comparability.



Interpreting the Business Sentiment Index:

- Index scores are shown within the range of 1 to 100.
- Scores above 60 signal positive business sentiments such as optimism for expansion and economic confidence.
- Scores between 40 – 59 suggest a neutral sentiment, where businesses look to maintain operations with minimal changes or neutral about level of support provided.
- Scores below 40 indicate negative business sentiments or pessimistic economic outlook, with businesses prioritising risk management and fiscal responsibility.
- An exception to the above is the Cost Expectations component, which is shown in the next slide.

| BSI Score | Interpretation |
|-----------|--|
| 80 - 100 | Strong Business Confidence & Expansionary Growth – Businesses are highly optimistic, indicating strong revenue growth, increased investments, and active hiring. Economic conditions are perceived as highly favourable. |
| 60 - 79 | Moderate Optimism & Stable Growth – Businesses remain positive about future prospects, with steady expansion, moderate hiring, and sustained investments. The overall economic outlook is stable with potential for growth. |
| 40 - 59 | Neutral Business Sentiment – Businesses adopt a wait-and-see approach, with stable operations but limited expansion. Economic conditions are perceived as neither improving nor worsening significantly. |
| 20 - 39 | Cautious or Slightly Negative Outlook – Businesses express concerns over market conditions, leading to reduced investments, hiring slowdowns, and cautious financial planning. Economic uncertainty is evident. |
| 1 - 19 | Strong Business Pessimism & Contractionary Phase – Businesses face significant challenges, including declining revenue, workforce reductions, and cutbacks in capital investment. Economic conditions are perceived as deteriorating. |

Interpreting the Cost Expectations Sub-Index:

- Index scores are shown within the range of 1 to 100.
- Scores above 60 signal negative business sentiment, where businesses anticipate rising business costs.
- Scores between 40 – 59 reflects a neutral sentiment, with no major cost changes anticipated.
- Scores below 40 signal positive business sentiments, where businesses anticipate a decrease in business costs.

| Cost Index | Interpretation |
|------------|---|
| 80 - 100 | Strong Business Pessimism & Contractionary Outlook – Businesses expect significant cost pressures, indicating a challenging environment for growth. |
| 60 - 79 | Cautious or Slightly Negative Outlook – Businesses express concerns over rising cost pressures, leading to reduced investments, hiring slowdowns, and cautious financial planning. |
| 40 - 59 | Neutral Business Sentiment – Businesses do not anticipate major shifts in costs, indicative of stable operations. |
| 20 - 39 | Moderate Optimism & Expectations of Lowering Cost Pressures – Businesses expect some easing in cost pressures, suggesting potential for improved margins. |
| 1 - 19 | Strong Business Confidence & Expansionary Growth – Businesses are highly optimistic, expecting significant relief from cost pressures and are likely to pursue growth. |

Business Sentiment Index

In line with Singapore’s strong GDP growth in Q4 2025, the Business Sentiment Index climbed by 1.2 points, breaking the six-month downward trend. The rebound in sentiments is most visible among SMEs, with a 1.2 points increase in overall BSI, while Large Companies remain on par with Q3 2025. Across sectors, IT & Related Services sector report the strongest improvement of 6.9 pts in BSI, bouncing back from Q3 2025 volatility and impacts of reciprocal export bans between U.S. and China. While Real Estate Activities and Retail Trade sectors remain under pressure, with sentiments falling for two consecutive quarters.

OVERALL BSI PERFORMANCE

● Q1'25 ● Q2'25 ● Q3'25 ● Q4'25

★ TOP 3 SECTORS

★ BOTTOM 3 SECTORS



***Caveat:** Low sample size limits statistical robustness, and results should be interpreted as directional insights.

Base: All Respondents - Overall Index Score, Q1 2025 (Overall, n=526 | SME, n=436, LC, n=90), Q2 2025 (Overall, n=555 | SME, n=473, LC, n=82), Q3 2025 (Overall, n=553 | SME, n=456, LC, n=97) Q4 2025 (Overall, n=645 | SME, n=543, LC, n=102)

OVERALL BSI BY SECTORS

Business Sentiment Index improved across most sectors in Q4 2025, with the strongest uplift reported by IT & Related Services sector.

In contrast, Banking & Insurance, Construction & Civil Engineering, and Retail Trade sectors saw slight decline in the Business Sentiment Index (BSI).

