[Template:About](/wiki/Template:About" \o "Template:About) [Template:Use mdy dates](/wiki/Template:Use_mdy_dates) [Template:Infobox settlement](/wiki/Template:Infobox_settlement)

**Baltimore** ([Template:IPAc-en](/wiki/Template:IPAc-en), locally: [Template:IPA-all](/wiki/Template:IPA-all)) is the largest city in the [U.S. state](/wiki/U.S._state) of [Maryland](/wiki/Maryland), and the [29th-most populous city](/wiki/List_of_United_States_cities_by_population) in the country. It was established by the [Constitution of Maryland](/wiki/Constitution_of_Maryland)[[1]](#cite_note-1) and is not part of any county, thus it is the largest [independent city](/wiki/Independent_city_(United_States)) in the United States. Baltimore has more public monuments than any other city per capita in the country and is home to some of the earliest National Register historic districts in the nation, including [Fell's Point](/wiki/Fell's_Point,_Baltimore) (1969), [Federal Hill](/wiki/Federal_Hill,_Baltimore) (1970) and [Mount Vernon Place](/wiki/Mount_Vernon,_Baltimore) (1971). More than 65,000 properties, or roughly one in three buildings in the city, are listed on the [National Register](/wiki/National_Register_of_Historic_Places), more than any other city in the nation.[[2]](#cite_note-2)[[3]](#cite_note-3) Founded in 1729, Baltimore is the second largest seaport in the [Mid-Atlantic](/wiki/Mid-Atlantic_states).<ref name=Hughes>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> Baltimore's [Inner Harbor](/wiki/Inner_Harbor) was once the second leading port of entry for immigrants to the United States and a major manufacturing center.[[4]](#cite_note-4) After a decline in major manufacturing, industrialization and rail transportation, Baltimore shifted to a service-oriented economy, with the [Johns Hopkins Hospital](/wiki/Johns_Hopkins_Hospital) (founded 1889), and [Johns Hopkins University](/wiki/Johns_Hopkins_University) (founded 1876), now the city's top two employers.[[5]](#cite_note-5) Baltimore had a population of 621,849 in 2015; in 2010, that of [Baltimore Metropolitan Area](/wiki/Baltimore_Metropolitan_Area) was 2.7 million, the [21st largest](/wiki/List_of_metropolitan_areas_of_the_United_States) in the country.[[6]](#cite_note-6)[[7]](#cite_note-7) With hundreds of identified districts, Baltimore has been dubbed "a city of neighborhoods". Famous residents have included the writers [Edgar Allan Poe](/wiki/Edgar_Allan_Poe), [Edith Hamilton](/wiki/Edith_Hamilton), [Frederick Douglass](/wiki/Frederick_Douglass), and [H.L. Mencken](/wiki/H.L._Mencken); jazz musician [James "Eubie" Blake](/wiki/Eubie_Blake); singer [Billie Holiday](/wiki/Billie_Holiday); actor and filmmaker [John Waters](/wiki/John_Waters); and baseball player [Babe Ruth](/wiki/Babe_Ruth). In the [War of 1812](/wiki/War_of_1812), [Francis Scott Key](/wiki/Francis_Scott_Key) wrote [*The Star-Spangled Banner*](/wiki/The_Star-Spangled_Banner), later the American [national anthem](/wiki/National_anthem), in the city.[[8]](#cite_note-8) Almost a quarter of the jobs in the Baltimore region are in science, technology, engineering and math, in part attributed to its extensive undergraduate and graduate schools.[[9]](#cite_note-9)

## Contents

* 1 History[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=1)]
  + 1.1 Etymology[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=2)]
  + 1.2 17th century[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=3)]
  + 1.3 18th and 19th centuries[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=4)]
  + 1.4 20th century[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=5)]
  + 1.5 21st century[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=6)]
* 2 Geography[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=7)]
  + 2.1 Cityscape[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=8)]
    - 2.1.1 Architecture[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=9)]
    - 2.1.2 Tallest buildings[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=10)]
    - 2.1.3 Neighborhoods[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=11)]
      * 2.1.3.1 Central Baltimore[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=12)]
      * 2.1.3.2 North Baltimore[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=13)]
      * 2.1.3.3 South Baltimore[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=14)]
      * 2.1.3.4 Northeast Baltimore[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=15)]
      * 2.1.3.5 East Baltimore[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=16)]
      * 2.1.3.6 Southeast Baltimore[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=17)]
      * 2.1.3.7 Northwest Baltimore[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=18)]
      * 2.1.3.8 West Baltimore[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=19)]
      * 2.1.3.9 Southwest Baltimore[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=20)]
  + 2.2 Adjacent communities[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=21)]
  + 2.3 Climate[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=22)]
* 3 Demographics[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=23)]
  + 3.1 Religion[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=24)]
  + 3.2 Languages[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=25)]
  + 3.3 Crime[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=26)]
* 4 Economy[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=27)]
  + 4.1 Port[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=28)]
  + 4.2 Tourism[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=29)]
* 5 Culture[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=30)]
  + 5.1 Cuisine[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=31)]
  + 5.2 Local dialect[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=32)]
  + 5.3 Performing arts[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=33)]
* 6 Sports[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=34)]
  + 6.1 Baseball[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=35)]
  + 6.2 Football[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=36)]
  + 6.3 Other teams and events[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=37)]
* 7 Parks and recreation[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=38)]
* 8 Government[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=39)]
  + 8.1 City government[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=40)]
    - 8.1.1 Mayor[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=41)]
    - 8.1.2 Baltimore City Council[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=42)]
    - 8.1.3 Law enforcement[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=43)]
    - 8.1.4 Baltimore City Fire Department[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=44)]
  + 8.2 State government[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=45)]
    - 8.2.1 State agencies[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=46)]
  + 8.3 Federal government[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=47)]
* 9 Education[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=48)]
  + 9.1 Colleges and universities[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=49)]
    - 9.1.1 Private[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=50)]
    - 9.1.2 Public[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=51)]
  + 9.2 Primary and secondary schools[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=52)]
* 10 Transportation[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=53)]
  + 10.1 Roads and highways[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=54)]
  + 10.2 Transit systems[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=55)]
    - 10.2.1 Public transit[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=56)]
    - 10.2.2 Intercity rail[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=57)]
  + 10.3 Airports[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=58)]
  + 10.4 Pedestrians and bicycles[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=59)]
  + 10.5 Port of Baltimore[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=60)]
* 11 Environment[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=61)]
  + 11.1 Water Pollution Control[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=62)]
* 12 Media[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=63)]
* 13 Notable people[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=64)]
* 14 Sister cities[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=65)]
* 15 See also[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=66)]
* 16 Notes[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=67)]
* 17 References[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=68)]
* 18 External links[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=69)]

## History[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=1)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) The city has [289 properties listed](/wiki/National_Register_of_Historic_Places_listings_in_Baltimore,_Maryland) on the [National Register of Historic Places](/wiki/National_Register_of_Historic_Places).

The historical records of the government of Baltimore are located at the [Baltimore City Archives](/wiki/Baltimore_City_Archives).

### Etymology[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=2)]

The city is named after [Cecil Calvert, second Lord Baltimore](/wiki/Cecil_Calvert,_2nd_Baron_Baltimore),[[10]](#cite_note-10) (1605–1675),[[11]](#cite_note-11) of the [Irish House of Lords](/wiki/Irish_House_of_Lords) and founding proprietor of the [Province of Maryland](/wiki/Province_of_Maryland).[[12]](#cite_note-12)<ref name=egan>[Template:Citation](/wiki/Template:Citation)</ref> *Baltimore Manor* was the name of the estate in [County Longford](/wiki/County_Longford) on which the Calvert family lived in Ireland.<ref name=egan/>[[13]](#cite_note-13) Baltimore is an [anglicization](/wiki/Anglicization) of the [Irish](/wiki/Irish_language) name *Baile an Tí Mhóir*, meaning "town of the big house."<ref name=egan/>

### 17th century[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=3)]

In 1608, Captain [John Smith](/wiki/John_Smith_(explorer)) traveled 210 miles from [Jamestown](/wiki/Jamestown,_Virginia) to the uppermost [Chesapeake Bay](/wiki/Chesapeake_Bay), leading the first European expedition to the [Patapsco River](/wiki/Patapsco_River) [[14]](#cite_note-14) The name "Patapsco" is derived from *pota-psk-ut*, which translates to "backwater" or "tide covered with froth" in [Algonquian](/wiki/Eastern_Algonquian_languages) dialect.[[15]](#cite_note-15) A quarter century after John Smith's voyage, English colonists began to settle in Maryland. The area constituting the modern City of Baltimore and its metropolitan area was first settled by David Jones in 1661. He claimed the area known today as [Harbor East](/wiki/Harbor_East) on the east bank of the [Jones Falls](/wiki/Jones_Falls) stream, which flows south into Baltimore's [Inner Harbor](/wiki/Inner_Harbor).[[16]](#cite_note-16) In the early 1600s, the immediate Baltimore vicinity was sparsely populated, if at all, by [Native Americans](/wiki/Native_Americans). The Baltimore County area northward was used as hunting grounds by the [Susquehannocks](/wiki/Susquehannocks) living in the lower [Susquehanna River](/wiki/Susquehanna_River) valley who "controlled all of the upper tributaries of the Chesapeake" but "refrained from much contact with [Powhatan](/wiki/Powhatan) in the Potomac region." [[17]](#cite_note-17)Pressured by the Susquehannocks, the [Piscataway tribe](/wiki/Piscataway_tribe) of [Algonquians](/wiki/Algonquian_peoples) stayed well south of the Baltimore area and inhabited primarily the north bank of the [Potomac River](/wiki/Potomac_River) in what is now [Charles](/wiki/Charles_County,_Maryland) and southern [Prince George's](/wiki/Prince_George's_County,_Maryland) south of the [Fall Line](/wiki/Fall_Line).[[18]](#cite_note-18)[[19]](#cite_note-19)[[20]](#cite_note-20) The Baltimore area had been inhabited by [Native Americans](/wiki/Native_Americans_in_the_United_States) since at least the [10th millennium BC](/wiki/10th_millennium_BC), when [Paleo-Indians](/wiki/Paleo-Indians) first settled in the region. One Paleo-Indian site and several [Archaic period](/wiki/Archaic_period_in_North_America) and [Woodland period](/wiki/Woodland_period) archaeological sites have been identified in Baltimore, including four from the [Late Woodland period](/wiki/Late_Woodland_period).[[21]](#cite_note-21) During the Late Woodland period, the [archaeological culture](/wiki/Archaeological_culture) that is called the "Potomac Creek complex" resided in the area from Baltimore to the [Rappahannock River](/wiki/Rappahannock_River) in [Virginia](/wiki/Virginia).[[22]](#cite_note-22)

### 18th and 19th centuries[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=4)]

The colonial [General Assembly of Maryland](/wiki/Maryland_General_Assembly) created the [Port of Baltimore](/wiki/Helen_Delich_Bentley_Port_of_Baltimore) at old Whetstone Point (now [Locust Point](/wiki/Locust_Point,_Baltimore)) in 1706 for the tobacco trade. The Town of Baltimore was founded and laid out shortly thereafter on July 30, 1729, and is named after Lord Baltimore (Cecilius Calvert), who was the first [Proprietary Governor](/wiki/Proprietary_Governor) of the [Province of Maryland](/wiki/Province_of_Maryland). Cecilius Calvert was the oldest son of [Sir George Calvert](/wiki/George_Calvert,_1st_Baron_Baltimore), (1579–1632), who became the [First Lord Baltimore](/wiki/Baron_Baltimore) of [County Longford](/wiki/County_Longford), Ireland in 1625. Previously, he had been a loyal agent of [King Charles I of England](/wiki/Charles_I_of_England) (1600–1649) as his [Secretary of State](/wiki/Secretary_of_State_(England)) until declaring himself a follower of [Roman Catholicism](/wiki/Roman_Catholicism). Regardless, the King still gave his heir Cecil the 1632 grant for the Maryland colony. The colony was a followup to his earlier settlement in [Newfoundland](/wiki/Newfoundland), known as "Acadia" or "Avalon", (future [Canada](/wiki/Canada)), which he found too cold and difficult for habitation.[[23]](#cite_note-23) Baltimore grew swiftly in the 18th Century as a granary for [sugar-producing colonies in the Caribbean](/wiki/Sugar_plantations_in_the_Caribbean). The profit from sugar encouraged the cultivation of cane and the importation of food.[[24]](#cite_note-24) It was also during this time when Baltimore saw the establishment of its [public market system](/wiki/Baltimore_Public_Markets) in 1763.[[25]](#cite_note-25) [Lexington Market](/wiki/Lexington_Market), founded in 1782, continues to be known as one of the oldest continuously operating public markets in the [United States](/wiki/United_States) today.[[26]](#cite_note-26) Other firsts include: the first Post Office System in the United States (inaugurated in 1774)[[27]](#cite_note-27) and the first water company chartered in the United States (Baltimore Water Company, 1792).[[28]](#cite_note-28)[[29]](#cite_note-29) [thumb|left|Baltimore Town in 1752, (at "The Basin")](/wiki/File:Baltimore_in_1752.png) Baltimore played a key part in events leading to and including the [American Revolution](/wiki/American_Revolution). City leaders such as [Jonathan Plowman Jr.](/wiki/Jonathan_Plowman_Jr.) moved the city to join the resistance to British taxes, and merchants signed agreements to not trade with Britain.[[30]](#cite_note-30) The [Second Continental Congress](/wiki/Second_Continental_Congress) met in the [Henry Fite House](/wiki/Henry_Fite_House) from December 1776 to February 1777, effectively making the city the [capital of the United States](/wiki/List_of_capitals_in_the_United_States) during this period.[[31]](#cite_note-31) After the Revolutionary war, the Town of Baltimore, nearby [Jonestown](/wiki/Jonestown,_Baltimore), and an area known as [Fells Point](/wiki/Fells_Point,_Baltimore) were incorporated as the City of Baltimore in 1796–1797. The city remained a part of surrounding [Baltimore County](/wiki/Baltimore_County,_Maryland), where it had also served as the "[county seat](/wiki/County_seat)" since 1768, until 1851 when it was made an [independent city](/wiki/Independent_city), with the same status in state government as the other 23 counties of Maryland.[[32]](#cite_note-32) The city was the site of the [Battle of Baltimore](/wiki/Battle_of_Baltimore) during the [War of 1812](/wiki/War_of_1812). After [burning Washington, D.C.](/wiki/Burning_of_Washington), the British attacked Baltimore outside the eastern outskirts of town on the "Patapsco Neck" on September 12, at the [Battle of North Point](/wiki/Battle_of_North_Point), then on the night of September 13–14, 1814. United States forces from [Fort McHenry](/wiki/Fort_McHenry) successfully defended the city's harbor from the British. [Francis Scott Key](/wiki/Francis_Scott_Key), (1779–1843), a Maryland lawyer from [Georgetown](/wiki/Georgetown,_D.C.) and [Frederick](/wiki/Frederick,_Maryland), was aboard a British ship where he had been negotiating for the release of an American prisoner, Dr. [William Beanes](/wiki/William_Beanes).

[thumb|upright|right|Sixth Regiment fighting railroad strikers, July 20, 1877](/wiki/File:Harpers_8_11_1877_6th_Regiment_Fighting_Baltimore.jpg)[[33]](#cite_note-33)Key witnessed the bombardment from this ship and after seeing the huge [American flag](/wiki/Star-Spangled_Banner_Flag) on the morning of September 14, 1814, he wrote "[The Star-Spangled Banner](/wiki/The_Star-Spangled_Banner)", a poem recounting the attack. Key's poem was set to a 1780 tune by British composer [John Stafford Smith](/wiki/John_Stafford_Smith), and "The Star-Spangled Banner" became the official [national anthem](/wiki/National_anthem) of the United States in 1931.

[thumb|upright|left|The](/wiki/File:Balt_Battle_Monument_1a.jpg) [Battle Monument](/wiki/Battle_Monument) commemorates the [Battle of Baltimore](/wiki/Battle_of_Baltimore). This monument is the official emblem of the City of Baltimore.

