

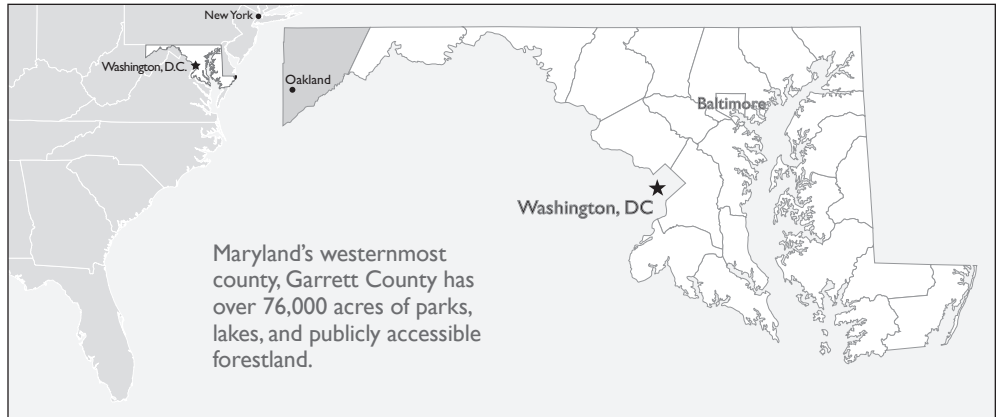
BRIEF ECONOMIC FACTS

GARRETT COUNTY, MARYLAND

The westernmost county in Maryland, Garrett County is known for its active, outdoor lifestyle, four lovely seasons, and a relaxed pace embracing family and community. The county boasts the state's highest elevation (3,360 feet), its largest inland body of water (Deep Creek Lake), its only sub-arctic wetlands, and over 76,000 acres of parks, lakes, and publicly-accessible forestland. It is also the only county in the state to produce natural gas or peat.

Garrett County is poised for growth, with a workforce ready to perform, modern infrastructure, attractive incentive packages, a friendly business climate, and future plans focused on technology, recreation, natural resources, and community development. Tucked beautifully away in the mountains of Western Maryland, Garrett County is the ideal geographic location for servicing the Northeast, Midwest, and Southeast U.S. regions.

Garrett County's 940 businesses employ 9,620 workers, with



LOCATION

Driving distance from Oakland:	Miles	Kilometers
Atlanta, Georgia	620	998
Baltimore, Maryland	181	292
Boston, Massachusetts	555	894
Chicago, Illinois	541	870
New York, New York	343	553
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	268	431
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	92	148
Richmond, Virginia	220	355
Washington, DC	159	256

CLIMATE AND GEOGRAPHY¹

Yearly Precipitation (inches)	47.6
Yearly Snowfall (inches)	85.7
Summer Temperature (°F)	66.6
Winter Temperature (°F)	29.1
Duration of Freeze-Free Period (days)	128
Land Area (square miles)	656.8
Water Area (square miles)	7.6
Elevation (feet)	960 to 3,360

nearly 20 of these having 100 or more workers. From tourism and hospitality to manufacturing, financial services, agriculture, and technology, Garrett County's diverse business community continues to prosper. Major employers include Pillar Innovations/Beitzel, First United, ClosetMaid, GCC Technologies Phenix Technologies, and Garrett Container Systems.

Garrett County is designated a HUB (Historically Underutilized Business) Zone by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

POPULATION^{2,3}

	Garrett County Households	Garrett County Population	Western Maryland*	Maryland
2000	11,476	29,846	236,699	5,296,486
2010	11,900**	30,097	252,614	5,773,552
2020**	12,775	31,100	274,650	6,276,300

*Allegany, Garrett, and Washington counties

**Projections

Selected places population (2010): Mountain Lake Park 2,092; Oakland 1,925; Grantsville 766; Loch Lynn Heights 552; Finzel 547

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION^{2,3} (2009)

Age	Number	Percent
Under 5	1,520	5.1
5 - 19	5,591	18.9
20 - 44	8,757	29.6
45 - 64	8,546	28.9
65 and over	5,141	17.4
Total	29,555	100.0
Median age		42.2 years

GARRETT COUNTY, MARYLAND

LABOR AVAILABILITY^{3,4,5} (BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE)

Civilian Labor Force (2010 avg.)	County	Labor Mkt. Area*
Total civilian labor force	16,492	105,514
Employment	15,138	95,858
Unemployment	1,354	9,657
Unemployment rate	8.2%	9.2%

Residents commuting outside the county to work (2007-2009)	Number	Percent
	3,066	21.4%

Employment in selected occupations (2007-2009)

Occupation	Number	Percent
Management, professional and related	4,308	29.4%
Service	2,658	18.1%
Sales and office	2,951	20.1%
Production, transp. and material moving	2,264	15.5%

* Garrett and Allegany counties, MD, Preston Co. WV and Somerset Co. PA

MAJOR EMPLOYERS^{6,7} (2010)

