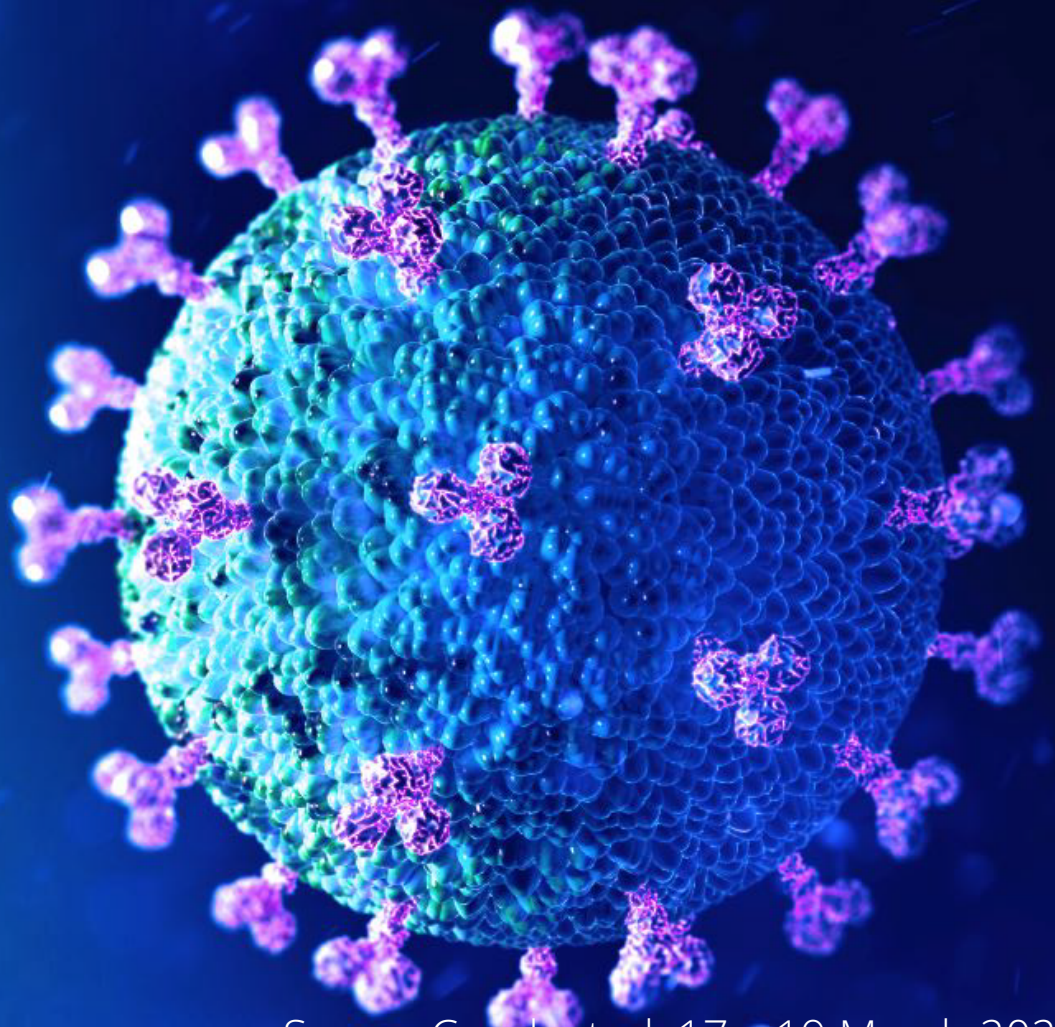


Survey on the Effects of Coronavirus on the UK Plastics Industry



Survey Conducted: 17 – 19 March 2020
Survey Published: 20 March 2020

The following findings are from a survey circulated to members of the British Plastics Federation in response to the coronavirus outbreak.

The British Plastics Federation is the leading trade association for the UK plastics industry. The BPF represents nearly 500 members, who between them represent around 80% of the plastics industry by turnover. Membership covers the entire plastics industry supply chain including raw material manufacturers and distributors, processors, recyclers and equipment suppliers.

