

DELAWARE

ANNUAL ECONOMIC REPORT 2017



DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR

Office of Occupational & Labor Market Information
Published September 2018

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Annual Economic Report 2017

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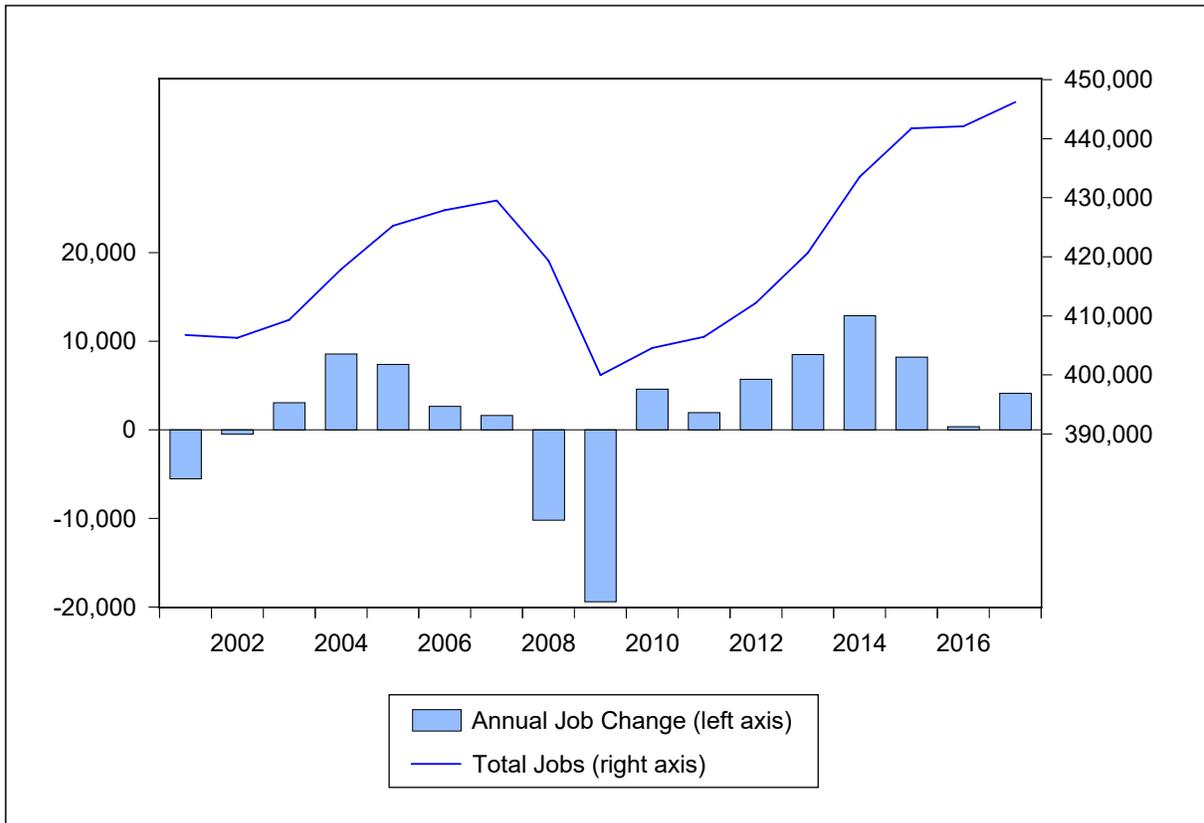
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Overview of Employment by Industry - 2017

After gaining only 350 jobs in all of 2016 (and seeing private sector jobs decline by 230), job growth resumed in Delaware in 2017. The state gained 4,110 jobs from December 2016 to December 2017, with the private sector adding 4,550 jobs. The growth occurred in New Castle and Sussex counties, with each gaining 2,470 jobs, while Kent County lost 340 jobs. Multi-county jobs, which count towards the state total but are not in any single county, declined by 490.



Twelve of the 18 major industry sectors covered here gained jobs, three more than last year, and six sectors lost jobs. The other two major sectors, Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting, and Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction are not included in this report, the first because the bulk of its jobs are not covered by unemployment insurance laws, and the second due to its extremely low employment in the state (fewer than 50 jobs total). While much of the data this office produces in cooperation with the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) come from surveys, the data in this overview of industry employment come from actual payroll records provided under state unemployment insurance (UI) law. The payroll data cover over 90 percent of Delaware's employment. Excluded are the self-employed, most farmworkers, most railroad workers, interns, and anyone else specifically excluded from the UI system.

2017 Industry Job Change by County

Industry Code (NAICS)	Industry Title	Kent	Sussex	New Castle
22	Utilities	30	-30	80
23	Construction	-70	130	170
31-33	Manufacturing	50	470	-60
42	Wholesale Trade	-20	30	-80
44-45	Retail Trade	100	280	120
48-49	Transportation and Warehousing	40	60	-590
51	Information	-70	10	-50
52	Finance and Insurance	-90	-20	1130
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	-20	-30	-30
54	Professional and Technical Services	120	110	330
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	20	-10	-1330
56	Administrative and Waste Services	270	180	1120
61	Educational Services	-170	30	470
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	-10	630	980
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	-60	50	130
72	Accommodation and Food Services	-120	520	40
81	Other Services, Except Public Administration	-50	-40	220
92	Public Administration	-280	20	-190

Annual employment figures can be calculated in at least two ways: as an average of all 12 months, or at a particular moment in time. In this overview, we use the December 2017 number as the industry employment level, and its difference from the corresponding December 2016 level as the measure of 2017 job change. The reason for this is to better isolate actual 2017 changes in this annual report. If we used annual average data, the change between 2016 and 2017 would really measure two years of data, starting in January 2016, rather than focusing solely on 2017.

Another choice is in the treatment of industry versus ownership. Consider public school teachers. They can be counted in the Educational Services industry sector, or counted as part of Local Government, but they should not be counted in both. In this overview, we take an industry-first approach, so government workers who fit in a clearly defined industry are counted as part of that industry. The rest are counted as part of Public Administration. The December 2017 employment levels by industry for each level of government are listed below.

Finally, this overview counts jobs, not people. The counts come from the employers' operations in Delaware. Most of the jobs are filled by state residents, but many are filled by individuals who live in another state. Also, about seven percent of the people working in Delaware work at more than one job. Because this overview is based on employer payroll records, these individuals would be counted separately at each of their jobs in the state. The industries in the body of this overview are ordered by the number of net new jobs created in 2017.

Industry Employment of Government Workers, December 2017

Industry Code (NAICS)	Industry Title	Federal	State	Local	Total Government
22	Utilities	0	0	10	10
23	Construction	0	1,520	0	1,520
31-33	Manufacturing	0	0	0	0
42	Wholesale Trade	0	0	0	0
44-45	Retail Trade	10	0	0	10
48-49	Transportation and Warehousing	2,100	1,430	180	3,710
51	Information	0	280	0	280
52	Finance and Insurance	70	0	0	70
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	0	10	70	80
54	Professional and Technical Services	20	140	0	160
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	0	0	0	0
56	Administrative and Waste Services	0	110	0	110
61	Educational Services	0	11,430	20,260	31,690
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	1,170	3,770	0	4,940
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	50	0	0	50
72	Accommodation and Food Services	40	0	0	40
81	Other Services, Except Public Administration	0	0	0	0
92	Public Administration	2,360	11,080	6,600	20,040
Total	All Industries	5,800	29,760	27,120	62,680

1. Health Care and Social Assistance

For the third consecutive year, Health Care and Social Assistance gained more jobs than any other industry sector. The 1,610 jobs added were nearly 40 percent of all new jobs in the state. New Castle County employment in this sector increased by 980 jobs. Sussex County employment increased by 630 jobs, but Kent County lost 10. Average pay was up in all three counties, increasing by 2.6 percent in Kent County to \$43,432, by 2.1 percent in New Castle County to \$55,784, and by 1.5 percent in Sussex County, to \$52,136. Men hold only 21 percent of the jobs in this sector, but are paid 53 percent more, on average.

There are four subsectors, and each added jobs in 2017. Hospitals gained 880 jobs, easily remaining the largest subsector with 26,100 jobs. Average pay is highest there, at \$71,620, and rose the most, increasing by 3 percent over 2016. Provider's offices added 350 jobs, raising the total there to 20,910. Average pay rose by 1.2 percent to \$62,004. Social assistance employment rose by 280, but pay increased by only 0.3 percent, to \$25,960. The fourth subsector, Nursing and residential care facilities, added 100 jobs and saw pay increase by 2.4 percent to an average \$35,752.

Top Ten Occupations in the Health Care and Social Assistance Sector		
SOC Code	Occupation Title	Employment
29-1141	Registered Nurses	11,030
39-9021	Personal Care Aides	4,770
31-1014	Nursing Assistants	4,710
43-6013	Medical Secretaries	4,140
31-9092	Medical Assistants	2,560
29-2061	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	2,060
25-2011	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	1,960
29-1069	Physicians and Surgeons, All Other	1,660
31-1011	Home Health Aides	1,570
43-3021	Billing and Posting Clerks	1,010

2. Administrative and Waste Services

This sector, which provides ancillary services to businesses such as landscaping, security, and temporary help, rebounded after losing over 1,100 jobs in 2016 by adding 1,570 jobs in 2017. Temporary help, which employs 11,460 people in the state, accounted for 380 of those jobs. All three counties gained jobs in the Administrative and Waste Services sector. New Castle County added 1,120 jobs, Kent County 270, and Sussex County gained 180. Average pay is highest in New Castle County at \$41,376, up 7.8 percent over 2016. Wages fell by 4.8 percent in Kent County, to \$32,720, while in Sussex County the average wage of \$32,272 was 3.0 percent higher than the previous year. Employment is 57 percent male, with men earning 30 percent higher pay.

There are two subsectors. Administrative and support services, with 28,690 jobs, has the bulk of the employment but pays less, with an average wage of \$38,144, 5.5 percent above the 2016 figure. Waste management and remediation employs 1,610 workers at an average \$57,528 in 2017, 2.0 percent above the previous year. Jobs in this subsector grew by 110 in 2017.

Top Ten Occupations in the Administrative and Waste Services Sector		
SOC Code	Occupation Title	Employment
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	4,410
33-9032	Security Guards	2,240
37-3011	Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	2,220
53-7064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	1,900
51-3022	Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	1,410
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	1,200
43-5071	Shipping, Receiving, and Traffic Clerks	1,010
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	960
43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	580
41-3099	Sales Representatives, Services, All Other	570

3. Finance and Insurance

This industry sector, the most important in the state in terms of contribution to state GDP (with a little less than 10 percent of the state's jobs, it generates 31 percent of total state GDP), grew by 750 jobs in 2017. In Kent and Sussex counties, the businesses in this sector serve mostly local customers. The 1,270 jobs in Kent County were 90 fewer than in 2016, and the average wage fell there by 10.7 percent, to \$77,576. In Sussex County employment dropped by 20 to 1,740, while the average wage rose by 7.6 percent to \$63,752. Things are different in New Castle County, where this sector serves mostly national customers. There were 38,760 jobs there at the end of 2017, 1,130 more than the previous year. The average pay of \$100,248 is 5.0 percent above the 2016 average.

There are five subsectors in Finance and Insurance, but only three have appreciable employment in Delaware. Credit intermediation, which includes both depository banks and credit card banks, employs the most people, with 27,890 jobs. This is 590 fewer than the previous year, but that was due to shifting employment out of this subsector and into the Securities and financial investments subsector. The 9,150 jobs there is an increase of 1,530 over 2016. The \$120,272 average wage, already one of the highest in the state, rose by 8.3 percent. The Insurance carriers subsector fell by 200 jobs; it now employs 5,640 workers at an average wage of \$84,484, 4.2 percent more than 2016.

Employment in the Finance and Insurance sector is 54 percent female. Men have a decided edge in pay, making 39 percent more than women, on average.



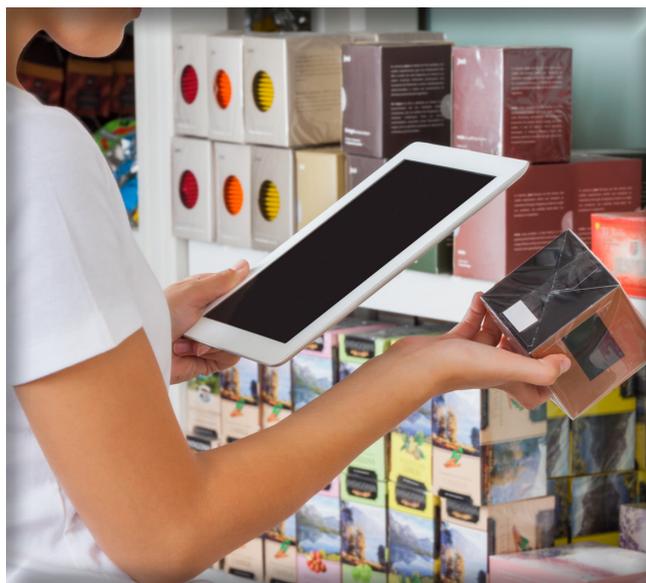
Top Ten Occupations in the Finance and Insurance Sector		
SOC Code	Occupation Title	Employment
41-3031	Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents	4,070
13-2051	Financial Analysts	3,370
15-1132	Software Developers, Applications	2,630
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	2,270
43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	2,020
13-2011	Accountants and Auditors	1,880
15-1121	Computer Systems Analysts	1,560
43-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	1,340
13-2052	Personal Financial Advisors	1,330
43-9041	Insurance Claims and Policy Processing Clerks	1,170

4. Retail Trade

There was an increase of 530 jobs in the Retail Trade sector, which remained the state’s second-largest after Health Care and Social Assistance. Sussex County led by adding 280 jobs, though that wasn’t enough to keep Health Care and Social Assistance from surpassing it as the county’s largest employer. The 12,590 retail jobs in Sussex County pay an average \$26,224, 1.0 percent above the 2016 average. New Castle County gained 120 retail jobs. Average pay there increased by 3.8 percent to \$30,200. Kent County also gained jobs in the sector, adding 100. The average pay in Retail Trade there is \$28,012, a 2.0 percent increase over 2016.

Just over 50 percent of the workers in Retail Trade are women. Men hold more higher-paying positions, and average 51 percent higher wages.

There are 12 subsectors in Retail Trade, with general merchandise stores employing 10,320 workers, most of any subsector. Food and beverage stores is the second-biggest category, with 9,810 workers. Motor vehicles and parts dealers is the highest-paying subsector, even though the \$47,916 average wage there was only 0.5 percent above the 2016 average.



Top Ten Occupations in the Retail Trade Sector		
SOC Code	Occupation Title	Employment
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	14,780
41-2011	Cashiers	13,240
41-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	4,570
43-5081	Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	3,510
29-2052	Pharmacy Technicians	1,350
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	1,170
49-3023	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	1,100
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	1,030
43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	950
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	880

5. Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services

All three counties gained jobs in this sector, with New Castle's 330 new jobs leading the way. Average pay there increased by 10.9 percent to \$110,404. There were 120 new jobs in Kent County, where pay increased by 2.8 percent to \$63,468. Sussex County gained 110 jobs. Average pay there rose by 5.0 percent to \$65,616. Males make up 54 percent of the state's employees in this sector, and are paid 47 percent more than females, on average.

There are no subsectors, but there are nine industry groups, the next level of detail in the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). All but two of them gained jobs in 2017.

Industry Groups within the Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services Sector

Industry Group	December 2017 Employment	Job Change from Dec. 2016
Legal Services	5,870	+240
Computer Systems Design	5,120	+80
Architecture and Engineering	3,680	-160
Management Consulting	3,180	+90
Scientific Research	3,140	+70
Accounting Services	2,370	-30
Other Prof., Sci., Tech. Services	1,710	+130
Advertising and Public Relations	1,080	+60
Specialized Design Services	190	+20

Top Ten Occupations in the Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services Sector		
SOC Code	Occupation Title	Employment
23-1011	Lawyers	1,500
19-2031	Chemists	1,360
13-2011	Accountants and Auditors	1,300
15-1132	Software Developers, Applications	1,270
23-2011	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	1,090
43-6012	Legal Secretaries	760
15-1131	Computer Programmers	660
43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	650
15-1151	Computer User Support Specialists	590
23-2099	Legal Support Workers, All Other	580

6. Accommodation and Food Services

There were 450 additional jobs in this sector by the end of 2017, almost all in Sussex County. There were actually 520 jobs gained there, offset by 120 jobs lost in Kent County. New Castle County employment increased by 40. The average wage is highest in Sussex County, at \$20,232, a 2.6 percent increase over 2016.

Average wages in New Castle County are \$18,808, which is 1.0 percent above the 2016 average. In Kent County, the average is \$15,720, only 0.6 percent above the previous year. Women hold 54 percent of the jobs, while men are paid 24 percent more, on average.



The two subsectors are in the sector name. The Accommodation subsector gained 130 jobs to end 2017 with 3,430. Average wages there are \$24,960, a 4.7 percent increase over 2016. The Food services and drinking places subsector employed 34,680 workers at the end of 2017, 320 more than the previous year. The average wage there rose by 1.1 percent to \$18,220.

