

YouGov - SME energy bills

Fieldwork: 18th - 23rd August 2022

Sample: 526 business decision makers at SMEs

Total	Organization size			Company annual turnover					
	Microbusiness (less than 10 employees)	Small (10 to 49 employees)	Medium (50 to 249 employees)	First year of trading	Less than £1 million	£1 million to £9.9 million	£10 million or more	Don't know	Prefer not to answer

Thinking about your business' energy usage (e.g. gas, electricity, oil, etc.)...To what extent is your business using more or less energy now compared to the beginning of 2022, or has it stayed about the same?

	Unweighted base	526	279	137	110	8	264	118	65	23	48
	Base	526	284	132	110	8	268	114	65	23	48
My business is using a lot more energy now than at the beginning of 2022		8%	6%	9%	14%	-	8%	8%	14%	9%	6%
My business is using a little more energy now than at the beginning of 2022		10%	9%	11%	12%	12%	10%	8%	11%	17%	10%
My business is using the same amount of energy now as at the beginning of 2022		53%	58%	50%	43%	50%	55%	54%	47%	43%	57%
My business is using a little less energy now than at the beginning of 2022		16%	18%	14%	13%	25%	17%	19%	12%	4%	8%
My business is using a lot less energy now than at the beginning of 2022		4%	5%	4%	3%	-	5%	2%	5%	4%	6%
Don't know		9%	4%	12%	15%	13%	6%	10%	11%	22%	13%

Still thinking about your business's energy usage (e.g. gas, electricity, oil, etc.)...To what extent are your business's energy bills higher or lower now compared to since the beginning of 2022, or are they about the same?

	Unweighted base	526	279	137	110	8	264	118	65	23	48
	Base	526	284	132	110	8	268	114	65	23	48
They are much higher now than at the beginning of 2022		31%	32%	32%	31%	50%	30%	28%	31%	39%	42%
They are somewhat higher now than at the beginning of 2022		29%	30%	23%	31%	13%	32%	28%	31%	18%	14%
They are about the same now as they were at the beginning of 2022		17%	20%	17%	11%	13%	19%	16%	13%	9%	21%
They are somewhat lower now than at the beginning of 2022		2%	2%	2%	3%	-	3%	2%	3%	-	4%
They are much lower now than at the beginning of 2022		1%	0%	1%	1%	-	0%	1%	2%	-	-
Don't know		12%	6%	15%	20%	-	6%	18%	17%	31%	10%
Not applicable - we have not yet received more than one bill this year to compare against		8%	9%	10%	3%	25%	9%	8%	5%	4%	8%

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Total	Organization size			Company annual turnover					
	Microbusiness (less than 10 employees)	Small (10 to 49 employees)	Medium (50 to 249 employees)	First year of trading	Less than £1 million	£1 million to £9.9 million	£10 million or more	Don't know	Prefer not to answer

How worried, if at all, are you about the effect the planned rise in the energy price cap this October will have on your business' energy bills (e.g. gas, electricity, oil, etc.)?

Unweighted base	526	279	137	110	8	264	118	65	23	48
Base	526	284	132	110	8	268	114	65	23	48
Very worried	30%	33%	26%	26%	37%	33%	20%	28%	31%	31%
Fairly worried	34%	31%	34%	40%	63%	29%	45%	32%	21%	35%
Not very worried	19%	21%	21%	14%	-	22%	17%	23%	22%	8%
Not at all worried	10%	11%	10%	5%	-	10%	10%	6%	-	15%
Don't know	7%	4%	7%	14%	-	4%	8%	11%	22%	8%
Not applicable - I was not aware of the planned rise in the energy price cap	1%	1%	1%	1%	-	1%	-	-	4%	2%

You previously said your business's energy bills are higher now compared to the beginning of 2022...How long do you think your business will be able to sustain these higher energy costs? (Please select the option that best applies)

Unweighted base	316	172	76	68	5	165	66	40	13	27
Base	316	175	73	68	5	167	64	40	13	27
My business will not be able to pay these higher energy costs at all	9%	11%	7%	6%	20%	10%	8%	8%	-	11%
For no more than 1 month	4%	2%	3%	10%	-	4%	1%	10%	8%	4%
For no more than 3 months	10%	8%	17%	9%	-	12%	5%	10%	31%	7%
For no more than 6 months	13%	12%	15%	16%	40%	15%	16%	10%	7%	3%
For no more than 12 months	7%	5%	8%	10%	-	7%	11%	2%	8%	7%
For as long as needed	34%	34%	30%	38%	-	30%	39%	52%	23%	30%
Don't know	21%	27%	20%	6%	40%	23%	20%	5%	23%	30%
Prefer not to say	2%	1%	1%	4%	-	1%	1%	2%	-	7%

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	Microbusiness (less than 10 employees)	Small (10 to 49 employees)	Medium (50 to 249 employees)	First year of trading	Less than £1 million	£1 million to £9.9 million	£10 million or more	Don't know	Prefer not to answer

To what extent, if at all, will higher costs of energy (e.g. gas, electricity, oil, etc.) for your business affect prices for your customers/ clients?

