



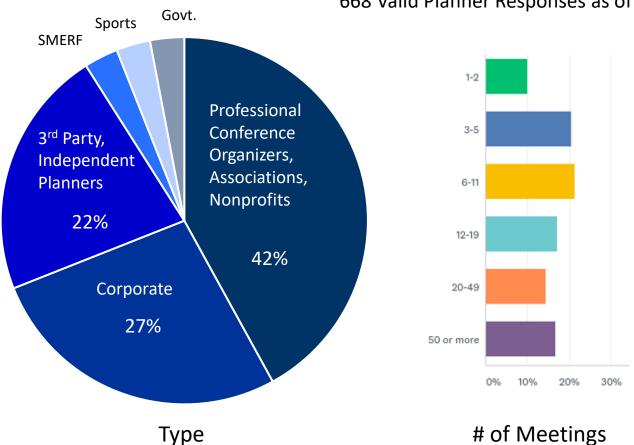


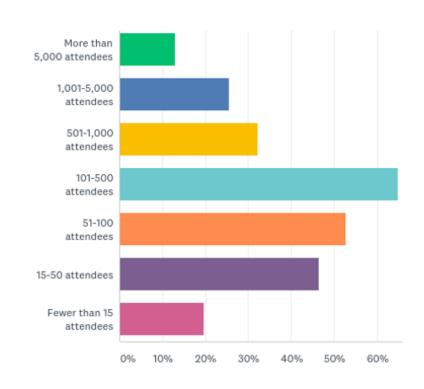




## Respondents by Type, Meetings Volume and Size

668 Valid Planner Responses as of January 27, 2022





# of Meetings

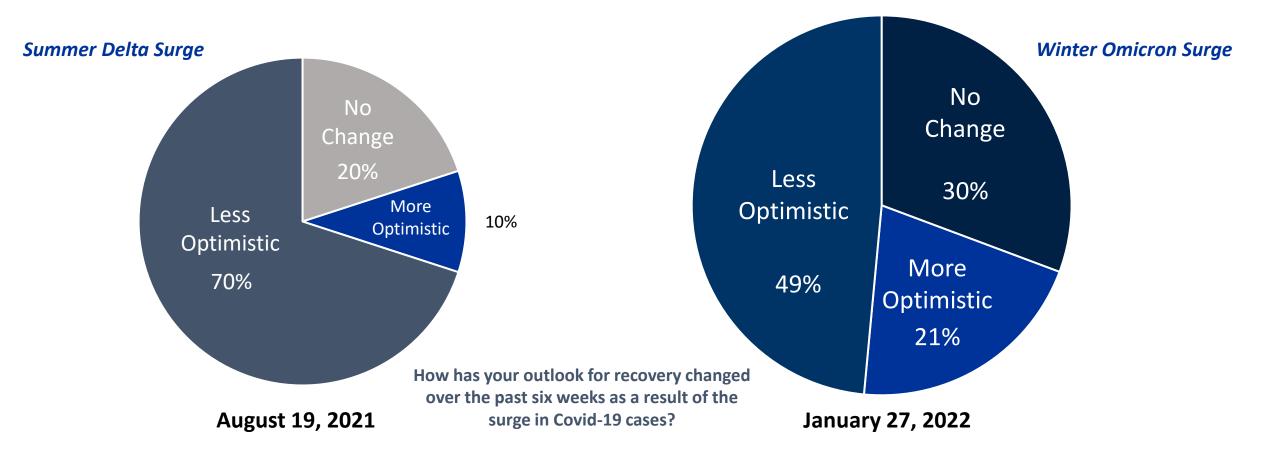
Size of Meetings







## Relative to the Delta Surge, Planners Demonstrate Resilience, If Not Confidence





January '22

## Down, But Not Out

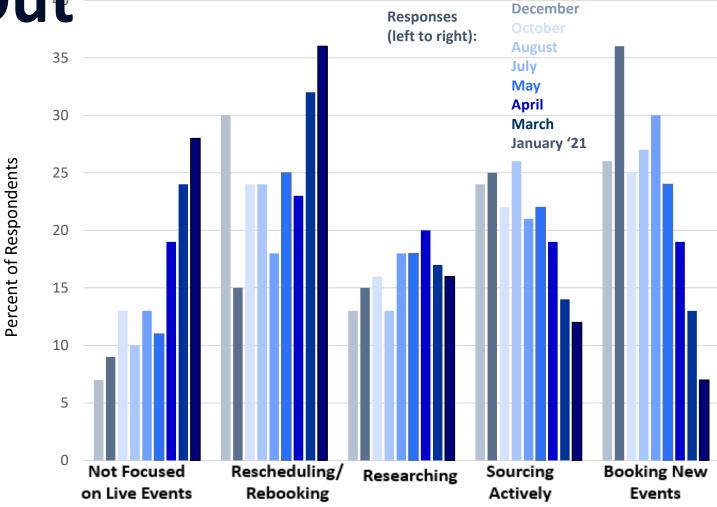
New booking activity is down since December and rebookings are up, but nowhere near the levels of one year ago.

## Planners "Not Focused on Live Events" Falls to Lowest Level Since Pandemic

What is your current primary focus as it pertains to your live, in-person events?

### Responses as of January 27, 2021

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
▼ I am rescheduling or rebooking events	29.72%
▼ I am researching potential new events, but not ready to issue an RFP or lead	12.32%
▼ I am actively sourcing (issuing RFPs or leads) for new events	25.12%