BSI: 53.4

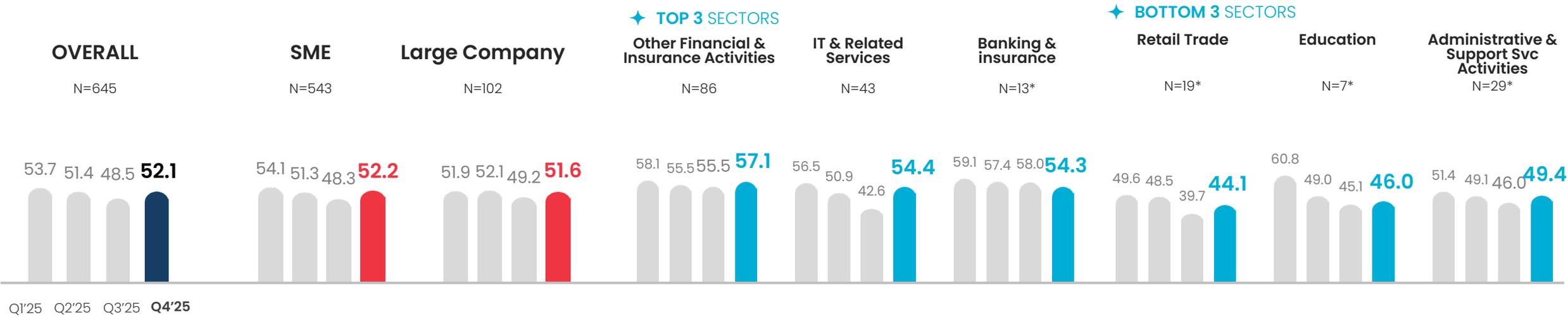
| | Q1 2025 | Q2 2025 | Q3 2025 | Q4 2025 | CHANGE |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| Base, Q4 2025 | | | | | |
| 10* Other Service Activities | 50.9 | 61.8 | 53.3 | 58.0 | +4.7 |
| 1* Health & Social Services | 54.3 | 59.7 | 50.5 | 57.6 | +7.1 |
| 43 IT & Related Services | 58.1 | 55.1 | 49.4 | 56.3 | +6.9 |
| 13* Banking & Insurance | 61.2 | 58.1 | 57.8 | 55.7 | -2.1 |
| 86 Other Financial & Insurance Activities | 57.6 | 56.5 | 54.6 | 55.5 | +0.9 |
| 68 Professional Services | 55.6 | 53.6 | 53.4 | 55.1 | +1.7 |
| 10* Others* | 58.0 | 58.4 | 52.7 | 54.2 | +1.5 |
| 7* Education | 60.5 | 53.7 | 51.0 | 53.7 | +2.7 |
| 93 Manufacturing | 55.3 | 55.7 | 51.4 | 53.2 | +1.8 |
| 124 Wholesale Trade | 55.5 | 55.6 | 51.6 | 52.3 | +0.7 |
| 36 Logistics & Transportation | 57.1 | 55.0 | 52.1 | 52.1 | - |
| 87 Construction & Civil Engineering | 57.8 | 54.0 | 53.6 | 52.1 | -1.5 |
| 29* Administrative & Support Svc Activities | 57.4 | 53.0 | 51.0 | 51.9 | +0.9 |
| 15* Hotels, Restaurants & Accommodations | 52.2 | 49.0 | 46.8 | 51.0 | +4.2 |
| 4* Real Estate Activities | 57.0 | 57.7 | 52.7 | 49.9 | -2.8 |
| 19* Retail Trade | 54.3 | 55.3 | 48.6 | 47.6 | -1.0 |

Business Sentiment Index Sub-Component: Profitability Expectations

Profitability outlook strengthened in Q4 2025, with the index rising to 52.1 from 48.5 in Q3, ending the six-month decline recorded in Q2 and Q3. Improvements are seen across both SMEs (+3.9 points) and Large Companies (+2.4 points), pointing to a broad-based uplift in outlook. Most sectors report stronger profitability sentiment, led by the IT & Related Services sector which reported the strongest rebound (+11.8 pts) following the volatility of Q2 and Q3. In contrast, Retail Trade, Education and Administrative & Support Services sectors remain relatively less upbeat about profitability prospects, despite some confidence gains.

PROFITABILITY EXPECTATIONS

● Q1'25 ● Q2'25 ● Q3'25 ● Q4'25



*Caveat: Low sample size limits statistical robustness, and results should be interpreted as directional insights.
 Base: All Respondents, Q1 2025 (Overall, n=526 | SME, n=436, LC, n=90), Q2 2025 (Overall, n=555 | SME, n=473, LC, n=82), Q3 2025 (Overall, n=553 | SME, n=456, LC, n=97), Q4 2025 (Overall, n=645 | SME, n=543, LC, n=102)
 Q4 What are your expectations for your business' profitability in the upcoming six months?

PROFITABILITY EXPECTATIONS BY SECTORS

Profitability expectations strengthened across most sectors in Q4 2025, with the strongest uplift seen in IT & Related Services, Manufacturing, and Hotels, Restaurants & Accommodations sectors.

Conversely, Banking & Insurance sector reported a slight decline in the profitability outlook in Q4 2025.

