



Union Presence & Activity

- ✦ Virginia is a right-to-work state; accordingly, labor unions and employers are prohibited from establishing contract agreements that solely employ unionized workers.
- ✦ In 2016, union membership in the Gateway Region and the Commonwealth stood at 6.1 percent and 4.3 percent, respectively.
- ✦ There has not been any worked stoppage in any of the Gateway Region communities since 1993 (source: Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, 2017 Q3).

Union Membership in the Gateway Region (2016)

Community	Union Membership
City of Colonial Heights	4.8%
City of Hopewell	6.0%
City of Petersburg	5.8%
Chesterfield County	5.6%
Dinwiddie County	7.3%
Prince George County	7.4%
Sussex County	6.7%
Surry County	4.8%
Gateway Region	6.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau's Current Population Survey, February 2017 (release date)

Union Membership, Coverage, and Density in Virginia (2016)

Sector	Employment ¹	Members ²		Covered ³	
		Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
Public	780,670	79,678	10.2%	112,862	14.5%
Private	2,967,782	80,415	2.7%	113,573	3.8%
Private Construction	202,541	11,174	5.5%	15,742	7.8%
Private Manufacturing	261,588	15,936	6.1%	21,086	8.1%
Total	3,748,452	160,093	4.3%	226,434	6.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau's Current Population Survey, February 2017 (release date)

¹Employment represents wage and salary employment

²Employed workers who are union members

³Workers covered by a collective bargaining agreement





Petitions Filled for Elections (Fiscal Year 2017)

	Virginia	Gateway Region
Total Held Elections	23	0
Elections won by unions	18	0
Elections lost by unions	5	0

	Held Elections
Representation Petitions (RC) ¹	21
Decertification Petitions (DC) ²	2

Source: National Labor Relations Board, Fiscal Year 2017

¹Employees or union may file a petition for a representation election (RC) after collecting signatures from at least 30 percent of workers in the potential bargaining unit.

²Employees may file a petition for decertification (RD) if they believe support for a union has diminished, after collecting signatures from at least 30 percent of workers in a unit.



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