

SME Barometer Q1 2025

misco



NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS

427



MARGIN OF ERROR

4.8%



TYPE

Online Survey with Unique Submissions



RESPONDENTS

Businesses operating in Malta

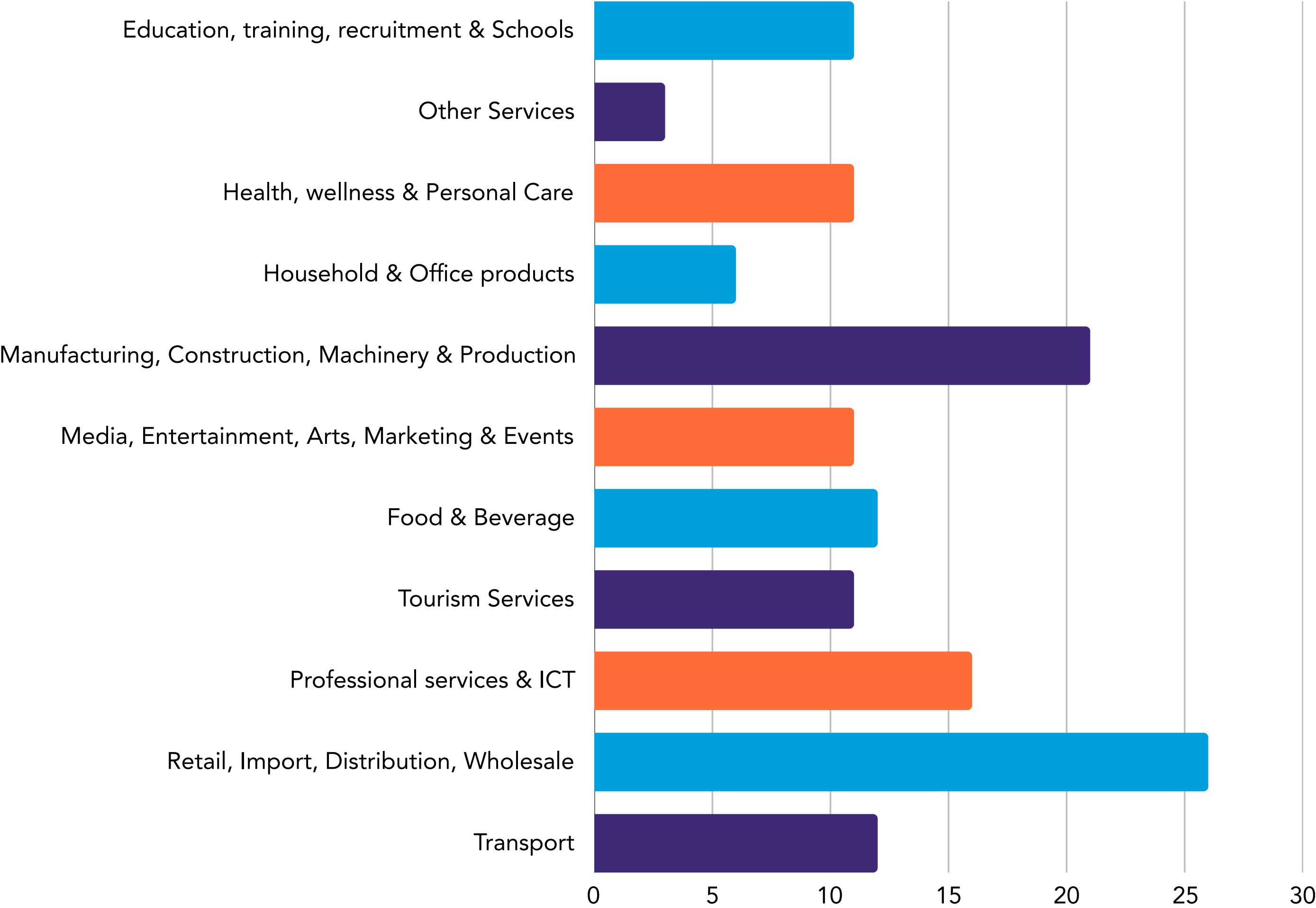


DATE

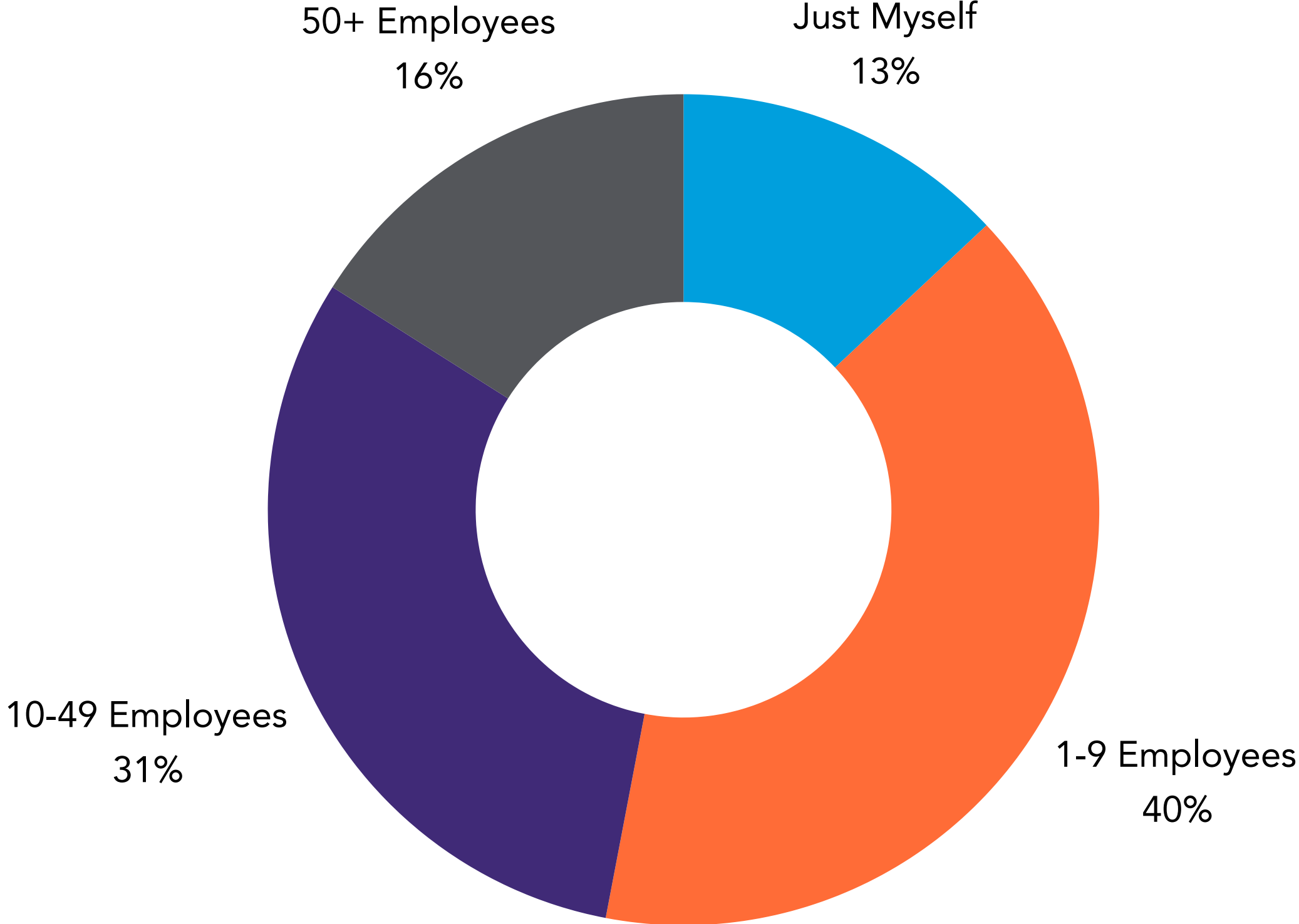
07th April - 18th April 25'

Survey Details.

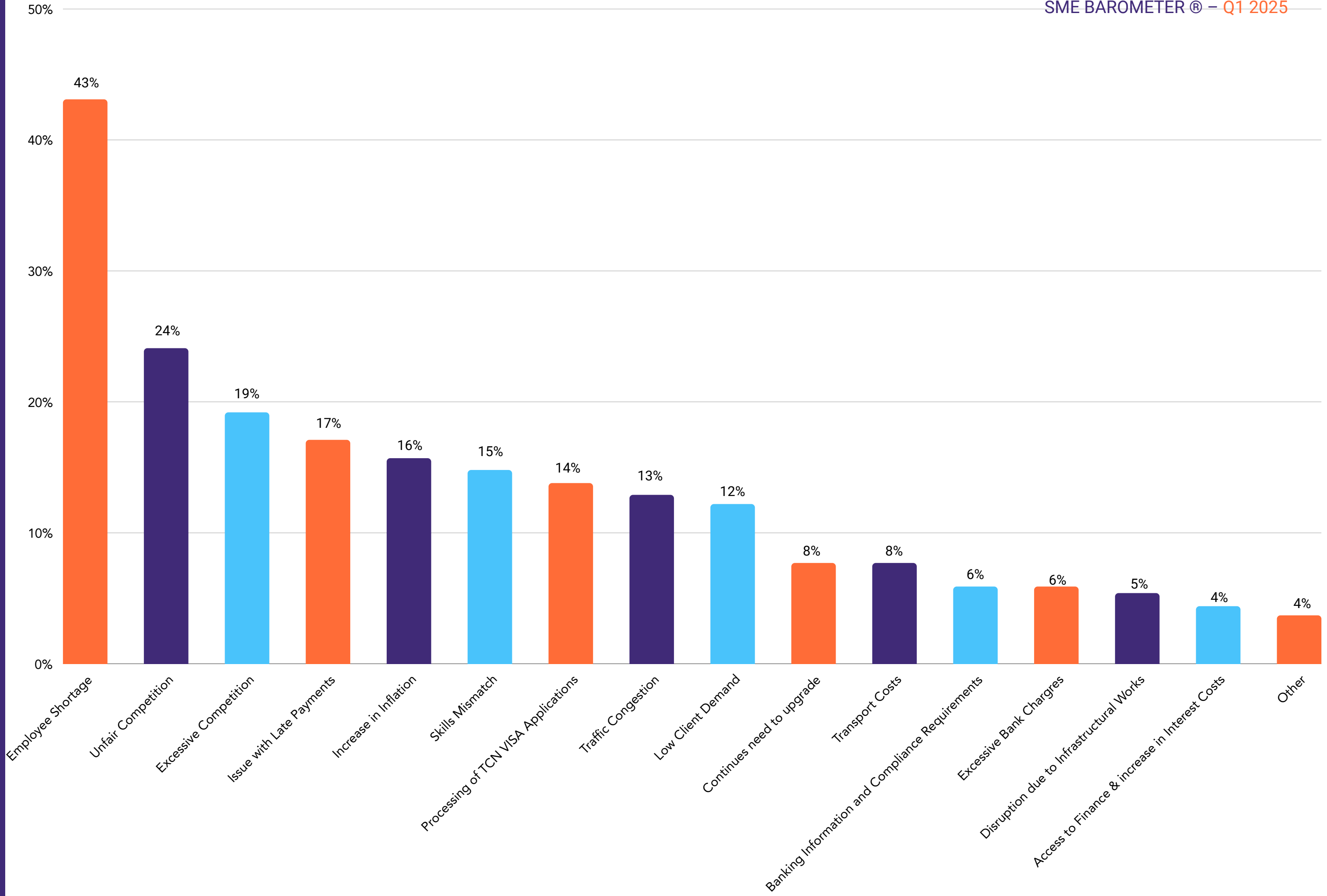
Line of Business (multiple choice)



