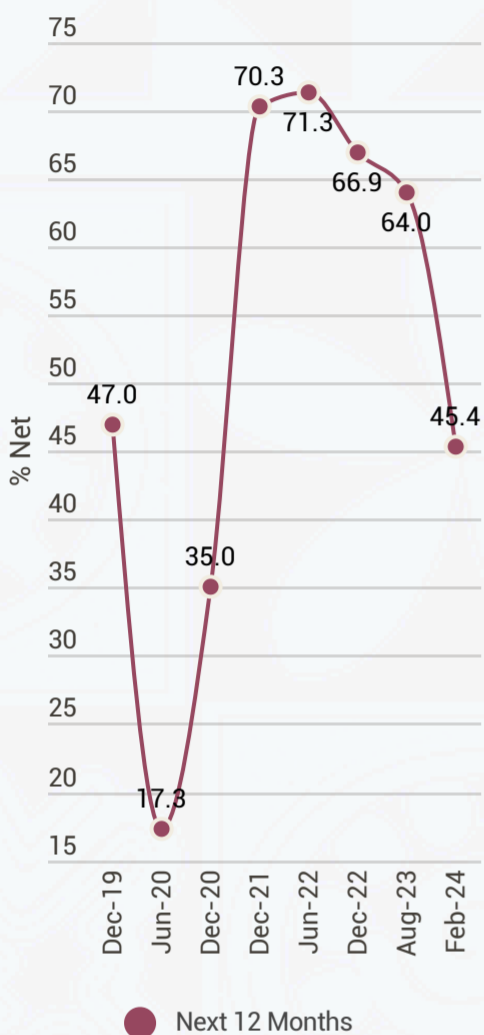




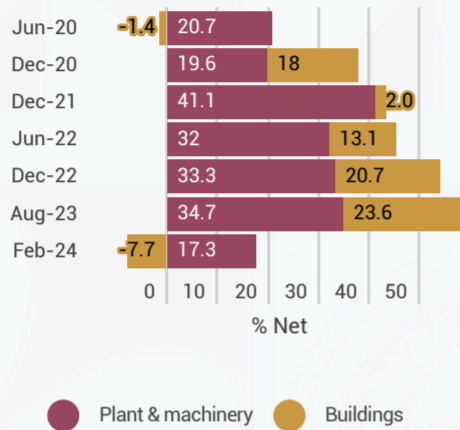
### 1. General Business Conditions

Most businesses anticipate an improvement in general business conditions, however, optimism levels are lower than the previous August 2023 survey.



### 2. Investment

Respondents' intentions to invest in plant & machinery and buildings have dipped compared to the last survey.



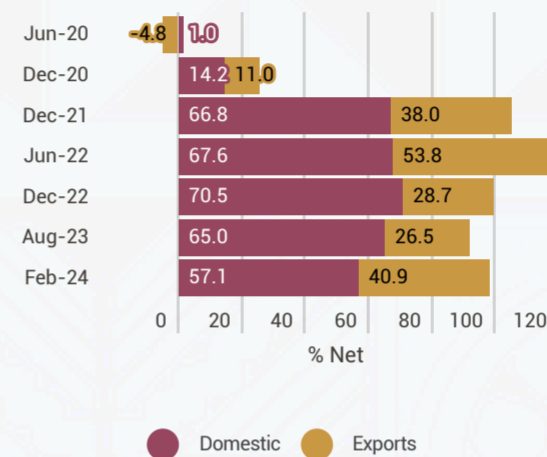
### 3. Production

Positive intention to raise production, albeit slightly lower than previous survey's expectation.



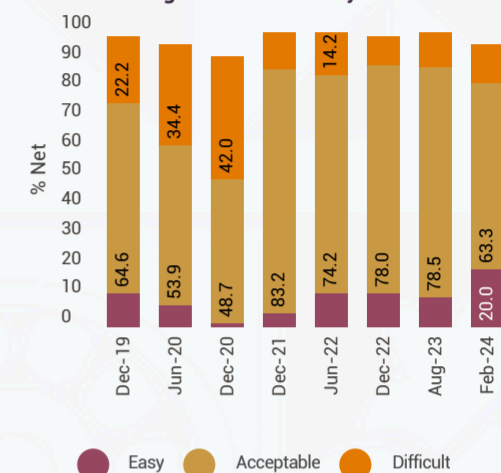
### 4. Sales

Businesses expect a slowdown in domestic sales and an increase in external sales.



