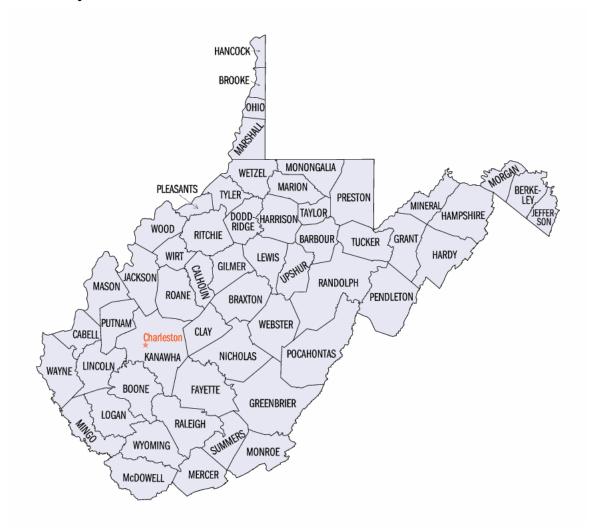
Office of National Drug Control Policy

Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

State of West Virginia

Profile of Drug Indicators

February 2004



ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse staff compiled this profile by using the most recent data available from open sources. The data presented are as accurate as the sources from which they were drawn. The information contained in this profile should not be used to rank or compare States or jurisdictions, due to differences in data collection and reporting methods.

West Virginia

The following profile contains information on demographics, political figures, programs, crime, drug use, drug trafficking, and enforcement statistics.

Demographics

- ➤ Population: 1,810,354 (July 2003 estimate); ¹ 1,758,096 (2002 American Community Survey)²
- ➤ Race/Ethnicity (2002 American Community Survey): 94.68% white; 3.04% black/African American; 0.16% American Indian/Alaska Native; 0.42% Asian; 0.05% Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander; 0.09% some other race; 0.88% two or more races; 0.69% Hispanic/Latino (of any race)³

Politics

- ➤ Governor: Bob Wise⁴
- > Attorney General: Darrell V. McGraw, Jr.⁵
- > Secretary of State: Joe Manchin III⁶
- ➤ U.S. Senate Members: Robert Byrd (D); John Rockefeller (D)⁷
- ➤ U.S. House of Representatives: Allan B. Mollohan (D); Shelly Capito (R); Nick J. Rahall II (D)⁸

Programs/Initiatives

- ➤ High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)⁹
 The Appalachia HIDTA was designated in 1998 and is responsible for counties in Kentucky, Tennessee, and twelve counties in West Virginia.
- CREATE for a Drug-Free West Virginia¹⁰
 The mission of this program is to promote the health and well being of the citizens of West Virginia. In addition, this program aims at eliminating the unhealthy or illicit use of tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs among youth and adults.

Federal Funding

- ➤ Drug-Free Communities Support Program grantees in West Virginia:¹¹
 - FY 2003:
 - \$99,942 to Prestera Center for Mental Health Services, Huntington
 - \$75,000 to Community Connections, Inc., Bluefield (Coalition Mentoring Program Grantee)
 - FY 2002: none
 - FY 2001: \$100,000 to the Community Connections, Inc., Bluefield
 - FY 2000: none
 - FY 1999: \$100,000 to Jefferson County Coalition on Substance Abuse, Charleston
- ➤ FY 2002/2003 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Formula and Discretionary Grant summary for West Virginia: 12
 - Formula Funding: \$12,170,280
 - Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant: \$8,785,675

- Community Mental Health Services Block Grant: \$2,674,605
- Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH): \$300,000
- Protection and Advocacy Formula Grant: \$410,000
- Discretionary Funding: \$3,791,979
 - Mental Health: \$2,201,884
 - Substance Prevention: \$500,000
 - Substance Abuse Treatment: \$1,090,095
- Total Mental Health Funds: \$5,586,489
- Total Substance Abuse Funds: \$10,375,770
- Total Funds for West Virginia: \$15,962,259
- Executive Office for Weed and Seed¹³

Wheeling is the only city in West Virginia that has been officially designated as a Weed and Seed site.

- > FY 2003 Byrne Formula Grant Program amount awarded to West Virginia: \$3,837,951¹⁴
- ➤ There were no FY 2003 Drug Court Grants awarded to West Virginia. 15
- West Virginia did not receive funding for the FY 2002 Office of Justice Programs Drug Court Grant. 16
- > FY 1996-2003 Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) for State Prisoners Formula Grant amount allocated to West Virginia:
 - FY 1996: \$146,204¹⁷
 - FY 1997: \$165,534¹⁸
 - FY 1998: \$362,847¹⁹
 - FY 1999: \$363.466²⁰
 - FY 2000: \$369,933²¹
 - FY 2001: \$370.430²²
 - FY 2002: \$421.736²³
 - FY 2003: \$399,850²⁴
- ➤ There were no FY 2003 grantees of the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Methamphetamine Grant in West Virginia. 25
- ➤ FY 2002 Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Methamphetamine Grant awards in West Virginia:²⁶
 - \$222,222 to the Parkersburg Police Department
- ➤ FY 2001 Housing and Urban Development Drug Elimination Grant recipients in West Virginia:²⁷
 - \$125,000 to Vandalia Terrace Housing Corporation, Charleston
 - \$187,790 to Cabell-Huntington Coalition for the Homeless, Inc., Huntington
- ➤ FY 2002 Office of Justice Programs and Community Oriented Policing Services grant amounts received in West Virginia:²⁸
 - Community Based (discretionary): 6 awards valued at \$972,000
 - Counter-Terrorism (discretionary): 3 awards valued at \$7,855,000
 - Juvenile Justice:
 - discretionary: 3 awards valued at \$250,000
 - formula: 5 awards valued at \$3,080,300
 - Law Enforcement:

discretionary: 58 awards valued at \$22,929,279

• formula: 20 awards valued at \$2,295,100

• Substance Abuse:

discretionary: 2 awards valued at \$4,900,000

• formula: 2 awards valued at \$4,314,209

Victims

discretionary: 1 award valued at \$35,000formula: 2 awards valued at \$3,280,000

Crime and Drug-Related Crime

➤ During 2000, there were 1,145 arrests for aggravated assault in West Virginia.²⁹ This number decreased to 897 during 2001³⁰ and to 730 during 2002.³¹

Number of Arrests, Selected Offenses, West Virginia, 2000-2002

Offense Type	2000	2001	2002
Murder and non-negligent manslaughter	19	16	25
Forcible rape	44	26	37
Robbery	96	57	56
Aggravated assault	1,145	897	730
Burglary	547	371	481
Larceny-theft	2,266	1,307	1,939
Motor vehicle theft	217	175	198
Arson	47	34	42
Drug abuse violations	1,918	1,550	1,624
Driving under the influence	4,898	4,116	4,052
Liquor laws	1,430	807	1,146
Drunkenness	2,104	925	1,588

➤ Of the 1,538 drugs that were involved in offenses charged by Drug and Violent Crime Control Task Forces in West Virginia during 2002, over 59.4% involved crack cocaine or marijuana. ³²

Number of Drugs Involved in Offenses, West Virginia, 2002

Drug Type	2002
Crack	612
Marijuana	301
Other opiates	193
Cocaine	174
Stimulants	128
Heroin	94
Depressants	15
Hallucinogens	13
Other	8

➤ During 2002, there were 515 adults charged with distribution/sale drug offenses in West Virginia.³³

Number of Adult Drug Offenses, by Charge, West Virginia, 2002

Charge Type	2002
Cultivation/manufacture	67
Distribution/sale	515
Possession	473
Conspiracy	256
Other	154
Total	1,465

During 2001, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) reported 200 arrests for drug violations in West Virginia.³⁴

