

2024 Outdoor Recreation Value Added, Employment, and Compensation-Top 20 States

Rank	State	Total outdoor recreation value added (thousands of dollars)	Percent of total value added ¹
	United States	696,658,032	2.4%
1	California	87,868,369	2.2%
2	Florida	65,260,485	3.8%
3	Texas	59,438,205	2.1%
4	New York	37,253,819	1.6%
5	Illinois	26,373,115	2.3%
6	Washington	23,522,830	2.7%
7	Georgia	20,696,409	2.3%
8	Pennsylvania	20,377,451	2.0%
9	Ohio	20,077,099	2.2%
10	Colorado	18,127,399	3.3%
11	North Carolina	17,765,924	2.1%
12	Indiana	17,118,694	3.3%
13	New Jersey	16,162,003	1.9%
14	Tennessee	15,575,893	2.8%
15	Arizona	15,391,986	2.7%
16	Michigan	15,090,189	2.1%
17	Massachusetts	14,559,322	1.9%
18	Virginia	14,413,679	1.9%
19	Minnesota	13,940,241	2.7%
20	Wisconsin	12,039,351	2.7%
Top 20 Total		531,052,463	

Outdoor recreation value added (also referred to as GDP) consists of the value of outdoor recreation goods and services produced less the value of expenses incurred for their production. The activity of self-employed individuals is included in value added.

¹Based on state-level data from gross domestic product, compensation, and employment estimates published September 26, 2025, on BEA's website, www.bea.gov.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

<https://bea.gov/news/2026/outdoor-recreation-economic-statistics-us-and-states-2024>

Rank	State	Total outdoor recreation employment	Percent of total wage and salary employment ¹
	United States	5,244,804	3.2%
1	California	589,354	3.1%
2	Florida	508,656	4.9%
3	Texas	402,103	2.8%
4	New York	264,539	2.7%
5	Illinois	179,162	2.8%
6	Pennsylvania	176,752	2.8%
7	Georgia	168,231	3.3%
8	North Carolina	155,462	3.0%
9	Ohio	153,614	2.7%
10	Colorado	137,762	4.5%
11	Washington	129,088	3.4%
12	New Jersey	128,138	2.9%
13	Virginia	126,038	2.9%
14	Michigan	124,965	2.7%
15	Arizona	118,672	3.5%
16	Tennessee	114,070	3.3%
17	Indiana	110,044	3.3%
18	Massachusetts	107,987	2.8%
19	Wisconsin	100,139	3.2%
20	Minnesota	99,145	3.2%
Top 20 Total		3,893,921	

Outdoor recreation employment consists of all full-time, part-time, and temporary wage-and-salary jobs in which the workers are engaged in the production of outdoor recreation goods and services. Self-employed individuals are excluded from employment totals.

¹Based on state-level data from gross domestic product, compensation, and employment estimates published September 26, 2025, on BEA's website, www.bea.gov.

Rank	State	Total outdoor recreation compensation (thousands of dollars)	Percent of total compensation ¹
	United States	324,291,599	2.2%
1	California	41,958,176	2.0%
2	Florida	33,236,092	3.8%
3	Texas	23,497,934	1.8%
4	New York	19,005,171	1.7%
5	Illinois	12,338,773	2.0%
6	Washington	10,548,924	2.4%
7	Georgia	10,131,171	2.3%
8	Pennsylvania	9,500,801	1.7%
9	Colorado	9,405,523	3.2%
10	Ohio	8,627,589	1.8%
11	North Carolina	8,463,727	1.9%
12	New Jersey	7,922,031	1.8%
13	Arizona	7,546,063	2.6%
14	Massachusetts	7,092,357	1.7%
15	Virginia	7,013,303	1.6%
16	Michigan	6,924,848	1.8%
17	Indiana	6,887,173	2.7%
18	Minnesota	6,380,418	2.3%
19	Tennessee	6,206,161	2.3%
20	Wisconsin	5,749,107	2.3%
Top 20 Total		248,435,342	

Outdoor recreation compensation consists of the pay to employees (including wages and salaries and benefits such as employer contributions to pension and health funds) in return for their outdoor recreation-related work during a given year. Pay to the self-employed is excluded from compensation but included in value added.

¹Based on state-level data from gross domestic product, compensation, and employment estimates published September 26, 2025, on BEA's website, www.bea.gov.