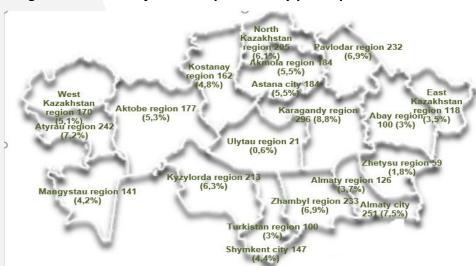


- I. Dynamics of composition of monitoring participants (p. 3)
- Dynamics of demand for final products (p. 4)
- Price changes in the real sector (p. 5)
- IV. Production output (p. 6)
- V. Balance sheet structure: assets (p. 7)
- VI. Balance sheet structure: liabilities (p. 8)
- VII. Investment activity (p. 9)
- VIII. Sources of working capital financing (p. 10)
- IX. Obstacles for doing business (p. 11)
- X. Financial and economic performance change (p. 12)
- XI. Influence and consequences of geopolitics (p. 13)
- XII. Assessment of the financial condition of enterprises (p. 14-15)
- XIII. Banking system impact on the real sector of the economy (p. 16-18)
- XIV. Foreign economic activities of enterprises (p. 19)
- XV. Impact of exchange rate changes (p. 20)
- XVI. Composite leading indicator (p. 21)
- XVII. Methodological comments (p. 22)

DYNAMICS OF COMPOSITION OF MONITORING PARTICIPANTS

Regional structure of the enterprise survey participants in Q4 2022



Large 664 20%

Survey participants size structure

916 23,0%

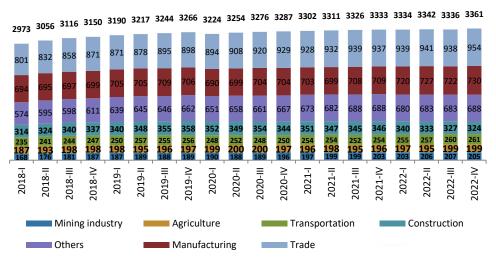
Small

1781

In Q4 of 2022 the number of respondents compared to the previous quarter increased by 25 enterprises and amounted to **3361**. 24 small enterprises and 1 large enterprise were involved in the survey.

In the sectoral context, an increase of enterprises was noted in trade (16), manufacturing (8), transport and storage (1) and a decrease - in construction (3), mining industry (2). There was not change in agriculture.

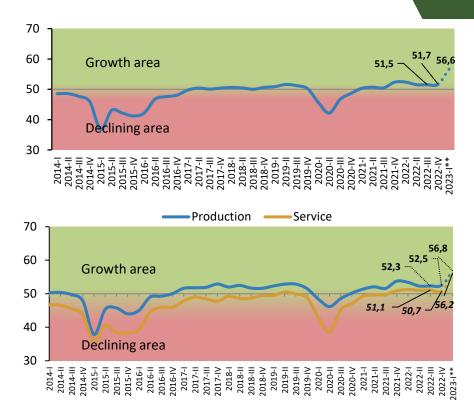
Survey participants sectorial structure



DYNAMICS OF DEMAND FOR FINAL PRODUCTS

Final goods demand, DI*

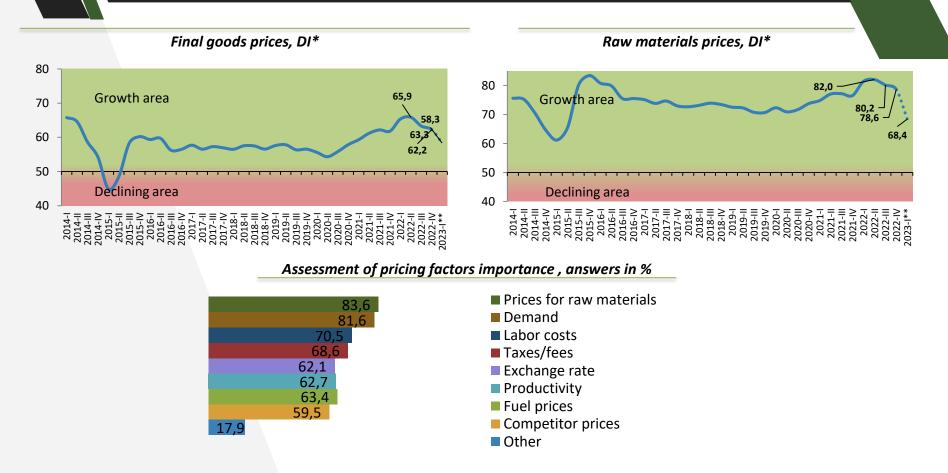
	2021				2022				2023
Answers of enterprises, %	1 кв.	2 кв.	3 кв.	4 кв.	1 кв.	2 кв.	3 кв.	4 кв.	1 кв.**
Increase	16,4	24,1	24,2	24,4	17,4	24,2	25,8	24,0	13,4
No changes	51,5	53,1	55,7	55,1	53,7	54,5	54,6	53,7	39,7
Decrease	28,5	19,1	16,4	17,3	25,4	17,8	15,9	18,2	13,7
Do not know	3,6	3,7	3,8	3,2	3,5	3,5	3,7	4,1	33,2
Diffusion index, DI=line1+0.5*(line 2+line4)	43,9	52,5	53,9	53,6	46,0	53,2	54,9	52,9	49,9
DI, seasonal adjusted	50,4	50,7	50,5	52,4	52,4	51,5	51,5	51,7	56,6



