



# The Senate Committee on Finance

Budget Bulletin

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

The West Virginia Department of Commerce (WVDOC) has a mission to stimulate diverse economic growth, encourage appropriate use of the state’s natural resources and improve the safety and productivity of the workforce. Within the Department are major state agencies, including the Development Office, the Division of Natural Resources, the Division of Labor and the Tourism Office. The Department has a large budget, a little over half of which comes from federal sources.



| DEPT. OF COMMERCE FUNDING<br>FY2020 |                      |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| General Revenue.....                | \$78,973,930         |
| Special Revenue.....                | \$47,252,687         |
| Lottery.....                        | \$10,175,576         |
| Federal Revenue.....                | \$138,712,441        |
| <b>Total:</b>                       | <b>\$275,114,634</b> |

### TOURISM

Tourism is an important economic driver in West Virginia. Before this year, all funding for the Tourism Office came from Lottery Revenue. During the first special legislative session of 2019, the legislature passed HB122, giving the Tourism Office an additional \$7 million from General Revenue, which more than doubled their budget.

## AGENCIES

The following are major divisions of the WVDOC, along with the funds appropriated to each in Fiscal Year 2020. The symbol (G) after an appropriation indicates General Revenue funding, meaning the money comes from state tax collection. The symbol (S) indicates Special Revenue funding. This money comes from a dedicated revenue source, such as fees collected by the agency. The symbol (L) indicates lottery funding. The symbol (NA) indicates a non-appropriated fund, meaning it exists in an account outside of the state budget process.

### Tourism Office

**FY2020 Appropriation: \$7,000,000 (G) + 6,732,425 (L)**

The Tourism Office is in charge of attracting visitors to West Virginia. They accomplish this through brand promotion, public relations, events, industry development and state parks advertising.

### Division of Forestry

**FY2020 Appropriation: \$3,422,658 (G) + 3,841,874 (S) + 8,987,765 (F)**

This Division is tasked with protecting, nurturing and promoting the wise utilization of the state's forest resources. They do this through fire education and prevention; assistance to private landowners; overseeing the sustainable management of state forest lands; and promoting the forest industry.

### Geological and Economic Survey

**FY2020 Appropriation: \$2,917,247 (G)**

The GES team makes available credible geoscience information to assist with public policy making and natural resource development. The team conducts applied and original research on the oil, natural gas and coal resources in the state.

### West Virginia Development Office

**FY2020 Appropriation: \$11,263,525 (G) + 4,448,312 (S) + \$16,023,440 (F)**

The Development Office promotes the many different types of businesses in the state. They have divisions for Small Businesses, International Development, Energy, and Business and Industrial Development.

### **Division of Labor**

**FY2020 Appropriation: \$11,263,525 (G) + \$7,609,992 (S)**

The Division enforces laws including child labor restrictions, safety standards for new construction, the Parental Leave Act, and safety laws in areas that have no federal standards. They also ensure that a minimum wage is paid.

### **Division of Natural Resources**

**FY2020 Appropriation: \$23,248,350 (G) + \$21,470,031 (S) + \$3,196,301 (L)  
+ \$29,908,942 (F)**

This Division's mission is to provide a comprehensive program for the exploration, conservation, development, protection, enjoyment and use of the state's renewable natural resources. The agency works to preserve and protect

### **Division of Rehabilitation Services**

**FY2020 Appropriation: \$14,886,464 (G) + \$2,905,360 (S) + \$73,874,232 (F)**

This Division helps people with disabilities achieve their employment goals. Services may include vocational counseling and guidance, training, rehabilitation technology, pre-employment transition services and job placement.

### **Office of Miner's Health Safety and Training**

**FY2020 Appropriation: \$355,599 (G) + \$5,428,128 (S)**

This Division is responsible for the protection of the miners, enforcement of rules and regulations and protection of property. The agency houses a team of inspectors that oversee underground, surface, electrical and diesel operations.