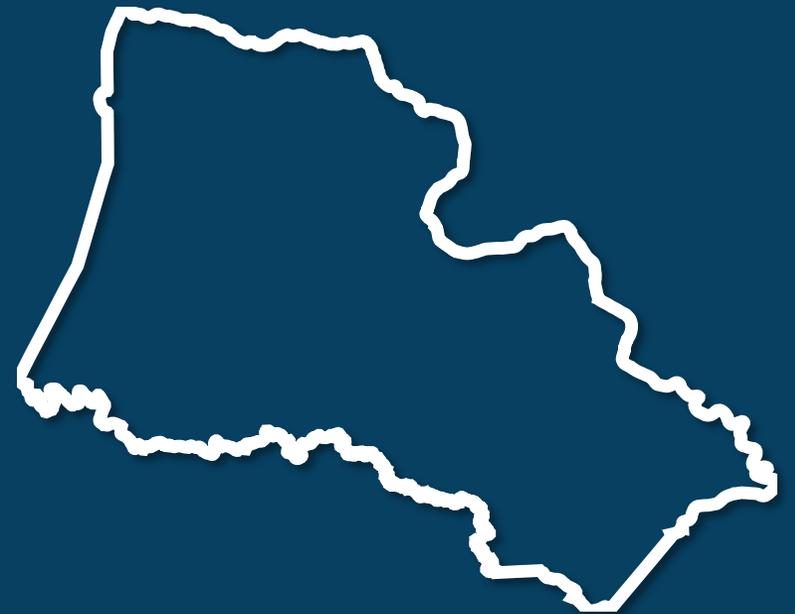


# Halifax County

## Comprehensive Land Use and Recreation Plan

Steering Committee Meeting #1  
September 25, 2025



# Agenda

- Introduction
- Steering Committee Roles and Purpose
- Schedule and Process
- Population and Economy
- Transportation
- Agriculture
- Parks and Natural Resources
- Community Tour Highlights
- Discussion/Next Steps



# Welcome & Introduction

# Project Contacts

HALIFAX COUNTY



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STEWART



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# Project Contacts



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# Consulting Team



**Jake Petrosky, AICP**  
Practice Area Leader



**Andrea Radford**  
Project Manager



**Carroll Williamson, AICP**  
SC Planning Manager



**Alex Fulham**  
GIS Specialist



**Matthew McGinley, PLA**  
Landscape Architecture



**Paul Fidishun**  
Landscape Architecture



**Viktor Cunningham**  
Urban Designer



**Samuel McCormack**  
Planning Intern



# Steering Committee

# Steering Committee

## ROLES

Meet regularly during the project (4–5 times).

Participate in discussions and contribute ideas and opinions.

Get others involved and support engagement.

Be an ambassador for this Plan to the community AND be an advocate for the community to the development of this Plan.

## INTRODUCTIONS

How long have you lived in Halifax County?

Where do you live or work?

What local organizations are you currently or formerly a member of?

What is one aspect of Halifax County (and/or its community) that you want us to consider or keep in mind during this process?





