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**COUNTY EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES IN THE DELMARVA PENINSULA –  
FOURTH QUARTER 2010**

**Delmarva Peninsula Employment Rose at a Slower Rate than that for the United States**

In December 2010, 570,070 workers were employed on the Delmarva Peninsula<sup>1</sup>, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Sheila Watkins, the Bureau's regional commissioner, noted that since December 2009, employment on the peninsula rose 0.4 percent, compared to the 0.9-percent increase in employment nationwide. New Castle County, Del., with 267,683 workers, had the highest employment level among the area's 14 counties and accounted for nearly half of the jobs on the Delmarva Peninsula in December 2010. Employment levels in the remaining Delaware counties, Sussex (67,447) and Kent (60,964), ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> on the peninsula. (See table A.)

**Table A. Covered<sup>1</sup> employment and wages in the United States and counties on the Delmarva Peninsula, fourth quarter 2010<sup>2</sup>**

Area	Employment December 2010		Average Weekly Wages <sup>3</sup> Fourth Quarter 2010	
	Level	Rank	Level	Rank
United States <sup>4</sup>	129,451,603	--	\$971	--
Delmarva <sup>5</sup>	570,070	--	920	--
Kent, Del.	60,964	3	772	4
New Castle, Del.	267,683	1	1,123	1
Sussex, Del.	67,447	2	718	9
Caroline, Md.	8,585	11	686	11
Cecil, Md.	28,134	5	825	2
Dorchester, Md.	11,239	10	696	10
Kent, Md.	7,612	12	731	8
Queen Anne's, Md.	13,336	8	735	7
Somerset, Md.	6,672	13	739	6
Talbot, Md.	17,444	7	782	3
Wicomico, Md.	44,362	4	753	5
Worcester, Md.	19,308	6	637	14
Accomack, Va.	12,783	9	638	13
Northampton, Va.	4,501	14	655	12

<sup>1</sup>Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

<sup>2</sup>Data are preliminary.

<sup>3</sup>Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

<sup>4</sup>Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

<sup>5</sup>Data for the Delmarva Peninsula were calculated for this release using published employment and wage levels for each county on the peninsula.

<sup>1</sup> The Delmarva Peninsula, located on the East Coast of the United States, comprises portions of three states—Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia. The Delmarva Peninsula includes Kent, New Castle, and Sussex Counties in Delaware; Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties in Maryland; and Accomack and Northampton Counties in Virginia.

With the three highest employment levels on the Delmarva Peninsula, Delaware's counties employed 69 percent of the area's workers in December 2010. Maryland's nine counties employed 27 percent of the workers on the peninsula and Virginia's two counties accounted for the remainder. Following the three Delaware counties, two other counties employed more than 25,000 workers—Wicomico (44,362) and Cecil (28,134), both in Maryland. Located at the southern tip of the peninsula, Northampton, Va., had the fewest jobs, at 4,501. Maryland's southernmost county, Somerset, was next with 6,672. Other counties employing fewer than 10,000 workers were Kent, Md. (7,612), and Caroline, Md. (8,585).

Workers on the Delmarva Peninsula earned an average of \$920 per week in the fourth quarter of 2010—\$51 below the national average of \$971. In addition to employing the most workers on the peninsula, New Castle, Del., also had the highest average weekly wage, at \$1,123. New Castle was the only county on the Delmarva Peninsula with an average weekly wage above that for the United States; the second-highest average wage on the peninsula was \$825 per week in Cecil County, Md. Each of these two counties is part of the Wilmington, Del.-N.J.-Md. Metropolitan Division. Worcester, Md., at \$637, had the lowest average weekly wage on the Delmarva Peninsula, followed by Accomack, Va., at \$638. Three other counties on the peninsula had average weekly wages below \$700—28 percent or more below the national average. (See chart 1.)

### **Additional statistics and other information**

For additional information about quarterly employment and wages data, please read the Technical Note or visit the QCEW Web site at [www.bls.gov/cew/](http://www.bls.gov/cew/).

An annual bulletin, *Employment and Wages Annual Averages*, features comprehensive information by detailed industry on establishments, employment, and wages for the nation and all states. The 2009 edition of this bulletin contains selected data produced by Business Employment Dynamics (BED) on job gains and losses, as well as selected data from the first quarter 2010 version of the national news release. Tables and additional content from the 2009 Employment and Wages Annual Bulletin are now available online at [www.bls.gov/cew/cewbultn09.htm](http://www.bls.gov/cew/cewbultn09.htm). This web-only publication has replaced the annual print bulletin, *Employment and Wages Annual Averages*. The March 2010 issue of this annual bulletin was the final one to be issued on paper.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; TDD message referral phone number: 1-800-877-8339.

For personal assistance or further information on the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program, as well as other Bureau programs, contact the Mid-Atlantic Information Office at 215-597-3282 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. ET.

