



# BC's Construction Industry: Charting The Course Forward

PREPARED FOR  
BC's Construction Associations

BC Construction Association  
Construction Labour Relations Association  
Independent Contractors and Businesses Association  
Mechanical Contractors Association of BC  
Progressive Contractors Association of Canada  
Roofing Contractors Association of BC  
Surety Association of Canada  
Vancouver Regional Construction Association

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# CONTENTS

 **03** Objectives & Approach

 **06** Highlights

 **08** Summary of Findings

**08** Changes in Business as a Result of COVID-19

**15** Other Impacts of COVID-19

**18** The Road to Recovery

**24** Company Profile

**28** Member Comments

 **30** Appendix

**30** Questionnaire



# Objectives & Approach

# OBJECTIVES

BC's major construction associations have been working in lock-step since the onset of COVID-19 to keep the construction industry strong in 2020 and beyond.

In May 2020, the construction associations partnered with Sentis to conduct an industry-wide survey in order to:



**Gauge the current state of the industry and future prospects**



**Identify the challenges and difficulties companies are facing**



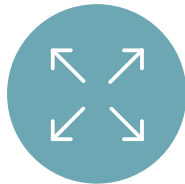
**Canvass BC's construction companies on their ability to access government assistance**

# METHOD

## Approach



5-minute email-to-online survey sent by Sentis to association members



Three things were done to increase participation:

- The associations emailed their members internally
- Reminders were sent to members who hadn't completed the survey
- A prize draw was offered

## Member Survey Responses

Date	Valid Invitations	Completed Surveys	Participation Rate
May 20 to June 1, 2020	2,089	266	13%*

\*The survey yielded a representative cross section of the membership, so no weighting of the data was required.



Total results are accurate to **±6% (19 times out of 20)**  
Subgroup results have a wider margin of error



# Highlights



# KEY TAKEAWAYS

## Three-quarters of BC construction companies have been negatively impacted by COVID-19.

75% of companies have had work postponed or canceled due to COVID-19.

As a result, revenue is down for 77% of companies– the typical decline is about 20% to 40% compared to a year ago. Furthermore, 74% of companies are projecting 2020 to be a down year generally, and just over half (53%) have reduced their workforce.

Companies for which public infrastructure projects are a source of revenue have also been negatively impacted. Just over half of these companies (52%) report that there has been a slowdown in tenders for public infrastructure projects. This represents just under one-third of all companies surveyed.

The degree of impact depends on company size and location.

- ▶ Companies with less than 50 employees and companies outside the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley are more likely to have had work postponed or cancelled and have lower revenue forecasts for 2020.
- ▶ Companies with 10 to 49 employees and those outside the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley are more likely to have reduced their workforces.

## COVID-19 has resulted in delays for permits/inspections and additional costs.

Four-in-ten companies have experienced delays in getting permits issued and having inspections performed.

Almost all companies (90%) have incurred added costs due to COVID-19, with the most common being increased costs associated with the purchase of personal protective equipment (74%).

## Companies are relying on the government to help see the construction industry through.

Six-in-ten companies have accessed at least one provincial or federal relief program, and seven-in-ten believe government assistance is essential or very important to the support and recovery of the industry.

- ▶ Companies with less than 50 employees are more likely to turn to the government, with broadly four-in-ten seeing the government's role as essential compared to 26% of companies with 50+ employees.

## Most companies feel that the economy is re-opening at the right pace.

Just under two-thirds of companies (63%) think that the pace at which the BC government is re-opening the economy is about right. However, larger companies (with 50+ employees) are more likely to feel that the pace of re-opening is too slow.

## Companies are generally comfortable with in-class training.

Only 16% of companies indicated that they would not be comfortable attending in-class training, and 27% indicated that they would be completely comfortable. Among the balance (53% who 'might be' comfortable attending), the main things that would make them more likely to attend are:

- Ensuring the employee is comfortable attending
- Having strict social distancing protocols
- Maintaining small class sizes



SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

# Changes in Business as a Result of COVID-19



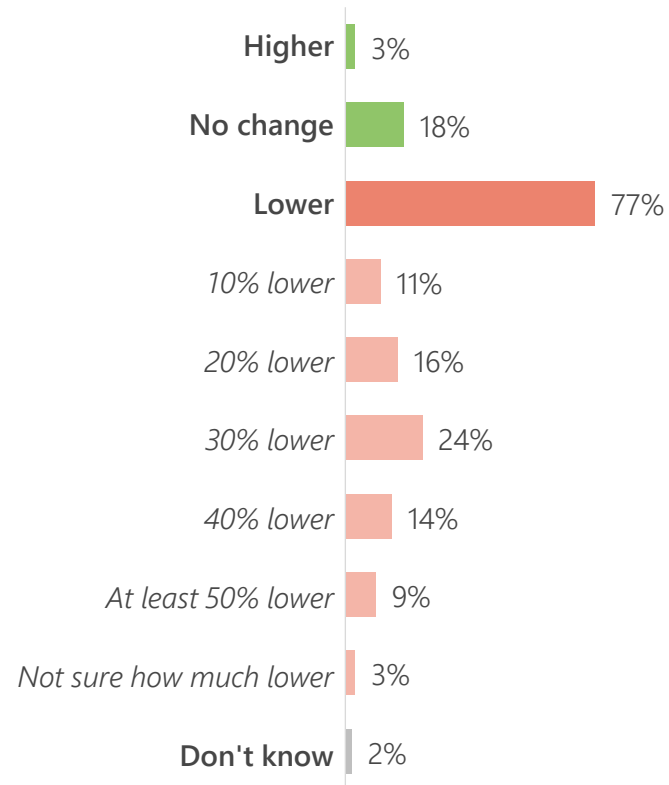
# Three-quarters of companies report lower gross revenue so far.

This includes just under half (47%) whose total gross revenue is at least 30% lower compared to the same period in 2019.

