



# WEST VIRGINIA

**Gross State Product:** \$77 billion | **5G Welcome:** YES



## What did West Virginia do right?

It has approximately 23 tech jobs per 1,000 people and more than 1,200 apprenticeship graduates in fiscal year 2018, figures that earn the state high marks in the Tech Workforce category. It also passed a statewide legal framework that preempts local regulations on short-term rentals and has a tax agreement in place for them.



## What can West Virginia do better?

To improve its Entrepreneurial Activity grade, the state can encourage small businesses to create more jobs. It can also improve its rock-bottom Attracts Investment grade by promoting R&D spending, which currently amounts to just \$100.78 per capita.

### Technology

Short-Term Rentals	A
Ridesharing & E-Scooters	A
Self-Driving Vehicles	A
Drones	A
Fast Internet	B-

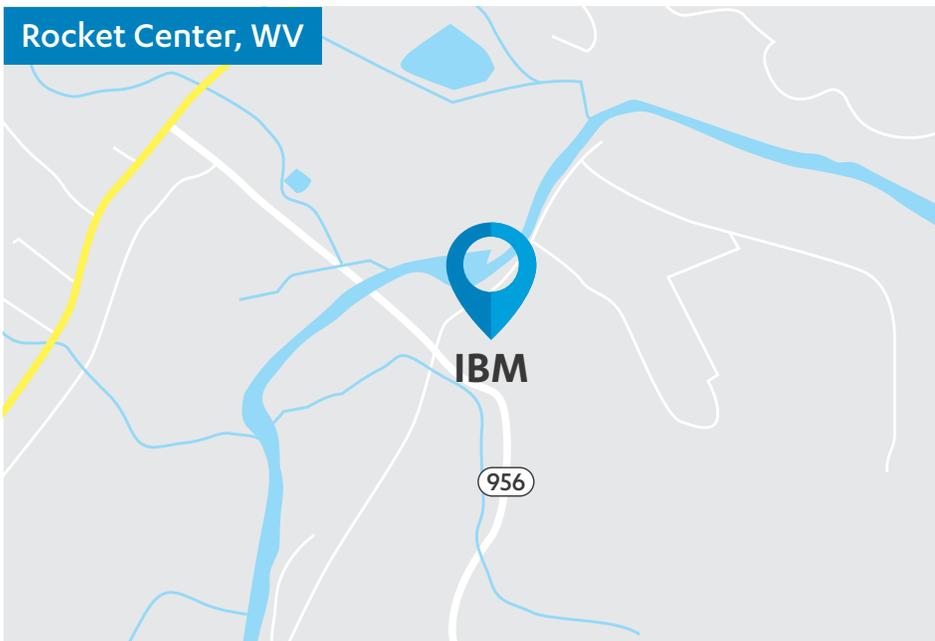
### Society

Best & Brightest	B
Grants Advanced Degrees	F
Tech Workforce	A-
Innovation-Friendly Sustainability Policies	B-

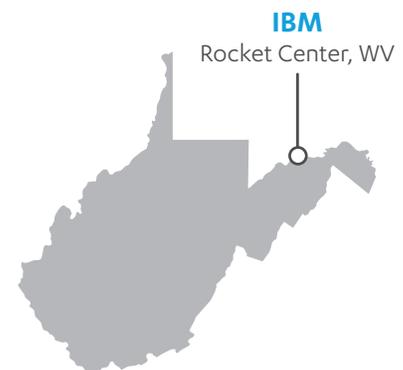
### Economy

Attracts Investment	F
Entrepreneurial Activity	F
Tax Friendly	B

#### Rocket Center, WV



IBM's New Collar Apprenticeship gives West Virginians without traditional tech backgrounds the chance to learn on the job and eventually take roles in software development, cybersecurity and other growing areas.



## Areas of Innovation

CTA's Innovation Scorecard is formulated using a range of complementary factors that indicates how strongly a state supports innovation. These factors may relate to a state's citizens, corporations doing business or employing people there or a state's legislative and regulatory environments.



### Drones

The state has no laws restricting drone activity.



### Self-Driving Vehicles

The state has no laws restricting the testing, the development or the deployment of SDVs.



### Short-Term Rentals

Short-term rentals operate under a statewide legal framework.



### Ridesharing & E-Scooters

Ridesharing is legal statewide, but e-scooters are not present.



### Tax Friendly

It has a corporate tax rate of 6% and its tax policies are generally friendly toward businesses.



### Tech Workforce

The state has approximately 23 tech jobs per 1,000 people and reported 1,207 apprenticeship graduates in recent data.

## ABOUT THE SCORECARD

CTA's 2020 U.S. Innovation Scorecard grades every state on 12 quantitative and qualitative criteria that measure how well it fosters innovation.

Each state ranks in one of four tiers: Innovation Champions excel in almost all areas, followed by Innovation Leaders, which earn high scores in most. Innovation Adopters promote innovation in some areas but not others. Finally, Modest Innovators may support innovation in one or more areas, but they show the greatest room for improvement.

Learn more about the Scorecard and its methodology on the web at [CTA.tech/scorecard](http://CTA.tech/scorecard).

## ABOUT CTA

As North America's largest technology trade association, CTA® is the tech sector. Our members are the world's leading innovators — from startups to global brands — helping support more than 18 million American jobs.

CTA owns and produces CES® — the largest, most influential tech event in the world. Find us at [CTA.tech](http://CTA.tech). Follow us @CTAtech.

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