

*Wise County

Land Area: 403 square miles

Population (2000): 40,123

Most of Wise County lies on the Cumberland Plateau where the landscape is a convolution of hills and hollows carved over the eons by a complexity of small streams. Magnificent Powell Valley is in the southern part of the county, wedged between Stone and Powell Mountains. Wise County has several small towns in Wise County - Appalachia (pop. 1,839), Big Stone Gap (pop. 4,856), Coeburn (pop. 1,996), Pound (pop. 1,089), St. Paul (pop. 1,000), and Wise (pop. 3,255), which serves as the seat of government. The City of Norton also lies within the boundaries of Wise County.

The economy is based on service industries, trade, coal mining and forestry, and transfer payments (retirement pensions, disability income, and welfare benefits). Manufacturing also contributes to the local economy. Some of the primary employers in the county are A&G Coal Corporation, Norton Community Hospital, Saint Mary's Hospital, UVA College at Wise, Mountain Empire Community College, Sykes Enterprises, Inc., and Verizon Communications. Coal mining has long been an important part of the economy and culture of Wise, construction of a coal-burning power plant in the County has been highly controversial. The plant will bring many jobs to the area, but the mountaintop removal techniques being used may have significant environmental impact on the area.

Employment By Industry	Wise County	Virginia
Agriculture, Forestry, Mining, Fishing, Hunting	10.7%	1.3%
Construction	7.3%	7.3%
Manufacturing	6.1%	11.3%
Retail and Wholesale Trade	16.9%	14.1%
Transportation and Warehousing and Utilities	5.7%	4.6%
Information	3.0%	3.8%
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, Rental and Leasing	2.9%	6.6%
Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative, and Waste Management Services	5.0%	11.6%
Education, Health, and Social Services	23.6%	18.3%
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation and Food Services	6.9%	7.2%
Public Administration	6.6%	8.3%
Other Services	5.2%	5.4%

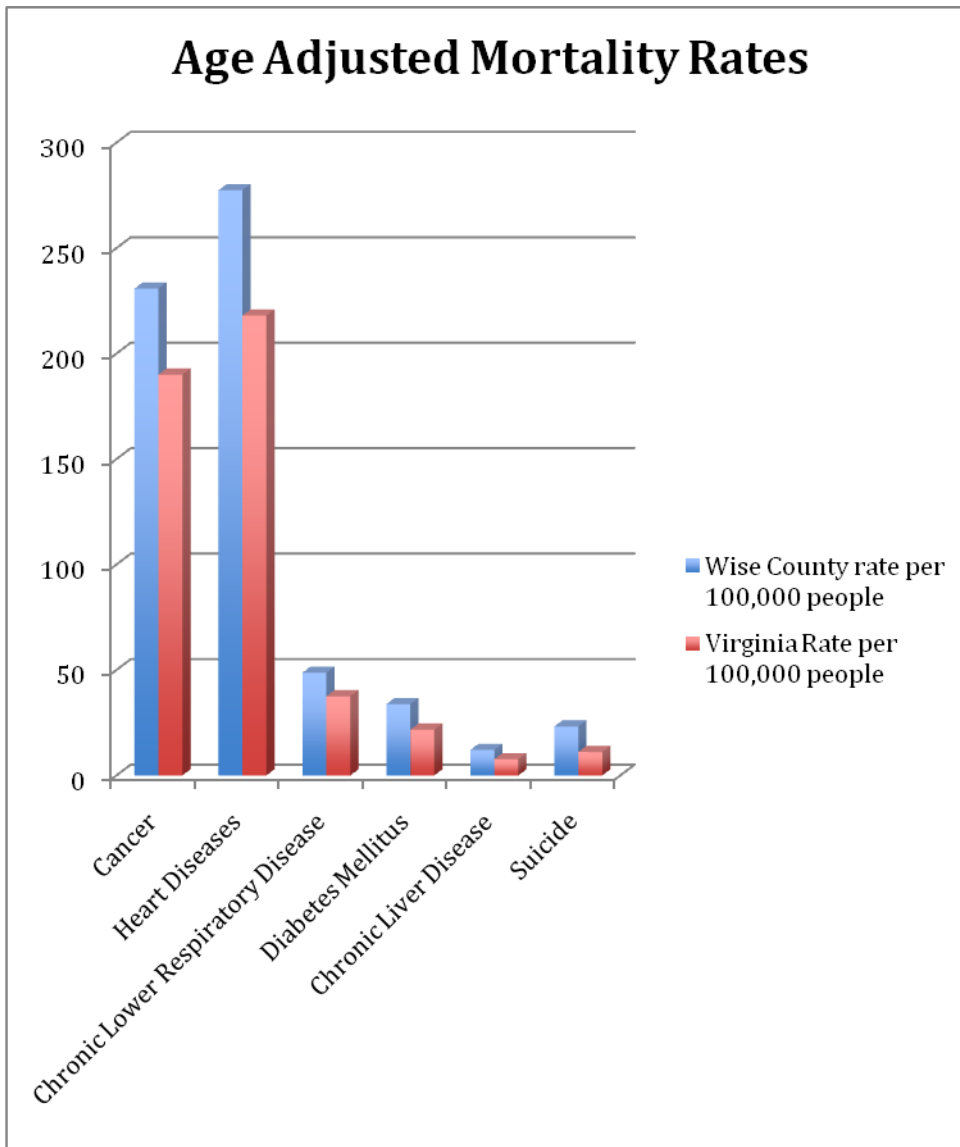
The population of Wise County is considerably less prosperous than the population of Virginia. Wise County's poverty rate is 108% higher than the Virginia poverty rate; approximately 20% of residents live below the poverty line. The per capita income for Wise Countians is only 59% of the per capita income for Virginians, and the median household income is \$41,782 in comparison to the Virginia median of \$59,575. Proportionately fewer people in Wise County are in the work force and a much smaller percentage of Wise Countians have graduated from high school than Virginians in general, 62.9% compared to 75.2% of Virginians. Only 11.1% of Wise County residents have a college degree, compared to 29.5% of Virginians. In April 2009 the unemployment rate hovered around 6.6%.

