



ANTHONY G. BROWN  
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE HOUSE  
100 STATE CIRCLE  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401-1925  
(410) 974-2804  
(TOLL FREE) 1-800-811-8336

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## Maryland BRAC Action Plan Fact Sheet

- **Maryland is the wealthiest state in the nation, the best-educated state in the nation and is home to the most diverse workforce in America.**
  - 15 percent of Marylanders have earned an advanced degree.
  - 53 percent of Marylanders have earned at least a bachelor's degree
  - 26 percent of Maryland's workforce is employed in the professional or technical economy
  - 31 percent of Maryland businesses are majority owned by women
  - 16 percent of Maryland businesses are majority owned by African Americans
  
- **The BRAC Subcabinet Action Plan builds from the best practices Maryland employed during the successful 1990s expansion of Patuxent River Naval Air Station and other Southern Maryland installations.**
  - Median household income in the tri-county region has increased from \$37,158 in 1989 to \$54,700 in 1999.
  - Pax River employs one out of three St. Mary's County workers and contributes \$33.5 million in local income-tax revenues.
  
- **The Maryland Department of Transportation has identified 26 BRAC-related projects in the \$8.5 billion DRAFT FY 2008-2013 Capital Transportation Program and the Maryland Transportation Authority's \$4.3 billion six-year capital program. Maryland has, to date, allocated funds for \$1.6 billion for these BRAC projects. Projects include, among others:**
  - Widening of I-95 north of Baltimore City
  - Widening of MD 175 near Ft. Meade
  
- **The Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (DLLR) anticipates that 70 percent of the new jobs coming because of BRAC will be filled by Marylanders and the state has taken several steps to ensure that the workforce is in place before 2011.**
  - Negotiated employment licensing and certification reciprocity with NJ and VA
  - Will open One-Stop career centers at Ft. Monmouth and in Northern Virginia
  - \$4 million Department of Labor grant to help DLLR match security-cleared workforce with new opportunities in Maryland, reach out to returning veterans to maximize earning potential, develop defense and IT workforce internships, and analyze current STEM and CTE programs at Maryland schools

- **Maryland already has a strong higher education community and will work to expand higher education opportunities to better serve the BRAC mission.**
  - Conducting feasibility study for higher education center near Aberdeen Proving Ground
  - Articulation agreements with New Jersey institutions for transfer for academic credit
  - Board of Regents waived in-state residency requirements for BRAC families
  
- **Maryland is a national leader in Smart Growth and remains committed to Smart Growth principles in its BRAC preparation.**
  - “Maple Street” follows the principles set forth by the Main Street Maryland initiative to revitalize existing areas. “Maple Street” connects with the Maryland Mortgage Program to encourage development of resident areas adjacent to downtown business districts
  - House Keys 4 Employees encourages homeowners to live where they work
  - BRAC Zone priority legislation in 2008 General Assembly session will encourage residential and commercial growth in parts of the state that already possess adequate infrastructure
  
- **New Maryland residents who are moving to the state because of BRAC will enjoy the benefits of one of the nation’s top public school systems. This month, *U.S. News and World Report*, ranked three of Maryland’s high schools on its national top 100 list. Maryland will continue to invest in education and expand opportunities for Maryland students to work in the highly-skilled and well-paying BRAC economy.**
  - Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) is launching security-clearance education program
  - MSDE is expanding and funding STEM and Career and Technical education across the entire state
  - Reciprocity of teacher certification for spouses of BRAC employees