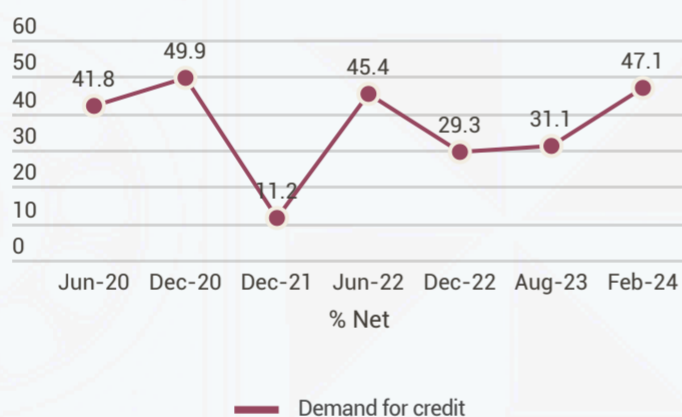
### 5. Access to Credit from Financial Institutions

A majority of respondents found their access to credit from financial institutions as 'acceptable' rather than it being 'difficult' or 'easy'.



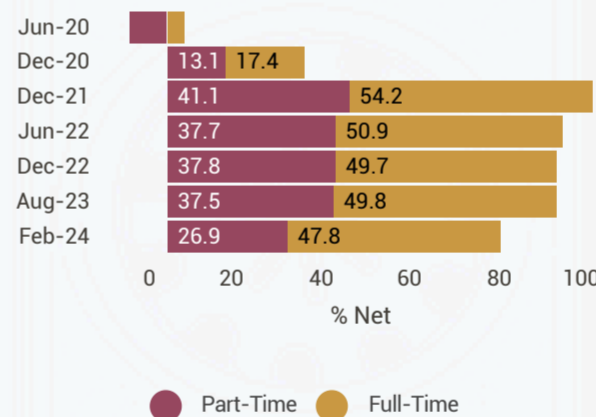
### 6. Demand for Credit

Borrowing expectations have improved.



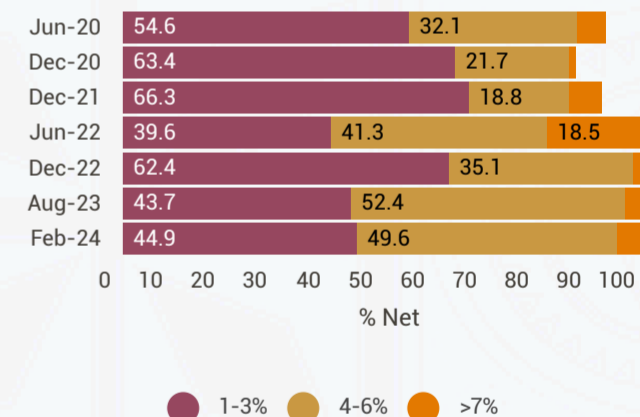
### 7. Employment Outlook

Hiring intentions remain positive although lower than the previous survey.

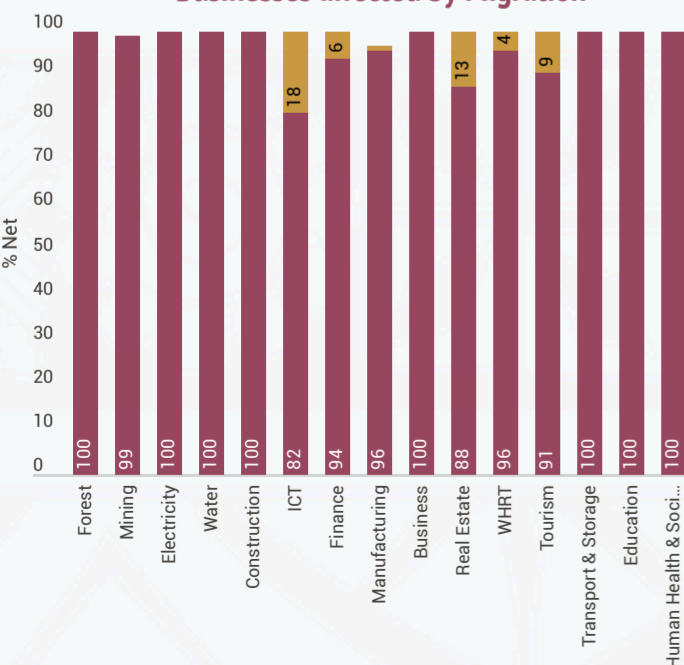


### 8. Inflation Outlook

Majority of businesses still expect annual inflation to fall within 4.6% range



### Businesses affected by Migration



Most sectors surveyed were affected by outward labour migration.

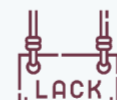
49% of labour loss was semi skilled while 44% were highly skilled workers and most had 3-5 years or 5-10 years of work experiences.

### Major Business Constraints

Despite the optimism, businesses have identified some significant impediments.



Labour shortages



Lack of specific skills



Land-related Issues



Unfavorable weather conditions



Supply Chain Disruptions



Policy Uncertainty

\* The survey cycle will now be August and February, instead of June and December.  
 \*\* Net % reflects the general direction of change and is calculated by subtracting the % of respondents expecting a decrease from the % expecting an increase.