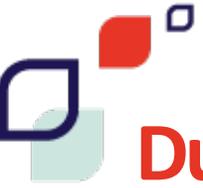




# Economic Task Force

Update for Joint Chamber Members

April 14, 2020



# Durham Economic Task Force

The Durham Economic Task Force is made up of Durham Region's Economic Development team; local municipal Economic Development teams; all of Durham's Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade; BIAs, and Business Advisory Centre of Durham.

## Priorities:

- Advocate for the urgent needs of our business community to the Provincial and Federal Governments
- Provide resources and information from all levels of government to businesses
- Guide small businesses through the process of accessing emergency financial assistance
- Develop and implement support programming for impacted businesses
- Promote Durham small businesses, particularly local stores, food and agri-businesses who are offering safe, no-contact delivery and pick-up options



# Durham Economic Task Force

## Top Priority Phase-1 Activities

- Survey #1 Mar 12-18 to understand urgent needs
- Coordinated communications to businesses
- Central webpage [investdurham.ca/covidresponse](https://investdurham.ca/covidresponse)
- Advocacy to Province and Federal Government
- Emergency Loans to Chambers & Boards of Trade
- Tax Deferrals, Water/Sewer Deferrals
- Assist with Prov/Fed appeal for medical supplies
- Second survey Mar 20-27 to quantify impacts; inform our 2<sup>nd</sup> phase response

# COVID-19 Response

**+ List of Essential Workplaces**

**+ Government Support**

**+ Funding**

**+ Other Financial Support**

**+ Business Support Services and Opportunities**

**+ Webinars**

**+ Agriculture Sector Information**

**+ Manufacturing Sector Information**

**+ Tourism Sector Information**

**+ Business Preparedness Toolkits**

**+ Chambers of Commerce/Boards of Trade**

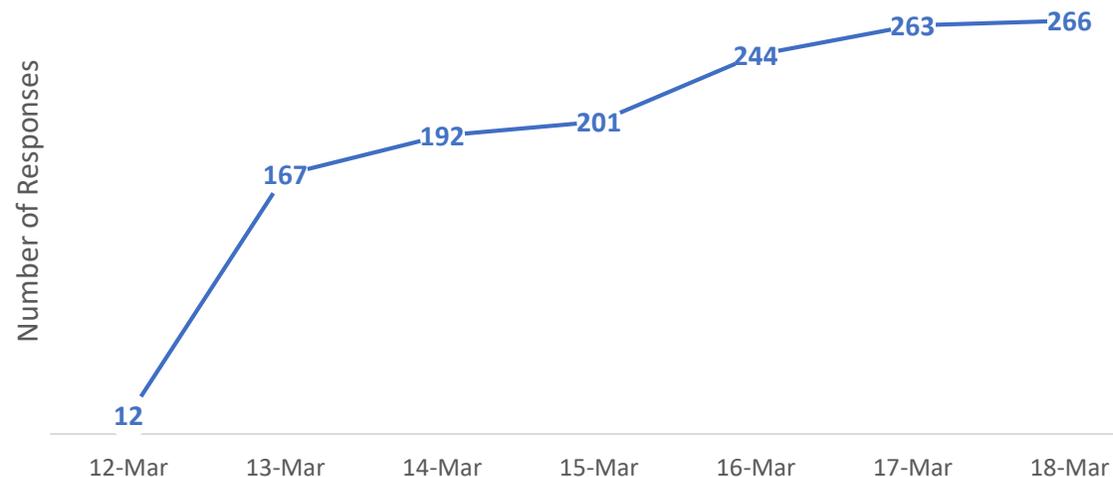
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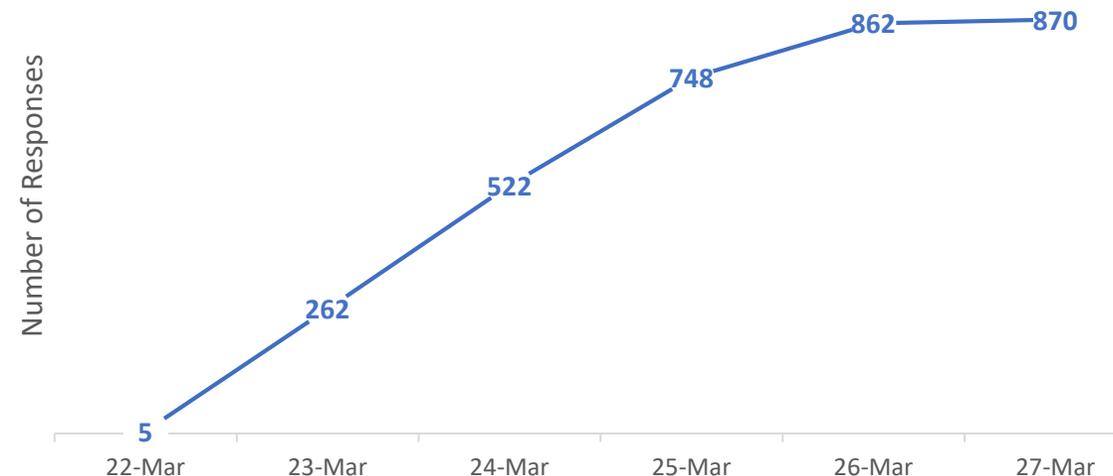
# COVID 19 Survey Timeline

