

General statistics on poverty, income, and expenditures by Baltimore County Government

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All sources are available electronically upon request

- In **Baltimore County, 124,439 households have incomes below the threshold needed to be self-sufficient**, or 38% of all families in the County (United Way ALICE Report, updated 2018, p. 5).
- **Overall, over 91,000 people in Baltimore County suffer from food insecurity (11%) – of those, over 26,000 are children (almost 15% of all children in the County) – of those children, 41% are probably ineligible for food assistance:**
<https://map.feedingamerica.org/county/2017/child/maryland/county/baltimore>
- The **Living Wage** calculated for 1 adult and three children in Baltimore County is an hourly wage of **\$40.85** (<http://livingwage.mit.edu/counties/24005>).
- **Half of all jobs in Maryland pay less than \$20 an hour** (United Way ALICE Report, updated 2018, p. 1).

Income Inequality

- Maryland is often ranked as the wealthiest state in the nation in median income
- Maryland has more millionaires per capita than any other state

<https://www.kiplinger.com/slideshow/investing/T031-S001-millionaires-in-america-all-50-states-ranked/index.html> 2018, Maryland, with \$1 million or more in investable income:

Millionaire households: 178,003; **Total households:** 2,263,021; **Concentration of millionaires:** 7.87%

Baltimore County millionaires reporting \$1 million or more in taxable income: In 2014 (latest tax data available), **Baltimore County** was second in the state in numbers of millionaires living in Maryland (1,233); highest number was Montgomery County (3,225); Baltimore County was tied with Howard County as 5th in the state in the largest increases in millionaires between 2010 and 2014, a 47% increase.

Baltimore Business Journal: <https://www.bizjournals.com/baltimore/news/2017/01/26/the-maryland-counties-with-the-most-millionaires.html>

With this amount of wealth:

- **Baltimore County has one of oldest school infrastructures in the state;** for years was 2nd, only behind Baltimore City
- In 2007, over half of all schools in BCPS had no air conditioning – we were surrounded by Counties with 100% air conditioned schools or very close to it: in 2019, BCPS still has 8 schools without air conditioning, including Dulaney HS

- **Over 50,000 students attending BCPS live in severe poverty, nearly 44% of all students in the system;** as of January 2019, **2,174** had already been identified as homeless - will increase by end of school year
- **About 43,000 students live in families with incomes of no more than 130% of the federal poverty level (for a family of four, no more than \$32,630 per year).** About 7,000 live in families with incomes of no more than 185% of the federal poverty level (for a family of four, \$46,435 per year).
- Thousands more live in families with incomes too high to qualify for meal assistance but not enough to be economically self-sufficient. In 2016, **the basic survival budget for a family of four (2 adults, 2 children) in Maryland (no savings possible) was almost \$70,000 a year** (United Way ALICE report, 2018, p. 4).
- **The cost of living in Maryland is 21.4% higher than the national average** (Kiplinger Report cited above)

INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES
[Effective from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019]

Household size	Federal poverty guidelines	Reduced Price Meals—185%					Free Meals—130%				
		Annual	Monthly	Twice per month	Every two weeks	Weekly	Annual	Monthly	Twice per month	Every two weeks	Weekly
	Annual										
48 Contiguous States, District of Columbia, Guam, and Territories											
1	12,140	22,459	1,872	936	864	432	15,782	1,316	658	607	304
2	16,460	30,451	2,538	1,269	1,172	586	21,398	1,784	892	823	412
3	20,780	38,443	3,204	1,602	1,479	740	27,014	2,252	1,126	1,039	520
4	25,100	46,435	3,870	1,935	1,786	893	32,630	2,720	1,360	1,255	628
5	29,420	54,427	4,536	2,268	2,094	1,047	38,246	3,188	1,594	1,471	736
6	33,740	62,419	5,202	2,601	2,401	1,201	43,862	3,656	1,828	1,687	844
7	38,060	70,411	5,868	2,934	2,709	1,355	49,478	4,124	2,062	1,903	952
8	42,380	78,403	6,534	3,267	3,016	1,508	55,094	4,592	2,296	2,119	1,060
For each add'l family member, add	4,320	7,992	666	333	308	154	5,616	468	234	216	108