**OVERALL:
52.1**

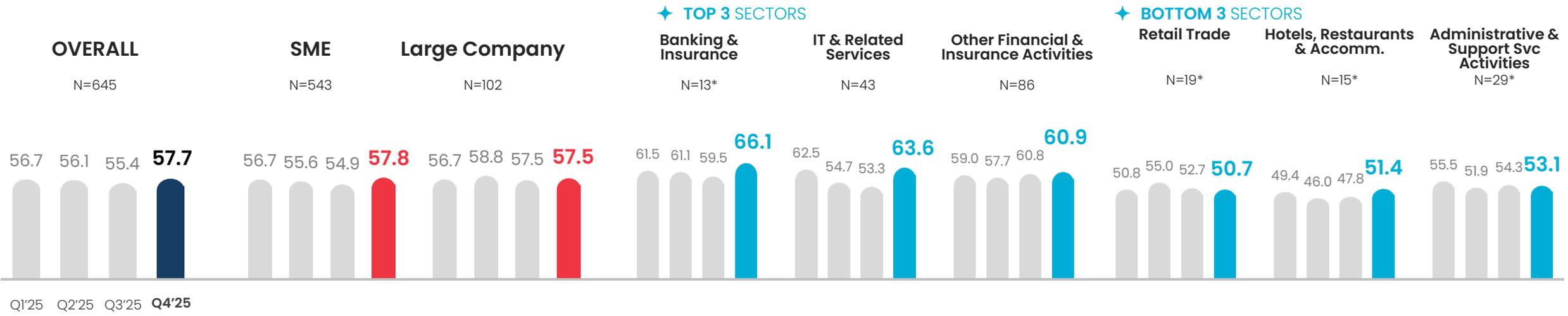
| Base, Q4 2025 | | Q1 2025 | Q2 2025 | Q3 2025 | Q4 2025 | CHANGE |
|---------------|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| 10* | Other Service Activities | 46.0 | 55.0 | 48.6 | 59.5 | +10.9 |
| 86 | Other Financial & Insurance Activities | 58.1 | 55.5 | 55.5 | 57.1 | +1.6 |
| 10* | Others* | 56.3 | 57.3 | 50.0 | 55.0 | +5.0 |
| 43 | IT & Related Services | 56.5 | 50.9 | 42.6 | 54.4 | +11.8 |
| 13* | Banking & Insurance | 59.1 | 57.4 | 58.0 | 54.3 | -3.7 |
| 68 | Professional Services | 51.9 | 47.8 | 50.4 | 53.9 | +3.5 |
| 93 | Manufacturing | 52.6 | 49.5 | 46.2 | 52.7 | +6.5 |
| 15* | Hotels, Restaurants & Accommodations | 48.3 | 40.4 | 41.5 | 50.8 | +9.3 |
| 4* | Real Estate Activities | 60.4 | 54.1 | 49.5 | 50.5 | +1.0 |
| 36 | Logistics & Transportation | 50.7 | 49.7 | 46.5 | 50.3 | +3.8 |
| 87 | Construction & Civil Engineering | 56.1 | 49.9 | 49.1 | 50.2 | +1.1 |
| 124 | Wholesale Trade | 51.4 | 52.5 | 48.4 | 49.8 | +1.4 |
| 29* | Administrative & Support Services Activities | 51.4 | 49.1 | 46.0 | 49.4 | +3.4 |
| 7* | Education | 60.8 | 49.0 | 45.1 | 46.0 | +0.9 |
| 1* | Health & Social Services | 56.5 | 57.3 | 50.5 | 46.0 | -4.5 |
| 19* | Retail Trade | 49.6 | 48.5 | 39.7 | 44.1 | +4.4 |

Business Sentiment Index Sub-Component: Growth Confidence

Growth confidence strengthened in Q4 2025, rising to 57.7 and reaching the highest level recorded in 2025. Following strong year-end economic performance, businesses report cautious optimism in growth prospects for the next six months. The increase in confidence is mainly driven by SMEs (+2.9 points) while Large Companies remained on par with Q3 2025. Sectoral outlook varies, with IT & Related Services (+10.3 points), Other Service Activities (+9.5 points), and Banking & Insurance (+6.6 points) sectors showing the strongest rebound in growth confidence, while Retail Trade sector reported a decline in outlook (-2.0 points).

GROWTH CONFIDENCE

● Q1'25 ● Q2'25 ● Q3'25 ● Q4'25



*Caveat: Low sample size limits statistical robustness, and results should be interpreted as directional insights.

Base: All Respondents, Q1 2025 (Overall, n=526 | SME, n=436, LC, n=90), Q2 2025 (Overall, n=555 | SME, n=473, LC, n=82), Q3 2025 (Overall, n=553 | SME, n=456, LC, n=97), Q4 2025 (Overall, n=645 | SME, n=543, LC, n=102)
 Q8 How confident are you about your business' growth prospects over the next six months?



GROWTH CONFIDENCE BY SECTORS

Growth confidence show broad-based improvement across most sectors in Q4 2025, alongside stronger profitability outlook.

Strongest improvements are seen in IT & Related Services, Other Service Activities, and Banking & Insurance.

