



SMALL BUSINESS FOR AMERICA'S FUTURE

Survey: Small Businesses Hit by Omicron, Inflation & Worker Shortages say BBB Policies Would Help

January 25, 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 businesses hit by omicron, inflation & worker shortages say BBB policies would help

- From Dec. 8 - 30, 2021, Small Business for America's Future conducted a **national survey of 1,744 small business owners** in its network to learn more about the ongoing economic challenges they face and actions they want Congress and the administration to take to address them.
- Two-thirds (**67%**) of small business owners say they were somewhat or very concerned about how the Omicron variant will impact their businesses
- Most small business owners have been impacted by recent economic challenges, including **88%** saying they have been impacted by inflation, **72%** saying their business has been impacted by supply chain issues, and **57%** saying they have had trouble filling open positions.
- Most small business owners surveyed believe policies proposed in the Build Back Better Act (BBB), and investments made by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal, will help with those issues.
 - **63%** of small business owners surveyed say investments made in the BBB would help address the worker shortage and **62%** believe the it would help ease inflationary pressures



Small businesses hit by omicron, inflation & worker shortages say BBB policies would help

- **69%** of small business owners surveyed said they support the BBB.
- When asked which policies in the legislation would have the most positive impact on their community, the top three responses selected were:
 - Reforms to lower the cost of healthcare and bring down prescription drug prices
 - Ensuring large corporations and the wealthy pay their fair share of taxes
 - Extending the child tax credit and capping childcare costs for families
- Small business owners are prepared to base their midterm election votes on lawmakers' position on the Build Back Better Act:
 - **66%** saying they would be more likely to vote for a lawmaker who supported the BBB
 - Small business owners were critical of the U.S. Senate, where the Build Back Better Act is stalled, with only **36%** of small business owners approving of their handling of small business issues compared to **64%** disapproving.



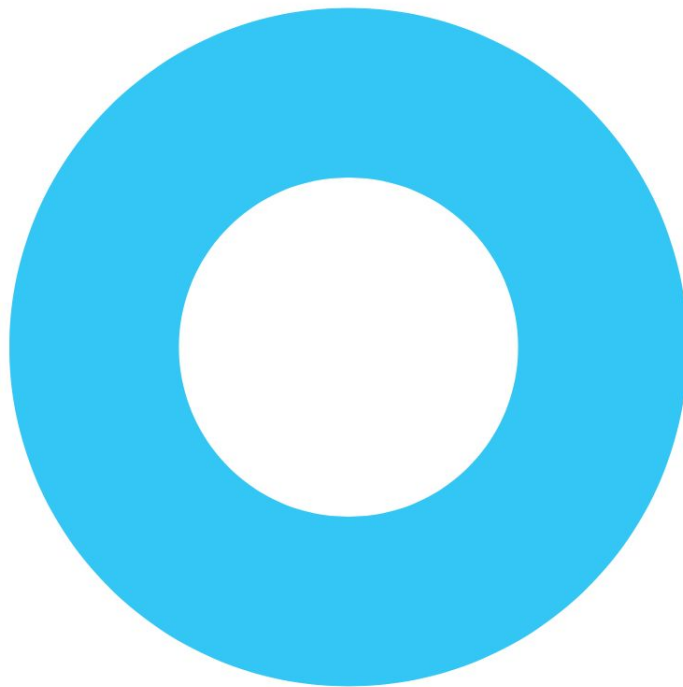
An overhead, top-down view of a collaborative office workspace. Several people are seated around a large wooden table, working on various devices including desktop monitors, laptops, and tablets. The workspace is cluttered with office supplies such as keyboards, mice, notebooks, pens, a coffee cup, and a small potted plant. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The text "Survey Results" is centered in the middle of the image in a white, sans-serif font.

Survey Results

Q1: Are you a small business owner?

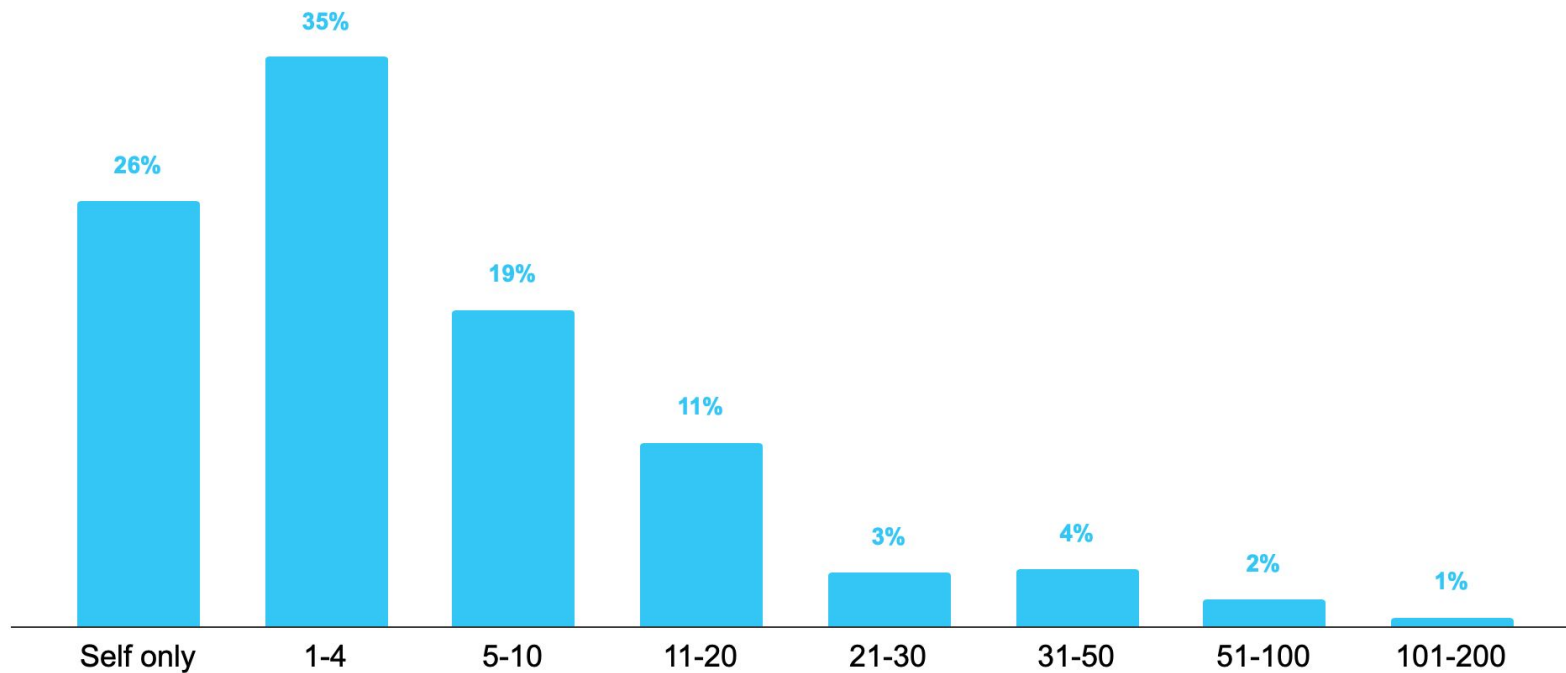
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● Yes



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

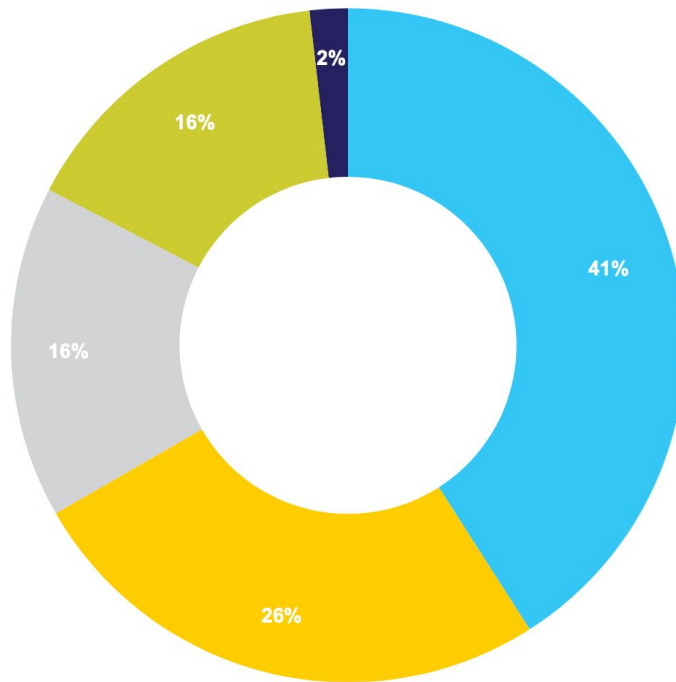
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Q3: Given what you know about the Omicron COVID-19 variant, how concerned are you about how it will impact your business?