# Schedule & Process

# Process

**1A**



Project Initiation  
& Analysis

**1B**



160D Ordinance  
Update

**2**



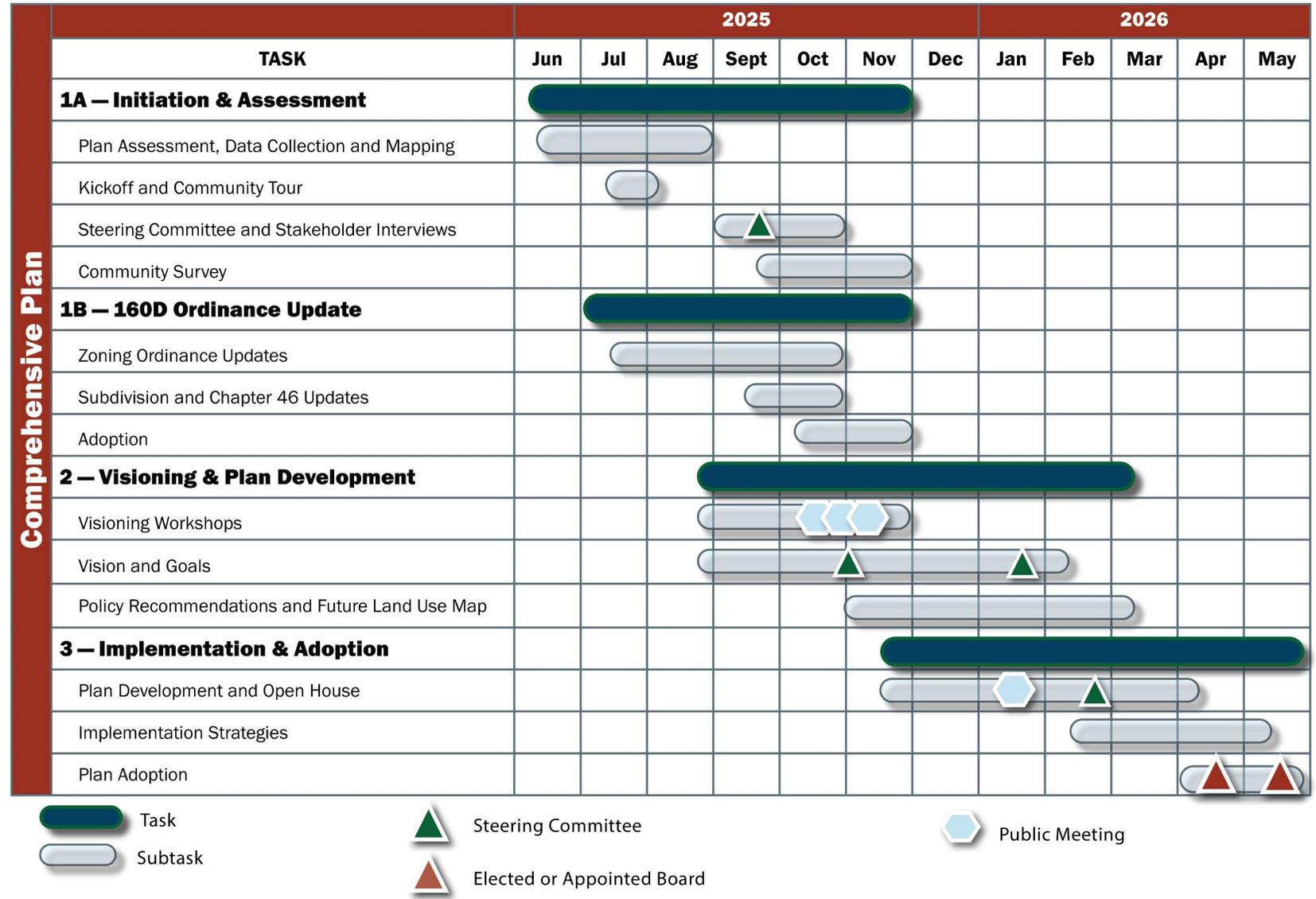
Visioning & Plan  
Development

**3**



Implementation  
& Adoption