To keep up to date with the work the BPF is doing to assist the industry when it comes to dealing with the coronavirus visit:

www.bpf.co.uk/coronavirus

Participation

The survey was carried out between the 17-19 March 2020 and published on the 20 March.

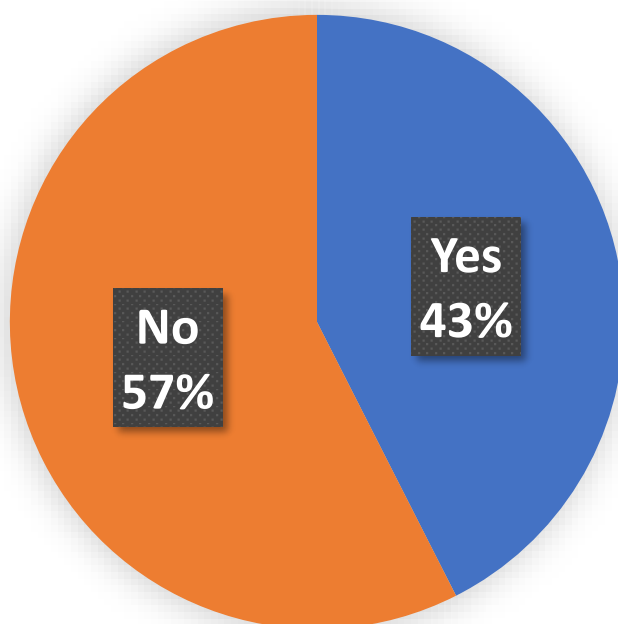
The survey, which was open exclusively to members of the British Plastics Federation, was completed by 127 firms.

The respondents were drawn from the following plastics industry sectors represented within the BPF:

Plastics Processors	71%
Recyclers	5%
Raw Materials Producers and Distributors	12%
Machinery and Equipment	13%

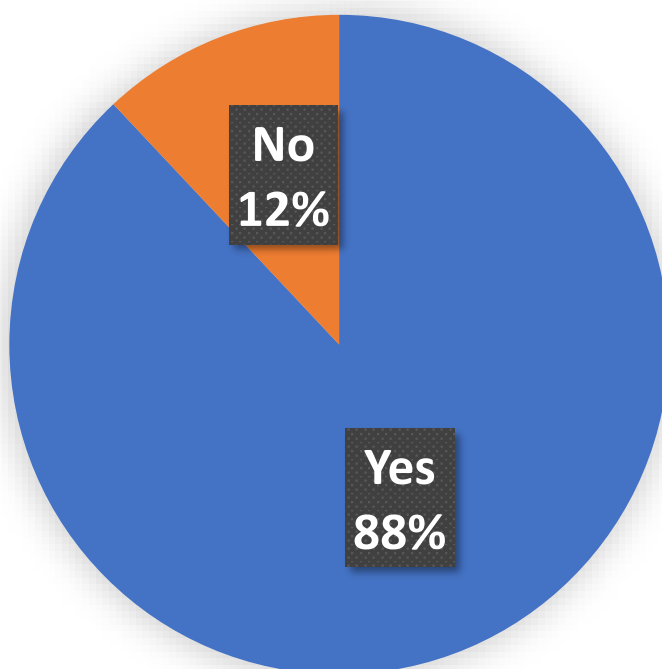
Supply Chains

Has the coronavirus affected your supply chains?



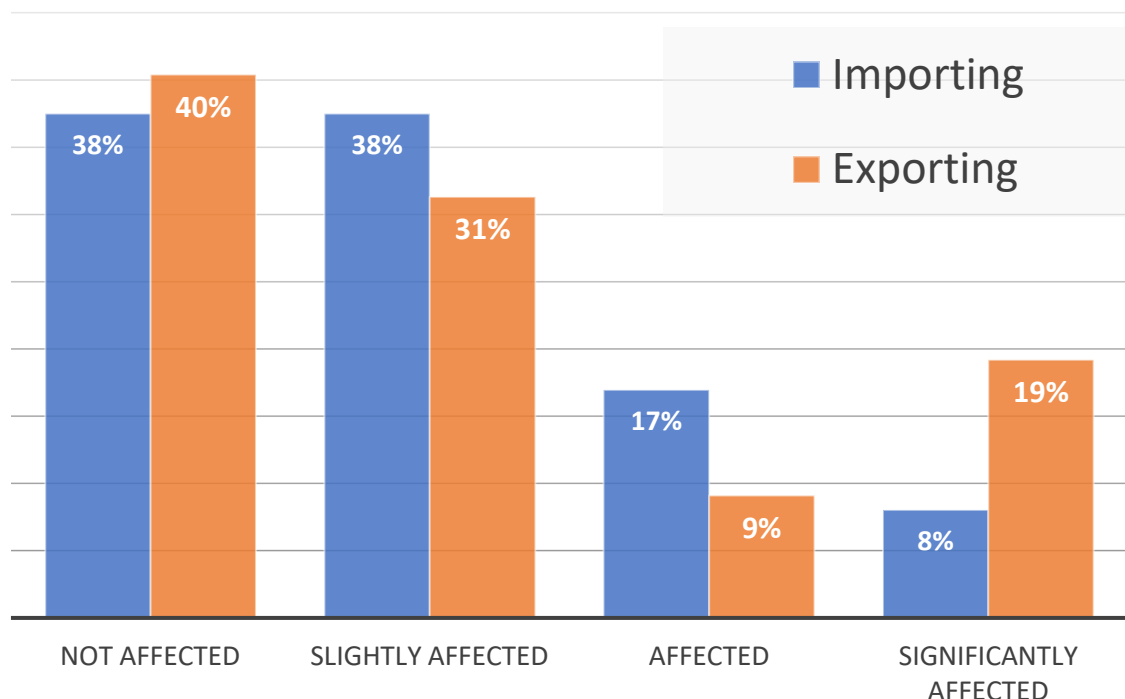
Of the companies who gave a reason for there being no impact on the supply chain, 81% stated that the effect had not been seen 'yet' or that it was 'a matter of time'. Of the companies who stated their supply chain had been affected, many companies mentioned delays in shipping of goods from China, others mentioned delays in deliveries from all across Europe.

Do you anticipate the coronavirus's impact will affect your supply chains in the next 3 months?



Import/Export

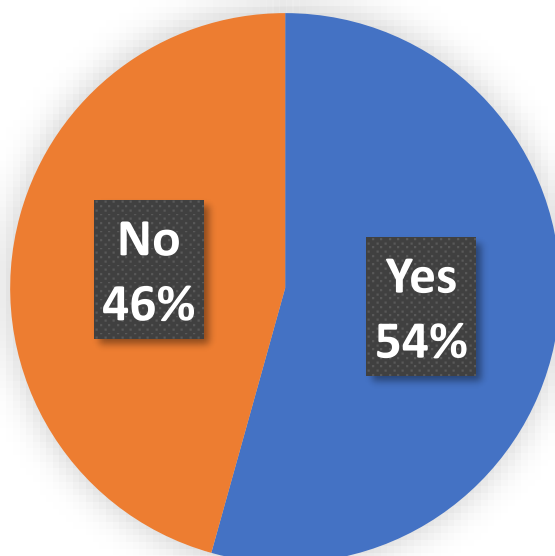
How has coronavirus affected your importing and exporting activities...



In the graph above, companies that selected 'none applicable' (i.e. they do not import or export) have been removed. For reference, 10% of companies said they did not import and 18% said they did not export (note this is in line with previous data from several reports that show 80% of BPF members export).

