

**Documentation of the  
Survey of Firms  
(BOP-F)**

**Questionnaire 9**

**Waves 15-17**

**Field phase April, May, June 2022**

Deutsche Bundesbank  
Research Centre (RC)

Version: 1.4 (31 March 2022)

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# 1. Notes

## a General coding

For all questions, the following codes apply.

Code	Output
-9999	Dropout: The respondent did not answer the question due to dropout
-9998	No answer: The respondent clicked on "keine Angabe" instead of answering the question
-9997	Don't know: The respondent clicked on "weiß nicht" instead of answering the question
-9996	Does not apply: The respondent clicked on "trifft auf mein Unternehmen nicht zu" instead of answering the question
-6666	Does not apply: The question or response option was not shown to the respondent due to filters or prior item-nonresponse
-5555	Recoded by BBk: A coding or data error that was recorded by the Bundesbank

## b Legend for question header

Each question header includes information on the name of the question, whether it was part of the core questionnaire ("Core"), included for a specific project ("Pro"), or part of descriptive statistics ("Descript"), the broad topic and the variable name(s).

Legend	Question name	Question source	Topic	Variable name
Example 1	003	Core	Perceived problems	percprob_[a-j]
Example 2	103	Pro	Supply chains qualitative	suppchains_[a-b]

## c Question filtering and coding

Coding details, filters and conditional redirects are highlighted by [Courier](#). If questions are posed to all respondents, this is not explicitly stated. For filtered questions, the filter is listed at the top and refers to the question name, e.g.:

### 103 | Pro | Supply chain problems domestic or foreign | suppchain\_[a-b]

Input filter: 001\_d = 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10

## d Variable names

Variable **names** are indicated in the top right corner. In case the question has multiple items, the items are indicated by underscores and a **letter**. Enumeration letters correspond to variable names. The **coding** of the variables is numeric and indicates the scale.

### X01 | Core | Perceptions qualitative | percmacro\_[a-i]

**Frage:** Betrachten Sie bitte den Zeitraum von **Ende März 2021** bis **Ende März 2022**. Wie haben sich die folgenden Kennzahlen in Ihrem Unternehmen während dieses Zeitraums entwickelt?

*Hinweis: Bitte wählen Sie für jede Zeile eine Antwort aus.*

- 1 = deutlich gesunken
- 2 = gesunken
- 3 = ungefähr gleich geblieben
- 4 = gestiegen
- 5 = deutlich gestiegen
- 9996 = trifft auf mein Unternehmen nicht zu

- a = Zugang zu Vorleistungen und Vorprodukten <i>:
- b = Kurzfristige Forderungen aus Lieferungen und Leistungen:
- c = Kurzfristige Verbindlichkeiten aus Lieferungen und Leistungen:
- d = Kurzfristig verfügbare Liquidität:
- e = Bedarf an Kreditfinanzierung:
- f = Zugang zu Finanzierungsquellen <i>:
- g = Vorräte/Vorratsvermögen (Lagerbestand an Vorprodukten sowie fertig erzeugten Waren):
- h = Umsatz <i>:
- i = Aufwendungen für Energie und Treibstoffe

## 2. Structure of the questionnaire

Variable name	Topic	Number of question	Origin
percmacro_[a-g]	Perceptions qualitative	X01	Core
expmacro_[a-g]	Expectations qualitative	X02	Core
exp_ukraine	Sales impact Ukraine qualitative	911	Pro 6
econ_rel	Economic relations Russia Ukraine	912	Pro 6
keyrateprob_[a-j]	Development key rate probabilistic	X04A	Core
inflexpoint	Inflation expectations quantitative	X04B	Core
inflexpoint_3y	Inflation expectations quantitative 3 years	811A	Pro 6
inflexpoint_5y	Inflation expectations quantitative 5 years	811B	Pro 6
change2021_[a-c]	Quantitative changes 2021	903	Pro Vo 31
salespast	Sales past quarter quantitative	X05A	Core
salesfuture_[a-e]	Sales comparable quarter prediction	X05B	Core
salesprob_[a-e]	Sales comparable quarter probabilistic	X05C	Core
pricepast	Price change past year quantitative	X06A	Core
reason_price	Reasons for price increase	910	Pro Vo
pricefuture	Price change next year quantitative	X06B	Core
priceunc	Price change uncertainty	X06C	Core
emplpast_[a, b]	Employment past quarter	X09A	BiQ Core
emplfuture	Employment comparable quarter prediction	X09B	BiQ Core
emplunc	Employment uncertainty	X09C	BiQ Core
creduse1	Micro finance credit negotiations	X07A	Core
creduse2_[a-f]	Micro finance negotiations result	X07B	Core
financingpast_[a-g]	Financing sources past	X08A	Core
financingfuture_[a-g]	Financing sources future	X08B	Core
rating_act	In past or currently commissioned a rating	901	Pro S 0
why_no_rating_[a-k]	Reasons for no rating	902	Pro S 0
invest_hw [a, b]	IKT investments since Corona - hardware	904A	Pro Vo 31
invest_sw [a, b]	IKT investments since Corona - software	904B	Pro Vo 31
energy_price_change	Energy price change 2020/2021	906	Pro F_6
energy_price_change_time	Period of change in energy prices	907	Pro F_6
energy_cons_change	Energy consumption change 2020/2021	908	Pro F_6
energymix_[a-g]	Expenses by energy type	905	Pro F_6
pricecost_b	Treatment prices	909A	Pro 61
pricecost_[a, b]	No treatment production costs and prices	909B	Pro 61
pricecost_[a, b]	Treatment production costs and prices	909C	Pro 61
pricecost_c	No treatment prices competitors	909D	Pro 61
pricecost_c	Treatment prices competitors	909E	Pro 61
pricecost_[c, b]	No treatment prices competitors and own prices	909F	Pro 61
pricecost_[c, b]	Treatment prices competitors and own prices	909G	Pro 61
consent	Firm characteristics implicit	D01	Descript
firmemploy_[a-b]	Firm characteristics explicit employment	D02	Descript
firmturnover_[a-b]	Firm characteristics explicit turnover	D03	Descript
firmsector	Firm characteristics explicit economic sector	D04	Descript
firmtype	Firm characteristics explicit ownership	D05	Descript
firmregion	Firm characteristics explicit region	D06	Descript
respondenttype_[a-k]	Characteristics of respondent	D07	Descript
feedback_[a-b]	Feedback questions	F01	Core
feedbackopen	Open feedback question	F02	Core
panel	Panel participation	P01	Core

Variable name	Topic	Number of question	Origin
contact	Contact	P02	Core

### 3. Introduction

#### 000 | Core | OPENING 1

Welcome to the survey of firms conducted on behalf of the Deutschen Bundesbank.

