

Brief Economic Facts

ALLEGANY COUNTY, MARYLAND

Allegheny County is situated in the heart of Western Maryland equidistant from Baltimore, Washington, D.C. and Pittsburgh. It is crossed by Interstate 68 and the main lines of CSX Transportation, providing excellent access to major markets in the East and Midwest. Allegheny's 1,560 diverse businesses employ 22,600 workers with more than 30 of these firms employing over 100.

Allegheny County continues to offer abundant, available labor, below market real estate costs, and growing technology education resources. The county has developed a series of business parks tailored to a diverse economy including information technology, biotechnology and advanced manufacturing. New projects include the Allegheny Business Center at Frostburg State University, a technology-based business park located on university land and offering the resources of Frostburg State and the University System of Maryland. Another is the Barton Business Park for Advanced Manufacturing, located south



LOCATION

Driving distance from Cumberland:	Miles	Kilometers
Atlanta, Georgia	635	1,023
Baltimore, Maryland	134	216
Boston, Massachusetts	505	813
Chicago, Illinois	557	896
New York, New York	293	471
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	218	351
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	101	163
Richmond, Virginia	195	314
Washington, DC	131	211

CLIMATE AND GEOGRAPHY¹

Yearly Precipitation (inches)	40.9
Yearly Snowfall (inches)	55.6
Summer Temperature (°F)	71.1
Winter Temperature (°F)	31.1
Days Below Freezing	118.4
Land Area (square miles)	427.6
Water Area (square miles)	0.4
Elevation (feet)	420 to 2,895 (945 average)

POPULATION^{2,3}

	Allegheny County		Western Maryland*	Maryland
	Households	Population		
2000	29,322	74,930	236,699	5,296,486
2010	29,177	75,087	252,614	5,773,552
2020**	29,875	75,150	266,050	6,224,550

*Allegheny, Garrett, and Washington counties

**Projections

Selected places population (2010): Cumberland 20,859; Frostburg 9,002; Cresaptown 4,592; LaVale 3,551; Potomac Park 2,530; Westernport 1,888

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION^{2,3} (2014)

Age	Number	Percent
Under 5	3,473	4.8
5 - 19	12,013	16.5
20 - 44	24,389	33.4
45 - 64	19,086	26.2
65 and over	13,991	19.2
Total	72,952	100.0
Median age		41.2 years

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LABOR AVAILABILITY^{3,4,5} (BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE)

Civilian Labor Force (2015 avg. - prelim.)	County	Labor Mkt. Area*
Total civilian labor force	33,007	60,220
Employment	30,747	56,180
Unemployment	2,260	4,040
Unemployment rate	6.8%	6.7%

Residents commuting outside the county to work (2010-2014)	Number	Percent
	4,459	15.5%

Employment in selected occupations (2010-2014)

Occupation	Number	Percent
Management, business, science and arts	8,831	29.7%
Service	6,716	22.6%
Sales and office	7,455	25.1%
Production, transp. and material moving	4,015	13.5%

* Allegany and Garrett counties, MD, and Mineral County, WV

MAJOR EMPLOYERS^{6,7} (2015)

Employer	Product/Service	Employment
Western Md. Health System	Medical services	2,290
Frostburg State University	Higher education	939
CSX Transportation	Railroad	900
Hunter Douglas Northeast	Window blinds	815
Allegany College of Md.	Higher education	800
Verso	Pulp and paper products	700
ACS	Telecommunications	570
Rocky Gap Casino Resort	Resort, casino, golf and conference center	500
Walmart	Consumer goods	500
American Woodmark	Cabinets	452
The Active Network	Telecommunications	430
Giant Food Stores / MARTIN'S® Food Markets	Groceries	318
McDonald's	Restaurants	300
Federal Correctional Inst.*	Federal corrections	295
Belt Group	General contracting svcs.	250
U.S. Army Reserve*	National security	213
Hamilton Telecommunications.	Telecom. relay for hearing impaired	199
Invision Healthcare	Outpatient rehab svcs.	190
Friends Aware	Services for the disabled	185
WebstaurantStore	Ecommerce restaurant supply distributor	172
CareFirst	Health insurance	170
Y - Riverside Rec. Center	Recreation and sports ctr.	168

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

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

EMPLOYMENT⁴ (2014, BY PLACE OF WORK)

