

The information in **Table 4** was collected for each subarea using the 2010 U.S. Census data for median age, median income, and population percentage. Key information about median income differences among various Maryland counties and how they compare the state’s median income, \$70,075, is provided in the Summary section of this chapter. The following table sets out the estimated median income for the four regions, in 2012.

In the four regions, the median age ranges from 39.4 in the Western Region to 36.4 in the Southern Region. The median income ranges span from \$54,365 in the Eastern Region to \$76,866 in the Southern Region. The Central Region holds the greatest percent of the population at 55.4 percent with the Eastern Region holding the lowest population at six percent. For the state as a whole in 2010, the median age was 37.8.

**Table 4: Regional Demographic Overview**

	Median Age (2010)	Median Income (2012 forecast)	Percent of State Population (2010)
Western Region	39.4	\$59,591	8.4%
Central Region	38.1	\$66,784	55.4%
Eastern Region	41.6	\$54,365	6.0%
Southern Region	36.4	\$76,866	30.2%

*Source: ESRI Business Information Solutions, 2012*

The population distribution represented in **Figure 15** shows the predicted growth for the four regions of the state through 2040. The Central region ranks highest in population (3,197,920 in 2010) and is predicted to grow by 16.8 percent to 3,734,350 by 2040. The next most populous region is the Southern region (1,741,515 in 2010), predicted to grow by 17.5 percent to 2,047,050 in 2040. While the Western region is considerably less populated than the Central and Southern regions (485,999 in 2010), it is predicted to grow by 31.8 percent to 640,750 by 2040. The Eastern region is the least populated region (348,118 in 2010) and is predicted to grow at the slowest rate, 5.3 percent, to 439,750 in 2040.