

# Brief Economic Facts

## THE STATE OF MARYLAND

Maryland is at the center of the Boston-Atlanta Corridor on the Atlantic seaboard, and borders Washington, D.C., the nation's capital. Among the 50 states Maryland ranks 42nd in size and 18th in population, with a diversified economy rooted in high technology, biosciences and services, as well as revitalized manufacturing and international trade. The state's private sector industries generate \$346.5 billion quarterly in economic output.

Maryland is home to four Foreign-Trade Zones and 35 State Enterprise Zones, and transportation resources including the Port of Baltimore and the Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport. Major federal facilities based in Maryland are the National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Standards and Technology, National Security Agency, Social Security Administration, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Homeland Security, and Census Bureau.

Professional and technical workers constitute 30 percent of the state's workforce – the second highest concentration among states. Further, Maryland ranks fourth among the states in educational attainment, with 43.7 percent holding a bachelor's



degree or higher. Fifty-five accredited colleges and universities include 12 institutions in the University System of Maryland as well as Johns Hopkins University.

Maryland's 186,000 businesses employ over 2.1 million workers with an annual payroll of \$160 billion; 3,348 businesses have 100 or more workers. Significant companies headquartered in Maryland include Lockheed Martin, Marriott International, Host Hotels & Resorts, McCormick & Company, T. Rowe Price, Under Armour, W. R. Grace, GEICO, Emergent Biosolutions, United Therapeutics, Colfax, Tessco Technologies, Coastal Sunbelt and Phillips Seafood.

### LOCATION

| Driving distance from Central Maryland: | Miles | Kilometers |
|---|-------|------------|
| Atlanta, Georgia                        | 658   | 1,059      |
| Boston, Massachusetts                   | 397   | 639        |
| Chicago, Illinois                       | 688   | 1,108      |
| New York, New York                      | 186   | 299        |
| Philadelphia, Pennsylvania              | 97    | 156        |
| Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania                | 225   | 362        |
| Richmond, Virginia                      | 144   | 232        |
| Washington, DC                          | 39    | 63         |

### CLIMATE AND GEOGRAPHY<sup>3</sup>

|                                       |                    |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Average Yearly Precipitation (inches) | 43.6               |
| Average Yearly Snowfall (inches)      | 20.6               |
| Average Summer Temperature            | 72.7°F; 22.6°C     |
| Average Winter Temperature            | 34.1°F; 1.2°C      |
| Average Freeze Free Period            | 185                |
| Land Area (square miles)              | 9,707              |
| In Land Water Area (square miles)     | 768                |
| Shoreline (miles)                     | 7,719              |
| Elevation (feet)                      | sea level to 3,360 |

### POPULATION AND HOUSEHOLDS<sup>1,2</sup>

|      | Households | Population | Average Annual Growth Rate (Population) |
|------|------------|------------|---|
| 2010 | 2,156,425  | 5,773,552  | –                                       |
| 2015 | 2,177,875  | 5,982,810  | .7%                                     |
| 2020 | 2,244,900  | 6,074,750  | .3%                                     |
| 2025 | 2,314,650* | 6,244,980* | .6%                                     |

\*Projections

### POPULATION DISTRIBUTION<sup>1,2</sup> (2023)

| Age         | Number    | Percent    |
|-------------|-----------|------------|
| Under 5     | 346,836   | 5.6        |
| 5 - 19      | 1,168,273 | 18.9       |
| 20 - 44     | 2,010,333 | 32.5       |
| 45 - 64     | 1,588,173 | 25.8       |
| 65 and over | 1,066,638 | 17.2       |
| Total       | 6,180,253 | 100.0      |
| Median Age  |           | 39.8 years |

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## LABOR AVAILABILITY<sup>2,4</sup> (BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE)

### Civilian Labor Force (2023 avg.)

|                            |           |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Total civilian labor force | 3,184,868 |
| Employment                 | 3,117,270 |
| Unemployment               | 67,598    |
| Unemployment rate          | 2.1%      |

### Employment in selected occupations (2023)

|   |           |       |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Management, business, science and arts          | 1,617,915 | 50.7% |
| Service   | 509,844   | 16.0% |
| Sales and office                                | 548,686   | 17.2% |
| Natural resources, construction and maintenance | 240,592   | 7.5%  |
| Production, transp. and material moving         | 276,991   | 8.7%  |

