

1992

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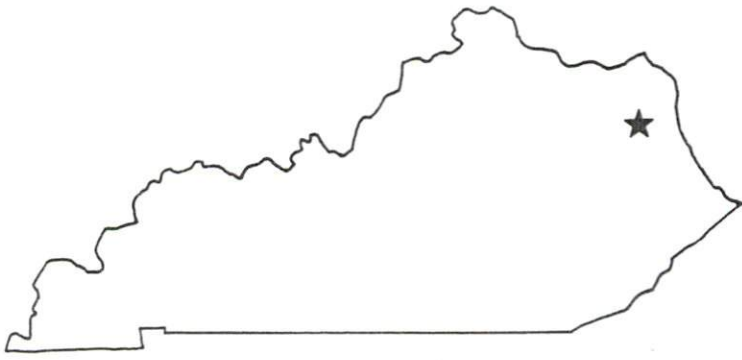
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Morgan Co.

Resources for Economic Development

West Liberty



KENTUCKY
Open for Business



RESOURCES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

WEST LIBERTY, KENTUCKY

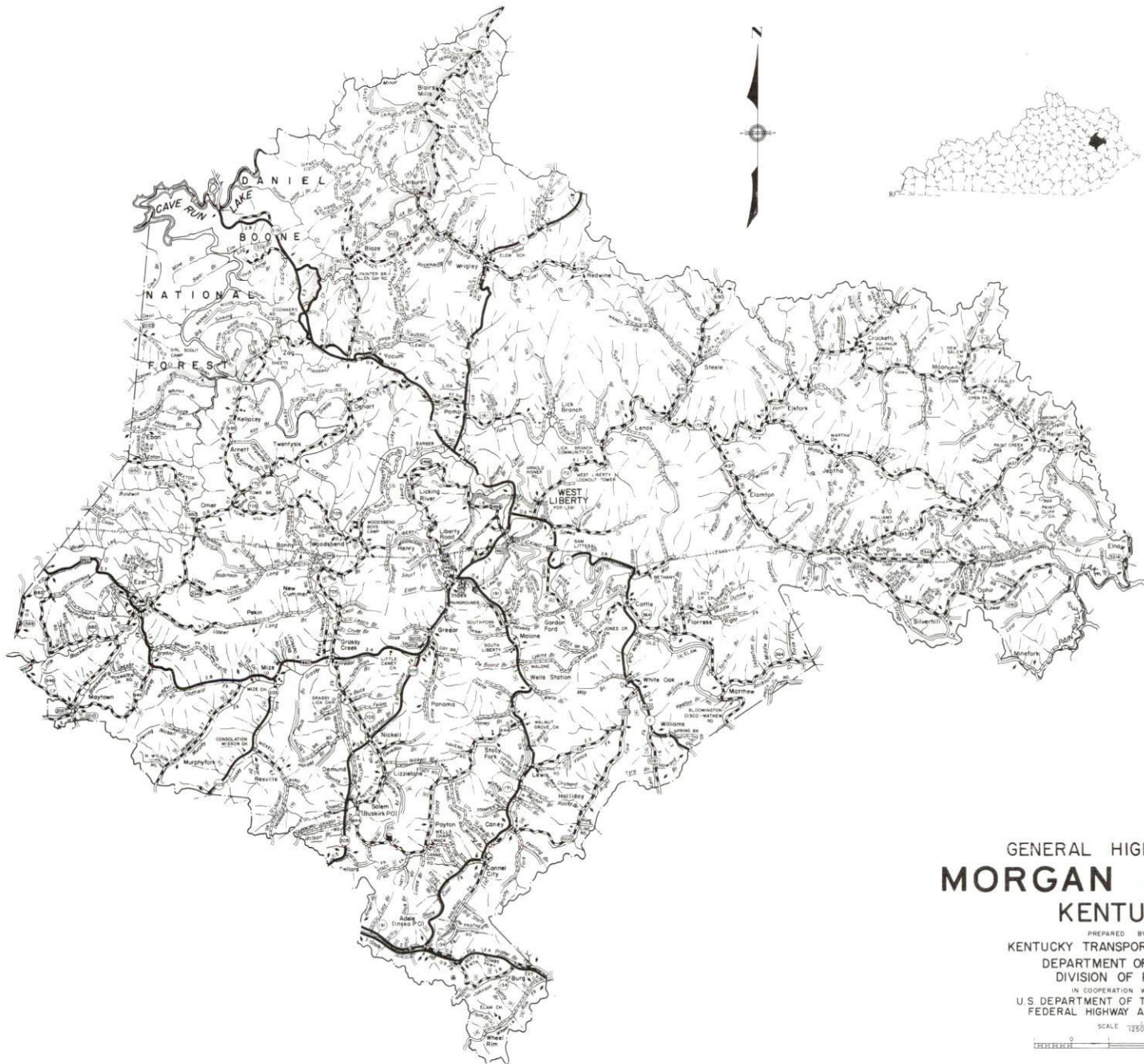
Prepared by
The Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development
Division of Research and Planning
and
Morgan County Chamber of Commerce

1992

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GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP
MORGAN COUNTY
 KENTUCKY

PREPARED BY THE
 KENTUCKY TRANSPORTATION CABINET
 DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS
 DIVISION OF PLANNING
 IN COOPERATION WITH THE
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
 FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

SCALE 1:250,000
 0 1 2 3 4 MILES

WEST LIBERTY, KENTUCKY - A RESOURCE PROFILE

West Liberty, the county seat of Morgan County, is located in the Licking Valley area of Kentucky. The city had a 1990 population of 1,887. West Liberty is located 71 miles southwest of Huntington, West Virginia; 93 miles east of Lexington, Kentucky; 165 miles southeast of Cincinnati, Ohio; and 256 miles north of Knoxville, Tennessee.

Morgan County covers a land area of 382 square miles in the Eastern Kentucky Coal Field Region. Cave Run Lake and Daniel Boone National Forest occupies the northwestern portion of the county. Morgan County had a 1990 population of 11,648.

The Economic Framework - The total number of Morgan County residents employed in 1990 averaged 3,350. Manufacturing firms in the county reported 267 employees; wholesale and retail trade provided 418 jobs; 274 people were employed in service occupations; state and local government accounted for 818 employees; and contract construction firms provided 115 jobs.

Labor Supply - There is a current estimated labor supply of 24,342 persons available for industrial jobs in the labor market area. In addition, from 1992 through 1996, 8,273 young persons in the area will become 18 years of age and potentially available for industrial jobs.

