



Meridians in the “Mountain State”

Themes in health care workforce
education in rural West Virginia

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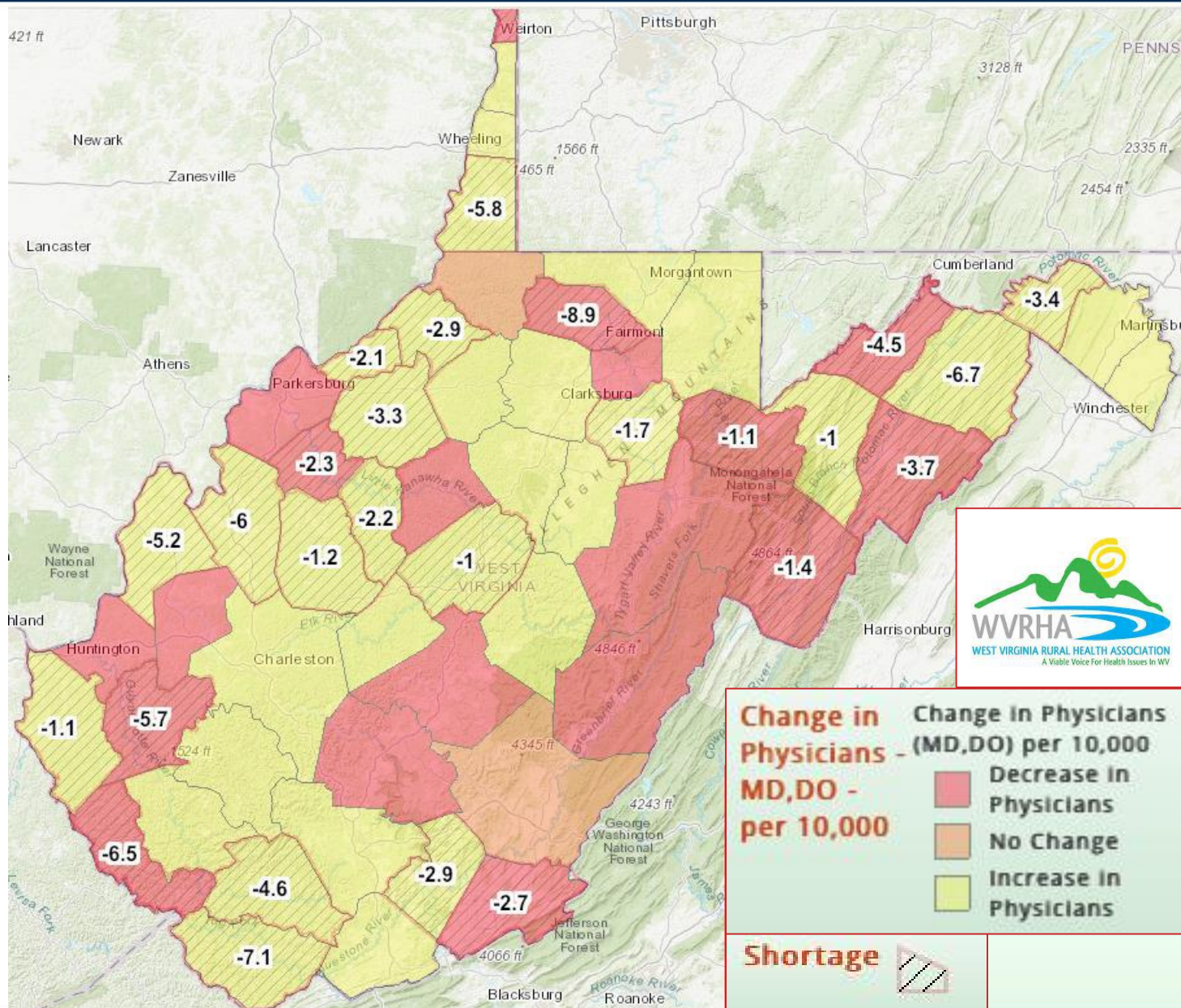
Introduction

West Virginia: “Almost Heaven”

