

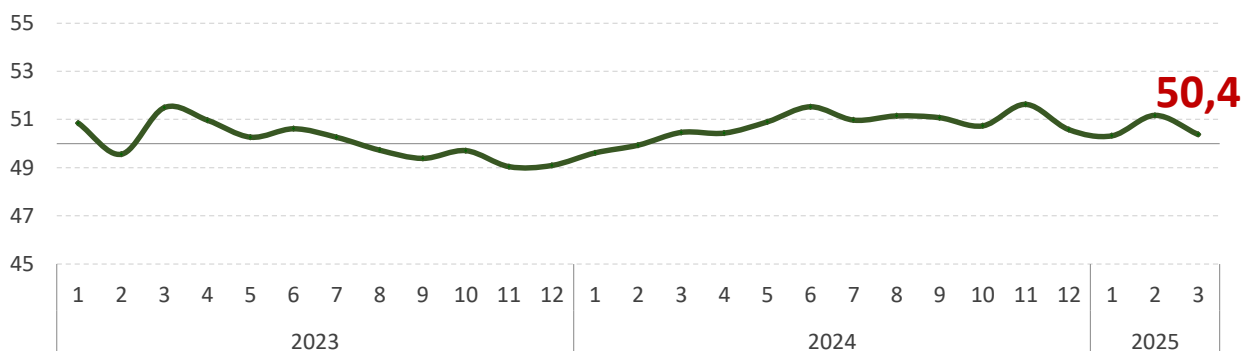


Business activity index

March 2025

In March 2025, business activity slowed down, but the indicator remained in the positive area.

Graph 1. Dynamics of business activity index (BAI)*



* A value of the indicator above level 50 means a positive change, below level 50 - a negative. The further (higher or lower) the index value is from the 50 level, the higher the rate of change (increase or decrease) of the indicator.

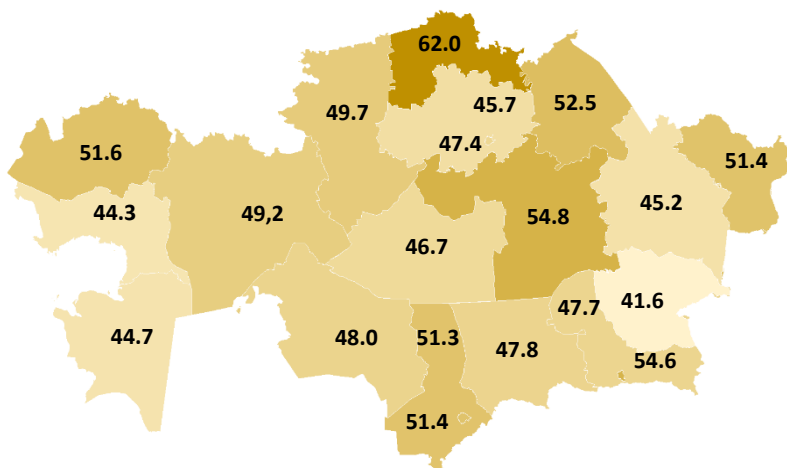
The business activity was 50.4 in March 2025.

Business activity increased in production and trade, where the index, despite a slight slowdown, remained in positive area, amounting to **53.8** and **51.2**, respectively (in February – 54.1 and 51.5). In the mining industry, the indicator remained unchanged (**48.5**), while in the services and construction sectors there was a decrease in business activity, the index moved into negative area, amounting to **48.9** and **49.6**, respectively (in February – 50.5 and 50.1), due to a decrease in new orders.

Graph 2. BAI in March 2025 by regions

Business activity improved in 8 regions, worsened in 12 regions.

