

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



## JOBS LOST IN WEST VIRGINIA HOTEL INDUSTRY DUE TO CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

- **8,898** direct hotel-related jobs lost
- **13,801** total jobs lost supporting hotel industry

## WEST VIRGINIA HOTELIERS SHARING THEIR HARDSHIP

### **Kelly Williams – Moorefield, WV**

*“We have had many groups cancel their rooms and conference room bookings in the past week and a half alone. I know over the coming weeks and months more guests will cancel. The negative impact this will have on our business, staff and community will be tremendous.”*

### **Chrissy Richards – Weston, WV**

*“As of this afternoon Stonewall Resort was at 1.5 million dollars in lost revenue since Thursday. My chains are holding in there so far.”*

### **Rich Lane – Morgantown, WV**

*“As a hotelier in West Virginia I have experienced firsthand Cancelled reservations and events, laying off staff members. “*

## HEADLINES ACROSS WEST VIRGINIA ON IMPACT TO HOTEL INDUSTRY

**83 news stories in West Virginia regarding impact to hotel industry on broadcast, print and online news outlets including:**

### **Herald Dispatch – [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.”*

### **Bluefield Daily Telegraph – [Wide Swath Of Economy Seeks Share Of COVID-19 Rescue Package](#)**

*“Since mid-February, U.S. hotels have lost an estimated \$1.5 billion in room revenue, according to the American Hotel and Lodging Association, a lobbying group. Those losses are rapidly accelerating, with the industry on pace to lose \$1.4 billion per week. The hotel industry expects 1 million U.S. jobs have already been eliminated or will be in the next few weeks.”*

### **Bluefield Daily Telegraph – [Jobless Claims Jump By 70,000](#)**

*“Both the one-week rise and the total number of applications were far above the levels seen over the past year as the country’s unemployment rate fell to a half-century low of 3.5%. Economists are predicting a surge in layoffs as efforts to contain the spreading coronavirus result in people losing jobs in a variety of industries from restaurants and bars to airlines and hotels.”*