

III. Profile of Delaware

Overview of the State

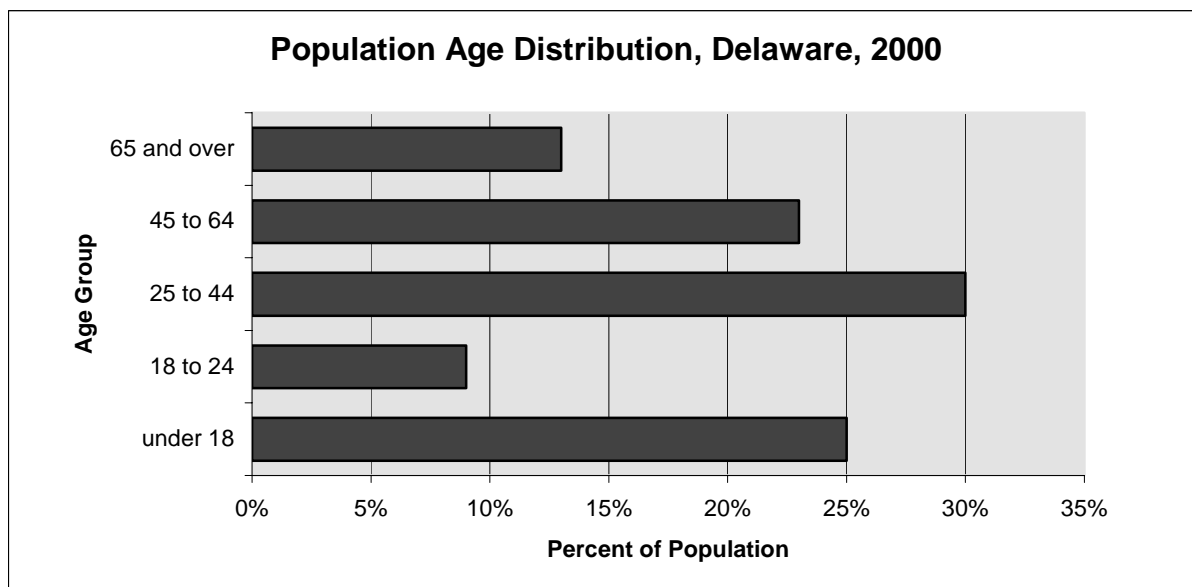
Physical and Locational Characteristics

Delaware is located on the eastern seaboard of the United States, and is bordered by the Atlantic Ocean and the Delaware Bay, as well as the states of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Maryland. The state, which ranks 49th in geographical size among the 50 states, is only 100 miles long and 30 miles wide covering a land mass of 2,010 square miles. Its northern most county, New Castle, contains the highest point of elevation (450 feet above sea level), while the lowest point is located near the Atlantic shore in the southern most county of Sussex. The mean elevation of this relatively flat state is 60 feet above sea level. The average daily temperature ranges from 31 degrees Fahrenheit in January to 76 degrees Fahrenheit in July.

Demographic and Social Characteristics

In 2000 Delaware had a total population of 783,600, with females outnumbering males 51.4% to 48.6%. The median age was 36.7 years, with 25% of the population under age 18 and 13% age 65 and older (Exhibit III-1). The size of the 65+ age group in Delaware increased 26% between 1990 and 2000, more than double the growth rate of 12% for the nation as a whole. Delaware's children (those under 18 years of age) lived in 105,833 households, which constituted 35.4% of the state's total of 298,736 households in 2000.