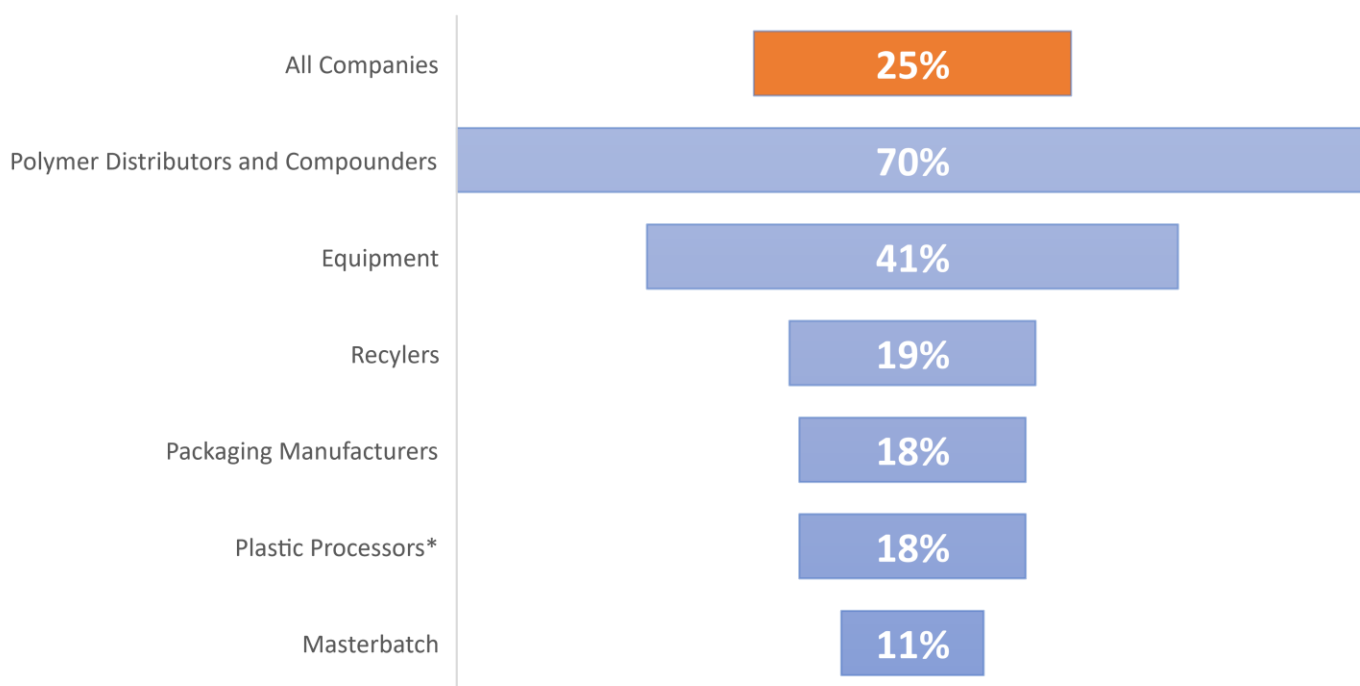
Staffing

Has the coronavirus reduced your staff's ability to work?



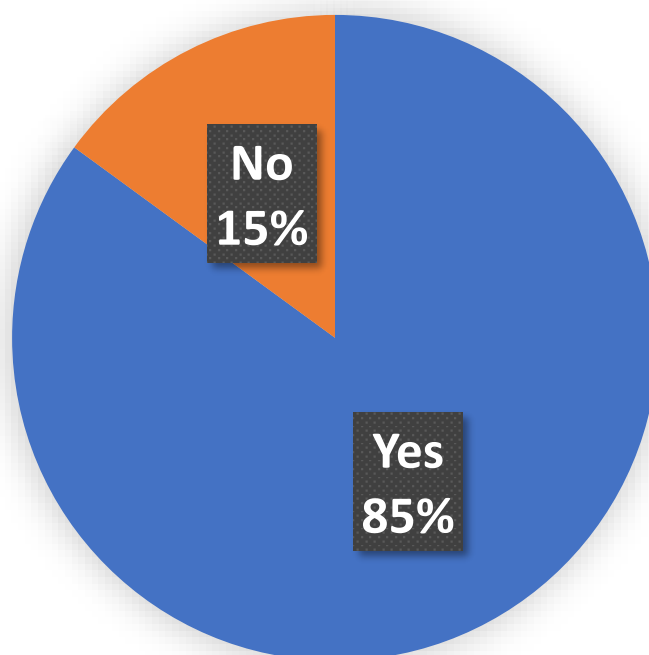
Many of the companies that stated it had affected staff's ability to work mentioned that individuals were self-isolating (although these were typically reported in low numbers/percentage of staff). Others mentioned individuals working from home and the fact that visits to customers had stopped.

