**Earnings**

*Tracking monthly state data on average weekly earnings for all private-sector employees.*

Weekly earnings for all United States private-sector employees averaged $923 in February 2018. Among the 50 states, average weekly earnings ranged from $698 in Mississippi to $1,116 in Washington.

As is typical, average weekly earnings in the District of Columbia were higher than in any state, at $1,468. After the District of Columbia and Washington, the highest average weekly earnings were in Massachusetts ($1,099), Connecticut ($1,059), California ($1,045), Maryland ($1,035), and New York ($1,020).

Thirty-seven states had weekly earnings below the national average. After Mississippi, average earnings were lowest in New Mexico ($722), Arkansas ($733), South Dakota ($737), Kentucky ($760), and Idaho ($761). Average weekly earnings in Georgia ($922) were closest to the national average.

--INTERACTIVE MAP—

National real (inflation-adjusted) average weekly earnings in February 2018 were 0.7 percent higher than in February 2017. Average weekly earnings in nominal dollars were 2.9 percent higher compared with one year earlier.

The largest increases in real average weekly earnings were in Rhode Island (7.0 percent), Maryland (6.3 percent), Wyoming (5.0 percent), Wisconsin (4.6 percent), and Georgia (4.0 percent). Twelve additional states also saw real earnings rise 2.0 percent or more.

Real average earnings declined in 12 states. The largest drops were in Mississippi (-3.2 percent), New Hampshire (-2.8 percent), and South Dakota (-2.2 percent). Kentucky, Minnesota, and Oregon also saw real earnings fall 2.0 percent or more. Average nominal earnings declined in three states.

--INTERACTIVE MAP—