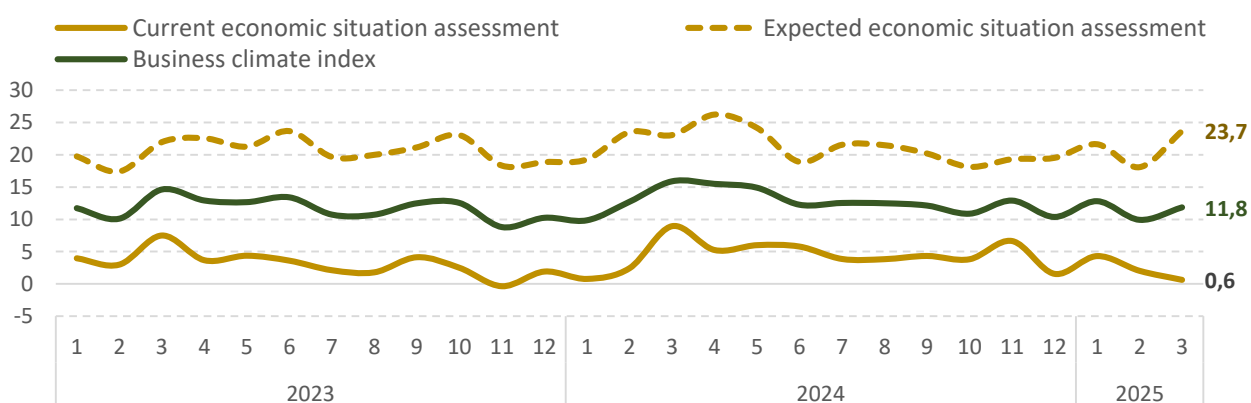
The highest index value was observed in North Kazakhstan region (62.0), the lowest – in Zhetisu region (41.6).



Business climate index

In March, assessment of current business conditions decreased, while optimism about future conditions improved. As a result, the business climate index increased to 11.8.

Graph 3. Dynamics of business climate index (BCI)*



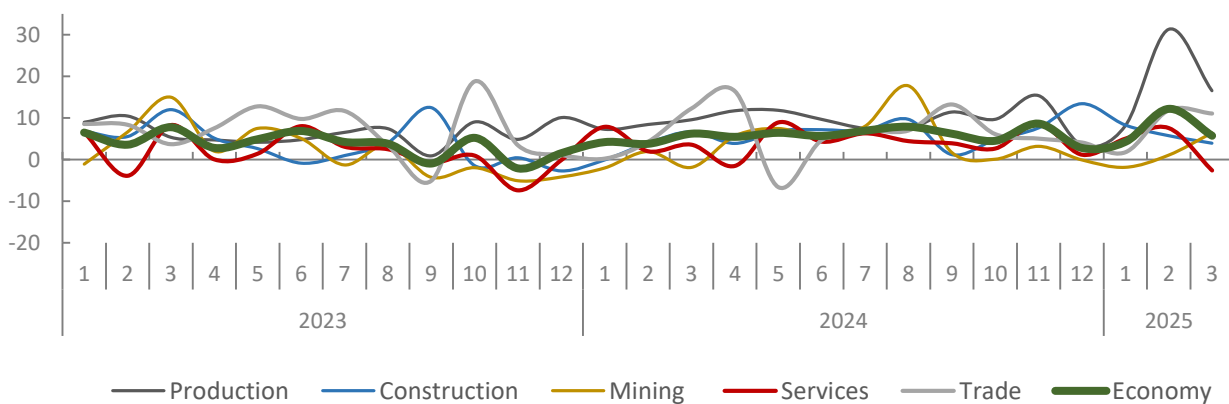
* To assess current and future business conditions, a balance of responses (BR) is used, which is calculated as the difference between the shares of positive and negative answers to questions about changes in business conditions. An index value above 0 indicates an improvement, below 0 indicates a deterioration of the situation.

According to enterprises, the growth in demand for their products/services has slowed down.

In March, there was a slowdown in demand growth in all sectors except mining, and a decrease in demand in the services sector. The greatest demand was noted in production.

Assessment of business conditions factors have not changed much. Respondents had a weakly positive assessment of the change in infrastructure, while other factors (business protection issues, tax burden, and access to finance/credit) were negatively assessed, especially the tax burden and business protection issues.

Graph 4. Dynamics of demand changes by sector (BR)*



* To assess demand, a balance of responses (BR) is used, which is calculated as the difference between the shares of positive and negative answers to questions about changes in demand. An index value above 0 indicates an improvement, below 0 indicates a deterioration of the situation.

