

PORT OF BALTIMORE

The Port of Baltimore has a vital role in Maryland's economic development, generating almost \$1.3 billion in economic benefits and supporting 87,000 jobs. Closer to the Midwest than any other East Coast port, the Port is within an overnight drive of one-third of the nation's population. It serves over 50 ocean carriers making nearly 2,100 annual visits. The Port's container capacity increased by 50% with the opening in 1990 of Seagirt Marine Terminal, a 260-acre center for automated cargo-handling. General cargo moving through the State's five marine terminals in 1994 increased dramatically to 6,329,079 short tons, up 16.9 % from 1993.

In 1994, all major cargo categories—containers; automobiles, steel, farm and construction equipment, wood pulp, and other breakbulk commodities; and project cargoes such as prefabricated buildings—recorded strong growth. Containerized cargo exports totaled 2.4 million short tons, and imports totaled 2.3 million short tons.

The center of international commerce for the region is the World Trade Center—Baltimore. It houses the Maryland Port Administration and U.S. headquarters for several major shipping lines.

Chief Exports: coal, corn, soybeans, lignite, coal coke, petroleum, and fuel oils.

Chief Imports: automobiles and small trucks, iron ore, petroleum products, gypsum, sugar, cement, bauxite, salt, crude mineral substances, fertilizer and fertilizer materials, and ferroalloys. Baltimore also continues to grow as a major distributor of imported wood pulp and paper.

RIVERS

Principal Rivers: Back, Bush, Chester, Choptank, Elk, Great Bohemia, Gunpowder, Magothy, Middle, Miles, Nanticoke, Northeast, Patapsco, Patuxent, Pocomoke, Potomac, Sassafra, Severn, South, Susquehanna, Tred Avon, Wicomico, Wye.

SEAFOOD PRODUCTION

A prominent producer and processor of seafood, Maryland is a national leader in producing blue crabs and soft clams.

<i>1994 Landings</i>	<i>Dockside Value</i>
Crabs 43,537,000 lbs. . . .	\$40,443,000
Finfish 10,319,000 lbs. . . .	\$ 6,888,000
Oysters 128,000 bu. . . .	\$ 2,630,000
Soft Clams 37,000 bu. . . .	\$ 3,008,000
Total	\$52,969,000

SPORTS

Maryland is home to four professional sports teams. The Baltimore Orioles baseball team plays in one of the nation's most hospitable stadiums, Oriole Park at Camden Yards. Maryland's USAir Arena in Lanham holds Bullets basketball and Capitals ice hockey. In the 1996 season, Baltimore will host the Ravens of the National Football League at Memorial Stadium. Run at Pimlico Race Course, the Preakness (one of three thoroughbred horse races in the world famous Triple Crown) contributes to Maryland's reputation as "horse country."

STATEHOOD

Maryland, on April 28, 1788, became the seventh state to ratify the federal Constitution.

TRANSPORTATION

- Baltimore Metro, Bus, Light Rail & MARC (410) 539-5000
- toll-free: 1-800-543-9809
- TDD (410) 333-2872
- Bus Call-A-Lift (410) 682-5438
- Bus—Montgomery County . . . (301) 217-RIDE
- Bus—Prince George's County . . (301) 883-5683
- Certification for seniors & people with disabilities (410) 333-3568
- Comments, complaints, commendations (410) 333-2354
- Lost & Found (410) 333-2387
- MARC (rail commuter) 1-800-325-RAIL
- Monthly Passes, MTA (MasterCard, VISA) (410) 767-8775
- Paratransit Service/ Mobility . . (410) 333-3535
- Washington Metrorail (202) 637-7000

Bus. Bus transportation is provided by the Mass Transit Administration (MTA), the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), and local buses. Statewide, MTA operates commuter bus routes linking metropolitan areas, funds general bus transportation for elderly and disabled persons, and supports local public transportation funding in many counties and small cities. MTA provides privately contracted commuter bus service from Annapolis, Charlotte Hall, Columbia, Crofton, Frederick, Hagerstown, Huntingtown, Kent Island, North Beach, Silver Spring, and Waldorf to Washington, DC, or to a Metrorail station. MTA also operates over 60 bus routes in the Baltimore area. With suburban service from Annapolis, Bel Air, Columbia, Havre de Grace, Laurel, and White Marsh to downtown Baltimore, 860 buses serve more than 250,000 passengers daily. Passengers with disabilities may use regularly scheduled lift-equipped service; Call-A-Lift on bus routes without regularly scheduled accessible buses; and Mobility, a van and taxi service for those who cannot use MTA buses. In winter, MTA Shelter Shuttle transports homeless individuals and families to city-run shelters nightly. In Montgomery