



**FRENCH BUSINESS COUNCIL**  
**Dubai & Northern Emirates**

**[WEBINAR  **]

# **Les Emirats Arabes Unis face à la crise du Covid-19**

# Introduction par le FBC

Agnès LOPEZ CRUZ



Directrice

# Résultats du questionnaire d'impact du Covid-19 sur la communauté d'affaires

Geoffroy BUNETEL



Président FBC | Chalhoub Group

April 2020 | Impact assessment  
Coronavirus (Covid-19) outbreak  
on companies based in the UAE  
- *2<sup>nd</sup> survey*

# Methodology

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## Methodology

Online survey by French Business Council Dubai & Northern Emirates, in collaboration with the French Business Group Abu Dhabi

## Participants

Sample of 100 respondents (X2 since March reading)

All CEO or GM of companies based in the UAE and members of FBC and/or FBG

## Survey tool

Google Form

## Time of Survey

Tuesday, 14th April 2020 to  
Wednesday, 22nd 2020

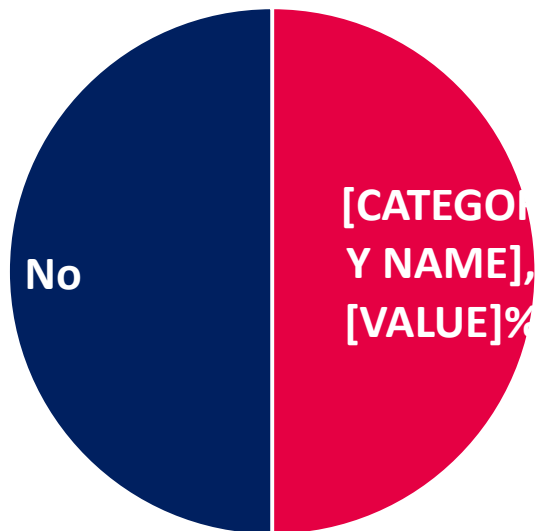
Diversity of profiles reflecting the variety of the French business community in the UAE



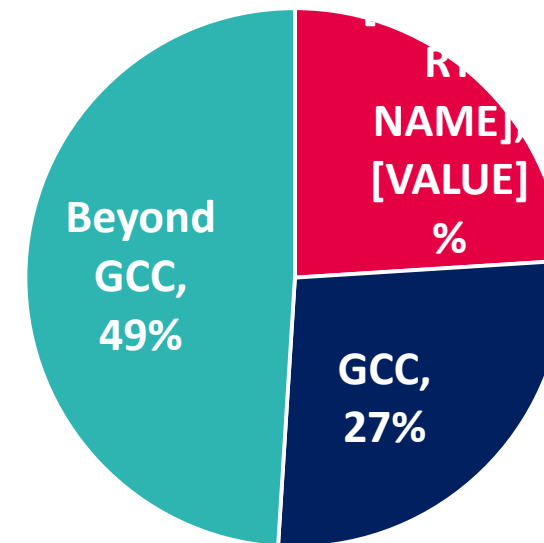
# Diverse geographies....

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50% are headquartered in France

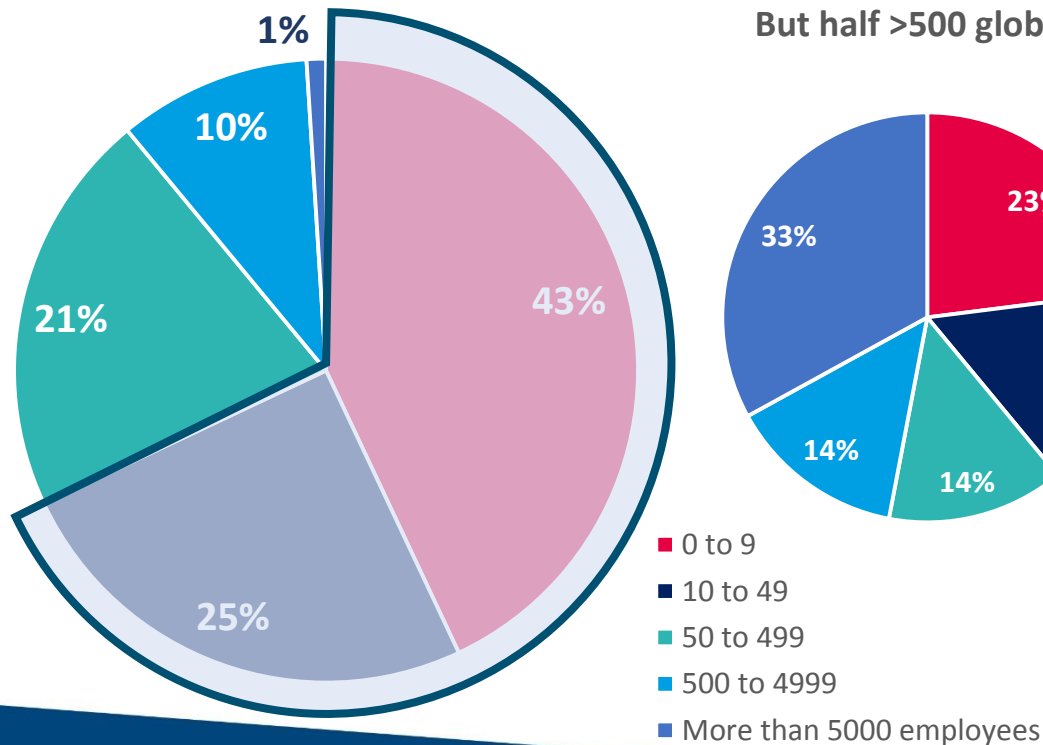


3 out of 4 operate beyond UAE

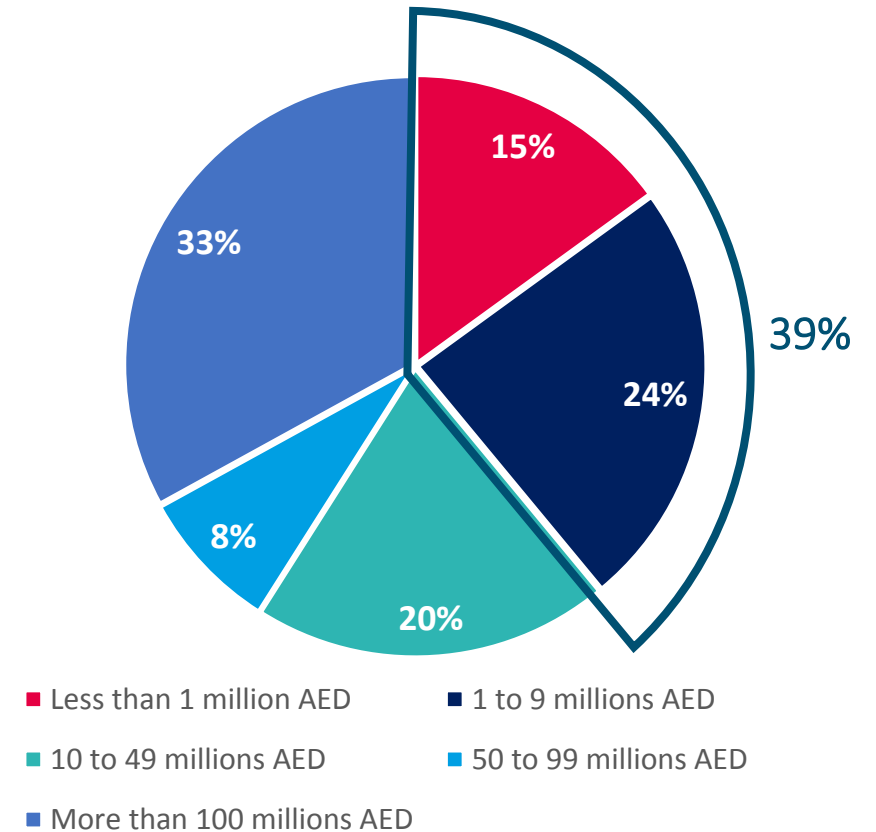


# A large array of companies' size

2 out of 3 have less than 50 employees in the UAE...



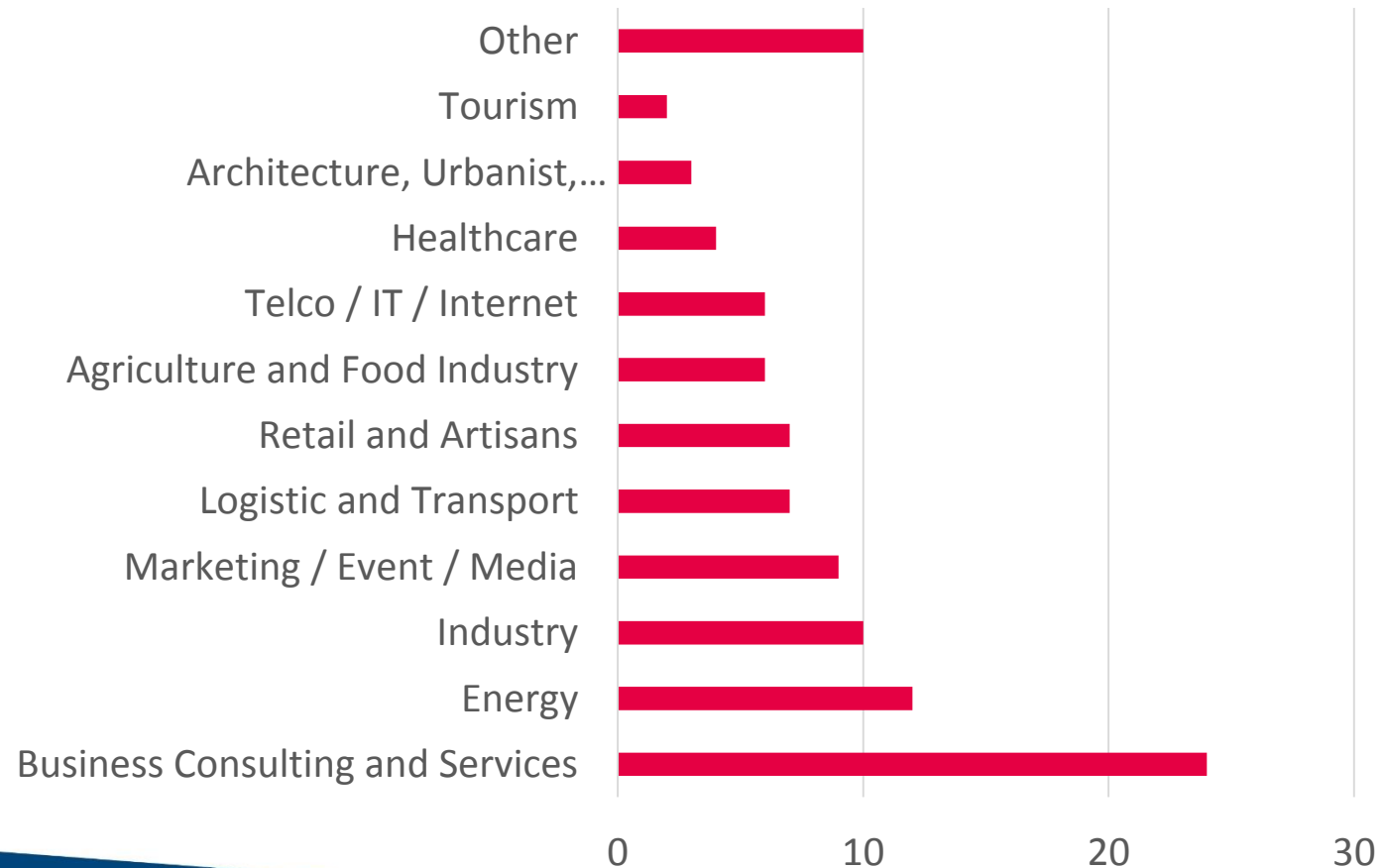
A balanced repartition in terms of level of turn over