In contrast, Retail Trade and Administrative & Support Service Activities sectors report softer confidence compared to Q3 2025.

OVERALL:
57.7

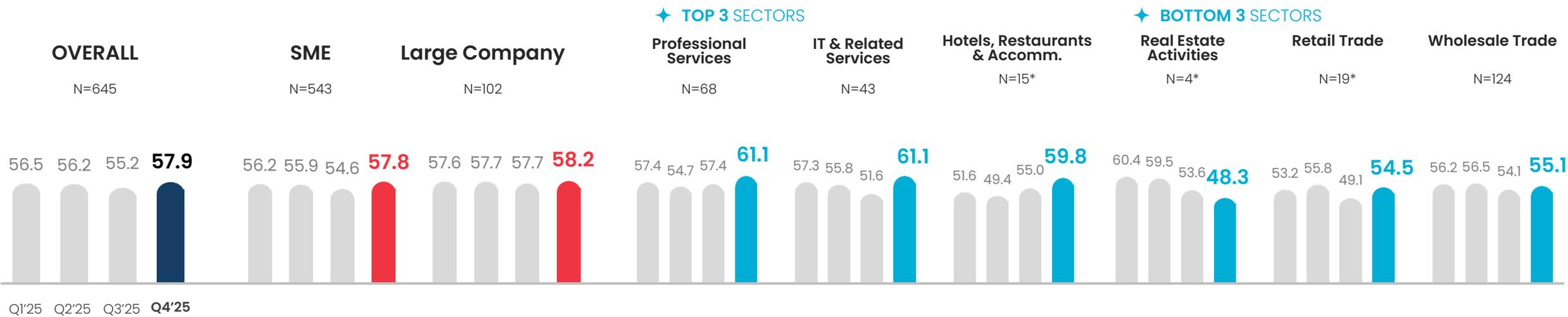
| Base, Q4 2025 | Q1 2025 | Q2 2025 | Q3 2025 | Q4 2025 | CHANGE |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| 13* Banking & Insurance | 61.5 | 61.1 | 59.5 | 66.1 | +6.6 |
| 10* Other Service Activities | 50.1 | 66.0 | 56.3 | 65.8 | +9.5 |
| 43 IT & Related Services | 62.5 | 54.7 | 53.3 | 63.6 | +10.3 |
| 86 Other Financial & Insurance Activities | 59.0 | 57.7 | 60.8 | 60.9 | +0.1 |
| 7* Education | 62.7 | 53.0 | 59.5 | 60.1 | +0.6 |
| 68 Professional Services | 54.6 | 52.4 | 57.7 | 59.0 | +1.3 |
| 93 Manufacturing | 55.4 | 57.8 | 52.9 | 58.5 | +5.6 |
| 10* Others* | 64.0 | 60.6 | 55.0 | 57.7 | +2.7 |
| 124 Wholesale Trade | 55.2 | 55.8 | 54.8 | 56.4 | +1.6 |
| 87 Construction & Civil Engineering | 57.4 | 56.6 | 55.9 | 55.2 | -0.7 |
| 4* Real Estate Activities | 60.4 | 57.7 | 53.6 | 55.0 | +1.4 |
| 36 Logistics & Transportation | 56.4 | 52.8 | 53.3 | 54.8 | +1.5 |
| 29* Administrative & Support Svc Activities | 55.5 | 51.9 | 54.3 | 53.1 | -1.2 |
| 15* Hotels, Restaurants & Accommodations | 49.4 | 46.0 | 47.8 | 51.4 | +3.6 |
| 19* Retail Trade | 50.8 | 55.0 | 52.7 | 50.7 | -2.0 |
| 1* Health & Social Services | 56.5 | 68.5 | 55.0 | 46.0 | -9.0 |

Business Sentiment Index Sub-Component: Operational Capacity Utilisation

Capacity utilisation rose to 57.9 in Q4 2025 from 55.2 in Q3 2025, reflecting stronger economic activity in the quarter. The increase is mainly driven by SMEs, which report rising capacity pressure as growth activity picks up, while Large Companies report similar levels as Q3 2025. Across sectors, emerging capacity pressure may be building in Professional Services (+3.7 pts), IT & Related Services (+9.5 pts), and Hotels, Restaurants & Accommodations sectors (+4.8 pts), indicating possible resource constraints.

OPERATIONAL CAPACITY UTILISATION

● Q1'25 ● Q2'25 ● Q3'25 ● Q4'25



*Caveat: Low sample size limits statistical robustness, and results should be interpreted as directional insights.

Base: All Respondents, Q1 2025 (Overall, n=526 | SME, n=436, LC, n=90), Q2 2025 (Overall, n=555 | SME, n=473, LC, n=82), Q3 2025 (Overall, n=553 | SME, n=456, LC, n=97), Q4 2025 (Overall, n=645 | SME, n=543, LC, n=102)
 Q6 At what capacity is your business currently operating?

