

# State Data Release 4/15/2026

Nonfarm Payroll

Labor Statistics  
Adjusted

Labor Statistics Not  
Adjusted

State Summary

Monthly Snapshot

Frequently Asked  
Questions

## West Virginia Labor Force Estimates and Nonfarm Payroll Employment by Industry (In Thousands - Seasonally Adjusted)

	Estimates			Change From	
	2026		2025	2026	2025
	February	January	February	January	February
Civilian Labor Force	782.1	782.6	781.6	-0.5	0.5
Total Employment	745.5	746.4	751.5	-0.9	-6.0
Total Unemployment	36.6	36.3	30.1	0.3	6.5
Unemployment Rate	4.7	4.6	3.8	xx	xx
Labor Force Participation Rate	54.5	54.5	54.5	xx	xx
<b>TOTAL NONFARM PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>715.4</b>	<b>716.9</b>	<b>718.1</b>	<b>-1.5</b>	<b>-2.7</b>
<b>PRIVATE SECTOR</b>	<b>570.1</b>	<b>571.2</b>	<b>569.0</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>1.1</b>
<b>GOODS-PRODUCING</b>	<b>102.0</b>	<b>102.9</b>	<b>100.5</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>1.5</b>
Mining & Logging	20.4	20.4	20.8	0.0	-0.4
Construction	36.7	37.6	34.1	-0.9	2.6
Manufacturing	44.9	44.9	45.6	0.0	-0.7
Durable Goods	27.2	27.0	27.3	0.2	-0.1
Nondurable Goods	17.7	17.9	18.3	-0.2	-0.6
<b>SERVICE-PROVIDING</b>	<b>613.4</b>	<b>614.0</b>	<b>617.6</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-4.2</b>
Private Service-Providing	468.1	468.3	468.5	-0.2	-0.4
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	120.4	120.8	121.9	-0.4	-1.5
Wholesale Trade	19.4	19.5	19.5	-0.1	-0.1
Retail Trade	77.0	77.2	77.6	-0.2	-0.6
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	24.0	24.1	24.8	-0.1	-0.8
Information	7.5	7.5	7.7	0.0	-0.2
Financial Activities	26.4	26.1	26.0	0.3	0.4
Finance & Insurance	19.3	19.1	19.0	0.2	0.3
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	7.1	7.0	7.0	0.1	0.1
Professional & Business Services	72.2	72.6	71.9	-0.4	0.3
Professional, Scientific & Technical Service	31.7	31.6	31.3	0.1	0.4
Administrative & Support & Waste Management & Remediation	33.5	33.9	33.2	-0.4	0.3
Educational & Health Services	147.2	146.4	144.7	0.8	2.5
Educational Services	7.6	7.6	7.0	0.0	0.6
Health Care & Social Assistance	139.6	138.8	137.7	0.8	1.9
Leisure & Hospitality	70.7	71.1	72.0	-0.4	-1.3
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	8.6	8.6	8.8	0.0	-0.2
Accommodation & Food Service	62.1	62.5	63.2	-0.4	-1.1
Other Services	23.7	23.8	24.3	-0.1	-0.6
<b>Government</b>	<b>145.3</b>	<b>145.7</b>	<b>149.1</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-3.8</b>
Federal Government	24.0	24.1	26.5	-0.1	-2.5
State Government	46.5	46.6	46.4	-0.1	0.1

Monthly estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. Benchmark March 2025.

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## West Virginia Labor Force Statistics, Seasonally Adjusted

