Sussex Demographic and Labor Market Trends

Quick Facts

Ed Simon
(302) 672-6845
edward.simon@state.de.us

October 2015
Introduction

The economy and job market in Sussex has shown improvement in recent years. With low taxes and a favorable climate, Sussex has continued to be a popular county for both tourists and retirees. Our demographics have spurred job growth in many service industries. Overall our industry and occupational patterns are more diverse than what many people think. Sussex does have numerous industries and occupations that pay well above the average.
Sussex Overview

- Sussex job growth continues to rise
  - Growth rate has been faster than DE and US
  - Last five years – Sussex had a net gain of 5,000 jobs, about 8% growth.
  - Job gains have been broad based with gains in nearly all sectors

- Unemployment
  - Substantial improvement in recent years
  - Sussex Unemployment rate: 2010, 8.5%; 2015, 4.5%

- Tourism – Continues to grow
  - $1,636.7 (Millions of $) Sussex Expenditures; 39% of the State total
Real Estate
- Existing home sales for 2015 are well ahead of the same period for 2014
- 2,049 homes were sold during the first half of 2015, an increase of 49% over the same period of 2014
- Thus far in 2015 building permits for single family homes in Sussex is keeping pace with what occurred in 2014

Agriculture (Latest county data is from the 2012 Census of Agriculture)
- Market Value (Sussex) $921 Million
- Sussex #1 broiler producing county in U.S.
During the past couple of years the rates are showing major improvement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Sussex</th>
<th>DE</th>
<th>US</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>9.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Est</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sussex Jobs Are Increasing

Sussex Trends: Jobs grew faster at first and then declined more slowly. During the past few years Sussex has had modest job growth.

Sussex has more acres of farm land than New Castle and Kent combined.

From 2007 to 2012 the number of farms declined from 1,374 to 1,214; but average size of farms rose from 196 acres to 224 acres.

From 2007 to 2012 farm acreage is Sussex rose slightly - from 269,464 to 272,232 acres.

The market value of Agr. Products sold was $921 million.

Sussex County is the number one broiler producing county in the U.S. Source: 2012 Census of Agriculture.

Poultry is our #1 farm commodity representing over 70% of Sussex Market value of Agr. Products sold.

In the Delmarva Peninsula, Sussex remains as a key leader in the production of Soybeans, corn and wheat.
Market Value of Agr. Products Sold - $921 Million in Sussex

- $249 Million – Crops
- $672 Million – Livestock, Poultry

Poultry and Eggs represent about 71% of total Agr. Products sold in Sussex

Source: 2012 Census of Agriculture
I’ve included some charts with population data. I can provide additional or alternative data if you wish.
In an Average Month in Sussex . . .

- 192 Persons are born
- 195 Persons die
- 327 Persons move here from another area

Source: U.S. Census Bureau (7/13 to 7/14)
Sussex Population Growth is Steady
(Annual Change)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau
Long Term Population Trends – Sussex

55+: 28% in 1990 - to 43% in 2030

Source: Delaware Population Consortium
Median Age (Sussex has a much higher median age)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Median Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sussex County</td>
<td>45.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kent County</td>
<td>36.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Castle County</td>
<td>37.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware</td>
<td>38.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>37.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: American Fact Finder
Major Sussex Industry Groups (2014 Employment)

- Wholesale & Retail Trade
- Leisure & Hospitality
- Healthcare
- Mfg, (Food)
- Education
- Prof & Business Serv.

Source: Del. Dept of Labor, OOLMI
Where Sussex Works (2014)

Source: Del. Dept of Labor, OOLMI; Census of Agriculture
Average Annual Wage by Ind. Sussex (2014)

- Manufacturing (Non-food): $36,319
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupational Group</th>
<th>Employment</th>
<th>Annual Avg. Wage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food Preparation and Serving Related</td>
<td>10,460</td>
<td>$22,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office and Administrative Support</td>
<td>10,230</td>
<td>$32,860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales and Related</td>
<td>9,130</td>
<td>$33,990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production</td>
<td>6,540</td>
<td>$29,910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation and Material Moving</td>
<td>4,920</td>
<td>$30,220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare Practitioners and Technical</td>
<td>4,910</td>
<td>$74,640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education, Training, and Library</td>
<td>4,540</td>
<td>$47,010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance</td>
<td>3,600</td>
<td>$26,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installation, Maintenance, and Repair</td>
<td>3,200</td>
<td>$43,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction and Extraction</td>
<td>3,110</td>
<td>$40,080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare Support</td>
<td>2,370</td>
<td>$28,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>1,670</td>
<td>$11,430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business and Financial Operations</td>
<td>1,540</td>
<td>$62,550</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Largest Specific Occupations – Sussex 2014

Ann. Wages for Selected Occupations – Sussex 2014

- Family and General Practitioners: $168,310
- Lawyers: $123,680
- Veterinarians: $118,330
- Physical Therapists: $96,260
- Computer Systems Analysts: $92,480
- Management Analysts: $85,430
- Electrical Engineers: $77,420
- Registered Nurses: $69,530
- Accountants and Auditors: $64,110
- Electricians: $51,150
- HVAC Mechanics: $47,570
- Machinists: $43,970