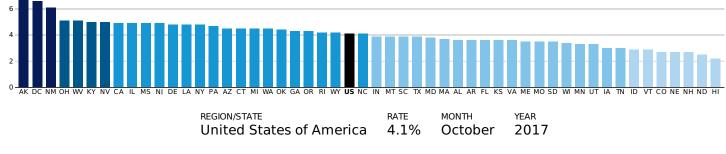
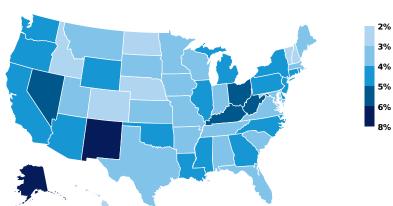
## **EMPLOYMENT**

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 October 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).

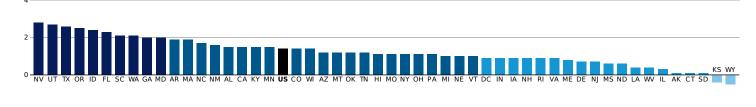
Hawaii had the lowest unemployment rate in October (2.2 percent). Colorado, Idaho, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, and Vermont also had unemployment rates below 3.0 percent. In total, 26 states had October unemployment rates below 4.0 percent.

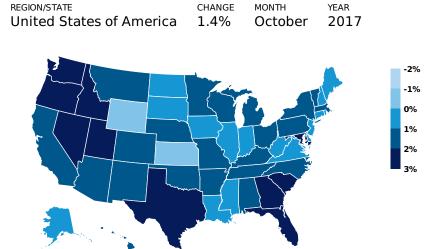
The national unemployment rate fell 0.7 percentage points between October 2016 and October 2017. The District of Columbia's 0.8 percentage-point increase in unemployment was the largest in the country. The next largest increases were in Alaska and South Dakota (0.6 percentage points in both states) and Massachusetts and Delaware (0.5 percentage points in both states). In total, eight states and the District of Columbia saw unemployment rise over the year.

The unemployment rate fell the most in Alabama (-2.5 percentage points). The unemployment rate also fell 1.0 percentage points or more in Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, and Tennessee.

## Total Employment (percent change year over year)

Total (public and private) nonfarm payroll employment increased 1.4 percent from October 2016 to October 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 October 2016 to October 2017. Total employment declined over the year in only Wyoming (-0.5 percent) and Kansas (-0.4 percent).

Nevada's 2.8 percent increase in total employment was the largest in the country. The next largest increases were in Utah (2.7 percent), Texas (2.6 percent), and Oregon (2.5 percent). In total, 10 states saw total employment increase 2.0 percent or more.

Total public-sector employment increased 0.2 percent from October 2016 to October 2017. Public employment declined over the past year in 19 states and the District of Columbia. The largest decline in government jobs was in Wyoming (-1.8 percent). Public employment also declined more than 1.0 percent in Connecticut, Hawaii, Illinois, and Louisiana.

Public employment increased the most in Idaho (2.6 percent) and Washington (2.4 percent). Michigan and Nevada also saw public employment increase more than 2.0 percent.