

# HOW ORGANIZATIONS GLOBALLY ARE RESPONDING TO COVID-19

Survey results from internal auditors in 95 countries – Part 1



## Dear Readers,

The impacts of COVID-19 have forced organizations around the world to seek answers to questions they may never have previously imagined. Challenges and opportunities presented by the pandemic require all of the key partners in organizational governance — the governing body, management and risk management, internal audit, and external providers of assurance — to collaborate intelligently, not only to maintain routine operational processes under radically altered circumstances, but to imagine new ways to be resilient and successful.

Thanks to the support of IIA affiliates around the world, this new survey of 1,341 internal auditors from 95 countries provides a global look at how organizations are striving to navigate the turmoil precipitated by the crisis.

Convergence across various disciplines evident within organizations today is creating opportunities for internal audit to strategically partner with management and the governing body, especially with committees of the board. Internal audit offers unique skills and perspectives to analyze control environments and offer solutions involving substantial issues, including governance over new technology, succession planning, business continuity, liquidity reserves, disclosures, supply chains, human capital, stress testing, and fraud, to name a few. Internal audit also can identify and promote new protocols required for today's virtual workforce and global economy.

COVID-19 presents the most rigorous test of organizational continuity and sustainability in our living memory. By identifying changes to the risk landscape and the need for corresponding changes to risk responses, internal audit can exhibit leadership that supports the organization's efforts to move forward.

Internal auditors also can bring new value to their organizations by weighing how the pandemic is affecting the organization's operating model, demonstrating how audit insights can help, and providing assurance over strategies to remain relevant.

I hope results of this global survey provide you with added knowledge to help you successfully navigate through this crisis.

Sincerely,

Jenítha

Jenitha John, CIA, QIAL Senior Vice Chairman of the Board The Institute of Internal Auditors



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# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**Organizations worldwide are adapting** to unprecedented challenges caused by COVID-19, after the World Health Organization declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020. Internal auditors worldwide have seen their organizations react to critical issues related to employee safety, customer needs, short-term resources, and long-term repercussions as they helped their organizations navigate the crisis.

To better understand internal audit's perspective about how organizations are responding to COVID-19, The IIA solicited internal auditor opinions on the short-term and long-term resource challenges and actions taken for their organizations.

Through its widespread global presence and the support of 110 affiliates, The IIA surveyed 1,341 internal auditors in 95 countries about their organizations' financial concerns and strategic responses.

Key observations include:

More than a third of respondents from Africa did not think their organizations had sufficient resources to respond to COVID-19 in the short term, while in North America, Europe, and Asia Pacific, 14% or fewer expressed this concern. For all regions combined, concern averaged 20% (Exhibit 3).

When it comes to COVID-19's effect on their organization's long-term financial viability, internal auditors were highly concerned in Africa (64%), the Middle East (47%), and Asia Pacific (43%). In all regions, concern about long-term financial viability was greater than concern about short-term resources (Exhibit 5).

**Short-term cost reduction** was the most common financial response to COVID-19 by organizations (55%), and nearly half of the respondents said that their employers delayed major initiatives or investments (47%). Reduced operating hours or capacity was also common (41%). A much smaller percentage reported reductions in executive salaries (15%) (Exhibit 6).

**Looking at strategic response,** organizations have focused on conducting detailed assessments of short-term impacts (64%) and revising business continuity plans (59%) (Exhibit 7). In terms of communication with the board, only 31% of North American respondents said special meetings of the board were called to discuss COVID-19 issues, compared to 60% in Europe. However, North America led all regions on providing regular board updates (72%) (Exhibits 7.1 to 7.8).

**Remote work has been implemented** in nearly 90% of respondent organizations. About half have restricted or eliminated travel. More than half added new technology for remote work and related security (Exhibit 8).

**Most organizations have developed** a communication strategy for customers (68%). About half have developed new policies for customer health and safety (Exhibit 9).

# INTRODUCTION

## Coping with COVID-19

Internal auditor opinions about organizational responses to COVID-19 in the areas of financials, strategy, employees, and customers share many similarities. However, in looking closely by region and industry, a nuanced picture emerges of the specific challenges organizations face across the globe. The impact of COVID-

### **Global Participation**

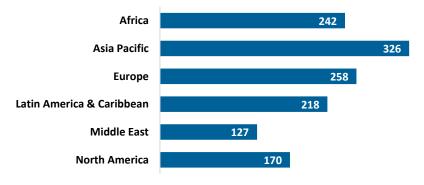
95 countries 1,341 respondents

19 on different regions and countries create unique contexts for internal auditors. Notably, financial impacts appear to be of higher concern in some regions than others. Nevertheless, regions share many connections in their response to the global pandemic.

For this survey project, the highest number of internal auditors participating were from the Asia Pacific region, followed by Europe and Africa. Responses to questions asked in five main areas — resource concerns, financial actions, strategic responses, employee focus, and customer focus — are further detailed in subsequent graphs reflecting the breakdown of results by region and industry. The full report includes additional detailed information for each global region in the appendices. This report brings together the results from the following surveys:

- A global survey conducted from April 28 to May 22, 2020 with 1,171 responses.
- North American surveys conducted from March 19 to 23, 2020 (170 responses), and April 9 to 13, 2020 (401 responses). The majority of North American data in this report was taken from the earlier survey. Therefore, references to overall North American response rates and demographics are based on data from the earlier survey.

**Exhibit 1: Regional Response Rate** 



Note: Q14: What is your independent state/country/dependency/area of sovereignty? The survey for North America was conducted March 19 to 23, 2020 (n = 170). The survey for all other global regions was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 1,171). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit 2: Response Rate for Region and Country/Dependency (Total: 1,341)

		Africa (Total: 2	42)		
Ghana	89	Tanzania	10	The Gambia	1
Zambia	28	Botswana	7	Cote d'Ivoire	1
Nigeria	21	Ethiopia	6	Democratic Republic	
Uganda	18	South Africa	5	of the Congo	1
Zimbabwe	17	Togo	3	Rwanda	1
Malawi	16	Madagascar	2	Sierra Leone	1
Mauritius	11	Senegal	1	Seychelles	1
		Kenya	1	Malta	1
		Asia Pacific (Total	: 326)		
Indonesia	96	Malaysia	15	New Zealand	3
China, Taiwan	59	Sri Lanka	14	Bhutan	1
Philippines	56	South Korea	12	Hong Kong	1
India	38	Bangladesh	4	Mongolia	1
Singapore	21	China	3	Pakistan	1
Singapore	21	Cillia	3	Vietnam	1
		Europe (Total: 2	58)	Violitain	•
Italy	63	Turkey	7	Albania	1
Russia	43	Bulgaria	6	Croatia	=
Spain	<del>4</del> 3	Belgium	5	0.0000	1
Switzerland	27	United Kingdom	5	Hungary	1
France	15	Luxembourg	3	Ireland	1
Latvia	14	Austria	2	Netherlands	1
Sweden	11	Finland	2	Poland	1
Kazakhstan	8	Germany	2	Portugal	1
	8	Greece	2	Serbia	1
Norway		atin America & Caribbea		10)	
• • • •		Guatemala	11 (10tal. 2		•
Colombia	86	Dominican Republic	5	El Salvador	3
Mexico	40	Ecuador	5	Bolivia	2
Brazil	26	Costa Rica	4	Argentina	1
Panama	14	Venezuela	4	Trinidad and Tobago	1
Nicaragua	13	Chile	3		
		Middle East (Total	: 127)		
United Arab Emirates	57	Kuwait	2	Oman	1
Lebanon	28	Algeria	1	Qatar	1
Jordan Maragan	13 10	Djibouti	1	Tunisia	1
Morocco Saudi Arabia	10 8	Egypt	1		
Bahrain	2	Israel	1		
		North America (Tota	<u> </u>		
		Translation of the			

Note: Q14: What is your independent state/country/dependency/area of sovereignty? The survey for North America was conducted March 19 to 23, 2020 (n = 170). The survey for all other global regions was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 1,171). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

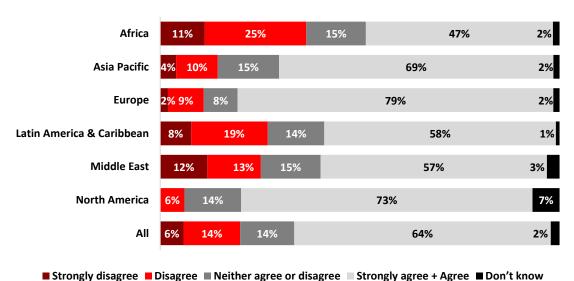
# **RESOURCES AND VIABILITY**

## Short-term vs. long-term outlook

#### Short-term concern

Internal auditors reported varying levels of confidence in their organization's resources and ability to respond to COVID-19 in the short term. The numbers of participants who said their organization did not have sufficient resources to respond ranged from 36% in Africa to just 11% in Europe and 6% in North America. Regions with higher levels of concern also included Latin America and Caribbean (27%) and the Middle East (25%). On average, 20% of respondents said they did not think their employer had sufficient resources to respond to the crisis in the short term (Exhibit 3).

Exhibit 3: Opinion on Organization Having Sufficient Resources to Respond to COVID-19 - All

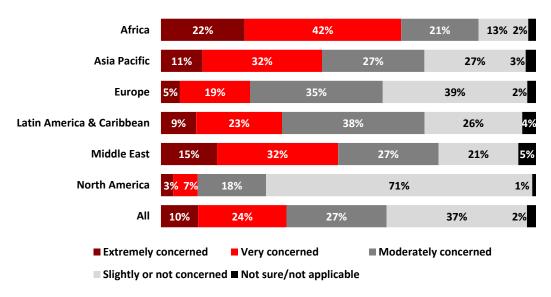


Note: Q11.1: Indicate your level of agreement: The organization has sufficient resources to respond to COVID-19. The survey for North America was conducted March 19 to 23, 2020 (n = 148). The survey for all other global regions was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 1,171). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

## Long-term concern

In terms of long-term financial viability as a result of COVID-19, regions with the highest percentage of respondents who were very or extremely concerned include Africa (64%), the Middle East (47%) and Asia Pacific (43%) (Exhibit 4).

