

AN INTRODUCTION



West Virginia
WEST VIRGINIA

INTRODUCTION TO WEST VIRGINIA

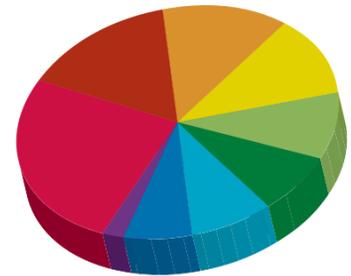


West Virginia attracts businesses from all around the world. The strategic location and productive work force, combined with low business operating costs, make West Virginia a profitable location to do business.

The state's economy is transforming into one that includes innovation-driven, technology-based businesses. A growing number of global companies leading the charge in advanced chemicals and polymers, biometrics, aerospace, information technology and renewable energy operate in the state.

From small enterprises to global operations, companies are taking notice of the positive changes and locating in West Virginia. Discover more about the advantages that attracted those companies to West Virginia — and how West Virginia can build rewarding relationships with you and your company.

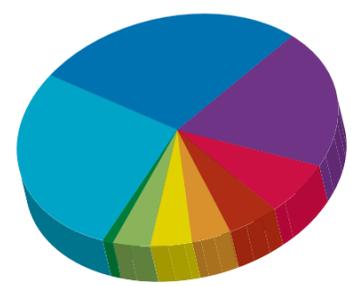
AT A GLANCE



Manufacturing Employment by Economic Sector

Total Manufacturing	100%
Chemicals and plastics	26
Wood products	15
Machinery and transportation equipment	13
Fabricated metals	12
Primary metals	9
Mineral products	8
Food and beverage	8
Miscellaneous manufacturing	7
Printing	2

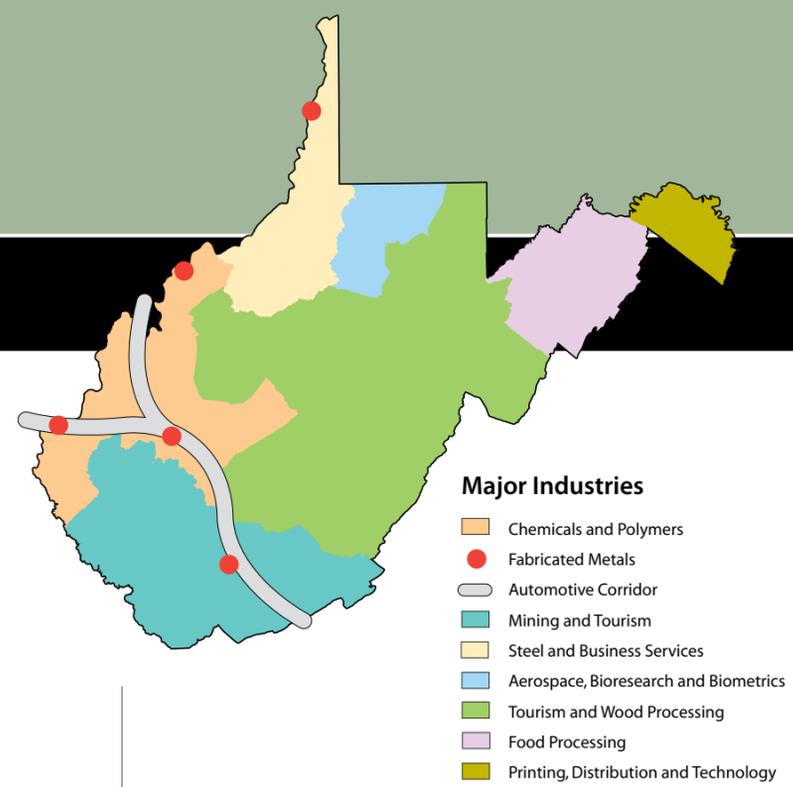
Source: WorkForce West Virginia



Employment by Economic Sector

Economic Activities	Percent of GSP Produced	Percent of total
Community, business & personal services	17	28
Trade, restaurants and hotels	15	27
Government	18	20
Manufacturing	11	7
Construction	4	5
Finance, insurance & real estate	13	4
Transportation & communications	8	4
Mining	9	4
Utilities	5	1
Total	100	100