Transportation - West Liberty is served directly by U.S. Highway 460 and Kentucky Highways 7 and 519. Each is a "AAA"-rated (80,000-pound gross load limit) trucking highway. Kentucky Highway 172 also serves West Liberty. In addition, the Mountain Parkway is accessible via U.S. 460 and Kentucky 205, 14 miles south of West Liberty. Interstate 64 is accessible via Kentucky 519, 23 miles northwest of the city. Eight trucking companies provide service to West Liberty. CSX Transportation provides the nearest rail service at Paintsville, Kentucky, 41 miles southeast. Tri-State Field in Huntington, West Virginia, 68 miles northeast, provides the nearest commercial airline service. The West Liberty-Morgan County Airport maintains a 2,400-foot paved runway.

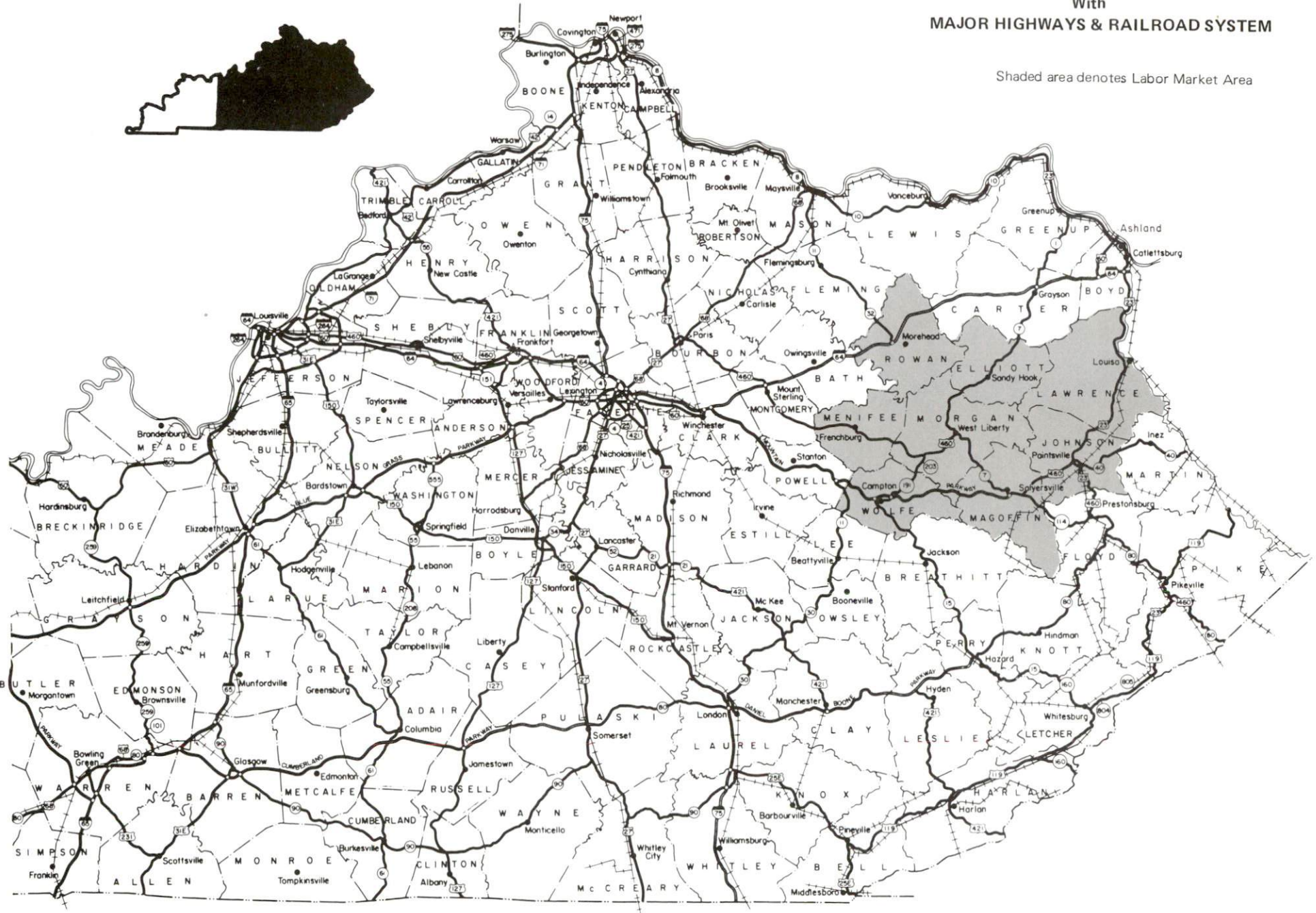
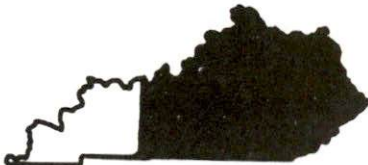
Power and Fuel - Kentucky Power Company and Licking Valley Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation provide electric power to West Liberty and Morgan County. Elam Utility Company, which is supplied by Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation, provides natural gas to West Liberty.

Education - The Morgan County School System provides primary and secondary education to West Liberty and Morgan County. MSU-Licking Valley Center, an extension campus of Morehead State University, offers an array of community service programs and basic requirement courses which are transferable to state-supported institutions. Eight other institutions of higher learning are located within 75 miles of West Liberty. Vocational training is provided by Morgan County Area Vocational Education Center in West Liberty and by Rowan State Vocational-Technical School, located 20 miles northwest in Morehead, Kentucky.

WEST LIBERTY LABOR MARKET AREA

With MAJOR HIGHWAYS & RAILROAD SYSTEM

Shaded area denotes Labor Market Area



LABOR MARKET STATISTICS

The West Liberty Labor Market Area includes Morgan County and the adjoining Kentucky counties of Elliott, Johnson, Lawrence, Magoffin, Menifee, Rowan, and Wolfe.

POPULATION

	<u>1990</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1970</u>
Labor Market Area	100,374	101,943	81,389
West Liberty	1,887	1,381	1,387
Morgan County	11,648	12,103	10,019

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, January 1991.

POPULATION PROJECTIONS

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2030</u>
Labor Market Area	109,910	114,410	116,800	116,870
Morgan County	11,920	12,090	12,020	11,710

Source: University of Louisville, Urban Studies Center, State Data Center.

ESTIMATED LABOR SUPPLY

	<u>Current</u>				<u>Future</u>
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Unemployed</u>	<u>Employed Part-Time</u>	<u>Not in Labor Force</u>	<u>Becoming 18 years of age 1992 thru 1996</u>
Labor Market Area*	24,342	3,472	5,072	15,798	8,273
Morgan County	3,556	444	559	2,553	994

* Additional workers may be drawn from other nearby counties.

