

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 50 shows enrollment in public schools in the New River Valley for 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 and Table 51, Figure 30, shows Pupil/Teacher Ratios for 2003-2004. School location maps are presented in the Appendix.

**Table 50
Public Schools**

STATISTIC	FLOYD COUNTY		GILES COUNTY		MONTG. COUNTY		PULASKI COUNTY		CITY OF RADFORD	
	02-03	03-04	02-03	03-04	02-03	03-04	02-03	03-04	02-03	03-04
End of Year Membership	2,021	2,086	2,521	2,524	8,547	9,275	4,916	4,824	1,526	1,503
Total Per-Pupil Expenditure	7,406	7,359	7,169	7,210	7,673	7,778	7,302	7,414	7,397	7,630
Local	\$2,711	\$2,534	\$2,666	\$2,633	\$3,423	\$3,295	\$2,523	\$2,371	\$3,154	\$2,975
State	\$3,520	\$3,551	\$3,336	\$3,304	\$2,947	\$3,123	\$3,343	\$3,359	\$3,328	\$3,468
State Retail Sales and Use Tax	\$612	\$689	\$691	\$738	\$761	\$793	\$723	\$750	\$578	\$627
Federal	\$563	\$585	\$476	\$535	\$542	\$567	\$713	\$934	\$337	\$560
Pupil/Teacher Ratio										
Elementary	12.1	12.1	13.7	13.6	15.1	15.1	11.4	10.8	12.4	12.6
Secondary	12.4	13.2	10.5	11.9	6.7	8.1	14.0	12.3	11.3	10.6

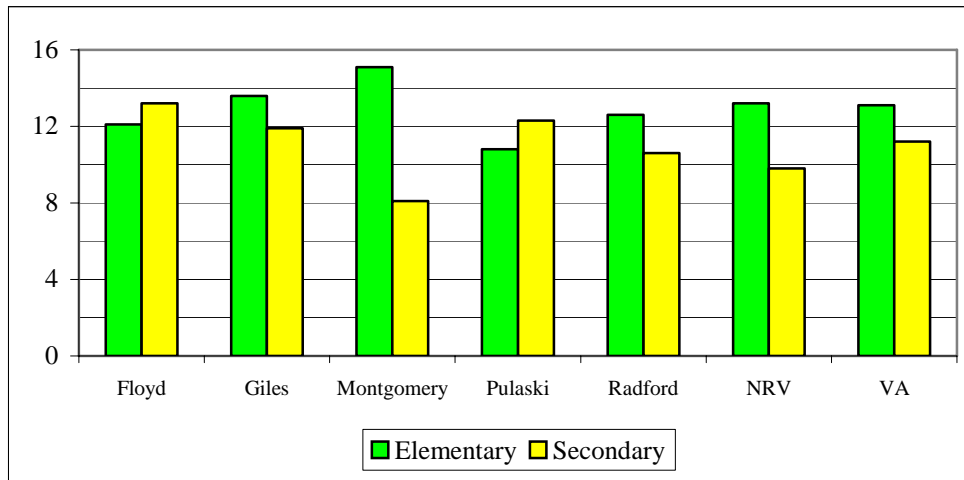
Source: Superintendent's Annual Report for Virginia: Virginia Department of Education, 2002-03 and 2003-04.

**Table 51
Pupil/Teacher Ratio: 2003-2004**

JURISDICTION	MEMBERSHIP K-7	TOTAL TEACHERS	PUPIL/TEACHER RATIO	MEMBERSHIP 8-12	TOTAL TEACHERS	PUPIL/TEACHER RATIO
Floyd County	1,295	106.79	12.1	791	59.77	13.2
Giles County	1,511	110.87	13.6	1,010	85.05	11.9
Montgomery County	5,761	380.48	15.1	3,506	435.42	8.1
Pulaski County	2,990	276.75	10.8	1,832	149.00	12.3
City of Radford	926	73.58	12.6	577	54.60	10.6
New River Valley	12,483	948.47	13.2	7,716	783.84	9.8
Virginia	724,247	55,461.39	13.1	427,722	38,283.65	11.2

Source: Superintendent's Annual Report for Virginia: Virginia Department of Education, 2003-04.

Figure 30
Elementary and Secondary Pupil/Teacher Ratio



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 in determining 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 52, 53, and 54 show the percentage of students in each testing level that passes the individual sections of the SOL test. Table 55 and 56 show the percentage of students in each area of English, History, Math, and Science that pass the end of year high school courses.

