

Hampton Roads Economic Monthly



In case you missed it in the run-up to the July 4th holiday, the HRPDC Economists recently released a new Hampton Roads Economic Monthly. The feature article is below with a link to the actual publication for more economic data for Hampton Roads.

COVID-19 in Hampton Road-Data All in One Place

The Virginia Department of Health has been meticulously tracking data on the spread of the novel coronavirus since the first recorded case in the Commonwealth in early February. The state is tracking total cases, hospitalizations, deaths, daily new cases, demographic information, testing information and so much more, and providing the information for each individual locality in Virginia.

The Hampton Roads Planning District Commission Planning Department built an **online dashboard** to track data at the local and regional level: the regional 7-day moving average of daily new cases, confirmed total cases, hospitalizations and deaths as well as cases per 10,000 population per locality,

as well as rate of cases by zip code, race, gender and age. In addition to health data, certain transportation and economic data are updated weekly as it pertains to traffic volumes, vehicle miles traveled, and unemployment claims, which are three of the most immediately available indicators of the impact COVID-19 may be having on the regional economy. ***Click here to access the Hampton Roads COVID-19 Impact Planning Hub.***

As the 7-day moving average of confirmed cases in Virginia has been steadily decreasing, recently reaching a plateau, the data in Hampton Roads looks to be telling a different story (see figure below). While it's difficult to know if transmission of the coronavirus is increasing in the region or if the increased availability of testing is leading to the current surge of daily cases Hampton Roads is experiencing, the data is showing an uptick in the 7-day moving average. June 26 saw the highest recorded daily new cases in Hampton Roads since the state started tracking data. Regional data also reveals that the highest reported cases are among people aged 20-29, the highest number of hospitalizations are among people aged 70-79, and the highest number of deaths in Hampton Roads are among people over 80 years old.

It's important to keep an eye on this data, as many states are seeing record numbers of daily new cases after their economies reopened. On Friday, June 26, the Governor of Texas paused the states' reopening and ordered all bars to close, followed by similar closures in Florida. New York, New Jersey and Connecticut recently announced mandatory quarantines from visitors from new coronavirus hotspots, which is likely to affect the hospitality industry as it greatly reduces the incentive for tourists and business travelers alike. The E.U. has commented that travel may be banned from the U.S. to Europe, serving another potential blow to the air travel industry. If further closures in Hampton Roads are required, the economy is surely to be impacted once again, slowing the recovery we may be experiencing based on May's job increases.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact us at ***krainone@hrpdcva.gov*** or ***ggrootendorst@hrpdcva.gov***.

To view June's full economic monthly report, click ***HERE***.

Total Confirmed Cases

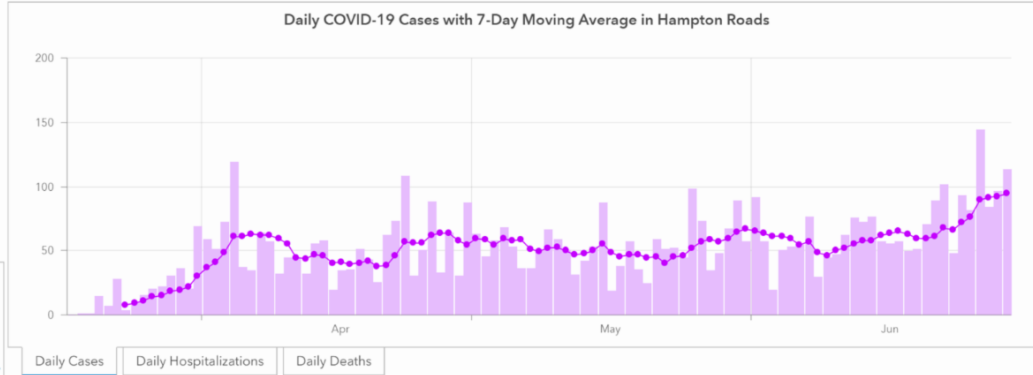
5,517

Total Hospitalizations

683

Total Deaths

161



An example of the data that can be accessed via the COVID-19 Dashboard.

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