



SMALL BUSINESS
FOR AMERICA'S FUTURE

Survey: Small Businesses Say Corporations Driving Inflation That is Hurting Main Street

March 2022

About Small Business for America's Future

- Small Business for America's Future is a national coalition of business owners and leaders working to provide small businesses a voice at every level of government.
- We're committed to ensuring policymakers prioritize Main Street by advancing a just and equitable economic framework that works for small business owners, their employees and their communities.





Key Findings

Small Business Blames Corporations for Driving Inflation

- From March 2- 6, 2022, Small Business for America's Future conducted a **national survey of 1,576 small business owners** in its network to learn more about the ongoing economic challenges.
- Small businesses surveyed pointed to a number of economic issues stemming from the Covid-19 pandemic as the top challenges they are facing, including:
 - **60%** said inflation is their top challenge
 - **55%** said access to affordable and responsible capital is their top challenge
 - **48%** said labor shortages is their top challenge
- **63%** of small business owners surveyed said they think large corporations have been taking advantage of inflation to raise their prices on customers unnecessarily and increase profits
 - **97%** of small business owners who think large corporations have been taking advantage of inflation to raise prices say that doing so hurts small business



Small Business Owners Supports Policies that Cut Costs & Address Labor Shortages

- As small business owners continue to feel the fallout of Covid-19 and the economic issues it created, they support policies that address their operating expenses and increase the labor pool
- **80%** strongly support reforms to reduce the cost of healthcare and prescription drugs
 - Though the Build Back Better Agenda, which included policies to address the cost of healthcare and prescription drug prices, is stalled in the Senate, **83%** of small business owners surveyed think it's an important priority for the administration and Congress to continue pursuing policies to bring down healthcare costs
- **65%** strongly support reforms ensuring corporations and the wealthy pay their fair share of taxes
- **58%** support creating a federal paid family leave program that allows workers to take paid time to bond with a new child, care for a seriously ill loved one or heal from their own serious illness
- **55%** support extending the child tax credit and capping childcare costs for families, which would help more women enter the workforce

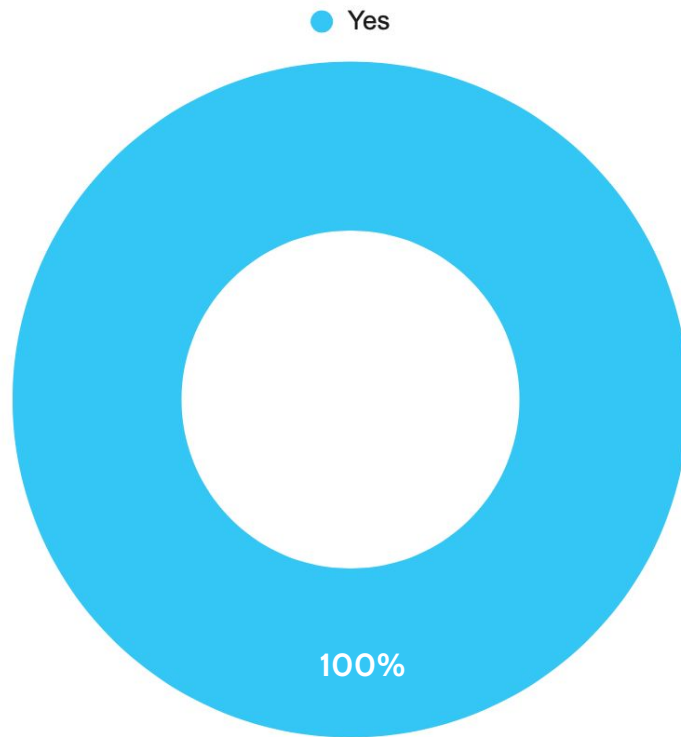


An overhead, top-down view of a collaborative office workspace. Several people are seated around a large wooden table, working on various devices. In the top left, a person's hands are on a white keyboard. In the top center, another person is typing on a white keyboard. In the top right, a person is writing in a notebook. In the bottom left, a person is using a laptop. In the bottom center, a person is holding a tablet. In the bottom right, a person is using a mouse. The table is cluttered with various items: two large computer monitors, a laptop, a smartphone, a coffee cup, a small potted plant, pens, pencils, notebooks, and a calculator. The entire image has a light blue tint.

