
2016 Economic Review

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Introduction

The annual Economic Review for West Virginia is prepared by the Research, Information and Analysis Division of WorkForce West Virginia. The 2015 edition delivers a detailed appraisal of the economies of the state and its seven workforce development areas. The information contained within is derived from multiple data sources covering various aspects of the economy, and can be utilized by those responsible for public policy, economic development, education, job training and career counseling. Data in the Economic Review are revised frequently, and are accessible on the Division's web site: <http://lmi.workforcewv.org>

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WorkForce West Virginia
Research Information and Analysis
Jeff Green, Director
112 California Avenue
Charleston, WV 25305
<http://lmi.workforcewv.org/>
304-558-2660

State Economic Activity

West Virginia's total nonfarm payroll employment declined 5,100 between 2014 and 2015, a loss of 0.7 percent. Similarly, the number of individuals in the labor force who were employed or actively seeking employment declined 4,900 during the same period. The number of unemployed rose 500 over the twelve-month period, rendering an unemployment rate of 6.7 percent. This is an increase of one-tenth of a percentage point from 2014.

Over-the-year losses for the state totaled 5,100, with a decline of 5,800 in the goods-producing sector offsetting a modest gain of 700 in the service-providing sector. Employment losses included 4,200 in mining and logging, 1,300 in construction, 300 in manufacturing, 400 in trade, transportation, and utilities, 100 in information, 300 in financial activities, 200 in other services, and 400 in government. Employment gains included 1,900 in educational and health services, 200 in leisure and hospitality, and 100 in professional and business services.

In 2014, 21 West Virginia counties recorded an unemployment rate lower than the state rate of 6.6 percent. The state rate inched upward to 6.7 percent in 2015, and the number of counties recording an unemployment rate lower than the state rate fell to 18. Counties with double digit unemployment rates in 2015 included Mingo (13.1), McDowell (13.0), Calhoun (12.5), Roane (11.5), Logan (11.4), Clay (11.2), Wirt (10.3), and Wetzel (10.0). Counties recording an unemployment rate at or below 6.0 percent included Kanawha (6.0), Taylor (6.0), Doddridge (5.7), Monroe (5.6), Ohio (5.6), Hampshire (5.5), Morgan (5.5), Putnam (5.5), Cabell (5.4), Berkeley (5.0), Monongalia (4.7), Pendleton (4.7), and Jefferson (4.1).

Unemployment rates climbed in five of the seven workforce development areas between 2014 and 2015. The exceptions were Workforce Development Area 1, whose rate inched downward from 8.0 percent to 7.9 percent, and Workforce Development Area 7, whose rate fell from 5.8 to 5.3 percent, the lowest unemployment rate among the workforce development areas. Respective unemployment rates included: Workforce Development Area 1 (7.9%), Workforce Development Area 2 (7.3%), Workforce Development Area 3 (6.0%), Workforce Development Area 4 (7.7%), Workforce Development Area 5 (7.5%), Workforce Development Area 6 (6.3%), and Workforce Development Area 7 (5.3%).

For the fourth consecutive year, average annual employment in West Virginia measured by the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) declined. Employment fell 4,094 (-0.6%) to 697,723 in 2015, from the 2014 level of 701,817. Losses occurred in Natural Resources and Mining (-3,937), Construction (-1,192), Manufacturing (-62), Information (-1), Financial Activities (-257), Other Services (-516), and Government (-354). Employment gains included Trade, Transportation and Utilities (+283), Professional and Business Services (+136), Educational and Health Services (+1,452), and Leisure and Hospitality (+354). West Virginia workers experienced an increase in wages of \$562 (+1.4%) from \$41,093 in 2014 to \$41,655 in 2015. This increase falls well below the 3.1 percent increase achieved at the national level, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

West Virginia's per capita personal income grew by \$969 (2.8%) during 2014. Per capita personal income in the state stood at \$35,163 in 2013 and grew to \$36,132 over the year. The U.S. income for the same period grew by \$1,611 (3.6%) to \$46,049. Of the state's fifty-five counties, fourteen recorded per capita personal income exceeding the statewide average in 2014. Those counties include Raleigh (\$36,180), Brooke (\$36,225), Lewis (\$36,695), Wood (\$37,100), Cabell (\$37,481), Pleasants (\$38,707), Marion (\$38,756), Marshall (\$40,005), Monongalia (\$40,343), Putnam (\$41,160), Harrison (\$43,048), Kanawha (\$44,039), Jefferson (\$44,160), and Ohio (\$44,624).

The West Virginia 2015 estimate of population provided by the U.S. Census Bureau indicates the state was home to 1,844,128 inhabitants. This represents a decline of 4,623 residents over the year, or 0.25 percent. Of the fifty-five counties, Berkeley County saw the greatest increase in population, adding 1,507 residents (+1.4%). Other counties with notable population gains included Monongalia (+1,300, +1.3%) and Jefferson (+742, +1.3%). Kanawha County suffered the largest decline in population, losing an estimated 1,819 (-1.0%) residents. Rounding out the bottom five were Raleigh (-645, -0.8%), Logan (-603, -1.7%), Mercer (-503, -0.8%), and McDowell (-451, -2.2%).

Economic Indicators

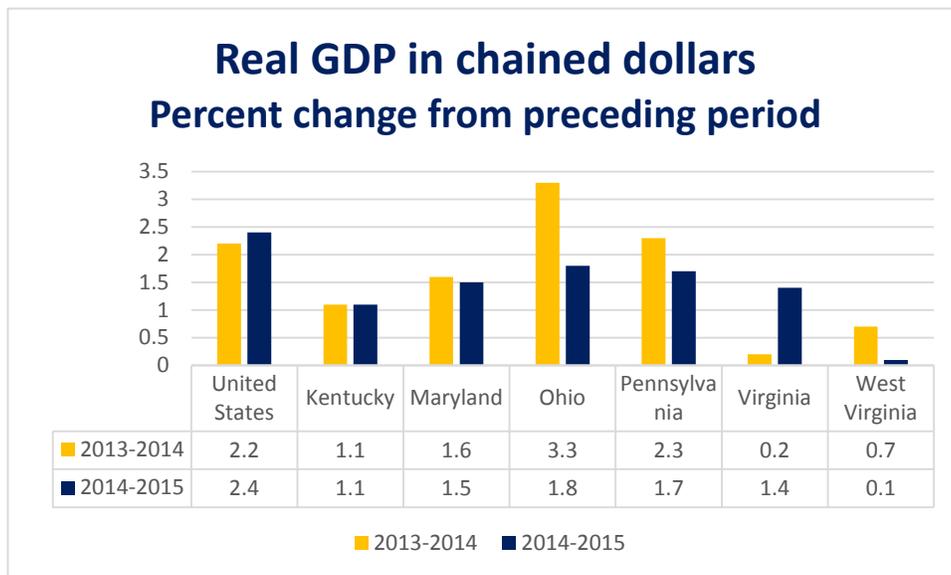
Data from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis for 2015 reveals West Virginia experienced little increase in real gross domestic product (GDP). In 2015 real GDP grew by 0.1 percent, and West Virginia ranked 47th in the nation. States with the greatest and smallest expansion in real GDP may be viewed in the table below. A more inclusive list of states and their GDP data can be found at <http://www.bea.gov>.