Exhibit 4: Opinion on Organization's Long-term Financial Viability as a Result of COVID-19 - All



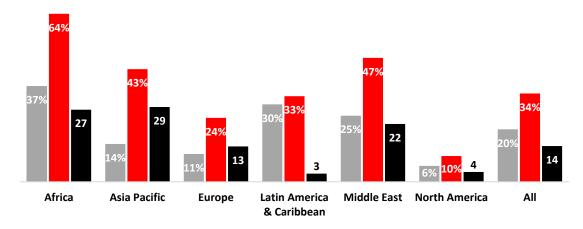
*Note:* Q12: What is your level of concern about the long-term financial viability of your organization as a result of COVID-19? The survey for North America was conducted April 9 to 13, 2020 (*n* = 401). The survey for all other global regions was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 1,171). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

## Long-term financial viability is more an issue than short-term response

For all regions, worries about long-term financial viability outpaces concern over a lack of short-term resources for COVID-19 response. The highest percentage point differences are for Asia Pacific (29), Africa (27), and the Middle East (22) (Exhibit 5).

# Exhibit 5: Short-term vs. Long-term Financial Impacts of COVID-19 (High/Very High Concern)

- Short-term resource sufficiency (disagree or strongly disagree)
- Long-term financial viability (very or extremely concerned)
- Percentage point difference



Note: Q11.1: Indicate your level of agreement: The organization has sufficient resources to respond to COVID-19. Q12: What is your level of concern about the long-term financial viability of your organization as a result of COVID-19? The survey for North America was conducted April 9 to 13, 2020 (n = 148 for Q11.1. n = 401 for Q12.). The survey for all other global regions was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 1,171). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

# **FINANCIAL ACTIONS**

## Global similarities

#### Focused on cost reduction

**Overall, the most common** financial responses have been short-term cost reduction strategies (55%), delayed initiatives or investments (47%), and reduced operating hours or capacity (41%) (Exhibit 6). Responses are generally similar across regions, with some exceptions for "reduced operating hours or capacity" (Africa); "closed offices, factories, or locations" (North America); and "reduced staff hours or salaries" (Middle East) (Exhibits 6.1 to 6.10).

**Explored short-term cost reduction strategies** 55% Delayed major 2020 initiatives and/or investments Reduced operating hours or capacity 41% Closed offices, factories, locations, etc. 32% **Explored long-term cost reduction strategies** 31% Reduced staff hours or salaries\* 23% Reduced executive salaries\* 15% Adjusted earnings guidance to investors 13% Implemented temporary layoffs 12% Implemented permanent layoffs\* 6% Other None Not sure/not applicable 3%

Exhibit 6: Financial Response to COVID-19 - All

*Note:* Q1: Which financial actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey for North America was conducted March 19 to 23, 2020 (n = 170). The survey for all other global regions was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 1,171). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020. \*This question was not included in the North America survey, so the average does not include North America.

**Exhibit 6.1: Explored Short-term Cost Reduction Strategies** 

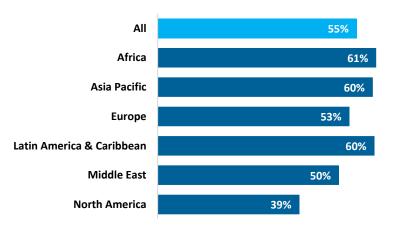


Exhibit 6.2: Delayed Major 2020 Initiatives or Investments

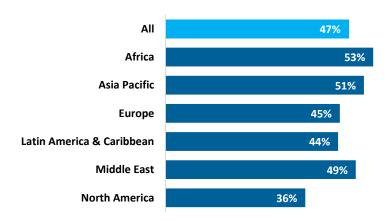


Exhibit 6.3: Reduced Operating Hours or Capacity

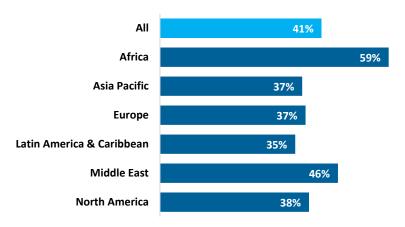


Exhibit 6.4: Closed Offices, Factories, Locations, Etc.

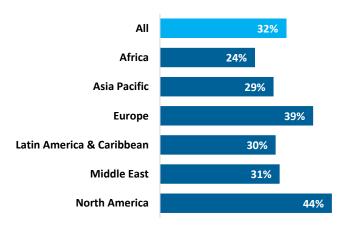


Exhibit 6.5: Explored Long-term Cost Reduction Strategies

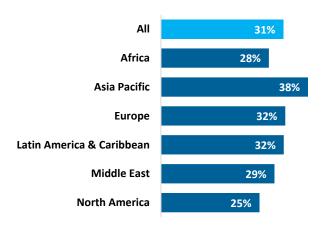
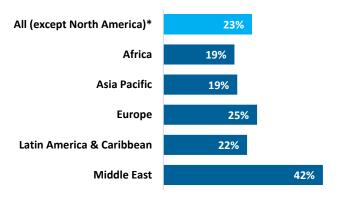
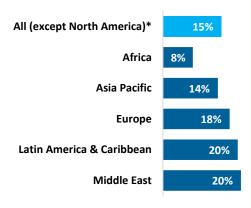


Exhibit 6.6: Reduced Staff Hours or Salaries\*



Note: Q1: Which financial actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey for all regions other than North America was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 1,171). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020. \*This question was not included in the survey for North America, so no results from North America are available.

Exhibit 6.7: Reduced Executive Salaries\*



*Note:* Q1: Which financial actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey for global regions other than North America was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 1,171). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020. \*This question was not included in the survey for North America, so no results from North America are available.

Exhibit 6.8: Adjusted Earnings Guidance to Investors

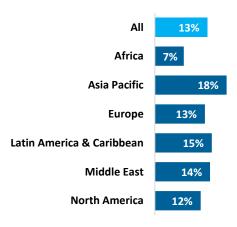
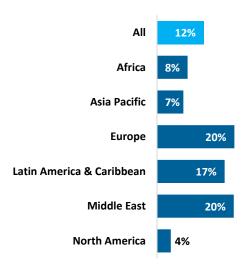
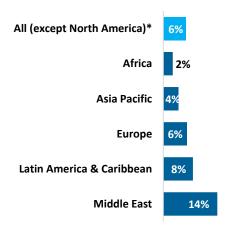


Exhibit 6.9: Implemented Temporary Layoffs\*



Note: Q1: Which financial actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey for North America was conducted March 19 to 23, 2020 (n = 170). The survey for all other global regions was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 1,171). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020. \*In the North America survey, the response option was "implemented layoffs" (not specifying whether they were temporary or permanent).

Exhibit 6.10: Implemented Permanent Layoffs\*



Note: Q1: Which financial actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey for global regions other than North America was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n=1,171). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020. \*This question was not included in the survey for North America, so no results from North America is available.

# STRATEGIC RESPONSES

A focus on short-term impact and business continuity

## Regional differences on board interaction

Across regions, most organizations have conducted detailed assessments of short-term impacts (64%) and revised business continuity plans (59%) (Exhibit 7). The most notable differences between regions relate to board communication. More internal auditors in Europe and North America said COVID-19 updates were provided to the board, while higher percentages of auditors in Europe and Latin America and Caribbean indicated that a special meeting of the board was held to discuss issues. More North American auditors reported evaluating third-party relationships (Exhibits 7.1 to 7.8).

Detailed assessment of short-term impact

Business continuity plan revised

COVID-19 updates provided to the board

Strategic plan reviewed with management

Special meeting of the board to discuss issues

Detailed assessment of long-term impact

Scenarios tested for response capabilities

Third-party relationships evaluated

Other

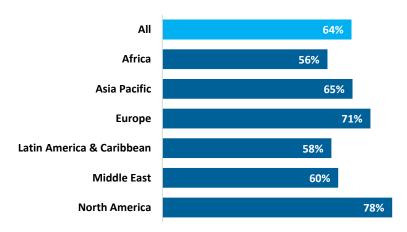
None

None

Not sure/not applicable

Exhibit 7: Strategic Response to COVID-19 - All

Exhibit 7.1: Detailed Assessment of Short-term Impact



**Exhibit 7.2: Business Continuity Plan Revised** 

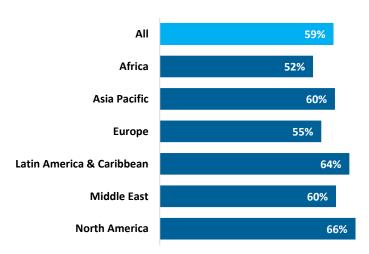


Exhibit 7.3: COVID-19 Updates Provided to the Board

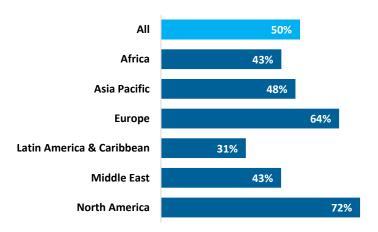


Exhibit 7.4: Strategic Plan Reviewed with Management

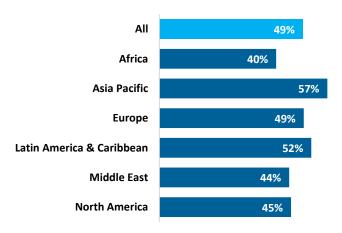


Exhibit 7.5: Special Meeting of the Board to Discuss Issues

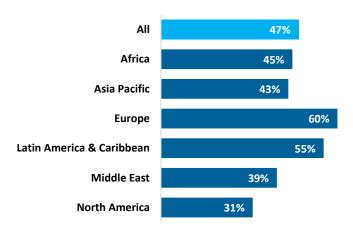


Exhibit 7.6: Detailed Assessment of Long-term Impact

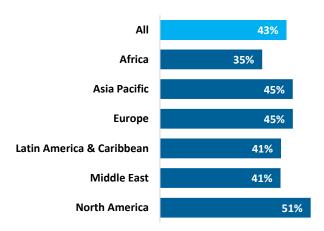
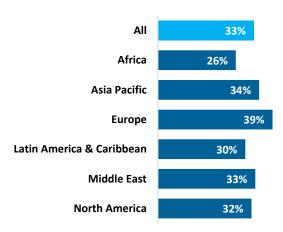
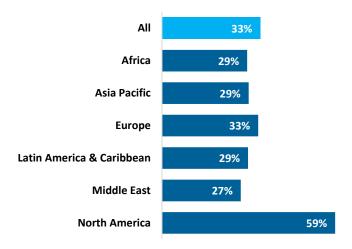


