

# Sentiment in South Africa's agriculture

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5 December 2025



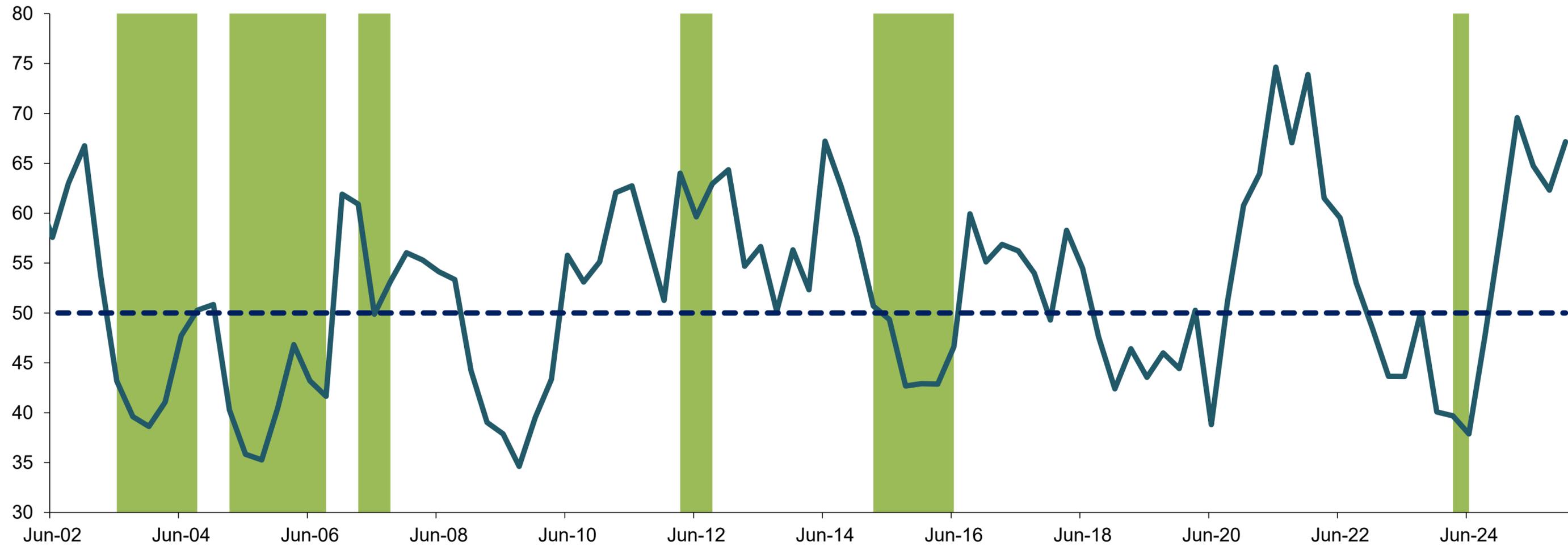
## **AGBIZ/IDC AGRIBUSINESS CONFIDENCE INDEX LIFTS SLIGHTLY IN Q4,2025**

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- After falling for two consecutive quarters, the Agbiz/IDC Agribusiness Confidence Index (ACI) increased by 5 points to 67 in Q4 2025.
- Favourable weather conditions, strong exports throughout the year on the back of ample grains, oilseeds, and horticulture harvests, as well as better port efficiencies, are among the key drivers of optimism in the sector.
- We suspect that the announcement of nationwide vaccination of cattle against foot-and-mouth disease also contributed to the upbeat mood, as the disease is a national challenge that, for some time, seemed out of control.
- The current ACI level of 67 is well above the 50-neutral mark, suggesting that South African agribusinesses are generally optimistic about business conditions in the country.
- This survey was conducted in the last week of November and covered agribusinesses operating across various agricultural subsectors nationwide.

