

SME CONFIDENCE INDEX

Optimism amongst businesses in the Irish SME sector continues



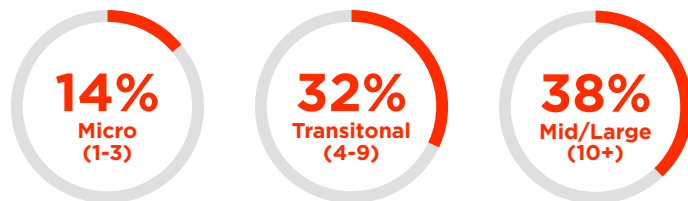
SURVEY PROFILES



EMPLOYMENT

Rate of job growth at its highest level since 2014

Companies who indicated employment levels were higher than in Q3 2020



SUSTAINABILITY

Concern around the Climate Bill peaks amongst exporters



53% of exporters are very or somewhat concerned

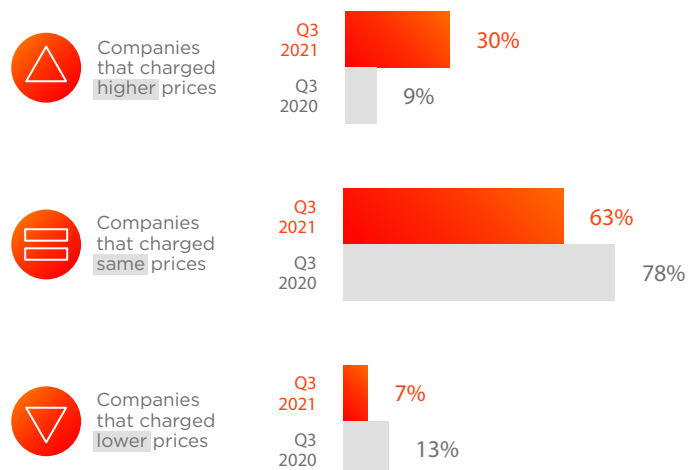


38% of indigenous only are very or somewhat concerned



PRICING AND PROFITS

The vast majority are looking to maintain price levels but the proportion looking to charge higher prices is at a record high



LINKED FINANCE TRENDS

Optimism amongst Irish SMEs is reflected in Linked Finance's own trends



Strongest performing sectors in 2021:

