



# Greece

Overview

## EIB INVESTMENT SURVEY

# 2020



EIB Group survey on investment  
and investment finance 2020  
Country overview

# Greece

## **EIB Group survey on investment and investment finance 2020.**

### **Country overview: Greece**

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### **About the EIB Investment Survey (EIBIS)**

The EIB Group Survey on Investment and Investment Finance, which has been administered since 2016, is a unique, annual survey of some 13 500 firms. It covers firms in all European Union Member States and also includes a sample of firms in the United Kingdom and the United States.

The survey collects data on firm characteristics and performance, past investment activities and future plans, sources of finance, financing issues and other challenges that businesses face. The EIBIS, which uses a stratified sampling methodology, is representative across all 27 EU Member States, the United Kingdom and the United States, as well as across four classes of firm size (micro to large) and four main economic sectors (manufacturing, construction, services and infrastructure). The survey is designed to build a panel of observations, supporting the analysis of time-series data. Observations can also be linked back to data on firm balance sheets and profit and loss statements. The EIBIS was developed by the EIB Economics Department. It is managed by the department with the support of Ipsos MORI.

### **About this publication**

The series of reports provide an overview of data collected for the 27 EU Member States, the United Kingdom and the United States. The reports are intended to provide a snapshot of the data. For the purpose of these publications, data are weighted by value-added to better reflect the contribution of different firms to economic output. Contact: [eibis@eib.org](mailto:eibis@eib.org).

**Download the findings of the EIB Investment Survey for each EU country or explore the data portal at [www.eib.org/eibis](http://www.eib.org/eibis).**

### **About the Economics Department of the European Investment Bank**

The mission of the EIB Economics Department is to provide economic analyses and studies to support the Bank in its operations and in its positioning, strategy and policy. The department and its team of 40 economists is headed by Debora Revoltella, director of economics.

### **Main contributors to this publication**

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### **Disclaimer**

The views expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the position of the EIB.

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# EIBIS 2020 – Greece

## KEY RESULTS

### Investment Dynamics

With the COVID-19 crisis affecting the economy, investment in Q2 2020 is 10% below the pre-crisis 2019 level. To put this in context, it follows a decade of very low investment levels and undermines the tentative recovery of the last years.

About two fifths (39%) of firms expect to invest less in the current financial year due to COVID-19. More than half (55%) expect to invest broadly the same, and only 5% expect to invest more. Similar proportions are found across all four sectors and size classes of firms.

### Investment Focus

Three in ten firms (30%), with investment plans in the current financial year, report that they will abandon or delay at least some of their investment plans due to COVID-19. This is in line with the EU average (35%). Around one in ten (12%) of firms with investment plans will continue with at least some of their investment plans but at a reduced scale or scope.

One third of firms expect an impact on their service or product portfolio (37%), their supply chain (35%) and the increased use of digital technologies (32%) as a long-term impact.

### Investment Needs and Priorities

Seven in ten firms say they invested about the right amount over the last three years (71%), below the EU average (80%), and 62% of firms were operating at or above maximum capacity in 2019, up from 53% in EIBIS 2019.

Looking ahead to the next three years, developing new products or services is the most commonly cited investment priority among firms (36%). This is higher than EIBIS 2019 and the EU average (both 28%). With regards to COVID-19, the pattern of priorities is broadly similar across both impacted and non impacted firms.

### Innovation Activities

Though increased from 2019, the share of firms undertaking innovation activity remains lower than the EU average (42%). Around one-third of all firms (36%) developed or introduced new products, processes or services as part of their investment activities, which includes 11% of all firms claiming to have undertaken innovation that is new to the country or global market. 19% are classified as 'active innovators', and only six percent fit under 'developers'.

Greek firms also report lower levels of implementation of digital technologies (54%) compared to both EIBIS 2019 (66%) and the EU average (63%).

### Drivers and Constraints

Firms have on balance become more pessimistic about the short-term outlook, except the availability of external finance. Pessimism is greatest about the economic climate, in line with the EU overall, but Greece is generally less pessimistic than the EU in other measures.

Uncertainty about the future remains the most cited long-term barrier to investment (92%), in line with EIBIS 2019 (94%). Fewer firms cite each of the following issues as a barrier compared with EIBIS 2019: business regulations (86%, down from 95%), demand for products or services (62%, down from 74%), energy costs (70%, down from 79%) and labour market regulations (71%, down from 78%).

### Investment Finance

External funds accounted for 26% of investment finance in 2019, up from 18% in EIBIS 2019 but below the EU average of 35%. Bank loans made up the largest share of external finance (75%), higher than the EU average (59%).

Among all firms in Greece, 15% say they were happy to rely exclusively on internal sources to finance investment in the past financial year, down from 25% in EIBIS 2019 but in line with the EU average (17%). Three-quarters of firms (72%) report making a profit in the last financial year, below the EU average (80%).

### Access to Finance

Firms in Greece remained considerably more likely to be finance constrained in 2019 (13%) than the EU average (6%). The highest levels of dissatisfaction are with the cost of finance (12%), well above the EU average (5%), and with collateral requirements (10%).

### Energy Efficiency

The efforts of Greek firms to invest in measures to improve energy efficiency were well below the European average. Only one quarter of firms (26% versus 47% in the EU overall) were investing in measures to improve energy efficiency, reflecting only 6% of their total investment in the last financial year on average, half the EU average (12%).

Despite Greece being in line with EU average in terms of share of firms having conducted energy audits over the past four years (respectively 57% and 55%), their internal carbon and energy targets are only about half the EU average (respectively 19% and 41%).

### Climate Change

Half of firms (50%) say that climate change currently has an impact on their business, below the EU average (58%).

On balance, firms in Greece expect the transition to a low-carbon future to have a positive impact on their reputation, but a negative impact on their supply chain over the next five years. Regarding market demand, only manufacturing and construction firms are slightly more positive than negative.

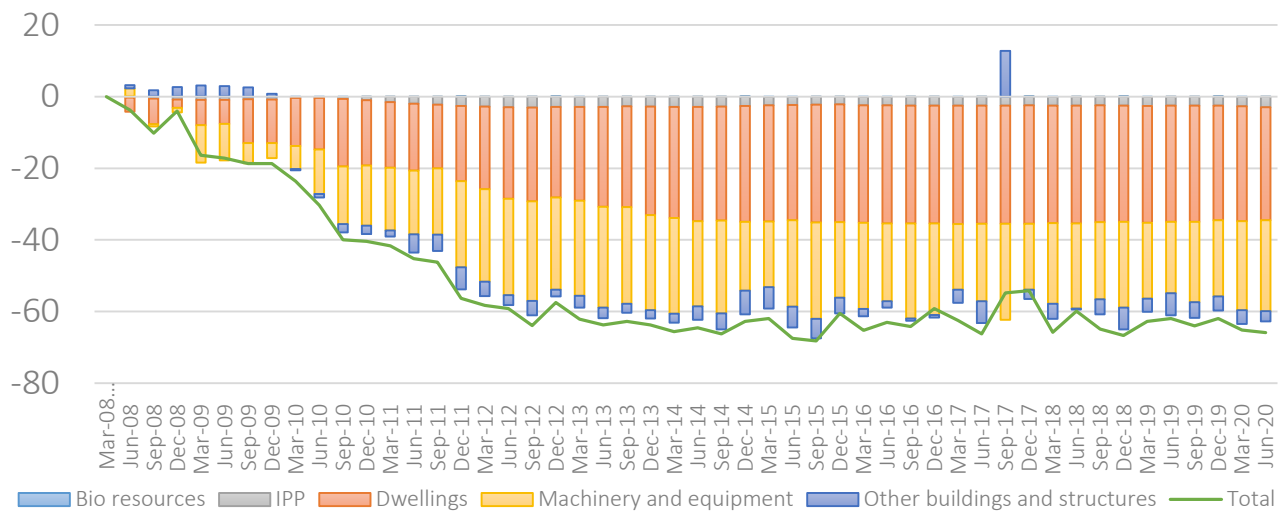
Only one third of firms (33%) report already investing or planning to invest to tackle the impact of climate change, well below the EU average (67%).

# Investment Dynamics

## INVESTMENT DYNAMICS BY INSTITUTIONAL SECTOR

With the COVID-19 crisis abruptly hitting the economy, investment in Q2 2020 further decreased (-10.2% compared to pre-crisis levels in 2019).

With investment continuously subdued after the global financial crisis, the COVID-19 pandemic is expected to add further pressure on investment.



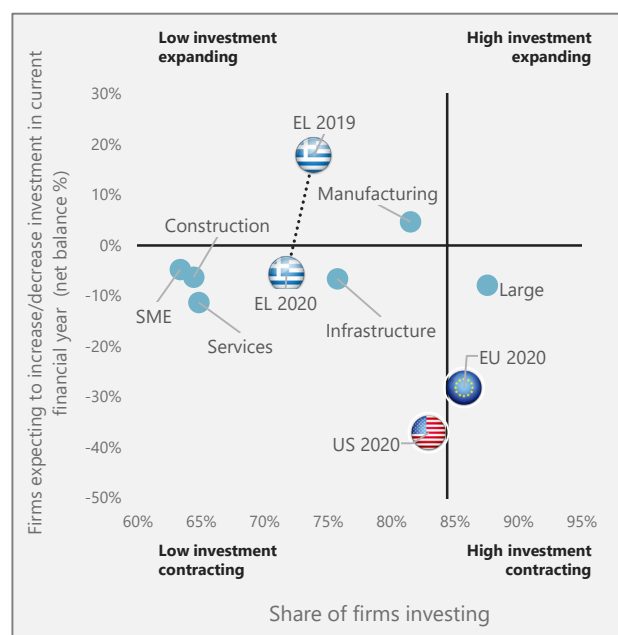
The graph shows the evolution of total Gross Fixed Capital Formation (in real terms); by institutional sector. The data has been indexed to equal 0 in 2008. Source: Eurostat.

## INVESTMENT CYCLE

Firms' investment activity places Greece just inside the 'low investment contracting' quadrant on the investment cycle. In EIBIS 2019, Greece was in the 'low investment expanding' quadrant.

The net balance of manufacturing firms expecting to increase rather than decrease their investment activities in the current year has declined.

Large firms have the highest share of firms investing, but on balance more large firms expect to decrease rather than increase their investment in the current year.