Of note, companies with less than 50 employees are more likely to report lower gross revenue (at least four-in-five compared to 66% of larger companies).

## Impact of COVID-19 on Total Gross Revenue

Compared to the same period in 2019



	Number of Employees			Region of Work	
	1 to 9	10 to 49	50+	LM & FV	Rest of BC
Base	91	99	76	189	77
Higher	2%	0%	7%	3%	1%
No change	10%	19%	26%	17%	21%
Lower	85%	80%	66%	78%	77%
10% lower	10%	5%	20%	14%	4%
20% lower	14%	17%	17%	19%	10%
30% lower	21%	32%	16%	22%	29%
40% lower	23%	13%	5%	13%	18%
At least 50% lower	16%	7%	4%	7%	14%
Not sure how much lower	0%	5%	4%	4%	1%
Don't know	3%	1%	1%	2%	1%

■ Relatively higher than counterparts

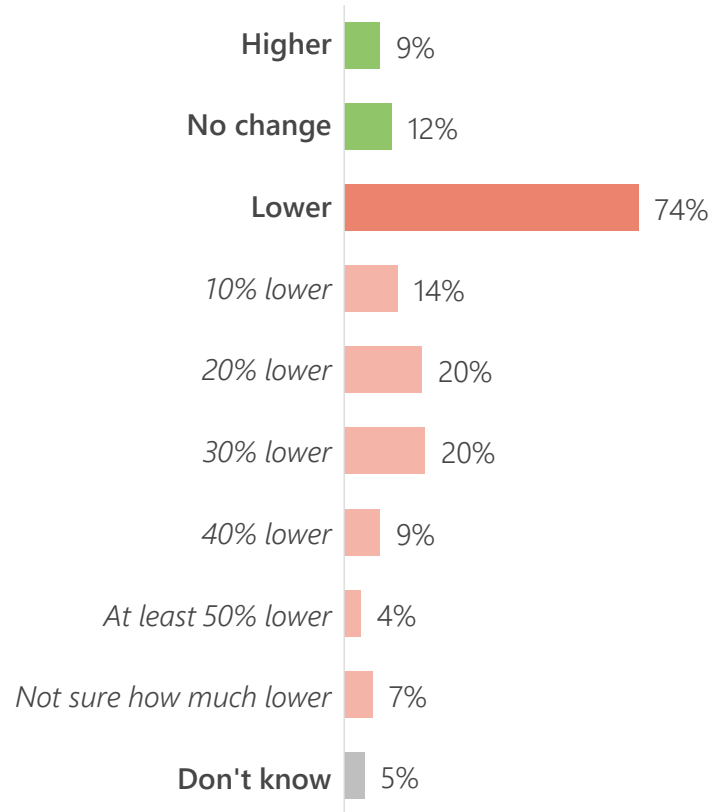
# Three-quarters also forecast lower revenue for 2020 as a whole.

One-third forecast that 2020 revenue will be at least 30% lower than 2019.

Smaller companies are more likely to forecast lower revenue (78% among companies with less than 50 employees vs. 63% among larger companies).

Similarly, companies outside of the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley are also more likely to forecast lower revenue (79% vs. 71% of companies within the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley).

Revenue Forecast for 2020 as a Whole



	Number of Employees			Region of Work	
	1 to 9	10 to 49	50+	LM & FV	Rest of BC
Base	91	99	76	189	77
Higher	5%	6%	17%	9%	9%
No change	13%	10%	14%	15%	6%
Lower	75%	81%	63%	71%	79%
10% lower	9%	13%	20%	16%	6%
20% lower	15%	27%	14%	19%	21%
30% lower	23%	21%	16%	17%	27%
40% lower	12%	11%	3%	8%	10%
At least 50% lower	10%	1%	1%	3%	6%
Not sure how much lower	5%	7%	9%	7%	8%
Don't know	7%	3%	5%	5%	5%

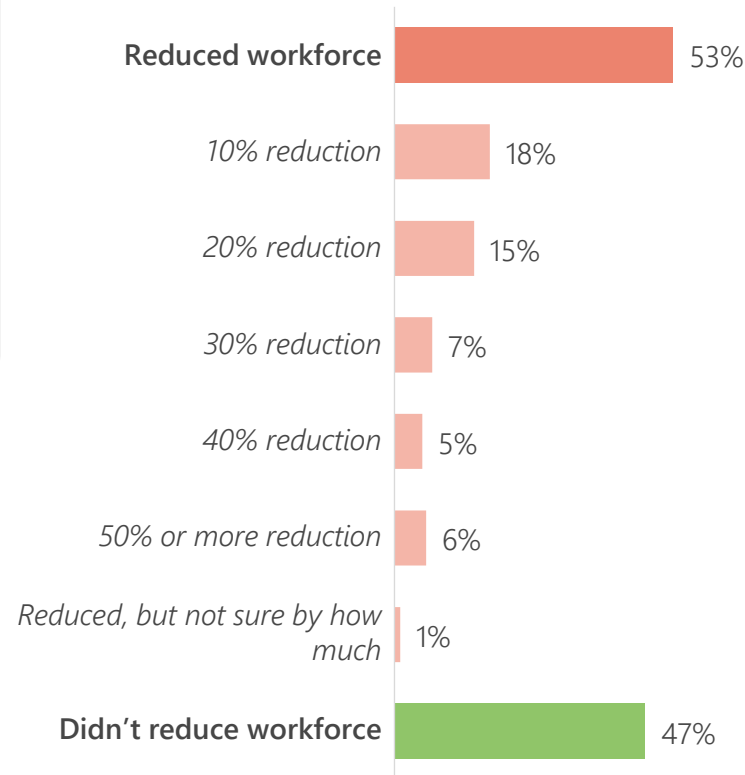
■ Relatively higher than counterparts

# Half of companies have had to reduce their workforce.

Among those who had to reduce their workforce, 67% laid off skilled trades employees and 34% laid off salaried employees.

