

1970

Industrial Resources - Floyd County - Prestonsburg

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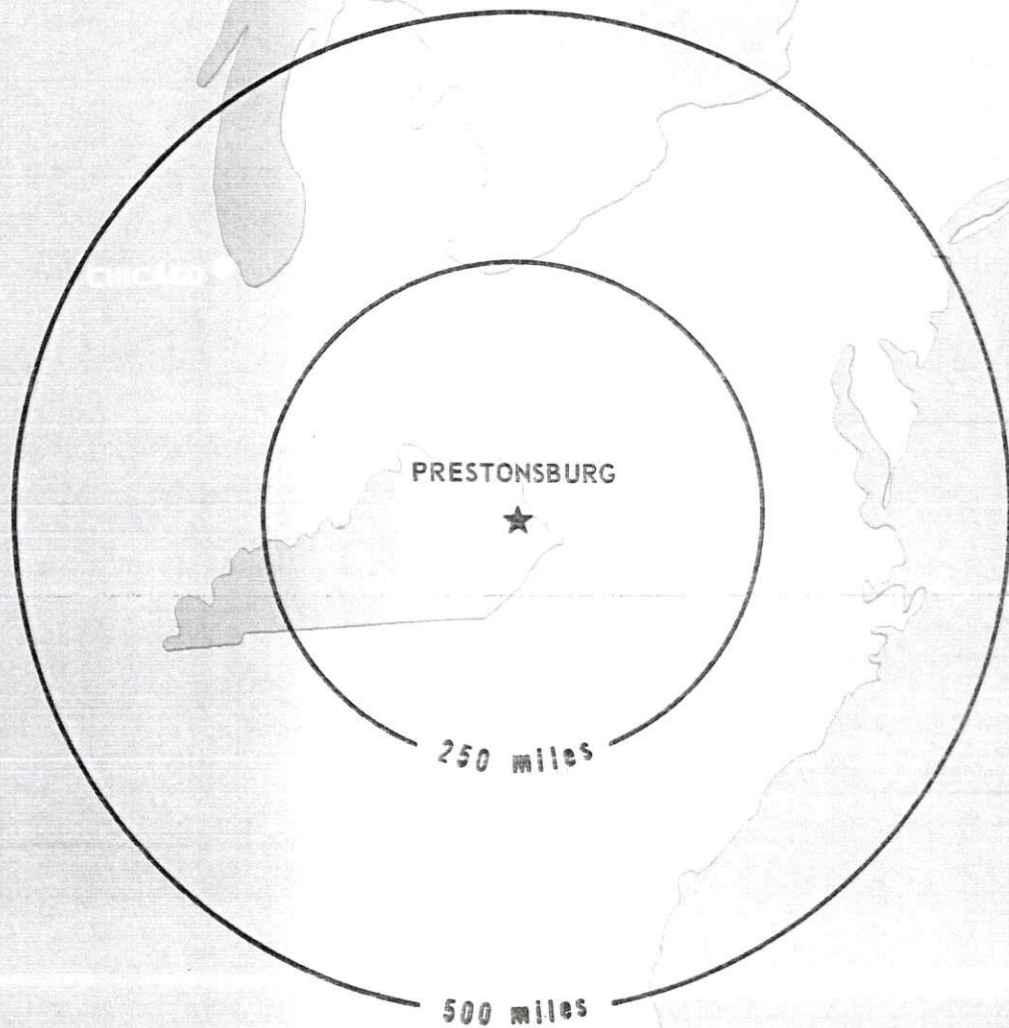
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INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES

PRESTONSBURG

KENTUCKY



INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES
PRESTONSBURG, KENTUCKY

Prepared by
The Kentucky Department of Commerce
in cooperation with
The Prestonsburg Area Chamber of Commerce

