What To Expect From Restaurants When They Re-open

NEW DEFINITION OF HOSPITALITY

As restaurants dining rooms reopen, consumers will come back, but they will want some **reassurance**. **Sanitation** and social **distancing are key**, but don't just talk about it, demonstrate it. They need to see everything. Businesses will have to **prove** to customers that they are safe. Visible frequent cleaning will be a must – from common areas to menus. Assurance of social distance is also prerequisite. Restaurants that **go above and beyond** may be more attractive to diners as they ease back into "normal" eating habits.

Consumers won't be quick to abandon COVID learned behaviours like social distancing and extra sanitizing. Many will also avoid open and uncooked foods. When it comes to staying safe at restaurants, diners are appreciative of just about anything that keeps them away from others and minimizes exposure to the virus.



Many of these will vary by province and operator.

Dining in

- Partitions between tables.
- 50% capacity or limit on number of customers (based on size of facility).
- Sanitizer / wipes at every table to encourage guests to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer when entering and leaving.
- Surfaces sanitized after every meal.
- Controlling access to the dining area, by asking guests to wait to be seated.
- Common areas deep-cleaned daily.
- No shared condiment bottles on tables (ketchup, mustard, hot sauce, etc.) single-use packets only. In Alberta, restaurants have been asked to remove table condiments and other frequently touched items (for example, salt and pepper shakers, ketchup, hot sauce).
- In the summer restaurants with patios will attract more customers. Makeshift patios?
- Controlled or no buffet or self-serve options.
- Mark floors to show physical distancing in areas where line-ups occur.
- Provide signage and guidance to guests regarding ordering and mobile orders.

Menus

- Reduced or adapted menus options.
- The physical menu might look different. From disposable to digital on your phone through a QR code.
- Reusable menus disinfected between every usage.

Off-Premise

- More offering delivery through third party .
- Tamper-proof safety seals on takeout.
- Curbside is here to stay.
- Will continue to offer family-size/bulk meal options.
- Will continue to offer take and bake options

Operations

- More ghost/commissary-kitchen restaurants.
- Some kitchens using face spit guards below the chin instead of face masks.
- Less staff.

Research

Diners are all right with a smaller menu.

For operators needing to pare back their menu offerings because of **product shortages**, fewer **available cooks** and **servers**, or having pivoted to what's best for delivery and carryout, there's some good news: Customers won't necessarily be upset if dining rooms open up with a limited menu at first. It's another opportunity for a restaurant to be transparent about why some quarantine-era changes persist. Consumers will likely appreciate the fact that their local operators are open in more ways than one.

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT RESTAURANTS OFFERING A REDUCED MENU INITIALLY?

76%
I HAVE NO
PROBLEM WITH
THIS

Greater among BOOMERS (87%) & CONSUMERS UNWILLING TO DINE OUT RIGHT AWAY (84%)

24%
I WOULD BE
DISAPPOINTED

Greater among GEN Z (43%), SINGLES (30%), & CONSUMERS WHO WOULD DINE OUT RIGHT AWAY (84%



(Pre-Covid)

1 in 4 drivers admit to eating food from an order.²



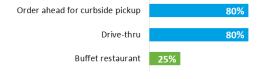
of consumers said they'd like restaurants to invest in "tamper-evident labels".²