Top Ten Occupations in the Accommodation and Food Services Sector		
SOC Code	Occupation Title	Employment
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	9,720
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	7,130
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	4,040
35-1012	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	2,720
35-3011	Bartenders	2,090
35-9031	Hosts and Hostesses, Restaurant, Lounge, and Coffee Shop	1,660
53-3031	Driver/Sales Workers	1,520
35-2021	Food Preparation Workers	1,360
35-9021	Dishwashers	1,280
37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,200

7. Manufacturing

The Manufacturing sector grew for the second straight year, adding 390 jobs in 2017. There were 470 jobs gained in Sussex County, almost all in poultry processing. There are now nearly 7,000 jobs in that industry there. This was slightly offset by the loss of 60 jobs in New Castle County. Manufacturing jobs in Sussex County pay an average wage of \$43,740, which is 3.9 percent above the 2016 average. Workers in New Castle County average almost twice as much at \$84,068, a 5.7 percent increase from 2016. In Kent County, the sector gained 50 jobs. Average pay there rose by 1.0 percent to \$51,112.

There are 20 subsectors in Manufacturing, with Food manufacturing by far the biggest. Behind the 400 jobs gained there, the biggest job gains were in Chemical manufacturing, which gained 190, and Electrical equipment and appliances, which picked up 140. The subsector with the highest average pay is Petroleum and coal products; even after a 5.4 percent decline, the average wage there was \$124,104.

Men hold 68 percent of the jobs in Manufacturing. Their wages are on average 28 percent above women's wages.



Top Ten Occupations in the Manufacturing Sector		
SOC Code	Occupation Title	Employment
51-3022	Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	3,890
51-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	1,080
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	940
17-2011	Aerospace Engineers	930
51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	860
53-7064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	810
51-9111	Packaging and Filling Machine Operators and Tenders	780
51-9011	Chemical Equipment Operators and Tenders	700
49-9041	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	680
51-4041	Machinists	660

8. Educational Services

The 360 jobs gained in Education in 2016 was good enough for third place that year, but the 320 jobs gained in 2017 puts this sector in only eighth place. New Castle County added 470 jobs and Sussex County gained 30,



while Kent County lost 170 jobs. Average wages are highest in New Castle County, at \$62,268. This is 2.1 percent above the 2016 average. Average wages in Kent and Sussex Counties are similar, at \$45,780 and \$46,748 respectively, and they rose by similar amounts, 1.5 percent and 1.4 percent. Two-thirds of the Education workers across the state are women, but men make 14 percent higher wages, on average.

The biggest job gains were at state-owned institutions, which include public colleges and universities, along with charter schools. Employment there rose by 220 to 11,430. Local government education, which is mostly the public primary and secondary schools, went up by 80 jobs to 20,260. Privately-owned institutions gained 20 jobs to end 2017 with 4,970.

Top Ten Occupations in the Educational Services Sector		
SOC Code	Occupation Title	Employment
25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	3,770
25-2031	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Ed.	3,070
25-9041	Teacher Assistants	2,530
25-2022	Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Ed.	2,140
35-2012	Cooks, Institution and Cafeteria	1,700
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,570
43-6014	Secretaries and Admin. Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	1,380
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	1,330
25-3098	Substitute Teachers	1,130
25-2052	Special Education Teachers, Kindergarten and Elementary School	1,040

9. Construction

After rising to second place last year with 710 jobs gained, the Construction sector added a more modest 180 jobs in 2017. New Castle County led with 170 new jobs, paying an average wage of \$62,520, a 4.0 percent increase over 2016. Sussex County employment increased by 130; wages there also increased by 4.0 percent, but to a much lower \$46,328 average. Kent County lost 70 jobs. Wages there rose by 3.9 percent to \$49,448. Across the state, 82 percent of the jobs are held by men; they are paid 38 percent more on average than the approximately 4,000 women who work in the sector.

There are three subsectors. Specialty trade contractors, with 14,170 jobs at the end of 2017 is by far the largest. It is also the only subsector that added jobs, gaining 470. Average pay rose by 4.5 percent to \$56,904. Building construction is next largest, with 4,830 workers, 100 fewer than the previous year. Average pay there rose by 5.1 percent to \$63,204. The Heavy and civil engineering subsector is smallest, with 4,270 workers. This is 190 fewer than in December 2016. Average pay rose by 2.3 percent to \$53,212.



Top Ten Occupations in the Construction Sector		
SOC Code	Occupation Title	Employment
47-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers	1,720
47-2111	Electricians	1,650
47-2031	Carpenters	1,610
47-2061	Construction Laborers	1,580
49-9021	Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	1,280
47-2152	Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	1,150
43-6014	Secretaries and Admin. Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	730
47-2073	Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators	590
13-1051	Cost Estimators	580
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	570

10. Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation

This sector gained 120 jobs in 2017, just edging out Other Services for tenth place (before rounding). New Castle County had most of the gains, adding 130 jobs. Average pay there rose by 0.6 percent to \$23,508. Sussex County gained 50 jobs, but pay there fell by 0.8 percent to \$21,636. Kent County lost 60 jobs while seeing average wages rise by 1.5 percent to \$27,952. This sector employs slightly more women than men, but men have a decided pay advantage, making 46 percent more than women, on average.

There are three subsectors, with Amusements, gambling, and recreation having 85 percent of the sector's jobs. There were 7,930 workers in that subsector at the end of 2017, 60 more than the previous year. Average

Top Ten Occupations in the Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation Sector		
SOC Code	Occupation Title	Employment
39-3091	Amusement and Recreation Attendants	1,240
39-9031	Fitness Trainers and Aerobics Instructors	820
39-3011	Gaming Dealers	630
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	580
39-9011	Childcare Workers	410
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	390
37-3011	Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	350
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	270
43-4171	Receptionists and Information Clerks	270
33-9032	Security Guards	270

pay rose only 0.1 percent, to \$23,064. The Museums, historical sites, zoos and parks subsector increased by 50 workers to 820. Average pay there also rose by 0.1 percent, to \$32,664. The Performing arts and spectator sports subsector gained 10 jobs, for a year-end total of 580. Average pay rose by 3.1 percent to \$32,668.

11. Other Services

The industry sector Other Services gained 120 jobs in the state, with 220 jobs added in New Castle County offsetting job losses in Kent and Sussex Counties. Kent County lost 50 jobs, but had the biggest wage increase, 2.4 percent, to reach an average wage of \$29,964. Sussex County lost 40 jobs. Wages there rose by 0.6 percent, to \$29,256. The average wage in New Castle County was \$35,560, just 0.4 percent above the 2016 average. Women make up 54 percent of the workforce, but men have 40 percent higher wages, on average.

There are four subsectors. Personal and laundry services gained 160 jobs and remained the largest subsector with 4,710 jobs. Average pay rose by 2.7 percent to \$26,848. Private households added 10 jobs, but remains the smallest with 370 workers. Average pay there fell by 3.7 percent to \$29,128. Repair and maintenance employment held steady at 3,440, while the average wage rose by 1.3 percent to \$43,384. The Membership associations and organizations subsector lost 50 jobs, ending 2017 with 3,260. The average wage of \$33,668 was 0.6 percent below the 2016 average.

Top Ten Occupations in the Other Services Sector		
SOC Code	Occupation Title	Employment
39-5012	Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists	1,590
39-9021	Personal Care Aides	840
35-3011	Bartenders	710
49-3023	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	700
43-6014	Secretaries and Admin. Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	630
39-2021	Nonfarm Animal Caretakers	560
43-4171	Receptionists and Information Clerks	510
39-5092	Manicurists and Pedicurists	460
39-9031	Fitness Trainers and Aerobics Instructors	430
53-7061	Cleaners of Vehicles and Equipment	430

12. Utilities

The Utilities sector gained 80 jobs in New Castle County, while Kent and Sussex counties offset each other, Kent adding 30 jobs and Sussex losing the same amount. Average pay rose by 5.1 percent in New Castle County, to \$117,692. Wages rose by 5.8 percent in Sussex County, averaging \$100,768 for the year. In Kent County wages fell by 0.4 percent to an average \$98,720. Men hold 74 percent of the jobs and are paid 15 percent more than women on average.

Top Ten Occupations in the Utilities Sector		
SOC Code	Occupation Title	Employment
51-8031	Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant and System Operators	260
49-9051	Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers	250
51-8012	Power Distributors and Dispatchers	240
17-2071	Electrical Engineers	200
49-2095	Electrical and Electronics Repairers, Powerhouse, Substation, and Relay	150
51-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	100
49-9012	Control and Valve Installers and Repairers, Except Mechanical Door	100
47-2111	Electricians	80
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	50
49-9052	Telecommunications Line Installers and Repairers	50

13. Real Estate and Rental and Leasing

The first of the six industry sectors to lose jobs in 2017, the Real Estate and Rental and Leasing sector lost jobs in all three counties. Employment in New Castle County dropped by 30, while average pay rose by 3.5 percent to \$54,472. Sussex County also lost 30 jobs. Average pay there rose by 7.6 percent to \$41,568. Kent County lost 20 jobs and had the smallest pay increase at 2.5 percent, making average pay there \$38,788. Employment in the sector is 58 percent male, and men have a 28 percent pay advantage.

There are two subsectors. The Real estate subsector has 4,120 workers, 90 fewer than in 2016. Average pay rose by 4.8 percent to \$51,120. The Rental and leasing services subsector had a decrease of 10 jobs to end 2017 with 1,230. Average pay rose by 3.8 percent to \$46,228.

Top Ten Occupations in the Real Estate and Rental and Leasing Sector		
SOC Code	Occupation Title	Employment
49-9071	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	790
41-2021	Counter and Rental Clerks	610
11-9141	Property, Real Estate, and Community Association Managers	390
41-9022	Real Estate Sales Agents	340
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	300
43-6014	Secretaries and Admin. Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	270
53-3022	Bus Drivers, School or Special Client	250
53-3099	Motor Vehicle Operators, All Other	220
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	200
53-7061	Cleaners of Vehicles and Equipment	170

14. Information

For the tenth year in a row, the Information sector lost jobs in Delaware. Kent County lost the most, as employment there fell by 70. Average pay in Kent County rose by 5.0 percent to \$60,964. There was a drop of 50 jobs in New Castle County. Average pay there rose by 0.3 percent to \$65,200. There was a gain of 10 jobs in Sussex County, with average pay rising 5.1 percent there to \$56,812. Men make up 58 percent of the sector's employment, making 32 percent higher wages than women, on average.

The two largest subsectors, Telecommunications and Data processing each lost 60 jobs, leaving 1,950 in the former and 1,040 in the latter. Wages fell in each, by 1.2 and 1.0 percent, but remained the highest in the sector, at \$70,272 in Telecommunications and \$83,672 in Data processing.

Top Ten Occupations in the Information Sector		
SOC Code	Occupation Title	Employment
49-2022	Telecommunications Equip. Installers and Repairers, Except Line Installers	400
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	250
41-3099	Sales Representatives, Services, All Other	250
15-1151	Computer User Support Specialists	220
35-3022	Counter Attendants, Cafeteria, Food Concession, and Coffee Shop	220
27-3022	Reporters and Correspondents	140
41-3011	Advertising Sales Agents	140
49-9052	Telecommunications Line Installers and Repairers	130
15-1142	Network and Computer Systems Administrators	110
39-3031	Ushers, Lobby Attendants, and Ticket Takers	100

15. Wholesale Trade

Even after adjusting for over 800 jobs administratively moved into a different sector, Wholesale Trade lost jobs for the 11th year out of the last 12. New Castle County lost 80 jobs, and average pay there fell by 14.4 percent to \$72,688. Kent County employment dropped by 20, but wages there rose by 6.1 percent to \$54,296. In Sussex County, there were 30 jobs gained to go along with a modest 1.2 percent pay increase to \$59,252. Multi-county jobs, which are common in this sector, fell by 140. Men hold 74 percent of the jobs and have a 23 percent advantage in average wages.

There are three subsectors. Durable goods wholesalers gained 80 jobs, bringing employment to 5,620. Even after a 2.6 percent increase, it remains the subsector with the lowest pay, at \$66,984. Nondurable goods wholesalers lost 80 jobs; they ended 2017 with 3,750 total. The average wage fell by 21.1 percent to \$72,716. Electronic markets and agents and brokers lost 210 jobs, while average pay fell by 3.0 percent. The 1,540 workers there averaged \$91,584 in wages in 2017.

Top Ten Occupations in the Wholesale Trade Sector		
SOC Code	Occupation Title	Employment
41-4012	Sales Reps., Wholesale and Manuf., Except Technical and Scientific Products	1,760
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1,610
41-4011	Sales Reps., Wholesale and Manuf., Technical and Scientific Products	610
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	500
43-6014	Secretaries and Admin. Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	450
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	430
53-3033	Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers	430
53-3099	Motor Vehicle Operators, All Other	370
53-3031	Driver/Sales Workers	340
41-2022	Parts Salespersons	290

16. Public Administration

The Public Administration sector, which includes federal, state, and local government workers who don't fit into any other clearly defined industry sector, lost 440 jobs in 2017. Most of the jobs were lost in Kent County, where state government dominates. Average pay rose by 4.8 percent to \$55,952. New Castle County lost 190 jobs. Pay there rose by 3.5 percent to \$56,232. Sussex County gained 20 jobs in the sector, while pay there rose by 4.2 percent to \$45,872. Employment in Public Administration is 55 percent male, and men average 33 percent higher pay than women.

An occupational breakdown for just the Public Administration sector is not possible. The table below provides the top ten occupations for all government workers, including those that are classified in other industry sectors.

Top Ten Occupations in Government		
SOC Code	Occupation Title	Employment
33-3051	Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	1,850
33-3012	Correctional Officers and Jailers	1,680
43-6014	Secretaries and Admin. Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	1,100
43-5052	Postal Service Mail Carriers	1,070
29-2041	Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics	790
43-4031	Court, Municipal, and License Clerks	780
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	590
29-1141	Registered Nurses	570
43-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	550
21-1021	Child, Family, and School Social Workers	530

17. Transportation and Warehousing

This sector gained jobs in Kent and Sussex Counties, but not nearly enough to offset the 590 jobs lost in New Castle County. Due to administrative changes which moved several thousand workers into a different industry sector, pay there rose by 13.6 percent, to \$53,220. Average pay rose by 4.1 percent in Kent County to \$41,524, with 40 new jobs. Sussex County gained 60 jobs, with pay rising by 1.9 percent to \$41,552. Men hold 73 percent of the jobs and are paid 54 percent higher wages, on average.

There are 11 subsectors, but only 6 have substantial employment in the state. Transit and ground passenger transportation employs the most, with 3,080 workers, 30 more than in 2016. Average pay there rose by 1.1 percent to \$30,560. Support activities lost 260 jobs to end 2017 with 2,610. Average pay rose by 2.2% to \$59,872.

Top Ten Occupations in the Transportation and Warehousing Sector		
SOC Code	Occupation Title	Employment
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,580
53-7064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	1,270
53-3022	Bus Drivers, School or Special Client	1,170
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1,060
53-3033	Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers	580
53-3041	Taxi Drivers and Chauffeurs	380
49-3043	Rail Car Repairers	310
49-3011	Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians	280
53-7121	Tank Car, Truck, and Ship Loaders	260
43-5032	Dispatchers, Except Police, Fire, and Ambulance	200

18. Management of Companies and Enterprises

This highest-paying of all sectors (\$154,956 average in 2017) lost 1,350 jobs, making it also the poorest performing sector in 2017. Almost all of the jobs losses were in New Castle County, which is where all but 520 of the sector's jobs are located. Average pay still rose by 21.4 percent in the county, to \$156,800. There were 20 jobs gained in Kent County, where wages rose by 1.6 percent to \$98,224. In Sussex County, employment fell by 10 as wages rose by 8.4 percent to \$150,228. Men constitute 53 percent of the workers and have a 27 percent pay advantage, on average.



Top Ten Occupations in the Management of Companies and Enterprises Sector		
SOC Code	Occupation Title	Employment
43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	760
13-2011	Accountants and Auditors	650
11-3031	Financial Managers	370
13-1161	Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	330
19-2031	Chemists	320
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	290
13-1081	Logisticians	270
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	250
11-2021	Marketing Managers	250
43-6014	Secretaries and Admin. Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	220

Industry Wages and Job Change Table

NAICS	Industry	2017 Jobs	2016-17 Job Change	2017 Average Wage	2016-17 Wage Change
	Total Covered Employment	446,190	4,110	\$55,856	3.9%
22	Utilities	2,260	70	\$112,589	4.3%
23	Construction	23,270	180	\$57,540	4.2%
236	Construction of buildings	4,830	-100	\$63,204	5.1%
237	Heavy and civil engineering construction	4,270	-190	\$53,212	2.3%
238	Specialty trade contractors	14,170	470	\$56,904	4.5%
31-33	Manufacturing	26,310	390	\$62,308	4.0%
311	Food manufacturing	9,800	400	\$39,760	4.5%
312	Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing	440	40	\$49,440	-0.6%
314	Textile product mills	90	-10	\$47,508	8.0%
315	Apparel manufacturing	80	0	\$27,932	8.3%
321	Wood product manufacturing	350	-20	\$42,544	4.0%
322	Paper manufacturing	860	-60	\$62,372	-5.8%
323	Printing and related support activities	440	-30	\$47,268	-2.9%
324	Petroleum and coal products manufacturing	690	-10	\$124,104	-5.4%
325	Chemical manufacturing	2,530	190	\$95,688	12.4%
326	Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	1,330	-220	\$62,644	13.4%
327	Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	620	50	\$57,468	7.0%

Industry Wages and Job Change Table

NAICS	Industry	2017 Jobs	2016-17 Job Change	2017 Average Wage	2016-17 Wage Change
331	Primary metal manufacturing	190	-10	\$70,368	10.1%
332	Fabricated metal product manufacturing	1,570	-50	\$53,564	-0.2%
333	Machinery manufacturing	700	10	\$61,212	3.7%
334	Computer and electronic product manufacturing	3,020	50	\$101,944	6.3%
335	Electrical equipment and appliance manufacturing	810	140	\$70,456	1.2%
336	Transportation equipment manufacturing	500	-70	\$66,824	1.2%
337	Furniture and related product manufacturing	710	-20	\$46,720	6.5%
339	Miscellaneous manufacturing	1,050	20	\$61,864	-2.5%
42	Wholesale Trade	10,910	-230	\$72,580	-9.3%
423	Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	5,620	80	\$66,984	2.1%
424	Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	3,750	-70	\$72,716	-21.1%
425	Electronic markets and agents and brokers	1,540	-210	\$91,584	-3.0%
44-45	Retail Trade	59,120	530	\$29,264	2.9%
441	Motor vehicle and parts dealers	7,150	-20	\$47,916	0.5%
442	Furniture and home furnishings stores	2,150	10	\$36,624	1.0%
443	Electronics and appliance stores	1,830	-70	\$42,228	2.4%
444	Building material and garden supply stores	4,500	-30	\$34,524	2.2%
445	Food and beverage stores	9,810	0	\$22,628	1.2%
446	Health and personal care stores	4,030	-50	\$35,008	0.6%
447	Gasoline stations	2,710	160	\$21,972	-0.9%
448	Clothing and clothing accessories stores	6,490	-70	\$17,760	-0.3%
451	Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores	2,250	-10	\$20,016	5.9%
452	General merchandise stores	10,320	-80	\$21,112	1.5%
453	Miscellaneous store retailers	2,930	160	\$22,044	4.3%
454	Nonstore retailers	4,960	530	\$39,356	-12.2%
48-49	Transportation and Warehousing	14,490	-490	\$49,452	9.4%
481	Air transportation	190	10	\$106,100	12.8%
483	Water transportation	40	10	\$50,104	7.5%
484	Truck transportation	2,390	20	\$53,148	3.8%
485	Transit and ground passenger transportation	3,080	30	\$30,560	1.1%
487	Scenic and Sightseeing Transportation	30	0	\$24,776	12.5%
488	Support activities for transportation	2,610	-260	\$59,872	2.2%
491	Postal Service	2,070	-20	\$59,260	3.5%
492	Couriers and Messengers	2,160	-80	\$41,352	2.7%
493	Warehousing and storage	1,890	-210	\$50,296	26.8%
51	Information	4,830	-110	\$65,224	-2.7%
511	Publishing industries, except Internet	820	-10	\$67,044	-4.1%
512	Motion picture and sound recording industries	450	20	\$16,860	-8.0%
515	Broadcasting, except Internet	290	-20	\$49,416	2.1%

Industry Wages and Job Change Table

NAICS	Industry	2017 Jobs	2016-17 Job Change	2017 Average Wage	2016-17 Wage Change
517	Telecommunications	1,950	-60	\$70,272	-1.2%
518	Data processing, hosting and related services	1,040	-60	\$83,672	-1.0%
519	Other information services	290	20	\$49,896	2.1%
52	Finance and Insurance	42,740	750	\$97,724	4.8%
522	Credit intermediation and related activities	27,890	630	\$93,028	2.1%
523	Securities, commodity contracts, investments	9,150	310	\$120,272	8.3%
524	Insurance carriers and related activities	5,640	-200	\$84,484	4.2%
525	Funds, trusts, and other financial vehicles	60	10	\$70,984	-12.8%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	5,360	-90	\$49,960	4.6%
531	Real estate	4,120	-90	\$51,120	4.8%
532	Rental and leasing services	1,230	-10	\$46,228	3.8%
54	Professional and Technical Services	26,320	490	\$101,580	9.3%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	7,800	-1,350	\$154,956	20.5%
56	Administrative and Waste Services	30,300	1,570	\$39,200	5.3%
561	Administrative and support services	28,690	1,450	\$38,144	5.5%
562	Waste management and remediation services	1,610	110	\$57,528	2.0%
61	Educational Services	36,660	320	\$56,596	2.0%
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	75,130	1,610	\$53,500	2.2%
621	Ambulatory health care services	20,910	350	\$62,004	1.2%
622	Hospitals	26,100	880	\$71,620	3.0%
623	Nursing and residential care facilities	12,970	100	\$35,752	2.4%
624	Social assistance	15,160	280	\$25,960	0.3%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	9,330	120	\$24,496	0.4%
711	Performing arts and spectator sports	580	10	\$32,668	3.1%
712	Museums, historical sites, zoos, and parks	820	50	\$32,664	0.1%
713	Amusements, gambling, and recreation	7,930	60	\$23,064	0.1%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	38,120	450	\$18,852	1.5%
721	Accommodation	3,430	130	\$24,960	4.7%
722	Food services and drinking places	34,680	320	\$18,220	1.1%
81	Other Services, Except Public Administration	11,790	120	\$33,612	0.8%
811	Repair and maintenance	3,440	0	\$43,384	1.3%
812	Personal and laundry services	4,710	160	\$26,848	2.7%
813	Membership associations and organizations	3,260	-50	\$33,668	-0.6%
814	Private Households	370	10	\$29,128	-3.7%
92	Public Administration	20,040	-440	\$55,364	4.2%

The Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate is a key economic indicator of the health of the economy and one that is widely watched by the public. The Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program is a state and federal cooperative program that generates the unemployment rate for the state, counties, and cities with population over 25,000. The unemployment rate is measured by dividing the number of unemployed by the total labor force. To be considered unemployed, one has to be not employed but actively seeking employment and available to work during the month.



In 2017, Delaware’s annual unemployment rate of 4.6 percent was 0.2 of a percentage point higher than the national average’s 4.4 percent. In addition, 2017 marked the first increase in Delaware’s annual unemployment rate since 2010, when the unemployment rate peaked at 8.4 percent. The U.S. unemployment rate peaked at an annual rate of 9.6 percent in 2010 following one of the most severe post World War II recessions, and has had seven consecutive years of decline in the annual unemployment rate.

Delaware’s annual unemployment rate in 2017 exceeded the U.S. rate for the first time since 1981 when Delaware’s rate was 7.8% and the US rate was 7.6%. Current trends in Delaware’s unemployment rate through the first half of 2018 make it likely that Delaware annual unemployment rate for 2018 will be below the 2017 annual unemployment rate.

Comparative Unemployment Rates

The Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program is an important Federal and State government cooperative program that produces monthly and annual data on employment, unemployment, the unemployment rate and the labor force for States, counties, and cities. The state unemployment rate data below are produced from the LAUS program.

Delaware and its Neighboring States Annual Average Unemployment Rates

Delaware’s annual average unemployment rate of 4.6% in 2017 was ranked as the 31st lowest rate in the nation tied with Michigan, New Jersey, and North Carolina. Of Delaware’s neighboring states of Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, only Maryland had a more favorable ranking. Maryland’s annual average unemployment rate ranked tied with Oregon as the 22nd lowest in the nation, followed by New Jersey tied for 31st. Pennsylvania’s annual average unemployment rate ranked 40th lowest in the nation tied with Arizona and Kentucky for 2017.



Delaware’s unemployment rate increased by 0.1 percentage point from 2016 to 2017. Of Delaware’s neighboring states, Pennsylvania’s unemployment rate declined the most, falling by 0.5 percentage points. New Jersey’s unemployment rate declined by 0.4 percentage points, while Maryland’s unemployment rate fell by 0.3 percentage points. The United States annual average unemployment rate fell by 0.5 percentage points over-the-year to 4.4 percent in 2017.

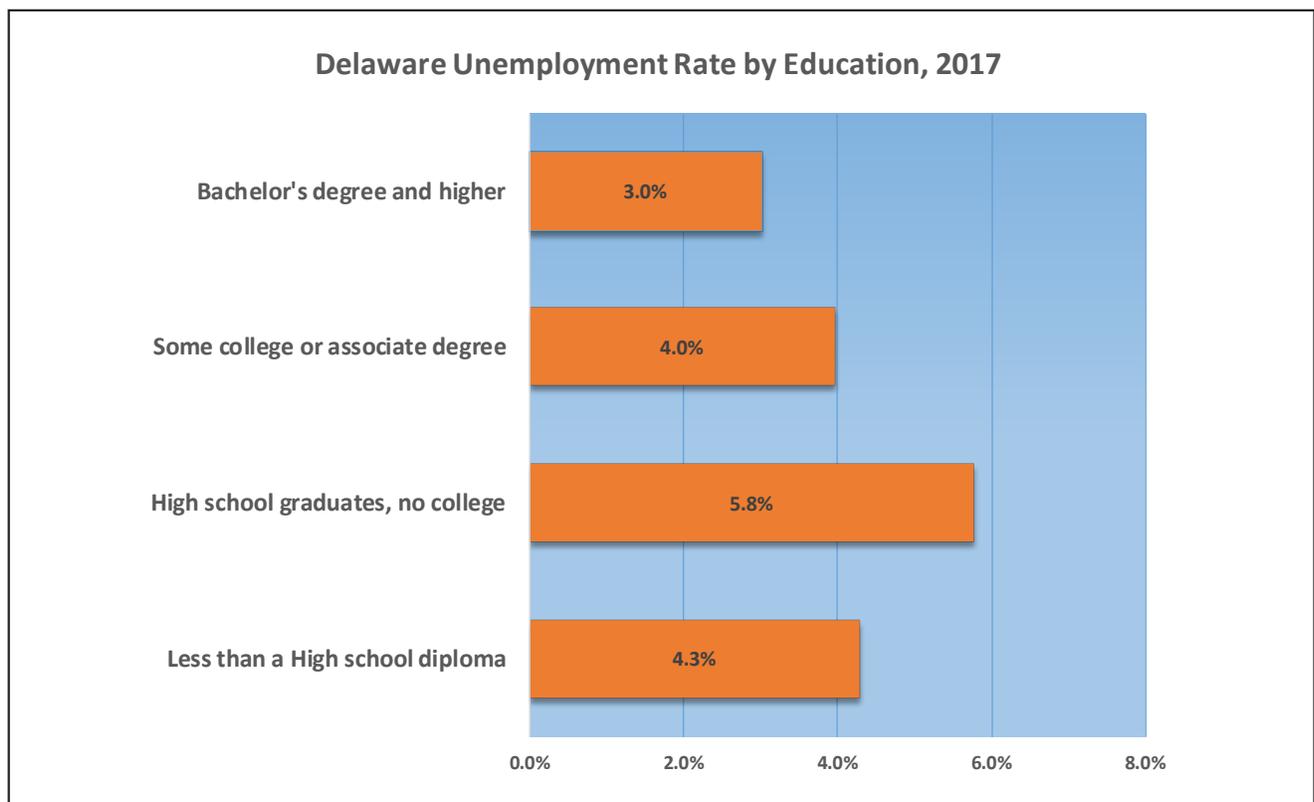
Comparative Annual Unemployment Rates

	Unemployment Rate		National Ranking*	
	2016	2017	2016	2017
Delaware	4.5	4.6	21	31 (t)
Maryland	4.4	4.1	19 (t)	22
New Jersey	5.0	4.6	29 (t)	31 (t)
Pennsylvania	5.4	4.9	39 (t)	40
United States	4.9	4.4	--	--

* Lower ranking indicates a lower rate. (t) indicates ranking was tied with other state(s).

The Unemployment Rate by Educational Attainment

In 2017, Delaware’s annual average unemployment rate for all residents was 4.6 percent. In most years the unpublished data from the Current Population Survey on the unemployment rate by educational attainment shows that those with less education are more likely on average to be unemployed than those with more education. In 2017, those with less than a high school diploma had a lower unemployment rate than high school graduates. The benefits of educational attainment are not only that those with more education are usually less likely to be unemployed, but also that those with more education earn on average higher wages than those with less education. The Delaware unemployment rate by education graph breaks out the unemployment rate by the highest level of education an individual has obtained for persons 25 years of age and older. The unemployment rate in 2017 for those Delaware residents with less than a high school diploma was 4.3 percent and those with a Bachelor’s degree or higher had an unemployment rate of 3.0 percent. The unemployment rate for those with some college or an Associate’s degree was 4.0 percent. On average, high school graduates with no college had an unemployment rate of 5.8% and those with less than a high school diploma had an unemployment rate of 4.3% in 2017.



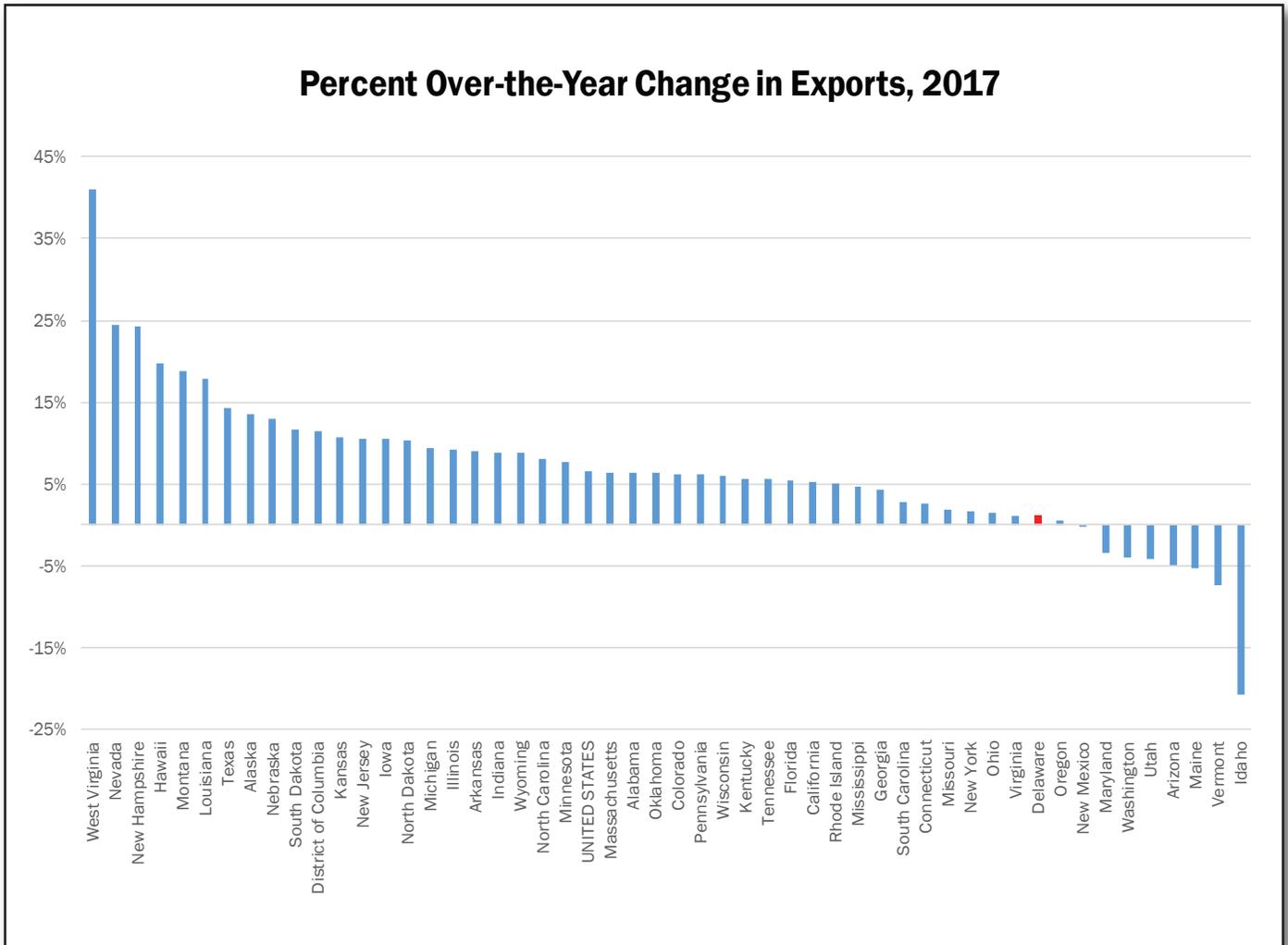
Data are for persons 25 and over.
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.

Delaware Exports and Imports in 2017

Delaware export and import data come from the Foreign Trade Commission of the US Census Bureau.