Following the Battle of Baltimore, the city's population grew rapidly and was the first American city to illuminate its streets with hydrogen gas in 1816. The construction of the federally funded [National Road](/wiki/National_Road) (which later became part of [U.S. Route 40](/wiki/U.S._Route_40)) and the private [Baltimore and Ohio Railroad](/wiki/Baltimore_and_Ohio_Railroad) (B. & O.) made Baltimore a major shipping and manufacturing center by linking the city with major markets in the [Midwest](/wiki/Midwestern_United_States). A distinctive local culture started to take shape, and a unique skyline peppered with churches and monuments developed. Baltimore acquired its moniker "The Monumental City" after an 1827 visit to Baltimore by President [John Quincy Adams](/wiki/John_Quincy_Adams). At an evening function Adams gave the following toast: "Baltimore: the Monumental City—May the days of her safety be as prosperous and happy, as the days of her dangers have been trying and triumphant."[[34]](#cite_note-34) Baltimore suffered one of the worst riots of the antebellum [South](/wiki/Southern_United_States) in 1835, when bad investments led to the [Baltimore bank riot](/wiki/Baltimore_bank_riot).[[35]](#cite_note-35) Soon after the city pioneered in creating the world's first dental college the [Baltimore College of Dental Surgery](/wiki/University_of_Maryland_School_of_Dentistry) in 1840, and sharing [Samuel Morse's](/wiki/Samuel_Morse) invention of the world's first telegraph line between Baltimore and Washington DC in 1844.

Maryland remained part of the [Union](/wiki/Union_(American_Civil_War)) during the [American Civil War](/wiki/American_Civil_War) despite being a [slave state](/wiki/Slave_state), in addition to popular support for [secession](/wiki/Secession) in its southern and eastern regions, along with Baltimore, all of which benefited greatly from both the tobacco and slave trades.[[36]](#cite_note-36)[[37]](#cite_note-37) When [Union](/wiki/Union_Army) soldiers from the Sixth Massachusetts state militia and some unarmed [Pennsylvania state militia](/wiki/Pennsylvania_National_Guard) known as the "Washington Brigade" from [Philadelphia](/wiki/Philadelphia) with their band marched through the city at the start of the war, [Confederate](/wiki/Confederate_States_of_America) sympathizers attacked the troops, which led to the first bloodshed in the Civil War during the [Baltimore riot of 1861](/wiki/Baltimore_riot_of_1861). Four soldiers and twelve civilians were killed during the riot, which caused Union troops to later occupy Baltimore in May under Gen. [Benjamin F. Butler](/wiki/Benjamin_Franklin_Butler_(politician)) of Massachusetts. Maryland came under direct federal administration—in part, to prevent the state from seceding—until the end of the war in April 1865.

Following an economic depression known as the [Panic of 1873](/wiki/Panic_of_1873), the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad company attempted to lower its workers' wages, leading to the [Great Railroad Strike of 1877](/wiki/Great_Railroad_Strike_of_1877). On July 20, 1877, Maryland Governor [John Lee Carroll](/wiki/John_Lee_Carroll) called up the 5th and 6th Regiments of the [National Guard](/wiki/Maryland_Army_National_Guard) to end the strikes, which had disrupted train service at [Cumberland](/wiki/Cumberland,_Maryland) in western Maryland. Citizens sympathetic to the railroad workers attacked the National Guard troops as they marched from their armories in Baltimore to [Camden Station](/wiki/Camden_Station). Soldiers from the 6th Regiment fired on the crowd, killing 10 and wounding 25. Rioters then damaged B&O trains and burned portions of the rail station. Order was restored in the city on July 21–22 when federal troops arrived to protect railroad property and end the strike.[[38]](#cite_note-38)

### 20th century[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=5)]

[thumb|The](/wiki/File:Baltimore_Fire_1904_-_West_from_Pratt_and_Gay_Streets_3a.jpg) [Great Baltimore Fire](/wiki/Great_Baltimore_Fire) of 1904, looking west from [Pratt](/wiki/Pratt_Street) and [Gay](/wiki/Gay_Street_(Baltimore)) streets

On February 7, 1904, the [Great Baltimore Fire](/wiki/Great_Baltimore_Fire) destroyed over 1,500 buildings in 30 hours, leaving more than 70 blocks of the downtown area burned to the ground. Damages were estimated at $150 million—in 1904 dollars.[[39]](#cite_note-39) As the city rebuilt during the next two years, lessons learned from the fire led to improvements in firefighting equipment standards.[[40]](#cite_note-40) The city grew in area by annexing new suburbs from the surrounding counties, the last being in 1918, when the city acquired portions of Baltimore County and [Anne Arundel County](/wiki/Anne_Arundel_County,_Maryland).[[41]](#cite_note-41) A state constitutional amendment, approved in 1948, required a special vote of the citizens in any proposed annexation area, effectively preventing any future expansion of the city's boundaries.[[42]](#cite_note-42) The relative size of the city's [black](/wiki/African_American) population grew from 23.8% in 1950 to 46.4% in 1970.[[43]](#cite_note-43) The [Baltimore riot of 1968](/wiki/Baltimore_riot_of_1968) occurred following the assassination of [Martin Luther King, Jr.](/wiki/Martin_Luther_King,_Jr.) in [Memphis, Tennessee](/wiki/Memphis,_Tennessee), on April 4, 1968. Coinciding with [riots in other cities](/wiki/King_assassination_riots), public order was not restored until April 12, 1968. The Baltimore riot cost the city of Baltimore an estimated $10 million (US$ [BROKEN](/wiki/BROKEN) million in 2016). A total of 11,000 Maryland National Guard and federal troops were ordered into the city.[[44]](#cite_note-44) Lasting effects of the riot can be seen on the streets of [North Avenue](/wiki/U.S._Route_1_in_Maryland#Baltimore_City_and_County), [Howard Street](/wiki/Howard_Street_(Baltimore)), [Gay Street](/wiki/Gay_Street_(Baltimore)), and [Pennsylvania Avenue](/wiki/Maryland_Route_140), where long stretches of the streets remain barren.[[45]](#cite_note-45) The city experienced challenges again in 1974 when teachers, [municipal workers](/wiki/Baltimore_municipal_strike_of_1974), and [police officers](/wiki/Baltimore_police_strike) conducted strikes.[[46]](#cite_note-46) By the beginning of the 1970s, Baltimore's downtown area known as the [Inner Harbor](/wiki/Inner_Harbor) had been neglected and was occupied by a collection of abandoned warehouses. The nickname "Charm City" came from a 1975 meeting of advertisers seeking to improve the city's reputation.<ref name=Sandler95>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref><ref name=Sandler98>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref> Efforts to redevelop the area started with the construction of the [Maryland Science Center](/wiki/Maryland_Science_Center), which opened in 1976, the [Baltimore World Trade Center](/wiki/Baltimore_World_Trade_Center) (1977), and the [Baltimore Convention Center](/wiki/Baltimore_Convention_Center) (1979). [Harborplace](/wiki/Harborplace), an urban retail and restaurant complex, opened on the waterfront in 1980, followed by the [National Aquarium](/wiki/National_Aquarium_in_Baltimore), Maryland's largest tourist destination, and the [Baltimore Museum of Industry](/wiki/Baltimore_Museum_of_Industry) in 1981. During the [epidemic of HIV/AIDS in the United States](/wiki/HIV/AIDS_in_the_United_States), [Baltimore City Health Department](/wiki/Baltimore_City_Health_Department) official Robert Mehl persuaded the city's mayor to form a committee to address food problems; the Baltimore-based charity [Moveable Feast](/wiki/Moveable_Feast_(organization)) grew out of this initiative in 1990.[[47]](#cite_note-47)[[48]](#cite_note-48)[[49]](#cite_note-49) By 2010, the organization's region of service had expanded from merely Baltimore to include all of the [Eastern Shore of Maryland](/wiki/Eastern_Shore_of_Maryland).[[50]](#cite_note-50) In 1992, the [Baltimore Orioles](/wiki/Baltimore_Orioles) [baseball team](/wiki/Major_League_Baseball) moved from [Memorial Stadium](/wiki/Memorial_Stadium_(Baltimore)) to [Oriole Park at Camden Yards](/wiki/Oriole_Park_at_Camden_Yards), located downtown near the harbor. [Pope John Paul II](/wiki/Pope_John_Paul_II) held an open-air mass at Camden Yards during his papal visit to the United States in October 1995. Three years later the [Baltimore Ravens](/wiki/Baltimore_Ravens) [football team](/wiki/National_Football_League) moved into [M&T Bank Stadium](/wiki/M&T_Bank_Stadium) next to Camden Yards.[[51]](#cite_note-51)

### 21st century[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=6)]

[Template:Expand section](/wiki/Template:Expand_section) [Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also)

In January 2004, the historic [Hippodrome Theatre](/wiki/Hippodrome_Theatre_(Baltimore)) reopened after significant renovation as part of the France-Merrick Performing Arts Center.[[52]](#cite_note-52) The [Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture](/wiki/Reginald_F._Lewis_Museum_of_Maryland_African_American_History_&_Culture) opened in 2005 on the northeast corner of President Street and East Pratt Street, and the [National Slavic Museum](/wiki/National_Slavic_Museum) in Fell's Point was established in 2012. On April 12, 2012, Johns Hopkins held a dedication ceremony to mark the completion of one of the United States’ largest medical complexes – the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore – which features the Sheikh Zayed Cardiovascular and Critical Care Tower and The Charlotte R. Bloomberg Children’s Center. The event, held at the entrance to the 1.1 billion 1.6 million-square-foot-facility, honored the many donors including [Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan](/wiki/Zayed_bin_Sultan_Al_Nahyan), first president of the [United Arab Emirates](/wiki/United_Arab_Emirates), and [Michael Bloomberg](/wiki/Michael_Bloomberg).[[53]](#cite_note-53)[[54]](#cite_note-54) Maryland’s Star-Spangled 200 celebration, launched as the "Star-Spangled Sailabration" and crescendo "Star-Spangled Spectacular" festivals, was a three-year commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the [War of 1812](/wiki/War_of_1812) and the penning of [The Star-Spangled Banner](/wiki/The_Star-Spangled_Banner). The Star-Spangled Sailabration festival brought a total of 45 tall ships, naval vessels and others from the US, United Kingdom, Canada, Colombia, Brazil, Ecuador, and Mexico to Baltimore's Harbor. The event, held June 13–19, 2012, was the week encompassing [Flag Day](/wiki/Flag_Day_(United_States)) and the 200th anniversary of the Declaration of War.[[55]](#cite_note-55)[[56]](#cite_note-56) The Star-Spangled Spectacular was a 10-day free festival that celebrated the 200th anniversary of the United States National Anthem from September 6–16, 2014. More than 30 naval vessels and tall ships from the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Norway, Germany, Spain and Turkey berthed at the Inner Harbor, Fell's Point and North Locust Point. An air show from the Navy's Flight Demonstration Team, the [Blue Angels](/wiki/Blue_Angels) performed during both festivals. Special guests such as President [Barack Obama](/wiki/Barack_Obama), Vice President [Joe Biden](/wiki/Joe_Biden), and Secretary of the Navy [Ray Mabus](/wiki/Ray_Mabus), were in attendance at [Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine](/wiki/Fort_McHenry).[[57]](#cite_note-57) During the course of the Star-Spangled 200 celebration the city was showcased on three separate live television broadcasts. Visit Baltimore CEO, Tom Noonan, was quoted in the *Baltimore Sun* as calling the Spectacular, "the largest tourism event in our city's history." Over a million people visited Baltimore during both festivals.[[58]](#cite_note-58) Following the [Death of Freddie Gray](/wiki/Death_of_Freddie_Gray) in April 2015, the city experienced major protests and international media attention, which resulted in a temporary curfew being enforced, as well as a drastic rise in murders.[[59]](#cite_note-59)

## Geography[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=7)]

Baltimore is in north-central Maryland on the [Patapsco River](/wiki/Patapsco_River) close to where it empties into the [Chesapeake Bay](/wiki/Chesapeake_Bay). The city is also located on the [fall line](/wiki/Fall_line) between the [Piedmont](/wiki/Piedmont_(United_States)) Plateau and the [Atlantic Coastal Plain](/wiki/Atlantic_coastal_plain), which divides Baltimore into "lower city" and "upper city". The city's elevation ranges from sea level at the harbor to [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) in the northwest corner near [Pimlico](/wiki/Pimlico,_Baltimore).[[60]](#cite_note-60) According to the 2010 Census, the city has a total area of [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert), of which [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) is land and [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) is water.[[61]](#cite_note-61) The total area is 12.1 percent water.

Baltimore is almost completely surrounded by Baltimore County, but is [politically independent](/wiki/Independent_city) of it. It is bordered by [Anne Arundel County](/wiki/Anne_Arundel_County,_Maryland) to the south.

### Cityscape[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=8)]

[Template:Wide image](/wiki/Template:Wide_image)

#### Architecture[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=9)]

Baltimore exhibits examples from each period of architecture over more than two centuries, and work from many famous architects such as [Benjamin Latrobe](/wiki/Benjamin_Henry_Latrobe), [George A. Frederick](/wiki/George_A._Frederick), [John Russell Pope](/wiki/John_Russell_Pope), [Mies van der Rohe](/wiki/Mies_van_der_Rohe) and [I. M. Pei](/wiki/I._M._Pei).

The city is rich in architecturally significant buildings in a variety of styles. The [Baltimore Basilica](/wiki/Basilica_of_the_National_Shrine_of_the_Assumption_of_the_Blessed_Virgin_Mary) (1806–1821) is a neoclassical design by Benjamin Latrobe, and also the oldest Catholic cathedral in the United States. In 1813 Robert Cary Long, Sr., built for [Rembrandt Peale](/wiki/Rembrandt_Peale) the first substantial structure in the United States designed expressly as a museum. Restored, it is now the Municipal Museum of Baltimore, or popularly the [Peale Museum](/wiki/Peale_Museum).

The [McKim Free School](/wiki/McKim's_School) was founded and endowed by John McKim, although the building was erected by his son [Isaac](/wiki/Isaac_McKim) in 1822 after a design by William Howard and William Small. It reflects the popular interest in [Greece](/wiki/Ancient_Greece) when the nation was securing its independence, as well as a scholarly interest in recently published drawings of Athenian antiquities.

The [Phoenix Shot Tower](/wiki/Phoenix_Shot_Tower) (1828), at [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) tall, was the tallest building in the United States until the time of the Civil War. It was constructed without the use of exterior scaffolding. The Sun Iron Building, designed by R.C. Hatfield in 1851, was the city's first iron-front building and was a model for a whole generation of downtown buildings. [Brown Memorial Presbyterian Church](/wiki/Brown_Memorial_Presbyterian_Church), built in 1870 in memory of financier [George Brown](/wiki/George_Brown_(financier)), has [stained glass](/wiki/Stained_glass) windows by [Louis Comfort Tiffany](/wiki/Louis_Comfort_Tiffany) and has been called "one of the most significant buildings in this city, a treasure of art and architecture" by *Baltimore Magazine*.[[62]](#cite_note-62)<ref name=Sun2003>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref>

The 1845 [Greek Revival](/wiki/Greek_Revival_architecture)-style [Lloyd Street Synagogue](/wiki/Lloyd_Street_Synagogue) is one of the [oldest synagogues in the United States](/wiki/Oldest_synagogues_in_the_United_States). The [Johns Hopkins Hospital](/wiki/Johns_Hopkins_Hospital), designed by [Lt. Col. John S. Billings](/wiki/John_Shaw_Billings) in 1876, was a considerable achievement for its day in functional arrangement and fireproofing.

I.M. Pei's [World Trade Center](/wiki/Baltimore_World_Trade_Center) (1977) is the tallest equilateral pentagonal building in the world at [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) tall.

The [Inner Harbor East](/wiki/Inner_Harbor_East) area has seen the addition of two new towers which have completed construction: a 24-floor tower that is the new world headquarters of [Legg Mason](/wiki/Legg_Mason), and a 21-floor [Four Seasons Hotel](/wiki/Four_Seasons_Hotel) complex.

