JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE RANKING DEMOCRAT CAROLYN B. MALONEY



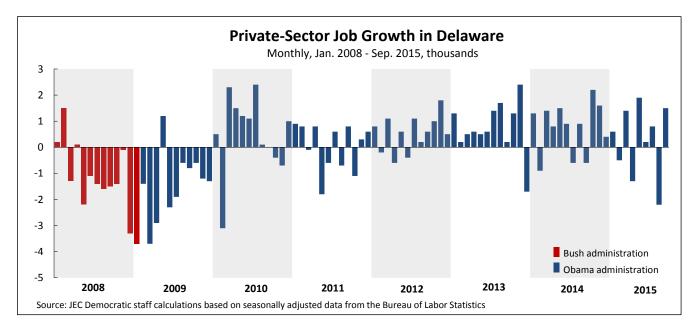
UNITED STATES CONGRESS OCTOBER 2015

# **ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: DELAWARE**

\*\*Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs, unemployment and earnings data through September 2015\*\* \*\*Last updated on October 20th; Data update next on November 20th\*\*

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

- In September, private-sector employment in Delaware grew by 1,500 jobs. Over the past year, Delaware businesses have added 6,600 jobs. This compares with an increase of 6,700 jobs over the 12 months through September 2014.
- Since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment, Delaware businesses have added 35,800 jobs (an increase of 10.4 percent). Nationally, private payrolls have increased by 12.3 percent over this time.
- The state sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: leisure and hospitality at 19.6 percent (8,100 jobs), logging, mining and construction at 17.2 percent (3,200 jobs) and education and health services at 15.5 percent (9,900 jobs).



#### **UNEMPLOYMENT**

- The unemployment rate in Delaware was 4.9 percent in September 2015, up 0.1 percentage point from August. The rate was 0.2 percentage point below the national rate of 5.1 percent.
- Unemployment is down 0.6 percentage point from one year earlier and is 3.8 percentage points below its recent peak of 8.7 percent in February 2010.
- There were 22,900 Delaware residents unemployed in September 2015.

### EARNINGS

- In September 2015, average hourly earnings of private-sector workers in Delaware were \$22.98. The average workweek was 32.9 hours, and average weekly earnings were \$756.04.
- Adjusting for inflation, state average hourly earnings have risen by 6.0 percent over the past year. Nationally, real average hourly earnings have increased by 2.2 percent (not seasonally adjusted).

STATE QUICK FACTS			
		Delaware	<b>United States</b>
Private-Sector Jobs Added	Past 12 Months	6,600	2.6 million
	Since Feb. 2010	35,800	13.2 million
Unemployment Rate	. September 2015	4.9%	5.1%
	September 2014	5.5%	5.9%
	Recession-Era Peak	8.7%	10.0%
Median Household Income (2014 \$)	. 2014	\$57,500	\$53,700
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	\$62,300	\$57,400
Poverty Rate	. 2014	11.0%	14.8%
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	9.3%	12.5%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	. 2014	6.1%	5.3%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2014	9.8%	7.2%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	. 2014	7.8%	11.7%
	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 1.6 percent from the second quarter of 2014 to the second quarter of 2015. They are up 11.2 percent since their recent low in the first quarter of 2012.
- In August 2015, builders in Delaware broke ground on 9,410 new housing units (seasonally adjusted annual rate), bringing the average over the past 12 months to 5,488 units. That marks an increase of 22.8 percent from the average over the prior 12 months.

## **EXPORTS**

- In Delaware, goods exports totaled \$419 million in August and \$5.1 billion over the past year, up 6.3 percent from the 12 months ending in August 2014 (inflation-adjusted).
- Exports over the past 12 months are up 11.9 percent from their level in 2009 (inflation-adjusted).

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 \*\* A list of sources used to compile the Delaware economic snapshot is available at: http://bit.ly/JEC-state-by-state-sources \*\*\* For additional Delaware-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Delaware office: