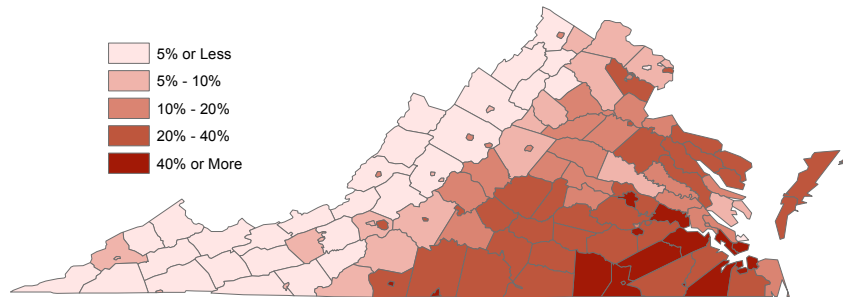


2010 Census Brief: Spotlight on Virginia's African American Population

February 22 – The United States Census Bureau recently released local level 2010 Census population counts, including data on race. This brief provides a snapshot of Virginia's black and African American population on April 1, 2010:

- Black/African American remains the largest minority group in Virginia. More than 1.5 million Virginia residents reported themselves to be black or African American, accounting for nearly 20 percent of the total population.
- The distribution of the black population across the commonwealth has been relatively stable over the past three decades. Blacks are concentrated in the Eastern half of the state while the Valley and Southwest regions have much smaller black populations.
- Norfolk and Richmond have the largest black populations (exceeding 100,000), while Petersburg city has the largest percentage of blacks (79 percent). Richmond lost nearly 10,000 (or 8.6 percent) of its black population between 2000 and 2010, the largest decrease in the commonwealth.

Percent of Population That Is Black or African American, April 1, 2010



Top Five Localities with the Largest Number of Black Residents		Top Five Localities with the Largest Percentage of Black Residents	
Norfolk City	104,672	Petersburg City	79.1%
Richmond City	103,342	Emporia City	62.5%
Fairfax County	99,218	Greensville County	59.8%
Henrico	90,669	Sussex County	58.1%
Virginia Beach City	85,935	Brunswick County	57.3%

This is one of a series of Census Briefs prepared by the Demographics & Workforce Group of the University of Virginia's Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service. For more information and related data tables, visit our website at www.coopercenter.org/demographics.

