

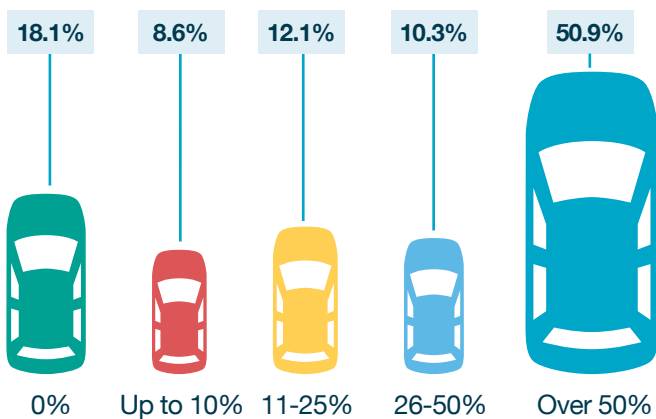


Quick Glance: Q4 2019

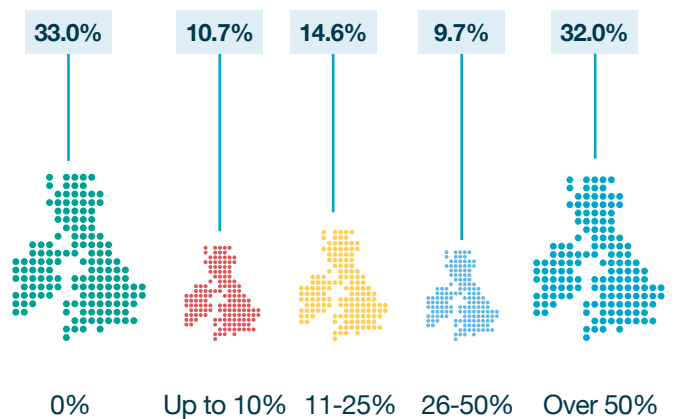
Brexit uncertainty leads to decreased investment

Brexit continues to be the biggest area of concern for local firms, with over one third of respondents citing it as a bigger concern than three months ago. This is reflected on a national level, with uncertainty around Brexit continuing to hold back business.

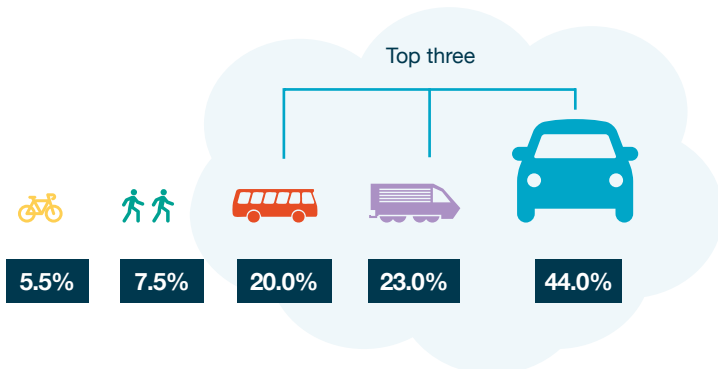
What percentage of staff in your company travel during work hours?



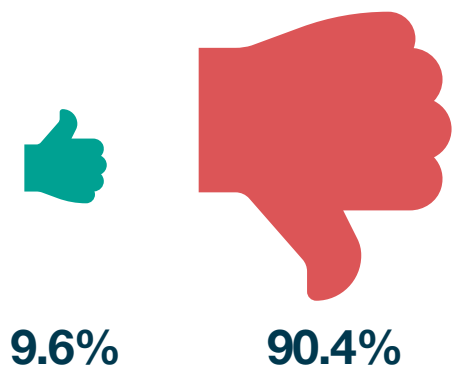
What percentage of staff in your company travel nationally for business?



What are the top three modes of transport your staff use to commute?



