

WORKING FROM HOME DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Trends from the American Community Survey

Journey to Work and Migration Statistics Branch
Social, Economic, and Housing Statistics Division
U.S. Census Bureau

Presented at 2022 Maryland State Data Center's Annual Meeting
by Michael Burrows on October 19, 2022

American Community Survey (ACS)

Commuting Content

American Community Survey (ACS)

Commuting Content

- Drawn from 1960-2000 Decennial Census long form:

P29. How did he get to work last week?
(Check one box for principal means used last week)

Railroad	<input type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab	<input type="checkbox"/>	Walk only	<input type="checkbox"/>
Subway or elevated	<input type="checkbox"/>	Private auto or car pool	<input type="checkbox"/>	Worked at home	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bus or streetcar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other means—Write in:			

23 a. How did this person usually get to work LAST WEEK? If this person usually used more than one method of transportation during the trip, mark the box of the one used for most of the distance.

- Car, truck, or van
- Bus or trolley bus
- Streetcar or trolley car
- Subway or elevated
- Railroad
- Ferryboat
- Taxicab
- Motorcycle
- Bicycle
- Walked
- Worked at home → Skip to 27
- Other method

(Images from 1960, 2000 Decennial Censuses)

American Community Survey (ACS)

Commuting Content

- Place of work

31 **At what location did this person work LAST WEEK?** *If this person worked at more than one location, print where he or she worked most last week.*

a. Address (Number and street name)

If the exact address is not known, give a description of the location such as the building name or the nearest street or intersection.

b. Name of city, town, or post office

c. Is the work location inside the limits of that city or town?

Yes

No, outside the city/town limits

d. Name of county

e. Name of U.S. state or foreign country

f. ZIP Code

(Image from 2021 American Community Survey)

American Community Survey (ACS)

Commuting Content

- Place of work
- Means of transportation to work

(Image from 2021 American Community Survey)

32 How did this person usually get to work LAST WEEK? Mark (X) ONE box for the method of transportation used for most of the distance.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Car, truck, or van | <input type="checkbox"/> Taxicab |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bus | <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Subway or elevated rail | <input type="checkbox"/> Bicycle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Long-distance train or commuter rail | <input type="checkbox"/> Walked |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Light rail, streetcar, or trolley | <input type="checkbox"/> Worked from home → SKIP to question 40a |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ferryboat | <input type="checkbox"/> Other method |

K Answer question 33 if you marked "Car, truck, or van" in question 32. Otherwise, SKIP to question 34.

33 How many people, including this person, usually rode to work in the car, truck, or van LAST WEEK?

Person(s)

American Community Survey (ACS)

Commuting Content

- Place of work
- Means of transportation to work
- Time of departure

34 LAST WEEK, what time did this person's trip to work usually begin?

Hour Minute

: a.m.

p.m.

(Image from 2021 American Community Survey)

American Community Survey (ACS)

Commuting Content

- Place of work
 - Means of transportation to work
 - Time of departure
 - Travel time
-
- **Universe: Workers aged 16 and older**

American Community Survey (ACS)

Commuting Content

- Place of work
- Means of transportation to work
- Time of departure
- Travel time
- **Universe: Workers aged 16 and older who do not work from home**

American Community Survey (ACS)

Commuting Content

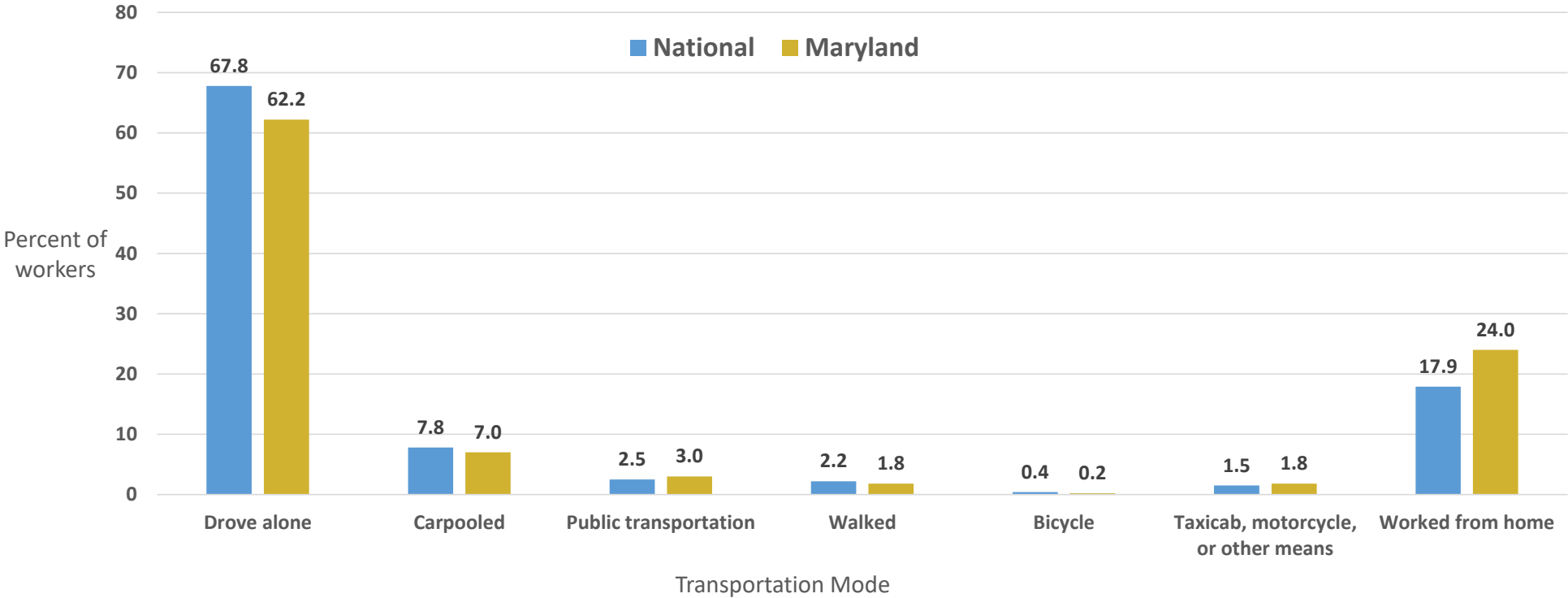
- Place of work
- Means of transportation to work
- Time of departure
- Travel time
- **Focus of this presentation:**
Workers aged 16 and older who work from home

32 How did this person usually get to work **LAST WEEK?** Mark (X) **ONE** box for the method of transportation used for most of the distance.

<input type="checkbox"/> Car, truck, or van	<input type="checkbox"/> Taxicab
<input type="checkbox"/> Bus	<input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycle
<input type="checkbox"/> Subway or elevated rail	<input type="checkbox"/> Bicycle
<input type="checkbox"/> Long-distance train or commuter rail	<input type="checkbox"/> Walked
<input type="checkbox"/> Light rail, streetcar, or trolley	<input type="checkbox"/> Worked from home → <i>SKIP to question 40a</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Ferryboat	<input type="checkbox"/> Other method