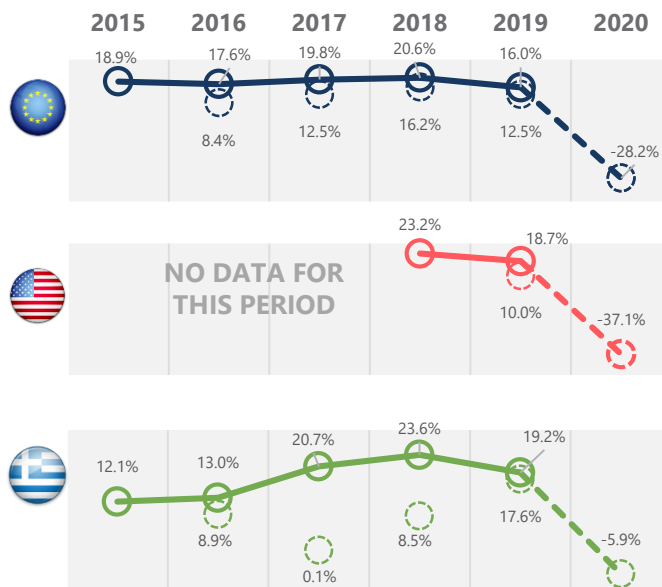
Share of firms investing shows the percentage of firms with investment per employee greater than EUR 500. The y-axis line crosses x-axis on the EU average for 2016.

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)

# Investment Dynamics

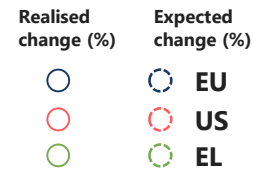
## EVOLUTION OF INVESTMENT EXPECTATIONS

### Realised/expected change in investment



On balance, more firms in Greece increased rather than reduced their investment activities in the last financial year (19%). This was broadly the same level as the EU average (16%) and in line with expectations (18%).

The investment outlook for 2020 is negative, with more firms expecting to reduce than increase investment (-6%). This may reflect the sustained contraction over the past decade, the outlook is not as negative as the EU average (-28%).



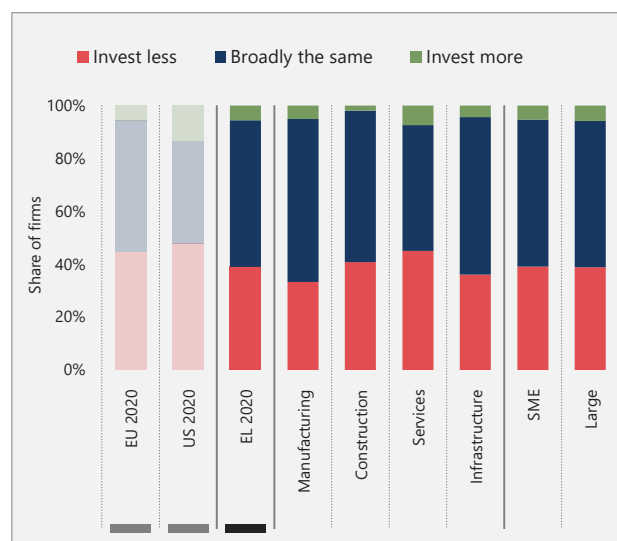
'Realised change' is the share of firms who invested more minus those who invested less; 'Expected change' is the share of firms who expect(ed) to invest more minus those who expect(ed) to invest less.

Base: All firms

## IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON INVESTMENT

About two fifths (39%) of firms expect to invest less in the current financial year due to COVID-19. 6% of firms expect to invest more, and more than half (55%) expect to invest broadly the same. Similar proportions are found across all four sectors and size of firms.

In this respect, Greece is similar to the EU average.



Q. Have your company's overall investment expectations for 2020 changed due to coronavirus?

Base: All firms with investment plans for the current financial year (excluding don't know/refused responses)

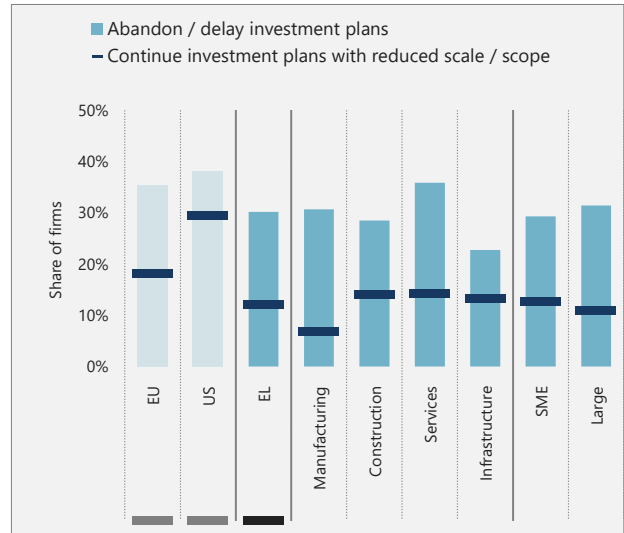
# Investment Focus

## ACTIONS AS A RESULT OF COVID-19

Three in ten firms (30%), with investment plans in the current financial year, report that they will abandon or delay at least some of their investment plans. This is in line with the EU average (35%).

Around one in ten (12%) firms plan to continue with at least some of their investment plans with a reduced scale or scope. Again, this is similar to the EU average (17%).

There are no significant variations between sectors or size of firms.

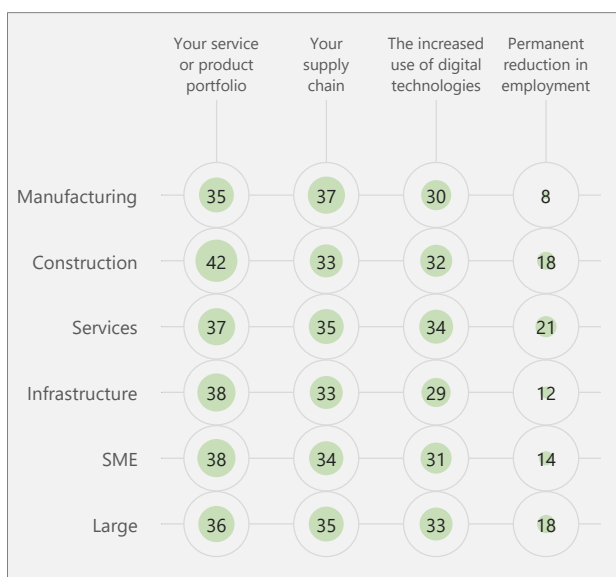


Q. You said you will invest less due to coronavirus. Can I just check which of the following actions will your company undertake?

Please note some firms may be taking multiple actions i.e. abandoning/delaying some investment plans whilst continuing with other plans at a reduced scale or scope.

Base: All firms with investment plans for the current financial year (excluding don't know/refused responses)

## LONG TERM IMPACT OF COVID-19 BY SECTOR AND SIZE



Overall, around a third of firms in Greece report that they expect COVID-19 to have a long-term impact on their service or product portfolio (37%), their supply chain (35%) and the increased use of digital technologies (32%).

Overall 15% of firms expect a permanent reduction in employment. Manufacturing firms are less likely to report a permanent reduction in employment as a long term impact (8%) compared to construction firms (18%) and services firms (21%).

Q. Do you expect the coronavirus outbreak to have a long-term impact on any of the following?

Base: All firms

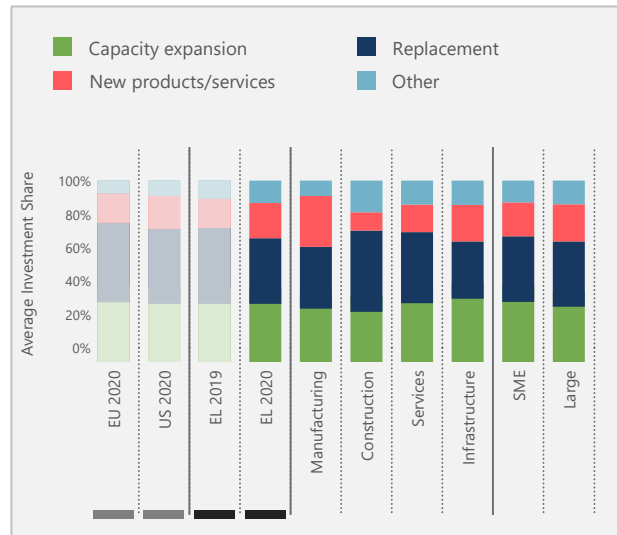


# Investment Focus

## PURPOSE OF INVESTMENT IN LAST FINANCIAL YEAR (% of firms' investment)

In the last financial year, 39% of investment were allocated to capacity replacement (replacement of existing building, machinery, equipment and IT), 26% to capacity expansion and 21% to new products. These shares are in line with both EIBIS 2019 and the EU average.

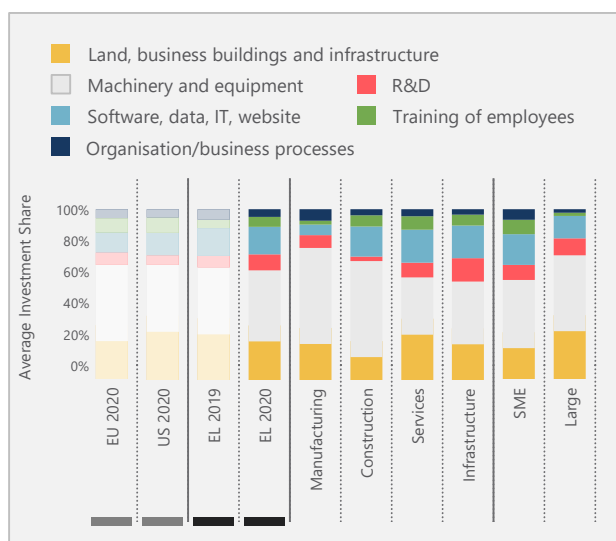
The share of investment in developing and introducing new products and services is higher among manufacturing firms than construction and services firms (30% versus 11% and 16% respectively).



Q. What proportion of total investment was for (a) replacing capacity (including existing buildings, machinery, equipment, IT) (b) expanding capacity for existing products/services (c) developing or introducing new products, processes, services?

Base: All firms who have invested in the last financial year (excluding don't know/refused responses)

## INVESTMENT AREAS



Out of the six investment areas considered, the highest share of investment in Greece was in machinery and equipment (46%), followed by software, data, IT and websites (18%) and land, business buildings and infrastructure (15%). The share allocated to land, business buildings and infrastructure is in line with the EU average (16%).