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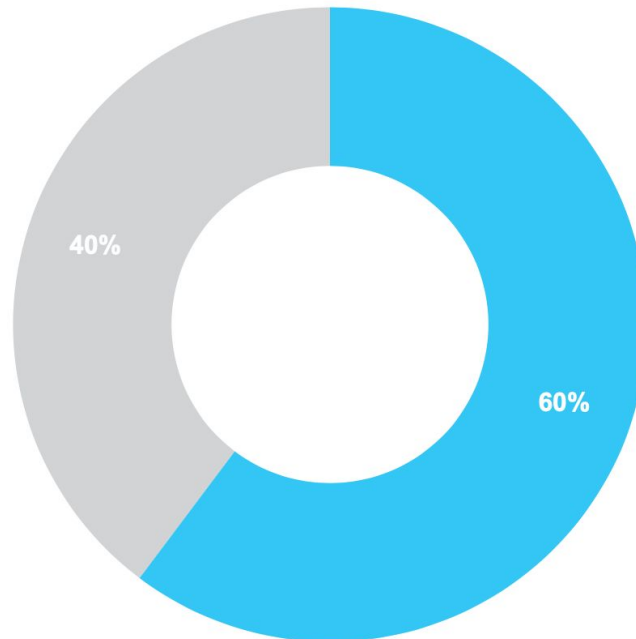
● Very concerned ● Somewhat concerned ● Not very concerned ● Not concerned at all ● I have not heard enough about the Omicron COVID-19 variant



Q4: To help stop the spread of Covid-19, the Biden Administration has suggested a workplace requirement for large businesses with over 100 employees that their employees must be vaccinated against Covid-19. The vast majority of businesses -- 96%, which includes most small businesses -- would be exempt. Do you:

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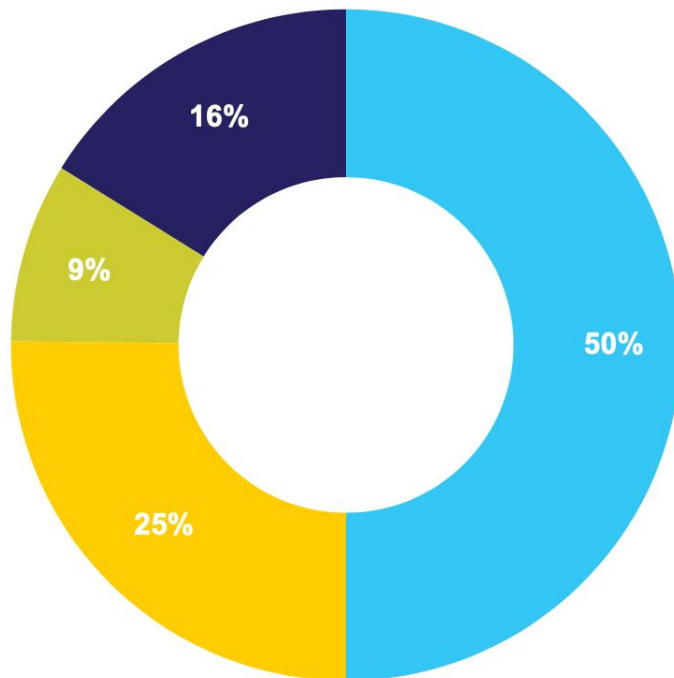
- Support the mandate on business with more 100 employees to help slow the spread of Covid-19
- Do not support the mandate on businesses with more than 100 employees



Q5: Do you support the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal?

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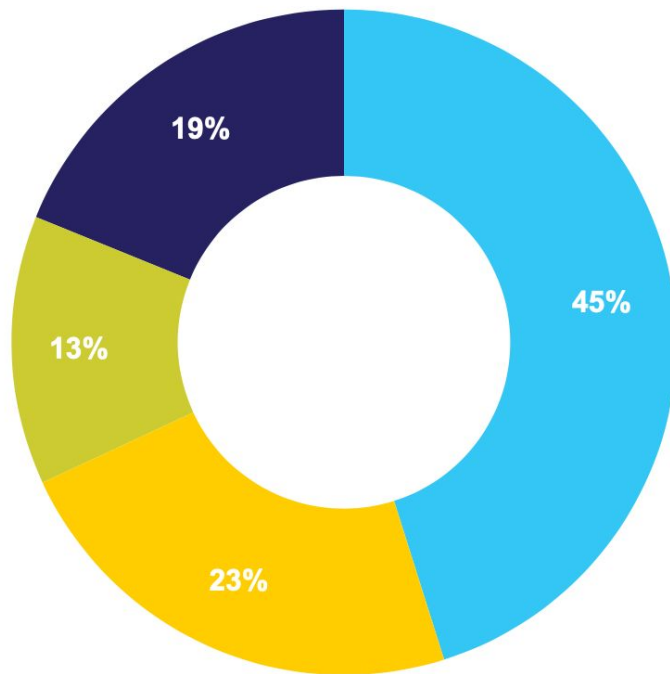
● Strongly support ● Somewhat support ● Somewhat oppose ● Strongly oppose



Q6: When thinking about the 2022 elections for Congress, are you more or less likely to vote for a lawmaker who supported the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal?

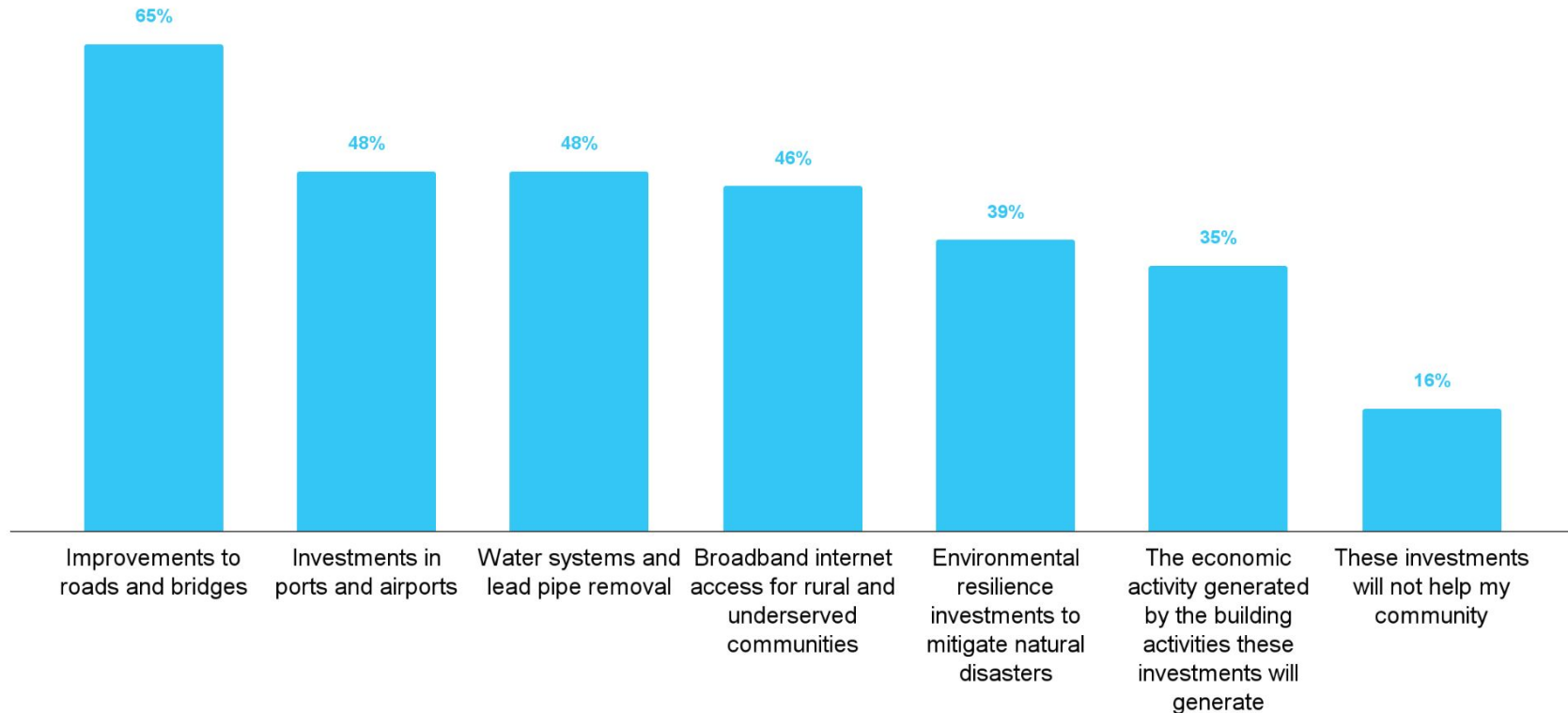
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● Much more likely ● Somewhat more likely ● Somewhat less likely ● Much less likely



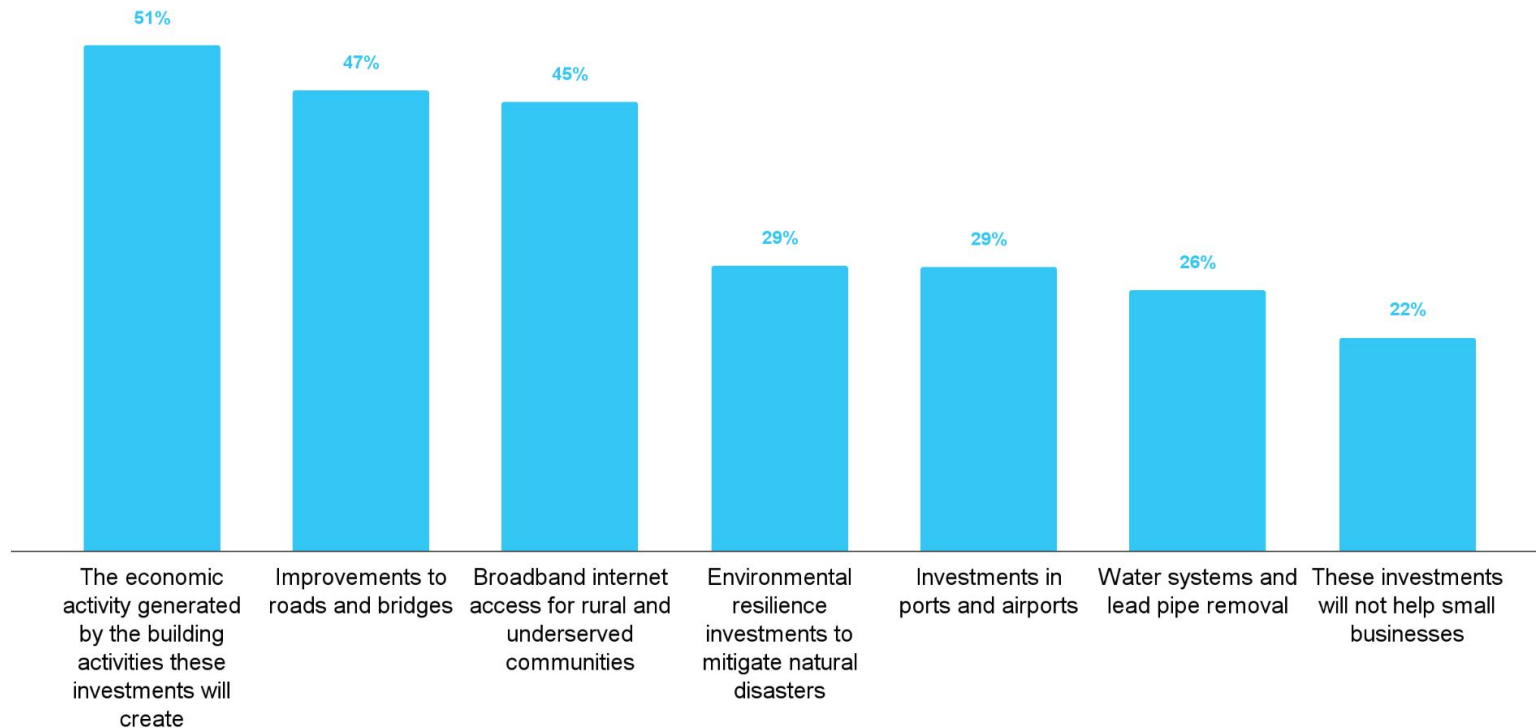
Q7: Which infrastructure investments do you believe will make the most positive impact on your community? (Select all that apply)

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Q8: What infrastructure investments do you believe will have the most positive impact on small businesses? (Select all that apply)

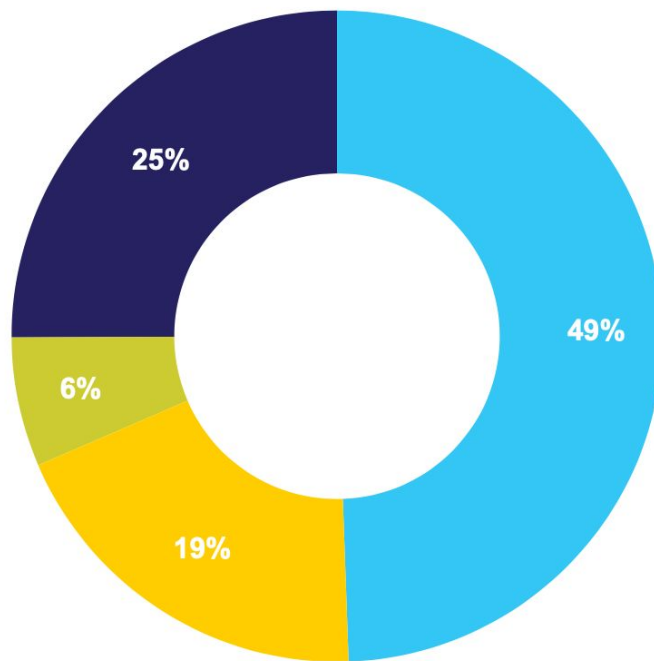
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Q9: Do you support the Build Back Better Act?

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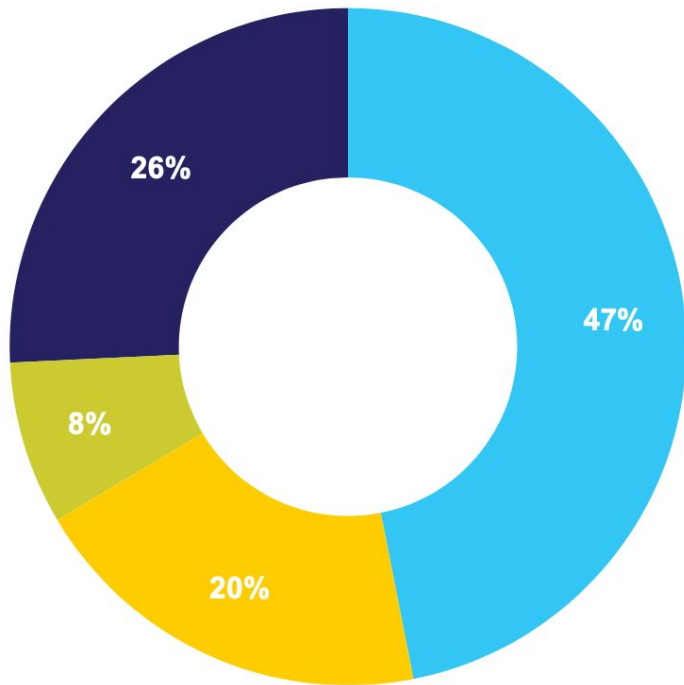
● Strongly support ● Somewhat support ● Somewhat oppose ● Strongly oppose



Q10: When thinking about the 2022 elections for Congress, are you more or less likely to vote for a lawmaker who supports the Build Back Better Act?

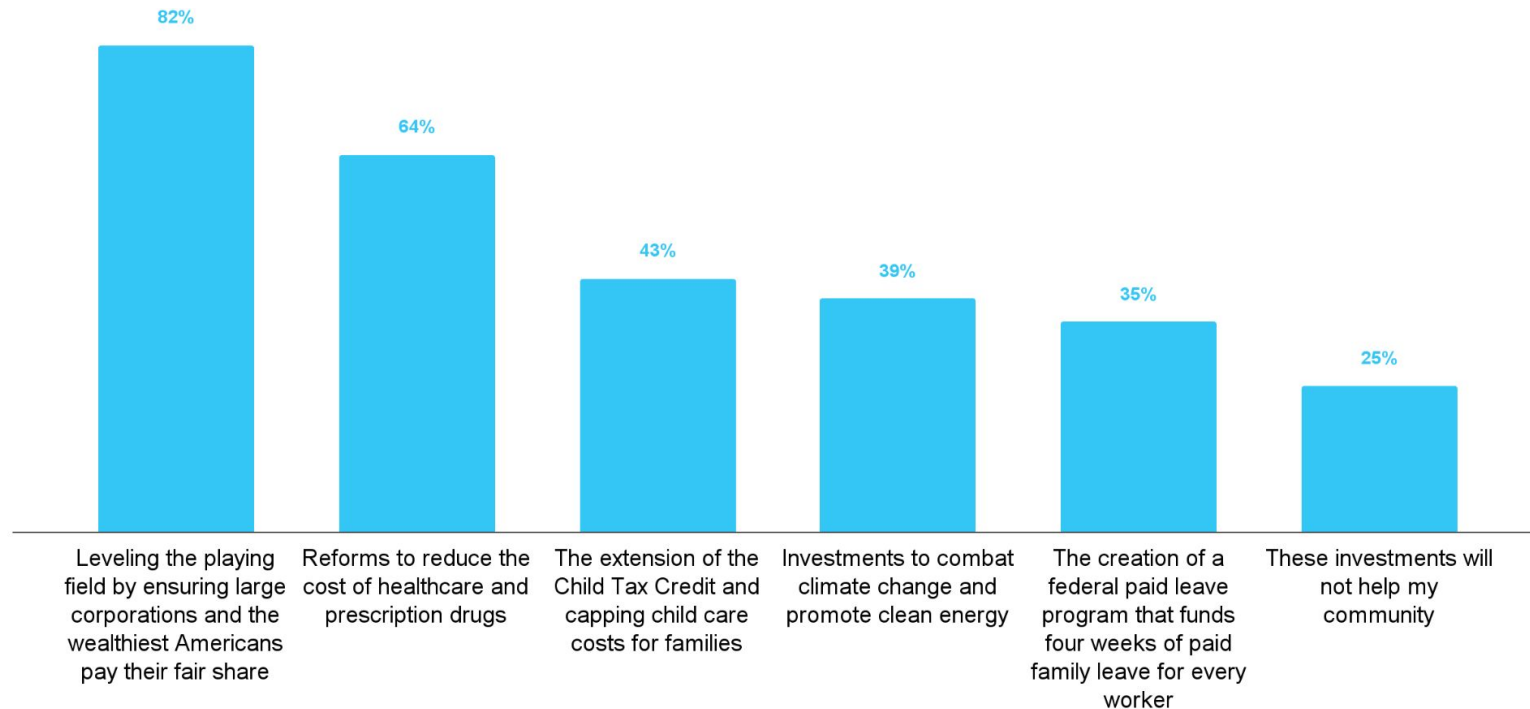
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● Much more likely ● Somewhat more likely ● Somewhat less likely ● Much less likely



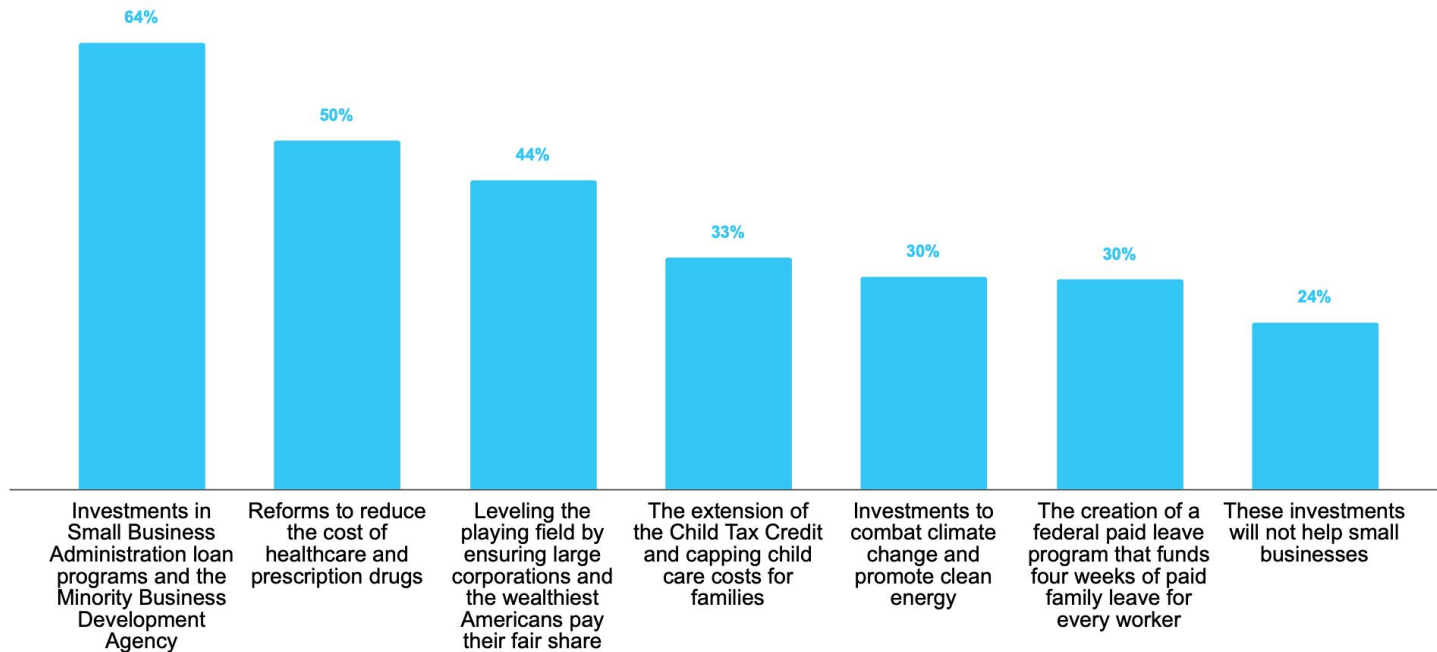
Q11: What investments in the Build Back Better Act do you believe will have the most positive impact on your community? (Select all that apply)

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Q12: What investments in the Build Back Better Act do you believe will have the most positive impact on small businesses? (Select all that apply)

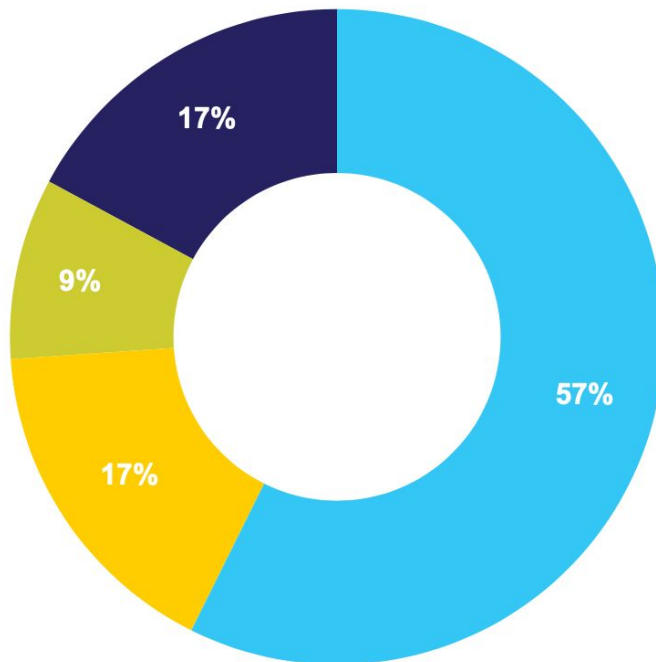
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Q13: The Build Back Better Act includes funding to the IRS to crack down on tax evasion among the wealthiest corporations and individuals. How important is it that the federal government take steps to ensure the wealthiest corporations and individuals fulfill their full tax responsibilities?

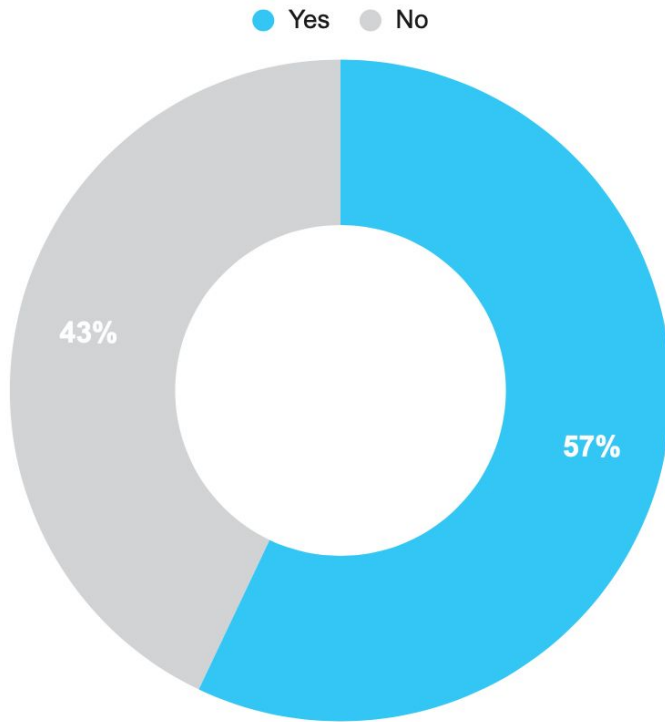
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● Very important ● Somewhat important ● Not very important ● Not important at all



Q14: Has your business had more trouble filling positions with qualified applicants?

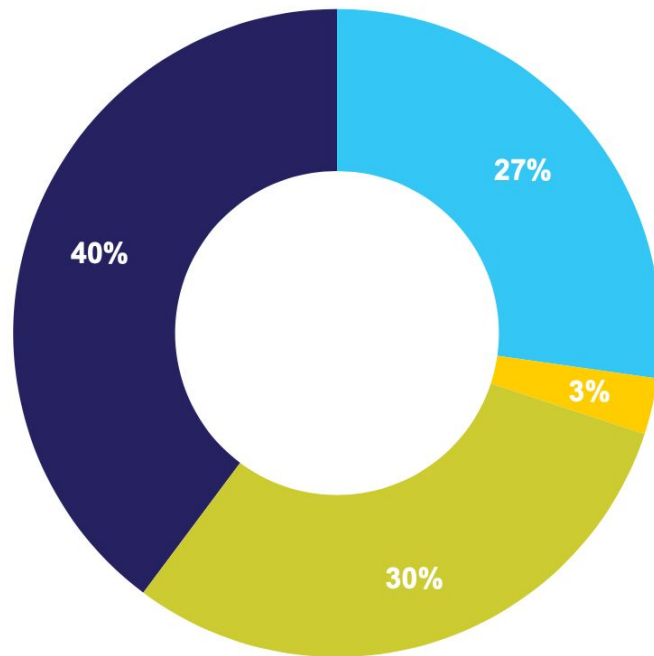
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Q15: In order to attract qualified applicants to fill positions, have you had to:

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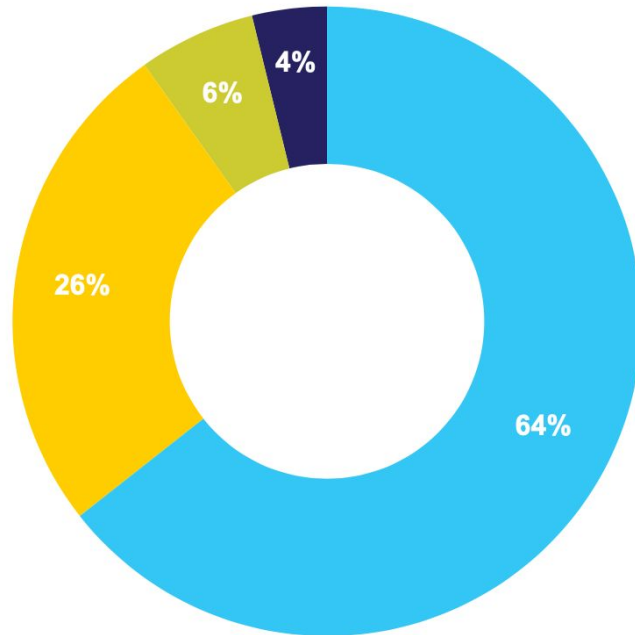
● Raise wages ● Increase benefits ● Both ● Neither



Q16: Do you believe the worker shortage is negatively impacting small businesses?

