

Brief Economic Facts

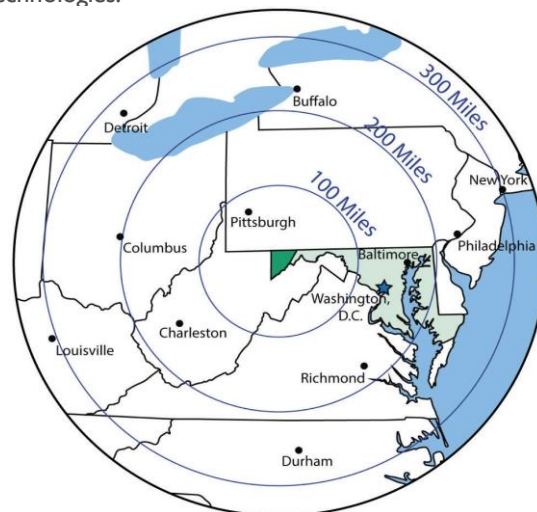
GARRETT COUNTY, MARYLAND

Garrett County is a progressive community that welcomes business. The westernmost county in Maryland, Garrett offers a central location to local major markets, interstates, available county-owned business parks, one of Maryland's best K-12 school systems, a variety of housing options, an excellent workforce, and over 76,000 acres of parks, lakes, and publicly-accessible forestland.

The Department of Economic Development works to attract, retain, and expand businesses to the area. The county's workforce, location, and affordable county-owned business parks have attracted some of the best businesses that Maryland has to offer. Garrett is an attractive location for manufacturing, distribution, back office, call center, energy, agricultural, and recreation firms.

The county public school system consistently ranks as one of Maryland's best. The STEM curriculum in both the public schools and Garrett College prepares graduates for career achievement and skilled local jobs. The Garrett County Scholarship Program puts post-secondary education within reach of county high school students and their families and provides an opportunity for all students to achieve higher education credentials.

Garrett County is a designated U.S. Small Business Administration HUBZone and is home to the Garrett Information Enterprise Center, supporting small technology businesses since 2002. Major employers include Beitzel Corporation, ClosetMaid, Pillar Innovations, Garrett Container Systems, Phenix Technologies, and GCC Technologies.



Location

Driving distance from Oakland:	Miles	Kilometers
Atlanta, GA	620	998
Baltimore, MD	181	292
Chicago, IL	541	870
Columbus, OH	227	365
New York, NY	343	553
Philadelphia, PA	268	431
Pittsburgh, PA	92	148
Richmond, VA	220	355
Washington, DC	159	256

Climate and Geography ¹

Yearly Snowfall (inches)	92.0
Summer Temperature (°F)	67.5
Winter Temperature (°F)	28.3
Days Below Freezing	137.6
Land Area (square miles)	656.8
Water Area (square miles)	7.6
Elevation (feet)	960 to 3,360

Population ^{2,3}

	Garrett County		Western MD*	Maryland
	Households	Population		
2000	11,476	29,846	236,699	5,296,486
2010	12,057	30,097	252,614	5,773,552
2020	11,950	28,806	251,617	6,177,224
2030**	12,550	29,620	249,250	6,413,690

*Allegany, Garrett, and Washington Counties

**Projections

Population in selected Places (2020):

Mt. Lake Park – 2,147; Oakland – 1,851; Grantsville – 968;

Loch Lynn Heights - 493; Friendsville – 438

Population Distribution (2015-2019) ^{2,3}

Age	Number	Percent
Under 5	1,423	4.9
5 – 19	4,742	16.2
20 – 44	7,999	27.4
45 – 64	8,635	29.5
65+	6,436	22.0
Total	29,235	100.0

Median Age 46.2 years



Garrett County Government
Department of Business Development

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Labor Availability (by place of residence) ^{3,4,5}

Civilian Labor Force (2020 Avg)	County	Labor Mkt. Area*
Total Civilian Labor Force	15,274	250,140
Employment	14,261	228,708
Unemployment	1,013	21,432
Unemployment Rate	6.6%	8.6%

Residents commuting outside the county to work (2015-2019)	Number	Percent
	3,388	24.9%

Employment in Selected Occupations (2015-2019)		
Mgmt, Business, Science, Arts	4,979	35.9%
Science	2,413	17.4%
Sales and Office	2,302	16.6%
Production, Trans, Material Moving	1,859	13.4%

