National Bank of Serbia

REPORT ON THE RESULTS OF THE BANK LENDING SURVEY

Third Quarter Report 2025

Belgrade, November 2025

Introductory note

In 2014, the National Bank of Serbia (NBS) launched the bank lending survey. The purpose of this survey is to improve the analysis of developments in the credit market by gaining insight into bank representatives' perspectives of actual and expected changes in bank loan supply and private sector loan demand.

The survey consists of ten questions relating to loans to enterprises and household loans. Respondents are asked about changes in credit standards,[1] factors affecting their change, changes in terms and conditions for loan approval, changes in loan demand and factors affecting loan demand.

This Report presents the **overview of results of the survey carried out from 1 to 20 October 2025.** The survey reports bank representatives' views on changes during the third quarter of 2025 and expected changes in the credit market in the fourth quarter of 2025. The survey included 17 banks, and thus provides the representative coverage of the credit market as these banks account for over 99% of the banking sector balance sheet total.

The survey results are presented as net percentages. As regards credit supply, the net percentage is defined as the difference between the sum of the percentages of banks responding "tightened considerably" and "tightened somewhat" and the sum of the percentages of banks responding "eased considerably" and "eased somewhat". A positive value of the net percentage indicates net tightening, and negative – net easing of credit standards. With regard to the factors, the net percentage is defined as the difference between the percentage of banks responding that a given factor contributed to tightening of credit standards and the percentage of banks responding that the same factor contributed to their easing. As regards demand for loans, the net percentage is defined as the difference between the sum of the percentages of banks responding that demand "increased considerably" and "increased somewhat" and the sum of the percentages of banks responding that it "decreased considerably" and "decreased somewhat". Hence, a positive value of the net percentage indicates a net increase, and negative – a net decrease of demand.

The term "FX" in the analysis of results refers to loans granted in foreign currency or dinars, but indexed to a foreign currency.

[1] Credit standards are written and unwritten internal guidelines or criteria that reflect the credit policy of the bank (e.g. priorities in terms of loans categories, collateral, sector, region, etc.).

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Overview

The results of the October survey show that banks eased their standards for corporate loans in Q3, thanks to the eased standards for dinar loans of all maturities, and long-term FX/FX-indexed loans. Banks expect similar tendencies to extend into Q4.

Banks assess that corporate demand for all types of loans increased in Q3, expecting the same trend for almost all loan types to continue into Q4.

In Q3, banks continued to ease their standards for the approval of household loans and they expect a similar trend into Q4. This was mainly prompted by the banking sector competition, and increased propensity for risk, as well as improved expectations regarding general economic activity.

Banks estimated that a rise in household loan demand was mostly influenced by the need for refinancing, purchase of durable consumer goods, purchase of real estate and relatively improved overall economic situation (a rise in wages and employment), expecting a further rise into Q4 as well.

Table 1: Banks' estimates of individual loan categories' supply and demand

	Supply (credit standards)		**Demand**	
	Q3 2025	Q4 2025 (expectations)	Q3 2025	Q4 2025 (expectations)
Corporate sector	↓	↓	↑	↑
DINAR				
Short-term	↓	↑	↑	↘
Long-term	↓	↓	↑	↑
FX/FX-indexed				
Short-term	↑	↑	↑	↑
Long-term	↓	↓	↑	↑
Household sector	↓	↓	↑	↑
Cash (dinar)	↓	↓	↑	↑
Refinancing (dinar)	↓	↓	↑	↑
Housing (FX)	↘	↓	↑	↑
Consumer (FX)	↓	-	↗	↗

Legend:

↑ Increase in demand (net percentage above 5%)

↑ Tightening of credit standrads (net percentage above 5%)

↗ Increase in demand/tightening of credit standards (net percentage up to 5%)

\- Without change

↘ Decrease in demand/easing of credit standards (net percentage up to 5%)

↓ Decrease in demand (net percentage above 5%)

↓ Easing of credit standrads (net percentage above 5%)

