

COVID-19 BUSINESS IMPACT SURVEY JUNE 2020 – MANITOULIN DISTRICT

BUSINESS RESPONDENTS

This report represents responses to the third COVID-19 Business Impact survey which was conducted from June 24th to July 2nd, 2020. As with previous surveys, the June 2020 survey was distributed to local businesses by the City of Greater Sudbury, Greater Sudbury Chamber of Commerce, LAMBAC, Workforce Planning for Sudbury & Manitoulin and other business-related organizations.

The April 2020 survey generated 48 responses; the May 2020 survey generated 18 responses; and as expected, a lower number of businesses responded to the June 2020 survey with only 11 responses. It is important to note that this low response rate is clearly not representative of all business in the Manitoulin District and cannot be used to gauge the opinions of all local businesses. Although each survey period was meant to offer a snapshot in time, we can only speculate that the low response rate may be due to: survey burnout; challenges with adapting to a “new” norm; a refocus by businesses who are allowed to open with new health and safety measures; and those who simply do not want to answer the survey again.

Additionally, we have yet to see the impact of COVID-19 on the tourism sector, and in particular seasonal businesses that rely on income generated in roughly 6 months of the year. Tourism is a significant industry in many parts of the Manitoulin District. It is acknowledged that some have been deeply impacted, may not be able to open this season and may go out of business as a result.

As with previous surveys, the number of respondents per question has been included as not everyone answered each question. Additionally, total percentages for each question may not add up to 100% due to rounding, questions that allowed for multiple answers or those with an ‘other’ comment field.

1. Have you completed any of the previous COVID-19 Business Impact Surveys?	Manitoulin District	
	% of respondents	# of respondents
Yes, I completed the April survey	50%	5
Yes, I completed the May survey	80%	8
No, I did not complete the April survey	30%	3
No, I did not complete the May survey	20%	2

2. What type of business are you?	Manitoulin District
Private Business – Sole Proprietor/Partnership	45%
Private Business – Corporation	55%
Public Sector/Government Agency	0%
Not-for-Profit	0%

Number of respondents answered this question: Manitoulin District 11



3. Please select one PRIMARY and any OTHER sectors in which your business/organization operates. If relevant, select as many other sectors in which you operate.	Manitoulin District		
	Primary Sector %	Other Sector %	# of respondents
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	0%	0%	0
Mining, Quarrying or Oil & Gas Extraction	0%	0%	0
Utilities	100%	0%	1
Construction	100%	0%	3
Manufacturing	0%	0%	0
Wholesale Trade	0%	0%	0
Retail Trade	0%	100%	1
Transportation and Warehousing	0%	0%	0
Information and Cultural Industries	0%	0%	0
Finance and Insurance	0%	0%	0
Real Estate and Rental & Leasing	0%	0%	0
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	0%	100%	1
Management of Companies and Enterprises	0%	0%	0
Administration & Support, Waste Management and Remediation Services	0%	0%	0
Educational Services	0%	0%	0
Healthcare and Social Assistance	100%	0%	1
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	50%	50%	2
Accommodation and Food Services	80%	20%	5
Public Administration	0%	0%	0
Other	100%	0%	1

Number of respondents answered this question: Manitoulin District 11

4. Are you a member of the Chamber of Commerce	Responses
Greater Sudbury Chamber of Commerce	10%
Sudbury East Chamber of Commerce	0%
I am not a member of either Chamber of Commerce	90%

Number of respondents answered this question: Manitoulin District 10

BUSINESS CONTINUITY IMPACT

5. How would you rank the strategic risk COVID-19 poses to your long-term business prospects?	Manitoulin District
High – this could put us out of business	27%
Medium – this is going to significantly impact our financials	36%
Low – this may impact us financially, but we are confident we can weather the storm	36%
None (please provide comments)	0%

Number of respondents answered this question: Manitoulin District 11



6. How has COVID-19 impacted your business's/organization's operations? (Check all that apply)	Manitoulin District
No impact	0%
We have reduced hours, staff and our business operations	64%
We are working remotely but continuing operations	18%
We have closed our business/organization temporarily	36%
We have experienced an increase in business	18%
We have closed our business/organization permanently	9%

Number of respondents answered this question: Manitoulin District 11

7. If you are continuing your business operations, how have you adjusted your operations? (Check all that apply)	Manitoulin District
Our storefront is operating with reduced hours	18%
Our storefront is closed but we take telephone order	0%
Our storefront is closed but we operate online	0%
We have had to expand our operations	9%
We have had to extend our business hours	0%
N/A	73%

Number of respondents answered this question: Manitoulin District 11

8. What additional impact/measures have you experienced? (Check all that apply)	Manitoulin District
Our supply chain is interrupted	36%
We have had to cancel/delay contracts	18%
We have had contracts cancelled/delayed	45%
We have had to cancel/postpone fundraising events (for non-profits)	0%
We are experiencing decreases in sales (or donations if non-profit)	73%
We are having to restrict spending because of the uncertainty	73%
We are experiencing a significant increase in consumer demand for certain items	9%
We have increased cleaning and sanitation in our offices/facilities	82%
Other: no other responses were provided.	

