The University System of Maryland (USM) is the state’s public higher education system, consisting of eleven universities, two regional higher education centers, and one environmental research center.
With more than 176,000 students and 42,000 graduates each year, Maryland’s public university system produces nearly 75 percent of the state’s bachelor’s degrees. As this report shows, we have increased enrollment, improved graduation rates, kept tuition affordable, and become more diverse than ever before. We are also among the state’s primary economic engines, producing a talented workforce—particularly in fields like STEM and healthcare—attracting approximately $1.4 billion in external research funding to Maryland annually, and creating close to 100 new companies each year.

Moving forward, we will continue to partner with state officials, the business community, and organizations and individuals statewide to fulfill USM’s mission of graduating educated, enlightened citizens who are ready to go to work in all facets of life to make their lives, their communities, this state, and our nation better.

Robert L. Caret
USM annually award 75% or more of all bachelor’s degrees in Maryland, with 42,005 total degrees (associate’s, bachelor’s, master’s and doctorates) awarded in FY 2018.
Total enrolled students in Fall 2018. USM enrolled 95% of all students attending Maryland’s public, four-year institutions.

176,423

39% Increase in bachelor's degree production since FY 2009. USM produced 26,658 bachelor's degrees in FY 2018.

23% Increase in enrollment since FY 2009.
LEADING MARYLAND

AFFORDABLE EDUCATION

Average undergraduate tuition for full-time, in-state students, once ranked sixth most expensive, now ranks 21st nationally. Nearly 50% of USM undergraduate students graduate without debt.

$58 MILLION


$148 MILLION
Students impacted through USM’s Maryland Open Source Textbook (M.O.S.T.) initiative. M.O.S.T. has supported the replacement of traditional textbooks with open educational resources (OER) in 113 different courses at 24 public higher education institutions across the state.

Cumulative cost savings from the M.O.S.T. initiative.

39,000

$6.3 MILLION
80% of USM graduates stay in Maryland. With an estimated 500,000 alumni statewide, USM contributes a powerful alumni base for the state.
Millions of hours

Volunteer service contributed to Maryland communities through cultural programs, legal and medical clinics, partnerships with public schools and the business community, and other initiatives.
Nearly 50% of USM undergraduates are underrepresented and other minorities.

In Fall 2018, underrepresented minority students (defined as African American/Black, Hispanic, American Indian, and Native Hawaiian) and other minority students (defined as Asian and multiple races) comprised 37.5% and 13.2%, respectively, of USM’s undergraduate population. As such, nearly 50% of USM’s undergraduates were from underrepresented and other minority populations.
Bachelor's degrees awarded to underrepresented minority students in FY 2018.

8,001

27%
Increase in STEM bachelor's degrees earned annually by underrepresented minority students since FY 2016.

21%
Increase in bachelor's degrees in healthcare fields earned annually by underrepresented minority students since FY 2016.
USM has generated more than 600 new startup companies since FY 2011.
In funding contributed by the Maryland Momentum Fund, USM’s venture capital fund, to provide early investment for USM-affiliated startup companies. $752,500 of that has been invested in 3 startups so far, with more than $2 million raised in matching funds.
Awarded 11,115 STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) degrees in FY 2018, including 7,518 undergraduate degrees. This enhances Maryland’s ability to thrive and compete in these high-demand fields.
3,695 Healthcare professions degrees awarded in FY 2018.

6,761 Cyber degrees awarded in FY 2018.

70% of teacher candidates graduating from Maryland Approved Programs are from USM institutions.
USM has maintained favorable debt ratings from bond-rating agencies, including a rating of Aa1 from Moody’s Investors Service. USM is one of only 26 public higher education institutions to earn one of Moody’s top two ratings.
raised in private funds in FY 2018, an all-time high. 

$408 MILLION 

saved through USM’s Effectiveness and Efficiency initiatives since 2004. 

$595 MILLION
Last year, USM recycled more than 43% of its generated waste—the highest of any major agency in the state. The statewide average for the same year was just 30%.
System-wide, USM has constructed (or has in development) more than 70 buildings equivalent to LEED-certified “Silver” or higher.
Edx/USMx is offering several programs and courses with more than 270,000 course enrollments.
Nine USM institutions participate in the Badging Essential Skills for Transitions (B.E.S.T.) initiative, which is designed to more clearly communicate graduates’ career-ready skills to employers in eight areas—Collaboration, Communication, Critical Thinking, Globalism, Interculturalism, Leadership, Problem Solving, and Professionalism.
USM increased externally sponsored R&D funding by 10.4% over FY 2017, totaling $1.43 billion.
All USM institutions have been ranked among the nation’s best by such publications as U.S. News & World Report, Kiplinger, The Princeton Review, Washington Monthly, and others.