Means of Transportation to Work: Trends

Means of Transportation to Work in 2021

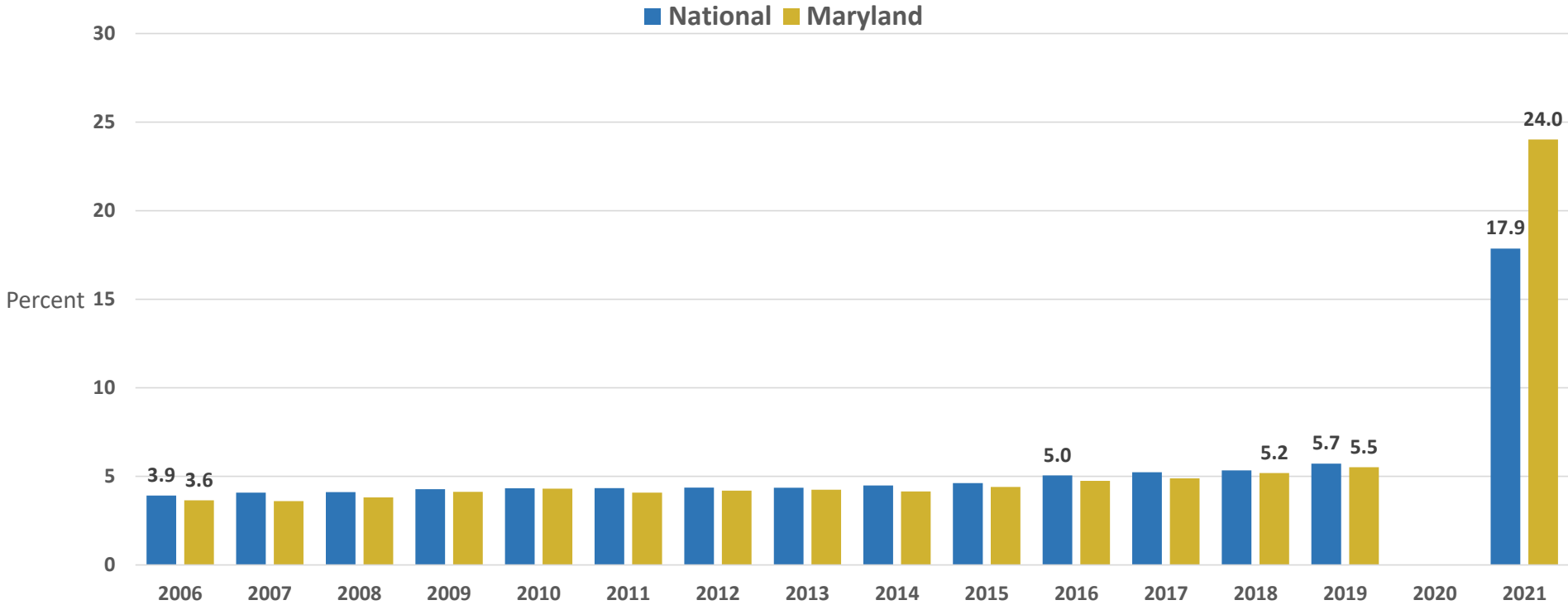


Universe: Workers aged 16 and older living in the United States (excluding Puerto Rico).
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.
 Note: Estimates may not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.



Estimates available on data.census.gov, table S0801

Percentage of Workers Who Work from Home

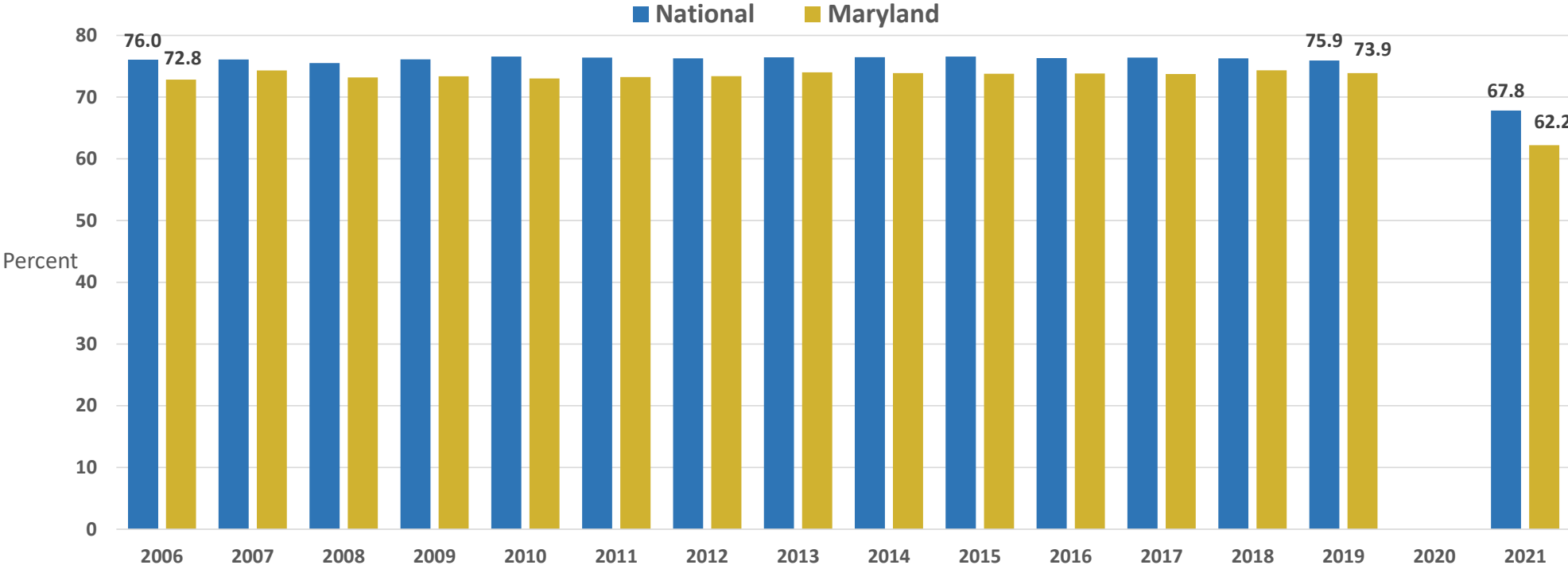


Universe: Workers aged 16 and older living in the United States (excluding Puerto Rico).
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 to 2021 American Community Survey (excluding 2020), 1-year estimates.



Estimates available on data.census.gov, table S0801

Percentage of Workers Who Drive Alone

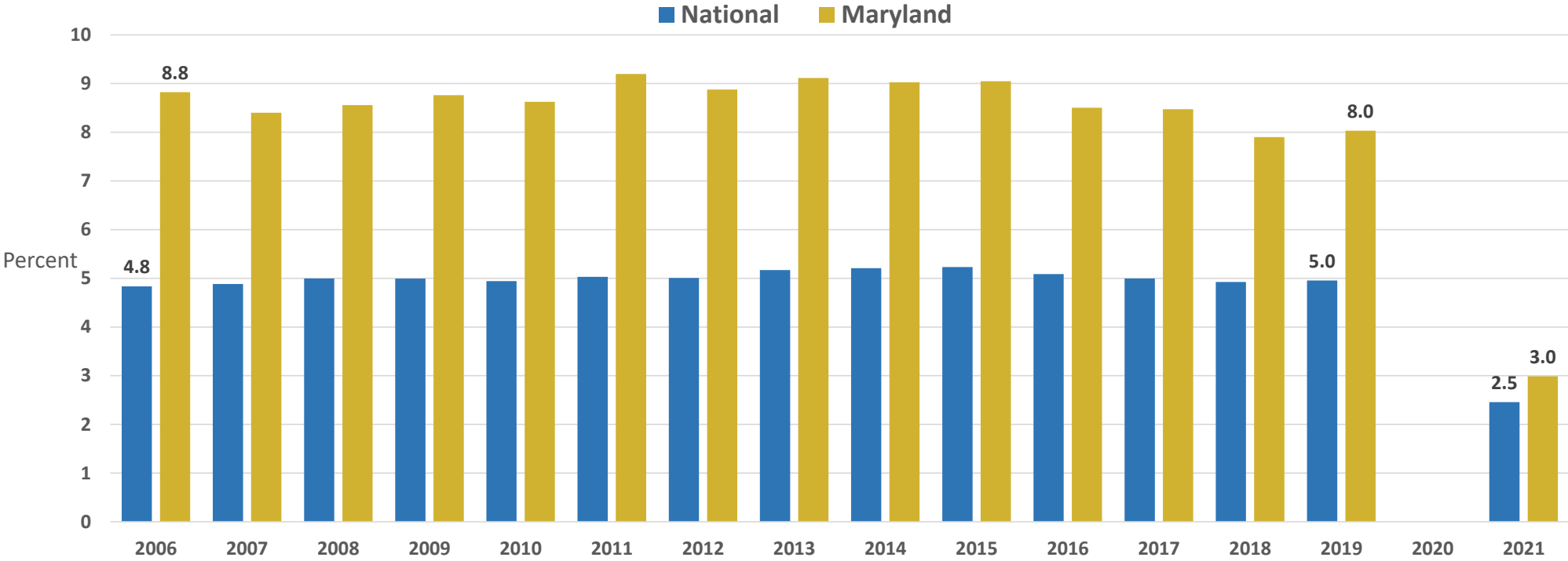


Universe: Workers aged 16 and older living in the United States (excluding Puerto Rico).
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 to 2021 American Community Survey (excluding 2020), 1-year estimates.



