



# AHK World Business Outlook Qatar

Spring 2025



**AHK**

German Emirati Joint Council  
for Industry and Commerce

المجلس الألماني الإماراتي  
المشترك للصناعة و التجارة

# Summary

The **business landscape** in Qatar is largely optimistic, with companies viewing current conditions as stable or positive. Looking ahead, many firms expect ongoing stability or improvement, signaling strong confidence in the local market.

**Economic forecasts** are similarly positive, with 27% anticipating growth and 54% expecting stability. While 19% of businesses worry about a potential downturn, the overall sentiment leans towards optimism.

**Investment outlook** is favorable, as many companies plan to increase local investments in the coming year. However, 35% foresee no change in their investment levels, and some expect reductions. The local **employment** market reflects this optimism, with 42% of firms planning to hire more employees, while only 16% expect layoffs.

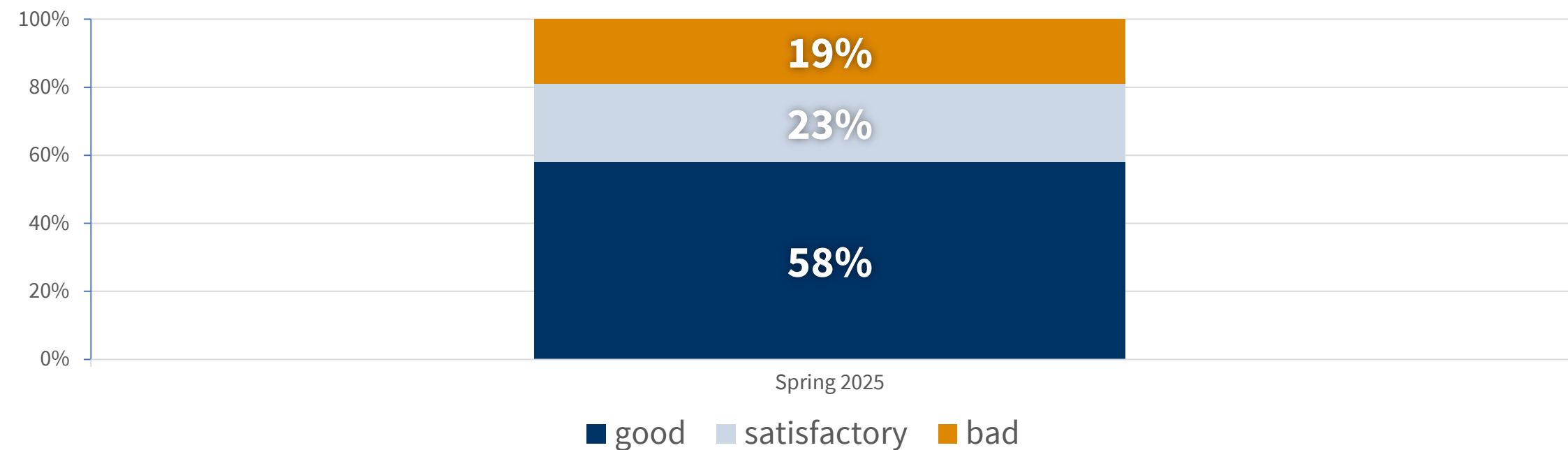
**Risks** identified include demand fluctuations, economic policy issues, and a shortage of skilled professionals. Concerns about financial conditions, trade regulations, and supply chain challenges exist but are secondary to labor market worries. Interestingly, energy prices and legal uncertainties are not top concerns for most businesses.

**U.S. trade policies** are a significant concern, with 58% fearing negative impacts. Over 73% of companies view trade barriers and geopolitical conflicts as **major challenges** for the next five years. Other critical issues include economic fragmentation, inflation, and advancements in cybersecurity and digital transformation.

Overall, despite some external challenges, the resilience and positive outlook of Qatari companies provide a strong foundation for growth and stability in the coming year.

