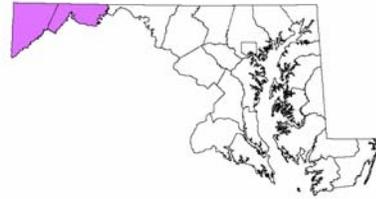


# THE JOB MARKET IN BRIEF

## WESTERN MARYLAND REGION

### Allegany County

### Garrett County



Population	2007	Change from 2000
	<b>Western MD Region</b>	<b>102,221</b>
Allegany County	72,594	-2,219
Garrett County	29,627	-199

Source: MD Department of Planning

#### Labor Force 2005-2007 Annual Average

	Western Region	Maryland
<b>2007</b>		
Labor Force	51,749	2,980,353
Employment	49,157	2,873,512
Unemployment	2,592	106,841
Rate	5.0	3.6
<b>2006</b>		
Labor Force	52,100	2,973,838
Employment	49,355	2,861,720
Unemployment	2,745	112,118
Rate	5.3	3.8
<b>2005</b>		
Labor Force	52,169	2,942,960
Employment	49,188	2,820,526
Unemployment	2,981	122,434
Rate	5.7	4.2

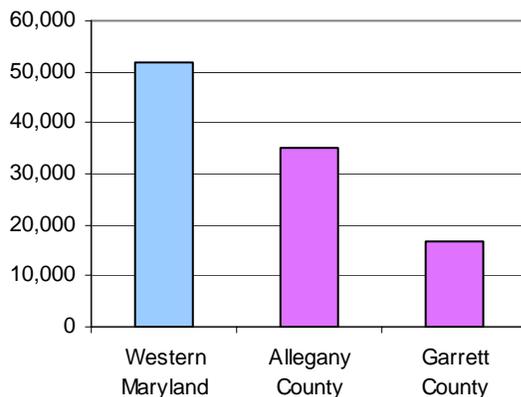
The two counties of Maryland's Western Region claim an estimated 102,221 residents, less than 2% of the state's population. The area population has been in an almost steady decline for years, losing 2,418 between 2000 and 2007.

Unemployment continued a drop that began earlier in the decade, falling to 5.0% in 2007. Both counties have improved, with the jobless decrease particularly notable in Allegany. The region, however, consistently posts unemployment rates above the state average, with joblessness rising significantly in winter. The labor force averaged 51,749 in 2007, down marginally from the two prior years.

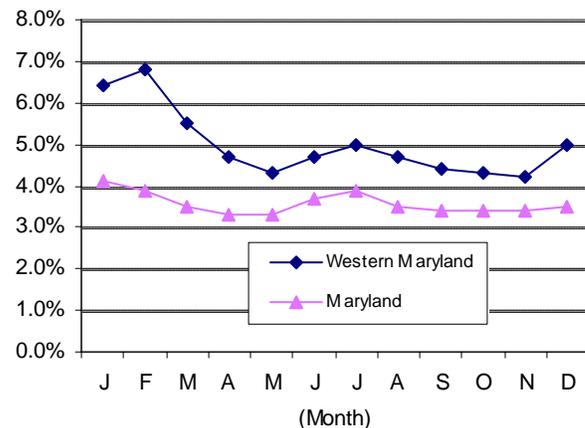
The job market gained a net 1,001 positions between 2002-2006 to total 41,636. Largest industry supersectors included trade, transportation & utilities; government (largely public education); and education & health services. Together these three comprised over half of all area employment. The fastest growing sector, however, was professional & business services (primarily in administrative & support services), expanding by over 22% (580 jobs). Manufacturing sustained a net loss, with a number of subsectors falling, but a few gaining. Although the population has been decreasing, the number of jobs has continued to grow, helping propel the decline in unemployment.

The Western Region's workforce (excluding federal workers) is nearly 53% female (compared to about half statewide), and 18% older workers (55+)—the latter an indication that the local job market may soon be impacted by the loss of experienced workers to retirements. Factors affecting workforce characteristics include: the mix of area industries and occupations, worker mobility, labor force participation, and population changes.

Labor Force 2007

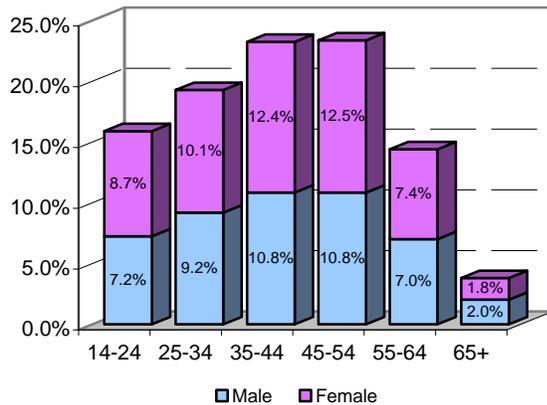


Unemployment Rates 2007



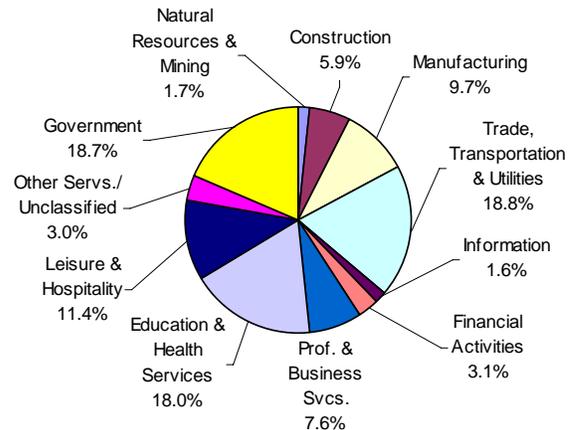
**Western Maryland Region**

**Workforce Distribution  
by Age & Sex 2006**



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

**Employment Distribution by Industry  
Super Sector-2006**



**Employment by Industry Supersector 2002-2006**

Title	Number of Jobs				Region Percent of State
	Western Region			Maryland 2006	
	2002	2006	Change		
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	40,635	41,636	1,001	2,530,225	1.7
Natural Resources & Mining	692	714	22	6,819	10.5
Construction	2,337	2,463	126	188,761	1.3
Manufacturing	4,496	4,050	-446	135,353	3.0
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	7,576	7,807	231	470,870	1.7
Information	669	661	-8	50,017	1.4
Financial Activities	1,111	1,306	195	157,741	0.8
Professional & Business Svcs.	2,590	3,170	580	395,232	0.8
Education & Health Services	6,990	7,509	519	349,308	2.2
Leisure & Hospitality	4,856	4,741	-115	229,905	2.1
Other Services/Unclassified	1,513	1,417	-96	90,726	1.6
Government	7,805	7,798	-7	455,493	1.7

**Largest Private  
Industry Subsectors  
2006 Annual Averages**

Title	Jobs	Weekly Wage
Food services & drinking places	3,278	\$214
Hospitals	2,682	703
Ambulatory health care svcs.	1,981	865
Nursing & resident. care facilities	1,889	423
Administrative & support svcs.	1,830	333
General merchandise stores	1,359	302
Specialty trade contractors	1,286	634
Construction of buildings	1,041	530
Food & beverage stores	1,036	290
Furniture & relat. product mfg.	816	526

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

Employer	Industry	Size Class
ACS Commercial Solutions	Admin. & Support	500-999
Garrett County Memorial Hosp.	Health	250-499
Hunter Douglas Northeast	Manufacturing	500-999
Infosperix Inc.	Admin. & Support	250-499
McDonalds	Food Services	250-499
Memorial Hospital & Medical Ctr.	Health	1,000+
Recreational Industries Inc.	Amuse. & Rec.	250-499
Sacred Heart Hospital	Health	1,000+
Walmart	Retail Trade	250-499
Westvaco	Manufacturing	500-999

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