Compared to their counterparts, companies with 10 to 49 employees and those outside the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley are more likely to have reduced their workforce as result of COVID-19.

Reducing Workforce as a Result of COVID-19



	Number of Employees			Region of Work	
	1 to 9	10 to 49	50+	LM & FV	Rest of BC
Base	91	99	76	189	77
<b>Reduced workforce</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>62%</b>
10% reduction	11%	23%	20%	21%	12%
20% reduction	12%	19%	13%	13%	21%
30% reduction	8%	8%	5%	5%	12%
40% reduction	4%	6%	5%	5%	5%
50% or more reduction	12%	4%	1%	4%	12%
Not sure how much reduction	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
<b>Didn't reduce workforce</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>38%</b>

■ Relatively higher than counterparts

# Three-quarters have had work postponed or canceled.

Smaller companies are more likely to report that work or contracts have been postponed or canceled due to COVID-19 (at least 75% of companies with less than 50 employees vs. 68% of those with 50 or more employees).

Companies outside of the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley are the most likely to have had work postponed or canceled (84% vs. 71% of companies within the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley).

## Impact of COVID-19 on Current Work and Contracts



	Number of Employees			Region of Work	
	1 to 9	10 to 49	50+	LM & FV	Rest of BC
Base	91	99	76	189	77
Yes	75%	80%	68%	71%	84%
No	23%	18%	28%	26%	14%
Don't know	2%	2%	4%	3%	1%

■ Relatively higher than counterparts

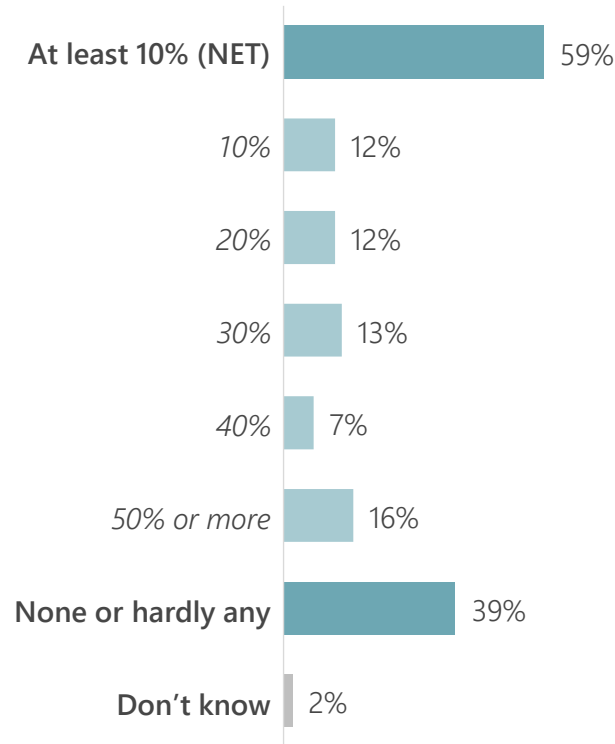
# Six-in-ten companies work on public infrastructure projects.

This includes broadly one-third who say at least 30% of their company's work is public infrastructure.

Companies with 10+ employees are more likely to work on at least some public infrastructure projects (70% vs. 38% of companies with less than 10 employees).

## Percentage of Public Infrastructure Work

Includes municipal, school boards, provincial or federal work



	Number of Employees			Region of Work	
	1 to 9	10 to 49	50+	LM & FV	Rest of BC
Base	91	99	76	189	77
<b>At least 10% (NET)</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>53%</b>
10%	7%	13%	16%	11%	14%
20%	7%	18%	9%	14%	6%
30%	8%	16%	16%	12%	16%
40%	5%	6%	9%	7%	5%
50% or more	12%	18%	17%	17%	12%
<b>None or hardly any</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>45%</b>
<b>Don't know</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>1%</b>

■ Relatively higher than counterparts

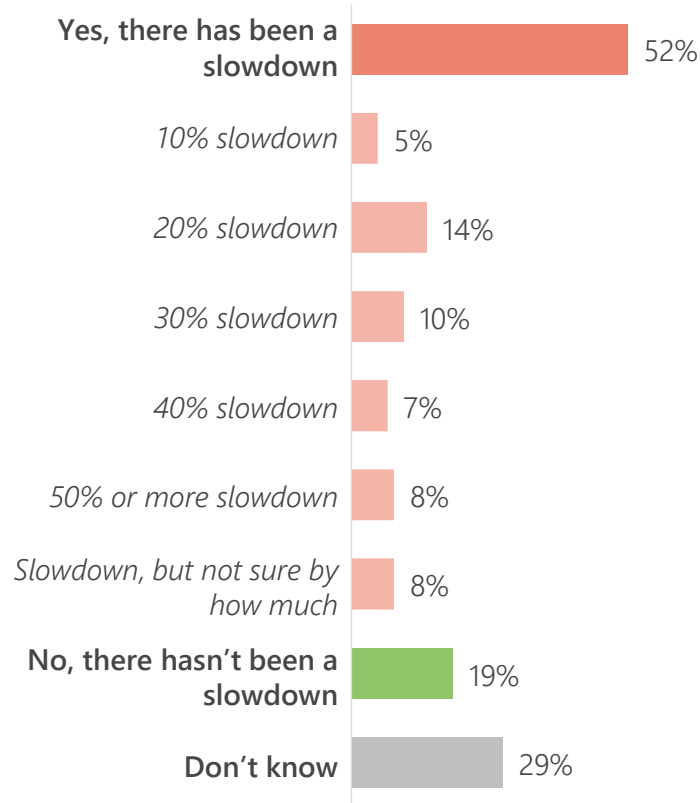
# Half of companies that work on public projects have noticed a drop in tenders.



Of note, one-quarter report at least a 30% slowdown in public projects being tendered.

Companies with less than 10 employees are more likely to have noticed a slowdown in tenders (69% vs. 48% of companies with more than 10 employees).

