

2022 IRS Migration Report

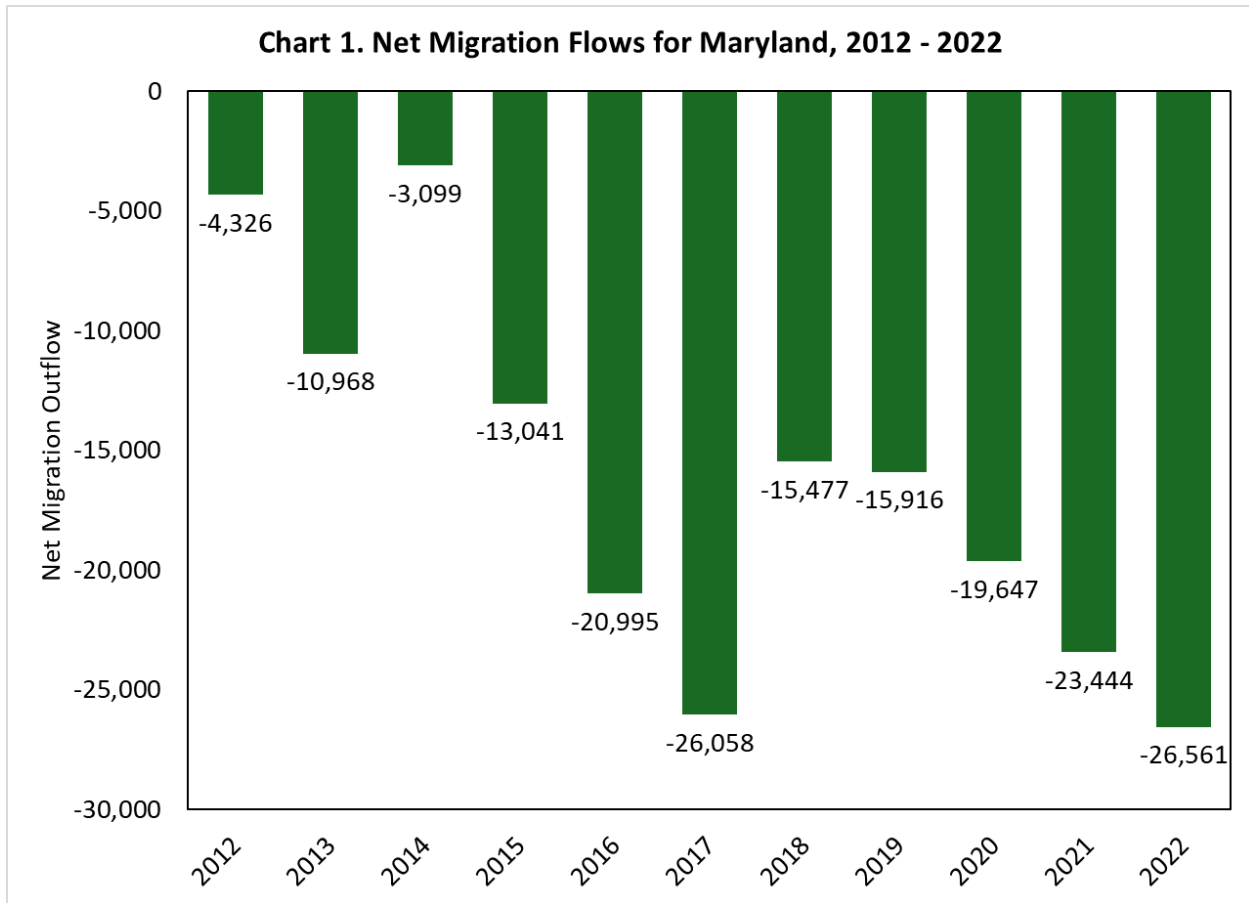


Increased Domestic Outmigration from Maryland

Data on domestic migration is published as part of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) [Statistics of Income \(SOI\)](#) data series. As of this report's publication, 2022 is the most recent release in the SOI data series. Using SOI data from 2012 through 2022, staff at the Maryland Department of Planning's (MDP) State Data and Analysis Center (SDAC) have analyzed long-term trends in Maryland's net migration flows. This report also examines age-specific migration patterns, net migration rates, and Maryland's ranking relative to all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

This analysis provides important insights into Maryland's population dynamics and migration trends. Policymakers and planners can use the findings to pinpoint areas that have experienced population growth or decline, guiding strategic investments in infrastructure, housing, and public services. Developers and real estate brokers can apply the data to evaluate market opportunities and identify locations best suited for new residential or commercial development. Employers and business owners may use migration trends to understand shifts in the labor force and consumer base, while educational institutions can draw on age-specific migration data to anticipate enrollment changes and plan for new schools, expansions, or closures. Overall, this analysis supports decision-making, planning, and investment at the state and local levels.

