

# Regional Comparison Report

Lightcast Q3 2025 Data Set

September 2025



1801 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, Maryland 20850

# Parameters

Regions:

Code	Description	Code	Description
24031	Montgomery County, MD	51059	Fairfax County, VA
24033	Prince George's County, MD	51013	Arlington County, VA
24021	Frederick County, MD	51107	Loudoun County, VA
11	District of Columbia	51153	Prince William County, VA

Industries:

Code	Description	Code	Description
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	62	Health Care and Social Assistance
72	Accommodation and Food Services	54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services
44	Retail Trade	23	Construction
541715	Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences (except Nanotechnology and Biotechnology)		

Timeframe: 2023 - 2024

Datarun: 2025.3 – QCEW Employees, Non-QCEW Employees, Self-Employed, and Extended Proprietors

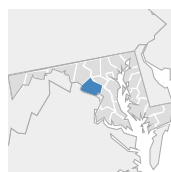
## Columns Sorted By:

Regional COL Index

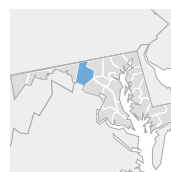
District of  
Columbia



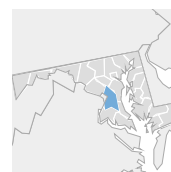
Montgomery  
County, MD



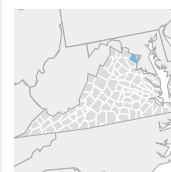
Frederick  
County, MD



Prince George's  
County, MD



Fairfax County,  
VA



## Regional Metrics

COL Index	158.6	141.8	126.5	125.3	121.2
Labor Force (Jun 2025)	423,706	568,805	158,552	512,980	652,389
Median Household Income (2023)	\$106,287	\$128,733	\$120,458	\$100,708	\$150,113
Violent Crimes per 1,000 people	11.49	1.99	1.91	4.55	1.25

## Industry Metrics

### Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation

Job Change %	+3%	+3%	+5%	+4%	+7%
Jobs (2023)	17,200	17,771	3,441	10,745	17,645
Jobs (2024)	17,657	18,259	3,600	11,133	18,904

### Accommodation and Food Services

Job Change %	+1%	+2%	-1%	+2%	+1%
Jobs (2023)	69,819	37,649	10,829	34,997	49,038
Jobs (2024)	70,741	38,235	10,747	35,552	49,656

### Retail Trade

Job Change %	0%	+2%	+1%	+1%	+1%
Jobs (2023)	25,385	52,549	20,211	50,350	62,747
Jobs (2024)	25,301	53,754	20,374	50,655	63,359

### Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences (except Nanotechnology and Biotechnology)

Job Change %	+2%	-6%	+5%	-14%	-1%
Jobs (2023)	5,549	5,833	374	1,669	10,134
Jobs (2024)	5,657	5,504	391	1,434	9,992

### Health Care and Social Assistance

Job Change %	+5%	+4%	+2%	+7%	+6%
Jobs (2023)	74,759	85,802	15,847	43,611	80,581
Jobs (2024)	78,692	89,376	16,164	46,657	85,120

## Columns Sorted By:

Regional COL Index

### Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services

Job Change %

Jobs (2023)


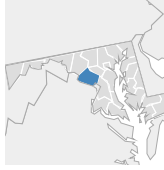
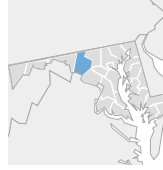
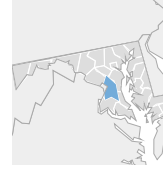
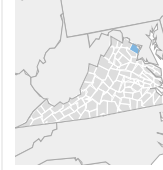
Jobs (2024)

### Construction

Job Change %

Jobs (2023)

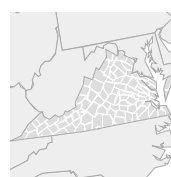
Jobs (2024)

District of Columbia	Montgomery County, MD	Frederick County, MD	Prince George's County, MD	Fairfax County, VA
				
