

California's \$20/hr minimum wage hike for fast food workers has eliminated jobs, cut worker hours and raised prices for consumers

» Fast food jobs are SHRINKING, not growing, in California.

- Seasonally-adjusted data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis show that **California's quick-service restaurants have LOST 5,416 jobs** since January 2024.
- Meanwhile, fast food jobs in **Oregon and Nevada have GROWN** during the same period.

DATE	CALIFORNIA		NEVADA		OREGON	
	Total Fast Food Jobs	+/-	Total Fast Food Jobs	+/-	Total Fast Food Jobs	+/-
Jan 2024	742,276		64,042		71,283	
Feb 2024	741,578	-698	64,455	413	71,423	140
Mar 2024	739,286	-2,292	64,244	-211	71,646	223
Apr 2024	738,732	-554	64,836	592	71,861	215
May 2024	737,478	-1,254	65,363	527	72,013	152
Jun 2024	736,110	-1,368	65,507	144	72,012	1
Jul 2024	737,559	1,449	65,344	-163	71,909	-103
Aug 2024	736,860	-699	65,333	-11	71,926	17
January-August 2024 Change		-5,416		+1,291		+643

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, All Employees: Leisure and Hospitality: Limited-Service Restaurants and Other Eating Places in California, Nevada and Oregon; retrieved September 24, 2024. NOTE: This data is not collected for Arizona.

- Claims California added fast food jobs between January–August 2024 are using raw employment data that has not been seasonally adjusted—**failing to recognize standard seasonal hiring fluctuations in the fast food industry.**
 - Economists and statisticians widely use seasonally-adjusted data as a more accurate analysis of employment trends.
- California is adding far fewer fast food jobs than it would have without the \$20/hour wage.**
 - In fact, California's fast food industry job growth is the lowest it has been since the Great Recession, barring the COVID-19 pandemic.

» A survey of local restaurant owners reveals massive costs, job losses, and increased prices for consumers.

- A July 2024 survey of local restaurant owners impacted by the \$20/hr minimum wage found:
 - 98% reported **raising food prices**;
 - 89% reported **reducing employee hours**;
 - 74% reported an increased likelihood of **shutting down their restaurants**;
 - 70% reported **reducing staff** or **consolidating positions**;
 - 67% reported the \$20/hr minimum wage will **cost more than \$100,000 per restaurant annually**; and
 - 26% reported the \$20/hr minimum wage will **cost more than \$200,000 per restaurant annually.**