

ALBERTA
SOUTHWEST

STAVELY

Accommodation and Food Services

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Executive Summary

Stavely's accommodation and food services sector appears very small and has weakened markedly across the measures presented. The clearest sign is on the resident labour side: the town had 20 resident workers in the sector in 2016 and none in 2021, leaving no recorded local labour force in this area by the end of that period. That places Stavely on the weaker end of the surrounding regional picture, where some nearby places also fell to zero while others expanded.

The business base shows a similar pattern of contraction after a brief period of stability. Stavely recorded 3 establishments in accommodation and food services in 2022, 2023, and 2024, then dropped to 1 in 2025. The latest count points to a much smaller local footprint and leaves the town below several nearby communities. The structure of that business base is also narrow: the only establishment size class shown is businesses without employees, and that count also stood at 1 in 2025 after falling sharply from the year before. On the employment side, the sector remained present but limited, with just 4 people employed in 2023, a figure that sits near the bottom of the local comparison set and suggests a highly concentrated presence rather than a broad local industry.

Taken as a whole, the picture for Stavely is of a sector with very little scale and little depth. The disappearance of the resident labour force, the drop in establishments, and the very small number of jobs all point in the same direction. Accommodation and food services still existed locally in the most recent business and employment counts, but only at a minimal level, with a single non-employer establishment and a small employment base rather than a developed or expanding local sector.

Resident Labour Force in Sector

Stavely's resident labour force in this sector fell to zero in 2021 from 20 people in 2016, a 100.0% five-year decline, leaving no local workers recorded in the sector.

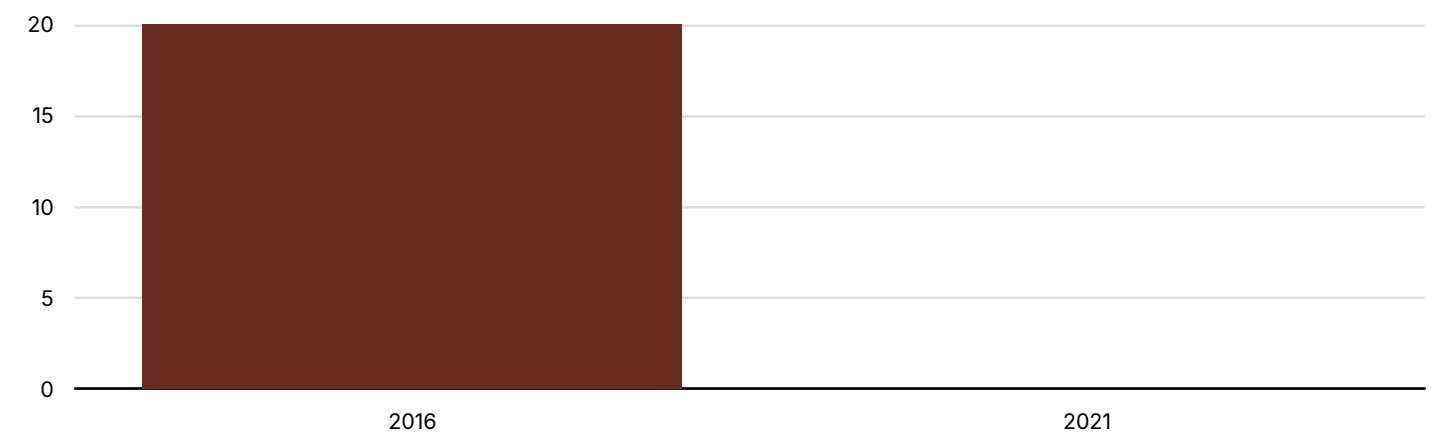


Figure 1.1: Shows the number of resident workers in a specific sector. It helps indicate how many local residents are employed in that part of the economy. (Stavely, 2016-2021)¹

In Stavely, resident labour force in accommodation and food services fell to zero in 2021, down from 20 people in 2016. Within the labour force aged 15 years and over, that sector no longer had any reported resident workers. The 5-year change was -100%, showing a complete drop over the period. With only these two data points, the clearest pattern is a sharp contraction rather than gradual movement.