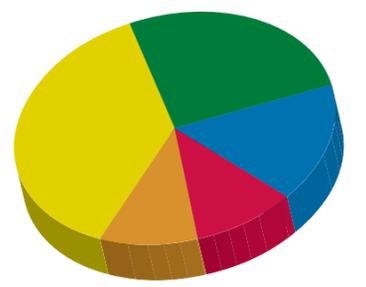
Sources: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, WorkForce West Virginia



- Major Industries**
- Chemicals and Polymers
 - Fabricated Metals
 - Automotive Corridor
 - Mining and Tourism
 - Steel and Business Services
 - Aerospace, Bioresearch and Biometrics
 - Tourism and Wood Processing
 - Food Processing
 - Printing, Distribution and Technology

Distribution of West Virginia's Exports Top 25 Markets (in millions)

Region	Percentage	Total Value
EUROPEAN UNION	38%	\$1,151
Netherlands	364	
Belgium	313	
France	288	
United Kingdom	227	
Italy	166	
Germany	147	
Spain	108	
Portugal	84	
Sweden	36	
NAFTA REGION	26%	\$437
Canada	1,021	
Mexico	130	
SOUTH AMERICA	10%	\$437
Brazil	407	
Chile	30	
ASIA	16%	\$716
China	296	
Japan	218	
Korean Republic	76	
Hong Kong	58	
Singapore	35	
Taiwan	33	
OTHER	10%	\$459
India	208	
Turkey	68	
Egypt	54	
Ukraine	50	
Australia	36	
Republic of South Africa	43	



WEST VIRGINIA BUSINESS ADVANTAGES



Centrally Located

West Virginia is centrally located within overnight trucking distance of more than 50 percent of the U.S. population and more than a third of the Canadian population.

High Worker Productivity

West Virginia's work force has earned an incredible reputation for dedication and loyalty, as well as low absenteeism and turnover.

In recent data, West Virginia had the nation's lowest manufacturing-industry employee turnover rate, 31 percent below the U.S. average. The state had the second-lowest overall turnover rate.

Low Business Operating Costs

West Virginia provides access to:

- A business-friendly climate and a productive, skilled work force
- The third-lowest overall cost of doing business in the U.S.
- Utility costs among the lowest in the U.S. due to coal-fired electrical power plants, vast natural gas reserves and abundant water
- Low cost of living for employees

PROJECT SUPPORT



West Virginia's professionals ease a company's entry into markets and build relationships with the right people through a network of legal and financial assistance. State agencies work with businesses to:

- Identify suitable locations
- Meet key suppliers and potential joint venture partners
- Complete necessary business operation documents and filings

To help smooth the transition to living in the United States, West Virginia advisors are there to assist in many ways, including:

- Enrolling children in school
- Finding housing
- Connecting utilities such as electricity, gas and water
- Obtaining a driver's license
- Finding local goods and services

DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

West Virginia Development Office Project Managers will ensure the project receives all finance options, tax assistance and recruitment and training programs available.

Finance

The state offers a variety of competitive direct and indirect financing and infrastructure improvement programs.

Tax

A variety of tax credits, exemptions and special valuations are available to new and existing companies. Credits for

manufacturers and R&D companies can offset up to 100 percent of the state's business taxes; special valuations on aircraft, high tech, pollution abatement equipment and property tied to specified customer supplier relations can dramatically reduce property taxes; and exemptions for manufacturers can eliminate sales tax for goods used in manufacturing, including building construction materials and equipment.

Recruitment and Training

West Virginia offers a detailed analysis of labor availability in any specific region, as well as free recruitment, assessment, evaluation and candidate screening based on your criteria. Human Resource professionals will assist in designing the best possible recruitment, testing and training programs to meet the company's needs through services and qualifying funds administered through the flexible and progressive Governor's Guaranteed Work Force Program. All aforementioned services and programs are available throughout the life of the company.

BUSINESS READY BUILDINGS AND SITES



Many manufacturing and industrial parks and sites offer prime space for sale or lease. The West Virginia Development Office can assist in your building or site selection process. Industry specific and general business park advantages include:

Manufacturing and Distribution Parks

Parks in excellent locations to transport goods and services across the country and internationally with infrastructure-ready open sites or existing warehouse and manufacturing buildings.

