

## \*Buchanan County

Land Area: 504 square miles

Population (2000): 26,978

Buchanan County stretches across the coal-bearing hills of the Appalachian Plateau. These hills and hollows are home to thousands of gracious mountaineers who live in small, close-knit communities. There are several small towns in Buchanan County, including Grundy (pop. 1,105), which the county-seat, and Vansant (pop. 989). County has been shrinking in population steadily over the past twenty years, with a growth rate of -13.9% between 1990-2000.

Coal dominates the economy - Buchanan produces 12 million tons of coal each year, about 35% of Virginia's total tonnage. Other major elements of the economy are trade, service industries, and transfer payments (retirement pensions, disability income, and welfare benefits). Among the largest employers are the Excel Mining Systems, Jewell Coal & Coke Company, Island Creek Coal Company, Buchanan General Hospital, and Keen Mountain Correctional Center.

<b>Employment By Industry</b>	<b>Buchanan County</b>	<b>Virginia</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Mining, Fishing, Hunting	15.6%	1.3%
Construction	7.5%	7.3%
Manufacturing	6.4%	11.3%
Retail and Wholesale Trade	14.0%	14.1%
Transportation and Warehousing and Utilities	7.7%	4.6%
Information	1.8%	3.8%
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, Rental and Leasing	3.9%	6.6%
Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative, and Waste Management Services	4.4%	11.6%
Education, Health, and Social Services	24.3%	18.3%
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation and Food Services	3.3%	7.2%
Public Administration	5.7%	8.3%
Other Services	5.4%	5.4%

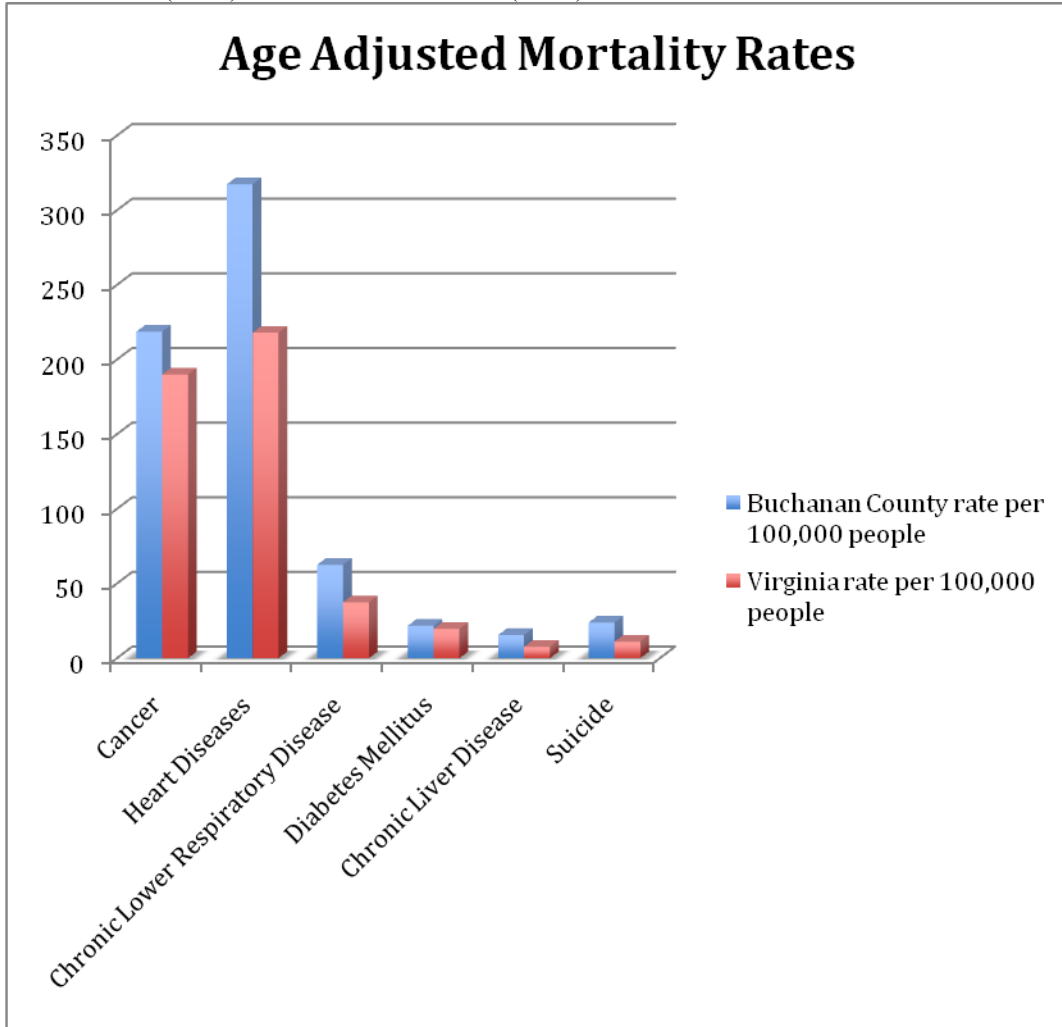
The population of Buchanan County is less prosperous than the population of Virginia. The poverty rate in Buchanan is 140% higher than the Virginia rate, and Buchanan County one of the poorest counties in Virginia. The per capita income of Buchanan Countians is only 53% of the per capita income of Virginians. The median household income is \$28,922, compared to \$59,575 in Virginia. The proportion of Buchanan Countians over the age of 25 without a high school diploma is 155% higher than in Virginia, and only 8% of residents have completed college. In March 2009 the unemployment rate was around 8.7%.

