

# 2008 BUCHANAN COUNTY PROFILE



## POPULATION

**Total County Population**

2000:	26,978
1990:	31,333
1980:	37,989
1970:	32,071

**Incorporated Towns**

Grundy	1,105
Vansant	989

**Population Projections**

2010:	25,913
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**Population Age Breakdown (2000)**

0-18	5,773
18-24	2,293
25-44	8,417
45-64	7,419
65+	3,102
Median age:	38.8

County Area (Square Miles) 508  
 Population Density (Per Sq. Mile) 62  
 Population of immediate surrounding counties 233,812

## EMPLOYMENT

**Labor Force (August 2008)**

County Civilian Labor Force . . . 8,628

Unemployment Rate . . . . . 6.2%

Labor Force of Contiguous Areas . . . . . 78,894

**Employment by Industry (First Quarter 2008)**

Natural Resources and Mining . .	1,850
Construction . . . . .	683
Manufacturing. . . . .	321
Trade, Transportation, Utilities .	1,251
Information . . . . .	55
Financial Activities. . . . .	188
Professional & Business Services.	495
Education & Health Services. . .	1,817
Leisure & Hospitality . . . . .	330
Other Services . . . . .	181
Public Administration . . . . .	642
Total . . . . .	7,813

## UTILITIES

**Serving the Industrial Parks:**

**Water**

Buchanan County PSA  
 Capacity - 2.0 M gpd  
 Rate - \$8.00/1000 gallons

**Sewer**

Buchanan County PSA  
 Capacity - 1.65 M gpd  
 Rate - \$8.00/1000 gallons

**Electric**

**American Electric Company**  
 220V 3 Phase Service  
 Rate - ¢3.89/kWh  
 1,000Kw@400,000 kWh/Mo.

**Telephone**

**Verizon Communications, Inc.**  
 Conventional and fiber-optic cable facilities are available.

## COUNTY TAXES

	Assessment Ratio	Nominal Tax Rate per \$100 of Assessed Value
Real Estate	75.2%	.43
Machinery & Tools		
1 - 3	80.0%	1.95
Merchant's capital	10%	2.00/\$100
Personal Property		
(1-3 years)	60%	1.95
Utility Taxes		
Electric - \$0.75+\$0.0109/kWh (\$3 max)		
Gas - \$0.048/CCF (\$3 max)		
Sales. . . . .		5.0%

\*Tax rates provided by locality.

## CLIMATE

Average January Temperature	36°
Average July Temperature	76°
Average Annual Rainfall	40 inches
Average Annual Snowfall	23 inches

Prevailing winds are from the west and southwest and a secondary northeast direction.

Buchanan County is considered an attainment area for all national air quality standards.

## MAJOR EMPLOYERS

**Approximate # Employees**

Consolidation Coal Company	650
Issues & Answers Network	115
Keen Mtn. Correctional Fac.	314
KVAT Food Stores	170
Cardinal Industries, Inc. and Cardinal Activewear Co.	8
Virginia Employment Commission Customer Service Center	64

## EDUCATION

### Fall 2007 Enrollment

3 Elementary (PK-7)	459
2 Elementary/Middle (PK-8)	1,372
1 Middle (PK-7)	424
4 High Schools (8-12)	1,220

The Buchanan County School System is fully accredited by the Southern Assoc. of Schools and Colleges. It offers programs for gifted students & special education for handicapped students.

### Vocational/Technical Education

The Buchanan County Technology & Career Center, in Grundy, offers courses in auto mechanics, drafting, welding, carpentry, sewing, nursing, cosmetology, printing, electricity, and masonry.

### Higher Education

#### Community Colleges

Southwest Virginia Community College, in Richlands, and Mountain Empire Community College, in Big Stone Gap, offer two-year degree programs in technical and occupational subjects, and the first two years of college level subjects in the arts and sciences. Day and evening classes are available on and off campus. Both colleges contract with new and existing industry to train employees and have personnel on staff to work with business and industry.

#### Appalachian School of Law

The Appalachian School of Law is a fully-accredited private law school on a four building campus. The Law School, which specializes in dispute resolution, opened in August 1997.

#### University of Appalachia College of Pharmacy

The University of Appalachia was officially formed in July 2003. The Pharmacy School is a private, non-profit university. It offers Virginia's only three-year Doctor of Pharmacy program.

#### Also conveniently located from

#### Buchanan County:

UVA's College at Wise, Wise VA  
Emory & Henry College, Emory, VA  
VA Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, VA  
Radford University, Radford, VA  
King College, Bristol, TN  
Virginia Intermont College, Bristol, VA  
East TN State Univ., Johnson City, TN  
Lincoln Memorial Univ., Harrogate, TN  
Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN  
Pikeville College, Pikeville, KY

## QUALITY OF LIFE

### Health Care

– The Buchanan County Medical Center has 144 beds and offers a full range of medical care along with 11 clinics and 2 nursing homes. There are 22 physicians and 6 dentists.

### Hotels/Meeting Rooms

– There are four motels located within the County. One facility offers meeting rooms.

### Libraries

– The Buchanan County Library has a branch in Grundy with over 72,000 volumes.

### Recreation/Culture

– The Clinch Mountain Wildlife Areas and the Breaks Interstate Park offer numerous outdoor recreational opportunities.

– Buchanan County maintains recreational facilities including 18 tennis courts, two horse rinks, four swimming pools, 11 softball fields and a 9-hole golf course.

– Organized community recreational programs are available year round for the entire family.

– The New Mountain Players, a theater group, and numerous arts and craft festivals, provide cultural entertainment throughout the year.

### Religion

– There are over 100 churches in the county representing most Protestant and the Roman Catholic faiths.

### Shopping

– Vansant and Grundy serve as the shopping centers of the county.

## TRANSPORTATION

### Highways

Buchanan County is served by US Route 460 and State Highways 80 and 83.

### Interstates

I-81	83 Miles
I-77	71 Miles
I-64	100 Miles

### Air

#### Commercial Air Service

Tri-Cities Regional Airport in Blountville, Tennessee, is approximately 100 miles from Buchanan County. Airline service available through U.S. Air, Delta/Atlantic Southeast Airlines (ASA), Northwest AirlinK and Allegiant Air.

#### General Aviation Service

Grundy Airport offers a 2,350 foot runway. Tazewell County Airport at Claypool Hill is within 25 miles of Grundy and offers a 4,300 foot runway.

### Trucking

More than thirty motor freight companies provide service for Buchanan County. Sample list are: Overnite, Estee Express, Yellow Freight. Eight air freight companies serve the area including Airborne, CF Air Freight, and Air Cargo.

## INDUSTRIAL PARKS

### Buchanan Information Park

Grundy . . . . . 2 acres available  
25,000 sq. ft. multi-tenant facility available

Poplar Gap . . . . . 225 acres

Aggressive incentives are available and can include: reduced space costs, training grants, and transportation grants.