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Aura Intelligence Restaurant Jobs Report



Restaurant Job Postings See Sharp Decline in February After January Surge

In February, the restaurant job market experienced a notable decline following a sharp increase in January. Job postings peaked in January at over 50K new jobs, marking the highest point in the observed period. However, February saw a sharp drop, with new job postings falling by nearly 30%.

The decline suggests a seasonal adjustment after the hiring spike in January, potentially linked to post-holiday workforce stabilization. Earlier months, from September to December, showed relatively stable trends, with job postings fluctuating between 40K-45K and minimal percentage variations. The February downturn highlights the volatility in restaurant job demand, underscoring the sector's sensitivity to seasonal and economic factors.

			Open positions
Rank	Role	New postings	% Change from last month
1.	Server	1526	↓ 9%
2.	Host	1439	↑ 94%
З.	Team Member	1187	↓ 48%
4.	Assistant Manager	1146	↓ 20%
5.	Dishwasher	1101	↑ 38%
6.	Crew Member	1098	↓ 49%
7.	General Manager	912	↓ 20%
8.	Restaurant Mngr Opportunities	842	↑ 528%
9.	Shift Leader	766	↓ 32%
10.	Line Cook	711	↑ 140%

Top 10 Roles by Job Postings

*Based on publicly available self-reported data

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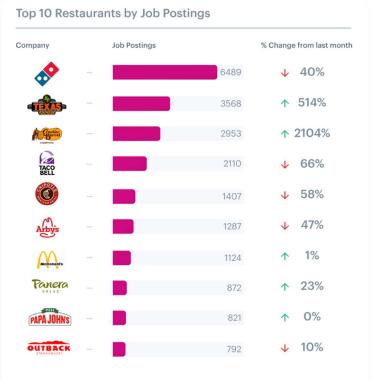
Restaurant Job Postings See Surging Demand for Management and Kitchen Roles

In February, servers remained the most in-demand with 1,526 new postings, despite experiencing a 9% decline from the previous month. Hosts saw a near-doubling in demand, with a 94% increase to 1,439 postings. The biggest surge was in restaurant management opportunities, which skyrocketed by 528%, reflecting a growing need for leadership roles. Line cook postings also saw a sharp rise of 140%, while crew members and team members increased by nearly 50% each. On the other hand, general and assistant managers saw a slight drop of 20%, and dishwashers saw a 38% increase.

These shifts suggest restaurants are emphasizing both front-line staffing and managerial stability, likely in response to seasonal trends and broader labor market dynamics.

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			Open positions
ank	Role	New postings	% Change from last month
1. /	Texas	4753	↓ 17%
2.	Florida	3457	↓ 11%
з.	California	2601	↓ 38%
4.	Ohio	2194	↓ 21%
5.	North Carolina	1763	↓ 17%
6.	Georgia	1762	↓ 12%
7.	Tennessee	1702	↓ 11%
8.	Pennsylvania	1687	↑ 2%
9.	New York	1551	↓ 37%
10.	Illinois	1442	↓ 31%

Restaurant Job Postings Show Mixed Trends as Some Chains Ramp Up Hiring While Others Scale Back

Domino's led with 6,489 postings but saw a 40% drop from the previous month, reflecting a potential post-holiday hiring slowdown. In contrast, Texas Roadhouse and Cracker Barrel experienced dramatic surges in job postings, increasing by 514% and 2,104%, respectively, signaling aggressive hiring efforts. Taco Bell, Chipotle and Arby's saw steep decline in job posting numbers (50%-60%), while McDonald's and Papa John's remained steady.

These trends highlight the varying workforce demands across brands, with some chains scaling up hiring significantly while others adjust downward in response to shifting market conditions.

Restaurant Job Postings Decline Across Most Major States Amid Hiring Slowdown

In February, restaurant job postings declined across most major states, reflecting a broader slowdown in hiring. Texas led the rankings with 4,753 new postings but saw a 17% drop from the previous month. Florida followed with 3,457 postings, down 11%. California and New York experienced the steepest declines, falling by 38% and 37%, respectively, indicating significant hiring reductions in these key markets. While Ohio and Illinois also saw notable declines, Pennsylvania was the only state to see a slight increase of 2%, suggesting relative hiring stability.

The overall downward trend across major states suggests a seasonal hiring adjustment or shifting labor demand, with restaurants potentially stabilizing their workforce after earlier hiring surges. Despite these declines, demand remains strong in key regions, particularly in highpopulation states.

*Based on publicly available self-reported data

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