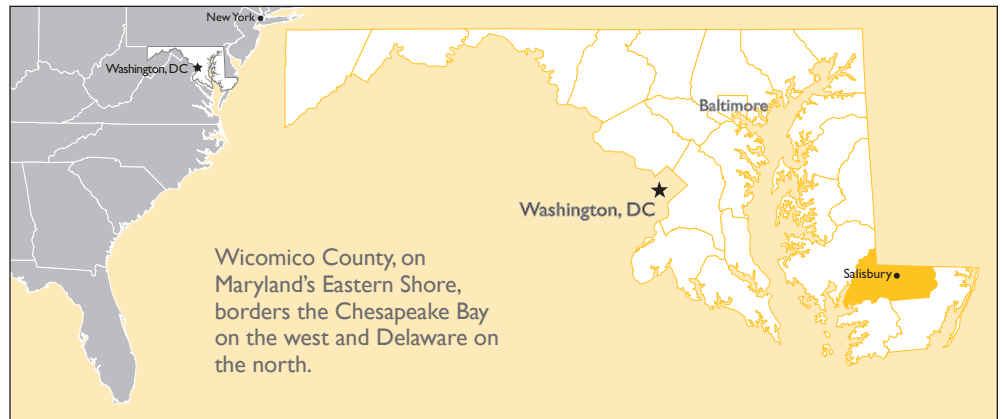


Brief Economic Facts

WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

With its strategic location along the East Coast and situated at the crossroads of Maryland's Lower Eastern Shore, Wicomico County serves as a hub for commerce, industry, health care, education and transportation. Situated halfway between the Atlantic Ocean and the Chesapeake Bay, cultural, recreational and civic amenities add to the lure of Wicomico, offering citizens a lifestyle second to none.

Wicomico is the number two agricultural producing county in Maryland, and ranks third in broiler chicken production. Popular crops include corn, soybeans, wheat and vegetables. In addition to agriculture and poultry, health care, educational sectors and a diverse industrial base offer stability and a firm foundation for Wicomico's economy. Jubilant Cadista Pharmaceuticals recently announced the addition of 200 new jobs associated with the expansion of its Salisbury headquarters and manufacturing facility.



LOCATION

Driving distance from Salisbury:	Miles	Kilometers
Atlanta, Georgia	692	1,114
Baltimore, Maryland	102	165
Boston, Massachusetts	430	692
Chicago, Illinois	793	1,276
New York, New York	219	353
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	131	210
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	324	521
Richmond, Virginia	212	341
Washington, DC	114	183

CLIMATE AND GEOGRAPHY¹

Yearly Precipitation (inches)	45.2
Yearly Snowfall (inches)	6.0
Summer Temperature (°F)	76.1
Winter Temperature (°F)	38.7
Days Below Freezing	76.0
Land Area (square miles)	379.1
Water Area (square miles)	14.4
Shoreline (miles)	361
Elevation (feet)	sea level to 73

Wicomico's 2,520 businesses employ 36,300 workers; nearly 50 of these businesses have 100 or more workers. Major employers are Chesapeake Shipbuilding, Delmarva Power, Jubilant Cadista Pharmaceuticals, K&L Microwave, MaTech, Peninsula Regional Medical Center, Perdue Farms, Salisbury University and Tishcon.

Wicomico County has a 4,220-acre State Enterprise Zones in Salisbury and a 129-acre zone in Fruitland.

POPULATION^{2,3}

	Wicomico County		Lower Eastern Shore*	Maryland
	Households	Population		
2000	32,218	84,644	155,934	5,296,486
2010	37,220	98,733	176,657	5,773,552
2020**	41,725	109,200	193,050	6,224,550

*Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester counties

**Projections

Selected places population (2010): Salisbury 30,343; Fruitland 4,866; Delmar 3,003; Pittsville 1,417; Hebron 1,084

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION^{2,3} (2014)

Age	Number	Percent
Under 5	6,030	5.9
5 - 19	21,251	20.9
20 - 44	34,100	33.6
45 - 64	25,539	25.2
65 and over	14,619	14.4
Total	101,539	100.0
Median age		35.5 years