The streets of Baltimore are organized in a [grid pattern](/wiki/Grid_plan), lined with tens of thousands of brick and [formstone](/wiki/Formstone)-faced [rowhouses](/wiki/Terraced_house). In *The Baltimore Rowhouse*, Mary Ellen Hayward and [Charles Belfoure](/wiki/Charles_Belfoure) considered the rowhouse as the architectural form defining Baltimore as "perhaps no other American city."[[63]](#cite_note-63) In the mid-1790s, developers began building entire neighborhoods of the British-style rowhouses, which became the dominant house type of the city early in the 19th century.[[64]](#cite_note-64) Formstone facings, now a common feature on Baltimore rowhouses, were an addition patented in 1937 by Albert Knight. [John Waters](/wiki/John_Waters_(director_born_1946)) characterized formstone as "the polyester of brick" in a 30-minute documentary film, *Little Castles: A Formstone Phenomenon*.[[65]](#cite_note-65) Oriole Park at Camden Yards is considered by many to be the most beautiful [baseball park](/wiki/Baseball_park) in Major League Baseball, and has inspired many other cities to build their own versions of this [retro style](/wiki/Retro_style) ballpark. Camden Yards along with the National Aquarium have helped revive the Inner Harbor from what once was an [industrial district](/wiki/Industrial_district) full of dilapidated warehouses into a bustling commercial district full of bars, restaurants and retail establishments. Today, the Inner Harbor boasts the highest, most desirable real estate in the Mid-Atlantic.[[66]](#cite_note-66) Baltimore's newly rehabilitated [Everyman Theatre](/wiki/Everyman_Theatre,_Baltimore) was honored by the Baltimore Heritage at the 2013 Preservation Awards Celebration in 2013. Everyman Theatre will receive an Adaptive Reuse and Compatible Design Award as part of Baltimore Heritage's 2013 historic preservation awards ceremony. Baltimore Heritage is Baltimore's nonprofit historic and architectural preservation organization, which works to preserve and promote Baltimore's historic buildings and neighborhoods.[[67]](#cite_note-67)

#### Tallest buildings[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=10)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main)

{| cellpadding="4" cellspacing="0" style="margin: 0 1em 1em 0; font-size: 90%;" |- style="background:#ccc;" !Rank||Building||Height||Floors||Built|| |- |1 || [Transamerica Tower](/wiki/Transamerica_Tower_(Baltimore)) (formerly the Legg Mason Building, originally built as the U.S. Fidelity and Guarantee Co. Building)[[68]](#cite_note-68) || [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) || 40 || 1971–73 ||[[69]](#cite_note-69)|- style="background:#efefef;" |2 ||[Bank of America Building](/wiki/Bank_of_America_Building_(Baltimore)) (originally built as Baltimore Trust Building, later Sullivan, Mathieson, Md. Nat. Bank, NationsBank Bldgs.) || [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) || 37 || 1924–29 ||[[70]](#cite_note-70)|- |3 || [William Donald Schaefer Tower](/wiki/William_Donald_Schaefer_Tower) (originally built as the Merritt S. & L. Tower) || [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) || 37 || 1992 ||[[71]](#cite_note-71)|- style="background:#efefef;" |4 ||[Commerce Place](/wiki/Commerce_Place_(Baltimore)) (Alex. Brown & Sons/Deutsche Bank Tower)|| [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) || 31 || 1992 ||[[72]](#cite_note-72)|- |5 || [100 East Pratt Street](/wiki/100_East_Pratt_Street) (originally built as the I.B.M. Building)|| [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) || 28 || 1975/1992 ||[[73]](#cite_note-73)|- style="background:#efefef;" |6 || [Baltimore World Trade Center](/wiki/Baltimore_World_Trade_Center) || [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) || 28 || 1977 ||[[74]](#cite_note-74)|- |7 || [Tremont Plaza Hotel](/wiki/Tremont_Plaza_Hotel) || [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) || 37 || 1967 ||[[75]](#cite_note-75)|- style="background:#efefef;" |8 || [Charles Towers South](/wiki/Charles_Center) || [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) || 30 || 1969 ||[[76]](#cite_note-76)|- |9 || [Blaustein Building](/wiki/Blaustein_Building) || [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) || 30 || 1962 ||[[77]](#cite_note-77)|- style="background:#efefef;" |10 || [250 West Pratt Street](/wiki/250_West_Pratt_Street) || [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) || 24 || 1986 ||[[78]](#cite_note-78)|}

#### Neighborhoods[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=11)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) [thumb|350px|A map of Baltimore with the official](/wiki/File:Baltimore_neighborhoods_map.png) [city-designated Baltimore neighborhoods](/wiki/List_of_Baltimore_neighborhoods), by the Baltimore City Dept. of Planning

Baltimore is officially divided into nine geographical regions: North, Northeast, East, Southeast, South, Southwest, West, Northwest, and Central, with each district patrolled by a respective [Baltimore Police Department](/wiki/Baltimore_Police_Department). [Interstate 83](/wiki/Interstate_83) and [Charles Street](/wiki/Charles_Street_(Baltimore)) down to [Hanover Street](/wiki/Maryland_Route_2) and [Ritchie Highway](/wiki/Ritchie_Highway) serve as the east-west dividing line and [Eastern Avenue](/wiki/Maryland_Route_150) to [Route 40](/wiki/U.S._Route_40_in_Maryland) as the north-south dividing line. However, [Baltimore Street](/wiki/Baltimore_Street) is north-south dividing line for the [U.S. Postal Service](/wiki/U.S._Postal_Service).<ref name=Tilghman>[Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)</ref> It is not uncommon for locals to divide the city simply by East or West Baltimore, using Charles Street or [I-83](/wiki/I-83) as a dividing line or into North and South using Baltimore Street as a dividing line.[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed)

##### Central Baltimore[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=12)]

Central Baltimore, originally called the Middle District,<ref name=bpdhistory>[Template:Citation](/wiki/Template:Citation)</ref> stretches north of the [Inner Harbor](/wiki/Inner_Harbor) up to the edge of [Druid Hill Park](/wiki/Druid_Hill_Park). Downtown Baltimore has mainly served as a commercial district with limited residential opportunities. However, between 2000 and 2010, the downtown population grew 130 percent as old commercial properties have been replaced by residential property.[[79]](#cite_note-79) Still the city's main commercial area and business district, it includes Baltimore's sports complexes: [Oriole Park at Camden Yards](/wiki/Oriole_Park_at_Camden_Yards), [M&T Bank Stadium](/wiki/M&T_Bank_Stadium), and the [Baltimore Arena](/wiki/Baltimore_Arena); and the shops and attractions in the Inner Harbor: [Harborplace](/wiki/Harborplace), the [Baltimore Convention Center](/wiki/Baltimore_Convention_Center), the [National Aquarium](/wiki/National_Aquarium_in_Baltimore), [Maryland Science Center](/wiki/Maryland_Science_Center), [Pier Six Pavilion](/wiki/Pier_Six_Pavilion), and [Power Plant Live](/wiki/Power_Plant_Live).<ref name=Tilghman/>

The [University of Maryland, Baltimore](/wiki/University_of_Maryland,_Baltimore), the [University of Maryland Medical Center](/wiki/University_of_Maryland_Medical_Center), and [Lexington Market](/wiki/Lexington_Market) are also in the central district, as well as the [Hippodrome](/wiki/Hippodrome) and many nightclubs, bars, restaurants, shopping centers and various other attractions.<ref name=Tilghman/><ref name=bpdhistory/> The northern portion of Central Baltimore, between downtown and the Druid Hill Park, is home to many of the city's cultural opportunities. [Maryland Institute College of Art](/wiki/Maryland_Institute_College_of_Art), the [Peabody Institute](/wiki/Peabody_Institute) (music conservatory), [George Peabody Library](/wiki/George_Peabody_Library), [Enoch Pratt Free Library – Central Library](/wiki/Enoch_Pratt_Free_Library), the [Lyric Opera House](/wiki/Lyric_Opera_House), the [Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall](/wiki/Joseph_Meyerhoff_Symphony_Hall), the [Walters Art Museum](/wiki/Walters_Art_Museum), the [Maryland Historical Society](/wiki/Maryland_Historical_Society) and its [Enoch Pratt Mansion](/wiki/Enoch_Pratt), and several galleries are located in this region.[[80]](#cite_note-80)

##### North Baltimore[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=13)]

[alt=Park and flowers at Sherwood Gardens, Guilford, Baltimore.|thumb|Sherwood Gardens, Guilford neighborhood, Baltimore](/wiki/File:1sherwoodgardens08.JPG)

North Baltimore lies directly north of Central Baltimore and is bounded on the east by [The Alameda](/wiki/The_Alameda_(Baltimore)) and on the west by [Pimlico Road](/wiki/Pimlico_Road). [Loyola University Maryland](/wiki/Loyola_University_Maryland), [Johns Hopkins University Homewood Campus](/wiki/Homewood_Campus_of_Johns_Hopkins_University), [St. Mary's Seminary and University](/wiki/St._Mary's_Seminary_and_University) and [Notre Dame of Maryland University](/wiki/Notre_Dame_of_Maryland_University) are located in this district. [Baltimore Polytechnic Institutehigh](/wiki/Baltimore_Polytechnic_Institute) school for mathematics, science and engineering, and adjacent [Western High School](/wiki/Western_High_School_(Baltimore)), the oldest remaining public girls secondary school in America, share a joint campus at [West Cold Spring Lane](/wiki/Cold_Spring_Lane) and [Falls Road](/wiki/Maryland_Route_25).[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed)

Several historic and notable neighborhoods are in this district: [Roland Park](/wiki/Roland_Park,_Baltimore) (1891), [Guilford](/wiki/Guilford,_Baltimore) (1913), [Homeland](/wiki/Homeland,_Baltimore) (1924), [Hampden](/wiki/Hampden,_Baltimore), [Woodberry](/wiki/Woodberry,_Baltimore), [Old Goucher](/wiki/Old_Goucher), and [Jones Falls](/wiki/Jones_Falls). Along the [York Road](/wiki/Maryland_Route_45) corridor going north are the large neighborhoods of [Charles Village](/wiki/Charles_Village), [Waverly](/wiki/Waverly,_Baltimore), and [Mount Washington](/wiki/Mount_Washington,_Baltimore). The [Station North Arts and Entertainment District](/wiki/Station_North_Arts_and_Entertainment_District) is also located in North Baltimore.[[81]](#cite_note-81)

##### South Baltimore[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=14)]

[alt=Brick rowhouses with flags|thumb|Rowhouses, Federal Hill neighborhood, Baltimore](/wiki/File:Federal_Hill_rowhouses.jpg)

South Baltimore, a mixed industrial and residential area, consists of the "Old South Baltimore" peninsula below the Inner Harbor and east of the old [B&O Railroad's](/wiki/B&O_Railroad) Camden line tracks and [Russell Street](/wiki/Russell_Street_(Baltimore)) downtown. It is a culturally, ethnically, and socioeconomically diverse waterfront area with neighborhoods such as [Locust Point](/wiki/Locust_Point,_Baltimore) and Riverside around a large park of the same name.[[82]](#cite_note-82) Just south of the Inner Harbor, the historic [Federal Hill](/wiki/Federal_Hill,_Baltimore) neighborhood, is home to many working professionals, pubs and restaurants. At the end of the peninsula is historic [Fort McHenry](/wiki/Fort_McHenry), a National Park since the end of World War I, when the old U.S. Army Hospital surrounding the 1798 star-shaped battlements was torn down.[[83]](#cite_note-83) The area south of the [Vietnam Veterans (Hanover Street) Bridge](/wiki/Hanover_Street_Bridge) and the [Patapsco River](/wiki/Patapsco_River) was annexed to the city in 1919 from being independent towns in [Anne Arundel County](/wiki/Anne_Arundel_County).[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed) Across the Hanover Street Bridge are residential areas such as [Cherry Hill](/wiki/Cherry_Hill,_Baltimore),[[84]](#cite_note-84) [Brooklyn](/wiki/Brooklyn,_Baltimore), and [Curtis Bay](/wiki/Curtis_Bay,_Baltimore), with [Fort Armistead](/wiki/Fort_Armistead) bordering the city's south side from Anne Arundel County.[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed)

##### Northeast Baltimore[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=15)]

[alt=Exterior view of Baltimore City College building|thumb|Baltimore City College](/wiki/File:Baltimore_City_College.jpg)

Northeast is primarily a residential neighborhood, home to [Morgan State University](/wiki/Morgan_State_University), bounded by the city line of 1919 on its northern and eastern boundaries, [Sinclair Lane](/wiki/Sinclair_Lane), [Erdman Avenue](/wiki/Maryland_Route_151), and [Pulaski Highway](/wiki/U.S._Route_40_in_Maryland) to the south and [The Alameda](/wiki/The_Alameda_(Baltimore)) on to the west. Also in this wedge of the city on [33rd Street](/wiki/33rd_Street_(Baltimore)) is [Baltimore City College](/wiki/Baltimore_City_College) high school, third oldest active public secondary school in the United States, founded downtown in 1839.[[85]](#cite_note-85) Across [Loch Raven Boulevard](/wiki/Loch_Raven_Boulevard) is the former site of the old [Memorial Stadium](/wiki/Memorial_Stadium_(Baltimore)) for the [Baltimore Colts](/wiki/History_of_the_Indianapolis_Colts) and [Baltimore Orioles](/wiki/Baltimore_Orioles), now replaced by an [YMCA](/wiki/YMCA) athletic and housing complex.[[86]](#cite_note-86)[[87]](#cite_note-87) [Lake Montebello](/wiki/Lake_Montebello) is in Northeast Baltimore.<ref name=bpdhistory/>

##### East Baltimore[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=16)]

Located below [Sinclair Lane](/wiki/Sinclair_Lane) and [Erdman Avenue](/wiki/Maryland_Route_151), above [Orleans Street](/wiki/Orleans_Street_(Baltimore)), East Baltimore is mainly made up of residential neighborhoods. This section of East Baltimore is home to [Johns Hopkins Hospital](/wiki/Johns_Hopkins_Hospital) and [Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine](/wiki/Johns_Hopkins_University_School_of_Medicine) on [Broadway](/wiki/Broadway_(Baltimore)). Notable neighborhoods include: [Armistead Gardens](/wiki/Armistead_Gardens), [Broadway East](/wiki/Broadway_East), [Barclay](/wiki/Barclay,_Baltimore), [Ellwood Park](/wiki/Ellwood_Park), [Greenmount](/wiki/Greenmount,_Baltimore), and [McElderry Park](/wiki/McElderry_Park).<ref name=bpdhistory/>

This area was the on-site film location for [*Homicide: Life on the Street*](/wiki/Homicide:_Life_on_the_Street), [*The Corner*](/wiki/The_Corner) and [*The Wire*](/wiki/The_Wire).[[88]](#cite_note-88)

##### Southeast Baltimore[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=17)]

Southeast Baltimore, located below [Fayette Street](/wiki/Fayette_Street), bordering the Inner Harbor and the Northwest Branch of the [Patapsco River](/wiki/Patapsco_River) to the west, the city line of 1919 on its eastern boundaries and the Patapsco River to the south, is a mixed industrial and residential area. [Patterson Park](/wiki/Patterson_Park), the "Best Backyard in Baltimore,"<ref name=collins2008>[Template:Citation](/wiki/Template:Citation)</ref> as well as the [Highlandtown Arts District](/wiki/Highlandtown_Arts_District,_Baltimore,_MD), and [Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center](/wiki/Johns_Hopkins_Bayview_Medical_Center) are located in Southeast Baltimore. The Shops at Canton Crossing opened in 2013.[[89]](#cite_note-89) The [Canton](/wiki/Canton,_Baltimore) neighborhood, is located along Baltimore's prime waterfront. Other historic neighborhoods include: [Fells Point](/wiki/Fells_Point), [Patterson Park](/wiki/Patterson_Park_(neighborhood),_Baltimore), [Butchers Hill](/wiki/Butchers_Hill), [Highlandtown](/wiki/Highlandtown), [Greektown](/wiki/Greektown), [Harbor East](/wiki/Harbor_East), [Little Italy](/wiki/Little_Italy), and [Upper Fells Point](/wiki/Upper_Fells_Point).<ref name=bpdhistory/>

##### Northwest Baltimore[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=18)]

[alt=Exterior view of Howard Park P.S. 218.|thumb|Howard Park P.S. 218, Liberty Heights Avenue, Baltimore](/wiki/File:Howard_School_PS_218_Bmore_MD.JPG) Northwestern is bounded by the county line to the north and west, [Gwynns Falls Parkway](/wiki/Gwynns_Falls_Parkway) on the south and [Pimlico Road](/wiki/Pimlico_Road) on the east, is home to [Pimlico Race Course](/wiki/Pimlico_Race_Course) and [Sinai Hospital](/wiki/Sinai_Hospital). Its neighborhoods are mostly residential and are dissected by [Northern Parkway](/wiki/Northern_Parkway_(Baltimore)). The area was the center of Baltimore's Jewish community after World War II. Notable neighborhoods include: [Pimlico](/wiki/Pimlico,_Baltimore), [Mount Washington](/wiki/Mount_Washington,_Baltimore), and [Cheswolde](/wiki/Cheswolde,_Baltimore), and [Park Heights](/wiki/Park_Heights).[[90]](#cite_note-90)

