



IDAHO'S \$2.9 BILLION RESTAURANT ECONOMY IS AT RISK¹

Over 75% of Idaho's 3,385 eating and drinking locations are in danger of closing permanently without The RESTAURANTS Act²

THE RESTAURANTS ACT WOULD GENERATE \$632 MILLION IN ECONOMIC BENEFIT FOR IDAHO³

- **Restaurants and drinking places account for 7.9% of all employment in Idaho.**⁴
- Food services projected to contribute **12,700 new Idahoan jobs** from 2012 to 2022.⁵
- **The RESTAURANTS Act would galvanize Idaho's tourism industry**, encouraging travelers to eat in Idaho's establishments and spend money on lodging, other tourist attractions, and retail, generating **\$364 million.**⁶
- The RESTAURANTS Act would provide **\$65 million in benefits** to countless other bakers, fishermen, butchers, and, of course, Idaho's **21,700 small farms.**⁷

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

- An estimated **76% of eateries are independently owned.**⁸
- Consumer spending across all restaurants has fallen 50% from February to April.⁹
- Independent restaurants rely far less on pickup and drive through service.¹⁰ **Fine and casual dining have declined 85% and 65% respectively**, while fast-food has only decreased 21%.¹¹ National chains like Domino's, Pizza Hut, Papa John's, Raising Cane's, and Taco Bell have hired during this time.¹²
- Nearly **65% of the revenue** from local independent restaurants **recirculates in the local economy** compared to about 30% for chain restaurants.¹³

¹ [Idaho Restaurant Industry at a Glance.](#)

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](#), 2; [Idaho Restaurant Industry at a Glance.](#)

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 Idaho. It excludes dollars attributed to Federal benefit.

⁴ [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 8.

⁵ [Idaho Projections of Industries and Jobs.](#)

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 3.

¹¹ [Ibid.](#), page 25.

¹² [Ibid.](#), page 22.

¹³ [Ibid.](#), page 4.



THE RESTAURANTS ACT WOULD HELP PUT 12,400 IDAHOANS BACK TO WORK¹⁴

- Since the beginning of March, the leisure and hospitality industry has accounted for **35% of all jobs lost in Idaho**.¹⁵
- Hiring back the **12,400** leisure and hospitality industry workers would save Idaho **\$116 million** in unemployment benefits and insurance taxes.¹⁶
- 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.¹⁷

CONGRESS CAN SAVE 16 MILLION JOBS NATIONWIDE AND GENERATE UP TO \$271 BILLION IN TWO YEARS BY PASSING THE RESTAURANTS ACT¹⁸

- 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.¹⁹ 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**.²⁰ 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**.²¹
- 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.²²
- **Over half of all restaurant workers are women**, and restaurants employ over one million single mothers.²³
- Restaurants generate middle class jobs at a rate **three times faster than the economy**.²⁴

¹⁴ [Idaho Economy at a Glance](#).

¹⁵ [Ibid.](#)

¹⁶ [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](#), page 57.

¹⁷ [Ibid](#), 1.

¹⁸ [Ibid.](#)

¹⁹ [Ibid, 1, 2.](#)

²⁰ [Ibid](#), 43.

²¹ [Ibid](#), 45.

²² [Ibid](#), 9.

²³ [Ibid](#), 8.

²⁴ [Middle-class jobs are growing rapidly in restaurants](#), *National Restaurant Association*