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ann. AVG.
2026 Civilian Labor Force	782.7	782.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Employment	746.4	745.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Unemployment	36.3	36.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Unemployment Rate	4.6	4.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Labor Force Participation ...	54.5	54.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2025 Civilian Labor Force	782.5	***	***	780.3	***	***	***	***	***	*	***	***	0.0
Total Employment	752.5	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	*	***	***	0.0
Total Unemployment	30.0	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	*	***	***	0.0
Unemployment Rate	3.8	3.8	***	3.8	***	3.7	***	3.7	***	3.8	***	4.0	***
Labor Force Participation ...	54.6	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	*	***	54.6	54.6
2024 Civilian Labor Force	792.5	792.5	792.5	792.3	792.0	791.4	790.4	789.2	787.9	786.4	784.9	783.6	786.9
Total Employment	759.4	759.5	759.7	759.7	759.6	759.2	758.4	757.4	756.4	755.3	754.3	753.4	754.8
Total Unemployment	33.1	32.9	32.8	32.6	32.4	32.2	32.0	31.8	31.5	31.0	30.5	30.2	32.0
Unemployment Rate	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.9	4.1
Labor Force Participation ...	55.3	55.3	55.3	55.3	55.3	55.2	55.2	55.1	55.0	54.9	54.7	54.6	54.8
2023 Civilian Labor Force	783.7	784.9	786.0	787.0	788.0	789.0	789.9	790.6	791.3	791.8	792.2	792.4	786.6
Total Employment	755.7	756.8	757.5	758.1	758.4	758.6	758.9	759.2	759.3	759.4	759.3	759.3	756.3
Total Unemployment	28.1	28.1	28.4	28.9	29.6	30.3	31.0	31.5	31.9	32.4	32.9	33.1	30.3
Unemployment Rate	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.2	3.9
Labor Force Participation ...	54.8	54.8	54.9	55.0	55.1	55.1	55.2	55.2	55.3	55.3	55.3	55.3	54.9
2022 Civilian Labor Force	779.9	781.6	782.7	782.9	782.5	781.6	780.8	780.3	780.2	780.5	781.4	782.5	779.8
Total Employment	748.3	750.3	751.4	751.7	751.4	750.8	750.1	749.9	750.2	751.1	752.6	754.2	749.5
Total Unemployment	31.5	31.3	31.2	31.2	31.1	30.9	30.6	30.4	30.0	29.4	28.8	28.3	30.3
Unemployment Rate	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.9
Labor Force Participation ...	54.3	54.5	54.6	54.6	54.6	54.6	54.5	54.5	54.5	54.5	54.6	54.7	54.4
2021 Civilian Labor Force	773.6	772.8	772.8	773.3	773.9	774.4	774.2	774.1	774.1	774.9	776.2	777.8	773.1
Total Employment	724.2	725.4	727.2	729.4	731.8	733.8	735.5	737.2	739.0	741.2	743.5	746.0	733.3
Total Unemployment	49.4	47.4	45.6	43.9	42.1	40.6	38.7	36.9	35.1	33.7	32.6	31.9	39.7
Unemployment Rate	6.4	6.1	5.9	5.7	5.4	5.2	5.0	4.8	4.5	4.3	4.2	4.1	5.1
Labor Force Participation ...	53.7	53.7	53.7	53.7	53.7	53.8	53.8	53.8	53.8	53.9	54.0	54.1	53.7
2020 Civilian Labor Force	795.0	793.2	790.5	760.8	773.5	769.9	772.9	771.4	773.6	772.3	772.1	772.1	776.6
Total Employment	753.3	751.0	748.2	640.5	676.9	688.7	699.6	708.0	714.5	718.5	721.0	722.5	712.1
Total Unemployment	41.7	42.2	42.3	120.3	96.6	81.2	73.3	63.4	59.1	53.8	51.1	49.6	64.5
Unemployment Rate	5.2	5.3	5.3	15.8	12.5	10.6	9.5	8.2	7.6	7.0	6.6	6.4	8.3
Labor Force Participation ...	55.0	54.9	54.8	52.7	53.6	53.4	53.6	53.5	53.7	53.6	53.6	53.6	53.9
2019 Civilian Labor Force	791.0	790.0	789.2	789.0	789.6	790.8	792.2	793.5	794.5	795.3	795.8	795.8	792.0
Total Employment	751.4	751.0	750.8	751.2	752.1	753.0	753.8	754.3	754.9	755.3	755.4	754.8	752.9
Total Unemployment	39.6	39.0	38.3	37.8	37.5	37.7	38.3	39.1	39.7	40.0	40.4	41.0	39.2
Unemployment Rate	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.1	4.9
Labor Force Participation ...	54.5	54.5	54.5	54.5	54.5	54.6	54.8	54.9	54.9	55.0	55.1	55.1	54.7
2018 Civilian Labor Force	786.2	787.5	789.3	791.0	792.1	792.6	792.6	792.4	792.3	792.2	792.1	791.8	791.0
Total Employment	744.1	745.4	747.3	749.3	750.9	752.0	752.6	752.8	752.8	752.6	752.3	751.9	750.4
Total Unemployment	42.2	42.2	42.0	41.7	41.2	40.6	40.0	39.6	39.5	39.6	39.9	39.9	40.6
Unemployment Rate	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.1
Labor Force Participation ...	53.9	54.1	54.2	54.4	54.5	54.5	54.5	54.5	54.5	54.6	54.6	54.6	54.4
2017 Civilian Labor Force	781.2	780.8	780.6	780.9	781.6	782.7	783.9	784.9	785.5	785.7	785.7	785.7	783.4
Total Employment	738.9	739.9	740.7	741.4	742.3	743.1	743.8	744.2	744.3	744.1	743.8	743.6	742.6
Total Unemployment	42.3	40.9	39.9	39.4	39.4	39.6	40.1	40.7	41.2	41.6	41.9	42.1	40.8
Unemployment Rate	5.4	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.4	5.2
Labor Force Participation ...	53.2	53.2	53.3	53.3	53.4	53.5	53.6	53.7	53.8	53.8	53.8	53.9	53.5
2016 Civilian Labor Force	789.1	789.1	788.5	787.2	785.8	784.6	783.7	783.2	782.8	782.5	782.1	781.7	785.1
Total Employment	739.2	739.3	739.0	738.3	737.4	736.5	735.9	735.6	735.7	736.1	736.9	737.9	737.4
Total Unemployment	49.9	49.8	49.5	48.9	48.5	48.1	47.9	47.5	47.1	46.3	45.2	43.8	47.7
Unemployment Rate	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.6	6.1
Labor Force Participation ...	53.5	53.5	53.5	53.4	53.3	53.3	53.2	53.2	53.2	53.2	53.2	53.2	53.3