##### **Important information concerning the survey:**

- To navigate through the survey, please only use the “Continue” button at the bottom of the screen. Please do **not** use the buttons in your browser or the back button on your phone or tablet.
- To ensure that the individual questions are displayed correctly, use an up-to-date browser such as Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox (version 12 or later), Apple Safari (version 6 or later), Opera (version 20 or later) or Microsoft Edge. Using older browsers, particularly Internet Explorer 8 or earlier, can result in limited functionality in terms of design and ease of use.
- During the survey, there is **no** option to go back to questions previously answered. If you would like an overview of the full questionnaire, please send a request to [unternehmensbefragung@bundesbank.de](mailto:unternehmensbefragung@bundesbank.de).
- If you have any questions, problems or comments about navigating this questionnaire, you can contact the forsa support team from Monday to Friday between 09:00 and 18:00 on the free telephone number 0800 3677202 or by email at [bundesbank-unternehmensbefragung@forsa.de](mailto:bundesbank-unternehmensbefragung@forsa.de). If you have any questions or comments on the content of the survey, please contact the Bundesbank’s project team by telephone at +49 (0)69 9566 2080 or by email at [unternehmensbefragung@bundesbank.de](mailto:unternehmensbefragung@bundesbank.de).

#### 000 | Core | OPENING 2

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. The Deutsche Bundesbank would like to know how the economic situation in your firm has changed over time and what you are currently expecting for the future.

The survey will take roughly 15 to 20 minutes to complete. Your answers will be treated confidentially. It would be a great help to us if you answer the questions as carefully as possible.

#### 000 | Core | OPENING 3

The Deutsche Bundesbank attaches particular importance to protecting your data. All information you provide will be treated confidentially in accordance with legal provisions. Only a few employees at a Bundesbank data trustee will see your survey data after pseudonymisation. Bundesbank employees will receive your data only after they have been further anonymised. Published results are completely anonymous and therefore cannot be traced back to your enterprise. Your answers will help the Deutsche Bundesbank to fulfil its statutory tasks (to learn more about the Bundesbank’s tasks, please click [here](#)).

Only effectively anonymised data can be passed on to research institutions for research purposes that are related to the Bundesbank’s tasks. You will find more information, details of how to contact the project team, and selected results of the survey on the Bundesbank’s website:

[www.bundesbank.de/survey-on-firms](http://www.bundesbank.de/survey-on-firms).

Your participation in our survey is of course voluntary. By participating in this survey, you give your consent for your data to be stored, processed and shared for the purposes of the Deutsche

Bundesbank fulfilling its tasks. You may withdraw your consent at any time. However, withdrawal of your consent shall not affect the lawfulness of any processing that took place on the basis of this declaration of consent before it was withdrawn.

Input filter: `if newcomer =`

During the survey, there will be two further requests for consent to link the survey data to business statistics and for another survey (if you would like to know more about this, please click [here](#)). Of course, you can choose not to consent to the above, though we would ask you to take part in the survey and fill in the other information. Your data will help the Deutsche Bundesbank fulfil its statutory tasks.

## 4. Questions

<b>X01   Core   Perceptions qualitative   percmacro_[a-i]</b>
"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".
After the term "Access to intermediate inputs" an info box <i> with the following text is shown: If access to intermediate inputs has deteriorated, please state decreased or decreased significantly.
After the term "Access to financing sources", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: Access to financing sources describes the possibility of using various forms of external financing to finance your business activities, e.g. bank loans, trade credits, equity, debt securities or other financing instruments. If the possibilities of using these financing sources have deteriorated, please state decreased or decreased significantly.
After the term "sales", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: Please consider your sales in the first quarter of 2022 (January to March 2022) and compare them with sales in the first quarter of 2021 (January to March 2021). In place of sales growth, banks/credit institutions should consider the development of their gross interest and commission income and their net trading income. Insurers should consider the development of their gross premiums written.
<p><b>Question:</b> Please consider the period from <b>end-March 2021</b> to <b>end-March 2022</b>. How did the following metrics develop in your enterprise during this period?</p> <p><i>Note: Please select one answer for each row.</i></p> <p>1 = Decreased significantly            2 = Decreased            3 = Stayed roughly the same            4 = Increased            5 = Increased significantly            -9996 = Does not apply to my enterprise</p> <p>a = Access to intermediate inputs &lt;i&gt;:            b = Current trade receivables:            c = Current trade payables:            d = Short-term liquidity:            e = Need for credit financing:            f = Access to financing sources &lt;i&gt;:            g = Inventories (stock of intermediate products and finished goods):            h = Sales &lt;i&gt;:            i = Expenditure on energy and fuels:</p>
<b>X02   Core   Expectations qualitative   expmacro_[a-i]</b>
"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".
After the term "Access to intermediate inputs" an infobox <i> with the following text is shown: If you expect access to intermediate inputs to deteriorate, please state "decrease" or "decrease significantly".
After the term "Access to financing sources", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: Access to financing sources describes the possibility of using various forms of external financing to finance your business activities, e.g. bank loans, trade credits, equity, debt securities or other financing instruments. If you expect the possibilities of using these financing sources to deteriorate, please state decrease or decrease significantly.
After the term "sales", an info box <i> with the following text is shown: "Please consider your expected sales in the first quarter of 2023 (January to March 2023) and compare them with sales in the first quarter of 2022 (January to March 2022). In place of expected sales growth, banks/credit institutions should consider the expected development of their gross interest and commission income and their net trading income. Insurers should consider the expected development of their gross premiums written."
<p><b>Question:</b> How do you expect the following metrics to develop in your enterprise from <b>end-March 2022</b> to <b>end-March 2023</b>?</p>

Note: Please select one answer for each row.

- 1 = Decrease significantly
- 2 = Decrease
- 3 = Stay roughly the same
- 4 = Increase
- 5 = Increase significantly
- 9996 = Does not apply to my enterprise

- a = Access to intermediate inputs <i>:
- b = Current trade receivables:
- c = Current trade payables:
- d = Short-term liquidity:
- e = Need for credit financing:
- f = Access to financing sources <i>:
- g = Inventories (stock of intermediate products and finished goods):
- h = Sales <i>:
- i = Expenditure on energy and fuels:

### 911 | Pro 6 | Sales impact Ukraine qualitative | exp\_ukraine

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

**Question:** How do you expect the situations in Russia and Ukraine to affect your firm's sales in **2022**?

Note: Please compare sales now expected in light of the war with sales expected prior to the outbreak of war.

- 1 = Decrease by more than 10%
- 2 = Decrease by up to 10%
- 3 = No or very small impact
- 4 = Increase by up to 10%
- 5 = Increase by more than 10%

### 912 | Pro 6 | Economic relations Russia Ukraine | econ\_rel

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

**Question:** Did your firm have economic ties with Russia or Ukraine in **2021**?

Note: Please select all answers that apply.

- 1 = Yes, in the form of imports from Russia or Ukraine
- 2 = Yes, in the form of exports to Russia or Ukraine
- 3 = Yes, in the form of investments or production sites in Russia or Ukraine
- 4 = No

### --- | SPLIT SAMPLE 1 - OVERVIEW | RANDOMISATION 1

Randomisation dummy: *draterandom1*

The dummy *draterandom1* splits the sample into three roughly equally large groups (1, 2, 3). This split is linked to the randomization in waves 12-14. Firms that were assigned to one of the three randomization groups in waves 12-14 (irrespective of whether they responded or not in the end) should be assigned into the same group in waves 15-17.

