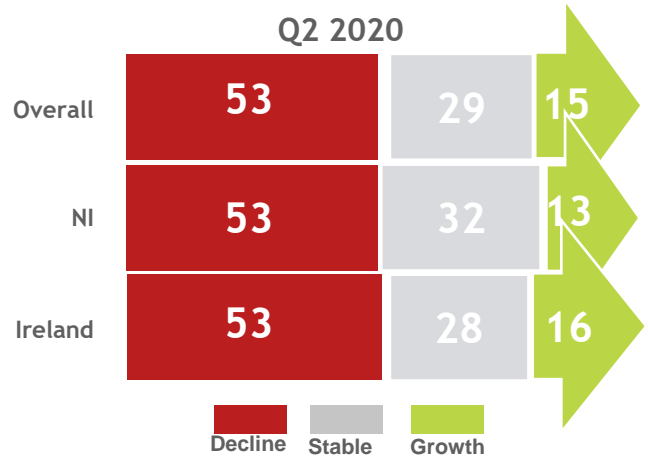
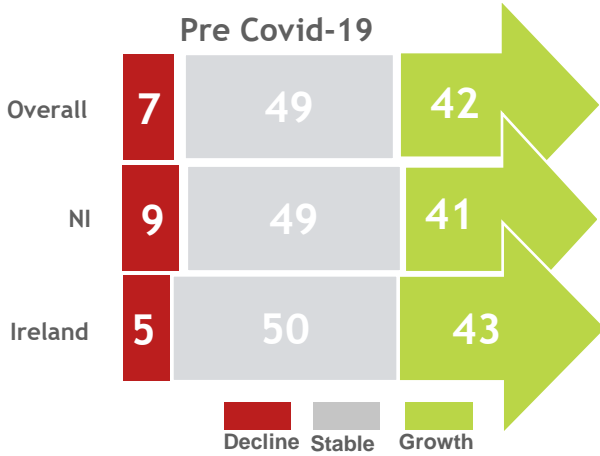


✓ BUSINESS POSITION // Businesses were asked about their business position

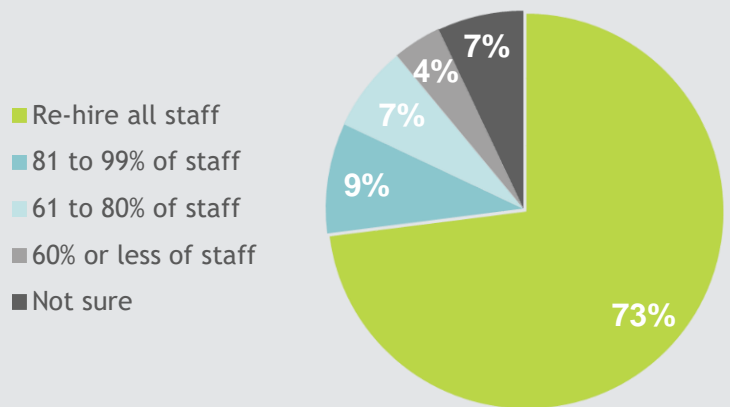


RECOVERY PLANS

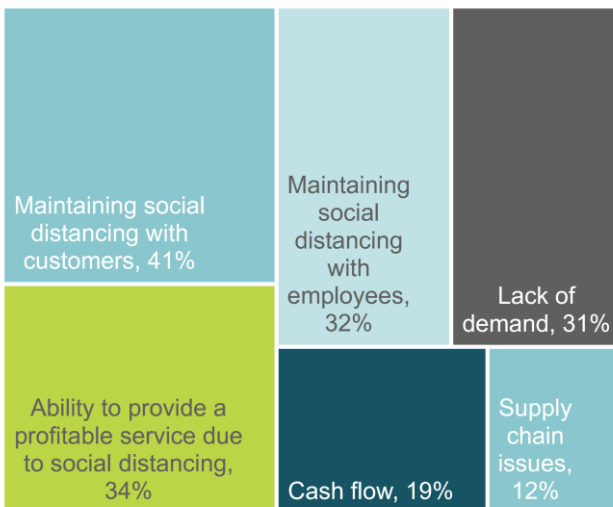
// Businesses were asked about their plans for and barriers to recovery

There are signs of resilience with almost three quarters of businesses planning to re-hire all furloughed staff.

