

Dining Out or Staying In: Insights into North America's Dining Decisions

What do North Americans want from restaurants? We asked 1,702 people across the continent how they engage with restaurants—from deciding between dining out or ordering into the factors influencing their choices. Their answers reveal how people are making mealtime decisions today.







When you choose to eat at a restaurant instead of ordering food to enjoy at home, what are your top 3 reasons?









When you choose to order from a restaurant rather than dining out, what are your top 3 reasons?

76%

I prefer the convenience of eating in my own space

66%

I can access exclusive online discounts and promotions.

63%

I save time by ordering to eat at home



What specific factors make you more likely to try a new restaurant?

Recommendations from friends or family	71%
Availability of deals or promotions	66%
Curiosity to try something different	61%
Positive reviews or high ratings online	60%
Unique menu items or dietary options	49%
Convenient location or fast delivery times	47%
Attractive social media or online presence	13%
Other	1%



Do You Order Food From Restaurants for Delivery?







When ordering food, do you prefer ordering via a thirdparty delivery app or directly from the restaurant (via the restaurant's app, website, or phone call)?

Restaurant	62%
Third-party delivery app	38%





Why do you prefer third-party delivery?

81%
Deals or
Discounts

71%
Access to multiple restaurants

68%
Convenience

In addition to the top three reasons, here's what else influences diners to choose third-party apps:

Delivery estimates: 34%, Order customization: 18%, Bundles: 15%,

Option to compare pricing across restaurants: 14%.

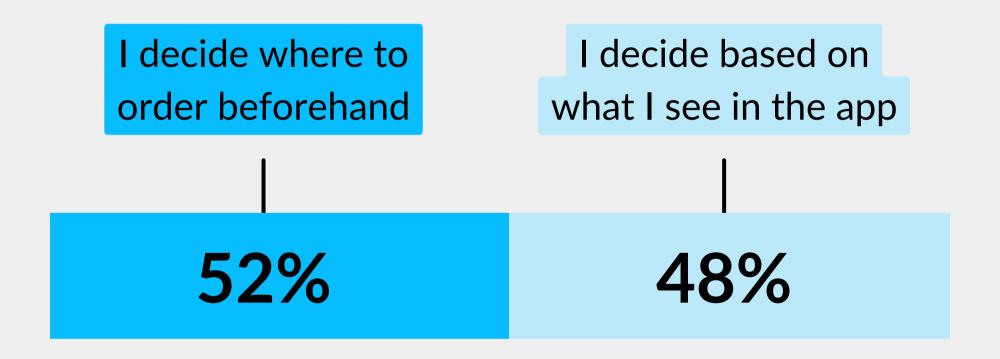


Why Do You Prefer to Order Directly From the Restaurant?

Better Pricing	63%
Direct communication	56%
Loyalty Program/Rewards	49%
Reduced Fees	44%
Restaurant Support	41%
Order Customization	40%
No Order Batching	5%



When ordering delivery through a third-party app, do you decide where to order from before using the app, or do the options of restaurants presented in the app dictate your choice?





Why is this important?

In a rapidly changing market, staying connected to consumer behavior is critical for restaurant owners. As demographics shift and preferences evolve, understanding why customers choose to dine out or order in helps businesses make informed decisions about their services. These insights empower restaurants to tailor experiences, attract new customers, and build loyalty in a competitive and ever-changing industry.



About Intouch Insight

At Intouch Insight, we specialize in helping multi-location brands achieve operational excellence, exceed customer expectations, and build long-term customer loyalty, and we are proud to deliver growth solutions to over 300 of the world's most beloved brands.

Our solutions are designed to streamline operations, maintain brand standards, and provide actionable insights to help our clients enhance their CX. With over 40 years of CX expertise, we excel in providing our clients with top-notch CX, customer surveys, mobile forms, mystery shopping, as well as operational and compliance audit solutions.

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