AHK World Business Outlook
Qatar

Fall 2025

German Emirati Joint Council
for Industry and Commerce
المجلس الألمانى الإماراتى
المشترك للصناعة و التجارة

Summary

The **business landscape** in Qatar is largely optimistic, with 62% of the participating companies viewing current conditions as positive. Looking ahead, about 60% of participants expect even better business within the coming 12 months.

The **economic forecasts** improves with 35% anticipating growth and 55% expecting stability.

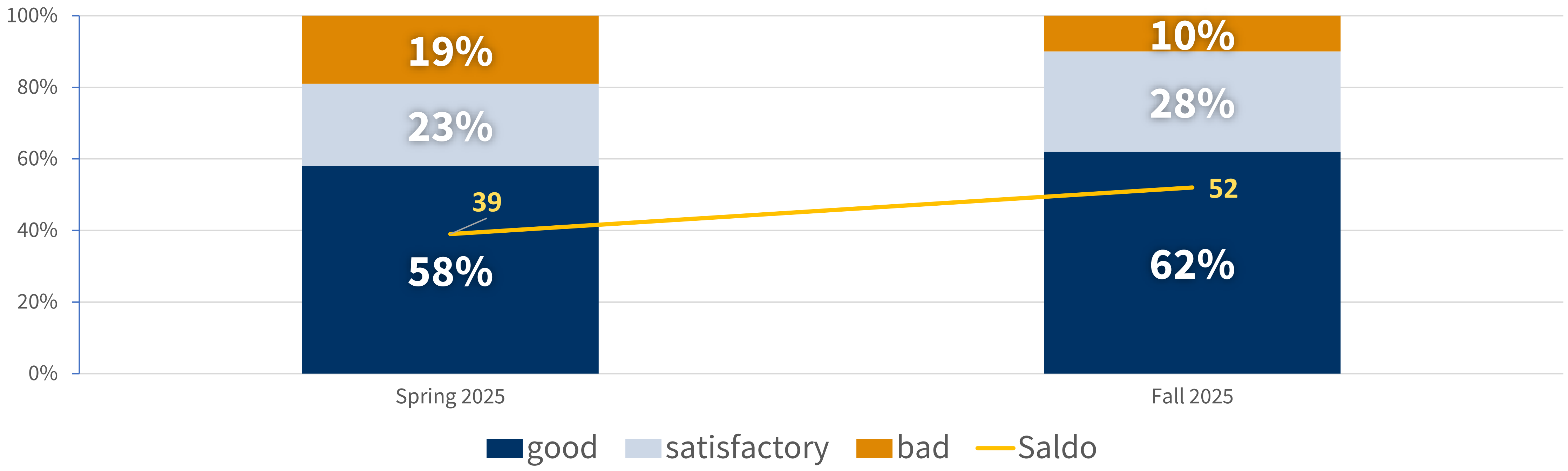
When it comes to the **investment outlook**, almost every fourth company plans with higher investment, as in spring. The number of companies intending lower or no investment increases slightly to 21% (plus 4%).

The local **employment** market reflects this optimism with 59% anticipate stability in their workforce number and 27% planning an increase.

Every second company identifies demand as one of the biggest **risks**. Trade barriers and preferential treatment for local companies continue to pose major challenges, named by 36% of respondents..

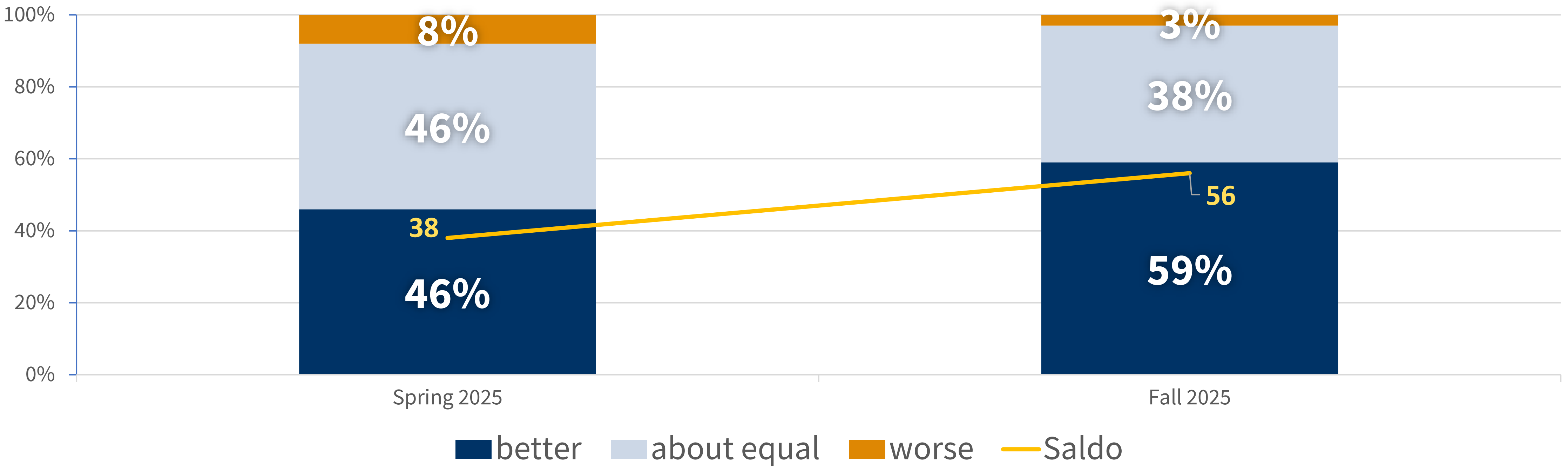
While uncertainty surrounding **U.S. trade policy** remains a factor influencing the outlook of local businesses, its anticipated negative impact has eased over the past six months. Was it named by 58% of participants in spring, is the number now down to 38%.

1. How do you assess the current business situation of your company?



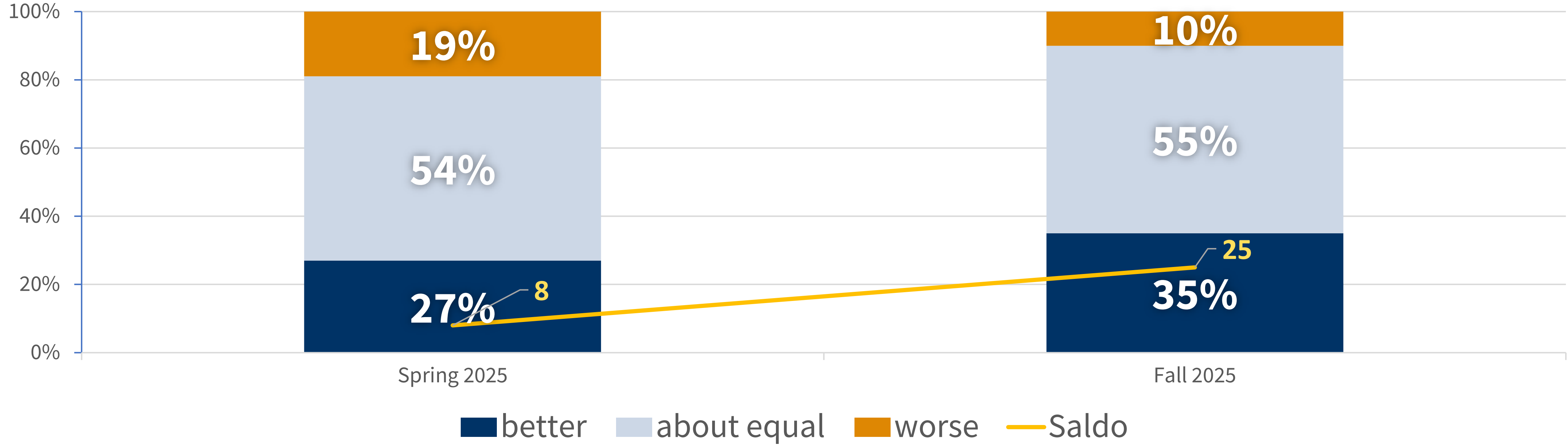
The number of companies assessing the own current business situation as good increases from 58% to 62% within six months. With only 10% of companies considering their business situation as bad, the saldo (positive answers minus the negative answers) improves to 52 points.