Note: Unemployed - persons unemployed and actively seeking work; Employed Part-Time - persons employed but working only 14 to 26 weeks per year; Not in Labor Force - represents the number of persons who would enter the labor force if suitable employment were available (based on the assumption that persons in Kentucky would like to participate in the labor force in the same proportion that they do nationally).

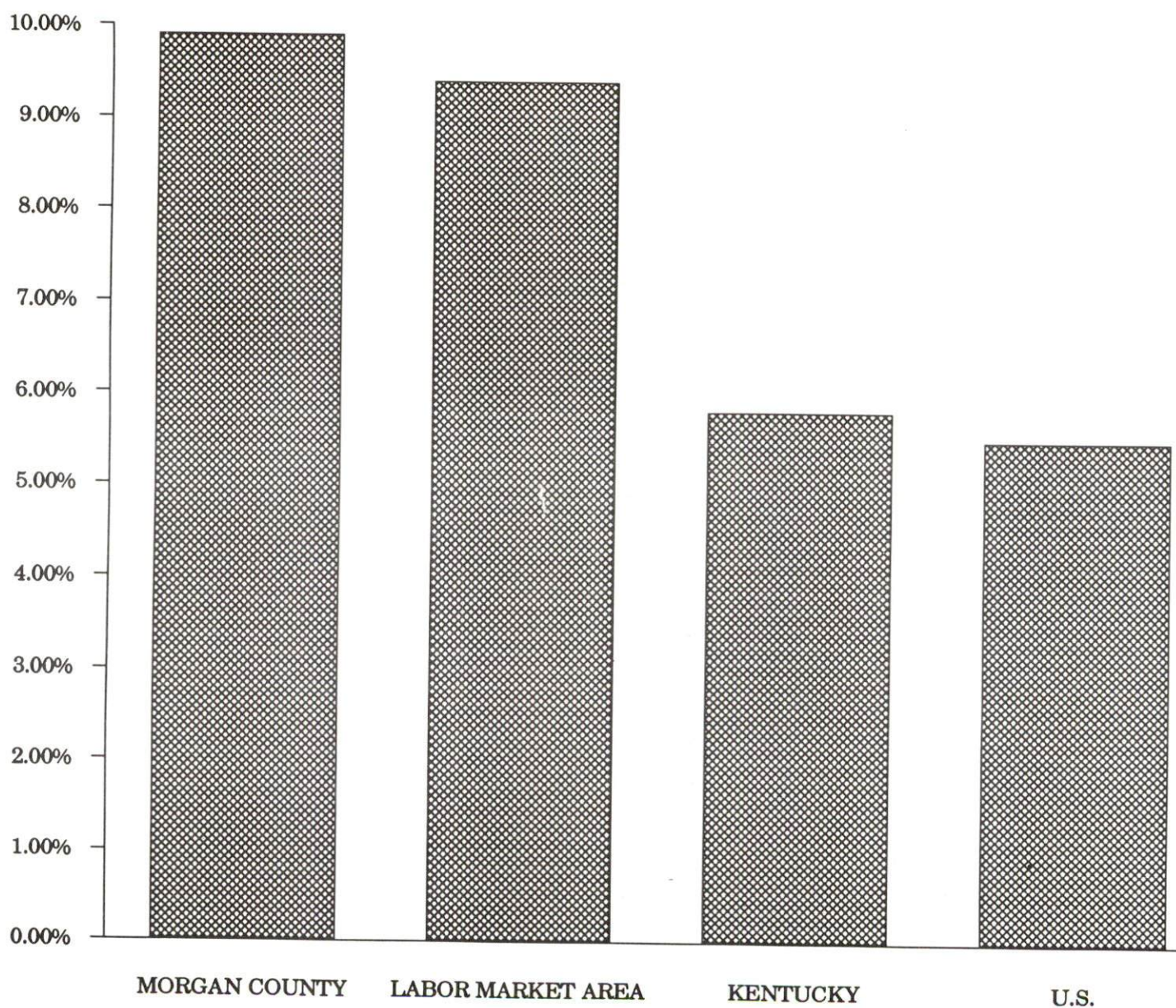
Sources: Kentucky Cabinet for Human Resources, Kentucky Labor Supply Estimates by County, 1989. Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development, Future Labor Supply Becoming 18 Years of Age, 1992 thru 1996.

LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS OF RESIDENTS, 1990

	<u>Morgan County</u>	<u>Labor Market Area</u>
Civilian Labor Force	3,718	35,596
Employment	3,350	32,260
Unemployment	368	3,336
Rate of Unemployment (%)	9.9	9.4

Source: Kentucky Cabinet for Human Resources, Kentucky Labor Force Estimates, Annual Averages, 1990.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
1990

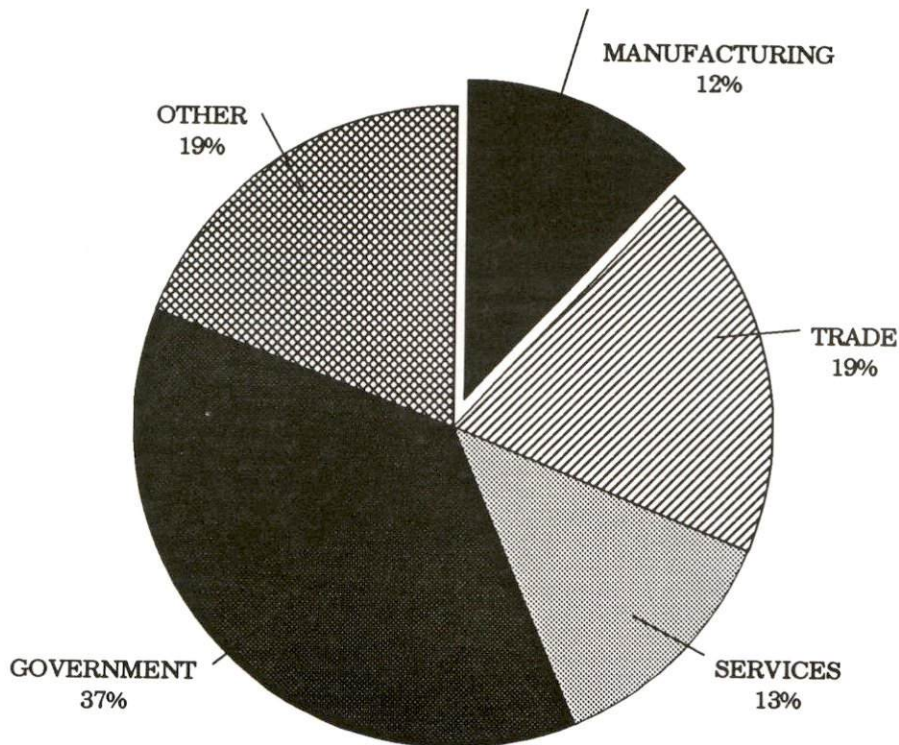


SELECTED COMPONENTS OF NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT
BY PLACE OF WORK, 1990

	<u>Morgan County</u>	<u>Labor Market Area</u>
All Industries (total)	2,192	20,507
Manufacturing	267	1,430
Wholesale & Retail Trade	418	5,573
Services	274	3,326
State/Local Government	818	6,022
Contract Construction	115	806

Note: Excludes domestic workers, railway workers, certain nonprofit corporations, majority of federal government workers, and self-employed workers.
Source: Kentucky Cabinet for Human Resources, Average Monthly Workers Covered by Kentucky Unemployment Insurance Law, 1990.

