

# 2020- 2021

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COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT



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Green = New Material or Data since the last Community Assessment  
Purple = Sources

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# Executive Summary

A review of the material contained within the Community Assessment demonstrates the need for continued and expanded services for families with children living in poverty in Western Tidewater. High levels of poverty, including the very young, a continued lack of kindergarten preparedness, continued population growth in Suffolk and Isle of Wight, a lack of public transportation, teenage pregnancy, a continued need for quality jobs, low education attainment in the community, a lack of affordable housing, continued critical health issues such as obesity and diabetes, and one-parent households are several of the many reasons why Early Head Start and Head Start services are so critical in Western Tidewater.

Center-based childcare, enhanced opportunities for early intervention with an at-risk population, home visitor intervention, a parent-mentoring program, fatherhood initiatives, and transportation services are some of the greatest existing needs. Parents have also expressed the need for connections with food banks, local health departments, housing authorities, job search resources, clothing donations, and the use of public transportation.

There is a foundation of collaborative effort among the many agencies serving the target population with little if any duplication in services.



***“We nurture and educate children and their families.”***

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# Trends in this Edition

The following trends may indicate future need:

## *Trends 2021-2022*

### DEMOGRAPHICS

- All localities saw a population growth except for Franklin in 2021. Suffolk and Isle of Wight have seen a steady growth in population over the last 9 years while population has declined in Franklin over the same period.
- In 2021, Virginia saw a decrease in population of children under age five. Southampton and Franklin followed that trend. The other localities saw an increase in that demographic.
- An increase in number of Hispanic children in Isle of Wight, Southampton, and Suffolk.
- The number of homeless persons in Western Tidewater has been trending upward for several years, with the 2021 number more than tripling that of 2014.

### ECONOMICS

- In the Commonwealth of Virginia in 2021, the average white household earned more than \$39,000 per year than the average black household. Southampton County is significantly lower than the other areas in Western Tidewater for median household income.
- Median household income continues to improve in all localities.
- The number of childcare subsidies through the local Departments of Social Services increased for Franklin, Southampton County, and Suffolk in 2019.
- Franklin is almost 6 times the state average for percentage of households with cash public assistance income. All Western Tidewater localities are above the state average, with the exception of Isle of Wight which is equal to the state average.
- Poverty, all ages, has improved across all areas, except for Isle of Wight County. All areas are below the state average, except for Franklin.
- % of poverty in Southampton County went down 15% to 9%.
- Southampton ranks lowest in job opportunities. Suffolk ranks lowest in community resources.
- Isle of Wight is trending down in families receiving cash public assistance – jumping from 4.1% to 1.9%.
- All Western Tidewater areas, except Isle of Wight, have seen improvement in violent crime rate in 2019-2021 since 2012-2014.

### CHILDREN'S WELL-BEING

- All localities are above the state average in childhood poverty.
- 2021 is first year in the last several consecutive years that Franklin has NOT been more than double the state average for children living in poverty.
- Children in poverty in Isle of Wight jumped up by over 100 in numbers.
- Children enrolled in subsidized childcare changed dramatically in some service areas from 2019 to 2021.
- The trend in Western Tidewater is that less low-income children are going without health insurance as compared to eight years ago, except recently in Isle of Wight County. All localities are below the state average.



## COMMUNITY EDUCATION

- Franklin and Southampton are the only school districts above the state average in four-year dropout rates. 2020-2021 was the first year Franklin and Isle of Wight have been below the state definition of being identifiable.
- As for students who graduate on time, Isle of Wight County and Southampton were ahead of the state average in 2020 and 2021.

## HEALTH

- Franklin has seen a steady increase since 2013 of number of non-physician providers per 100,000 population. Franklin and Isle of Wight have improved.
- All areas are above the state average in low-birth-weight babies. All areas, except Suffolk and Southampton, saw a decrease between 2018 and 2019.
- Franklin and Suffolk are above the state average for teen pregnancy rate. Franklin is more than three times the state average and has had an upward trend in this area for three straight years. Isle of Wight has seen a decrease.
- Over the last two years of data, Franklin has seen a spike in the teen birth rate (ages 15-17). Franklin's rate is nearly five times higher than the state average. Isle of Wight and Southampton saw a drop in this statistic between 2017 and 2018.
- As of 2018, all localities saw a drop in percentage of prenatal care beginning in the first trimester.
- In 2019, Isle of Wight was the only locality below the state average in infant mortality rate. Isle of Wight saw a significant drop in percentage of infant mortality in 2019, while Southampton saw a vast increase in percentage.

### **Snapshot of Virginia's Babies:**

**48.12% of babies are children of color**

**31.7% of babies live in families with low-income**

**1.92% of young children live in rural areas**

- Franklin and Suffolk are above the state average for hospitalization rate due to pediatric mental health. Isle of Wight and Southampton are both below the state average.
- Depression among the Medicare population is below the state and national average in all localities.
- All Western Tidewater localities are above the state average for age-adjusted hospitalization rate due to heart failure. Franklin is almost triple the state average and Suffolk is well above the state average.
- The percentage of adults who have been told they have high blood pressure is nearly double the state average in Franklin/Southampton, and above the state and national average in all areas of Western Tidewater.
- Death because of opioid abuse has become a trending topic across the United States. The only Western Tidewater locality with a trend upward in this area was Southampton, however Southampton's rate decreased in 2018.

## NUTRITION

- In 2018, all areas of Western Tidewater were above the state average in child food insecurity rate. Suffolk and Isle of Wight have seen improvement in this area.

## EMPLOYMENT

- Unemployment rates decreased across all areas in 2021.
- All areas saw an increase in average weekly wage between 2018 and 2019.
- Isle of Wight, Southampton, and Franklin are above the state average for percentage of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force. The trend for all areas has been higher.

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## **KINDERGARTEN READINESS**

- Suffolk was more than double the state average for the percentage of public school children retained in grades K-3 from 2015 to 2020.
- Franklin and Suffolk are above the state average for children age 3 and up to kindergarten who attend a preschool.

## **TRANSPORTATION & TECHNOLOGY**

- Accessibility of public transportation in Franklin, Southampton, and Isle of Wight is still poor.
- All areas were behind the state average for percentage of households with a broadband internet subscription. Franklin is 14.8 percent behind. Southampton County is 10.9 percent behind the state average.

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# Area Description & Geographic Data

## *Area Description*

The community served by the Western Tidewater Head Start programs consists of two predominately rural counties and two independent cities. High levels of poverty, low birth weight infants, and infant mortality characterize the 1,358 square mile area.

The City of Franklin is located in Southeastern Virginia. It consists of eight square miles. Franklin is bordered by Isle of Wight County, and Southampton County. The City of Franklin is predominately urban, with a population density of 1,045 persons per square mile. The city has a central downtown business district and a number of adjacent residential neighborhoods, and strip style shopping centers. The city is divided into six council wards. Citizens in each of the six wards elect a council representative to serve a four-year term. The city is led by an elected mayor and an appointed city manager.

Isle of Wight County is located in Southeastern Virginia. It consists of 363 square miles. Isle of Wight County is bordered by the cities of Suffolk, and Newport News (the county's northern border with Newport News is separated by the James River, which is over 5 miles wide, with one bridge crossing) and the Virginia counties of Southampton, and Surry. Isle of Wight County is predominately rural with a population density of 112 persons per square mile. Many of the county's residents live in or near the towns of Smithfield and Windsor or adjacent to the City of Franklin in the southern most edge of the county. The county is divided into five election districts. Citizens in each district elect a supervisor to serve a four-year term. The elected Board of Supervisors elects a board chair.

Southampton County is located in Southeastern Virginia. It consists of 602 square miles. Southampton County is bordered by the cities of Franklin and Suffolk and by the Virginia counties of Isle of Wight, Surry, Sussex, and Greenville, and by Hertford and Northampton counties in North Carolina. Southampton County is predominately rural, with a population density of 30 persons per square mile. It has seven communities located throughout the county where many of the county's residents live. These villages also serve as supply centers for the county's agricultural production. The county is divided into seven election wards. Citizens in each ward elect a supervisor to serve a four-year term. The elected Board of Supervisors elects a board chair.

The City of Suffolk is centrally located in the Hampton Roads region of Southeastern Virginia. Suffolk has the distinction of being "Virginia's Largest City" covering approximately 429 square miles. It is bordered by a variety of cities and counties including Isle of Wight County, Portsmouth, Chesapeake, Southampton County and Gates County, North Carolina. The Suffolk community is primarily a rural one, with pockets of residential, commercial and industrial development an "inner city" core, and a growth region in the northern end of the city. The city has a population density of 200 persons per square mile. The city is divided into seven council wards. Citizens in each of the seven wards elect a council representative to serve a four-year term. The city is led by an elected mayor and an appointed city manager.

# Demographics

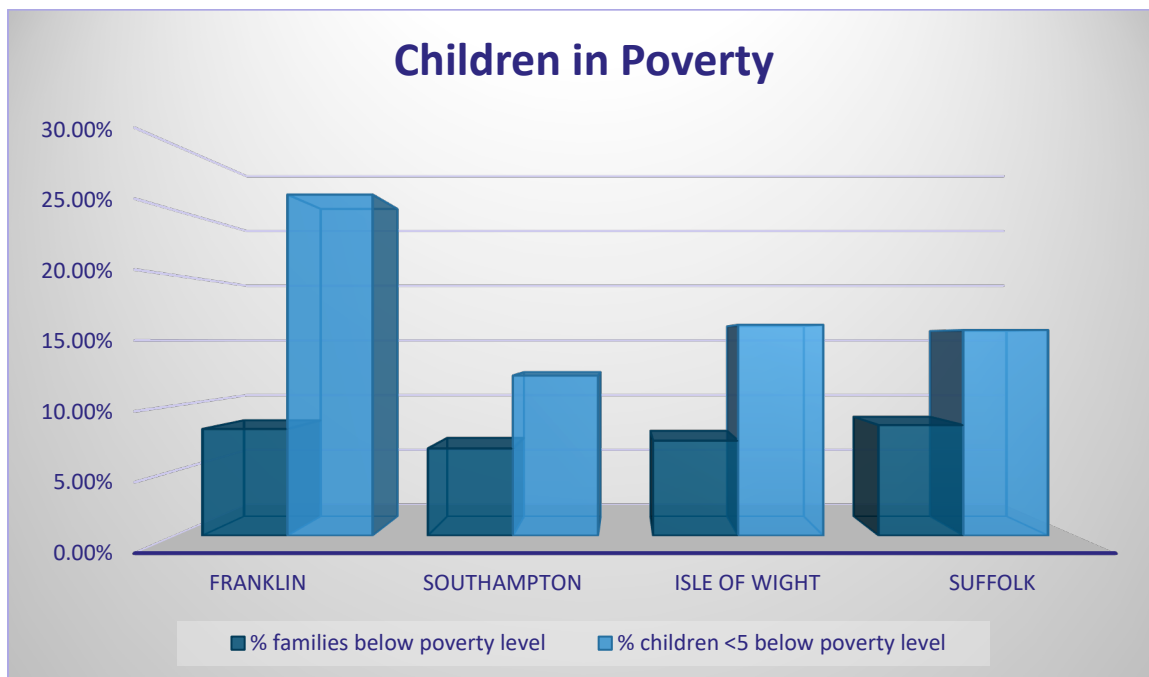
The Children's Center updated its estimation of Early Head Start and Head Start eligibility for Western Tidewater during 2021-2022:

## Children eligible for Early Head Start and Head Start in Western Tidewater

Locality	Estimated # of children <5 years in poverty	Families that are below Federal Poverty Level	Percentage of Young Children <5 Living Below Poverty Level	Percentage of children <6 years with all parents in the household working
Franklin	682	8.2%	26.2%	94.8%
Southampton	625	6.7%	12.3%	73%
Isle of Wight	1047	7.3%	16.2%	76%
Suffolk	3175	8.5%	15.8%	66.7%

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

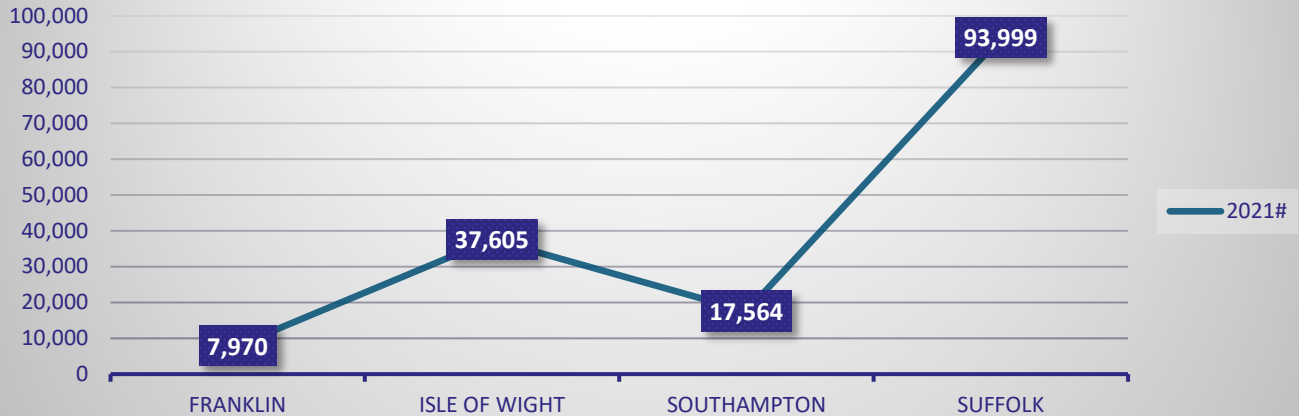
<https://www.ghrconnects.org/indicators/index/view?indicatorId=532&periodId=4523&localeId=2917>





## Population Figures

### Population Figures for Western Tidewater



All localities saw a population growth except for Franklin in 2021. Suffolk and Isle of Wight have seen a steady growth in population over the last 9 years while population has declined in Franklin over the same time period.

### Population Figures for Western Tidewater and Virginia

Locality	2013*	2014**	2015**	2016#	2017#	2018#	2019#	2020#	2021#
Virginia	8,260,405	8,326,289	8,382,993	8,428,329	8,479,229	8,492,022	8,554,008	8,597,973	8,599,585
Franklin	8,638	8,560	8,535	8,522	8,512	8,355	8,210	8,012	7,970
Isle of Wight	35,656	36,172	36,438	36,435	36,740	37,129	37,155	37,505	37,605
Southampton	18,128	18,783	18,551	18,177	18,133	17,993	17,696	17,486	17,564
Suffolk	85,728	89,586	90,426	89,015	90,380	91,570	92,443	93,011	93,999

\*Estimate U.S. Census

\*\* Estimate Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service

# Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

### Population Change 2010-2020 (by percentage)

Virginia	7.48%
Franklin	-6.57%
Isle of Wight	6.62%
Southampton	-5.42%
Suffolk	11.13%

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

All areas have seen growth in Hispanic population from 2019 to 2020. Suffolk continues to have the highest concentration of Hispanics.

### Population Figures By Race and Ethnicity (2017 by percentage)

Population Group	Virginia	Franklin	Isle of Wight	Southampton	Suffolk
White	66.39%	38.24%	72.03%	61.46%	51.20%
Black	19.29%	56.76%	23.27%	35.23%	42.64%
Asian	6.56%	0.94%	1.06%	0.35%	1.82%
Hispanic	9.45%	2.81%	3.34%	1.59%	4.33%
Native American	0.40%	0.42%	0.49%	0.43%	0.36%

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

### Population Figures By Race and Ethnicity (2018 by percentage)

Population Group	Virginia	Franklin	Isle of Wight	Southampton	Suffolk
White	66.03%	38.58%	72.29%	61.23%	51.10%
Black	19.35%	56.71%	22.74%	35.20%	42.39%
Asian	6.75%	0.98%	1.11%	0.41%	1.95%
Hispanic	9.57%	2.23%	3.59%	1.66%	4.66%
Native American	0.40%	0.36%	0.45%	0.47%	0.37%

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

### Population Figures By Race and Ethnicity (2019 by percentage)

Population Group	Virginia	Franklin	Isle of Wight	Southampton	Suffolk
White	65.84%	37.95%	72.63%	62.02%	51.31%
Black	19.39%	56.99%	22.33%	34.43%	42.14%
Asian	6.83%	0.97%	1.12%	0.38%	1.92%
Hispanic	9.66%	2.62%	3.47%	1.87%	4.65%
Native American	0.39%	0.33%	0.44%	0.44%	0.38%

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

### Population Figures By Race and Ethnicity (2020 by percentage)

Population Group	Virginia	Franklin	Isle of Wight	Southampton	Suffolk
White	65.35%	37.51%	72.08%	62.32%	51.11%
Black	19.46%	57.61%	22.74%	33.95%	41.87%
Asian	6.98%	0.94%	1.00%	0.40%	1.89%
Hispanic	10.12%	3.10%	3.75%	2.19%	5.16%
Native American	0.40%	0.37%	0.47%	0.47%	0.37%

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

## Population Figures By Race and Ethnicity (2021 by percentage)

Population Group	Virginia	Franklin	Isle of Wight	Southampton	Suffolk
White	65.03%	37.28%	71.94%	62.09%	50.97%
Black	19.48%	57.88%	22.73%	33.90%	41.88%
Asian	7.08%	0.98%	0.96%	0.54%	1.88%
Hispanic	10.37%	2.97%	3.94%	2.20%	5.40%
American Indian	0.41%	0.41%	0.49%	0.50%	0.36%

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

<https://www.ghrconnects.org/index.php?module=demographicdata&controller=index&action=index&id=41669>

With the exception of Southampton County, the percentage of female population in Western Tidewater is above the state average. **Southampton County is the only area which has more males than females.**

## Percentage of Population That is Female

Locality	Female Population 2017	% of Pop.	Female Population 2018	% of Pop.	Female Population 2019	% of Pop.	Female Population 2020	% of Pop.	Female Population 2021	% of Pop.
Franklin	4,662	54.77	4,560	54.58	4,475	54.51	4,372	54.57	4,367	54.79
Isle of Wight	18,859	51.33	19,064	51.35	18,986	51.10	19,155	51.07	19,181	51.01
Southampton	8,647	47.69	8,585	47.71	8,458	47.80	8,356	47.79	8,400	47.83
Suffolk	46,720	51.69	47,149	51.49	47,776	51.68	47,993	51.60	48,514	51.61
Virginia	4,307,952	50.81	4,313,609	50.80	4,346,672	50.81	4,367,505	50.80	4,367,376	50.79

Source: U.S. Census \*Estimated, Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

In **2021**, Virginia saw a decrease in population of children under age five. **Southampton and Franklin** followed that trend. The other localities saw an increase in that demographic.

## Population Under Age 5

Locality	2013	2014	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Franklin	596	605	695	743	665	539	487	453
Isle of Wight	1,753	1,690	1,719	1,694	1,729	1,967	2,000	2,008
Southampton	907	882	809	792	845	818	746	673
Suffolk	5,776	5,699	5,699	5,743	5,809	6,134	6,342	6,342
Virginia	509,788	511,320	512,019	514,467	512,228	511,502	511,906	508,576

Source: U.S. Census, Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

The Virginia Employment Commission projects growth in the under age 5 population for all areas of Western Tidewater, especially Isle of Wight and Suffolk.

## Projected Population Under Age 5 (updated 2018)

Locality	2020	2030	2040
Franklin	595	611	607
Isle of Wight	1,809	2,007	2,145

Southampton	819	816	838
Suffolk	6,377	7,484	8,252

Source: Virginia Employment Commission

According to data from the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service, Suffolk and Isle of Wight will experience rapid population growth over the next 25 years.

## Projected Population All Ages (updated June 2017)

Locality	2025	2035	2045
Franklin	8,510	8,517	8,464
Isle of Wight	39,549	43,400	46,922
Southampton	18,789	19,230	19,534
Suffolk	104,400	120,487	135,619

Source: Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service

Following the trend at the state level, all localities saw an increase in the total number of Hispanic children from 2017 to 2019 (with the exception of Franklin).

## Number of Hispanic Children ages birth-17

Locality	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014-2018	2015-2019
Franklin	0	26	22	17	13	27	0	0	0
Isle of Wight	266	268	286	309	327	332	339	354	367
Southampton	50	73	81	84	67	111	117	124	170
Suffolk	907	926	981	1,032	1,137	1,183	1,279	1,342	1,381
Virginia	195,415	204,517	212,892	212,892	228,035	234,290	242,147	249,917	266,554

Source: Kids Count

<https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/9275-child-population-by-race-after-2009?loc=48&loct=5#detailed/5/6812-6945/false/1983,1692,871,870,573,869,36,868,867,133/187,172,9,3,4199,107/18348>

There are over 7,300 children in foster care in Virginia. According to the latest available statistics, the number of Early Head Start and Head Start eligible children in foster care in Western Tidewater is minimal.

## Children in Foster Care (% by age group\*)

Locality	Age Group	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Franklin	Less than 1 year	0.0	11.1	0.0	16.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	1-5 years	30.0	33.3	50.0	16.7	0.0	33.3	33.3	54.5	12.5
Isle of Wight	Less than 1 year	0.0	8.3	9.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.0	6.3

	1-5 years	15.4	29.2	23.8	53.8	33.3	37.5	0.0	0.0	31.3
Southampton	Less than 1 year	0.0	0.0	11.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.1	0.0
	1-5 years	0.0	11.1	22.2	20.0	12.5	10.0	0.0	0.0	25.0
Suffolk	Less than 1 year	3.1	2.3	8.1	0.0	4.2	4.2	0.0	3.4	11.5
	1-5 years	13.8	9.1	16.2	23.1	4.2	16.7	6.3	13.8	26.9

Source: Kids Count \*The percentage is the number of children in foster care in that age group of the total number of children in foster care in that locality.

[https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/9186-children-in-foster-care-by-age?loc=48&loct=5#detailed/5/6812-](https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/9186-children-in-foster-care-by-age?loc=48&loct=5#detailed/5/6812-6945/false/1961,1699,1624,1567,1528,1501,1335,1334,1333,1332/1818,1815,1817,1814,1816/18209,18210)

[6945/false/1961,1699,1624,1567,1528,1501,1335,1334,1333,1332/1818,1815,1817,1814,1816/18209,18210](https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/9186-children-in-foster-care-by-age?loc=48&loct=5#detailed/5/6812-6945/false/1961,1699,1624,1567,1528,1501,1335,1334,1333,1332/1818,1815,1817,1814,1816/18209,18210)

## Number of Children Enrolled in Public Schools in Foster Care

Locality	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Franklin	1	2	3	0
Isle of Wight	18	9	7	0
Southampton	0	1	5	0
Suffolk	12	20	16	0

Source: Virginia Department of Education

The number of homeless people in Western Tidewater has decreased since 2020. This is the first year since 2015 where the homelessness has decreased in Western Tidewater.

## Number of Homeless Persons in Western Tidewater

Locality	2009	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Western Tidewater	71	58	24	38	53	57	60	63	80	60

Source: Southeastern Virginia Homeless Coalition

<https://www.hamptonroadsendshomelessness.org/homeless-data.html>

## Children Experiencing Homelessness in Western Tidewater

Locality	2018	2019	2020	2021
Western Tidewater	20	23	33	11

Source: Southeastern Virginia Homeless Coalition

## Children Enrolled in Public School Considered Homeless

School District	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Franklin	37	34	10
Isle of Wight	NA	15	0
Southampton	NA	NA	0
Suffolk	61	52	0

Source: Virginia Department of Education

## Household Composition

The data for household composition changed in the U.S. census Community Survey in 2018. In 2018, all Western Tidewater localities were below the state average for average household size.

### Household Size (2015)

Locality	1 person	2 person	3 person	4+ person
Franklin	33.4%	29.5%	18.5%	18.6%
Isle of Wight	21.8%	39.2%	17.9%	21.1%
Southampton	22.4%	38.0%	17.2%	22.4%
Suffolk	22.3%	34.4%	19.0%	24.4%
Virginia	26.6%	34.2%	16.7%	22.5%
United States	27.6%	33.7%	15.8%	22.9%

Source: U.S. Census

### Household Size (2016)

Locality	1 person	2 person	3 person	4+ person
Franklin	33.4%	29.4%	18.1%	19.1%
Isle of Wight	22.3%	39.6%	18.8%	19.3%
Southampton	23.0%	37.0%	18.2%	21.8%
Suffolk	21.7%	35.4%	18.4%	24.5%
Virginia	26.8%	34.1%	16.7%	22.5%
United States	27.7%	33.7%	15.7%	22.9%

Source: U.S. Census

### Average Household Size

Locality	2018	2021
Franklin	2.29	2.40
Isle of Wight	2.52	2.50
Southampton	2.51	2.53
Suffolk	2.67	2.71
Virginia	2.61	2.54



United States	2.63	2.53
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Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard  
<https://www.ghrconnects.org/demographicdata?id=281263>

All localities in Western Tidewater are above the state average for percentage of households with a female householder with no husband present. Franklin is more than double the state average. All localities increased in the percentage of female-led households from 2018 to 2020.

## Percentage of Households with a Female Householder with no Husband Present

Locality	Total Households	Female-led Households	Percentage of Female-led Households
Franklin 2012	3,532	880	24.9
Franklin 2013	3,551	876	24.7
Franklin 2014	3,580	1,034	28.9
Franklin 2015	3,453	981	28.4
Franklin 2016	3,424	887	25.9
Franklin 2017	3,470	889	25.6
Franklin 2018	3,526	847	24.0
Franklin 2020	3,264	1570	44.7
Isle of Wight 2012	13,585	1,570	11.6
Isle of Wight 2013	13,560	1,438	10.6
Isle of Wight 2014	13,519	1,379	10.2
Isle of Wight 2015	13,769	1,418	10.3
Isle of Wight 2016	13,902	1,363	9.8
Isle of Wight 2017	14,157	1,546	10.9
Isle of Wight 2018	14,304	1,725	12.1
Isle of Wight 2020	14,895	3619	26.8
Southampton 2012	6,532	1,062	16.3
Southampton 2013	6,708	1,091	16.3
Southampton 2014	6,654	1,091	16.4
Southampton 2015	6,682	1,136	17.7
Southampton 2016	6,727	1,130	16.8
Southampton 2017	6,664	993	14.9
Southampton 2018	6,522	985	15.1
Southampton 2020	6,329	1849	27.9
Suffolk 2012	30,502	4,760	15.6
Suffolk 2013	30,492	5,028	16.5
Suffolk 2014	30,798	5,236	17.0
Suffolk 2015	30,990	5,361	17.3

Suffolk 2016	31,741	5,523	17.4
Suffolk 2017	32,331	5,431	16.8
Suffolk 2018	33,198	5,351	16.1
Suffolk 2019	34,307	5,389	26.9
Virginia 2011	2,991,025	359,899	12.0
Virginia 2012	3,006,219	365,245	12.1
Virginia 2013	3,022,739	371,842	12.3
Virginia 2014	3,041,710	377,172	12.4
Virginia 2015	3,062,783	376,722	12.3
Virginia 2016	3,090,178	377,002	12.2
Virginia 2017	3,105,636	374,420	12.1
Virginia 2018	3,128,415	370,505	11.8

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

### *Language Spoken in the Home*

Although 7.0 percent of Virginia residents five and over spoke Spanish as their primary language in 2019, Western Tidewater is far below the state average in that area. Suffolk (2.2%) and Isle of Wight (1.9%) were the closest to the state average.

### Language Spoken at Home (5 and over), by percentage

Locality	English	Spanish
Franklin 2012	98.1	0.6
Franklin 2013	97.7	0.6
Franklin 2014	97.5	0.6
Franklin 2016	97.8	0.6
Franklin 2017	97.5	0.6
Franklin 2018	97.8	0.7
Franklin 2019	98.1	0.9
Isle of Wight 2012	96.0	2.1
Isle of Wight 2013	96.1	1.9
Isle of Wight 2014	96.4	1.9
Isle of Wight 2016	96.1	1.9
Isle of Wight 2017	96.5	1.9
Isle of Wight 2018	96.1	2.1
Isle of Wight 2019	96.2	1.9
Southampton 2012	98.2	1.0
Southampton 2013	98.0	1.1
Southampton 2014	98.4	0.8
Southampton 2016	98.0	1.1
Southampton 2017	98.4	0.8
Southampton 2018	98.2	0.7
Southampton 2019	98.9	0.3

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Suffolk 2012	95.6	1.8
Suffolk 2013	95.5	2.0
Suffolk 2014	95.6	2.2
Suffolk 2016	95.7	1.9
Suffolk 2017	95.8	2.0
Suffolk 2018	95.6	2.1
Suffolk 2019	95.4	2.2
Virginia 2012	85.3	6.6
Virginia 2013	85.1	6.7
Virginia 2014	84.8	6.7
Virginia 2016	85.0	6.7
Virginia 2017	84.6	6.7
Virginia 2018	84.3	6.9
Virginia 2019	84.1	7.0

Source: U.S. Census, Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

# ECONOMIC DATA

## *Poverty & Median Household Income*

According to statistics from Kids Count and the Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard, there continues to be a large gap between the races in median household income. In the Commonwealth of Virginia in **2021**, the average white household earned more than **\$39,000** per year than the average black household. **Southampton County is significantly lower than the other areas in Western Tidewater for median household income.**

### Median Household Income By Race and Ethnicity (U.S. Dollars)

Location	Race	2011	2012	2013	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Virginia	White	67,841	69,165	68,977	71,059	73,248	76,180	79,388	113,034
	Black	42,652	43,803	43,885	45,557	47,112	49,110	50,875	73,626
	Hispanic	58,004	59,245	59,930	60,972	63,097	65,576	67,549	101,890

Location	Race	2011	2012	2013	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Franklin	White	59,714	62,974	55,509	53,333	55,498	59,060	64,008	84,554
	Black	23,603	22,573	22,269	22,030	27,352	32,934	35,526	50,622
	Hispanic	NA	155,563	19,127	21,977	23,125	24,107	137,500	80,586

Location	Race	2011	2012	2013	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Isle of Wight	White	72,958	73,227	71,626	72,073	76,156	78,025	82,453	93,033
	Black	40,042	44,730	44,114	44,051	45,355	44,954	49,722	48,828
	Hispanic	91,406	90,313	100,732	46,328	54,861	92,568	75,915	48,929

Location	Race	2011	2012	2013	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Southampton	White	54,688	56,541	57,699	60,291	67,010	66,143	71,232	75,823
	Black	34,396	29,963	30,512	31,377	38,905	34,624	36,493	41,095
	Hispanic	14,934	18,482	18,636	36,667	24,722	24,737	54,688	37,813

Location	Race	2011	2012	2013	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Suffolk	White	78,907	79,004	80,169	75,500	77,866	78,243	85,145	93,165
	Black	48,127	47,846	47,205	48,719	46,052	46,290	50,685	59,228
	Hispanic	NA	54,630	66,500	63,417	68,789	65,318	87,013	85,399

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

[https://www.ghrconnects.org/?module=demographicdata&controller=index&action=index&id=3001&sectionId=936#sectionPiece\\_73](https://www.ghrconnects.org/?module=demographicdata&controller=index&action=index&id=3001&sectionId=936#sectionPiece_73)

There is a large disparity between communities when it comes to overall median household income. In **2021**, the City of Franklin was over \$34,000 lower than the state average in median household income. All Western Tidewater localities were under the state average for median household income, with the exception of Isle of Wight. The City of Suffolk has almost reached the state average.

