

IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON THE BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

Master Builders Australia has released the findings from the first of our new monthly Impact of COVID-19 Survey to provide a better understanding of the pandemic's impact on the building and construction industry.

The Survey tells the story of what real builders working across the residential, commercial and civil construction sectors are experiencing in their businesses right now and what the challenges they anticipate will arise in the very near future.

Unfortunately, the results reflect our worst-case scenario forecasts undertaken in March. It is clear, that without further government intervention, builders and tradies are facing an imminent crisis with most set to run out of new work in the next few months with 73 per cent of respondents reporting a substantial fall in forward work on their books, with 40 per cent being lost on average.

At risk is the viability of nearly 400,000 building and construction businesses, the jobs of 1.2 million Australians and the industry's capacity to work through the suppression phase and aid the economic recovery.

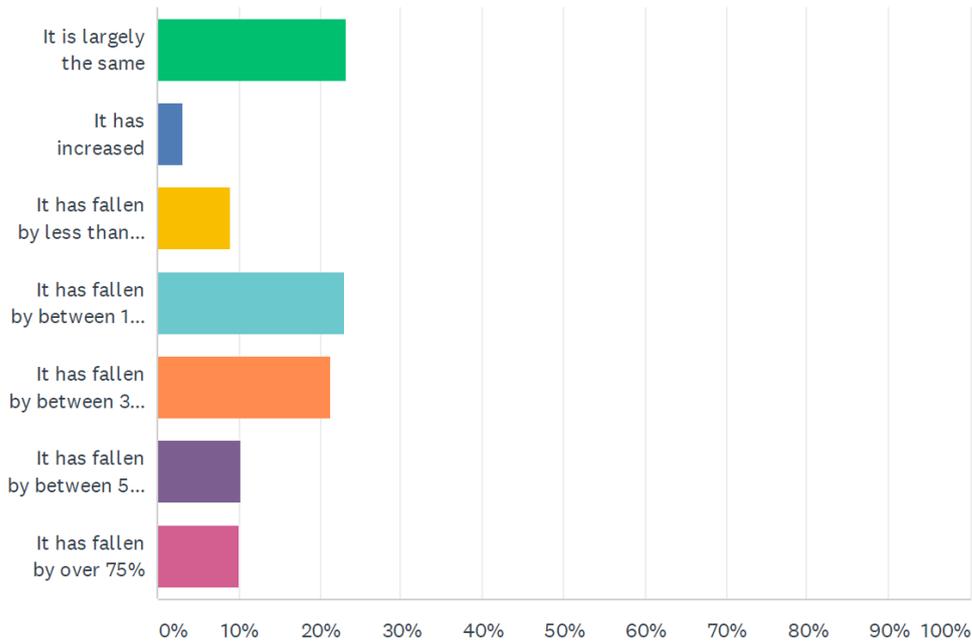
The home building sector is being hit especially hard. Confusion about how domestic building activity fits in with government safety rules combined with job losses and business closures is having a devastating impact on demand for new residential building activity.

Master Builders strongly back the current measures to support businesses and jobs and the stimulus announcements that have been made to date, but we are seeking support from all governments to rollout further stimulus measures that will immediately reboot building activity.

The enormity of the challenges faced by government is well understood by Master Builders and we commend the response so far, but these stimulus measures cannot wait. If urgent action is not taken our industry's role in the economic recovery will be severely blunted.

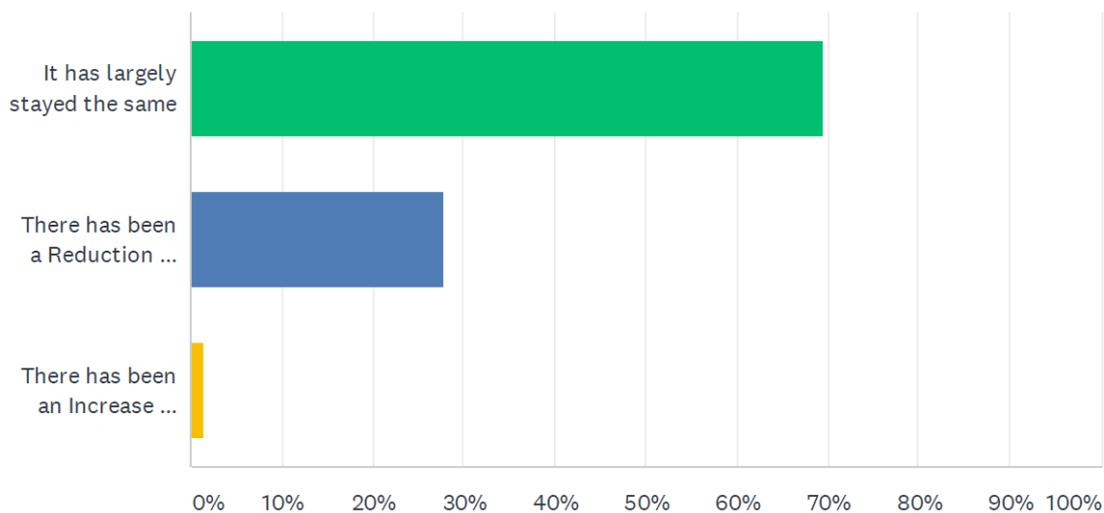
Q3 Since the start of the Covid-19 crisis, how has the amount of forward work on your books changed?

