

Education

Public and Private Schools

The New River Valley has many educational opportunities for its residents. There are five separate public school systems. Within these systems are 30 elementary schools, six middle schools, and nine high schools. Table 49 shows enrollment in public schools in the New River Valley for 2008-2009 and 2010-2011. Table 50 and Figure 26, show Pupil/Teacher Ratios for 2010-2011. School location maps are presented in the Appendix.

**Table 49
Public Schools**

STATISTIC	FLOYD COUNTY		GILES COUNTY		MONTGOMERY COUNTY		PULASKI COUNTY		CITY OF RADFORD	
	2008-09	2010-11	2008-09	2010-11	2008-09	2010-11	2008-09	2010-11	2008-09	2010-11
End of Year Average Daily Membership	2,050	2,042	2,573	2,466	9,542	9,376	4,731	4,502	1,476	1,542
Total Per Pupil Expenditure	\$9,515	\$9,010	\$9,477	\$8,838	\$10,524	\$10,177	\$9,728	\$9,695	\$9,974	\$9,566
Local	\$2,615	\$2,715	\$2,150	\$2,241	\$4,040	\$4,250	\$2,688	\$3,062	\$3,128	\$3,437
State	\$5,299	\$4,130	\$5,819	\$4,599	\$4,799	\$3,677	\$5,239	\$4,375	\$5,442	\$4,202
State Retail Sales and Use Tax	\$911	\$902	\$882	\$944	\$1,002	\$1,092	\$914	\$919	\$761	\$746
Federal	\$691	\$1,263	\$626	\$1,054	\$682	\$1,158	\$886	\$1,338	\$643	\$1,181
Pupil/Teacher Ratio										
Elementary	12.0	12.7	14.0	13.7	15.0	16.3	11.0	12.1	12.0	14.0
Secondary	12.0	14.2	11.0	10.3	8.0	8.4	14.0	13.6	10.0	11.2

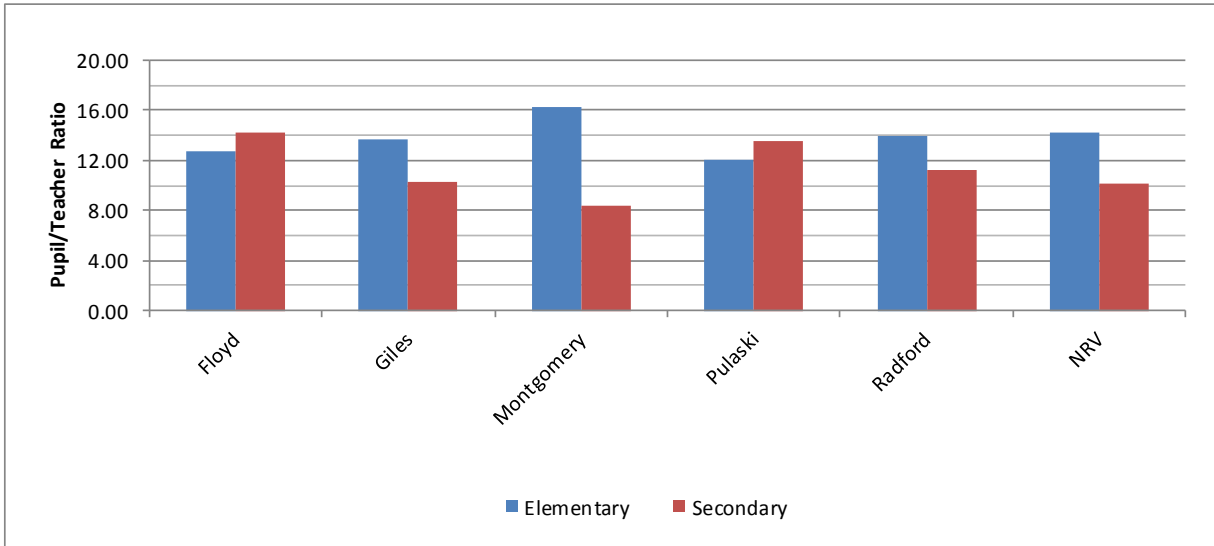
Source: Superintendent's Annual Report for Virginia: Virginia Department of Education, 2008-09 and 2010-11.
* Support by fund source may not equal total expenditures due to rounding.

**Table 50
Pupil/Teacher Ratio: 2010-2011**

JURISDICTION	MEMBERSHIP	TOTAL	PUPIL/TEACHER	MEMBERSHIP	TOTAL	PUPIL/TEACHER
	K-7	TEACHERS	RATIO	8-12	TEACHERS	RATIO
Floyd County	1,262.88	99.45	12.70	778.40	54.87	14.19
Giles County	1,505.68	110.32	13.65	940.41	91.37	10.29
Montgomery County	5,829.26	358.09	16.28	3,498.96	417.65	8.38
Pulaski County	2,730.49	225.45	12.11	1,769.40	130.00	13.61
City of Radford	965.24	69.13	13.96	571.37	51.14	11.17
New River Valley	12,293.55	862.44	14.25	7,558.54	745.03	10.15

Source: Superintendent's Annual Report for Virginia: Virginia Department of Education, 2010-11.

Figure 26
Elementary and Secondary Pupil/Teacher Ratio: 2010-2011



Standards of Learning (SOL)

The Standards of Learning Tests are designed to sample how much a child has learned at different levels of education. The tests are given to third, fifth, and eighth grade students to assess their learning at that particular grade level. High School students are given SOL tests at the end of each year in selective subjects. The SOL tests are comprised of four core subject areas that include English, History, Math, and Science. The results generated from the test supply school and government officials with the information necessary to determine where improvements in education need to be made. All of the information gathered from the SOL tests are used to create a better quality of education. Tables 51, 52, and 53 show the percentage of students in each testing level that passed the individual sections of the SOL test. Tables 54 and 55 show the percentage of students in each area of English, Math, Science and History that pass the end of year high school courses.

Table 51
SOL Data - Third Grade

LOCALITY	% PASS ENGLISH		% PASS MATH		% PASS SCIENCE		% PASS HISTORY	
	2009-10	2011-12	2009-10	2011-12	2009-10	2011-12	2009-10	2011-12
Floyd	88	93	94	74	94	98	96	94
Giles	81	89	98	75	90	91	93	90
Montgomery	84	90	92	67	91	89	92	84
Pulaski	80	87	90	65	86	89	89	82
Radford	88	89	96	65	92	93	91	87
Virginia	83	86	92	64	91	90	93	87

Source: Department of Education, 2013.

Table 52
SOL Data – Fifth Grade

LOCALITY	% PASS READING		% PASS WRITING		% PASS MATH		% PASS SCIENCE		% PASS HISTORY	
	2009-10	2011-12	2009-10	2011-12	2009-10	2011-12	2009-10	2011-12	2009-10	2011-12
Floyd	90	92	91	90	93	78	91	91	<	<
Giles	89	92	82	85	85	66	94	89	<	<
Montgomery	93	92	84	83	91	72	88	88	<	<
Pulaski	90	95	78	89	94	79	87	89	NA	NA
Radford	91	93	83	80	92	62	92	94	NA	NA
Virginia	90	89	89	89	90	67	88	88	90	89

Source: Department of Education, 2013.

< = A group below state definition for personally identifiable results.

Table 53
SOL Data – Eighth Grade

LOCALITY	% PASS READING		% PASS WRITING		% PASS MATH		% PASS SCIENCE		% PASS HISTORY	
	2009-10	2011-12	2009-10	2011-12	2009-10	2011-12	2009-10	2011-12	2009-10	2011-12
Floyd	89	95	92	88	89	46	90	92	-	<
Giles	82	84	86	84	71	48	87	92	NA	NA
Montgomery	87	89	86	86	68	38	90	94	<	100
Pulaski	86	87	82	79	83	49	87	87	<	<
Radford	95	88	93	84	96	14	91	90	NA	NA
Virginia	90	89	91	88	87	60	92	92	91	88

Source: Department of Education, 2013.

