

ALBERTA
SOUTHWEST

GLENWOOD

Accommodation and Food Services

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Executive Summary

Glenwood's accommodation and food services sector is small, narrow, and uneven, with a limited business base and employment concentrated in just two activities: recreational vehicle parks and recreational camps, and full-service and limited-service restaurants. The picture combines very light resident labour force presence in the census with a modest local employment footprint in more recent business data. In 2016 and 2021, the village recorded no resident labour force in this sector at all. Since 2022, however, sector employment has been present, though at a very small scale and with noticeable year-to-year movement rather than steady expansion.

Recent activity shows a brief upswing followed by a settling back. Employment rose from 7 jobs in 2022 to 17 in 2023, then fell to 12 in 2024 and remained at 12 in 2025. Establishments followed a similar pattern, increasing from 7 in 2022 to 9 in 2023 before dropping to 6 in 2024 and holding there in 2025. The sector's structure remains highly concentrated. In 2025, the two largest industries were recreational vehicle parks and camps and restaurants, each with 6 employees, and neither changed from the previous year. The establishment mix also points to a very small-scale sector, dominated by businesses without employees or with fewer than 10 workers, with no larger size classes reported. Compared with nearby communities cited in the data, Glenwood sits in the lower range for both establishments and employment.

What stands out most is how focused the sector is. Recreational vehicle parks and camps form Glenwood's strongest specialization by a wide margin, with restaurants also showing above-benchmark concentration, though both measures weakened over the most recent year reported for specialization. Earlier data show strong short-term growth in RV parks and more moderate gains in restaurants, but by 2025 that momentum had flattened in the leading industries. The result is a sector that remains present and locally distinctive, especially around camping-related activity, but is still defined by small numbers, a narrow base, and stability at a modest scale rather than broad or sustained growth.

Resident Labour Force in Sector

Glenwood recorded no resident labour force in this sector in 2021, unchanged from 2016. The count remained at 0 people across both years, showing no reported sector workers among residents.



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. (Glenwood, 2016-2021)¹

Glenwood’s resident labour force in accommodation and food services was nil in both 2016 and 2021, within the labour force aged 15 years and over. The figures show no recorded workers in this sector across the two census years. With both values at 0 people, there is no measurable time trend in the available data. The pattern is stable rather than changing, but the dataset does not provide enough detail to explain why.

In accommodation and food services, Glenwood had no resident labour force in both 2016 and 2021, within the labour force aged 15 years and over. That places it at the low end of the local comparisons, alongside places such as Hill Spring, Cowley, Stavely, and Peigan Timber Limit "B", which also reported zero in 2021. By contrast, nearby communities like Claresholm (135 people) and Pincher Creek (145) had larger resident workforces in the sector. Glenwood showed no change over the five years.

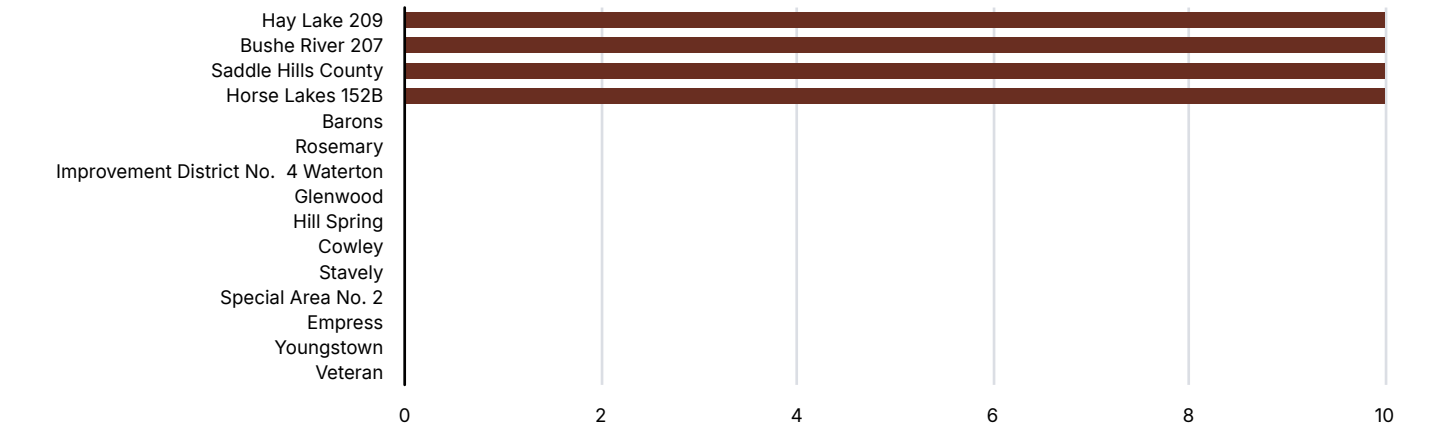


Figure 1.2: Comparison of Resident Labour Force in Sector with other locations (Glenwood, 2021)¹

Fastest Growing Industries in Sector

Glenwood’s fastest-growing industries were recreational vehicle parks and recreational camps, with 11 employees after a 266.7% one-year increase. Full-service restaurants and limited-service eating places followed, rising 50.0% to 6 employees.

In Glenwood’s accommodation and food services sector, the fastest employment growth in 2023 was concentrated in two industries. Recreational vehicle parks and recreational camps employed 11 people and recorded a 266.7% one-year increase. Full-service restaurants and limited-service eating places employed 6 people and grew by 50.0% over the same period. The pattern suggests that growth was strongest in the smaller RV parks and recreational camps category, which added momen-

tum from a low base. Restaurants also expanded, but at a more moderate pace and with fewer workers overall. Taken together, the figures show a sector where recent gains were uneven rather than broad-based. The larger percentage increase in RV-related employment stands out, while food service added jobs more gradually. With only these two industries listed, the data points to a limited but clearly positive shift in employment within the sector in Glenwood in 2023.

