

Data Show Small Businesses Desperately Need More Pandemic Relief

As Congress continues negotiating pandemic relief, small business struggle to survive, according to the latest data from the [MetLife & U.S. Chamber of Commerce Small Business Index](#).

By the numbers:

- **74%** say they need more government assistance; **83%** of minority-owned businesses say the same
- **62%** fear the worst of the pandemic is ahead of us
- **56%** think it will take six months to a year for the small business climate to return to normal
- **50%** think they have a year left to operate under current business conditions

Beyond the numbers, the words of small business owners, struggling to keep their businesses and dreams alive, should push Washington to get a relief bill over the finish line.

Maxine Turner, owner of Cuisine Unlimited in Salt Lake City, has had to cut her payroll from 150 to three employees. “If there was relief in December, it would completely change the course of my business,” [she said](#). “We have enough fatalities due to this pandemic, don’t let small businesses be another statistic.”

Why it matters: The impact of coronavirus continues to take a devastating toll on America’s small businesses. We must ensure they receive the help they need from the federal government.

Not passing the [bipartisan compromise](#) for temporary and targeted relief risks the permanent loss of tens of thousands of small businesses, financial hardship for millions of Americans, and unnecessary delays in combatting the pandemic.

Bottom line: We’re hopeful a deal can be reached, but time is of the essence, and Americans need help. Congress must act now.

Take action: Contact your Representatives in Congress urging them to support a bipartisan pandemic relief bill by using the [Chamber’s “one-click” advocacy platform](#).

ICYMI: [I talked to CNBC](#) today about why a pandemic relief package must be passed.

–Neil Bradley, Executive Vice President and Chief Policy Officer, U.S. Chamber of Commerce