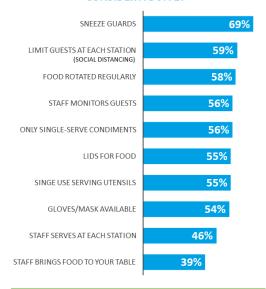


BUFFETS IN AN ERA OF COVID

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING DO YOU FEEL TRULY COMFORTABLE/SAFE DOING?¹



WHAT CONSUMERS ABSOLUTELY REQUIRE TO CONSIDER A BUFFET²



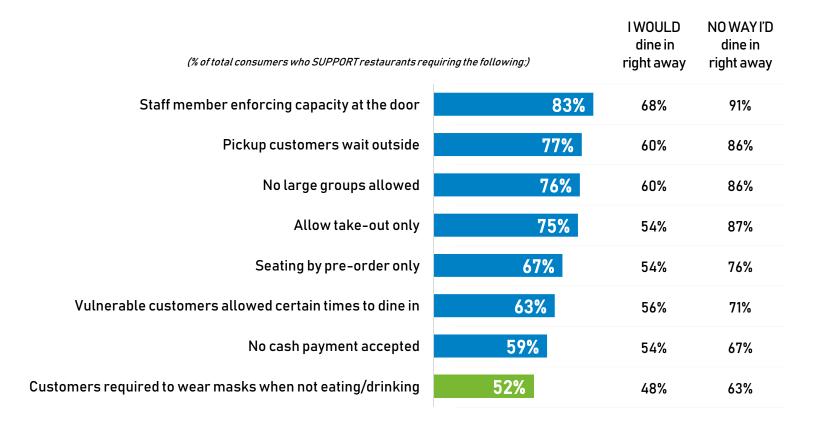
Consumers view buffets as one of the highest risk environments with food away from home. At least in the short term, buffets are going to need to make changes and reinvent themselves. What can buffets do to provide a safe experience that goes beyond the absolute basic requirements?

#FOODIESUNITE

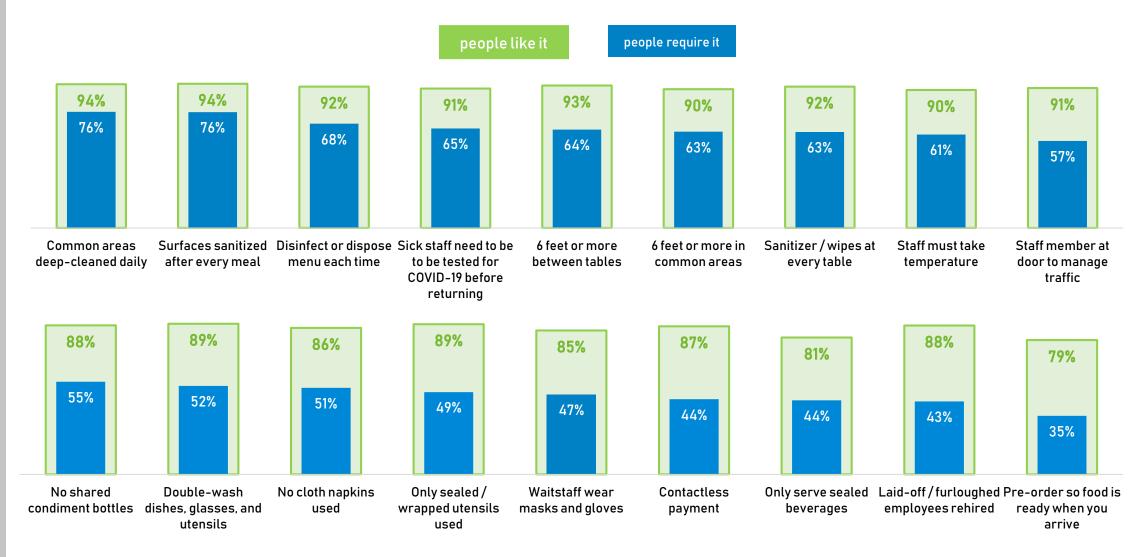
Source 1: Datassential: COVID-19 Report 17 - 5/8/2020 Source 2: Datassential: COVID-19 Webingr 7 - 5/13/2020



WHICH WOULD YOU SUPPORT TO ENSURE YOUR SAFETY DINING IN AT A RESTAURANT?



HOW DO CONSUMERS FEEL ABOUT THE FOLLOWING SAFETY MEASURES?







Sanitation and separation are key.

Creating a dedicated pick-up area saves customers the stress of having to navigate their biggest worry: other customers. This has been the one of the most successful strategies for operators

during the COVID-19 restrictions, what is working well with your current takeout and delivery system?

