

ow do you create *The Very Best Burger*? We know it all starts with high-quality beef and then from there, the sky is the limit. Buns, condiments, veggies, sauces, sizes, preparations, price, and customer service all factor in to what makes a successful Burger menu and restaurant.

That is why year after year, we bring you our annual Burger Trends Report. Meticulously compiled by gathering intel from our valued customers across the country about their Burgers, menus, and marketing, it gives you unprecedented insight into what's trending and what is never going out of style (spoiler alert: American cheese is still the king.)



Black Iron Burger @ SOBEWFF | Credit: Dro Photography

This year, we've made it even more data-rich. New questions provide details about point of sale materials, beverages, desserts, and online ordering. The report now not only tells you what is a classic, but what's on trend, while also providing context for the restaurant overall. In addition, it also sheds light on what social marketing channels are working to help drive in customers and raise customer satisfaction.

Ultimately, this is intended to be a source of inspiration that paves the way for thoughtful creativity and calculated experimentation. We want to help you stay ahead and on top of trends in the restaurant business, give you that little edge over your competition, and separate you from the pack. Sure, you could trailblaze and just try to figure things out, but we get it, for the busy and overwhelmed operator, that takes a lot of time and can be financially risky.

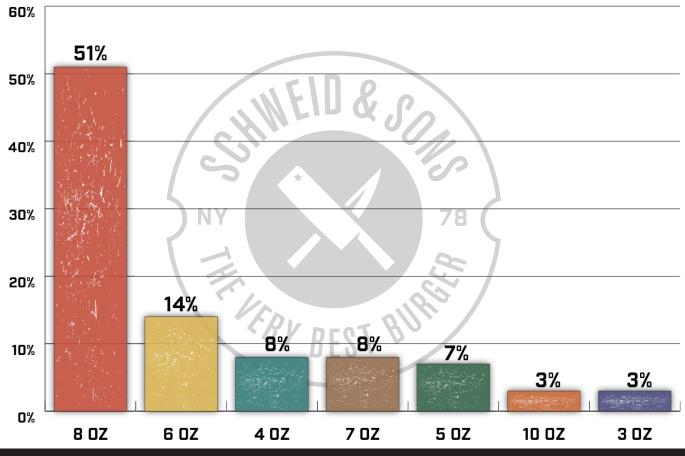
Instead, we did all the work and gathered the intel so you can make informed creative choices. So, how will you differentiate yourself in 2017?





What is the most popular Burger patty size being served in restaurants?



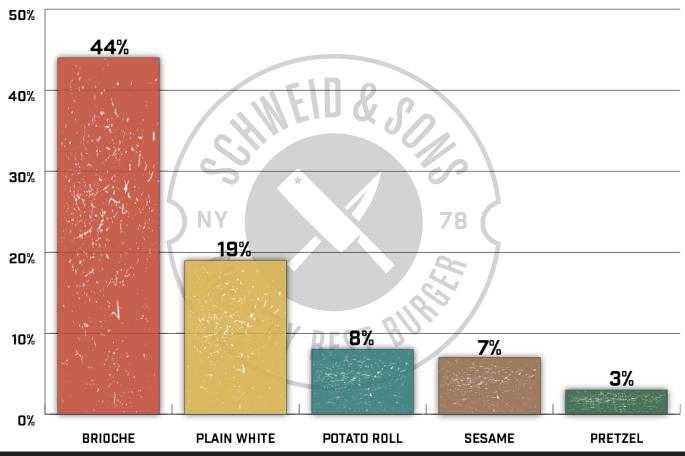






What is the most popular Burger bun being served in restaurants?



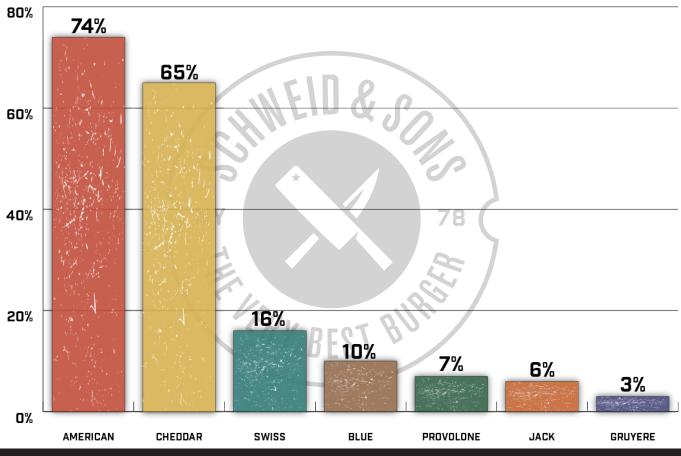






What is the most popular cheese being served on Burgers in restaurants?



