

**QUOTED
COMPANIES
ALLIANCE**

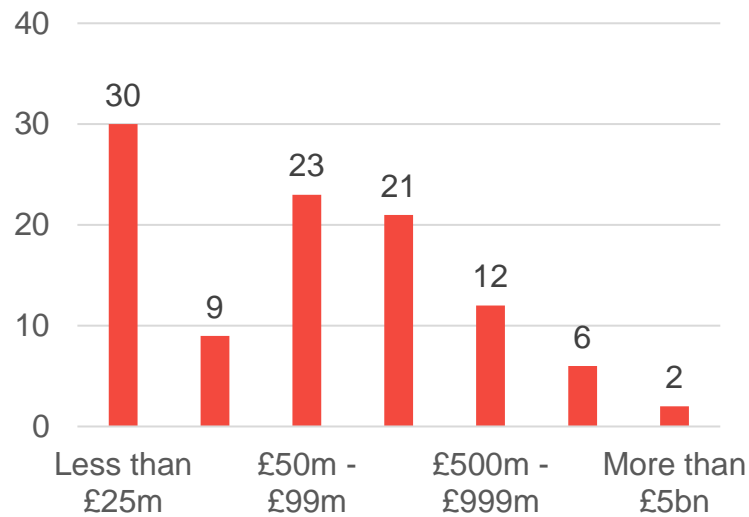
Quoted Companies Alliance Small & Mid-cap Sentiment Index

Wave 26, May 2021

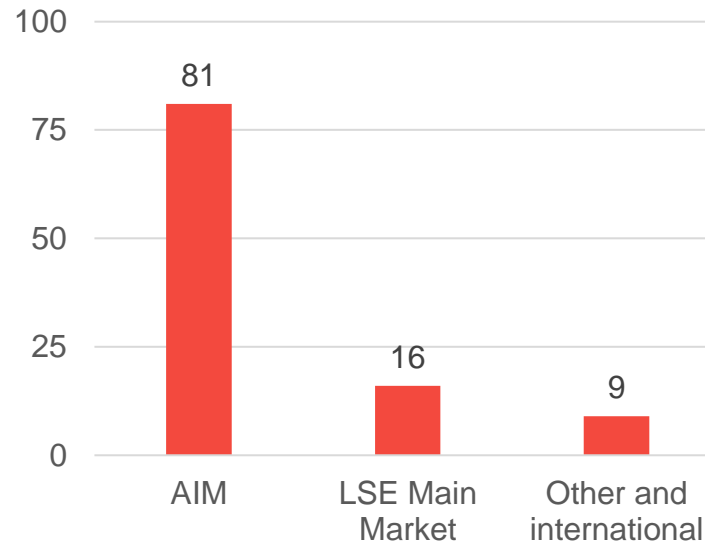
Respondent profile

- Survey conducted between 9 April and 5 May 2021 by YouGov
- 131 respondents: 103 from small and mid-cap UK quoted companies, 28 from advisory companies.

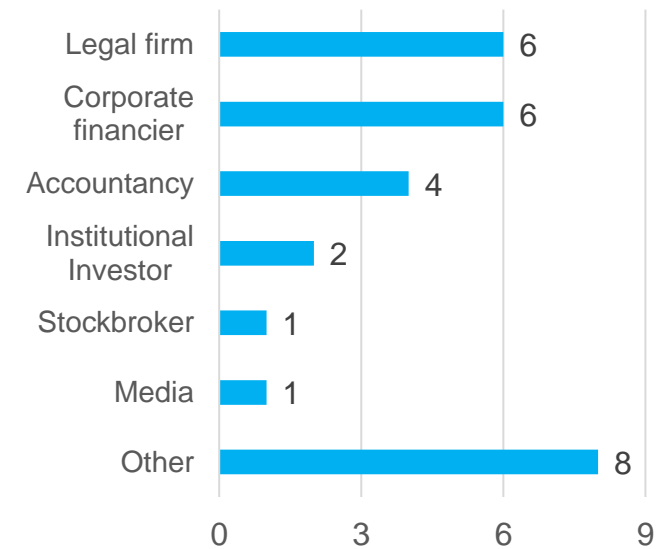
Market cap of quoted company respondents



Market of quoted company respondents



Profile of advisor respondents

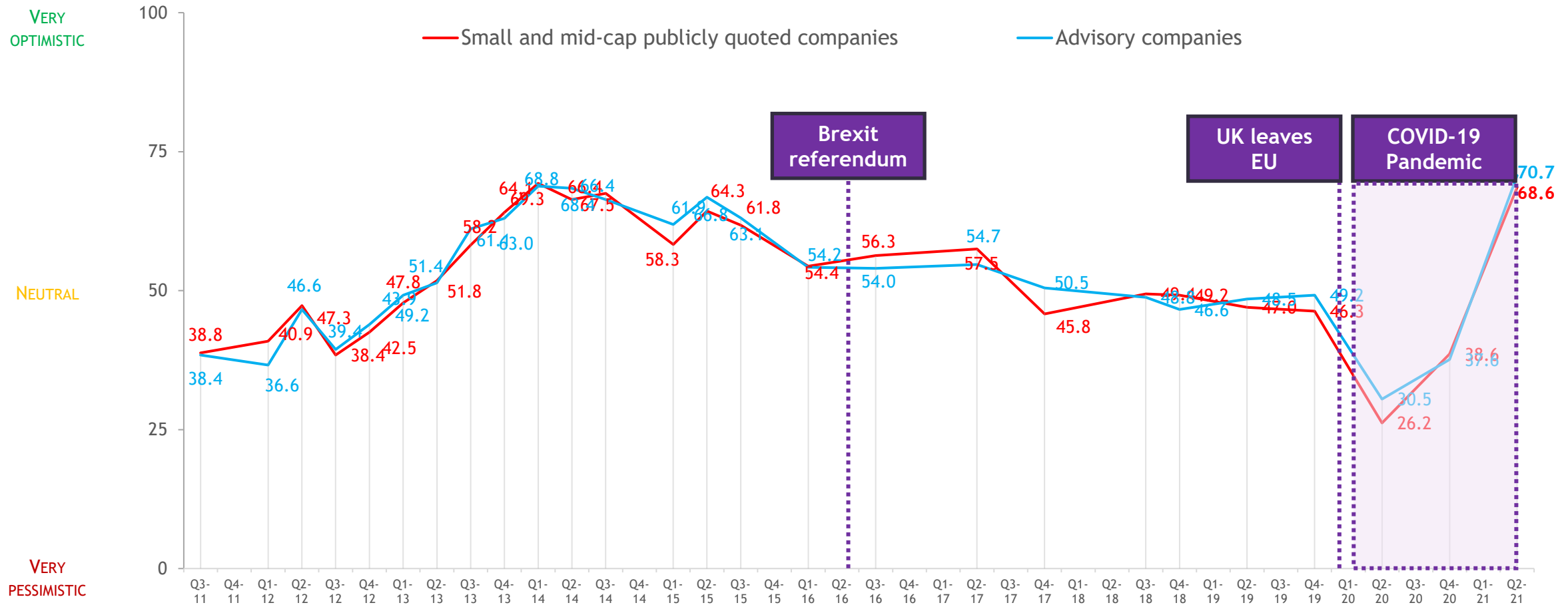


1. Key indicators

Economic and business outlook

How optimistic or pessimistic do you feel about the UK economy over the coming 12 months?

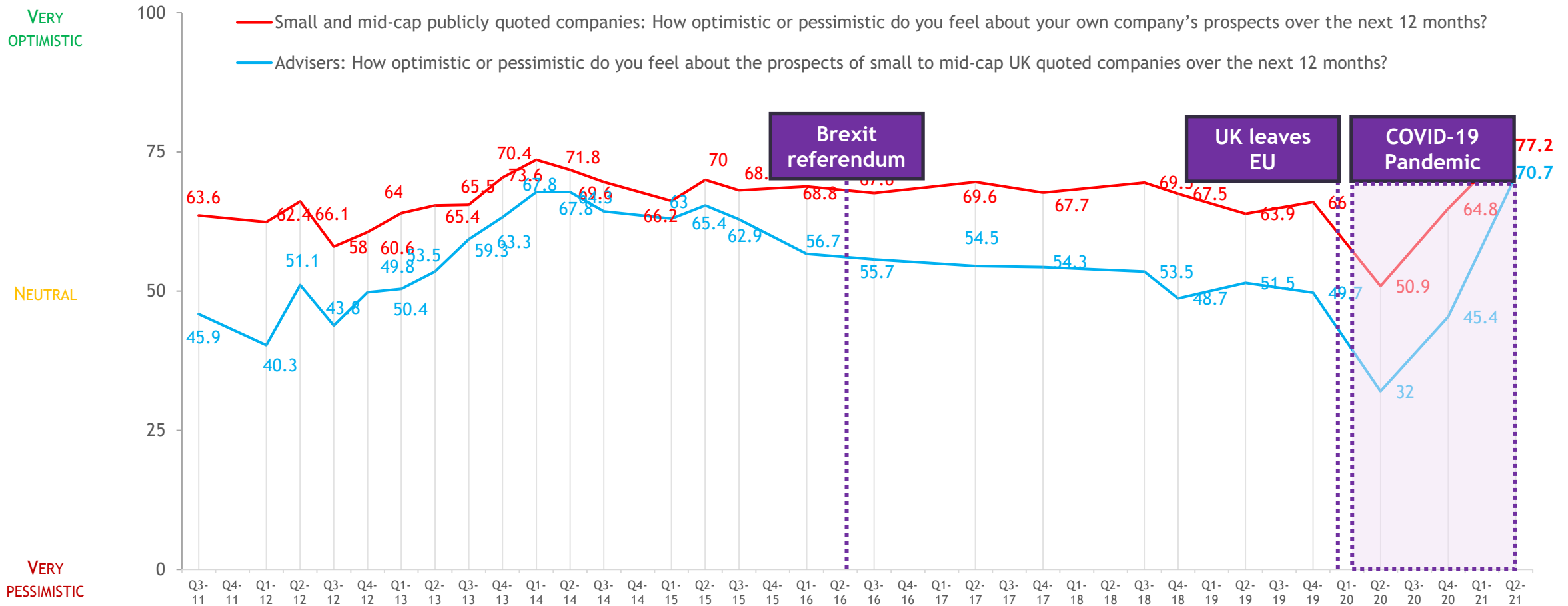
Mean scores (where 0 represents 'very pessimistic', 50 'neutral' and 100 'very optimistic')



