

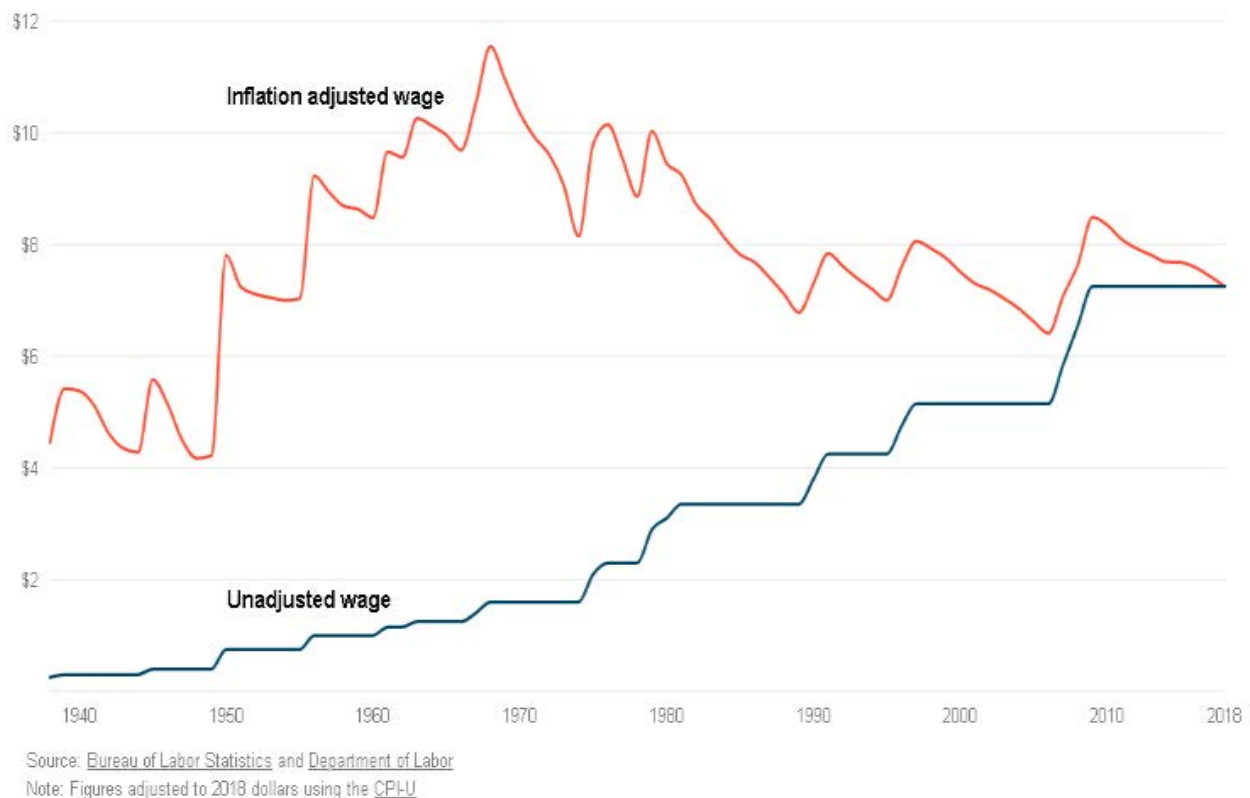
The US minimum wage through the years

 edition.cnn.com/interactive/2019/business/us-minimum-wage-by-year

By Annalyn Kurtz, Tal Yellin and Will Houp, CNN Business Published April 9, 2019

When President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed America's first federal minimum wage into law in 1938, it was 25 cents per hour. Adjusted for inflation, that would be worth about \$4.45 today.

Scroll over the chart to see the US federal minimum wage through history, and what it would be worth in today's dollars.



Source: [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) and [Department of Labor](#)

Note: Figures adjusted to 2018 dollars using the [CPI-U](#)

Throughout history, Congress has raised the minimum wage 22 times. The current level, at \$7.25 an hour, was set in 2009.

Cities and states have the option of setting their own minimum wages. As of January 2019, 29 states had a minimum wage rate above the federal level.

© 2018 Cable News Network. [Turner Broadcasting System, Inc.](#) All Rights Reserved.
CNN Sans™ & © 2016 Cable News Network.