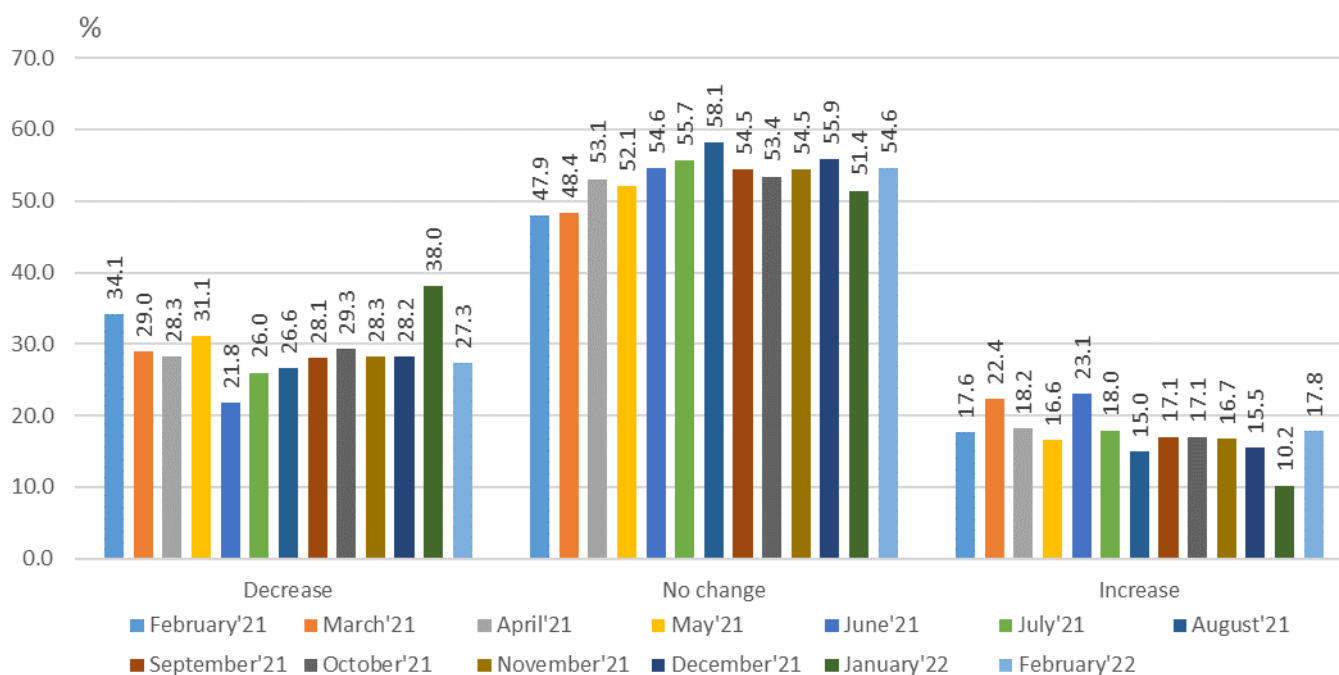


SITUATION OF THE NON-FINANCIAL ENTERPRISES IN THE EPIDEMIC SITUATION FEBRUARY 2022

The National Statistical Institute of Bulgaria conducted a short business survey amongst non-financial enterprises aiming to collect and present to society and policy-makers information on the economic effects of the declared state of emergency and the ensuing epidemic situation in the country due to COVID-19.

