



The Old Line State

Established 1788

7th State

EXTREMES

Coldest: Oakland recorded a temperature of -40°F (-40°C) on 13 January 1912.

Hottest: The temperature twice reached 109°F (43°C) in Cumberland: on 3 July 1898 and 10 July 1936.

Lowest: The lowest elevation is sea level along the coast.



Did You Know?

- The National Aquarium is located in Baltimore's Inner Harbor.
- The United States Naval Academy was founded at Annapolis.
- After escaping from slavery, Harriet Tubman, a native of Maryland, risked death to return to the South 19 times to help other slaves to freedom!
- The Maryland state flag is one of the oldest in the nation.
- Loveville, Ladiesburg, and Friendly are names of towns in Maryland.
- Elizabeth Ann Seton, who started the Sisters of Charity in Maryland, was the first person born in the United States to be named a saint.
- Maryland claims the first umbrella factory and the first dental school in the States.
- Annapolis was once called the Athens of America.
- The Methodist Church of America was officially organized in Maryland.
- Some say Babe Ruth, a Marylander, could predict his home runs. Once, after two strikes, he pointed to centerfield and then hit a homer right where he pointed.

The Place

Climate

If you were to visit Maryland in July, you could find the day hot and humid or warm and dry, depending on where you were. The east is much hotter than the west, mainly because humidity can reach 100 percent. That much humidity in 90°F (32°C) weather

can make you feel like you are in a steam room! In winter, the western region can get much colder than the east. While it rarely snows along the coast, the west frequently sees snowstorms and below-freezing weather.

Geography

For being such a small state, the ninth smallest, Maryland has a diverse landscape. The land ranges from swampy flatlands in the east to forested mountains and steep valleys in the west. The Chesapeake Bay dominates the state. The Chesapeake is an *estuary*, a place where freshwater meets saltwater. Many birds of all kinds make their home along the bay and in the swamps. Three main regions cover Maryland. The southeast region, called the Coastal Plain, has sandy soils along the coast and swamps inland. Farther west and north lies the Piedmont. This area has rolling hills and fertile soils where most of the farming is done. The westernmost area is the Appalachian region. The highest mountains in the state can be found there, as well as most of the forests. Not many large animals remain in these forests—only some black bear and deer. Many smaller animals make their homes there.

Resources and Economy



Most Marylanders used to be involved in farming. Today, farms occupy one-third of the land but provide only 2 percent of the state's income. Chicken and corn are the main farm products. Many Marylanders are employed in service jobs. Government workers are one example. Many who work in Washington, D.C., live in Maryland, and several federal agencies are centered in the state. Manufacturing food products and chemicals are another source of income. Drinks, baked goods, and sweets are some of the goods made in Maryland. Stone, sand, and gravel are used to make cement and concrete for buildings and roads. Coal is also mined and used to generate electricity. Marylanders take advantage of the miles of coastline for gathering crabs, oysters, and other seafood.

History

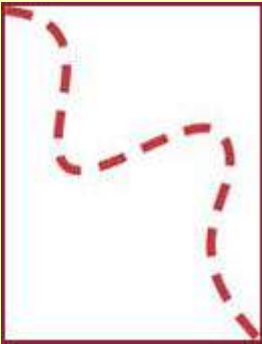
Time Line

A.D. 1500

A.D. 1524 Giovanni da Verrazano explores the coast



1631	William Claiborne starts a trading post on Kent Island
1634	Settlers reach Maryland and build Saint Marys
1694	Annapolis is named Maryland's capital
1700	
1729	Baltimore is established
1769	The Mason-Dixon Line is created
1774	The <i>Peggy Stewart</i> is burned
1783	Annapolis is named the U.S. capital
1784	The Treaty of Paris is signed in Annapolis
1788	Maryland joins the Union as the seventh state
1791	Maryland donates land for the new U.S. capital at Washington, D.C.
1800	
1814	Francis Scott Key writes "The Star-Spangled Banner"
1862	The Battle of Antietam is fought



1865

John Wilkes Booth, a Maryland actor, assassinates Abraham Lincoln



1876

Johns Hopkins University opens in Baltimore



1900

1938

Maryland adopts the first state income tax in the United States

1967

Thurgood Marshall becomes a Supreme Court justice

PRESENT

Early Inhabitants

The Native Americans in present-day Maryland used to live in homes called *wigwams*. They raised corn, peas, squash, and tobacco. They also hunted and gathered berries and oysters. Most of the people spoke Algonquian or a variation of it. When Europeans began to settle the area, the natives moved out of the land to avoid conflict. They left behind pottery and burial sites. Many place-names from their language are still used today, such as Chesapeake, Potomac, Choptank, and Piscataway.

European Settlement

Sir George Calvert, known as Lord Baltimore, was Catholic in a mainly Protestant England. He asked King Charles I for land in the new colonies, where all Christians could be free to worship as they chose. The king approved, but Lord Baltimore died before the deed was finished. His son Cecilius Calvert organized settlers and sent his brother to be the governor of the new area. When the new settlers reached the land, they bought a village from the Native Americans living there and named the place Saint Marys. However, a disagreement arose between the settlers of Maryland and Pennsylvania about where the border between their two regions was supposed to be. To resolve the dispute, the British government sent surveyors to establish what became known as the Mason-Dixon Line. This boundary between Pennsylvania and Maryland would also become the dividing line between free states and slave states, between North and South.

