



## Business Counts (December 2019-2020) - Grey County

Tingting Zhang  
June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021

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## Research questions

- How many businesses chose to close due to the COVID-19 pandemic?
- Which sectors were mostly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic?
- How has been business composition changed?
- What were businesses' expectations for the future/ post-COVID?
- What recommendations/ assistance that businesses need to recover?



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## Data source

- Business counts
  - December 2019, 2020
  - June 2020, 2021 (release in August)
- Business conditions survey
  - Second quarter in 2021 (wait for third quarter release)
- Focus group discussion
  - Primary data collection



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## Methodological concerns

- Statistics Canada states that “The figures could include many of the businesses that have closed temporarily or permanently as a result of the pandemic. Permanently closed businesses will eventually be excluded once the businesses wind down and closeout procedures are completed and confirmed, a process that can take many months. (The Daily, 2021)”
- Statistics Canada also discourages comparison of business counts over time due to potential methodological changes.
- For our report, there is no recorded change in methodology between December 2019 and 2020.



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Grey County, Change in the Number of Employers, by Industry and by Firm Size, Dec 2019 to Dec 2020							
Industry	Total number of firms December 2019	Firm size (number of employees)					Total number of firms December 2020
		0	1-19	20-99	100+	Total	
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (not covered in economic census)	1,869	15	-5	3	0	13	1,882
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	11	1	1	-1	0	1	12
Utilities	58	-2	-2	0	0	-4	54
Construction	1,373	6	16	3	0	25	1,398
Manufacturing	449	-4	12	1	-3	6	455
Wholesale Trade	258	-2	-2	-1	0	-5	253
Retail Trade	860	-19	-6	-1	1	-25	835
Transportation and Warehousing	394	-28	8	0	-2	-22	372

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Industry	Total number of firms December 2019	Firm size (number of employees)					Total number of firms December 2020
		0	1-19	20-99	100+	Total	
Information	120	3	4	0	0	7	127
Finance and Insurance	552	-17	1	2	0	-14	538
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	1,896	50	-14	-1	0	35	1,931
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	963	12	0	-2	0	10	973
Management of Companies and Enterprises	66	3	-3	0	0	0	66
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	451	-11	-11	0	0	-22	429

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Industry	Total number of firms December 2019	Firm size (number of employees)					Total number of firms December 2020
		0	1-19	20-99	100+	Total	
Educational Services	94	-5	4	-1	0	-2	92
Health Care and Social Assistance	705	21	15	-4	3	35	740
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	215	6	-5	2	0	3	218
Accommodation and Food Services	355	7	13	-5	-1	14	369
Other Services (except Public Administration)	853	-5	0	-3	0	-8	845
Public Administration (not covered in economic census)	16	0	0	-1	1	0	16
TOTAL	11,558	31	26	-9	-1	47	11,605

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Industries that very likely experienced net employment increases include:

- Construction
- Information

Industries that very likely experienced net employment decreases include:

- Utilities
- Wholesale Trade
- Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services
- Other Services (except Public Administration)

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## Business Conditions Survey (second quarter of 2021, Stratford-Bruce Peninsula Economic Region)

"Over the next three months, which of the following are expected to be obstacles for this business or organization?"

- Rising cost of inputs, 42.5%
- Government regulations, 35.1%
- Fluctuations in consumer demand, 29.6%
- Difficulty acquiring inputs, products or supplies domestically, 28.2%
- Attracting new or returning customers, 28.0%

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"Over the next three months, to what extent will each of the following be a challenge for this business or organization with regards to the workforce?"

- Recruiting qualified workers
  - Very challenging 32.3%; Somewhat challenging 26.4%
- Retaining qualified workers
  - Very challenging 18.4%; Somewhat challenging 31.9%
- Finding time and resources for training current staff
  - Very challenging 12.9%; Somewhat challenging 49.4%
- Finding time and resources for training new staff
  - Very challenging 12.9%; Somewhat challenging 43.4%

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"How long can this business or organization continue to operate at its current level of revenue and expenditures before having to consider the following options?"

- Length of time businesses or organizations can continue to operate before considering closure or bankruptcy: 12 months or more, 82.0%

"Over the next 12 months, what is the future outlook for this business or organization?"

- Very optimistic. 20.2%
- Somewhat optimistic, 54.5%

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## Any Questions/ Feedback?

Looking forward to your feedback on these data by September 2021. Thanks for your input!

- <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Decbusinesscounts>

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