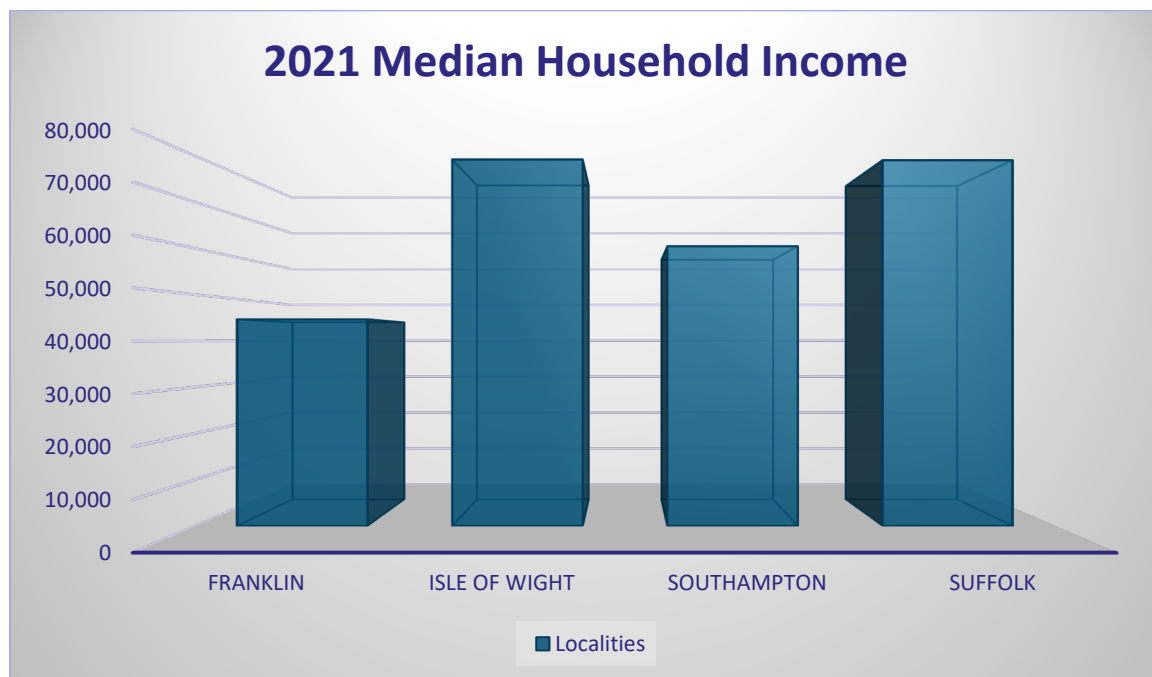
All areas are now above their 2008 median household income (the year of the Great Recession).

## Median Household Income

Locality	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Franklin	35,855	36,454	33,956	33,447	31,928	33,133	31,967	37,522	40,368	44,158	44,641
Isle of Wight	59,463	62,224	64,925	64,491	63,942	65,910	64,754	68,379	69,606	73,490	79,189
Southampton	42,751	43,232	46,733	46,703	46,150	49,690	48,728	55,295	52,626	57,063	60,437
Suffolk	56,300	62,419	65,351	66,479	66,085	66,822	64,478	65,102	65,386	71,115	79,019
Virginia	59,372	60,665	63,302	63,636	63,907	64,792	66,140	68,376	71,167	73,579	79,124

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

[https://www.ghrconnects.org/?module=demographicdata&controller=index&action=index&id=2979&sectionId=936#sectionPiece\\_72](https://www.ghrconnects.org/?module=demographicdata&controller=index&action=index&id=2979&sectionId=936#sectionPiece_72)



Household Survival Budgets have been established for each municipality in Virginia by the United Way. This bare minimum budget does not allow for savings. Affording only a very modest living in each community, this budget is still significantly more than the Federal Poverty Level.

## Household Survival Budget, Franklin

	2 Adults, 1 Infant, 1 Preschooler
Housing	\$806
Child Care	\$1,204
Food	\$561
Transportation	\$644
Health Care	\$634
Miscellaneous	\$450

<b>Taxes</b>	<b>\$647</b>
<b>Monthly Total</b>	<b>\$4,946</b>
<b>Hourly Wage</b>	<b>\$29.68</b>

Source: 2017 United Way ALICE Report for Virginia

## Household Survival Budget, Isle of Wight

	2 Adults, 1 Infant, 1 Preschooler
<b>Housing</b>	<b>\$1,107</b>
<b>Child Care</b>	<b>\$1,204</b>
<b>Food</b>	<b>\$561</b>
<b>Transportation</b>	<b>\$644</b>
<b>Health Care</b>	<b>\$634</b>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<b>\$492</b>
<b>Taxes</b>	<b>\$767</b>
<b>Monthly Total</b>	<b>\$5,409</b>
<b>Hourly Wage</b>	<b>\$32.45</b>

Source: 2017 United Way ALICE Report for Virginia

## Household Survival Budget, Southampton

	2 Adults, 1 Infant, 1 Preschooler
<b>Housing</b>	<b>\$806</b>
<b>Child Care</b>	<b>\$1,204</b>
<b>Food</b>	<b>\$561</b>
<b>Transportation</b>	<b>\$644</b>
<b>Health Care</b>	<b>\$634</b>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<b>\$450</b>
<b>Taxes</b>	<b>\$647</b>
<b>Monthly Total</b>	<b>\$4,946</b>
<b>Hourly Wage</b>	<b>\$29.68</b>

Source: 2017 United Way ALICE Report for Virginia

## Household Survival Budget, Suffolk

	2 Adults, 1 Infant, 1 Preschooler
<b>Housing</b>	<b>\$1,107</b>
<b>Child Care</b>	<b>\$1,204</b>
<b>Food</b>	<b>\$561</b>
<b>Transportation</b>	<b>\$644</b>
<b>Health Care</b>	<b>\$634</b>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<b>\$492</b>
<b>Taxes</b>	<b>\$767</b>
<b>Monthly Total</b>	<b>\$5,409</b>
<b>Hourly Wage</b>	<b>\$32.45</b>

Source: 2017 United Way ALICE Report for Virginia

The Cost of Living Index for Western Tidewater is lower than the national average.



## Cost of Living Index\*

Locality	March 2012	March 2016	March 2019	March 2022
Franklin	84.8	84.5	82.2	85.45
Isle of Wight County	88.0	87.7	NA	NA
Southampton	86.9	86.2	NA	84.24
Smithfield			96.4	87.23
Suffolk	97.1	96.8	96.0	87.42
Virginia				

Source: [www.city-data.com](http://www.city-data.com),

\* Cost of Living Index of 100 is the national average. Numbers below 100 indicate lower cost of living.

According to the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities, in 2017, for every 100 poor families with children in Virginia, only 19 received TANF cash assistance, down from 33 in 2001. During that time, Virginia cut its spending on basic assistance, work activities, and child care, while the number of families with children below 50 percent of the poverty line nearly doubled.

Franklin is almost 6 times the state average for percentage of households with cash public assistance income. All Western Tidewater localities are above the state average, with the exception of Isle of Wight which is equal to the state average.

## Households with Cash Public Assistance Income (TANF) (Percentage)\*

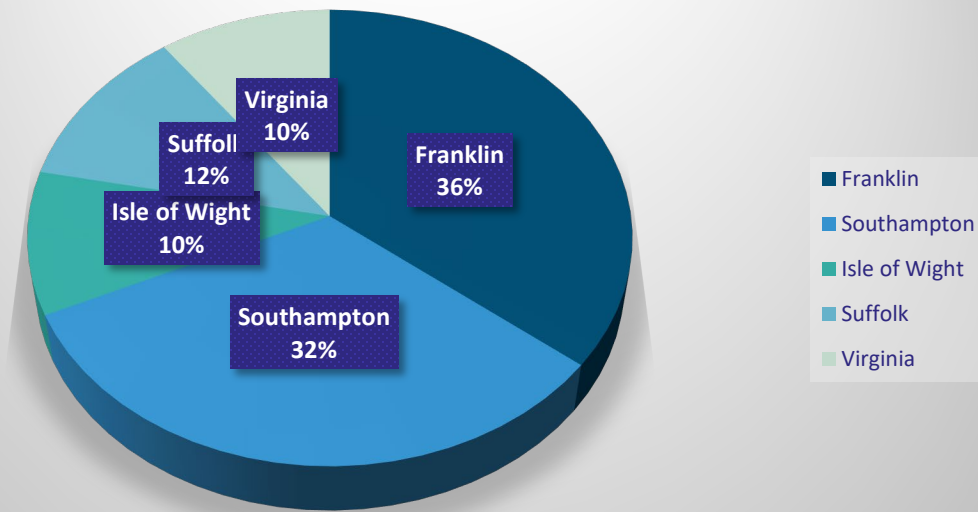
Locality	2012-2016	2013-2017	2014-2018	2015-2019
Franklin	11.5	10.2	8.6	6.7
Southampton	4.2	5.5	6.2	6.1
Isle of Wight	4.3	4.3	4.1	1.9
Suffolk	5.6	4.7	3.7	2.2
Virginia	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

<https://www.ghrconnects.org/indicators/index/view?indicatorId=277&localeId=3001>

\* This indicator shows the percentage of households receiving general assistance and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF). It does not include Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits.

## HOUSEHOLDS WITH TANF



Money available for child care subsidies through the Virginia Department of Social Services has become harder to come by. Every Western Tidewater locality has seen a sharp drop in the amount of children receiving childcare subsidies beginning in 2015. This trend continued in 2018. In 2019, Franklin, Southampton, and Suffolk all saw increases in the number of children receiving child care subsidies. In 2021, data has not been updated for the state of Virginia.

## Children Enrolled in Subsidized Child Care

Locality	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Franklin	51	25	45	41	78	39
Isle of Wight	53	26	31	24	21	23
Southampton	16	11	14	10	18	10
Suffolk	246	195	181	160	255	138
Virginia	29,295	22,612	20,595	19,347	23,722	N/A

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

<https://www.ghrconnects.org/?module=indicators&controller=index&action=view&comparisonId=&indicatorId=1085&localeTypeId=2&localeId=3001>

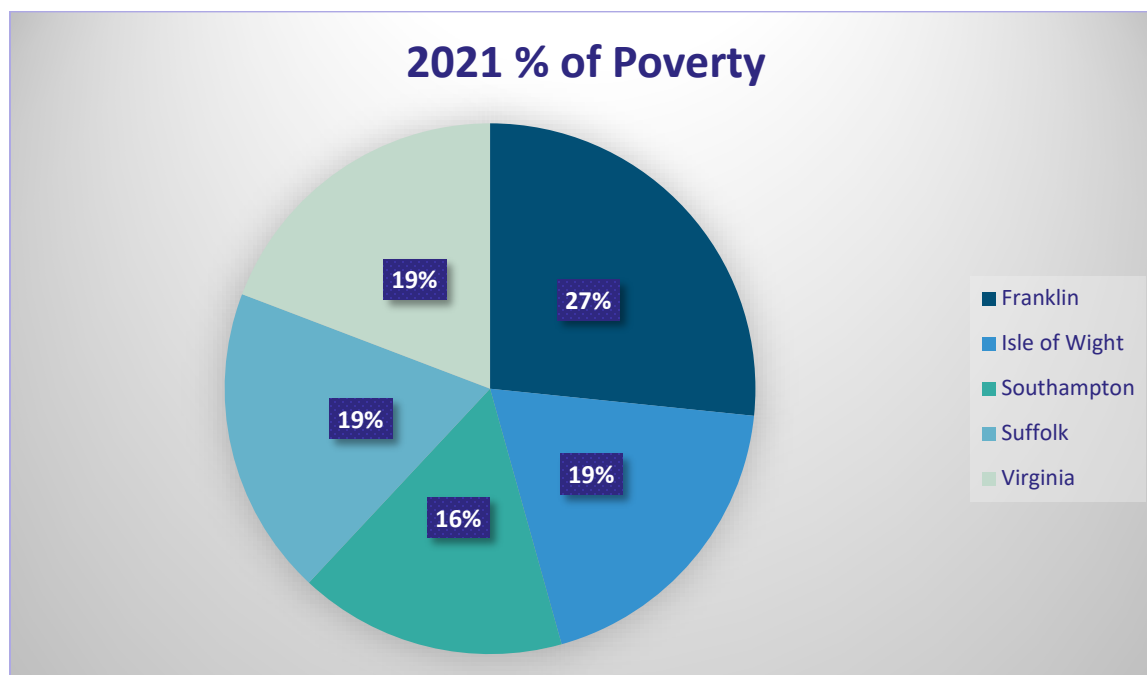
Poverty, all ages, has improved across all areas, except for Isle of Wight County. All areas are below the state average, except for Franklin.

## Percentage of Poverty, All Ages

Locality	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2021
Franklin	17.7%	21.6%	22.0%	21.0%	23.0%	25.8%	21.2%	16.7%	21%	18%	14.7%
Isle of Wight	10.1%	8.8%	11.0%	9.0%	12.0%	11.3%	11.7%	10.9%	9%	9%	10.5%
Southampton	15.9%	16.4%	16.0%	17.0%	16.0%	14.5%	15.7%	14.7%	15%	15%	9%
Suffolk	12.3%	11.9%	12.0%	12.0%	11.4%	11.1%	11.5%	11.5%	11%	11%	10.4%
Virginia	10.6%	11.1%	12.0%	12.0%	11.3%	11.5%	11.5%	11.4%	11%	11%	10.6%

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

<https://www.ghrconnects.org/?module=indicators&controller=index&action=view&comparisonId=&indicatorId=347&localeId=3001>



All localities are above the state average for percentage of families with children in poverty status. All localities improved in this area between 2018 and 2019.

## Number of Families with Children by Poverty Status and Percentage

Locality	Number 2017	% of pop 2017	Number 2018	% of pop 2018	Number 2019	% of pop 2019	Number 2021	% of Pop 2021
Franklin	321	13.86	235	10.35	146	6.55	137	6.34
Isle of Wight	801	7.41	783	7.16	681	6.21	647	5.81
Southampton	379	8.13	447	9.64	408	8.90	310	6.82
Suffolk	1,880	7.61	1,918	7.66	1,609	6.36	1,302	5.06
Virginia	139,161	6.42	131,813	6.07	128,525	5.87	115,425	5.24

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

<https://www.ghrconnects.org/?module=demographicdata&controller=index&action=index&id=3001&sectionId=936>

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## ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Restrained, and Employed)

The United Ways of Virginia conducted a 2017 study on ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed). With the cost of living higher than what most people earn, ALICE families have income above the Federal Poverty Level, but not high enough to afford a basic household budget that includes housing, child care, food, transportation, and health care (See Household Survival Budgets for each Western Tidewater municipality beginning on Page 13). ALICE households live in every county and city in Virginia – urban, suburban, and rural – and they include women and men, young and old, and all races and ethnicities.

While the Federal Poverty Level reports that 11 percent of Virginia households faced financial hardship in 2015, an additional 28 percent qualified as ALICE.

All Western Tidewater communities are above the state average in households that are asset limited, income constrained, and employed (ALICE).

### Households that are Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE)\*

Locality	2016
Franklin	54%
Isle of Wight	41%
Southampton	47%
Suffolk	42%
Virginia	41%

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

<https://www.ghrconnects.org/indicators/index/dashboard?alias=ALICE>

*\* ALICE households represent men and women of all ages and races who are working but unable to afford the basic necessities of housing, food, child care, health care, and transportation due to the lack of jobs that can support basic necessities and increases in the basic cost of living.*

Another way to look at the impact of ALICE is to add poverty numbers. This shows, for example, that 57 percent of families in Franklin are ALICE or in poverty.

### Households that are ALICE + Poverty

Locality	2015
Franklin	57%
Isle of Wight	36%
Southampton	49%
Suffolk	47%

Source: 2017 United Way ALICE Report for Virginia

Within counties, there are communities that are better or worse for ALICE + poverty than the overall county. For example, in Isle of Wight County, 91 percent of households in Camptown are ALICE + poverty, well above the 36 percent for the entire county.

### Isle of Wight County Communities Households that are ALICE + Poverty

Locality	2015
Benns Church	48%
Camptown	91%
Carrollton	17%
Carrsville	62%
Rushmere	66%
Smithfield	39%
Windsor	49%

Source: 2017 United Way ALICE Report for Virginia

### Southampton County Communities Households that are ALICE + Poverty

Locality	2015
Boykins	48%
Courtland	70%
Ivor	60%
Newsoms	48%
Sedley	46%
Southampton Meadows	88%

Source: 2017 United Way ALICE Report for Virginia

Each Western Tidewater location has been given an index on the three areas of the Economic Viability Dashboard. Franklin ranks lowest in affordable housing. Southampton ranks lowest in job opportunities. Suffolk ranks lowest in community resources.

### Economic Viability Dashboard (2015)\*

Locality	Housing Affordability	Job Opportunities	Community Resources
Franklin	41	65	59
Isle of Wight	57	64	57
Southampton	52	41	55
Suffolk	46	39	43

Source: 2017 United Way ALICE Report for Virginia

\*Index scores for each area range from a possible 1 (worse economic conditions for ALICE) to 100 (better conditions). Each area's score is relative to other counties and cities in Virginia.

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## SocioNeeds Index

The **2020 SocioNeeds Index**, created by [Conduent Healthy Communities Institute](#), is a measure of socioeconomic need that is correlated with poor health outcomes.

All zip codes, counties, and county equivalents in the United States are given an Index Value from 0 (low need) to 100 (high need). Factors range from poverty to education level. Those with the highest values are estimated to have the highest socioeconomic need which is correlated with preventable hospitalizations and premature death.

### SocioNeeds Index (2020)

Zip Code	Locality	Index
23844	Southampton-Drewryville	75.8
23828	Southampton-Branchville	73.6
23851	Franklin	73.1
23827	Southampton-Boykins	70.2
23315	Isle of Wight-Carrsville	65.7
23874	Southampton-Newsoms	64.1
23434	Suffolk	61.9
23829	Southampton-Capron	60.5
23487	Isle of Wight-Windsor	58.0
23866	Southampton-Ivor	53.0
23898	Isle of Wight-Zuni	52.2
23437	Suffolk	49.2
23878	Southampton-Sedley	46.3
23837	Southampton-Courtland	46.2
23438	Suffolk	42.9
23430	Isle of Wight-Smithfield	38.2
23432	Suffolk	28.0
23314	Isle of Wight-Carrollton	19.3
23435	Suffolk	11.6
23433	Suffolk	7.1



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23436	Suffolk	4.2
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Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

# CHILDREN'S WELL-BEING

In a study of characteristics that indicate the well-being of children in the community, Western Tidewater had mixed indicators as compared to Virginia.

With the exception of Isle of Wight, the Western Tidewater area was above the state average for poverty in children ages birth through 17 in 2019. Suffolk, Southampton, and Franklin all saw improvements in childhood poverty in 2019 compared to 2018. Suffolk had its lowest percentage since 2008. Franklin had its lowest percentage since 2008.

Despite improvement, Franklin still remains well above the state average. However, this is the first year that Franklin has NOT been more than double the state average.

## Children ages 0-17 in poverty, by percentage

Locality	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Virginia	14.0	14.6	15.6	15.5	15.7	15.9	15.0	14.3	14.0	13.8	13.9
Franklin	28.6	33.2	33.7	33.1	36.6	34.7	35.2	33.8	35.1	34.1	22.7
Southampton	19.5	20.0	22.1	22.5	22.5	22.4	20.9	21.1	20.5	20.2	13.5
Isle of Wight	14.7	12.3	15.6	13.3	14.0	13.7	13.1	12.4	11.2	12.1	18.1
Suffolk	17.8	17.2	18.1	18.2	17.3	20.2	18.0	16.8	16.6	16.1	16.1

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

The actual number of children ages birth through 17 in poverty dropped in Franklin in 2019.

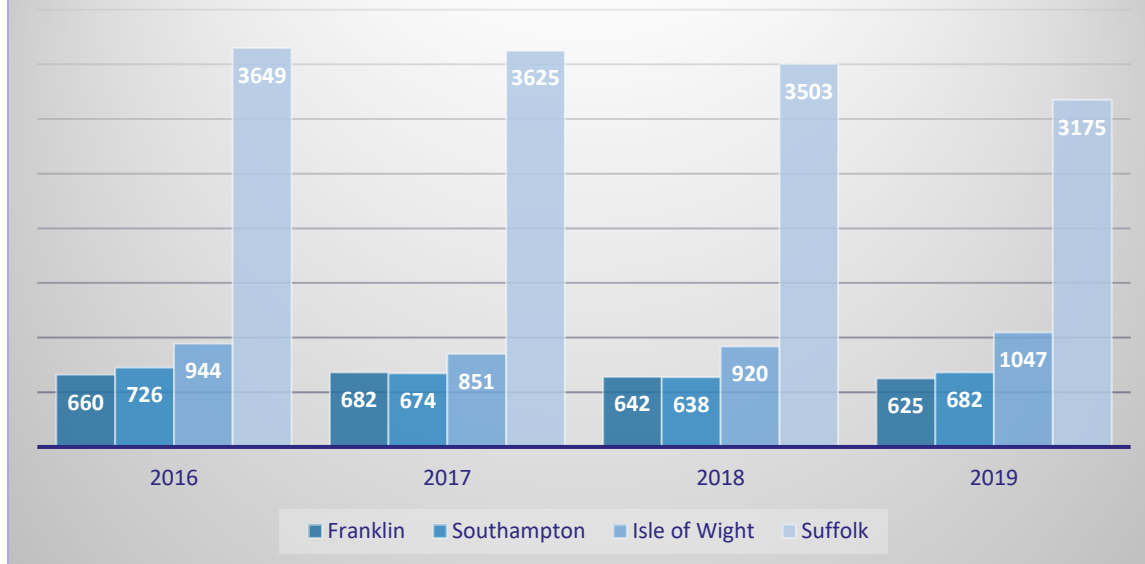
## Children ages 0-17 in poverty, total

Locality	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Franklin	671	688	689	798	771	756	660	682	642	625
Southampton	768	831	826	785	761	713	726	674	638	682
Isle of Wight	975	1,213	1,016	1,040	1,032	990	944	851	920	1,047
Suffolk	3,764	3,897	3,872	3,689	4,314	3,875	3,649	3,625	3,503	3,175

Source: Kids Count

<https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/5879-child-poverty-1-year-estimates#detailed/5/6856/false/1729,37,871,870,573,869,36,868,867,133/any/12494,12493>

## Children in Poverty Totals: 2016-2019



## Children ages 0-17 in poverty (below 200%), by percentage

Locality	2011-2015	2012-2016	2013-2017	2014-2018	2015-2019
Virginia	33.8	33.7	33.2	32.4	31.5
Franklin	54.2	57.1	62.7	62.9	69.9
Southampton	45.0	43.0	38.9	38.1	37.1
Isle of Wight	34.6	32.6	32.7	32.8	31.1
Suffolk	38.1	36.0	33.3	32.8	33.6

Source: Kids Count

<https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/9181-child-poverty-below-200?loc=48&loct=2#detailed/5/6856,6875,6928,6932/false/1983,1692,1691,1607,1572,1522/any/18203>

Suffolk is above the state average for children ages birth through 17 in deep poverty. Isle of Wight is the only locality in Western Tidewater that saw improvement in this category between 2014 and 2019.

## Children ages 0-17 in deep poverty (below 50%), by percentage

Locality	2011-2015	2012-2016	2013-2017	2014-2018	2015-2019
Virginia	46	46.4	46.5	47.5	47.6
Franklin	15.7	42.6	11.5	13.8	23
Southampton	47.1	48.9	30.6	35.5	41.4
Isle of Wight	56.9	42.6	47	49.5	47.1
Suffolk	42.2	39.4	43.8	47	52.6

Source: Kids Count, Voices for Virginia's Children

<https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/9183-of-children-in-poverty-living-in-deep-poverty?loc=48&loct=5#detailed/5/6856,6875,6928,6932/false/1983,1692,1691,1607,1573,1522/any/18207>

Following the state, Southampton and Suffolk had a drop in this area.

## Young Children living in poverty (under 5), by percentage

Locality	2008-2012	2009-2013	2010-2014	2011-2015	2012-2016	2013-2017	2014-2018	2015-2019
Franklin	37.4	38.1	33.7	32.0	22.7	22.7	19.1	26.2
Southampton	29.1	24.4	32.5	34.0	21.6	19.3	19.6	12.3
Isle of Wight	26.1	26.6	23.3	25.0	15.5	15.3	14.7	16.2
Suffolk	18.8	20.1	19.8	21.2	20.2	18.6	16.8	15.8
Virginia	17.0	17.2	17.4	17.0	16.6	16.2	15.7	15

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

<https://www.ghrconnects.org/?module=indicators&controller=index&action=view&localeFilterId=132227&comparisonId=&indicatorId=532&localeId=3001>

Almost two-thirds of the children in Franklin Public Schools are economically disadvantaged, according to the Virginia Department of Education. All area districts (except Suffolk and Franklin) saw a gain in this category from 2018 to 2019. All Western Tidewater localities (except Isle of Wight) are above the state average.

## Percentage of Economically Disadvantaged Public School Children

Locality	Fall of 2017	Fall of 2018	Fall of 2019	Fall of 2020
Franklin	65.8%	63.0%	65.5%	72.4%
Southampton	54.8%	46.6%	47.5%	33.7%
Isle of Wight	34.3%	28.0%	33.6%	27%
Suffolk	48.7%	48.7%	47.7%	42.83%
Virginia	41.1%	NA	39.9%	41%

Source: Virginia Department of Education, Suffolk City Public Schools

[https://www.spsk12.net/our\\_district/about/reports-data/enrollment-demographics](https://www.spsk12.net/our_district/about/reports-data/enrollment-demographics)

According to the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service, a more telling statistic about children's well-being is economic insecurity. Economic insecurity is the number of children living in poverty plus the number of children in near poverty. In the state of Virginia, the economic insecurity rate for children is 32 percent. For the Western Tidewater region, the economic insecurity rate for children is above 40 percent.

## *Child Abuse and Neglect and Spousal Abuse*

The incidence of child abuse and neglect in Western Tidewater was below the state average in all localities in 2017. **Note:** Because Virginia has a state-supervised, locally administered social services system, it is difficult to compare numbers across localities due to variable social service staffing and practice and community standards. Drawing conclusions based on rates of child abuse and neglect is problematic because a low number may be indicative of a real difference in level of abuse in different communities or may merely reflect differences in reporting patterns, investigation procedures, or standards. For this reason, users are strongly discouraged from using these data to compare one locality's number to another.

### **Child Abuse or Neglect (founded number per 1,000 children)**

Locality	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Virginia	3.4	3.3	3.2	2.2	3.3	3.2	3.0	2.3	2.2	2.5	2.6
Franklin	3.1	1.3	2.2	2.2	3.4	1.5	3.0	4.0	2.2	6.1	1.0
Southampton	1.8	1.0	0.2	1.6	1.5	1.0	2.3	0.9	1.5	0.3	0.3
Isle of Wight	2.2	1.3	2.1	2.7	1.1	2.0	3.0	1.6	1.3	1.7	1.8
Suffolk	1.1	2.3	4.3	1.5	2.3	2.2	2.1	1.3	0.7	0.5	0.6

Source: Virginia Department of Social Services and Kids Count

### **Child abuse and neglect: Completed cases and children in founded reports and family assessments\***

Locality	2018 Family Assessment	2018 Founded	2019 Family Assessment	2019 Founded	2020 Family Assessment	2020 Founded
Franklin	48	17	80	4	45	10
Southampton	47	5	48	3	40	2
Isle of Wight	213	12	227	20	109	5
Suffolk	379	28	540	65	241	34

Source: Kids Count

<https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/10614-the-number-of-completed-cases-and-children-in-founded-reports-and-family-assessments-in-virginia?loc=48&loct=5#detailed/5/6856,6875,6928,6932/false/2071,1961,1699/6812,6814/6815/20369>

\*Note: When a case of suspected child abuse or neglect is reported, the local Department of Social Services decides whether to conduct a family assessment or an investigation. Investigations are either founded or unfounded.

