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## To Understand the Danger of COVID-19 Outbreaks in Meatpacking Plants, Look at the Industry's History

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Large meatpacking plants have become [hotspots for coronavirus infection](#), along with jails and nursing homes. As of May 1, nearly [5,000 packing plant workers in 19 states](#) had fallen ill, and 20 had died.

Packing plants from Washington state to Iowa to Georgia have [temporarily suspended operations](#), although President Trump has [invoked the Defense Production Act](#) in an effort to quickly restart these facilities.