# AGBIZ/IDC AGRIBUSINESS CONFIDENCE INDEX LIFTS SLIGHTLY IN Q4,2025

Index



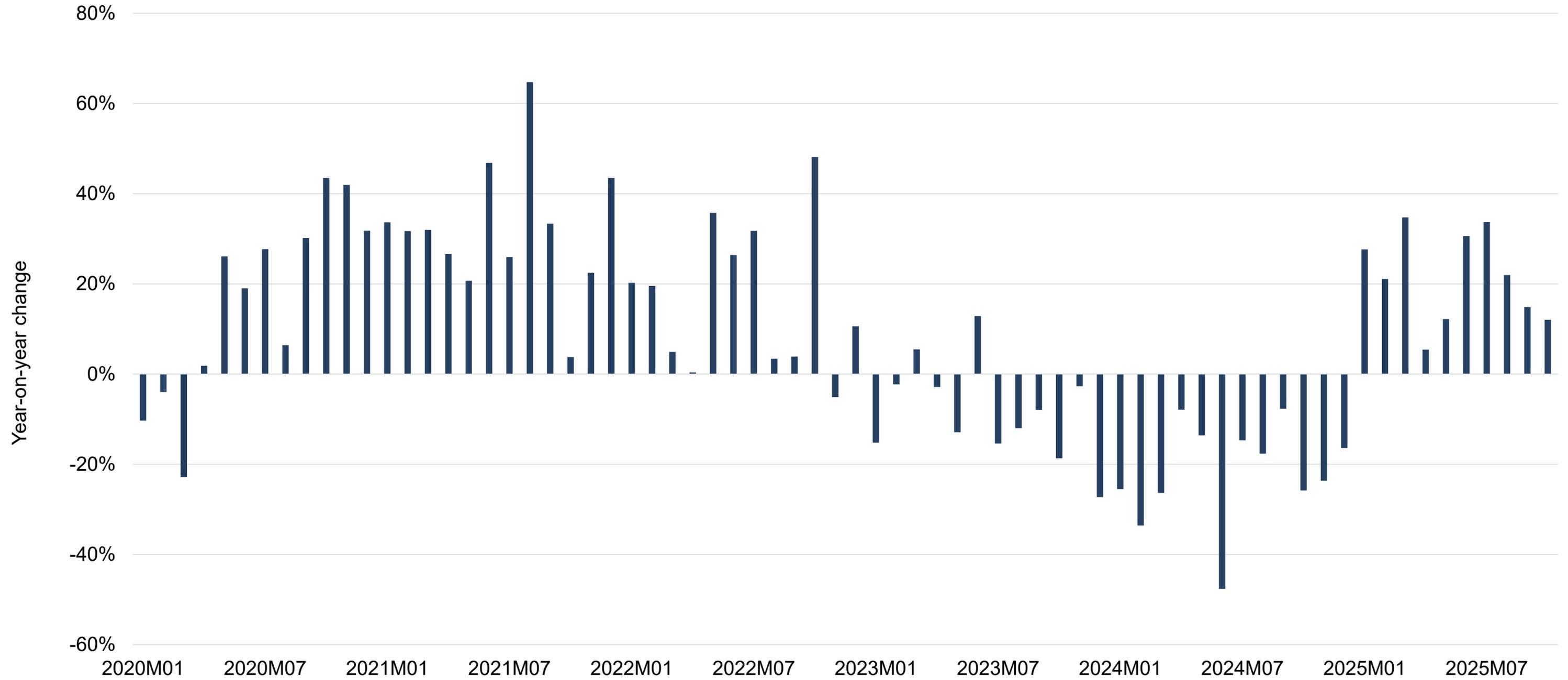
Source: Agbiz Research, South African Weather Service  
(Shaded areas indicate periods of drought in South Africa.)

## **THE ACI COMPRISES 10 SUBINDICES. MOST INCREASED IN Q4 2025, WHILE TWO DECLINED SLIGHTLY**

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- The capital investments subindex increased by 7 points from Q3 to 74.
- The sub-index measuring export volumes surged by 32 points from Q3 to 75.
- The general agricultural conditions subindex increased by 4 points to 71 in Q4 2025.
- The market share subindex lifted by 11 points to 71 in Q4 2025.
- The employment subindex increased by 3 points to 53 points in Q4 2025.
- The general economic conditions subindex improved by 3 points to 62 in Q4 2025.