OPERATIONAL CAPACITY UTILISATION BY SECTORS

Most sectors reported higher capacity utilisation in Q4 2025 amid stronger economic activity. The largest increases were observed in IT & Related Services, Hotels, Restaurants & Accommodations, and Retail Trade sectors.

Conversely, Banking & Insurance sector recorded lower capacity utilisation compared to Q3 2025.

OVERALL:
57.9

| | Q1 2025 | Q2 2025 | Q3 2025 | Q4 2025 | CHANGE |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| Base, Q4 2025 | | | | | |
| 1* Health & Social Services | 50.5 | 70.8 | 55.0 | 73.0 | +18.0 |
| 10* Other Service Activities | 50.1 | 66.0 | 58.9 | 64.0 | +5.1 |
| 68 Professional Services | 57.4 | 54.7 | 57.4 | 61.1 | +3.7 |
| 43 IT & Related Services | 57.3 | 55.8 | 51.6 | 61.1 | +9.5 |
| 15* Hotels, Restaurants & Accommodations | 51.6 | 49.4 | 55.0 | 59.8 | +4.8 |
| 86 Other Financial & Insurance Activities | 55.8 | 56.1 | 56.8 | 59.6 | +2.8 |
| 10* Others* | 55.0 | 61.8 | 58.0 | 58.6 | +0.6 |
| 36 Logistics & Transportation | 60.2 | 62.8 | 56.3 | 58.5 | +2.2 |
| 29* Administrative & Support Svc Activities | 57.7 | 45.2 | 53.9 | 57.8 | +3.9 |
| 13* Banking & Insurance | 53.4 | 58.7 | 62.5 | 57.8 | -4.7 |
| 87 Construction & Civil Engineering | 60.9 | 53.4 | 57.5 | 57.1 | -0.4 |
| 93 Manufacturing | 53.3 | 56.6 | 53.4 | 56.8 | +3.4 |
| 7* Education | 58.2 | 59.0 | 49.6 | 56.3 | +6.7 |
| 124 Wholesale Trade | 56.2 | 56.5 | 54.1 | 55.1 | +1.0 |
| 19* Retail Trade | 53.2 | 55.8 | 49.1 | 54.5 | +5.4 |
| 4* Real Estate Activities | 60.4 | 59.5 | 53.6 | 48.3 | -5.3 |

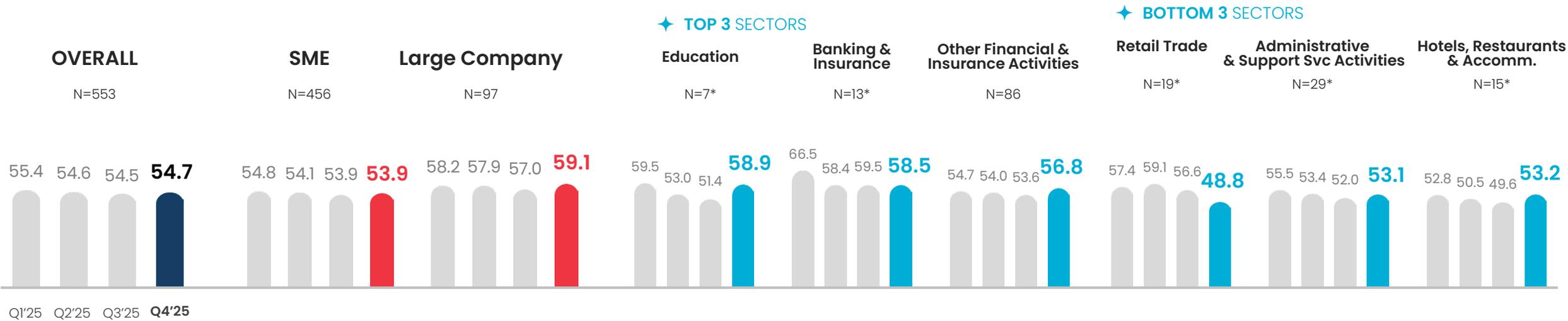
***Caveat:** Low sample size limits statistical robustness, and results should be interpreted as directional insights.

Business Sentiment Index Sub-Component: Access to Financing

Ease of access to financing remains stable in Q4 2025 at 54.7, even as growth expectations improved. This suggests that financing conditions have not eased compared to Q3, with access and borrowing costs remaining largely consistent. Large Companies report stronger financing confidence compared to SMEs, with sentiment among Large Companies rising by +2.1 pts compared to Q3 2025. Across sectors, financing confidence is stronger among Education, Banking & Insurance, and Other Financial & Insurance Activities sectors, while Retail Trade, Administrative & Support Service Activities, and Hotels, Restaurant & Accommodations sectors report weaker confidence.