Answered: 790 Skipped: 3



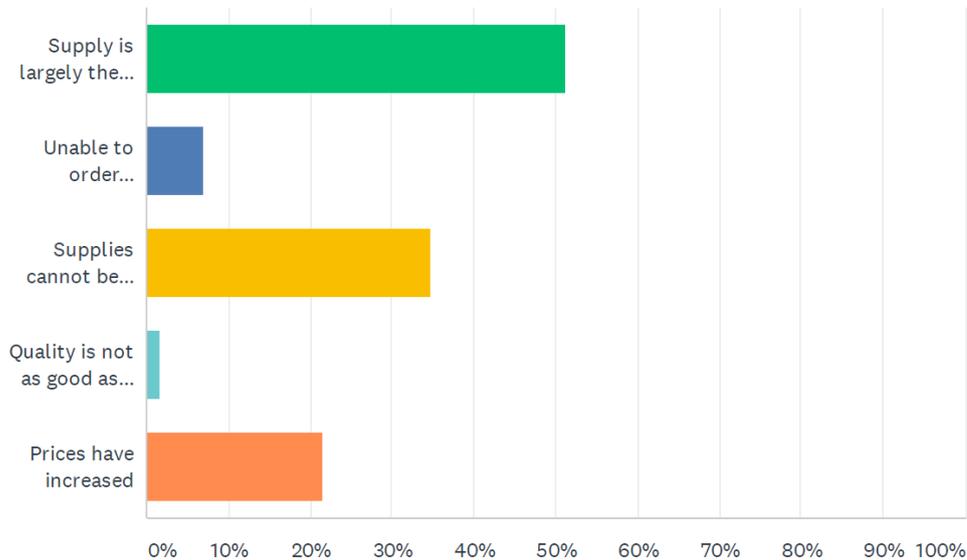
Q4 Since the start of the Covid-19 crisis, how has the number of employees in your business changed?

Answered: 791 Skipped: 2



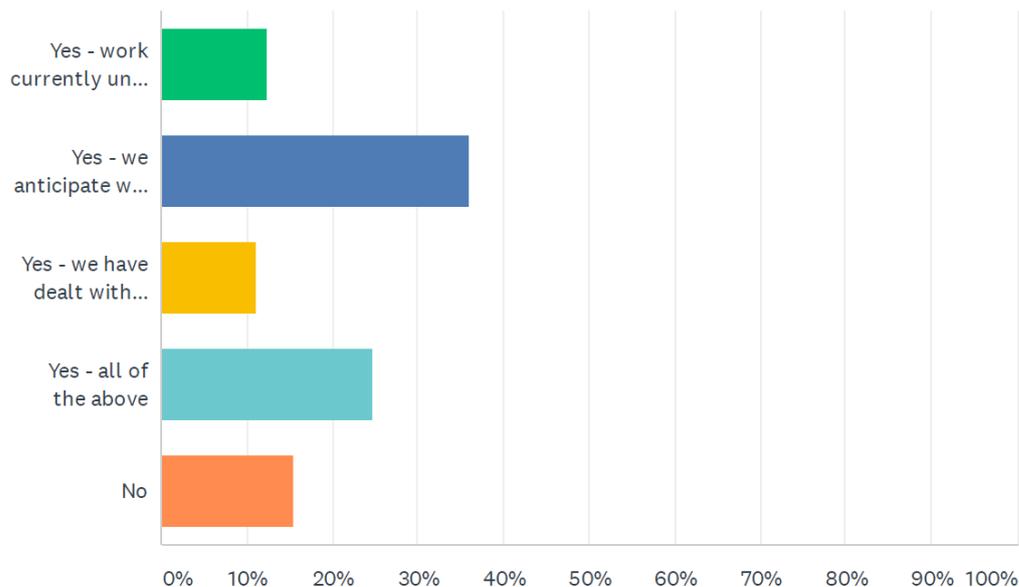
Q6 How would you describe the nature of any building material supply issues you have experienced since the Covid-19 crisis started? (please tick which apply)

Answered: 768 Skipped: 25



Q7 Have you faced, or do you believe you will face issues relating to delays on your work?

Answered: 790 Skipped: 3



Q8 Following from the above, do you believe these delays will cause cost increases?

Answered: 784 Skipped: 9