Top Ten and Bottom Ten States in Real GDP, 2012-2015								
Area	Millions of (2009) Chained Dollars				Percent Change			
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Top Ten								
California	2,004,400	2,055,578	2,118,858	2,206,766	2.4	2.6	3.1	4.1
Oregon	192,608	189,816	191,618	199,393	-3	-1.4	0.9	4.1
Texas	1,314,004	1,370,216	1,421,759	1,475,535	5.4	4.3	3.8	3.8
Colorado	262,427	267,858	278,825	288,810	2.4	2.1	4.1	3.6
Montana	38,516	38,965	39,735	41,109	1.1	1.2	2	3.5
Utah	120,725	124,229	126,997	131,231	0.8	2.9	2.2	3.3
Florida	729,727	746,585	765,840	789,751	1.8	2.3	2.6	3.1
Washington	369,797	374,911	386,000	397,321	2.6	1.4	3	2.9
Nevada	119,051	118,651	122,695	126,156	-0.2	-0.3	3.4	2.8
North Carolina	416,695	422,044	430,887	442,489	-0.3	1.3	2.1	2.7
Bottom Ten								
Mississippi	95,526	95,083	94,766	95,451	3.1	-0.5	-0.3	0.7
New Mexico	83,854	83,076	85,228	85,851	0.3	-0.9	2.6	0.7
Connecticut	227,085	226,209	228,927	230,261	0.2	-0.4	1.2	0.6
Maine	50,152	49,755	50,286	50,465	-0.1	-0.8	1.1	0.4
Wyoming	34,822	34,971	35,160	35,306	-4.4	0.4	0.5	0.4
Kansas	131,891	130,813	132,336	132,666	0.6	-0.8	1.2	0.2
Vermont	26,910	26,811	27,215	27,269	0	-0.4	1.5	0.2
West Virginia	65,859	66,800	67,236	67,294	-1.5	1.4	0.7	0.1
Alaska	54,311	51,421	49,630	49,359	5.5	-5.3	-3.5	-0.5
North Dakota	47,543	48,528	51,431	50,349	21.7	2.1	6	-2.1

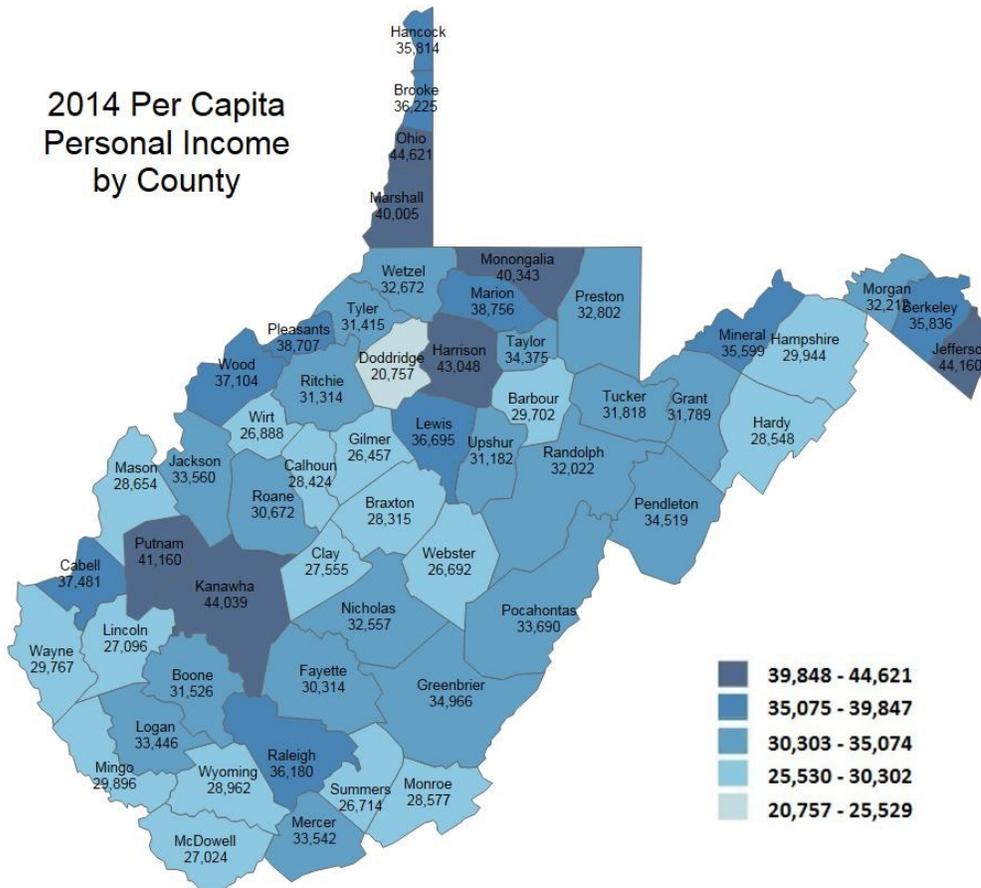
(See endnotes for explanation on chained dollars)

West Virginia and its Neighbors

The graph below illustrates the economic disposition of real gross domestic product and its changes between 2014 and 2015 for the nation, West Virginia, and contiguous states. Gross Domestic Product grew by 2.4 percent at the national level, while growth in GDP in West Virginia and surrounding states lagged behind. Ohio led the six-state area with 1.8 percent growth.



2014 Per Capita Personal Income by County



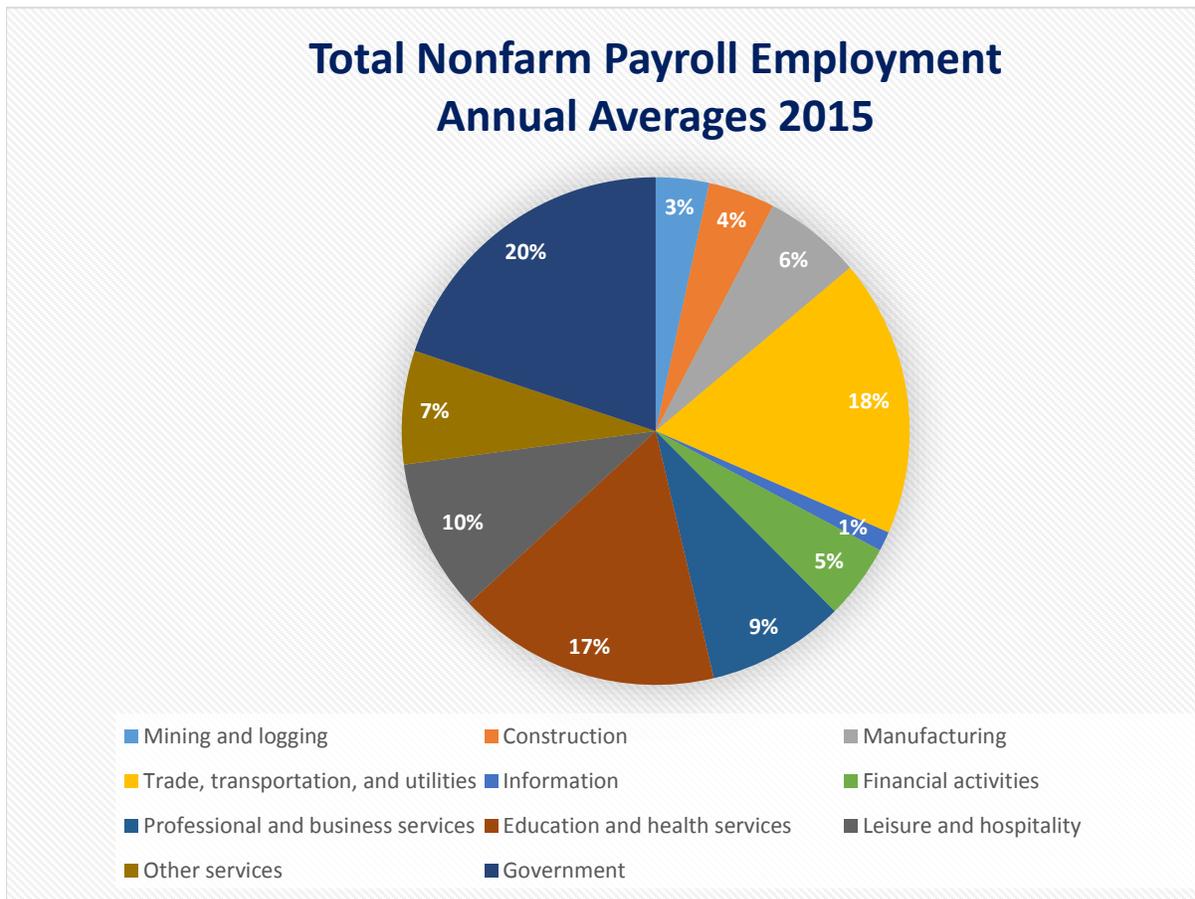
Ohio county had the greatest per capita personal income of all of West Virginia's 55 counties in 2014 (\$44,621). The remaining counties in the top ten per capita personal income category were Jefferson (\$44,160), Kanawha (\$44,039), Harrison (\$43,048), Putnam (\$41,160), Monongalia (\$40,343), Marshall (\$40,005), Marion (\$38,756), Pleasants (\$38,707) and Cabell (\$37,481).