ACCESS TO FINANCING

● Q1'25 ● Q2'25 ● Q3'25 ● Q4'25



***Caveat:** Low sample size limits statistical robustness, and results should be interpreted as directional insights.
 Base: All Respondents, Q1 2025 (Overall, n=526 | SME, n=436, LC, n=90), Q2 2025 (Overall, n=555 | SME, n=473, LC, n=82), Q3 2025 (Overall, n=553 | SME, n=456, LC, n=97), Q4 2025 (Overall, n=645 | SME, n=543, LC, n=102)
 Q7 How would you rate the ease of obtaining financing or credit for your business needs?



ACCESS TO FINANCING BY SECTORS

Ease of financing varies across sectors, IT & Related Services, Professional Services, Hotels, Restaurants & Accommodations, and Other Financial & Insurance Activities sectors report improvements in Q4 2025.

Conversely, Retail Trade and Construction & Civil Engineering sectors report decline in access to financing in Q4 2025.

**OVERALL:
54.7**

| Base, Q4 2025 | Q1 2025 | Q2 2025 | Q3 2025 | Q4 2025 | CHANGE |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| 7* Education | 59.5 | 53.0 | 51.4 | 58.9 | +7.5 |
| 10* Other Service Activities | 49.3 | 62.0 | 51.1 | 58.6 | +7.5 |
| 13* Banking & Insurance | 66.5 | 58.4 | 59.5 | 58.5 | -1.0 |
| 10* Others* | 49.9 | 57.3 | 57.0 | 56.8 | -0.2 |
| 86 Other Financial & Insurance Activities | 54.7 | 54.0 | 53.6 | 56.8 | +3.2 |
| 124 Wholesale Trade | 55.2 | 54.4 | 54.8 | 55.8 | +1.0 |
| 4* Real Estate Activities | 55.0 | 60.4 | 59.8 | 55.0 | -4.8 |
| 1* Health & Social Services | 40.0 | 61.8 | 55.0 | 55.0 | - |
| 36 Logistics & Transportation | 55.9 | 55.0 | 56.3 | 55.0 | -1.3 |
| 68 Professional Services | 55.9 | 52.2 | 50.8 | 54.2 | +3.4 |
| 43 IT & Related Services | 55.5 | 53.4 | 50.3 | 53.7 | +3.4 |
| 87 Construction & Civil Engineering | 56.2 | 55.2 | 56.5 | 53.7 | -2.8 |
| 93 Manufacturing | 54.9 | 54.0 | 55.2 | 53.6 | -1.6 |
| 15* Hotels, Restaurants & Accommodations | 52.8 | 50.5 | 49.6 | 53.2 | +3.6 |
| 29* Administrative & Support Svc Activities | 55.5 | 53.4 | 52.0 | 53.1 | +1.1 |
| 19* Retail Trade | 57.4 | 59.1 | 56.6 | 48.8 | -7.8 |

***Caveat:** Low sample size limits statistical robustness, and results should be interpreted as directional insights.

Business Sentiment Index Sub-Component: Cost Expectations

Cost expectations rose sharply in Q4 2025 amid stronger growth appetite. As businesses become more **forward-looking, expectations of higher costs** over the next six months have increased. Alongside rising capacity utilisation, businesses may look toward capacity expansion to support growth aspirations. Both SMEs and Large Companies report higher cost expectations for the next six months, signaling a broad-based shift in sentiment. By sector, businesses facing tighter financing conditions, such as those in Retail Trade and Administrative & Support Service Activities sectors, report steeper cost pressures, while Real Estate Activities, Wholesale Trade, and Construction & Civil Engineering sectors experience relatively lower cost pressure.

COST EXPECTATIONS

● Q1'25 ● Q2'25 ● Q3'25 ● Q4'25



***Caveat:** Low sample size limits statistical robustness, and results should be interpreted as directional insights.
 Base: All Respondents, Q1 2025 (Overall, n=526 | SME, n=436, LC, n=90), Q2 2025 (Overall, n=555 | SME, n=473, LC, n=82), Q3 2025 (Overall, n=553 | SME, n=456, LC, n=97), Q4 2025 (Overall, n=645 | SME, n=543, LC, n=102)
 Q3 How do you anticipate your company's cost will change over the next six months?

COST EXPECTATIONS BY SECTORS

Cost expectations increased across sectors alongside stronger growth aspirations and tightening financing conditions. Hotels, Restaurants & Accommodations, IT & Related Services, and Logistics & Transportation reported the largest increases in anticipated cost pressures in Q4 2025.