Introduction

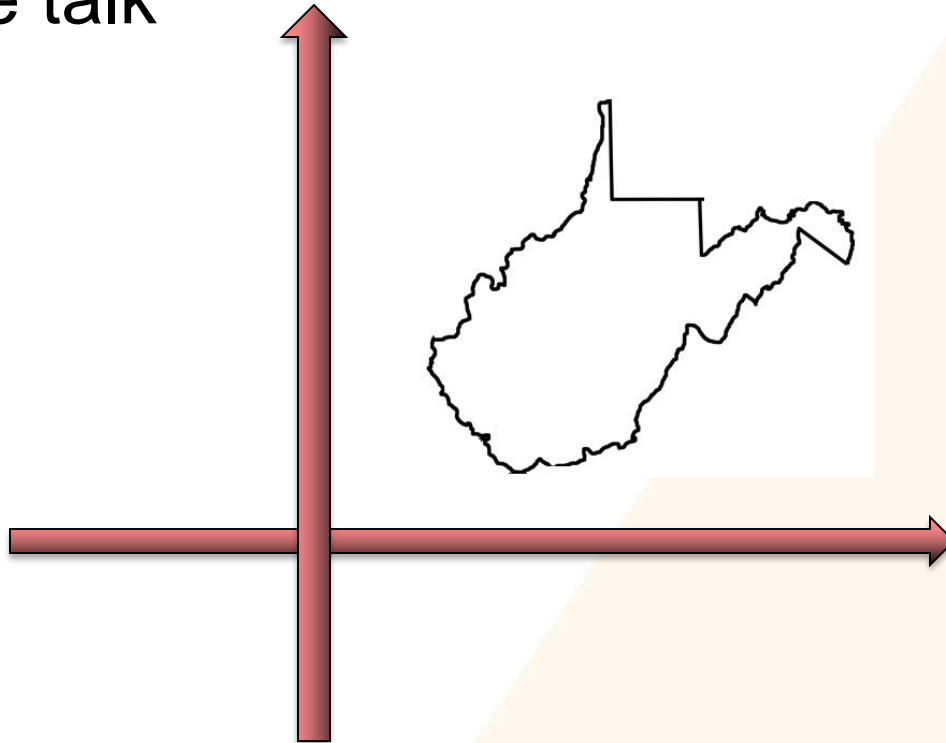
- West Virginia
 - pop. 1.8 m; GDP \$77b;
PCPI \$41,000
- Health positives:
 - ped immunization (75%),
un-insurance (5.7%),
health status disparity
- Health negatives:
 - obese adults (36%),
smoking adults (25%),
opiate addiction &
overdose





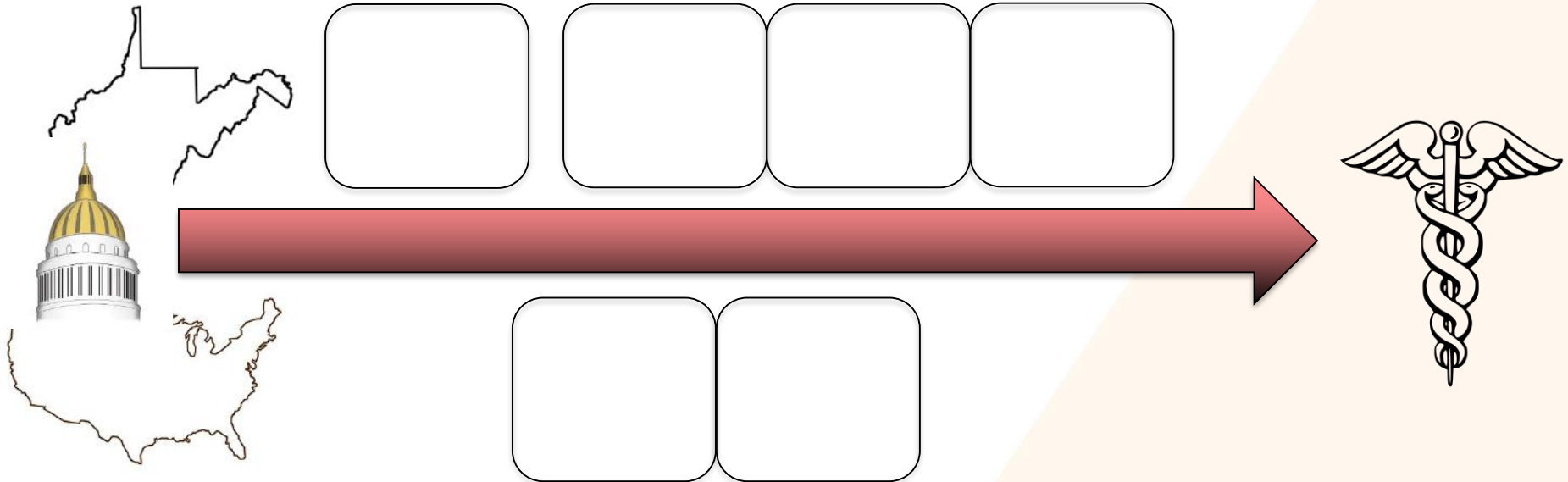
Introduction

- Structure of the talk
 - 2 “meridians”



System perspective

- The first meridian



System perspective

- West Virginia budget
 - Passed by state legislature; executed by agencies overseen by governor. Balanced. FY20 \$28.4 billion.
 - WV Higher Education Policy Commission (HEPC)
- Federal budget
 - Passed by Congress; executed by agencies overseen by president. Not balanced.
 - Funding to states via grants, programs, ad hoc
 - HHS { CMS, SSA, HRSA

System perspective

- Higher education in West Virginia
 - Thirteen public 4-year colleges and universities, numerous technical schools, private colleges
 - Three medical universities:
 - Marshall University (**MU**, Huntington)
 - West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (**WVSOM**, Lewisburg)
 - West Virginia University (**WVU**, 3 campuses)
 - Other health programs: Sixteen nursing, 8 social work, 3 pharmacy, 3 physician assistant, 3 physical therapy, 2 counseling, 1 dentistry, 2 dental hygiene

System perspective

- Marshall University (medicine)
 - 80 matriculants/yr. 73% in-state. 66 graduates/yr.
 - Tuition \$22k-\$53k. Debt \$147k. 51% train primary care.
 - 33% grads work in WV. 22% WV primary care. 7% Rural WV.
- WVSOM (medicine)
 - 203 matriculants/yr. 26% in-state. 185 graduates/yr.
 - Tuition \$21k-\$53k. Debt \$250k. 64% train primary care.
 - 20% grads work in WV. 14% WV primary care. 9% Rural WV.
- WVU (medicine)
 - 110 matriculants/yr. 58% in-state. 96 graduates/yr.
 - Tuition \$31k-\$61k. Debt \$197k. 49% train primary care.
 - 30% grads work in WV. 15% WV primary care. 5% Rural WV.