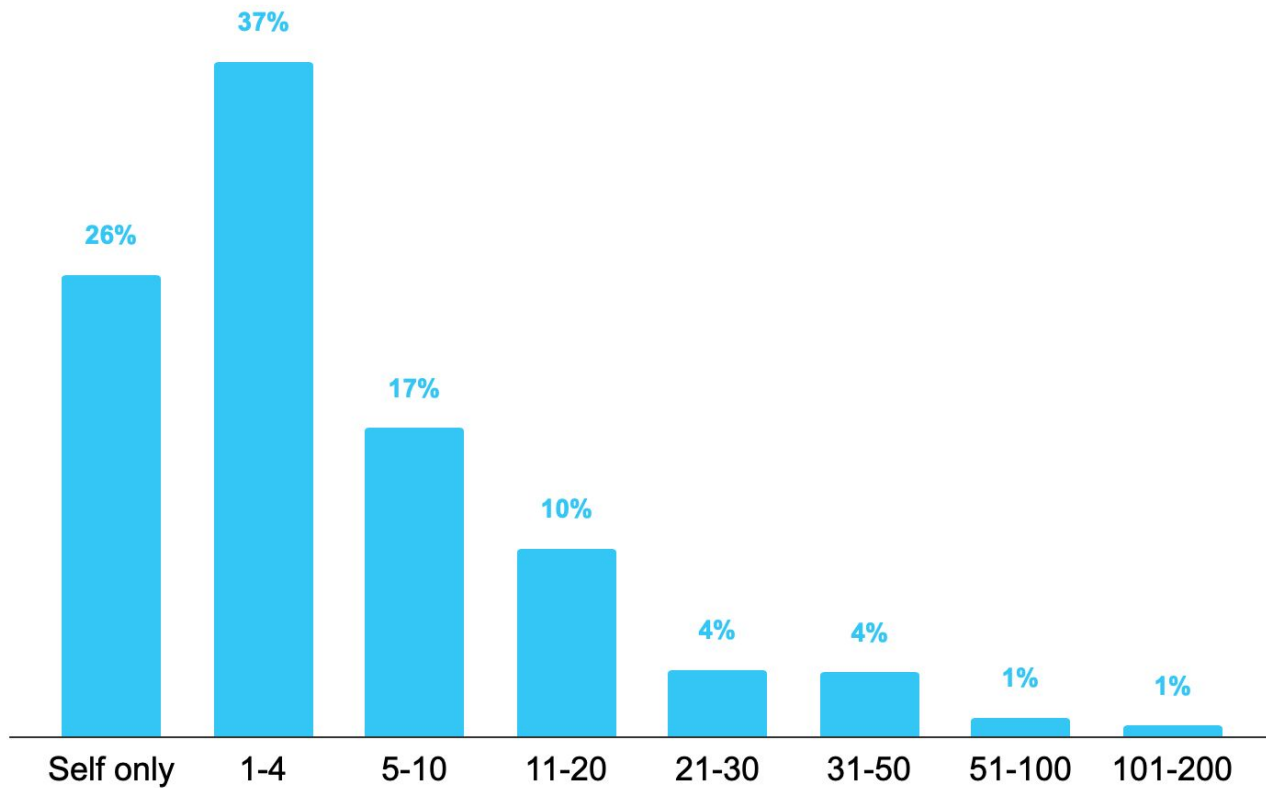
Survey Results

Q1: Are you a small business owner?