*Garrett & Allegany Counties, MD; Bedford, Fayette, & Somerset Counties, PA; Grant, Mineral, Monongalia, Preston, & Tucker Counties, WV

Major Employers (2021) ^{6,7}

Employer	Product/Service	Employment
Garrett Regional Medical Center	Medical services	512
Beitzel Corp/Pillar Innovation	Indus. construction	480
ClosetMaid Corporation	Storage product	240
Goodwill Retirement Community	Nursing care	200
Arrowhead, Inc.	Cinema/deli/restaurant	190
Garrett Co. Community Action	Social advocacy	185
First United Corporation	Banking/financial services	172
Total Biz Fulfillment	Order fulfillment	172
Garrett College ¹	Higher education	161
Railey Mountain Vacations	Real estate management	156
EPT Properties/Wisp Resort ²	Four-season resort	152
Appalachian Parent Association	Services for the disabled	151
Dennett Road Manor Nursing Home	Nursing care	122
Phenix Technologies	High voltage test equip.	120
Garrett Container Systems	Aluminum shipping contain.	110
Savage Services	Freight trucking	75
Morningstar	IT admin & support	68
Oakland Nursing & Rehabilitation	Nursing care	67
Wood Products	Hardwood lumber	63
Simon Pearce	Hand-blown glass manuf.	52
GCC Technologies	Technology solutions	45

Excludes post offices, state and local governments, national retail and foodservice;

Includes higher education

¹Employment rises when nursing semester starts with more adjunct faculty added

²Employment increases to 600 during winter ski season

Employment (by place of work – 2019) ⁴

Industry	# Establ.	Annual Avg. Empl.	Empl. %	Avg. Wkly. Wage
Government Sector	64	1,703	14.1	\$ 814
Federal Government	12	69	0.6	1,074
State Government	6	255	2.1	842
Local Government	46	1,379	11.4	796
Private Sector	884	10,371	85.9	674
Natural Resources; Mining	36	330	2.9	1,305
Construction	155	935	8.0	894
Manufacturing	47	1,035	8.6	769
Trade, Trans., Utilities	224	2,555	21.2	614
Information	8	147	1.2	643
Financial Activities	52	513	4.2	629
Prof & Business Services	123	847	7.0	886
Education & Health Services	77	1,719	14.2	727
Leisure and Hospitality	106	1,920	15.9	360
Other Services	52	320	2.7	632
Total	948	12,075	100.0	694

Includes civilian employment only

Hourly Wage Rates (2020) ⁴

Selected Occupations	Median	Entry	Experienced
Accountants	\$ 27.97	\$ 17.85	\$ 36.16
Bookkeeping/Accounting Clerks	18.19	12.81	21.29
Computer Systems Analysts	31.95	20.27	41.53
Computer User Support Specialists	16.09	13.58	19.18
Customer Service Representatives	13.97	11.46	16.39
Electrical Engineers	44.62	29.16	55.58
Freight, Stock & Material Movers	14.46	11.26	17.94
Industrial Truck Operators	17.99	14.29	20.47
Information Security Analysts	32.36	21.57	46.41
Inspectors, Testers, Sorters	20.64	13.94	23.37
Machinists	19.99	13.96	25.80
Maintenance Workers - Machinery	24.69	19.54	28.21
Mechanical Engineers	39.12	26.04	51.21
Network Support Specialists	28.19	19.69	33.70
Packaging/Filling Machine Operators	18.72	13.84	23.81
Packers and Packagers - Hand	13.14	11.01	14.46
Secretaries	17.13	12.33	20.30
Shipping/Receiving Clerks	16.06	12.31	19.35
Stock Clerks; Order Fillers	12.16	11.22	14.48
Team Assemblers	13.40	12.64	16.58
Telemarketer	13.78	11.00	15.54

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.

