

But checks of locations in other regions, including St. Joseph, Missouri, and Boston — where Dunkin' has a near cult-like following — found no shortage of the sweet treats.

Dunkin' is one of the world's largest coffee and doughnut brands, with more than 13,200 restaurants. The company, which was founded in Massachusetts in 1950, was purchased for \$11.3 billion in 2020 by Atlanta private equity firm Inspire Brands, which also owns Arby's and Buffalo Wild Wings.

Dunkin' stores in Omaha, Lincoln and Grand Island all had no doughnuts in their cases Thursday and Friday and put up signs on their doors and drive-thru kiosks informing customers that the pastries were unavailable "due to a manufacturing error." Some locations did offer "Munchkins," or doughnut holes, on Friday.

Tyler Raikar, of Omaha, stopped by a Dunkin' in west Omaha early Friday after an overnight shift as a phlebotomist, seeking coffee and a chocolate cake doughnut.

"What? No doughnuts!" she exclaimed when told the location had none. "That's tragic!"

Phone and email messages left Friday with Dunkin' and Inspire Brands were not immediately returned. Calls and emails to Bryce Bares, who owns several Dunkin' franchises in Nebraska, also were not immediately returned.