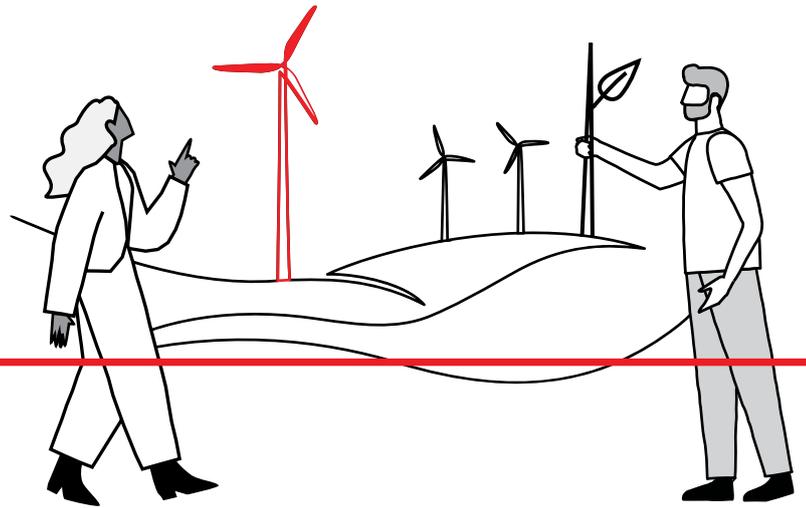


# UBS Investor Sentiment

## Seeking sustainable returns

UK investors seek growth and impact amid uncertainty



### Key findings

**Sustainable investing** | Returns and values drive UK investor interest

**Optimism dips** | But UK investors staying the course

**Labor crunch** | European business owners adjust to workforce challenges

### Sustainable investing (SI)

UK investors see SI as an important part of their portfolio strategy\* ...

... driven by returns and values

71% <sup>+4</sup>

Highly important

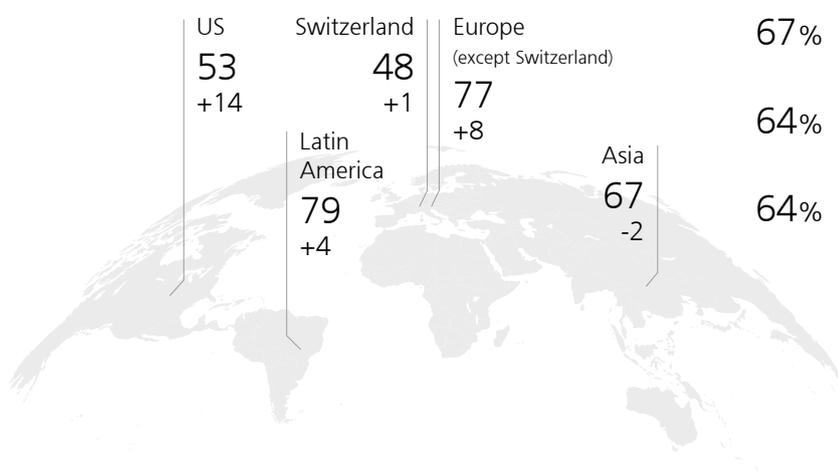
11% <sup>-8</sup>

Somewhat important

18% <sup>+4</sup>

Not important

By region (in %)



79% Maximize returns

67% Maximize impact

64% Invest in companies that further causes important to me

64% Avoid companies that don't align with my views

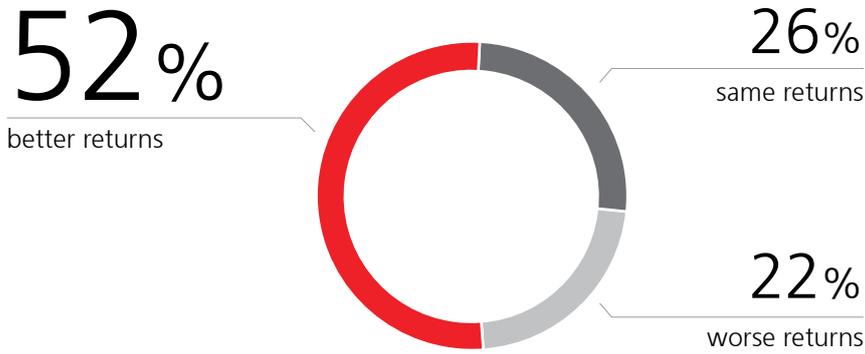
\*Changes since 2020



Jump to [Outlook tracker](#) | [Business owners](#)

## More on sustainable investing

UK investors expect SI returns to match or exceed traditional investing



### Expectations for better SI returns by region (in %)

Latin America	69
Europe (except Switzerland)	54
Asia	53
US	44
Switzerland	30

## Advice wanted



## Top sustainable investment themes for UK investors



46%  
Climate change



45%  
Smart mobility  
(e.g., electric vehicles,  
car-sharing)