##### West Baltimore[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=19)]

West Baltimore is located west of downtown and the [Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard](/wiki/Martin_Luther_King,_Jr._Boulevard) and is bounded by Gwynns Falls Parkway, [Fremont Avenue](/wiki/Fremont_Avenue), and [West Baltimore Street](/wiki/Baltimore_Street). The [Old West Baltimore Historic District](/wiki/Old_West_Baltimore_Historic_District) includes the neighborhoods of [Harlem Park](/wiki/Harlem_Park), [Sandtown-Winchester](/wiki/Sandtown-Winchester), [Druid Heights](/wiki/Druid_Heights), [Madison Park](/wiki/Madison_Park,_Baltimore), and [Upton](/wiki/Upton,_Baltimore).<ref name=nps/>[[91]](#cite_note-91) Originally a predominantly German neighborhood, by the last half of the 1800s, Old West Baltimore was home to a substantial section of the city's African American population. It became the largest neighborhood for the city's black community and its cultural, political, and economic center.<ref name=nps>[Template:Citation](/wiki/Template:Citation)</ref> [Coppin State University](/wiki/Coppin_State_University), [Mondawmin Mall](/wiki/Mondawmin_Mall), and [Edmondson Village](/wiki/Edmondson,_Baltimore) are located in this district. The area's crime problems have provided subject material for television series, such as [*The Wire*](/wiki/The_Wire).[[92]](#cite_note-92) Local organizations, such as the Sandtown Habitat for Humanity and the Upton Planning Committee, have been steadily transforming parts of formerly blighted areas of West Baltimore into clean, safe communities.[[93]](#cite_note-93)[[94]](#cite_note-94)

##### Southwest Baltimore[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=20)]

[alt=View of swell-front rowhouses with formstone.|thumb|Rowhouses, Pigtown neighborhood, Baltimore](/wiki/File:Pigtown_Historic_District.jpg) Southwest Baltimore is bounded by the Baltimore County line to the west, West [Baltimore Street](/wiki/Baltimore_Street) to the north, and [Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard](/wiki/Interstate_395_(Maryland)#Martin_Luther_King_Jr._Boulevard) and [Russell Street/Baltimore-Washington Parkway](/wiki/Baltimore–Washington_Parkway) (Maryland Route 295) to the east. Notable neighborhoods in Southwest Baltimore include: [Pigtown](/wiki/Pigtown,_Baltimore), [Carrolton Ridge](/wiki/Carrollton_Ridge,_Baltimore), [Ridgely's Delight](/wiki/Ridgely's_Delight,_Baltimore), [Leakin Park](/wiki/Gwynns_Falls_Leakin_Park), [Violetville](/wiki/Violetville,_Baltimore), [Lakeland](/wiki/Lakeland,_Baltimore), and [Morrell Park](/wiki/Morrell_Park,_Baltimore).<ref name=bpdhistory/>

[St. Agnes Hospital](/wiki/St._Agnes_Hospital_(Baltimore)) on [Wilkens](/wiki/Maryland_Route_372) and [Caton](/wiki/Caton_Avenue)<ref name=bpdhistory/> avenues is located in this district with the neighboring [Cardinal Gibbons High School](/wiki/Cardinal_Gibbons_School_(Baltimore,_Maryland)), which is the former site of [Babe Ruth's](/wiki/Babe_Ruth) alma mater, St. Mary's Industrial School.[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed) Also through this segment of Baltimore ran the beginnings of the historic [National Road](/wiki/National_Road), which was constructed beginning in 1806 along [Old Frederick Road](/wiki/Old_Frederick_Road) and continuing into the county on [Frederick Road](/wiki/Maryland_Route_144) into [Ellicott City, Maryland](/wiki/Ellicott_City,_Maryland).[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed) Other sides in this district are: [Carroll Park](/wiki/Mount_Clare_(Maryland)), one of the city's largest parks, the colonial Mount Clare Mansion, and [Washington Boulevard](/wiki/U.S._Route_1_in_Maryland), which dates to pre-Revolutionary War days as the prime route out of the city to [Alexandria, Virginia](/wiki/Alexandria,_Virginia), and [Georgetown](/wiki/Georgetown_(Washington,_D.C.)) on the [Potomac River](/wiki/Potomac_River).[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed)

<gallery> File:Parkside1.jpg|[Belair-Edison](/wiki/Belair-Edison,_Baltimore) File:Woodberry07.JPG|[Woodberry](/wiki/Woodberry,_Baltimore) File:Res Hill HD Baltimore.JPG|[Reservoir Hill](/wiki/Reservoir_Hill,_Baltimore) File:Station North Arts District Baltimore Chas St.jpg|[Station North](/wiki/Station_North_Arts_and_Entertainment_District) File:Fells Point A.JPG|[Fells Point](/wiki/Fells_Point,_Baltimore) File:GoodwoodGardens.jpg|[Roland Park](/wiki/Roland_Park,_Baltimore) |[Waverly](/wiki/Waverly,_Baltimore) </gallery>

### Adjacent communities[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=21)]

The City of Baltimore is bordered by the following communities, all unincorporated [census-designated places](/wiki/Census-designated_place). [Template:Columns-list](/wiki/Template:Columns-list)

### Climate[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=22)]

Under the [Köppen classification](/wiki/Köppen_classification), Baltimore lies within the [humid subtropical climate](/wiki/Humid_subtropical_climate) zone (*Cfa*), with four distinct seasons, and is part of USDA plant hardiness zones 7b and 8a.[[95]](#cite_note-95) Under the [Trewartha climate scheme](/wiki/Trewartha_climate_classification), the city has a [temperate](/wiki/Temperate) [maritime climate](/wiki/Maritime_climate) (*Do*).[[96]](#cite_note-96) Winters are chilly but variable, with sporadic snowfall: January has a daily average of [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert),[[97]](#cite_note-97) though temperatures reach [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) rather often and drop below [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) when Arctic air masses affect the area.[[97]](#cite_note-97) The average seasonal snowfall is [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert),[[98]](#cite_note-98) but it varies greatly depending on the winter, with some seasons seeing minimal snow while others see several major [Nor'easters](/wiki/Nor'easter). [Template:Efn](/wiki/Template:Efn) Due to lessened [urban heat island](/wiki/Urban_heat_island) (UHI) as compared to the [city proper](/wiki/City_limits) and distance from the moderating Chesapeake Bay, the outlying and inland parts of the Baltimore metro area are usually cooler, especially at night, than the city proper and the coastal towns. Thus, in the northern and western suburbs, winter snowfall is more significant, and some areas average more than [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) of snow per winter.[[99]](#cite_note-99) It is by no means uncommon for the rain-snow line to set up in the metro area.[[100]](#cite_note-100) [Freezing rain](/wiki/Freezing_rain) and sleet occurs a few times each winter in the area, as warm air overrides cold air at the low to mid-levels of the atmosphere. When the wind blows from the east, the cold air gets [dammed against the mountains](/wiki/Cold_air_damming) to the west and the result is freezing rain or sleet.

Spring and autumn are warm, with spring being the wettest season in terms of the number of precipitation days. Summers are hot and humid with a daily average in July of [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert),[[97]](#cite_note-97) and the combination of heat and humidity leads to rather frequent thunderstorms. A southeasterly bay breeze off the Chesapeake often occurs on summer afternoons when hot air rises over inland areas; prevailing winds from the southwest interacting with this breeze as well as the city proper's UHI can seriously exacerbate air quality.[[101]](#cite_note-101)[[102]](#cite_note-102) In late summer and early autumn the track of hurricanes or their remnants may cause flooding in downtown Baltimore, despite the city being far removed from the typical coastal [storm surge](/wiki/Storm_surge) areas.[[103]](#cite_note-103) Extreme temperatures range from [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) on February 9, 1934, and [February 10, 1899](/wiki/Great_Blizzard_of_1899),[Template:Efn](/wiki/Template:Efn) up to [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) on July 22, 2011.[[104]](#cite_note-104)[[105]](#cite_note-105) On average, [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert)+ temperatures occur on 0.9 days annually, [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert)+ on 37 days, and there are 10 days where the high fails to breach the freezing mark.[[97]](#cite_note-97) [Template:Clear](/wiki/Template:Clear)[Template:Baltimore weatherbox](/wiki/Template:Baltimore_weatherbox)

## Demographics[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=23)]

[Template:Further](/wiki/Template:Further)

[Template:US Census population](/wiki/Template:US_Census_population)

At the 2010 Census, there were 620,961 people residing in Baltimore, a decrease of 4.6% since 2000; a substantially more significant decline of 23% happened among school age children (ages 5 to 17).<ref name=sherman2015>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref> The 2012 Census estimate has the population of Baltimore at 621,342 as of July 2012, an increase of 1,100 residents over the previous year and the first increase in population since its peak in 1950.<ref name=kilar2013>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref> Downtown Baltimore and its surrounding neighborhoods are seeing a resurgence of young professionals and immigrants, which is mirroring major cities all over. The increase, attributed to growing international migration and fewer people abandoning the city, is the second census estimate since Mayor [Stephanie Rawlings-Blake](/wiki/Stephanie_Rawlings-Blake) announced at her inauguration in December 2011 that her main goal is to increase the city's population by "10,000 families" within a decade.[[106]](#cite_note-106) Gentrification of the surrounding *401 District* has grown significantly over the past 10 years in Central and eastern portions of the city.<ref name=litten2015>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref>

According to the [2010 Census](/wiki/2010_United_States_Census), 63.7% of the population was [Black](/wiki/African_American), 29.6% [White](/wiki/White_American), 0.4% [American Indian and Alaska Native](/wiki/History_of_the_Native_Americans_in_Baltimore), 2.3% [Asian](/wiki/Asian_American), 1.8% from some other race and 2.1% of two or more races. 4.2% of Baltimore's population was of [Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin](/wiki/Hispanic_and_Latino_Americans) (they may be of any race). [Non-Hispanic Whites](/wiki/Non-Hispanic_Whites) were 28% of the population.[[107]](#cite_note-107) After [New York City](/wiki/New_York_City), Baltimore was the second city in the United States to reach a population of 100,000.[[108]](#cite_note-108)[[109]](#cite_note-109) From the 1830 through 1850 U.S. censuses, Baltimore was the second most-populous city,[[109]](#cite_note-109)[[110]](#cite_note-110) before being surpassed by Philadelphia in 1860.[[111]](#cite_note-111) It was among the top 10 cities in population in the United States in every census up to the 1980 census,[[112]](#cite_note-112) and after World War II had a population of nearly a million.

Although Baltimore's population has continued to decline since 1950, the number of families living downtown has increased significantly in recent years, according to the Downtown Partnership of Baltimore, Inc. Downtown Baltimore's core area experienced a population increase of 130% since 2000[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed). The area in a one-mile radius of downtown between Pratt and Light streets grew 13.6% during that time as well. New construction and the conversion of obsolete commercial buildings into residences has been a primary factor for growth in the central city. The average household income in downtown increased 39.7% from $45,895 to $64,128.[[79]](#cite_note-79) Despite the increase in the number of families, Baltimore's downtown still lost about 10,000 total residents since the 2000 Census, a decline of about 6%.[[113]](#cite_note-113) According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Baltimore's population lived in a total of 294,579 housing units in 2009. Age ranges were 22.4% under 18 years old, 11.8% at age 65 or older, and 65.8% from 18 to 64 years old. Baltimore's population was 53.4% female.[[114]](#cite_note-114) The median age is 35 years old.

A statistical abstract prepared by the U.S. Census Bureau estimated the median income for a household in the city during 2008 at $30,078, and the median income for a family at $48,216. The same abstract also listed a per capita income of $22,885 for the city in 2008, with 15.4% of families and 19.3% of the population below the poverty line.[[115]](#cite_note-115) Housing in Baltimore is relatively inexpensive for large, coastal cities of its size. The median sale price for homes in Baltimore in 2012 was $95,000.[[116]](#cite_note-116) Despite the housing collapse, and along with the national trends, Baltimore residents still face slowly increasing rent (up 3% in the summer of 2010).<ref name=name>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref>

[thumb|350px|Baltimore's racial and ethnic concentrations – Red is non-Hispanic white, Blue is African-American, Green is Asian-American, Orange is Hispanic/Latino, Gray is those of other origins. Each dot represents 25 people.](/wiki/File:Race_and_ethnicity_Baltimore.png)

The [homeless](/wiki/Homelessness) population in Baltimore is steadily increasing; it exceeded 4,000 people in 2011. The increase in the number of young homeless people was particularly severe.<ref name=CP-homelessness-19Oct2011>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref> The Baltimore—Towson metropolitan area is home to a self-identifying [gay](/wiki/Gay) and [bisexual](/wiki/Bisexuality) community estimated at 100,031 individuals, the 18th largest in the United States.<ref name=GLB>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> In 2012, voters statewide approved the legalization of [same-sex marriage in Maryland](/wiki/Same-sex_marriage_in_Maryland) and authorized them to take place beginning January 1, 2013.[[117]](#cite_note-117)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| '''Population by Race in Baltimore Maryland (2010) | | |
| **Race** | **Population** | **% of Total** |
| Total | 620,961 | 100 |
| [African American](/wiki/African_American) | 395,781 | 63 |
| [White](/wiki/White_American) | 183,830 | 29 |
| [Asian](/wiki/Asian_American) | 14,548 | 2 |
| [Two or More Races](/wiki/Race_(U.S._Census)) | 12,955 | 2 |
| [Other](/wiki/Race_(U.S._Census)) | 11,303 | 1 |
| [American Indian](/wiki/Native_Americans_in_the_United_States) | 2,270 | < 1% |
| [Three or more races](/wiki/Race_(U.S._Census)) | 1,402 | < 1% |
| [Native Hawaiian](/wiki/Race_(U.S._Census)) [Pacific Islander](/wiki/Race_(U.S._Census)) | 274 | < 1% |
| [[118]](#cite_note-118) | | |

### Religion[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=24)]

47.33% of the people in Baltimore, Maryland are religious, meaning they affiliate with a religion. 11.85% are Catholic, 0.30% are LDS, and 11.42% are another Christian faith. This includes the next largest affiliation the Baptist Church, which makes up about 7% of the population. The Jewish population of the city is much higher than the average city. About 4.3% of the population is Jewish, compared to the average city, which is only about 0.7% Jewish; 0.10% are an eastern faith; 0.55% affiliates with Islam.[[119]](#cite_note-119)[[120]](#cite_note-120)

### Languages[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=25)]

As of 2010, 90.92% (526,705) of Baltimore residents aged five and older spoke only [English](/wiki/English_language) at home. In addition, 3.74% (21,661) spoke [Spanish](/wiki/Spanish_language), 0.77% (4,442) [African languages](/wiki/Languages_of_Africa), 0.70% (4,078) [French](/wiki/French_language), and 0.56% (3,237) spoke [Chinese](/wiki/Chinese_language).[[121]](#cite_note-121)

### Crime[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=26)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) Crime in Baltimore, generally concentrated in areas high in poverty and drug activity, has been above the national average for many years. Baltimore had 327 homicides in 2015, as of December 14,[[122]](#cite_note-122) continuing a higher per capita homicide rate (52.5 per 100,000 people) than the record set in 1993.[[123]](#cite_note-123)[[124]](#cite_note-124) In 2011, Baltimore police reported 196 homicides, the lowest number of slayings in the city since a count of 197 homicides in 1978 and far lower than the peak homicide count of 353 slayings in 1993. City leaders credit a sustained focus on repeat violent offenders and increased community engagement for the continued drop, reflecting a nationwide decline in crime.[[125]](#cite_note-125)[[126]](#cite_note-126) On August 8, 2014, Baltimore's new youth curfew law went into effect. It prohibits unaccompanied children under age 14 from being on the streets after 9 p.m. and those aged 14–16 from being out after 10 p.m. during the week and 11 p.m. on weekends and during the summer. The goal is to keep children out of dangerous places and reduce crime.[[127]](#cite_note-127)

## Economy[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=27)]

Once a predominantly industrial town, with an economic base focused on steel processing, shipping, auto manufacturing (General Motors [Baltimore Assembly](/wiki/Baltimore_Assembly)), and transportation, the city experienced [deindustrialization](/wiki/Deindustrialization) which cost residents tens of thousands of low-skill, high-wage jobs.[[128]](#cite_note-128) The city now relies on a low-wage [service economy](/wiki/Service_economy), which accounts for 90% of jobs in the city.[[129]](#cite_note-129)[[130]](#cite_note-130)Around the turn of the century, Baltimore was the leading US manufacturer of [rye whiskey](/wiki/Rye_whiskey) and [straw hats](/wiki/Straw_hat). It also led in refining of crude oil, brought to the city by pipeline from Pennsylvania.[[131]](#cite_note-131) As of March 2015 the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics calculates Baltimore's unemployment rate at 8.1%[[132]](#cite_note-132) while one quarter of Baltimore residents (and 37% of Baltimore children) live in poverty.[[133]](#cite_note-133) The 2012 closure of a major steel plant at Sparrows Point is expected to have a further impact on employment and the local economy.[[134]](#cite_note-134) The Census Bureau reported in 2013 that 207,000 workers commute into Baltimore city each day.[[135]](#cite_note-135) [Downtown Baltimore](/wiki/Downtown_Baltimore) is the primary economic asset within Baltimore City and the region with 29.1 million square feet of office space. The tech sector is rapidly growing as the Baltimore metro ranks 8th in the CBRE Tech Talent Report among 50 U.S. metro areas for high growth rate and number of tech professionals.[[136]](#cite_note-136) *Forbes* ranked Baltimore fourth among America's "new tech hot spots".[[137]](#cite_note-137) The city is home to the [Johns Hopkins Hospital](/wiki/Johns_Hopkins_Hospital). Other large [companies in Baltimore](/wiki/Category:Companies_based_in_Baltimore,_Maryland) include [Under Armour](/wiki/Under_Armour),[[138]](#cite_note-138) [Cordish Company](/wiki/Cordish_Company),[[139]](#cite_note-139) [Legg Mason](/wiki/Legg_Mason), [McCormick & Company](/wiki/McCormick_&_Company), [T. Rowe Price](/wiki/T._Rowe_Price), and [Royal Farms](/wiki/Royal_Farms).[[140]](#cite_note-140) A [sugar refinery](/wiki/Sugar_refinery) owned by [American Sugar Refining](/wiki/American_Sugar_Refining) is one of Baltimore's cultural icons. Nonprofits based in Baltimore include [Lutheran Services in America](/wiki/Lutheran_Services_in_America) and [Catholic Relief Services](/wiki/Catholic_Relief_Services).