Economic Indicators	Wise County	Virginia
Population with Medicaid (2004)	25.9%	10.8%
Poverty Rate (2000)	20.0%	9.6%
Per Capita Income (2000)	\$14,271	\$23,975

Population Aged 16+ in Labor Force (2000)	50.0%	66.8%
Population Aged 25+ w/o High School Diploma (2000)	37.5%	18.5%

The total pregnancy rate for women aged 15-44 in Wise County is 30% lower than in Virginia . The teen pregnancy rate is 15% higher in Wise County than in Virginia . Women in Wise County receive prenatal care during the first trimester at the same rate as women in Virginia overall. Babies born to residents of Wise are 10% less likely to be low birth weight. The infant mortality rate in Wise County is 3% higher than the infant mortality rate in Virginia.

Death rates from most common causes are higher in Wise County than in Virginia - e.g., heart disease (+27%), cancer (+21%), chronic lower respiratory diseases (+41%), unintentional injury (+52%), diabetes mellitus (+56%), pneumonia and influenza (+75%), suicide (+109%), septicemia (+14%), nephritis and nephrosis (+16%), chronic liver disease (+57%), and Alzheimer's disease (+50%). Among common causes of death, only stroke (-11%) is less likely for residents of Wise County than for residents of Virginia.



Population Health	Wise	Virginia
Disabled Population, Ages 5-20 (2000)	9.8%	8.1%
Disabled Population, Ages 21-64 (2000)	29.5%	17.5%
Disabled Population, Ages 65+ (2000)	57.3%	42.1%
Age Adjusted Death Rate Per 100,000 Population (1998 - 2002 avg.) - Diseases of the Heart	277.4	218.0
Age Adjusted Death Rate Per 100,000 Population (1998 - 2002 avg.) - Malignant Neoplasms	230.8	190.0
Age Adjusted Death Rate Per 100,000 Population (1998 - 2002 avg.) - Cerebrovascular Diseases	52.1	58.3
Age Adjusted Death Rate Per 100,000 Population (1998 - 2002 avg.) - COPD	55.4	39.2
Age Adjusted Death Rate Per 100,000 Population (1998 - 2002 avg.) - Unintentional Injury	50.0	32.8
Age Adjusted Death Rate Per 100,000 Population (1998 - 2002 avg.) - Pneumonia and Influenza	39.8	22.7
Age Adjusted Death Rate Per 100,000 Population (1998 - 2002 avg.) - Diabetes Mellitus	33.8	21.7
Age Adjusted Death Rate Per 100,000 Population (1998 - 2002 avg.) - Suicide	23.2	11.1
Age Adjusted Death Rate Per 100,000 Population (1998 - 2002 avg.) - Septicemia	17.6	15.4
Age Adjusted Death Rate Per 100,000 Population (1998 - 2002 avg.) - Nephritis and Nephrosis	18.1	15.6
Age Adjusted Death Rate Per 100,000 Population (1998 - 2002 avg.) - Chronic Liver Disease/Cirrhosis	12.1	7.7
Age Adjusted Death Rate Per 100,000 Population (1998 - 2002 avg.) - Alzheimers Disease	7.9	15.9
Total Pregnancy Terminations (Residents) Per 1,000 Females Aged 15-44 (1998 - 2002 avg.)	67.3	82.6