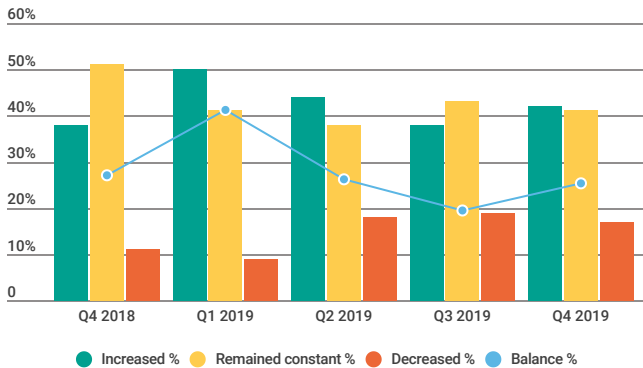
Has your organisation calculated its carbon footprint?



Domestic sales



Over the past 3 months UK sales/custom/bookings have: Increased / Remained constant / Decreased



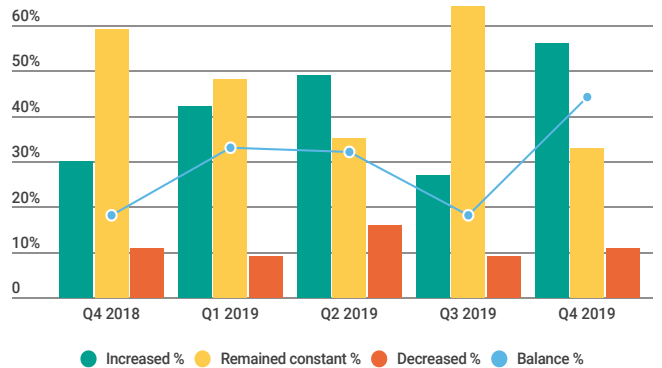
This quarter: On balance, UK sales are 6% higher compared to last quarter.

Year on year: The balance of UK sales is at a lower level than last year. The positive balance means more firms have reported increased rather than decreased sales.

Overseas sales



Over the past 3 months overseas sales/custom/bookings have: Increased / Remained constant / Decreased



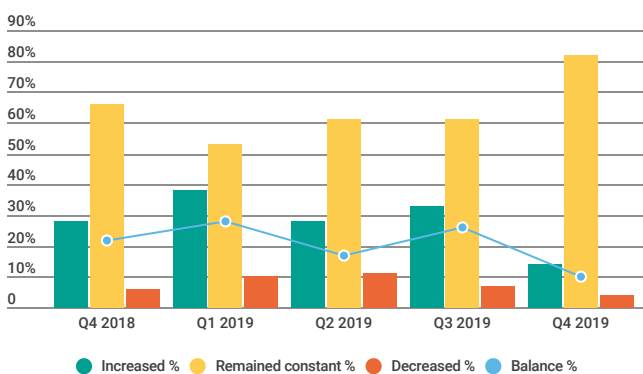
This quarter: On balance, export sales have decreased.

Year on year: On balance, export sales are at higher levels compared to the same period last year.

Employment growth



Over the last 3 months has your workforce: Increased / Remained constant / Decreased



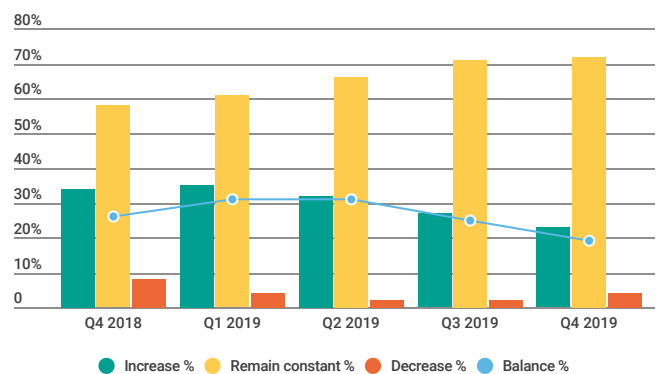
This quarter: On balance, there has been a decrease in workforce over the last quarter.

Year on year: Employment expansion is at a lower level compared to the same period last year.

Employment expectations



Over the next 3 months, do you expect your workforce to: Increase / Remain constant / Decrease



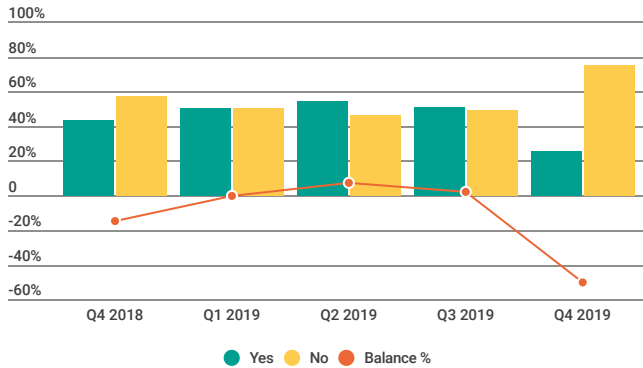
This quarter: On balance, businesses expect employment to decrease in the next three months.

Year on year: Employment expectations are at lower levels compared to the same period last year.

Recruitment



Did you experience any difficulties finding suitable staff? Yes / No



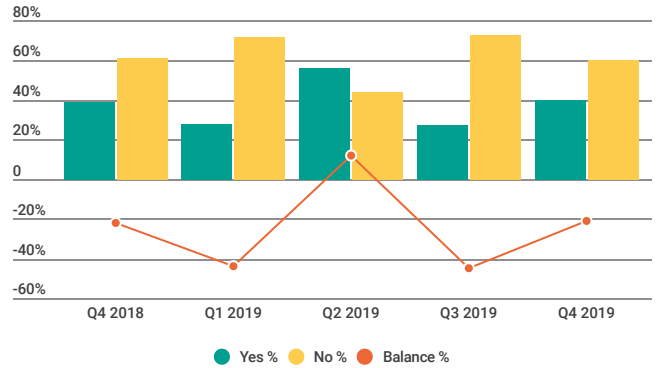
This quarter: Compared to last quarter there has been a significant reduction in the % of firms trying to recruit.

Year on year: There is a large reduction in the number of firms trying to recruit staff compared to the same period last year.

Recruitment difficulties



Did you experience any difficulties finding suitable staff? Yes / No

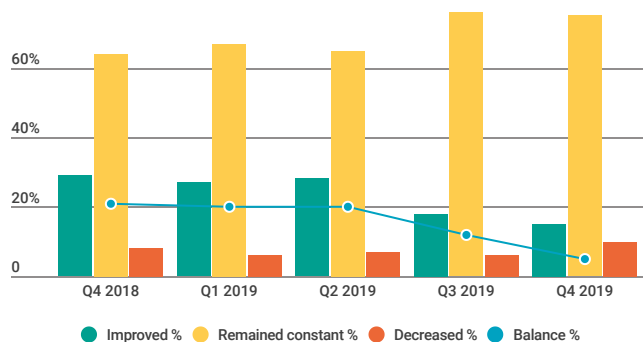


This quarter: On balance, the percentage of firms experiencing difficulties in recruiting has decreased and 60% of responding firms have advised this was not an issue for them in the last quarter.

Training investment



Over the past 3 months, investment plans for training have: Increased / Remained constant / Decreased

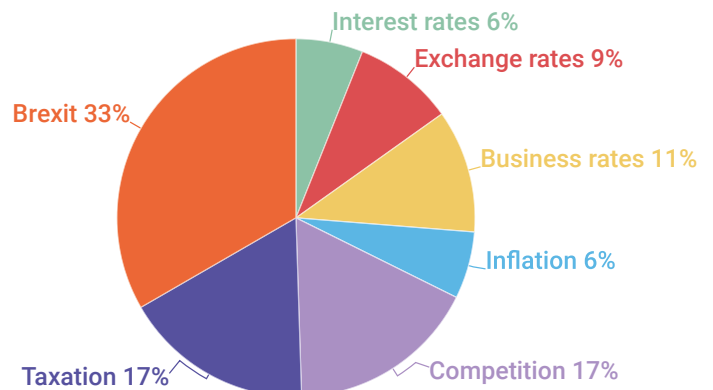


This quarter: On balance, investment in training has worsened by 6.5% over the last quarter.