# SOUTH AFRICA'S TRACTOR SALES



## **THE ACI COMPRISES 10 SUBINDICES. MOST INCREASED IN Q4 2025, WHILE TWO DECLINED SLIGHTLY**

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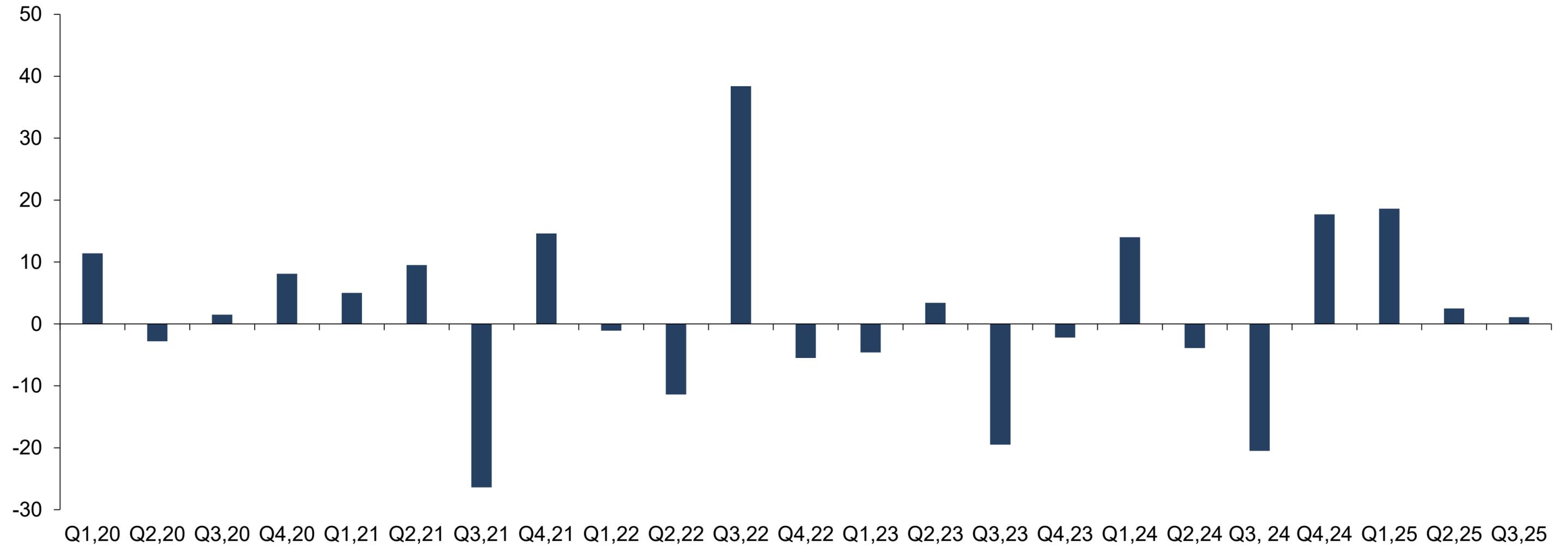
- However, the turnover subindex confidence fell by 4 points from Q3 to 71.
- Similarly, the net operating income subindex declined by 6 points to 65 in Q4 2025.

*The subindices of the debtor provision for bad debt and financing costs are interpreted differently from the abovementioned indices.*