Calhoun had the greatest growth rate in per capita personal income between 2013 and 2014, at 7.3 percent. Followed by Marshall (6.0), Gilmer (5.4), Ritchie (5.1), Pocahontas (5.1), Pleasants (5.1), Tucker (5.1), Ohio (4.6), Wood (4.5), Grant (4.4), and Harrison (4.4). Three counties suffered declining per capita personal income, Mingo (-5.9), Doddridge (-0.9), and McDowell (-0.8).

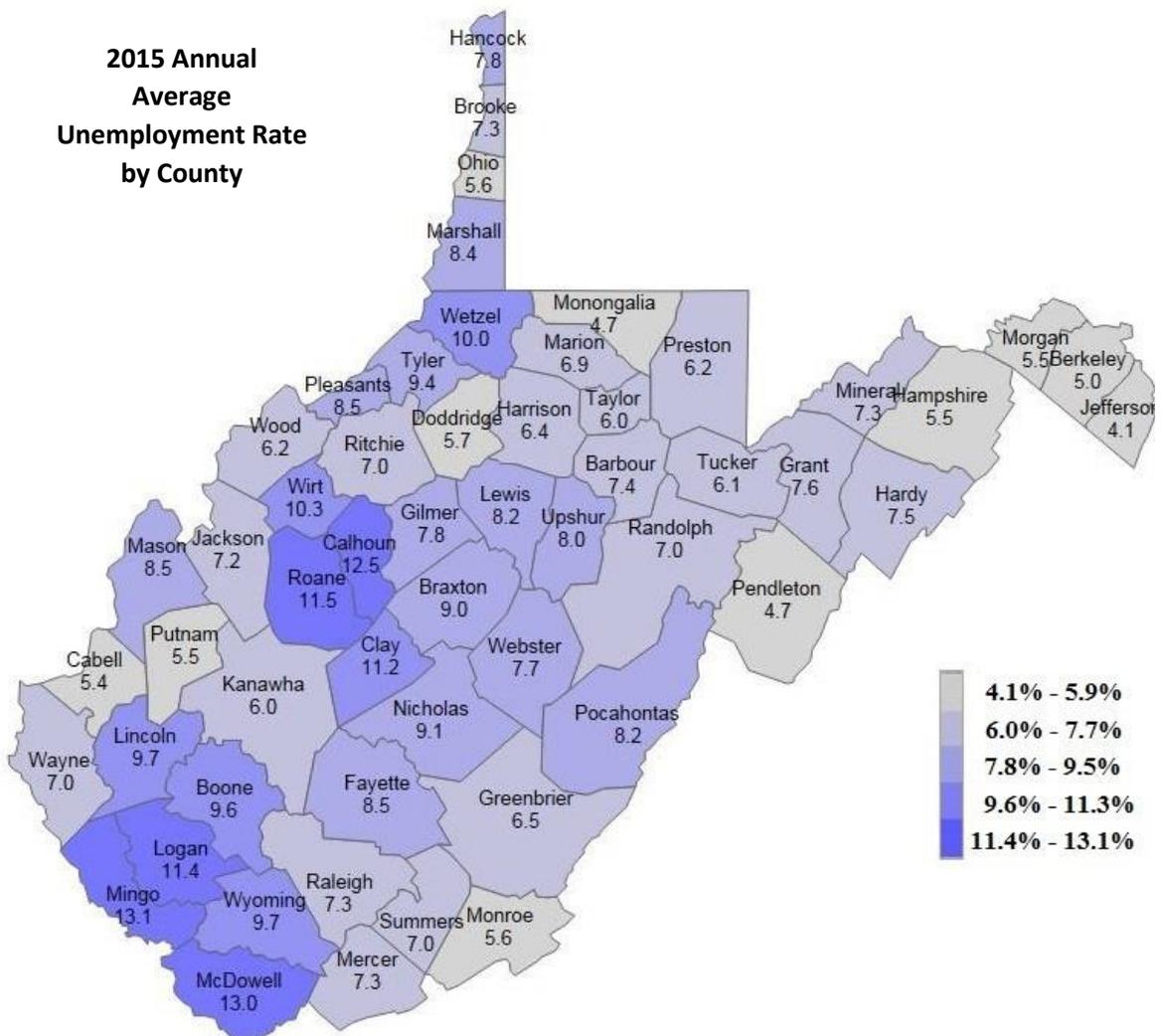
Statewide, the gain in per capita personal income in 2014 was 2.8 percent. Per capita personal income in the U S improved 3.6 percent in 2014.

Nonfarm Payroll Employment

In 2015, West Virginia's total, nonfarm payroll employment was dominated by government (20%), trade, transportation and utilities (18%), and education and health services (17%).



**2015 Annual
Average
Unemployment Rate
by County**



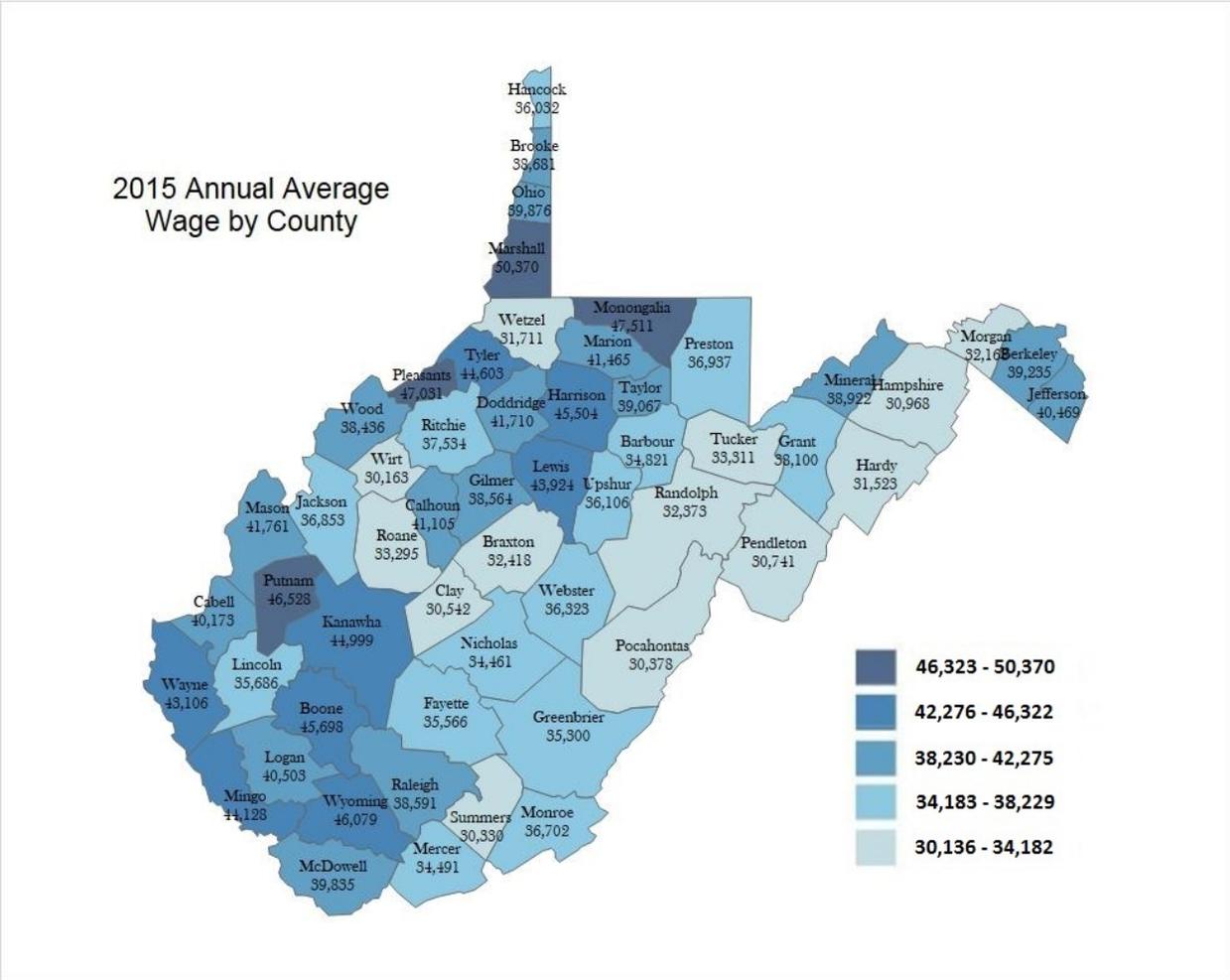
Jefferson County (4.1) reported the lowest annual average unemployment rate in the state in 2015. Counties with unemployment rates at or below 5.0 percent in 2015 included Berkeley (5.0), Monongalia (4.7), Pendleton (4.7), and Jefferson (4.1).