**OVERALL:
71.0**

| Base, Q4 2025 | Q1 2025 | Q2 2025 | Q3 2025 | Q4 2025 | CHANGE |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| 19* Retail Trade | 66.4 | 57.1 | 54.2 | 75.8 | +21.6 |
| 29* Administrative & Support Svc Activities | 67.6 | 54.2 | 55.8 | 74.9 | +19.1 |
| 10* Other Service Activities | 64.0 | 63.0 | 56.6 | 74.8 | +18.2 |
| 93 Manufacturing | 67.9 | 57.3 | 55.8 | 73.2 | +17.4 |
| 15* Hotels, Restaurants & Accommodations | 71.9 | 50.8 | 53.5 | 73.0 | +19.5 |
| 7* Education | 71.1 | 54.2 | 56.9 | 73.0 | +16.1 |
| 43 IT & Related Services | 69.3 | 56.2 | 54.6 | 72.0 | +17.4 |
| 13* Banking & Insurance | 70.5 | 59.2 | 61.2 | 71.6 | +10.4 |
| 68 Professional Services | 67.9 | 55.1 | 57.5 | 71.0 | +13.5 |
| 86 Other Financial & Insurance Activities | 66.9 | 57.5 | 58.4 | 70.8 | +12.4 |
| 36 Logistics & Transportation | 67.6 | 56.6 | 56.4 | 70.3 | +13.9 |
| 87 Construction & Civil Engineering | 67.7 | 55.3 | 57.4 | 69.6 | +12.2 |
| 124 Wholesale Trade | 67.7 | 56.7 | 56.0 | 69.3 | +13.3 |
| 4* Real Estate Activities | 78.4 | 58.3 | 57.5 | 68.5 | +11.0 |
| 10* Others | 70.4 | 60.0 | 56.1 | 60.4 | +4.3 |
| 1* Health & Social Services | 70.0 | 62.9 | 55.6 | 37.0 | -18.6 |

Business Sentiment Index Sub-Component: Hiring Outlook

Despite stronger growth expectations, hiring sentiment remain broadly unchanged from Q3 2025, as businesses balance expansion aspirations against rising costs and tighter financing. At 56.5, the index indicates businesses generally plan to **maintain current workforce levels** over the next six months, with limited appetite for headcount expansion to manage costs. This sentiment is consistent among both SMEs and Large Companies. Across sectors, IT & Related Services, Professional Services, and Hotels, Restaurant & Accommodation report stronger hiring sentiment, while Retail Trade, Real Estate Activities and Construction & Civil Engineering sectors show more contractionary outlook.

HIRING OUTLOOK

● Q1'25 ● Q2'25 ● Q3'25 ● Q4'25



***Caveat:** Low sample size limits statistical robustness, and results should be interpreted as directional insights.
 Base: All Respondents, Q1 2025 (Overall, n=526 | SME, n=436, LC, n=90), Q2 2025 (Overall, n=555 | SME, n=473, LC, n=82), Q3 2025 (Overall, n=553 | SME, n=456, LC, n=97), Q4 2025 (Overall, n=645 | SME, n=543, LC, n=102)
 Q5 What are your hiring plans for the next six months?



HIRING OUTLOOK BY SECTORS

Stronger hiring outlook is observed among sectors with rising profitability expectations. IT & Related Services and Hotels, Restaurants & Accommodations report the largest increases in hiring intention in Q4 2025

Conversely, Construction & Civil Engineering sector report sharpest decline in hiring intent.

**OVERALL:
56.5**

| Base, Q4 2025 | Q1 2025 | Q2 2025 | Q3 2025 | Q4 2025 | CHANGE |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| 10* Other Service Activities | 55.0 | 58.0 | 54.4 | 61.3 | +6.9 |
| 43 IT & Related Services | 61.8 | 54.7 | 54.6 | 60.9 | +6.3 |
| 68 Professional Services | 56.3 | 55.7 | 58.7 | 60.8 | +2.1 |
| 15* Hotels, Restaurants & Accom, | 67.4 | 51.6 | 54.1 | 60.4 | +6.3 |
| 7* Education | 60.1 | 51.0 | 62.2 | 60.1 | -2.1 |
| 29* Administrative & Support Svc Activities | 60.0 | 57.7 | 57.6 | 60.0 | +2.4 |
| 86 Other Financial & Insurance Activities | 58.0 | 56.9 | 57.6 | 57.9 | +0.3 |
| 93 Manufacturing | 56.1 | 55.8 | 54.9 | 57.1 | +2.2 |
| 13* Banking & Insurance | 59.9 | 57.1 | 58.0 | 56.4 | -1.6 |
| 36 Logistics & Transportation | 59.0 | 56.6 | 54.8 | 54.0 | -0.8 |
| 124 Wholesale Trade | 54.7 | 57.1 | 54.6 | 53.6 | -1.0 |
| 87 Construction & Civil Engineering | 59.9 | 57.6 | 59.3 | 53.3 | -6.0 |
| 4* Real Estate Activities | 56.8 | 59.5 | 57.8 | 52.8 | -5.0 |
| 19* Retail Trade | 57.4 | 57.5 | 52.3 | 51.7 | -0.6 |
| 10* Others* | 58.9 | 56.1 | 51.0 | 48.7 | -2.3 |
| 1* Health & Social Services | 59.5 | 61.8 | 59.5 | 46.0 | -13.5 |

