



COMMUNITY PROFILE

Essex County, Virginia

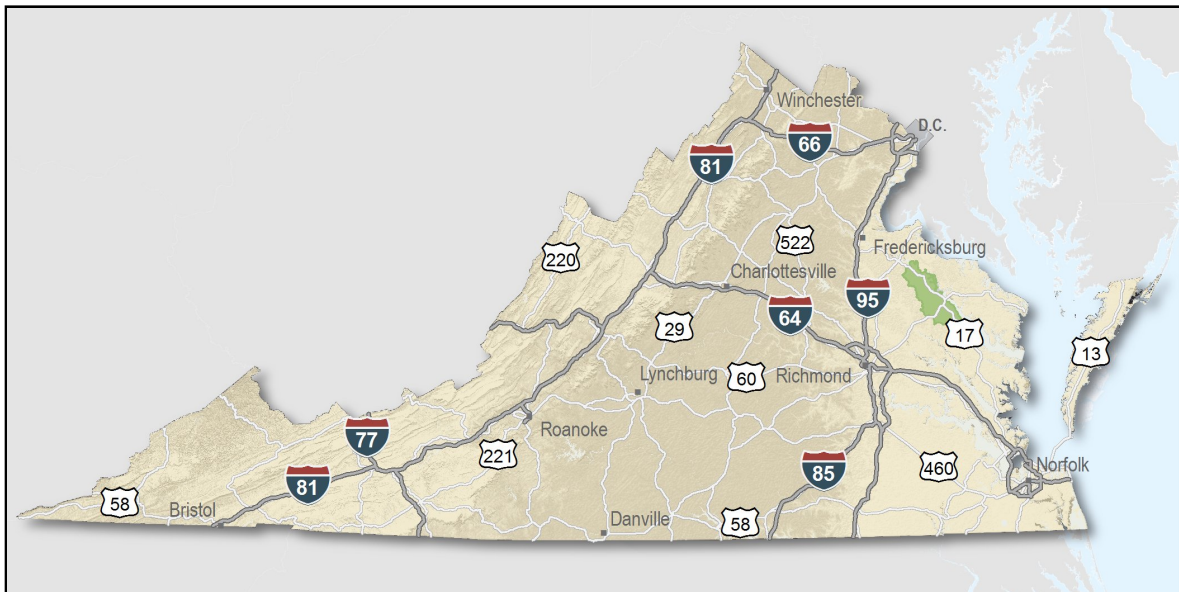


**VIRGINIA ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP**
www.YesVirginia.org

Only a few locations can guarantee the right combination of resources that are crucial to your business's success. Virginia's premier location offers excellent domestic and international access. Centrally located on the U.S. East Coast, 40 percent of the U.S. population is within a day's drive, and our integrated transportation system of highways, railroads, airports and seaports ensures that you can reach every one of your markets efficiently. Close proximity to Washington, D.C. facilitates contact with policy makers and the federal government system.

Virginia continues to rank among America's leading states for business by CNBC and Forbes.com. Business-first values, easy access to markets, stable and competitive operating costs, and a talented workforce all drove Virginia to the top. This unique combination of assets has encouraged businesses to prosper here for more than 400 years. Like you, they searched the world over for that convergence of resources that would help ensure their prosperity. For them, their search ended here. Chances are yours will too.

- AAA bond rating- Virginia has maintained a AAA rating since 1938, longer than any other state.
- Right-to-work law allows individuals the right to work regardless of membership in a labor union or organization.
- Corporate income tax rate of 6% has not been increased since 1972.
- Headquarters to 35 Fortune 1000 firms.
- Headquarters to over 70 firms with annual revenue over \$1 billion.
- More than 17,300 high-tech establishments operate in Virginia.
- More than 700 internationally-owned businesses from 45 countries are located in Virginia.
- Ranks third among the 50 states as a recipient of federal R&D funds.
- Streamlined permitting process.
- Recruitment training programs to help new businesses become operational faster.
- Programs at little or no cost to help businesses increase international sales.

