

COVID-19: ABS SURVEY ON BUSINESS IMPACTS

- The ABS has released results from a [survey](#) of 3,000 businesses conducted between 16-23 March.
- The P&A will analyse results from Business NSW's [Business Conditions Survey](#) (which contains a more comprehensive set of questions on COVID-19 impacts) once it closes later this week.

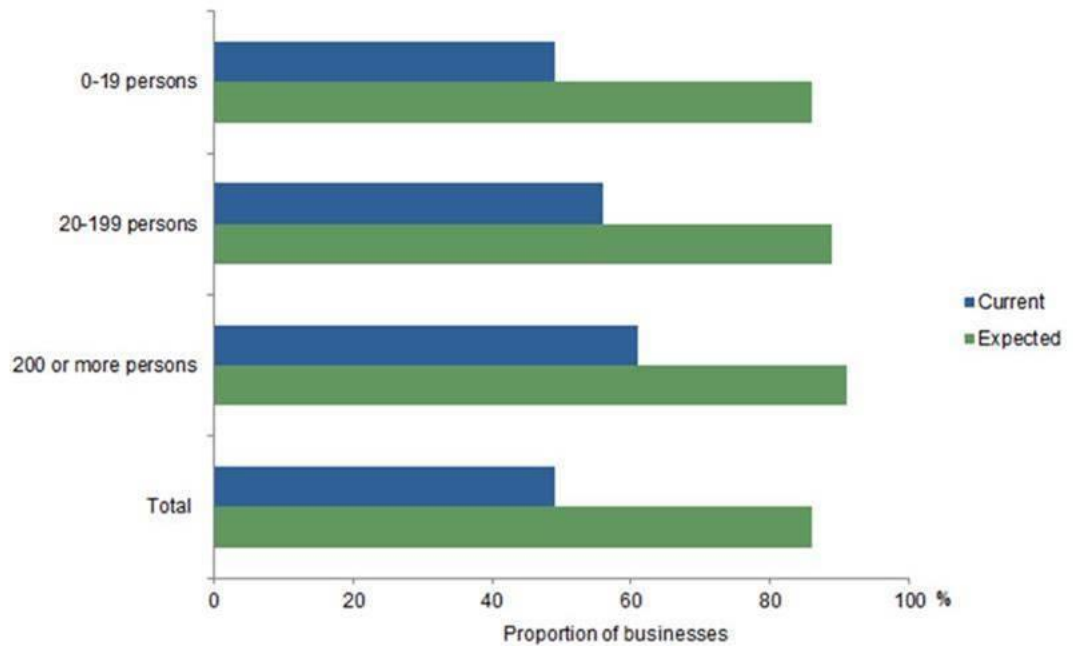
Incidence of Adverse Business Impacts

- Approximately half of Australian businesses (49%) had experienced an adverse impact as a result of COVID-19 during the previous two weeks and 86% of businesses expected to be impacted in future months.

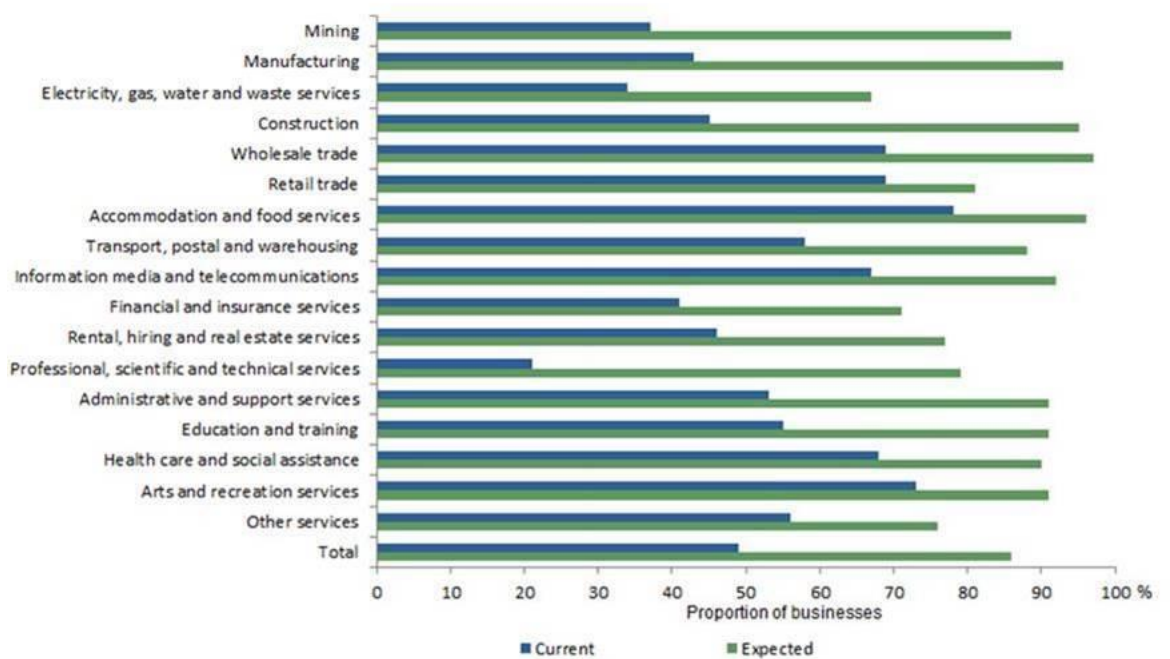
Over three quarters of businesses in Accommodation & food services (78%) reported that they had experienced adverse business impacts in the previous two weeks and 96% anticipated impacts over the coming months.

By contrast, businesses in Professional, scientific & technical services (21%), Electricity, gas and water supply (34%) and businesses in Mining (37%) were the least likely to have been adversely impacted by COVID-19 in the previous two weeks.

