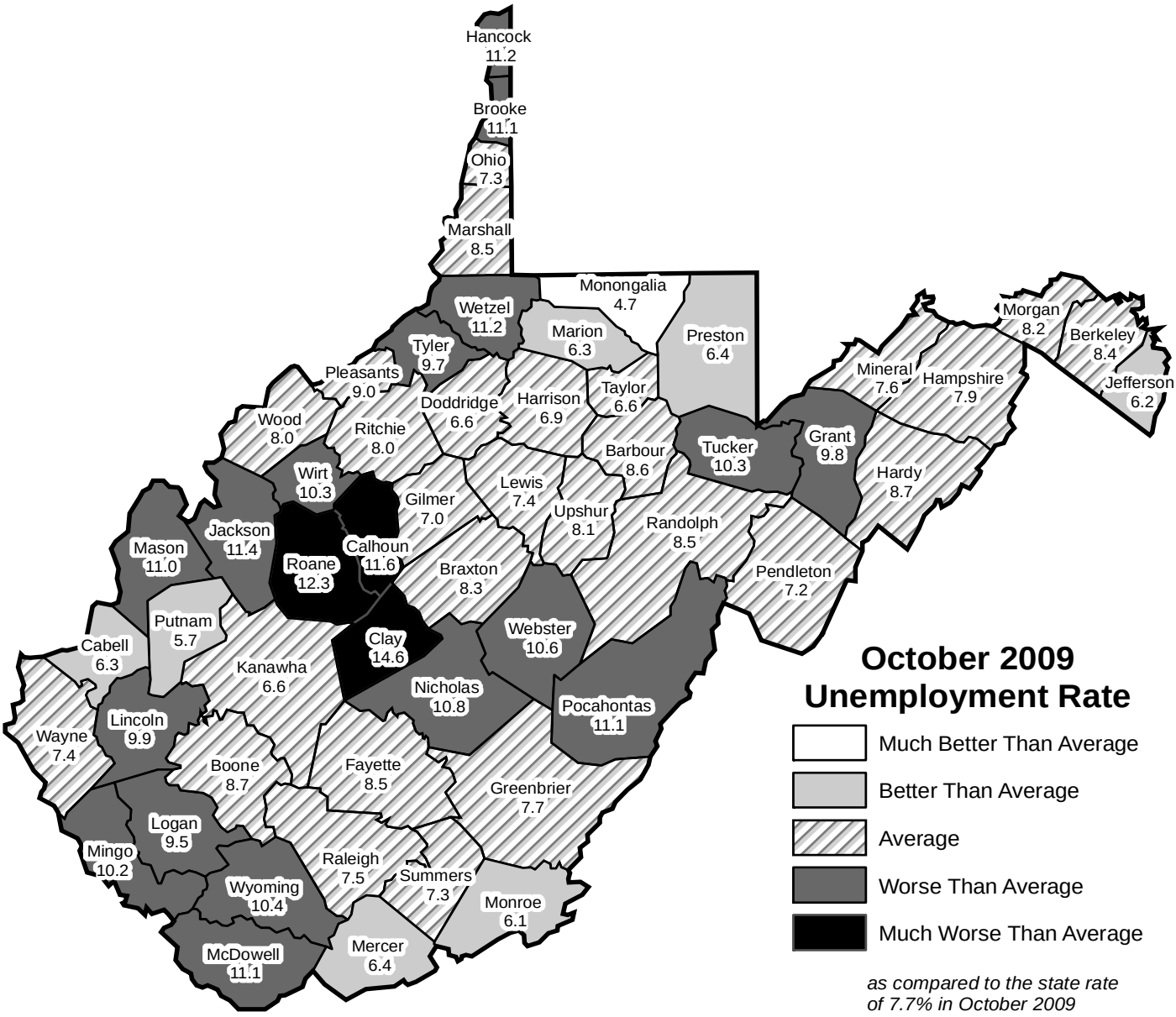
COUNTY EMPHASIS



West Virginia's unemployment rate declined three-tenths of a percentage point to 7.7 percent in October 2009. Well over one-half of all 55 counties reported declining unemployment rates as well. The number of counties recording an unemployment rate considered much worse than average when compared to the state rate shrank considerably. This group contained Calhoun (11.6), Roane (12.3), and Clay (14.6).

The number of counties recording an unemployment rate considered better than average when compared to the state rate increased slightly. This group included Mercer (6.4), Preston (6.4), Cabell (6.3), Marion (6.3), Jefferson (6.2), Monroe (6.1), and Putnam (5.7).Once again, Monongalia (4.7) was the sole county recording an unemployment rate considered much better than average when compared to the state rate.

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