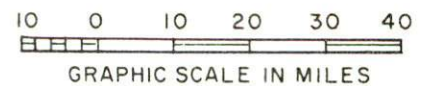
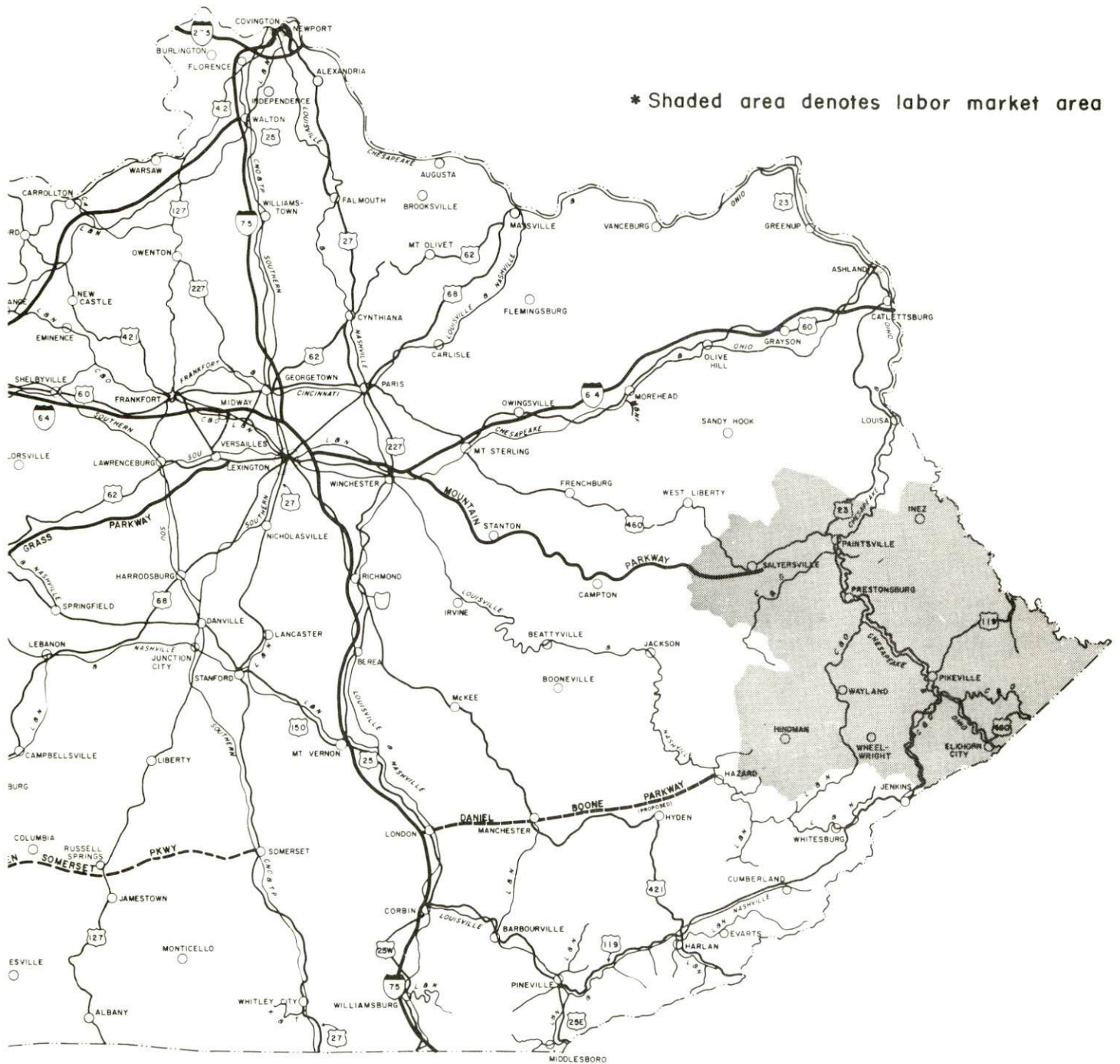
1970

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PRESTONSBURG LABOR MARKET AREA



PRESTONSBURG, KENTUCKY - A RESOURCE PROFILE

Location

Prestonsburg, county seat and economic center of Floyd County, is located in eastern Kentucky, 190 miles east of Louisville, Kentucky, 200 miles southeast of Cincinnati, Ohio, and 230 miles northeast of Knoxville, Tennessee. Prestonsburg had an estimated 1969 population of 5,000 with the population of Floyd County estimated at 37,700 in 1970.

The Economic Framework

Total employment in Floyd County in 1968 averaged 7,645, with mining employing 2,075, trade and services 1,365, manufacturing 826, and government 1,419.

Manufacturing employment has exhibited great growth since 1960, as illustrated by an increase of 700 new jobs in manufacturing. This increase is partly attributable to the recent location of U. S. Shoe Corporation, a manufacturer of ladies' shoes, and Kentucky Appalachian Industries, a contract sewing and stitching concern. Combined employment of these two industries represents more than 60 percent of the increase.