Estimates available on data.census.gov, table S0801

Percentage of Workers Commuting by Public Transportation

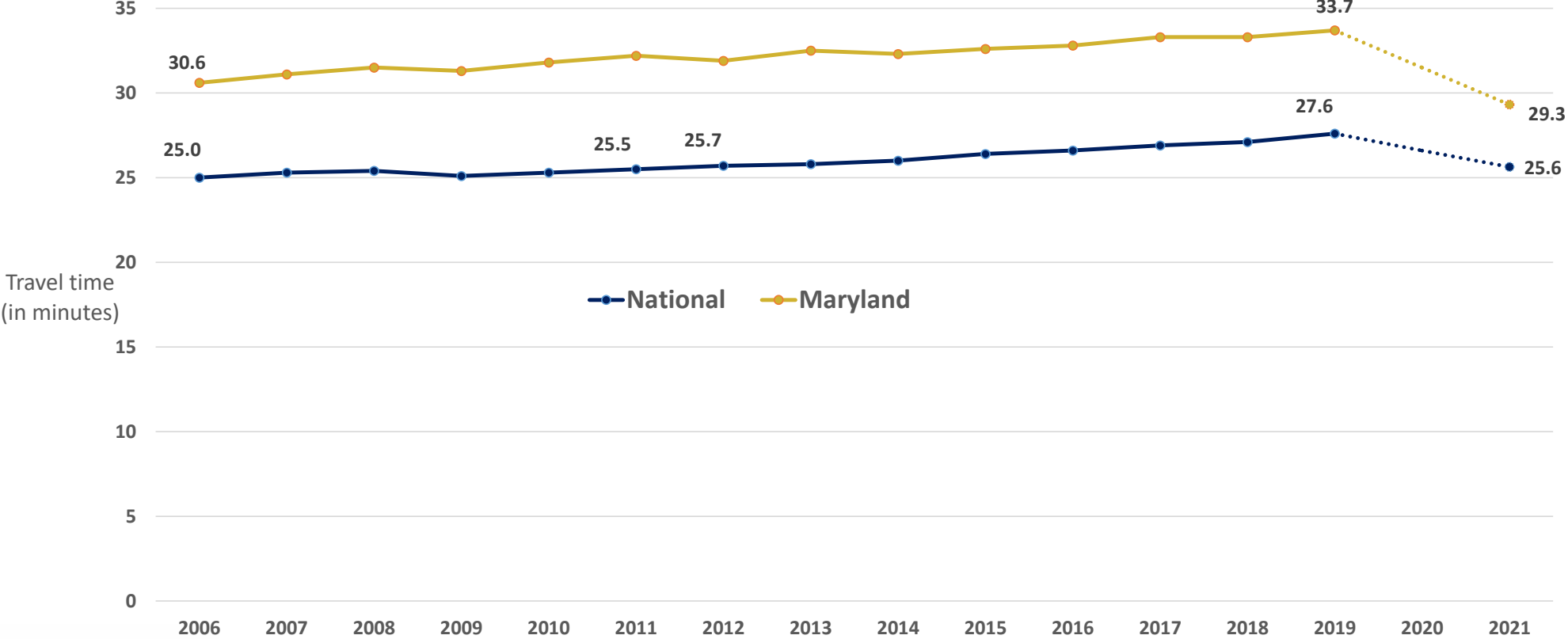


Universe: Workers aged 16 and older living in the United States (excluding Puerto Rico).
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 to 2021 American Community Survey (excluding 2020), 1-year estimates.



Estimates available on data.census.gov, table S0801

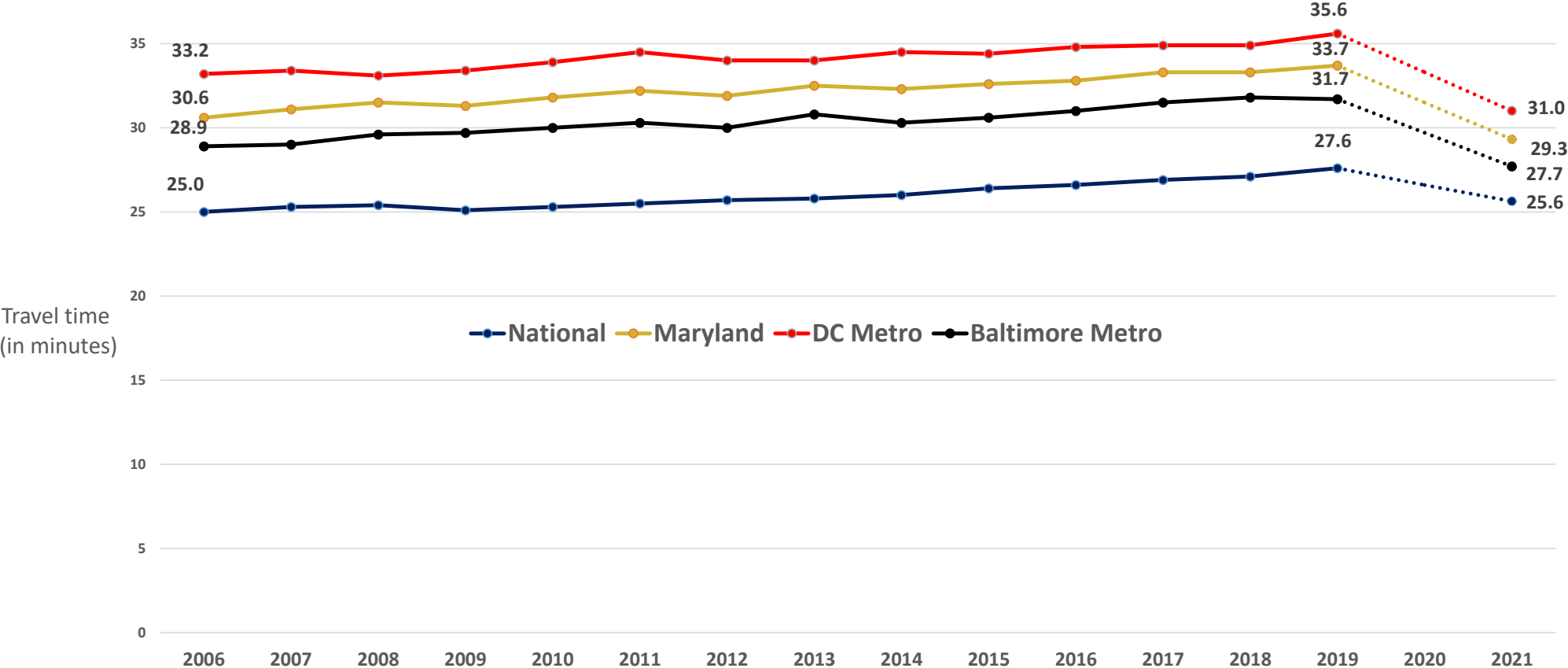
Mean Travel Time to Work



Universe: Workers aged 16 and older living in the United States (excluding Puerto Rico) who do not work from home.
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 to 2021 American Community Survey (excluding 2020), 1-year estimates.

Estimates available on data.census.gov, table S0801

Mean Travel Time to Work

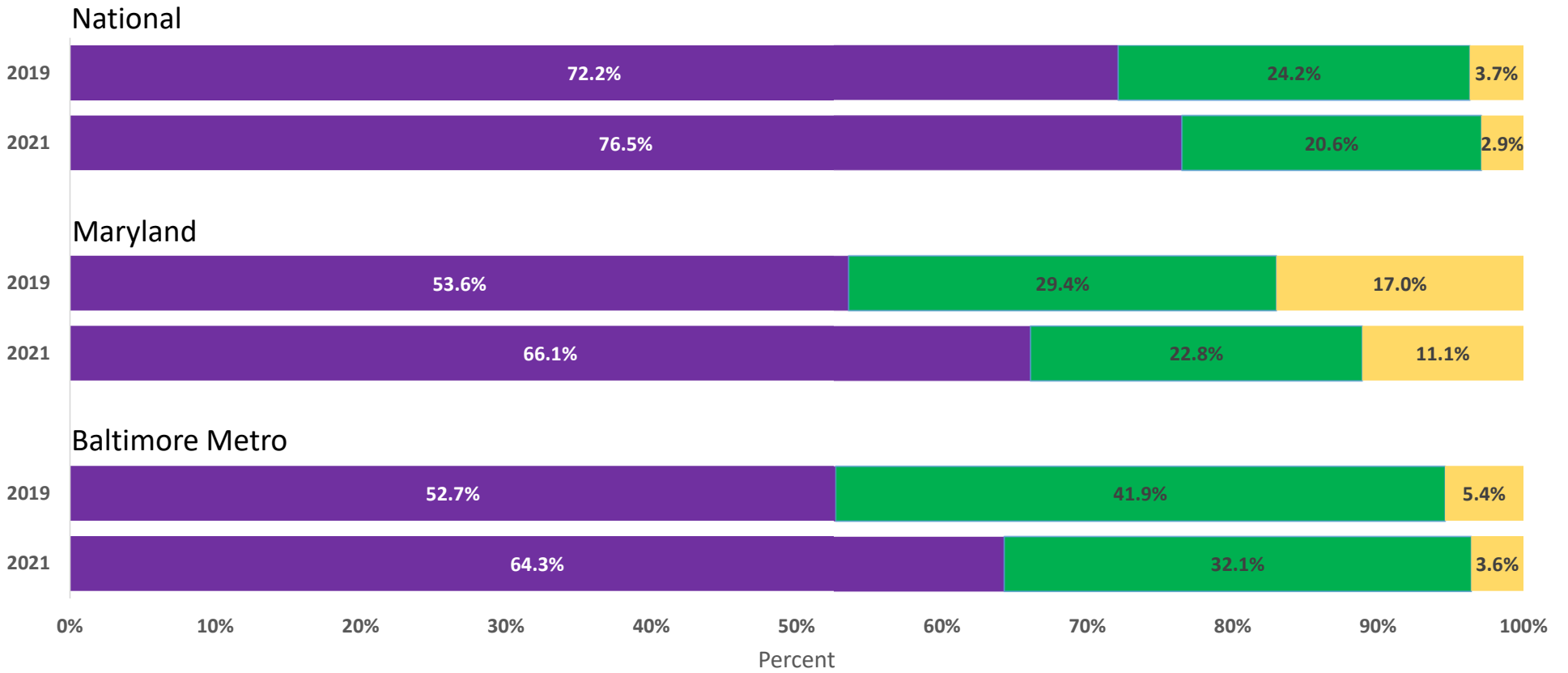


Universe: Workers aged 16 and older living in the United States (excluding Puerto Rico) who do not work from home.
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 to 2021 American Community Survey (excluding 2020), 1-year estimates.