Franklin and Suffolk are above the state average for violent crime rate. All Western Tidewater areas, except Isle of Wight, have seen improvement in this rate since 2012-2014.

## Violent Crime Rate (per 100,000 population)

Locality	2007-2009	2008-2010	2009-2011	2010-2012	2012-2014	2014-2016
Virginia					194.2	207.0
Franklin	410.6	414.8	396.2	412.3	379.1	310.4
Southampton	183.0	162.3	141.0	135.8	138.1	125.2
Isle of Wight	144.5	143.7	137.1	135.9	143.9	144.3
Suffolk	373.4	345.9	323.0	313.6	302.7	276.5

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

## Uninsured Children

Southampton and Isle of Wight were above the state average for percentage of children under the age of 19 without health insurance in 2018. Franklin saw improvement in this area.

## Percentage of Children Under 19 without Health Insurance

Locality	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Franklin	10.1	5.6	5.5	5.3	5.0	5.2	4.6	3.9	3.8	3.5
Isle of Wight	8.1	6.5	5.7	6.1	6.0	5.9	5.2	4.8	5.3	5.8
Southampton	9.0	7.2	7.5	7.7	8.0	6.9	6.2	5.6	6.1	6.0
Suffolk	8.0	5.8	5.5	5.5	6.0	6.9	4.0	4.7	4.4	5.0
Virginia	7.1	7.0	6.4	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.0

Source: Kids Count, The Virginia Atlas of Community Health, Greater Hampton Roads Community Indicators Dashboard

## Percentage of Children With Medicaid/CHIP

Locality	2011-2015	2012-2016
Franklin	40%	38%
Isle of Wight	25%	26%
Southampton	33%	31%
Suffolk	29%	29%

Source: Georgetown University Health Policy Institute Center for Children and Families

The trend in Western Tidewater is that less low-income children are going without health insurance as compared to eight years ago, except recently in Isle of Wight County. All localities are below the state average.



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## Percentage of Low-income Children Under 19 Without Health Insurance

Locality	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Franklin	5.1	4.7	3.7	5.0	4.0	3.3	3.4	3.1
Isle of Wight	9.3	9.9	8.0	8.9	7.3	7.1	7.3	8.4
Southampton	9.0	8.6	7.4	8.1	7.2	6.9	7.3	6.8
Suffolk	7.5	7.3	6.2	7.1	5.1	6.5	5.6	6.4
Virginia	10.3	9.7	8.6	9.3	7.8	7.7	7.9	7.7

Source: Kids Count

## Number of Low-income Children Under 19 Without Health Insurance

Locality	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Franklin	67	64	54	74	55	39	39	36
Isle of Wight	252	259	207	230	181	172	169	195
Southampton	168	163	134	136	114	109	107	95
Suffolk	646	634	538	612	430	528	437	490

Source: Kids Count

<https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6176-low-income-children-under-19-without-health-insurance?loc=48&loct=5#detailed/5/6856,6875,6928,6932/false/37,871,870,573,869,36,868,867,133,38/any/12883,12884>

# COMMUNITY EDUCATION LEVEL

All area localities lag behind the state average for percentage of residents over 25 with a bachelors or graduate degree. Franklin and Southampton are substantially behind the state average for residents with a bachelor's degree or graduate degree.

## Educational Achievement, residents over 25

Locality	Attainment	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Virginia	Less than 9 <sup>th</sup> grade	5.3	5.1	4.9	4.8	4.6	4.5	4.3	4.1	3.9
	HS grad or equiv	25.2	25.2	25.0	24.8	24.5	24.3	24.1	24	23.9
	Assoc Degree	6.9	7.0	7.1	7.3	7.4	7.5	7.6	7.8	7.9
	Bachelor's Degree	20.3	20.5	20.7	21.0	21.2	21.5	21.7	22	22.4
	Graduate Degree	14.4	14.7	15.0	15.4	15.7	16.1	16.4	16.8	17.2
Franklin	Less than 9 <sup>th</sup> grade	7.1	7.3	7.6	7.3	6.5	6.7	4.3	3.1	3.5
	HS grad or equiv	27.5	26.2	26.1	24.9	27.8	27.4	30.6	29.1	31.6
	Assoc Degree	4.9	5.4	5.3	5.6	8.5	9.1	10.0	14.8	12.6
	Bachelor's Degree	15.2	14.2	14.0	16.1	14.1	15.3	13.3	12	13.3
	Graduate Degree	5.6	6.4	5.8	10.1	8.3	10.0	7.9	7.1	5.7
Isle of Wight	Less than 9 <sup>th</sup> grade	5.0	5.3	5.1	5.8	5.1	4.6	4.1	3.6	2.9
	HS grad or equiv	28.8	28.7	28.3	27.7	27.3	27.9	27.0	27.9	21
	Assoc Degree	8.3	8.3	8.5	8.6	8.8	9.4	10.1	10.5	10.2
	Bachelor's Degree	17.4	16.2	16.8	17.3	16.8	16.1	16.2	15.7	16.7
	Graduate Degree	8.4	9.3	9.3	9.6	10.5	10.8	12.0	11.3	11.3
Southampton	Less than 9 <sup>th</sup> grade	10.0	8.4	7.2	7.4	6.0	5.9	5.5	5.5	4.8
	HS grad or equiv	33.7	34.1	34.4	34.8	34.6	31.9	30.4	29.8	30.2
	Assoc Degree	6.7	6.9	7.0	7.4	7.9	7.7	9.0	10.2	9.7
	Bachelor's Degree	8.7	9.6	10.4	10.1	11.0	12.5	12.0	12	13.2

	Graduate Degree	3.5	4.1	4.4	4.8	5.0	6.6	5.8	6.4	6.1
Suffolk	Less than 9 <sup>th</sup> grade	4.4	4.1	4.2	4.1	3.9	3.6	3.7	3.2	3.4
	HS grad or equiv	28.8	29.1	27.9	28.3	28.1	28.0	28.1	27.1	26
	Assoc Degree	8.1	8.8	9.3	9.3	9.3	9.5	8.7	8.9	9.1
	Bachelor's Degree	16.5	16.7	16.1	16.4	16.2	16.3	16.5	17.4	17.6
	Graduate Degree	9.3	9.5	10.0	10.0	10.4	11.0	11.6	12.1	12.1

Source: US Census

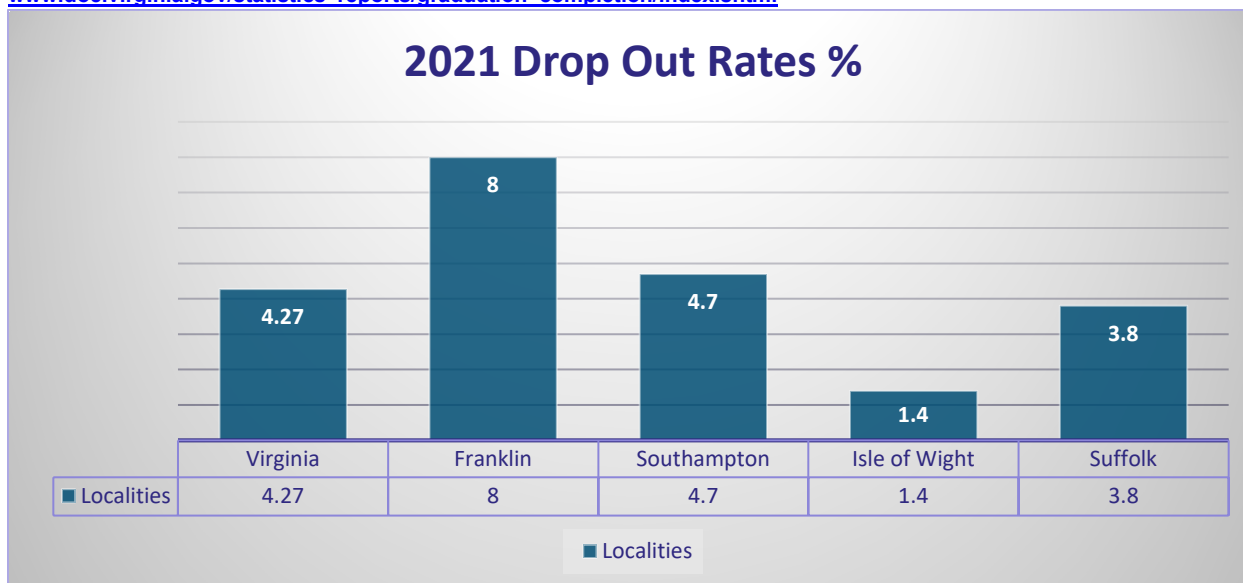
Franklin and Southampton are the only school districts above the state average in four-year dropout rates. 2020-2021 was the first year Franklin and Isle of Wight have been below the state definition of being identifiable.

### Four Year Dropout Rates (percentage)

Locality	Class of 2015	Class of 2016	Class of 2017	Class of 2018	Class of 2019	Class of 2020	Class of 2021
Virginia	5.22	5.26	5.76	5.50	5.56	5.1	4.27
Franklin	10.10	5.60	9.30	5.90	1.30	8	8
Southampton	5.70	6.80	6.50	7.90	6.80	4.7	4.7
Isle of Wight	2.50	4.10	3.40	2.50	4.40	1.4	1.4
Suffolk	9.60	7.80	8.20	7.10	4.30	3.8	3.8

Source: Virginia Department of Education

[www.doe.virginia.gov/statistics\\_reports/graduation\\_completion/index.shtml](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/statistics_reports/graduation_completion/index.shtml)



## Dropout Totals Grades 7-12

Locality	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Virginia	9,173	7,689	7,031	6,551	6,890	7,647	8,086	7,541	7,239	-	4,149
Franklin	13	18	0	11	5	3	14	10	6	-	<
Southampton	20	55	18	27	22	18	17	18	25	-	10
Isle of Wight	47	25	31	33	20	31	28	14	32	-	<
Suffolk	168	149	93	80	132	96	102	132	78	-	41

Source: Virginia Department of Education and Kids Count Virginia

\*< indicates a group below the state definition for personally identifiable results. 2019-2020 numbers are not available.

As for students who graduate on time, Isle of Wight County and Southampton were ahead of the state average in 2020 and 2021. Suffolk slightly dropped in this area.

## Percent of students who earned a diploma in four years

Locality	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Virginia	88.0	89.2	89.9	90.0	91.3	91.6	91.6	91.5	92.5	92.99
Franklin	78.8	77.6	84.4	82.3	88.9	92.6	96.1	96.1	90	92
Southampton	86.9	80.7	85.5	88.7	86.9	86.8	90.4	90.4	93.4	93.5
Isle of Wight	87.0	88.9	92.6	91.6	92.7	95.5	92.8	92.8	92.5	97.1
Suffolk	84.1	87.2	86.4	86.2	87.0	86.7	90.3	90.3	87.4	87

Source: Kids Count and the Virginia Department of Education

## Adult Illiteracy

According to the National Assessment of Adult Literacy, the latest statistics on adult illiteracy (2003), all localities in Western Tidewater were above the state average except Isle of Wight.

## Adult Illiteracy by Percentage, 2003

Location	Percentage
Franklin	17.4%
Isle of Wight	11.4%
Southampton	17.5%
Suffolk	18.4%
Virginia	12.0%

Source: Patchwork Nation

According to a study completed by the U.S. Department of Education's National Institute of Literacy in 2013, at least 14% (32 million) adults in the United States are unable to read. This was the last national study on adult literacy.

# HEALTH PROFILE

According to the conclusion of the Virginia Health Equity Report by the Virginia Department of Health, the report demonstrates the existence of significant disparities/inequities in opportunities for all Virginians to be healthy. Poverty and limited educational attainment are clearly associated with poorer health outcomes across all populations. Significantly higher rates of poverty and lower rates of educational attainment are seen among African Americans, American Indians, and Hispanics.

African American and American Indian children were two to three times more likely to live in poverty in 2009. **This fact continues today.** Moreover, Blacks were just as likely to live in low poverty census tracts as they were to live in high poverty census tracts. In fact, they were about four times more likely to live in high poverty census tracts than other racial and ethnic groups.

Rural populations in Virginia experienced similar levels of reduced opportunities to be healthy. Poverty was seen to extend across multiple areas of rural Virginia. In addition, overall opportunities to be healthy, as defined by the distribution of the Health Opportunities Index across populations, were strongly patterned by income, race/ethnicity and place of residence (i.e. rural).

According to a study conducted by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Health Institute, parts of Western Tidewater are in the bottom half of the state for health outcomes and health factors. According to data, the City of Franklin continues to be ranked among the least healthy counties in Virginia. Isle of Wight and Suffolk have seen improvements.

## Health Outcomes, county/city rankings

Locality	2012	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Franklin	123	119	128	124	127	130	131	128
Isle of Wight County	36	41	36	40	35	24	33	38
Southampton County	105	64	58	61	69	76	64	76
Suffolk	66	57	60	68	59	42	49	45

Source: County Health Rankings

[www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org)

Note: Counties/Cities were ranked 1 through 133 with lower numbers being more favorable.

## Health Factors, county/city rankings

Locality	2012	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Franklin	124	119	126	124	124	119	124	113
Isle of Wight County	34	19	27	33	36	44	40	50
Southampton County	86	97	84	78	88	79	85	85

Suffolk	62	45	51	58	55	66	63	45
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Source: County Health Rankings

[www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org)

Note: Counties/Cities were ranked 1 through 134 with lower numbers being more favorable.

The County Health Ranking report also rated counties/cities in Virginia for other health factors including tobacco use, diet and exercise, alcohol use, access to health care, quality of health care, community safety, and environmental quality.

## County/City Rankings for various health factors (2015)

Locality	Length of Life	Quality of Life	Health Behaviors	Clinical Care	Soc & Econ Factors	Phys Environ	Preventable Hospital Stays
Franklin	125	96	125	54	119	65	70
Isle of Wight	42	49	19	12	32	40	43
Southampton	59	80	114	115	77	86	75
Suffolk	56	66	65	18	55	46	51

Source: County Health Rankings

Note: Counties/Cities were ranked 1 through 133 with lower numbers being more favorable.

## County/City Rankings for various health factors (2016)

Locality	Length of Life	Quality of Life	Health Behaviors	Clinical Care	Soc & Econ Factors	Phys Environ	Preventable Hospital Stays
Franklin	108	132	133	75	120	102	N/A
Isle of Wight	47	35	37	22	32	79	N/A
Southampton	40	91	104	103	70	82	N/A
Suffolk	57	70	68	20	64	45	N/A

Source: County Health Rankings

Note: Counties/Cities were ranked 1 through 134 with lower numbers being more favorable.

## County/City Rankings for various health factors (2017)

Locality	Length of Life	Quality of Life	Health Behaviors	Clinical Care	Soc & Econ Factors	Phys Environ	Preventable Hospital Stays
Franklin	115	124	131	74	121	105	N/A
Isle of Wight	57	30	41	29	33	123	N/A
Southampton	36	87	94	81	61	110	N/A
Suffolk	65	66	68	23	63	96	N/A

Source: County Health Rankings

Note: Counties/Cities were ranked 1 through 133 with lower numbers being more favorable.

## County/City Rankings for various health factors (2018)

Locality	Length of Life	Quality of Life	Health Behaviors	Clinical Care	Soc & Econ Factors	Phys Environ	Preventable Hospital Stays
Franklin	124	126	125	98	122	111	N/A

Isle of Wight	43	29	49	28	31	123	N/A
Southampton	59	83	94	109	70	109	N/A
Suffolk	65	58	66	20	66	94	N/A

Source: County Health Rankings

Note: Counties/Cities were ranked 1 through 133 with lower numbers being more favorable.

### County/City Rankings for various health factors (2019)

Locality	Length of Life	Quality of Life	Health Behaviors	Clinical Care	Soc & Econ Factors	Phys Environ	Preventable Hospital Stays
Franklin	130	126	123	57	120	124	N/A
Isle of Wight	21	30	61	43	30	117	N/A
Southampton	61	84	97	97	59	72	N/A
Suffolk	35	56	66	50	65	105	N/A

Source: County Health Rankings

Note: Counties/Cities were ranked 1 through 133 with lower numbers being more favorable.

### County/City Rankings for various health factors (2020)

Locality	Length of Life	Quality of Life	Health Behaviors	Clinical Care	Soc & Econ Factors	Phys Environ	Preventable Hospital Stays
Franklin	131	123	132	50	119	113	N/A
Isle of Wight	28	40	60	33	29	123	N/A
Southampton	53	78	108	91	59	119	N/A
Suffolk	32	73	62	41	61	104	N/A

Source: County Health Rankings

Note: Counties/Cities were ranked 1 through 133 with lower numbers being more favorable.

### County/City Rankings for various health factors (2021)

Locality	Length of Life	Quality of Life	Health Behaviors	Clinical Care	Soc & Econ Factors	Phys Environ	Preventable Hospital Stays
Franklin	129	119	125	47	112	95	N/A
Isle of Wight	27	47	85	35	39	125	N/A
Southampton	55	87	107	115	58	48	N/A
Suffolk	44	56	85	52	39	104	N/A

Source: County Health Rankings

[www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org)

Note: Counties/Cities were ranked 1 through 133 with lower numbers being more favorable.

Air quality conditions have seen improvement since 2016. Air quality has significantly improved between 2020 and 2021.

## Air Pollution – Particulate Matter\*

Locality	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Franklin	11.9	11.9	11.9	8.2	8.2	8.8	8.8	7.5
Isle of Wight	12.0	12.0	12.0	8.6	8.6	9.0	9.0	7.7
Southampton	12.0	12.0	12.0	8.5	8.5	9.1	9.1	7.8
Suffolk	11.8	11.8	11.8	8.7	8.7	9.1	9.1	7.7
Virginia	12.7	12.7	12.7	8.7	8.7	8.9	8.9	7.7

Source: County Health Rankings

[www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org)

\* The average daily measure of fine particulate matter in micrograms per cubic meter

In 2015, water quality in Western Tidewater varied between localities. Franklin and Suffolk were below the state average in drinking water violations while Southampton and Isle of Wight were well above the state average.

## Drinking Water Violations\*

Locality	2013	2014	2015
Franklin	0	0	NA
Isle of Wight	21	20	13
Southampton	14	30	27
Suffolk	0	0	NA
Virginia	8	6	2

Source: County Health Rankings

\* Percentage of population exposed to water exceeding a violation limit during the past year

## Drinking Water Violations\*

Locality	2018	2019	2020	2021
Franklin	No	No	No	No
Isle of Wight	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Southampton	No	Yes	Yes	No
Suffolk	No	No	No	No

Source: County Health Rankings

\* Indicator of the presence of health-related drinking water violations.

## Barriers to Healthy Communities

In fall 2008, the Suffolk Partnership for a Healthy Community (now called Healthy Suffolk) identified several barriers for the City of Suffolk becoming a healthy community, including:

- teen pregnancy prevention
- single parenthood
- lack of mentoring programs
- lack of access to healthcare
- lack of transportation
- lack of funding



- more green space and access to facilities offering physical fitness programs

Even though this data is over 10 years old, many of these barriers can still be applied to all of Western Tidewater.

According to the Obici Healthcare Foundation 2018 Community Health Needs Assessment, all areas of Western Tidewater are above the state average in percentage of population in fair/poor overall health.

### Percentage in Fair/Poor Overall Health

Locality	2017
Franklin/Southampton	17.4
Isle of Wight	16.0
North Suffolk	15.9
South Suffolk	20.0
Suffolk City	18.5
Virginia	15.2

Source: Obici Healthcare Foundation 2018 Community Health Needs Assessment

According to the Obici Healthcare Foundation 2018 Community Health Needs Assessment, all areas of Western Tidewater are above the national average in percentage of population with multiple chronic conditions.

### Percentage with Multiple Chronic Conditions

Locality	2017
Franklin/Southampton	70.0
Isle of Wight	63.3
North Suffolk	67.0
South Suffolk	66.1
Suffolk City	66.4
United States	56.8

Source: Obici Healthcare Foundation 2018 Community Health Needs Assessment

### *Western Tidewater Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Data*

According to Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System data for Western Tidewater:

- In 2013, 19% of those surveyed said that their health was fair or poor
- In 2013, 16.9% of those surveyed said they were a current smoker
- In 2012-2013, 12.2% of those surveyed said they were binge drinkers
- In 2012, 14.5% surveyed said they had been diagnosed with diabetes
- In 2013, 63.7% said they were overweight or obese

More than two-thirds of residents in Isle of Wight and Suffolk have access to a park or recreational facility. Franklin has seen a significant drop in access to exercise over the last three years.

## Access to Exercise Opportunities\* (percentage)

Franklin	82.5%	62.9	45.3
Isle of Wight	66.7%	70.4	71.0
Southampton	19.8%	31.1	31.0
Suffolk	77.2%	76.4	76.2

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

\* This indicator measures the percentage of individuals who live reasonably close to a park or recreational facility.

## Access to Healthcare

Access to primary care providers increases the likelihood that community members will have routine checkups and screenings. There has been a consistent decline in primary provider rate in Franklin since 2010 and a stable primary provider rate in other localities (Southampton has had a consistently low provider rate since 2010).

## Primary Care Provider Rate (per 100,000)

Locality	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Franklin	151	141	127	117	118	132	122	125
Isle of Wight	51	54	53	56	50	46	47	43
Southampton	16	22	22	22	22	22	23	23
Suffolk	102	100	93	92	98	97	91	87

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

Franklin has seen a steady increase since 2013 of number of non-physician providers per 100,000 population. Franklin and Isle of Wight have improved.

## Non-Physician Primary Care Provider Rate (per 100,000)

Locality	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Franklin	58	82	82	108	98	125	138
Isle of Wight	25	25	22	25	22	22	24
Southampton	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	11	23	23
Suffolk	64	70	76	90	101	104	102

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

All of Western Tidewater, except Isle of Wight, was above the national average in percentage of those who had cost preventing them from getting a prescription in the past year.

## Cost prevented Getting a Prescription in the Past Year (Percentage)

Locality	2017
Franklin/Southampton	19.4
Isle of Wight	6.3
North Suffolk	16.9
South Suffolk	15.8
Suffolk City	16.3

United States	15.3
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Source: Obici Healthcare Foundation 2018 Community Health Needs Assessment

## *Hospitals and Medical Clinics*

Southampton Memorial Hospital is the only 24-hour staffed in-patient medical facility that serves the Franklin and Southampton areas. SMH no longer provides obstetric services as of April 30, 2017. It was announced in October of 2019 that Bon Secours was purchasing the hospital.

Suffolk now has three facilities. Sentara Obici Memorial Hospital is in the downtown area of Suffolk. Obici opened a new wing in June 2010, which gave the facility 168 beds.

Sentara BelleHarbour, in the northern end of Suffolk, is available for emergency services and outpatient care. In March of 2019, Sentara BelleHarbour unveiled a \$33.5 million, 100,000-plus square-foot expansion and renovation to include an ambulatory surgery center, new observation beds for overnight stays, and a 24-hour emergency department. There is also a new helipad for Nightingale service and new office spaces for medical practices. In January of 2020, Sentara announced a \$13 million expansion of the emergency room at Sentara Obici Memorial Hospital. The expansion is expected to take 22 months, increasing the ER capacity to 73,000 patients per year when completed.

Bon Secours Health Care Center at Harbour View also serves northern Suffolk with major outpatient services and also houses specialist and primary care physicians.

Sentara St. Luke's opened in Carrollton in Isle of Wight County in 2010. This facility has outpatient and urgent care. In the extreme northern sections of Isle of Wight, the closest hospital is the Riverside Regional Medical Center in Newport News. Maryview Hospital in Portsmouth also serves the northeastern sections of Suffolk.

In December of 2019, the Virginia Health Department approved Bon Secours Maryview Medical Center's certificate of public need application to establish a new hospital in North Suffolk. The new hospital will be a short-stay, surgically-focused facility on the Bon Secours HarbourView campus in North Suffolk. The hospital will be a 75,000-square foot building. **It was announced in July 2020 that Bon Secours had applied to the Virginia Department of Health to add an additional 36 acute care beds to this facility.**

There are a number of physicians in the area who specialize in either family practice or pediatrics. The exact number of specialists is difficult to measure since many of the doctors in the area have regional practices where they maintain an office in the community, but they may only be in one county or city for one or two days a week.

Located in Suffolk, the Western Tidewater Free Clinic is available to residents in Western Tidewater. The mission of Western Tidewater Free Clinic is to provide high-quality, non-emergency health care to the residents of Western Tidewater who cannot otherwise afford it.

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The clinic serves individuals between the ages of 19 and 64 with no medical insurance who live at or below 200% of the federal poverty level.

The clinic, which opened in 2007, provides general and specialty medical care, prescription medicines, care coordination/case management, and lab and diagnostic testing. The Free Clinic moved in 2009 and expanded its services to include a dental clinic. The clinic has served the medical needs of 5,300 unique patients totaling 150,000 clinical visits at no charge to these patients.

Much of the region depends on volunteers to deliver emergency medical services.

A new medical clinic run by Southeastern Virginia Health System opened in Franklin in June of 2016. The Franklin Community Health Center serves the Franklin area with healthcare regardless of insurance status.

A MedExpress Urgent Care Center opened in Franklin in 2017. Unfortunately that center closed in 2020.

In the area of preventable hospital stays, Franklin is well above the state and national average. Only Isle of Wight is below the state average.

### Preventable Hospital Stays (Discharges per 1,000 Medicare enrollees)

Locality	2014	2015
Franklin	58.0	67.9
Isle of Wight	38.7	39.7
Southampton	47.2	60.9
Suffolk	45.9	43.7
Virginia	43.6	42.8
United States	49.9	49.4

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

### *Healthy Births*

The time that prenatal care begins, the weight of the newborn, the number of births to teenagers, and the number of births to single mothers are indicative of the community's state of healthy births.

All areas except Isle of Wight are above the state average in low-birth-weight babies. All areas, except Franklin, saw a decrease from 2019 to 2020.

## Low Birth-Weight Babies by percentage per 100 live births

Locality	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Virginia	8.0%	8.2%	8.0%	7.9%	7.9%	8.1%	8.4%	8.2%	8.4%	16.3
Isle of Wight	7.0%	7.0%	4.5%	7.0%	5.9%	9.7%	9.6%	9.1%	8.8%	8
Southampton	11.0%	9.2%	8.8%	8.5%	10.2%	11.1%	9.6%	10.6%	13.1%	12.5
Franklin	12.0%	8.4%	12.6%	9.5%	11.3%	15.3%	11.7%	14.4%	12%	9.6
Suffolk	8.0%	8.9%	9.0%	8.5%	10.2%	9.1%	10.3%	9.1%	9.4%	8.3

Source: Kids Count and Greater Hampton Roads Community Indicators Dashboard

Franklin and Southampton are above the state average for infants born preterm in 2017.

## Infants Born Preterm (Percentage)

Locality	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Virginia	10.2	10.1	9.5	9.5	9.4	9.1	9.2	9.5	9.5
Isle of Wight	9.7	11.5	9.4	10.7	6.4	8.9	9.8	8.9	4.0
Southampton	11.8	18.1	9.8	13.5	9.6	12.0	11.0	11.1	15.2
Franklin	12.0	12.9	11.4	11.0	12.6	7.6	10.5	16.3	11.7
Suffolk	12.8	13.1	8.6	8.9	9.8	9.6	11.6	11.2	11.3

Source: Virginia Department of Health

[www.vdh.virginia.gov/data/maternal-child-health](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/data/maternal-child-health)

All areas are below the state average for maternal smoking in 2017.

## Maternal Smoking (Percent)

Locality	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Virginia	6.3	5.8	4.9	5.1	6.3	5.6	6.1	6.1	5.6
Isle of Wight	7.8	2.6	3.1	4.3	6.7	2.4	3.4	3.2	4.5
Southampton	10.7	7.6	8.3	9.2	9.6	2.1	1.7	4.9	2.4
Franklin	9.8	10.9	6.6	3.2	7.2	7.6	6.0	7.1	3.7
Suffolk	5.5	3.5	1.1	3.9	1.9	2.7	1.6	2.0	3.1

Source: Virginia Department of Health

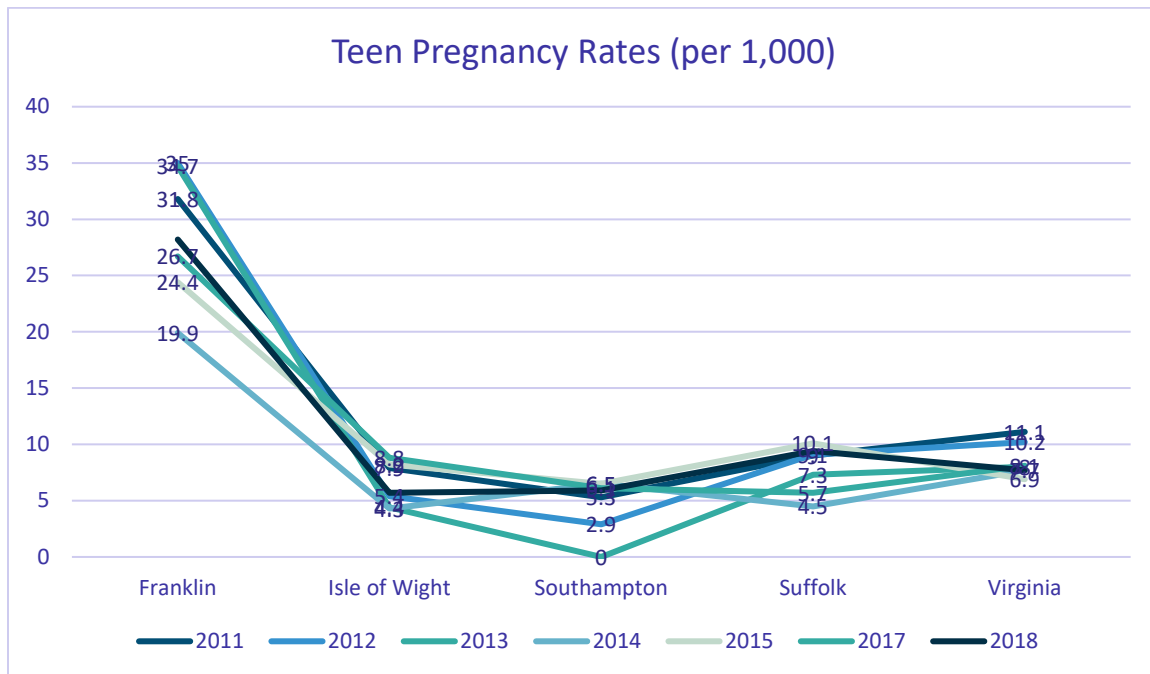
[www.vdh.virginia.gov/data/maternal-child-health](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/data/maternal-child-health)

Franklin is above the state average for teen pregnancy rate. Franklin is more than two times the state average and 2019 is the first year since 2014 that has shown improvement. All localities have seen a decrease.