### Port[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=28)]

The center of international commerce for the region is the [World Trade Center Baltimore](/wiki/Baltimore_World_Trade_Center). It houses the Maryland Port Administration and U.S. headquarters for major shipping lines. Baltimore is ranked 9th for total dollar value of cargo and 13th for cargo tonnage for all U.S. ports. In 2014, total cargo moving through the port totaled 29.5 million tons, down from 30.3 million tons in 2013. The value of cargo traveling through the port in 2014 came to $52.5 billion, down from $52.6 billion in 2013. The [Port of Baltimore](/wiki/Port_of_Baltimore) generates $3 billion in annual wages and salary, as well as supporting 14,630 direct jobs and 108,000 jobs connected to port work. In 2014, the port also generated more than $300 million in taxes. It serves over 50 ocean carriers making nearly 1,800 annual visits. Among all U.S. ports, Baltimore is first in handling automobiles, light trucks, farm and construction machinery; and imported forest products, aluminum, and sugar. The port is second in coal exports. The Port of Baltimore's cruise industry, which offers year-round trips on several lines supports over 500 jobs and brings in over $90 million to Maryland's economy annually. Growth at the port continues with the Maryland Port Administration plans to turn the southern tip of the former steel mill into a marine terminal, primarily for car and truck shipments, but also for anticipated new business coming to Baltimore after the completion of the [Panama Canal expansion project](/wiki/Panama_Canal_expansion_project).[[141]](#cite_note-141)

### Tourism[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=29)]

Baltimore's history and attractions have allowed the city to become a strong tourist destination on the East Coast. In 2014, the city hosted 24.5 million visitors, who spent $5.2 billion.[[142]](#cite_note-142) The Baltimore Visitor Center, which is operated by [Visit Baltimore](/wiki/Visit_Baltimore), is located on Light Street in the [Inner Harbor](/wiki/Inner_Harbor). Much of the city's tourism centers around the Inner Harbor, with the [National Aquarium](/wiki/National_Aquarium_in_Baltimore) being Maryland's top tourist destination. Baltimore Harbor's restoration has made it "a city of boats", with several historic ships and other attractions on display and open for the public to visit. The [USS *Constellation*](/wiki/USS_Constellation_(1854)), the last Civil War-era vessel afloat, is docked at the head of the Inner Harbor; the [USS *Torsk*](/wiki/USS_Torsk_(SS-423)), a submarine that holds the Navy's record for dives (more than 10,000); and the Coast Guard cutter [*Taney*](/wiki/USCGC_Taney_(WHEC-37)), the last surviving U.S. warship that was in [Pearl Harbor](/wiki/Pearl_Harbor) during the [Japanese attack](/wiki/Attack_on_Pearl_Harbor) on December 7, 1941, and which engaged Japanese Zero aircraft during the battle.[[143]](#cite_note-143) Also docked is the lightship *Chesapeake*, which for decades marked the entrance to Chesapeake Bay; and the Seven Foot Knoll Lighthouse, the oldest surviving [screw-pile lighthouse](/wiki/Screw-pile_lighthouse) on Chesapeake Bay, which once marked the mouth of the Patapsco River and the entrance to Baltimore. All of these attractions are owned and maintained by the [Historic Ships in Baltimore](/wiki/Historic_Ships_in_Baltimore) organization. The Inner Harbor also is the home port of [*Pride of Baltimore II*](/wiki/Pride_of_Baltimore_II), the state of Maryland's "goodwill ambassador" ship, a reconstruction of a famous [Baltimore Clipper](/wiki/Baltimore_Clipper) ship.[[143]](#cite_note-143) Other popular tourist destinations throughout the city include [Oriole Park at Camden Yards](/wiki/Oriole_Park_at_Camden_Yards), [Fort McHenry](/wiki/Fort_McHenry), the [Mount Vernon](/wiki/Mount_Vernon,_Baltimore) and [Fells Point](/wiki/Fells_Point) neighborhoods, and museums such as the [Walters Art Museum](/wiki/Walters_Art_Museum), the [Baltimore Museum of Industry](/wiki/Baltimore_Museum_of_Industry), and the [B&O Railroad Museum](/wiki/B&O_Railroad_Museum).

<gallery> File:Baltimore Visitor Center.JPG|Baltimore Visitor Center in Inner Harbor File:Fountain@InnerHarbor Baltimore.JPG|Fountain near visitor center in Inner Harbor File:Sunset@Baltimore 1.JPG|Sunset views from Baltimore's Inner Harbor File:Sunset@Baltimore 2.JPG| File:Sunset@Baltimore 3.JPG| File:Sunset@Baltimore II.JPG File:BaltimoreNationalAquarium.JPG|Baltimore is the home of the [National Aquarium](/wiki/National_Aquarium_in_Baltimore), one of the world's largest. </gallery>

## Culture[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=30)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) [Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) [thumb|upright|The Washington Monument](/wiki/File:Converted.png)

Historically a working-class port town, Baltimore has sometimes been dubbed a "city of neighborhoods", with 72 designated historic districts[[144]](#cite_note-144) traditionally occupied by distinct ethnic groups. Most notable today are three downtown areas along the port: the Inner Harbor, frequented by tourists due to its hotels, shops, and museums; Fells Point, once a favorite entertainment spot for sailors but now refurbished and gentrified (and featured in the movie [*Sleepless in Seattle*](/wiki/Sleepless_in_Seattle)); and [Little Italy](/wiki/Little_Italy,_Baltimore), located between the other two, where Baltimore's Italian-American community is based – and where former U.S. House Speaker [Nancy Pelosi](/wiki/Nancy_Pelosi) grew up. Further inland, [Mount Vernon](/wiki/Mount_Vernon,_Baltimore) is the traditional center of cultural and artistic life of the city; it is home to a distinctive [Washington Monument](/wiki/Washington_Monument_(Baltimore)), set atop a hill in a 19th-century urban square, that predates the more well-known monument in Washington, D.C. by several decades. Baltimore also has a significant [German American](/wiki/History_of_the_Germans_in_Baltimore) population,[[145]](#cite_note-145) and was the second largest port of immigration to the United States, behind [Ellis Island](/wiki/Ellis_Island) in New York and New Jersey. Between 1820 and 1989, almost 2 million who were German, [Polish](/wiki/History_of_the_Poles_in_Baltimore), English, Irish, [Russian](/wiki/History_of_the_Russians_in_Baltimore), [Lithuanian](/wiki/History_of_the_Lithuanians_in_Baltimore), [French](/wiki/History_of_the_French_in_Baltimore), [Ukrainian](/wiki/History_of_the_Ukrainians_in_Baltimore), [Czech](/wiki/History_of_the_Czechs_in_Baltimore), [Greek](/wiki/History_of_the_Greeks_in_Baltimore) and [Italian](/wiki/History_of_the_Italians_in_Baltimore) came to Baltimore, most between the years 1861 to 1930. By 1913, when Baltimore was averaging forty thousand immigrants per year, World War I closed off the flow of immigrants. By 1970, Baltimore's heyday as an immigration center was a distant memory. There also was a [Chinatown](/wiki/Chinatown,_Baltimore) dating back to at least the 1880s which consisted of no more than 400 Chinese residents. A local Chinese-American association remains based there, but only one Chinese restaurant as of 2009.

[thumb|left|200px|](/wiki/File:BromoSeltzertowerBaltimore.jpg)[Emerson Bromo-Seltzer Tower](/wiki/Emerson_Bromo-Seltzer_Tower), built in 1911. The 15 stories of the Bromo Seltzer Tower have been transformed into studio spaces for visual and literary artists

Baltimore has quite a history when it comes to making beer, an art that thrived in Baltimore from the 1800s to the 1950s with over 100 old breweries in the city's past.[[146]](#cite_note-146) The best remaining example of that history is the old [American Brewery Building](/wiki/American_Brewery_(building)) on North Gay Street and the [National Brewing Company](/wiki/National_Brewing_Company) building in the [Brewer's Hill](/wiki/Brewers_Hill) neighborhood. In the 1940s the National Brewing Company introduced the nation's first six-pack. National's two most prominent brands, were [National Bohemian Beer](/wiki/National_Bohemian) colloquially "Natty Boh" and [Colt 45](/wiki/Colt_45_(malt_liquor)). Listed on the [Pabst](/wiki/Pabst_Brewing_Company) website as a "Fun Fact", Colt 45 was named after running back [#45 Jerry Hill](/wiki/Jerry_Hill_(American_football)) of the 1963 [Baltimore Colts](/wiki/Indianapolis_Colts#The_NFL_Baltimore_Colts) and not the [.45 caliber handgun ammunition round](/wiki/.45_Colt). Both brands are still made today and served all around the Baltimore area at bars, Oriole and Ravens games. The Natty Boh logo appears on all cans, bottles, and packaging; and merchandise featuring him can still easily be found in shops in Maryland, including several in [Fells Point](/wiki/Fells_Point).

Each year the [Artscape](/wiki/Artscape_(festival)) takes place in the city in the [Bolton Hill](/wiki/Bolton_Hill,_Baltimore) neighborhood, due to its proximity to Maryland Institute College of Art. Artscape styles itself as the "largest free arts festival in America".[[147]](#cite_note-147) Each May, the [Maryland Film Festival](/wiki/Maryland_Film_Festival) takes place in Baltimore, using all five screens of the historic [Charles Theatre](/wiki/Charles_Theatre) as its anchor venue. Many movies and television shows have been filmed in Baltimore. [*The Wire*](/wiki/The_Wire)was set and filmed in Baltimore. [*House of Cards*](/wiki/House_of_Cards_(U.S._TV_series)), conversely, is set in Washington, D.C. but filmed in Baltimore.[[148]](#cite_note-148) Baltimore has cultural museums in many areas of study. [The Baltimore Museum of Art](/wiki/Baltimore_Museum_of_Art), and the [Walters Art Museum](/wiki/Walters_Art_Museum) are internationally renowned for its collection of art. The Baltimore Museum of Art has the largest holding of works by [Henri Matisse](/wiki/Henri_Matisse) in the world.[[149]](#cite_note-149) The [National Great Blacks in Wax Museum](/wiki/National_Great_Blacks_In_Wax_Museum) is the first African American wax museum in the country, featuring more than 150 life-size and lifelike wax figures.[[28]](#cite_note-28)

### Cuisine[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=31)]

Baltimore is known for its Maryland [blue crabs](/wiki/Callinectes_sapidus), crab cake, [Old Bay Seasoning](/wiki/Old_Bay_Seasoning), pit beef, and the "chicken box." The city has many restaurants in or around the Inner Harbor. The [Little Italy](/wiki/Little_Italy,_Baltimore) neighborhood biggest draw is the food. Fells Point also is a foodie neighborhood for tourist and locals and it is where the oldest continuously running tavern in the country is "The Horse You Came In On Saloon."[[150]](#cite_note-150) Many of the cities upscale restaurant can be found in [Harbor East](/wiki/Inner_Harbor_East,_Baltimore). The city currently has five public markets across the city. The [Baltimore Public Market System](/wiki/Baltimore_Public_Markets) is the oldest continuously operating public market system in the United States.[[151]](#cite_note-151) [Lexington Market](/wiki/Lexington_Market) is one of the longest-running markets in the world and longest running in the country, having been around since 1782. The market continues to stand in its original site. Baltimore is the last place in America where you can still find [arabbers](/wiki/Arabber), vendors who sell fresh fruits and vegetables from a horse-drawn cart that goes up and down neighborhood streets.[[152]](#cite_note-152) Food- and drink-rating site Zagat ranked Baltimore second in a list of the 17 best food cities in the country in 2015.[[153]](#cite_note-153)

### Local dialect[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=32)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) One thing visitors quickly notice is that some locals refer to their city as "Balmer", dropping the "t". The traditional local accent, particular to some working-class areas of the city, has long been noted and celebrated as "Baltimorese" or "Bawlmorese". While in other parts of the city, locals refer to their city as "Baldamore". Baltimore's dialect is a member of the Atlantic midland English dialect group, and shares many characteristics with [Philadelphia's](/wiki/Philadelphia_accent), such as the addition of an "eh" sound before a long "o". Its influence distinguishes Baltimore, especially with words containing "oi" flattened into an "aw" sound.[[154]](#cite_note-154)The Baltimore accent, however is noted for sounding more southern than Philadelphia's. Glide deletion in the accent is present, with the long "i" sound being flattened to "ah" among certain speakers before voiced, liquid and nasal consonants. Due to its combination of [rhoticity](/wiki/Rhoticity_in_English) and [glide](/wiki/Semivowel) deletion, the word "iron" is pronounced somewhat like "arn" and the word "fire" like "far".[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed)

Baltimore native [John Waters](/wiki/John_Waters_(director_born_1946)) parodies the city and its dialect extensively in his films. Most of them are filmed and/or set in Baltimore, including the 1972 cult classic [*Pink Flamingos*](/wiki/Pink_Flamingos), as well as [*Hairspray*](/wiki/Hairspray_(1988_film)) and its [Broadway musical remake](/wiki/Hairspray_(musical)).

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also)

### Performing arts[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=33)]

Baltimore has three state-designated arts and entertainment (A & E) districts. The [Station North Arts and Entertainment District](/wiki/Station_North_Arts_and_Entertainment_District), [Highlandtown Arts District](/wiki/Highlandtown_Arts_District,_Baltimore,_MD), and the Bromo Arts & Entertainment District. The Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts, a non-profit organization, produces events and arts programs as well as manages several facilities. It is the official Baltimore City Arts Council. BOPA coordinates Baltimore's major events including New Year's Eve and July 4 celebrations at the Inner Harbor, [Artscape](/wiki/Artscape_(festival)) which is America's largest free arts festival, Baltimore Book Festival, Baltimore Farmers' Market & Bazaar, School 33 Art Center's Open Studio Tour and the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade.[[155]](#cite_note-155) The [Baltimore Symphony Orchestra](/wiki/Baltimore_Symphony_Orchestra) is an internationally renowned orchestra, founded in 1916 as a publicly funded municipal organization. The current Music Director is [Marin Alsop](/wiki/Marin_Alsop), a protégé of [Leonard Bernstein](/wiki/Leonard_Bernstein). [Centerstage](/wiki/Centerstage_(theater)) is the premier theater company in the city and a regionally well-respected group. The [Lyric Opera House](/wiki/Lyric_Opera_House) is the home of [Lyric Opera Baltimore](/wiki/Lyric_Opera_Baltimore), which operates there as part of the Patricia and Arthur Modell Performing Arts Center. [The Baltimore Consort](/wiki/The_Baltimore_Consort) has been a leading early music ensemble for over twenty-five years. The France-Merrick Performing Arts Center, home of the restored [Thomas W. Lamb](/wiki/Thomas_W._Lamb)-designed [Hippodrome Theatre](/wiki/Hippodrome_Theatre_(Baltimore)), has afforded Baltimore the opportunity to become a major regional player in the area of touring Broadway and other performing arts presentations. Renovating Baltimore's historic theatres have become widespread throughout the city such as the [Everyman](/wiki/Everyman_Theatre,_Baltimore), Centre, [Senator](/wiki/Senator_Theatre) and most recent [Parkway](/wiki/Parkway_Theatre_(Baltimore)) theatre. Other buildings have been reused such as the former [Mercantile Deposit and Trust](/wiki/Mercantile_Trust_and_Deposit_Company) Company bank building. It is now the Chesapeake Shakespeare Company Theater.