Analysis of the [2022 SOI data series](#) shows that more residents from Maryland moved to other states than residents of other states moved to Maryland. Data shows a net domestic outflow of 26,561 Maryland residents (see Chart 1). The net outflow in 2022 was larger than at any other time in the last ten years. The last time there was a net domestic out-migration of similar scale was in 2017, with a net outflow of 26,058.



Source: IRS Statistics of Income Division, Individual Master File System, June 2024. Net migration rates measure the difference between people entering the state and those leaving the state per 1000 people. In 2022, Maryland’s net migration rate was -6.5 per 1000 residents. In other words, Maryland experienced one of the higher rates of net –out-migration, ranking 44th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia¹. Among Maryland’s regional neighbors, the District of Columbia showed the largest net negative migration rate at -7.3 per 1,000 residents (ranked 45th) while Virginia had the smallest at -0.85 per 1,000 (ranked 31st). Data for Pennsylvania (ranked 27th) shows that net in- and out-migration was balanced, resulting in net-zero migration (Table 2). Other states in the region experienced population increases with positive net migration rates in West Virginia (0.68 per 1,000 residents) and Delaware (12.24 per 1,000 residents).

¹ Rankings are ordered from positive net migration to negative net migration. A positive value would mean gaining more people, while a negative value would imply losing more people.

Increased domestic out-migration in Maryland may be explained by factors that have traditionally influenced outmigration across the U.S., such as job opportunities, the high cost of living, higher taxes, and/or high crime rates. Another salient factor, during the years of the Covid-19 Pandemic, was the opportunity to work remotely. Data from the [American Community Survey 1-year estimates](#), for the years 2018 to 2023, reveal the percentage of Marylanders aged 16 years and above who worked from home increased from 5.2% in 2018 to 16.9% in 2023. The number of people working from home reached a peak of 24% in 2021. Working remotely allowed people greater flexibility in choosing where to live. The [Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City](#) highlighted some of the factors that motivated households to move to other locations during the pandemic, which included places having a reduced risk of exposure to COVID-19; lower costs of living; better infrastructure; more natural amenities; and/or living closer to family.

Regional migration

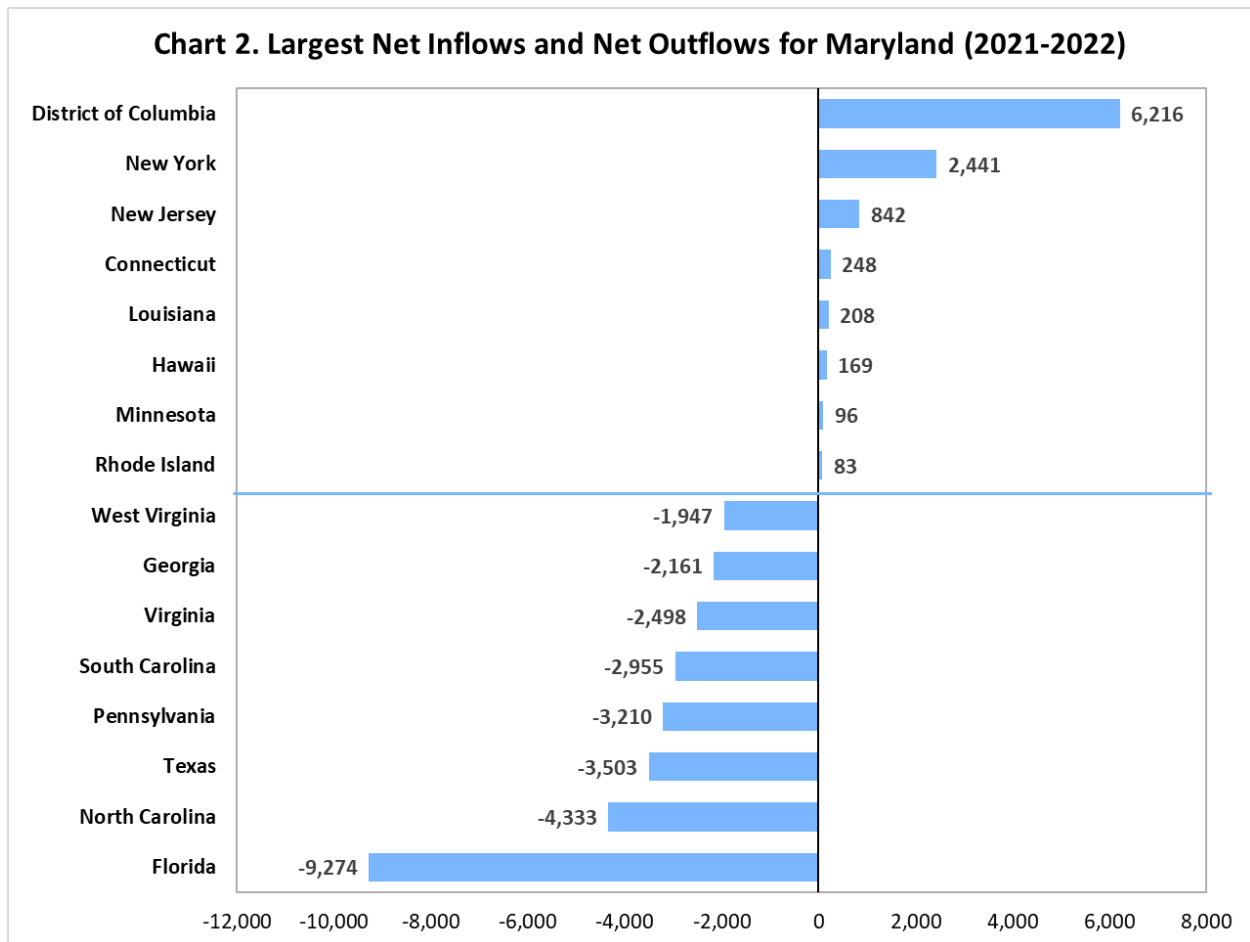
Within the Northeast region, Maryland experienced net population gains from the Mid-Atlantic sub-region but saw net population losses to New England. Additionally, unlike the rest of the Northeast region, data shows net out-migration from Maryland to all Census-defined subregions within the Midwest, South, and West regions. About 2,441 New Yorkers relocated to Maryland, the largest net gain from the Mid-Atlantic. New York is followed by New Jersey (842) in the Mid-Atlantic region, Connecticut (248) in the New England area, and Louisiana (208) in the West South Central region.

