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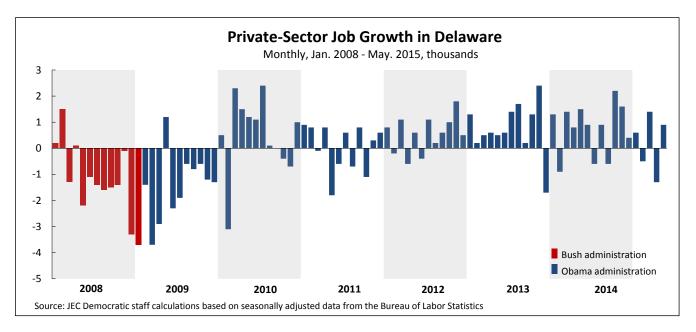
UNITED STATES CONGRESS

# **ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: DELAWARE**

\*\*Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs, unemployment and earnings data through May 2015\*\* \*\*Last updated on June 19th; Data update next on July 21st\*\*

#### <u>Jobs</u>

- In May, private-sector employment in Delaware grew by 900 jobs. Over the past year, Delaware businesses have added 5,900 jobs. This compares with an increase of 10,000 jobs over the 12 months through May 2014.
- Since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment, Delaware businesses have added 34,500 jobs (an increase of 10.0 percent). Nationally, private payrolls have increased by 11.7 percent over this time.
- The state sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: leisure and hospitality at 17.0 percent (7,000 jobs), education and health services at 15.8 percent (10,100 jobs) and logging, mining and construction at 11.8 percent (2,200 jobs).



#### **UNEMPLOYMENT**

- The unemployment rate in Delaware was 4.6 percent in May 2015, up 0.1 percentage point from April. The rate was 0.9 percentage point below the national rate of 5.5 percent.
- Unemployment is down 1.3 percentage points from one year earlier and is 4.1 percentage points below its recent peak of 8.7 percent in February 2010.
- There were 21,100 Delaware residents unemployed in May 2015.

## **EARNINGS**

- In May 2015, average hourly earnings of private-sector workers in Delaware were \$22.21. The average workweek was 33.4 hours, and average weekly earnings were \$741.81.
- Adjusting for inflation, state average hourly earnings have risen by 2.2 percent over the past year. Nationally, real average hourly earnings have increased by 2.3 percent (not seasonally adjusted).

STATE QUICK FACTS		
	Delaware	United States
Private-Sector Jobs AddedPast 12 Months	5,900	3.0 million
Since Feb. 2010	34,500	12.6 million
Unemployment Rate May 2015	4.6%	5.5%
May 2014	5.9%	6.3%
Recession-Era Peak	8.7%	10.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$) 2013	\$52,200	\$51,900
2007 (Pre-Recession	n) \$61,300	\$56,400
Poverty Rate 2013	14.0%	14.5%
2007 (Pre-Recession	n) 9.3%	12.5%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate 2014	6.1%	5.3%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate2014	9.8%	7.2%
Percentage Without Health Insurance 2013	9.1%	14.5%

## STATE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

- Real gross domestic product (GDP) in Delaware grew by 1.2 percent in 2014, below the national average growth rate of 2.2 percent.\*
- Since 2009, annual Delaware GDP growth has averaged 0.1 percent, compared with a national average annual growth rate of 1.9 percent.

## HOUSING

- Home prices in Delaware increased by 5.9 percent from the first quarter of 2014 to the first quarter of 2015. They are up 12.6 percent since their recent low in the first quarter of 2012.
- In April 2015, builders in Delaware broke ground on 4,940 new housing units (seasonally adjusted annual rate), bringing the average over the past 12 months to 4,884 units. That marks an increase of 9.6 percent from the average over the prior 12 months.

#### **EXPORTS**

- In Delaware, goods exports totaled \$455 million in April and \$5.1 billion over the past year, up 0.6 percent from the 12 months ending in April 2014 (inflation-adjusted).
- Exports over the past 12 months are up 10.6 percent from their level in 2009 (inflation-adjusted).

\*\* A list of sources used to compile the Delaware economic snapshot is available at: http://bit.ly/JEC-state-by-state-sources

http://www.delawareworks.com/oolmi/Information/Publications.aspx

<sup>\*</sup> Note: Because of methodological differences, total U.S. real GDP by state differs slightly from headline national GDP figures

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> For additional Delaware-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Delaware office: