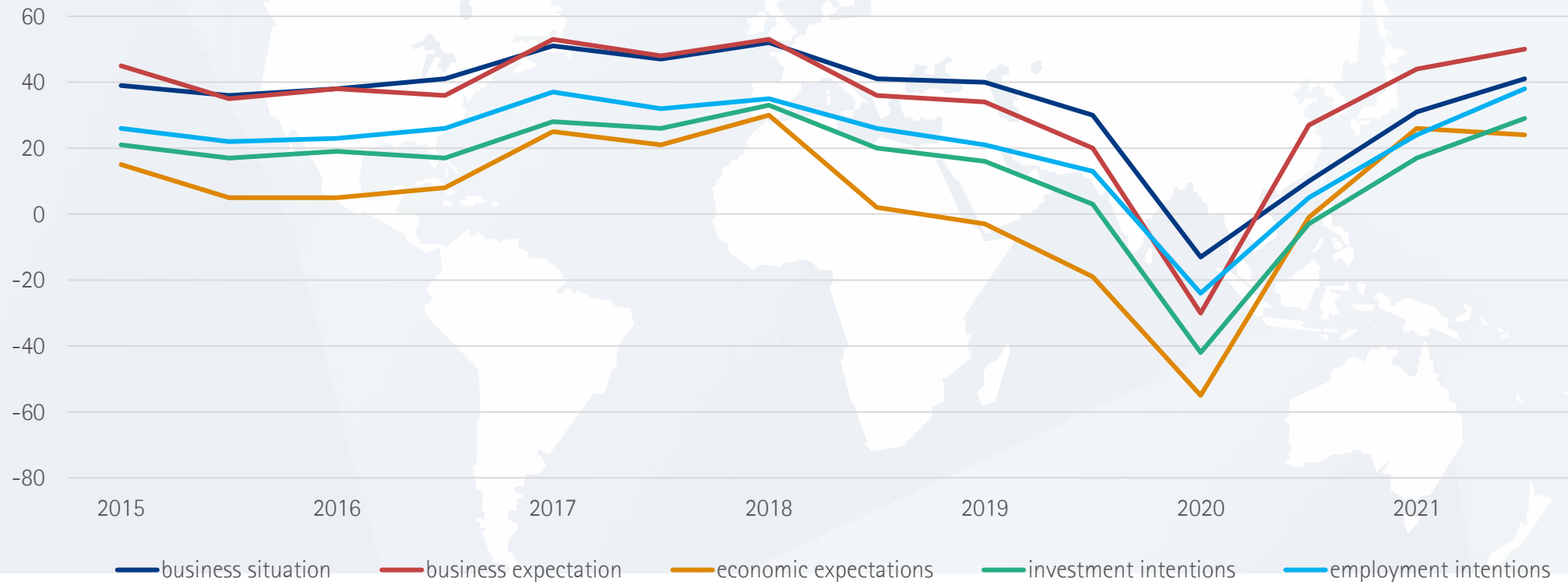


AHK World Business Outlook Fall 2021

The AHK World Business Outlook is based on a survey of member companies of the German Chambers of Commerce Abroad, Delegations and Representative Offices (AHKs). More than 3,200 German companies, branches and subsidiaries as well as companies with close ties to Germany took part in the survey in October 2021.

German companies abroad

Balance in points



Current business situation

Continent / Balance	Fall 2020	Spring 2021	Fall 2021
Worldwide	10	31	41
Eurozone	9	28	46
Other EU, Switzerland, Norway, UK	-17	36	53
Eastern/South Eastern Europe (without EU), Russia, Turkey	36	40	63
Asia/Pacific (excluding China)	-8	25	34
China	31	50	27
North America (=USA, Canada, Mexico)	12	29	45
South and Central America	13	21	26
Africa, Near and Middle East	6	17	33

Business expectations

Continent / Balance	Fall 2020	Spring 2021	Fall 2021
Worldwide	27	44	50
Eurozone	15	42	52
Other EU, Switzerland, Norway, UK	9	37	47
Eastern/South Eastern Europe (without EU), Russia, Turkey	14	35	40
Asia/Pacific (excluding China)	30	50	58
China	41	43	38
North America (=USA, Canada, Mexico)	45	63	53
South and Central America	48	42	42
Africa, Near and Middle East	30	48	57

Economic expectations

Continent / Balance	Fall 2020	Spring 2021	Fall 2021
Worldwide	-1	26	24
Eurozone	-14	21	28
Other EU, Switzerland, Norway, UK	-24	11	14
Eastern/South Eastern Europe (without EU), Russia, Turkey	-35	0	2
Asia/Pacific (excluding China)	-1	33	40
China	34	64	16
North America (=USA, Canada, Mexico)	5	48	32
South and Central America	13	1	-17
Africa, Near and Middle East	1	21	36

Economic expectations

■ better ■ constant ■ bad

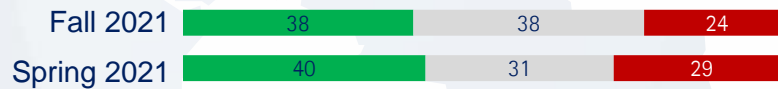
Worldwide



Eurozone



Other EU, Switzerland, Norway, UK



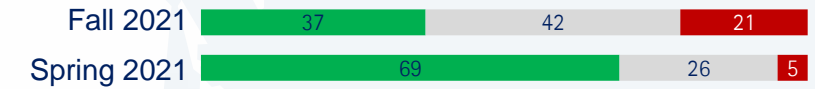
Eastern/Southeastern Europe (without EU), Russia, Turkey



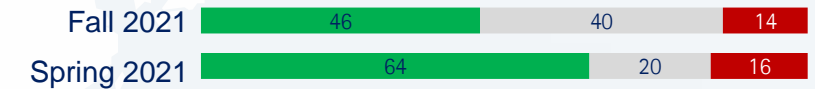
Asia/Pacific (without China)



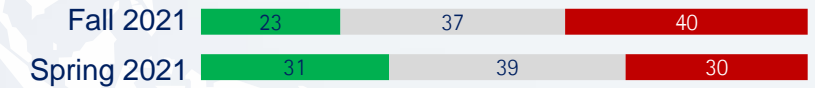
Greater China



North America USA, Canada, Mexico



South and Central America



Africa, Near and Middle East



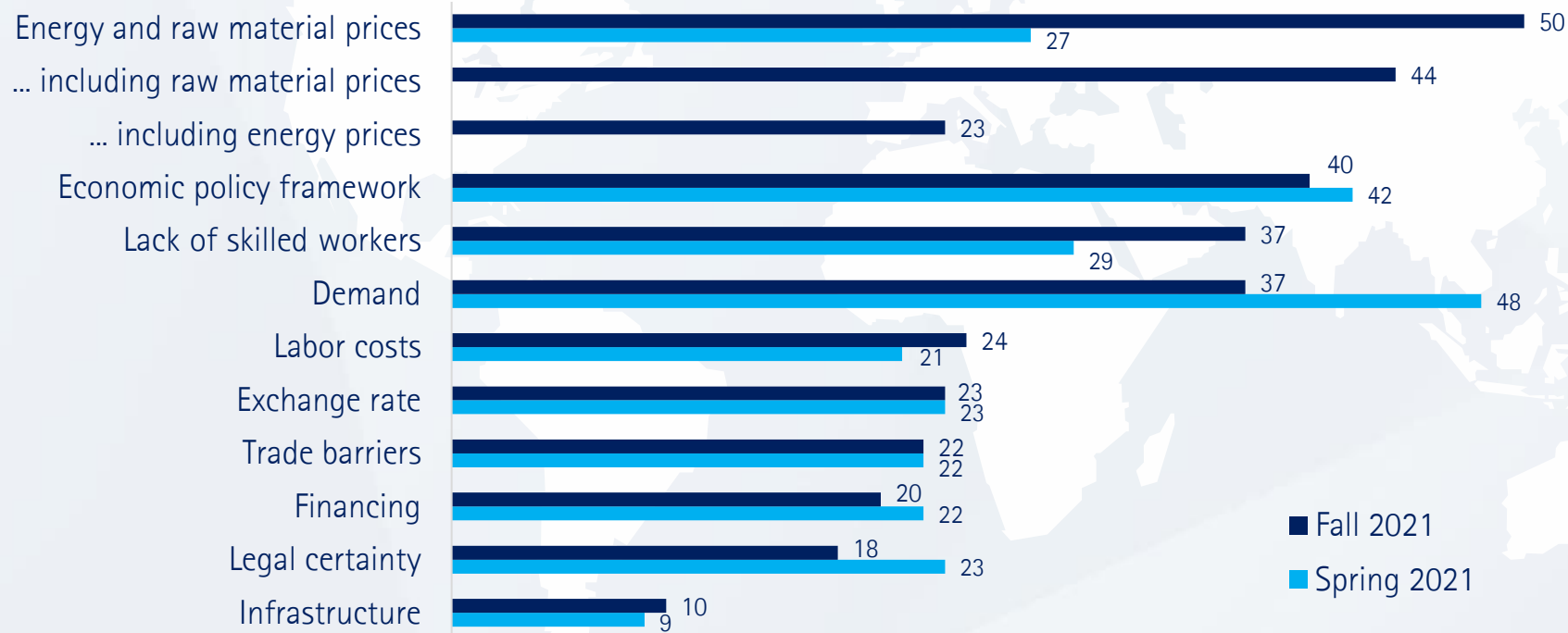
Investment intentions

Continent / Balance	Fall 2020	Spring 2021	Fall 2021
Worldwide	-3	17	29
Eurozone	-10	11	35
Other EU, Switzerland, Norway, UK	-12	17	29
Eastern/South Eastern Europe (without EU), Russia, Turkey	-22	7	22
Asia/Pacific (excluding China)	-8	14	27
China	13	29	20
North America (=USA, Canada, Mexico)	3	28	37
South and Central America	5	9	16
Africa, Near and Middle East	3	22	34

Employment intentions

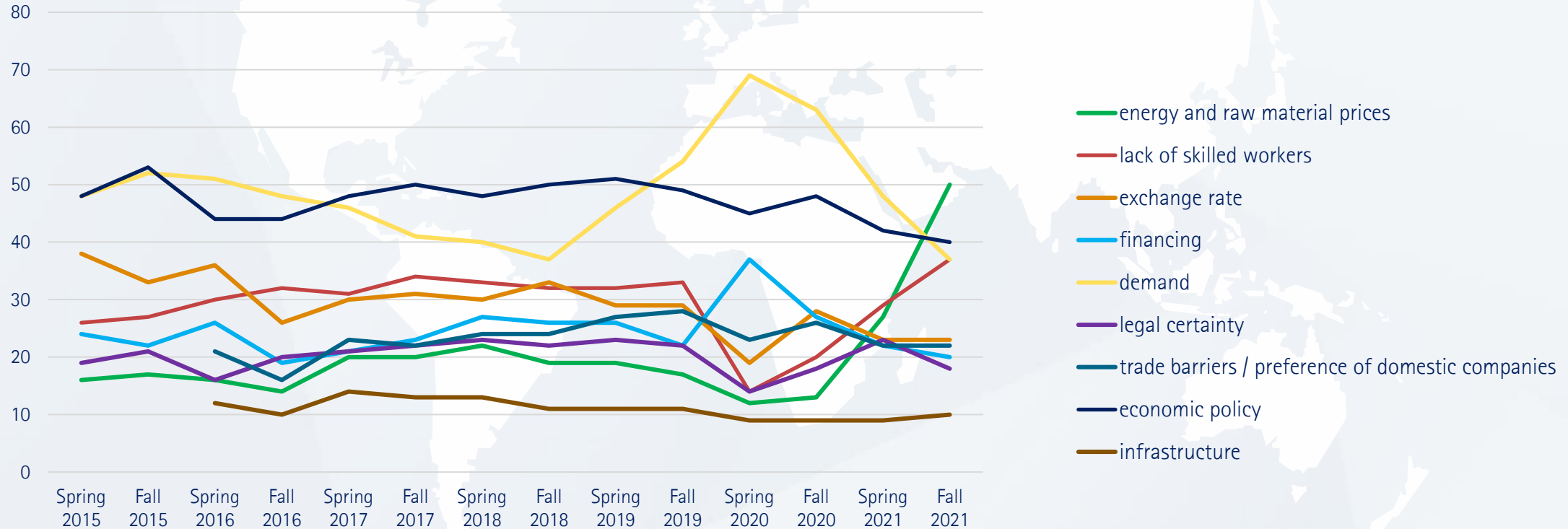
Continent / Balance	Fall 2020	Spring 2021	Fall 2021
Worldwide	5	24	38
Eurozone	-4	17	36
Other EU, Switzerland, Norway, UK	13	28	41
Eastern/South Eastern Europe (without EU), Russia, Turkey	-2	19	41
Asia/Pacific (excluding China)	-6	18	40
China	22	35	41
North America (=USA, Canada, Mexico)	16	43	40
South and Central America	6	9	19
Africa, Near and Middle East	1	18	34

Risks for the global economy in the coming twelve months (in percent)



*Energy and raw material prices
were queried as one category in spring 2021*

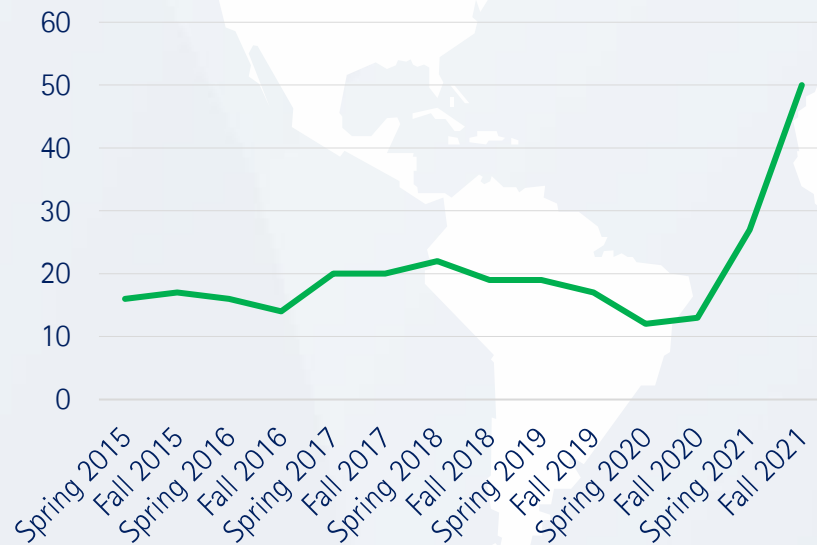
Risks for the global economy in the coming twelve months (in percent)



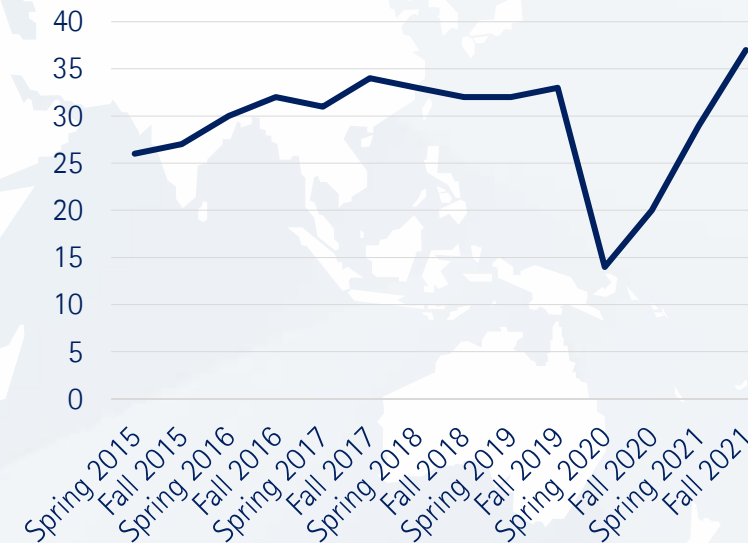
Risks of energy and raw material prices and lack of skilled workers