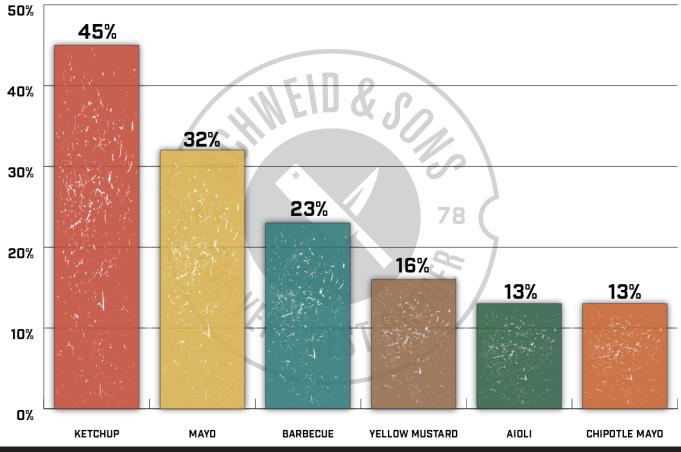






What is the most popular sauce being served on Burgers in restaurants?



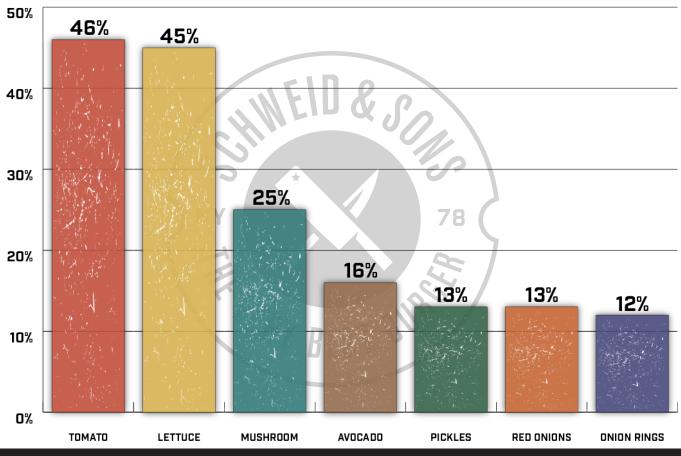






What is the most popular vegetable topping on Burgers in restaurants?



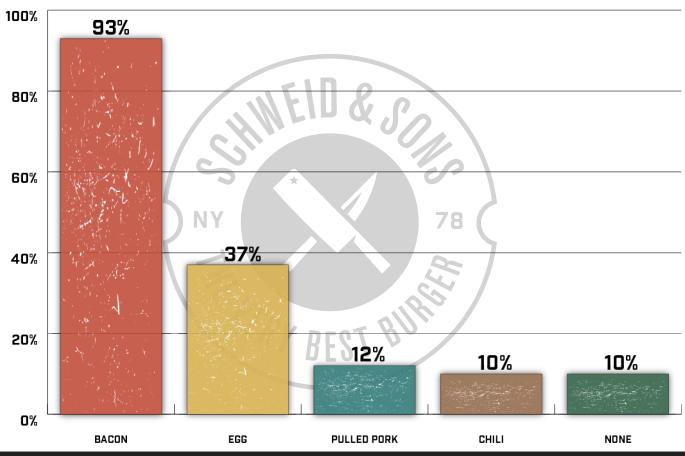






What is the most popular protein topping on Burgers in restaurants?



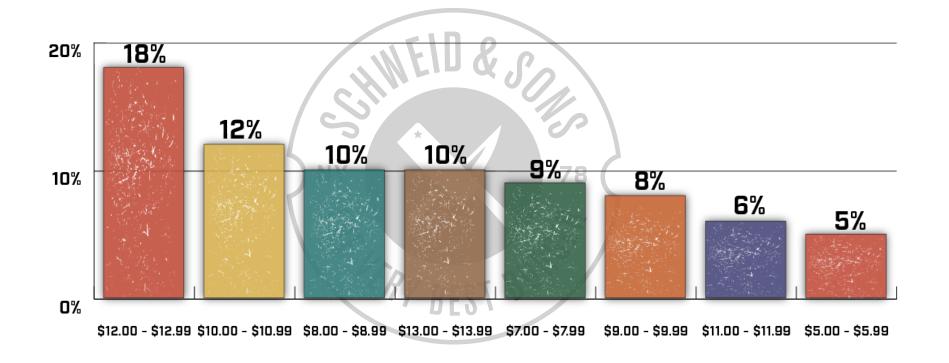






What is the most popular price at which Burgers are being sold in restaurants?



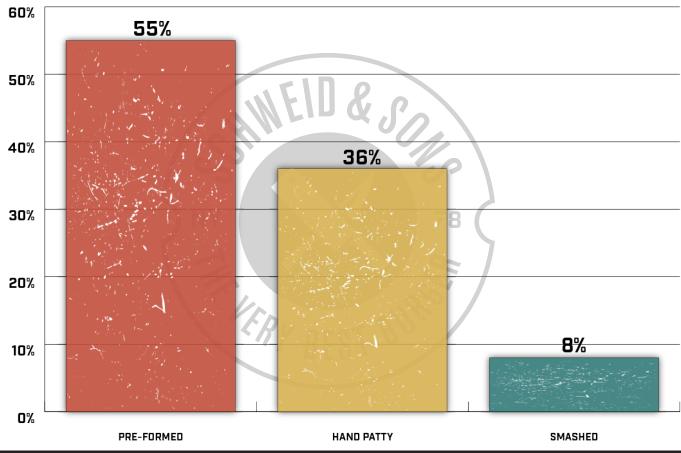






What is the most popular formation of Burgers being sold in restaurants?



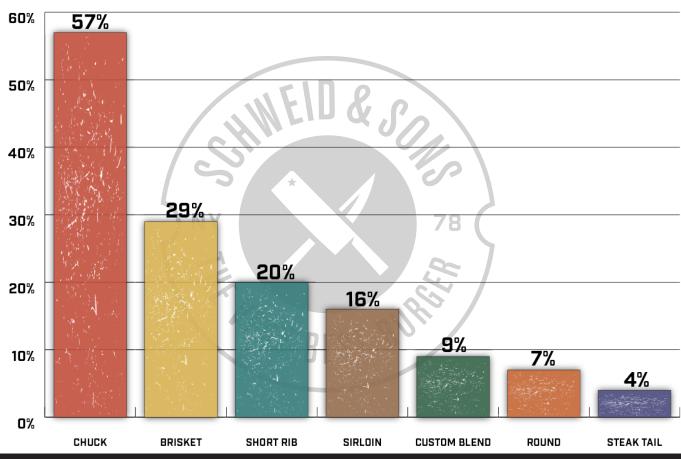






What is the most popular cut of beef in Burgers being sold in restaurants?



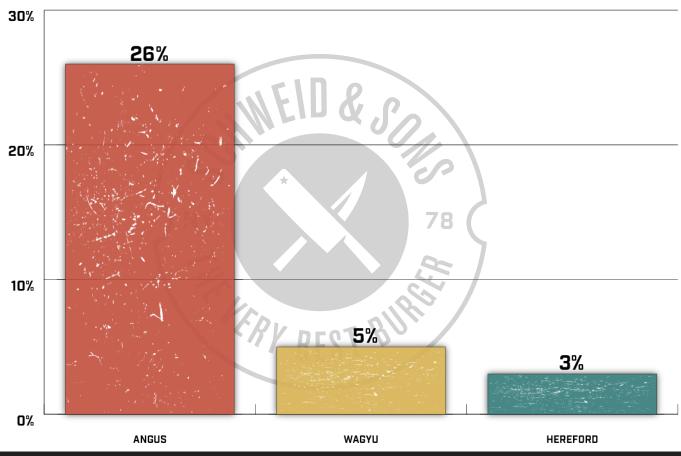






What is the most popular breed of cattle used for Burgers sold in restaurants?



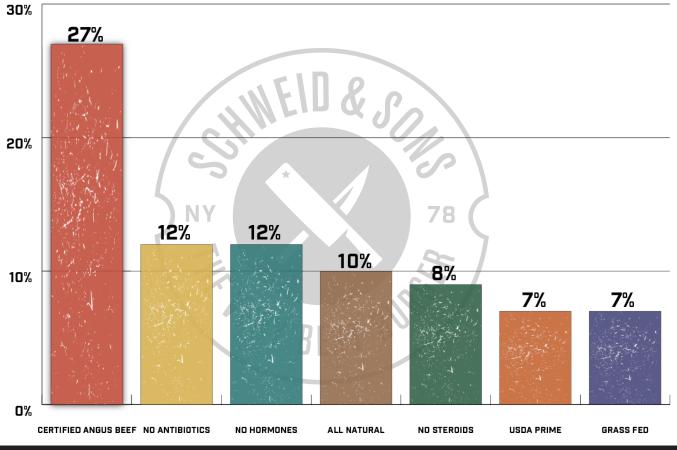






What is the most popular certification of Burgers being sold in restaurants?



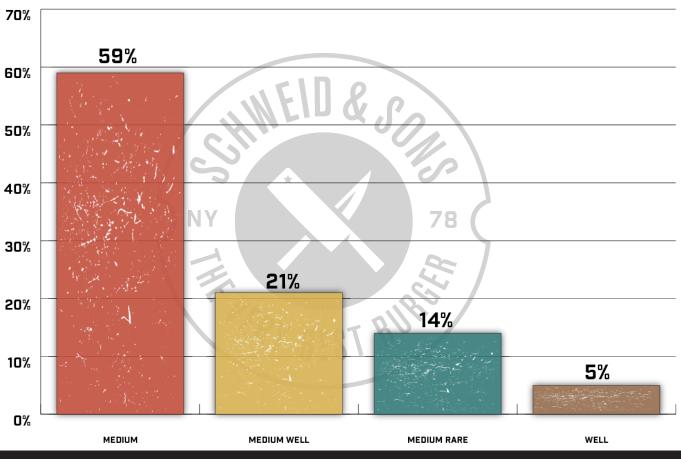






What is the most popular temperature at which Burgers are cooked in restaurants?



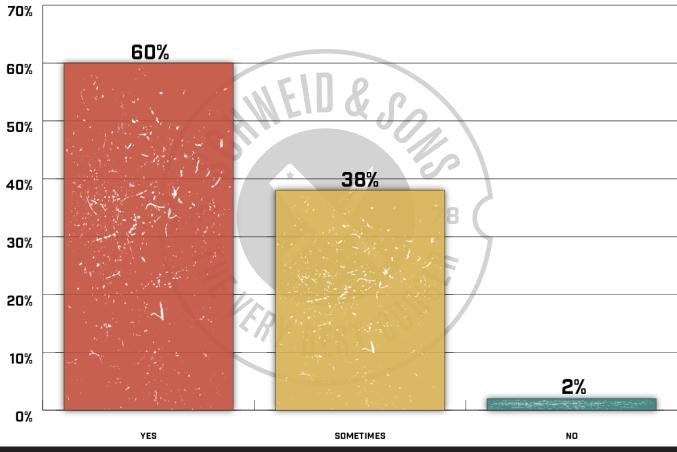






Do restaurants allow customization of Burgers on their menus?



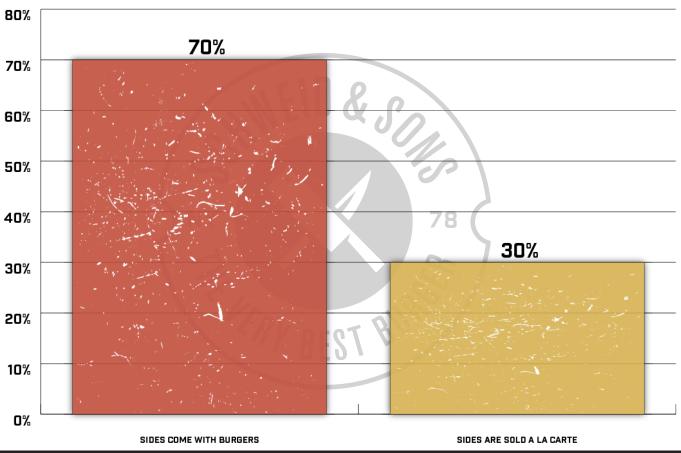






Do side items come with Burgers or are they sold A La Carte?