MORGAN COUNTY

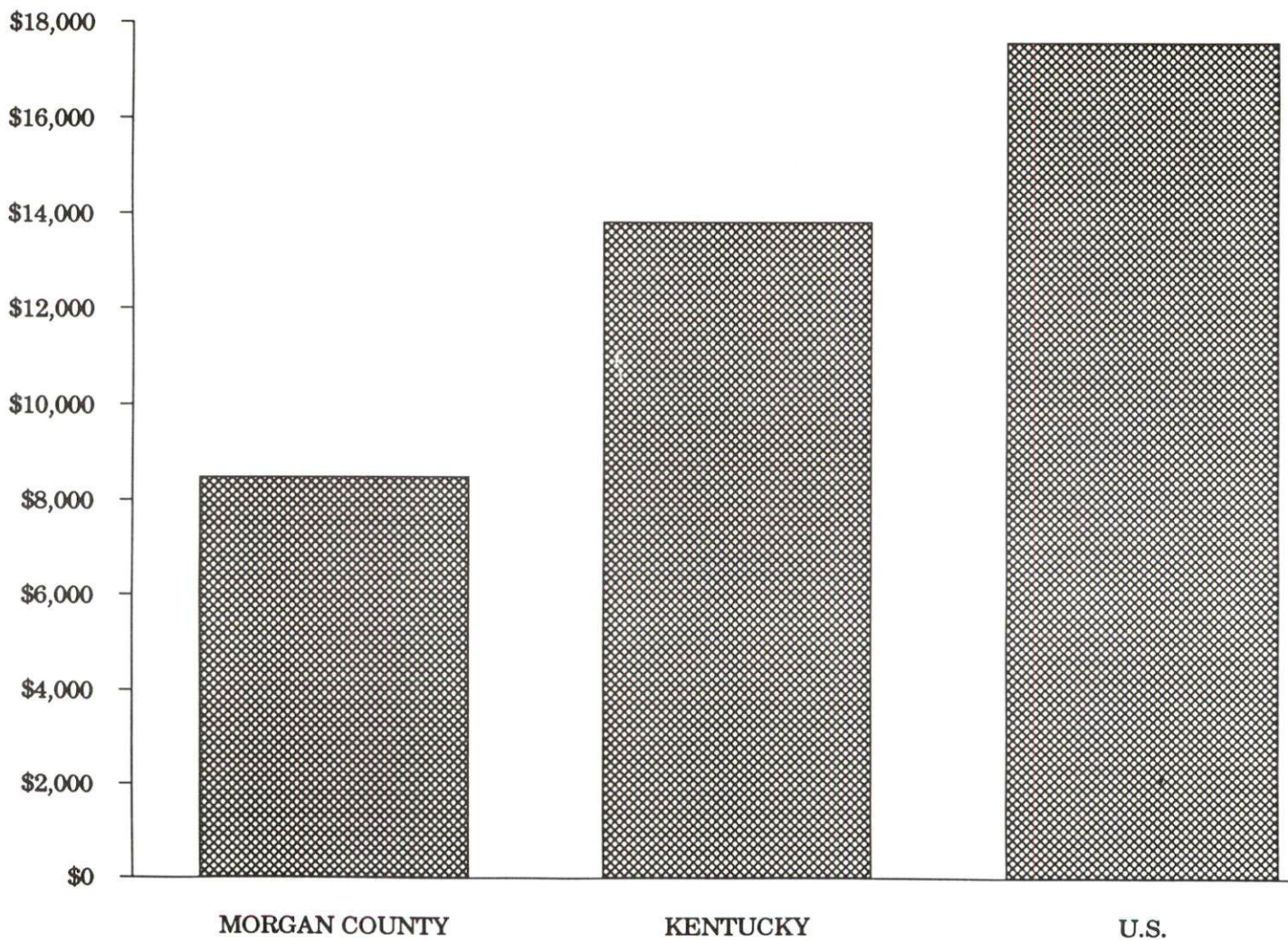


PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME

Area	1985	1989	Percent Change
Morgan County	\$6,772	\$8,492	25.4
Labor Market Area Range	\$5,695 - \$8,875	\$7,107 - \$10,840	-
Kentucky	\$10,755	\$13,823	28.5
U.S.	\$13,899	\$17,594	26.6

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Kentucky Economic Information System, April 1991.

