

State Fact Sheets: West Virginia

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Data updated July 20, 2016

Population, Income, Food Insecurity, Education, and Employment

Population			
Year	Rural*	Urban*	Total
1980	819,286	1,130,900	1,950,186
1990	737,075	1,056,402	1,793,477
2000	720,506	1,087,687	1,808,193
2010	720,498	1,132,513	1,853,011
2015	707,025	1,137,103	1,844,128

More information on population in West Virginia

- [County-level Population Data](#)
- [Rural Population and Migration Topic Page](#)
- Contact [John Cromartie](#), 202-694-5421.

Income			
	Rural*	Urban*	Total
Per-capita income (2014 dollars)			
2013	32,899	37,512	35,733
2014	33,164	37,987	36,132
Percent change	0.8	1.3	1.1
Earnings per job (2014 dollars)			
2013	43,139	48,729	46,801
2014	42,759	48,388	46,452
Percent change	-0.9	-0.7	-0.7
Poverty rate (percent)			
1979	17.4	13.2	15.0
1989	23.0	17.3	19.7
1999	20.3	16.3	17.9
Poverty rate, American Community Survey (percent)			
2010-2014	19.4	17.3	18.1

More information on poverty rates in West Virginia

- [County-level Poverty Data](#)
- [Rural Poverty & Well-being Topic Page](#)
- These estimates are based on the [Census Bureau's official poverty measure](#). See important notes about [sources of poverty data](#).
- Contact [Tracey Farrigan](#), 202-694-5489

Household-level Food Insecurity and Very Low Food Security			
Percent	2006-2008 avg.	2009-2011 avg.	2012-2014 avg.
Food insecure households	12.0	14.1	15.3
Very low food secure households	4.5	5.1	5.9

More information on Food Insecurity in West Virginia

- [Food Security in the U.S. Topic Page](#)
- [Definitions of Food Insecurity and Very Low Food Security](#)
- Comparisons of prevalence rates of food insecurity between States must take account of the margins of error, which are sizeable for many States. Margins of error are published along with State prevalence rates in each year's [Household Food Security in the United States](#) report.
- Contact [Alisha Coleman-Jensen](#), 202-694-5456.

Education (Persons 25 and older)	Rural*	Urban*	Total
Not completing high school			
1980	48.7	44.0	44.0
1990	38.5	30.9	34.0
2000	28.7	22.2	24.8
2010-2014	18.2	13.9	15.6
Completing high school only			
1980	34.4	35.6	35.6
1990	37.2	36.2	36.6
2000	41.0	38.3	39.4
2010-2014	44.2	38.8	40.9
Completing some college			
1980	8.5	10.0	10.0
1990	14.8	18.6	17.0
2000	18.8	22.4	21.0
2010-2014	23.0	25.9	24.8
Completing college			
1980	8.4	10.4	10.4
1990	9.5	14.3	12.3
2000	11.5	17.1	14.8
2010-2014	14.7	21.4	18.7

More information on education in West Virginia

- [County-level Education Data](#)
- [Rural Employment & Education Topic page](#)
- Contact [Alexander Marré](#), 202-694-5338

Employment	Rural*	Urban*	Total
Employment change (percent)			
2012-2013	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3
2013-2014	-1.6	-0.7	-1.0
2014-2015	-1.1	-0.5	-0.7
Unemployment rate (percent)			
2014	7.5	6.1	6.6
2015	7.9	6.1	6.7

More information on unemployment rates in West Virginia

- [County-level Unemployment Data](#)
- [Rural Employment & Education Topic page](#)
- Contact [Tim Parker](#), 202-694-5435.

* The terms "rural" and "urban" here refer to data for nonmetro and metro areas, a county-level classification defined by the Office of Management and Budget. We use the February 2013 version of nonmetro and metro areas, unless otherwise noted, because it reflects conditions at the beginning of the decade. See [What is Rural?](#) for a discussion of differences between metro-nonmetro categories and the Census Bureau's rural-urban classification.

Organic Agriculture

Organic agriculture	2000	2010	2011
Certified operations (number)	16	7.0	5.0
Crops (acres)	370	904	313
Pasture & rangeland (acres)	195	594	24
Total (acres)	565	1,498	337

More information on organic agriculture in West Virginia

- [Organic Production Data](#)
- [Organic Agriculture Topic Page](#)
- Contact [Catherine Greene](#), 202-694-5541.