Exhibit 7.7: Scenarios Tested for Response Capability



**Exhibit 7.8: Third-party Relationships Evaluated** 



# **EMPLOYEE-FOCUSED RESPONSES**

## Almost all organizations are making adaptations

## Remote work arrangements are common

**Nearly 90% say their organizations** have implemented remote work for employees. More than half have restricted travel, while slightly less than half have eliminated travel altogether (Exhibit 8).

Remote work arrangements

New policies for employee health and safety\*

New technology for remote work and related security\*

Travel restricted

Communication strategy for key employees

Travel eliminated

Other

None\*

None\*

Not sure/not applicable

1%

Exhibit 8: Employee-focused Response to COVID-19 - All

*Note:* Q3: Which employee-focused actions has your organization taken in response to COVID-19? The survey for North America was conducted March 19 to 23, 2020 (n = 170). The survey for all other global regions was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 1,171). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020. \*The "none" option was not included in the North America survey, so the average for "none" does not include North America.

**Exhibit 8.1: Remote Work Arrangements** 

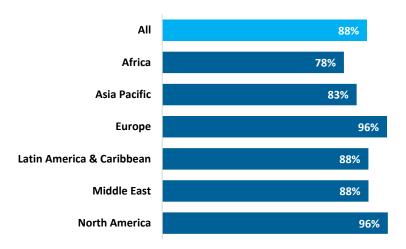


Exhibit 8.2: New Policies for Employee Health and Safety

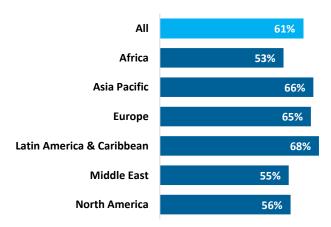
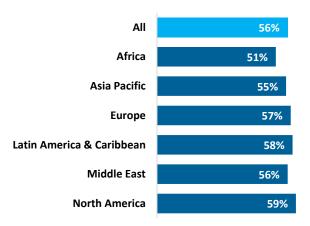


Exhibit 8.3: New Technology for Remote Work and Related Security



**Exhibit 8.4: Travel Restricted** 

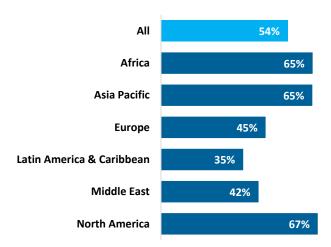
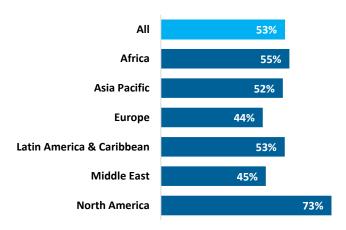
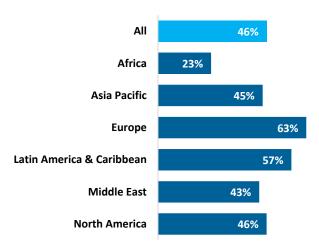


Exhibit 8.5: Communication Strategy for Key Employees



**Exhibit 8.6: Travel Eliminated** 



# **CUSTOMER-FOCUSED RESPONSES**

New customer communication strategies are common

## About half have new policies for health and safety

**Most organizations have developed** a communication strategy for customers (68%). About half have developed new policies for customer health and safety or communication strategies for key stakeholders. About 40% have also developed "new services related to COVID-19" (Exhibit 9). The most notable difference between regions is seen in customer communication strategies, with North American organizations focusing on this the most (82%) (Exhibits 9.1 to 9.4).

Communication strategy for customers

Communication strategy for key stakeholders\*

New policies for customer health and safety

New services related to COVID-19\*

Other

2%

None

4%

Not sure/not applicable

7%

Exhibit 9: Customer-focused Response to COVID-19 - All

Note: Q4: Which customer-focused actions has your organization taken in response to COVID-19? The survey for North America was conducted March 19 to 23, 2020 (n = 170). The survey for all other global regions was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 1,171). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020. \*This question was not included in the North America survey, so the average does not include North America.

Exhibit 9.1: Communication Strategy for Customers

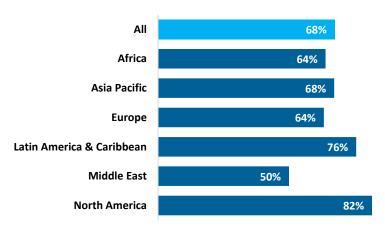
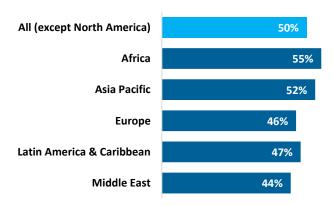


Exhibit 9.2: Communication Strategy for Key Stakeholders\*



Note: Q4: Which customer-focused actions has your organization taken in response to COVID-19? The survey for North America was conducted March 19 to 23, 2020 (n = 170). The survey for all other global regions was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 1,171). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020. \*This question was not included in the survey for North America, so no results from North America are available.

Exhibit 9.3: New Policies for Customer Health and Safety

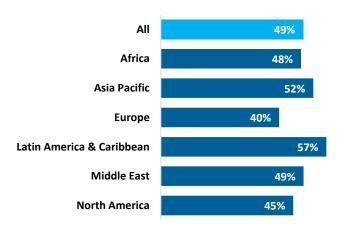
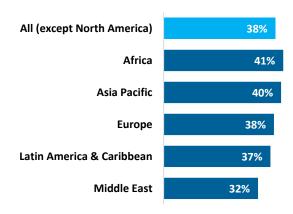


Exhibit 9.4: New Services Related to COVID-19\*

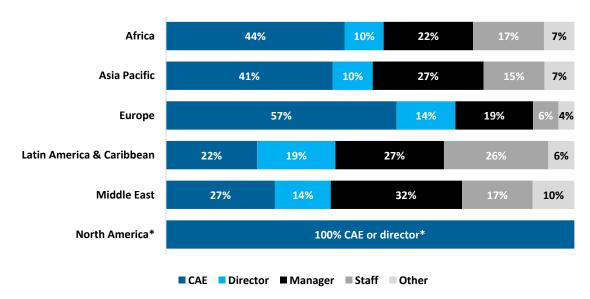


Note: Q4: Which customer-focused actions has your organization taken in response to COVID-19? The survey for North America was conducted March 19 to 23, 2020 (n = 170). The survey for all other global regions was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 1,171). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020. \*This question was not included in the survey for North America, so no results from North America are available.

# **DEMOGRAPHICS**

## Global summaries

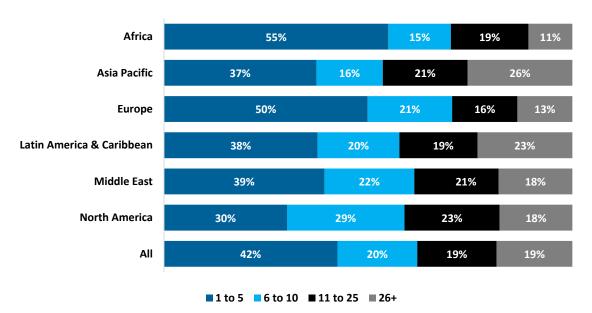
More detailed information about regional demographics is provided in the appendices for each region.



**Exhibit 10: Internal Audit Position - All** 

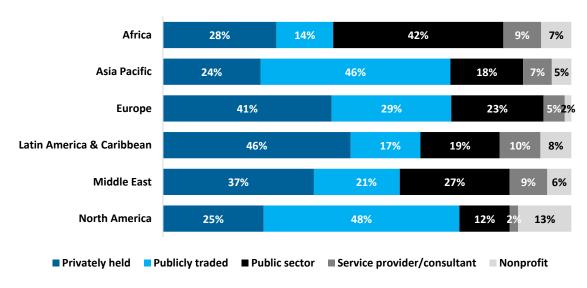
Note: Q16: What is your current internal audit position? CAE = Chief audit executive. The survey for North America was conducted March 19 to 23, 2020 (n = 146). The survey for all other global regions was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 1,171). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020. \*The North America survey was only distributed to CAEs and directors. The question about internal audit position was not included.

