

# Brief Economic Facts

## FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND

Frederick County is Maryland's largest county in size—663 square miles. The City of Frederick, the county seat, is intersected by five interstate and national highways that provide easy access to Baltimore (46 miles), Washington, D.C. (44 miles), Gettysburg, Pa. (32 miles), Harpers Ferry, W.Va. (21 miles), and Leesburg, Va. (25 miles). It is home to the 5,700-acre Catoclin Mountain Park, site of the Camp David Presidential Retreat. Frederick County is also Maryland's largest dairy producer, and has the second largest concentration of biotech companies in the state, with over 80 biotech firms calling the county home.



Frederick County's 6,240 businesses employ 82,900 workers; over 120 of these businesses have 100 or more workers. Major employers include AstraZeneca, Fannie Mae, Leidos Biomedical Research, Lonza, State Farm Insurance and Wells Fargo Home Mortgage. Recent expansions include AstraZeneca with

300 jobs and \$200 million investment. The National Cancer Institute and Leidos recently completed the Frederick National Laboratory, with 330,000 sf of office and state-of-the-art lab space for cancer and AIDS research. In addition, expansion at Fort Detrick includes \$71 million in current construction creating over 300 jobs through 2019. Fort Detrick is home to the National Biodefense Analysis and Countermeasures Center, as well as most of the nation's biological defense programs.

### LOCATION

Driving distance from Frederick:	Miles	Kilometers
Atlanta, Georgia	635	1,021
Baltimore, Maryland	46	75
Boston, Massachusetts	443	713
Chicago, Illinois	637	1,025
New York, New York	232	373
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	143	229
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	179	288
Richmond, Virginia	145	233
Washington, DC	44	71

### CLIMATE AND GEOGRAPHY<sup>1</sup>

Yearly Precipitation (inches)	43.6
Yearly Snowfall (inches)	26.3
Summer Temperature (°F)	73.4
Winter Temperature (°F)	33.6
Days Below Freezing	106.1
Land Area (square miles)	662.7
Water Area (square miles)	4.6
Elevation (feet)	200 to 1,895

### POPULATION<sup>2,3</sup>

	Frederick County Households	Frederick County Population	Maryland part of Washington DC metro*	Maryland
2000	70,060	195,277	2,065,242	5,296,486
2010	84,800	233,385	2,303,870	5,773,552
2020**	97,975	265,650	2,517,100	6,224,550

\*Calvert, Charles, Frederick, Montgomery and Prince George's counties

\*\*Projections

Selected places population (2010): Frederick 65,239; Ballenger Creek 18,274; Urbana 9,175; Linganore 8,543; Thurmont 6,170; Brunswick 5,870; Walkersville 5,800; Spring Ridge 5,795

### POPULATION DISTRIBUTION<sup>2,3</sup> (2015)

Age	Number	Percent
Under 5	14,519	5.9
5 - 19	50,059	20.4
20 - 44	77,492	31.6
45 - 64	70,629	28.8
65 and over	32,623	13.3
Total	245,322	100.0
Median age		39.0 years

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## LABOR AVAILABILITY<sup>3,4,5</sup> (BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE)

Civilian Labor Force (2015 avg.)	County	Labor Mkt. Area*
Total civilian labor force	129,295	754,927
Employment	123,428	722,866
Unemployment	5,867	32,061
Unemployment rate	4.5%	4.2%

Residents commuting outside the county to work (2011-2015)	Number	Percent
	53,410	42.7%

### Employment in selected occupations (2011-2015)

Occupation	Number	Percent
Management, business, science and arts	58,606	46.1%
Service	19,463	15.3%
Sales and office	29,104	22.9%
Production, transp. and material moving	8,651	6.8%