*draterandom1* = 1 (firms that were in group 1 in waves 12-14 + 1/3 of newcomers)  
*draterandom1* = 2 (firms that were in group 2 in waves 12-14 + 1/3 of newcomers)  
*draterandom1* = 3 (firms that were in group 3 in waves 12-14 + 1/3 of newcomers)

### X04A | Core | Development key rate probabilistic | keyrateprob\_[a-j]

Input filter: *draterandom1* = 1 | 2 | 3

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

If no values are entered the following error message will be displayed: Please enter a value in the fields or select one of the possible responses below.

Values between 0 and 100 are supported. No decimals are allowed.

The programming of the question requires the sum of the 10 variables to be 100. The current sum of all entered points is shown to the respondent when answering the question. If the sum is not equal to 100 the following error message will be displayed: Please note that your answers to the scenarios have to add up to 100.

Fields that were left empty should be assigned 0 after moving to the next question.

After the term "policy rate of the European Central Bank (ECB)" an infobox <i> with the following text is shown: The European Central Bank sets three different policy rates. The one currently referred to is the deposit facility rate at which commercial banks can deposit their money with the ECB in the short term.

**Question:** We would now like to ask you some questions about macroeconomic developments. In your opinion, how likely is it that the policy rate of the European Central Bank (ECB) <i> will fluctuate within the following bands at the **end of March 2023**?

*Note: The aim of this question is to determine how likely you think it is that something specific will happen in the future. You can rate the likelihood on a scale from 0 to 100, with 0 meaning that an event is completely unlikely and 100 meaning that you are absolutely certain it will happen. Use values between the two extremes to moderate the strength of your opinion. Please note that your answers to the categories have to add up to 100. You can also leave fields empty; these will be saved as a 0.*

- |   |                            |               |
|---|----------------------------|---------------|
| a | Below -2.00%:              | [Input field] |
| b | Between -2.00% and -1.51%: | [Input field] |
| c | Between -1.50% and -1.01%: | [Input field] |
| d | Between -1.00% and -0.51%: | [Input field] |
| e | Between -0.50% and -0.01%: | [Input field] |
| f | Between 0.00% and 0.50%:   | [Input field] |
| g | Between 0.51% and 1.00%:   | [Input field] |
| h | Between 1.01% and 1.50%:   | [Input field] |
| i | Between 1.51% and 2.00%:   | [Input field] |
| j | Above 2.00%:               | [Input field] |

### --- | SAMPLE SPLIT 1 – End | ---

#### X04B | Core | Inflation expectations quantitative | inflexpoint

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Values between -100.0 and 999.0 are supported. If an invalid number is entered the following error message is shown: "Please enter a value between -100.0 and 999.0. Only one decimal place is permitted."

After the term "rate of inflation", an info box (i) with the following text is shown: Inflation is the percentage increase in the general price level. It is mostly measured using the consumer price index. A decrease in the price level is generally described as deflation.

**Question:** What do you expect the rate of inflation <i> to be over the next **twelve months**?

*Note: If you expect the price level to increase, please enter a positive percentage value. If you expect the price level to decrease, please enter a negative percentage value. Please enter a value with a maximum of one decimal place.*

[Input field]%

### --- | SPLIT SAMPLE 2 – OVERVIEW | RANDOMISATION 2

Randomisation dummy: *dsalesrandom1*

The dummy *dsalesrandom1* splits the sample into two roughly equally large groups. This split is linked to the randomization in Waves 6-8 (Jul 21 to Sep 21). Firms that were assigned to one of the two randomisation groups in those waves (irrespective of

whether they responded or not in the end) should be assigned into the same group this time again.

`dsalesrandom1 = [ ]` (firms that were in group [ ] in waves 6 to 8, or 9 to 11 , or 12 to 14 + 1/2 of newcomers)

`dsalesrandom1 = [ ]` (firms that were in group [ ] in waves 6 to 8, or 9 to 11, or 12 to 14 + 1/2 of newcomers)

	<code>dsalesrandom1 = [ ]</code>	<code>dsalesrandom1 = [ ]</code>
<code>inflexpoint_3y</code>	X	
<code>inflexpoint_5y</code>		X
Sales		X

### 811A | Pro 6 | Inflation exp. quant. long term | inflexpoint\_3y

Input filter: `dsalesrandom1 = [ ]`

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Values between -100.0 and 999.0 are supported. If an invalid number is entered the following error message is shown: Please enter a value between -100.0 and 999.0. Only one decimal place is permitted.

After the term "rate of inflation", an info box (i) with the following text is shown: Inflation is the percentage increase in the general price level. It is mostly measured using the consumer price index. A decrease in the price level is generally described as deflation.

**Question:** What do you expect the rate of inflation <i> to be on average over the next **three years**?

*Note: If you expect the price level to increase on average, please enter a positive percentage value. If you expect the price level to decrease on average, please enter a negative percentage value. Please enter a value with a maximum of one decimal place.*

[Input field]%

### 811B | Pro 6 | Inflation exp. quant. long term | inflexpoint\_5y

Input filter: `dsalesrandom1 = [ ]`

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Values between -100.0 and 999.0 are supported. If an invalid number is entered the following error message is shown: Please enter a value between -100.0 and 999.0. Only one decimal place is permitted.

After the term "rate of inflation", an info box (i) with the following text is shown: Inflation is the percentage increase in the general price level. It is mostly measured using the consumer price index. A decrease in the price level is generally described as deflation.

**Question:** What do you expect the rate of inflation <i> to be on average over the next **five years**?

*Note: If you expect the price level to increase on average, please enter a positive percentage value. If you expect the price level to decrease on average, please enter a negative percentage value. Please enter a value with a maximum of one decimal place.*

[Input field]%

### 903 | Pro Vo 31 | Quantitative changes 2021 | change2021\_[a-d]

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Values between -100 and 999 are supported. Only one decimal place is permitted.

Info box after the term "annual sales": In place of sales growth, banks/credit institutions should state the development of their gross interest and commission income and their net trading income. Insurers should state the development of their gross premiums written.

Info box <i> after the term "production costs": In this context, the average production costs comprise all costs per manufactured unit related to the production

of goods or services destined for sale (in other words, the cost of sales). This includes, in particular, material costs and labour costs as well as the cost of debt that can be attributed to production.

**Question:** We would now like to ask you some more questions about your enterprise. Please compare **2021** with **2020**. Please enter the percentage change in the following metrics over this period.

*Note: If values increased, please enter a positive percentage value. If values decreased, please enter a negative percentage value. If values stayed the same, please enter a zero. Please enter a value with a maximum of one decimal place.*

- a = Annual sales <i>: [input field]%
- b = Number of hours worked over the year: [input field]%
- c = Average sales price over the year: [input field]%
- d = Average production costs <i> over the year: [input field]%

### X05A | Core | Sales past quarter quantitative | salespast

Input filter: if *dsalesrandom1* =

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

If an invalid number (negative or including a comma or period) is entered, the following error message is shown: Please enter a positive value, without a comma or period (possible input values are 0 to 999999999).