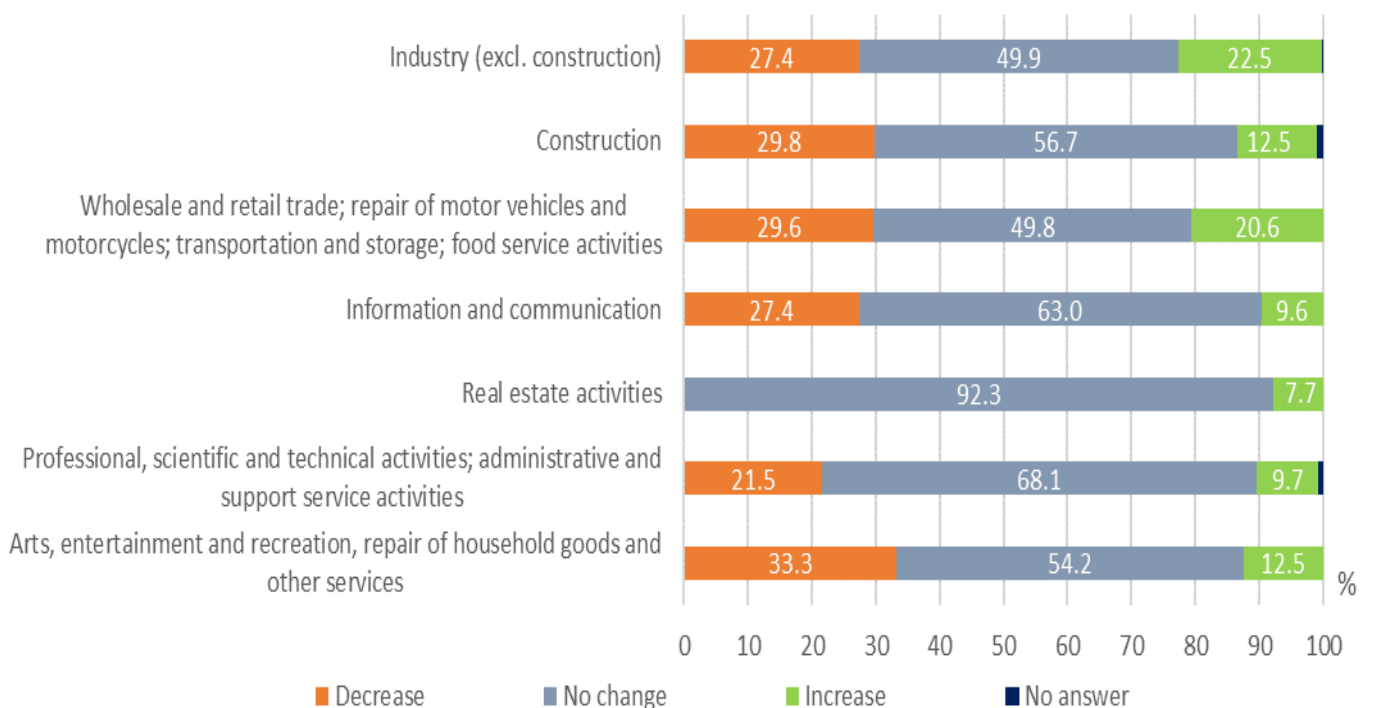
In February 2022, 27.3% of the responding non-financial enterprises declared a decrease in revenues from sales of goods and services compared to January 2022, 54.6% declared no change and 17.8% - an increase. A year earlier (February 2021), a decrease in revenues from sales of goods and services compared to the previous month was declared by 34.1% of the responding non-financial enterprises, while 47.9% declared no change and 17.6% - an increase (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Change in revenues from sales of goods and services in non-financial enterprises compared to previous month, 2021 and 2022



The breakdown by economic sector showed that in February 2022, 33.3% of the non-financial enterprises in ‘Arts, entertainment and recreation, repair of household goods and other services’ had a decrease in revenues from sales of goods and services, followed by ‘Construction’ with 29.8% and ‘Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; transportation and storage; food service activities’ with 29.6% (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Change in revenues from sales of goods and services in non-financial enterprises in February 2022 compared to previous month, by economic sectors



