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# 04 Country summaries

## Australia

### Confidence

Australian businesses are optimistic about their own prospects scoring their confidence at 63.71 points out of 100. They are more confident than many other countries when it comes to their national economy scoring it at 54.52, 2.89 points above the global average. Similarly, confidence in the global economy was 2.47 points above the global average at 54.15. This suggests that Australian business decision-makers believe that both the national and global economies are improving rather than declining.

### Predictions for growth

Australian business optimism also resulted in predictions for growth over the coming year. Over half of businesses (53%) anticipate their turnover will grow by an average of 0.6% in the next year. While 40% say the number of people their business employs will increase by 2.7 people on average in the same time period.

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### Attitudes to risk

Australian confidence has also seen businesses more open to risk. Over half of business decision makers (53%) described themselves as risk-seekers, 4% above the global average of 49%.

### Exporting

Among the most confident, were those businesses operating beyond their domestic market. Nearly half of those surveyed (42%) currently do business in countries outside their own, stating that exports account for 21% of turnover on average. Indeed,

exporters say the last year has been a good one with 41% seeing their level of exports increase and just 11% saying they have fallen. Furthermore, the majority (60%) expect turnover to increase by 3.5% in the next year.

However, many businesses do not feel they are supported in their ambitions to grow their exports. Less than a fifth (19%) say they receive the support they need from government, with over a third (34%) saying the one thing the government should do to help them grow exports is to provide greater financial incentives.