



**DPC**  
DELAWARE POPULATION CONSORTIUM

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## Delaware Population Consortium Meeting

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**Where:** Room 133 Haslet Armory, 122 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd S, Dover, DE 19901

**Teams:** [Click Here](#) **Meeting ID:** 294 502 335 623 **Passcode:** bddHbt

**Phone:** +1 302-504-8986,,263141278#

### Agenda

1. Welcome & Call-To-Order
2. Review and approval of meeting minutes from 7/25/2024
3. New Business
  - A. Population Projection updates - Ed Ratledge (CADSR)
  - B. TAZ and 1-year ACS Summaries - Dan Blevins
4. Old Business
  - A. Attendance by agencies
  - B. Legal reminder
5. Open Comment
6. Future Meeting Dates and Adjournment

*Next Meetings: September 26, 2024 & October 24, 2024*



**Delaware Population Consortium Meeting**  
**Hybrid Format Meeting In-Person and via Teams**  
**July 25, 2024**

The meeting was held on Thursday July 25, 2024; in Haslet Armory Room 133 and virtually using Teams.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Colton Phillips at 10:03 AM.

The following persons were present:

**Officers:**

Colton Phillips, Chair, DelDOT  
Owen Robatino, Secretary, New Castle County Government

**Voting Members:**

Samantha Bulkilvish, OSPC  
Wendy Hudson, DSHS  
Rachel Alfano, DSHA  
Arthur Jenkins, DOL  
Jamie Fenske, Kent County Government  
Jamie Whitehouse, Sussex County Government  
Renee K. Bensley, City of Newark  
Dawn Melson-Williams, City of Dover  
Kristen Krenzer, Town of Middletown  
Dan Blevins, WILMAPCO  
Marilyn Smith, Dover-Kent MPO  
Keith Hall, Salisbury/Wicomico MPO  
Eric Thompson, Delaware League of Local Governments

**Others in Attendance:**

Rose Zappacosta, OSPC  
Jennifer Miles, DHSS  
Anson Gock, DelDOT  
Lisa Henry, DOE  
Valerie McCartan, Senator David Sokola's office  
Philip Birk, City of Wilmington  
Michael Petit de Mange, Dover-Kent MPO  
Ed Ratledge, UD CADSR  
Stacie Cochran-McNeal, US Census Bureau

## MEETING MINUTES

**Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes from 10/26/2023:** 1<sup>st</sup> Dan Blevins, 2<sup>nd</sup> Eric Thompson. Approved.

**Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes from 6/27/2024:** Corrections were requested involving the attendance list and remarks about voting members. 1<sup>st</sup> Renee Bensley, 2<sup>nd</sup> Samantha Bulkilvish. Approved with corrections.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Updated DPC Logo – discussion

Colton displayed a sheet showing proposed DPC graphics to replace the old logo dating from 2003, including primary and secondary logos, brand colors and fonts, and additional assets/buttons. No one opposed the new graphics, and Samantha proposed to put them on the website and commended Colton for taking the time to work on them.

### Population Presentation – Ed Ratledge

Ed said he expected to have draft municipal numbers for the meeting, but his methods require also having data for all three counties and he won't before the end of August. He does have births and deaths for 2021 and 2022 that will be used to update fertility and mortality rates. He also has information on in-migration to Delaware but not out-migration from it, which requires looking at data for all 50 states. He needs this information to make county numbers, but is still ahead of schedule and has some numbers for eventual release.

### Presentation on TAZ/Seasonal Population – Dan Blevins

Dan gave a *Small Area/Seasonal Projections Progress Update*. These small area numbers are derived from DPC projections for larger areas, and are used for statewide data efforts including forecasting. DPC generates statewide and countywide data, and the countywide numbers are in turn allocated into planning districts and Traffic Analysis Zones. Institutional population is estimated for each county and planning district, because it is immobile and does not affect traffic modeling. Historical trends can be helpful, to help calculate future totals and share of households and population. Development plans are a guide, not a given for projecting future numbers. Various other data are also allocated into TAZs.

There are many sources of Employment data including Data Axle, which was balanced to match 2020 DPC totals and provides a good starting point for future projections. Of the ten super-sector job types, future job growth is concentrated in Wholesale/Retail, Education/Health, and Leisure/Hospitality.

The Seasonal Update involves making something defensible to model additional traffic volumes in the summer. Estimated seasonal population numbers assume 2.64 people per seasonal unit. A matter for discussion is where the next generation of seasonal units will be located, with areas near the coast filling up and a map showing future growth extending inland.

Seasonal update private sector Employment numbers are estimated for the peak period June through August and the off-peak period October through March. These data are slightly more scattered in the beach area than population and housing. Employment during both periods has grown, but the difference in total employment between them has stayed roughly constant. Will more jobs become year-round, so annual and seasonal employment become less different?

Continued demographic work was summarized. Maryland has seen the seasonal effort in Delaware and wants to apply it to their coastal resort areas. Impacts of “day trippers” will be refined, and seasonal growth outside of normal immediate coastal locations will be followed.

Ed commented about the aging population living longer, with implications for hospitals and nursing homes, aging in place that may reduce housing supply for younger persons, less seasonal population and more year-round population. He sees the future employment picture as a nightmare, unless people work longer. Migration is an issue, with many immigrants not highly skilled while doctors and nurses are needed.

Dan replied by emphasizing the goal of providing defensible estimates, and the need to provide seasonal data for the DeIDOT travel demand model including coastal evacuation. Ed mentioned lessening employment flow from Delaware County, Pennsylvania and increasing such flow from Sussex County into Maryland, as well as the financial condition of future retirees who may not be able to afford a retirement home. Colton wondered how long seasonal houses are occupied and how that affects traffic, with some people leaving the beach area while others are coming in. Ed and Dan discussed some aspects of estimating seasonal housing demand, which Maryland plans to address statewide. Arthur Jenkins asked about future employment growth in northern New Castle County and potential commutation there from the south. Dan said with aging population in New Castle County, commutation to jobs in that county would likely continue. Ed discussed how commuting to New Castle County has changed. Arthur mentioned newly issued job projections from 2022 to 2032, and Dan pointed out that retail jobs drive trip generation and show where population is increasing. Ed mentioned that delivery services including Amazon are increasing transportation jobs, and government jobs are also increasing but hard to deal with due to working at home.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Colton said he had no new business, and no one else mentioned any.

**OPEN COMMENT PERIOD**

Samantha said she and Rose Zappacosta recently attended a training conference in Charlotte. She introduced DPC’s data dissemination specialist Stacie Cochran-McNeal, who works for the Census and is responsible for a few states. Samantha can coordinate DPC members with Stacie to answer questions about data sets, which have been mostly issued for 2020.

**FUTURE MEETING DATES**

Colton announced the next meetings will be on Thursday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> and Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:57 AM.

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

Colton Phillips  
Chair  
Delaware Population Consortium