

# Commonwealth of Virginia

MECC  
Service Region



**TABLE 2.1  
SERVICE REGION STATISTICS**

	<b>Population</b>	<b>Median Income</b>	<b>Poverty</b>	<b>Not Employed</b>	<b>College Graduates</b>	<b>Associate's Degree</b>	<b>High School Graduates</b>
Dickenson	16,405	\$29,320	21%	5.8%	7%	4%	59%
Lee	23,448	\$29,365	23%	5.3%	10%	4%	61%
Scott	23,850	\$31,044	18%	5.5%	8%	4%	64%
Wise	41,703	\$32,175	22%	4.6%	11%	5%	63%
Norton	3,702	\$30,654	21%	5.2%	14%	5%	67%
<b>Service Region</b>	<b>109,108</b>	<b>\$30,512</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>5.1%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>62%</b>
State of VA	7,796,089	\$59,575	10%	4.0%	30%	6%	82%

\* Population data - 2008 US Census estimate; Income and Poverty Data - 2007 Census estimates; Unemployment figures - VEC 2008 Annual Unemployment Data; Education levels - 2000 Census (based on the population of residents age 25 and older). College graduates consist of persons with a bachelor's degree or higher.

The data demonstrates a large discrepancy between the state of Virginia and the service region served by MECC. Statewide, the median family income is almost twice the amount of the service region. The percentage of service region residents living below the poverty level is twice that of the state. The service region unemployment rate is higher than the state, but the difference has lessened in recent years. The state has maintained a much higher percentage of college and high school graduates than the service region.

**TABLE 2.2  
PERCENT OF POPULATION SERVED 2008-2009**

	<b>Population*</b>	<b>Total Students Served</b>	<b>Percent Served Annualized</b>
Dickenson	8,203	307	3.7%
Lee	23,448	853	3.6%
Scott	23,850	981	4.1%
Wise	41,703	1,623	3.9%
Norton	3,702	171	4.6%
<b>Service Region</b>	<b>100,906</b>	<b>3,935</b>	<b>3.9%</b>
VCCS Totals	7,712,091	251,910	3.3%

\*Population figures are estimated by the US Census Bureau on projected population change. Because MECC shares Dickenson County with SVCC, Dickenson County's population is halved.

MECC ranked fourth in the VCCS in Percent of Population Served for the Fall 2008 semester.

\*Data provided by Dr. Ed Smith, Institutional Research, Southwest Virginia Community College.

**TABLE 2.3  
JURISDICTION OF STUDENTS ENROLLED**

	<b>Number</b>	<b>Dickenson</b>	<b>Lee</b>	<b>Scott</b>	<b>Wise</b>	<b>Norton</b>	<b>Other</b>
2004-05	4,331	6%	18%	18%	38%	4%	15%
2005-06	4,227	7%	19%	19%	36%	4%	14%
2006-07	4,368	7%	19%	19%	37%	4%	14%
2007-08	4,312	7%	19%	20%	39%	3%	11%
2008-09	4,440	7%	19%	22%	37%	4%	11%
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,678</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>13%</b>
Service Region	100,906	8%	23%	24%	41%	4%	0%

Nearly two-fifths students reside within the border of Wise County, when including Norton. Scott County and Lee County residents are underrepresented in terms of students at MECC versus the proportion of regional residents, though the proportion of Scott County students has gradually increased. Because only half of Dickenson County is included within the MECC service region, Dickenson County's portion of the service region population is what should be expected. The City of Norton's enrollment distribution is representative of the service region's population distribution.

**TABLE 2.4  
SERVICE REGION RESIDENTS ENROLLED IN VIRGINIA HIGHER EDUCATION  
INSTITUTIONS**

	<b>Total Attending College</b>	<b>MECC</b>	<b>SVCC</b>	<b>UVA-Wise</b>	<b>Radford</b>	<b>VPI</b>	<b>Other</b>
Dickenson	591	33%	40%	16%	1%	2%	8%
Lee	806	79%	1%	9%	1%	1%	8%
Scott	884	80%	2%	8%	1%	2%	8%
Wise	1,888	59%	3%	27%	1%	2%	7%
Norton	207	57%	2%	24%	4%	2%	11%
<b>Service Region</b>	<b>4,376</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>8%</b>

Most service region residents who are enrolled in VA institutions of higher education have chosen MECC. If Dickenson County is excluded from the calculations, the percentage of service region residents attending institutions of higher education who are enrolled at MECC increases to 68%.

**SERVICE REGION RESIDENTS ENROLLED IN VIRGINIA HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS, 2008-09**