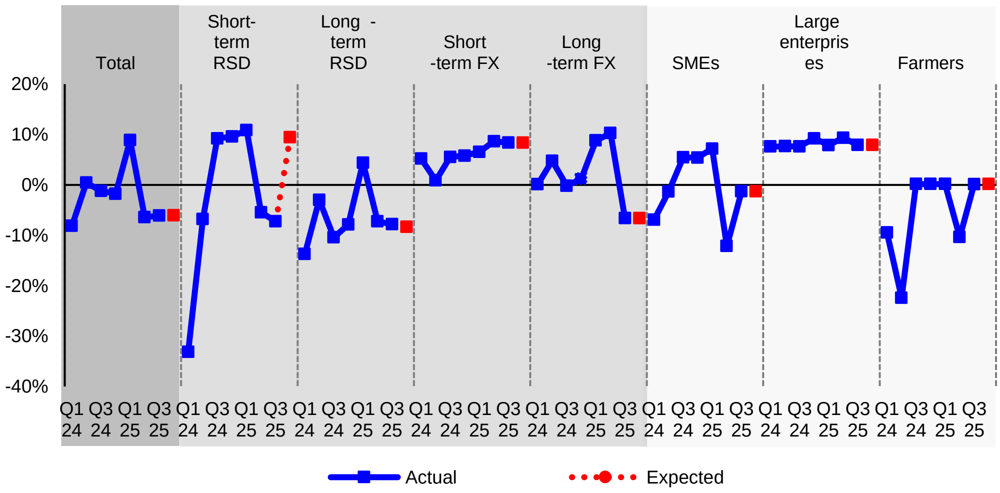
1 Corporate loans

1.1 Change in credit standards and contributing factors

The results of the October survey indicate that in Q3, overall, banks eased their corporate credit standards, in line with the expectations from the previous survey. Standards were eased for dinar loans of all maturities and long-term FX/FX-indexed loans, while standards for short-term FX/FX-indexed loans were tightened. For Q4 banks expect almost the same.

By company size, standards were relaxed for loans to SMEs and slightly tightened for loans to large enterprises, while they stayed unchanged for loans to farmers.

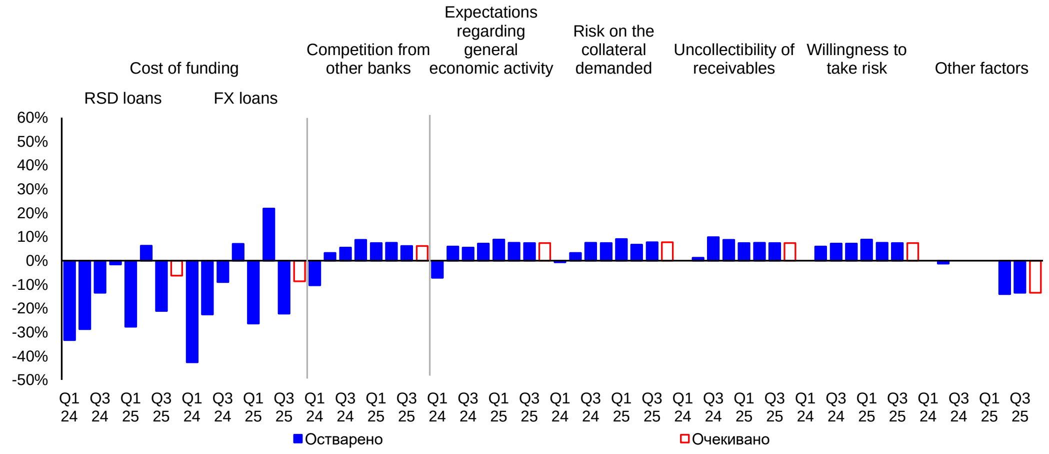
Change in credit standards as applied to the approval of loans or credit lines to enterprises
(net percentage)



Source: NBS.
* Positive value indicates tightening of credit standards and negative - easing.
** The intensity of change is not shown in charts.

Lower funding sources worked towards the easing of standards in Q3, for both dinar and FX/FX-indexed loans. Also, some banks pointed out that standards easing was affected by special campaigns targeting certain client categories. Banking sector competition worked in the opposite direction, as well as increased risk perception and lower risk apetite.

