



“Today is a historic day for West Virginia, and this investment represents one of the largest initial economic development projects in our state’s history.”

— Gov. Earl Tomblin, Sept. 18, 2015, at the groundbreaking for Procter & Gamble’s \$500-million plant in Tabler Station

Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin (D)

**West Virginia
Development Office**

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West Virginia

Pop. (2014): 1,893,922
Median household income: \$39,552
Credit Rating: AA/Stable

Pop. growth 2013–2018: 2.5%
Median age: 41.9
Right-to-work state: No

Legislative Update

- Measures signed into law by Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin include Senate Bill 357, which calls for changes in several aspects of West Virginia’s mining regulations; Senate Bill 361, which will adjust the state’s calculation of prevailing wage to establish a figure more reflective of actual earnings in regions across the state; and House Bill 2201, which regulates net metering as part of West Virginia’s power generation.
- In February, the governor signed Senate Bill 280, which streamlines the transfer process of well work permits. Prior to the passage of SB280, companies acquiring assets from existing operations in West Virginia were required to re-apply for permits. This legislation eliminates the reapplication process and authorizes the transfer of existing permits with approval from the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection.

Rankings that Matter

Business Tax Climate	21
Legal Climate	50
Higher Ed. R&D Expenditure	41 (195,675)
ACT Career Readiness Certificates	4 (63,972)
Lowest Energy Cost	7 (8.41)
Fiscal Solvency	43
College Attainment	50 (28.4%)