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME
1989



AVERAGE PLACEMENT WAGES

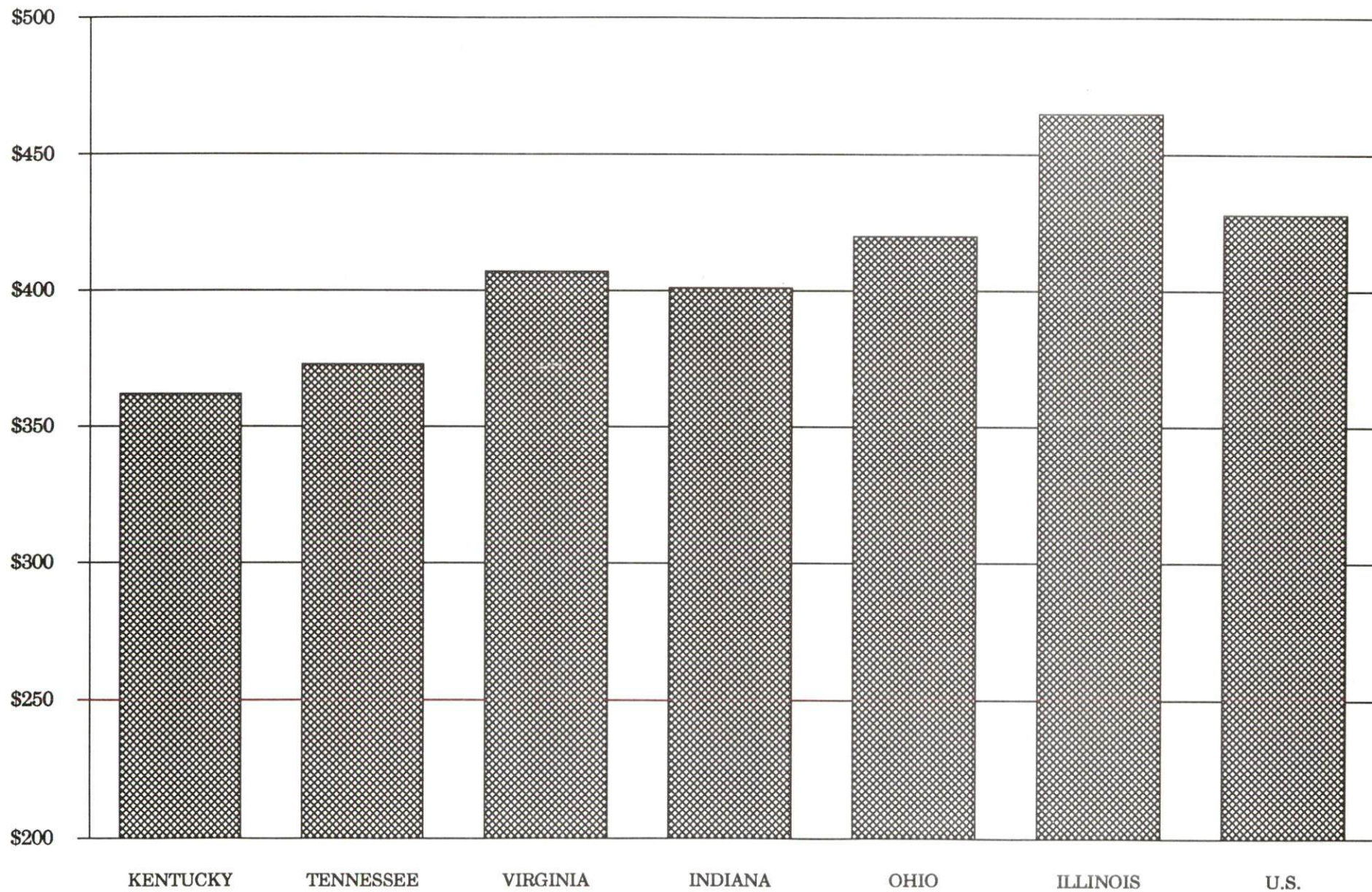
Morgan County is served by the Morehead local office of the Kentucky Department for Employment Services. The focus of the following data is on job placements made by the Morehead local office and may therefore be used as an indicator of the wages which employers in the area pay new employees. During the twelve months which ended on June 30, 1990, the local employment office filled 2,702 job openings in various occupational categories. The average hourly wage for selected occupational categories were:

<u>OCCUPATIONAL CATEGORY</u>	<u>NUMBER OF PLACEMENTS</u>	<u>AVERAGE WAGE(\$)</u>
All Occupations	2,702	4.20
Clerical	484	3.54
Sales	194	3.71
Services (excluding domestic)	514	3.57
Agricultural, Fishery, Forestry, etc.	8	3.49
Processing	16	3.59
Machine Trades	64	3.69
Bench Work	824	3.54
Structural	294	8.69
Motor Freight/ Transportation	39	5.26
Packaging and Materials Handling	214	3.78
Other	11	4.50

The Morehead local office also serves Bath, Menifee, Montgomery, and Rowan Counties. The above occupational categories are taken from the Dictionary of Occupational Titles published by the U.S. Department of Labor.

Source: Kentucky Cabinet for Human Resources, Department for Employment Services.

AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGES OF WORKERS COVERED BY
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE - 1989



AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGES BY INDUSTRY
BY PLACE OF WORK, 1989*

	Morgan County	Kentucky (State- Wide)	Tennessee	Virginia
All Industries	\$280.39	\$362.03	\$373.00	\$407.00
Mining & Quarrying	N/A	623.82	522.00	576.00
Contract Construction	271.28	388.21	407.00	434.00
Manufacturing	223.83	472.92	431.00	470.00
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	428.83	482.22	493.00	575.00
Wholesale & Retail Trade	212.18	245.12	N/A	N/A
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	346.72	417.89	448.00	488.00
Services	276.07	310.29	357.00	409.00
State/Local Government	311.02	370.61	N/A	N/A
	<u>Indiana</u>	<u>Ohio</u>	<u>Illinois</u>	<u>U. S.</u>
All Industries	\$401.00	\$420.00	\$465.00	\$428.00
Mining & Quarrying	693.00	596.00	707.00	688.00
Contract Construction	464.00	480.00	608.00	485.00
Manufacturing	546.00	580.00	566.00	534.00
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	504.00	533.00	582.00	556.00
Wholesale & Retail Trade	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	418.00	456.00	594.00	544.00
Services	328.00	360.00	419.00	399.00
State/Local Government	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

* Wages for U.S. and surrounding states rounded to nearest dollar.

N/A Not Available.

Note: The average weekly wage for each category includes the salaries and wages of all persons working for that type business. For example, the manufacturing category includes both production workers and administrative personnel. Excludes domestic workers, railway workers, certain nonprofit corporations, majority of federal government workers, and self-employed workers.

Source: Kentucky Cabinet for Human Resources, Average Weekly Wages of Workers Covered by Kentucky Unemployment Insurance Law, 1989. U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Wages, Annual Averages, 1989, October 1990.

EXISTING INDUSTRY

MORGAN COUNTY MANUFACTURING FIRMS, THEIR PRODUCTS AND EMPLOYMENT

<u>Firm</u> (Establishment date)	<u>Product</u>	<u>1991</u> <u>Average Employment</u>
Crockett		
Rod and Staff Publishing Company (1960)	Commercial printing	50
Mize		
J.A. Oldfield & Son, Inc. (1979)	Fertilizer	8
West Liberty		
Courier Publishing Company (1910)	Offset printing, newspaper	12
Frederick & May Lumber & Supply Company (1951)	Dimension stock lumber, rough lumber, fencing boards	115
Lion Apparel, Inc. (1984)	Industrial rain wear, firemen bunker gear, safety clothing	115
McKenzie Post and Lumber (1989)	Fence posts, lumber	15
Wells Ready Mix Concrete, Inc. (1958)	Ready-mixed concrete	44
Wolfe County		
Whiting Manufacturing Company, Inc. (1990)*	Comforters, pillow shams, dust ruffles	160

*Whiting Manufacturing Company, Inc. is physically located one mile south of the Morgan County line in Wolfe County, but draws a significant number of workers from Morgan County.

Sources: Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development, Division of Research and Planning; Morgan County Chamber of Commerce.

LABOR ORGANIZATIONS IN MANUFACTURING FIRMS

There are no labor unions representing workers in Morgan County manufacturing firms at the present time.