Estimates available on data.census.gov, table S0801

County Relationship - Place of Work

■ Worked in county of residence
 ■ Worked in different county, same state
 ■ Worked in different state



Universe: Workers aged 16 and older living in the United States (excluding Puerto Rico).
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 and 2021 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

Estimates available on data.census.gov, table S0801
 Estimates include home-based workers
 Estimates may not sum to 100.0 due to rounding ¹⁸

County Relationship – Commuting Flows

Table 1. Residence County to Workplace County Commuting Flows for the United States and Puerto Rico Sorted by Residence Geography: 5-Year ACS, 2011-2015

For more information on sampling and estimation methods, confidentiality protection, and sampling and nonsampling errors, see

<http://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/tech_docs/accuracy/MultiyearACSAccuracyofData2015.pdf>.

Universe: Workers 16 years and over.

Commuting flows are sorted by residence state and residence county.

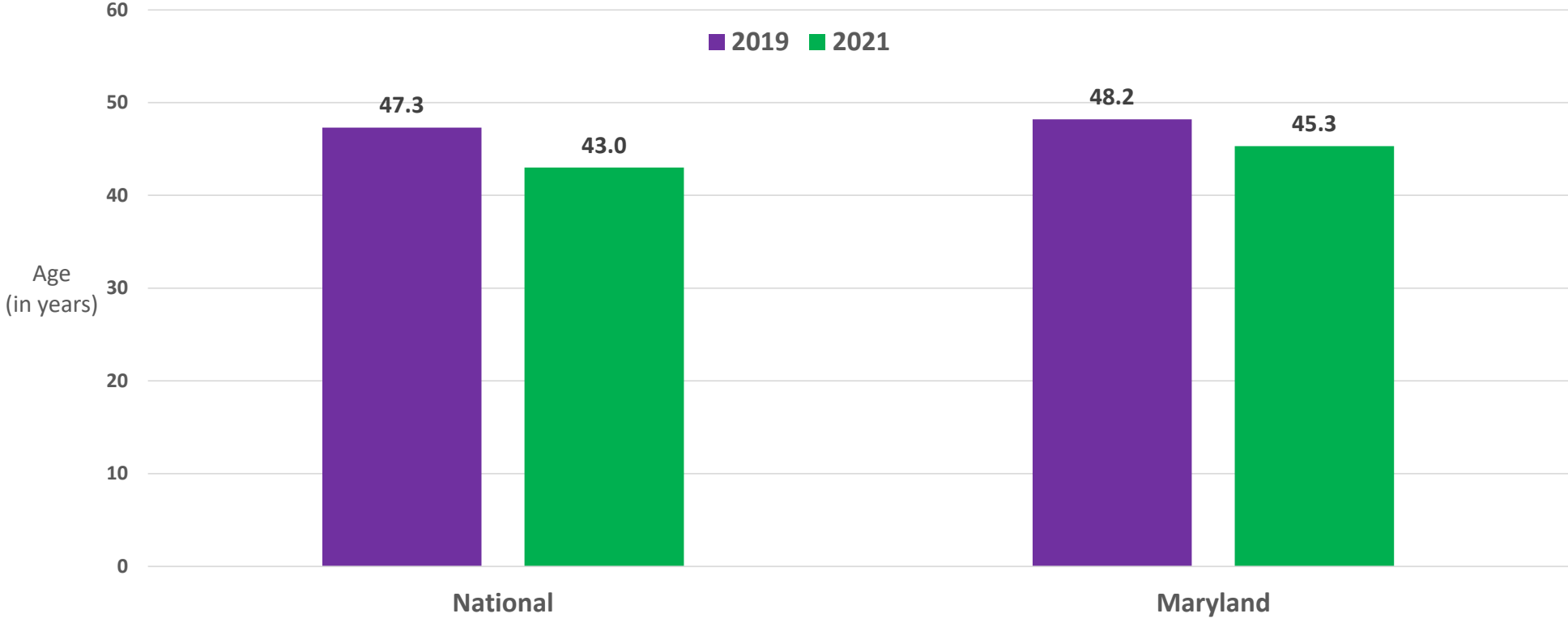
Residence				Workplace		Commuting Flow	
State FIPS Code	County FIPS Code	State Name	County Name	State Name	County Name	Workers in Commuting Flow	Margin of Error
24	510	Maryland	Baltimore city	Maryland	Baltimore city	163,042	2,461
24	510	Maryland	Baltimore city	Maryland	Baltimore County	55,895	1,579
24	510	Maryland	Baltimore city	Maryland	Anne Arundel County	17,180	858
24	510	Maryland	Baltimore city	Maryland	Howard County	10,804	724
24	510	Maryland	Baltimore city	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	4,765	417
24	510	Maryland	Baltimore city	Maryland	Prince George's County	3,671	384
24	510	Maryland	Baltimore city	Maryland	Montgomery County	2,708	333
24	510	Maryland	Baltimore city	Maryland	Harford County	2,306	304
24	510	Maryland	Baltimore city	Maryland	Carroll County	1,097	216



Flows available at www.census.gov/topics/employment/commuting/guidance/flows.html

Home-based Workers: Demographic Characteristics

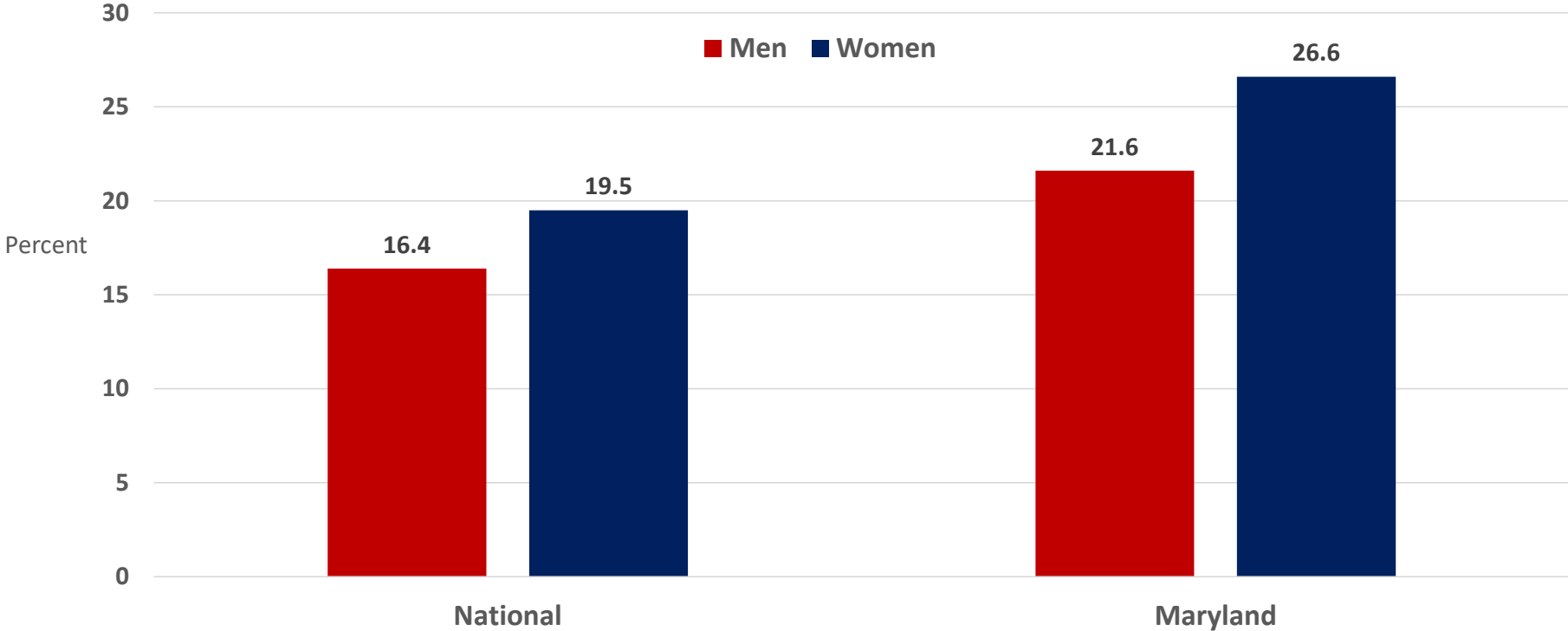
Median Age of Home-Based Workers



Universe: Home-based workers aged 16 and older living in the United States (excluding Puerto Rico).
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 and 2021 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