Slowdown in Projects Tendered by All Govt. Levels



	Number of Employees			Region of Work	
	1 to 9	10 to 49	50+	LM & FV	Rest of BC
Base: Work on public projects	35	74	52	119	42
<b>Yes, there has been a slowdown</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>52%</b>
10% slowdown	9%	4%	4%	6%	2%
20% slowdown	9%	14%	19%	16%	10%
30% slowdown	17%	8%	8%	9%	12%
40% slowdown	3%	11%	4%	7%	7%
50% or more slowdown	20%	4%	6%	6%	14%
Slowdown, but not sure by how much	11%	8%	6%	8%	7%
<b>No, there hasn't been a slowdown</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>21%</b>
<b>Don't know</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>26%</b>

■ Relatively higher than counterparts



SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

# Other Impacts of COVID-19

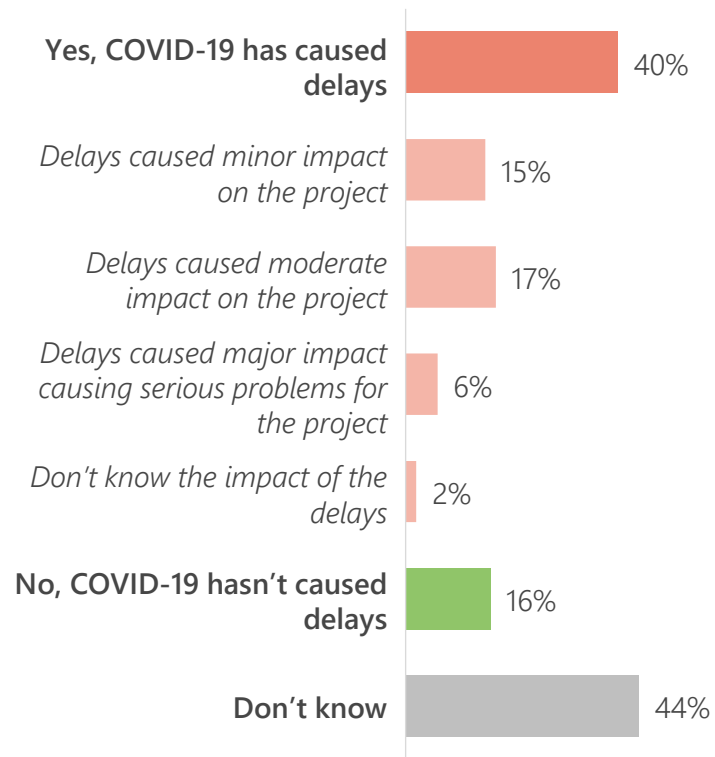


# COVID-19 is causing delays for permits and inspections.

Four-in-ten companies have experienced delays in the time it takes to get permits issued and to have inspections performed by City Hall. 15% indicated that the impact of the delays have been minor, and 17% indicated that the impact of the delays have been moderate. Only 6% indicated that the delays have had a major impact with serious repercussions for the project.

Of note, just over half of larger companies with 50+ employees have experienced delays on permits and inspections due to COVID-19.

## COVID-19's Impact on Issuing Permits and Inspections



	Number of Employees			Region of Work	
	1 to 9	10 to 49	50+	LM & FV	Rest of BC
Base	91	99	76	189	77
<b>Yes, COVID-19 has caused delays</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>34%</b>
Delays caused minor impact	15%	11%	20%	16%	12%
Delays caused moderate impact	16%	11%	25%	17%	17%
Delays caused major impact	4%	7%	8%	7%	4%
Don't know the impact of the delays	3%	1%	0%	2%	1%
<b>No, COVID-19 hasn't caused delays</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>22%</b>
<b>Don't know</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>44%</b>

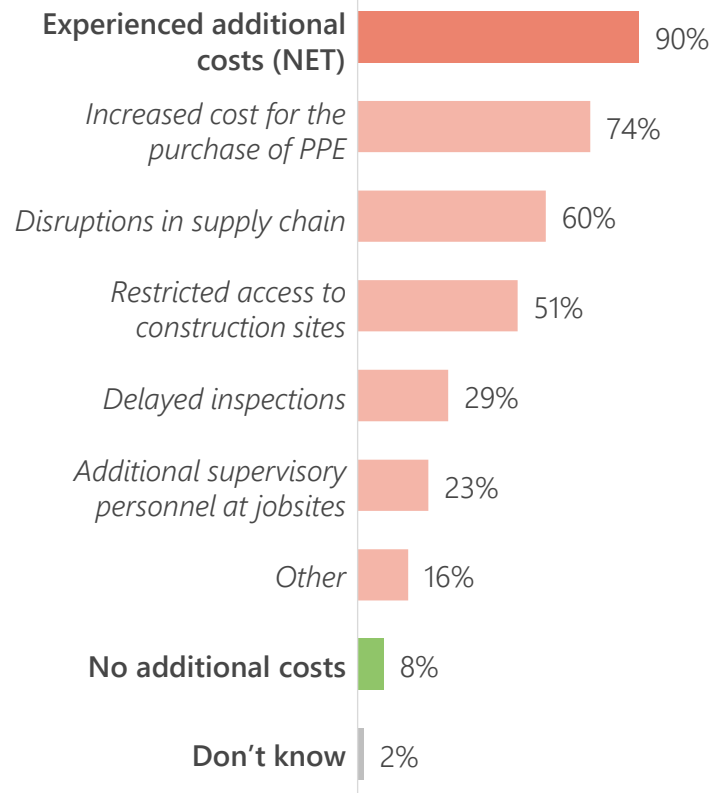
■ Relatively higher than counterparts

# Almost all companies have incurred added costs due to COVID-19.

Three-quarters report additional costs due to purchasing personal protective equipment, 60% report disruptions in the supply chain and 51% report added costs due to restricted access to construction sites.