BASE: SEP 11: 100; JAN 12: 150; APR 12: 132; JUL 12: 136; OCT 12: 114; JAN 13: 137; APR 13: 125; JUL 13: 113; OCT 13, 133; JAN 14, 127; APR 14, 107; JUL 14, 119; JAN 15, 133; MAY 15, 133; SEP 15, 125; MAR 16, 113; SEP 16, 101; MAY 17, 105; DEC 17, 109; JUN 18, 111; NOV 18, 105; JUN 19, 78; NOV 19, 110; APR 20, 132; NOV 20, 141; MAY 21, 103; SMALL AND MID-CAP PUBLICLY QUOTED COMPANIES; SEP 11: 64; JAN 12: 87; APR 12: 103; JUL 12: 68; OCT 12: 86; JAN 13: 112; APR 13: 97; JUL 13: 76; OCT 13, 89; JAN 14, 88; APR 14, 73; JUL 14, 78; JAN 15, 69; MAY 15, 73; SEP 15, 92; MAR 16, 69; SEP 16, 59; MAY 17, 52; DEC 17, 64; JUN 18, 42; NOV 18, 47; JUN 19, 39; NOV 19, 39; APR 20, 45; NOV 20, 52; MAY 21, 28; ADVISORY COMPANIES

Optimism/Pessimism toward business prospects

Mean scores (where 0 represents 'very pessimistic', 50 'neutral' and 100 'very optimistic')



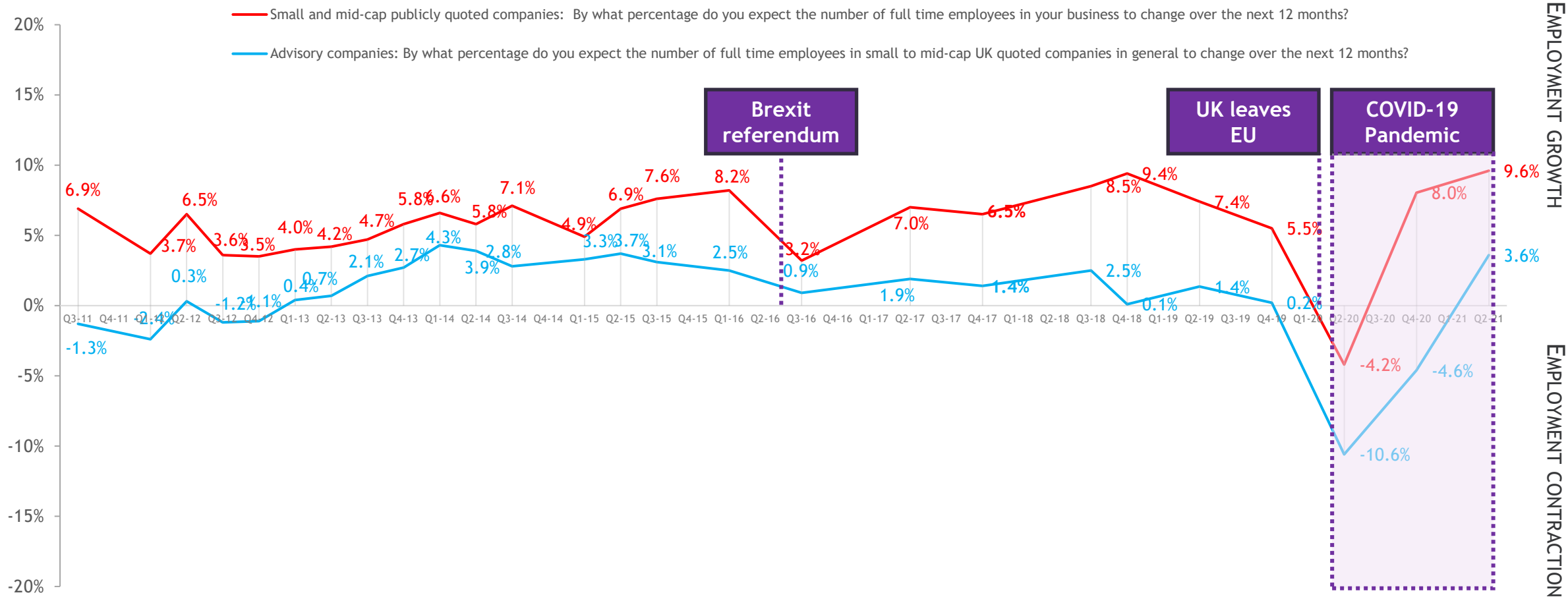
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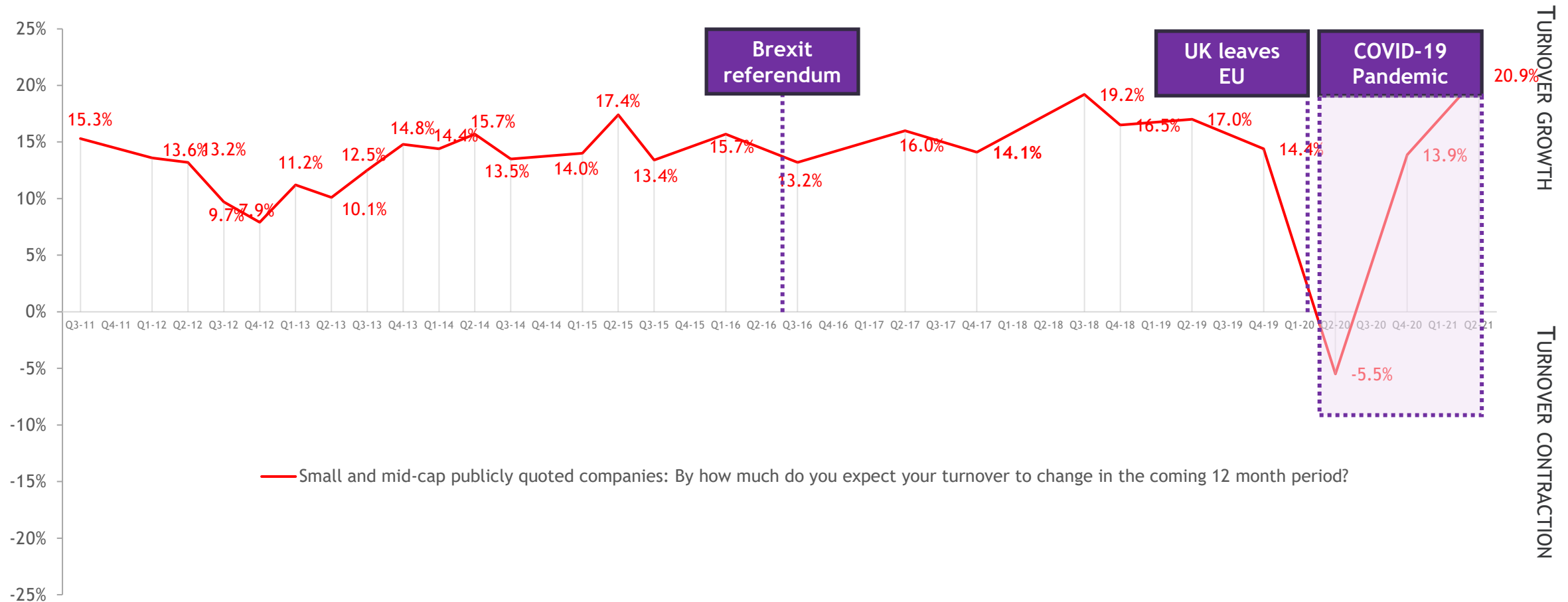
Expectations regarding job growth: Mean expected employment change over the next 12 months



BASE: SEP 11: 100; JAN 12: 150; APR 12: 132; JUL 12: 136; OCT 12: 114; JAN 13: 137; APR 13: 125; JUL 13: 113; OCT 13, 133; JAN 14, 127; APR 14, 107; JUL 14, 119; JAN 15, 133; MAY 15, 133; SEP 15, 125; MAR 16, 113; SEP 16, 101; MAY 17, 105; DEC 17, 109; JUN 18, 111; NOV 18, 105; JUN 19, 78; NOV 19, 110; APR 20, 132; NOV 20, 125 MAY 21, 103; SMALL AND MID-CAP PUBLICLY QUOTED COMPANIES; SEP 11: 64; JAN 12: 87; APR 12: 103; JUL 12: 68; OCT 12: 86; JAN 13: 112; APR 13: 97; JUL 13: 76; OCT 13, 89; JAN 14, 88; APR 14, 73; JUL 14, 78; JAN 15, 69; MAY 15, 73; SEP 15, 92; MAR 16, 69; SEP 16, 59; MAY 17, 52; DEC 17, 64; JUN 18, 42; NOV 18, 47; JUN 19, 39; NOV 19, 39; APR 20, 45; NOV 20, 52, MAY 21, 28; ADVISORY COMPANIES