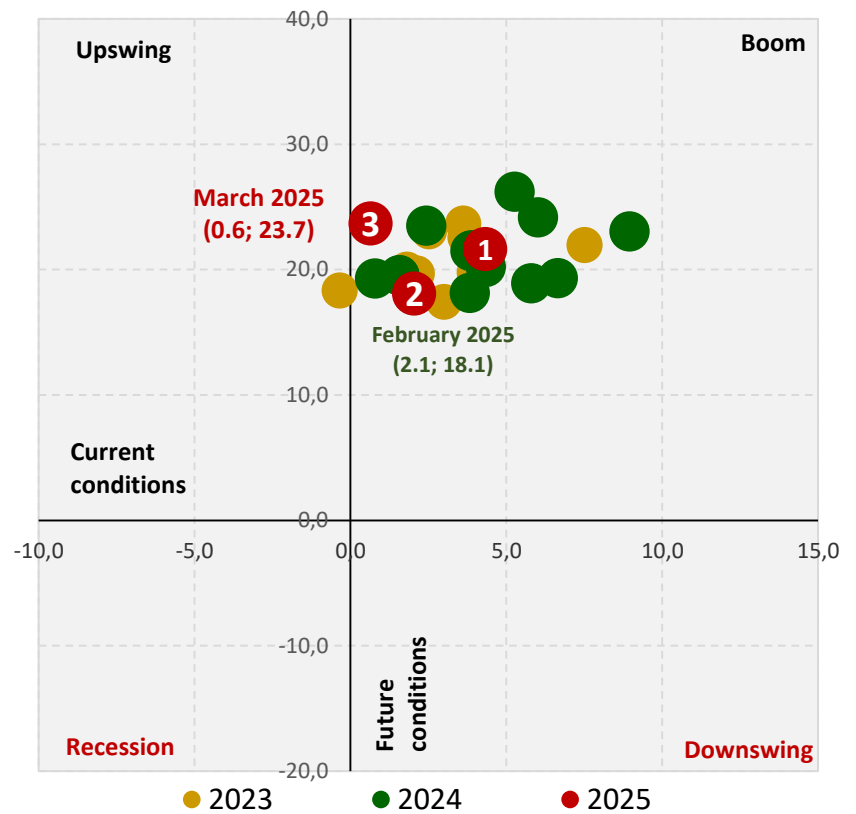
In March 2025, the business cycle clock indicator remained in the boom area

The current business conditions decreased and amounted to 0.6

The assessment of future business conditions for the next 6 months increased noticeably to 23.7.

** Business cycle clock is developed by Ifo institute demonstrates in which phase of the cycle the economy was in a certain period. To construct it the series of current conditions (X axis) and future conditions (Y axis) assessments are used.*

Graph 5. Business cycle clock



METHODOLOGICAL COMMENT

¹ The information was prepared based on the results of monthly survey of enterprises participating in the monitoring of the real sector.

² The business activity index is calculated as an aggregated change in such indicators of enterprises as the volume of new orders, the level of employment, the volume of new products, the volume of inventories, delivery times.

³ To calculate the Business Activity Index, the diffusion index (DI) is used, which is calculated as the sum of positive responses and half of the responses unchanged. This index is a generalized indicator characterizing the dynamics of changes in the indicator.

⁴ To calculate the business climate index (BCI), according to the methodology of the Ifo Institute, a balance of answers (BA) on indicators of business conditions in the current month (SIT) and expected changes in business conditions in the next 6 months (EXP) is used:

$$BCI^* = \sqrt{(BA(SIT) + 200) * (BA(EXP) + 200)} - 200$$

where, BA – balance of answers

SIT – current economic condition

EXP – expected economic condition

⁵ The BA (balance of answers) is calculated as the difference between the shares of positive and negative responses to questions about changing business conditions. Enterprises choose one of the three suggested answers "improved", "have not changed" and "worsened". The response shares are calculated using weights.

⁶ The business cycle clock, developed by the Ifo Research Institute, is a diagram (coordinate system) divided into four quadrants using the crosshair of two zero lines, which from the point of view of the business situation refer to the four stages of the economic cycle: upswing, expansion, downswing, recession. If the assessment of current conditions is negative and expectations are positive, the economy is in the upswing area, if both the assessment of current conditions and expectations are positive, then the economy is in the expansion phase, etc.

⁷ The data in the diagrams are seasonally adjusted (except for the assessment of future conditions and the assessment of factors).

⁸ Changes are possible in the previous months dynamics due to seasonal clearing and GVA adjustment.

⁹ Detailed information by sector (information about the sample, the dynamics of indicators, the results of the distribution of responses) is presented in the dashboard.