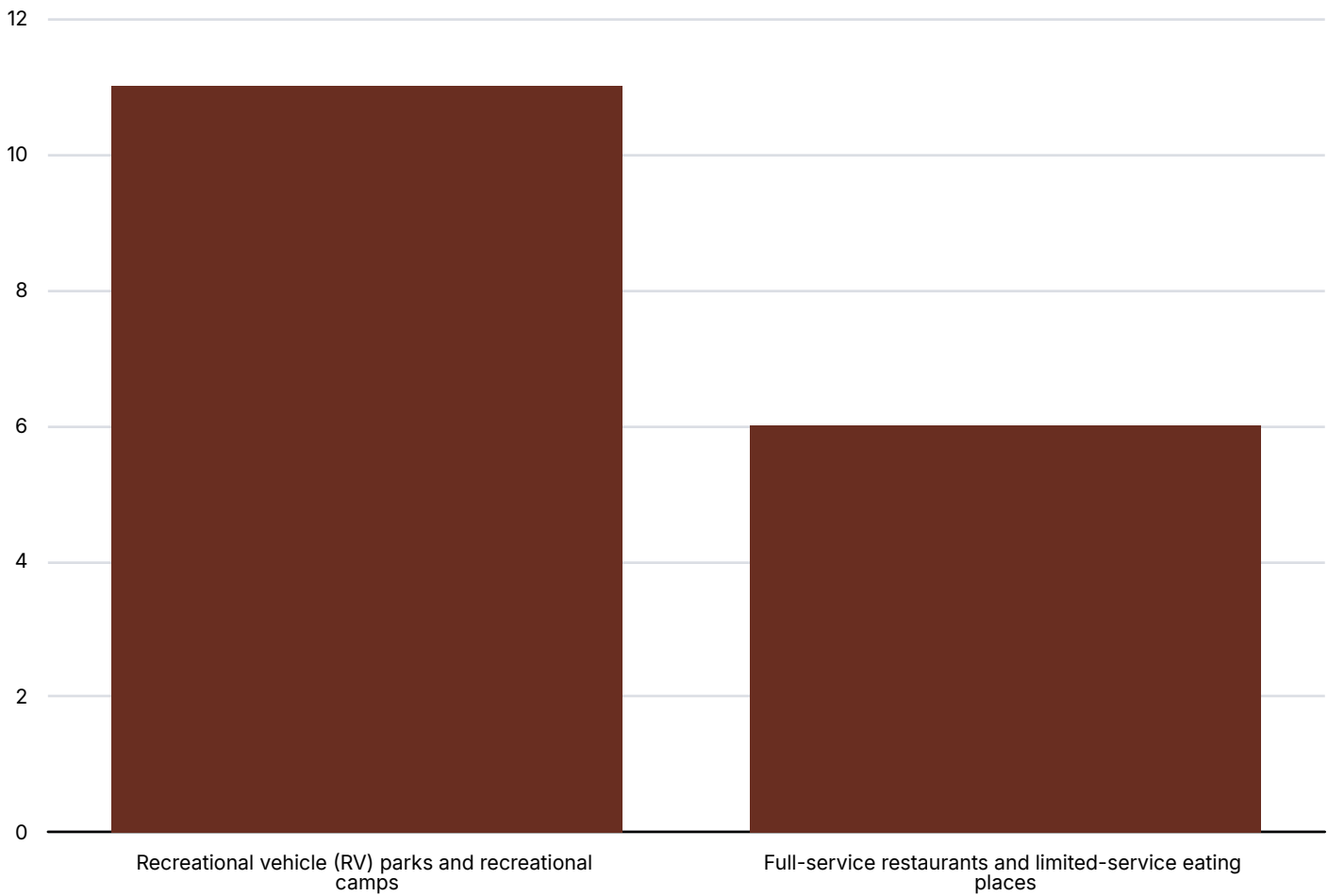


Figure 2.1: Shows industries within this sector where employment has increased the most over the selected time period. It helps identify the fastest-growing parts of the sector. (Glenwood, 2023)²

Largest Industries in Sector

Glenwood’s largest industries were recreational vehicle parks and recreational camps and full-service and limited-service eating places, each with 6 employees in 2025. Both groups were unchanged from a year earlier.

In Glenwood’s accommodation and food services sector, employment in 2025 is concentrated in two industries that are tied at the top of the list. Recreational vehicle parks and recreational camps, and full-service restaurants and limited-service eating places, each account for 6 employees aged 15 years and over. Both industries show no change from the previous year, with 1-year change measured at 0 in each case. That makes the sector’s leading employment components stable rather than

expanding or contracting in the short term. Because the two largest industries are equal in size, there is no clear single dominant employer within the sector from this dataset. Instead, the pattern points to a narrow top tier made up of two closely matched activities. Taken together, the figures suggest a small and steady employment base in Glenwood’s accommodation and food services sector, with recent momentum flat across the leading industries.

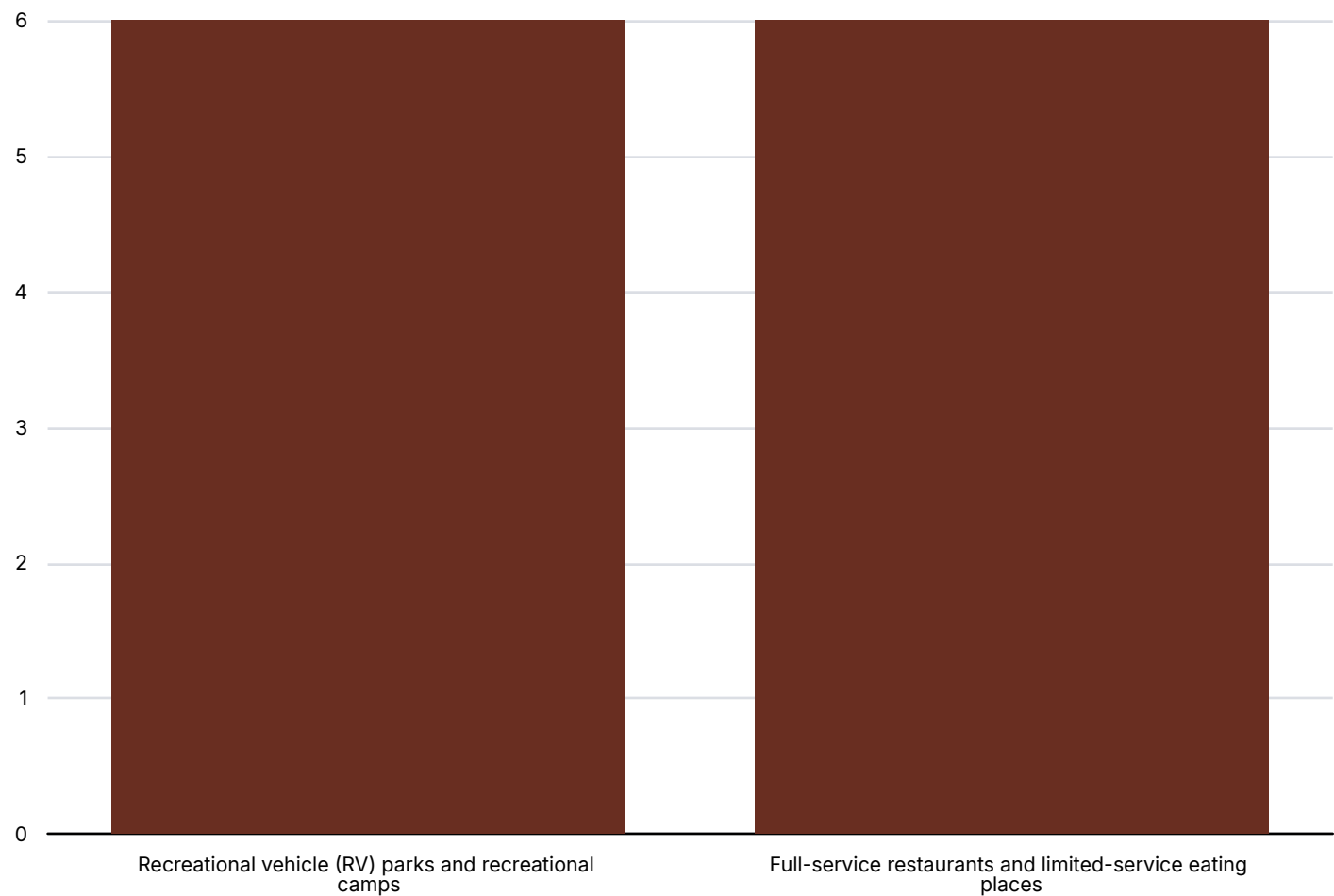


Figure 3.1: Shows the industries within this sector with the highest employment. It helps identify the biggest components of the sector. (Glenwood, 2025)²

Declining Industries in Sector

In Glenwood, employment declines were tied at 6 people in both recreational vehicle parks and camps, and full-service and limited-service restaurants. Each was unchanged from 2024, with 0.0% one-year change.

In Glenwood's accommodation and food services sector, the available data for 2025 does not show any declining industries. The two listed industries both have employment of 6 people: recreational vehicle parks and recreational camps, and full-service restaurants and limited-service eating places. Neither industry recorded a 1-year change, so both were flat over the period rather than losing jobs. With the same employment level and no recent change, the sector's small employment

base appears stable in the industries shown here. Because only two industries are included, the picture is limited. Within this sector, there is no evidence in the dataset of one activity contracting faster than another, or of a clear downward trend in employment. The main takeaway is the absence of decline in the reported industries, not a shift toward growth or contraction. In this dataset, Glenwood's accommodation and food services employment looks steady rather than weakening.

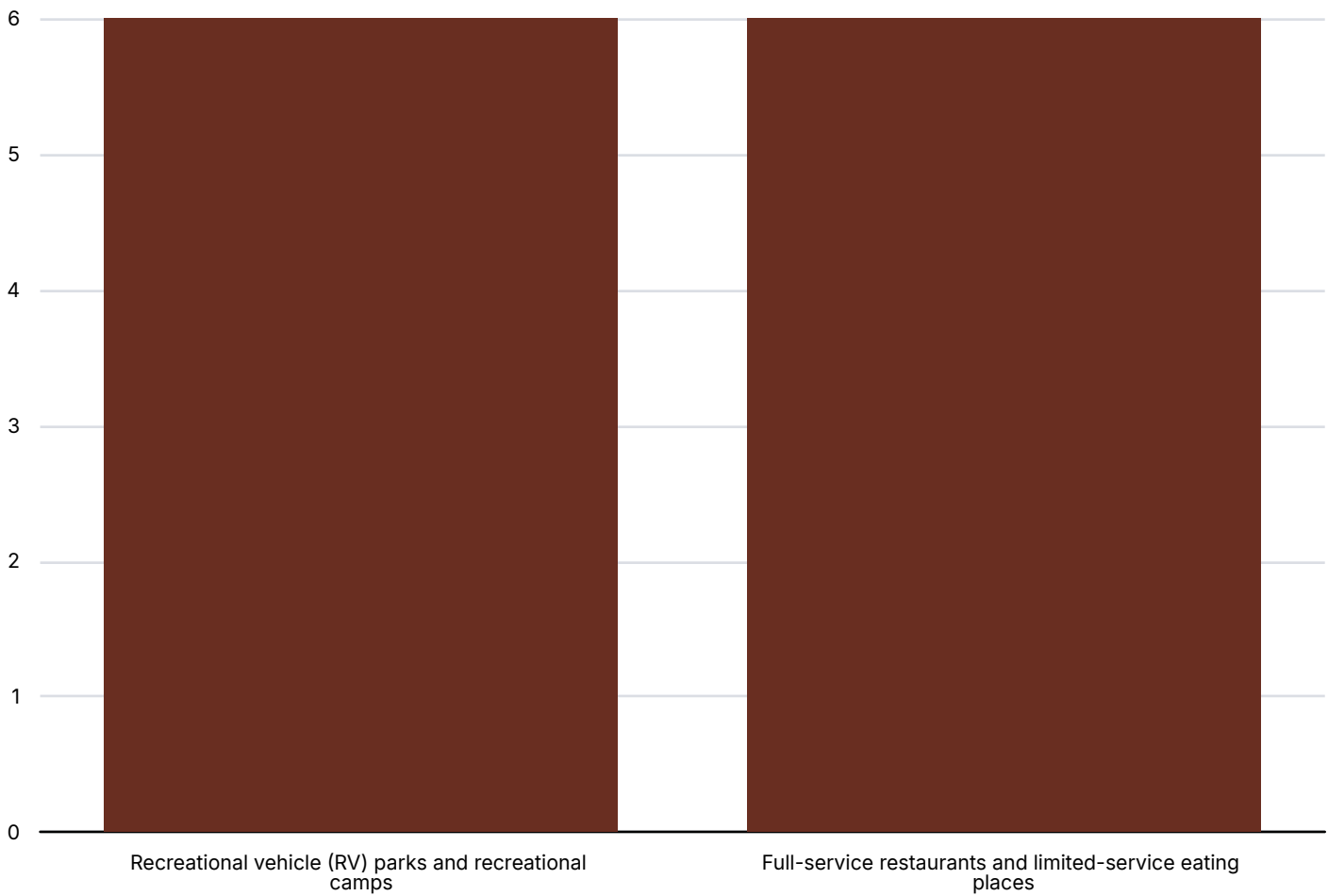


Figure 4.1: Shows industries within this sector where employment has decreased the most over the selected time period. It helps identify segments of the sector that are losing jobs. (Glenwood, 2025)²

