

Covid and Brexit Food Business Survey 2021

Start of Block: Ethics

Q1 The impacts of Covid-19 and Brexit on food businesses in England We invite you to complete this survey about the impacts of Covid-19 and Brexit on food businesses.

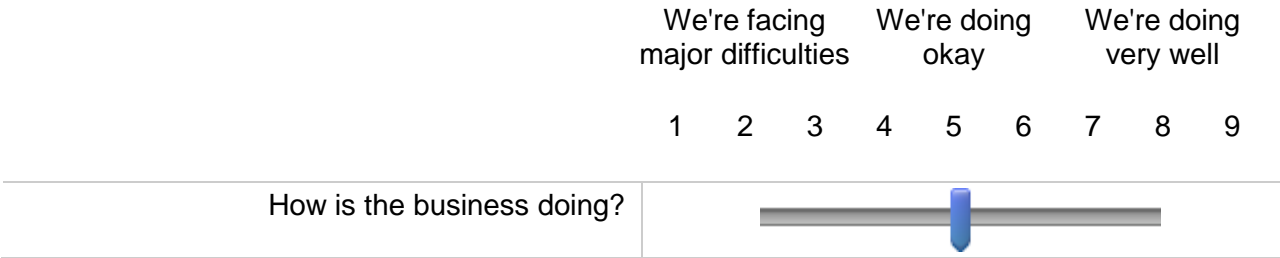
The outbreak of the Coronavirus pandemic caused a massive shock to the food system in England, and the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions have ongoing consequences for businesses. At the same time, Brexit is impacting supply chains. We want to understand how prepared you felt for Lockdown 3, the lifting of restrictions and how prepared you feel for potential future supply chain issues. We are interested in how Covid-19 and Brexit have affected the amount of time you spend on various business operations, and how the business has adapted to a changing marketplace over the last year. The results from this survey will feed into policy requirements for up to date intelligence on business resilience in the food industry. For more details on the survey and this research, please see our [information sheet](#). For more about the project, please visit our [website](#).

The survey should take less than 15 minutes to complete. Your participation is voluntary; you are free to stop completing the survey at any point or to skip questions. Your responses to the survey are completely anonymous. We will remove any identifying comments you might make when publishing the results. Anonymised results will be shared in project communications, in academic publications and with project stakeholders. For more details of how we will protect and use the data you supply, please see our [information sheet](#).

Please note that once you submit the survey, you may be unable to withdraw your data as all responses are anonymous. If you wish to withdraw your data, please contact foodbusinesssurvey@exeter.ac.uk. We will do our best to help you. You may wish to keep a record of the date and time when you submitted the survey. You can request that your response to the survey is withdrawn until 1st June 2021; after that it will not be possible to withdraw your data. The research is being conducted by the Centre for Rural Policy Research (University of Exeter) and is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council. If you are not happy with any aspect of the project and wish to complain, please contact: The University of Exeter, College of Social Sciences and International Studies Research Ethics Committee, ssis-ethics@exeter.ac.uk.

☐ I consent to participating in the survey, as described above, and in the information sheet (please press this panel to consent)

Q2 How is the businesses doing at the moment?



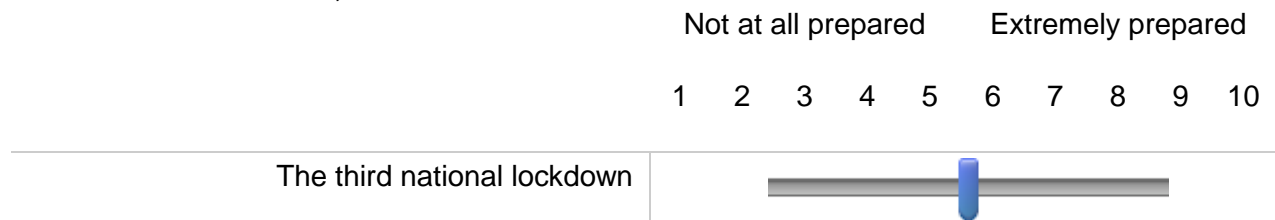
Q3 How much do you agree or disagree with these statements?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
I think the business has adapted well to the challenges of working within Covid restrictions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am feeling confident about the future of the business	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Brexit poses a bigger threat to our business than Covid-19	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The business has absorbed the shock of Covid	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I expect the businesses go back to normal by the end of 2021	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

