

Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) Average Monthly Employment and Average Annual Wage by Industry

The Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program is a federal/state cooperative program that produces employment and wage data from employers subject to unemployment insurance coverage. Delaware’s average employment for all industries increased by 7,634 workers or 1.6 percent from 2023 to 2024, according to data from the QCEW program.

The *Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation* sector, which represented 2.1 percent of all employees in the State in 2024, had the greatest percentage of monthly average year-over-year growth, increasing by 7.4 percent. The total number of employees in the *Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation* sector grew by 684. The second sector with the greatest employment growth in 2024 was *Federal Government*, followed by *Health Care and Social Assistance* workers. *Federal Government* workers ranked eighteenth in their total number of employees at 6,725, increasing by 6.7 percent or by 423 average monthly workers in 2024. *Health Care and Social Assistance* employment grew by 5.7 percent in 2024, an increase of 4,521 average monthly employees. The *Local Government* and *Educational Services* industries were the fourth and fifth in their monthly average employment growth, each with a percent change of 4.2, respectively.

Delaware Average Monthly Employment, 2023 - 2024

Industry Description	NAICS	2023 Average	2024 Average	Change In Average	% Change In Average	Rank by % Change
		Monthly Empl.	Monthly Empl.	Monthly Empl.	Monthly Empl.	(Largest to Smallest)
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	71	9,263	9,947	684	7.4%	1
Federal Government	Federal	6,302	6,725	423	6.7%	2
Health Care and Social Assistance	62	78,870	83,391	4,521	5.7%	3
Local Government	Local	29,484	30,725	1,241	4.2%	4
Educational Services	61	38,253	39,855	1,602	4.2%	5
State Government	State	29,419	30,189	770	2.6%	6
Mining	21	79	81	2	2.5%	7
Professional and Technical Services	54	28,356	29,050	694	2.4%	8
Other Services, except public admin.	81	12,386	12,683	297	2.4%	9
Utilities	22	2,104	2,140	36	1.7%	10
Total Industries		469,512	477,146	7,634	1.6%	11
Construction	23	25,386	25,738	352	1.4%	12
Accommodation and Food Services	72	43,331	43,873	542	1.3%	13
Wholesale Trade	42	12,588	12,731	143	1.1%	14
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	11	1,238	1,251	13	1.1%	15
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	55	7,735	7,734	-1	0.0%	16
Retail Trade	44-45	51,460	51,179	-281	-0.5%	17
Manufacturing	31-33	26,818	26,662	-156	-0.6%	18
Transportation and Warehousing	48-49	26,264	26,074	-190	-0.7%	19
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	53	6,359	6,292	-67	-1.1%	20
Finance and Insurance	52	44,409	43,850	-559	-1.3%	21
Admin. and Waste Services	56	29,638	28,887	-751	-2.5%	22
Information	51	3,954	3,850	-104	-2.6%	23

The *Information* industry led annual average percentage declines in employment in 2024, declining by 104 average monthly employees or -2.6 percent. *Administration and Waste Services* was second among declining industries, falling by -2.5 percent or 751 average monthly workers.

For annual average wages, *Federal Government* workers had the largest annual percentage wage growth at 9.4 percent or \$6,344 from 2023 to 2024. The second and third highest annual wage growth was in the *Real Estate and Rental and Leasing* and *Information* industries, which increased by 8.2 and 8.0 percent, respectively. *Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation* employees had the only over-the-year decline in wages, decreasing from an average annual salary of \$30,212 to \$29,848 or by -1.2 percent from 2023 to 2024. Total average annual wages for all industries rose by \$3,068 or 4.4 percent to \$72,436.

Delaware Average Annual Wages, 2023-2024

Industry Description	NAICS	2023 Average	2024 Average	Change In Average	% Change In Average	Rank by % Change
		Annual Wage	Annual Wage	Annual Wage	Annual Wage	(Largest to Smallest)
Federal Government	Federal	\$67,392	\$73,736	\$6,344	9.4%	1
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	53	\$66,040	\$71,448	\$5,408	8.2%	2
Information	51	\$95,420	\$103,012	\$7,592	8.0%	3
Educational Services	61	\$65,156	\$69,992	\$4,836	7.4%	4
State Government	State	\$89,284	\$95,056	\$5,772	6.5%	5
Other Services, except Public Administration	81	\$45,032	\$47,840	\$2,808	6.2%	6
Local Government	Local	\$59,748	\$63,388	\$3,640	6.1%	7
Finance and Insurance	52	\$122,772	\$129,376	\$6,604	5.4%	8
Construction	23	\$72,228	\$76,024	\$3,796	5.3%	9
Professional and Technical Services	54	\$119,444	\$125,372	\$5,928	5.0%	10
Utilities	22	\$128,908	\$135,200	\$6,292	4.9%	11
Transportation and Warehousing	48-49	\$51,376	\$53,716	\$2,340	4.6%	12
Total Industries		\$69,368	\$72,436	\$3,068	4.4%	13
Accommodation and Food Services	72	\$26,000	\$27,040	\$1,040	4.0%	14
Health Care and Social Assistance	62	\$68,588	\$71,084	\$2,496	3.6%	15
Manufacturing	31-33	\$74,256	\$76,804	\$2,548	3.4%	16
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	11	\$49,296	\$50,804	\$1,508	3.1%	17
Wholesale Trade	42	\$95,940	\$98,332	\$2,392	2.5%	18
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	55	\$161,980	\$165,984	\$4,004	2.5%	19
Admin. and Waste Services	56	\$55,952	\$57,304	\$1,352	2.4%	20
Retail Trade	44-45	\$38,688	\$39,572	\$884	2.3%	21
Mining	21	\$64,168	\$64,844	\$676	1.1%	22
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	71	\$30,212	\$29,848	-\$364	-1.2%	23