Estimates available on data.census.gov, table B08103

Percentage of Home-based Workers by Sex in 2021

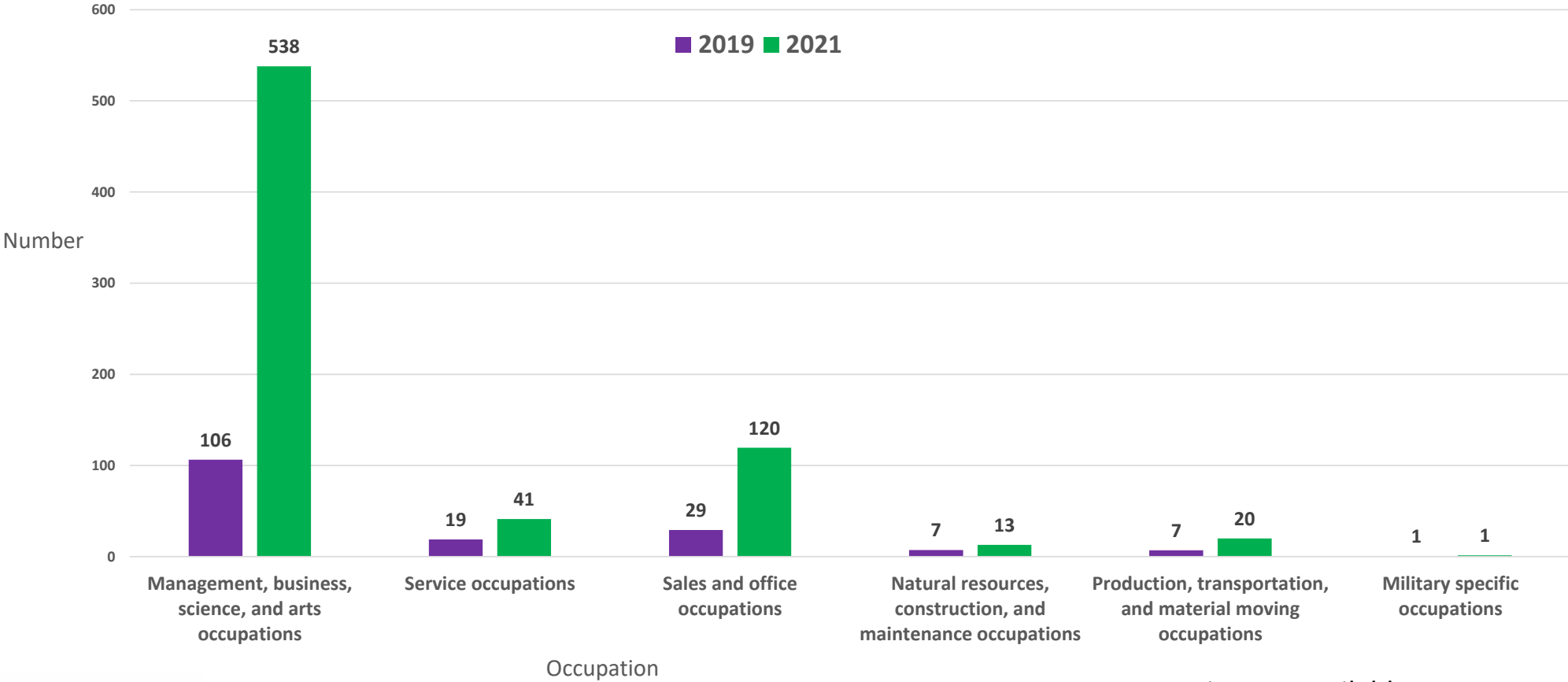


Universe: Home-based workers aged 16 and older living in the United States (excluding Puerto Rico).
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

Estimates available on data.census.gov, table S0801

Home-based Workers: Economic Characteristics

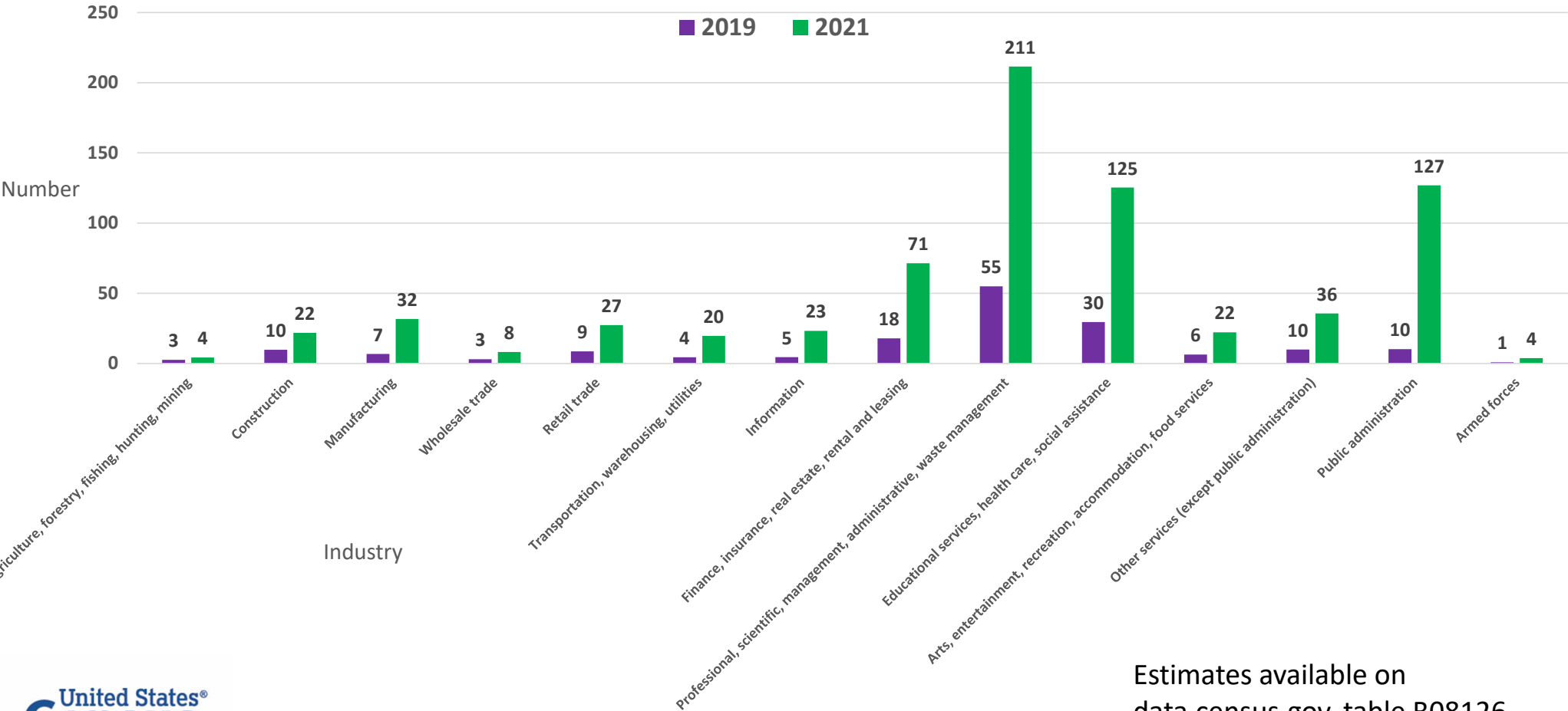
Number (in thousands) of Home-based Workers by Occupation



Universe: Home-based workers aged 16 and older living in Maryland.
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 and 2021 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