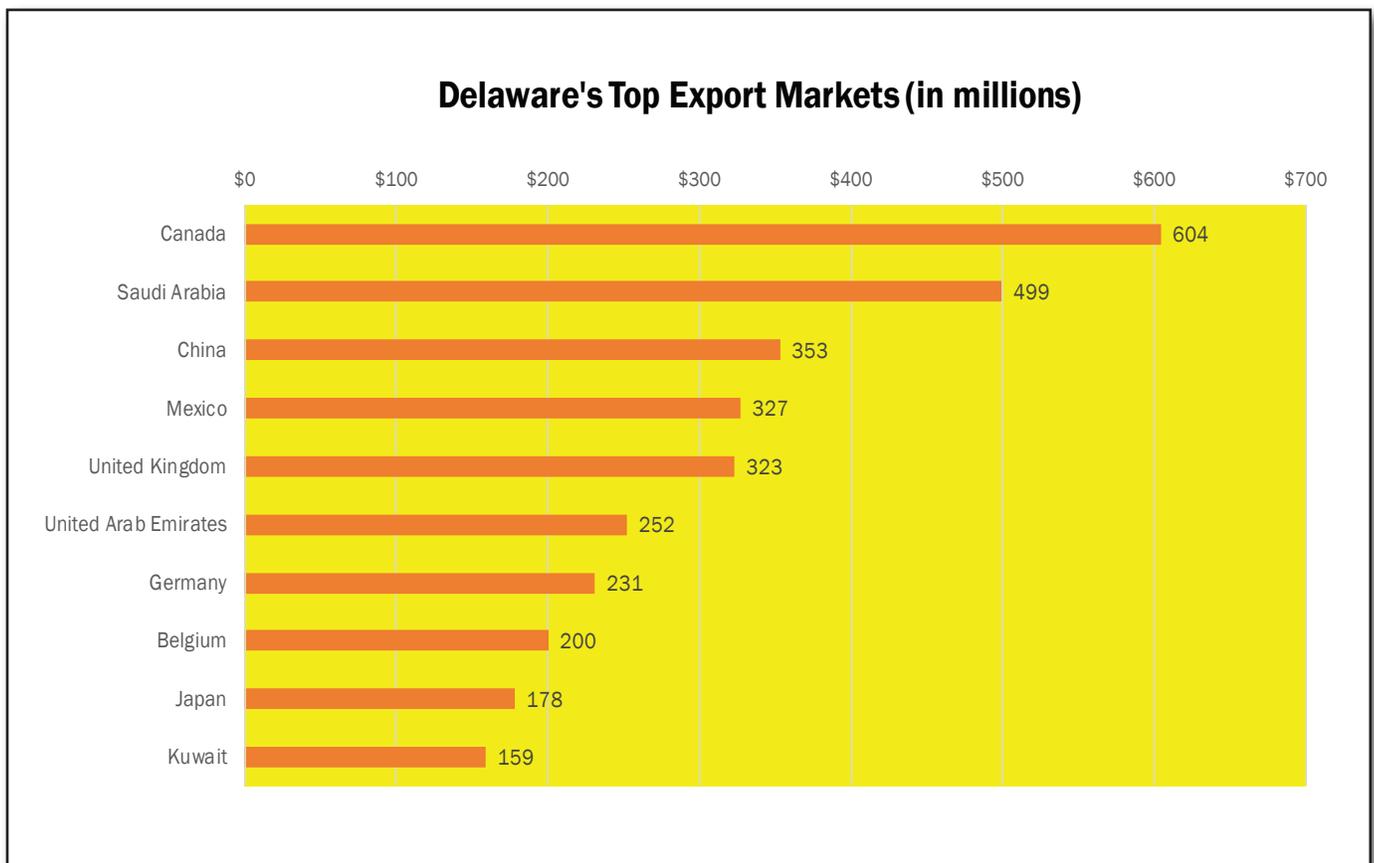
Delaware Exports:

In 2017, Delaware exported \$4.6 billion in merchandise to countries outside of the United States. Delaware's exports were up by \$48 million, a 1.1 percent increase, over-the-year, while the US increased exports by 6.6 percent over-the-year. Compared to other US states and the District of Columbia, Delaware ranked 41st in the total value of exports and ranked 42nd in the largest over-the-year change in exports.

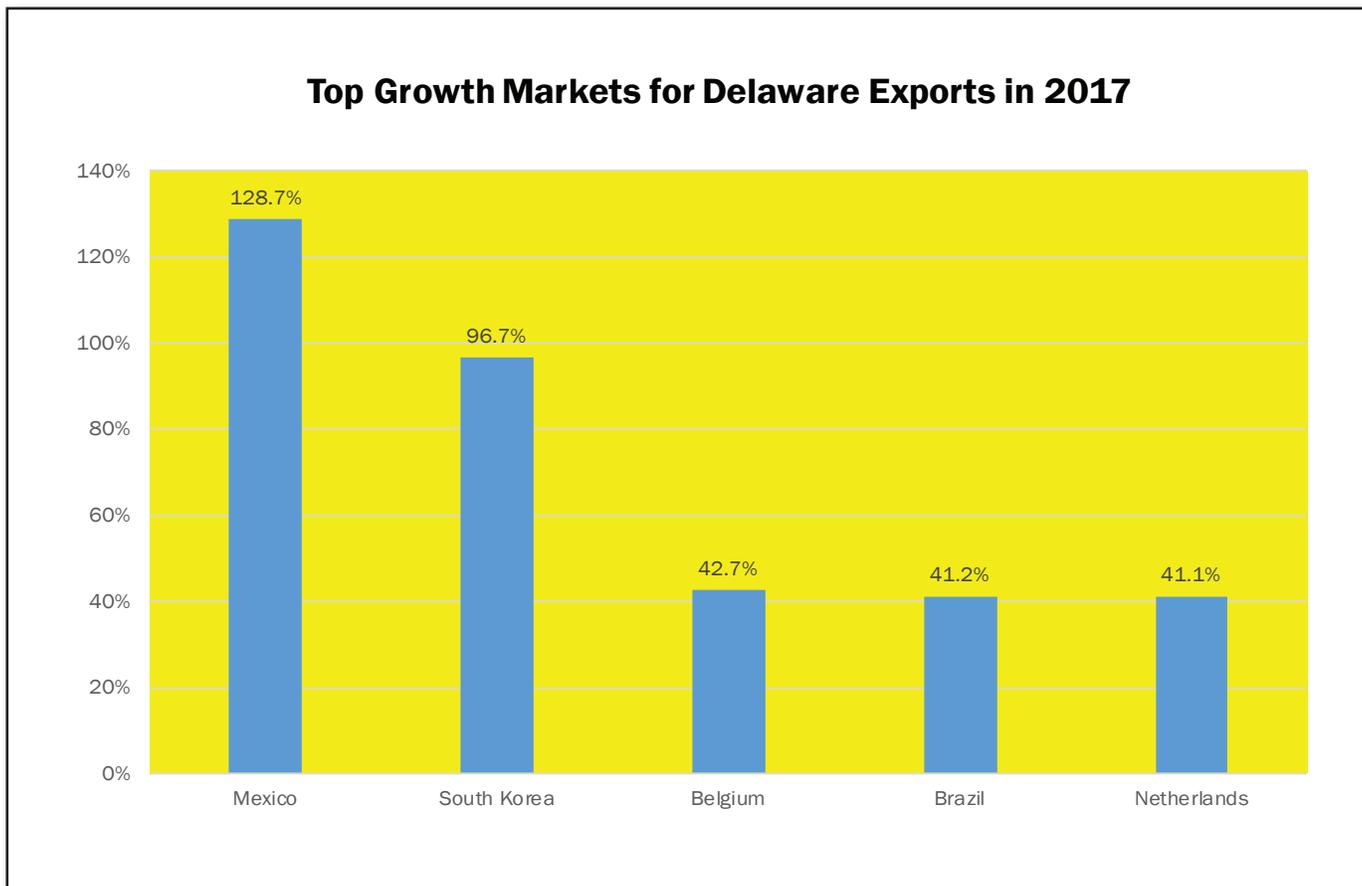


Delaware Export Markets:

In 2017, Delaware’s top export market was Canada with a value of \$604 million in exported merchandise. Delaware exports to Canada represented 13.2 percent of all Delaware exports. Over-the-year, exports to Canada increased by 10.7 percent. The export commodities to Canada with the greatest value were Chemicals and Agriculture Products. Saudi Arabia was the number two destination for Delaware exports, with exports valuing \$499 million. Exports to Saudi Arabia increased 33.5 percent from a year ago. The commodity with the greatest export value was Transportation Equipment. It made up 79 percent of all exports to Saudi Arabia. The third largest export destination for Delaware commodities was China with \$353 million in export value. Exports to China were up 3.7 percent over-the-year. The top export commodities to China were Chemicals and Computer & Electronic Products. Delaware’s top 10 export markets represented 68.5 percent of all Delaware exports in 2017.



Delaware exports expanded considerably to certain countries around the world. For those countries with at least \$60 million in Delaware exports, the leading growth market for Delaware was Mexico with nearly a 129 percent gain in exports over-the-year. The next leading growth market for Delaware exports was South Korea with an increase of 96.7 percent. Delaware export growth to Belgium increased 42.7 percent and exports increased to Brazil and Netherlands by 41.2 and 41.1 percent, respectively.

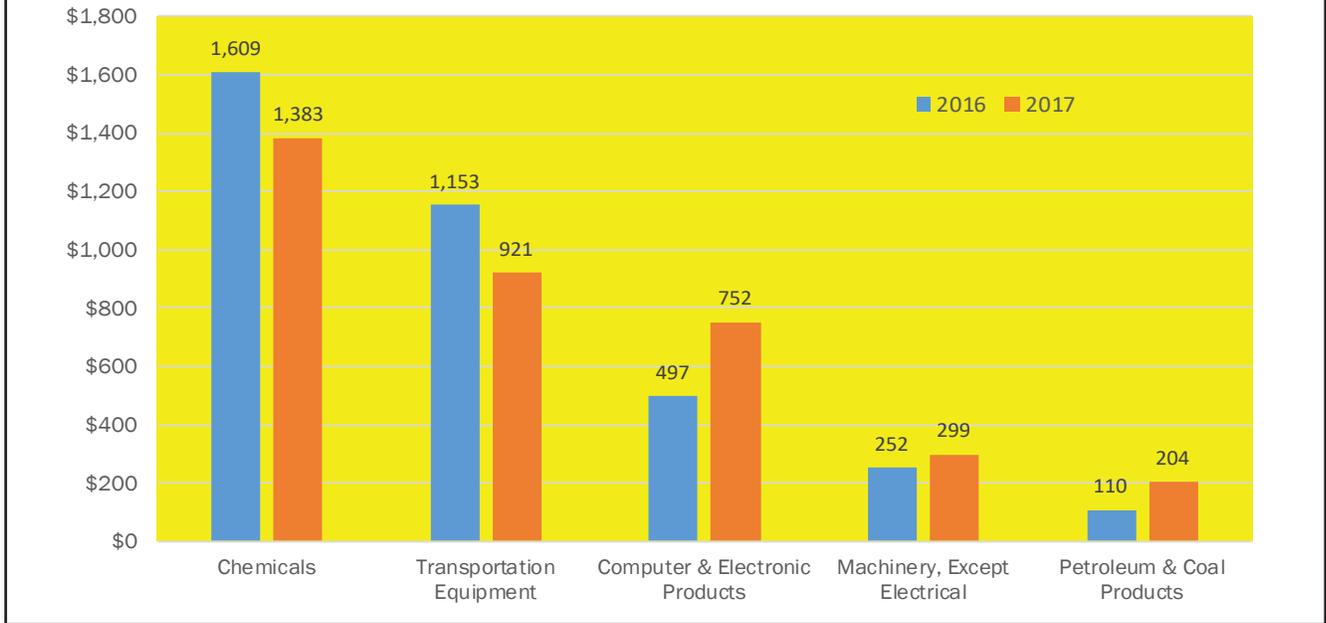


Note: Destination countries with a minimum of \$60 million in Delaware exports.

Delaware Export Commodities:

Delaware’s largest export commodity was Chemicals, valued at \$1.46 billion in 2017. It accounted for 30.3 percent of the total export value of all Delaware export commodities. Chemical exports were down \$227 million from 2016, a decrease of 14.1 percent. Delaware’s next largest export commodity, Transportation Equipment, valued at \$921 million, was also down over-the-year by \$232 million or 20.1 percent. Computer & Electronic Products, Delaware’s third largest export valued at \$752 million, was up 51.4 percent, increasing by \$255 million. Machinery, Except Electrical, valued at \$299 million and Petroleum & Coal Products, valued at \$204 million were up 18.9 percent and 85.9 percent over-the-year, respectively. Delaware’s top 5 export commodities represent 77.9 percent of all Delaware exports. Overall, exports were up 1.1 percent for Delaware in 2017. The increase in exports reflects the continuing economic expansion in Delaware.

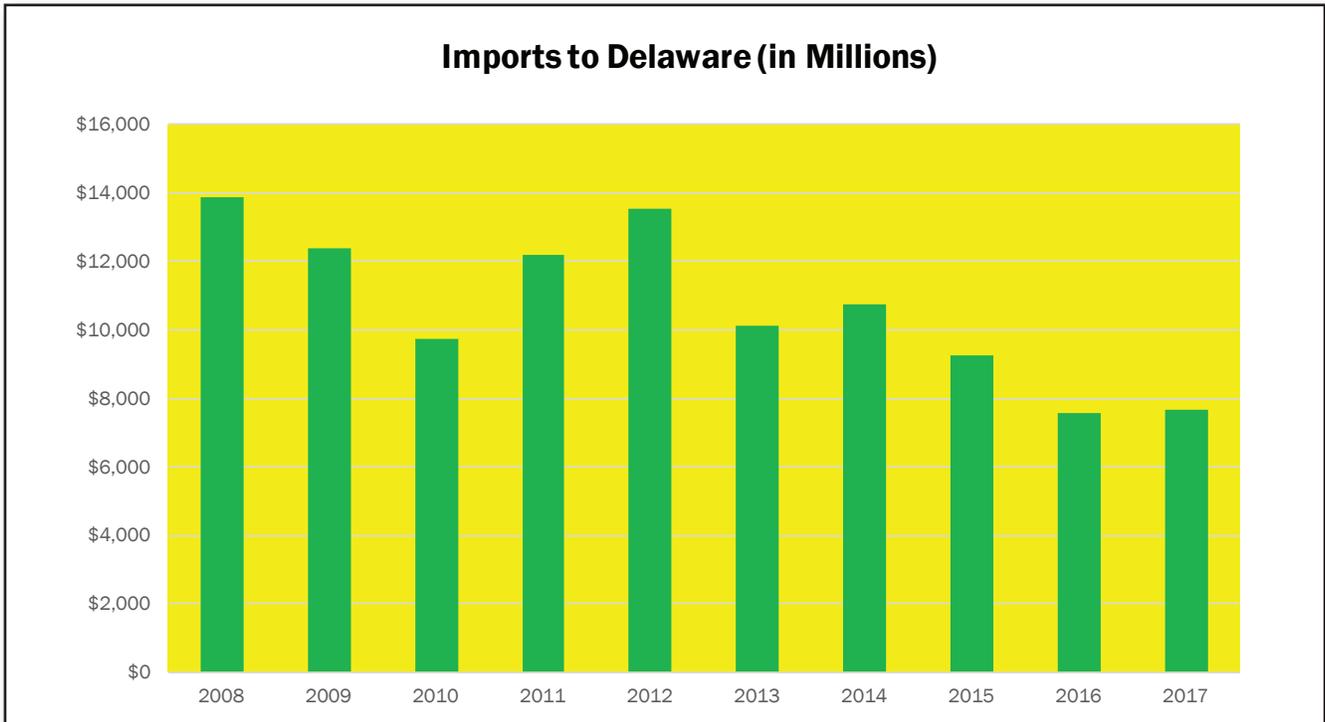
Top Export Industries in Delaware (in millions)



Delaware Imports:

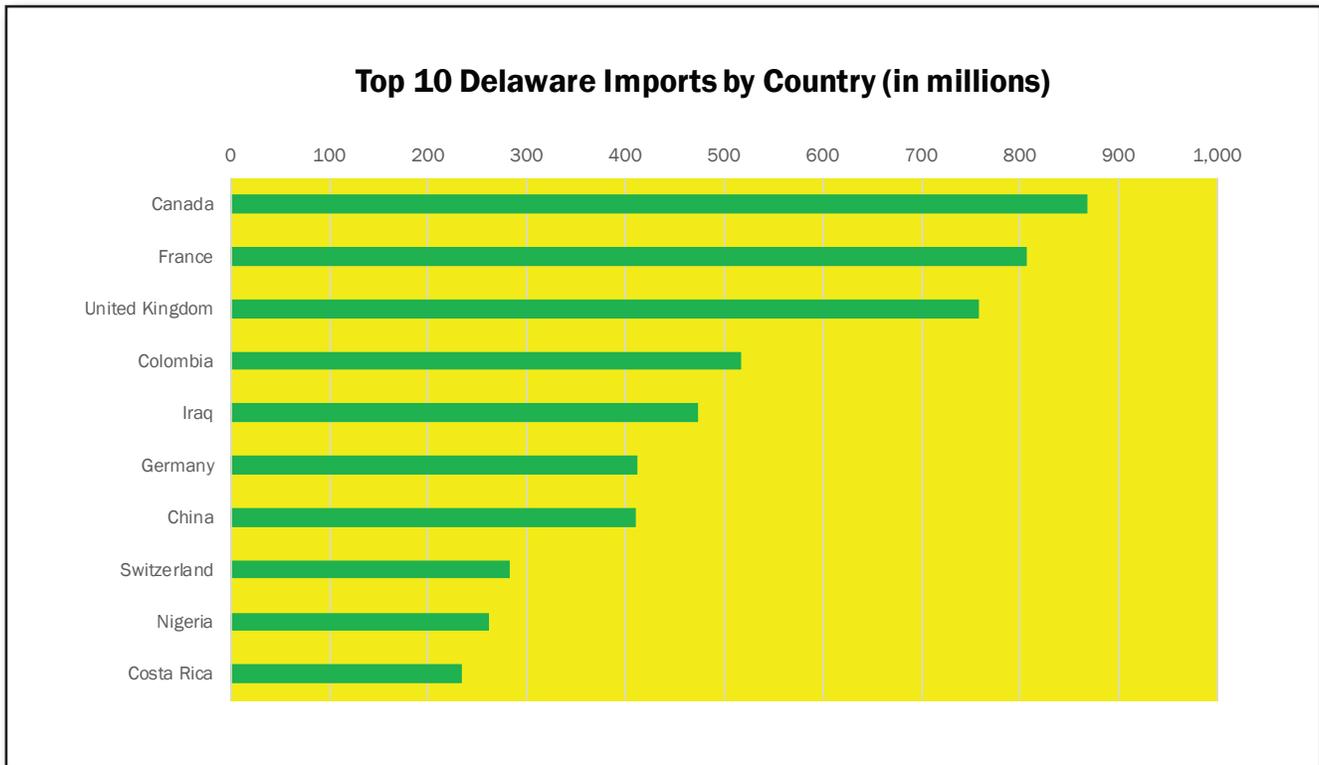
In 2017, Delaware imported \$7.7 billion in merchandise from countries outside of the United States. Delaware imports were up by \$114 million, a 1.5 percent increase over-the-year. During the same period US imports were up 7.1 percent. Compared to other US states and the District of Columbia, Delaware ranked 38th in the total value of imports and ranked 41st in the largest over-the-year change in imports.

Imports to Delaware (in Millions)



Delaware Imports by Country:

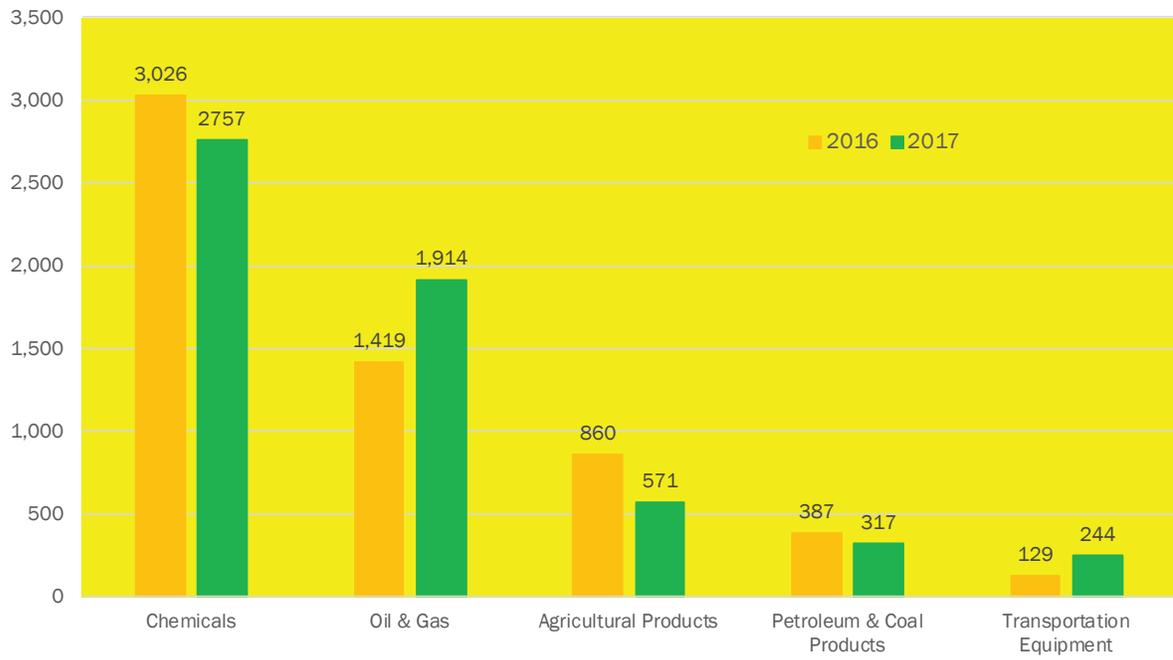
Delaware imports arrive from a variety of countries around the world. In 2017, Delaware imported more goods from Canada than from any other country, with \$868 million imported from our neighbor to the north. Delaware imports from Canada represent 11.3 percent of all Delaware imports in 2017. Over-the-year, imports from Canada increased by \$432 million, nearly double the prior year. The top import commodities to Delaware from Canada were Oil & Gas, and Transportation Equipment. Delaware imports from France totaled \$806 million, representing 10.5 percent of all Delaware imports. Imports from France increased by \$17 million over-the-year, an increase of 2.2 percent. The top import commodity from France was Chemicals, representing 88 percent of all imports. The third largest importing country to Delaware was the United Kingdom, totaling \$758 million in imports. Over-the-year, imports from the United Kingdom decreased by \$568 million, a decline of 42.8 percent. The largest imported commodity from the United Kingdom was Chemicals.



Delaware Import Commodities:

Delaware’s largest import commodity was Chemicals, valued at \$2.8 billion in 2017. It accounted for 36 percent of the total value of all Delaware imports. Chemical imports were down \$269 million from 2016, a decrease of 8.9 percent. Delaware’s next largest import commodity, Oil & Gas valued at \$1,914 million, was up over-the-year by \$495 million or 34.9 percent. Agricultural Products, Delaware’s third largest import valued at \$571 million was down 33.5 percent, decreasing by \$288 million. Petroleum & Coal Products, valued at \$317 million, was down 18.2 percent over-the-year and Transportation Equipment, valued at \$244 million, was up 113.3 percent over-the-year. Delaware’s top 5 import commodities represent 75.7 percent of all imports.

Top Import Commodities to Delaware (in millions of dollars)



City of Wilmington Employment and Wages

The city of Wilmington is Delaware’s most populous city. Located in New Castle County, it has an estimated population of 71,100 in 2017. While there are monthly estimates of employment and unemployment for city residents, no program exists to collect and report data for business establishments within the city. The Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program reports county and state level data, but QCEW data are not routinely generated for more detailed geographic levels. The Local Area Unemployment Statistics provides Wilmington employment data, but this is a residency-based count of employment and counts the number of residents who are employed irrespective of where they work. Here, we use the QCEW data, combined with information on the physical addresses of employers, to extract data specifically for firms and government agencies located within the city of Wilmington. The table below contains detailed industry employment data for the months of December for the years 2016 and 2017.



PHOTO CREDITS: Top left: WSFS Bank's headquarters in downtown Wilmington. By meckead CC BY-SA 3.0 <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0>
 Top right: Wilmington Station. By Pi.1415926535 CC BY-SA 3.0 <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0>
 Bottom left: A view of left field at Frawley Stadium and the scoreboard. By Gregory Koch CC BY-SA 4.0 <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0>
 Bottom right: Statue of Admiral Samuel DuPont in Rockford Park, with Rockford Park Water Tower in the background.

Wilmington Employment and Wages by Industry

	NAICS code	2016		2017	
		Dec. Empl.	4th Quarter Wages	Dec. Empl.	4th Quarter Wages
Total		50,698	1,049,531,938	48,815	1,059,714,983
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	11	*	*	*	*
Mining	21	*	*	*	*
Utilities	22	*	*	*	*
Construction	23	1,360	26,136,283	1,072	18,356,342
Construction of buildings	236	443	8,397,379	*	*
Heavy and civil engineering construction	237	336	5,955,443	*	*
Specialty trade contractors	238	581	11,783,461	678	12,139,121
Manufacturing	31-33	738	15,554,280	585	9,614,534
Food manufacturing	311	*	*	*	*
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing	312	*	*	*	*
Textile mills	313	0	0	0	0
Textile product mills	314	*	*	*	*
Apparel manufacturing	315	*	*	0	0
Leather and allied product manufacturing	316	0	0	0	0
Wood product manufacturing	321	0	0	0	0
Paper manufacturing	322	0	0	0	0
Printing and related support activities	323	72	1,512,193	68	1,203,728
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing	324	*	*	0	0
Chemical manufacturing	325	*	*	*	*
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	326	0	0	*	*
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	327	*	*	*	*
Primary metal manufacturing	331	*	*	0	0
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	332	81	1,134,477	76	1,211,783
Machinery manufacturing	333	*	*	*	*
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	334	*	*	*	*
Electrical equipment and appliance manufacturing	335	0	0	0	0
Transportation equipment manufacturing	336	*	*	*	*
Furniture and related product manufacturing	337	*	*	*	*
Miscellaneous manufacturing	339	*	*	*	*
Wholesale Trade	42	314	5,712,368	372	6,366,545
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	423	216	3,813,606	247	4,564,874
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	424	89	1,725,767	102	1,304,177
Electronic markets and agents and brokers	425	9	172,995	23	497,494
Retail Trade	44-45	1,759	17,324,706	1,868	17,916,278
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	441	557	7,670,752	552	7,525,771

Wilmington Employment and Wages by Industry

	NAICS code	2016		2017	
		Dec. Empl.	4th Quarter Wages	Dec. Empl.	4th Quarter Wages
Furniture and home furnishings stores	442	55	1,043,773	48	1,030,363
Electronics and appliance stores	443	*	*	*	*
Building material and garden supply stores	444	23	267,267	29	312,422
Food and beverage stores	445	408	3,131,835	496	3,464,333
Health and personal care stores	446	259	2,170,196	243	2,137,202
Gasoline stations	447	22	105,518	34	156,878
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	448	205	951,857	195	979,923
Sports, hobby, music instrument, book stores	451	37	317,527	38	290,857
General merchandise stores	452	50	215,784	*	*
Miscellaneous store retailers	453	82	509,899	100	707,758
Nonstore retailers	454	*	*	39	581,288
Transportation and Warehousing	48-49	950	11,334,025	846	12,977,369
Air transportation	481	*	*	*	*
Water transportation	483	*	*	*	*
Truck transportation	484	7	541,619	19	666,422
Transit and ground passenger transportation	485	11	44,868	38	224,252
Pipeline transportation	486	0	0	0	0
Scenic and sightseeing transportation	487	*	*	*	*
Support activities for transportation	488	675	6,797,203	544	7,735,837
Couriers and messengers	492	*	*	*	*
Warehousing and storage	493	57	674,462	53	663,432
Information	51	401	6,917,735	440	7,401,395
Publishing industries, except Internet	511	*	*	47	1,536,406
Motion picture and sound recording industries	512	*	*	*	*
Broadcasting, except Internet	515	*	*	*	*
Telecommunications	517	*	*	*	*
Data processing, hosting and related services	518	0	0	*	*
Other information services	519	*	*	*	*
Finance and Insurance	52	11,658	290,917,442	11,814	312,703,639
Monetary authorities - central bank	521	0	0	0	0
Credit intermediation and related activities	522	8,717	211,160,415	7,290	186,572,193
Securities, commodity contracts, investments	523	1,876	56,993,721	3,524	103,725,273
Insurance carriers and related activities	524	1,065	22,763,306	1,000	22,406,173
Funds, trusts, and other financial vehicles	525	0	0	0	0
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	53	662	9,100,442	678	9,814,600
Real estate	531	415	6,386,549	438	7,221,226

Wilmington Employment and Wages by Industry

	NAICS code	2016		2017	
		Dec. Empl.	4th Quarter Wages	Dec. Empl.	4th Quarter Wages
Rental and leasing services	532	*	*	*	*
Lessors of nonfinancial intangible assets	533	*	*	*	*
Professional and Technical Services	54	6,828	293,529,249	6,477	278,323,975
Management of Companies and Enterprises	55	2,585	92,873,986	2,870	116,152,040
Administrative and Waste Services	56	2,254	31,048,361	1,842	29,084,759
Administrative and support services	561	2,159	29,616,461	1,765	27,800,020
Waste management and remediation services	562	95	1,431,900	77	1,284,739
Educational Services	61	537	6,229,370	689	6,572,326
Health Care and Social Assistance	62	7,262	82,578,105	5,728	65,153,316
Ambulatory health care services	621	1,502	24,130,996	1,354	24,202,738
Hospitals	622	*	*	*	*
Nursing and residential care facilities	623	2,504	25,244,751	*	*
Social assistance	624	*	*	2,019	12,694,910
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	71	652	4,187,201	597	3,580,285
Performing arts and spectator sports	711	280	1,885,307	278	1,921,128
Museums, historical sites, zoos, and parks	712	95	914,261	121	951,696
Amusements, gambling, and recreation	713	277	1,387,633	198	707,461
Accommodation and Food Services	72	2,047	12,587,480	1,886	13,055,663
Accommodation	721	303	3,018,612	201	2,668,055
Food services and drinking places	722	1,744	9,568,868	1,685	10,387,608
Other Services, Except Public Administration	81	1,147	12,474,288	1,240	13,317,228
Repair and maintenance	811	172	3,116,476	196	3,392,226
Personal and laundry services	812	424	3,213,196	415	3,024,378
Membership associations and organizations	813	534	5,992,875	582	6,533,361
Private households	814	17	151,741	47	367,263
Federal Government	Fed	1,062	19,950,747	1,002	19,774,756
State Government	State	5,052	56,802,378	5,004	57,081,545
Local Government	Local	3,205	48,066,078	3,021	41,917,568
Total Government	Govt	9,319	124,819,203	9,027	118,773,869

An asterisk (*) represents data that cannot be released due to employer confidentiality restrictions.

City of Dover Employment and Wages

The city of Dover is Delaware's second most populous city. Located in Kent County, it has an estimated population of 37,500 in 2017. While there are monthly estimates of employment and unemployment for city residents, no program exists to collect and report data for business establishments within the city. The Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program reports county and state level data, but QCEW data are not routinely generated for more detailed geographic levels. The Local Area Unemployment Statistics provides Dover employment data, but this is a residency-based count of employment and counts the number of residents who are employed irrespective of where they work. Here, we use the QCEW data, combined with information on the physical addresses of employers, to extract data specifically for firms and government agencies located within the city of Dover. The table below contains detailed industry employment data for the month of December for the years 2016 and 2017.