40%  
Clean water and  
sanitation

**Outlook tracker**

For UK investors, optimism down on own region's economy for next 12 months\*

**62%**

optimistic  
-10

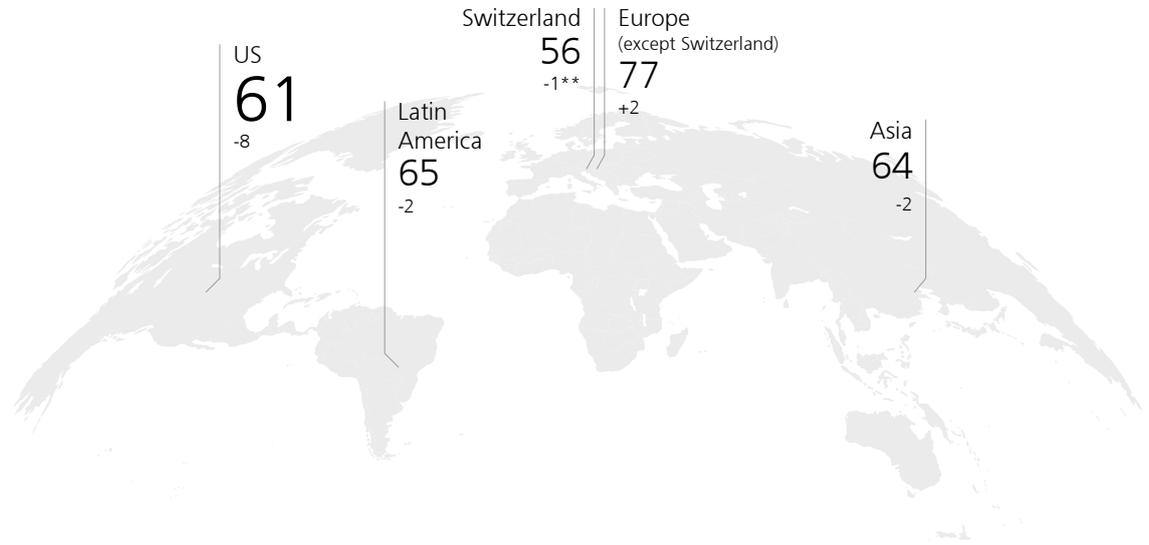
**15%**

neutral  
+1

**23%**

pessimistic  
+9

By region (in %)



Top concerns for UK investors



**52%**

Climate change



**52%**

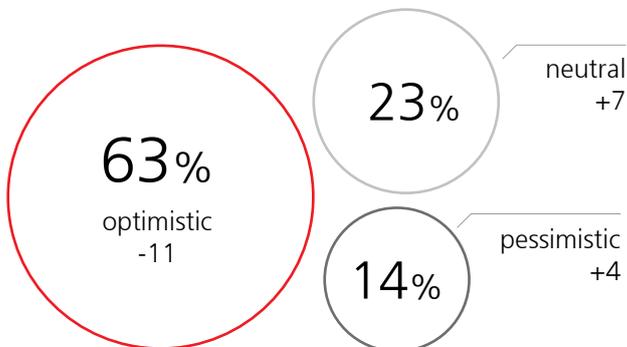
Tax increases



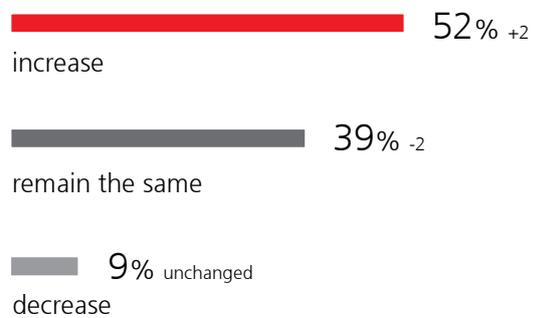
**50%**

National debt

Expectations on stock market for next 6 months down for UK investors\*



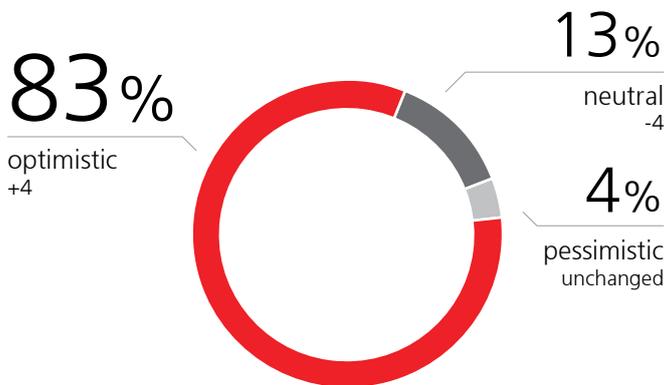
But many still plan to increase investments\*



\*Changes since 2Q21  
\*\*Changes since 1Q21

## European business owners

Confidence in own business for next 12 months remains strong\*

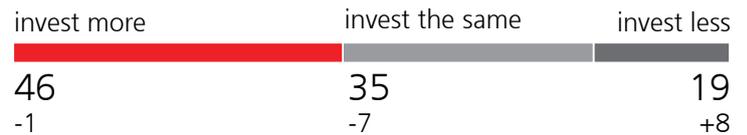


\*Changes since 2Q21

Hiring and business investment plans remain positive for next 12 months\* (in %)



**Net hiring<sup>1</sup>** +25 (+2)



**Net investing<sup>2</sup>** +27 (-9)

<sup>1</sup> Hire minus downsize

<sup>2</sup> Invest more minus invest less

Tight labor market adds to business owners' challenges the past 6 months ...



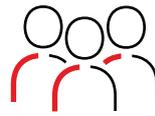
86% Weak customer demand

83% Employee recruiting

82% Wage inflation

81% Employee retention

... but business owners are responding



75% More flexible working hours

74% More flexible working locations

73% More employee benefits

68% Increased base pay

67% Offering new or larger year-end / spot bonuses

Is your portfolio built for sustainable returns? **Talk to your UBS advisor.**

**About the survey:** UBS surveyed 3,004 investors and 1,202 business owners with at least \$1M in investable assets (for investors) or at least \$1M in annual revenue and at least one employee other than themselves (for business owners), from September 28 – October 18, 2021. The global sample was split across 15 markets: Argentina, Brazil, Mainland China, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Singapore, Switzerland, the UAE, the UK and the US. For the 2Q21 results, UBS surveyed 4,200 investors and business owners globally, from June 23 – July 12, 2021.

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