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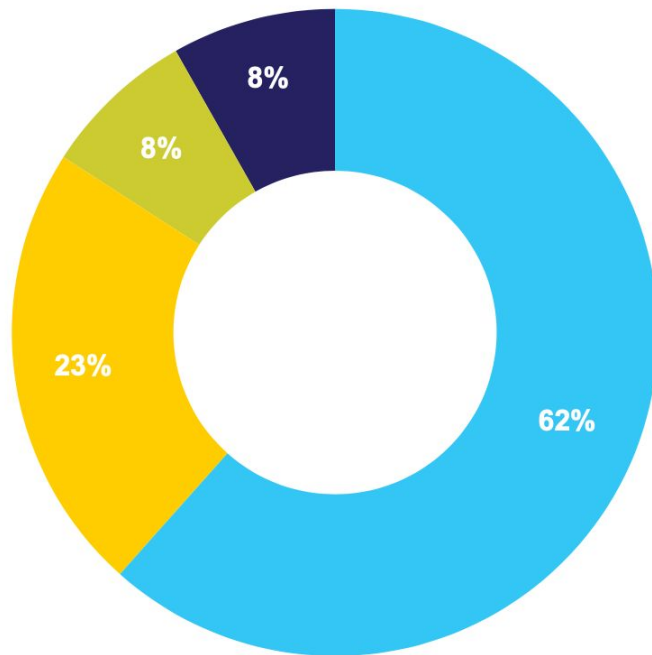
● Significantly impacting ● Somewhat impacting ● Not significantly impacting ● Not impacting at all



Q17: How important is it to your business that Congress and the administration address the worker shortage?

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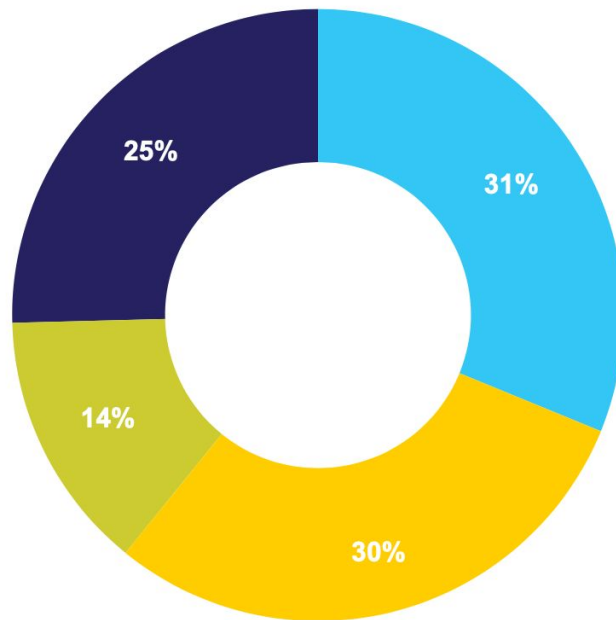
● Very important ● Somewhat important ● Not very important ● Not at all important



Q18: How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? “The Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal, which has already been signed into law, will help address the worker shortage by creating new, well paying jobs and improving community infrastructure like water and broadband?”

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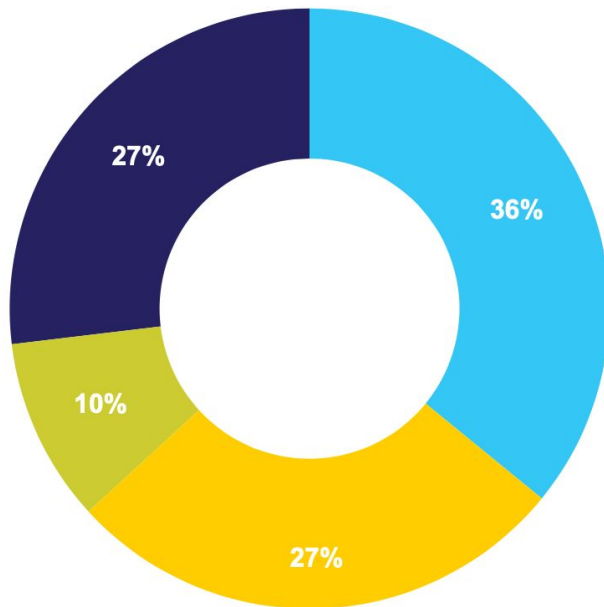
● Strongly agree ● Somewhat agree ● Somewhat disagree ● Strongly disagree



Q19: How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? “The Build Back Better Act, which is being debated in the Senate, will help address the worker shortage by improving social infrastructure like more affordable child care and healthcare and access to paid leave and long-term care so workers feel more prepared to balance work and home life?”

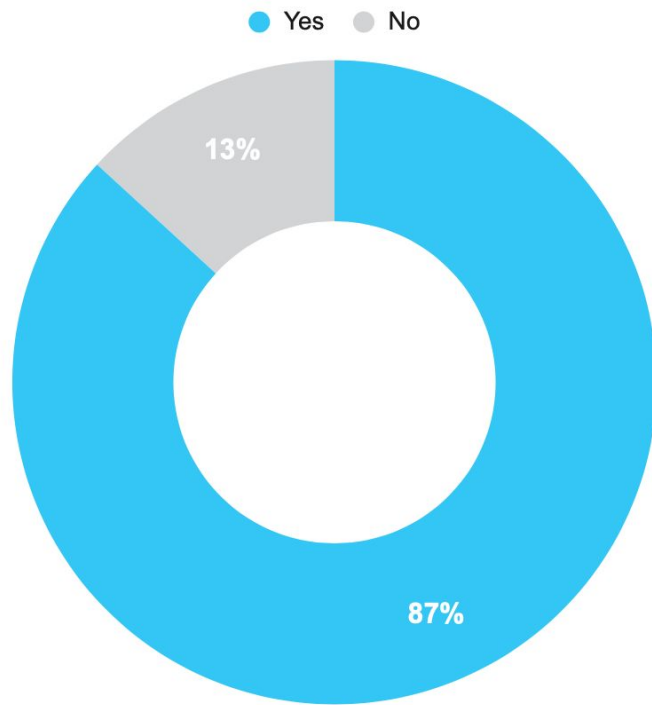
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● Strongly agree ● Somewhat agree ● Somewhat disagree ● Strongly disagree



Q20: Has your business been impacted by inflation?

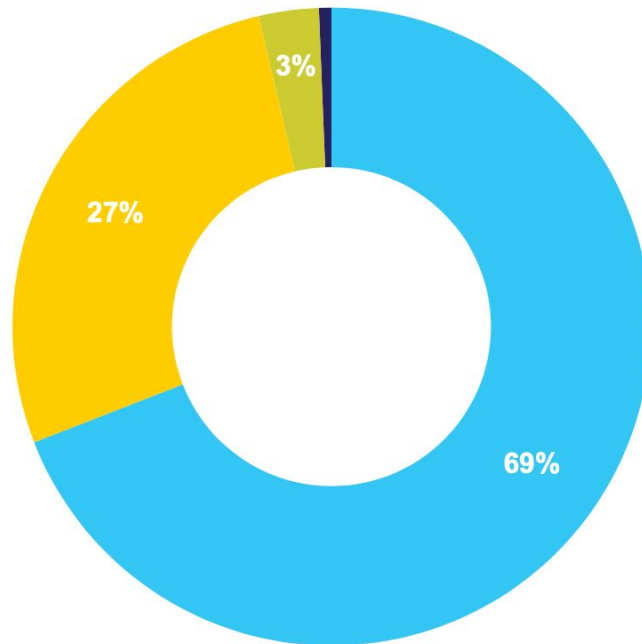
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Q21: Do you believe inflation is negatively impacting small businesses?

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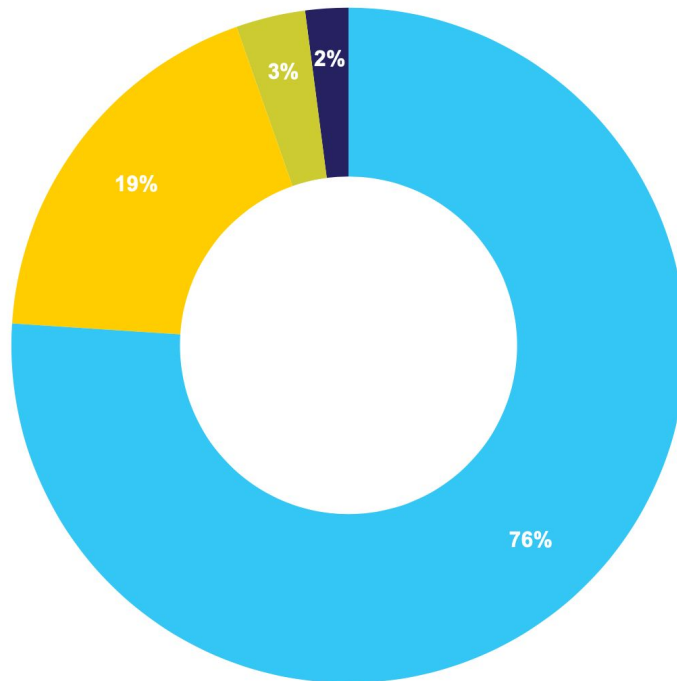
● Significant negative impacts ● Some negative impacts ● No significant impacts ● No negative impacts at all



Q22: How important is it to your business that Congress and the administration address inflation?

