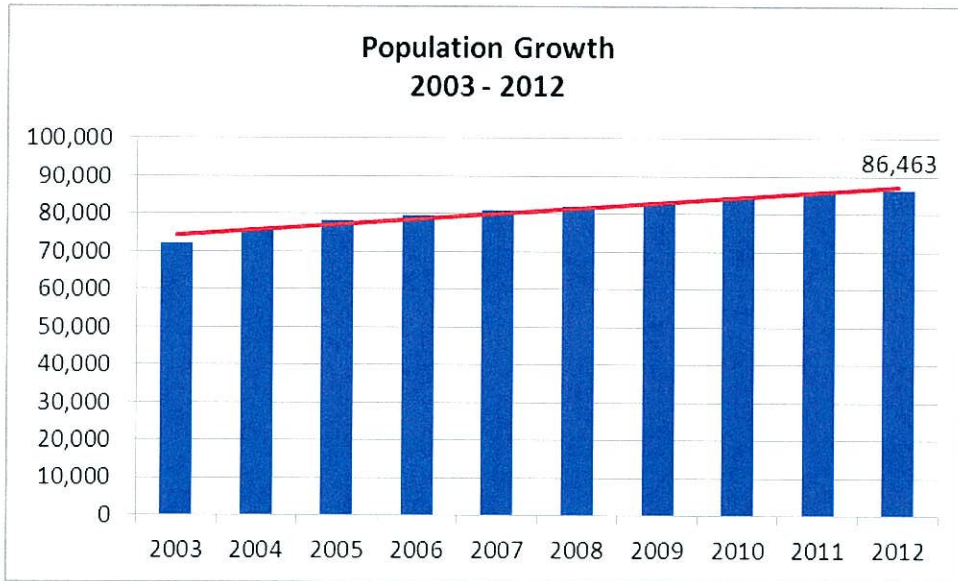


# CITY DEMOGRAPHICS AND STATISTICS

This section of the FY 2013-2014 Operating & Capital Budget provides a snapshot of key demographic, economic, and social statistics about the City of Suffolk. This information is used to analyze trends that may have an impact on resource allocation decisions and to ensure that the City remains competitive with other jurisdictions in the Hampton Roads region.

## Population Growth

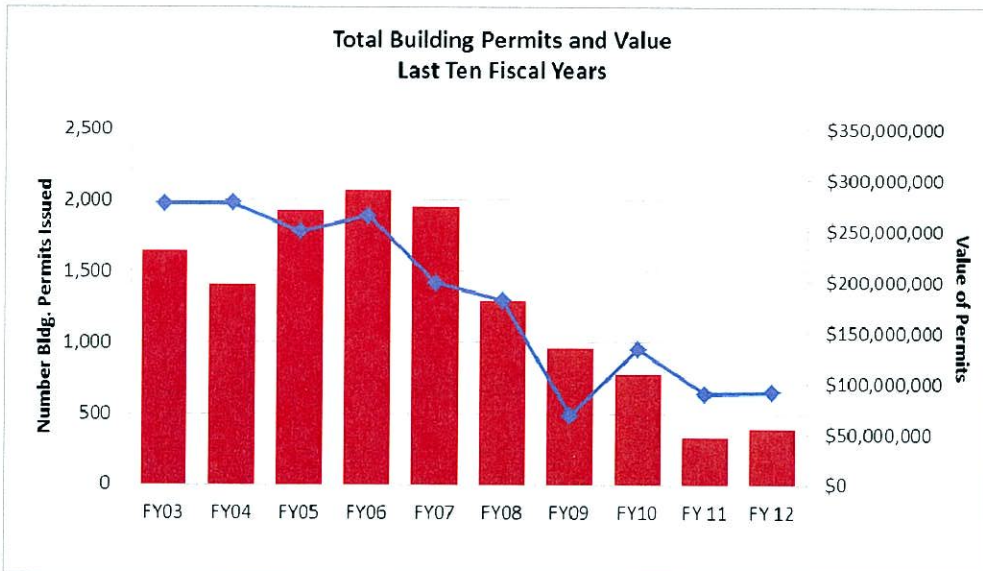
The City of Suffolk continues to be one of the fastest growing localities in the Commonwealth of Virginia; however, growth has not occurred at as fast of a pace in the last few years. Suffolk's population is estimated at 86,463 residents, which is less than a 1% increase over the previous year. Overall, Suffolk's population has increased 35.8% since the 2000 Census count.



