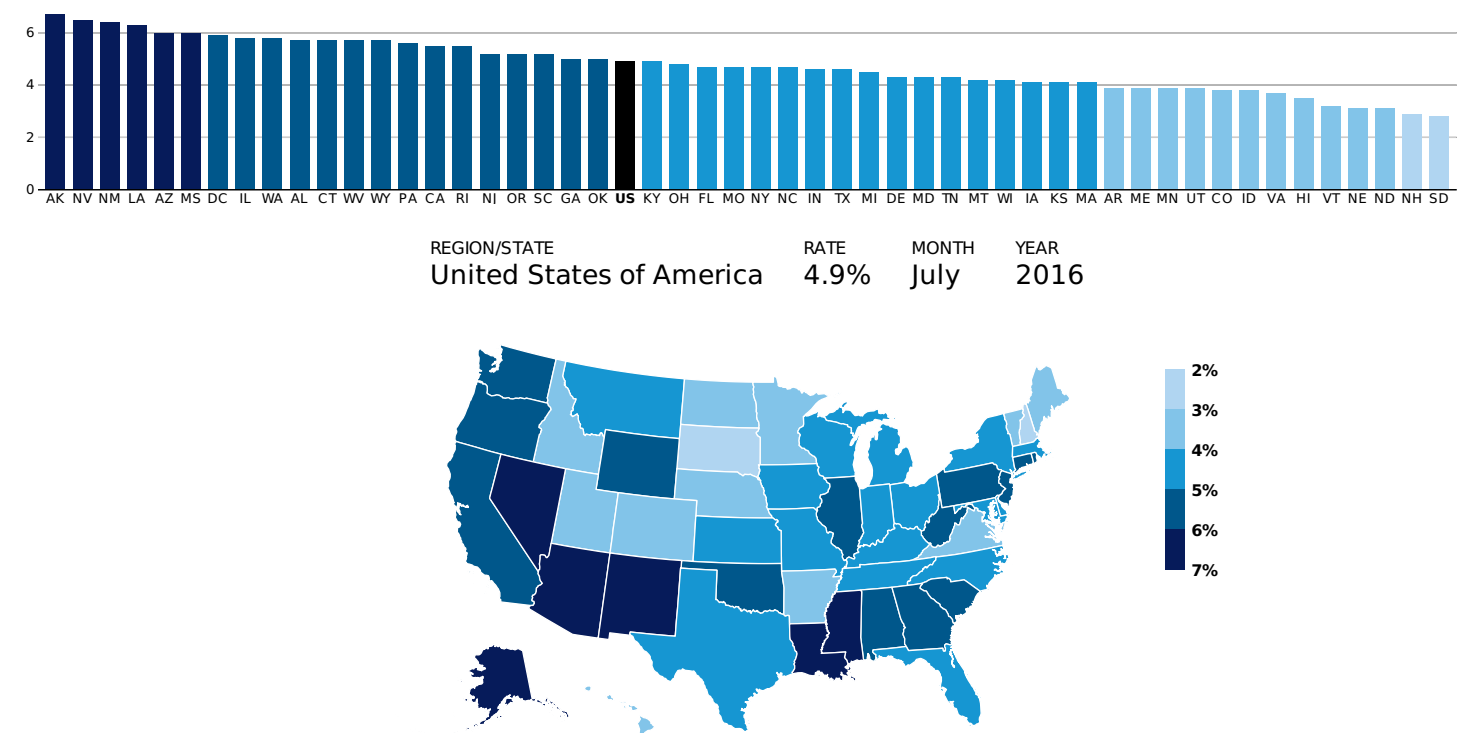


EMPLOYMENT

Breaking down state data on unemployment rates, total (nonfarm) payroll employment, and government employment.

Unemployment Rate (percent, seasonally adjusted)

