

DELAWARE’S LABOR MARKET (source Delaware Department of Labor (DDOL) Employment Projections, 2016)

By 2024, 30% of Delaware’s workforce (143,593 jobs) will be replaced. Of which, job growth will account for 8% (39,326 new jobs) and replacements will account for 22% (104,267 jobs). Delaware’s labor market can be organized into three categories of employment: low-, middle-, and high-skill jobs. Low-skill jobs require a high school diploma or less and provide an average wage of \$26,350 per year. Middle-skill jobs require some type of postsecondary education, (e.g., Registered Apprenticeship, certification, or an Associate Degree) and provide an average wage of \$44,960 per year. High-skill jobs require a Bachelor’s Degree or higher and provide an average wage of \$88,510 per year.

Middle- and high-skill employment accounts for 62% of all Delaware jobs and will represent 69% of all projected growth openings through 2024. Employment in middle-skill jobs is consistent across the state and can be accessed through cost-effective education and training programs which are desirable for youth entering the workforce and adults seeking to upskill. By defining a statewide strategy to increase the number of youth and adults prepared to enter middle- and high-skill employment, we will create opportunities for Delawareans and help drive our state’s economic growth.

DELAWARE’S LABOR MARKET BY CAREER CLUSTER (source DDOL Employment Projections, 2016, ranked by employment change)

Career Cluster	MS	HS	HW	HD	Employment 2017	Employment Change 2016-26	Employment Growth 2016-26	Avg. Wage 2017
Health Science	●	●	●	●	46,030	6,946	14.6%	\$70,243
Hospitality & Tourism	●			●	57,430	5,822	9.5%	\$26,081
Finance	●	●	●	●	24,360	3,061	11.1%	\$76,141
Human Services		●		●	18,360	2,458	13.9%	\$34,826
Architecture & Construction	●		●	●	25,140	2,035	7.1%	\$50,985
Education & Training		●	●	●	26,410	1,777	6.7%	\$59,730
Information Technology		●	●	●	16,430	1,628	12.2%	\$92,568
Transportation, Distribution & Logistics	●				34,500	1,153	3.5%	\$37,379
Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security	●		●	●	17,620	815	5.2%	\$64,493
Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics		●	●	●	7,220	683	9.0%	\$99,755
Marketing	●	●		●	51,580	603	1.1%	\$42,679
Government & Public Administration	●	●	●	●	4,940	492	10.7%	\$64,350
Business Management & Administration		●		●	71,710	423	0.6%	\$55,576
Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources	●				4,070	245	3.6%	\$50,862

Arts, Audio/Video Technology & Communications	●	●	●		2,540	-28	-0.8%	\$53,082
Manufacturing	●		●		25,730	-38	-0.1%	\$44,379

Middle-Skill (MS): occupations requiring some type of postsecondary education (e.g., Registered Apprenticeship, certification, or an Associate Degree) but not a Bachelor’s degree; or High School education with work experience; or at least one month on-the-job training; or credential attainment.

High-Skill (HS): occupations requiring at least a Bachelor’s degree; or Associate Degree with either a required residency/internship or 5 years of experience.

High-Wage (HW): occupations paying more than the Delaware all-industry statewide median wage (\$38,850 in 2017).

High-Demand (HD): occupations with at least 4 annual job openings due to growth in Delaware.

STATE & COUNTY JOB STATISTICS (source DDOL Wage Projections, 2016)

- 66% of all Delaware jobs are in New Castle County—of which 31% of jobs are high-skill, 32% are middle-skills, and 37% are low-skill;
- 15% of all Delaware jobs are in Kent County—of which 18% of jobs are high-skill, 34% are middle-skill, and 48% are low-skill; and
- 17% of all Delaware jobs are in Sussex County—of which 11% of jobs are high-skill, 35% are middle-skill, and 54% are low-skill (note 2% of all Delaware jobs are multi-county).

YOUTH AGES 18 TO 24, LEVEL OF EDUCATION FOR DELAWARE AND WILMINGTON (source American Community Survey, 2016)

- 52.4% of Delaware youth are prepared for middle- and high-skill jobs;
 - 46.0% of Delaware youth who are male are prepared for middle- and high-skill jobs;
 - 59.0% of Delaware youth who are female are prepared for middle- and high-skill jobs;
- 37.3% of Wilmington youth are prepared for middle- and high-skill jobs;
 - 30.7% of Wilmington youth who are male are prepared for middle- and high-skill jobs; and
 - 43.2% of Wilmington youth who are female are prepared for middle- and high-skill jobs.

ADULTS AGE 25 AND OVER, LEVEL OF EDUCATION FOR DELAWARE AND WILMINGTON (source American Community Survey, 2016)

- 57.7% of Delaware adults are prepared for middle- and high-skill jobs;
 - 55.8% of Delaware adults who are male are prepared for middle- and high-skill jobs;
 - 59.5% of Delaware adults who are female are prepared for middle- and high-skill jobs;
- 49.1% of Wilmington adults are prepared for middle- and high-skill jobs;
 - 46.2% of Wilmington adults who are male are prepared for middle- and high-skill jobs; and
 - 51.6% of Wilmington adults who are female are prepared for middle- and high-skill jobs.