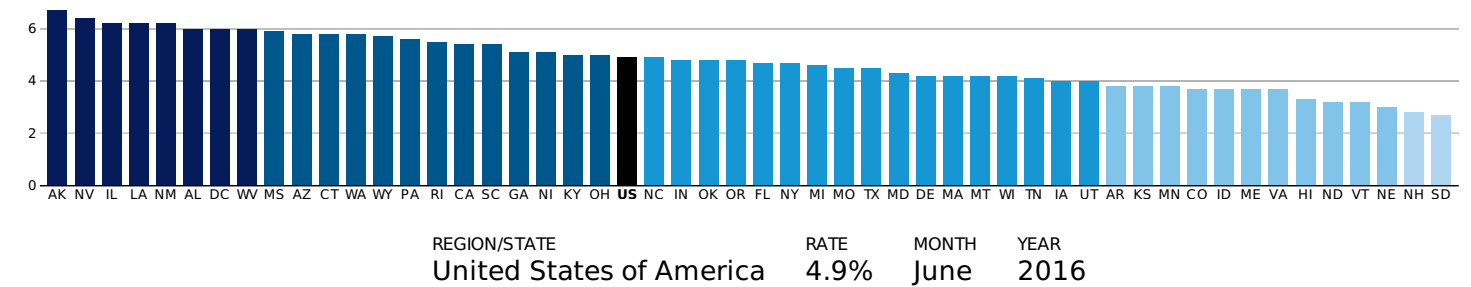


# EMPLOYMENT

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 June 2016.

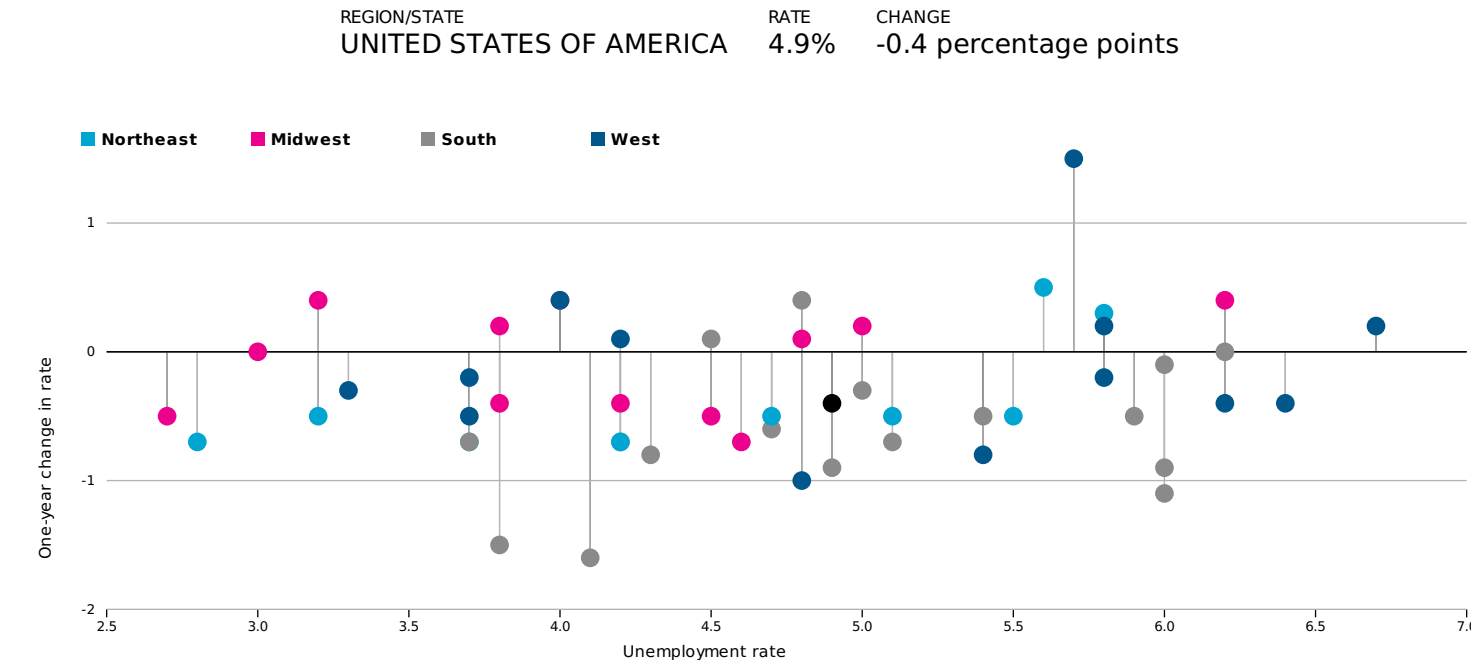


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics . (<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/laus.t03.htm>)