2. Which business development does your company expect for the next 12 months?



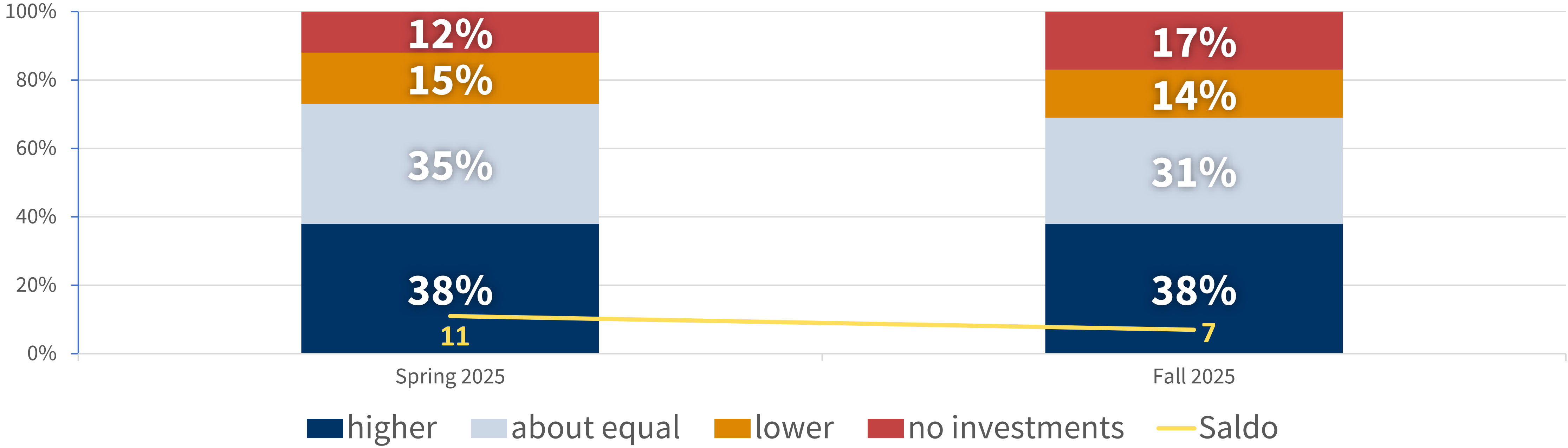
Since spring 2025, the proportion of companies expecting growth in their Qatar operations over the next 12 months has risen from 46% to 59%. Meanwhile, the percentage of those anticipating a worsening situation has decreased to only 3%. 38% of companies anticipate that conditions will remain about the same. In total the saldo grow to 56 over the past 6 months.

