Business Tendency Survey

June 2021

Statistics Jersey: www.gov.je/statistics

Summary for the Business Tendency Survey in June 2021

Business activity indicator

- the headline **all-sector business activity** indicator was **moderately positive**, at +20 percentage points (pp); this means the proportion of businesses that reported an increase was 20 pp higher than those that reported a decrease
    - the business activity indicator was strongly positive for the finance sector (+43 pp) and was moderately positive for the non-finance sector (+11 pp)
    - the business activity indicator for finance was significantly higher than in March 2021, and was the highest balance recorded since June 2014
    - the non-finance sector also saw a strong quarterly increase of 36 pp and was the highest recorded balance since September 2018

Current indicators

- **four** of the **eight current indicators** were **moderately positive, one** was **moderately negative** (profitability) and only **one** indicator was **extremely negative** (input costs)
- the **overall** picture was **much more positive** than the last quarter; **six** current indicators have **improved**, **one** has remained **unchanged** and **only one** indicator (input costs) has shown a **decrease**

Current situation: COVID-19

- the turnover indicator was **moderately positive** at +10 pp, which shows a strong **improvement** of 31 pp compared to the previous quarter
- the actively working indicator was **essentially neutral** at -8 pp which was **unchanged** from the previous quarter
- in the last three months, 53% of businesses had taken some **additional workforce measures** in response to COVID-19, but the **most cited measure** in this quarter was **recruiting staff** rather than accessing the co-funded payroll scheme

Outlook for next quarter – the three months to September 2021

- the outlook for **future business activity** was **strongly positive** (+29 pp) overall
    - the indicator balance was strongly positive for both finance (+38 pp) and non-finance (+25 pp)
- the overall **future employment** outlook was also **strongly positive** (+31 pp)
    - the indicator was strongly positive for finance (+49pp) and moderately positive for non-finance (+20 pp)

2021 – Finance sector expectations

- the **employment expectations** indicator for 2021 was **strongly positive** (+30 pp)
    - the balance for this indicator showed a **strongly positive** increase from +5 pp in December and -19 pp in June 2020
- the **profit expectations** indicator for 2021 was **extremely positive** (+63 pp); 74% of finance companies anticipated an increase in profits in 2021, compared to 11% that anticipated a decrease; showing a strongly positive turnaround from the previous two quarters

Introduction

The Jersey Business Tendency Survey (BTS) aims to provide qualitative quarterly information about the Island's economy in a timely manner.

The survey provides a set of ten qualitative indicators. There are:

- **eight current indicators:** these are measures of current performance relative to that of three months previously (rather than absolute measures of performance)
- **two future indicators:** these measure anticipated changes over the next three months

Detailed definitions of the indicators are provided in the glossary.

For each indicator a net balance is calculated, defined as the difference between the proportion of businesses reporting an increase in a particular measure and the proportion reporting a decrease[1].

Context: COVID-19

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated economic consequences, additional questions have been included since the June 2020 round of the survey in order to measure some of these consequences. These questions are analysed in the annex at the end of the report. The glossary includes definitions for some of the new concepts covered in the COVID-19 annex.

[1] Note that figures in this report are rounded independently; therefore, an indicator's balance may differ by up to one percentage point from the difference between stated percentages.

Section 1: Current situation

Business activity

The headline indicator is business activity, which is a measure of the total amount of work undertaken by businesses operating in Jersey. The type of business activity will be specific to each sector of business; for example, turnover, number of products produced, or chargeable hours. Detailed definitions for this indicator and others can be found in the glossary.

In June 2021, the all-sector business activity indicator was moderately positive, with a value of +20 percentage points (pp). An increase in business activity was reported by 36% of businesses, compared with 16% that reported a decline; the difference in the unrounded figures results in a net balance of +20 pp, which provides the value of the indicator. The remaining 48% of companies reported that business activity was unchanged; see Figure 1.1.

The overall business activity indicator has improved significantly since the previous quarter, up by 41 pp; see Figure 1.2. The balance has been less than zero for every quarter since March 2020, and June 2021 represents the most positive overall business activity balance since September 2018 (+21 pp).

Figure 1.1 – Business activity, June 2021
Compared with situation three months previously

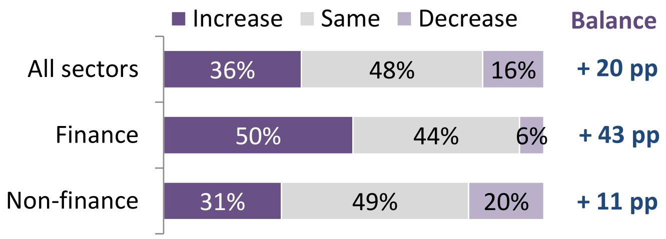
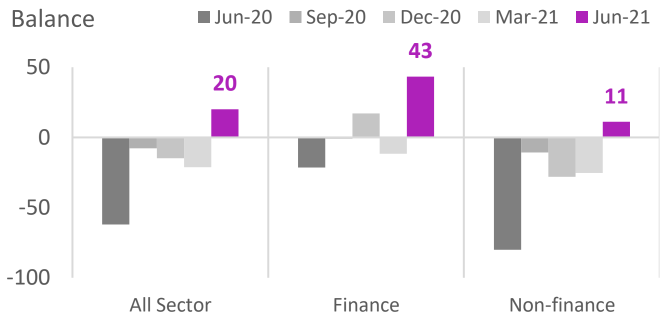


Figure 1.2 – Business activity
June 2020 – June 2021 (percentage points)



The finance sector saw an extremely strong quarterly increase of +55 pp in this indicator, from -12 pp in March to +43 pp in this quarter. The balance of +43 pp was the highest figure recorded by the finance sector since June 2014 and was also strongly above its three-year mean of +15 pp (by 28 pp).

The non-finance sector also saw a strong quarterly increase of 36 pp. Its current balance was at its highest since September 2018 and 20 pp above its three-year mean of -9 pp.

Within the non-finance sector, the business activity indicator was:

- moderately negative (-15 pp) in the hotels, restaurants and bars sector, but this balance has improved since the previous quarter by +57 pp and is also above its three-year mean of -33 pp
- moderately positive in construction (+19 pp), wholesale and retail (+17 pp), and other non-finance (+12 pp) sectors with all of these sectors improving significantly since the previous quarter when they all showed negative balances for the business activity indicator

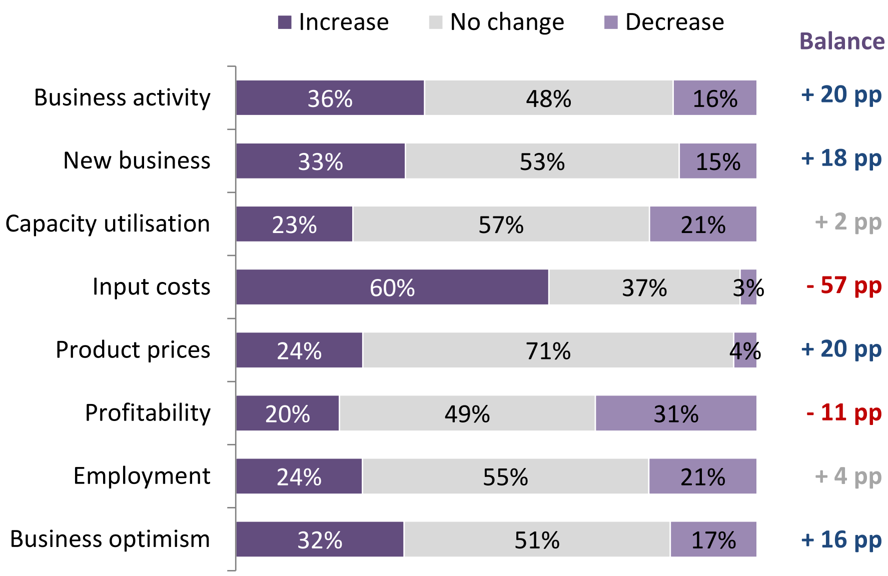
See the appendix for further sectoral breakdown.

Current indicators

In June 2021, one of the eight all-sector indicators relating to the current situation was extremely negative, one was moderately negative, four were moderately positive and the other two were neutral; see Figure 2.1. A positive net balance indicates that a greater proportion of companies reported increases than decreases, and conversely for a negative balance, while an indicator is reported on if it has a balance of at least ±10 pp.

The input costs indicator had an extremely negative balance of -57 pp and the profitability indicator had a moderately negative balance of -11 pp. The capacity utilisation and employment indicators were neutral while the business activity, product prices, new business, and business optimism indicators were moderately positive.

Figure 2.1 – All-sector indicators, comparing current situation (June 2021) to three months previously



The summary balance across all indicators[2] was +2, which is higher than the previous quarter (-4) and the highest it has been since September 2018 (+3). The current summary balance across all indicators was much higher than the three-year mean for the period to March 2021 (-1.5).

Figure 2.2 – All-sector current indicators

June 2020 – June 2021

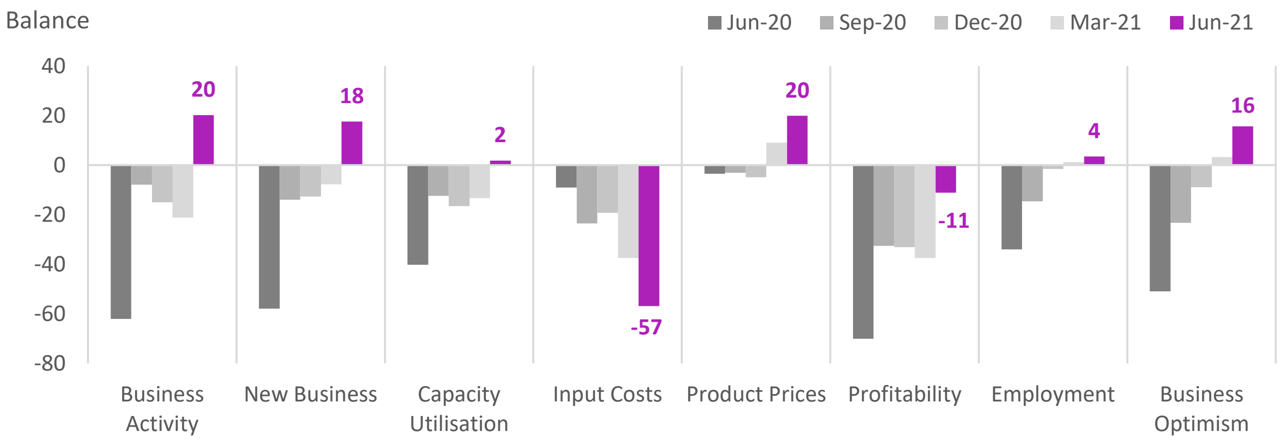


Figure 2.2 shows the eight current indicators for June 2021 against those of the previous four quarters.

[2] This is the difference between the number of positive indicators (four) minus the number of negative indicators (two).

Six of the current indicators have improved since the previous quarter, with employment remaining essentially unchanged. The indicator balance for input costs has decreased by 20 pp since March 2021.

