

**National Restaurant Association  
2026 Eating and Drinking Place Summer Employment Forecast**

State	March 2026 Employment	Projected 2026 Summer Employment*	Number of 2026 Summer Jobs	Percent Change**
Alabama	173,100	176,900	3,800	2.2%
Alaska	20,800	25,300	4,500	21.6%
Arizona	266,100	260,800	-5,300	-2.0%
Arkansas	108,000	110,000	2,000	1.9%
California	1,455,500	1,489,000	33,500	2.3%
Colorado	238,300	249,800	11,500	4.8%
Connecticut	110,700	117,200	6,500	5.9%
Delaware	35,700	41,000	5,300	14.8%
District of Columbia	50,200	51,400	1,200	2.4%
Florida	861,500	840,000	-21,500	-2.5%
Georgia	401,900	409,500	7,600	1.9%
Hawaii	67,300	68,200	900	1.3%
Idaho	65,100	69,000	3,900	6.0%
Illinois	448,400	471,700	23,300	5.2%
Indiana	238,900	246,500	7,600	3.2%
Iowa	100,600	105,300	4,700	4.7%
Kansas	105,400	107,500	2,100	2.0%
Kentucky	162,700	165,600	2,900	1.8%
Louisiana	173,100	172,600	-500	-0.3%
Maine	43,100	56,900	13,800	32.0%
Maryland	189,600	205,500	15,900	8.4%
Massachusetts	246,300	275,900	29,600	12.0%
Michigan	319,000	339,700	20,700	6.5%
Minnesota	186,600	203,400	16,800	9.0%
Mississippi	101,600	103,600	2,000	2.0%
Missouri	235,700	243,000	7,300	3.1%
Montana	42,600	46,500	3,900	9.2%
Nebraska	73,400	75,700	2,300	3.1%
Nevada	148,700	151,700	3,000	2.0%
New Hampshire	50,000	55,800	5,800	11.6%
New Jersey	272,800	304,200	31,400	11.5%
New Mexico	72,700	74,400	1,700	2.3%
New York	638,500	680,600	42,100	6.6%
North Carolina	413,900	433,400	19,500	4.7%
North Dakota	28,900	29,800	900	3.1%
Ohio	435,700	454,400	18,700	4.3%
Oklahoma	146,900	147,500	600	0.4%
Oregon	149,100	158,200	9,100	6.1%
Pennsylvania	403,700	421,900	18,200	4.5%
Rhode Island	43,200	49,800	6,600	15.3%
South Carolina	213,700	220,600	6,900	3.2%
South Dakota	35,300	37,800	2,500	7.1%
Tennessee	276,100	283,000	6,900	2.5%
Texas	1,225,700	1,248,100	22,400	1.8%
Utah	118,900	123,100	4,200	3.5%
Vermont	18,600	19,900	1,300	7.0%
Virginia	302,600	311,500	8,900	2.9%
Washington	247,500	260,500	13,000	5.3%
West Virginia	50,700	51,500	800	1.6%
Wisconsin	207,800	225,000	17,200	8.3%
Wyoming	21,200	23,200	2,000	9.4%
United States	12,163,700	12,613,700	450,000	3.7%

\*Represents the average number of eating and drinking place jobs in June, July & August

\*\*Represents percent change from March to projected 2026 summer employment level

Source: National Restaurant Association projections, based on Bureau of Labor Statistics data