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Dover Employment and Wages by Industry

	NAICS code	2016		2017	
		Dec. Empl.	4th Quarter Wages	Dec. Empl.	4th Quarter Wages
Total		31,802	356,555,993	32,181	364,757,312
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	11	*	*	*	*
Mining	21	*	*	*	*
Utilities	22	261	6,537,631	285	6,652,031
Construction	23	570	7,127,328	566	7,222,366
Construction of buildings	236	*	*	*	*
Heavy and civil engineering construction	237	*	*	*	*
Specialty trade contractors	238	122	1,481,912	152	2,058,688
Manufacturing	31-33	1,672	27,270,180	1,687	27,741,952
Food manufacturing	311	*	*	*	*
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing	312	*	*	*	*
Textile mills	313	0	0	0	0
Textile product mills	314	0	0	*	*
Apparel manufacturing	315	*	*	*	*
Leather and allied product manufacturing	316	0	0	0	0
Wood product manufacturing	321	0	0	0	0
Paper manufacturing	322	*	*	*	*
Printing and related support activities	323	*	*	*	*
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing	324	0	0	0	0
Chemical manufacturing	325	0	0	0	0
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	326	0	0	0	0
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	327	0	0	*	*
Primary metal manufacturing	331	*	*	*	*
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	332	0	0	*	*
Machinery manufacturing	333	0	0	0	0
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	334	*	*	*	*
Electrical equipment and appliance manufacturing	335	0	0	0	0
Transportation equipment manufacturing	336	*	*	0	0
Furniture and related product manufacturing	337	*	*	*	*
Miscellaneous manufacturing	339	*	*	*	*
Wholesale Trade	42	226	3,368,335	188	2,874,667
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	423	179	2,377,023	138	1,820,154
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	424	*	*	*	*
Electronic markets and agents and brokers	425	*	*	*	*
Retail Trade	44-45	3,904	22,707,740	3,928	23,431,489
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	441	449	5,492,274	498	6,057,713

Dover Employment and Wages by Industry

	NAICS code	2016		2017	
		Dec. Empl.	4th Quarter Wages	Dec. Empl.	4th Quarter Wages
Furniture and home furnishings stores	442	67	404,935	*	*
Electronics and appliance stores	443	199	1,534,119	206	1,508,638
Building material and garden supply stores	444	237	1,658,396	253	1,773,159
Food and beverage stores	445	349	1,582,442	295	1,528,119
Health and personal care stores	446	270	2,238,794	281	2,263,418
Gasoline stations	447	193	1,061,445	224	1,297,254
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	448	562	1,802,954	577	1,882,576
Sports, hobby, music instrument, book stores	451	232	782,010	244	780,993
General merchandise stores	452	1,155	5,229,540	1,122	5,167,424
Miscellaneous store retailers	453	191	920,831	176	887,169
Nonstore retailers	454	0	0	*	*
Transportation and Warehousing	48-49	146	1,092,066	223	1,611,669
Air transportation	481	0	0	0	0
Water transportation	483	0	0	0	0
Truck transportation	484	*	*	109	675,062
Transit and ground passenger transportation	485	*	*	57	340,085
Pipeline transportation	486	0	0	0	0
Scenic and sightseeing transportation	487	0	0	0	0
Support activities for transportation	488	*	*	40	410,273
Couriers and messengers	492	0	0	*	*
Warehousing and storage	493	*	*	*	*
Information	51	303	3,150,268	220	3,045,928
Publishing industries, except Internet	511	*	*	*	*
Motion picture and sound recording industries	512	*	*	*	*
Broadcasting, except Internet	515	*	*	*	*
Telecommunications	517	*	*	*	*
Data processing, hosting and related services	518	*	*	*	*
Other information services	519	*	*	*	*
Finance and Insurance	52	495	8,590,550	609	10,448,894
Monetary authorities - central bank	521	0	0	0	0
Credit intermediation and related activities	522	331	4,661,563	467	6,951,935
Securities, commodity contracts, investments	523	39	1,717,694	*	*
Insurance carriers and related activities	524	125	2,211,293	74	1,700,746
Funds, trusts, and other financial vehicles	525	0	0	*	*
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	53	177	1,800,951	200	2,232,996
Real estate	531	84	1,088,750	0	0

Dover Employment and Wages by Industry

	NAICS code	2016		2017	
		Dec. Empl.	4th Quarter Wages	Dec. Empl.	4th Quarter Wages
Rental and leasing services	532	93	712,201	115	1,335,200
Lessors of nonfinancial intangible assets	533	0	0	85	897,796
Professional and Technical Services	54	741	13,932,373	809	15,020,565
Management of Companies and Enterprises	55	*	*	*	*
Administrative and Waste Services	56	724	6,322,500	877	7,391,433
Administrative and support services	561	724	6,322,500	*	*
Waste management and remediation services	562	0	0	*	*
Educational Services	61	592	6,159,563	430	5,600,011
Health Care and Social Assistance	62	5,866	79,147,252	6,133	80,002,792
Ambulatory health care services	621	1,727	27,634,666	1,846	29,893,587
Hospitals	622	*	*	*	*
Nursing and residential care facilities	623	1,071	8,642,230	*	*
Social assistance	624	*	*	1,235	7,293,893
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	71	1,813	12,871,952	1,727	12,374,259
Performing arts and spectator sports	711	*	*	*	*
Museums, historical sites, zoos, and parks	712	*	*	*	*
Amusements, gambling, and recreation	713	1,722	11,390,982	1,698	12,077,307
Accommodation and Food Services	72	2,331	9,333,880	2,480	10,448,125
Accommodation	721	243	999,028	241	1,035,876
Food services and drinking places	722	2,088	8,334,852	2,239	9,412,249
Other Services, Except Public Administration	81	799	5,990,646	835	5,915,135
Repair and maintenance	811	168	1,358,126	126	867,347
Personal and laundry services	812	389	2,389,424	401	2,675,350
Membership associations and organizations	813	242	2,243,096	299	2,328,061
Private households	814	0	0	9	44,377
Federal Government	Fed	1,310	20,648,394	1,269	21,092,519
State Government	State	7,548	91,239,501	7,388	91,140,712
Local Government	Local	2,020	23,016,435	2,001	23,182,547
Total Government	Govt	10,878	134,904,330	10,658	135,415,778

An asterisk (*) represents data that cannot be released due to employer confidentiality restrictions.

City of Newark Employment and Wages

The city of Newark is Delaware's third most populous city. Located in New Castle County, it has an estimated population of 33,900 in 2017. While there are monthly estimates of employment and unemployment for city residents, no program exists to collect and report data for business establishments within the city. The Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program reports county and state level data, but QCEW data are not routinely generated for more detailed geographic levels. The Local Area Unemployment Statistics provides Newark employment data, but this is a residency-based count of employment and counts the number of residents who are employed irrespective of where they work. Here, we use the QCEW data, combined with information on the physical addresses of employers, to extract data specifically for firms and government agencies located within the city of Newark. The table below contains detailed industry employment data for the month of December for the years 2016 and 2017.



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Newark Employment and Wages by Industry

	NAICS code	2016		2017	
		Dec. Empl.	4th Quarter Wages	Dec. Empl.	4th Quarter Wages
Total		17,437	260,076,403	17,571	266,532,492
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	11	*	*	*	*
Mining	21	*	*	*	*
Utilities	22	0	0	0	0
Construction	23	598	10,674,266	513	9,288,738
Construction of buildings	236	159	3,237,170	102	1,726,197
Heavy and civil engineering construction	237	0	0	0	0
Specialty trade contractors	238	439	7,437,096	411	7,562,541
Manufacturing	31-33	1,091	21,888,672	1,015	21,509,937
Food manufacturing	311	*	*	*	*
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing	312	0	0	0	0
Textile mills	313	*	*	*	*
Textile product mills	314	0	0	0	0
Apparel manufacturing	315	*	*	*	*
Leather and allied product manufacturing	316	0	0	0	0
Wood product manufacturing	321	0	0	0	0
Paper manufacturing	322	0	0	0	0
Printing and related support activities	323	*	*	*	*
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing	324	0	0	0	0
Chemical manufacturing	325	131	2,197,128	*	*
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	326	*	*	*	*
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	327	0	0	0	0
Primary metal manufacturing	331	0	0	0	0
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	332	*	*	43	939,999
Machinery manufacturing	333	*	*	*	*
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	334	47	971,175	*	*
Electrical equipment and appliance manufacturing	335	*	*	*	*
Transportation equipment manufacturing	336	*	*	*	*
Furniture and related product manufacturing	337	*	*	*	*
Miscellaneous manufacturing	339	*	*	*	*
Wholesale Trade	42	372	6,660,207	438	7,735,882
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	423	319	5,976,300	349	6,411,926
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	424	*	*	54	876,362
Electronic markets and agents and brokers	425	*	*	35	447,594
Retail Trade	44-45	2,251	20,452,161	2,290	21,755,715
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	441	1,094	14,045,173	1,165	15,548,996

Newark Employment and Wages by Industry

	NAICS code	2016		2017	
		Dec. Empl.	4th Quarter Wages	Dec. Empl.	4th Quarter Wages
Furniture and home furnishings stores	442	*	*	*	*
Electronics and appliance stores	443	*	*	*	*
Building material and garden supply stores	444	*	*	*	*
Food and beverage stores	445	387	2,213,623	389	2,254,332
Health and personal care stores	446	105	662,937	99	771,578
Gasoline stations	447	0	0	14	66,405
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	448	135	507,896	128	513,391
Sports, hobby, music instrument, book stores	451	103	601,412	105	587,881
General merchandise stores	452	185	615,308	179	602,964
Miscellaneous store retailers	453	67	351,663	68	410,194
Nonstore retailers	454	29	574,271	12	160,099
Transportation and Warehousing	48-49	83	898,238	68	703,899
Air transportation	481	0	0	0	0
Water transportation	483	0	0	0	0
Truck transportation	484	46	474,738	48	465,465
Transit and ground passenger transportation	485	0	0	0	0
Pipeline transportation	486	0	0	0	0
Scenic and sightseeing transportation	487	0	0	0	0
Support activities for transportation	488	*	*	*	*
Couriers and messengers	492	*	*	*	*
Warehousing and storage	493	*	*	*	*
Information	51	38	794,108	77	965,820
Publishing industries, except Internet	511	*	*	*	*
Motion picture and sound recording industries	512	0	0	*	*
Broadcasting, except Internet	515	0	0	0	0
Telecommunications	517	*	*	*	*
Data processing, hosting and related services	518	0	0	*	*
Other information services	519	0	0	0	0
Finance and Insurance	52	347	6,468,442	320	4,409,049
Monetary authorities - central bank	521	0	0	0	0
Credit intermediation and related activities	522	323	5,980,817	295	3,837,515
Securities, commodity contracts, investments	523	*	*	*	*
Insurance carriers and related activities	524	*	*	*	*
Funds, trusts, and other financial vehicles	525	0	0	0	0
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	53	109	1,013,029	91	1,383,777
Real estate	531	79	759,281	73	1,284,047

Newark Employment and Wages by Industry

	NAICS code	2016		2017	
		Dec. Empl.	4th Quarter Wages	Dec. Empl.	4th Quarter Wages
Rental and leasing services	532	30	253,748	18	99,730
Lessors of nonfinancial intangible assets	533	0	0	0	0
Professional and Technical Services	54	887	16,170,810	1,022	18,206,986
Management of Companies and Enterprises	55	39	301,944	31	107,262
Administrative and Waste Services	56	269	3,475,124	258	3,623,154
Administrative and support services	561	269	3,475,124	258	3,623,154
Waste management and remediation services	562	0	0	0	0
Educational Services	61	55	464,035	80	577,855
Health Care and Social Assistance	62	632	6,421,534	590	6,465,530
Ambulatory health care services	621	349	4,417,965	315	4,299,414
Hospitals	622	0	0	0	0
Nursing and residential care facilities	623	*	*	*	*
Social assistance	624	*	*	*	*
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	71	72	388,317	89	423,365
Performing arts and spectator sports	711	*	*	*	*
Museums, historical sites, zoos, and parks	712	0	0	0	0
Amusements, gambling, and recreation	713	*	*	*	*
Accommodation and Food Services	72	2,886	13,940,950	3,170	16,211,377
Accommodation	721	344	2,139,580	622	4,312,689
Food services and drinking places	722	2,542	11,801,370	2,548	11,898,688
Other Services, Except Public Administration	81	427	5,735,136	316	4,791,155
Repair and maintenance	811	*	*	*	*
Personal and laundry services	812	100	483,609	67	374,123
Membership associations and organizations	813	256	4,262,949	203	3,883,384
Private households	814	*	*	*	*
Federal Government	Fed	132	2,251,915	143	2,493,209
State Government	State	6,111	129,573,108	6,097	134,092,481
Local Government	Local	1,038	12,504,407	946	11,728,501
Total Government	Govt	7,281	144,329,430	7,186	148,314,191

An asterisk (*) represents data that cannot be released due to employer confidentiality restrictions.

State of Delaware Business Employment Dynamics

Business Employment Dynamics (BED) measures the gross job gains and gross job losses from each quarter in the economy. Gross job gains are increases in employment from expanding and opening establishments and gross job losses are decreases in employment from contracting and closing establishments. The net change in employment is the difference between gross job gains and gross job losses. Each quarter the net change in jobs is typically dwarfed by the gross job gains and losses.

While there are typically still gross job gains even during recessions and gross job losses during expansions, the difference between the two, the net job change, is typically negative in recessions and positive in expansions.

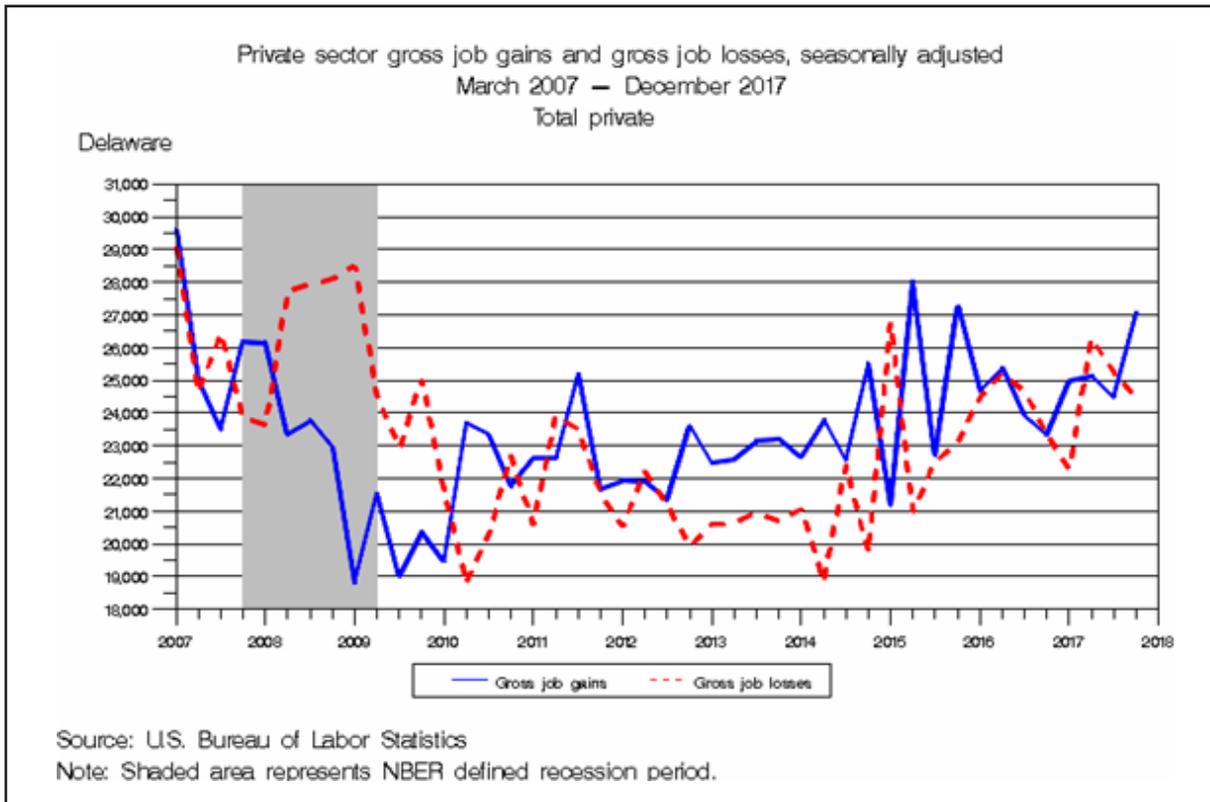
BED also measures the number of establishments with gross job gains at either expanding or opening establishments and the number of establishments with gross job losses at either contracting or closing establishments. An establishment is defined as an economic unit that produces goods or services, while a firm or company may consist of one establishment or multiple establishments at several locations.



BED data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program, linking administrative Unemployment Insurance establishment data across time. The employment changes in the BED are measured from the third month of each quarter. All the data referenced in this article are seasonally adjusted.

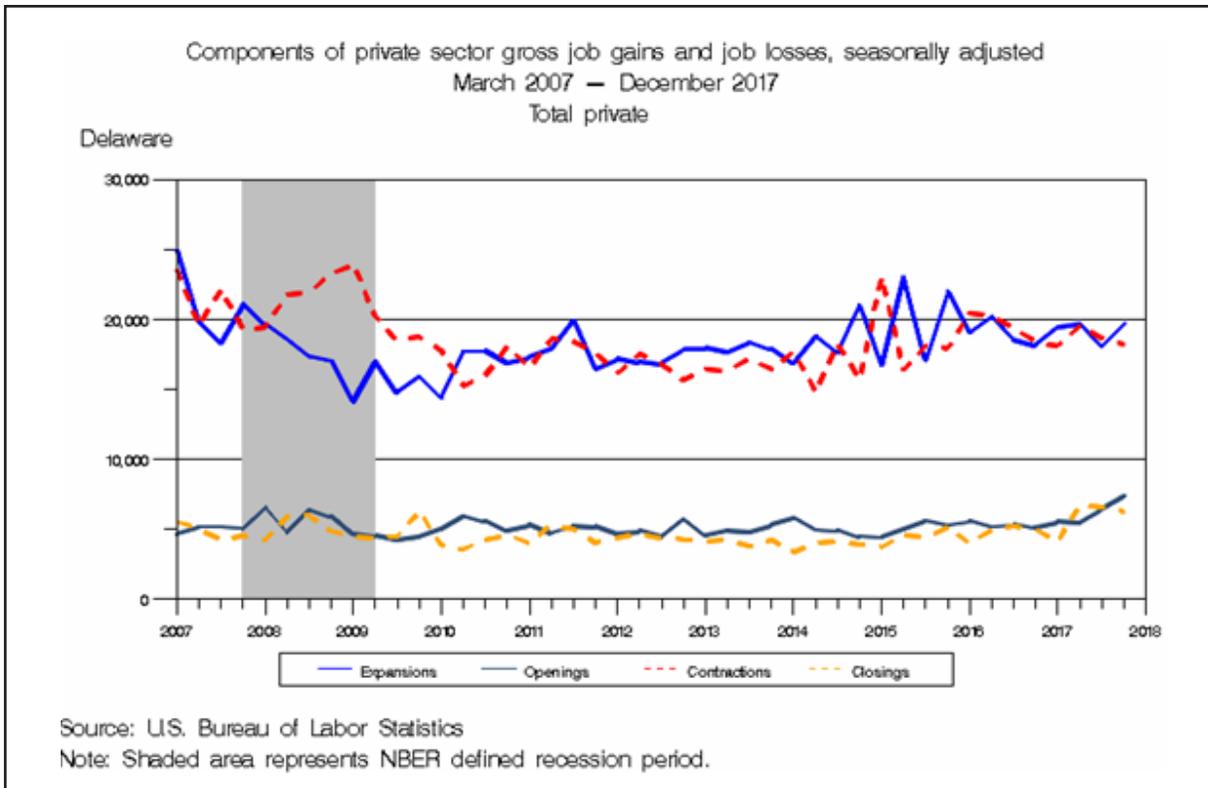
Delaware Business Employment Dynamics – 4th Quarter, 2017

In the fourth quarter of 2017, Delaware's gross job gains from opening and expanding establishments were 27,053 and the number of job losses from closing and contracting establishments was 24,440. Expanding and contracting establishments accounted for most of the jobs gained and lost. The net job change, i.e., the difference between total gross job gains and total gross job losses, was 2,626 from the fourth quarter of 2016.