Apart from the overall business activity indicator, the new business (up by 26 pp), capacity utilisation (up by 15 pp), product prices (up by 11 pp) and business optimism (up by 13 pp) indicators have all improved since the last quarter.

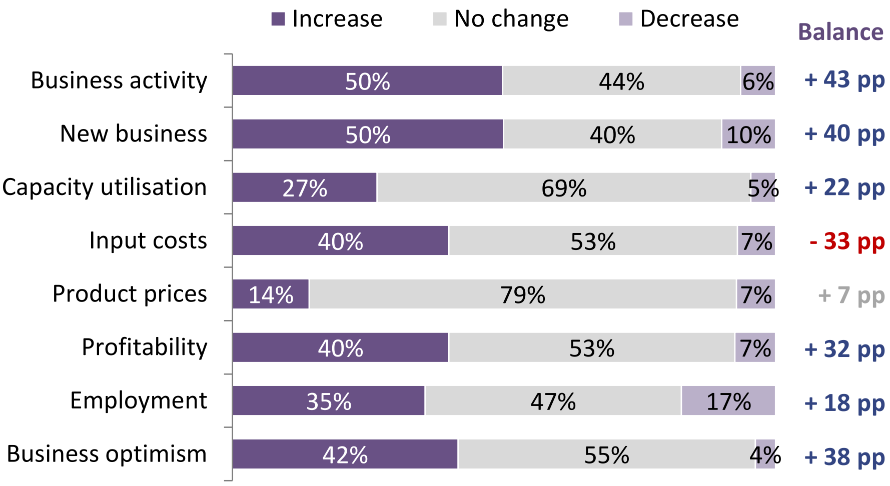
Compared to the balances a year before, when 6 of the indicators were at record lows, 7 of the 8 current indicators have shown significant increases. Input costs was the only indicator to show a significant decrease compared to June 2020 (down by 48 pp). The largest positive annual changes were business activity (up by 82 pp), new business (up by 76 pp) and business optimism (up by 67 pp).

Five indicators were significantly different to their three-year means by moderate amounts: business optimism (up by 24 pp), business activity and new business (both up by 22 pp) and profitability (up by 11 pp) were above their means, and input costs was below by 18 pp. Capacity utilisation, product prices and employment were essentially the same as their three-year means.

Finance sector

In June 2021 the finance sector had six positive indicators, one negative indicator, and one neutral indicator; see Figure 3.1.

Figure 3.1 – Finance sector indicators, comparing current situation (June 2021) to three months previously



The summary balance across all indicators[3] was +5, up from +2 for the previous quarter and also well above the three-year mean for the period up to March 2021 for the finance sector (+1.6).

Figure 3.2 illustrates that there were four positive changes since the previous quarter: business activity showed an extremely positive increase of 55 pp, followed by strong quarterly increases in profitability (up by 37 pp) and new business (up by 26 pp). There was a moderate increase in business optimism (up by 14 pp) and the remaining indicators showed balances that were essentially the same as the previous quarter.

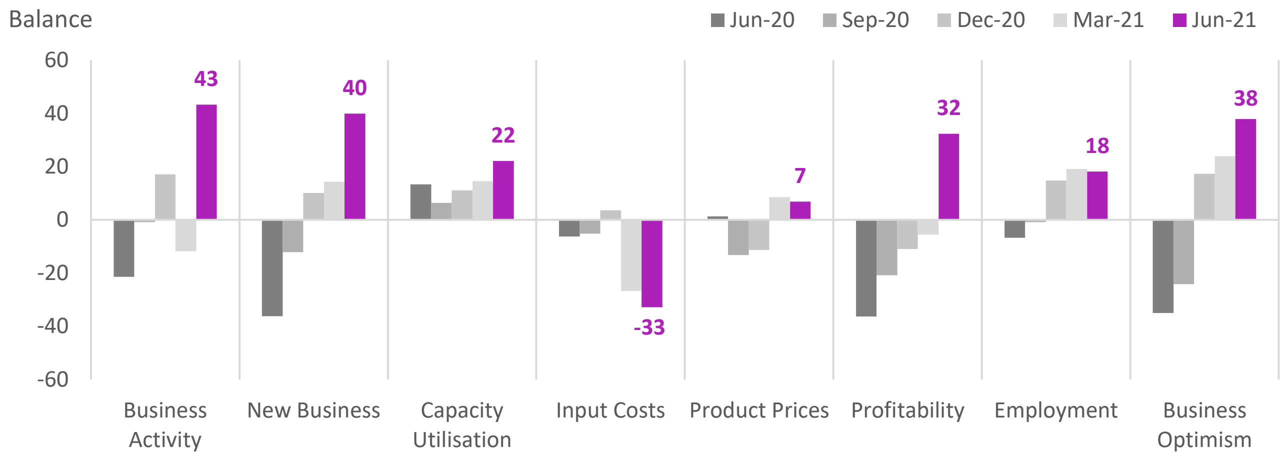
Compared to June 2020, new business (up by 76 pp), business optimism (up by 73 pp), profitability (up by 68 pp) and business activity (up by 64 pp) have all shown extremely positive increases and employment has shown a strongly positive increase (up by 25 pp). Capacity utilisation and product prices have remained essentially unchanged, while input costs have shown a strongly negative decrease of 27 pp.

[3] This is the difference between the number of positive indicators (six) minus the number of negative indicators (one).

In June 2021 six of the eight current indicators for finance were different to their three-year means: business optimism (36 pp higher), profitability (35 pp), new business (31 pp) and business activity (28 pp) were all strongly above, capacity utilisation was moderately above (by 11 pp) and input costs was moderately below (by 10 pp). The remaining two current indicators, product prices and employment, were within 10 pp of their three-year means.

Figure 3.2 – Finance sector current indicators

June 2020 – June 2021

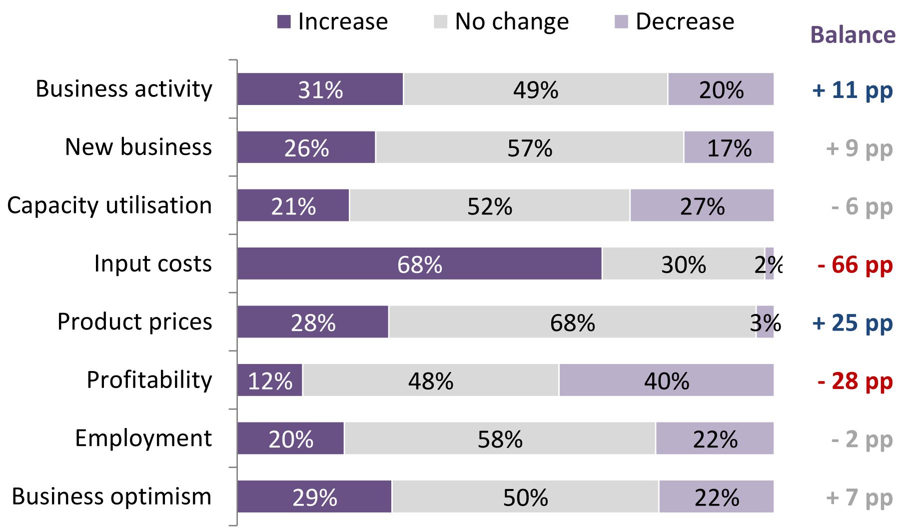


Non-finance sector

For the non-finance sector in June 2021, two indicators were positive, two were negative and the other four current indicators were neutral; see Figure 4.1.

The summary balance across all indicators was 0, representing a notable improvement from -5 for the previous quarter and also above the three-year mean for the period up to March 2021 for non-finance (-2.7). This is also the largest quarterly change for this measure on record; the previous changes were at most +/-4.

Figure 4.1 – Non-finance sector indicators, comparing current situation (June 2021) to three months previously



The input costs indicator was extremely negative (-66 pp) and profitability was strongly negative (-28 pp). Product prices (+25 pp) was strongly positive and business activity (+11 pp) was moderately positive. The remaining four current indicators were neutral.

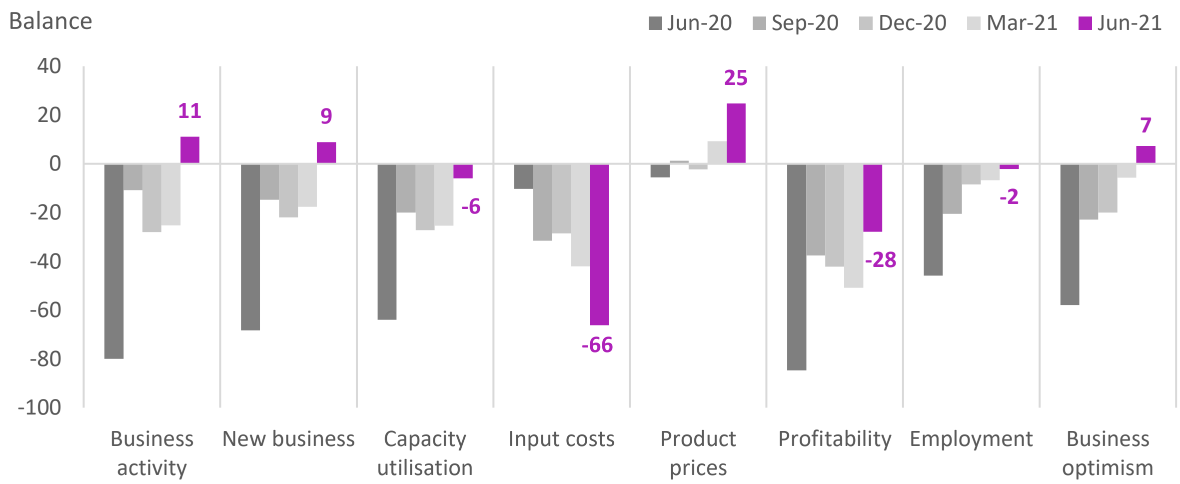
Among the sub-sectors, hotels, restaurants and bars was extremely negative (at least -50 pp) in two indicators, and construction, wholesale and retail and other non-finance were all extremely negative in one indicator – input costs. The hotels, restaurants and bars sector was negative in six current indicators, with construction, wholesale and retail and other non-finance all negative in two current indicators. Apart from input costs, the other indicator to be consistently negative across all sub-sectors was profitability. See the appendix for detailed breakdowns by size and sector.

For the non-finance sector overall, there were seven quarterly changes: business activity (up by 36 pp), and new business (up by 27 pp) both had strong increases since the last quarter, and profitability (up by 23 pp), capacity utilisation (up by 19 pp) and business optimism (up by 13 pp) had moderate quarterly increases. Input costs (down by 24 pp) had a moderate decrease compared to the previous quarter and employment remained essentially unchanged; see Figure 4.2. See the appendix for detailed breakdowns by size and sector.

Compared to a year ago, all indicators apart from input costs showed significant increases and in June 2021 three of the eight current indicators were moderately above their three-year means: business activity (up by 20 pp), new business and business optimism (both up by 19 pp). Input costs was 19 pp below the three-year mean and other indicators were not notably different from their three-year means.