Baltimore also boasts a wide array of professional (non-touring) and community theater groups. Aside from Center Stage, resident troupes in the city include [Everyman Theatre](/wiki/Everyman_Theatre,_Baltimore), Single Carrot Theatre, and Baltimore Theatre Festival. Community theaters in the city include Fells Point Community Theatre and the [Arena Players Inc.](/wiki/The_Arena_Players), which is the nation's oldest continuously operating African American community theater.[[156]](#cite_note-156) In 2009, the [Baltimore Rock Opera Society](/wiki/Baltimore_Rock_Opera_Society), an all-volunteer theatrical company, launched its first production.[[157]](#cite_note-157) Baltimore is home to the [Pride of Baltimore Chorus](/wiki/Pride_of_Baltimore_Chorus), a three-time international silver medalist women's chorus, affiliated with [Sweet Adelines International](/wiki/Sweet_Adelines_International). The [Maryland State Boychoir](/wiki/Maryland_State_Boychoir) is located in the northeastern Baltimore neighborhood of Mayfield.

Baltimore is the home of non-profit [chamber music](/wiki/Chamber_music) organization Vivre Musicale. VM won a 2011–2012 award for Adventurous Programming from the [American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers](/wiki/American_Society_of_Composers,_Authors_and_Publishers) and [Chamber Music America](/wiki/Chamber_Music_America).[[158]](#cite_note-158) The [Peabody Institute](/wiki/Peabody_Institute), located in the Mount Vernon neighborhood, is the oldest conservatory of music in the United States.[[159]](#cite_note-159) Established in 1857, it is one of the most prestigious in the world,[[159]](#cite_note-159) along with [Juilliard](/wiki/Juilliard_School), [Eastman](/wiki/Eastman_School_of_Music), and the [Curtis Institute](/wiki/Curtis_Institute_of_Music). The [Morgan State University](/wiki/Morgan_State_University) Choir is also one of the nation's most prestigious university choral ensembles.[[160]](#cite_note-160) The city is home to the [Baltimore School for the Arts](/wiki/Baltimore_School_for_the_Arts), a public high school in the Mount Vernon neighborhood of Baltimore. The institution is nationally recognized for its success in preparation for students entering music (vocal/instrumental), theatre (acting/theater production), dance, and visual arts.

## Sports[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=34)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main)

### Baseball[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=35)]

[Template:Further](/wiki/Template:Further) Baltimore has a long and storied baseball history, including its distinction as the birthplace of [Babe Ruth](/wiki/Babe_Ruth) in 1895. The original [19th century Baltimore Orioles](/wiki/Baltimore_Orioles_(19th_century)) were one of the most successful early franchises, featuring numerous hall of famers during its years from 1882 to 1899. As one of the eight inaugural American League franchises, the Baltimore Orioles played in the AL during the 1901 and 1902 seasons. The team moved to New York City before the 1903 season and was renamed the New York Highlanders, which later became the New York Yankees. Ruth played for the [minor league Baltimore Orioles](/wiki/Baltimore_Orioles_(minor_league)) team, which was active from 1903 to 1914. After playing one season in 1915 as the Richmond Climbers, the team returned the following year to Baltimore, where it played as the Orioles until 1953.[[161]](#cite_note-161) The team currently known as the [Baltimore Orioles](/wiki/Baltimore_Orioles) has represented Major League Baseball locally since 1954 when the St. Louis Browns moved to the city of Baltimore. The Orioles advanced to the World Series in 1966, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1979 and 1983, winning three times (1966, 1970 and 1983), while making the playoffs all but one year (1972) from 1969 through 1974.

In 1995, local player (and later Hall of Famer) [Cal Ripken, Jr.](/wiki/Cal_Ripken,_Jr.) broke [Lou Gehrig's](/wiki/Lou_Gehrig) streak of 2,130 consecutive games played, for which Ripken was named [Sportsman of the Year](/wiki/Sportsman_of_the_Year) by [*Sports Illustrated*](/wiki/Sports_Illustrated) magazine.[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed) Six former Orioles players, including Ripken (2007), and two of the team's managers have been inducted into the [Baseball Hall of Fame](/wiki/National_Baseball_Hall_of_Fame_and_Museum).

### Football[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=36)]

[Template:Further](/wiki/Template:Further)

[thumb|](/wiki/File:M&T_Bank_Stadium_DoD.jpg)[M&T Bank Stadium](/wiki/M&T_Bank_Stadium) Prior to an NFL team moving to Baltimore, there had been several attempts at a professional football team prior to the 1950s. Most were minor league or [semi-professional](/wiki/Semi-professional) teams. The first major league to base a team in Baltimore was the [All-America Football Conference](/wiki/All-America_Football_Conference) (AAFC), which had a team named the [Baltimore Colts](/wiki/Baltimore_Colts_(1947–50)). The AAFC Colts played for three seasons in the AAFC (1947, 1948, and 1949), and when the AAFC folded following the 1949 season, moved to the NFL for a single year (1950) before going bankrupt. Three years later, the NFL's [Dallas Texans](/wiki/Dallas_Texans_(NFL)) would itself fold, and its assets and player contracts purchased by an ownership team headed by Baltimore businessman [Carroll Rosenbloom](/wiki/Carroll_Rosenbloom), who moved the team to Baltimore, establishing a new team also named the [Baltimore Colts](/wiki/History_of_the_Baltimore_Colts). During the 1950s and 1960s, the Colts were one of the NFLs more successful franchises, led by [NFL Hall of Fame](/wiki/NFL_Hall_of_Fame) quarterback [Johnny Unitas](/wiki/Johnny_Unitas) who set a then-record of 47 consecutive games with a touchdown pass. The Colts advanced to the [NFL Championship](/wiki/NFL_Championship) twice (1958 & 1959) and [Super Bowl](/wiki/Super_Bowl) twice (1969 & 1971), winning all except Super Bowl III in 1969. After the 1983 season, the team [left Baltimore for Indianapolis in 1984](/wiki/Baltimore_Colts_relocation_to_Indianapolis), where it became the [Indianapolis Colts](/wiki/Indianapolis_Colts).

The NFL returned to Baltimore when the former [Cleveland Browns](/wiki/Cleveland_Browns_relocation_controversy) moved to Baltimore to become the [Baltimore Ravens](/wiki/Baltimore_Ravens) in 1996. Since then, the Ravens won a Super Bowl championship in [2000](/wiki/Super_Bowl_XXXV) and [2012](/wiki/Super_Bowl_XLVII), four [AFC North](/wiki/AFC_North) division championships (2003, 2006, 2011 and 2012), and appeared in four [AFC Championship Games](/wiki/AFC_Championship_Game) (2000, 2008, 2011 and 2012).

### Other teams and events[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=37)]

The first professional sports organization in the United States, [The Maryland Jockey Club](/wiki/Maryland_Jockey_Club), was formed in Baltimore in 1743. [Preakness Stakes](/wiki/Preakness_Stakes), the second race in the [United States Triple Crown of Thoroughbred Racing](/wiki/United_States_Triple_Crown_of_Thoroughbred_Racing), has been held every May at [Pimlico Race Course](/wiki/Pimlico_Race_Course) in Baltimore since 1873.

College lacrosse is a popular sport in the spring, as the Johns Hopkins Blue Jays men's lacrosse team has won 44 national championships, the most of any program in history. In addition, Loyola University won its first men's NCAA lacrosse championship in 2012.

The [Baltimore Blues](/wiki/Baltimore_Blues) are a semi-professional [rugby league](/wiki/Rugby_league_football) club which began competition in the [USA Rugby League](/wiki/USA_Rugby_League) in 2012.[[162]](#cite_note-162) The [Baltimore Bohemians](/wiki/Baltimore_Bohemians) are an American [soccer club](/wiki/Football_(soccer)). They compete in the [USL Premier Development League](/wiki/USL_Premier_Development_League), the fourth tier of the [American Soccer Pyramid](/wiki/American_Soccer_Pyramid). Their inaugural season started in the spring of 2012.

The [Baltimore Grand Prix](/wiki/Baltimore_Grand_Prix) debuted along the streets of the Inner Harbor section of the city's downtown on September 2–4, 2011. The event played host to the [American Le Mans Series](/wiki/American_Le_Mans_Series) on Saturday and the [IndyCar Series](/wiki/IndyCar_Series) on Sunday. Support races from smaller series were also held, including [Indy Lights](/wiki/Indy_Lights). After three consecutive years, on September 13, 2013, it was announced that the event would not be held in 2014 or 2015 due to scheduling conflicts.[[163]](#cite_note-163) The athletic equipment company, [Under Armour](/wiki/Under_Armour) is also based out of Baltimore. Founded in 1996 by [Kevin Plank](/wiki/Kevin_Plank), a [University of Maryland](/wiki/University_of_Maryland) alumnus, the company's headquarters are located in Tide Point, adjacent to [Fort McHenry](/wiki/Fort_McHenry) and the [Domino Sugar](/wiki/Domino_Sugar) factory. The [Baltimore Marathon](/wiki/Baltimore_Marathon) is the flagship race of several races. The marathon begins at the Camden Yards sports complex and travels through many diverse neighborhoods of Baltimore, including the scenic Inner Harbor waterfront area, historic Federal Hill, Fells Point, and Canton, Baltimore. The race then proceeds to other important focal points of the city such as Patterson Park, Clifton Park, Lake Montebello, the Charles Village neighborhood and the western edge of downtown. After winding through 42.195 kilometres (26.219 mi) of Baltimore, the race ends at virtually the same point at which it starts.

## Parks and recreation[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=38)]

The City of Baltimore boasts over [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) of parkland.[[164]](#cite_note-164) The Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks manages the majority of parks and recreational facilities in the city including [Patterson Park](/wiki/Patterson_Park), [Federal Hill Park](/wiki/Federal_Hill_Park), and [Druid Hill Park](/wiki/Druid_Hill_Park).[[165]](#cite_note-165) The city is also home to [Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine](/wiki/Fort_McHenry_National_Monument_and_Historic_Shrine), a coastal star-shaped fort best known for its role in the War of 1812. [Template:As of](/wiki/Template:As_of), [The Trust for Public Land](/wiki/Trust_for_Public_Land), a national land conservation organization, ranks Baltimore 40th among the 75 largest U.S. cities.[[164]](#cite_note-164)

## Government[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=39)]

Baltimore is an [independent city](/wiki/Independent_city), and not part of any [county](/wiki/County_(United_States)). For most governmental purposes under Maryland law, Baltimore City is treated as a county-level entity. The [United States Census Bureau](/wiki/United_States_Census_Bureau) uses counties as the basic unit for presentation of statistical information in the United States, and treats Baltimore as a county equivalent for those purposes.

Baltimore has been a [Democratic](/wiki/Democratic_Party_(United_States)) stronghold for over 150 years, with Democrats dominating every level of government. In virtually all elections, the Democratic primary is the real contest.[[166]](#cite_note-166) The city hosted the first six [Democratic National Conventions](/wiki/Democratic_National_Convention), from 1832 through 1852, and hosted the DNC again in [1860](/wiki/1860_Democratic_National_Convention), [1872](/wiki/1872_Democratic_National_Convention), and [1912](/wiki/1912_Democratic_National_Convention).[[167]](#cite_note-167)[[168]](#cite_note-168)

### City government[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=40)]

#### Mayor[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=41)]

*For a full list of mayors, see* [*List of Baltimore Mayors*](/wiki/List_of_Baltimore_Mayors)*.*

[Sheila Dixon](/wiki/Sheila_Dixon) became the first female mayor of Baltimore on January 17, 2007. As the former City Council President, she assumed the office of Mayor when former Mayor [Martin O'Malley](/wiki/Martin_O'Malley) took office as Governor of Maryland.[[169]](#cite_note-169) On November 6, 2007, Dixon won the [Baltimore mayoral election](/wiki/Baltimore_mayoral_election,_2007). Mayor Dixon's administration ended less than three years after her election, the result of a criminal investigation that began in 2006 while she was still City Council President. She was convicted on a single misdemeanor charge of [embezzlement](/wiki/Embezzlement) on December 1, 2009. A month later, Dixon made an [Alford plea](/wiki/Alford_plea) to a [perjury](/wiki/Perjury) charge and agreed to resign from office; Maryland, like most states, does not allow convicted felons to hold office.[[170]](#cite_note-170)[[171]](#cite_note-171) [Stephanie Rawlings-Blake](/wiki/Stephanie_Rawlings-Blake), who was City Council President at that time, assumed the office of Mayor on February 4, 2010, when Dixon's resignation became effective.[[172]](#cite_note-172) She was elected to a full term in 2011, receiving 84% of the vote.[[173]](#cite_note-173) [thumb|250px|](/wiki/File:1city_hall_baltimore.jpg)[Baltimore City Hall](/wiki/Baltimore_City_Hall)

#### Baltimore City Council[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=42)]

Grassroots pressure for reform, voiced as [Question P](/wiki/Question_P), restructured the city council in November 2002, against the will of the mayor, the council president, and the majority of the council. A coalition of union and community groups, organized by the [Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now](/wiki/Association_of_Community_Organizations_for_Reform_Now) (ACORN), backed the effort.[[174]](#cite_note-174) The [Baltimore City Council](/wiki/Baltimore_City_Council) is now made up of 14 single-member districts and one elected at-large council president. [Bernard C. "Jack" Young](/wiki/Bernard_C._Young) has been the council president since February 2010, when he was unanimously elected by the other council members to replace Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, who had become mayor.[[175]](#cite_note-175) Edward Reisinger, the 10th district representative, is the council's current vice president.[[176]](#cite_note-176)

#### Law enforcement[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=43)]

The [Baltimore City Police Department](/wiki/Baltimore_Police_Department), founded 1784 as a "Night City Watch" and day Constables system and later reorganized as a City Department in 1853, with a following reorganization under State of Maryland supervision in 1859, with appointments made by the [Governor of Maryland](/wiki/Governor_of_Maryland) after a disturbing period of civic and elections violence with riots in the later part of the decade, is the current primary law enforcement agency serving the citizens of the City of Baltimore. Campus and building security for the city's [public schools](/wiki/Baltimore_City_Public_Schools) is provided by the Baltimore City Public Schools Police, established in the 1970s.

The [Maryland Transportation Authority Police](/wiki/Maryland_Transportation_Authority_Police) under the [Maryland Department of Transportation](/wiki/Maryland_Department_of_Transportation), (originally established as the Baltimore Harbor Tunnel Police" when opened in 1957) is the primary law enforcement agency on the [Fort McHenry Tunnel Thruway](/wiki/Fort_McHenry_Tunnel_Thruway) (Interstate 95), the [Baltimore Harbor Tunnel Thruway](/wiki/Baltimore_Harbor_Tunnel_Thruway) (Interstate 895), which go under the Northwest Branch of the [Patapsco River](/wiki/Patapsco_River), and [Interstate 395](/wiki/Interstate_395_(Maryland)), which has three ramp bridges crossing the Middle Branch of the [Patapsco River](/wiki/Patapsco_River) which are under [MdTA](/wiki/Maryland_Transportation_Authority) jurisdiction, the [Baltimore-Washington International Airport](/wiki/Baltimore-Washington_International_Airport), (BWI) and have limited concurrent jurisdiction with the [Baltimore City Police Department](/wiki/Baltimore_Police_Department) under a "[memorandum of understanding](/wiki/Memorandum_of_understanding)".

[thumb|](/wiki/File:1Courthouse_east.JPG)[Courthouse east](/wiki/United_States_Post_Office_and_Courthouse_(Baltimore,_Maryland)) is a historic combined post office and Federal courthouse located in [Battle Monument](/wiki/Battle_Monument) Square.

Law enforcement on the fleet of transit buses and transit rail systems serving Baltimore is the responsibility of the [Maryland Transit Administration Police](/wiki/Maryland_Transit_Administration_Police), which is part of the Maryland Transit Administration of the state [Department of Transportation](/wiki/Maryland_Department_of_Transportation). The MTA Police also share jurisdiction authority with the Baltimore City Police, governed by a memorandum of understanding.[[177]](#cite_note-177) As the enforcement arm of the Baltimore circuit and district court system, the [Baltimore City Sheriff's Office](/wiki/Baltimore_City_Sheriff's_Office_(Maryland)), created by state constitutional amendment in 1844, is responsible for the security of city courthouses and property, service of court-ordered writs, protective and peace orders, warrants, tax levies, prisoner transportation and traffic enforcement. Deputy Sheriffs are sworn law enforcement officials, with full arrest authority granted by the constitution of Maryland, the [Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commission](/wiki/Maryland_Police_and_Correctional_Training_Commission) and the Sheriff of the City of Baltimore.[[178]](#cite_note-178) The [United States Coast Guard](/wiki/United_States_Coast_Guard), operating out of their shipyard and facility (since 1899) at Arundel Cove on [Curtis Creek](/wiki/Curtis_Creek), (off Pennington Avenue extending to Hawkins Point Road/Fort Smallwood Road) in the [Curtis Bay](/wiki/Curtis_Bay,_Baltimore) section of southern Baltimore City and adjacent northern [Anne Arundel County](/wiki/Anne_Arundel_County). The U.S.C.G. also operates and maintains a presence on Baltimore and Maryland waterways in the [Patapsco River](/wiki/Patapsco_River) and [Chesapeake Bay](/wiki/Chesapeake_Bay). "Sector Baltimore" is responsible for commanding law enforcement and search & rescue units as well as aids to navigation.