Mingo County (13.1) reported the highest annual average unemployment rate in the state. Counties with unemployment rates at or above 10.0 percent in 2015 included Wetzel (10.0), Wirt (10.3), Clay (11.2), Logan (11.4), Roane (11.5), Calhoun (12.5), McDowell (13.0), and Mingo (13.1).

Between 2014 and 2015, 29 counties reported increasing average unemployment rates, 23 counties recorded declining average unemployment rates, and three counties reported no change in their annual average unemployment rates.

West Virginia Labor Force Statistics by County

County	Civilian Labor Force	Total Employment	Total Unemployment	Rate
Barbour	6,910	6,400	510	7.4
Berkeley	52,550	49,920	2,630	5.0
Boone	8,330	7,530	800	9.6
Braxton	5,450	4,960	490	9.0
Brooke	10,150	9,410	740	7.3
Cabell	41,710	39,470	2,240	5.4
Calhoun	2,770	2,430	350	12.5
Clay	3,300	2,930	370	11.2
Doddridge	3,640	3,430	210	5.7
Fayette	16,350	14,960	1,400	8.5
Gilmer	2,730	2,520	210	7.8
Grant	5,750	5,310	440	7.6
Greenbrier	15,350	14,350	1,010	6.5
Hampshire	9,710	9,180	540	5.5
Hancock	13,110	12,090	1,020	7.8
Hardy	5,430	5,020	410	7.5
Harrison	31,690	29,670	2,010	6.4
Jackson	11,960	11,100	860	7.2
Jefferson	27,600	26,460	1,130	4.1
Kanawha	87,430	82,220	5,210	6.0
Lewis	7,010	6,430	580	8.2
Lincoln	7,460	6,740	720	9.7
Logan	11,490	10,180	1,300	11.4
McDowell	5,320	4,630	690	13.0
Marion	26,040	24,250	1,790	6.9
Marshall	14,220	13,020	1,200	8.4
Mason	9,970	9,120	850	8.5
Mercer	21,960	20,350	1,610	7.3
Mineral	11,650	10,810	850	7.3
Mingo	7,270	6,310	960	13.1
Monongalia	50,910	48,520	2,390	4.7
Monroe	5,750	5,430	320	5.6
Morgan	7,420	7,010	410	5.5
Nicholas	9,880	8,980	900	9.1
Ohio	20,760	19,590	1,170	5.6
Pendleton	3,580	3,410	170	4.7
Pleasants	3,000	2,740	260	8.5
Pocahontas	3,600	3,300	300	8.2
Preston	14,790	13,880	910	6.2
Putnam	25,690	24,270	1,430	5.5
Raleigh	30,680	28,430	2,250	7.3
Randolph	11,950	11,110	840	7.0
Ritchie	4,480	4,170	320	7.0
Roane	5,250	4,640	600	11.5
Summers	4,560	4,240	320	7.0
Taylor	7,750	7,280	470	6.0
Tucker	3,420	3,210	210	6.1
Tyler	3,650	3,310	340	9.4
Upshur	9,690	8,920	780	8.0
Wayne	15,740	14,630	1,110	7.0
Webster	3,450	3,190	270	7.7
Wetzel	7,190	6,470	720	10.0
Wirt	2,280	2,040	230	10.3
Wood	37,550	35,220	2,340	6.2
Wyoming	7,760	7,010	750	9.7
Statewide	785,000	732,100	52,900	6.7



Marshall County reported the highest average annual wage at \$50,370, followed by Monongalia \$47,511, Pleasants \$47,031, Putnam \$46,528, Wyoming \$46,079, Boone \$45,698, Harrison \$45,504, Kanawha \$44,999, Tyler \$44,603, and Mingo \$44,128. The five counties with the lowest average annual wage in 2015 included Pendleton \$30,741, Clay \$30,542, Pocahontas \$30,378, Summers \$30,330, and Wirt \$30,163.

The five counties with largest growth in employment between 2014 and 2015 were Monongalia (+1,009), Berkeley (+629), Jefferson (+440), Putnam (+418), and Cabell (+314).

Employment and Wages

Average Annual Wages	2014	2015	% Change
United States	\$51,364	\$52,942	3.1%
West Virginia	\$41,093	\$41,655	1.4%

Workers’ average wage in West Virginia during 2015 totaled \$41,655. The average wage rose by \$562, an increase of 1.4 percent from 2014. Average annual employment decreased to 697,723 from the 2014 average of 701,817, a decline of 4,094 or 0.6 percent. Major industry sectors that experienced growth included Education and Health Services (+1,452), Leisure and Hospitality (+354), Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+283), and Professional and Business Services (+136). Sectors with employment declines included Natural Resources and Mining (-3,937), Construction (-1,192), Other Services (-516), Government (-354), Financial Activities (-257), Manufacturing (-62), and Information (-1).

Based on the data that includes all workers covered by state and federal unemployment insurance programs, these statistics are updated each quarter on our website. Included are data on average annual employment, average weekly and annual wages, and the number of employers by detailed industry for the state, each of its 55 counties, and seven Workforce Development Areas. West Virginia Employment and Wages can be located online at: http://lmi.workforcewv.org/Employment_N_Wages/EnW.html

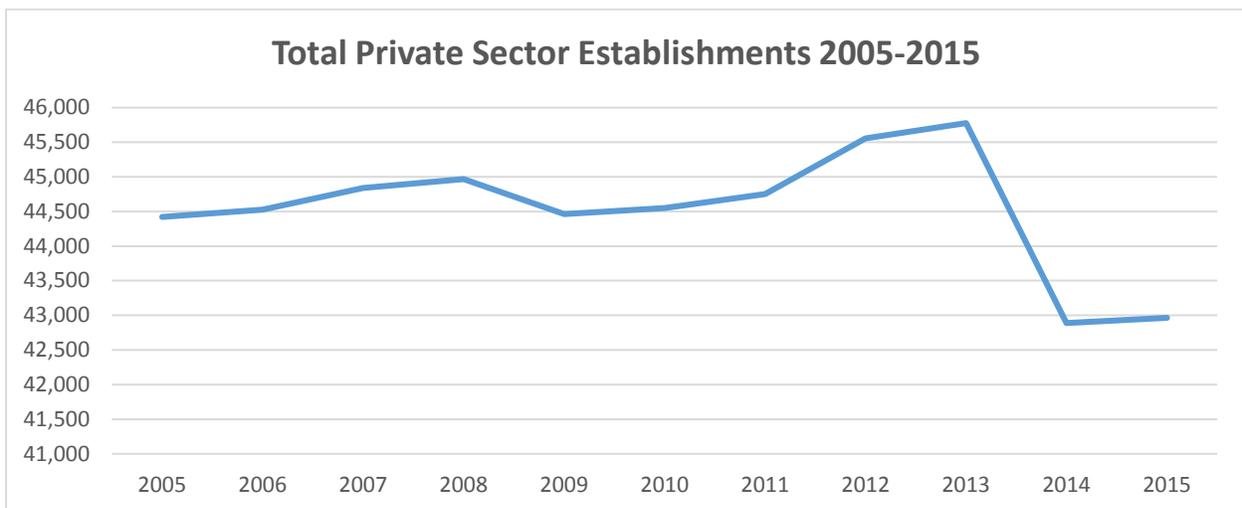
Top 25 Industry Wages in West Virginia		Weekly Wages
5231	Securities and Commodity Contracts Intermediation and Brokerage	\$2,669.38
4862	Pipeline Transportation of Natural Gas	\$2,019.31
5112	Software Publishers	\$1,995.47
2211	Electric Power Generation, Transmission and Distribution	\$1,885.88
4242	Drugs and Druggists' Sundries Merchant Wholesalers	\$1,739.98
3252	Resin, Synthetic Rubber, and Artificial Synthetic Fibers and Filaments Manufacturing	\$1,732.59
3251	Basic Chemical Manufacturing	\$1,661.68
4885	Freight Transportation Arrangement	\$1,656.07
2121	Coal Mining	\$1,607.74
2371	Utility System Construction	\$1,486.44
2372	Land Subdivision	\$1,464.00
5223	Activities Related to Credit Intermediation	\$1,461.00
5415	Computer Systems Design and Related Services	\$1,441.19
3364	Aerospace Product and Parts Manufacturing	\$1,440.10
6211	Offices of Physicians	\$1,386.72
3311	Iron and Steel Mills and Ferroalloy Manufacturing	\$1,373.69
4246	Chemical and Allied Products Merchant Wholesalers	\$1,345.67
5239	Other Financial Investment Activities	\$1,345.49
2212	Natural Gas Distribution	\$1,329.65
4883	Support Activities for Water Transportation	\$1,321.81
5416	Management, Scientific, and Technical Consulting Services	\$1,290.60
5171	Wired Telecommunications Carriers	\$1,287.80
4234	Professional and Commercial Equipment and Supplies Merchant Wholesalers	\$1,279.52
3313	Alumina and Aluminum Production and Processing	\$1,279.05
3255	Paint, Coating, and Adhesive Manufacturing	\$1,258.21

