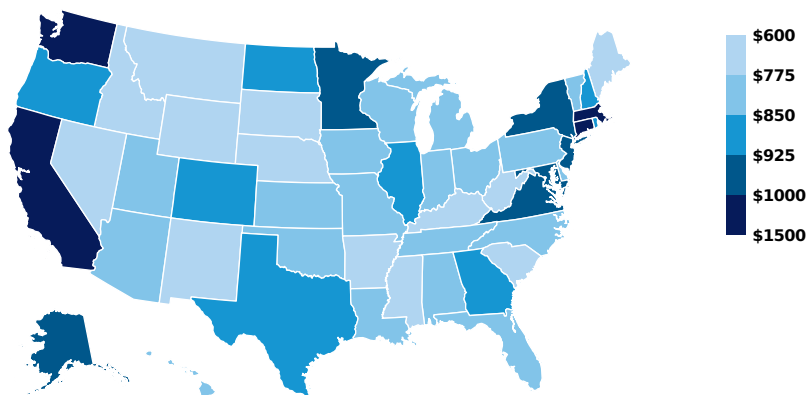
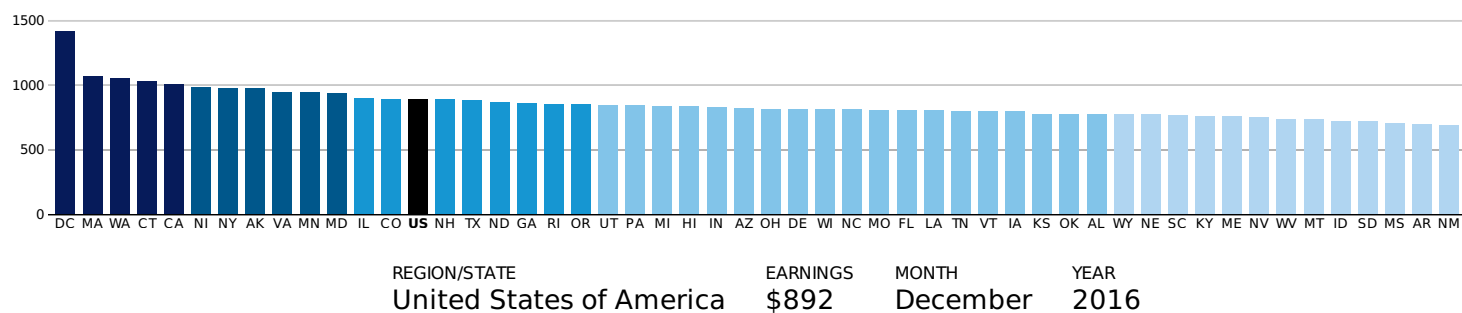


# EARNINGS

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 \$892 in December 2016.

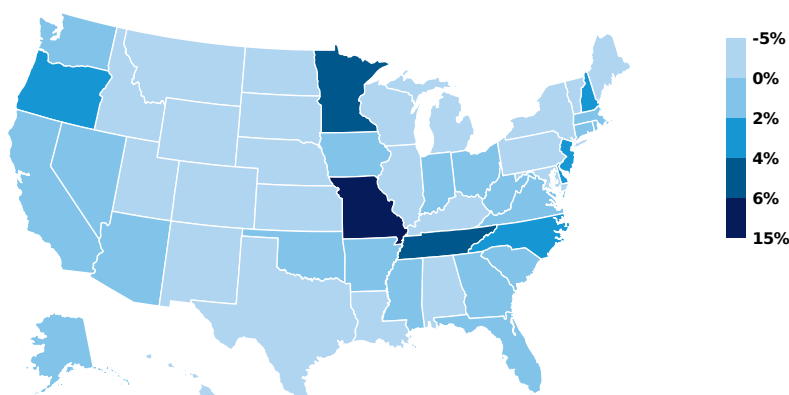
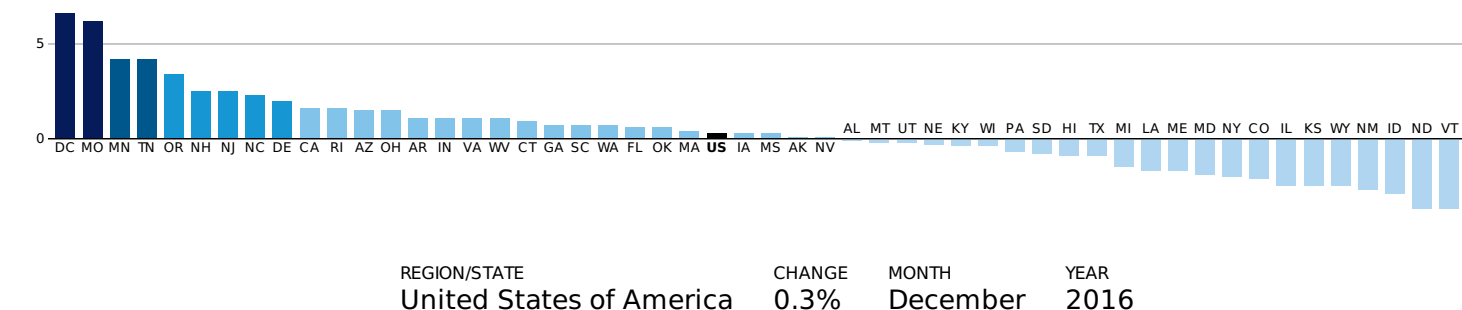


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics. (<http://www.bls.gov/sae/home.htm>)

National weekly earnings for all US private employees averaged \$892 in December 2016. Among the 50 states, average weekly earnings ranged from \$689 in New Mexico to \$1,070 in Massachusetts. As is typical, average weekly earnings in the District of Columbia (DC) were higher than in all states, at \$1,415. Thirty-eight states had average weekly earnings below the national average. Other than New Mexico, average earnings were lowest in Arkansas (\$697), Mississippi (\$706), South Dakota, Idaho (both \$726), and Montana (\$736). Average weekly earnings were closest to the national average in New Hampshire (\$890). After DC and Massachusetts, the highest average weekly earnings were in Washington (\$1,055), Connecticut (\$1,031), California (\$1,006), and New Jersey (\$986).

## 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 December 2015 to December 2016.



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

National real (inflation-adjusted) average weekly earnings in December 2016 were 0.3 percent higher than in December 2015. Despite the national increase, however, 23 states saw real average wages decline over the year, and Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, and Wyoming have reported annual declines two months in a row. The largest declines from a year ago were in North Dakota and Vermont (both -3.7 percent). Real average weekly earnings also fell 2.0 percent or more in Idaho (-2.9 percent), New Mexico (-2.7 percent), Illinois, Kansas, Wyoming (all -2.5 percent), Colorado (-2.1 percent), and New York (-2.0 percent). The largest increases in average weekly wages among states were in Missouri (6.2 percent), Tennessee, and Minnesota (both 4.2 percent). DC saw average weekly earnings rise 6.7 percent, more than any state. Five additional states (Delaware, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, and Oregon) had real average weekly wages increase 2.0 percent or more.