

The following table depicts non-agricultural employment growth for Delaware, the Mideast region and the U.S. for 1998-2002.

Non-Agricultural Employment Growth Rates

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Delaware	3.2%	3.2%	1.7%	(0.1%)	(1.5%)
Mideast Region	2.0%	2.4%	2.2%	(0.2%)	(0.9%)
United States	2.6%	2.4%	2.2%	0.0%	(1.1%)

The following chart shows Delaware's employment base has enjoyed vigorous growth in historically smaller sectors within the State. Once heavily reliant on the manufacturing base, Delaware has experienced gains in several of the service industries and now stands below the national average for dependence on manufacturing. The diversification of the State's economic base will help Delaware to continue to weather the economic downturns and strengthen the State's economic position in future years.

Percentage Distribution of Employment



Sources: U.S. Department of Labor and Delaware Department of Labor