Establishments in Sector

Glenwood had 6 business establishments in 2025, unchanged from 2024. That followed a decline from 9 in 2023, after 7 in 2022, leaving the count 14.3% below 2022.

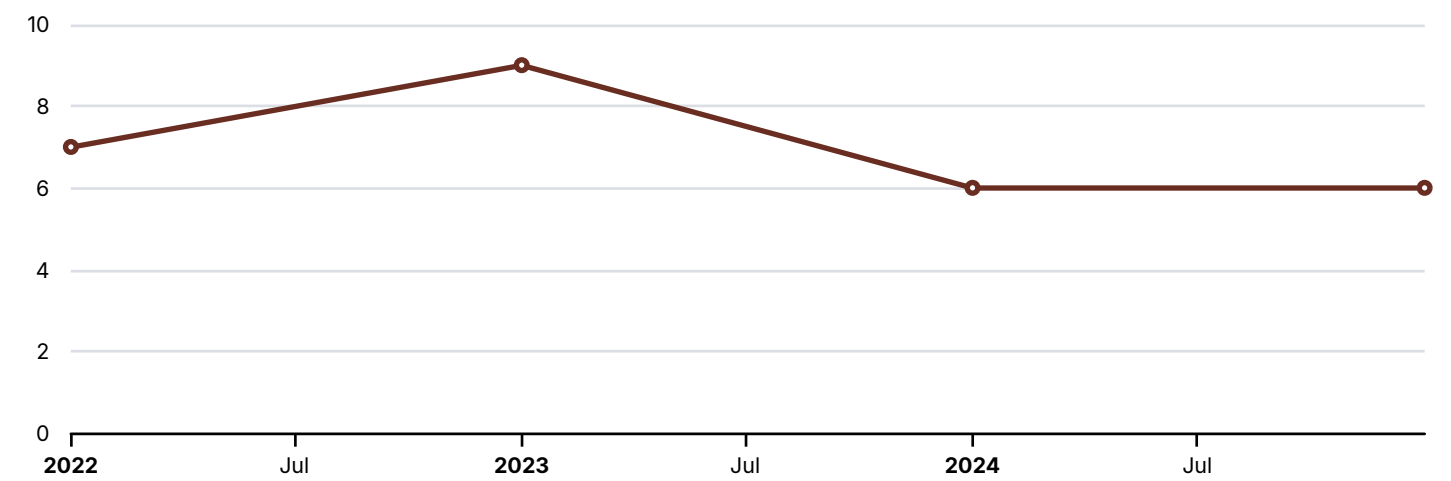
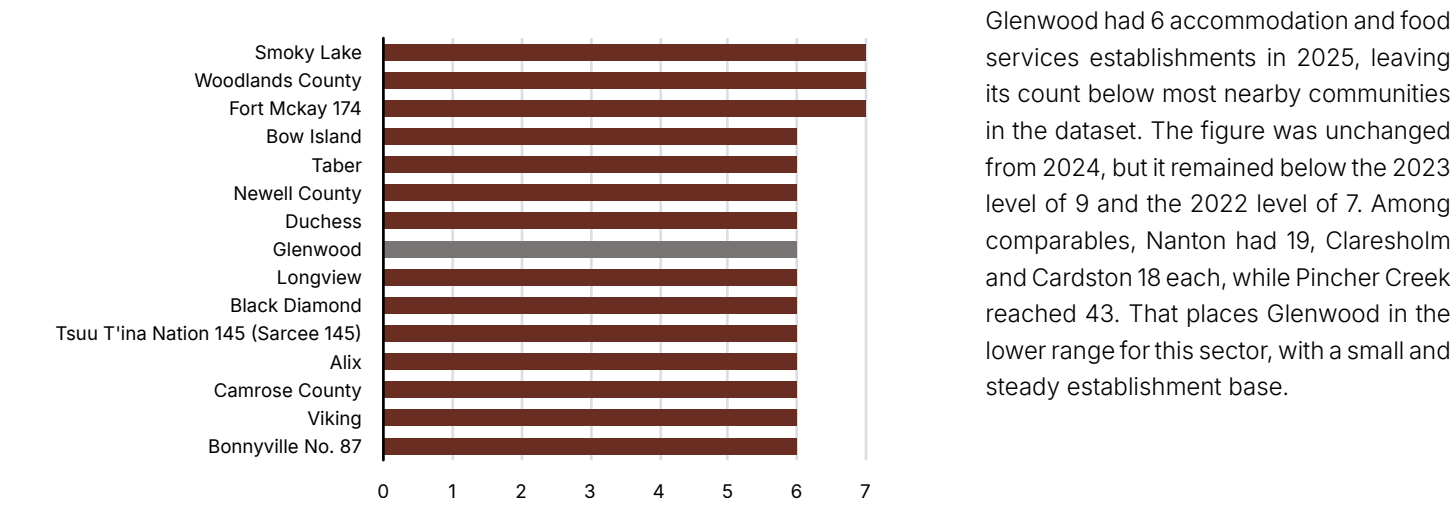


Figure 5.1: Shows the number of business establishments in a specific sector. It helps indicate the scale of business activity in that sector. (Glenwood, 2022-2025)³

In Glenwood, the number of accommodation and food services establishments has been small and somewhat volatile in recent years. The series shows a brief rise followed by a return to a lower level, leaving the sector at 6 businesses in 2024 and 2025. The count stood at 7 in 2022, increased to 9 in 2023, then fell to 6 in 2024. That was a drop of 33.3% year over year. In 2025, the total was unchanged at 6, indicating no further movement. The recent pattern suggests a modest sector that has not sustained the 2023 peak. For Glenwood, this points to a limited and stable base of business activity in accommodation and food services.