# Schedule



# A Comprehensive Land Use Plan is...

## Long-range

- Makes forecasts based on past trends and data
- 10–20-year time frame

## Guidance

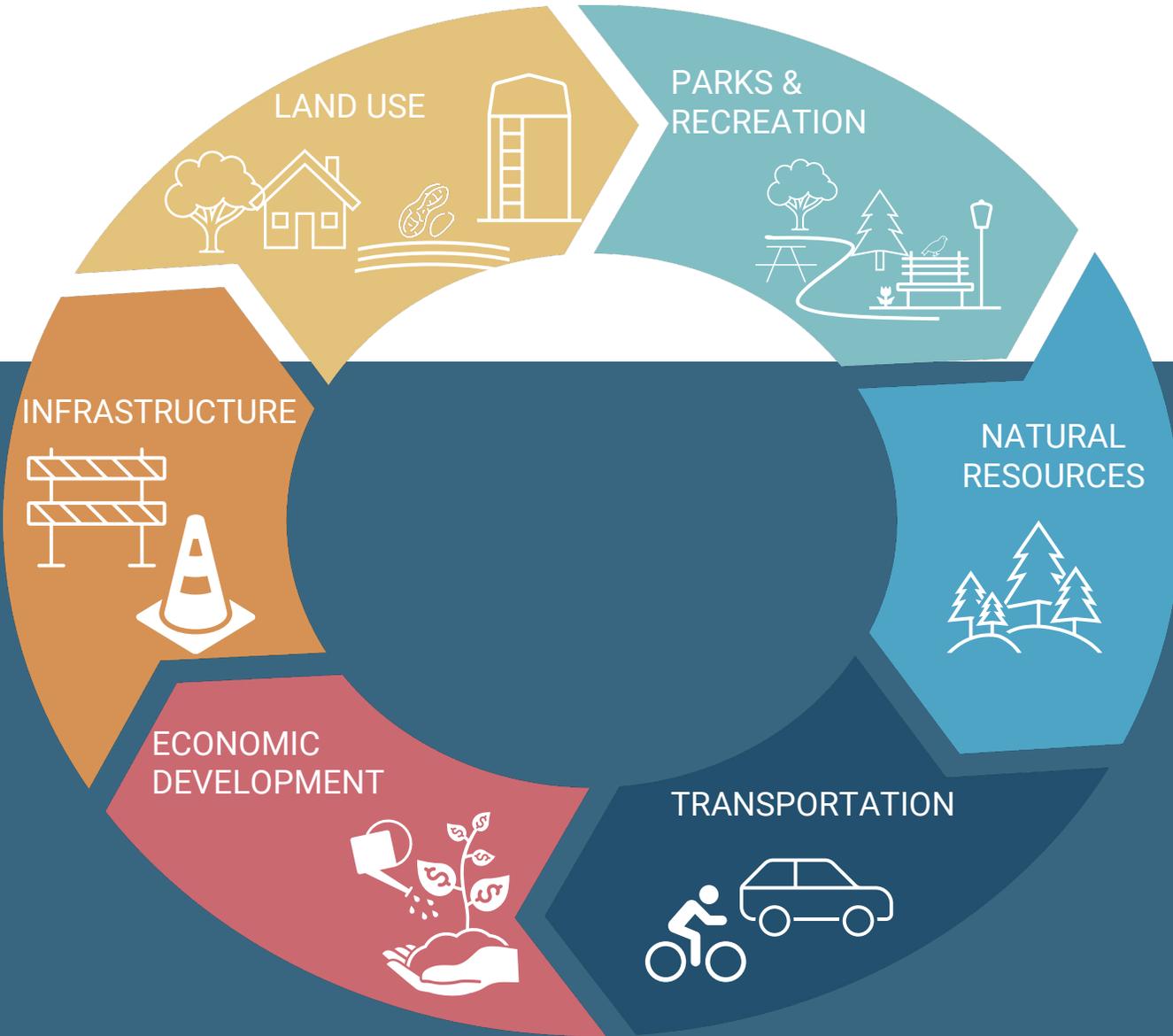
- Land uses, intensity, design
- Staff, programs and infrastructure investment