- = No data for group.

< = A group below state definition for personally identifiable results.

Table 54
SOL Data - High School
English and Math

LOCALITY	% PASS READING		% PASS WRITING		% PASS ALGEBRA I		% PASS GEOMETRY		% PASS ALGEBRA II	
	2009-10	2011-12	2009-10	2011-12	2009-10	2011-12	2009-10	2011-12	2009-10	2011-12
Floyd	96	91	90	94	96	67	89	70	99	75
Giles	91	92	83	87	96	66	93	71	87	61
Montgomery	90	93	88	90	88	63	85	65	79	58
Pulaski	93	92	91	90	95	62	85	76	93	65
Radford	92	93	90	94	98	81	90	94	87	76
Virginia	94	94	92	93	94	75	88	74	91	69

Source: Department of Education, 2013.

Table 55
SOL Data – High School
Science and History

LOCALITY	% PASS BIOLOGY		% PASS CHEMISTRY		% PASS EARTH SCIENCE		% PASS VA/US HISTORY		% PASS WORLD HIST II		% PASS WORLD GEO.	
	2009-10	2011-12	2009-10	2011-12	2009-10	2011-12	2009-10	2011-12	2009-10	2011-12	2009-10	2011-12
Floyd	91	94	99	92	90	94	99	85	88	79	94	89
Giles	95	92	95	95	89	94	97	88	99	84	68	100
Montgomery	90	90	94	94	86	90	92	78	94	85	-	<
Pulaski	88	90	91	94	84	88	94	88	84	69	NA	NA
Radford	97	95	100	100	91	92	94	85	96	94	NA	NA
Virginia	89	92	93	93	88	90	95	85	92	85	86	85

Source: Department of Education, 2013.
 - = No data for group.
 < = A group below state definition for personally identifiable results.

Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT)

In 2012 two New River Valley localities' SAT scores were higher than those of the State. Montgomery County had the highest scores on the math, verbal, and written portions of the test. Table 56 shows 2012 average SAT scores for local, state, and national levels.

Table 56
2012 Average SAT Scores

JURISDICTION	SECTIONS			
	MATH	CRITICAL READING	TOTAL	WRITING
Floyd County	507	505	1012	N/A
Giles County				
Giles High	485	494	979	474
Narrows High	449	488	937	468
Montgomery County	539	537	1076	520
Pulaski County	488	476	964	464
City of Radford	518	524	1042	513
Virginia	512	510	1022	495
United States	514	496	1010	488

Sources: Local School Systems, 2013.

Higher Education

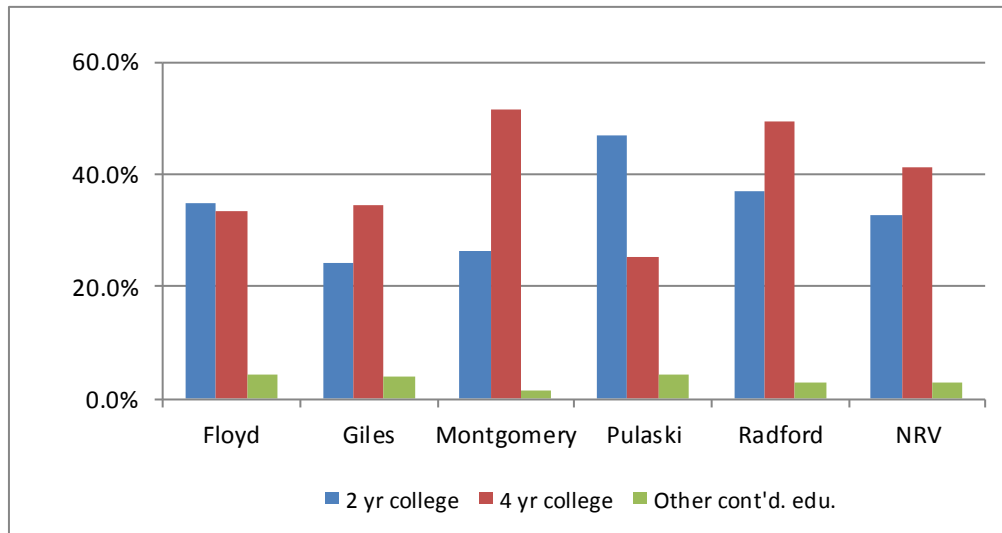
Table 57 and Figure 27 detail the number of graduates in pursuit of higher education in the New River Valley and the State.