Source: Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service

## Building Permits

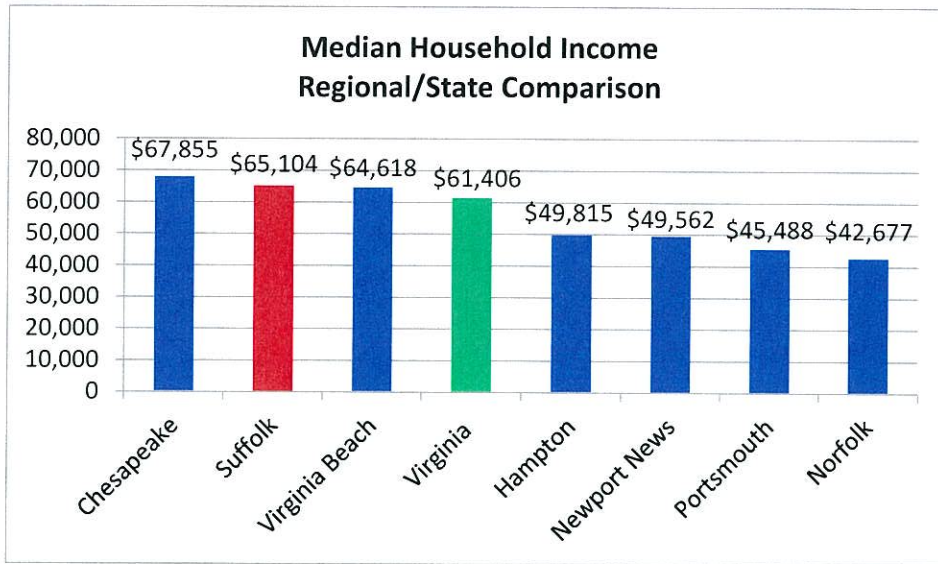
Over the last year, the City has seen a slight increase in the number and value of permits issued. However, the number and value of permits is still down significantly since the height of the housing boom in 2006.



Source: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for FY 2012

### Median Household Income

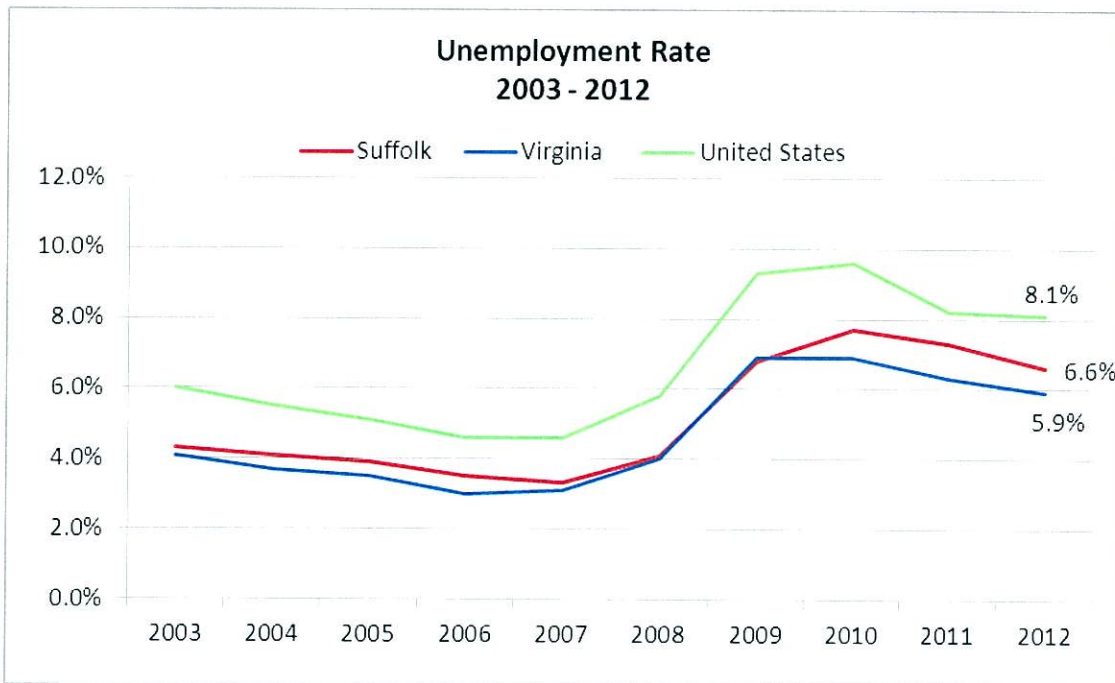
Median household income is estimated at \$65,104, second highest in the Hampton Roads region and above the State average (\$61,406).



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American FactFinder

### Unemployment Rate

The average annual unemployment rate has ranged from 4.3% to 6.6% over the last 10 years and generally followed the trends of state and federal unemployment. Unemployment rates reached peak highs in 2010, but have since dropped over the last two years. Suffolk's unemployment rate of 6.6% for 2012 was slightly higher than the state average (5.9%), but less than the national average (8.1%).

