



Overwhelming Majority of New Yorkers in Favor of Permanently Allowing Takeout or Delivery of Alcoholic Beverages from Restaurants

New York restaurants urge Governor Cuomo and State Legislature to make measure permanent

July 7, 2020

ALBANY, NY — A recent survey conducted by the restaurant industry and shared by the New York State Restaurant Association found that 86% of New York adults are in favor of permanently allowing the purchase of alcoholic beverages with takeout or delivery orders from restaurants. Currently, it is only allowed temporarily, via Executive Order, as a way to help restaurants who were forced to close for indoor dining in March. Many stayed open for takeout and delivery, and the ability to sell alcohol with those purchases was a huge boost to their sales.

“Governor Cuomo provided a lifeline for the industry by allowing for takeout and delivery of alcoholic beverages during the height of the pandemic,” said Melissa Fleischut, president and CEO of the New York State Restaurant Association. “Not only have restaurants embraced this change, but so has the general public. We know that takeout and delivery will be an important part of restaurants sales moving forward, and we want alcoholic beverages to be part of that equation. Just about every restaurant in the state has been crushed this year and continuing alcohol to-go will help them all get back on their feet.”

Here are some other key findings within the survey:

- 93% of New York Millennials (ages 24-39) support measures to make the purchase of takeout or delivery alcoholic beverages permanent
- 90% of New York Gen Xers (ages 40-55) support measures to make the purchase of takeout or delivery alcoholic beverages permanent
- 64% of New York adults say they purchased takeout or delivery during the week before they were surveyed:
 - Among this group 49% said they included an alcoholic beverage with at least one of these orders



- o Among the same group, 57% said having the option to purchase an alcoholic beverage with their order would make them more likely to place an order

The New York State Restaurant Association (NYSRA) has supported their members by working with Governor Cuomo and state officials during the pandemic. The Association has been successful in postponing sales tax payments, ensuring that restaurants have proper safety protocols and PPE, advocating for the reopening of restaurants for outdoor dining and promoting the need to support the industry through government relief.

“Our members need this measure to become permanent for their restaurants to survive,” added Fleischut. “Since the start of the pandemic, the industry lost 80% of its jobs. And while some are coming back, we’re not back to pre-pandemic levels. We are supportive of any measure that will boost sales and help us get our employees who were laid off or furloughed back to work.”

Support among New York adults for a proposal that would allow customers to purchase alcoholic beverages with their takeout and delivery food orders from restaurants on a permanent basis

| Demographic | Total Favor | Strongly Favor | Somewhat Favor | Total Oppose | Somewhat Oppose | Strongly Oppose |
|--------------------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| All adults | 86% | 39% | 47% | 14% | 10% | 5% |
| Gender | | | | | | |
| Male | 87% | 39% | 48% | 13% | 8% | 5% |
| Female | 84% | 39% | 45% | 16% | 12% | 4% |
| Generation | | | | | | |
| Millennials (24-39) | 93% | 50% | 43% | 7% | 5% | 2% |
| Gen X (40-55) | 90% | 45% | 45% | 10% | 7% | 3% |
| Baby boomers (56-74) | 78% | 30% | 48% | 22% | 15% | 6% |
| Household Income | | | | | | |
| Less than \$50,000 | 81% | 33% | 48% | 19% | 12% | 7% |
| \$50,000 to \$99,999 | 88% | 42% | 46% | 12% | 9% | 3% |
| \$100,000 or more | 90% | 45% | 45% | 10% | 8% | 2% |
| Type of community | | | | | | |
| Urban | 87% | 43% | 45% | 13% | 8% | 4% |
| Suburban | 86% | 31% | 55% | 14% | 11% | 3% |
| Rural | 78% | 46% | 32% | 22% | 12% | 10% |

Source: National Restaurant Association, online survey of 500 New York residents age 18 and older conducted by Engine, June 25-30, 2020. Note: Rows may not add precisely to 100% due to rounding.

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