Chemical and Polymer Industrial Parks

Parks specifically to serve the chemical and polymer industries with advanced infrastructure, including supplemental utility systems, environmental waste disposal, fire protection, emergency services, supplier networks, high quality road, rail and river transportation, and shared labor resources and training programs.

Wood Processing Industrial Parks

Parks designed with access to raw materials, finished goods and all processes in-between, including suitable facilities that can be retrofitted to satisfy certain production processes.

Business Services Parks

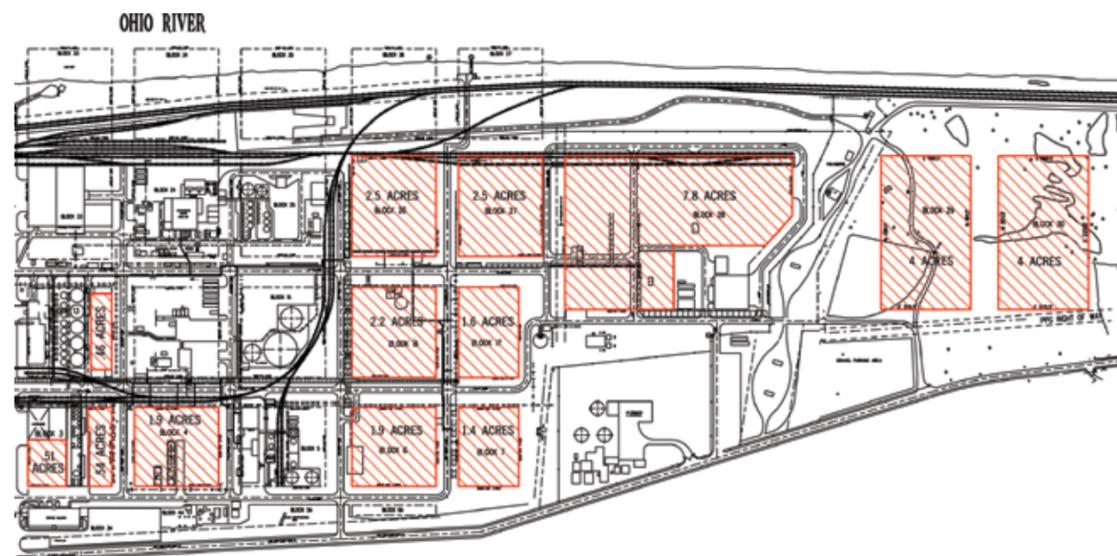
Upscale parks designed to meet the needs of business services facilities and the customers and suppliers they serve, including incubator space for new companies and entrepreneurs.

