

BPIF/BOSS Coronavirus Support Schemes Survey

Executive Report – May 2020



About BPIF

The BPIF (British Printing Industries Federation) is the principal business support organisation for the UK printing industry. The printing industry adds £5.5bn in gross value to the UK, employs 112,000 people and pays £3.3bn in wages every year.

About BOSS

BOSS represents all businesses along the distribution chain in the office products industry, covering stationery, office machines and supplies, office furniture, office systems and related product areas. With a wide breadth of membership from the smallest retailer to the largest manufacturer, BOSS represents a very large part of the industry turnover.

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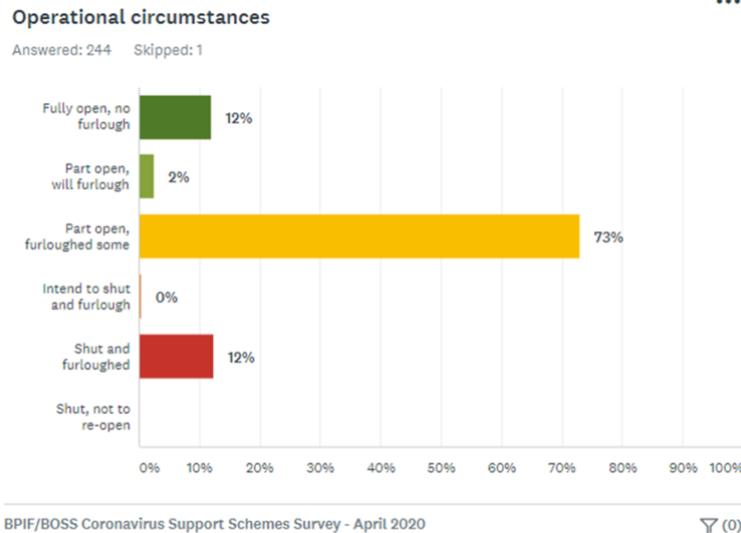
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<https://www.britishprint.com/>

Executive Summary

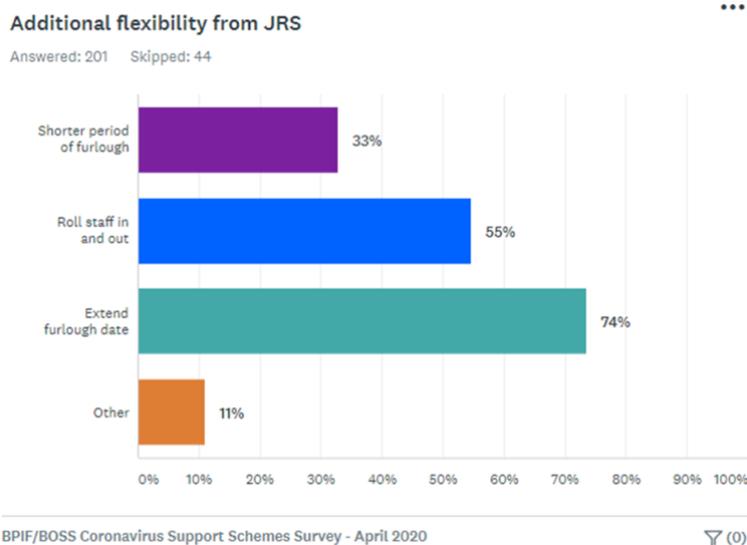
Operational Status

- Almost three-quarters of respondents (73%) are remaining partially open and have furloughed some employees. 12% of companies have entirely shut down operations and furloughed all applicable employees.



Job Retention Scheme (JRS)

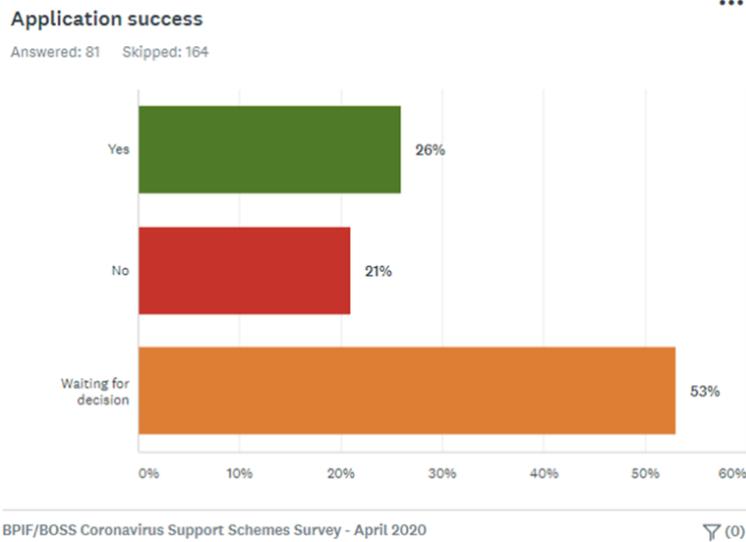
- The HMRC portal has been a success for the majority of responses, almost three-quarters (73%) of companies have been able to access the portal and complete their application.
- Over 600 redundancies are anticipated once JRS ends, this equates to about 4% of all employees from responding companies; a considerably lower proportion than the 35% of employees that are on furlough (or going on to furlough) and might otherwise have been made redundant already if it wasn't for the JRS.