Worldwide share of mentions in percent

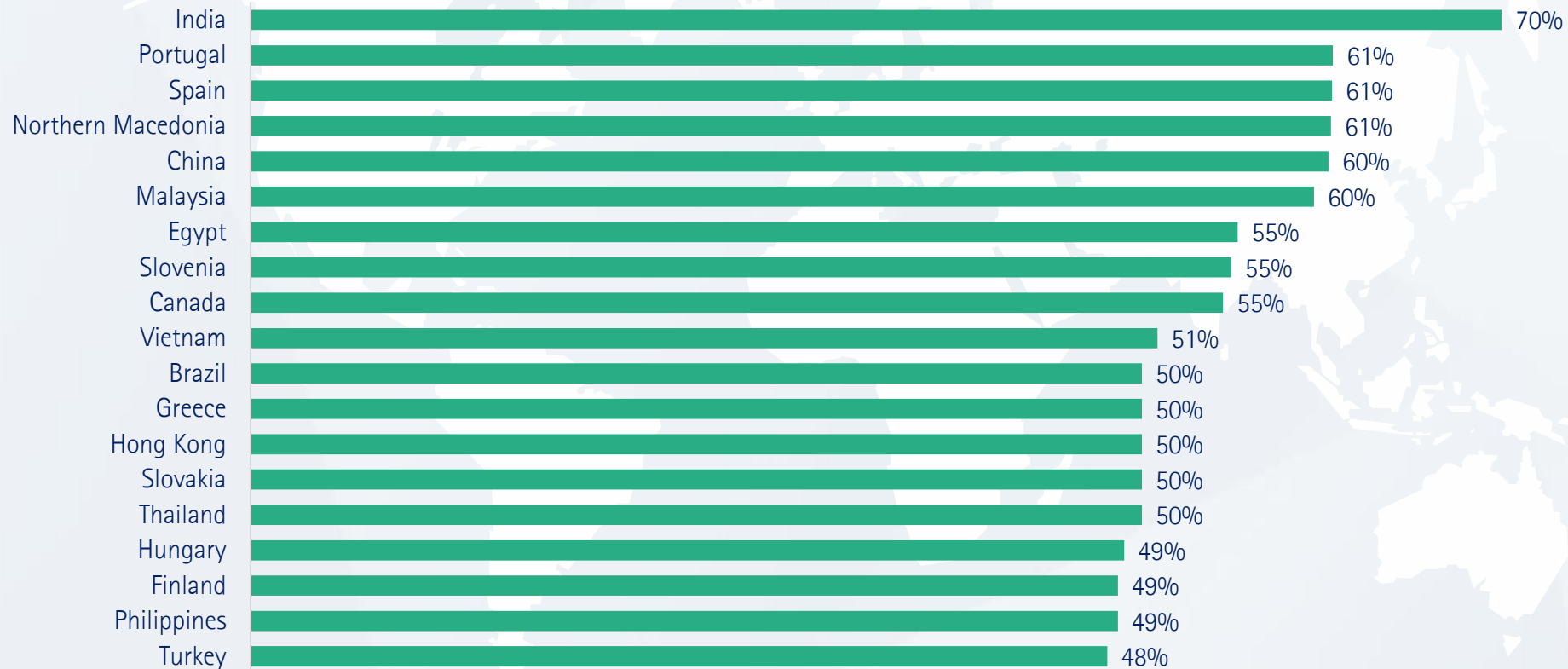
Business risk energy and raw material prices in %



Business risk lack of skilled workers in %



Business risk raw material prices



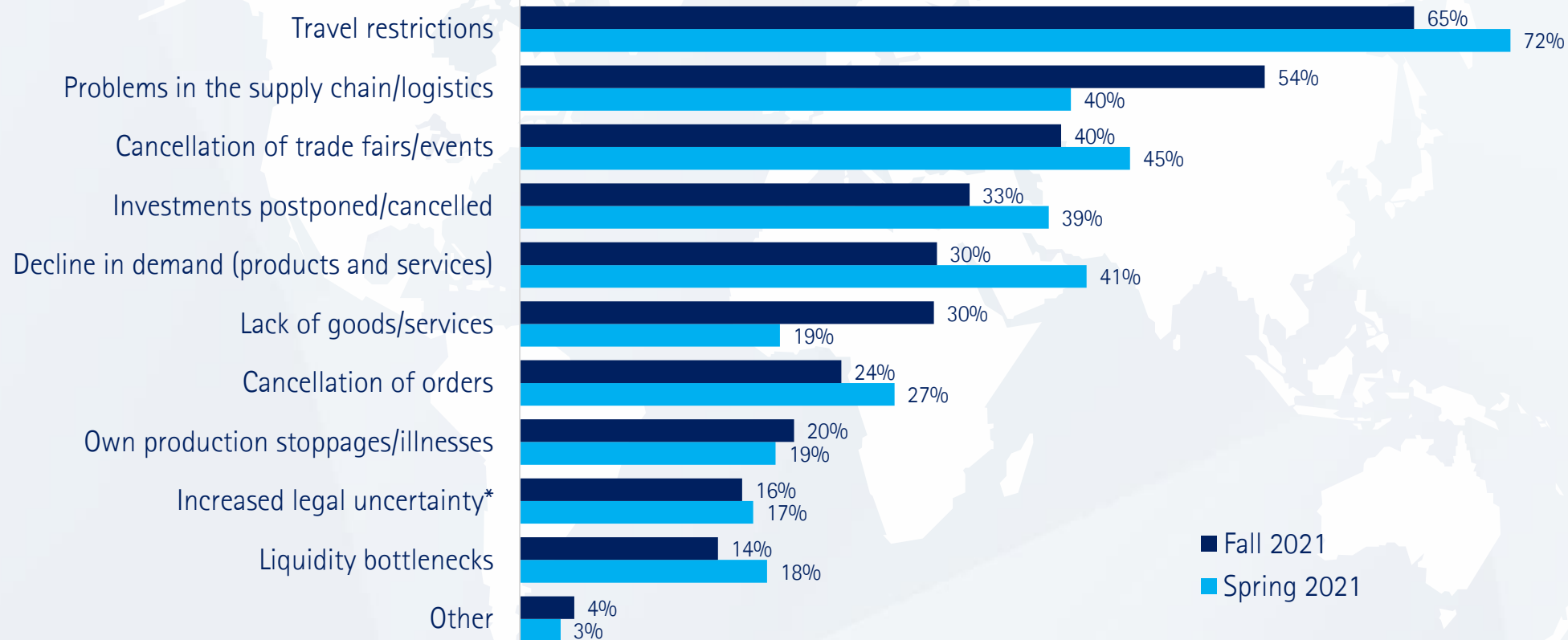
Business risks part 1

Continent (shares in percent)	Demand	Funding	Labour costs	Lack of skilled workers	Exchange rate
World total	37%	20%	24%	37%	23%
Asia/Pacific (excluding China)	45%	20%	20%	35%	31%
Africa, Near and Middle East	36%	34%	19%	25%	32%
Eastern/South Eastern Europe (without EU), Russia, Turkey	33%	22%	24%	39%	35%
South and Central America	40%	25%	19%	22%	36%
Eurozone	36%	14%	27%	44%	10%
Other EU, Switzerland, Norway, UK	29%	13%	35%	54%	13%
China	40%	10%	29%	38%	11%
North America (=USA, Canada, Mexico)	39%	18%	24%	39%	22%