In Q4 of 2022 the demand for final products in the real sector improved slightly. The diffusion index (hereinafter - DI) was **51,7.** The improvement of the indicator was noted in the production of goods sector (52,5), however a slight decrease was noted in services sector (50,7).

According to the expectations of enterprises in the real sector in Q1 of 2023, the demand for ready-made products will increase (DI=56,6).

PRICES CHANGES IN THE REAL SECTOR

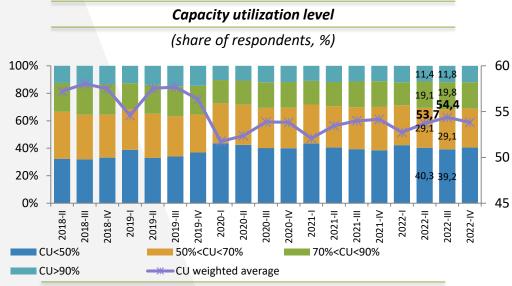


In Q4 of 2022 the growth rate of prices for final products of enterprises in the economy slowed down (DI was 62,2).

For the vast majority of enterprises the most important factor in setting the price of final products is the price of raw materials (for 83.6% of enterprises) and demand (81.6%).

In Q1 of 2023 enterprises expect a slowdown in the rate of growth of prices for raw materials and demand (DI = 68.4), and accordingly, for final products (DI = 58.3).

PRODUCTION OUTPUT



DI changes in production output, DI**



In Q4 of 2022 the capacity utilization (CU) of enterprises decreased. The weighted average* level of the CU was **53.8%**.

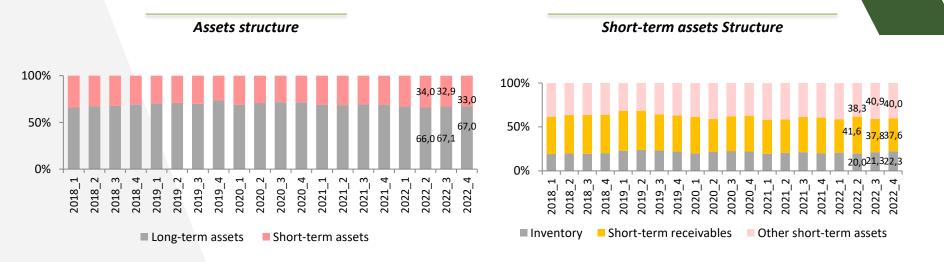
Also in Q4 of 2022 the volume of production of final products (works, services) increased. DI was **51,2.**

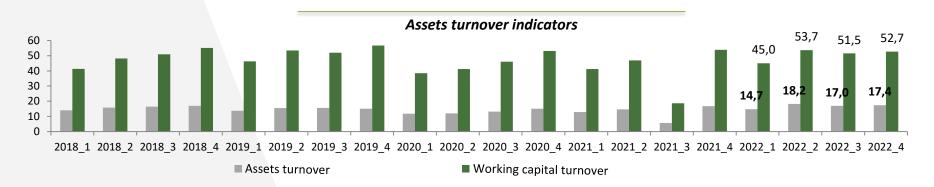
In Q1 of 2023 enterprises expect a rise in production volume growth. The expected DI is **57,1.**

^{*} Arithmetic weighted average is the average value of the interval, weighted by the share of enterprises.

