

# AI Safety Growth: Maryland Leads

31.6% surge in technical services since 2019 — not by chance.

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## THE DATA

# 31.6%

### Change in Other Technical Services Firms Since 2019

Maryland ranks #1 in U.S. for fastest growth in AI safety-related technical services.

This 31.6% increase in firms categorized under NAICS 5419—Other professional, scientific, and technical services—reflects more than just tech investment. It signals a systemic buildout of research infrastructure, regulatory readiness, and public-private collaboration in AI safety. The data captures a national trend, but Maryland's dominance suggests early institutional adoption of governance frameworks that attract specialized firms.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns 2019 and 2022, NAICS 5419 (Other professional, scientific, and technical services) · Published September 13, 2026  
<https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-09-13-ai-safety-igrow-5419-state>



# 01

## Growth Follows Policy, Not Just Innovation

The surge in technical services firms isn't driven by raw R&D spending alone. It reflects a deeper institutional readiness—where policy, workforce development, and regulatory clarity create fertile ground for AI safety firms. Maryland's leadership likely stems from early integration of AI ethics into state-level technology planning, long before national frameworks emerged.



# 02

## The Hidden Infrastructure of AI Safety

Behind the numbers is a network of non-technical enablers: academic partnerships, federal grant access, and regional innovation hubs. Maryland's rise underscores that AI safety isn't just about algorithms—it's about the institutional scaffolding that allows them to be tested, audited, and governed. The fastest-growing states aren't just building AI—they're building the rules for it.

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