Mar 12	Form Task Force / <b>Survey 1 Launch</b>	
Mar 14	Developing Phase-1 Response	
Mar 16	Advocacy / Implementing Response	
Mar 18	Webpage Live / <b>Survey 1 Close</b>	
Mar 20	Advocacy / Comms / Outreach	
Mar 22	<b>Survey 2 Launch</b>	Outreach / Business Support
Mar 24		
Mar 26	<b>Survey 2 Close</b>	
Mar 28	Planning Phase-2 Response	
Mar 30	Meeting with MPs & MPPs	
Apr →	Phase 2 Business Support Activities	

## Survey 1 Responses: Timeline



## Survey 2 Responses: Timeline





# Baseline: Economy



# Durham Region Economy

**12,600** Businesses

**200,300** Jobs

## Business size by employment

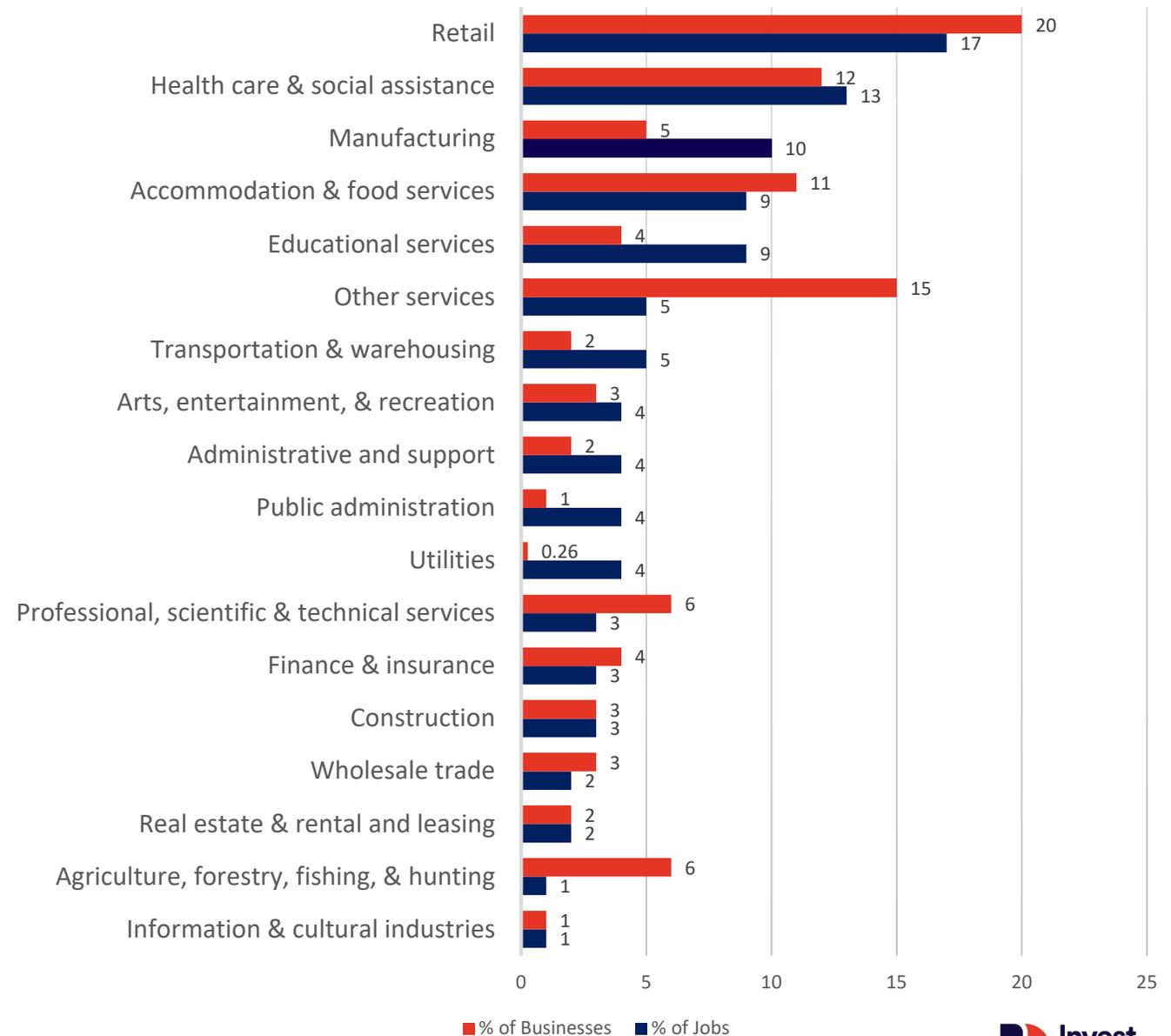
**<10: 9,418 businesses employ 34,921**

**11 - 100: 2,873 businesses employ 80,941**

**>100: 308 businesses employ 84,429**

Source: Durham 2018-Business-Count-Highlights

