

Fayette County 2024

Many know Fayette County for being in the middle of the scenic Laurel Highlands, home to some of the most world-renown tourist attractions and outdoor recreation, such as Ohiopyle and Fallingwater. What may not be as well-known is its significance to the world economy through many multi-national and major corporations with operations here. The County's diverse economy is primarily based in tourism, healthcare, manufacturing, and agriculture. Fayette County is also home to emerging industries like information technology and biotech. The cultural, historical, and recreational amenities, and its proximity to major metropolitan areas, make Fayette County a very desirable destination.

Geography and natural resources played a significant role in the shaping of the area. With fertile land, transportation resources, and its strategic location to Pittsburgh, Fayette County first became a crossroads of business and commerce, then an industrial powerhouse, as its coal and mineral resources were extracted and brought to market helping build the nation. Uniontown, the county seat, once boasted the most millionaires per capita anywhere in the US.

Today, building upon that legacy continues. Along with the County's stunning natural beauty, it also provides easy access to mid-Atlantic metropolitan markets and urban communities in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Washington, DC, and Maryland. The region is located within a 500-mile radius of over one half of the population of the United States and Canada.

Both existing and new companies continue to be attracted due to the County's pro-business environment. In addition to the County's proximity and access to markets, benefits include abundant

and inexpensive utilities, numerous workforce development programs and training. With many development-ready sites and buildings in several business parks, incentives and second to none business support services from local, regional, and state economic development organizations, your business should call Fayette County home.

As an ideal location for business development and sustainability, Fayette County is home to many high-technology and defense contractors, including Advanced Acoustic Concepts that specialize in manufacturing undersea warfare systems; and Johnson Matthey that produces and supplies catalytic converters to many diesel vehicles built in the western hemisphere. Pureon is a global technological leader in micron diamond precision surface finishing, widely used in over twenty countries across the US, Europe, and Asia; TSItouch manufactures touch sensitive overlay screens for commercial grade displays; and PTC is an "Internet of Things" software developer with 6,000 employees in 30 countries.



Photo by Jeff Hughes



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Just as important as attracting new business, Fayette County has been fortunate to offer local companies a supportive environment making it possible for them to successfully start-up, operate, and grow here for decades. Some of those companies include, Crown Cork & Seal, the global leader in metal packaging technology with operations in 43 countries; Packaging Services Inc., a producer of custom cardboard packaging products for large industrial and retail customers; Hranec Corp., a steel fabricator and ductwork manufacturer which is undergoing a major expansion; COE Distributing, a nationwide wholesale office furniture distributor; and Specialty Conduit & Manufacturing, which manufactures pipes, nipples, joints, etc. for the plumbing, electrical, and fiber optic industries, and recently started an affiliate operation, Fayette Pipe, to expand its capabilities.

The County continues to position itself for continued progress. Tens of millions of dollars are being invested in commercial and industrial land, building, and infrastructure development. The Fay-Penn Economic Development Council alone has nine different sites totaling more than 1,000 acres of available property (many with tax-free incentives), and numerous buildings with leasable space. One of the major developments in Fay-Penn's Dunbar Township Business Park is a 100,000 square foot expandable speculative building designed to attract a large manufacturing or distribution center. It is Fay-Penn's second speculative building since 2022.

Additional large-scale projects are currently being planned in various locations throughout the county. Energy and utility improvements and diversification are also part of the county's

efforts to position itself for additional growth. New solar energy farms are being constructed to complement other energy sources including natural gas. Fayette County will also be part of the ARCH₂ Clean Hydrogen Hub project. Broadband expansion is currently underway to serve underserved rural communities.

Healthcare has continued to move forward as a leading industry and workforce generator. The primary healthcare facility here is WVU Medicine—Uniontown Hospital.

WVU has expanded to include a new cancer center, pediatrics, and orthopedics, with additional services for the community underway or in the planning stages. Providing primary and acute patient care, Montgomery Medical recently constructed a new facility in the Smithfield community.

Complementing the robust business community are the County's livability amenities that make it attractive for drawing and retaining workforce and increasing visitors. From Pittsburgh to Cumberland, MD, the 150-mile Great Allegheny Passage (GAP) bike trail passes through Fayette County enroute to Columbia, MD. From Cumberland, it links with the C&O Bike Trail for a biking experience to Washington, DC. In 2019, the GAP had more than over a million users and generated more than \$121 million in tourism economic impact, and those figures continue to increase.

The Youghiogheny River offers world-class whitewater adventures through Ohiopyle State Park. Frank Lloyd Wright's amazing organic architectural designs of Fallingwater, Kentuck Knob, and Polymath Park are within a few miles of each other. Fort Necessity saw the French and Indian War and the American Revolution. The National Road, today known as U.S. Route 40, was the first highway built entirely with federal funds and runs through Fayette County.

The spectacular Nemaocolin Woodlands Resort continues to be a global "must visit" destination. And nearby Seven Springs is a nationally renowned ski resort. The County's numerous forests, game lands, parks and mountains provide some of the best four-season recreation anywhere in the eastern United States.

Fayette County is an ideal location for living, working, playing, and prospering. With its majestic mountain scenery and outdoor adventure, support, and much more, here you will find that delicate balance between work and play. There is much more to learn about Fayette County, just as there is much more to tell.



Jim Cray
Director of Economic Development
Fay-Penn Economic Development Council

 COUNTY FACTS

- 2022 Population: **125,755**
- Total Number of Municipalities: **42**
- County Seat: Uniontown
- Land Area (sq. mi.): **790.3**
- 2022 Population Density (people per mile): **159.1**
- 2022 Total number of employers: **2,794**
- 2022 Total jobs in county: **37,141**
- 2022 Total labor force: **55,125**
- 2022 Total employed residents: **51,763**
- 2022 Earnings per job (mean): **\$47,703**
- 2022 Median household income: **\$55,579**
- 2021 - 2022 Public High School Graduates: **1,046**
- Post-secondary placement rate: **52.4%**
- 2022 Population 25 and over: **92,705**
- with high school degree or higher: **91.7%**
- with bachelor's degree or higher: **19%**

Sources: PA Department of Education, U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Largest Municipality:
North Union Township: **Pop 11,571**

Additional municipalities:
Belle Vernon
Brownsville
Connellsville
Masontown
Point Marion
Uniontown



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Fayette County Board of Commissioners:

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TOP PRIVATE EMPLOYERS

Employer	Product(s)	Employees
Nemacolin Woodlands Resort	Resort	1,000
WVU Medicine	Health Care	1,000
Walmart	Retail	900
TTEC	Call Center	650
Sensus USA	Manufacturing	500
Bella Health Care Center	Health Care	400
Fayette Resources Incorporated	Social Services	400
Genesis Healthcare	Health Care	350
Penn Highlands Healthcare	Health Care	350
CalFrac Well Services	Natural Resources	200

Sources: Allegheny Conference on Community Development, PA Department of Health

www.co.fayette.pa.us