Trends in Gross Job Gains and Job Losses

Opening and expanding private sector business establishments in Delaware gained 27,053 jobs in the fourth quarter of 2017, or 3,715 more than in the fourth quarter of 2016. In the fourth quarter of 2017, expanding establishments added 19,670 jobs, while opening establishments added 7,383. Gross job gains were larger than in the previous year at expanding establishments (1,474) and opening establishments (2,241).



Gross job losses totaled 24,440 in the fourth quarter of 2017, up by 1,089 from the fourth quarter of 2016. In the fourth quarter of 2017, contracting establishments lost 18,200 jobs, while closing establishments accounted for a loss of 6,240 jobs. Gross job losses were smaller than in the previous year at contracting establishments (-185) and larger at closing establishments (1,274).

Table A: Delaware 3-month private sector gross job gains and losses, seasonally adjusted

Category	3 months ended				
	Dec. 2016	Mar. 2017	Jun. 2017	Sept. 2017	Dec. 2017
	Levels				
Gross job gains	23,338	24,976	25,141	24,514	27,053
At expanding establishments	18,196	19,430	19,679	18,066	19,670
At opening establishments	5,142	5,546	5,462	6,448	7,383
Gross job losses	23,351	22,313	26,277	25,233	24,440
At contracting establishments	18,385	18,157	19,578	18,673	18,200
At closing establishments	4,966	4,156	6,699	6,560	6,240
Net employment change*	-13	2,663	-1,136	-719	2,613

* The net employment change is the difference between total gross job gains and total gross job losses.

Rates of Gross Job Gains and Gross Job Losses

In the fourth quarter of 2017, Delaware's gross job gains represented 7.1 percent of private sector employment. This was greater than the national rate of gross job gains of 6.4 percent. Delaware's gross job gains at expanding establishments represented 5.2 percent of private sector employment, and gross job gains at opening establishments represented 1.9 percent. Nationally this quarter, gross job gains at expanding establishment represented 5.2 percent of private sector employment, and at opening establishments represented 1.2 percent.

In the fourth quarter of 2017, Delaware's gross job losses represented 6.4 percent of private sector employment. This was greater than the national rate of gross job losses of 5.5 percent. Delaware's gross job losses at contracting establishments represented 4.8 percent of private sector employment, which was higher than the national rate of 4.5 percent. The rate of gross job losses at closing establishments was 1.6 percent for Delaware, while the national rate was 1.0 percent. The rates of gross job gains and losses provide a picture of the amount of "job churning" that occurs in the labor market.

Table B: Delaware and U.S. 3-month private sector gross job gains and losses as a percent of employment, seasonally adjusted

Category	3 months ended				
	Dec. 2016	Mar. 2017	Jun. 2017	Sep. 2017	Dec. 2017
Total Private for State of Delaware	Rates (percent)				
Gross job gains	6.2	6.6	6.6	6.5	7.1
At expanding establishments	4.8	5.1	5.2	4.8	5.2
At opening establishments	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.7	1.9
Gross job losses	6.2	5.9	7	6.6	6.4
At contracting establishments	4.9	4.8	5.2	4.9	4.8
At closing establishments	1.3	1.1	1.8	1.7	1.6
Net employment change*	0	0.7	-0.4	-0.1	0.7
Total Private for U.S. as a whole	Rates (percent)				
Gross job gains	6.2	6.0	6.2	6.0	6.4
At expanding establishments	5.0	4.9	5.1	4.9	5.2
At opening establishments	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2
Gross job losses	5.9	5.4	5.8	6.1	5.5
At contracting establishments	4.8	4.5	4.8	5.0	4.5
At closing establishments	1.1	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.0
Net employment change*	0.3	0.6	0.4	-0.1	0.9

* The net employment change is the difference between total gross job gains and total gross job losses.

Number of Establishments Gaining and Losing Employment

Another way to observe the dynamics of employment change is to count the number of establishments that opened, closed, expanded, or contracted during the quarter. Out of 32,119 active private sector establishments, a total of 6,226 establishments gained jobs in the fourth quarter of 2017. (See table C.) Of these, 4,623 were expanding establishments and 1,603 were opening establishments. During the fourth quarter of 2017, 6,044 establishments lost jobs. Of these, 4,563 were contracting establishments and 1,481 were closing establishments. On average, expanding establishments added 4.3 jobs during the quarter and contracting establishments lost 4.0 jobs during the quarter.



Table C: Delaware's number of private sector establishments by direction of employment change, seasonally adjusted

Category	3 months ended				
	Dec. 2016	Mar. 2017	Jun. 2017	Sep. 2017	Dec. 2017
Establishments gaining jobs.....	5,877	6,233	5,749	5,925	6,226
Expanding establishments.....	4,576	4,884	4,453	4,364	4,623
Opening establishments.....	1,301	1,349	1,296	1,561	1,603
Establishments losing jobs.....	6,189	5,772	6,225	6,243	6,044
Contracting establishments.....	4,749	4,587	4,742	4,710	4,563
Closing establishments.....	1,440	1,185	1,483	1,533	1,481
Net establishment change*.....	-139	164	-187	28	122

* The net establishment change is the difference between the number of opening establishments and the number of closing establishments.

Change in Real Median Wages, 2007 to 2017

The economy as a whole and many individuals suffered serious economic setbacks during the recession that began at the end of 2007. While the economy has largely recovered, not all people have. Some occupations have seen large wage gains since the downturn, some have had stagnant wages, and others have experienced wage declines.

Nominal wages are the pay in current dollars at any given time, but as anyone knows, if your pay stays the same while the prices you pay are rising, your real pay is going down. The real wage, which is pay adjusted for inflation, is what matters. Here we use the Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington Current Price Index to estimate that local average prices increased by 15.7 percent from 2007 to 2017. People whose wages rose exactly that amount are assumed to have the same standard of living in 2017 as in 2007. Those with higher wage gains would be better off, while workers whose pay rose less than 15.7 percent would suffer a real wage loss.

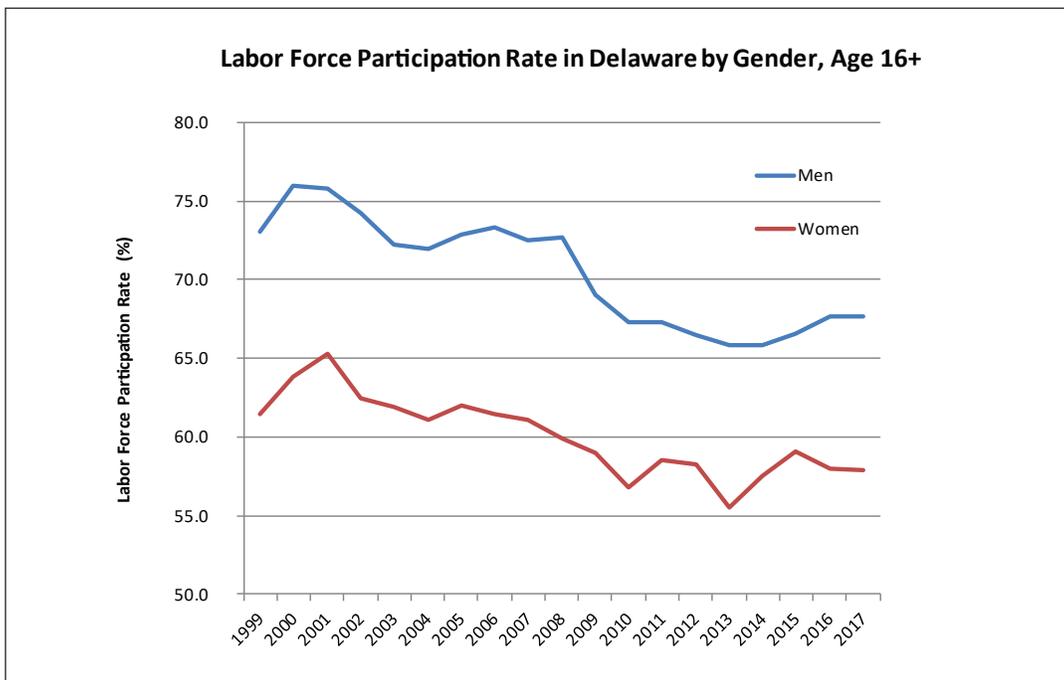
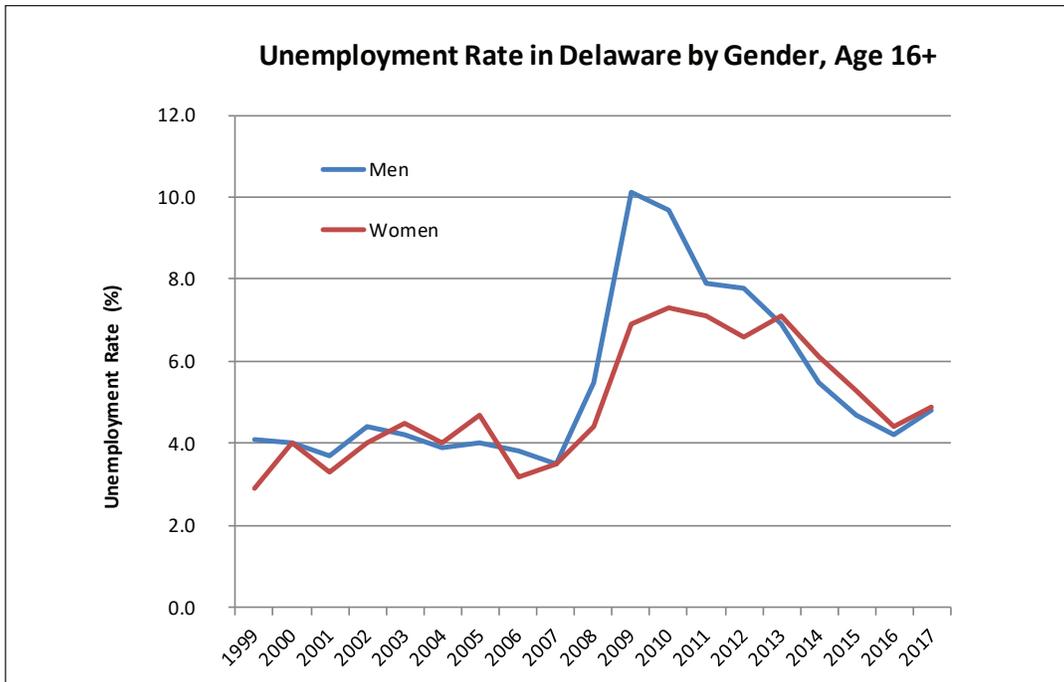
The median wage is the wage earner in the middle – half in that group earn more, and half earn less. It is a better measure than the mean or average, because it is not distorted by extremes; when a few highly-paid individuals receive huge bonuses, the mean goes up, but the median is unchanged. Since those few don't really represent the whole group, the median is a better representation.

As the table below shows, people in management fared best of all over the last decade, receiving raises at nearly double the rate of inflation. Those in the more service-oriented occupations did not do so well. Overall, about half of all workers have seen stagnant or declining living conditions in the past decade.

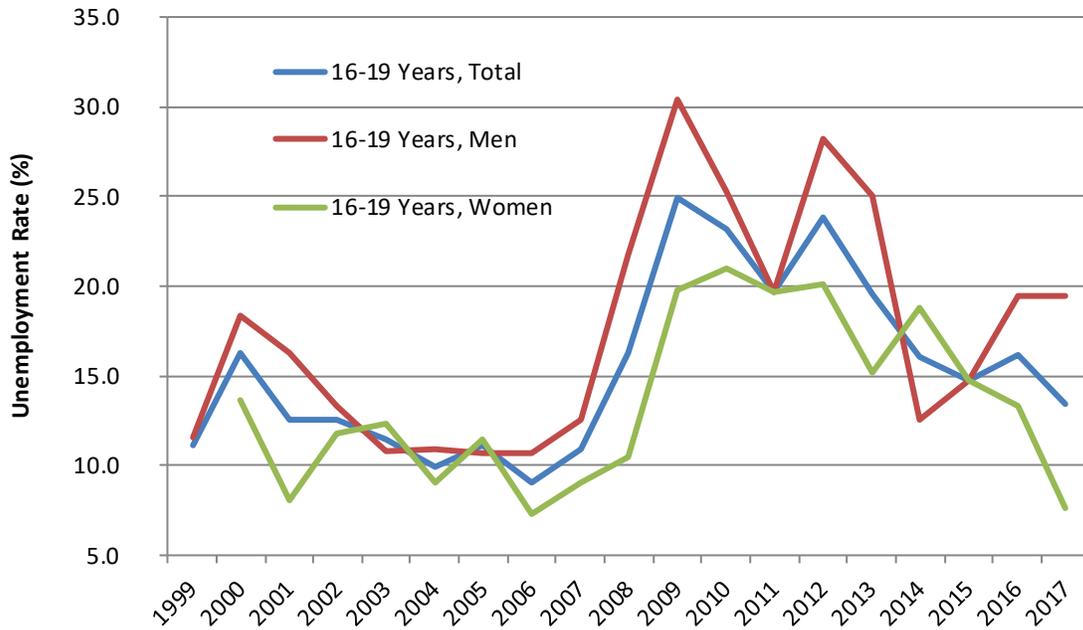
Occupation Group	2017 Employment	2007 Wage	2017 Wage	Nominal Wage	Real Change
Management	18,250	\$45.43	\$59.34	\$13.91	14.9%
Bus. & Financial	27,680	\$26.50	\$33.91	\$7.41	12.3%
Computer	17,560	\$33.95	\$43.19	\$9.24	11.5%
Maintenance	15,380	\$18.28	\$22.94	\$4.66	9.8%
Engineering	6,440	\$32.33	\$40.51	\$8.18	9.6%
Cleaning	15,380	\$10.31	\$12.71	\$2.40	7.6%
Construction	15,510	\$18.63	\$22.78	\$4.15	6.6%
Healthcare	31,000	\$28.33	\$33.57	\$5.24	2.8%
Office Support	71,860	\$14.65	\$17.18	\$2.53	1.6%
Legal	4,900	\$34.76	\$40.63	\$5.87	1.2%
Sciences	5,360	\$30.29	\$35.24	\$4.95	0.6%
Education	25,470	\$21.55	\$24.95	\$3.40	0.1%
Food Service	40,820	\$8.86	\$10.15	\$1.29	-1.1%
Healthcare Support	12,220	\$13.13	\$14.69	\$1.56	-3.8%
Arts & Entertainment	3,760	\$18.44	\$20.61	\$2.17	-3.9%
Manufacturing	19,200	\$13.49	\$14.80	\$1.31	-6.0%
Social Services	6,740	\$19.23	\$20.94	\$1.71	-6.8%
Sales	47,790	\$11.31	\$12.29	\$0.98	-7.0%
Personal Care	16,000	\$10.44	\$11.28	\$0.84	-7.7%
Transportation	30,110	\$13.11	\$13.86	\$0.75	-10.0%
Protective Service	9,840	\$16.67	\$17.24	\$0.57	-12.3%
Agriculture	880	\$15.14	\$15.19	\$0.05	-15.4%

Current Population Survey Demographic Data

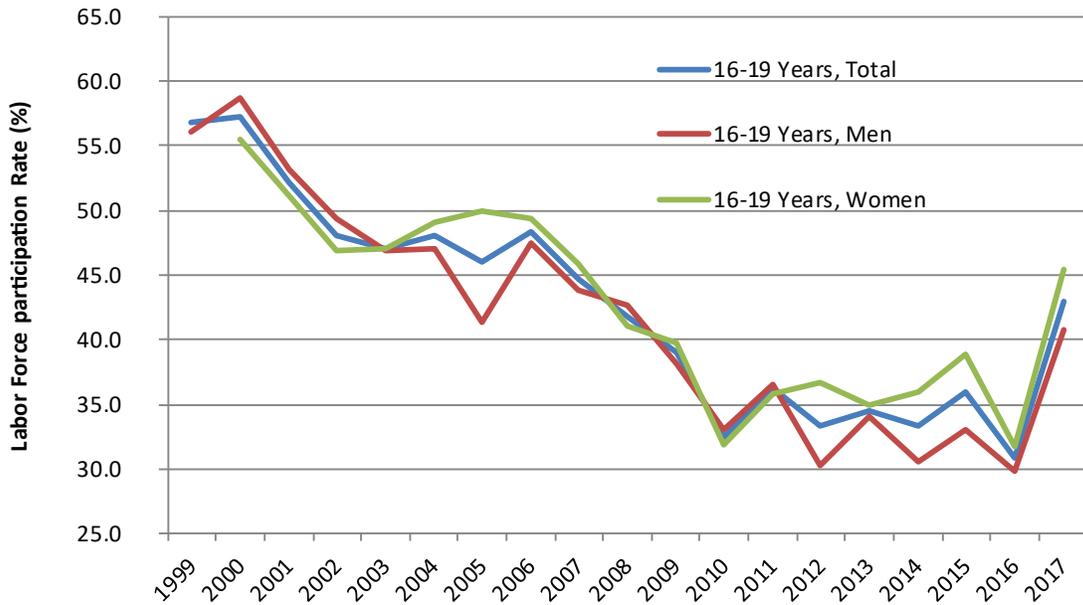
The Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly survey of approximately 60,000 households across the US, is the source of the national unemployment rate, as well as a great deal of more detailed economic data. In Delaware, about 750 households are in the survey each month. This is too few to generate the state's unemployment rate directly, so the CPS is used as the key component in an econometric model, as in all states. More detailed data, such as the demographic labor force graphs shown below, come directly from the survey. By using annual averages, much of the statistical variation in the data, which would be more evident monthly, is smoothed away.