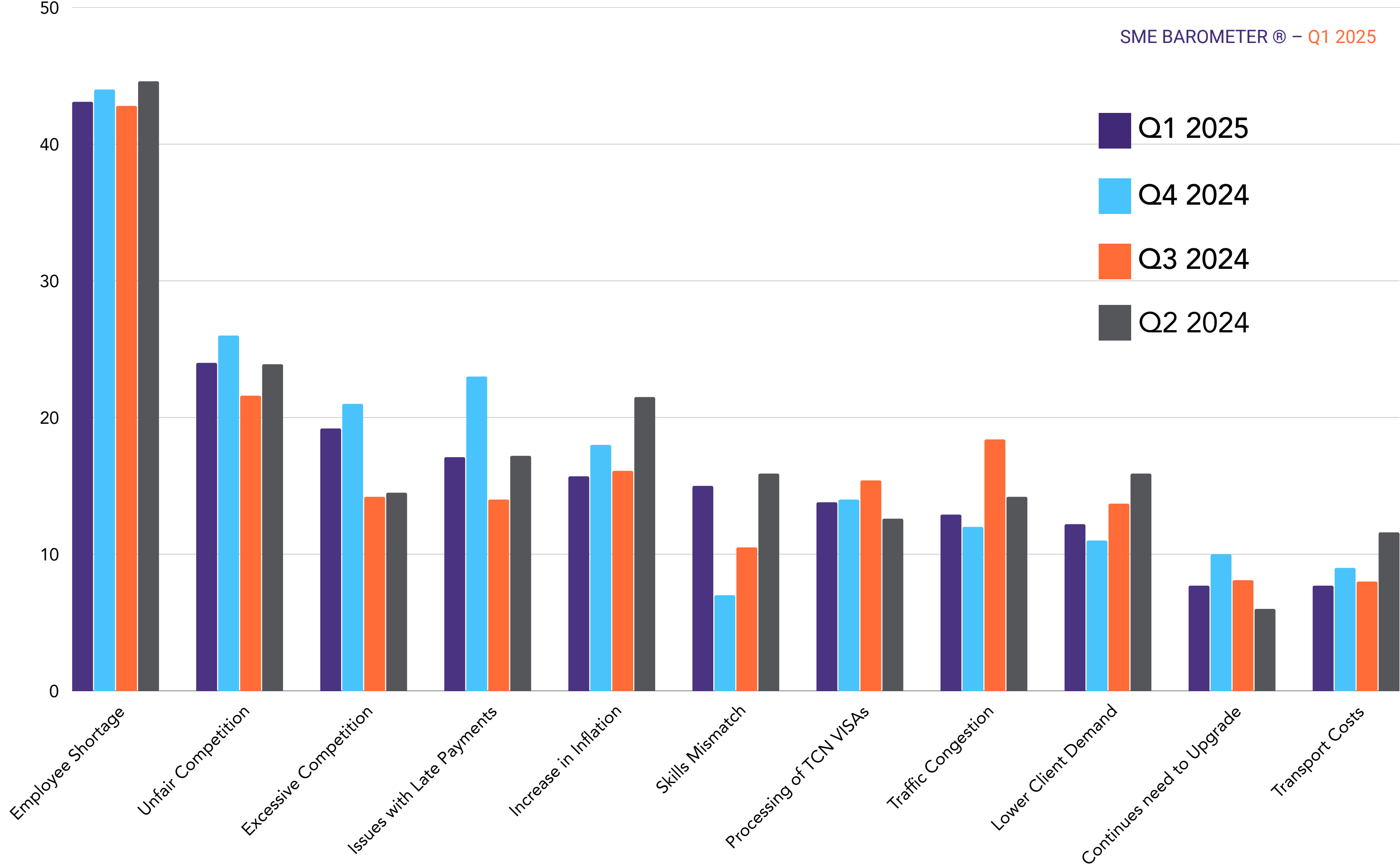
Size of business by head count



The 2 most important issues your business is currently facing? Select only Two

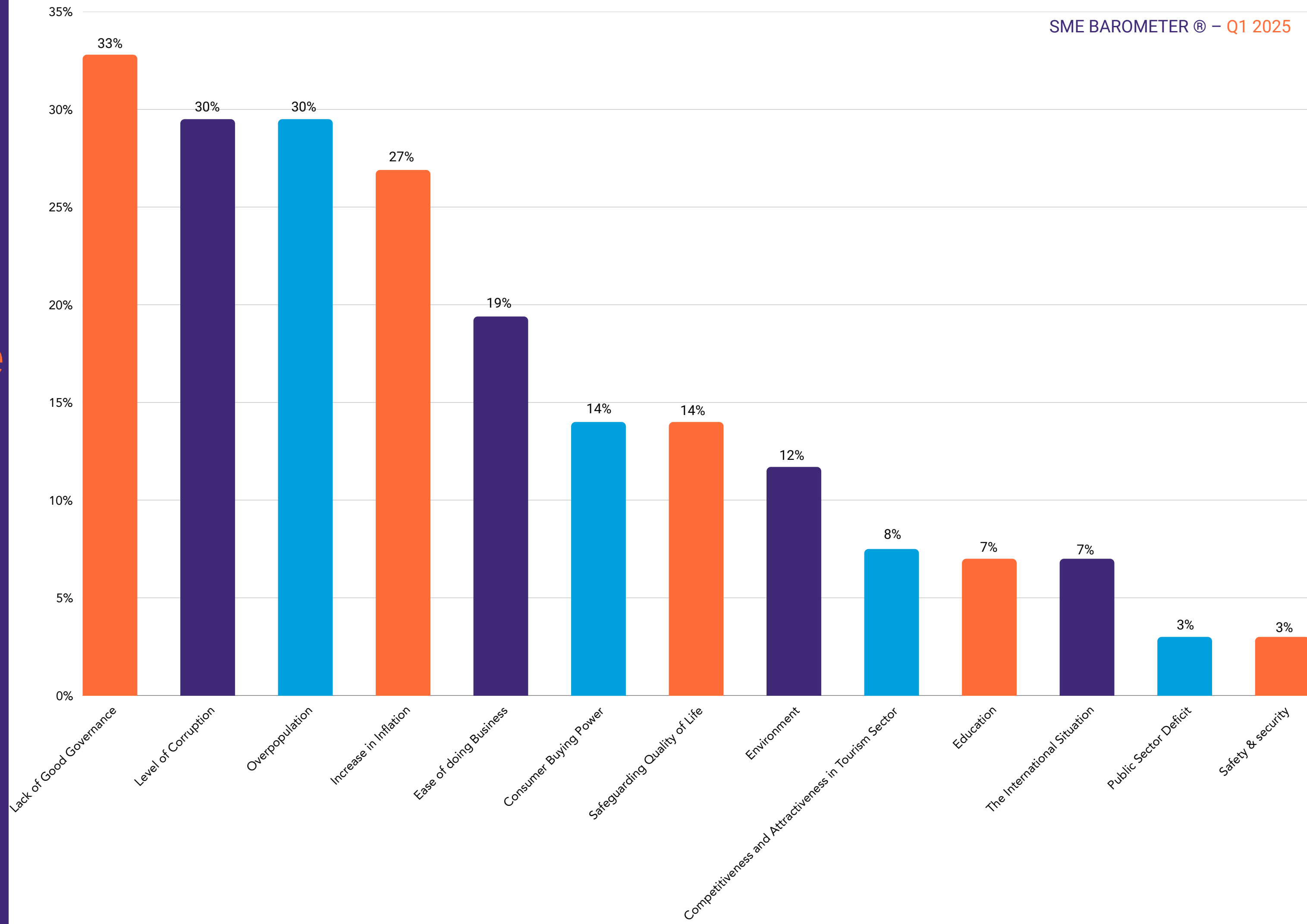