Approximately what proportion of your staff have roles that permit them to potentially work from home?

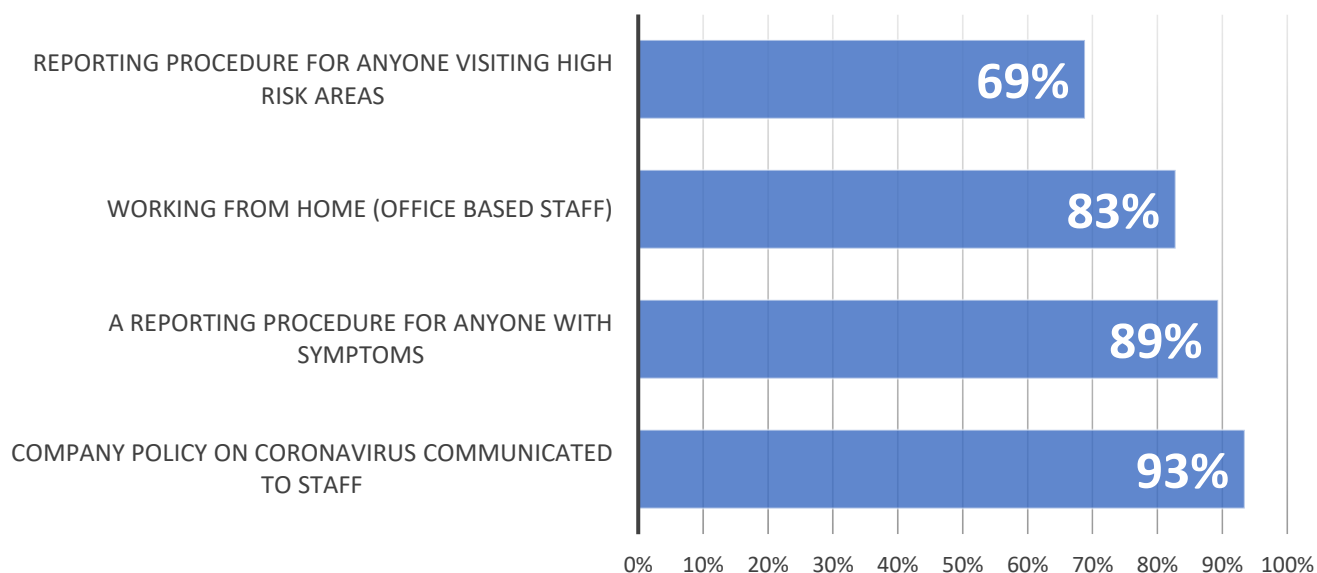


**Processors' include rotational moulders, packaging, moulders, windows and pipes*

Are any staff in your company currently permitted to work from home?



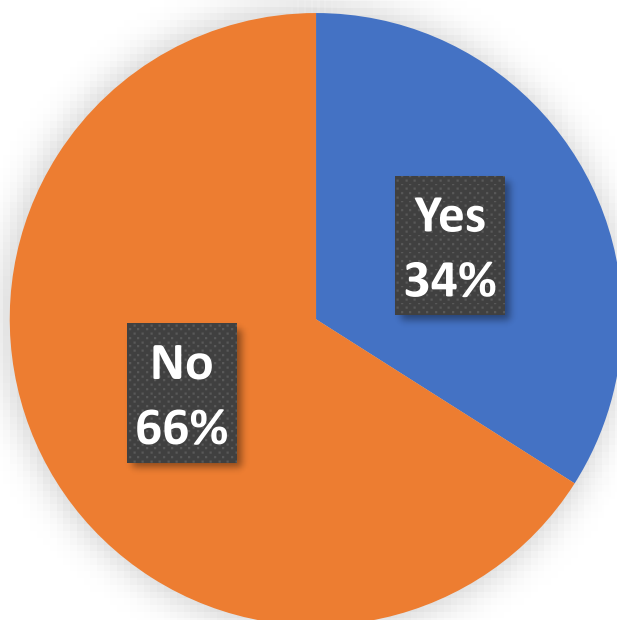
Indicate which of the following policies are in place at your company:



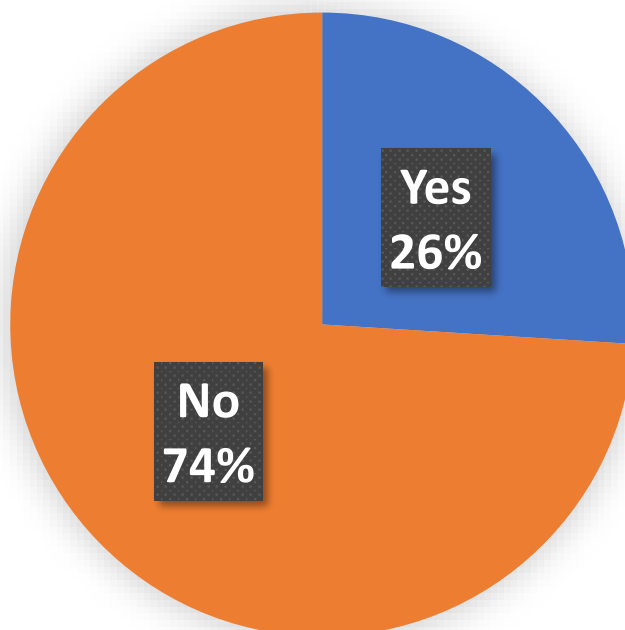
Supply, Demand and Business Impact

Had your company been stockpiling any of the following as a result of Coronavirus?