Expectations regarding turnover: Mean expected turnover change over the next 12 months

Small and mid-cap companies only (not asked to advisers)



1. Key indicators

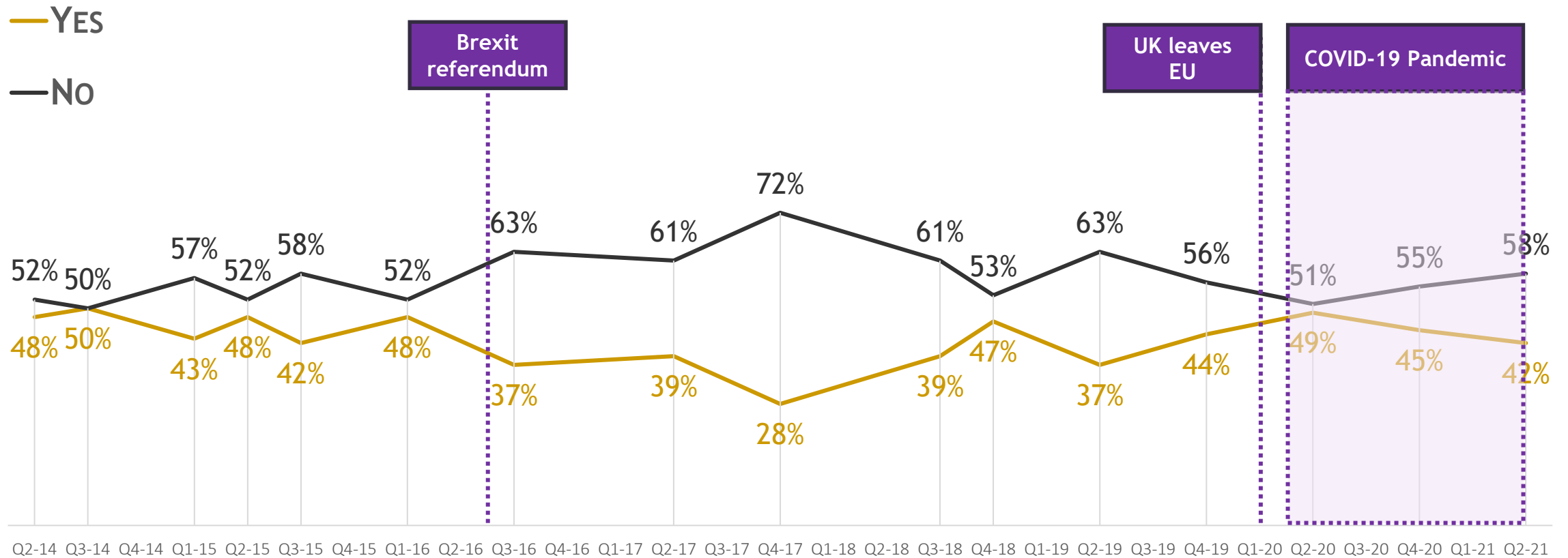
Economic and business outlook - mock up with waves spread out

2. Access to Capital

Fundraising plans and challenges

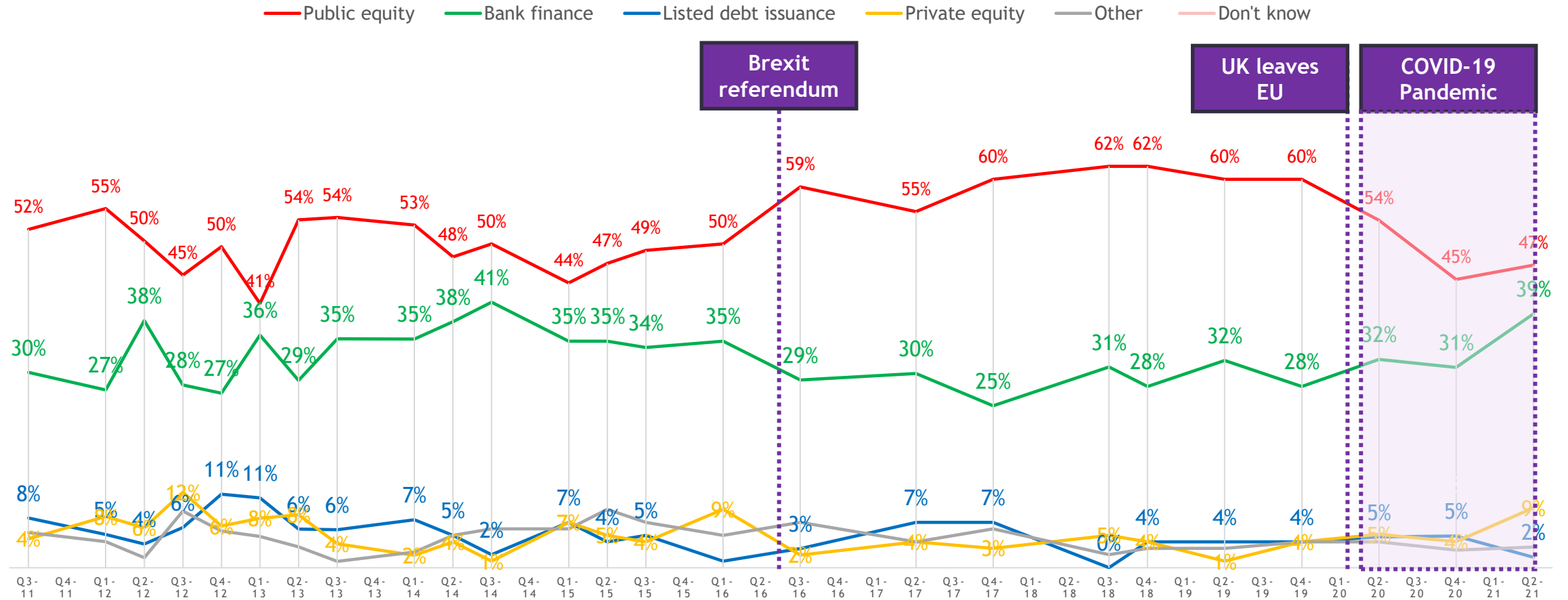
Raising capital for small and mid-caps

Are you considering raising capital for your company in the next 12 months?



Raising capital (small and mid-caps only)

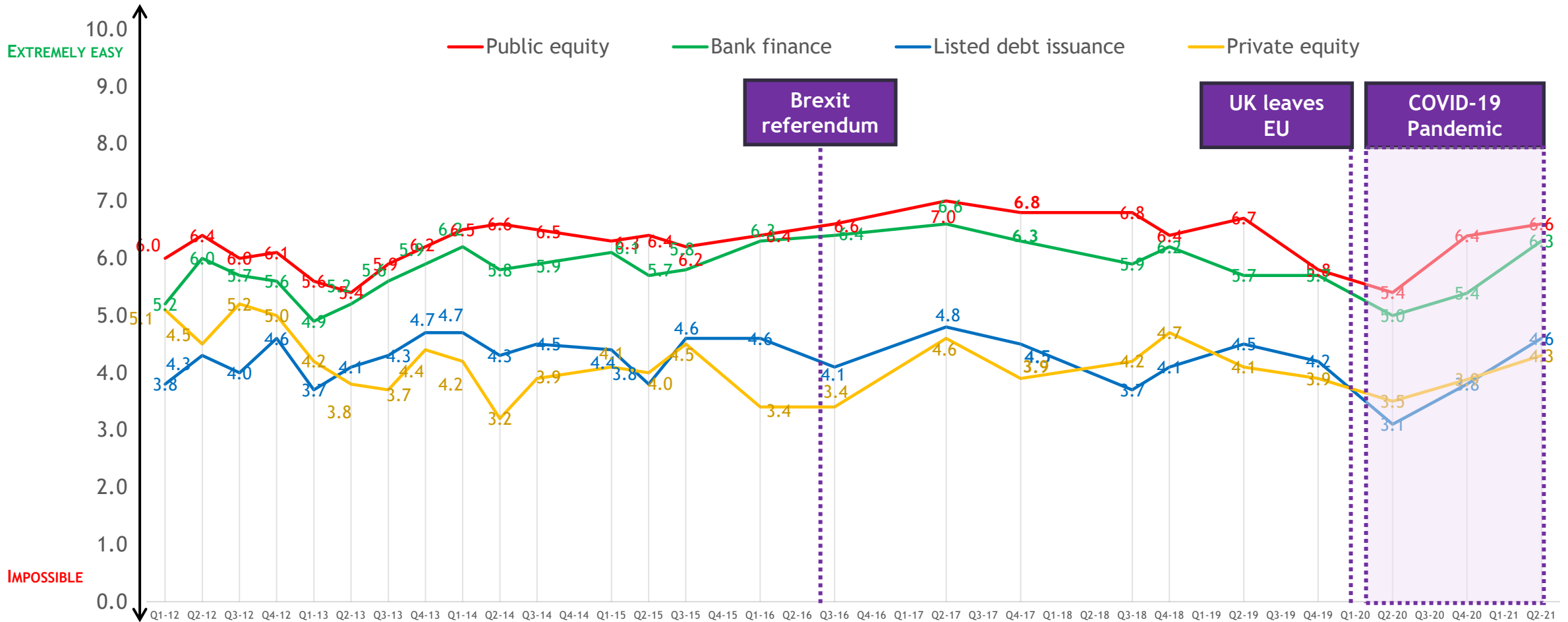
What would be your preferred way of raising capital, if the need arose in the next 12 months?



