



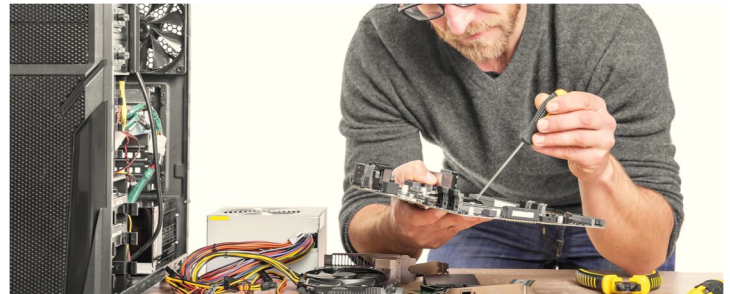
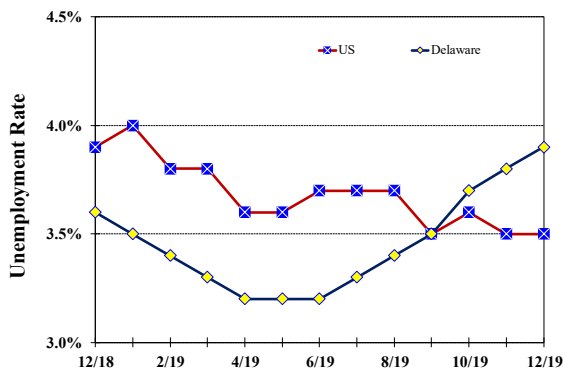
Cerron Cade, Secretary

# Monthly Labor Review

## December 2019

### Unemployment Rate

**Delaware and US**  
December 2018 - December 2019



### Monthly Commentary

Delaware’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased by one-tenth of a percentage point to 3.9 percent in December. The last time Delaware’s unemployment rate was 3.9 was April 2018. Delaware’s unemployment rate has been rising since June when the rate was 3.2 percent. For all of 2019, Delaware’s unemployment rate averaged 3.5 percent, which is the lowest average annual unemployment rate since 2007. Residential employment and unemployment both rose in December causing the labor force to increase by 900; and the labor force participation rate increased by one-tenth to 62.6 percent. The US labor force participation rate for December is 63.2 percent by comparison.

Since December 2018, Delaware’s total non-farm jobs have increased by a net gain of 6,100, a rise of 1.3 percent. Nationally, jobs during that period increased 1.4 percent. Over-the-year, the Education & Health industry had the largest employment increase with 2,200 jobs, an increase of 2.7 percent. This was followed by Leisure & Hospitality with an increase of 1,800 jobs, up 3.7 percent; and Retail Trade increasing by 1,600 jobs over-the-year, up 3.0 percent. Professional & Business Services had employment losses with employment down 1,600 from a year ago. Over-the-month, Delaware total non-farm seasonally adjusted jobs are up 700. Seasonally adjusted, Healthcare & Social Assistance is up 700 jobs over-the-month.



### Delaware Civilian Labor Force Delaware Residents

	Dec. 2019	Nov. 2019	Dec. 2018
Civilian Labor Force	491,900	491,000	483,400
Employed	472,800	472,300	466,200
Unemployed	19,100	18,700	17,200
Unemployment Rate %	3.9	3.8	3.6
US Unemployment Rate %	3.5	3.5	3.9

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

### Area Unemployment Rates (%)

	Dec. 2019	Nov. 2019	Dec. 2018
<b>New Castle County</b>	3.3	3.5	2.8
Wilmington	5.1	5.3	4.4
Newark	2.6	3.2	2.2
<b>Kent County</b>	3.8	4.0	3.2
Dover	4.7	5.2	4.0
<b>Sussex County</b>	4.0	3.9	3.6

Note: Area rates are not seasonally adjusted.

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

Office of Occupational and Labor Market Information

For data questions, contact: Tom Dougherty (302) 761-8062

# Delaware Labor Force Trends

Delaware's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in December 2019 was 3.9%, up from 3.8% in November 2019. There were 19,100 unemployed Delawareans in December 2019 compared to 17,200 in December 2018. The US unemployment rate was 3.5% in December 2019, unchanged from 3.5% in November 2019. In December 2018 the US unemployment rate was 3.9%, while Delaware's rate was 3.6%.

In December 2019, seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment was 470,400, up from 469,700 in November 2019. Since December 2018, Delaware's total nonfarm jobs have increased by a net gain of +6,100, a rise of 1.3%. Nationally, jobs during that period also increased 1.4%.

## Delaware Nonfarm Employment

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

INDUSTRY GROUP	Dec. 2019	Nov. 2019	Over the Month Change	Over the Year Change†
TOTAL NONAG. EMP.	470.4	469.7	0.7	6.1
CONSTRUCTION	22.8	23.1	-0.3	-0.3
MANUFACTURING	27.4	27.5	-0.1	0.1
Durable Goods	9.5	9.6	-0.1	-0.1
Nondurable Goods	17.9	17.9	0.0	0.2
TRADE, TRANSP., & UTIL.	81.1	80.9	0.2	1.9
Wholesale Trade	11.1	11.0	0.1	0.0
Retail Trade	53.7	53.7	0.0	1.6
Transp. & Utilities	16.3	16.2	0.1	0.3
INFORMATION *	3.9	4.0	-0.1	0.1
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	48.4	48.4	0.0	1.3
PROF. & BUS. SERVICES	62.0	61.6	0.4	-1.6
EDUCATION & HEALTH	83.8	83.1	0.7	2.2
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	54.3	54.2	0.1	1.8
OTHER SERVICES	18.4	18.4	0.0	-0.4
GOVERNMENT	68.3	68.5	-0.2	1.0
Federal Government	5.7	5.8	-0.1	0.0
State Government	33.5	33.5	0.0	0.1
Local Government	29.1	29.2	-0.1	0.9

\* 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:

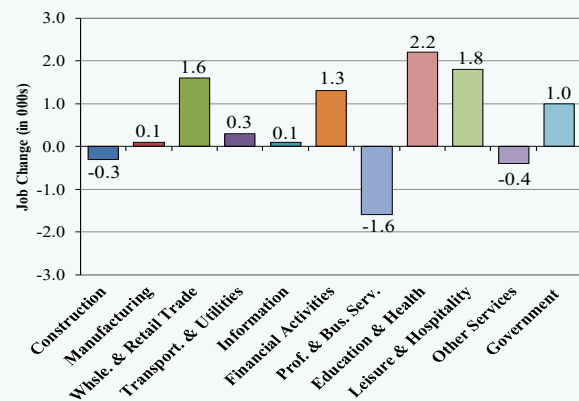
Tom Dougherty  
(302) 761-8062



<https://lmi.delawareworks.com>

## Delaware Over-the-Year Job Change

December 2018—December 2019



## Consumer Price Index

All Urban Consumers

	Percent Change to Dec. 2019 from:		
	Nov. 2019	Oct. 2019	Dec. 2018
<b>US City Average</b>	-0.1	-0.1	2.3
<b>Phila.-Camden-Wilm.*</b>	NA	-0.3	2.4

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

## Delaware Annual Net Job Change

Annual Average 1998—2018