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## West Virginia Labor Force Statistics, Not Seasonally Adjusted

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ann. AVG.
2026	Civilian Labor Force	767.5	775.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Total Employment	729.8	733.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Total Unemployment	37.8	42.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Unemployment Rate	4.9	5.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Labor Force Participation ...	53.5	54.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2025	Civilian Labor Force	775.3	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	*	***	***	0.0
	Total Employment	740.9	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	*	***	***	0.0
	Total Unemployment	34.4	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	*	***	***	0.0
	Unemployment Rate	4.4	4.2	4.0	3.5	3.4	4.1	4.0	4.3	4.1	*	4.5	4.4	0.0
	Labor Force Participation ...	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	54.8	***	*	54.4	54.1	0.0
2024	Civilian Labor Force	784.4	789.2	787.5	790.8	793.0	803.2	799.9	792.7	791.5	788.5	779.0	775.6	786.9
	Total Employment	747.2	749.5	750.9	761.1	763.6	768.8	765.3	758.9	763.4	762.2	752.0	748.7	754.8
	Total Unemployment	37.2	39.7	36.6	29.7	29.4	34.5	34.6	33.9	28.1	26.3	27.0	26.9	32.0
	Unemployment Rate	4.7	5.0	4.6	3.8	3.7	4.3	4.3	4.3	3.5	3.3	3.5	3.5	4.1
	Labor Force Participation ...	54.8	55.1	55.0	55.2	55.4	56.1	55.8	55.3	55.2	55.0	54.3	54.1	54.8
2023	Civilian Labor Force	775.5	780.4	780.9	786.8	788.2	801.0	797.0	796.0	794.8	793.4	788.4	783.1	786.6
	Total Employment	743.4	747.7	749.1	758.7	759.6	768.8	766.4	761.6	765.9	765.1	760.4	753.2	756.3
	Total Unemployment	32.2	32.7	31.8	28.1	28.6	32.2	30.6	34.4	28.9	28.3	28.0	30.0	30.3
	Unemployment Rate	4.1	4.2	4.1	3.6	3.6	4.0	3.8	4.3	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.8	3.9
	Labor Force Participation ...	54.2	54.5	54.6	55.0	55.1	56.0	55.7	55.6	55.5	55.4	55.1	54.7	54.9
2022	Civilian Labor Force	774.0	778.6	776.7	779.9	784.4	793.9	788.4	784.8	781.5	783.2	777.8	775.1	779.8
	Total Employment	736.4	740.6	742.5	750.1	756.0	760.2	756.6	752.0	756.6	758.2	752.0	750.1	749.5
	Total Unemployment	37.6	38.1	34.2	29.9	28.5	33.7	31.8	32.9	25.0	25.0	25.8	25.0	30.3
	Unemployment Rate	4.9	4.9	4.4	3.8	3.6	4.2	4.0	4.2	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.9
	Labor Force Participation ...	53.9	54.3	54.2	54.4	54.8	55.4	55.1	54.8	54.6	54.7	54.3	54.1	54.4
2021	Civilian Labor Force	763.8	768.4	766.0	772.9	772.1	786.1	785.3	778.5	776.6	776.2	771.8	769.4	773.1
	Total Employment	709.0	714.8	717.0	729.1	733.5	742.7	745.1	740.3	745.5	747.6	743.8	741.9	733.3
