



## **IMPACTS OF COVID-19 ON USERS OF THE GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES (GSP) PROGRAM**

**April 17, 2020**

In response to the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic and economic response, the Coalition for GSP launched a survey of company users to determine how their businesses have been affected to date, and how they may be impacted in the future. The report illustrates the severe negative impacts of the pandemic of GSP users, who are primarily small businesses.

This version is based on responses from 73 companies. The Coalition will update the report as necessary to reflect new responses.

Companies that wish to respond to the survey should visit:

<http://renewgsptoday.com/2020/03/27/new-survey-covid-19-impacts-on-gsp-importers/>



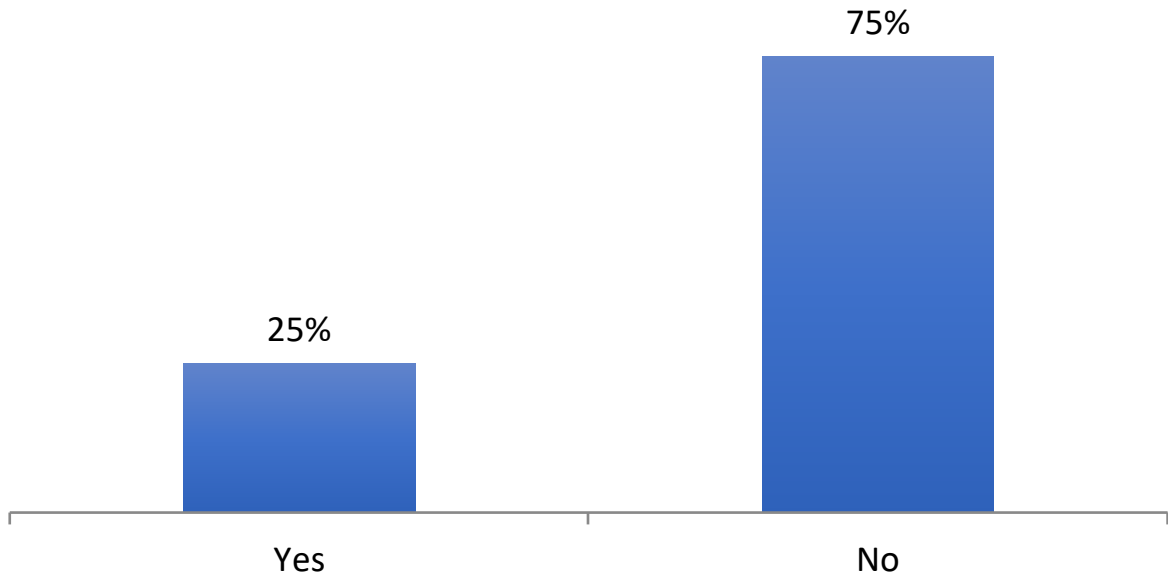
## ***GSP/COVID-19 Survey Topline Results***

Based on 73 companies responses through April 17:

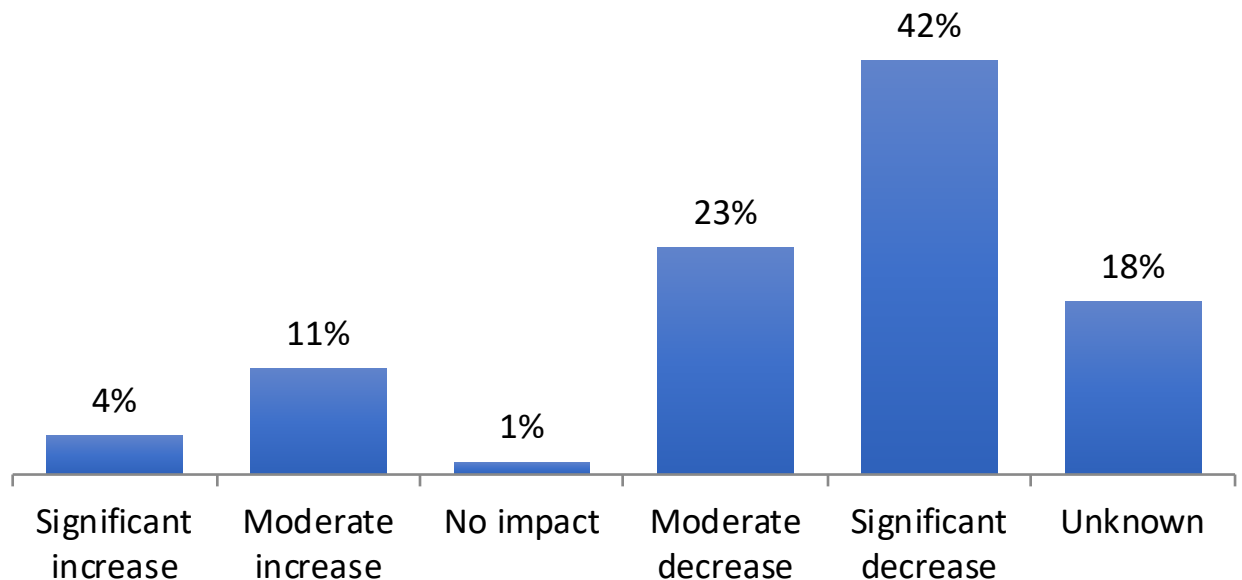
- **25% of respondents import products relevant to COVID-19 response.** Most of the responses are non-obvious products: air pumps, plastic resins, and semi-finished copper use to make medical devices; acrylic plastics used for sneezeguards; specialty laundry equipment used in hospitals.
- **65% of respondents expect significant (42%) or moderate (23%) decreases in imports.** Just 15% expect imports to increase, generally those importing products relevant to COVID-19 respond (e.g., gloves) and/or those sold by essential operations (e.g., groceries). Several expect significant increases, such as importer of plastics used to make sneezeguards and wholesalers of shelf-stable foods.
- **70% of respondents report supply issues (e.g., interruptions, delays, cancelations) and 66% report demand issues (canceled orders, closed customers).** Both rise above 80% when including respondents expecting supply/demand issues in the near future.
- **60% of respondents report voluntarily closing/slowing operations, while 52% report government-mandated closures.** About a quarter haven't closed - and do not expect to close - often because they are deemed "essential" businesses.
- **36% of respondents report layoffs, furloughs, or other employee cut backs.** That figure rises to 51% when including respondents expecting cuts in the near future.



