

# Warren County Relocation Package



**AN INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED  
LICENSEE OF LONG & FOSTER**

Long & Foster/Webber & Associates, Realtors®  
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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION -----	2
GOVERNMENT -----	3
TAXES -----	4
IMPORTANT NUMBERS -----	5-6
HEALTH -----	7
CLIMATE -----	8
POPULATION -----	9-10
CHURCHES -----	10
TEMPORARY LODGING -----	11
SHOPPING -----	12
TRANSPORTATION -----	13-14
SCHOOLS -----	15-17
LIBRARIES -----	18
RECREATION -----	19
LABOR FORCE -----	20-22
HISTORY -----	23-24
COMMUNICATION -----	25

## **INTRODUCTION**

**LONG & FOSTER/WEBBER & ASSOCIATES** is a growing, vibrant real estate firm. Long & Foster/Webber & Associates is one of the largest offices in the Blue Ridge Association of Realtors area. We currently have a staff of 50 Associates. Among these are one Associate Broker, 5 Associates with the hard earned GRI (Graduate Realtors Institute) designation, one CRB (Certified Residential Broker) designation, 2 CRS (Certified Residential Specialist), 3 SRES (Senior Housing Specialist) and 6 ABR (Accredited Buyer Representative) designations. We also have 14 agents whom are multi-state licensed.

We are highly visible in the real estate community, having won virtually every award available from our Association. We have staff that has served on the local Association's Board of Directors and has held every office through the Association's presidency. Our sales staff has won Salesperson of the Year Award, Rookie of the Year Award, Realtor of the Year and Ethics Awards. In some of these categories, we have multiple winners. The agents of Long & Foster/Webber & Associates are community oriented. We work for the Chamber of Commerce, and act as volunteers in almost every charity, including raising money for Habitat for Humanity.

As a business entity, we are clearly leaders. Our relocation package is second to none. Our agents come from, and work with, all walks of life. We are highly trained and continue our education through weekly sessions. We have extensive backgrounds in relocation.

Long & Foster/Webber & Associates is located at 1001 Berryville Avenue. Berryville Avenue, which becomes Route 7 East, is among the heaviest traveled routes in the City of Winchester. We operate from a two thousand seven hundred square foot modern office building built and designed as a real estate office. Our one-story, ground level location makes our visibility and image second to none, and the ground floor, front door parking and handicapped accessed facility makes the convenience for our customers and clients unparalleled.

## GOVERNMENT

The Mayor, Town Council and members of the Town staff welcome you to the Town of Front Royal. Incorporated on November 15, 1788 as a fifty-acre town, Front Royal now consists of more than 9 square miles of land containing approximately 14,000 citizens. From a municipal government standpoint Front Royal operates as if it were a medium sized city. The Town itself continues to maintain a quaint, small town atmosphere.

<b>County of Warren</b>	<b>Town of Front Royal</b>
<b>County Offices</b> <b>P.O. Box 908</b> <b>636-4600</b>	<b>Town Hall</b> <b>P.O. Box 1560</b> <b>635-8007</b>

**County Government:** Chairman/Board/Administrator  
Sheriff Dept: Sheriff and 24 Road Deputies

**Front Royal Government:** Mayor/Council/Manager  
**Police Dept. Personnel:** Chief and 28 Full Time Officers  
The County and the Town of Front Royal have Planning Commissions, Zoning Regulations, and Industrial Site Plan approval.

**Fire and Rescue Personnel:** 4 paid & 207 Volunteers within 9 companies.

Equipment: 19 Pumper Trucks, 4 Attack Pumpers, 7 Brush Trucks, 4 Tankers, 2 Ladder Trucks, 9 Ambulances, 3 Mobile Units, 2 Boats, 1 Heavy Crash Truck.

**Fire Protection Classification:** ISO-5 Front Royal; ISO-9 County

## TAXES

### Tax Notes:

- \* Companies pay either county or city taxes.
- \* Towns provide additional community services over those available, as well as tax assessment for those in unincorporated areas of the counties.
- \* Water & Sewer service rates outside town limits are generally higher.
- \* Nominal Real Estate rates per \$100 of assessed value for 2000 are listed for general comparison.
- \* Real Estate is assessed at fair market value.
- \* Assessment methods for Personal Property and Machinery and Tools depend on the jurisdiction.
- \* Tax rates in the Northern Shenandoah Valley tend to be lower than other areas of Virginia offering comparable services.
- \* Differences in rates effect differing levels of services and tax base.

