

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

JOBS LOST IN SOUTH CAROLINA HOTEL INDUSTRY DUE TO CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

- **14,993 jobs** direct-hotel related jobs lost
- **52,795** total jobs lost

SOUTH CAROLINA HOTELIERS SHARING THEIR HARDSHIP

- **Michelle Leach – Spartanburg, SC**
“As a hotelier in South Carolina I have experienced firsthand the impact that the reduction in business is having on hourly staff - the people who need money the most. People in hourly positions often live paycheck to paycheck and any impact to their pay can cause them to get behind in bill payments, have difficulty buying food and even possibly impact their housing. They need help. The.”
- **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.”