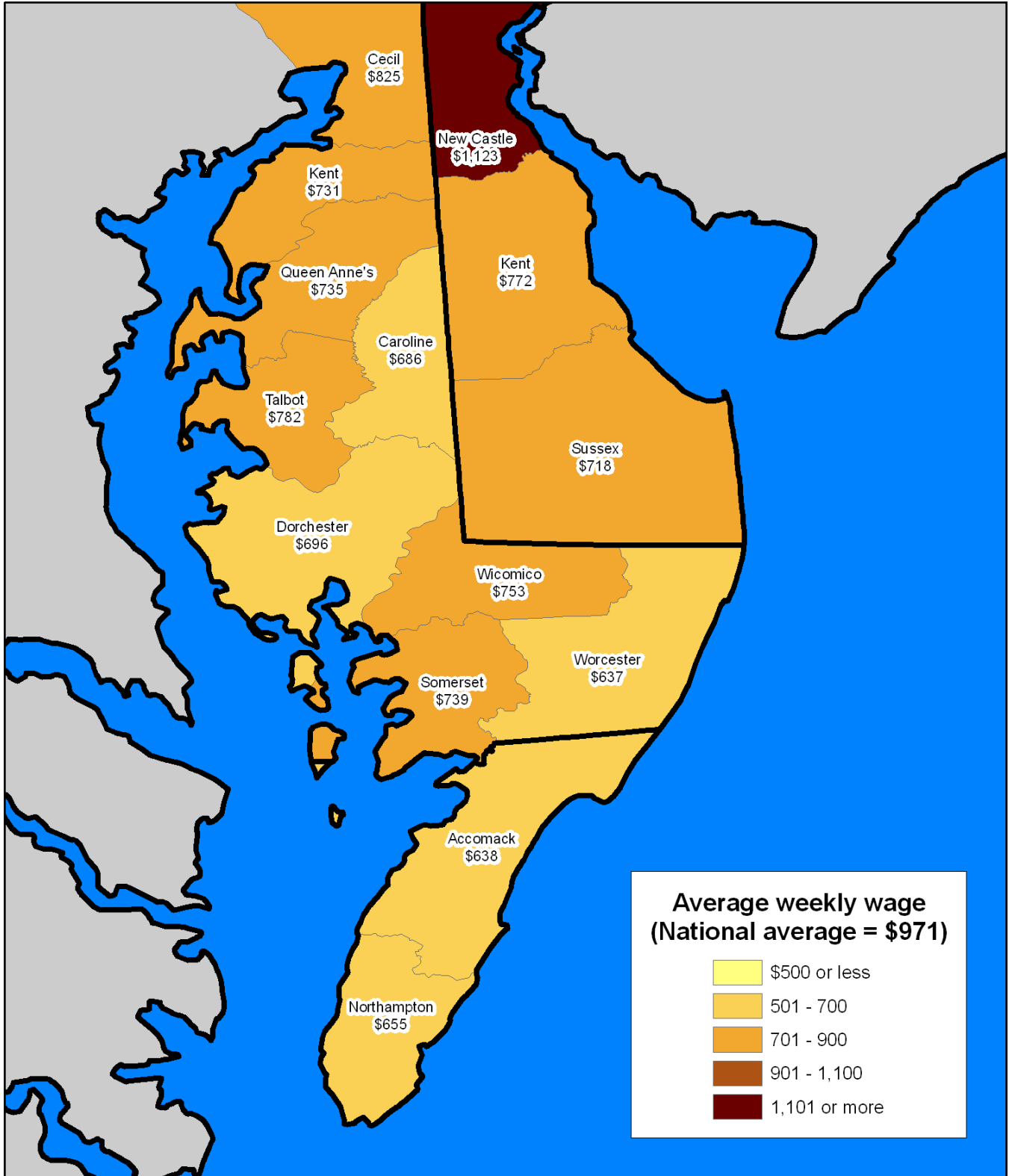
## Technical Note

Average weekly wage data by county are compiled under the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program, also known as the ES-202 program. The data are derived from summaries of employment and total pay of workers covered by state and federal unemployment insurance (UI) legislation and provided by State Workforce Agencies (SWAs). The 9.1 million employer reports cover 129.5 million full- and part-time workers. The average weekly wage values are calculated by dividing quarterly total wages by the average of the three monthly employment levels of those covered by UI programs. The result is then divided by 13, the number of weeks in a quarter. It is to be noted, therefore, that over-the-year wage changes for geographic areas may reflect shifts in the composition of employment by industry, occupation, and such other factors as hours of work. Thus, wages may vary among counties, metropolitan areas, or states for reasons other than changes in the average wage level. Data for all states, Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), counties, and the nation are available on the BLS Web site at [www.bls.gov/cew/](http://www.bls.gov/cew/); however, data in QCEW press releases have been revised and may not match the data contained on the Bureau's Web site.

QCEW data are not designed as a time series. QCEW data are simply the sums of individual establishment records reflecting the number of establishments that exist in a county or industry at a point in time. Establishments can move in or out of a county or industry for a number of reasons—some reflecting economic events, others reflecting administrative changes.

The preliminary QCEW data presented in this release may differ from data released by the individual states as well as from the data presented on the BLS Web site. These potential differences result from the states' continuing receipt, review and editing of UI data over time. On the other hand, differences between data in this release and the data found on the BLS Web site are the result of adjustments made to improve over-the-year comparisons. Specifically, these adjustments account for administrative (noneconomic) changes such as a correction to a previously reported location or industry classification. Adjusting for these administrative changes allows users to more accurately assess changes of an economic nature (such as a firm moving from one county to another or changing its primary economic activity) over a 12-month period. Currently, adjusted data are available only from BLS press releases.

Chart 1. Average weekly wages by county on the Delmarva Peninsula, fourth quarter 2010<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Data are preliminary.