The 2 most important issues your business is currently facing? Select only Two



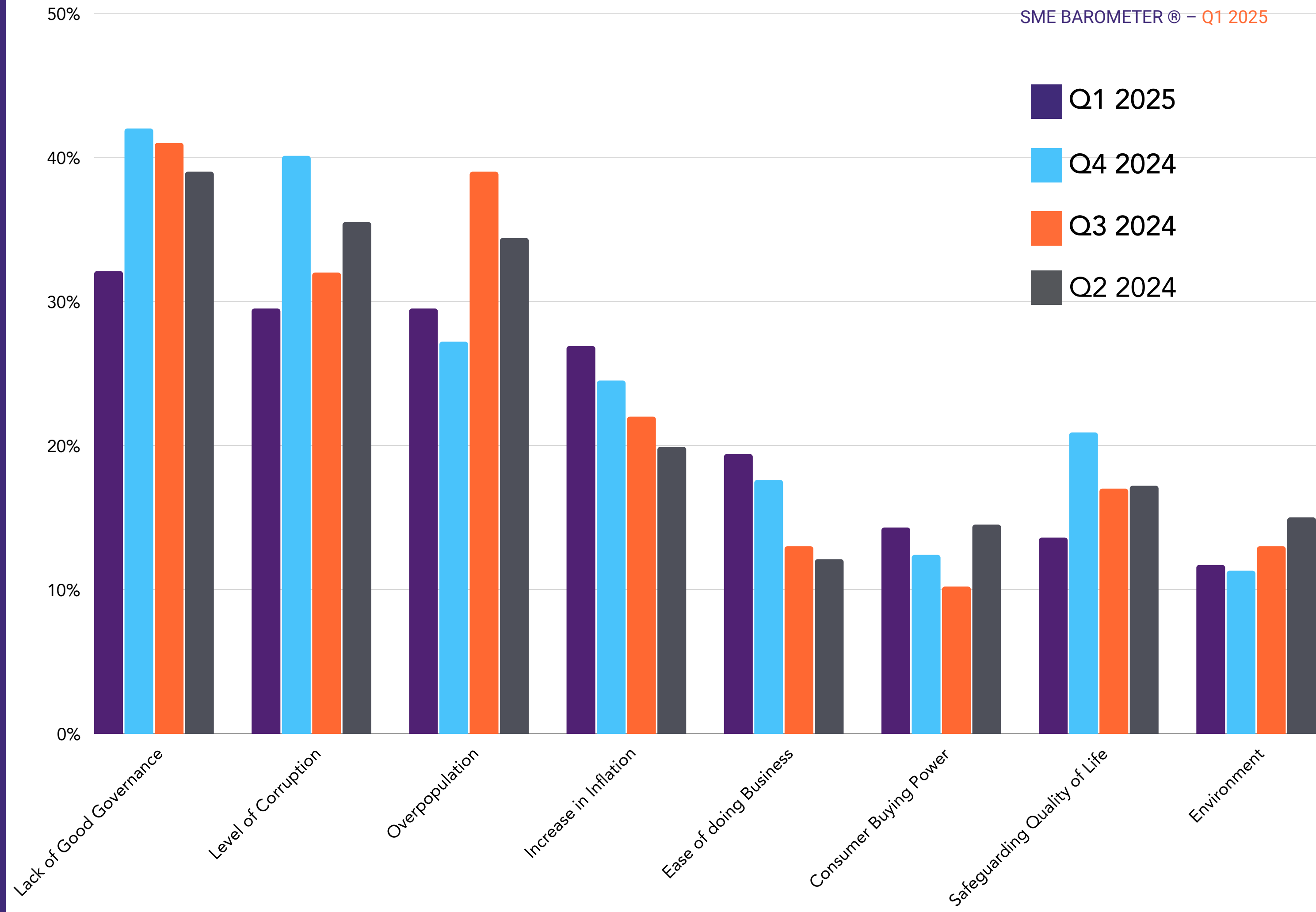
The 2 most important issues the country is facing and you would like the government to do something about

