



# **REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA CENTRAL WEST**

## **BUSINESS IMPACT SURVEY**

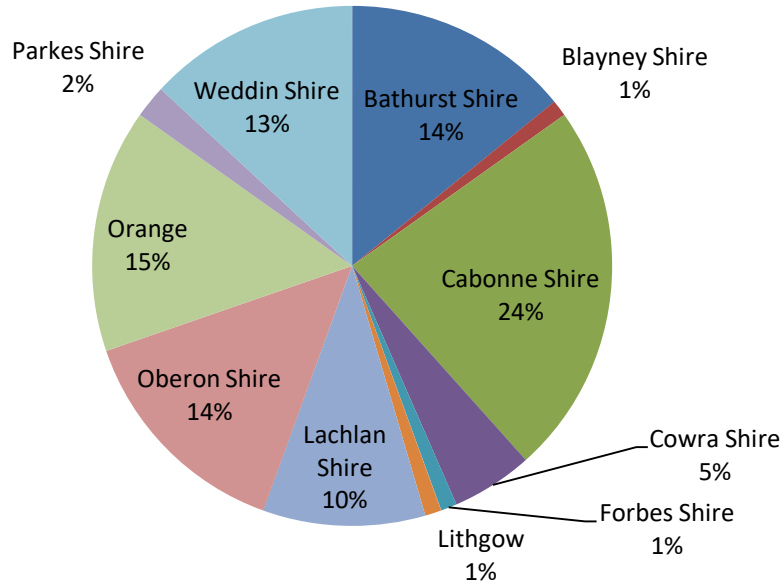
### **COVID-19**

The survey was conducted throughout the Central West region of NSW over the period 7-30 April 2020. Over 100 responses were collected. A summary of the survey results are presented.



