Brooke E. Lierman
Comptroller of Maryland

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News Release

Comptroller Lierman Releases Second Quarterly Snapshot Tracking Maryland's Economic and Fiscal Health

Maryland's economy continues to grow but employment challenges remain

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (September 3, 2026) — Comptroller Brooke E. Lierman today released the latest quarterly update of the Maryland Economic and Fiscal Quarterly Snapshot, providing an updated look at the state's economy and fiscal health through the second quarter of the 2026 calendar year.

Key findings include:

- **Total employment increased nominally (+8,900 jobs) in the second quarter of 2026 compared to the first quarter of the year (+6,800 jobs)**. Job growth has been primarily concentrated in health care and social assistance, accommodation and food services, and education.

- **Employment growth in the second quarter of 2026 helped the state regain some jobs after significant declines in 2025**, primarily driven by federal government cuts. However, employment remains about 1%, or roughly 26,500 jobs, below second-quarter 2025 levels. Federal government employment rose slightly (+500 jobs) from the first to the second quarter of 2026.

- **The unemployment rate increased slightly from the first quarter of the year to 4.3%,** now marginally higher than the national rate.
- **Housing market prices remained stable**. The average home price in Maryland is $433,000, unchanged from the previous quarter.
- **The state's GDP continued to increase in early 2026**, rising 8% from the first quarter of 2025 to the first quarter of 2026.

The Maryland Economic and Fiscal Quarterly Snapshot will continue to be updated each quarter with timely information on the state's economic and fiscal health.

View the full snapshot.

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