Demographics & Workforce Group

Stat Chat

April 2011



Stretching from Prince George and Dinwiddie counties in the south to Caroline County in the north, the Richmond

region's four cities and ten counties cover 3,478 square miles in east central Virginia. With the state capital and a large stretch of the I-95 corridor, the Richmond region has several Fortune 500 corporations and many government offices. This region is home to one of Virginia's largest public universities, Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, as well as two historically black universities: Virginia State University in Petersburg and Virginia Union in Richmond.

Hispanic

Other

,3%

Asian

3%

Black

30%



Race and Ethnicity in the Richmond Region

Over the last decade, the Richmond region's white population declined from 64% of total population to 59%, while the region's Asian population nearly doubled and the Hispanic population grew by almost 160%.

- Between 2000 and 2010, the Hispanic population more than doubled in all but two localities.
- Henrico had the largest population proportion Asian in the region: 7%.
- Chesterfield had the largest concentration of Hispanics in the region: 7%.
- Caroline had the fastest growing Hispanic population (225%), while Charles City County had the fastest growing Asian population (243%).

Population Trends, 2000-2010

2010 Census for Richmond	
Total Population	1,167,389
Growth Rate	14.6%
Population Density	336

(persons/square mile)

One of three major urban centers in the state, the Richmond region has nearly 15% of the state's total population. The region experienced

substantial growth since 2000, growing at a faster rate than all but the Central and Northern Virginia regions. Between 2000 and 2010, the Richmond region gained nearly 150,000 persons; this growth accounts for 16% of Virginia's total population growth since 2000.

A Growing Population

All localities except Petersburg experienced population growth between 2000 and 2010.

- One-third of this growth came from births, while two-thirds was from migration.
- Henrico and Chesterfield had the largest absolute population changes since 2000, growing by 45,000 and 56,000, respectively.
- Of the region's 14 localities, New Kent had the highest growth rate: 37%. Migration generated 90% of this growth.

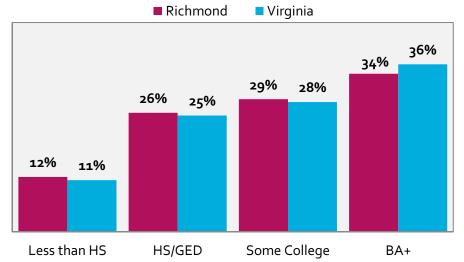
White

59%

Demographics & Workforce Group



Educational Attainment, Adults 25-64



Educational attainment among the Richmond region's working age population (adults ages 25-64) mirrors the distribution of educational attainment at the state level. Compared to the other seven regions, Richmond has

- The third lowest percentage of adults without a high school diploma, slightly higher than the Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads.
- The second highest percentage of adults with a bachelor's degree or higher. Of the eight regions, only Northern Virginia has a higher proportion of adults with a college degree.

Labor Force Participation

Labor force statistics for the Richmond region show

- **Unemployment was 7.5% in 2009**, equal to Virginia's unemployment rate (7.5%) and less than the national average (9.7%).
 - **Powhatan** had the lowest unemployment rate (6.1%) while **Petersburg** had the highest (13.2%).
- Finance, insurance, and real estate industries employ 10% of the labor force in the Richmond region, a much larger percentage than are employed in these industries at the state and national levels.

Income and Poverty

- Median household income varies substantially across localities in this region.
 - o Petersburg City has the lowest median household income: less than \$36,000.
 - Hanover County has the highest household income: nearly \$77,000.
- Eleven percent of households fall below the poverty line in the Richmond region, higher than the statewide poverty rate of 10%.
- Seven percent of households receive food stamps.

In addition, 28% of households in the Richmond region 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. While not quite as expensive as Northern Virginia, Richmond (like Hampton Roads) has significantly higher costs of living compared to other regions.

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.

For more information, please contact Rebecca Tippett

rebecca.tippett@virginia.edu or (434) 982-5861