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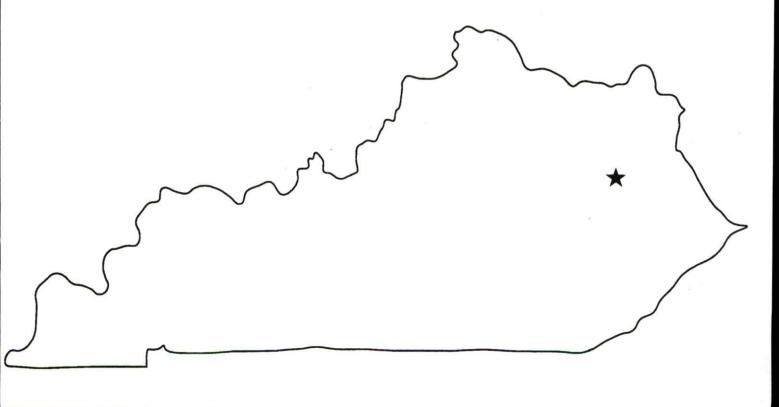
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# **Resources For Economic Development**

West Liberty



Prepared by The Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development Division of Research in cooperation with Morgan County Government

# 1996

Division Director - Rene' True; program manager - Keith Roberts; research - Debbie Kimbrough; clerical - Wanda Sharp; graphics - Robert Owens. Cost of printing paid from state funds.

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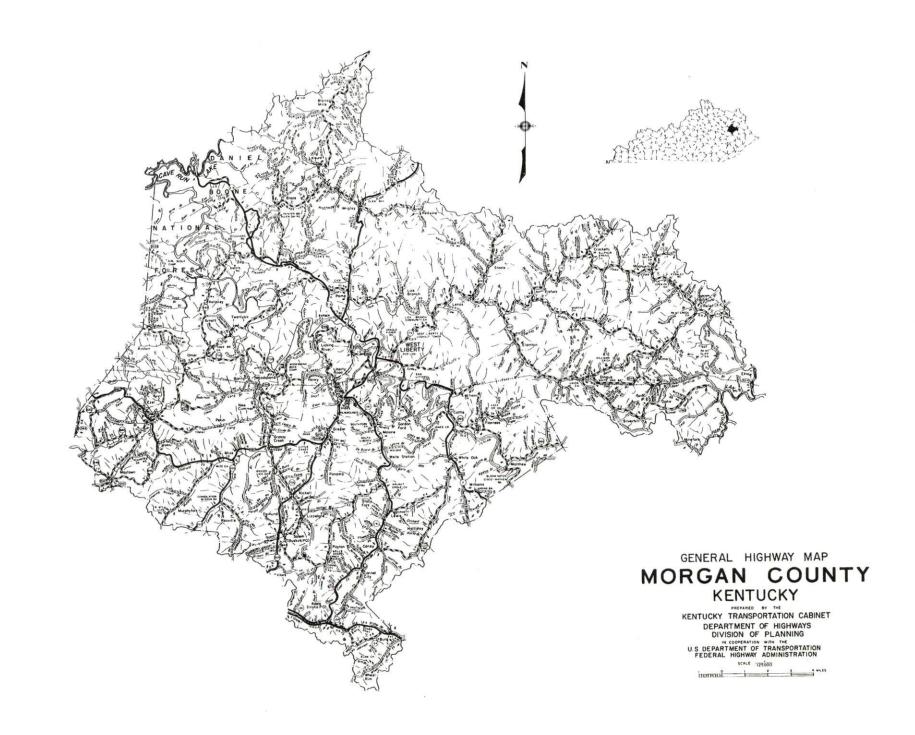
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#### WEST LIBERTY, KENTUCKY - A RESOURCE PROFILE

West Liberty, the county seat of Morgan County, is located in the Licking Valley area of Kentucky. The city had an estimated 1994 population of 3,034. West Liberty is located 71 miles southwest of Huntington, West Virginia; 93 miles east of Lexington, Kentucky; 119 miles southeast of Cincinnati, Ohio; and 256 miles north of Knoxville, Tennessee.

Morgan County covers a land area of 381 square miles in the Eastern Kentucky Coal Field Region. Cave Run Lake and Daniel Boone National Forest occupy the northwestern portion of the county. Morgan County had an estimated 1994 population of 13,274.

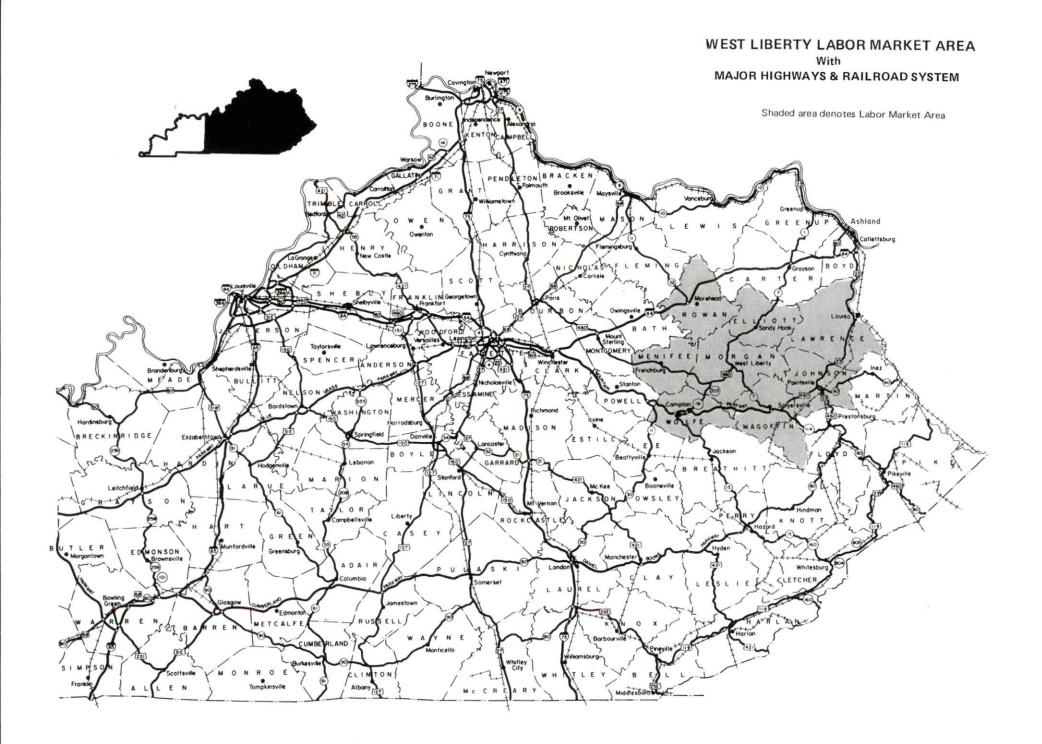
**The Economic Framework** - The total number of Morgan County residents employed in 1995 averaged 4,027. Manufacturing firms in the county reported 366 employees; wholesale and retail trade provided 467 jobs; 424 people were employed in service occupations; state and local government accounted for 1,048 employees; and contract construction firms provided 93 jobs.

**Labor Supply** - There is a current estimated labor supply of 15,815 persons available for industrial jobs in the labor market area. In addition, from 1997 through 2001, 7,763 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, 26 miles northwest of the city. Three 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** - American Electric Power 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. Nine other institutions of higher learning are located with 75 miles of West Liberty. Vocational training is provided by the Morgan County Area Technology Center in West Liberty and by Kentucky Tech-Rowan Campus, located 20 miles northwest in Morehead, Kentucky.



# 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

	1994*	<u>1990</u>	<u>1980</u>	1970
Labor Market Area	106,316	100,374	101,943	81,389
West Liberty	3,034	1,887	1,381	1,387
Morgan County	13,274	11,648	12,103	10,019

\*Population estimates.

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

#### POPULATION PROJECTIONS

	2000	2010	2020
Labor Market Area	114,207	123,291	129,663
Morgan County	14,220	15,294	16,106

Note: Population projections are from High Growth Series forecast.

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

#### ESTIMATED LABOR SUPPLY

		Current		Future
	Total	Unemployed	Not in Labor Force	Becoming 18 years of age 1997 thru 2001
Labor Market Area* Morgan County	15,815 2,469	3,597 441	12,218 2,028	7,763 930

\* Additional workers may be drawn from other nearby counties.

