ARCHITECTS' COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DES ARCHITECTES D'EUROPE

12th Economic Trends Survey of the Impact of Economic Downturn

January 2014

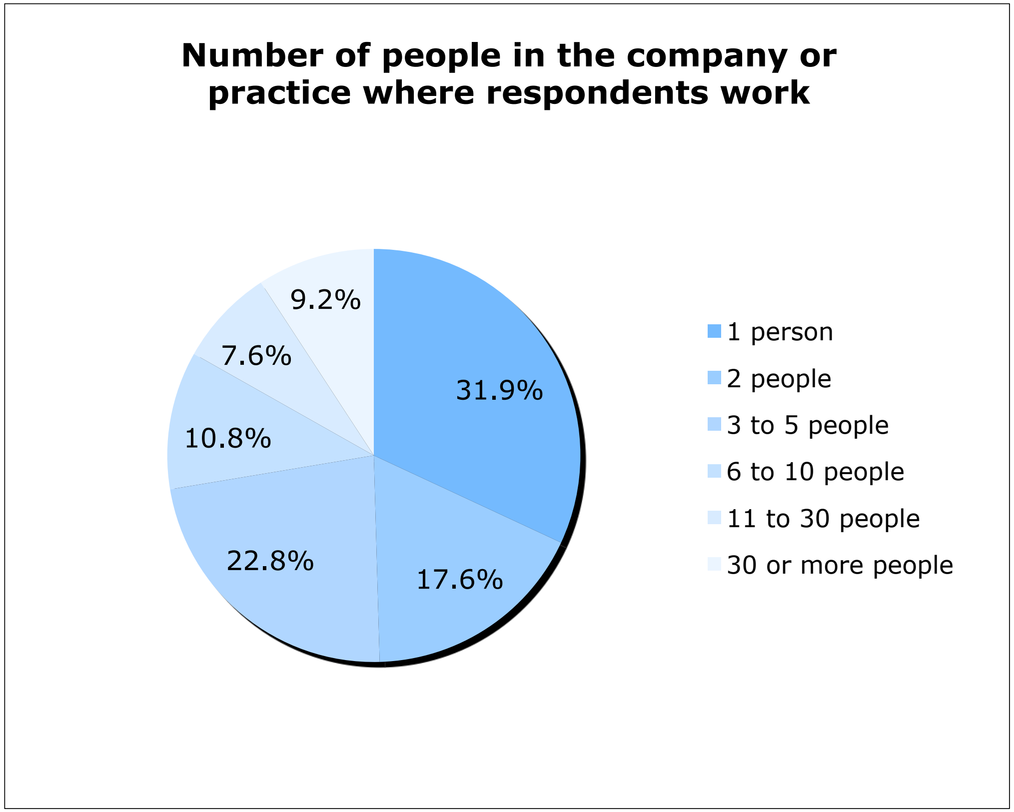
Breakdown of responses

COUNTRY	ANSWERS
France	1010
Turkey	712
Irlande	415
Greece	386
Spain	298
Portugal	238
Bulgaria	217
Croatia	206
Romania	182
Austria	159
Belgium	143
United Kingdom	119
Germany	108
Italy	68
Sweden	68
Estonia	56
Latvia	43
Netherlands	40
Denmark	39
Czech Republic	33
Malta	23
Finland	17
Luxembourg	14
Poland	13
Hungary	12
Slovenia	12
Norway	8
Switzerland	6
Cyprus	3
Lithuania	2
Slovakia	2

4652 architects have responded to the questionnaire.

Warning: Some of these answers were not included in the overall results due to the fact that they were not sufficiently representative in relation to the number of architects (see countries highlighted in grey).

Profile of respondents



All sizes of architectural practice are well represented.

The distribution is similar to the previous surveys.

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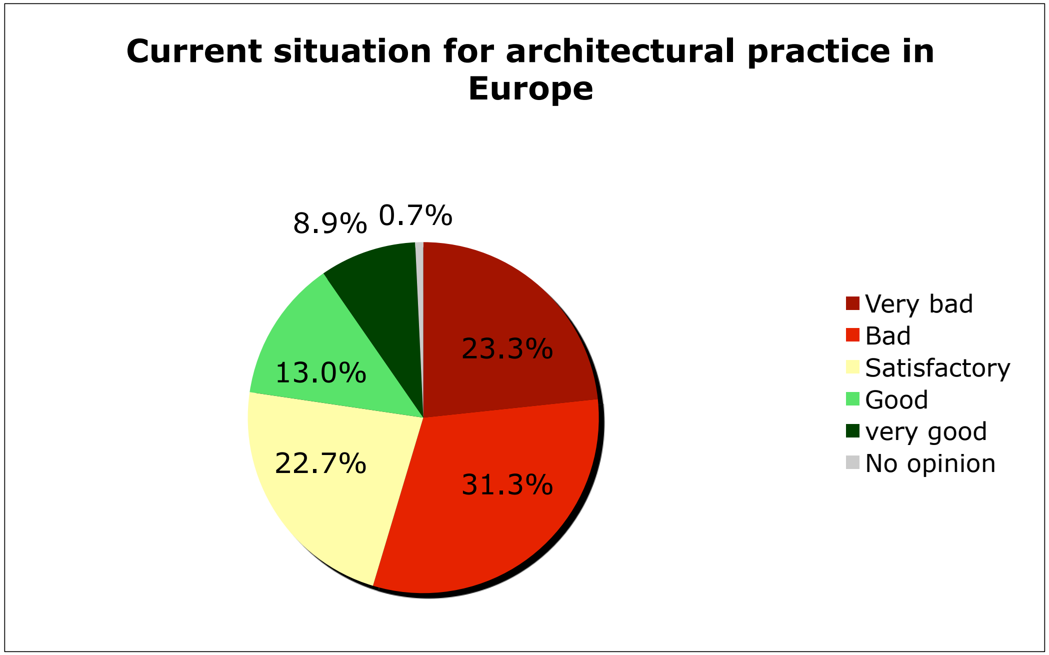

	Pessimistic	Optimistic
April 2009	65,16%	8,41%
January 2010	58,40%	15,10%
January 2011	53,70%	14,00%
January 2012	51,40%	13,70%
January 2013	62,60%	9,10%
January 2014	54,60%	21,90%

The January 2014 survey reveals an upward trend of global level of optimism within the profession: the number of respondents considering the current situation as good or very good has more than doubled over the last year (from 9.1% to 21.9%).

Despite a downward trend, more than half of respondents remain still pessimistic (54.6%).

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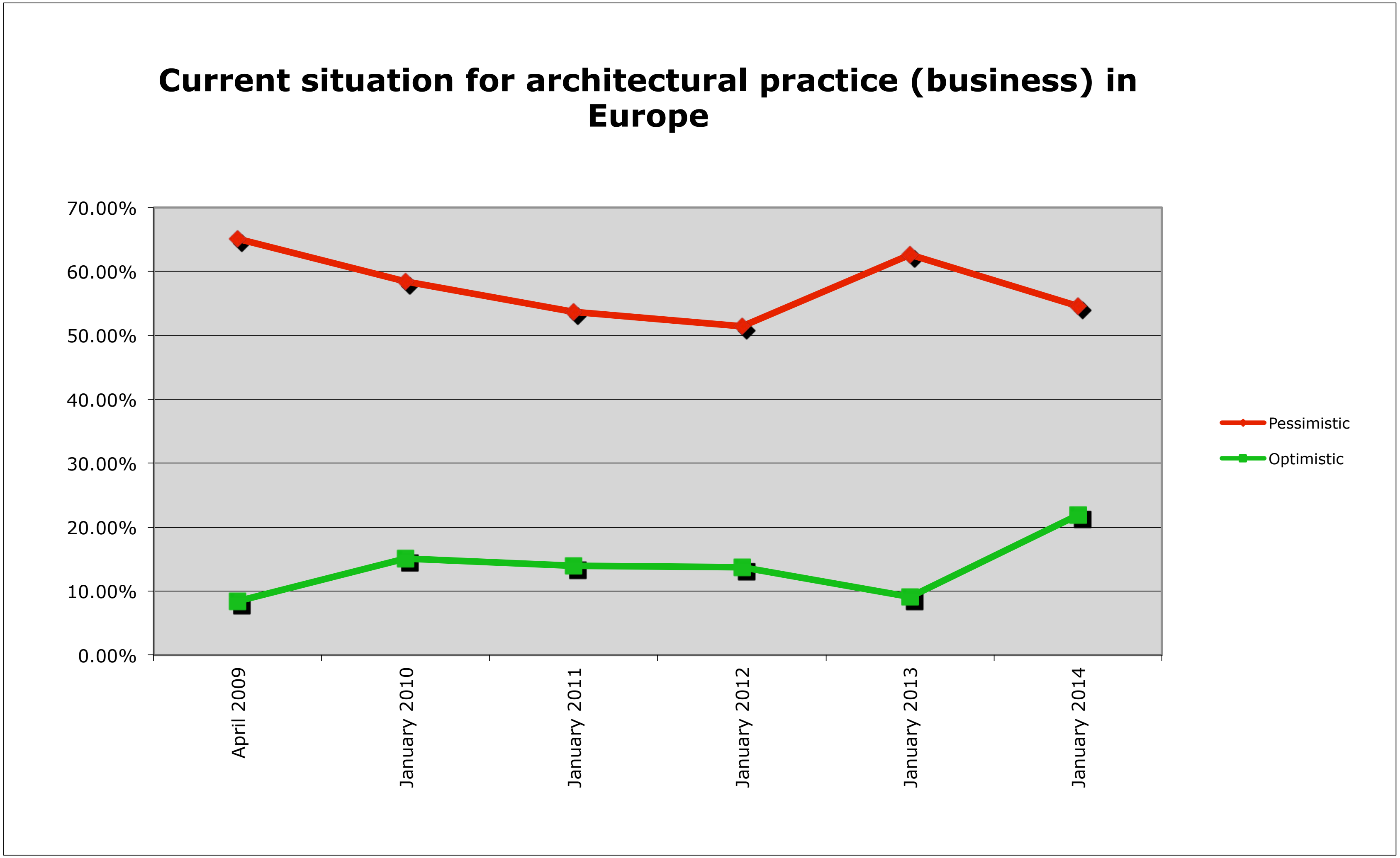