<b>Economic Indicators</b>	<b>Buchanan County</b>	<b>Virginia</b>
Population with Medicaid (2004)	25.9%	10.8%
Poverty Rate (2000)	23.2%	9.6%
Per Capita Income (2000)	\$12,788	\$23,975
Population Aged 16+ in Labor Force (2000)	39.8%	66.8%
Population Aged 25+ w/o High School Diploma (2000)	47.1%	18.5%

The total pregnancy rate among women aged 15-44 in Buchanan County is 41% lower than in Virginia . The teenage pregnancy rate is 9% lower than in Virginia . Women in Buchanan are just as likely as women

in Virginia overall to receive prenatal care in the first trimester. Babies born to Buchanan residents are 8% more likely than Virginia babies to be of low birth weight, but the infant mortality rate in the county is 24% less than the infant mortality rate in Virginia .

Death rates from several common causes are higher in Buchanan County than in Virginia - e.g., heart disease (+46%), cancer (+15%), chronic lower respiratory diseases (+47%), unintentional injury (+123%), pneumonia and influenza (+46%), diabetes (+24%), suicide (+115%), chronic liver disease (+101%), and nephritis and nephrosis (+42%). Death rates from some causes are lower in Buchanan than in Virginia overall: stroke (-27%) and Alzheimer's disease (-18%).



<b>Population Health</b>	<b>Buchanan</b>	<b>Virginia</b>
Disabled Population, Ages 5-20 (2000)	9.7%	8.1%
Disabled Population, Ages 21-64 (2000)	39.4%	17.5%
Disabled Population, Ages 65+ (2000)	64.6%	42.1%
Age Adjusted Death Rate Per 100,000 Population (1998 - 2002 avg.) - Diseases of the Heart	317.4	218.0

Age Adjusted Death Rate Per 100,000 Population (1998 - 2002 avg.) - Malignant Neoplasms	218.7	190.0
Age Adjusted Death Rate Per 100,000 Population (1998 - 2002 avg.) - Cerebrovascular Diseases	42.8	58.3
Age Adjusted Death Rate Per 100,000 Population (1998 - 2002 avg.) - COPD	74.2	39.2
Age Adjusted Death Rate Per 100,000 Population (1998 - 2002 avg.) - Unintentional Injury	73.3	32.8
Age Adjusted Death Rate Per 100,000 Population (1998 - 2002 avg.) - Pneumonia and Influenza	28.3	22.7
Age Adjusted Death Rate Per 100,000 Population (1998 - 2002 avg.) - Diabetes Mellitus	27.0	21.7
Age Adjusted Death Rate Per 100,000 Population (1998 - 2002 avg.) - Suicide	23.9	11.1
Age Adjusted Death Rate Per 100,000 Population (1998 - 2002 avg.) - Septicemia	16.2	15.4
Age Adjusted Death Rate Per 100,000 Population (1998 - 2002 avg.) - Nephritis and Nephrosis	22.2	15.6
Age Adjusted Death Rate Per 100,000 Population (1998 - 2002 avg.) - Chronic Liver Disease/Cirrhosis	15.5	7.7
Age Adjusted Death Rate Per 100,000 Population (1998 - 2002 avg.) - Alzheimers Disease	13.0	15.9
Total Pregnancy Terminations (Residents) Per 1,000 Females Aged 15-44 (1998 - 2002 avg.)	48.6	82.6
Teenage Pregnancies Per 1,000 Females Aged 10-19 (1998 - 2002 avg.)	28.4	31.3
Percent of Resident Live Births Beginning Prenatal Care in 1st Trimester (1998 - 2002 avg.)	84.5%	84.8%
Low Weight Live Births as a Percent of Total Births (1998 - 2002 avg.)	8.5%	7.9%
Resident Infant Deaths Per 1,000 Lives Births (1998 - 2002 avg.)	5.5	7.2

The high morbidity and mortality rates for many diseases in Buchanan County reflect the lack of adequate health care resources in the area. Many residents cannot access services because of geographic and/or financial barriers. Approximately 14.1% lack health insurance entirely, in comparison to 12.5% of Virginians. Buchanan County Medical Center is the primary health care facility in the county, located in Grundy. It is a 134 bed facility, of which 73 beds are staffed. There are currently 19 physicians on staff. There are no dialysis services available in the county.