## Collaborative

- Documents a community conversation

## Policy, not Regulatory

- Lays the groundwork for current and future regulations

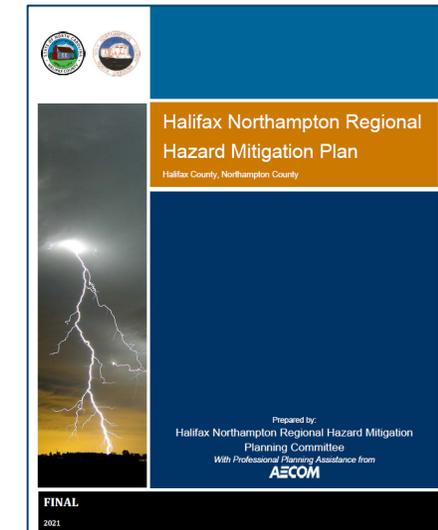
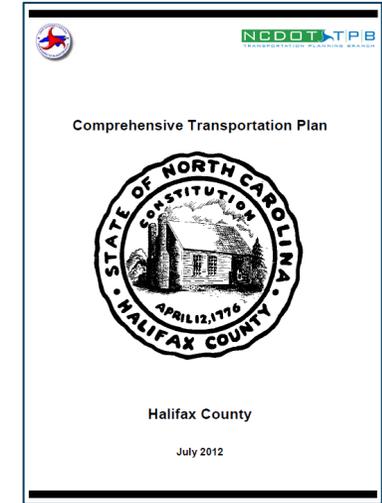
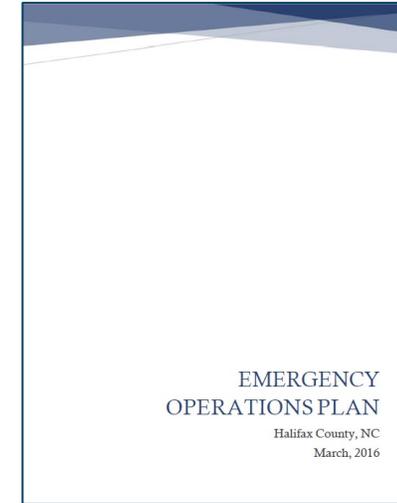


# Plan Elements



# Past Planning Efforts

- Comprehensive Development Plan, 2001
- Emergency Operations Plan, 2016
- Comprehensive Transportation Plan, 2012
- Halifax Northampton Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2021
- Halifax Northampton Regional Airport Strategic Plan, 2023



# Comprehensive Parks & Recreation Plan

- Process began in 2013
- Public engagement was an important component with over 600 participants
- Includes recommendations for meeting recreational needs of Halifax County residents
- Provides strategies to assist in meeting recreational needs of the County
- Action Plan
  - Land Acquisition and Dedication
  - Operational Needs
  - Funding Strategies

2014-2024  
COMPREHENSIVE  
PARKS & RECREATION PLAN



January 20, 2015

Halifax County

# Goals Analysis: 2014-2024 Parks and Rec Masterplan

## Halifax County should establish a parks and recreation advisory board

- As of 2022, Halifax County's Parks and Recreation advisory board has been established

## Halifax County should create a position for a Parks and Recreation Director and establish a Parks and Recreation Department

- May 5th, 2025: Halifax County government meeting to discuss new county-wide Parks and Recreation department
- July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025: County begins seeking a Parks and Recreation Director

## Halifax County should maximize facility use by encouraging joint use of existing athletic facilities at schools

- Out of the 11 schools within Halifax County, Manning Elementary School is the only one to offer their facilities to the public with their walking track.

