Virginia

Introduction

This profile report provides updated statistics and trends for Virginia. The most recent classifications of core based statistical areas, November 2007, are utilized throughout the report in comparisons of metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas. This report includes updated data on population trends and racial and ethnic composition of the population (2007), updated estimates of county poverty rates (2007), county unemployment rates (2007), and per capita income data (2006). The report also includes some new indicators of entrepreneurship, classifications of health professional shortage areas, and infant mortality rates.

Metro and Nonmetro Counties

Based on county Core Based Statistical Area classifications, there are 80 metropolitan counties in Virginia, 7 micropolitan counties, and 47 noncore counties. Independent cities in Virginia are statistically treated as counties. Based on population estimates for 2007, 85.7 percent of Virginia residents live in metropolitan areas, 3.6 percent live in micropolitan areas, and 10.7 percent live in noncore areas.
Population Change

Since the 2000 Census, population increased 7.2 percent in the U.S., and 8.9 percent in Virginia. Within Virginia, the fastest growth was in the metropolitan areas, and noncore areas experienced the slowest rate of growth. From 2006 to 2007, the U.S. population grew by one percent, while the Virginia population increased by 0.9 percent.

From 2000 to 2007, 36 counties in Virginia lost population, 10 metro and 26 nonmetro counties. From 2006 to 2007, 32 counties in Virginia lost population, 13 metro and 19 nonmetro counties. The fastest growth during both time periods was in Loudoun County, part of the Washington-Arlington-Alexandria Metropolitan Area.
Racial and Ethnic Composition of the Population

The racial composition of the population is shown in the bar chart to the right. It is important to note that the population of any given race includes those of Hispanic ethnicity. Each racial category presented in the chart includes both Hispanics and non Hispanics of that race. The population of Virginia is 73.2 percent white and 19.9 percent African American. People of Hispanic origin make up 6.6 percent of Virginia’s population.

The counties in which nonwhites (of any ethnicity) make up a significant portion of total population are shown in the map below.
Per Capita Income

Per capita income in Virginia has followed a similar trend as the nation over the past 10 years, with Virginia’s income slightly exceeding the U.S. income. In 2006 per capita income was $36,714 in the U.S. and $39,540 in Virginia. However, the metro-nonmetro per capita income gap in Virginia has persisted over the past 10 years. In 2006, nonmetropolitan per capita income was just 63 percent of metro per capita income in Virginia. The per capita income in nonmetro areas was over $15,000 less than in metro areas ($26,341 compared to $41,754).

Within Virginia, per capita income ranged from $19,228 in Prince Edward County to $65,141 in Alexandria City.
**Unemployment**

The 2007 unemployment rate was 4.6 percent in the U.S. and 3.0 percent in Virginia. 23 counties in Virginia had unemployment rates higher than the U.S. average, and the majority of these counties were nonmetropolitan.

![Unemployment Rate, 2007](image)

**Poverty**

Poverty estimates for 2007 show that the poverty rate in the U.S. was 13 percent, compared to 9.9 percent in Virginia. Within Virginia, poverty rates ranged from 3 percent in Loudoun County to 30.9 percent in Radford City.

![Estimated Percent of Population in Poverty, 2007](image)
Entrepreneurship Indicators

Entrepreneurship plays a key role in the economic development of communities, but entrepreneurship is a difficult concept to measure. Four indicators of entrepreneurship are presented here: (1) nonfarm proprietors as a proportion of total nonfarm employment and (2) microenterprise employment (calculated as the number of self-employed individuals plus the number of employees in establishments with less than 5 employees) as a proportion of total nonfarm employment; (3) income per nonfarm proprietor; and (4) nonfarm proprietors income as a proportion of county total personal income.

Nationally, nonfarm proprietor employment accounts for 18.8 percent of total nonfarm employment. In Virginia, this figure is 16.8 percent, and within Virginia, this figure ranges from 5.3 percent to 57.4 percent. Microenterprise employment represents 17.7 percent of U.S. nonfarm employment and 15.5 percent of Virginia nonfarm employment. Within Virginia, this ranges from 6.9 percent to 56.2 percent.
Average income per proprietor in the U.S was $29,950, compared to $25,573 in Virginia. Within Virginia, this ranged from $5,431 per proprietor to $84,223 per proprietor.

Nationally, nonfarm proprietors income accounted for 9 percent of total personal income. In Virginia, this figure was 6.8 percent, and ranged from 1.1 percent to 11.2 percent in Virginia counties.
Health Professional Shortage Areas

Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) are designated for primary medical care, dentists, and mental health professionals. The designations are made by the Bureau of Health Professions within the Department of Health and Human Services. The maps below present the status of counties as being whole or in part designated as part of an HPSA.

Within Virginia, 78 counties were either whole or in part designated as a primary care HPSA, 59 counties were designated whole or part of a dental care HPSA, and 79 counties were designated whole or in part of a mental health care HPSA.
Infant Mortality

The infant mortality rates are a 5 year average of infant deaths per 1,000 live births. The infant mortality rate is 6.9 for the U.S. and 7.4 for Virginia. 70 counties in Virginia had an infant mortality rate higher than the U.S. average, and 9 counties had a rate more than twice the national average.
Data Sources:

Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System  
http://www.bea.gov/bea/regional/reis/

Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics  
http://www.bls.gov/lau/home.htm

Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration  
Area Resource File  
http://www.arfsys.com/

U.S. Census Bureau

Population Estimates  
http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php

Metropolitan and Micropolitan Area Classifications  
http://www.census.gov/population/www/estimates/metrodef.html

Nonemployer Statistics  
http://www.census.gov/epcd/nonemployer/

County Business Patterns  
http://www.census.gov/epcd/cbp/index.html

Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates  
http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe/saipe.html

For questions and comments, please contact:

Kathleen K. Miller,  
RUPRI Program Director  
(573) 882-5098  
miller@rupri.org

Visit the RUPRI website at

http://www.rupri.org
Make Your Own Maps with the CARES/RUPRI Interactive Map Room

A national level interactive mapping application jointly developed by the Center for Applied Research and Environmental Systems (CARES) and RUPRI is available at

http://ims2.missouri.edu/step1.AOI/Virginialist.asp

This three-step map-making process allows you to select from over 500 GIS layers and create custom maps for your Virginia or the whole U.S.

Step 1: In the first step, select your Virginia of interest or the whole U.S.

Step 2: Select the indicators you would like to see mapped. Included are over 500 data layers, including demographic and economic indicators, health and human services indicators, health and education facility locations, emergency preparedness, and many others. We are working constantly to keep these data sets as up to date as possible.

Step 3: Verify your selections and make your map.

Once you have created your map, you can utilize a variety of tools to analyze or modify your map image, and you may print your map or download it to use in your own reports and presentations. The help section includes a series of frequently asked questions and a website help section that explains each tool available in the toolbar.