Figure 4.2 – Non-finance sector current indicators

June 2020 – June 2021



Although hotels, restaurants and bars was the sector that reported the most negative results in this round of the survey, this sector also showed some of the most improved results compared to the previous quarter and to a year ago; most notably product prices which was up by 73 pp compared to the last quarter, and business activity which was up by 57 pp. In June 2021, four current indicators in this sector were at least 10 pp above their three-year means, of which two were strongly above; product prices were above by +42 pp and new business was above by 26 pp. The input costs indicator was strongly below its three-year mean by 33 pp and profitability was moderately below by 10 pp.

The construction sector showed strongly positive increases compared to the previous quarter for business activity (up by 37 pp), profitability (up by 32 pp) and capacity utilisation (up by 28 pp), and new business was moderately above with an increase of 24 pp. The only moderate decrease was for input costs which was down by 13 pp. All indicators apart from input costs have shown extremely or strongly positive increases compared to a year ago. In June 2021, five current indicators in this sector were at least 10 pp above their three-year means, of which one was strongly above; business activity by +30pp. Input costs was moderately below its three-year mean by 19 pp.

The wholesale and retail sector showed a strongly positive increase compared to the previous quarter for business activity (up by 40 pp), and moderately positive increases for new business and capacity utilisation (both up by 24pp), and profitability (up by 20 pp). Input costs and employment were moderately down by

17 pp and 12 pp respectively. All indicators apart from input costs (down by 52 pp), product prices (up 21 pp), and employment (up 45 pp) have shown extremely positive increases compared to a year ago. In June 2021, four current indicators in this sector were at least 10 pp above their three-year means, of which one was strongly above; business optimism by 26 pp. Input costs was moderately below its three-year mean by 14 pp.

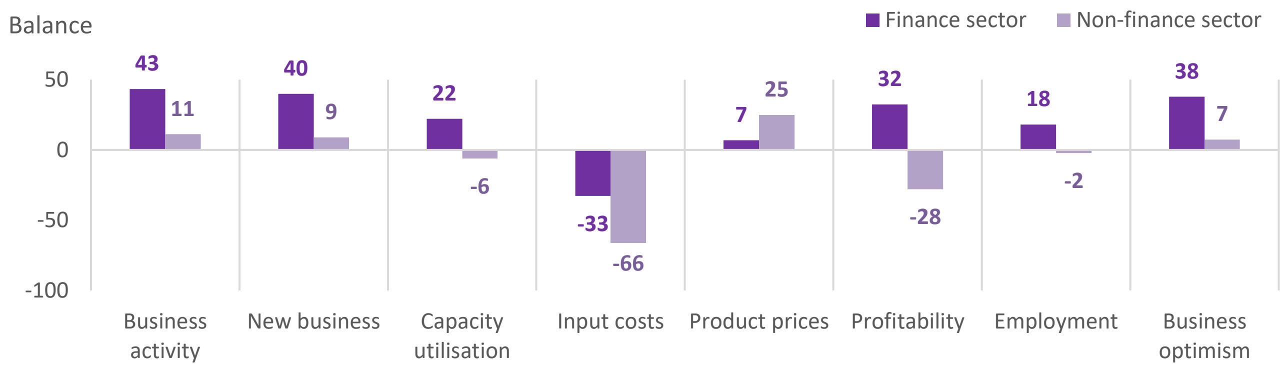
For the other non-finance sectors there was a strongly positive increase compared to the previous quarter for business activity (up by 29 pp), and moderately positive increases for business optimism (up by 24 pp), new business (up by 22 pp), profitability (up by 20 pp), capacity utilisation (up by 11 pp) and employment (up by 10 pp). Input costs was moderately down by 22 pp. Compared to a year ago, the business activity and new business indicators have shown extremely positive increases, while business optimism, profitability and employment have all shown strong increases. The only negative indicator was again input costs; down by 47 pp compared to June 2020. In June 2021, three current indicators in this sector were moderately above their three-year means; new business by 15 pp, business activity by 14 pp and business optimism by 13 pp. Input costs was moderately below its three-year mean by 20 pp.

Comparison of finance and non-finance sectors

The finance sector was more positive than the non-finance sector in seven of the eight current indicators, the exception being the product prices indicator. This gave a net balance of +6 indicators where the finance sector was more positive; see Figure 5.1. This is above the three-year mean balance +4.7. In June 2021, six current finance sector indicators were strongly above the balances for the non-finance sector (by at least 25 pp).

Figure 5.1 – Finance and non-finance sector indicators (net balances, percentage points)

June 2021



Section 2: Future indicators

Future business activity

The outlook for all-sector future business activity over the next three months (to September 2021) was strongly positive (+29 pp). Increases in business activity were expected by 40% of businesses, compared to 11% that expected decreases, while almost half (48%) expected no change; see Figure 6.1.

Figure 6.1 – Future business activity
Expectations for next three months (September 2021)

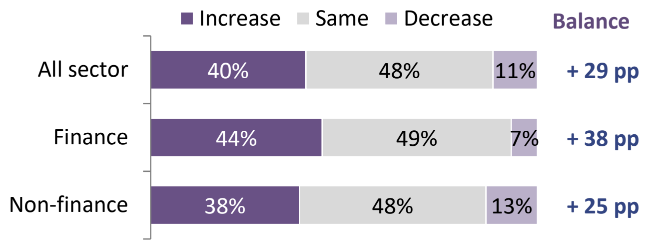
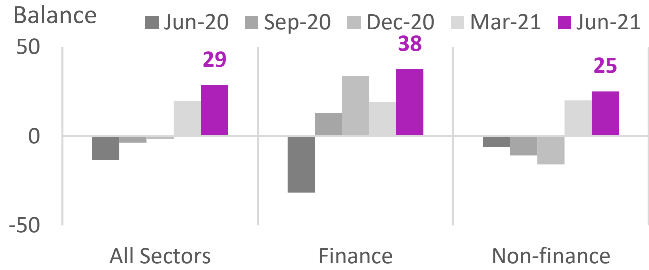


Figure 6.2 – Future business activity
June 2020 – June 2021 (percentage points)



The future business activity indicator was strongly positive for both the finance and non-finance sectors (+38 pp and +25 pp respectively). Compared to the previous quarter, there has been a moderate improvement in the finance sector (up by 19pp), while the non-finance sector has remained essentially unchanged. In the last three years, the finance sector has been an average of 22 pp above the non-finance sector in this indicator.

Within the non-finance sub-sectors the future business activity indicator was:

- strongly positive for construction (+33 pp)
- strongly positive for wholesale and retail (+29 pp)
- moderately positive for hotels, restaurants and bars (+23 pp)
- and moderately positive for other non-finance (+22 pp).

The overall future business activity indicator was essentially unchanged since the previous quarter (up by 9 pp); see Figure 6.2. The balance in June 2021 was 22 pp above its three-year mean of +7 pp.

The future business activity indicator for the finance sector (+38 pp) saw a moderate quarterly increase of 19 pp since March 2021. The balance of this indicator also showed a significant annual improvement compared to June 2020 when the balance was at -32 pp. In June 2021 this indicator was also moderately above its three-year mean of 22 pp.

The non-finance sector balance in the latest quarter was essentially unchanged from its balance in March 2021 and was significantly above its balance twelve months ago in June 2020 (up by 31 pp). It was also moderately above its three-year mean (up by 24 pp).

Within the non-finance sector, construction showed a strongly positive increase compared to the previous quarter of 30 pp. The latest balance for this indicator was extremely above the June 2020 balance by 67 pp and strongly above its three-year mean by 31 pp.

The wholesale and retail sector balance for this indicator was moderately below the previous quarter by 10 pp, but moderately above the balance in June 2020 by 13 pp and also the three-year mean by 21 pp.

Hotels, restaurants and bars showed a balance moderately below the previous quarter by 21 pp, but extremely above the June 2020 balance by 85 pp and strongly above the three-year mean by 45 pp.

Other non-finance saw a balance for this indicator that was essentially unchanged since the previous quarter, but still strongly above June 2020 by 32 pp and moderately above the three-year mean by 19 pp. See the appendix for a sectoral breakdown.

Future employment

The outlook for all-sector future employment over the next three months (to September 2021) was strongly positive (+31 pp), and at a similar level to the overall future business activity indicator. An increase in employment was expected by 46% of businesses compared to 15% that expected a decrease, while 37% expected no change; see Figure 7.1. The finance sector was strongly positive (+49 pp), with 61% of businesses expecting an increase in employment. The non-finance sector was moderately positive (+20 pp), with 36% of businesses expecting an increase.

Figure 7.1 – Future employment
Expectations for next three months (September 2021)

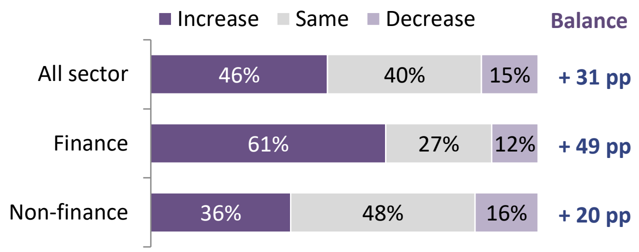
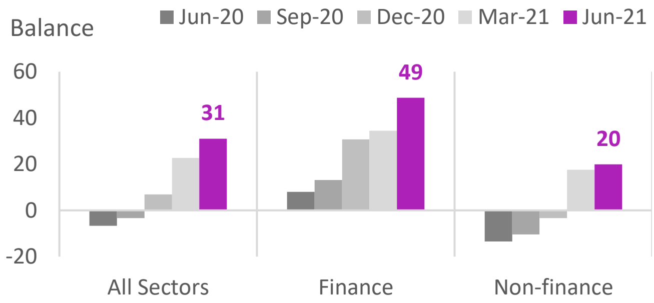


Figure 7.2 – Future employment
June 2020 – June 2021 (percentage points)



The overall indicator for the all-sector future employment indicator has increased steadily over the past 12 months; see Figure 7.2. Although not significantly higher than the previous quarter, the balance of +31 pp was the highest positive quarterly balance to date, with this current quarter's increase influenced notably by the finance sector.

In the current quarter the future employment indicator was strongly above its three-year mean by 25 pp. Both the finance and non-finance sectors were above their three-year means for the future employment indicator (by 26 pp and 20 pp respectively).

Within the non-finance sector, the future employment indicator was strongly positive for construction (+30 pp), moderately positive for other non-finance (+22 pp) and wholesale and retail (+11 pp), and neutral (+7 pp) for hotels, restaurants and bars.

Construction and other non-finance have shown moderate increases in employment expectations since the previous quarter (up 11 pp and 10 pp respectively), while hotels, restaurants and bars has shown a strong decrease (down 30 pp). Wholesale and retail has shown little change in this indicator compared to March 2021.

All sectors apart from wholesale and retail, which has remained essentially unchanged, were moderately above their respective three-year means by similar amounts (19 to 24 pp).

See the appendix for a detailed breakdown by size and sector.

Annex 1 – COVID-19

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated economic consequences, additional questions have been included since June 2020 in order to measure some of these consequences.