Number of DEA Drug Arrests, West Virginia, 1997-2001

Year	Number of Arrests
1997	85
1998	135
1999	170
2000	230
2001	200

Drugs

> Cocaine

Prices for powder cocaine ranged from \$24,000 per kilogram, to \$1,200 per ounce, to \$250-\$300 per 8-ball, to \$100 per gram. Prices for crack cocaine ranged from \$1,200-\$1,600 per ounce, to \$300-\$400 per 1/8 ounce, to \$50 per rock. Powder cocaine purity levels ranged from 80-90% per kilogram, to 50-80% per ounce, to 40-50% per gram. Crack cocaine purity levels ranged from 40-90%. Powder and crack cocaine are widely available in most West Virginia cities. Abuse of crack cocaine is usually restricted to low and low-middle income individuals, but crosses all ethnic lines. Some violence is associated with crack distribution in the State. Cocaine availability is limited to large-retail or small-wholesale quantities. Locations to obtain cocaine vary more than those of other drugs consumed in West Virginia and are largely based on the trafficker's location within the State.

➤ Heroin³⁷

Heroin demand and availability are limited throughout West Virginia. Small groups of long-term heroin addicts exist and rely on each other to obtain heroin from secondary sources in Philadelphia and Baltimore.

> Marijuana

Marijuana is the most widely available and commonly used drug in West Virginia. Prices for commercial grade marijuana range from \$800-\$1,500 per pound, to \$120-\$250 per ounce, to \$6-\$10 per gram. Prices for sinsemilla (a higher potency form of marijuana) range from \$2,200-\$3,200 per pound, to \$180-\$240 per ounce, to \$12 per gram. ³⁸ Imported and locally produced marijuana pose serious drug threats in West

Virginia. The State consistently ranks in the top ten states for marijuana eradication and commonly serves as a source area for domestic marijuana.³⁹

➤ Methamphetamine⁴⁰

Methamphetamine has become an increasing drug threat to West Virginia. Prices for methamphetamine range from \$5,000-\$6,500 per pound, to \$1,600 per ounce, to \$350 per 8-ball, to \$150 per gram. Methamphetamine is also associated with violent crime in West Virginia.

➤ Club Drugs⁴¹

Demand for MDMA in West Virginia has increased, but abuse remains concentrated near Morgantown, which is the location of West Virginia University. The demand for MDMA in college towns is large enough to bring thousands of pills into the State every month. The State's remote terrain also makes it suitable to host "rave" parties, although attendance at large-scale, publicized raves has been disappointing to promoters.

- ➤ Diverted Pharmaceuticals⁴²
 - West Virginia, along with neighboring and nearby states Virginia, Kentucky, and Tennessee, were among the first areas in the United States to experience widely publicized problems with OxyContin diversion and abuse. Pharmaceutical drug abuse in general, however, has always been an enormous concern in West Virginia, particularly in the southern region.
- According to the 2000-2001 data from the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, approximately 39.89% of West Virginia citizens felt that smoking marijuana once a month posed a great risk.⁴³

Percent of Citizens Reporting Drug Use, by Age, West Virginia, 2000-2001 Data

	12-17	18-25	26 +	All ages
Past month use of any illicit drug	10.13	14.91	2.85	5.03
Past month use of marijuana	7.03	11.91	2.33	3.96
Past month use of illicit drug other than marij.	5.32	6.58	1.76	2.69
Past year cocaine use	1.47	4.23	0.88	1.35
Great risk of smoking marijuana once a month	39.89	29.21	52.25	48.23

According to 2001 data from National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, approximately 1.30% of West Virginia citizens reported past year dependence on illicit drugs.⁴⁴

Percent of Citizens Reporting Past Year Dependence, West Virginia, 2001

	12-17	18-25	26 +	All ages
Illicit drug dependence	2.69	3.54	0.78	1.30
Illicit drug dependence or abuse	4.85	5.04	1.12	1.95
Alcohol dependence	3.09	5.28	1.75	2.31
Alcohol or illicit drug dependence or abuse	8.91	15.67	4.26	6.12

Juveniles

➤ During 2002, there were 22 juveniles charged with drug offenses in West Virginia.⁴⁵

Number of Juvenile Drug Offenses Charged, West Virginia, 2002

Offense Type	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Other	Total
Cultivation/Manufacture	1	0	0	0	1
Distribution/Sale	0	0	4	0	4
Possession	10	1	2	3	16
Other	0	0	1	0	1
Total	11	1	7	3	22

➤ During 2000, there were 171 juvenile arrests for burglary in West Virginia. ⁴⁶ This number decreased to 73 during 2001. ⁴⁷ During 2002, there were 99 juvenile arrests for burglary. ⁴⁸

Number of Juvenile Arrests, Selected Offenses, West Virginia, 2000-2002

Offense Type	2000	2001	2002
Murder and non-negligent manslaughter	2	0	1
Forcible rape	3	1	2
Robbery	11	4	7
Aggravated assault	63	29	41
Burglary	171	73	99
Larceny-theft	562	316	353
Motor vehicle theft	70	35	53
Arson	15	5	10
Drug abuse violations	171	100	116
Driving under the influence	50	38	26
Liquor laws	240	127	162
Drunkenness	21	15	12

➤ During 2001, 45.2% of high school students in West Virginia reported using marijuana at least once in their lifetime.⁴⁹

Percent of High School Students Using Selected Drugs, West Virginia, 2001

Drug Type and Use	Females	Males	Total
Lifetime marijuana use	44.9	45.5	45.2
Current marijuana use	32.2	25.5	28.7
Lifetime cocaine use	14.2	10.5	12.4
Current cocaine use	8.1	3.9	5.8
Lifetime inhalant use	17.8	20.0	19.1
Current inhalant use	6.1	6.9	6.7
Lifetime heroin use	6.6	3.9	5.3
Lifetime methamphetamine use	12.6	10.8	11.8
Lifetime injecting illegal drug use	4.5	3.0	3.7
Tried marijuana before aged 13 years	14.6	7.8	11.1

Enforcement

- As of October 31, 2002 there were 3,959 law enforcement employees in West Virginia (3,028 officers and 931 civilians).⁵⁰
- ➤ Drug Identification Section of West Virginia State Police⁵¹
 The Drug Identification Section analyzes and identifies any suspected controlled substances submitted to the crime lab.

Trafficking and Seizures

➤ During full year 2003, the DEA and state and local authorities in West Virginia reported 58 methamphetamine lab incidents to the El Paso Intelligence Center. ⁵²

Number of Methamphetamine Incidents/Seizures, West Virginia, 2003

Type of Seizure	Number
Chemical/glass/equipment	7
Dumpsite	3
Laboratory	48
Total	58

During 2002, Federal authorities seized 7.3 kilograms of marijuana in West Virginia.⁵³

Federal Drug Seizures in Kilograms, West Virginia, 1998–2002

Year	Cocaine	Marijuana	Methamphetamine	Heroin
1998	1.4	4.1	1.4	0.0
1999	7.0	15.2	0.6	0.0
2000	4.5	46.8	0.2	0.0
2001	8.2	90.5	0.5	0.1
2002	1.3	7.3	0.2	0.0

➤ In 2002, there were 30,887 marijuana plants eradicated and seized in West Virginia under the DEA's Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program.⁵⁴

Marijuana Plants Eradicated and Seized, West Virginia, 2002

Outdoor Operations Indoor O		<u>perations</u>		
	Cultivated			Total
Plots	Plants	Grows	Plants	Plants
Eradicated	Eradicated	Seized	Eradicated	Eradicated
688	30,166	39	721	30,887

➤ During 2001, there were 13 methamphetamine labs seized in West Virginia.⁵⁵

Number of Methamphetamine Lab Seizures, West Virginia, 1996-2001

Year	Meth Lab Seizures
1996	0
1997	0
1998	1
1999	5
2000	2
2001	13

- ➤ Clandestine methamphetamine laboratory activity in West Virginia has increased in the past several years. Methamphetamine manufacturing used to be focused in the Panhandle region of the state, but has since expanded to include other areas of northern West Virginia as well as some southeastern sites. Methamphetamine distributors in West Virginia often share Mexican sources of supply with distributors in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley region. ⁵⁶
- Caucasian and African American local independent dealers, criminal groups, and local street gangs are the principal transporters and distributors of cocaine in West Virginia.⁵⁷
- ➤ Marijuana available in West Virginia is produced in Mexico, although a large amount is also produced locally.⁵⁸

Courts

- ➤ Drug Court⁵⁹
 - As of November 2003, there were 2 drug courts in West Virginia in operation or being planned. One drug court had been operating for over 2 years and another was being planned.
- ➤ During FY 2001, 56.2% of Federally sentenced defendants in West Virginia had committed drug offenses. Approximately 45.7% of these drug offenses involved crack cocaine. ⁶⁰

Federal Sentencing Statistics, Drug Offenses, West Virginia, FY 2001

Offense Type Involved	Number	Percentage of Total	
Powder cocaine	35	11.5%	
Crack cocaine	139	45.7	
Heroin	18	5.9	
Methamphetamine	67	22.0	
Marijuana	18	5.9	
Other	27	8.9	

Corrections

➤ Alcohol and Drug Education (Aladrue)⁶¹

The Aladrue program, which began as a basic substance abuse education program in 1987, has evolved into a comprehensive continuum of programs and services serving the corrections system from intake to parole and release into the community. Project Aladrue encompasses drug education, counseling, therapy groups, AA and NA groups, residential treatment, therapeutic communities, community outreach, drug

- testing, controlled dangerous substance canine units, resource acquisition, program planning and development and staff training.
- Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners Program (RSAT)⁶²
 This program assists in the development and implementation of residential substance abuse treatment programs within West Virginia and local correctional and detention facilities. The goal is to reduce recidivism by implementing these programs that provide individual and group treatment activities for offenders.
- ➤ During FY 2001-2002 in West Virginia, 11,545 inmates were subjected to drug tests with only 1% testing positive for drug use. ⁶³

Department of Corrections Drug Test Results by Facility, West Virginia, FY 2001-2002

Institution	# of Samples Tested	# of Positive Samples	% of Positive Samples
Anthony correctional center	693	10	1%
Beckley correctional center	683	1	0
Charleston work/study release	670	17	3
Denmar correctional center	848	6	1
Huntington work/study release	648	7	0
Huttonsville correctional center	1,894	9	1
Mount olive correctional complex	2,759	20	1
Northern correctional center	830	15	2
Ohio county correctional center	96	3	3
Pruntytown correctional center	1,466	19	1
St. Mary's correctional center	958	4	0
Total	11,545	111	1%

➤ As of June 30, 2002, there were 272 inmates incarcerated for drug-related crimes.⁶⁴

Inmates Incarcerated for Drug-Related Crimes, West Virginia, June 30, 2002

	# of	% of
Drug Offenses	$$ Inmates $_$	_ Inmates _
Create/Delivery/Possession with intent to counterfeit	7	0
Manufacturing/Delivery/Possession with intent schedule 5	5	0
Manufacturing/Delivery/Possession with intent schedule 1,2,3	206	6
Manufacturing/Delivery/Possession with intent schedule 4	34	1
Obtaining drugs through misrepresentation	16	0
Sale/Manufacturing of drug paraphernalia	4	0
Total	272	8

- ➤ On December 31, 2002, there were 4,544 prisoners under the jurisdiction of State or Federal correctional authorities in West Virginia. This is a 7.8% increase over the number of prisoners incarcerated as of December 31, 2001 (4,215). 65
- ➤ As of December 31, 2002, there were 6,244 adults on probation and 999 adults on parole in West Virginia. 66

Consequences of Use

➤ From October 1, 2002 to September 30, 2003, there were 4 West Virginia methamphetamine laboratory sites reported to the El Paso Intelligence Center in which a child was present. ⁶⁷

Number of Children at Methamphetamine Lab Incidents, West Virginia, FY 2003

	Number
Sites with a child affected	13
Sites with a child exposed to toxic chemicals	5
Sites with a child injured	0
Sites with a child killed	0
Sites with a child present	4
Sites with a child residing at the site	9
Number of children placed in protective custody	1

Treatment

➤ During 2001, there were 6,185 total treatment admissions in West Virginia. ⁶⁸ This number increased during 2002 to 6,558. ⁶⁹

Treatment Admissions, by Drug Type, West Virginia, 2001-2002

Treatment reamssions, by Di		01	2002	
Drug Type	Number	Percent _	Number	Percent _
Alcohol only	2,234	36.1%	386	5.9%
Alcohol w/ secondary drug	367	5.9	210	3.2
Cocaine (smoked)	78	1.3	7	0.1
Cocaine (other route)	158	2.6	13	0.2
Marijuana	615	9.9	33	0.5
Heroin	60	1.0	55	0.8
Other opiate	483	7.8	32	0.5
PCP	2	0.0		
Hallucinogens	9	0.1	6	0.1
Amphetamines	72	1.2	8	0.1
Tranquilizers	77	1.2	142	2.2
Sedatives	160	2.6	351	5.4
Inhalants	6	0.1		
Other/Unknown	1,864	30.1	5,315	81.0
Total	6,185	100.0	6,558	100.0

Sources

¹ U.S. Census Bureau Web site: http://www.census.gov

² U.S. Census Bureau Web site, American Community Survey: 2002 Data Profiles: http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Products/Profiles/Single/2002/ACS/index.htm

⁴ West Virginia Governor's Web site: http://www.state.wv.us/governor/

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<sup>5</sup> West Virginia Attorney General's Web site: http://www.wvs.state.wv.us/wvag/
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http://www.senate.gov/general/contact information/senators cfm.cfm?State=WV

⁸ U.S. House of Representatives Web site: http://clerk.house.gov/members/index.php

⁹ Office of National Drug Control Policy, Appalachia High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Web site: http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/hidta/frames_appl.html

¹⁰ West Virginia Division of Criminal Justice Services, CREATE for a Drug-Free West Virginia: http://www.wvdcjs.com/justiceprograms/safedrugfree.html

¹¹ Drug-Free Communities Support Program Web site, West Virginia grantees:

http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/dfcs/states/wv.html

12 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Formula and Discretionary Grant Allotments Summary: http://www.samhsa.gov/funding/funding.html

¹³ Executive Office for Weed and Seed Data Center, West Virginia: http://www.weedandseeddatacenter.org/map.aspx?state=WV

¹⁴ Bureau of Justice Assistance Web site, FY 2003 Byrne Formula Grant Program State Allocations: http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/html/FY2003BYRNE.pdf

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- ²⁰ Ibid.
- ²¹ Ibid.
- ²² Ibid.
- ²³ Ibid.
- ²⁴ Bureau of Justice Assistance Web site, Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners Program: FY 2003 State Allocations: http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/pdf/03RSATAllocations.PDF ²⁵ Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, COPS Methamphetamine Initiative 2003:

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²⁷ U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Federally Assisted Low-Income Housing Drug Elimination Grants: Detailed Congressional Report, FY 2001: http://www.hud.gov/content/releases/drugelimination.pdf

²⁸ Office of Justice Programs and Office of Community Oriented Policing Services Grants, West Virginia, FY 2002: http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/fy2002grants/map/wvsubj.htm

²⁹ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States*, 2000, October 2001: http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/00cius.htm

⁰ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States*, 2001, October 2002: http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/01cius.htm

³¹ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States*, 2002, October 2003:

http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/02cius.htm
³² West Virginia Criminal Justice Statistical Analysis Center, 2002 Narcotics Arrest Survey, May 2003: http://www.wvdcjs.com/publications/NAS2002.pdf
33 Ibid.

³⁴ Drug Enforcement Administration, West Virginia State Fact Sheet: http://www.usdoj.gov/dea/pubs/states/westvirginia.html

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³⁶ Drug Enforcement Administration, West Virginia State Fact Sheet: http://www.usdoj.gov/dea/pubs/states/westvirginia.html

⁶ West Virginia Secretary of State's Web site: http://www.wysos.com

⁷ U.S. Senate Web site, West Virginia Senators:

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⁴⁷ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States*, 2001, October 2002: http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/01cius.htm

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⁶⁴ Ibid.

⁶⁵ Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Prisoners in 2002*, July 2003: http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/p02.pdf

⁶⁶ Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Probation and Parole in the United States*, 2002, August 2003: http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/ppus02.pdf

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⁶⁸ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, State Treatment Data, West Virginia, 2001: http://wwwdasis.samhsa.gov/webt/quicklink/WV01.htm
⁶⁹ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, State Treatment Data, West Virginia,

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