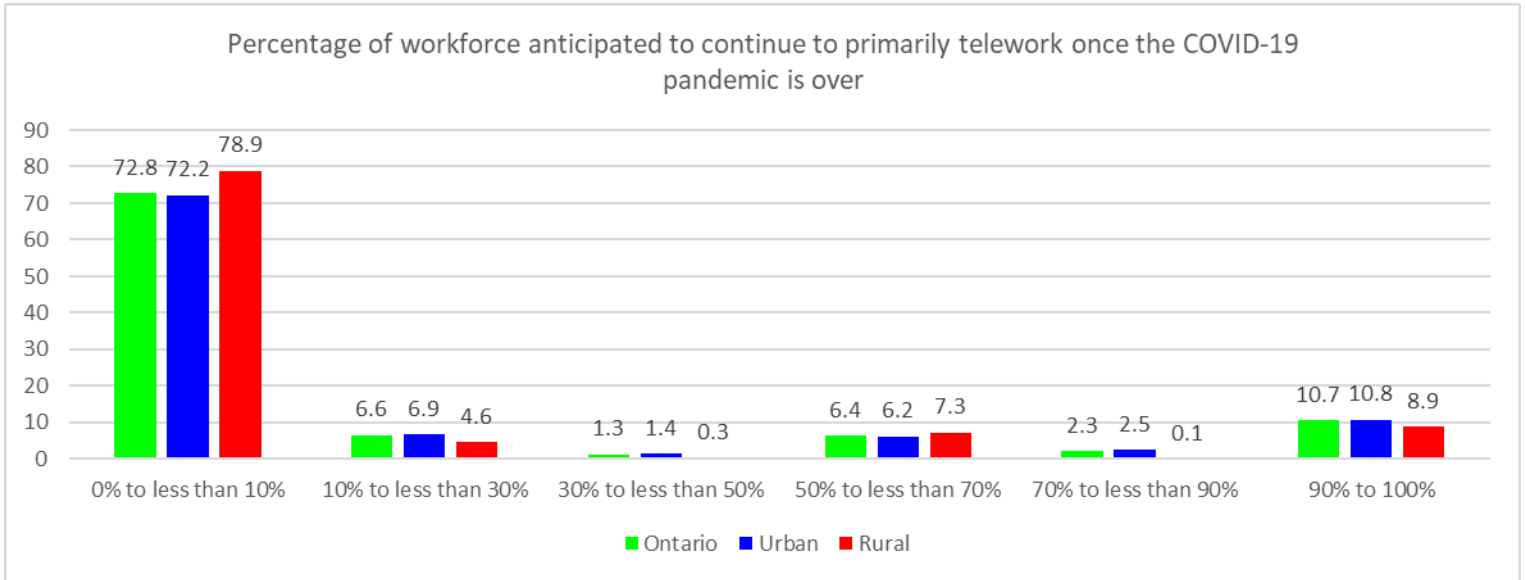


Perceptions of Post-Pandemic Teleworking for Urban and Rural Workforces



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 anticipated that their workforces would continue to primarily telework once the COVID-19 pandemic is over. Based on this data, the following conclusions were drawn:

- ❑ Between 72% and 79% of all businesses in Ontario anticipated that less than 10% of their workforce would continue teleworking following the end of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ❑ Rural businesses and organizations were less likely than urban businesses and organizations to anticipate their workforces continuing to telework following the end of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- ❑ Only 10.8% of all urban businesses and organizations and 8.9% of all rural businesses and organizations anticipated that between 90 and 100% of their workforces would continue teleworking post-pandemic.

Data Source

Data retrieved from Statistics Canada Table: 33-10-0391-01 (2021). The term *rural* in this context is defined as *census rural* representing communities with populations less than 1,000.

Further Information

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

Acknowledgements

This Research Insight was generated by Heather Graham and Ryan Gibson.

This research was funded through the Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Alliance.

