**population trends**

Current population: 1 million+
- 1990 population: 873,000
- 2030 projected population: 1.15 million
- 2040 projected population: 1.2 million

1/3 of residents are foreign born
Net gains from international migration 2013-2014: 10,000 migrants

39% of residents speak a language other than English at home
150,000 residents are Limited English Proficient

1 in 8 residents is age 65+
By 2030, 1 in 5 will be age 65+

1 in 4 residents is age zero to 19
This % projected to remain steady

**cost of living and financial health**

Cost of living in the county is the highest in Maryland and among the highest in the nation
According to the Self-Sufficiency Standard, to afford basic necessities households with two children must earn well over $80,000, which is the equivalent of more than 4.5 full-time jobs paying the county’s minimum wage ($8.40 per hour).

A family with 2 adults, 1 preschooler and 1 school-age child needs to bring home $83,000 a year to achieve self-sufficiency

Average child care cost: $12,273 for an infant and $13,017 for a preschooler
Child care costs are the highest in the state

More than 1/3 of MCPS students participate in FARMS (Free and Reduced-Price Meals)
44% (68,000) of current students have received FARMS now or in the past

Who lacks health insurance?
- 3.3% of non-Hispanic whites
- 13.2% of Asian residents
- 14.9% of African American residents
- 24.5% of foreign born residents
- 26.6% of Hispanic / Latino residents
- 36.9% of unemployed residents

Cost of housing in the county increased 62% between 2001 and 2014
During the same time, wages increased by only 17%
Median rent for an apartment in 2013: $1,439
80% of households earning under $35,000 spend more than 30% of income on housing
62% of senior renters spend more than 35% of income on housing
education

57.1% of residents age 25+ have a college degree
30.7% of residents have a graduate or professional degree, while 8.8% have not finished high school

78% of MCPS graduating seniors in 2012 enrolled at a college or university within 16 months of graduation
College enrollment rates vary by race/ethnicity and income:
- 86% of non-Hispanic white graduates
- 85% of Asian graduates
- 75% of African American graduates
- 63% of Hispanic / Latino graduates
- 65% of students receiving FARMS

MCPS has a 4-year cohort graduation rate of 87.4%
Dropout rate for MCPS students hovers around 7%
(700-800 students each year)

MCPS enrollment increased by more than 14,000 from 2008 to 2014
Current enrollment is around 156,000, with continued growth expected. During the same time frame:
- Free and Reduced-Price Meals (FARMS) increased from 37,692 to 54,099 students
- English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) grew from 16,250 to 21,463 students

Latinos/Hispanics make up more than one quarter (27%) of students enrolled in MCPS
In kindergarten and first grade, there are now more Hispanic students (30.7%) than white students (30%)

employment and wages

2015 labor force: 553,075
2000 labor force: 477,000
2030 projected labor force: 632,000

Median annual wage: $50,324 ($24.25 per hour)
Median wages vary greatly by industry/job:

HR Manager - $142,431
Pharmacist - $127,046
Electrical Engineer - $108,607
Physical Therapist - $100,275
Database Administrator - $99,785
Elementary School Teacher - $67,729
Graphic Designer - $64,507
Registered Nurse - $57,610
Mental Health Counselor - $50,137
Machinist - $46,058
Insurance Sales Agent - $40,531
Delivery Driver - $36,658
Nursing Assistant - $29,766
Bank Teller - $29,439
Home Health Aide - $26,891
Hotel/Motel Desk Clerk - $26,423
Landscaping Worker - $26,271
Food Prep Worker - $23,539

Unemployment rate July 2015: 4.1%
(22,646 unemployed workers)
Unemployment rate peaked at 6.2% in January 2010 (up from 2.5% in 2007)