Select only Two

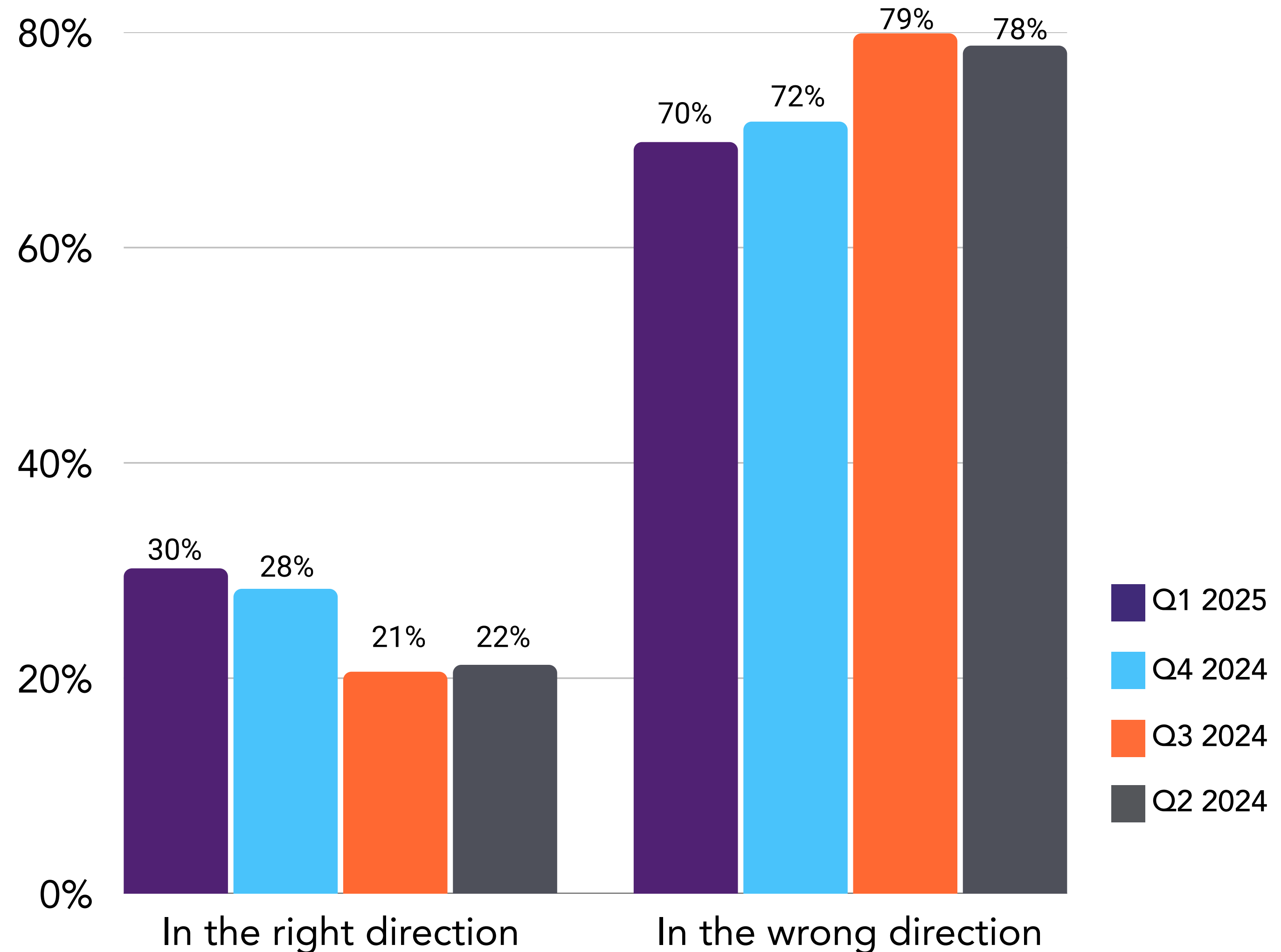


The 2 most important issues the country is facing and you would like the government to do something about