Industry	Estab-lishments	Annual Avg. Empl.	Emp. %	Avg. Wkly. Wage
Federal government	29	509	1.7	\$1,214
State government	12	3,114	10.7	921
Local government	42	2,986	10.2	807
Private sector	1,561	22,571	77.4	627
Natural resources and mining	10	115	0.4	1,010
Construction	133	896	3.1	793
Manufacturing	56	2,662	9.1	821
Trade, transportation and utilities	398	4,939	16.9	530
Information	15	505	1.7	604
Financial activities	138	905	3.1	848
Professional and business services	172	1,846	6.3	595
Education and health services	267	6,126	21.0	806
Leisure and hospitality	195	3,684	12.6	282
Other services	177	893	3.1	422
Total	1,644	29,180	100.0	687

Includes civilian employment only

HOURLY WAGE RATES⁴ (2015)

Selected Occupations	Median	Entry	Experienced
Accountants	\$27.75	\$19.00	\$35.25
Bookkeeping/accounting clerks	17.25	11.75	20.75
Computer systems analysts	31.50	23.50	42.00
Customer service representatives	13.25	10.00	15.75
Electronics engineering technicians	35.50	31.25	38.25
Extruding and forming machine operators	15.50	8.50	17.25
Freight, stock and material movers hand	14.00	9.75	17.00
Industrial engineers	38.50	31.25	45.00
Industrial truck operators	16.75	11.25	19.50
Inspectors, testers, sorters	24.00	13.50	26.00
Machinists	24.00	14.25	25.75
Maintenance workers, machinery	21.75	14.00	26.75
Network support specialists	28.50	18.75	35.00
Secretaries	15.75	11.25	18.50
Shipping/receiving clerks	16.25	11.50	18.75
Team assemblers	20.75	13.00	24.25

Wages are an estimate of what workers might expect to receive in Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington counties) and may vary by industry, employer and locality

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SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES^{3,8}

Educational Attainment - age 25 & over (2010-2014)

High school graduate or higher	87.4%
Bachelor's degree or higher	17.0%

Public Schools

Number: 14 elementary; 4 middle; 4 high
Enrollment: 8,812 (Sept. 2015)
Cost per pupil: \$13,751 (2012-2013)
Students per teacher: 13.7 (Oct. 2014)
High school career / tech enrollment: 488 (2015)
High school graduates: 613 (July 2014)

Nonpublic Schools

Number: 10 (Sept. 2015)

Higher Education	Enrollment ('15)	Degrees ('14)
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2-year institution		
Allegany College of Maryland	3,068	576
4-year institution		
Frostburg State University	5,756	1,247

TAX RATES⁹

	Allegany Co.	Maryland
Corporate Income Tax (2016)	none	8.25%
Base – federal taxable income		
Personal Income Tax (2016)	3.05%	2.0%-5.75%*
Base – federal adjusted gross income		
*Graduated rate peaking at 5.75% on taxable income over \$300,000		
Sales & Use Tax (2016)	none	6.0%
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		
Real Property Tax (FY 16)	\$0.978	\$0.112
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 will vary and a municipal rate will also apply		
Business Personal Property Tax (FY 16)	\$2.445	none
Rate per \$100 of depreciated value		
Exempt – manufacturing and R&D machinery, equipment, materials and supplies; manufacturing, R&D and warehousing inventory		
In an incorporated area, the county rate will vary and a municipal rate will also apply; municipal exemptions may be available		
Major Tax Credits Available		
One Maryland, Enterprise Zone, Job Creation, R&D, Biotechnology and Cybersecurity Investment, Arts & Entertainment District		

INCOME³ (2010-2014)

Distribution	Percent Households		
	Allegany Co.	Maryland	U.S.
Under \$25,000	31.7	15.4	23.2
\$25,000 - \$49,999	27.4	17.9	23.7
\$50,000 - \$74,999	17.2	17.2	17.8
\$75,000 - \$99,999	9.7	13.4	12.2
\$100,000 - \$149,999	10.2	18.1	13.0
\$150,000 - \$199,999	2.3	8.9	5.1
\$200,000 and over	1.6	9.1	5.0
Median household	\$39,794	\$74,149	\$53,482
Average household	\$54,526	\$97,135	\$74,596
Per capita	\$21,653	\$36,670	\$28,555
Total income (millions)	\$1,553	\$209,422	\$8,668,940

HOUSING^{2,3,10}

Occupied Units (2010-2014) 28,490 (69.4% owner occupied)

Housing Transactions (2014)	Units	Median Selling Price
All arms-length transactions	351	\$94,900
All multiple-listed properties*	504	\$83,250

*Excludes auctions and FSBO

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY⁶

Allegany County currently has eight modern industrial parks located in and around the Cumberland and Frostburg areas. The sites available in these parks offer a wide variety of options including some with rail and newly added fiber optic lines.