3. How do you judge the local economic development in the next 12 months?



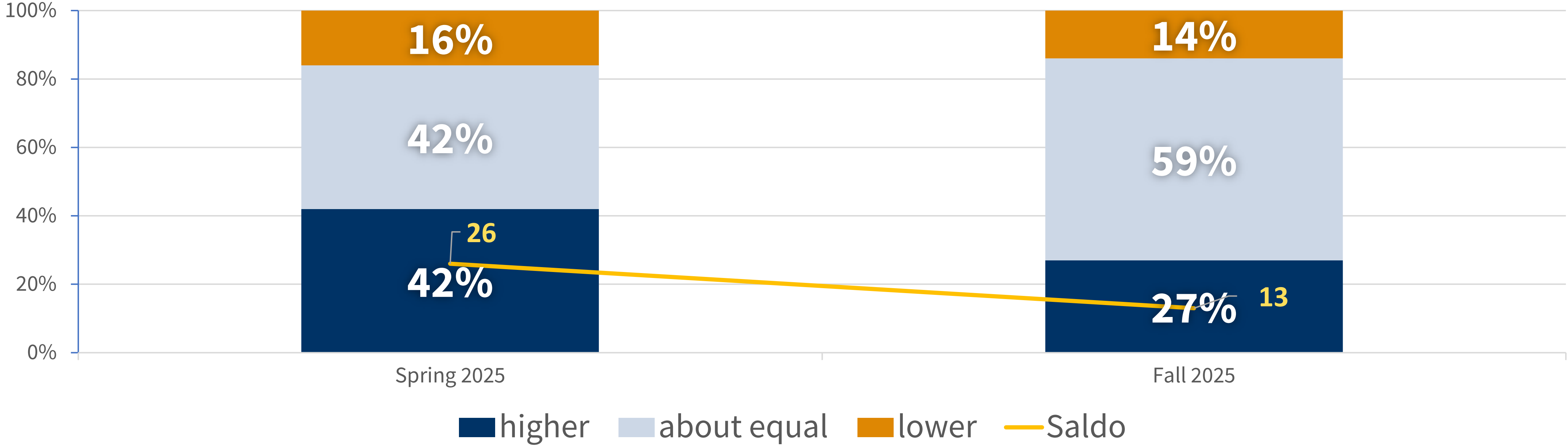
The local economic development within Qatar is mostly expected to improve or stay similar. 35% of the companies see an improvement and 55% expect the situation to remain about equal. The saldo improves from 8 to 25 points.

4. How do you think local investments of your company are likely to develop in the next 12 months?



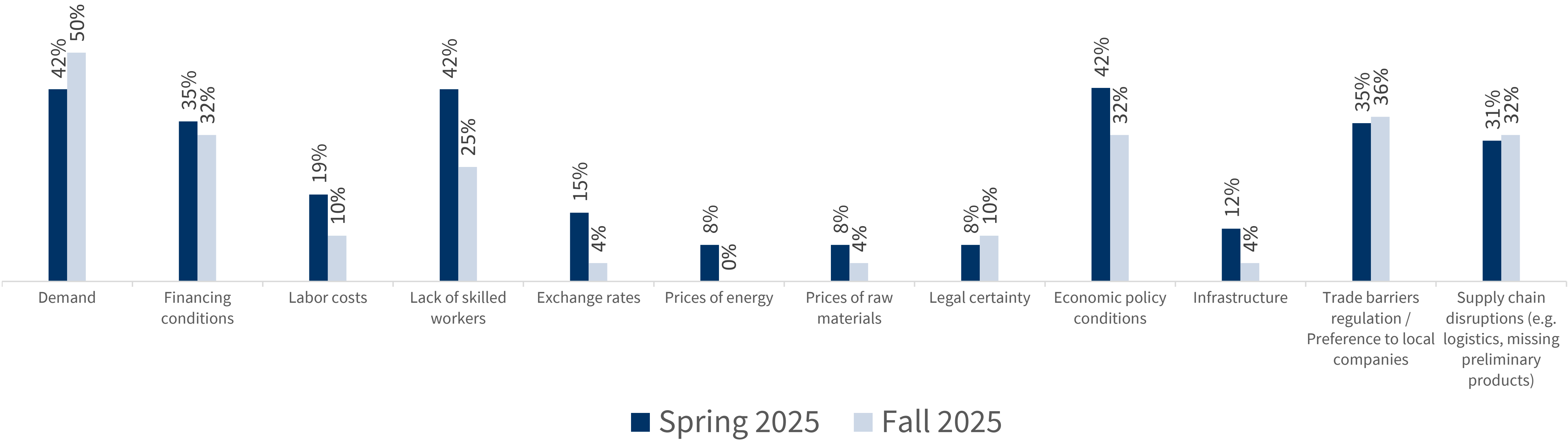
In terms of future investments, the percentage of companies projecting higher investments has been stable at 38% and about every third participants expects the investment to remain the same. The number of companies that plan lower or no investments slightly increased to 31%.

