



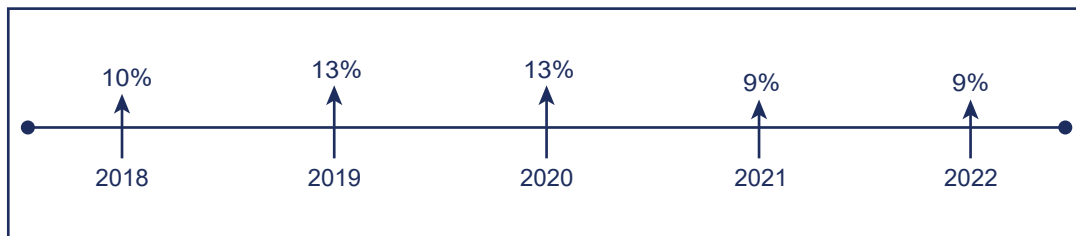
# Longitudinal Small Business Survey 2022

## Businesses without employees

4.1 million businesses without employees across the UK: estimated 70% that are not registered for VAT

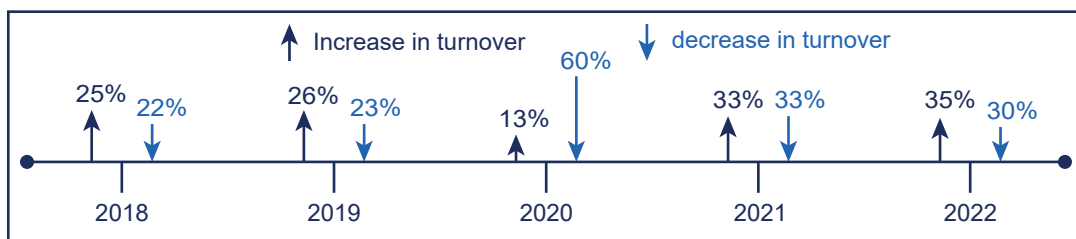
### Business growth

Businesses without employees reporting that they employed someone 12 months ago...



expect to employ someone in 12 months time

Businesses without employees reporting change in sales turnover in the last 12 months...

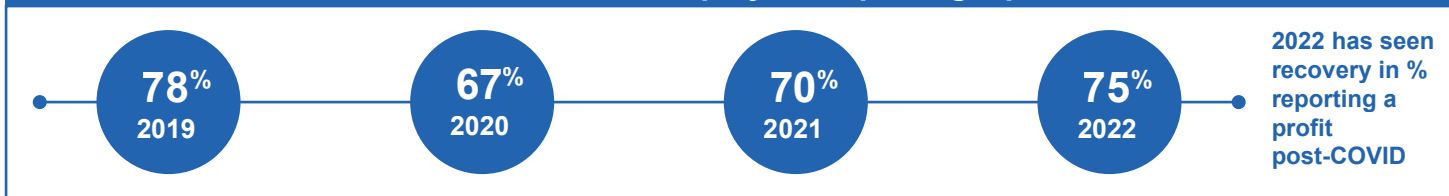


expected increase

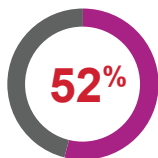


expected decrease

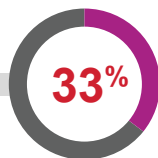
Businesses without employees reporting a profit...



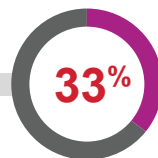
### Obstacles to business success and growth



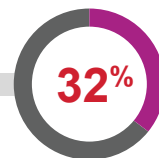
Energy prices



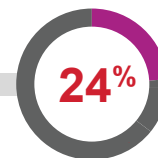
Regulations/  
red tape



COVID 19



Competition



Late payment



Cost  
Increases

12%

cited cost of imports as an obstacle

27%

reported plans for growth-related activities affected by rising costs

15%

mentioned increasing energy costs

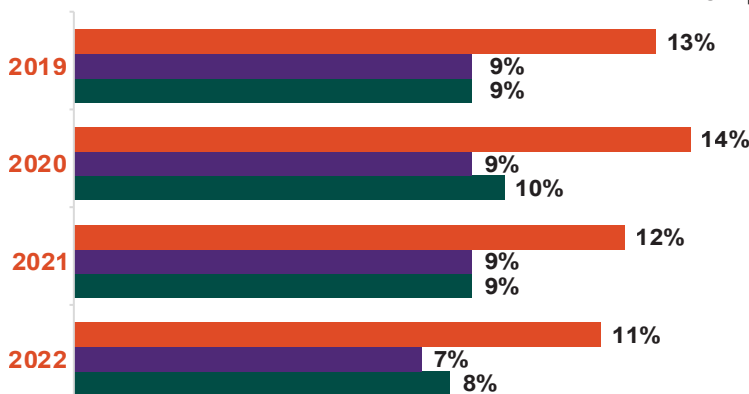
18%

cited other costs

### Trading with overseas customers

Exporting levels steady

EU exporting declining slightly



Of all businesses without employees...



4%  
plan to increase  
export activity



3%  
plan to start  
exporting

All statistics are based on all businesses without employees responding to the survey

Full report available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/small-business-survey-reports>