



Cerron Cade, Secretary

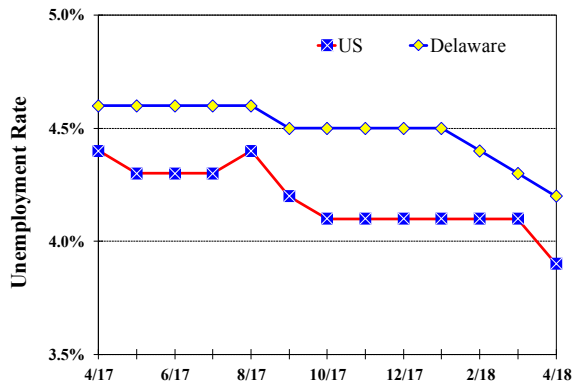
# Monthly Labor Review

## April 2018

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

#### Delaware and US

April 2017 - April 2018



### MONTHLY COMMENTARY

Data from the complete payroll reports of Delaware employers for the fourth quarter of 2017 were recently released, and they show that the state’s job slowdown indicated by the business survey was exaggerated. Of particular importance is the December figure, since we typically measure annual job change from December to December. The original survey estimates, done by BLS with minor input from this office, showed solid year-over-year (12-month) job gains early in 2017, dwindling to a 200 job loss by December. After benchmarking to the first three quarters of payroll data, it now shows zero job change for the 12 months ending December 2017. The new payroll data, which are much more complete and accurate, show 2,900 jobs gained during that period.

The biggest variations were in Accommodations and Food Services, which the survey estimates showed losing 1,200 jobs in 2017; that sector actually gained 30 jobs. Retail Trade was originally down 1,000 jobs for the year; it gained 290 jobs. Transportation and Warehousing was estimated to have lost 1,100 jobs; the payroll data show 290 jobs lost in that sector. The takeaway should not be that the data are completely unreliable; survey-based estimates always have a degree of error. Instead people should realize there is a price to pay for getting information quickly, and waiting for more complete data whenever possible will provide a truer picture.



### DELAWARE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

Delaware Residents

	Apr. 2018	Mar. 2018	Apr. 2017
Civilian Labor Force	481,400	480,200	477,100
Employed	461,300	459,500	454,900
Unemployed	20,100	20,700	22,200
Unemployment Rate %	4.2	4.3	4.6
US Unemployment Rate %	3.9	4.1	4.4

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

### AREA UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (%)

	Apr. 2018	Mar. 2018	Apr. 2017
<b>New Castle County</b>	3.6	3.9	4.4
Wilmington	5.3	5.4	6.2
Newark	3.3	4.1	4.8
<b>Kent County</b>	4.0	4.5	4.8
Dover	5.0	5.7	6.2
<b>Sussex County</b>	3.9	4.5	4.7

Note: Area rates are not seasonally adjusted.

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: George Sharpley, Ph.D. (302) 761-8060

## DELAWARE LABOR FORCE TRENDS

Delaware's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in April 2018 was 4.2%, down from 4.3% in March 2018. There were 20,100 unemployed Delawareans in April 2018 compared to 22,200 in April 2017. The US unemployment rate was 3.9% in April 2018, down from 4.1% in March 2018. In April 2017 the US unemployment rate was 4.4%, while Delaware's rate was 4.6%.

In April 2018 seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment was 459,500, unchanged from March 2018. Since April 2017, Delaware's total nonfarm jobs have increased by a net gain of +4,400, a rise of 1.0%. Nationally, jobs during that period increased 1.6%.

### DELAWARE NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

*Jobs at Delaware Locations*  
Seasonally Adjusted (in 000s)

INDUSTRY GROUP	Apr. 2018	Mar. 2018	Over the Month Change	Over the Year Change†
TOTAL NONAG. EMP.	459.5	459.5	0.0	4.4
CONSTRUCTION	22.6	23.0	-0.4	0.3
MANUFACTURING	26.0	25.9	0.1	0.0
Durable Goods	9.5	9.3	0.2	0.1
Nondurable Goods	16.5	16.6	-0.1	-0.1
TRADE, TRANSP., & UTIL.	82.3	82.3	0.0	1.6
Wholesale Trade	10.1	10.1	0.0	-0.7
Retail Trade	53.9	53.9	0.0	0.6
Transp. & Utilities	18.3	18.3	0.0	1.7
INFORMATION *	4.3	4.3	0.0	-0.3
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	48.1	48.2	-0.1	0.2
PROF. & BUS. SERVICES	63.6	62.6	1.0	2.3
EDUCATION & HEALTH	77.9	78.2	-0.3	-0.1
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	49.1	49.7	-0.6	-0.1
OTHER SERVICES	19.0	19.0	0.0	0.1
GOVERNMENT	66.6	66.3	0.3	0.4
Federal Government *	5.7	5.6	0.1	0.0
State Government	32.9	32.8	0.1	-0.2
Local Government	27.9	27.7	0.2	0.6

\* Industries are not seasonally adjusted.

† Annual changes are not seasonally adjusted.

Details may not add up due to rounding and seasonal adjustment.

Source: US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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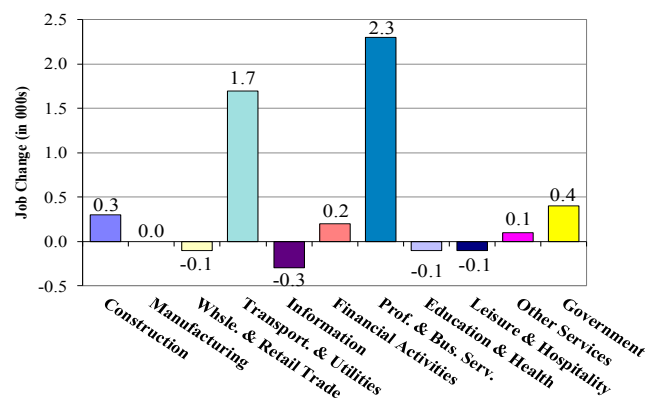
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### DELAWARE OVER-THE-YEAR JOB CHANGE

April 2017—April 2018



### CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

All Urban Consumers

	Percent Change to Apr. 2018 from:		
	Mar. 2018	Feb. 2018	Apr. 2017
US City Average	0.4	0.6	2.5
Phila.-Camden-Wilm.*	NA	0.9	1.4

\* Data are published on a bi-monthly basis.

### DELAWARE ANNUAL NET JOB CHANGE

Annual Average 1997—2017