SELECTED INDUSTRIAL SERVICES

<u>Types of Services</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Mileage from West Liberty</u>
Custom Data Processing	Prestonsburg, Kentucky	45
Custom Plastics Producers	Ashland, Kentucky	65
Electric Motor Repair	Morehead, Kentucky	23
Grinding, Precision & Tool	Huntington, West Virginia Winchester, Kentucky	71 74
Heat Treating Facilities	Lexington, Kentucky	93
Industrial Equipment & Supplies	Mt. Sterling, Kentucky	51
Industrial Gases	Prestonsburg, Kentucky	45
Industrial Waste Removal	Ashland, Kentucky	65
Machine Shops, Tool & Die	Van Lear, Kentucky	46
Metal Castings	Cynthiana, Kentucky	98
Metal Finishers	Lexington, Kentucky	93
Metal Service Centers	Morehead, Kentucky	23
Millwrights	Stanton, Kentucky	49
Public Warehouse Facilities	Paris, Kentucky	83

Sources: Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development, Division of Research and Planning.

TRANSPORTATION

Highways

U.S. Highway 460 and Kentucky Highways 7 and 519 directly serve West Liberty. Each is a "AAA"-rated (80,000-pound gross load limit) trucking highway. Kentucky Highway 172, a "AA"-rated (62,000-pound gross load limit) trucking highway, also serves West Liberty.

The Mountain Parkway, a major limited-access highway which links eastern Kentucky with central Kentucky and Lexington, is accessible via U.S. 460 and Kentucky 205, 14 miles south of West Liberty. Interstate Highway 64, a major east-west corridor, is accessible via Kentucky Highway 519, 26 miles northwest of West Liberty.

A project to widen and upgrade Kentucky Highway 519 north to Morehead and I-64 is under way at West Liberty.

HIGHWAY MILES FROM WEST LIBERTY, KENTUCKY, TO SELECTED MARKET CENTERS

City	Highway Miles	City	Highway Miles
Atlanta, GA	449	Los Angeles, CA	2,252
Baltimore, MD	481	Louisville, KY	160
Birmingham, AL	489	Nashville, TN	303
Chicago, IL	436	New Orleans, LA	823
Cincinnati, OH	165	New York, NY	670
Cleveland, OH	412	Pittsburgh, PA	310
Detroit, MI	423	St. Louis, MO	418
Knoxville, TN	256		

Note: Mileage computations are via the best interstate or primary highways, not necessarily the most direct route of travel.

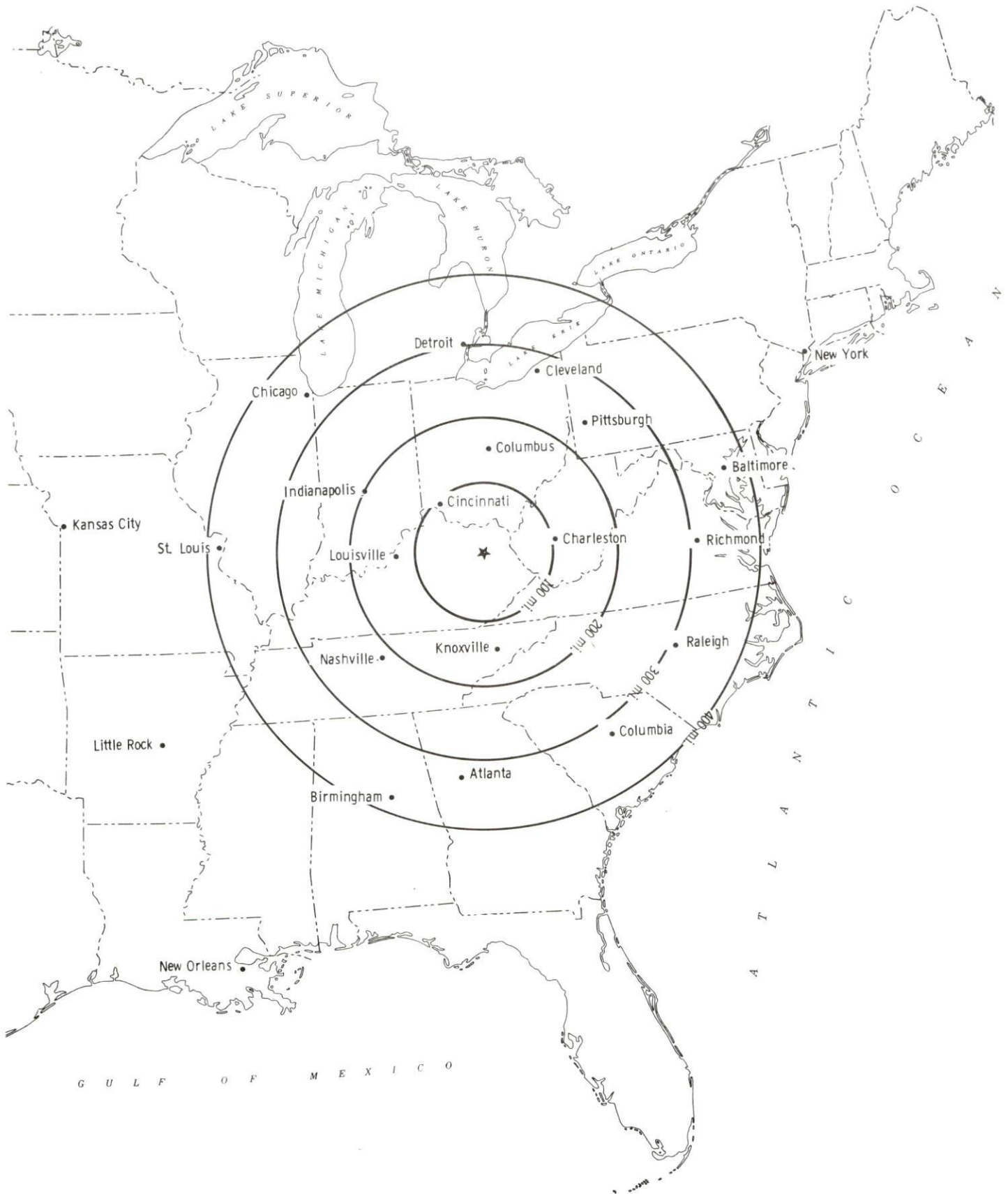
Sources: Rand McNally Deluxe Motor Carriers' Road Atlas, 1989. Official Kentucky Mileage Map, 1980.

Truck Service

Eight common carrier trucking companies provide interstate and/or intrastate service to West Liberty.

Source: American Motor Carrier Directory, Fall 1991.

