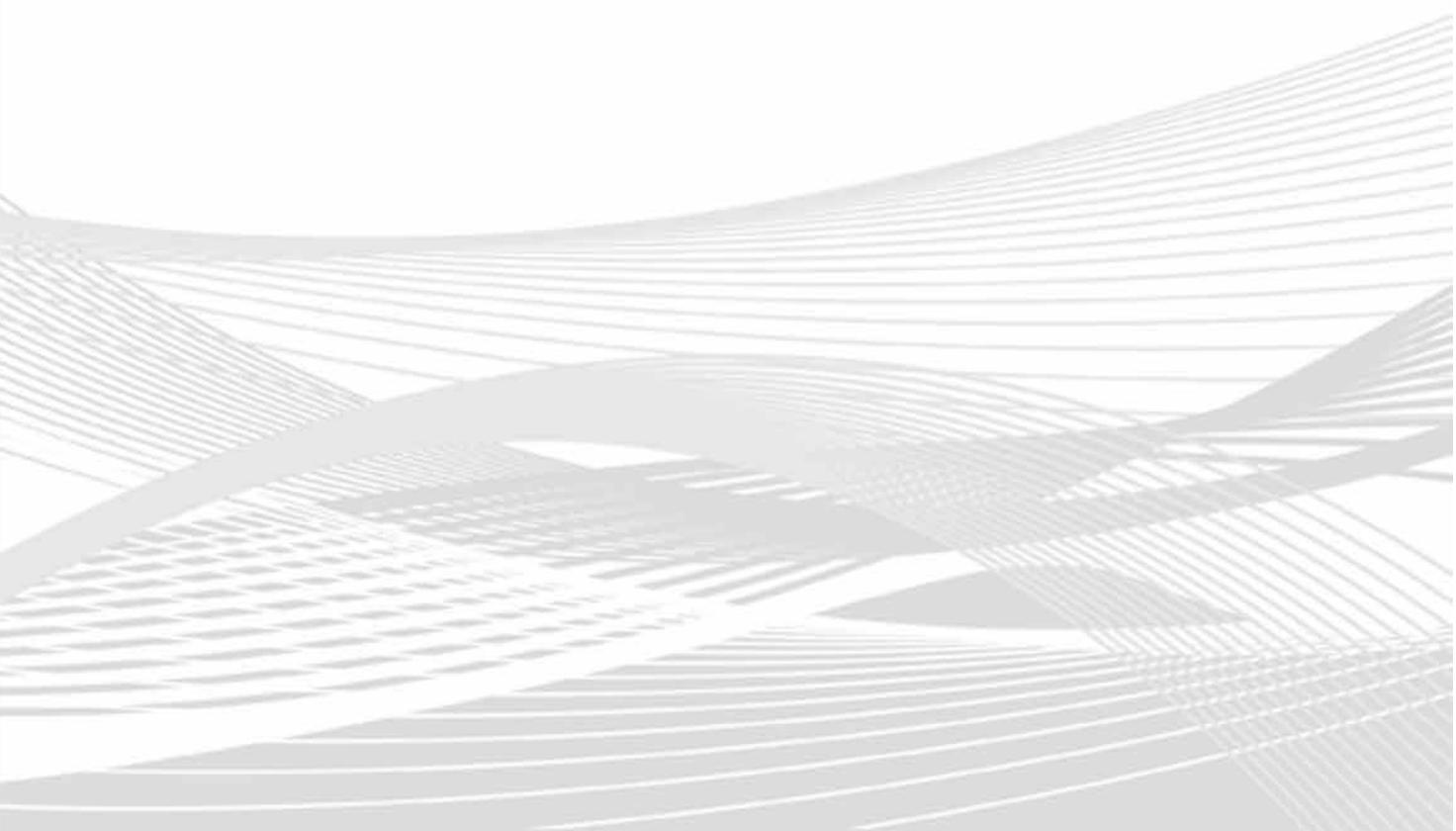


Community Profile

Smyth County, Virginia



Smyth County

Beyond Your Expectations!

Smyth County, located in southwestern Virginia, has direct Interstate and rail accessibility, proximity to major markets and ports, and convenience to urban amenities. The county has been recognized through the years as a business-ready, business-friendly location. Smyth County offers its residents a "small-town" quality of life with a variety of recreational and entertainment opportunities, but with easy access to larger, nearby places.



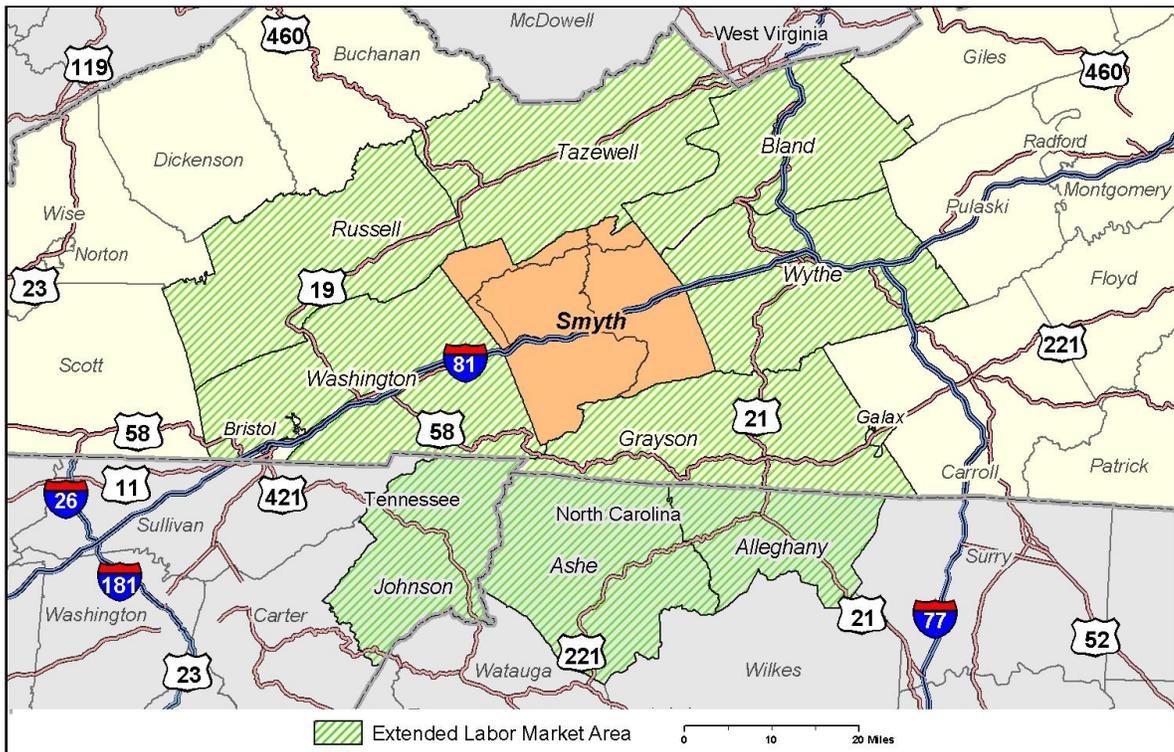
The County that will go Beyond Your Expectations!

Location

Smyth County is a rural county with great connections. Come and see why Smyth County goes Beyond Your Expectations!

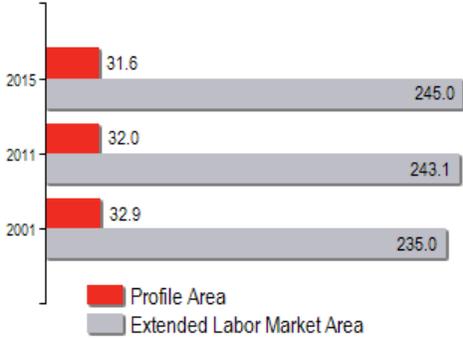
Smyth County is located in scenic southwestern Virginia within a quick 45-minute drive of the Tri-Cities Metropolitan Area of Bristol/Kingsport/Johnson City, Tennessee with almost 500,000 persons. Because of its geographic location in the Appalachian ridge and valley region, the county experiences four distinct and spectacularly beautiful seasons with moderate temperatures prevailing.