# A diversified sample of economic sectors

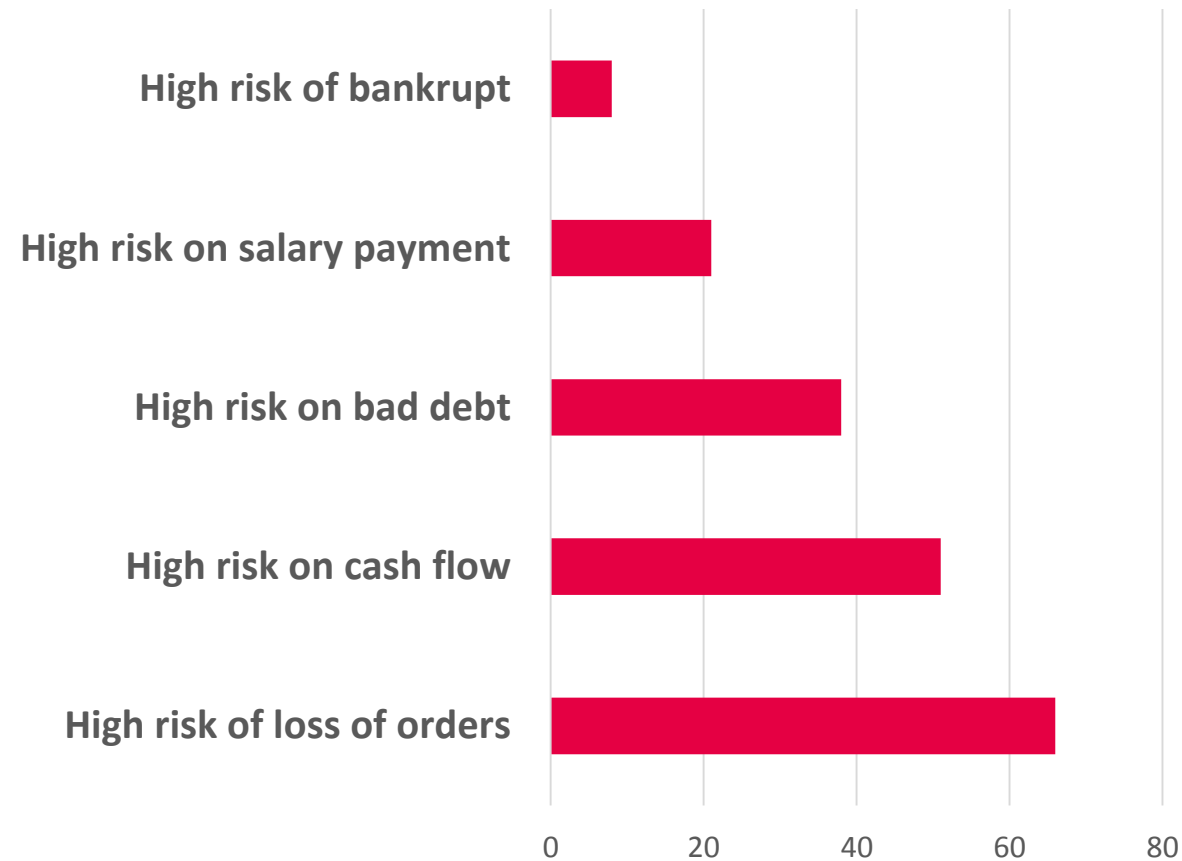
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# Impacts and Operational measures taken to address the situation

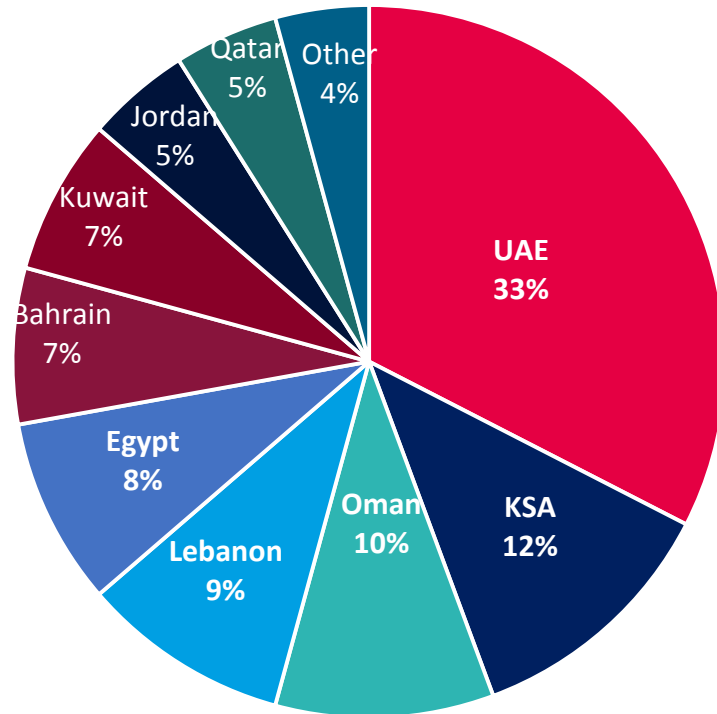
# Risks on cash and loss of orders are the most common