Exhibit III-1

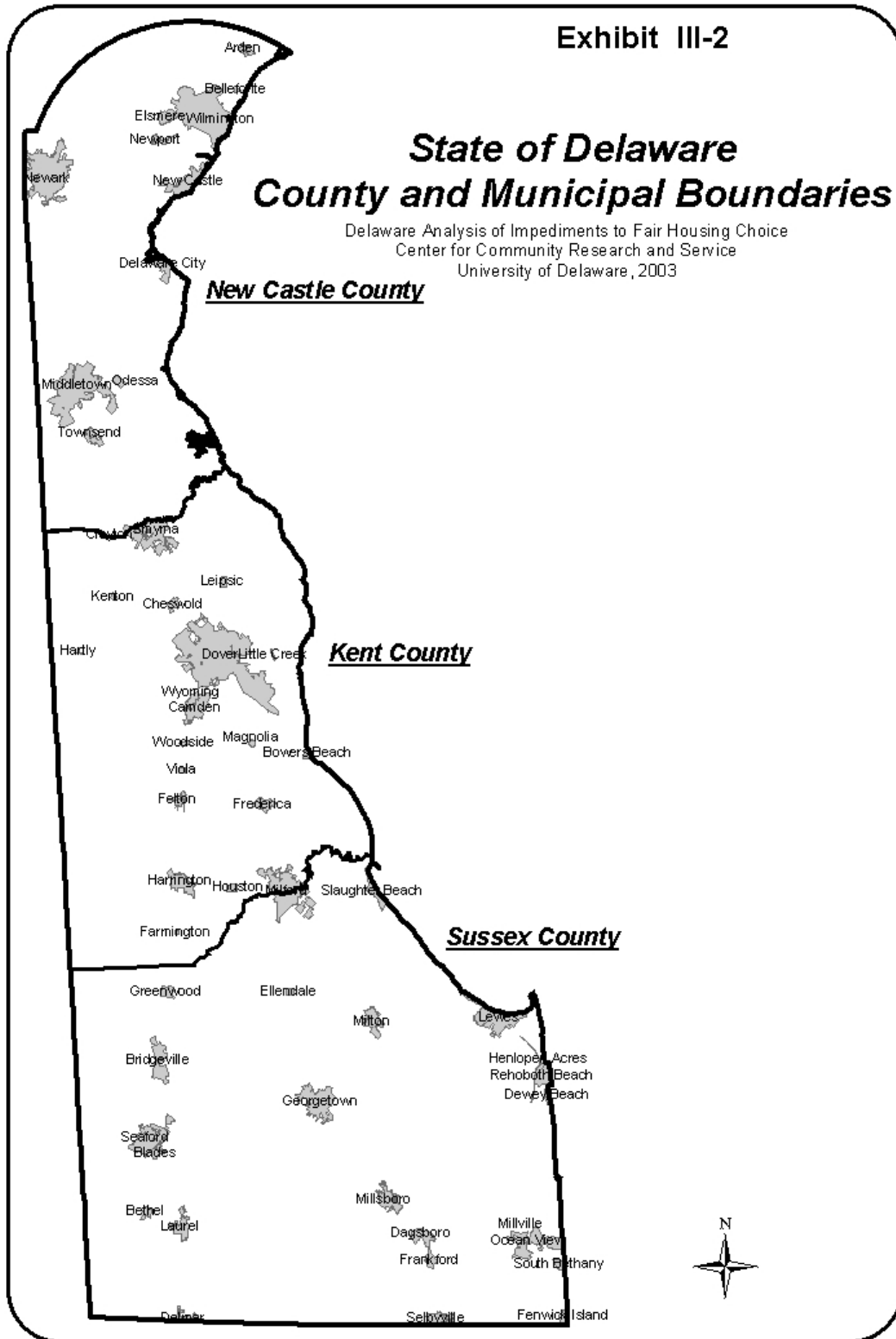


Source: U.S. Census Bureau; University of Delaware

Exhibit III-2

State of Delaware County and Municipal Boundaries

Delaware Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice
Center for Community Research and Service
University of Delaware, 2003

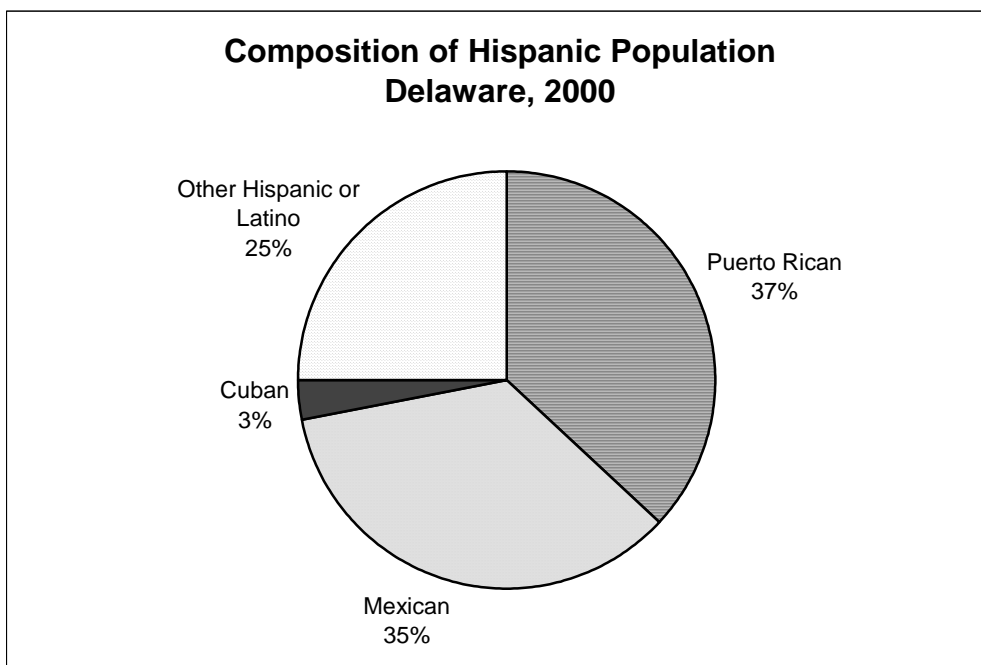


About 6% of the people living in Delaware in 2000 were foreign born. Of the remaining 94% of the state's residents which were born in the U.S, about half were born in Delaware. Whether foreign born or not, 9.5% of persons age 5 and older spoke a language other than English at home in 2000. Of those speaking another language, 48% spoke Spanish and 52% some other language. About a third of those speaking other languages at home reported that they did not speak English "very well."

The 2000 Census shows that 74.6% of Delawareans were White; 19.2% were Black or African American; 2.1% were Asian; 0.3% were American Indian or Alaska Native; less than 0.1% were Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, 2% were some other race, and 1.7% reported two or more races.

Delaware's Hispanic population grew by a substantial 136% during the decade of the 1990s, increasing from 15,820 persons in 1990 to 37,277 persons in 2000. By the end of the decade the Hispanic population constituted 4.8% of the state's total population, with the largest group being Puerto Ricans (37%), followed by Mexicans (35%) and Cubans (3%). The remaining 25% of the state's Hispanics were members of other subgroups, with Dominicans and Guatemalans having the largest numbers (Exhibit III-3).

