

BERKELEY COUNTY

WEST VIRGINIA

Brief Economic Facts

LOCATION

Distance from Martinsburg To:

Atlanta, GA	657 miles	New York, NY	264 miles
Baltimore, MD	90 miles	Philadelphia, PA	190 miles
Boston, MA	630 miles	Pittsburgh, PA	180 miles
Detroit, MI	434 miles	Richmond, VA	170 miles
Hagerstown, MD	18 miles	Toronto, Canada	559 miles
Harrisburg, PA	93 miles	Washington, D.C.	80 miles
Montreal, Canada	620 miles	Winchester, VA	22 miles

POPULATION

Year	County	% change	Year	Martinsburg	% change
1970	36,356		1970	14,626	
1980	46,775	28.7%	1980	13,063	-10.7%
1990	59,253	26.7%	1990	14,073	7.7%
2000	75,905	28.1%	2000	14,972	6.4%
2006	97,534	28.4%	2006	16,392	.9%

In a 30 mile radius of Martinsburg is a population of 522,717 people.

Source: Workforce West Virginia

BASIC LANDSCAPE

Total Square Miles (Berkeley County)	321
Available Industrial Parks:	21
Elevation (Eastern WV Regional Airport)	457'

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS: (2006)

Banks: 10; Total branches 38
Total Assets (\$000)
\$ 137,290,621

ECONOMIC INDICATORS: (County)

Total Wages (2006)	\$ 1,039,977,911
Average Manufacturing Earnings (2006)	\$ 37,627
Annual Average Wage (2006):	\$ 34,688
Median Household Income (2006)	\$ 46,866
Unemployment Rate (September 07)	3.7%
Total Retail Sales (2003):	\$1,168,000,000

TRANSPORTATION

Highways Serving Area:

I-81, I-70, US-11, WV-9, WV-45, WV-51

Railroads:

Amtrak, CSX, MARC (2 commuter trains to Washington Union Station and 3 returning trains each day), Winchester & Western

Bus Service:

Eastern Panhandle Transit Authority (PanTran-local service)

Airports:

Eastern West Virginia Regional Airport (MRB), easy access to Dulles International Airport (IAD), Baltimore-Washington International Airport (BWI), Reagan National Airport (DCA) and Washington County Airport (HGR).

UTILITIES

<u>Electricity:</u>	Allegheny Power
<u>Natural Gas:</u>	Mountaineer Gas
<u>Sewage Treatment:</u>	City of Martinsburg, Berkeley County PSSD
<u>Water:</u>	City of Martinsburg, Berkeley County PSWD
<u>Sources:</u>	Deep Wells, Quarry, Spring, Potomac River

COMMUNICATIONS

<u>Newspapers:</u>	Martinsburg Morning/Sunday Journal, Hagerstown Morning Herald/Daily Mail and Washington Post - all carrier delivered
<u>Overnight Packages:</u>	Airborne, Federal Express, UPS, USPS, and DHL
<u>Post Office Services:</u>	7 Post Offices
<u>Radio Stations:</u>	WKMZ, WEPM, WYII, WRNR in Martinsburg
<u>Telecommunications:</u>	Verizon; with direct dial digital service, high speed transmission for computer operations and an established fibre optics network. Points of Presence (POP's) for AT&T, MCI and U.S. Sprint
<u>Television Stations:</u>	15 TV stations received and 1 cable company

CLIMATE

Low Mean (January)	21 F	Rain Fall (Inches)	36
High Mean (July)	87 F	Snowfall (Inches)	23
Average Annual	53 F	Cooling degree days	931
Average Maximum	62 F	Prevailing winds:	westerly
Average Minimum	41 F		

GOVERNMENT

<u>STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA:</u>	Police - 20 full-time Troopers
<u>BERKELEY COUNTY:</u>	County Administrator and 3 Commissioners
<u>Central Dispatch</u>	Countywide Enhanced 911
<u>Fire and Rescue:</u>	ISO Class 6/9, eight fire stations and substations managed and maintained by the five volunteer fire and rescue companies.
<u>Emergency Medical Service:</u>	1 career department, 35 paid professionals, 5 volunteer departments
<u>Police:</u>	Sheriff, 56 Uniformed Offices
<u>CITY OF MARTINSBURG:</u>	City Manager, Mayor, and 7 Councilmen
<u>Fire and Rescue:</u>	ISO Class 5, 28 career firefighters of which 9 are paramedics and 19 are EMTs
<u>Police:</u>	Police Chief, 44 sworn officers

MEDICAL

City Hospital, Inc. - has 260 licensed beds. There are 102 physician associate members on staff with 24 consulting physicians. The hospital offers a wide variety of community wellness programs, sports medicine center, cardiac rehabilitation, and hospice in addition to regular comprehensive medical-surgical departments, emergency room, etc.