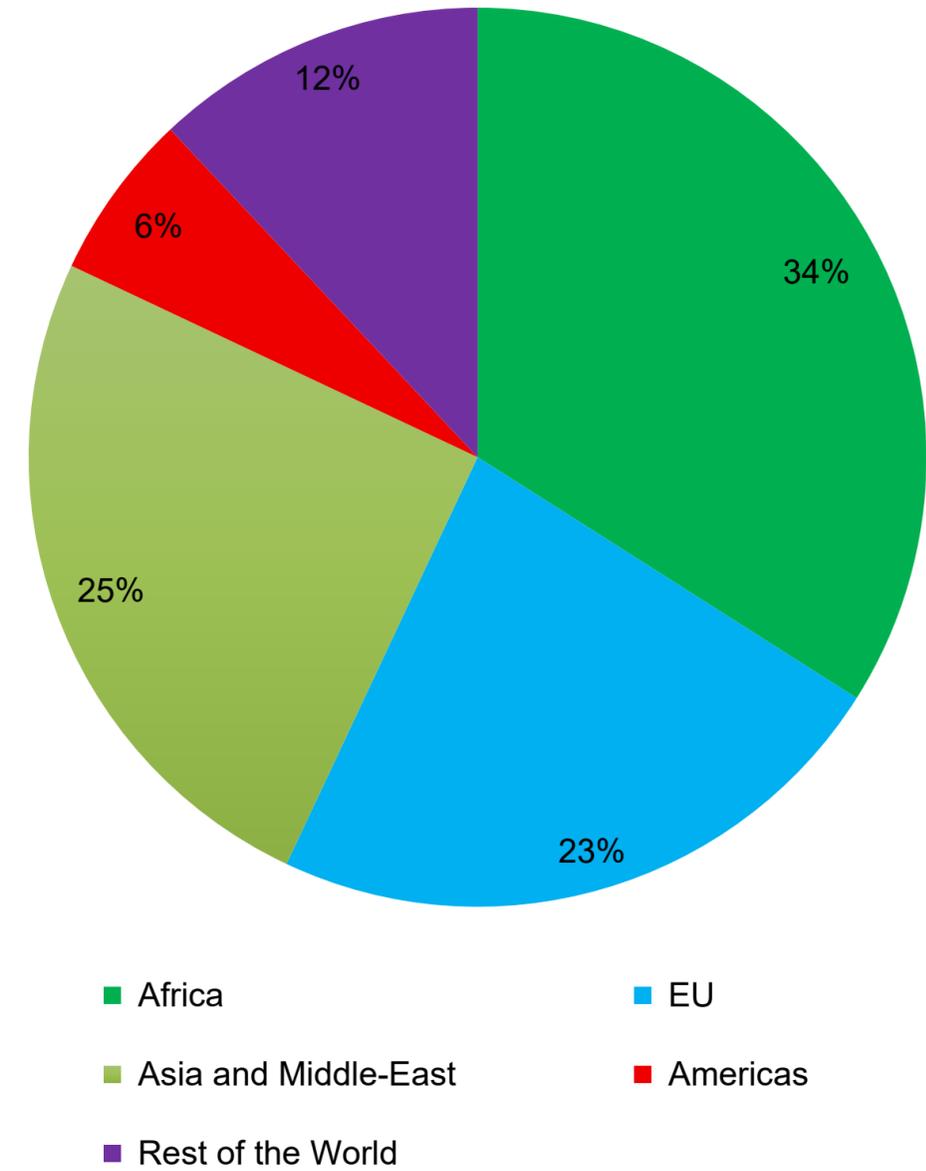
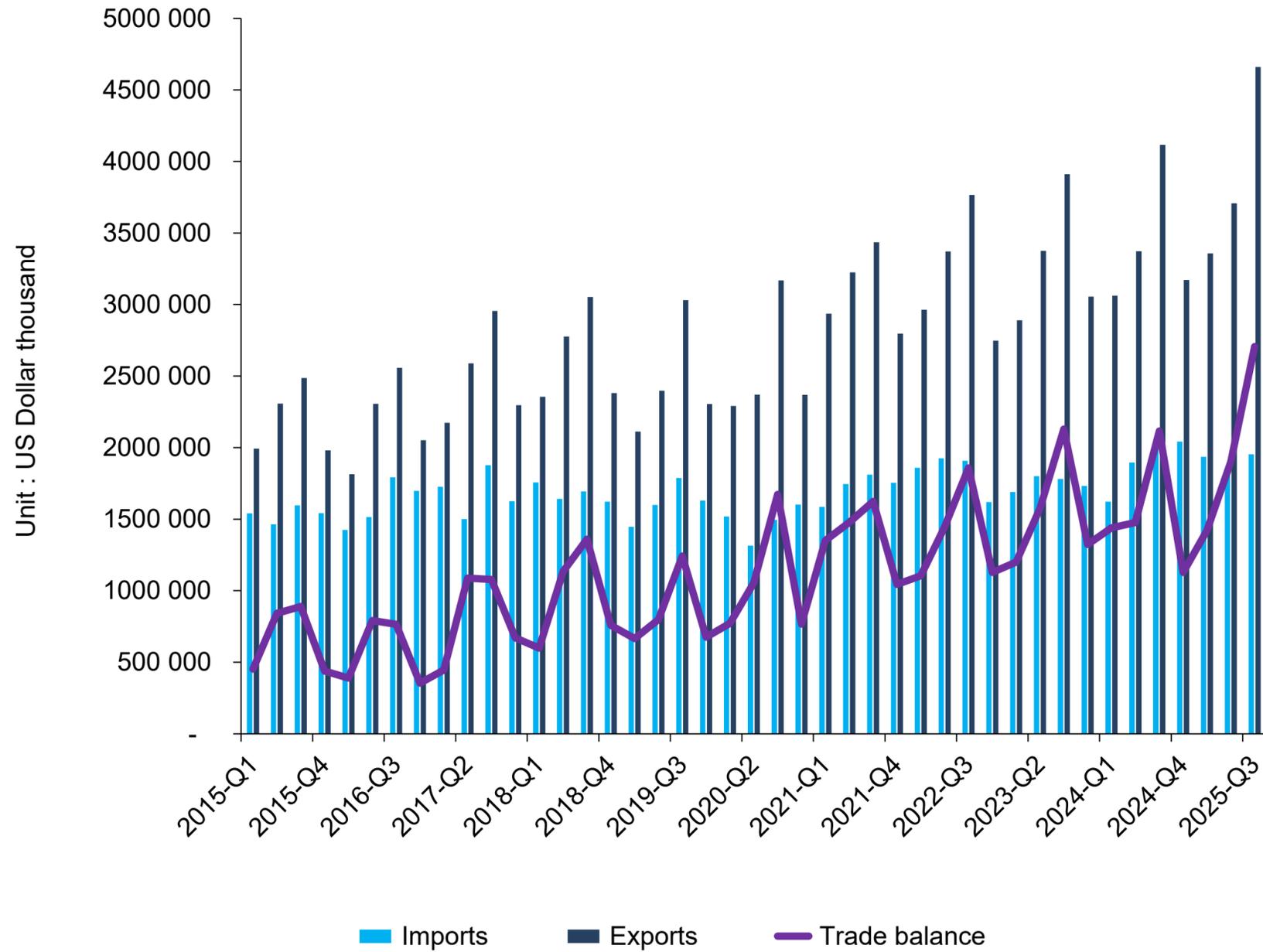
- In Q4 2025, the debtor provision for bad debts indices fell by 3 points to 47, reflecting gains from generally large agricultural harvests in the country, mainly in field crops and horticulture.
- However, the financing costs index lifted by 12 points to 82.

# SOUTH AFRICA'S AGRICULTURAL GROSS VALUE ADDED

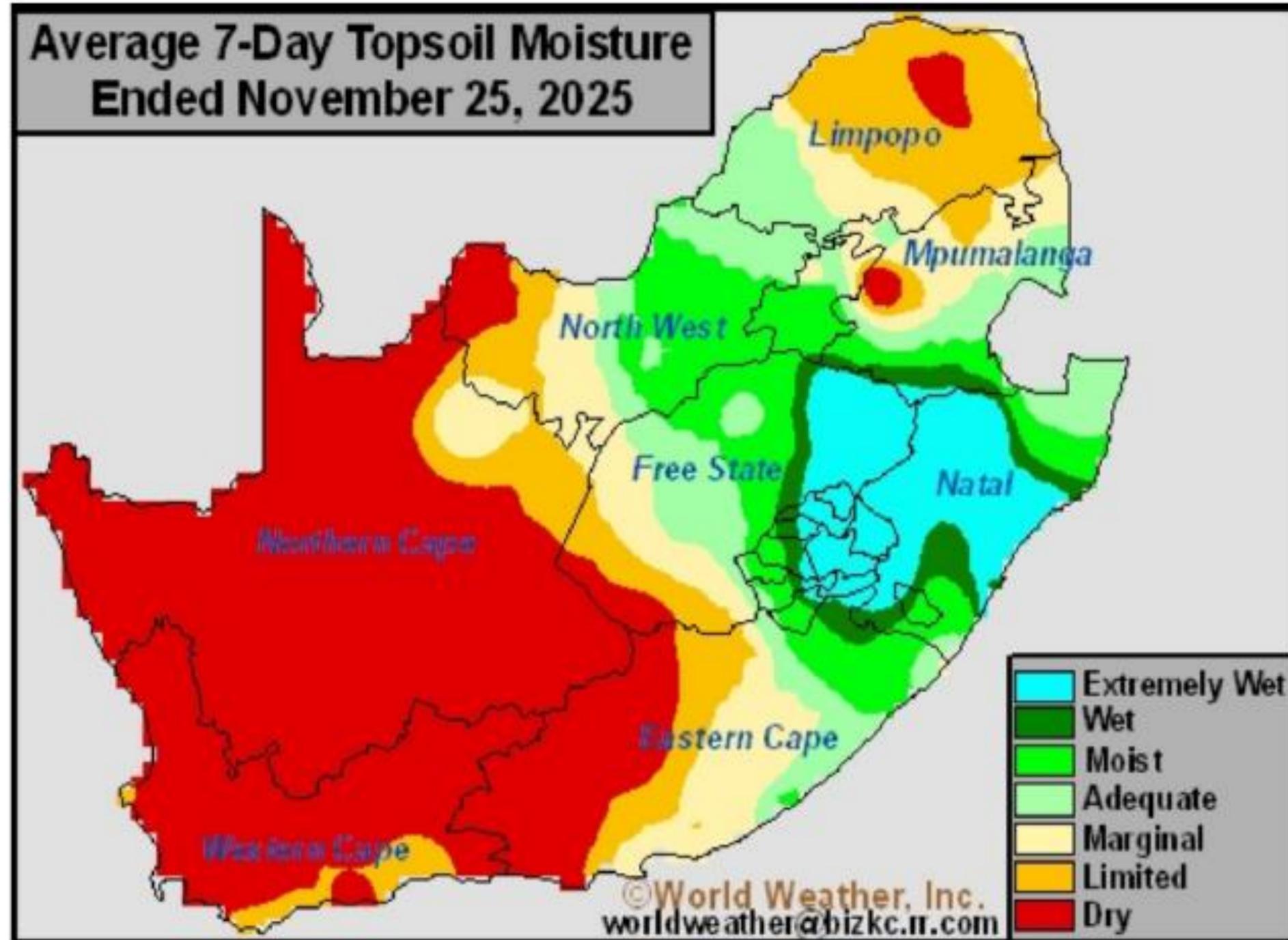
q/q seasonally adjusted (%)