Trading activity

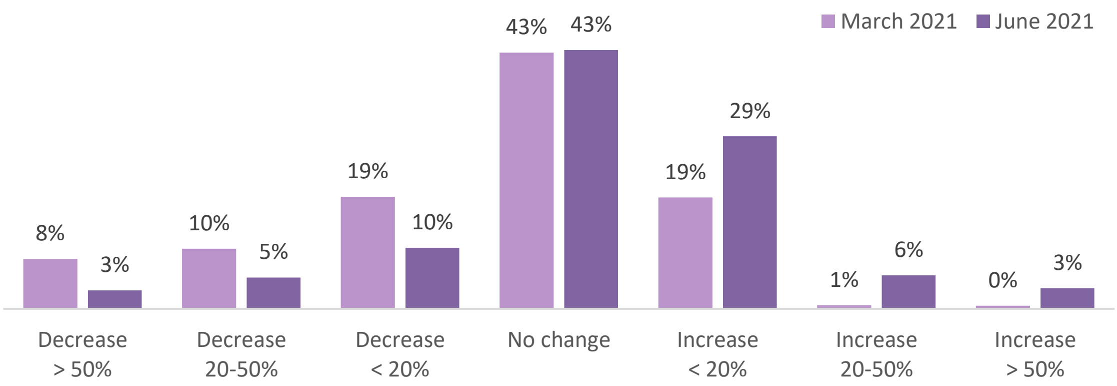
Businesses were asked if they were currently trading. Of those that responded, 99% were trading and 1% were inactive in June 2021. However, some of the undertakings that did not respond to the survey are known to have ceased, so these figures underestimate the proportion of undertakings that ceased during the period.

Turnover

Businesses were asked how their turnover in June 2021 compared to three months' ago (March 2021) and were given a choice of several options. In calculating the balance of this indicator, the smaller increases and decreases (of less than 20%) were given a lower weight (50%), and the greatest increases and decreases (of more than 50%) were a larger weight (150%).

The balance of the turnover indicator was moderately positive at +10 pp, see Figure A1.1. Overall, 38% of businesses reported an increase in turnover, compared to 18% that reported a decrease. The balance of this indicator showed a strong improvement from March of +31 pp.

Figure A1.1 – Change in turnover in June 2021, compared with change in turnover in March 2021



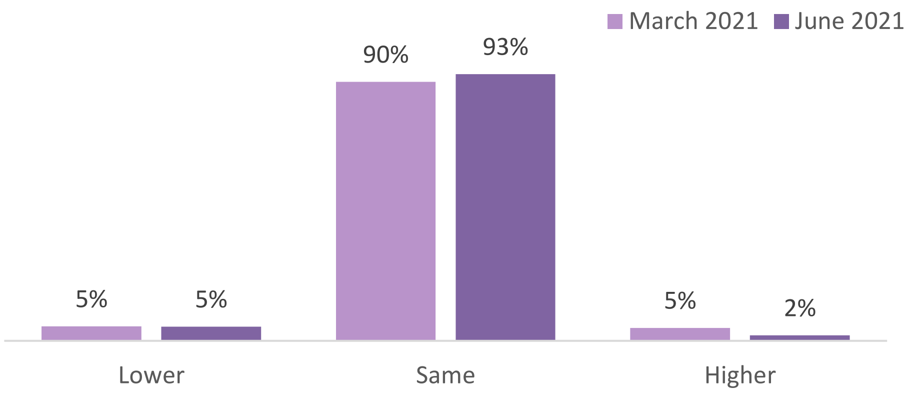
The turnover indicator was moderately positive for the finance sector (+20 pp) and was essentially neutral for non-finance (+7 pp).

Access to finance

The access to finance indicator was neutral (-3 pp). A large majority (93%) reported no change in their access to finance, while 2% reported an increase and 5% reported decrease; see Figure A1.2. The balance of this indicator was essentially unchanged from March.

The indicator was neutral for both the finance and non-finance sectors at -3 pp for each.

Figure A1.2 – Access to finance in March 2021 and June 2021 compared to three months' ago



Employment

Of businesses that employed staff, 16% reported that a lower proportion of their staff were actively working in June 2021 compared to normal, while 8% said that a higher proportion of their staff were actively working. Staff that are actively working are carrying out their duties, as opposed to not working but continuing to be employed. The balance of -8 pp was essentially unchanged from the previous quarter, and was 43 pp above the June 2020 balance of -51 pp.

Figure A1.3 – Proportion of staff actively working, June 2020 to June 2021, finance sector

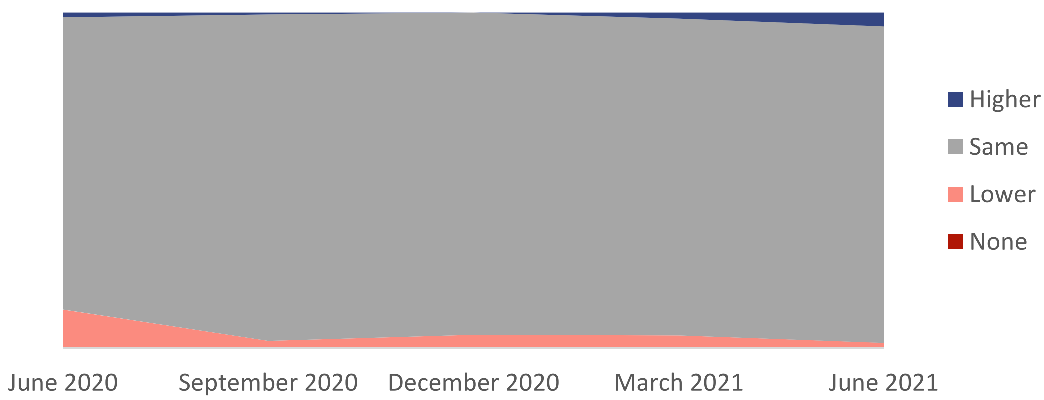
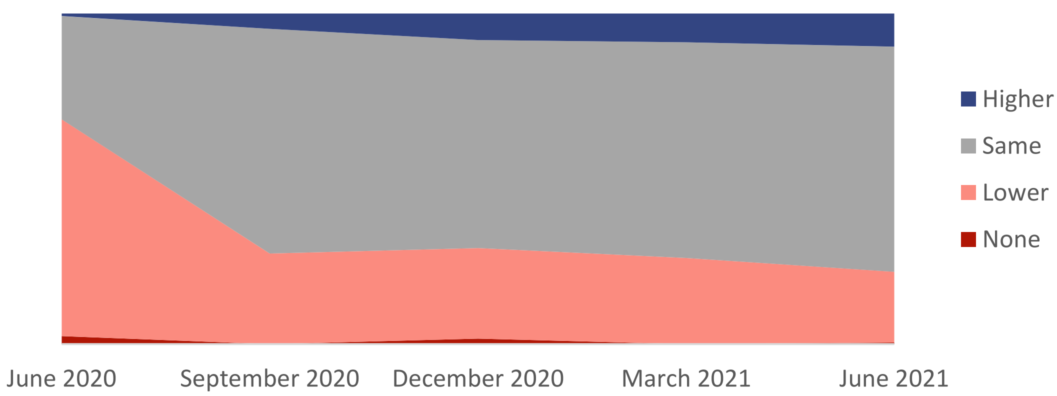


Figure A1.4 – Proportion of staff actively working, June 2020 to June 2021, non-finance sector



The actively working indicator for the finance sector was neutral (+3 pp), and has remained in a 10 pp range since September 2020; see Figure A1.3. The non-finance sector balance was moderately negative (-12 pp) in

June 2021, essentially unchanged since March, and was 56 pp above its June balance of -68 pp; see Figure A1.4.

Of the all-sector businesses that employed staff, close to a quarter (23%) reported that all of their staff were working remotely, and a further 39% said some of their staff were working remotely. More than a third (38%) said none of their staff were working remotely. These figures were essentially the same as in March 2021.

In the finance sector, almost two-thirds (64%) of businesses reported all their staff worked remotely in June 2021, compared to 5% of non-finance companies; see Figure A1.5 and Figure A1.6. Similarly, over half (52%) of non-finance businesses said none of their staff were working remotely, while 6% of finance businesses reported that none of their staff were working remotely. These figures were again very similar to the previous quarter.

Figure A1.5 – Proportion of working remotely, finance sector

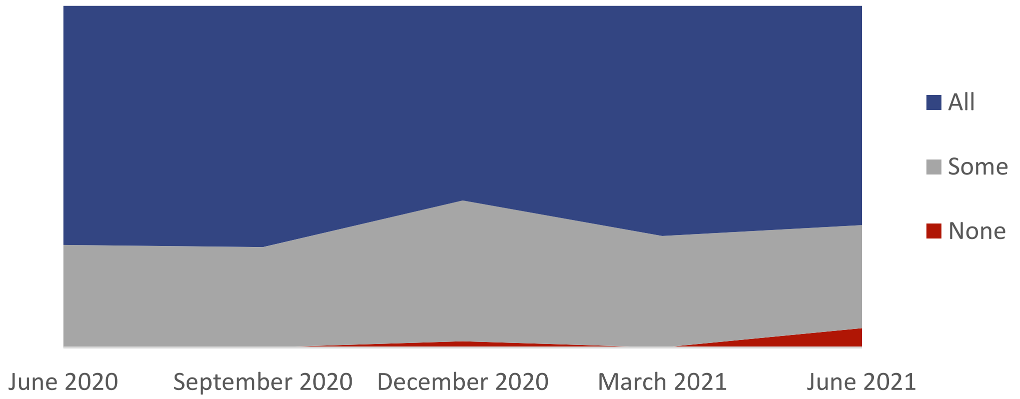
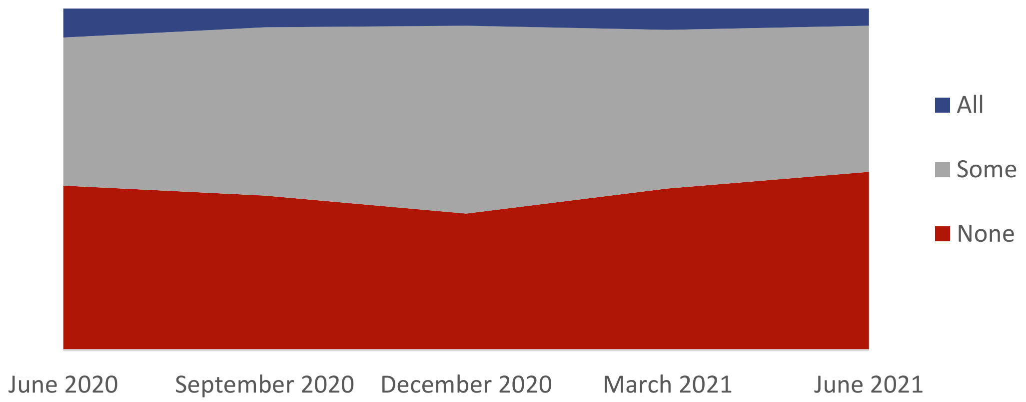
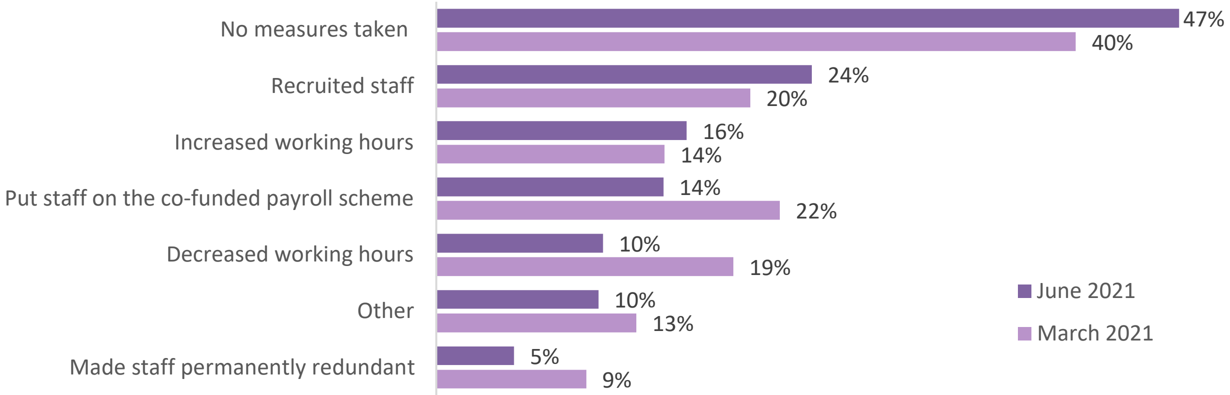