\* Frederick, Montgomery and Washington counties

## MAJOR EMPLOYERS<sup>6,7</sup> (2016)

Employer	Product/Service	Employment
Fort Detrick*++	Military installation	6,400
Frederick Memorial Healthcare System	Medical services	2,695
Wells Fargo Home Mortg.	Mortgage services	1,880
Leidos Biomedical Research	Medical research	1,835
Frederick Comm. College	Higher education	1,055
State Farm Insurance	Insurance	840
UnitedHealthcare	Health insurance	675
AstraZeneca	Biopharmaceuticals	595
National Emergency Training Center*+++	Federal government	575
Mount St. Mary's University	Higher education	510
NVR Building Products	Home builder	510
Lonza Walkersville	Biological media	465
Costco Wholesale	Consumer goods distribution and retailing	450
Hood College	Higher education	420
Thermo Fisher Scientific	Biological products	415
Plamondon Companies	Hotels, restaurants mgmt.	400
YMCA of Frederick County	Recreation and sports ctr.	395
Stulz Air Technology Sys.	Air conditioning systems	390
RR Donnelly	Business documents	360
Canam Steel	Steel production	300
Carey International	Chauffer services	300

Excludes post offices, state and local governments, national retail and national foodservice; includes higher education

\* Employee counts for federal and military facilities exclude contractors to the extent possible; embedded contractors may be included

+Includes employees at Frederick National Lab

++U.S. Fire Academy, FEMA and other tenants

## EMPLOYMENT<sup>4</sup> (2015, BY PLACE OF WORK)

Industry	Estab-lishments	Annual Avg. Empl.	Emp. %	Avg. Wkly. Wage
Federal government	60	3,656	3.7	\$1,690
State government	12	1,197	1.2	956
Local government	82	10,412	10.6	958
Private sector	6,238	82,908	84.5	910
Natural resources and mining	59	559	0.6	685
Construction	930	8,948	9.1	1,057
Manufacturing	173	5,195	5.3	1,189
Trade, transportation and utilities	1,159	17,043	17.4	701
Information	74	1,173	1.2	1,342
Financial activities	594	6,043	6.2	1,425
Professional and business services	1,418	15,233	15.5	1,275
Education and health services	738	13,804	14.1	838
Leisure and hospitality	552	11,403	11.6	338
Other services	540	3,507	3.6	707
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,392</b>	<b>98,173</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>945</b>

Includes civilian employment only

## HOURLY WAGE RATES<sup>4</sup> (2015)

Selected Occupations	Median	Entry	Experienced
Accountants	\$36.00	\$22.50	\$45.25
Bookkeeping/accounting clerks	21.00	14.75	24.50
Computer network support specialists	22.00	17.00	29.00
Computer systems analysts	46.00	29.25	55.00
Customer service representatives	14.50	10.00	18.00
Electronics engineers	49.75	37.75	59.00
Electronics engineering technicians	31.50	22.50	34.50
Freight, stock and material movers, hand	11.50	9.25	14.00
Industrial truck operators	17.50	14.50	18.75
Inspectors, testers, sorters	20.25	16.25	24.00
Machinists	24.00	18.75	27.00
Maintenance and repair workers	19.75	11.75	24.00
Packers and packagers, hand	12.25	8.75	14.00
Secretaries	18.50	12.50	21.25
Shipping/receiving clerks	15.00	11.25	18.50
Team assemblers	14.50	12.00	17.50

Wages are an estimate of what workers might expect to receive in Frederick County and may vary by industry, employer and locality

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## SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES<sup>3,8</sup>

### Educational Attainment - age 25 & over (2011-2015)

High school graduate or higher	92.4%
Bachelor's degree or higher	39.1%

### Public Schools

Number: 36 elementary; 13 middle; 11 high; 3 charter
Enrollment: 41,317 (Sept. 2016)
Cost per pupil: \$12,661 (2014-2015)
Students per teacher: 15.9 (Oct. 2016)
High school career / tech enrollment: 5,757 (2016)
High school graduates: 2,970 (July 2015)

### Nonpublic Schools

Number: 54 (Sept. 2016)
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Higher Education	Enrollment ('16)	Degrees ('15)
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### 2-year institution

Frederick Community College	6,252	897
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### 4-year institutions

Hood College	2,144	588
Mount St. Mary's University	2,186	656

Several major universities are within an easy commute of the county.