**Exhibit 11: Internal Audit Function Size** 



Note: Q17: What is the size of your internal audit function? The survey for North America was conducted March 19 to 23, 2020 (n = 146). The survey for all other global regions was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 1,171). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

**Exhibit 12: Organization Type - All** 



Note: Q15: Which best describes the organization for which you currently work? The survey for North America was conducted March 19 to 23, 2020 (n = 146). The survey for all other global regions was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 1,131). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

## Industry groups

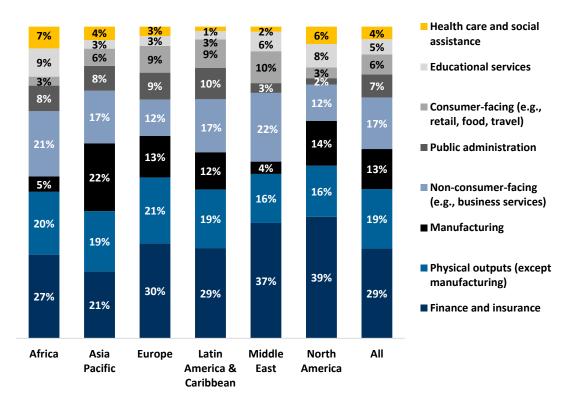
To provide additional context for understanding survey results, responses were analyzed by industry group for the regional appendices (Exhibit 13). The survey used NAICS industry categories, which were combined into groups with similar characteristics. Some industries were kept as stand-alone categories because of their relatively high response rate, i.e., finance and insurance, manufacturing,

## **Industry breakouts**

The appendices at the end of this report provide differences in responses by industry group for each global region.

and public administration. In addition, educational services and health care/social assistance were kept separate because of their unique COVID-19 concerns (Exhibit 14).

These industry breakouts are provided in the regional appendices at the end of this report.



**Exhibit 13: Industry Groups** 

*Note:* Q19: What is the primary industry classification of the organization for which you work (or your primary client if you are a service provider)? Industry categories are based on the NAICS ((North American Industry Classification System). Industries were combined into groups with similar characteristics related to COVID-19. The survey for North America was conducted March 19 to 23, 2020 (n = 146). The survey for all other global regions was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 1,171). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

#### **Exhibit 14: Industry Groups**

#### **Description of Industry Groups**

Consumer-facing (e.g., retail, food, travel)

Arts, entertainment, and recreation; retail trade; accommodation and food services

#### **Educational services**

#### Finance and insurance

#### Health care and social assistance

#### Manufacturing

#### Non-consumer-facing (e.g., business services)

Other services (except public administration); professional, scientific, and technical services; real estate, rental and leasing; information; wholesale trade; management of companies and enterprises; administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services

#### Physical outputs (except manufacturing)

Utilities; mining, quarrying, oil/gas extraction; transportation and warehousing; construction; agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting

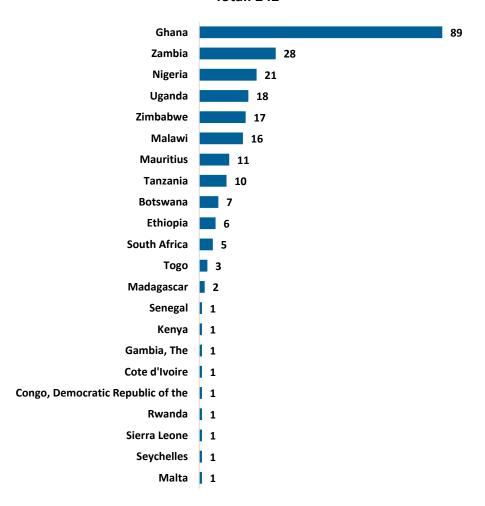
#### **Public administration**

Note: Industry categories are based on the NAICS (North American Industry Classification System) https://www.naics.com/search-naics-codes-by-industry/. Some industries received enough responses to be analyzed independently, while other industries were combined into groups with similar characteristics.

# **APPENDIX A: AFRICA**

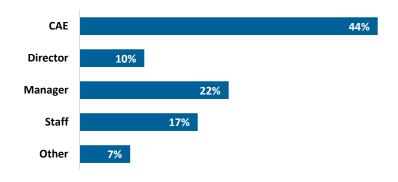
This appendix provides demographic information and responses for each survey question covered in the report for The IIA's Africa region.

Exhibit A.1: Response Rate per Country - Africa Total: 242



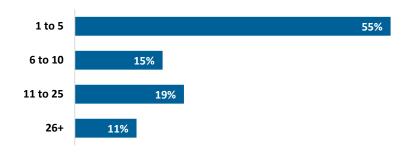
Note: Q14: What is your independent state/country/dependency/area of sovereignty? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020. COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020. n = 242.

**Exhibit A.2: Internal Audit Position - Africa** 



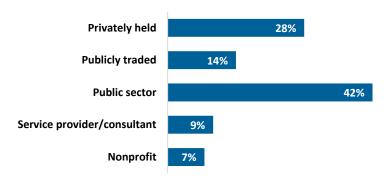
*Note*: Q16: What is your current internal audit position? CAE = Chief audit executive. The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 242). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

**Exhibit A.3: Internal Audit Function Size - Africa** 



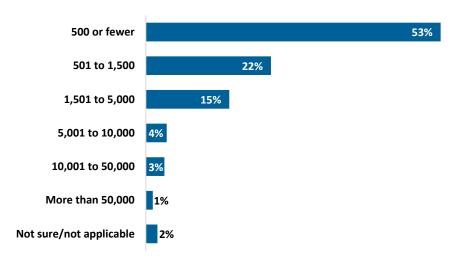
*Note:* Q17: What is the size of your internal audit function? CAE = Chief audit executive. Survey conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 242). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

**Exhibit A.4: Organization Type - Africa** 



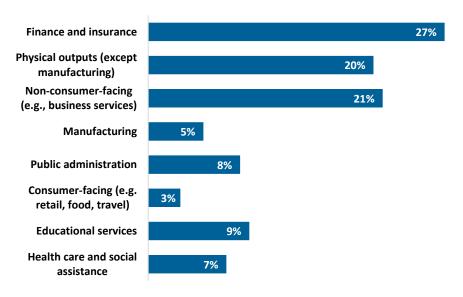
*Note:* Q15: Which best describes the organization for which you currently work? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 238). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

**Exhibit A.5: Organization Size - Africa** 



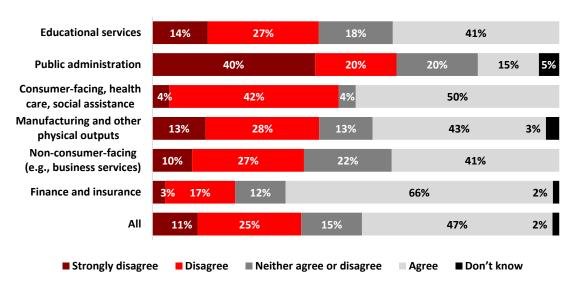
*Note:* Q18: What is the size of the organization for which you currently work? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 242). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

**Exhibit A.6: Industry Group - Africa** 



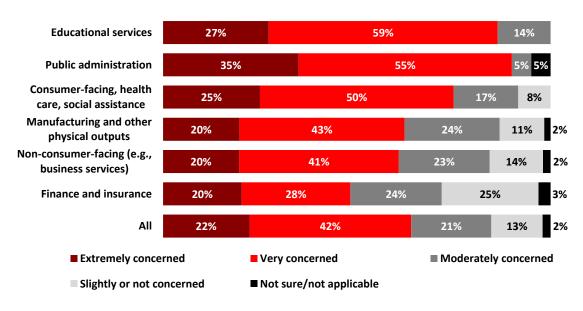
*Note:* Q19: What is the primary industry classification of the organization for which you work (or your primary client if you are a service provider)? Industry categories are based on the NAICS (North American Industry Classification System). Industries were combined into groups with similar characteristics related to COVID-19. The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 242). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit A.7: Opinion on Organization Having Sufficient Resources to Respond to COVID-19 - Africa



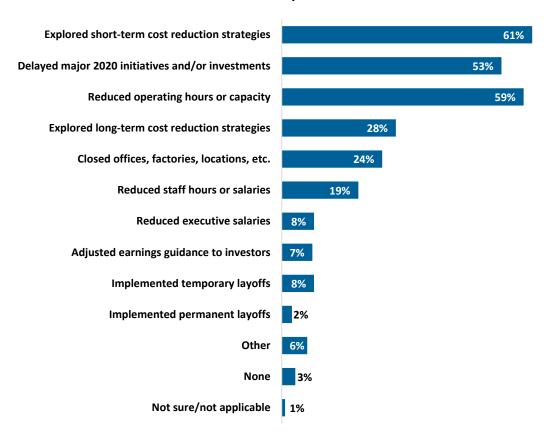
*Note:* Q11.1: Indicate your level of agreement: The organization has sufficient resources to respond to COVID-19. The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (*n* = 242). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit A.8: Opinion on Organization's Long-term Financial Viability as a Result of COVID-19 - Africa



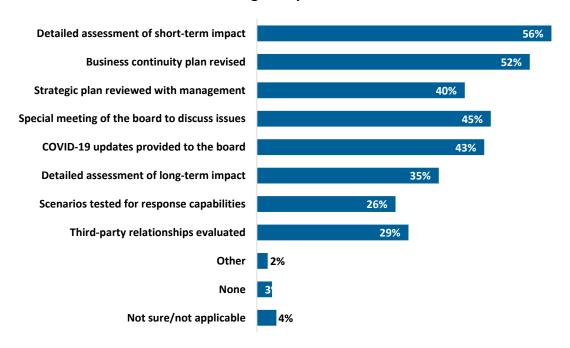
*Note:* Q12: What is your level of concern about the long-term financial viability of your organization as a result of COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 242). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit A.9: Financial Response to COVID-19 - Africa



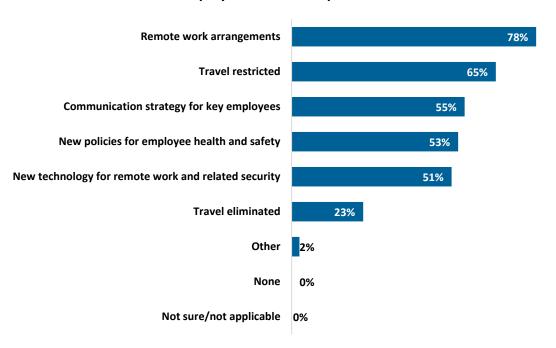
Note: Q1: Which financial actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 242). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit A.10: Strategic Response to COVID-19 - Africa



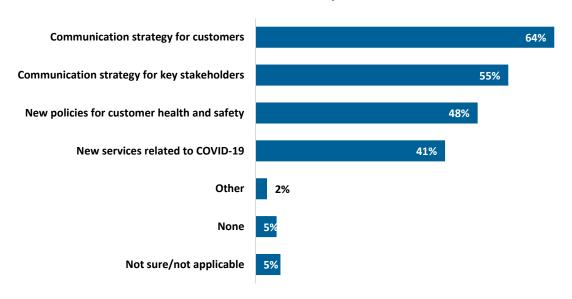
Note: Q2: Which strategic actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 242). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit A.11: Employee-focused Response to COVID-19 - Africa



*Note*: Q3: Which employee-focused actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (*n* = 242). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit A.12: Customer-focused Response to COVID-19 - Africa

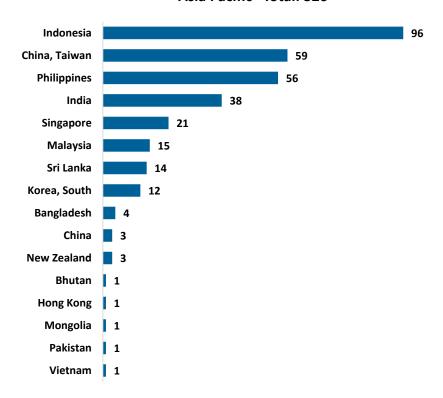


Note: Q4: Which customer-focused actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 242). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

## **APPENDIX B: ASIA PACIFIC**

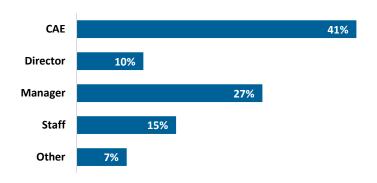
**This appendix provides** demographic information and responses for each survey question covered in the report for The IIA's Asia Pacific region.

Exhibit B.1: Response Rate per Country/Dependency - Asia Pacific Total: 326



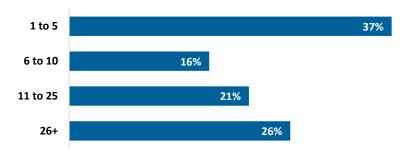
Note: Q14: What is your independent state/country/dependency/area of sovereignty? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 326). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit B.2: Internal Audit Position - Asia Pacific



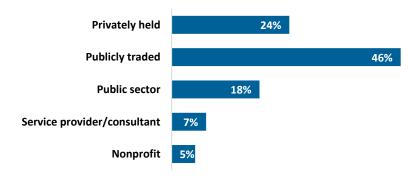
*Note:* Q16: What is your current internal audit position? CAE = Chief audit executive. The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 326). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit B.3: Internal Audit Function Size Asia Pacific



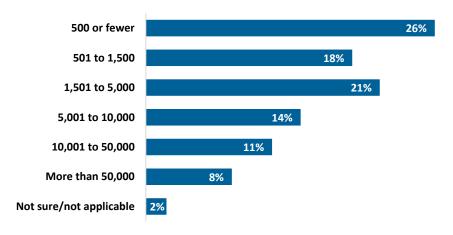
Note: Q17: What is the size of your internal audit function? CAE = Chief audit executive. The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 326). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

**Exhibit B.4: Organization Type - Asia Pacific** 



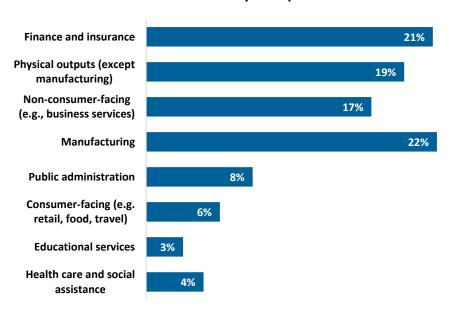
*Note:* Q15: Which best describes the organization for which you currently work? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 314). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

**Exhibit B.5: Organization Size - Asia Pacific** 



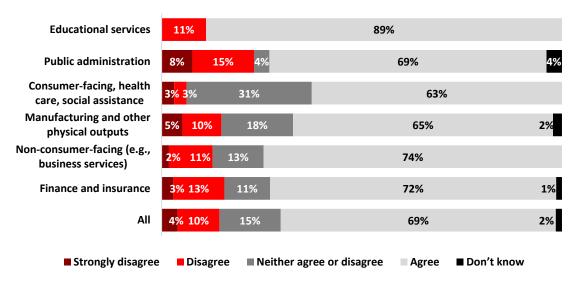
*Note:* Q18: What is the size of the organization for which you currently work? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 326). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

**Exhibit B.6: Industry Group - Asia Pacific** 



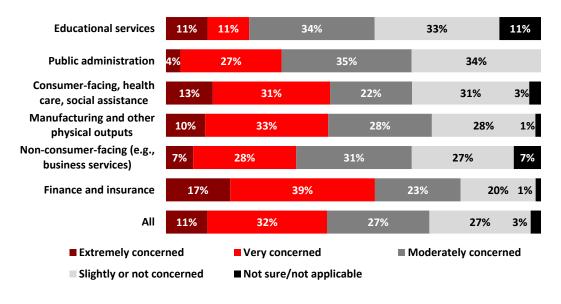
Note: Q19: What is the primary industry classification of the organization for which you work (or your primary client if you are a service provider)? Industry categories are based on the NAICS (North American Industry Classification System). Industries were combined into groups with similar characteristics related to COVID-19. The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 326). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit B.7: Opinion on Organization Having Sufficient Resources to Respond to COVID-19 - Asia Pacific



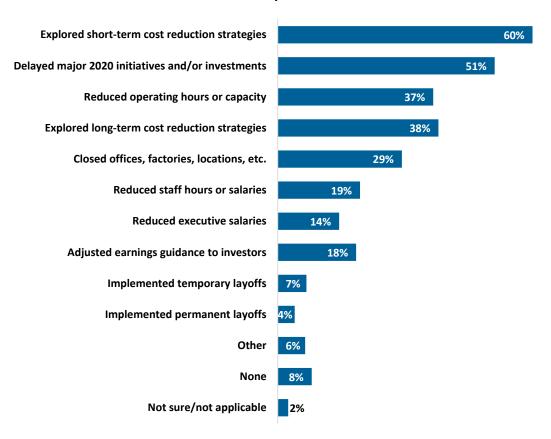
Note: Q11: Indicate your level of agreement: The organization has sufficient resources to respond to COVID-19. The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 326). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit B.8: Opinion on Organization's Long-term Financial Viability as a Result of COVID-19 - Asia Pacific



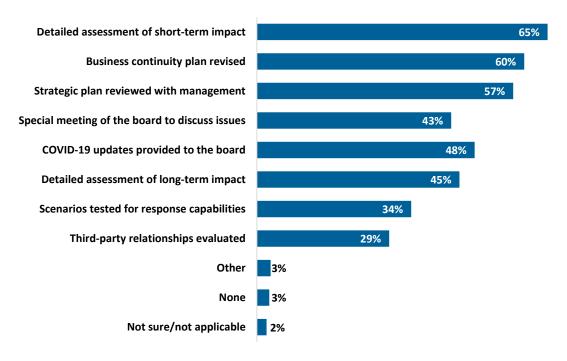
Note: Q12: What is your level of concern about the long-term financial viability of your organization as a result of COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 326). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit B.9: Financial Response to COVID-19 - Asia Pacific



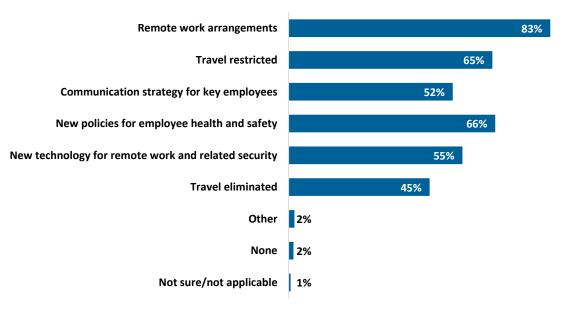
Note: Q1: Which financial actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 326). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit B.10: Strategic Response to COVID-19 - Asia Pacific



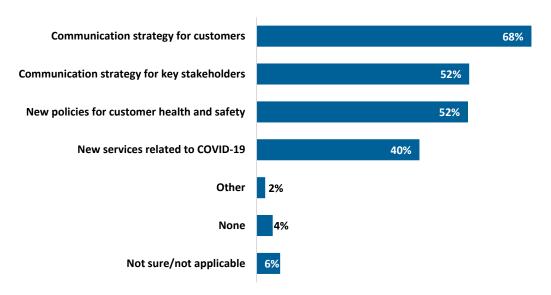
Note: Q2: Which strategic actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 326). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit B.11: Employee-focused Response to COVID-19 - Asia Pacific



Note: Q3: Which employee-focused actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 326). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit B.12: Customer-focused Response to COVID-19 - Asia Pacific

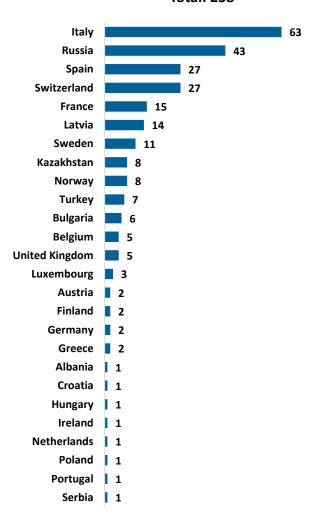


Note: Q4: Which customer-focused actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 326). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

## **APPENDIX C: EUROPE**

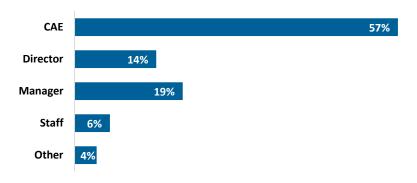
This appendix provides demographic information and responses for each survey question covered in the report for The IIA's Europe region.

Exhibit C.1: Europe Response Rate per Country
Total: 258



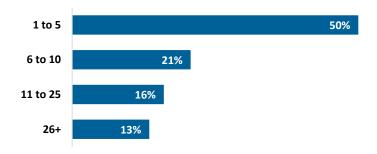
*Note:* Q14: What is your independent state/country/dependency/area of sovereignty? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 258). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

**Exhibit C.2: Internal Audit Position - Europe** 



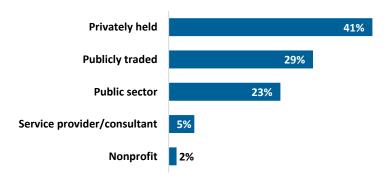
*Note:* Q16: What is your current internal audit position? CAE = Chief audit executive. The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 258). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

**Exhibit C.3: Internal Audit Function Size - Europe** 



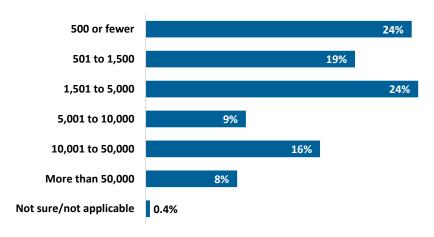
*Note:* Q17: What is the size of your internal audit function? CAE = Chief audit executive. Survey conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 258). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

**Exhibit C.4: Organization Type - Europe** 



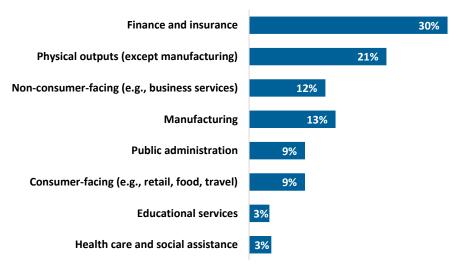
*Note:* Q15: Which best describes the organization for which you currently work? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 250). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

**Exhibit C.5: Organization Size - Europe** 



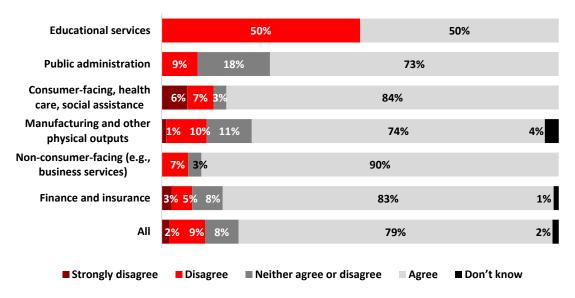
*Note:* Q18: What is the size of the organization for which you currently work? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 258). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

**Exhibit C.6: Industry Group - Europe** 



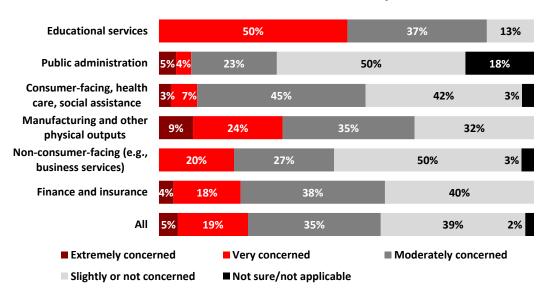
Note: Q19: What is the primary industry classification of the organization for which you work (or your primary client if you are a service provider)? Industry categories are based on the NAICS (North American Industry Classification System). Industries were combined into groups with similar characteristics related to COVID-19. Survey conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 258). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit C.7: Opinion on Organization Having Sufficient Resources to Respond to COVID-19 - Europe



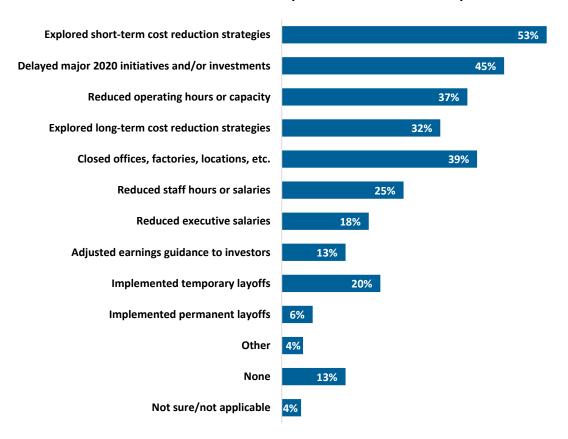
Note: Q11.1: Indicate your level of agreement: The organization has sufficient resources to respond to COVID-19. The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 258). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit C.8: Opinion on Organization's Long-term Financial Viability as a Result of COVID-19 - Europe



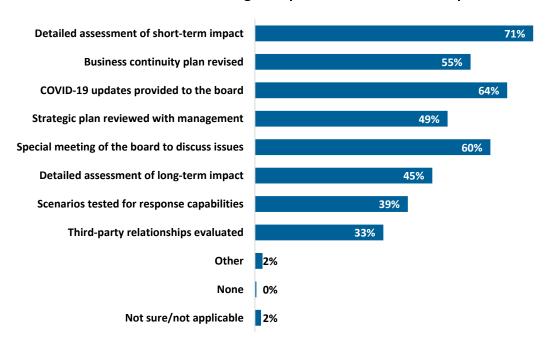
Note: Q12: What is your level of concern about the long-term financial viability of your organization as a result of COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 258). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit C.9: Financial Response to COVID-19 - Europe



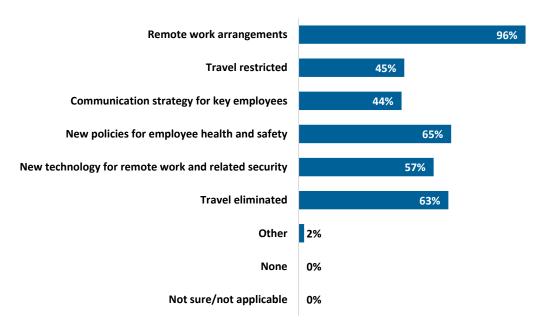
Note: Q1: Which financial actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 258). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit C.10: Strategic Response to COVID-19 - Europe



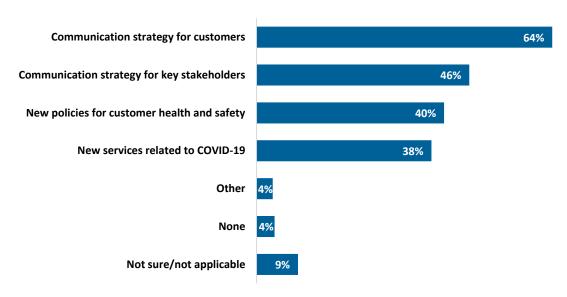
Note: Q2: Which strategic actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 258). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit C.11: Employee-focused Response to COVID-19 - Europe



Note: Q3: Which employee-focused actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 258). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit C.12: Customer-focused Response to COVID-19 - Europe

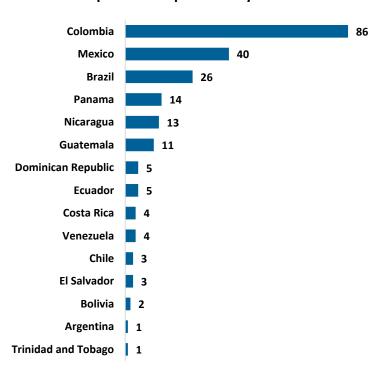


Note: Q4: Which customer-focused actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 258). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

# APPENDIX D: LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

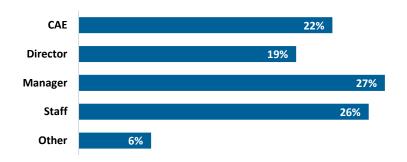
This appendix provides demographic information and responses for each survey question covered in the report for The IIA's Latin America and Caribbean region.

Exhibit D.1: Latin America & Caribbean Response Rate per Country Total: 218



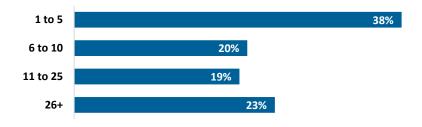
Note: Q14: What is your independent state/country/dependency/area of sovereignty? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 218). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020. IIA Latin America & Caribbean region only.