As regards the employees, 10.9% of the responding non-financial enterprises answered that they had to use ‘Paid leave’ as a measure for reducing the effects of the state of emergency and the epidemic situation (13.3% in February 2021), followed by ‘Teleworking’ - 10.6% (13.2% in February 2021) and ‘Unpaid leave’ - 7.6% (13.5% in February 2021). In February 2022, 5.5% of the responding non-financial enterprises answered that they had to employ new staff (7.0% in February 2021) (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Measures taken concerning employees in the enterprise

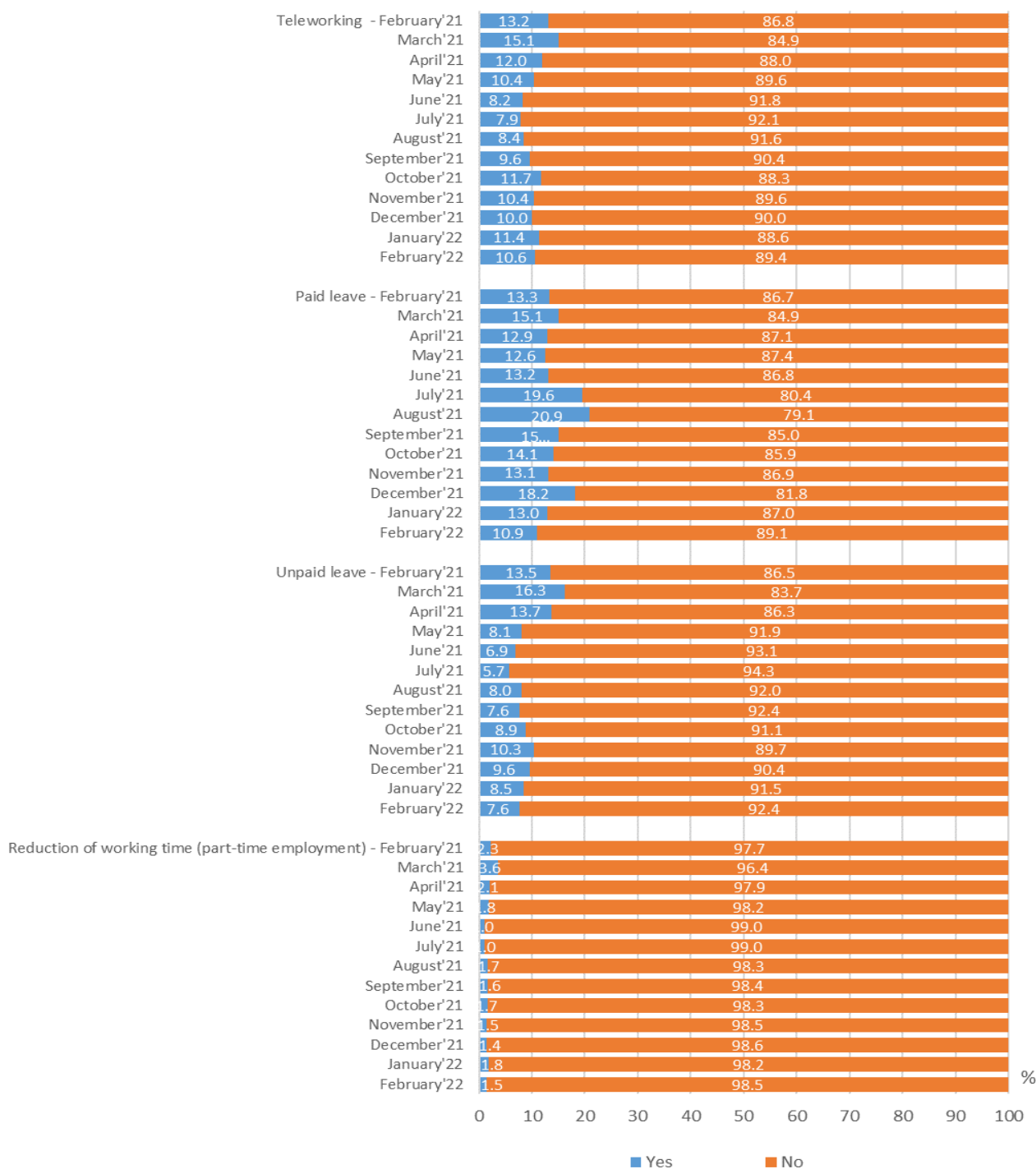


Figure 3. Measures taken concerning employees in the enterprise (continued and end)

