

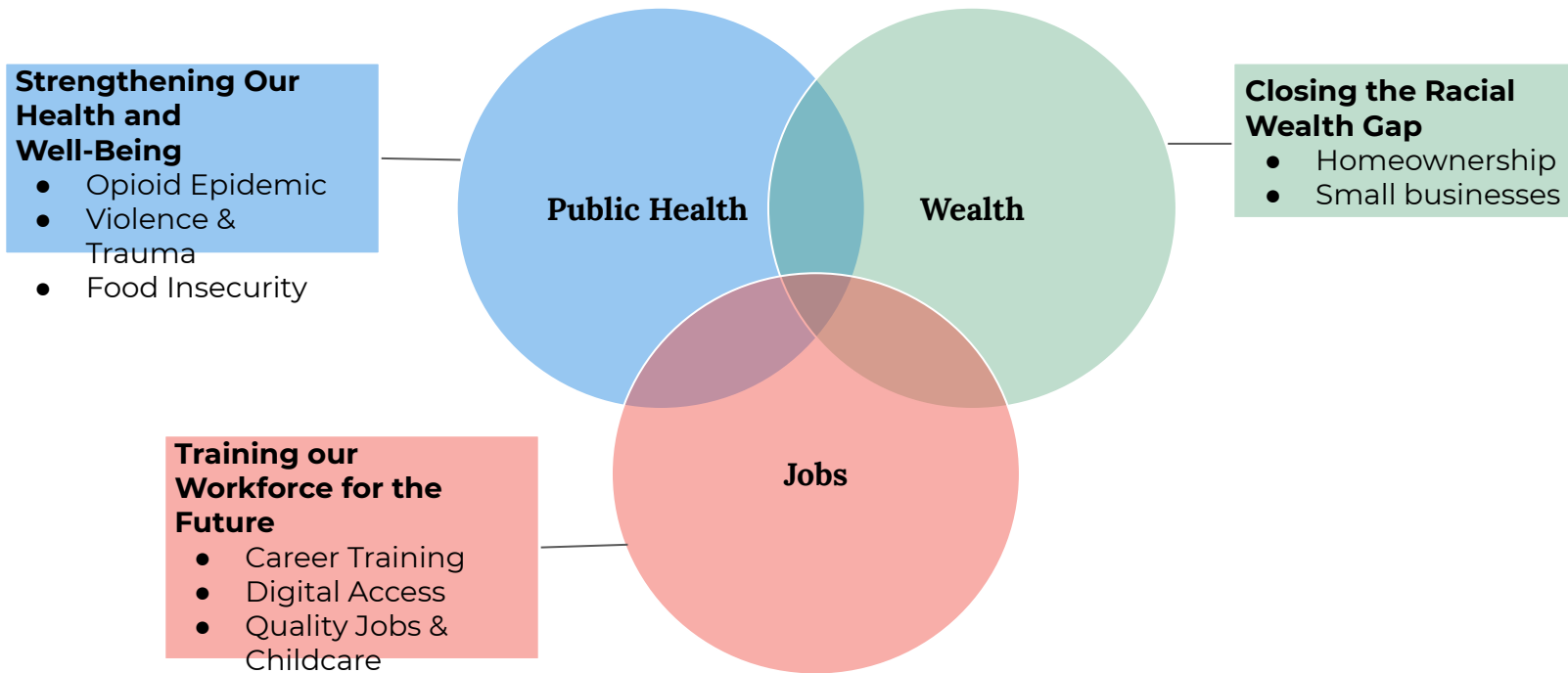


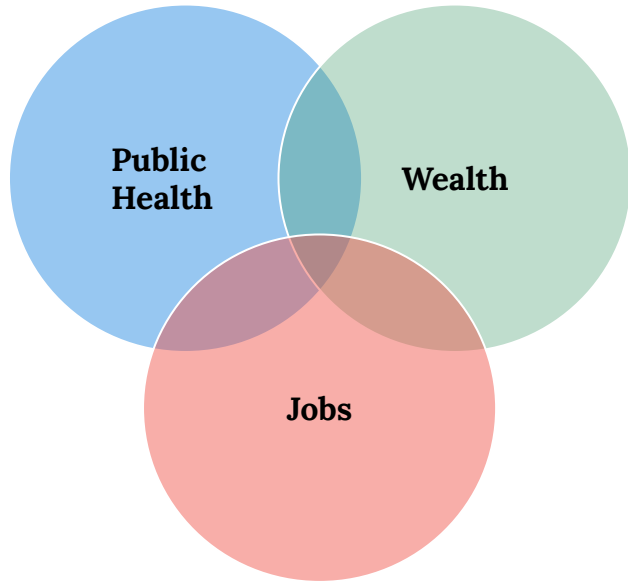
# Let's Go Better Listening Session

*Small Business Support, 9/21*



## An Equitable Recovery for All Boston Residents