Business Sentiment Index Sub-Component: Sentiment towards Government Support

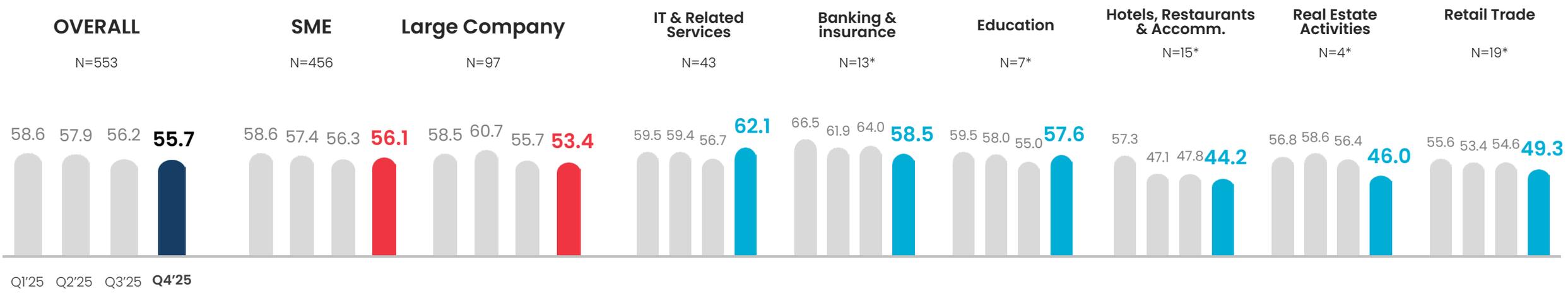
Sentiment toward government support remain largely consistent in Q4 2025, with just a 0.5 points dip from Q3 2025. SMEs sentiments remain stable, while Large Companies, also facing higher financing pressures, saw a 2.3-point drop to 53.7 down from 55.7, signalling a need for targeted support measures. Across sectors, IT & Related Services, Banking & Insurance, and Education lead in satisfaction with Government support, while Hotels, Restaurants, & Accommodations, Real Estate Activities, and Retail Trade are less positive.

SENTIMENT TOWARDS GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

● Q1'25 ● Q2'25 ● Q3'25 ● Q4'25

★ TOP 3 SECTORS

★ BOTTOM 3 SECTORS



*Caveat: Low sample size limits statistical robustness, and results should be interpreted as directional insights.
 Base: All Respondents, Q1 2025 (Overall, n=526 | SME, n=436, LC, n=90), Q2 2025 (Overall, n=555 | SME, n=473, LC, n=82), Q3 2025 (Overall, n=553 | SME, n=456, LC, n=97), Q4 2025 (Overall, n=645 | SME, n=543, LC, n=102)
 Q9 To what extent do current government policies support your industry's growth?

OUTLOOK ON GOVERNMENT SUPPORT BY SECTORS

Perceptions of government support remained largely stable across sectors in Q4 2025, with IT & Related Services standing out as the only sector recording a sizeable uplift in satisfaction.

Banking & Insurance and Logistics & Transportation sectors report some softening of sentiments.

**OVERALL:
55.7**

| | Q1 2025 | Q2 2025 | Q3 2025 | Q4 2025 | CHANGE |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| Base, Q4 2025 | | | | | |
| 1* Health & Social Services | 52.0 | 66.3 | 41.5 | 64.0 | +22.5 |
| 43 IT & Related Services | 59.5 | 59.4 | 56.7 | 62.1 | +5.4 |
| 10* Other Service Activities | 46.8 | 68.0 | 60.1 | 61.3 | +1.2 |
| 13* Banking & Insurance | 66.5 | 61.9 | 64.0 | 58.5 | -5.5 |
| 7* Education | 59.5 | 58.0 | 55.0 | 57.6 | +2.6 |
| 68 Professional Services | 56.7 | 56.9 | 58.4 | 57.5 | -0.9 |
| 86 Other Financial & Insurance Activities | 59.4 | 59.4 | 56.1 | 57.0 | +0.9 |
| 93 Manufacturing | 57.7 | 58.7 | 57.3 | 56.8 | -0.5 |
| 87 Construction & Civil Engineering | 60.5 | 54.8 | 55.0 | 54.6 | -0.4 |
| 124 Wholesale Trade | 58.5 | 57.9 | 54.8 | 54.6 | -0.2 |
| 29* Administrative & Support Svc Activities | 57.3 | 54.6 | 55.0 | 54.4 | -0.6 |
| 10* Others* | 57.6 | 59.5 | 55.0 | 53.2 | -1.8 |
| 36 Logistics & Transportation | 61.6 | 56.6 | 57.5 | 52.5 | -5.0 |
| 19* Retail Trade | 55.6 | 53.4 | 54.6 | 49.3 | -5.3 |
| 4* Real Estate Activities | 56.8 | 58.6 | 56.4 | 46.0 | -10.4 |
| 15* Hotels, Restaurants & Accommodations | 57.3 | 47.1 | 47.8 | 44.2 | -3.6 |

Thank you.



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Supporting Trade Associations and Chambers (TACs)