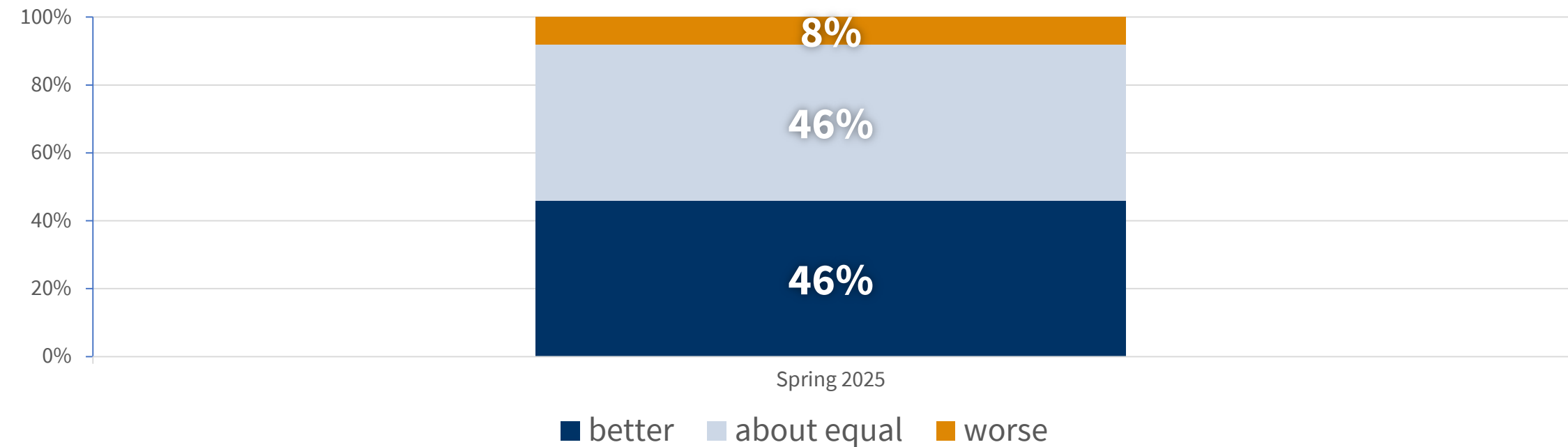


# 1. How do you assess the current business situation of your company?



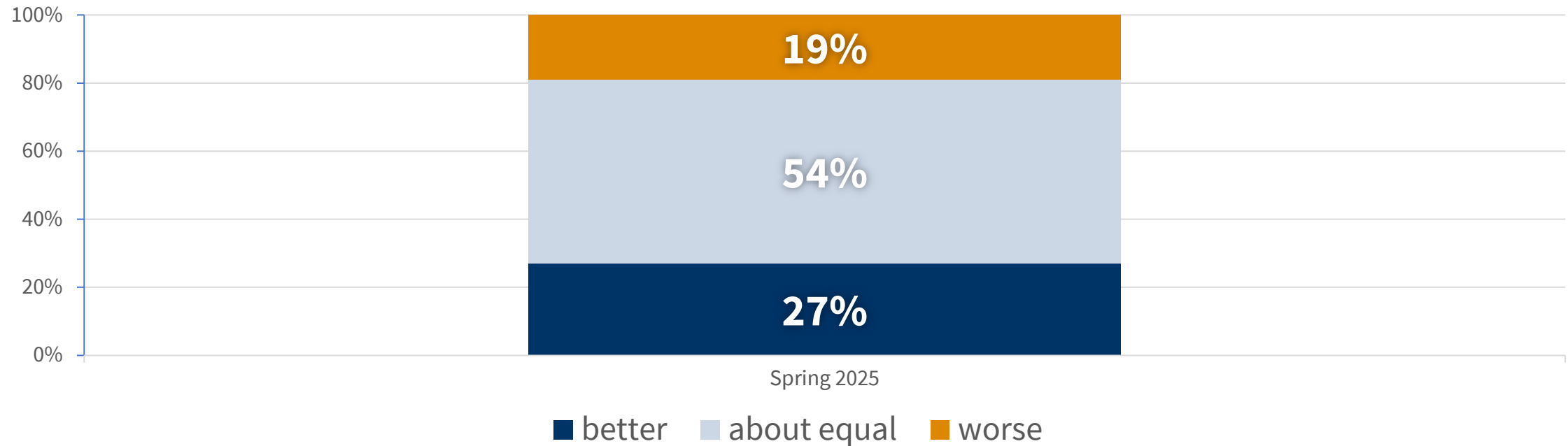
The outlook among companies in Qatar is largely positive, with almost 60% expressing satisfaction with their current situation. Only 19 percent of the companies assess the current business situation as bad.