Factors affecting credit standards as applied to the approval of loans or credit lines to enterprises
(net percetage)

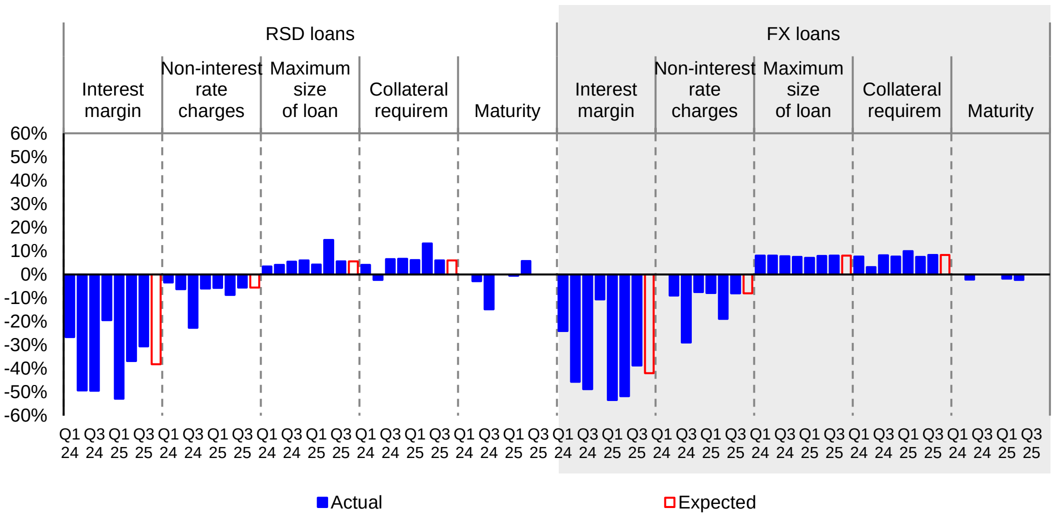


Source: NBS.
* Positive value indicates the contribution of individual factors to the tightening of credit standards and negative - to the easing.
** The intensity of change is not shown in charts..

1.2 Conditions and terms for approving corporate loans

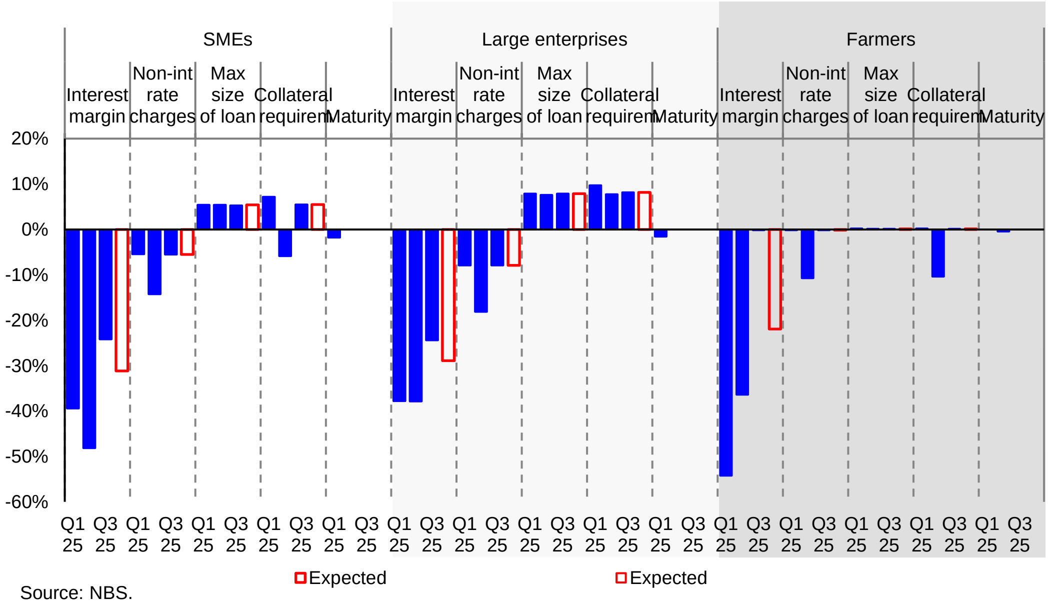
For Q3, banks reported relaxed price conditions for corporate loans – interest margins were lowered as well as fees and commissions. In contrast, maximum loan amount was reduced and collateral requirements were tightened.

Change in conditions and terms for approving loans or credit lines to enterprises
(net percentage)



Source: NBS.
* Positive value indicates tightening of conditions and negative - easing.
** The intensity of change is not shown in charts.

Change in conditions and terms for approving loans or credit lines to enterprises
(net percentage)



Source: NBS.
* Positive value indicates tightening of credit standards and negative - easing.
** The intensity of change is not shown in charts.

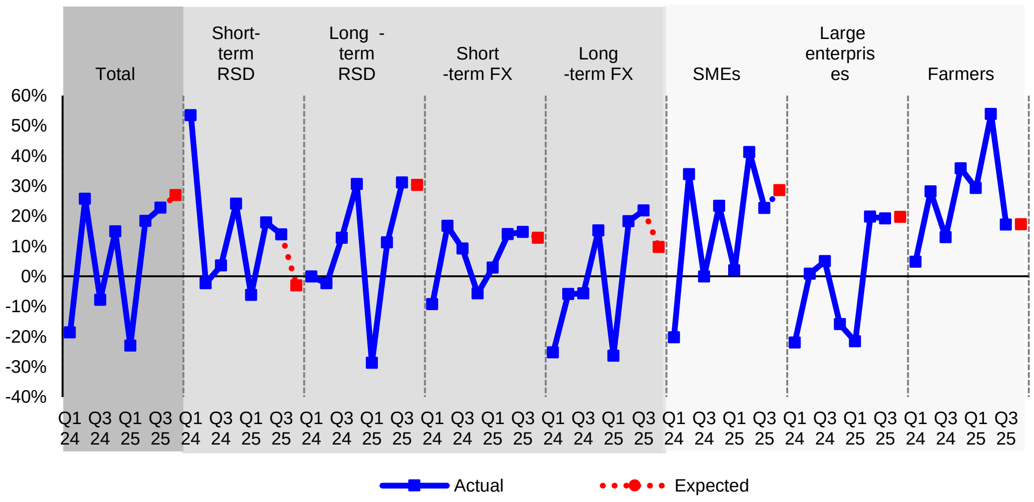
Banks expect similar developments in Q4 as well – the easing of price conditions, on one hand, and the reduction of the maximum loan amount and collateral requirements tightening, on the other.

1.3 Demand for corporate loans and contributing factors

Banks assessed that corporate loan demand went up in Q3, in case of all loan types. The rise in demand was primarily driven by heightened needs for financing working capital and capital investments. Further, according to some banks, the rise in demand for agricultural loans was a result of the subsidised loan supply.

Banks expect the rise in corporate loan demand to continue into the next quarter, with the exception of short-term dinar loans, where they anticipate a mild reduction. The rise in demand will be driven by the similar factors as in Q3 – primarily increased need for financing working capital and capital investments.

Change in demand for loans or credit lines to enterprises
(net percentage)



Source: NBS.
* Positive value indicates an increase in demand and negative - a decrease.
** The intensity of change is not shown in charts.

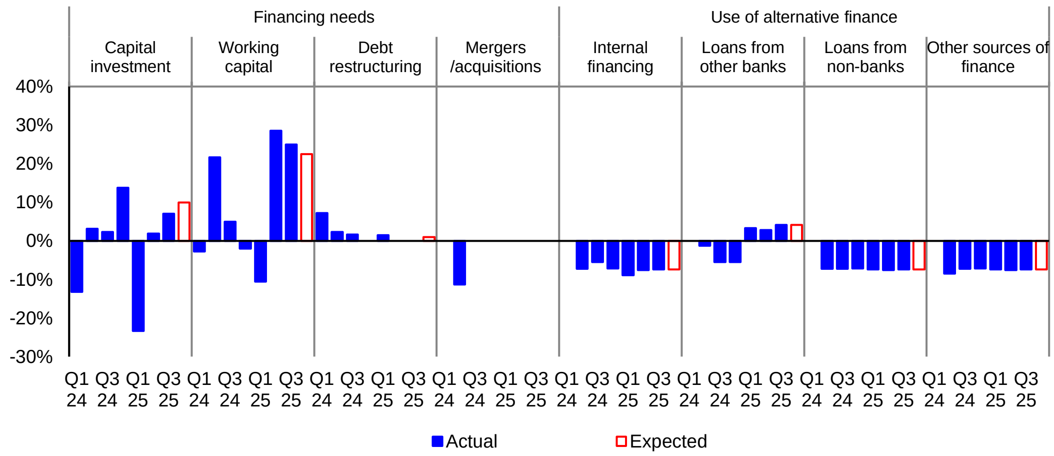
2 Household loans

2.1 Change in credit standards and contributing factors

The survey results indicate that household credit standards were eased in Q3, consistent with expectations from the previous survey.