In accommodation and food services, Stavely had 20 resident workers in 2016 and none in 2021, a 100% decline. That pattern is not unique in the area: Improvement District No. 4 Waterton and Cowley also fell from 20 and 15 to zero, while Piikani 147 dropped from 30 to 15. By contrast, Nanton doubled to 60 and Cardston County rose to 75. Stavely therefore sits on the weaker end of the regional picture, with no resident labour force remaining in this sector in 2021.

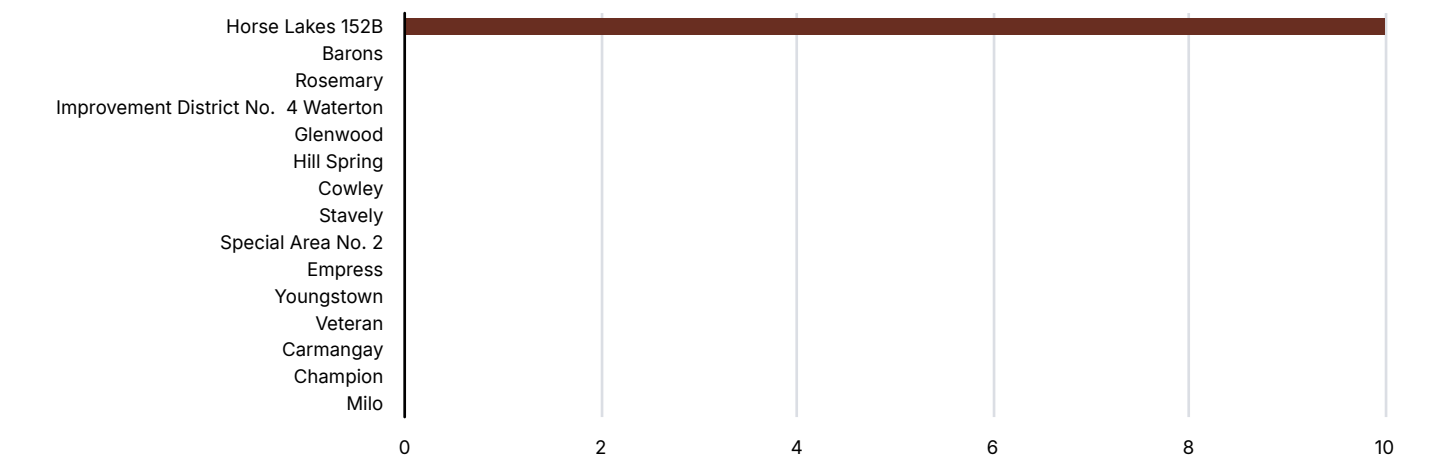


Figure 1.2: Comparison of Resident Labour Force in Sector with other locations (Stavely, 2021)¹

Establishments in Sector

Stavely had 1 business establishment in 2025, down 66.7% from 2024. The count had held at 3 in 2022, 2023 and 2024, then fell by two businesses in the latest year.