Business risks part 2

Continent (shares in percent)	Energy prices	Raw material prices	Legal certainty	Economic policy framework	Infrastructure	Trade barriers / preferential treatment of domestic companies
World total	23%	44%	18%	40%	10%	22%
Asia/Pacific (excluding China)	17%	49%	16%	39%	14%	30%
Africa, Near and Middle East	23%	45%	16%	39%	11%	33%
Eastern/South Eastern Europe (without EU), Russia, Turkey	25%	40%	24%	48%	5%	23%
South and Central America	18%	35%	36%	63%	11%	18%
Eurozone	31%	47%	12%	36%	9%	15%
Other EU, Switzerland, Norway, UK	28%	37%	15%	28%	7%	17%
China	18%	55%	14%	38%	10%	25%
North America (=USA, Canada, Mexico)	13%	45%	16%	34%	13%	18%

Effects of the Covid-19 Pandemic on companies



What are the current effects of the Corona pandemic on companies?

Part 1

Continent (shares in percent)	Missing goods / services	Own production losses / sickness absences	Cancellation of orders	Cancellation of trade fairs / events	Travel restrictions
Worldwide	30%	20%	24%	40%	65%
Africa, Near and Middle East	25%	20%	30%	46%	67%
Asia/Pacific (excl. CN)	29%	28%	30%	44%	82%
Eurozone	35%	16%	20%	40%	59%
Greater China	34%	5%	14%	39%	85%
North America	31%	23%	23%	46%	70%
Eastern/Southeastern Europe (without EU, RU, TR)	30%	33%	20%	38%	68%
Other EU, Switzerland, Norway, UK	34%	10%	21%	28%	53%
South and Central America	23%	20%	24%	34%	50%

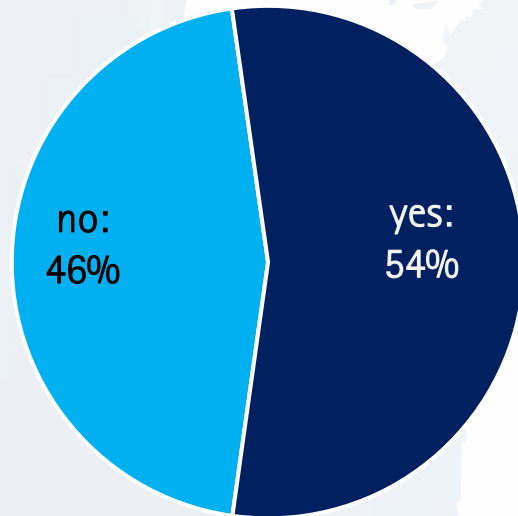
What are the current effects of the Corona pandemic on companies?

Part 2

Continent (shares in percent)	Less demand for my products and services	Liquidity bottlenecks	Problems in the supply chain / logistics	Investments are postponed / cancelled	Increased legal uncertainty
Worldwide	30%	14%	54%	33%	16%
Africa, Near and Middle East	36%	22%	50%	33%	14%
Asia/Pacific (excl. CN)	36%	15%	61%	40%	16%
Eurozone	25%	9%	53%	31%	13%
Greater China	21%	8%	64%	16%	19%
North America	28%	15%	66%	40%	13%
Eastern/Southeastern Europe (without EU, RU, TR)	27%	15%	51%	35%	20%
Other EU, Switzerland, Norway, UK	25%	7%	55%	23%	15%
South and Central America	41%	26%	47%	37%	25%

Diversification of supply chains

Do you plan to diversify your supply chain or have you already made adjustments?