Figure A1.6 – Proportion of working remotely, non-finance sector



Businesses were asked if in the last three months they had taken any measures to cope with the impact of COVID-19 on their workforce. Of businesses that employed staff, just over half (53%) had implemented some measures in the last three months, and 47% reported that no additional measures had been taken. This compares with 40% not implementing any measures in the previous quarter in March of this year and 24% in June 2020 when the question was first asked in the survey. As opposed to previous quarterly surveys where the most common measure taken in the last three months was to enrol in the Government of Jersey Co-Funded Payroll Scheme, the most common measure mentioned in this recent survey was to recruit staff (24%), followed by increasing working hours (16%) and then put staff on the co-funded payroll scheme (14%); see Figure A1.7.

Figure A1.7 – Workforce measures taken in response to COVID-19 in the last three months, as reported in March 2021 and June 2021



The least commonly selected option was again staff redundancies (5%), followed by other measures (10%), and decreasing working hours (10%). The largest changes since March 2021 have been reduced usage of the co-funded payroll scheme and fewer businesses decreasing the working hours for their staff.

The most common 'other' measures mentioned related to investment in IT and other equipment to facilitate home working and the provision of flexible working hours and practices to enable staff to work remotely. Other measured mentioned were mainly staff-related; shift changes, job share and increased overtime payments.

In June 2021, 57% of finance businesses reported they had taken no additional workforce measures in response to COVID-19 during the previous three months, in contrast to 42% of non-finance businesses. The proportion of finance companies that reported taking no measures has been above that for non-finance companies every time this question has been asked, but the difference has decreased over time from a strong 48 pp difference in June 2020 to a moderate 15 pp difference in June 2021. In this most recent survey, for the first time the non-finance sector did not report the most common measure as putting staff on the co-funded payroll scheme (20%); this was surpassed by recruiting staff (22%).

Annex 2 – Finance sector

Future expectations

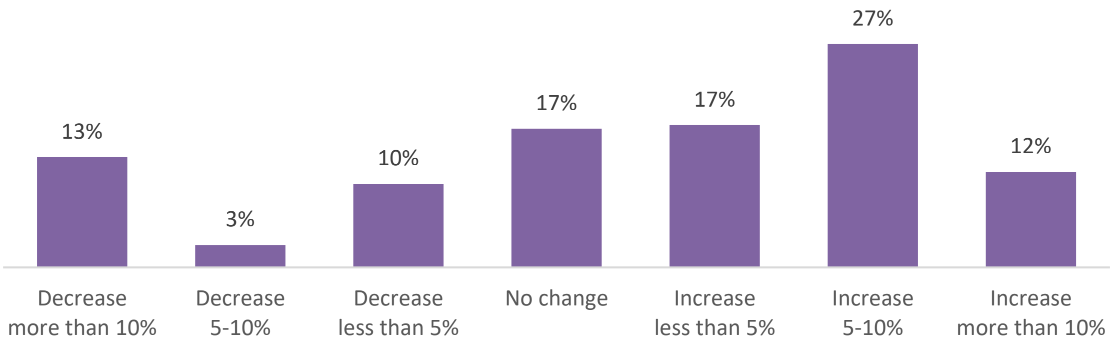
Additional questions were asked of the finance sector to gauge their expectations for future employment, profits and business development[4].

Employment expectations

Businesses were asked to quantify their expected changes in employment from December 2020 to December 2021.

The longer-term employment expectations indicator was strongly positive (+30 pp), with over half (57%) of finance companies expecting employment to be higher in December 2021, compared to a quarter (26%) that expected a decrease and 17% that expected no change; see Figure A2.1.

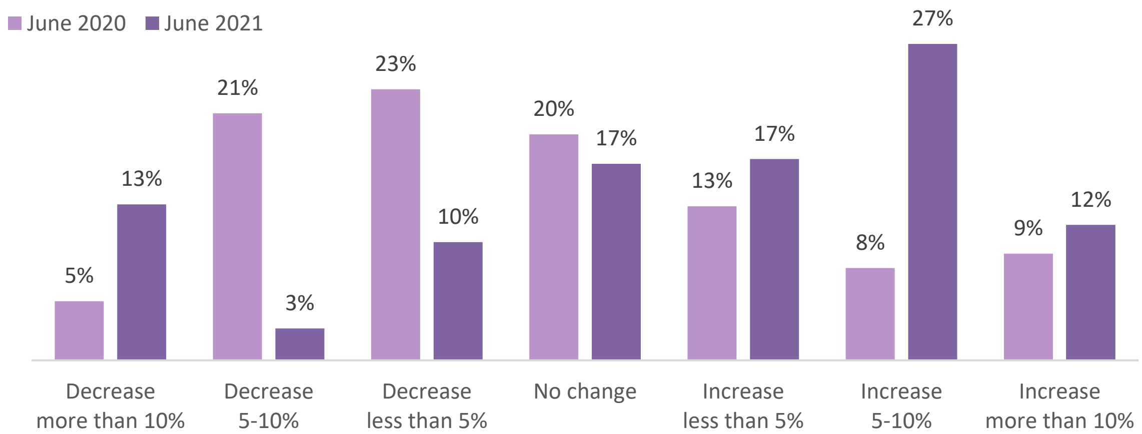
Figure A2.1 – Longer-term employment expectations (December 2020 to December 2021)



13% of businesses expected employment decreases of more than 10%, which was very similar to the 12% of businesses that expected employment increases of the same amount. Over a quarter of businesses (27%) expected employment increases of between 5% and 10% and a further 17% expected increases of less than 5%. 17% also expected no change in employment.

Compared to expectations in June 2020 (for December 2020), this indicator was up by 49 pp (from -19 pp to +30 pp). More companies predicted increases, and fewer predicted decreases; see Figure A2.2.

Figure A2.2 – Longer-term employment expectations for 2021 (expressed in June 2021), compared with expectations for 2020 (expressed in June 2020)



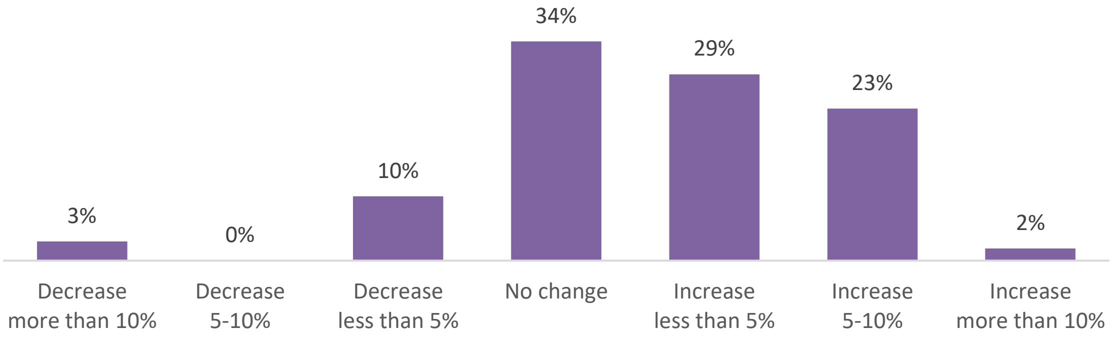
[4] In publications prior to June 2019, the finance annex was weighted by company size only. The annex is now weighted by company size and sampling probability, as in the rest of the report.

Profit expectations

Companies were asked their expected level of profits for the following three months, between June and September 2021. The outlook for profits in the short term was strongly positive (+41 pp); over half (54%) of finance businesses expected increases, 13% expected decreases and a third (34%) expected no change in profits in the short term, see Figure A2.3.

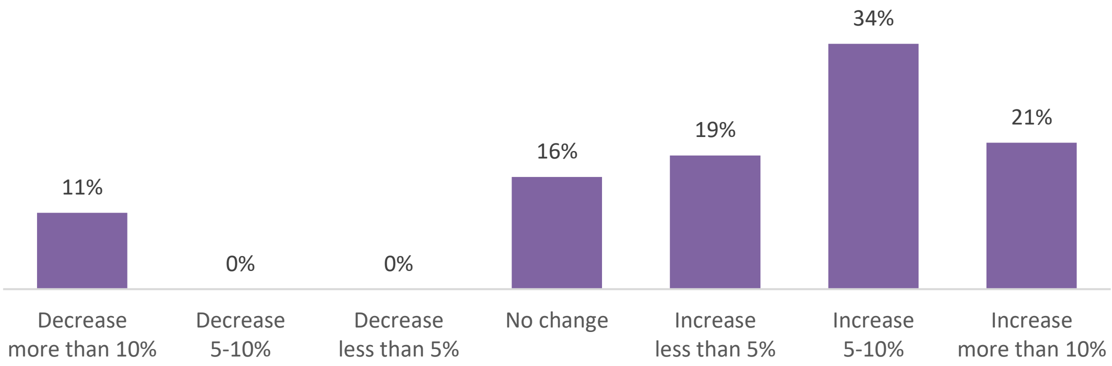
After the large fall in profit expectations in June 2020, this year's result is similar to that recorded in June 2019 (+37 pp) and the previous three-year mean (+34 pp).

