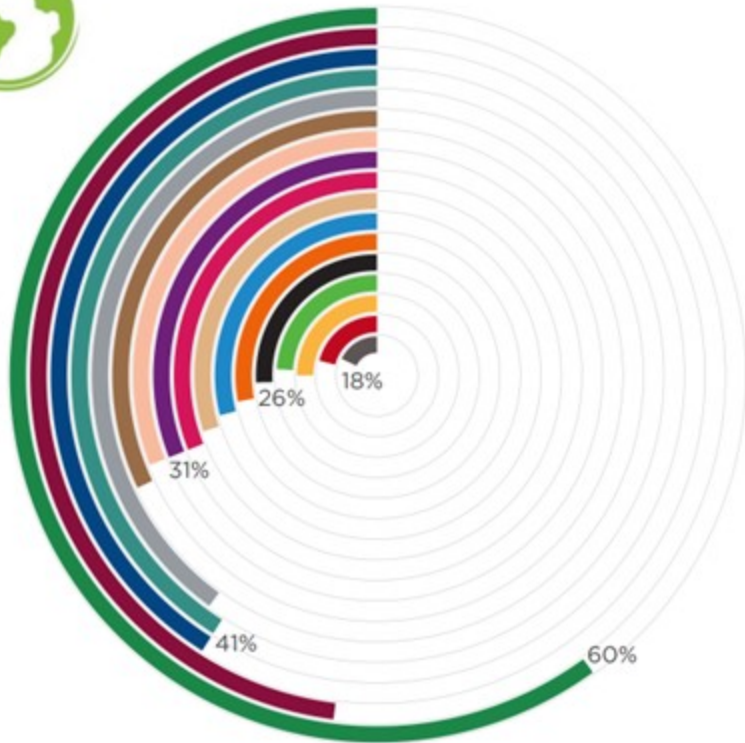


SURVEY INTO COSTS AND PRICES FOR FRESH PRODUCE OPERATORS



PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS



Global Perspective

(North America, South America, Europe, Africa, and Oceania)

The following narrative is based on a Global Coalition of Fresh Produce Survey of industry members which presents preliminary conclusions impacting our supply chain over the past two years and potentially into 2024. Industry respondents (165) included Vegetable Producers, Fruit Producers, Shippers, Packers, Wholesalers and other supply chain partners.

On a global level, organizations within the supply side of the fresh produce industry experienced unprecedented increases in costs during the COVID-19 pandemic regardless of the region of their operation. The increases were led by fertilizer, construction, fuel, shipping, and electricity. While most were

able to increase their selling prices, it was not enough to overcome the increases in production and operating costs leaving approximately 57% of the global industry selling at a loss or breaking even.

Eighty percent of the industry respondents noted they are delaying or forgoing investments in their businesses. For the most part, the produce industry has not received any governmental support during this time of high production and operating costs.

The industry is split as to whether they believe that operating and production costs will subside by the end of 2023.

- **Utilities**
18 percent
- **Audits**
21 percent
- **Storage**
25 percent
- **Plant material**
24 percent
- **Machinery & Equipment**
26 percent
- **Labour**
28 percent
- **Water**
29 percent
- **Land/Building**
30 percent
- **Crop protection**
31 percent
- **Packaging**
31 percent
- **Seeds**
31 percent
- **Palettes**
32 percent
- **Electricity**
40 percent
- **Fuel/gas**
41 percent
- **Shipping**
41 percent
- **Construction**
48 percent
- **Fertilizer**
60 percent