Table 57
Number of Graduates in Pursuit of Higher Education

JURISDICTION	MEMBERSHIP NINTH GRADE 2008-2009	TOTAL GRADUATES AND COMPLETERS		ATTENDING TWO-YEAR COLLEGES		ATTENDING FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES		OTHER CONTINUING EDUCATION		TOTAL CONTINUING EDUCATION	
		2011-12	%	NO.	%	NO.	%	NO.	%	NO.	%
		Floyd County	157	161	102.5%	56	34.8%	54	33.5%	7	4.3%
Giles County	209	185	88.5%	45	24.3%	64	34.6%	7	3.8%	116	62.7%
Montgomery County	821	652	79.4%	172	26.4%	336	51.5%	10	1.5%	518	79.4%
Pulaski County	360	329	91.4%	154	46.8%	83	25.2%	14	4.3%	251	76.3%
City of Radford	124	103	83.1%	38	36.9%	51	49.5%	3	2.9%	92	89.3%
New River Valley	1,671	1,430	85.6%	465	32.5%	588	41.1%	41	2.9%	1,094	76.5%
Virginia	100,589	90,391	89.9%	27,969	30.9%	42,204	46.7%	3,514	3.9%	73,687	81.5%

Source: Superintendent's Annual Report for Virginia: Virginia Department of Education, 2011-2012.

Figure 27
Continuing Education
2011-2012



There are two universities and a community college located in the New River Valley. Radford University, located in the City of Radford, is a four-year, co-educational, State-supported University serving over 10,000 undergraduate and graduate students. The University offers a diverse curriculum of more than 140 undergraduate and graduate degree programs or areas of Concentration focused on student achievement and career preparation. The Colleges include Business and Economics, Education and Human Development, Waldron College of Health and Human Services, Humanities and Behavioral Sciences, Visual and Performing Arts, Science and Technology, and the College of Graduate and Professional Studies. Radford University provides a learning environment for students and faculty that fosters intellectual, social, and personal development with an average freshman class size of 33 students. Radford University is listed as one of the nation's "Top Up-and-Coming Schools" in the *U.S. News and World Report's 2010 Guide to America's Best Colleges* and is on The Princeton Review's list of best colleges and universities in the Southeast (www.radford.edu).

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (VPI&SU), located in the Town of Blacksburg, is a four-year, co-educational, comprehensive land grant university. As Virginia's largest university with more than 23,500 undergraduate students and approximately 5,800 graduate students and one of the top 50 research institutions in the nation, it is an institution that firmly embraces a history of putting knowledge to work. Virginia Tech offers more degree programs and awards more diplomas than any other university in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Colleges include Agriculture and Life Sciences, Architecture & Urban Studies, Pamplin College of Business, Engineering, Liberal Arts & Human Sciences, Natural Resources and Environment, Science, the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, and the Graduate School. The Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine and Research Institute leverages Virginia Tech's world-class strength in basic sciences, bioinformatics, and engineering with Carilion Clinic's highly experienced medical staff and rich history in medical education (www.vt.edu). The Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center offers programs and physical facilities to support joint development of industrial research with business and industry.

New River Community College (NRCC) is a two-year, non-residential state institution of higher learning located just outside the Town of Dublin as well as in the Town of Christiansburg. Financed by State funds, it offers a comprehensive spectrum of occupational and technical education, university parallel/college transfer education, general education, continuing adult education, special training and development programs, as well as specialized regional/commercial services. The College enrolls an average of 4,500 students per semester (www.nr.edu).