

How Maryland Ranks

Various state ranking tables covering topics such as income, poverty, education, commuting, and others were released with the 2017 American Community Survey on September 13, 2018. Each table ranks each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia from one to 51. Below are some of the highlights from these ranking tables.

Maryland continues to be one of the more prosperous states in the U.S.

- Maryland's median household income of \$80,776 (+/- \$-707) is ranked second in the nation after the District of Columbia (although, both are statistically tied).
- The state's overall poverty rate of 9.3 percent (+/- 0.4%) is ranked 49th (statistically tied with four other states). New Hampshire is the only state with a lower poverty rate (7.7%, +/-0.6%). It should be mentioned that poverty data does not take into account how housing costs and other expenses would vary among the states.
- The childhood poverty rate of 11.7 percent (+/- 0.8%) is ranked 45th (statistically tied with Colorado).
- The elderly poverty rate (those age 65 and over) of 7.9% (+/- 0.5%) is ranked 36th.

Maryland residents are well educated

- The percent of the population age 25 and over with a Bachelor's degree or higher is ranked fourth at 39.7 percent (+/- 0.4%), tied with New Jersey.
- The percent of the population age 25 and over with an advanced degree (18.3 percent, +/- 0.3%) is ranked third after the District of Columbia and Massachusetts.

Maryland residents are actively engaged in the labor force

- Percent of the population age 16 to 64 who are employed is 74.0 percent (+/- 0.3%), ranking 12th among all states (statistically tied with six other states).
- The percent of married couple families with both husband and wife in the labor force is 59.1% (+/-0.6%) ranking sixth (statistically tied with three other states).

Maryland residents are more likely to have health insurance

- 6.1 percent (+/- 0.2%) of the civilian non-institutional population lacks health insurance, which is ranked 33rd (statistically tied with Washington, West Virginia, Ohio, and New Hampshire).

Maryland workers have one of the longest commute times to work, are more likely to use mass transit, and are more likely to work outside their county of residence

- Maryland ranks among the top two states for longest commute to work: the average commute time for a Maryland worker is 33.3 minutes (+/- 0.3 minutes), a few seconds less than the commute for New Yorkers at 33.7 minutes (+/-0.1 minutes).
- Ranked among the top six states, 8.5 percent (+/- 0.3%) of Maryland workers use transit to get to work.

Maryland is among the top three states with workers (45.9%, +/- 0.5%) employed outside their county of residence, Virginia (51.3%, +/-0.4) has a larger share of workers who work outside their county of residence while New Jersey (46.3%, +/-0.4) is in a statistical tie.

Maryland housing and rental costs are relatively expensive

- Ranked 20th among 50 states and the District of Columbia, 27 percent (+/-0.6%) of Maryland homeowners with a mortgage spend 30 percent or more of their household income on housing costs. (Note: data is statistically not significant).
- Ranked 9th among 50 states and the District of Columbia, 47.5 percent (+/-1.0%) of Marylanders spent 30 percent or more of their household income for rental units, statistically tied with Louisiana.

Maryland attracts residents from all over the world

- Foreign-born residents comprise 15.3 percent (+/-0.3%) of the State's population, ranking ninth among all states and the District of Columbia.
- Most Marylanders born in the state, 55.7 percent (+/-0.4%) of the native population, reside in the state; other states statistically tied with a similar composition are 36th ranked Virginia (56.2 percent, +/-0.3%) and 38th ranked Washington (54.7 percent, +/-0.3%).

Maryland residents are less prone to move

- Ranked 37th among all states and the District of Columbia, 12.9 percent (+/- 0.4%) of Marylanders moved in the last year, they now live in a different house than they did one year ago; Maryland is statistically tied with three other states.

Maryland households are more likely to have high-speed internet

- Ranked among the top five states with household access to a broadband internet subscription, Maryland (87.7 percent, +/-0.4%), is statistically tied with California (87.7 percent, +/-0.1%).