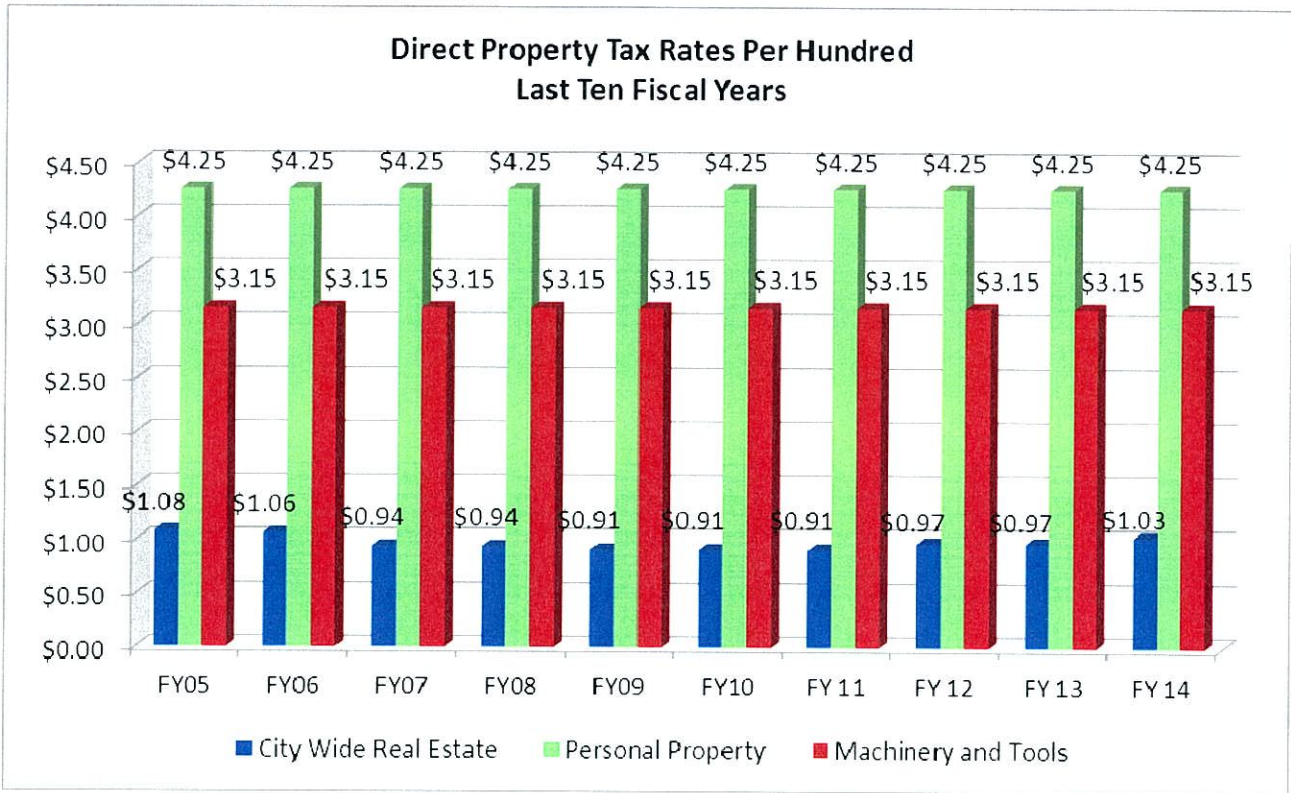


Source: Virginia Employment Commission



**Direct Property Tax Rates**

The graph below provides an overview of direct property tax rates for citywide real estate, personal property, and machinery and tools taxes over the last 10 years. Personal Property and

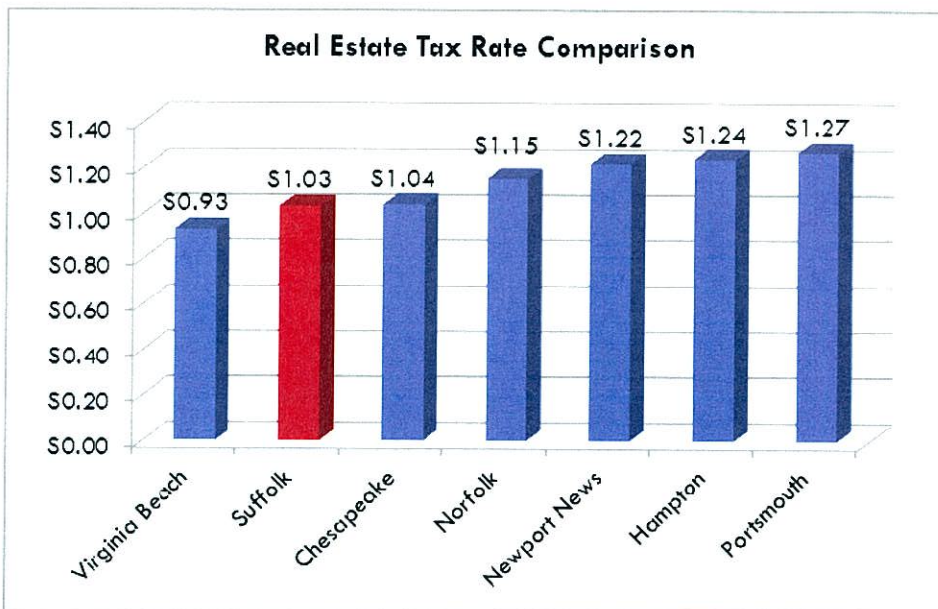


Source: Suffolk Department of Budget and Strategic Planning

machinery and tools tax rates have remained flat over the last 10 years. The real estate tax rate has ranged from \$.91 to \$1.08 per \$100 of assessed value.

**Real Estate Tax Rate**

The adopted citywide real estate tax rate of \$1.03 per \$100 of assessed value is the second lowest among the seven largest cities in Hampton Roads.



Source: Suffolk Department of Budget and Strategic Planning