Brief Economic Facts // WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

LABOR AVAILABILITY^{3,4,5} (BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE)

Civilian Labor Force (2015 avg. - prelim.)	County	Labor Mkt. Area*
Total civilian labor force	50,564	182,845
Employment	47,124	171,196
Unemployment	3,439	11,649
Unemployment rate	6.8%	6.4%

Residents commuting outside the county to work (2010-2014)	Number	Percent
	11,616	24.9%

Employment in selected occupations (2010-2014)	Number	Percent
Management, business, science and arts	16,388	34.5%
Service	9,478	19.9%
Sales and office	11,374	23.9%
Production, transp. and material moving	5,795	12.2%

*Wicomico, Somerset and Worcester counties, MD and Sussex County, DE

MAJOR EMPLOYERS^{6,7} (2015)

Employer	Product/Service	Employment
Peninsula Regional Med. Ctr.	Medical services	2,900
Salisbury University	Higher education	1,800
Perdue Farms	HQ / poultry processing	1,600
Walmart / Sam's Club	Consumer goods	750
Wor-Wic Comm. College	Higher education	431
Jubilant Cadista Pharma.	Generic pharmaceuticals	400
Labinal Salisbury	Electronics assembly	345
Genesis HealthCare / Salisbury Rehab. and Nurs. Ctr.	Nursing care	340
Delmarva Power	Energy products and svcs.	300
K&L Microwave	Electronics assembly	265
Dove Pointe	Services for the disabled	250
SHORE UP!	Social services	250
Three Lower Counties	Social services	250
BBSI	Staffing services	249
Boscov's	Consumer goods	249
Pepsi-Cola Bottling	Beverages	249
Verizon	Telecommunications	249
Piedmont/American Airlines	HQ / airline	220
McDonald's	Restaurants	185
Delaware Elevator	HQ / elevator installation	170
Macy's	Consumer goods	160
Darden Restaurants	Restaurants	150
Giant Food	Groceries	150
Lowe's	Home improvement prods.	150
MaTech	Precision machining	150
Sears / Kmart	Consumer goods	150

Excludes post offices, state and local governments; includes higher education

EMPLOYMENT⁴ (2014, BY PLACE OF WORK)

Industry	Estab-lishments	Annual Avg. Empl.	Emp. %	Avg. Wkly. Wage
Federal government	28	291	0.7	\$1,178
State government	13	2,772	6.3	819
Local government	47	4,762	10.8	779
Private sector	2,524	36,337	82.3	746
Natural resources and mining	31	296	0.7	657
Construction	279	1,851	4.2	866
Manufacturing	99	3,627	8.2	783
Trade, transportation and utilities	615	9,744	22.1	679
Information	22	517	1.2	1,043
Financial activities	258	1,615	3.7	924
Professional and business services	424	4,178	9.5	937
Education and health services	315	8,482	19.2	938
Leisure and hospitality	244	4,518	10.2	272
Other services	237	1,509	3.4	487
Total	2,612	44,162	100.0	757

Includes civilian employment only

HOURLY WAGE RATES⁴ (2015)

Selected Occupations	Median	Entry	Experienced
Accountants	\$24.25	\$16.00	\$31.50
Bookkeeping/accounting clerks	16.00	12.00	19.00
Computer user support specialists	20.25	14.25	25.25
Customer service representatives	13.50	10.00	17.50
Electronics engineering technicians	36.75	20.25	40.75
Freight, stock and material movers, hand	12.25	9.50	17.75
Industrial truck operators	14.75	9.00	16.50
Inspectors, testers, sorters	13.75	9.25	19.75
Maintenance workers, machinery	16.00	12.00	19.25
Network administrators	31.75	17.00	39.75
Packaging and filling machine operators	9.25	8.25	10.50
Packers and packagers, hand	9.75	8.25	11.00
Secretaries	14.75	10.50	18.00
Shipping/receiving clerks	13.00	9.75	14.75
Team assemblers	13.50	9.75	16.75
Telemarketers	11.50	8.50	14.25

Wages are an estimate of what workers might expect to receive on the Lower Eastern Shore (Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester counties) and may vary by industry, employer and locality

