Office for National Statistics

Article

Business Insights and Conditions Survey questions: 2 June to 15 June 2025

Contact:
Business Insights and Conditions Survey team (BICS)
bics@ons.gov.uk
+44 1633 455592

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1 . Survey information

These questions are for Wave 134 of the fortnightly Business Insights and Conditions Survey (BICS) dispatched on 2 June 2025.

2 . Trading status of your business

Which of the following statements best describes your business's trading status?

- Currently fully trading
- Currently partially trading
- Paused trading but intends to restart in the next two weeks
- Paused trading and does not intend to restart in the next two weeks
- Permanently ceased trading

3 . Turnover

How did your business's turnover in May 2025 compare with the previous calendar month?

- Turnover increased
- Turnover stayed the same
- Turnover decreased
- Not sure

Which of the following challenges, if any, are currently impacting your business's turnover?

- Competition
- Cost of labour
- Cost of materials
- Economic uncertainty
- Financial costs
- Insufficient domestic demand
- Insufficient international demand
- Lack of equipment
- Shortage of labour
- Shortage of materials
- Weather conditions
- Other
- Not sure
- Not currently experiencing any challenges

What are your business's expectations for turnover in July 2025?

- Expect turnover to increase
- Expect turnover to stay the same
- Expect turnover to decrease
- Not sure

How did your business's domestic demand for goods and services in May 2025 compare with the previous calendar month?

- Demand increased
- Demand stayed the same
- Demand decreased
- Not sure
- Not applicable

How did your business's international demand for goods and services in May 2025 compare with the previous calendar month?

- Demand increased
- Demand stayed the same
- Demand decreased
- Not sure
- Not applicable

4 . Prices

How did the prices of goods or services bought by your business in May 2025 compare with the previous calendar month?

- Prices increased
- Prices stayed the same
- Prices decreased
- Not sure
- Not applicable

How did the prices of goods or services sold by your business in May 2025 compare with the previous calendar month?

- Prices increased
- Prices stayed the same
- Prices decreased
- Not sure
- Not applicable

What are your business's expectations for the prices of goods or services sold in July 2025?

- Prices will increase
- Prices will stay the same
- Prices will decrease
- Not sure
- Not applicable

Which of the following factors, if any, are causing your business to consider raising prices in July 2025?

- Energy prices
- Finance costs
- Labour costs
- Raw material prices
- Transportation or haulage costs
- Other
- Not sure
- Business is not considering raising prices

5 . Stock

Is your business stockpiling any goods or materials?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

How did your business's stock levels of raw materials in May 2025 compare with the previous calendar month?

- Stock levels were higher
- Stock levels stayed the same
- Stock levels were lower
- Not sure
- Not applicable

How did your business's stock levels of finished goods in May 2025 compare with the previous calendar month?

- Stock levels were higher
- Stock levels stayed the same
- Stock levels were lower
- Not sure
- Not applicable

6 . Supply chains

Was your business able to get the materials, goods or services it needed from within the UK in May 2025?

- Yes, the business was able to get the materials, goods or services it needed
- Yes, but the business had to change suppliers or find alternative solutions
- No, the business was not able to get the materials, goods or services needed
- Not applicable

Did your business experience any global supply chain disruption in May 2025?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure
- Not applicable

What was the main reason for global supply chain disruption?

- Conflict in Ukraine
- Conflict in the Middle East
- Increased costs
- Severe weather or climate event
- Shortage of hauliers and carriers
- Shortage of materials
- UK exiting the EU
- United States tariffs
- Other transportation issues
- Other
- Not sure

7 . Trade

Did your business export or import any goods or services in May 2025?

- Both exported and imported
- Exported only
- Imported only
- Business did not export or import
- Not sure

Did your business experience an increase in any of the following exporting challenges in May 2025, compared with the previous calendar month?

- Additional paperwork
- Change in exchange rates
- Change in transportation costs
- Customs duties or levies
- Destination countries changing their border restrictions
- Disruption at UK borders
- Difficulty finding information on how to export
- Lack of hauliers to transport goods or lack of logistics equipment
- Reduced demand for products and services
- Time taken for checks at the border
- Work permit or visa restrictions, or lack of mutual recognition of professional qualifications
- Other
- Did not experience an increase in any exporting challenges

Did your business experience an increase in any of the following importing challenges in May 2025, compared with the previous calendar month?

- Additional paperwork
- Change in exchange rates
- Change in transportation costs
- Customs duties or levies
- Disruption at UK borders
- Difficulty finding information on how to import
- Lack of hauliers to transport goods or lack of logistics equipment
- Suppliers not customs ready
- Time taken for checks at the border
- Other
- Did not experience an increase in any importing challenges

8 . Workforce trends

What are your business's expectations for the number of employees in July 2025?

- Number of employees will increase
- Number of employees will stay the same
- Number of employees will decrease
- Not sure

Is your business currently experiencing a shortage of workers?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure
- Not applicable

Did your business experience any difficulties recruiting employees in May 2025?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure
- Not applicable

9 . Business operations

Which of the following, if any, will be the main concern for your business in July 2025?

Business rates

Competition with other UK businesses

Energy prices

Exchange rates

Falling demand of goods and services

Inflation of goods and services prices

Interest rates

Property rental costs

Supply chain disruption

Taxation

Worker shortages

Other

Not sure

No concerns for the business

How would you describe your business's overall performance in May 2025, compared with the same calendar month last year?

Performance increased

Performance stayed the same

Performance decreased

Not sure

How do you expect your business's overall performance to change over the next 12 months?

Performance will increase

Performance will stay the same

Performance will decrease

Not sure

10 . Comments

Please tell us anything else about your business's current situation relating to topics covered in this survey

- Comments