^{**} The higher (lower) the DI from the level of 50, the higher (lower) the growth (fall) rate of the indicator, the level of DI = 50 means no change

BALANCE SHEET STRUCTURE: ASSETS

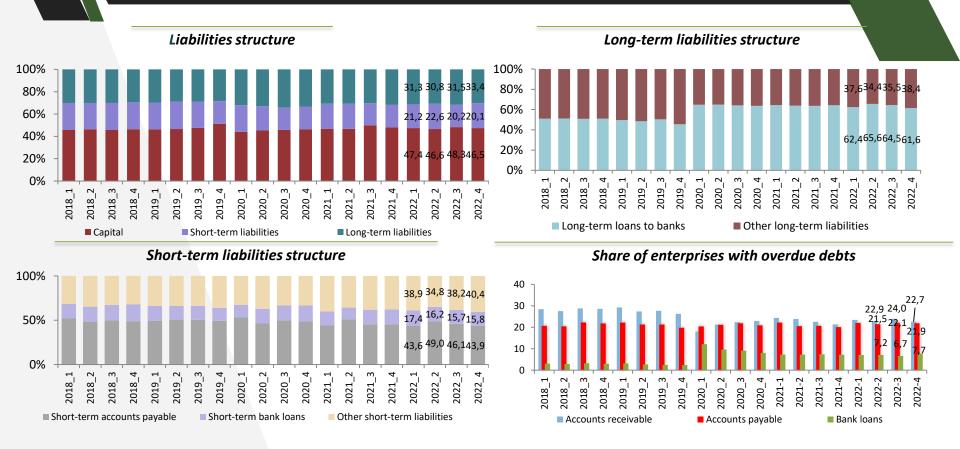




In Q4 of 2022 in the structure of assets of companies in the real sector of the economy, the share of short-term and long-term assets changed slightly, amounting to **33,0%** and **67,0%** (in Q3 of 2022 – 32,9% and 67,1%, respectively). Asset turnover* increased to **17,4%**, working capital turnover ** – to **52,7%**.

In the structure of short-term assets in the current quarter, the share of receivables decreased to **37,6%** (in Q3 of 2022 – 37,8%), while the share of inventories slightly increased to the level of **22,3%** (21,3% in Q3 of 2022).

BALANCE SHEETS STRUCTURE: LIABILITIES

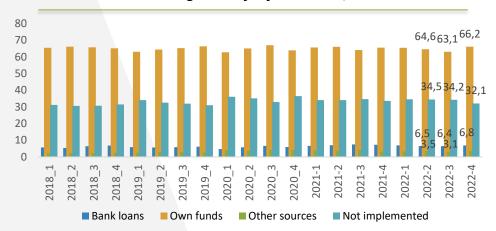


In Q4 of 2022 in the structure of liabilities there is an increase in the share of short-term liabilities to **22,3%**, as well as a decrease in the share of long-term liabilities and capital to **30,3%** and **47,5%**, respectively. In the structure of short-term liabilities, the share of short-term accounts payable decreased from 46,1% in Q3 of 2022 to 43,9% in Q4 of 2022.

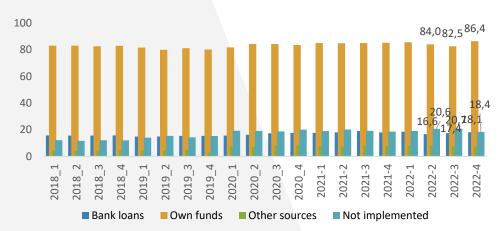
The share of enterprises with overdue accounts receivable and accounts payable decreased up to 22,7% and 21,9%, respectively. At the same time, the share of enterprises with overdue debt on bank loans increased to the level of 7,7%.

INVESTMENT ACTIVITY

Funding source for fixed assets, %



Funding source for working capital, %

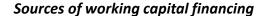


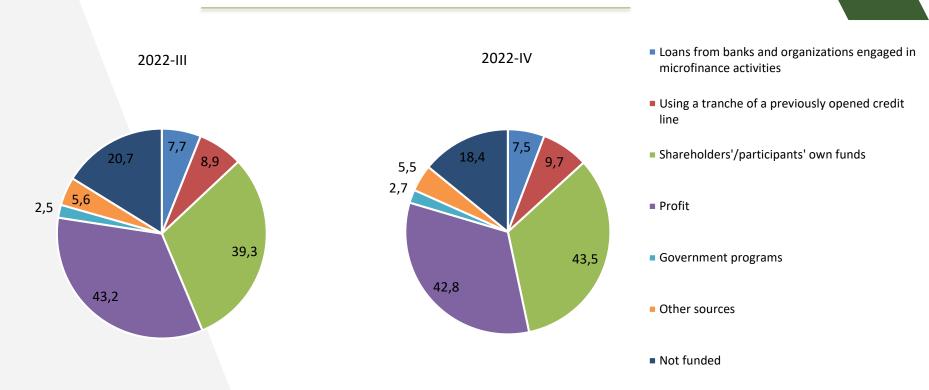
In Q4 of 2022 the investment activity of enterprises slightly increased.