Exhibit III-3



Source: U.S. Census Bureau; University of Delaware

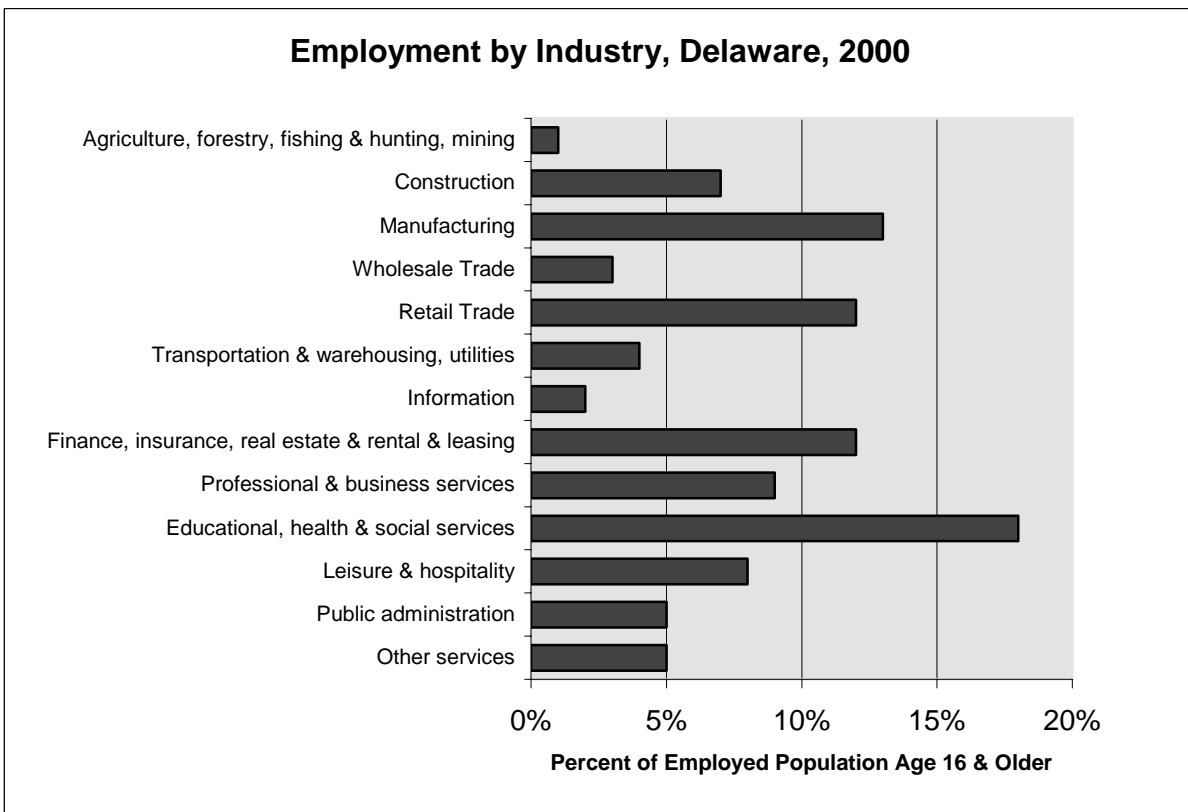
For the segment of the population that was five years of age or older, 2000 census data shows that 16% had a disability. The likelihood of having a disability varies by age--from 8.9% of people in the 5-20 year age group, to 18% for people 21-64 years of age, to a high of 37.7% of those age 65 and older.

About three fourth of the people in Delaware say that they have a Protestant (46%) or Catholic (25%) religious affiliation. Those describing themselves as Jewish constituted 2.5% of the population, and 13% report no religious affiliation (Social Capital Survey, 2000).

Economy

For the employed population age 16 and older, the industry categories with the highest employment levels in Delaware in 2000 were “education, health and social services” (18%), “manufacturing” (13%), “retail trade” (12%), and “finance, insurance, real estate and rental and leasing” (12%) (Exhibit III-4).

Exhibit III-4



Source: U.S. Census Bureau; University of Delaware

The most common occupational categories were: “management, professional, and related occupations” (36%), “sales and office occupations” (27%), “service occupations” (15%), “production, transportation, and material moving occupations” (12%), and “construction, extraction and maintenance occupations” (9%). Eighty-two percent of the people employed were private wage and salary workers; 13% were federal, state, or local government workers; and 4% were self-employed.

In terms of wages, the largest industry categories in 2001 were “services” (26% of earnings), “finance, insurance, and real estate” (17%), and “nondurable goods manufacturing” (14%). Of the