## Halifax County should begin to develop County Parks

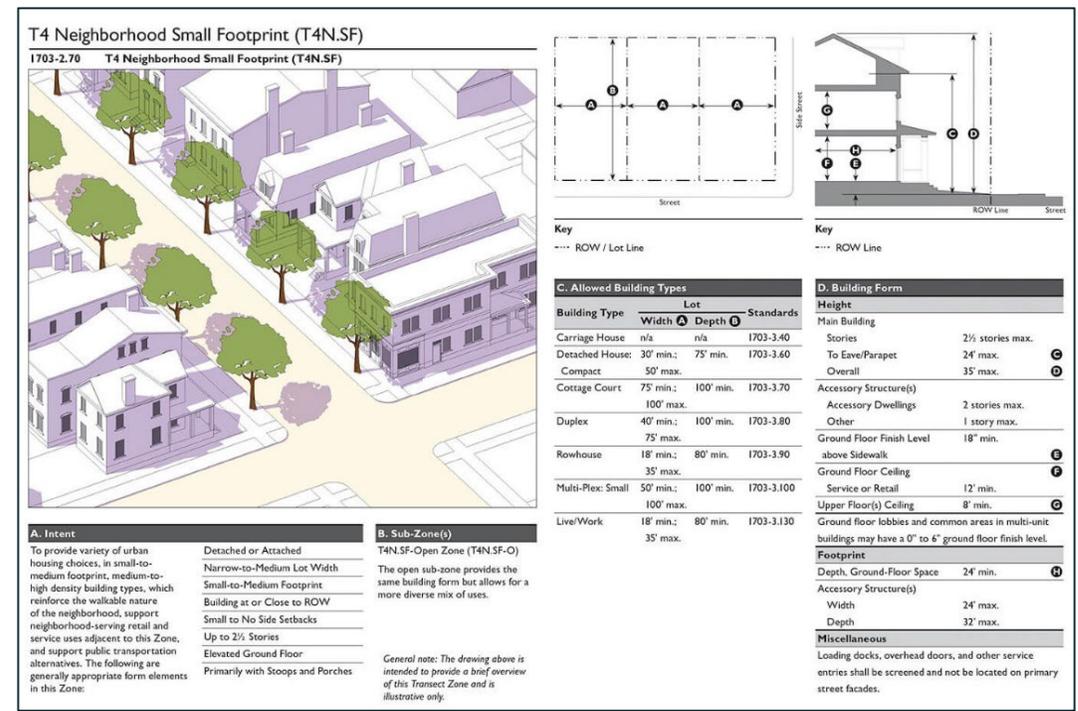
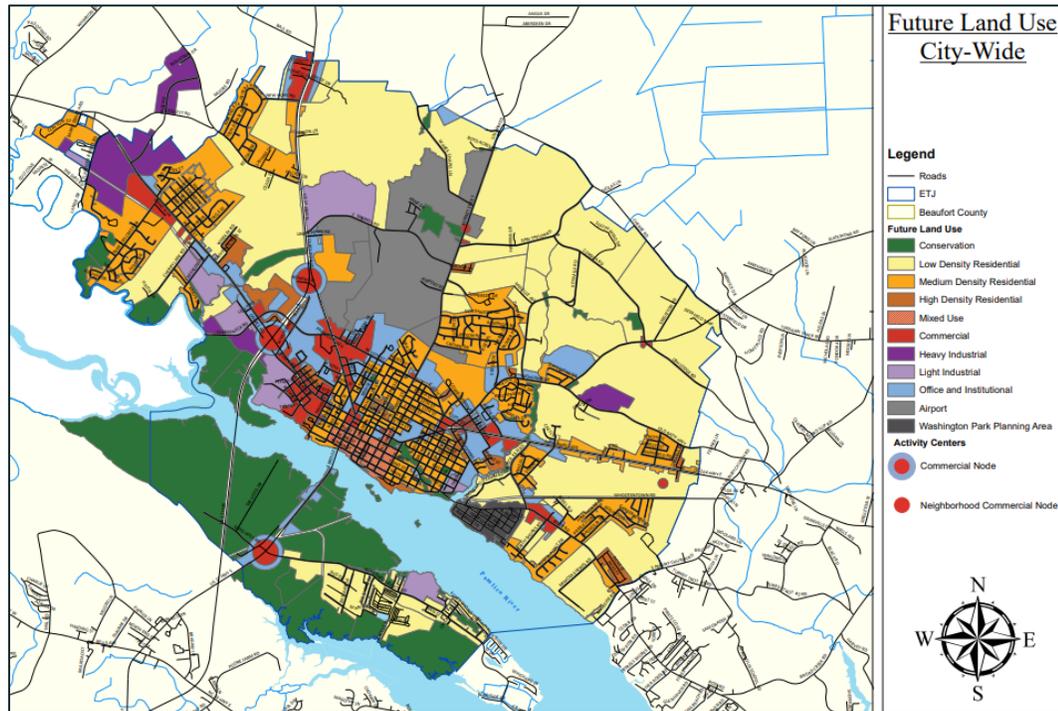
- Visitor Dog Run
- 18-hole disc golf course at the 4-H Rural Life Center
- New multi-use facility being designed for 4-H Rural Life Center



# Future Land Use vs Zoning

Future Land Use establishes a vision for the community.

Zoning establishes the rules for achieving that vision.