The single largest loss for Maryland was 9,274 residents who relocated to Florida in the South Atlantic region, followed by North Carolina in the South Atlantic region (4,333), Texas in the South West Central region (3,503), and Pennsylvania in the Mid-Atlantic region (3,210). (Table 1).

State-to-State migration

Maryland had net inflows from 12 states including New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Louisiana, Hawaii, Minnesota, Rhode Island, California, North Dakota, Illinois, Nebraska, New Mexico, and the District of Columbia (Table 1). Nearly all of Maryland's migrants (90.1 percent)

came from New York, New Jersey, or the District of Columbia (Chart 2). Maryland experienced the greatest net losses to states in the south. For example, Florida, North Carolina, and Texas received the most residents from Maryland – for a total of 17,110 residents or 64.4% of all outmigration. In the Mid-Atlantic, Pennsylvania was the most common destination for relocating Marylanders.



Source: IRS Statistics of Income Division, Individual Master File System, June 2024.

Movement of U.S. citizens abroad²

This component of migration is related to the movement of U.S. citizens in Maryland to and from the territories, Department of Defense personnel and their dependents to and from

² The U.S. Census Bureau processes records from the IRS Individual Master File System for analysis by zip+4 geography which covers states, counties, U.S. territories, armed forces post offices (APFO), and foreign post offices (FPO). The IRS tracks the movement of U.S. residents to and from the U.S. territories (including Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, and Guam), armed forces duty stations, and embassy staff and dependents.

overseas assignments as well as the movement of State Department and U.S. embassy personnel. Over a seven-year period, from 2015 to 2022, movement of U.S. citizens from Maryland abroad showed net outflows in 2016 (64 residents) and in 2017 (563 residents). Other years recorded net inflows with the lowest number in 2022 (461 residents) and the highest number in 2016 (1,108 residents).

Net migration by age

Young adults generally relocate more than older adults – for reasons including college, career, and/or starting a family. IRS statistics, however, show that net out-migration totals for the under 26 and 26-34 age groups were lower during the early phase of the COVID-19 pandemic (Charts 3-6). For example, net losses among people less than 26 years old were 10.8% in 2019 and 9.0% in 2020, compared to 16.2% in 2022. Among persons aged 26-34 years, net losses were especially low at 0.9% in 2020, compared to 14.6% in 2022.

Among adults aged 35-44 and 45-54 years, net out-migration increased during the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, among 35-44 year-olds the share of net losses increased from 6.9% in 2019 to 15.3% in 2021, before declining to 11.2% in 2022.

Conversely, the share of 55-64 year-olds and those 65 years and older who moved from Maryland to other states decreased during the COVID-19 pandemic. Among people aged 55-64, net population losses were reduced from 34.5% in 2019 to 28.0% in 2022. The share of net loss among people aged 65 and older decreased as well, from 21.4% in 2019 to 13.7% in 2022.