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



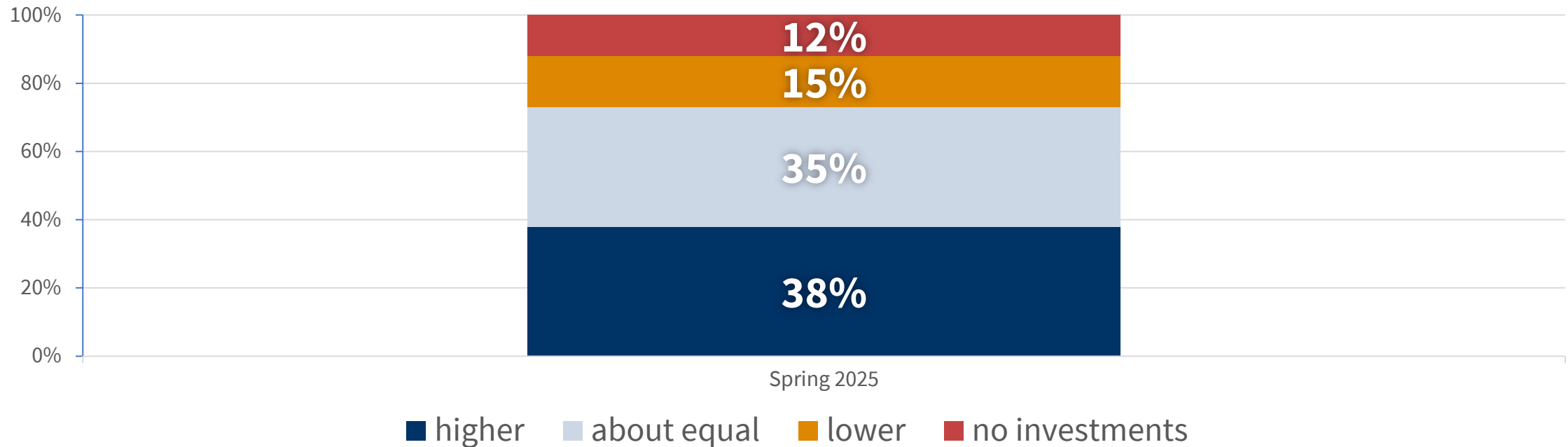
The overall expectation for the business development within the Qatari market is good with 46% forecasting a positive development. Equally, 46% foresee a similar to the current situation. Although 19% assess their current business situation as bad, only 8 percent expect a worsening business development in the next 12 months.

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



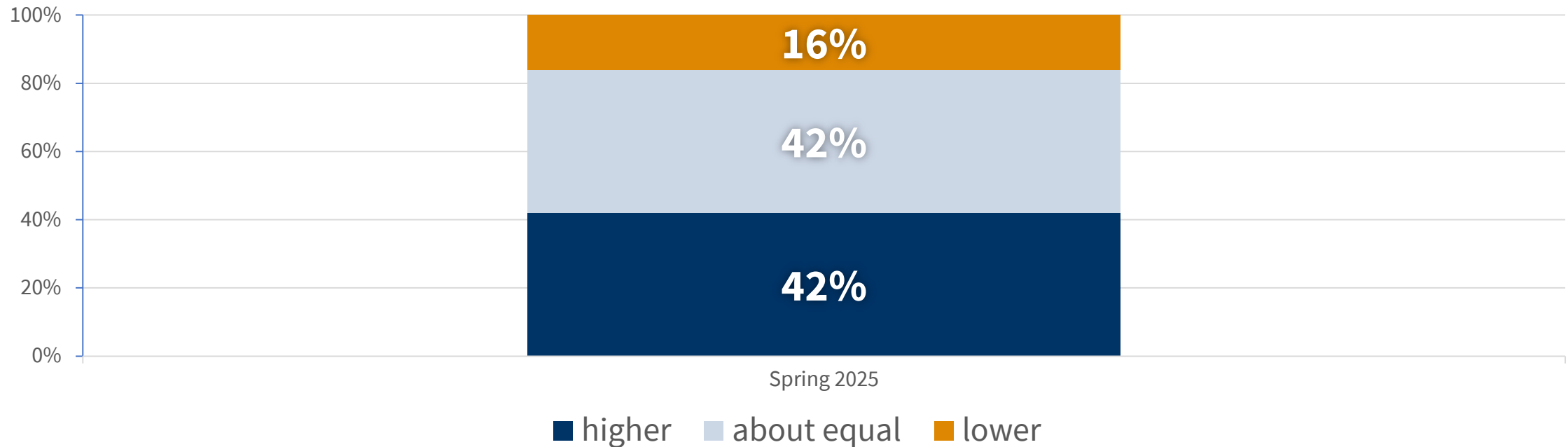
The local economic development within Qatar is mostly (54%) expected to stay similar. 27% anticipate an improvement while 19% expect the general local economic development to worsen.