5. How do you think local employment of your company is likely to develop in the next 12 months?



In the coming year, the prospects for local employment still appear positive, with about 60% of companies anticipating stability in their workforce number. While only 14% of businesses expect a decline in the team strength (down by 2%), the intention to increase the headcount declined from 42% to 27%. This effects the saldo bringing it down to 13.

6. What are the biggest risks for your company’s economic development in the next twelve months?



Demand is currently perceived as the greatest risk by companies, with 50% identifying it as their primary concern. Trade barriers / Preference to local companies remain a significant issue, cited by 36% of respondents. Financing and economic policy conditions, as well as supply chain disruptions, are each considered a risk by about every third company.

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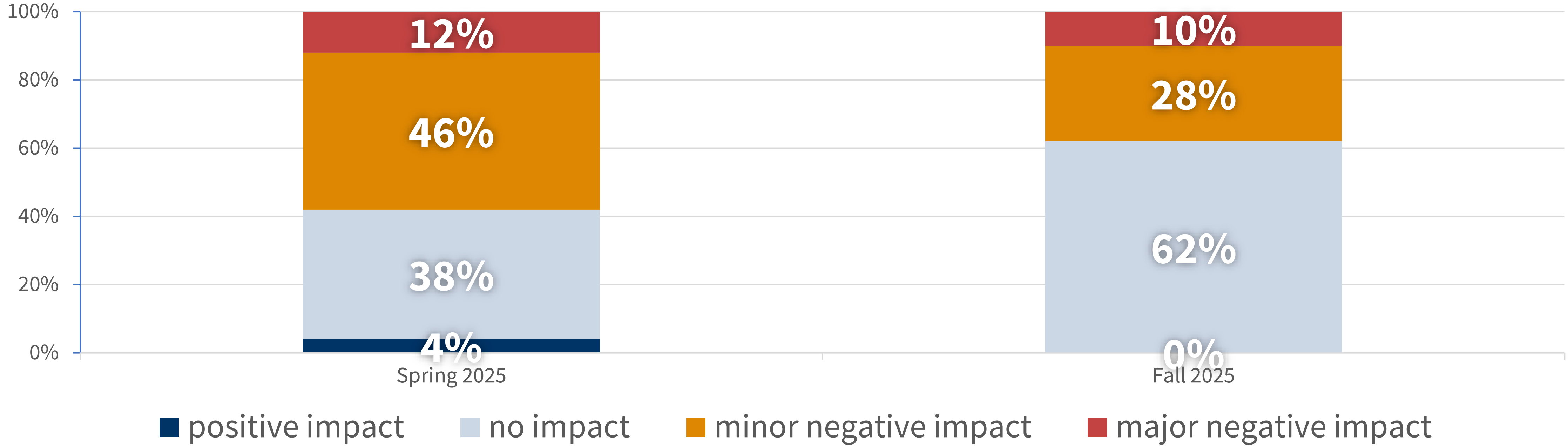
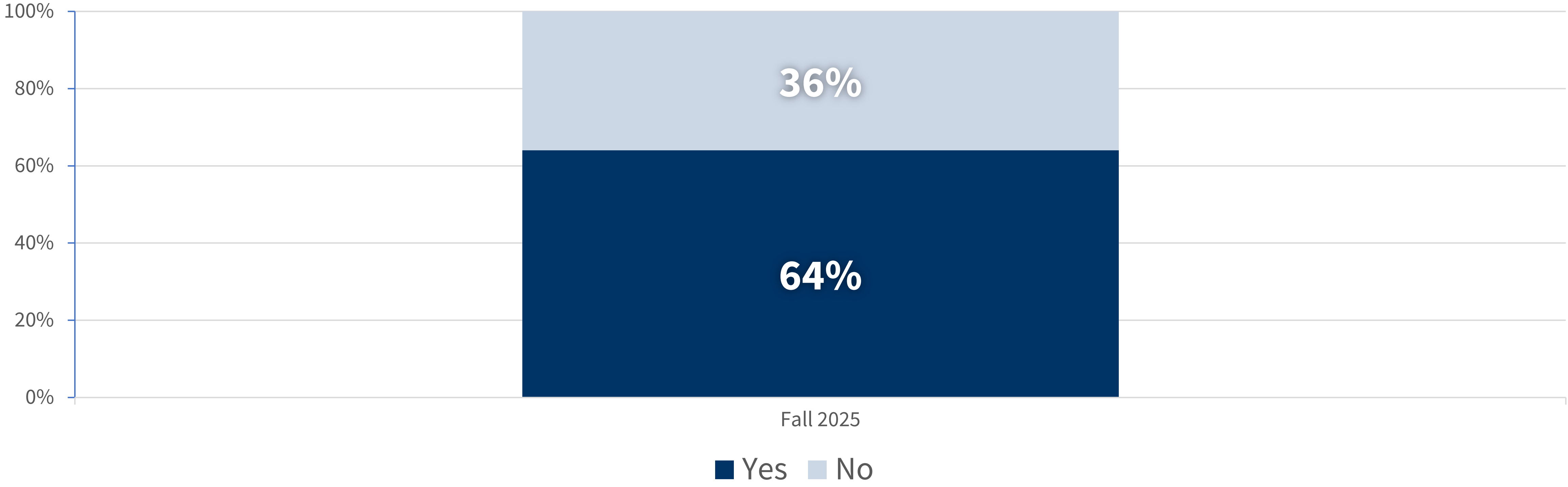
7. What impact do you expect the new US trade policy to have on your company's local business?

