



Budget Model

The Demographics of the Coronavirus Crisis: Living Arrangements of “Leisure and Hospitality” Workers

In response to the coronavirus pandemic, policymakers are considering ideas for broad relief (e.g., universal cash transfers) as well as more targeted measures (e.g., industry bailouts). When designing these latter policies, it may be useful to think about the needs and characteristics of the targeted population.

In a [previous post](#), we presented some of the demographic, income, and geographic characteristics of leisure and hospitality workers, who have been disproportionately harmed by the economic impact of the pandemic. We expand on that analysis here with other characteristics that might be important for policy, showing that leisure and hospitality workers tend to live in cities and are more likely to rent, rather than own their homes.

Figure 1 shows that leisure and hospitality workers tend to live in metropolitan areas, especially in cities. About 34 percent of leisure and hospitality workers live in cities, compared to 29 percent of workers in other industries. These workers are more likely to be affected by city-wide shutdowns and also likely face increased costs of living.

Figure 1. Distribution of Leisure/Hospitality Workers and All Other Workers by Metro Status

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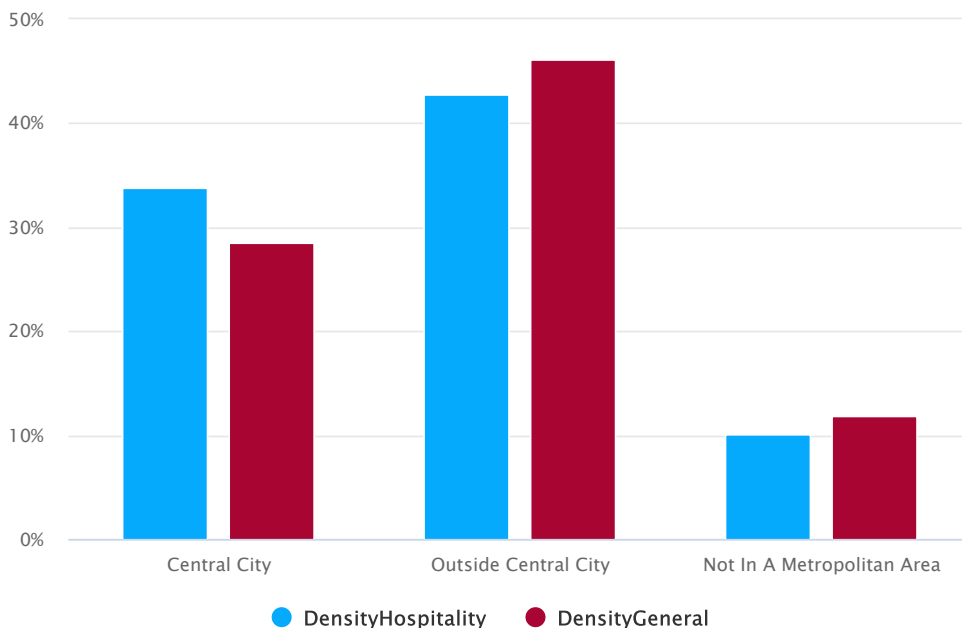
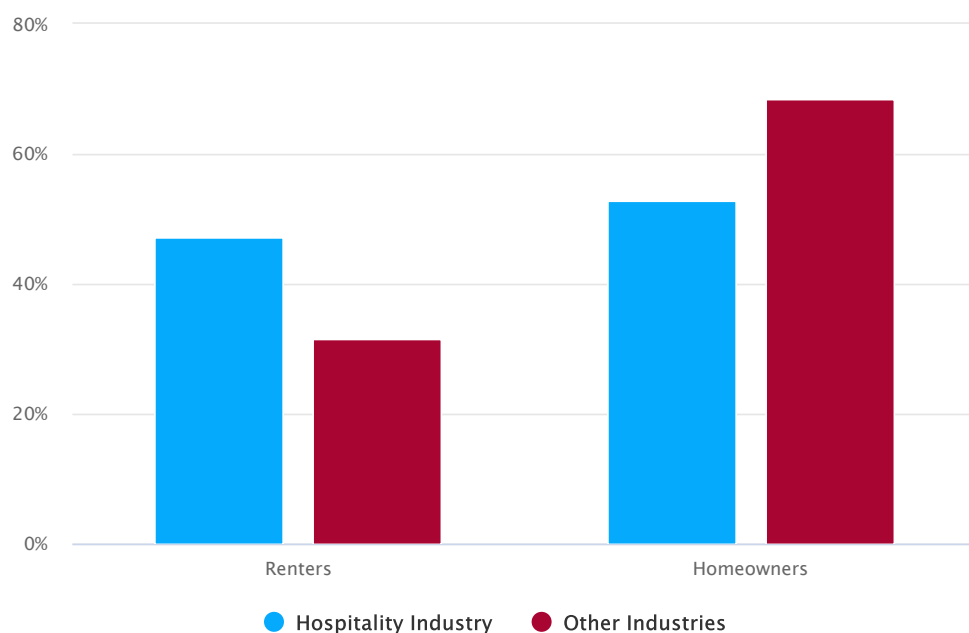


Figure 2 shows that 47 percent of leisure and hospitality workers rent, rather than own their homes, compared to 32 percent of workers in other industries. While federal policymakers have announced [temporary mortgage relief for homeowners](#), leisure and hospitality workers are less likely to benefit from this measure than their peers.

Figure 2. Distribution of Leisure/Hospitality Workers and All Other Workers by Homeownership

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Austin Herrick conducted this analysis as part of a larger [analysis of the demographics of the leisure and hospitality sector](#) and *Kody Carmody* wrote this blog.