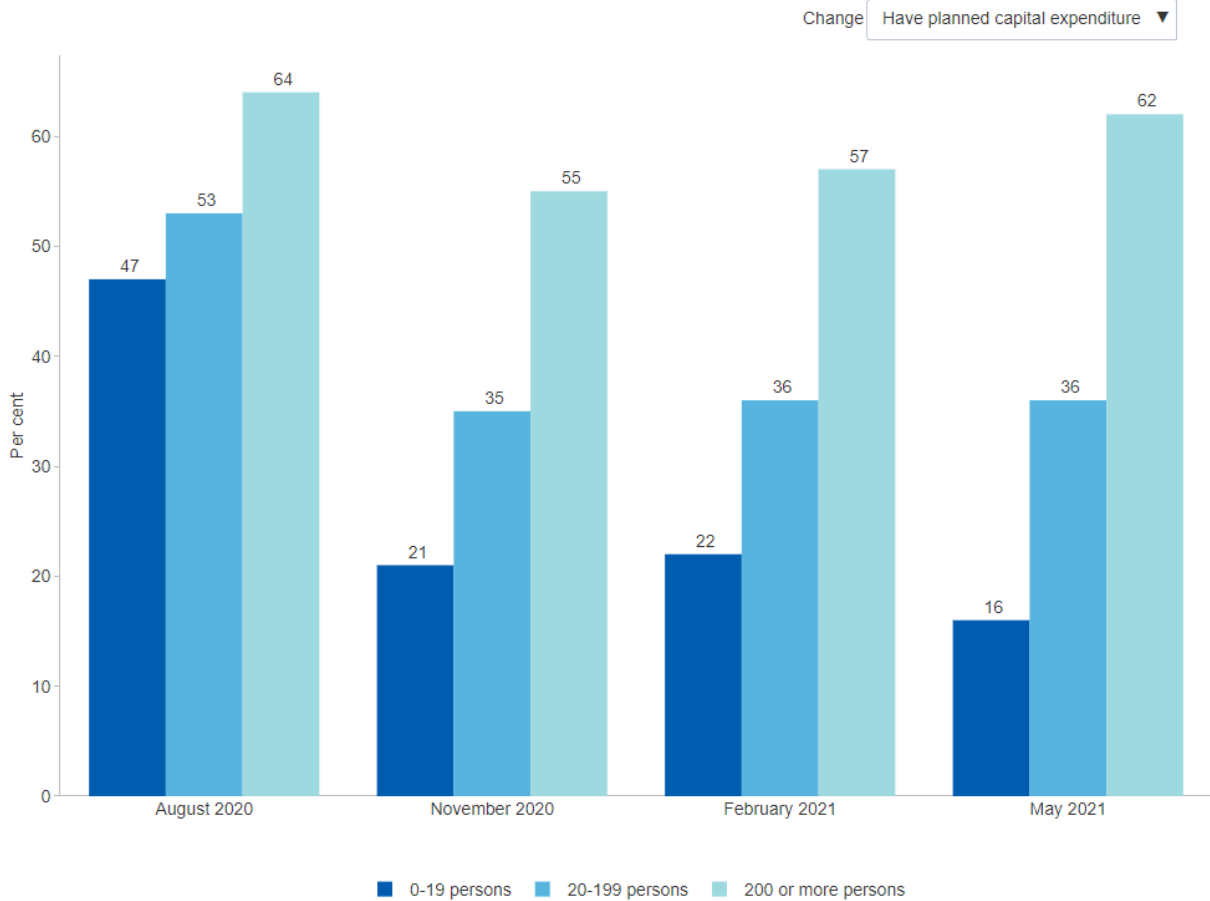


Changes in capital expenditure over time

Since August 2020, the share of businesses reporting capital expenditure plans decreased, from about half of all businesses (49 per cent) to just under a fifth (23 per cent). The onset of the pandemic accelerated capital expenditure intentions which led to businesses innovating with new methods and improved ways to do things differently. Large businesses were on average twice as likely to report capital expenditure intentions as small businesses. Industries that were on average likely to report capital expenditure plans within the next three months include *Arts and Recreation Services* (39 per cent), *Mining* (34 per cent) and *Information Media and Telecommunications* (33 per cent). By contrast, industries that on average did not have any actual or planned expenditure were *Administrative and Support Services* (67 per cent), *Transport, Postal and Warehousing* (67 per cent) and *Construction* (65 per cent). Prior to the pandemic, one out of 5 businesses (20 per cent) had teleworking arrangements. Currently, less than half of all businesses (43 per cent) have employees teleworking. Three in five (60 per cent) businesses expect to have employees continuing teleworking once restrictions are lifted and conditions stabilise.¹

Figure: Businesses with capital expenditure plans, by employment size



¹ ABS, *Business Indicators, Business Conditions and Sentiments* (<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/economy/business-indicators/business-conditions-and-sentiments/latest-release>)