## TAX RATES<sup>9</sup>

	Frederick Co.	Maryland
<b>Corporate Income Tax (2017)</b>	none	8.25%

Base – federal taxable income

<b>Personal Income Tax (2017)</b>	2.96%	2.0%-5.75%*
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Base – federal adjusted gross income

\*Graduated rate peaking at 5.75% on taxable income over \$300,000

<b>Sales &amp; Use Tax (2017)</b>	none	6.0%
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Exempt – sales for resale; manufacturer's purchase of raw materials; manufacturing machinery and equipment; purchases of materials and equipment used in R&D and testing of finished products; purchases of computer programs for reproduction or incorporation into another computer program for resale

<b>Real Property Tax (FY 17)</b>	\$1.06	\$0.112
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Effective rate per \$100 of assessed value

In addition to this rate, there are some miscellaneous taxes and/or special taxing areas in the county; in an incorporated area, the county rate may vary and a municipal rate will also apply

<b>Business Personal Property Tax (FY 17)</b>	none	none
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No county personal property tax on ordinary business property \$2.34/\$100 applicable to utility operating property only

In an incorporated area, a municipal rate may apply; municipal exemptions may be available

### Major Tax Credits Available

Enterprise Zone, Job Creation, R&D, Biotechnology and Cybersecurity Investment, Arts & Entertainment District

## INCOME<sup>3</sup> (2011-2015)

Distribution	Percent Households		
	Frederick Co.	Maryland	U.S.
Under \$25,000	11.2	15.3	23.0
\$25,000 - \$49,999	16.2	17.9	23.5
\$50,000 - \$74,999	17.3	17.1	17.8
\$75,000 - \$99,999	14.1	13.4	12.1
\$100,000 - \$149,999	21.7	18.2	13.1
\$150,000 - \$199,999	10.6	9.0	5.1
\$200,000 and over	8.8	9.2	5.3
Median household	\$83,700	\$74,551	\$53,889
Average household	\$100,589	\$97,801	\$75,558
Per capita	\$37,449	\$36,897	\$28,930
Total income (millions)	\$8,902	\$211,875	\$8,834,710

## HOUSING<sup>2,3,10</sup>

Occupied Units (2011-2015)	88,494 (73.9% owner occupied)
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Housing Transactions	Units	Median Selling Price
All arms-length transactions (2015)	3,579	\$302,000
All multiple-listed properties (2016)*	4,093	\$272,302

\*Excludes auctions and FSBO

## BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY<sup>6</sup>

Frederick County offers upscale research and development, office and industrial campuses with in-place amenities. Over 30 industrial and office parks have available sites ranging from one to 200 acres with easy access to a vast transportation network. The inventory of available space totals over 3 million sq. ft.

Frederick County Office of Economic Development uses a comprehensive site database, CoStar Property, to assist businesses in the site selection process. The following are selected business parks in the Frederick area: 270 Technology Park, Ballenger Creek Center, Center at Monocacy, Frederick Airport Park, Jefferson Tech Park, Intercoastal Industrial Center, Knowledge Farms, Omega Center, Riverside Industrial Park, Riverside Tech Park, Stanford Industrial Park, Urbana Office & Research Center, Wedgewood Business Park, Westview South and Westview Corporate Campus. These locations offer outstanding opportunities for information technology, bioscience or manufacturing operations.

### Business Incubator

Frederick Innovative Technology Center, Inc. (FITCI), Frederick

Market Profile Data (2016)	Low	High	Average
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### Land – cost per acre

Industrial	\$15,000	\$400,000	\$140,000
Office	\$40,000	\$700,000	\$370,000

### Rental Rates – per square foot

Warehouse / Industrial	\$4.00	\$10.50	\$6.50
Flex / R&D / Technology	\$5.00	\$18.00	\$10.00
Class A Office	\$12.00	\$36.00	\$18.00

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## TRANSPORTATION

**Highways:** I-70, I-270, U.S. 15, U.S. 40 and U.S. 340

**Mass Transit:** MARC (commuter rail) service to Washington, D.C. and Amtrak; public bus transportation throughout Frederick City and connecting to other municipalities