- Almost three-quarters (74%) of respondents would like Government to extend furlough capability as they take time to recover and ramp-up capacity. Over half (55%) of companies would like to have the ability to roll staff in and out of furlough more frequently.

Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Schemes (CBILS)

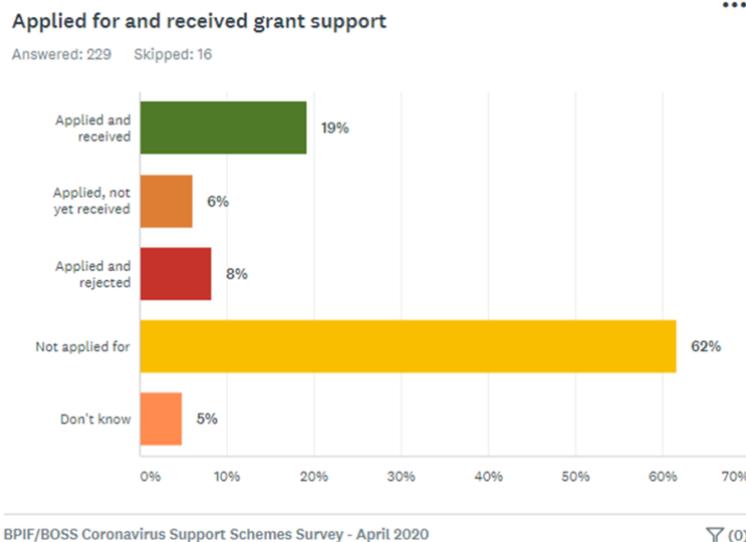
- One-third (33%) of responding companies have applied for the CBILS.
- Just over one-quarter (26%) of those companies that had applied for a business interruption loan had been successful in their application at the time of responding to the survey. Just over one-fifth (21%) had not been successful and over half (53%) were waiting to find out.



- Most aspects of the loan schemes application processes were rated negatively.

Grants

- Over two-thirds of responding companies acknowledged that they support or supply the hospitality, retail or leisure sectors.
- The majority of respondents (62%) have not applied for any grant support. Just under one-fifth (19%) have applied for and received some grant support.



Other Government Support

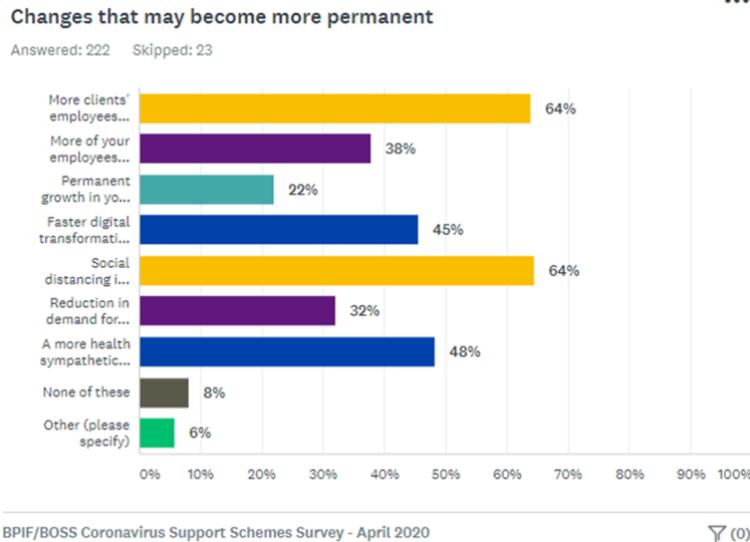
- Deferral of VAT payments – 46% of respondents using, with a further 23% intending to use. Business rates relief – 26% of respondents using, a further 16% intend to use. Statutory sick pay costs – 20% using, another 16% intend to use. Only 3% of responding companies had received access to a hardship relief fund.

Other Finance Support

- Cancelling non-critical services – 45% of companies have done this, a further 20% intend to do this. Finance/Lease holiday – 35% of companies are doing this, another 10% intend to. Rent/mortgage holiday – 31% have arranged this, a further 12% intend to arrange it.