thereof



Search for new suppliers

72%

Change of supply routes

32%

Relocation of production

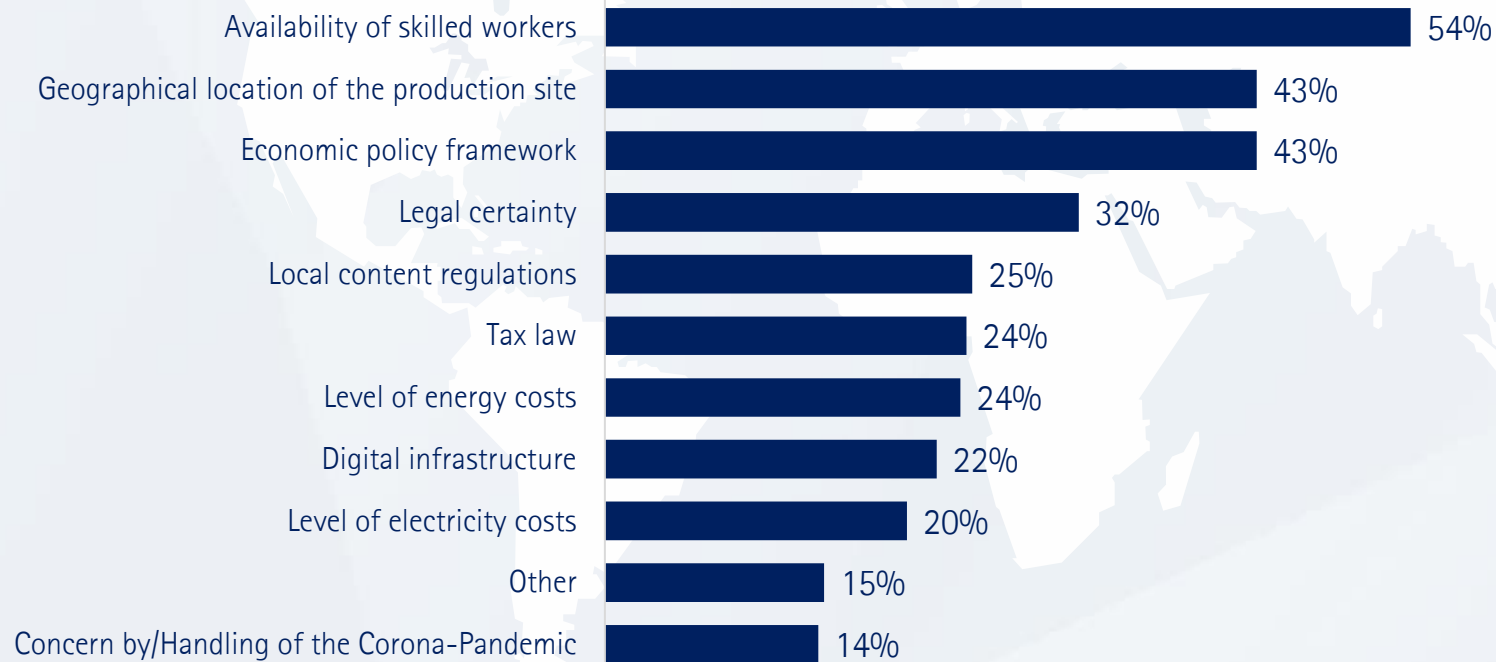
15%

Yes, Other

11%

Diversification of supply chains

What factors are particularly relevant for you when looking for new production locations?



Diversification of supply chains

What factors are particularly relevant to you when choosing new/additional suppliers?



How important are environmental and social sustainability goals in your daily work?

Worldwide results in %	Yes	No	Not specified
We are following the global discussion on these issues, but have not yet felt any practical effects.	64%	16%	20%
We are preparing for the implementation of the German Supply Chain Sourcing Obligations Act.	25%	33%	42%
We deal with the expected Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM - CO ₂ border adjustment mechanism) of the EU.	25%	36%	39%
We are directly or indirectly affected by EU emissions trading.	31%	40%	30%
The issue of sustainable corporate financing is becoming increasingly important for us.	46%	27%	27%
Our company has set its own sustainability goals, which we are working to implement.	67%	16%	17%
Local environmental or climate protection legislation requires us to make considerable efforts.	37%	38%	25%