Per capita income in Floyd County in 1968 was \$1,364, an increase of over \$450 since 1959.

In the labor market area, total employment in 1968 averaged 30,000, with trade and services employing 5,750, manufacturing 1,360, government 6,850, and mining 8,420. Manufacturing employment during the period of 1960-1969 increased 125 percent. Fifty-seven percent of the total manufacturing employment in the labor market area is in Floyd County.

Resources For Growth

1. There is a current estimated labor supply of 6,800 men and 11,550 women available for industrial jobs in the labor market area. In addition, by 1976 there will be 10,500 young men and 10,100 young women who will have become 18 years of age and potentially available for employment.

2. Transportation facilities are excellent for Prestonsburg. U. S. 23, the Mountain Parkway, and Kentucky Route 80 provide adequate highway transportation. Rail service is available through the services of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway. The Combs Airport, 8 miles north of Prestonsburg, provides local air transportation; commercial air service is available at the Tri-State Airport in Kenova, West Virginia, approximately 76 miles north of Prestonsburg.

3. Natural gas, electricity, and ample water and sewerage facilities are available in Prestonsburg, provided by a municipal company. Electric power is provided by the Kentucky Power Company.

4. Located in the City of Prestonsburg is the new Prestonsburg Community College. Senior institutions are located at Pikeville, 30 miles south, and Morehead, 80 miles northwest. Mayo Area Vocational School is located 13 miles north at Paintsville and a vocational extension center is located in Floyd County.

Community Programs For Improvement

Through the action of its local citizens and the Chamber of Commerce, Prestonsburg has initiated a broad plan for community improvement and development. The success of their program is evidenced by the "All Kentucky City" award in 1967. Programs completed and underway include forest improvement, promotional tourism, industrial and commercial development, comprehensive planning through local and state facilities, recreational and cultural programs, a city annexation program, plus public health and welfare programs which include a locally supported health clinic. A new regional hospital is to be constructed in the near future.

Recreation, Entertainment and Livability

Prestonsburg presents a highly favorable climate in which area residents and their families can work and play.

Jenny Wiley State Park, at Prestonsburg provides facilities for lodging, fishing, camping, golf and other recreational pursuits. Archer Park, a municipal facility, is fully lighted and provides year round recreational activities, with supervision during the summer months. Dewey Lake offers many outdoor recreational facilities to residents and tourists.

The Jenny Wiley Drama Association, the East Kentucky Concert Series, and the Prestonsburg Community College offer the public cultural events, including plays, concerts, exhibits and lectures.

THE LABOR MARKET

POPULATION TRENDS ^{1/}

	Population			Percent Change	
	1970 (Est.)	1960	1950	1960-70	1950-60
Labor Market Area	158,600	168,373	204,336	- 5.8	- 17.6
Prestonsburg	5,000*	3,133	3,585	+ 59.6	- 12.6
Floyd County	37,700	41,642	53,500	- 9.5	- 22.2
Johnson County	17,600	19,748	23,846	- 10.9	- 17.2
Knott County	18,000	17,362	20,320	+ 3.7	- 14.6
Magoffin County	10,600	11,156	13,839	- 5.0	- 19.4
Martin County	9,900	10,201	11,677	- 3.0	- 12.6
Pike County	64,800	68,264	81,154	- 5.1	- 15.9

*1969 estimate.

GENERAL EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS, 1968 ^{2/}

Major Employment Group	Employment	
	Floyd County	Labor Market Area
TOTAL	7,645	29,999
Agricultural	186	1,379
Nonagricultural	7,459	28,620
Manufacturing	826	1,363
Mining	2,075	8,420
Trade and Services	1,365	5,758
Government	1,419	6,858
Other	1,774	6,221

MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT TRENDS BY INDUSTRY JUNE 1960 AND 1969 ^{3/}

Industry	Floyd County			Labor Market Area		
	1969	1960	% Change	1969	1960	% Change
TOTAL	798	95	+740.0	1,405	624	+125.2
Food & Kindred Products	0	0		130	160	- 18.8
Tobacco	0	0		1	1	
Apparel, Textiles, Leather	581	0		653	0	
Lumber & Furniture	25	41	- 39.0	193	359	- 46.2
Printing, Publishing, Paper	6	7	- 14.3	38	33	+ 15.2
Chemicals, Petroleum,						
Coal, Rubber	38	0		56	0	
Stone, Clay & Glass	14	11	+ 27.3	62	35	+ 77.1
Primary Metals	0	0		0	0	
Machinery & Metal Products	123	36	+241.7	261	36	+625.0
Other	11	0		11	0	

FLOYD COUNTY MAJOR MANUFACTURING FIRMS,
THEIR PRODUCTS AND EMPLOYMENT ^{4/}

Firm	Product	Employment		
		Total	Male	Female
<u>Allen</u>				
Hall Concrete Products Co.	Concrete block, precast concrete	15	13	2
Porter Electric Co.	Shuttle cars, mine equipment, industrial battery chargers, fabricated steel	22	20	2
Reynolds Body Co. , Inc.	Steel truck bodies, mine equipment, stairways	76	75	1
R&S Truck Body Co.	Truck bodies, steel fabrication	53	50	3
<u>Auxier</u>				
Princess Mfg. Co.	Rainwear, outerwear, sportswear	155	11	144
<u>Betsy Layne</u>				
Kentucky Oil & Refining Co.	Coal treating, oil, diesel fuel	16	13	3
<u>Grethel</u>				
Cline Mitchell Sawmill	Lumber, crossties, mining timbers	10	10	0
<u>Prestonsburg</u>				
Coal Bit Co. , Inc.	Carbide tip mining machine bits	16	12	4
Kentucky Appalachian Industries, Inc.	Sewing, stitching	230	50	180
U. S. Shoe Corporation	Ladies shoes	212	184	28

HOURLY WAGE RATES FOR SELECTED OCCUPATIONS
PRESTONSBURG, KENTUCKY 5/₁

Classification	Starting	Rate Per Hour	
		Maximum	Prevailing
<u>Production Employees</u>			
Inspector	\$1. 60	\$1. 75	\$1. 60
Production Laborer	1. 60	1. 75	1. 65
Welder, Arc or Acetylene (Class-A)	1. 75	2. 50	1. 90
<u>Service Employees</u>			
Electrician (Class-A)	\$2. 00	\$4. 50	\$2. 50
Laborer		1. 76	
Machinist	1. 90	2. 75	2. 00
Truck Driver, Industrial (Class-A)	1. 60	2. 00	1. 70
<u>Office Employees</u>			
Bookkeeper	\$1. 60	\$3. 00	\$2. 00
File Clerk		1. 60	
Receptionist		1. 60	
Secretary	1. 60	2. 25	1. 90
Typist	1. 60	2. 00	1. 60

CURRENT AND FUTURE LABOR SUPPLY -
PRESTONSBURG LABOR MARKET AREA

County	Current Labor Supply 1970 ^{6/}			Future Labor Supply by 1976 (Becoming 18 Years of Age) ^{7/}		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Labor Market Area	18,358	6,807	11,551	20,691	10,588	10,103
Floyd	4,160	1,231	2,929	5,135	2,618	2,517
Johnson	2,373	1,075	1,298	2,116	1,092	1,024
Knott	2,411	1,146	1,265	2,244	1,152	1,092
Magoffin	1,635	833	802	1,458	731	727
Martin	1,264	568	696	1,394	725	669
Pike	6,515	1,954	4,561	8,344	4,270	4,074

TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME ^{8/}

Area	1968	1959	% Change
Floyd County	\$ 56,580,000	37,626,000	+50.3
Labor Market Area	212,132,000	124,445,000	+70.5
Kentucky	8,516,000,000	4,655,000,000	+82.9

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME ^{9/}

Area	1968	1959	% Change
Floyd County	\$ 1,364	\$909	+50.1
Labor Market Area	\$769 to 1,415	\$421 to 909	+82.7 to +55.7
Kentucky	2,645	1,552	+70.4

EDUCATION

Public Schools

	<u>Floyd County</u>
Total Enrollment	9,538
Elementary	6,680
High School	2,858
Student-Teacher Ratio	25-1
Elementary	28-1
High School	19-1
State Rating of High School	2 Standard 6 Provisional
Percent High School Graduates to College	44.1
Current Expenditures Per Pupil	\$356.48
Bonded Indebtedness, 1969	\$1,949,000

Vocational Schools

	<u>Nearest Area School</u>	<u>Nearest Extension Center</u>
Location	Paintsville	Hite (Floyd County)
Miles Distant	13	
Curriculum	Accounting Jr. Mgmt. Data Processing General Clerical Secretarial-Steno Practical Nursing Electronics (Communication) Electronics (Industrial) Tool & Die Design Auto Body Repair Auto Mechanics Carpentry Cosmetology	Auto Mechanics Carpentry Drafting Electricity Machine Shop

Nearest Area
School (Cont'd.)

Diesel Mechanics
Drafting
Electricity
Machine Shop
Mine Machinery Mechanics
Printing
Radio & TV Repair
Welding

Colleges and Universities

<u>Name</u>	<u>Area - Within 80 miles</u>		<u>Highest Degree Conferred</u>
	<u>Location</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>	
Prestonsburg Community College	Prestonsburg	410	Associate
Pikeville College	Pikeville	1, 172	Baccalaureate
Morehead State University	Morehead	6, 262	Masters
Alice Lloyd College	Pippa Passes	274	Associate
Lees Junior College	Jackson	368	Associate
Hazard Community College	Hazard	246	Associate
Ashland Community College	Ashland	1, 011	Associate

TRANSPORTATION

Rail

Lines serving - Ashland Division of Chesapeake & Ohio Railway

Services - Freight, switching, sidings

RAILWAY TRANSIT TIME FROM PRESTONSBURG, KENTUCKY, TO: 10/

City	No. of Days		City	No. of Days	
	CL			CL	
Atlanta, Ga.	3		Los Angeles, Calif.	5	
Birmingham, Ala.	3		Louisville, Ky.	2	
Chicago, Ill.	2		Nashville, Tenn.	3	
Cincinnati, Ohio	1		New Orleans, La.	3	
Cleveland, Ohio	2		New York, N. Y.	4	
Detroit, Mich.	2		Pittsburgh, Pa.	4	
Knoxville, Tenn.	2		St. Louis, Mo.	4	

Truck Service

Company

Bell Lines, Inc.
Hogan Storage & Transfer Co.
(Irregular)
Point Express, Inc.

Home Office

Charleston, West Virginia

Williamson, West Virginia
Charleston, West Virginia

HIGHWAY MILES AND TRUCK TRANSIT TIME IN DAYS FROM
PRESTONSBURG, KENTUCKY, TO SELECTED MARKET CENTERS

City	Highway Miles	Delivery Time ^{11/}		City	Highway Miles	Delivery Time	
		LTL	TL			LTL	TL
Atlanta, Ga.	401	3	2	Los Angeles, Calif.	2,334	7	7
Birmingham, Ala.	481	3	2	Louisville, Ky.	190	3	2
Chicago, Ill.	474	3	2	Nashville, Tenn.	343	3	2
Cincinnati, Ohio	200	2	1	New Orleans, La.	878	4	3
Cleveland, Ohio	326	3	2	New York, N. Y.	745	3	2
Detroit, Mich.	408	3	2	Pittsburgh, Pa.	341	3	2
Knoxville, Tenn.	230	3	2	St. Louis, Mo.	460	3	2

Air

	<u>Local</u>	<u>Nearest Commercial</u>
	Paintsville-Prestonsburg Combs Airport	Tri-State Airport, Kenova, West Virginia (76 miles distant)
Location:	Paintsville	
Runways:	1 paved	1 paved
Length:	2,800 feet	5,280 feet
Traffic Control:	Wind sock and tetrahedron	
Lighting:	None	Beacon, runway
Services:	80-100 octane, charter flight instructions, courtesy car, tie down, air ambulance	80-87 100-130 fuel & jet fuel; res- taurant; storage; charter; car rentals; limousine; taxi; and Piedmont, Allegheny and Eastern Airlines

Bus

Southern Greyhound Bus Lines

Taxi

Three taxi cab companies - all provide 24-hour
service

Rental Services

Car and truck

POWER AND FUEL

Electricity

Company serving - Kentucky Power Company
Source of power - American Electric Power Company
Total generating capacity - Kentucky Power Company - 1,080,000 KW ;
American Electric Power Company - 11,600,000 KW
Industrial rates negotiated by - Kentucky Power Company, Ashland,
Kentucky

Company serving Floyd County - Big Sandy RECC
Source of power - East Kentucky Power Cooperative
Total generating capacity - 515,000 KW
Industrial rates negotiated by - East Kentucky Power Cooperative,
Winchester, Kentucky

Natural Gas

Company serving - Prestonsburg Water, Gas and Sewerage System
Source of supply - Kentucky West Virginia Gas Company
Size of transmission lines - 6-inch
Distribution lines - 4 and 2 inches
BTU content - 1,150; Specific gravity - .675
Distribution pressure - 50 psi

Rates:

(Inside Corporate Limits)

First	2,000 cu. ft. per month	\$2.75 (Minimum)
Next	23,000 cu. ft. per month	.60 per M cu. ft.
Next	25,000 cu. ft. per month	.58 per M cu. ft.
Next	50,000 cu. ft. per month	.50 per M cu. ft.
Next	100,000 cu. ft. per month	.50 per M cu. ft.

(Outside Corporate Limits)

First	2,000 cu. ft. per month	\$3.30 (Minimum)
Next	23,000 cu. ft. per month	.70 per M cu. ft.
Next	25,000 cu. ft. per month	.65 per M cu. ft.
Next	50,000 cu. ft. per month	.60 per M cu. ft.
Amounts in excess of 100,000 cu. ft. per month		.55 per M cu. ft.

WATER AND SEWERAGE

Water

Company serving - Prestonsburg Water, Gas and Sewerage System
Treatment plant capacity - 1,000,000 gpd
Average daily consumption - 450,000 gallons
Peak daily consumption - 575,000 gallons
Type treatment - Chlorine, fluoride, rapid sand filtration
Storage capacity - 850,000 gallons
Average pressure - 68 psi
Average temperature - 55°

MONTHLY WATER RATES FOR WHOLESALE AND INDUSTRIAL CONSUMERS

(Inside Corporate Limits)

First	2,000 gallons	\$3.00 (Minimum Bill)
Next	3,000 gallons	1.25 per M gallons
Next	5,000 gallons	1.15 per M gallons
Next	5,000 gallons	1.10 per M gallons
Next	5,000 gallons	1.00 per M gallons
Next	20,000 gallons	.90 per M gallons
Next	20,000 gallons	.80 per M gallons
Next	40,000 gallons	.70 per M gallons
Amounts in excess of 100,000 gallons		.50 per M gallons

(Outside Corporate Limits)

First	2,000 gallons	\$3.60 (Minimum Bill)
Next	3,000 gallons	1.50 per M gallons
Next	5,000 gallons	1.38 per M gallons
Next	5,000 gallons	1.32 per M gallons
Next	5,000 gallons	1.20 per M gallons
Next	20,000 gallons	1.08 per M gallons
Next	20,000 gallons	.96 per M gallons
Next	40,000 gallons	.84 per M gallons
Amounts in excess of 100,000 gallons		.60 per M gallons

Surface water sources - Dewey Lake and Levisa Fork of Big Sandy River
Average discharge - Levisa Fork at Paintsville about 2,400 cfs
Expected ground water yield - north portion 5 - 50 gpm, south portion
50 - 200 gpm

Sewerage

Company serving - Prestonsburg Water, Gas and Sewerage System

Average daily flow - 350,000 gallons

Treatment - primary

Type treatment - screen chamber, clarifier, digester, drying beds and chlorine contact

Treated effluent discharged into - Levisa Fork of Big Sandy River

Size of sanitary mains - 24, 12, and 6 inches

Size of storm mains - 32 and 48 inches

Rates - 70 percent of the water bill

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

City

Structure - Mayor - 4-year term; 8 councilmen - 2-year terms
Budget 1969 - Income \$220,500
Fees and licenses - Privilege licenses range from \$5 to \$41 annually

County

Structure - County judge - 4-year term; 4 magistrates - 4-year terms
Budget 1969-70 - General Fund \$192,770; Road Fund \$48,300

Assessed Value of Property - 1969

<u>Classes of Property*</u>	<u>Prestonsburg</u>	<u>Floyd County</u>
Real Estate	\$18,335,000	\$70,132,536
Tangibles		21,251,863
Public Service	1,428,768	37,968,432

Local General Property Tax Rates Per \$100 of Assessed Valuation - 1969 ^{12/}

<u>Taxing Unit**</u>	<u>Prestonsburg</u>	<u>Floyd County</u>
State	\$.015	\$.015
County	.225	.225
School	.506	.506
City	.300	
Total	\$1.046	\$.746

*Property assessed at 100 percent of fair value.

**Manufacturing machinery, raw materials inventories and goods in process inventories are not subject to local tax. State rate is only \$0.15 per \$100.

Planning and Zoning

Agency - Prestonsburg Planning and Zoning Commission

Plans completed - Comprehensive plan, zoning ordinances, subdivision regulations, public improvements program, capital improvements budget

Plans in process - Revised comprehensive plan

Codes adopted - All major codes are being adopted

Other program - Certified Workable Program

Safety

<u>Police</u>	<u>Prestonsburg</u>	<u>Floyd County</u>
Total staff	7	16
Radio-patrol cars	1	
Other equipment	Standard	

Fire

American Insurance Association

Fire Rating 7

Full-time staff 3

Volunteers 24

Equipment:

1,500-gpm pumper 1

750-gpm pumper 1

250-gpm pumper 1

Rescue Service

Floyd County Emergency and Rescue Squad:

Number of volunteers - 41

Equipment - 2 jeeps, 5 trucks, 2 power plants, water pump, field kitchen, 2 trailers with two boats each, amphibious "duck" station wagon

Personnel training - full training program with corresponding Civil Defense Program

Two other rescue squads are located within Floyd County

Sanitation

	<u>Prestonsburg</u>
Type service	municipal
Cost	residential \$1.75 a month; business prorated from \$2.50 to \$25.00
Collection frequency	business daily - residential twice weekly
Disposal method	land fill

HEALTH

Hospitals

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Beds</u>
General hospitals	1	47
General hospital facilities - Emergency room, operating room, X-ray room		
Medical staff - 6 doctors, 9 registered nurses, 21 licensed practical nurses		
New hospital - 150 beds (50 extended care) - to be constructed in near future		

Nursing Homes

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Beds</u>
Extended Care Homes	1	56

Public Health

Facility - Floyd County Health Department
Programs - Communicable disease, venereal disease, tuberculosis, maternal and infant, school health, dental health, adult health and mobility, handicapped program, mental health, nutrition, sanitation
Staff - 3 clerks, 2 nurses, 3 sanitarians, health officer, assistant health officer, administrative assistant, janitor
Budget 1969-70 - \$114,624

OTHER LOCAL FACILITIES

Communications

Telephone - Harold Telephone Company, South Central Bell Telephone Company

Services - Standard services

Telegraph - Western Union

Services - Part time - 7 days a week

Postal - Class - 1 U. S. Post Office

Mail received - 2 times daily

Mail dispatched - 5 times daily

Newspaper Dailies - Floyd County Times, Big Sandy Shopper

Circulation - 6,000

Radio - WPRT, WDOC

Stations received from - Huntington, West Virginia; Cincinnati, Ohio; Ashland and Louisville, Kentucky

Television -

Local cable service

Reception from - Huntington and Charleston, West Virginia

Kentucky Educational Television - Pikeville transmitter, Channel 22

Library Services

Public libraries - Floyd County Public Library

Size collection - 35,000 volumes

Circulation, 1969 - 139,532

Services - Bookmobile, story hour, recordings, tapes, art and music room

Religious Institutions

Number of churches - 11

Denominations - Methodist, Baptist, Church of Christ, Freewill Baptist, Nazarene, Episcopal, Catholic

Financial Institutions

<u>Bank</u>	<u>Statement as of June 30, 1969</u>	
	<u>Assets</u>	<u>Deposits</u>
The Bank Josephine	\$13,216,460.35	\$11,626,581.22
The First National Bank	20,560,162.33	19,018,066.00
<u>Savings and Loan Associations</u>	<u>Assets</u>	<u>Shared Accounts</u>
Floyd Federal Savings and Loan	\$ 8,794,920.44	\$ 8,246,357.98

Hotels and Motels

<u>Number</u>	<u>Units</u>
4	70

Clubs and Organizations

Business and Civic - Chamber of Commerce, Jaycees, Kiwanis,
Medical Society, Ministerial Association, Red Cross

Fraternal - American Legion, Eagles, Masonic Lodge, IOOF, VFW

Women's - Junior Women's Club, B &PW Club, DAR, Eastern Star,
Homemakers, Rebekah

Youth - Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Brownies, FFA, FHA,
4-H, Beta Club, K Club, Circle K