## Teen Pregnancy Rate per 1,000 Female Teens (Ages 15-17)

Locality	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2017	2018	2019
Franklin	31.8	35.0	34.7	19.9	24.4	26.7	28.2	19.7
Isle of Wight	7.9	5.4	4.4	4.3	8.2	8.8	5.7	1.5
Southampton	5.3	2.9	0.0	6.5	6.5	6.1	5.9	0
Suffolk	9.0	9.1	7.3	4.5	10.1	5.7	9.4	6.7
Virginia	11.1	10.2	8.0	7.7	6.9	8.1	7.7	7.2

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard



Over the last two years of data, Franklin has seen a spike in the teen birth rate (ages 15-17). Franklin's rate is nearly five times higher than the state average. Isle of Wight and Southampton saw a drop in this statistic between 2017 and 2018.

### Teen Birth Rate per 1,000 Female Teens (Ages 15-17)

Locality	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Franklin	31.8	35.0	34.7	19.9	18.3	6.4	20.0	28.2
Isle of Wight	7.9	5.4	4.4	4.3	6.9	4.3	7.3	5.7
Southampton	5.3	2.9	0.0	6.5	3.2	3.1	3.0	2.9
Suffolk	9.0	9.1	7.3	4.5	6.7	4.4	2.3	5.5
Virginia	11.1	10.2	8.0	7.7	6.9	6.2	5.8	5.7

Source: Kids Count

Franklin was above the state average for percentage of births to mothers with less than a 12<sup>th</sup> grade education.

### Births to mothers with less than 12<sup>th</sup> grade education

Locality	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Franklin	16.5%	28.6%	5.2%	2.8%	1.5%	1.8%	16.5%	17.3%	16.6%	13.7%	9.6%
Isle of Wight	9.7%	6.8%	10.0%	6.0%	4.8%	4.0%	7.0%	5.0%	4.5%	4.6%	5.4%
Southampton	17.2%	17.4%	14.3%	14.2%	8.8%	12.0%	7.6%	13.0%	5.6%	6.5%	4.9%
Suffolk	14.4%	14.2%	12.8%	10.0%	8.8%	7.7%	7.4%	6.8%	6.1%	5.8%	7.4%
Virginia	13.3%	12.4%	11.4%	9.7%	8.4%	9.4%	9.6%	9.5%	9.2%	8.8%	8.4%

Source: Kids Count

After making big strides in the improvement in prenatal care beginning in the first trimester, Western Tidewater took a step backwards in 2013. All localities dropped between 2012 and 2013. By 2015 and 2016, all Western Tidewater localities were below the state average. However, by 2018, all localities saw a drop in percentage of prenatal care beginning in the first trimester. In 2018, Franklin was 12 percent below the state average. By 2019, Franklin and Suffolk had an increase in percentage.

## Prenatal Care Beginning in the First Trimester

Locality	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Virginia	82.8%	81.9%	82.7%	83.0%	82.9%	82.8%	85.2%	84.3%	79.7%	78.4%	78.3%
Isle of Wight	91.6%	63.8%	81.8%	89.7%	86.9%	85.2%	85.1%	82.2%	86.4%	78.3%	76.5%
Southampton	72.8%	56.3%	72.9%	81.6%	77.9%	80.3%	78.8%	79.6%	82.4%	73.2%	71.3%
Franklin	76.7%	59.9%	77.8%	81.8%	76.0%	70.3%	80.2%	70.1%	72.4%	66.5%	71.1%
Suffolk	89.6%	60.0%	79.4%	88.5%	85.6%	83.9%	84.5%	82.6%	83.1%	76.9%	79.7%

*Definition: Percent of women seeing a health care provider during the first thirteen weeks of pregnancy. Locality refers to the mother's reported residence.*

**Source: Kids Count**

There are still births in Western Tidewater to women who have no, or late, prenatal care. Franklin is higher than the state. In 2017, over four percent of births in Virginia happened with late or no prenatal care.

## Births With Late or No Prenatal Care (Percentage)

Locality	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Franklin	15.6	7.2	4.5	6.6	8.9	7.5	14.3	7.4
Isle of Wight	15.3	7.5	3.7	3.8	2.4	3.7	6.3	4.0
Southampton	14.6	11.3	7.1	7.4	4.9	7.6	4.3	1.6
Suffolk	16.9	7.9	2.5	2.8	3.7	4.8	4.7	3.6
Virginia	3.9	3.4	3.3	3.0	2.8	3.1	3.7	4.2

**Source: Virginia Department of Health**

In 2019, Isle of Wight was the only locality below the state average in infant mortality rate. Isle of Wight saw a significant drop in percentage of infant mortality in 2019, while Southampton saw a vast increase in percentage.

## Infant Mortality Rate Per 1,000 Births

Locality	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Franklin	25.6	0.0	0.0	20.4	12.0	13.0	6.0	19.0	7.5	40.8	12.3	12.4	6.0
Isle of Wight	8.5	7.8	5.4	5.9	6.3	6.7	6.4	10.8	2.8	5.3	2.7	8.5	0.0
Southampton	0.0	4.9	23.7	27.8	0.0	0.0	7.4	7.0	17.0	12.3	8.0	0.0	8.2
Suffolk	10.0	8.3	6.0	7.2	7.2	12.0	12.8	4.6	9.5	2.7	6.1	7.7	8.0
Virginia	7.7	6.7	7.0	6.8	6.7	6.3	6.2	5.7	5.9	5.8	5.9	5.6	5.9

**Source: Kids Count**

## Number of Infant Deaths

Locality	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Isle of Wight	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	4	1	2	1	*
Southampton	0	1	4	4	0	0	1	1	2	2	1	*
Franklin	4	0	0	3	2	2	1	3	2	4	2	*
Suffolk	12	9	7	8	8	13	14	5	11	3	7	*

Source: Virginia Department of Health

\*Below 10

All Western Tidewater communities, except Isle of Wight, are above the state average in percentage of births to single mothers. Franklin has the highest number at 61.4%. All Western Tidewater localities saw this number increase in 2019.

## Births to Single Mothers

Locality	2009	2010	2011	2012	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Virginia	35.8%	35.5%	35.5%	35.3%	24.0%	34.5%	34.0%	34.6%	33.8%	35%
Isle of Wight	35.9%	35.3%	40.4%	35.7%	37.4%	39.9%	36.1%	34.4%	33.1%	34.3%
Southampton	52.1%	42.4%	45.9%	42.6%	40.1%	48.3%	50.0%	41.6%	39.8%	52.5%
Franklin	69.2%	66.7%	66.5%	60.4%	63.3%	57.9%	70.4%	63.2%	58.1%	61.4%
Suffolk	42.7%	43.3%	38.9%	41.1%	36.7%	39.7%	37.2%	39.9%	36.6%	38.1%

Source: Kids Count and Greater Hampton Roads Community Indicators Dashboard

Other health indicators include the lead levels of tested children in the community and asthma hospitalizations.

## High Lead Level cases, children under 3 (\* note 2016 statistics are for children <72 months)

Locality	2013 Pop. <36 mos.	2013 cases	2014 Pop. <36 mos.	2014 cases	2015 Pop. <36 mos.	2015 cases	*2016 Pop. <72 mos.	*2016 cases
Franklin	380	0	380	0	380	0	751	1
Isle of Wight	1,067	1	1,067	0	1,067	0	2,296	2
Southampton	566	0	566	0	566	0	1,158	0
Suffolk	3,446	5	3,446	5	3,446	4	7,283	8
Virginia	303,439	111	303,439	185	303,439	164	611,895	793

Source: Virginia Department of Health



## Age-Adjusted Hospitalization Rate Due to Pediatric Asthma (per 10,000 population under 18 years)

Locality	2013-2015	2014-2016	2015-2017	2016-2018	2017-2019	2018-2020
Franklin	23.1	16.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Isle of Wight	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Southampton	12.2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Suffolk	2.4	N/A	N/A	1.7	2.8	N/A
Virginia	7.9	6.6	5.5	5.0	7.0	3.6

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

## Children with Asthma (Percentage)

Locality	2017
Franklin/Southampton	NA
Isle of Wight	18.5
North Suffolk	5.1
South Suffolk	15.1
Suffolk City	10.7
United States	9.3

Source: Obici Healthcare Foundation 2018 Community Health Needs Assessment

## Mental Health

Franklin and Suffolk are above the state average for hospitalization rate due to pediatric mental health. Isle of Wight and Southampton are both below the state average.

## Age-Adjusted Hospitalization Rate Due to Pediatric Mental Health (per 10,000 population under 18 years)

Locality	2013-2015	2014-2016	2015-2017	2016-2018	2017-2019	2018-2020
Franklin	55.8	53.5	46.5	45.1	62.8	36.2
Isle of Wight	31.5	31.0	25.6	24.4	33.2	18
Southampton	18.0	22.4	16.2	19.5	28.6	17.9
Suffolk	41.1	45.9	40.4	39.0	54.5	31.4
Virginia	27.9	29.9	29.5	32.1	48.1	29

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

## Hospitalization Rate due to Mental Health (18+) (per 10,000 population)

Locality	2013-2015	2014-2016	2015-2017	2016-2018	2017-2019	2018-2020
Franklin	90.0	92.1	95.8	87.2	142	101.7
Isle of Wight	45.7	46.9	48.8	45.8	66.5	56.3
Southampton	30.7	39.0	36.6	31.9	41	27.3
Suffolk	52.6	54.3	59.9	60.8	88.9	56.3
Virginia	53.0	52.4	53.3	52.9	78.3	47.5

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

Depression among the Medicare population is below the state and national average in all localities.

### Depression among Medicare Population (Percentage)

Locality	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Franklin	11.9%	11.7%	12.0%	12.2%	14.9%
Isle of Wight	12.6%	13.1%	13.7%	14.4%	15.1%
Southampton	12.5%	13.2%	15.0%	14.6%	15.6%
Suffolk	12.9%	13.1%	14.8%	15.0%	16.5%
Virginia	14.7%	15.2%	16.1%	16.6%	17.3%
United States	16.2%	16.7%	17.4%	17.9%	18.4%

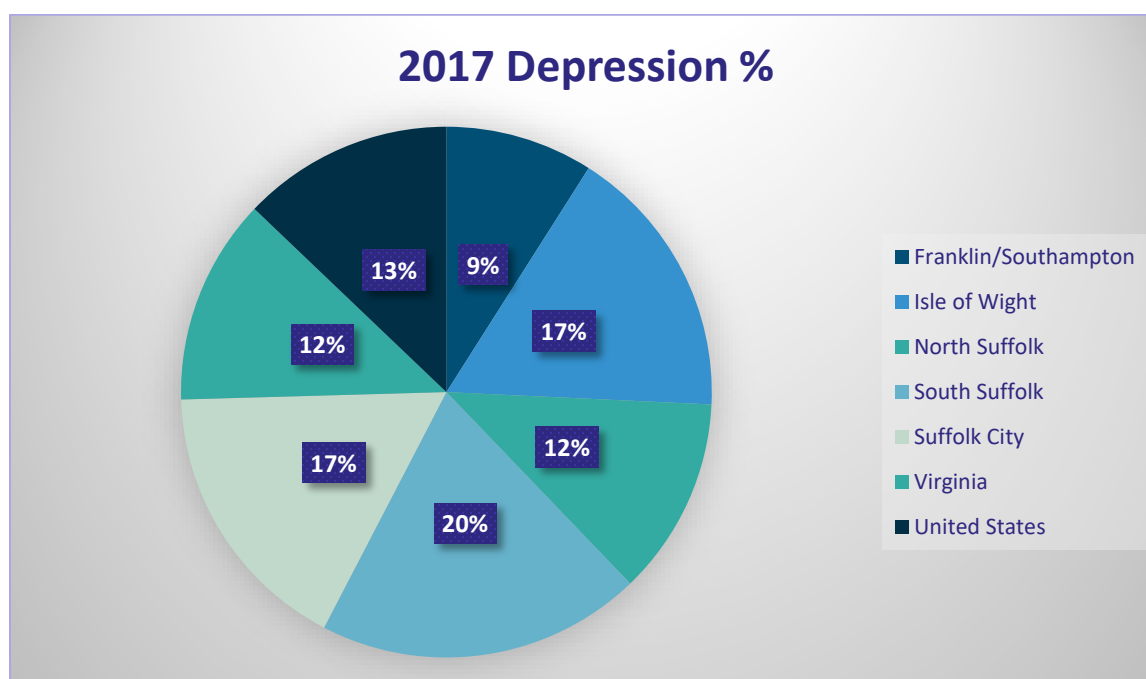
Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Indicators Dashboard

Overall percentage of diagnosis with depression is below the state average in Franklin/Southampton and North Suffolk.

### Diagnosed with Depression (Percentage)

Locality	2017
Franklin/Southampton	9.1
Isle of Wight	16.9
North Suffolk	12.2
South Suffolk	20.0
Suffolk City	17.1
Virginia	12.7
United States	13.0

Source: Obici Healthcare Foundation 2018 Community Health Needs Assessment



The percentage of adults in Western Tidewater who are under frequent mental distress **increased in every locality except Franklin from 2017 to 2018.**

### Frequent Mental Distress\* (Percentage of Adults)

Locality	2015	2016	2017	2018
Franklin	12.7%	13.2%	13.8%	15.9%
Isle of Wight	10.0%	10.5%	11.3%	13.9%
Southampton	10.9%	11.6%	12.2%	14.8%
Suffolk	10.3%	10.7%	11.6%	13.5%

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Indicators Dashboard

\* This indicator shows the percentage of adults who stated that their mental health, which includes stress, depression, and problems with emotions, was not good for 14 or more of the past 30 days.

The mental health provider rate for Western Tidewater has seen ups and downs since 2013 and has improved in 2019. Isle of Wight has the lowest percentage of provider per population.

### Mental Health Provider Rate (Per 100,000 population)

Locality	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Franklin	139	141	82	84	110	162	163
Isle of Wight	17	22	17	16	25	27	30
Southampton	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Suffolk	50	56	52	66	75	99	102

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Indicators Dashboard

## Oral Health

The dentist rate per population in Western Tidewater has generally increased from 2013-2019.

### Dentist Rate (Per 100,000 population)

Locality	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Franklin	69	69	59	59	60	73	75	75
Isle of Wight	17	17	19	22	25	25	27	27
Southampton	5	6	6	6	6	6	11	11
Suffolk	32	35	39	41	43	43	44	45

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Indicators Dashboard

The percentage of children ages 2-17 who saw a dentist in the past year (2017) was above the state average in Isle of Wight and below in all other localities.

### Children (2-17) who Had a Dental Visit the Past Year (Percentage)

Locality	2017
Franklin/Southampton	NA
Isle of Wight	92.0
North Suffolk	86.6
South Suffolk	80.0

Suffolk City	82.9
Virginia	NA
United States	87.0

Source: Obici Healthcare Foundation 2018 Community Health Needs Assessment

### Chronic Diseases

Chronic diseases in adults are an indicator of future health problems for children.

All locations are above the state average for age-adjusted hospitalization rate due to diabetes. Franklin is **more than double** the state average.

### Age-Adjusted Hospitalization Rate due to Diabetes (adjusted rate per 10,000)

Locality	2014-2016	2015-2017	2016-2018	2017-2019	2018-2020
Franklin	49.1	49.2	46.6	60	63.4
Isle of Wight	19.5	20.4	20.3	23.1	19.7
Southampton	15.1	17.5	18.9	27.7	26.6
Suffolk	19.6	20.7	23.0	36.5	27.9
Virginia	17.1	17.1	18.3	22	20.7

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

Percentage of those diagnosed with diabetes is double the state average in Franklin/Southampton and above the state and national average in all locations.

### Diagnosed with Diabetes/High Blood Sugar (Percentage)

Locality	2017
Franklin/Southampton	22.6
Isle of Wight	17.6
North Suffolk	18.0
South Suffolk	16.6
Suffolk City	17.1
Virginia	10.4
United States	13.3

Source: Obici Healthcare Foundation 2018 Community Health Needs Assessment

Franklin is above the state average for age-adjusted hospitalization rate due to asthma. All areas have improved since 2019.

### Age-Adjusted Hospitalization Rate due to Asthma (adjusted rate per 10,000)

Locality	2014-2016	2015-2017	2016-2018	2017-2019	2018-2020
Franklin	14.9	15.2	10.9	13.4	4.9
Isle of Wight	4.0	2.8	2.1	3	3.7
Southampton	4.0	2.5	2.1	3.1*	2.4
Suffolk	6.7	5.1	3.9	6.4	3.7
Virginia	6.6	5.1	4.0	5.9	3.3

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

*\*means that a value may be statistically unstable and should be interpreted with caution.*

All Western Tidewater localities are above the state average for age-adjusted hospitalization rate due to heart failure. Franklin is **over triple** the state average and Suffolk is well above the state average.

### Age-Adjusted Hospitalization Rate due to Heart Failure (adjusted rate per 10,000)

Locality	2014-2016	2015-2017	2016-2018	2017-2019	2018-2020
Franklin	96.8	93.0	107.6	188.2	132.7
Isle of Wight	38.4	40.4	41.7	64.1	43.4
Southampton	33.9	37.4	42.2	66.8	47.4
Suffolk	52.1	53.3	55.3	85.4	56.1
Virginia	33.7	35.1	36.5	57.6	36.7

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

All areas are above the state average for age-adjusted hospitalization rate due to hypertension. Franklin is more than double the state average.

### Age-Adjusted Hospitalization Rate due to Hypertension (adjusted rate per 10,000)

Locality	2014-2016	2015-2017	2016-2018	2017-2019	2018-2020
Franklin	9.4	9.8	13.3	29.2	20.8
Isle of Wight	3.0	4.3	5.0	6.9	4.0
Southampton	5.4	3.5	5.3	8.6	7.0
Suffolk	5.4	5.0	5.1	7.3	5.2
Virginia	4.1	4.3	4.6	7.4	4.6

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

The percentage of adults who have been told they have high blood pressure is nearly double the state average in Franklin/Southampton, and above the state and national average in all areas of Western Tidewater.

### Percentage who have been told they have hypertension

Locality	2017
Franklin/Southampton	65.6
Isle of Wight	42.5
North Suffolk	43.6
South Suffolk	46.7
Suffolk City	45.5
Virginia	33.2
United States	37.0

Source: Obici Healthcare Foundation 2018 Community Health Needs Assessment

## Incidence of Drug and Alcohol Abuse

All Western Tidewater localities, except Isle of Wight, are below the state average for adults who drink excessively. All localities in WT were higher in 2018 than 2017. All localities are trending up.

### Adults Who Drink Excessively, percentage

Locality	2015	2016	2017	2018
Franklin	12.6%	13.2%	13.8%	16.3%
Isle of Wight	16.9%	17.2%	18.1%	21%
Southampton	14.7%	14.9%	15.7%	18.6%
Suffolk	15.7%	16.8%	17.0%	17%
Virginia	NA	17.4%	17.4%	17.7%

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Indicators Dashboard

The incidence of smokers in Western Tidewater is above the state average in all locations except Isle of Wight. All areas increased in 2018, except Suffolk.

### Adults age 18+ who are smokers, percentage

Locality	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Franklin	23.2%	20.0%	18.9%	19.7%	22.4%
Isle of Wight	16.6%	15.2%	15.0%	15.2%	18.7%
Southampton	18.5%	17.1%	17.8%	17.1%	21.7%
Suffolk	18.6%	16.2%	19.1%	19.9%	18.5%
Virginia	19.5%	19.5%	15.3%	16.4%	15.1%

Source: The Virginia Atlas of Community Health and Greater Hampton Roads Community Indicators Dashboard

Death because of opioid abuse has become a trending topic across the United States. The only Western Tidewater locality with a trend upward in this area was Southampton, however Southampton's rate decreased in 2018.

### Death Rate Due to Prescription Opioid Overdose (Per 100,000 population)

Locality	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Franklin	0.0	11.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Isle of Wight	0.0	2.8	10.9	8.2	5.4
Southampton	11.1	0.0	0.0	11.1	5.7
Suffolk	4.6	4.5	4.5	3.4	4.4

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Indicators Dashboard

Suffolk and Southampton have increased in emergency department visits due to opioids between 2016 and 2017. The 2018 rate is per 10,000 population versus the previous years.

## Emergency Department Visit Rate due to Opioids (Per 100,000 population)

Locality	2015	2016	2017	2018	2021
Franklin	58.9	192.6	120.4	15.8	17.5
Isle of Wight	60.6	90.2	46.5	9.8	24
Southampton	27.6	49.8	55.4	15.8	17.5
Suffolk	51.0	86.3	95.2	11.1	22.2

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Indicators Dashboard

## Sexual Transmitted Infections

Franklin and Suffolk were above the state average in 2020 for HIV/AIDS prevalence rate.

## HIV/AIDS Prevalence Rate (rate per 100,000)

Locality	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Franklin	358.9	328.4	294.5	410.6	342.5	361.9	361.9
Isle of Wight	218.8	219.4	242.3	224.4	232.5	208.4	224.6
Southampton	281.3	282.4	298.2	272.0	253.5	244.5	227.5
Suffolk	349.9	323.7	316.5	301.8	319.2	337.8	343.3
Virginia	311.0	NA	189.3	286.7	294.0	301.7	311.6

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Indicators Dashboard

All localities were above the state average in 2020 for Chlamydia incidence rate. Franklin is more than double the state average.

## Chlamydia Incidence Rate (rate per 100,000)

Locality	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Franklin	997.0	1,083.6	1,024.7	1,259.8	1,431.0	1,117.1	903.7
Isle of Wight	405.5	421.3	349.9	391.2	454.1	471.6	490.4
Southampton	N/A	N/A	N/A	416.9	445.1	572.9	470.8
Suffolk	644	647.7	661.3	714.8	719.2	912	703.5
Virginia	423.4	434.0	462.6	489.8	515.9	555.9	469.4

Source: Virginia Department of Health and Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

All localities were above the state average in 2018 for gonorrhea incidence rate. Franklin is more than double the state average.

## Gonorrhea Incidence Rate (rate per 100,000)

Locality	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Franklin	445.7	318.0	200.2	403.6	366.9	464.4	464.4
Isle of Wight	88.9	57.8	132.2	128.6	120.4	207.5	207.5
Southampton	N/A	N/A	N/A	152.1	123.9	238.2	238.2
Suffolk	175.1	207.6	243.9	215.0	223.9	334.4	334.4
Virginia	97.6	103.1	129.2	143.8	141.1	175.1	175.1

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

All Western Tidewater localities except Southampton were above the state average in 2017 for early syphilis incidence rate. Suffolk and Franklin are almost double the state average.

### Early Syphilis Incidence Rate (rate per 100,000)

Locality	2014	2015	2016	2017
Franklin	11.7	0	35.3	24.5
Isle of Wight	16.7	16.5	27.5	5.5
Southampton	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0
Suffolk	6.8	20.4	18.1	21.2
Virginia	6.8	10.6	12.0	13.2

Source: Virginia Department of Health

### *Community Health Assessment for Franklin and Southampton County*

The Franklin-Southampton Community Partnership was developed in early 2017 with the initial work focused on conducting an examination of the health status of the community to identify key health problems and assets in the community.

The partnership conducted an anonymous community-wide survey for Franklin and Southampton County. Over 400 surveys were completed with the following results:

Greatest Community Strengths – 24 hour police, fire, and rescue services, safe neighborhoods, affordable housing (Franklin), and good schools (Southampton).

Areas of Improvement – youth programs and activities outside of school, drug and/or alcohol abuse, low income/poverty, and chronic disease.

### *Obici Healthcare Foundation 2018 Community Health Needs Assessment Report*

In November 2017, the Obici Healthcare Foundation released the 2018 Community Health Needs Assessment Report. The report cited the following areas of opportunity in the Western Tidewater Community:

#### Access to Healthcare Services

- Primary Care Physician Ratio
- Access to the Internet for Personal Use
- Emergency Room Utilization

#### Cancer

- Cancer is a leading cause of death
- Cancer Deaths
- Cancer Prevalence
- Cervical Cancer Screening (ages 21-65)



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## **Diabetes**

- Diabetes Deaths
- Diabetes Prevalence
- Prevalence of Borderline/Pre-Diabetes

## **Heart Disease & Stroke**

- Cardiovascular disease is a leading cause of death
- Stroke Deaths
- High Blood Pressure Prevalence
- High Blood Cholesterol Presence
- Overall Cardiovascular Risk

## **Infant Health & Family Planning**

- Low-weight Births
- Infant Mortality
- Teen Births

## **Injury & Violence**

- Motor Vehicle Crash Deaths

## **Kidney Disease**

- Kidney Disease Deaths
- Kidney Disease Prevalence

## **Mental Health**

- Seeking Professional Help

## **Nutrition, Physical Activity & Weight**

- Overweight and Obesity
- Sugar-Sweetened Beverages
- Low Food Access
- Overweight Adults
- Access to Recreation/Fitness Facilities

## **Oral Health**

### **Potentially Disabling Conditions**

- Multiple Chronic Conditions
- Arthritis/Rheumatism Prevalence (Age 50+)
- Caregiver

### **Respiratory Diseases**

- Asthma Prevalence
- COPD Prevalence
- Flu Vaccination (Age 65+)
- Pneumonia Vaccination (Age 65+)

### **Sexually Transmitted Diseases**

- Gonorrhea Incidence
- Chlamydia Incidence

### **Substance Abuse**

- South Help for Alcohol/Drug Issues

# NUTRITION

## Students approved for Free or Reduced Price School Lunch

Locality	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Virginia	38%	39.7%	40.1%	41.2%	42.0%	41.9%	41.8%	--	--	--
Franklin*	76%	78.3%	73.8%	76.4%	93.1%	94.0%	94.0%	100%	100%	100%
Southampton	45%	45.9%	46.8%	48.9%	48.7%	45.0%	46.3%	49.5%	49.5%	44.6%
Isle of Wight	33%	34.6%	36.1%	37.3%	37.3%	37.3%	33.7%	35.2%	32.1%	34.7%
Suffolk	42%	43.6%	45.1%	46.5%	47.3%	47.1%	47.0%	49.7%	49.7%	49.7%

Source: Kids Count and Virginia Department of Education

\*Franklin students qualify for Free and Reduced-Price lunch under the USDA Community Eligibility Provision

## Access to Low-Cost Food

### Western Tidewater has access to the following low-cost food and feeding sites:

- The Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia has a summer feeding site at the Suffolk Boys & Girls Club at JFK Middle School. The Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia also serves Suffolk, Franklin, Isle of Wight, and Southampton in various locations and with a mobile pantry.
- The Salvation Army of Suffolk runs a soup kitchen on Thursdays and Saturdays and has a supply of canned goods.
- Franklin Cooperative Ministries has a food pantry.
- Senior Services of Southeastern Virginia has a home-delivered meals program.
- Cover 3 Foundation runs a kid's meals and snack program in Franklin, Suffolk, and Southampton County. This program exists to provide nutritious snacks and meals to all children in after-school programs, summer feeding sites and while school is out.
- The Hope Center, located in Franklin and run by Kingdom Life Church, has free food distribution on Tuesdays and Saturdays.
- The Suffolk Library participated in the Summer Feed program in 2018 and fed 30-40 children per day.

## WIC Program

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) provides Federal grants to States for supplemental foods, health care referrals, and nutrition education for low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and non-breastfeeding postpartum women, and to infants and children up to age five who are found to be at nutritional risk.

## SNAP Program

SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) offers nutrition assistance to millions of eligible, low-income individuals and families and provides economic benefits to communities. SNAP is the largest program in the domestic hunger safety net. **Franklin, Isle of Wight, and Southampton** were below the state average for the percentage of all SNAP participants who are children.