-1%	-1%	+1%	+3%	-1%
152,989	110,358	16,589	38,222	202,913
151,624	108,849	16,686	39,323	200,173
-3%	-1%	+5%	+3%	+1%
18,629	37,177	14,699	42,268	39,170
18,021	36,919	15,497	43,351	39,380

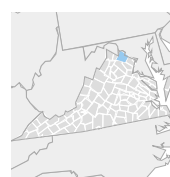
## Columns Sorted By:

Regional COL Index

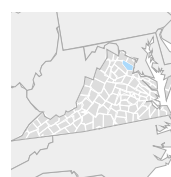
Arlington  
County, VA



Loudoun  
County, VA



Prince William  
County, VA



## Regional Metrics

COL Index	139.7	113.0	106.0
Labor Force (Jun 2025)	154,870	254,503	270,253
Median Household Income (2023)	\$140,160	\$178,707	\$128,873
Violent Crimes per 1,000 people	2.82	0.97	2.93

## Industry Metrics

### Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation

Job Change %	+3%	+1%	0%
Jobs (2023)	5,231	7,200	6,465
Jobs (2024)	5,370	7,276	6,463

### Accommodation and Food Services

Job Change %	+5%	+2%	0%
Jobs (2023)	15,342	19,807	16,104
Jobs (2024)	16,118	20,277	16,037

### Retail Trade

Job Change %	-11%	+2%	+1%
Jobs (2023)	10,546	24,460	29,767
Jobs (2024)	9,398	24,968	30,020

### Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences (except Nanotechnology and Biotechnology)

Job Change %	+3%	+6%	+4%
Jobs (2023)	2,762	1,072	571
Jobs (2024)	2,836	1,133	591

### Health Care and Social Assistance

Job Change %	+6%	+7%	+6%
Jobs (2023)	12,328	21,657	21,494
Jobs (2024)	13,095	23,066	22,851

### Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services

Job Change %	+1%	+5%	+4%
--------------	-----	-----	-----

# Columns Sorted By:

Regional COL Index

Jobs (2023)

Jobs (2024)

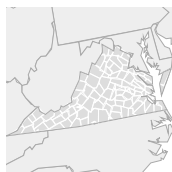
## Construction

Job Change %

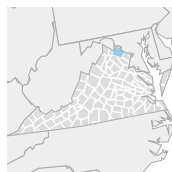
Jobs (2023)

Jobs (2024)

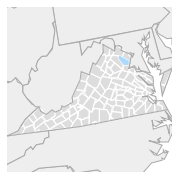
Arlington  
County, VA



Loudoun  
County, VA



Prince William  
County, VA



57,929

38,426

20,428

58,641

40,297

21,316

+0%

+10%

+3%

4,263

23,398

24,718

4,268

25,757

25,515

# Appendix A - Data Sources and Calculations

## Cost of Living Data

Lightcast's cost of living data is based on the Cost of Living Index published by the Council for Community and Economic Research (C2ER).

## Industry Data

Emsi industry data have various sources depending on the class of worker. (1) For QCEW Employees, Emsi primarily uses the QCEW (Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages), with supplemental estimates from County Business Patterns. (2) Non-QCEW employees data are based on a number of sources including QCEW, Current Employment Statistics, County Business Patterns, BEA State and Local Personal Income reports, the National Industry-Occupation Employment Matrix (NIOEM), the American Community Survey, and Railroad Retirement Board statistics. (3) Self-Employed and Extended Proprietor classes of worker data are primarily based on the American Community Survey, Nonemployer Statistics, and BEA State and Local Personal Income Reports. Projections for QCEW and Non-QCEW Employees are informed by NIOEM and long-term industry projections published by individual states.

## Location Quotient

Location quotient (LQ) is a way of quantifying how concentrated a particular industry, cluster, occupation, or demographic group is in a region as compared to the nation. It can reveal what makes a particular region unique in comparison to the national average.

## Shift Share

Shift share is a standard regional analysis method that attempts to determine how much of regional job growth can be attributed to national trends and how much is due to unique regional factors.

## State Data Sources

This report uses state data from the following agencies: District of Columbia Department of Employment Services; Maryland Department of Labor; Virginia Employment Commission