

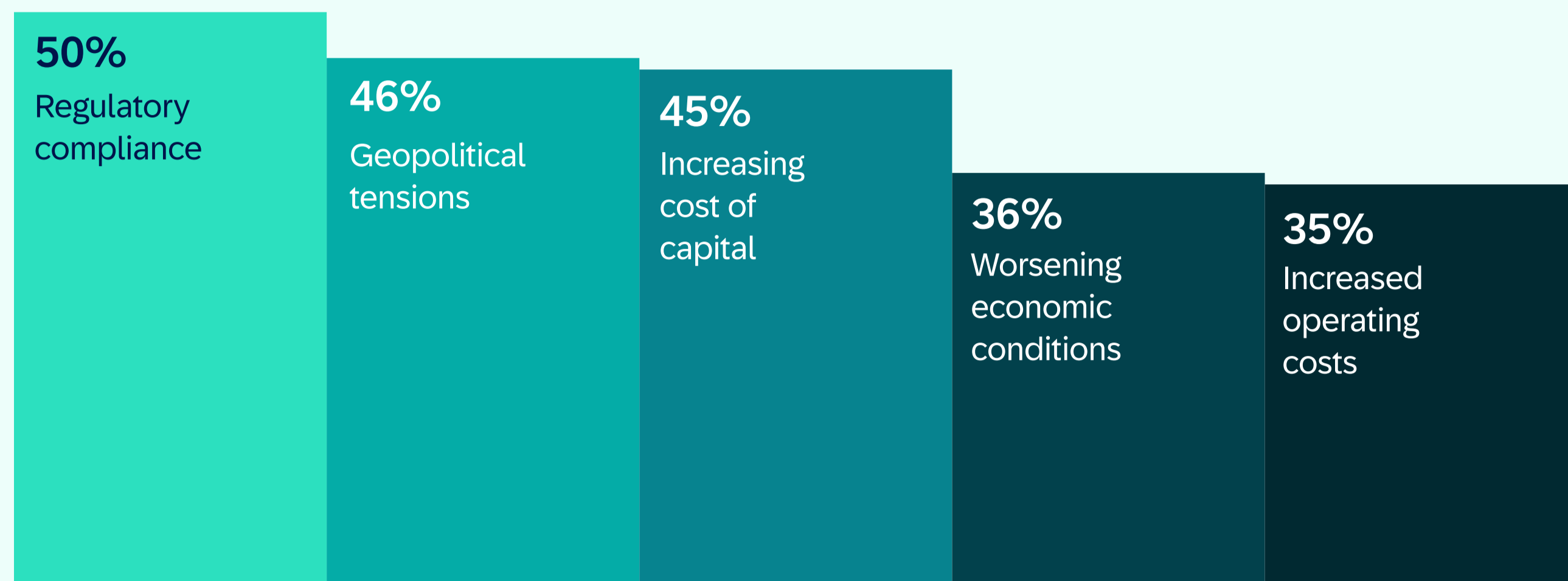
# Today's CFO: preparing for the unexpected

In a survey of CFOs and other senior finance managers across seven countries, 90% said the key task of today's CFO is to prepare business for the unexpected.

That's a big shift from traditional tasks such as monitoring budgets and cashflow. But this new responsibility is just one of many ways in which the CFO's role is evolving fast.

## Amid turbulence, CFOs must handle a long list of external risks and threats

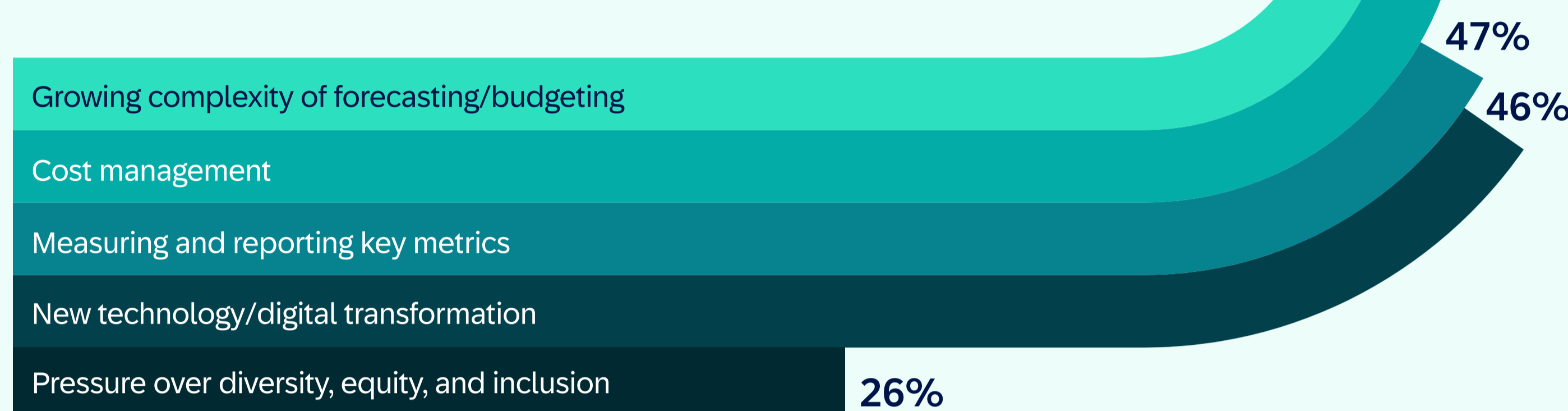
Most important external challenges:



(Respondents could pick multiple challenges)

## Improved forecasting is a key tool for solving these external problems, but its growing complexity has become a challenge of its own internally

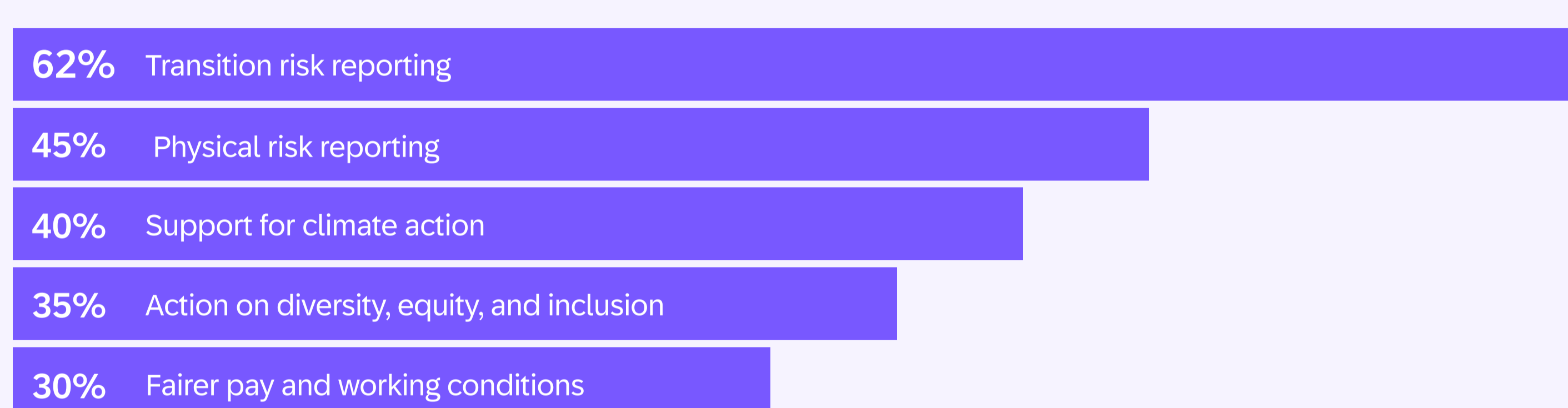
Most important external challenges:



(Respondents could pick multiple challenges)

