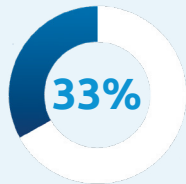


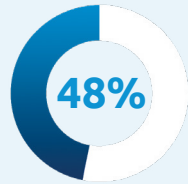
Manchester's small and medium sized businesses are amongst the most confident in the UK.

Our latest survey of the UK's small and medium sized businesses finds that **76%** of those in Manchester say they are in the same or better shape financially compared to the same time last year.

The city's small business owners also say..



are in better shape financially, compared to twelve months ago.



are more confident than this time last year.

They see **coronavirus**, **lower customer demand** and **cash flow** as the biggest obstacles to the year ahead.

Our survey also found that, on average, Manchester SMEs say Coronavirus has cost them each **£952,520** in lost revenue or income.

But their ambition remains undimmed, with over half (**52%**) planning to grow their business nationally in the next year, and a quarter internationally. And it's supporting each other that will help them unlock new opportunities: just under half of Manchester SMEs say their collaboration with local businesses has increased in significance in the last year.

Secura Labels, a specialist manufacturer of self-adhesive labels based in Derbyshire:

☝ [We have] been busy throughout the pandemic; we had a quiet May/June 2020 in which we had four staff on furlough but since August we have luckily been busy ever since and also a few record months in nearly 40 years of trading - so much so, we have invested heavily in new machinery in early 2021.

We are also currently looking to employ a new member of staff but as we are in an area with below average employment we are struggling to get the right people.

To find out how the UK's SMEs are unlocking opportunity during the post-Covid recovery, visit citysprint.uk/collabUK21.



Delivering what matters.

