



# COMMUNITY PROFILE

**Sussex County, Virginia**

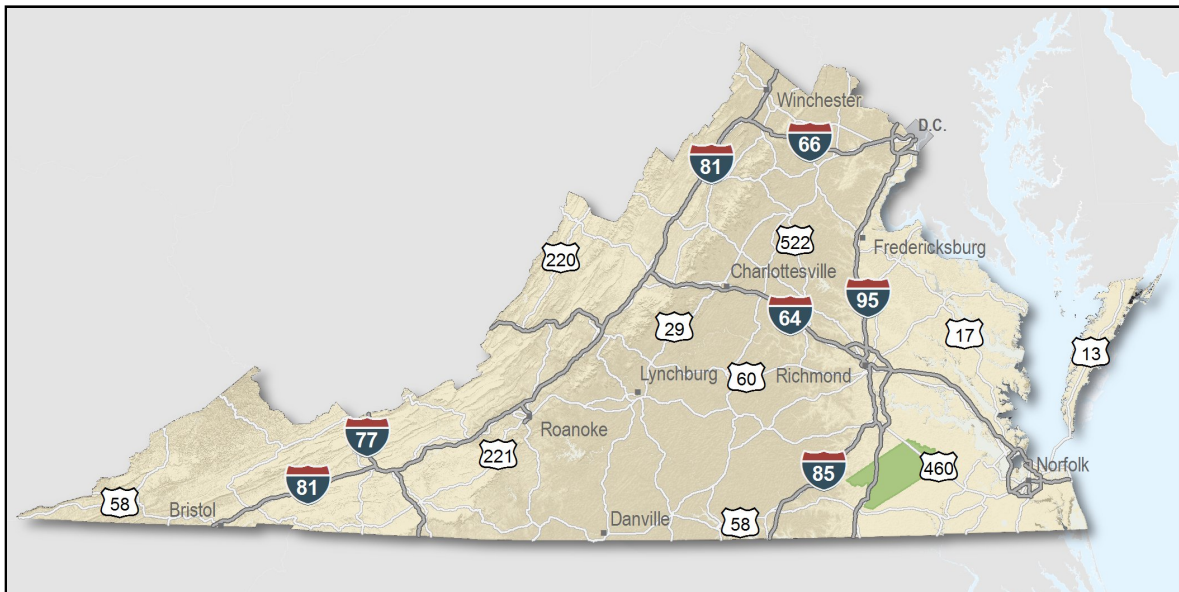


**VIRGINIA ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP**  
[www.YesVirginia.org](http://www.YesVirginia.org)

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

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

- AAA bond rating- Virginia has maintained a AAA rating since 1938, longer than any other state.
- Right-to-work law allows individuals the right to work regardless of membership in a labor union or organization.
- Corporate income tax rate of 6% has not been increased since 1972.
- Headquarters to 37 Fortune 1000 firms.
- Headquarters to 52 firms each with annual revenue over \$1 billion.
- More than 17,300 high-tech establishments operate in Virginia.
- More than 700 internationally-owned businesses from 45 countries are located in Virginia.
- Ranks third among the 50 states as a recipient of federal R&D funds.
- Streamlined permitting process.
- Recruitment training programs to help new businesses become operational faster.
- Programs at little or no cost to help businesses increase international sales.



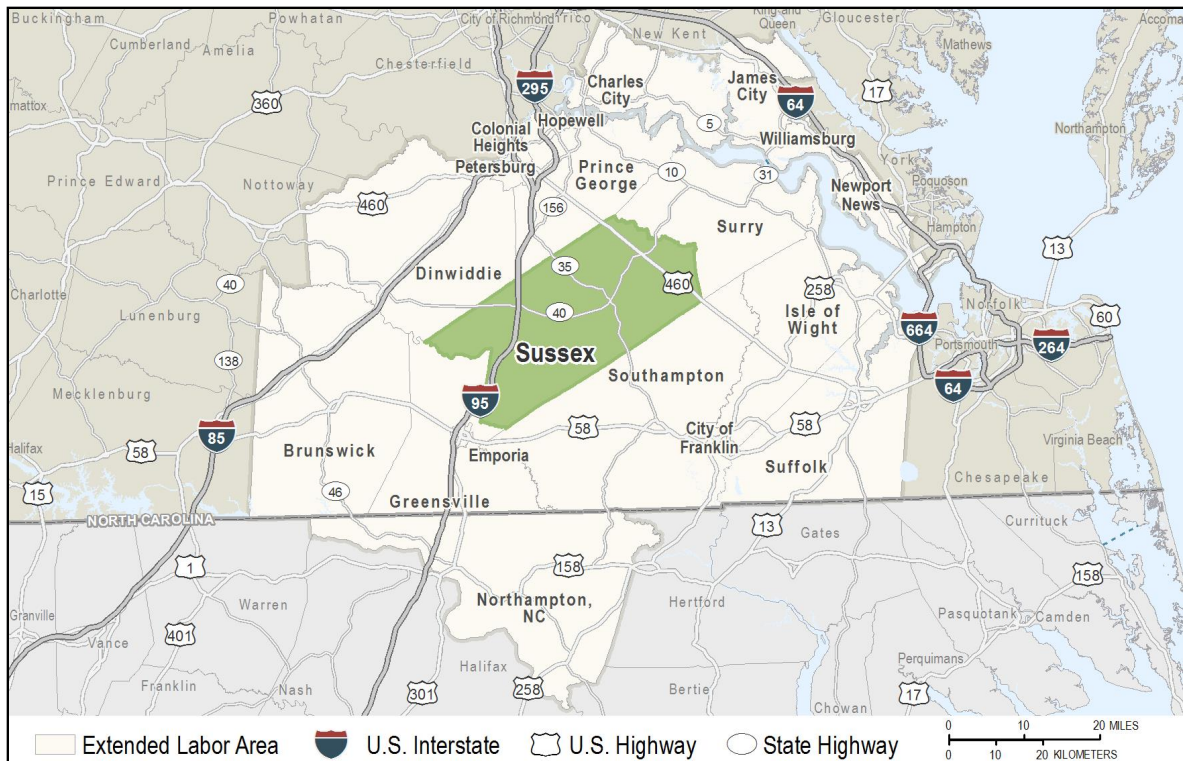
# Location

Sussex County is located in south-central Virginia. This 496 square mile community is bisected by Interstate 95 and is strategically positioned between the Richmond-Petersburg and Norfolk-Virginia Beach-Newport News metropolitan areas.

Sussex County is located in the south central region of Virginia. The county is 45 miles southeast of the capital city Richmond.

Sussex County is 45 miles south of Richmond and 150 miles south of Washington, D.C.

Sussex County is part of the Richmond Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). The Port of Hampton Roads is 50 miles east.



# Labor Market

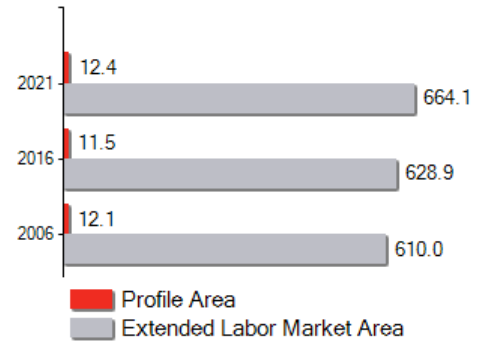
Population		
<b>Gender Distribution (2016)</b>		
	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
Sussex County	59.1%	40.9%
<b>Race/Ethnicity (2016)</b>		
<b>Classification</b>	<b>Profile Area</b>	<b>Extended Labor Area</b>
Black	6,576	241,376
White	4,678	351,045
Two or More	135	18,207
Asian	60	13,793
American Indian or Alaska Native	54	3,569
Pacific Islander	1	932
Hispanic (may be of any race)	345	6,210
<b>Median Age (2016)</b>	41 years	

