



Key issues facing Delaware: Divides along race, location and party

Guest Analysis by Dr. Theodore J. Davis, August 1, 2016

About the study

The "Delaware Politics Survey: 2014" was a project of the University of Delaware's Center for Political Communication (CPC). Results are based on telephone interviews with a representative sample of 900 adult Delaware residents. Telephone interviews were conducted via landline (n=450) and cell phone (n=450). The data were collected from September 10-22, 2014. Statistical results are weighted to correct known demographic discrepancies. The margin of sampling error for the complete set of weighted data is \pm three percentage points. The author of this topline report was Dr. Theodore J. Davis, Jr., a professor in the Department of Political Science and International Relations (teddavis@udel.edu, 302.831.8580). The interpretation and conclusions are those of Dr. Davis.

Table 1: Most important problem facing Delaware, by race (2014)

	Whites	Blacks	Others
Employment and wages	28%	34%	34%
The economy/economic development	8%	3%	2%
Education/school Funding	12%	8%	5%
Social welfare (health care and welfare)	10%	4%	8%
Fiscal matters (taxes, budgets, deficit/debt and revenues)	5%	2%	7%
Public safety, criminal justice system and drugs	14%	35%	15%
Environmental, infrastructure and traffic issues	6%	4%	11%
Governance and government affairs	7%	2%	7%
Other (morals, values, social issues, something else, and immigration)	10%	8%	10%

Table 2: Most important problem facing Delaware, by county (2014)

	Kent	New Castle	Sussex
Employment and wages	31%	29%	31%
The economy/economic development	6%	7%	6%
Education/school Funding	6%	12%	10%
Social welfare (health care and welfare)	14%	6%	12%
Fiscal matters (taxes, budgets, deficit/debt and revenues)	9%	3%	4%
Public safety, criminal justice system and drugs	14%	22%	13%
Environmental, infrastructure and traffic issues	3%	7%	5%
Governance and government affairs	7%	6%	8%
Other (morals, values, social issues, something else, and immigration)	11%	9%	11%

Table 3: Most important problem facing Delaware, by party (2014)

	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Employment and wages	36%	32%	25%
The economy/economic development	6%	6%	7%
Education/school Funding	9%	11%	12%
Social welfare (health care and welfare)	10%	6%	10%
Fiscal matters (taxes, budgets, deficit/debt and revenues)	5%	4%	4%
Public safety, criminal justice system and drugs	11%	25%	18%
Environmental, infrastructure and traffic issues	4%	6%	6%
Governance and government affairs	13%	3%	6%
Other (morals, values, social issues, something else, and immigration)	6%	8%	12%

Table 4: Most important problem facing Delaware, by geographic location (2014)

	Rural	Suburban	Urban
Employment and wages	30%	30%	28%
The economy/economic development	5%	7%	8%
Education/school Funding	15%	10%	5%
Social welfare (health care and welfare)	11%	7%	14%
Fiscal matters (taxes, budgets, deficit/debt and revenues)	3%	5%	6%
Public safety, criminal justice system and drugs	19%	18%	20%
Environmental, infrastructure and traffic issues	4%	7%	3%
Governance and government affairs	8%	6%	3%
Other (morals, values, social issues, something else, and immigration)	6%	10%	13%

Table 5: Most important problem facing Delaware, by voter registration status (2014)

	Registered to Vote	Not Registered to Vote
Employment and wages	30%	29%
The economy/economic development	7%	2%
Education/school Funding	11%	6%
Social welfare (health care and welfare)	10%	3%
Fiscal matters (taxes, budgets, deficit/debt and revenues)	5%	4%
Public safety, criminal justice system and drugs	17%	29%
Environmental, infrastructure and traffic issues	5%	13%
Governance and government affairs	7%	3%
Other (morals, values, social issues, something else, and immigration)	9%	11%