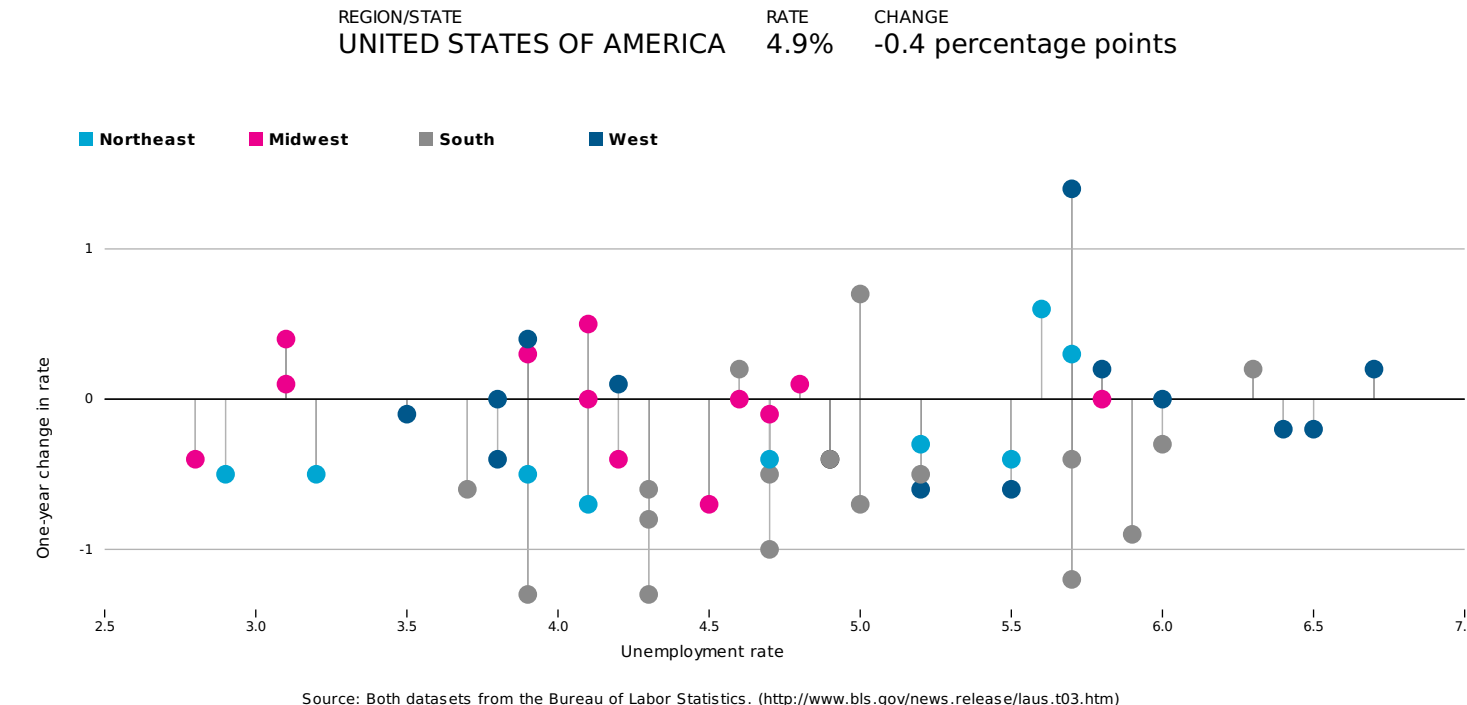
The national unemployment rate was 4.9 percent as of July 2016.



The national unemployment rate was 4.9 percent in July 2016. Alaska’s unemployment rate (6.7 percent) was the highest of any state. Five additional states had July unemployment rates of 6.0 percent or higher: Nevada (6.5 percent), New Mexico (6.4 percent), Louisiana (6.3 percent), and Mississippi and Arizona (both 6.0 percent). The lowest unemployment rates were in South Dakota (2.8 percent) and New Hampshire (2.9 percent). Both states have historically (<http://apps.urban.org/features/state-economic-monitor/historical.html>) had lower rates than the national average. Eleven other states had July unemployment rates under 4.0 percent: Arkansas, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Maine, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Utah, Vermont, and Virginia.