## Sector Distribution (%) of Businesses, by Qty and Jobs



Industries based on North American classification system (NAICS), Canada 2017



## Survey #2 Results



# Survey Analysis

## Layoff information was provided to all levels of government to highlight impacts

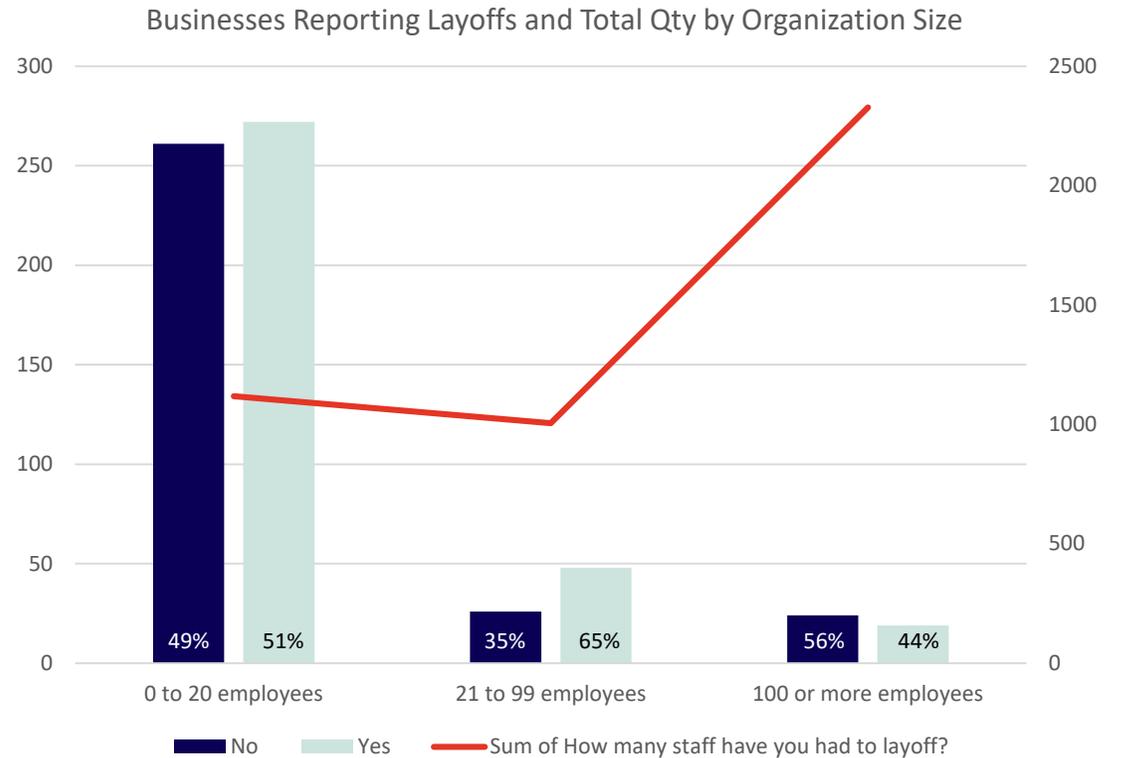
### Observations

51% of small businesses reported layoffs  
 65% of medium-sized businesses reported layoffs  
 44% of large businesses reported layoffs

38% of the total number of employee layoffs were from large businesses

By total numbers, layoffs are highest from large companies

**65%**  
 Of companies with 21-99 employees reported layoffs





# Survey Analysis

## Most industries have experienced major impacts due to the pandemic

### Observations

85% of 'Hospitality and Tourism' have had to lay off staff, representing almost a third of all layoffs.