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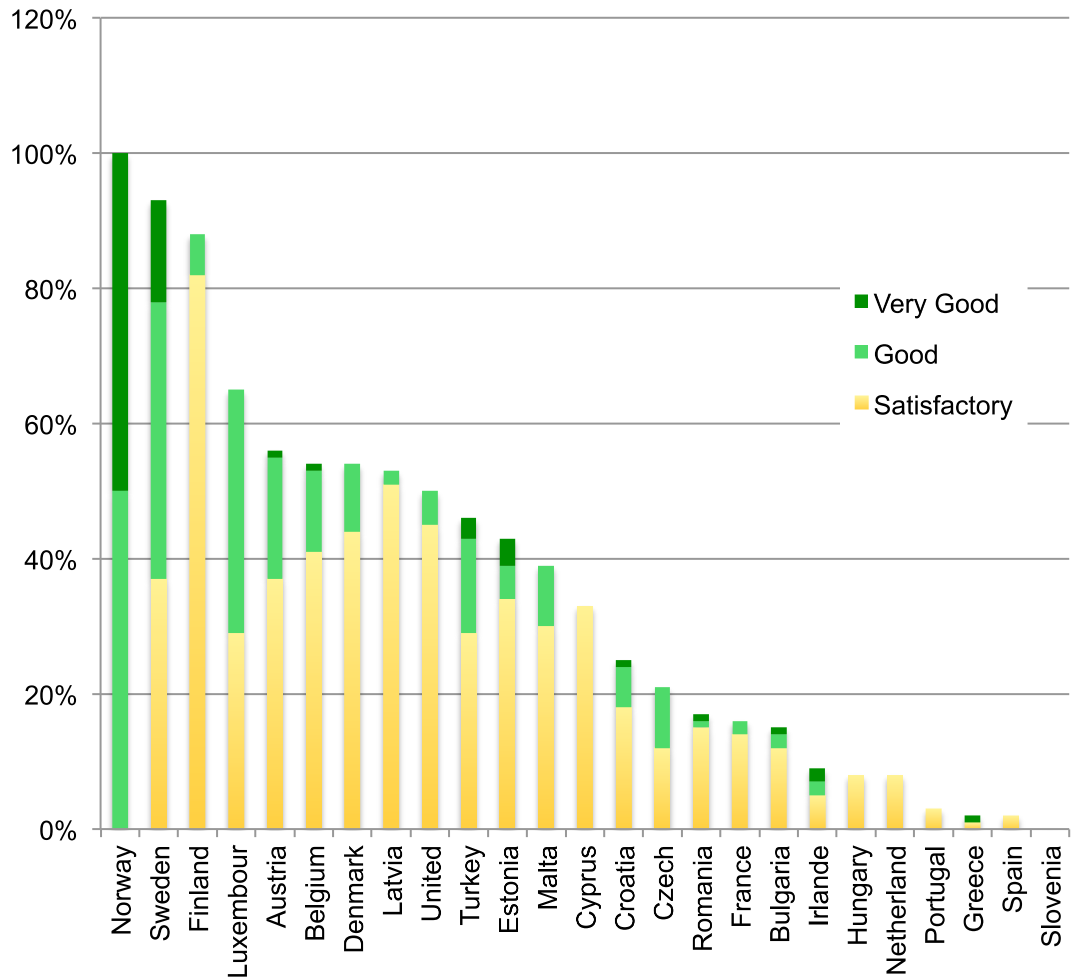
Persons judging the architectural market in their country to be satisfactory, good or very good



The breakdown by country reveals that the appraisal of the situation differs significantly from one country to another.

Northern Europe, headed by Norway, Sweden and Finland, is clearly more confident and satisfied than the rest of Europe.

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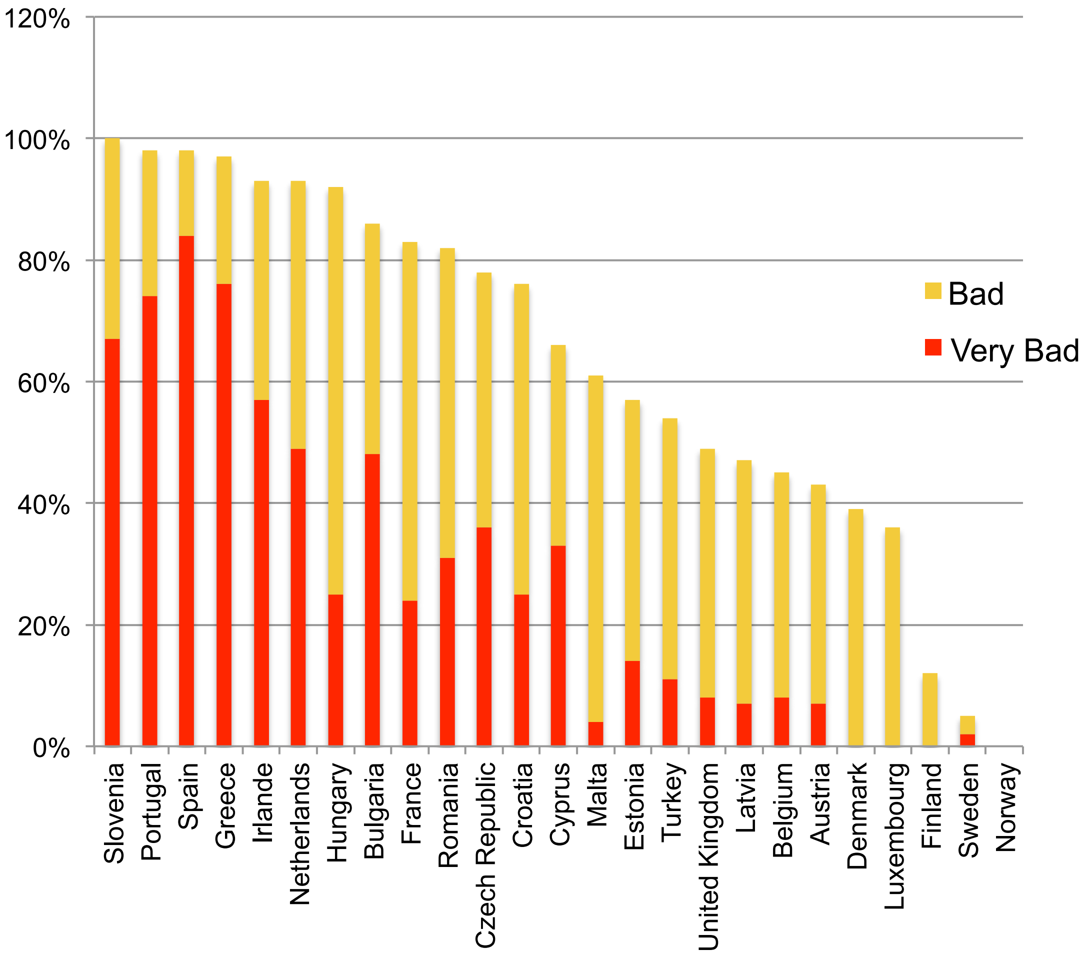
Persons judging the architectural market in their country to be bad or very bad



On the other hand, the situation seems to remain at an impasse in Southern and Central Europe, where a majority of respondents judged the situation bad or very bad.

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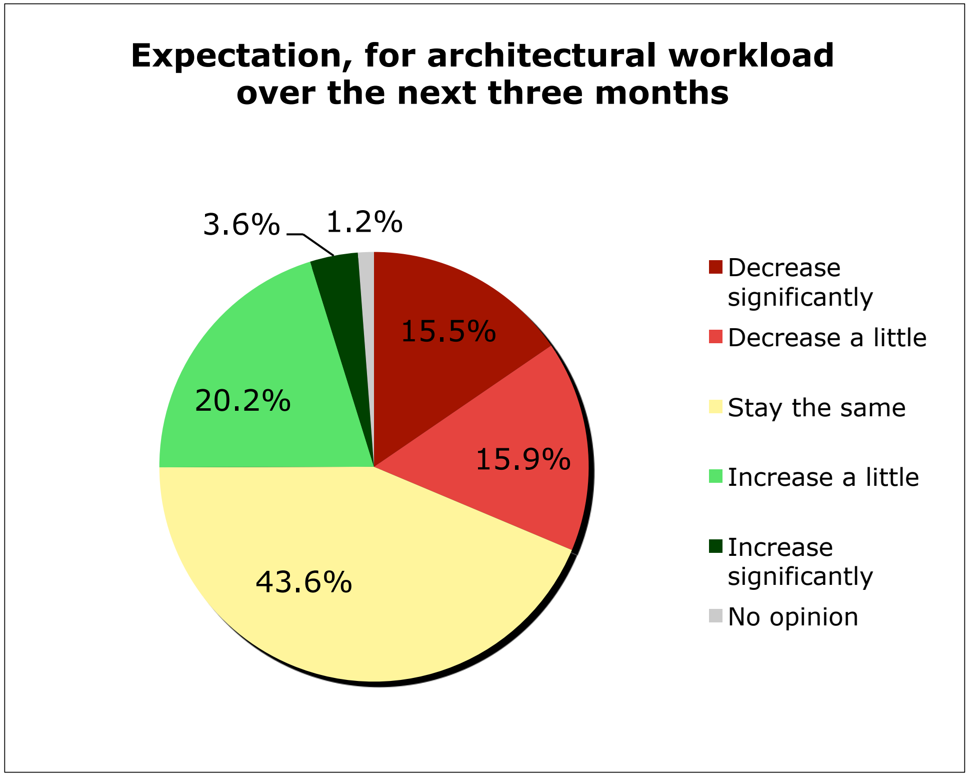

	Decrease	Increase
April 2009	48,47%	13,09%
January 2010	32,80%	22,40%
January 2011	32,80%	27,60%
January 2012	35,20%	22,10%
January 2013	34,10%	22,10%
January 2014	31,30%	23,80%

Compared with the previous year, a slight improvement in the workload forecasts for the next three months is observed: fewer architects expect a decrease (31.3%) in their workload, and more expect an increase (23.8%).