Unemployment Rate: Level vs. One-Year Change

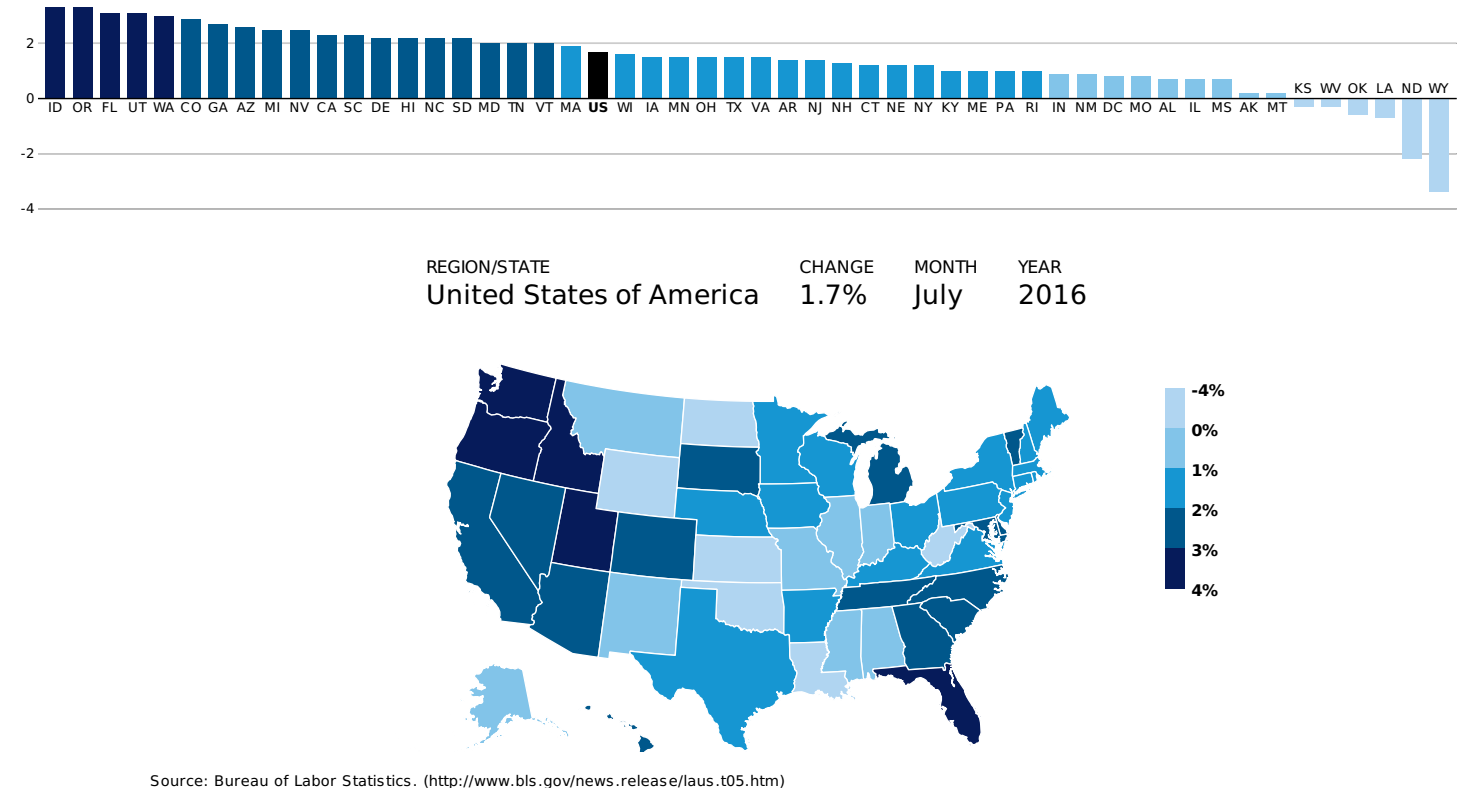
The national unemployment rate decreased 0.4 percentage points to a value of 4.9 percent between July 2015 and July 2016.



The national unemployment rate fell 0.4 percentage points between July 2015 and July 2016. The rate increased 1.4 percentage points in Wyoming, the greatest increase of any state over the year, because of continuing weak natural resource prices. The next largest rate increase was in Oklahoma (0.7 percentage points). The unemployment rate increased over the year in 13 other states: Alaska, Connecticut, Iowa, Louisiana, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, and Washington. Among states with an increase, two had a July 2016 unemployment rate above 6.0 percent (Alaska and Louisiana), and four had a rate below 4.0 percent (Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, and Utah). The largest drops in year-over-year unemployment rates were all in the South: Arkansas (and Tennessee (both - 1.3 percentage points), West Virginia (-1.2 percentage points), and North Carolina (-1.0 percentage points).

Total Employment (percent change year over year)