# Public Engagement



STAKEHOLDER  
INTERVIEWS /  
FOCUS GROUPS



COMMUNITY  
SURVEY

**Land Use Plan  
UPDATE**

SAVE THE DATE:  
PUBLIC MEETING MAY 9TH!  
MORE DETAILS TO COME

# MAY 9<sup>TH</sup>

[www.erwin-nc.org/departments-services/code-enforcement/](http://www.erwin-nc.org/departments-services/code-enforcement/)

Take the survey now!  
Use the link or QR code  
provided here to take or  
share the survey today.  
<https://t.ly/Xa7G>

STEERING  
COMMITTEE



PUBLIC  
MEETINGS



SOCIAL MEDIA

# Survey

## COMMON TOPICS

Concerns

Values & Assets

Land Use & Development Preference

Economic Development Priorities

Natural Resource Priorities

Parks/Recreation Priorities

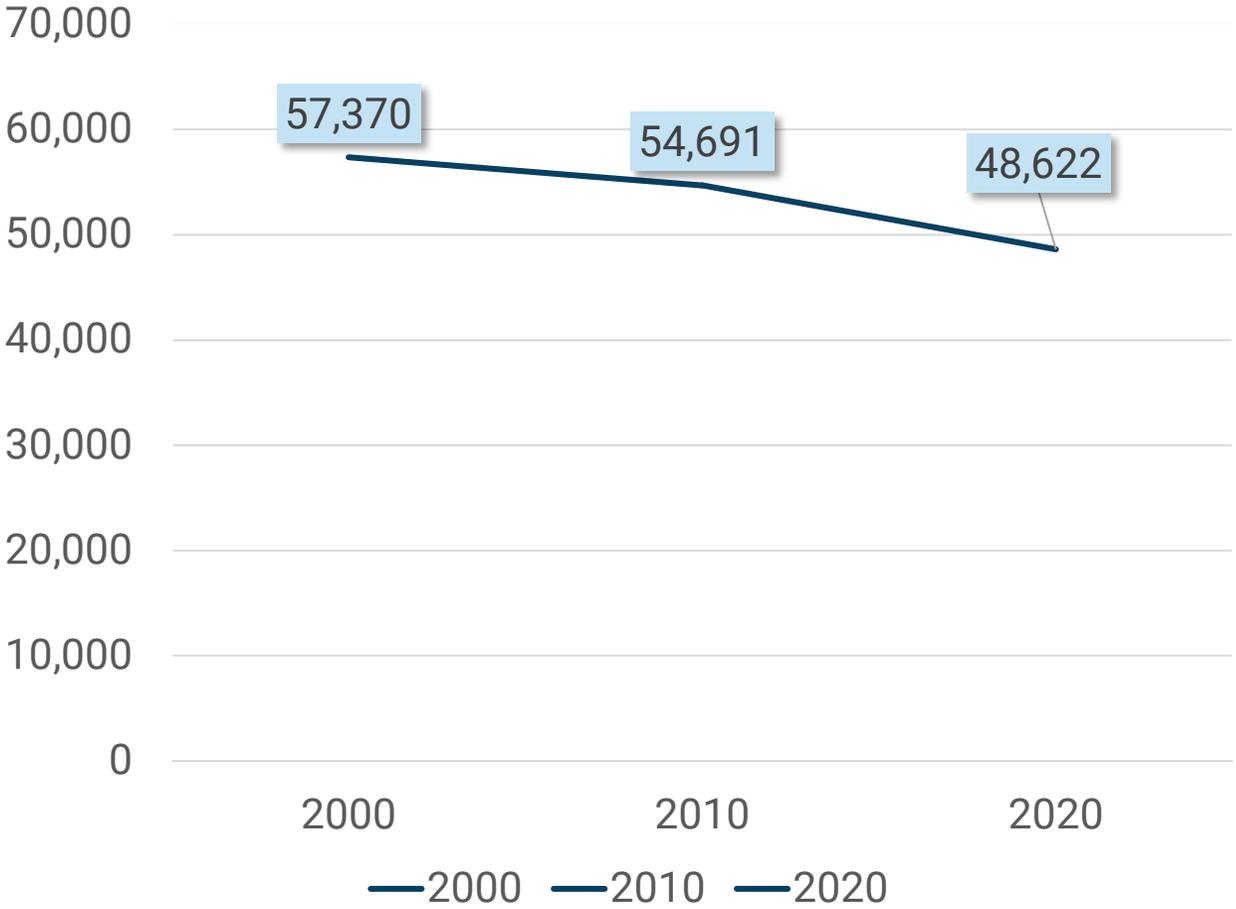
*What is missing? What more do you want to know from residents?*