**Note:** Unemployed - persons unemployed and actively seeking work: 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). Underemployed persons (employed only 14 to 26 weeks during the year) are no longer included in labor surplus estimates.

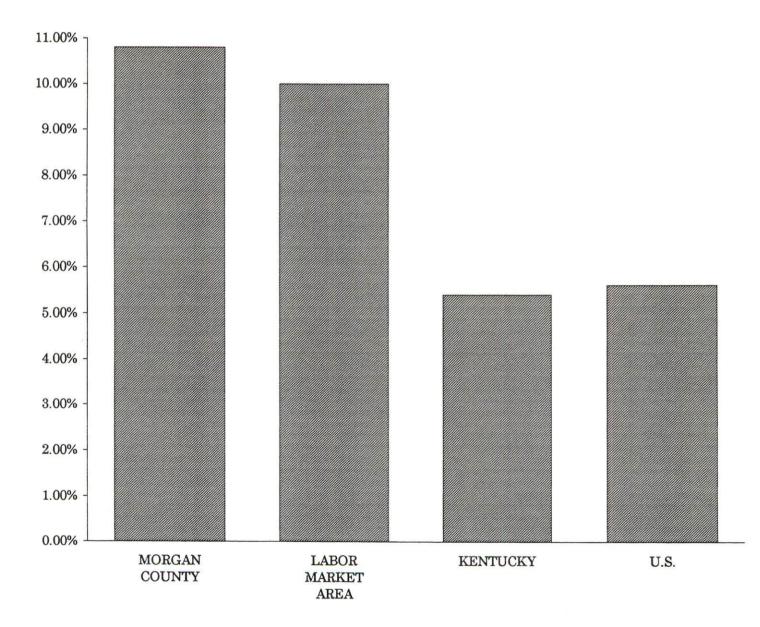
**Sources:** Kentucky Cabinet for Human Resources, <u>Kentucky Labor Surplus Estimates by County, 1994</u>. Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development, <u>Future Labor Supply Becoming 18 Years of Age, 1997 thru</u> 2001.

	Morgan County	Labor Market Area
Civilian Labor Force	4,516	42,541
Employment	4,027	38,256
Unemployment	489	4,285
Rate of Unemployment (%)	10.8	10.0

# LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS OF RESIDENTS, 1995

Source: Kentucky Workforce Development Cabinet, Kentucky Labor Force Estimates, Annual Averages 1995.

# UNEMPLOYMENT RATES 1995



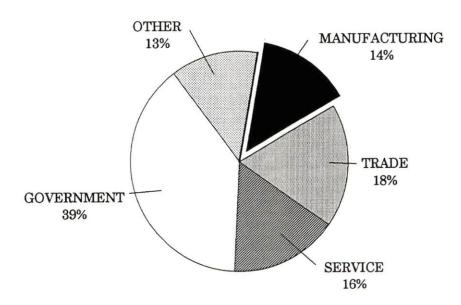
SELECTED COMPONENTS OF NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT
BY PLACE OF WORK, 1995

	Morgan County	Labor Market Area
All Industries (total)	2,664	24,476
Manufacturing	366	2,448
Wholesale & Retail Trade	467	6,477
Services	424	4,544
State/Local Government	1,048	7,009
Contract Construction	93	1,008

Note: Excludes domestic workers, railway workers, certain nonprofit corporations, majority of federal government workers, and self-employed workers.

Source: Kentucky Workforce Development Cabinet, <u>Average Monthly Workers Covered by Kentucky</u> Unemployment Insurance Law, 1995.