Glenwood had 6 accommodation and food services establishments in 2025, leaving its count below most nearby communities in the dataset. The figure was unchanged from 2024, but it remained below the 2023 level of 9 and the 2022 level of 7. Among comparables, Nanton had 19, Claresholm and Cardston 18 each, while Pincher Creek reached 43. That places Glenwood in the lower range for this sector, with a small and steady establishment base.

Figure 5.2: Comparison of Establishments in Sector with other locations (Glenwood, 2025)³

Specialist Industries in Sector

Glenwood’s largest specialization is recreational vehicle parks and recreational camps, with a location quotient of 97.2, though it fell 36.3% over one year. Full-service and limited-service restaurants rank next at 2.5, down 32.6%.

Glenwood’s accommodation and food services profile is shaped by a very strong concentration in one specialist industry: recreational vehicle parks and recreational camps. In 2025, that industry posted a location quotient of 97.2, far above typical concentration levels, while full-service restaurants and limited-service eating places were much less specialized at 2.5. The recent movement in both industries was downward. Recreational vehicle parks and recreational camps fell by 36.3% over the past year, while restaurants declined by 32.6%. That

means the strongest niche in the local mix also saw the sharper recent contraction. The contrast between the two industries is clear. Glenwood’s specialization is heavily concentrated in outdoor lodging and camping-related activity, not in restaurant employment. Taken together, the data suggest a small and highly focused sector structure, with recent change pointing to weaker concentration rather than broadening within accommodation and food services.

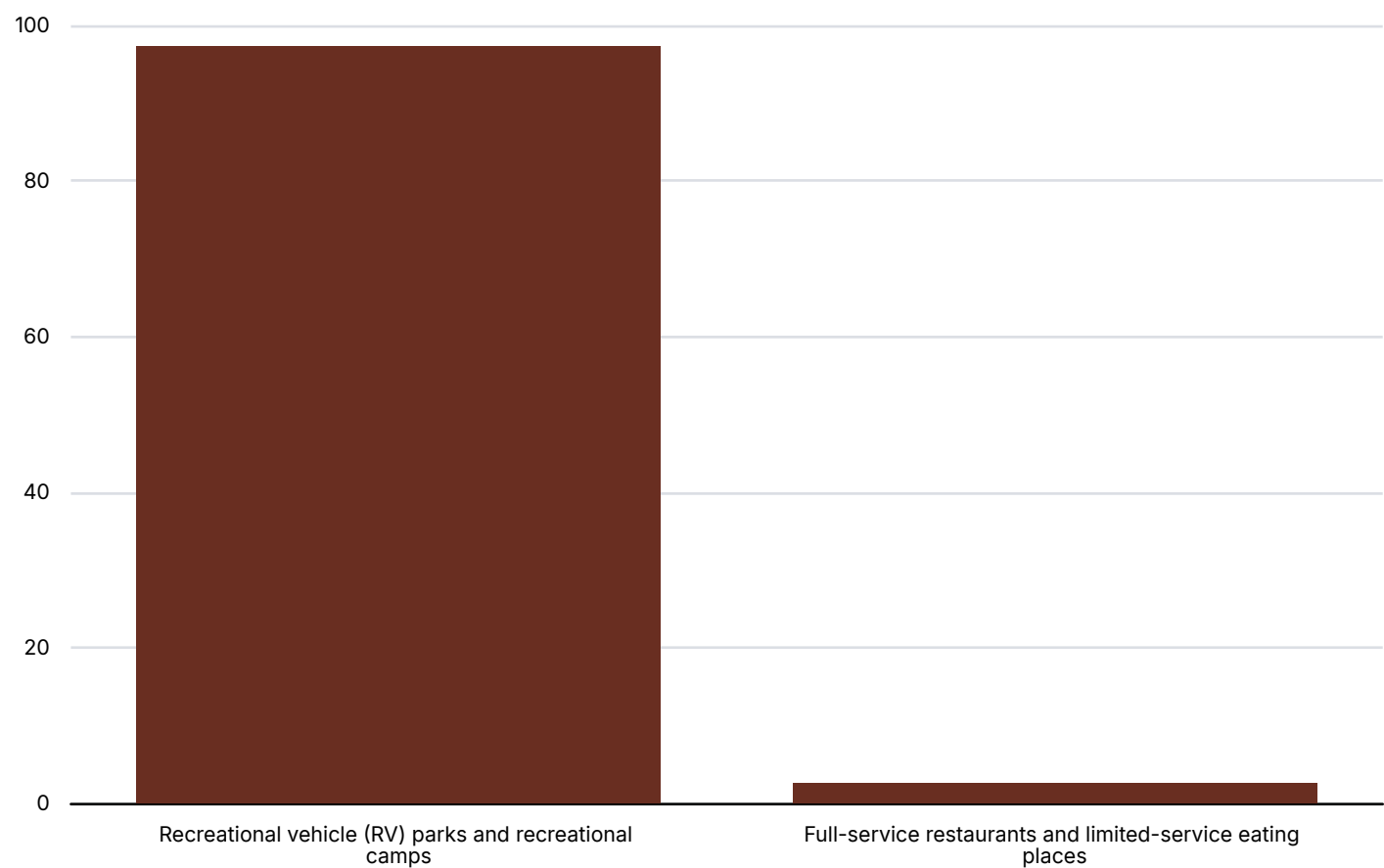


Figure 6.1: Shows industries within this sector where the local economy has the highest level of specialization based on employment concentration. Industries are categorized based on specialization (location quotient) and recent employment growth or change in concentration. (Glenwood, 2025)⁴

Star Industries in Sector

Glenwood’s most specialized sector is full-service restaurants and limited-service eating places, with a location quotient of 3.8 in 2024, up 78.7% over one year. Recreational vehicle parks and camps also ranked highly at 154.4 in 2023.