The breakdown by building type comes later in the presentation.

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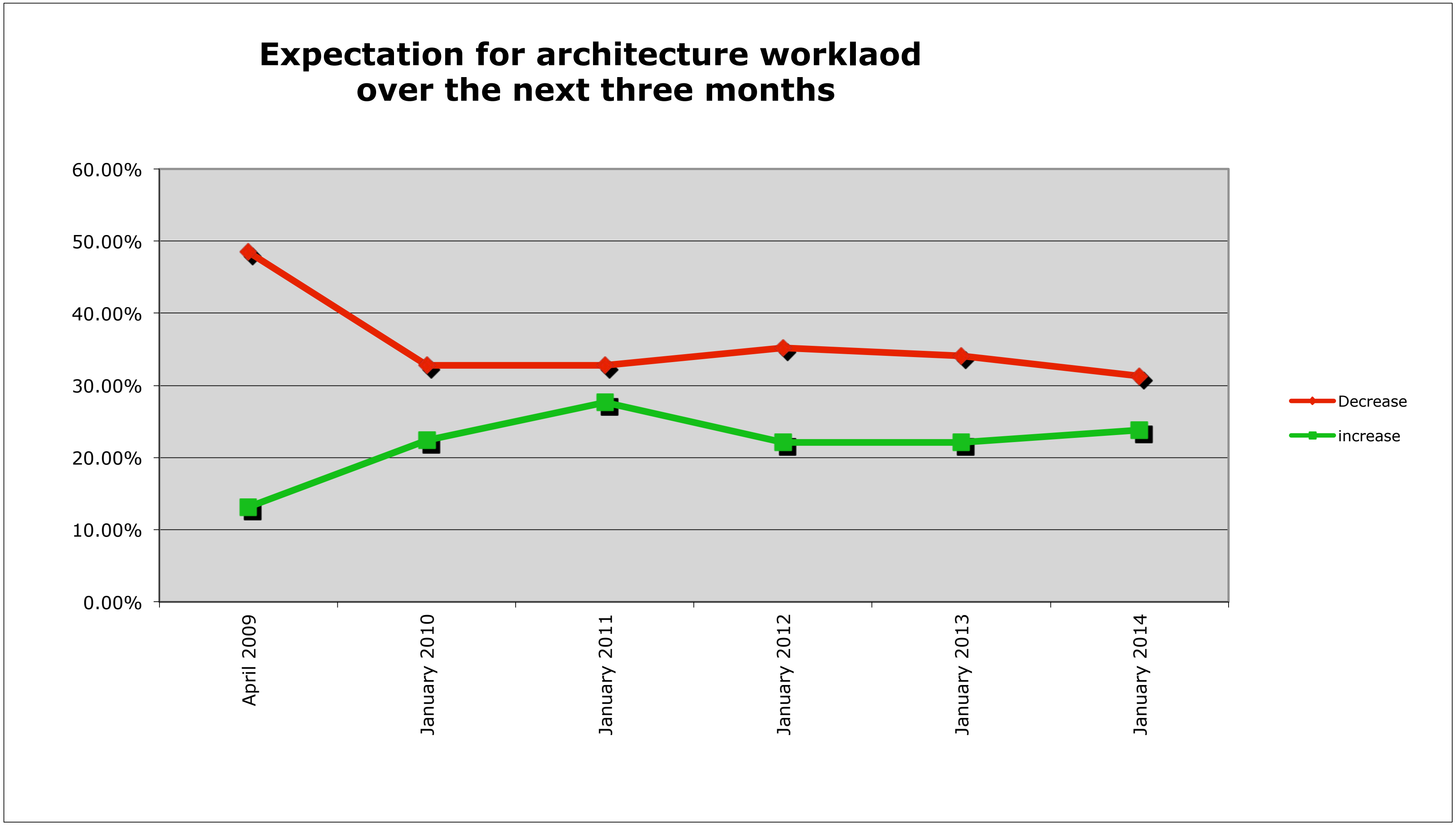

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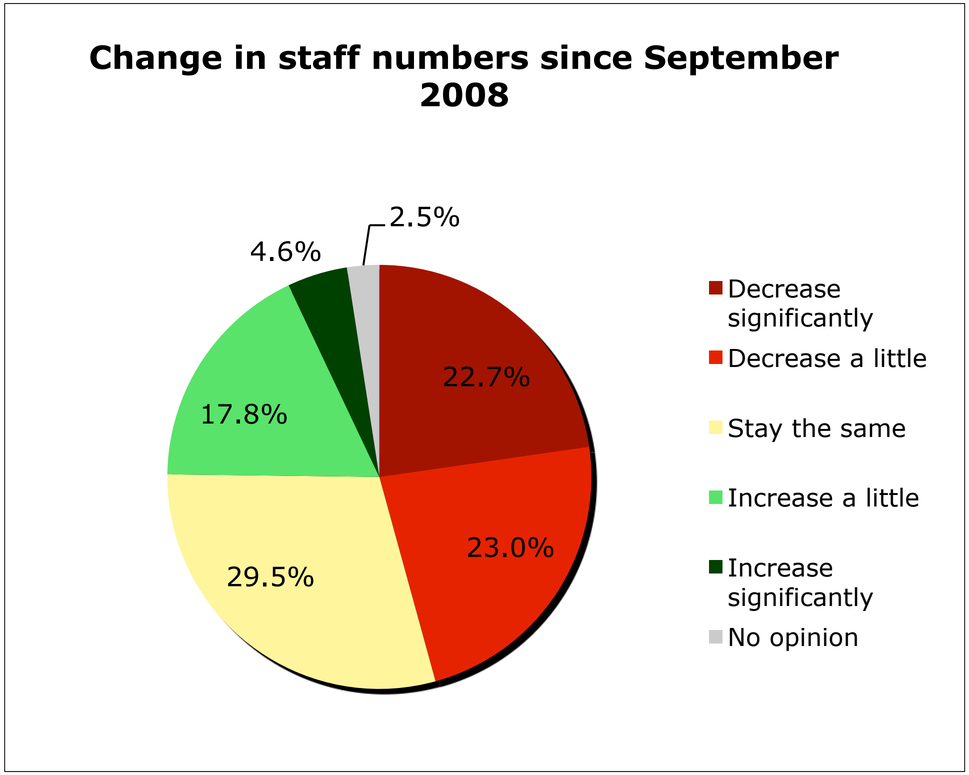

	Decrease	Increase
April 2009	37,18%	6,85%
January 2010	40,90%	15,20%
January 2011	42,30%	14,00%
January 2012	42,40%	16,50%
January 2013	45,30%	15,10%
January 2014	45,70%	22,40%

This result indicates that nearly 1 in 2 offices has seen a decrease in staff numbers since the start of the downturn in 2008.

However, the 2014 survey reveals a positive trend: while the offices having seen a decrease in their staff numbers remain stable (45.7%), the proportion of those with a growing staff numbers increases from 15,1% to 22,40% over the past year.

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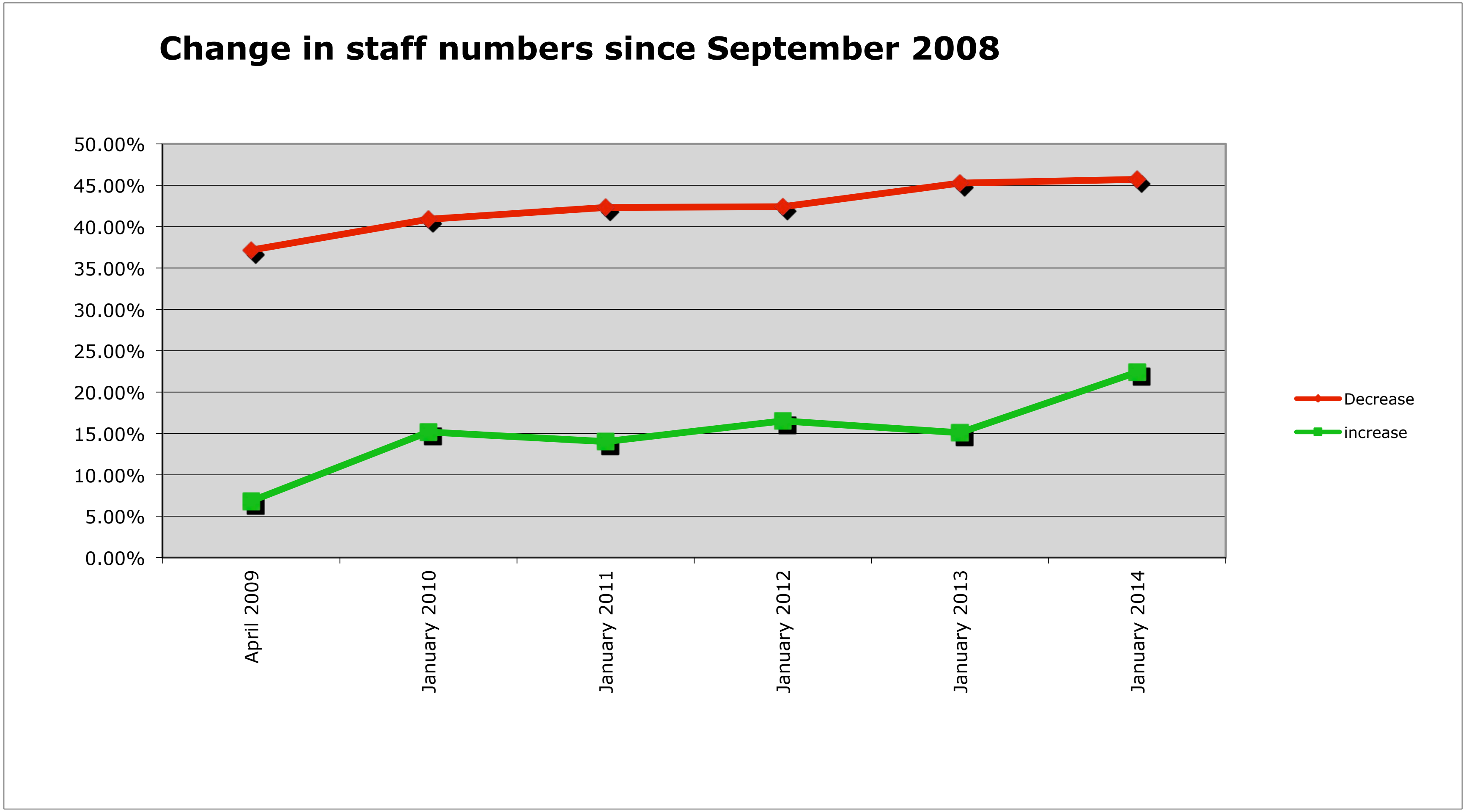

