High Hopes, Slow Results — Restaurant Recovery in Canada

In Canada, foodservice orders and spending in 2021 were up from 2020, but they remained below pre-pandemic levels. The Canadian foodservice industry entered the year hopeful to get back on track. But the late-year return of pandemic restrictions suppressed consumer enthusiasm, flattening the recovery curve in Q4.

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Consumer spending increased 17%  
Traffic increased 12% compared to 2020

Following steep declines, traffic to full-service restaurants increased 21% versus last year  
but remained 27% under pre-pandemic levels

Traffic to quick-service restaurants, which made up 71% of total industry traffic, 
grew 11% compared to 2020

Off-premises orders, which represented 81% of total foodservice orders, grew 14% compared to 2020

The shift to off-premises foodservice orders, like carry-out, drive-thru, and delivery, was substantial in 2021. Our CREST® service for Canadian foodservice industry leaders can help you understand the foodservice landscape — how it’s changed and what changes are here to stay — so you can grow your business this year.

Source: The NPD Group/CREST®, Canada, YE December 2021

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