Civilian Labor Force (2016)	
Sussex County	4,037
Extended Labor Market Area	291,740
<b>Total</b>	<b>295,777</b>

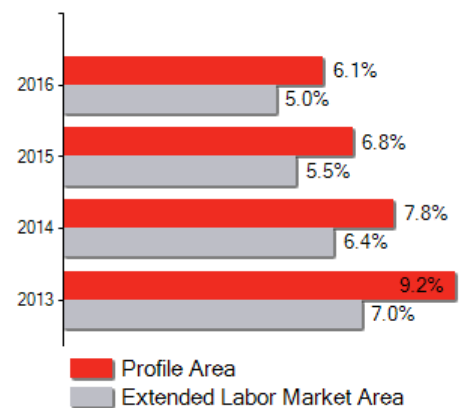
Labor Force Participation (2011-2015)	
Sussex County	26.8%
Extended Labor Market Area	59.6%

Unemployment	
<b>Unemployment Rate (September 2017)</b>	
Sussex County	5.3%
Extended Labor Market Area	4.5%
Statewide	3.6%
<b>Unemployed (2016)</b>	
Sussex County	248
Extended Labor Market Area	14,654
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,902</b>
<b>Underemployed (3rd Quarter 2017)</b>	
Sussex County	530
Extended Labor Market Area	37,612
<b>Total</b>	<b>38,142</b>

## Population in Thousands



## Unemployment Rates



# Labor Market

## Commute Time (2011-2015)

Worked from home	50	2.0%
Under 15 minutes	651	26.5%
15-24 minutes	518	21.1%
25-34 minutes	369	15.0%
35-44 minutes	219	8.9%
45-59 minutes	376	15.3%
Over 60 minutes	327	13.3%
Mean Travel Time to Work (minutes)		30

The local economy is based on agriculture and agricultural based manufacturing.

## Additional Labor Resources

High School Graduates Not Continuing (2015-2016)	35
Two-Year College Graduates (Spring 2016)	1,096
Two-Year College Enrollees (Fall 2016)	8,263
Other College and University Graduates (Spring 2016)	1,020
Total	10,414

# Labor Market

## Career Readiness Certificate (01/01/2016-08/31/2017)

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

Sussex County	25
Extended Labor Market Area	1,530
Total	1,555

Virginia continues to rank among America's leading states for business by CNBC and Forbes.com.

## Educational Attainment

On-Time Graduation Rate (Class of 2016)	89.8%
Percentage of Sussex County population age 25+ who are high school graduates (2011-2015)	70.7%
Percentage of Sussex County population age 25+ who have earned a Bachelor's Degree or higher (2011-2015)	9.6%



# Labor Market

Employment by Sector* (1st Qtr. 2017)		
Agriculture Forestry Fishing and Hunting	81	2.2%
Mining Quarrying and Oil and Gas Extraction	N.D.	N.D.
Utilities	N.D.	N.D.
Construction	79	2.2%
Manufacturing	63	1.7%
Wholesale Trade	128	3.5%
Retail Trade	370	10.2%
Transportation and Warehousing	90	2.5%
Information	0	0
Finance and Insurance	27	0.7%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	12	0.3%
Professional Scientific and Technical Services	55	1.5%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	N.D.	N.D.
Administrative and Support and Waste Management	260	7.1%
Educational Services	N.D.	N.D.
Health Care and Social Assistance	499	13.7%
Arts Entertainment and Recreation	N.D.	N.D.
Accommodation and Food Services	430	11.8%
Other Services	67	1.8%
Total Government	1,285	35.3%
Federal Government	49	1.3%
State Government	778	21.4%
Local Government	458	12.6%
Unclassified	2	0.1%
Total	3,639	100.0%

N.D. - Not Disclosed

\*By Business Establishment

Sussex's labor force is responsible, dedicated and able to adapt to changing technologies.

