

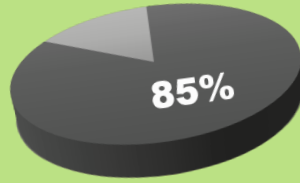
GRAND ERIE COVID-19 RECOVERY SURVEY RESULTS



Workforce Planning Board of Grand Erie

195

businesses across Grand Erie surveyed on 4 key themes identified by the Grand Erie Recovery Task Force



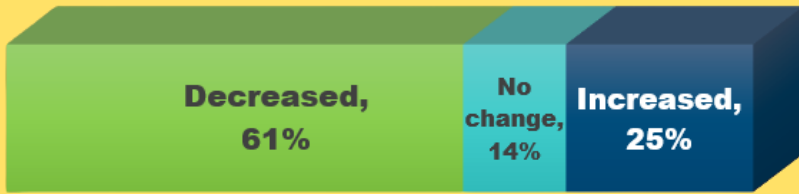
85% of businesses were impacted negatively by COVID-19.

36%

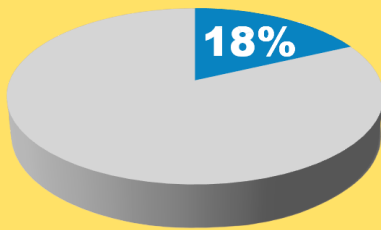
experienced significant negative impacts

Of these,

CHANGES IN CONSUMER DEMAND AND PREFERENCES



61% of businesses experienced a decrease in demand for the goods and services they offer.



18% of businesses want to develop new strategies and solutions but do not know how/have the resources to do so.

Top 3 Supports:

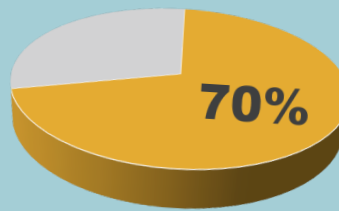
(Businesses were asked about supports they would find useful in addressing changes in consumer demand and preferences)

- 1 Government investments in promoting local businesses
- 2 Digital marketing training
- 3 Community campaigns to "shop local"

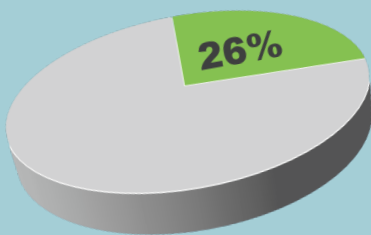
WORKPLACE SAFETY AND CONFIDENCE



1 in 5 businesses do not have adequate access to PPE



70% of businesses are concerned about access to PPE and workers feeling unsafe



26% of businesses do not have a crisis response plan to guide them in the event of an outbreak

Top 3 Supports:

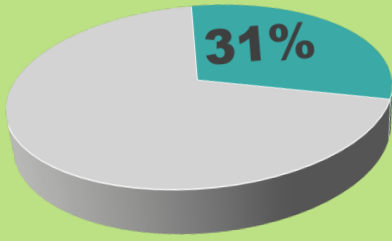
(Businesses were asked about supports they would find useful in addressing changes in workplace safety and confidence)

- 1 Clear industry guidelines on sanitation, physical distancing, etc
- 2 Increased availability of PPE
- 3 COVID-19 health and safety training



SHIFTS IN SKILLS IN-DEMAND

31% of businesses expect their top skill-in-demand to change.



Of these,
6% expect it to change significantly

Top 5 Skills that have Increased in Demand:

1 Adaptability/Flexibility

2 Communication Skills

3 Resilience

4 Teamwork/Interpersonal Skills

5 Customer Relations

3 in 4 businesses are interested in skills training support, such as:



- government grants
- essential skills training
- custom technical training

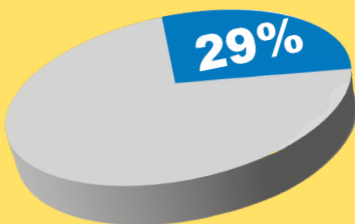
REMOTE WORKING

38%

of businesses have some staff working remotely, and many of these are considering long-term work from home options.

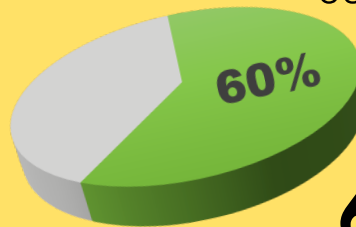
Top Issues Facing the Remote Workforce:

- Internet issues
- Child-minding/elder care
- Lack of suitable workspace at home



29% of businesses report reduced productivity among their remote workforce

60% of businesses are hiring in the next 6 months



Of these:
62% say it has become more difficult to find a suitable candidate.

Top 3 supports:

(Businesses were asked about supports they would find useful in addressing remote working issues)

1 Government investments in broadband infrastructure

2 Incentives to invest in tech programs to support remote workers

3 Productivity training for staff



10 RECOMMENDATIONS TO SUPPORT GRAND ERIE'S BUSINESSES

1	Invest in promoting local businesses through 'shop local' campaigns	Check this out!
2	Educate businesses on how to market themselves digitally	Read this!
3	Establish clear and specific industry guidelines to help businesses operate through COVID-19	Check this out!
4	Identify emerging skills in-demand and up-skill/re-skill job seekers accordingly	Watch this!
5	Connect businesses to local PPE suppliers, and offer subsidies to those who need it	Check this out!
6	Work with businesses to design staff training programs that meet the needs of their organization	Read this!
7	Create opportunities for industry businesses to collaborate, share ideas and brainstorm solutions to common challenges	Listen to this!
8	Develop and deliver health and safety training for all staff and labour rules training for HR	Read this!
9	Promote opportunities for training within organizations to help workers build new skills	Listen to this!
10	Build broadband infrastructure to support the remote workforce	Watch this!

