

JOB LOSS IMPACT OF A \$15 HOUR MINIMUM WAGE



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Washington, D.C.'s premier budget authority, the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO), **estimates** that 1.4 million American workers would lose their jobs under a \$15 an hour minimum wage proposal included in the **Raise the Wage Act of 2021**.

The Economic Research Center at The Buckeye Institute applied the CBO findings to West Virginia counties to estimate the *minimum* number of jobs lost. The data shows that nearly **18,000 West Virginians would lose their jobs** if Congress adopts a \$15 an hour minimum wage hike, showing that Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) is right to **oppose** the hike.

West Virginia Counties	Minimum Numbers of Jobs Lost by 2025
Berkeley, Jefferson, Mineral, Hampshire, & Morgan	-2,675
Kanawha & Clay	-1,842
Raleigh, Mercer, & Fayette	-1,746
Monongalia & Preston	-1,525
Harrison, Marion, Taylor, & Doddridge	-1,459
Cabell, Wayne, & Mason	-1,377
Randolph, Upshur, Barbour, Lewis, Hardy, Grant, Pendleton, & Tucker	-1,356
Ohio, Marshall, Hancock, & Brooke	-1,152
Greenbrier, Nicholas, Summers, Monroe, & Pocahontas	-1,059
Jackson, Wetzel, Roane, Braxton, Ritchie, Tyler, Gilmer, & Calhoun	-1,016
Wood, Pleasants, & Wirt	-946
Putnam, Boone, & Lincoln	-908
Logan, Mingo, Wyoming, & McDowell	-709
Total Estimated Job Loss in West Virginia	-17,770

Notes: The Congressional Budget Office's finds that 5.2 percent of affected workers earning around \$15 an hour or less would lose their job if an increase in minimum wage was applied equally to workers making less than \$15 per hour in counties in West Virginia. Due to data limitations, if more than one county is listed, the minimum number of jobs lost is the total amount of jobs lost in all of those counties combined.

Sources: Economic Research Center calculations are from Congressional Budget Office, **The Budgetary Effects of the Raise the Wage Act of 2021**, February 8, 2021; IPUMS USA, University of Minnesota, www.ipums.org.