

COMMUNITY PROFILE



HISTORY

Gloucester County was created in 1651 from the northeastern portion of its parent county, York. Settlement in the region had begun as early as 1635, when the first land patent was made to Augustine Warner. The new county was named for Gloucester County, England. Gloucester became home to many colonial leaders. In the 1600s and 1700s, Gloucester was a tobacco producing area, and many old plantation homes and magnificent private estates remain today in perfect condition. Gloucester Point, the tip of land protruding into the York River, across from Yorktown, was originally named Tyndall's Point after Robert Tyndall, mapmaker for Captain John Smith.

Today, Gloucester is a growing and increasingly changing county that is an integral part of the Hampton Roads metropolitan area. Growth in the Peninsula area has encouraged development in the Gloucester Point and the Courthouse regions of Gloucester. Between 1970 and 2000, the county's population grew by over 60% and this additional influx of new residents encouraged mass commercial and residential development. Despite an influx in development, Gloucester still maintains a large amount of rural and farmland (especially in the northern end of the county) which contributes to the county's rich agricultural tradition. Its fishing industry is important to the state as well.

LOCATION

- From Dragon Swamp (Piankatank River) following US 17 to Gloucester Point, Gloucester County is approximately 27 miles long North to South.
- Gloucester is a 218-square mile county located in the northeastern portion of Virginia's Hampton Roads (over 1.7 million residents).
- Gloucester County and adjacent York County are linked by the George P. Coleman Memorial Bridge spanning the York River.
- Bound by nearly 500 miles of shoreline for exceptional watersports and recreational activities.
- Richmond is 59 miles west and Washington, D.C. is 153 miles north.

CLIMATE

- Gloucester's climate is relatively moderate, with hot summers and relatively mild but crisp winters, allowing its residents to enjoy all four seasons. Average coastal temperatures in July and August exceed 90°F (32°C), while in winter there is little snow.

DEMOGRAPHICS (Gloucester County – 2020 Census)

- Population: 37,362 • Male: 49% • Female: 51% • Median Age: 44.9
- Households - 14,759 • Median Income - \$71,649 • High school or higher: 89% • Bachelor's degree or higher: 24%
- Race/Ethnicity: White - 87.7% • Black - 8.2% • Other - 8%
- **Hampton Roads:** Population: 1.7 million (Hampton Roads is the 37th largest metropolitan area in the country) • White - 52.72% • Black - 30.93% • Other - 11.35%

HEALTHCARE

- Riverside Walter Reed Hospital
- Sentara Medical Arts
- Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters Pediatric Center
- Riverside Cancer Care Center
- Regional facilities include Riverside Regional Hospital, Sentara Williamsburg Regional Medical Center, Sentara Norfolk General Hospital, Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center, Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters, Johns Hopkins University and the Hampton University Proton Therapy Institute.

EDUCATION

- Gloucester Public Schools have five elementary schools, two middle schools and one high school, Gloucester High with vocational/technical programs.
- Private schools with grade levels pre-kindergarten and higher or other combinations of grades 1 to 12 include: Chesapeake Academy • Christchurch • Gloucester Montessori • St. Margaret's • Ware Academy.

EDUCATION (continued)

- On the college level, the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (a division of the College of William & Mary) and Rappahannock Community College offer a full range of educational opportunities. Within an hour are Christopher Newport University • Hampton University • Norfolk State University • Old Dominion University • Thomas Nelson Community College • University of Richmond • Virginia Commonwealth University (Medical College of Virginia) • Virginia Union University • Virginia Wesleyan College.

ATTRACTIONS

- Eight county parks offer residents and visitors many options for all ages including Gloucester Point Beach • Freshwater and saltwater fishing • Hiking and riding trails • Picnicking • Sports fields.
- The Machicomoco State Park provides information on the culture, landscape and movement of Virginia Indians. This 645 acre park includes a road for walking or bike riding. The park provides diverse wildlife habitats, from open fields to woodlands and waterfront/marsh areas.
- A wide range of festivals and events are held throughout the year including the Daffodil Festival every spring.
- <https://www.gloucesterva.info/1369/Visit-Gloucester>

REAL ESTATE

- https://www.realtor.com/realestateandhomes-search/Gloucester-Point_VA/overview

MAP

Gloucester Point Baptist Church (GPBC)