A census of wages based on four-digit NAICS codes shows (5231) Securities and Commodity Contracts Brokers paid the highest annual wage among the state's industries, with an average of \$138,808, followed by (4862) Pipeline Transportation of Natural Gas \$105,004, (5112) Software Publishers \$103,764, (2211) Power Generation and Supply \$98,066, and (4242) Druggists' Goods Merchant Wholesalers \$90,479.

Change in rank from March 2014				The 100 Largest Private Employers in West Virginia	
down	new	unchanged	up	Rank	
				2015	2014
				March 2015	
	=			Wal-Mart Associates, Inc.	1 1
	=			West Virginia United Health System	2 2
	=			Charleston Area Medical Center, Inc.	3 3
	=			Kroger	4 4
	=			Mylan Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	5 5
	=			Murray American Energy Inc	6 6
	=			St. Mary's Medical Center, Inc.	7 7
	=			Lowe's Home Centers, Inc.	8 8
	↑			Cabell Huntington Hospital, Inc.	9 11
	=			Res-Care, Inc.	10 10
↓				Mentor Management, Inc. (Mentor Network, The)	11 9
	=			Wheeling Hospital, Inc.	12 12
	↑			West Virginia's Choice, Inc.	13 17
↓				American Electric Power	14 13
	↑			Frontier West Virginia, Inc.	15 16
	↑			Pilgrim's Pride Corporation of West Virginia, Inc.	16 18
↓				Camden-Clark Memorial Hospital, Inc.	17 14
	↑			FirstEnergy Corp	18 20
	=			Rite Aid of West Virginia, Inc.	19 19
	↑			Monongalia General Hospital, The	20 24
	=			PNGI Charles Town Gaming, LLC	21 21
	↑			Bob Evans Farms, Inc.	22 23
	↑			Dolgencorp, LLC (Dollar General Stores)	23 26
↓				Little General Store, Inc.	24 22
	↑			Macy's Corporate Services, Inc.	25 36
	↑			Asplundh Tree Expert Company	26 48
	=			Greenbrier Hotel Corporation	27 27
	↑			K Mart Corporation	28 34
	↑			Herbert J Thomas Memorial Hospital Association	29 33
↓				Go-Mart, Inc.	30 29
↓				Mountaineer Park, Inc.	31 28
	=			Weirton Medical Center	32 32
	↑			Arch Coal, Inc.	33 38
	↑			Toyota Motor Manufacturing, West Virginia, Inc.	34 40
	↑			United Parcel Service, Inc. (WV District)	35 39
	x			Chemours Company FC, LLC	36
	↑			Gino's/Tudors Biscuit World	37 41
	↑			Gabriel Brothers, Inc.	38 59
↓				Alliant Techsystems Operations, LLC	39 37
↓				E I DuPont De Nemours & Company	40 15
	↑			Raleigh General Hospital, LLC	41 42
	↑			Cracker Barrel Old Country Store	42 47
	↑			Constellium Rolled Products Ravenswood, LLC	43 46
↓				Patriot Coal Corporation	43 31
	↑			West Virginia University Medical Corporation (University Health Associates)	45 51
↓				GMRI, Inc.	46 25
↓				BB&T Corporation	47 35
↓				United Bank, Inc.	48 45
	↑			West Virginia CVS Pharmacy, LLC	49 55
	↑			University Physicians & Surgeons, Inc.	50 52

March 2015 Number of Establishments Private Sector Only				March 2015 Number of Employers Private Sector Only			
SIZE	UNITS	EMPLOYMENT	% of Total	SIZE	UNITS	EMPLOYMENT	% of Total
0	6,131	0	0.0%	0	5,779	0	0.0%
1- 4	19,410	40,276	7.3%	1- 4	16,219	32,646	5.9%
5- 9	9,004	59,799	10.8%	5- 9	5,801	38,259	6.9%
10- 19	5,917	79,232	14.4%	10- 19	3,661	49,422	9.0%
20- 49	3,568	105,892	19.2%	20- 49	2,557	76,959	14.0%
50- 99	1,177	79,783	14.5%	50- 99	925	64,187	11.6%
100-249	522	76,989	14.0%	100-249	554	83,368	15.1%
250-499	133	45,541	8.3%	250-499	174	60,502	11.0%
500-999	34	22,121	4.0%	500-999	87	59,431	10.8%
1000+	24	41,888	7.6%	1000+	42	86,720	15.7%
TOTAL	45,920	551,521	100.0%	TOTAL	35,799	551,494	100.0%

Note: An *establishment* is a single physical location, such as an individual store or restaurant. An *employer* may have any number of establishments at different locations. Firms which do not have employees covered by unemployment compensation are not included. Firms are sized according to their employment in West Virginia. This means that a firm with many thousands of employees nationwide, but only a few salespeople in West Virginia, is counted as a very small firm.



Employment Projections

Industries

Healthcare-related industries are anticipated to have the most job growth through 2024. This is largely due to the expansion of West Virginia’s aging population, a significant driver of demand for health and social services. It is expected that the 65 Years Old or Older age group will increase from 16 percent of the state’s population to 22.9 percent by 2030¹. Other industries anticipated to have substantial growth can be observed in the table below.

Top 10 Industries with the greatest anticipated growth (2014-2024)

NAICS Code	Industry Title	2014 Base Employment	2024 Projected Employment	Change In Employment	Percent Change
621000	Ambulatory Health Care Services	39,988	46,369	6,381	16.0
622000	Hospitals	49,865	52,609	2,744	5.5
624000	Social Assistance	17,307	19,778	2,471	14.3
623000	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	18,572	20,932	2,360	12.7
561000	Administrative and Support Services	31,842	33,170	1,328	4.2
541000	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	26,100	26,754	654	2.5
562000	Waste Management and Remediation Service	2,501	2,794	293	11.7
492000	Couriers and Messengers	2,376	2,655	279	11.7
518000	Data Processing, Hosting and Related Services	928	1,135	207	22.3
713000	Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries	6,565	6,710	145	2.2

¹ Christiadi, Deskins, and Lego (2014). Population Trends in West Virginia through 2030. <http://be.wvu.edu/bber/pdfs/BBER-2014-04.pdf>

Industries with the greatest expected decline (2014-2024)

NAICS Code	Industry Title	2014 Base Employment	2024 Projected Employment	Change In Employment	Percent Change
212000	Mining (except Oil and Gas)	18,690	14,631	-4,059	-21.7
445000	Food and Beverage Stores	12,979	10,908	-2,071	-16.0
453000	Miscellaneous Store Retailers	3,548	3,299	-249	-7.0
522000	Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	9,995	9,780	-215	-2.2
551000	Management of Companies and Enterprises	6,333	6,158	-175	-2.8
722000	Food Services and Drinking Places	53,309	53,145	-164	-0.38
312000	Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing	363	210	-153	-42.18
336000	Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	4,838	4,687	-151	-3.18
424000	Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	6,450	6,324	-126	-2.0
813000	Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations	35,276	35,152	-124	-0.4

The mining industry in West Virginia has encountered many struggles over the past few years. Over the coming decade, those struggles are anticipated to continue. Food and beverage related industries are also anticipated to see significant declines in the coming years, largely a result of continued population declines through 2030. The table below depicts the 10 industries with the greatest anticipated decline from 2014 to 2024.