### Tax Year 2000: Nominal Rates per \$100 Assessed Value

Jurisdiction	Real Estate	Personal Property	Machinery & Tools
<b>Clarke Co.</b>	.74	4.00	1.25
Berryville	.989	1.00*	.90*
Boyce	.07*	.60*	1.25*
<b>Frederick Co.</b>	.525	4.20	2.00
Middletown	.065*	1.25*	n/a
Stephens City	.076*	1.00*	.50*
<b>Page Co.</b>	.74	3.00	2.00
Luray	.25*	.40*	.40*
Shenandoah	.28*	.33*	.33*
Stanley	.16*	.45*	.45*
<b>Shenandoah Co.</b>	.68	2.86	2.86
Edinburg	.185*	.75*	.75*
Mt. Jackson	.19*	.75*	n/a
New Market	.15*	.80*	380*
Strasburg	.22*	1.11*	.86*
Toms Brook	.10*	.50*	.50*
Woodstock	.19*	.90*	.90*
<b>Warren Co.</b>	.79	3.15	2.25
Front Royal	.13*	.60*	.60*
<b>City of Winchester</b>	.69	4.50	1.20

\* Add-on Taxes

## **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

### **CABLE TV:**

Adelphia Cable Communications (800) 835-4949  
Direct TV (800) 531-5000

### **ELECTRICITY:**

Town of Front Royal (540) 635-7799  
Allegheny Power (Warren County) (800) 255-3443

### **EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION:**

Virginia Employment Commission 540-636-6161  
VA Workers Compensation 1-800-367-8600  
Atwork Personnel Services 540-636-7500  
Manpower 540-631-9138  
AES Corporation Services 1-800-832-6561  
Cabrey Associates, LLC 1-540-436-8468

### **HEATING FUEL:**

Amerigas Propane (800) 237-1320, (540) 635-3556  
Columbia Propane Inc. (800) 897-9979, (540) 869-7788  
H.N. Funkhouser & Co. (540) 636-8000  
Quarles Petroleum Inc. (540) 635-2166  
Valley Discount Fuel Co. (800) 279-2566, (540) 635-4028

### **NEWSPAPERS:**

Warren Sentinel 540-635-4174  
(Thursdays)  
Northern Virginia Daily 540-636-6188  
(Monday-Saturday)  
Winchester Star 540-667-3220  
(Monday-Saturday)

### **POST OFFICE:**

Front Royal (540) 635-4540  
Linden (540) 636-9936  
Bentonville (540) 635-3225

### **STATISTICAL/DEMOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:**

Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission 540-635-4146

### **TELEPHONE/INTERNET:**

Embarq Communications 1-800-786-6272  
Verizon 1-800-695-6955  
Shentel Internet (800) 768-5220

**VEHICLE TAXES AND TAGS:**

County Sticker (540) 635-2215  
(Treasurer's Office)

Town Sticker (540) 635-7799  
(Town of Front Royal)

Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (540) 635-1454  
(Department of Motor Vehicles)

**VOTER REGISTRATION:**

Warren County Registrar 540-635-4327  
(Warren County Court House)

**WATER:**

Town of Front Royal (540) 635-7799  
Smeltzer's Water Services (800) 962-7374

## HEALTH

**Winchester Medical Center (WMC)** serves the Virginia, West Virginia, and Maryland tri-state area providing complete health care. The WMC is owned and operated by the Valley Health System. The WMC features their Heart Center, which was ranked as one of the top 100 in the nation, a Cancer Center, and an Inpatient/Outpatient Rehab Center.

Active Medical Staff of: 226  
Patient Beds: 405

**Warren Memorial Hospital** located in Front Royal, Virginia is a sister hospital to WMC as they are owned and operated by Valley Health Systems. Warren Memorial offers a Woman's Care Center and a 40 bed Nursing Home as part of the hospital's facilities.