# Labor Market

## Major Employers

### Manufacturing

<i>Company</i>	<i>Product/Service</i>
McGill	Landscaping and soil amendment products

### NonManufacturing

<i>Company</i>	<i>Product/Service</i>
Murphy Brown	Pork products
Virginia Department of Corrections	Correctional institution
Virginia Diner	Peanut products

Fifty percent of U.S. consumers and manufacturing establishments are within 750 miles of the Richmond MSA.



### Union Activity (10/1/2015 - 10/1/2017)

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

**Estimated Earnings (May 2016)**

<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Median Wage</i>	<i>Mean Wage</i>	<i>Median Salary</i>	<i>Mean Salary</i>
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	\$12.59	\$14.32	\$26,183.84	\$29,800.15
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	\$16.90	\$16.77	\$35,143.89	\$34,884.38
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$19.85	\$20.94	\$41,279.04	\$43,559.17
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	\$21.41	\$21.11	\$44,549.03	\$43,895.81
Team Assemblers	\$15.62	\$16.22	\$32,477.36	\$33,743.10
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	\$31.52	\$33.80	\$65,556.32	\$70,303.58
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	\$17.98	\$18.90	\$37,395.25	\$39,321.45
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	\$27.48	\$27.36	\$57,143.48	\$56,895.87
Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists	\$24.28	\$25.45	\$50,518.64	\$52,938.07
Office Clerks, General	\$14.72	\$15.32	\$30,635.88	\$31,858.12
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	\$15.77	\$17.23	\$32,790.38	\$35,825.07
Receptionists and Information Clerks	\$13.89	\$14.03	\$28,893.89	\$29,172.65
Customer Service Representatives	\$16.28	\$16.55	\$33,847.22	\$34,419.03
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	\$18.90	\$19.70	\$39,305.98	\$40,973.43
First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	\$26.01	\$26.25	\$54,097.55	\$54,608.09
Telemarketers	\$10.65	\$11.11	\$22,161.00	\$23,110.00
Accountants and Auditors	\$35.42	\$39.73	\$73,678.71	\$82,637.01
Management Analysts	\$38.81	\$41.05	\$80,717.59	\$85,391.14
Human Resources Specialists	\$30.67	\$32.38	\$63,799.98	\$67,352.08
Purchasing Agents, Except Wholesale, Retail, and Farm Products	\$35.00	\$34.79	\$72,799.10	\$72,355.22

**Per Capita Personal Income (2015)**

\$28,943

**Median Family Income (2011-2015)**

\$49,730

# Education

Public School Enrollment (Fall 2016)		
<i>Level</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Enrollment</i>
Elementary	1	525
Middle	1	239
High School	1	342

Richard Bland College, a two-year institution, provides programs designed to prepare students to transfer to a four-year college.

Student Teacher Ratio (FY 2016)	
Elementary	10:1
Secondary	12:1

Per Pupil Expenditure (FY 2016)
\$16,495.00

On-Time Graduation Rate (Class of 2016)
89.8%

High School Graduates Continuing Education (2015-2016)
54.5%

### Advanced Programs (2016-2017)

#### Governor's Schools

Appomattox Regional Governor's School for the Arts & Technology

Governor's School Enrollment	8
Students taking 1 or more Advanced Placement (AP) Courses	15
Students taking 1 or more AP Exams	11
Students taking 1 or more Dual Enrollment Courses	25

# Education

## Workforce Development Facilities

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Type</i>
Rowanty Technical Center	Career and Technical Center
Virginia Workforce Center - Petersburg	Satellite Center
Virginia Workforce Center-Emporia/Greenville	Comprehensive Center
Virginia Workforce Center-Tri-Cities	Comprehensive Center

The area is supported by many colleges and universities, including major research center Virginia Commonwealth University and Old Dominion University.