Businesses adversely impacted, current and expected, by employment size



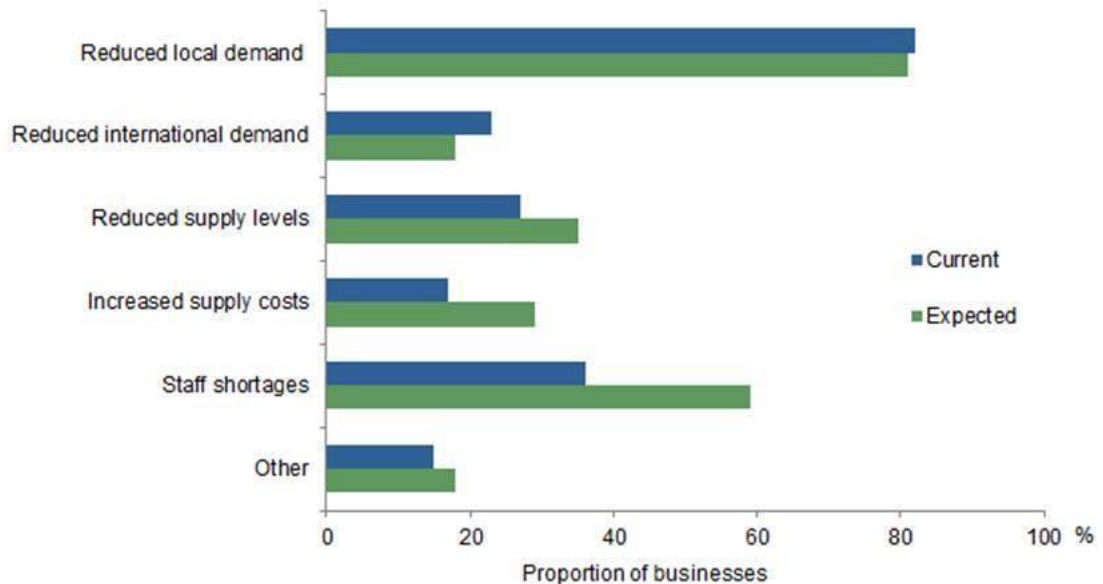
Businesses adversely impacted, current and expected, by industry



Nature of Business Impacts

- A reduction in local demand was the most common impact reported for the previous two weeks (82%) and was also the

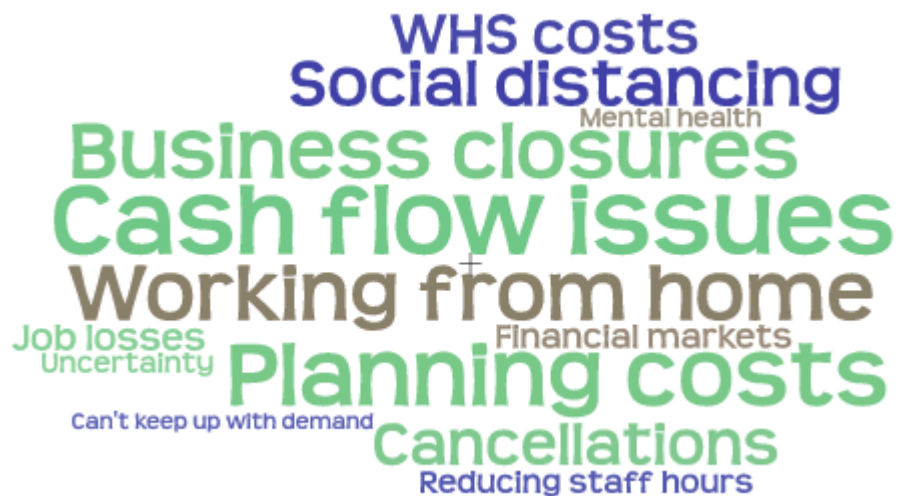
most common impact expected in coming months (81%). Of impacted businesses, over a third had experienced staff shortages (36%) and 59% expected to experience staff shortages in coming months.



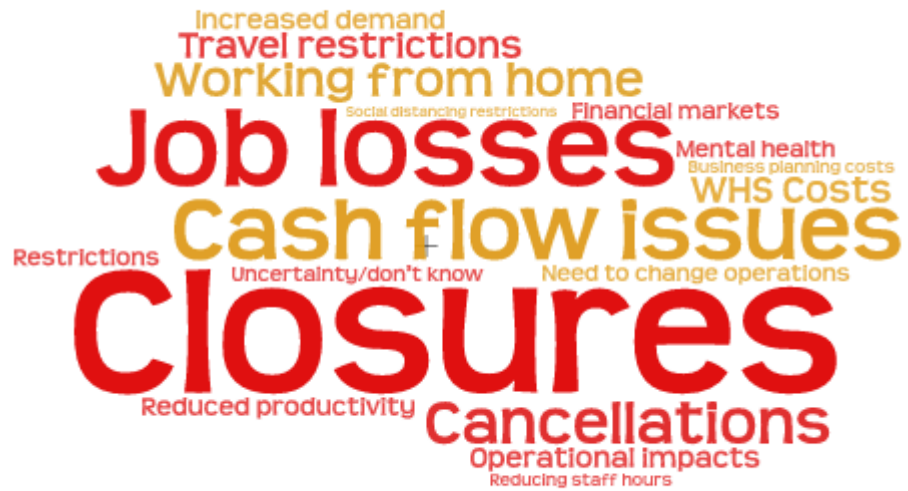
Thematic representation of business sentiments

- Key themes in business sentiments are expressed in the word clouds below:

Experienced impacts of the last two weeks



Expected impacts in coming months



About this release

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