

## Right To Work States Benefit From Faster Growth, Higher Real Purchasing Power – Winter 2019 Update

Percentage Growth in the Number of People Employed (2007-2017)	Right To Work States	<b>8.8%</b>
	Forced-Unionism States	4.2%
<small>Source: Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Household Survey</small>		
Growth in Manufacturing, Private-Sector Payroll Employment (2012-2017)	Right To Work States	<b>5.5%</b>
	Forced-Unionism States	1.7%
<small>BLS Establishment Survey</small>		
Percentage Growth in Total Private Sector, Non-Farm Employment (2007-2017)	Right To Work States	<b>13.0%</b>
	Forced-Unionism States	10.1%
<small>Dept. of Commerce (DOC), Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)</small>		
Cost of Living-Adjusted Per Capita Disposable Personal Income (2017)	Right To Work States	<b>\$43,765</b>
	Forced-Unionism States	\$42,043
<small>Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC); BEA</small>		
Growth in Number of Residents Aged 35-54 (2007-2017)	Right To Work States	<b>1.6%</b>
	Forced-Unionism States	<b>-7.4%</b>
<small>DOC Bureau Of the Census (BOC)</small>		
Cost of Living-Adjusted, After-Tax Mean Income Per Household (2017)	Right To Work States	<b>\$57,416</b>
	Forced-Unionism States	\$52,922
<small>BOC; MERIC; Tax Foundation</small>		
Aggregate “Tax Freedom Day”* (2018)	Right To Work States	<b>April 13</b>
	Forced-Unionism States	April 26
<small>Tax Foundation; BEA</small>		

Welfare (TANF) Recipients Per 1000 Residents (CY 2017)	Right To Work States	<b>4.1</b>
	Forced-Unionism States	11.4
U.S. Admin. for Children and Families; BOC		

Unfunded Liabilities Per Capita of Public Pension Plans (2017)	Right To Work States	<b>\$14,095</b>
	Forced-Unionism States	\$23,354
American Legislative Exchange Council		

Percentage Real Growth in Household Consumption (2007-2017)	Right To Work States	<b>21.2%</b>
	Forced-Unionism States	17.2%
BEA		

New Privately-Owned Single-Unit Housing Authorizations Per Thousand Residents (2017)	Right To Work States	<b>3.5</b>
	Forced-Unionism States	1.5
BOC		

\* The term “Tax Freedom Day” was coined and popularized by the nonpartisan, Washington, D.C.-based Tax Foundation. As the Tax Foundation has explained, it is “the day when Americans . . . finally have earned enough money to pay off their total [federal, state and local] tax bill for the year.” (For simplicity’s sake, the Tax Foundation assumes an equal amount of income is earned every day, and does not distinguish weekdays from weekends.)

Indiana and Michigan became Right to Work states in early 2012 and early 2013, respectively. Wisconsin’s Right to Work law was adopted in 2015, and West Virginia banned forced union dues and fees in 2016. These four states are excluded from all multi-year analyses including the year in which they went Right to Work. They are included among the Right to Work states for analyses covering only the period since their laws took effect. Since the Kentucky Right to Work law was not adopted until 2017, it is counted as Right to Work only for the analyses covering 2017 or 2018 alone. Since the Missouri Right to Work adopted in 2017 never took effect, it is never counted as a Right to Work state.

To obtain more detailed information about how any or all of the above comparative economic data were derived, contact Stan Greer -- e-mail: [stg@nrtw.org](mailto:stg@nrtw.org), visit: [NILRR.org](http://NILRR.org), phone: (703) 321-9606, or write to:

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