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



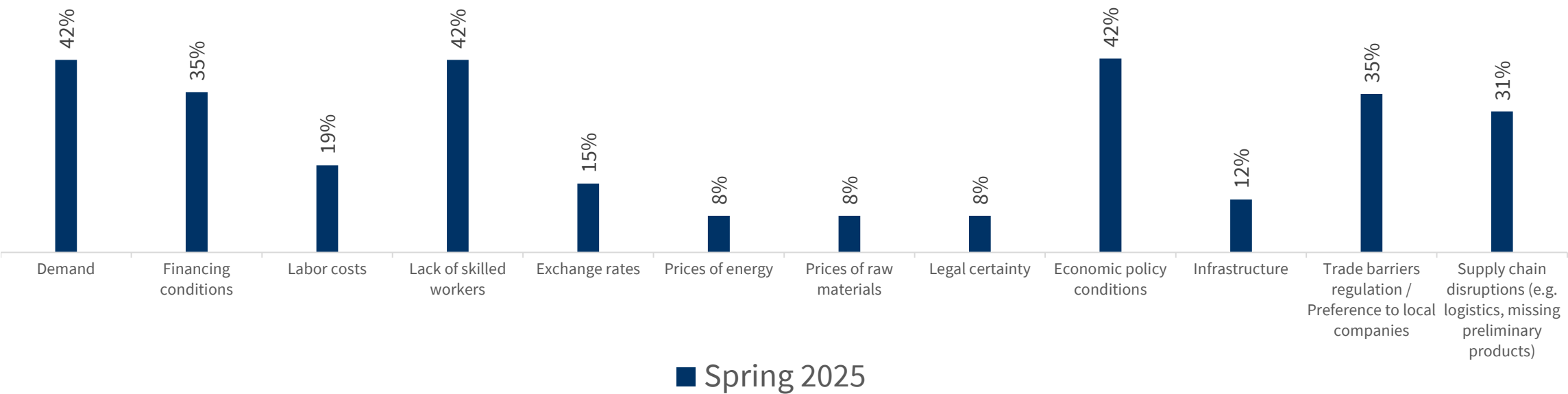
The situation for local investments of companies is also largely positive or at least neutral. 38% expect higher local investments within the next year while 35% anticipate no change. However, 27% plan lower or no investments.

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



Within the next year, the outlook for local employment is positive. 42% plan to grow the work force. Just 16% of companies expect the numbers of employment to go down while 42% foresee a stable labour force.

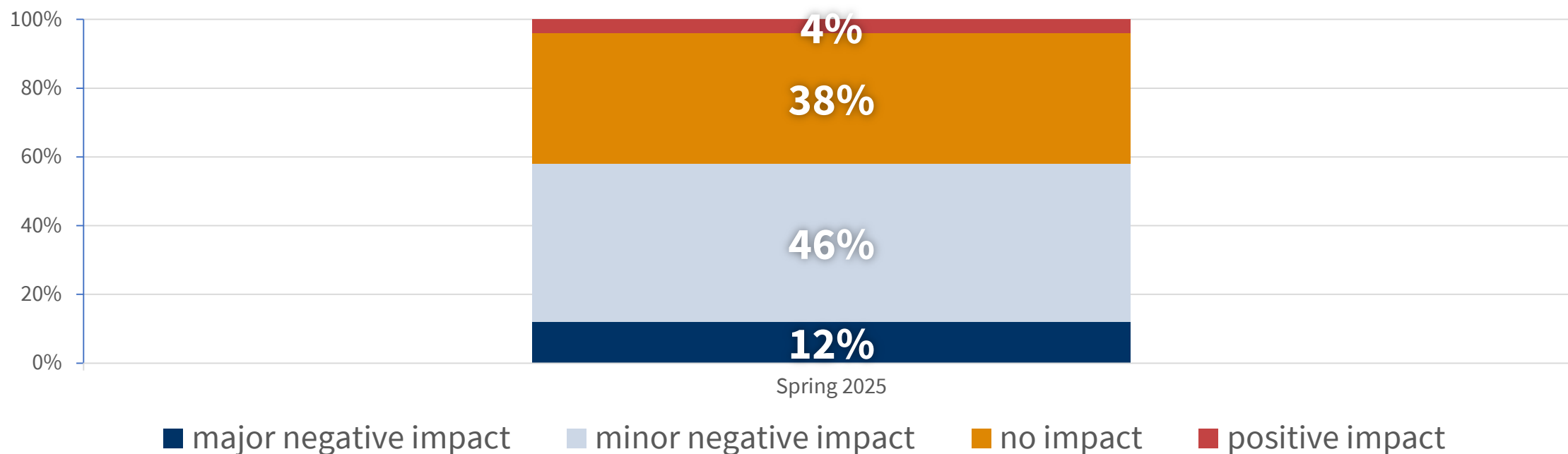
# 6. What are the biggest risks for your company’s economic development in the next twelve months?