## MAJOR EMPLOYERS<sup>5</sup> (2023-2024)

| Employer   | Product/Service                       | Employment |
|--|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Fort George G. Meade                             | Federal military installation         | 53,125     |
| University System of Maryland                    | Higher education                      | 41,875     |
| Naval Air Station Patuxent River                 | Military installation                 | 33,500     |
| Johns Hopkins Health System                      | Medical services                      | 30,750     |
| Amazon   | eCommerce fulfillment center          | 30,000     |
| University of Maryland Medical System            | Medical services                      | 29,300     |
| Fort Detrick Campus                              | Federal military installation         | 18,375     |
| Ahold Dehaize (Giant, Food Lion, and Martin's)   | Supermarkets                          | 17,950     |
| National Institutes of Health*                   | HQ / Medical research                 | 17,900     |
| Johns Hopkins University                         | Higher education                      | 16,850     |
| MedStar Health                                   | Medical services                      | 13,900     |
| Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG)*                   | Federal military installation; R&D    | 13,600     |
| Northrop Grumman Mission Systems                 | HQ / Electronic surveillance products | 12,900     |
| Walmart / Sam's Club                             | Consumer goods                        | 12,825     |
| U.S. Social Security Administration              | HQ / Income security program          | 12,425     |
| Joint Base Andrews Naval Air Facility Washington | Federal military installation         | 11,650     |
| U.S. Food and Drug Administration                | HQ / Food and drug R&D and standards  | 8,500      |

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

Federal and military employers exclude contractors to the extent possible; embedded contractors may be included; Fort George G. Meade includes employees of the National Security Agency

## EMPLOYMENT<sup>4</sup> (2023 BY PLACE OF WORK)

| Industry                    | Estab-lishments | Annual Avg. Empl. | Emp. %       | Avg. Wkly. Wage |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Federal government          | 1,221           | 158,475           | 5.9          | \$2,432         |
| State government            | 486             | 102,765           | 3.8          | 1,452           |
| Local government            | 2,115           | 252,582           | 9.3          | 1,339           |
| Private sector              | 186,364         | 2,191,362         | 81.0         | 1,407           |
| Nat'l. resources and mining | 947             | 7,385             | 0.3          | 1,030           |
| Construction                | 16,311          | 161,589           | 6.0          | 1,528           |
| Manufacturing               | 4,692           | 113,886           | 4.2          | 1,850           |
| Trade, transp. and util.    | 30,868          | 467,141           | 17.3         | 1,103           |
| Information                 | 5,160           | 35,150            | 1.3          | 2,480           |
| Financial activities        | 16,927          | 126,804           | 4.7          | 2,223           |
| Prof. and business svcs.    | 51,025          | 476,739           | 17.6         | 1,889           |
| Educ. and health services   | 24,306          | 449,513           | 16.6         | 1,285           |
| Leisure and hospitality     | 15,421          | 263,956           | 9.8          | 600             |
| Other services              | 20,213          | 89,159            | 3.3          | 1,089           |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>190,185</b>  | <b>2,705,183</b>  | <b>100.0</b> | <b>1,463</b>    |

Includes civilian employment only

## INCOME<sup>2</sup> (2023)

| Distribution          | Percent Households |           |
|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------|
|                       | Maryland           | U.S.      |
| Under \$25,000        | 11.9               | 15.2      |
| \$25,000 - \$49,999   | 12.9               | 17.1      |
| \$50,000 - \$74,999   | 13.9               | 16.1      |
| \$75,000 - \$99,999   | 11.9               | 12.7      |
| \$100,000 - \$149,999 | 19.1               | 17.4      |
| \$150,000 - \$199,999 | 11.7               | 9.1       |
| \$200,000 and over    | 18.7               | 12.4      |
| Median household      | \$98,678           | \$77,719  |
| Average household     | \$129,366          | \$109,160 |
| Per capita            | \$50,72            | \$43,313  |

## HOUSING<sup>2,6</sup>

Occupied Units (2023) 2,384,715 (67.9% owner occupied)

### Housing Transactions (2024)\*

|                      |           |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Units sold           | 68,947    |
| Median selling price | \$420,000 |

\*All multiple listed properties; excludes auctions and FSBO

## TRANSPORTATION

Maryland is centered in one of the nation's most comprehensive transportation networks along the eastern seaboard.

**Highways:** Maryland offers a safe, efficient network of interstate roads; I-68, I-70, I-81, I-83, I-95, I-97, I-195, I-270, I-370, I-395, I-495, I-695, I-795, and I-895.

**Rail:** Served primarily by CSX Transportation and Norfolk Southern Railway; five additional short line or terminal freight railroads provide service mainly in rural areas of the state.

**Mass Transit:** State-owned rail commuter service (MARC) in the Baltimore-Washington area; metropolitan light rail in the Baltimore area, and subway systems in Baltimore and the Washington, D.C. suburbs. Amtrak passenger rail offers convenient access to U.S. cities in the Northeast, and Metroliner service connects Baltimore to New York in 2-1/2 hours.

