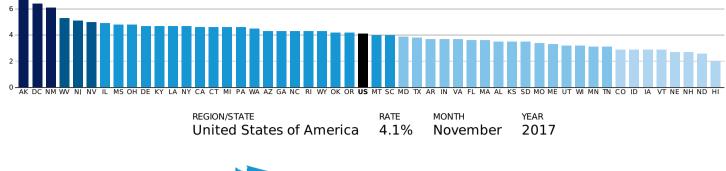
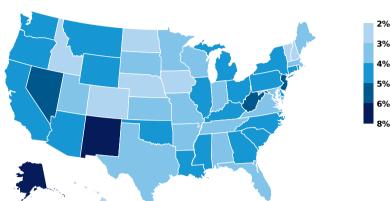
## **EMPLOYMENT**

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

## Unemployment Rate (percent, seasonally adjusted)

The national unemployment rate was 4.1 percent as of November 2017.





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

The national unemployment rate was 4.1 percent in October 2017. Alaska had the highest unemployment rate (7.2 percent) of any state. The unemployment rate was also greater than 6.0 percent in the District of Columbia (6.6 percent) and New Mexico (6.1 percent).

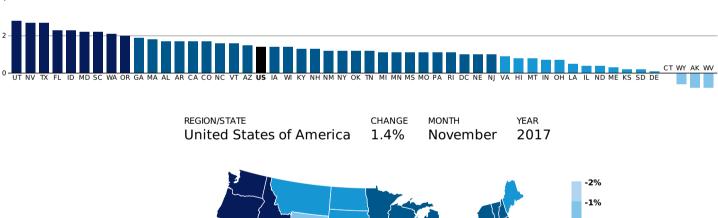
Hawaii had the lowest unemployment rate in October (2.2 percent). Colorado, Idaho, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, and Vermont also had unemployment rates below 3.0 percent. In total, 26 states had October unemployment rates below 4.0 percent.

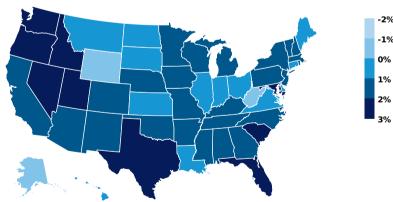
The national unemployment rate was 4.1 percent in November 2017. Alaska\u2019s 7.2 percent unemployment rate was the highest of any state. The November unemployment rate was also greater than 6.0 percent in the District of Columbia (6.4 percent) and New Mexico (6.1 percent).

Hawaii\u2019s 2.0 percent unemployment rate was the lowest in the country. Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, and Vermont also had unemployment rates below 3.0 percent. In total, 26 states had November unemployment rates at or below 4.0 percent.

## Total Employment (percent change year over year)

Total (public and private) nonfarm payroll employment increased 1.4 percent from November 2016 to November 2017.





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

Total national (public and private) nonfarm payroll employment increased 1.4 percent from November 2016 to November 2017. Total employment declined over the year in only three states: Alaska (-0.8 percent), West Virginia (-0.8 percent), and Wyoming (-0.6 percent).

Utah\u2019s 2.8 percent increase in total employment was the largest in the country. The next largest increases were in Texas and Nevada (both 2.7 percent). In total, nine states saw total employment increase 2.0 percent or more, and another 25 and the District of Columbia saw it increase at least 1.0 percent.

Total public-sector employment increased 0.2 percent from November 2016 to November 2017. Public employment declined over the past year in 23 states and the District of Columbia. The largest decline was in West Virginia (-6.0 percent), where public employment often fluctuates with election years (\"http://apps.urban.org/features/state-economic-monitor/historical.html\"). The next largest decline in public employment was in Hawaii (-3.4 percent). Connecticut, Louisiana, New Mexico, Ohio, and Wyoming also saw government employment fall more than 1.0 percent.

Public employment increased the most in Nevada (3.5 percent), Idaho, (2.7 percent), and Utah (2.0 percent). In total, 14 states saw public employment increase 1.0 percent or more.