About four out of six companies (42%) identify demand, economic policy conditions, and a shortage of skilled workers as one of the biggest risks. Concerns about trade barriers regulations and finance conditions are seen as risk by more than every third company.

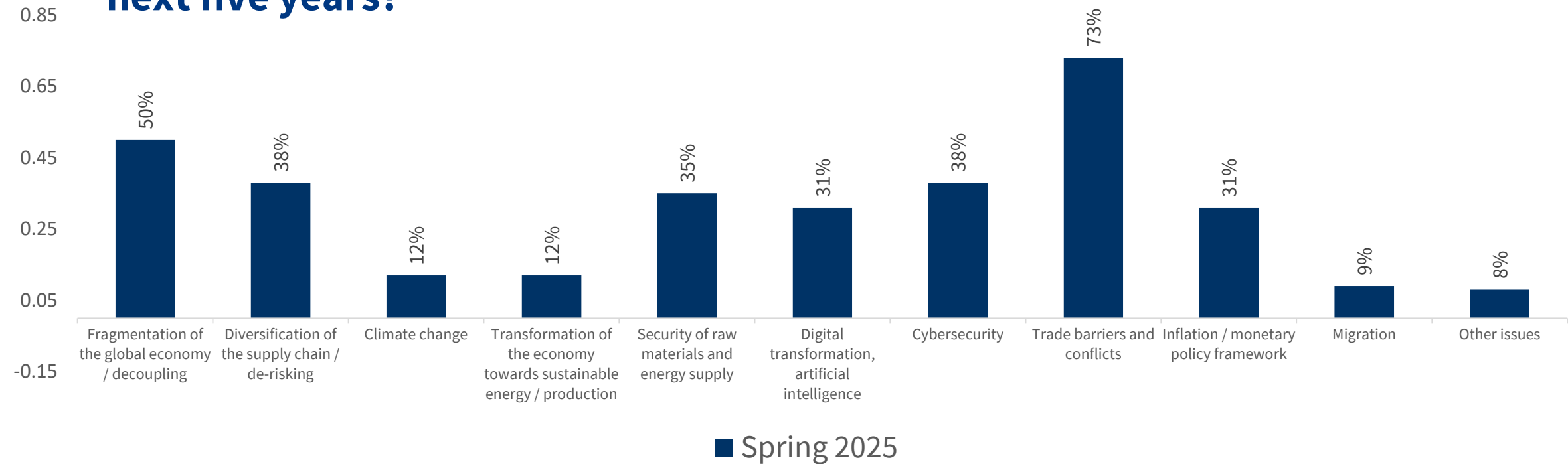


## 7. What impact do you expect the new US trade policy to have on your company's local business?



The current uncertainty surrounding U.S. trade policy is affecting the expectations of local businesses. 58% of the companies anticipate negative impacts on their business, whether major or minor. 38% foresee no consequences while 4% expect a positive impact because of the US trade policy.