Roanoke is 100 miles north; Richmond, the state capital, is 275 miles northeast; and Washington, D.C. is 343 miles northeast of the county. Interstate 81, which bisects the county, provides easy access to I-77, I-26, and I-64.

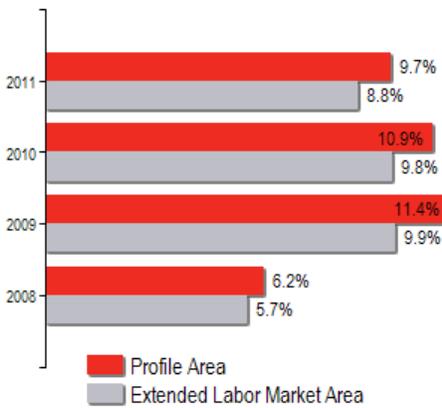


Labor Market Data

Population in Thousands



Unemployment Rates



Population

Gender Distribution (2011)	Male	Female
Smyth County	48.8%	51.2%

Race/Ethnicity (2011)

Classification	Profile Area	Labor Area
White	30,854	233,929
Black	710	5,330
Two or More	309	2,139
Asian	100	1,051
American Indian or Alaska Native	50	521
Pacific Islander	6	80
Hispanic (may be of any race)	541	5,410

Median Age (2011)	44 years	
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Civilian Labor Force 2011

Smyth County	15,076
Surrounding Labor Area	116,733
Total	131,809

Labor Force Participation 2000 Census

Smyth County	58.4%
Surrounding Labor Area	55.5%

Unemployment

Unemployment Rate (March 2012)	
Smyth County	8.8%
Labor Area	7.6%
Statewide	5.7%

Unemployed (2011)	
Smyth County	1,467
Labor Area	10,297
Total	11,764

Underemployed (4th Quarter 2011)	
Smyth County	1,691
Labor Area	13,025
Total	14,716

Labor Market Data

"Our employees are the reason that Merillat's Atkins door panel plants won the Shingo Prize and are recognized among the nation's best and brightest for their lean manufacturing processes." Rick Lovorn, former Director of Marketing, Masco Builder Cabinet Group

Commuting Patterns -- 2000 Census		
Live and work in Smyth County:	11,703	65.1%
Total In-Commuters:	3,293	18.3%
Total Out-Commuters:	2,978	16.6%
Net In-Commuters:	315	
In-Commuters From:		
Washington Co. VA	1,576	47.9%
Wythe Co. VA	832	25.3%
Grayson Co. VA	281	8.5%
Tazewell Co. VA	171	5.2%
Sullivan Co. TN	90	2.7%
Out-Commuters To:		
Washington Co. VA	1,120	37.6%
Wythe Co. VA	774	26.0%
Sullivan Co. TN	199	6.7%
Bristol City VA	161	5.4%
Pulaski Co. VA	62	2.1%

Commute Time -- 2000 Census		
Worked from home	248	1.7%
Under 15 minutes	4,994	34.6%
15-29 minutes	5,458	37.8%
30-59 minutes	3,180	22.0%
Over 60 minutes	801	5.5%

Additional Labor Resources	
High School Graduates Not Continuing (2010-2011)	68
Two-Year College Graduates (Spring 2011)	1,444
Two-Year College Enrollees (Fall 2011)	6,615
Other College and University Graduates (Spring 2011)	187
Total	8,314

Labor Market Data

"Our employees have an attitude about getting things done. It's not really a formal philosophy on manufacturing, but it's coming to work, no high absenteeism, low turnover, and a willingness to take responsibility for their part of the manufacturing process."
 Larry Davis, Former President, CEO, Royal Moldings Limited.

Career Readiness Certificate (CRC)

Regional CRC Recipients (01/01/2010-10/19/2010)	292
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Virginia's CRC assists employers by certifying that a recipient possesses core skills in applied math, reading for information, and locating information. The CRC certification is based on established Workeys® assessment tests. Virginia uses a three-tiered approach (bronze, silver, gold) to credentialing certificate holders that is based on the recipients level of development skills. (Numbers are regional, based on workforce investment area.)