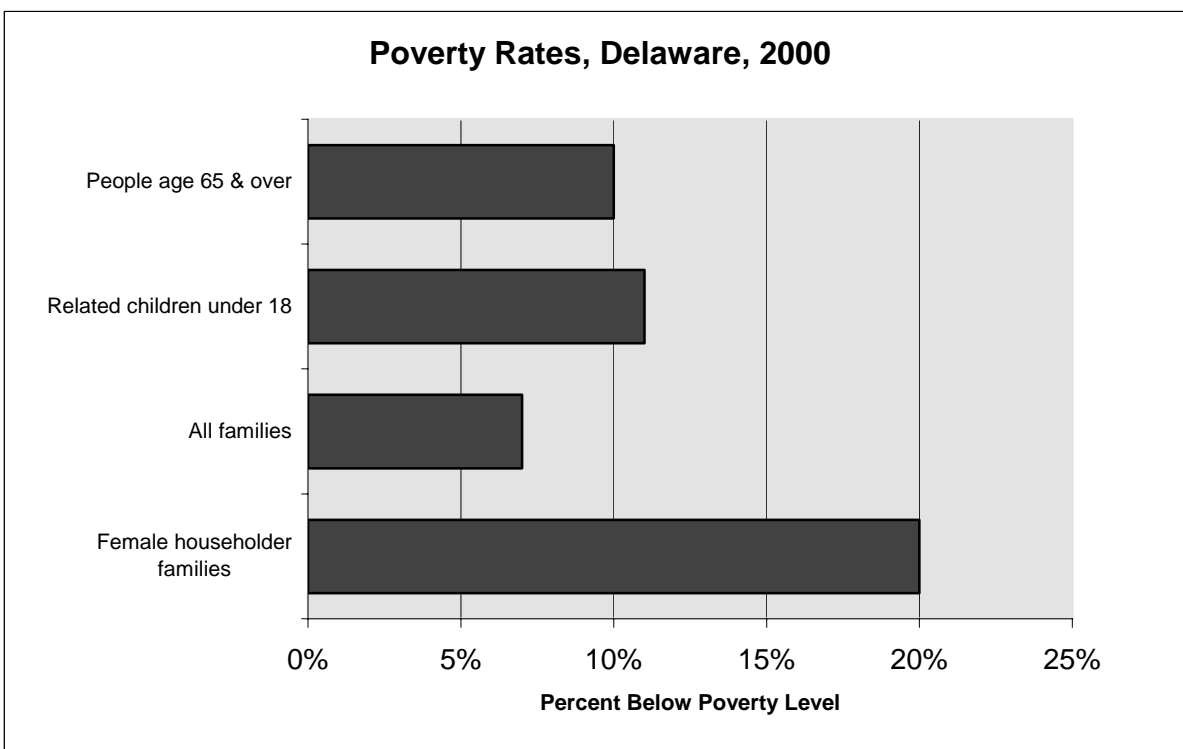
industries that accounted for at least 5% of earnings in 2001, the slowest growing from 2000 to 2001 was “nondurable goods manufacturing,” which increased just 1.8%; the fastest growth was in “finance, insurance, and real estate,” which increased 10.4%. From the data on employment, occupation, and wages reported above, it is clear that the Delaware economy has a strong services orientation.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Delaware had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of \$31,092 in 2000. This PCPI ranked 14th nationally, and was 104% of the national average of \$29,760. PCPI is calculated as the personal income of the residents of a given area divided by the resident population of the area.

Poverty

In 1999, according to the 2000 Census, 9.2% of Delaware’s residents had incomes at or below the federally defined poverty level. Eleven percent of related children under 18 were below the poverty line, compared to 10% of people age 65 and over (Exhibit III-5). Seven percent of all families and 20% of families with a female head of household had incomes below the poverty level. Fourteen percent of the households in Delaware received means-tested public assistance or non-cash benefits.

Exhibit III-5



Source: U.S. Census Bureau; University of Delaware

Profile of Counties and Major Cities

Physical and Locational Characteristics

New Castle, the northern most county, affords easy access to the major metropolitan areas of the Northeast, with travel time to New York City and Washington, DC of approximately 1.5 hours by train or automobile. It has a land area of 432 square miles. The mean daily temperature ranges from 30 degrees Fahrenheit in January to 75 degrees Fahrenheit in July.

Kent County is home to the state capital, Dover. Among the county's largest employers are many nationally known companies, including Procter & Gamble, Kraft Foods, and Playtex Products. It covers a land area of 599 square miles. The mean daily temperature ranges from 34 degrees Fahrenheit in January to 77 degrees Fahrenheit in July.

Sussex County, the geographically largest of Delaware's three counties, is best known for its white, sandy beaches and as a national leader in poultry production. It covers a land area of 979 square miles. Its mean daily temperature ranges from 33 degrees Fahrenheit in January to 76 degrees Fahrenheit in July.

Wilmington, Delaware's largest city, is located in New Castle County and is situated near the midpoint of the Boston-Richmond megalopolis. Because of its strategic location, Wilmington has excellent access to the various transportation networks of the eastern seaboard and is the financial and corporate hub of the state and region.

Dover, Delaware's political capital since 1777, is located in central Kent County on the banks of the St. Jones River and is home to the Dover Air Force Base.

Demographic and Social Characteristics

Population Size, Growth and Age

New Castle County had a total population of 500,265 in 2000, consisting of 52% female and 48% male. With a median age of 35.4 years, 6.7% of the population was under age 5 years, 24.9% was under age 18, and 11.6% was age 65 and older. The rate of population growth from 1990 to 2000 was 13.2%, the lowest of the three counties (Exhibit III-6).