The share of enterprises that did not finance decreased to 32,1%, while the share of enterprises that financed fixed assets at their own expense increased to 66,2%.

As before, most of the enterprises use their own funds to finance fixed and working capital (66,2% and 86,4%, respectively).

SOURCES OF WORKING CAPITAL FINANCING

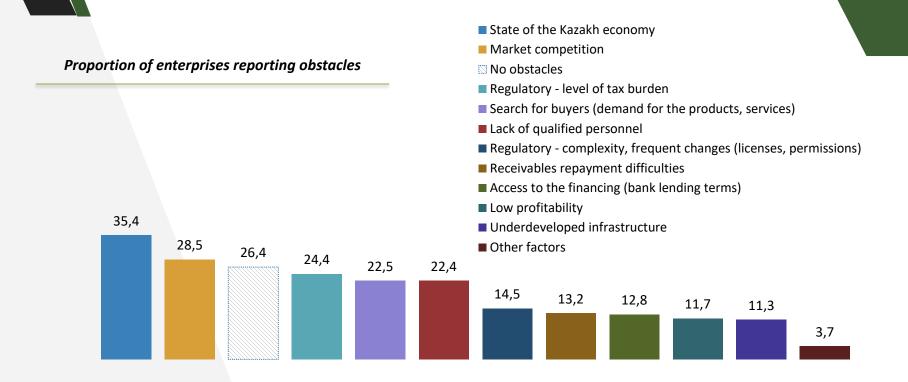




To finance **working capital**, the majority of enterprises (**86,4%**) used their own funds, of which **42,8%** were profits and **43,5%** were shareholders'/participants' own funds. Loans for these purposes were used by **17,2%** of enterprises (of which 9,7% used a tranche on a previously opened credit line, 7,5% - loans in Kazakhstan banks and organizations engaged in microfinance activities).

Among other sources, in addition to those presented in the graph, enterprises also indicate advances from customers, financial assistance, intra-group loans (between the parent company and subsidiaries) and subsidies.

OBSTACLES FOR DOING BUSINESS



According to the results of survey in Q4 of 2022, for **35,4%** of enterprises the state of the economy of Kazakhstan is an obstacle to doing business (in Q4 of 2022 the share of such enterprises was 35,6%). According to **40,9%** (in Q3 of 2022 – 46,3%) of the respondents, the economic situation in Kazakhstan worsened in Q4 of 2022, and **53,4%** believe that it has not changed.

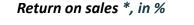
The most important factors for enterprises, in addition to the state of the economy, are such factors as market competition (28,5%), tax burden (24,4%), the lack of qualified personnel (22,5%), the search for buyers (22,4), receivables repayment difficulties (13,2%), while access to financing is ranked 8th (12.8%) in terms of importance.

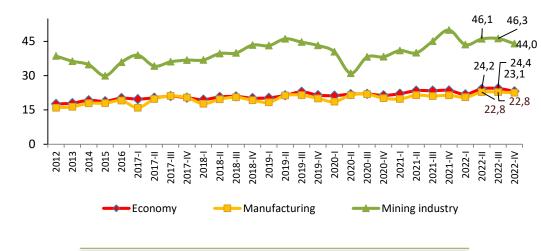
As other obstacles enterprises indicated sanctions against the Russian Federation, a decrease in the import of goods from the Russian Federation and the change of the ruble rate.

FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE CHANGE

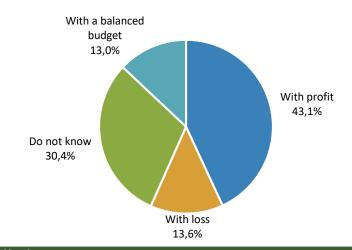
In Q4 of 2022 the average* return on sales** of enterprises decreased in the mining industry remained practically unchanged at 44,0%, manufacturing industry - 22,5%. As a result, the average return on sales in the economy as a whole amounted to **23,1%**.

