

MAJOR EMPLOYERS

Number of Employees	Company
1,000-1,250	Mercer County Board of Education Princeton Community Hospital
200-999	Bluefield Regional Medical Center Bluefield State College Concord University Grants Echostar Kroger (Princeton and Bluewell) Lusk Disposal/Empire Salvage Mercer County Courthouse Norfolk Southern Corporation Res-care Southern Highlands
100-199	Allegheny Wood Products BB&T Carter Machinery Conn-Weld Industries First Community Bank King Tire Service, Inc. Lowe's Summit Community Bank Timken-Smith Services, Inc.
25-99	Acme Wood Preserving BSC/Downard Hydraulics, LLC Bluefield Daily Telegraph Cole Chevrolet Cadillac GMC Frontier Communications IPM Technologies/Bluefield Gear Lamb Machine Mercer Nursing & Rehabilitation Ramey Motors Recycle West Virginia Rish Equipment Shrewsbury Machine & Casting Tabor Machine Worldwide Equipment, Inc.



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

Development Authority of Mercer County
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MERCER COUNTY

WEST VIRGINIA



Community Profile

Development Authority of Mercer County

LOCATION

Mercer County lies in the ridge and valley region of the extreme southern section of West Virginia, approximately 100 miles from the State Capitol, City of Charleston. Two major cities in the county are Bluefield and Princeton, the County Seat. Mercer County is within a 500-mile radius of 50% of the U.S. population. Southern West Virginia has four distinct seasons. A legacy of warm summer days and cool nights inspired Bluefield's nickname, "The Air-Conditioned City." Cool autumn days with a rainbow of fall colors make way for a cold, dry winter and spectacular rebirth of spring flowers.

POPULATION

	2015	2016
County	61,785	60,468
Bluefield	11,451	10,327
Princeton	6,347	6,035

*Source: West Virginia Development Office.

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Mercer County \$36,195.00

CLIMATE

	Annual Average	Monthly Average
Temperature:	52.0	January: 30.9 July: 70.2
Rainfall (inches)		38.4
Snowfall (inches)		35-45

LODGING / RETAIL OUTLETS

Motels:	16
TOTAL ROOMS:	1023
Shopping Centers:	6
Department Stores:	9

AREA RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS

Protestant:	140
Catholic:	3
Synagogue:	1

EDUCATION

	# Of Schools	Grades	Number Enrolled
Primary	27	K-12	9,271
Private and Parochial	2	K-12	256
Technical Education	1	10-Adult	920
Colleges	5	Bluefield State College, Bluefield College, American Nat. Univ., New River Comm. & Tech College, Valley College	
University	1	Concord University	
Public			
Libraries	4	Total Volumes: 301,536	

Total number of teachers: 866

HOSPITALS AND MEDICAL

Hospitals:	3	Number of Beds:	462
Clinics:	8		
Doctors:	259		
Dentists:	30		

RECREATION FACILITIES

Amateur Theatres:	2
Auto Race Tracks:	1
Ball Fields:	4
Bowling Centers:	2
Drive-In:	1
Fitness Centers:	2
Golf Courses:	4
Indoor Movies:	8
Pools:	4
Tennis Courts:	20

OTHER RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Bluefield Elks Lodge
Bluefield Auditorium
Brushfork Armory
Coal City Auditorium
Princeton Elks Lodge

COMMUNICATIONS

Newspapers

Bluefield Daily Telegraph – Daily and Sunday
USA Today – Daily
Princeton Times – Weekly
State Journal – Monthly

Radio

WAEY	FM-96	AM-1490
WAMN	AM-1040	
WGAG	FM-93.1	
WHIS	AM-1440	
WHAJ	FM-104	
WKOY	AM-1240	
WKMY	FM-101	

Television

WVVA-TV (Channel 6)
Comcast
Suddenlink

Telephone

Frontier Communications

GOVERNMENT

Mercer County government is responsible for numerous and varied functions.

These functions are administered by local elected officials. The government of Mercer County plays a very large role in delivering public services to the citizens in their county, ie: police protection, health services, recreation, fire protection, flood protection, ambulances, senior citizen programs and transportation.

The County Commission consists of three commissioners, each elected for six-year terms.

The Sheriff is elected for a four-year term and may be re-elected.

The Assessor is elected for a four-year term and may be re-elected.

There are six municipalities in Mercer County:

Athens	Matoaka
Bluefield	Oakvale
Bramwell	Princeton – The County Seat

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Banks

BB&T - Athens - Bluefield - Princeton
City National Bank
Summit Community Bank - Bluefield - Princeton
First Community Bank - Bluefield - Bluewell - Matoaka - Princeton - Athens
MCNB - Princeton
New Peoples Bank - Princeton

UTILITIES AND SERVICES

Electric Power: American Electric Power
3 Phase Electrical Power

Natural Gas: Bluefield Gas Company
Allegheny Gas Company
Mountaineer Gas

Water:	City	Daily Capacity
	Athens.....	600,000 gallons
	Bluefield.....	3 million gallons
	Bramwell.....	90,000 gallons
	Matoaka.....	125,000 gallons
	Princeton.....	5 million gallons

SEWER

Sewer rates are based upon water consumption. Rates are available upon request.