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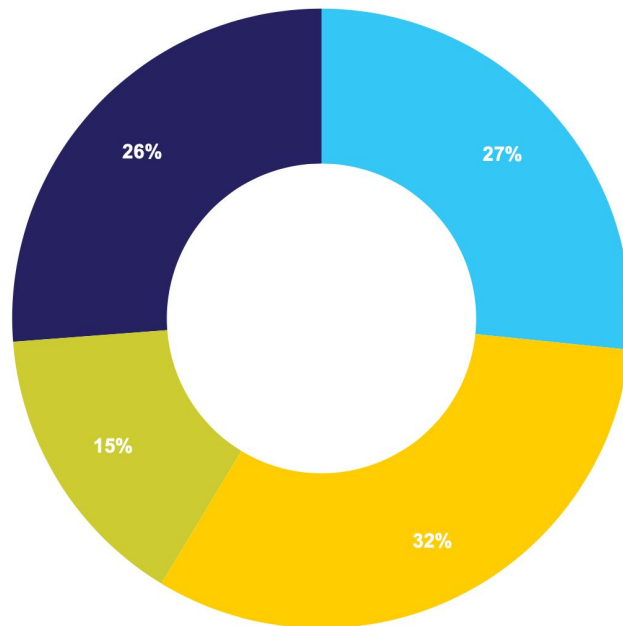
● Very important ● Somewhat important ● Not very important ● Not at all important



Q23: How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? “The Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal will help address inflation by increasing counter-inflationary investments in the economy?”

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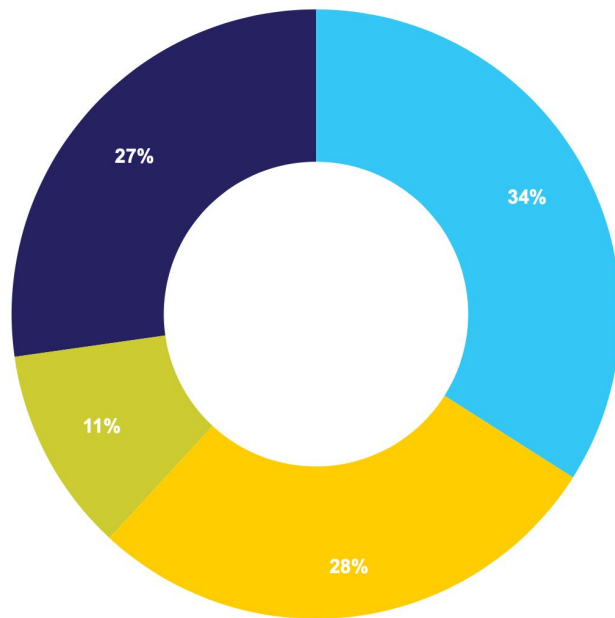
● Strongly agree ● Somewhat agree ● Somewhat disagree ● Strongly disagree



Q24: How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? “The Build Back Better Act will help ease inflationary pressure by reducing costs of healthcare, child care, and housing?”

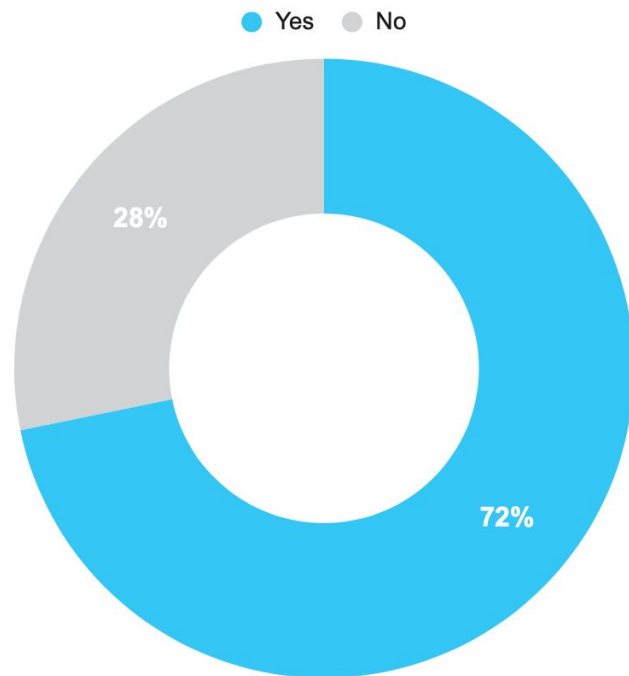
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● Strongly agree ● Somewhat agree ● Somewhat disagree ● Strongly disagree



Q25: Has your business been impacted by supply chain issues?

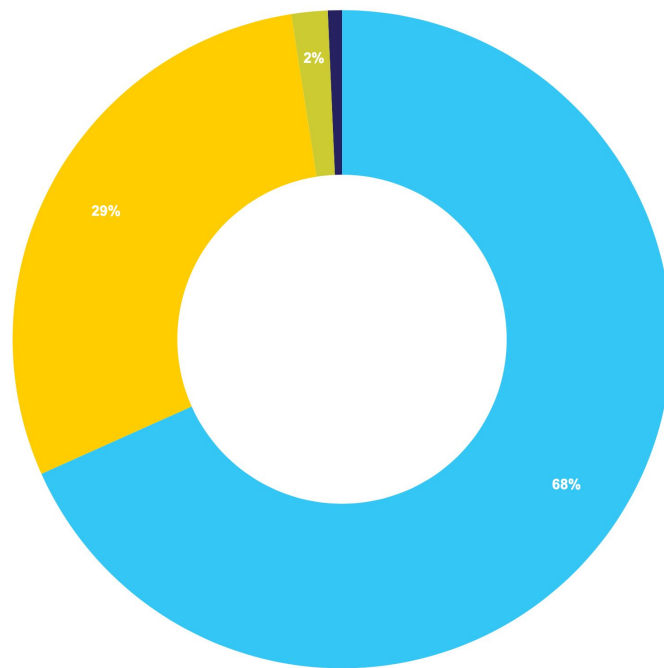
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Q26: Do you believe supply chain issues are negatively impacting small businesses?

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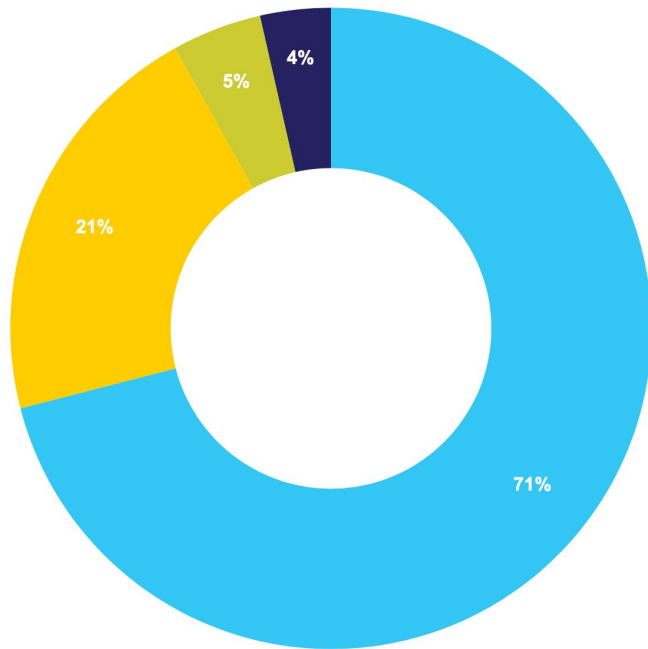
● Significant negative impacts ● Some negative impacts ● No significant impacts ● No negative impacts at all



Q27: How important is it to your business that Congress and the administration address the supply chain?

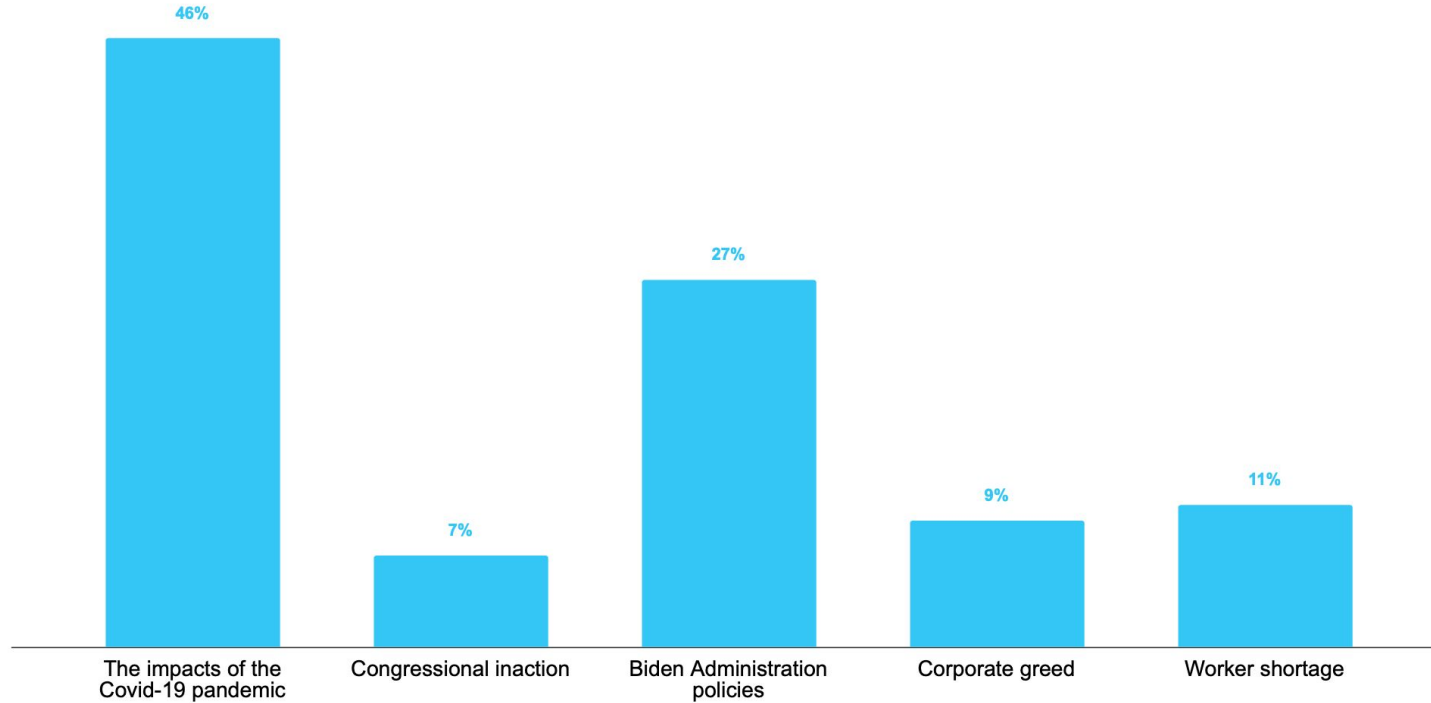
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● Very important ● Somewhat important ● Not very important ● Not at all important



