



UNEMPLOYMENT - **Still Holding**

At 8.4% Delaware's unemployment rate remains virtually unchanged for the fifth consecutive month. Although the rate went from 8.3% to 8.4% between October and November, the change is not statistically significant given the 0.5% sampling error for the Delaware data (the U.S. bumped from 9.6% to 9.8%). Seasonally adjusted weekly initial claims for unemployment insurance also remain

unchanged. And that despite after 21 straight months of decline, Delaware's labor force has modestly risen for three straight months. The road back remains steep as the labor force is 19,000 below peak, the unemployment rate more than double the historical average, and initial weekly claims still 14% above Delaware's long term average.

