

DISTANCES

Longest east-west, 198.6 miles—Fairfax Stone to Delaware Line; north-south, 125.5 miles—Pennsylvania line to Virginia line at Smith Point on south-shore mouth of Potomac River; shortest north-south, 1.9 miles—Pennsylvania line to south bank of Potomac River near Hancock; farthest points northwest corner to southeast corner at Atlantic Ocean, 254.7 miles.

LOCATION

Highway distance from Central Maryland (in miles): Boston, 392; Chicago, 668; New York City, 196; Philadelphia, 96; Pittsburgh, 218; Richmond, 143; Washington, D.C., 37.

CLIMATE

Generally moderate, varies from mild to hot in summer, and in winter from moderate in the east and south to very cold in the western mountains. Average annual rainfall: 42.90 inches. Average seasonal snowfall: 25 inches, ranging from 10 inches on the southern Eastern Shore to 110 inches in Garrett County. Average annual temperature: 54.6 degrees Fahrenheit, with high temperatures in July, the warmest month, averaging in the low 80s and the low temperatures in January, the coldest month, averaging in the low 30s. Duration of the freeze-free period averages 185 days, ranging from 130 days in Garrett County to 230 days in the southern Chesapeake Bay area.

CHESAPEAKE BAY

195 miles long with 1,726 square miles in Maryland and 1,511 square miles in Virginia. Varies in width from 3 to 20 miles. Navigable for ocean-going ships; two outlets to the Atlantic Ocean, one through the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal and one through the mouth of the Bay between the Virginia capes. The William Preston Lane, Jr. Memorial Bridge (Chesapeake Bay Bridge) spans 4.2 miles between Sandy Point, Anne Arundel County, and Kent Island, Queen Anne's County.

CHIEF RIVERS

Potomac, Wye, Patuxent, Susquehanna, Choptank, Nanticoke, Elk, Magothy, Patapsco, Sassafras, South, Severn, Gunpowder, Tred Avon, Bush, Miles, Chester, Northeast, Wicomico, Pocomoke, and Great Bohemia.

BOATING WATERS

Twenty-three rivers and bays with more than 400 miles of water tributary to the Chesapeake Bay; Chincoteague Bay with 35 miles of water accessible to and from the Atlantic Ocean; 714 boat ramps and 42,545 boat slips (1986 est.).

WATER FRONTAGE

Sixteen of the 23 counties and Baltimore City border on tidal water. Length of tidal shoreline, including islands, 4,360 miles.

FOREST AREA

More than 2,798,000 acres, or approximately 44% of the land surface. Chief forest products are lumber, pulpwood, and piling. Nine State forests, one State forest nursery, and two demonstration areas cover 131,822 acres.

STATE PARKS & RECREATION AREAS

Thirty-five operational State parks covering 73,159 acres; 87 lakes and ponds open to public fishing; 9 State forests and portions of 15 State parks open to public hunting; 34 wildlife management areas, covering 83,023 acres, open to public hunting; 6 natural environment areas containing 13,753 acres.

LABOR FORCE & EMPLOYMENT, 1987

Total Civilian Labor Force.....	2,402,000
employed (95.8%)	2,300,000
unemployed (4.2%)	102,000
Employed in Agriculture (12.3%)	282,400
Employed in Manufacturing (9%)	207,200
durable goods.....	110,000
nondurable goods	97,200
Employed in Government (16.9%)	389,200
local	169,500
state	89,800
federal.....	129,900
Employed in Private Sector Nonmanufacturing Industry (61.8%)	1,421,200
services	535,300
mining	1,900
trade	516,700
retail.....	407,200
wholesale	109,500
construction	150,200
finance, insurance, real estate	124,300
transportation, communications, public utilities.....	92,800

ECONOMIC GROWTH, 1980—1986

Economic Growth Rate

Maryland	+13.6%
U.S.	+10.2%

Average Weekly Wage

	1980	1986	
Maryland	\$267	\$386	+44.6%
U.S.	\$276	\$389	+39.1%

Between 1980 and 1986, the service industry grew at a rate of 41.7%, three times faster than other industries. This sector of the economy consists mainly of establishments providing services to individuals, businesses, and government. It includes