### Children Who are SNAP Participants (percentage\*)

Locality	2016 %	2016 #	2017 %	2017 #	2018 %	2018 #	2019 %	2019 #	2020 %	2020 #
Franklin	39.6	1,326	42.7	1,394	42.4	1,331	42.9	1,110	42.5	1,286
Isle of Wight	40.8	2,157	42.0	1,999	41.1	1,877	40.2	1,465	39.2	1,638
Southampton	39.4	1,523	40.1	1,407	40.2	1,337	42.4	1,182	40.3	1,222
Suffolk	43.4	7,334	44.3	6,801	44.1	6,621	44.3	5,572	43.2	6,142
Virginia	42.4	527,986	44.8	491,736	43.9	436,744	43.9	369,505	42.3	399,253

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Indicators Dashboard and Kids Count

\* The percent represents the number of children who receive SNAP of the total number of individuals (all ages) in that locality who receive SNAP.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) defines food insecurity as limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate foods or uncertain ability to acquire these foods in socially acceptable ways. Children exposed to food insecurity are of particular concern given the implications scarce food resources pose to a child's health and development. Children who are food insecure are more likely to be hospitalized and may be at higher risk for developing obesity and asthma. Children who experience food insecurity may also be at higher risk for behavioral and social issues including fighting, hyperactivity, anxiety and bullying.

In 2018, all areas of Western Tidewater were above the state average in child food insecurity rate. **Suffolk and Isle of Wight** have seen improvement in this area.

### Child Food Insecurity Rate

Locality	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Virginia	N/A	16.0%	11.2%	13.3%	13.2%	12.5%	11.5%
Franklin	22.3%	23.6%	22.8%	16.9%	17.2%	17.6%	19.7%
Southampton	18.6%	17.4%	14.9%	15.2%	13.9%	14.5%	13.2%
Isle of Wight	16.7%	16.4%	11.3%	14.4%	14.1%	13.4%	13 %
Suffolk	14.6%	15.1%	14.4%	14.0%	13.6%	13.4%	13.3%

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Indicators Dashboard

## Children With Low Access to a Grocery Store\*

Locality	2010	2015
Franklin	13.2%	13.4%
Southampton	3.3%	3.2%
Isle of Wight	3.8%	3.8%
Suffolk	5.3%	5.8%

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Indicators Dashboard

\* This indicator shows the percentage of children living more than one mile from a supermarket or large grocery store if in an urban area, or more than 10 miles from a supermarket or large grocery store if in a rural area.

## Food Environment Index\*

Locality	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Franklin	4.0	3.8	3.9	3.5	4.0	4.4	4.4	5.4
Southampton	6.5	6.3	6.2	6.3	6.8	6.9	7.1	7.6
Isle of Wight	8.8	8.5	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.6	8.6	8.8
Suffolk	8.1	7.9	7.8	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.7	8.4

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Indicators Dashboard

\* The food environment index combines two measures of food access: the percentage of the population that is low-income and has low access to a grocery store, and the percentage of the population that did not have access to a reliable source of food during the past year (food insecurity). The index ranges from 0 (worst) to 10 (best) and equally weights the two measures.

# CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

The Western Tidewater's Early Intervention program is run through the Infant and Toddler Connection of Western Tidewater. The Coordinator for this program is an employee of the Children's Center.

Overall, Western Tidewater has increased the percentage of children served with EI services every year for the past seven years, until 2014. The overall percentage went from 2.38 percent of population in 2007 to 3.91 percent in 2013 to 3.60 percent in 2014. It should be noted that Western Tidewater's percentage of children served was above the state average for 2014 (2.85 percent)\*.

The percentage of infants and toddlers receiving IDEA Part C in 2021 is 6.4% in Virginia and 6.8% in the United States.

## Population Served with Part C and Part B Early Intervention Services Compared to Population Data, 0-1 year olds

Year	Population	0-1 year olds number served	0-1 year olds percentage served
2007	2,119	15	0.71%
2008	2,011	14	0.70%
2009	2,011	17	0.85%
2010	1,931	27	1.40%
2011	1,792	28	1.56%
2012	1,724	21	1.22%
2013	1,702	28	1.65%
2014	1,700	24	1.41%
2015	N/A	17	N/A

## Population Served with Part C and Part B Early Intervention Services Compared to Population Data, 1-2 year olds

Year	Population	1-2 year olds number served	1-2 year olds percentage served
2007	2,001	124	6.20%
2008	1,977	41	2.07%
2009	1,977	32	1.62%
2010	1,827	57	3.12%
2011	1,761	68	3.86%
2012	1,812	56	3.09%
2013	1,737	59	3.40%

<b>2014</b>	<b>1,738</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>3.91%</b>
<b>2015</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>

### **Population Served with Part C and Part B Early Intervention Services Compared to Population Data, 2-3 year olds**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>2-3 year olds number served</b>	<b>2-3 year olds percentage served</b>
<b>2007</b>	<b>1,966</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0.31%</b>
<b>2008</b>	<b>1,894</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>5.33%</b>
<b>2009</b>	<b>1,894</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>5.97%</b>
<b>2010</b>	<b>1,990</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>5.33%</b>
<b>2011</b>	<b>1,906</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>4.93%</b>
<b>2012</b>	<b>1,769</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>7.12%</b>
<b>2013</b>	<b>1,823</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>6.53%</b>
<b>2014</b>	<b>1,778</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>5.40%</b>
<b>2015</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>

### **Population Served with Part C and Part B Early Intervention Services Compared to Population Data, 0-3 year olds**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>0-3 year olds number served</b>	<b>0-3 year olds percentage served</b>
<b>2007</b>	<b>6,086</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>2.38%</b>
<b>2008</b>	<b>5,882</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>2.65%</b>
<b>2009</b>	<b>5,882</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>2.75%</b>
<b>2010</b>	<b>5,752</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>3.30%</b>
<b>2011</b>	<b>5,459</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>3.48%</b>
<b>2012</b>	<b>5,305</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>3.83%</b>
<b>2013</b>	<b>5,262</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>3.91%</b>
<b>2014</b>	<b>5,216</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>3.60%</b>
<b>2015</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>N/A</b>

\*Note: As of 2015, statistics about percentage of children served will no longer be available from the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services for privacy reasons.

**Agencies that provide services to disabled and developmentally delayed children are listed under the Community Resources section.**

**In October 2019, the Children’s Center estimated that 51 children in the Western Tidewater area had disabilities and were eligible for Head Start:**

## Estimate of Children With Disabilities and Eligible for Head Start

Locality	Estimated Children 3 & 4 years old w/disability*	Poverty Rate for children	Estimated Eligible
Franklin	8	22.7%	<2
Southampton	24	19.3%	5
Isle of Wight	127	15.3%	19
Suffolk	139	18.6%	25
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>51</b>

Estimates were taken from data provided Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard and local school systems.

\*Numbers include some children who are 2 and not yet age-eligible for Head Start.

All of the Western Tidewater localities were below the state average in percentage of children receiving special education services in **2019**.

## Percentage of Students Receiving Special Education Services

Locality	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Franklin	14.8	14.7	13.2	14.1	12.2	12.2	10.8	11.7	11.7	11.8	11.8
Isle of Wight	12.2	11.7	11.8	11.7	12.3	12.3	11.6	12.4	12.0	12.9	12.9
Southampton	14.4	12.6	11.7	10.7	11.4	11.4	12.3	12.4	13.1	12.9	12.0
Suffolk	12.2	11.8	11.9	12.1	12.0	12.0	11.7	12.0	12.7	13.0	13.0
Virginia	13.3	13.1	12.9	12.8	12.8	12.9	12.6	12.9	13.2	13.5	13.5

Source: Kids Count

## Percentage of public school children with disabilities

Locality	Fall of 2017	Fall of 2018	Fall of 2019
Franklin	11.7%	11.7%	11.8%
Isle of Wight	12.4%	12.0%	12.9%
Southampton	12.4%	13.1%	12.9%
Suffolk	12.0%	12.7%	13.0%
Virginia	13.0%	13.2%	13.5%

Source: Virginia Department of Education

## Number of public school children with disabilities

Locality	Fall of 2017	Fall of 2018	Fall of 2019
Franklin	131	126	127
Isle of Wight	681	661	725
Southampton	348	377	361
Suffolk	1,720	1,806	1,861

Source: Virginia Department of Education

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# EMPLOYMENT AND THE ECONOMY

A mixture of agriculture and industry drives Western Tidewater's economy. The region produces crops such as corn, peanuts, cotton, soybeans, and wheat. Woodlands cover much of Western Tidewater.

Top industries in Western Tidewater, by percentage of workforce, include:

- Franklin – Educational services, health care and social assistance, 29.0%; manufacturing, 15.3%; retail trade, 12.3%; public administration, 10.6%; professional, scientific, management, and administrative, 7.5%
- Isle of Wight – Educational services, health care and social assistance, 20.6%; Manufacturing, 17.5%; professional, scientific, management, and administrative, 10%; retail trade, 8.9%
- Southampton – Educational services, health care and social assistance, 26.0%; Manufacturing, 13.2%; public administration, 10.6%; and retail trade, 8.7%
- Suffolk – Educational services, health care and social assistance, 22.8%; manufacturing, 12.3%; professional, scientific, management, and administrative, 10.3%; retail trade, 10.1%; and public administration, 9.4%

The Top 10 employers in each locality are:

## Franklin

1. Southampton Memorial Hospital
2. On Time Staffing
3. Walmart
4. Franklin City Public Schools
5. City of Franklin
6. Paul D. Camp Community College
7. Virginia Department of Transportation
8. Village at Woods Edge
9. Lowe's Home Centers
10. Elite Home Health Care
11. Care Advantage
12. Food Lion
13. The Children's Center
14. Bronco Federal Credit Union

## Isle of Wight County

1. Smithfield Fresh Meats Corporation
2. Isle of Wight County Schools
3. Green Mountain Coffee
4. County of Isle of Wight
5. International Paper



6. Cost Plus
7. Food Lion
8. C.R. England Inc.
9. Smithfield Support Services Corp.
10. Smithfield Foods

## Southampton County

1. Southampton County Public Schools
2. Deerfield Correctional Center
3. County of Southampton
4. Meherrin Agricultural and Chemical
5. Enviva Management Co., LLC
6. Gretna Health Care Center
7. Armor Correctional Health
8. Southampton Academy
9. Division of Institutions
10. Solenis LLC

## Suffolk

1. Suffolk Public Schools
2. Science Applications International
3. City of Suffolk
4. Sentara Healthcare
5. Target
6. U.S. Department of Defense
7. CVN Distribution
8. Walmart
9. Towne Bank
10. Western Tidewater Community Services Board

**COVID-19 has affected all areas of Western Tidewater's labor force. All localities had a drop in labor force from May 2019 to May 2020.**

## Size of Labor Force

Locality	Jan. 2017	Feb. 2017	March 2017	April 2017	May 2017	May 2019	May 2020	October 2021
Franklin	3,513	3,546	3,578	3,593	3,529	3,589	3,518	3,681
Isle of Wight	18,529	18,618	18,701	18,760	18,844	19,539	18,784	18,703
Southampton	8,744	8,792	8,850	9,094	8,976	9,059	8,662	9,367
Suffolk	42,034	42,187	42,420	42,500	42,729	44,879	43,824	43,040

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard

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## *Area Employment History*

### **2009**

Smithfield Foods and its subsidiaries, one of the area's largest employers, experienced layoffs during the 2009 economic downturn but still employs 4,500. International Paper, which at one time was the area's largest employer, decided in October 2009 to shut down its operations at the Franklin mill (located in southern Isle of Wight County). Layoffs began in December 2009 and continued through September 2010. This shutdown directly affected 1,100 employees at the mill (820 in the Children's Center service area), and also affected residual contracting jobs and local businesses in the area, for an estimated job loss of 3,000.

### **2011**

In July 2011, International Paper announced a partial reopening of the mill by July 2012. This conversion to the product known as "fluff" paper created an estimated 250 jobs for the area.

It was announced in January 2011 that the USJFCOM/JWFC Training Analysis & Simulation Center, Suffolk's largest employer (2,200) would close by the end of 2011. With the closure in August 2011, about half of the 2,200 jobs were lost, far less than originally expected, and most of the job loss was to contractors. Northrop Grumman, JFCOM's top contractor with four of its 25 largest contracts, told 293 Suffolk-based employees in April that they faced possible job losses when contracts with JFCOM expired.

### **2012**

ST Tissue, a company that uses recycled paper to make napkins and paper towels, opened at the International Paper complex in October 2012.

The City of Suffolk reported that 1,957 jobs had been created within the city limits during 2012. Those included in the expansion were Trans-Ocean, Suffolk Iron Works, Sumitomo, Western Branch Metals, and Dana Holding Corporation, Continental Terminals, and Massimo Zanetti Beverage.

It was announced in June 2012 that nearly 1,000 new employees of four military commands would be moving into buildings vacated by JFCOM in North Suffolk. The estimated annual payroll for this group is \$88.9 million. The commands were set to be in place by June 25, 2013.

### **2013**

Smithfield Foods was sold to Shuanghui Foods in China in 2013. There has been no reduction in workforce.

Enviva, a company that produces wood pellets for fuel, opened a plant in Southampton County in 2013 with 70 employees.

Green Mountain Coffee opened a processing facility in Isle of Wight County with 800 employees. GMC is now the second largest employer in Isle of Wight County.

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In the fall of 2013, Franklin Lumber LLC restarted the former International Paper sawmill and added 72 jobs.

In June 2013, Lockheed Martin of Suffolk laid off 59 employees due to a loss of contract.

Southampton County announced in August 2013 that Hampton Farms, a peanut roasting company, will open a peanut butter process facility in the county at a former International Paper facility just outside Franklin. The company will hire 60 employees.

#### **2014**

In the fall of 2014, it was announced that Friant and Associates, a furniture manufacturing company, was moving to the CenterPoint Intermodal Center in Suffolk, and would create 166 new jobs.

#### **2015**

In the spring of 2015, the Target warehouse, located in Suffolk, announced a \$50 million expansion, which was expected to add 600 jobs.

In November of 2015, the City of Suffolk announced that Canada Metal Pacific Ltd., a manufacturer of die castings and machining technologies for the marine, energy, telecommunications, transportation, and forestry industries, would locate in Suffolk and hire 50 employees in the next five years. Massimo Zanetti Beverage USA also announced an expansion in November 2015.

#### **2016**

In February 2016, the City of Suffolk announced Emser Tile would invest \$16.25 million to establish an East Coast distribution center at CenterPoint Intermodal Center. This will create 98 new jobs. This facility opened in August of 2017. Also at CenterPoint, Peet's Coffee announced in December 2016 its plans to invest \$58 million in a new roaster. The 175,000-square-foot roaster is expected to create 135 new jobs, with an annual salary in the \$50,000 range.

#### **2017**

ST Tissue, which restarted one of the former paper machines at International Paper in 2012, began to expand its operations in 2017 by investing \$35 million to refurbish and start a second paper machine. The expansion is expected to create 50 new jobs to bring the company to 150 employees.

In February 2017, the City of Suffolk announced that the Ace Hardware Distribution Center will expand its facility by 138,000 square feet and create five to 10 jobs.

#### **2018**

In 2018, Enviva employed 100-plus employees. In late 2018, the company announced it would expand its operation by \$75.7 million through 2020.

In May 2018, Farm Fresh closed all of its Western Tidewater stores, including Franklin, Suffolk, and Smithfield. Kroger took over stores in Suffolk and Smithfield.

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In October 2018 it was announced that Belmont Peanuts was creating a new \$2.5 million facility and warehouse in Southampton County to process and store peanuts. The expansion was expected to create 15 new jobs.

It was announced that Hampton Farms in Southampton County will expand its peanut butter processing facility, a \$5.7 million investment that will create 14 new jobs.

## 2019

It was announced in February 2019 that Smithfield Foods will lease a 20,000-square-foot space in North Suffolk's Bridgeway Technology Center II. This will bring 170 new jobs to Suffolk.

It was announced in March 2019 that Wanchese Fish Company in Suffolk was adding a \$2.8 million expansion that would include 70 new jobs.

Repair Tech announced a move from Isle of Wight County to the Franklin Industrial Park. The move will be a \$1 million land purchase and facility to expand the business.

Isle of Wight County announced in June 2019 that M&M Milling, a toll processor specializing in grinding, blending and sizing of agricultural materials, has established its first East Coast location in Isle of Wight County. The company, who will locate in the former Franklin Equipment building in the Camptown area, will employ at least 15 people and purchase hundreds of thousands of bushels of shelled corn from local farmers each year as part of its production processes.

Blue Bell Ice Cream opened a distribution center in North Suffolk. The 14,000 square-foot facility employs 18.

Hubbard Peanut Company of Sedley announced in November an expansion into Franklin in the old Farm Fresh building. The \$1.6 million expansion will include 10 new jobs and a one third increase in the purchase of Virginia-grown peanuts.

It was announced in December 2019 that Bon Bon Farms will invest \$8.5 million and create 162 new jobs in their new operations in Boykins. The company will renovate and operate out of the former Asheboro Elastics Corporation, which ceased operations in June 2019. The company will produce hemp plugs and CBD oil and related products.

## 2020

In January, it was announced that GMAX Industries Inc., a manufacturer and sourcing agent of medical disposable products for the healthcare industry, will invest \$10.5 million to establish a manufacturing and distribution operation at Pretlow Industrial Park in the City of Franklin. The facility will centralize the company's operations in-house, creating 40 new jobs.

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Olive oil manufacturer Acesur will take over the former Flexa Furniture manufacturing facility in Suffolk Industrial Park. This will be an \$11 million investment and create 29 new jobs.

Amazon purchased 87 acres of land in Suffolk and will build a state-of-the-art distribution warehouse which will employ 1,000 workers at \$15 per hour. The center is expected to open in 2021.

Massimo Zanetti Beverage USA announced in June plans to build a distribution center in Suffolk's Virginia Port Logistics Park, complementing its corporate headquarters and main roasting operations already in the city. The 355,933-square-foot facility will serve as its East Coast distribution center.

The City of Franklin runs a 40,000 square foot Business Center, which hosts start-up businesses and small industry.

### ***Recent Unemployment History***

With the economic downturn of late 2008 through 2012, unemployment increased dramatically for the area. In localities like Franklin, Isle of Wight, and Southampton, the unemployment rate nearly doubled between 2008 and 2009. With the closing of International Paper in late 2010, unemployed figures for the region rose again. Franklin's unemployment rate in 2010 climbed to nearly triple what it was in 2007. Unemployment eased off slightly in the first six months of 2011 and remained stable in most localities except Franklin. Franklin's unemployment rate rose a percentage point from July 2011 to July 2012. Unemployment dropped in all localities from July 2012 to May 2013. However, all Western Tidewater localities were above the state average in May 2013.

Unemployment dropped in all localities between May 2015 and May 2016, following the state and national trend. Franklin, Isle of Wight, and Suffolk were still above the state average.

In March 2017, all Western Tidewater localities were above the state average (Southampton was the same as the state average). All but Franklin were below the national average.

In March 2018, all areas except Isle of Wight were above the state average. All areas saw a drop in unemployment between March 2017 and March 2018.

In April 2019, all areas had seen an improvement in unemployment since the previous year.

## Unemployment Rate

Locality	2010	2011	July 2012	May 2013	April 2014	May 2015	May 2016	March 2017	March 2018	April 2019	Nov 2020	Nov 2021
Franklin	12.4	10.5	11.7	9.1	7.1	7.8	5.1	5.6	4.9	3.5	7.5	4.6
Isle of Wight	7.3	6.5	6.5	5.8	4.6	5.0	4.0	4.0	3.3	2.6	3.8	2.5
Southampton	10.9	8.8	8.6	6.6	5.6	4.5	3.4	3.8	3.5	2.4	3.9	2.3
Suffolk	7.7	7.4	7.1	6.2	5.6	5.5	4.3	4.2	3.6	2.7	5.1	3.2
Virginia	6.9	6.0	6.4	5.6	5.1	5.0	3.8	3.8	3.3	2.5	4.6	2.7
United States	9.5	9.2	9.3	7.3	5.9	5.3	4.7	4.6	4.1	3.3	6.4	3.9

Source: Virginia Employment Commission and Virginia Labor Market Information

With the closure of many businesses during the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020, unemployment skyrocketed across the United States, Virginia, and Western Tidewater. While unemployment skyrocketed in April 2020, by May 2020, unemployment began to ease off. Only Franklin was above the state average in May 2020. Unemployment rates decreased across all areas in 2021.

Franklin and Southampton lag behind the other Western Tidewater localities in average weekly wage per employee. All areas saw an increase in average weekly wage between 2018 and 2019.

## Average Weekly Wage

Locality	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Franklin	\$585	\$610	\$610	\$639	\$721
Isle of Wight	\$796	\$824	\$849	\$864	\$865
Southampton	\$667	\$691	\$718	\$731	\$815
Suffolk	\$907	\$922	\$944	\$1,004	\$1,047

Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics

## Principle Source of Income by percent, 2016

Locality	Management	Service	Sales & Office	Natural Resources, Construction, Maint. & Repair	Production, Transport, Moving
Franklin	30.4	25.0	21.8	11.3	11.5
Isle of Wight	38.4	13.6	22.6	13.4	11.9
Southampton	30.6	18.0	21.9	14.0	15.5
Suffolk	37.8	17.8	22.0	9.3	13.2
Virginia	42.9	16.8	22.4	8.4	9.5

Source: U.S. Census

## Principle Source of Income by percent, 2017

Locality	Management	Service	Sales & Office	Natural Resources, Construction, Moving	Production, Transport, Moving

				Maint. & Repair	
Franklin	30.6	26.2	19.8	10.7	12.6
Isle of Wight	36.9	14.9	22.8	13.5	11.9
Southampton	29.4	20.4	21.6	15.1	13.5
Suffolk	39.1	17.4	22.4	9.2	12.0
Virginia	43.3	16.8	22.1	8.3	9.5

Source: U.S. Census

## Principle Source of Income by percent, 2018

Locality	Management	Service	Sales & Office	Natural Resources, Construction, Maint. & Repair	Production, Transport, Moving
Franklin	23.1	26.0	24.2	11.1	15.6
Isle of Wight	40.2	15.3	18.8	13.2	12.4
Southampton	28.5	19.2	21.2	14.7	16.5
Suffolk	39.5	17.4	20.0	8.9	14.2
Virginia	43.8	16.6	20.6	8.4	10.6

Source: U.S. Census

The Western Tidewater area is similar to the state of Virginia as to division of labor. Southampton has the lowest percentage of wage and salary workers. Southampton has the highest percentage of government employees. Isle of Wight has the most self-employed.

## Class of Worker by percent, 2016

Locality	Private Wage & Salary	Government	Self-Employed	Unpaid Family Workers
Franklin	69.3	26.5	3.5	0.7
Isle of Wight	75.5	19.9	4.3	0.3
Southampton	71.9	22.2	5.3	0.5
Suffolk	72.4	23.5	3.9	0.2
Virginia	74.7	20.2	5.0	0.1

Source: U.S. Census

## Class of Worker by percent, 2017

Locality	Private Wage & Salary	Government	Self-Employed	Unpaid Family Workers
Franklin	71.8	24.5	2.4	1.3
Isle of Wight	76.8	19.4	3.7	0
Southampton	68.7	25.6	5.3	0.4

Suffolk	72.0	23.7	4.2	0.2
Virginia	74.9	20.1	4.9	0.1

Source: U.S. Census

### Class of Worker by percent, 2018

Locality	Private Wage & Salary	Government	Self-Employed	Unpaid Family Workers
Franklin	74.4	23.7	1.9	0
Isle of Wight	74.7	20.1	5.1	0
Southampton	67.1	27.8	4.4	0.6
Suffolk	72.0	23.7	4.1	0.2
Virginia	74.9	20.0	4.9	0.2

Source: U.S. Census

Isle of Wight, Southampton, and Franklin are above the state average for percentage of children under age 6 with all parents in the labor force. The trend for all areas has been higher.

### Children under 6 with all parents in the labor force (percent)

Locality	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014-2018	2015-2019
Franklin	68.5	75.8	65.3	74.5	69.5	73.5	66.2	88.0	94.8
Isle of Wight	72.3	72.1	74.4	76.6	72.8	75.2	72.4	74.0	76.0
Southampton	62.0	57.7	66.4	74.9	67.6	69.2	69.2	70.7	73.0
Suffolk	67.0	68.4	66.7	70.4	68.6	68.1	64.4	64.6	66.7
Virginia	65.7	66.0	65.7	66.3	66.6	66.5	66.6	67.0	67.6

Source: Kids Count



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# EDUCATION: PRE-K AND KINDERGARTEN READINESS

## *Background*

As a result of the concern that children were not entering kindergarten ready to learn, the Franklin City Council appointed members to form an Early Childhood Commission. With a grant from the Virginia Early Childhood Education Foundation, the Commission evolved into Smart Beginnings Western Tidewater and now includes Franklin, Southampton County, and Isle of Wight County. The purpose of Smart Beginnings Western Tidewater is to build community impact to prepare all children in the community for kindergarten. The Children's Center has leadership representation on the Smart Beginnings Western Tidewater Board of Directors. The Smart Beginnings system will transform to be known as Ready Regions, a statewide effort to improve the access and quality of early childhood education.

In addition, Suffolk has had an Early Childhood Development Commission for several years, with members appointed by the Suffolk City Council. The Children's Center has leadership representation on the Suffolk ECDC.

The state of the community's support of children in becoming ready for school may be measured by the following statistical data:

- PALS-K Scores
- Virginia Kindergarten Readiness Program (VKRP). VKRP is now a statewide assessment used in the public schools. This measure is also being used in all of the Pre-K classrooms at the Children's Center. Head Start classrooms that are using the STREAMin3 curriculum (Booker T. Washington Elementary School and Hardy Elementary School).
- Percentage of public school children retained, grades K-3
- Percentage of the number of mother's without a diploma
- The number of students served in the Virginia Pre-School Initiative
- Third-grade SOL passing rates
- Fifth grade SOL passing rates (math)
- Percent of high school dropouts
- Percent of public school students promoted
- Percentage of public school students promoted grades K-3

In 2017-2018, Southampton, Suffolk, and Isle of Wight saw a decline in children who passed the PALS-K test. Southampton and Franklin were ~~behind~~ lower than the state average in children who were deemed prepared for kindergarten through PALS-K testing.

Based on 2019-2020 data, the percentage of children in Isle of Wight and Suffolk passing the PALS K assessment were above the state average, children in Franklin and Southampton were below the state average.

## Percentage of Kindergartners Whose PALS-K Scores Were Below Kindergarten Readiness Levels

Locality	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
Franklin	11.0%	17.7%	16.5%	15.4%	26.2%	11.9%	17.5%	17.0%	17.0%	18.0%	15.9%
Isle of Wight	9.3%	7.2%	6.9%	8.8%	7.3%	10.6%	13.0%	10.0%	14.0%	18.0%	13.0%
Southampton	18.9%	9.5%	9.3%	15.1%	13.9%	10.9%	12.4%	15.0%	20.0%	15.0%	19.2%
Suffolk	10.3%	7.4%	8.5%	7.2%	9.0%	9.0%	9.1%	7.0%	10.0%	12.0%	14.3%
Virginia	14.1%	13.3%	12.4%	13.0%	12.5%	12.9%	13.8%	14.6%	16.0%	17.0%	15.7%

Source: Kids Count

For the Western Tidewater area, the percentage of public school children retained in grades K-3, has varied from year-to-year. Franklin has remained high in this category for many years and in 2014-2015 was almost four times the state average. Suffolk was more than double the state average from 2015-2016 through 2019-2020.

## Percentage of Public School Children Retained, Grades K-3

Locality	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
Franklin	7.33	2.27	3.55	9.13	6.92	6.16	*	*	*	0.60	0.0
Isle of Wight	3.59	4.57	3.84	3.11	2.18	1.64	2.02	0.65	*	0.70	1.00
Southampton	1.29	1.72	1.37	1.15	1.51	1.22	*	*	2.10	2.10	1.00
Suffolk	4.85	4.70	2.97	2.98	3.77	3.42	4.37	3.84	3.50	3.30	3.10
Virginia	2.03	1.99	1.84	2.19	1.72	1.69	1.75	1.56	1.40	1.40	1.30

Source: Kids Count

\*Data is suppressed by Virginia Department of Education due to number of students at 10 or below

Isle of Wight, Southampton, and Suffolk saw an increase in the number of children served in the Virginia Pre-School Initiative between 2017 and 2018.

## Virginia Pre-School Initiative, number of students served (age 4)

Locality	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Franklin	37	40	54	54	60	59	72	73	67	63	57
Isle of Wight	85	80	86	89	90	90	119	108	109	113	111
Southampton	31	31	47	47	57	57	119	127	116	139	145
Suffolk	387	398	390	402	402	402	475	445	493	503	513

Source: Kids Count and Virginia Department of Education

The number of children age 3 and up to kindergarten who attend a pre-school is listed below. Franklin and Suffolk are above the state average for children age 3 and up to kindergarten who attend a preschool.

## Children enrolled in Pre-school (3 years old and up to kindergarten)

Locality	2015 Number	2015 By % of Pop. Of Children	2016 Number	2016 By % of Pop. Of Children	2017 Number	2017 By % of Pop. Of Children	2018 Number	2018 By % of Pop. Of Children
Franklin	186	7.8%	170	7.4%	162	6.9%	151	6.6%
Isle of Wight	426	5.0%	440	5.0%	445	5.1%	493	5.8%
Southampton	179	4.2%	180	4.2%	210	5.2%	174	4.6%
Suffolk	1,676	6.9%	1,697	7.0%	1,588	6.8%	1,526	6.5%
Virginia	128,112	5.9%	127,495	5.9%	125,931	5.9%	125,877	5.9%

Source: US Census

During the 2018-2019 school year, Isle of Wight and Southampton were above the state average for percentage of students in third grade passing the Standards of Learning English exam. Franklin was far below the state average and dropped six percentage points from the previous year.