Throughout the county there is a shortage of primary care as well as specialist physicians. For every 10,000 residents there are only 4.9 physicians, less than one fifth the average in Virginia. A greater number of nurses reside in the county than the Virginia average (111.8 per 10,000 residents compared to 72.4). There are also a considerable number of pharmacists in the county, possibly due to the proximity of the Appalachian College of Pharmacy in Grundy. Only six dentists practice in the county, meaning there are approximately 2.4 dentists per 10,000 people. There are no psychologists that practice in the county, and mental health treatment is difficult to find. The relative poverty and poor health status of the population indicate the need for improved access to primary and specialty care in Buchanan County.

Provider Type	Number of Current Licenses	Number of Expired Licenses	Buchanan County Average per 10,000	Virginia Average per 10,000
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			people	people*
Physicians	12	2	4.9	27
Nurses (incl. RN, LPN, NP)	501	63	111.8	72.4
Physician Assistants	0	0	0	1
Dentists	6	0	2.4	5.8
Pharmacists	28	2	11.5	6.2
Psychologists	0	0	0	3.0

### **Links**

Buchanan County - <http://www.cppdc.org/index.htm>

Buchanan County - <http://www.vaswpromise.com/>

Wellmont Buchanan General Hospital - <http://www.wellmont.org/Facilities/BGH/bgh.html>

Cumberland Plateau Health District - <http://www.vdh.state.va.us/LHD/cumbplat/cumbplat.htm>

Grundy (town) - <http://www.grundyvirginia.com/>

Appalachian School of Law - <http://www.asl.edu/>

## **Buchanan County Health Care Resources**

### **Regional Hospitals**

- Buchanan General Hospital  
Slate Creek Rd Grundy VA 24614  
(276)-935-1000
- Buchanan County Health Center  
1600 1st Street East  
Independence, IA 50644  
(319)332-0999  
<http://www.bchealth.info/>

### **Community Health Centers**

- Buchanan Family Medicine  
Grundy, VA 24614-  
(276) 935-1592
- Grundy Surgical Services  
1532 Slate Creek Rd Grundy, VA 24614-  
(276) 935-1163

- Hurley Family Health Center  
Hurley, VA 24620-  
(276) 566-7204
- Keen Mountain Medical Clinic  
8243 Riverside Dr Oakwood, VA 24631-  
(276) 498-3446
- Khan Dilawar Doctor of Medicine  
Rowe, VA 24646-  
(276) 859-0859
- Slate Creek Physicians  
1532 Slate Creek Rd Grundy, VA 24614-  
(276) 935-1382
- Starynski John R  
State Route 83 N Grundy, VA 24614-  
(276) 935-4522
- Stone Mountain Health Services  
Keen Mountain, VA 24624-  
(276) 498-1625
- Thompson Family Health Center  
Vansant, VA 24656-  
(276) 597-7081
- Tri State Clinic  
Riverside Dr Grundy, VA 24614-  
(276) 935-6055

### **Free Clinics**

### **Health Department**

- Buchanan County Slate Creek Road P.O. Box 618 Grundy, VA 24614  
276-935-4591  
FAX: 276-935-4537

### **Department of Social Services**

- Buchanan County Department of Social Services  
3174 Slate Creek Road Grundy, Virginia 24614

Phone: 276-935-8106  
Fax: 276-935-5412  
<http://www.bcdss.org/>

### **Telemedicine Sites**

- Buchanan General Hospital  
Slate Creek Rd, Grundy VA 24614  
276-935-1000
- Hurley Family Health  
Hurley VA 24620  
276-566-7204
- Vansant: Thompson Family Health Center  
State Route 83  
Vansant, VA 24656  
276-597-7081

### **Home Health Care**

- Amedisys Home Healthcare  
Grundy, VA 24614  
(276) 935-2690
- Buchanan Gen Home Health  
Maxie, VA 24628  
(276) 531-7111
- Buchanan General Hospital Home Health  
28567 Riverside Dr Harmon jct Maxie, VA 24628  
(276) 531-8800
- Healing Hands Home Health Inc  
Riverside Dr Grundy, VA 24614  
(276) 935-6400
- Medi Home Care  
Grundy, VA 24614-  
(276) 935-6338
- Preferred Home Health Services  
Grundy, VA 24614  
(276) 935-8778

