Demographics & Workforce Group

Stat Chat

April 2011



Hampton Roads occupies 2,089 square miles in the southeastern corner of the

state. All but two of its fourteen localities have long stretches of waterfront property. With Virginia Beach to the far southeast and Gloucester and Mathews to the north, the nine cities and five counties in Hampton Roads are situated around the nation's third largest port. With the world's largest naval base, Norfolk Naval Station, and other military bases, Hampton Roads is home to a large number of military personnel.

Hispanic

Other

_3%

Asian

4%.

Black

31%



Race and Ethnicity in Hampton Roads

In Hampton Roads, 31% of the population is black, compared to 19% statewide. While less diverse than other large urban areas, the 2010 Census data show signs of growing Hispanic and Asian communities:

- Between 2000 and 2010, the Asian and the Hispanic populations grew in all localities.
- In Virginia Beach, the Asian population grew by nearly 6,000 and the Hispanic population grew by more than 11,000.
- Newport News has the largest concentration of Hispanics in the region: 7% of its population.
- In Isle of Wight and Suffolk the Asian population increased by more than 170%.
- James City had the largest proportional increase in Hispanic population in the region (270% growth).

Population Trends, 2000-2010

2010 Census for Hampton Roads	
Total Population	1,641,078
Growth Rate	5.7%
Population Density (persons/square mile)	786

Hampton Roads is one of the most densely populated areas in the state, second only to Northern Virginia. Covering only 5% of the state's land

mass, the smallest of any region, Hampton Roads has more than one-fifth of Virginia's population. The region experienced moderate growth between 2000 and 2010, gaining nearly 90,000 persons. This growth accounts for 10% of Virginia's total population growth since 2000.

Net Outward Migration

Hampton Roads had nearly 115,000 more births than deaths in the last decade. The region lost 25,000 persons due to net outward migration, meaning that more people moved out of the region than into it.

- Five localities—Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Virginia Beach—lost more than 10,000 persons between 2000 and 2010 due to outmigration.
 - Large numbers of births offset outmigration losses in most of these localities.
- Mathews, Hampton, and Portsmouth were the only localities to lose population since 2000.
- James City and Suffolk experienced large population growth, more than 30%, primarily driven by migration.

White

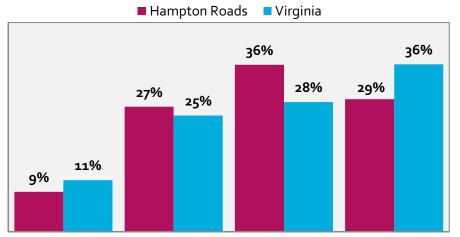
57%

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Less than HS



Educational Attainment, Adults 25-64



Educational attainment among Hampton Roads' working age population (adults ages 25-64), is not significantly different from the distribution of educational attainment at the state level. Compared to the state, Hampton Roads has

Some College

BA+

A higher percentage of adults who have completed some college.

HS/GED

A lower percentage of adults with a bachelor's degree or higher.

Labor Force Participation

Labor force statistics for Hampton Roads show

- **Unemployment was 6.8% in 2009**, lower than both Virginia's unemployment rate (7.5%) and the national average (9.7%).
 - o **Poquoson** had the lowest unemployment rate (5.1%) while **Williamsburg** had the highest (14.8%).
- Six percent of adults 25-64 are in the Armed Forces, a much higher proportion than statewide (2%) and nationwide (less than 1%).

Income and Poverty

- While Hampton Roads has been identified nationally as one of the best regions for high-paying jobs, median household income varies substantially across localities.
 - o Williamsburg and Norfolk have the lowest median household income: less than \$42,000.
 - o Poquoson City has the highest: \$85,000.
- Ten percent of households fall below the poverty line in Hampton Roads, equal to the statewide poverty rate (10%).
- Seven percent of households receive food stamps.

In contrast, 29% of Hampton Roads households do not have adequate income to meet their regular expenditures, such as housing, food, and transportation, without help from government programs, family and friends, or local organizations. This is driven by the higher costs of living in the Hampton Roads region; its housing costs are second most expensive in the state after Northern Virginia.

Sources: Data on population trends and race/ethnicity are from the 2000 and 2010 Census. Data on 2009 unemployment rate are from Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment statistics. Data on income adequacy are from a Cooper Center study. All other data are from the 2007-2009 American Community Survey from the U.S. Census Bureau (median income is from 2005-2009 ACS).

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