Info box <i> after the term "sales": In place of sales, banks/credit institutions should state their gross interest and commission income and their net trading income, while insurers should enter their gross premiums written.

**Question:** What were your enterprise's sales <i> in the **first quarter of 2022** (January to March 2022)?

*Note: Please enter an amount in full thousands of euro.*

Sales (excluding VAT): [Input field],000 euro

### X05B | Core | Sales comparable quarter prediction | salesfuture\_[a-e]

Input filter: *dsalesrandom1* =

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Values between -100.0 and 999.9 are supported. If an invalid number is entered, the following error message is shown: Please enter a value between -100.0 and 999.9.

Firms are expected to provide at least one number. Firms must not be forced to provide all five values.

Supported values should be monotonically non-decreasing, e.g.  $a \leq b \leq c \leq d \leq e$  when all five values are non-missing. When values are NOT monotonically non-decreasing, then the following message should be shown: Please make sure your answers are ordered from the lowest value to the highest.

When programming the questionnaire, please be mindful of scenarios in which firms provide, for instance, only three values (e.g. 1, 2, 4, NA, NA; or 1, NA, 2, NA, 3) or only two values (e.g. 1, NA, NA, NA, 2; or NA, 1, 2, NA, NA).

Info box <i> after the term "sales": In place of sales, banks/credit institutions should state their gross interest and commission income and their net trading income, while insurers should enter their gross premiums written.

**Question:** What changes in your sales <i> do you consider possible from the **first quarter of 2022** (January to March 2022) to the **first quarter of 2023** (January to March 2023)? Please indicate what percentage change in your sales you would expect in the following scenarios.

*Note: If you expect sales to increase, please enter a positive percentage value. If you expect sales to decrease, please enter a negative percentage value. Please make sure your answers are ordered from the lowest percentage value to the highest.*

- a The **lowest** potential percentage change would be: [Input field]%
- b A **low** potential percentage change would be: [Input field]%
- c A **medium** potential percentage change would be: [Input field]%
- d A **high** potential percentage change would be: [Input field]%
- e The **highest** potential percentage change would be: [Input field]%

### X05C | Core | Sales comparable quarter probabilistic | salesprob\_[a-e]

Input filter: `dsalesrandom1 = [ ]`

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Values between 0 and 100 are supported. No decimals places are permitted.

The programming of the question requires the sum of the five variables to be 100. The current sum of all entered points is shown to the respondent when answering the question. If the sum is not equal to 100, the following error message will be displayed: Please note that your answers to all scenarios have to add up to 100.

If possible, only those fields should be active for which a value has been provided in the previous question.

Info box <i> after the term "sales": "In place of sales, banks/credit institutions should state their gross interest and commission income and their net trading income, while insurers should enter their gross premiums written."

**Question:** How likely do you think it is that the individual scenarios for the change in your sales <i> from the **first quarter of 2022** (January to March 2022) to the **first quarter of 2023** (January to March 2023) will materialise?

*Note: The aim of this question is to determine how likely you think it is that something specific will happen in the future. You can rate the likelihood on a scale from 0 to 100, with 0 meaning that an event is completely unlikely and 100 meaning that you are absolutely certain it will happen. Use values between the two extremes to moderate the strength of your opinion. Please note that your answers to the scenarios have to add up to 100.*

- a The likelihood of a change of around {salesfuture[a]}% is: [Input field]
- b The likelihood of a change of around {salesfuture[b]}% is: [Input field]
- c The likelihood of a change of around {salesfuture[c]}% is: [Input field]
- d The likelihood of a change of around {salesfuture[d]}% is: [Input field]
- e The likelihood of a change of around {salesfuture[e]}% is: [Input field]

### X06A | Core | Price change past year quantitative | pricepast

Input filter: `dsalesrandom1 = [ ] | [ ]`

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Values between -100.0 and 999.9 are supported. Only one decimal place is permitted. If an invalid number is entered, the following error message is shown: Please enter a value between -100.0 and 999.9. Only one decimal place is permitted.

**Question:** Please consider the period from **end-March 2021** to **end-March 2022**. Please enter the average percentage change in the prices charged for your products and services in this period.

*Note: If prices increased, please enter a positive percentage value. If prices decreased, please enter a negative percentage value. Please enter a value with a maximum of one decimal place.*

[Input field]%

### 910 | Pro Vo | reason increase price | reason\_price

Input filter: `pricepast > 0`

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Please limit the number of options selected to three.

**Question:** What were the most important reasons for increasing your prices by {pricepast}%?

*Note: Please select up to three most important reasons.*

- 1 = Category not selected
- 2 = Category selected

- 1 = The costs of purchased intermediate inputs (including energy prices) increased since our prices were last adjusted.
- 2 = We expected that the costs of purchased intermediate inputs (including energy costs) would increase in future.
- 3 = Our staff costs increased since we last adjusted our prices.
- 4 = We expected that our staff costs would increase in future.
- 5 = Our competitors increased their prices since we last adjusted our prices.
- 6 = We expected that our competitors would increase their prices in future.
- 7 = We assumed that a price increase would be better received by our customers than at another point in time.
- 8 = Demand for our products and/or services increased.
- 9 = We expected that demand for our products and/or services would increase in future.
- 10 = The quality of our products and/or services improved.
- 11 = Other reasons

### X06B | Core | Price change next year quantitative | pricefuture

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Values between -100.0 and 999.9 are supported. Only one decimal place is permitted. If an invalid number is entered the following error message is shown: Please enter a value between -100.0 and 999.9. Only one decimal place is permitted.

**Question:** Please consider the period from **end-March 2022** to **end-March 2023**. What average percentage change in the prices charged for your products and services do you expect in this period?

*Note: If you expect prices to increase, please enter a positive percentage value. If you expect prices to decrease, please enter a negative percentage value. Please enter a value with a maximum of one decimal place.*

[Input field]%

### X06C | Core | Price change uncertainty | priceunc

Input filter: a number provided in pricefuture (Question X06B)

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Input filter: pricefuture > 0

**Question:** How certain are you that the prices charged for your products and services will increase by around {pricefuture}% on average in the period from **end-March 2022** to **end-March 2023**?

- 1 = Very uncertain
- 2 = Rather uncertain
- 3 = Neither certain nor uncertain
- 4 = Rather certain
- 5 = Very certain

Input filter: pricefuture < 0

**Question:** How certain are you that the prices charged for your products and services will decrease by around {pricefuture}% on average in the period from **end-March 2022** to **end-March 2023**?

- 1 = Very uncertain
- 2 = Rather uncertain
- 3 = Neither certain nor uncertain
- 4 = Rather certain
- 5 = Very certain

Input filter: pricefuture = 0

**Question:** How certain are you that the prices charged for your products and services will remain roughly the same on average in the period from **end-March 2022** to **end-March 2023**?