Larger companies with at least 10 employees are more likely than their smaller counterparts to have incurred added costs due to COVID-19.

## Experiencing Additional Costs Due to COVID-19



	Number of Employees			Region of Work	
	1 to 9	10 to 49	50+	LM & FV	Rest of BC
Base	91	99	76	189	77
<b>Experienced additional costs (NET)</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>90%</b>
<i>Increased cost for the purchase of PPE</i>	58%	78%	89%	74%	77%
<i>Disruptions in supply chain</i>	54%	60%	68%	59%	64%
<i>Restricted access to construction sites</i>	41%	48%	67%	52%	48%
<i>Delayed inspections</i>	27%	25%	36%	29%	30%
<i>Additional supervisory personnel at jobsites</i>	13%	21%	36%	24%	19%
<i>Other</i>	12%	13%	25%	16%	17%
<b>No additional costs</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>Don't know</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>1%</b>

■ Relatively higher than counterparts



SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

# The Road to Recovery

# Six-in-ten companies have accessed at least one government relief program.

## Access to Relief Programs

The Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy and Canada Emergency Business Account are the most common relief programs that have been accessed.

Smaller companies of less than 50 employees and those outside of the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley are more likely to have accessed at least one program.



	Number of Employees			Region of Work	
	1 to 9	10 to 49	50+	LM & FV	Rest of BC
Base	91	99	76	189	77
<b>Accessed at least one program</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>79%</b>
Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy	29%	39%	25%	27%	43%
Canada Emergency Business Account	52%	29%	11%	26%	44%
Temporary Business Wage Subsidy	15%	23%	17%	15%	27%
Business Credit Availability Program	3%	0%	3%	2%	3%
Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance	0%	4%	0%	1%	3%
Large Employer Emergency Financing Facility	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Canada Emergency Response Benefit	22%	20%	25%	19%	31%
BC Emergency Benefit for Workers	14%	17%	13%	12%	23%
<b>Didn't access a program</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Don't know</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>4%</b>

■ Relatively higher than counterparts

# Most programs have been easy to apply for and helpful to business survival.

The vast majority of those applying to the Canada Emergency Business Account found the program easy to apply for (87%) – only 4% indicated it was not easy.

In contrast, one-quarter of those applying to the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy indicated that the program wasn't easy to apply for.

At least three-quarters of those who applied to the following programs found them helpful to the survival of their business:

- Canada Emergency Business Account (82%)
- Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (85%)
- Temporary Business Wage Subsidy (74%)

Relief Programs: Ease of Applying & Level of Benefit

	Programs for Employers			Programs for Workers	
	Canada Emergency Business Account	Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy	Temporary Business Wage Subsidy	Canada Emergency Response Benefit	BC Emergency Benefit for Workers
Base: Members accessing each relief program	84	84	50	59	40
<b>Program was easy to apply for</b>					
Yes	87%	62%	70%	59%	68%
No	4%	24%	10%	3%	3%
Don't know	10%	14%	20%	37%	30%
<b>Program has been helpful to the survival of the business</b>					
Yes	82%	85%	74%	46%	38%
No	7%	5%	16%	32%	35%
Don't know	11%	11%	10%	22%	28%

■ Relatively easier / more helpful than counterparts  
 ■ Relatively harder / more difficult than counterparts

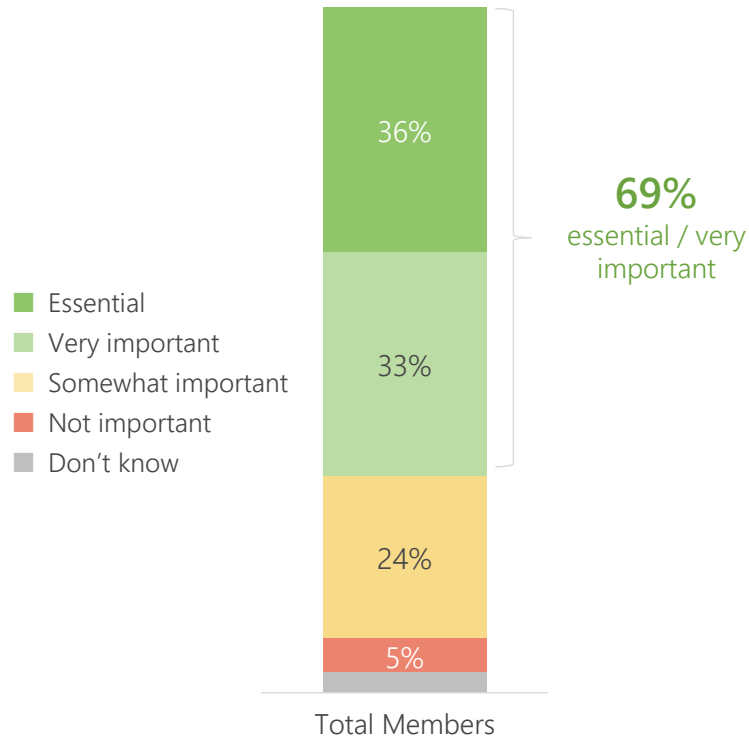
Note: Only relief programs accessed by 30 or more members are shown.  
 C2a. Has the [PROGRAM] been easy to apply for? / C2b. Has the [PROGRAM] been helpful to the survival of your business?

# Companies are relying on the government to help see the industry through.

The vast majority (93%) of companies feel that government assistance and stimulus are important to support the recovery of the construction industry. Seven-in-ten companies see government support as either essential or very important for industry recovery.

Not surprisingly, companies with higher percentages of revenue loss (those with fewer than 50 employees) are more likely to see government support as essential.