North Branch Industrial Park, the largest park in the county, is in an Enterprise Zone and has several sites available.

A new technology park, **Allegany Business Center**, is adjacent to Frostburg State University and surrounds the newly constructed Appalachian Laboratory. The first building in the park is complete and has space available.

The **Barton Business Park** is now open for business and will focus on advanced manufacturing companies needing large tracts of land for their projects. They will find this greenfield site conveniently located just a few miles off I-68 on U.S. Route 220.

Market Profile Data (2015)	Low	High	Average
Land – cost per acre			
Industrial and Office	\$30,000	\$50,000	\$37,000
Rental Rates – per square foot			
Warehouse / Industrial	\$1.25	\$4.70	\$2.40
Flex / R&D / Technology	\$7.00	\$18.00	\$14.00
Class A Office	\$10.00	\$20.00	\$15.00

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TRANSPORTATION

Highways: I-68 (National Freeway), U.S. 40 and U.S. 220

Mass Transit: Allegany Transit bus service

Rail: CSX Transportation; reciprocal switching agreement in effect with Norfolk Southern Railway; passenger service via Amtrak

Truck: 134 local and long-distance trucking establishments are located in Western Maryland

Water: Port of Baltimore, 50' channel, 130 miles east of Cumberland; a leading U.S. automobile and break-bulk port; seven public terminals including the state-of-the-art Intermodal Container Transfer Facility

Air: Cumberland Regional Airport features two paved, lighted runways (3300' and 5000') with an instrument landing system

RECREATION AND CULTURE

Parks: Rocky Gap State Park, Dan's Mountain State Park, New Germany State Park, Green Ridge State Forest and Constitution Park (within the city of Cumberland)

Downhill Skiing: Wisp, Seven Springs, Hidden Valley, Whitetail and Blue Knob are located within 50 miles of Cumberland

Cross Country Skiing: Trails available in state parks

Golf: Cumberland Country Club, Maplehurst Country Club, Fore Sisters Golf Course, and the Rocky Gap Casino Resort featuring a Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Course

Recreation: 76 miles of bike trails along the C&O Canal and the Great Allegheny Passage; numerous trout streams, and fishing on Lake Habeeb and the Potomac River

Cultural: Allegany Arts Council, Frostburg State University Cultural Events Series, Allegany County Historical Society, Allegany County Museum, Cumberland Theatre, Heritage Days Festival, CanalFest and Summer in the City concert series

Arts & Entertainment Districts: Cumberland, Frostburg

Historical: C&O Canal National Historic Park, Toll House, Narrows, Gordon-Roberts House, George Washington's Headquarters, Fort Cumberland, Thrasher Carriage Museum

Shopping and Gaming: Cumberland Mall, Country Club Mall and a variety of antique stores and factory outlets; Rocky Gap Casino Resort offers slot machines and table games

Western Maryland Scenic Railroad: Steam engine offers rides between Historic Cumberland and Frostburg

UTILITIES

Electricity: Potomac Edison electric distribution company; electric customers may choose their electric supplier

Gas: Natural gas supplied by Columbia Gas of Maryland; customers may choose their gas supplier

Water: Municipal systems in the Cumberland area, greater Frostburg area, LaVale and Westernport

Sewer: County serves heavily populated areas; municipal system serves the Cumberland area; private company serves the Westernport area

Telecommunications: Local carrier – Verizon Maryland; Fibernet and Verizon offer voice and data lines for high speed internet service; Allconet 2 offers wireless high speed internet through private ISPs; Long distance carriers – AT&T, Sprint Nextel, Verizon

GOVERNMENT¹¹

County Seat: Cumberland

Government: Three commissioners elected at large for four-year terms; code home rule government allows for broad local legislative authority

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Website: www.gov.allconet.org

County Bond Rating: AA- (S&P); Aa3 (Moody's)

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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 Allegany County Economic and Community Development
- 7 Maryland Department of Commerce
- 8 Maryland State Department of Education; Maryland Higher Education Commission
- 9 Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation; Comptroller of the Treasury
- 10 Maryland Association of Realtors
- 11 Maryland State Archives; Maryland Association of Counties