## Percent Passing Standards of Learning (SOL-English-3<sup>rd</sup> grade)

Locality	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020*
Franklin	78%	77%	70%	64%	58%	45%	70%	49%	47%	41%	42%	NA
Isle of Wight	88%	87%	89%	93%	78%	80%	79%	83%	82%	77%	72%	NA
Southampton	77%	70%	79%	77%	62%	64%	68%	76%	78%	74%	74%	NA
Suffolk	81%	75%	76%	84%	69%	58%	67%	69%	71%	71%	71%	NA
Virginia	86%	83%	83%	86%	72%	69%	75%	76%	75%	72%	71%	NA

Source: Virginia Department of Education

\*SOL's were not completed in 2019-2020 due to COVID-19

In 2018-2019, all localities were above or near the state average for percentage of fifth grade students passing the Standards of Learning 5<sup>th</sup> grade math exam.

## Percent Passing Standards of Learning (SOL-Math-5<sup>th</sup> grade)

Locality	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020*
Franklin	91%	84%	84%	44%	44%	26%	47%	61%	77%	86%	83%	NA
Isle of Wight	93%	97%	94%	73%	75%	75%	79%	79%	80%	76%	81%	NA
Southampton	90%	91%	90%	64%	61%	73%	73%	79%	79%	75%	81%	NA
Suffolk	89%	93%	89%	74%	71%	78%	75%	74%	77%	79%	85%	NA
Virginia	90%	90%	89%	67%	69%	73%	79%	79%	79%	77%	81%	NA

Source: Virginia Department of Education

\*SOL's were not completed in 2019-2020 due to COVID-19

## Public Schools Early Childhood Education and Disability Services

Each of the public school districts of Southampton, Isle of Wight County, Suffolk and Franklin offer early childhood programs for age four and up.

Isle of Wight County Schools offers the Learning Center program. The Learning Center is a high-quality preschool program for four-year-olds currently housed at four elementary schools in the county: Carrollton,

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Carrsville, Hardy and Windsor. The program is supported by Isle of Wight County Schools, Isle of Wight Department of Social Services, Isle of Wight Health Department and the Virginia Preschool Initiative. The goal of the Learning Center is to provide a healthy learning environment that addresses the needs of preschoolers to prepare them for success in kindergarten. The program addresses their physical, academic, social, and emotional needs. The Learning Center operates on a six-hour day schedule and follows the Isle of Wight County School calendar. Transportation is provided by the school division.

### ***Virginia Preschool Initiative***

The Virginia Preschool Initiative provides resources to schools and community-based organizations in order to provide quality preschool programs for at-risk four-year olds not served by Head Start. Southampton, Suffolk and Franklin all offer similar programs with varying names such as Early Start and Bright Start.

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# TRANSPORTATION

Public Transportation is provided in Southampton County, Isle of Wight County, and Franklin for all ages by Senior Services of Southeast Virginia at \$1 per ride. Limited taxi service is available in the towns of Smithfield and Windsor, as well as Suffolk and Franklin.

Hampton Roads Transit discontinued bus service to Suffolk at the end of December 2011. The City of Suffolk contracted with Virginia Regional Transit to take over two routes formerly served by HRT. Fares for adult service are \$1.50 for each boarding or \$3 for an all-day pass. **Children under 5 are free.** These routes connect the downtown area to locations including grocery stores, Wal-Mart, Sentara Obici Hospital, and Lakeview Medical Center.

During the early months of 2012, VRT conducted a ridership study to recommend a transit plan for the city. In August of 2012, VRT added a bus route in the downtown area and modified two other routes based on the study. In August 2013, VRT added a new route for passengers to reach the Holland Road corridor, including Paul D. Camp Community College and the CenterPoint Industrial Park. The route also serves the Saratoga neighborhood, Suffolk Industrial Park, and Suffolk Station Apartments. VRT added two more lines in August 2014 – one to the Harbour View section of Northern Suffolk, and a connector line from Northern Suffolk to the Chesapeake Square area that connects with HRT service into Southampton Roads.

Those that are unable to access bus services must rely on available taxi services, or upon friends, relatives and/or neighbors. When HRT discontinued service in Suffolk, Handi Ride, an expanded bus service a mile outside of the fixed route system for those with disabilities, was also discontinued.

A regional transportation collaborative, Western Tidewater Community Transportation Cooperative, was formed in the fall of 2012 to discuss ideas and make improvements in the area's public transportation. The group has discussed implementing a voucher program for low-income riders and using volunteer drivers. In 2014, the group implemented a reimbursement system for volunteer drivers who made trips to Sentara Obici Hospital and the Western Tidewater Free Clinic.

In the fall of 2017, the cooperative received donations of two vehicles to be used at Sentara Obici Hospital for late night discharges, and a new route along U.S. 460 in Isle of Wight County and Suffolk for passenger trips to the Western Tidewater Free Clinic and Sentara Obici Hospital. The U.S. 460 route began in late January 2018 **and discontinued in June 2019 due to lack of funding.**

As of 2019, the group had yet to solve the problem of connecting Southampton, Franklin, and Isle of Wight to Suffolk and points east. **The cooperative disbanded in late 2019.**

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**Many residents in Western Tidewater commute to work. The following is a list of trends and the top places to which residents are commuting:**

### **Transportation Trends:**

**Suffolk - The employment landscape for Suffolk residents has changed drastically since 2011. Chesapeake is now the top city that residents commute to. However, more distant locations including Fairfax County, Hampton, Henrico County, and James City County are now in the top 10 for Suffolk.**

- The average one-way commute in Suffolk takes 28.4 minutes. That's longer than the US average of 26.4 minutes.
- How people in Suffolk get to work:
  - 85.5% drive their own car alone
  - 8.7% carpool with others
  - 3.4% work from home
  - 0.372% take public transit
  - 0.956% walk to work
- 1.44% of households do not own a car.

**Franklin – People in Franklin have a shorter commuter time than the normal US worker. Additionally, 1.51% of the workforce have “super commutes” in excess of 90 minutes.**

- The average one-way commute in Franklin is 24.3 minutes.
- How people in Franklin get to work:
  - 86.8% driver in their car alone
  - 5.02% carpool with others
  - 2.54% walk to work
  - 3.53% work from home
  - 0.5% take public transit
- 3.62% of households do not own a car.

**Isle of Wight – Using averages, employees in Isle of Wight County, VA have a longer commute time (29 minutes) than the normal US worker (25.5 minutes). Additionally, 1.76% of the workforce in Isle of Wight County, VA have "super commutes" in excess of 90 minutes.**

- The average commute in Isle of Wight County takes 29 minutes.
- As of 2019, 203 households, approximately 1.15%, in Isle of Wight County do not own a car.
- How people in Isle of Wight County get to work:
  - 88.9% drive their own car alone
  - 5.73% carpool with others
  - 3.94% work from home
  - 0.64% walk to work
  - 0.25% take public transit

**Southampton – People working in Southampton County have a longer commute time than the normal US worker. 3.2% of the workforce in Southampton County have a super commute in excess of 90 minutes.**

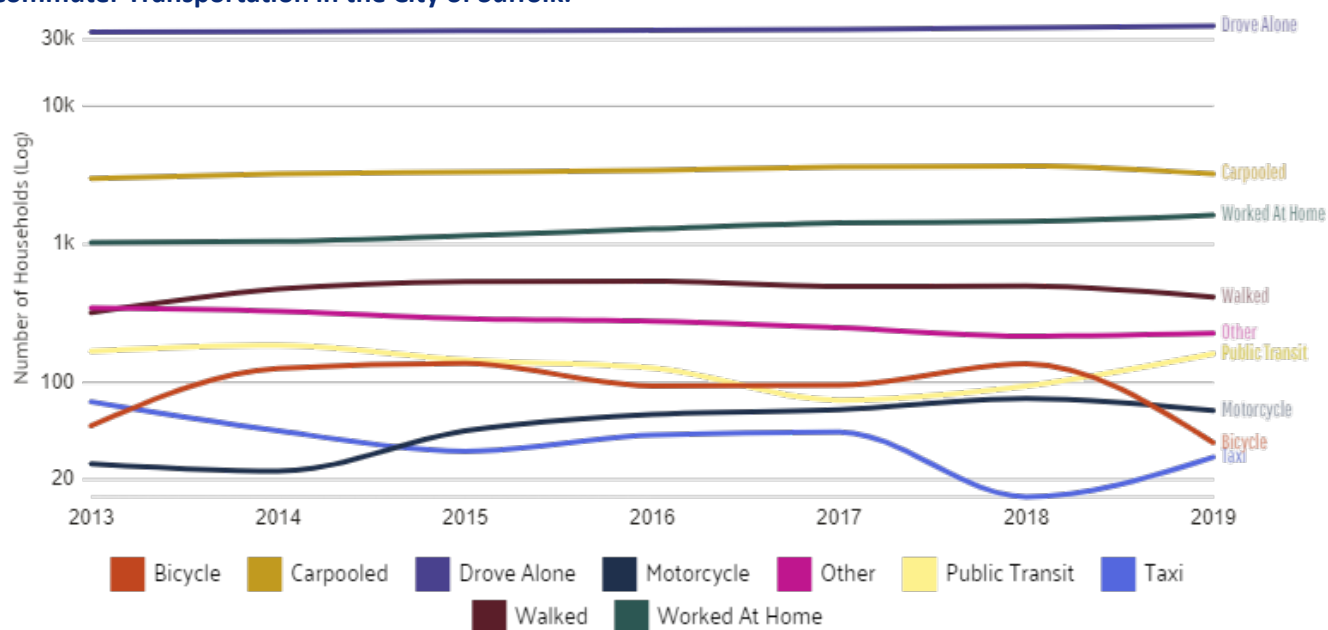
- The average one-way commute in Southampton 29.6 minutes.
- How people in Southampton get to work:
  - 83.1% drive their car alone
  - 9.05% carpool with others
  - 4.59% work from home
  - 0.49% walk to work
  - 0.5% use public transit
- 2.4% of households do not own a car

\*\*data from Bestplaces.net

### 2019 Car Ownership in the City of Suffolk:

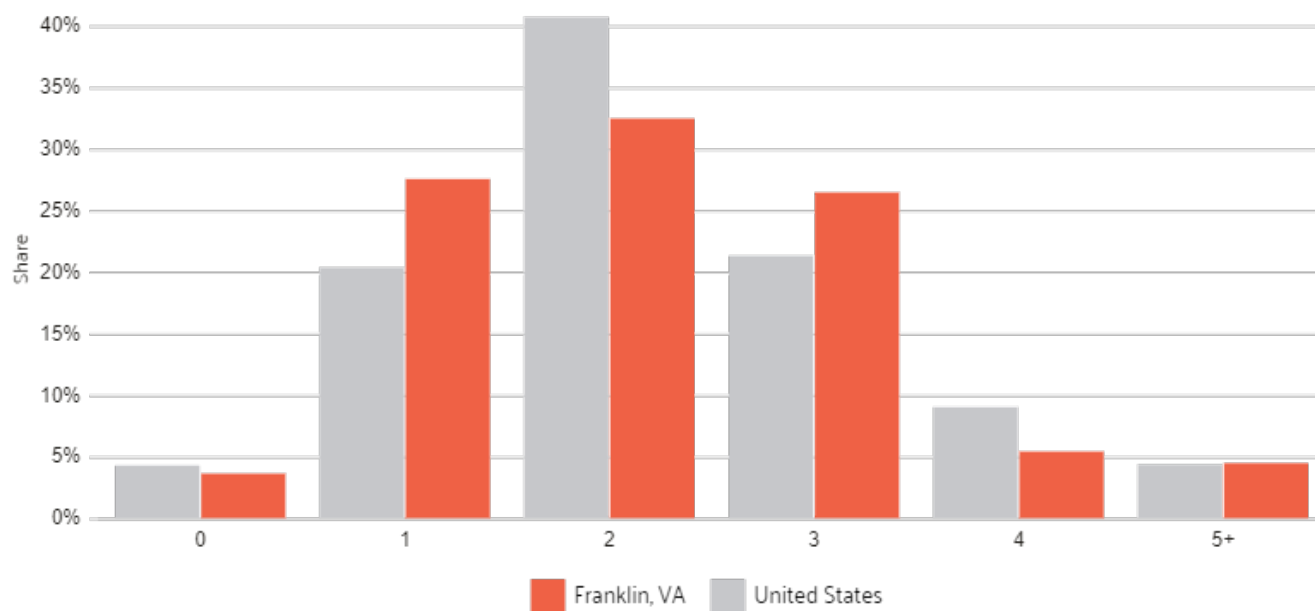


## Commuter Transportation in the City of Suffolk:



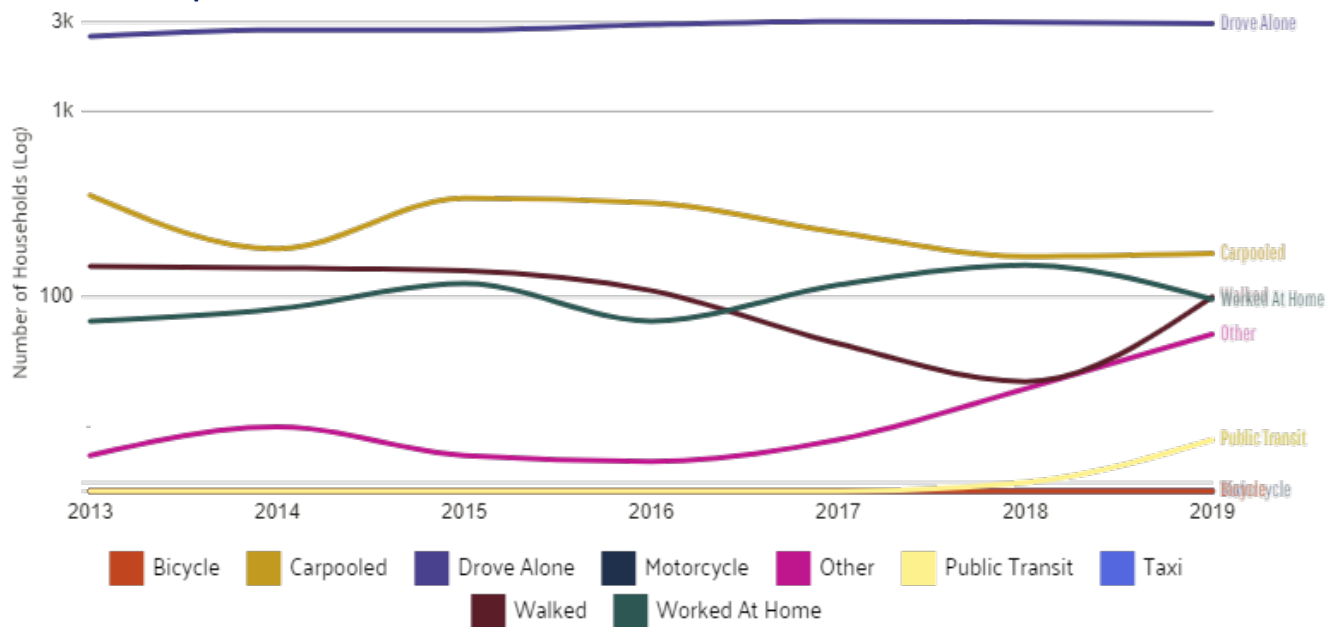
Source: U.S. Census; [quail.datausa.io](https://quail.datausa.io)

## 2019 Car Ownership in Franklin:





### Commuter Transportation in Franklin:

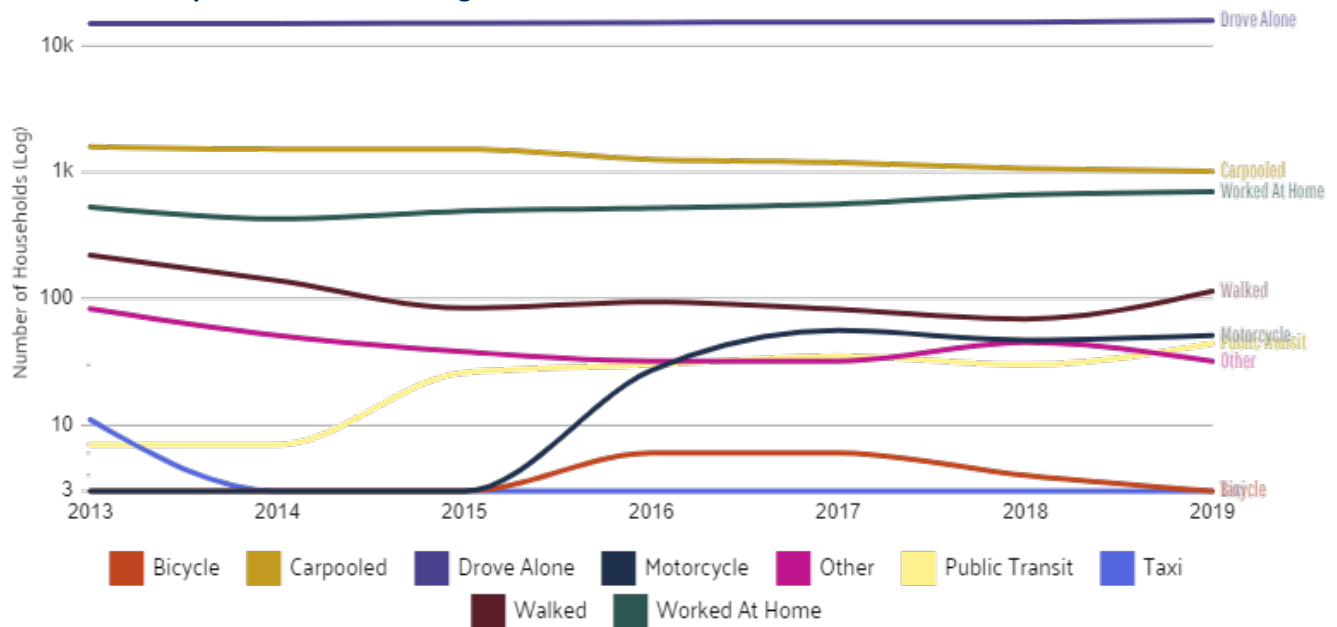


Source: U.S. Census; [quail.datausa.io](https://quail.datausa.io)

### 2019 Car Ownership in Isle of Wight:



### Commuter Transportation in Isle of Wight:

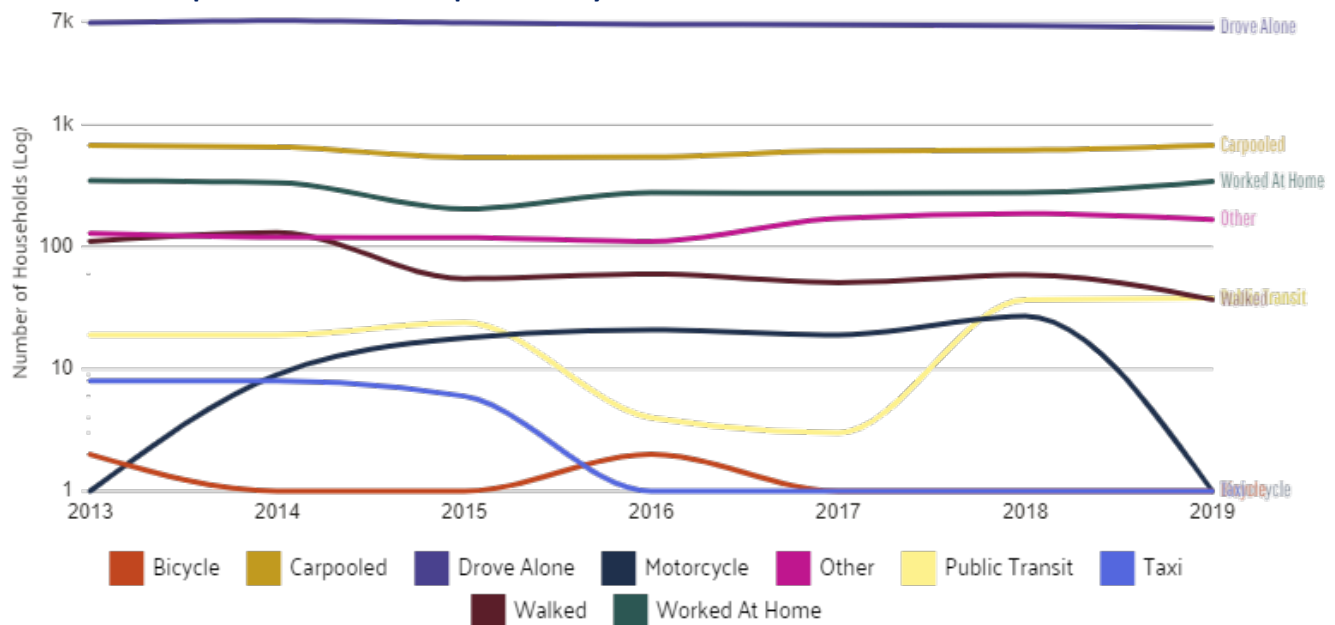


Source: U.S. Census; quail.datausa.io

### 2019 Car Ownership in Southampton County:



### Commuter Transportation in Southampton County:



Source: U.S. Census; quail.datausa.io

Western Tidewater's use of public transportation to commute to work is very low compared to the state average and did not change much between 2013 and 2019.

### Using Public Transportation to Commute to Work (percentage)\*

Locality	2013	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Franklin	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.3%	0.3%	0.5%
Isle of Wight	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.25%
Southampton	0.8%	0.3%	0.1%	0	0.5%	0.5%
Suffolk	0.5%	0.4%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%
Virginia	4.4%	4.6%	4.5%	4.4%	4.4%	4.35%

Source: US Census

\* Excludes taxi service

# HOUSING

Franklin is the only locality that is below the state and national average for housing units that are occupied by homeowners. Franklin is nearly 14 percent below the state average.

## Home Ownership\*

Locality	2007-2011	2008-2012	2009-2013	2010-2014	2011-2015	2012-2016	2013-2017	2014-2018	2019
Franklin	37.7%	38.7%	38.7%	40.2%	42.4%	43.9%	44.7%	45.6%	51.6%
Isle of Wight	75.5%	74.3%	73.9%	71.6%	71.7%	71.8%	71.2%	68.9%	75.8%
Southampton	65.5%	63.8%	64.3%	63.4%	61.8%	61.1%	62.9%	62.8%	74.8%
Suffolk	69.4%	68.9%	67.0%	65.1%	63.7%	63.0%	62.9%	63.5%	68.7%
Virginia						59.0%	59.3%	59.3%	66.1%
United States						55.9%	56.0%	56.1%	64.1%

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Dashboard; US Census Bureau; Data USA

\* This indicator shows the percentage of all housing units that are occupied by homeowners.

Median home values continued to grow in Virginia, United States, Southampton, Isle of Wight and Suffolk. Franklin showed a decline in 2019.

## Median Home Values in dollars

Locality	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Franklin	196,100	195,400	186,700	170,900	178,700	171,700	186,100	168,300	164,100
Isle of Wight	257,000	252,000	249,600	245,400	243,000	244,600	249,100	262,300	266,800
Southampton	150,900	148,700	150,000	159,200	159,700	161,500	172,800	169,500	178,500
Suffolk	254,800	248,900	242,000	240,200	235,300	236,600	238,200	246,600	254,400
Virginia	254,600	249,700	244,600	243,500	245,000	248,400	255,800	264,900	288,800
United States	186,200	181,400	176,700	175,700	178,600	184,700	193,500	204,900	229,700

Source: U.S. Census

In 2019, all areas were below the state average.

## Median Gross Rent in dollars

Locality	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Franklin	710	765	730	746	794	781	850	847	876	860
Isle of Wight	710	758	925	951	937	959	1,019	1,018	1,036	1045
Southampton	693	724	749	734	734	729	741	724	759	829
Suffolk	855	940	982	986	1,022	1,031	1,052	1,083	1,135	1201
Virginia	970	1,024	1,060	1,087	1,108	1,116	1,135	1,166	1,202	1234

Source: U.S. Census

All localities except Isle of Wight are above the state average for gross rent as a percentage of household income (those above 35 percent or more\*).

## Gross Rent As a Percentage of Household Income (35 percent or more)

Locality	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Franklin	55.9%	57.1%	56.3%	45.6%	45.2%	44.7%	46.7%
Isle of Wight	44.3%	41.8%	41.5%	35.2%	34.2%	33.6%	34.6%
Southampton	40.0%	37.0%	44.5%	45.7%	41.4%	36.0%	38.6%
Suffolk	44.0%	45.5%	42.0%	41.6%	42.7%	43.9%	42%
Virginia	40.6%	40.6%	40.3%	40.1%	39.5%	39.2%	38.5%

Source: U.S. Census

\*Note: 35% or below of household income for rent or mortgage is a rule of thumb for the banking industry.

Franklin also ranks highest in percentage of homeowners who pay more than 30 percent of their income for a mortgage.

## Percent of Homeowners who Pay more than 30% of Income

Locality	2015
Franklin	36%
Isle of Wight	26%
Southampton	25%
Suffolk	33%

Source: 2017 United Way ALICE Report for Virginia

## Housing Built Before 1950\* (percentage)

Locality	2007-2011	2008-2012	2009-2013	2010-2014	2011-2015	2012-2016	2013-2017	2014-2018	2019 before 1939
Franklin	22.3%	21.5%	21.6%	18.6%	19.3%	16.4%	14.7%	18.1%	11.4%
Isle of Wight	11.5%	11.2%	11.0%	10.1%	9.9%	9.2%	10.1%	10.1%	7.3%
Southampton	19.4%	19.4%	18.6%	17.1%	18.2%	17.3%	16.2%	16.2%	13.5%
Suffolk	10.8%	11.8%	12.5%	13.2%	13.0%	12.8%	12.7%	12.1%	8.5%
Virginia						12.3%	12.2%	12.0%	7.4%

Source: Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard and US Census

\* Houses built prior to 1950 that have not undergone substantial updates may contain hazardous materials. Lead based paint, which was banned in the United States in 1977, is a known toxin that causes nervous system damage, stunted growth and delayed development and is especially toxic to children under the age of six.

As for substandard housing, Southampton and Suffolk were above the state average for housing lacking complete plumbing facilities in 2018.

## Percentage of Housing Lacking Complete Plumbing Facilities

Locality	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2017	2018	2019
Franklin	0.3%	2.4%	2.0%	2.1%	2.5%	1.9%	0.7%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Isle of Wight	2.0%	1.9%	2.0%	1.7%	0.9%	0.7%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
Southampton	2.9%	1.9%	1.8%	1.1%	1.0%	1.0%	0.9%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%
Suffolk	0.3%	0.5%	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%	0.4%	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%
Virginia	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%

Source: U.S. Census

Western Tidewater has limited amount of public and private subsidized housing. These include:

### *Franklin*

The Franklin Redevelopment and Housing Authority works with landlords and other property owners to administer Housing Choice Vouchers for up to 362 families. Homes are privately owned and located in the Franklin and Southampton surrounding area(s). FRHA provides partial rental assistance to tenants and regular Housing Quality Standards inspections. In January 2020, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Authority gave the Franklin RHA an unsatisfactory rating. According to HUD's Feb. 26 report, the rating is attributed to "policies and procedures which are ineffective or lacking, thus resulting in frequent findings and a general failure to comply with HUD Multifamily requirements." Specifically, it states the FRHA had a backlog of over 600 unresolved requests for maintenance in January, but only three people on staff in its maintenance department to address these concerns.

There are four public housing developments with 162 units in the City of Franklin. They are:

- Berkeley Court on Cameron Street with 75 apartments and a community learning Center.
- Oldtown Terrace on Bruce Street with 35 apartments and a small community center.
- Pretlow Gardens on Pretlow Street with 40 apartments and a small community room which is used by the residents' council for their meetings.
- The Terrace at Bruce Street with a 12 unit market rate development on Bruce Street offering newly renovated 2 and 3 bedroom units.

Other Section 8 housing in Franklin includes:

- Dorchester Square Apartments on Dorchester Street
- Holland Trace Apartments on South Street

### *Isle of Wight*

The housing for low-income families in Isle of Wight County is privately owned. Eligibility is based on family income. There are several low income housing units. They are:

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- Wood's Edge Apartments on Wrenn Road in the Town of Smithfield with 60 units
  - Windsor Court Apartments on Hwy. 258 in the Town of Windsor with 64 units
  - Jersey Park Apartments on Wrenn Road in the Town of Smithfield with 80 units
  - Springdale Apartments on Carrsville Highway for those 62 and older.

### ***Southampton***

The housing for low-income families in Southampton County is privately owned. Eligibility is based on family income. They are:

- Steven Woods I, II, and III on Oak Trail in the Town of Courtland with 60 units
- Broadside Square on Main Street in the Town of Boykins
- The Neighbors Place on Thomas Woods Trail in Zuni

### ***Suffolk***

The housing for low-income families in Suffolk is both government and privately owned and operated. Eligibility is based on family income. Section 8 vouchers are available. There are a number of public housing projects that have 466 units available, and they are as follows:

- Parker Riddick Village on Stacey Drive in the downtown area with 93 units
- Colander-Bishop Meadows Apartments on Brook Avenue in the downtown area with 80 units
- Hoffler Apartments on East Washington Street in the downtown area with 80 units
- Chorey Park Apartments on West Constance Road in the downtown area with 100 units
- Cypress Manor Apartments on Davis Boulevard in the downtown area with 113 units
- Heron's Landing (located in Chesapeake, but takes Suffolk residents who are homeless) on 2133 S. Military Highway with 60 units.
- Finney Avenue Residence on Finney Avenue with 13 units.