- 1 = Very uncertain

- 2 = Rather uncertain
- 3 = Neither certain nor uncertain
- 4 = Rather certain
- 5 = Very certain

--- | **SAMPLE SPLIT 2 – END** | ---

**X09A | BiQ Core | Employment past quarter | emplpast\_[a, b]**

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

If an invalid number (negative or including a comma or period) is entered, the following error message is shown: Please enter a valid value, without a comma or period (possible input values are 0 to 999999).

**Question:** How many employees did your enterprise have at the end of the **first quarter of 2021** (end-March 2021) and at the end of the **first quarter of 2022** (end-March 2022)?

*Note: Please consider all employees, including those working part-time.*

**a** = Number of employees at end-March 2021: [Input field]

**b** = Number of employees at end-March 2022: [Input field]

**X09B | BiQ Core | Employment comparable quarter prediction | emplfuture**

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

No negative values allowed. No decimals allowed. If an invalid number (negative or including a comma or period) is entered, the following error message is shown: "Please enter a valid value, without a comma or period (possible input values are 0 to 999999)."

**Question:** How many employees do you expect your enterprise to have by the end of the **first quarter of 2023** (end-March 2023)?

*Note: Please consider all employees, including those working part-time.*

**a** Number of employees at end-March 2023: [Input field]

**X09C | BiQ Core | Employment uncertainty | emplunc**

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

**Question:** How certain are you that the number of employees at your enterprise will be around {**emplfuture**} at the end of the **first quarter of 2023** (end-March 2023)?

*Note: Please select one answer.*

- 1 = Very uncertain
- 2 = Rather uncertain
- 3 = Neither certain nor uncertain
- 4 = Rather certain
- 5 = Very certain

**X07A | Core | Micro finance credit negotiations | creduse1**

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Info box <i> after the term "government-sponsored loans": Government-sponsored loans include, for example, public sector support in the form of guarantees, reduced interest rates or funding grants.

**Question:** In the **first quarter of 2022** (January to March 2022), did your enterprise negotiate with one or more banks with a view to taking out a loan or establishing a credit line?

*Note: This does not include any government-sponsored loans <i>.*

1 = Yes  
2 = No

### X07B | Core | Micro finance negotiations result | creduse2\_[a-f]

Input filter: `creduse1 = 1`

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

**Question:** What was the outcome of these negotiations?

*Note: Please select all answers that apply.*

0 = Category not selected  
1 = Category selected

- a Loan/credit line was approved for the desired amount at the desired conditions (interest, collateral, etc.).
- b Loan/credit line was approved for the desired amount, but at less favourable conditions (interest, collateral, etc.).
- c Loan/credit line was approved for a smaller amount, but at the desired conditions (interest, collateral, etc.).
- d Loan/credit line was approved for a smaller amount and at less favourable conditions (interest, collateral, etc.).
- e No decision has yet been made regarding the loan application.
- f Loan negotiations were concluded without a deal.

### X08A | Core | Financing sources past | financingpast\_[a-g]

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Info box <i> after the term "government-sponsored loans": Government-sponsored loans include, for example, public sector support in the form of guarantees, reduced interest rates or funding grants.

**Question:** Has your enterprise used the following financing sources over the past **three months**?

*Note: Please select one answer for each row. Please consider the last three full calendar months when answering this question.*

1 = Yes  
2 = No, but used prior to this period  
3 = No, never used to date

- a = Retained earnings:
- b = Bank loans (excluding overdrafts):
- c = Overdrafts:
- d = Government-sponsored loans <i>:
- e = Trade credits (including advances and trade payables):
- f = Equity:
- g = Other instruments (debt securities, other loans (including to affiliated enterprises), leases/hire purchase and factoring):

### X08B | Core | Financing sources future | financingfuture\_[a-g]

Input filter: `only show items with financingpast_[a-g] = 2 | 3`

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Info box <i> after the term "government-sponsored loans": Government-sponsored loans include, for example, public sector support in the form of guarantees, reduced interest rates or funding grants.

**Question:** Is your enterprise planning to use the following financing sources over the next **three months**?

Note: Please select one answer for each row. Please consider the next three calendar months when answering this question.

1 = Yes

2 = No, however, there are plans to use them at a later point in time

3 = No, no use at all planned

- a Retained earnings:
- b Bank loans (excluding overdrafts):
- c Overdrafts:
- d Government-sponsored loans <i>:
- e Trade credits (including advances and trade payables):
- f Equity:
- g Other instruments (debt securities, other loans (including to affiliated enterprises), leases/hire purchase and factoring):

### 901 | Pro S 0 | In past or currently commissioned a rating | rating\_act

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Info box <i> after the term "rating": A rating assesses an enterprise's creditworthiness. External ratings are also drawn up by independent rating agencies and can be commissioned by an enterprise for a fee.

**Question:** In loan negotiations, a corporate rating is also sometimes important. Does your enterprise already have a current external rating <i> or is its creditworthiness currently being assessed by a rating agency?

Note: Existing ratings from a house bank's creditworthiness assessment or from the Bundesbank's credit assessments are not considered external ratings here.

1 = Yes

2 = No

### 902 | Pro S 0 | In past or currently commissioned a rating | why\_no\_rating\_[a-k]

Input filter: rating\_act = 2

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Order of the first nine categories (a-i) is generated randomly for each respondent.

Info box <i> after the term "rating": A rating assesses an enterprise's creditworthiness. External ratings are also drawn up by independent rating agencies and can be commissioned by an enterprise for a fee." Existing ratings from a house bank's creditworthiness assessment or from the Bundesbank's credit assessments are not considered external ratings here.

**Question:** What reasons does your enterprise have for not commissioning an external rating <i> **at present**? Please list all reasons that apply.

3 = Category not selected

1 = Category selected

- a = We do not obtain funding from the capital market, but from freely available financial resources and/or via customer loans or supplier credits.
- b = We do not obtain funding from the capital market, but via external capital that does not require an external rating (e.g. bank loans or borrowers' notes).
- c = The additional financing sources that would be made available as a result of an external rating are not relevant to us.
- d = An external rating would probably not reduce our funding costs.
- e = The costs of an external rating would exceed the expected advantages, e.g. as a result of lower funding costs or additional financing sources.
- f = We do not trust rating agencies.
- g = We do not wish to disclose our data to a rating agency.

h = The expected external rating would be unsatisfactory.  
i = We intend to commission an external rating soon.  
j = We need more information about external ratings.  
k = Other reasons (please specify): [Input field]

#### 904A | Pro Vo 31 | IKT investments since Corona – hardware | invest\_hw\_[a, b]

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Info box <i> after "ICT hardware": ICT hardware comprises all forms of hardware used for data processing or telecommunication (e.g. computers, monitors, notebooks, tablets, video conference equipment, servers, printers, scanners, routers, telephones). This generally concerns investment in tangible fixed assets.

**Question:** Next, we would like to ask you two questions regarding your enterprise's investment in information and communication technologies (ICT) since the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic.