Active Medical Staff of: 46  
Patient Beds: 81

**Shenandoah Memorial Hospital** is located in Woodstock, Virginia and provides primary health care to Shenandoah County. Shenandoah Memorial Hospital features their Family Centered Maternity Ward, Intensive/Coronary Care Unit and Ambulatory Surgery.

Active Medical Staff of: 30  
Patient Beds: 81

**Page Memorial Hospital** is located in Luray, Virginia and provides primary health care to the immediate surrounding area of Page County.

Active Medical Staff of: 12  
Patient Beds: 54

**VA Medical Center** in Martinsburg, West Virginia provides quality medical care for veterans in the Northern Shenandoah Valley. Emergency airlift is available by Pegasus to the University of Virginia Medical Center, which is the one of the top 100 Hospitals in the Nation according to HCIA-SACHS INSTITUTE.

## **CLIMATE**

Warren County's climate is characterized by mild winters and warm, humid summers.

Winter daytime temperatures are usually in the 40's with nighttime lows in the 20's.

During the summer, daytime highs are usually in the 80's with nighttime lows around 60 degrees.

## **PRECIPITATION**

The average annual precipitation in Warren County is 40 inches and snowfall averages 21 inches annually. The mean date of the last spring freeze is April 26 and the mean date of the first fall freeze is October 13, making the average growing season around 170 days.

Prevailing winds are from the south-southwest direction at an average velocity of 10 mph.

## **TOPOGRAPHY**

Warren County is bounded by the Blue Ridge Mountains on the east and the Massanutten Mountains on the west. The Blue Ridge Mountains are the highest, averaging 2,700 feet above sea level throughout the County. The lowest elevations are found in the north (1,925 feet at the Clarke County line) and the highest in the south (3,460 feet at the Page County line). The Massanutten Mountains average 2,000 feet above sea level with the highest elevations in the north (2,106 feet on Signal Knob) and lowest in the south (1,860 feet at the Page County line). These two mountain ridges visually dominate the landscape within the County, looming 1,000 to 2,900 feet over the central lowland. Topography in these mountainous parts includes steep-walled valleys with fast flowing streams and wooded slopes.

## POPULATION

<b>Population, 2002</b>	
<b>Town of Front Royal</b>	<b>County of Warren</b>
<b>13,000</b>	<b>30,600</b>

<b>Census2000 Population By Age Front Royal 0-10 miles Source: ESRI 2003</b>		<b>Warren County - Snapshot</b> Source: ESRI 2003				
<b>&lt;5</b>	6.6%		<b>2003 Front Royal 0-10 Miles</b>	<b>2008 Forecast Front Royal 0-10 Miles</b>	<b>2003 Front Royal 0-25 Miles</b>	<b>2008 Forecast Front Royal 0-25 Miles</b>
5-14	14.7%					
15-19	6.6%	Population	56,255	61,776	197,586	216,777
20-24	5.7%	Households	21,499	23,85	77,735	86,370
25-34	12.6%	Families	15,228	16,807	54,291	60,024
35-44	17.0%	Median Age	37.4	38.9	39.2	41.1
45-64	25.1%	Per Capita Income	\$23,133	\$28,209	\$26,499	\$33,668

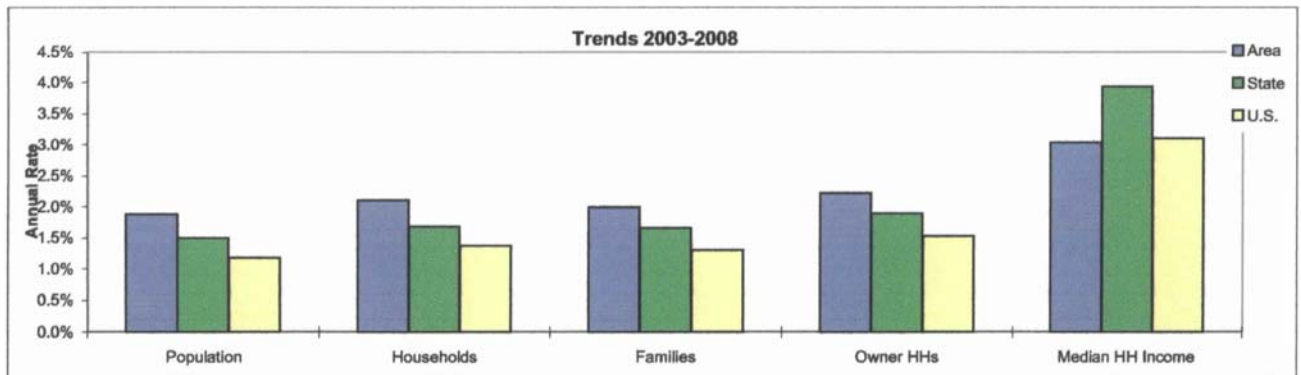
65-74	6.5%	Median Household Income	\$48,695	\$56,571	\$49,344	\$58,763
75-84	4.0%	Average Household Income	\$59,873	\$72,375	\$66,865	\$84,046
85+	1.2%	Average Household Size	2.58	2.56	2.51	2.48
Median Age	37.4	<i>Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 1. ESRI forecasts for 2003 and 2008.</i>				