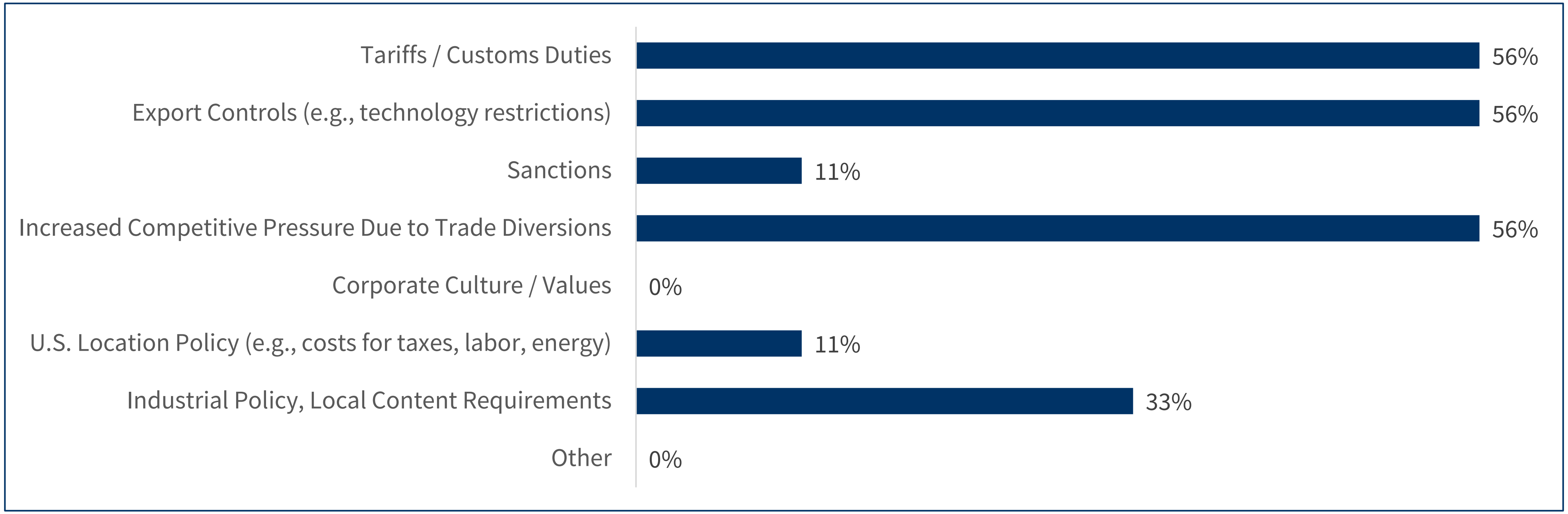


While uncertainty surrounding U.S. trade policy remains a factor influencing the outlook of local businesses, its expected impact has eased over the past six months. Only 38% of the companies anticipate negative impacts on their business, whether major or minor, coming from 58% in spring. Now, 62% foresee no consequences.