Glenwood’s star industry in accommodation and food services is full-service restaurants and limited-service eating places. In 2024, the industry recorded a Location Quotient of 3.8, which points to a much stronger local concentration than the broader benchmark used in the data. The industry also showed sharp recent momentum, with a 78.7% one-year change in concentration. Within the sector, that combination of high specialization and rising intensity makes it the clearest standout in the dataset. The figures suggest that this restaurant category is not only

established locally but has also become more concentrated over the past year. Because the dataset includes just this one industry, the comparison is internal only, but the signal is strong: the local food-service profile is anchored by this segment rather than spread evenly across the sector. That pattern matters because it shows where the sector’s specialization is most visible in Glenwood, and it does so with recent growth rather than a static snapshot.

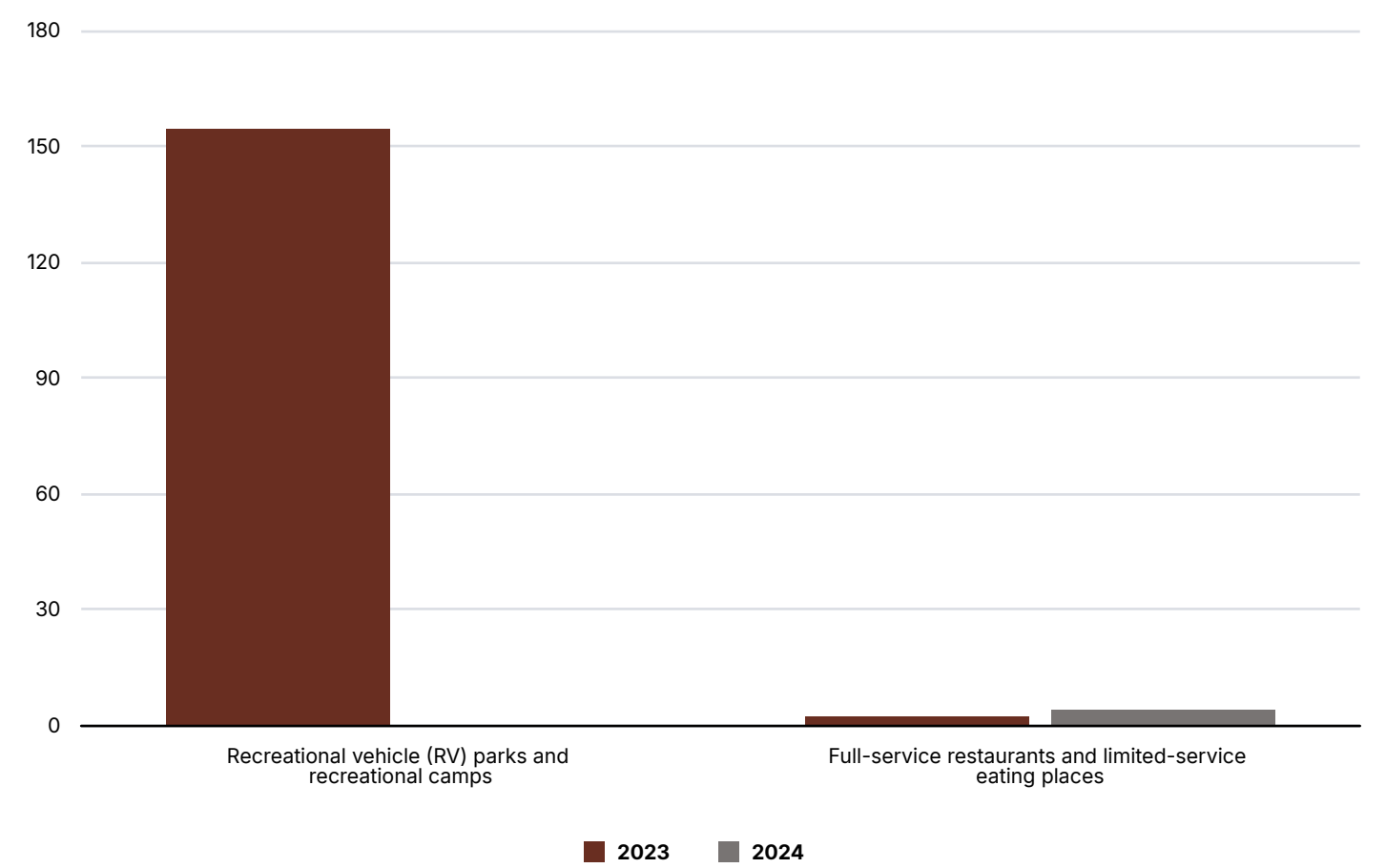


Figure 7.1: Shows industries within this sector where the local economy has strong specialization and increasing concentration or strong growth. Industries are categorized based on specialization (location quotient) and recent employment growth or change in concentration. (Glenwood, 2023-2024)⁴

Anchor Industries in Sector

Glenwood’s largest anchor industry is recreational vehicle parks and camps, with a location quotient of 97.2 in 2025, down 36.3% from 2024. Full-service and limited-service restaurants rank second at 2.5, also declining 32.6%.

In Glenwood, the accommodation and food services sector shows two clear anchor industries in 2025, both with high specialization but sharp recent declines in employment concentration. The strongest is recreational vehicle parks and recreational camps, with a location quotient of 97.2 and a 1-year change of -36.3%. Full-service restaurants and limited-service eating places also stand out, at 2.5 with a -32.6% change over the same period. The pattern is concentrated, but it is moving downward. Both industries remain strongly represented

in the local employment mix for people aged 15 and over, yet the recent changes point to weaker concentration than before. With only these two industries identified, the sector’s current profile appears narrow and highly specialized. The RV parks and camps category is far more concentrated than restaurants, while both show similar short-term erosion. That combination suggests Glenwood’s anchor industries in this sector are still prominent, but their relative strength has softened in the past year.