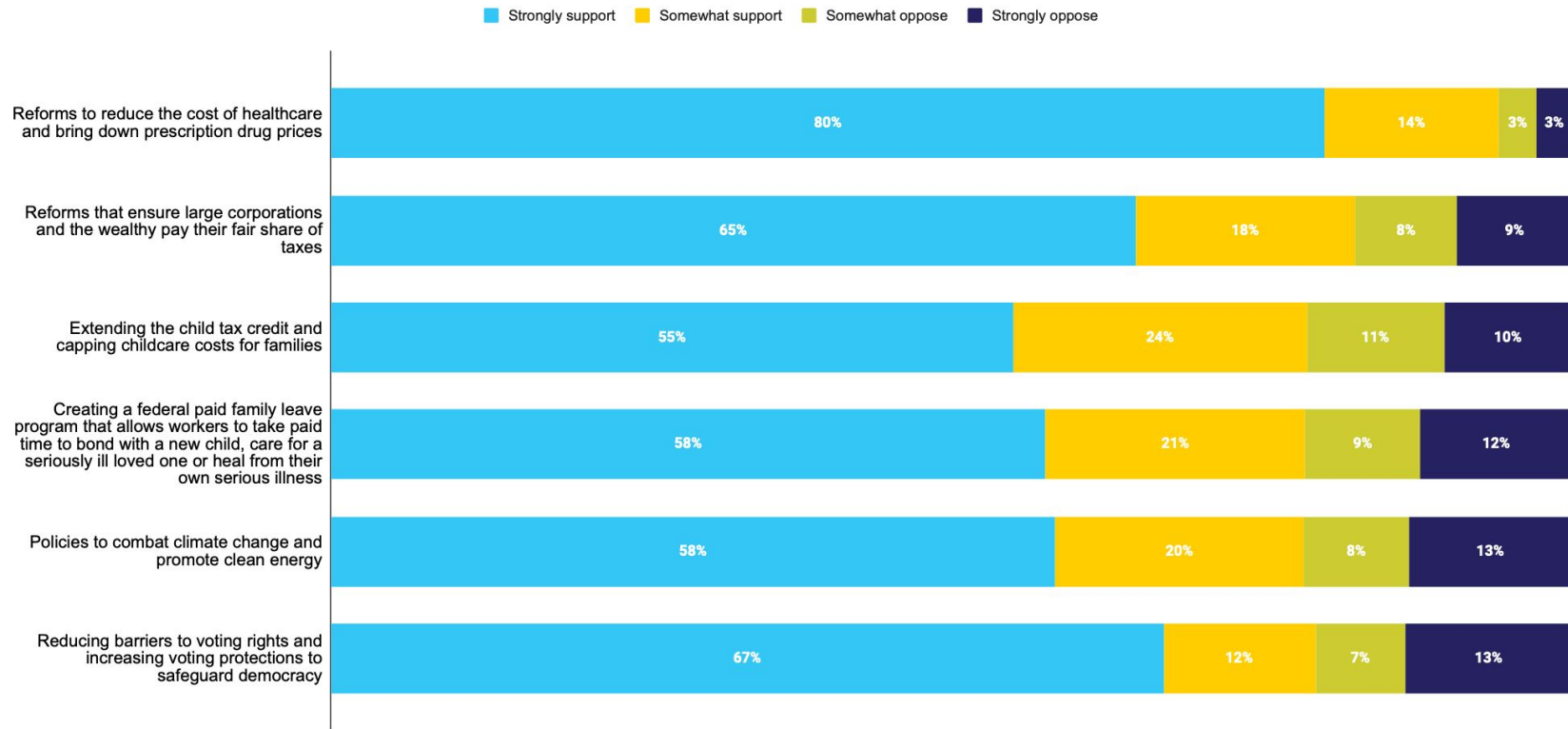
n=1,576



Q2: Not including yourself, how many people do you employ?

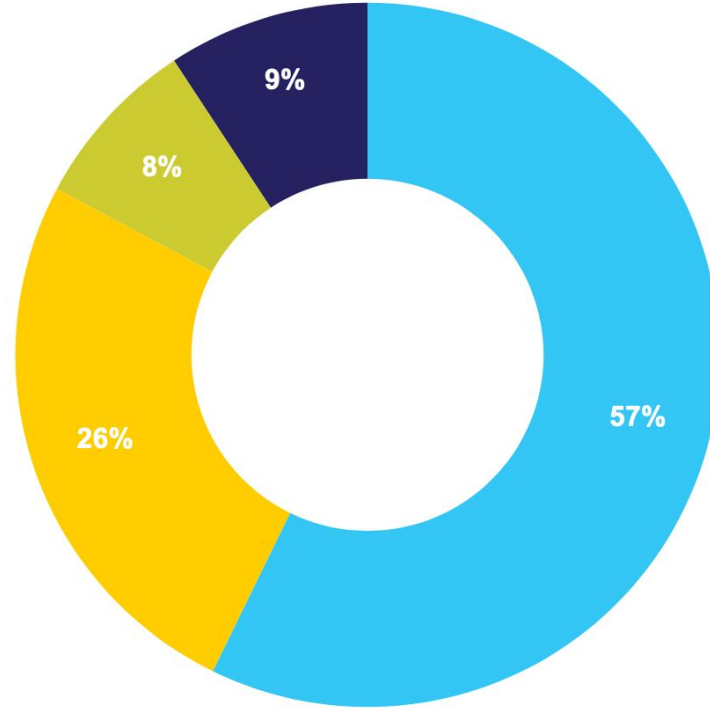


Q3: Below is a list of policy issues raised in the State of the Union. Please indicate whether you oppose or support each policy:

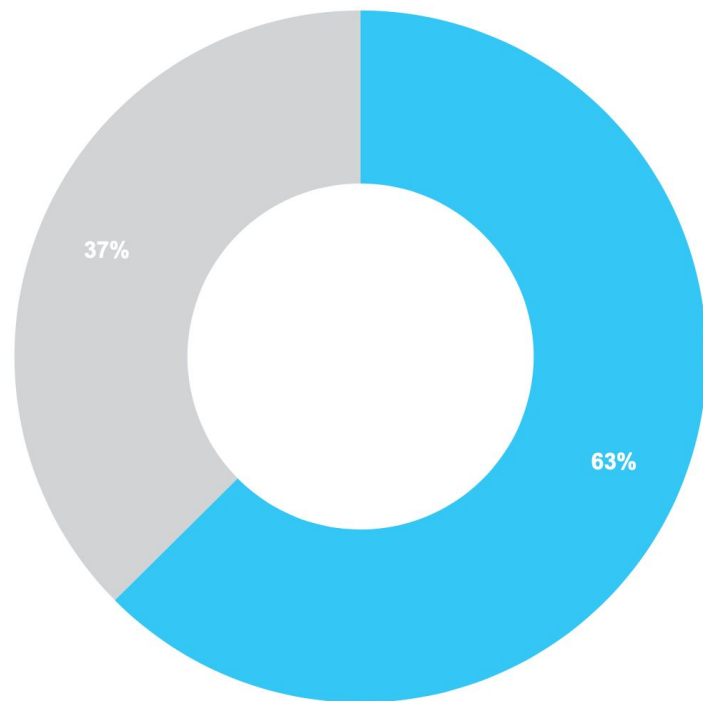


Q4: The Build Back Better Act (BBB) included policies that would address the high cost of prescription drugs and healthcare. With BBB legislation stalled in the Senate, how much of a priority is it for you to have the Administration and Congress continue to pursue policies that bring down prescription drug prices and healthcare costs?

● A very important priority ● An important priority ● Not an important important ● Not a priority at all



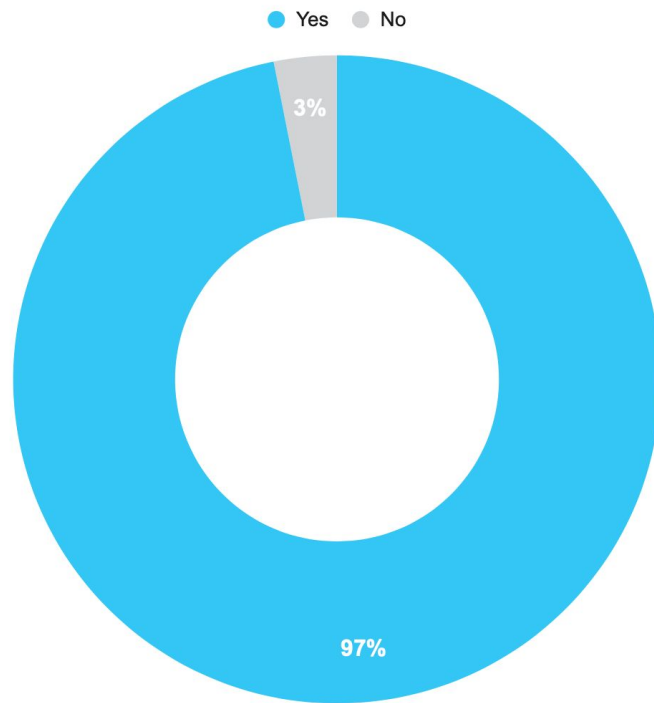
Q5: Do you think that large corporations have been taking advantage of inflation to raise their prices on customers unnecessarily and increase profits, OR do you think large corporations have no choice but to raise prices in response to rising costs ?



- I think large corporations have been taking advantage of inflation to raise their prices on customers unnecessarily and increase profits
- I think large corporations have no choice but to raise prices in response to rising costs

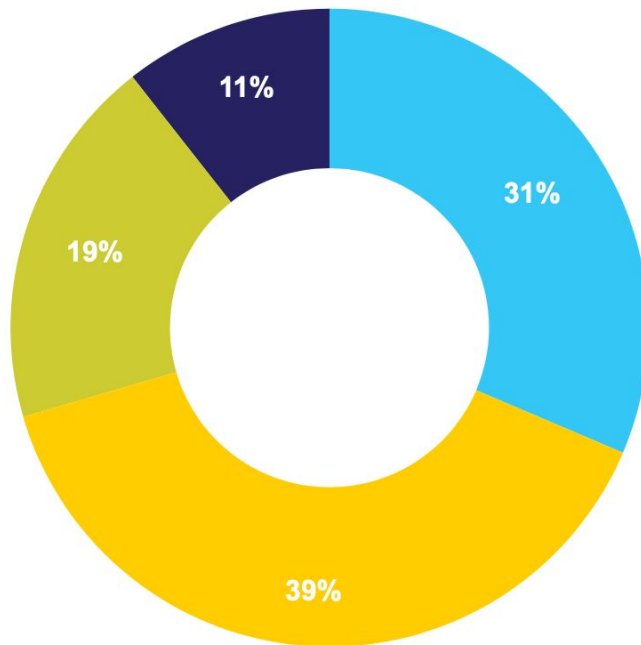


Q6: Do you think corporate price gouging contributes to inflation that is harming small businesses?