***Are your GSP imports medical equipment, materials to produce medical equipment, or otherwise potentially related to COVID-19 response?***



***How do you expect COVID-19 to impact your GSP imports?***

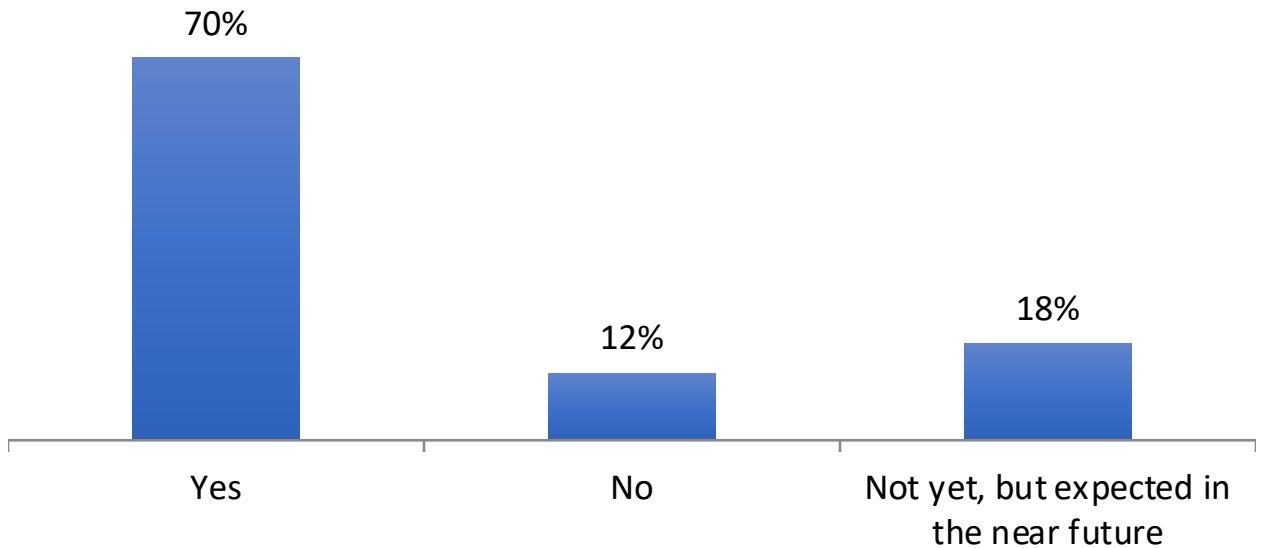


Source: Coalition for GSP

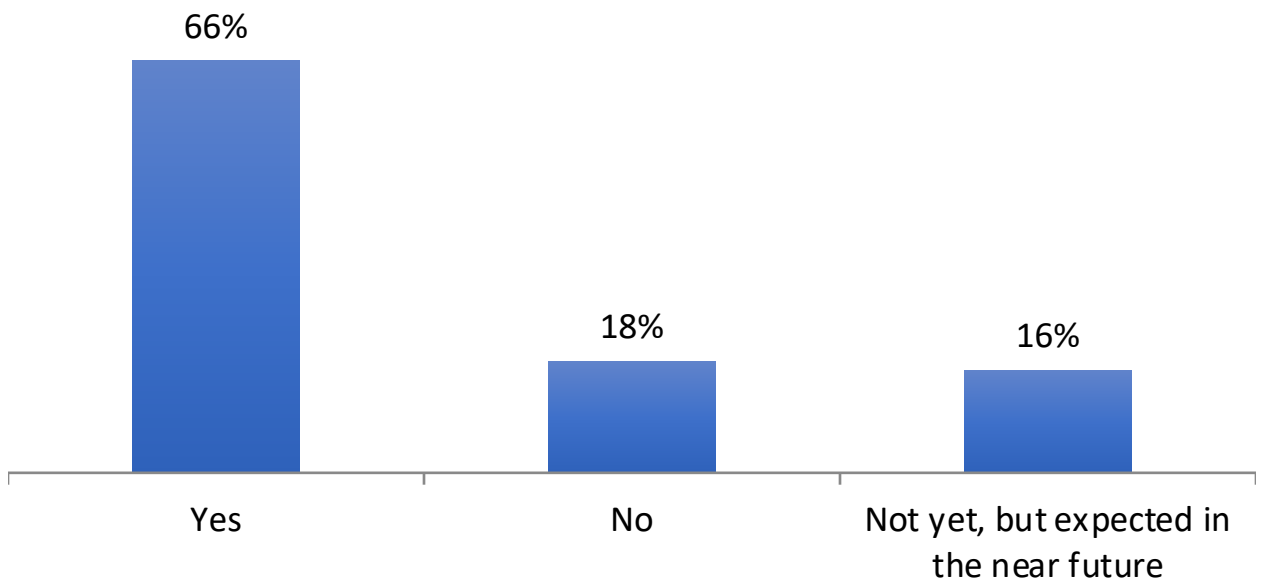
Last updated: April 17, based on 73 company responses