2 out of 3 companies risk to lose orders

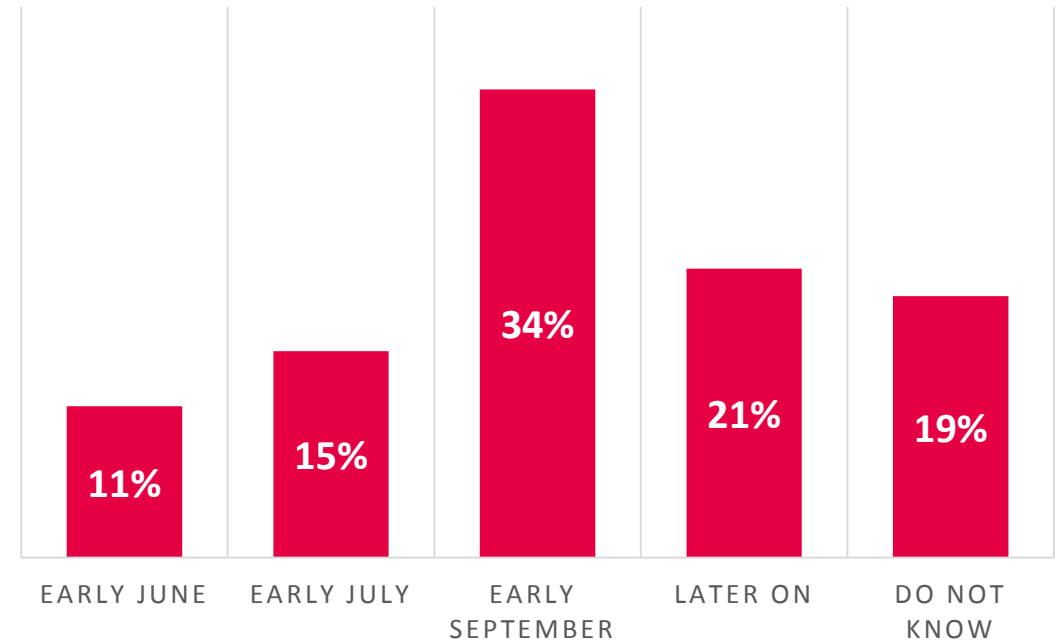


# UAE is the most affected country and recovery is expected during the second half of 2020

UAE PERCEIVED AS MOST AFFECTED COUNTRY



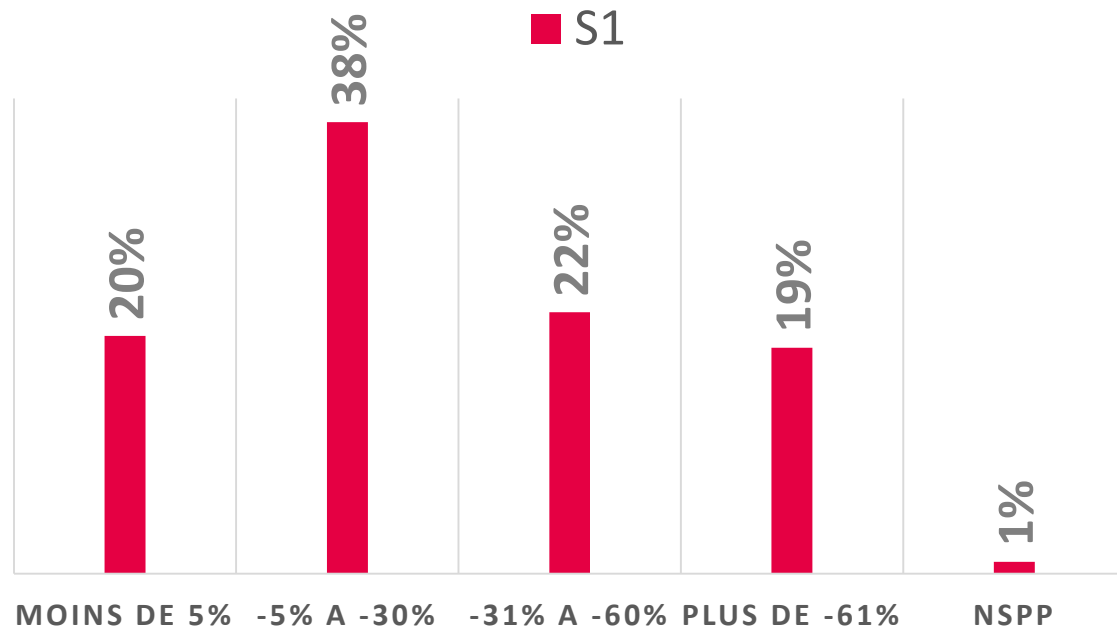
55% EXPECT RECOVERY AFTER SUMMER ONLY (19% IN OUR PREVIOUS SURVEY)