Year on year: Over the last year, investment plans for training has worsened by 15.3%.

Business challenges

Indicate which of these following factors are more of a concern to your business than 3 months ago: Interest rates / Brexit / Business rates / Competition / Exchange rates / Inflation / Taxation / Other

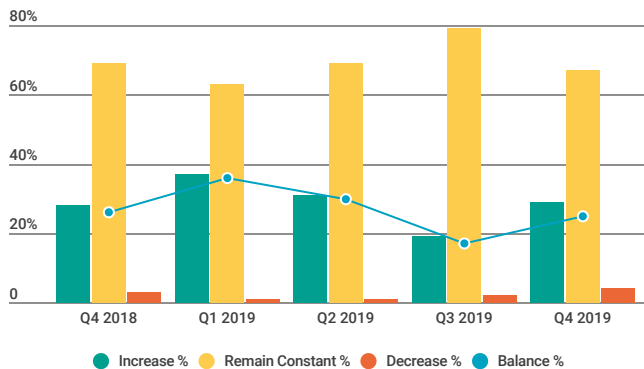


For the fourth quarter running Brexit continues to be the biggest area of concern for responding businesses.

Price



Over the next 3 months, do you expect the price of your goods/services to: Increase / Remain constant / Decrease



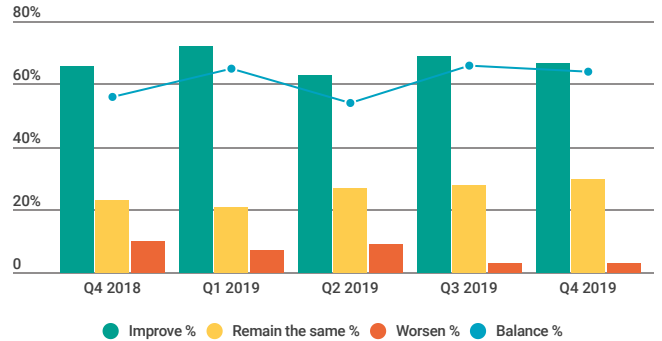
This quarter: On balance, expectations of future price increases have gone up since the last quarter.

Year on year: Compared to the same period last year, there has been a minor drop in the proportion of businesses which expect prices to increase.

Profitability



Over the next 12 months, do you believe profitability will: Improve / Remain the same / Worsen



This quarter: On balance, expectations of profitability have decreased slightly compared to last quarter.

Year on year: Compared to the same period last year, there has been an increase in expectations of profitability over the next 12 months.

About Doncaster Business Insight

Doncaster Business Insight captures a regular snapshot of business sentiment on the local economy and hot business matters through a quarterly survey, monthly roundtable and quarterly breakfast briefing.

The results and feedback given by Doncaster businesses help inform Doncaster Chamber, Doncaster Council, local, regional and national policy makers and influencers to ensure the local business voice is heard, address any business matters and develop the right policies/structures that support business and the economy.

The results are also fed into the British Chambers of Commerce Quarterly Economic Survey results which act as a significant economic indicator for national and international organisations including the Bank of England.

Thank you for taking the Doncaster Business Insight Survey. For every survey taken by a business with a DN postcode, Doncaster Chamber donates £1 to a local charity.

We ask. You say. We do

For the full report visit doncaster-chamber.co.uk/dbi-results

Dates for your diary 2020

Survey

Take the survey next quarter
Q1 2020: 17 Feb – 9 March

Events

29 Jan

Doncaster Business Breakfast Club

6 Feb

Bank of England update

13 Feb

Opportunities Doncaster Live

12 March

Workplace, training and development Roundtable