West Plains, Howell County- Overview
Continuity Region: SWMO

Howell County Demographics
Population: 40,103
Median Age: 40.2
Median Household Income: $34,984
Poverty Rate: 22.9%
Uninsured Rate: 13.7%

Howell County ranks 86 out of 115 in overall health compared to other Missouri Counties.

Clerkship Site Demographics
West Plains Population: 12,248

Clerkships Offered
Family Medicine
Internal Medicine
Neurology

Summer Sites
*List available on Rural Scholars website

Electives Offered
Cardio Consult
Emergency Medicine
Family Medicine
Internal Medicine
Neurology
West Plains-Healthcare
Continuity Region: SWMO

Ozarks Medical Center
Counties Served: 11
Total Staffed Beds: 114
Annual Visits: 364,000
Annual Births: 650
9 Family Medicine Clinics
29 Specialties

Other Health Centers
• Southern Missouri Community Health Center
• John Pershing VA Medical Clinic
• Air Medical Group Holdings (Air Evac Lifeteam)

100,000 sq. ft. hospital expansion coming soon!

Dr. Jason Spurling
Rural Track Medical Director

Lindsey Thompson
Local Hospital Contact
RURAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

West Plains-Employment & Education
Continuity Region: SWMO

Major Employers
Armstrong–Bruce Hardwood Floors
Systems and Electronics Inc. (SEI)
Invensys Controls, Caterpillar
Royal Oak Enterprises
Arlee Home Fashions
Motor Technologies Group
Gardner Shoe Company
Amyx Industries

South Central Career Center
• One of the leading area career and technical schools in Missouri serving secondary and adult students
• More than 16 work-related programs

Education in Howell County
High School Graduate or higher: 85.7%
Bachelor’s Degree or higher: 15.4%
• Nearly 3,000 students attend public school with a 16.5 student-to-teacher ratio
• Approximately 50 percent of all teachers have their master degrees

Missouri State University
West Plains
Undergraduate Enrollment in part-time or full-time studies: 1,800
Average Class Size: 17
Students Receiving Financial Aid: 90%
West Plains-Arts & Tourism
Continuity Region: SWMO

Harlin Museum
Houses items of cultural and historical interest significant to the area known as the Ozarks.

Mark Twain National Forest
More than 40 campgrounds and picnic sites, 350 miles of floatable streams, 63,000 wilderness acres, and 125 miles of trails for hikers, bikers and horseback riders. Hunt, trout fish, raft, kayak, explore springs, or tour the many gristmills.

Old Time Music Ozark Heritage Festival
Celebrate Old Time music and the distinctive culture of the Ozarks Highlands. Held the first Friday/Saturday in June each year in West Plains, Missouri.

Blues Bash Festival
Featuring outdoor blues concerts, bbq, motorcycle and car shows, and street vendors, the Festival is held in mid-May in the historic downtown district.