Teenage Pregnancies Per 1,000 Females Aged 10-19 (1998 - 2002 avg.)	35.9	31.3
Percent of Resident Live Births Beginning Prenatal Care in 1st Trimester (1998 - 2002 avg.)	84.7%	84.8%
Low Weight Live Births as a Percent of Total Births (1998 - 2002 avg.)	7.1%	7.9%
Resident Infant Deaths Per 1,000 Lives Births (1998 - 2002 avg.)	7.4	7.2

There are two hospitals in Wise County; Lonesome Pine Hospital is a 60-bed facility located in Big Stone Gap and is currently undergoing expansion; Mountain View Regional Medical Center, formerly St. Mary's Hospital, a 133-bed facility located in Norton; and Norton Community Hospital, a 129-bed facility located in Norton. These health care facilities also serve a large portion of Eastern Tennessee and Southeastern Kentucky.

Despite the presence of these facilities, Wise County has a shortage of both primary care physicians and specialists. While the Southwest Virginia Regional Cancer Treatment Center offers care to cancer patients, there are no dialysis services in Wise. The county has 11.9 physicians per 10,000 people, less than half the average of 27 per 10,000 in Virginia. Dental care is also difficult to obtain, as there are only 17 practicing dentists in Wise (2.7 per 10,000 people). A significant number of residents lack insurance as well, approximately 11.8%. Each year the Wise County fairgrounds hosts the Remote Area Medical Clinic,

which provides free medical services to those who cannot afford them. In 2008, over 7,000 patients were seen in 3 days. The relative poverty and poor health status of the population indicate the need for improved access to primary and specialty care in Wise County.

Provider Type	Number of Current Licenses	Number of Expired Licenses	Wise County Average per 10,000 people	Virginia Average per 10,000 people*
Physicians	50	2	11.9	27
Nurses (incl. RN, LPN, NP)	765	92	90.6	72.4
Physician Assistants	0	0	0.4	1
Dentists	10	2	2.4	5.8
Pharmacists	55	4	13.1	6.2
Psychologists	0	0	0	3.0

Links

Wise County - <http://wisecounty.org/>
Wise County - <http://www.lenowisco.org/>
Wise County - <http://www.vaswpromise.com/>
University of Virginia's College at Wise - <http://www.wise.virginia.edu/>
Mountain Empire Community College - <http://www.me.cc.va.us/>
Big Stone Gap (town) - <http://bigstonegap.org/>
Wellmont Lonesome Pine Hospital - http://www.wellmont.org/Facilities/Big_Stone_Gap/WLPH/wlph.html
Coeburn (town) - <http://www.coeburnva.org/>
St. Paul (town) - <http://www.city-data.com/city/St.-Paul-Virginia.html>
Pound (town) - <http://www.city-data.com/city/Pound-Virginia.html>
Wise (town) - <http://www.city-data.com/city/Wise-Virginia.html>
Lenowisco Health District - <http://www.vdh.state.va.us/lhd/lenowisco/index.htm>

Wise County Health Care Resources

Regional Hospitals

- **WELLMONT LONESOME PINE HOSPITAL**
1990 HOLTON AVENUE EAST PO DRAWER 1 BIG STONE GAP, VA 24219
(703) 523-3111
<http://www.wellmont.org/Hospitals/Lonesome-Pine-Hospital.aspx>

Community Health Centers

- Community Medical Care
Saint Paul, VA 24283-
(276) 762-7600

- Community Clinic
Wise, VA 24293-
(276) 328-3394
- Keokee Rural Health Clinic
Appalachia, VA 24216-
(276) 565-0156
- Occumed Health Center
100 15th St NW Norton, VA 24273-1616
(276) 679-8867
- Riverside Community Medical Clinic
Saint Paul, VA 24283-
(276) 762-2300
- Stone Mountain Health Services Inc Castlewood Clinic
Saint Paul, VA 24283-
(276) 762-0770
- Tru Care
11215 Indian Creek Rd Pound, VA 24279-
(276) 796-4725
- Coeburn Hospital Clinic
116 Center St Coeburn, VA 24230-2200
(276) 395-6244

Free Clinics

- American Healthcare
2045 Valley View Dr E Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-3319
(276) 523-3269

Health Department

- Wise County and the City of Norton Health Department
District Office & Administrative Headquarters 134 Roberts Street, SW Wise,
Virginia 24293
Voice: 276-328-8000
Fax: 276-376-1020

Department of Social Services

- Wise County Department of Social Services
Tom Stanley, Director
5612 N. Bear Creed Rd P.O. Box 888 Wise, VA 24293-0888
(276) 328-8056
(276) 328-8057
(276) 328-8632 (FAX)
<http://www.wisecounty.org/DSS...>

Telemedicine Sites

- St. Paul: William A. Davis Clinic
N Clinic St, St. Paul VA 24283
276-762-0770
- Wise County Behavioral Health Service
3169 2nd Ave E Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-3805
(276) 523-8300
- Wise County Health Department
District Office & Administrative Headquarters 134 Roberts Street, SW Wise,
Virginia 24293
Voice: 276-328-8000
Fax: 276-376-1020
- Wallens Ridge Correctional Center
272 DOGWOOD DR.
BIG STONE GAP, VA 24219
(276) 523-3310
- Red Onion Correctional Center
10800 H. Jack Rose Highway
P. O. Box 970
Pound, VA 24279
(276) 796-7510

Home Health Care

- Southwest Home Care, LLC
503 W Main St Appalachia, VA 24216
(276) 565-1703
- Intrepid USA Home Health Services
Cloverleaf Sq Big Stone Gap, VA 24219

(276) 523-1770

- Wise Choice Home Health Inc
511 W Main Street Wise, VA 24293
(276) 328-7062
- Southwest Home Care
503 W Main St Appalachia, VA 24216-1723
(276) 565-1703
- In Home Care Inc
201 Nottingham Ave Wise, VA 24293
(276) 328-9340
- Friendship
1119 W. Main Street Wise, VA 24293
(276) 328-9111
- Caring Hearts In Home Care
8463 Main Street Pound, VA 24279
(276) 796-4700
- Independent Home Health Care
Coeburn, VA 24230
(276) 395-5770
- Independent Home Health Care
454 Front St W Coeburn, VA 24230-3604
(276) 395-5770
- Innovative Health Care Inc
21 NE 5th St Big Stone Gap, VA 24219
(276) 523-6061
- Medi Home Care
Coeburn, VA 24230
(276) 395-9314
- Medi Home Care Inc
501 Front St W Coeburn, VA 24230-3607
(276) 395-3285
- Medi Home Health
616 Wood Ave E Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-3020
(276) 523-4517

- Nch Home Health
Wise Professional Wise, VA 24293
(276) 328-9236
- Oxy Home Care Corp
9050 Camp Bethel Rd Wise, VA 24293-6520
(276) 328-5401
- Wellmont Home Care
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219
(276) 523-8668

