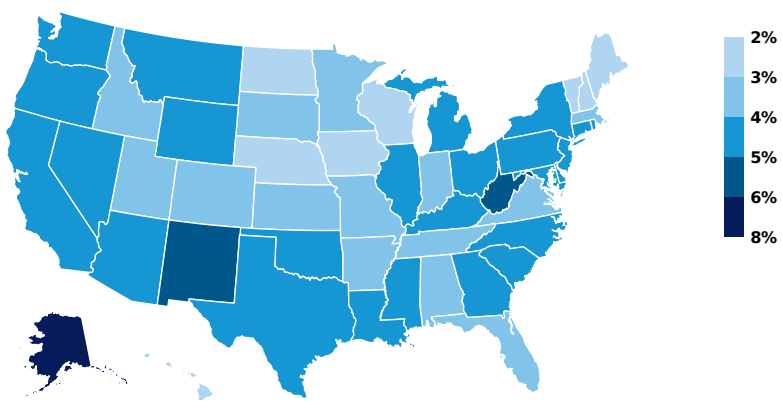
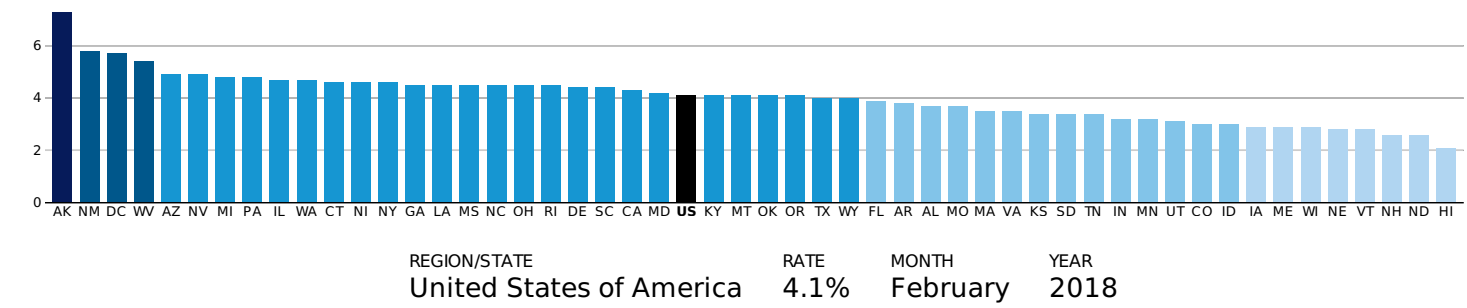


# EMPLOYMENT

Breaking down state data on unemployment rates, total (nonfarm) payroll employment, and government employment.

## Unemployment Rate (percent, seasonally adjusted)

The national unemployment rate was 4.1 percent as of February 2018.



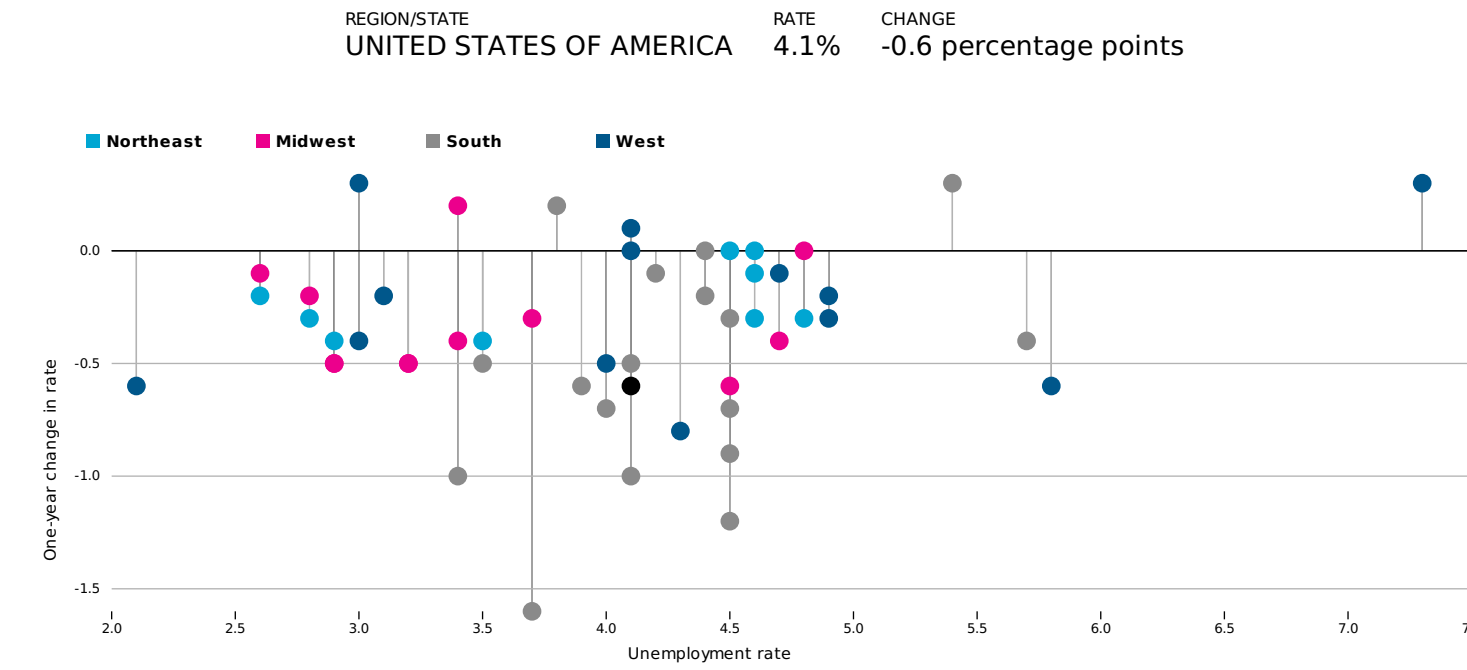
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics. (<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/laus.t03.htm>)