## MORGAN COUNTY

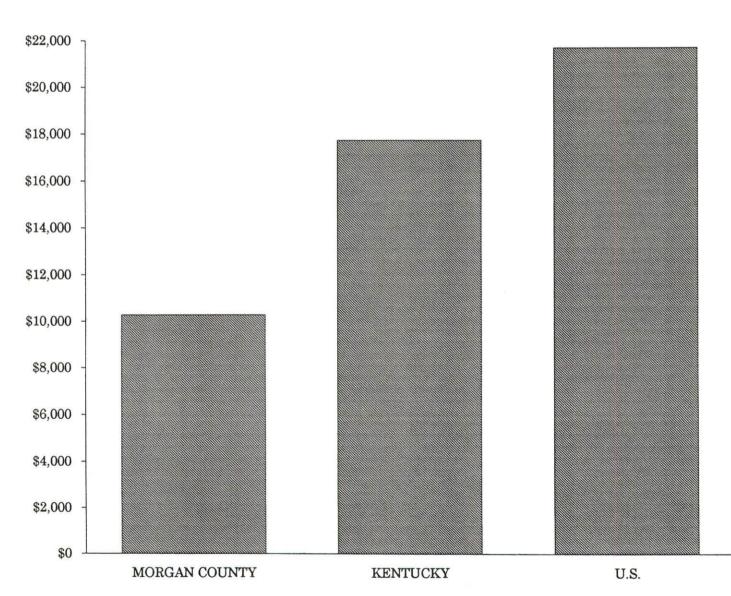


# PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME

Area	1990	1994	Percent Change
Morgan County	\$9,243	\$10,284	11.3
Labor Market Area Range	\$8,175 - \$11,599	\$10,079 - \$13,953	
Kentucky	\$14,747	\$17,721	20.2
U.S.	\$18,666	\$21,696	16.2

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System.

# PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME 1994



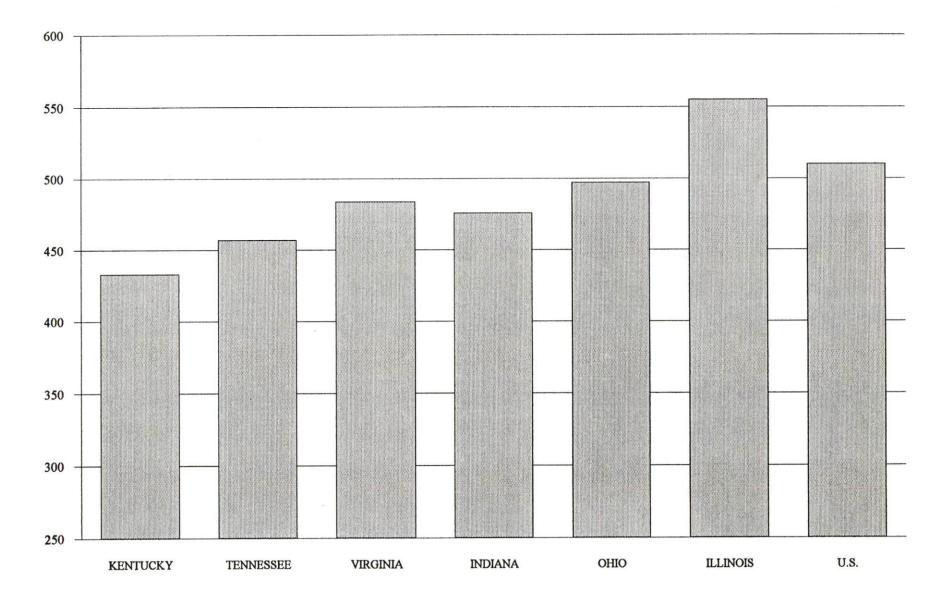
Morgan County is served by the Morehead local office of the Kentucky Department for Employment Services. The focus of the following data is on job placements made by the Morehead local office and may therefore be used as an indicator of the wages which employers in the area pay new employees. During the twelve months which ended on June 30, 1995, the local employment office filled 2,121 job openings in various occupational categories. The average hourly wage for selected occupational categories were:

NUMBER OF PLACEMENTS	AVERAGE <u>WAGE(\$)</u>
2,121	4.82 4.47
45	4.54
512 11	4.45 5.37
107	5.91 4.87
821	4.81
92 31	5.00 5.26
92 3	5.87 4.92
	PLACEMENTS 2,121 304 45 512 11 107 78 821 92 31

The Morehead local office also serves Bath, Menifee, Montgomery, and Rowan Counties. The above occupational categories are taken from the <u>Dictionary of Occupational Titles</u> 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 - 1994



#### AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGES BY INDUSTRY BY PLACE OF WORK, 1994\*

	Morgan	Kentucky		
	County	(Statewide)	Tennessee	Virginia
A 11 T I I I I	6242.01	¢ 122 15	£457.00	£404.00
All Industries	\$343.91	\$432.45	\$457.00	\$484.00
Mining & Quarrying	N/A	724.79	638.00	721.00
Contract Construction	333.47	457.02	485.00	476.00
Manufacturing	284.74	560.04	540.00	565.00
Transportation,				
Communications &				
Public Utilities	572.30	573.31	588.00	673.00
Wholesale & Retail Trade	259.91	297.57	N/A	N/A
Finance, Insurance &				
Real Estate	394.47	521.15	585.00	609.00
Services	347.32	385.62	434.00	501.00
State/Local Government	366.93	441.53	N/A	N/A
	Indiana	Ohio	Illinois	<u>U. S.</u>
All Industries	\$476.00	\$497.00	\$555.00	\$510.00
Mining & Quarrying	771.00	682.00	815.00	839.00
Contract Construction	538.00	549.00	681.00	544.00
Manufacturing	653.00	701.00	692.00	645.00
Transportation.				
Communications &				
Public Utilities	581.00	619.00	694.00	658.00
Wholesale & Retail Trade	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Finance, Insurance &	1.25% (1.12%) (1.12%)			
Real Estate	557.00	572.00	764.00	693.00
Services	400.00	433.00	501.00	483.00
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.

Sources: Kentucky Workforce Development Cabinet, <u>Average Weekly Wages of Workers Covered by</u> <u>Kentucky Unemployment Insurance Law, 1994</u>. U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Wages, <u>Annual Averages, 1994</u>, November 1995.

#### EXISTING INDUSTRY

#### MORGAN COUNTY MANUFACTURING FIRMS, THEIR PRODUCTS AND EMPLOYMENT

Firm (Establishment date)	Product	1996 Average Employment
Crockett		
Rod and Staff Publishing Company (1960)	Publishing/printing	70
Ezel		
Lawson Pallet & Skids (1988)	Pallets and skids	5
Mize		
J.A. Oldfield & Son, Inc. (1979)	Fertilizer	8
West Liberty		
Continental Metal Speciality (1995)	Electronic equipment assembly	110
Courier Publishing Company (1910)	Offset printing, newspaper	12
Frederick & May Lumber &	Dimension stock lumber, rough	65
Supply Company (1951) Lion Apparel, Inc. (1984)	lumber, fencing boards Industrial rain wear, firemen	121
Wells Ready Mix Concrete, Inc. (1958)	bunker gear, safety clothing Ready-mixed concrete	48
Wolfe County		
Whiting Manufacturing Company, Inc. (1990)*	Comforters, pillow shams, dust ruffles	190

\*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; Morgan County Government.

# RECENT INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Continental Metal Speciality began operations in 1995. Employment is expected to reach 150 by the end of 1996 with a \$2.0 million investment. Wells Ready Mix Concrete announced plans in 1995 for a \$630,000 expansion that will create four additional jobs.

Morgan County government is in the very early stage of developing a multi-county industrial site with Menifee and Rowan Counties.

# LABOR ORGANIZATIONS IN MANUFACTURING FIRMS

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

Types of Services	Location	Mileage from West Liberty
Custom Plastics Producers	Flemingsburg, Kentucky	50
Electric Motor Repair	Morehead, Kentucky	23
Heat Treating Facilities	Lexington, Kentucky	93
Industrial Waste Removal	Prestonsburg, Kentucky	45
Machine Shops, Tool & Die	Morehead, Kentucky Frenchburg, Kentucky	23 29
Metal Castings	Cynthiana, Kentucky	98
Metal Finishers	Frenchburg, Kentucky	29
Metal Service Centers	Morehead, Kentucky	23
Millwrights & Riggers	Lexington, Kentucky	93

## SELECTED INDUSTRIAL SERVICES

Source: Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development, Division of Research.

#### 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 (60,000-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 highway corridor, is accessible via Kentucky Highway 519, 26 miles northwest of West Liberty.