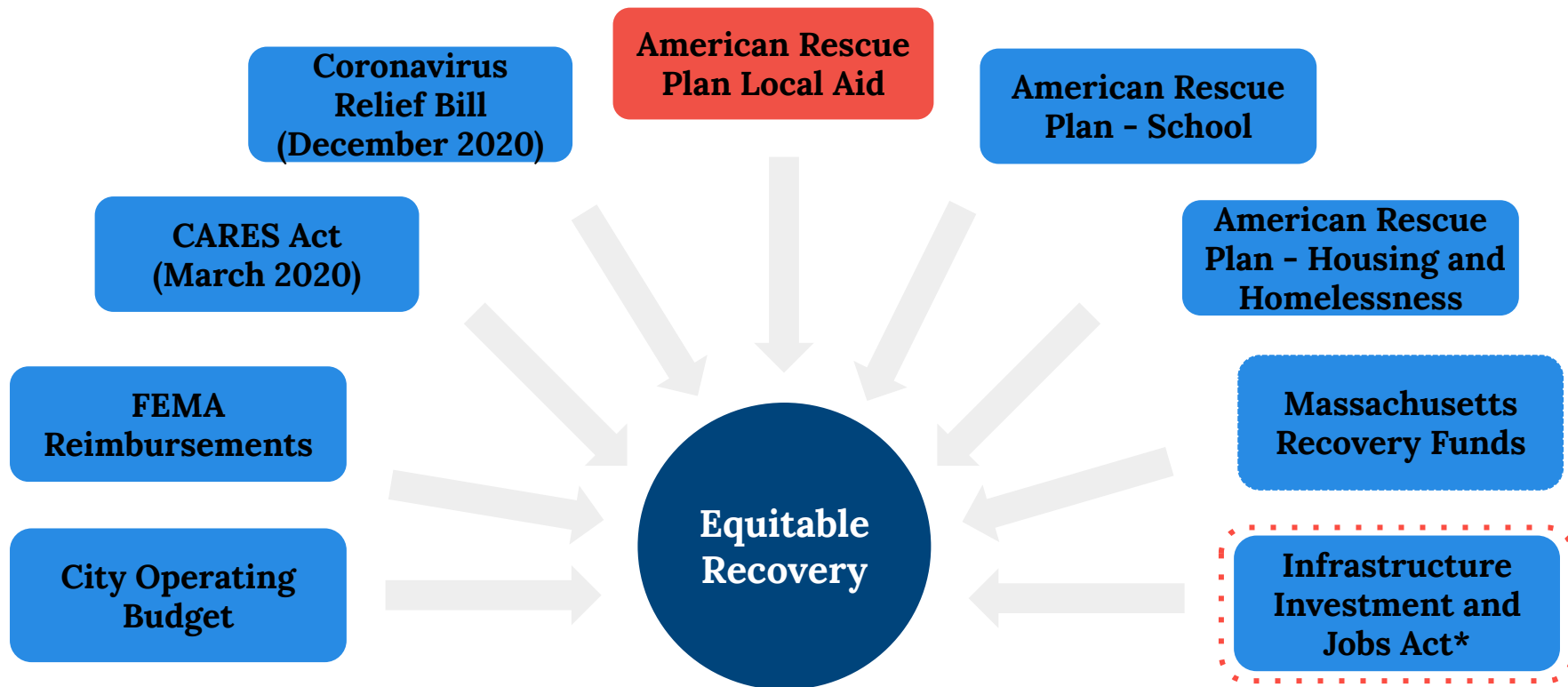


## Additional Lens

*While exploring investment opportunities in these areas, there will be an emphasis on solutions that incorporate **Arts & Culture** and **Climate Resiliency***

