

Trouble ahead for businesses: new research predicts decline in restaurants, hotels and stadiums beyond Election Day

Food, travel and leisure must adapt as Americans voice fear of public spaces

MECHANICSBURG, Pa. — June 18, 2020 — A national study released today by the [Healthy Spaces Initiative](#) (HSI) reveals how often Americans plan to visit public spaces over the next six months and what measures would improve their confidence doing so in the post-COVID-19 landscape. The hospitality, food, live sports and transportation industries are poised to see significant declines in consumer visits to these spaces driven by lingering concerns about sanitation and the coronavirus.

Based on a representative survey of over 2,000 American adults, this [new research](#) paints a stark picture of significant changes in Americans' habits over the next six months, including:

- 24 percent decline in weekly visits to brick-and-mortar retail
- 23 percent decline in weekly visits to restaurants, bars and clubs
- 12 percent decline in visits to stadiums and arenas
- 7 percent decline in visits to hotels
- 7 percent decline in taking flights combined with a 16 percent increase in long-distance car travel

“We can see how habits have changed during the pandemic, but this study is significant for what it says about how Americans plan to act months after reopening begins,” said Jim Mooney, HSI partner and Enginuity CEO. “It’s clear that a lot of businesses will suffer unless they take steps to improve the public’s confidence in their ability to provide healthier spaces.”

When asked what disease mitigation tools make a difference to them, a large majority of survey participants felt that indoor air quality and surface disinfection affected their decisions on where to work, shop and visit. Of those surveyed, 86 percent reported that sanitation and air quality were important. Similarly, 88 percent said that disinfecting surfaces mattered, as did 82 percent for air quality.

Furthermore, 84 percent of participants felt that employers were responsible for the ongoing monitoring and support of their employees' health.

News Release



“To satisfy the public’s interest in clean indoor air and surfaces, businesses can turn to advanced solutions like Bipolar Ionization (BPI),” said Dr. Philip M. Tierno, Jr., Professor of Microbiology and Pathology at NYU School of Medicine. “Recent research has demonstrated that certain BPI technologies can achieve a 99.92 percent reduction in a coronavirus from indoor air and surfaces within 30 minutes. That’s incredibly promising, especially at this time of a coronavirus pandemic.”

Visit healthy-spaces.io/report to view an interactive version of the report or download the full version.

The research report is based on a demographically representative survey of 2,007 Americans 18 and older conducted between May 4 and 8, 2020. Participants were asked about a range of activities and spaces, including educational facilities, bars, clubs and restaurants; brick-and-mortar retail; gyms; salons and spas; hotels; stadiums and arenas; transportation centers; hospitals and urgent care centers; and public restrooms. The margin of error for these findings is approximately plus or minus two percentage points.

ABOUT THE HEALTHY SPACES INITIATIVE

The Healthy Spaces Initiative is an alliance working to make shared spaces safer with technologies, equipment and procedures that clean the air, reduce contact surfaces, check for fevers, encourage safe distancing and more. Our mission is to help businesses protect the people in their facilities—and support community recovery, one healthy space at a time. Visit www.Healthy-Spaces.io for more information.

Media Contact:

Matt Bresnahan

mbresnahan@madewithmerit.com

(414) 902-3182

###