The top 5 industries by number of layoffs:

- Hospitality and Tourism
- Health and Wellness
- Manufacturing
- Automotive
- Not for profit

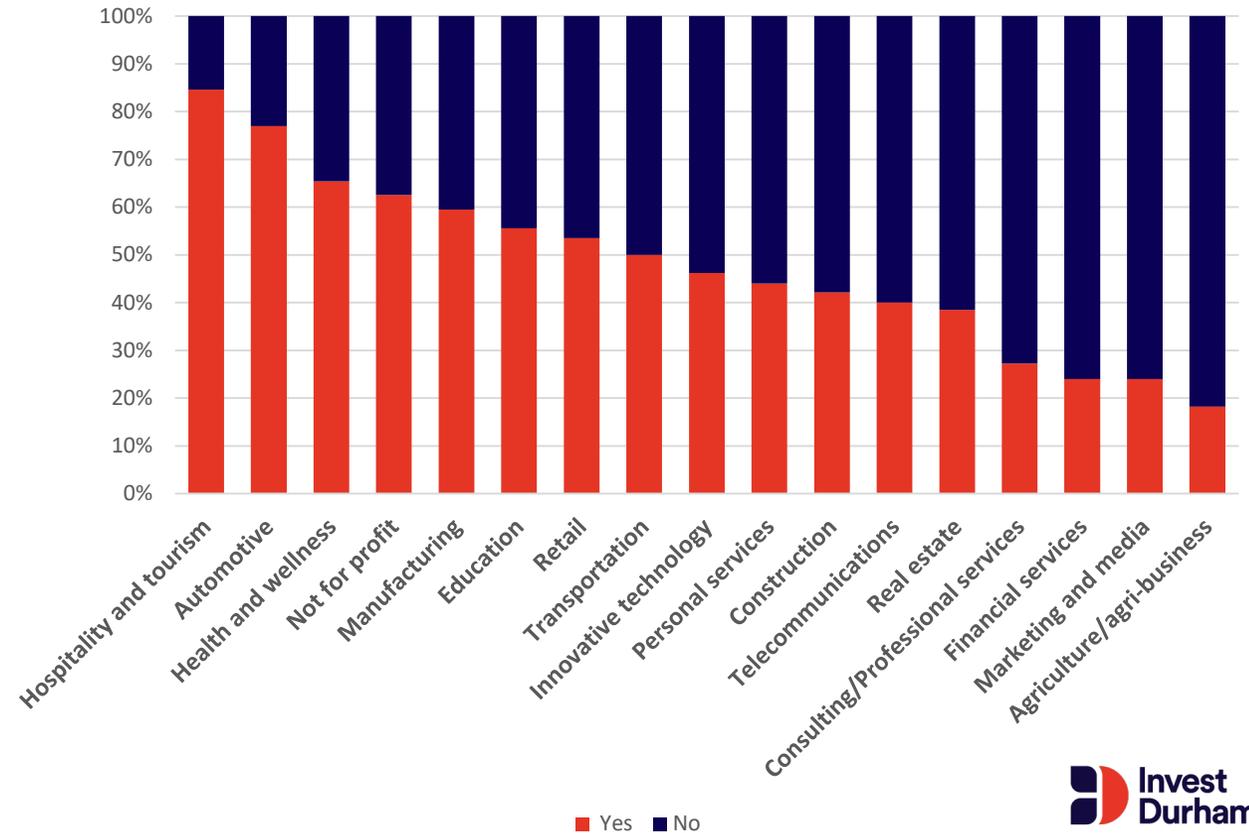
**29%**

of all layoffs attributed to the Hospitality and Tourism Sector

**54%**

of all layoffs reported came from only 5 industries (listed)