Selected Market Centers



Rail

West Liberty is not directly served by rail. CSX Transportation provides the nearest main line rail service at Paintsville, Kentucky, 41 miles southeast. The nearest intermodal facilities are provided by Southern Railway System at Georgetown, Kentucky, 102 miles west of West Liberty.

For details on routing, schedules, rates, and services contact:

Manager
Industrial Development
CSX Transportation
9420 Bunsen Parkway
Suite 212
Louisville, Kentucky 40220
(502) 499-3025

Air

Local

Location:	West Liberty-Morgan County Airport
Runways:	West Liberty
Length:	One paved
Traffic	2,400 feet
Control:	Wind sock
Lighting:	None
Services:	Hangar, tie-down
Air Freight Service:	Chartered air freight service must be arranged

Nearest Scheduled Commercial Airline Service

Location:	Tri-State Airport (Walker-Long Field)
	3 miles southwest of Huntington, West Virginia;
	68 miles northeast of West Liberty
Air Service:	ComAir, USAir, C.C. Air, United Express
Daily Arrivals & Departures:	48

UTILITIES

Electricity

Company serving most of West Liberty and a small portion of southern
Morgan County - Kentucky Power Company
Source of power - Kentucky Power Company
For industrial rates contact:

Kentucky Power Company
1701 Central Avenue
P. O. Box 1428
Ashland, Kentucky 41101
(606) 327-1111

Company serving a small portion of West Liberty and the majority of
Morgan County - Licking Valley Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation
Source of power - East Kentucky Power Cooperative
For industrial rates contact:

Industrial Development Division
East Kentucky Power Cooperative
P. O. Box 707
Winchester, Kentucky 40392-0707
(606) 744-4812

and/or

Licking Valley Rural Electric
Cooperative Corporation
P. O. Drawer 605
West Liberty, Kentucky 41472
(606) 743-3179

Natural Gas

Company serving West Liberty - Elam Utility Company
Source of supply - Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation
For rates and supplies contact:

Elam Utility Company
459 Main Street
West Liberty, Kentucky 41472
(606) 743-3695

Public Water Supply

Company serving West Liberty - West Liberty Water Works
100 Keeton Heights
West Liberty, Kentucky 41472
(606) 743-4553

Source -	Licking River
Treatment plant capacity -	1,000,000 gallons per day
Average daily consumption -	500,000 gallons
Peak daily consumption -	680,000 gallons
Storage capacity -	1,250,000 gallons
Water pressure -	40 psi to 135 psi

The West Liberty Water Works plans to redesign its raw water intake system which would allow the system to take in and treat raw water from Cave Run Lake rather than its current raw water supply, the Licking River. This would increase the raw water capacity and its overall quality. The \$3 million project is scheduled for completion by Spring 1993.

Sewerage

Company serving West Liberty - West Liberty Wastewater Treatment Plant
100 Keeton Heights
West Liberty, Kentucky 41472
(606) 743-4129

Design capacity -	575,000 gallons per day
Average daily flow -	261,000 gallons
Type of treatment -	Tertiary
Treated effluent discharged into -	Licking River

The City of West Liberty recently constructed a 575,000-gallon per day wastewater treatment facility and several new lines. Total cost of the project was approximately \$3.5 million.

CLIMATE

Morgan County

Temperature

Normal (29-year record)	55.20 degrees
Average annual 1989	54.40 degrees
Record highest, July 1988 (29-year record)	102.00 degrees
Record lowest, January 1985 (29-year record)	-16.00 degrees
Normal heating degree days (29-year record) (Heating degree day totals are the sums of negative departures of average daily temperatures from 65 degrees F.)	4,676

Precipitation

Normal (29-year record)	40.74 inches
Mean annual snowfall (28-year record)	26.10 inches
Total precipitation 1989	59.98 inches
Mean number days precipitation (.01 inch or more) (28-year record)	139.60
Mean number days thunderstorms (27-year record)	41.70

Prevailing winds

N/A

Relative Humidity (28-year record, except 1 a.m. - 27 year record)

1 a.m.	78 percent (26-year record)
7 a.m.	83 percent (27-year record)
1 p.m.	58 percent (27-year record)
7 p.m.	61 percent (27-year record)

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Environmental Science Services Administration, Climatological Data, 1989. Station of record: Huntington, West Virginia.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Structure

The City of West Liberty is governed by a mayor and six council members. The mayor is elected to a four-year term, while the council members each serve two-year terms. Morgan County is governed by a county judge/executive and five magistrates. Each county official serves a four-year term.

Planning and Zoning

Morgan County and West Liberty are presently not served by a planning and zoning agency.

Mandatory state codes enforced - Kentucky Plumbing Code, National Electric Code, Kentucky Boiler Regulations and Standards, Kentucky Building Code (modeled after BOCA code)

Local Fees and Licenses

The City of West Liberty levies an annual business license fee of \$35, an unloading license fee of \$50 per year, and an annual auto sticker license fee of \$10.

PROPERTY TAXES

The Kentucky Constitution requires the state to tax all classes of taxable property, and state statutes allow local jurisdictions to tax only a few classes. All locally taxed property is subject to county taxes and school district taxes (either a county school district or an independent school district). Property located inside of city limits may also be subject to city property taxes.

Special local taxing jurisdictions (fire protection districts, watershed districts, and sanitation districts) levy taxes within their operating areas (usually a small portion of community or county).

Property assessments in Kentucky are at 100% fair cash value. A 15% reduction is automatically granted for accounts receivable.

STATE PROPERTY TAX RATES PER \$100 VALUATION

<u>Selected Classes of Property</u>	<u>1990 State Rate</u>	<u>Local Taxation Permitted</u>
Real Estate	\$0.189	YES
Manufacturing Machinery	0.150	NO
Pollution Control Equipment	0.150	NO
Inventories		
Raw Materials	0.050	NO
Goods in Process	0.050	NO
Finished Goods	0.050	YES
Motor Vehicles	0.450	YES
Other Tangible Personal Property	0.450	YES
Intangibles (Accounts Receivable, Money on Hand)	0.250	NO

LOCAL PROPERTY TAX RATES PER \$100 VALUATION, 1990

<u>Taxing Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Real Estate</u>	<u>Finished Goods & Tangibles</u>	<u>Motor Vehicles</u>
Morgan County	\$0.2770	\$0.3088	\$0.3088
School Districts:			
Morgan County	0.4520	0.4520	0.1550
Cities:			
West Liberty	0.1000	0.1000	0.1410

EDUCATION

Public Schools

	Morgan County
Total Enrollment (Fall, 1990)	2,312
Pupil-Teacher Ratio (1989-90)	17.6-1
Percent High School Graduates to College (1989-90)	50.4
Expenditures Per Pupil (1989-90)	\$2,876.54

Morgan County School System recently completed two building projects including the construction of a new middle school at a cost of \$4 million and construction of a new gymnasium at the high school, totaling \$1 million. In addition, the School System sponsors the annual Education Expo-Academic Olympics which provides opportunities for all students to participate in academic competition in a variety of subject areas.