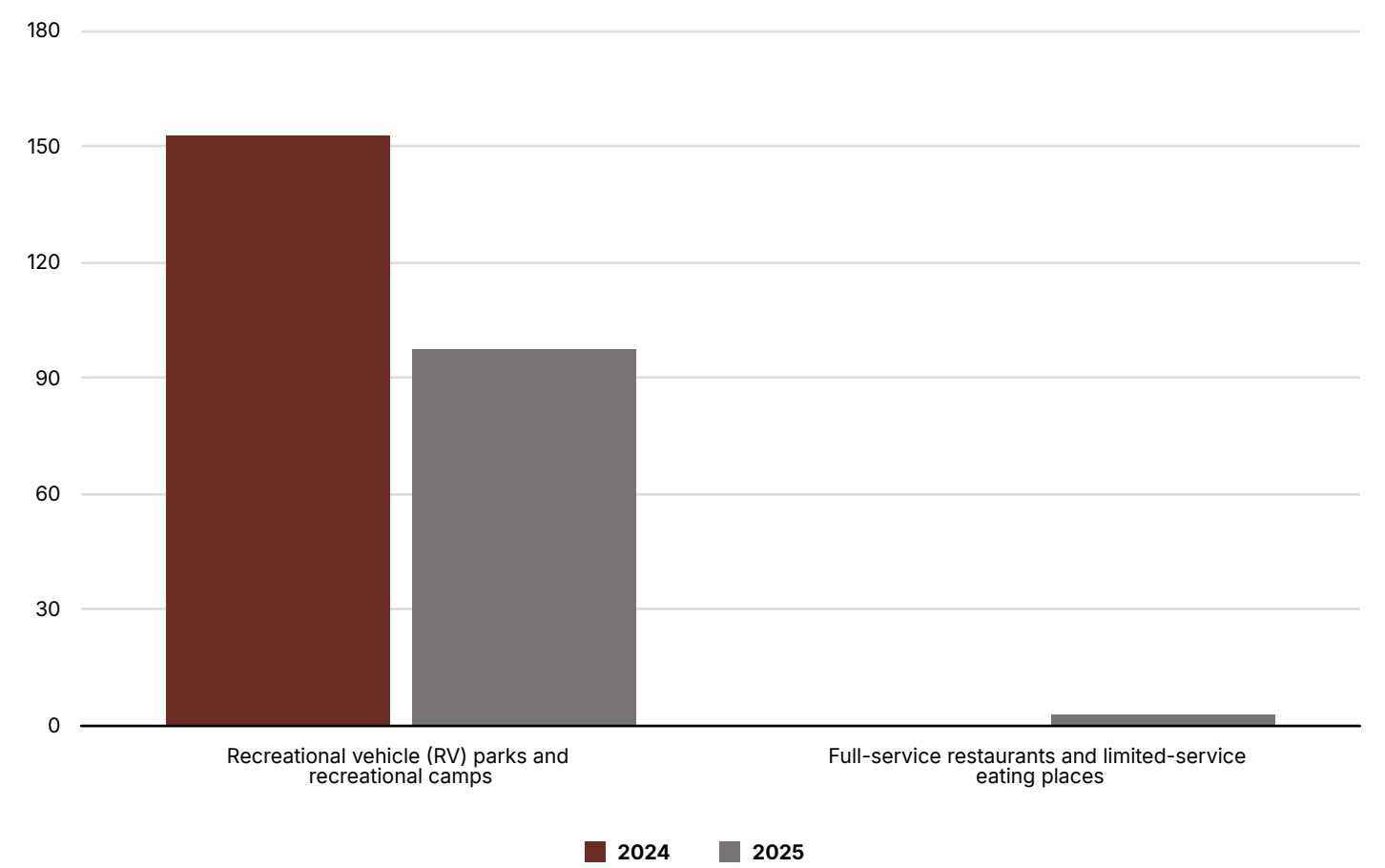


Figure 8.1: Shows industries within this sector where the local economy has strong specialization but relatively stable or declining concentration. Industries are categorized based on specialization (location quotient) and recent employment growth or change in concentration. (Glenwood, 2024-2025)⁴

Employment in Sector

Glenwood’s industry employment was unchanged at 12 people in 2025, after falling 29.4% from 17 in 2024. The series rose from 7 in 2022 to 17 in 2023 before easing back.

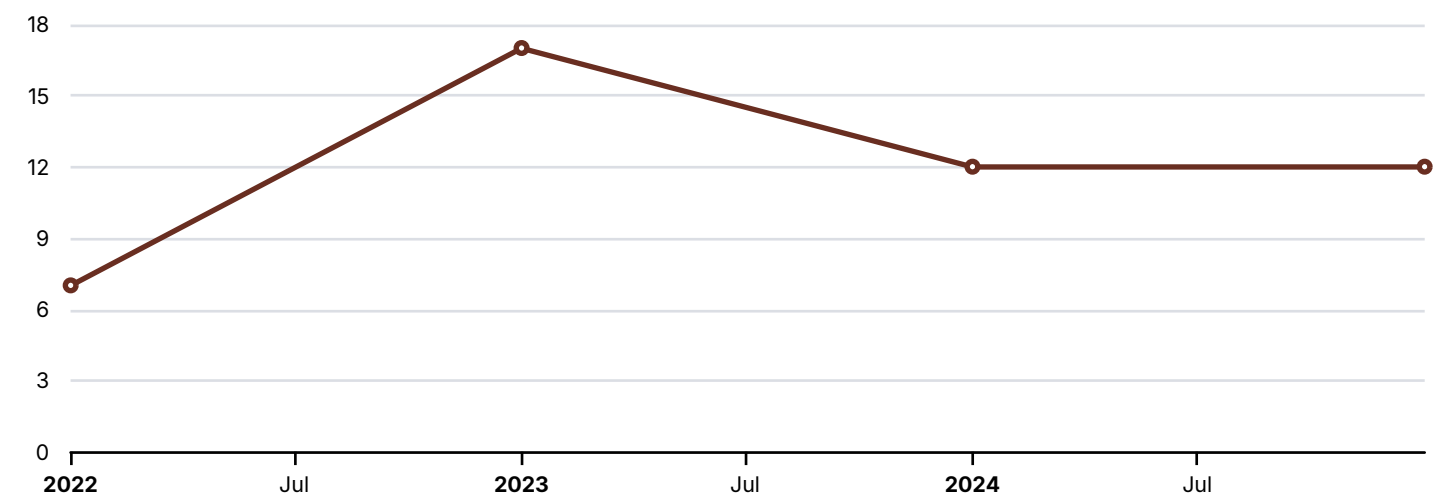
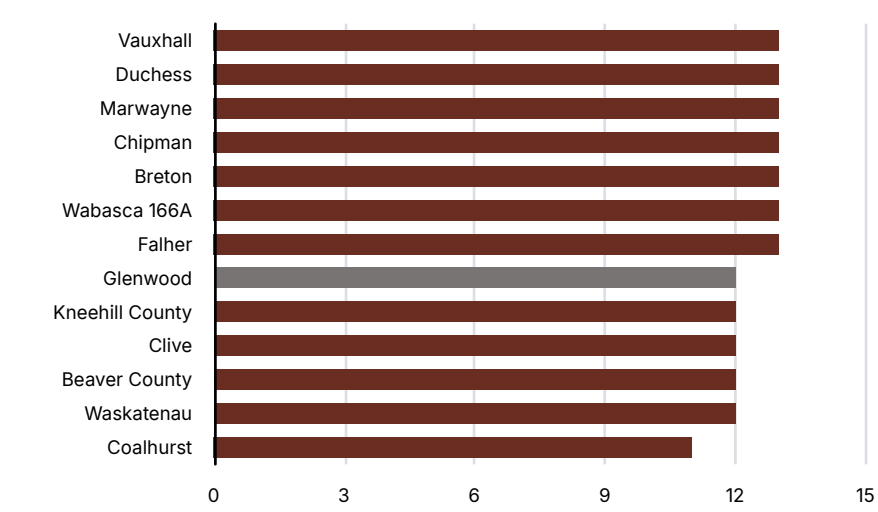


