



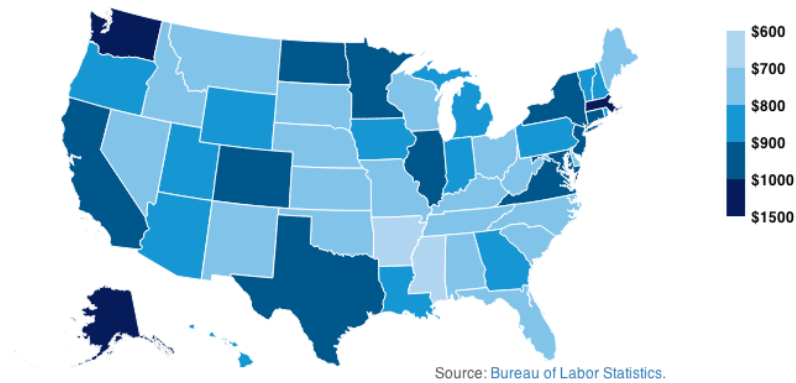
# STATE ECONOMIC MONITOR

## WAGES

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

### Average Weekly Earnings, Private Employment (dollars)

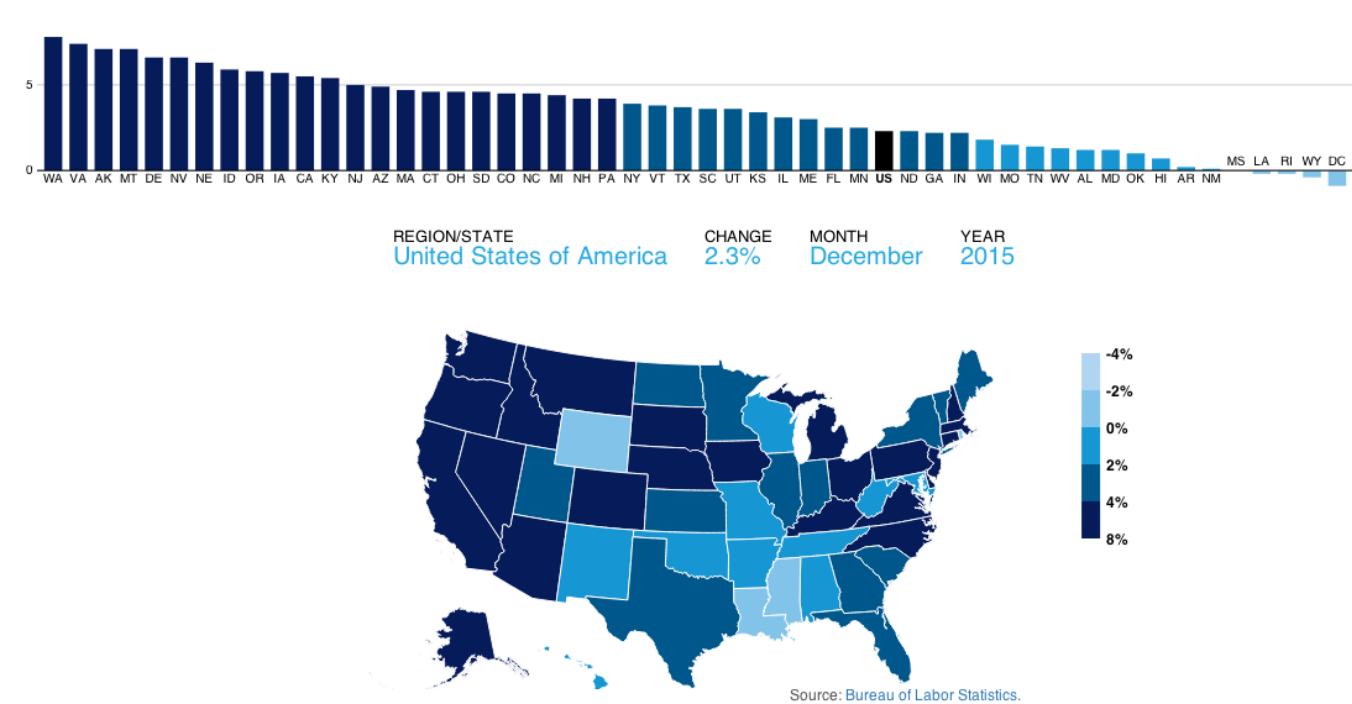
National real weekly earnings (i.e., earnings adjusted for inflation) for all US private employees averaged \$868 in December 2015.



National weekly earnings for all US private employees averaged \$868 in August 2015. Among the 50 states, average wages ranged from \$681 in Arkansas to \$1,044 in Washington. The District of Columbia's average weekly earnings for private employees were \$1,370. Thirty-six states had average weekly earnings below the national average. Average wages were lowest in Arkansas, Mississippi (\$696), New Mexico (\$710), South Dakota (\$723), and West Virginia (\$733). The state with average wages closest to the national average in August was Utah (\$860). After DC and Washington, the highest average wages were in Massachusetts (\$1,024), Alaska (\$1,021), California (\$996), and Connecticut (\$991).

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

National real (inflation adjusted) average weekly earnings increased 2.3 percent from December 2014 to December 2015.



National real (inflation-adjusted) average weekly earnings in August 2015 were 2.3 percent higher than in August 2014. The largest year-over-year decrease was in DC (-0.9 percent). Three states also had average wages decrease: Wyoming (-0.4 percent) and Louisiana and Rhode Island (both -0.2 percent). Wages were flat over the year in Mississippi. The largest increases in real average wages were in Washington (7.8 percent), Virginia (7.4 percent), and Alaska and Montana (both 7.1 percent). Three additional states had increases greater than 6.0 percent: Delaware and Nevada (both 6.6 percent) and Nebraska (6.3 percent).