Brief Economic Facts // WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES^{3,8}

Educational Attainment - age 25 & over (2010-2014)

High school graduate or higher	87.0%
Bachelor's degree or higher	27.7%

Public Schools

Number: 16 elementary; 5 middle/combined; 3 high
Enrollment: 14,790 (Sept. 2015)
Cost per pupil: \$12,610 (2012-2013)
Students per teacher: 13.2 (Oct. 2014)
High school career / tech enrollment: 963 (2015)
High school graduates: 873 (July 2014)

Nonpublic Schools

Number: 16 (Sept. 2015)

Higher Education	Enrollment ('15)	Degrees ('14)
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2-year institution

Wor-Wic Community College	3,137	423
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4-year institution

Salisbury University	8,671	2,157
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The University of Maryland Eastern Shore is located in neighboring Somerset County.

TAX RATES⁹

	Wicomico Co.	Maryland
Corporate Income Tax (2016)	none	8.25%
Base – federal taxable income		
Personal Income Tax (2016)	3.20%	2.0%-5.75%*
Base – federal adjusted gross income		
*Graduated rate peaking at 5.75% on taxable income over \$300,000		
Sales & Use Tax (2016)	none	6.0%
Exempt – sales for resale; manufacturer's purchase of raw materials; manufacturing machinery and equipment; purchases of materials and equipment used in R&D and testing of finished products; purchases of computer programs for reproduction or incorporation into another computer program for resale		
Real Property Tax (FY 16)	\$0.9516	\$0.112
Effective rate per \$100 of assessed value		
In addition to this rate, there are some miscellaneous taxes and/or special taxing areas in the county; in an incorporated area, a municipal rate will also apply		
Business Personal Property Tax (FY 16)	\$2.1715	none
Rate per \$100 of depreciated value		
Exempt – manufacturing and R&D machinery, equipment, materials and supplies; manufacturing and R&D inventory		
Partially exempt – warehousing inventory (86% exempt; being phased out at 7% per year)		
In an incorporated area, a municipal rate will also apply; municipal exemptions may be available		
Major Tax Credits Available		
One Maryland, Enterprise Zone, Job Creation, R&D, Biotechnology and Cybersecurity Investment, Arts & Entertainment District		

INCOME³ (2010-2014)

Distribution	Percent Households		
	Wicomico Co.	Maryland	U.S.
Under \$25,000	23.4	15.4	23.2
\$25,000 - \$49,999	24.3	17.9	23.7
\$50,000 - \$74,999	19.6	17.2	17.8
\$75,000 - \$99,999	12.4	13.4	12.2
\$100,000 - \$149,999	13.0	18.1	13.0
\$150,000 - \$199,999	3.8	8.9	5.1
\$200,000 and over	3.4	9.1	5.0
Median household	\$52,301	\$74,149	\$53,482
Average household	\$68,847	\$97,135	\$74,596
Per capita	\$26,298	\$36,670	\$28,555
Total income (millions)	\$2,511	\$209,422	\$8,668,940

HOUSING^{2,3,10}

Occupied Units (2010-2014) 36,479 (63.1% owner occupied)

Housing Transactions (2014)	Units	Median Selling Price
All arms-length transactions	728	\$150,000
All multiple-listed properties*	921	\$135,975

*Excludes auctions and FSBO

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY⁶

Industrial sites in the county range from one to 300 acres.

Northwood Industrial Park in the Salisbury area has a total of 350 acres with 50 acres available.

Air Business Center (ABC) has sites with direct runway access for air-related business uses. Long-term land leases are available.

Fruitland Industrial Park has a total of 110 acres with municipal services and rail access.

Westwood Commerce Park, at the intersection of U.S. Route 50 and the Salisbury Bypass, offers 260 acres served by Salisbury city water and sewer, as well as natural gas and high-speed voice and data lines.

Salisbury Airport Incubator provides below market lease rates with flexible terms to technology-oriented firms.