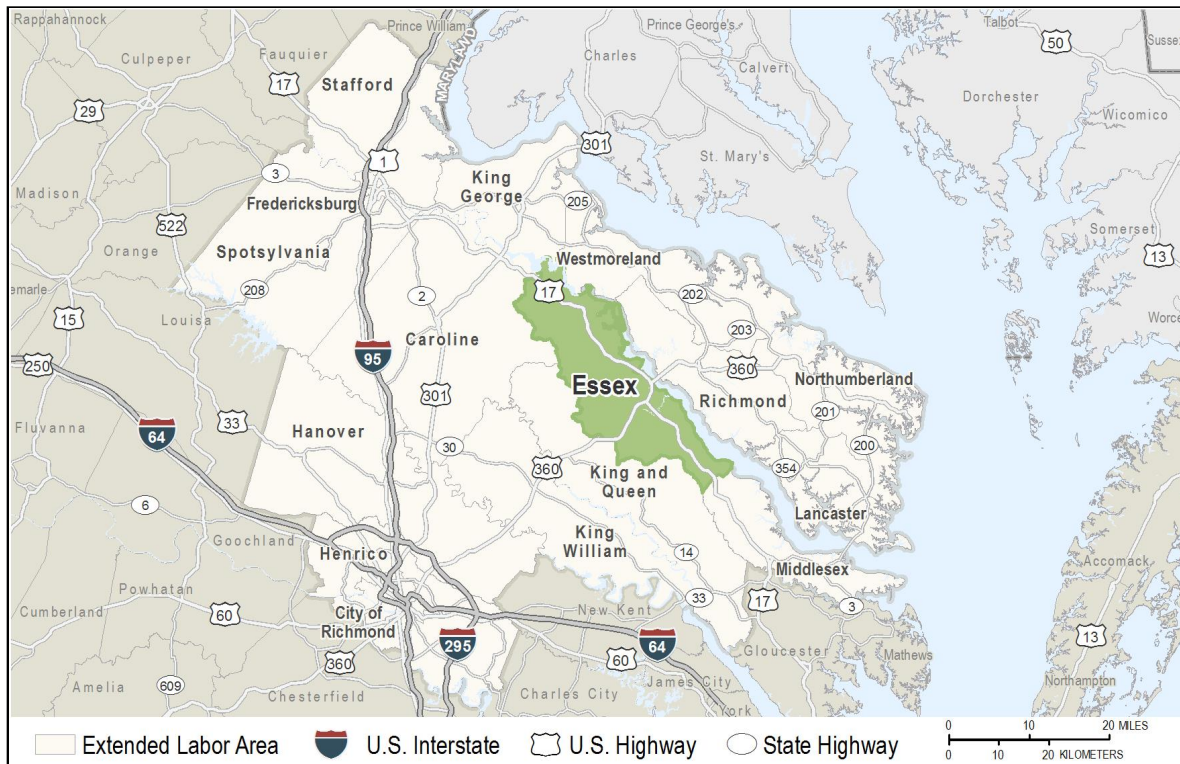


Location

Essex County is situated on the Middle Peninsula of Virginia. This 261 square mile county is bounded on the northeast by the Rappahannock River. The county's location on this navigable river enables easy water access to the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries and the port complex at Hampton Roads. The incorporated town of Tappahannock is the county seat and serves as the employment and population center for the community.

The county's principal town, Tappahannock, dates back to a 17th century port settlement.

Essex County is located 45 miles northeast of Richmond, the state capital, and 100 miles south of Washington, D.C.



Labor Market

Population

Gender Distribution (2013)	Male	Female
Essex County	46.9%	52.5%

Race/Ethnicity (2013)

Classification	Profile Area	Extended Labor Area
White	6,414	693,874
Black	4,323	297,004
Two or More	258	26,494
Asian	109	40,221
American Indian or Alaska Native	98	5,565
Pacific Islander	87	21,657
Hispanic (may be of any race)	375	5,625

Median Age (2013)	45 years	
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Civilian Labor Force (2013)

Essex County	5,595
Extended Labor Market Area	550,800
Total	556,395

Labor Force Participation (2008-2012)