The national unemployment rate was 4.1 percent in February 2018. Alaska's 7.3 percent rate was the highest of any state. The February unemployment rate was also greater than 5.0 percent in New Mexico (5.8 percent), the District of Columbia (5.7 percent), and West Virginia (5.4 percent).

Hawaii's 2.1 percent unemployment rate was the lowest of any state. Seven other states also had February unemployment rates below 3.0 percent: Iowa, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Vermont, and Wisconsin. In total, 24 states had February unemployment rates at or below 4.0 percent.

## Unemployment Rate: Level vs. One-Year Change

The national unemployment rate decreased 0.6 percentage points to a value of 4.1 percent between February 2017 and February 2018.



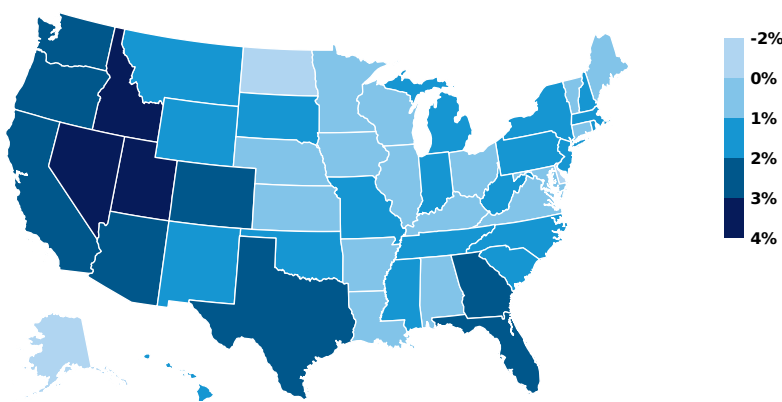
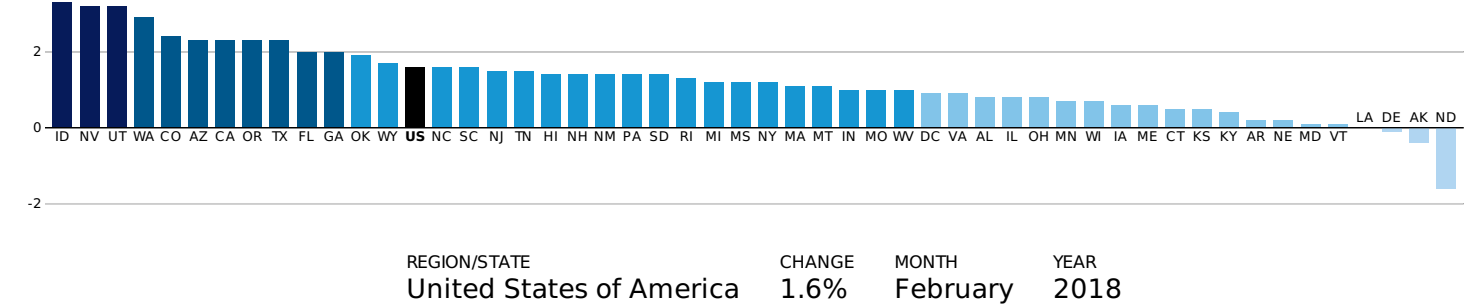
Source: Both datasets from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. (<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/laus.t03.htm>)

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## Total Employment (percent change year over year)

Total (public and private) nonfarm payroll employment increased 1.6 percent from February 2017 to February 2018.