BASE: SEP 11: 100; JAN 12: 150; APR 12: 132; JUL 12: 136; OCT 12: 114; JAN 13: 137; APR 13: 125; JUL 13: 113; OCT 13, 133; JAN 14, 127; APR 14, 107; JUL 14, 119; JAN 15, 133; MAY 15, 133; SEP 15, 125; MAR 16, 113; SEP 16, 101; MAY 17, 105; DEC 17, 109; JUN 18, 111; NOV 18, 105; JUN 19, 78; NOV 19, 110; APR 20, 132; NOV 20, 141 MAY 21, 103; SMALL AND MID-CAP PUBLICLY QUOTED COMPANIES;

Ease of raising capital for small and mid-caps

How easy or difficult would your company currently find it to raise finance through the following channels? **Mean scores - Companies**

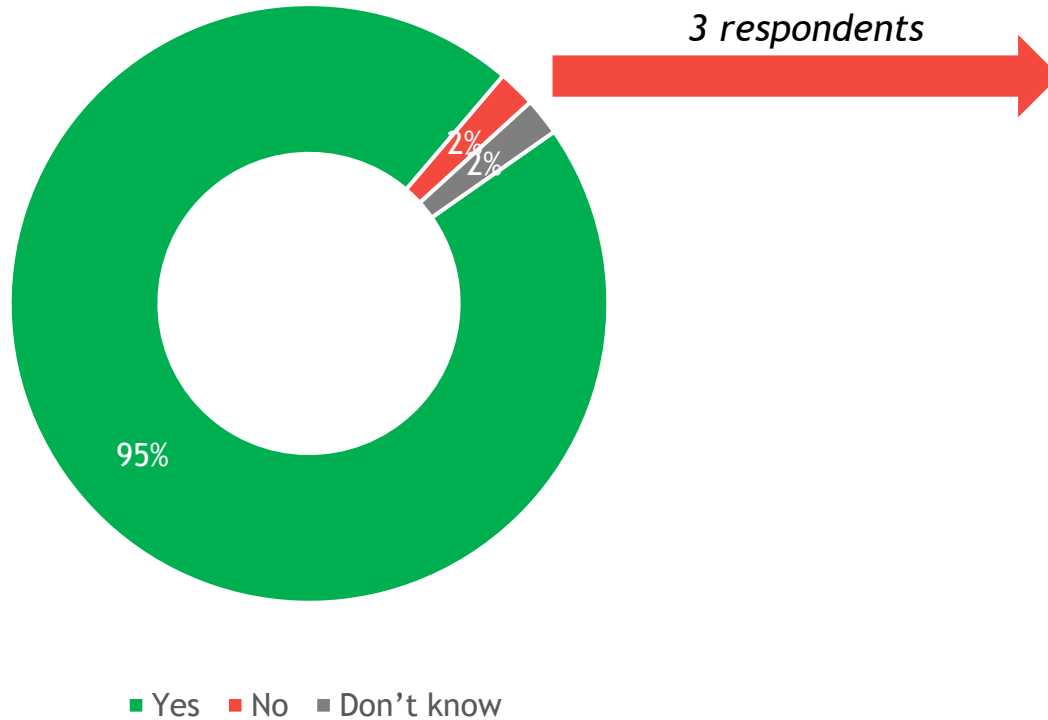


3. Topical questions

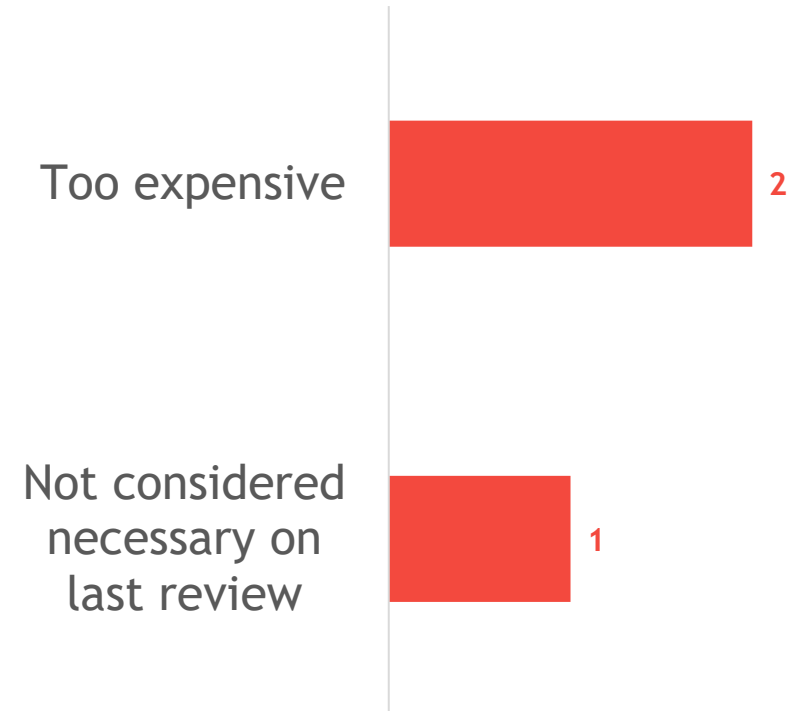
Directors & Officers (D&O) insurance

Directors & Officers liability insurance

Do you currently have Directors & Officers (D&O) liability insurance?

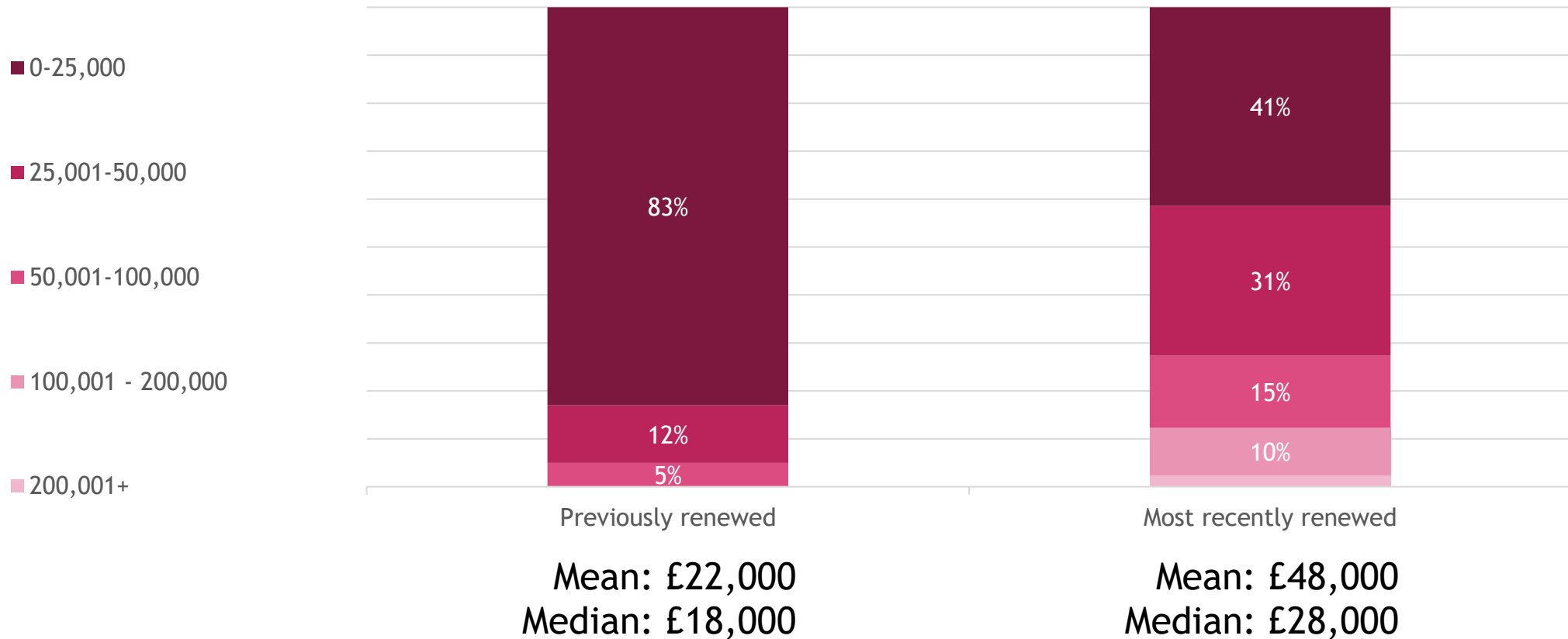


Why do you currently not have D&O liability insurance?