The share of enterprises planning to close the year with a profit amounted to 43,1% (in Q3 of 2022 – 38,5%), 13,6% believe that the year will end with a loss. At the same time, 13,0% of the surveyed enterprises think to close the year with a balanced budget (without profit or loss), the remaining 30,4% cannot assess the financial condition of the enterprise by the end of the year.





Share of enterprises planning to close the financial year with profit / loss, %

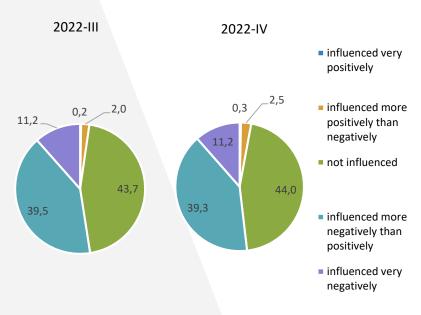


^{*} Average median values are presented as they are less susceptible to extreme emissions than the arithmetic mean

^{**} The sales profitability before expenses deduction on interest, taxes and depreciation is indicated

INFLUENCE AND CONSEQUENCES OF GEOPOLITICS

Influence of the geopolitical situation and sanctions imposed against the Russian Federation on the activities of enterprises, %



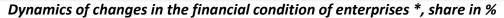
In Q4 of 2022 the activities of most enterprises -50,5% (in Q3 -50,7%) were negatively affected by the geopolitical situation and sanctions imposed against the Russian Federation, of which 11,2% were the hardest hit. However, 44,0% of respondents noted that geopolitics had no effect on their activities.

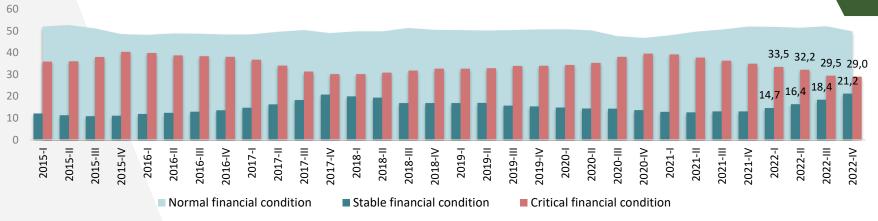
In Q4 of 2022 34,8% of the enterprises that noted the consequences of the geopolitical situation (in Q3 - 34,0%) said that the Kazakhstan tenge is too weak against other currencies. Whereas 23,5%, 23,3% and 18,7% (in Q3 - 23,7%, 23,2% and 19,7%) of respondents noted such consequences as the difficulty of making a decision due to the uncertainty of the situation, logistical/supply problems and difficulties in cash settlements, respectively. New business opportunities were found only by 5,5% of enterprises (in Q3 - 5,0%).

Consequences of the geopolitical situation on the activity of enterprises, %

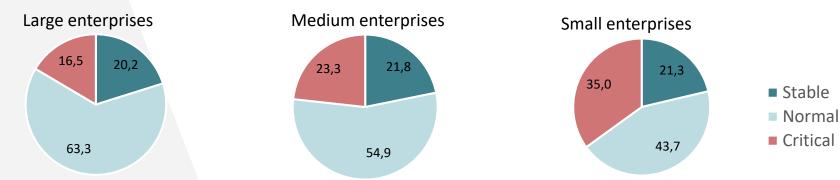


ASSESSMENT OF THE FINANCIAL CONDITION OF ENTERPRISES





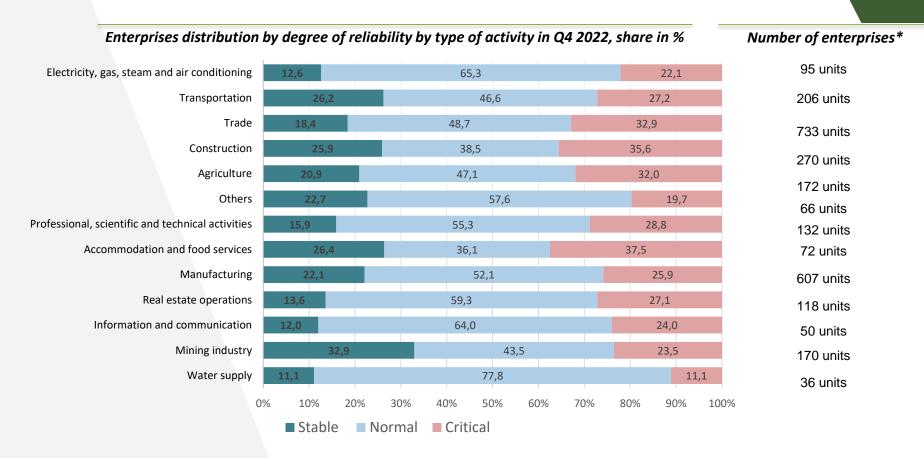
Enterprises distribution by degree of reliability by dimension in Q4 2022, share in %



According to the results of a discriminant analysis based on the assessment of the financial coefficients of enterprises, the share of enterprises with a critical financial condition is continuing to increase: in Q4 their share was 21,2%.