Farm Characteristics

Census of Agriculture	2002	2007	2012
Farms (number)	20,812	23,618	21,489
Approximate total land area (acres)	15,409,745	15,383,174	15,386,410
Farmland (acres)	3,584,668	3,697,606	3,606,674
Farmland in total land area (percent)	23.3	24.0	23.4
Cropland (acres)	1,173,032	942,132	804,006
Cropland in farmland (percent)	32.7	25.5	22.3
Cropland in pasture (percent)	40.3	20.3	6.9
Cropland irrigated (percent)	0.0		0.2
Harvested cropland (acres)	648,635	692,003	699,793
Woodland (acres)	1,482,067	1,461,714	1,465,010
Woodland in farmland (percent)	41.3	39.5	40.6
Woodland in pasture (percent)	33.3	31.1	27.4
Pastureland (acres)	754,045	1,105,292	1,138,037
Pastureland in farmland (percent)	21.0	29.9	31.6
Land in house lots, ponds, roads, wasteland, etc. (acres)	175,524	188,468	199,621
Land in house lots, ponds, roads, wasteland, etc. in farmland (percent of total farms)	4.9	5.1	5.5
Conservation practices			
Farmland in conservation or wetland reserve program (acres)	12,658	4,667	5,861
Average farm size (acres)	172	157	168
Farms by size (percent of total farms)			
1 to 99 acres	49.7	53.2	51.5
100 to 499 acres	44.0	41.5	42.6
500 to 999 acres	4.6	3.8	4.2
1000 to 1,999 acres	1.3	1.1	1.3
2000 or more acres	0.4	0.3	0.4
Farms by sales, current dollars (percent of total farms)			
Less than \$9,999	82.5	79.9	74.7
\$10,000 to \$49,999	12.3	15.1	18.9
\$50,000 to \$99,999	1.8	1.8	2.4
\$100,000 to \$499,999	2.3	2.1	2.4
More than \$500,000	1.1	1.1	1.6
Tenure of farmers			
Full owner farms (farms)	15,534	17,694	16,384
Full owner farms (percent of total farms)	74.6	74.9	76.2
Part owner farms (farms)	4,637	5,259	4,506
Part owner farms (percent of total farms)	22.3	22.3	21.0
Tenant farms (farms)	641	665	599
Tenant farms (percent of total farms)	3.1	2.8	2.8
Farm organization			
Individuals/family, sole proprietorship (farms)	19,862	22,488	20,009
Individuals/family, sole proprietorship (percent of total farms)	95.4	95.2	93.1
Family-held corporations (farms)	199	182	382
Family-held corporations (percent of total farms)	1.0	0.8	1.8
Partnerships (farms)	639	856	893

Partnerships (percent of total farms)	3.1	3.6	4.2
Non-family corporations (farms)	21.0	27.0	47.0
Non-family corporations (percent of total farms)	0.1	0.1	0.2
Others - cooperatives, estate or trust, institutional, etc. (farms)	91.0	65.0	158
Others - cooperatives, estate or trust, institutional, etc. (percent)	0.4	0.3	0.7
Characteristics of principal farm operators			
Average operator age (years)	56.3	58.1	59.7
Farm operators with farming as their principal occupation (percent)	50.5	41.5	42.6
Men (number)	18,490	20,399	18,784
Women (number)	2,322	3,219	2,705

More information on farm characteristics in West Virginia

- [Census of Agriculture](#)
- Contact [NASS Customer Service](#), 1-800-727-9540.
- See [errata](#) in 2012 "cropland in pasture (percent)"

