

# TEXAS: COVID-19 IMPACT ON STATE'S HOTEL INDUSTRY



## JOBS LOST IN TEXAS HOTEL INDUSTRY DUE TO CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

- 101,972 direct hotel-related jobs lost
- 296,387 total jobs lost supporting hotel industry

## TEXAS HOTELIERS SHARING THEIR HARDSHIP

### Michael Karicher – Allen, TX

*"We have 75% of our employees that are having their hours available to work greatly reduced or we cannot give them hours."*

### Jim Wahl – Dallas, TX

*"I have experienced firsthand...beginnings of mass layoffs. Associates that have been with us for a long time are going to lose their jobs."*

### Chris Carr – Dallas, TX

*"Our executive team has deferred bonuses, all employees have had their raises deferred, many of us are now working from home while we assess possible cost savings by dropping office space and many other cost cutting steps. Unfortunately it is unclear if I or my associates will have a job in coming months as our share price has plummeted and yet our vendors are demanding payment as they are in a similarly poor situation."*

### Mike Funk – Plano, TX

*"I have experienced firsthand tremendous impact and hardship for my family and co-workers. Occupancy is falling near post 9/11 levels and job cuts are already starting."*

### Michelle White – Irving, TX

*"As a hotelier in Texas I have experienced firsthand taking a pay cut, deferred raises and promotions. Watching our hotels having to close and employees being laid off."*

## HEADLINES ACROSS TEXAS ON IMPACT TO HOTEL INDUSTRY

**510 news stories in Texas regarding impact to hotel industry on broadcast, print and online news outlets including:**

### Houston Chronicle – [Houston Stands To Lose Thousands Of Jobs As Cancellations, Closures Mount Over Coronavirus](#)

*"The region lost about 15,000 jobs in the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, he said. In a worst-case scenario of emergency social distancing, to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the temporary job losses from sending people home could be of a similar magnitude, he said. Workers in hotels and restaurants may be temporarily laid off, employees could take time off to care for ill family members and jobs from large events will essentially disappear."*

### Dallas Morning News – [Texas Loosens Rules On Unemployment Benefits After A Spike In Jobless Claims](#)

*"We are certainly beginning to see the cracks in the foundation," said a statement from Andrew Challenger, senior vice president of Challenger, Gray & Christmas Inc." Slowing demand, brought on by the need for Americans to practice social distancing, is going to very likely immediately hurt those who work in the nation's hotels, restaurants and bars."*

### San Antonio Express-News – [San Antonio Hotels Are Furloughing Employees; Hyatt Regency, Grand Hyatt To Temporarily Close](#)

*"Nationally, hotel executives met with the Trump administration this week to discuss a \$150 billion bailout package for the industry. About 4 million hotel workers have been laid off or likely will be in the next several weeks, according to the American Hotel and Lodging Association. In major markets such as San Francisco, Seattle, Austin and Boston, occupancy rates are under 20 percent and hotels are closing down."*

### My San Antonio – [A Cruel Paradox: Beating Virus means Causing US Recession](#)

*"Travel industry executives visited the White House on Tuesday with a dire warning on the fallout from the coronavirus pandemic: half of all hotels in the United States could close by year's end and put 4 million Americans out of work without a massive bailout from Washington."*