- <https://www.cnbc.com/2018/06/28/the-10-states-most-in-need-of-an-infrastructure-overhaul.html>: **Maryland was tied with West Virginia as the 5th worst state in the top 10 states in the U.S. facing the worst infrastructure deficits**, earning a grade of “D.” “[Maryland](#) needs help. So do its workers, who endure the second-longest commutes in the nation. Over half the roads are in poor/mediocre condition, and 20-year water-system needs are at \$9.3 billion.”
- <https://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/state-item/maryland/>: “For example, driving on roads in need of repair in Maryland costs each driver \$550 per year, and 5.8% of bridges are rated structurally deficient. Drinking water needs in Maryland are an estimated \$6.9 billion, and wastewater needs total \$9.92 billion. 82 dams are considered to be high-hazard potential. The state’s schools have an estimated capital expenditure gap of \$615 million. This deteriorating infrastructure impedes Maryland’s ability to compete in an increasingly global marketplace. Success in a 21st century economy requires serious, sustained leadership on infrastructure investment at all levels of government. Delaying these investments only escalates the cost and risks of an aging infrastructure system, an option that the country, Maryland, and families can no longer afford.”

**Exhibit 3.7
Per Capita County Expenditures by Category
Fiscal 2017**

County	General Government	Public Safety	Public Works	Health/ Social Serv.	Education/ Libraries	Parks and Recreation	Debt Service	Other	Total
Allegany	\$161	\$358	\$467	\$206	\$2,583	\$12	\$65	\$88	\$3,942
Anne Arundel	231	548	539	147	2,529	68	279	120	4,461
Baltimore City	454	1,158	1,071	415	2,407	106	254	283	6,148
Baltimore	193	471	585	99	2,499	46	254	587	4,736
Calvert	236	426	369	132	2,958	128	194	338	4,780
Caroline	137	378	192	186	2,813	57	109	191	4,064
Carroll	272	300	322	134	2,498	38	258	175	3,997
Cecil	144	378	259	170	2,571	13	184	99	3,818
Charles	235	720	428	122	2,894	70	275	129	4,872
Dorchester	209	404	269	257	2,608	23	82	226	4,078
Frederick	236	476	420	177	2,869	42	255	159	4,635
Garrett	211	401	970	286	2,617	40	91	229	4,845
Harford	176	400	437	108	2,463	54	267	137	4,042
Howard	433	760	694	133	3,551	232	420	215	6,437
Kent	665	502	475	478	1,822	90	104	56	4,191
Montgomery	444	593	790	304	3,229	189	404	527	6,481
Prince George's	279	702	640	108	2,578	222	232	278	5,039
Queen Anne's	436	540	487	211	2,367	116	258	129	4,545
St. Mary's	232	427	374	135	2,430	107	114	58	3,877
Somerset	245	295	347	282	2,028	66	226	338	3,828
Talbot	250	441	420	204	2,001	112	34	94	3,557
Washington	153	318	399	107	2,404	30	109	61	3,581
Wicomico	152	439	237	256	2,485	135	138	27	3,871
Worcester	288	686	524	325	2,698	54	246	550	5,370
Statewide	\$300	\$611	\$625	\$194	\$2,712	\$120	\$272	\$309	\$5,144

Source: Local Government Finances Fiscal 2017, Department of Legislative Services

Overview of Maryland Local Governments, Dept. of Legislative Services, 2019

Exhibit 3.7 (p. 40), Baltimore County Expenditures per Capita by Category (Fiscal 2017)

	Baltimore-County	Statewide Average	Ranking (out of 24)
General Government:	\$193	\$300	18th out of 24
Public Safety	\$471	\$611	11th out of 24
Public Works	\$585	\$625	6th out of 24
Health/Social Services	\$ 99	\$194	24th - lowest in state
Education/Libraries	\$2,499	\$2,712	14th out of 24
Parks and Recreation	\$ 46	\$ 120	17th out of 24

- **Per Capita Statewide totals for all categories: \$5,144**
- **Baltimore County: \$4,736 9th out of 24**

NOTE: the ranking of 9th out of 24 in expenditures, given the numbers in Exhibit 3.7 above, appears to be based in part upon the higher categories grouped into "Other"; Baltimore County has the highest amount of expenditures in this category per capita, \$587, or 12.4% of County expenditures (Exhibit 3.6); the state average is \$309, or 6% of expenditures.

It would be helpful to have some explanations provided for expenditures that are grouped into this category.