

Employment and Wages Survey Results

Newfoundland and Labrador

November 2016

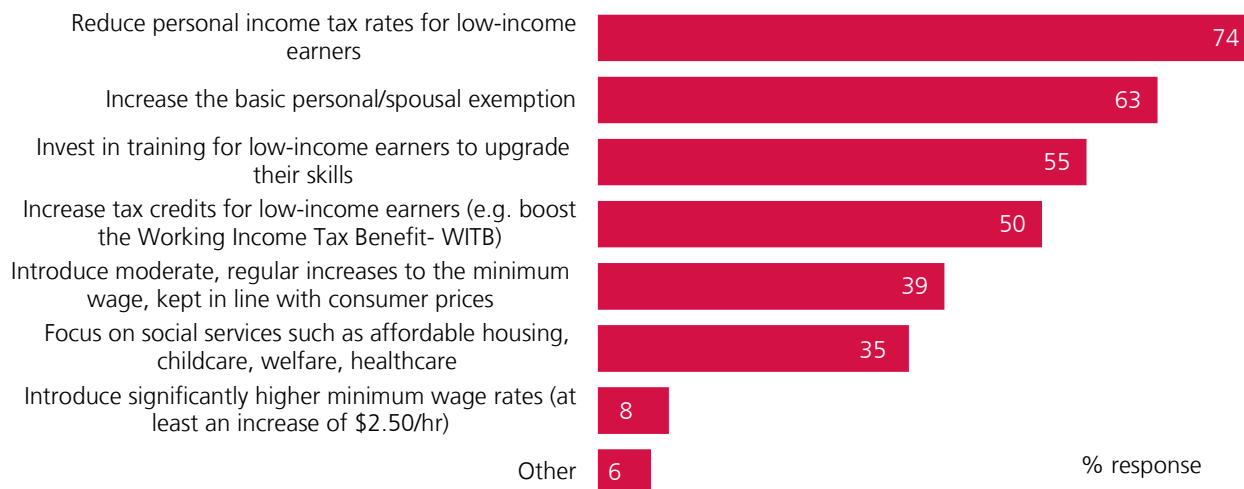
Half of business owners said that past increases in the minimum wage have driven them to increase their prices and/or reduced their firms' profits. About four-in-ten entrepreneurs said they had to increase wages for employees earning more than the minimum wage. About one-quarter of respondents said they had to reduce staff hours, delay expansion plans and/or hired fewer youths and/or inexperienced workers.

What impact have past increases to the minimum wage had on your business? (%)



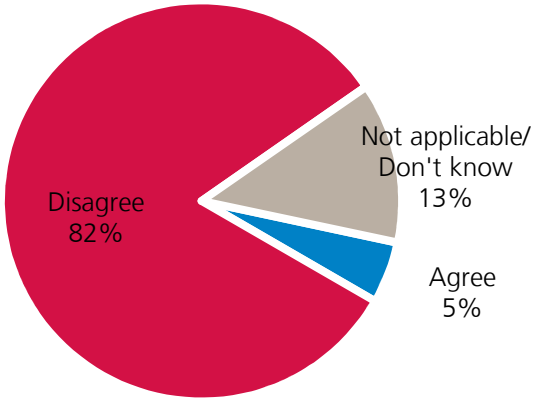
The best way for governments to improve the standard of living for low-income earners is to reduce their personal income taxes as stated by the majority of small business owners (74 per cent). About two-thirds of business owners support increases to the basic personal/spousal exemption for low-income earners. About half of respondents support investing in skill upgrading for low-income earners and/or increasing tax credits targeted at low-income earners.

What is the best way for governments to improve the standard of living for low-income earners? (%)



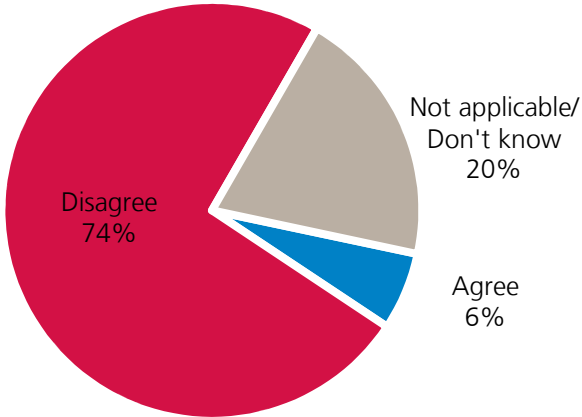
About eight-in-ten business owners disagree with governments increasing the minimum wage rate as they see fit. Only five per cent agree with this practice, and 13 per cent don't know.

Governments should increase the minimum wage rate as they see fit



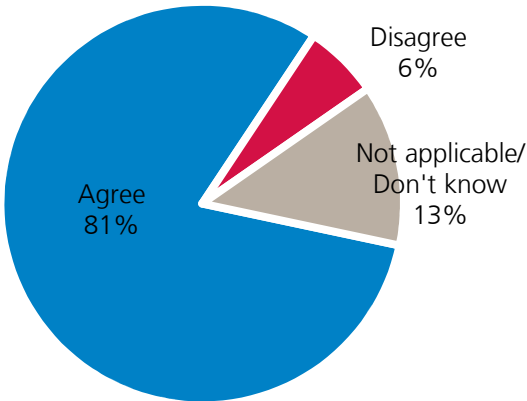
Three-quarters of business owners disagree with governments increasing the minimum wage during economic downturns. Only six per cent agree with this, and 20 per cent don't know.

Governments should increase the minimum wage rate during economic downturns



The majority of firm operators are of the opinion that governments should be required to conduct and publicly release the results of a thorough employment and economic impact analysis for proposed minimum wage increases. A mere six percent disagree, and 13 per cent don't know.

Governments should be required to conduct & release the results of a thorough employment and economic impact analysis for proposed minimum wage increases



The vast majority of business owners would increase wages if their business situation improved. About eight per cent disagree, 11 per cent don't know.

I would increase wages today if my business situation improved