Educational Attainment

On-Time Graduation Rate (Class of 2011)	83.6%
Percentage of Smyth County population age 25+ who are high school graduates	75.6%
Percentage of Smyth County population age 25+ who have earned a Bachelor's Degree or higher	14.6%

Labor Market Data

Smyth County has a strong manufacturing base which has shifted over the years from predominately apparel and furniture to a more diversified mix of transportation-related equipment, machinery components, and building products. There is also substantial employment in the service sector, primarily health care.

Employment by Sector* (4rd Qtr. 2011)		
Natural Resources and Mining	59	0.5%
Construction	515	4.4%
Trade	1,544	13.3%
Transportation and Utilities	157	1.3%
Manufacturing	3,426	29.4%
Information	70	0.6%
Financial	244	2.1%
Services	2,767	23.7%
Government	2,870	24.6%
Other	0	0
Total	11,652	100.0%

N.D. - Not Disclosed

*By Business Establishment

Employment by Occupation* (4th Qtr. 2011)		
Construction, Extraction & Maintenance	1,034	11.0%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	13	0.1%
Managerial, Professional & Related	2,189	23.3%
Production, Transportation & Material Moving	2,461	26.2%
Sales & Office	2,249	23.9%
Service	1,447	15.4%
Total	9,393	100%

*By Business Establishment

Labor Market Data

Approximately 3,000 persons in Smyth County commute outside the county for employment.

Major Employers

Manufacturing		
<i>Company</i>	<i>Product/Service</i>	<i>Estimated Employment</i>
American Wood Fibers	Animal bedding, wood flour, and wood fuel pellets	50 - 99
C&A Fabricating Inc.	Mining equipment	100 - 299
General Dynamics	Armament, detection, mobile shelter systems	300 - 599
General Shale Products Corporation	Bricks	50 - 99
Kennametal, Inc.	Mining/Agricultural equipment	100 - 299
Merillat Corporation	Cabinets and vanities	300 - 599
Royal Mouldings, Ltd.	Prefinished molding products	600 - 999
Scholle Corporation	Liquid packaging	100 - 299
Smyth Machine and Welding	Machining and tooling	50 - 99
Surewood Dimension	Dimension lumber	50 - 99
Titan Wheel Corporation of Virginia	Off-highway wheels & rims	50 - 99
TRW Automotive	Rack and pinion steering systems	300 - 599
Utility Trailer Manufacturing, Inc.	Refrigerated trailers	600 - 999
Woodgrain Millwork, Inc.	Door frames	100 - 299

NonManufacturing		
<i>Company</i>	<i>Product/Service</i>	<i>Estimated Employment</i>
Global Contact Services	Teleservices	100 - 299
H.S. Williams Company, Inc.	Industrial/Commercial Construction	50 - 99
Southwestern Virginia Mental Health Institute	Health care facility	300 - 599
TEDS	Data systems design	50 - 99
US Solutions	Teleservices	50 - 99
W-L Construction	Road construction	100 - 299

Labor Market Data

Closings, Reductions, Layoffs (1/2011 to date)

<i>Date</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Product/Service</i>	<i>Employees Affected</i>
1/1/2011	Closing	Wellborn Cabinet, Inc.	Manufactures wood cabinet components	26
10/1/2011	Closing	Global Contact Services	Call center, financial and insurance services	80

Union Activity (2/2007 - 2/2012)

Petitions filed for decertification	0
Petitions filed for representation	0
Petitions filed for raid	0
Elections won by union	0
Elections won by company	0