Table 52
Spring 2002 and 2004 SOL Data - Third Grade

LOCALITY	% PASS ENGLISH		% PASS MATH		% PASS HISTORY		% PASS SCIENCE	
	2002	2004	2002	2004	2002	2004	2002	2004
Floyd	67.12	66.67	75.52	85.38	79.02	80.70	84.03	86.39
Giles	70.86	70.29	94.29	90.59	79.77	90.85	85.88	92.26
Montgomery	59.91	65.26	74.07	80.98	69.18	75.21	76.70	82.91
Pulaski	51.94	61.96	75.51	79.31	65.31	82.56	76.21	83.97
Radford	67.21	77.19	85.59	91.20	78.81	90.35	83.90	90.35
Virginia	71.63	71.40	80.39	86.91	76.28	87.12	78.16	85.51

Source: Department of Education, 2006.

Table 53
Spring 2002 and 2004 SOL Data – Fifth Grade

LOCALITY	%PASS WRITING		%PASS ENGLISH: RLR		%PASS MATH		%PASS HISTORY		%PASS SCIENCE	
	2002	2004	2002	2004	2002	2004	2002	2004	2002	2004
	Floyd	81.70	87.92	81.58	82.12	72.73	62.25	66.44	86.86	86.18
Giles	73.17	87.36	77.01	79.78	65.12	66.67	77.45	85.47	77.14	81.97
Montgomery	83.50	79.74	77.19	76.80	60.20	67.87	58.07	68.63	79.67	81.50
Pulaski	77.81	83.83	73.73	76.21	59.10	57.65	53.39	69.90	69.53	72.38
Radford	83.08	82.20	75.57	82.05	63.85	79.49	75.40	88.62	80.62	90.60
Virginia	83.58	88.37	77.73	84.57	71.08	77.74	72.15	86.42	76.06	84.13

Source: Department of Education, 2006.

Table 54
Spring 2002 and 2004 SOL Data – Eighth Grade

LOCALITY	% PASS WRITING		% PASS ENGLISH: RLR		% PASS MATH		% PASS HISTORY		% PASS SCIENCE	
	2002	2004	2002	2004	2002	2004	2002	2004	2002	2004
	Floyd	76.83	83.67	60.38	69.72	75.36	86.45	85.71	*	90.41
Giles	60.71	63.11	62.05	58.04	54.55	66.37	77.74	*	82.39	78.89
Montgomery	66.02	71.91	60.00	60.50	55.91	64.09	70.73	*	81.68	83.78
Pulaski	64.37	73.77	65.04	66.50	71.10	75.50	73.07	76.98	83.19	86.42
Radford	76.38	88.43	66.43	82.26	63.70	84.09	72.86	*	84.50	93.39
Virginia	75.79	76.71	69.28	71.72	70.83	77.69	78.27	82.91	85.01	88.06

Source: Department of Education, 2006.

* Data not available.

Table 55
Spring 2002 and 2004 SOL Data - English and History

LOCALITY	% PASS EOC		% PASS EOC ENGLISH		% PASS U.S. HISTORY		% PASS WORLD HISTORY		% PASS W. H. II	
	2002	2004	2002	2004	2002	2004	2002	2004	2002	2004
	Floyd	73.91	83.33	81.69	90.67	86.84	87.65	*	*	77.08
Giles	73.37	74.76	71.81	70.86	67.42	88.89	77.70	63.39	96.83	95.89
Montgomery	69.16	80.40	73.99	78.28	51.94	80.66	72.02	71.16	78.86	83.17
Pulaski	88.28	79.31	94.29	82.74	72.19	81.64	82.76	57.77	79.07	64.29
Radford	88.68	86.84	88.57	88.60	84.35	92.50	90.08	87.10	96.83	96.08
Virginia	85.77	86.68	86.19	88.67	71.63	87.33	85.95	83.06	78.61	82.70

Source: Department of Education, 2006.

* Data not available.

Table 56
Spring 2002 and 2004 SOL Data – Math and Science

LOCALITY	%PASS ALGEBRA I		%PASS GEOMETRY		%PASS ALGEBRA II		%PASS EARTH		%PASS BIOLOGY		%PASS CHEMISTRY	
	2002	2004	2002	2004	2002	2004	2002	2004	2002	2004	2002	2004
	Floyd	81.90	81.65	81.33	78.67	83.32	92.06	73.68	72.28	78.05	85.42	75.00
Giles	72.64	69.41	62.70	69.60	52.04	88.57	66.47	68.16	83.45	75.86	81.03	94.03
Montgomery	63.75	75.55	66.86	78.61	64.12	68.51	69.61	71.69	80.11	82.23	71.16	83.79
Pulaski	94.34	89.60	75.49	86.05	88.73	88.89	79.06	59.70	79.70	61.97	85.95	81.65
Radford	85.61	75.60	88.79	83.82	86.36	100.00	83.06	80.14	89.38	78.51	87.34	98.25
Virginia	78.42	80.14	75.82	82.24	76.83	85.74	69.70	70.80	83.23	80.18	78.31	85.94

Source: Department of Education, 2006.

Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT)

In 2005, most New River Valley localities SAT scores were higher than those of the State. Montgomery County had the highest scores on both the math and verbal portions of the test. The averages were 538 on verbal and 544 on math. Total scores in the region increased from 2003. Table 55 shows 2005 average SAT scores for local, state, and national levels.

Table 57
2005 Average SAT Scores

JURISDICTION	SECTIONS		TOTAL
	MATH	VERBAL	
Floyd	511	504	1,015
Giles			
Giles High	543	530	1,073
Narrows High	440	420	860
Montgomery	538	544	1,082
Pulaski	485	484	969
Radford	548	551	1,099
Virginia	514	516	1,030
United States	520	508	1,028

Sources: Local School Systems, 2006 and CollegeBoard SAT, 2006.

Higher Education

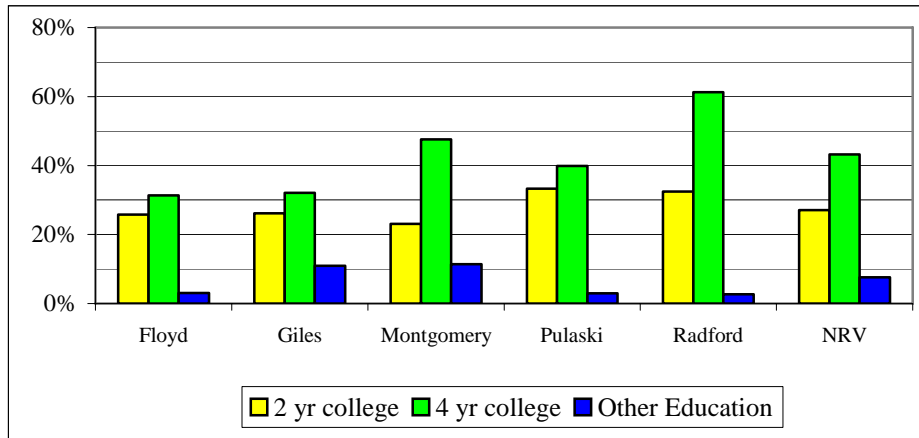
Table 58 and Figure 30 detail the number of graduates in pursuit of higher education in the New River Valley and the State. Also included in this table is the percentage of dropouts for each New River Valley jurisdiction and for the State.

Table 58
Number of Graduates in Pursuit of Higher Education

JURISDICTION	MEMBERSHIP NINTH GRADE 2000-2001	TOTAL GRADUATES		DROPOUTS %	ATTENDING TWO-YEAR COLLEGES		ATTENDING FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES		OTHER CONTINUING EDUCATION		TOTAL CONTINUING EDUCATION	
		2003-04	%		NO.	%	NO.	%	NO.	%	NO.	%
		Floyd County	171	134	78.4%	1.74%	29	21.6%	41	30.6%	0	0.0%
Giles County	196	167	85.2%	1.32%	35	21.0%	63	37.7%	10	6.0%	108	64.7%
Montgomery County	839	681	81.2%	1.32%	177	26.0%	308	45.2%	18	2.6%	503	73.9%
Pulaski County	414	351	84.8%	1.39%	99	28.2%	137	39.0%	19	5.4%	255	72.6%
City of Radford	133	102	76.7%	1.10%	34	33.3%	51	50.0%	5	4.9%	90	88.2%
New River Valley	1,753	1,435	81.9%	NA	374	26.1%	600	41.8%	52	3.6%	1,026	71.5%
Virginia	98,371	75,101	76.3%	2.05%	17,593	23.4%	33,847	45.1%	5,103	6.8%	56,543	75.3%

Source: Superintendent's Annual Report for Virginia: Virginia Department of Education, 2003-2004.

Figure 31
Continuing Education
2003-2004



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 8,500 undergraduate and graduate students. The University offers degrees in Arts and Sciences, Business and Economics, Education and Human Development, Health and Human Services, Visual and Performing Arts, and Information Science and Technology. They also have a Graduate and Extended Education program. Radford University provides a learning environment for students and faculty that fosters intellectual, social, and personal development.

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, located in the Town of Blacksburg, is a four-year, co-educational, comprehensive land grant university. As Virginia's largest university with 25,600 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. They offer more degree programs than any other university in the State with 60 undergraduate and 110 graduate programs. The Colleges include Agriculture and Life Sciences, Architecture & Urban Studies, Pamplin College of Business, Engineering, Liberal Arts & Human Sciences, Natural Resources, Science, the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, and the Graduate School. The VPI

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.