By what percentage did your enterprise's investment expenditure on ICT hardware <i> (e.g. notebooks or monitors) change in **2020** and **2021** compared to **2019**?

a = Change in **2020** compared to **2019**:

b = Change in **2021** compared to **2019**:

- 1 = Decreased by more than 10%
- 2 = Decreased by 5% to 10%
- 3 = Decreased by 1% to 4%
- 4 = Minor change (+/-1%)
- 5 = Increased by 1% to 4%
- 6 = Increased by 5% to 10%
- 7 = Increased by more than 10%
- 9996 = Does not apply to my enterprise

#### 904B | Pro Vo 31 | IKT investments since Corona – software | invest\_sw\_[a, b]

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

Info box <i> after "software and databases": Software and databases include, for example, software and databases for online sales channels, video calls or for digitalising operational processes; this also includes licences for using databases, software or online sales channels. This generally concerns investment in intangible fixed assets.

**Question:** By what percentage did your enterprise's investment expenditure on software and databases <i> change in **2020** and **2021** compared to **2019**?

a = Change in **2020** compared to **2019**:

b = Change in **2021** compared to **2019**:

- 1 = Decreased by more than 10%
- 2 = Decreased by 5% to 10%
- 3 = Decreased by 1% to 4%
- 4 = Minor change (+/-1%)
- 5 = Increased by 1% to 4%
- 6 = Increased by 5% to 10%
- 7 = Increased by more than 10%
- 9996 = Does not apply to my enterprise

### 906 | Pro F\_6 | Energy price change 2020/2021 | energy\_price\_change\_[a, b]

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue".

**Question:** By what percentage have your enterprise's average energy purchase prices changed since **2020**?

*Note: Please consider only the price of the energy purchased, not the amount of energy purchased.*

a = In **2021** compared with **2020**:

b = In the **first quarter of 2022** compared with the **fourth quarter of 2021**:

- 1 = Decreased by more than 20%
- 2 = Decreased by 11% to 20%
- 3 = Decreased by 5% to 10%
- 4 = Minor change (+/-5%)
- 5 = Increased by 5% to 10%
- 6 = Increased by 11% to 20%
- 7 = Increased by 21% to 30%
- 8 = Increased by 31% to 40%
- 9 = Increased by 41% to 50%
- 10 = Increased by 51% to 60%
- 11 = Increased by 61% to 70%
- 12 = Increased by more than 70%

### 907 | Pro F\_6 | Period of change in energy prices | energy\_price\_change\_time

Input filter: if energy\_price\_change\_a ≠ 4 OR energy\_price\_change\_b ≠ 4

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked "Continue"

**Question:** Since the beginning of **2021**, in which quarter did your enterprise's energy purchase prices change significantly for the first time?

*Note: Please note that the question refers to the first significant price change, even if this was followed by further significant changes.*

- 1 = For the first time in the first quarter of 2021 (January to March 2021)
- 2 = For the first time in the second quarter of 2021 (April to June 2021)
- 3 = For the first time in the third quarter of 2021 (July to September 2021)
- 4 = For the first time in the fourth quarter of 2021 (October to December 2021)
- 5 = For the first time in the first quarter of 2022 (January to March 2022)

### 908 | Pro F\_6 | Energy consumption change 2020/2021 | energy\_cons\_change

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked on "Continue".

**Question:** By what percentage did your enterprise's average energy consumption change in **2021** compared to **2020**?

*Note: Please only consider the amount consumed (e.g. in kWh), not the purchase price.*

- 1 = Decreased by more than 20%
- 2 = Decreased by 16% to 20%
- 3 = Decreased by 11% to 15%
- 4 = Decreased by 6% to 10%
- 5 = Decreased by 1% to 5%
- 6 = Minor change (+/-1%)
- 7 = Increased by 1% to 5%
- 8 = Increased by 6% to 10%
- 9 = Increased by 11% to 15%
- 10 = Increased by 16% to 20%

11 = Increased by more than 20%

### 905 | Pro F\_6 | Expenses by energy type | energymix\_[a-g]

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked on "Continue"

If no values are entered the following error message will be displayed: "Please enter a value in the fields or select one of the possible responses below."

The programming of the question requires the sum of the variables to be 100. The current sum of all entered points is shown to the respondent when answering the question. If the sum is not equal to 100, the following error message will be displayed: "Please note that your entries for all energy sources have to add up to 100."

Fields that were left empty should be assigned 0 after moving to the next question.

Info box <i> after the term "renewable sources": "Renewable sources of energy include solar, wind, hydropower and geothermal sources as well as biomass (including wood)."

Info box <i> after the term "conventional sources": Conventional sources of energy include mineral oil, natural gas, LPG, hard coal, lignite and nuclear power.

**Question:** What proportion of your enterprise's energy costs for **2021** were attributable to the following energy sources?

*Note: The numbers you enter for all the energy sources have to add up to 100. If your enterprise does not use a particular energy source, you may leave that input field blank. Input fields left blank will be automatically filled with a value of 0.*

- a = Mineral oil (including fuel/heating oil): [Input field]
- b = (District) heating from renewable sources <i>: [Input field]
- c = (District) heating from conventional sources <i>: [Input field]
- d = Hard coal/lignite: [Input field]
- e = Natural gas/LPG: [Input field]
- f = Electricity from renewable sources <i>: [Input field]
- g = Electricity from conventional sources <i>: [Input field]
- h = Other energy sources: [Input field]

### --- | SPLIT SAMPLE 3 – OVERVIEW | RANDOMISATION 3

Randomisation dummy: *dptrandom3*

The dummy *dptrandom3* splits the sample into seven roughly equally large groups (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7).

### 909A | Pro 61 | Treatment prices | pricecost\_b

Filter: *dptrandom3* = █

Values between -100.0 and 999.9 are supported. Only one decimal place is permitted. If an invalid number is entered the following error message is shown: Please enter a value between -100.0 and 999.9. Only one decimal place is permitted.

Info box after the term "rate of inflation": Inflation is the percentage increase in the general price level. It is mostly measured using the consumer price index. A decrease in the price level is generally described as deflation.

**Question:** Current Bundesbank projections for the rate of inflation <i> expect rates of 3.6% in 2022 and 2.2% in both 2023 and 2024.

Please consider the period from **end-March 2022** to **end-March 2023**. What average percentage change in the prices charged for your products and services do you expect in this period?

*Note: If you expect prices to increase, please enter a positive percentage value. If you expect prices to decrease, please enter a negative percentage value. Please enter a value with a maximum of one decimal place.*

[Input field]%

### 909B | Pro 61 | No treatment production costs and prices | pricecost\_[a, b]

Filter: dptrandom3 =

Values between -100.0 and 999.9 are supported. Only one decimal place is permitted. If an invalid number is entered the following error message is shown: Please enter a value between -100.0 and 999.9. Only one decimal place is permitted.

**Question:** Please consider the period from **end-March 2022** to **end-March 2023**. What average percentage change in your production costs and the prices charged for your products and services do you expect in this period?

*Note: If you expect production costs or prices to increase, please enter a positive percentage value. If you expect production costs or prices to decrease, please enter a negative percentage value. Please enter a value with a maximum of one decimal place.*

a = Production costs: %

b = Prices charged: %

### 909C | Pro 61 | Treatment production costs and prices | pricecost\_[a, b]

Filter: dptrandom3 =

Values between -100.0 and 999.9 are supported. Only one decimal place is permitted. If an invalid number is entered the following error message is shown: Please enter a value between -100.0 and 999.9. Only one decimal place is permitted.