Labor Market Data

Estimated Earnings (May 2010)				
<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Median Wage</i>	<i>Mean Wage</i>	<i>Median Salary</i>	<i>Mean Salary</i>
Office Clerks, General	\$10.79	\$11.45	\$22,448.21	\$23,820.80
Customer Service Representatives	\$12.59	\$14.69	\$26,181.95	\$30,563.90
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	\$9.15	\$10.20	\$19,034.49	\$21,213.78
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	\$10.33	\$11.28	\$21,491.16	\$23,471.88
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$15.30	\$16.57	\$31,834.22	\$34,447.83
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	\$13.57	\$14.39	\$28,235.26	\$29,926.88
Team Assemblers	\$13.66	\$13.53	\$28,406.25	\$28,151.73
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	\$23.57	\$24.87	\$49,022.24	\$51,723.89
First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	\$18.40	\$20.13	\$38,273.20	\$41,862.68
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$14.44	\$14.95	\$30,030.54	\$31,100.46
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	\$19.53	\$21.34	\$40,633.61	\$44,396.63
General and Operations Managers	\$34.48	\$42.59	\$71,729.69	\$88,583.04
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	\$14.60	\$14.77	\$30,359.63	\$30,712.51
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	\$20.40	\$21.62	\$42,444.24	\$44,981.36
Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	\$13.23	\$13.83	\$27,513.41	\$28,751.67
Teacher Assistants	\$8.77	\$10.16	\$18,242.25	\$21,129.49
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	\$24.68	\$25.57	\$51,332.43	\$53,179.17
Tellers	\$11.26	\$11.58	\$23,419.49	\$24,093.09
Telemarketers	\$8.70	\$8.71	\$18,111.40	\$18,115.39
Receptionists and Information Clerks	\$10.57	\$10.83	\$21,977.80	\$22,535.58

Per Capita Personal Income (2010)

\$27,381

Median Family Income (FY 2010)

\$49,170

Education

Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center located in nearby Abingdon is a consortium of eight colleges and universities offering over 80 different degree programs.

Public School Enrollment (Fall 2011)		
<i>Level</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Enrollment</i>
Elementary	6	2,159
Combined	1	177
Middle	3	1,052
High School	3	1,422

Student Teacher Ratio (2010-2011)	
Elementary	10:1
Secondary	10:1

Per Pupil Expenditure (FY 2010)
\$9,780.00

On-Time Graduation Rate (Class of 2011)
83.6%

High School Graduates Continuing Education (2010-2011)
81.7%

Advanced Programs (2010-2011)	
Governor's Schools	
A. Linwood Holton Governor's School	
Southwest Virginia Governor's School For Science, Mathematics & Technology	
Students taking 1 or more Advanced Placement (AP) Courses	164
Students taking 1 or more AP Exams	147
Students taking 1 or more college courses	267

Education

High school graduates from the Smyth Career and Technology Center programs move immediately into the workplace or go to post-secondary training opportunities at the community colleges or elsewhere.

Workforce Development Facilities	
<i>Facility</i>	<i>Type</i>
Bristol Workforce Center	VEC Workforce Center
Galax Workforce Center	VEC Workforce Center
Giles County Partnership For Excellence	Satellite Center
Marion Workforce Center	VEC Workforce Center
People Incorporated Workforce Development	Satellite Center
Radford Workforce Center	VEC Workforce Center
Smyth Career & Technology Center	Career and Technical Center
Smyth County Education Center of Wytheville Community College	Career and Technical Center
Workforce Development Center - Christiansburg	Satellite Center
Workforce Development Center - Dublin	Satellite Center
Workforce Development Center - Floyd	Satellite Center
Wytheville Workforce Center	VEC Workforce Center

Higher Education Facilities — Fall 2011	
<i>Facility</i>	<i>Enrollment</i>
Wytheville Community College	3,792
Virginia Highlands Community College	2,823
Emory and Henry College	964
Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center	.
Virginia Tech - Southwest Virginia Center	.

. Enrollment figures are included in participating colleges and universities.

Transportation

Interstate 81 provides quick and convenient access to major markets and ports via I-77, I-26, and I-64.

Interstates	
Name	Distance
I-81	0.0 miles (0.0 km.)
I-77	14.4 miles (23.1 km.)
I-381	27.9 miles (44.9 km.)
I-26	45.9 miles (73.9 km.)

Note: Measured from border of locality/region.

Highways				
Highway 107	Highway 11	Highway 16	Highway 42	Highway 91

Note: 4-Lane US Highways located within locality/region.

