Delaware's 2025 Minimum Wage Increase Estimated Impact

November 2024

On January 1, 2025, per Senate Bill 15, Delaware's hourly minimum wage will increase for the fourth and final time from \$13.25 to \$15.00, a per-hour increase of \$1.75 or 13.2%. The number of Delaware workers impacted by the increase is estimated at 80,700.

The increase in the minimum hourly wage will have the greatest impact on workers in the Accommodation and Food Services (24,700); Retail Trade (19,700), and Healthcare and Social Assistance (11,900) industries.

Some employees are exempt from the minimum wage increases. These include jobs in agriculture, private homes, the U.S. federal government, and the fishing industry, as well as positions like junior camp counselors and inmates participating in Department of Correction programs.

Among regional states, as of October 1, 2024, Maryland's minimum wage rate will remain \$15.00 in 2025. New Jersey's minimum wage rate of \$15.13 will increase on January 1, 2025 based on its annual index amount. New York will see its minimum wage increase to \$15.50 at the beginning of the new year and Pennsylvania will continue to have the lowest rate among nearby states at \$7.25.

The Federal hourly minimum wage rate of \$7.25 will remain unchanged. ¹

Regional States		
Est. Hourly Minimum Wage	2024	2025
Delaware	\$13.25	\$ 15.00
D.C*	17.50	17.50
Maryland	15.00	15.00
New Jersey*	15.13	15.13
New York	15.00	15.50
Pennsylvania	7.25	7.25
Virginia	12.00	13.50
Federal Minimum Wage	7.25	7.25

^{*}Minimum wage increases will be based on each state's annual index in 2025.

Source: Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS), 2023 Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (delaware.gov)

¹ Minimum Wage Tracker, The Economic Policy Institute. October 2024. Minimum Wage Tracker | Delaware | Economic Policy Institute