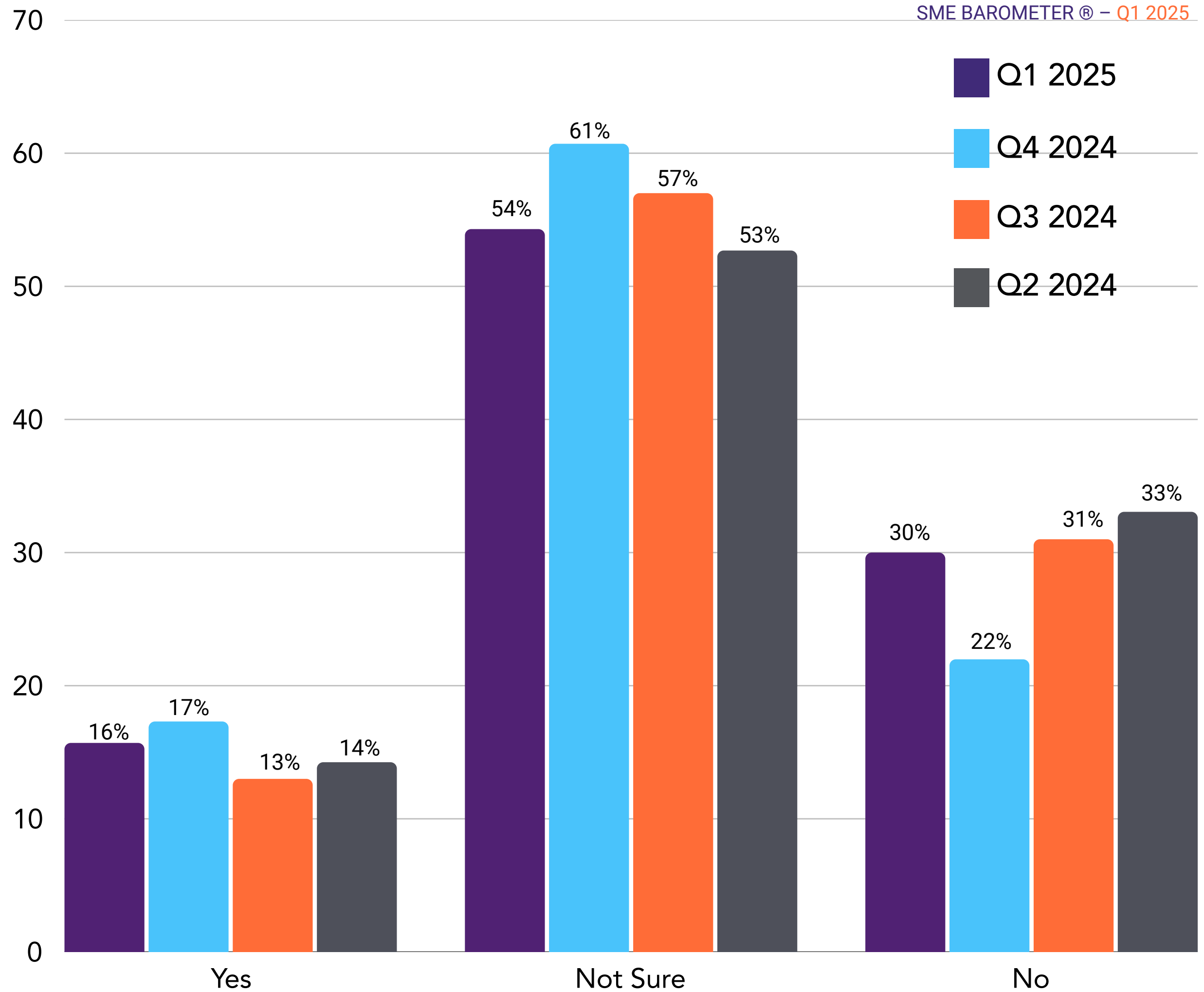
Select only Two



In your opinion, Malta is moving in the right direction or in the wrong direction?