Occupations

Occupational Growth by Groups (2014-2024)

SOC	Occupational Group	Growth Openings	Replacement Openings	Total Openings
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	5,081	12,071	17,152
39-0000	Personal Care and Service Occupations	4,247	5,831	10,078
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	2,999	4,375	7,374
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support Occupations	1,749	26,584	28,333
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	1,498	25,558	27,056
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations Occupations	987	5,643	6,630
25-0000	Education, Training, and Library Occupations	965	7,495	8,460
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical Occupations	770	1,770	2,540
21-0000	Community and Social Service Occupations	769	2,998	3,767
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	660	9,330	9,990
51-0000	Production Occupations	657	9,204	9,861
11-0000	Management Occupations	565	7,291	7,856
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	486	5,589	6,075
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	293	12,406	12,699
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	185	1,810	1,995
41-0000	Sales and Related Occupations	160	24,382	24,542
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering Occupations	160	2,057	2,217
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	131	1,777	1,908
47-0000	Construction and Extraction Occupations	123	10,561	10,684
33-0000	Protective Service Occupations	107	4,841	4,948
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	65	493	558
23-0000	Legal Occupations	61	1,075	1,136

Job openings due to growth are dominated by healthcare occupations. Of the 22,718 anticipated growth openings over the coming decade, approximately 52 percent (11,711) will come from openings in healthcare related occupations. Other occupational groups with strong expected growth include: Office and Administrative Support Occupations, Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (restaurants, etc.), Business and Financial Operations Occupations, and Education, Training, and Library Occupations.

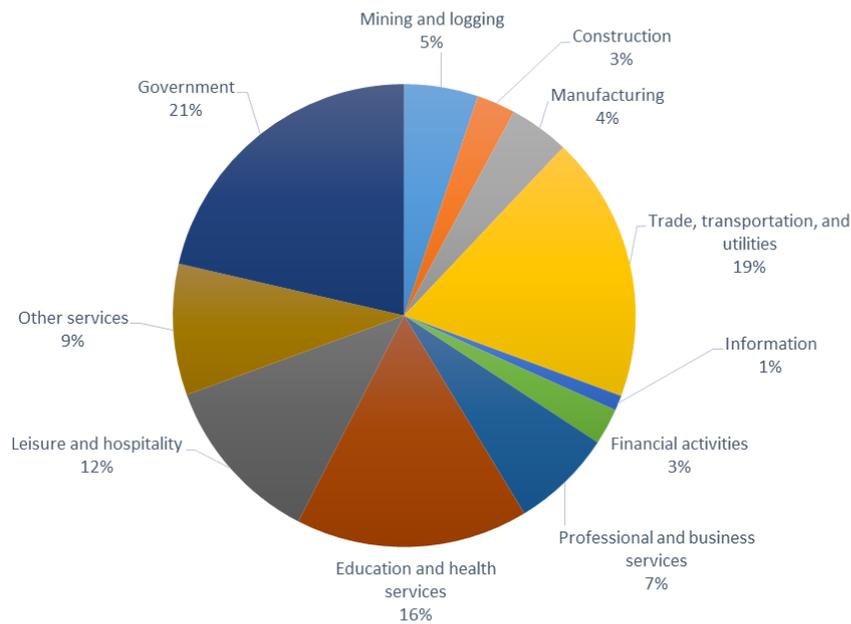
Workforce Investment Area 1 had the highest unemployment rate (7.9) of the 7 WIA's. Total employment fell 1.47 percent. Mining and logging decreased 14.49 percent in WIA 1, while other services increased 2.94 percent. The average weekly wage for WIA 1 in 2015 was \$36,646, down slightly from \$36,743 in 2014. WIA 1 experienced the greatest population loss during the year losing -2,541.

Workforce Development Area 1

Fayette, Greenbrier, Nicholas, McDowell, Mercer, Monroe, Pocahontas, Raleigh, Summers, Webster, Wyoming



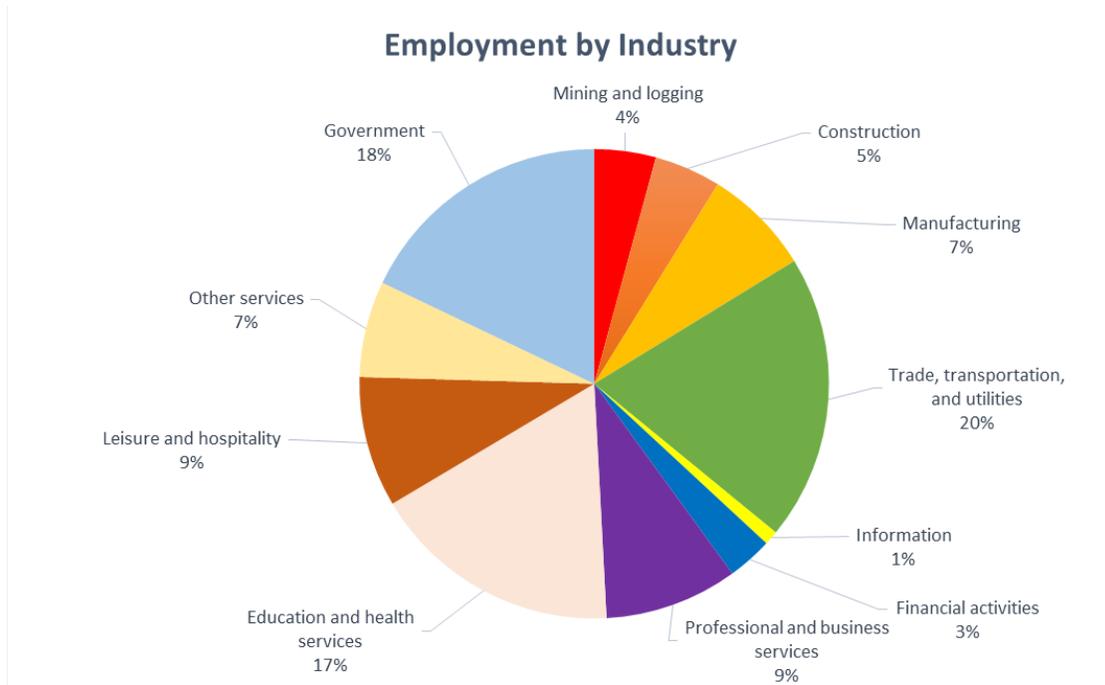
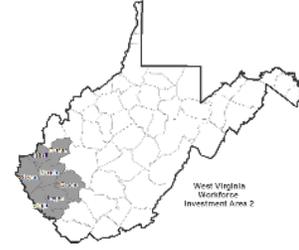
Total Employment by Industry



- ❖ Highest average annual unemployment rate (7.9%) in 2015 among the seven workforce development areas.
- ❖ Average employment fell 1,518 (1.5%) to 102,962 during 2015.
- ❖ Average annual wage declined by \$97.00 to \$36,646, the only workforce development area to experience a declining wage in 2015.
- ❖ Greatest population loss (-2,541) among the workforce development areas.
- ❖ Top three private employers in 2015: Wal-Mart, Greenbrier Hotel Corporation, Raleigh General Hospital.