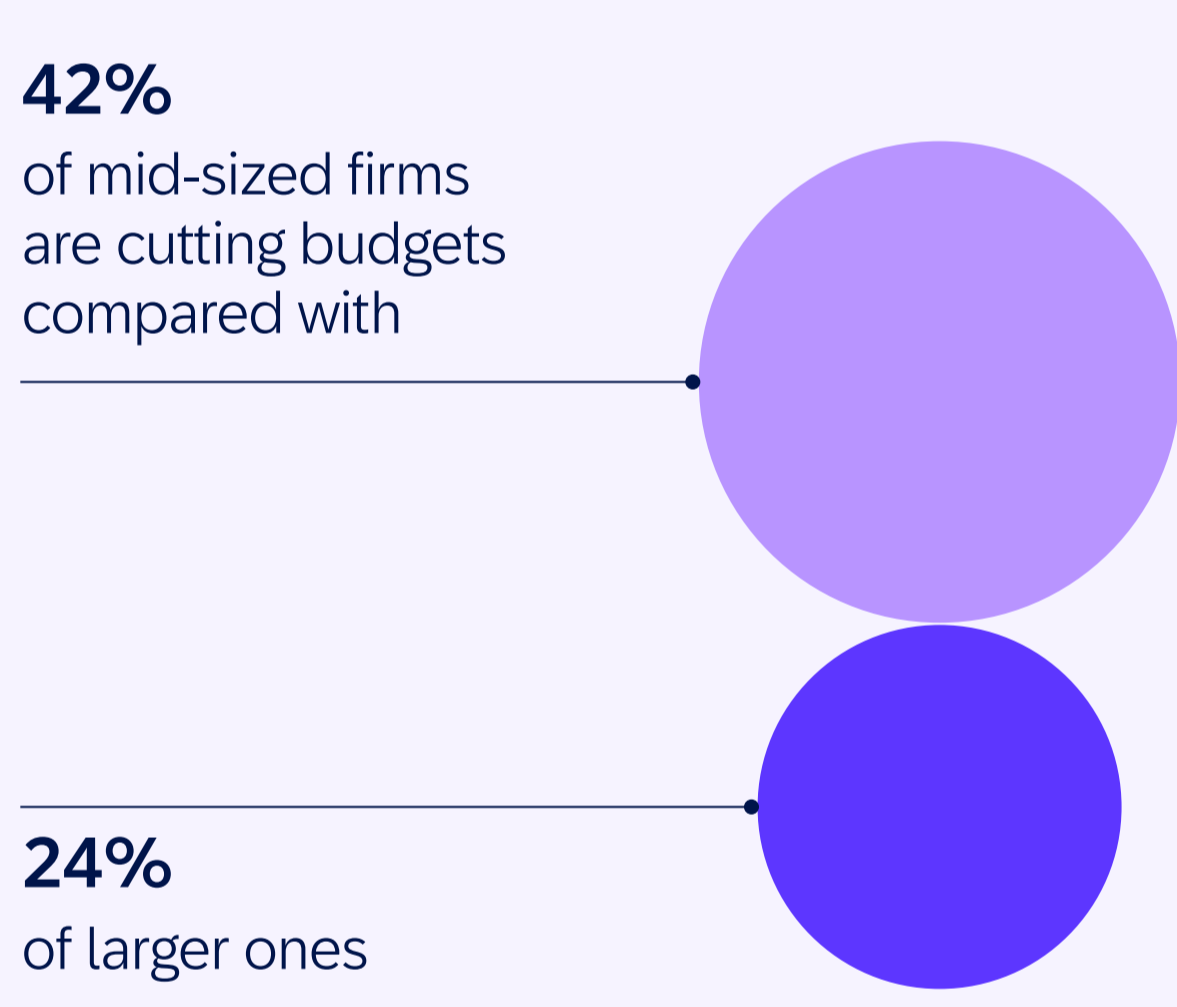
## CFOs are also on the front line for ESG. Stakeholders are demanding better reporting on sustainability

Stakeholders' greatest demands on sustainability, as reported by CFOs:

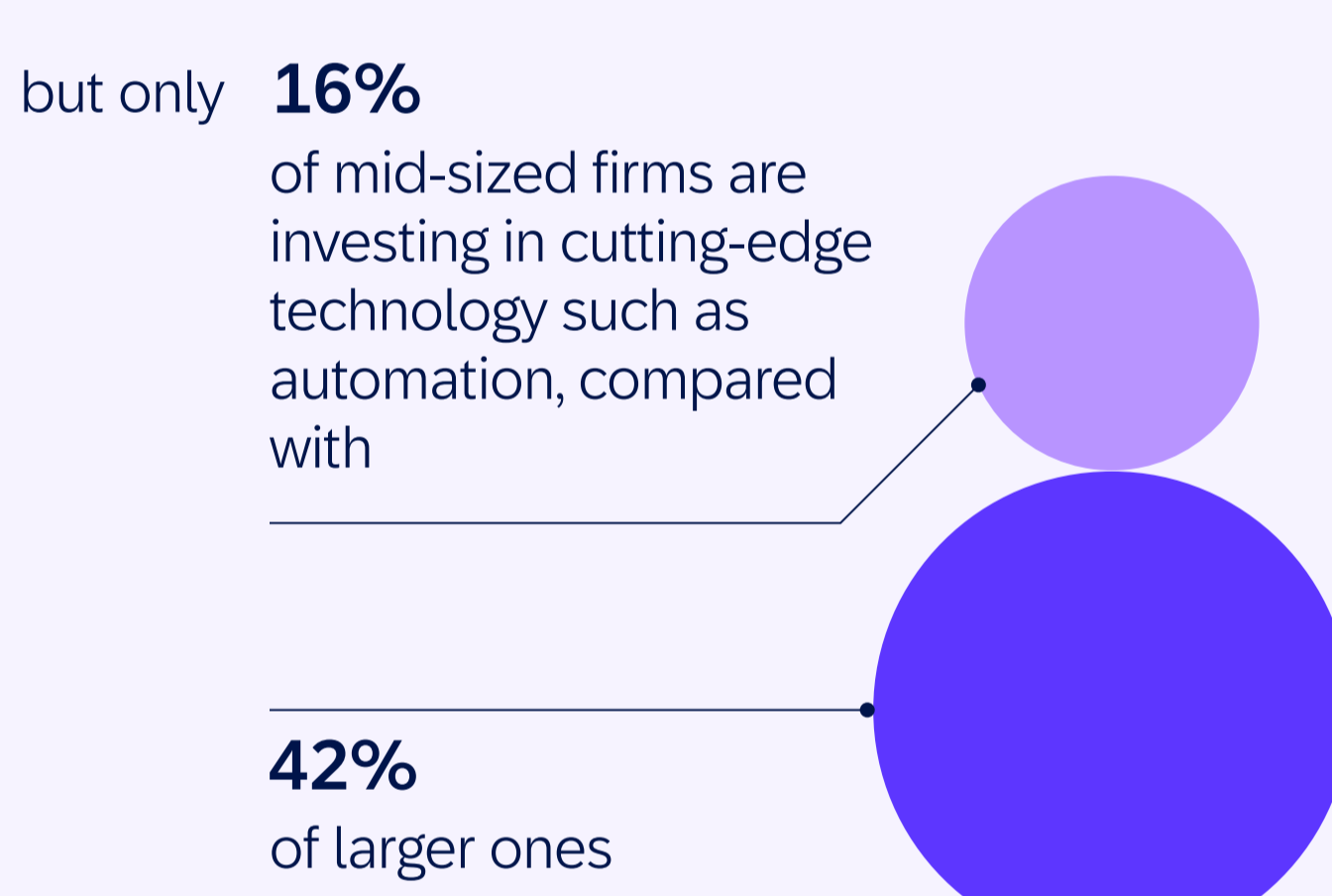


(Respondents could pick multiple challenges)

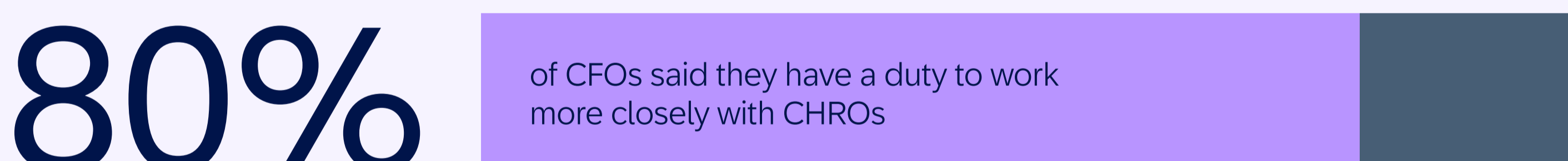
## Mid-sized firms are cutting budgets to ease the pressure. Larger ones are focusing more on investment and innovation



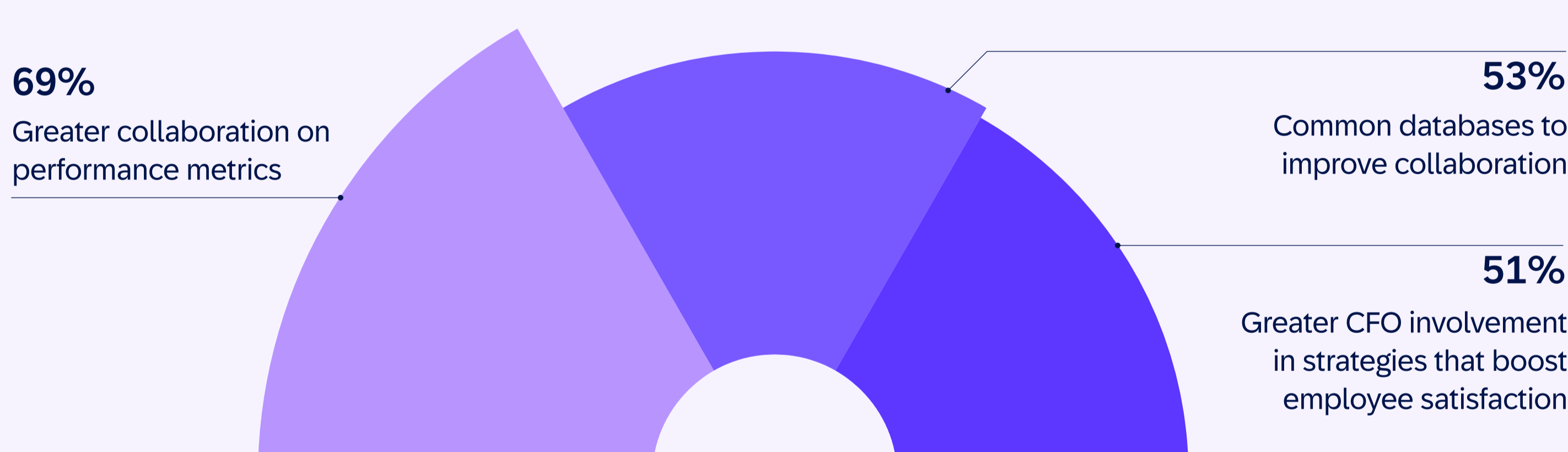
Mid-sized firms: 500 to 2,000 employees  
Larger firms: 2,000+ employees