# What are Boston's available resources for recovery?

Funding Overview



\*Hasn't been passed by Congress

## Total Funds

- Boston estimated to receive **\$558 Million** from ARPA, with \$424 Million coming directly to Boston and an additional \$134 Million from Suffolk County to come from the Commonwealth.
- **\$136.5 Million** has been allocated to date for emergency relief investments and stabilizing Boston's budget

## Guardrails

- ARPA funding must be committed **through December 2024**
- Fit into one of the **eligible "uses" of spending** on the next slide

# What We Heard in our Listening Session

## Highlights



### Ideas of how to use funds:

- Support marketing efforts - generates strong returns especially during reopening
- Open co-working spaces in Boston
- Cover or subsidize permitting/licensing costs
- Develop an online marketplace to help businesses find clients
- Provide late night transit options for employees
- Improve infrastructure to increase access to small businesses
- Spend on direct support to small businesses

### Additional Considerations for how to use the Funds:

- Don't lose sight of Climate Resilience
- Continue transparency about who is getting funds, including demographic information where available
- Use participatory budgeting with these funds
- Focus on industries and populations that have been disproportionality impacted by COVID

Please share your ideas on how the City of Boston can support Small Businesses

Capital Investments	New Business Funding	Employee Retention & Recruitment	Business Dev. & Training	Other
Debt relief & loan restructuring opportunities	FB: How does the planning and funding address and include those organizations who work with and support small business and early stage entrepreneurs?  FB: Those funds should be used for participatory budgeting with the top three areas as themes.  Useful to have physical space in Boston		Marketing for businesses  Cybersecurity	online marketplace for businesses (clients, etc.)  affordable co-working spaces (hubs) for small biz owners to collaborate  cover ISD/permitting costs  transportation stipends  I would pay more for them with technological support like a computer and a website.  Those funds should be used for participatory budgeting with the top three areas as themes.  Service-based industries included in funding  Use of funds for climate resiliency

[Link to Jamboard](#)

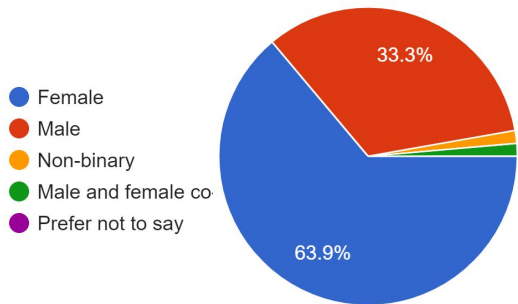
# What We Heard in TO DATE in Recovery Survey

Who has responded



## Owner gender

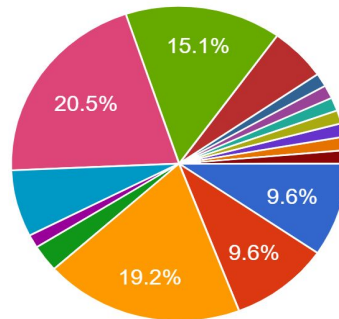
72 responses



## Business Type

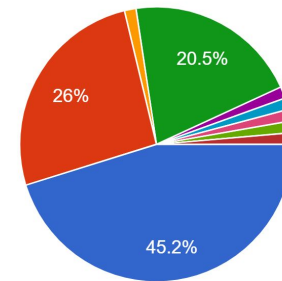
73 responses

- Arts & Culture / Entertainment
- Childcare/Education
- Food Business
- Home-based Services
- Online Business
- Personal Services
- Professional Services
- Retail
- Wellness
- Staffing Services
- Business Support Services to Child C...
- retail and professional services! I sew...
- Hair
- Construction
- Child care
- Transportation Logistics