8. Is your company currently engaged in any business activities in the US?

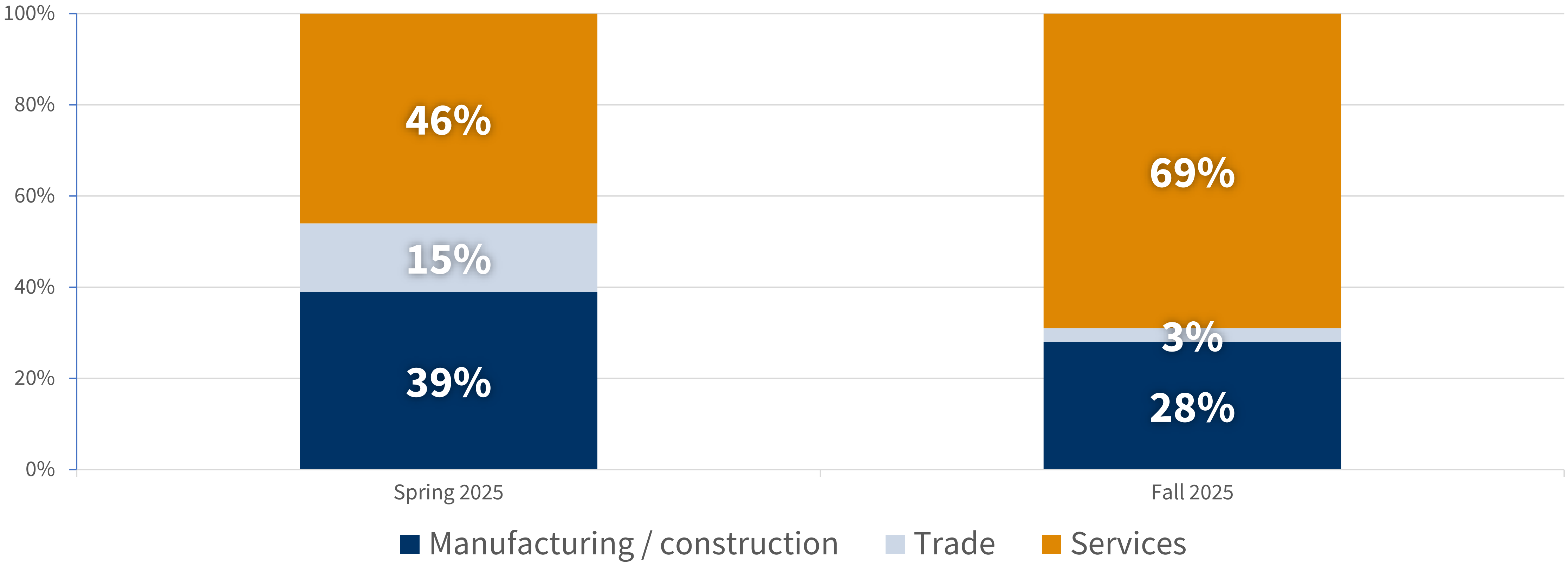


8.1. What are the key aspects and challenges of U.S. economic policy?

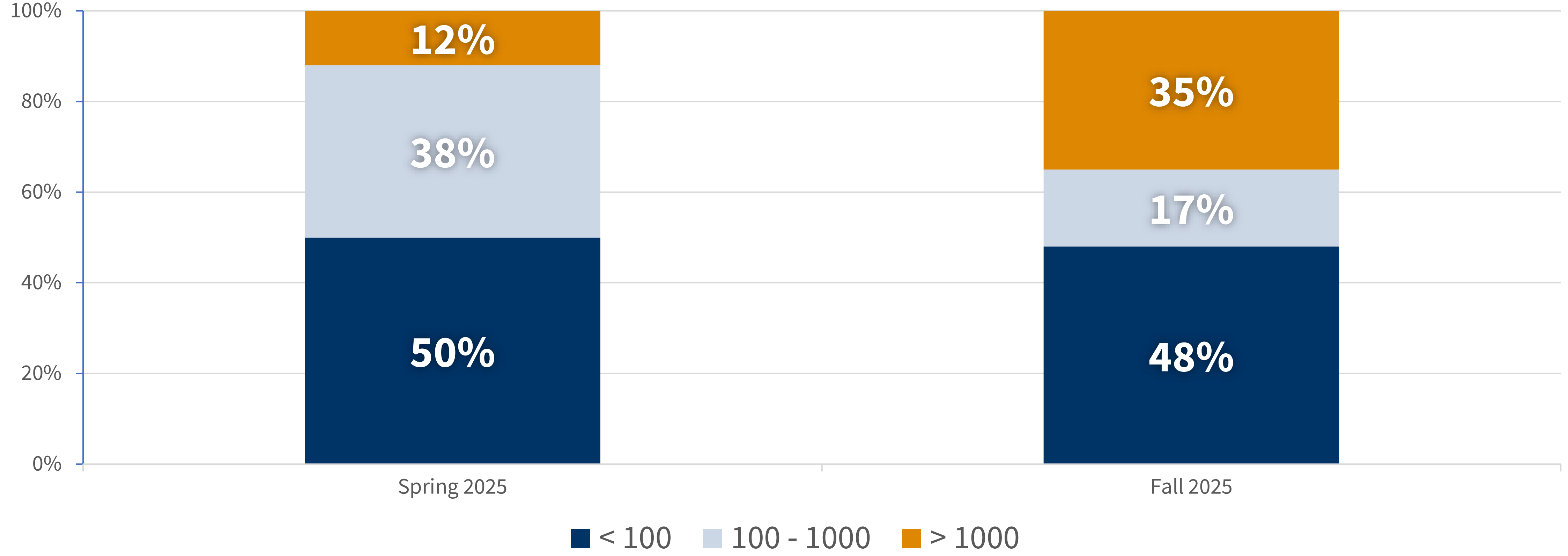


56% of companies with business operations in the United States identify tariffs / customs duties, export controls as well as increased competitive pressure due to trade diversions as a major challenges. This is followed by industrial policy and local content requirements, cited by one third of the companies.

9. Participating companies per sector



10. Participating companies per number of employees worldwide



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The **AHK World Business Outlook** is based on a regular DIHK survey of member companies of the German Chambers of Commerce Abroad, delegations and representative offices (AHKs). In fall 2025, it collected feedback from over 3,500 German companies, branches and subsidiaries worldwide, as well as companies with close ties to Germany.

The survey was conducted from 29 September to 17 October 2025.

The global results are also available on the AHK UAE website (www.ahkuae.com)

For inquiries, please contact: info@ahkuae.com

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