Figure A2.3 – Short-term profit expectations (June 2021 to September 2021)



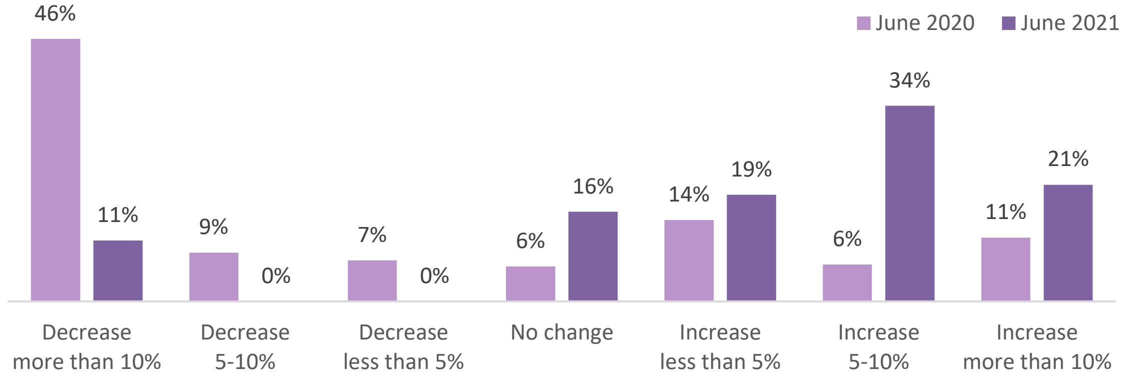
Businesses were also asked to compare their profits for financial year 2020 with their expected profits for financial year 2021. The balance for the longer-term profits for this year was extremely positive (+63 pp), and higher than the short-term profit expectations indicator. Three-quarters (74%) of finance businesses expected that profits in 2021 would be higher than in 2020, compared to 11% that expected decreases; see Figure A2.4. A third (34%) of finance companies predicted an increase in profits of between 5% and 10%, and one in five (21%) predicted increases of over 10%. A similar proportion (19%) predicted an increase in profits of up to 5% and a smaller proportion of finance businesses (16%) predicted no change in longer-term profits.

Figure A2.4 – Longer-term profit expectations (for 2021, compared with 2020)



Apart from June 2020, this indicator has always been positive for the finance sector, with a minimum of +9 pp in June 2015. The current balance of +63 pp was significantly above the -30 pp seen in June 2020 and, as with the short-term profit indicator, was similar to the result in June 2019 (+55 pp). This current indicator for June 2021 was also strongly above the previous three-year mean of +37 pp. See Figure A2.5.

Figure A2.5 – Longer-term profit expectations for 2021 (expressed in June 2021), compared with expectations for 2020 (expressed in June 2020)



In June 2021 11% of businesses predicted a decrease in profits, compared to 62% in June 2020. Similarly, 74% of businesses predicted an increase in profits in June 2021, compared to 32% in June 2020.

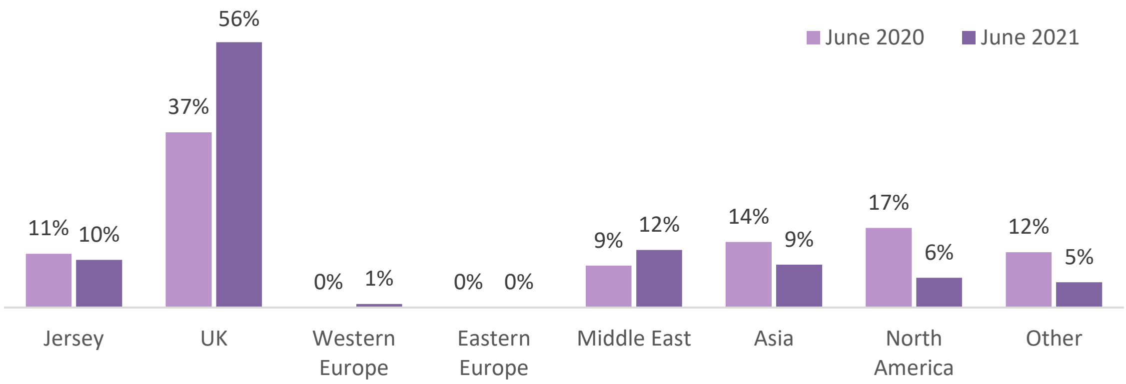
Geographical regions

Respondents were asked to identify which geographical region had the greatest potential for developing key business referrers in 2021 and which had the greatest potential for decline.

Developing regions

The UK continued to be the most commonly cited region with the highest potential for developing business and this has increased since June 2020 to 56%, see Figure A2.6. This is the highest figure to date for the UK (the previous high was 42% in 2010), and also higher than any figure to date for other countries. Most other regions were selected by 5% to 12% of businesses, with Western and Eastern Europe representing the lowest potential.

Figure A2.6 – Geographical regions with the greatest potential for developing key business for 2021 (expressed in June 2021), compared with expectations for 2020 (expressed in June 2020)

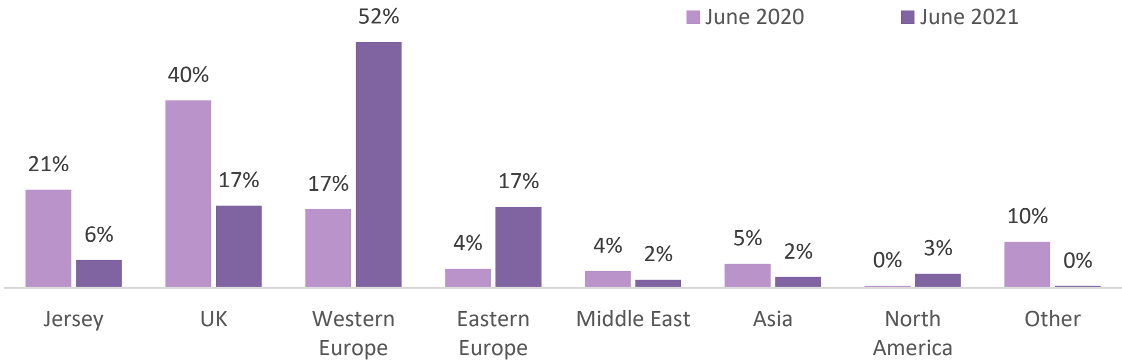


The largest annual increase was seen in the UK (up 19 pp) and the largest annual decrease was for North America (down by 11 pp).

Declining regions

Western Europe was mostly commonly cited as having the greatest potential for decline in 2021, selected by 52% of finance businesses, the highest proportion to date selecting this region; see Figure A2.7. This was followed by the UK and Eastern Europe (both 17%). The largest annual change was also for Western Europe, which was selected by 52% of companies in June 2021, compared to 17% in June 2020. The proportion of businesses selecting the UK as representing the highest potential for decline in June 2021 was the lowest to date and had been cited by an average of 40% of businesses in the previous two years.

Figure A2.7 – Geographical regions with the greatest potential for decline of key business for 2021 (expressed in June 2021), compared with expectations for 2020 (expressed in June 2020)

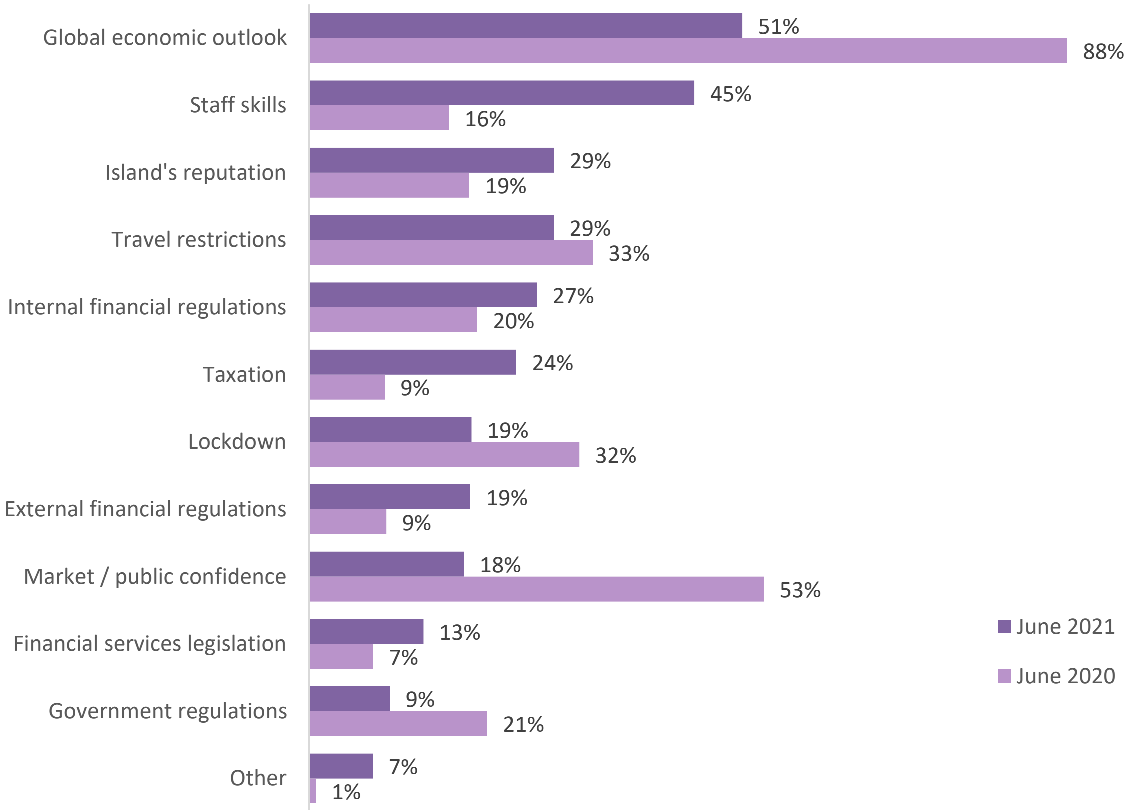


Key issues

Respondents were asked to identify the three key issues for Jersey's business environment for the next six months (to December 2021). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated changes to the economic environment, four additional options were added to this question in June 2020 and have continued in the survey for June 2021: the global economic outlook, lockdowns (within countries), border controls / travel restrictions (between countries), and market / public confidence.

The most common cited issue was the same as in June 2020; the global economic outlook selected by just over half (51%) of businesses. This was followed by staff skills (45%), travel restrictions and the Island's reputation (both 29%), and then internal financial regulations (27%) and taxation (24%), see Figure A2.8.

Figure A2.8 – Key issues for Jersey's business environment for the next six months to December 2021 (expressed in June 2021), compared with key issues to Dec 2020 (expressed in June 2020)



The addition of the four new categories means we cannot compare this question with previous rounds of the survey prior to June 2020 on a consistent basis. Compared to last year, the main increases have been in those citing staff skills as a key issue (up from 16% to 45%), and those citing taxation as a key issue (up from 9% to 24%). The issues more specific to the COVID-19 pandemic have become less predominant, with those citing the global economic outlook as a key issue falling from 88% to 51%, those citing market / public confidence falling from 53% to 18%, and those citing lockdowns falling from 32% to 19%.

To give an indication of what was commonly cited when the four new options were not available, in June 2019 the four most commonly cited issues were the Island's reputation (69%), external financial regulation (44%), staff skills (42%) and government regulation (39%). These issues are also the most commonly cited when looking at the previous three-year period (June 2018 to December 2020), with averages of 43%, 40%, 42%, and 25% respectively.

Notes

The Business Tendency Survey samples private sector businesses in Jersey. The survey asks the Chief Executive or Managing Director of sampled businesses for their opinions on the current situation of their business compared with three months previously, and for their expectations for the next three months.

Each indicator derived from the survey responses is calculated as a weighted net balance, see below.