# Strong effect on sales across 2020

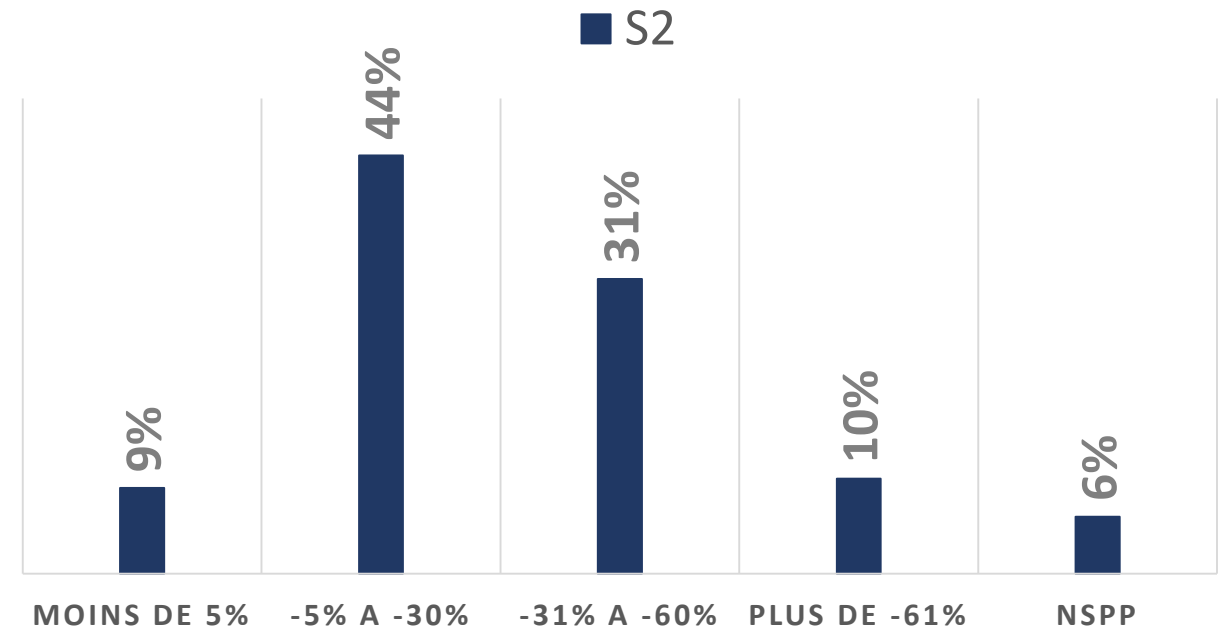
## FIRST SEMESTER 2020

80% EXPECT A DROP OF SALES >5%  
IN H1



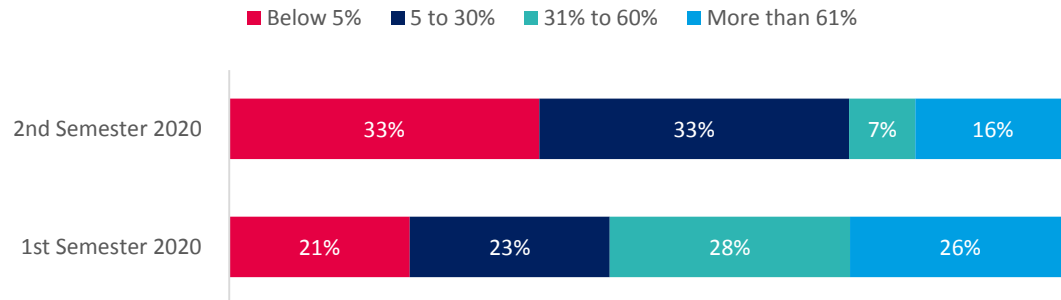
## SECOND SEMESTER 2020

91% EXPECT A DROP OF SALES >5%  
IN H2

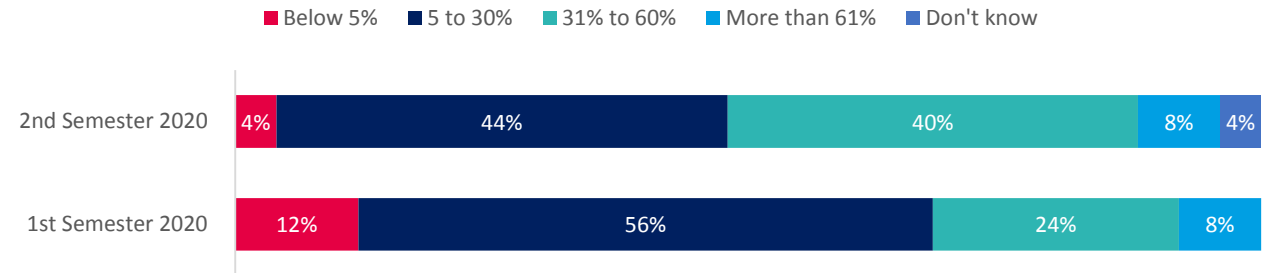


# Crisis is affecting differently the companies as per their size\*

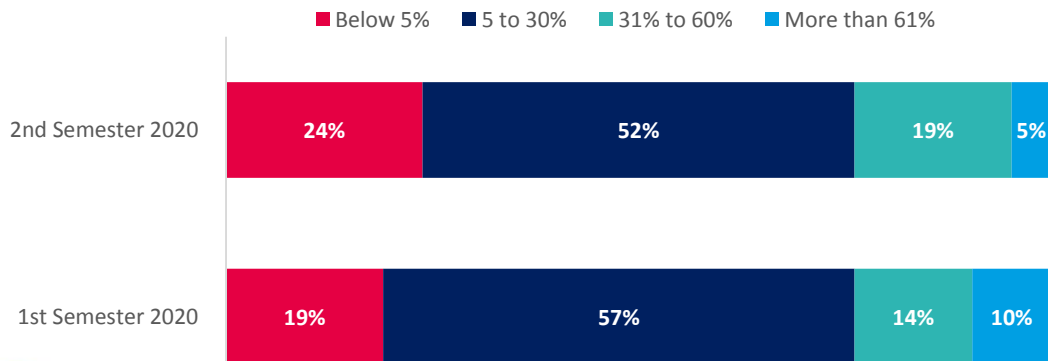
## 0-9 Employees



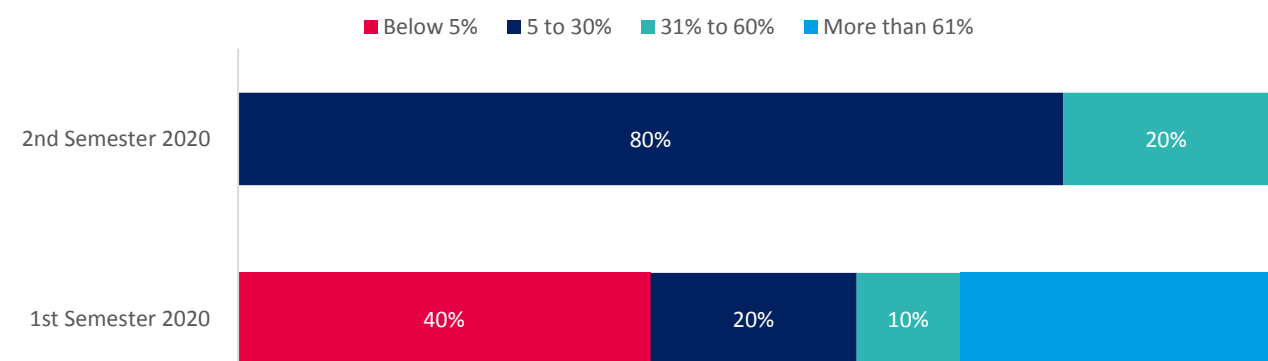
## 10-49 Employees



## 50-499 Employees



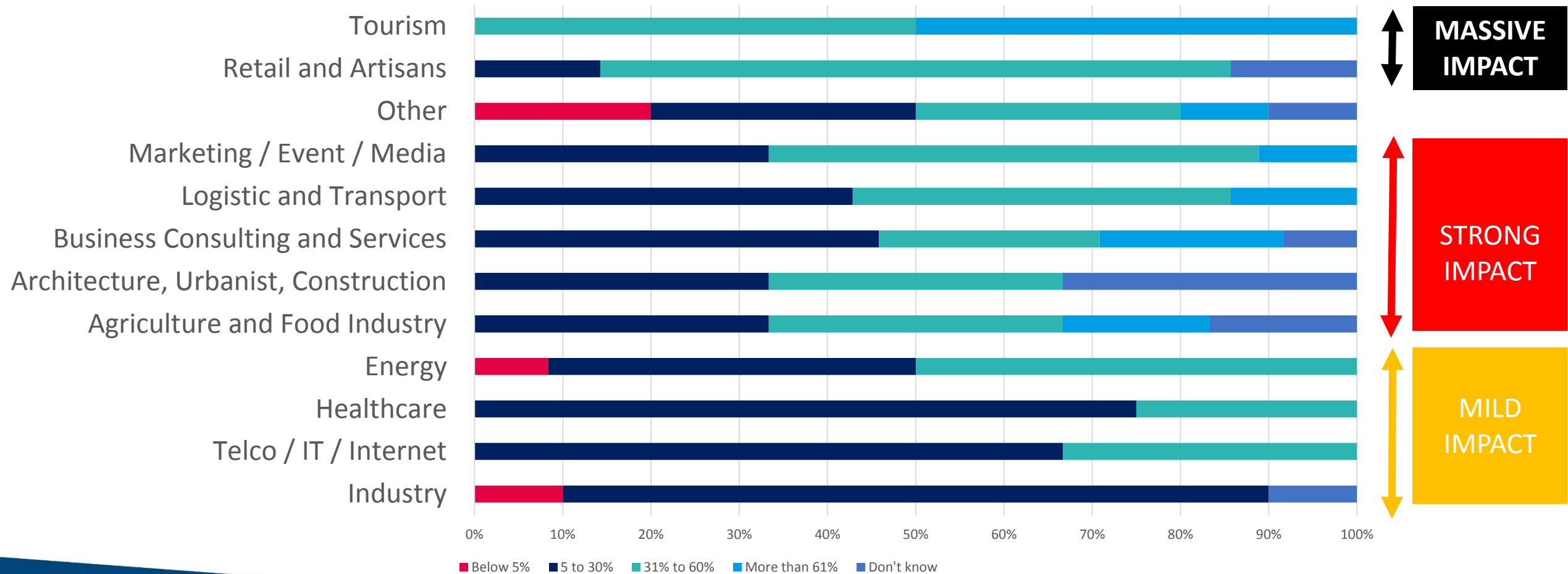
## 500-4999 Employees



\*Number of employees in the UAE  
The unique company respondent that has more than 5000 employees in the UAE is not mentioned here.