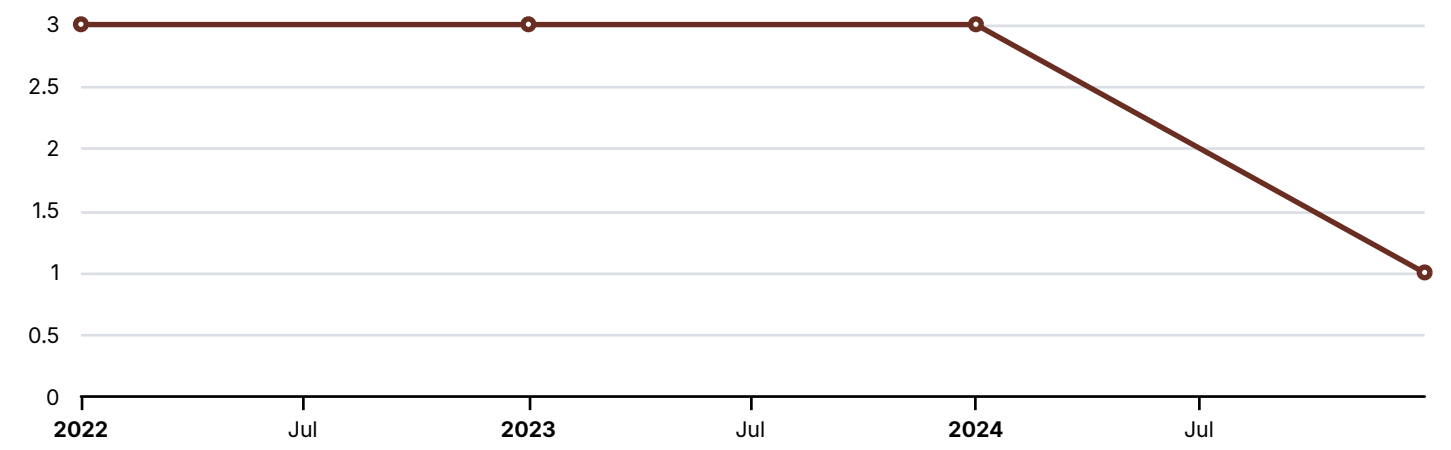


Figure 2.1: Shows the number of business establishments in a specific sector. It helps indicate the scale of business activity in that sector. (Stavely, 2022-2025)²

In Accommodation and food services, Stavely had 3 business establishments in 2022, 2023, and 2024, showing no change across those three years. The picture shifted in 2025, when the count fell to 1 establishment, a 66.7% year-over-year decline. That makes the recent movement the main feature of the series: a stable run followed by a sharp drop. The data points to a much smaller sector footprint in 2025.

In accommodation and food services, Stavely had 3 business establishments in 2022, 2023, and 2024, before falling to 1 in 2025. That left the town below several nearby places in the latest year, including Cardston County at 7, Glenwood at 6, and Pincher Creek No. 9 at 4. The count was also far below Pincher Creek’s 43. The recent drop suggests a smaller local sector, but the data do not show why.