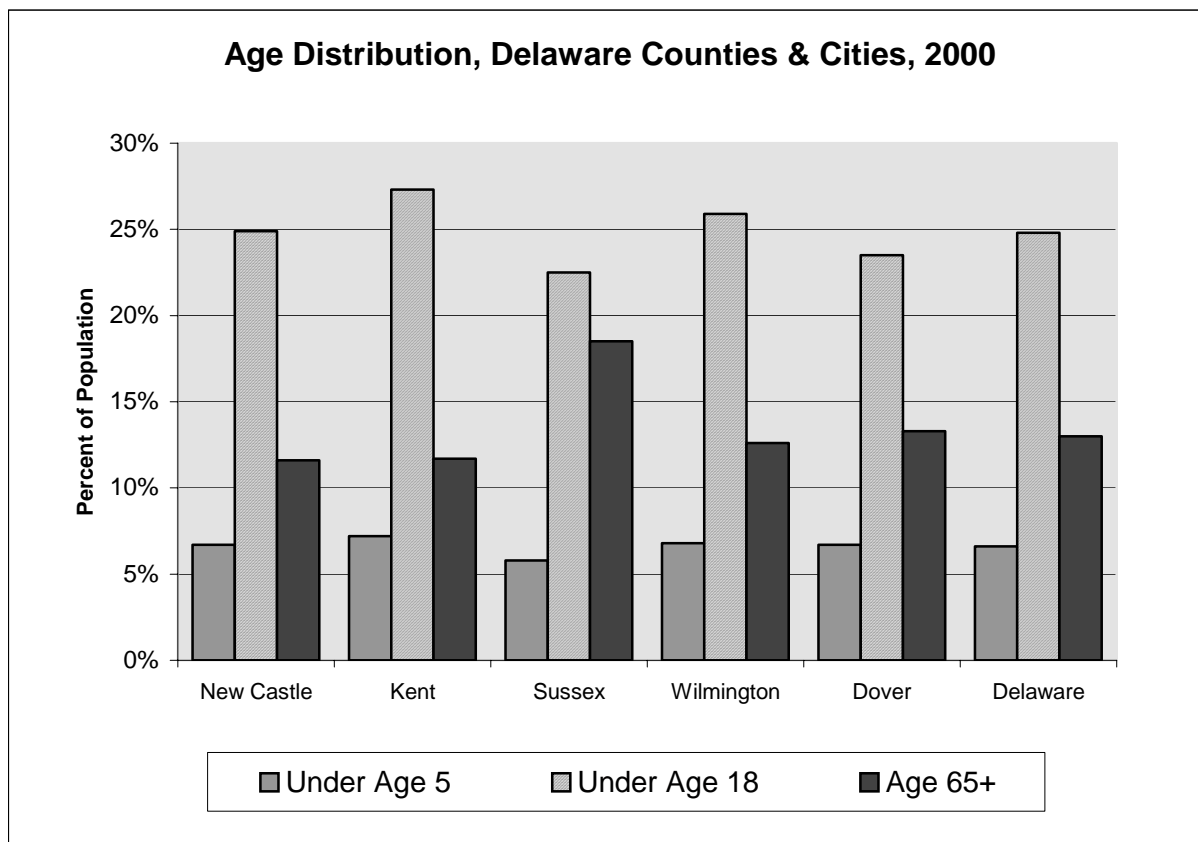
There were 126,697 people living in Kent County in 2000. This population was 51.8% female and 48.2% male. With a median age of 34.4 years; 7.2% of the residents were under age 5, 27.3% were under age 18; and 11.7% were age 65 years and over. With an increase of 14.1% in the size of its population between 1990 and 2000, the county grew slightly faster than New Castle County, but not nearly as fast as Sussex County (Exhibit III-6).

Sussex County saw its population swell to 156,638 persons in 2000, an increase of 38.3% since 1990. It is now the second most populous county in the state and the one with the highest growth rate. The median age in 2000 was 41.1 years, which is considerably higher than that found in New Castle or Kent. The age distribution shows that 5.8% of the population was under age 5, 22.5% was under age 18 and 18.5% was age 65 and over. Females accounted for 51.1% of the population while males accounted for 48.9% Exhibit III-6).

According to the 2000 Census, Wilmington had a total population of 72,664, consisting of 52.3% female and 47.7% male. The median age was 33.7 years; with 6.8% of the population under age 5, 25.9% under age 18 and 12.6% age 65 and over (Exhibit III-6).

Dover was home to 32,135 persons in 2000, with 52.9% being female and 47.1% male. With 6.7% of its population under age 5, 23.5% under age 18 and 13.3% age 65 and over, the median age was 32.9 years (Exhibit III-6).

