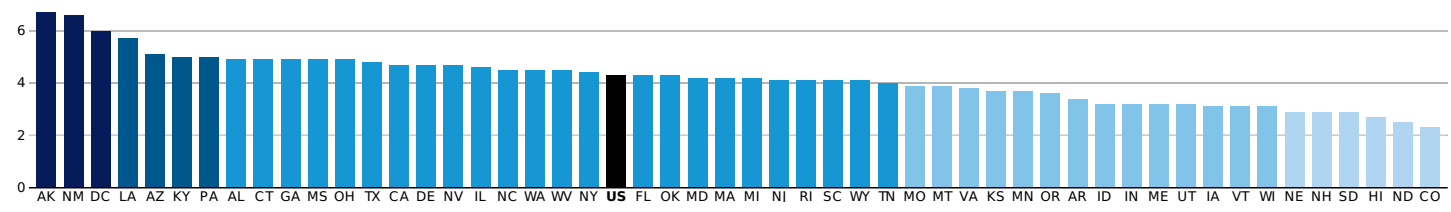
EMPLOYMENT

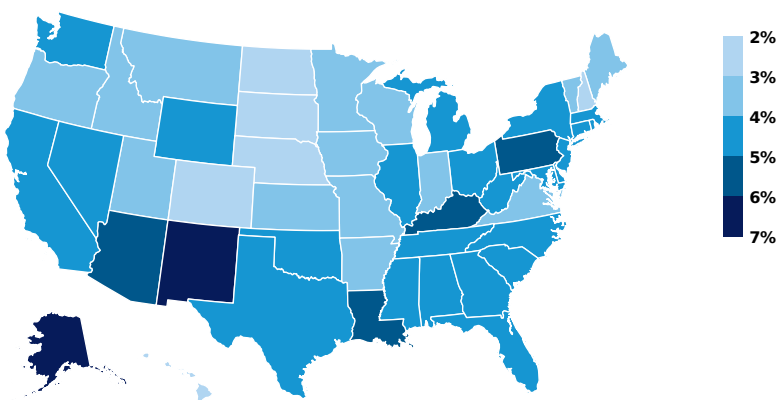
Breaking down state data on unemployment rates, total (nonfarm) payroll employment, and government employment.

Unemployment Rate (percent, seasonally adjusted)

The national unemployment rate was 4.3 percent as of May 2017.



REGION/STATE	RATE	MONTH	YEAR
United States of America	4.3%	May	2017



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

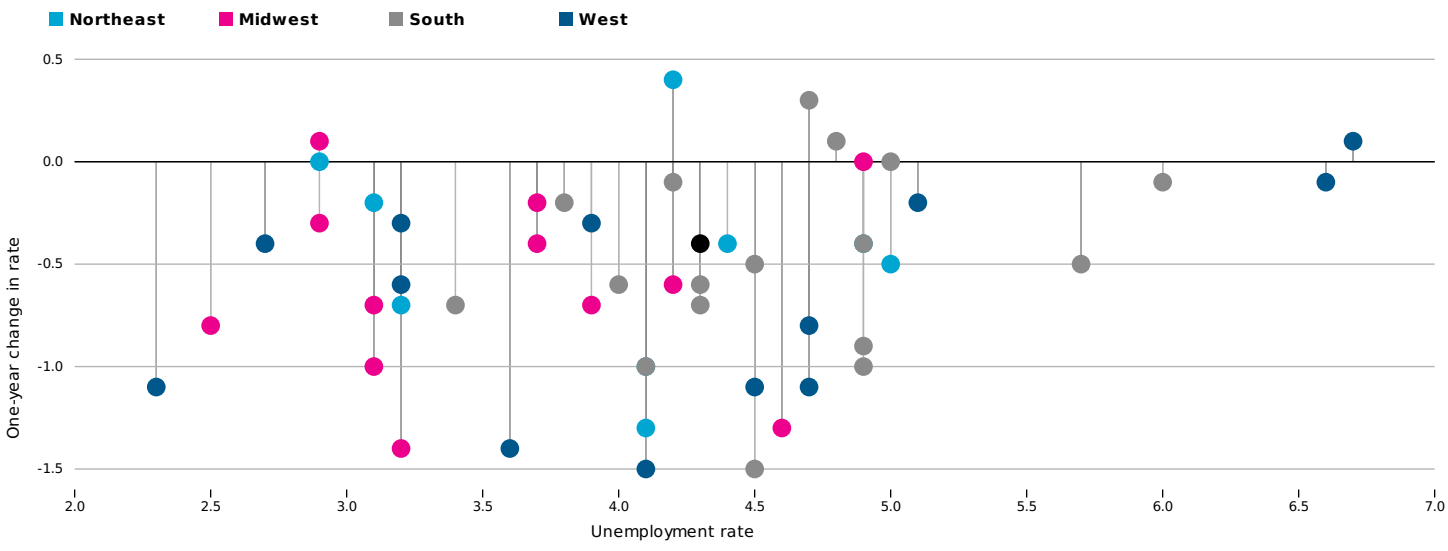
The national unemployment rate was 4.3 percent in May 2017. Alaska had the highest unemployment rate (6.7 percent) of any state. The next highest unemployment rates were in New Mexico (6.6 percent), the District of Columbia (DC, 6.0 percent), Louisiana (5.7 percent), and Arizona (5.1 percent). All other states had rates at or below 5.0 percent.

