

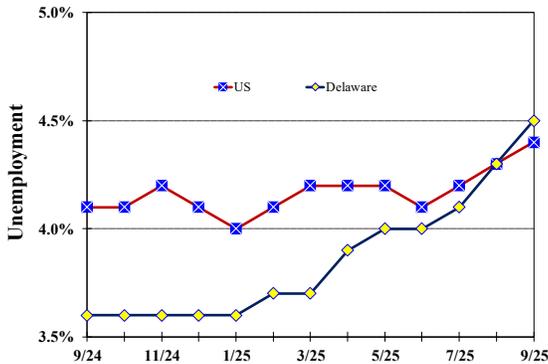
September 2025

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Unemployment Rate

Delaware and US

September 2024 - September 2025



Monthly Commentary

Delaware’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate has risen to its highest level since January 2022, surpassing the national rate for the first time since January 2024. Over the past year, the number of unemployed Delaware residents increased by 25.5 percent, compared with a 10.2 percent increase in the number of unemployed at the national level. Current Population Survey data show that nearly half of Delaware’s 12-month average number of unemployed individuals were either new entrants to the labor force or re-entrants returning after a period of nonparticipation. Delaware’s seasonally adjusted labor force participation rate stood at 59.1 percent in September, remaining close to its historical low of 58.9 percent recorded in June 2025.

Delaware Civilian Labor Force

Delaware Residents

	Sept. 2025	Aug. 2025	Sept. 2024
Civilian Labor Force	512,200	510,500	507,100
Employed	489,100	488,600	488,700
Unemployed	23,100	21,900	18,400
Unemployment Rate %	4.5	4.3	3.6
US Unemployment Rate %	4.4	4.3	4.1

Source: Delaware Dept. of Labor in cooperation with the US Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Area Unemployment Rates (%)

	Sept. 2025	Aug. 2025	Sept. 2024
New Castle County	5.0	5.3	3.4
Wilmington	6.8	7.3	5.1
Newark	5.7	6.9	3.8
Middletown	4.5	5.0	3.1
Kent County	5.4	5.9	3.6
Dover	6.6	7.3	4.6
Sussex County	4.6	4.4	3.0

Note: Area rates are not seasonally adjusted.
Source: Delaware Dept. of Labor in cooperation with the US Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Hours & Earnings

All Employee (Total Private)

	Sept. 2025	Aug. 2025	Sept. 2024
Weekly Earnings	\$1,073.87	\$1,072.87	\$1,035.83
Weekly Hours	32.2	32.6	32.4
Hourly Earnings	\$33.35	\$32.91	\$31.97

Source: Delaware Dept. of Labor in cooperation with the US Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Office of Occupational and Labor Market Information

For data questions, contact Art Jenkins (302) 761-8060

Delaware Labor Force Trends

Delaware's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in September 2025 was 4.5%, up from 4.3% in August 2025. There were 23,100 unemployed Delawareans in September 2025 compared to 18,400 in September 2024. The US unemployment rate was 4.4% in September 2025, up from 4.3% in August 2025. In September 2024, the US unemployment rate was 4.1%, while Delaware's rate was 3.6%.

In September 2025, seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment was 494,200, up from 493,600 in August 2025. Since September 2024, Delaware's total nonfarm jobs have increased by a net gain of 3,600, a rise of 0.7%. Nationally, jobs during that period increased by 0.8%.

Delaware Nonfarm Employment

Jobs at Delaware Locations
Seasonally Adjusted (in 000s)

INDUSTRY GROUP	Sept. 2025	Aug. 2025	Over the Month Change	Over the Year Change†
TOTAL NONAG. EMP.	494.2	493.6	0.6	3.6
CONSTRUCTION	24.7	24.8	-0.1	0.5
MANUFACTURING	26.4	26.6	-0.2	-0.3
Durable Goods	8.0	8.0	0.0	-0.1
Nondurable Goods	18.4	18.6	-0.2	-0.2
TRADE, TRANSP., & UTIL.	90.1	90.2	-0.1	0.2
Wholesale Trade	12.7	12.6	0.1	0.1
Retail Trade	51.7	51.6	0.1	0.1
Transp. & Utilities	25.7	26.0	-0.3	0.0
INFORMATION	3.5	3.5	0.0	0.0
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	49.6	49.5	0.1	0.0
PROF. & BUS. SERVICES	65.5	65.4	0.1	-0.1
PRIV. EDUCATION & HEALTH	90.5	90.3	0.2	2.8
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	52.9	53.3	-0.4	-0.3
OTHER SERVICES	20.0	19.9	0.1	0.5
GOVERNMENT	71.0	70.1	0.9	0.3
Federal Government	6.5	6.4	0.1	-0.2
State Government	32.8	32.9	-0.1	-0.3
Local Government	31.7	30.8	0.9	0.8

† Annual changes are not seasonally adjusted.
Details may not add up due to rounding and seasonal adjustment.
Source: US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

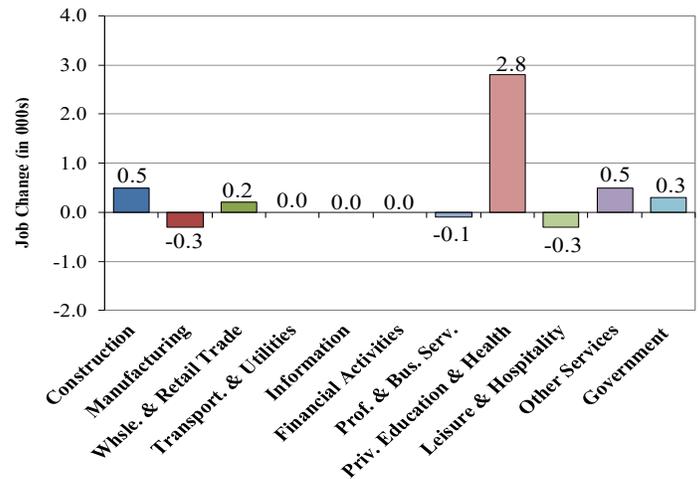
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<https://lmi.delaware.gov/>

Delaware Over-the-Year Job Change

September 2024 – September 2025



Consumer Price Index

All Urban Consumers

	Percent Change to Sept. 2025 from:		
	Sept. 2024	Jul. 2025	Aug. 2025
US City Average	3.0	0.5	0.3
Phila.-Camden-Wilm.*	NA	NA	NA

* Data are published on a bi-monthly basis.

Delaware Annual Net Job Change

Annual Average 2004–2024