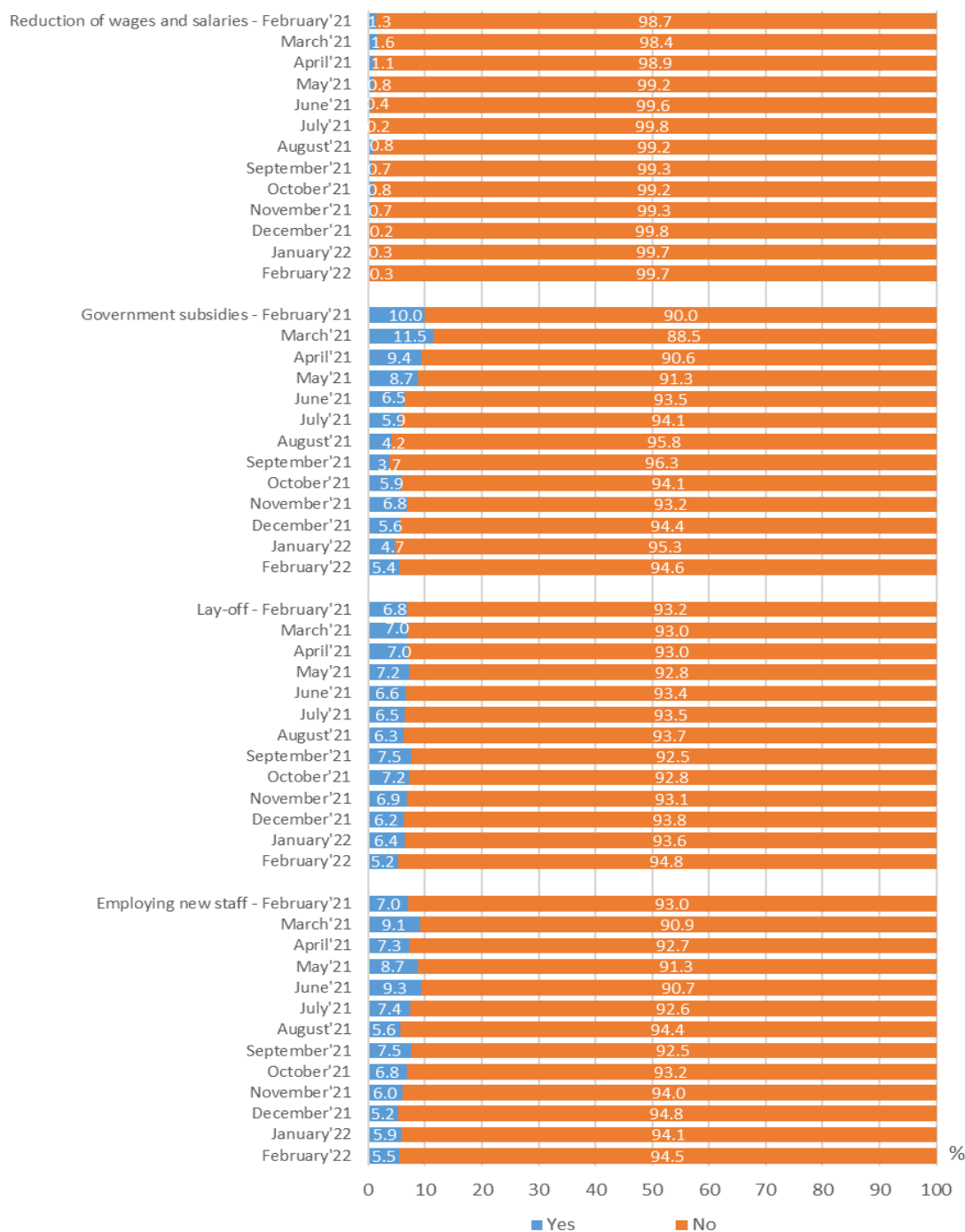
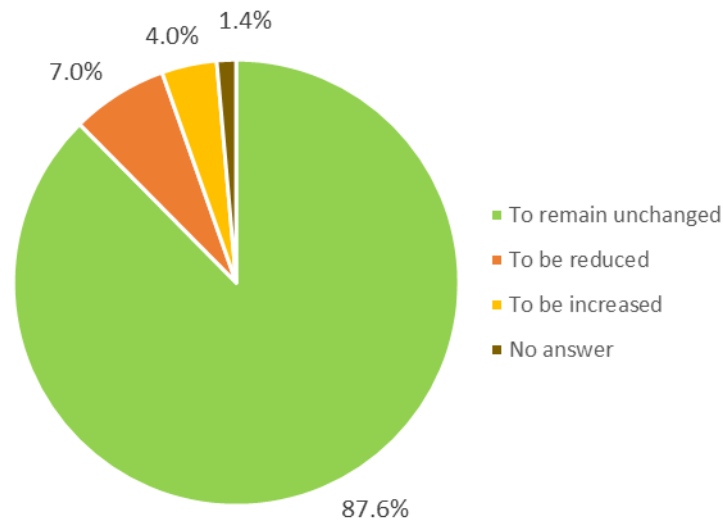


Figure 4. Expectations about the number of employees in the enterprise in short-term period (1 month)



In the following month, 94.9% of the responding non-financial enterprises expect that they will be able to continue their current activity, 2.3% expect to stop performing economic activity temporarily and 1.6% expect to close their business (Table 1).

1. Expectations about the enterprise future in short-term period (1 month)

(Per cent)

Period	To continue to perform its current activity	To stop to perform economic activity temporarily	To stop to perform economic activity at all	To change its activity	No answer
February 2021	93.7	2.1	1.9	1.8	0.5
March 2021	93.4	2.3	1.9	1.4	1.1
April 2021	95.1	1.3	2.5	0.7	0.4
May 2021	94.6	1.7	2.2	0.9	0.7
June 2021	94.9	1.3	2.3	0.6	0.9
July 2021	95.8	1.6	1.5	0.3	0.7
August 2021	94.4	1.6	2.2	1.0	0.9
September 2021	94.7	2.1	2.1	0.8	0.3
October 2021	94.2	1.7	2.3	1.2	0.6
November 2021	94.0	2.6	1.8	1.3	0.3
December 2021	94.4	2.5	1.8	0.8	0.5
January 2022	94.6	2.0	1.8	0.9	0.7
February 2022	94.9	2.3	1.6	0.8	0.3



Methodological notes

The survey of ‘Non-financial enterprises’ was carried out in March, and the sample included 3 770 enterprises with about 230 thousand employees. Participation in the survey was voluntary.

The unit of observation is the enterprise, which carries out one or more activities in one or more locations and produces goods or services for third parties. The definition of the enterprise meets the requirements of Regulation (EC) No. 696/93 for statistical units. The data refers to the activities of non-financial enterprises carried out on the territory of the country.

The coverage of economic activities is as follows: Industry; Construction; Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; transportation and storage; food service activities; Real estate activities; Information and communication; Professional, scientific and technical activities; administrative and support service activities; Arts, entertainment and recreation, repair of household goods and other services.

Not covered by the survey are economic activities: Agriculture, forestry and fishing; Financial and insurance activities; Human health and social work activities; Education; Public administration and defense; compulsory social security.