Workforce Development Area 2

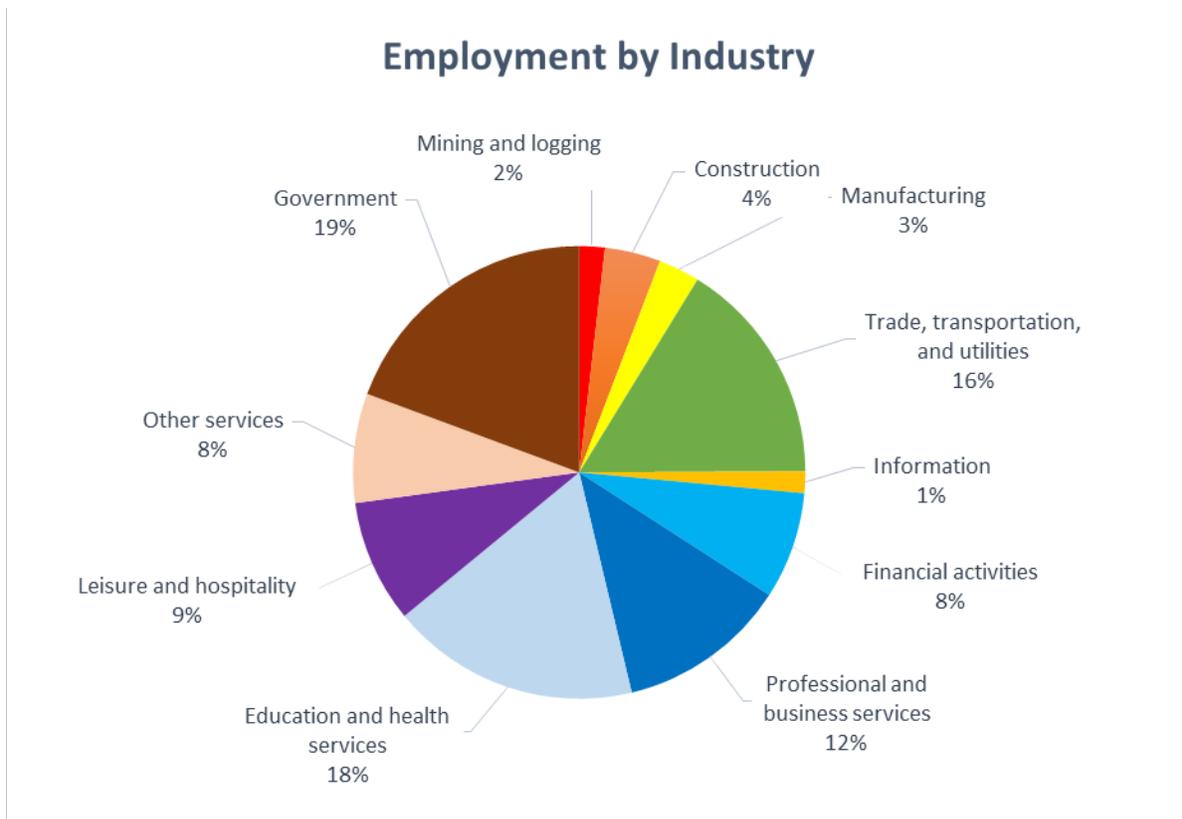
Boone, Cabell, Lincoln, Logan, Mingo, Putnam, Wayne



- ❖ Average annual unemployment rate of 7.3%, ranking fourth-highest among the workforce development areas.
- ❖ Average annual wage up \$13.00 in 2015 to \$42,089.
- ❖ Average employment fell 1,774 (-1.7%) to 105,102, the greatest employment loss among six workforce development areas.
- ❖ Population decline of 1,815, the third-greatest loss among the five workforce development areas experiencing population losses in 2015.
- ❖ Top three private employers in 2015: St. Mary's Medical Center, Cabell Huntington Hospital, Wal-Mart.

Workforce Development Area 3

Kanawha



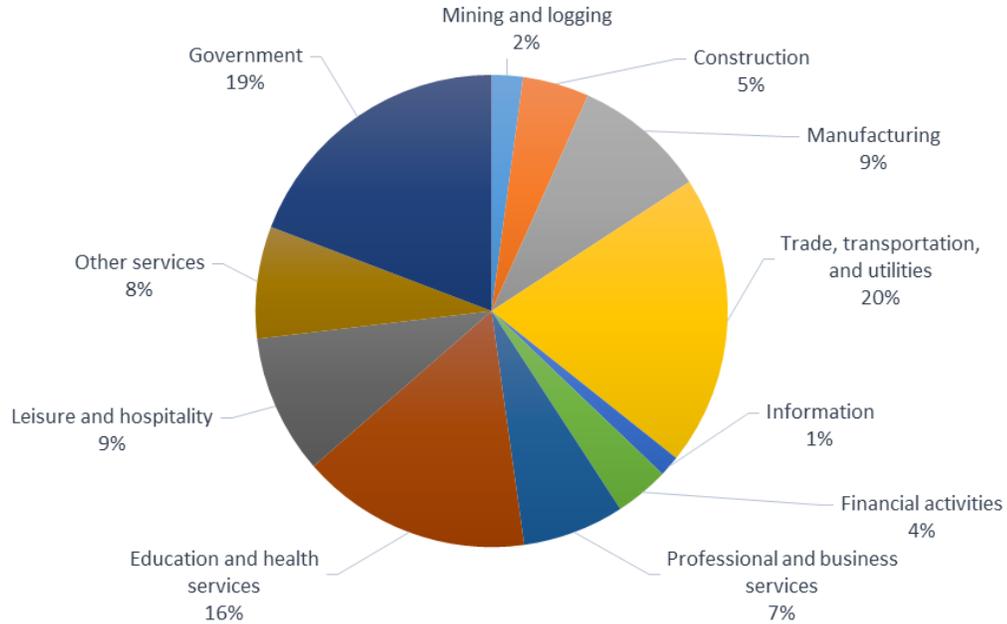
- ❖ Average annual unemployment rate of 6.0% was second-lowest among workforce development areas.
- ❖ Population loss of 1,819 was second-highest among five workforce development areas experiencing population declines.
- ❖ Average annual employment fell 750 to 103,005 in 2015.
- ❖ Average annual wage for 2015 ranked first at \$44,999, climbing \$1,292 from 2014, the greatest increase in wages among six workforce development areas.
- ❖ Top three private employers in 2015: Charleston Area Medical Center, Herbert J. Thomas Memorial Hospital, Wal-Mart.

Workforce Development Area 4

Calhoun, Clay, Jackson, Mason, Pleasants, Roane, Ritchie, Wirt, Wood



Employment by Industry



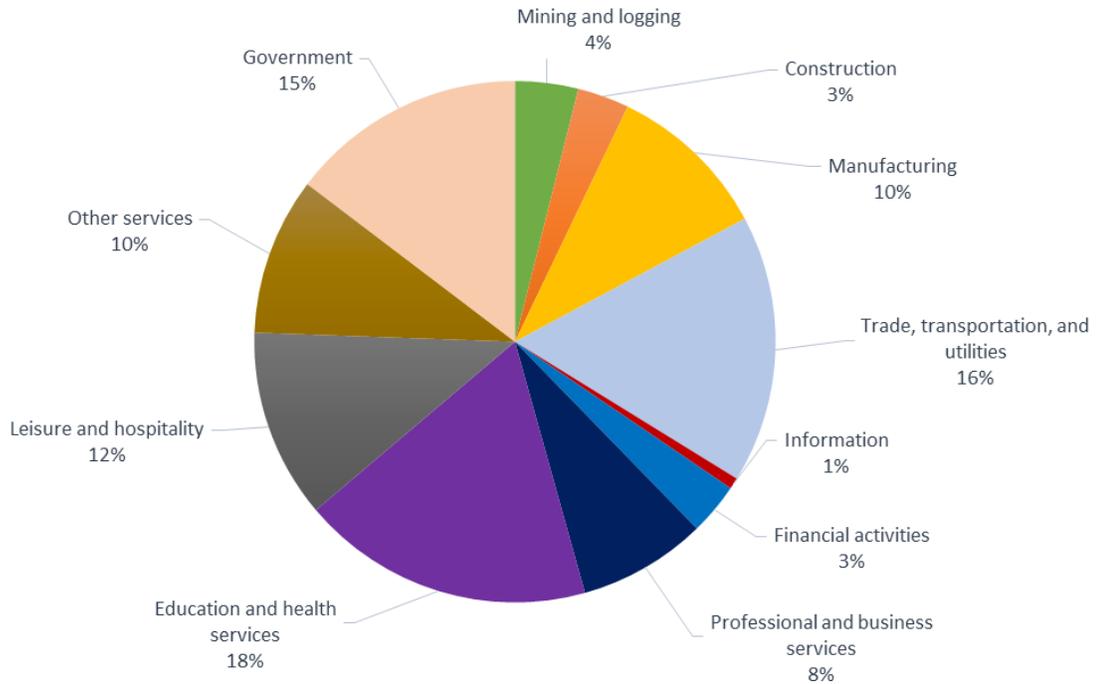
- ❖ Average annual unemployment rate of 7.7% ranked second-highest among the workforce development areas.
- ❖ Average annual wage rose \$431 in 2015 to \$38,450.
- ❖ Average annual employment fell 666 to 63,471 in 2015.
- ❖ Population decline of 282 was smallest loss among five workforce development areas experiencing declines in population.
- ❖ Top three private employers in 2015: Camden-Clark Memorial Hospital, Wal-Mart, E.I. DuPont De Nemours and Company.