The national unemployment rate was 4.9 percent in June 2016. Alaska’s unemployment rate (6.7 percent) was the highest of any state. Six additional states (Alabama, Illinois, Louisiana, Nevada, New Mexico, and West Virginia) and the District of Columbia (DC) had June unemployment rates of 6.0 percent or higher. South Dakota had the lowest unemployment rate (2.7 percent). The rate was also 3.0 percent or lower in Nebraska (3.0 percent) and New Hampshire (2.8 percent). Ten other states had rates under 4.0 percent: Arkansas, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Maine, Minnesota, North Dakota, 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 June 2015 and June 2016.

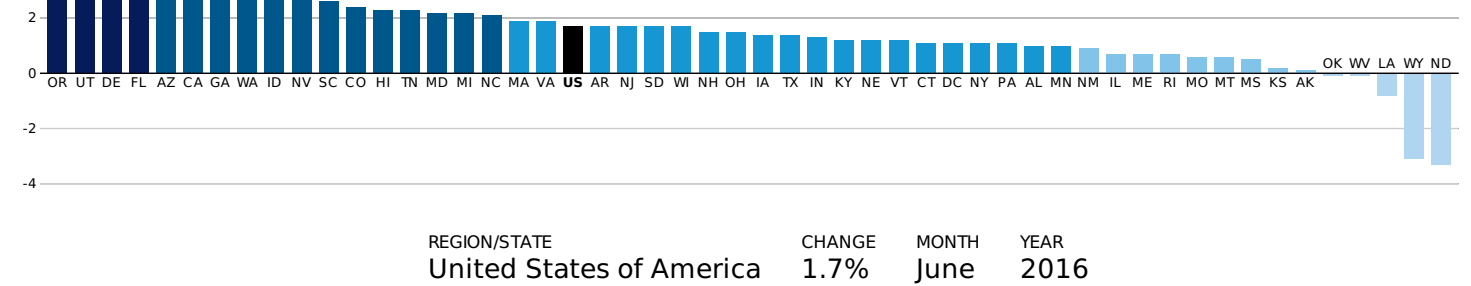


The national unemployment rate fell 0.4 percentage points between June 2015 and June 2016. The rate increased 1.5 percentage points in Wyoming, the greatest increase of any state over the year. The next largest rate increase was in Pennsylvania (0.5 percentage points). The unemployment rate increased over the year in 13 other states: Alaska, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah, and Washington. Among states with an increase, two had a June 2016 unemployment rate above 6.0 percent (Alaska and Illinois), and two had a rate below 4.0 percent (Minnesota and North Dakota). The largest drops in year-over-year unemployment rate were in Tennessee (-1.6 percentage points) and Arkansas (-1.5 percentage points). Two other states (Oregon and West Virginia) saw their unemployment rate drop 1.0 percentage point or more over the year. Of these four states, only West Virginia had a June 2016 unemployment rate above 5.0 percent, but the (<http://apps.urban.org/features/state-economic-monitor/historical.html>)rate has declined every month since peaking last June.