The survey is run in the last month of each quarter. In June and December, additional questions are asked of the finance sector to gauge their expectations for future employment, profits and business development.

1. **Net balance:** Net balances are used to summarise respondents' answers to the multiple-choice questions of the Business Tendency Survey. The net balance is obtained by taking the difference between the weighted percentages of respondents giving positive (such as "increase" or "higher") and negative responses (such as "decrease" or "lower"). The net balance is given as a difference measured in percentage points (pp). The statistical uncertainty on each net balance (expressed as a 95% confidence interval) depends on the effective (weighted) numbers of respondents to each question. For overall indicators covering the whole of the private sector, the 95% confidence interval ranges from ±5 to ±15 pp depending upon responses to the specific indicator. The net balance and individual percentages are rounded independently, and therefore the percentages may not sum to the balance.
2. **Seasonal effects:** Businesses are asked to exclude normal seasonal fluctuations from their responses. When it is not practical to compare the current trading situation with that of three months ago, businesses are asked to compare with one year ago.
3. **Stratified sample:** To design a representative sample of Jersey's businesses, a random sampling approach was used, stratified by business size (employment on a full-time equivalent [FTE] basis) and type of activity (UK SIC 2007 sector). Size-dependent sampling probabilities were applied, and businesses with more than 50 FTE employees were given a sampling probability of one. The sample is reviewed twice yearly to incorporate new businesses and changes in staffing, in order that the sample remains representative of Jersey's economy.
4. **Response**: Around 520 firms were sent a survey questionnaire for this survey; 345 completed questionnaires were returned, constituting an overall response rate of 66%. The respondents accounted for 39% of total private sector employment in the Island.
5. **Weighting**: The response data collected are weighted before they are analysed. Each reporting business was assigned two weights: a sampling probability weight and a size weight (FTE workforce). The sampling weight adjusts for the different likelihoods of different sized businesses being included in the sample; an effect of the sampling methodology used. The size weight ensures that companies contribute to each indicator in proportion to the size of their workforce. In publications prior to June 2019, the finance annex was weighted by company size only. The annex is now weighted by company size and sampling probability, as in the rest of the report.
6. **Descriptors**: To aid in interpreting the result, balances and changes of specific magnitudes are described using the terminology set out below.
   - Positive/negative: ±10 pp or more
     - Extremely positive/negative: ±50 pp or more
     - Strongly positive/negative: ±25-49 pp
     - Moderately positive/negative: ±10-24 pp
   - Neutral / essentially unchanged: 0-9 pp

Statistics Jersey welcomes suggestions on how we can improve our surveys and reports to ensure we meet the needs of our users. If you have any feedback relating to this report, please email statistics@gov.je.

Statistics Jersey

15 July 2021

Glossary

1. **Employed staff:** This includes staff who are currently on leave of any sort, including furlough leave and unpaid leave. Staff paid through the co-funded payroll scheme should be included, whether or not they are working any hours.

2. **Actively working staff:** This includes staff who are fulfilling their work duties. Staff who are unable to work for any reason should be excluded, whether or not they are paid

3. **Permanent redundancy:** Laying off only covers staff who are no longer employed by the business. Staff that are on the co-funded payroll scheme are still employed, and similarly for staff on leave of any sort, including furlough leave and unpaid leave.

4. **Level of business activity / output:** This is the total amount of work undertaken by an organisation. Business activity can be thought of as gross income, chargeable hours worked, turnover or the number of products produced. The measure of business activity used depends on the nature of an organisation. For example, a legal firm may use the number of chargeable hours worked. A bank may decide to use values of fees, commission and premium income.

5. **Incoming new business / new orders:** This is the amount of new business placed with an organisation. This may include any new clients, new orders or contracts from existing clients or any new contracts.

6. **Level of capacity utilisation:** This is the current business activity relative to 'normal capacity'. 'Above capacity' indicates that a business is above its normal capacity, for example because an organisation is busier than normal or staff are working longer hours than normal. Similarly, 'below capacity' indicates the current business activity is below its normal capacity, for example because an organisation is quieter than normal or staff are working shorter hours than normal.

7. **Average cost of inputs:** This is the average cost for all inputs used by an organisation. Inputs include supplies obtained, stocks/materials bought in and costs of employees, including wages, salaries and pension costs paid by an organisation. We ask businesses to try to give a weighted average of costs. For example, if employment costs are the largest share, they should be given the largest weighting (i.e. importance) when answering the question.

8. **Average prices charged for products:** This is the price charged per item or per unit of time on average. For example, a legal firm will know how much they charge an hour. However, if an organisation offers various services/products, we ask them to try to give a weighted average. For example, if one service accounts for most sales and its prices have increased, then it should be given the largest weighting (i.e. importance) when answering the question, indicating that prices have risen on average.

9. **Profitability:** This is the total profits earned on all activities of an organisation. If an organisation does not calculate profits over the most recent three months, we ask them to try to estimate how their profitability has changed, taking into account changes in turnover, changes in input costs and changes in mark-ups/spreads over input costs.

10. **Employment:** This is the number of employees employed on average. Two part-time employees are equivalent to one full-time employee. For example, if two part-time employees resigned and one full-time employee was taken on, we ask organisations to count this as no net change (so employment was the 'same'). We ask organisations to ignore seasonal or temporary hirings.

11. **Business optimism:** This refers to confidence or optimism about the overall business situation in an organisations' industry generally. Unlike the previous questions, it is not about what is actually happening to an organisation at present, but asks about their opinions for their sector generally.

Appendix

June 2021 – Net balances of indicators (percentage points) and percentage of responders reporting 'no change'

All sectors; finance; non-finance; construction; hotels, restaurants and bars; wholesale and retail; and other non-finance

Indicator	All sectors		Finance		Non-finance		Construction		Hotels, restaurants and bars		Wholesale and retail		Other non-finance	
	Net balance	*No change*	Net balance	*No change*	Net balance	*No change*	Net balance	*No change*	Net balance	*No change*	Net balance	*No change*	Net balance	*No change*
Business Activity	**20**	***48***	**43**	***44***	**11**	***49***	**19**	***44***	**-15**	***13***	**17**	***59***	**12**	***55***
New Business	18	*53*	40	*40*	9	*57*	7	*46*	-7	*35*	18	*57*	10	*66*
Capacity Utilisation	2	*57*	22	*69*	-6	*52*	13	*57*	-40	*14*	1	*68*	-7	*53*
Input costs	-57	*37*	-33	*53*	-66	*30*	-73	*24*	-84	*8*	-62	*35*	-62	*36*
Product prices	20	*71*	7	*79*	25	*68*	31	*63*	57	*43*	24	*72*	16	*75*
Profitability	-11	*49*	32	*53*	-28	*48*	-25	*59*	-63	*3*	-17	*44*	-25	*56*
Employment	4	*55*	18	*47*	-2	*58*	-6	*66*	-27	*27*	4	*62*	2	*61*
Business optimism	16	*51*	38	*55*	7	*50*	23	*48*	-18	*32*	16	*61*	5	*50*
Future business activity	29	*48*	38	*49*	25	*48*	33	*45*	23	*25*	29	*49*	22	*54*
Future employment	31	*40*	49	*27*	20	*48*	30	*61*	7	*19*	11	*51*	22	*52*

June 2021 – Net balances of indicators (percentage points) and percentage of respondents reporting 'no change'

All sectors, finance and non-finance sectors by size of business*

Indicator	All sectors				Finance				Non-finance			
	Large		Small		Large		Small		Large		Small	
	Net balance	*No change**	Net balance	*No change**	Net balance	*No change**	Net balance	*No change**	Net balance	*No change**	Net balance	*No change**
Business Activity	**38**	***47***	**3**	***49***	**50**	***42***	**18**	***50***	**29**	***51***	**1**	***48***
New Business	32	*48*	3	*57*	41	*37*	34	*56*	25	*58*	0	*57*
Capacity Utilisation	16	*60*	-12	*54*	30	*70*	-9	*66*	4	*52*	-12	*52*
Input costs	-53	*39*	-61	*34*	-32	*50*	-36	*64*	-70	*30*	-64	*30*
Product prices	19	*72*	21	*70*	7	*75*	6	*94*	28	*70*	23	*67*
Profitability	7	*50*	-29	*48*	44	*52*	-11	*57*	-22	*49*	-32	*47*
Employment	15	*44*	-7	*65*	17	*40*	22	*75*	13	*48*	-11	*64*
Business optimism	30	*52*	2	*50*	38	*55*	38	*52*	24	*50*	-2	*50*
Future business activity	46	*45*	12	*52*	41	*49*	23	*48*	50	*42*	10	*52*
Future employment	61	*17*	6	*59*	53	*24*	31	*39*	77	*2*	1	*63*

* Large companies are defined as having more than 50 FTEs and small companies are defined as having 50 or fewer FTEs.

Indicators – net balances (percentage points)

All sectors

	2016	2017				2018				2019				2020				2021	
Indicator	**Dec**	**March**	**Sept**	**Sept**	**Dec**	**March**	**June**	**Sept**	**Dec**	**March**	**June**	**Sept**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Sept**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**
Business Activity	**20**	**18**	**3**	**7**	**12**	**16**	**25**	**21**	**11**	**13**	**16**	**3**	**6**	**-11**	**-62**	**-8**	**-15**	**-21**	**20**
New Business	14	14	3	12	21	19	16	18	3	8	3	3	9	-13	-58	-14	-13	-8	18
Capacity Utilisation	9	9	3	4	9	6	11	8	7	1	3	3	1	-11	-40	-12	-17	-13	2
Input costs	-45	-55	-50	-39	-42	-50	-54	-53	-44	-48	-42	-50	-52	-40	-9	-24	-19	-37	-57
Product prices	14	16	16	21	14	26	29	22	14	27	21	16	15	10	-3	-3	-5	9	20
Profitability	-11	-16	-19	-8	-7	-9	1	-2	-14	-11	-5	-19	-14	-29	-70	-33	-33	-38	-11
Employment	3	2	4	6	13	9	14	10	4	10	4	4	-2	-4	-34	-15	-2	1	4
Business optimism	4	7	-5	8	18	11	10	7	1	1	-4	-5	4	-30	-51	-23	-9	3	16
Future business activity	14	26	-2	10	27	20	25	21	11	25	13	-2	16	-23	-14	-4	-2	20	29
Future employment	0	7	12	11	22	12	16	17	3	7	3	12	2	2	-7	-3	7	23	31