End of Block: Introduction

Start of Block: Lockdown Preparedness

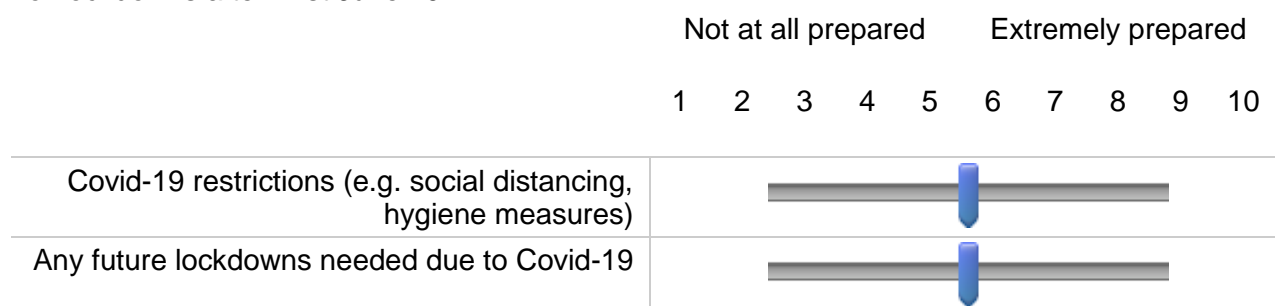
Q4 On a scale of 1 to 10, how prepared was the business for the third national lockdown (5th Jan to 18th March 2021):



Q5 On a scale of 1 to 10, how prepared is the business for lifting of lockdown restrictions on 21st June:





Q6 On a scale of 1 to 10, how prepared is the business for any continued Covid-19 restrictions or lockdowns after 21st June 2021:





Q7 If there were future lockdowns involving closure of parts of food supply chain, approximately how many days notice would your business need to prepare?



The minimum notice we would need to prepare is...	
To be well prepared we would need...	






Q8 On a scale of 1 to 10, how prepared is the business for Brexit related issues in 2021:

	Not at all prepared			Extremely prepared			Not Applicable			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Brexit related supply chain issues in 2021										
Brexit related labour issues										

End of Block: Lockdown Preparedness

Start of Block: Impacts of Covid and Brexit

Q9 Covid and Brexit have impacted some food supply chains. Compared to pre-Covid (before 23rd March 2020), how much time are these business operations taking NOW?

	Much less time	The same as pre- Covid	Much more time	Not Applicable					
	-5	-4	-3	-1	0	1	3	4	5
OBTAINING inputs/ stock/ raw materials/ ingredients/ supplies FROM SUPPLIERS IN THE UK									
IMPORTING inputs/ stock/ raw materials/ ingredients/ supplies FROM ABROAD									
WORKING with SUPPLIERS (e.g. arranging deliveries, product availability)									
DISTRIBUTION of products or business outputs WITHIN THE UK									
EXPORTING products or business outputs ABROAD									

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Q10 Covid has impacted staff and management. Compared to pre-Covid (before 23rd March 2020), to what extent has...increased or decreased?

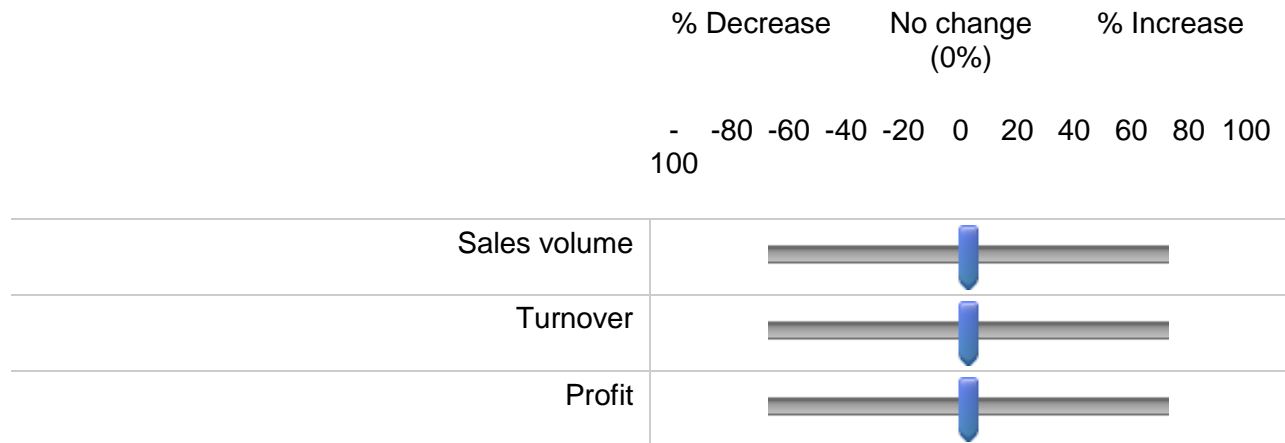


Q11 How long do you expect impacts of Covid on your business to last?

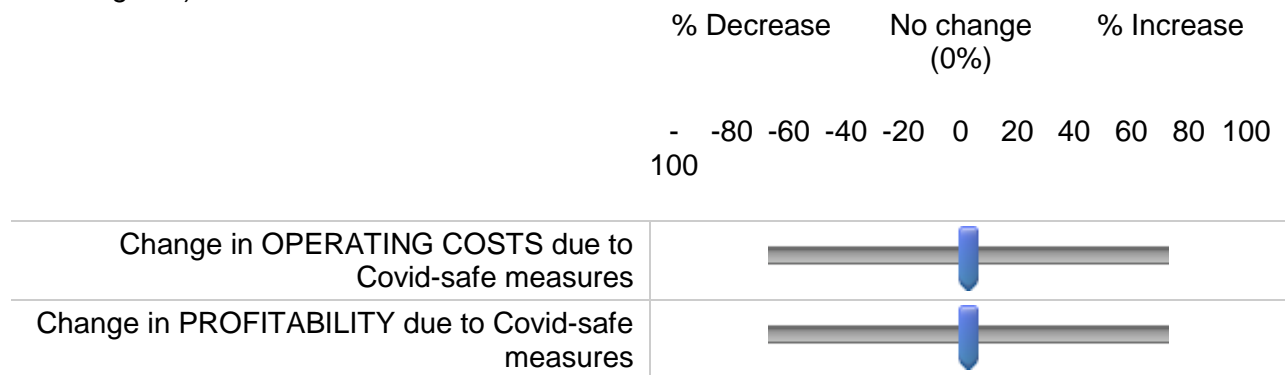
	Very short term (1-3 months)	Short term (4-6 months)	Medium term (7 months to a year)	Medium to long term (1-2 years)	Long term (3 years plus)	Not applicable
Impacts on business supplies/ inputs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impacts on routes to market	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impacts on customer demand for products or services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impacts on the way staff are managed	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impacts on the availability of stock	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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Q12 Compared to pre-Covid (before 23rd March 2020), how much have sales, turnover and profit changed over the LAST YEAR? *Please use the slider to estimate % increase or decrease.*



Q13 How much have business operating costs and business profit changed as a result of implementing Covid-safe measures (e.g. PPE, hygiene measures, social distancing, shift working etc.)? *Please use the slider to estimate % increase or decrease.*



Q14 Please rank these impacts of Covid on business performance in order, from most severe (1) to least severe (5) *Please drag items on left into box on right.*

Most severe = 1
_____ Changes in the supply chain
_____ Need for Covid-safe measures
_____ Staff availability

_____ Changing demand for products/ services

_____ Cashflow issues

End of Block: Impacts of Covid and Brexit

Start of Block: Responses and Adaptation

Q15 How effectively do you think the business has responded to these impacts of Covid?
Please answer on a scale from 1 to 10.



Q16 When responding to the business challenges of Covid, what one action taken by the business had the biggest positive impact on it?

Q17 Looking back at how the business responded to Covid, what would you do differently (if anything)?

Q18 Covid has impacted food business supply chains. How has where you source supplies from changed over the last year due to COVID (not Brexit)?

	Much less	Less	No change	More	Much more	Not applicable
We source from local suppliers...	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We source from suppliers in the UK...	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We source from suppliers inside the EU...	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We source from suppliers in the rest of the world...	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q19 Brexit has impacted food business supply chains. How has where you source supplies from changed since 1st January 2021 due to BREXIT?

	Much less	Less	No change	More	Much more	Not applicable
We source from local suppliers...	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We source from suppliers in the UK...	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We source from suppliers inside the EU...	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We source from suppliers in the rest of the world...	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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Q20 Over the last year, how has the importance of these business objectives changed?

	Much less important	Less important	Stayed the same	More important	Much more important	Not applicable
Profitability	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Growth	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Survival and stability	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Environmental and social responsibility	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Innovation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q21 How are you feeling about the economic performance of the business over the next...?

Very negative Neither positive or negative Very positive

-5 -4 -3 -2 -1 0 1 2 3 4 5

3 months	
Year	

End of Block: Responses and Adaptation

Start of Block: About the business

Q22 At what stage(s) of the food supply chain does the business operate? *Please select all that apply.*

- ☐ Food processing
 - ☐ Food manufacture
 - ☐ Specialist importer
 - ☐ Specialist exporter
 - ☐ Wholesale
 - ☐ Distribution and transportation
 - ☐ Hospitality - restaurants, pubs, bars
 - ☐ Catering (e.g. for institutions, hospitals, schools)
 - ☐ Retail
 - ☐ Consultancy services
 - ☐ Technical services
 - ☐ Education and advice
 - ☐ Other (please tell us) _____
-

Q23 What are the MAIN types of products or services the business produces or sells? *Please select all that apply.*

- ☐ Bakery and farinaceous products
 - ☐ Beverages – alcoholic
 - ☐ Beverages – non-alcoholic
 - ☐ Confectionery
 - ☐ Dairy products
 - ☐ Eggs
 - ☐ Fish and crustaceans
 - ☐ Fruit and vegetables
 - ☐ Grain and starch products
 - ☐ Meat and meat products
 - ☐ Nuts and seeds
 - ☐ Oils and fats
 - ☐ Ready-to-eat meals
 - ☐ Food to Go
 - ☐ Seasoning and Sauces
 - ☐ Nutritionals, supplements and vitamins
 - ☐ Consultancy or Technical Services
 - ☐ Other, please tell us _____
-

Q24 Which market sector(s) do you supply? *Please select all that apply.*

- ☐ Retail
 - ☐ Hospitality - restaurants, pubs, bars
 - ☐ Catering
 - ☐ Food Manufacture
 - ☐ Wholesale
 - ☐ Export
 - ☐ Cold chain
 - ☐ Education
 - ☐ Not applicable
 - ☐ Other, please tell us _____
-

Q25 How many staff does the business employ? Please INCLUDE yourself in the figures and INCLUDE staff on furlough.

- ☐ 0-9 employees
 - ☐ 10-49 employees
 - ☐ 50-249 employees
 - ☐ More than 250 employees
-

Q26 Approximately, what was your business' turnover in your last financial year? Answers to all questions in this survey are anonymous and cannot be traced to your business. *Please select one answer only*

- ☐ Less than £100,000
 - ☐ £100,001 to £500,000
 - ☐ £500,001 to £1.99m
 - ☐ £2m to £9.99m
 - ☐ £10m to £49.9m
 - ☐ £50m to £99.9m
 - ☐ Over £100m (please specify in the box below)
-

☐ Prefer not to say

Q27 Which one of these best describe your MAIN market?

- ☐ UK
- ☐ European Union
- ☐ Rest of world

End of Block: About the business

Start of Block: Wrap up

Q28 If you would be willing to be contacted for further research, please leave your email address below. We will not share your contact details with third parties.

End of Block: Wrap up

Start of Block: Block 7