Firms in the manufacturing and services sector allocated a higher share of investment to machinery and equipment (62% both) than firms in services (37%) and infrastructure (40%).

Large firms allocated a greater share of investment to land, business buildings and infrastructure than SMEs (22% and 11% respectively), but a smaller share to training employees (2% and 9%, respectively).

Q. In the last financial year, how much did your business invest in each of the following with the intention of maintaining or increasing your company's future earnings?

Base: All firms who have invested in the last financial year (excluding don't know/refused responses)

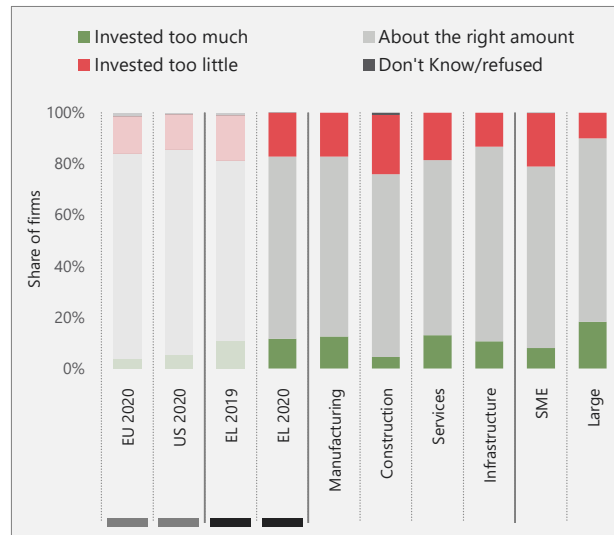
# Investment Needs and Priorities

## PERCEIVED INVESTMENT GAP

Seven in ten firms believe their investment over the last three years was about the right amount (71%), in line with EIBIS 2019 (70%). This is below the EU average (80%).

More than one in ten firms (12%) report having invested too much, higher than the EU average (4%), while 17% report they invested too little.

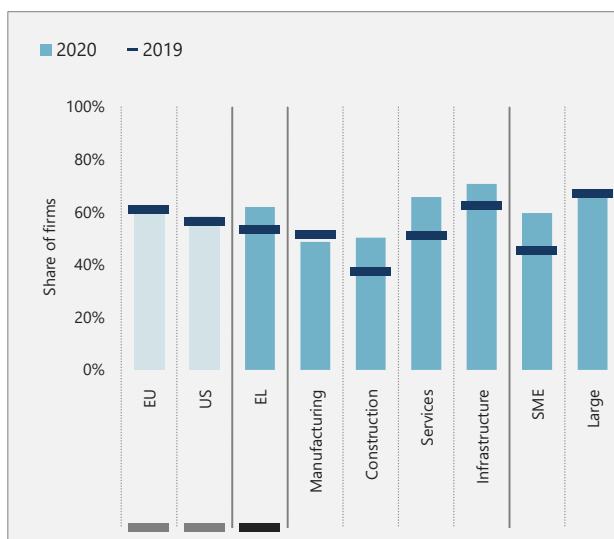
SMEs are more likely to report investing too little (21%) than large firms (10%), while large firms are more likely to report investing too much (18%) compared with SMEs (8%).



Q. Looking back at your investment over the last 3 years, was it too much, too little, or about the right amount?

Base: All firms (excluding 'Company didn't exist three years ago' responses)

## SHARE OF FIRMS AT OR ABOVE FULL CAPACITY



Full capacity is the maximum capacity attainable under normal conditions e.g. company's general practices regarding the utilization of machines and equipment, overtime, work shifts, holidays etc.

Q. In the last financial year, was your company operating above or at maximum capacity attainable under normal circumstances?

Base: All firms (data not shown for those operating somewhat or substantially below full capacity)

Six in ten firms (62%) were operating at or above full capacity in the past financial year, up from 53% in EIBIS 2019 but in line with the EU average (61%).

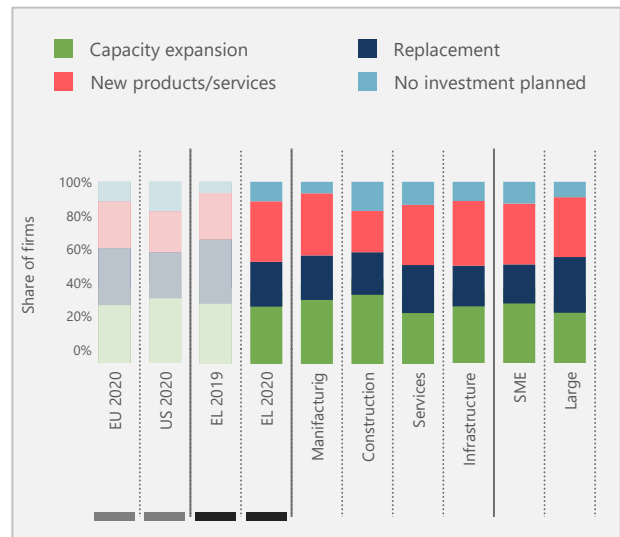
The manufacturing and construction sectors have a lower share of firms reporting to operate at or above full capacity in 2019 (49% and 50%, respectively) compared with the service sector and the infrastructure sector (66% and 71%, respectively).

# Investment Needs and Priorities

## FUTURE INVESTMENT PRIORITIES (% of firms)

Looking ahead to the next three years, one third of firms (36%) cite developing new products or services as an investment priority, higher than EIBIS 2019 and the EU average (both 28%). Replacing capacity is less likely to be cited (27%) compared to EIBIS 2019 (39%) and the EU average (34%). Firms are also more likely to report having no investment planned (12%) than EIBIS 2019 (7%).

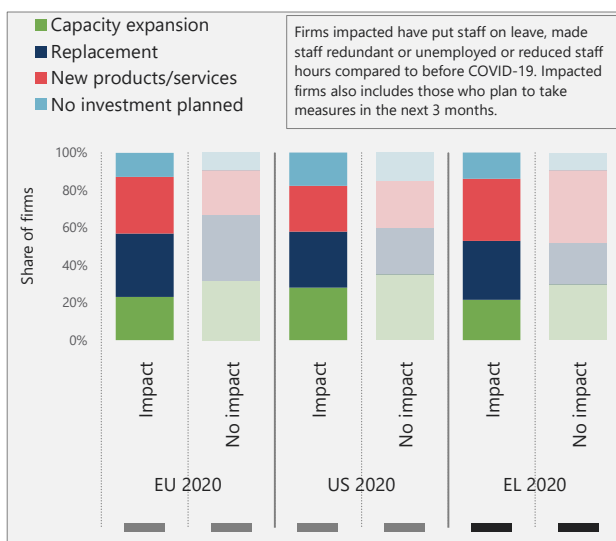
The overall future investment priorities are broadly similar across all sectors and sizes of firms. However, construction firms are more likely to have no investment planned than manufacturing firms (17% and 7%, respectively).



Q. Looking ahead to the next 3 years, which is your investment priority (a) replacing existing buildings, machinery, equipment, IT; (b) expanding capacity for existing products/services; (c) developing or introducing new products, processes, services?

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/ refused responses)

## COVID-19 IMPACT ON PRIORITIES



Q. Looking ahead to the next 3 years, which is your investment priority (a) replacing existing buildings, machinery, equipment, IT; (b) expanding capacity for existing products/services; (c) developing or introducing new products, processes, services?

Q. Thinking about the impact of coronavirus, have you had to put staff temporarily on leave, make staff redundant or unemployed or reduce the number of hours they work compared to before the coronavirus pandemic?

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/ refused responses)

For firms impacted by COVID-19, developing new products or services is the most cited investment priority (33%), followed by replacing capacity (31%). These are in line with the EU average (30% and 34%, respectively).

Among firms not impacted by COVID-19, developing new products or services is the most cited investment priority (39%), higher than the EU average (24%).

The pattern of priorities is broadly similar across both impacted and non impacted firms within Greece.

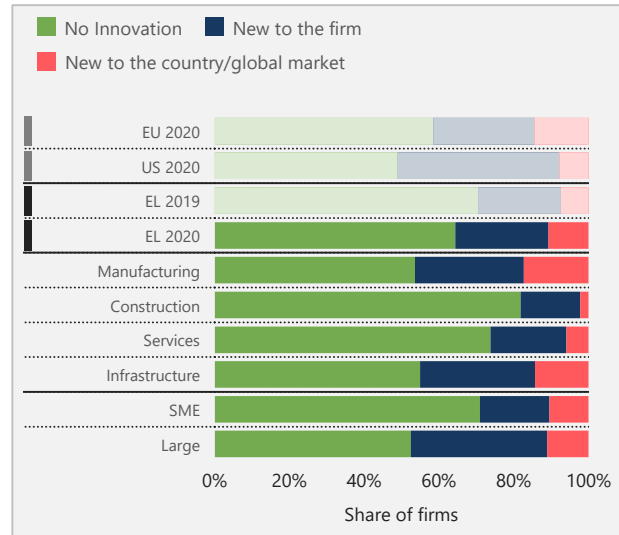
# Innovation Activities

## INNOVATION ACTIVITY

Over one-third of all firms (36%) developed or introduced new products, processes or services as part of their investment activities. This includes 11% of firms reporting innovations new to the country or the global market. Though slightly increased from 2019, the share of firms undertaking innovation activity remains lower than the EU average (42%).

Construction and service firms are less likely to be innovating (18% and 26%, respectively) than manufacturing and infrastructure firms (46% and 45%, respectively).

SMEs are less likely to report innovations (29%) than large firms (48%).

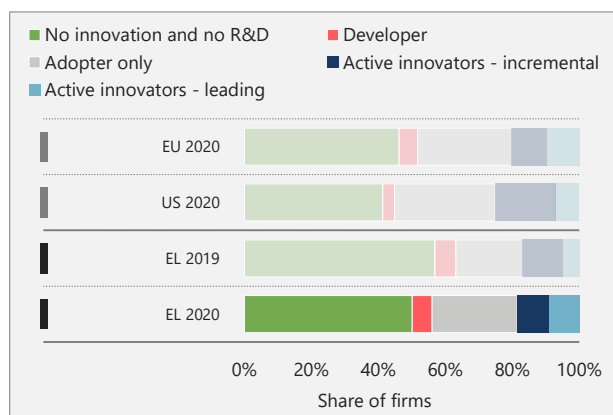


Q. What proportion of total investment was for developing or introducing new products, processes, services?

Q. Were the products, processes or services new to the company, new to the country, new to the global market?

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/ refused responses)

## INNOVATION PROFILE



Q. What proportion of total investment was for developing or introducing new products, processes, services?

Q. Were the products, processes or services new to the company, new to the country, new to the global market?

Q. In the last financial year, how much did your business invest in Research and Development (including the acquisition of intellectual property) with the intention of maintaining or increasing your company's future earnings?