Nonpublic Schools

<u>School</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Grades</u>
Faith Hills School (Crockett)	38	1-8

Area Colleges and Universities

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location (Miles distant)</u>	<u>Enrollment (Fall, 1990)</u>
MSU-Licking Valley Center	West Liberty, Kentucky	412
Morehead State University	Morehead, Kentucky (23)	8,622
Kentucky Christian College	Grayson, Kentucky (42)	566
Lees College	Jackson, Kentucky (44)	352
Prestonsburg Community College	Prestonsburg, Kentucky (45)	2,446
Ashland Community College	Ashland, Kentucky (65)	3,061
Ohio University (Ironton Campus)	Ironton, Ohio (69)	1,500
Marshall University	Huntington, West Virginia (71)	12,205
Pikeville College	Pikeville, Kentucky (72)	972
Alice Lloyd College	Pippa Passes, Kentucky (72)	548

MSU-Licking Valley Center

MSU-Licking Valley Center, an extension campus of Morehead State University, recently opened its doors. Program offerings include a service for literacy, family literacy, and G.E.D. College courses are offered which satisfy basic requirements and are transferable to a four-year state-supported institution.

Vocational Training

Vocational training is available at both the state vocational-technical schools and the area vocational education centers. The state vocational-technical schools are post-secondary institutions. The area vocational education centers are designed to supplement the curriculum of high school students. Both the state vocational-technical schools and the area vocational education centers offer evening courses to enable working adults to upgrade current job skills.

Arrangements can be made to provide training in the specific production skills required by an industrial plant. Instruction may be conducted either in the vocational school or in the industrial plant, depending upon the desired arrangement and the availability of special equipment.

Bluegrass State Skills Corporation

The Bluegrass State Skills Corporation, an independent public corporation created and funded by the Kentucky General Assembly, provides programs of skills training to meet the needs of business and industry from entry level to advanced training, and from upgrading present employees to retraining experienced workers.

The Bluegrass State Skills Corporation is the primary source for skills training assistance for a new or existing company. The Corporation works in partnership with other employment and job training resources and programs, as well as Kentucky's economic development activities, to package a program customized to meet the specific needs of a company.

<u>Vocational School</u>	<u>Location (Miles distant)</u>	<u>Cumulative Enrollment 1989-1990</u>
Morgan County Area Vocational Education Center	West Liberty, Kentucky	232
Rowan State Vocational-Technical School	Morehead, Kentucky (23)	639

OTHER LOCAL FACILITIES

Local Medical Personnel

Physicians - 8
Dentists - 4

Hospitals

<u>General Hospital</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Beds</u>
Morgan County Appalachian Regional Hospital	West Liberty	45

Medical staff - ten active staff physicians, 31 registered nurses,
11 licensed practical nurses

Morgan County Appalachian Regional Hospital recently opened a new surgical unit in the hospital.

Other Medical Facilities and Services

Lake Cumberland Home Health
Morgan County Appalachian Regional
Hospital Home Health Agency
Morgan County Ambulance Service
Morgan County Health Department
Morgan County Rescue Squad
Pathways, Inc. (mental health service)

Banks and Savings & Loan Associations

Bank of the Mountains
Commercial Bank

Newspapers

Licking Valley Courier (weekly)

Telephone Service

Mountain Rural Telephone
Cooperative Corporation

RECREATION

Local

West Liberty and Morgan County affords several public recreation opportunities for the entire family. Kiwanis Playground and Park features a swimming pool, four tennis courts, a basketball court, a picnic shelter and grill, and a playground.

The Old Mill Park, located along the banks of the scenic Licking River, provides picnic areas and grills, walking areas, fishing, and canoeing. Index Hill Park also contains a picnic area.

Three public ball fields and a soccer field are also available locally.

Pleasant Valley Country Club in West Liberty, offers a nine-hole private golf course, a swimming pool, tennis courts, and a clubhouse.

Morgan County's annual Sorghum Festival is held the last full weekend of September. The gala event includes over 100 arts and crafts exhibits, food booths, live music, a parade, and of course plenty of little brown jugs of sorghum molasses.

The northwestern portion of Morgan County is located within the Daniel Boone National Forest, which covers 640,000 acres of timberland in eastern Kentucky. It encompasses much of Kentucky's great beauty and provides a vacation paradise. There are scenic hiking trails, rivers and streams stocked with a variety of fish, hunting preserves, camping sites, and numerous other natural and historical attractions.

Cave Run Lake, constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, is located 19 miles northwest of West Liberty within the Daniel Boone National Forest. The lake area offers everything for the camper, the boatsman, the hunter, the fisherman, and "the lover of leisure".

Area (Within 50 miles)

Carter Caves State Resort Park
Grayson Lake State Park
Jenny Wiley State Resort Park
Morehead State University
Natural Bridge State Resort Park
Paintsville Lake State Park
Red River Gorge

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS

Recent

The City of West Liberty recently constructed a 575,000-gallon per day wastewater treatment facility and several new lines. Total cost of the project was approximately \$3.5 million.

Morgan County School System recently completed two building projects including the construction of a new middle school at a cost of \$4 million and construction of a new gymnasium at the high school, totaling \$1 million. In addition, the School System sponsors the annual Education Expo-Academic Olympics which provides opportunities for all students to participate in academic competition in a variety of subject areas.

MSU-Licking Valley Center, an extension campus of Morehead State University, recently opened its doors. Program offerings include a service for literacy, family literacy, and G.E.D. College courses are offered which satisfy basic requirements and are transferable to a four-year state-supported institution.

West Liberty has an active program which promotes and encourages efforts to improve the appearance of the Main Street area. Recent projects include the construction of new sidewalks, storefront refurbishments, installation of new benches, and general aesthetic improvements.

Morgan County Appalachian Regional Hospital recently opened a new surgical unit in the hospital.

Morgan County Health Department recently opened a new facility in West Liberty.

The City of West Liberty recently constructed a new city municipal building at a cost of \$550,000.

Under Way

A project to widen and upgrade Kentucky Highway 519 north to Morehead is under way at West Liberty. This will provide excellent highway access to I-64.

Planned

The West Liberty Water Works plans to redesign its raw water intake system which would allow the system to take in and treat raw water from Cave Run Lake rather than its current raw water supply, the Licking River. This would increase the raw water capacity and its overall quality. The \$3 million project is scheduled for completion by Spring 1993.