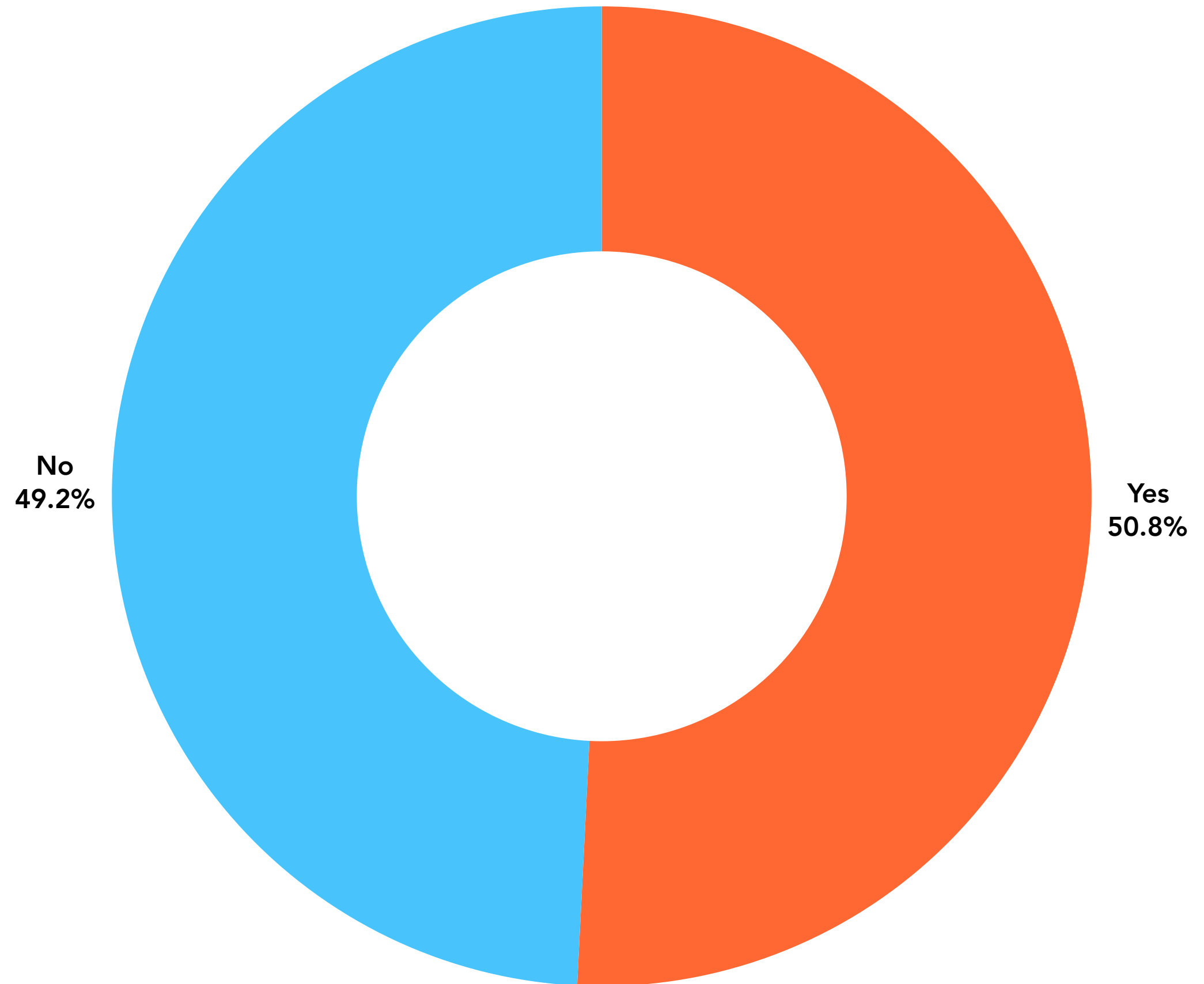


Do you think that during the next 12 months, it will be a good time to invest?



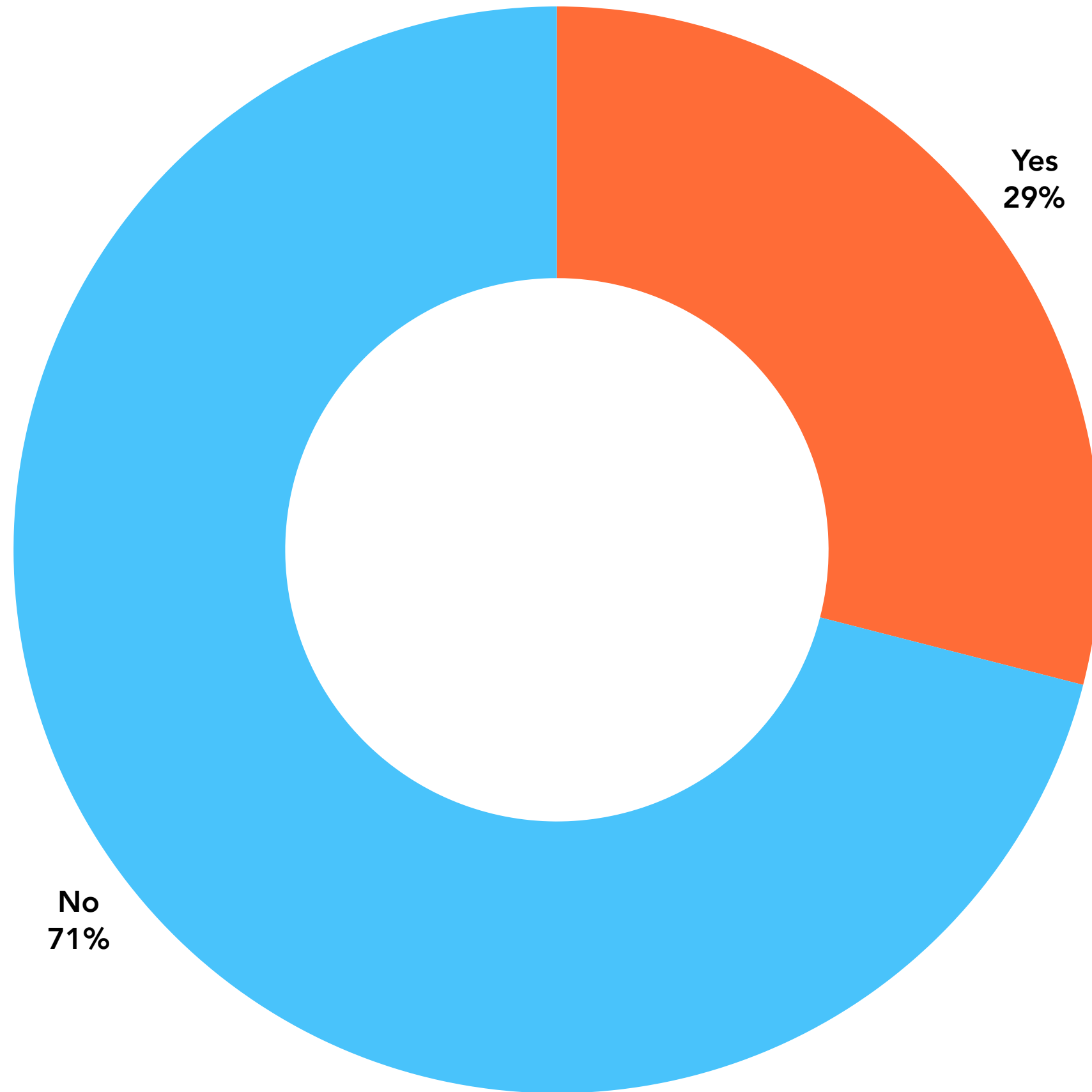
Do you or any of your employees make use of any AI tools within your business day to day operations?

