



FY 2026

Mitchell E. Woodrum
Commissioner

AGENCY OVERVIEW

The Division of Labor protects the lives and health of West Virginians by:

Providing, without charge, safety consultations to employers to help them provide a safer workplace for their employees;

Enforcing child labor laws prohibiting working children from working hours that would interfere with school or health or working in hazardous areas;

Supervising the inspection of all high-pressure steam boilers operating above a pressure of fifteen (15) pounds per square inch;

Enforcing state and federal construction and safety standards for manufactured homes;

Enforcing safety standards for amusement rides, amusement attractions, zip-line & canopy tours;

Enforcing the Elevator Safety Act of West Virginia;

Enforcing the overtime regulations for employers who work their employees over 40 hours in a workweek;

Administering the Parental Leave Act;

Enforcing the Contractor Licensing Act, Crane Operator Certification Act, Heating, Ventilating and Cooling Work Act, Jobs Act, and the Supervision of Plumbing Work Act.

Enforcing state safety laws in areas where there are no federal standards; conducting an annual occupational injury and illness survey to identify the severity of risk associated with various kinds of employment;

The Division of Labor promotes prosperity for West Virginians by:

Ensuring a minimum hourly wage is paid to employees;

Securing wage bonds, if not exempt, to protect employees' wages and fringe benefits when employers are involved in commercial construction or the extraction and transportation of minerals;

Licensing contractors, which requires tax, unemployment and workers' compensation insurance being verified;

Providing arbitration, mediation, and conciliation services when requested by both labor and management representatives;

Protecting employees and prospective employees against the use of polygraph examinations.

Verifying the legal employment status of workers in West Virginia.

Making sure every product bought or sold by weight or measure is labeled and properly offered for sale; that licensing and labeling requirements are met for bedding and upholstered furniture to assure sanitation; protection of consumers from deceptive practices and businesses from unfair competition through enforcing the laws governing closing - out sales, fire sales, and defunct business sales; cooperation with the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission to protect the public from hazardous products;

ORGANIZATION

The Division of Labor is organized into an administrative section and four service sections. The specific service sections of the Division are: (1) Licensing, (2) Safety, (3) Wage and Hour and (4) Weights and Measures. The responsibilities of each section are mandated by statute with labor inspectors providing enforcement.

The Administration Section of the West Virginia Division of Labor manages accounts payable, accounts receivable, appropriations, budget, expenditure schedules, human resources, payroll, purchasing, and other necessary support services. Major objectives of the Administration Section are to improve the quality of supervision; improve quality and quantity of training; continue efforts to reduce expenditures by establishing and exercising better fiscal controls, policies, and communication.

The Licensing section enforces the Contractor Licensing Act, Crane Operator Certification Act, Heating, Ventilating and Cooling Work Act, Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act and the Supervision of Plumbing Work Act.

The Safety section provides safety consultation services through agreement with the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration, inspects and certifies all high-pressure steam boilers, enforces the WV Occupational Safety and Health Act, which applies to public employees. Licenses elevator mechanics, registers elevator apprentices, and provides oversight and/or inspections of Amusement Rides and Amusement Attractions, elevators, escalators, and other lifting and lowering devices which run between fixed guides, and rails as well as Zipline and Canopy Tours.

The Wage and Hour section enforces the Wage Payment and Collection Act, including its Wage Bonding provision, Minimum Wage and Maximum Hours Act, Equal Pay for Equal Work Act, Child Labor Act, Parental Leave Act, Industrial Homework Act, Jobs Act, Nurses Overtime and Patient Safety Act and verifies the Legal Employment Status of Workers.