Businesses Reporting Layoffs by Industry





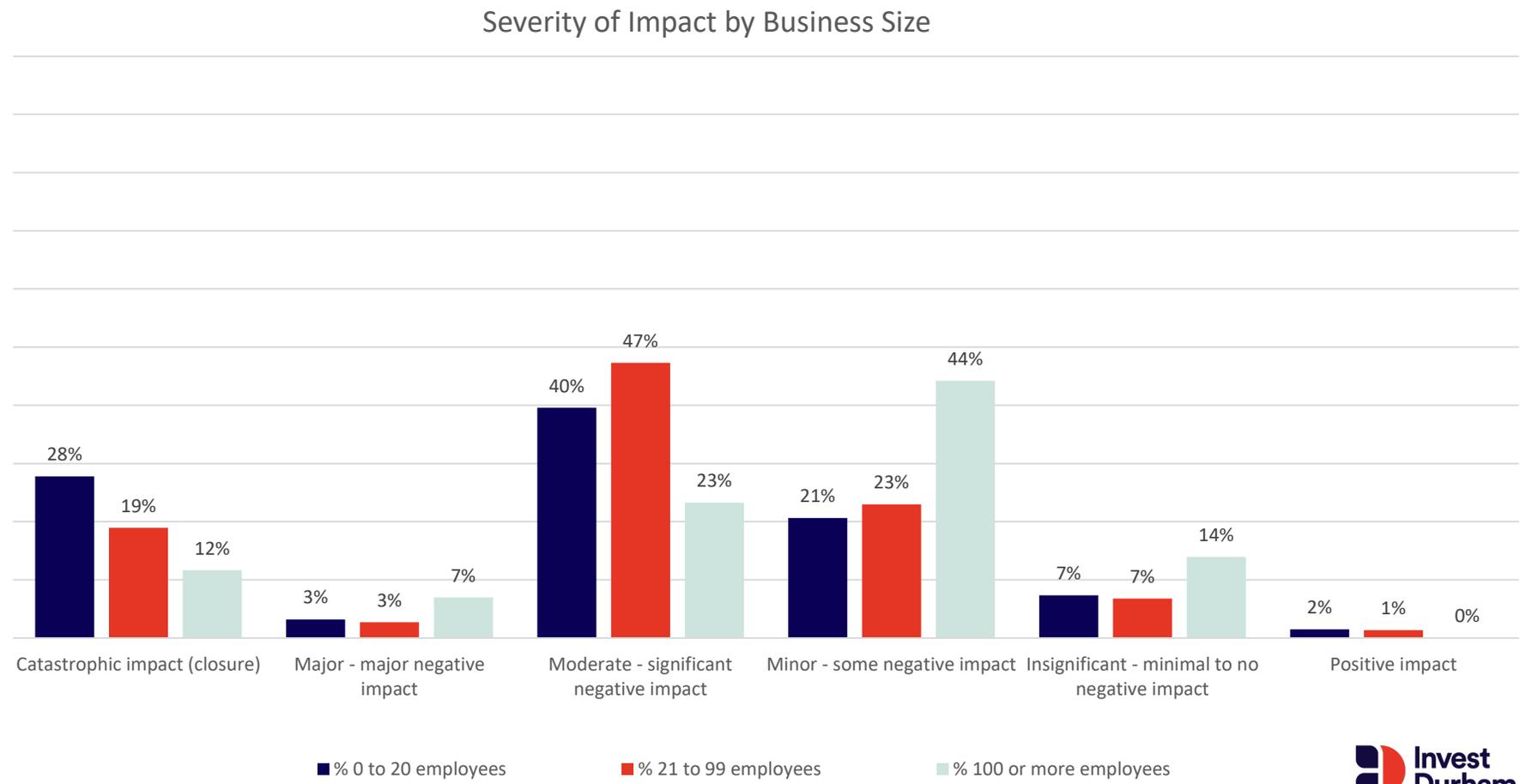
# Survey Analysis

## The majority of businesses are experiencing severe impacts as a result of COVID 19

**58%**  
Of large businesses report minor/insignificant impact

**71%**  
Of small businesses with at least moderate negative impact

**28%**  
Of small businesses experiencing catastrophic impact





# Survey Analysis

## Operational status continues to be impacted by the Provincial closure order

### Observations

Half of survey was **prior to** the Provincial closure order.  
**57% of all businesses were shutdown or partially shutdown.**

- 61% of businesses <20 employees
- 48% of businesses 21-99 employees
- 39% of businesses >100 employees

