



GOVERNOR HOGAN'S Buy Local Cookout

PRESS KIT

MARYLAND FOOD STATISTICS

All of the food served at the 2017 Buy Local Cookout has been provided by local growers, producers, watermen and chefs. The following statistics on Maryland agriculture are from the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, except where noted.

Overall: Maryland has about 12,200 farms covering more than 2 million acres. The average farm size is 166 acres. According to the 2012 Census of Agriculture, the average net farm income per farm was \$38,920. The total cash farm income for all commodities raised and produced was nearly \$2.3 billion for 2012.

Cattle: In Maryland, all cattle and calves as of January 1, 2017 totaled 186,000 head. Cash receipts from cattle and calves were estimated at more than \$82.4 million in 2016.

Chicken: Maryland is a national leader in broiler chicken production. A broiler is a chicken raised specifically for meat production. Value of production from broilers was \$885 million in 2016; pounds produced totaled 1.85 billion.

Eggs: Maryland farmers produced about 796 million eggs in 2016. The average number of layers per farm is 2,713,000. Each laying bird lays an average of 293 eggs a year.

Fresh Market Vegetables: The 2016 value of selected fresh market vegetables and melon crops produced in Maryland is \$32.7 million. The selected fresh market vegetables and melons included are sweet corn, watermelons, snap beans, cantaloupes, cucumbers, and spinach. Maryland farmers also grow asparagus, lima beans, beets, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, collards, eggplant, garlic, herbs, honeydew melons, kale, lettuce, mustard greens, okra, onions, bell peppers, pumpkins, squash, tomatoes, and turnips.

Fruits and Nuts: According to the 2012 Census of Agriculture, Maryland had 3,973 acres of land in orchards. The two largest crops, in terms of production, are apples and peaches. Maryland farmers also grow apricots, cherries, figs, grapes, nectarines, pears, persimmons, plums, almonds, chestnuts, hazelnuts, pecans, and walnuts.

Grains: Total value of cash grains produced in the state - including corn, wheat, soybeans, and barley - was more than \$614 million in 2016.

Hogs and Pigs: In 2016, there were 21,000 head of hogs and pigs in Maryland, with cash receipts totaling about \$5 million.

Honey: As of July 11, 2017, there were 2,140 beekeepers and 15,204 bee colonies in 2,696 apiary locations registered with the Maryland Department of Agriculture. Honey production in the United States in 2016 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 161.8 million pounds. Honey prices averaged 208 cents per pound in 2016—down from 209 cents per pound in 2015 and a record high 216.1 cents per pound in 2014.

Milk Production: As Maryland's third largest agricultural commodity, milk and dairy products accounted for nearly \$165 million in cash receipts in 2016, producing a total of 956 million pounds of milk. The annual average number of milk cows on all Maryland farms was 49,000 head—producing an average of 19,917 pounds of milk per head.

Crabs: In 2015, Maryland landed more than 28.6 million pounds of hard shell crab with a dockside value of nearly \$52 million; and 16,653 pounds of soft shell and peeler crabs with a dockside value of \$139,560 (*Source: National Marine Fisheries Service*)

Oysters: Maryland harvested nearly 1.2 pounds of wild oysters in the 2015 season and continues to welcome many new aquaculture operations to the bay - each of which putting millions of oysters in the water. (*Source: National Marine Fisheries Service*)

Striped Bass: Rockfish--a.k.a. striped bass--is the state fish of Maryland. Out of the total 5.05 million pounds of rockfish harvested in 2015 for commercial use, 34.7 percent came from Maryland. This stock is an example of how science and policy can help to revitalize a fishery. The estimated dockside value of this fish in Maryland was over \$6 million in 2015. (*Source: National Marine Fisheries Service*)

Wild Blue Cat Fish: This invasive species was originally introduced to the Chesapeake Bay as a new recreational fishery. Over the years, the blue catfish population has spread rapidly throughout the watershed and poses a major threat to the Bay's ecosystem. In an effort to control the population, many local chefs and watermen have been promoting blue catfish as a menu item. The number of commercial landings has grown exponentially from 59,906 pounds in 2007 to 939,555 pounds in 2015—with a dockside value of \$343,705.

Breweries: Maryland has 65 licensed breweries. In fiscal year 2016, Maryland breweries sold 7 million gallons, which is equivalent to 75.5 million bottles and \$94 million in sales.

Distilleries: There are currently 20 operating distilleries plus 10 in the licensing process located throughout Maryland.

Wine: There are currently 85 licensed wineries in Maryland. In fiscal year 2016, Maryland wineries sold 467,132 gallons (approximately 2.3 million bottles) – a 12.22 percent increase over 2015. Annual sales of Maryland wine in 2015 are estimated at \$47 million. Maryland's wineries produce more than 500 different wines. Maryland wine is sold at more than 800 retailers, served at more than 300 restaurants, and shipped to customers in 35 states. (*Source: Maryland Wineries Association*)

According to the 2012 Census of Agriculture, a total of 681 acres of grapes were grown in Maryland on 167 farms. **(The industry survey shows approximately 900 acres in vines)**

Updated July 2017

#

Follow [@MdAgDept](#) & [@MDsBest](#) on Twitter and use #BuyLocalCookout

