

SOUTH CAROLINA: COVID-19 IMPACT ON STATE'S HOTEL INDUSTRY

JOBS LOST IN SOUTH CAROLINA HOTEL INDUSTRY DUE TO CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

- **23,853** direct-hotel related jobs lost
- **58,214** total jobs lost

SOUTH CAROLINA HOTELIERS SHARING THEIR HARDSHIP

- **Tejas Mehta – West Columbia, SC**
"I have experienced firsthand drop in a occupancy overnight. It will be hard to survive and keep the current 35 employees if it continues. Looking for some grants or low interest loan to survive."
- **Chad Patterson – Florence, SC**
"Having 5 hotels in Florence on the interstate our business has declined significantly."

HEADLINES ACROSS SOUTH CAROLINA ON IMPACT TO HOTEL INDUSTRY

Myrtle Beach Sun News – [A Cruel Paradox: Beating Virus Means Causing US Recession](#)

"Chip Rogers, president and CEO of the American Hotel & Lodging Association, noted that hotels last year were, on average, roughly 67% full. Now? "We're probably under 20% nationwide and headed south," he said. "If, by the end of the year, we get up to 35% and nothing else happens, that will be about 4 million jobs lost."

The Island Packet – [How Coronavirus Affects Hilton Head Hotels, Restaurants As Governor Shuts Dining Rooms](#)

"Usually this time of year around March with spring break and (RBC) Heritage, we, especially on the coast, start moving into the 70% occupancy range," she said. "Right now were hovering around 20%." Dawson-House said that although the number of travelers to the state is dropping, over 80% of visitors drive to South Carolina, which makes it less likely to be hit by low airline travel."

The Herald – ['Devastated' Travel Industry Pleads For Hundreds Of Billions In Coronavirus Relief](#)

"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."