### **Private Section 8 housing includes:**

- Wilson Pines Apartments on E. Washington Street with 104 units
- Heritage Acres on Nansemond Parkway with 76 units
- William H. Plummer Plaza in Northern Suffolk
- Reggie's Place
- Magnolia Gardens
- Gabriel's Place
- Bettie S. Davis Village
- Barrett House
- Chuckatuck Square Apartments with 42 units

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## Average Residential Electric Costs per KWH (cents)

Locality	Rate
Boykins	11.04
Branchville	11.04
Capron	11.25
Franklin	10.63
Ivor	11.25
Newsoms	11.25
Smithfield	11.04
Suffolk	11.04
Windsor	11.04

Source: Electricity Local



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# TECHNOLOGY

The use of computers and the internet has become an essential part of learning and communication. The Children's Center is using technology to communicate with parents, particularly starting with the COVID-19 outbreak beginning in March of 2020.

Those living in Franklin have the highest percentage of homes without a computer. The lowest percentage is in Suffolk and is below the state average.

## Percentage of Households with NO computer

Locality	2019
Franklin	18.4%
Isle of Wight	8.9%
Southampton	13.6%
Suffolk	8.6%
Virginia	8.9%

Source: U.S. Census

Those living in Suffolk also have the highest percentage of households with a broadband internet subscription. Franklin has the lowest percentage in Western Tidewater and is nearly 15 percent below the state average. All Western Tidewater localities are below the state and national average.

## Percentage of Households with a broadband internet subscription

Locality	2014-2018	2019
Franklin	67.2%	72.9%
Isle of Wight	75.1%	78.1%
Southampton	71.1%	74.3%
Suffolk	78.3%	81.1%
Virginia	82.0%	83.9%

Source: U.S. Census

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## COMMUNITY RESOURCES

There are a number of resources available to families in Western Tidewater. These resources provide an invaluable service to the community. In many cases, the funding for these services falls short of meeting the actual level of need in the community. Some of the more significant resources are listed below.

### **Blackwater Regional Library**

The Blackwater Regional Library has locations in Franklin, Courtland, Smithfield, Windsor, and Carrolton. Each branch has reading programs for children birth through age 5.

### **Boys & Girls Club of Southeast Virginia**

The Boys & Girls Club of Southeast Virginia has locations in Franklin and Suffolk. Programs include character and leadership development, education and career development, health and life skills, the arts, sports, fitness, and recreation. These programs are for children ages six through 18.

### **Coalition Against Poverty in Suffolk (CAPS)**

The Coalition Against Poverty in Suffolk has served over 900 (as of June 2015) individuals since it began in August of 2012. When CAPS receives requests for assistance, the staff assesses the situation, discusses financial issues, talks with the individual about long-term solutions, prays with the individual and assists financially if appropriate. CAPS partners with local help agencies, creating a network that ensures individuals are served in the best way possible. In addition to providing crisis assistance, CAPS started the Night Stay Program as a rotating shelter for individuals experiencing homelessness during winter months. Churches come together to host homeless guests and provide food, shelter and safety during the coldest months of the year. CAPS works with these individuals to help them find long-term housing and financial stability.

### **The Children's Center**

The Children's Center provides early intervention, pediatric rehabilitation, Early Head Start, Head Start, social-emotional development, and child care services in Western Tidewater. The Early Intervention program is available to any child-aged birth to 3 with an identified delay or disability. Early Intervention services include screenings and evaluations, service coordination and home visits, early childhood education, respite care, parent training and support, therapy services, and transportation. All services are either free or offered on a sliding fee scale basis. No child is denied services because of the inability to pay.

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The Children's Center is a licensed rehabilitation agency for children aged birth to twenty-one years of age. Pediatric rehabilitation services include occupational therapy, physical therapy, and speech therapy. Services are offered on a fee-for-service basis, with insurance reimbursement. Reduced fee services may be available for children enrolled in the early intervention program, the Early Head Start or in the Head Start programs, and for families without insurance coverage.

Early Head Start services are provided to low income pregnant women and low-income families with children under age three. The program serves all of Western Tidewater and is funded for 256 participants. Services include prenatal education and support, early childhood education, transportation, and developmental and health screening and monitoring. The program also focuses heavily on parent education to support parenting skills and promote family self-sufficiency.

Community-based childcare is offered at licensed facilities in Franklin and in Suffolk. Care is available for children aged six weeks to school age. Children of all levels of ability are included in mainstreamed classroom settings. The Children's Center works with local departments of social services and community contributors, foundations, and the United Way to seek funding and scholarships for economically disadvantaged children. Diversity is evidenced in all programs with respect to level of ability and disability, levels of family income and race.

Head Start services for three-to-five year olds are available in Western Tidewater through the Children's Center beginning September 2012. The Children's Center ensures seamless services for children transitioning from the Early Head Start program to Head Start classrooms. The Center currently has 285 Head Start slots throughout Western Tidewater.

The Children's Center is also active in the community, helping to meet identified needs as they arise. The Center partners with the community by serving as an education facility for community college and university student interns, hosting interagency training events, providing opportunities for non-violent offenders to complete community service, and utilizing the department of corrections trustees for special projects. The center provides meeting space for various community support groups and civic organizations.

### **Community Service Organizations and Clubs**

Community volunteers from various organizations assist in making a difference in the lives of children in need. Volunteers are active in community projects, as well as assisting with individual needs such as providing eyeglasses and hearing aids, or resources for food and clothing. These include Rotary clubs and Ruritan clubs.

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### **Cover 3 Foundation**

Based in Franklin, Cover 3 Foundation provides feeding programs for children in Western Tidewater. The Foundation also makes donations to local health departments, social services, churches and other non-profits.

### **Crisis Pregnancy Center of Tidewater**

There are a number of services available through this organization to help support women through an unplanned pregnancy. The goal of the program is to provide support services that will enable women to choose to carry the pregnancy to full term. These services include parenting and life skills classes. These classes include workshops on prenatal care, nutrition for mother and child, physical care of infants, and budgeting. Program participants, by attending classes and watching videos, can earn points toward infant care items such as clothing, diapers etc. Even after the birth, the center provides follow up services, infant care items, referral and support. All services are free of charge. There are centers located in Virginia Beach, Portsmouth, Norfolk, and Suffolk. The Suffolk Center serves Isle of Wight, Franklin and Southampton County.

### **Edmarc, Inc.**

Edmarc Hospice for Children is a non-profit agency that exists to meet the needs of terminally ill children and their families. They provide respite and in home hospice care services for terminally ill children, and grief counseling and support for their families. Services include sibling activities, parent groups, and bereavement services, and they are provided at no charge to the family. Edmarc is one of approximately ten free standing hospices in the nation devoted exclusively to the needs of terminally ill children.

### **Eastern Virginia Medical School Strelitz Diabetes Center**

The EVMS Strelitz Diabetes Center in Norfolk, Virginia, is comprised of a renowned international team of endocrinology experts – clinical providers, scientists and educators – working to find the cure for diabetes and to prevent the debilitating complications of neuropathy and cardiovascular disease. We are committed to improving quality of life for patients with diabetes and other metabolic disorders by developing innovative methods for treatment and diagnosis. The Center opened a clinic in Suffolk in 2015, which is located in the Sentara Obici Hospital Professional Center.

### **For Kids**

For Kids is an organization that provides emergency shelter for children and their families as well as permanent housing solutions for the economical disadvantaged. A new, centrally located Suffolk Regional Services Center will improve access to services for families while increasing community support and volunteerism for ForKids' vital work in the region. The redesigned Suffolk Center will provide trauma-informed spaces for case management, counseling, and tutoring and a home-base for

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our mobile services team that serves the families of Suffolk, Franklin and Southampton and Isle of Wight counties.

### **Franklin Cooperative Ministry**

Franklin Cooperative Ministry is a human service organization that provides short term assistance to the economic disadvantaged by helping provide fuel, rent, food, and clothing.

### **Franklin Housing and Redevelopment**

Franklin Housing and Redevelopment provides GED preparation, money management classes, and job training skills to residents.

### **Genieve Shelter**

The Genieve Shelter serves families and individuals attempting to escape domestic violence. The Genieve Shelter is a private, non-profit organization committed to providing a strong, comprehensive safety net for families in our Virginia community. The Genieve Shelter serves the cities of Suffolk and Franklin, the Town of Smithfield, and the counties of Isle of Wight, Southampton, and Surry. Clients are welcomed by a caring and compassionate staff offering a supportive safe environment. The services are free.

Genieve Shelter provides a 24 hour hotline, individual and group counseling, court accompaniment, case management, emergency shelter, permanent supportive housing, children's services, and mentoring.

### **Graz'n Acres Therapeutic Riding Program**

Graz'n Acres TRC is a 501c3 non-profit organization providing therapeutic equine assisted activities for children and adults with physical, intellectual, emotional, and learning disabilities, as well as at risk youth. All lessons are developed and tailored for each individual participant based on his or her diagnosis and specific goals. The goals may include improving fine and gross motor skills, socialization, memory skills, behavior and much more. Our specially trained horses and the environment provide a therapeutic benefit not found in other settings.

The center offers an evening lesson program which includes therapeutic riding and driving participants, morning school programs with Special Education Departments of Southampton County and Franklin City public schools, Step by Step, Inc. of Suffolk, and an At-Risk Youth Program with the Alternative Education Program of Southampton County Public Schools.

Graz'n Acres serves Isle of Wight and Southampton counties and the cities of Franklin and Suffolk.

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## Healthy Families

This home visiting program offers parent education and support to first time mothers who deliver at Sentara Obici Hospital in Suffolk. Families must live in Suffolk or Isle of Wight County and services are offered for parents of children birth to 5 years.

## Healthy Suffolk

Healthy Suffolk (previously known as the Suffolk Partnership for a Healthy Community) is a 15+ year old non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization that works to advance wellness and livability for Suffolk, with many accomplishments to date, including the establishment of the Western Tidewater Free Clinic, a gardening program throughout the community, and highly successful active living initiatives.

Healthy Suffolk seeks to create a culture of wellness and livability in Suffolk. Healthy Suffolk works to implement policy change at the city and community level by serving as a convener, advocate and promoter of wellness and livability.

## Here We Grow Suffolk

*Here We Grow Suffolk* is dedicated to fostering healthy pregnancies and healthy babies for parents scheduled to deliver at Sentara Obici Hospital. *Here We Grow Suffolk* is a collaborative undertaking between Sentara Obici Hospital and the Western Tidewater Health Department to support a healthy, thriving pregnancy and baby. Its aims are:

- Increase access to knowledge and services for pregnant women and parenting families
- Improve family and community support for healthy birth outcomes
- Optimize the potential for early childhood development
- Job Training

*The Virginia Initiative for Employment not Welfare (VIEW)* is a program providing employment, education, and training opportunities to TANF clients. VIEW is based on the conviction that all citizens deserve the opportunity to progress to self-sufficiency.

The *Virginia Independence Program*, part of the state's initiative to emphasize personal responsibility and increase employment among public assistance recipients offers a number of services at each locality. Services can include job skills training, work experience, job readiness training, childcare assistance, transportation, and other work related expenses.

The Hampton Roads Workforce Development Council, formerly "*Opportunity Inc.*", is responsible for developing policy and overseeing local workforce development initiatives in partnership with the local elected officials. Opportunity Inc. seeks to meet business community needs for trained and qualified workers; increase per capita income; promote greater corporate competitiveness and improve regional prosperity through initiatives that strengthen the regional workforce.

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### **Kingdom Impact Ministries Hope Center**

Located in Franklin, the Hope Center provides free food distribution twice a week and free clothes distribution once a month. The Hope Center also provides job skills training and adult education.

### **Local Industry and Foundations**

Various local industry and foundations demonstrate their interest and support for low-income families through their generous contributions to local projects, grant for quality enhancements, as well as providing child care subsidies. Obici Healthcare Foundation, Hampton Roads Community Foundation, Beazley Foundation, Franklin-Southampton Charities, Suffolk Foundation, and Camp Foundations, in particular, have assisted the Early Head Start and Head Start programs.

### **Newborn & Family Screening and Referral Program**

Sentara Obici Hospital has partnered with the Western Tidewater Health District and the Children's Center to provide access to programs and professionals with the knowledge and tools to foster healthy pregnancies and healthy babies. The program began in 2011 with funding from Smart Beginnings South Hampton Roads and the Obici Healthcare Foundation. Over 2,500 families with newborns were screened over a two-year period.

### **Nurse-Family Partnership**

The first Nurse-Family Partnership implementing agency in Virginia was launched in 2012 through the Western Tidewater Health District serving first-time families in Franklin, Isle of Wight County, Southampton County and Suffolk. As the lead administering agency for the federal Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting program the Virginia Department of Health is committed to evidenced-based home visitation services that will support healthy development of children and families.

Nurse-Family Partnership Nurse Home Visitors work with low-income young women who are pregnant with their first child, helping these vulnerable young clients achieve healthier pregnancies and births, stronger child development, and a path toward economic self-sufficiency.

### **Parent Mentoring**

The Richmond-based organization called Parent-to-Parent of Virginia is a nationwide program, with offices in a number of states. They provide numerous services, including pairing parents and other caregivers of children with special needs with an appropriate mentor. In addition, they try to identify parent support organizations, and encourage the establishment of such organizations where none exist. Finally, they provide technical assistance to local support groups and mentors.

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This program can provide much needed assistance in training parents, and enhancing parent involvement in Head Start and Early Head Start or other school programs.

### **Parks and Recreation**

The area Parks and Recreation departments provide a variety of community services, which include public swimming pools, playgrounds, and other recreation activities.

### **Public Schools**

*Adult Literacy:* The public school systems provide adult education services. Each locality offers basic adult education classes, which are tailored to individuals with an education level below the eighth grade. GED classes are also offered. Classes are offered both during the day and at night.

*Teen-age Pregnant Mothers:* The school districts all provide education for teen-age pregnant mothers. During the third trimester this service is available through the use of home-bound teachers.

Suffolk Public Schools has two Parent Resource Centers located at Elephant's Fork Elementary School and Florence Bowser Elementary School. Staff also coordinates activities and workshops that are held in various schools and community locations.

Southampton County Schools has a Parent Resource Center at its Fresh Start Center in Hunterdale.

### **Ra'Gene B. Myrick Foundation**

The Ra'Gene B. Myrick Foundation supports the needs of medically and physically challenged children ages birth to 21. The objective of the Ra'Gene B. Myrick Foundation is to provide information on resources to assist families with obtaining equipment and/or services and if necessary provide equipment and/or services that would not otherwise be affordable nor obtainable through insurance. The Foundation covers families in Western Tidewater.

### **Salvation Army**

The Salvation Army provides services that meet the basic needs of daily life for those without the resources to do so themselves. Programs provide food, shelter, clothing, financial assistance to pay utilities, and other necessities based on need.

The Salvation Army has a local branch in Suffolk, which serves all of Western Tidewater.



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### **Senior Services of Southeastern Virginia**

Senior Services develops and operates coordinated programs that assist seniors 60 and older, their families and caregivers, and serves as a resource center for adults with disabilities. Services include the I-Ride Program, which is available to anyone for \$1 per ride.

The Hayden Village Center is expected to open in the fall of 2019 and will include 28 studio style and one bedroom loft style apartments for seniors. The building will also include benefits counseling, intergenerational programs, nutrition education, and a wellness center for seniors.

### **Smart Beginnings Western Tidewater**

Smart Beginnings Western Tidewater is a multi-jurisdictional collaboration comprised of three localities: City of Franklin, Southampton County and Isle of Wight County. SBWT places a high priority on identifying and supporting programs that promote excellence in helping children and families.

Projects include:

Virginia Quality is an evidence based practice that was implemented in Virginia in 2008. In Western Tidewater, local early care and education centers, Head Start, and all three local school divisions participate in Virginia Quality. The program has assisted early care providers with additional resources, training, skills, and technical assistance to improve the quality of their individual programs. The Virginia Quality Levels are a framework for program quality improvement. Each level builds on the one before it, and prepares programs for the level that comes next. Programs progress through the levels at their own pace, based on their current level of quality, and which aspects of quality they are ready to demonstrate next. By voluntarily participating in Virginia Quality, our program exemplifies our commitment to quality for young children.

### **Social Services**

*The Child Care Subsidy Program* provides financial assistance to eligible families to help pay for the cost of child care so they can work or attend education or training programs. The Child Care Subsidy Program services are child-centered and family-focused and support the broader objective of strengthening families' goals of economic self-sufficiency and quality early childhood programs for their children. Participating families may select any legally operating child day care facility eligible to participate in the program.

### **Southampton Memorial Hospital**

Located in Franklin, the hospital provides a Healthy Woman program, a free community resource designed to empower women with the knowledge and confidence to make informed healthcare and well-being decisions for themselves and their loved ones. Participants are invited to monthly health seminars and events, and receive regular email communication.

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### **Suffolk Early Childhood Development Commission**

The Suffolk Early Childhood Development Commission strives to be the vital link in the Suffolk community concerning Early Childhood related issues. Suffolk ECDC participates in outreach efforts including speaking to civic and community organizations, encouraging public awareness of family and childcare issues, and increasing involvement in family and child care issues. ECDC also sponsors training and workshops for childcare providers and parents.

### **Suffolk Public Library System**

The Suffolk Public Library System has branches in Downtown Suffolk, Northern Suffolk, and Chuckatuck. The libraries in Suffolk have summer children's reading programs, a fall storytime program, and children's movie nights.

### **The Up Center**

The Up Center, formerly Child & Family Services of Eastern Virginia, has offices in Franklin and Suffolk. The Up Center provides support to first time parents by appointment. Programs include foster care and adoption, youth counseling, parenting support, mental health counseling, job training, financial counseling, and services for those with disabilities.

### **United Way**

The United Way provides a limited number of childcare subsidies and scholarships for needy children. Additionally, the United Way provides quality enhancement grants to improve the services provided for children in the community. The United Way of Southampton Roads and the Franklin-Southampton County Area United Way have provided local funds for Early Head Start and Head Start match. The two local United Ways have also been involved with Smart Beginnings Western Tidewater.

### **Virginia Cooperative Extension**

The Virginia Cooperative Extension Offices in Isle of Wight, Southampton, and Suffolk provide community training opportunities for parents and professionals as well as recreation opportunities for children such as the 4-H Program.

### **Virginia Department of Health**

*Women Infant Child (WIC)* is a federally funded program offered by the health department to provide well-balanced meals to pregnant women, breast-feeding mothers, with children less than six months old, and children less than five years of age. Families must meet financial criteria, attend nutrition classes, and demonstrate compliance with scheduled appointments to receive vouchers for milk, juice and food.

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### **Western Tidewater Community Services Board (WTCSB)**

Administrative offices are located at several sites in Suffolk. The agency serves the cities of Franklin and Suffolk and the counties of Isle of Wight and Southampton. Families are eligible for case management services if they have a child at risk of mental retardation or mental health needs. Services include coordinating services for the child and the family and providing on-going support to determine what services are needed. The case manager monitors school placement, home environment and residential placement (if applicable).

The WTCSB provides case management services for children enrolled in Medicaid who require early intervention services. There are also *Medical Waiver Services* available to families enrolled in early intervention that include: Nursing Services, Assistive Technology, Environmental Modification, Therapeutic Consultation, Day Support, Respite Care, Residential Support and Personal Assistance Services. The waiting list for these slots is very lengthy and match money is required. These services were initially created for the “severely retarded” population to down-size institutional placements, and to keep individuals in the community that were at risk of being institutionalized. The individual must be eligible for Medicaid, and a mental retardation diagnosis is required.

*Family Support Funds* are available to families of children with disabilities when they need assistance purchasing specialized equipment for the child, assistance paying a respite provider, or sending a child to camp. A co-payment is required for these services.

*Counseling* is available to adults with mental health issues such as emotional disorders that impair functioning in personal relationships, living arrangements, or employment issues. Also less intensive services may be available for marital and family difficulties, coping skills, depression, anxiety, and confusion. Individual, group and family counseling may be available as well as crisis intervention, case management, and diagnosis and evaluation.

*24-Hour Emergency Services* are available for short-term crisis intervention counseling, intensive psychotherapy, hospital evaluation and screening, telephone crisis counseling, consultation and referral. Once the crisis period has passed, referrals for ongoing mental health, substance abuse or community support are arranged as needed.

*Adult Substance Abuse Services* are available for substance abusers through diagnosis and evaluation, individual, group, and family counseling, crisis intervention, case management and residential treatment. Services are designed to allow the consumer to cope with identified problems without the use of drugs or alcohol, or other mood altering substances. The twelve-step recovery process is utilized in developing objectives. Offices are located in Franklin and in Smithfield.

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*Prevention Services* are designed to keep people mentally well. Services are proactive, involving interaction with people, communities and systems to promote their strengths and potential. Parenting education and support are two of the many programs that are available. Other services include conflict mediation training, student assistance services, community based youth programs, prevention information and resources, educational presentations and community planning and collaboration.

### **Western Tidewater Free Clinic**

Based in Suffolk, the Western Tidewater Free Clinic **provides high-quality, non-emergency health care to the residents of Western Tidewater who cannot otherwise afford it.** The clinic serves individuals over the age of 19 with **no health or dental insurance and are not eligible for Medicaid, Medicare, or VA benefits, and** who live at or **below 250% of the federal poverty level.**

### **Western Tidewater Health Department**

The Western Tidewater Health Department, which has locations in Franklin, Suffolk, Isle of Wight County, and Southampton County, has several programs to support families:

*Maternal- Child Health:* The department offers full prenatal obstetrical and well child services. Case management services are available for high risk pregnant women and infants. A resource mothers program is offered to pregnant teens to improve pregnancy outcome and ensure the teen remains in school. Healthy Families Programs are offered for Suffolk and Isle of Wight to provide intensive support services to overburdened families with newborn children.

*Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program:* The health department administers this federal supplemental food program for financially eligible pregnant women, nursing mothers, and children up to age five.

*Family Planning:* Family Planning services are offered for men and women at each department.

*Health Education:* The district is active in health education activities including community screenings, referral and counseling.

Most charges for services are based on a sliding-fee scale.

### **YMCA**

Western Tidewater is served by YMCA branches in Franklin, Suffolk, and Smithfield.

The Luter Family YMCA in Smithfield provides summer camp, school-aged child care, and fitness programs.

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The James L. Camp, Jr. YMCA in Franklin, part of the YMCA of South Hampton Roads, provides after school childcare, summer camp, and fitness programs.

The Suffolk Family YMCA, also part of the YMCA of South Hampton Roads, provides summer camp, childcare, and fitness programs. All YMCAs have open door financial assistance programs.

# CHILD DAY CARE CAPACITY

## State Regulated Daycare Facilities 2020-2021

The following lists identify the licensed or regulated child day care programs in each locality that serve children ages birth through 5. The centers that are highlighted serve Head Start children.

### City of Franklin

<p>Gingerbread House Day Care Center 305 Crescent Drive Franklin, VA 23851 <b>Ages:</b> 1 month through 10 years 11 mos. <b>Licensed:</b> 81</p>	<p>Barbara S. Mease Children's Center at the Jones House 507 Third Avenue Franklin, VA 23851 <b>Ages:</b> 1 month through 3 years <b>Licensed:</b> 26</p>
<p>Texie Camp Marks Children's Center 700 Campbell Avenue Franklin, VA 23851 <b>Ages:</b> 1 month through 12 years 11 months <b>Licensed:</b> 99</p>	<p>Rock Church of Franklin 130 Lakeview Road Franklin, VA 23851 <b>Ages:</b> 2 years through 5 years 11 months <b>Licensed:</b> 27</p>
<p>Unique Little Hands II 179 Commerce Park Road Franklin, VA 23851 <b>Ages :</b> 1 year 4 months to 12 years 11 months <b>Licensed:</b> 52</p>	

### Isle of Wight County

<p>Carrollton Elementary School-Age Child Care 14440 New Towne Haven Lane Carrollton, VA 23314 <b>Ages:</b> four through 9 years 11 months <b>Licensed:</b> 100</p>	<p>Hardy Elementary School-Age Child Care 9311 Hardy Circle Smithfield, VA 23430 <b>Ages:</b> four through 12 years 11 months <b>Licensed:</b> 75</p>
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L'il Folks Learning Center, Inc. 15012 Omera Drive Carrollton, VA 23314 <b>Ages:</b> 24 mos. through 12 years 11 mos. <b>Licensed:</b> 167	Main Street Baptist Church Learning Center 517 W. Main Street Smithfield, VA 23430 <b>Ages:</b> 2 through 12 years 11 mos. <b>Licensed:</b> 75
Luter Family YMCA Summer Day Camp 259 James Street Smithfield, VA 23430 <b>Ages:</b> 5 years through 12 years 11 mos. <b>Licensed:</b> 250	Windsor Elementary School-Age Childcare 2008 Courthouse Highway Windsor, VA 23487 <b>Ages:</b> 5 through 12 years 11 mos. <b>Licensed:</b> 50
Quality Time At Waterford 201 Wimbledon Lane Smithfield, VA 23430 <b>Ages:</b> 1 month through 12 years 11 mos. <b>Licensed:</b> 145	Children's Center Smithfield Head Start Center 236 Washington Street Smithfield, VA 23430 <b>Ages:</b> 3 through 5 years 11 mos. <b>Licensed:</b> 35
The Children's Center At Smithfield 240 James Street Smithfield, VA 23430 <b>Ages:</b> 1 month through 6 years 11 months <b>Licensed:</b> 24	Isle Of Wight Academy Preschool & Day Care 17111 Courthouse Highway Isle of Wight, VA 23397 <b>Ages:</b> 30 months through 12 years 11 mos. <b>Licensed:</b> 75
Kids Come 1st, Inc. 1605 S. Church Street Smithfield, VA 23430 <b>Ages:</b> 1 month through 12 years 11 mos. <b>Licensed:</b> 90	Benn's United Methodist Church 14571 Benn's Church Blvd. Smithfield, VA 23430 <b>Ages:</b> 2 years 6 months through 4 years 11 months <b>Licensed:</b> 40
Lighthouse Preschool LLC 15154 Carrollton Blvd. Suite B Carrollton, VA 23314 <b>Ages:</b> 1 month through 12 years 11 months <b>Licensed:</b> 67	Smithfield Baptist Church 100 Wainwright Drive Smithfield, VA 23430 <b>Ages:</b> 2 years 6 months through 5 years 11 months <b>Licensed:</b> 104

<p>Trinity United Methodist Church 201 Cedar Street Smithfield, VA 23430 <b>Ages:</b> 2 years through 5 years 11 months <b>Licensed:</b> 40</p>	<p><b>The Children's Center at Hardy Elementary</b> 9311 Hardy Circle Smithfield, VA 23430 <b>Ages:</b> 3 to 5 <b>Licensed:</b> 20</p>
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### Southampton County

<p><b>The Children's Center Courtland Head Start</b> 22015 Aurora Street Courtland, VA 23837 <b>Ages:</b> 1 month through 12 years 11 mos. <b>Licensed:</b> 120</p>	<p>Southampton Academy Enrichment Program 26495 Old Plank Road Courtland, VA 23837 <b>Ages:</b> 3 years through 12 years 11 mos. <b>Licensed:</b> 75</p>
<p>Grace Memorial United Methodist Church 31036 Peachtree Avenue Sedley, VA 23878 <b>Ages:</b> 1 year 6 months through 12 years 11 months <b>Licensed:</b> 60</p>	<p>High Street United Methodist Church 31164 Camp Parkway Courtland, VA 23837 <b>Ages:</b> 1 month through 12 years 11 months <b>Licensed:</b> 87</p>

### City of Suffolk

<p>Apple Tree Learning Center #1003 410 North Broad Street Suffolk, VA 23434 <b>Ages:</b> 1 month through 3 years 11 mos. <b>Licensed:</b> 39</p>	<p>AlphaBest at Florence Bowser Elementary School 1000 Bennett's Creek Road Suffolk, VA 23435 <b>Ages:</b> 4 years through 12 years 11 months <b>Licensed:</b> 100</p>
<p>AlphaBest at Kilby Shores Elementary School 111 Kilby Shores Drive Suffolk, VA 23434 <b>Ages:</b> 4 years 11 months through 12 years 11 mos. <b>Licensed:</b> 100</p>	<p>AlphaBest at Nansemond Parkway Elementary School 3012 Nansemond Parkway Suffolk, VA 23434 <b>Ages:</b> 4 years through 12 years 11 mos. <b>Licensed:</b> 100</p>