## Higher Education Facilities — Fall 2016

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Enrollment</i>
John Tyler Community College - Chester Campus	5,268
Virginia State University	4,584
Richard Bland College	2,203
Paul D. Camp Community College - Franklin Campus	792
Central Texas College - Fort Lee Campus	†
Southside Virginia Community College - Southside Virginia Education Center	†§
Florida Institute of Technology - Fort Lee Campus	†
Central Michigan University - Fort Lee Center	†

† Enrollment figures are not available.

§ Enrollment counted at a main campus.

# Transportation

Interstates	
Name	Distance
I-95	0.0 miles (0.0 km.)
I-85	7.6 miles (12.2 km.)
I-295	8.4 miles (13.5 km.)
I-64	22.4 miles (36.0 km.)
I-664	29.3 miles (47.1 km.)
I-264	32.6 miles (52.4 km.)
I-195	35.6 miles (57.3 km.)
I-564	35.7 miles (57.5 km.)

Note: Measured from border of locality/region.

Highways				
Highway 139	Highway 301	Highway 31	Highway 35	Highway 40
Highway 460				

Commercial Air Service		
<i>Richmond International Airport, Sandston -- 51.6 miles (83.1 km.)</i>		
American Airlines	Delta Air Lines	Southwest Airlines
United Airlines	JetBlue Airways	Allegiant Air
OneJet		

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

U.S. 460 provides direct access to the Ports of Virginia located less than 60 miles east of the region.

# Transportation

## General Aviation Service

<i>Name</i>	<i>Runway Length</i>
Wakefield Municipal Airport, Wakefield	4,337 ft (1,322 m)

Interstate 95, located on the western edge of the county, provides access to the entire East Coast.

## Freight Rail Service

CSX Transportation

Norfolk Southern Railway Company

## Seaports

<i>Name</i>	<i>Distance</i>
Port of Virginia (Richmond Marine Terminal)	47.0 miles (75.6 km)
Port of Virginia (Virginia International Gateway)	68.0 miles (109.4 km)
Port of Virginia (Norfolk International Terminals)	80.0 miles (128.7 km)
Port of Virginia (Portsmouth Marine Terminal)	81.0 miles (130.4 km)
Port of Virginia (Newport News Marine Terminals)	84.0 miles (135.2 km)

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

## Other Ports of Entry

<i>Name</i>	<i>Distance</i>
Richmond-Petersburg	51.6 miles (83.1 km)
Newport News	76.8 miles (123.6 km)
Norfolk	78.1 miles (125.7 km)
Port of Washington - Dulles	167.1 miles (268.9 km)

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

# Utilities

Utilities	
Electric	Dominion Energy
Electric	Prince George Electric Cooperative
Electric	Southside Electric Cooperative
Electric	Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative
Natural Gas	Columbia Gas of Virginia
Telecommunications	Verizon South
Telecommunications	Verizon-Virginia
Water	Greensville County Water & Sewer Authority
Water	Town of Stony Creek
Water	Sussex Service Authority
Waste Water Treatment	Town of Stony Creek
Waste Water Treatment	Town of Wakefield
Waste Water Treatment	Sussex Service Authority
Solid Waste Disposal	Atlantic Waste Disposal Landfill
Solid Waste Disposal	Sussex County Sanitary Landfill

Dominion Virginia Power, one of the nation's largest power producers, provides electricity to the county.



# Financial Institutions

Financial Institutions — 4th Qtr 2016 Assets	
<i>Bank</i>	<i>Assets (millions)</i>
Branch Banking and Trust Company	\$214,433.0
EVB	\$1,397.9
The Bank of Southside Virginia	\$562.4

The region has several local, regional and national banking institutions that service the area.

# Government and Taxes

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## Government

Sussex County has a County Administrator and a six-member Board of Supervisors.

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

Sussex is the county seat. Wakefield, Waverly, Jarratt, and Stony Creek are the incorporated towns within the county.