▼ I am booking new events	25.29%
▼ I am not currently focused on in-person events	7.55%

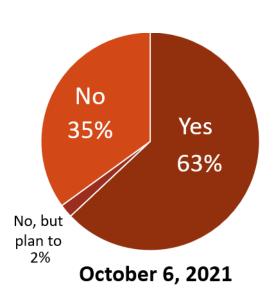


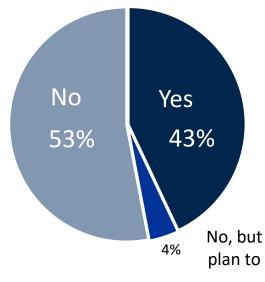




## More Planners Have Revised Their Events, Again

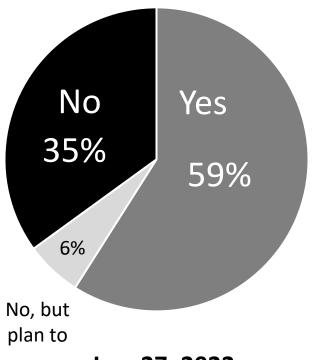
In early December, planners rescheduling their events were in the minority. The last six weeks have seen a shift, with nearly two-thirds reporting changed (or changing) plans.





Dec. 8, 2021

Over the past six weeks, have you delayed, rescheduled, moved or cancelled an in-person meeting or event?



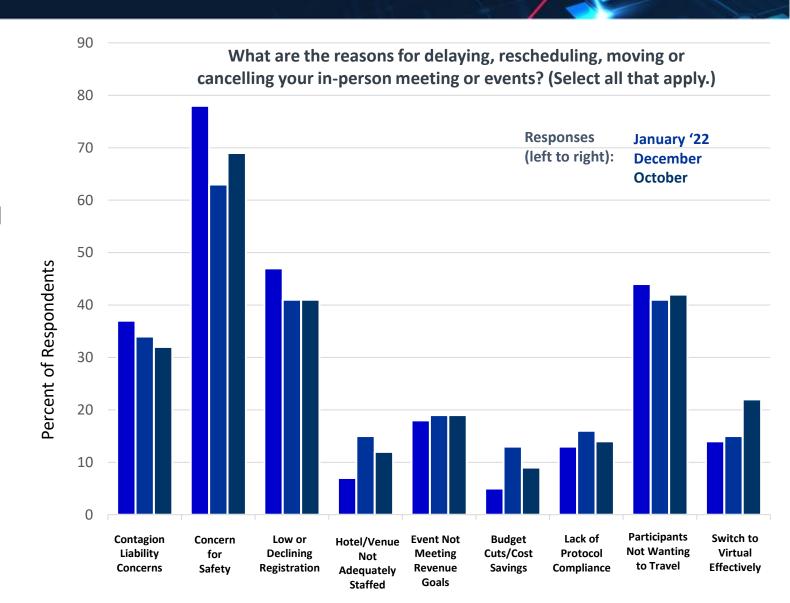
Jan. 27, 2022



# What Prompted Your Change in Plans?

As Concerns for Safety Have Grown to New Highs, Rebookings Have Jumped







January 27, 2022

2023 or

Later

Q4

2022

## When's Your Next Live Event?

50

45

40

35

30

25

20

15

10

01

2022

Percent of Respondents

Nearly 80% will produce their next event in the next six months.