Farm Financial Indicators

Farm income and value added data	2013	2014
Final crop output (1,000 dollars)	161,816	145,711
+ Final animals output (1,000 dollars)	587,950	667,660
+ Services and forestry (1,000 dollars)	219,595	209,361
= Final agricultural sector output (1,000 dollars)	969,361	1,022,731
- Contract labor (1,000 dollars)	8,618	5,605
- Intermediate consumption outlays (1,000 dollars)	600,829	649,544
+ Net government transactions (1,000 dollars)	-8,564	-20,245
= Gross value added (1,000 dollars)	351,350	347,337
- Capital consumption (1,000 dollars)	159,479	210,555
= Net value added (1,000 dollars)	191,871	136,781
- Factor payments (1,000 dollars)	75,660	78,635
Employee compensation (total hired labor) (1,000 dollars)	41,543	43,249
Net rent paid to operator landlords (1,000 dollars)	318	248
Net rent paid to nonoperator landlords (1,000 dollars)	1,246	973
Real estate and nonreal estate interest (1,000 dollars)	32,554	34,165
= Net farm income (1,000 dollars)	116,211	58,147

More information on farm income in West Virginia

- [Farm Income and Wealth Statistics](#)
- [Farm Sector Income & Finances Topic Page](#)
- Data as of February 9, 2016
- Contact the [Farm Income Team](#), 202-694-5121.

Top Commodities, Exports, and Counties

Top 5 agriculture commodities, 2014	Farm receipts 1,000 dollars	Farm receipts percent of State	Farm receipts percent of U.S.
Farm receipts			
1. Cattle and calves	254,043	30.5	0.3
2. Broilers	236,773	28.4	0.7
3. Turkeys	60,152	7.2	1.1
4. Chicken eggs	55,886	6.7	0.5
5. Miscellaneous crops	52,240	6.3	0.3
All commodities	832,850		0.2

More information on agricultural commodities in West Virginia

- [Farm Income and Wealth Statistics](#)
- Data as of February 9, 2016
- Contact the [Farm Income Team](#), 202-694-5121.

Top 5 agriculture exports, estimates, 2014	Exports rank among States	Exports million dollars
Exports		
1. Other plant products 5/	46	33.9
2. Broiler meat	20	29.4
3. Beef and veal	38	22.3
4. Other livestock products 1/	43	19.6
5. Other poultry products 2/	29	18.2
Total exports	46	172.3

More information on agricultural exports in West Virginia

- [State Export Data](#)
- [U.S. Agricultural Trade Topic Page](#)
- 1/ Includes other nonpoultry meats, animal fat, live farm animals, and other animal parts.
- 2/ Includes turkey meat, eggs, and other fowl products.
- 3/ Includes processed feeds, fodder, barley, oats, rye, and sorghum.
- 4/ Includes peanuts (oilstock), other oil crops, corn meal, other oilcake and meal, protein substances, bran and residues.
- 5/ Includes sweeteners and products, other horticulture products, planting seeds, cocoa, coffee, and other processed foods.
- Contact [Alberto Jerardo](#), 202-694-5266.

Top 5 counties in agricultural sales, 2012	Total receipts percent of State	Total receipts 1,000 dollars
Total receipts		
1. Hardy County	23.4	188,970
2. Pendleton County	14.7	118,766
3. Greenbrier County	9.5	76,758
4. Grant County	6.4	51,272
5. Hampshire County	4.9	39,183
State Total		806,775

More information on agricultural sales in West Virginia

- [Census of Agriculture](#)
- Contact [NASS Customer Service](#), 1-800-727-9540.

Data Sources

- 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010 Census of Population, [Bureau of the Census](#), U.S. Department of Commerce.
- [Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2015](#), U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.
- Local Area Personal Income and Employment, 2015, [Bureau of Economic Analysis](#), U.S. Department of Commerce.
- Current Population Survey, [Food Security Supplements, 2006-2014](#).
- Local Area Unemployment Statistics, county data, [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#).
- Organic data, [USDA, Economic Research Service](#), based on information from USDA-accredited State and private organic certifiers.
- [U.S. Agricultural Trade](#), Economic Research Service, USDA.
- Census of Agriculture, [National Agricultural Statistics Service](#), USDA.
- [Farm Sector Income & Finances Topic Page](#), Economic Research Service, USDA.
- U.S. Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#), 2010-2014 5-Year estimates, poverty and education tables.

Prepared by Economic Research Service, USDA, Washington, DC.

For more information, contact: [Tim Parker](#)

Web administration: WebAdmin@ers.usda.gov

Updated date: July 20, 2016

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Last updated: Wednesday, July 20, 2016

For more information contact: [Timothy Parker](#)