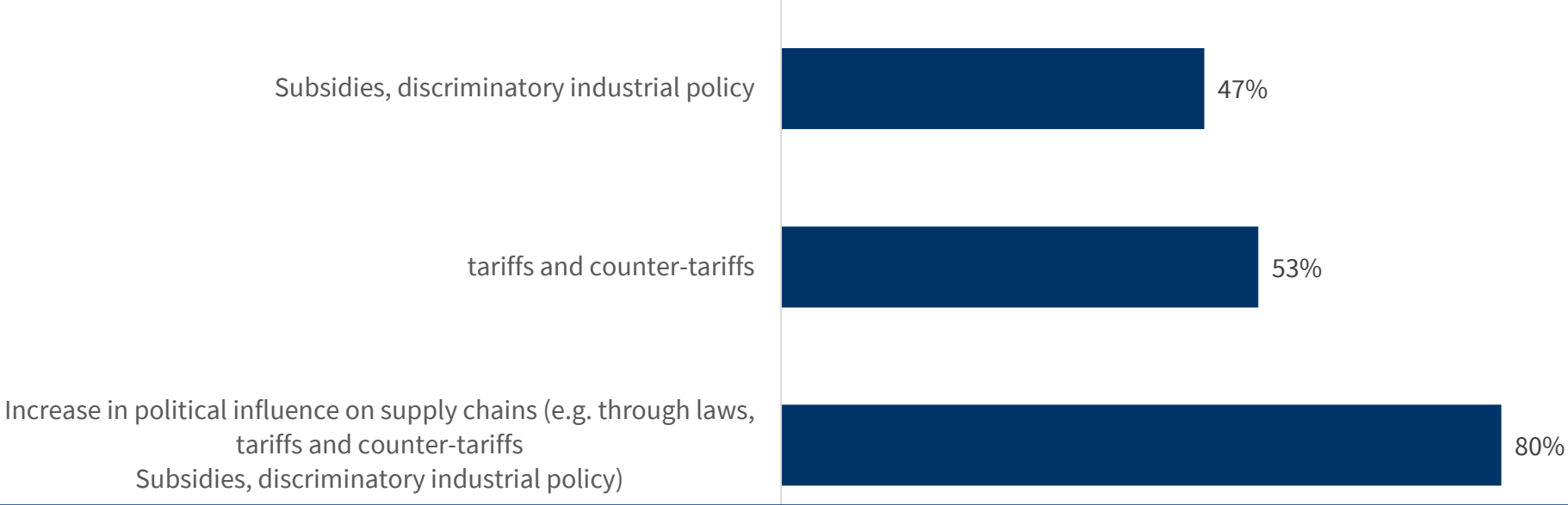
# 8. From your company's perspective, what are the biggest global challenges in the next five years?



When asked about the biggest expected global challenges within the next five years, 73% of the companies mark trade barriers and trade conflicts. Every second company sees the risk of a fragmentation of the global economy.

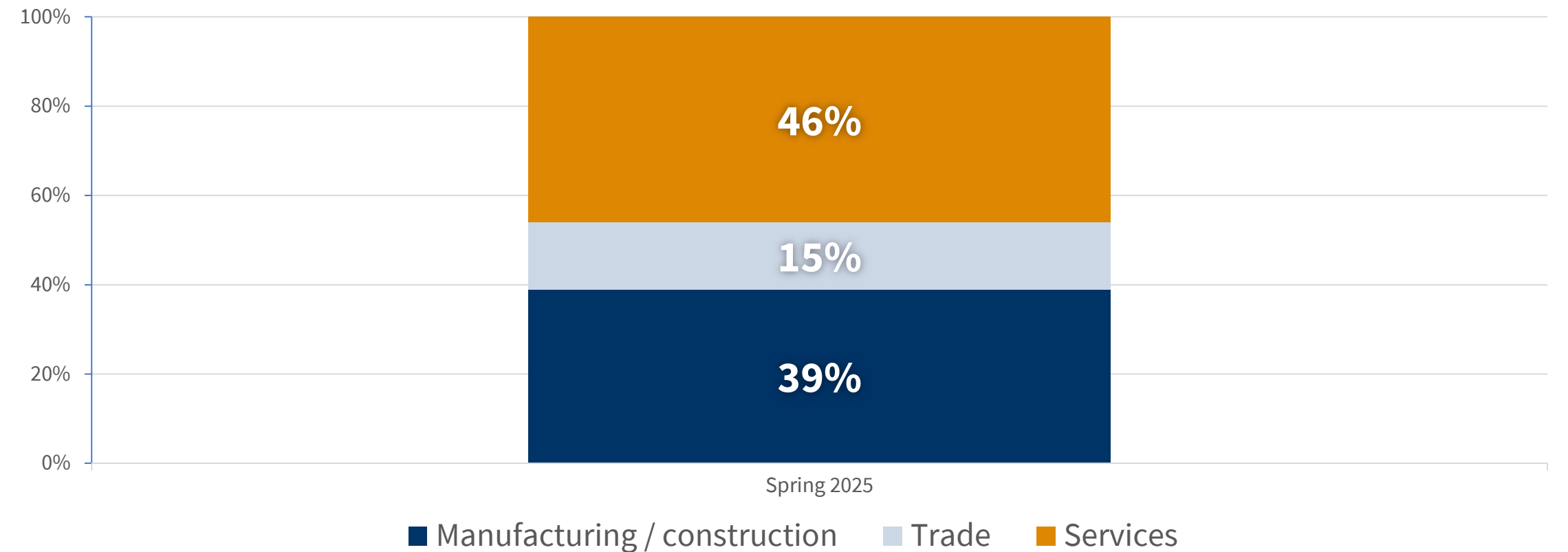
# 8.1. From your company's perspective, what are the biggest global challenges in the next five years?