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)

When firms' innovation and research and development behaviour is profiled more widely, 19% of firms in Greece are classified as 'active innovators' (i.e. firms that invested in R&D). Only six percent fit under 'developers' (i.e. firms that developed new products or services). This profile is broadly in line with Greece in EIBIS 2019 and the EU average.

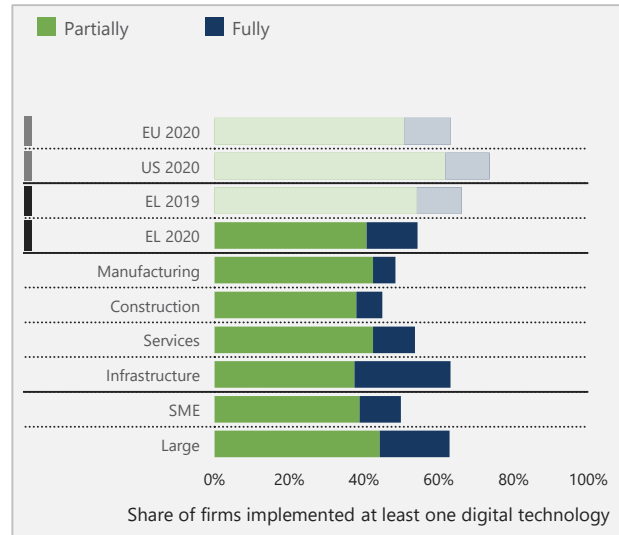
The 'No innovation and no R&D' group comprises firms that did not introduce any new products, processes or services in the last financial year. The 'Adopter only' introduced new products, processes or services but without undertaking any of their own research and development effort. 'Developers' are firms that did not introduce new products, processes or services but allocated a significant part of their investment activities to research and development. 'Incremental' and 'Leading innovators' have introduced new products, processes and services and also invested in research and development activities. The two profiles differ in terms of the novelty of the new products, processes or services. For incremental innovators these are 'new to the firm'; for leading innovators these are 'new to the country/world'.

# Innovation Activities

## IMPLEMENTATION OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

Greek firms report lower levels of implementation of digital technologies (54%) compared to both EIBIS 2019 (66%) and the EU average (63%). This is true in all sectors except infrastructure, in which firms are the most likely to have implemented at least one digital technology (63%).

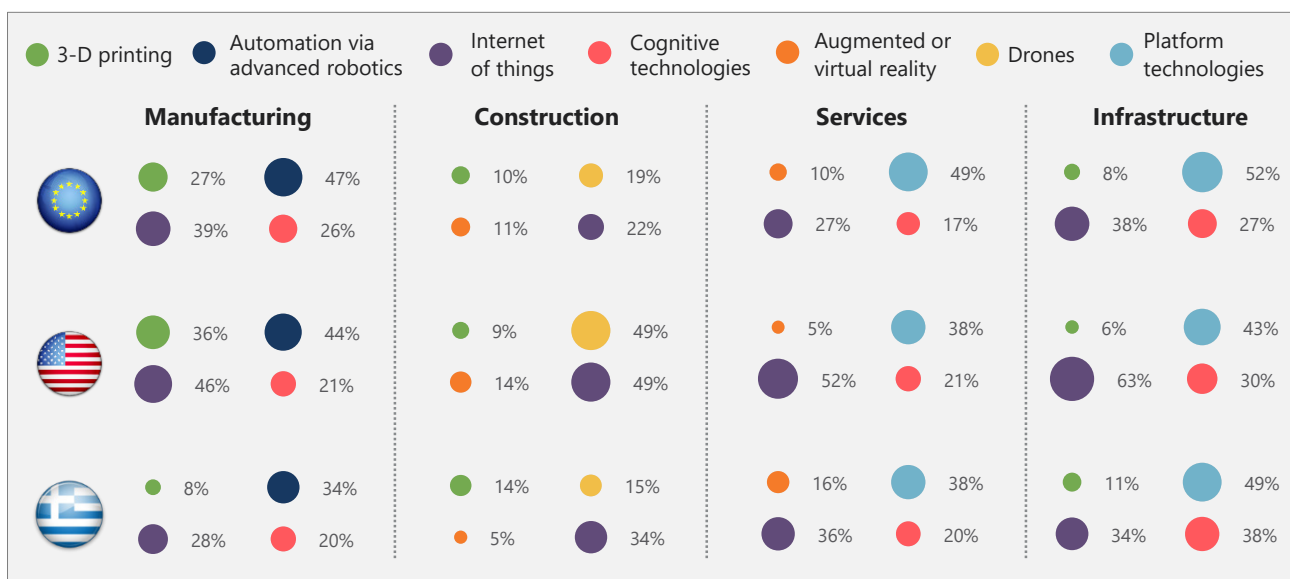
Construction firms are the least likely to have implemented at least one digital technology (45%).



Q, Can you tell me for each of the following digital technologies if you have heard about them, not heard about them, implemented them in parts of your business, or whether your entire business is organised around them?

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/ refused responses)

## DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES BY SECTOR



Q, Can you tell me for each of the following digital technologies if you have heard about them, not heard about them, implemented them in parts of your business, or whether your entire business is organised around them?

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)

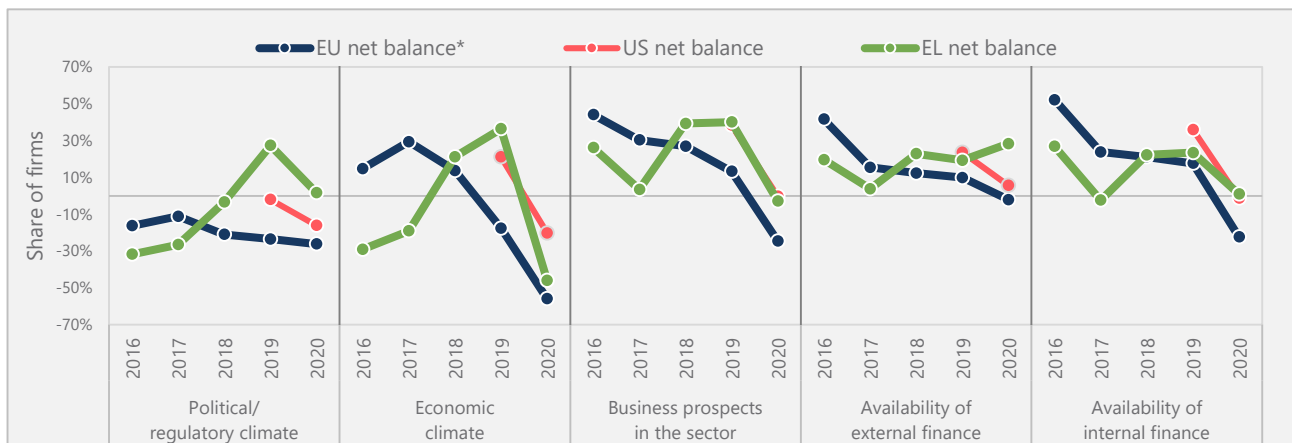
Reported shares combine implemented the technology 'in parts of business' and 'entire business organized around it'

# Drivers And Constraints

## SHORT TERM FIRM OUTLOOK

Firms have on balance become more pessimistic about the short-term outlook, with the exception of the availability of external finance. More firms in Greece expect the economic climate to deteriorate than improve in the next year, in marked contrast to EIBIS 2019. Consistent with this view, business

prospects deteriorated, which is further consistent with a worsening outlook for internal finance. With many firms hesitating to invest, the positive turn on external finance may have as much to do with policy support as with reduced appetite for it under prevailing conditions.



Q. Do you think that each of the following will improve, stay the same, or get worse over the next twelve months?

\*Net balance is the share of firms seeing improvement minus the share of firms seeing a deterioration

Base: All firms

## SHORT TERM FIRM OUTLOOK BY SECTOR AND SIZE (NET BALANCE %)



Please note: green figures are positive, red figures are negative

Q. Do you think that each of the following will improve, stay the same, or get worse over the next twelve months?

\*Net balance is the share of firms seeing improvement minus the share of firms seeing a deterioration

Base: All firms

On balance, firms are negative rather than positive about the economic climate across all sectors and sizes of firms.

The positive assessment of the availability of external finance across sectors and sizes needs to be appreciated in light of the reduced demand for investment, which reduces demand for external financing for investment purposes.

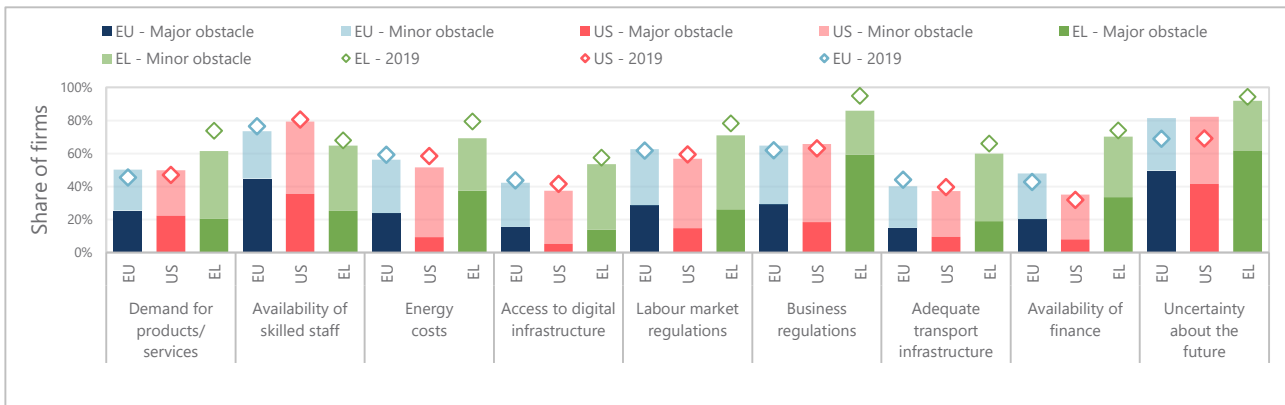
# Drivers And Constraints

## LONG TERM BARRIERS TO INVESTMENT

For all issues asked about, firms in Greece are more likely than their EU peers to consider the long-term barriers, except for the availability of skilled staff, which firms in Greece report as less likely to be an obstacle than their EU peers.