Nursing Homes

- HERITAGE HALL HEALTH CARE CENTER
2045 Valley View Dr., Big Stone Gap, VA 24219
(276-523-3000)
9434 Coeburn Mountain Road, P.O. Box 1009, Wise, VA 24293
(276-328-2721)
- Golden Homestead Adult Home
120 4th St NW Coeburn, VA 24230-
(276) 395-2808
- Greystone Manor
1 Sundown Trailer Ct Saint Paul, VA 24283-
(276) 762-7929
- Heritage Hall
2045 Valley View Dr E Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-3319
(276) 523-3000
- Heritage Hall
College Rd Wise, VA 24293-
(276) 328-2721
- Independent Personal Care Services Inc
10746 Norton-Coeburn Rd Coeburn, VA 24230-6410
(276) 395-2589
- Roselawn Rest Home
Saint Paul, VA 24283-
(276) 762-9884

Hospice Facilities

- Total Home Care & Hospice
Director over Hospice Rachel Blankenship, RN 888-236-1974
616 Wood Ave E Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-3020
(276) 523-4515
<http://dchhh.com/>

Pharmacies

- CORNERSTONE PHARMACY
205 Kilbourne Avenue, P.O. Box 469, Appalachia, VA 24216
(276-565-3434)
- FAMILY DRUG, INC.
14 E. 27th St., N., Suite 1, P.O. Box 777, Big Stone Gap, VA 24219
(276-523-1713)
- HAMILTON PHARMACY
16610 Russell Street, St. Paul, VA 24283
(276-762-9080)
- Big Stone Gap Pharmacy
1980 Holton Ave E Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-3366
(276) 523-8702
- Cavalier Pharmacy
301 Church St Wise, VA 24293
(276) 328-9141
- Community Hospital Pharmacy
Spring Ave NE Wise, VA
(276) 328-8773
- CVS Pharmacy
605 Wood Ave E Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-3021
(276) 523-4795
www.cvs.com
- Ernies Drug
16408 Wise St Saint Paul, VA 24283-
(276) 762-5800
- Family Drug Center
Coeburn, VA 24230-
(276) 395-2257

www.familydrugcenter.com

- Family Drug Inc
Powell Valley Medical Complex Big Stn Gp, VA24219
(276) 523-1713
- Food City 892
603 Wood Ave E Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-3021
(276) 523-6052
www.foodcity.com
- Food City Pharmacy
207 Woodland Dr SW Wise, VA 24293-4605
(276) 328-4619
www.foodcity.com
- KMART
Ridgeview Cte Us Rt 23 Byp Wise, VA 24293-
(276) 679-1124
www.kmart.com
- Mutual Drug
314 Wood Ave E Frnt Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-2864
(276) 523-1123
www.mutualdrug.com
- Pound Discount Pharmacy
11133 Indian Creek Rd Pound, VA 24279-
(276) 796-5500
- Revco Drug Strs
605 Wood Ave E Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-3021
(276) 523-4795
- Rite Aid
101 Laurel Ave Coeburn, VA
(276) 395-5396
- Rite Aid
11223 Indian Creek Rd Pound, VA
(276) 796-4751
- Rite Aid
16435 Wise St Saint Paul, VA 24283-
(276) 762-5011
www.riteaid.com

- Wildcat Pharmacy Inc
8461 Main St Pound, VA 24279
(276) 796-2200
- Wise Professional Building Pharmacy
716 Spring Ave NE Wise, VA 24293-5702
(276) 328-8773
- Food Lion Store
Saint Paul, VA 24283-
(276) 762-0555
www.foodlion.com

Alcohol/Drug Abuse and Mental Health Facilities

- Wise County Mental Health Center
FRONTIER HEALTH Developmental Services, Inc.
622 Powell Ave., P.O. Drawer II, Big Stone Gap, VA 24219
(276-523-0682)
Four Seasons Greenhouse
2637 4th Avenue, E., Big Stone Gap, VA 24219
(276-523-4028)
Independence House
2532 4th Avenue, E., Big Stone Gap, VA 24219
(276-523-4357)
Pierce House Group Home
100 Laurel Ridge Drive, Big Stone Gap, VA 24219
(276-523-1536)
Polly Summit
100 Laurel Ridge Drive, Big Stone Gap, VA 24219
(276-523-0028)
Wise County Behavioral Health Services
3169 2nd Avenue, East, Big Stone Gap, VA 24219
(276-523-8300)
Website: www.frontierhealth.org
- Independence House
2532 4th Ave E Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-3600
(276) 523-4357
- Wise County Behavioral Health
3169 2nd Ave E Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-3805
(276) 523-8300