	Total Unemployment	54.8	53.6	48.9	43.8	38.6	43.4	40.3	38.3	31.1	28.6	28.0	27.5	39.7
	Unemployment Rate	7.2	7.0	6.4	5.7	5.0	5.5	5.1	4.9	4.0	3.7	3.6	3.6	5.1
	Labor Force Participation ...	53.0	53.3	53.2	53.7	53.6	54.6	54.5	54.1	54.0	54.0	53.7	53.6	53.7
2020	Civilian Labor Force	788.5	792.3	784.3	756.3	773.1	781.0	779.2	776.6	776.9	778.3	768.0	765.0	776.6
	Total Employment	743.2	746.1	731.6	638.1	674.5	702.2	703.8	714.4	720.5	730.9	722.6	717.7	712.1
	Total Unemployment	45.3	46.2	52.8	118.2	98.6	78.7	75.5	62.2	56.4	47.4	45.4	47.3	64.5
	Unemployment Rate	5.7	5.8	6.7	15.6	12.8	10.1	9.7	8.0	7.3	6.1	5.9	6.2	8.3
	Labor Force Participation ...	54.6	54.9	54.4	52.4	53.6	54.2	54.1	53.9	53.9	54.0	53.3	53.1	53.9
2019	Civilian Labor Force	784.7	787.1	781.3	783.8	788.4	803.8	802.0	796.9	797.1	799.3	790.9	789.1	792.0
	Total Employment	737.6	740.5	738.5	748.3	753.1	763.5	762.4	758.0	763.2	763.8	754.5	751.1	752.9
	Total Unemployment	47.1	46.6	42.9	35.5	35.3	40.4	39.5	38.9	33.9	35.6	36.4	38.0	39.2
	Unemployment Rate	6.0	5.9	5.5	4.5	4.5	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.3	4.5	4.6	4.8	4.9
	Labor Force Participation ...	54.1	54.3	53.9	54.1	54.5	55.5	55.4	55.1	55.1	55.3	54.7	54.6	54.7
2018	Civilian Labor Force	776.9	785.6	781.9	787.7	792.5	806.2	803.1	792.4	794.1	797.0	788.2	786.7	791.0
	Total Employment	730.2	735.6	734.5	746.1	754.8	762.8	761.9	753.8	760.0	762.5	754.1	749.0	750.4
	Total Unemployment	46.7	50.0	47.4	41.6	37.7	43.4	41.2	38.6	34.1	34.5	34.1	37.7	40.6
	Unemployment Rate	6.0	6.4	6.1	5.3	4.8	5.4	5.1	4.9	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.8	5.1
	Labor Force Participation ...	53.3	53.9	53.7	54.1	54.5	55.5	55.3	54.5	54.7	54.9	54.3	54.2	54.4
2017	Civilian Labor Force	774.2	777.5	774.3	779.5	779.1	794.7	792.2	788.5	791.5	787.7	782.1	779.1	783.4
	Total Employment	725.4	729.2	730.2	740.6	743.5	753.0	751.1	746.2	755.8	752.6	743.8	739.3	742.6
	Total Unemployment	48.8	48.3	44.2	38.9	35.6	41.6	41.1	42.3	35.7	35.1	38.3	39.8	40.8
	Unemployment Rate	6.3	6.2	5.7	5.0	4.6	5.2	5.2	5.4	4.5	4.5	4.9	5.1	5.2
	Labor Force Participation ...	52.8	53.0	52.8	53.2	53.2	54.3	54.2	53.9	54.2	53.9	53.6	53.4	53.5
2016	Civilian Labor Force	782.2	786.2	782.1	784.5	787.4	796.8	790.8	785.7	785.8	786.7	778.8	774.0	785.1
	Total Employment	726.6	728.8	727.9	736.1	742.0	746.6	743.1	737.9	742.1	744.5	739.5	733.3	737.4
	Total Unemployment	55.6	57.4	54.2	48.3	45.4	50.2	47.7	47.8	43.6	42.2	39.2	40.7	47.7
	Unemployment Rate	7.1	7.3	6.9	6.2	5.8	6.3	6.0	6.1	5.6	5.4	5.0	5.3	6.1
	Labor Force Participation ...	53.0	53.3	53.0	53.2	53.4	54.1	53.7	53.4	53.4	53.5	53.0	52.7	53.3
2015	Civilian Labor Force	788.3	790.0	786.3	792.9	797.5	806.6	801.4	793.6	789.0	790.2	784.2	783.2	791.9