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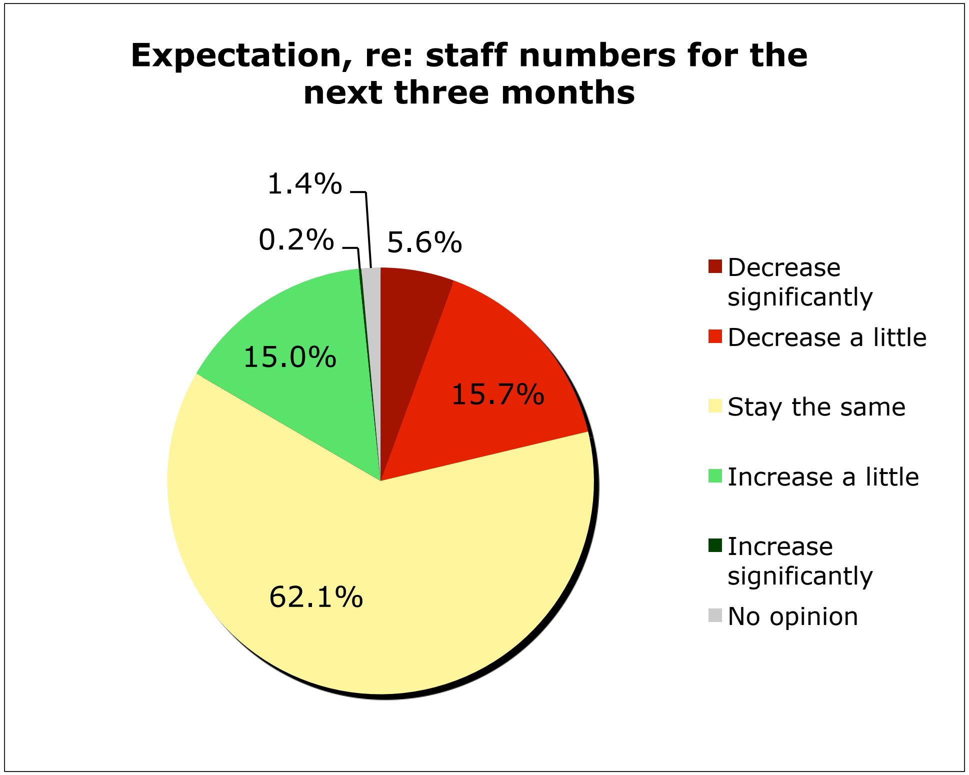

	Decrease	Increase
April 2009	32,35%	6,15%
January 2010	17,00%	13,20%
January 2011	15,00%	17,80%
January 2012	16,20%	10,10%
January 2013	20,80%	12,60%
January 2014	21,30%	15,20%

As in the previous surveys, a large majority of respondents did not expect any change in staff numbers for the next three months (62,1%).

Since 2012, the number of respondents expecting an increase has however steadily grown (from 10.1% in 2012, to 15.2% in 2014)

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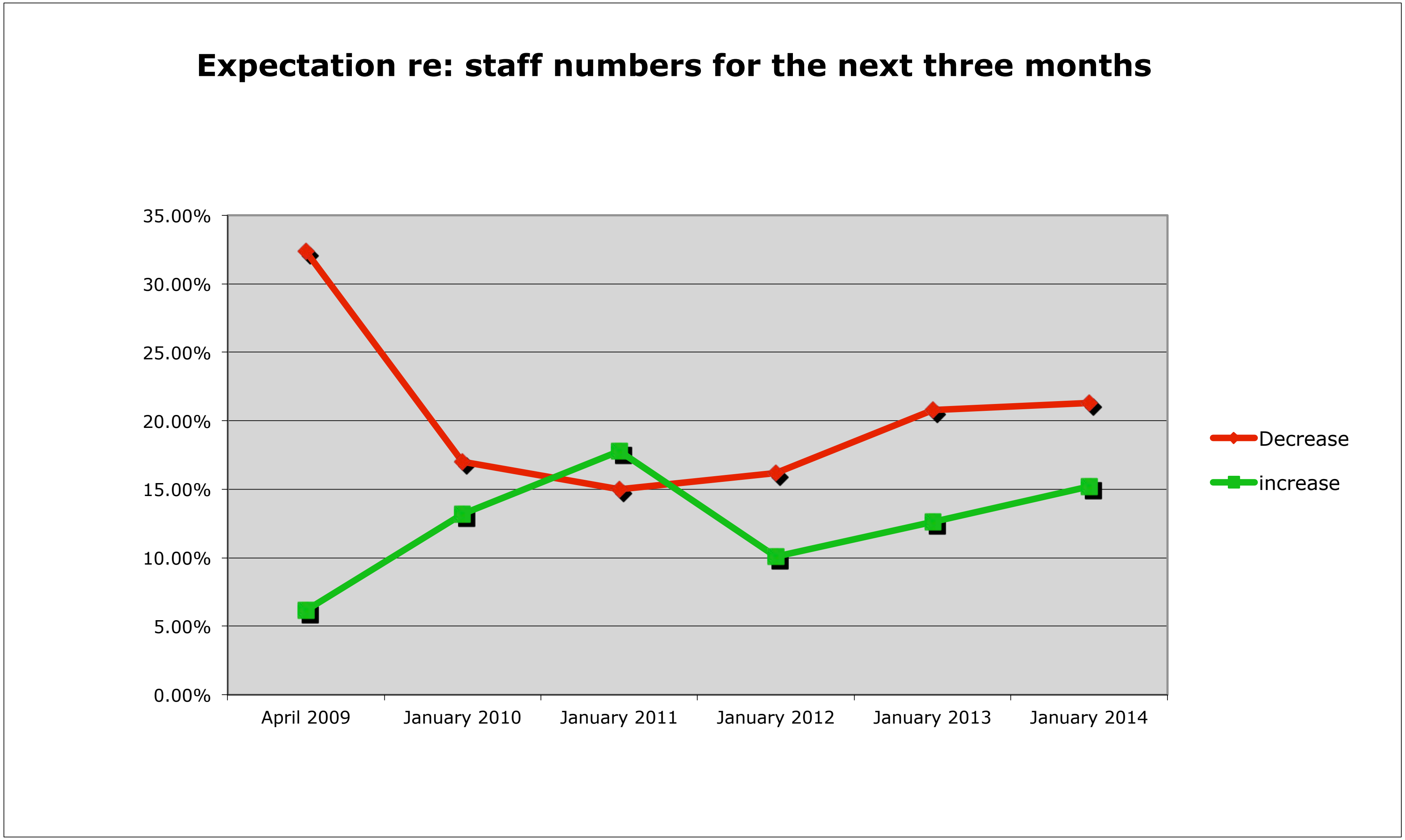

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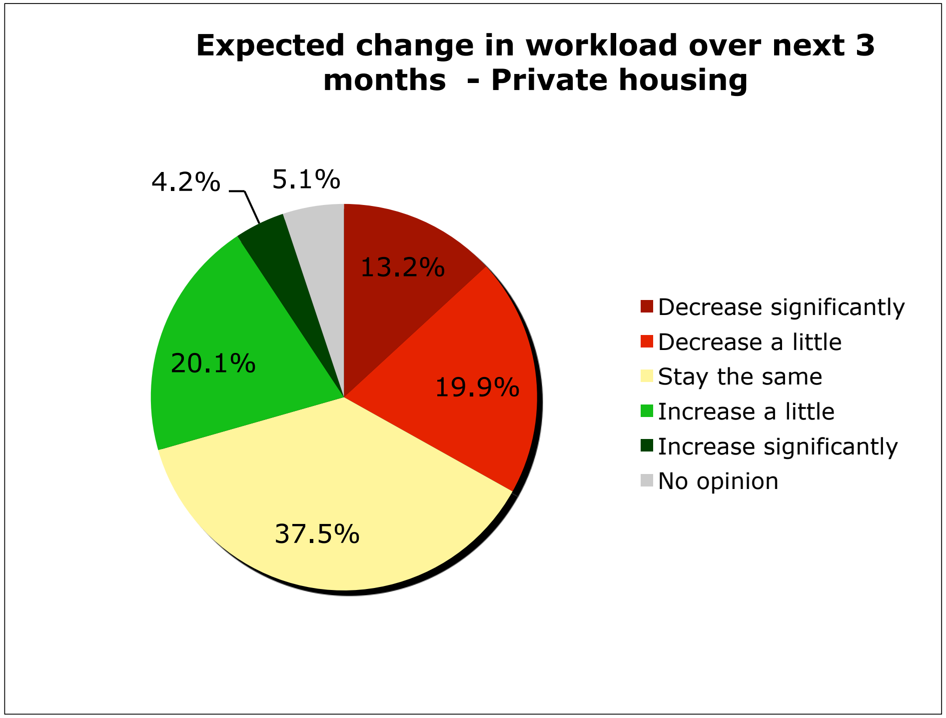

	Decrease	Increase
April 2009	67,04%	10,44%
January 2010	47,30%	15,70%
January 2011	34,00%	26,20%
January 2012	35,10%	20,10%
January 2013	43,00%	16,10%
January 2014	33,10%	24,30%

In comparison with January 2013, the number of respondents expecting a decrease in workload for private housing has significantly declined (from 43% to 33.1%).

