



Cerron Cade, Secretary

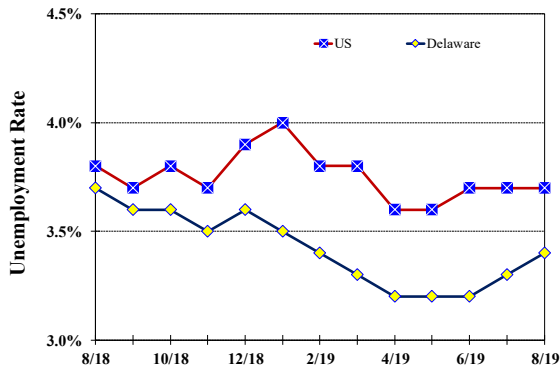
# Monthly Labor Review

## August 2019

### Unemployment Rate

#### Delaware and US

August 2018 - August 2019



### Monthly Commentary

Delaware’s monthly unemployment rate edged up by another tenth in August, to 3.4 percent. The number of unemployed residents rose above 16,000 for the first time since March, to 16,600, while the number of residents with jobs fell for the first time this year (last month’s tiny decrease was revised to a tiny increase). The August decline in employed residents stands as the biggest drop since 2009 but is nowhere near on par with then. Delaware’s current economy appears to be experiencing a mild slowdown, not anything like the meltdown ten years ago.

One relative bright spot has been the experience of teenagers in the state’s labor market. Their unemployment rate of 5.7 percent over the past 12 months is less than half the national rate of 12.8 percent. More teens participate in the local job market, as well. Teen labor force participation is 37.6 percent in DE; in the US it is 34.9 percent. Male teens are more likely to be unemployed, with a 7.0 percent rate in DE vs. 4.7 for females, but the real divergence occurs among ages 20-24: males that age in DE have a 10.1 percent unemployment rate, while for females it drops to 1.9 percent. The causes of that are unclear.

### Delaware Civilian Labor Force Delaware Residents

	Aug. 2019	July 2019	Aug. 2018
Civilian Labor Force	489,100	489,100	483,000
Employed	472,500	473,100	465,300
Unemployed	16,600	16,000	17,700
Unemployment Rate %	3.4	3.3	3.7
US Unemployment Rate %	3.7	3.7	3.8

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

### Area Unemployment Rates (%)

	Aug. 2019	July 2019	Aug. 2018
<b>New Castle County</b>	4.1	3.8	4.0
Wilmington	5.9	5.5	5.9
Newark	4.1	4.0	3.9
<b>Kent County</b>	4.8	4.5	4.5
Dover	6.2	5.9	5.6
<b>Sussex County</b>	3.5	3.2	3.2

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 August 2019 was 3.4%, up from 3.3% in July 2019. There were 16,600 unemployed Delawareans in August 2019 compared to 17,700 in August 2018. The US unemployment rate was 3.7% in August 2019, unchanged from July 2019. In August 2018 the US unemployment rate was 3.8%, while Delaware's rate was 3.7%.

In August 2019, seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment was 466,000, up from 464,500 in July 2019. Since August 2018, Delaware's total nonfarm jobs have increased by a net gain of +5,600, a rise of 1.2%. Nationally, jobs during that period increased 1.4%.

## Delaware Nonfarm Employment

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

INDUSTRY GROUP	Aug. 2019	July 2019	Over the Month Change	Over the Year Change†
TOTAL NONAG. EMP.	466.0	464.5	1.5	5.6
CONSTRUCTION	22.9	23.0	-0.1	1.0
MANUFACTURING	27.6	27.6	0.0	0.5
Durable Goods	9.7	9.7	0.0	0.2
Nondurable Goods	17.9	17.9	0.0	0.3
TRADE, TRANSP., & UTIL.	79.5	78.7	0.8	-0.3
Wholesale Trade	11.1	11.2	-0.1	0.3
Retail Trade	52.4	51.6	0.8	-0.3
Transp. & Utilities	16.0	15.9	0.1	-0.3
INFORMATION *	4.0	4.0	0.0	0.0
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	48.0	47.9	0.1	0.8
PROF. & BUS. SERVICES	62.5	61.8	0.7	-1.9
EDUCATION & HEALTH	82.5	82.5	0.0	2.8
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	52.4	52.3	0.1	1.6
OTHER SERVICES	18.3	18.3	0.0	-0.4
GOVERNMENT	68.3	68.4	-0.1	1.5
Federal Government	5.9	5.8	0.1	0.2
State Government	33.2	33.3	-0.1	-0.2
Local Government	29.2	29.3	-0.1	1.5

\* 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.

Office of Occupational and Labor Market Information

For data questions, contact:

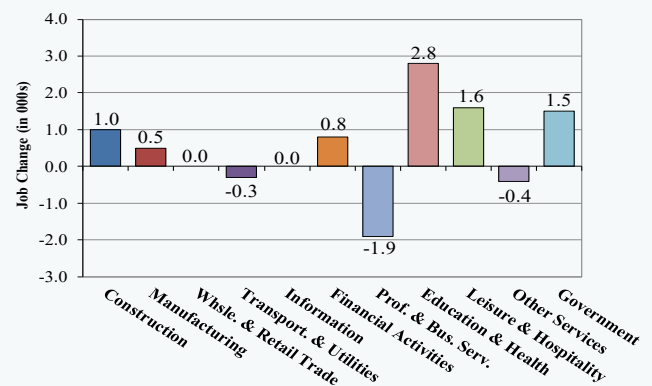
George Sharpley, Ph.D.  
(302) 761-8060



<https://lmi.delawareworks.com>

## Delaware Over-the-Year Job Change

August 2018—August 2019



## Consumer Price Index

All Urban Consumers

	Percent Change to Aug. 2019 from:		
	July 2019	June 2019	Aug. 2018
US City Average	0.0	0.2	1.7
Phila.-Camden-Wilm.*	NA	0.5	2.3

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

## Delaware Annual Net Job Change

Annual Average 1998—2018