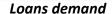
By dimensions, the share of enterprises with a critical financial condition among small enterprises is significantly higher (35,0%) than among large (16.5%) and medium-sized (23.3%).

ASSESSMENT OF THE FINANCIAL CONDITION OF ENTERPRISES

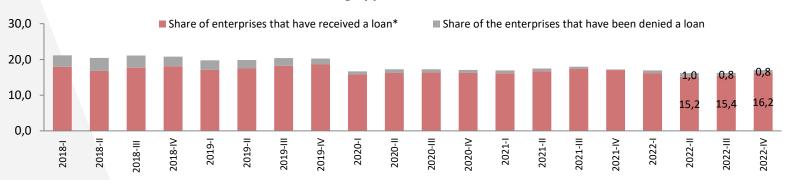


In Q4 of 2022 in all sectors the vast majority of enterprises have a stable or normal financial condition. The largest share of sustainable enterprises was in the mining industry (32,9%). The largest share of enterprises with a critical financial condition - in the industry "accommodation and food services" (37,5%) and construction (35,6%). Water supply turned out to be the most stable sector, where the share of enterprises with a normal financial condition was 77,8%.

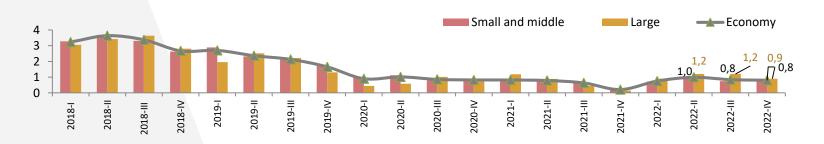
BANKING SYSTEM IMPACT ON THE REAL SECTOR OF THE ECONOMY







Share of enterprises that have been denied for a loan



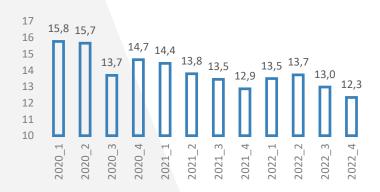
In Q4 of 2022 **17,0%** of the surveyed enterprises applied to the bank for a loan, 16,2% of enterprises received a loan (or 95,1% of the number of those who applied for a loan). The share of loan refusals amounted to 0,8% of the total number of survey participants (4,7% of those who applied for a loan).

BANKING SYSTEM IMPACT ON THE REAL SECTOR OF THE ECONOMY

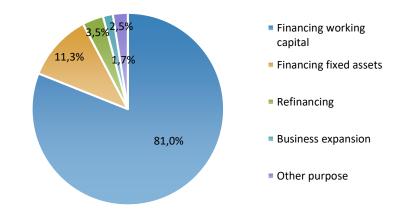
Debt burden estimations of enterprises *, %

Debt burden*	1%-20%	21%-30%	31%-40%	41%-50%	51%-60%	61%-70%	71%-80%	over 81%	no debt
share of enterprises, %	15,7	8,5	5,1	4,4	3,2	1,7	1,0	1,4	59,0

The weighted arithmetic mean value of the debt burden, %



The objectives of applying for loan in the past quarter, in %



In Q4 of 2022 59,0% of the enterprises that took part in the surveys **had no debt.** Most of those who had loans (15,7%) have a debt burden* within 20%. The weighted arithmetic average** value of the debt burden is 12.3%.

The vast majority of enterprises (81.0%) attracted a loan to finance working capital (purchase of materials, raw materials, semi-finished products, etc.), 11.3% - to purchase fixed assets (purchase of buildings, structures, vehicles, equipment, etc.) .d.), 3,5% of enterprises attracted loans for refinancing purposes, 1,7% for business expansion.

^{*} Monthly payment / income from sales of products

^{**} Arithmetic weighted average is the average value of the interval, weighted by the share of enterprises.