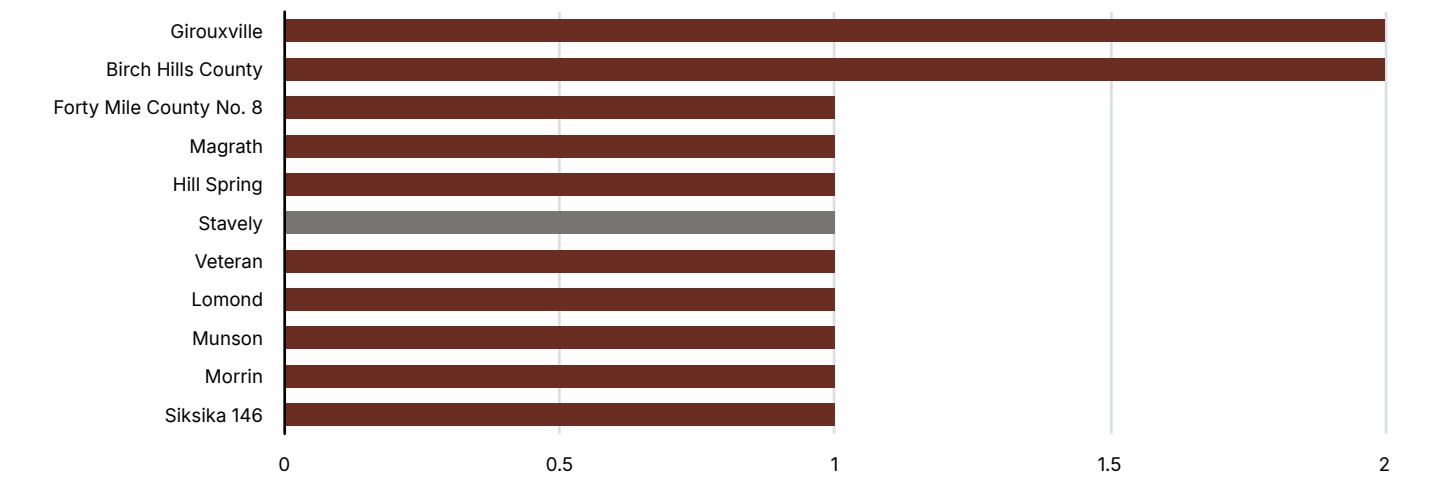


Figure 2.2: Comparison of Establishments in Sector with other locations (Stavely, 2025)²

Employment in Sector

Stavely had 4 people employed in the sector in 2023. This was the entire local total, showing a very small industry employment base in the community.

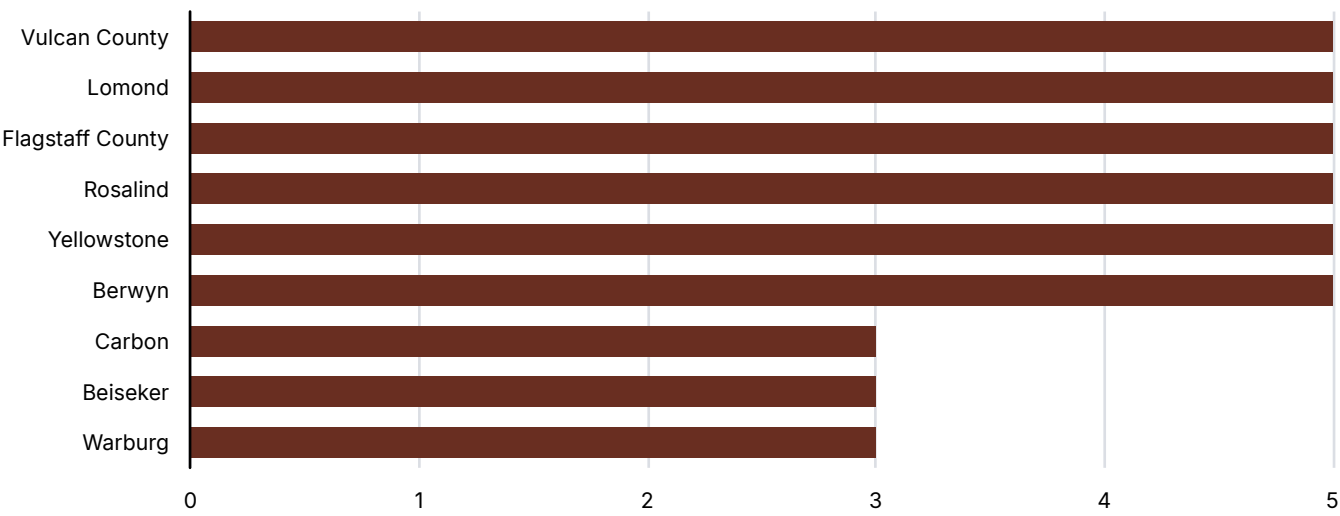


Figure 3.1: Comparison of Employment in Sector with other locations (Stavely, 2025)³

In Stavely, employment in accommodation and food services was very small in 2023, with 4 people working in the sector. That places the town near the bottom of the local comparison set, above only Hill Spring at 1 and far below nearby centres such as Nanton at 32, Cardston at 96, Claresholm at 136, and Pincher Creek at 296. Even smaller places can show some activity in this sector, but Stavely’s figure suggests a limited local footprint. Compared with the larger nearby communities, the sector’s scale in Stavely is modest and highly concentrated at a low level.