Exhibit III-6



Source: U.S. Census Bureau; University of Delaware

Race

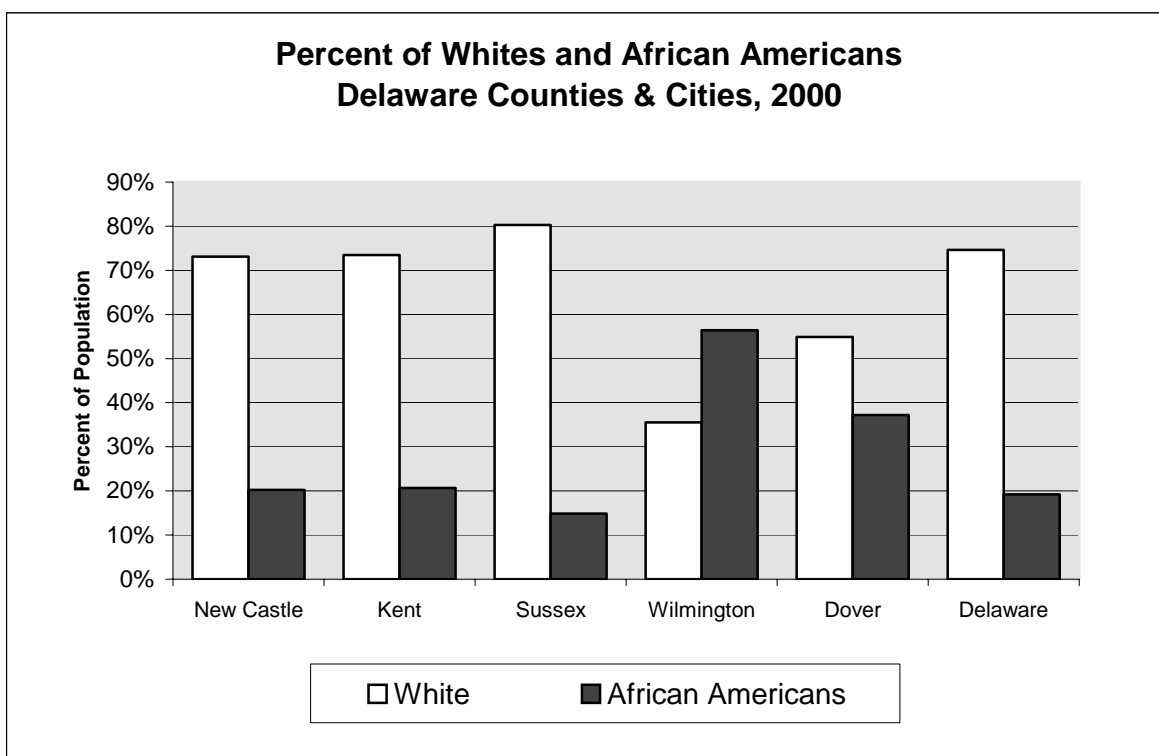
In 2000 all three of Delaware’s counties had White populations of more than 70% and African American populations of approximately 20% (Exhibit III-7). Sussex County reported the highest White percentage and lowest Black percentage. Wilmington had the smallest White population with 35.5%, and the largest African American population with more than 56% (Exhibit III-8).

Exhibit III-7

Percent of Population by Race Delaware Counties and Cities, 2000					
Race	New Castle	Kent	Sussex	Wilmington	Dover
White	73.1%	73.5%	80.3%	35.5%	54.9%
Black	20.2%	20.7%	14.9%	56.4%	37.2%
Asian	2.6%	1.7%	0.7%	0.7%	3.2%
American Indian & Alaska Native	0.2%	0.6%	0.6%	0.3%	0.5%
Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Some Other Race	2.2%	1.3%	2.0%	5.2%	1.6%
Two or More Races	1.6%	2.2%	1.4%	2.0%	2.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; University of Delaware

Exhibit III-8



Source: U.S. Census Bureau; University of Delaware

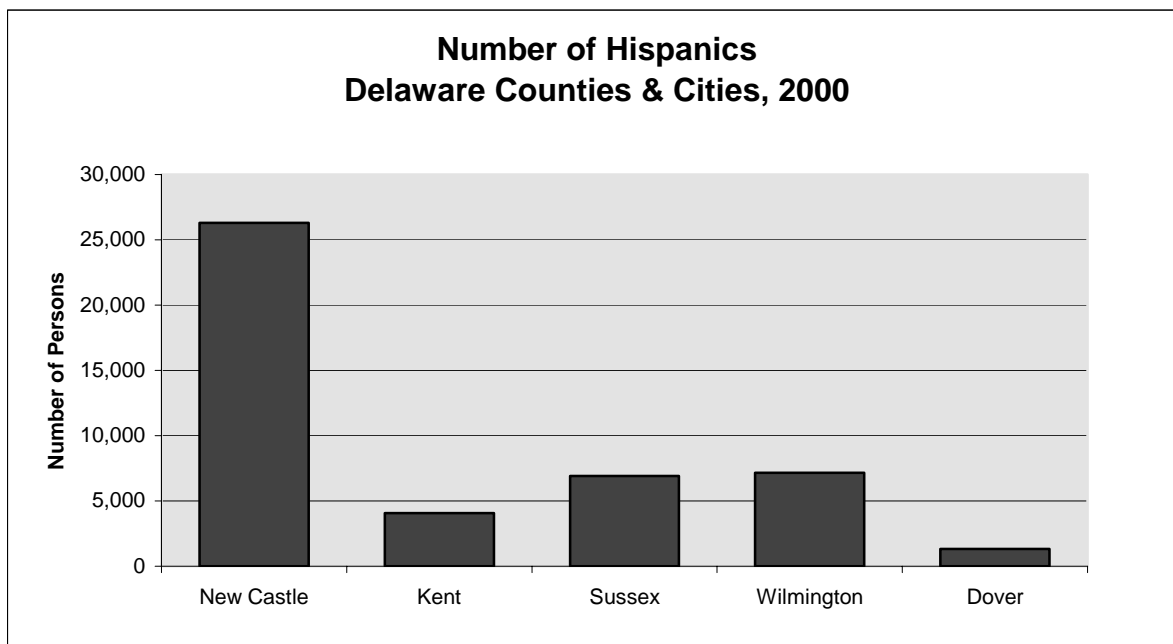
Hispanic Ethnicity

New Castle County is home to the majority of Hispanics in Delaware. The size of this group in 2000 was 26,293, accounting for 5.3% of the county's population. Approximately two-thirds of Delaware's Mexican population and four-fifths of Puerto Ricans reside in New Castle County,

mostly in Wilmington. Sussex County has a Hispanic population of 6,915, representing 4.4% of its population. It is experiencing the fastest rate of growth in Hispanic arrivals. Kent County has the smallest Hispanic population among the three counties, numbering 4,069, which represents about 3.2% of its population (Exhibits III-9 and III-10).

