



WEST VIRGINIA

In Brief

"Since 1864, West Virginia has divided its vote about equally between Republicans and Democrats in state elections. From 1896 to 1928, the Republicans won every state election except one. The Democrats won control of the state in 1932 and held it until 1956... Since the early 1930's, West Virginia voters have greatly favored Democratic presidential candidates over Republican presidential candidates."

Resource: World Book 2008

Capital: South Charlston

Area: 24,230 sq mi

Population: 1,818,470

Resource: World Almanac 2008

West Virginia has a 2007 population of 1.8 million including a higher percentage of non-Hispanic whites, a lower percentage of blacks, and a lower percentage of Hispanics than the nation as a whole, according to U.S. Census Bureau statistics. The state's Democratic primary is on May 13. About 57 percent of West Virginia's voting-age citizens cast a ballot in the 2004 general election, lower than the national rate of 64 percent.

More information at: <http://www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/voting.html>

Selected Characteristics	West Virginia	U.S.
Women	51.0%	50.7%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	94.1%	66.4%
Black alone	3.3%	12.8%
Hispanic or Latino	0.9%	14.8%
Median household income	\$35,059	\$48,451
Foreign born	1.2%	12.5%
Persons below poverty	17.3%	13.3%
Bachelor's degree or higher (age 25+)	16.5%	27.0%
Median home value	\$89,700	\$185,200

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Total Population Estimates (2007), State Population Estimates by Characteristics (2006), American Community Survey (2006).

More Resources

Government Information
<p>The official web site for the State West Virginia http://www.wv.gov/Pages/default.aspx</p> <p>Governor of West Virginia http://www.wvgov.org/</p> <p>West Virginia - Elected officials in U.S. Senate http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm?State=WV</p> <p>West Virginia - Elected officials in U.S. House of Representatives http://www.house.gov/house/MemberWWW_by_State.shtml#de</p>
Elections 2008
<p>Politics 1: West Virginia Directory http://www.politicsone.com/wv.htm</p> <p>The Green Papers: West Virginia 2008 General elections - General http://www.thegreenpapers.com/G08/WV.phtml</p> <p>West Virginia Secretary of State - Elections http://www.wvsos.com/elections/</p>
Statistics
<p>West Virginia - Quick facts from the US Census Bureau http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/54000.html</p>
Media
<p>Local newspapers http://www.newslink.org/wvnews.html</p> <p>Local radio stations http://www.newslink.org/wvradi.html</p>
General Information
<p>Infoplease West Virginia http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0108289.html</p> <p>50states.com - West Virginia http://www.50states.com/wvirgini.htm</p>

Please find more information at
<http://usa.usembassy.de/classroom/electionproject2008/index>