

SASKATCHEWAN INDUSTRY STATS Impacts of COVID-19

Oct. 5, 2020

STATE OF OPERATIONS

An estimated 10% of Saskatchewan's foodservice establishments have already permanently closed due to the impacts of COVID-19 and roughly half are still losing money.

Based on a survey conducted between Sept. 15 and Sept. 24:

• The majority of Saskatchewan's restaurants are still not profitable: 48% said they are operating at a loss. 28% said they are just breaking even.

JOB LOSSES

- Restaurants and other foodservice businesses are the third-largest source of private sector jobs in Saskatchewan. Collectively, the industry typically employs more than 39,000 people. At least this was the case before COVID-19 resulted in as much as 25,000 foodservice workers losing their jobs or having their hours cut down to zero by April.
- While foodservice employment in Saskatchewan increased by more than 5,000 jobs between May and August, the province's restaurant sector remains at least 12,000 jobs short of where it was in February 2020.

SALES LOSSES

- Due to the impacts of COVID-19, total foodservice sales in Canada will not grow to a record \$97 billion in 2020 or pass the \$100-billion mark in 2021 as previously forecasted.
- In the worst-case scenario, Canada's total foodservice sales could drop by nearly half in 2020, representing \$44.8 billion in lost sales compared to 2019, and as much as \$1.2 billion in lost sales for Saskatchewan's restaurant industry alone.