



KENTUCKY'S \$8.5 BILLION RESTAURANT ECONOMY IS AT RISK¹

Over 75% of Kentucky's 7,654 eating and drinking locations are in danger of closing permanently without The RESTAURANTS Act²

THE RESTAURANTS ACT WOULD GENERATE \$1.9 BILLION IN ECONOMIC BENEFIT FOR KENTUCKY³

- Restaurants and drinking places account for 8.5% of all employment in Kentucky⁴.
- Food services projected to contribute **10,597 new Kentuckian jobs** from 2016 to 2026.⁵
- The RESTAURANTS Act would galvanize Kentucky's tourism industry, encouraging travelers to eat in Kentucky's establishments and spend money on lodging, other tourist attractions, and retail, generating **\$1 billion**.⁶
- The RESTAURANTS Act would provide **\$189 million in benefits** to countless other bakers, fishermen, butchers, and, of course, Kentucky's **71,400 small farms**.⁷

WITHOUT HELP FOR INDEPENDENT RESTAURANTS, KENTUCKY'S ECONOMY WILL SUFFER

- An estimated **76% of eateries are independently owned**.⁸
- Independent restaurants rely far less on pickup and drive through service.⁹ **Fine and casual dining have declined 85% and 65% respectively**, while fast-food has only decreased 21%.¹⁰ National chains like Domino's, Pizza Hut, Papa John's, Raising Cane's, and Taco Bell have hired during this time.¹¹
- Nearly **65% of the revenue** from local independent restaurants **recirculates in the local economy** compared to about 30% for chain restaurants.¹²

THE RESTAURANTS ACT WOULD HELP PROTECT 206,700 KENTUCKIAN JOBS¹³

- Keeping many of Kentucky's **206,700** leisure and hospitality workers employed would save Kentucky **\$413 million** in unemployment benefits and insurance taxes.¹⁴

¹ [Kentucky Restaurant Industry at a Glance](#), National Restaurant Association.

² [Independent Restaurants Are a Nexus of Small Businesses in the United States and Drive Billions of Dollars of Economic Activity That Is at Risk of Being Lost Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic](#), page 2; [Kentucky Restaurant Industry at a Glance](#), National Restaurant Association.

³ [Independent Restaurants Are a Nexus of Small Businesses in the United States and Drive Billions of Dollars of Economic Activity That Is at Risk of Being Lost Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic](#), 57. This number represents the total benefits generated by The RESTAURANTS ACT for the state of Kentucky. It excludes dollars attributed to Federal benefit.

⁴ [Ibid](#), page 8.

⁵ [2016-2026 Kentucky Occupational Outlook](#), page 9;

⁶ [Independent Restaurants Are a Nexus of Small Businesses in the United States and Drive Billions of Dollars of Economic Activity That Is at Risk of Being Lost Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic](#), 57.

⁷ [Ibid](#), 57 and 11.

⁸ [Ibid](#), page 2.

⁹ [Ibid](#), page 3.

¹⁰ [Ibid](#), page 25.

¹¹ [Ibid](#), page 22.

¹² [Ibid](#), page 4.

¹³ [Kentucky Economy at a Glance](#).

¹⁴ [Ibid](#); [Independent Restaurants Are a Nexus of Small Businesses in the United States and Drive Billions of Dollars of Economic Activity That Is at Risk of Being Lost Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic](#), 57.



- Nationwide, over **2.4 million leisure and hospitality workers are unemployed right now**, more than any other industry. Unemployment in **leisure and hospitality is over 259% higher** than it was at the same time last year.¹⁵
- The RESTAURANTS Act would **reduce the national unemployment rate by an estimated 2.4%**, a result of saving the industry that has been hit hardest by job losses from the outset of this pandemic.¹⁶

THE PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM DID NOT PROVIDE THE RELIEF NECESSARY FOR RESTAURANTS TO RECOVER

- **Restaurants and accommodations received less than \$43 billion** from the Paycheck Protection Program, despite contributing over **five times that in losses to our GDP**.¹⁷
- **Food services and drinking places reported a 19% unemployment rate in September** – more than double the nation's aggregate unemployment rate of 7.7%.¹⁸
- An estimated **1 in 3 American restaurants will close by year end** without Congressional support. An estimated **8,000 restaurants** have already shuttered so far this year.¹⁹

CONGRESS CAN SAVE 16 MILLION JOBS NATIONWIDE AND GENERATE UP TO \$271 BILLION IN TWO YEARS BY PASSING THE RESTAURANTS ACT²⁰

- Independent restaurants and bars **directly employ 11 million workers nationwide**. Additionally, **5 million more work in the industry's vast supply chains** and rely on eating and drinking places to sustain their livelihoods.²¹ Without direct aid, all of these jobs are in danger of vanishing permanently.
- Restaurants have become tourist destinations domestically and internationally. One study found that **72% of all travelers choose their destination based on food and drink offering**.²² Tourists also spend money on travel, housing, and retail.
- The **loss of economic activity** due to culinary travelers is estimated to be up to **\$141 billion**.²³
- Restaurants are hubs of minority employment and advancement. **Sixty percent of all chefs nationwide are minorities**. Minorities also make up 53% of bussers, runners, baristas, prep-cooks, dishwashers and kitchen porters. Restaurants also employ more minority employee-managers than any other industry.²⁴
- **Over half of all restaurant workers are women**, and restaurants employ over one million single mothers.²⁵
- Restaurants generate middle class jobs at a rate **three times faster than the economy**.²⁶

¹⁵ [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#).

¹⁶ [Independent Restaurants Are a Nexus of Small Businesses in the United States and Drive Billions of Dollars of Economic Activity That Is at Risk of Being Lost Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic](#), 1.

¹⁷ [Small Business Administration PPP Report; US Commerce Report Q2](#).

¹⁸ [Bureau of Labor Statistics Employment Report](#).

¹⁹ [One – Third of US Restaurants Face Permanent Closure This Year](#).

²⁰ [Independent Restaurants Are a Nexus of Small Businesses in the United States and Drive Billions of Dollars of Economic Activity That Is at Risk of Being Lost Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic](#).

²¹ [Ibid.](#), 1, 2.

²² [Ibid.](#), 43.

²³ [Ibid.](#), 45.

²⁴ [Ibid.](#), 9.

²⁵ [Ibid.](#), 8.

²⁶ [Middle-class jobs are growing rapidly in restaurants](#), *National Restaurant Association*