Research and Technology Parks

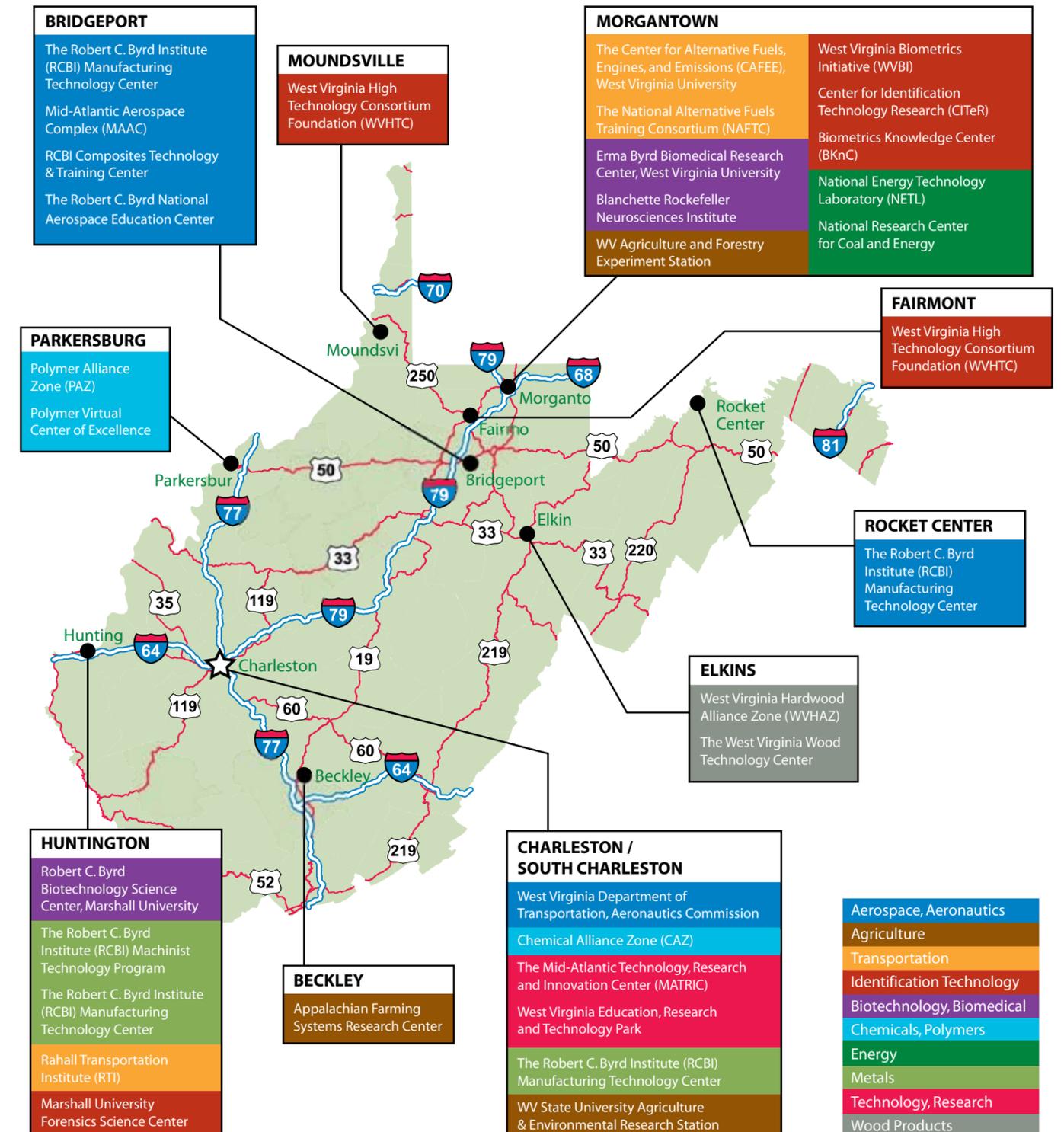
State of the art research and tech parks with shared meeting and laboratory space for startup or individual locations for larger investors, including a network of scientists and research professionals.

FOREIGN TRADE ZONE

West Virginia has six general purpose foreign trade zones and one subzone.



RESEARCH AND INDUSTRY ORGANIZATIONS



EDUCATION IN WEST VIRGINIA



West Virginia's public schools are diverse, with many counties having more than 60 languages spoken in their schools. Plus a new initiative called Go Global emphasizes international education, connecting with schools overseas, teaching foreign languages and integrating cultural literacy into the curriculum.

The West Virginia Department of Education provides free assistance for students in kindergarten through high school to learn English as a Second Language (ESL) in all 55 county school systems. Each summer, students can find ongoing language support through local county Summer Enrichment Programs.

The West Virginia Adult Basic Education (WVABE) program offers free language instruction to adult immigrants, temporary residents and citizens of the U.S. whose native language is not English.

West Virginia has received national recognition for its 21st Century Learning initiative, pre-school programs, school technology implementation, reading initiatives and teacher quality efforts.

West Virginia's higher education system includes 32 colleges, universities, and community and technical colleges. The system offers degree programs in all facets of engineering, science, business and today's high-technology industries. Vocational facilities aid in meeting the expanding educational needs of our work force.