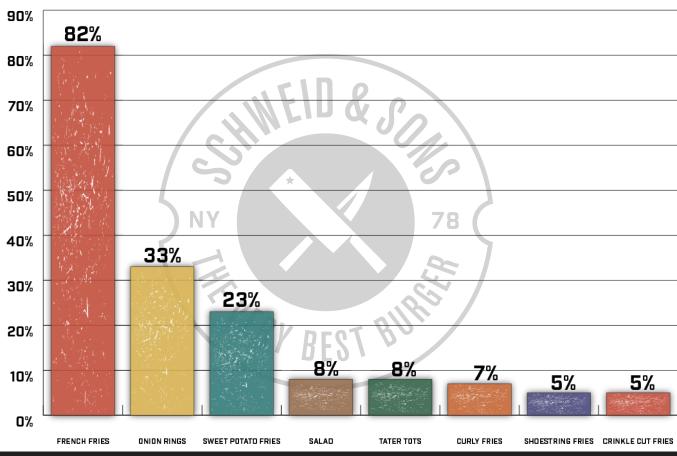






What is the most popular side item ordered with Burgers at restaurants?



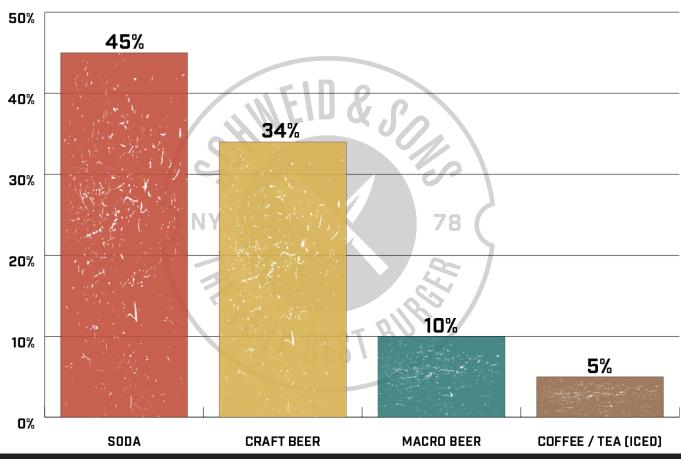






What is the most popular beverage ordered with Burgers at restaurants?



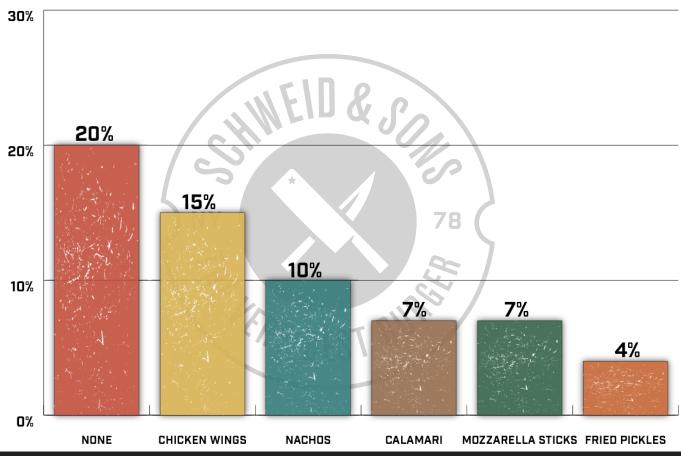






What is the most popular appetizer ordered with Burgers at restaurants?



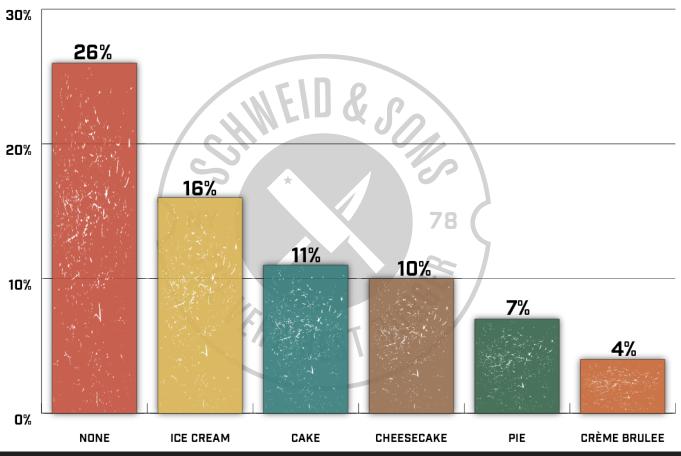






What is the most popular dessert ordered with Burgers at restaurants?