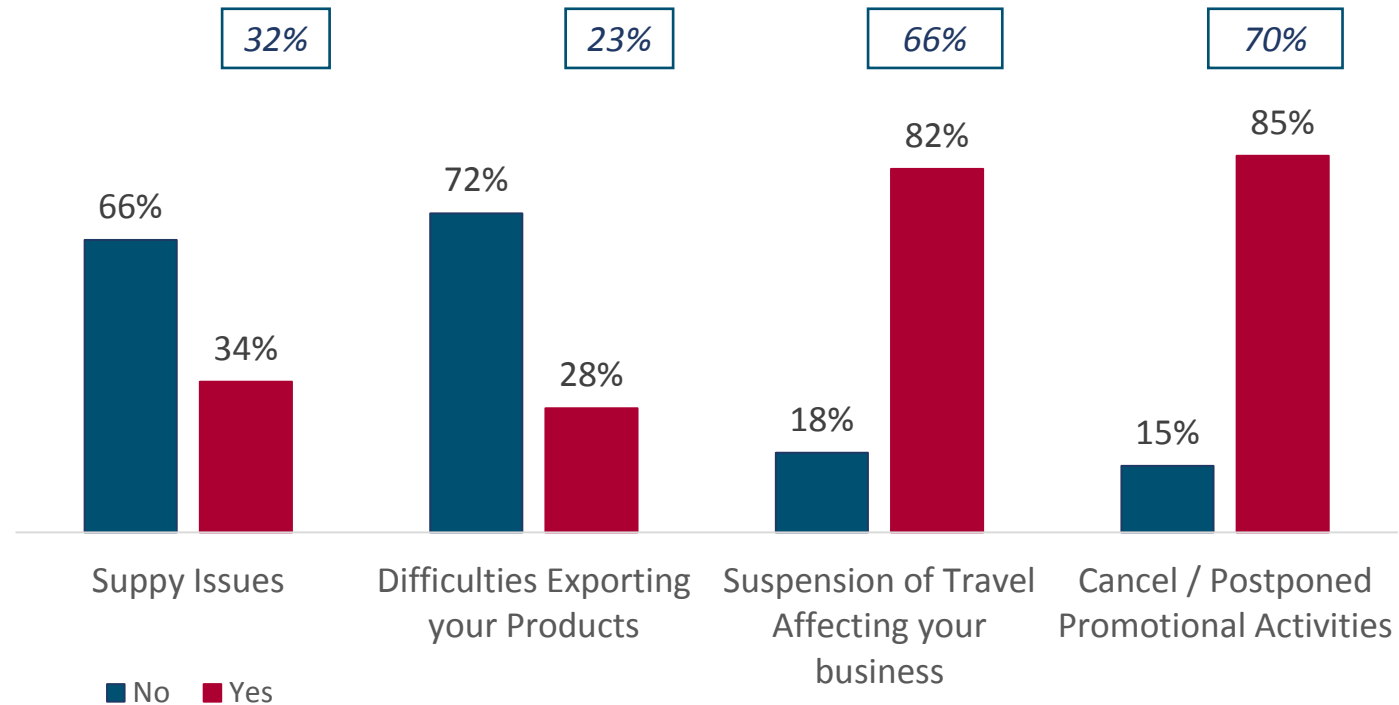
# Contrasted impact by sectors



# Managing Business Activities

# Problems impacting the business

## Limited supply issues but travel and event disruptions



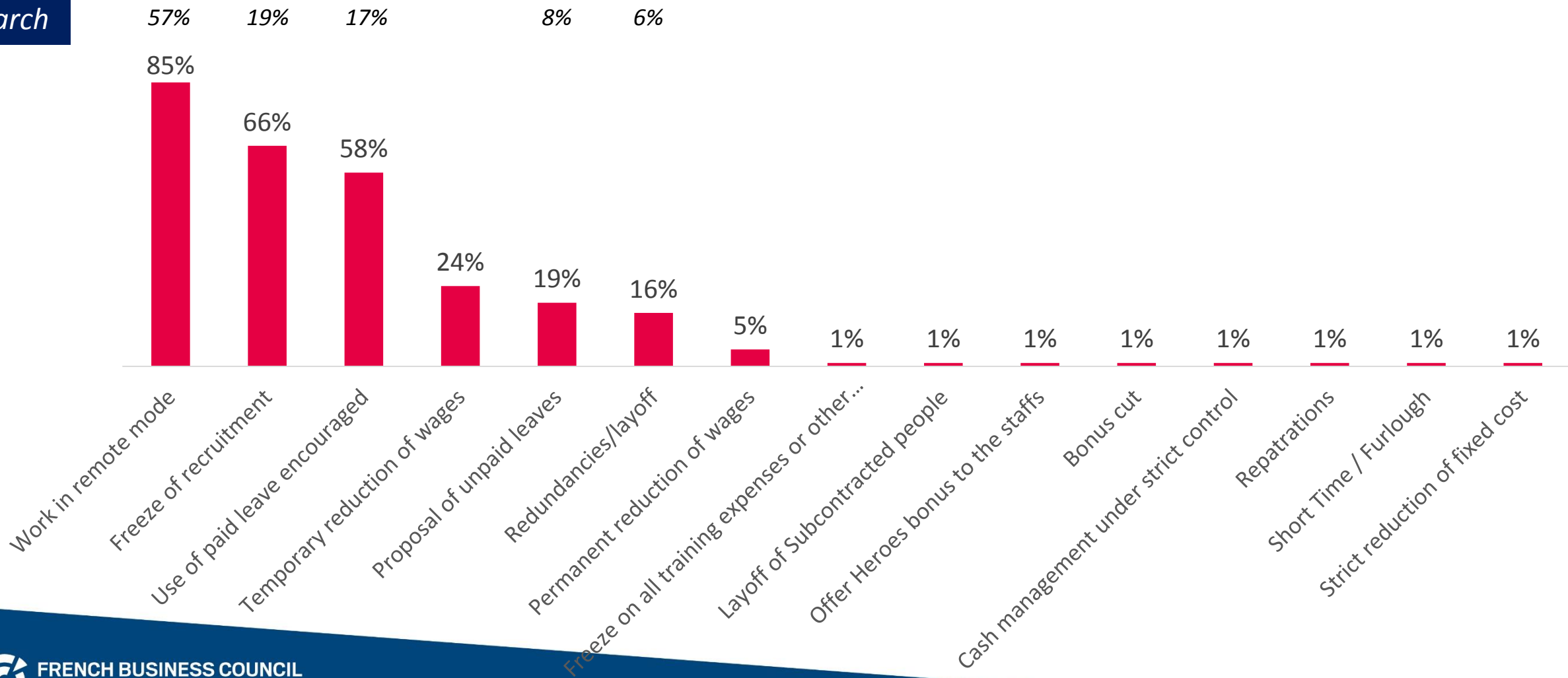
25% *March reading*

# HR Management



# Since March, stronger HR actions taken

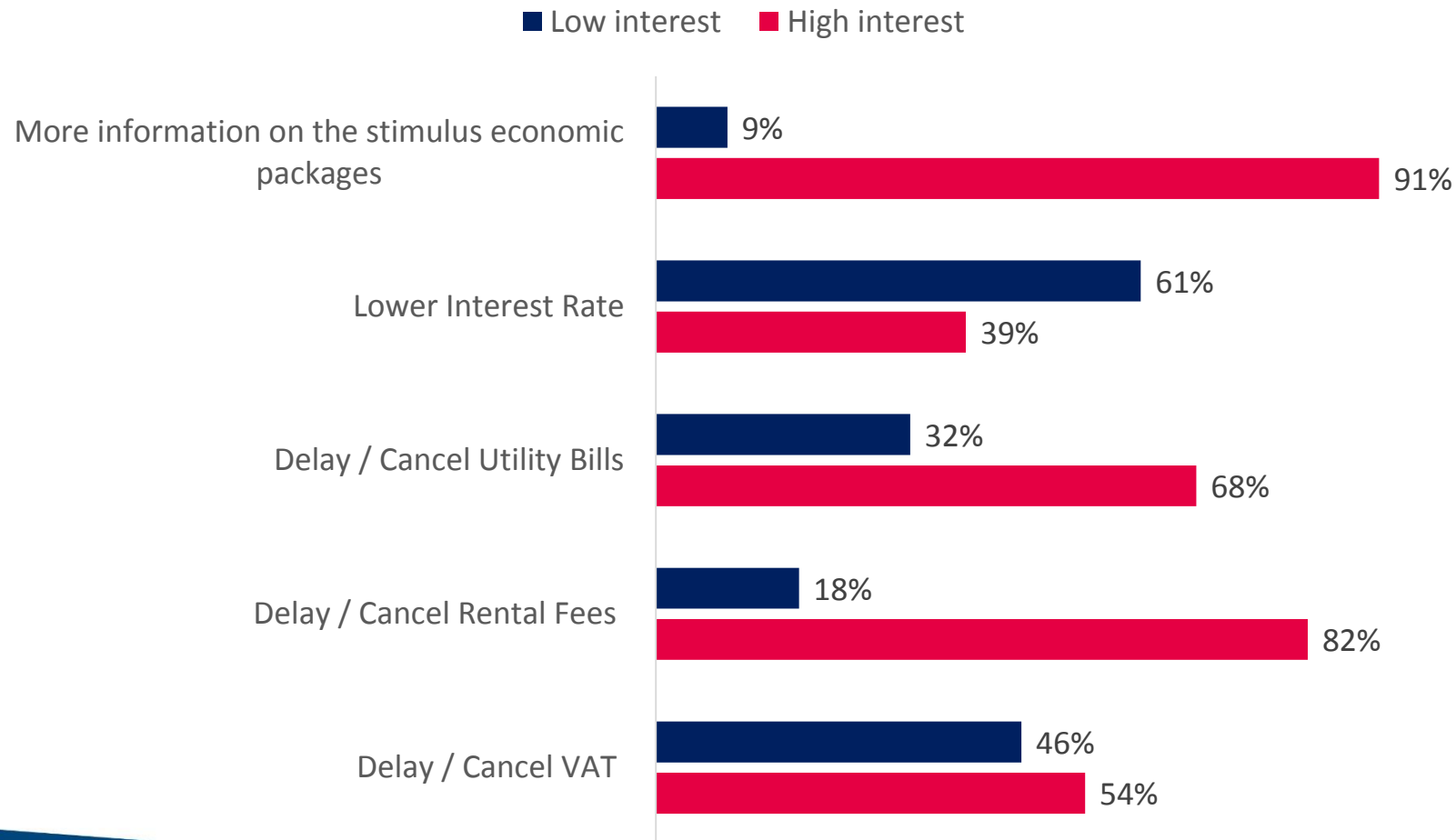
March



# Support from local authorities



# High expectation of costs relief and economic stimulus



# Key take-aways

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- Since March, impact and forecast have worsened
- Impact are very diversified across economic sectors
- Impact on people are stronger than in March
- Respondents are calling for more relief on costs and stimulus

# Intervention

Ludovic POUILLE



Ambassadeur de France aux Emirats Arabes Unis



# Présentation

Aurélien NEU



Délégué du Chef du Service Economique Régional

## Penser « l'Après » à trois mois jusqu'à deux ans ?

Actuel

### Crise sanitaire :

9 813 cas confirmés

71 décès ;

1 887 guérisons ;

(données pour les EAU,  
le 26/04 à 10h30)

Imminent

### Crise économique :

Révisions des  
projections de croissance  
;

Destructions d'emplois ;

Impact sur le secteur  
bancaire ;

A l'horizon court et  
moyen terme

**Plan de soutien** (par  
émirat) ;