System perspective

- WV Higher Education Policy Commission
 - Planning role: Set and evaluate goals pertaining to enrollment, tuition, degree quality & variety, research activity, economic impact.
 - Emphasis on health sciences, particularly medicine.
 - Disposition of budget (\$2.6 billion FY20 est.)
 - General fund, special funds, 47 federal sources.
 - \$92 million to 3 medical schools (FY18 actual)
 - \$4.2 million for rural health offices & outreach at schools
 - \$2.4 internal budget for scholarship & program support



System perspective

- Health Resources & Services Administration
 - Federal, within Health & Human Services
 - Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA)
 - *“indicate health care provider shortages in primary care, dental health, or mental health... may be geographic-, population, or facility-based”*
 - Area Health Education Centers (AHEC)
 - *“develop and enhance training networks within communities, academic institutions, and community-based organizations”*
 - National Health Service Corps (NHSC)
 - nationally: \$319 million award; 13,000 providers; 13.7 million patients

System perspective

- Marshall University (medicine)
 - Center for Rural Health
- WVSOM (medicine)
 - Center for Rural and Community Health
 - Project ECHO
- WVU (medicine)
 - Institute for Community and Rural Health
 - Area Health Education Center
 - Project ECHO
 - Housing network
 - Tracker
- Qualified scholarships/ tuition support direct to students



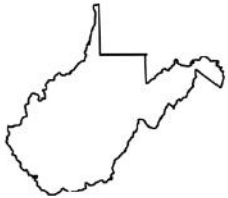
System perspective

- The first meridian



Student perspective

- The second meridian
 - Elementary, middle, high school
 - University (“undergraduate”, bachelor degree)
 - 4 years
- Medical/ Professional (M.D. or D.O.)
 - 4 years
- “Residency” (“medical graduate”)
 - 3-7 years



Student perspective

- Middle & high school
 - “Tomorrow is Mine” camp (WVU)
 - Health Science and Technology Academy (WVU)*
 - High School pipeline (MU, WVSOM)

Student perspective

- University (undergraduate) [1]
 - PROMISE Scholarship (all)
 - 7-year Bachelor of Science/ Doctor of Medicine (MU)
 - Rural Undergraduate Shadowing in Healthcare (WVU)
 - Green Coat Program (WVSOM)
 - Rural Health Day (WVU)
 - Rural Practice Day (WVSOM)

Student perspective

- University (undergraduate) [2]
 - rotations in rural/ community/ underserved areas (all)*
 - Project REACH (WVU)*
 - Rural Health Interest Group (WVU)*
 - AHEC Rural Community Health Scholars (\$1300) (WVU)*

Student perspective

- Medical/ professional degree [1]
 - Mission-oriented admissions practices (all)
 - Accelerated Track to Enter Residency (WVU)
 - Rural Track (WVU)
 - rotations in rural/ community/ underserved areas (all)*
 - Project REACH (WVU)*
 - Rural Health Interest Group (WVU)*
 - Rural mentor (WVSOM)
 - Rural Community Health Scholars (\$1300) (WVU)*
 - Community and Rural Rotation Support (\$1500) (WVU)
 - Rural research grants (MU)*

Student perspective

- Medical/ professional degree [2]
 - all available state-wide:
 - Med Student Loan Program (\$10k/yr)
 - Health Science Service Program (\$10k once)
 - Medical Student Service Program (\$25/ yr)
 - Educational Seed for Physicians (\$5k/yr)
 - Tully Fund (\$5k/yr)
 - National Health Service Corps (100% tuition)
 - National Health Service Corps (loan cancellation)

Student perspective

- Residency/ graduate medical education
 - Rural Track in residency (MU)
 - Rural research grant (MU)*
 - “Rural Scholars”/ primary care sign-on incentive (WVU, WVSOM; \$5-10k)
 - Recruitment and Retention Community Project (\$20k annually)

Student perspective

- Once in practice:
 - Rural Health Fellowship (MU)
 - State Loan Repayment Program (\$65k/ 4 yr)
 - NHSC Loan Repayment Program (\$50k/ 2 yr)
 - NHSC Rural Community Loan Repayment Program (\$100k/ 3 yr)
 - NHSC Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Program (\$75k/ 3 yr)
 - West Virginia State Medical Association
 - West Virginia Rural Health Association

Conclusion

- Reflections
- Questions
- Acknowledgements