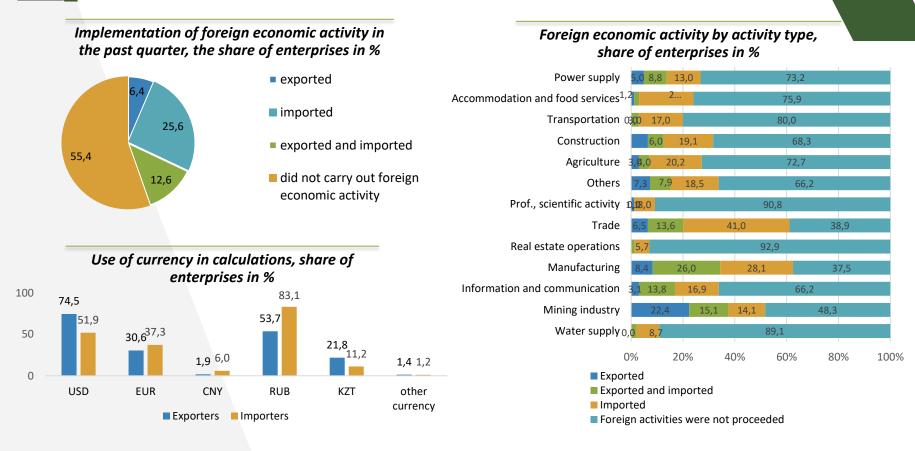
BANKING SYSTEM IMPACT ON THE REAL SECTOR OF THE ECONOMY



In Q4 of 2022 the assessments of enterprises regarding price (the level of interest rates on a loan, the amount of additional commissions) and non-price (the maximum size and term of the loan, requirements for the financial condition of the borrower, requirements for collateral) deteriorated, but remained negative.

The average interest rates on loans received by survey participants were **16.6%** in tenge and **5.7%** in foreign currency (13.7% and 6.5% in the previous quarter, respectively). According to enterprises, the acceptable interest rate for them on loans in tenge should be 6.1%, and on loans in foreign currency -2.8%.

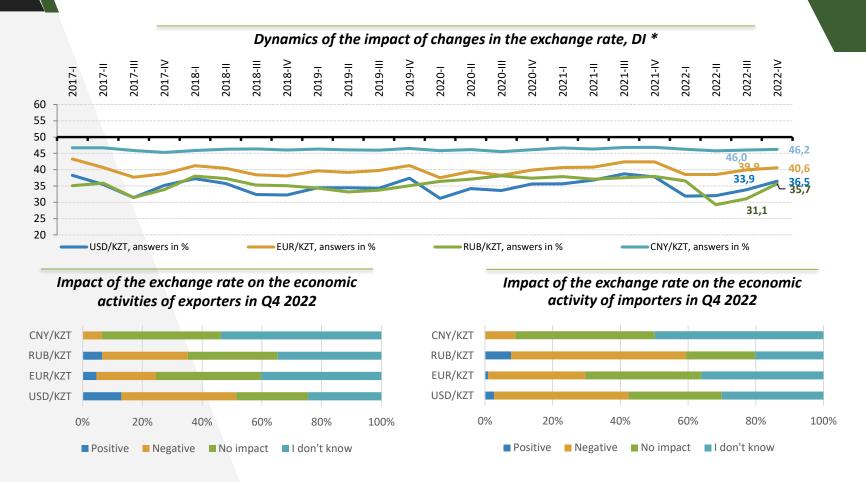
FOREIGN ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES OF ENTERPRISES (FEA)



In Q4 of 2022 **25,6%** of respondents imported products to run their business, 6,4% exported, 12,6% exported and imported, and the vast majority (**55,4%**) had not carry out foreign economic activity. The largest share of enterprises that exported products was in the mining industry (**22,4%**), the largest share of enterprises that imported products was in trade (**41,0%**). In the manufacturing industry the largest share of enterprises engaged in foreign economic activity.

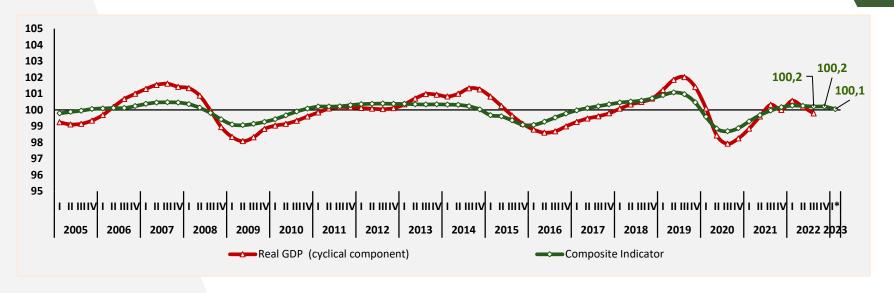
In settlements with foreign partners, exporters more often use the US dollar (74,5% of exporters), importers use the Russian ruble more (83,1% of importers). The British pound sterling, Swiss franc, Kyrgyz som and Turkish lira were also indicated as other currencies used in the settlements.