Uncertainty about the future is the most cited long

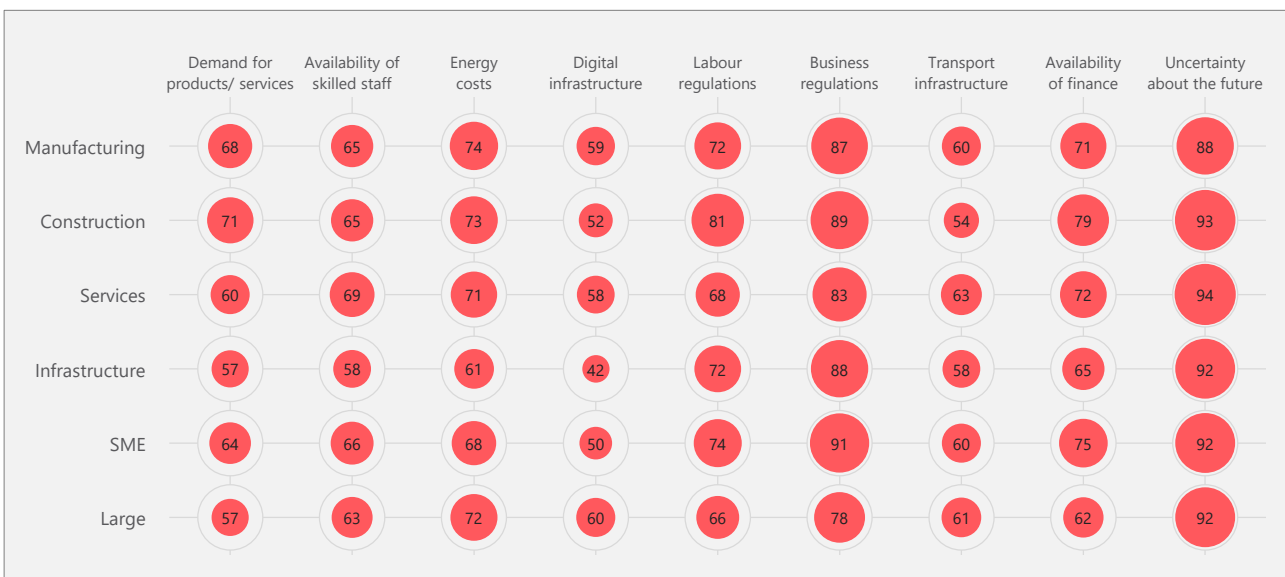
term barrier to investment (92%). Fewer firms cite each of the following issues as a barrier compared with EIBIS 2019: business regulations (86%, down from 95%), demand for products or services (62%, down from 74%), energy costs (69%, down from 79%) and labour market regulations (71%, down from 78%).



Q. Thinking about your investment activities in Greece, to what extent is each of the following an obstacle? Is it a major obstacle, a minor obstacle or not an obstacle at all?

Base: All firms (data not shown for those who said not an obstacle at all/don't know/refused)

## LONG TERM BARRIERS BY SECTOR AND SIZE



Q. Thinking about your investment activities in Greece, to what extent is each of the following an obstacle? Is it a major obstacle, a minor obstacle or not an obstacle at all?

Reported shares combine 'minor' and 'major' obstacles into one category

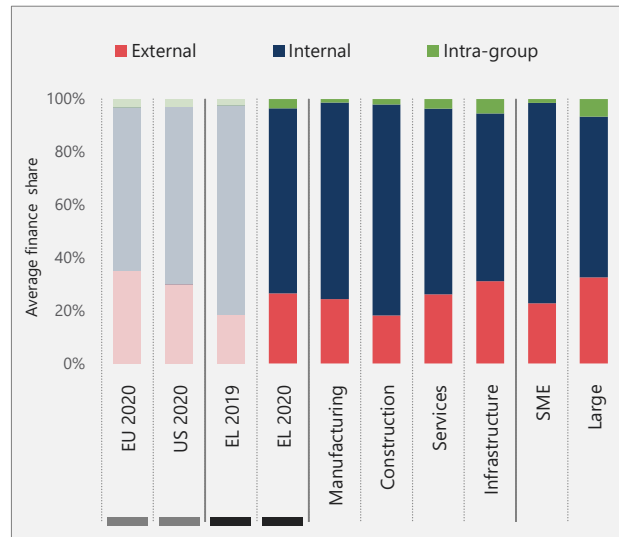
Base: All firms (data not shown for those who said not an obstacle at all/don't know/refused)

# Investment Finance

## SOURCE OF INVESTMENT FINANCE

Firms in Greece funded one quarter of their investment through external finance in the past financial year (26%), up from 18% in EIBIS 2019. This remains well below the EU average (35%).

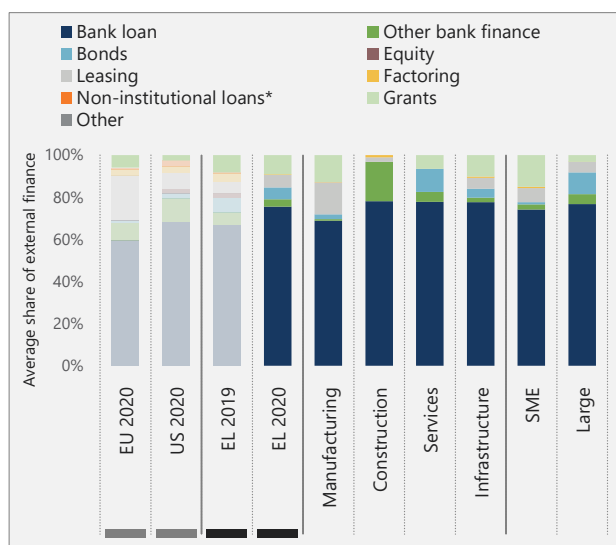
SMEs report a higher share of internal finance (76%) than large firms (61%).



Q. What proportion of your investment was financed by each of the following?

Base: All firms who invested in the last financial year (excluding don't know/ refused responses)

## TYPE OF EXTERNAL FINANCE USED FOR INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES



Bank loans continued to make up the highest share of external finance (75%), up slightly from EIBIS 2019 (67%), and higher than the EU average (59%).

Manufacturing firms had the highest share of finance from leasing or hire purchase (15%).

A non-negligible share of SME financing was grant-based (15%), with manufacturing (13%) and infrastructure (10%) sectors also drawing from this.

Q. Approximately what proportion of your external finance does each of the following represent?

\*Loans from family, friends or business partners

Base: All firms who used external finance in the last financial year (excluding don't know/ refused responses)

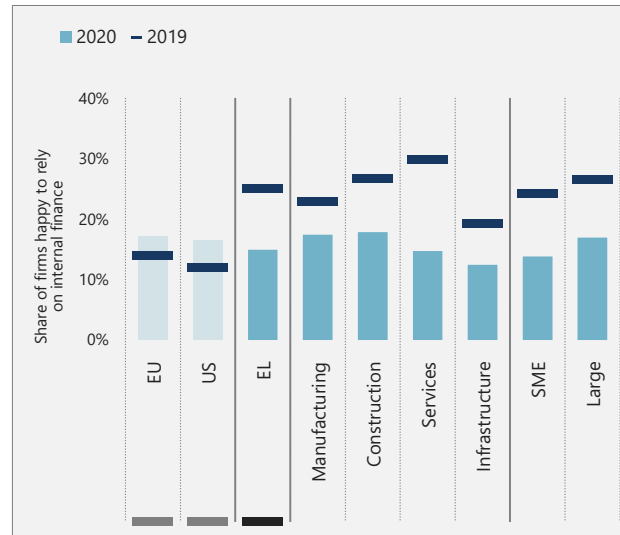


# Investment Finance

## SHARE OF FIRMS HAPPY TO RELY EXCLUSIVELY ON INTERNAL SOURCES TO FINANCE INVESTMENT

Fewer firms in Greece were happy to rely exclusively on internal sources to finance investment compared to EIBIS 2019 (15% and 25%, respectively). However, this proportion is line with the EU average (17%).

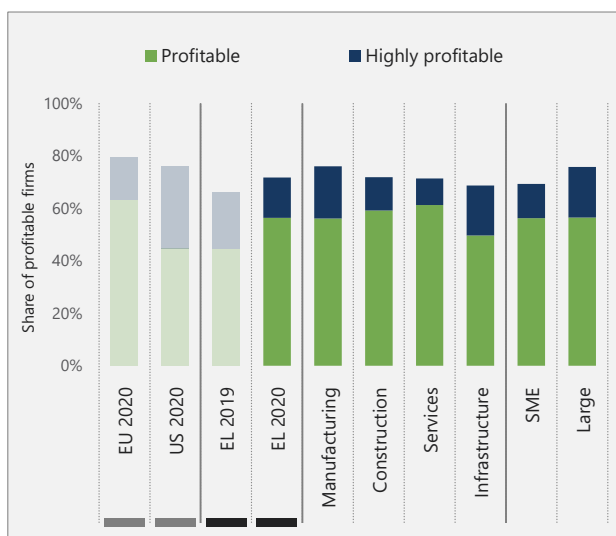
There is no significant variation across the sectors or firm size classes.



Q. What was your main reason for not applying for external finance for your investment activities? Was happy to use internal finance/didn't need the finance

Base: All firms

## SHARE OF PROFITABLE FIRMS



Almost three-quarters (72%) of Greek firms report to have made a profit in the last financial year. This is similar to EIBIS 2019 (66%), but below the EU average (80%).

Among those, 15% of firms report being highly profitable, which is slightly below EIBIS 2019 (22%) but in line with the EU average (16%).

There is no significant variation between the sectors or firm size classes.

