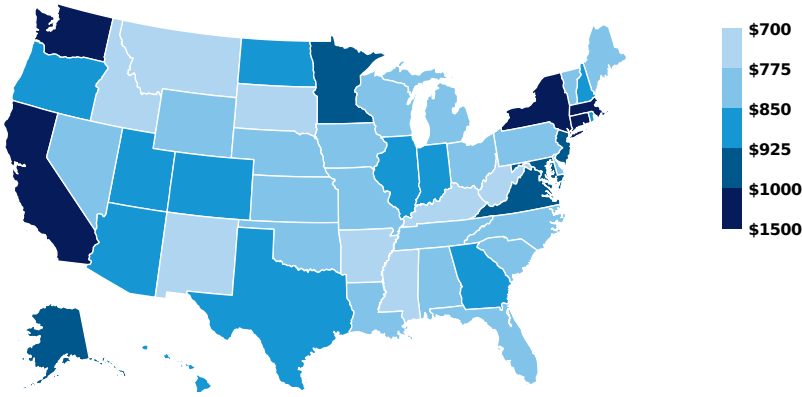
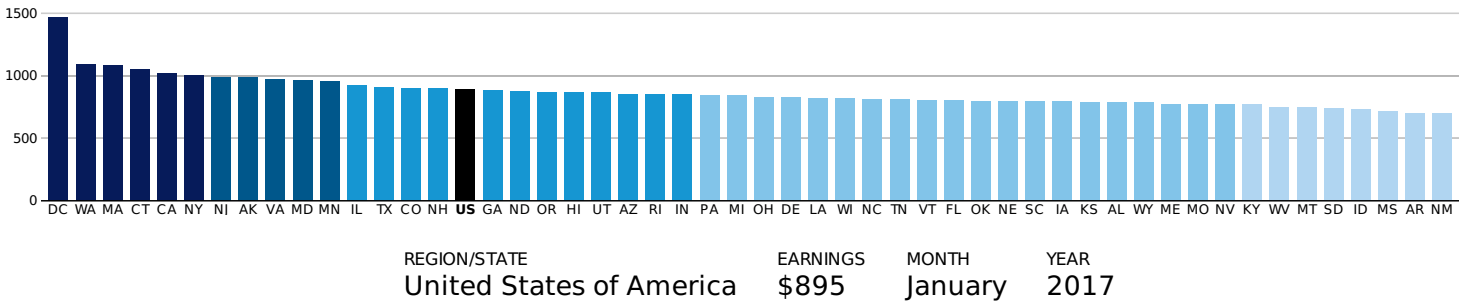


# EARNINGS

Tracking monthly state data on average weekly earnings for all US private employees.

## Average Weekly Earnings, Private Employment (dollars)

National real weekly earnings (i.e., earnings adjusted for inflation) for all US private employees averaged \$895 in January 2017.

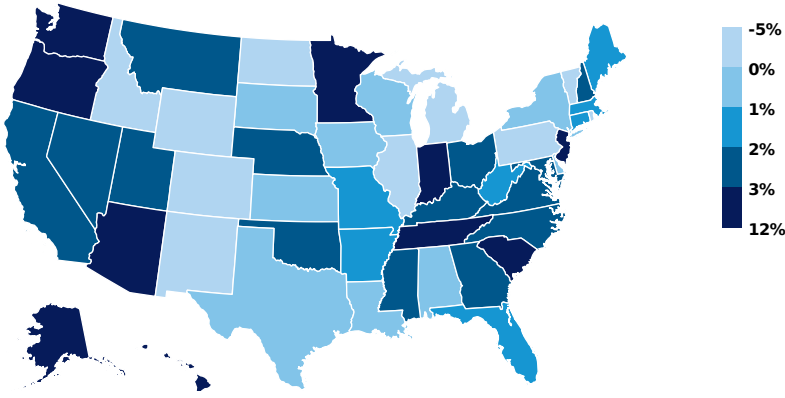
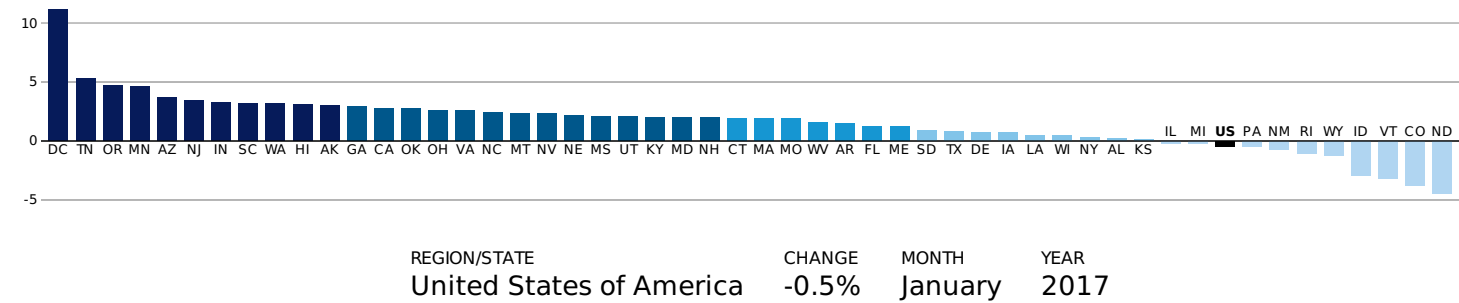


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics. (<http://www.bls.gov/sae/home.htm>)

National weekly earnings for all US private employees averaged \$895 in January 2017. Among the 50 states, average weekly earnings ranged from \$700 in New Mexico to \$1,092 in Washington. As is typical, average weekly earnings in the District of Columbia (DC) were higher than in all states, at \$1,467. Thirty-six states had average weekly earnings below the national average. Other than New Mexico, average earnings were lowest in Arkansas (\$703), Mississippi (\$719), Idaho (\$731), South Dakota (\$741), and Montana (\$748). Average weekly earnings were closest to the national average in New Hampshire (\$901) and Colorado (\$902). After DC and Washington, the highest average weekly earnings were in Massachusetts (\$1,087), Connecticut (\$1,050), California (\$1,024), and New York (\$1,005).

## Changes in Real Average Weekly Earnings, Private Employment (percent change year over year)

National real (inflation adjusted) average weekly earnings decreased 0.5 percent from January 2016 to January 2017.



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics. (<http://www.bls.gov/sae/home.htm>)

National real (inflation-adjusted) average weekly earnings in January 2017 were 0.5 percent lower than in January 2016. This was the first month that real year-over-year earnings were negative since June 2014 (<http://apps.urban.org/features/state-economic-monitor/historical.html>). Despite the national decrease, only 10 states saw real average earnings decline over the year: Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, Michigan, New Mexico, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Wyoming. The declines were largest in North Dakota (-4.5 percent), Colorado (-3.8 percent), and Vermont (-3.2 percent). The largest increases in real average weekly wages among states were in Tennessee (5.3 percent), Oregon (4.7 percent), and Minnesota (4.6 percent). DC saw average weekly earnings rise 11.2 percent, more than any state (DC's earnings have fluctuated over the past two years (<http://apps.urban.org/features/state-economic-monitor/historical.html>)). Seven additional states (Alaska, Arizona, Hawaii, Indiana, New Jersey, South Carolina, and Washington) had real average weekly wages increase 3.0 percent or more. In nominal terms, average wages increased 2.0

percent and were negative in only four states.

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