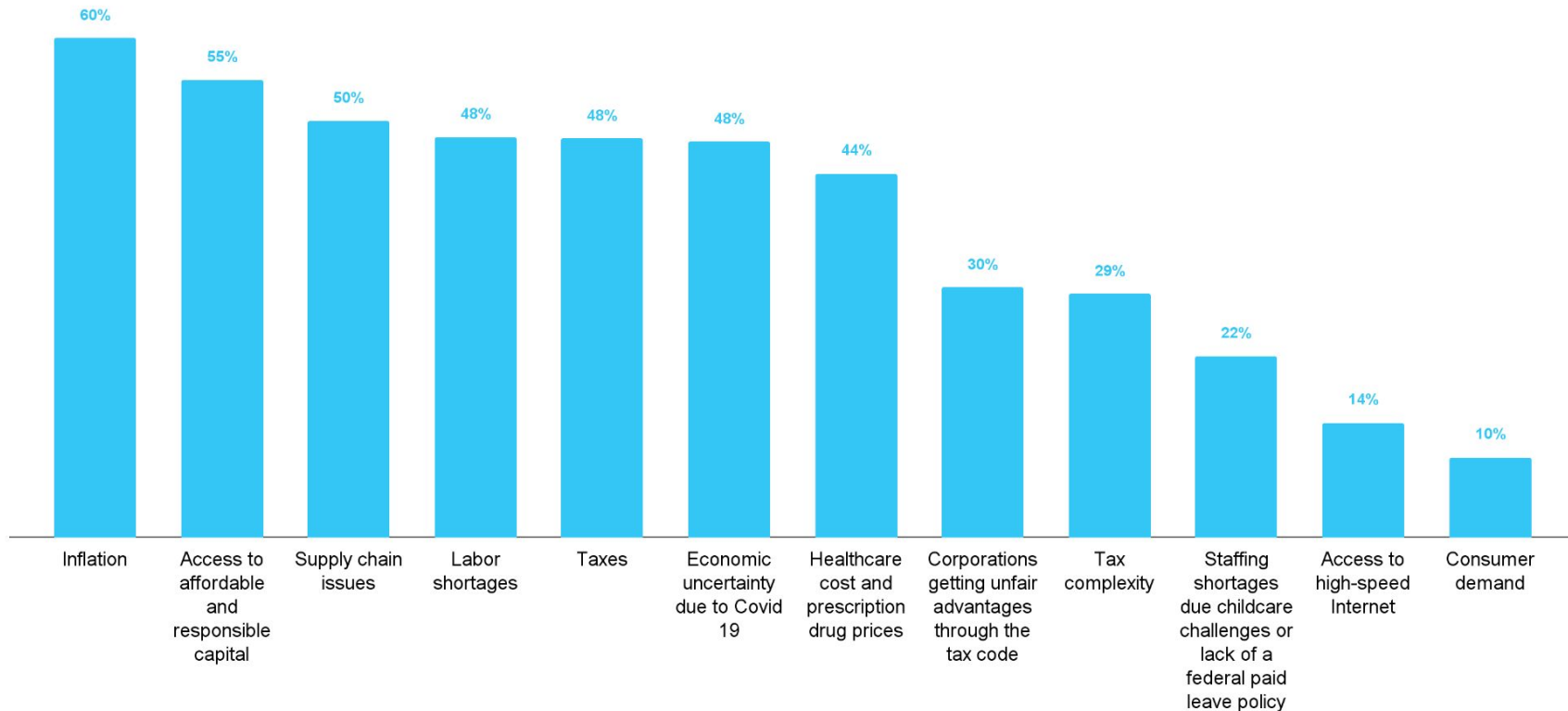


Q7: The number of Americans considering opening a small business has hit a record high. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The future for entrepreneurship is bright and those interested should pursue it as a career.

● Strongly agree ● Somewhat agree ● Somewhat disagree ● Strongly disagree



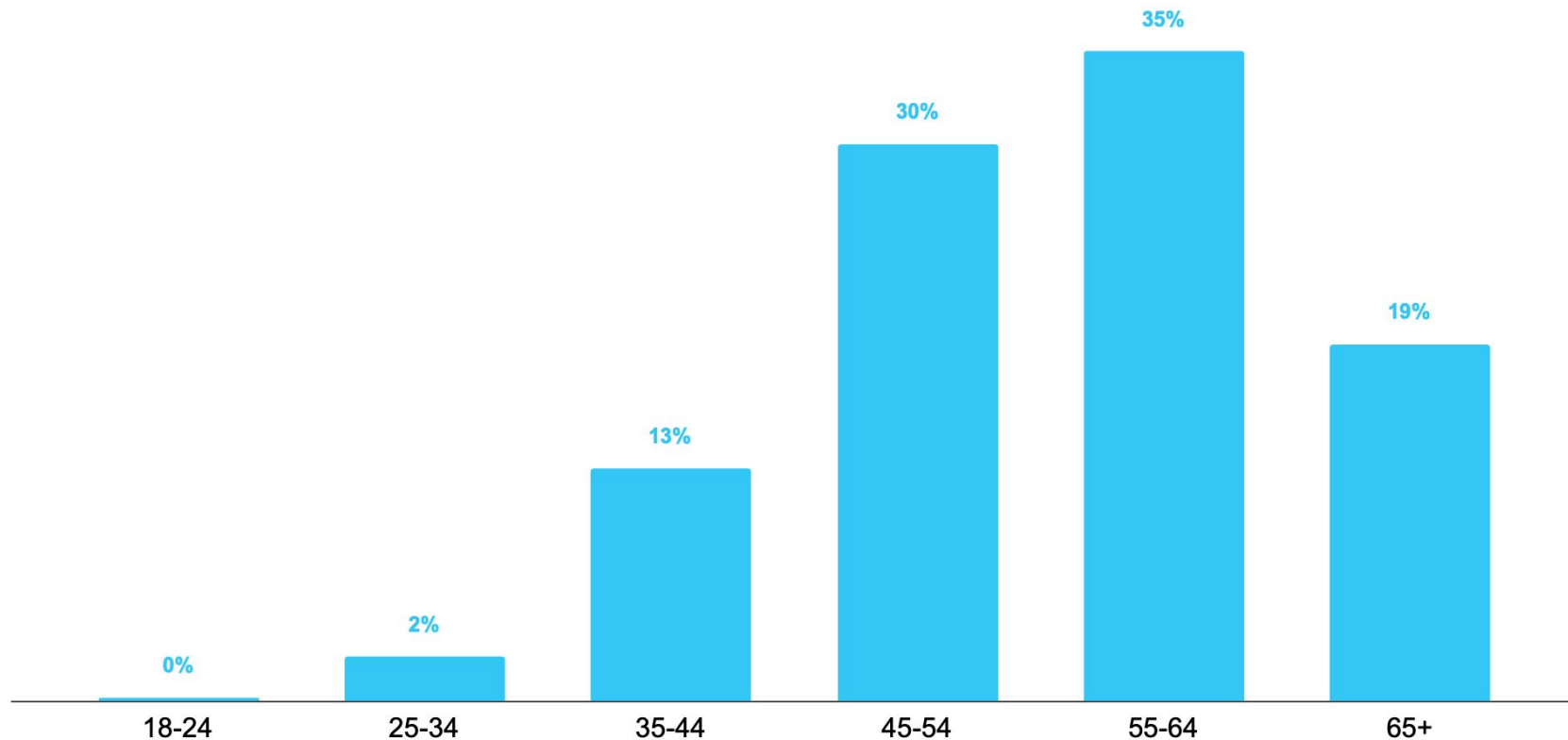
Q8: Please indicate which of the following issues present the biggest challenges to small businesses right now (Select all that apply)



