

January 10 - February 15, 2022

310 Responses

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i. Summary of responses

Summary Of Responses

As of February 28, 2022, 11:45 AM, this forum had: Topic Start Topic End

Attendees: 375 December 20, 2021, 4:28 PM February 18, 2022, 9:33 AM

Responses: 310 Hours of Public Comment: 15.5

QUESTION 1

What is your primary industry classification? (NAICS)

	%	Count
11 Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	0.6%	2
23 Construction	3.9%	12
31-33 Manufacturing	4.2%	13
42 Wholesale Trade	1.3%	4
44-45 Retail Trade	15.5%	48
51 Information	0.3%	1
52 Finance and Insurance	3.5%	11
53 Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	6.8%	21
54 Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	11.0%	34
55 Management of Companies and Enterprises	0.3%	1
61 Educational Services	5.5%	17
62 Health Care and Social Assistance	9.0%	28

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	%	Count
71 Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	10.0%	31
72 Accommodation and Food Services	10.6%	33
81 Other Services (except Public Administration)	17.4%	54

QUESTION 2

How many employees are currently employed at your company?

	%	Count
Owner operated	30.3%	94
1-5	41.6%	129
5 - 10	13.2%	41
11-20	8.4%	26
21-50	4.2%	13
51-100	1.0%	3
100+	1.3%	4

QUESTION 3

Overall, how would you consider your current business impact during pandemic recovery period compared to prepandemic?

	%	Count
Large negative effect	28.4%	88
Moderate negative effect	43.2%	134

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	%	Count
Little to no effect	11.6%	36
Moderate positive effect	11.9%	37
Extremely positive effect	4.8%	15

QUESTION 4

In the last month, what were the total operating revenues/sales/receipts for this business, not including any financial assistance or loans?

	%	Count
\$0 - \$500	6.2%	19
\$501 - \$2,500	12.8%	39
\$2,501 - \$5,000	11.5%	35
\$5,001 - \$15,000	17.4%	53
\$15,001 - \$50,000	23.6%	72
\$50,001 - \$125,000	13.8%	42
\$125,001 - \$200,000	3.0%	9
\$200,001 - \$500,000	3.9%	12
\$500,001 or more	4.6%	14
Unsure	3.3%	10

QUESTION 5

In 2021, did your business have a change in operating revenues/sales/receipts, not including

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any financial assistance or loans?

	%	Count
Yes, increased	32.6%	101
Yes, decreased	51.9%	161
No Change	15.5%	48

QUESTION 6

In 2021, did your business have a change in the number of paid employees?

	%	Count
Yes, increased employees	18.4%	57
Yes, decreased employees	25.2%	78
No change in workforce	56.5%	175

QUESTION 7

In 2021, did your business have a change in the total salary costs paid?

	%	Count
Yes, increased total salary costs	34.2%	106
Yes, decreased total salary costs	30.0%	93
No change	35.8%	111

QUESTION 8

In 2021, did your business have difficulties hiring paid employees?

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	%	Count
Yes	41.0%	127
No	19.0%	59
No applicable	40.0%	124

QUESTION 9

In 2021, did your business have any of the following?

	70	Count
Domestic supplier delays	55.2%	171
Foreign supplier delays	29.0%	90
Difficulty locating alternative domestic suppliers	29.7%	92
Difficulty locating alternative foreign suppliers	12.3%	38
Production delays at this business	19.4%	60
Delays in delivery/shipping to customers	31.6%	98
None of the above	34.5%	107

QUESTION 10

How would you describe the current availability of cash on hand for the business, including any financial assistance or loans? Currently, cash on hand will cover:

	%	Count
1-7 days of business operations	8.7%	27
1-2 weeks of business operations	8.4%	26

%

Count

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	%	Count
3-4 weeks of business operations	17.7%	55
1-2 months of business operations	21.6%	67
3 or more months of business operations	24.2%	75
No cash available for sustained business operations	7.4%	23
Unsure	11.9%	37

QUESTION 11

Comparing now to what was normal before March, 2020, how has the number of hours paid employees worked from home changed?

	%	Count
Large increase in number of hours worked from home	9.0%	28
Moderate increase in number of hours worked from home	7.1%	22
☐ Little or no change in number of hours worked from home	14.5%	45
Moderate decrease in number of hours worked from home	2.3%	7
Large decrease in number of hours worked from home	2.6%	8
Not applicable	64.5%	200

QUESTION 12

Comparing now to what was normal before March 13, 2020, how has demand for this business's goods or services changed?

	%	Count
Large increase in demand	11.6%	36

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	%	Count
Moderate increase in demand	29.4%	91
Little to no change in demand	15.8%	49
Moderate decrease in demand	23.9%	74
Large decrease in demand	15.2%	47
Not applicable, not in business prior to March, 2020	4.2%	13

QUESTION 13

Comparing now to what was normal before March 13, 2020, has this business done any of the following? Select all that apply:

	%	Count
Adopted or expanded use of digital technologies	39.7%	123
Changed management practices	31.0%	96
Updated/changed business strategies	51.6%	160
Introduced new goods or services	31.0%	96
Improved existing goods or services	35.5%	110
Improved methods of producing goods or services	21.3%	66
Improved methods of logistics, delivery, or distribution	16.5%	51
The business has not made any of these changes	25.2%	78

QUESTION 14

During 2021, did your business receive financial assistance from any of the following sources?