% PLANNING TO RE-HIRE FURLOUGHED STAFF



BIGGEST BARRIERS TO RECOVERY

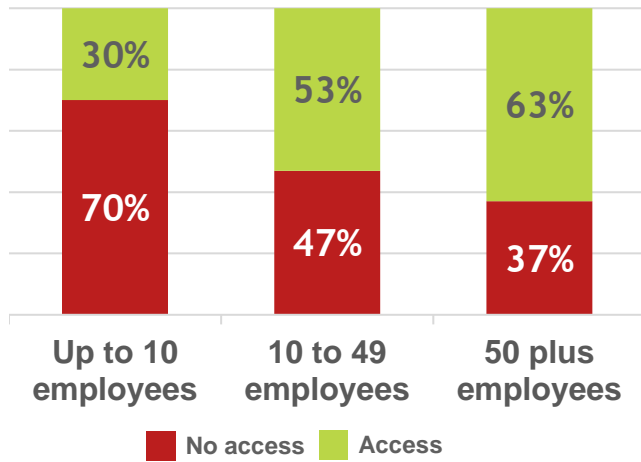


Maintaining social distancing is the biggest barrier to recovery for most SMEs.

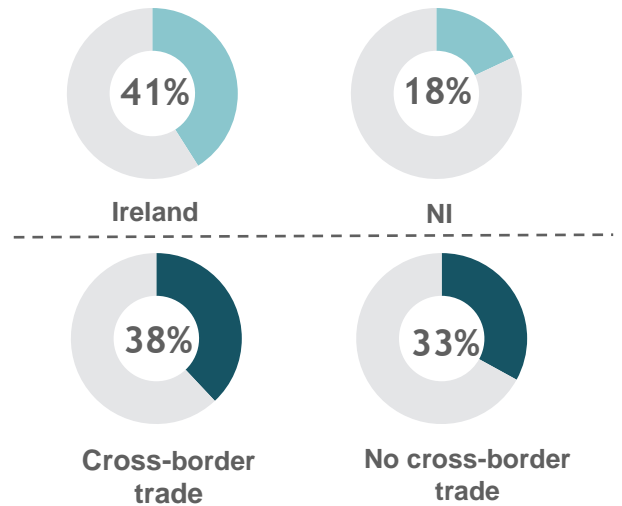
One third say it will impact their ability to remain profitable. This is most marked for the hospitality sector (69%) but also an issue for 31% of professional services.

REMOTE WORKING // Businesses were asked about their capabilities for remote working

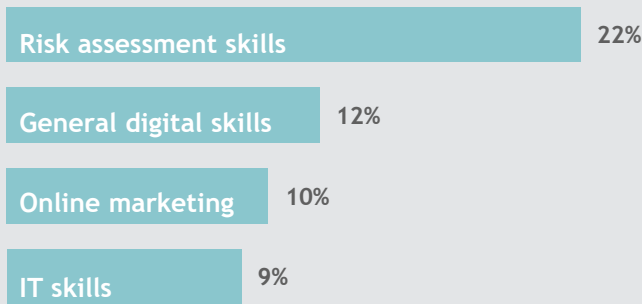
Micro businesses are much less likely to have remote login for email, company files and documents.



Those located in Ireland, and those who trade cross-border, are more likely to have staff working remotely from home.



SKILLS // Businesses were asked if they required new skills to respond to Covid-19 or Brexit



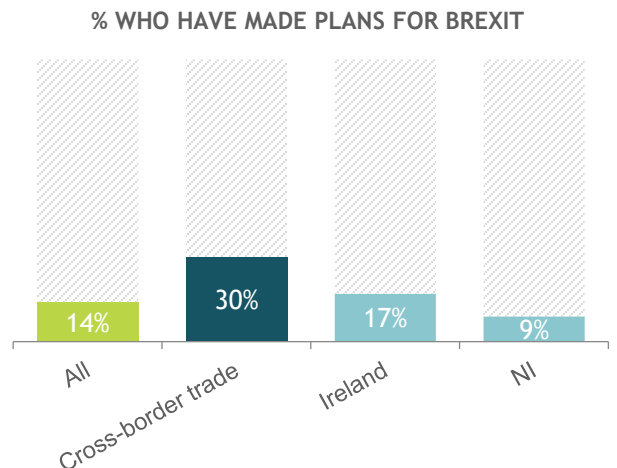
For the first time risk assessment skills were in-demand from businesses.

They also recognise a need to grow their digital skills base.

BREXIT PREPARATIONS // Businesses were asked about their preparations for Brexit

Brexit remains a huge challenge, with only 14% having made plans, increasing to just 30% of cross-border traders.

However, over a third (37%) say their plans will need to be revised in light of the Covid-19 pandemic.



Your business may need help in dealing with the challenges posed by Covid-19 or with preparing for Brexit – InterTradeIreland is committed to supporting SMEs with online supports as well as funding of up to £2,000/€2,250 towards professional advice through our Brexit Advisory Service and Emergency Business Solutions programme. Visit www.intertradeireland.com today or call 028 3083 4100 (048 from Ireland).

A telephone survey of 781 business was conducted on an all island basis, with the aim to provide a deeper understanding of the needs, experiences and issues facing businesses. The survey was conducted between the 27th May – 1st July 2020.