



News Release

ICYMI: Comptroller Lierman Hosts Discussion on Women and the Economy Report

Event highlighted Women and the Economy Report findings and opportunities to support women's economic advancement

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (October 21, 2026) — The Office of the Comptroller on Monday, October 19, welcomed more than 100 attendees for a discussion of its recently released [Women and the Economy Report](#).

Comptroller Lierman opened the event by leading a fireside chat with Ariana Kelly, Executive Director of the Maryland Commission for Women; Dr. Christine Lee, Founder and CEO of ACHIEVE Clinical Expertise; and Ronicsa Chambers, a federal government employee.

The event continued with a panel discussion featuring Colleen Stuart, PhD, Associate Professor of Management and Organization at Johns Hopkins Carey Business School; Margarita Womack, Founder and CEO of Latin Goodness Foods; Josefina Estrada, Small Business Officer at We Are CASA; and Jennifer Amaya Thompson, Director of the Prince George's County Department of Social Services.

Both the fireside chat and the panel discussion explored the report's findings on gaps in labor force participation between men and women and the rise in women's business ownership. Participants also examined the impact of federal government job cuts and

diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) rollbacks on Maryland women, especially Black women.

[Access all photos from the event.](#)

[Watch a recap video of the event.](#)

[Watch a recording of the full event.](#)

###

Media Contacts

Jeremy Ames

james@marylandtaxes.gov

443-336-8162 (cell)

Bruce Nilson

bnilson@marylandtaxes.gov

443-254-6153 (cell)

Comptroller of Maryland, 80 Calvert Street, Annapolis, Maryland 21401, United States