**56% of large businesses are open/operating**

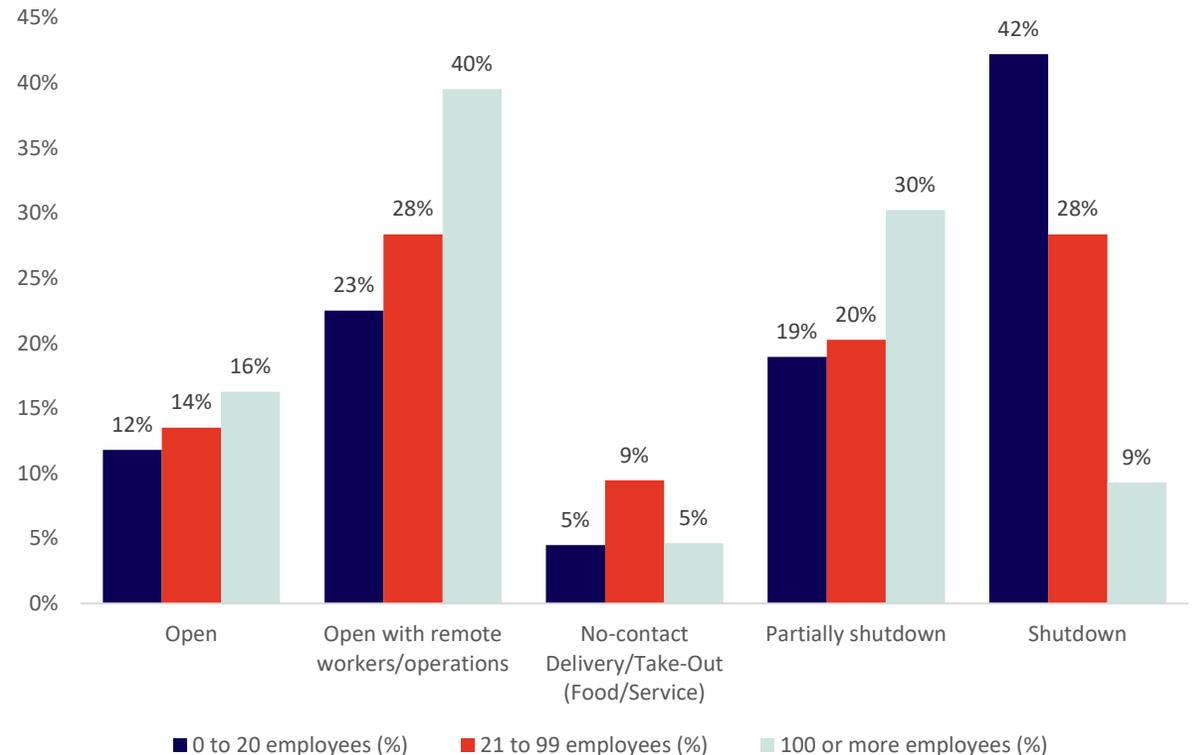
# 61%

Of small businesses are shutdown or partially shutdown

# 9%

Of large businesses are completely shutdown

### Current Status by Organization Size





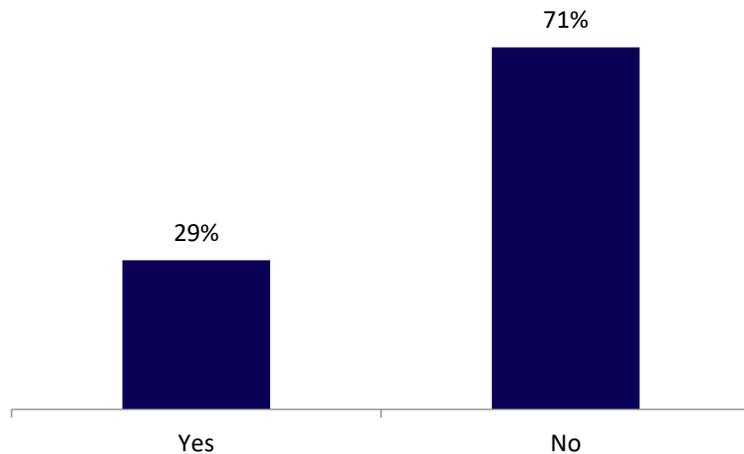
# Survey Response: Summary

Some businesses are experiencing increased demand

## Observations

Q8

Are you struggling to meet demand?

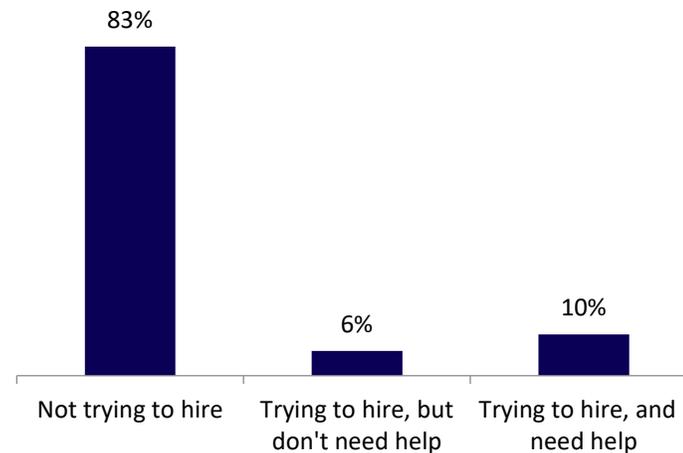


14

Struggling to meet demand

Q9

Are you trying to hire new staff to meet demand, and do you need help?