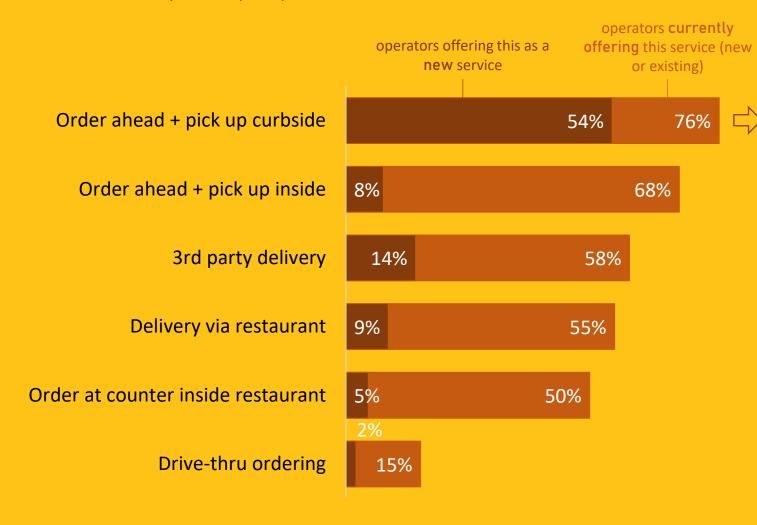
among restaurants offering takeout or delivery

Implementing increased sanitation practices			
Creating separate pick-up area	51%		
Maintaining social distancing between staff	36%		
Setting up a system to create distance between customers	36%		
Transitioning to online ordering	22%		
Adding tamper-proof seals / measures	19%		
Transitioning to using third-party apps for ordering	18%		
Switching to new packaging that is easier to sanitize/safer and/or reheat	15%		
Tools to make forecasting number and type of orders easier	10%		



Curbside is new, and it's here to stay.

Almost all operators had infrastructure for some kind of takeout, but curbside's safety benefits have made it the hot option for pick-up in the time of social distancing. Most operators who have added it plan to keep the option.



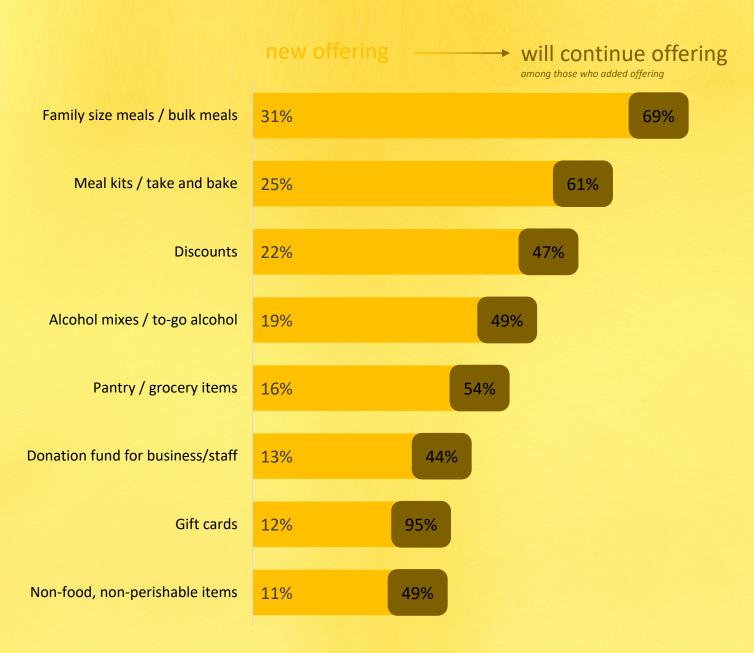
66% will continue offering when restrictions are lifted (of those who started offering as a new service)



New COVID-19 offerings have staying power.

For many of these new offerings, more than half of operators who added them will continue to offer after restrictions lift. Family meals and meal kits especially may become a standard offering.





Fine dining, lodging, and business operators are most likely to see a menu reduction.

These operators have been hit hard during this time; menu reduction may beneficial to their businesses for the time being.