**Plan de relance** (niveau  
fédéral) ;



## Le modèle économique de Dubaï : des fondamentaux comme forces ou comme faiblesses ?

- ❑ **La crise économique et financière de 2009**, un choc endogène brutal pour le modèle de Dubaï ;
  
- ❑ **Une capacité de résilience et de rebond mise à l'épreuve :**
  1. Entre 2009 et 2019, le nombre de passagers transportés par Emirates Airlines a doublé passant de 27,5 M à 58 M ;
  2. Emirates Cargo (270 appareils) est devenu la deuxième compagnie mondiale de fret aérien derrière Fedex ;
  3. DP World est devenu le 4<sup>e</sup> manutentionnaire portuaire mondial ;
  
- ❑ **Deux assises fondamentales :**
  1. Les zones franches : 24 à Dubaï, 45 000 entreprises, 390 000 emplois directs ;
  2. Le commerce de réexportation : 75% du commerce extérieur de l'émirat, rôle prépondérant de DAFZA et JAFZA.

## A la recherche d'un nouveau « roman national » ?

Le narratif de la  
période 2009-2019  
clôt un chapitre

L'Exposition  
Universelle 2020  
pour acmé

Se réinventer ou  
renaître ?

# Panel de discussion

Franck  
LADEGAILLERIE



MPH | FBG

Caroline  
THEVENOT



CTC Accounting  
FBC Club SYNERGY

Mansour  
HAJJAR



CHALHOUB Group

Jean-Marc  
LOURAU



Gyma Food  
Industries Bayara



# Merci de votre attention

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