Chart 3. Net Outmigration by Age Group in Maryland 2019

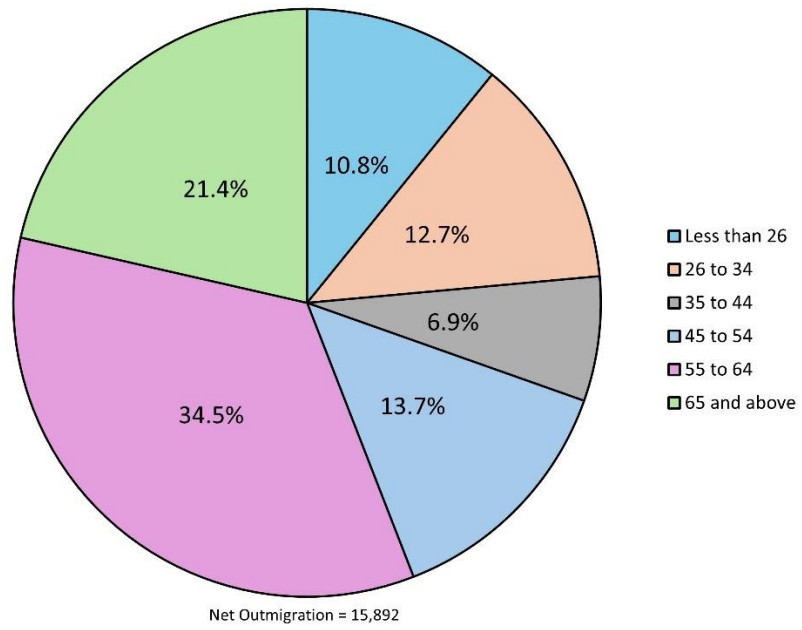


Chart 4. Net Outmigration by Age Group in Maryland 2020

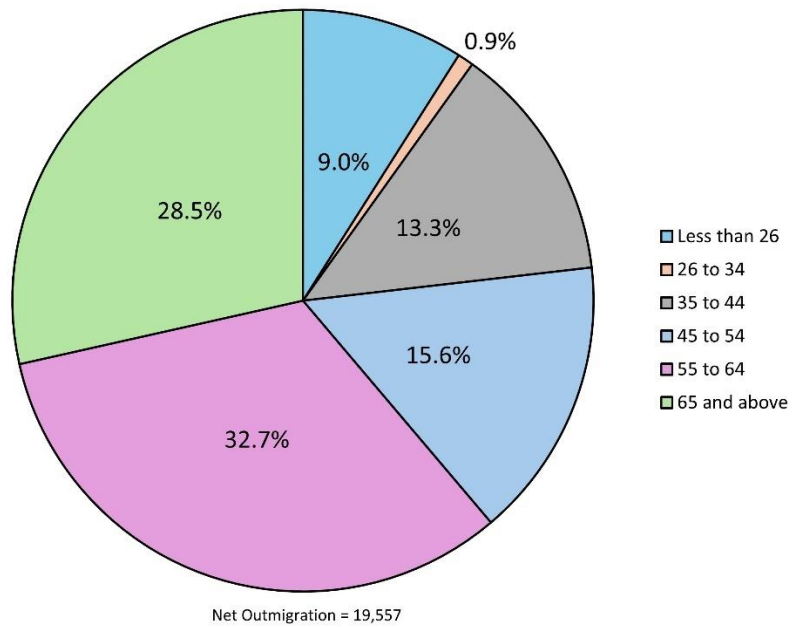


Chart 5. Net Outmigration by Age Group in Maryland 2021

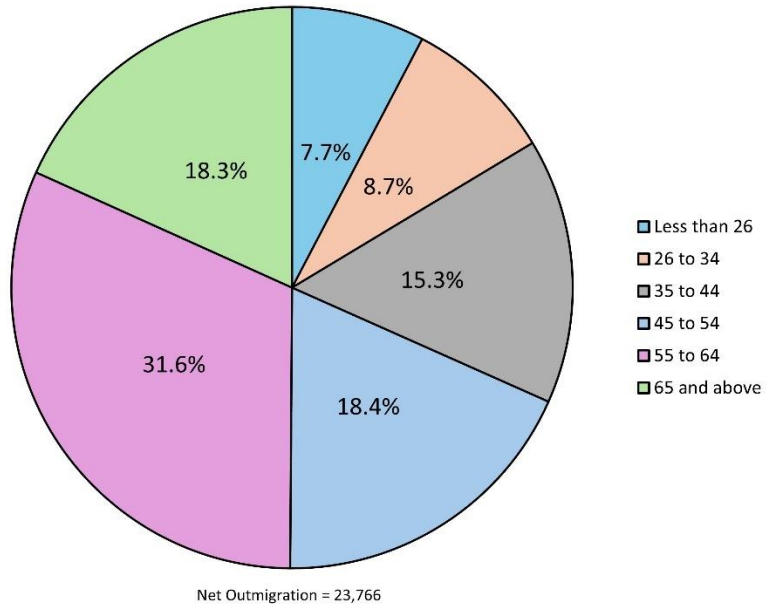
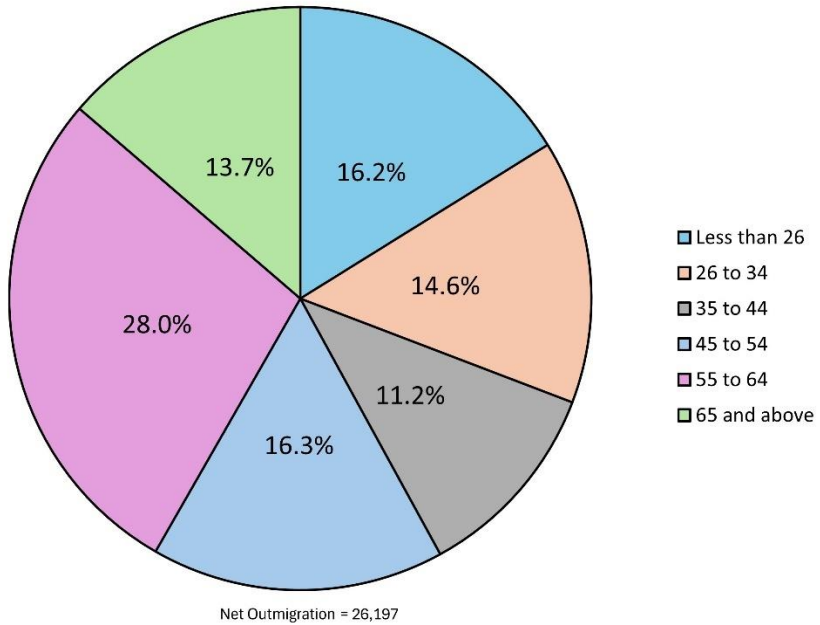


Chart 6. Net Outmigration by Age Group in Maryland 2022



Source: IRS Statistics of Income Division, Individual Master File System, June 2024.

County-level migratory movements

The distribution of inter-jurisdictional migrants (i.e., moving between Maryland counties and Baltimore City) varied across jurisdictions (Table 3). Of the total migration for each jurisdiction, Caroline County had the largest share of migrants who moved from within the state (i.e., in Caroline County, 1,195 of the 1,587 total, or 0.753 (75.3%) -- more than three-quarters -- of migrants relocated from elsewhere in Maryland.). Caroline County was followed by Carroll (71.3%), Baltimore (71.0%), Queen Anne's (67.2%) and Somerset counties (64.0%). Other counties had smaller shares of migrants from within Maryland. At 31.5%, Montgomery County received the smallest share of migrants from within the state.

Similarly, the numbers of migrants originating from different states are disproportionately distributed across Maryland's jurisdictions. Garrett County received the largest proportion of out-of-state migrants (i.e., in Garrett County, 592 of the 867 total migrants came from outside of Maryland, or 0.683 (68.3%)). Following Garrett County were Montgomery (67.4%); Cecil (67.3%); Allegany (66.9%), and Prince George's counties (60.1%). The remaining counties had a smaller share of migrants from other