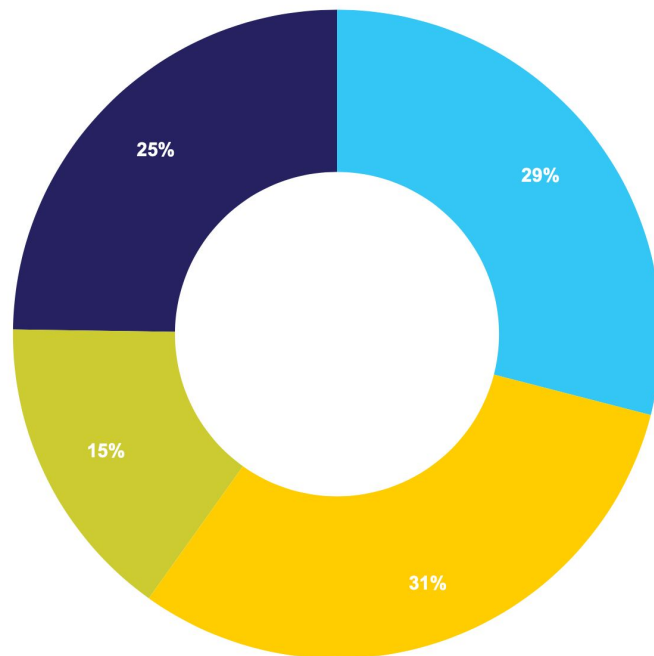
Q28: What do you believe is primarily responsible for supply chain issues?

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Q29: How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? “Do you believe the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal, which has been signed into law, will help address supply chain problems by increasing investment in roads, bridges, ports and airports, and other infrastructure?”
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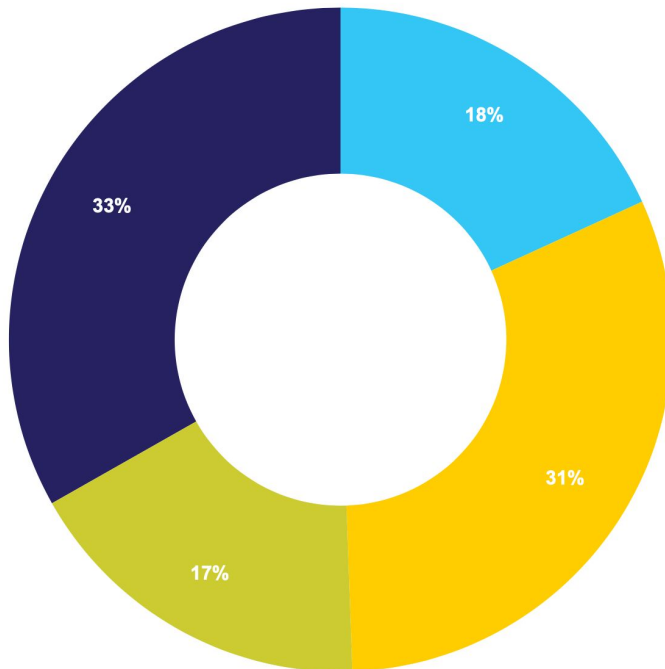
● Strongly agree ● Somewhat agree ● Somewhat disagree ● Strongly disagree



Q30: Do you approve or disapprove of how the House of Representative is handling small business issues?

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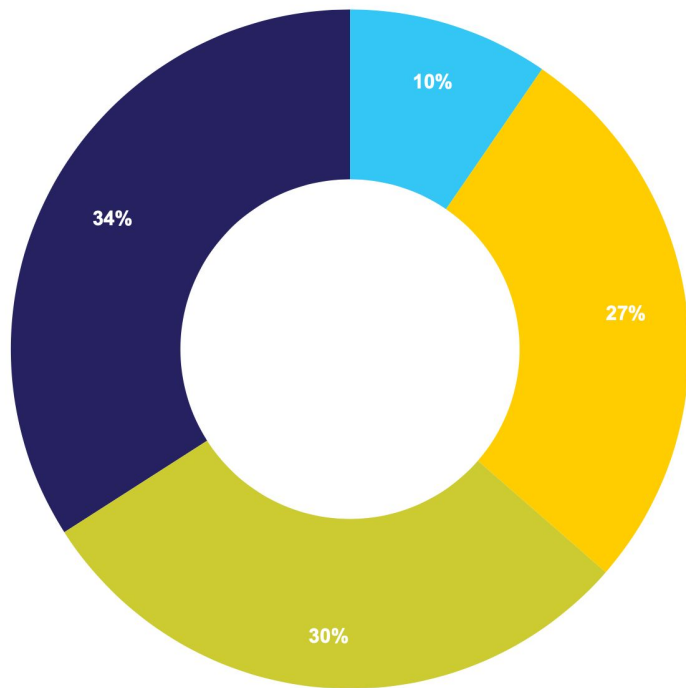
● Strongly approve ● Somewhat approve ● Somewhat disapprove ● Strongly disapprove



Q31: Do you approve or disapprove of how the Senate is handling small business issues?

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● Strongly approve ● Somewhat approve ● Somewhat disapprove ● Strongly disapprove

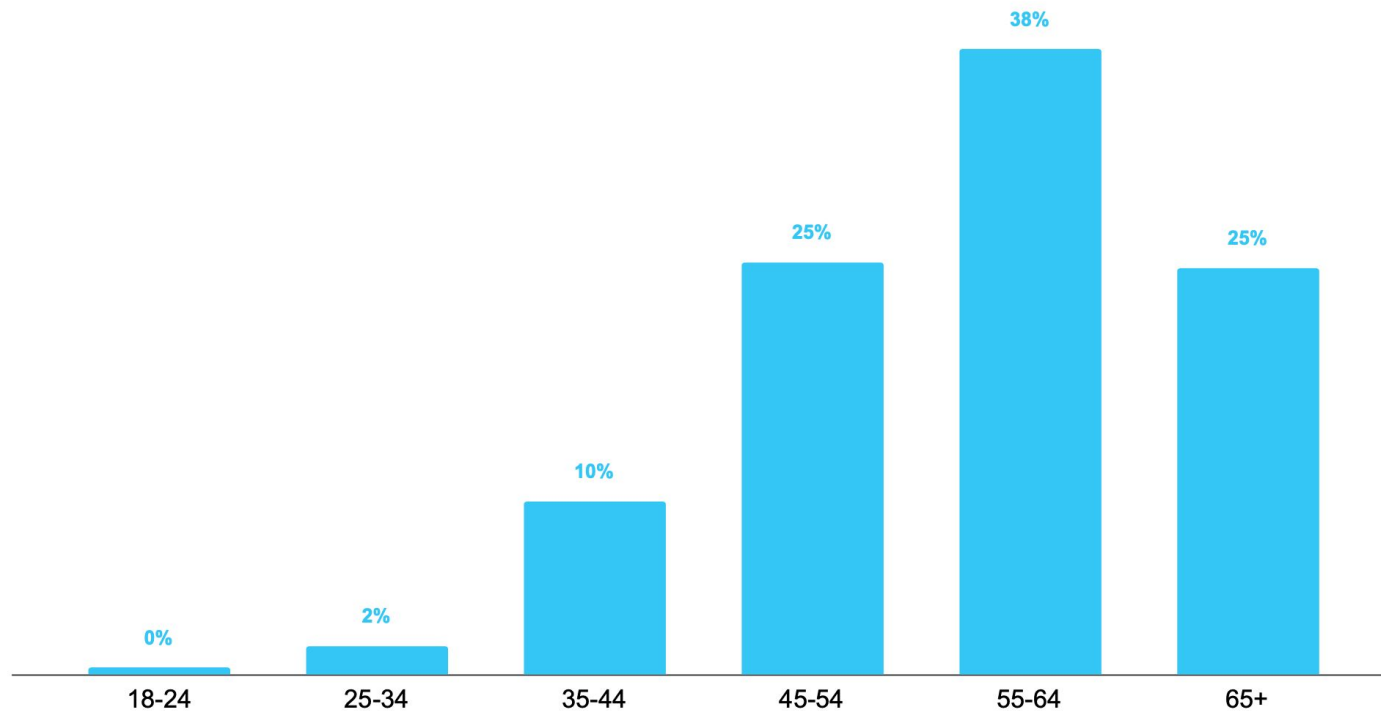


An aerial, high-angle photograph of a wide, paved pedestrian walkway. The ground is composed of large, light-colored rectangular tiles. Several people are walking across the frame in various directions. Some are walking in groups, while others are alone. The overall scene is captured with a blue color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