Workforce Development Area 5

Brooke, Hancock, Marshall, Ohio, Tyler, Wetzel



Employment by Industry



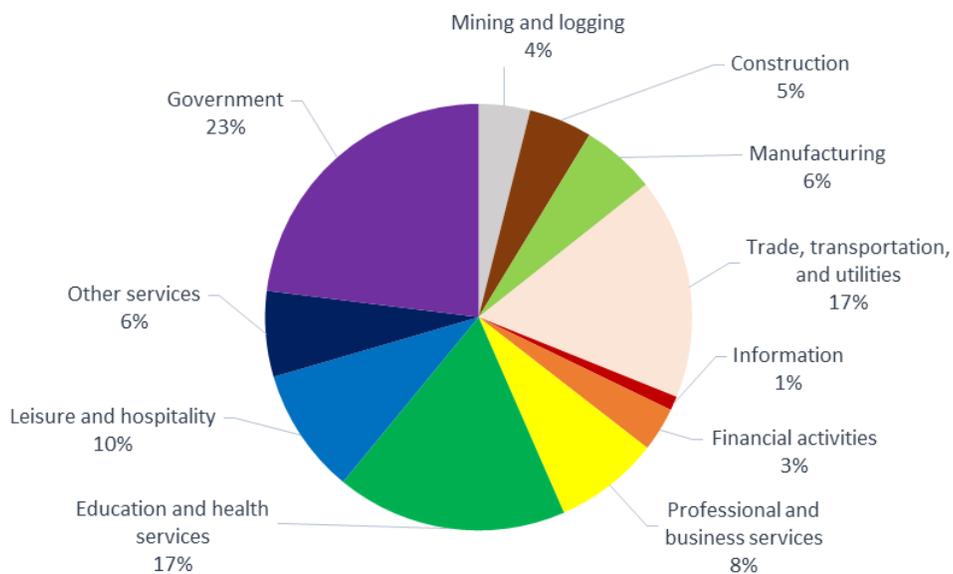
- ❖ Average annual unemployment rate of 7.5% was third-highest among the workforce development areas.
- ❖ Average annual wage rose \$536 to \$40,438 in 2015.
- ❖ Average annual employment fell 302 to 64,944 in 2015.
- ❖ Population decline of 1,158 in 2015.
- ❖ Top three private employers in 2015: Wheeling Hospital, Mountaineer Park, Wal-Mart.

Workforce Development Area 6

Barbour, Braxton, Doddridge, Gilmer, Harrison, Lewis, Marion, Monongalia, Preston, Randolph Taylor, Tucker, Upshur



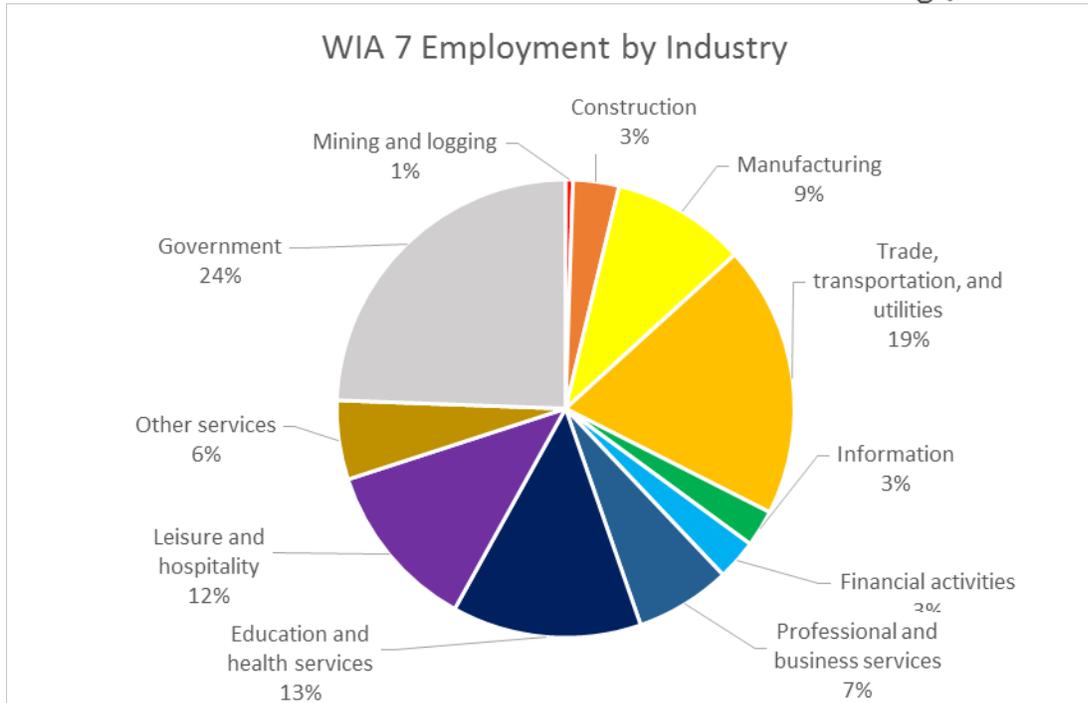
Employment by Industry



- ❖ Average annual unemployment rate of 6.3% was third-lowest among the workforce development areas.
- ❖ Average annual wage rose \$698 to \$42,835, the second-highest wage among the workforce development areas.
- ❖ Average annual employment fell 121 to 159,495, the smallest decline among the six workforce development areas experiencing employment losses in 2015.
- ❖ One of the two workforce development areas to experience population gains (+1,073) in 2015.
- ❖ Top three private employers in 2015: West Virginia University Hospitals, Mylan Pharmaceuticals, Wal-Mart.

Workforce Development Area 7

Berkeley, Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Jefferson, Mineral, Morgan, Pendleton



- ❖ Average annual unemployment rate of 5.3% was lowest among the seven workforce development areas.
- ❖ Average annual wage climbed \$1,018 to \$37,890 in 2015, the second-highest wage growth among the workforce development areas.
- ❖ The only workforce development area to experience growth (+1,035) in annual average employment in 2015, climbing to 72,910.
- ❖ Population gain of 1,919 was highest among the two workforce development areas experiencing population growth in 2015.
- ❖ Top three private employers in 2015: Pilgrim’s Pride Corporation of WV, PNCI Charles Town Gaming, Wal-Mart.

Endnotes

***Definitions.** GDP by state is the state counterpart of the Nation's gross domestic product (GDP), the Bureau's featured and most comprehensive measure of U.S. economic activity. GDP by state is derived as the sum of the GDP originating in all the industries in a state.*

The statistics of real GDP by state are prepared in chained (2009) dollars. Real GDP by state is an inflation-adjusted measure of each state's gross product that is based on national prices for the goods and services produced within that state. The statistics of real GDP by state and of quantity indexes with a reference year of 2009 were derived by applying national chain-type price indexes to the current-dollar values of GDP by state for the 64 detailed NAICS-based industries for 1997 forward.

The chain-type index formula that is used in the national accounts is then used to calculate the values of total real GDP by state and of real GDP by state at more aggregated industry levels. Real GDP by state may reflect a substantial volume of output that is sold to other states and countries. To the extent that a state's output is produced and sold in national markets at relatively uniform prices (or sold locally at national prices), real GDP by state captures the differences across states that reflect the relative differences in the mix of goods and services that the states produce. However, real GDP by state does not capture geographic differences in the prices of goods and services that are produced and sold locally.

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 - **Current Employment Statistics**
 - **Local Area Unemployment Statistics**
 - **Occupational Employment Statistics**
 - **Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages**



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