Essex County	61.4%
Extended Labor Market Area	66.8%

Unemployment

Unemployment Rate (November 2014)	
Essex County	5.9%
Extended Labor Market Area	4.7%
Statewide	4.5%

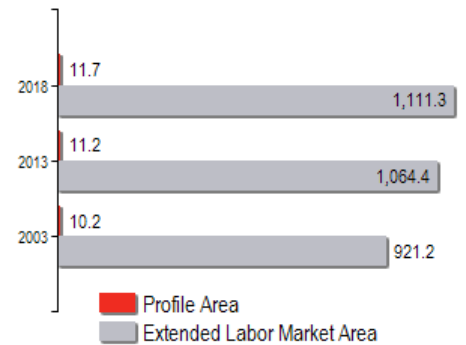
Unemployed (2013)

Essex County	380
Extended Labor Market Area	31,687
Total	32,067

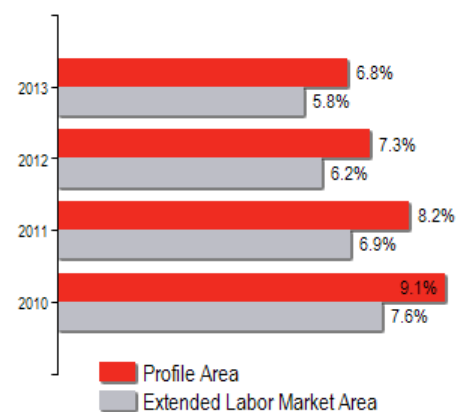
Underemployed (3rd Quarter 2014)

Essex County	572
Extended Labor Market Area	60,066
Total	60,638

Population in Thousands



Unemployment Rates



Labor Market

Commute Time (2008-2012)

Worked from home	201	3.7%
Under 15 minutes	1,634	31.0%
15-24 minutes	1,138	21.8%
25-34 minutes	496	9.5%
35-44 minutes	381	7.3%
45-59 minutes	564	10.8%
Over 60 minutes	1,008	19.3%
Mean Travel Time to Work (minutes)		33

Additional Labor Resources

High School Graduates Not Continuing (2012-2013)	26
Two-Year College Graduates (Spring 2013)	662
Two-Year College Enrollees (Fall 2013)	4,098
Total	4,786

Essex County and the Town of Tappahannock serve as a regional trade center due to its strategic location at the intersection of Routes 17 and 360.

Labor Market

Career Readiness Certificate (11/01/2012-01/31/2014)

Virginia's Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) assists employers by certifying that a recipient possesses core skills in applied math, reading for information, and locating information. The CRC certification is based on established Workeys® assessment tests. Virginia uses a three-tiered approach (bronze, silver, gold) to credentialing certificate holders that is based on the recipient's level of development skills.

Essex County	10
Extended Labor Market Area	2,532
Total	2,542

The economy is varied, from agriculture to manufacturing to services. Principal types of industrial establishments are garment, automotive parts and plastic injection molding, metal stamping, and assembly manufacturers.

Educational Attainment

On-Time Graduation Rate (Class of 2013)	84.2%
Percentage of Essex County population age 25+ who are high school graduates (2008-2012)	78.3%
Percentage of Essex County population age 25+ who have earned a Bachelor's Degree or higher (2008-2012)	14.8%

Labor Market

Employment by Sector* (2nd Qtr. 2014)		
Agriculture Forestry Fishing and Hunting	64	1.6%
Mining Quarrying and Oil and Gas Extraction	N.D.	N.D.
Utilities	N.D.	N.D.
Construction	88	2.1%
Manufacturing	549	13.3%
Wholesale Trade	171	4.2%
Retail Trade	814	19.8%
Transportation and Warehousing	N.D.	N.D.
Information	44	1.1%
Finance and Insurance	156	3.8%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	72	1.8%
Professional Scientific and Technical Services	62	1.5%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	N.D.	N.D.
Administrative and Support and Waste Management	92	2.2%
Educational Services	36	0.9%
Health Care and Social Assistance	608	14.8%
Arts Entertainment and Recreation	39	0.9%
Accommodation and Food Services	437	10.6%
Other Services	160	3.9%
Total Government	537	13.1%
Federal Government	14	0.3%
State Government	75	1.8%
Local Government	448	10.9%
Unclassified	0	0
Total	4,113	100.0%

N.D. - Not Disclosed

*By Business Establishment

Virginia is one of 24 states with a right-to-work law.