Business Incubator

Salisbury Airport Incubator, Salisbury

Market Profile Data (2015)	Low	High	Average
Land – cost per acre			
Industrial	\$17,000	\$125,000	\$40,000
Office	\$22,000	\$250,000	\$60,000
Rental Rates – per square foot			
Warehouse / Industrial	\$2.00	\$7.00	\$4.50
Flex / R&D / Technology	\$5.00	\$14.00	\$9.50
Class A Office	\$6.50	\$15.00	\$11.00

Brief Economic Facts // WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

TRANSPORTATION

Highways: U.S. 13 and U.S. 50

Rail: Norfolk Southern Railway

Truck: 67 local and long-distance trucking establishments are located on the Lower Eastern Shore

Water: Wicomico River, 14 ft. channel at Salisbury; Port of Salisbury is the second largest in Maryland; also served by the Port of Baltimore, 50' channel; a leading U.S. automobile and break-bulk port; seven public terminals including the state-of-the-art Intermodal Container Transfer Facility

Air: The Salisbury-Ocean City Wicomico Regional Airport, 4.5 miles east of Salisbury, offers runway lengths of 5000' and 6400', a full instrument landing service (ILS), aviation fuel, charter service, and an industrial park with runway access; commercial passenger service provided by USAirways Express to Philadelphia and Charlotte; airport is home to numerous corporate clients, a small business incubator and a FedEx distribution center; UPS has a regional distribution center in Salisbury

RECREATION AND CULTURE

Parks and Recreation: Five state parks provide camping and natural beauty; other activities include swimming, fishing—including deep sea fishing—boating, golfing, skeet, trap and silhouette shooting, hiking, biking, canoeing, bird watching, and country and yacht club activities

Sports: Collegiate athletic events, tennis and professional golf tournaments; horse racing (trotting) at Ocean Downs; a Hunt Club/Pony Club; Wicomico County is home to the Delmarva Shorebirds, a Class A minor league affiliate of the Baltimore Orioles

Cultural: Summer band, big band, and rock music concerts; national country western shows; the Salisbury Symphony; dinner theater plays; a Council of Arts serves the area, as does the largest civic center on the Delmarva Peninsula

Arts & Entertainment District: Salisbury

Attractions: Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art, antique auto clubs and shows, and a first-class zoo

Events: Salisbury Festival, Pork in the Park, Autumn Wine Festival, Good Beer Festival celebrating craft beers, World Wildfowl Carving Show, and tours of historic homes

UTILITIES

Electricity: Delmarva Power and Choptank Electric Cooperative, Inc.; customers of investor-owned utilities and major cooperatives may choose their electric supplier

Gas: Natural gas supplied by Chesapeake Utilities Corporation; customers may choose their gas supplier

Water: Municipal systems in Delmar, Fruitland, Hebron, Pittsville, Salisbury, Sharptown and Willards

Sewer: Municipal systems in Delmar, Fruitland, Hebron, Pittsville, Salisbury, Sharptown, Willards and Air Business Center

Telecommunications: Predominant local carrier - Verizon Maryland; long distance carriers - AT&T, Verizon, Sprint Nextel and others; AT&T, Verizon and Sprint Nextel PoPs are located in Salisbury

GOVERNMENT¹¹

County Seat: Salisbury

Government: County executive; seven council members (two elected at large and five from districts) for four-year terms; charter form of government allows for the separation of the executive from the legislative branch; lawmaking powers are vested in an elected legislative body

Robert L. Culver, Jr., County Executive 410.548.4801

John T. Cannon, President, County Council 410.548.4696

Website: www.wicomicocounty.org

County Bond Rating: AA+ (S&P); Aa2 (Moody's); AA (Fitch)

Salisbury-Wicomico Economic Development, Inc.

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www.swed.org

Sources:

- 1 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (1981-2010 normals); Maryland Geological Survey
- 2 Maryland Department of Planning
- 3 U.S. Bureau of the Census
- 4 Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, Office of Workforce Information and Performance
- 5 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
- 6 Salisbury-Wicomico Economic Development, Inc.
- 7 Maryland Department of Commerce
- 8 Maryland State Department of Education; Maryland Higher Education Commission
- 9 Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation; Comptroller of the Treasury
- 10 Maryland Association of Realtors
- 11 Maryland State Archives; Maryland Association of Counties