Commercial Air Service		
<i>Tri-Cities Regional Airport, Blountville, TN -- 61.2 miles (98.5 km.)</i>		
Delta Connection	US Airways Express	Allegiant Air

Note: Within a 75-mile drive of the center of the locality.

Transportation

Tri-Cities Regional Airport is located within a quick drive from Marion and offers easy connections to Charlotte, Detroit, Cincinnati, Atlanta, and Memphis.

General Aviation Service

<i>Name</i>	<i>Runway Length</i>
Mountain Empire Airport, Marion	5,250 ft (1,600 m)

Freight Rail Service

Norfolk Southern Railway Company

Seaports

<i>Name</i>	<i>Distance</i>
Port of Virginia	356.0 miles (572.9 km)

Note: Driving distance from the center of the locality to Port of Virginia and any other seaports within 100 miles.

Other Ports of Entry

<i>Name</i>	<i>Distance</i>
New River Valley Airport (Virginia TradePort)	58.0 miles (93.3 km)
Tri Cities	61.2 miles (98.5 km)
Port of Washington - Dulles	317.9 miles (511.7 km)

Note: Driving distance from the center of the locality to Port of Washington - Dulles and any other port of entry within 100 miles.

Utilities

Appalachian Power serves the area offering affordable electric rates. High-speed telecommunications infrastructure is available in the county with multiple providers.

Utilities	
Electric	Appalachian Power
Natural Gas	Atmos Energy
Natural Gas	Virginia Natural Gas
Telecommunications	Comcast Business Communications
Telecommunications	Bristol Virginia Utilities
Telecommunications	CenturyLink
Water	Town of Chilhowie
Water	Town of Marion
Water	Town of Saltville
Water	Smyth County
Waste Water Treatment	Town of Chilhowie
Waste Water Treatment	Town of Marion
Waste Water Treatment	Town of Saltville
Waste Water Treatment	Smyth County/Marion Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility
Solid Waste Disposal	Smyth County Solid Waste Transfer Station

Financial Institutions

The Smyth County Industrial Development Authority has experience with industrial development bonds and with state and regional financial assistance programs.

Financial Institutions — 4th Qtr 2011 Assets	
<i>Bank</i>	<i>Assets (millions)</i>
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	\$1,161,490.0
SunTrust Bank	\$171,291.7
Branch Banking and Trust Company	\$168,867.6
The National Bank of Blacksburg	\$1,063.8
New Peoples Bank, Inc.	\$781.6
Highlands Union Bank	\$620.6
The Bank of Marion	\$348.9

Smyth County

Outstanding medical facilities serve the region, including the Smyth County Community Hospital located in Marion. The hospital's primary owner, Mountain States Heal Alliance, is proposing a new facility to be built by 2011.

Government

Smyth County has a County Administrator and a seven-member Board of Supervisors.

The county has a comprehensive plan, a subdivision ordinance, and a zoning ordinance.

Marion is the county seat. Other incorporated towns within the county are Chilhowie and Saltville.

Taxes

Localities in Virginia collect a 1% sales tax. They do not tax other items taxed at the State level.

Counties and cities in Virginia are separate taxing entities. Therefore, a company pays taxes to either a county or to a city.

If a company is located in a town, it pays town and county taxes except for utility taxes which are paid only to the town and the license tax which is paid only to the town unless town law permits the additional collection of a county tax.

Manufacturers pay real estate, machinery and tools, truck and automobile, utility, and sales taxes.

Nonmanufacturers pay real estate, tangible personal property, truck and automobile, utility, and sales taxes. They also may pay either a merchants' capital or a license tax.

[Manufacturer's Tax Profile \(Smyth\) pdf](#)

[Non-Manufacturer's Tax Profile \(Smyth\) pdf](#)

Smyth County

The Lifetime Wellness Center provides a full-service recreational and exercise facility including indoor swimming pool, racquetball courts, indoor track, full-size gym, group exercise studio, weight/strength training area, whirlpool, therapy pool and steam rooms. Personal training services are available.