AlphaBest at Northern Shores Elementary School 6701 Respass Beach Road Suffolk, VA 23435 <b>Ages:</b> 4 years through 12 years 11 mos. <b>Licensed:</b> 100	Children's Harbor – Suffolk 1020 Champion's Way Suffolk, VA 23435 <b>Ages:</b> 1 month through 12 years 11 mos. <b>Licensed:</b> 178
The Children's Center at Pruden 4169 Pruden Blvd. Suffolk, VA 23434 <b>Ages:</b> 1 month to 3 years 11 mos. <b>Licensed:</b> 24	Believers Church 6801 Bridgeway Drive Suffolk, VA 23435 <b>Ages:</b> 1 month through 12 years 11 months <b>Licensed:</b> 254
Quality Time Child Care Center 2008 Meade Parkway Suffolk, VA 23434 <b>Ages:</b> 1 month through 5 years 11 mos. <b>Licensed:</b> 145	Unique Little Hands 3000 Godwin Boulevard Suffolk, VA 23434 <b>Ages:</b> 12 months – 12 years 11 months <b>Licensed:</b> 67
The Children's Center Suffolk Head Start Center 860 Davis Boulevard Suffolk, VA 23434 <b>Ages:</b> 2 years through 12 years 11 mos. <b>Licensed:</b> 200	Suffolk Family YMCA School Age Child Care at Suffolk Family YMCA 2769 Godwin Boulevard Suffolk, VA 23434 <b>Ages:</b> 3 years 11 months through 12 years 11 mos. <b>Licensed:</b> 200
Growing Up at Obici 2802 Godwin Blvd. Suffolk, VA 23434 <b>Ages:</b> 1 month through 12 years <b>Licensed:</b> 120	Main Street Daycare 202 North Main Street Suffolk, VA 23434 <b>Ages:</b> 1 month through 12 years 11 mos. <b>Licensed:</b> 150
Nansemond Suffolk Academy Enrichment Programs 3373 Pruden Boulevard Suffolk, VA 23434 <b>Ages:</b> 2 years through 12 years 11 mos. <b>Licensed:</b> 200	AlphaBest at Oakland Elementary School 5505 Godwin Boulevard Suffolk, VA 23434 <b>Ages:</b> 5 years through 12 years 11 mos. <b>Licensed:</b> 100
AlphaBest at Creekside Elementary School 1000 Bennett's Creek Park Road	AlphaBest at Hillpoint Elementary School 1101 Hillpoint Road

<p>Suffolk, VA 23435</p> <p><b>Ages:</b> 4 years to 12 years 11 mos.</p> <p><b>Licensed:</b> 100</p>	<p>Suffolk, VA 23434</p> <p><b>Ages:</b> 4 years to 12 years 11 mos.</p> <p><b>Licensed:</b> 100</p>
<p>Kids Kingdom Child Development Center</p> <p>234 Meadow View Boulevard #250</p> <p>Suffolk, VA 23435</p> <p><b>Ages:</b> 1 month – 12 years 11 months</p> <p><b>Licensed:</b> 57</p>	<p><b>Suffolk Children's Center</b></p> <p>300 Executive Court</p> <p>Suffolk, VA 23434</p> <p><b>Ages:</b> 1 month to 12 years 11 months</p> <p><b>Licensed:</b> 146</p>
<p>Triple T Sports Center</p> <p>619 E. Constance Road</p> <p>Suffolk, VA 23434</p> <p><b>Ages:</b> 3 years through 12 years 11 mos.</p> <p><b>Licensed:</b> 88</p>	<p>AlphaBest at Pioneer Elementary School</p> <p>150 Pioneer Road</p> <p>Suffolk, VA 23437</p> <p><b>Ages:</b> 4 years through 12 years 11 months</p> <p><b>Licensed:</b> 100</p>
<p>Montessori Academy of VA – Suffolk</p> <p>5805 Harbourview Boulevard</p> <p>Suffolk, VA 23435</p> <p><b>Ages:</b> 1 year 4 months – 11 years 11 months</p> <p><b>Licensed:</b> 170</p>	<p>Suffolk Christian Academy Extended Care</p> <p>3488 Godwin Boulevard</p> <p>Suffolk, VA 23434</p> <p><b>Ages:</b> 2 years 6 months – 12 years 11 months</p> <p><b>Licensed:</b> 75</p>
<p>Apple Tree Learning Center #1002</p> <p>601 West Washington Street</p> <p>Suffolk, VA 23434</p> <p><b>Ages:</b> 2 years – 12 years, 11 months</p> <p><b>Licensed:</b> 112</p>	<p>Ebenezer United Methodist Church</p> <p>1589 Steeple Drive</p> <p>Suffolk, VA 23433</p> <p><b>Ages:</b> 2 years 6 months through 10 years 11 months</p> <p><b>Licensed:</b> 40</p>
<p>Antioch Christian Center Church</p> <p>4201 Crowdy Boulevard</p> <p>Suffolk, VA 23435</p> <p><b>Ages:</b> 6 months through 12 years 11 months</p> <p><b>Licensed:</b> 86</p>	<p>Little Grove Baptist Church</p> <p>6320 Old Towne Point Road</p> <p>Suffolk, VA 23435</p> <p><b>Ages:</b> 2 years 6 months through 12 years 11 months</p> <p><b>Licensed:</b> 72</p>
<p>Nansemond Suffolk Academy Enrichment Programs at Harbour View</p> <p>6019 Harbour View Blvd.</p> <p>Suffolk, VA 23435</p> <p><b>Ages:</b> 2 years through 12 years 11 months</p>	<p>New Life Suffolk Church</p> <p>538 E. Constance Road</p> <p>Suffolk, VA 23434</p> <p><b>Ages:</b> Birth through 12 years 11 months</p> <p><b>Licensed:</b> 35</p>

<b>Licensed:</b> 100	
St. Andrew Presbyterian Church 1885 Bridge Road Suffolk, VA 23433 <b>Ages:</b> 2 years 6 months through 4 years 11 months <b>Licensed:</b> 70	Early Resultz Daycare & Learning Center 3215 Bridge Road Suffolk, VA 23435 <b>Ages:</b> 1 month through 12 years 11 months <b>Licensed:</b> 51
CrossPointe Church 2460 Pruden Boulevard Suffolk, VA 23424 <b>Ages:</b> 2 years 6 months through 12 years 11 months <b>Licensed:</b> 50	The Children's Center at Booker T. Washington Elementary 204 Walnut Street Suffolk, VA 23434 <b>Ages:</b> 3 years to 5 years <b>Capacity:</b> 20
Christ First Church 116 Romans Road Suffolk, VA 23434 <b>Ages:</b> 1 month to 12 years 11 months <b>Licensed:</b> 125	AlphaBest at Mack Benn, Jr. Elementary School 1253 Nansemond Parkway Suffolk, VA 23434 <b>Ages:</b> 4 years to 12 years 11 months <b>Licensed:</b> 100

Source: Virginia Department of Social Services – [www.dss.state.va.us](http://www.dss.state.va.us)

# Western Tidewater Early Head Start Snapshot

## Enrollment

Funded Enrollment	256
Center-based – 5 days per week	150
Center-based – 4 days per week	0
Home-based	36
Locally Designed Option	70
Pregnant Women	0
Total Classrooms Operated	31

Source: Children's Center PIR

## Cumulative Enrollment

Under 1 year	39
1 year old	63
2 years old	133
3 years old	0
Pregnant Women	14
TOTAL	249

Source: Children's Center PIR

## Cumulative Enrollment by Type of Eligibility

Income below 100% of federal poverty line	194
Receipt of public assistance	6
Status as a foster child	0
Status as homeless	2
Over income	21
Family incomes between 100% and 130% of federal poverty line	26

Source: Children's Center PIR

## Cumulative Enrollment by Race

Black or African American	184
White	36
Biracial/Multi-racial	21
American Indian	2
Other	0

Source: Children's Center PIR

## Cumulative Enrollment by Ethnicity-Hispanic

Black or African American	3
White	0
Biracial/Multi-racial	3
American Indian	0
Other	0
Unspecified	0

Source: Children's Center PIR

## Transportation

Number of children for whom transportation is provided	57
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Source: Children's Center PIR

## Health Insurance (at end of enrollment)

Number of children with health insurance	230
Number enrolled in Medicaid	208
Number enrolled in private health insurance	22
Number of children with no health insurance	5

Source: Children's Center PIR

# WESTERN TIDEWATER HEAD START SNAPSHOT

## Enrollment

Funded Enrollment	285
Center-based – greater than 1,020 hours	48
Center-based – fewer than 1,020 hours	60
Locally Designed Option	177
Total Classrooms Operated	12

Source: Children's Center PIR

## Cumulative Enrollment

2 years old	3
3 years old	169
4 years old	125
5 years and older	59
TOTAL	356

Source: Children's Center PIR

## Cumulative Enrollment by Type of Eligibility

Income below 100% of federal poverty line	247
Receipt of public assistance	19
Status as a foster child	0
Status as homeless	0
Over income	41
Family incomes between 100% and 130% of federal poverty line	48

Source: Children's Center PIR

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## Cumulative Enrollment by Race

Black or African American	279
White	47
Biracial/Mult-racial	22
Asian	1
American Indian or Alaskan Native	2
Other	5

Source: Children's Center PIR

## Cumulative Enrollment by Ethnicity-Hispanic

Black or African American	6
White	3
Biracial/Multi-racial	5
American Indian	0
Other	5
Unspecified	0

Source: Children's Center PIR

## Transportation

Number of children for whom transportation is provided	92
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Source: Children's Center PIR

## Health Insurance (at end of enrollment)

Number of children with health insurance	350
Number enrolled in Medicaid	307
Number enrolled in private health insurance	43
Number of children with no health insurance	6

Source: Children's Center PIR

## Head Start and Early Head Start Waiting List

As of March 31, 2022, the Children's Center has 80 children on the Early Head Start waitlist and 45 children on the Head Start waitlist.

The Selection Criteria Ranking Scale is the tool the Center uses to determine which participants have the highest need for services. At the application appointment, families are asked a series of questions and each answer is assigned points. Participants with the highest points are offered the open Early Head Start/Head Start slots first. The Ranking Scale is reviewed annually with the Policy Council and all updates and suggestions must be approved by the Board of Directors and Policy Council.

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# EARLY HEAD START/HEAD START PLANNING

## Community Assessment Process

The Early Head Start and Head Start Community Assessment is reviewed every year and updated with new data every five years.

For 2020-2021, the Community Assessment process included a review and compilation of information provided by a number of agencies and organizations, and the Children's Center Board of Directors. In most cases, actual statistics have been reported. Statistics were taken from the Greater Hampton Roads Community Dashboard, Kids Count website, U.S. Census Bureau, the Virginia Department of Social Services website, the Virginia Department of Education, Planning Council, Southeastern Virginia Homeless Coalition, Virginia Atlas of Community Health, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Virginia Employment Commission, Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service, County Health Rankings, Virginia Department of Health, Virginia Labor Market Information, Suffolk News-Herald, and Tidewater News.

During the spring of 2016, the Children's Center surveyed parents, staff, and community partners about the major issues and resources in Western Tidewater. Over 60 Early Head Start/Head Start parents, Early Intervention parents, Children's Center staff, community partners, and citizens from Western Tidewater responded to the survey.

The Community Assessment update includes a review of statistics and community trends by staff and a review of the new material by the Board of Directors and Policy Council. The Board of Directors reviewed last year's Community Assessment in **March 2022**.

The Children's Center continually consults with a wide range of community partners, in some cases as often as once a month, through the Head Start Policy Council, Children's Center Board of Directors, Smart Beginnings Western Tidewater, Suffolk Early Childhood Development Commission, the United Way of South Hampton Roads, and the Franklin-Southampton United Way. Community partners include local governments and elected officials, school systems, other non-profits, healthcare employees, and the business community.

## Early Head Start/Head Start Program Planning & Monitoring

The Children's Center makes decisions about the Early Head Start program through parent and community input, EHS Policy Council, Board of Directors and EHS Management Team, including the following items:

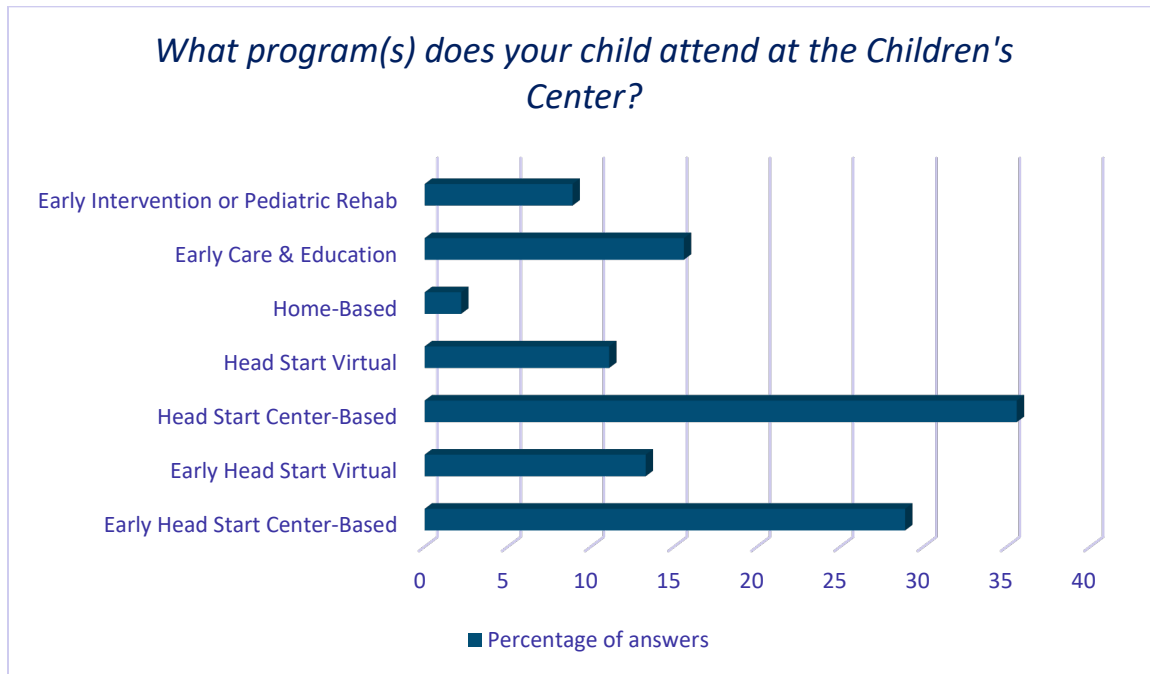
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- **Selection Criteria** – The Children’s Center maintains a waiting list based on point factors assigned due to child/family needs that determine which families are prioritized for services. Children and families are ranked based on their individual ranking scale points. Modifications to the scale are determined by the Early Head Start Policy Council, based on input from the community needs assessment. Selection criteria is reviewed each year, and more often at the request of the EHS Policy Council.
  - **Program Options** – Each year, the Children’s Center reviews the current family needs and program services offered to determine the best program options and settings. For example, a change was made in the program in 2008 to increase combination-option and center-based care at the request of parents who needed more center-based options for work and continued education. The Early Head Start Policy Council approves any changes to the program models offered.
  - **Staffing** – The Children’s Center EHS Management Team recommends teaching staffing patterns based on the number of children enrolled in each program model. Policy Council participates through the development of grant applications as well as the approval of all program staff hired.
  - **Facility Availability** –When the Children’s Center was awarded the Head Start grant in 2012, new buildings were added to the program, including existing Head Start facilities in Suffolk, Smithfield, Franklin, and Courtland. Decisions were made by the Board of Directors to renovate facilities in Courtland and Smithfield, and to eventually close the Franklin facility in 2013 when sequestration reduced the Center’s funding by \$250,000. In 2022, an expansion to the Suffolk center is estimated to be completed.

When the Children’s Center was awarded additional funding for Extended Duration, the Center renovated two classrooms in the Southampton Head Start building to be used for the Early Head Start program. In addition, a building project is ongoing at the Suffolk Children’s Center to add six new classrooms for the Early Head Start program. While the project is being completed, EHS classrooms have been temporarily been added at the Suffolk Head Start Center, and those Head Start students who were displaced have been moved to Booker T. Washington Elementary School in Suffolk and Hardy Elementary School in Isle of Wight County.



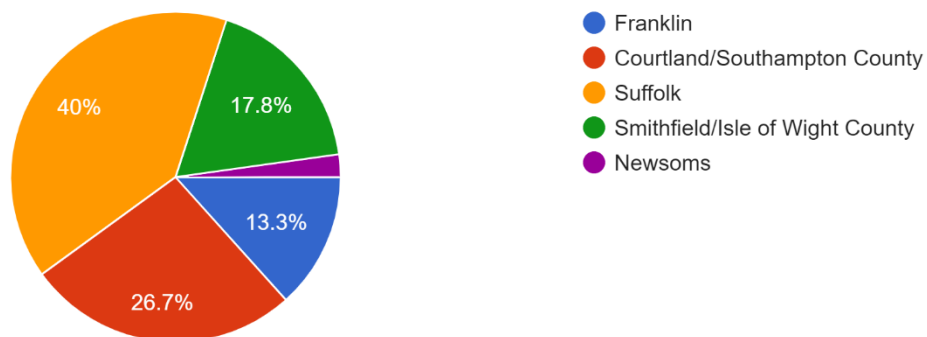
# PARENT SATISFACTION & NEEDS SURVEY

In the spring of 2022, parents were offered an opportunity to complete a satisfaction and needs survey online. The following are the responses:

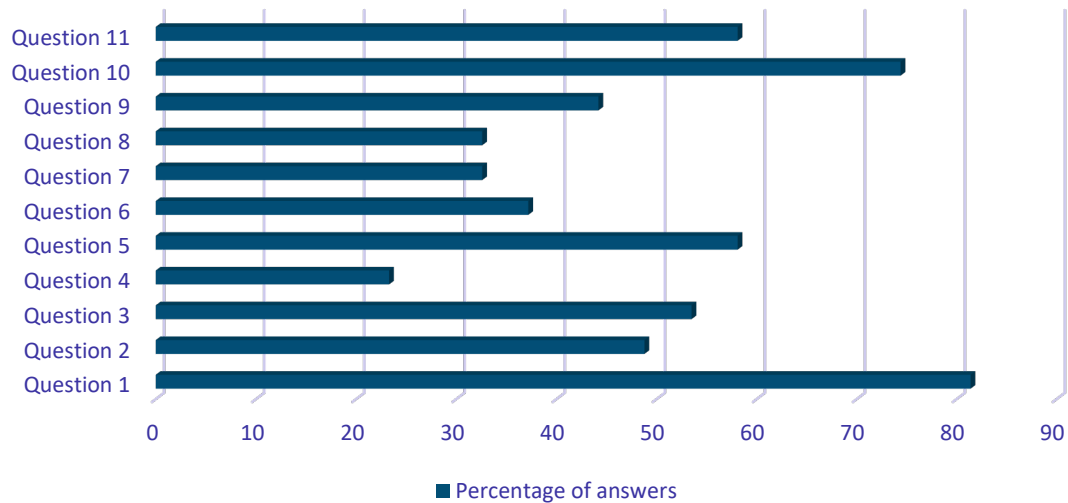


Where do you live?

45 responses



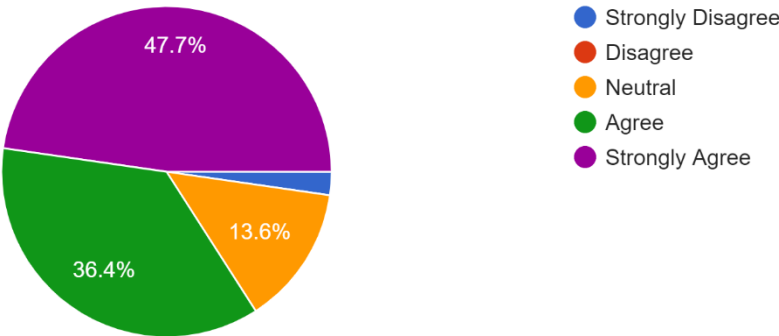
*The Children's Center provides parents the opportunities to:  
(Check all that apply)*



1. Learn more about child development
2. Learn more about parenting skills
3. Access community resources
4. Locate resources for internet access
5. Participate in making decisions in my child's education
6. Develop leadership skills
7. Increase financial well-being
8. Further my education and/or employment status
9. Feel connected to my child/children
10. Supports me in getting ready for my child's next educational setting (Head Start, Kindergarten, etc.)
11. Connect with Children's Center staff and teachers

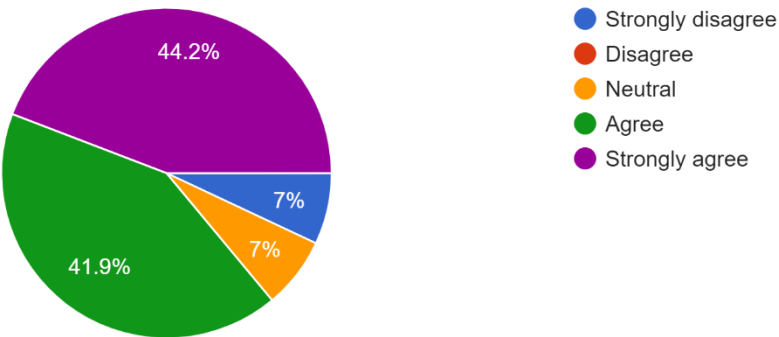
Since the start of this program year, my child has shown growth and development.

44 responses



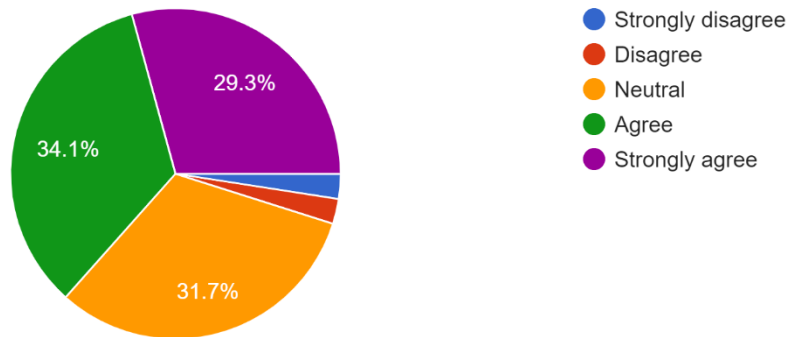
My child's regular classroom attendance is important for his or her school readiness.

43 responses

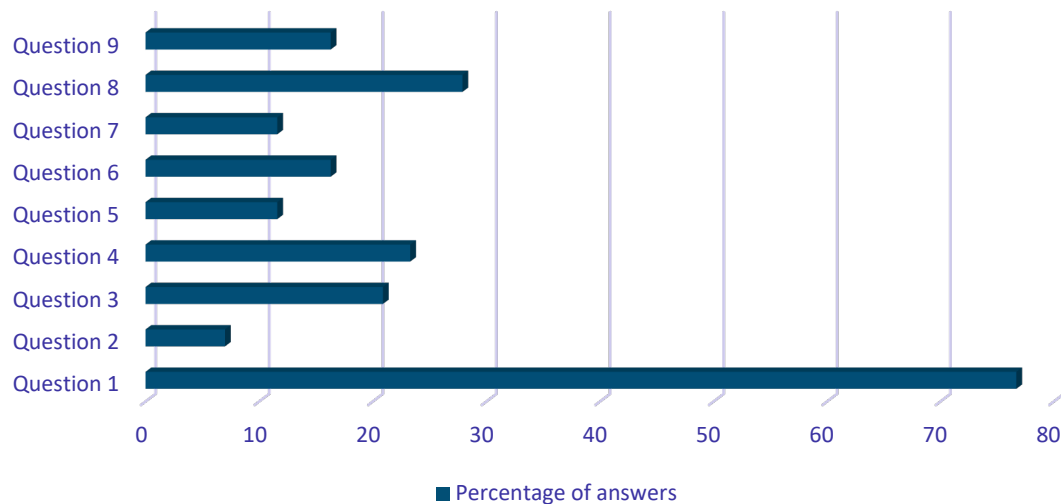


My participation in the Children's Center's parent activities and meetings is important for my child's school readiness.

41 responses

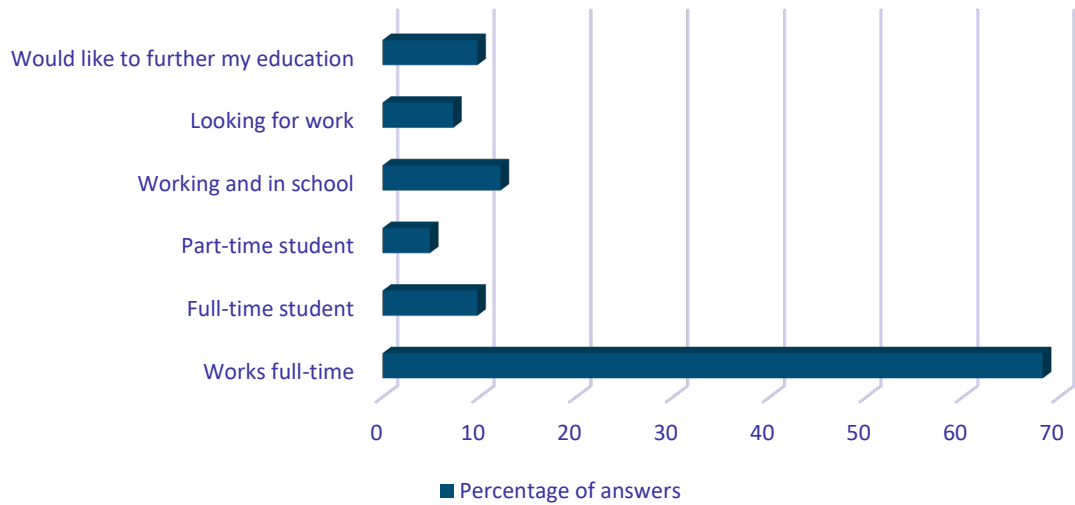


*The following parent activities interest me  
(check all that apply):*

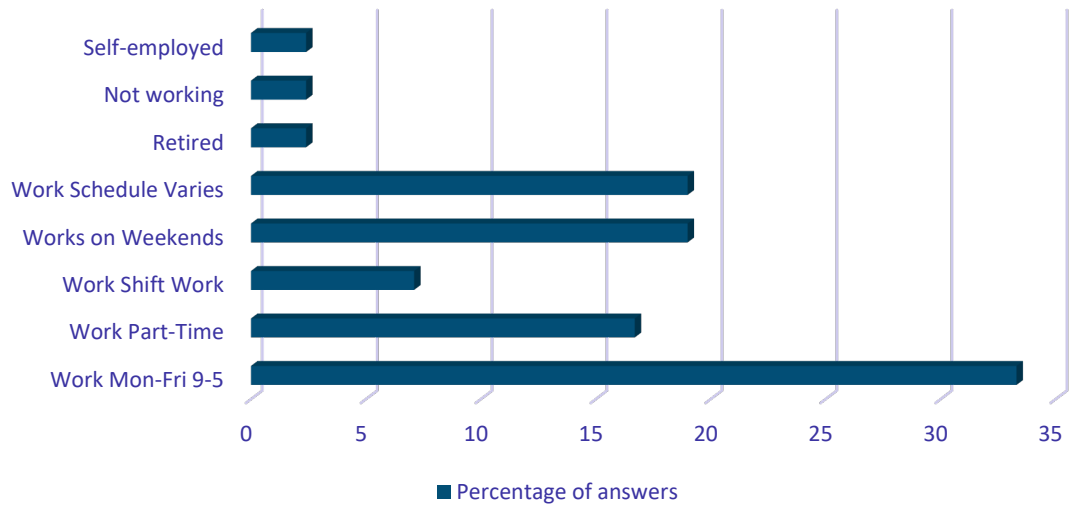


1. Family Connection: Signing up for CLASS DOJO and other communication tools
2. Family Connection: Parenting Cafes (Parent groups)
3. Families as Educators: Ready Rosie
4. Families as Learners: Community Resource Speakers (WIC, Medicaid, Housing, etc.)
5. Leadership & Advocacy: Parent Committee & Policy Council Meetings
6. Positive Parent-Child Relationships: Parenting Class (Behavior Management)
7. Positive Parent-Child Relationships: Fatherhood & Male Engagement
8. Other Center or Classroom-Based Activities (Fall Festival, etc.)
9. I have not participated.

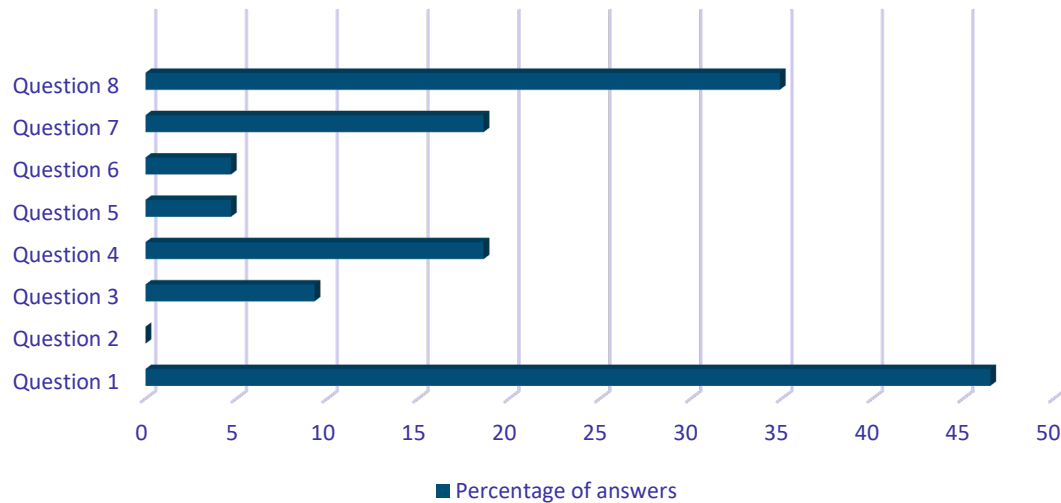
*Which best describes your current status?  
(Check all that apply)*



*Which of the following best describes your current work  
schedule? (Check all that apply)*



*How can the Children's Center improve meeting families' needs? Check all that apply.*



1. The Children's Center is meeting the needs and expectations of families: 46.5%
2. Increase partnerships within our communities: 0%
3. Less barriers to attract more families: 9.3%
4. Provide more opportunities for parents to engage with the organization: 18.6%
5. Provide more support and services for children with disabilities: 4.7%
6. Provide more support and education for parents through meetings, trainings, etc.: 4.7%
7. Improve communication with our families: 18.6%
8. Offer extended childcare hours: 34.9%