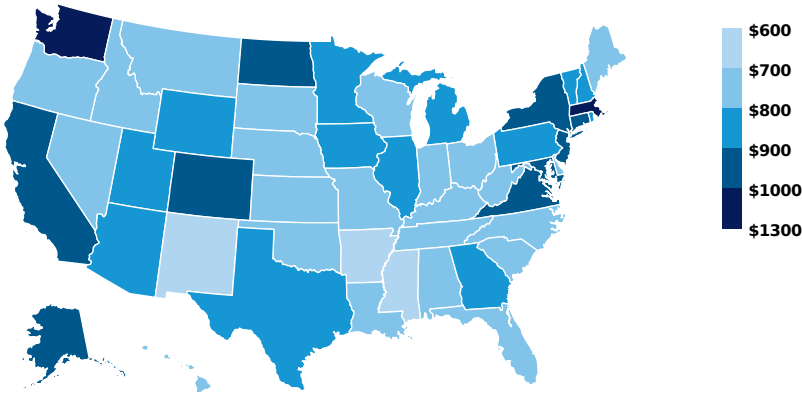
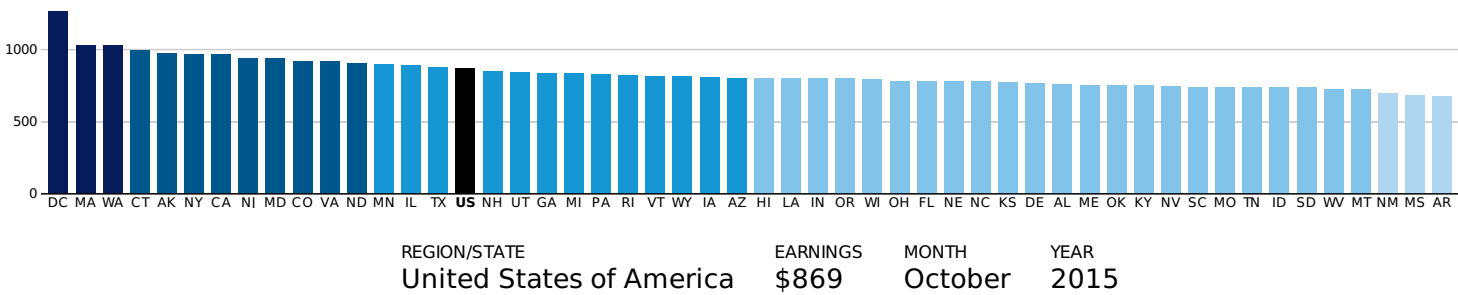


WAGES

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 \$869 in October 2015.

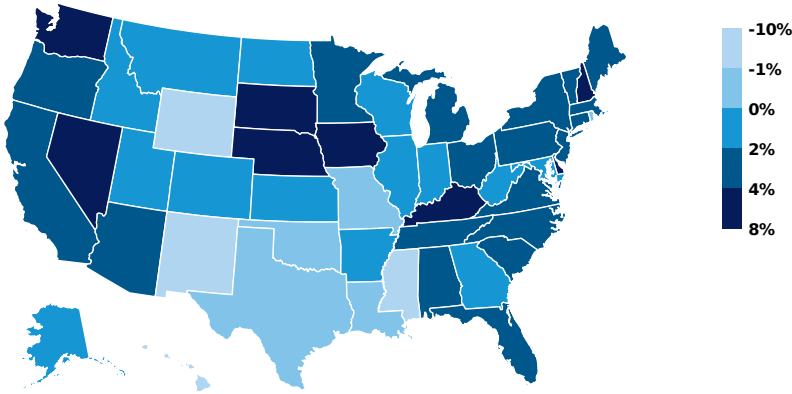
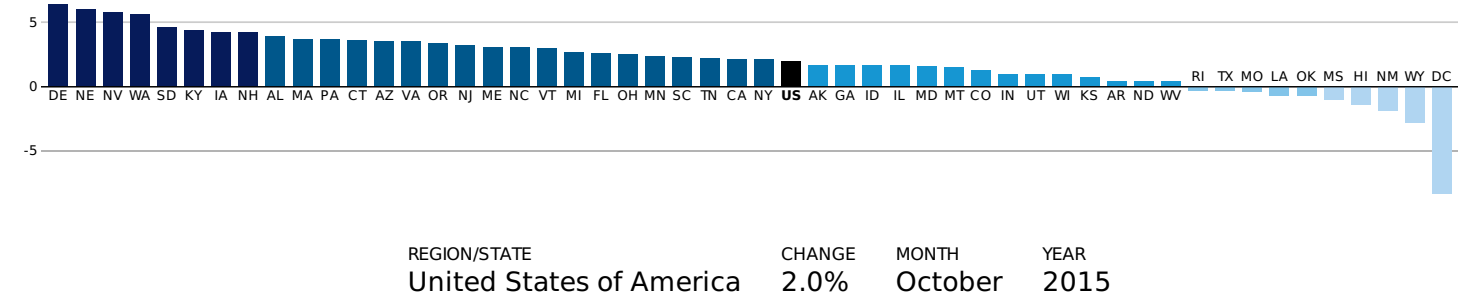


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics. (<http://www.bls.gov/sae/home.htm>)

National weekly earnings for all US private employees averaged \$869 in October 2015. Among the 50 states, average wages ranged from \$679 in Arkansas to \$1,029 in Massachusetts. The District of Columbia's (DC) average weekly earnings for private employees were \$1,268. Thirty-six states had average weekly earnings below the national average. Average wages were lowest in Arkansas, Mississippi (\$683), New Mexico (\$697), and Montana and West Virginia (both \$725). Texas's average wages (\$878) were closest to the national average. After DC and Massachusetts, the highest average wages were in Washington (\$1,028), Connecticut (\$993), Alaska (\$972), and New York (\$970).

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

National real (inflation adjusted) average weekly earnings increased 2.0 percent from October 2014 to October 2015.



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

National real (inflation-adjusted) average weekly earnings in October 2015 were 2.0 percent higher than in October 2014. This was the fourth consecutive month (<http://apps.urban.org/features/state-economic-monitor/historical.html>) year-over-year real national wages increased 2.0 percent or more. Nine states and DC had real average weekly earnings fall over the past year. The largest year-over-year decrease was in DC (-8.3 percent). That's the largest year-over-year real wage decline in DC since October 2008 (<http://apps.urban.org/features/state-economic-monitor/historical.html>). Four states also had average wages decrease 1.0 percent or more: Wyoming (-2.8 percent), New Mexico (-1.9 percent), Hawaii (-1.4 percent), and Mississippi (-1.0 percent). The largest increase in real average wages was in Delaware (6.4 percent). That's Delaware's highest year-over-year monthly increase since the recession (<http://apps.urban.org/features/state-economic-monitor/historical.html>). The next real highest wage

increases were in Nebraska (6.0 percent), Nevada (5.8 percent), and Washington (5.6 percent).