Planning is under way for a project to widen and upgrade Kentucky Highway 59 from West Liberty to the Kentucky Highway 7 junction.

City	Highway Miles	City	Highway Miles
City	Wines	City	whies
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	119	New York, NY	670
Cleveland, OH	364	Pittsburgh, PA	310
Detroit, MI	377	St. Louis, MO	418
Knoxville, TN	256		

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

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

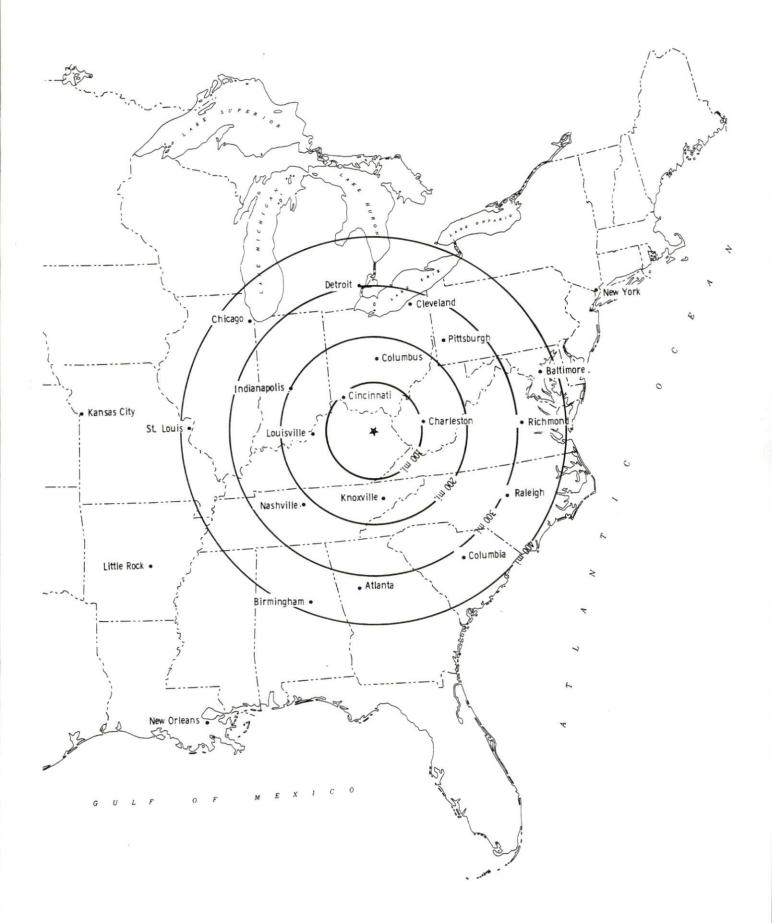
Sources: Rand McNally Standard Highway Mileage Guide, 1990. Official Kentucky Mileage Map, 1988.

#### **Truck Service**

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

Source: American Motor Carrier Directory, Spring 1996.

# Selected Market Centers



CSX Transportation provides the nearest main line rail service at Paintsville, Kentucky, 41 miles southeast. The nearest intermodal facilities are provided by Norfolk Southern Corporation 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: Runways: Length: Traffic	West Liberty-Morgan County Airport West Liberty One paved 2,400 feet
Control:	Wind sock
Lighting:	None
Services:	Hangar, tie-down
Air Freight Service:	Chartered air freight anning must be arranged
Service.	Chartered air freight service must be arranged
	Nearest Scheduled Commercial Airline Service
	Tri-State Airport (Milton J. Ferguson Field)
Location:	3 miles southwest of Huntington, West Virginia; 68 miles northeast of West Liberty
Air Service:	C.C. Air, Comair, USAir
Daily Arrivals	
& Departures:	48
	Phus Grass Airmort
Location:	Blue Grass Airport 4 miles west of Lexington, Kentucky:
Location.	97 miles west of Lexington, Kennicky, 97 miles west of West Liberty
Air Service:	American Eagle, ASA, Comair, Delta,
	Northwest Airlink, TW Express,
	United Express, USAir, USAir Express
Daily Arrivals	110
& Departures:	110

#### Rail

#### Nearest International Airport

Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport

American Eagle, Comair, Continental Express, Delta.