Credit standards easing affected almost all loan categories. Banking sector competition worked towards the easing of standards for household loans. In addition, greater risk appetite and improved expectations of the overall economic activity drove the easing of standards for FX/FX-indexed loans.

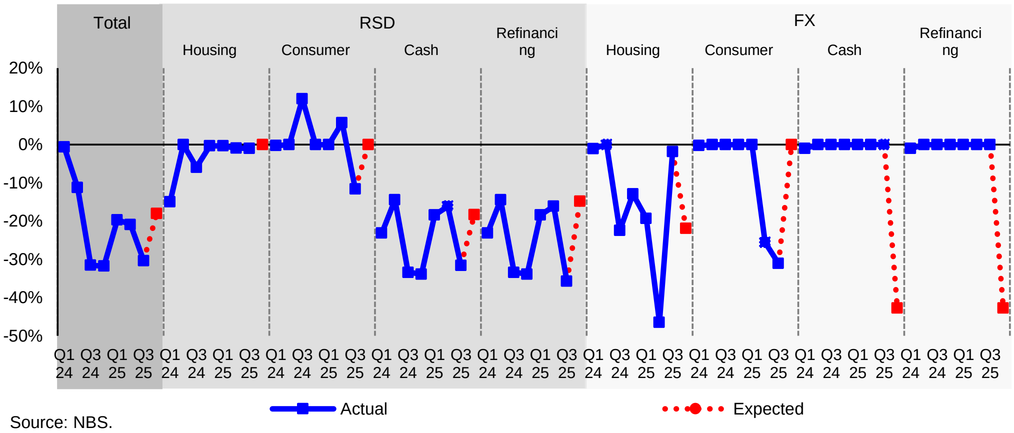
Factors affecting the demand for loans or credit lines to enterprises
(net percentage)



Source: NBS.
* Positive value indicates the contribution of individual factors to an increase in demand, and negative - to a decrease .
** The intensity of change is not shown in charts.

In Q4, banks expect the continuation of household credit standard easing for almost all loan types.

Change in credit standards as applied to the approval of loans or credit lines to households (net percentage)

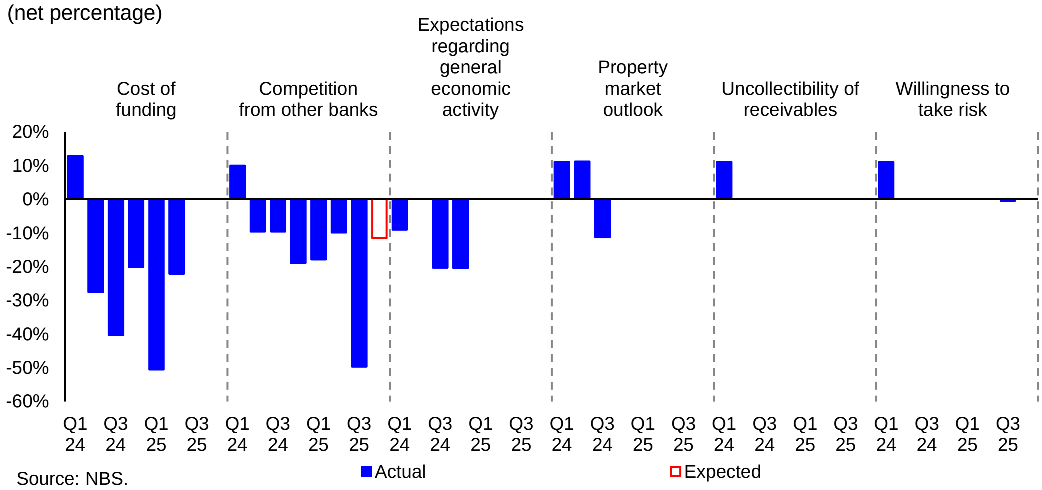


Source: NBS.
* Positive value indicates tightening of credit standards and negative - easing.
** The intensity of change is not shown in charts.

2.2 Conditions and terms for approving household loans

The terms for approving household loans were eased in Q3, largely on account of lower interest margins and relaxed collateral requirements. Furthermore, required down-payment and deposit amount was lowered for FX/FX-indexed loans.