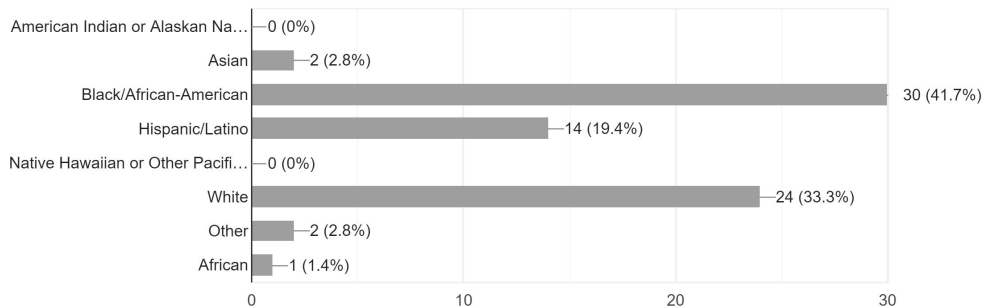
## Where does your business operate?

73 responses



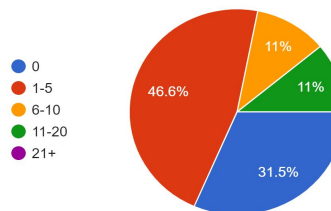
## Owner Race/Ethnicity

72 responses



## How many employees do you currently have?

73 responses



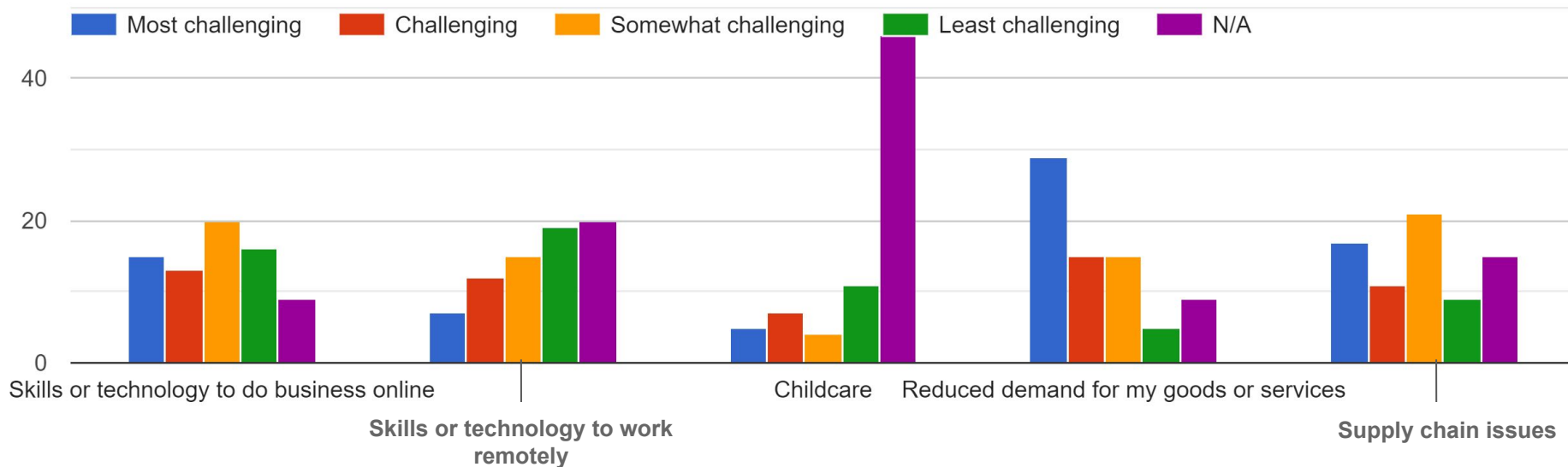
- Commercial Space (including retail storefronts or industrial space)
- Home-based business
- Online Business
- Service-based business (no storefront...)
- Commercial Space, Home Based, and...
- and home based, I sew for people!
- Hair salon
- Both home-based and service based
- Office Space

# What We Heard in TO DATE in Recovery Survey

Challenges



What continues to be the most challenging pandemic adaptations for your business?