## Trade barriers and conflicts

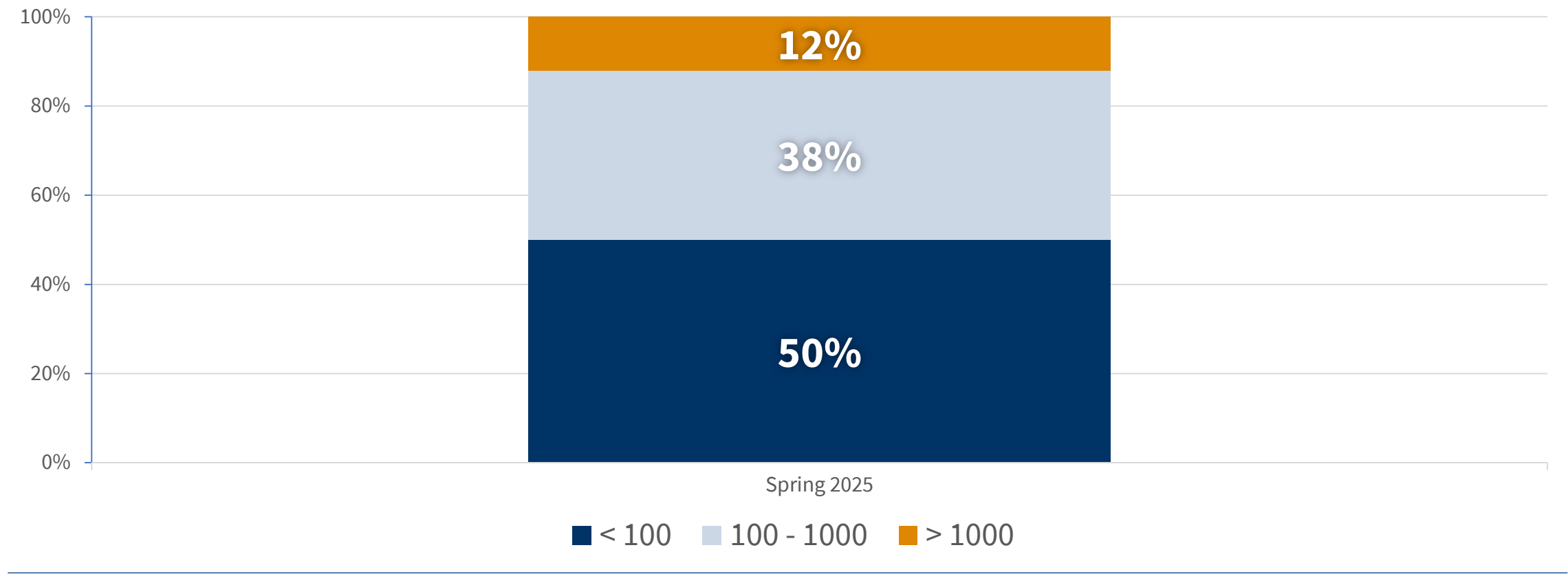


Of the companies considering trade barriers and conflicts a threat, 80% are expecting an increasing political influence on supply chains.

# 9. Participating companies per sector



# 10. Participating companies per number of employees worldwide



**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).**

This survey collected feedback from more than 4,600 German companies, branches and subsidiaries worldwide as well as companies with close ties to Germany; this includes a relevant sample size of participants from Qatar. The survey was conducted from 17 March to 14 April 2025.

The global results are also available on the AHK UAE website ([www.ahkuae.com](http://www.ahkuae.com))

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