states. Of Maryland's 24 jurisdictions, only 11 were shown to have residents from U.S. territories and other overseas locations: Anne Arundel (2.5%), St. Mary's (2.2%), Calvert (1.9%), Charles (1.4%), Howard (1.4%), Montgomery (1.1%), Prince George's (0.8%), Frederick (0.8%), Harford (0.6%), Baltimore (0.2%) and Baltimore City (0.2%).

Out-migration distribution patterns were seen varying at the county/jurisdiction level. Focusing first on migration within the state, Somerset County experienced the highest proportion of outmigration to destinations within Maryland at (i.e., in Somerset County, total outmigration to destinations within Maryland was 657, whereas total outmigration to destinations elsewhere in the U.S. and abroad was 1,006, or 0.653 or 65.3%). (Table 4). Following Somerset County, were Dorchester (63.8%), Baltimore City (62.9%), Baltimore (59.7%), Howard (56.0%) and Talbot (55.9%) counties, while the remaining counties experienced smaller proportions of outmigration with destinations within Maryland.

When considering outmigration to other states, Allegany, Cecil, and Garrett counties had the largest proportions of out-migration with destinations in other states. Finally, eleven

jurisdictions included citizens who moved abroad, with Calvert (1.9%), Anne Arundel (1.6%), and St. Mary's (1.6%) counties having the highest shares of outmigration to other countries.

In summary, patterns of migration flow in Maryland vary at the jurisdiction level, revealing both in-state and out-of-state movements as well as international migration. These patterns reveal geographic disparities in migration flow across Maryland's jurisdictions, offering valuable insights for local planning and resource allocation.