The **Veterans Administration Medical Center** has 99 medical, surgical and psychiatry beds; a 148-bed nursing home; and 312-bed domiciliary. There are approximately 62 full-time staff doctors to service the Center.

The **Berkeley County Health Department** has a part-time health officer, four nurses and five sanitarians. The Eastern Panhandle Mental Health Center opened in 1975 in downtown Martinsburg.

There are three area nursing homes: **Care Haven**, **Heartland** of Martinsburg, and **Canterbury** of Shepherdstown. Also available in the Martinsburg area are two assisted living communities: **Lily of the Valley Personal Care Home** (specializes in Alzheimer's care), and **Balanced Care's Outlook Pointe**.

EDUCATION

Public schools in West Virginia are county administered and by state law have the following students per teacher ratios:

	<u>Preferred</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Kindergarten	20/1	23/1
Grades 1-3	25/1	28/1
Grades 4 & 6	25/1	28/1

Berkeley County's schools are as follows:

	<u>Students Enrolled</u>	<u>2006-07</u>	<u>2005-06</u>
Elementary	20	7,892	7,238
Middle	5	3,776	3,675
Sr. High	3	<u>4,654</u>	<u>4,454</u>
	Total	16,322	15,367

Private: Faith Christian Academy (Pre-K-12); Martinsburg Christian Academy (Pre-K-12); Rocky Knoll Seventh Day Adventist Elementary; and St. Joseph's Catholic School (K-8).

Post-Secondary

Shepherd University (member of the West Virginia State College System) is an accredited co-educational school in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, seven miles east of Martinsburg. It provides four-year courses granting BA, BFA, and BS degrees upon graduation. Post graduate courses are offered on the Shepherd campus through West Virginia University. Degrees are offered in these technical areas: Accounting, Biology, Business Administration, Chemistry, Computer Science, Earth Science, Economics, Engineering Technology, Geology, Information Science, Marketing and Math.

Blue Ridge Community & Technical College provides academic/transfer and occupational/technical programs which culminate in associate's degrees, and offers programs which develop competency in areas fundamental to academic and occupational success at locations throughout the area.

Mountain State University offers degree completion programs that allow self-paced completion or that meet at times convenient to working adults. Progressive courses and majors are designed to meet current workforce trends in fields such as business, information technology, health sciences and hospitality management. B.S. degrees are offered in Organizational Leadership and Computer Networking. Master of Science in Strategic Leadership can be completed in 60 weeks. The Master of Science Nursing program focuses on two concentrations: Family Nurse Practitioner and Nursing Administration/Education.

James Rumsey Technical Institute serves the three-county area and is dedicated to the task of training high school students, high school graduates, and others who are eligible for employment in vocational, technical and industrial career fields. The institute is located three miles west of Martinsburg. College level courses are available.

The Eastern Panhandle Training Center for the handicapped is a sheltered workshop in a work-oriented environment for the purpose of training and placing for employment, handicapped adults of the three Eastern Panhandle counties. Sub-contract work from local industry is utilized to train clients. Wages are paid to these clients; and, if placed in competitive employment, on-the-job follow-up is done by the Center.

Valley College of Technology is an accredited private business college in Martinsburg, offering A.A.S. and Certificate programs in Business Administration and Business and Office Technology. They also offer customized training.

LIBRARIES

The **Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public Libraries** have a circulation of over 147,500 books, over 1,750 video titles, 645 audio books, 270 periodicals, 15 newspapers, and offers a children's library, a young adult collection, a genealogy room, a microfilm library, reference CD ROMs and databases, 12 computers with internet access, four word processors, and a statewide inter-library loan program. Branches are located at Hedgesville, Falling Waters, and Inwood, West Virginia.

Shepherd College's **Ruth Scarborough Library** has 160,538 book titles, 137,765 periodicals; and, is a U.S. Government Depository. Research consultation and computer science services are available.