Exhibit D.2: Internal Audit Position - Latin America & Caribbean



*Note*: Q16: What is your current internal audit position? CAE = Chief audit executive. The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 218). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit D.3: Internal Audit Function Size -Latin America & Caribbean



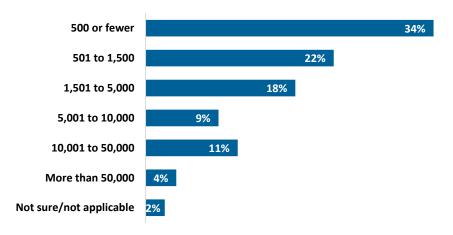
Note: Q17: What is the size of your internal audit function? CAE = Chief audit executive. The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 218). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit D.4: Organization Type -Latin America & Caribbean



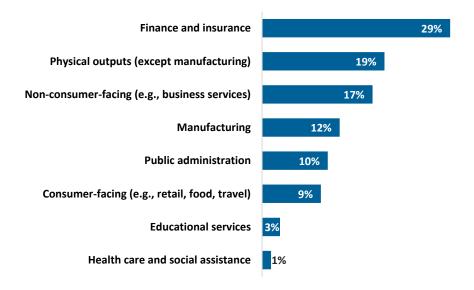
*Note*: Q15: Which best describes the organization for which you currently work? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 218). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit D.5: Organization Size - Latin America & Caribbean



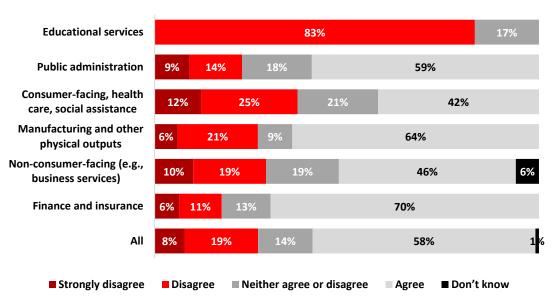
*Note:* Q18: What is the size of the organization for which you currently work? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 218). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit D.6: Industry Group - Latin America & Caribbean



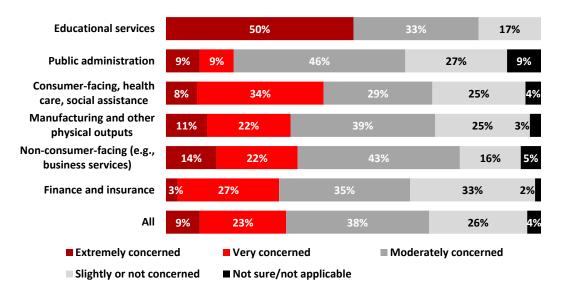
Note: Q19: What is the primary industry classification of the organization for which you work (or your primary client if you are a service provider)? Industry categories are based on the NAICS (North American Industry Classification System). Industries were combined into groups with similar characteristics related to COVID-19. Survey conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 218). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit D.7: Opinion on Organization Having Sufficient Resources to Respond to COVID-19 - Latin America & Caribbean



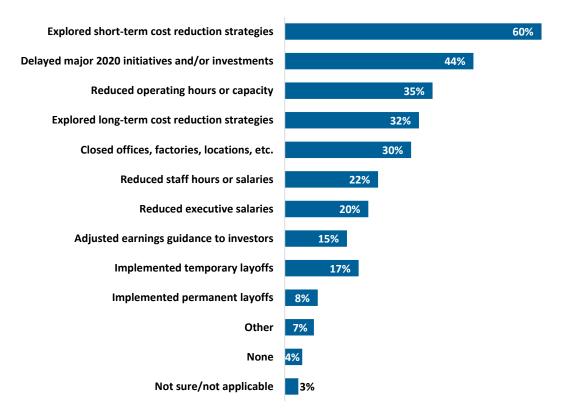
*Note:* Q11.1: Indicate your level of agreement: The organization has sufficient resources to respond to COVID-19. The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (*n* = 218). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit D.8: Opinion on Organization's Long-term Financial Viability as a Result of COVID-19 - Latin America & Caribbean



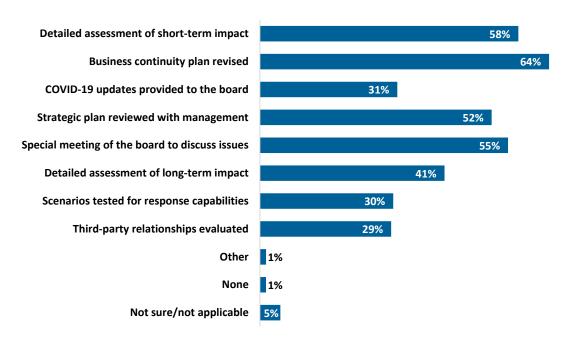
Note: Q12: What is your level of concern about the long-term financial viability of your organization as a result of COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 218). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit D.9: Financial Response to COVID-19 - Latin America & Caribbean



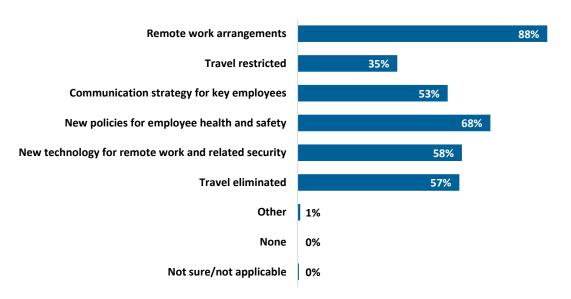
Note: Q1: Which financial actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 218). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit D.10: Strategic Response to COVID-19 -Latin America & Caribbean



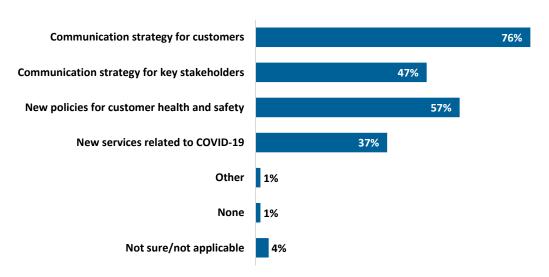
Note: Q2: Which strategic actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 218). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit D.11: Employee-focused Response to COVID-19 -Latin America & Caribbean



Note: Q3: Which employee-focused actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 218). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit D.12: Customer-focused Response to COVID-19 - Latin America & Caribbean

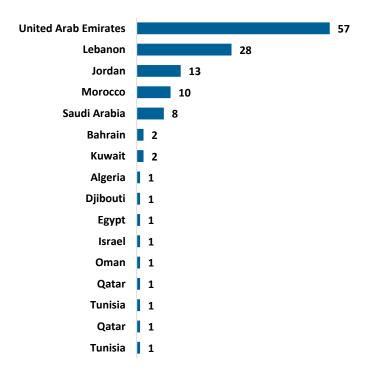


*Note:* Q4: Which customer-focused actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (*n* = 218). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

## **APPENDIX E: MIDDLE EAST**

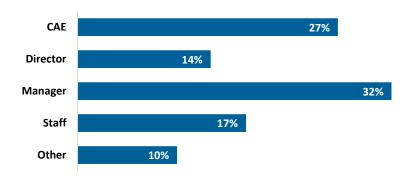
This appendix provides demographic information and responses for each survey question covered in the report for The IIA's Middle East region.

Exhibit E.1: Response Rate per Country - Middle East Total: 129



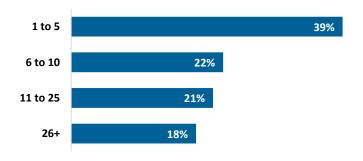
Note: Q14: What is your independent state/country/dependency/area of sovereignty? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 129). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit E.2: Internal Audit Position - Middle East



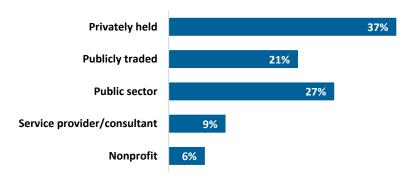
*Note:* Q16: What is your current internal audit position? CAE = Chief audit executive. The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 127). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit E.3: Internal Audit Function Size - Middle East



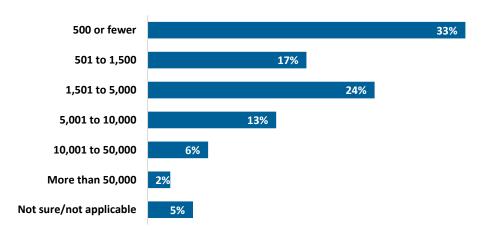
Note: Q17: What is the size of your internal audit function? CAE = Chief audit executive. The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 127). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

**Exhibit E.4: Organization Type - Middle East** 



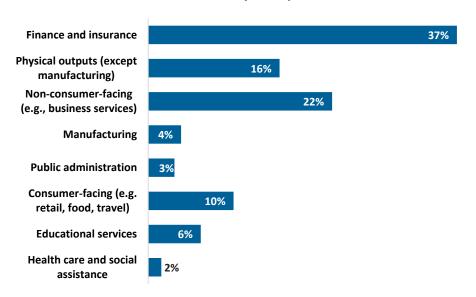
*Note:* Q15: Which best describes the organization for which you currently work? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 119). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

**Exhibit E.5: Organization Size - Middle East** 



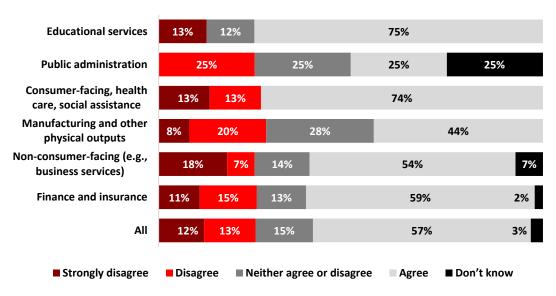
*Note:* Q18: What is the size of the organization for which you currently work? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 127). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

**Exhibit E.6: Industry Group - Middle East** 



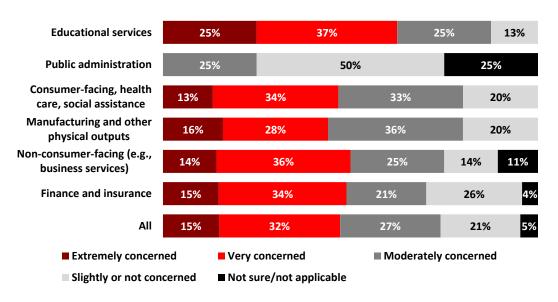
Note: Q19: What is the primary industry classification of the organization for which you work (or your primary client if you are a service provider)? Industry categories are based on the NAICS (North American Industry Classification System). Industries were combined into groups with similar characteristics related to COVID-19. Survey conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (*n* = 127). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit E.7: Opinion on Organization Having Sufficient Resources to Respond to COVID-19 - Middle East



