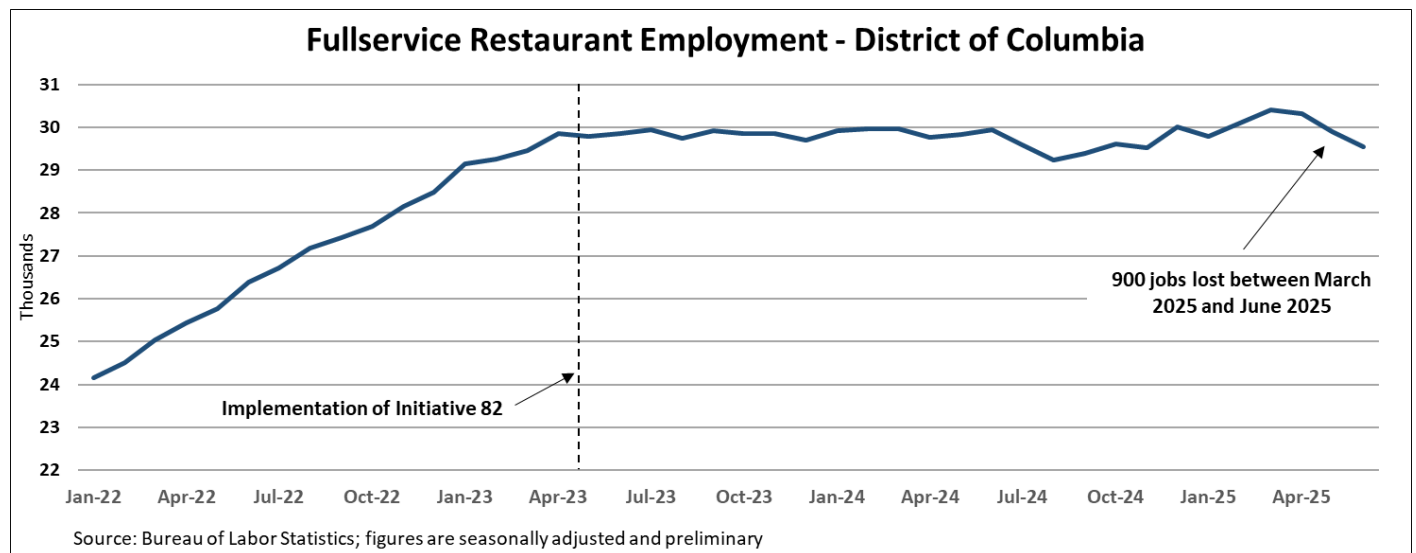


DC Restaurant Employment Trends

July 2025

Fullservice restaurant segment in DC lost 900 jobs during the last 3 months

- Job growth in the District of Columbia's fullservice restaurant segment stalled since the implementation of Initiative 82 in May 2023. In the 12 months prior to the implementation of Initiative 82 in May 2023, DC's fullservice segment added 4,000 jobs (a 16% increase).
 - In the nearly 2 years that followed, employment levels were essentially flat.
- More recently, fullservice employment started trending sharply lower, as restaurant operators adjusted their business models to prepare for the scheduled July 1 increase in the minimum tipped wage from \$10 to \$12.
 - Between March 2025 and June 2025, staffing levels at fullservice restaurants in DC fell by 900 jobs. That represented a 2.8% decline in fullservice restaurant jobs.
- Overall, DC's fullservice segment employs 300 fewer people than it did before the implementation of Initiative 82 in May 2023.



Data source: <https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/SMU11000007072251101SA>