Revolution and Statehood

Like other colonists, Marylanders grew unhappy with British rule. The colonists' frustration with British taxes led them to burn a ship full of tea called the *Peggy Stewart*, as had been done at the Boston Tea Party. When war broke out, the state supplied many soldiers. George Washington called them "troops of the line" for their bravery, which is where the state's nickname, the Old Line State, came from. The Treaty of Paris, signed in Annapolis, formally ended the war. Maryland gave land and money to begin Washington, D.C. Only a few decades later, the young United States again went to war with England in the War of 1812. England first attacked the new capital and then Fort McHenry in Baltimore. When Francis Scott Key saw the flag still flying at the fort after the attack, he wrote our national anthem, "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Civil War: Tied to Two Sides



Tobacco became a valuable crop in Maryland, as it was in other Southern states, and most of it was farmed by slave labor. However, the state also had more free blacks than any other state and economic ties to the North. When the Civil War broke out, Maryland was drawn to both sides. Although soldiers volunteered for each side, the state never seceded from the nation. The war's bloodiest day was in Maryland at the Battle of Antietam, where both sides suffered heavy losses. Around 23,000 soldiers were killed or wounded.

Reform in Maryland

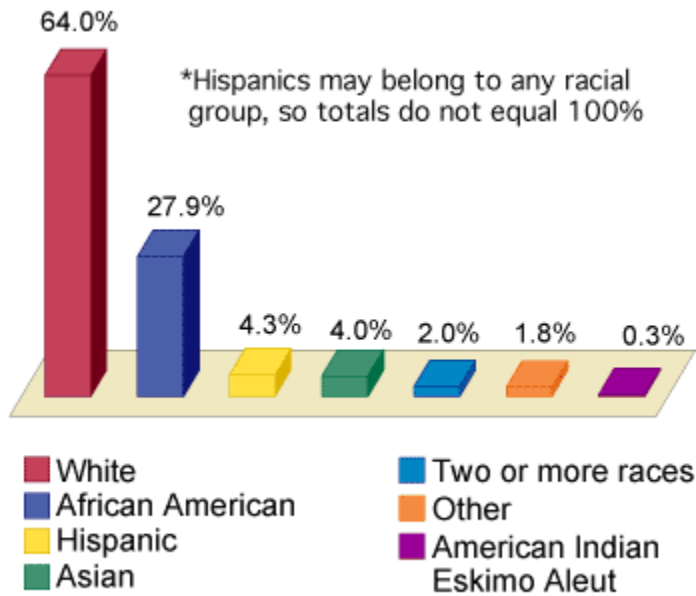
Marylanders have often worked to protect the health and welfare of ordinary citizens. For example, in 1894, Maryland enacted laws to protect children from being exploited as factory workers. The state also passed laws early on regulating food safety, strengthening the education system, and improving public health. After World War II, many Marylanders joined the fight for civil rights. Groups like the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) were and still are active. Although some whites have resisted, others have united with African-Americans to fight discrimination.

The People

Population

More people live in Maryland's cities than the countryside. In fact, only 19 percent of the population lives in rural areas. Maryland is the 18th most populated state in the nation, and Baltimore is Maryland's most populated city. It is part of a megalopolis stretching from the Washington, D.C., area to Boston, Massachusetts. A *megalopolis* is a densely populated area that usually includes more than one city. Although Annapolis is the capital and one of the oldest cities in the state, it is small—almost 20 times smaller than Baltimore.

Total Population: 5,458,137



Government

Capital: Annapolis

U.S. Senators: 2

U.S. Representatives: 8

Counties: 23

- The governor in Maryland has the power to appoint many officials, from county to state offices.
- Legislators meet in January for 90 days to pass all legislation, although in certain situations the governor can call special sessions.

Famous People

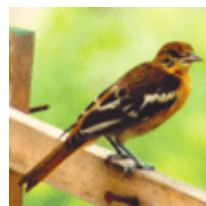
- *Babe Ruth* — Baseball player
- *Billie Holiday* — Jazz and blues singer
- *Cal Ripken Jr.* — Baseball player
- *Francis Scott Key* — Author of the national anthem
- *Frederick Douglass* — Freed slave and human-rights leader
- *Harriet Tubman* — Abolitionist
- *Rachel Carson* — Environmentalist and author
- *Thurgood Marshall* — Supreme Court justice
- *Upton Sinclair* — Author

Fun Facts & Contacts

State Symbols

State Bird

Baltimore oriole—This bird is yellow and black, which are the same colors found on the state flag.



State Crustacean

Maryland blue crab—Marylanders have many ways to prepare this delicious crab, commonly found along the shores.



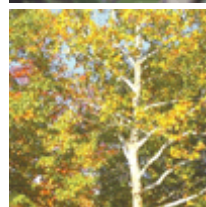
State Flower

Black-eyed Susan—In the forests and fields, this flower grows wild.



State Tree

White oak—One of the largest white oaks in the world was the Wye Oak, on the Eastern Shore, but it was blown over by a severe thunderstorm in 2002.



Cultural Note



Maryland has numerous historical sites—Antietam National Battlefield, Harper's Ferry National Historical Park, Fort McHenry, and Fort Frederick. The state is also the location of Camp David, a presidential retreat. But places aren't all the state is famous for. Maryland has produced baseball greats like Babe Ruth and Cal Ripken Jr. Other notable Marylanders contributed in the struggle for racial equality. Harriet Tubman, a slave herself, helped other slaves find their freedom through the *Underground Railroad*, a network of people who helped runaway slaves escape to the North or Canada. Thurgood Marshall, a Baltimorean, argued and won a landmark case called *Brown v. Board of Education*, which said schools must desegregate. Later, he became the first African-American Supreme Court justice.

For More Information

See www.state.md.us or contact the Maryland Division of Tourism, Department of Business and Economic Development, 217 East Redwood Street, Ninth Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202; phone (800) MD-IS-FUN; web site www.mdisfun.org.

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