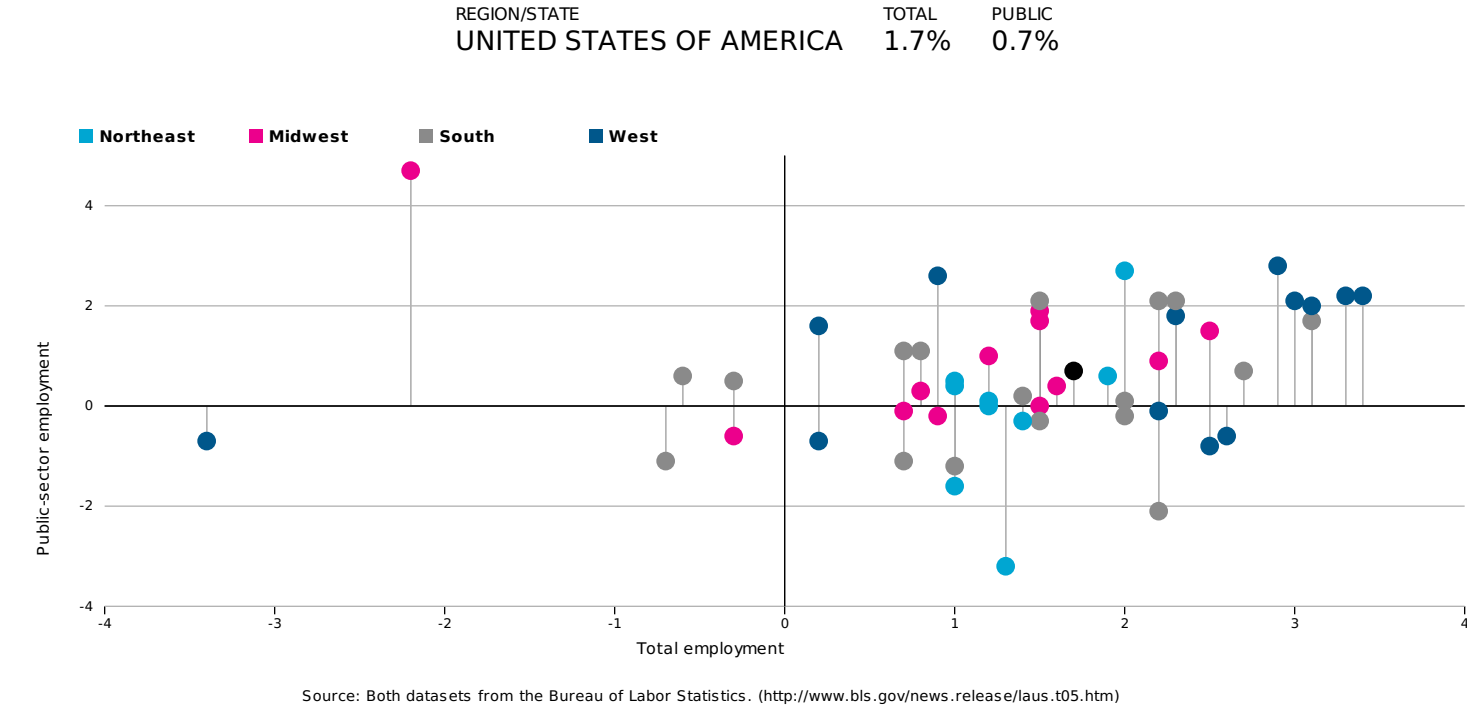
Total (public and private) nonfarm payroll employment increased 1.7 percent from July 2015 to July 2016.



Total national (public and private) nonfarm payroll employment increased 1.7 percent from July 2015 to July 2016. The largest employment drops were in Wyoming (-3.4 percent) and North Dakota (-2.2 percent). Employment decreased over the past year (<http://apps.urban.org/features/state-economic-monitor/historical.html>) in both states as the price of natural resources plummeted. Three other energy states also saw employment decline over the past year: Louisiana, Oklahoma, and West Virginia. Kansas was the only non-resource-dependent state to lose jobs, but the state is a major provider of energy services and suffered from low agricultural prices. The largest increase in total employment was in Idaho (3.4 percent). Total employment also grew 3.0 percent or more over the past 12 months in Florida, Oregon, Utah, and Washington.

Total Employment vs. Public Employment

Total public-sector employment increased 0.7 percent from July 2015 to July 2016, staying well below the 1.7 percent increase in total employment.



Total public-sector employment increased 0.7 percent from July 2015 to July 2016. Public employment decreased over the year in 17 states, with the largest decreases in New Hampshire (-3.2 percent), Delaware

(-2.1 percent), Maine (-1.6 percent), Kentucky (-1.2 percent), and Alabama and Louisiana (both -1.1 percent). Despite declines in public employment, all of those named states saw an increase in total employment except Louisiana (-0.7 percent). The largest increase in public employment was in North Dakota (4.7 percent). Ten other states saw public employment increase 2.0 percent or more over the year: Colorado, Idaho, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Vermont. All of these states except for North Dakota (-2.2 percent), New Mexico (0.9 percent), and Texas (1.5 percent) also saw total employment increase 2.0 percent or more.

Note: The unemployment rate is from a US Bureau of Labor Statistics survey based on place of residence. The employment data are from a US Bureau of Labor Statistics survey based on place of work. All data are seasonally adjusted. This page is not comparable to the Bureau of Labor Statistics's press release, because that release as of July 2016 highlights only changes that are statistically significant.