Directors & Officers liability insurance: premium rate

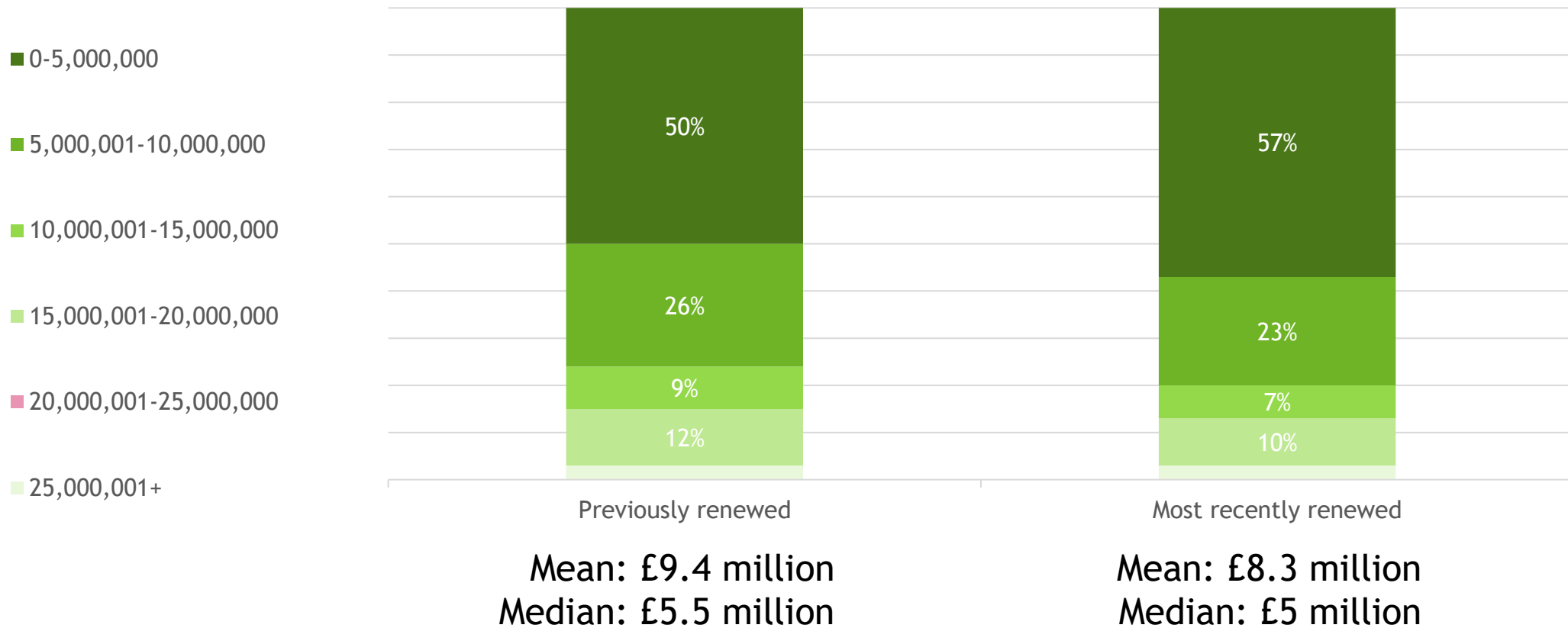
What was the premium rate when you last renewed your D&O insurance policy?
And what was the premium rate when you previously renewed your D&O insurance policy?



Directors & Officers liability insurance: covering

What was the premium rate when you last renewed your D&O insurance policy?

And what was the premium rate when you previously renewed your D&O insurance policy?



Directors & Officers liability insurance

Do you any other comments relating to D&O liability insurance?

'All D&O premiums seem to have gone up significantly in the last 12 months'

'Believe it is likely to become more expensive as risks for directors increasing all the time due to regulatory changes and cyber risk'

'I understand that D&O insurance premiums have skyrocketed recently. This is a very worrying development.'

'Know that rates have gone up and cover is constrained'

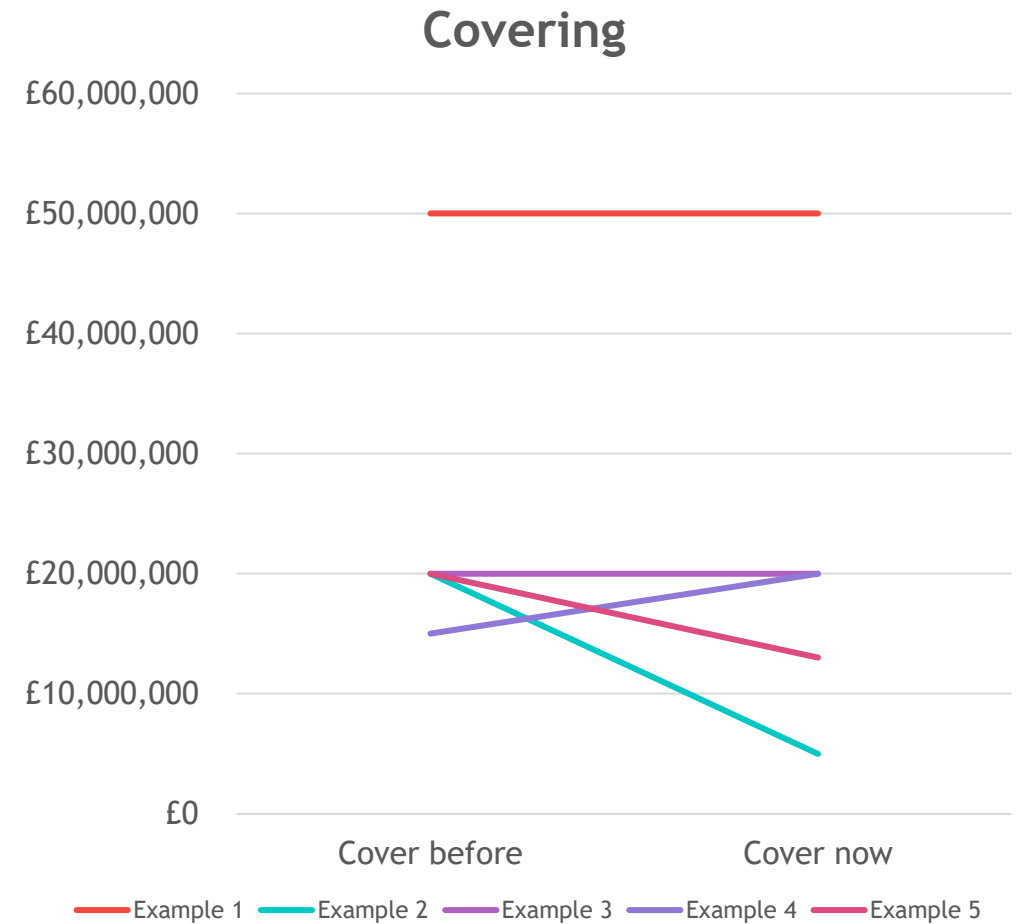
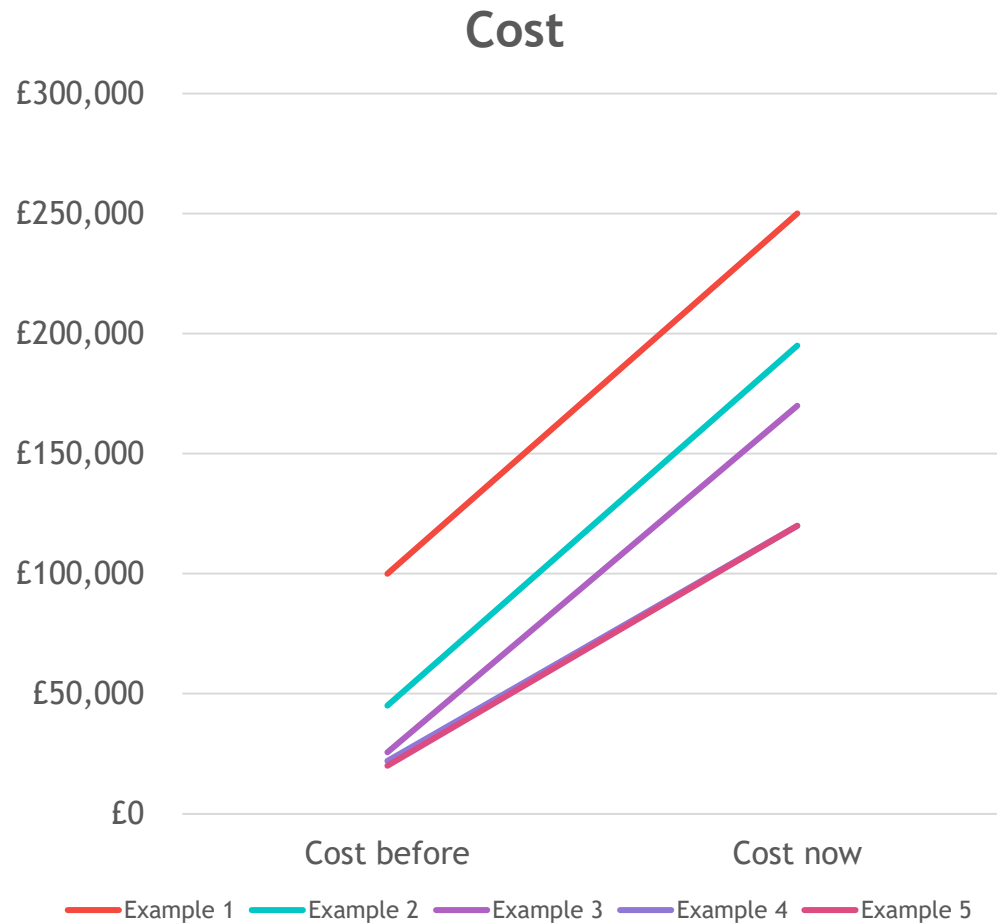
'Premiums have soared due to anticipated risk of company failures when the pandemic safety net ends. We tested 8 companies and 6 would not quote'

'We experienced a 60% increase in premiums'

'Large increase in premium, now reduced cover by half'

'Cost is rising significantly'