Finance

	2016	2017				2018				2019				2020				2021	
Indicator	**Dec**	**March**	**June**	**Sept**	**Dec**	**March**	**June**	**Sept**	**Dec**	**March**	**June**	**Sept**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Sept**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**
Business Activity	**41**	**34**	**35**	**12**	**28**	**36**	**31**	**28**	**28**	**39**	**33**	**7**	**17**	**17**	**-21**	**-1**	**17**	**-12**	**43**
New Business	31	18	16	18	38	33	17	23	20	28	1	7	29	11	-36	-12	10	14	40
Capacity Utilisation	28	30	25	4	27	28	20	8	21	13	7	7	8	5	13	6	11	15	22
Input costs	-18	-34	-23	-11	-23	-25	-30	-27	-22	-21	-19	-43	-43	-32	-6	-5	4	-27	-33
Product prices	3	16	13	7	21	18	16	7	7	24	3	2	7	-5	1	-13	-11	9	7
Profitability	12	-7	15	23	31	18	17	20	7	16	11	-12	2	-19	-36	-21	-11	-5	32
Employment	-5	12	6	18	29	33	28	11	11	35	20	4	18	1	-7	-1	15	19	18
Business optimism	13	19	12	22	33	24	20	16	17	15	1	-9	9	-27	-35	-24	17	24	38
Future business activity	49	38	45	25	51	39	54	49	34	39	28	14	38	-21	-32	13	34	19	38
Future employment	-2	11	28	29	57	37	39	24	12	17	18	41	16	16	8	13	31	34	49

Statistics Jersey

Non-finance

	2016	2017				2018				2019				2020				2021	
Indicator	**Dec**	**March**	**June**	**Sept**	**Dec**	**March**	**June**	**Sept**	**Dec**	**March**	**June**	**Sept**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Sept**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**
Business Activity	**12**	**12**	**21**	**5**	**4**	**6**	**23**	**18**	**4**	**1**	**8**	**2**	**0**	**-24**	**-80**	**-11**	**-28**	**-25**	**11**
New Business	7	13	26	9	11	12	16	15	-5	-1	4	1	-2	-24	-68	-15	-22	-18	9
Capacity Utilisation	2	3	2	4	0	-3	8	8	1	-4	1	1	-2	-19	-64	-20	-27	-25	-6
Input costs	-55	-62	-66	-54	-51	-62	-64	-65	-53	-60	-51	-53	-57	-44	-10	-32	-29	-42	-66
Product prices	18	16	30	28	11	29	35	29	17	28	29	22	19	17	-6	1	-2	9	25
Profitability	-21	-19	-9	-24	-26	-22	-5	-12	-23	-23	-13	-22	-22	-34	-85	-38	-42	-51	-28
Employment	6	-1	-1	0	5	-2	8	10	2	-2	-3	3	-12	-7	-46	-20	-8	-7	-2
Business optimism	1	3	15	0	10	5	6	3	-6	-6	-6	-3	1	-31	-58	-23	-20	-6	7
Future business activity	0	22	18	1	14	12	14	9	1	19	6	-9	5	-23	-6	-11	-16	20	25
Future employment	0	5	9	1	5	1	7	14	-1	3	-4	-2	-6	-5	-13	-10	-3	18	20

Construction

	2016	2017				2018				2019				2020				2021	
Indicator	**Dec**	**March**	**June**	**Sept**	**Dec**	**March**	**June**	**Sept**	**Dec**	**March**	**June**	**Sept**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Sept**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**
Business Activity	**25**	**16**	**10**	**7**	**16**	**20**	**21**	**11**	**3**	**-8**	**-10**	**3**	**-8**	**-13**	**-92**	**-3**	**-24**	**-18**	**19**
New Business	14	17	16	6	20	9	18	4	-10	-6	19	9	-7	-13	-82	-11	-21	-17	7
Capacity Utilisation	8	3	12	-2	18	-5	-2	13	-7	21	7	3	4	-7	-83	-22	-25	-15	13
Input costs	-57	-64	-73	-51	-62	-78	-76	-75	-44	-54	-77	-69	-56	-52	3	-39	-44	-60	-73
Product prices	13	24	24	16	17	31	34	33	12	3	38	25	14	15	-10	12	0	22	31
Profitability	-6	-15	-12	-29	-22	-24	8	-6	-17	-25	-25	-37	-27	-33	-92	-40	-52	-57	-25
Employment	-4	1	-1	1	25	4	18	28	6	-2	-10	8	-5	4	-47	-16	-1	2	-6
Business optimism	20	18	34	27	26	21	32	21	5	-11	9	34	13	-2	-74	-14	-9	15	23
Future business activity	21	13	16	13	32	17	17	19	8	-1	-1	12	6	5	-34	1	-7	3	33
Future employment	4	11	14	-14	16	-17	2	19	9	-2	3	16	9	13	-21	13	4	19	30

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Hotels, restaurants and bars

	2016	2017				2018				2019				2020				2021	
Indicator	**Dec**	**March**	**June**	**Sept**	**Dec**	**March**	**June**	**Sept**	**Dec**	**March**	**June**	**Sept**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Sept**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**
Business Activity	**5**	**16**	**2**	**-23**	**-20**	**-7**	**13**	**28**	**-16**	**-27**	**-23**	**-4**	**-7**	**-42**	**-100**	**-44**	**-98**	**-72**	**-15**
New Business	-7	6	-2	-18	14	2	13	28	-27	-20	-27	-10	-18	-45	-100	-50	-84	-51	-7
Capacity Utilisation	-5	-3	-5	-10	-16	-10	-3	17	-25	-24	-28	-5	-12	-44	-87	-65	-80	-78	-40
Input costs	-70	-80	-88	-69	-55	-91	-70	-70	-70	-83	-75	-68	-72	-47	20	-38	-13	-20	-84
Product prices	47	33	58	52	15	47	36	52	23	58	38	35	47	8	-36	-22	-36	-16	57
Profitability	-9	-23	-25	-55	-30	-35	-30	-12	-46	-39	-15	-31	-39	-62	-100	-85	-94	-83	-63
Employment	11	2	-8	-18	-5	-14	15	1	-15	-19	-12	-13	-14	-25	-85	-44	-43	-45	-27
Business optimism	-13	8	-3	-24	-7	-14	-15	-11	-35	-8	-12	-16	-10	-78	-89	-80	-94	-16	-18
Future business activity	-17	22	8	-39	-22	17	17	-11	-37	25	5	-41	-5	-49	-62	-71	-79	44	23
Future employment	-10	12	-6	-16	-18	29	6	-3	-26	22	-15	-36	-10	-35	-42	-63	-38	37	7

Wholesale and retail

	2016	2017				2018				2019				2020				2021	
Indicator	**Dec**	**March**	**June**	**Sept**	**Dec**	**March**	**June**	**Sept**	**Dec**	**March**	**June**	**Sept**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Sept**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**
Business Activity	**9**	**-4**	**40**	**11**	**4**	**-19**	**41**	**1**	**2**	**14**	**16**	**9**	**-3**	**-29**	**-79**	**21**	**-8**	**-23**	**17**
New Business	8	-6	48	15	1	-14	33	6	-9	7	3	3	-1	-29	-62	14	28	-6	18
Capacity Utilisation	3	-11	0	7	-9	-13	15	-21	3	-15	10	26	0	-24	-68	-19	-5	-23	1
Input costs	-57	-56	-71	-57	-53	-47	-73	-67	-66	-65	-51	-23	-68	-48	-10	-20	-35	-45	-62
Product prices	12	23	45	51	20	32	36	22	27	22	29	8	29	22	3	3	6	20	24
Profitability	-26	-20	12	-20	-46	-24	3	-30	-36	-13	-23	-12	-31	-48	-76	0	-10	-37	-17
Employment	17	-9	3	7	-5	-12	-2	-8	1	-1	-7	5	5	-4	-41	-14	11	16	4
Business optimism	-8	-27	26	3	4	1	-2	-20	-27	-15	-16	6	-5	-21	-45	3	-2	21	16
Future business activity	-1	18	28	11	19	17	16	-3	5	25	6	6	-1	-21	16	-6	19	39	29
Future employment	1	-3	16	24	-10	-14	5	14	-7	-3	3	14	-2	-2	-11	-9	1	18	11

Other non-finance – private sector excluding finance and legal activities, construction and quarrying, hotels restaurants and bars, and wholesale and retail

	2016	2017				2018				2019				2020				2021	
Indicator	Dec	March	June	Sept	Dec	March	June	Sept	Dec	March	June	Sept	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sept	Dec	Mar	Jun
Business Activity	**12**	**20**	**26**	**11**	**8**	**18**	**19**	**24**	**13**	**8**	**19**	**0**	**5**	**-17**	**-49**	**-14**	**-19**	**-17**	**12**
New Business	10	25	23	17	13	28	8	18	7	4	10	2	4	-17	-48	-14	-24	-12	10
Capacity Utilisation	2	13	12	11	5	5	11	18	12	0	5	-8	-2	-11	-22	-6	-25	-18	-7
Input costs	-48	-61	-39	-48	-46	-54	-51	-59	-45	-52	-37	-57	-48	-40	-15	-31	-26	-40	-62
Product prices	13	4	14	10	3	22	34	22	13	28	24	23	7	20	0	5	2	7	16
Profitability	-26	-18	-2	-13	-15	-16	-3	-4	-12	-21	-3	-19	-11	-18	-62	-37	-39	-45	-25
Employment	-1	2	2	3	8	6	7	17	6	4	4	8	-20	-5	-23	-17	-9	-8	2
Business optimism	6	16	10	-2	14	7	10	16	9	1	-3	-13	5	-25	-43	-17	-11	-19	5
Future business activity	0	29	29	7	17	6	10	21	10	20	9	-10	10	-20	-10	3	-18	14	22
Future employment	2	7	15	3	16	6	10	19	7	2	-6	0	-9	1	1	-2	2	12	22

For comparability with past reports, the previously used definition of "other non-finance" is included below.

Other non-finance and hotels, restaurants and bars – private sector excluding finance and legal activities, construction and quarrying, and wholesale and retail

	2016	2017				2018				2019				2020				2021	
Indicator	Dec	March	June	Sept	Dec	March	June	Sept	Dec	March	June	Sept	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sept	Dec	Mar	Jun
Business Activity	**10**	**19**	**23**	**1**	**1**	**12**	**16**	**25**	**5**	**-1**	**9**	**-1**	**2**	**-24**	**-78**	**-21**	**-36**	**-28**	**8**
New Business	5	21	19	7	13	22	9	21	-2	-2	1	-1	-1	-25	-67	-23	-37	-20	7
Capacity Utilisation	0	10	9	5	0	1	7	17	2	-6	-3	-7	-4	-23	-59	-20	-35	-29	-13
Input costs	-54	-65	-47	-54	-48	-63	-57	-62	-52	-60	-46	-60	-54	-43	-13	-33	-23	-36	-66
Product prices	23	10	20	22	6	28	35	30	16	36	27	27	17	17	-7	-1	-6	3	23
Profitability	-21	-19	-5	-25	-19	-21	-12	-7	-21	-26	-6	-22	-18	-29	-86	-48	-51	-53	-32
Employment	2	2	0	-3	5	1	10	13	1	-2	0	2	-19	-10	-47	-23	-16	-15	-3
Business optimism	0	14	8	-8	9	2	2	8	-3	-1	-5	-14	1	-40	-58	-32	-28	-19	1
Future business activity	-5	27	26	-6	8	8	12	12	-2	22	8	-19	6	-29	-6	-15	-30	19	22
Future employment	-1	8	12	-3	8	11	9	13	-2	6	-8	-10	-9	-9	-12	-16	-6	17	18

Past reports are available online at www.gov.je/BTS Data tables for the above and earlier years are available online at opendata.gov.je/dataset/business-tendency-survey