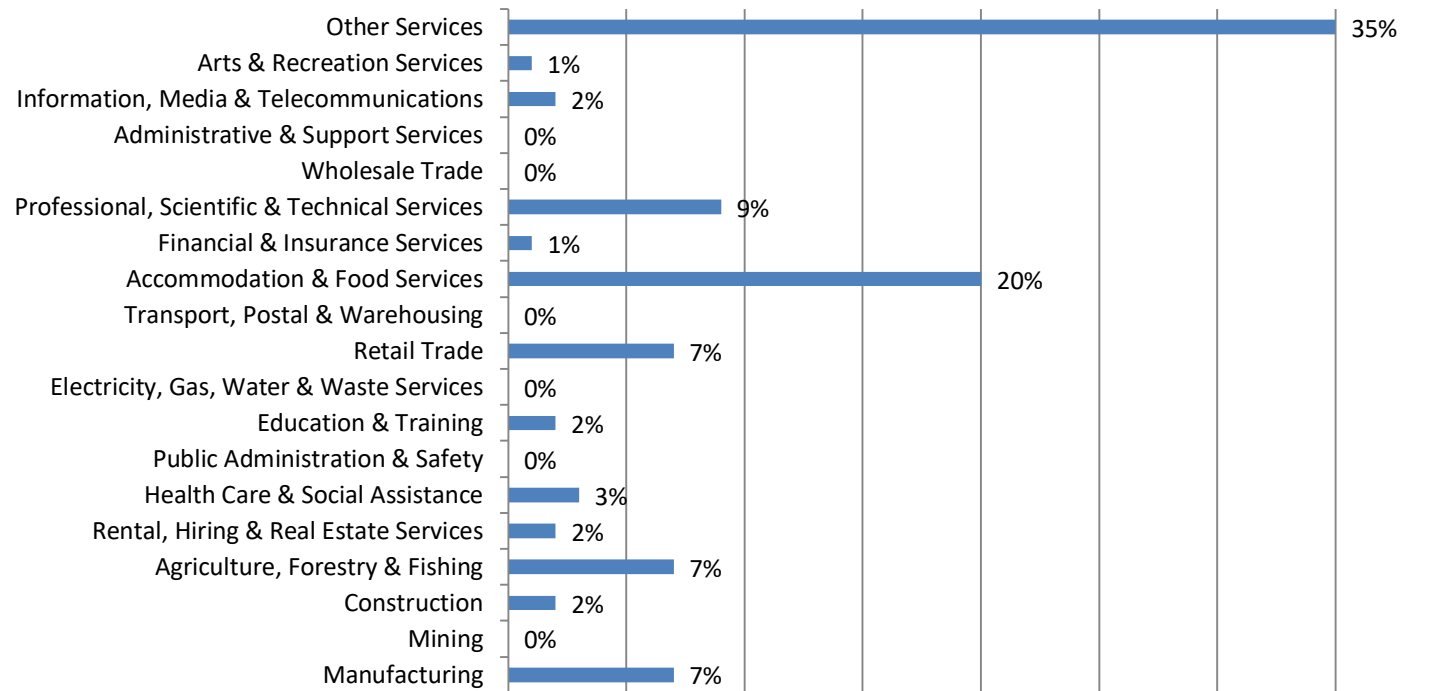
**An Australian Government Initiative**

**Q1 Where in the Central West is your business located?**

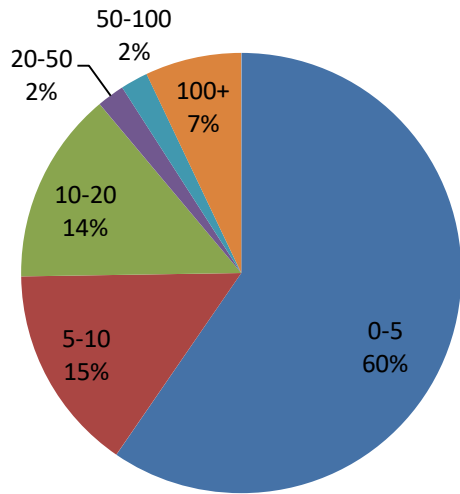


LGA	No. responses	% responses
Bathurst Shire	12	14
Blayney Shire	1	1
Cabonne Shire	20	23
Cowra Shire	4	5
Forbes Shire	1	1
Lithgow	1	1
Lachlan Shire	9	10
Oberon Shire	12	14
Orange	13	15
Parkes Shire	2	2
Weddin Shire	11	13