Community Facilities

The Smyth County Community Hospital in Marion is a 176-bed not-for-profit primary care facility offering state of the art medical treatment. The hospital has a 24-hour emergency unit, an intensive and coronary care unit, a progressive care unit, a surgical unit and a radiology department. Medical services offered by the hospital include obstetrics and maternity care, a same day surgery program, a lifeline emergency response system for the elderly and various outpatient services. A new state-of-the-art hospital which will replace the current facility is now under construction in Marion and is slated for opening by 2012.

The Lifetime Wellness Center in Marion is a state of the art fitness center that meets the needs of individuals of all ages and backgrounds. The Center offers a full schedule of programs and classes, and contains numerous exercise machines, an indoor track, free weights, as well as a spacious all purpose basketball court.

Smyth County has two nursing home facilities. One, the Francis Marion Manor adjoins the Smyth County Community Hospital. This facility's nearness to the hospital is especially convenient for those residents who require medical testing or treatment. The other, Valley Health Care Center is a 120-bed facility located in Chilhowie. This facility offers intermediate and skilled care for their residents.

Smyth County

Smyth County has low real estate and machinery and tools tax rates; and a stable local government that is business-friendly.

Community Facilities (continued)

Mental health care services are also available in the county. Southwestern Virginia Mental Health Institute, located in Marion, provides psychiatric care, alcoholism treatment programs and residential treatment of the emotionally disturbed. The Mount Rogers Community Health and Mental Retardation Services Board provide additional services for adults and children with mental and physical disabilities.

There are 55 physicians and 15 dentists who practice in the county.

The Smyth-Bland Regional Library operates two branches and a bookmobile service in the county. The regional library circulates almost 78,000 volumes in Smyth County, including the main library in Marion and the Saltville branch. These libraries offer a wide selection of periodicals, videotapes, DVDs, records, and cassettes.

There are 126 places of worship representing all Protestant and Catholic faiths. A Jewish synagogue can be found 40 miles away in Bristol.

Four shopping centers with over a hundred retail outlets serve area residents. In addition to these establishments, numerous shopping opportunities are available in the Marion, Saltville and Chillhowie central business districts.

Smyth County

Various festivals, recreational facilities, and cultural attractions make Smyth County an excellent place to live.

Lifestyle

Numerous recreational opportunities are available to Smyth County residents and visitors. Hungry Mother State Park, the county's most popular attraction, offers a variety of outdoor activities. Visitors can swim, fish and boat on the 108-acre lake; camp at one of the 80 available sites; or rent one of the 20 cabins; view the spectacular trails on guided hikes or horseback; and learn about the park's wildlife and plant life and early settlers at educational programs held at the Visitors Center. Recent improvements at the park include and enlarged restaurant, year-round accommodations, and meeting space at the Henlock Haven Conference Center; and a lodge available for small group retreats.

Additional hiking, camping, picnicking, swimming, horseback riding and fishing, plus hunting opportunities are available in the Mount Rogers National Recreation Area.

The Davis Valley Winery and Vineyards offers residents award winning wines, and provides tours and wine tastings on a regular basis. An amphitheater is also located on the premises, where residents can enjoy several open-air music festivals that are scheduled throughout the year.

Several festivals and celebrations are held in the county in the summer and fall. The Independence Day Celebration in Marion is highlighted by a Chili Championship and Saltville hosts Salt-Making Week preceding the Labor Day Celebration. Other events include an apple festival in Chilhowie, an arts and crafts festival at Hungry Mother State Park, and a fair and horse show at Rich Valley.

The Historic Lincoln Theatre gives residents a chance to view spectacular performances and concerts, and regularly showcases productions from the Barter Theatre. The Theatre prides itself on supporting and highlighting the culture and folklore of the Appalachians and its people, and is home to the popular "Song of the Mountains" music series.

Smyth County

The region offers four beautiful seasons with relatively mild winters and pleasant summer temperatures. The area is also located outside of major weather hazard areas for tornados or coastal hurricanes.

Lifestyle (continued)

Area residents can enjoy golf at an 18-hole course at the Holston Hills Country Club in Marion and 9-hole courses in Saltville and Chilhowie. Tennis is also available at numerous public and private courts throughout the county.

[Virginia's aCorridor](#)

[Smyth County](#)

[Visit Virginia Mountains](#)