## Role of Government Assistance & Stimulus



	Number of Employees			Region of Work	
	1 to 9	10 to 49	50+	LM & FV	Rest of BC
Base	91	99	76	189	77
Essential	40%	39%	26%	36%	35%
Very important	32%	34%	33%	33%	34%
Somewhat important	18%	21%	36%	24%	25%
Not important	5%	3%	5%	5%	4%
Don't know	5%	2%	0%	3%	3%

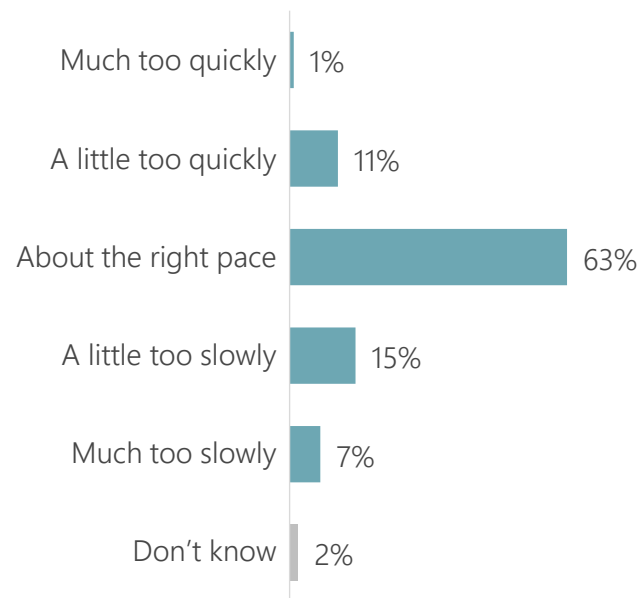
■ Relatively higher than counterparts

# On balance, companies feel the economy is re-opening at the right pace.

Six-in-ten believe the economy is re-opening at the right pace.

Larger companies with 50 or more employees and those outside of the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley are more likely to feel that the pace of re-opening is too slow.

### Pace of Re-Opening The Economy



	Number of Employees			Region of Work	
	1 to 9	10 to 49	50+	LM & FV	Rest of BC
Base	91	99	76	189	77
Much too quickly	2%	0%	1%	2%	0%
A little too quickly	11%	14%	8%	12%	10%
About the right pace	65%	67%	55%	65%	58%
A little too slowly	11%	10%	28%	16%	14%
Much too slowly	5%	8%	8%	4%	14%
Don't know	5%	1%	0%	2%	3%

■ Relatively higher than counterparts

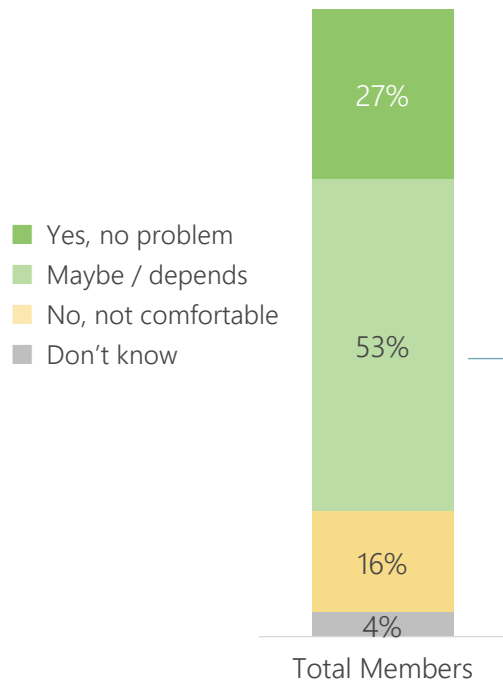


# Companies are generally comfortable with in-class training but will leave it up to the employee.

While one-quarter are completely comfortable with attending in-class training, just over half (53%) of companies are tentative - their decision will depend on how comfortable employees feel (45%), whether there are strict social distancing protocols (35%) and whether the class size is of no more than 10 people (25%).

Companies with fewer than 10 employees are less likely to be comfortable with the idea of in-class training (21% not comfortable).

Level of Comfort Attending In-Class Training



Conditions Among Total Members (266)

- 45% Employee feeling comfortable
- 35% Strict social-distancing protocols
- 25% Very small class size (10 or less)
- 6% Small class size (20 or less)
- 2% Other

	Number of Employees			Region of Work	
	1 to 9	10 to 49	50+	LM & FV	Rest of BC
Base	91	99	76	189	77
<b>Yes, no problem</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>Maybe / depends</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>56%</b>
Employee feeling comfortable	45%	42%	47%	43%	48%
Strict social-distancing protocols	33%	36%	36%	38%	27%
Very small class size (10 or less)	22%	29%	24%	26%	22%
Small class size (20 or less)	5%	4%	9%	6%	6%
Other reason	1%	3%	3%	2%	4%
<b>No, not comfortable</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>13%</b>
<b>Don't know</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>6%</b>

 Relatively higher than counterparts



SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

# Company Profile

# COMPANY PROFILE

	Total	Number of Employees			Region of Work	
	Total Members	1 to 9	10 to 49	50+	Lower Mainland & Fraser Valley	Rest of BC
Base	266	91	99	76	189	77
<b>Region of Work</b>						
Lower Mainland / Fraser Valley	71%	63%	71%	82%	100%	0%
Squamish / Whistler / Pemberton	1%	0%	2%	1%	0%	4%
Vancouver Island	7%	8%	4%	9%	0%	23%
Interior BC	15%	24%	15%	3%	0%	51%
Northern BC	6%	5%	8%	5%	0%	22%
<b>Type of Work</b>						
Trade Contractor	47%	44%	45%	54%	45%	53%
General Contractor/Construction Management	21%	23%	21%	18%	17%	30%
Supplier	11%	11%	13%	7%	13%	4%
Manufacturer	8%	5%	8%	9%	11%	0%
Civil Contractor	3%	2%	2%	4%	3%	1%
Road Builder	1%	0%	1%	3%	1%	1%
Other	10%	14%	9%	5%	10%	10%

