

Snapshot of health system climate vulnerability and performance in...

Delaware

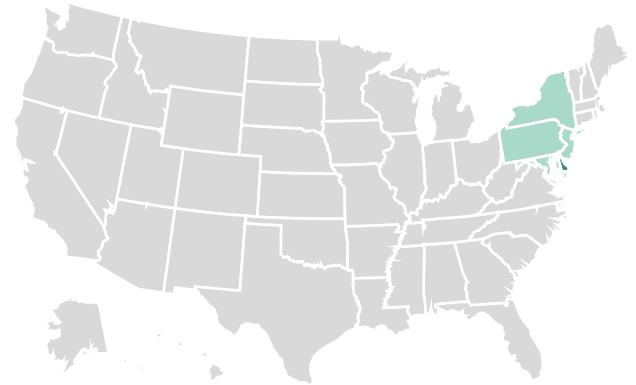


The
Commonwealth
Fund

Delaware ranks #16 overall.

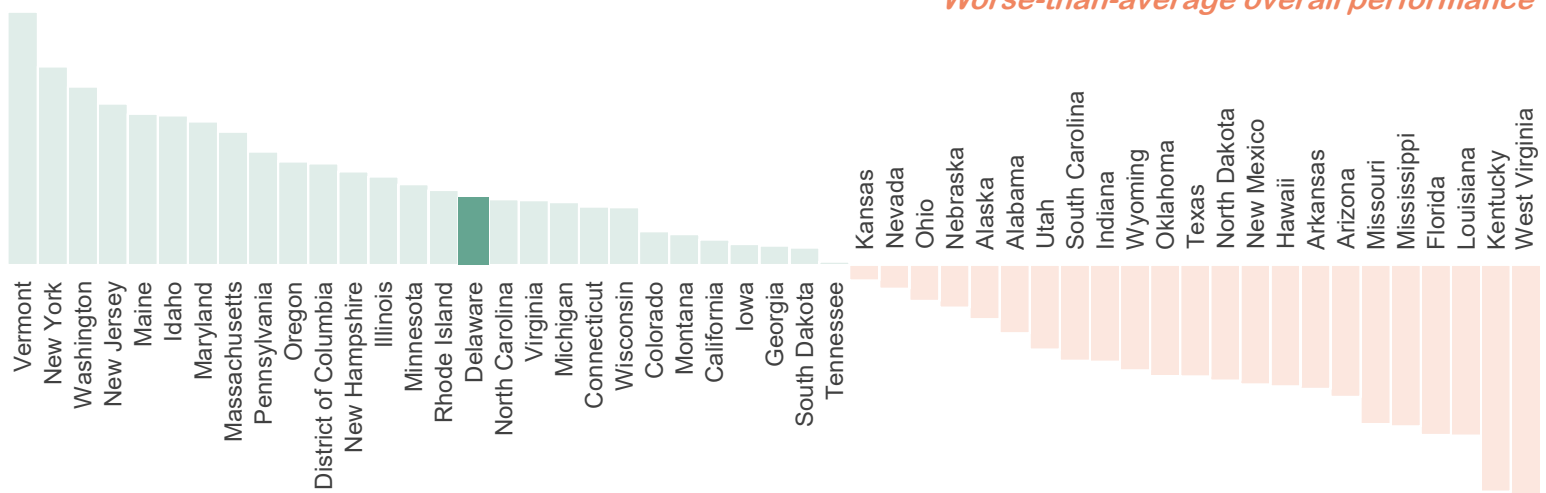
	National Rank	Rank Among Mid-Atlantic States*
Average Annual Air Quality Index	37 of 51	4 of 6
Health Risk from Extreme Heat	8	3
Health Care Facility Risk from Natural Hazards	20	5
Health Care Facility Flood Risk	1	1
State Energy Efficiency Policy	18	5
State Electricity Emissions and Their Health Impact	31	6
Health Care Sector Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions	41	5
Health Care Worker Commuting Emissions	25	5

Delaware ranks #6 in the Mid-Atlantic region.



*Note: Mid-Atlantic region includes DE, DC, MD, NJ, NY, PA.

How Delaware Compares to All States



Better-than-average overall performance

Table 1. Indicators of State Health System Climate Vulnerability and Performance

Indicator	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	State rank
Average Annual Air Quality Index Scale of 0–500, with values below 100 generally considered good/moderate air quality	2022	43	42	37
Health Risk from Extreme Heat CDC/ATSDR ^a Heat and Health Index (0–1), with 1 indicating greatest risk	2024	0.42	0.51	8
Health Care Facility Risk from Natural Hazards FEMA ^b National Risk Index (0–100), with 100 indicating greatest risk	2023	48	54	20
Health Care Facility Flood Risk Percent of inpatient facility beds in high-hazard flood zones	2023	0.0%	2.5%	1
State Energy Efficiency Policy ACEEE ^c Energy Efficiency Scorecard (0–50), with 50 indicating best performance	2022	21.5	17	18
State Electricity Emissions and Their Health Impact Health impact per unit of electricity generated, ^d where lower values indicate less health impact from emissions	2021	0.430	0.464	31
Health Care Sector Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Kilograms of carbon dioxide equivalent (kg CO ₂ e) ^e	2020	1,642	1,362	41
Health Care Worker Commuting Emissions Transportation-related GHG emissions from health care facility employee commuting (kg CO ₂ e per employee)	2022	2,121	2,169	25



Delaware ranked best on:

Health Care Facility Flood Risk

Compared to other states, Delaware has a smaller proportion of inpatient facility beds in high-hazard flood zones.



Delaware ranked worst on:

Health Care Sector Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions

The Delaware health sector produces more greenhouse gas emissions per capita than in other states. This indicator helps gauge the sector's role in driving climate change at the state level.

Notes: (–) Indicates missing data. (a) Centers for Disease Control/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (CDC/ATSDR). (b) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). (c) American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE). (d) Measured in Disability-Adjusted Life Years (DALYs) per gigawatt-hour (GWh) of electricity generated; DALYs are a common measure of the burden of disease, representing years of healthy life lost. (e) Kilograms of CO₂e stands for “carbon dioxide equivalent,” a standard measure of the warming effect of greenhouse gases.