RANK

46 MARYLAND

SUMMARY

On the basis of its fiscal solvency in five separate categories, Maryland is ranked 46th among the US states for its fiscal health. On a short-run basis, Maryland holds between 55 percent and 148 percent of the cash needed to cover short-term obligations. Revenues exceed expenses by 1 percent, and net position improved by $88 per capita in FY 2015. On a long-run basis, Maryland's net asset ratio is −0.5, pointing to the use of debt or unfunded obligations. Long-term liabilities are 94 percent of total assets or $6,554 per capita, which is higher than the average in the states. Total primary government debt is $17.55 billion, or 5.2 percent of state personal income. On a guaranteed-to-be-paid basis, unfunded pension obligations are $88.41 billion, or 26 percent of personal income. OPEB is 3 percent of personal income, which is better than the average in the states.

2015 TOTAL LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

STATE DEBT

	General obligation bonds	Total primary government debt	State personal income	Ratio of debt to state personal income	Total primary debt per capita
Maryland	**$8.68 billion**	**$17.55 billion**	**$337.17 billion**	**5.2%**	**$2,921**
National average	$6.09 billion	$12.71 billion	$305.43 billion	3.7%	$1,804

PENSION LIABILITY

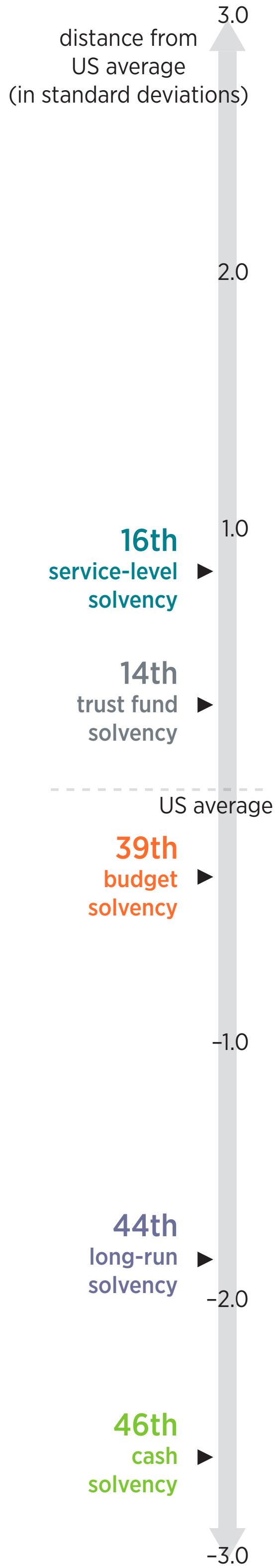
	Unfunded pension liability	Funded ratio	Market value of unfunded liability	Market value of funded liability ratio
Maryland	**$20.11 billion**	**70%**	**$88.41 billion**	**34%**
National average	$20.62 billion	74%	$105.50 billion	36%

OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)

	Total unfunded OPEB	Funded ratio
Maryland	**$9.36 billion**	**3%**
National average	$12.97 billion	12%

1. Florida
2. North Dakota
3. South Dakota
4. Utah
5. Wyoming
6. Nebraska
7. Oklahoma
8. Tennessee
9. Idaho
10. Montana
11. Missouri
12. Alabama
13. Ohio
14. Nevada
15. North Carolina
16. Indiana
17. Alaska
18. Virginia
19. South Carolina
20. Arkansas
21. Oregon
22. Georgia
23. Texas
24. Minnesota
25. New Hampshire
26. Washington
27. Hawaii
28. Iowa
29. Wisconsin
30. Colorado
31. Delaware
32. Kansas
33. Arizona
34. Mississippi
35. Maine
36. Michigan
37. Connecticut
38. Rhode Island
39. New York
40. Vermont
41. New Mexico
42. West Virginia
43. California
44. Louisiana
45. Pennsylvania
46. **Maryland**
47. Kentucky
48. Massachusetts
49. Illinois
50. New Jersey

MERCATUS CENTER
George Mason University



UNDERLYING RATIOS

	Cash ratio	Quick ratio	Current ratio	Operating ratio	Surplus (or deficit) per capita	Net asset ratio	Long-term liability ratio	Long-term liability per capita
Maryland	**0.55**	**1.33**	**1.48**	**1.01**	**$88**	**−0.50**	**0.94**	**$6,554**
National average	2.68	3.66	3.93	1.04	$150	−0.17	0.61	$4,272

	Tax-to-income ratio	Revenue-to-income ratio	Expenses-to-income ratio	Pension-to-income ratio	OPEB-to-income ratio
Maryland	**0.06**	**0.11**	**0.11**	**0.26**	**0.03**
National average	0.06	0.13	0.13	0.35	0.04

KEY TERMS

- **Cash solvency** measures whether a state has enough cash to cover its short-term bills, which include accounts payable, vouchers, warrants, and short-term debt. (Maryland ranks 46th.)
- **Budget solvency** measures whether a state can cover its fiscal year spending using current revenues. Did it run a shortfall during the year? (Maryland ranks 39th.)
- **Long-run solvency** measures whether a state has a hedge against large long-term liabilities. Are enough assets available to cushion the state from potential shocks or long-term fiscal risks? (Maryland ranks 44th.)
- **Service-level solvency** measures how high taxes, revenues, and spending are when compared to state personal income. Do states have enough "fiscal slack"? If spending commitments demand more revenues, are states in a good position to increase taxes without harming the economy? Is spending high or low relative to the tax base? (Maryland ranks 16th.)
- **Trust fund solvency** measures how much debt a state has. How large are unfunded pension liabilities and OPEB liabilities compared to the state personal income? (Maryland ranks 14th.)

For a complete explanation of the methodology used to calculate Maryland's fiscal health rankings, see Eileen Norcross and Olivia Gonzalez, "Ranking the States by Fiscal Condition," 2017 ed. (Mercatus Research, Mercatus Center at George Mason University, Arlington, VA, July 2017).