# What We Heard in TO DATE in Recovery Survey

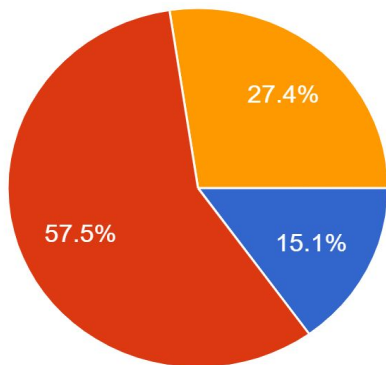
Employee recruitment & retention



Have you been able to hire the employees you need to run your business?

73 responses

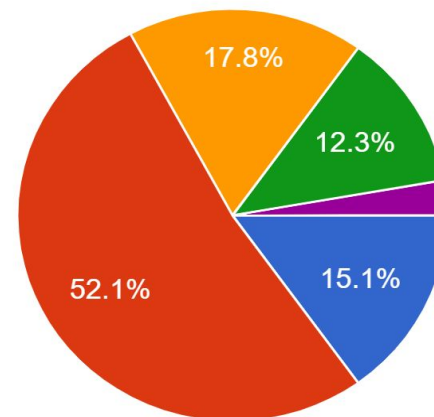
- Yes
- No, I need to hire more employees
- No, I have not needed new employees



How many employees do you need?

73 responses

- 0
- 1-5
- 6-10
- 11-20
- 21+



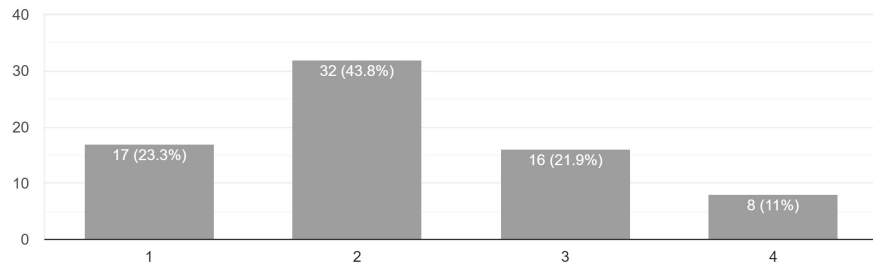
# What We Heard in TO DATE in Recovery Survey

State of businesses



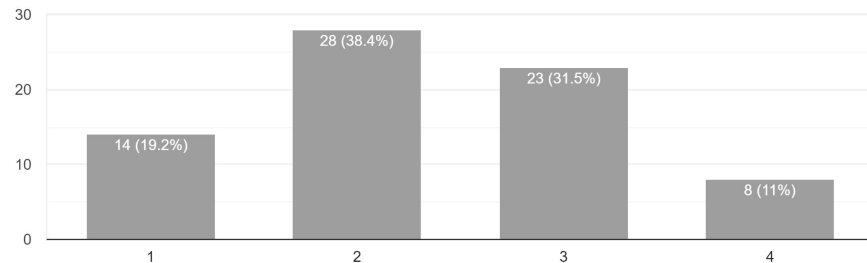
As of June 2021, how is business overall?

73 responses



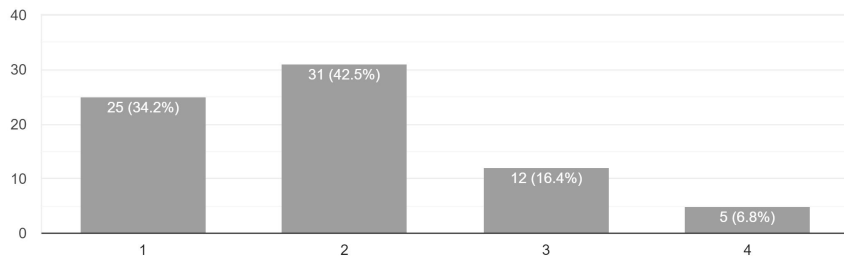
As of June 2021, how is customer interaction?