Q. Taking into account all sources of income in the last financial year, did your company generate a profit or loss before tax, or did you break even? Highly profitable is defined as profits/turnover of 10% or more

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused)

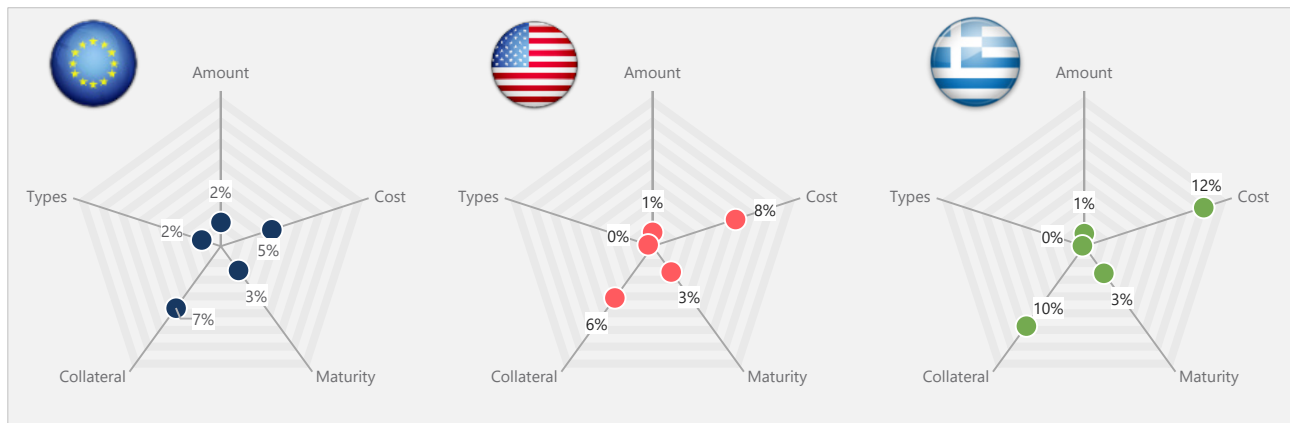
# Access To Finance

## DISSATISFACTION WITH EXTERNAL FINANCE RECEIVED

Firms that used external finance in the past financial year are on balance satisfied with the amount, cost, maturity, collateral and type of finance received.

The highest levels of dissatisfaction are with the cost of finance (12%), followed by collateral requirements (10%). Dissatisfaction with the cost of finance is above the EU average (12% versus 5%).

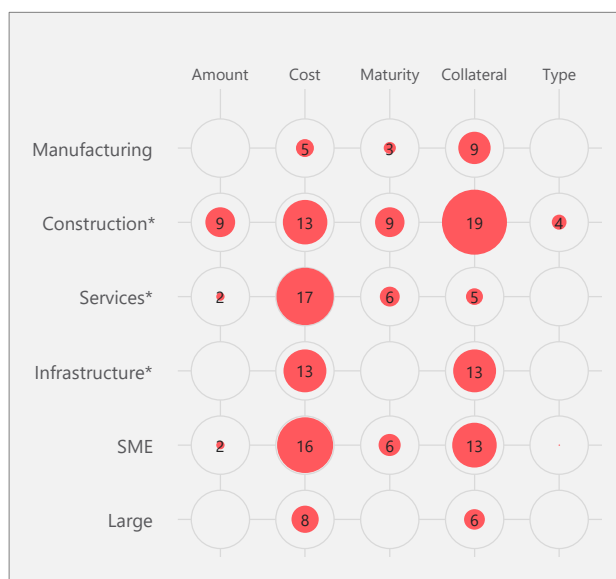
### Share of dissatisfied firms



Q. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with ...?

Base: All firms who used external finance in the last financial year (excluding don't know/refused responses)

## DISSATISFACTION BY SECTOR AND SIZE (%)



Overall levels of dissatisfaction are low, firms in the construction sector show the highest level of dissatisfaction regarding collateral requirements (19%).

Q. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with ...?

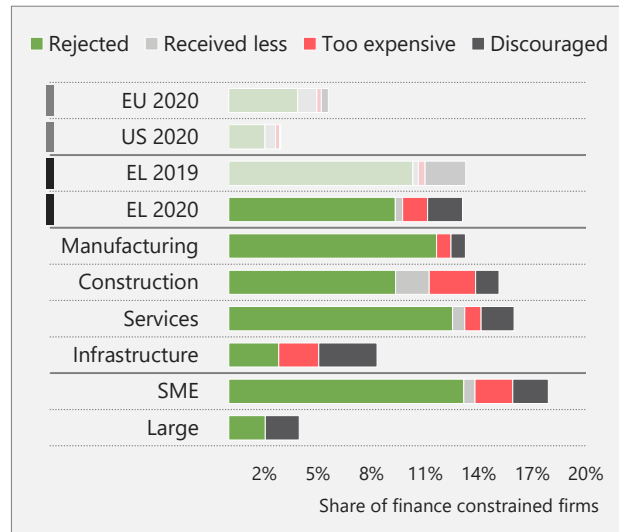
Base: All firms who used external finance in the last financial year (excluding don't know/ refused responses) \*Caution very small base size less than 30

# Access To Finance

## SHARE OF FINANCE CONSTRAINED FIRMS

Over one in ten firms (13%) in Greece could be considered finance constrained in 2019. This is in line with EIBIS 2019 (13%) and remains well above the EU average (6%).

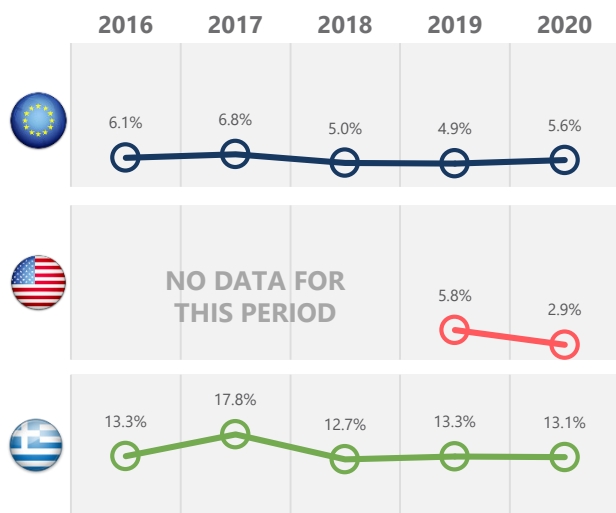
SMEs were more likely to be finance constrained compared with large firms (18% and 4% respectively).



*Finance constrained firms include: those dissatisfied with the amount of finance obtained (received less), firms that sought external finance but did not receive it (rejected) and those who did not seek external finance because they thought borrowing costs would be too high (too expensive) or they would be turned down (discouraged)*

Base: All firms

## FINANCING CONSTRAINTS OVER TIME



Firms in Greece remained considerably more likely to be finance constrained than the EU average.

The share of external finance constrained firms is unchanged since EIBIS 2018 in both Greece and the EU overall.

Base: All firms

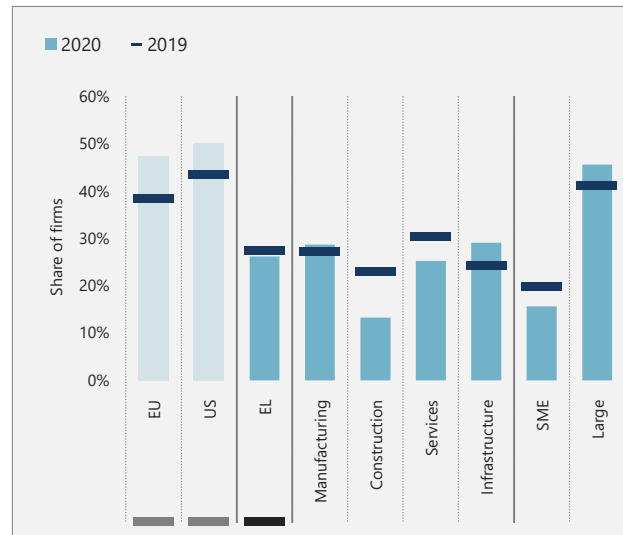
# Energy Efficiency

## SHARE OF FIRMS INVESTING IN MEASURES TO IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Greece performs poorly in terms of investment to improve energy efficiency compared to the European average. Only one quarter of firms (26%) were investing in measures to improve energy efficiency, in line with EIBIS 2019 (27%) but well below the EU average (47%).

The share of construction firms investing in measures to improve energy efficiency (13%) was lower than for manufacturing firms (29%) and infrastructure firms (29%).

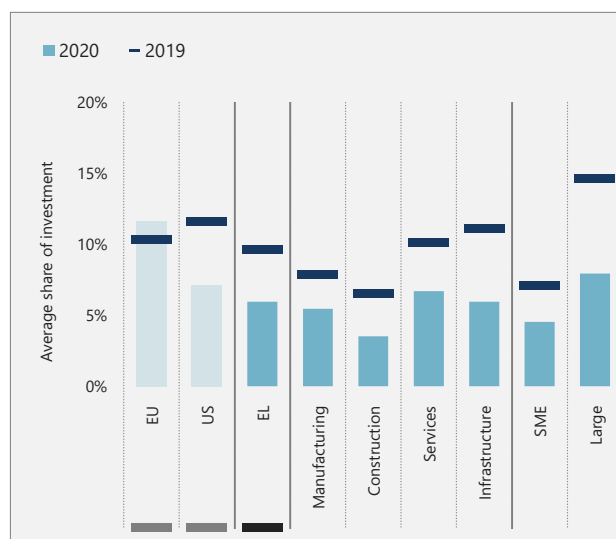
Overall, SMEs were less likely to be investing in energy efficiency improvements (16%), while large firms were more likely to be doing so (46%).



Q. What proportion of total investment in the last financial year was primarily for measures to improve energy efficiency in your organisation?

Base: All firms

## AVERAGE SHARE OF INVESTMENT IN MEASURES TO IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY



On average, firms in Greece used only 6% of their total investment in the last financial year to improve energy efficiency, down from 10% in EIBIS 2019. This is below the EU average (12%).