MarkAir, Northwest Airlink, TWA, United, USAir,

8 miles southwest of Covington, Kentucky:

124 miles northwest of West Liberty

Location:

Air Service:

Daily Arrivals & Departures:

900

USAir Express

#### UTILITIES

#### Electricity

Company serving most of West Liberty and a small portion of southern Morgan County -American Electric Power

Source of power - American Electric Power For industrial rates contact:

> Economic Development Manager American Electric Power 1701 Central Avenue P.O. Box 1428 Ashland, Kentucky 41105-1428 (606) 327-1244 Fax (606) 327-1246

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 For industrial rates contact:

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

> > and/or

Licking Valley Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation P.O. Box 605 West Liberty, Kentucky 41472 (606) 743-3179 or (800) 554-5441

#### **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-	1,080,000 gallons per day
Average daily consumption -	767,475 gallons
Peak daily consumption -	962,400 gallons
Storage capacity -	1,250,000 gallons
Water pressure -	30 psi to 180 psi

West Liberty Water Works will complete a \$2.5 million project in late 1996 which will consist of a new water line to Cave Run Lake which will be a new source of water for the area.

Company serving rural Morgan County -	Morgan County Water District
	450 Preston Street
	West Liberty, Kentucky 41472
	(606) 743-1204

Source -	Licking River	
Average daily consumption -	71,839 gallons per day	
Peak daily consumption -	85,000 gallons	
Storage capacity -	190,000 gallons	
Water pressure -	60 psi to 180 psi	

A \$750,000 project is under way to build new water lines. Preliminary plans are under way to construct a new treatment plant that may serve both water companies.

# Sewerage

Company serving West Liberty -	West Liberty Wastewater Treatment Plant 600 Well's Hill Lane West Liberty, Kentucky 41472 (606) 743-4129
Design capacity -	575,000 gallons per day
Average daily flow -	250,000 gallons
Type of treatment -	Secondary
Treated effluent discharged into -	Licking River

# **Morgan County**

#### Temperature

Normal (30-year record)	54.90 degrees
Average annual 1994	55.80 degrees
Record highest, July 1988 (34-year record)	102.00 degrees
Record lowest, January 1994 (34-year record)	-21.00 degrees
Normal heating degree days (30-year record)	4,665
(Heating degree day totals are the sums of	
negative departures of average daily	
temperatures from 65 degrees F.)	
Precipitation	
Normal (30-year record)	41.30 inches
Mean annual snowfall (30-year record)	25.90 inches
Total precipitation 1994	45.83 inches
Mean number days precipitation (.01 inch or more)	
(33-year record)	139.70
Mean number days thunderstorms (32-year record)	41.30
Prevailing winds	N/A

Relative Humidity (33-year record)

l a.m.	78 percent * (32-year record)
7 a.m.	83 percent
l p.m.	58 percent
7 p.m.	61 percent

**Source:** U.S. Department of Commerce, Environmental Science Services Administration, <u>Climatological</u> <u>Data</u>, 1994. Station of record: Huntington, West Virginia.

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT

#### Structure

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, but West Liberty is in the process of developing a City of West Liberty Planning and Zoning Commission.

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 \$100 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. Accounts receivable are taxed at 85% of face value.

Selected Classes of Property	1995 <u>State Rate</u>	Local Taxation Permitted
Real Estate	\$0.167	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

## STATE PROPERTY TAX RATES PER \$100 VALUATION

#### LOCAL PROPERTY TAX RATES PER \$100 VALUATION, 1995

Taxing Jurisdiction	Real Estate	Finished Goods & Tangibles	Motor Vehicles
Morgan County	\$0.2550	\$0.2756	\$0.2968
School Districts: Morgan County	0.4010	0.4010	0.4520
Cities: West Liberty	0.1109	0.1600	0.1600

**EDUCATION** 

## **Public Schools**

		Morgan County
Total Enrollment (Fall, 1994)		2,414
Pupil-Teacher Ratio (1993-94)		15.1-1
Percent High School Graduates to College (1993-94)		48.1
Expenditures Per Pupil (1993-94)		\$4,091.26
Nonpublic Schools		
School	Enrollment	Grades
Faith Hills School (Crockett)	38	1-9

