

Industry News

Overall pandemic concern levels remain high, with 35% of shoppers more concerned than they were at the start of the pandemic, according to a survey from Acosta. Concern among Millennials grew the most of any generation, with 50% more uneasy now than before. As states reopen, only 12% of shoppers plan to dine in a restaurant immediately, 20% plan to do so within a few weeks, and 68% plan to wait a month or longer. [Food Institute Focus](#)

Albertsons will proceed with a downsized \$800 million IPO. The lower IPO came after discussions between the underwriters and Cerberus Capital Management, which deliberated whether to walk away from the offering at the last minute, according to a person familiar with the matter. Following the IPO, Cerberus will own around 31.9% of Albertsons, reported *CNBC*. [Full Story](#)

Amazon reportedly bought self-driving taxi firm Zoox for more than \$1 billion, according to people familiar with the matter. Zoox is expected to operate with a similar level of independence as Amazon's streaming platform Twitch. Morgan Stanley analysts predict driverless delivery could save Amazon more than \$20 billion each year, reported *Business Insider*. [Full Story](#)

Brandless relaunched its online store. The newest iteration of the company is being run through a partnership between digital marketing exec Ryan Trefl, who is the new CEO, and investment firm Clarke Capital Partners. It plans to double down on health, wellness, and daily essentials, while moving away from the snacks and travel categories. Its main focus will be on driving sales on Brandless.com, but it will likely sell on Amazon, and is in discussion with several brick-and-mortar chains, reported *Business Insider*. [Full Story](#)

Rite Aid Corp. is asking bondholders to swap \$750 million of its unsecured 2023 notes for securities that wouldn't be paid back for three more years. In return, the new notes would be secured by Rite Aid's assets and pay a higher interest rate. The chain benefited from customers stocking up in anticipation of shelter-in-place orders, but many of its stores are in states that have been hardest hit, so the initial burst of purchases may not be sustained as the pandemic continues, reported *Bloomberg*. [Full Story](#)

International News

Shopping trips to Tesco declined by nearly one-third but spending rose 64% in the 13 weeks to May 30. Although sales rose 8% to over \$16.6 billion, the sales boost and property tax relief only partially offset the coronavirus related costs, which are projected to top \$1 billion this year. Meanwhile, pressure continues to mount from discount retailers and Tesco decided to extend its Aldi Price Match offer to about 500 products, reported *BBC*. [Full Story](#)

Health News

Highly acidic foods can increase breast cancer recurrence and mortality among past smokers, according to a study from San Diego State University. The researchers found meat and cheese can be the main culprits, along with eggs, sugary food, soft drinks, and grains, but a balance with alkaline-producing foods like fruits and vegetables is best, reported *MedicalXpress*. [Full Story](#)

Washington News

Fishermen will be able to count crew as part of employee payroll under the Paycheck Protection Program following a federal rule change. Fishermen have been hurt by poor markets stemming from stay-at-home orders, but captains found crew members couldn't be included as employees as they are often paid in shares of a total catch, reported *Seattle Times*. [Full Story](#) (Subscription Required)

The families of three deceased workers filed a lawsuit against Tyson Foods and top executives, arguing the company knowingly put employees at risk as coronavirus spread through its Waterloo, IA-based pork processing plant. The suit alleged the company failed to implement safety measures, allowed sick and exposed workers to remain at work, and falsely claimed the facility was safe, reported *CBS News*. [Full Story](#)

Market News

U.S. red meat production totaled 3.8 billion-lbs. in May, down 18% when compared to May 2019, according to USDA. Production included about 1.9 billion-lbs. of red meat, down 20% when compared to the prior year. [Full Report](#)

Sales Leads

USDA purchased \$9.7 million worth of [canned vegetables](#) and \$3.9 million worth of [catfish products](#).