

to Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore City is scheduled to open in 1994. Commuters between Washington, DC, and the Maryland suburbs are served by *Metro*rail, operated by the WMATA and financially supported by the Maryland Department of Transportation. Metro rail has 70 miles in operation, with 22 stations in Montgomery and Prince George's counties.

**Light Rail.** The main leg of the first light rail line in Maryland, with electric-powered trains that will run mostly on existing railroad rights-of-way, is due to be completed in 1992. Called the *Central Corridor Light Rail Line*, it will be operated by MTA and eventually will link the region from Hunt Valley north of Baltimore, through Baltimore City, to Baltimore-Washington International (BWI) Airport and Glen Burnie in Anne Arundel County.

**Railroad.** The State currently runs three commuter train lines. Two Baltimore-Washington lines and a Brunswick-Washington line form the *Maryland Rail Commuter Service (MARC)*, carrying nearly 16,000 passengers each weekday. In the spring of 1991, commuter rail service will extend north to Baltimore, Harford and southern Cecil counties. The State Railroad Administration contracts out operations for four freight lines on Maryland's Eastern Shore and two through Frederick and Carroll counties, covering over 100 miles. Additional train service is provided by Amtrak (passengers) and CSX Transportation (freight). Of historical note, the Baltimore and Ohio (B & O) Railroad Company was chartered by the General Assembly in 1827 to construct a transportation link to the west, establishing the nation's first long-distance railway.

## EDUCATION

**Public School Enrollment (1990-91):** 715,176 students in 757 elementary schools, 211 middle/combined schools, and 234 high schools in 24 local school systems. Average cost per pupil (1989-90) including transportation: \$5,400 (est.); average State contribution per pupil: \$1,116. Minimum number of required school days per year: 180.

Public high school graduates (1990): 41,566, or 73% of 1986-87 ninth graders. Those intending to continue their education: 82.3% (76.9% in a college or university and 5.4% in a trade or business school); to work: 25.2%; and to enter military service: 5.3%. On Scholastic Aptitude Test (S.A.T.) scores Maryland ranks 2nd in the nation among states where more than half of the students take the test.

**Nonpublic School Enrollment (1989):** 133,798 students in 853 schools.

**Special Public School Programs.** In the 1989-90 school year, 88,480 students received special educa-

tion services to facilitate learning with a disability. Services range from assistance for part or all of a regular school day, to specialized services for students in separate facilities, hospitals, or homebound programs. Prekindergarten programs served 12,238 four-year olds; 131,759 students participated in vocational-technical educational programs. Gifted and talented programs were conducted by the State, on a tuition basis, at 13 summer centers for 2,600 students who qualified academically, met geographical distribution requirements, and were able to meet the cost. In correctional institutions, 2,489 inmates completed educational programs: 839 earned 8th grade certifications; 504 received high school diplomas; 1,146 completed vocational programs; and 81 received postsecondary degrees.

**Public School Teachers.** 19,100 elementary school teachers; 8,915 middle/combined school teachers; and 13,302 high school teachers. Estimated average salary in 1989-90 was \$36,304 (a 17.4% increase from the 1987-88 school year) compared to a national average of \$31,304.

**Higher Education.** Maryland has a three-part system of public higher education that consists of 19 community colleges; 2 four-year colleges and universities (St. Mary's College of Maryland, a liberal arts institution, and Morgan State University); and 11 campuses of the University of Maryland System.

Among independent postsecondary institutions are 4 two-year colleges; 20 four-year colleges and universities; and approximately 206 proprietary schools. The U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis is a federal institution. Postgraduate professional degree programs are offered in medicine by the University of Maryland at Baltimore and The Johns Hopkins University; in dentistry by the University of Maryland at Baltimore; and in law by the University of Maryland at Baltimore and the University of Baltimore.

**University of Maryland System** includes University of Maryland at Baltimore; University of Maryland College Park; Bowie State University; Towson State University; University of Maryland Eastern Shore; Frostburg State University; Coppin State College; Salisbury State University; University of Baltimore; University of Maryland University College; and University of Maryland Baltimore County, with University of Maryland College Park designated the "flagship" institution for the System. In addition to these eleven campuses, the System includes four major research and educational components: the Center for Environmental and Estuarine Studies, the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station, the Maryland Cooperative Extension Service, and the Maryland Biotechnology Institute.