## Q2 What is your primary business?

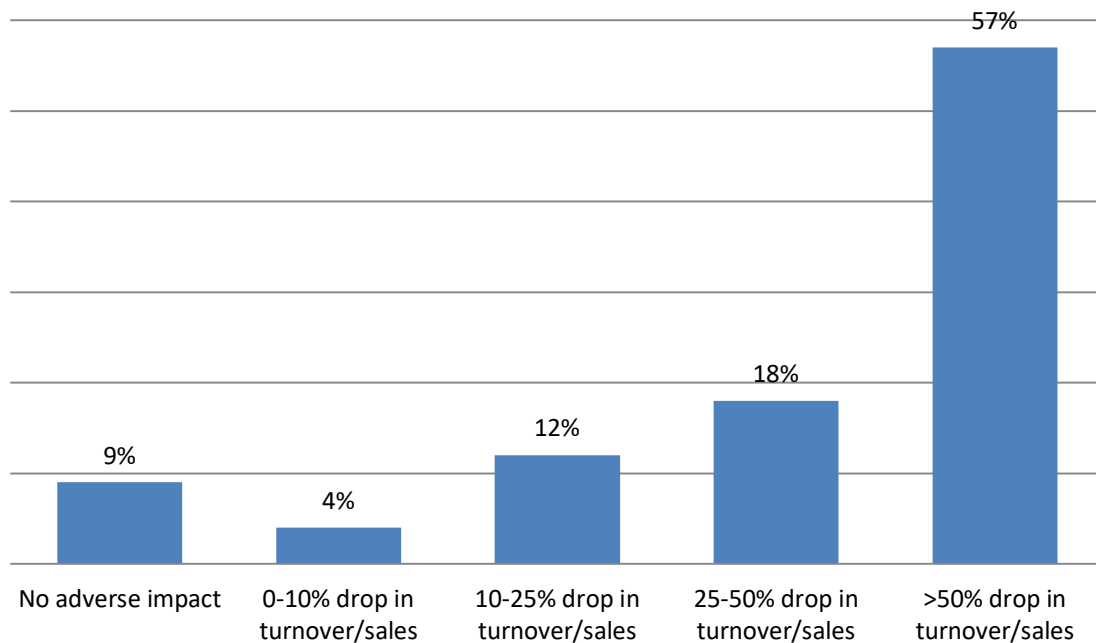


**Q3 How many employees do you have?**

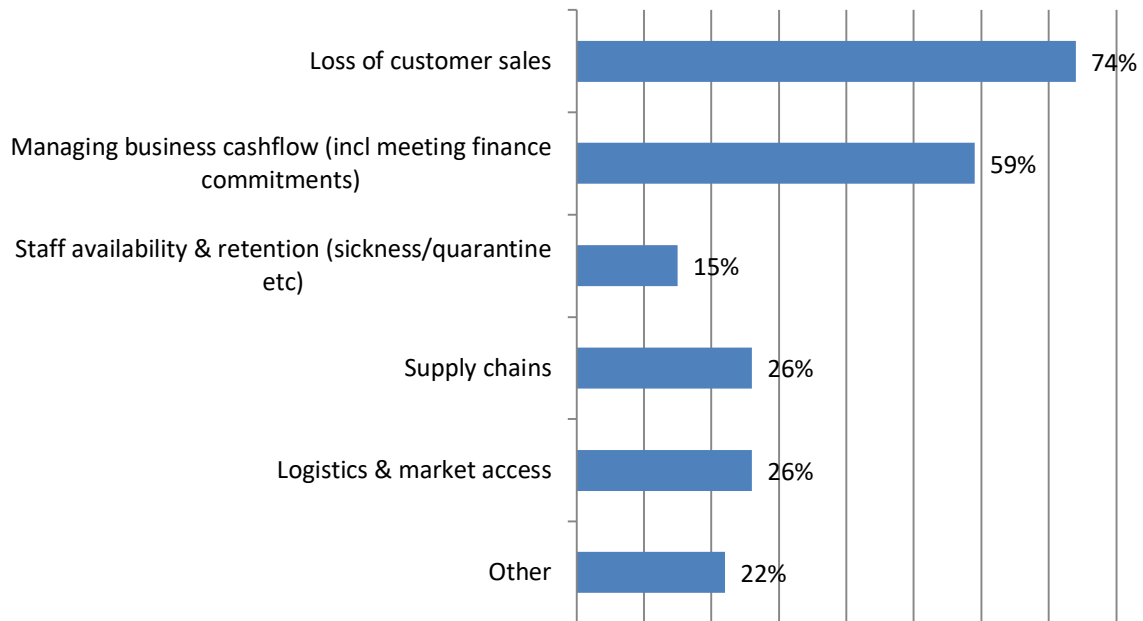


No. employees	No. responses	% responses
0-5	51	59
5-10	13	15
10-20	12	14
20-50	2	2
50-100	2	2
100+	6	7

**Q4 What is the estimated impact of COVID-19 on your business turnover (sales) for the next 3 months compared to normal operation?**



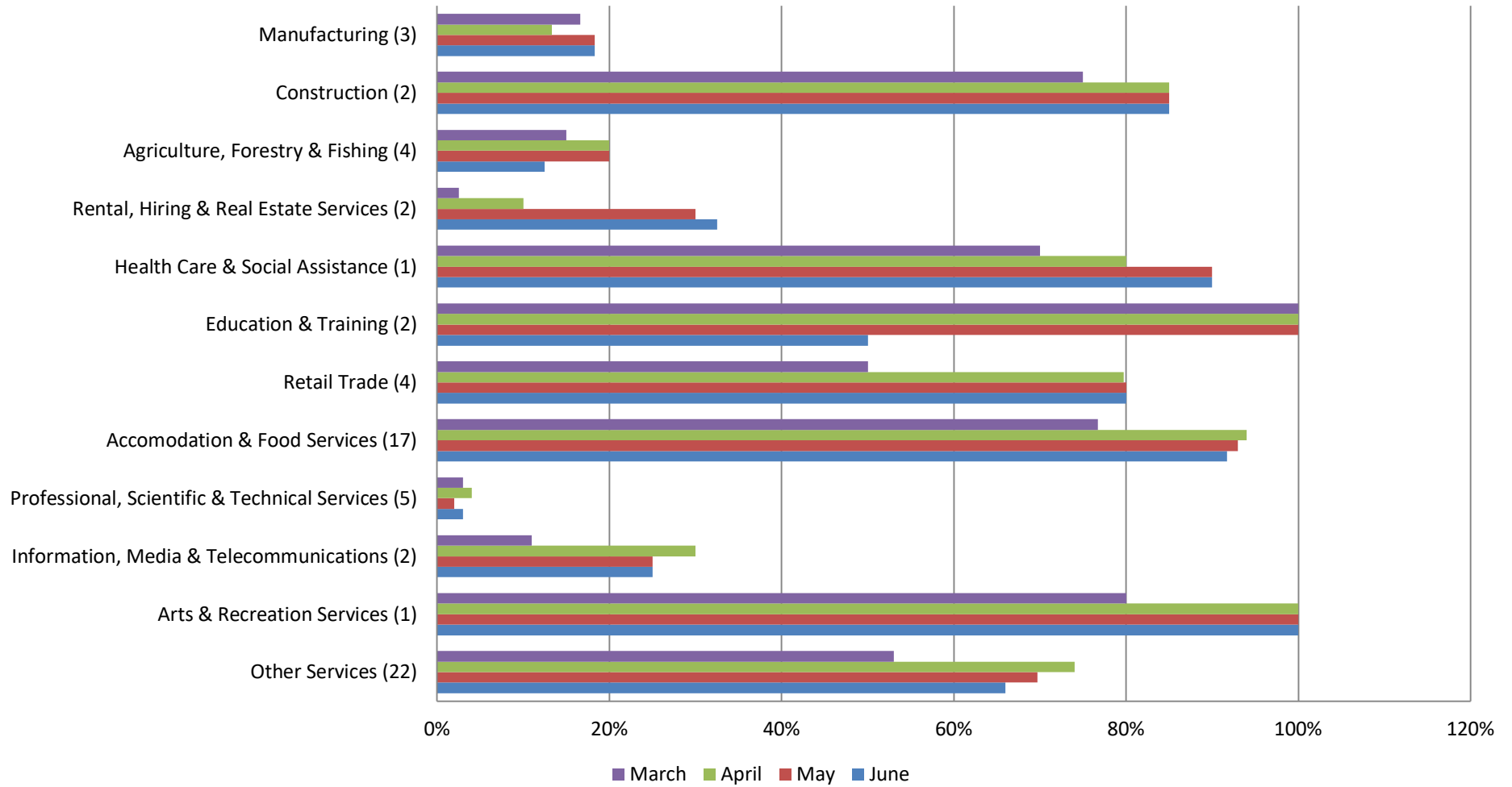
## Q5 What are the biggest challenges your business is facing as a result of COVID-19?



