

Food Inflation causes decrease in dining out

The foodservice industry has been in turmoil due to the COVID-19 pandemic but is expected to rebound by mid-2024

Research conducted through Acosta's proprietary Shopper Community
March 23-31, 2022

FOOD INFLATION

Food inflation is at its highest level in 40 years, and diners are starting to cut back on eating out as they notice significantly higher prices.



EATING OUT



Top reasons for going out to eat

- 33%** No time to cook +13 ppts since last year
- 51%** Craving a certain meal
- 53%** Lack of motivation to cook



What's **most important** when choosing a restaurant?

LIMITED SERVICE CASUAL

Panera Bread	53%
CHIPOTLE MEXICAN GRILL	41% +6 ppts
Applebee's GRILL & BAR	38%

CASUAL DINING

Olive Garden ITALIAN KITCHEN	54%
chili's	40%
MAGGIANO'S LITTLE ITALY	37%

UPSCALE CASUAL

BONEFISH GRILL	46%
MAGGIANO'S LITTLE ITALY	31%
	28%

TAKEOUT AND DELIVERY

Packaging is important when ordering takeout! **What's most important?**

(sustainability is important to consumers, but it drops in priority when it comes to take out packaging)



Growth accelerated during the pandemic and now plays a significant role in food away from home.

(Numbers quantify % of consumers participating in these in the last 3 months.)

Least Popular Takeout/Delivery Items

Most order the basics and leave the extras behind

- 1 Soups
- 2 Desserts
- 3 Alcohol



PLANT-BASED FACTS

When dining out, diners who order plant-based options are loyal to plant-based, with **20%** of them ordering it most of the time or always

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50% of diners

say it's **very** or **fairly** important for restaurants to offer plant-based options on the menu

Yet **56%** of operators do **not intend** to offer plant-based options in the near future