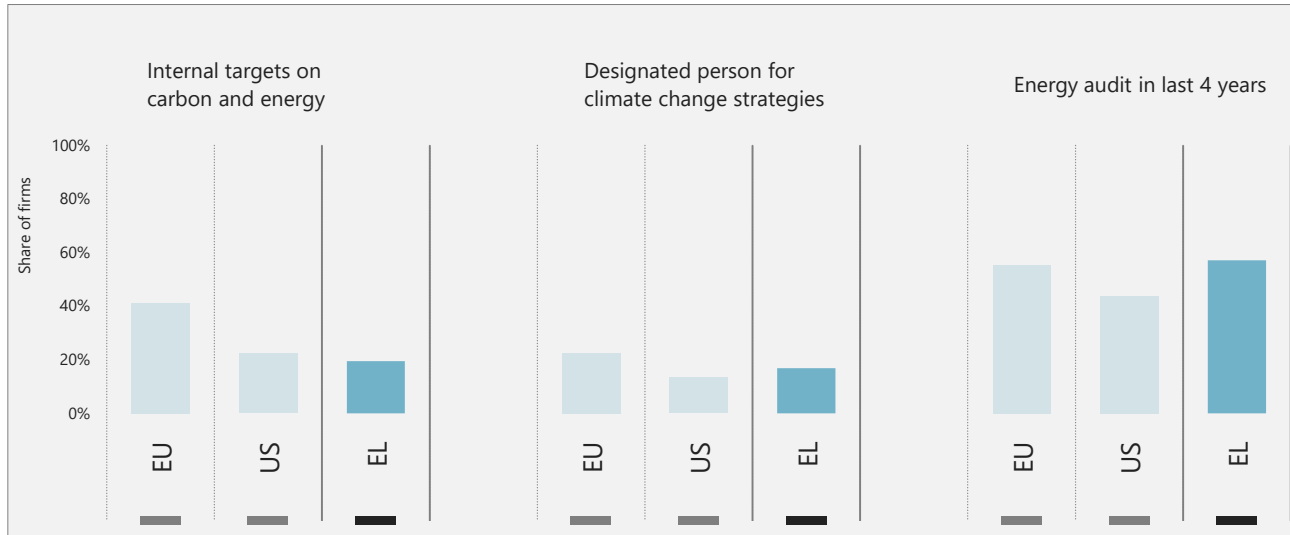
The average share of investment across sectors and size of firms is broadly similar.

Q. What proportion of total investment in the last financial year was primarily for measures to improve energy efficiency in your organisation?

Base: All firms who had invested in the last financial year (excluding don't know/refused responses)

# Energy Efficiency

## ENERGY TARGETS, MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL AUDIT



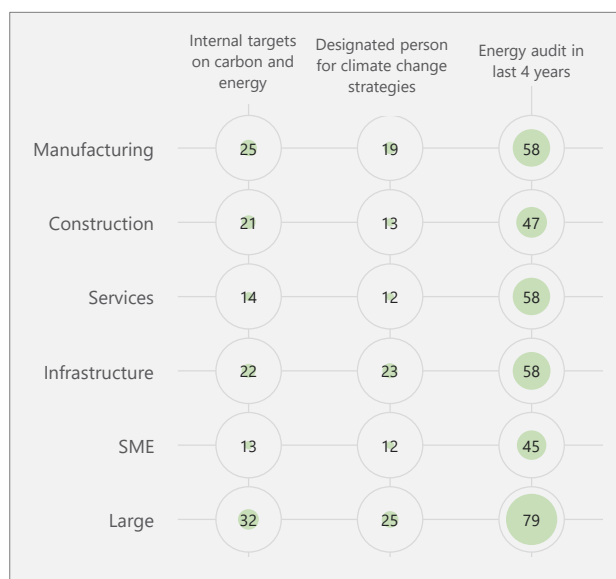
Q. In 2019 and under normal conditions, did your company set and monitor internal targets on carbon emissions and energy consumption?

Q. In 2019 and under normal conditions, did your company have a designated person responsible for defining and monitoring climate change strategies?

Q. And can I check, in the past four years has your company had an energy audit? By this, I mean an assessment of the energy needs and efficiency of your company's building or buildings

Base: All firms

## ENERGY TARGETS, MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL AUDIT BY SECTOR AND SIZE



Despite Greece being in line with the EU average in terms of share of firms having conducted energy audits over the past four years (57% and 55% respectively), they are much less likely than EU firms to have internal targets on carbon and energy (19% versus 41%) or have a designated person for climate change strategies (17% versus 23%).

Across all three measures, the share of SMEs is lower than the share of large firms.

Q. In 2019 and under normal conditions, did your company set and monitor internal targets on carbon emissions and energy consumption?

Q. In 2019 and under normal conditions, did your company have a designated person responsible for defining and monitoring climate change strategies?

Q. And can I check, in the past four years has your company had an energy audit? By this, I mean an assessment of the energy needs and efficiency of your company's building or buildings

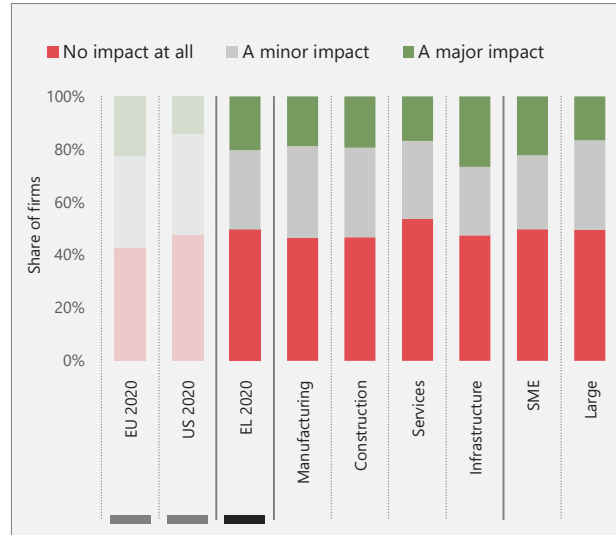
Base: All firms

# Climate Change

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT

Half of Greece's firms (50%) report that climate change and the related changes in weather patterns currently have an impact on their business, which is below the EU average (58%).

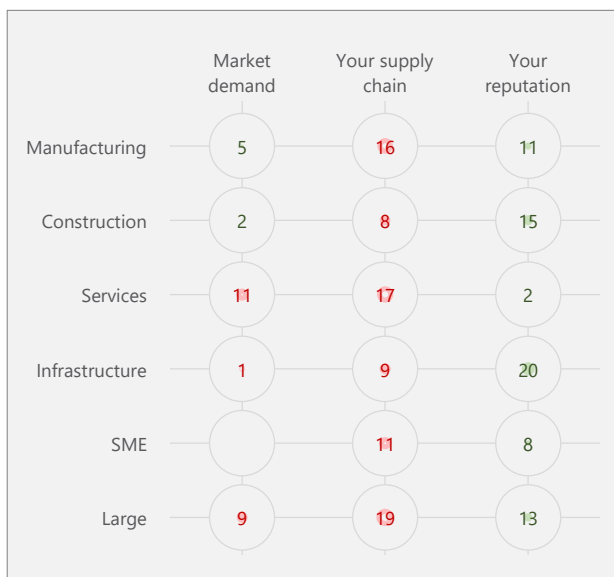
The impact of climate change on businesses is broadly similar across all sectors and sizes of firms.



Q, Thinking about climate change and the related changes in weather patterns, would you say these weather events currently have a major impact, a minor impact or no impact at all on your business?

Base: All firms (excluding don't know / refused responses)

## REDUCTION IN CARBON EMISSIONS OVER NEXT FIVE YEARS BY SECTOR AND SIZE (NET IMPACT %)



Please note: green figures are positive, red figures are negative

Q. What impact will the transition to a reduction of carbon emissions have on the following aspects of your business over the next five years?

Base: All firms

On balance, firms in Greece expect the transition to a low-carbon future to have a positive impact on their reputation, but a negative impact on their supply chain over the next five years. Regarding market demand, only manufacturing and construction firms are slightly more positive than negative.

Comparing sectors, infrastructure firms are the most positive about the impact on their reputation (20%), while services firms and manufacturing firms are the most negative about the impact on their supply chain (17% and 16%, respectively).

\*Net balance is the share of firms seeing positive impact minus the share of firms seeing a negative impact

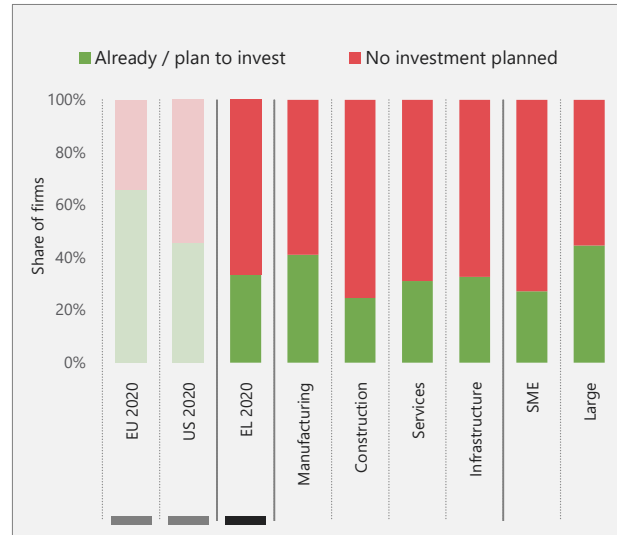
# Climate Change

## INVESTMENT PLANS TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT

Only one third of firms (33%) report already investing or planning to invest to tackle the impact of climate change, which is well below the EU average (67%).

Construction firms are less likely to be investing or planning to invest (25%) than manufacturing firms (41%). Large firms are more likely to be investing or planning to invest (45%), than SMEs (27%).