In 2023, Stavely had 4 jobs in accommodation and food services among employees aged 15 years and over. The same count appears in the included descendant dissemination area, suggesting a very small and concentrated local presence for this sector. With only 4 people in this line of work, the sector adds limited scale to the local employment base. The figures point to a modest footprint rather than a broad industry cluster.



Figure 3.2: Distribution of Employment in Sector (Stavely, 2023)³

Establishments in Sector by Number of Employees

Stavelly’s largest group in 2025 was businesses without employees, at 1 establishment, down 66.7% from 2024. That same group also recorded the largest annual change, after rising to 3 in 2024 from 1 in 2023.

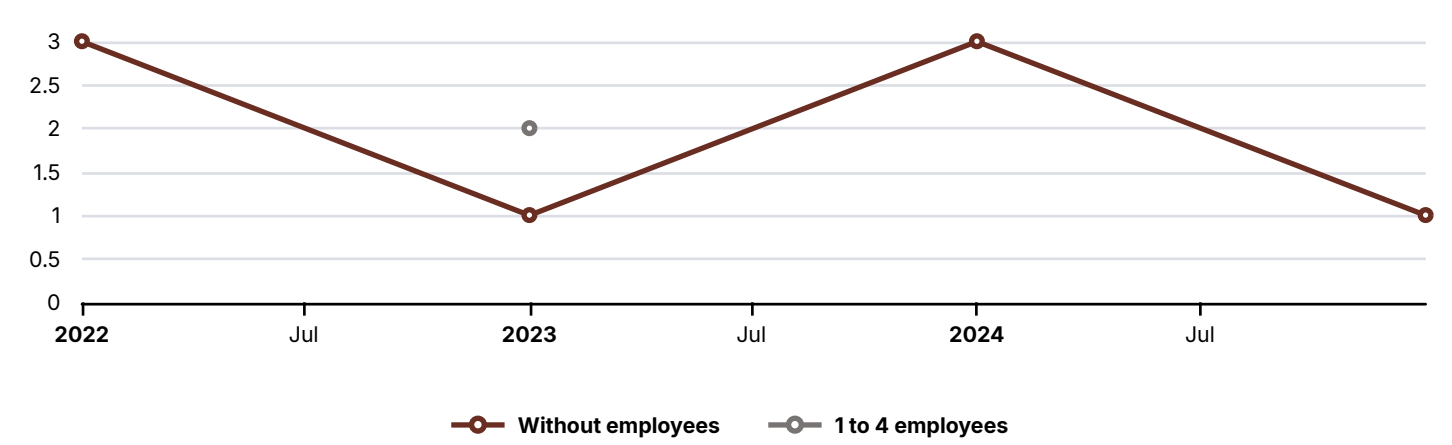


Figure 4.1: Shows the number of business establishments in a sector by employee size class. It helps indicate whether that sector is made up mostly of small or larger firms. (Stavelly, 2022-2025)²

In Stavelly’s accommodation and food services sector, establishments without employees are the only size class shown, with 1 business in 2025. That figure is down 66.7% from a year earlier, pointing to a sharp recent contraction in this small segment. With no other size classes provided, the data offers a narrow view of sector structure, but it clearly shows that the local base of non-employer establishments is very limited at the latest count.

In 2025, Stavelly’s accommodation and food services sector had 1 business establishment without employees. That size class is the only one shown in the data for the town. The count fell 66.7% from a year earlier, which means the sector’s no-employee presence was much smaller than in 2024. With no other size classes provided, the dataset points to a very limited establishment base in this sector, and a recent contraction in the smallest firms.



Figure 4.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Business Establishment Size - Without employees (Stavelly)²

Data Sources

1. Statistics Canada, Census Profile. Published in Dec 15, 2022.
2. Statistics Canada, Business Register. Published in Jun 1, 2025.
3. Statistics Canada, Business Register; Localintel, Employment by Industry Estimates of Census Areas. Published in Mar 13, 2026.

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