I-66 & US 522  
Front Royal, VA  
0-10 Miles

Site Type: Circle

Latitude:  
Longitude:  
Radius in Miles:

38.961080  
-78.192670  
10.00



Source: ESRI

## CHURCHES/RELIGION

- Over 210 Protestant Churches
- Six Catholic Churches
- Two Jewish Synagogues located in Winchester and Harrisonburg
- Two Mormon Churches located in Frederick County and Front Royal
- Unitarian and Unity Churches in Frederick County

## **TEMPORARY LODGING**

### **BED & BREAKFASTS**

Fairview House  
Phone: 540-635-3588

Killahevlín Bed & Breakfast Inn  
Phone: 636-7335

Lackawanna Bed & Breakfast  
Phone: 636-7945

Tanglewood  
Phone: 635-1411

Woodward House on Manor Grade  
Phone: 540-635-7010

### **CABINS**

Beau Ridge Cabins  
Phone: 540-636-4856

Big Meadows Lodge  
Phone: 1-800-999-4714

Linger on the Shenandoah  
Phone: 635-6642

Sky Haven  
Phone: 540-635-1915

### **INNS**

Wayside Inn, Since 1797  
Phone: 540-869-1797

### **MOTELS**

Blue Ridge Motel  
Phone: 636-7200

Hampton Inn, Front Royal  
Phone: 540-635-1882

Bluemont Inn  
Phone: 635-9447

Scottish Inns  
Phone: 540-636-6168

Budget Inn  
Phone: 540-635-2196

Quality Inn  
540-635-3161

## **SHOPPING**

Front Royal is one of those towns where shopping is still a delight. From small, locally owned uptown specialty shops featuring locally made merchandise to large nationally known names in area shopping centers, the merchants are friendly and the service is courteous and reliable.

You can find just about anything you want in Front Royal and Warren County. Choose that special accessory for your favorite outfit or pick up a family heirloom or work of art. This is shopping that is leisurely and fun.

If your taste runs more cosmopolitan, you're only an hour away from the exclusive shops of the DC area with their "one of the kind" selection and designer labels. Spend an afternoon shopping in the city and top it off with dinner at a world-class restaurant, then head back to the quiet beauty of Warren County.

Living here offers you the best of both worlds! This is just one of the many amenities you'll enjoy when you call Front Royal home.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

Since the days when trails from Manassas and Chester Gaps met at LeHewtown (now Front Royal), this area has been at the center of travel activity. Centrally located at the northernmost entrance of the Shenandoah National Park's beautiful Skyline Drive, Front Royal is just 70 miles from Washington, DC and at the intersection of Interstate Highways 66 and 81. This means easy shipment of goods to a variety of markets and easy access to other parts of the state and country for Front Royal residents.

Evidence of the transportation hub that Front Royal and Warren County have become is the location of a UPS regional distribution center here. The county is also home to the state's only inland shipping port facility. The Virginia Inland Port (VIP), located on Routes 340/522 in Warren County, is an inter-modal container transfer facility operated by the Virginia Port Authority.

This 160-acre facility brings cargo over 200 miles close to inland markets without sacrificing quick, easy access to the ocean. The VIP is located close to both Interstates 81 and 66, on the main line of the Norfolk Southern Railroad. Cargo is transferred directly from the VIP ports of Hampton Roads, and vice versa, by rail. The VIP provides a cost-effective alternative to barging from northern feeder ports. This facility saves shippers, shipping lines and trucking company's time and money in handling cargo.