Unweighted base	316	172	76	68	5	165	66	40	13	27
Base	316	175	73	68	5	167	64	40	13	27
Higher energy prices will mean much higher prices for customers	34%	33%	32%	41%	20%	34%	27%	45%	31%	38%
Higher energy prices will mean slightly higher prices for customers	41%	37%	50%	41%	60%	35%	53%	25%	69%	51%
Higher energy prices will not change the prices we charge customers	20%	26%	13%	15%	-	25%	17%	25%	-	4%
Don't know	5%	5%	5%	3%	20%	5%	3%	5%	-	7%

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Total	Work industry (select all that apply)						
	Manufacturing	Construction	Retail	Finance and Accounting	Hospitality and leisure	Legal	IT & telecoms

Thinking about your business' energy usage (e.g. gas, electricity, oil, etc.)...To what extent is your business using more or less energy now compared to the beginning of 2022, or has it stayed about the same?

	Unweighted base	526	59	56	63	59	66	16	72
	Base	526	59	56	63	59	66	16	71
My business is using a lot more energy now than at the beginning of 2022		8%	7%	16%	8%	13%	13%	-	13%
My business is using a little more energy now than at the beginning of 2022		10%	10%	18%	13%	10%	8%	18%	7%
My business is using the same amount of energy now as at the beginning of 2022		53%	54%	52%	43%	58%	44%	56%	46%
My business is using a little less energy now than at the beginning of 2022		16%	22%	5%	20%	7%	24%	19%	23%
My business is using a lot less energy now than at the beginning of 2022		4%	2%	-	8%	2%	6%	-	6%
Don't know		9%	5%	9%	8%	10%	5%	6%	7%

Still thinking about your business's energy usage (e.g. gas, electricity, oil, etc.)...To what extent are your business's energy bills higher or lower now compared to since the beginning of 2022, or are they about the same?

	Unweighted base	526	59	56	63	59	66	16	72
	Base	526	59	56	63	59	66	16	71
They are much higher now than at the beginning of 2022		31%	37%	41%	33%	28%	39%	37%	26%
They are somewhat higher now than at the beginning of 2022		29%	19%	23%	30%	29%	32%	44%	29%
They are about the same now as they were at the beginning of 2022		17%	26%	18%	19%	12%	17%	6%	14%
They are somewhat lower now than at the beginning of 2022		2%	3%	2%	6%	-	3%	-	3%
They are much lower now than at the beginning of 2022		1%	-	-	-	3%	-	-	-
Don't know		12%	12%	5%	6%	17%	6%	13%	14%
Not applicable - we have not yet received more than one bill this year to compare against		8%	3%	11%	5%	10%	3%	-	14%

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Total	Work industry (select all that apply)						
	Manufacturing	Construction	Retail	Finance and Accounting	Hospitality and leisure	Legal	IT & telecoms

How worried, if at all, are you about the effect the planned rise in the energy price cap this October will have on your business' energy bills (e.g. gas, electricity, oil, etc.)?

	Unweighted base	Manufacturing	Construction	Retail	Finance and Accounting	Hospitality and leisure	Legal	IT & telecoms
	526	59	56	63	59	66	16	72
Base	526	59	56	63	59	66	16	71
Very worried	30%	36%	29%	40%	27%	41%	38%	21%
Fairly worried	34%	32%	35%	36%	24%	32%	31%	42%
Not very worried	19%	19%	23%	18%	27%	17%	25%	16%
Not at all worried	10%	7%	7%	3%	9%	9%	6%	11%
Don't know	7%	5%	4%	3%	12%	-	-	10%
Not applicable - I was not aware of the planned rise in the energy price cap	1%	2%	2%	-	2%	2%	-	-

You previously said your business's energy bills are higher now compared to the beginning of 2022...How long do you think your business will be able to sustain these higher energy costs? (Please select the option that best applies)

	Unweighted base	Manufacturing	Construction	Retail	Finance and Accounting	Hospitality and leisure	Legal	IT & telecoms
	316	33	36	40	34	47	13	40
Base	316	33	36	40	34	47	13	40
My business will not be able to pay these higher energy costs at all	9%	6%	6%	8%	6%	9%	23%	13%
For no more than 1 month	4%	3%	11%	5%	9%	6%	-	3%
For no more than 3 months	10%	21%	11%	7%	6%	10%	15%	13%
For no more than 6 months	13%	15%	11%	12%	18%	17%	31%	10%
For no more than 12 months	7%	12%	6%	12%	3%	6%	-	15%
For as long as needed	34%	30%	41%	20%	35%	25%	16%	30%
Don't know	21%	12%	11%	35%	21%	26%	14%	15%
Prefer not to say	2%	-	3%	-	3%	-	-	2%

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Total	Work industry (select all that apply)						
	Manufacturing	Construction	Retail	Finance and Accounting	Hospitality and leisure	Legal	IT & telecoms

To what extent, if at all, will higher costs of energy (e.g. gas, electricity, oil, etc.) for your business affect prices for your customers/ clients?