Download Data

## Total Employment (percent change year over year)

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

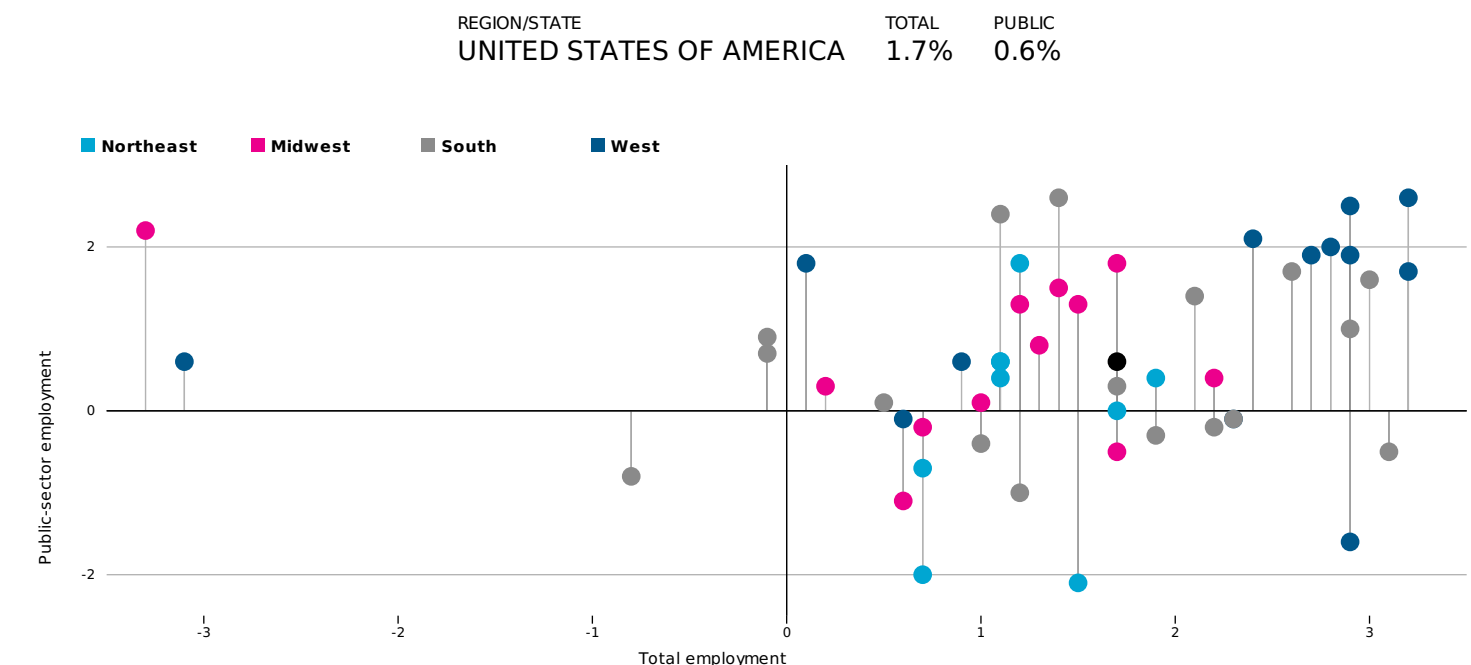


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics . (<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/laus.t05.htm>)

Total national (public and private) nonfarm payroll employment increased 1.7 percent from June 2015 to June 2016. The largest employment drops were in North Dakota (-3.3 percent) and Wyoming (-3.1 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 states, all resource-dependent, also saw employment decline over the past year: Louisiana, Oklahoma, and West Virginia. The largest increases in total employment were in Oregon and Utah (both 3.2 percent). Total employment also grew 3.0 percent or more over the past 12 months in Delaware and Florida.

# Total Employment vs. Public Employment

Total public-sector employment increased 0.6 percent from June 2015 to June 2016, staying well below the 1.7 percent increase in total employment.



Source: Both datasets from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. (<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/laus.t05.htm>)

Total public-sector employment increased 0.6 percent from June 2015 to June 2016. Public employment decreased over the year in 16 states, with the largest decrease in New Hampshire (-2.1 percent), Maine (-2.0 percent), Arizona (-1.6 percent), Missouri (-1.1 percent), and Louisiana (-1.0 percent). All 16 states with a decrease in public employment saw an increase in total employment, with the exception of Louisiana (-0.8 percent). The largest increases in public employment were in Oregon and Texas (both 2.6 percent). Four other states—California, Colorado, Idaho, and North Dakota—and DC saw public employment increase 2.0 percent or more over the year. All states with a public-sector employment increase of 2.0 percent or more also saw increases in total employment of 2.0 percent or more, except for North Dakota (-3.3 percent), Texas (1.4 percent), and DC (1.1 percent).

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 June 2016 highlights only changes that are statistically significant.