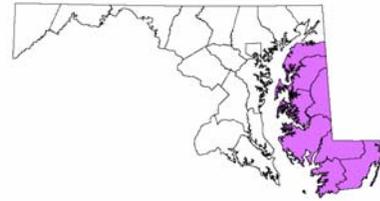


THE JOB MARKET IN BRIEF

EASTERN SHORE REGION

Caroline County
Dorchester County
Kent County
Queen Anne's County

Talbot County
Somerset County
Wicomico County
Worcester County



Population

	2007	Change from 2000
Eastern Shore Region	336,497	25,790
Caroline County	32,910	3,080
Dorchester County	31,846	1,259
Kent County	19,987	721
Queen Anne's County	46,571	5,800
Talbot County	36,193	2,301
Somerset County	26,016	1,293
Wicomico County	93,600	8,737
Worcester County	49,374	2,599

Source: MD Department of Planning

The Eastern Shore Region, an area rich in natural resources, is home to about 6.0% of Maryland's population. Since 2000, the area has been the 2nd fastest growing region in the state, expanding at a rate of 8.3% to add nearly 26,000 new residents. Within the area, the population in Queen Anne's County, advancing at a rate of 14.2%, was the fastest growing while Wicomico County, with one-third of the region's population gain, added the largest number of new residents.

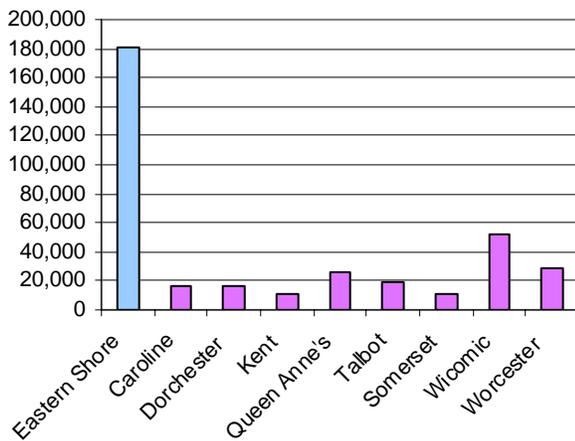
About 7 out of every 10 residents in the 16+ population, or 180,764 persons, are active in the labor market. Persons between the ages of 35-54 make up just over 45% of all participants. According to census statistics, about 9 out of every 10 residents remain within the region to work. Unemployment in the Eastern Shore Area tends to be very seasonal, affected by activities related to crop production, the seafood industry and tourism. The regional unemployment rate, which generally tops the statewide average, was 4.4% in 2007, with local jobless rates ranging from a low of 3.2% in Queen Anne's County to a high of 5.9% shared by both Dorchester and Worcester counties.

Labor Force 2005-2007 Annual Averages

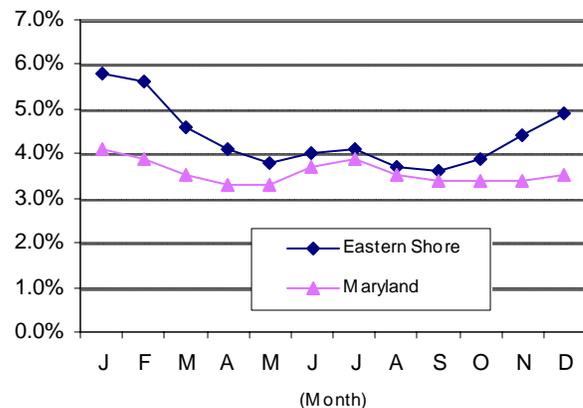
	Eastern Shore Region	Maryland
2007		
Labor Force	180,764	2,980,353
Employment	172,878	2,873,512
Unemployment	7,886	106,841
Rate	4.4	3.6
2006		
Labor Force	180,843	2,973,838
Employment	172,909	2,861,720
Unemployment	7,934	112,118
Rate	4.4	3.8
2005		
Labor Force	180,048	2,942,960
Employment	171,525	2,820,526
Unemployment	8,523	122,434
Rate	4.7	4.2

Since 2002, the region's job base has grown by 7,515 jobs to reach a level of 140,913 in 2006. Gains in the construction and education/health services industries led the advance. In the private sector economy, the trade/ transportation/ utilities and leisure/ hospitality industries, when combined, account for just over one-third of all jobs. Within these sectors, general merchandise stores, accommodations providers and food services and drinking places are the top employers. Part-time employment is characteristic of these industries, making wages relatively low when compared to other industries where full-time employment is the norm.