Southern Railway and Norfolk & Western Railway provide freight service to and from the county, shipping locally produced goods cross-country. The local airport boasts a 3,000+-foot runway and complete airport services. Additionally, Dulles International Airport is less than an hour's drive to the east. Washington National Airport and Baltimore-Washington International Airport are close by as well. There is a regional commercial airport located in nearby Winchester with full flight facilities.

It is easy to see why this area has always been well suited for manufacturing and shipping goods to other parts of the country.

**Local Airports:**

Front Royal – Warren County  
Luray Caverns Airport  
New Market Airport  
Winchester Regional Airport (Customs Service; Parallel taxiway; and Terminal)

**Commercial/International Airport Services:**

Baltimore-Washington International Airport  
Dulles International Airport  
Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport  
Shenandoah Valley Airport in Rockingham County (Served by United Express and US Air Express)

**Bus Service:**

Greyhound (Charter Bus Services)  
Richards Bus Lines, Inc. (Charter Bus Services)  
Schrock Tour and Charter Service  
Winchester Public Transit

**Motor Freight:**

ABF Freight Systems, Inc.  
American Freightways  
Athey Trucking  
Bowman Trucking  
CF Motor Freight  
Con-Way Southern Express  
Dayton Transport Corp.  
Estes Express Lines  
Gale International  
Hahn Transportation  
Hepner Trucking  
Mason & Dixon Terminal  
Old Dominion  
Overnite Transportation  
RiteWay Express  
Shamrock Distribution  
Simbeck, Inc.  
Trans. Serv. Associates, Inc.  
Wako Services  
Wilson Trucking Corp.

## SCHOOLS

<b>Warren County Public Schools (2005-2006)</b>				
	<b>Schools</b>	<b>Grades</b>	<b>Staff</b>	<b>Enrolled</b>
Primary	5	K-5		2276
Middle School	1	6-7		798
Jr. High School	1	8-9		920
High School Grades 10-12	1	10-12		1179
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>750</b>	<b>5173</b>
<p><b>Staff</b></p> <p>328 Teachers/Counselors/Librarians            12 Central Office Administrators            8 Principals            18 Other Professional Staff            325 Classified Support Staff</p>				
<p>Total Operating Budget = \$35.9 million:</p> <p>71% Instruction            3% Administration/Attendance/Health            5% Transportation            10% Operations/Maintenance            4% Food Service            7% Debt Service</p> <p>Average Per Pupil Expenditure for Instruction:            \$5,021.50</p>				
<p>Warren County High School Statistics:</p> <p>87% of students plan to further their education beyond high school            34% of students receive advanced studies diploma</p> <p>Dropout rate = 1.8% (State = 2.02%)</p>				