Info box after the term "rate of inflation": Inflation is the percentage increase in the general price level. It is mostly measured using the consumer price index. A decrease in the price level is generally described as deflation.

**Question:** Current Bundesbank projections for the rate of inflation <i> expect rates of 3.6% in 2022 and 2.2% in both 2023 and 2024.

Please consider the period from **end-March 2022** to **end-March 2023**. What average percentage change in your production costs and the prices charged for your products and services do you expect in this period?

*Note: If you expect production costs or prices to increase, please enter a positive percentage value. If you expect production costs or prices to decrease, please enter a negative percentage value. Please enter a value with a maximum of one decimal place.*

a = Production costs: %

b = Prices charged: %

### 909D | Pro 61 | No treatment prices competitors | pricecost\_c

Filter: dptrandom3 =

Values between -100.0 and 999.9 are supported. Only one decimal place is permitted. If an invalid number is entered the following error message is shown: Please enter a value between -100.0 and 999.9. Only one decimal place is permitted.

**Question:** Please consider the period from **end-March 2022** to **end-March 2023**. What average percentage change in prices among your competitors do you expect in this period?

*Note: If you expect prices to increase, please enter a positive percentage value. If you expect prices to decrease, please enter a negative percentage value. Please enter a value with a maximum of one decimal place.*

%

### 909E | Pro 61 | Treatment prices competitors | pricecost\_c

Filter: dptrandom3 =

Values between -100.0 and 999.9 are supported. Only one decimal place is permitted. If an invalid number is entered the following error message is shown: Please enter a value between -100.0 and 999.9. Only one decimal place is permitted.

Info box after the term "rate of inflation": Inflation is the percentage increase in the general price level. It is mostly measured using the consumer price index. A decrease in the price level is generally described as deflation.

**Question:** Current Bundesbank projections for the rate of inflation <i> expect rates of 3.6% in 2022 and 2.2% in both 2023 and 2024.

Please consider the period from **end-March 2022** to **end-March 2023**. What average percentage change in prices among your competitors do you expect in this period?

*Note: If you expect prices to increase, please enter a positive percentage value. If you expect prices to decrease, please enter a negative percentage value. Please enter a value with a maximum of one decimal place.*

[Input field]%

### 909F | Pro 61 | No treatment prices competitors, own prices | pricecost\_[c, b]

Filter: dptrandom3 = █

Values between -100.0 and 999.9 are supported. Only one decimal place is permitted. If an invalid number is entered the following error message is shown: Please enter a value between -100.0 and 999.9. Only one decimal place is permitted.

**Question:** Please consider the period from **end-March 2022** to **end-March 2023**. What average percentage change in prices among your competitors and the prices charged for your products and services do you expect in this period?

*Note: If you expect prices to increase, please enter a positive percentage value. If you expect prices to decrease, please enter a negative percentage value. Please enter a value with a maximum of one decimal place.*

c = Prices among competitors: [Input field]%

b = Prices charged: [Input field]%

### 909G | Pro 61 | Treatment prices competitors, own prices | pricecost\_[c, b]

Filter: dptrandom3 = █

Values between -100.0 and 999.9 are supported. Only one decimal place is permitted. If an invalid number is entered the following error message is shown: Please enter a value between -100.0 and 999.9. Only one decimal place is permitted.

Info box after the term "rate of inflation": Inflation is the percentage increase in the general price level. It is mostly measured using the consumer price index. A decrease in the price level is generally described as deflation.

**Question:** Current Bundesbank projections for the rate of inflation <i> expect rates of 3.6% in 2022 and 2.2% in both 2023 and 2024.

Please consider the period from **end-March 2022** to **end-March 2023**. What average percentage change in prices among your competitors and the prices charged for your products and services do you expect in this period?

*Note: If you expect prices to increase, please enter a positive percentage value. If you expect prices to decrease, please enter a negative percentage value. Please enter a value with a maximum of one decimal place.*

c = Prices among competitors: [Input field]%

b = Prices charged: [Input field]%

--- | SAMPLE SPLIT 3 – END | ---

## 5. Descriptive Questions

### D01 | Descript | Firm characteristics implicit | firmid

Input filter *newcomer* =

**Question:** The information collected needs to be categorised in order to complete it. When evaluating the survey data, the Bundesbank would therefore like to merge this information with data it has on record to fulfil its tasks and which are kept in a separate database of enterprises at its premises in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. If you do not consent to this, the Bundesbank will rely on you to categorise this information yourself by means of additional questions. As you can see there, these data relate to the size, balance sheet, legal form, economic sector and other structural details of your enterprise. Your consent is required to merge these data with the survey data.

The data records will be merged at a data trustee – the Deutsche Bundesbank’s Research Data and Service Centre (RDSC). The security of your data is ensured when this information is subsequently processed at the RDSC. Your consent is of course voluntary. You may withdraw it at any time. However, withdrawing your consent shall not affect the lawfulness of any processing that has taken place on the basis of this declaration of consent before it was withdrawn.

1 = Yes, consent granted.

2 = No, consent not granted.

3 = I am not authorised to grant consent.

### D02 | Descript | Firm characteristics explicit employment | firmemploy

Input filter *newcomer* =

“Don’t know” and “No answer” shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked on “Continue”

Supported values are  $\geq 0$ . If an invalid number (negative or including a comma or period) is entered the following error message is shown: Please enter a valid value, without a comma or period (possible input values are 0 to 999999).

**Question:** How many employees did your enterprise have on **31 December 2021**?

[Input field]

### D03 | Descript | Firm characteristics explicit turnover | firmturnover

Input filter *newcomer* =

“Don’t know” and “No answer” shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked on “Continue”

Supported values are  $\geq 0$ . No decimals allowed. If an invalid number (negative or including a comma or period) is entered the following error message is shown: Please enter a valid value, without a comma or period (possible input values are 0 to 999999999).

Info box *<i>* after the term “sales”: In place of sales, banks/credit institutions should state their gross interest and commission income and their net trading income, whilst insurers should enter their gross premiums written.