Estimates available on data.census.gov, table B08124

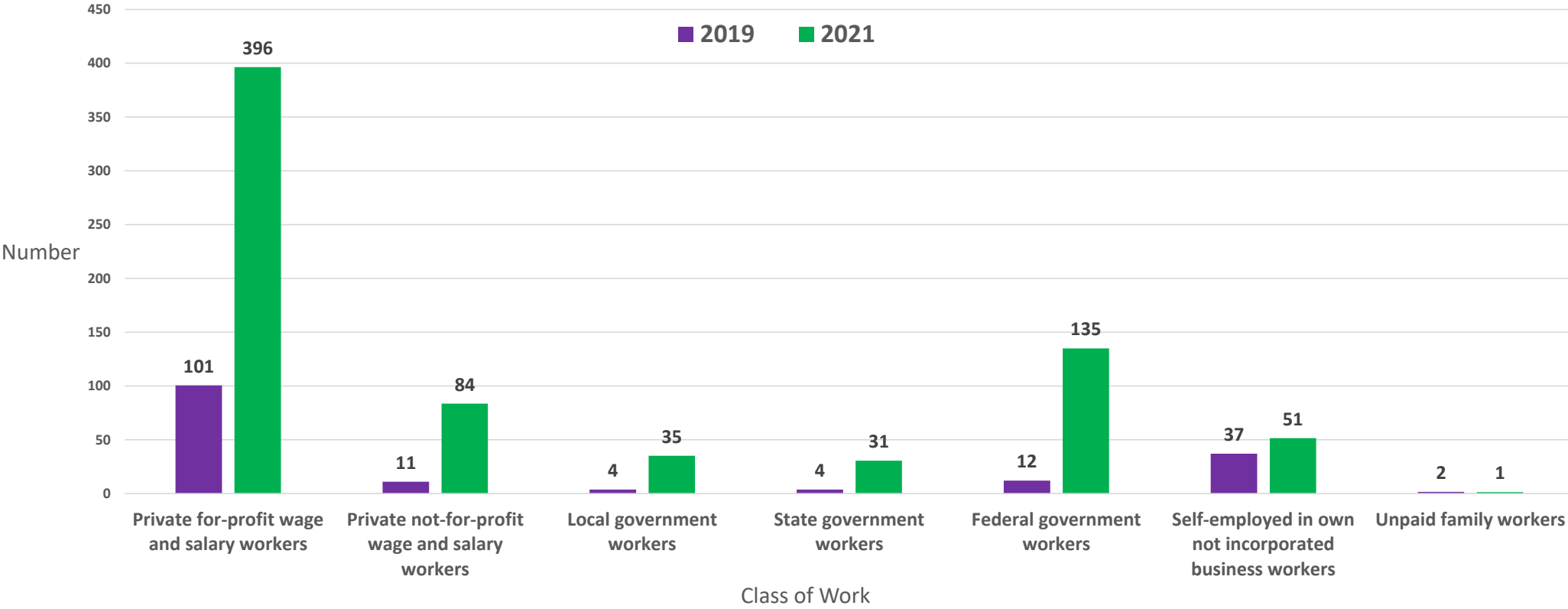
Number (in thousands) of Home-based Workers by Industry in Maryland



Universe: Home-based workers aged 16 and older living in Maryland.
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 and 2021 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

Estimates available on data.census.gov, table B08126

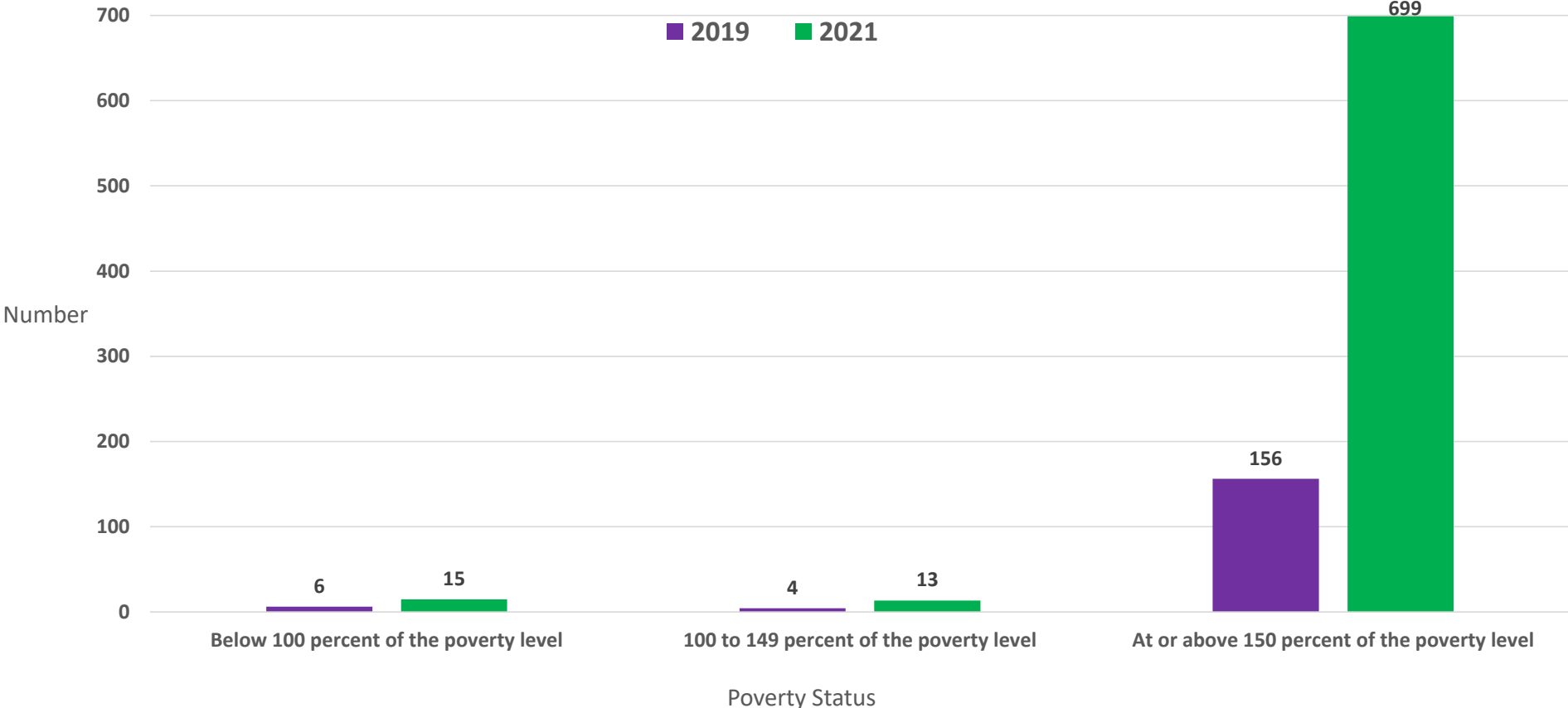
Number (in thousands) of Home-based Workers by Class of Work in Maryland



Universe: Home-based workers aged 16 and older living in Maryland.
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 and 2021 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

Estimates available on data.census.gov table B08128

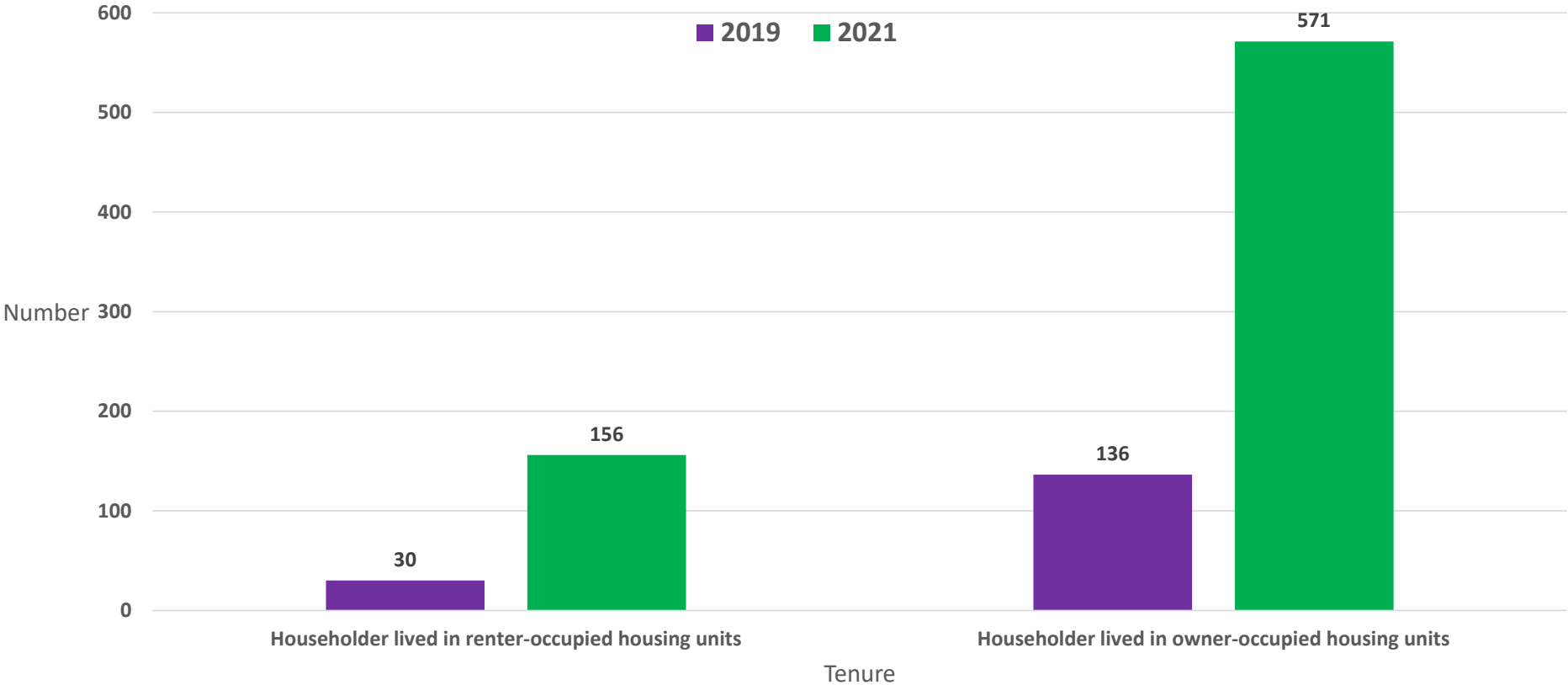
Number (in thousands) of Home-based Workers by Poverty Status in Maryland