Wilmington is home to 7,148 Hispanics, representing 9.8% of its total population. The number of Hispanics residing in Dover is 1,327, which constitutes 4.1% of its residents (Exhibit III-9).

Exhibit III-9



Source: U.S. Census Bureau; University of Delaware

Exhibit III-10

	New Castle	Kent	Sussex	Wilmington	Dover
Puerto Rican	42.4%	45.1%	14.9%	60.5%	46.4%
Mexican	33.5%	26.1%	44.9%	24.4%	21.4%
Cuban	2.7%	3.4%	1.3%	1.2%	3.7%
Other Hispanic or Latino	21.4%	25.3%	38.9%	13.8%	28.5%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; University of Delaware

Disability

The likelihood of having a disability varies by age. Among the three counties, Kent had the highest rate of disability among people age 5 to 20 as well as for the age group 65 and older, while Sussex County had the highest rate among those of ages 21 to 64. For all age groups, Wilmington reported a higher percentage of disability than Dover (Exhibit III-11).

Exhibit III-11

Percent Disabled by Age Group Delaware Counties and Cities, 2000					
	New Castle	Kent	Sussex	Wilmington	Dover
Age 5 to 20	8.6%	9.6%	9.2%	11.4%	8.7%
Age 21 to 64	16.3%	19.2%	22.5%	23.8%	19.1%
Age 65 & older	37.3%	40.6%	37.0%	46.5%	36.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; University of Delaware

Households with Children

In 2000, 36% of New Castle County households (totaling 68,035) contained one or more individuals who were under age 18. This compared to 39.3% (18,549) in Kent County; 30.8% (19,249) in Sussex County; 33.2% (9,507) in Wilmington; and 33.6% (4,144) in Dover.

Economy

Per Capita Personal Income

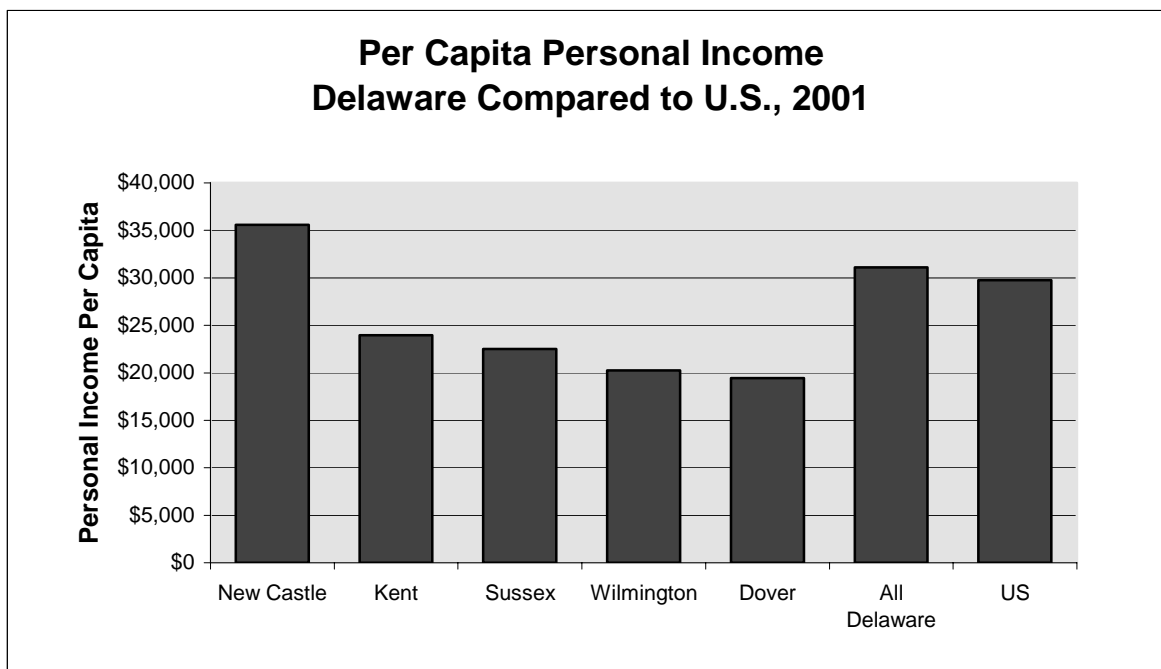
New Castle had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of \$35,587 in 2000. This PCPI ranked first in the state, and was 114% of the state average, and 120% of the national average (Exhibit III-12). New Castle County's 2000 PCPI reflected an increase of 6.8% from 1999. The 1999-2000 increase for the state was 6.1%, and for the nation was 6.7% (Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, 2003).

In 2000 Kent County had a PCPI of \$23,974, which placed it second in the state behind New Castle County (Exhibit III-12). It was 77% of the state PCPI and 81% of the national PCPI. Kent's 2000 PCPI grew by 4.7% from the year before.

Sussex saw its PCPI increase to \$22,510 in 2000, a 4.4% improvement over 1999. While having the lowest PCPI of the three counties in 2000, it is not significantly different from Kent County's PCPI. The Sussex PCPI was 72% of the state PCPI, and 76% of the national PCPI in 2000 (Exhibit III-12).