#### Baltimore City Fire Department[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=44)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) The city of Baltimore is protected by the over 1,800 professional firefighters of the Baltimore City Fire Department (BCFD), which was founded in December 1858 and began operating the following year. Replacing several warring independent volunteer companies since the 1770s and the confusion resulting from [a riot](/wiki/Know-Nothing_Riot_of_1856) involving the "[Know-Nothing](/wiki/Know-Nothing)" political party two years before, the establishment of a unified professional fire fighting force was a major advance in urban governance. The BCFD operates out of 37 fire stations located throughout the city and has a long history and sets of traditions in its various houses and divisions.

### State government[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=45)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also)

Since the legislative [redistricting](/wiki/Redistricting) in 2002, Baltimore has had six legislative districts located entirely within its boundaries, giving the city six seats in the 47-member [Maryland Senate](/wiki/Maryland_Senate) and 18 in the 141-member [Maryland House of Delegates](/wiki/Maryland_House_of_Delegates).[[179]](#cite_note-179)[[180]](#cite_note-180) During the previous 10-year period, Baltimore had four legislative districts within the city limits, but four others overlapped the Baltimore County line.[[181]](#cite_note-181) As of January 2011, all of Baltimore's state senators and delegates were Democrats.[[179]](#cite_note-179) Approval of the next redistricting plan is expected to become effective in time for Maryland's 2012 congressional primary election on February 14, 2012.[[182]](#cite_note-182)

#### State agencies[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=46)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also)

### Federal government[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=47)]

[Template:Further](/wiki/Template:Further) [Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) Three of the state's eight [congressional districts](/wiki/Congressional_district) include portions of Baltimore: the [2nd](/wiki/Maryland's_2nd_congressional_district), represented by [Dutch Ruppersberger](/wiki/Dutch_Ruppersberger); the [3rd](/wiki/Maryland's_3rd_congressional_district), represented by [John Sarbanes](/wiki/John_Sarbanes); and the [7th](/wiki/Maryland's_7th_congressional_district), represented by [Elijah Cummings](/wiki/Elijah_Cummings). All three are Democrats; a [Republican](/wiki/United_States_Republican_Party) has not represented a significant portion of Baltimore in Congress since [John Boynton Philip Clayton Hill](/wiki/John_Boynton_Philip_Clayton_Hill) represented the 3rd District in 1927, and has not represented any of Baltimore since the [Eastern Shore](/wiki/Eastern_Shore_of_Maryland)-based 1st District lost its share of Baltimore after the 2000 census; it was represented by Republican [Wayne Gilchrest](/wiki/Wayne_Gilchrest) at the time.

Both of Maryland's [senators](/wiki/United_States_Senate), [Ben Cardin](/wiki/Ben_Cardin) and [Barbara Mikulski](/wiki/Barbara_Mikulski), are from Baltimore. The last three people to represent Maryland in the Senate represented the 3rd District before being elected to the Senate. [Paul Sarbanes](/wiki/Paul_Sarbanes) represented the 3rd from 1971 until 1977, when he was elected to the first of five terms in the Senate. Sarbanes was succeeded by Mikulski, who represented the 3rd from 1977 to 1987. Mikulski was succeeded by Cardin, who held the seat until handing it to John Sarbanes upon his election to the Senate in 2007.[[183]](#cite_note-183) The [Postal Service's](/wiki/United_States_Postal_Service) Baltimore Main Post Office is located at 900 East Fayette Street in the [Jonestown](/wiki/Jonestown,_Baltimore) area.[[184]](#cite_note-184) The national headquarters for the [United States Social Security Administration](/wiki/United_States_Social_Security_Administration) is located in Woodlawn, just outside of Baltimore.

## Education[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=48)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also)

### Colleges and universities[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=49)]

Baltimore is the home of numerous places of higher learning, both public and private. 100,000 college students from around the country attend Baltimore City's 12 accredited two-year or four-year colleges and universities.[[185]](#cite_note-185)[[186]](#cite_note-186) Among them are:

#### Private[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=50)]

[thumb|250px|Keyser Quadrangle in Spring at the](/wiki/File:JHU-V.jpg) [Johns Hopkins University](/wiki/Johns_Hopkins_University) the first research university in the United States. [thumb|Interior of the](/wiki/File:George-peabody-library.jpg) [George Peabody Library](/wiki/George_Peabody_Library) at the [Peabody Institute](/wiki/Peabody_Institute) of Johns Hopkins University. It is considered one of the most beautiful libraries in the world.[[187]](#cite_note-187)

* [The Johns Hopkins University](/wiki/The_Johns_Hopkins_University)
* [Baltimore International College](/wiki/Baltimore_International_College)
* [Loyola University Maryland](/wiki/Loyola_University_Maryland)
* [Maryland Institute College of Art](/wiki/Maryland_Institute_College_of_Art)
* [St. Mary's Seminary and University](/wiki/St._Mary's_Seminary_and_University)
* [Notre Dame of Maryland University](/wiki/Notre_Dame_of_Maryland_University)
* The [Peabody Institute](/wiki/Peabody_Institute) of Johns Hopkins University
* [Sojourner–Douglass College](/wiki/Sojourner–Douglass_College)
* [Stratford University](/wiki/Stratford_University) (Baltimore campus)

#### Public[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=51)]

* [Baltimore City Community College](/wiki/Baltimore_City_Community_College)
* [Coppin State University](/wiki/Coppin_State_University)
* [Morgan State University](/wiki/Morgan_State_University)
* [University of Baltimore](/wiki/University_of_Baltimore)
* [University of Maryland, Baltimore](/wiki/University_of_Maryland,_Baltimore)

### Primary and secondary schools[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=52)]

The city's public schools are managed by [Baltimore City Public Schools](/wiki/Baltimore_City_Public_Schools) and include schools that have been well known in the area: [Carver Vocational-Technical High School](/wiki/Carver_Vocational_Technical_High_School), the first African American vocational high school and center that was established in the state of Maryland; [Digital Harbor High School](/wiki/Digital_Harbor_High_School), one of the secondary schools that emphasizes [information technology](/wiki/Information_technology); [Lake Clifton Eastern High School](/wiki/Lake_Clifton_Eastern_High_School), which is the largest school campus in Baltimore City of physical size; the historic [Frederick Douglass High School](/wiki/Frederick_Douglass_Senior_High_School_(Baltimore,_Maryland)), which is the second oldest African American high school in the United States;[[188]](#cite_note-188) [Baltimore City College](/wiki/Baltimore_City_College), the third oldest public high school in the country;[[189]](#cite_note-189) and [Western High School](/wiki/Western_High_School_(Baltimore,_Maryland)), the oldest public all-girls school in the nation.[[190]](#cite_note-190) Baltimore City College (also known as "City") and [Baltimore Polytechnic Institute](/wiki/Baltimore_Polytechnic_Institute) (also known as "Poly") share the nation's second-oldest high school [football rivalry](/wiki/Baltimore_City_College_football).[[191]](#cite_note-191) [Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also)

## Transportation[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=53)]

### Roads and highways[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=54)]

[thumb|250px|The](/wiki/File:BaltimoreLightRail.JPG) [Baltimore Light Rail](/wiki/Baltimore_Light_Rail) provides service to [Baltimore–Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport](/wiki/Baltimore–Washington_International_Thurgood_Marshall_Airport) and the Baltimore area. Here, a train stops at [Convention Center (Baltimore Light Rail station)](/wiki/Convention_Center_(Baltimore_Light_Rail_station)), just west of the [Baltimore Convention Center](/wiki/Baltimore_Convention_Center) on [Pratt Street](/wiki/Pratt_Street). The [Interstate highways](/wiki/Interstate_Highway_System) serving Baltimore are [I-70](/wiki/Interstate_70_in_Maryland), [I-83](/wiki/Interstate_83) (the Jones Falls Expressway), [I-95](/wiki/Interstate_95_in_Maryland) (the John F. Kennedy Memorial Highway north of the city), [I-395](/wiki/Interstate_395_(Maryland)), [I-695](/wiki/Interstate_695_(Maryland)) (the Baltimore Beltway), [I-795](/wiki/Interstate_795_(Maryland)) (the Northwest Expressway), [I-895](/wiki/Interstate_895_(Maryland)) (the Harbor Tunnel Thruway), and [I-97](/wiki/Interstate_97). The city's mainline Interstate highways—I-95, I-83, and I-70—do not directly connect to each other, and in the case of I-70 end at a park and ride lot just inside the city limits, because of [freeway revolts](/wiki/Highway_revolts) in Baltimore. These revolts were led primarily by Barbara Mikulski, now a [United States senator](/wiki/United_States_senator), which resulted in the abandonment of the original plan. There are two tunnels traversing Baltimore Harbor within the city limits: the four-bore [Fort McHenry Tunnel](/wiki/Fort_McHenry_Tunnel) (serving [I-95](/wiki/Interstate_95_in_Maryland)) and the two-bore [Harbor Tunnel](/wiki/Baltimore_Harbor_Tunnel) (serving I-895). The Baltimore Beltway crosses south of Baltimore Harbor over the [Francis Scott Key Bridge](/wiki/Francis_Scott_Key_Bridge_(Baltimore)).

The only [U.S. Highways](/wiki/United_States_Numbered_Highways) in the city are [US 1](/wiki/U.S._Route_1_in_Maryland), which bypasses downtown, and [US 40](/wiki/U.S._Route_40_in_Maryland), which crosses downtown from east to west. Both run along major surface streets; however, US 40 utilizes a small section of a freeway cancelled in the 1970s in the west side of the city originally intended for [Interstate 170](/wiki/Interstate_170_(Maryland)). State routes in the city also travel along surface streets, with the exception of [Maryland Route 295](/wiki/Maryland_Route_295), which carries the [Baltimore–Washington Parkway](/wiki/Baltimore–Washington_Parkway).

The Baltimore City Department of Transportation (BCDOT) is responsible for several functions of the road transportation system in Baltimore, including repairing roads, sidewalks, and alleys; road signs; street lights; and managing the flow of transportation systems.<ref name=bcdot>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> In addition, the agency is in charge of vehicle towing and [traffic cameras](/wiki/Traffic_camera).<ref name=bcdot2>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref><ref name=bcdot3>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> BCDOT maintains all streets within the city of Baltimore. These include all streets that are marked as state and U.S. highways as well as the portions of I-83 and I-70 within the city limits. The only highways within the city that are not maintained by BCDOT are I-95, I-395, I-695, and I-895; those four highways are maintained by the Maryland Transportation Authority.[[192]](#cite_note-192)

### Transit systems[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=55)]

#### Public transit[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=56)]

[thumb|right|Charm City Circulator Van Hool A330 #1101 on the Orange Line](/wiki/File:Charm_City_Circulator_Vanhool_1101.jpg) Public transit in Baltimore is mostly provided by the [Maryland Transit Administration](/wiki/Maryland_Transit_Administration) (abbreviated "MTA Maryland") and [Charm City Circulator](/wiki/Charm_City_Circulator). MTA Maryland operates a comprehensive [bus](/wiki/MTA_Maryland_bus_service) network, including many local, express, and commuter buses, [a light rail network](/wiki/Baltimore_Light_Rail) connecting [Hunt Valley](/wiki/Hunt_Valley,_Maryland) in the north to BWI Airport and [Cromwell](/wiki/Cromwell_Station_/_Glen_Burnie_(Baltimore_Light_Rail_station)) ([Glen Burnie](/wiki/Glen_Burnie,_Maryland)) in the south, and a [subway line](/wiki/Baltimore_Metro_Subway) between [Owings Mills](/wiki/Owings_Mills,_Maryland) and Johns Hopkins Hospital.[[193]](#cite_note-193) A proposed rail line, known as the [Red Line](/wiki/Red_Line_(Baltimore)), which would link the Social Security Administration to [Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center](/wiki/Johns_Hopkins_Bayview_Medical_Center) and perhaps the [Canton](/wiki/Canton,_Baltimore) and [Dundalk](/wiki/Dundalk,_Maryland) communities, was cancelled as of June 2015 by Governor [Larry Hogan](/wiki/Larry_Hogan); a proposal to extend Baltimore's existing subway line to Morgan State University, known as the [Green Line](/wiki/Green_Line_(Baltimore)), is in the planning stages.[[194]](#cite_note-194) The Charm City Circulator (CCC), a [shuttle bus service](/wiki/Shuttle_bus_service) operated by Veolia Transportation for the Baltimore Department of Transportation, began operating in the downtown area in January 2010. Funded partly by a 16 percent increase in the city's parking fees, the circulator provides free bus service seven days a week, picking up passengers every 15 minutes at designated stops during service hours.[[195]](#cite_note-195)[[196]](#cite_note-196) The CCC's first bus line, the Orange route, travels between Hollins Market and Harbor East. Its Purple route, launched June 7, 2010, operates between Penn Station and Federal Hill. The Green route runs between Johns Hopkins and City Hall.[[196]](#cite_note-196)[[197]](#cite_note-197) The Charm City Circulator operates a fleet of diesel and hybrid vehicles built by DesignLine, Orion, and Van Hool.[[195]](#cite_note-195)

#### Intercity rail[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=57)]

[thumb|](/wiki/File:Baltimore_Pennsylvania_Station_corrected.jpg)[Baltimore Pennsylvania Station](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Station_(Baltimore)) Baltimore is a top destination for [Amtrak](/wiki/Amtrak) along the [Northeast Corridor](/wiki/Northeast_Corridor). Baltimore's [Penn Station](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Station_(Baltimore)) is one of the busiest in the country. In FY 2014, Penn Station was ranked the [seventh-busiest](/wiki/List_of_busiest_Amtrak_stations) rail station in the [United States](/wiki/United_States) by number of passengers served each year.[[198]](#cite_note-198) The building sits on a raised "island" of sorts between two open trenches, one for the Jones Falls Expressway and the other for the tracks of the Northeast Corridor (NEC). The NEC approaches from the south through the two-track, 7,660-foot [Baltimore and Potomac Tunnel](/wiki/Baltimore_and_Potomac_Tunnel), which opened in 1873 and whose 30 mph limit, sharp curves, and steep grades make it one of the NEC's worst bottlenecks. The NEC's northern approach is the 1873 [Union Tunnel](/wiki/Union_Tunnel_(Baltimore)), which has one [single-track](/wiki/Single_track_(rail)) bore and one [double-track](/wiki/Double_track) bore.

Just outside the city, [Baltimore/Washington International (BWI) Thurgood Marshall Airport Rail Station](/wiki/BWI_Rail_Station) is another popular stop. Amtrak's [*Acela Express*](/wiki/Acela_Express), [*Palmetto*](/wiki/Palmetto_(train)), [*Carolinian*](/wiki/Carolinian_(train)), [*Silver Star*](/wiki/Silver_Star_(Amtrak_train)), [*Silver Meteor*](/wiki/Silver_Meteor), [*Vermonter*](/wiki/Vermonter), [*Crescent*](/wiki/Crescent_(train)), and [*Northeast Regional*](/wiki/Northeast_Regional) trains are the scheduled passenger train services that stop in the city. Additionally, [MARC](/wiki/MARC_Train) commuter rail service connects the city's two main intercity rail stations, Camden Station and Penn Station, with Washington, D.C.'s [Union Station](/wiki/Union_Station_(Washington,_D.C.)) as well as stops in between. The MARC consists of 3 lines; the Brunswick, Camden and Penn. On December 7, 2013 the Penn Line began weekend service.[[199]](#cite_note-199)

### Airports[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=58)]

[thumb|250px|The interior of](/wiki/File:Kbwi.jpg) [Baltimore–Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport](/wiki/Baltimore–Washington_International_Thurgood_Marshall_Airport), Baltimore's major commercial airport Baltimore is served by two airports, both operated by the Maryland Aviation Administration, which is part of the [Maryland Department of Transportation](/wiki/Maryland_Department_of_Transportation).[[200]](#cite_note-200) [Baltimore–Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport](/wiki/Baltimore–Washington_International_Thurgood_Marshall_Airport), generally known as "BWI," lies about [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) to the south of Baltimore in neighboring [Anne Arundel County](/wiki/Anne_Arundel_County,_Maryland). The airport is named after [Thurgood Marshall](/wiki/Thurgood_Marshall), a Baltimore native who was the first [African American](/wiki/African_American) to serve on the [Supreme Court of the United States](/wiki/Supreme_Court_of_the_United_States). In terms of passenger traffic, BWI is the 24th busiest airport in the United States.[[201]](#cite_note-201) As of calendar year 2014, BWI is the largest, by passenger count, of three major airports serving the [Baltimore–Washington Metropolitan Area](/wiki/Baltimore–Washington_Metropolitan_Area). It is accessible by I-95 and the Baltimore–Washington Parkway via [Interstate 195](/wiki/Interstate_195_(Maryland)), the [Baltimore Light Rail](/wiki/Baltimore_Light_Rail), and Amtrak and MARC Train at [BWI Rail Station](/wiki/BWI_Rail_Station).