Universe: Home-based workers aged 16 and older living in Maryland.
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 and 2021 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

Estimates available on data.census.gov table B08122

Number (in thousands) of Home-based Workers by Tenure in Maryland

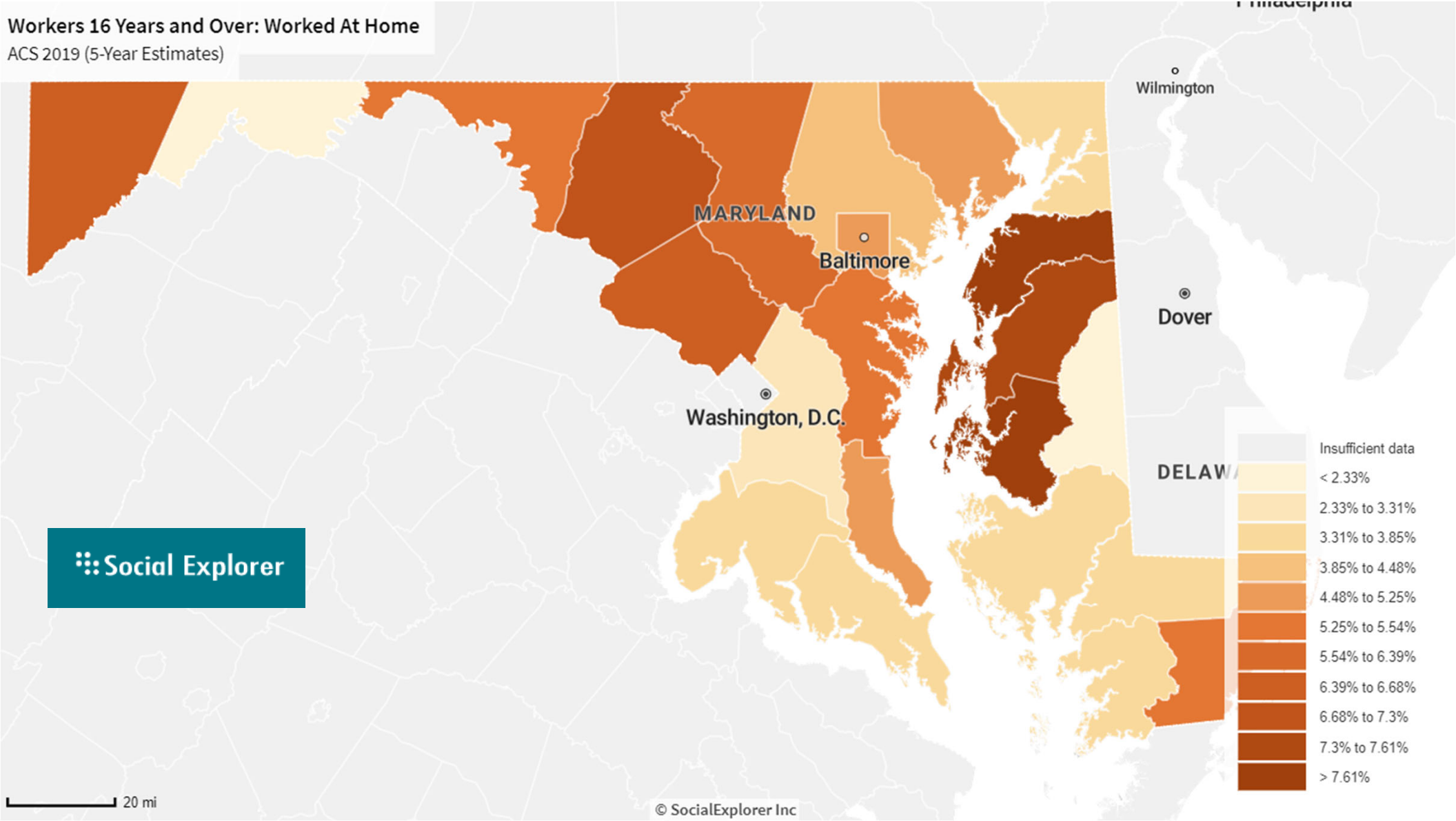


Universe: Home-based workers aged 16 and older living in households in Maryland.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 and 2021 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

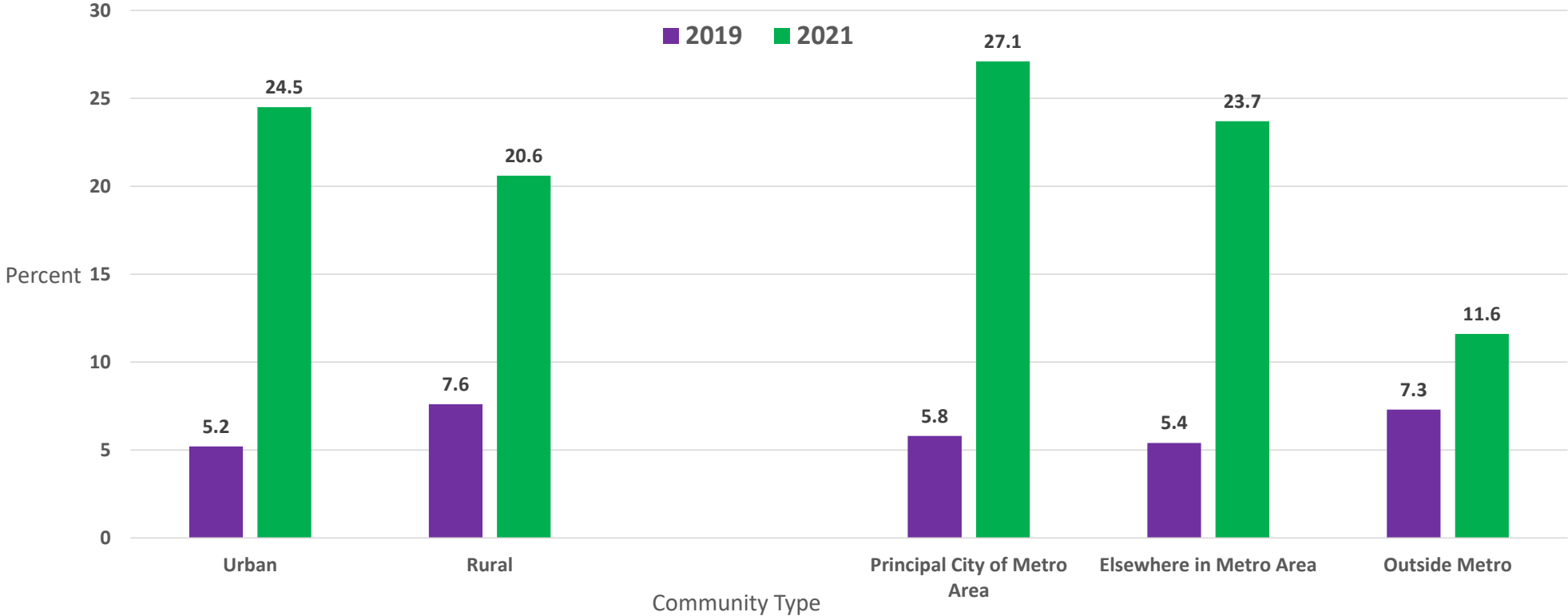
Estimates available on data.census.gov table B08137

Home-based Workers: Geographic Characteristics

Workers 16 Years and Over: Worked At Home
ACS 2019 (5-Year Estimates)