## **WARREN COUNTY SCHOOLS**

### **A.S. Rhodes Elementary**

224 W. Strasburg Rd.  
540-635-4556

### **Leslie Fox Keyser Elementary**

1015 E. Stonewall Dr.  
540-635-3125

### **Ressie Jeffries Elementary**

320 E. Criser Rd.  
540-636-6824

### **E. Wilson Morrison Elementary**

40 Crescent St.  
540-635-4188

### **Hilda J. Barbour Elementary**

290 Westminster Drive  
540-622-8090

### **Warren County Middle School**

600 W. 15th St.  
540-635-2194

### **Warren County Junior High**

155 Westminster Drive  
540-636-3199

### **Warren County High School**

240 Luray Ave.  
540-635-2194

### **Alternative Education Program**

Criser Rd.  
540-636-2400

### **Special Services**

Criser Rd.  
540-635-5587

## **PRIVATE SCHOOLS**

### **Randolph-Macon Academy**

201 Academy Drive.  
540-636-5200

## **COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES**

**Christendom College**, 2101 Shenandoah Shores Rd. 540-636-9000

**Lord Fairfax Community College**, Middletown 540-869-1120

**Shenandoah University**, Winchester 540-665-4500

## **PRESCHOOLS & KINDERGARDEN**

**Valley Road Baptist Church (540) 635 - 3094** RR 737 Front Royal,  
VA 22630

**Today's Child Pre School (540) 635 - 2062** 115 Luray Avenue  
Front Royal, VA 22630

**Royal Christian Academy and Pre School (540) 636 - 7940** 1111 North  
Shenandoah Avenue Front Royal, VA 22630

**Nazarene Little Darlings (540) 636 - 2881** 1107 Monroe Avenue  
Front Royal, VA 22630

**Angels Korner (540) 635 - 9787** 517 Braxton Road Front Royal,  
VA 22630

**Kids Place (540) 635 - 3999** 606 Massanutten Avenue  
Front Royal, VA 22630

**Little Sheep School & Preschool (540) 635 - 8202** 1340 Old  
Winchester Pike Front Royal, VA 22630

**Meadowland Learning Center (540) 635 - 6630** Front Royal, VA 22630

**Mountain Laurel Montessori School (540) 636 - 4257** 155 Biggs Drive  
Front Royal, VA 22630

## **LIBRARIES**

**Handley Public Library**, City of Winchester  
Estimated Volume: 87,000

**Mary Jane & James Bowman Library**, Stephens City  
Estimated Volume: 55,200

**Clarke County Library**, Berryville  
Estimated Volume: 16,600

**Samuels Public Library**, Front Royal  
Estimated Volume: 80,000

**Lord Fairfax Community College Library**, Middletown  
Estimated Volume: 56,811

**Alson B. Smith Library**, Shenandoah University, City of Winchester  
Estimated Volume: 272,000

**Shenandoah County Library**, Edinburg  
Estimated Volume: 70,000

**Page County Public Library**, Luray  
Estimated Volume: 45,000

**Rockingham Regional Library**, Harrisonburg  
Estimated Volume: 140,000

\*Through the Northern Shenandoah Valley Library Network, links the collections of Shenandoah University, Lord Fairfax Community College, Samuels Public Library and Warren County High School.

## **RECREATION**

Tourism is big business in Front Royal and Warren County -- and with good reason. The natural beauty of the area coupled with its accessibility by highway make for great vacationing and sightseeing.

### **Civil War Attractions:**

Belle Boyd Cottage/Warren Heritage Society  
Cedar Creek Battlefield Visitors Center  
National Cemetery  
Hupp's Hill Battlefield Park & Study Center

### **Regional Attractions:**

Appalachian Trail  
State Arboretum of Virginia – Blandy Farms  
George Washington & Jefferson National Forests  
Northern Virginia 4-H Center  
Shenandoah National Park/Skyline Drive  
Shenandoah River/Andy Guest State Park

### **Caverns:**

Crystal Caverns at Hupps Hill  
Endless Caverns  
Luray Caverns  
Shenandoah Caverns  
Skyline Caverns

### **Golf Courses:**

Bowling Green Country Club  
Bryce Resort Golf Club  
Carpers Valley Golf Club  
Front Royal Country Club  
Jackson's Chase at Pine Hills Golf Club  
Shenandoah Valley Golf Club

### **Sporting Facilities:**

Bryce Mountain Ski Resort  
Charles Town Race Track  
Lake Arrowhead  
Lake Frederick  
Shenandoah River Outfitters  
Summit Point Raceway  
Winchester Speedway  
Marriott Ranch

### **Festivals:**

Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival  
Shenandoah Valley Music Festival

\*For more information, please call the Chamber of Commerce (540-635-5788)

## LABOR FORCE

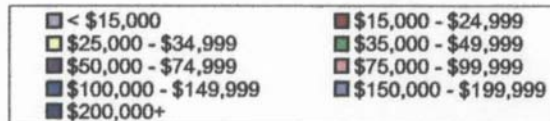
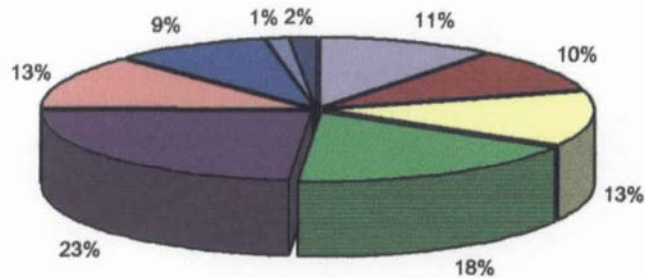
### Employment & Wages By Industry 4th Quarter, 2001

Industry	Annual Avg. Employment	Avg. Weekly Wage
Agriculture	137	\$581
Construction	759	\$622
Manufacturing (Durable)	407	\$633
Manufacturing (Nondurable)	515	\$934
Services	2,723	\$485
Government (Local)	1,320	\$511
Transportation	609	\$654
Trade	472	\$680
Retail Trade	2,429	\$374
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	264	\$544

**Virginia is a right-to-work state.**

*(Source: Virginia Employment Commission)*

**2003 Household Income**



**Virginia Employment Commission: [www.VAemploy.com](http://www.VAemploy.com)**

Year	Month	Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
2004	June	16,990	16,464	526	3.1
2004	May	16,693	16,221	472	2.8
2004	April	16,581	16,159	422	2.5
2004	March	16,508	16,066	442	2.7
2004	February	16,483	15,951	495	3.0
2004	January	16,483	15,888	595	3.6
2003	December	16,175	15,731	444	2.7
2003	November	16,226	15,742	484	3.0
2003	October	16,188	15,666	522	3.2
2003	September	16,254	15,639	615	3.8
2003	August	16,425	15,833	592	3.6
2003	July	16,678	15,990	688	4.1
2003	June	16,454	15,776	678	4.1
Virginia Employment Commission, <a href="http://www.VAemploy.com">www.VAemploy.com</a>					

<p><b>Warren County Workforce Survey</b>  <b>May 2003</b>  <b>Total Civilian Labor Force = 16,300</b>  <b>12, 150 Between ages of 22 and 54</b></p>
<p><b>Commuting Labor Force = 6,270 persons ages 22 to 54</b>  <b>53% = Male; 47% = Female</b>  <b>60% with some college or degrees</b></p>
<p><b>8.4% of people (1,020) of Warren County are unemployed</b>  <b>or actively seeking work</b></p>
<p><b>78% of commuters would consider employment within Warren County for</b>  <b>similar jobs relating to their present employment</b></p>

**25% of commuters would consider a new job in Warren County for \$15.17/hour or less**

**25% of commuters with most qualified experience levels would command more than \$25.00/hour**

**Destinations:**

**29% = Fairfax**

**15% = Outside Region**

**14% = Frederick County**

**12% = Prince William County**

**7% = Loudoun County**

**Commuter Areas of Endeavor:**

**17% = Government**

**15% = Private Industry**

**14% = Construction/Contractor**

**7% = Technology**

**7% Medical/Healthcare Services**

**Commuter Work Experience:**

**48% Office, Customer Service, Hospitality**

**42% Government/Education**

**37% Computer Operations**

**35% Warehouse/Distribution/Transportation**

**Underemployed Workforce = 6,370 (under/unemployed)**

**43% = Male; 57% = Female**

**Additional 5,000 in workforce pool would be available to change jobs**

**25% would take a new job for \$12.17/hour or less**

**25% most qualified would command more than \$23.75/hour**

**Underemployed possess the following skills and experience:**

**Manufacturing, Assembly, Fabrication & Industrial Operations;**

**Office, Computer and "White Collar";**

**Distribution or Transportation Operations;**

**Sales and Customer service.**

**Technical/Professional Certifications/Licenses of Underemployed Residents:**

**17% = Medical**

**11% = Computer**

**9% = Teaching**

**29% Other (Inspector, Food Preparation, Millwright, Technical Photographer)**

*Survey conducted by:*

*The Pathfinders, Dallas, Texas*

## HISTORY

The history of Warren County begins with the American Indians between 11,000 and 12,000 years ago. The site of the oldest known permanent habitations in the eastern United States is located in the County along the South Fork of the Shenandoah River.

White men first appeared in the Shenandoah Valley in the mid-1600's. Warren County was first settled around 1730. Many of the County's early settlers were Scots-Irish and English Quakers.

Warren County was situated at the intersection of land and water trade routes. Supplies and manufactured goods came through the Blue Ridge Mountains through Chester and Manassas Gaps. At the confluence of the North and South Forks of the Shenandoah River, much of the early agricultural produce of the Valley was loaded onto barges for shipment to the coastal ports. The Town of Front Royal was eventually established at that river port in 1788.