Colorado had the lowest unemployment rate in May (2.3 percent). In addition to Colorado, five states had May unemployment rates below 3.0 percent: Hawaii, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, and South Dakota. In total, 20 states had May rates below 4.0 percent.

Unemployment Rate: Level vs. One-Year Change

The national unemployment rate decreased 0.4 percentage points to a value of 4.3 percent between May 2016 and May 2017.

REGION/STATE	RATE	CHANGE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	4.3%	-0.4 percentage points



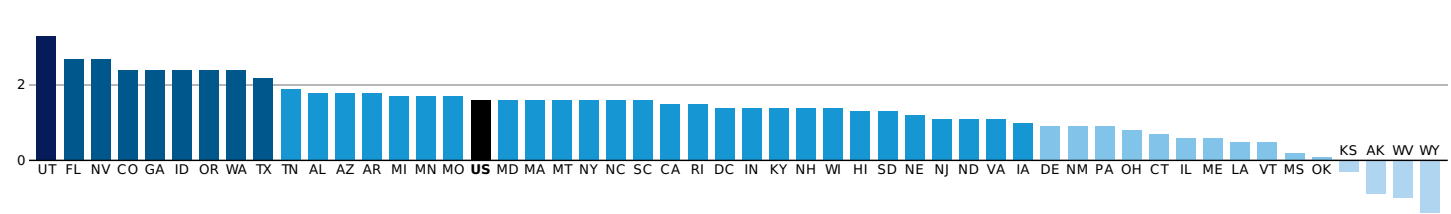
Source: Both datasets from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. (http://www.bls.gov/news.release/laus.t03.htm)

The national unemployment rate fell 0.4 percentage points between May 2016 and May 2017. Massachusetts' 0.4 percentage-point increase in unemployment was the largest of any state. The unemployment rate also increased over the year in Alaska, Delaware, South Dakota, and Texas.

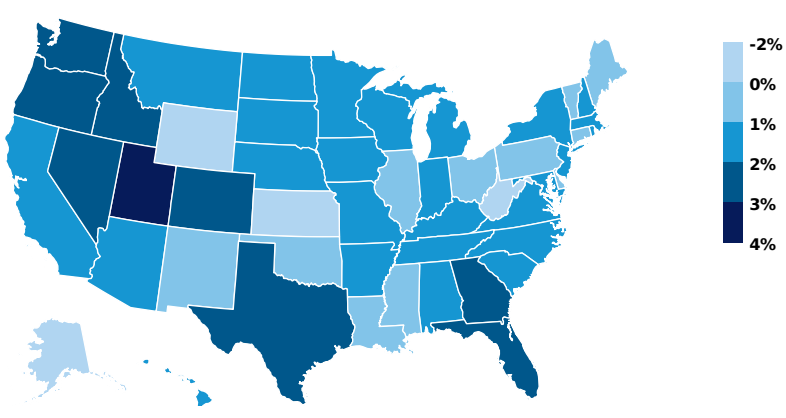
The unemployment rate dropped the most in West Virginia and Wyoming (both -1.5 percentage points). Seven other states saw unemployment rates fall more than 1.0 percentage point: Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Nevada, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Washington.

Total Employment (percent change year over year)

Total (public and private) nonfarm payroll employment increased 1.6 percent from May 2016 to May 2017.