Not Seasonally Adjusted - Benchmark March 2025

# State Data Release 4/15/2026

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Monthly Snapshot

Frequently Asked  
Questions



Scott A. Adkins, Acting Commissioner

FOR RELEASE: April 15, 2026  
Contact: Andy Malinoski  
[Andy.E.Malinoski@wv.gov](mailto:Andy.E.Malinoski@wv.gov)  
304-553-9305

## State Unemployment Rate Ticked Up to 4.7 Percent in February 2026

West Virginia's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.7 percent in February 2026, an increase of one-tenth of one percentage point from January. The total number of employed state residents decreased by 900 over the month – declining to 745,500 – while the number of unemployed state residents increased by 300 to 36,600. Nationally, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ticked up by one-tenth of one percentage point as well to 4.4 percent in February.

Total nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 1,500 from January to February as the goods-producing sector shed 900 jobs and the service-providing sector slid by 600. The goods-producing sector saw a dip in construction as the industry scaled back by 900; manufacturing along with mining and logging were both unchanged over the month.

The service-providing sector saw equal losses in trade, transportation, and utilities; professional and business services; leisure and hospitality; and total government; each of the four industries decreased by 400 jobs over the month. Other services also saw a decrease, dipping by 100 jobs. Private education and health services added 800 jobs in February for the largest gain, while financial activities added 300 jobs and information went unchanged.

Over the year, total nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 2,700 jobs. The largest over the year loss came in total government (-3,800) with the lions share in federal government employment. Declines were also seen in trade, transportation, and utilities (-1,500), Leisure and hospitality (-1,300) manufacturing (-700), other services (-600), mining and logging (-400), and in information (-200). The bulk of job gains came in construction and in private education and health services; the two industries added 2,600 jobs and 2,500 jobs, respectively since February 2025. Financial activities (+400) and professional and business services (+300), each saw gains as well.

West Virginia's seasonally adjusted labor force participation rate held steady at 54.5 percent in February.

The state's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased by five-tenths of one percentage point to 5.4 percent.

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Research, Information and Analysis, 1900 Kanawha Blvd. East Building 3  
Suite 300, Charleston, WV 25305 Telephone (304) 558-2660 ~ Fax (304) 558-1343

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# State Data Release 4/15/2026