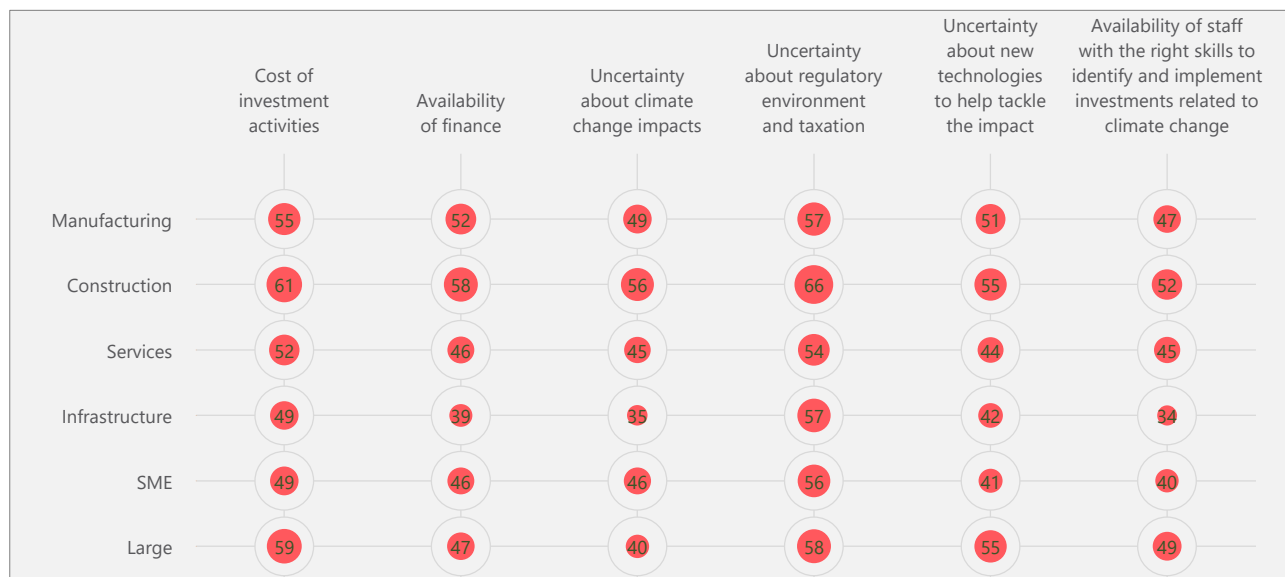
SMEs are less likely than large firms to cite uncertainty about new technologies (41% versus 55%) as barrier to investing in activities to tackle climate change.



Q. Now thinking about investments to tackle the impacts of weather events and reduction in carbon emissions, which of the following applies?

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)

## BARRIERS TO INVESTING IN ACTIVITIES TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE BY SECTOR AND SIZE



Q. To what extent is the following an obstacle to investing in activities to tackle weather events and emissions reduction? Is it a major obstacle, minor obstacle or not at obstacle at all?

Base: All firms (data not shown for those who said not at obstacle at all / don't know / refused)

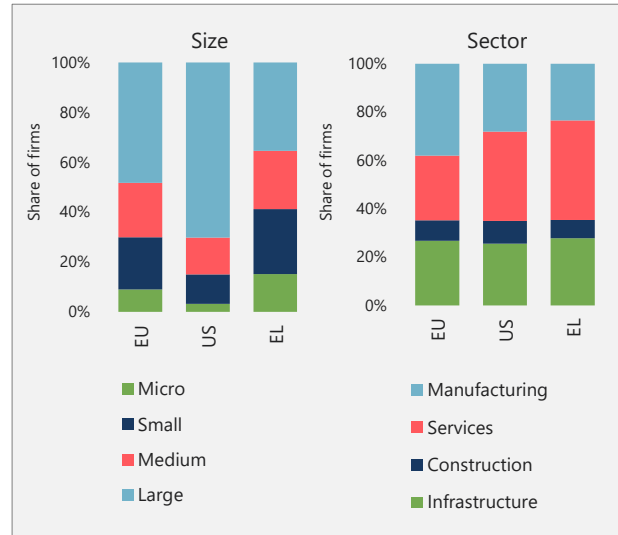
# Profile of Firms

## CONTRIBUTION TO VALUE ADDED

Compared to the EU, micro and small firms in Greece contribute more to value-added (15% and 26%, respectively).

Large firms with 250+ employees account for around a third of value-added (35%) in Greece, below the EU average (48%).

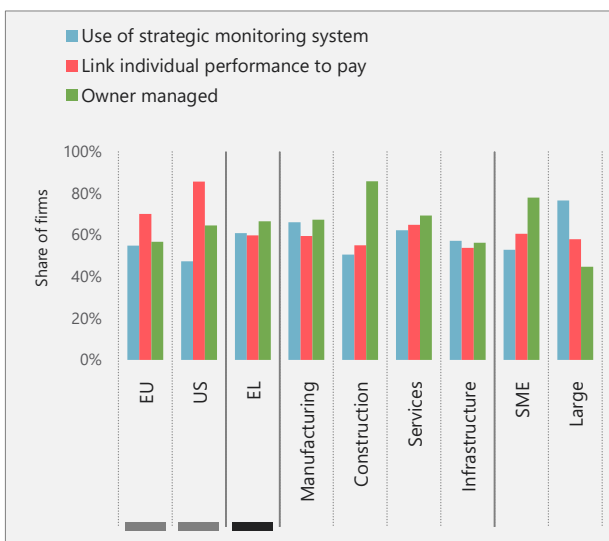
The contribution of the service sector (41%) is higher than the EU average (27%), but conversely the contribution of the manufacturing sector (23%) is lower than the EU average (38%).



The charts reflect the relative contribution to value-added by firms belonging to a particular size class / sector in the population of firms considered. That is, all firms with 5 or more employees active in the sectors covered by the survey. Micro: 5-9 employees; Small: 10-49; Medium: 50-249; Large: 250+

Base: All firms

## FIRM MANAGEMENT



Three fifths (60%) of firms link individual performance to pay, below the EU average (70%).

More than two-thirds (67%) of firms in Greece are owner-managed, higher than the EU average (57%). These firms tend to be SMEs (78%) and in the construction sector (86%).

More firms in Greece report using a strategic monitoring system than in the EU overall (61% versus 55%). Large firms are more likely to use a monitoring system than SMEs (77% versus 53%).

Q. And does your company (a) use a formal strategic business monitoring system (that compares the firm's current performance against a series of strategic key performance indicators) (b) link individual performance with pay?  
Q. Does the CEO/ company head of your firm own or control the firm, or have a family member that owns/controls it?

Base: All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses)



# EIBIS 2020 – Country Technical Details

## SAMPLING TOLERANCES APPLICABLE TO PERCENTAGES AT OR NEAR THESE LEVELS

The final data are based on a sample, rather than the entire population of firms in Greece, so the percentage results are subject to sampling tolerances. These vary with the size of the sample and the percentage figure concerned.

	EU	US	EL	Manufacturing	Construction	Services	Infrastructure	SME	Large	EU vs EL	Manuf vs Constr	SME vs Large
	(11971)	(800)	(403)	(118)	(86)	(116)	(77)	(328)	(75)	(11971 vs 403)	(86 vs 118)	(328 vs 75)
10% or 90%	1.1%	3.5%	2.9%	4.9%	5.5%	4.9%	6.1%	3.0%	6.1%	3.1%	7.4%	6.8%
30% or 70%	1.7%	5.3%	4.4%	7.5%	8.4%	7.5%	9.3%	4.6%	9.3%	4.8%	11.3%	10.3%
50%	1.9%	5.8%	4.9%	8.2%	9.2%	8.2%	10.1%	5.1%	10.1%	5.2%	12.3%	11.3%

## GLOSSARY

<b>Investment</b>	A firm is considered to have invested if it spent more than EUR 500 per employee on investment activities with the intention of maintaining or increasing the company's future earnings.
<b>Investment cycle</b>	Based on the expected investment in current financial year compared to last one, and the proportion of firms with a share of investment greater than EUR 500 per employee.
<b>Manufacturing sector</b>	Based on the NACE classification of economic activities, firms in group C (manufacturing).
<b>Construction sector</b>	Based on the NACE classification of economic activities, firms in group F (construction).
<b>Services sector</b>	Based on the NACE classification of economic activities, firms in group G (wholesale and retail trade) and group I (accommodation and food services activities).
<b>Infrastructure sector</b>	Based on the NACE classification of economic activities, firms in groups D and E (utilities), group H (transportation and storage) and group J (information and communication).
<b>SME</b>	Firms with between 5 and 249 employees.
<b>Large firms</b>	Firms with at least 250 employees.
<b>EIBIS 2019</b>	The previous wave of the EIB Investment Survey, with interviews carried out between April-July 2019.
<b>EIBIS 2020</b>	The current wave of the EIB Investment Survey, with interviews carried out between May-August 2020.

*Note : the EIBIS 2020 overview refers interchangeably to 'the past/last financial year' or to '2019'. Both refer to results collected in EIBIS 2020, where the question is referring to the past financial year, with the majority of the financial year in 2019 in case the financial year is not overlapping with the calendar year 2019.*

# EIBIS 2020 – Country Technical Details

The country overview presents selected findings based on telephone interviews with 403 firms in Greece (carried out between May and August 2020).

**BASE SIZES** (\*Charts with more than one base; due to limited space, only the lowest base is shown)

Base definition and page reference	EU 2020/2019	US 2020/2019	EL 2020/2019	Manufacturing	Construction	Services	Infrastructure	SME	Large
All firms, p. 3, p. 4, p. 6, p. 10, p.11, p. 13, p. 15, p. 16, p. 17, p. 18, p. 19, p. 20	11971/12071	800/803	403/403	118	86	116	77	328	75
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 2	11634/11417	748/711	394/393	116	83	114	75	322	72
All firms with investment plans for the current financial year (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 3 (bottom), p. 4 (top)	9606/NA	643/NA	277/NA	88	57	73	54	217	60
All firms who have invested in the last financial year (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 5 (top)	10138/9716	682/624	310/327	96	67	83	61	245	65
All firms who have invested in the last financial year (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 5 (bottom)	9874/9506	683/620	305/310	95	65	83	59	242	63
All firms (excluding 'Company didn't exist three years ago' responses), p. 6	11949/12042	799/802	403/402	118	86	116	77	328	75
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 7 (top)	11727/11757	787/775	395/389	116	84	112	77	323	72
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 7 (bottom)	11608/0	780/0	393/0	116	83	112	76	322	71
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 8 (top)	11720/11770	769/772	395/393	116	83	113	77	321	74
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 8 (bottom)	9039/8380	600/516	292/290	90	62	78	59	233	59
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 9	11938/11937	799/800	398/390	117	85	115	75	325	73
All firms who have invested in the last financial year (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 12	9255/9008	648/587	290/316	88	66	76	57	232	58
All firms who used external finance in the last financial year (excluding don't know/ refused responses), p. 12	4354/4369	314/252	111/94	37	17	28	29	77	34
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 13	10711/10490	637/605	347/362	103	80	89	71	278	69
All firms who used external finance in the last financial year (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 14*	4310/4292	314/245	110/86	36	17	28	29	76	34
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 18	11898/NA	794/NA	396/NA	117	85	112	76	323	73
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 19	11739/NA	772/NA	389/NA	114	84	112	73	317	72
All firms (excluding don't know/refused responses), p. 20*	11740/11627	777/762	390/394	116	84	109	74	321	68





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# Greece

Overview

## EIB INVESTMENT SURVEY

# 2020