



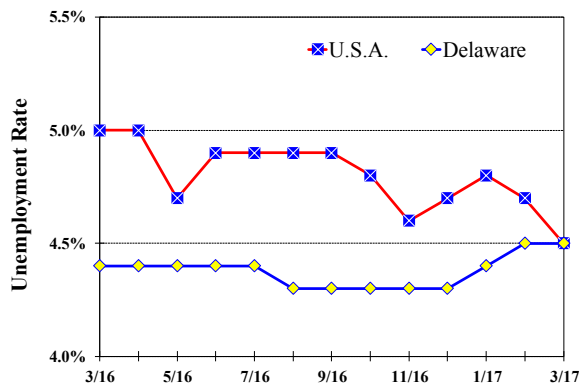
Patrice Gilliam-Johnson, Ph.D., Secretary

Monthly Labor Review

March 2017

Unemployment Rate

Delaware and U.S.A.
March 2016 - March 2017



Delaware Civilian Labor Force

	Mar. 2017	Feb. 2017	Mar. 2016
Civilian Labor Force	474,500	472,500	474,300
Employment	453,000	451,300	453,300
Unemployment	21,500	21,200	21,000
Unemployment Rate %	4.5	4.5	4.4
U.S. Unemployment Rate %	4.5	4.7	5.0

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

Area Unemployment Rates (%)

	Mar. 2017	Feb. 2017	Mar. 2016
New Castle County	4.4	4.6	4.3
Wilmington	6.3	6.3	6.4
Newark	4.7	4.6	3.8
Kent County	4.9	5.3	4.8
Dover	6.1	6.2	5.8
Sussex County	5.1	5.7	5.0

Note: Area rates are not seasonally adjusted.

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

Monthly Commentary

It is well known that people with lower levels of formal education tend to experience higher rates of unemployment. For the 12 months ending in March, the unemployment rate for the 63,300 Delawareans 25 years old and up without a high school diploma or equivalent was 7.8%. For the 232,200 people with a high school degree or equivalent, but no college it was 4.8%, while the 357,100 people who have attended college had an unemployment rate of 3.1%. What is less well known is that people with lower levels of education are even less likely to participate in the labor force at all.

Only 43.3% of those without a high school diploma were employed in the last year. Combined with those unemployed, that still leaves fewer than half participating in the labor force. For high school graduates with no college experience, the participation rate rises to 57.7%. Two-thirds of the people with some college but less than a Bachelor's degree are in the labor force, and 73.2% with a Bachelor's or higher are in the labor force, with 70.8% being employed. People 65 years old and up are slightly more likely to have not finished high school, which helps explain the low labor participation, but unfortunately the age group with the greatest percentage of non-HS graduates is those 18 to 24.



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 March 2017 was 4.5%, unchanged from 4.5% in February 2017. There were 21,500 unemployed Delawareans in March 2017 compared to 21,000 in March 2016. The U.S. unemployment rate was 4.5% in March 2017, down from 4.7% in February 2017. In March 2016 the U.S. unemployment rate was 5.0%, while Delaware's rate was 4.4%.

In March 2017, seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment was 457,000 up from 456,500 in February 2017. Since March 2016, 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 1.5%.

Delaware Nonfarm Employment

Seasonally Adjusted (in 000s)
March 2016—March 2017

INDUSTRY GROUP	Mar. 2017	Feb. 2017	Over the Month Change	Over the Year Change†
TOTAL NONAG. EMP.	457.0	456.5	0.5	4.4
CONSTRUCTION	21.9	22.0	-0.1	-0.1
MANUFACTURING	25.7	25.9	-0.2	0.3
Durable Goods *	9.3	9.3	0.0	0.1
Nondurable Goods	16.5	16.5	0.0	0.2
TRADE, TRANSP., & UTIL.	83.0	83.3	-0.3	-0.6
Wholesale Trade	11.9	11.9	0.0	0.1
Retail Trade	53.9	54.4	-0.5	-0.3
Transp. & Utilities	17.2	17.0	0.2	-0.4
INFORMATION *	4.6	4.8	-0.2	0.0
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	47.0	47.1	-0.1	-0.2
PROF. & BUS. SERVICES	59.1	57.8	1.3	-0.9
EDUCATION & HEALTH	79.1	79.3	-0.2	2.5
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	51.4	52.2	-0.8	2.0
OTHER SERVICES	18.8	18.6	0.2	0.1
GOVERNMENT	66.4	65.5	0.9	1.3
Federal Government *	5.8	5.7	0.1	0.1
State Government	33.1	32.6	0.5	0.3
Local Government	27.6	27.6	0.0	0.9

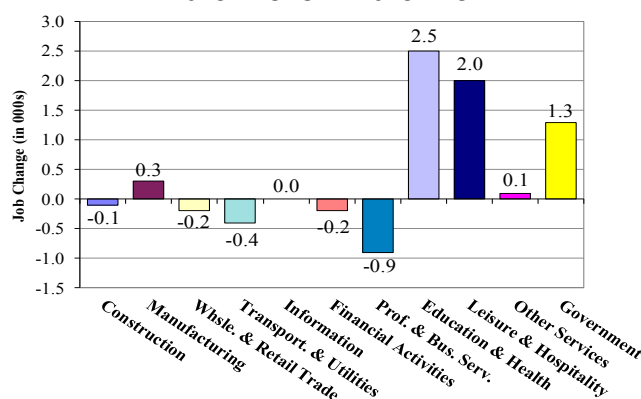
* Industries are not seasonally adjusted.

† Annual changes are not seasonally adjusted.

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

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Delaware Over-The-Year Job Change March 2016—March 2017



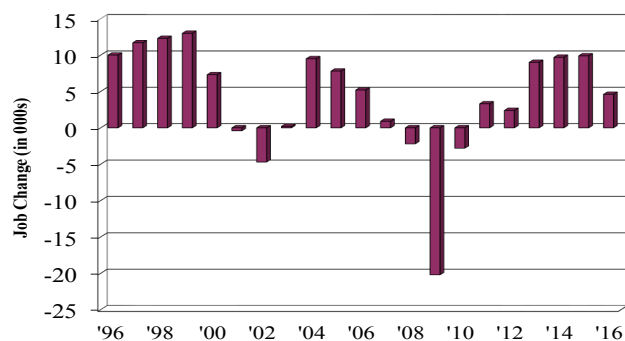
Consumer Price Index

All Urban Consumers

	Percent Change to Mar. 2017 from:		
	Feb. 2017	Jan. 2017	Mar. 2016
U.S. City Average	0.1	0.4	2.4
Phila.-Wilm.-Atlantic City*	NA	NA	NA

* Data are published on a bi-monthly basis.

Delaware Annual Net Job Change 1996—2016



<https://lmi.delawareworks.com>

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