Other - Woodsmen of the World

RECREATION

Local

Public Recreation Facilities

Supervised program - Yes

Parks - Archer Municipal Park

Playgrounds - 2

Swimming pools - 1

Tennis courts - 6

Baseball diamonds - 3

Football fields - 2

Other - Fairgrounds, camp grounds, modern recreation building and auditorium, soccer field, picnic area, 2 shelter houses

Private Recreation Facilities

Movie theaters - 1 indoor, 1 outdoor

Other - Amphitheater at city park, skating rink 5 miles away

Tourist Attractions

Jenny Wiley State Park

Cultural Events

East Kentucky Concert Series, The Jenny Wiley Drama Association, Prestonsburg Community College sponsors concerts and lectures and Kentucky Highlands Folk Festival

Area (Within 50 miles)

Breaks Interstate Park

AGRICULTURE - NATURAL RESOURCES - CLIMATE

Agriculture 13/

	<u>Floyd County</u>	<u>Labor Market Area</u>
Total land area (acres)	255,360	1,496,960
Percent of area in farm land	21.7	26.0
Number of farms	768	3,986
Average size of farms (acres)	72.0	87.5
1964 value of all farm products	\$196,992	\$2,391,660
Value per farm	257	540
Total crop sales	68,600	1,611,981
Total livestock & livestock products		775,171
1967 agricultural production included:		
Burley tobacco (lbs.)	20,000	2,205,000
Corn (bu.)	40,000	274,000
Cattle and calves (number)	2,800	14,000
Hogs and pigs (number)	1,100	6,800
Milk production (1966) (lbs.)	3,150,000	8,175,000

Natural Resources

Principal mineral resources	Coal, petroleum, sand and gravel
Other mineral resources	Clays and natural brines
Acres of commercial forest land	191,500
Most abundant tree species	Red oaks, white oaks, yellow poplar, hickories, hard and soft maples, beech, and blackgum

Climate 14/

	<u>Floyd County</u>
Temperature	
Annual mean (30-year record)	56.8°
Average annual (1968)	54.6°
Record highest June, 1966 (7-year record)	95.0°
Record lowest January, 1966 (7-year record)	-15.0°
Seasonal heating degree-days	4,143
Precipitation	
Mean annual total (30-year record)	41.06 inches
Mean annual snow and sleet (31-year record)	15.5 inches
Total precipitation 1968	32.79 inches
Mean No. days precipitation (23-year record) (.01 inches or more)	132
Average No. days thunderstorms (25-year record)	46
Prevailing winds (9-year record)	west south-west

HISTORY

Floyd County, the fortieth county formed in Kentucky, dates from 1799. It contains 402 square miles, and is generally mountainous with a few wide river valleys which contain level areas. The Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River is its principal stream, although the Licking River rises in its central western section. As of 1960 over 90 percent of the natural gas produced in Kentucky came from the large mountain field, of which Floyd County is a part.

Robert Leslie, John Graham, and John Spurlock made early settlements on John's Creek and at Prestonsburg. Spurlock built the first house at Prestonsburg in 1791. Graham established the first store at Emma about the same time. At first, these settlements were harassed by the Indians, but after General "Mad" Anthony Wayne defeated them in 1794, and the Treaty of Greenville was signed the next year, they gave little trouble.

During the Civil War Colonel James Garfield, later President of the United States, commanded a military unit at Prestonsburg. He was given the General's Star for his services in Eastern Kentucky.

Floyd County was named for Colonel John Floyd, a native of Virginia who came to Kentucky as deputy surveyor for Colonel John Preston. He helped locate lands for Patrick Henry and others in several localities stretching from Lewis County to Jefferson County. Later he became Richard Henderson's chief surveyor, and a close companion of Daniel Boone.

Prestonsburg, the county seat, was named in honor of Colonel John Preston who owned the land on which the town was built. Incorporated in 1818, it is 643 feet above sea level, and had a estimated population of 5,000 in 1969.

David K. Harris and John P. Martin were among the State Senators from Floyd County. Henry P. Mayo, John M. Elliot, and Allen C. Higgins served in the Lower House. Each of these men fostered legislation favorable not only to Floyd County, but to Eastern Kentucky as well. Bert T. Combs, although a native of Clay County, was elected to the governorship from Floyd County.

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- 6/ Kentucky Department of Economic Security, Kentucky Labor Supply Estimates by County, January 1970.
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