

WEST VIRGINIA



West Virginia Dev. Office
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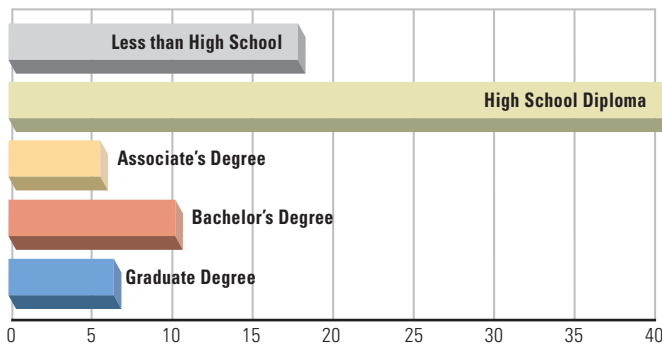
"We have attracted national companies like Macy's and Amazon and I will work hard to attract more. I want to repeat ... that I will go anywhere and do anything to bring even more good paying jobs to West Virginia!" — Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin, inaugural address, Nov. 13, 2011

Governor: Earl Tomblin (D)

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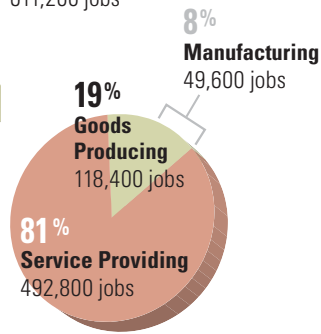
Population 2011: 1,861,251 **Population growth forecast 2011-2015:** 1.43% **Median household income:** \$43,173

Work Force Education by Percentage



Private Sector Employment

611,200 jobs



Property tax rank: **37**

Top corporate tax rate: **8.5**

Unemployment insurance burden rank by least percent of taxable wages: **30**

Worker's comp rank by lowest index: **35**

Industrial power prices (per million BTU): **\$15.37**

Ranked by low price: **7**

Median hourly wage for production occupations: **\$14.66**

Right-to-work state? **NO**

Legislative Update

• In July Gov. Tomblin announced West Virginia's corporate net income tax rate will drop beginning Jan. 1, 2012, due to a surplus in the state's general revenue fund for the 2011 fiscal year. By law, the rate drops from 8.5 percent to 7.75 percent if the Revenue Fund Shortfall Reserve balance equals or exceeds 10 percent of the General Revenue Fund budgeted for the fiscal year. It was more than 16 percent on July 1.

The rate is scheduled to fall to 7 percent in 2013 and to 6.5 percent in 2014 if reserves are at or above 10 percent of the General Revenue in the next two fiscal years.

• A special legislative session devoted to additional environmental regulations governing Marcellus Shale drilling activities convened in mid-December, and the regulatory reform passed in a landslide.