Wilmington had a PCPI of \$20,236 in 2000, which is similar to that of Dover, which stood at \$19,445

Exhibit III-12



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Dept. of Commerce; University of Delaware

Earnings by Industry

Earnings by persons employed in New Castle County increased 5.8% between 1999 and 2000. The industry groups accounting for the greatest share of earnings in the county in 2000 were “services” (26.5%), “finance, insurance, and real estate” (19.1%), and “non-durable goods manufacturing” (15.2%). Of the industries that accounted for at least 5% of total personal earnings in 2000, the slowest growing from 1999 to 2000 was “durable goods manufacturing” which decreased 9.9%, and the fastest growing was “finance, insurance, and real estate” which increased 13.5%.

In Kent County, personal earnings increased of 4.6% between 1999 and 2000. The industries in 2000 accounting for the largest share of earnings in the county were “state and local government” (25.3%), “services” (20.0%), and “retail trade” (10.1%). Of the industries that accounted for at least 5% of earnings in 2000, the slowest growing from 1999 to 2000 was “non-durable goods manufacturing,” which increased only 0.3%; and the fastest growing was “services,” which increased 9.1%.

Earnings by persons employed in Sussex grew by 5.7% between 1999 and 2000. The industries accounting for the largest shares of earnings were “services” (22.3%) “retail trade” (15.6%), and “non-durable goods manufacturing” (15.1%). Of the industries that accounted for at least 5% of earnings in 2000 in Sussex County, the slowest growing from 1999 to 2000, was “non-durable goods manufacturing” which increased 0.4%, and the fastest growing was “retail trade” which increased 8.6%.

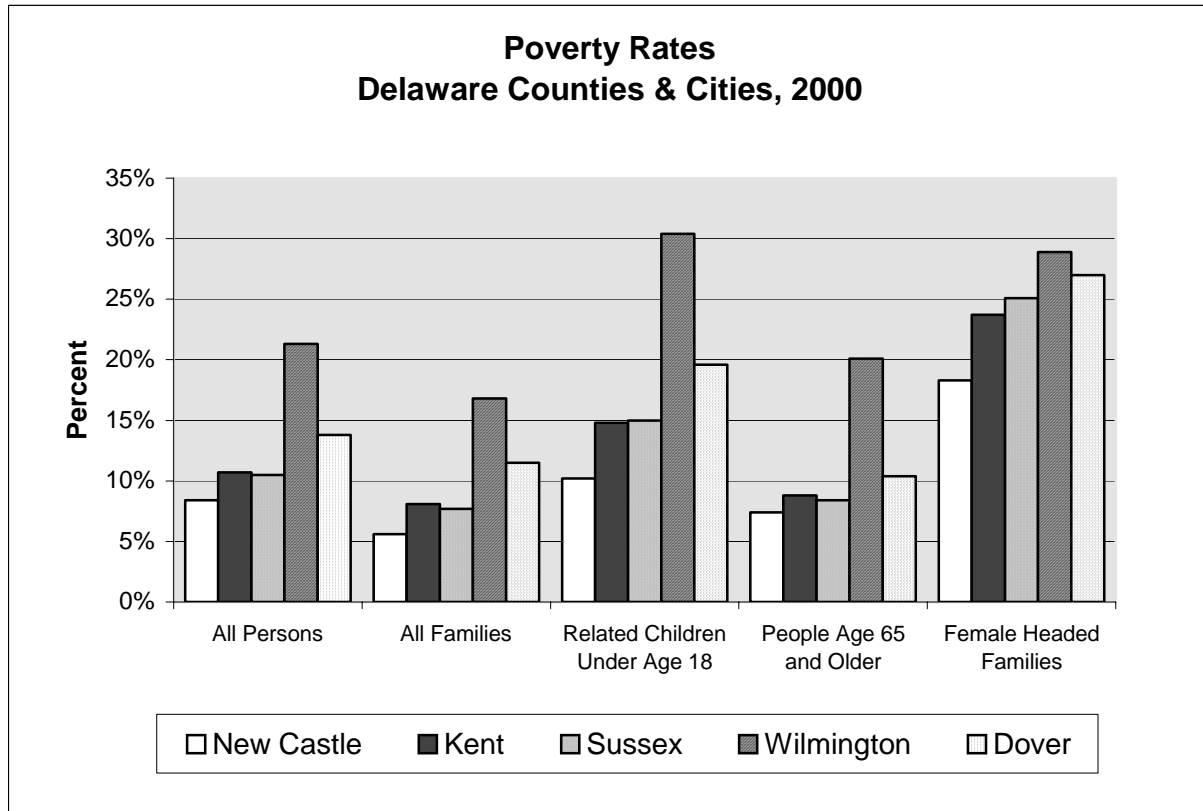
In Wilmington, the largest industries in terms of personal earnings in 2000 were “education, health and social services” (21.1%), “finance, insurance, real estate and rental and leasing” (14.9%), and “professional, management and related occupations” (12.4%).

In Dover in 2000 the industries providing the highest aggregated personal earnings in 2000 were “education, health and social services” (23.4%), “retail trade” (14.0%) and “public administration” (13.6%).

Poverty

Among the three Delaware counties in 1999, Sussex and Kent Counties were essentially tied for having the highest overall poverty rates of 10.5% and 10.7% respectively. Female-headed families experience the highest poverty rate as a group, but the county with the highest rate for this type of family was Sussex. Kent County had the highest poverty rate of the three counties for all families and for elderly persons. For all age groups and household types, Wilmington reported a much higher poverty rate than Dover, and these two cities had poverty rates for all groups that were higher than any of the three counties (Exhibit III-13).

Exhibit III-13



Source: U.S. Census Bureau; University of Delaware