Counseling Services

- Wise County Counseling Center
Cloverleaf Sq Big Stone Gap, VA 24219
(276) 523-4996

Physicians

- Community Physicians Coeburn
Marty Shopping Ctr Coeburn, VA 24230-
(276) 395-2389
- Community Physicians Group
96 Fifteenth St Medical Arts Bldg #1 Norton, VA
(276) 679-8890
- Eye Physicians of Southwest VA PC
608 Trent St NE Norton, VA 24273-1532
(276) 679-6901
- Appalachia Family Health Center
Appalachia, VA 24216-
(276) 565-2760
- Awan Ophthalmology Clinic
1921 Park Ave SW Norton, VA 24273-1610
(276) 679-4567
- Begley Jeff MD
102 15th St NW Ste 303 Norton, VA
(276) 679-1360
- Bentley Jody MD
716 Spring St Wise, VA
(276) 328-3394
- Blackwell Kevin DO
100 15th St NW Norton, VA 24273-1616
(276) 679-8867
- Botts Robert E DR
317 3rd Ave E Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-
(276) 523-2270

- Coeburn Family Health Center
Coeburn, VA 24230-
(276) 395-6990
- Coeburn Hospital Clinic
116 Center St Coeburn, VA 24230-2200
(276) 395-6244
- Cooperstein Elizabeth MD
Cloverleaf Sq Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-
(276) 523-5278
- Damato Luciano MD
411 W Main St Wise, VA
(276) 328-5332
- Demotts Gregory L
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-
(423) 224-4000
- Ford Michael MD Aafp
1980 Holton Ave E Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-3366
(276) 523-8741
- Foxglove Services
1980 Holton Ave E Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-3366
(276) 523-1600
- Holliday Duke MD Family Practice
Saint Paul, VA 24283-
(276) 762-2300
- Hunek Jozsef DR
300 Railroad Ave E Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-
(276) 523-2346
- Jain Suresh DR
165 Dotson Ave Wise, VA 24293-
(276) 328-3149
- Jain Suresh Dr
Wise, VA
(276) 328-6415

Optometrists

- DRS. BOTTS & BOTTS, OPTOMETRISTS
606 Powell Avenue, P.O. Drawer BB, Big Stone Gap, VA 24219
(276-523-4414)
- Csx Communications Optometrist
Saint Paul, VA 24283-
(276) 762-5238
- Sawyer Rob D
516 Powell Ave E Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-2346
(276) 523-2424
- The Regional Eye Center
135 W Ravine Rd Kingsport Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-
(800) 688-3937
- New Vision Optical
Wise, VA 24293-
(276) 679-5610
- Tri-City Opticians
512 Powell Avenue Regency Professional Building Big Stn Gp, VA 24219
(276) 523-2889

Dental Facilities

- KILGORE, ROBERT D., D.M.D., P.C.
106 Water Street, P.O. Box 3937, Wise, VA 24293
(276-328-5291)
- Wise Dental Professionals
106 Water Street Wise, VA 24293
(276) 328-5291
- Bays, Roger DDS
407 3rd Ave E Big Stn Gp, VA 24219
(276) 523-0931
- Coeburn Dentistry
208 Front St W Coeburn, VA 24230-
(276) 395-6632
- Copas J Mark DR

Saint Paul, VA 24283-
(276) 762-2323

- Davis H Neal DDS
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-
(276) 523-2691
- Davis H Neal DDS
518 Powell Ave E Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-2346
(276) 523-3759
- DR Roger Bays
407 3rd Ave E Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-2365
(276) 523-0931
- Halliburton Orthodontics
Cloverleaf Sq Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-
(276) 523-4043
- Mayerchak Michelle DR DMD
Wise, VA 24293-
(276) 328-5291
- Prince John M DR DDS
Wise, VA 24293-
(276) 328-5291
- Roberson James M DR
Pound, VA 24279-
(276) 796-4523
- Storie David J
615 Park Ave Appalachia, VA 24216-
(276) 679-7535

Miscellaneous Health Care

- Ob Gyn Clinic PC
1980 Holton Ave E Big Stone Gap, VA 24219-3366
(276) 523-0390