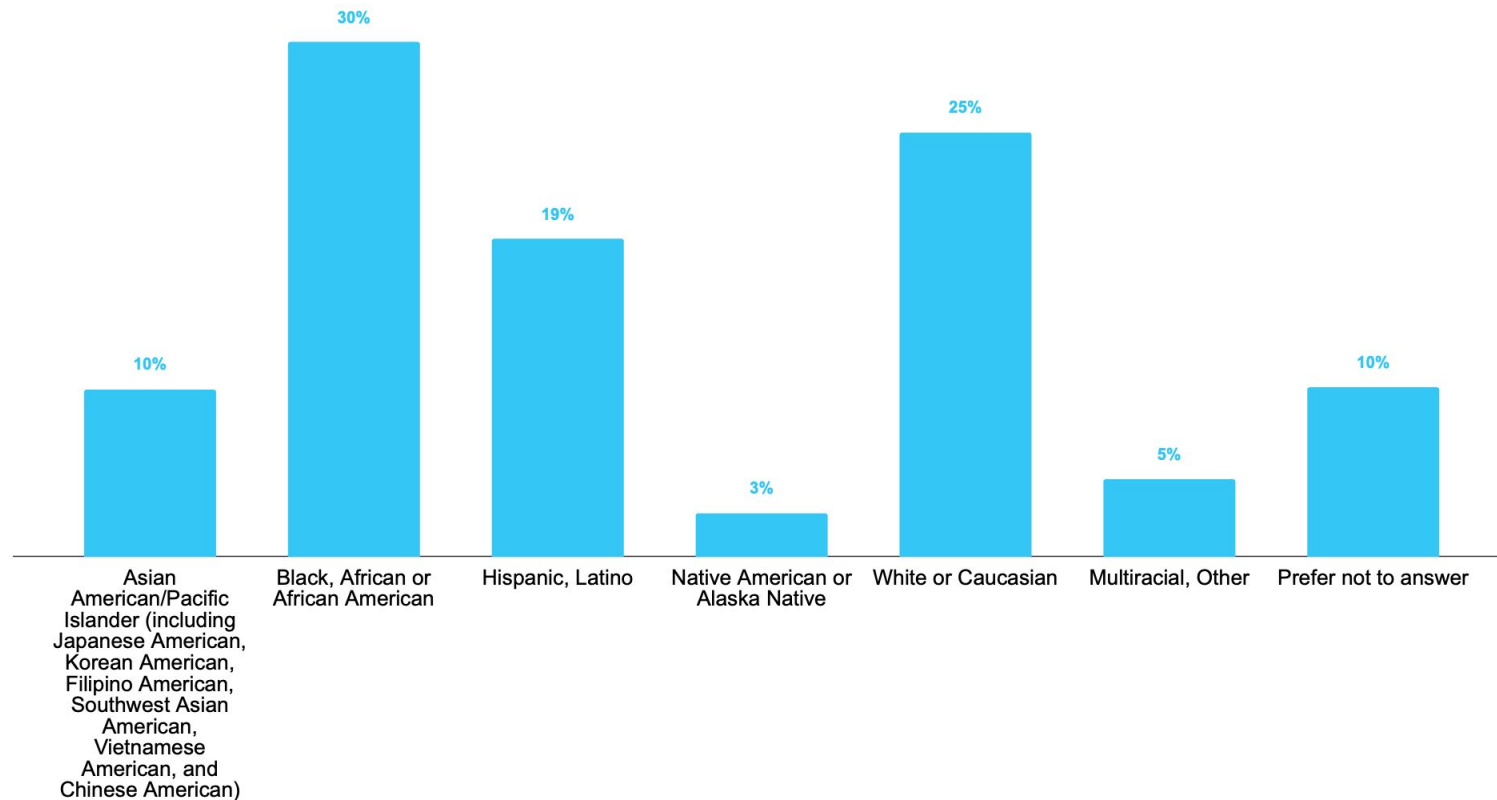
An aerial, high-angle photograph of a wide, paved pedestrian walkway. The ground is composed of large, light-colored rectangular tiles. Several people are walking across the frame in various directions. Some are walking in groups, while others are alone. The overall scene is captured with a blue color overlay. The text "Demographic Data" is centered in the middle of the image in a white, sans-serif font.