Factors affecting credit standards as applied to the approval of loans or credit lines to households
(net percentage)



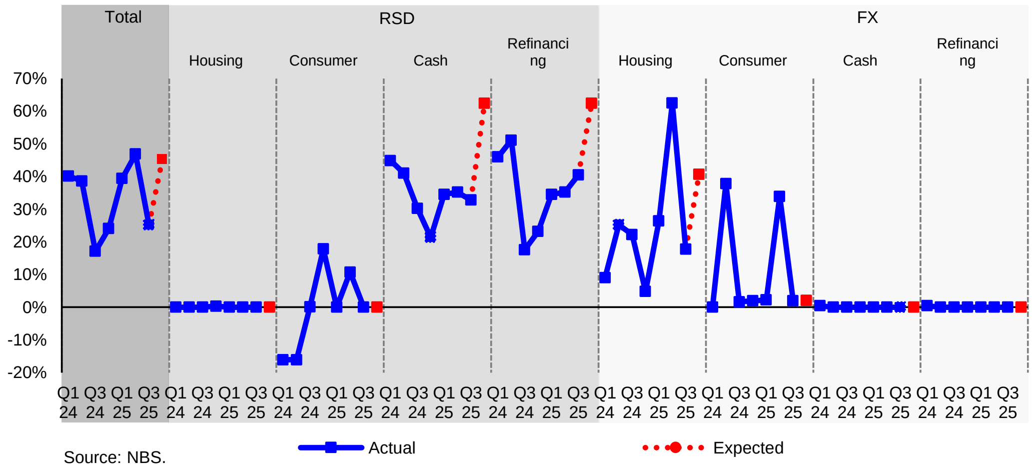
Source: NBS.
* Positive value indicates the contribution of individual factors to the tightening of credit standards and negative - to the easing.
** The intensity of change is not shown in charts.

Banks expect the relaxation of conditions for the approval of dinar household loans in Q4, owing to lower interest margins and NBS measures aimed at facilitated borrowing for citizens with lower income.

2.3 Household loan demand and contributing factors

In Q3, household loan demand increased, largely for dinar cash and refinancing loans as well as for FX-indexed housing loans. Banks estimated that a rise in loan demand was largely influenced by the need for refinancing, purchase of durable consumer goods, and purchase of real estate against the background of a relatively improved overall economic situation (a rise in wages and employment).

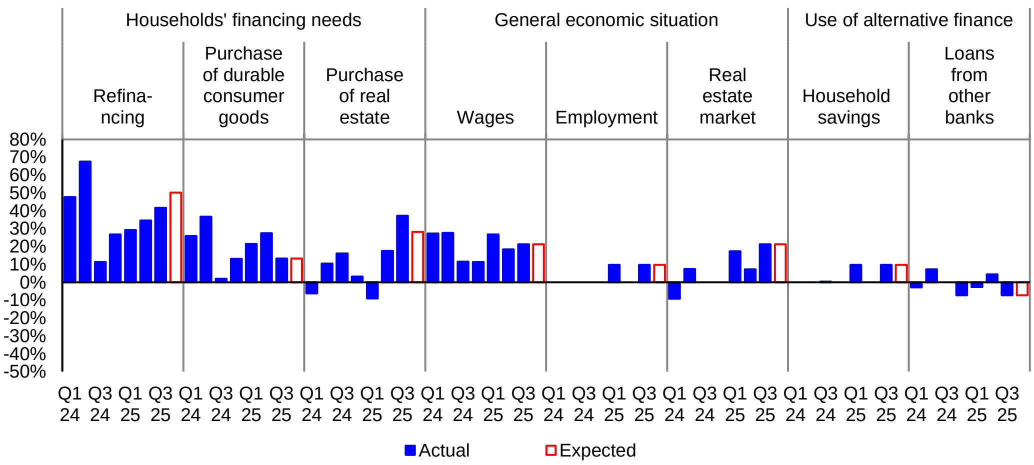
Change in demand for loans or credit lines to households
(net percentage)



Source: NBS.
* Positive value indicates an increase in demand and negative - a decrease.
** The intensity of change is not shown in charts.

They anticipate further growth in household loan demand in Q4 to be driven by similar factors.

Factors affecting the demand for loans or credit lines to households
(net percentage)



Source: NBS.
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