Figure 9.1: Shows the number of jobs in a specific industry sector. It helps indicate the scale of that sector within the local economy. (Glenwood, 2022-2025)²

In Glenwood, employment in accommodation and food services has been small but volatile over the past four years. The sector had 7 jobs in 2022, rose sharply to 17 in 2023, then eased to 12 in 2024 and remained at 12 in 2025. That pattern shows a brief peak followed by a partial retreat and stabilization. The 2025 level is still above the 2022 count, but well below the 2023 high. Within a universe of employees aged 15 years and over, the sector’s size appears limited and its recent trend is flat rather than expanding.



In Glenwood, accommodation and food services employment remained small and uneven through 2022 to 2025. The count rose from 7 people in 2022 to 17 in 2023, then settled at 12 in both 2024 and 2025. That left the village below most nearby comparators, including Nanton at 32, Cardston at 96 and Claresholm at 136 in 2025. Only Hill Spring, at 1, was smaller. The pattern points to a very limited local sector.

Figure 9.2: Comparison of Employment in Sector with other locations (Glenwood, 2025)²

Establishments in Sector by Number of Employees

Glenwood’s establishments remain concentrated without employees, at 3 in 2025, unchanged from 2024. The 1 to 4 employee group held at 1, while 5 to 9 employee establishments stayed at 2.

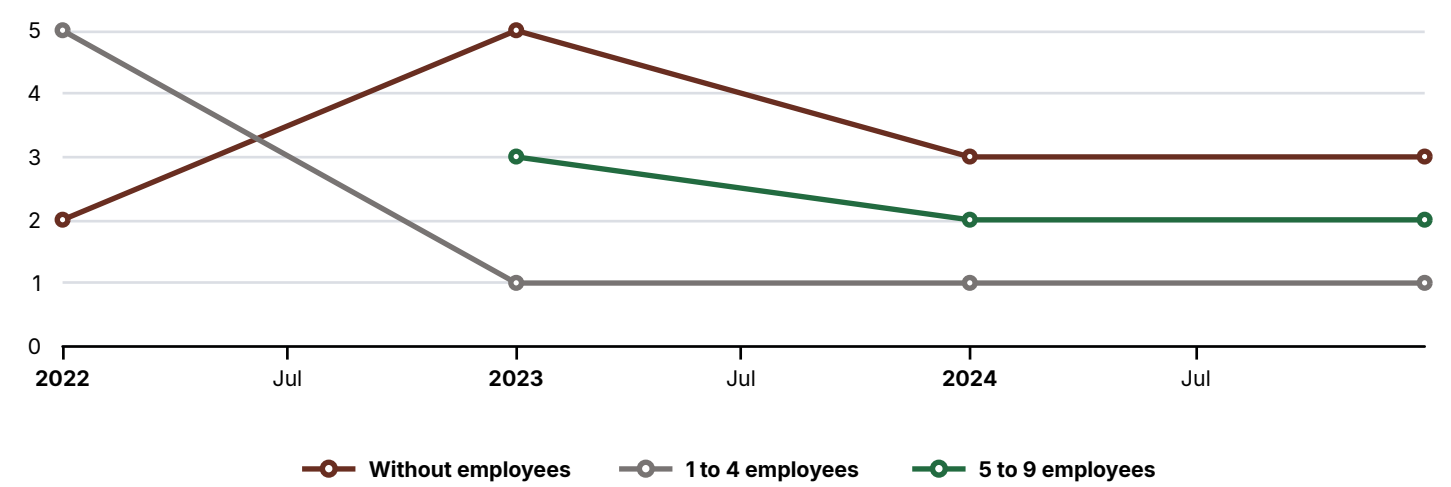


Figure 10.1: Shows the number of business establishments in a sector by employee size class. It helps indicate whether that sector is made up mostly of small or larger firms. (Glenwood, 2022-2025)³

In 2025, Glenwood’s accommodation and food services sector was dominated by very small establishments. The largest category was businesses without employees, with 3 establishments, followed by 5 to 9 employees at 2 and 1 to 4 employees at 1. The pattern shows a clear concentration at the smallest end of the size scale, with no larger employee classes reported in the dataset. Year-over-year change was flat for each listed category, suggesting no movement in the sector’s establishment mix over the period shown. The data points to a small, stable base of businesses in this sector in Glenwood.



In Glenwood’s accommodation and food services sector, the establishment base is small and concentrated in modest size classes. In 2025, there were 3 businesses without employees, 1 with 1 to 4 employees, and 2 with 5 to 9 employees. The one-year change was flat for each category. That mix suggests a sector made up mainly of very small operators, with no evidence in the dataset of recent expansion or contraction in establishment counts.

Figure 10.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Business Establishment Size - Without employees (Glenwood)³

Data Sources

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

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