Demographic Data

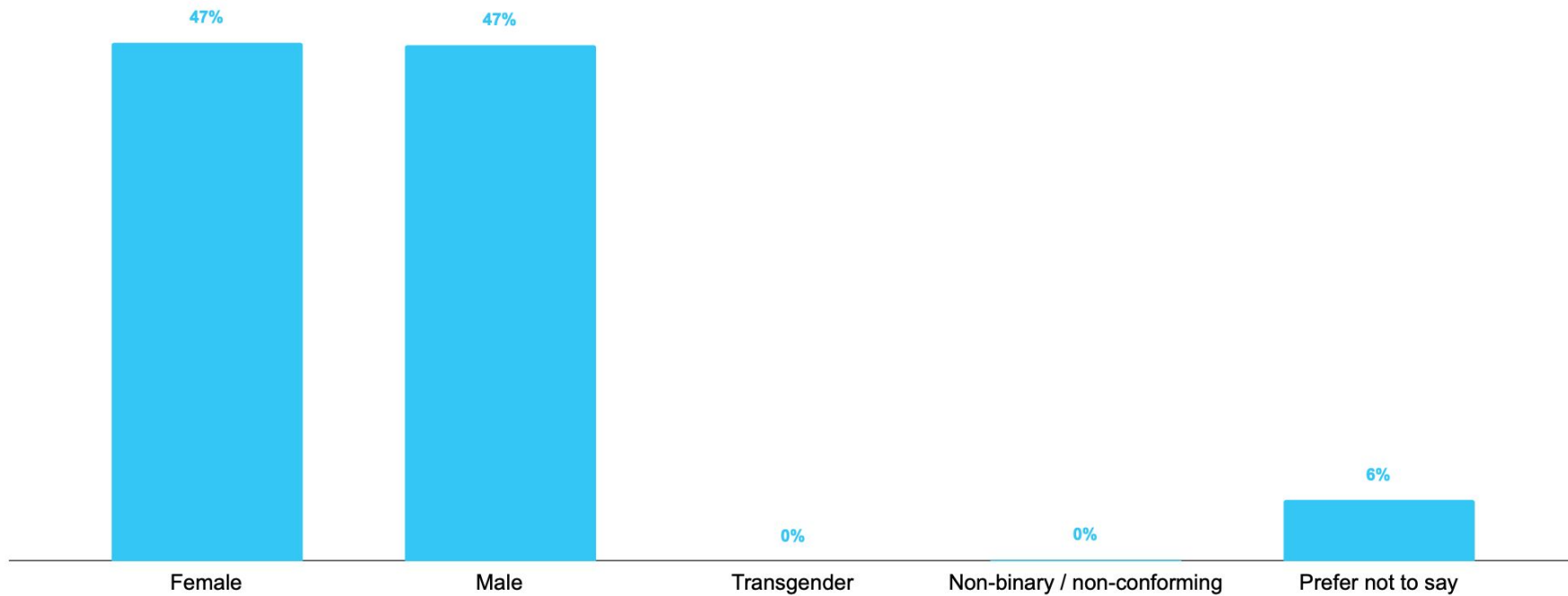
Q9: What is your age?



Q10: How do you identify yourself?