IMPACT OF EXCHANGE RATE CHANGES



In Q4 of 2022 the negative impact on the economic activity of enterprises of the change in exchange rates for all 4 major types of currencies slightly decreased. The most negative impact was the change in the exchange rate of the tenge to the Russian ruble. Enterprises experience the least negative impact on their economic activities from the CNY/KZT exchange rate. The positive impact from the exchange rate in Q4 was indicated exporters more than importers. The changes in the RUB/KZT exchange rate has a significant negative impact on importers.

COMPOSITE LEADING INDICATOR*



In Q4 of 2022 the dynamics of the composite leading indicator (CLI), which is an aggregate assessment of surveys of enterprises in the real sector, demonstrates he continued growth rate of economic activity in the real sector. CLI remained at 100,2.

The dynamics of CLI continue to be affected by decrease in the share of enterprises with a critical financial condition, a decrease in the share of enterprises that mark the state of the economy of Kazakhstan as an obstacle to doing business, an increase in the volume of inventories, an increase in average wages, relatively high energy prices, and reduced access to finance. The increase in interest rates on loans had a negative impact. Growth is expected to slow down further in Q1 of 2023 (CLI is expected to be 100,1). Enterprises expect increase demand for final products in the service sector.

^{*} A composite leading indicator is used to identify turning points in the business cycle and provides good quality information about the state and directions of trends in the economic activity. A composite leading indicator reflects a summarized evaluation of opinions of managers of the interviewed enterprises regarding the existing and anticipated situation in their enterprises and possesses the forward-looking feature of the real GDP behavior for 1-2 quarters. Construction of CLI is based on the OECD methodology («OECD System of Composite Leading Indicators, Methodology Guideline», OECD 2012).

^{**} The CLI parameters for Q1 2023 are calculated on the basis of expectations among enterprises in the real sector that participated in the survey.

- The diffusion index (DI) as reflected in tables and in figures is calculated as a sum of positive responses and a half of "no change" responses. This index is a generalized indicator which characterizes the behavior of the reviewed indicator. If its value is above 50 this means a positive change, if it is below 50, then the change is negative. In doing so, the further (the higher) the value of the diffusion index deviates from 50, the higher are the rates of change (increase or decrease) of the indicator.
- The indicator of "an acceptable interest rate on bank loans" is calculated as the average of interest rates indicated by enterprises participating in the monitoring process as acceptable rates for these enterprises in terms of the existing level of profitability of production.
- Numbers reflecting financial ratios are provided as average values calculated based on the whole sample of interviewed enterprises as well as broken down by sector, where necessary, based on estimates of the quarter-end balance sheet numbers received from enterprises. In doing so, the evaluation data as well as the averages calculated on their basis are not aiming at obtaining the absolute precision of their values (since they are not the reporting ones) but rather serve for obtaining updated estimates and for analyzing the trends of the change in the state of the non-financial sector of the economy and its sectors.
- Discriminant analysis allows to identify the most informative indicators of the financial condition of the enterprise and determine the approach of a crisis situation at the enterprise, and thus classify them according to the degree of reliability. The distribution of enterprises into groups (stable, normal and critical) is carried out using classification functions, including 3 financial indicators: the income growth rate from sales of products per employee, the coefficient of financial independence and the equity capital growth rate. Details in the economic research
- The composite indicator (CLI) possesses the forward-looking feature of the real GDP behavior for 1-2 quarters. The time series of the CLI and the real GDP (in terms of prices of the year 2005) are cleared of seasonality and do not contain the trend, i.e. they only include a cyclical component as determined by short-term fluctuations of the economic market environment. For comparability purposes, the resulting cyclical components are standardized, i.e. they are reduced to one (non-dimensional) unit of measurement.
- The CLI serves to reflect short-term development trends in the real sector of the economy as a whole. It possesses the following features: 1) it has a forward-looking mature; 2) it reflects a cyclical nature in the development of the real sector of the economy; 3) it is quickly designed since it is built on the basis of on-the-spot interviews of enterprises.

METHODOLOGICAL COMMENTS