

2010 LEE COUNTY PROFILE



POPULATION

Total County Population:

2000	23,589
1990	24,496
1980	25,956
1970	20,321

Incorporated Towns:

Jonesville	995
Pennington Gap	1,781
St. Charles	159

Population Projections:

2010:	23,376
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Population Age Breakdown (2000)

0-17	5,378
18-24	1,887
25-44	6,487
45-64	6,204
65+	3,633
Median Age	39.7

County Area (Square Miles): 438
 Population Density (Per Sq. Mile): .56

CLIMATE

Average January Temperature--	-34°
Average July Temperature--	73°
Average Annual Rainfall	51.75"
Average Annual Snowfall	20.80"

Winter and spring winds are westerly while summer and fall winds are predominantly easterly.

Lee County is considered an attainment area for all national air quality standards

EMPLOYMENT

Labor Force (April 2010):

County Civilian Labor Force: .10,035
Unemployment Rate7.5%
Labor Force of Surrounding Counties68,320

Employment by Industry Sector (Fourth quarter 2009):

Natural Resources & Mining	. . . . . 283
Construction	. . . . . 423
Manufacturing	. . . . . 172
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	. . . 1,101
Financial Activities	. . . . . 166
Professional & Business Services	. 433
Education & Health Services	. . . 1,723
Leisure & Hospitality	. . . . . 351
Other Services	. . . . . 80
Public Administration	. . . . . 589
Information	. . . . . 35
Total	. . . . . 5,356

COUNTY TAXES

	Assessment Ratio	Nominal Tax Rate per \$100 of Assessed Valuation
Real Estate	67.2%	\$0.65
Machinery & Tools		
Year 1	90%	\$1.41
Personal Property	90%	\$1.41
Merchants' Capital Tax	30%	1.41/\$100

Utility Taxes:

Electric-- 15% on first \$15.00
 Gas—15% on first \$15.00

***Source: Virginia Guide to Local Taxes on Business (2008-09).**

UTILITIES

Serving the Industrial Parks:

Water
 Woodway Water Authority
 Capacity – 2MGD
 Rate - \$16/1,000 gallons
 Lee County PSA (Constitutional Oaks Indust. Park – 400,000 gpd)

Sewer
 Lee County PSA
 Town of Pennington .6MGD current usage .448 MGD
 Hickory Flats .8MGD capacity using .261 MGD
 Rose Hill .06MGD capacity and currently using .02MGD
 Rate - \$50.00/5,000 gallons
 \$8.00/1,000Coverage

Electric
 Powell Valley Electric Co-op
 Old Dominion Power

Gas
 Seminole Gas

Telephone
 Verizon Communications, Inc.

Broadband
 Sunset Digital and Verizon
 Both conventional and fiber-optic cable facilities are available.

MAJOR EMPLOYERS

DeRoyal Industries	125
KCG Call Center	198

EDUCATION

Schools 2009 Enrollment

11 Elementary and Middle	2,668
2 High Schools	983

The Lee County School System is fully accredited by the Southern Assoc. of Schools and Colleges. It offers programs for gifted students and special education for handicapped students.

Vocational/Technical School

Vocational/technical training is offered at the Lee County Career & Technical Center located in Ben Hur. Courses are offered in welding, sheetmetal work, electronics, carpentry, mechanics, nursing, food services, sewing, and cosmetology.

Higher Education

University of Virginia's College at Wise is a four-year liberal arts college. UVA offers the opportunity to pursue higher education in thirteen disciplines.

Mountain Empire Community College, located in Big Stone Gap, Virginia, offers two-year degree programs in technical and occupational subjects, and the first two years of college level subjects in the arts and sciences. Day and evening classes are available on and off campus. Both colleges contract with new and existing industry to train employees and have personnel on staff to work with business and industry. Lincoln Memorial University offers the opportunity to pursue higher education to Lee County residents also. A medical school is located nearby in Harrogate, TN and also the Southeast Community College in Middlesboro, KY.

Also conveniently located from Lee County:

UVA's College at Wise, Wise, VA
Emory & Henry College, Emory, VA
VA Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, VA
Radford University, Radford, VA
King College, Bristol, TN
Virginia Intermont College, Bristol, VA
East TN State Univ., Johnson City, TN
Univ. Of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN

QUALITY OF LIFE

Health Care

– County residents are served by the 80-bed Lee Regional Medical Center and six community clinics. There are 19 physicians and 5 dentists.

Hotels/Meeting Rooms

– There are two hotels located within the county. Located nearby is the Comfort Inn in Big Stone Gap, VA, and the Holiday Inn Express in Middlesboro, KY. There are two hotels in the county, Jonesville Motor Lodge and the Convenient Inn in Pennington Gap, VA.

Libraries

– There are public libraries located in Pennington Gap and Rose Hill.

Recreation

– Outdoor recreation opportunities abound at the Wilderness Road State Park, Cumberland National Historical Park, the Jefferson National Forest and Cave Springs Recreation Area, and Lake Keokee.

– Cedar Hill Country Club has an 18-hole golf course, swimming and tennis facilities. Monte Vista, a public facility, has a 9-hole golf course.

– Organized community recreational programs are available year round for the entire family.

– Area attractions include the Great Smokey Mountains, the TVA Lakes, the Southwest Virginia Museum, and the Barter Theater.

Religion

– More than 50 churches representing most major faiths are located in the county.

Shopping

- Pennington Gap is the shopping center for Lee County with several retail stores, major food chain establishments, and specialty stores.
- Wal-Mart Shopping Center

TRANSPORTATION

Highways

Lee County is served by two primary highways - US 58 and US 421.

Interstates

I-26	..... 30 Miles
I-81	..... 50 Miles
I-75	..... 65 Miles

Air

Commercial Air Service

Tri-Cities Regional Airport in Blountville, TN, is approximately 65 miles from Lee County with services provided by US Air, Delta/Atlantic Southeast Airlines (ASA), Northwest Airlink and Allegiant Air.

General Aviation Service

Lee County Airport in Jonesville is equipped with a 5,000 ft. runway, fuel maintenance and repair, lighting, hangar and tiedown areas.

Middlesboro Bell County Airport in Middlesboro, KY is equipped with a 3,650 ft. asphalt runway with taxiway and apron area. It offers self service fuel (24/7), two aviation certified mechanics, secure aircraft hangar storage, aviation weather services, flight instruction and courtesy car. (Proximity – 10 miles)

Railroads

CSX Transportation
Norfolk Southern

Trucking

More than thirty motor freight companies provide service in Lee County including Overnite, Yellow Freight, and Estes Express.

INDUSTRIAL PARKS

Lee County Industrial Park-10 acres available

Patriot Center-20 acres available

Constitutional Oaks Business Park—283 acres