In January 2014, one quarter of respondents now even expect an increase in workload for private housing.

Readers are reminded that private housing accounts for 44% of the market for architects in Europe.

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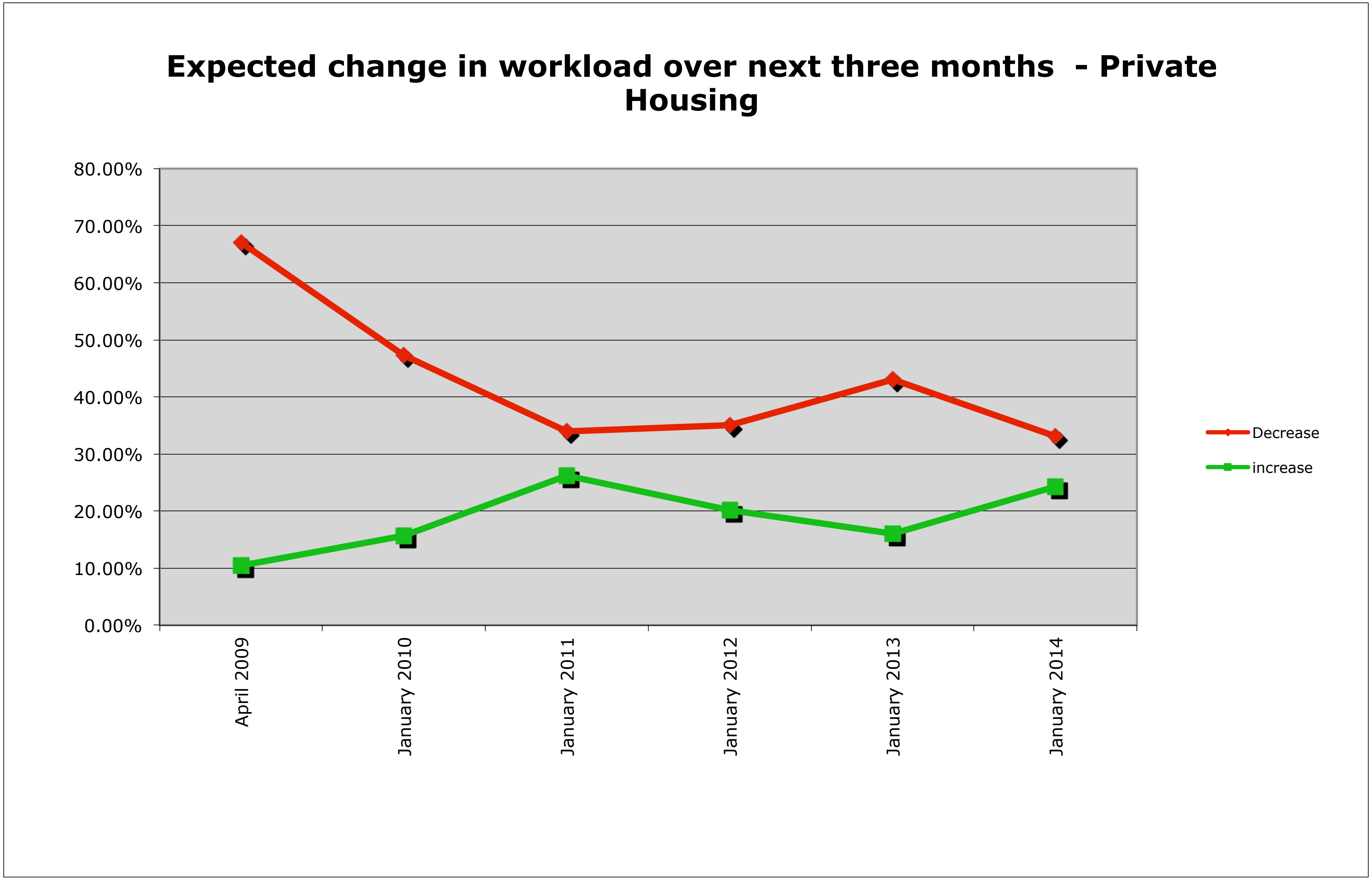

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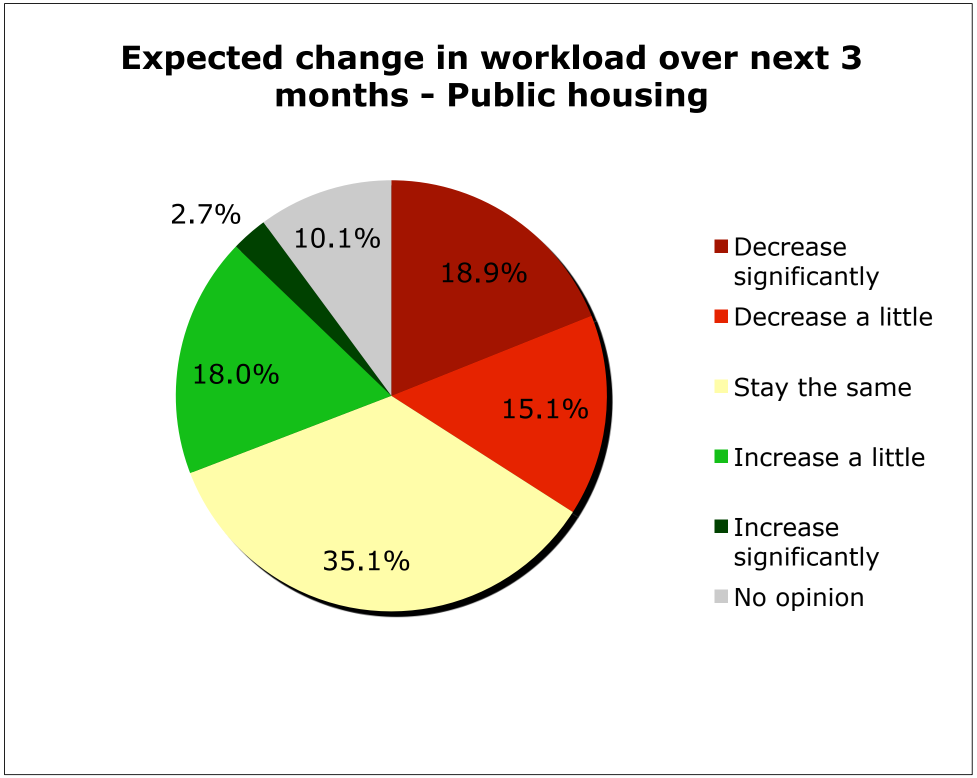

	Decrease	Increase
April 2009	59,78%	9,73%
January 2010	48,30%	9,80%
January 2011	43,00%	20,30%
January 2012	43,80%	10,20%
January 2013	41,90%	16,80%
January 2014	34,10%	20,70%

This survey shows encouraging trends for public housing projects.

Compared with January 2012, the proportion of respondents expecting an increase in their workload in public housing has doubled (from 10.2% to 20.7%).

At the same time, the proportion of those expecting a decrease in their workload in public housing continues to decrease (from 41.9% to 34.1% over the past year).

Readers are reminded that public housing accounts for 6% of the architects' market in Europe.

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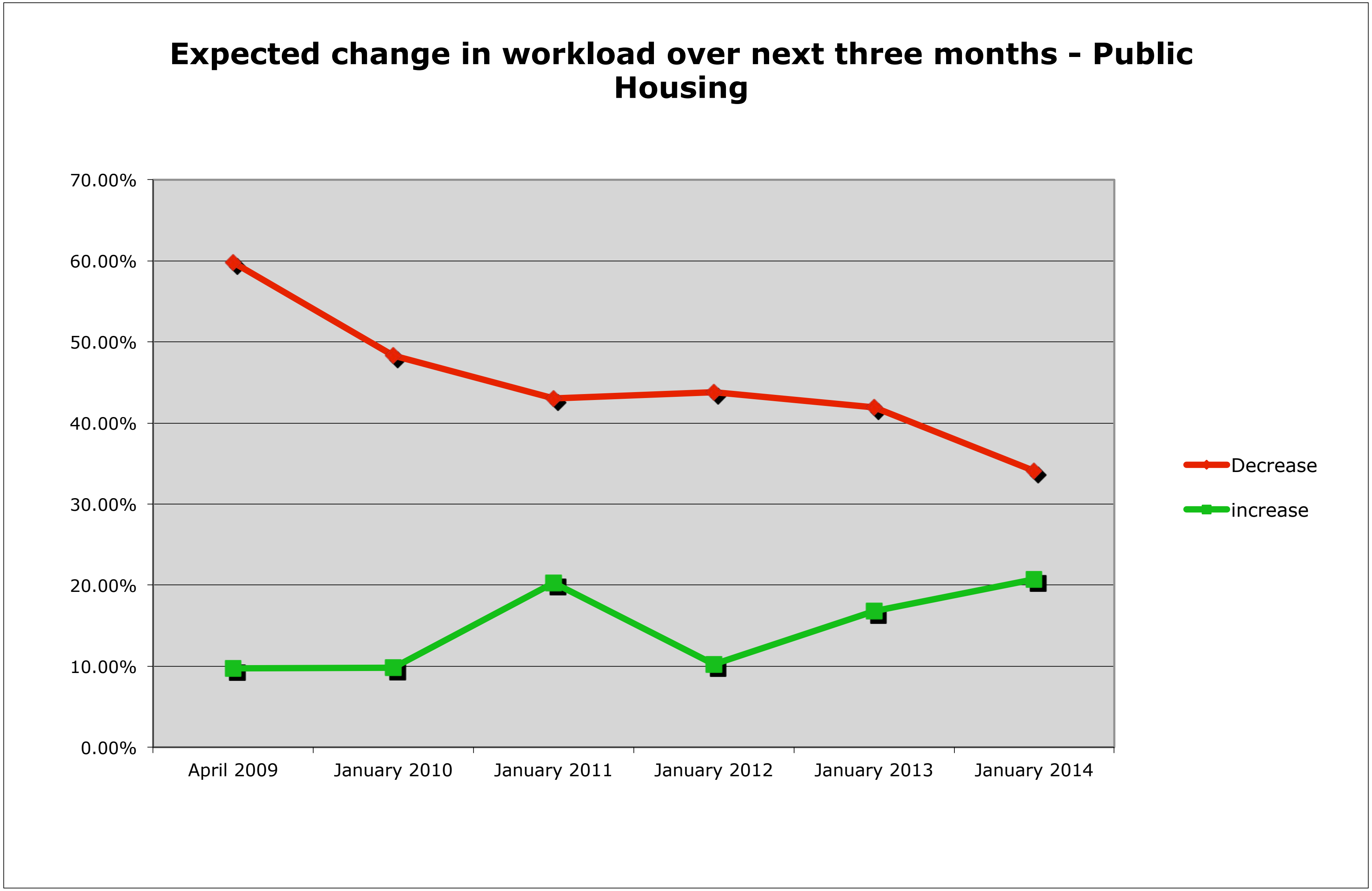

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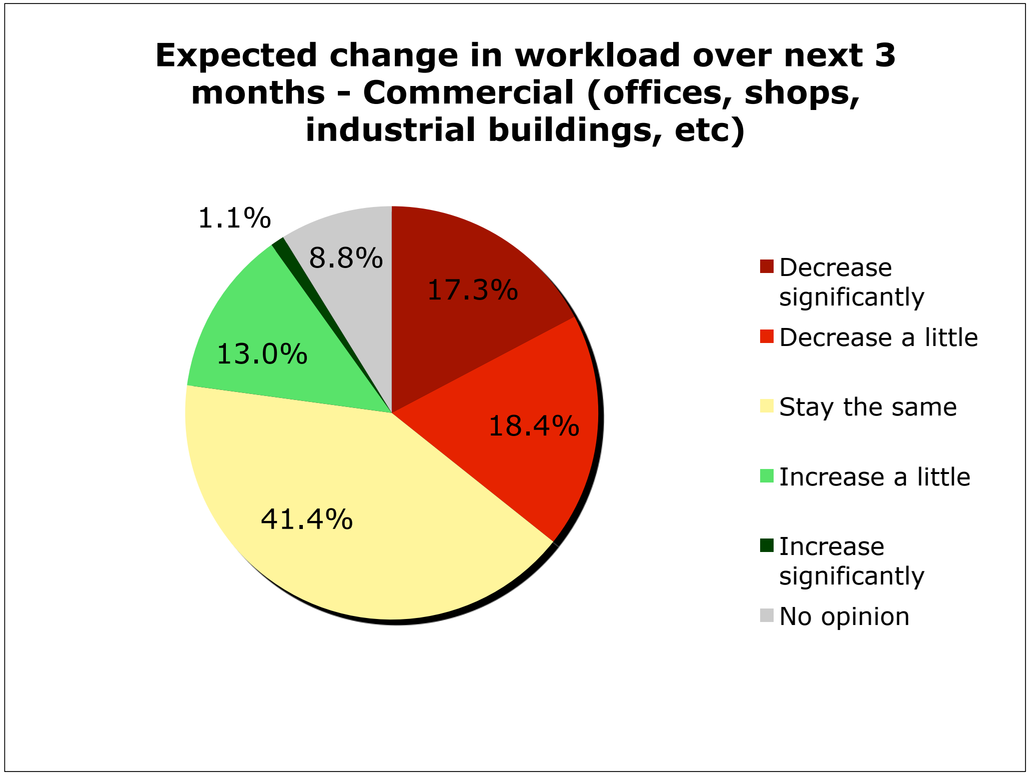

	Decrease	Increase
April 2009	76,19%	5,18%
January 2010	57,80%	9,50%
January 2011	40,10%	20,60%
January 2012	50,80%	10,20%
January 2013	49,40%	13,30%
January 2014	35,70%	14,10%

The number of respondents expecting a decrease of their workload for commercial projects is clearly downward: while in January 2013 half of respondents expected a decrease in their workload, they are now 35.7%.

On the other hand, 14.1% now expect an increase over the next 3 months in this area (compared with 10.2% in 2012).

Readers are reminded that commercial projects account for 23% of the architects' market for in Europe.

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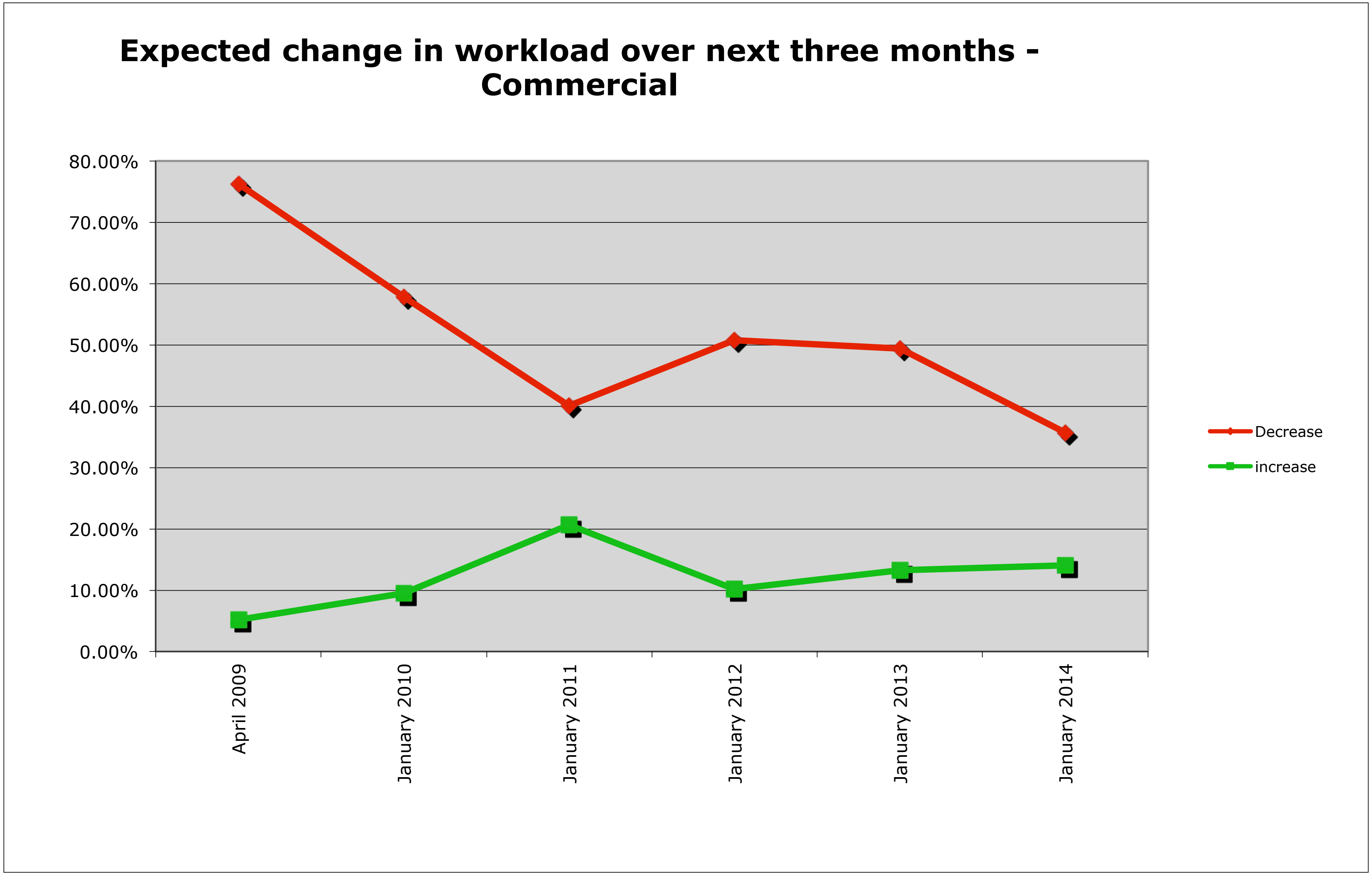

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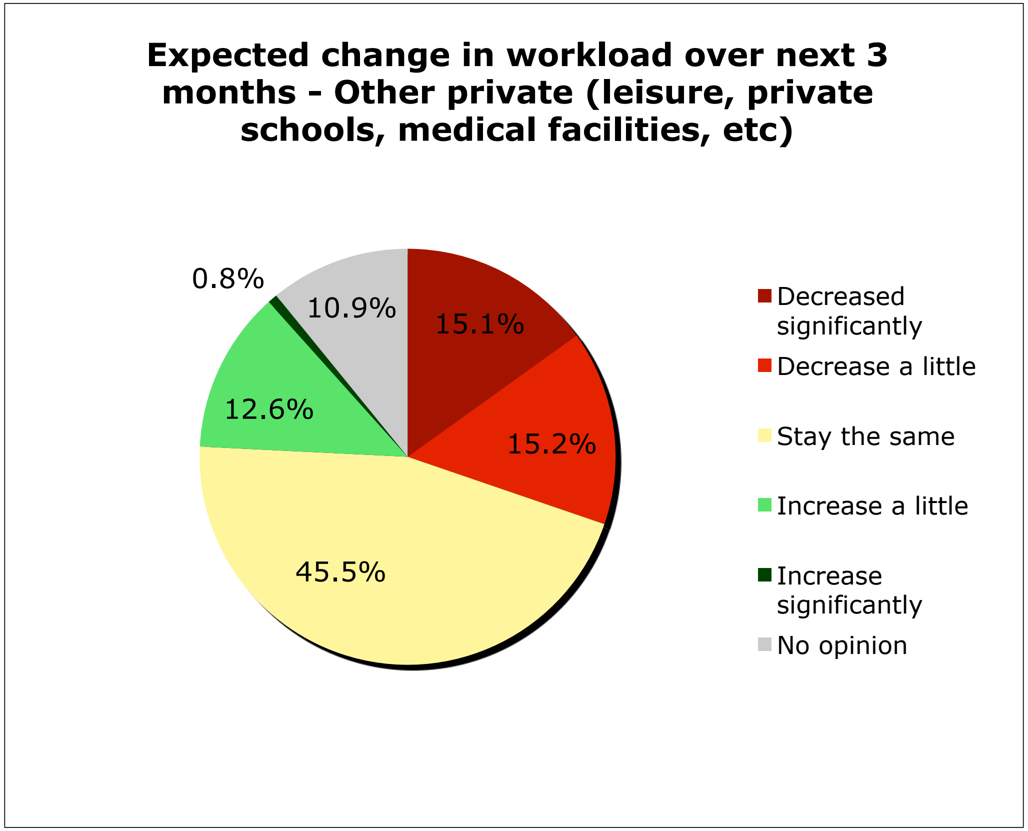

	Decrease	Increase
April 2009	62,07%	3,12%
January 2010	48,50%	11,40%
January 2011	35,40%	13,90%
January 2012	40,50%	10,30%
January 2013	42,90%	10,00%
January 2014	30,30%	13,30%

The January 2014 survey confirms the improvement that were foreseen in 2013 regarding the workload forecasts for other private projects: the number of respondents expecting a decrease in their workload falls from 42.9% to 30.3%.

At the same time, those expecting an increase are now 13.3%.

Readers are reminded that other private projects account for 7% of the architects' market in Europe.

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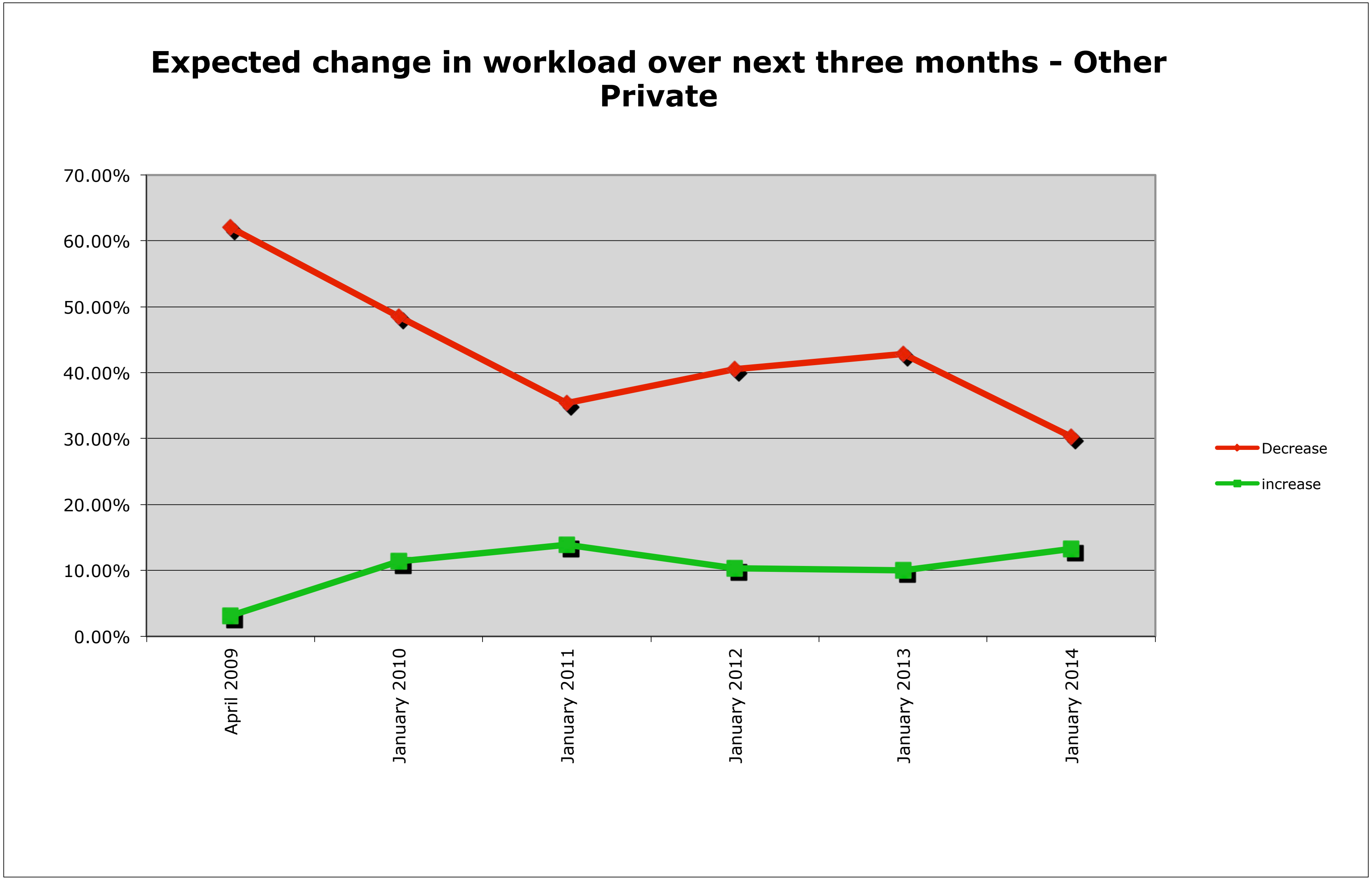

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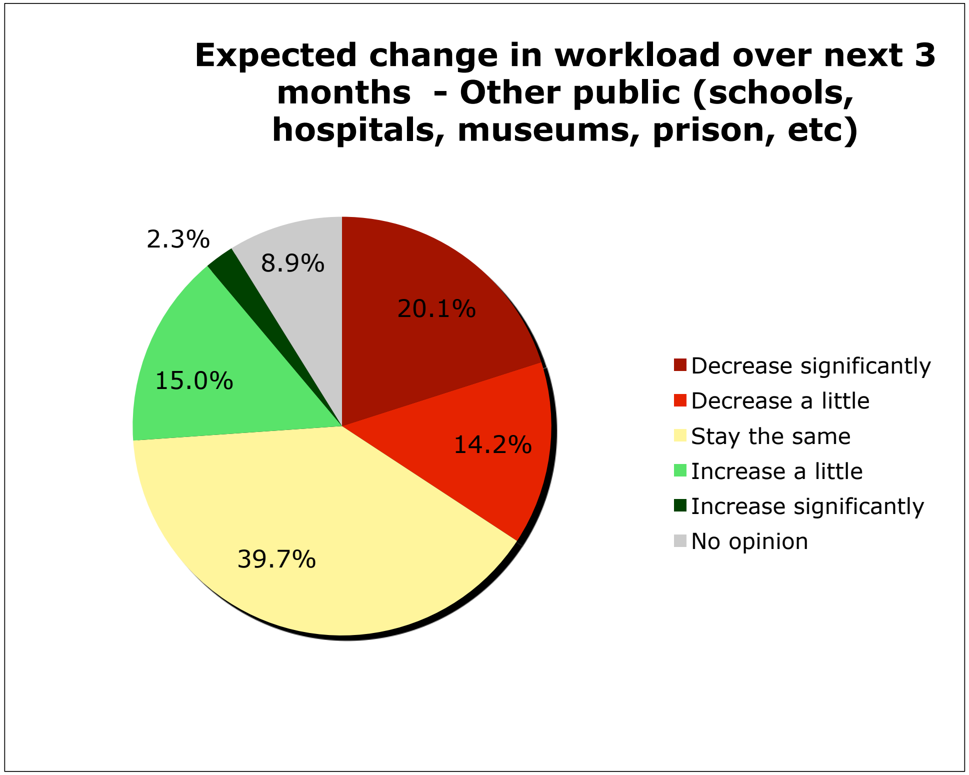

	Decrease	Increase
April 2009	42,18%	14,58%
January 2010	41,40%	16,30%
January 2011	38,10%	20,10%
January 2012	44,30%	14,90%
January 2013	46,50%	17,10%
January 2014	34,20%	17,30%

The trend of workload forecast for other public projects is also encouraging: fewer respondents now expect a decrease in workload (34.2%), while those expecting an increase are stable (17.3%).

Readers are reminded that other public projects account for 20% of the architects' market in Europe.

