



Restaurant Impact Survey: April/May 2021

Results Compiled from Colorado Restaurant Association Survey of 195 Operators, Conducted April 23 – May 7

CURRENT INDUSTRY OVERVIEW

Colorado restaurants collectively lost more than \$3 Billion in 2020 (*this information compiled from State sales tax receipts*), **but revenue gains have begun.**

- 43% of restaurants surveyed reported that they are down in revenue compared with pre-pandemic levels.
- 11% say their revenue losses are greater than 50%; 56% report losses greater than 20%.
- Average revenue is up 3% compared to this time last year.

STAFFING

More than 90% of Colorado restaurants are currently having trouble hiring staff.

- Nationally, restaurant staffing is down 14% compared to pre-pandemic levels; locally, staffing is down an average of 9%.
- 65% of operators believe the primary hiring obstacle is workers preferring to remain on unemployment benefits.
- Just over 15% report that their workers have left the restaurant industry for other jobs.
- More than 10% cite increased competition for hiring as a factor.
- Back-of-house positions (line cook, dishwasher/porter) are the most difficult positions to fill right now, but 65% of restaurants are also struggling to hire servers.

41% of restaurants say they are having trouble retaining workers right now.

- Almost half of those restaurants believe the primary obstacle to retention is increased workloads due to staffing shortages.

84% of restaurants report changing business practices to increase hiring and retention.

- 95% of restaurants have increased wage rates.
- 21% of restaurants have begun offering benefits packages.

When Restaurants Say They Will Consider Closing Based on Current Restrictions (prior to Level Clear)

	Less than 6 months	Less than 3 months	Less than 1 month
Percentage of Restaurants	15%	6%	.5%

VACCINES

- 51% of restaurants reported that more than half of their staff are fully vaccinated.
- 32% of restaurants report that more than half of their staff are partially vaccinated.
- 10% of restaurants report that half of their staff or more are opting out of getting vaccinated.