Leadership and military manpower were the major resources supplied by Warren County and other Shenandoah Valley communities during the Revolutionary War. Pig iron, grain, leather, flour meat, fruit vegetables, and lumber were other valuable resources furnished to the Colonial cause.

Warren County began to boom in the early 1800's. The wars in Europe created a need for breadstuffs and brought a quick change from a tobacco-oriented economy to the raising of wheat.

The County was officially founded in 1836. It was formed from parts of Frederick and Shenandoah Counties. Front Royal has been the county seat from the beginning. In 1840, Warren County had a population of 5,627, one-fourth of which were slaves.

The first railroad made its way into the Shenandoah Valley in 1854 by way of the Manassas Gap and Front Royal

Warren County was of strategic importance during the Civil War because of its agricultural productivity, its transportation links with Winchester to the north, and its links with eastern Virginia by way of the roads through Chester and Manassas Gaps and the vital Manassas Gap Railroad.

The Battle of Front Royal, on May 23, 1862, was one of the Battles in General Stonewall Jackson's famous Valley Campaign. In that battle, confederate forces defeated 1,000 Union soldiers to capture a military supply depot, the Manassas Gap Railroad, and the strategic bridges over the two forks of the Shenandoah River at Riverton.

The Civil War destroyed most of the buildings in Warren County, but the soil could still be farmed and the County soon began to attract investors to develop local natural resources. By the 1890's, the County had again erupted in a flurry of activity. An enormous vineyard had been started near Front Royal, and iron, copper, and manganese were discovered within the County. Lime works had been founded in Riverton in 1869. Manufacturing also soon expanded, with sumac, tanning, and leather industries regaining the importance they had previously known. Other industries included tinning and cigar production. By 1900, Warren County's population had reached 8,837.

The two most important changes in Warren County during the 20th century have been the construction of two large manufacturing plants and the growth of tourism.

In 1937, construction began on the American Viscose manufacturing facility. This chemical-textile plant in Front Royal was at one time the world's largest producer of rayon. The U.S. Government operated the plant during World War II, producing materials to aid the war effort. FMC, Inc. purchased the facility and operated it into the mid 1970's. An FMC management team, led by Mr. John Gregg executed one of the first leveraged buyouts in the United States. The new company was named Avtex Fibers-Front Royal, Inc.

The rayon plant was the economic mainstay of this community for several decades. It was the largest employer within the region for over 20 years. Several major layoffs decreased the workforce from approximately 1300 in 1988 to 468 at the plant's closing in November 1989.

In 1980, a division of the DuPont Corporation was established in Cedarville near Front Royal. Paints for the secondary automotive market are manufactured at this facility. In 1989, with the closing of Avtex Fibers, DuPont became Warren County's largest employer.

Since 1994, the Front Royal-Warren County Economic Development Authority has successfully recruited manufacturing, distribution, hospitality and technology companies for an investment of more than \$180 million and the creation of 1,400 new jobs.

Warren County has long attracted tourists and seasonal residents, who have come to the area because of its climate, accessibility to major cities, and scenic beauty. Major tourist attractions include the Shenandoah National Park, the Skyline Drive, the Shenandoah River and the Skyline Caverns.

## COMMUNICATION

### Telephone Services:

#### **Local:**

Adelphia  
Intelos  
Sprint  
Shenandoah Telephone Co.  
Verizon

#### **Long Distance:**

Equal Access for All of District Region

### Internet Providers:

Adelphia Power Link  
Shentel Internet Access  
Visual Link, Inc.

### Newspapers:

#### **Daily:**

Daily News Record  
Northern Virginia Daily The Richmond Times Dispatch  
The Washington Post  
The Winchester Star

#### **Weekly:**

Clarke Courier  
Page News and Courier  
Shenandoah Valley Herald  
The Warren Sentinel  
The Free Press

#### **Monthly:**

Quad State Business Journal

### Radio Stations:

91.3, Winchester  
92.5, Winchester  
93.7, Woodstock  
95.3, Front Royal  
96.9, Mt. Jackson  
102.5, Winchester  
104.9, Berryville  
105.5, Berryville  
1400 (AM), Winchester