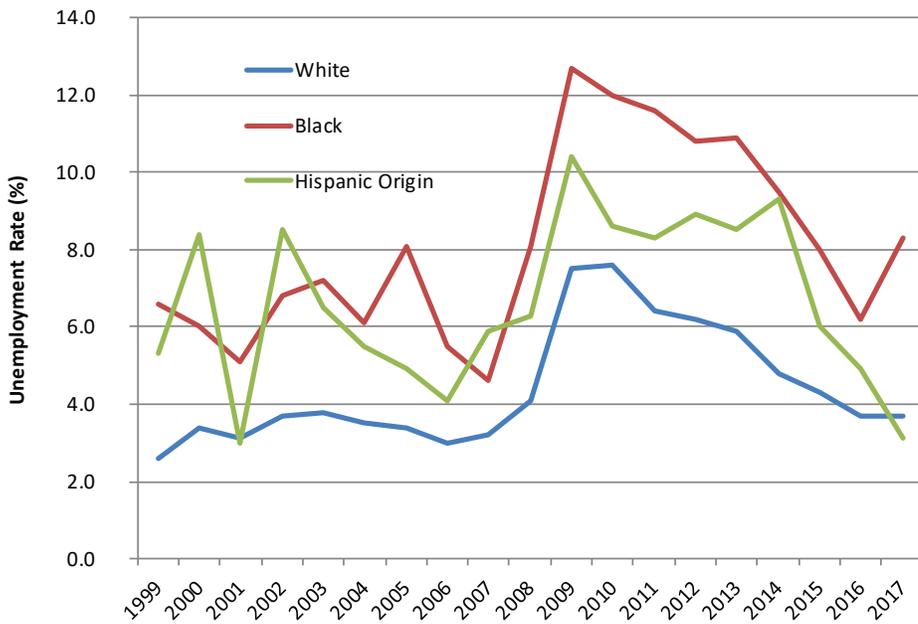
Teenage Unemployment Rate in Delaware



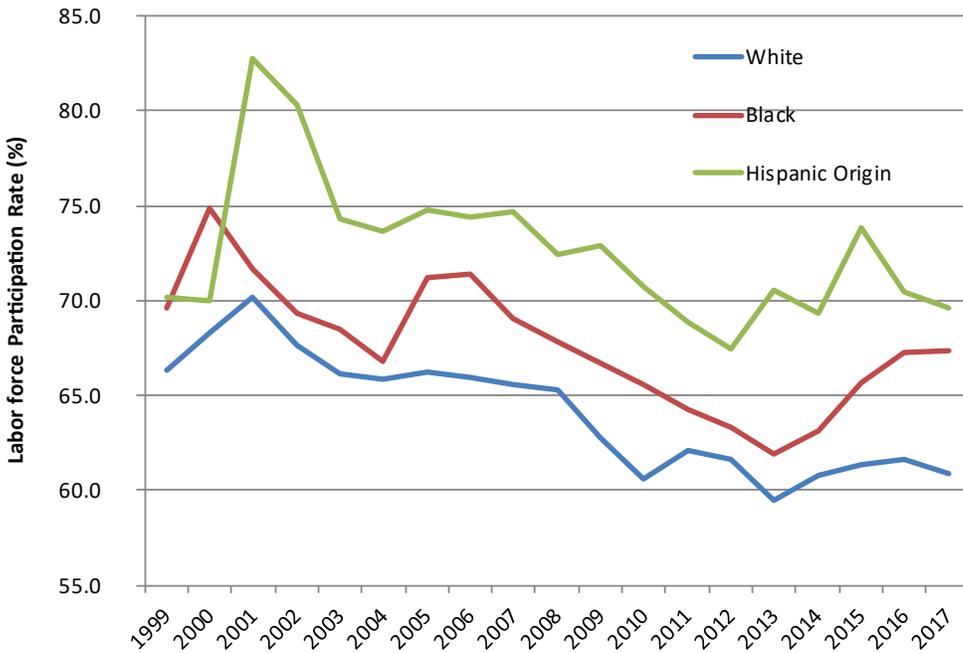
Teenage Labor Force Participation Rate in Delaware

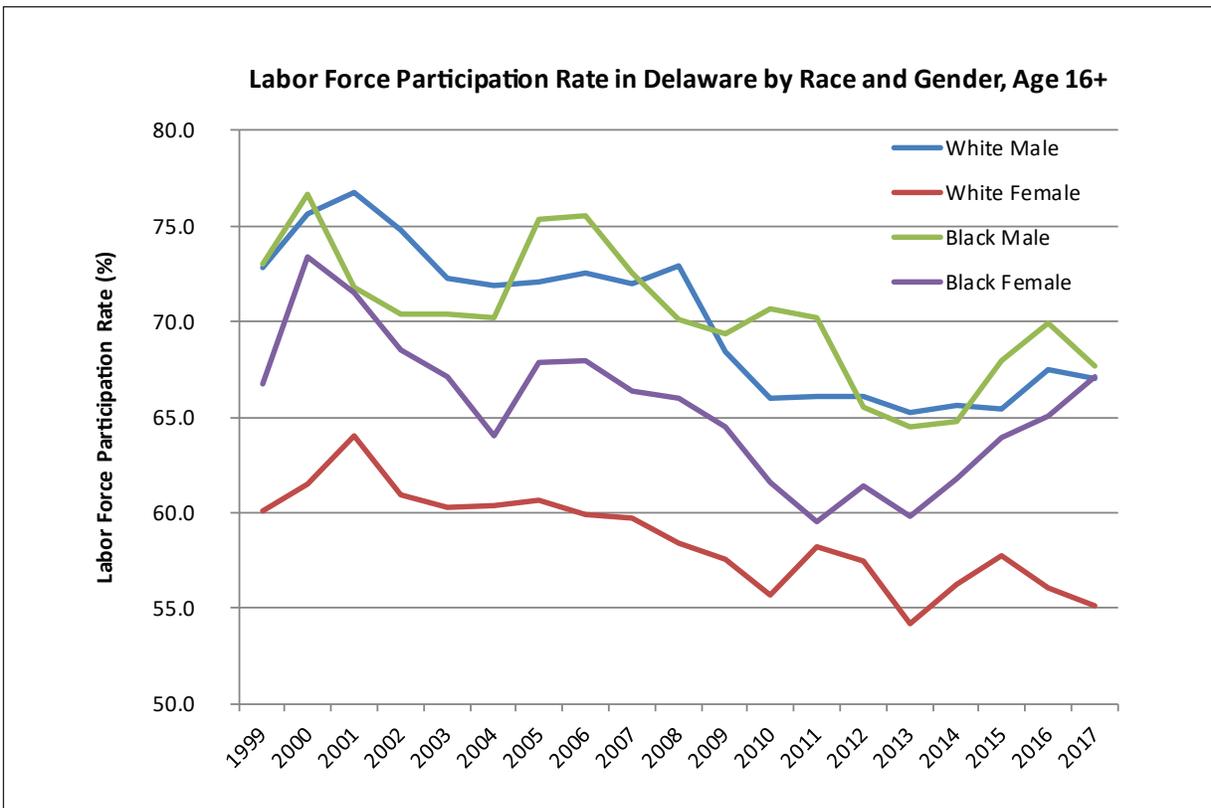
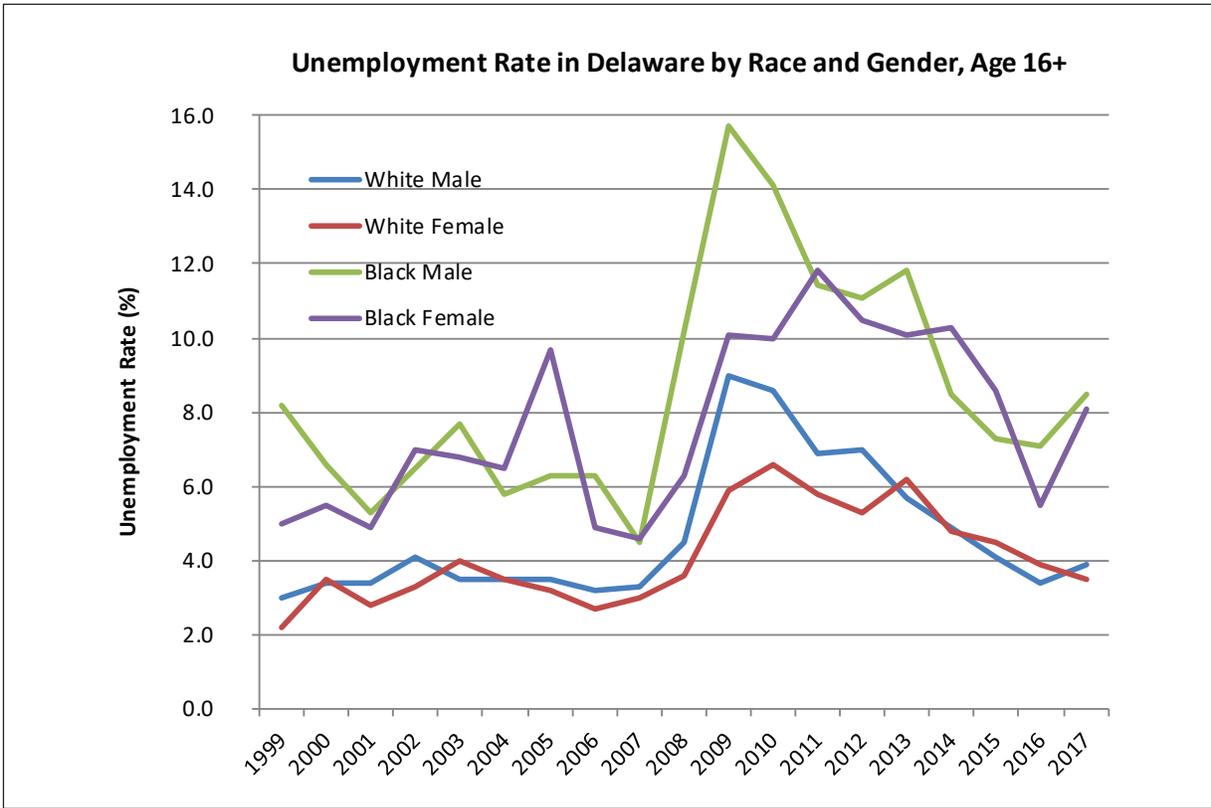


Unemployment Rate in Delaware by Race and Ethnicity, Age 16+

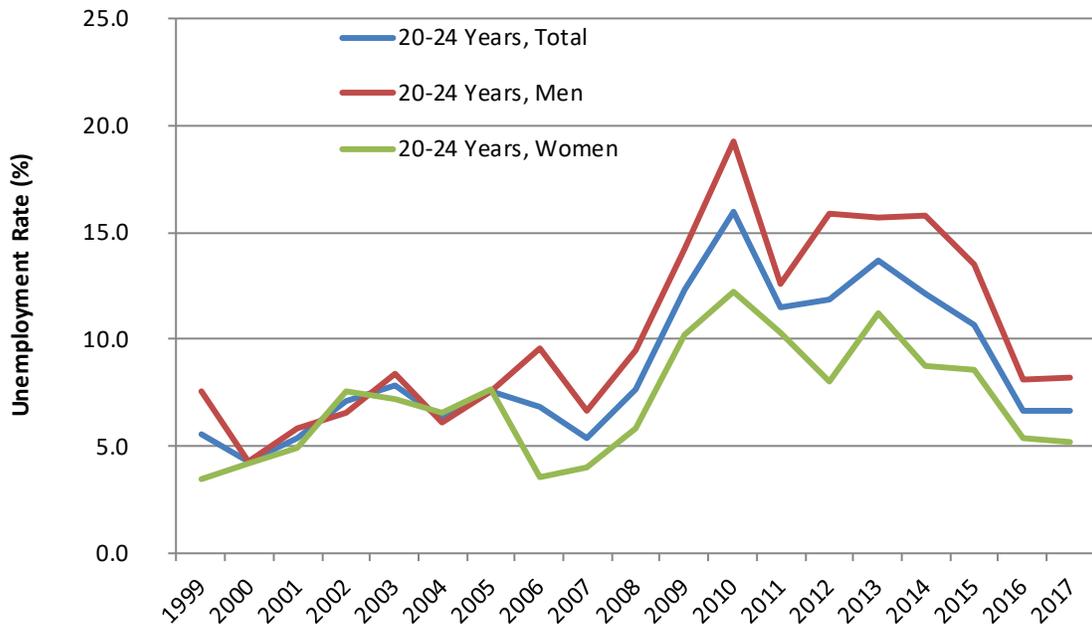


Labor Force Participation Rate in Delaware by Race and Ethnicity, Age 16+

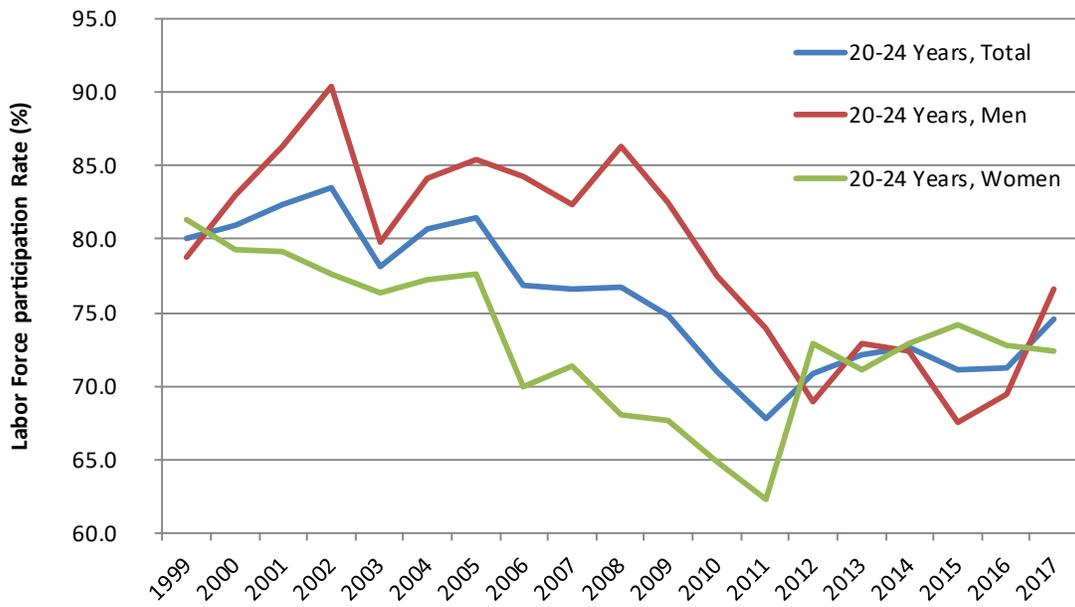




Unemployment Rate in Delaware, 20-24 Years Old



Labor Force Participation Rate in Delaware, 20-24 Years Old





U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Employment and Training Administration (ETA)



Office of Occupational & Labor Market Information





DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
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