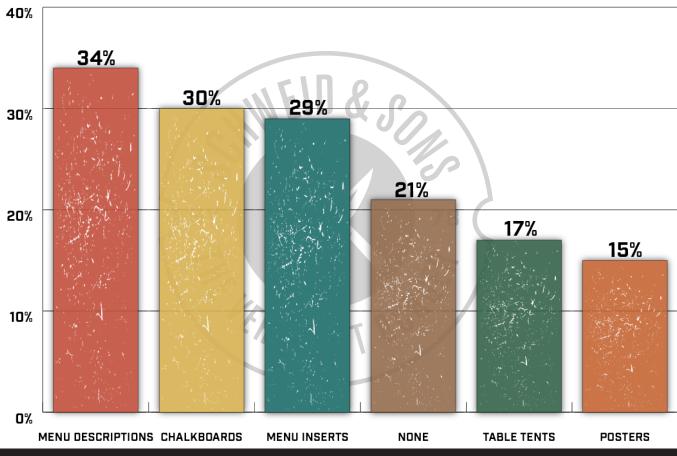






What is the most effective point of sale material for Burgers at restaurants?



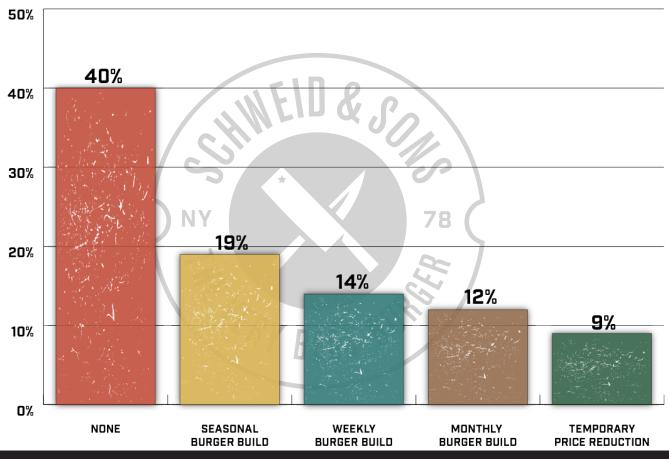






What is the most effective limited time offer (LTO) for Burgers at restaurants?



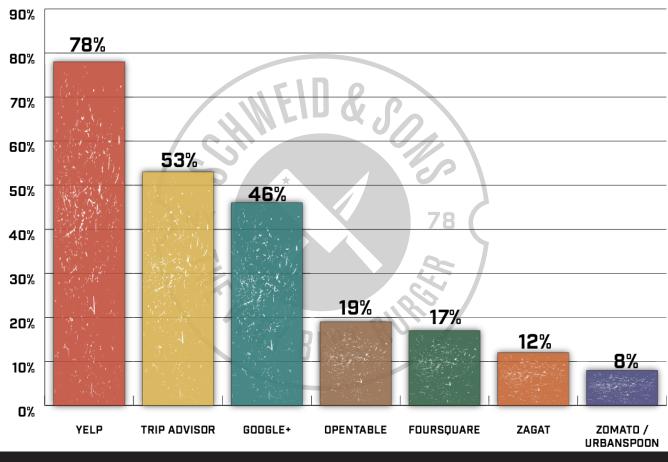






What are the most popular review sites used to market restaurants?



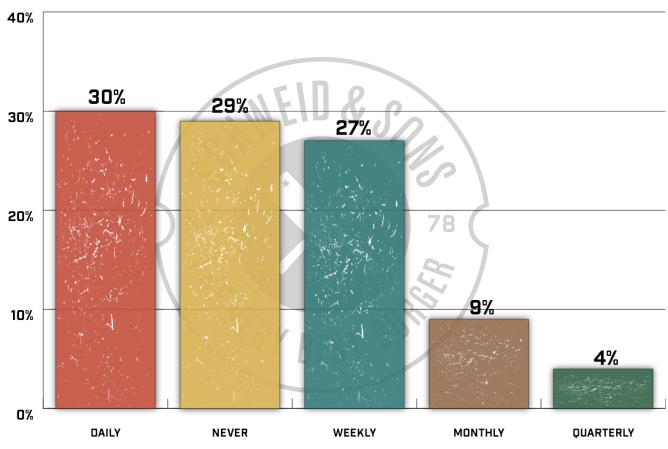






How often do restaurant teams respond to online reviews?