Labor Force 2007

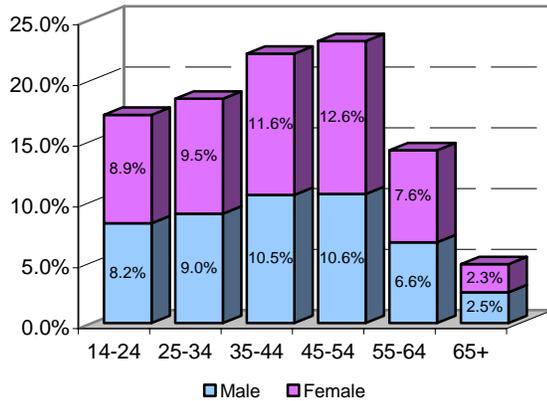


Unemployment Rates 2007



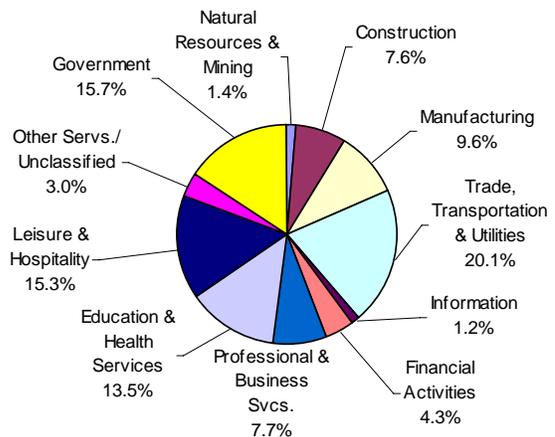
Eastern Shore Region

**Workforce Distribution
by Age & Sex 2006**



Source: Local Employment Dynamics, U.S. Census Bureau

**Employment Distribution by
Industry Supersector-2006**



Employment By Industry Supersector 2002-2006

Title	Number of Jobs				Region Percent of State
	Eastern Shore Region			Maryland 2006	
	2002	2006	Change		
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	133,398	140,913	7,515	2,530,225	5.7
Natural Resources & Mining	2,077	2,031	-46	6,819	30.0
Construction	8,922	10,662	1,740	188,761	5.8
Manufacturing	15,583	13,565	-2,018	135,353	10.1
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	26,620	28,288	1,668	470,870	6.2
Information	1,623	1,651	28	50,017	3.5
Financial Activities	5,205	6,030	825	157,741	3.9
Professional & Business Svcs.	9,167	10,835	1,668	395,232	2.9
Education & Health Services	17,290	18,990	1,700	349,308	5.5
Leisure & Hospitality	20,380	21,544	1,164	229,905	9.4
Other Services/Unclassified	5,119	5,162	43	90,726	5.8
Government	21,412	22,155	743	455,493	4.9

**Largest Private
Industry Subsectors
2006 Annual Averages**

Title	Jobs	Weekly Wage
Food services & drinking places	14,371	\$263
Specialty trade contractors	6,892	673
Hospitals	5,672	782
Ambulatory health care svcs.	5,323	983
Professional & technical svcs.	4,776	883
Administrative & support svcs.	4,609	439
Accommodation	4,547	385
Food manufacturing	4,245	611
General merchandise stores	3,820	347
Nursing & resident. care facilities	3,652	475

**Largest Employers in Region
As of 1st Quarter 2007
Listed Alphabetically**

Employer	Industry	Size Class
Allen Family Foods	Manufacturing	500-999
Atlantic General Hospital	Health	500-999
Harvard Custom Manufacturing	Manufacturing	500-999
Lankford-Syscp Food Services	Wholesale Trade	500-999
McDonalds	Food Services	500-999
Peninsula Regional Medical Center	Health	1,000+
Perdue Farms	Manufacturing	1,000+
Shore Health System	Health	1,000+
Sweetheart Cup Company	Manufacturing	500-999
Wal-Mart	Retail Trade	1,000+

NOTE: Region as defined by the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development
Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, Office of Workforce Information and Performance, May 2008