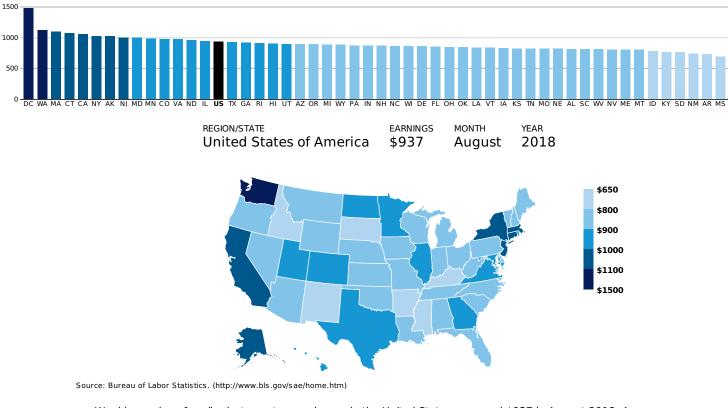
Tracking monthly state data on average weekly earnings for all US private employees.

## Average Weekly Earnings, Private Employment (dollars)

National weekly earnings for all US private employees averaged \$937 in August 2018.

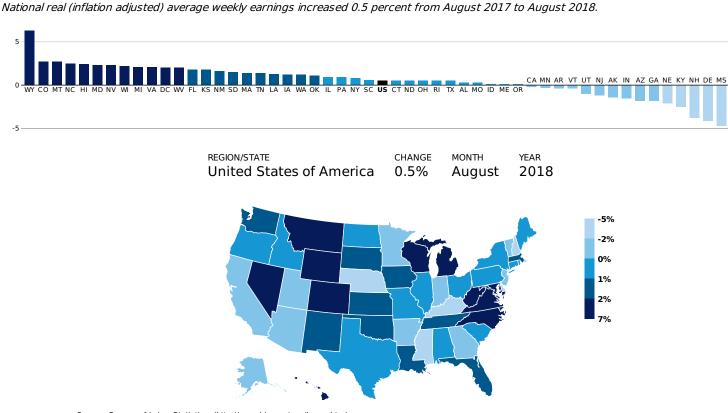


Weekly earnings for all private-sector employees in the United States averaged \$937 in August 2018. Among the 50 states, average weekly earnings ranged from \$697 in Mississippi to \$1,124 in Washington. Average weekly earnings were closest to the national average in Texas (\$931).

As is typical, average weekly earnings were higher in the District of Columbia than in any state, at \$1,485. After the District of Columbia and Washington, the highest average weekly earnings were in Massachusetts (\$1,100), Connecticut (\$1,075), California (\$1,060), New York (\$1,031), and Alaska (\$1,026).

Weekly earnings were below the national average in 37 states. After Mississippi, average weekly earnings were lowest in Arkansas (\$734), New Mexico (\$745), South Dakota (\$763), Kentucky (\$768), and Idaho (\$779).

Changes in Real Average Weekly Earnings, Private Employment (percent change year over year)



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

National real (inflation-adjusted) average weekly earnings increased 0.5 percent between August 2017 and August 2018. In nominal dollars, average weekly earnings for the US were 3.2 percent higher than in August 2017.

The largest increases in real average weekly earnings were in Wyoming (6.3 percent), Colorado (2.7 percent), Montana (2.7 percent), North Carolina (2.5 percent), and Hawaii (2.4 percent). Real average weekly earnings also increased more than 2.0 percent in Maryland, Michigan, Nevada, Virginia, and Wisconsin.

Real average weekly earnings declined in 15 states. The largest declines were in Mississippi (-4.7 percent), Delaware (-4.1 percent), New Hampshire (-3.8 percent), Kentucky (-2.5 percent), and Nebraska (-2.1 percent). Real average weekly earnings also decreased more than 1.0 percent in Alaska, Arizona, Georgia,

Indiana, and New Jersey.