

Snapshot of health system climate vulnerability and performance in...

Virginia

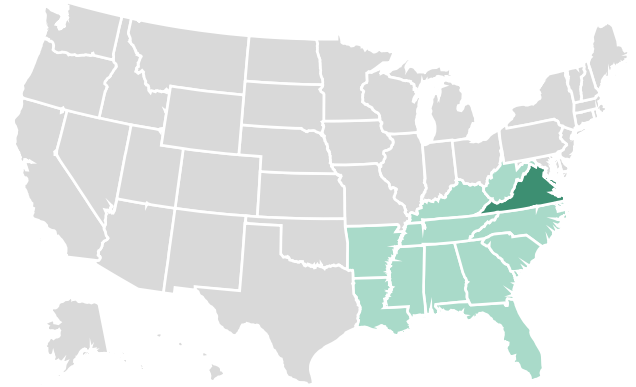


The
Commonwealth
Fund

Virginia ranks #18 overall.

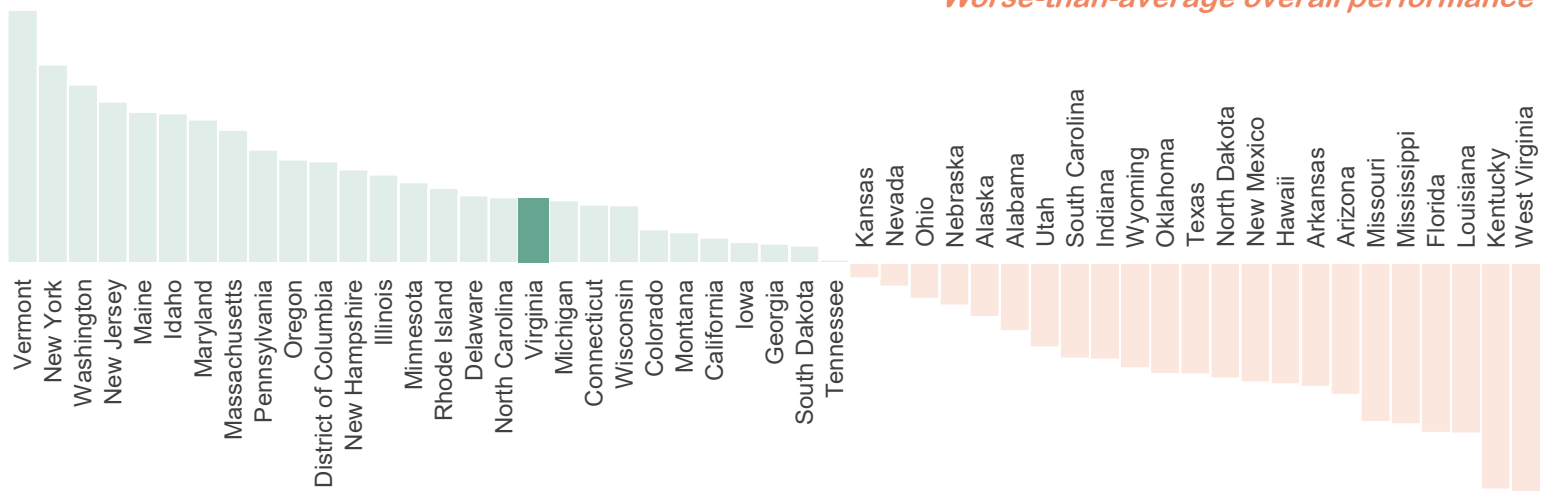
Virginia ranks #2 in the Southeast region.

	National Rank	Rank Among Southeastern States*
Average Annual Air Quality Index	7 of 51	1 of 12
Health Risk from Extreme Heat	4	1
Health Care Facility Risk from Natural Hazards	15	2
Health Care Facility Flood Risk	48	9
State Energy Efficiency Policy	20	1
State Electricity Emissions and Their Health Impact	13	2
Health Care Sector Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions	11	5
Health Care Worker Commuting Emissions	41	4



*Note: Southeast region includes AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV.

How Virginia Compares to All States



Better-than-average overall performance

Table 1. Indicators of State Health System Climate Vulnerability and Performance

Indicator	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	State rank
Average Annual Air Quality Index Scale of 0–500, with values below 100 generally considered good/moderate air quality	2022	36	42	7
Health Risk from Extreme Heat CDC/ATSDR ^a Heat and Health Index (0–1), with 1 indicating greatest risk	2024	0.40	0.51	4
Health Care Facility Risk from Natural Hazards FEMA ^b National Risk Index (0–100), with 100 indicating greatest risk	2023	42	54	15
Health Care Facility Flood Risk Percent of inpatient facility beds in high-hazard flood zones	2023	7.0%	2.5%	48
State Energy Efficiency Policy ACEEE ^c Energy Efficiency Scorecard (0–50), with 50 indicating best performance	2022	19.5	17	20
State Electricity Emissions and Their Health Impact Health impact per unit of electricity generated, ^d where lower values indicate less health impact from emissions	2021	0.278	0.464	13
Health Care Sector Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Kilograms of carbon dioxide equivalent (kg CO ₂ e) ^e	2020	1,054	1,362	11
Health Care Worker Commuting Emissions Transportation-related GHG emissions from health care facility employee commuting (kg CO ₂ e per employee)	2022	2,439	2,169	41



Virginia ranked best on:

Health Risk from Extreme Heat

People in Virginia are less likely to experience negative health impacts from extreme heat than residents of other states. This indicator covers sociodemographic and environmental factors in addition to historical heat exposure, given that people don't experience extreme heat equally.



Virginia ranked worst on:

Health Care Facility Flood Risk

Compared to other states, Virginia has a larger proportion of inpatient facility beds in high-hazard flood zones.

Notes: (–) Indicates missing data. (a) Centers for Disease Control/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (CDC/ATSDR). (b) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). (c) American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE). (d) Measured in Disability-Adjusted Life Years (DALYs) per gigawatt-hour (GWh) of electricity generated; DALYs are a common measure of the burden of disease, representing years of healthy life lost. (e) Kilograms of CO₂e stands for “carbon dioxide equivalent,” a standard measure of the warming effect of greenhouse gases.