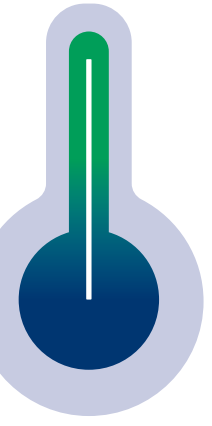




Overview

Northern Ireland



This report provides a snapshot of business performance, outlook, and challenges across a subregional division of the Northern Ireland economy. It is based on responses from 690 participants who identified their council area, drawn from a total of 859 respondents to the 2025 ENI Barometer. Regional findings are presented in the context of the overall Barometer results.¹

Key Themes Across Regions

- **Growth remains positive but uneven**, with many businesses reporting expansion while others continue to face financial strain
- **Financial conditions are generally stable but mixed**, with most firms reporting manageable debt and stable cashflow, alongside a notable minority experiencing weaker or more fragile positions
- **Cost pressures are widespread**, with many businesses continuing to report rising costs as a key challenge
- **Labour market challenges persist**, with hard-to-fill vacancies and ongoing difficulties in accessing the right skills
- **Skills gaps remain a key constraint**, and awareness of available skills development support varies, highlighting an opportunity to improve engagement
- **Productivity performance is mixed**, with relatively few businesses rating their productivity as excellent



¹. Regional comparisons are made against overall survey results and should be interpreted with this in mind.