# SA'S AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS CONTINUED ON AN UPBEAT PATH IN Q3, 2025



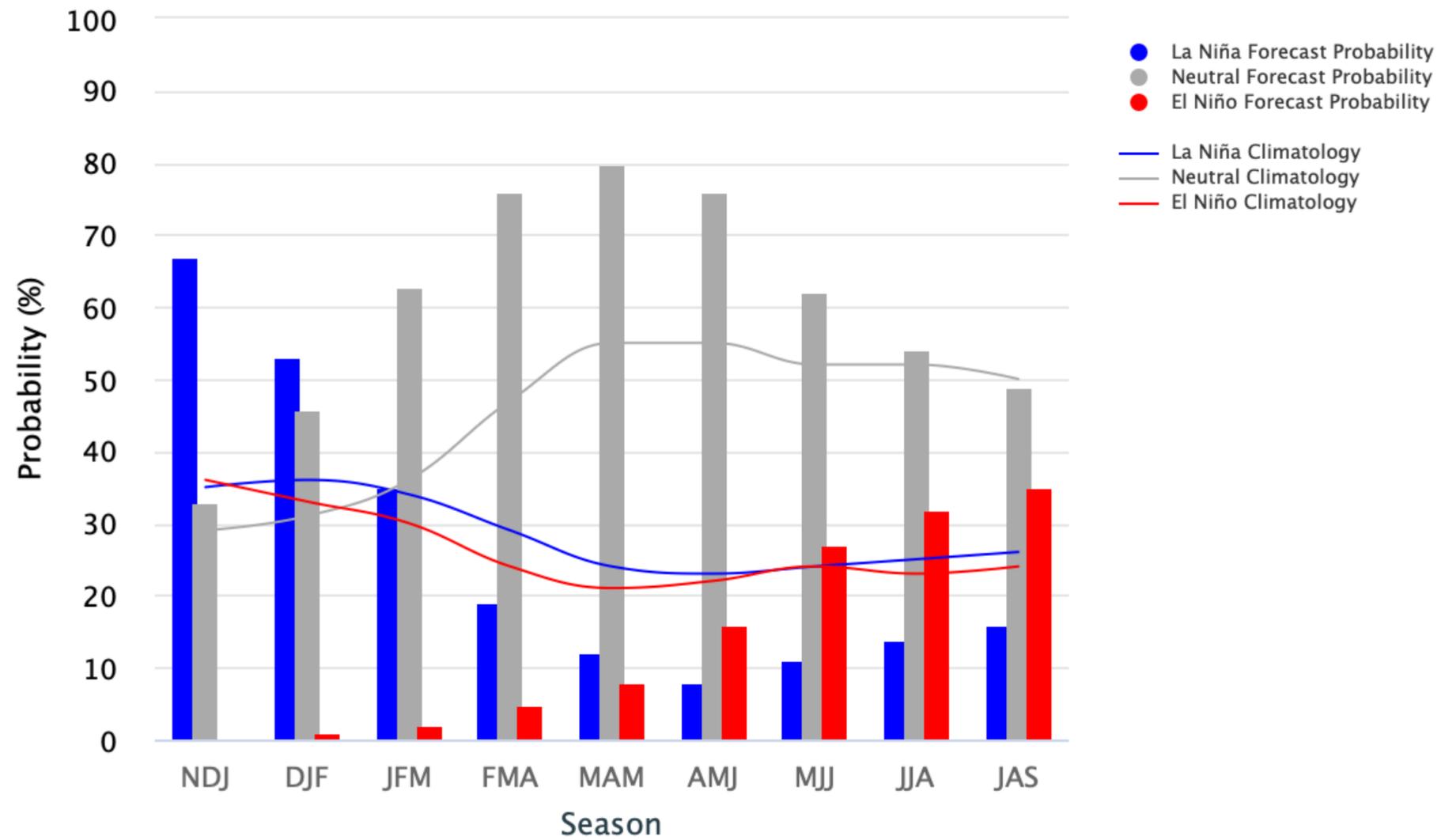
# SOUTH AFRICA'S INFLUENCE FROM LA NIÑA ENSURES MORE RAIN



# LA NIÑA PROSPECTS

## Mid-November 2025 IRI Model-Based Probabilistic ENSO Forecasts

ENSO state based on NINO3.4 SST Anomaly Neutral ENSO:  $-0.5\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $0.5\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$



## CONCLUDING REMARKS

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- In essence, the ACI results for Q4 2025 illustrate generally better conditions in the agricultural sector.
- Still, the recovery of the sector this year will likely be uneven. We see better production conditions in the horticulture and field crops. However, the livestock industry is under pressure due to foot-and-mouth disease.
- What will help in the recovery going into 2026 will be the speedy vaccination process against foot-and-mouth disease in the roughly 12-million national herd of cattle, with 7.2 million of them in commercial production.
- Moreover, the La Niña rains will help in horticulture and field crops.
- Also important are the collaborative efforts between business and government on pushing for better management of the municipalities, addressing rural crime, and the release of the government-owned land to appropriately selected beneficiaries. This is key for long-term expansion in the sector.

# THANK YOU

## CONTACT DETAILS

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