How Maryland Ranks

Released with the American Community Survey for 2015 on September 15, 2016 was a variety of state ranking tables covering income, poverty, education, commuting, etc. Below are some of the highlights of these ranking tables, with links to the tables.

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

- Maryland's median household income of $75,847 (+/- $591) is number one in the nation.

- The overall poverty rate of 9.7 percent (+/- 0.4%) is ranked 50th, with only New Hampshire having a lower poverty rate (8.2%). It should be mentioned, however, that poverty data does not take into account how housing costs and other expenses would vary among the states. Therefore, a high income state will always have a relatively low poverty rate.

- The childhood poverty rate of 12.8 percent (+/- 0.9%) is ranked 46th (statistically tied with five other states).

- The elderly poverty rate (those ages 65 and over) of 7.4% (+/- 0.4%) is ranked 42nd (statistically tied with seven other states).

Maryland residents are well educated

- The percent of the population age 25 and over with a Bachelor's degree or higher of 38.8 percent (+/- 0.4%) is ranked fourth (statistically tied with Colorado and Connecticut).

- The percent of the population age 25 and over with an advanced degree of 17.7 percent (+/- 0.3%) is ranked third.

Maryland residents are actively engaged in the labor force

- Percent of the population ages 16 to 64 who are employed, 72.7 percent (+/- 0.4%) is ranked 13th (statistically tied with five other states).

- The percent of married couple families with both husband and wife in the labor force (58.1%, +/-0.6%) is ranked ninth (statistically tied with eight other states)

Maryland residents are more likely to have health insurance

- 6.6 percent (+/- 0.2%) of the civilian non-institutional population lacks health insurance, ranked 34th (statistically tied with Washington, Ohio, Pennsylvania 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

- The average commute time for a Maryland worker is 32.6 minutes (+/- 0.3 minutes) ranked second only to New York (33.1 minutes).

- 9.0 percent (+/- 0.3%) of Maryland workers use transit to get to work, ranked sixth (statistically tied with Illinois).

- Nearly one half (46.0%, +/- 0.5%) of Maryland workers work outside their county of residence (statistically tied with New Jersey), ranked second after Virginia at 51.8 percent.

Maryland housing and rental costs are relatively expensive

- The percent of mortgage owners spending 30 percent or more of their household income for housing costs (29.4.9%, +/- 0.7%) is ranked 19th (statistically tied with 12 other states).

- The percent of renters paying 30 percent or more of their household income for rent, 47.7% (+/- 0.9%), is ranked tenth, (statistically tied with seven other states).

Maryland attracts residents from all over the world

- Foreign-born residents comprise 15.2 percent (+/-0.2%) of the State's population, ranked ninth.

Maryland residents are less prone to move

- 13.6 percent (+/- 0.4%), lived in a different house one year ago, ranked 37th (statistically tied with 11 other states).