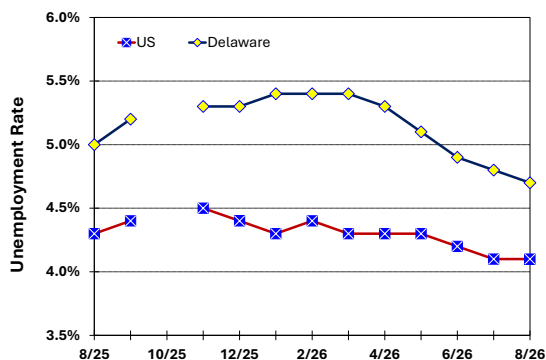


August 2026

Published September 18, 2026

Unemployment Rate

August 2025 - August 2026
Delaware and US



Note: The October 2025 data is not available due to a lapse in Federal appropriations.



Monthly Commentary

Delaware's total number of seasonally adjusted jobs increased by 600 from July's level and by 800 jobs compared with August 2025. A shorter-term trend points to an improving pace of job growth compared to the same period last year. From January through August 2026, Delaware added an average of 200 jobs per month — 100 more jobs per month than during the same period in 2025. This represents a doubling in the average monthly pace of employment growth from the prior year, suggesting somewhat stronger labor-market momentum during the first eight months of 2026. Job growth was particularly strong in three key industry sectors—*Professional and Business Services*, *Private Education and Health Services*, and *Construction* — which recorded gains over the year.

Delaware Civilian Labor Force

Delaware Residents

	Aug. 2026	July 2026	Aug. 2025
Civilian Labor Force	505,300	506,700	516,500
Employed	481,700	482,400	490,700
Unemployed	23,600	24,300	25,800
Unemployment Rate %	4.7	4.8	5.0
US Unemployment Rate %	4.1	4.1	4.3

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

Area Unemployment Rates (%)

	Aug. 2026	July 2026	Aug. 2025
New Castle County	4.9	4.8	5.5
Wilmington	6.6	6.2	7.5
Newark	5.9	6.8	7.1
Middletown	4.8	4.8	5.1
Kent County	5.5	5.4	6.2
Dover	6.6	6.8	7.7
Sussex County	4.5	4.3	4.6

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)

	Aug. 2026	July 2026	Aug. 2025
Weekly Earnings	\$1,107.28	\$1,080.11	\$1,072.87
Weekly Hours	32.5	32.3	32.6
Hourly Earnings	\$34.07	\$33.44	\$32.91

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 Tom Dougherty (302) 761-8062

Delaware Labor Force Trends

Delaware's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in August 2026 was 4.7%, down from 4.8% in July 2026. There were 23,600 unemployed Delawareans in August 2026 compared to 25,800 in August 2025. The US unemployment rate was 4.1% in August 2026, unchanged from July 2026. In August 2025, the US unemployment rate was 4.3%, while Delaware's rate was 5.0%.

In July 2026, seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment was 496,400, up from 495,800 in July 2026. Since August 2025, Delaware's total nonfarm jobs have increased by a net gain of 800, a rise of 0.2%. Nationally, jobs increased by 0.3% during the same period.

Delaware Nonfarm Employment

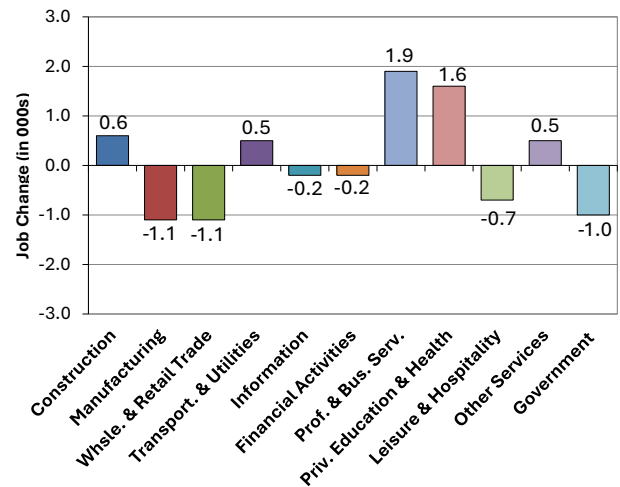
Jobs at Delaware Locations
Seasonally Adjusted (in 000s)

INDUSTRY GROUP	Aug. 2026	July 2026	Over the Month Change	Over the Year Change†
TOTAL NONAG. EMP.	496.4	495.8	0.6	0.8
CONSTRUCTION	25.1	25.1	0.0	0.6
MANUFACTURING	25.7	25.7	0.0	-1.1
Durable Goods	7.8	7.7	0.1	-0.1
Nondurable Goods	17.9	18.0	-0.1	-1.0
TRADE, TRANSP., & UTIL.	89.3	89.1	0.2	-0.6
Wholesale Trade	13.0	13.1	-0.1	0.0
Retail Trade	49.8	49.4	0.4	-1.1
Transp. & Utilities	26.5	26.6	-0.1	0.5
INFORMATION	3.3	3.3	0.0	-0.2
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	49.0	48.9	0.1	-0.2
PROF. & BUS. SERVICES	66.3	66.3	0.0	1.9
PRIV. EDUCATION & HEALTH	94.6	94.6	0.0	1.6
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	51.5	51.0	0.5	-0.7
OTHER SERVICES	19.9	20.0	-0.1	0.5
GOVERNMENT	71.7	71.8	-0.1	-1.0
Federal Government	6.4	6.3	0.1	-0.2
State Government	33.4	33.5	-0.1	-0.7
Local Government	31.9	32.0	-0.1	-0.1

† 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.

Delaware Over-the-Year Job Change

August 2025 - August 2026



Consumer Price Index

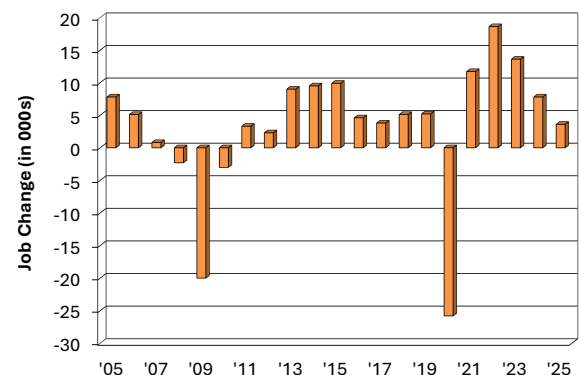
All Urban Consumers

	Percent Change to Aug. 2026 from:		
	Aug. 2025	June 2026	July 2026
US City Average	3.4	0.3	0.3
Phila.-Camden-Wilm.*	4.2	-0.7	NA

* Data are published on a bi-monthly basis.

Delaware Annual Net Job Change

Annual Average 2005 - 2025



Office of Occupational and Labor Market Information

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