HOUSING

- A. Homes - Median Sale Price: \$219,505 (February 2006 - Metropolitan Regional Information Systems)
- B. Apartments
 - 1. 1-Bedroom Monthly Average Rate = \$ 580
 - 2. 2-Bedroom Monthly Average Rate = \$ 640
 - 3. 3-Bedroom Monthly Average Rate = \$ 740

CHURCHES

Protestant – 89 Catholic - 4 Other - 5 Jewish - 1

RECREATION

3	Public Golf Courses	4	Soccer Fields
1	Private Country Club	21	Baseball/Softball Fields
3	Health Club	3	Stadiums (Lighted)
17	Public Outdoor Tennis Courts	3	Auditoriums
7	Private Outdoor Tennis Courts	13	Parks
2	Public Swimming Pools	23	Playgrounds
13	Indoor Basketball Courts	6	Theaters (1 performing)
7	Outdoor Basketball Courts	4	Art Galleries
2	Miniature Golf Course	2	Orchestras
2	Museums		

ORGANIZATIONS (Examples)

Chamber of Commerce	Rotary Clubs
Lions Clubs	Kiwanis Clubs
Civitan Club	Soroptimist International
Optimist Club	Ruritan Clubs
Exchange Club	Women's Club
Jaycees	Junior Civic League
Beta Sigma Phi Chapters	

OTHER COMMUNITY INFORMATION

20 Motels	1 Outlet Mall	7 Shopping Centers
4 Bed & Breakfasts	1 Shopping Mall	25 Licensed Day Care Centers

TAXES

Personal Income Tax - The city and county do not have income taxes. For the State Income Tax, a graduated scale of rates is applied to taxable income of all residents, individuals, estates and trusts and on the West Virginia income of nonresidents. The tax begins with federal adjusted gross income. Individuals are allowed a \$2,000.00, deduction for each exemption claimed on their federal return. Individuals over age 65 are allowed an additional \$8,000.00, income exemption. Tax rates range from 3% on the first \$10,000.00 of taxable income to 6.5% of income exceeding \$60,000.00. Business and Occupation Tax taxpayers may credit such taxes paid against up to 100% of their Personal Income Tax liabilities.

Sales Tax - State, 6%, No local sales tax

Real Estate Taxes - Tax law mandates that all property be reassessed every three years; and, that the assessment be at 60 percent of market value. Recent tax rates: Class II Owner occupied residential in rural areas = \$1.2030 per \$100 of assessed value. Class II Owner occupied residential in Martinsburg = \$1.4902 per \$100 of assessed value*. Class III Non-residential real estate in rural areas = \$2.4060 per \$100 of assessed value. Class IV Non-residential real estate and personal property in Martinsburg = 2.9804 per \$100 of assessed value*.

*Reflects combined city and county rates.

INCENTIVES

In West Virginia, incentives for new industry come through the State, instead of through the localities.

EMPLOYEE TRAINING

West Virginia offers up to \$2,000 per employee for training costs through the Governor's Guaranteed Work force Training Program. While not for wage reimbursement, actual costs of training are covered. West Virginia guarantees that the workers trained through this program will meet the employer's requirements, or that training will continue until the employee does meet the requirements.

WEST VIRGINIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (WVEDA)

WVEDA provides low interest loans from a revolving fund for land, building, equipment, construction and renovation. WVEDA has several different loan programs. For example:

Program	Lending Limit	Participation	Rate
WVEDA Direct Program	\$ 50,000 ≤ 500K	≤45%	WSJ Prime*
Major Project Fund	\$ 500K ≤ 5M	≤45%	US Treasury Note**

*--Rate is WSJ Prime minus 4%, but with a floor of 5%

**--Of equivalent maturity, as quoted in the WSJ, plus 1/2%

TAX CREDITS

West Virginia offers a Super Tax Credit or a Small Business Credit for companies making a capital investment and creating jobs in the state. Small businesses creating a minimum of 10 jobs can receive a credit of 30% of their qualified investment. Larger companies creating 50 to 1,000 jobs can receive tax credits from 50% to 90% of their qualified investments. West Virginia also has available additional tax incentive programs, such as the Freeport Tax Exemption. This allows warehoused goods in transit to an out of state destination to be exempt from local ad Valorem Property Tax.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONTACT

For more detailed information contact the Berkeley County Development Authority.

Berkeley County Development Authority
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