REGION/STATE	CHANGE	MONTH	YEAR
United States of America	1.6%	May	2017



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

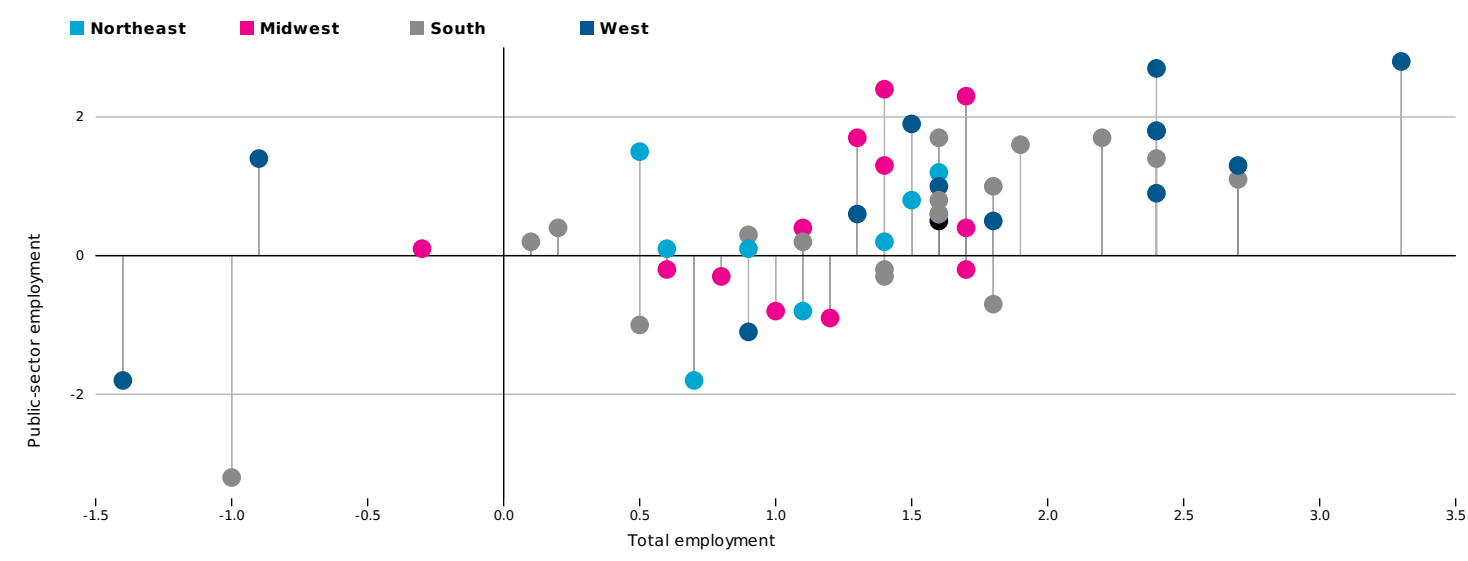
Total national (public and private) nonfarm payroll employment increased 1.6 percent from May 2016 to May 2017. Total employment declined over the year in only four states: Alaska, Kansas, West Virginia, and Wyoming. Wyoming's 1.4 percent decline was the largest of any state.

The largest increase in total employment was in Utah (3.3 percent), where employment grew across all sectors of the economy. Florida and Nevada had the next-largest increases in total employment; both states had a 2.7 percent increase. Six additional states saw employment increase 2.0 percent or more: Colorado, Georgia, Idaho, Oregon, Texas, and Washington.

Total Employment vs. Public Employment

Total public-sector employment increased 0.5 percent from May 2016 to May 2017, staying well below the 1.6 percent increase in total employment.

REGION/STATE	TOTAL	PUBLIC
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	1.6%	0.5%



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

Total public-sector employment increased 0.5 percent from May 2016 to May 2017. Despite the national increase, 13 states and DC saw public employment fall over the past year. The largest decline in government jobs was in West Virginia (-3.2 percent). West Virginia's (http://apps.urban.org/features/state-economic-monitor/historical.html) May public employment total swings up and down with election years (i.e., there was a primary election in May 2016 but not this year). Public employment also declined 1.0 percent or more in

Connecticut, Louisiana, New Mexico, and Wyoming.

As with total employment, public employment increased the most in Utah (2.8 percent). Idaho, Michigan, and Wisconsin also saw public employment increase 2.0 percent or more. Only two states, Alaska and Kansas, had public employment increase over the year and total employment decrease (though Kansas's public employment increased just 0.1 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 Labo Statistics's press release, because that release as of May 2017 highlights only changes that are statistically significant.