## Taxes

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

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

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

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

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

*Manufacturer's Tax Profile (Sussex) [pdf](#)*

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

State, regional and local parks offer fishing, hunting, hiking, biking, ball fields, playgrounds and water sports.

# Community Facilities

Sussex County residents utilize medical services available at several area hospitals. Southside Regional Medical Center, a 468-bed acute care facility located in Petersburg offers extensive medical services that include 24-hour emergency care, intensive and coronary care, diagnostic services, and a school of nursing. In Suffolk, the 243-bed Louise Obici Memorial Hospital provides a full range of services that include emergency care, surgery and outpatient care. Greenville Memorial Hospital in Emporia has 127 beds and offers emergency care and numerous in and outpatient services.

Waverly Health Care Center provides intermediate and long-term care for 120 patients. Stony Creek Community Health Center provides health care with two physicians and a total staff of eight. The Sussex County Health Department also offers a range of public health services.

Two rescue squads serve the County.

There are three physicians and three dentists who maintain practices in Sussex County.

Sussex County is a member of the Walter C. Rawls Regional Library. This library system circulates 120,754 volumes and provides a bookmobile service in the county. A branch of the library, located in the town of Waverly, houses a collection of 10,000 volumes. The Troxler Memorial Library is located in the town of Wakefield and houses a collection of 10,000 volumes. The library systems at area colleges and universities are also available to the public. These systems include libraries at The College of William and Mary with 1,598,035 volumes, Virginia State University with 768,818 volumes, and John Tyler Community College with 75,472 volumes.

Sussex County is served by the Mid-Atlantic Broadband Cooperative which will provide a cost-effective, carrier-class, high bandwidth telecom infrastructure to its resident businesses and industry.

# Community Facilities

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**(continued)**

Sixty-three churches representing the predominant Protestant denominations and the Roman Catholic faith are located in Sussex County. Jewish synagogues can be found in Suffolk and Petersburg.

The immediate retail and service needs of county residents are met at over 180 businesses located throughout the county. These establishments represent a broad retail mix that includes grocery, hardware, specialty and professional service businesses. The downtown areas of Wakefield and Waverly serve as commercial centers for the county. A wide assortment of antique, clothing, gift and restaurant establishments can be found in these active central business districts. The county's close proximity to Williamsburg and the Norfolk and Richmond metropolitan areas enables residents to benefit from the numerous regional malls and shopping centers that are available in those areas.

This central location enables residents to easily access the numerous recreational, historic, cultural and entertainment attractions throughout Virginia.

# Lifestyle

The many fields, swamps and woodlands of the area offer numerous recreational opportunities for county residents. Rivers and ponds have been stocked with largemouth bass, crappie and bream. Boating and swimming are also enjoyed on the waterways of the county. Deer hunting is a popular activity. Several hunt clubs have been established in the community to support this endeavor. The Southeast 4-H Educational Center on Airfield Lake has an indoor recreational complex and offers swimming, boating and horseback riding facilities. Other public recreational facilities include four tennis courts and 19 athletic fields.

Cultural attractions in the county include the Miles C. Carpenter Folk Art Museum located in Waverly and the Wakefield Foundation Center For The Arts. The Arts Center offers a wide array of activities and attractions including art displays and courses, dance classes and concerts. The Arts Center also opens their facilities to civic group functions.

Sussex County is centrally located between Williamsburg, the Richmond-Petersburg metropolitan area and the Norfolk-Virginia Beach-Newport News metropolitan area. This central location enables county residents to easily access the numerous recreational, historical, cultural, educational and entertainment attractions these diverse areas have to offer. Area attractions include the historical sites and museums in Colonial Williamsburg; Busch Gardens - a theme park near Williamsburg; the Chrysler Museum in Norfolk; Seashore State Park in Virginia Beach; and numerous championship golf courses located throughout the region.

[Richmond MSA Profile](#)

[Virginia's Gateway Region Profile](#)

[Virginia's Gateway Region](#)

The Miles B. Carpenter Museum in Waverly is the oldest peanut museum.