The next six
months appear to
be even more
active than they
were expected to
be six weeks ago,
supported in part
by rebooked events
accommodated in
the near-term.



December 8, 2021

Q3

2022

Q2

2022

When at the earliest do you expect to hold your

next in-person or hybrid meeting or event?

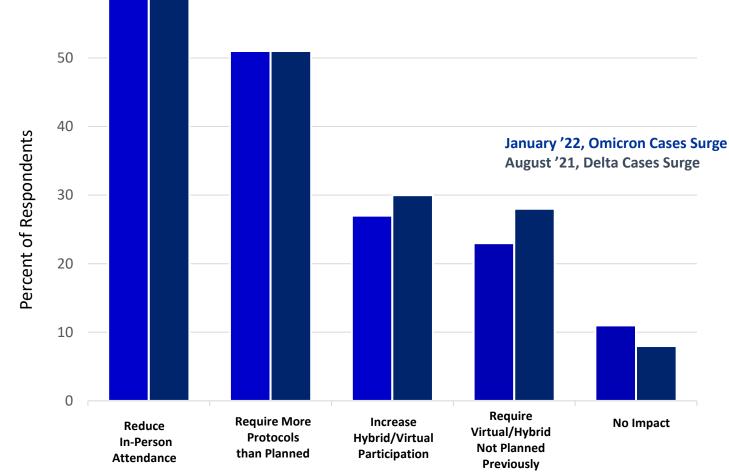


# Fears Grow for Omicron's Impact on Attendance

## Intent to Pivot to Virtual/Hybrid Alternatives Declines

Indicating growing commitment to their in-person events, planners are less inclined to plan virtual/hybrid alternatives – even with a greater likelihood of reduced inperson attendance. In-person protocols remain unchanged from the August 2021 cases surge.



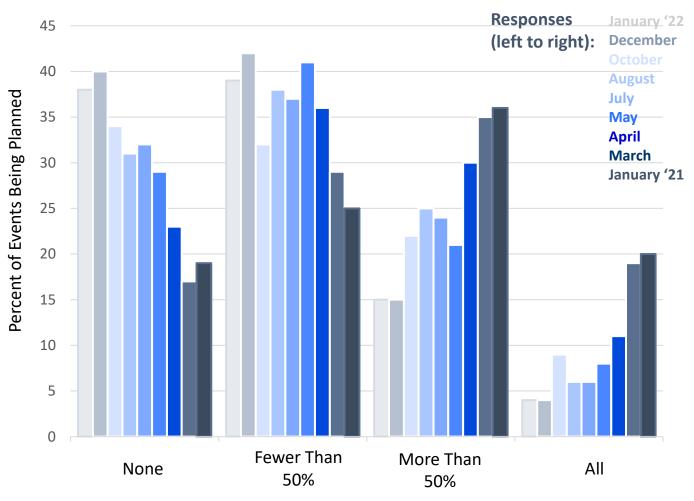


What, if any, impact will the increase in Covid-19 cases over the last six weeks have on your events? (Select all that apply.)



# Live Events' Current Volatility Has Not Impacted Demand for Virtual-Only Events

## What percentage of the events you are now planning will be online only?



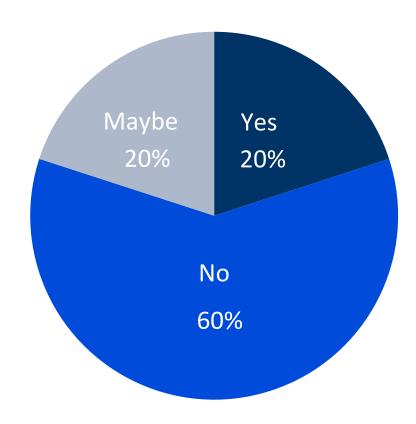


## Living with Covid?

For 20% or more of planners, it may mean moving their events out of winter months.



Are you considering rescheduling events that are currently planned for winter months in future years, or not scheduling events in December through March due to safety and health concerns?