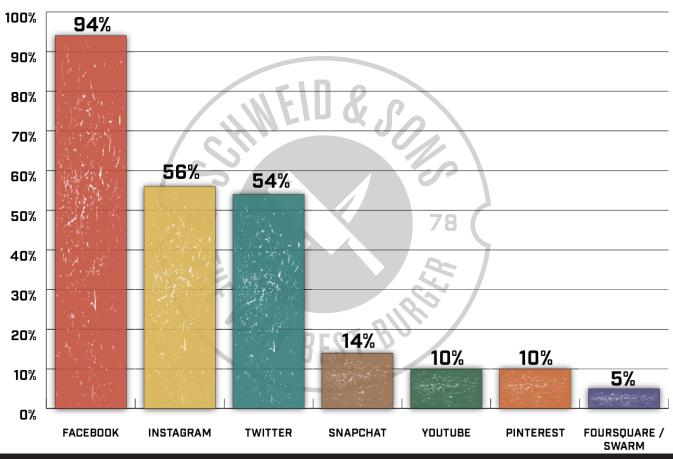






What are the most popular social networks used to market restaurants?



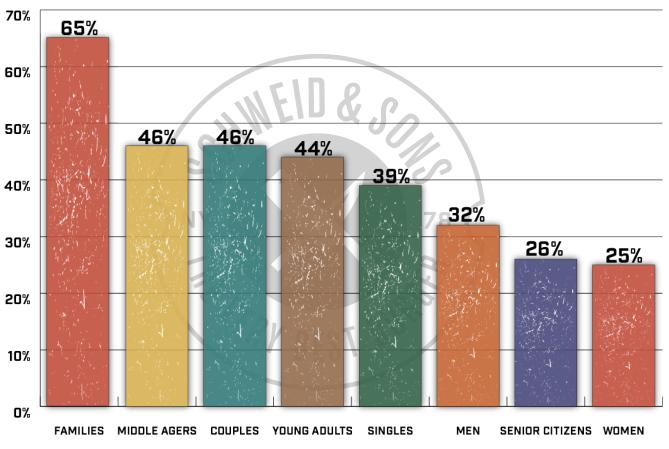






Which groups account for the majority of restaurant patrons?



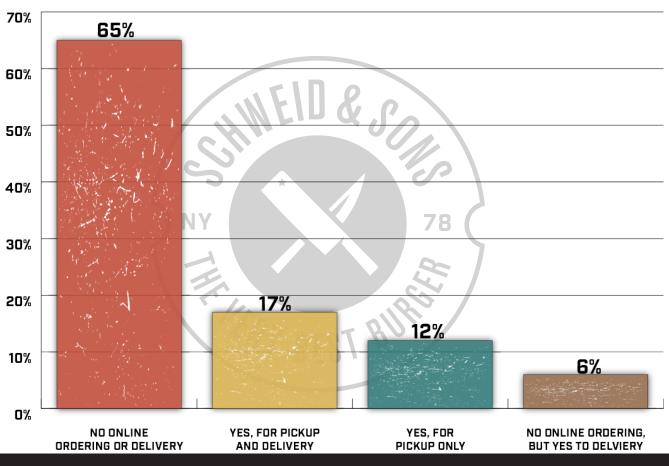






Do restaurants offer online ordering and/or delivery?









While this year's Burger Trends Report confirmed that elements of the classic Burger aren't going anywhere anytime soon, it also saw some interesting shifts from the norm. Let's take a clook at each category and see how it stacks up to last year's data.

| | | MOST POPULAR | BIGGEST MOVES |
|-----|----------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 7 | BURGER | 2017: 8 ounces | ↑ 6 ounces |
| | WEIGHT | 2016: 8 ounces | ↓ 7 ounces |
| | BUN TYPE | 2017: Brioche 2016: Brioche | ↑ Pretzel ↓ Kaiser |
| 53 | CHEESE | 2017: American | ↑ Blue |
| | TYPE | 2016: American | ↓ Jack |
| İlâ | SAUCE | 2017: Ketchup | ↑ Yellow Mustard |
| | TYPE | 2016: Ketchup | ↓ Aioli |
| 4 | VEGGIE | 2017: Tomato | ↑ Red Onion & Onion Rings |
| | TOPPING | 2016: Tomato | ↓ White Onion & Jalapeño |