**Truck:** 1,776 local and long-distance trucking establishments transport general or specialized cargo.

**Water:** Port of Baltimore is located closer to the Midwest than any other Atlantic seaport; a leading U.S. automobile port and one of the nation's top ro-ro ports; state-of-the-art Seagirt Marine Terminal and Intermodal Container Transfer Facility provide convenient, economical access to national and international markets; one of only four ports on the East Coast able to accommodate Neo-Panamax ships.

**Air:** Maryland is as close by air to London as it is to Los Angeles; Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (BWI), the state's major commercial airport, provides nonstop service to 92 domestic and overseas destinations and is served by 36 airlines, including commuter, charter and cargo; passenger flights to and from BWI average 608 daily. BWI offers a full array of cargo support services, including 24-hour air cargo and customs services, a 395,000 square foot Air Cargo Center and a 214-acre Foreign-Trade Zone. A light rail line connects BWI's international terminal with Baltimore City and its northern suburbs, and Amtrak and MARC train service are available to Washington, D.C.

## UTILITIES

**Electricity:** Electricity in Maryland is available and dependable; the state's major electric utilities are part of the PJM Interconnection, the country's largest and most integrated power pool. The amount of power available at any particular place varies, but the 13 electric utilities that serve Maryland provide ample power on demand. Customers of investor-owned utilities and major cooperatives may choose their electric supplier.

**Gas:** Natural gas is available in most urban and surrounding areas. Maryland receives bulk natural gas from five interstate pipelines: Transco, Columbia Gas, Dominion Energy, Texas Eastern, and Eastern Shore Natural Gas. Seven natural gas companies operate in Maryland, as well as two companies which supply propane gas through street mains. Customers of major gas companies may choose their gas supplier.

**Telecommunications:** Heavily served by digital and fiber optics, the state's telecommunications network is state-of-the-art. Verizon Maryland is the largest provider of communications services in the state; its fiber network infrastructure is very robust. Verizon services include FTTP, FiOS, Business Ethernet and Secure Gateway. Other major providers include Comcast, CenturyLink and XO Communications.

## TAX RATES AND INCENTIVES

**Corporate Income Tax:** 8.25% on net income attributable to business transacted within Maryland. Local jurisdictions do not levy a corporate income tax.

**Personal Income Tax:** Graduated rate ranging from 2.0% to 5.75% on taxable income over \$300,000 for joint filers. Each of the counties and the City of Baltimore impose a personal income surtax ranging from 1.75% to 3.20% of taxable income.

**Sales and Use Tax:** 6% on tangible personal property sold at retail or used in Maryland. Does not apply to sales for resale. Does not apply to a manufacturer's purchase of raw materials nor manufacturing machinery and equipment. Does not apply to purchases of materials and equipment used in R&D and testing of finished products, and computer programs for reproduction or incorporation into another computer program for resale. Local jurisdictions do not levy a general sales tax.

**Real Property Tax:** Real property in Maryland is assessed at 100% of market value. Property is valued once every three years. The state tax rate for 2023-2024 is 11.2 cents per \$100 of assessed value. Local jurisdictions and incorporated municipalities tax at varying rates.

**Personal Property Tax:** Maryland does not impose a state personal property tax on business. Local jurisdictions and incorporated municipalities tax at varying rates. Rates are based on depreciated value. Seven counties and several municipalities exempt all personal property from taxation. The remaining counties and most municipalities offer partial or complete exemptions on manufacturing and research and development machinery and equipment, and on manufacturing, R&D and warehousing inventories.

### Major State Tax Incentives

- Biotechnology Investment Incentive Tax Credit
- Brownfields Tax Incentive
- Buy Maryland Cybersecurity (BMC) Tax Credit
- Data Center Maryland Sales and Use Tax Exemption Incentive
- Employer Security Clearances Costs (ESCC) Tax Credit
- Enterprise Zone Tax Credits
- Innovation Investment Tax Credit
- Job Creation Tax Credit
- Maryland Opportunity Zone Enhancement Credits
- More Jobs for Marylanders - Manufacturing Tax Credit
- One Maryland Tax Credit
- Regional Institution Strategic Enterprise (RISE) Zone Program
- Research and Development Tax Credit
- Small Business Relief Tax Credit

## BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

Maryland offers a variety of buildings, sites and business park settings located throughout the state. Commercial and industrial properties are available for research and development, office, warehouse/distribution, heavy/light industrial, and manufacturing uses. Properties with wet lab, clean room and secure/SCIF space are available.

An abundance of properties have ready access to highway, rail, airport and port facilities. Most properties are served with utilities. Purchase or lease of properties can be arranged, or buildings can be built new to suit tenant's specifications or can be retrofitted.