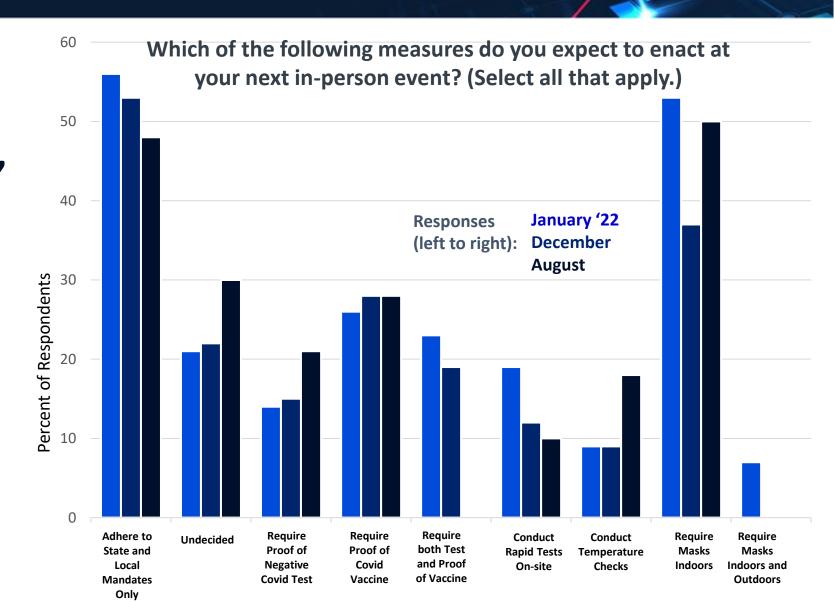


## NEW

### **MEETINGS INDUSTRY PULSE SURVEY**

With Cases Up,
Planners are Quick to
Comply with Mandates,
Mask Requirements



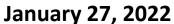


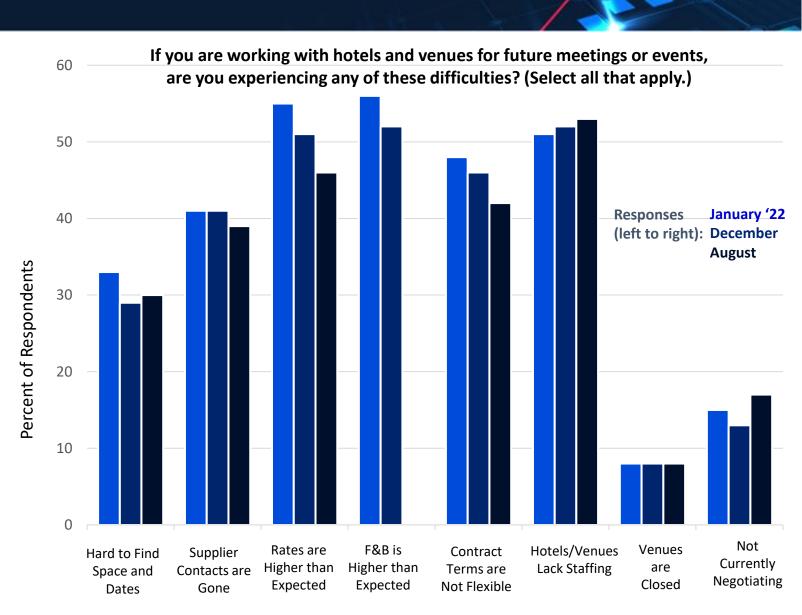


# Rising Prices are a Growing Problem

Since August, F&B, rates and contract terms all have become more challenging.









## **Concern for Meetings Budgets Declines**

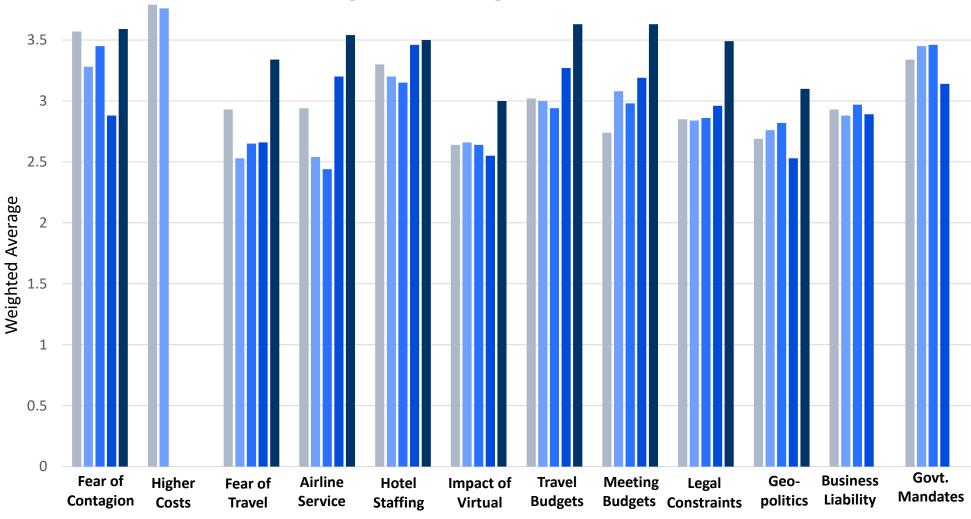
Worries Grow Over Costs, Contagion, Airline Service and Travel Overall