Labor Market

Major Employers

Manufacturing

<i>Company</i>	<i>Product/Service</i>	<i>Estimated Employment</i>
Essex Concrete Corp.	Ready-mixed concrete/concrete products	100 - 299
FDP Virginia, Inc.	Brake linings & disc pads	100 - 299
O'Malley Lumber Products	Industrial Wood Pallets and Packaging	20 - 49

NonManufacturing

<i>Company</i>	<i>Product/Service</i>	<i>Estimated Employment</i>
Lowery's Seafood Restaurant	Restaurant	50 - 99
Riverside Tappahannock Hospital	Health care	100 - 299
Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.	Discount store	300 - 599

Part of the Virginia economy's strength results from the diversity and balance of industry in the state.

Labor Market

Union Activity (1/2009 - 1/2014)

Petitions filed for decertification	0
Petitions filed for representation	0
Petitions filed for raid	0
Elections won by union	0
Elections won by company	0

Estimated Earnings (May 2012)

<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Median Wage</i>	<i>Mean Wage</i>	<i>Median Salary</i>	<i>Mean Salary</i>
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	\$9.71	\$10.31	\$20,211.04	\$21,451.36
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	\$13.13	\$14.21	\$27,311.55	\$29,541.48
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$16.95	\$16.82	\$35,258.99	\$34,977.70
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	\$18.15	\$19.37	\$37,757.81	\$40,281.52
Machinists	\$20.36	\$19.20	\$42,364.59	\$39,938.58
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	\$22.24	\$24.37	\$46,249.86	\$50,698.90
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	\$11.64	\$13.42	\$24,200.69	\$27,909.70
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	\$26.90	\$26.20	\$55,952.77	\$54,487.70
Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists	\$18.06	\$18.59	\$37,577.76	\$38,666.13
Office Clerks, General	\$11.58	\$12.04	\$24,086.36	\$25,054.02
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	\$14.07	\$14.32	\$29,260.11	\$29,787.27
Receptionists and Information Clerks	\$14.25	\$13.55	\$29,640.44	\$28,188.45
Customer Service Representatives	\$11.34	\$12.54	\$23,587.75	\$26,096.11
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	\$14.14	\$14.61	\$29,416.12	\$30,392.95
First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	\$20.11	\$22.38	\$41,815.16	\$46,545.35
Environmental Scientists and Specialists, Including Health	\$22.02	\$22.07	\$45,812.75	\$45,919.81
Electrical Engineers	\$39.11	\$42.65	\$81,364.00	\$88,716.51
Network and Computer Systems Administrators*	\$27.03	\$27.99	\$56,225.16	\$58,218.52
Computer Systems Analysts	\$42.70	\$49.81	\$88,818.48	\$103,611.20
Accountants and Auditors	\$27.20	\$28.87	\$56,586.23	\$60,057.89

Per Capita Personal Income (2012)

\$35,121

Median Family Income (2008-2012)

\$52,243

Education

Public School Enrollment (Fall 2013)		
<i>Level</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Enrollment</i>
Elementary	1	621
Middle	1	460
High School	1	472

Student Teacher Ratio (FY2013)	
Elementary	12:1
Secondary	12:1

Per Pupil Expenditure (FY 2013)
\$10,250.00

On-Time Graduation Rate (Class of 2013)
84.2%

High School Graduates Continuing Education (2012-2013)
75.7%

Advanced Programs (2012-2013)

Governor's Schools

Chesapeake Bay Governor's School for Marine & Environmental Science

Governor's School Enrollment	28
Students taking 1 or more Advanced Placement (AP) Courses	19
Students taking 1 or more AP Exams	12
Students taking 1 or more Dual Enrollment Courses	16

Within an hour's commuting distance of Essex are some of the finest colleges and universities in Virginia, including the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg and the University of Richmond and Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond.