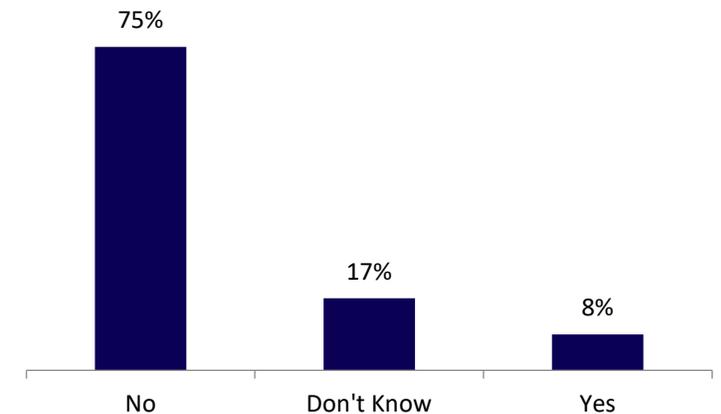


8

Trying to hire new staff

Q10

Do you need help in pivoting your business model?



4

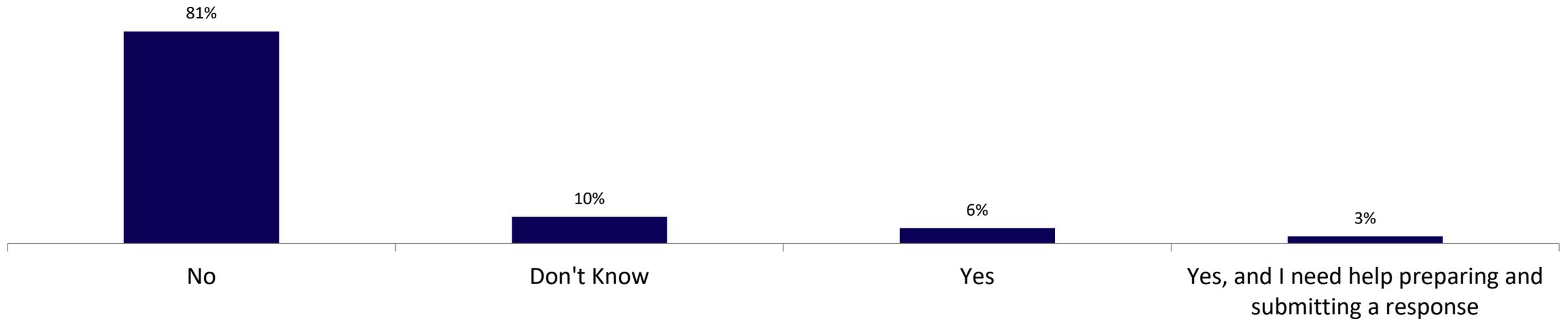
Asked for help pivoting their business model



# Survey Response: Summary

**59 local businesses noted the ability to provide critical medical supplies/equipment**

Does your business have the ability to provide critical supplies/innovative ideas?



**59**  
Businesses can provide help with medical supplies/equipment.



# Survey Response: Summary

## Areas of concern for businesses

Respondents were asked to note their level of concern across various factors. These factors came from our initial Survey #1. A selection was made from the options: “Highly concerned, concerned, somewhat concerned and not concerned”