# COMPANY PROFILE (cont'd)

	Total	Number of Employees			Region of Work	
	Total Members	1 to 9	10 to 49	50+	Lower Mainland & Fraser Valley	Rest of BC
Base	266	91	99	76	189	77
<b>Primary Sector of Construction Industry</b>						
Commercial	<b>67%</b>	60%	71%	70%	72%	55%
Industrial	<b>45%</b>	38%	52%	46%	48%	39%
Institutional	<b>41%</b>	25%	51%	47%	46%	29%
Single family residential	<b>30%</b>	43%	28%	17%	23%	48%
Other multi-family	<b>29%</b>	23%	34%	28%	32%	21%
Concrete residential high-rises	<b>27%</b>	14%	30%	38%	33%	13%
Service work	<b>27%</b>	27%	23%	30%	26%	27%
Other	<b>5%</b>	7%	2%	8%	5%	6%

# COMPANY PROFILE (cont'd)

	Total	Number of Employees			Region of Work	
	Total Members	1 to 9	10 to 49	50+	Lower Mainland & Fraser Valley	Rest of BC
Base	266	91	99	76	189	77
<b>Usual Size of Projects</b>						
Up to \$5 million	<b>76%</b>	93%	82%	47%	72%	84%
\$6 million to \$10 million	<b>9%</b>	3%	11%	13%	11%	5%
\$11 million to \$50 million	<b>11%</b>	3%	7%	25%	13%	6%
\$51 million to \$100 million	<b>3%</b>	0%	0%	11%	3%	4%
Over \$100 million	<b>1%</b>	0%	0%	4%	2%	0%
<b>Number of Employees</b>						
1 to 9	<b>34%</b>	100%	0%	0%	30%	44%
10 to 49	<b>37%</b>	0%	100%	0%	37%	38%
50 to 99	<b>14%</b>	0%	0%	47%	14%	13%
100 to 499	<b>12%</b>	0%	0%	43%	15%	5%
500+	<b>3%</b>	0%	0%	9%	4%	0%



SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

# Member Comments

# MEMBER COMMENTS



## Members are concerned about future fiscal years.

"For our business **I believe the biggest impact will be felt for our 2021/2022 fiscal years.** Bidding is extremely difficult right now and prices are dropping considerably with increased bidders."

"**Many of the effects of COVID are yet to be seen.** COVID caused a delay to existing contracts, and increased caution/reluctance in potential clients to sign contracts. Though the existing contracts delayed due to this crisis have since resumed, we may be facing another shortage of work in 2-6 months due to a lack of new contracts at this time."

"We don't believe that **the full effect of the pandemic will hit until months from now** once we see whether or not there are long term implications for our supply chains."

"**More the concern of future new projects in 2 years,** we are proceeding with current contract work, but what projects will be available in a couple years?"



## Some members appreciate the leadership and government assistance.

"Compliments to the leadership, regarding how organizations in **the construction industry kept all informed and strongly encouraged responsible compliance,** without having to bring the "hammer" down on the industry!"

"I'm **thankful that with the government assistance I have been able to keep my employees going** enabling them to pay their bills and look after their families."



## Other suggestions...

"If **online or in-class training is provided at no cost,** we would be very happy to attend."

"One cost that is ignored is the **mental state of our crews** particularly in the first month of the pandemic. While many people in other industries were forced to stay home, construction being essential, continued. Many of our workers were scared to work and managing the daily stress, **trying to ensure they are safe is really tough.**"





APPENDIX

# Questionnaire

## Email Invite

From: BC's Construction Industry [underlying email: constructionsurvey@sentis.ca]  
Subject: Construction. Charting the course forward. Together.

BC's construction industry is working together  
to keep our industry strong.

BC's major construction associations have been working in lock-step since the onset of COVID-19 with one shared goal: to keep BC's construction industry strong in 2020 and beyond.

You can help our industry meet this goal by completing our short survey.

The survey will take less than 5 minutes and you will be **entered into a draw to win 1 grand prize of \$500 and 3 prizes of \$100 each.**

**Interested in giving us some feedback?**

Okay, let's go
Not right now
No thanks

Sentis Research is conducting this survey on our behalf and will keep your responses confidential.

### Thank you for helping us serve you better!

- BC Construction Association
- Progressive Contractors Association of Canada
- Construction Labour Relations Association
- Roofing Contractors Association of BC
- Independent Contractors and Businesses Association
- Surety Association of Canada
- Mechanical Contractors Association of BC
- Vancouver Regional Construction Association

Having trouble? Copy and paste the link below into your web browser: [\[SURVEY URL\]](#)

You can also email us at: [constructionsurvey@sentis.ca](mailto:constructionsurvey@sentis.ca)

[Contest Rules](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Unsubscribe to this survey](#)



Sentis Market Research Inc.  
6th Floor, 543 Granville Street  
Vancouver, BC, V6C 1X8  
sentisresearch.com

## Email Reminder

From: BC's Construction Industry [underlying email: constructionsurvey@sentis.ca]

Subject: Reminder - please complete by May 31

**Survey Reminder**  
BC's construction industry is working together  
to keep our industry strong.

BC's major construction associations have been working in lock-step since the onset of COVID-19 with one shared goal: to keep BC's construction industry strong in 2020 and beyond.

We recently invited you to help us meet this goal by completing our short survey. **There's still time to take part before the survey closes on Sunday, May 31.**

It will take less than 5 minutes and you will be **entered into a draw to win 1 grand prize of \$500 and 3 prizes of \$100 each.**

**If you started the survey but didn't finish it, you can pick up from where you left off.**

Okay, let's go
No thanks

---

Sentis Research is conducting this survey on our behalf and will keep your responses confidential.

### Thank you for helping us serve you better!

- BC Construction Association
- Construction Labour Relations Association
- Independent Contractors and Businesses Association
- Mechanical Contractors Association of BC
- Progressive Contractors Association of Canada
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sentisresearch.com

## Changes in Business

A1a. What has been the **impact of COVID-19 so far** on your total gross revenue (compared to the same period in 2019)?