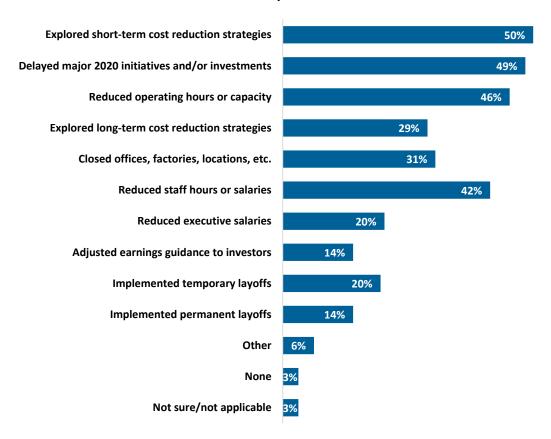
*Note:* Q11: Indicate your level of agreement: The organization has sufficient resources to respond to COVID-19. The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (*n* = 127). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit E.8: Opinion on Organization's Long-term Financial Viability as a Result of COVID-19 - Middle East



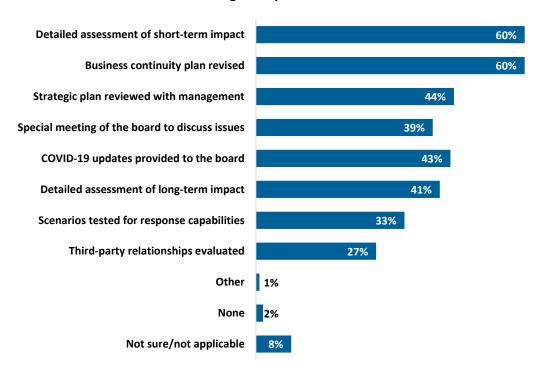
Note: Q12: What is your level of concern about the long-term financial viability of your organization as a result of COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 127). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit E.9: Financial Response to COVID-19 - Middle East



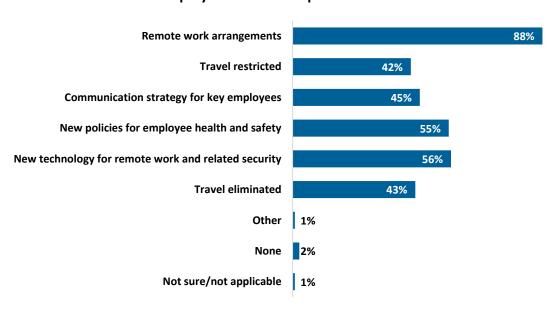
Note: Q1: Which financial actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 127). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit E.10: Strategic Response to COVID-19 - Middle East



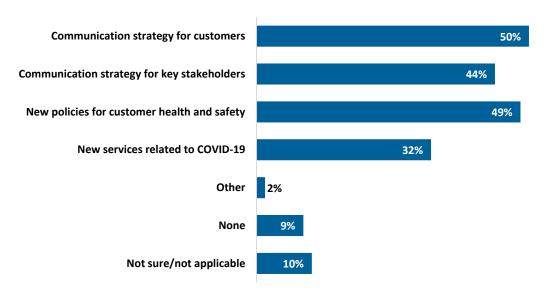
*Note:* Q2: Which strategic actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 127). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit E.11: Employee-focused Response to COVID-19 - Middle East



*Note:* Q3: Which employee-focused actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (*n* = 127). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit E.12: Customer-focused Response to COVID-19 - Middle East



Note: Q4: Which customer-focused actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 127). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

## **APPENDIX F: NORTH AMERICA**

**This appendix provides** demographic information and responses for each survey question covered in the report for The IIA's North America region.

Exhibit F.1: Response Rate per Country - North
America Total: 170



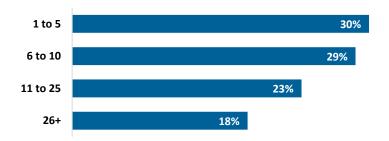
*Note*: Q1: What is your independent state/country/dependency/area of sovereignty? The survey was conducted March 19 to 23, 2020 (*n* = 170). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

**Exhibit F.2: Internal Audit Position - North America** 



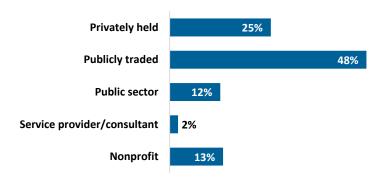
Note: Q16: What is your current internal audit position? CAE = Chief audit executive. The survey for North America was conducted March 19 to 23, 2020 (n = 146). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020. The North America survey was only distributed to CAEs and directors. The question about internal audit position was not included.

Exhibit F.3: Internal Audit Function Size - North America



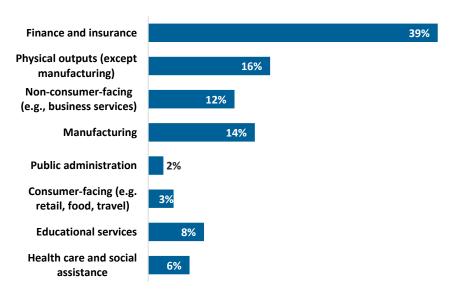
*Note*: Q17: What is the size of your internal audit function? CAE = Chief audit executive. Survey conducted March 19 to 23, 2020 (n = 146). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

**Exhibit F.4: Organization Type - North America** 



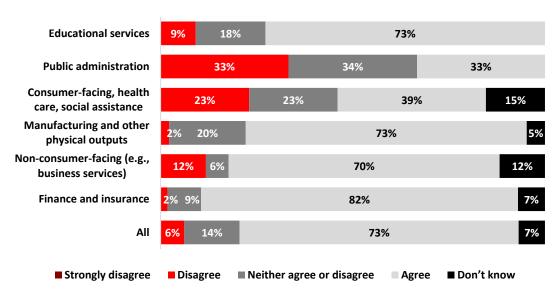
*Note:* Q15: Which best describes the organization for which you currently work? Survey conducted March 19 to 23, 2020 (n = 146). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

**Exhibit F.5: Industry Group - North America** 



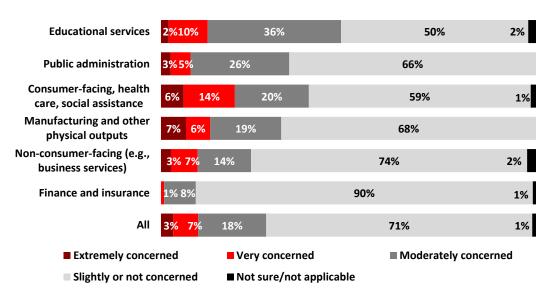
Note: Q19: What is the primary industry classification of the organization for which you work (or your primary client if you are a service provider)? Industry categories are based on the NAICS (North American Industry Classification System). Industries were combined into groups with similar characteristics related to COVID-19. Survey conducted March 19 to 23, 2020 (n = 146). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit F.6: Opinion on Organization Having Sufficient Resources to Respond to COVID-19 - North America



*Note:* Q11: Indicate your level of agreement: The organization has sufficient resources to respond to COVID-19. The survey for North America was conducted March 19 to 23, 2020 (*n* = 146). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit F.7: Opinion on Organization's Long-term Financial Viability as a Result of COVID-19 - North America



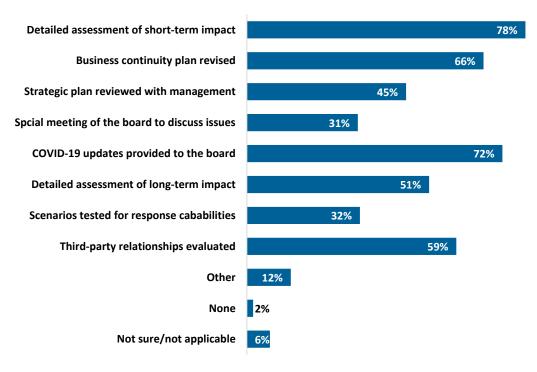
Note: Q12: What is your level of concern about the long-term financial viability of your organization as a result of COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 9 to 13, 2020 (n = 401). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit F.8: Financial Response to COVID-19 - North America



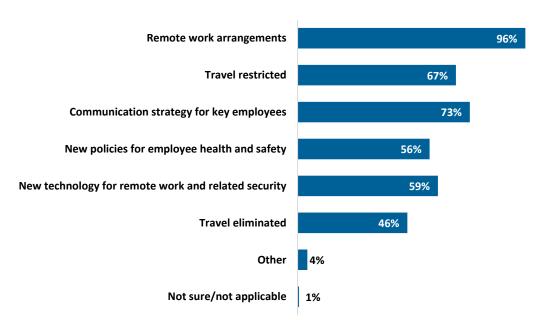
Note: Q1: Which financial actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey was conducted March 19 to 23, 2020 (*n* = 170). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit F.9: Strategic Response to COVID-19 - North America



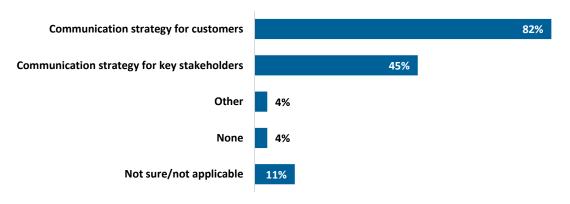
*Note:* Q2: Which strategic actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey was conducted March 19 to 23, 2020 (n = 170). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit F.10: Employee-focused Response to COVID-19 - North America



Note: Q3: Which employee-focused actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey was conducted March 19 to 23, 2020 (n = 170). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

Exhibit F.11: Customer-focused Response to COVID-19 - North America



Note: Q4: Which customer-focused actions has your organization as a whole taken in response to COVID-19? The survey was conducted April 28 to May 22, 2020 (n = 170). COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

#### About The IIA

The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) is the internal audit profession's most widely recognized advocate, educator, and provider of standards, guidance, and certifications. Established in 1941, The IIA today serves more than 200,000 members from more than 170 countries and territories. The association's global headquarters is in Lake Mary, Fla., USA. For more information, visit www.globaliia.org.

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