Employer	Product/Service	Employment
First United	Banking, insurance services	492
Garrett County Mem. Hosp.	Medical services	346
Walmart	Consumer goods	289
Pillar Innovations / Beitzel	Metal fabrication	273
Garrett College	Higher education	240
O.C. Cluss Lumber	Building supplies	186
Garrett County Community Action Committee	Social advocacy	185
Uno Chicago Grill/Arrow-head Deli/ Garrett 8 Cinema	Restaurant, deli and movie theater	183
Goodwill Retirement Comm.	Nursing care	177
Wisp Resort*	Four-season resort	175
McDonald's	Restaurants	167
Smiley's Funzone & Pizzeria	Restaurants	152
Dennett Road Manor	Nursing care	147
Garrett Container Systems	Alum. shipping containers	144
Fechheimer Brothers	Shirts, uniforms	136
GCC Technologies	IT, administrative support	123
Appalachian Parent Assn.	Services for the disabled	122
Phenix Technologies	High voltage testing equip.	122
Lowe's	Home improvement prods.	118
ClosetMaid	Storage, shelving products	115
Oakland Nursing & Rehab. Ctr.	Nursing care	114
Garrett Industrial Supply/ Pioneer Conveyor	Industrial equipment mfg. and maintenance services	113
Umbel & Umbel	Groceries, consumer goods, restaurant, constr.	97

Excludes post offices, state and local governments; includes higher education

* Employment increases to 800 during ski season

EMPLOYMENT⁴ (2009, BY PLACE OF WORK)

Industry	Estab-lishments	Annual Avg. Empl.	Emp. %	Avg. Wkly. Wage
Federal government	17	77	0.7	\$861
State government	6	175	1.5	775
Local government	35	1,467	12.9	758
Private sector	937	9,622	84.8	532
Natl. resources and mining	33	434	3.8	912
Construction	190	901	7.9	680
Manufacturing	46	975	8.6	645
Trade, transp. and util.	231	2,430	21.4	471
Information	15	135	1.2	588
Financial activities	65	480	4.2	509
Prof. and business svcs.	116	734	6.5	643
Educ. and health services	75	1,720	15.2	587
Leisure and hospitality	91	1,524	13.4	256
Other services	75	289	2.5	505
Total	995	11,341	100.0	568

Includes civilian employment only

Businesses by Employment Size Class (2nd Q 2010)

No. of employees	0-9	10-49	50-99	100-249	250+
No. of businesses	690	186	18	16	2

HOURLY WAGE RATES⁴ (2010)

Selected Occupations	Median	Entry	Experienced
Accountants	\$24.75	\$17.50	\$32.00
Bookkeeping/accounting clerks	15.25	11.00	18.25
Computer systems analysts	36.25	22.25	45.50
Customer service representatives	12.25	9.75	15.50
Electronic engineering technicians	28.25	24.75	29.75
Freight, stock, material movers, hand	13.25	9.50	16.00
Industrial engineers	36.75	27.75	39.25
Industrial truck operators	15.25	13.25	17.50
Machinists	18.00	13.25	21.25
Maintenance workers, machinery	20.25	13.50	21.75
Mixing, blending machine operators	15.50	13.00	16.50
Network administrators	28.25	21.25	33.00
Packers and packagers, hand	15.25	10.50	16.50
Secretaries	14.75	10.75	17.00
Shipping/receiving clerks	13.00	9.75	16.50
Team assemblers	14.25	10.50	18.25

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

GARRETT COUNTY, MARYLAND

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES^{3,8}

Educational Attainment - age 25 & over (2007-2009)

High school graduate or higher	84.8%
Bachelor's degree or higher	17.7%

Public Schools

Number: 10 elementary; 3 middle/combined; 2 high
Enrollment: 4,311 (Sept. 2009)
Cost per pupil: \$12,093 (2008-2009)
Students per teacher: 12.8 (June 2009)
High school career / tech enrollment: 993 (2010)
High school graduates: 364 (June 2009)

Private Schools

Number: 7 (Sept. 2009)

Higher Education (2009)	Enrollment	Degrees
2-year institution		
Garrett College	897	89

Frostburg State University is located in adjacent Allegany County.

TAX RATES⁹

	Garrett Co.	Maryland
Corporate Income Tax (2011)	none	8.25%
Base – federal taxable income		
Personal Income Tax (2011)	2.65%	2.0% - 5.5%*
Base – federal adjusted gross income		
*Graduated rate peaking at 5.5% on taxable income over \$500,000		
Sales & Use Tax (2011)	none	6.0%
Exempt – sales for resale; manufacturer's purchase of raw materials; manufacturing machinery and equipment; purchases of materials and equipment used in R&D and testing of finished products; purchases of computer programs for reproduction or incorporation into another computer program for resale		
Real Property Tax (FY 11)	\$0.99	\$0.112
Effective rate per \$100 of assessed value		
In addition to this rate, there are some miscellaneous taxes and/or special taxing areas in the county; in an incorporated area, the county rate may vary and a municipal rate will also apply		
Business Personal Property Tax (FY 11)	none	none
No county personal property tax on ordinary business		
\$2.475/\$100 applicable to utility operating property and non-utility electric generators		
In an incorporated area, a municipal rate may apply		
Major Tax Credits Available		
Enterprise Zone, Job Creation, One Maryland, R&D, Garrett County Business Real Property Tax Credit, Garrett County GIEC Real Property Tax Credit		