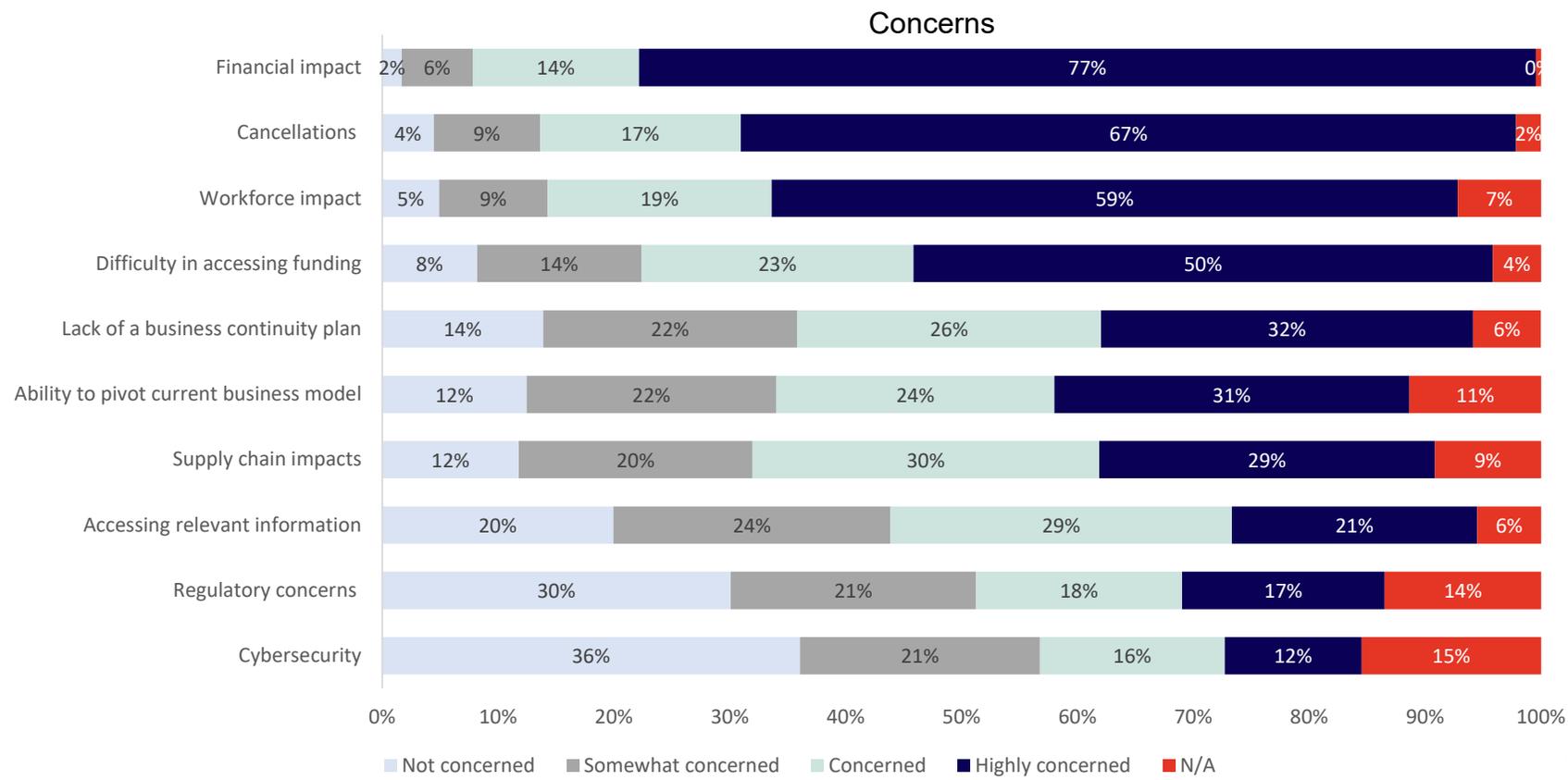
### Observations

Number of responses: 654  
Number skipped: 216

**92%**  
Concerned or highly concerned about the financial impact

**78%**  
Concerned or highly concerned about the impacts on their workforce

**73%**  
Concerned or highly concerned about difficulty in accessing funding





## Most Recent Activities



Virtual Farmers  
Markets and Farm-  
Fresh Deliveries

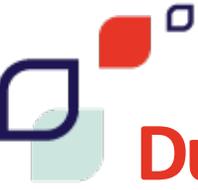
## Durham Economic Task Force

### Top Priority Phase-2 Activities

- #SupportLocal Campaign
- Local Food Campaign:  
[www.investdurham.ca/localfood](http://www.investdurham.ca/localfood)
- Converting our COVID-19 webpage into a portal
- Supporting & Sharing Good News Stories
- Webinars with Business Community
- 'Downtowns of Durham' Website & Campaign with the BIAs
- Advocacy: calls with Durham's MPs and MPPs



# Next Steps



# Durham Economic Task Force Next Steps

## More Phase-2 Activities: Collaborating on an 8 point plan

1. Coordinated communications & maintain webpage:  
[www.investdurham.ca/covidresponse](http://www.investdurham.ca/covidresponse)
2. Response to Provincial / Federal appeal for medical supplies
3. Coordinate a centralized intake/help portal for businesses
4. Supply chain focus: making new connections and diversifying
5. Support for those businesses experiencing growth
6. Compiling and providing webinars and individualized services to businesses to pivot their business model, or adopt eCommerce models
7. Virtual sector-focused roundtables for sharing ideas and leading-practices
8. Ramping up small business advisory services

# Phase-3 Activities: Recovery

Will require a massive coordinated effort.