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	%	Count
Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan forgiveness	48.7%	151
Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL)	27.1%	84
Shuttered Venue Operators Grants	0.3%	1
Other federal program	3.2%	10
St. Petersburg Resilience and Retention Fund Grant (Business Support, Event Host, Microfund, Arts & Culture)	32.3%	100
Pinellas County Cares Grant	30.3%	94
Other sources	4.8%	15
No financial assistance received in 2021	26.1%	81

QUESTION 15

In the next 6 months, do you think your business will need to do any of the following? Select all that apply:

	%	Count
Obtain financial assistance or additional capital	35.8%	111
Identify new supply chain options	20.3%	63
Develop online sales or websites	21.9%	68
Increase marketing or sales	47.4%	147
Identify and hire new employees	37.4%	116
Make a capital expenditure	20.6%	64
Cancel or postpone a planned capital expenditure	10.3%	32

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	%	Count
Identify potential markets for exporting goods or services	3.5%	11
Permanently close business	7.1%	22
Relocate to expand business	4.5%	14
Relocate due to rising costs or downsizing business needs	7.1%	22
None of the above apply	17.1%	53

QUESTION 16

In your opinion, how much time do you think will pass before the business returns to its normal level of operations?

	%	Count
1 month or less	1.0%	3
2 - 6 months	6.5%	20
6 - 12 months	25.2%	78
Greater than a year	38.4%	119
There has been little or no effect on the business's normal level of operations.	11.9%	37
The business has returned to its normal level of operations	17.1%	53

QUESTION 17

In 2021, did your business require employees to have proof of COVID-19 vaccination before physically coming to work?

	70	Count
Yes	12.0%	37

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	%	Count
No	54.7%	169
Not applicable	33.3%	103

QUESTION 18

In 2021, did your business require employees to test negative for COVID-19 before physically returning to work after being out ill?

	%	Count
Yes	40.3%	124
No	24.7%	76
Not Applicable	35.1%	108

QUESTION 19

Overall, how satisfied are you on the following?

Community pandemic response

	%	Count
Extremely dissatisfied	7.2%	22
Dissatisfied	13.2%	40
Impartial	24.7%	75
Satisfied	43.8%	133
Extremely satisfied	10.2%	31

Community economic recovery

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	%	Count
Extremely dissatisfied	7.6%	23
Dissatisfied	14.8%	45
Impartial	25.3%	77
Satisfied	37.8%	115
Extremely satisfied	14.5%	44
Communications of resources		
	%	Count
Extremely dissatisfied	7.2%	22
Dissatisfied	16.4%	50
Impartial	26.0%	79
Satisfied	37.8%	115
Extremely satisfied	12.2%	37
Availability of business assistance		
	%	Count
Extremely dissatisfied	7.9%	24
Dissatisfied	15.5%	47
Impartial	23.4%	71
Satisfied	40.8%	124
Extremely satisfied	11.8%	36

Business operation needs being met

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	%	Count
Extremely dissatisfied	6.9%	21
Dissatisfied	15.8%	48
Impartial	34.5%	105
Satisfied	33.2%	101
Extremely satisfied	8.6%	26
Ease to navigate city processes/policies	24	
Extremely dissatisfied	% 7.9%	Count 24
	<u> </u>	
Dissatisfied	15.1%	46
Impartial	33.2%	101
Satisfied	35.5%	108
Extremely satisfied	7.6%	23
Overall business climate in St. Petersburg		
	%	Count
Extremely dissatisfied	6.9%	21
Dissatisfied	13.5%	41
Impartial	20.7%	63
Satisfied	43.4%	132
Extremely satisfied	14.5%	44

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QUESTION 20

Any additional information/feedback you would like to provide in response to above questions?

Answered 76

Skipped 234

QUESTION 21

Is St. Pete a good place to conduct business?

	%	Count
Yes	82.3%	255
No	5.2%	16
Undecided	12.6%	39

QUESTION 22

Has your business utilized any services made available through The Greenhouse, including any communication resources received?

	%	Count
Yes	35.8%	111
No	50.3%	156
Unsure	13.9%	43

QUESTION 23

Are you familiar with Greenhouse services?

	%	Count
Yes	57.1%	177

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	9	6 Count	
No	42.99	6 133	
QUESTION 24			
If you have engaged with The Greenhouse, what	services have you received?		
jou mare engaged man the diceimouse, what	9	% Count	
Training/business development and capacity building workshops	38.09		
Mentorship and/or business consultant (ex: Score or SBDC)	21.89	6 31	
Small business navigation	17.69	6 25	
Cohort training by GH or it's partners (ex: EA, Branding House)	1.49	6 2	
Community and connection building events (ex: 1MC, NPC)	5.69	% 8	
Small Business Enterprise and supplier diversity programs	6.39	% 9	
General business questions or small business assistance needs	31.79	6 45	
Incentive/grant program	49.3%	6 70	
Resource connection	12.79	6 18	
Other	12.09	6 17	

QUESTION 25

Were you satisfied with the service received through The Greenhouse?

	%	Count
Yes	38.8%	114

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	%	Count
No	3.7%	11
Not applicable	57.5%	169

QUESTION 26

What is your preferred resource to receive city-related information or updates specific for business? Select all that apply

	%	Count
Social Media: Facebook	15.8%	49
Social Media: Twitter	1.3%	4
Social Media: LinkedIn	3.2%	10
E-mail or e-Newsletter	86.8%	269
Physical Mail (postal mailer)	17.1%	53
Phone Call	9.4%	29
Business Visit	8.7%	27
Other	3.2%	10

QUESTION 27

What can the city improve to help businesses thrive in St. Petersburg?

Answered 171 Skipped 139