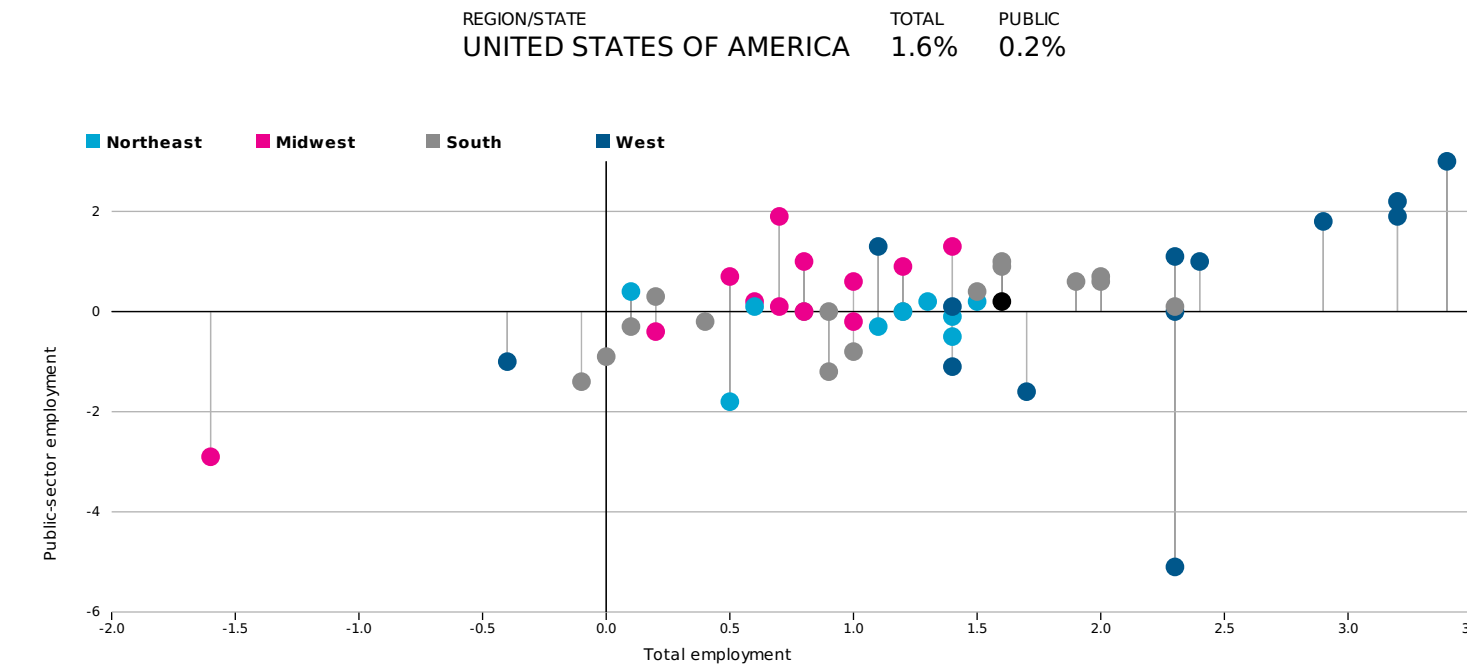
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics. (<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/laus.t05.htm>)

Total national (public and private) nonfarm payroll employment increased 1.6 percent from February 2017 to February 2018. Idaho's 3.4 percent increase was the largest of any state. The next largest increases were in Nevada and Utah (both 3.2 percent). In total, 11 states saw total employment increase 2.0 percent or more.

Total employment declined over the year in only three states: North Dakota (-1.6 percent), Alaska (-0.4 percent), and Delaware (-0.1 percent).

## Total Employment vs. Public Employment

Total public-sector employment increased 0.2 percent from February 2017 to February 2018, staying well below the 1.6 percent increase in total employment.



Source: Both datasets from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. (<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/laus.t05.htm>)

Total public-sector employment increased 0.2 percent from February 2017 to February 2018. Public employment increased the most in Idaho (3.0 percent) and Nevada (2.3 percent). In total, 11 states saw public employment increase 1.0 percent or more.

Public employment declined over the past year in 16 states and the District of Columbia. The largest decline

was in Oregon (-5.1 percent). The next largest declines were in North Dakota (-2.9 percent), Connecticut (-1.8 percent), and Wyoming (-1.6 percent). Three additional states and the District of Columbia also saw public employment decline at least 1.0 percent.

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Note: The unemployment rate is from a US Bureau of Labor Statistics survey based on place of residence. The employment data are from a US Bureau of Labor Statistics survey based on place of work. All data are seasonally adjusted. This page is not comparable to the Bureau of Labor Statistics's press release, because that release as of February 2018 highlights only changes that are statistically significant.