The Weights and Measures section enforces the Weights and Measures Act, Bedding and Closing-Out and Defunct Business Sales Act.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES FY 2026

LICENSING

4,213	Contractor Licensing Inspections Conducted
358	Contractor Licensing Cease and Desist Orders Issued
42	Crane Operator USDOL Referrals
507	HVAC Technician Inspections Conducted
106	HVAC Technician Cease and Desist Orders Issued
87	Manufactured Housing Consumer Complaint Inspections
69	Manufactured Housing Letters of Correction and Violations Issued
745	Plumber Certification Inspections Conducted
56	Plumber Cease and Desist Orders Issued

SAFETY

Consultation Program

Visits:

227	Total Consultation Visits Conducted to Identify Safety/Health Hazards
15	Training and Education Visits Conducted and Formal Training Provided to Employees.
95.72%	Consultations in Small Establishments (250 Employees or Less)
100%	Consultations with Workers Consulted

Types of Hazards Identified:

813	Safety and/or Health Hazards Identified
2	Imminent Hazard Identified and Corrected On-Site
745	Serious Hazards Identified and Corrected
34	Other-Than-Serious Hazards Identified
32	Regulatory Hazards Identified

Affected WV Employees:

95	Employees Affected During Formal Training and Education Visits
16,745	Employees Affected by All Hazards
14	Employee Affected by Imminent Hazard
14,740	Employees Affected by Serious Hazards
759	Employees Affected by Other-Than-Serious Hazards
1,232	Employees Affected by Regulatory Hazards

Industry Sectors Affected & Assisted by Safety and Health Consultations:

23	Visits for Construction Industry
174	Visits for General Industry
2	Visits for Mining Industry
23	Visits for Service Industry
4	Visits for Wholesale Trade
1	Visit for All Other Industry Sectors

Occupational Safety and Health Program

10	Employee Safety Complaints Received
2	Employee Safety Complaints Formally Addressed
2	Hazards Identified
7	OSHA-10 Inspections
46	OSHA-10 Violations

High-Pressure Steam Boiler

624	High-Pressure Steam Boiler Inspections with 0 Violations
684	High-Pressure Steam Boiler Inspections – Total
58	High-Pressure Steam Boiler Inspections with Violations - Closed

Elevator

4,598	Elevator Devices Inspected for Safety Requirements
4,018	Elevator Devices Passing Safety Inspections
95	Elevator Mechanic Licenses Issued
60	Registered Elevator Mechanic Apprentices

Amusement Rides & Amusement Attractions

1,294	Rides/Attractions Inspected for Safety Requirements
1,291	Rides/Attractions Passing Safety Inspections
10	Temporary Cessation of Operations Issued

WAGE AND HOUR

Workload Indicators:

57	New Wage Bonds Processed
10	Wage Bond Releases
30	Wage Bond Cancellations
2,342	Wage Bond Inspections Conducted
70	Wage Bond Cease and Desist Orders Served
640	Request for Assistance for Wage and Hour Compliance Issues Received
20	Child Labor Investigations Conducted. 13 Child Labor Violations
723	Child Labor Work Permits Processed
255	Child Labor Certificates of Age Processed
288	Undocumented Worker Inspections Performed
250	Notice to Produce Records Served
236	Mine Permit Approvals Processed
2,907	Jobs Act Inspections and Record Reviews Performed, 2 Violations
9	Minimum Wage Inspections Performed 1 Violations
26	Polygraph Examiner Licenses Renewed

Effective Measures:

\$1,019,505.69	New Wage Bonds Processed
\$485,851.73	Wage Bonds Released And/or Cancelled.
\$274,454.59	Unpaid Wages and Fringe Benefits Collected For 249 Employees

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES (W&M)

4,114	Bedding & Upholstery Permits Processed
36,290	Devices Tested - Inspections of Commercial Measuring Devices to Ensure Accurate Transaction in The Marketplace
1,702	Requests for Assistance - Accommodated Request for Assistance from Businesses and Consumers Relating to Weights & Measures
4,838	Standards Calibrations - Performed at the Weights & Measures Laboratory to Ensure Traceability to NIST
512	Pricing Scanners/Packages – Ensure Accuracy of Price Scanning Systems
1,097	Packaged Commodities - Tested to Ensure Correct Net Weight & Labeling