Education

Workforce Development Facilities	
<i>Facility</i>	<i>Type</i>
Eastern Shore Workforce Center	VEC Workforce Center
Fredericksburg Workforce Center	Comprehensive Center
Job Assistance Center	Comprehensive Center
Reemploy Virginia - Fredericksburg	Reemployment Center
Reemploy Virginia - Warsaw	Reemployment Center
Warsaw Workforce Center	VEC Workforce Center

Essex County's public education system includes one elementary school, one middle school and one high school.

Higher Education Facilities — Fall 2013	
<i>Facility</i>	<i>Enrollment</i>
Rappahannock Community College - Warsaw Campus	2,134
Rappahannock Community College - Glens Campus	1,964

Transportation

Interstates	
Name	Distance
I-95	18.1 miles (29.1 km.)
I-64	19.5 miles (31.4 km.)
I-295	24.4 miles (39.3 km.)
I-195	30.3 miles (48.8 km.)
I-495	43.6 miles (70.1 km.)
I-395	43.7 miles (70.3 km.)
I-85	46.0 miles (74.0 km.)
I-695	49.5 miles (79.7 km.)

Note: Measured from border of locality/region.

Highways	
Highway 17	Highway 360

Commercial Air Service		
<i>Richmond International Airport, Sandston -- 55.5 miles (89.3 km.)</i>		
American Airlines	Delta Air Lines	Southwest Airlines
United Airlines	US Airways	JetBlue Airways

<i>Newport News-Williamsburg International Airport, Newport News -- 74.8 miles (120.4 km.)</i>		
Delta Air Lines	Delta Connection	Frontier Airlines
US Airways	PEOPLExpress Airlines	

Note: Within a 75-mile drive of the center of the locality.

Richmond International Airport (40 miles southwest) and Newport News/Williamsburg International Airport (70 miles south) provide daily passenger and air freight services by major commercial airlines.

Transportation

General Aviation Service

<i>Name</i>	<i>Runway Length</i>
Tappahannock-Essex County Airport, Tappahannock	4,300 ft (1,311 m)

The Rappahannock River is navigable along Essex County and provides access to the port complex at Hampton Roads.

Freight Rail Service

CSX Transportation

Seaports

<i>Name</i>	<i>Distance</i>
Port of Richmond	68.0 miles (109.4 km)
Port of Virginia (Newport News Marine Terminals)	92.0 miles (148.1 km)
Port of Virginia (Virginia International Gateway)	99.0 miles (159.3 km)
Port of Virginia	104.0 miles (167.4 km)

Note: Driving distance from the center of the locality to Port of Virginia and any other seaports within 100 miles.

Other Ports of Entry

<i>Name</i>	<i>Distance</i>
Richmond-Petersburg	55.5 miles (89.3 km)
Newport News	74.8 miles (120.4 km)
Norfolk	99.5 miles (160.2 km)
Port of Washington - Dulles	114.1 miles (183.6 km)

Note: Driving distance from the center of the locality to Port of Washington - Dulles and any other port of entry within 100 miles.

Utilities



Utilities	
Electric	Dominion Virginia Power
Telecommunications	Verizon South
Water	Town of Tappahannock
Waste Water Treatment	Town of Tappahannock
Solid Waste Disposal	Virginia Peninsula Public Service Authority

Dominion Virginia Power is one of the nation's 10 largest investor-owned electric utilities delivering power to more than 2 million homes and businesses in Virginia and North Carolina.

Financial Institutions

Financial Institutions — 4th Qtr 2013 Assets	
<i>Bank</i>	<i>Assets (millions)</i>
Union First Market Bank	\$4,155.0
Essex Bank	\$1,087.8
EVB	\$1,027.0

There are three banks in Essex County: EVB (Eastern Virginia Bankshares), Northern Neck State Bank, and Bank of Essex. With assets ranging from \$43.8 million to \$700 million, they pride themselves on having big city reliability with small town, friendly service.

Government and Taxes

Government

Essex County has a County Administrator and a four-member Board of Supervisors.

The county has a comprehensive plan and zoning and subdivision ordinances.

Tappahannock is the county seat and the county's only incorporated town.

