

BPS

Business Policy Survey

First Quarter 2022



Methodology

SVC Business Policy Survey

First Quarter 2022

Note: This survey was conducted just prior to the invasion of Ukraine

Nationally distributed online survey of 1,200 US business influencers

400 Employees

Full-time employees of for-profit companies with at least 1,000 employees

400 Business Decision-makers (BDMs)

Individuals who make hiring, purchasing, or financial investment decisions on behalf of their companies

400 Retail Investors

Individuals with \$100K or more in securities investments who follow news about business and financial markets closely

Survey was fielded February 9 – 22, 2022



Summary

Inflation is a top concern among corporate influencers prior to the invasion of Ukraine.

- Guarding against inflation ranks first on the list of issues that merit government attention.*
- More than three quarters of influencers believe that inflation is a real threat to the economy in 2022.
- An even larger majority feel corporations should make an effort to keep prices affordable.

Improving cybersecurity is seen as an important goal for both government and corporate policy.

*This survey was conducted just prior to the invasion of Ukraine.

Inflation Replaces Healthcare Costs as the Top Priority

Government priorities ranked by top three choices

	All	Employees	BDMs	Investors
Inflation	1	2	3	1
Healthcare and drug prices	2	1	1	5
Cybersecurity	3	5	6	2
Climate change	4	3	8	4
Violent crime	5	4	4	6
Federal budget deficit	6	7	7	3
Diversity, equity, and inclusion	7	6	2	9
Big technology	8	8	5	8
Voting rights	9	8	10	7
China	10	11	11	10
Social programs	11	10	9	11



Concern about inflation has grown steadily over the past two quarters to become the top issue that corporate influencers want the federal government to focus on.

In addition, 76% of influencers agree that inflation represents a serious threat to the US economy in 2022.

Cybersecurity an Important Concern

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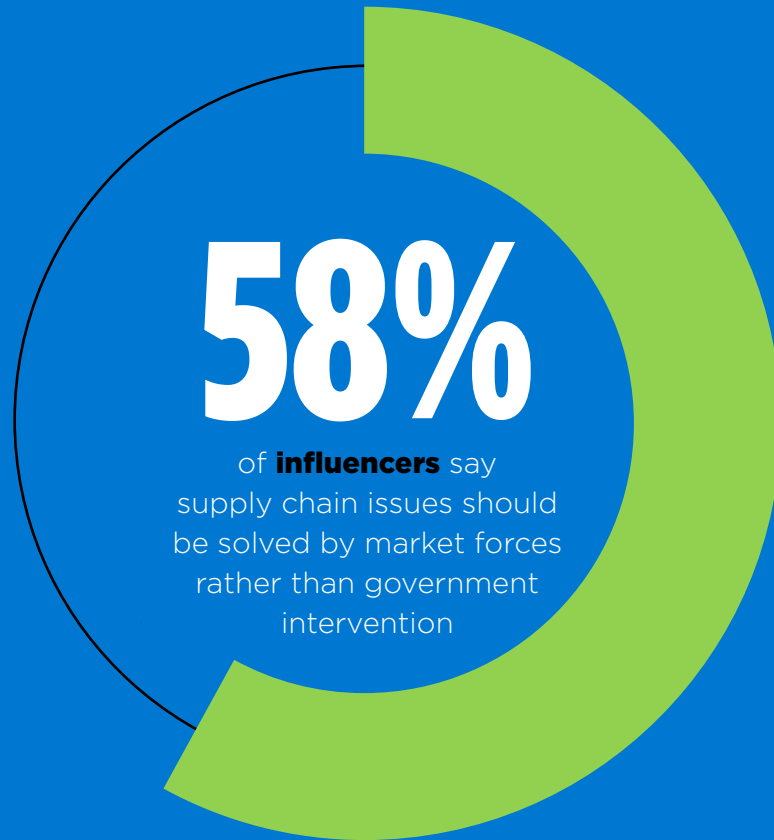
Cybersecurity (new for this quarter) ranks among the top three issues that corporate influencers want the government to address.

A large majority of influencers (82%) also see improving cybersecurity as an important priority for corporations, not just government.

Majority Feel Government Intervention Not Needed In Supply Chain Issues



Overall, more than half of influencers feel the government should not intervene in supply chain issues. Employees are less likely than business decision-makers and investors to agree.



50%

of **employees** say supply chain issues should be solved by market forces rather than government intervention

63%

of **BDMs** say supply chain issues should be solved by market forces rather than government intervention

60%

of **investors** say supply chain issues should be solved by market forces rather than government intervention



Affordable Prices More Important than Shareholder Value



All three influencer groups feel corporations should prioritize affordable pricing over profits. This may reflect a desire to help fight inflation.



78%

of **employees** say “keeping prices affordable for customers” is an important goal for corporations

79%

of **BDMs** say “keeping prices affordable for customers” is an important goal for corporations

84%

of **investors** say “keeping prices affordable for customers” is an important goal for corporations



*In comparison, 72% say that maximizing shareholder value is an important goal.



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