Yes or No



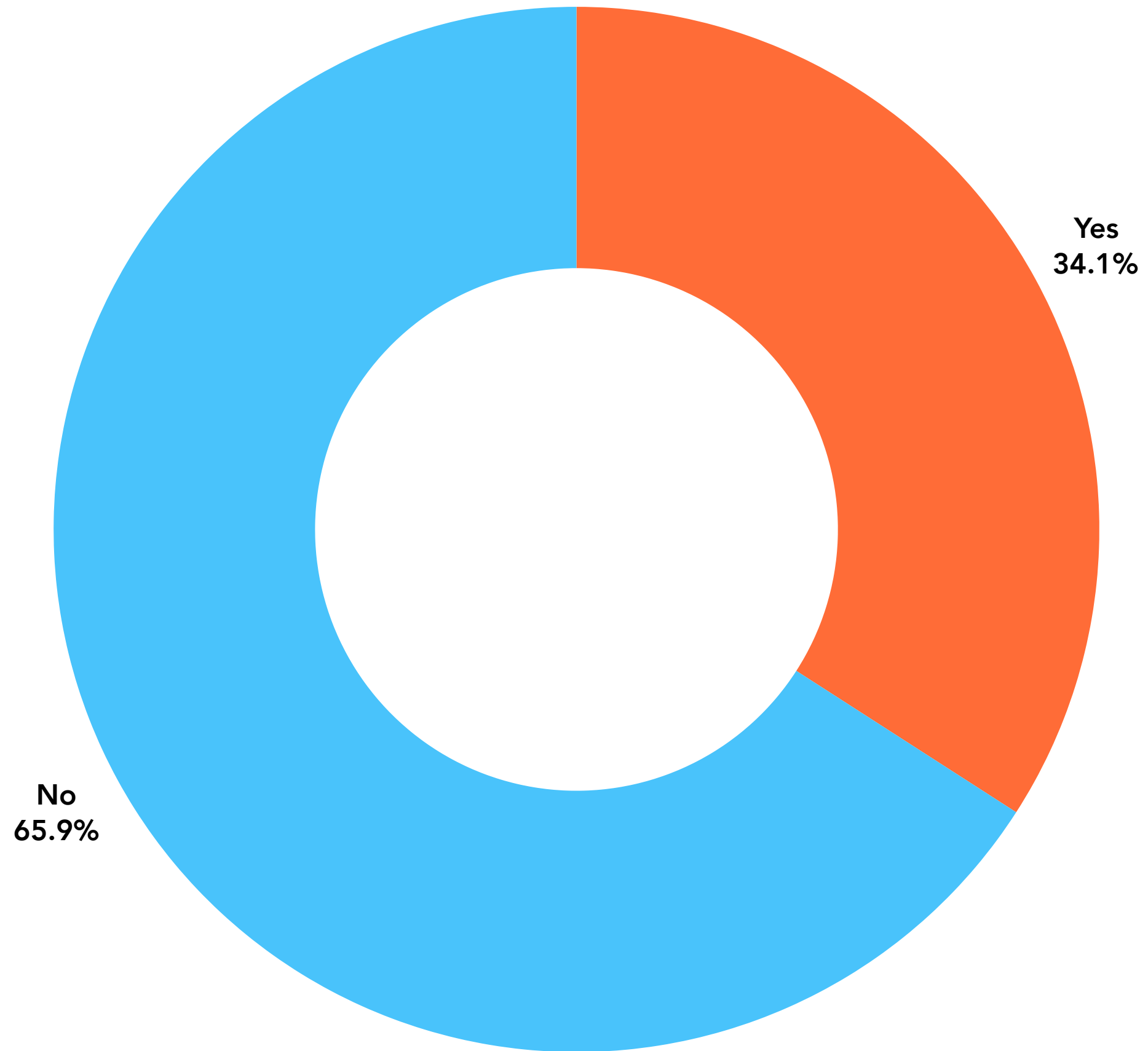
Is this something you plan to implement in your business over the next 12 months?

Yes or No



Have you or your employees participated in any training regarding the use of these ai tools?

Yes or No





Recommendations & Observations



Observations

- Employee shortages and difficulty sourcing skilled talent locally are causing disruptions, especially in industries heavily reliant on skilled labour.
- Inflation level seems to be on the increase also in line with the latest Retail Price Index for March 2025.
- This perception of unfairness and inequality is undermining trust in the system.
- Skills mismatch has gained significance as a challenge businesses face.

Observations

- Issues for businesses are spreading further, and hitting closer to home, such as increase in inflation, ease of doing business and consumer buying power
- Notably, although concerns on lack of good governance and level of corruption are still top issues, these decreased from previous quarters as a result spreading on other issues.
- The majority of Businesses have either implemented or plan to implement AI tools in their businesses.
- Business are still lacking training when it comes to AI adoption, use and risks associated.

Recommendations

- Launch public awareness campaigns to educate businesses about the benefits and risks associated with of AI.
- Policies tied with labour migration need to reflect the country's economic vision to address business specific concerns
- In line with the spirit of the Omnibus Directive, conduct a thorough review of all existing regulations impacting SMEs locally, with the goal of identifying and eliminating unnecessary or bureaucratic requirements.

Recommendations

- Government needs to seriously address issues of unfair competition in its entirety as this is negatively impacting business and their daily operations.
- Strengthen transparency and anti-corruption measures to increase trust in public institutions.
- Reform public procurement & tendering processes to make the process more transparent, competitive and accessible.
- Review & Revamp schemes related to investment such as Micro Invest, to further encourage investment.



THANK YOU



miscomalta.com
info@miscomalta.com

smechamber.mt
admin@smechamber.mt