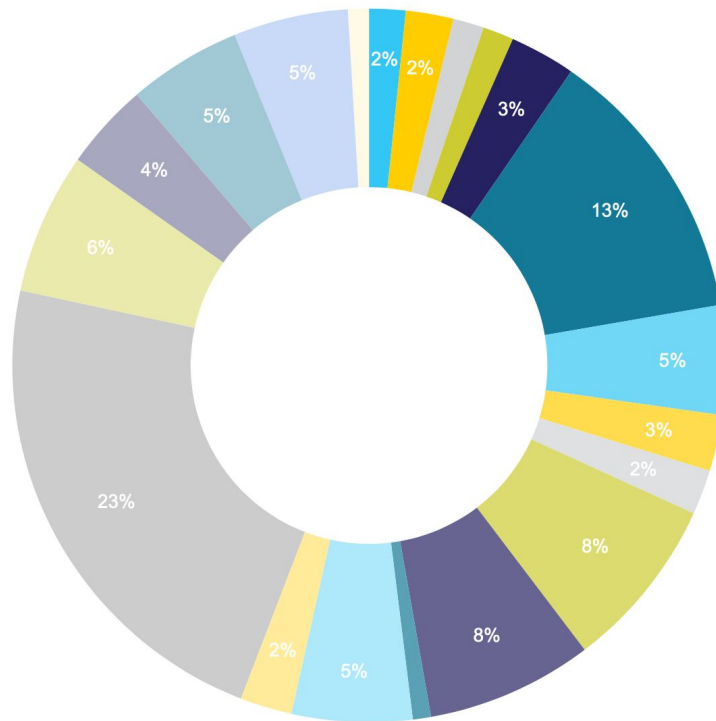


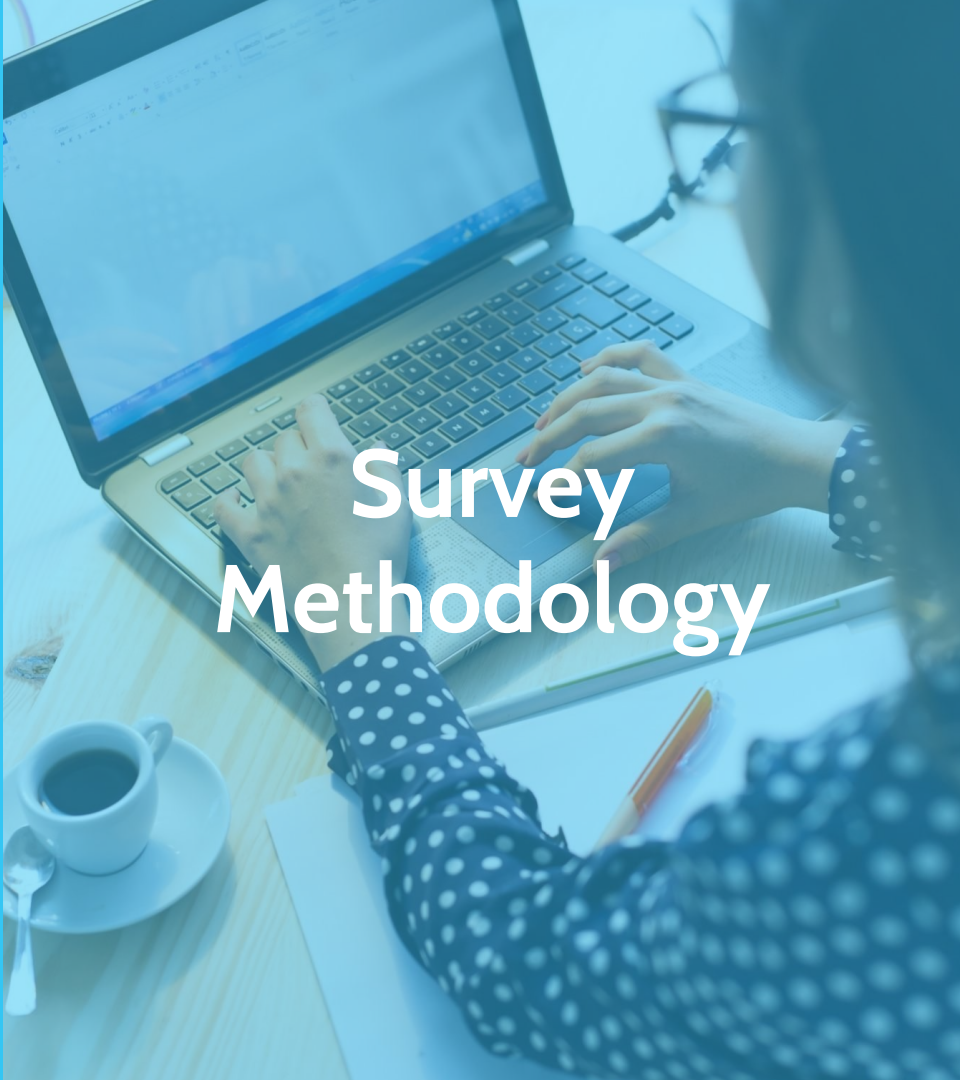
Q11: What is your gender identity?



Q12: Which of the following best describes the principal industry of your business?

- Advertising & Marketing
- Agriculture
- Airlines & Aerospace (including Defense)
- Automotive
- Business Support & Logistics
- Construction, Machinery, and Homes
- Education
- Entertainment & Leisure
- Finance & Financial Services
- Food & Beverages
- Healthcare & Pharmaceuticals
- Insurance
- Manufacturing
- Nonprofit
- Professional Services
- Retail & Consumer Durables
- Real Estate
- Telecommunications, Technology, Internet & Electronics
- Transportation & Delivery
- Utilities, Energy, and Extraction





Survey Methodology

1,576 Total Responses

Methodology:

Survey Monkey survey of Small Business for
America's Future small business network

Fielded from March 2-6

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