

ARIZONA: COVID-19 IMPACT ON STATE'S HOTEL INDUSTRY



JOBS LOST IN ARIZONA HOTEL INDUSTRY DUE TO CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

- 25,617 direct hotel-related jobs lost
- 81,984 total jobs lost supporting hotel industry

ARIZONA HOTELIERS SHARING THEIR HARDSHIP

John Williams – Flagstaff, AZ

“I have had to lay off 14 of my staff, and 1 Manager which has a detrimental financial hardship on them and family. Many of them live on a minimal income and with this challenge will cause monumental quality of life implications.”

Caileigh Papp – Oro Valley, AZ

“I have had conversations with our team that have escalated in a matter of days - sanitize, stay healthy; this will pass; stay home if you're sick; stay home because I'm cutting your hours; we won't go out of business; we're shutting our doors. This was not expected by anyone - and I am now heartbroken sharing this news with our teams, knowing the path ahead will be scary and full of certainty.”

V C Naik – Mesa, AZ

“As a hotelier in Arizona I have experienced firsthand... Occupancy has dropped 60% and the forecast is not look any better . We are having to cut hours for all our Team members We need help to help our people”

Greg Espinoza – Flagstaff, AZ

“I have experienced firsthand... the decline in occupancy which had led to our organization putting 20+ of my coworkers on furlough status and I know there is more to come. They city of Flagstaff is small and people work paycheck to paycheck. Any financial relief that can be offered would end up being spent in the community.”

HEADLINES ACROSS ARIZONA ON IMPACT TO HOTEL INDUSTRY

34 news stories in Arizona regarding impact to hotel industry on broadcast, print and online news outlets including:

Daily Independent – [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.”

Arizona Central – [COVID-19 Jobs Cuts: Layoffs Accelerate As Coronavirus Disrupts American Economy](#)

The American Hotel & Lodging Association and the U.S. Travel Association estimated that 1 million hotel jobs, or about 45% of the industry's employment, "have either been eliminated or will be eliminated in the next few weeks.”

Taken together, the actions illustrate how the coronavirus outbreak threatens to derail the nation's employment market, which was in excellent shape with a national unemployment rate of 3.5% in February, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.