Conclusion

For over a decade, Maryland consistently experienced net domestic outmigration, with the highest losses occurring in 2022. These trends point to increasing pressures on the state's labor supply, consumer demand, and long-term economic growth. The uneven distribution of migrants across Maryland's jurisdictions further highlights that population change is highly localized and may call for specific county-level responses.

Domestic migration patterns have direct implications for planning, housing, and public services. Counties with high levels of migration into their jurisdiction — whether from Maryland, from other states, or abroad — may see rising demand for housing, transportation, schools, sewer and water, and other infrastructure and public services, while counties with persistent outmigration may experience declining school enrollment, slower economic activity, and challenges in maintaining infrastructure and sustaining essential services.

Age-specific patterns indicate that fewer older adults are leaving the state, suggesting growing demand for senior housing, healthcare, and aging-in-place services, whereas higher outmigration among young adults may raise concerns about workforce retention and housing affordability. Overall, the migration patterns outlined in this report provide crucial insights for developing strategies that help Maryland's communities remain livable, economically resilient, and equipped to meet the needs of both current and future residents.

APPENDIX

TABLE 1

IRS-BASED INTER-STATE MIGRATION FLOWS FOR MARYLAND, 2021 - 2022

(BASED ON INDIVIDUALS REPORTED AS OF 2022)

STATE AND REGION	IN MIGRATION		OUT MIGRATION		NET MIGRATION (IN-OUT)
	FROM:	PCT.	TO:	PCT.	
TOTAL (with All Taxpayers)	139,260		165,821		-26,561
TOTAL (Intra U.S.)	136,354	100.0%	163,376	100.0%	-27,022
NORTHEAST	30,501	22.4%	30,631	18.7%	-130
New England	5,048	3.7%	5,251	3.2%	-203
Middle Atlantic	25,453	18.7%	25,380	15.5%	73
NORTH CENTRAL	10,238	7.5%	11,341	6.9%	-1,103
East North Central	7,079	5.2%	8,138	5.0%	-1,059
West North Central	3,159	2.3%	3,203	2.0%	-44
SOUTH	78,278	57.4%	102,139	62.5%	-23,861
South Atlantic	66,991	49.1%	85,714	52.5%	-18,723
East South Central	3,484	2.6%	5,090	3.1%	-1,606
West South Central	7,803	5.7%	11,335	6.9%	-3,532
WEST	17,337	12.7%	19,265	11.8%	-1,928
Mountain	5,813	4.3%	7,309	4.5%	-1,496
Pacific	11,524	8.5%	11,956	7.3%	-432
NEW ENGLAND	5,048	3.7%	5,251	3.2%	-203
Maine	336	0.2%	528	0.3%	-192
New Hampshire	317	0.2%	520	0.3%	-203
Vermont	208	0.2%	299	0.2%	-91
Massachusetts	2,388	1.8%	2,436	1.5%	-48
Rhode Island	483	0.4%	400	0.2%	83
Connecticut	1,316	1.0%	1,068	0.7%	248

MIDDLE ATLANTIC	25,453	18.7%	25,380	15.5%	73
New York	8,950	6.6%	6,509	4.0%	2,441
New Jersey	4,979	3.7%	4,137	2.5%	842
Pennsylvania	11,524	8.5%	14,734	9.0%	-3,210
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	7,079	5.2%	8,138	5.0%	-1,059
Ohio	2,088	1.5%	2,766	1.7%	-678
Indiana	952	0.7%	1,273	0.8%	-321
Illinois	1,995	1.5%	1,952	1.2%	43
Michigan	1,424	1.0%	1,469	0.9%	-45
Wisconsin	620	0.5%	678	0.4%	-58
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	3,159	2.3%	3,203	2.0%	-44
Minnesota	757	0.6%	661	0.4%	96
Iowa	393	0.3%	403	0.2%	-10
Missouri	891	0.7%	977	0.6%	-86
North Dakota	188	0.1%	122	0.1%	66
South Dakota	103	0.1%	236	0.1%	-133
Nebraska	308	0.2%	273	0.2%	35
Kansas	519	0.4%	531	0.3%	-12
SOUTH ATLANTIC	66,991	49.1%	85,714	52.5%	-18,723
Delaware	5,032	3.7%	6,803	4.2%	-1,771
Maryland	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
District of Columbia	16,605	12.2%	10,389	6.4%	6,216
Virginia	22,139	16.2%	24,637	15.1%	-2,498
West Virginia	2,598	1.9%	4,545	2.8%	-1,947
North Carolina	5,466	4.0%	9,799	6.0%	-4,333
South Carolina	2,102	1.5%	5,057	3.1%	-2,955
Georgia	3,993	2.9%	6,154	3.8%	-2,161
Florida	9,056	6.6%	18,330	11.2%	-9,274
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	3,484	2.6%	5,090	3.1%	-1,606
Kentucky	661	0.5%	898	0.5%	-237
Tennessee	1,532	1.1%	2,385	1.5%	-853
Alabama	890	0.7%	1,334	0.8%	-444
Mississippi	401	0.3%	473	0.3%	-72

WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	7,803	5.7%	11,335	6.9%	-3,532
Arkansas	331	0.2%	454	0.3%	-123
Louisiana	865	0.6%	657	0.4%	208
Oklahoma	512	0.4%	626	0.4%	-114
Texas	6,095	4.5%	9,598	5.9%	-3,503
MOUNTAIN	5,813	4.3%	7,309	4.5%	-1,496
Montana	139	0.1%	239	0.1%	-100
Idaho	237	0.2%	313	0.2%	-76
Wyoming	94	0.1%	148	0.1%	-54
Colorado	1,970	1.4%	2,702	1.7%	-732
New Mexico	493	0.4%	461	0.3%	32
Arizona	1,526	1.1%	1,737	1.1%	-211
Utah	658	0.5%	792	0.5%	-134
Nevada	696	0.5%	917	0.6%	-221
PACIFIC	11,524	8.5%	11,956	7.3%	-432
Washington	1,830	1.3%	2,326	1.4%	-496
Oregon	516	0.4%	661	0.4%	-145
California	7,696	5.6%	7,629	4.7%	67
Alaska	284	0.2%	311	0.2%	-27
Hawaii	1,198	0.9%	1,029	0.6%	169
Movement of U.S. citizens abroad	2,906		2,445		461

Source: IRS Statistics of Income Division, Individual Master File System, June 2024.

TABLE 2
NET MIGRATION RATES BY STATES

State	Net Migration Rates	Rank	State	Net Migration Rates	Rank
South Carolina	17.07	1	Pennsylvania	0.00	27
Florida	14.41	2	New Mexico	-0.02	28
Montana	12.27	3	Indiana	-0.16	29
Idaho	12.24	4	Wisconsin	-0.43	30
Delaware	12.24	5	Virginia	-0.85	31
Tennessee	11.93	6	Mississippi	-1.64	32
North Carolina	11.32	7	Ohio	-1.69	33
South Dakota	10.12	8	Nebraska	-1.84	34
Maine	8.87	9	Michigan	-2.95	35
Texas	8.38	10	Rhode Island	-3.35	36
Nevada	8.36	11	Kansas	-3.40	37
Arizona	7.97	12	Minnesota	-3.63	38
Oklahoma	6.51	13	Iowa	-4.01	39
Georgia	6.38	14	North Dakota	-4.42	40
New Hampshire	6.22	15	Connecticut	-4.72	41
Arkansas	5.98	16	Hawaii	-5.26	42
Alabama	4.97	17	New Jersey	-5.78	43
Wyoming	4.70	18	Maryland	-6.50	44
Colorado	3.20	19	District of Columbia	-7.30	45
Kentucky	1.83	20	Alaska	-7.38	46
Utah	1.75	21	Illinois	-9.04	47
Vermont	1.31	22	Louisiana	-9.05	48
Washington	1.17	23	Massachusetts	-9.13	49
Missouri	0.89	24	California	-9.21	50
West Virginia	0.68	25	New York	-13.54	51
Oregon	0.09	26			

Source: IRS Statistics of Income Division, Individual Master File System, June 2024.

Note: Net migration rate per 1000 federal tax returns. Rate calculated as the number of in-migrant returns minus the number of out-migrants returns, divided by the sum of the non-migrant returns and the out-migrant returns.

TABLE 3**IRS-BASED IN-MIGRATION FLOWS FOR MARYLAND'S JURISDICTIONS, 2021 - 2022****(BASED ON INDIVIDUALS REPORTED AS OF 2022)**