Nonfarm Payroll

Labor Statistics Adjusted

Labor Statistics Not Adjusted

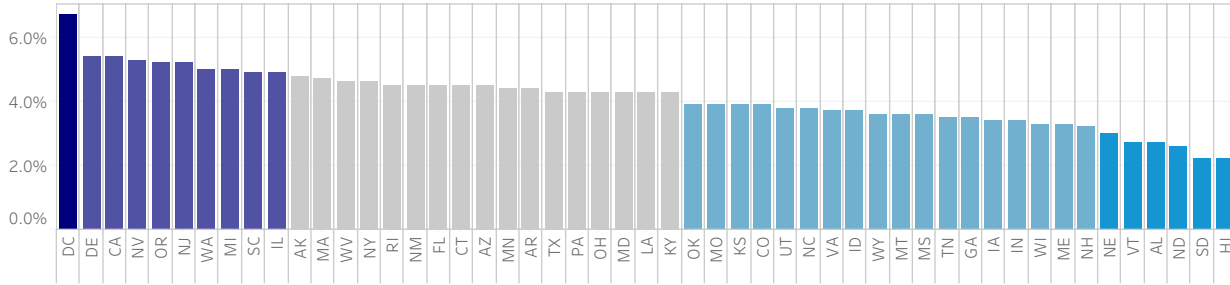
State Summary

Monthly Snapshot

Frequently Asked Questions

## State Unemployment Rates (percent, seasonally adjusted)

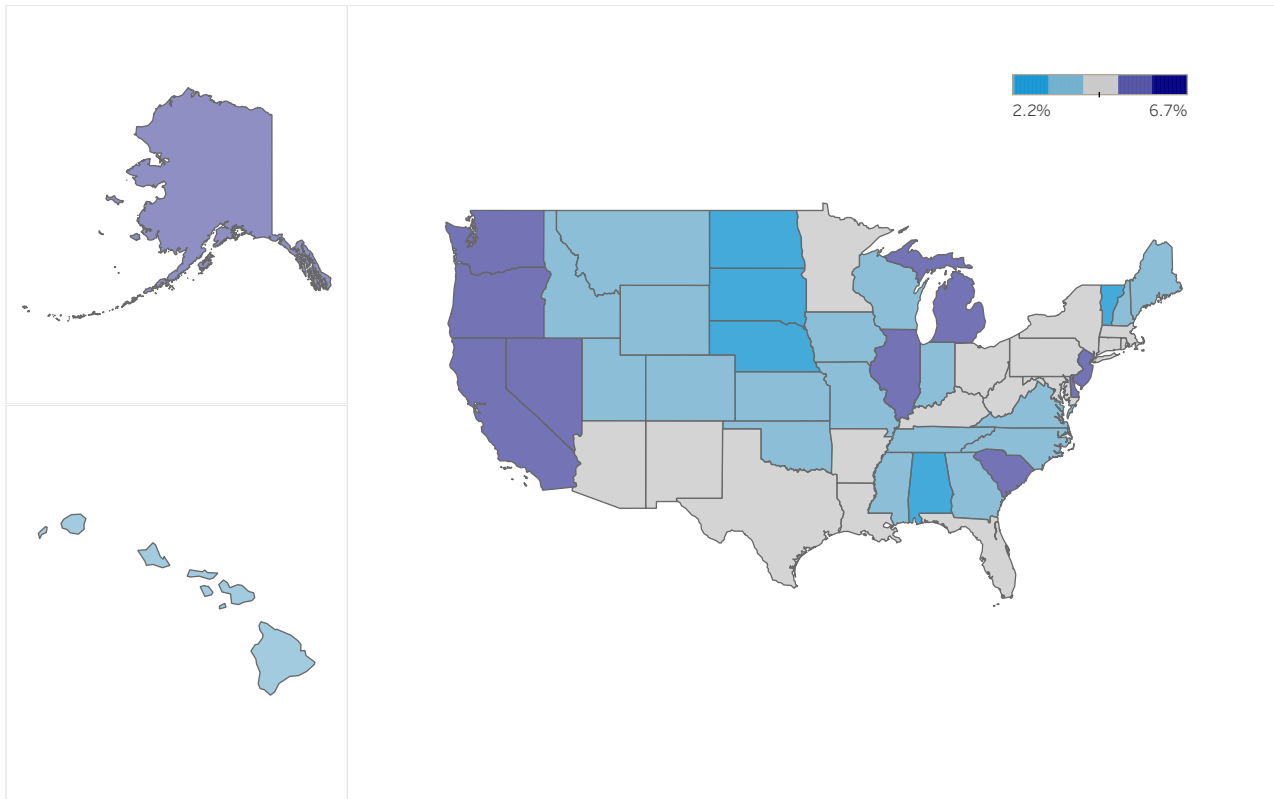
The national unemployment rate was 4.4 percent as of February 2026



MONTH  
February

YEAR  
2026

UNITED STATES  
4.4%



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Frequently Asked  
Questions

### FAQs: Helpful links to answer questions about labor force data

Employment Situation Frequently Asked Questions: <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/empfit.faq.htm>

Payroll Survey - Methods and Measurement Issues: <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/empfit.faq.htm>

Household Survey - Methods and Measurement Issues: <http://www.bls.gov/bls/empfitquickguide.htm#household>

Employment from the BLS Household and Payroll Surveys: Summary of Recent Trends: <http://www.bls.gov/bls/empfitquickguide.htm#household>

Current Employment Statistics - Frequently Asked Questions: <http://www.bls.gov/ces/#faq>

State and Metro Area Employment, Hours and Earnings: <http://www.bls.gov/sae/#faq>

Employment Situation Summary: <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/empfit.nr0.htm>