Percentage of Home-based Workers by Community Type in Maryland

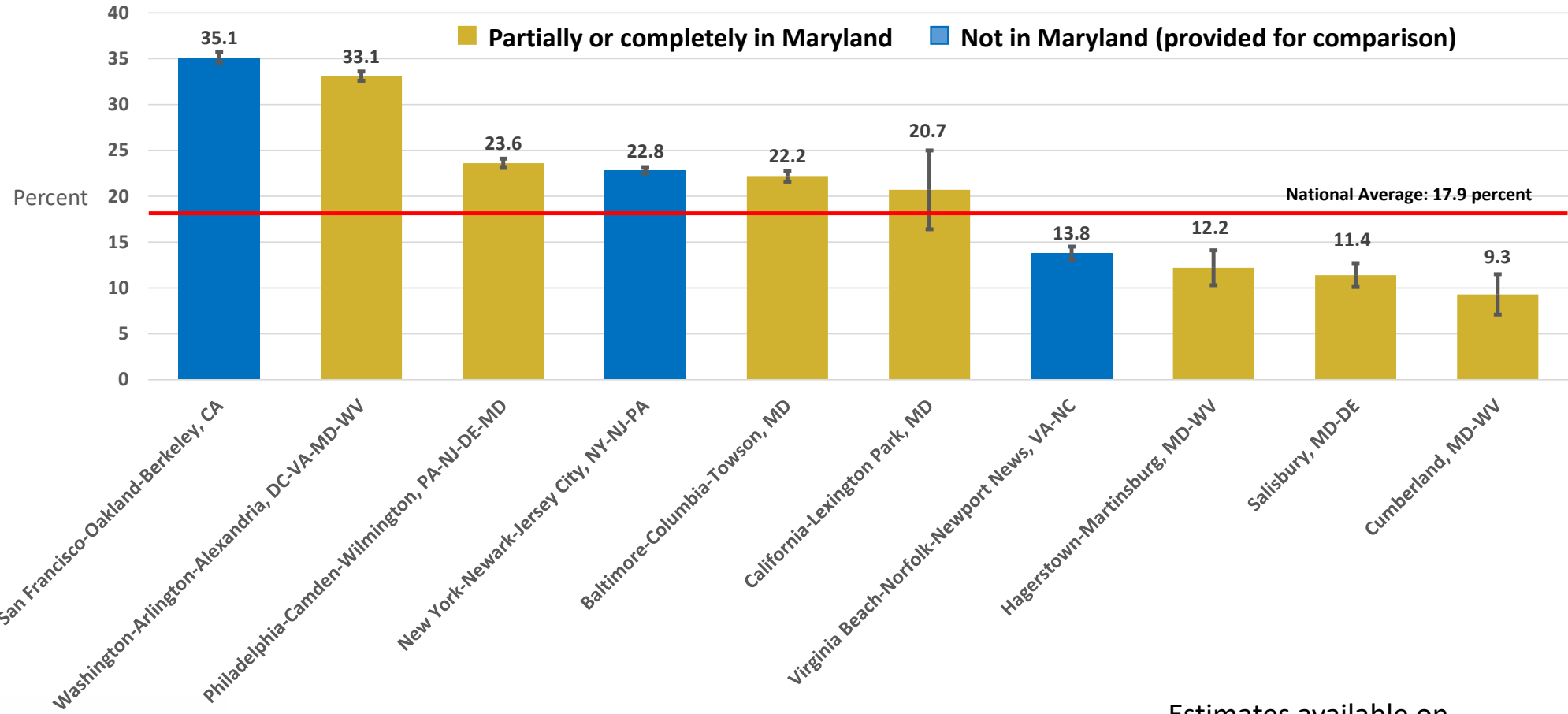


Estimates available on data.census.gov table S0801



Universe: Home-based workers aged 16 and older living in Maryland.
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 and 2021 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

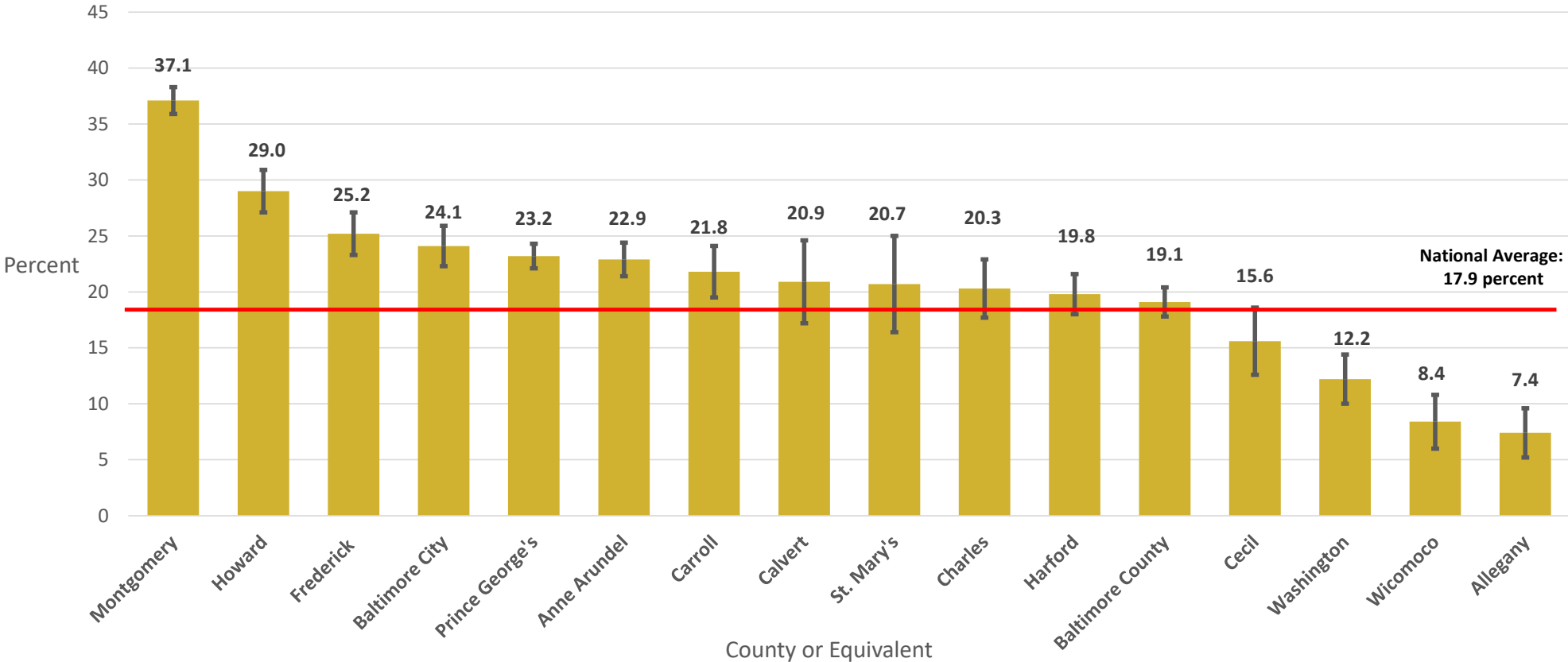
Percentage of Home-based Workers by Metropolitan Statistical Area



Universe: Home-based workers aged 16 and older living in Maryland.
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

Estimates available on data.census.gov table S0801

Percentage of Home-based Workers by Maryland County (or Equivalent)



Universe: Home-based workers aged 16 and older living in Maryland. Wicomoco County is suppressed from 2021 ACS 1-year table.
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

Estimates available on data.census.gov table DP03

Recent SEHSD Commuting Releases

- **Commuting by Public Transportation in the United States: 2019**
Source: American Community Survey 1-year
(ACS Reports, April 2021)
- **Working From Home During the Pandemic**
Source: Household Pulse Survey Weeks 13-21 (August 19-December 21, 2020)
(America Counts, March 2021)
- **Travel Time to Work in the United States: 2019**
Source: American Community Survey 1-year estimates
(ACS Reports, March 2021)
- **How Older Workers with a Disability Navigate Commutes**
Source: American Community Survey 5-year estimates (2013-2017)
(America Counts, December 2020)
- **The Commuting Patterns of Older Workers: 2013-2017**
Source: American Community Survey 5-year estimates (2013-2017)
(ACS Reports, November 2020)
- **Younger Workers in Cities More Likely to Bike to Work**
Source: American Community Survey 5-year estimates (2013-2017)
(America Counts, May 2019)

Other Data Sources

- **Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP)**
www.census.gov/sipp/
- **Household Pulse Survey**
www.census.gov/programs-surveys/household-pulse-survey.html
- **American Housing Survey (AHS)**
www.census.gov/ahs/
- **Current Population Survey (CPS)**
www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps.html
- **American Time Use Survey (ATUS)**
www.bls.gov/tus/

Thank you!

Visit our topical page for tables:

[census.gov/topics/employment/commuting.html](https://www.census.gov/topics/employment/commuting.html)

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