1. No change
2. Lower → A1b. How much lower?
  1. 10% lower
  2. 20% lower
  3. 30% lower
  4. 40% lower
  5. At least 50% lower
98. Don't know
3. Higher
98. Don't know

A2a. And what are you **forecasting for 2020 as a whole**?

1. No change
2. Lower → A2b. How much lower than 2019?
  1. 10% lower
  2. 20% lower
  3. 30% lower
  4. 40% lower
  5. At least 50% lower
98. Don't know
3. Higher
98. Don't know

A3a. Has your company had to **reduce its workforce** as a result of COVID-19?

1. Yes → A3b. By what percentage?
  1. 10%
  2. 20%
  3. 30%
  4. 40%
  5. 50% or more
98. Don't know

- A3c. Who have you had to lay off?
1. Salaried employees (e.g. project managers, estimators, etc.)
  2. Skilled trades
  3. Others

98. Don't know

2. No

98. Don't know

A4. Has any of your company's work or contracts been **postponed or cancelled** due to COVID-19?

1. Yes
2. No

98. Don't know

A5. Typically, approximately what percentage of your company's work is **public infrastructure** (municipal, school boards, provincial and/or federal)?

1. None or hardly any
2. 10%
3. 20%
4. 30%
5. 40%
6. 50% or more

98. Don't know

A6a. **IF A5=10% OR MORE:** Since the onset of COVID-19, has there been a **slowdown in projects being tendered by all levels of government**?

1. Yes → A6b. By what percentage?
  1. 10%
  2. 20%
  3. 30%
  4. 40%
  5. 50% or more

98. Don't know

2. No

98. Don't know

## Other Impacts of COVID-19

B1a. Has COVID-19 affected the **time it takes to get permits issued and have inspections performed** by City Hall?

1. Yes → B1b. What is the impact of these delays?
  1. Minor impact on the project
  2. Moderate impact on the project
  3. Major impact causing serious problems for the project
98. Don't know

2. No

98. Don't know

B2. Has your company experienced **additional costs** due to any other factors stemming from COVID-19?

Yes – *please select those that apply*

### RANDOMIZE

1. Restricted access to construction sites
2. Disruptions in supply chain
3. Delayed inspections
4. Additional supervisory personnel at jobsites
5. Increased cost for the purchase of PPE (personal protective equipment)
6. Anything else? \_\_\_\_\_

97. No

98. Don't know

## The Road to Recovery

C1. Has your company or any of your employees accessed any of the **provincial or federal relief programs**?

Yes – *please select those that apply*

### Provincial:

1. BC Emergency Benefit for Workers (a one-time payment of \$1,000)

### Federal:

2. Business Credit Availability Program (financing)
3. Canada Emergency Business Account (\$40,000 loan)
4. Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (75% rent subsidy)
5. Canada Emergency Response Benefit (\$2,000/mth for 4 mths)

6. Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (75% wage subsidy)
7. Large Employer Emergency Financing Facility (bridge financing)
8. Temporary Business Wage Subsidy (10% wage subsidy)

97. No

98. Don't know

C2. **FOR EACH PROGRAM:** Has the [PROGRAM] been:

a. Easy to apply for?

1. Yes
2. No

98. Don't know

b. Helpful to the survival of your business?

1. Yes
2. No

98. Don't know

C3. In your view, **how important are government assistance and stimulus** to the support and recovery of the construction industry?

1. Essential
2. Very important
3. Somewhat important
4. Not important

98. Don't know

C4. When it comes to **re-opening our economy**, do you feel that the BC government is moving...

1. Much too quickly
2. A little too quickly
3. About the right pace
4. A little too slowly
5. Much too slowly

98. Don't know



C5a. As BC's economy restarts gradually in the coming months, would you be **comfortable attending (or sending an employee to attend) in-class training?**

1. Yes, no problem
2. Maybe/depends → C5b. What would it depend on? *Select all that apply.*
  1. The employee feeling comfortable
  2. Very small class size (no more than 10)
  3. Small class size (no more than 20)
  4. Strict social-distancing protocols
  96. Other: \_\_\_\_\_
3. No, not comfortable
98. Don't know

## Company Profile

D1. Which of these industry associations does your company belong to?  
*Please select all that apply.*

1. BC Construction Association
2. Construction Labour Relations Association
3. Independent Contractors and Businesses Association
4. Mechanical Contractors Association of BC
5. Progressive Contractors Association of Canada
6. Roofing Contractors Association of BC
7. Surety Association of Canada
8. Vancouver Regional Construction Association

97. None of the above

D2. Where is most of your company's work completed?

1. Lower Mainland/Fraser Valley
2. Squamish/Whistler/Pemberton
3. Vancouver Island
4. Interior BC
5. Northern BC

D3. Which best describes your company?

1. General Contractor/Construction Management
2. Road Builder
3. Civil Contractor
4. Trade Contractor
5. Manufacturer
6. Supplier

96. Other: \_\_\_\_\_

D4. For which part of the construction industry (that encompasses new construction, service, maintenance and retrofit) does your company primarily provide services?  
*Select those that apply.*

1. Commercial
2. Single family residential
3. Concrete residential high-rises
4. Other multi-family
5. Institutional
6. Industrial
7. Service work
96. Other: \_\_\_\_\_

D5. What **size of projects** does your company normally bid on?

1. Up to \$5 million
2. \$6 million to \$10 million
3. \$11 million to \$50 million
4. \$51 million to \$100 million
5. Over \$100 million

D6. How many **employees\*** work for your company?

1. 1 – 9
2. 10 – 49
3. 50 – 99
4. 100 – 499
5. 500+

*\* Please include full and part-time salaried and hourly employees, but not sub-contractors.*

D7. If you have any final comments on this topic or the survey, please type them below.

**OPEN-END, FULLY OPTIONAL.**

**Those are all of our questions!**  
**Thank you very much for completing our survey.**