

With a strategic Mid-Atlantic location just 60 miles from Washington, D.C. and ready access to major transportation routes, Jefferson County is ideally situated for business and industry. Jefferson County is a major economic driver in a state that boasts the nation's fourth lowest cost of doing business, low utility rates, and a highly skilled and loyal workforce.

## **State and Local Programs and Incentives**

Jefferson County Development Authority (JCDA) Established in 1979, the JCDA was chartered to "provide an increased and diverse tax base for Jefferson County, and to provide new employment opportunities for our citizens through the attraction of new businesses, and through the retention and expansion of existing businesses." JCDA staff are available on a confidential, no-cost basis to encourage and promote small business development in Jefferson County. Our services include:

- Connecting businesses and prospects with local and state resources.
- Providing site selection assistance for new or existing businesses.
- Coordinating services with the West Virginia Development Office to help prospects take advantage of state incentives.
- Providing existing businesses with retention and expansion programs and services.
- A local small business coach to provides one-onone consultive services at no charge.

## Business Friendly Climate

Jefferson County is home to a strong business community with support from local government to provide assistance, including fast-track permitting, to businesses relocating or expanding in the County.

## Economic Growth

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The Eastern Panhandle continues to be an economic stronghold for West Virginia, with the West Virginia University College of Business and Economics forecasting Jefferson County to have the fastest growing job growth rate in the state. With new construction and existing companies expanding, there is significant investment in Jefferson County.

## West Virginia State Incentives

Locating a business in West Virginia makes good business sense. It is the reason more than \$20 billion worth of new business investments have been made in the state's economy since 2005. West Virginia provides aggressive development assistance to reduce startup and operating costs and provide for enhanced productivity. Incentives include:

- Direct and Indirect Loan Programs
- Linked Deposit Loan Program
- Industrial Revenue Bonds
- Corporate Headquarters Credit
- Economic Opportunity Credit
- High-Tech Manufacturing Credit
- Strategic R&D Credit
- Manufacturing Sales Tax Exemption
- Tax Increment Financing
- Governor's Guaranteed Work Force Program
- High-Technology Business Property Valuation Act



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