	Unweighted base	Manufacturing	Construction	Retail	Finance and Accounting	Hospitality and leisure	Legal	IT & telecoms
	316	33	36	40	34	47	13	40
Base	316	33	36	40	34	47	13	40
Higher energy prices will mean much higher prices for customers	34%	49%	39%	30%	45%	43%	23%	35%
Higher energy prices will mean slightly higher prices for customers	41%	39%	44%	50%	23%	45%	45%	45%
Higher energy prices will not change the prices we charge customers	20%	3%	17%	20%	29%	10%	31%	15%
Don't know	5%	9%	-	-	3%	2%	-	5%

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Total	Work industry (select all that apply)					
	Media/ marketing/ advertising/ PR & sales	Medical & health services	Education	Transportation & distribution	Real estate	Other

Thinking about your business' energy usage (e.g. gas, electricity, oil, etc.)...To what extent is your business using more or less energy now compared to the beginning of 2022, or has it stayed about the same?

	Unweighted base	526	58	26	27	14	23	78
	Base	526	57	26	27	14	23	79
My business is using a lot more energy now than at the beginning of 2022		8%	5%	4%	4%	14%	17%	3%
My business is using a little more energy now than at the beginning of 2022		10%	9%	12%	22%	-	4%	8%
My business is using the same amount of energy now as at the beginning of 2022		53%	47%	54%	48%	64%	43%	72%
My business is using a little less energy now than at the beginning of 2022		16%	15%	27%	15%	15%	22%	5%
My business is using a lot less energy now than at the beginning of 2022		4%	5%	-	4%	-	9%	5%
Don't know		9%	18%	4%	8%	7%	4%	8%

Still thinking about your business's energy usage (e.g. gas, electricity, oil, etc.)...To what extent are your business's energy bills higher or lower now compared to since the beginning of 2022, or are they about the same?

	Unweighted base	526	58	26	27	14	23	78
	Base	526	57	26	27	14	23	79
They are much higher now than at the beginning of 2022		31%	24%	19%	37%	22%	30%	22%
They are somewhat higher now than at the beginning of 2022		29%	31%	31%	30%	36%	18%	29%
They are about the same now as they were at the beginning of 2022		17%	10%	23%	15%	36%	22%	23%
They are somewhat lower now than at the beginning of 2022		2%	-	8%	4%	-	9%	1%
They are much lower now than at the beginning of 2022		1%	-	-	-	-	4%	-
Don't know		12%	20%	11%	4%	7%	13%	17%
Not applicable - we have not yet received more than one bill this year to compare against		8%	14%	8%	11%	-	4%	8%

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Total	Work industry (select all that apply)					
	Media/ marketing/ advertising/ PR & sales	Medical & health services	Education	Transportation & distribution	Real estate	Other

How worried, if at all, are you about the effect the planned rise in the energy price cap this October will have on your business' energy bills (e.g. gas, electricity, oil, etc.)?

	Unweighted base	526	58	26	27	14	23	78
	Base	526	57	26	27	14	23	79
Very worried		30%	23%	19%	30%	14%	43%	23%
Fairly worried		34%	31%	31%	26%	36%	26%	36%
Not very worried		19%	14%	23%	29%	21%	17%	23%
Not at all worried		10%	16%	19%	7%	29%	4%	12%
Don't know		7%	13%	8%	4%	-	9%	6%
Not applicable - I was not aware of the planned rise in the energy price cap		1%	3%	-	4%	-	-	-

You previously said your business's energy bills are higher now compared to the beginning of 2022...How long do you think your business will be able to sustain these higher energy costs? (Please select the option that best applies)

	Unweighted base	316	32	13	18	8	11	40
	Base	316	32	13	18	8	11	40
My business will not be able to pay these higher energy costs at all		9%	13%	8%	-	13%	-	8%
For no more than 1 month		4%	3%	8%	11%	13%	19%	3%
For no more than 3 months		10%	19%	-	6%	13%	-	8%
For no more than 6 months		13%	19%	8%	11%	13%	18%	7%
For no more than 12 months		7%	6%	7%	6%	13%	9%	3%
For as long as needed		34%	28%	69%	33%	37%	27%	40%
Don't know		21%	9%	-	34%	-	27%	30%
Prefer not to say		2%	3%	-	-	-	-	3%

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Total	Work industry (select all that apply)					
	Media/ marketing/ advertising/ PR & sales	Medical & health services	Education	Transportation & distribution	Real estate	Other

To what extent, if at all, will higher costs of energy (e.g. gas, electricity, oil, etc.) for your business affect prices for your customers/ clients?

	Unweighted base	316	32	13	18	8	11	40
Base		316	32	13	18	8	11	40
Higher energy prices will mean much higher prices for customers		34%	28%	38%	45%	25%	64%	13%
Higher energy prices will mean slightly higher prices for customers		41%	37%	31%	33%	37%	36%	45%
Higher energy prices will not change the prices we charge customers		20%	28%	31%	17%	38%	-	30%
Don't know		5%	6%	-	6%	-	-	13%