Demographic Data

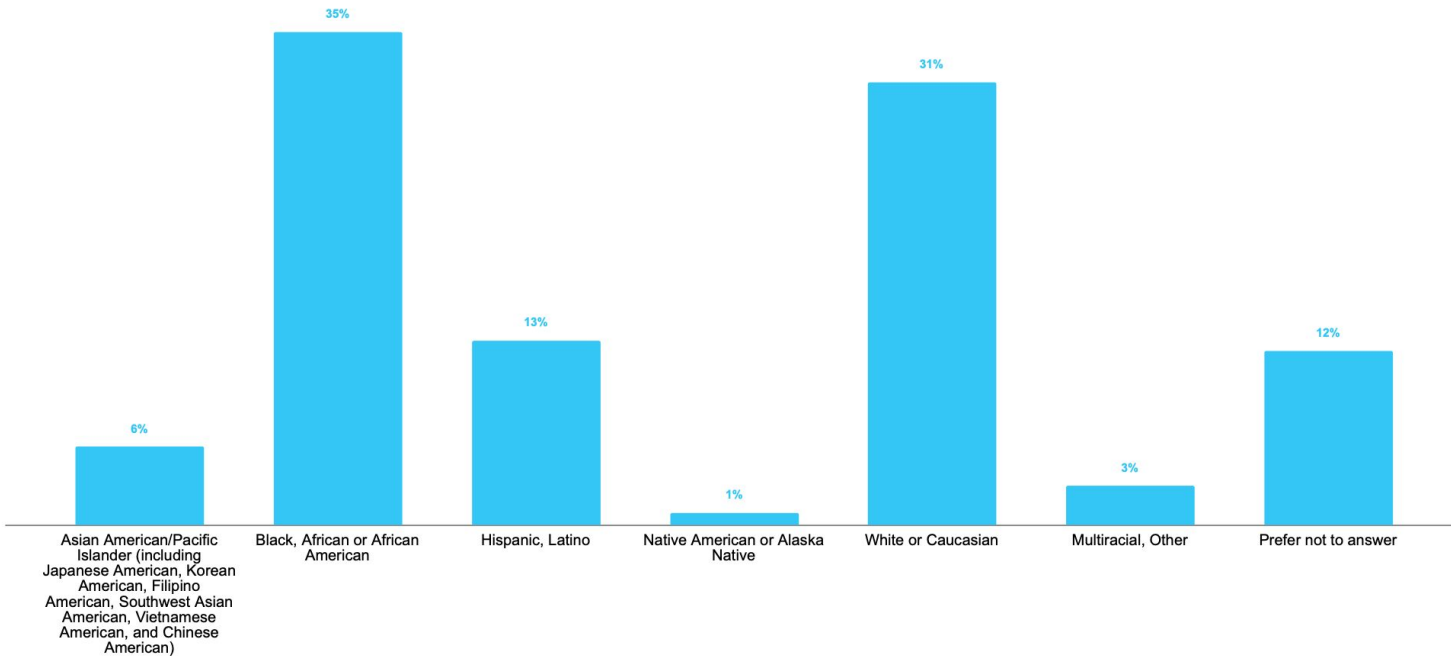
Q32: What is your age?

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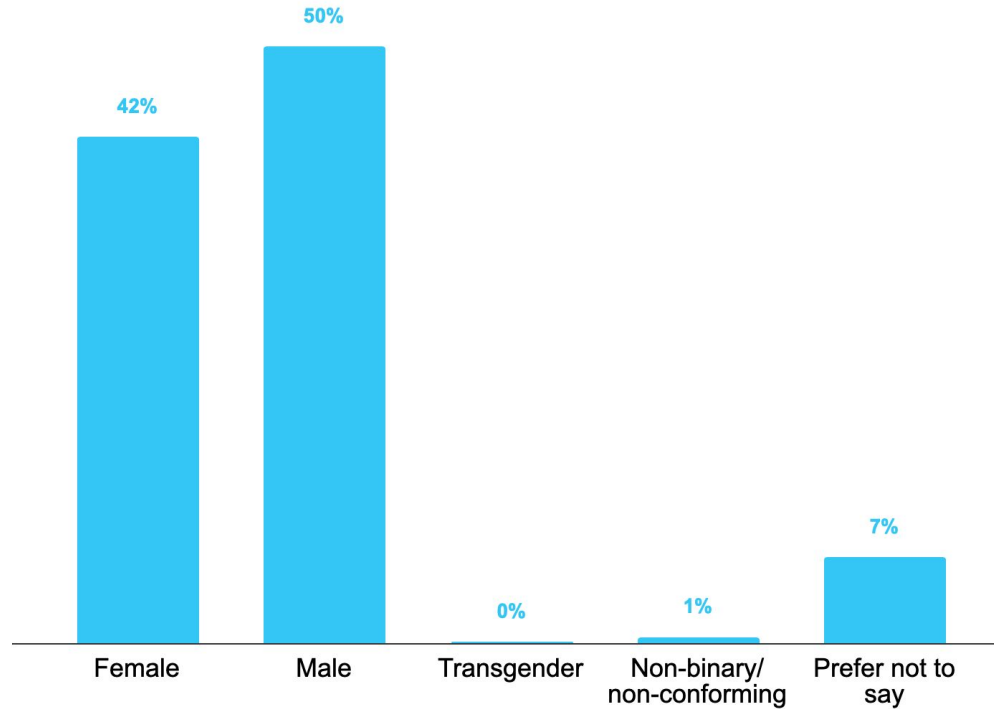
Q33: How do you identify yourself?

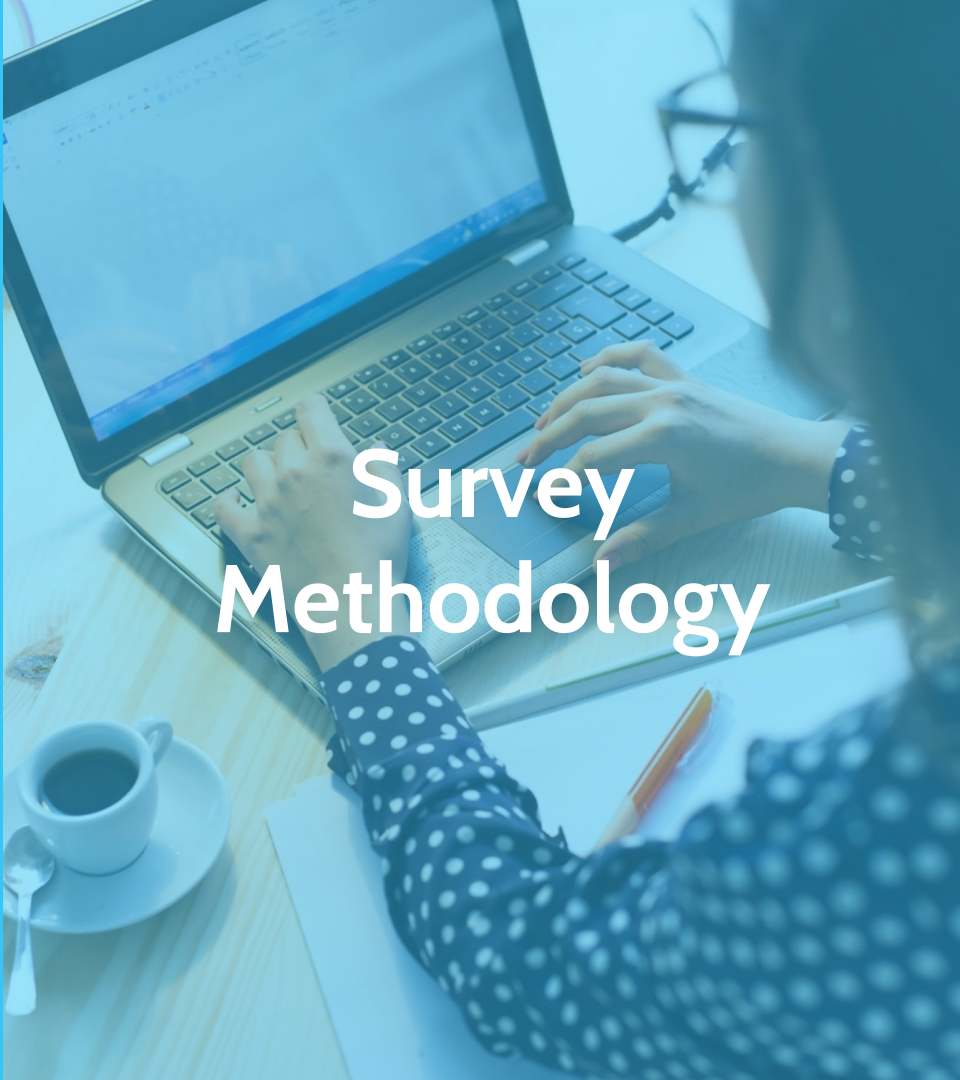
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Q34: What is your gender identity?

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A person is shown from the side, wearing a blue polka-dot shirt, typing on a silver laptop. The laptop screen displays a survey interface. A white coffee cup on a saucer is on the desk to the left. The entire image has a blue overlay.

Survey Methodology

1744 Total Responses

Methodology:

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

Fielded from Dec.8-30, 2021

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