**Question:** What were the sales *<i>* of your enterprise in **2021**?

*Note: Please enter an amount in full thousands of euro.*

Sales (excluding VAT) in 2021: [Input field]000 euro

### D04 | Descript | Firm characteristics explicit economic sector | firmsector

Input filter *newcomer* =

“Don’t know” and “No answer” shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked on “Continue”

Info box <i> after the term "economic sector": All economic sectors according to the IAB Establishment Panel classification are listed here.
Info box <i> after the term "Agriculture, hunting and forestry, fishing": Crop and animal production, hunting and related services; forestry and logging; fishing and aquaculture.
Info box <i> after the term "Mining and quarrying, electricity and water supply": Mining of coal and lignite; petroleum and natural gas extraction; mining of metal ores; other mining and quarrying; mining support service activities; electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; water supply.
Info box <i> after the term "Manufacture of non-durable consumer products": Manufacture of textiles; apparel; leather, leather goods and shoes; wood and of products of wood and cork, except furniture; paper and paper products; printing; reproduction of recorded media.
Info box <i> after the term "Manufacture of industrial goods": Coke and refined petroleum products, manufacture of: chemical products; pharmaceutical products; rubber and plastic products; other non-metallic mineral products; metal production and processing.
Info box <i> after the term "Manufacture of capital and durable consumer goods": Machinery and equipment; manufacture of motor vehicles and motor vehicle parts, other transport equipment, other manufacturing, repair and installation of machinery and equipment; fabricated metal products; computers and electronic and optical products; electrical equipment; furniture.
Info box <i> after the term "Information and communication": Publishing activities; film, video and television programme production; cinemas; sound recording and music publishing activities; programming and broadcasting activities; telecommunication; computer programming, consultancy and related activities; information service activities.
Info box <i> after the term "Financial and insurance activities": Provision of financial services; insurance, reinsurance and pension funding (excluding compulsory social security); activities auxiliary to financial and insurance services.
Info box <i> after the term "Business support, scientific and other professional services": Real estate activities; legal and accounting activities; activities of head offices, management consultancy; architectural and engineering activities; technical testing and analysis; research and development; advertising and market research; other professional, scientific and technical activities; veterinary activities; rental and leasing activities; employment activities; travel agency, tour operator reservation service and related activities; security and investigation activities; services to buildings and landscape activities; office administrative, office support and other business support activities.
Info box <i> after the term "Other service activities": Creative, arts and entertainment activities; libraries, archives, museums and other cultural activities; gambling and betting activities; sports activities and amusement and recreation activities; repair of computers and personal and household goods; other personal service activities.
<p><b>Question: To which <u>economic sector</u> &lt;i&gt; does your enterprise <b>best</b> belong?</b></p> <p><i>Note: Please select one answer.</i></p> <p>1 = Agriculture, hunting and forestry, fishing &lt;i&gt;</p> <p>2 = Mining and quarrying, electricity and water supply &lt;i&gt;</p> <p>3 = Sewerage and waste management</p> <p>4 = Food products, beverages and tobacco</p> <p>5 = Manufacture of non-durable consumer products &lt;i&gt;</p> <p>6 = Manufacture of industrial goods &lt;i&gt;</p> <p>7 = Manufacture of capital and durable consumer goods &lt;i&gt;</p> <p>8 = Construction</p> <p>9 = Wholesale, sale and repair of motor vehicles</p> <p>10 = Retail (except of motor vehicles and motorcycles)</p> <p>11 = Transportation and warehousing</p> <p>12 = Information and communication &lt;i&gt;</p> <p>13 = Accommodation and food service activities</p> <p>14 = Financial and insurance activities &lt;i&gt;</p> <p>15 = Business support, scientific and other professional services &lt;i&gt;</p> <p>16 = Education</p> <p>17 = Health and social services</p>

18 = Other service activities <i>  
19 = Activities of membership, religious and other organisations (excluding social work activities and sport)  
20 = Public administration, defence, social security

### D05 | Descript | Firm characteristics explicit ownership | firmtype

Input filter: `newcomer =`

**Question:** How would you describe your enterprise?

*Note: Please select all answers that apply.*

1 = yes  
2 = no

a = Independent profit-driven enterprise that makes its own financial decisions  
b = Branch of another enterprise  
c = Subsidiary of another enterprise  
d = Non-profit institution  
e = Family business

### D06 | Descript | Firm characteristics explicit region | firmregion

Input filter: `newcomer =`

**Question:** In which federal state is your enterprise's head office in Germany based?

1 = Baden-Württemberg  
2 = Bavaria  
3 = Berlin  
4 = Brandenburg  
5 = Bremen  
6 = Hamburg  
7 = Hesse  
8 = Mecklenburg-West Pomerania  
9 = Lower Saxony  
10 = North Rhine-Westphalia  
11 = Rhineland-Palatinate  
12 = Saarland  
13 = Saxony  
14 = Saxony-Anhalt  
15 = Schleswig-Holstein  
16 = Thuringia

### D07 | Descript | Characteristics of respondent | respondenttype\_[a-k]

No input filter

**Question:** We would now like to learn more about your role in your enterprise. In which area of your enterprise do you work?

*Note: Please select all answers that apply.*

1 = yes  
2 = no

[a] Management board  
[b] Finance/control/accounting  
[c] Sales/marketing/communication  
[d] Another area (please specify):  `respondenttype_e`

**Question:** Which job title best describes your role?

*Note: Please select all answers that apply.*

- [f] Owner/Managing director/Executive board member/Holder of general commercial power of attorney
- [g] Head of division
- [h] Team leader
- [i] Administrator
- [j] Other (please specify):  `respondenttype_k`

## 6. Feedback

### F01 | Core | Feedback questions | feedback\_[a-b]

No input filter

"Don't know" and "No answer" shown as soft prompts if no response selected and the participant clicked on "Continue"

**Question:** How **difficult** did you find the survey overall?

- 1 = Very difficult
- 2 = Somewhat difficult
- 3 = Neither easy nor difficult
- 4 = Somewhat easy
- 5 = Very easy

**Question:** How did you find **the length** of the survey?

- 1 = Far too long
- 2 = Somewhat too long
- 3 = Just right
- 4 = Somewhat too short
- 5 = Far too short

### F02 | Core | Open feedback question | feedbackopen

No input filter

**Question:** If you have any suggestions or criticism about the survey, please let us know here.

- 1 = [Input field]
- 2 = No, nothing/no answer

## 7. Panel participation

### P01 | Core | Panel participation | panel

Input filter: *newcomer* =

**Question:** In order to find out how you continue to manage the crisis and how your enterprise develops over the next few years, we would, going forward, like to invite you to complete additional surveys at intervals of three months. We will need to keep your contact details on file so that we can get in touch with you about the new surveys. To do this, we require your consent under the German Data Protection Act (*Datenschutzgesetz*).

Your contact details will be kept separately from the questionnaire and solely for the purpose of this further survey. They will never be traced back to the answers you have provided. Your information will remain anonymous as described above and your data will never be passed on to third parties. Once the last survey has been completed, your contact details will be permanently deleted. The data protection statement on the processing of personal contact details, as well as contact details for the data protection officer and information about the rights of data subjects can be found in the general data protection notice at [www.bundesbank.de/survey-on-firms](http://www.bundesbank.de/survey-on-firms).

We would be very grateful if you decided to continue participating in our research project. Of course, this is also voluntary and you can withdraw your consent at any time.

I agree that my address may be kept on file for further surveys:

1 = Yes

2 = No

### P02 | Core | Contact email address | contact

Input filter *newcomer* =

**Question:** To make it easier for us to contact you about a new survey, please give us an email address that we can use to contact your enterprise. This email address will not be used for any other purpose and will be treated with the same level of confidentiality as your other contact details.

*Note: Please type your email address in the text field.*

[Input field]