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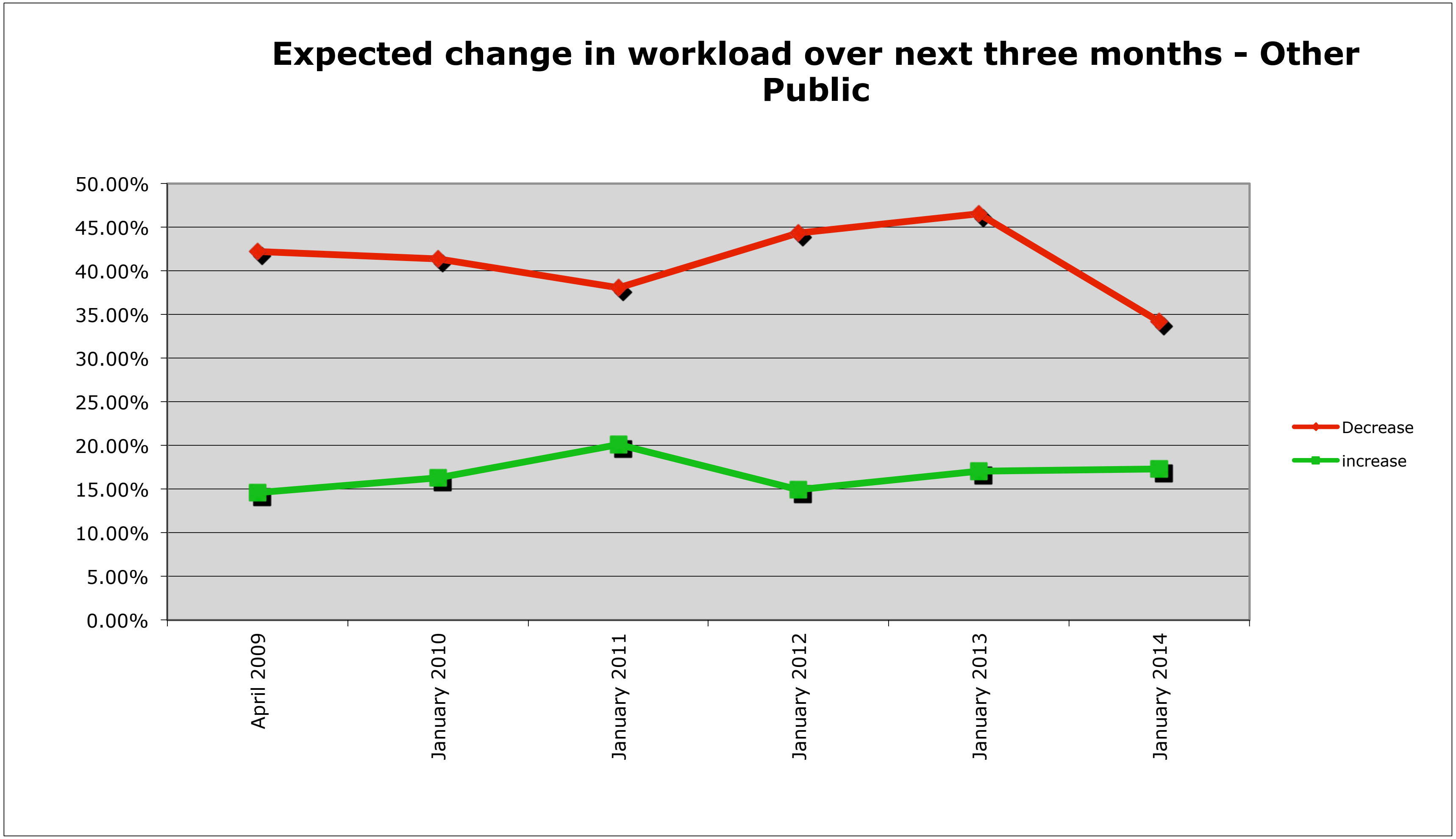

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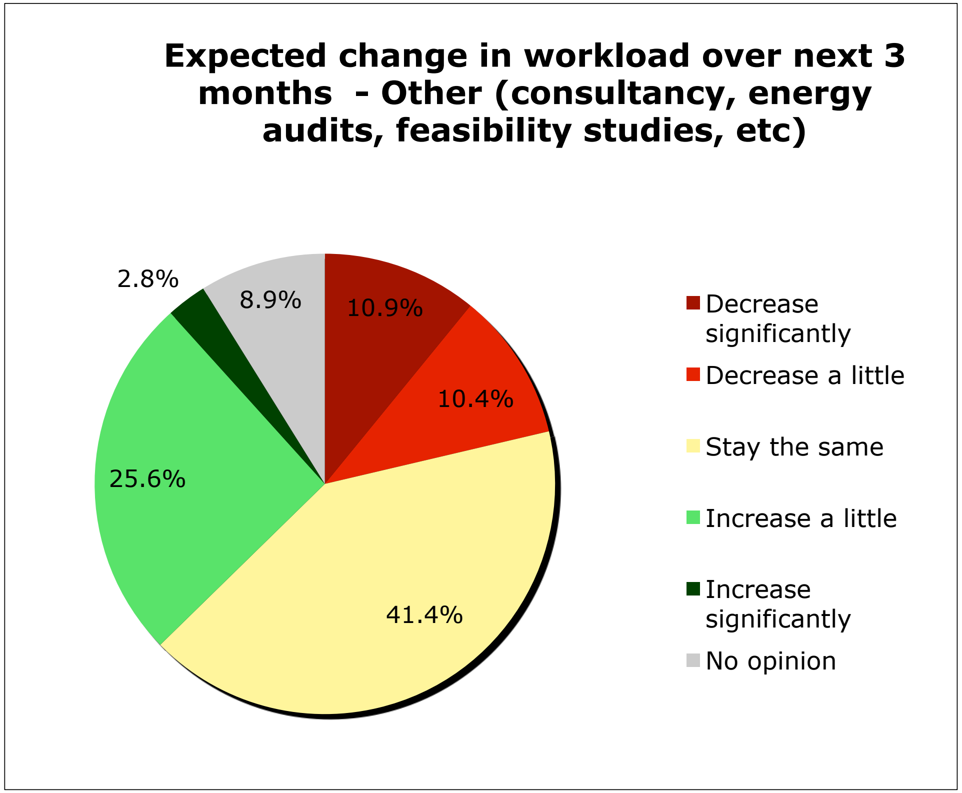
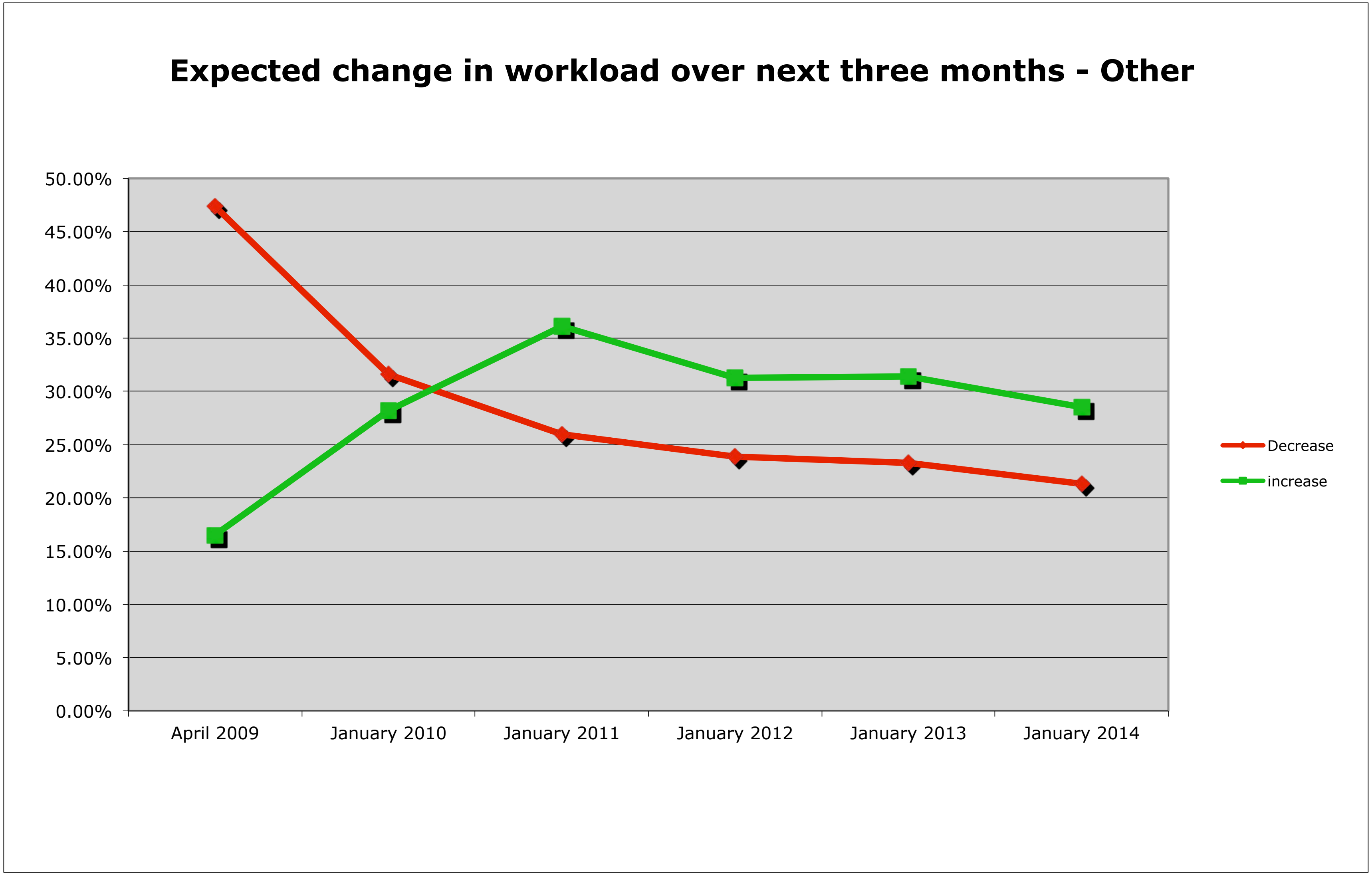


It is not known what the percentage of the market these tasks represent for architects, but it remains the area that is the least pessimistic about future workload: 28.5% of respondents expect an increase over the next 3 months, compared with 21.3% that expect a decrease.

	Decrease	Increase
April 2009	47,38%	16,51%
January 2010	31,60%	28,20%
January 2011	26,00%	36,10%
January 2012	23,90%	31,30%
January 2013	23,30%	31,40%
January 2014	21,30%	28,50%

12th Economic Trends Survey – January 2014



CONCLUSIONS

- **The January 2014 Economic Trend Survey reveals that the general mood among the profession is improving: more respondents expect an increase of their workload in the short-term, and envisage, as a result, an increase in staff numbers.**

- **All fields of activities show upward trends: the proportion of respondents expecting an increase of workload for public and private housing projects, for commercial projects but also for other public and private projects clearly rises.**

- **The survey confirms, therefore, that the situation is stabilising and that the tentative signs observed in the previous surveys have turned into encouraging positive trends, suggesting a slow recovery of the market.**

- **However, the situation differs from one country to another: countries of Northern Europe remain more confident than those of Southern and Central Europe.**