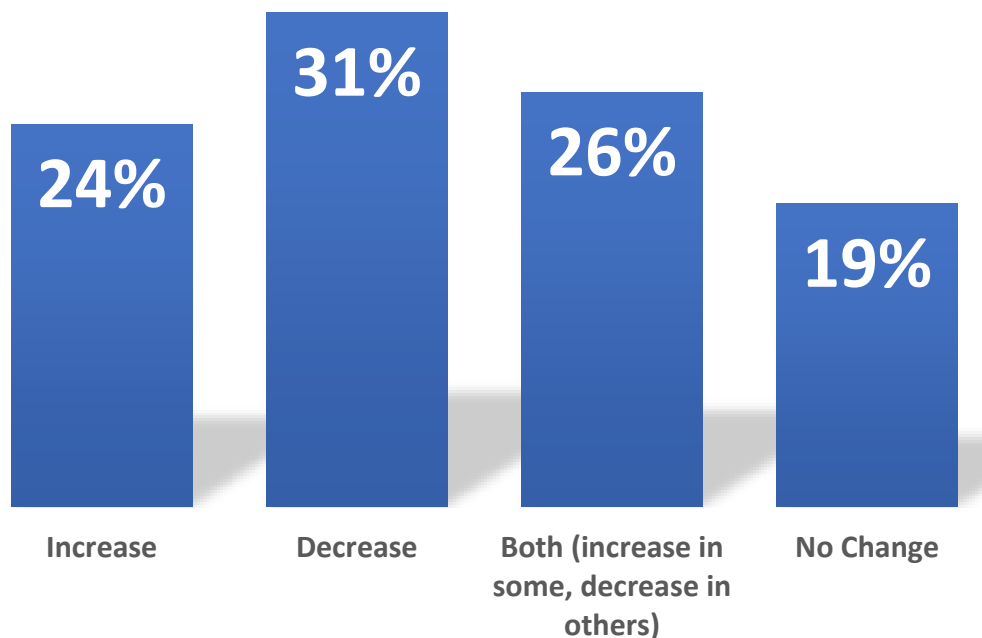
Raw Material



Finished and Semi-Finished Goods

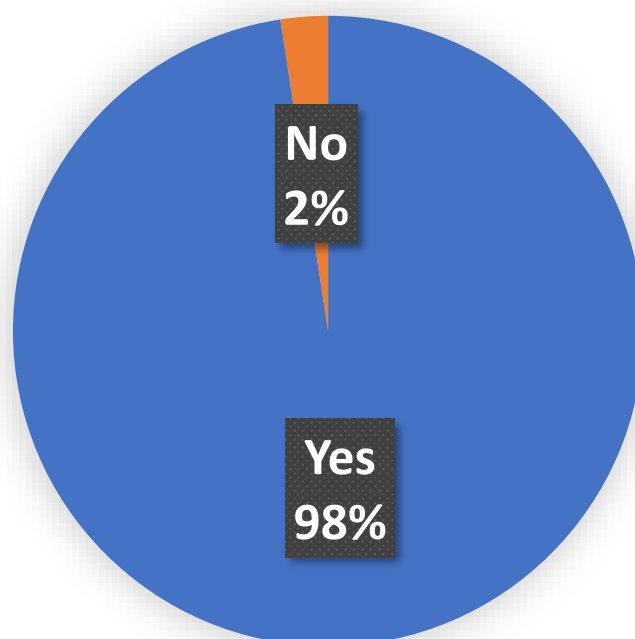


Have you seen a change in demand for your products/services?

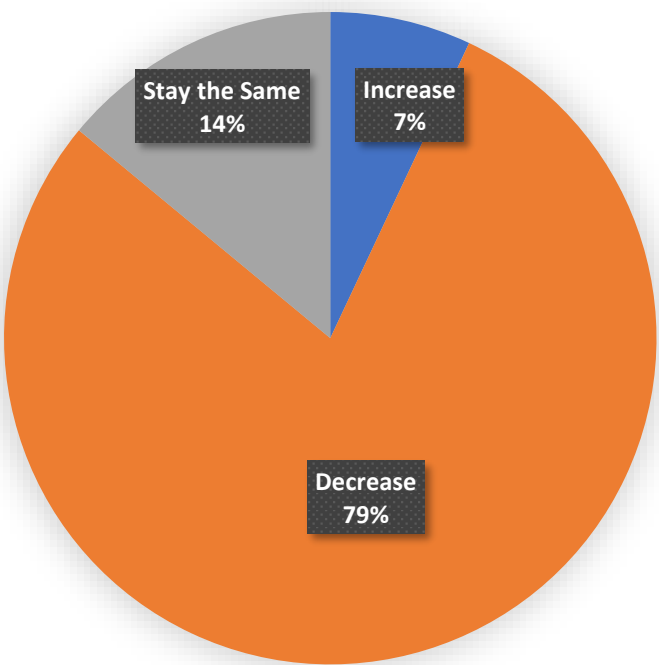


Packaging companies unsurprisingly gave the most positive response to this question, with 56% reporting an increase in products/services, 20% were reporting 'both', 16% reported 'no change' and only 8% reported a decrease in demand.

Do you have concerns over the coronavirus's impact on business operations over the next 6 months?

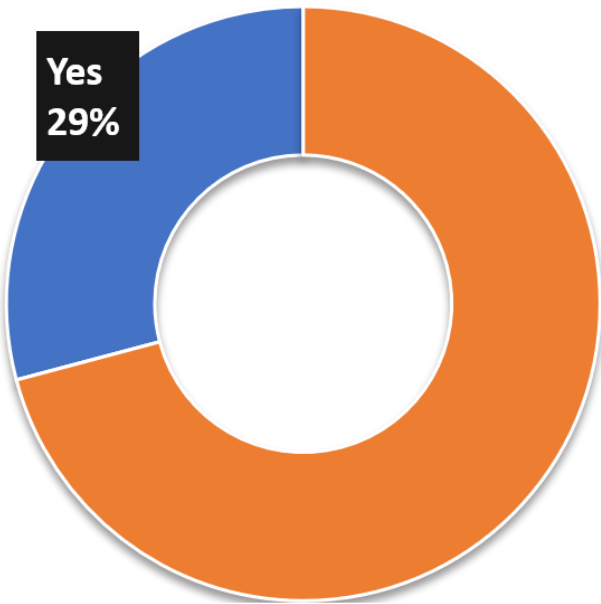


How do you anticipate the coronavirus affecting your turnover over the next six months?



Note: Of the companies predicting an increase in turnover, 80% were moulders and packaging companies

Is your company capable of manufacturing products that could conceivably be of use to the NHS or Government?



The BPF is working with the UK government to co-ordinate plastic companies who are able and willing to provide assistance, and the BPF have passed on relevant companies details direct to the government.



British Plastics Federation

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