	QSR	Fast casual	Midscale	Casual dining	Fine dining	Healthcare	Lodging	B&I	C&U	K-12	
plan to reduce the number of items on their menu	21%	9%	37%	39%	54%	15%	49%	56%	48%	22%	
plan to offer the same number of items on their menu	71%	87%	61%	56%	46%	73%	47%	42%	50%	73%	
plan to increase the number of items on their menu	8%	4%	1%	6%	0%	12%	4%	2%	2%	6%	

do you plan to increase or decrease your menu size at all after covid-19 / coronavirus and stay-at-home restrictions are lifted?

Wipe it down and wear gloves.

It is no surprise that operators are planning on changing their sanitation protocols by wiping down surfaces, providing masks for staff, and removing items with many touch points. Operators will likely be looking for help with sanitation solutions and PPE. However, they are less likely to go as far as requiring customers to order ahead or make reservations prior to dining in.

FRONT-OF-HOUSE CHANGES	ALREADY DOING / PLANNING TO DO THIS	WOULD CONSIDER IT	UNLIKELYTO DO IT
Visibly wiping down and sanitizing tables, kiosks, menus, handles, etc.	85%	11%	4%
Providing and requiring employees to wear gloves	73%	17%	11%
Removing condiments bottles from tables	58%	27%	15%
Providing disinfectant wipes or sanitizer for customers	55%	31%	14%
Adding signage / communication that explains sanitation methods	54%	31%	15%
Providing and requiring employees to wear masks	51%	31%	18%
Switching to individually wrapped or portioned silverware, condiments, etc.	41%	31%	28%
Offering contactless payment	35%	32%	32%
Disposable menus	29%	24%	47%
Sanitizing customers' credit cards after handling them	19%	32%	49%
Requiring reservations to manage crowd	19%	22%	59%
Disposable table linens/coverings	17%	20%	64%
Require order ahead (contactless ordering)	16%	23%	62%
Providing sink for customer use outside the bathroom	7%	16%	77%



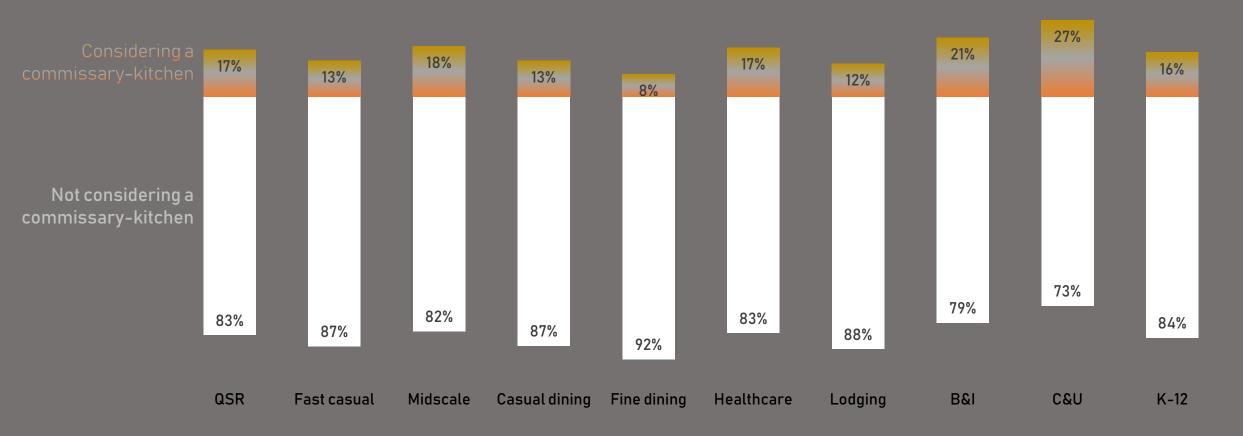
Everything will be sanitized more.

Areas such as dine-in tables, door handles, and



will you sanitize any of the following areas in the front-of-house more thoroughly or more frequently?

B&I and C&U operators are most heavily considering a commissary-kitchen model.



operations on-site at your operation after covid-19 restrictions are lifted?