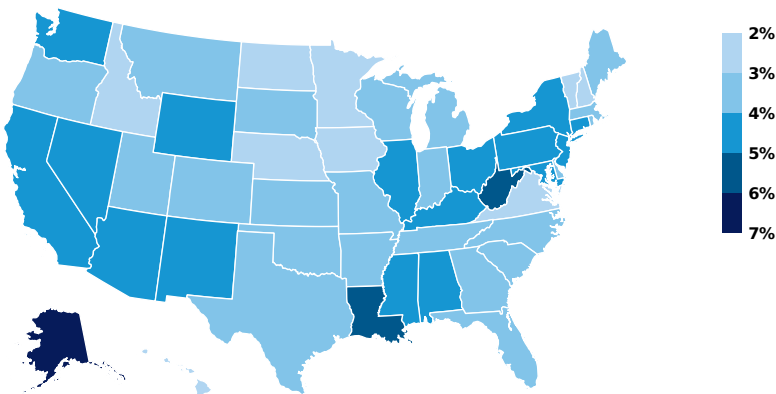
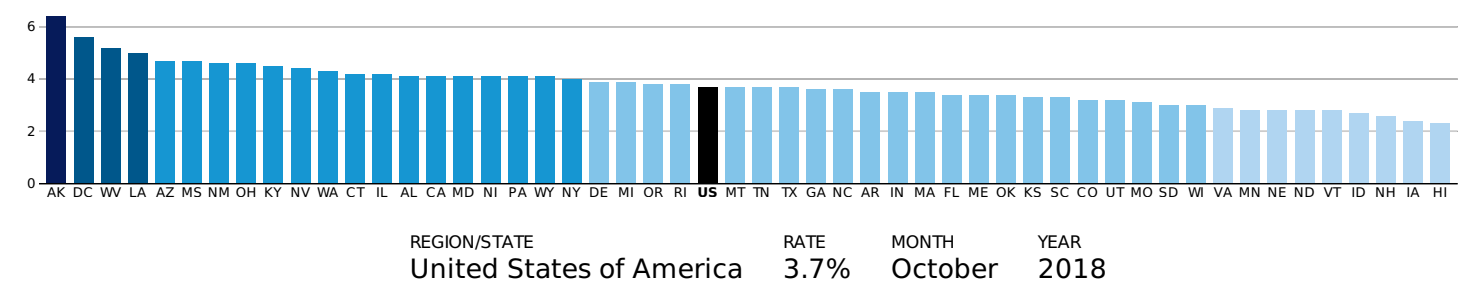


# EMPLOYMENT

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

## Unemployment Rate (percent, seasonally adjusted)

The national unemployment rate was 3.7 percent as of October 2018.



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

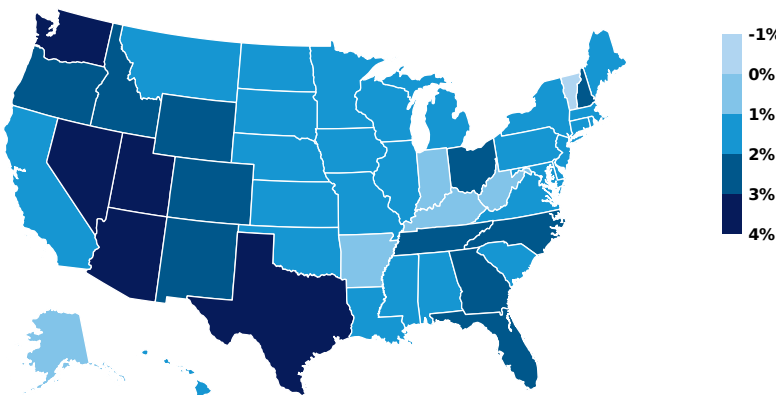
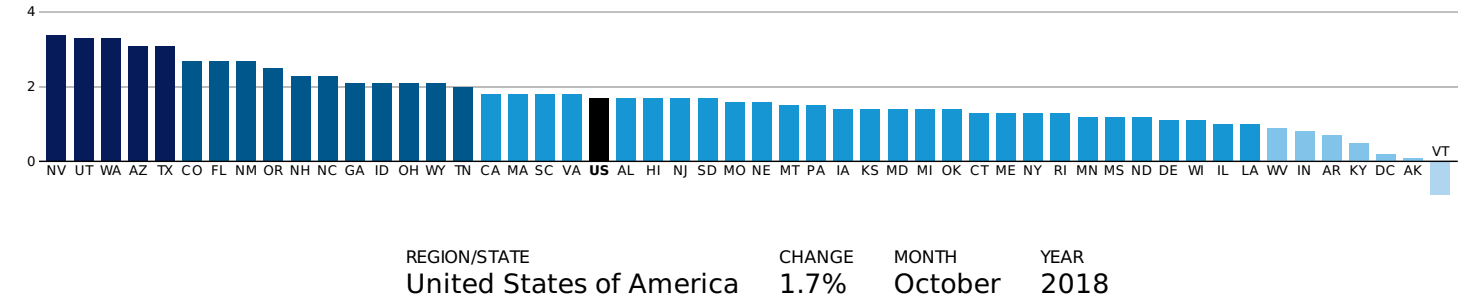
The national unemployment rate was 3.7 percent in October 2018. Hawaii’s 2.3 percent unemployment rate was the lowest of any state. October unemployment rates were also at or below 3.0 percent in 10 other states: Idaho, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont, Virginia, and Wisconsin. In total, October unemployment rates were at or below 4.0 percent in 32 states. Alaska’s 6.4 percent unemployment rate was the highest of any state. The next highest unemployment rates were in the District of Columbia (5.6 percent), West Virginia (5.2 percent), and Louisiana (5.0 percent).

The national unemployment rate fell 0.4 percentage points between October 2017 and October 2018. The unemployment rate fell the most over the year in New Mexico (-1.4 percentage points), followed by Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina (each -0.9 percentage points). The unemployment rate also fell more than 0.5 percentage points over the year in 10 other states: Alaska, Delaware, Illinois, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Virginia.

The unemployment rate increased the most over the year in Tennessee (0.4 percentage points). The unemployment rate also increased over the year in seven other states: Alabama, Colorado, Hawaii, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, and North Dakota.

## Total Employment (percent change year over year)

Total (public and private) nonfarm payroll employment increased 1.7 percent from October 2017 to October 2018.



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 October 2017 to October 2018. Among the states, the largest year-over-year increases were in Nevada (3.4 percent), Utah and Washington (both 3.3 percent), and Arizona and Texas (both 3.1 percent). Total employment increased 2.0 percent or more in 11 additional states.

Total employment declined over the year in only one state: Vermont (-0.9 percent).

Total national public-sector employment increased 0.3 percent from October 2017 to October 2018. Among the states, the largest year-over-year increases were in Utah (2.4 percent), Nebraska (2.3 percent), and Colorado (2.2 percent). Total public employment increased 1.0 percent or more in eight additional states.

Public employment declined over the year in 13 states and the District of Columbia. The largest declines were in Oregon (-4.0 percent), Virginia (-2.6 percent), North Dakota (-1.9 percent), and Connecticut (-1.5 percent).

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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 October 2018 highlights only changes that are statistically significant.