Brief Economic Facts GARRETT COUNTY, MARYLAND

Schools and Colleges ^{3, 8}

Educational Attainment – Age 25+ (2015-2019)

High School Graduate or Higher	89.8%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	20.9%

Public Schools

Number (Sept. 2020)	
Elementary	7
Middle/Combined	3
High	2
Enrollment (Sept. 2020)	3,648
Cost per Pupil (2020)	\$ 14,825
Students per Teacher (2020)	10.6
High School Career/Tech Enrollment (2020)	1,139
High School Graduates (2020)	244

Non-Public Schools

Number (Sept. 2020)	4
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Higher Education (2019)

	Enrollment	Degrees
Garrett College (2-Year)	626	103

Frostburg State University, a University of Maryland institution with an undergraduate and graduate enrollment of over 5,200 is located in adjacent Allegany County, MD. West Virginia University (WVU) is located in nearby Morgantown, WV.

Tax Rates ⁹

	Garrett	Maryland
Corporate Income Tax (2021)	None	8.25%

Base – Federal Taxable Income

Personal Income Tax (2021)	2.65%	2.0-5.75%*
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Base – Federal Adjusted Gross Income

*Graduated rate peaks at 5.75% on taxable income over \$300K

Sales & Use Tax (2021)	None	6.0%
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Exempt – sales for resale; manufacturer's purchase of raw materials; manufacturing machinery & equipment; purchases of materials & equipment used in R&D & testing of finished products; purchases of computer programs for reproduction or incorporation into another computer program for resale

Real Property Tax (FY 2022)	\$1.056	\$0.112
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Effective rate per \$100 of assessed value. In an incorporated area, the county rate may vary, and a municipal rate will also apply.

Business Personal Property Tax (FY 2022)	None	None
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No county personal property tax on ordinary business property. \$2.64/\$100 applicable to operating property of utilities and non-utility electric generators. In an incorporated area, a municipal rate may apply; municipal exemptions may be available.

Major Tax Credits Available

Enterprise Zone; Job Creation; R&D; Hire Our Veterans; More Jobs for Marylanders (Tier 1); ONE Maryland (Tier 1); Arts & Entertainment District; Maryland Wineries & Vineyards; Biotechnology & Cybersecurity Investment; Federal Opportunity Zones; Garrett County Business Property Tax Credit Incentive

Income (2015-2019) ³

Distribution	Percent Households		
	Garrett	Maryland	U.S.
Under \$25,000	20.5	13.1	19.2
\$25,000 - \$49,999	26.7	17.0	21.2
\$50,000 - \$74,999	18.6	15.3	17.2
\$75,000 - \$99,999	12.6	13.2	12.7
\$100,000 - \$149,999	14.4	19.0	15.1
\$150,000 - \$199,999	3.6	10.5	76.8
\$200,000+	3.6	12.7	7.7
Median Household	\$ 52,617	\$ 84,805	\$ 62,843
Average Household	\$ 71,004	\$ 111,417	\$ 88,607
Per Capita	\$ 30,617	\$ 42,122	\$ 34,103
Total Income (millions)	\$ 895	\$ 245,697	\$10,699,831

Housing ^{3, 10}

Occupied Units (2020)	12,425
78.6% Owner Occupied	

Housing Transactions (2020)*

Units Sold	703
Median Selling Price	\$328,950

*All multiple listed properties; excludes auctions and FSBO

Business and Industrial Property ⁶

Six industrial/business parks with access to major highways and underlying infrastructure in place are strategically located throughout Garrett County. Acreage is available in the 240-acre **Keysers Ridge Business Park** located just off I-68 and the 135-acre **McHenry Business Park**, a business park located adjacent to the Garrett County Airport. A 4.2-acre lot is still available in the **Southern Garrett Business & Technology Park** located along MD Route 135 just outside of Oakland., Both the **Keysers Ridge Business Park** and the **Southern Garrett Business & Technology Park** are located in State-designated Enterprise and Federal Opportunity Zones.

Business Incubator: Located on the Garrett College Campus, the **Garrett Information Enterprise Center** offers incubator space to new and expanding technology-based businesses and is the perfect environment for facilitating the successful development of technology-intensive companies.

MEDCO Spec Building: The new MEDCO spec building located in the **McHenry Business Park** offers flex space for lease.

Market Profile Data (2021)

	Low	High	Average
Industrial Land – per acre	\$ 15,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 30,000
Rental Rates – per square foot			
Warehouse/Industrial	\$ 5.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 8.00
Flex / R&D / Technology	\$ 10.00	\$ 18.00	\$ 14.00

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Transportation

Highways: MD Route 135 and 495; U.S. Routes 40, 50, and 219; Interstate-68; easy access to Interstates 70, 79, and 81.