For your future in-person or hybrid events, how concerned are you about the following? Rate each on a scale of 1 to 5 (with 1 being "not at all concerned" and 5 being "extremely concerned"). Ranked by weighted average.

Responses (left to right):

January'22 December October August





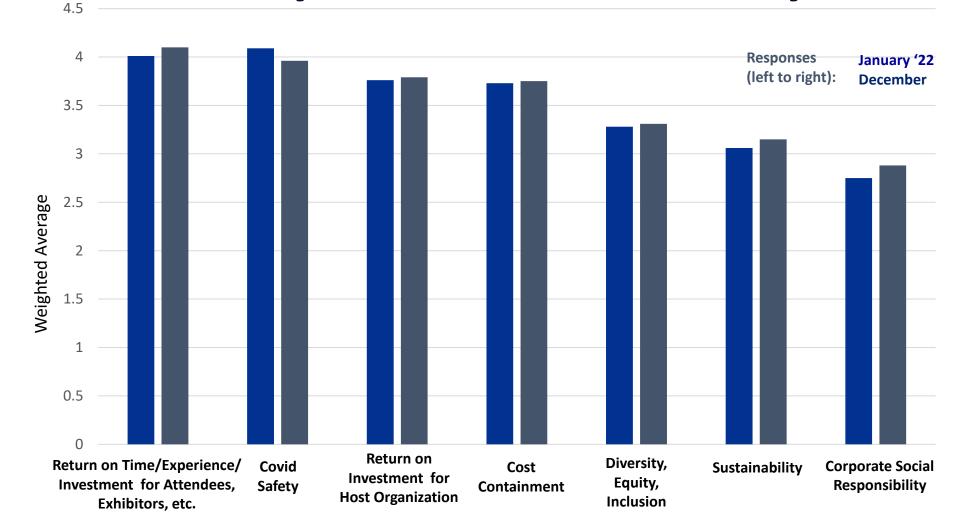
January 27, 2022



## **Top Priorities: Safety and Business Viability**

How Meetings
Industry Trends
Rank in Importance
Among Meeting
Planners Today

Please rank the relative importance of the following factors for in-person and hybrid events that you are now planning (on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being "not at all important" and 5 being "extremely important").



January 27, 2022



## In Summary:

- ✓ Relative to the Delta surge, planners are demonstrating greater resilience.
- ✓ The increase in cancellations/rebookings has been pronounced since December, but nowhere near the levels of one year ago.
- ✓ Events planned over the next six months indicate planners have rebooked over the near-term.
- ✓ Fears grow about Omicron's impact on attendance, but fewer planners are pivoting to virtual/hybrid.
- ✓ For some planners, living with Covid means not planning events over the winter months.
- ✓ Concerns for costs, rates, and contract terms continue to grow, but planners are less and less concerned for their budgets over time.
- ✓ As for protocols, most will follow state mandates and require masks indoors.

### **Selected Verbatim Comments:**

- "For the in-person events that I have been involved with over the past 18 months, the number of attendees has been lower than in previous years but the quality of the people, the connectivity and the conversations have been markedly better."
- "There is cautious optimism about returning to in-person events but also a sense of higher risk as Omicron demonstrated how rapidly the environment can change."
- "Decisions are delayed, lead times are shorter, and costs are getting higher, none of which is helping any of us at this time. However, the need for safety is of paramount importance, but I believe now we have to get a balance so we can get on with our lives."
- "Our clients tend to be on either side of the spectrum when it comes to Covid. Some are ready
  and are traveling and some are concerned and pulling back from the live event experience."
- "Our attendees come from across corporate America. When will they be allowed to attend a 'non-essential' conference? They're not back to the office yet!"
- "The fluid nature of Covid is making participants not want to commit to anything."
- "Hybrid meetings will become our long-term norm. Our online meetings have attracted a lot of newcomers and past lapsed members. From a younger demographic as well."