**Rail:** CSX Transportation and Maryland Midland Railway (short line service)

**Truck:** 70 local and long-distance trucking establishments are located in the county

**Water:** Served by the Port of Baltimore, 50' channel; a leading U.S. automobile and break-bulk port; seven public terminals including the state-of-the-art Intermodal Container Transfer Facility

**Air:** Served by Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (BWI) as well as Reagan Washington National and Washington Dulles International Airports; Frederick Municipal Airport offers jet and turboprop charter service and ILS, VOR and GPS approaches; 2 runways with longest at 5200'

## RECREATION AND CULTURE

**Parks:** Cunningham Falls, Gambrill, Gathland, and Washington Monument State Parks, Monocacy National Battlefield, Sugarloaf Mountain, C&O Canal Towpath and Catoctin Mountain Park

**Recreation and Leisure:** Golfing, fishing, hiking, ice skating, canoeing, swimming, orchard and winery tours, historic walking and motorcoach tours, visual and performing arts, art galleries, a zoological park, and minor league baseball

**Historical and Cultural:** Schifferstadt Architectural Museum, Barbara Fritchie House, Francis Scott Key Monument and Grave, Roger Brooke Taney House/Francis Scott Key Museum, National Museum of Civil War Medicine, Historical Society of Frederick County, Delaplaine Visual Arts Center, Weinberg Center for the Arts, Seton Shrine Center, Grotto of Lourdes, Lily Pon Water Gardens, Brunswick Railroad Museum, covered bridges and antique and specialty shopping

**Arts & Entertainment District:** Downtown Frederick

**Events:** Frederick's In the Street Festival, Brunswick Railroad Days, Candlelight Tour of homes, museums and historic houses of worship, Beyond the Garden Gates Tour, Rose Hill Days, Frederick Festival of the Arts, Maryland Christmas Show, Catoctin Colorfest, the Great Frederick Fair, New Market Days, Commemoration of the Battle of Monocacy, Myersville Trolley Festival, Middletown Heritage Festival, Oktoberfest at Schifferstadt, Annual Craft Fair and more

## UTILITIES

**Electricity:** The Allegheny Power System and Thurmont Municipal Light Company; customers of investor-owned utilities and major cooperatives may choose their electric supplier

**Gas:** Frederick Gas Company, a division of Washington Gas; Baltimore Gas and Electric serves Mount Airy; UGI Central Penn Gas serves Rocky Ridge and Emmitsburg; customers may choose their gas supplier

**Water and Sewer:** Municipal water and sewer systems in Brunswick, Emmitsburg, Frederick, Middletown, Mount Airy, Myersville and Thurmont; municipal water systems in Walkersville and Woodsboro; 18 county-operated water plants and 15 sewage plants serve a wide geographical area

**Telecommunications:** Predominant local carrier - Verizon Maryland; Long distance carriers - AT&T, LCI, Sprint Nextel, Verizon and numerous additional carriers, resellers and providers of WATS, MTS, voice, paging systems, data, video networking, CATV, satellite communications systems and other wireless systems; ISDN digital switching and fiber optics widely available

## GOVERNMENT<sup>11</sup>

**County Seat:** Frederick

**Government:** County executive and seven member county council elected for four-year terms; charter form of government allows for the separation of the executive from the legislative branch; lawmaking powers are vested in an elected legislative body

Jan H. Gardner, County Executive 301.600.3190

Harold F. (Bud) Otis, Jr., Pres., County Council 301.600.1303

**Website:** [www.frederickcountymd.gov](http://www.frederickcountymd.gov)

**County Bond Rating:** AAA (S&P); Aaa (Moody's); AAA (Fitch)

**Frederick County Office of Economic Development**

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Sources:

1 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (1981-2010 normals); Maryland Geological Survey

2 Maryland Department of Planning

3 U.S. Bureau of the Census

4 Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, Office of Workforce Information and Performance

5 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

6 Frederick County Office of Economic Development

7 Maryland Department of Commerce

8 Maryland State Department of Education; Maryland Higher Education Commission

9 Maryland State Dept. of Assessments and Taxation; Comptroller of the Treasury

10 Maryland Association of Realtors

11 Maryland State Archives; Maryland Association of Counties