Rail: CSX Transportation.

Truck: 131 local and long-distance trucking establishments in Western Maryland; major companies include Pitt Ohio Express. Overnite Transportation Company, Larry Wagner Trucking, Jones Trucking, Marple Trucking, Savage Industries, and R&R Trucking.

Water: Port of Baltimore, a leading U.S. automobile and break-bulk port; closest Atlantic port to major midwestern population and manufacturing centers; port for Royal Caribbean and Carnival Cruise Lines; seven public terminals, including a state-of-the-art Intermodal Container Transfer Facility and the Cruise Maryland Terminal; 190 miles from Oakland.

Air: Garrett County Airport near Deep Creek Lake: runway open 24/7; 5,000' runway with parallel taxiway; new terminal building is handicap-accessible and includes a pilots' lounge, snack room, and lobby area; scheduled services at Morgantown, WV (40 miles) and Pittsburgh International Airport (100 miles).

Recreation and Culture

Parks: Big Run State Park; Casselman River Bridge State Park; Deep Creek Lake State Park; Garrett State Forest; Herrington Manor State Park; Mt. Nebo Wildlife Management Area; New Germany State Park; Potomac-Garrett State Forest; Savage River State Forest; Swallow Falls State Park; Sang Run State Park; Wolf Den Run State Park.

Recreation and Leisure: Agritourism; boating; sailing; water skiing; snow tubing; hunting; swimming; golfing; camping; biking; snowmobiling; carriage/sleigh rides.

Sports and Athletics: Whitewater rafting; canoeing; fly fishing; kayaking; caving; backpacking; hiking; rock climbing; downhill skiing; cross-country skiing; snowshoeing; tennis.

Attractions: Adventure Sports Center; Deep Creek Lake; Wisp Resort; Mountain Fresh Farmers Market; Wisp Mountain Coaster; Spruce Forest Artisan Village; Oakland's B&O Railroad Station; St. John's Rock Off-Road Vehicle Trail and Campground; Barn Quilt Trail; Community Aquatic & Recreation Complex.

Arts and Entertainment Districts: Grantsville; Oakland.

Events: Autumn Glory Festival; Deep Creek Lake Art & Wine Festival; Garrett County Agricultural Fair; Yough River Festival; Chautauqua; Little Yough Summer Music Festival; Garrett Lake Arts Festival Annual Performing Arts Series; Garrett County Celtic Festival; Savageman Triathlon; Garrett County Gran Fondo; Taste of Garrett; Festival of Trees; Art in the Park; Stage Wisp Concert Series; Oakland Winter Fest; Garrett County All Things Expo; Tri-State Relief Sale, Benefit Auction & Cruise-In; Garrett County Wings & Wheels Fly-In; Western Maryland Tennis Championships; A Small Town Christmas; Subaru Winterfest; Country Fest & Auction.

Utilities

Electricity: Potomac Edison and Somerset Rural Electric Cooperative; customers of investor-owned utilities and major cooperatives may choose their electric supplier.

Gas: Columba Gas of Maryland, Inc.; customers may choose their gas supplier.

Water: Municipal systems in Accident, Grantsville, and Oakland; county maintains water systems in many other towns/areas.

Sewer: Municipal systems in Accident, Grantsville, Loch Lynn Heights, Mt. Lake Park, and Oakland; county maintains systems in many other towns/areas.

Telecommunications: Verizon Maryland primarily offers traditional copper service for voice and data (POTS/PRI/DLS/DS3); AT&T wireless and US Cellular are the largest cellular providers; Comcast, Shentel, ProCom, QCol (cable/fiber) and NeuBeam (fixed wireless) provide broadband internet and VOIP services.

Government ¹¹

County Seat: Oakland

Government: Three commissioners elected for 4-year term; Commissioner form of government limits county legislative power to areas authorized by the Maryland General Assembly.

Paul C. Edwards, Chair, Board of County Commissioners

Kevin G. Null, County Administrator

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Garrett County Department of Business Development

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Sources

- 1 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (1982-2010 normal); Maryland Geological Survey
- 2 Maryland Department of Planning
- 3 U.S. Bureau of Census
- 4 Maryland Department of Labor, Office of Workforce Information and Performance
- 5 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
- 6 Garrett County Department of Economic 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



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