Baltimore is also served by [Martin State Airport](/wiki/Martin_State_Airport), a [general aviation](/wiki/General_aviation) facility, to the northeast in Baltimore County. Martin State Airport is linked to [downtown Baltimore](/wiki/Downtown_Baltimore) by [Maryland Route 150](/wiki/Maryland_Route_150) (Eastern Avenue) and by MARC Train at [its own station](/wiki/Martin_State_Airport_(MARC_station)).

### Pedestrians and bicycles[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=59)]

Baltimore has a comprehensive system of bicycle routes in the city. These routes are not numbered, but are typically denoted with green signs sporting a silhouette of a bicycle upon an outline of the city's border, and denote the distance to destinations, much like bicycle routes in the rest of the state. The roads carrying bicycle routes are also labelled with either bike lanes, sharrows, or Share the Road signs. Many of these routes pass through the downtown area. The network of bicycle lanes in the city continues to expand, with over 140 miles added between 2006 and 2014.[[202]](#cite_note-202) Alongside bike lanes, Baltimore has also built [bike boulevards](/wiki/Bike_boulevard), starting with Guilford Avenue in 2012.

Baltimore currently has three major trail systems within the city. The [Gwynns Falls Trail](/wiki/Gwynns_Falls_Trail) runs from the Inner Harbor to the I-70 Park and Ride, passing through [Gwynns Falls Park](/wiki/Gwynns_Falls_Park) and possessing numerous branches. There are also many pedestrian hiking trails traversing the park. The [Jones Falls Trail](/wiki/Jones_Falls_Trail) currently runs from the Inner Harbor to the Cylburn Arboretum; however, it is currently undergoing expansion. Long term plans call for it to extend to the [Mount Washington Light Rail Stop](/wiki/Mount_Washington_(Baltimore_Light_Rail_station)), and possibly as far north as the Falls Road stop to connect to the Robert E. Lee boardwalk north of the city. It will also incorporate a spur alongside Western Run. The two aforementioned trails carry sections of the [East Coast Greenway](/wiki/East_Coast_Greenway) through the city. There is also the Herring Run Trail, which runs from [Harford Road](/wiki/Maryland_Route_147) east to its end beyond Sinclair Lane, utilizing Herring Run Park; long term plans also call for its extension to Morgan State University and north to points beyond. Other major bicycle projects include a protected cycle track installed on both Maryland Avenue and Mount Royal Avenue, expected to become the backbone of a downtown bicycle network. Installation for the cycletracks is expected in 2014 and 2016, respectively.

In addition to the bicycle trails and cycletracks, Baltimore has the Stony Run Trail, a walking path that will eventually connect from the Jones Falls north to Northern Parkway, utilizing much of the old Ma and Pa Railroad corridor inside the city. In 2011, the city undertook a campaign to reconstruct many sidewalk ramps in the city, coinciding with mass resurfacing of the city's streets. A 2011 study by [Walk Score](/wiki/Walk_Score) ranked Baltimore the 14th most walkable of fifty largest U.S. cities.[[203]](#cite_note-203)

### Port of Baltimore[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=60)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) [thumb|220px|left|Eastward view Baltimore's](/wiki/File:Baltimoreharborview.jpg) [Inner Harbor](/wiki/Inner_Harbor) [thumb|250px|Baltimore harbor in 1849 with the prominent](/wiki/File:Washington_Monument,_1849,_from_Federal_Hill_1a.jpg) [Washington Monument](/wiki/Washington_Monument_(Baltimore)) in the background north of the city [thumb|250px|](/wiki/File:The_Francis_Scott_Key_Bridge_(Baltimore).jpg)[Francis Scott Key Bridge](/wiki/Francis_Scott_Key_Bridge_(Baltimore)) over the Baltimore harbor. The port was founded in 1706, preceding the founding of Baltimore. The Maryland colonial legislature made the area near [Locust Point](/wiki/Locust_Point,_Baltimore) as the [port of entry](/wiki/Port_of_entry) for the [tobacco](/wiki/Tobacco) trade with England. Fells Point, the deepest point in the natural harbor, soon became the colony's main ship building center, later on becoming leader in the construction of [clipper ships](/wiki/Baltimore_Clipper).[[204]](#cite_note-204) After Baltimore's founding, mills were built behind the wharves. The [California Gold Rush](/wiki/California_Gold_Rush) led to many orders for fast vessels; many overland pioneers also relied upon canned goods from Baltimore. After the Civil War, a coffee ship was designed here for trade with [Brazil](/wiki/Brazil). At the end of the nineteenth century, European ship lines had terminals for immigrants. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad made the port a major [transshipment](/wiki/Transshipment) point.<ref name=Stover>[Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)</ref>[Template:Rp](/wiki/Template:Rp) Currently the port has major [roll-on/roll-off](/wiki/Roll-on/roll-off) facilities, as well as bulk facilities, especially steel handling.[[205]](#cite_note-205) [Water taxis](/wiki/Water_taxi) also operate in the Inner Harbor. Governor Ehrlich participated in naming the port after [Helen Delich Bentley](/wiki/Helen_Delich_Bentley) during the 300th anniversary of the port.[[206]](#cite_note-206) In 2007, Duke Realty Corporation began a new development near the Port of Baltimore, named the Chesapeake Commerce Center. This new industrial park is located on the site of a former General Motors plant. The total project comprises [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) in eastern Baltimore City, and the site will yield [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) of warehouse/distribution and office space. Chesapeake Commerce Center has direct access to two major Interstate highways ([I-95](/wiki/I-95) and [I-895](/wiki/Interstate_895_(Maryland))) and is located adjacent to two of the major Port of Baltimore terminals. The Port of Baltimore is one of two seaports on the U.S. East Coast with a [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) dredge to accommodate the largest shipping vessels.[[207]](#cite_note-207) Along with cargo terminals, the port also has a passenger cruise terminal, which offers year-round trips on several lines, including Royal Caribbean's Grandeur of the Seas and Carnival's Pride. Overall five cruise lines have operated out of the port to the Bahamas and the Caribbean, while some ships traveled to New England and Canada. The terminal has become a popular embarkation point where passengers have the rare opportunity to park and board next to the ship visible from Interstate 95.[[208]](#cite_note-208) Passengers from Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey make up a third of the volume, with travelers from Maryland, Virginia, the District and even Ohio and the Carolinas making up the rest.[[209]](#cite_note-209)

## Environment[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=61)]

### Water Pollution Control[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=62)]

Baltimore’s Inner Harbor, known for its skyline waterscape and its tourist friendly-areas, was horribly polluted. The waterway was often filled with garbage after heavy rainstorms, failing its 2014 water quality report card. The Waterfront Partnership of Baltimore took steps to remediate the waterways, in hopes that the harbor would be fishable and swimmable once again. Installed in May 2014, the Water Wheel, known as Mr. Trash Wheel, sits at the mouth of the [Jones Falls](/wiki/Jones_Falls) River in Baltimore’s Inner Harbor. A February 2015 agreement with a local waste-to-energy plant, is believed to make Baltimore the first city to use reclaimed waterway debris to generate electricity.[[210]](#cite_note-210) Mr. Trash Wheel is the world's first permanent water wheel trash interceptor to clean up the city's polluted Inner Harbor.<ref name=ew20151217>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> The Jones Falls river watershed drains fifty-eight square miles of land outside of Baltimore and is a significant source of trash that enters the harbor. Garbage collected by Mr. Trash Wheel could come from anywhere in the Jones Falls Watershed area.[[211]](#cite_note-211) The wheel moves continuously, removing garbage and dumping it into an attached dumpster using only hydro and solar renewable power to keep its wheel turning. It has the capability to collect 50,000 pounds of trash per day, and has removed more than 350 tons of litter from Baltimore's landmark and tourist attraction in just 18 months. That's nearly 200,000 bottles, 173,000 potato chip bags and a whopping 6.7 million cigarettes butts removed from the water.[[212]](#cite_note-212)[[213]](#cite_note-213) The Water Wheel has been very successful at trash removal, visibly decreasing the amount of garbage that collects in the harbor, especially after a rainfall.

The Waterfront Partnership is raising money to build a second Water Wheel at the end of Harris Creek, an entirely piped stream that flows beneath Baltimore's [Canton](/wiki/Canton,_Baltimore) neighborhood and empties into the Baltimore Harbor. Every year tons of trash come pouring out of Harris Creek.[[214]](#cite_note-214)[[215]](#cite_note-215) A new Water Wheel will capture that trash and keep it out of the Harbor, Chesapeake Bay, and Atlantic Ocean. A number of projects are going on in Baltimore City and County that should result in better water quality scores. Four of these projects, include the Blue Alleys project, the Water Wheel, expanded street sweeping and stream restoration.[[216]](#cite_note-216) In August 2010, the National Aquarium assembled, planted, and launched a floating wetland island designed by Biohabitats in Baltimore's Inner Harbor.[[217]](#cite_note-217) Hundreds of years ago Baltimore’s harbor shoreline would have been lined with tidal [wetlands](/wiki/Wetland). Floating wetlands provide many environmental benefits to water quality and habitat enhancement, which is why the Waterfront Partnership of Baltimore has included them in their Healthy Harbor Initiative pilot projects.[[218]](#cite_note-218) Biohabitats also developed a concept to transform a dilapidated wharf into a living pier that cleans Harbor water, provides habitat and is an aesthetic attraction. Currently under design, the top of the pier will become a constructed tidal wetland.[[219]](#cite_note-219) The city also has a fleet of trash skimmer operators to clean the harbor, which together accumulate a total of 200,000 tons of trash each year.[[220]](#cite_note-220)

## Media[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=63)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) Baltimore's main newspaper is [*The Baltimore Sun*](/wiki/The_Baltimore_Sun). It was sold by its Baltimore owners in 1986 to the Times Mirror Company,[[221]](#cite_note-221) which was bought by the [Tribune Company](/wiki/Tribune_Company) in 2000.[[222]](#cite_note-222) The [*Baltimore News-American*](/wiki/Baltimore_News-American), another long-running paper that competed with the Sun, ceased publication in 1986.[[223]](#cite_note-223) The city is home to the [Baltimore Afro-American](/wiki/Baltimore_Afro-American), an influential African American newspaper founded in 1892.[[224]](#cite_note-224)[[225]](#cite_note-225) In 2006, [*The Baltimore Examiner*](/wiki/The_Baltimore_Examiner) was launched to compete with *The Sun*. It was part of a national chain that includes [*The San Francisco Examiner*](/wiki/The_San_Francisco_Examiner) and [*The Washington Examiner*](/wiki/The_Washington_Examiner). In contrast to the paid subscription *Sun*, *The Examiner* was a free newspaper funded solely by advertisements. Unable to turn a profit and facing a deep recession, *The Baltimore Examiner* ceased publication on February 15, 2009.

Despite being located 40 miles northeast of [Washington, D.C.](/wiki/Washington,_D.C.), Baltimore is a major media market in its own right, with all major English language television networks represented in the city. [WJZ-TV](/wiki/WJZ-TV) is a [CBS](/wiki/CBS) [owned and operated station](/wiki/Owned_and_operated_station), and [WBFF](/wiki/WBFF) is the flagship of [Sinclair Broadcast Group](/wiki/Sinclair_Broadcast_Group), the largest station owner in the country.

Nielsen ranked Baltimore as the 26th-largest [television market](/wiki/Television_market) for the 2008–2009 viewing season and the 27th-largest for 2009–2010.[[226]](#cite_note-226) Arbitron's Fall 2010 rankings identified Baltimore as the 22nd largest radio market.[[227]](#cite_note-227)

## Notable people[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=64)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main)

## Sister cities[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=65)]

[Template:SisterCities](/wiki/Template:SisterCities)[[228]](#cite_note-228)[[229]](#cite_note-229) [Template:Colbegin](/wiki/Template:Colbegin)

* [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [Ashkelon](/wiki/Ashkelon), Israel (2005)
* [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [Bremerhaven](/wiki/Bremerhaven), Germany (2007)
* [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [Gbarnga](/wiki/Gbarnga), Liberia (1973)
* [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [Genoa](/wiki/Genoa), Italy (1985)
* [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [Kawasaki](/wiki/Kawasaki,_Kanagawa), [Kanagawa](/wiki/Kanagawa_Prefecture), Japan (1978)
* [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [Luxor](/wiki/Luxor), Egypt (1982)
* [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [Odessa](/wiki/Odessa), Ukraine (1974)
* [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [Piraeus](/wiki/Piraeus), Greece (1982)
* [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [Rotterdam](/wiki/Rotterdam), Netherlands (1985)
* [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [Xiamen](/wiki/Xiamen), China (1985)

[Template:Colend](/wiki/Template:Colend)

## See also[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=66)]

[Template:Portal](/wiki/Template:Portal)

* [Baltimore Development Corporation](/wiki/Baltimore_Development_Corporation)
* [Baltimore in fiction](/wiki/Baltimore_in_fiction)
* [Bluegrass in Baltimore: The Hard Drivin' Sound and its Legacy](/wiki/Bluegrass_in_Baltimore:_The_Hard_Drivin'_Sound_and_its_Legacy) (Book on the history of the Appalachian migrants move into the city in the 20th Century)
* [Cemeteries in Baltimore, Maryland](/wiki/Category:Cemeteries_in_Baltimore,_Maryland)
* [History of the Germans in Baltimore, Maryland](/wiki/History_of_the_Germans_in_Baltimore,_Maryland)
* [Moveable Feast](/wiki/Moveable_Feast_(organization))

[Template:Clear right](/wiki/Template:Clear_right)

## Notes[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=67)]

[Template:Notelist](/wiki/Template:Notelist)

## References[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=68)]

[Template:Reflist](/wiki/Template:Reflist)

## External links[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=69)]

[Template:Sister project links](/wiki/Template:Sister_project_links)

* [City of Baltimore](http://www.baltimorecity.gov/)
* [Baltimore City Council](http://www.baltimorecitycouncil.com/)
* [Visit Baltimore – official Destination Marketing Organization](http://www.baltimore.org/)
* [Baltimore City Public Schools](http://www.baltimorecityschools.org/)
* [Baltimore Development Corporation](http://baltimoredevelopment.com/)
* [Baltimore City Maps](http://www.library.jhu.edu/collections/specialcollections/maps/baltimore/baltoverview.html), historic maps at the [Sheridan Libraries](/wiki/Johns_Hopkins_University_Libraries).

[Template:S-start](/wiki/Template:S-start) [Template:Succession box](/wiki/Template:Succession_box) [Template:S-end](/wiki/Template:S-end) [Template:Navboxes](/wiki/Template:Navboxes)

[Template:Authority control](/wiki/Template:Authority_control)

[Category:Baltimore, Maryland](/wiki/Category:Baltimore,_Maryland) [Category:Cities in the Baltimore–Washington metropolitan area](/wiki/Category:Cities_in_the_Baltimore–Washington_metropolitan_area) [Category:Populated places on the Chesapeake Bay](/wiki/Category:Populated_places_on_the_Chesapeake_Bay) [Category:Cities in Maryland](/wiki/Category:Cities_in_Maryland) [Category:Early American industrial centers](/wiki/Category:Early_American_industrial_centers) [Category:Former capitals of the United States](/wiki/Category:Former_capitals_of_the_United_States) [Category:Independent cities in the United States](/wiki/Category:Independent_cities_in_the_United_States) [Category:Populated places established in 1729](/wiki/Category:Populated_places_established_in_1729) [Category:Port cities and towns of the United States Atlantic coast](/wiki/Category:Port_cities_and_towns_of_the_United_States_Atlantic_coast) [Category:1729 establishments in Maryland](/wiki/Category:1729_establishments_in_Maryland) [Category:Ukrainian communities in the United States](/wiki/Category:Ukrainian_communities_in_the_United_States) [Category:Populated coastal places in Maryland](/wiki/Category:Populated_coastal_places_in_Maryland)