Essex County is governed by a four member Board of Supervisors. A County Administrator oversees the daily operation of the County.

Taxes

Localities in Virginia collect a 1% sales tax. They do not tax other items taxed at the State level.

Counties and cities in Virginia are separate taxing entities. Therefore, a company pays taxes to either a county or to a city.

If a company is located in a town, it pays town and county taxes except for utility taxes which are paid only to the town and the license tax which is paid only to the town unless town law permits the additional collection of a county tax.

Manufacturers pay real estate, machinery and tools, truck and automobile, utility, and sales taxes.

Nonmanufacturers pay real estate, tangible personal property, truck and automobile, utility, and sales taxes. They also may pay either a merchants' capital or a license tax.

Manufacturer's Tax Profile (Essex) [pdf](#)

Non-Manufacturer's Tax Profile (Essex) [pdf](#)

Community Facilities

With 100 beds, Riverside Tappahannock Hospital offers extensive medical services that include nuclear medicine, physical therapy, diagnostic capabilities, respiratory therapy, family medicine, emergency care, cardiology, and orthopedic surgery. Riverside Middle Peninsula Hospital, located in Gloucester County, is also conveniently located for use by Essex residents. This 71-bed medical facility offers general medical and surgical care; intensive and cardiac care; physical therapy; various diagnostic services; and 24-hour emergency services. Essex County residents are also easily accessible to the numerous hospitals and clinics dispersed throughout the Richmond metropolitan area. The Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center in Richmond is a world renown teaching and research center that offers the latest technology, facilities, and services.

The county's public health department in Tappahannock provides diagnostic and immunization services, family planning, obstetrics, child health care and Medicaid services to residents.

Tappahannock Manor, a 128-bed facility, provides long-term care to the elderly.

More than 30 physicians and dentists maintain practices in Essex County.

The Essex Public Library, located in Tappahannock, circulates over 17,000 volumes. Residents can also utilize the Rappahannock Community College library systems. The two campuses, both within a half-hour drive of the county, have a total collection of 35,788 volumes.

The annual average temperature is 56.6 degrees. The annual average rainfall is 40 inches while the average snowfall is 10 inches.

Community Facilities

(continued)

Over 60 churches representing the predominant Protestant and Catholic faiths are located in Essex County. Jewish synagogues can be found in Richmond and Fredericksburg.

Due to its strategic location at the junction of Routes 17 and 360, the town of Tappahannock serves as a regional trade center for over 90,000 people. More than 150 retail and service related establishments are located in the town. Three shopping centers are also conveniently located in the county to provide for the needs of the residents.

Essex County's close proximity to both Fredericksburg and the Richmond metropolitan area gives residents extensive shopping opportunities at the numerous shopping malls, centers, and downtown areas.

Essex County offers excellent schools, recreation, medical services and friendly citizens who welcome new businesses and industries.

Lifestyle

Essex County offers vast opportunities for recreational pursuits. A variety of water activities that include swimming, boating and fishing can be found along the Rappahannock River. Boat landings, ramps and marinas are located throughout the county's shoreline. Boats and guides are available for salt water fishing parties at several locations. Parades, craft shows, and civic benefits are held throughout the year. Essex County is also an excellent hunting area. Deer, quail, turkey, geese and ducks are plentiful in season.

Picnic facilities are available at Marsh Street Park in Tappahannock.

Public recreational facilities in the county include three ball fields, a swimming pool, a tennis court and two golf courses. Additional private tennis and swimming facilities are also available for public use. Riverside Wellness and Fitness Center offers two outdoor tennis courts, two racquetball courts, basketball and volleyball courts, strength training circuits, treadmills, stair steppers, indoor cushioned track, indoor 25 meter heated pool, massage therapy, sauna, and Jacuzzi.

Essex County's close proximity to Richmond enables residents to enjoy the numerous cultural, entertainment and sporting events that take place throughout the year in the Capital City.

[Virginia's River Country Profile](#)

In Virginia, counties and cities are separate taxing entities. A company pays either county or city tax, depending on its location. However, if it is located within the corporate limits of a town, it is subject to both town and county levies.