Directors & Officers liability insurance: extreme examples

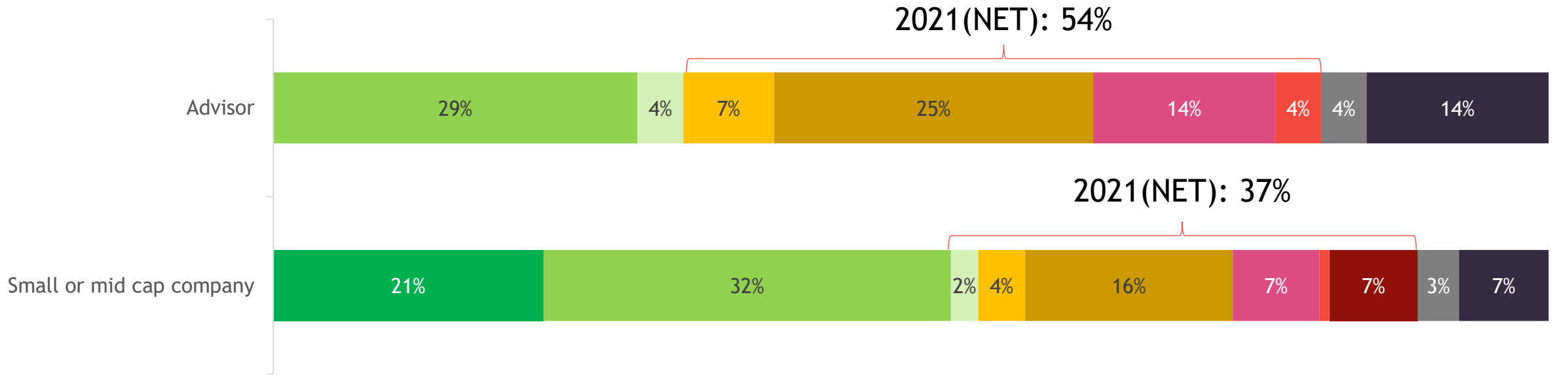


4. Topical questions

COVID-19 and the return to the workplace

Return to the workplace

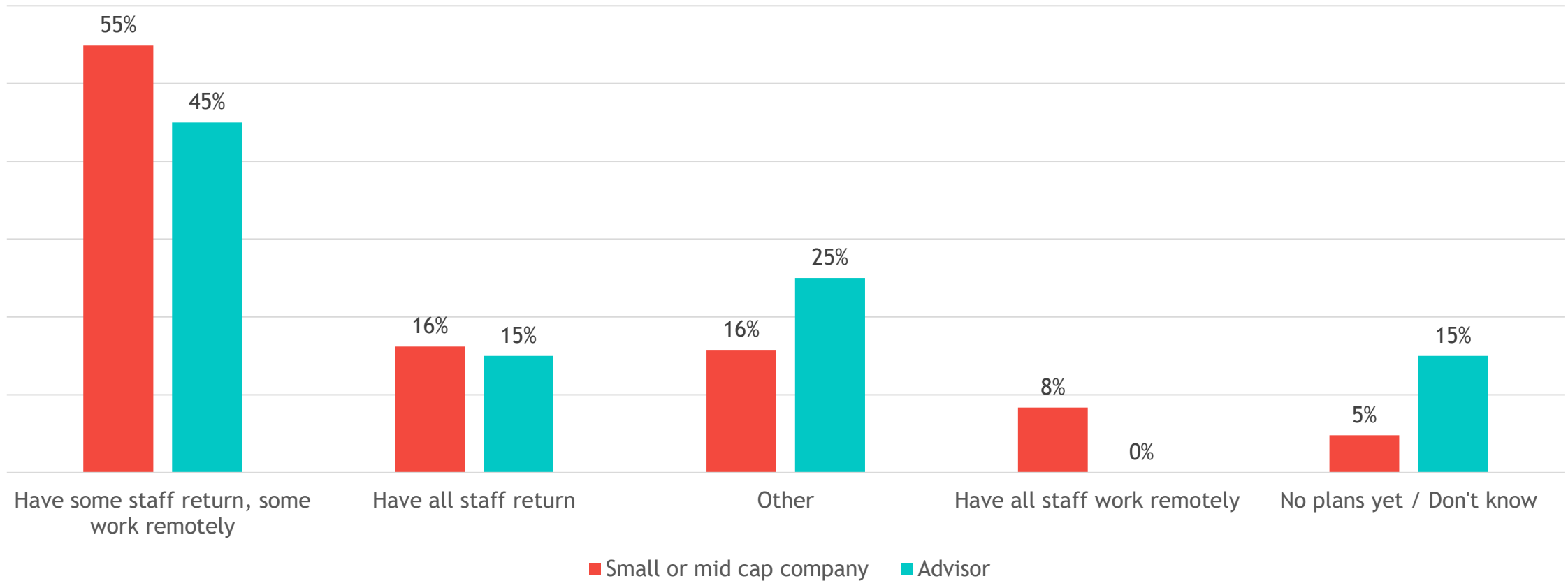
When, if at all, does your organisation plan to have staff back in the workplace?



■ N/A - Had staff in the workplace throughout the pandemic ■ Already do ■ April 2021 ■ May 2021 ■ June 2021 ■ July 2021 ■ August 2021 ■ September 2021 ■ Later than September 2021 ■ Don't know

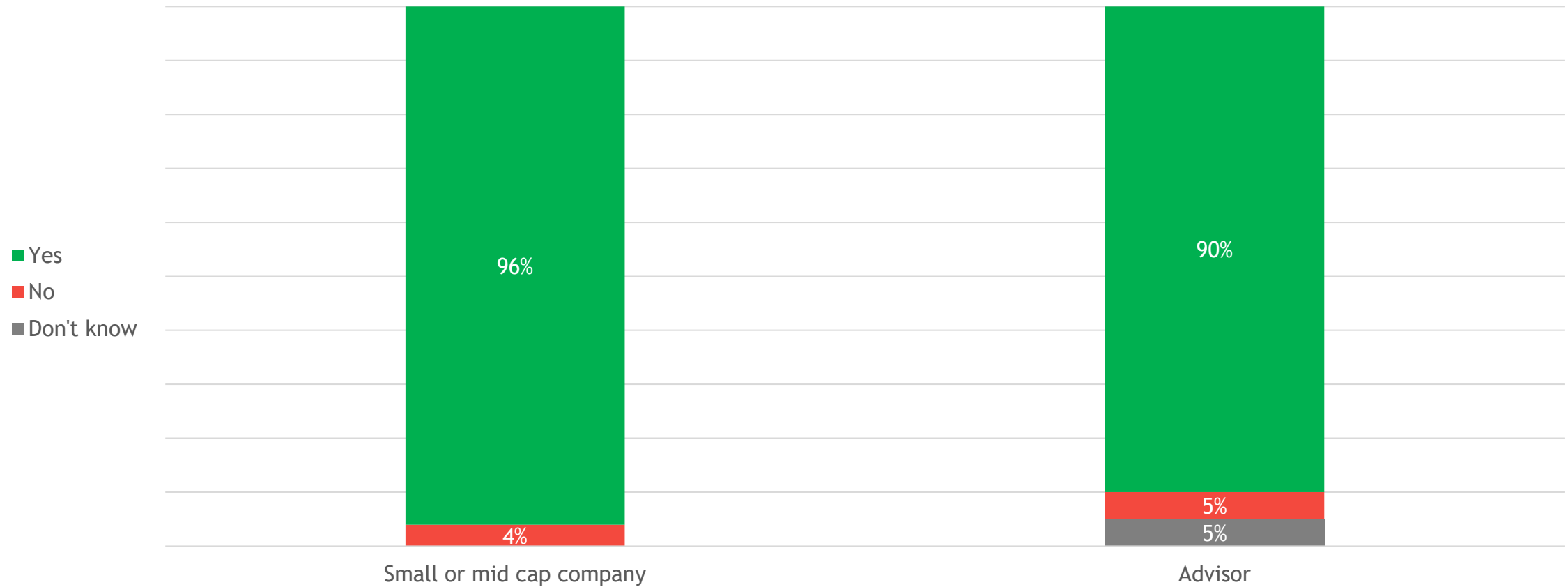
Return to the workplace

What is your organisation's plan with regards to having staff in the workplace when lockdown is next over? We plan to...



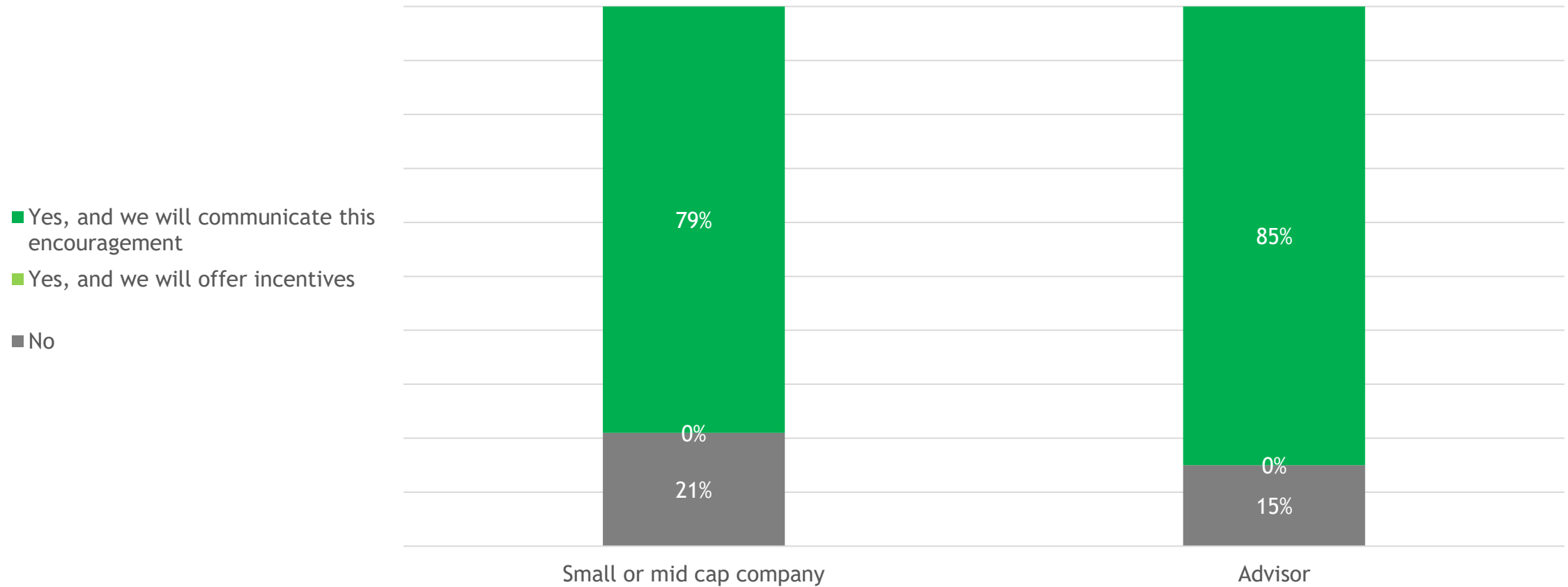
Return to the workplace

In the future, will your organisation be more flexible than it was pre-pandemic with regards to employees working from home/remotely?



