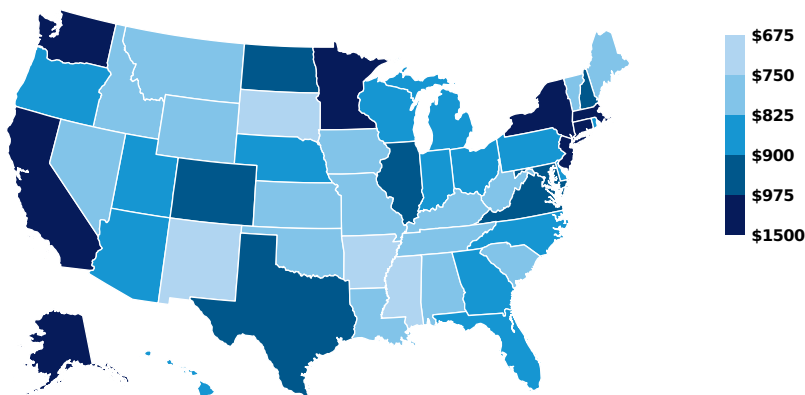
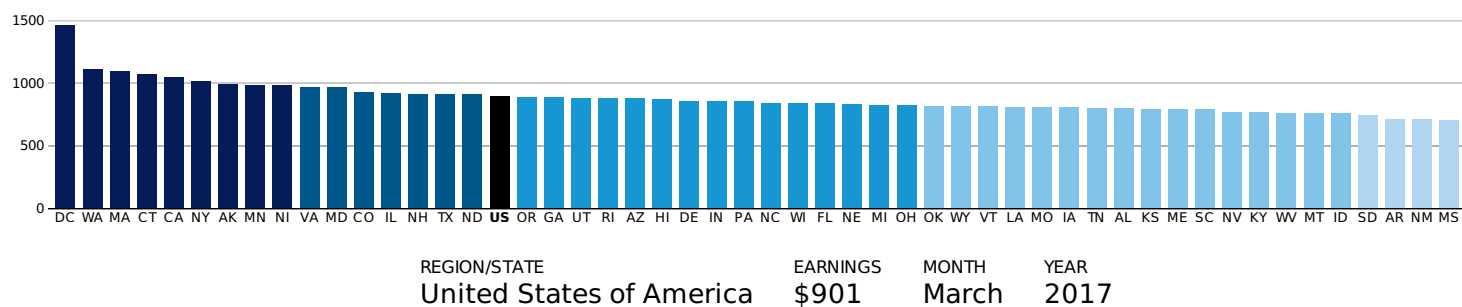


EARNINGS

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 March 2017.



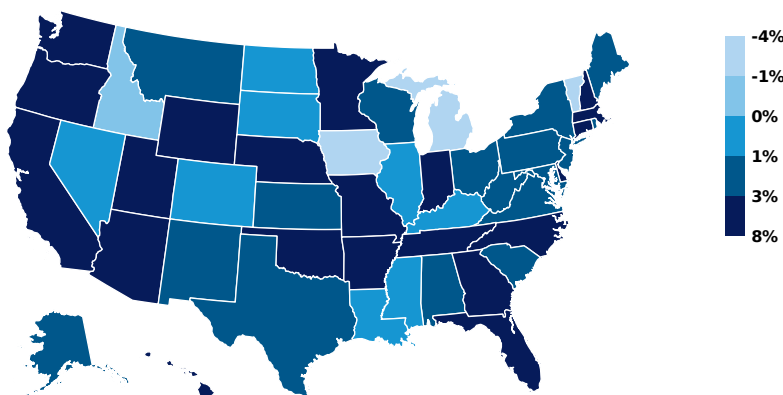
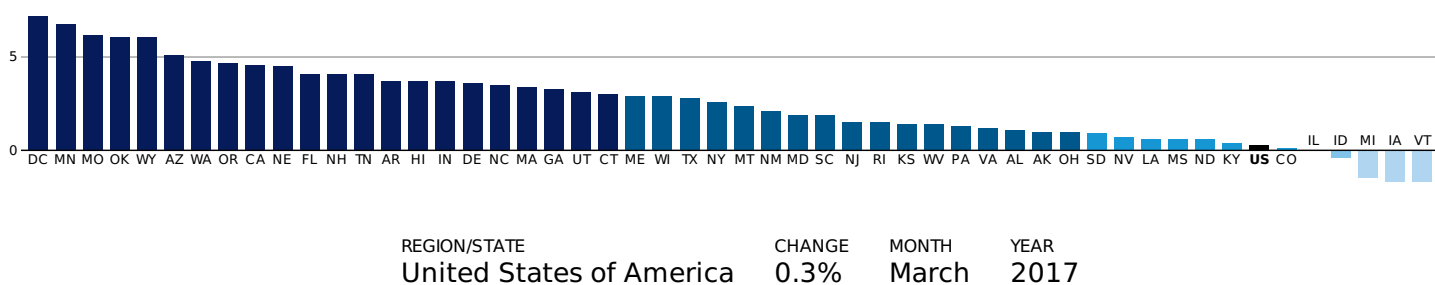
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics. (<http://www.bls.gov/sae/home.htm>)

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 (\$1,094), 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 March 2016 to March 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.