Greater Baltimore has confirmed its status as a top contributor in the US manufacturing industry, now providing over 60,000 jobs for the Region's highly-skilled workforce. The State of Maryland has experienced a 5.1% increase in manufacturing from 2015-2018, far outpacing its neighboring states. The industry benefits from easy access to markets across the eastern US and around the world through a highly-efficient network of port, airport, rail, and highway infrastructure. The Region hosts numerous leading 21st-century manufacturers at the forefront of the digitalization of the industry, and continues to invest in a vibrant manufacturing ecosystem for the makers of tomorrow.

Manufacturing in Greater Baltimore: High-Skill & Continued Growth

Greater Baltimore's manufacturing sector is thriving, with the Baltimore MSA experiencing a 27.9% rise in manufacturing GDP in the years 2007 to 2017. This growth in output corresponded with a 67% rise in output per worker in the same period (QCEW, 2018). Combine this with the Region's talented workforce, educational assets, and affordable quality of life, and it's clear why manufacturing firms, and their workers, have chosen to locate and grow here.

Advanced Manufacturing & Industry 4.0

The Region, #4 among large US MSAs in advanced degree holders, is well prepared for the manufacturing of the future. The new Advanced Manufacturing, Materials and Processes (AMMP) Program center in Harford County will reimagine the future of additive manufacturing through a federal project bringing together industry, academia and the Defense community.

A Talented Pipeline of Workers

A number of the Region's secondary schools, community colleges, and trade schools help to provide a steady pipeline of qualified manufacturing workers. These programs, often designed in collaboration with the private sector, educate students in skills ranging from computer-aided design to welding.

67% Increase in Output per Worker, '07-'17 (MSA) (BEA & QCEW, 2017)

More than Half of Maryland Manufacturers are Advanced (MD Commerce, 2019)
Small Manufacturing

While Greater Baltimore’s top 25 manufacturers collectively employ nearly 30,000 workers, the Region also has a vibrant ecosystem of over 1,750 small manufacturers who each employ an average of 17 workers (BBJ, 2019; QCEW, 2018). These small manufacturers range from medical device companies to computer hardware makers to breweries and bakeries, and are supported by a network of fab-labs, maker-spaces, and incubators. In fact, Smart Growth America recently chose Baltimore City as one of six locations nationwide to receive technical assistance in the development and support of small manufacturers.

Prime Locations for Manufacturing Growth

Prime locations for manufacturing growth exist throughout the Region, with every jurisdiction host to one or more of the Region’s largest manufacturing employers. Examples of areas primed for manufacturing growth in the Region include:

**Carroll County**

Carroll County boasts a high-skilled technical workforce and low cost of doing business, helping to make the county a regional leader in advanced manufacturing. **6.5% of the county’s workforce is employed in Manufacturing**, with the county home to manufacturing facilities for Evapco, Fuchs North America, and Advanced Thermal Batteries, among others.

**Cecil County**

Cecil County’s ease of doing business and prominent location along I-95 between Baltimore and Philadelphia have attracted numerous manufacturing firms. **13.9% of the county’s workforce is employed in Manufacturing**, with the county home to manufacturing facilities for Northrup Grumman, W.L. Gore & Associates, and Clene Nanomedicine, among others.

An Ideal Logistics Hub for Manufactured Products

Greater Baltimore’s location at the center of the East Coast, combined with significant rail and port facilities, is a great asset for the Region’s manufacturers. Location and the multimodal transportation network in the Region have helped make the Port of Baltimore the #4 fastest-growing US port, posting double-digit percentage growth each of the past three years. The entire Region has easy access to CSX and Norfolk Southern rail lines, and continued growth of BWI Airport’s freight transportation business provides an additional mode of transport easily accessible for manufacturers across the Region.

Largest Manufacturing Employers

Headquartered in Greater Baltimore

@Econ_Alliance  @greaterbaltimore  Economic Alliance of Greater Baltimore

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Greater Baltimore