



Delaware Population Consortium Meeting

Where: Room 219 Haslet Armory, 122 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd S, Dover, DE 19901

When: December 5, 2024 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Teams: [Click Here](#) **Meeting ID:** 263 551 199 693 **Passcode:** fd9yA7de

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Agenda

1. Welcome & Call-To-Order
2. Review and approval of meeting minutes from 10/24/2024
3. New Business
 - A. Annual Report - Review and vote
 - B. Officer Elections - Nominations and vote
4. Open Comment
5. Future Meeting Dates and Adjournment

Next Meeting: TBD



Delaware Population Consortium Meeting
Hybrid Format Meeting In-Person and via Teams
October 24, 2024

The meeting was held on Thursday October 24, 2024; in Haslet Armory Room 133 and virtually using Teams.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Colton Phillips at 10:01 AM.

The following persons were present:

Officers:

Colton Phillips, Chair, DelDOT
Dan Blevins, Vice-Chair, WILMAPCO
Owen Robatino, Secretary, New Castle County Government

Voting Members:

Samantha Bulkilvish, OSPC
Arthur Jenkins, DOL
Rachel Alfano, DSHA
Wendy Hudson, DSHS
Matthew Rogers, New Castle County Government
Jamie Fenske, Kent County Government
Jamie Whitehouse, Sussex County Government
Timothy C. Lucas, City of Wilmington
Michael Fortner, City of Newark
Dawn Melson-Williams, City of Dover
Marilyn Smith, Dover-Kent MPO
Keith Hall, Salisbury/Wicomico MPO

Others in Attendance:

David Edgell, OSPC
Joshua Thomas, OSPC
Rose Zappacosta, OSPC
Lisa Henry, DOE
Anson Gock, DelDOT
Philip Birk, City of Wilmington
Elliott Larkin, City of Wilmington
Abdul Dawodu, City of Wilmington
Bill Fasano, City of Wilmington
Bill West, Town of Georgetown

Michael Petit de Mange, Dover-Kent MPO
Stacie Cochran-McNeal, US Census Bureau
Ed Ratledge, UD CADSR

MEETING MINUTES

Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes from 9/26/2024: 1st Art Jenkins, 2nd Tim Lucas. Keith Hall and Dawn Melson-Williams abstained from voting on the minutes.

NEW BUSINESS

Yearly Report & Discussion – Ed Ratledge, Dan Blevins

Ed discussed changes to the DPC projections over the last six to seven months. He said most of the 2020 Census data have already been used by DPC, but vital statistics records are now available for 2021 and 2022, and records for 2023 should become available in several months. The updates involve data for the counties on births and deaths, as well as racial and ethnic data and migration. Migration numbers for New Castle and Kent counties are each only around 1,000 people per year, but Sussex County has had a much larger yearly migration number that is partly seasonal. Samantha Bulkilvish asked how DPC numbers will be affected by pending intercensal estimates, and Ed replied those are mainly useful for housekeeping since the 2020 Census numbers cannot be changed.

Dan gave a presentation on the *Delaware Population Forecast—2024 Series Draft*, to compare the DPC projections for 2023 with the 2024 draft. Tables of population by age structure between 2020 and 2050 show little change by age group in New Castle County, but for younger age groups Kent shows a decline and Sussex shows a considerable increase. Sussex also shows a decline in older age groups. Corresponding tables of population by race structure also show little change for racial groups in New Castle County, but noticeable changes in the other counties. A graph of the components of population growth in the State between 2010 and 2050 shows negative natural increase starting around 2026, with net population growth increased somewhat by net migration. Corresponding graphs for the counties also show net migration increasing annual net population growth, which in 2038 becomes negative in New Castle but remains positive through 2050 in the other counties.

Dan's presentation included a table for each county showing historical and forecast municipal population from 2010 through 2050. For each county, these tables show the municipal population as a percentage of the total population remaining fairly constant over time.

Samantha and David Edgell asked why annual net population growth in New Castle County becomes negative around 2038. Dan explained that is due to this county's large number of older persons and their limited life expectancy. Anson Gock asked how life expectancy by gender and county affects birth and death rates. Ed explained the number

of deaths in each age group is known, death rates are based on many factors including age and address, and these rates are updated over time. Ed also mentioned negative population growth in northeastern states due to their older population, and Dan mentioned negative natural increase in many states.

Officer Elections

Colton said the October DPC meeting is normally the annual meeting, with votes on population projections and officer positions. Because the population projections were not posted soon enough in advance, the vote on them will be postponed until November. He also asked if the votes for officers should also be postponed, and no objections were raised. Matt Rogers made a motion to delay the annual meeting until November, for votes on the projections and the officers. Dan seconded the motion and it passed. Samantha suggested that in the meantime the meeting attendees consider potential nominations for the officer positions.

OLD BUSINESS

Bylaws Refresh

Colton suggested that meeting attendees read over the Bylaws, which are posted on the website, in order to better understand how the Consortium operates.

OPEN COMMENT PERIOD

Samantha said she will take a leave of absence in the spring, and during that time Rose will be the OSPC contact.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

Colton announced the next scheduled DPC meeting will be a special meeting on Thursday, November 14th, to vote on officer positions and the final population projection numbers.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:44 AM.

ATTEST: _____

Colton Phillips
Chair
Delaware Population Consortium