Solid Waste Disposal
Mercer County Landfill

LABOR ANALYSIS

Radius of Labor Drawing Area: 50 miles

Estimated Available: 250,000 total

Annual Number of High School Graduates: 850

Work Stoppages in the Last 5 Years: 0

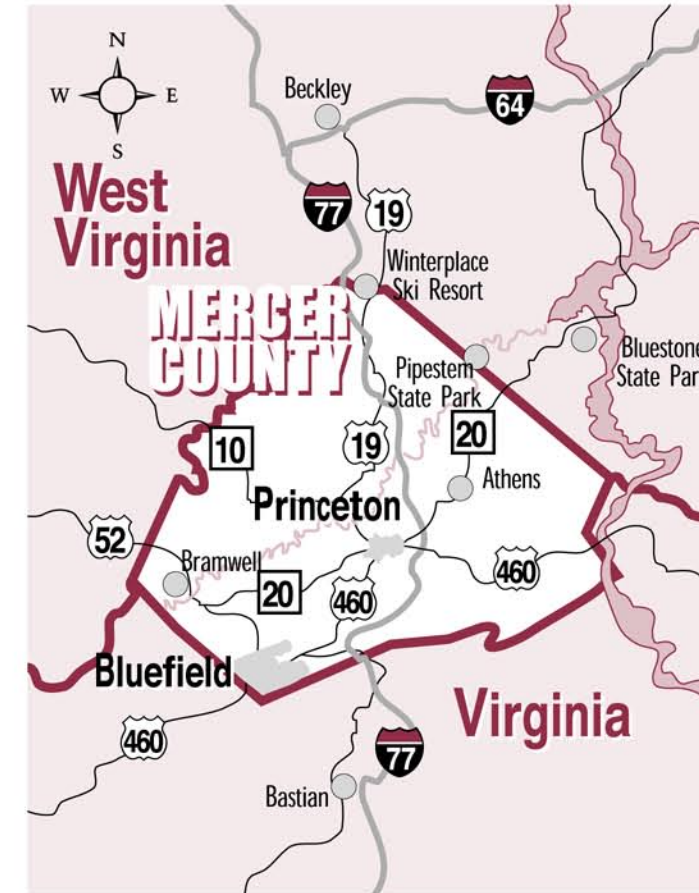
Manufacturing Workers in Union: 5%

Right to Work Law: Yes

Wage and/or Labor Survey Available: Yes

TRANSPORTATION

Mercer County, West Virginia lies at the hub of several major transportation routes serving the eastern United States. Not only does this network facilitate excellent intra-regional transportation links, but it also offers outstanding intra-regional networking potential. I-77 provides an ideal link with major northern population centers like Cleveland and via I-79, Pittsburgh. I-77 offers excellent access to major centers in Virginia and North Carolina, as well as many major population centers in the southern United States. I-64 east of Beckley, West Virginia provides access to the Midwest and with U.S. Route 460 in Virginia, the area has excellent service to the East Coast. I-64, I-77 and U.S. Route 460 provide convenient hookups with I-81, which extends from Tennessee to New England.



TRANSPORTATION (cont'd)

Motor Trucking

Mercer County is served by the following interstate truck lines:

Consolidated Motor Express
Heavy Hauling
Overnight
Yellow

Air Service

Mercer County is served by the Mercer County Airport.
Runway Length: 4,743 feet
Surface: Asphalt

Automobile Rental

Cole Cadillac Chevrolet GMC
RTE 460 E, Bluefield
304-324-2206

Enterprise Rent-A-Car
463 Old Bluefield Road, Princeton
800-325-8007

Hertz Rent-A-Car
Mercer County Airport
800-654-3131

Bus Service

Greyhound and Bluefield Transit System
Intracity: Yes

Parcel Service

Airborne Express
DHL Worldwide Express
FedEx
United Parcel Service
Wells Fargo

Railroad Service

Norfolk Southern Railway Company

Taxi Service

Taxi Service - Cimmaron Coach

Limousine Service

Limousine Service - Greenbrier Valley Limousines

TAXES

Property situated in the state is broken down into four classifications: Class I is all intangible personal property, such as notes, accounts receivable, etc.; Class II is owner-occupied residences; Class III is all other tangible property outside of municipalities; and Class IV is all other property within municipalities. Industry is taxed under Class I, plus Class III or IV, depending upon the municipality or district in which the plant is located. The published property tax rates in the respective classifications are as follows (per \$100.00 appraised value):

	2017 Levy Rates		
	Class II	Class III	Class IV
Districts	1.1380	2.2760	2.7760
Athens	1.3880		2.7720
Bluefield	1.3880		2.7760
Bramwell	1.3880		2.7760
Matoaka	1.3880		2.7760
Oakvale	1.3880		2.7760
Princeton	1.3880		2.7760

State Taxes

	Rate
Corporate Net Income.....	6.5%
Consumer Sales / Use	6%

Individual Income

Maximum Rate	6.5%
Minimum Rate.....	3%

INDUSTRIAL PROPERTIES

Visit website www.mercercoeda.com for a partial list of available properties.