## Amid talent shortages in some sectors, finance and HR have new problems to solve together

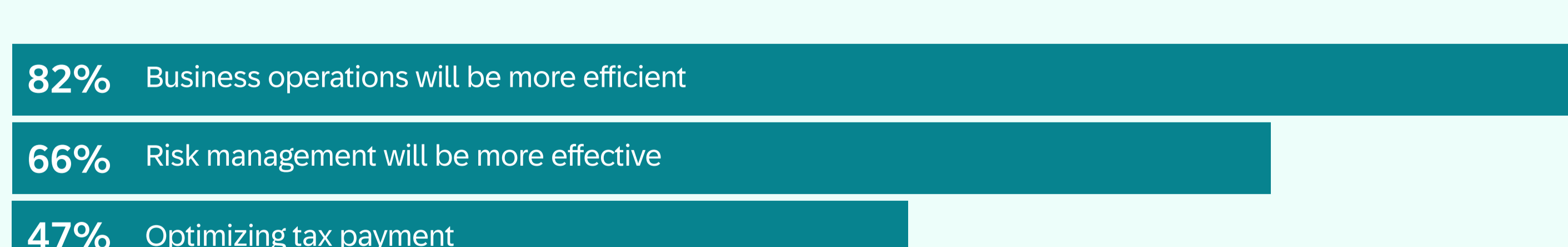


## Where CFOs think they need to work more closely with CHROs:

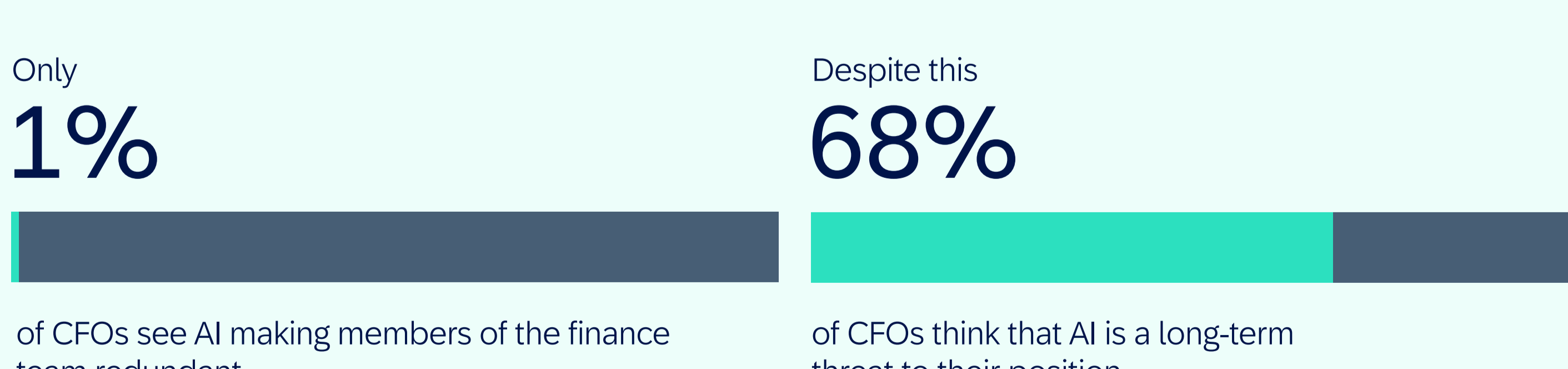


## CFOs see AI driving efficiency and reducing risk

The most important opportunities for AI in the finance team:



(Respondents could pick multiple challenges)



The latest SAP Concur CFO Insights report contains many additional insights into current challenges, including how CFOs are investing in new tools to improve the visibility of business risks. [Download it here.](#)