Number of respondents answered this question: Manitoulin District 11

BUSINESS - HUMAN RESOURCES IMPACT

9. On June 1 st , 2020 what was the size of your workforce?	Manitoulin District
No employees	60%
1 – 9	40%
10 – 19	0
20 - 49	0
50 – 99	0
100 or more	0

Number of respondents answered this question: Manitoulin District 10

10. How many employees have you laid off since June 1st, 2020 due to COVID-19?

		Total Number	# of Respondents	Average Number
Manitoulin District	Full-time	0	4	0
	Part-time	0	3	0
	Seasonal	3	4	1
	Contract	0	3	0

Number of respondents answered this question: Manitoulin District 5

11. How many employees have you hired since June 1st, 2020 due to COVID-19?

		Total Number	# of Respondents	Average Number
Manitoulin District	Full-time	0	4	0
	Part-time	0	3	0
	Seasonal	4	5	1
	Contract	0	3	0

Number of respondents answered this question: Manitoulin District 6

12. What else have you tried to do to minimize the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on your workforce? (Check all that apply)

	Manitoulin District
We educate our employees as to the symptoms and risks associated with the virus, as well as prevention measures	33%
We have staggered work hours for employees	0%
We have required employees to work from home	11%
We are asking employees to use vacation, sick or personal days during the crisis, and deferring layoffs	0%
We continue to pay wages to employees that are off work for quarantine or illness.	0%
We have closed our business/organization temporarily and not paying employees during closure.	11%
We have informed employees of the government assistance programs	22%
N/A (0 employees or self-employed)	67%
Other: no other responses were provided.	

Number of respondents answered this question: Manitoulin District 9

13. If your business pursued any new or innovative products/services in response to the COVID-19 crisis, please provide details.

Responses: 2 businesses said no and no other responses were provided.

Number of respondents answered this question: Manitoulin District 2

14. What would you like your local community to do to assist you at this time in managing the COVID-19 crisis?

Responses: 5 businesses provided some recommendations as follows: promote, support and shop local; continue to be vigilant about following and supporting public health and safety guidelines (this includes contractors, places of business and home) and for government to continue to assist local businesses. It was also noted that interruptions to the supply chain have been significant and the importance of getting people back to work in those supply chain operations (currently not enough staff to work or deliver goods, errors being made, etc.). Increased support for the tourism business was noted as the industry is seasonal and losing revenue. One business felt there is nothing a small community can do.

Number of respondents answered this question: Manitoulin District 5

GOVERNMENT FUNDING PROGRAMS

15. Are you aware of the federal or provincial COVID-19-related funding/ programs?	Manitoulin District
Yes	100%
No	0%

Number of respondents answered this question: Manitoulin District 10

16. Will your business be able to benefit from the current federal or provincial COVID-19-related funding/programs?	Manitoulin District
Yes	60%
No	10%
I do not qualify	20%
Comments: (If yes why? If no why?)	

Number of respondents answered this question: Manitoulin District 10

17. Have you or do you plan to access any of the following federal or provincial COVID-19-related funding/programs?	Manitoulin District
Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy	14
Temporary Wage Subsidy for Employers	0
Canada Emergency Business Account	29
Work Sharing Program extension	0
Business Credit Availability Program through BDC and EDC	14
Canada Emergency Commercial Rental Assistance	0
Regional Relief and Recovery Fund through FedNor	0
Canada Emergency Response Benefit	29
Deferral or GST/HST remittances and customs duties	29
Deferral of federal and provincial tax payments	29
Deferral of WSIB payments	14
Deferral of property tax payments	29
Other	43
Please specify:	

Number of respondents answered this question: Manitoulin District 7



BUSINESS - FINANCIAL IMPACT

18. Please estimate any revenue decline you have experienced since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis (March 10 th)	Manitoulin District
Less than 10 percent	0%
10 to 20 percent	10%
21 to 30 percent	20%
31 to 40 percent	0%
41 to 50 percent	0%
51 to 60 percent	10%
61 to 70 percent	10%
71 to 80 percent	0%
81 to 90 percent	20%
91 to 100 percent	30%
N/A (we have not lost money during the crisis)	0%

Number of respondents answered this question: Manitoulin District 10

19. If the COVID-19 crisis continues, how long do you feel you will remain in business:	Manitoulin District
We expect to remain viable and in business	40%
We can manage for another 3 months	10%
We can manage for another 6 months	10%
We can manage for another 12 months	20%
We will not be able to remain in business if this goes on much longer	20%

Number of respondents answered this question: Manitoulin District 10

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THE DATA IN THIS SURVEY PLEASE CONTACT
INFO@PLANNINGOURWORKFORCE.CA