INCOME³ (2007-2009)

Distribution	Percent Households		U.S.
	Garrett Co.	Maryland	
Under \$25,000	26.7	15.4	23.8
\$25,000 - \$49,999	29.6	19.9	24.9
\$50,000 - \$74,999	19.8	18.3	18.7
\$75,000 - \$99,999	12.0	14.2	12.2
\$100,000 - \$149,999	8.7	17.3	12.1
\$150,000 - \$199,999	1.3	7.8	4.2
\$200,000 and over	1.9	7.0	4.1
Median household	\$44,100	\$69,695	\$51,369
Average household	\$56,332	\$90,500	\$70,404
Per capita	\$24,093	\$34,384	\$27,100
Total income (millions)	\$735	\$189,088	\$7,962,931

HOUSING^{2,3,10}

Occupied Units (2007-2009)	13,046 (75.8% owner occupied)	
Housing Transactions (2009)	Units	Median Selling Price
All arms-length transactions	227	\$236,000
All multiple-listed properties*	255	\$250,000

*Excludes auctions and FSBO

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY⁶

Five industrial/business parks, with access to major highways and underlying infrastructure in place, are strategically located throughout Garrett County. Acreage is still available in the 240-acre **Keyser's Ridge Business Park** (a State Enterprise Zone) off I-68 and the 138-acre **McHenry Business Park**, a technology-based business park located adjacent to the Garrett County Airport.

Located on the Garrett College campus, the **Garrett Information Enterprise Center (GIEC)** offers incubator space to new and expanding technology-based businesses. The GIEC is the perfect environment for facilitating the successful development of technology-intensive companies.

Business Incubator

Garrett Information Enterprise Center (GIEC), McHenry

Market Profile Data	Low	High	Average
Land – cost per acre			
Industrial	\$16,000	\$35,000	\$22,000
Rental Rates – per square foot			
Warehouse / Industrial	\$3.25	\$10.00	\$8.00
Flex / R&D / Technology	\$10.00	\$18.00	\$14.00

GARRETT COUNTY, MARYLAND

TRANSPORTATION

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

Rail: CSX Transportation

Truck: 140 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, and R & R Trucking

Water: Served by the 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 Cruise Lines; seven public terminals, including the state-of-the-art Intermodal Container Transfer Facility and the Cruise Maryland Terminal; 190 miles from Oakland

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

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

Recreation and Leisure: Agri-tourism, boating, sailing, water skiing, snow tubing, hunting, swimming, golfing, camping, snowmobiling, dog sledding/carting, carriage/sleigh rides

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

Attractions: Adventure Sports Center, Deep Creek Lake, Mountain Fresh Farmers' Markets, Wisp Resort & Mountain Coaster, Spruce Forest Artisan Village, Oakland's B & O Railroad Station

Events: Autumn Glory Festival, McHenry Highland Festival, Art & Wine Festival, Garrett County Agricultural Fair, Yough River Fest, Chautauqua, Little Yough Summer Festival, Garrett Lakes Arts Festival Annual Performing Arts Series

FEDERAL FUNDING³ (2009)

Direct Federal Expenditures or Obligations

	Total	Per Capita
Total	\$271,118,628	\$9,173
Defense	\$49,377,062	\$1,671
Non-defense	\$221,741,566	\$7,503

UTILITIES

Electricity: Allegheny Power and Somerset Rural Electric Cooperative (SREC); customers of investor-owned utilities and major cooperatives may choose their electric supplier

Gas: Natural gas is supplied by Columbia Gas of Maryland, Inc.

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 is the largest provider and offers a full range of services including local, Frame Relay, SMDS, ISDN, and DSL (in some areas); ProCom Mountain Communications provides local, long distance, VoIP, broadband and internet; additional providers include Comcast and Suddenlink

GOVERNMENT¹¹

County Seat: Oakland

Government: Three commissioners elected for four-year terms; commissioner form of government limits county legislative power to areas authorized by the General Assembly
Gegan T. Crawford, Chair, Board of County Commissioners
301.334.8970

R. Lamont Pagenhardt, County Administrator 301.334.8970

Website: www.garrettcounty.org

County Delegation to Maryland General Assembly:

George C. Edwards, Senate Chair 410.841.3565

Wendell R. Beitzel, House Chair 410.841.3435

U.S. Congressional Election District: 6th

County Bond Rating: AAA (S&P); A1 (Moody's)

Garrett County Department of Economic Development

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www.gcedonline.com

Sources:

- 1 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Maryland State Office of Climatology (30-year averages); Maryland Geological Survey
- 2 Maryland Department of Planning
- 3 U.S. Bureau of the Census
- 4 Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, Office of Workforce Information and Performance
- 5 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
- 6 Garrett County Department of Economic Development
- 7 Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development
- 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