## Nursing Homes

## Hospice Facilities

- Special Care Hospice & Home Health  
Grundy, VA 24614  
(276) 935-6655

## Pharmacies

- LONESOME PINE ECONOMY DRUG  
517 Park Avenue, SW, P.O. Box 159, Hurley, VA 24620  
(276-679-5191)
- CVS Pharmacy  
Oakwood, VA 24631-  
(276) 498-4510
- Family Drug  
Vansant, VA 24656-  
(276) 597-2520
- Hurley Pharmacy  
Po Box 166 Wolford, VA 24658-0166  
(276) 566-4488
- Lavisa Pharmacies Inc  
Grundy, VA 24614-  
(276) 935-4777
- Medical Park Pharmacy  
Slate Creek Rd Grundy, VA 24614-  
(276) 935-6455
- Plaza Pharmacy LLC  
Grundy, VA 24614-  
(276) 935-7332

- Raven Drug Co  
1 Main St Raven, VA 24639-  
(276) 964-9095
- Rite Aid  
20822 Riverside Dr Grundy, VA 24614-9597  
(276) 935-2789  
[www.riteaid.com](http://www.riteaid.com)
- Westwood Pharmacy Inc  
Us Route 460 W Grundy, VA 24614-  
(276) 935-4040
- University of Appalachia College of Pharmacy  
Grundy, VA 24614-  
(276) 935-4277
- Food City  
Grundy, VA 24614-  
(276) 935-2196

### **Alcohol/Drug Abuse and Mental Health Facilities**

- Grundy Teen Drug Rehab  
Route 83 Grundy, VA 24614  
Rehab Contact Phone: (276) 935-7154  
Website: [www.cmcsb.com](http://www.cmcsb.com)
- Cumberland Mountain Community Services Board  
Buchanan County Satellite Office  
P.O. Box 1115, Route 83, Slate Creek, Grundy, VA 24614  
(276) 935-7154  
[dstacy@cmcsb.com](mailto:dstacy@cmcsb.com)  
<http://www.cmcsb.com/grundysat.htm>
- O.U.R. House  
Sharon Blankenship, Program Manager  
PO Box 1034, Upper Mill Branch, Grundy, VA 24614  
(276) 935-7489  
[sblankenship@cmcsb.com](mailto:sblankenship@cmcsb.com)  
<http://www.cmcsb.com/Ourhouse.htm>

- T.H.A.N.G.S.  
Sandra Osborne, Store Manager Sharon Blankenshiop  
Riverside Drive, U.S. Route 460/Route 83, Grundy, VA 24614  
(276) 935-4738 - (Thangs Store) (276) 935-7489 - (Sharon Blankenship)  
<http://www.cmcsb.com/Thangs.htm>
- INTENSIVE IN-HOME SERVICES  
CONTACT PERSON: Kimberly Lowe Bales, Coordinator of Family Based Services  
LOCATION: Cumberland Mountain Community Services - Main Office  
TELEPHONE: (276) 964-6702  
<http://www.cmcsb.com/inhome.htm>
- Cumberland Mountain Day Support  
Raven, VA24639-  
(276) 498-1200

## **Counseling Services**

### **Physicians**

- Kabaria Ramesh  
Us Rt 460 Grundy, VA 24614-  
(276) 498-4571
- Lester William MD  
State Route 83 N Grundy, VA 24614-  
(276) 935-1000
- Merit Medical Group  
Highway 460 Raven, VA 24639-  
(276) 498-3135
- Mountain Surgical  
State Route 83 N Grundy, VA 24614-  
(276) 935-1000
- Owens Dia MD  
Vasant, VA 24656-  
(276) 597-7081

### **Optometrists**

- Looney Brian OD Faao  
Walnut St Grundy, VA 24614-  
(276) 935-5152
- Professional Opticians  
Us Route 460 Grundy, VA 24614-  
(276) 935-4151

### **Dental Facilities**

- Cruickshanks Robert E DDS  
Patterson, VA 24631-  
(804) 754-2125
- Crumpton Brooks R  
Oakwood, VA 24631-  
(276) 498-7049
- Hackney Carl F DMD Pllc  
12 Riverside Dr Grundy, VA 24614-  
(276) 935-4565
- Hagy R Ralph DR DDS  
Po Box 17 Oakwood, VA 24631-  
(276) 498-3034

### **Miscellaneous Health Care**

- Oakwood Respiratory Care Center  
Vansant, VA 24656-  
(276) 498-1631
- Baxter House Group Home  
Rt 460 Oakwood, VA 24631-  
(276) 498-4549