Recover and Revive

- The two changes most likely to become more permanent, as identified by survey respondents, are social distancing in the workplace and more clients’ employees working from home – both were selected by 64% of responding companies. A faster digital transformation for meetings, events and training were selected by 45%.



- The vast majority of companies do not expecting demand levels to recover anytime soon. The ‘more than 12 months’ time’ category attracted the largest share of respondents – 27%.

Go to the BPIF or BOSS websites to access the full summary report and see what further support is available to you:

www.britishprint.com

www.bossfederation.com

Background

The BPIF/BOSS Coronavirus Support Schemes Survey was designed, as a follow-up to the Impact Survey conducted in March, to help BPIF and BOSS support businesses during the Coronavirus crisis. At a time of huge concern and uncertainty amongst all businesses, and a constantly evolving situation, it is vital that BPIF and BOSS work to ensure that businesses are getting the emergency assistance they require when they require it.

Both trade associations are in frequent contact with Government and, with the evidence collected through our industry research, have been able to represent our industries and lobby for adjustments to the Government support schemes. Government has listened and continues to recognise the importance and value that trade associations provide in linking business and Government.

The first impact survey enabled BPIF and BOSS to hear about the impact on businesses, their employees and business plans – present and future to see where focus and lobbying efforts are required to help protect all those in our industry.

This survey on the Government support schemes was designed to collect some feedback and opinions on the main Government support schemes, how companies were able to access them and how effective they were being.

All responses have been treated confidentially. The results are being used to represent your industry, lobby on your behalf and help the BPIF and BOSS support you – in particular with our ongoing discussions with the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and to devolved Government.

However, there's still much that needs to be done to support our industries, the economy and facilitate a safe return towards productive capacity.

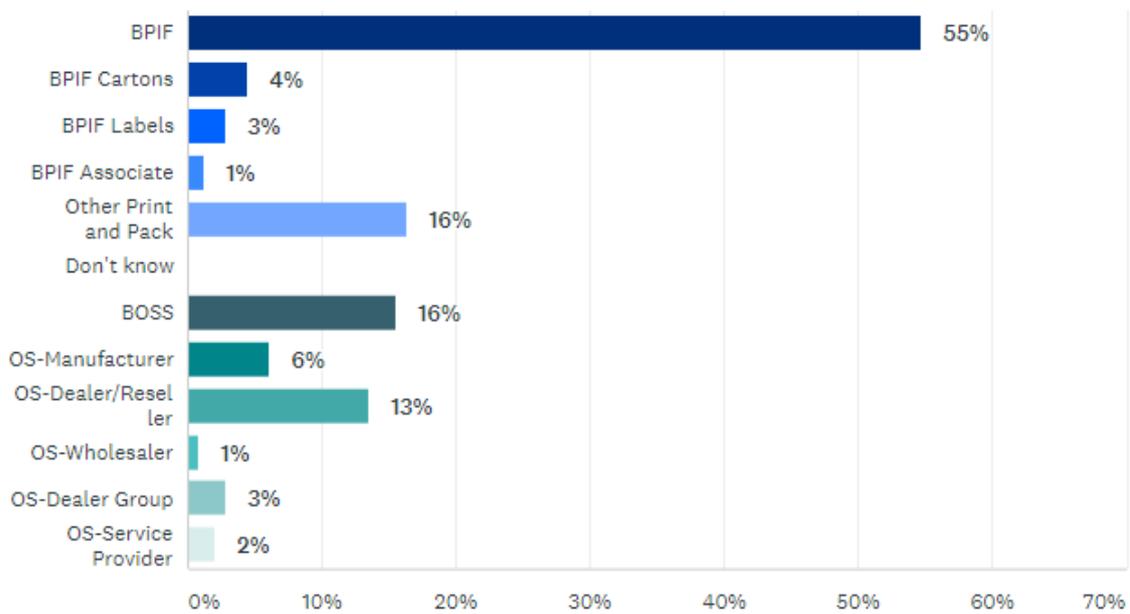
Response and Membership

These results are based on the response from companies in the UK Printing (including printed packaging) and Office Supplies industries.

The survey was carried out during the period 22 April to 30 April 2020 and was open to all companies in relevant industries, not just BPIF and BOSS members. The combined turnover of fully responding companies is over £2.5 billion in businesses employing more than 15,000 people.

Membership status

Answered: 245 Skipped: 0



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Three-quarters (75%) of all responses were from companies in the Printing and Printed Packaging industry, the remaining 25% were from the Office Supplies industry.

More than half (55%) of all respondents were BPIF members and about one-sixth (16%) BOSS members - leaving 29% that were not members of either trade association.

BPIF and BOSS would like to provide a big thank you to all companies that took the time to respond.