To begin exploring the range of available properties in Maryland, please visit our searchable Buildings & Sites database at [business.maryland.gov](https://business.maryland.gov). You may also contact a state economic development representative at 1.888.246.6736. These qualified economic developers offer confidential and professional site-selection services free of charge.

## SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES<sup>2,8</sup>

### Educational Attainment - age 25 & over (2023)

|                                |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| High school graduate or higher | 91.2% |
| Bachelor's degree or higher    | 43.7% |
| Advanced degree                | 21.3% |

### Public Schools

Number: 781 elementary; 213 middle; 179 high; 22 vo-tech; 88 combined; 49 charter (Sept 2024)

Enrollment: 891,553 (Sept. 2024)

Cost per pupil: \$18,043 (FY 2023)

Students per teacher: 14.1 (Oct. 2023)

High school career / tech enrollment: 126,504 (2023)

High school graduates: 59,490 (July 2023)

### Nonpublic Schools

Number: 1,249 (Sept. 2023)

### SAT Scores (2024)

998 Total; 515 ERW (Reading/Writing); 487 Math

Class of 2024 participation rate: 70%

Includes public and non-public high school graduates

**Career and Technical Education (Secondary):** Over 200 secondary schools and career/technology centers throughout the state offer a wide variety of occupational programs including electronics, mechanics, health, and business.

**Workforce Training:** Through the Maryland Works program, the state's 16 community colleges offer an array of customized, relevant workforce training solutions by identifying or building workforce training to meet the needs of business. Training takes place at a business' location or at a college, during convenient hours, using state-of-the-art equipment, and at a reasonable price.

**Higher Education:** 55 accredited institutions (39 four-year and 16 two-year) with total enrollment of over 335,000. Twelve institutions of the University System of Maryland as well as the Johns Hopkins University and the U.S. Naval Academy provide outstanding resources. In addition to traditional campuses, 8 regional higher education centers throughout the state offer degrees locally through partnerships between Maryland community colleges and in- and out-of-state colleges and universities.

**Links to Business:** University of Maryland Institute for Bioscience and Biotechnology Research, Maryland Technology Enterprise Institute and Fraunhofer Center-Maryland at College Park; bwtech@UMBC at the University of Maryland Baltimore County; and the Applied Physics Laboratory, Information Security Institute and Space Telescope Science Institute at Johns Hopkins.

## RECREATION AND CULTURE

Maryland is naturally endowed with the surf and sand of Atlantic beaches, a sailing paradise on the Chesapeake Bay, the mountain sports of Western Maryland and boasts a Trail System Second to None.

**Sports:** Baltimore Orioles and Ravens; Washington Nationals, Commanders, Wizards, and Capitals; the Preakness Stakes—the second leg of racing's Triple Crown—and other thoroughbred and harness racing; sailing regattas; and a host of collegiate athletics. Both Washington and Baltimore regularly host events on the professional tennis and golf circuits.

**Cultural:** American Film Institute Silver Theatre, Hippodrome Theatre, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Maryland Science Center, Baltimore Museum of Art, Walters Art Museum, American Visionary Art Museum, Reginald F. Lewis Museum, Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art, Ladew Topiary Gardens, and National Aquarium in Baltimore; 28 Arts & Entertainment Districts; eight wine trails connecting dozens of local vineyards.

**Historical:** 13 Heritage Areas, 18 Scenic Byways including the Star-Spangled Banner Trail and Historic National Road; Antietam and Monocacy National Battlefields; Fort McHenry; the National Museum of Civil War Medicine; Hampton National Historic Site; covered bridges and lighthouses.

**Vacation Cruises:** The 65,000-square-foot Baltimore Cruise Terminal is located just off I-95, 10 minutes from BWI Airport. Up to nine cruises a month on ships from major cruise lines sail to Bermuda, the Caribbean, New England and Canada.

## GOVERNMENT<sup>9</sup>

**State Capital:** Annapolis

**Statehood:** April 28, 1788, the seventh state

**Government:** The Governor is the chief executive of the state. Maryland's legislature consists of a 47-member Senate and a 141-member House of Delegates. The state consists of 23 counties and the independent City of Baltimore.

Wes Moore Governor

Aruna Miller Lt. Governor

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

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

**Maryland Department of Commerce**

Harry Coker, Jr., Secretary

### Sources:

1 Maryland Department of Planning

2 U.S. Bureau of the Census

3 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (average of 1981-2010 normals); Maryland Geological Survey

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

5 Maryland Department of Commerce

6 Maryland Association of Realtors

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

8 Maryland State Department of Education; Maryland Higher Education Commission; College Board

9 Maryland State Archives