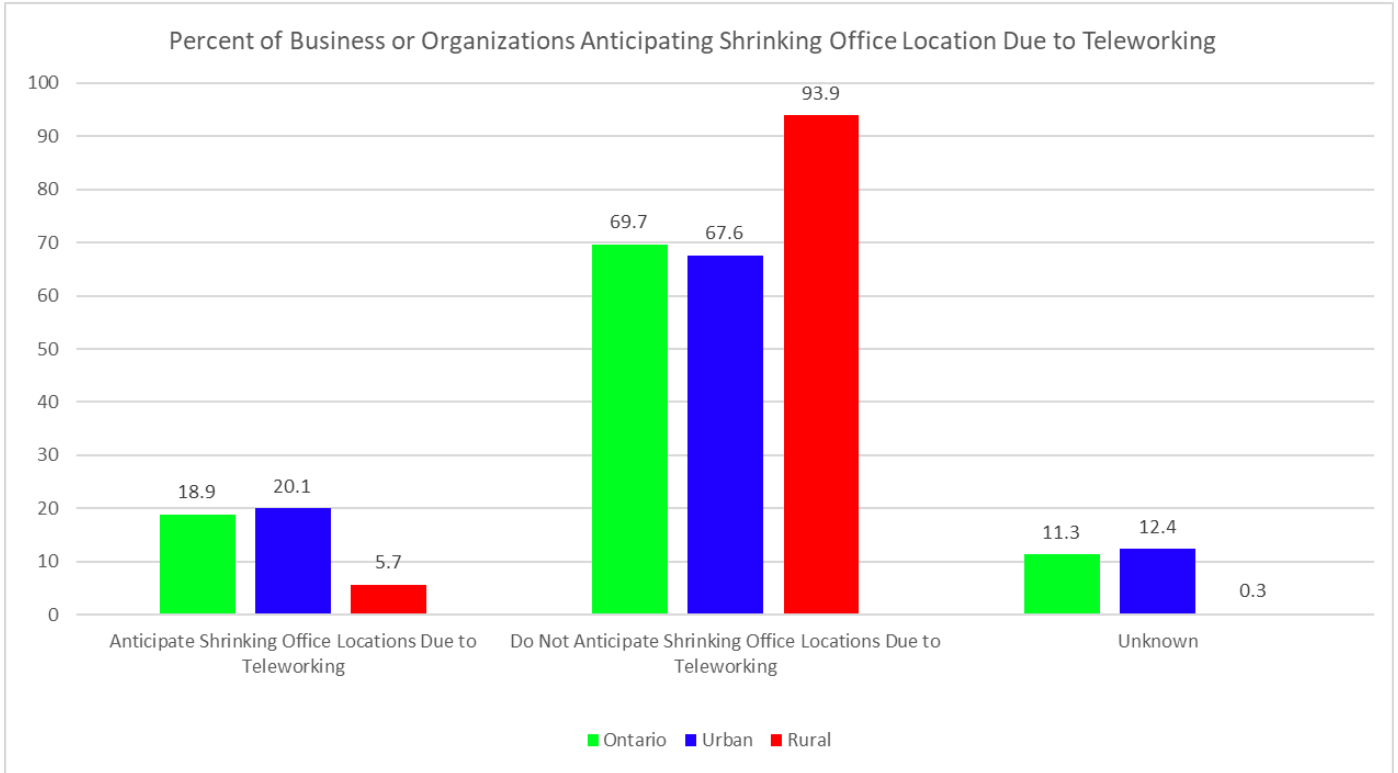


Impact of COVID-19 on Workforce Teleworking in Urban and Rural Businesses and Organizations



BRIEF SUMMARY

This Research Insight is part of a multi-year research initiative examining the influence of the COVID-19 pandemic on migration between urban and rural communities in Ontario. This Research Insight provides an overview of recent data published by Statistics Canada following the 2021 census and data related to the impacts of COVID-19.

During the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic, businesses and organizations were asked whether they anticipate shrinking their office locations as a result of implementing a work from home or teleworking strategy. Based on this data, the following conclusions were drawn:

- ❑ Urban businesses and organizations were nearly four times more likely than rural businesses and organizations to anticipate shrinking their office locations as a result of a transition to workforce teleworking.
- ❑ Nearly 94% of rural businesses and organizations were not anticipating shrinking due to workforce teleworking.

- ❑ Rural businesses and organizations were more likely than urban businesses and organizations to anticipate that their office locations would not shrink due to workforce teleworking.
- ❑ Overall, businesses and organizations largely did not anticipate shrinking office locations as a result of workforce teleworking.

DATA SOURCE

Data retrieved from Statistics Canada Table: 33-10-0392-01 (2021). The term *rural* in this context is defined as *census rural*.

FURTHER INFORMATION

More information on the Urban Exodus research initiative can be found at www.saraepp.com/urbanexodus.

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