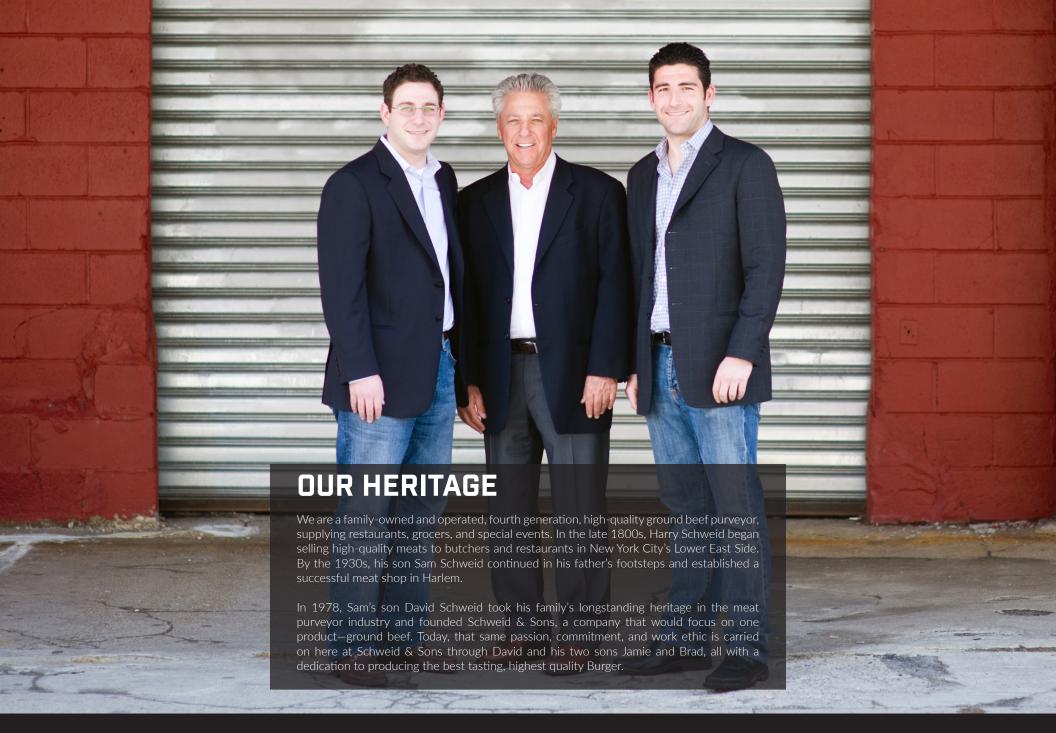
SCHWEID & SONS. BURGER TRENDS — REPORT—2017

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| | MOST POPULAR | BIGGEST MOVES |
|--------------------|---|--|
| PROTEIN TOPPING | 2017: Bacon 2016: Bacon | ↑ Pulled Pork & Egg ↓ Chili |
| S AVERAGE PRICE | 2017: \$12-12.99 2016: \$10-10.99 | ↑ \$12.00-\$12.99 ↓ \$10.00-\$10.99 |
| BURGER FORMATION | 2017: Pre-formed 2016: Pre-formed | ↑ Hand Patty↓ Smashed |
| BEEF TYPE | 2017: Angus 2016: Certified Angus Beef | ↑ No Antibiotics ↓ Certified Angus Beef |
| BEEF CUT | 2017: Chuck 2016: Chuck | ↑ Brisket ↓ Sirloin |
| TEMPERATURE SERVED | 2017: Medium 2016: Medium | ↑ Medium↓ Medium Well |











METHODOLOGY

The Schweid & Sons Burger Trends Report 2017 was compiled by surveying a diverse mix of restaurants—from large chain operators to small trend-setting establishments—from coast to coast.

Recipients were invited to select more than one answer or write in additional suggestions for several questions in the initial survey. Responses that received less than 3% selection were not included in the final report.

The data graphs in this report are meant to serve as a topline summary of the total results. They are not a complete representation of all responses.





-VISIT US-



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