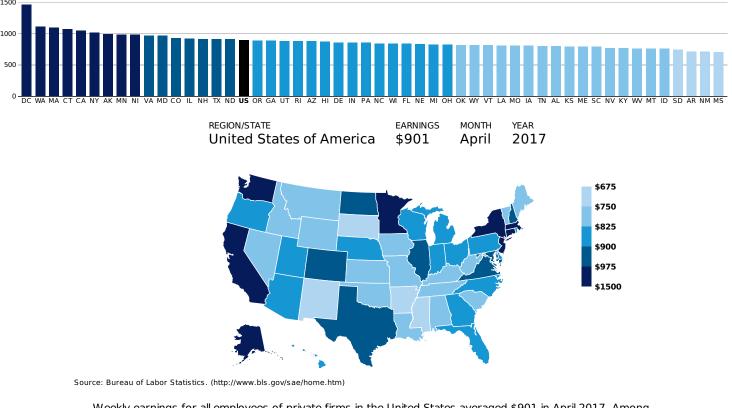
## EARNINGS

Tracking monthly state data on average weekly earnings for all US private employees.

## Average Weekly Earnings, Private Employment (dollars)

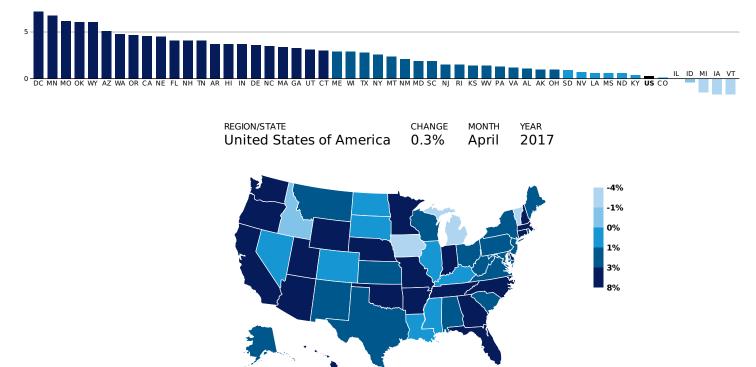
National real weekly earnings (i.e., earnings adjusted for inflation) for all US private employees averaged \$901 in April 2017.



Weekly earnings for all employees of private firms in the United States averaged \$901 in April 2017. Among the 50 states, average weekly earnings ranged from \$704 in Mississippi to \$1,114 in Washington. As is typical, average weekly earnings in the District of Columbia (DC) were higher than in all states, at \$1,460. After DC and Washington, the highest average weekly earnings were in Massachusetts (\$1094), Connecticut (\$1,073), California (\$1,047), and New York (\$1,016).

Thirty-five states had average weekly earnings below the national average. Other than Mississippi, average earnings were lowest in New Mexico (\$715), Arkansas (\$718), South Dakota (\$749), Idaho, and Montana (both \$758). Average weekly earnings were closest to the national average in North Dakota (\$910) and Oregon (\$893).

Changes in Real Average Weekly Earnings, Private Employment (percent change year over year) National real (inflation adjusted) average weekly earnings increased 0.3 percent from April 2016 to April 2017.



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics. (http://www.bls.gov/sae/home.htm)

National real (inflation-adjusted) average weekly earnings in April 2017 were 0.3 percent higher than in April 2016. This follows three previous consecutive months (http://apps.urban.org/features/state-economic-monitor/historical.html) of no, or negative, real year-over-year weekly earnings growth.

Overall, four states saw real average earnings decline, although none saw a decline in nominal earnings. The drops were largest in Iowa and Vermont (both -1.7 percent) followed by Michigan (-1.5 percent) and Idaho (-0.4 percent). The largest increase in real average weekly wages was in DC (7.2 percent). Real earnings also increased 5 percent or more in five states: Arizona, Minnesota, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Wyoming.