

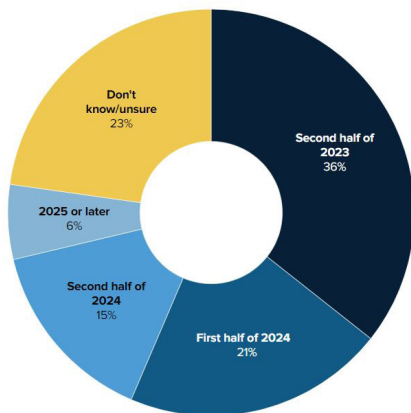
INVENTORY POSITIONS REMAIN ELEVATED, AFFECTING PROFITS...

Excess inventories in warehouses are creating pressure on the bottom line of many companies, and associated storage costs may not ease up this year, a recent CNBC Supply Chain Survey showed.

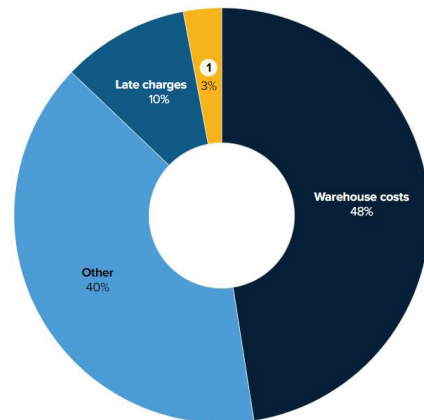
More than a third of the respondents anticipate inventories to return to normal in Q3 2023, while an equal percentage expect the glut to persist until 2024. The survey also revealed that 20% of the excess inventory in warehouses is non-seasonal in product nature, leading to challenges for logistics experts.

The survey showed that slightly over a quarter (27%) of the participants are selling on the secondary market, as elevated storage prices are impacting the company's bottom line. The "other" category, including rent and labor, was the second-biggest category affecting inflationary pressures, with almost half of the respondents stating so.

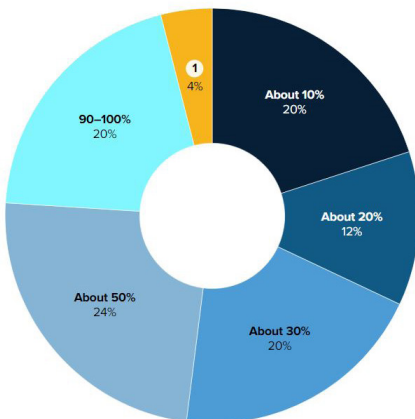
When do you expect your inventory to return to normal levels?



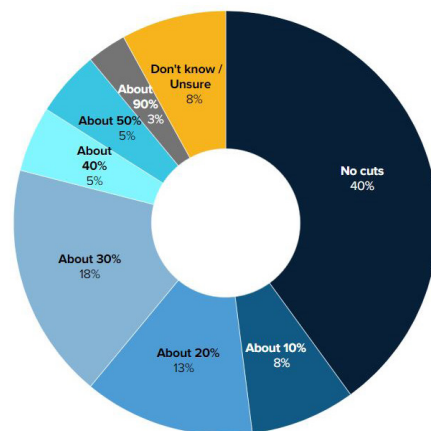
What is the biggest inflationary pressure you are facing in your inventory management?



Approximately what percentage of your increased costs are you passing on to your customers?



By approximately what percentage have you cut your manufacturing orders for the next three months?



*F. Curtis Barry
& Company*

Statistics and Charts Source: CNBC