West Virginia achievements in education include:

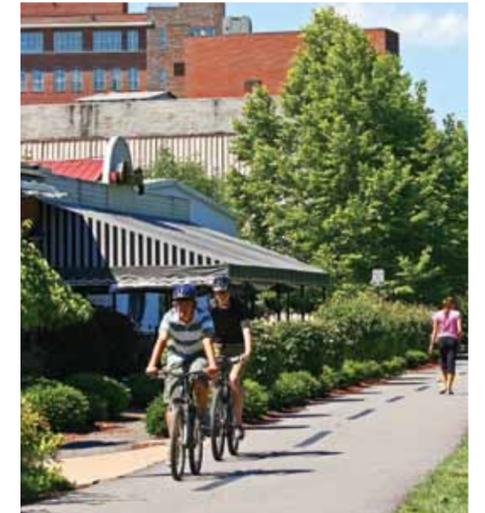
- Students being taught at a higher level of content than those students across the nation because of the state's commitment to Global21
- In Education Week's Quality Counts 2010 Report, West Virginia outperformed every other state on the Standards, Assessment and Accountability section of Quality Counts, receiving a nearly perfect score of 98.3
- National recognition for providing better access to pre-school programs and for a progressive state law requiring universal pre-school be available to all of the state's 4-year-olds by the 2012-2013 school year
- Consistently ranked by education publications among the nation's finest school systems for use of the Internet and emerging technology
- The National Youth Science Camp which stimulates interest in science and mathematics. Today, the nationally recognized program brings together top scientists and outstanding high school graduates from around the world
- The PROMISE (Providing Real Opportunities for Maximizing In-state Student Excellence) Scholarship Program, which offers qualifying West Virginia high school graduates full tuition to a state college or university or an equivalent dollar scholarship to an in-state private college



HIGH QUALITY OF LIFE

West Virginia is home to a relaxed lifestyle, beautiful landscape and an abundance of outdoor recreational resources, making it the ideal place to live and do business.

- West Virginians enjoy a low cost of living, which translates into lower costs for goods and services
- Low property taxes help the state lead the U.S in home ownership
- The state's crime rate is among the lowest in the U.S, making West Virginia one of the safest places to live in the United States
- Unparalleled outdoor recreational activities, including whitewater rafting, winter sports and approximately 100 golf courses
- Camping at more than 50 state parks and forests, offering more than 800 miles of hiking trails and 5,000 acres of fishing
- Exciting gaming centers with live racing and table games
- Small-town gems with unique specialty shops, handmade crafts, antiques and home-spun hospitality
- West Virginia enjoys four distinct, beautiful seasons during spring, summer, fall and winter



(clockwise)

Bikers and strollers enjoy the Caperton Trail in the Morgantown Wharf District • Individuals achieve a healthy lifestyle through yoga classes in Charleston
A couple in Fairmont enjoys shopping • Symphony music can be heard throughout the Mountain State



REWARDING PLACE TO WORK! EXCITING PLACE TO PLAY!



METRIC CONVERSIONS

AREA	
Acres	Square meters
1	4,047
5	20,234
10	40,470
25	101,175
50	202,350
Square feet	Square meters
10,000	929
25,000	2,322
35,000	3,251
50,000	4,645
75,000	6,968

DISTANCE/LENGTH	
Miles	Kilometers
1	1.60
2	8.04
25	40.23
Inches	Centimeters
1	2.54
6	15.24
12 (1 foot)	30.48
24	60.96
Feet	Meters
1	0.30
10	3.04
25	7.62
35	10.66

TEMPERATURE	
Fahrenheit	Celsius
10	-12.22
20	-6.66
40	4.44
60	15.55
80	26.67

WEIGHT		
Pounds	Kilograms	Ounces
1	0.45	16
10	4.54	160
250	113.50	4,000
2,000 (1 ton)	908.00	32,000



WEST VIRGINIA EUROPE OFFICE
Im Amerika Haus
Karolinenplatz 3
80333 Munich • GERMANY
+49-89-5488-4113



WEST VIRGINIA DEVELOPMENT OFFICE
1900 Kanawha Blvd., East
Charleston, WV 25305 • USA
www.wvopenforbusiness.com
+1-304-558-2234 or 1-800-982-3386



WEST VIRGINIA JAPAN OFFICE
Nihon Seimei Sakaemachi Building, 7th Floor
24-17 • 3 Chome • Nishiki
Naka-ku • Nagoya
JAPAN 460-0003
+81-52-953-9798



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