

Summary | Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Surveys

We polled the small business community to learn about (1) the impact of COVID-19 and (2) the outcome of applying for various COVID-19 government programs. The data collected will inform our advocacy and support efforts.

Small Business Impact from COVID-19

336 responses

- Agencies are overwhelmed. Applications were not processed.
- We need to find a way to secure funding otherwise we are not sure that we can reopen.
- Smaller orgs are not receiving funding.
- We need help navigating our options now and going forward-we are burning through our savings to pay commercial rent, mortgage, maintenance, utilities etc.
- We are feeling panicked about acquiring loans vs. grants to help bail our business and personal lives out of the hole in which we sink deeper as every day of quarantine passes.
- Free advertising for business when this is over or incentives to shop local

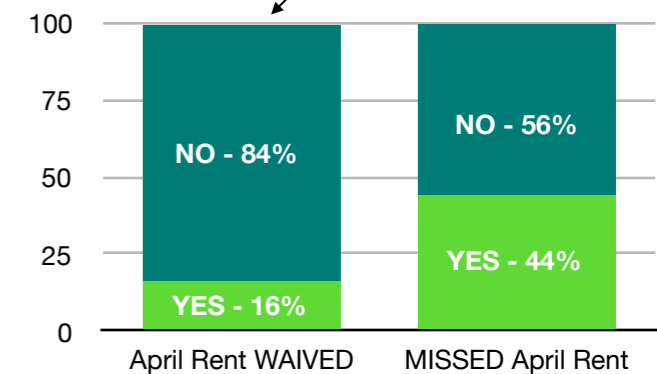
Applications for COVID-19 Government Programs

308 responses

- Need desperate help but not getting it from anywhere.
- The lack of transparency in the SBA process was infuriating and only raised doubts of favoritism and underhanded dealing!!!
- I don't think that our business will last through this. Paycheck program is vague on the forgiveness and percent hiring and period that it is needed. What employee making near minimum wage is going to want to come back to work when they are making more money on unemployment.
- I found that most of the SBA financial packages were loans. Most small Non-Profits that I know don't want any more debt. Grants would have been much more helpful.
- Our rent liability is our biggest concern right now.

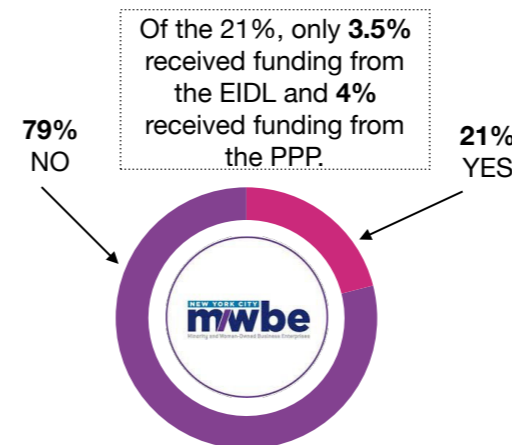
April Rent

Of the 84% not waived, 58% paid April Rent and of the 16% waived, 57% missed April rent.

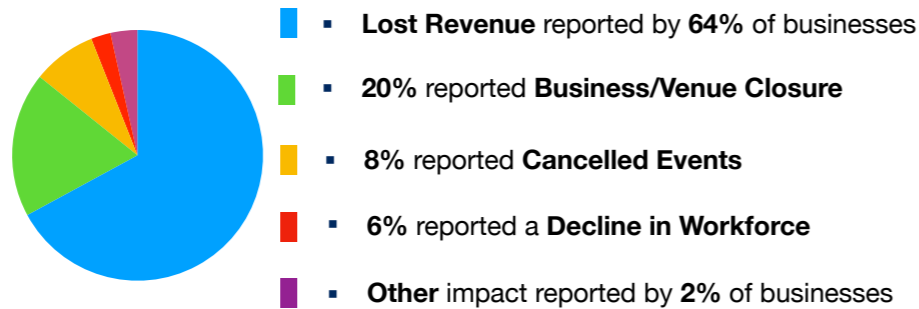


Business Comments

M/WBE Certified Responders



Categories of Business Impact



Categories of Support Requests

Financing	Employee Retention Grants	Tax Deferment	Rent Reduction
62%	14%	2%	22%

92% of businesses applied for gov't assistance

	SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL)	SBA Express Bridge Loan	SBA Paycheck Protection Program	SBA Debt Relief	Other Support
Applied for Lending	69%	4%	79%	30%	29%
Received Funding	4%	0.05%	4%	3%	N/A

Sectors

- Manufacturing 13%
- Health/Wellness 9%
- Professional 17%
- Retail 12%
- Other 11%
- Restaurant/Food 13%
- Tourism/Arts/Ent 6%
- Non-Profit 9%
- RE & Construction 6%
- Tech|Co-Working 3%
- Energy 1%

Neighborhoods

Greater Downtown Brooklyn Area 43%

North Brooklyn 17%

West Brooklyn 16%

Central Brooklyn 13%

East & South Brooklyn 11%

Ways Businesses Communicated w/the Chamber

Method	Contacts
BCC-COVID Email Address	80
Small Business Hotline (App)	200
Staff Referral/Other	25
Total number of Impact Surveys	336

Source

• Small Business COVID-19 Impact Survey | March 16-April 19 | 336 participants
 • Follow-up: Application for COVID-19 Gov't Programs Survey | April 13-19 | 308 participants
 Visit: <https://www.brooklynchamber.com/covid-19/> for more information about the surveys and for updates and resources