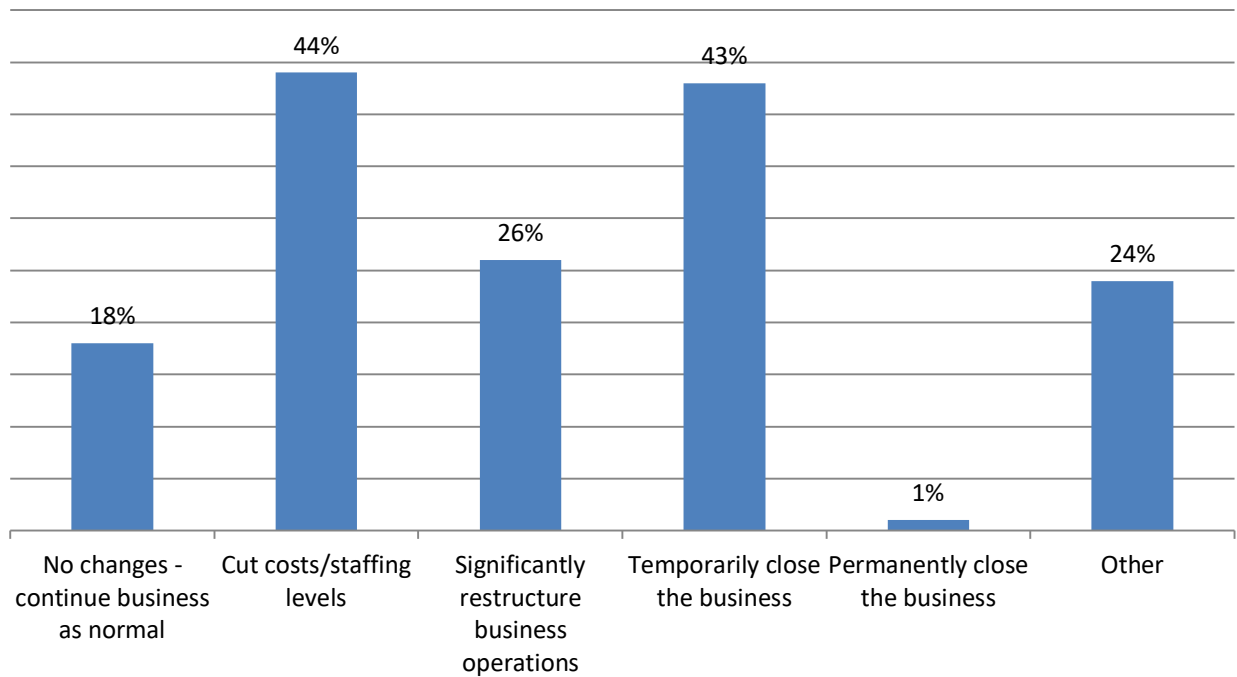
Responses in 'Other' included:

- We are a brand new restaurant business, opened early March and closed 23 March due to COVID-19. We have made significant personal investment into a business where we are now unable to generate income and have been ineligible for any Federal or State government support. We are in our rent-free period which ends in July, if we have to commence paying rent while not earning income it is possible we will never re-open.
- Loss of market share and damage to reputation.
- Loss of motivation and 17 years down the drain after 4 years of drought, smoke taint and COVID-19.
- Staff with temporary visas stuck offshore

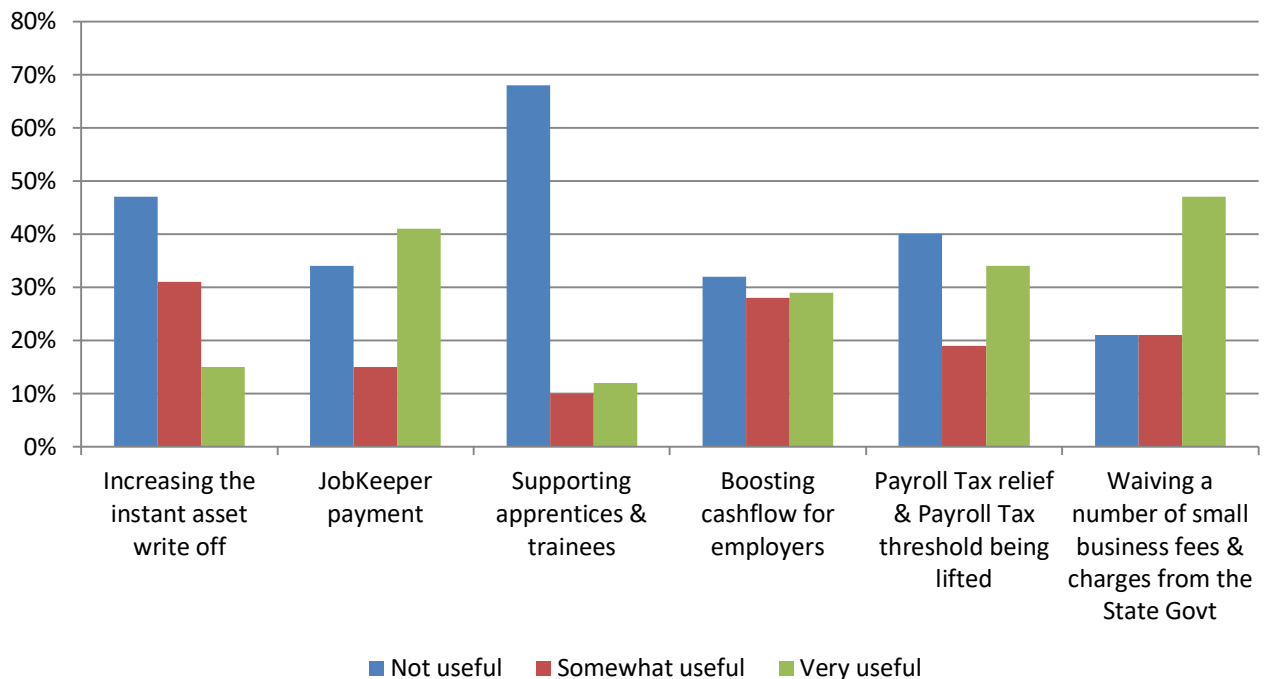
**Q6 Percentage reduction of bookings/orders/sales/events cancelled?**



**Q7 What changes are you planning to make to your business in response to the impacts of COVID-19?**



**Q8 The NSW State Government and the Federal Government have worked closely together to deliver a suite of stimulus measures for local business including but not limited to those below. How would you rate the following measures?**



Comments regarding the stimulus measures included:

- None of the above applied as a small business opened less than 12 months and with an annual turnover of less than 75k - we didn't have time in the three weeks we were open to get there.
- JobKeeper is not designed for those businesses that have been able to stay open and work hard to prevent a greater than 30% reduction in turnover. It is a penalty for working hard in daunting circumstances. The alternate test for turnover has been designed by people with no experience of running a business and has too many restrictions on eligibility.
- Nothing for sole traders if the spouse still works or if business affected, but still above a threshold
- We don't yet know full effect to our business as others actions will impact us. e.g. Printers closing down.
- Did not qualify for any assistance