

## How Well Do You Know Your City? The Place-- The People--The Economy

The Department of Economic Development recently released the [2011/2012 Community Profile](#). This eight-page publication provides a broad overview of the city. It includes sections on location, economy, population and income, employment, transportation, business costs, real estate and livability.

Here are just a few excerpts from the Profile that support our mantra that Virginia Beach is truly "A *Community for a Lifetime*."

- Virginia Beach was named among the top 20 midsize metros for college students. (American Institute for Economic Research (AIER), 2010-2011)
- Virginia Beach is a safe place to live, work, visit and raise a family. According to FBI



statistics, Virginia Beach has the lowest national violent crime rate per 1,000 people for cities with a population between 350,000 and 900,000.

- Virginia Beach has the nation's first fully accessible beachfront park and playground. JT's Grommet Island Beach Park and Playground provides 15,000 square feet of ramps and decking, a shaded play area, bench seating and areas to picnic.
- Virginia Beach has a unique environment offering more than 100 miles of bikeways promoting healthy lifestyles and community connectivity.
- Virginia Beach named one of the 10 safest cities for families with young children, Underwriters Laboratories, Sept. 2010
- The Virginia Beach Public Library saw 1.9 million people pass through its doors last year and check out more than 3.3 million items.
- The [Military Aviation Museum](#) is home to one of America's largest historic military aircraft collections.
- Virginia Beach has one of the highest concentrations of Filipino-Americans in the US, totaling 17,481 residents.
- There are 11 top-rated golf courses, including the prestigious Virginia Beach National, designed by such world-famous course architects as Fred Couples, Arnold Palmer, and the legendary Pete Dye.
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I The Open Space Acquisition program has preserved more than 1,800 acres valued at more than \$40 million.

Four Fortune 500 companies are headquartered in the Virginia Beach MSA, including Amerigroup, Norfolk Southern, Dollar Tree Stores and Smithfield Foods.

Visitors spent \$1.061 billion, helping generate 11,600 jobs and \$92 million in city and state direct tax revenue. In 2010, total citywide lodging sales were more than \$275 million, a 6.8% increase over 2009.

To learn more about your city, visit [www.yesvirginiabeach.com](http://www.yesvirginiabeach.com).

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