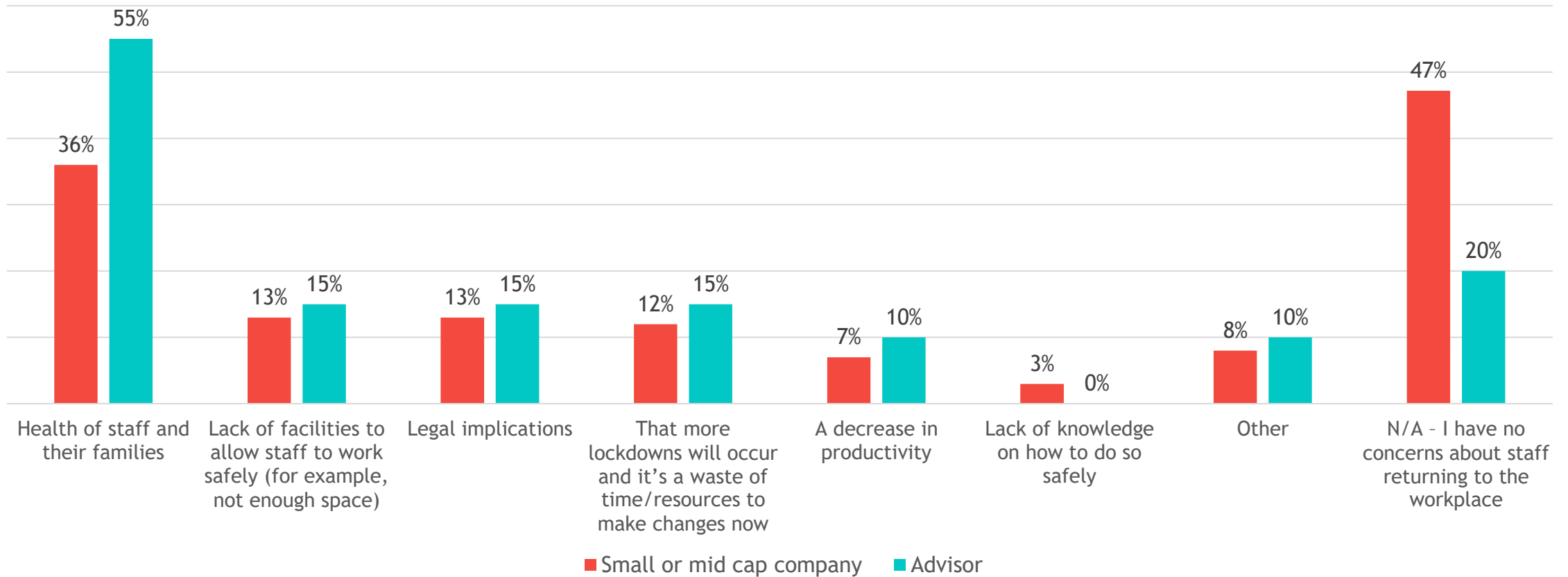
Return to the workplace

Will you encourage staff to return to the workplace?



Return to the workplace

What are your concerns, if any, about having staff return to the workplace when lockdown is over?



Return to the workplace

In the future, how do you think the average employee at your organisation will split their working time between the office and home?

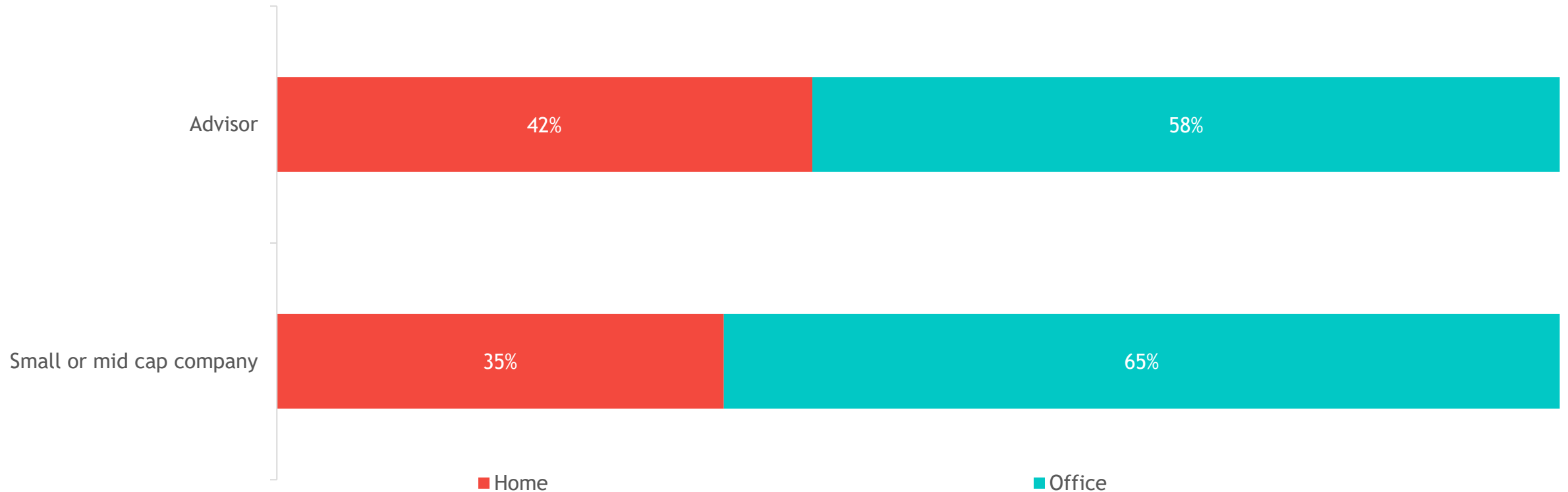


Chart displays mean split

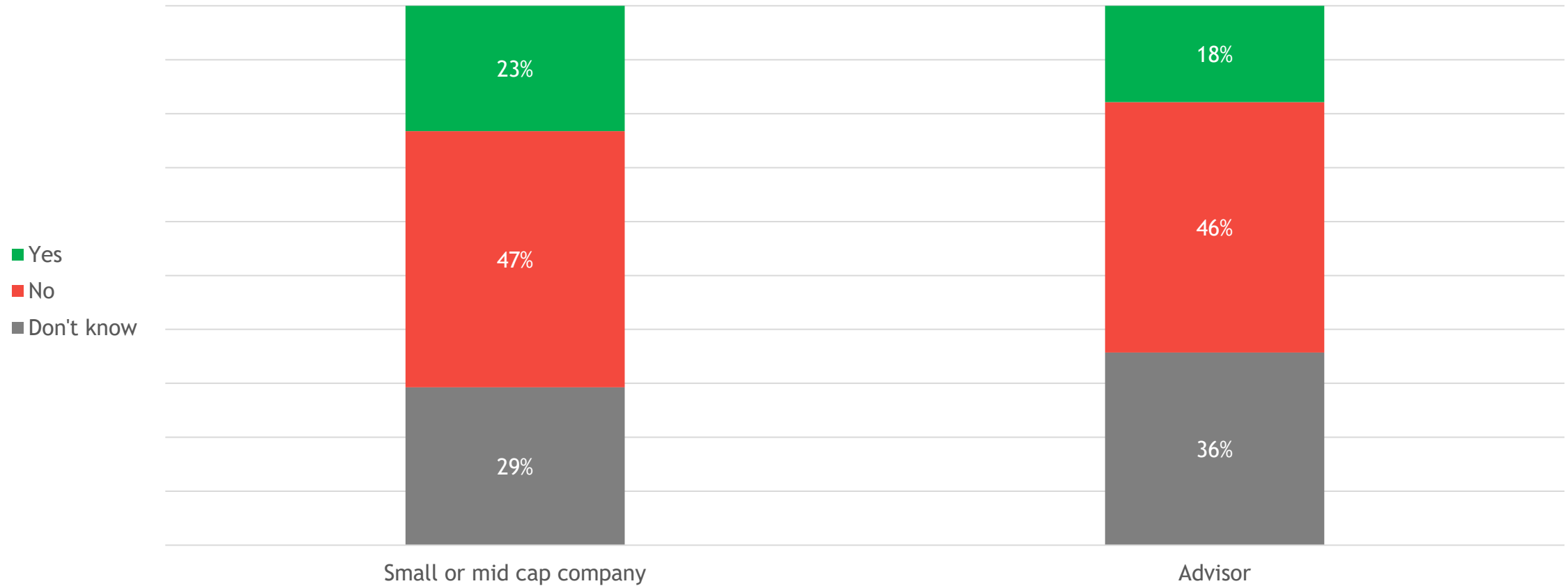
Return to the workplace

In the future, is your organisation more likely to allow flexible working hours?



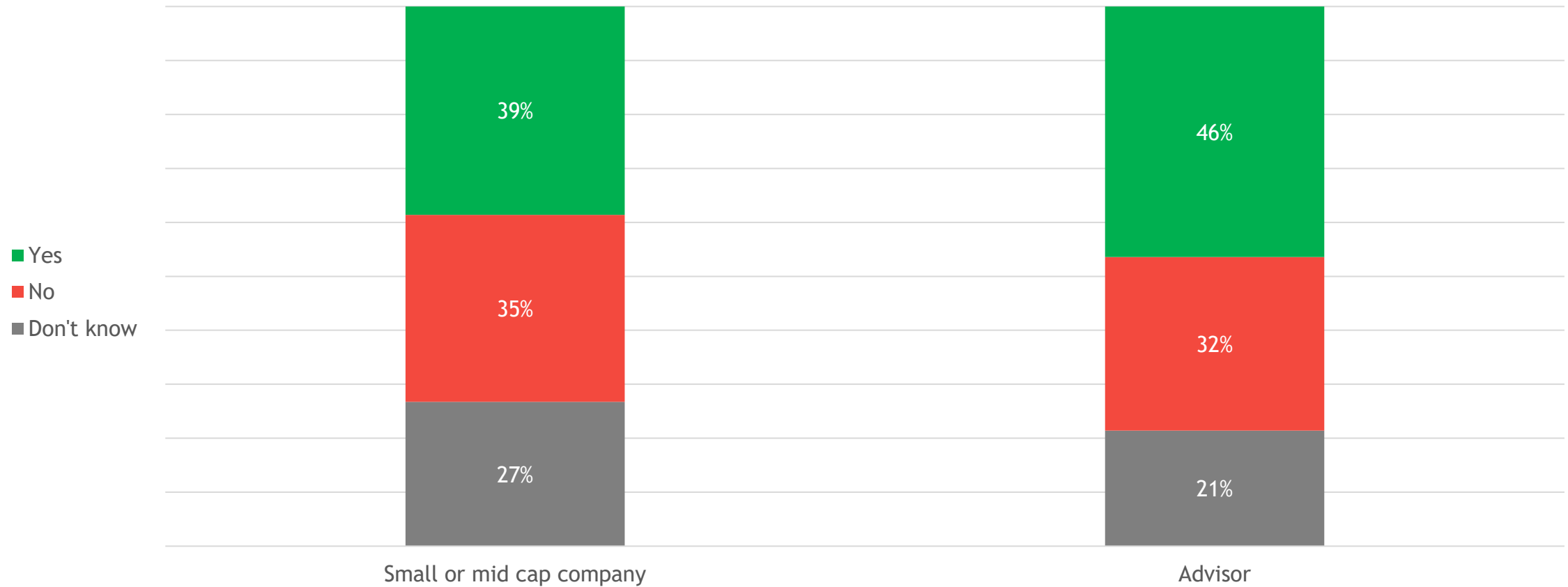
Return to the workplace

Are you updating staff contracts as a result of changed working patterns (e.g. with regards to remote working, flexible hours etc)?



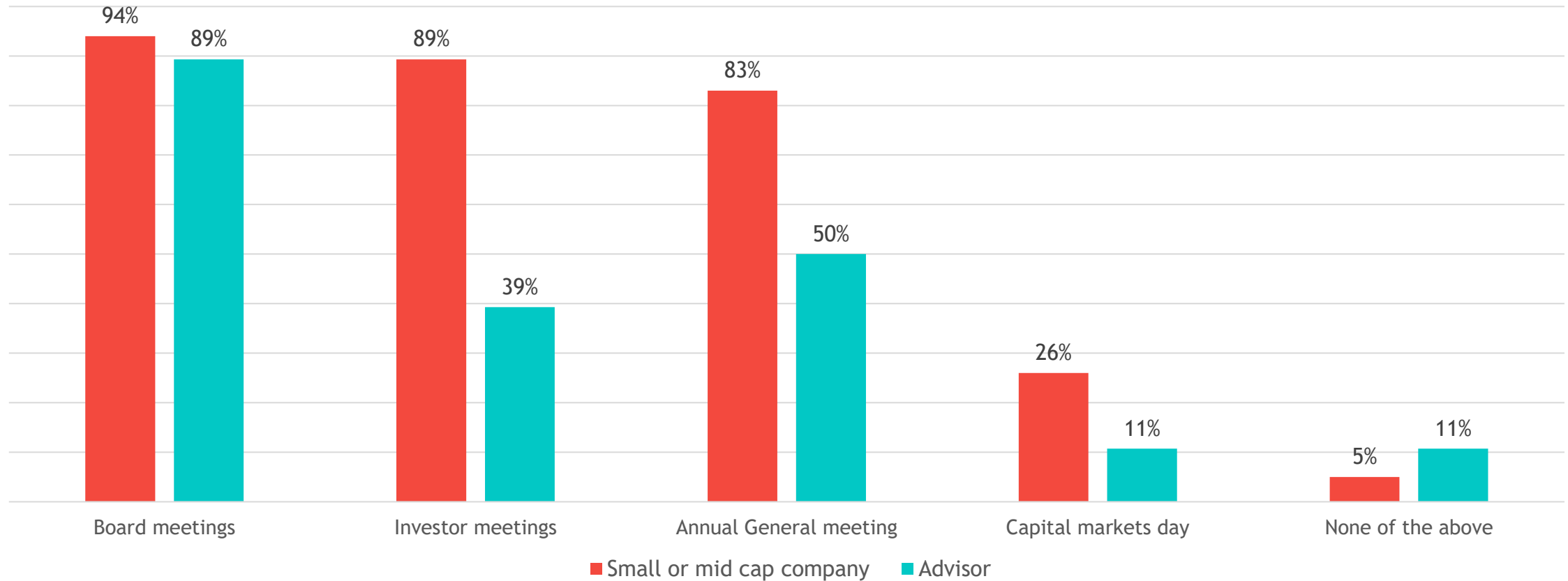
Return to the workplace

If working remotely and/or flexibly are to become more common, have you considered how this may impact diversity and inclusion throughout your organisation?



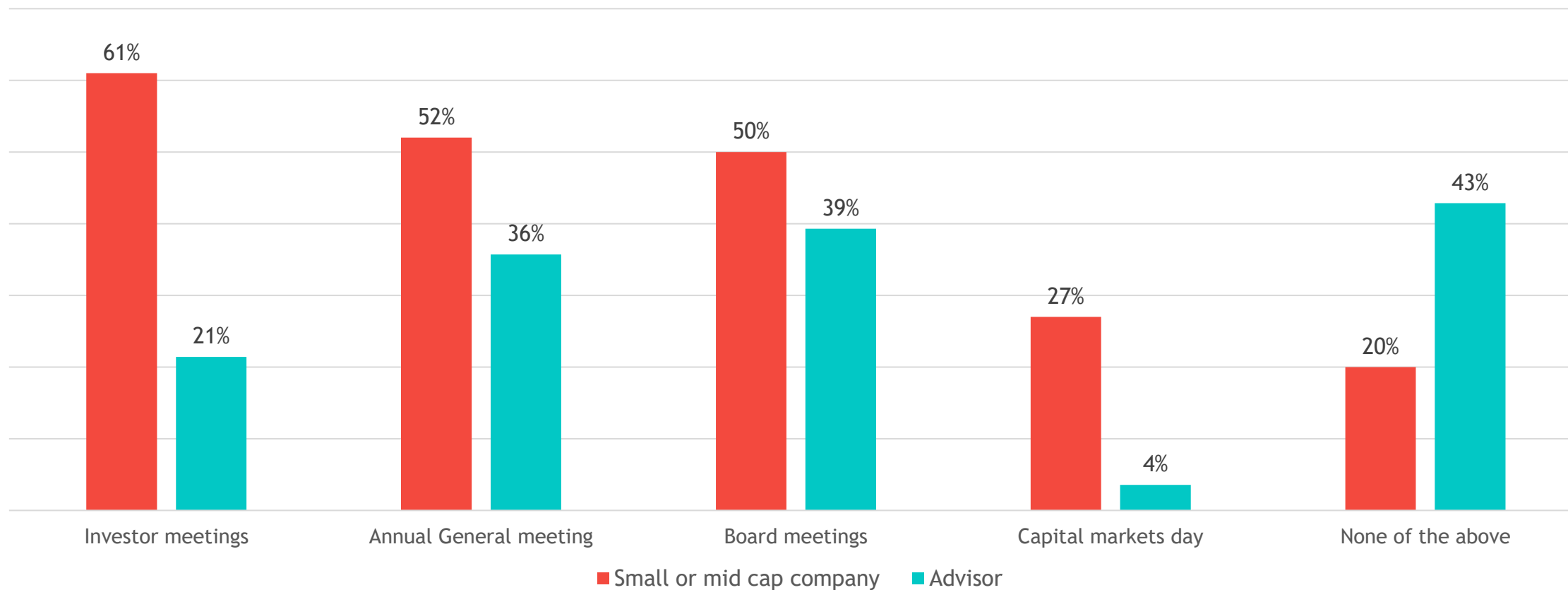
Return to the workplace

Have you held any of these events/meetings online, rather than face-to-face in the past year since the first lockdown began?



Return to the workplace

In the future, would you prefer to hold any of these events/meetings online even if face-to-face is allowed by law/regulation?



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Wave 26, May 2021