73 responses



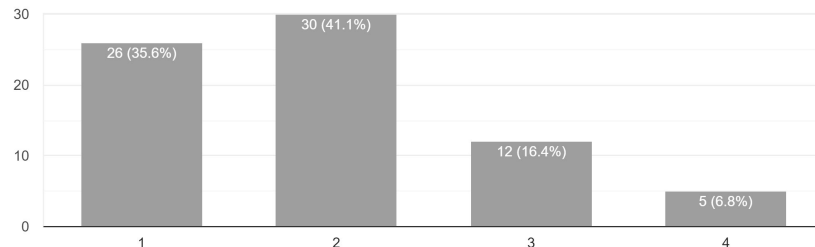
As of June 2021, how is the financial health of your business?

73 responses



As of June 2021, how is business revenue?

73 responses



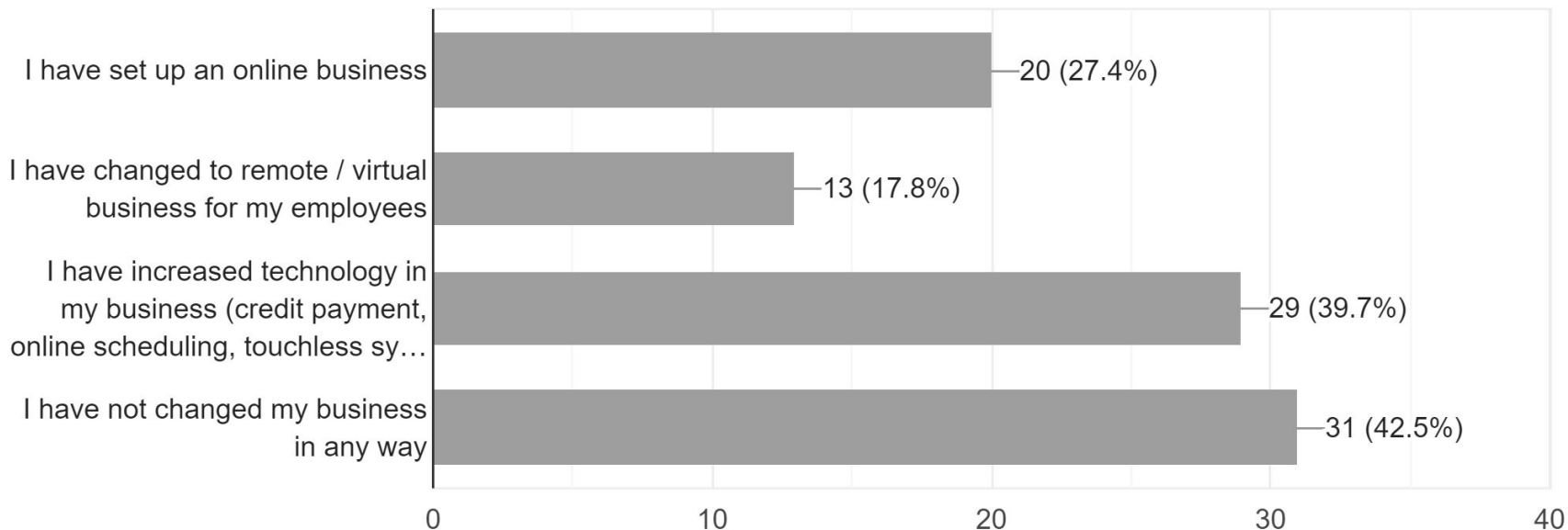
# What We Heard in TO DATE in Recovery Survey

State of businesses



Over the last 12 months:

73 responses



1. We heard some key themes around small business support needs-- what are we missing?
2. Are there any programs you have seen or heard about that you wish Boston would implement?
3. More than a year and half into the Pandemic, how is your business doing? What does your business need right now?
4. How could the funds be used to support your business growth?
5. How could it be used to help launch new businesses?



# THANK YOU FOR JOINING US



For daily COVID-19 updates: Text BOSCOVID to 888-777 for free daily updates in 11 different languages.