***Have you had supply issues (e.g., supplier shutdowns, shipping delays) due to COVID-19?***



***Have you had any demand issues (e.g., canceled orders) due to COVID-19?***

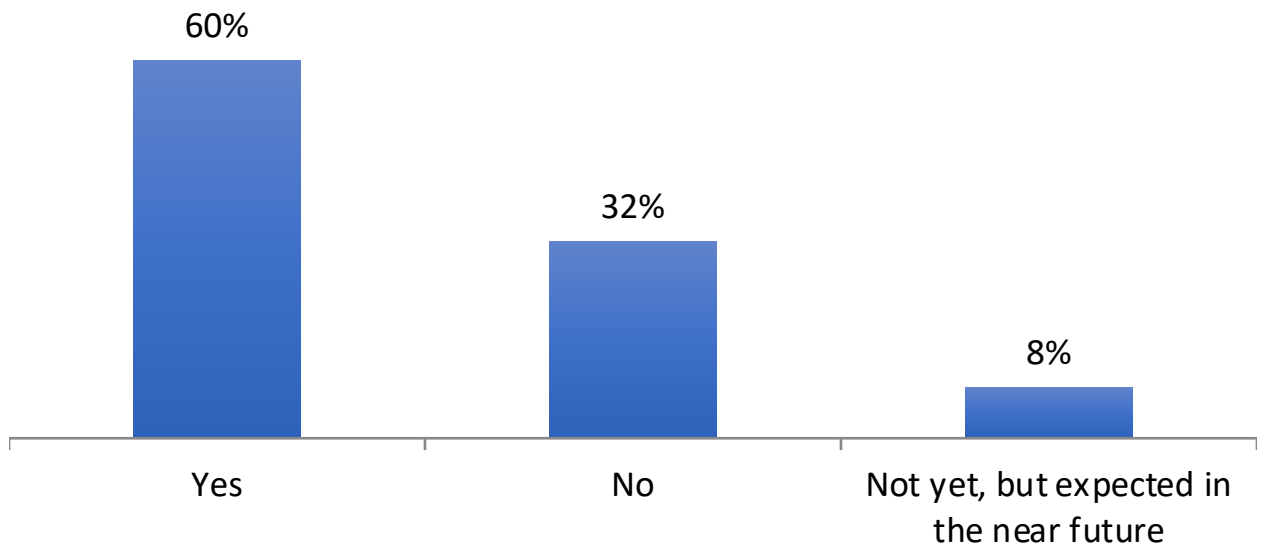


Source: Coalition for GSP

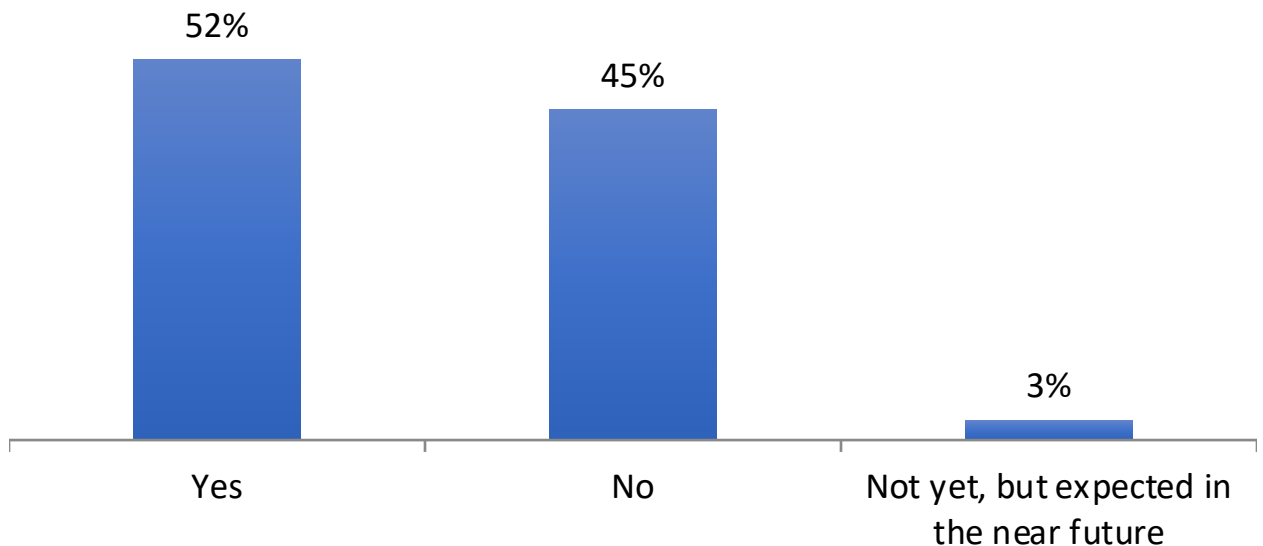
Last updated: April 17, based on 73 company responses



***Have you voluntarily closed/reduced operations due to COVID-19?***



***Have state/local governments required you to close/reduce operations due to COVID-19?