Maryland's Jurisdictions	Total Migration- US and Foreign	Total Migration- Same State	Total Migration- Different State	Total Movement of U.S. Citizens Abroad
Allegany	1,839 (100%)	609 (33.1%)	1,230 (66.9%)	0 (0.0%)
Anne Arundel	33,503 (100%)	17,574 (52.5%)	15,098 (45.1%)	831 (2.5%)
Baltimore	36,881 (100%)	26,180 (71.0%)	10,626 (28.8%)	75 (0.2%)
Calvert	5,197 (100%)	2,995 (57.6%)	2,103 (40.5%)	99 (1.9%)
Caroline	1,587 (100%)	1,195 (75.3%)	392 (24.7%)	0 (0.0%)
Carroll	8,390 (100%)	5,980 (71.3%)	2,410 (28.7%)	0 (0.0%)
Cecil	4,999 (100%)	1,637 (32.7%)	3,362 (67.3%)	0 (0.0%)
Charles	10,891 (100%)	6,272 (57.6%)	4,468 (41.0%)	151 (1.4%)
Dorchester	1,504 (100%)	948 (63.0%)	556 (37.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Frederick	17,284 (100%)	10,075 (58.3%)	7,067 (40.9%)	142 (0.8%)
Garrett	867 (100%)	275 (31.7%)	592 (68.3%)	0 (0.0%)
Harford	12,055 (100%)	7,501 (62.2%)	4,479 (37.2%)	75 (0.6%)
Howard	20,258 (100%)	12,579 (62.1%)	7,403 (36.5%)	276 (1.4%)
Kent	900 (100%)	456 (50.7%)	444 (49.3%)	0 (0.0%)
Montgomery	43,262 (100%)	13,617 (31.5%)	29,179 (67.4%)	466 (1.1%)
Prince George's	38,372 (100%)	14,991 (39.1%)	23,060 (60.1%)	321 (0.8%)
Queen Anne's	3,101 (100%)	2,083 (67.2%)	1,018 (32.8%)	0 (0.0%)
St. Mary's	5,912 (100%)	2,610 (44.1%)	3,174 (53.7%)	128 (2.2%)
Somerset	1,185 (100%)	758 (64.0%)	427 (36.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Talbot	1,952 (100%)	1,098 (56.3%)	854 (43.8%)	0 (0.0%)
Washington	7,429 (100%)	3,872 (52.1%)	3,557 (47.9%)	0 (0.0%)
Wicomico	4,313 (100%)	1,879 (43.6%)	2,434 (56.4%)	0 (0.0%)
Worcester	3,310 (100%)	1,772 (53.5%)	1,538 (46.5%)	0 (0.0%)
Baltimore City	28,126 (100%)	17,310 (61.5%)	10,758 (38.2%)	58 (0.2%)

Source: IRS Individual Master File, Statistics of Income, June 2024.

TABLE 4**IRS-BASED OUT-MIGRATION FLOWS FOR MARYLAND'S JURISDICTIONS, 2021 - 2022
(BASED ON INDIVIDUALS REPORTED AS OF 2022)**

Maryland's Jurisdictions	Total Migration-US and Foreign	Total Migration-Same State	Total Migration-Different State	Total Movement of U.S. Citizens Abroad
Allegany	1,717 (100%)	423 (24.6)	1,294 (75.4%)	0 (0.0%)
Anne Arundel	34,930 (100%)	15,792(45.2%)	18,566 (53.2%)	572 (1.6%)
Baltimore	41,188 (100%)	24,597 (59.7)	16,506 (40.1%)	85 (0.2%)
Calvert	4,766 (100%)	1,938 (40.7%)	2,739 (57.5%)	89 (1.9%)
Caroline	1,416 (100%)	768 (54.2%)	648 (45.8%)	0 (0.0%)
Carroll	6,911 (100%)	3,092 (44.7%)	3,819 (55.3%)	0 (0.0%)
Cecil	4,249 (100%)	1,120 (26.4%)	3,129 (73.6%)	0 (0.0%)
Charles	10,081 (100%)	4,749 (47.1%)	5,239 (52.0%)	93 (0.9%)
Dorchester	1,457 (100%)	929 (63.8%)	528 (36.2%)	0 (0.0%)
Frederick	13,583 (100%)	5,606 (41.3%)	7,838 (57.7%)	139 (1.0%)
Garrett	921 (100%)	262 (28.4%)	659 (71.6%)	0 (0.0%)
Harford	11,164 (100%)	5,206 (46.6%)	5,840 (52.3%)	118 (1.1%)
Howard	21,914 (100%)	12,280 (56.0%)	9,476 (43.2%)	158 (0.7%)
Kent	868 (100%)	444 (51.2%)	424 (48.8%)	0 (0.0%)
Montgomery	54,075 (100%)	20,570 (38.0%)	33,099 (61.2%)	406 (0.8%)
Prince George's	50,728 (100%)	24,774 (48.8%)	25,651 (50.6%)	303 (0.6%)
Queen Anne's	2,492 (100%)	1,332 (53.5%)	1,160 (46.5%)	0 (0.0%)
St. Mary's	6,163 (100%)	1,796 (29.1%)	4,268 (69.3%)	99 (1.6%)
Somerset	1,006 (100%)	657 (65.3%)	349 (34.7%)	0 (0.0%)
Talbot	1,652 (100%)	923 (55.9%)	729 (44.1%)	0 (0.0%)
Washington	6,236 (100%)	1,874 (30.1%)	4,362 (69.9%)	0 (0.0%)
Wicomico	4,261 (100%)	1,771 (41.6%)	2,490 (58.4%)	0 (0.0%)
Worcester	2,636 (100%)	1,207 (45.8%)	1,429 (54.2%)	0 (0.0%)
Baltimore City	35,204 (100%)	22,127 (62.9%)	12,996 (36.9%)	81 (0.2%)

Source: IRS Individual Master File, Statistics of Income, June 2024.