# Area Colleges and Universities

Name	Location (Miles distant)	Enrollment (Fall, 1995)
Tume	7	
MSU-Licking Valley Center	West Liberty, Kentucky	550
Morehead State University	Morehead, Kentucky (23)	8,454
Kentucky Christian College	Grayson, Kentucky (42)	573
Lees College	Jackson, Kentucky (44)	498
Prestonsburg Community College	Prestonsburg, Kentucky (45)	2,798
Ashland Community College	Ashland, Kentucky (65)	2,560
Ohio University (Ironton Campus)	Ironton, Ohio (69)	2,358
Marshall University	Huntington, West Virginia (71)	13,093
Pikeville College	Pikeville, Kentucky (72)	841
Alice Lloyd College	Pippa Passes, Kentucky (72)	525

# **MSU-Licking Valley Center**

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MSU-Licking Valley Center, an extension campus of Morehead State University, opened in 1987. The Center serves adults with classes and services from literacy level through ABE/GED instruction to undergraduate and graduate college classes. College course offerings satisfy basic requirements and are transferable to a four-year state-supported institution.

# VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL TRAINING

Kentucky Tech schools are operated by the Cabinet for Workforce Development and provide secondary (Sec) and postsecondary (P/S) vocational-technical training.

Kentucky Tech Schools	Location (Mileage from West Liberty)	Number of Program <u>Offerings</u>	Cumulative Enrollment 1994-1995	Approximate Number Completing Long-Term Programs <u>Annually</u>
Morgan County Area Technlogy Center	West Liberty	4	<u>Sec</u> 132	21
Kentucky Tech-Rowan Campus	Morehead (23)	12	<u>Sec</u> <u>P/S</u> 212 285	84

#### **Customized Training**

The Kentucky Tech system, through its Training and Development Coordinators, will provide technical assistance and will identify and develop low-cost customized training programs and services for established and prospective businesses. Businesses needing customized training should contact a Training and Development Coordinator located at Kentucky Tech-Rowan Campus (606) 783-1538.

#### Assessment Services

Kentucky Tech Career Connections offers to business, education, and government agencies customized assessment in career inventories, interest inventories, pre-hire assessment, psychomotor skills, and academic potential. A Career Connections Assessment Center is located at the Kentucky Tech-Rowan Campus (606) 783-1538.

#### Adult Education Services

Adult education is available to adults who want to develop new skills, improve basic skills, or earn a high school equivalency diploma. In West Liberty, adult education and literacy programs are provided through the MSU-Licking Valley Center and the Kentucky Educational Development Corporation.

#### Tech Prep

Tech Prep is a combined secondary and postsecondary program of studies that leads to an associate degree or diploma in a vocational-technical field. In West Liberty the Morgan County Area Technology Center offers tech-prep programs in auto body repair, drafting, health services, and welding technologies.

# 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 a major 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.

#### **OTHER LOCAL FACILITIES**

#### **Local Medical Personnel**

Physicians - 12 Dentists - 5

#### Hospitals

General Hospital	Location	Beds
Morgan County Appalachian Regional Hospital	West Liberty	45

Medical staff - nine active staff physicians, 47 registered nurses (including home health), nine licensed practical nurses

#### **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

#### **Local Radio Station**

WLKS AM/FM

#### RECREATION

West Liberty and Morgan County offer several public recreation opportunities for the entire family. Kiwanis Playground and Park features a swimming pool, five 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.

The former Morgan County High School building in West Liberty has been renovated for recreational and community use. The new community center opened in late 1995 and houses the Arts and Recreation Commission and Morgan County Government. The Center offers a gym, playgrounds, and meeting rooms.

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 Patoker Branch Campground, located in Morgan County on the upper gorge of Paintsville Lake, offers guided canoe rentals, camping, a boat dock, fishing, and is a nature lovers haven. Magnificent "cliffs of paint" line the shore of the gorge and were heavily "painted" by the many Indian tribes that once lived there.

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 has 8,270 surface acres and the area offers everything for the camper, boatsman, hiker, hunter, 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 Area Yatesville Lake State Park