***

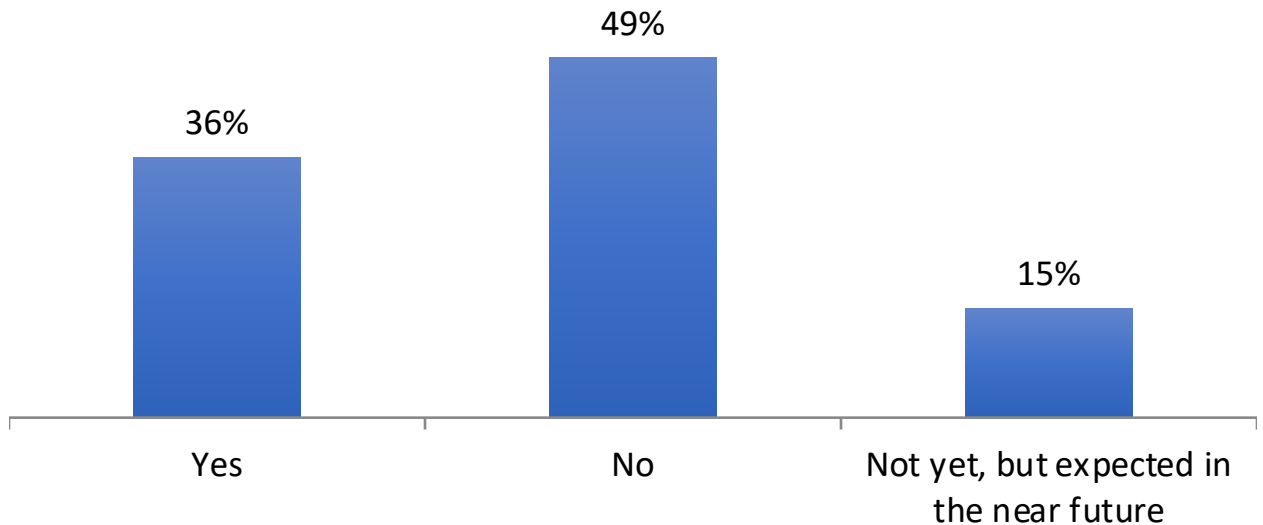


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## *Have you laid off/furloughed/cut hours for workers due to COVID-19?*



Source: Coalition for GSP

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Take the survey:

<http://renewgsptoday.com/2020/03/27/new-survey-covid-19-impacts-on-gsp-importers/>

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