# Population and Economy

# Population



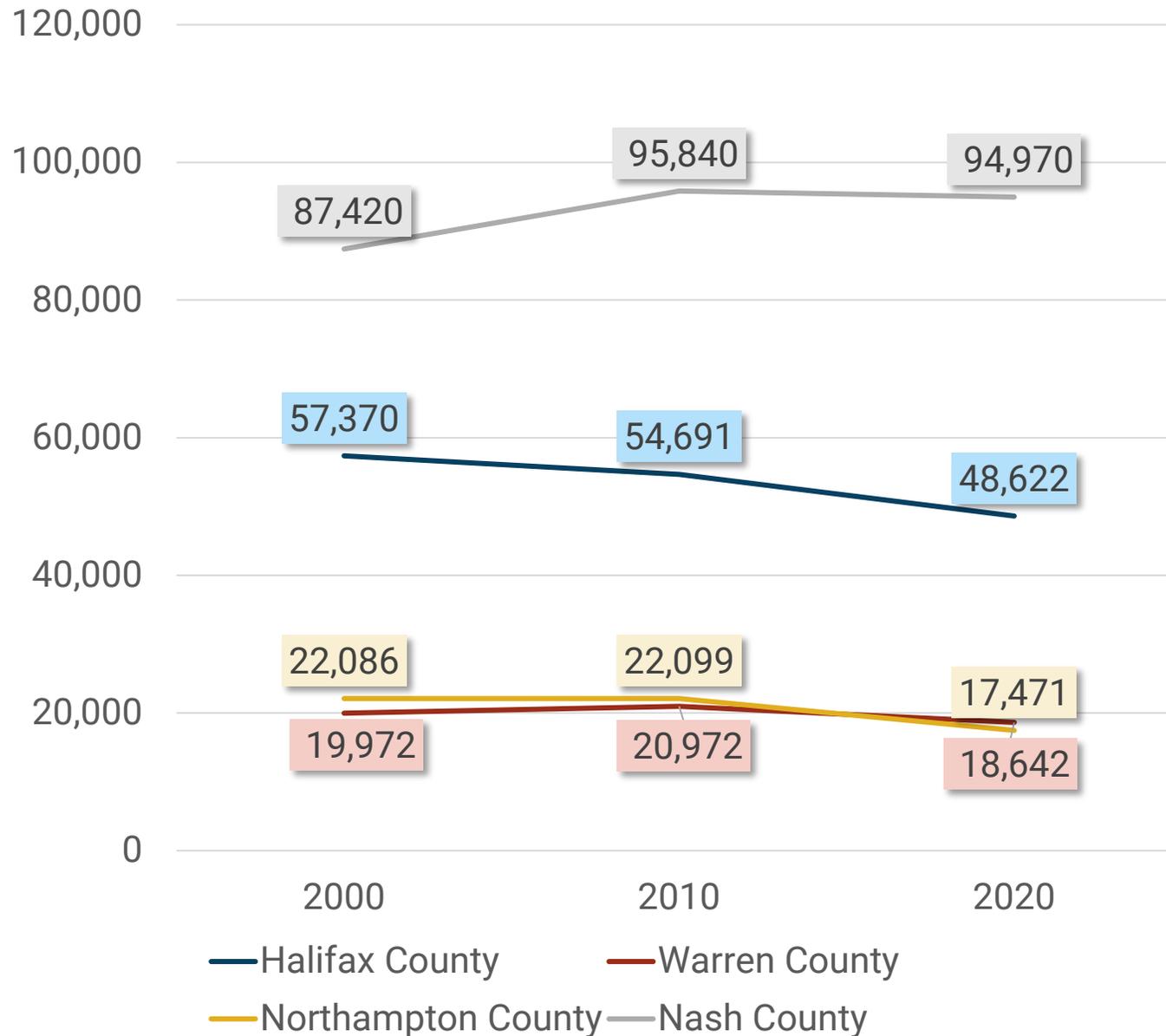
- The County's population has declined by approximately **8,748** people since 2000 or by **15.2%**

Source: Decennial Census (2000, 2010, 2020)

# Population Comparison

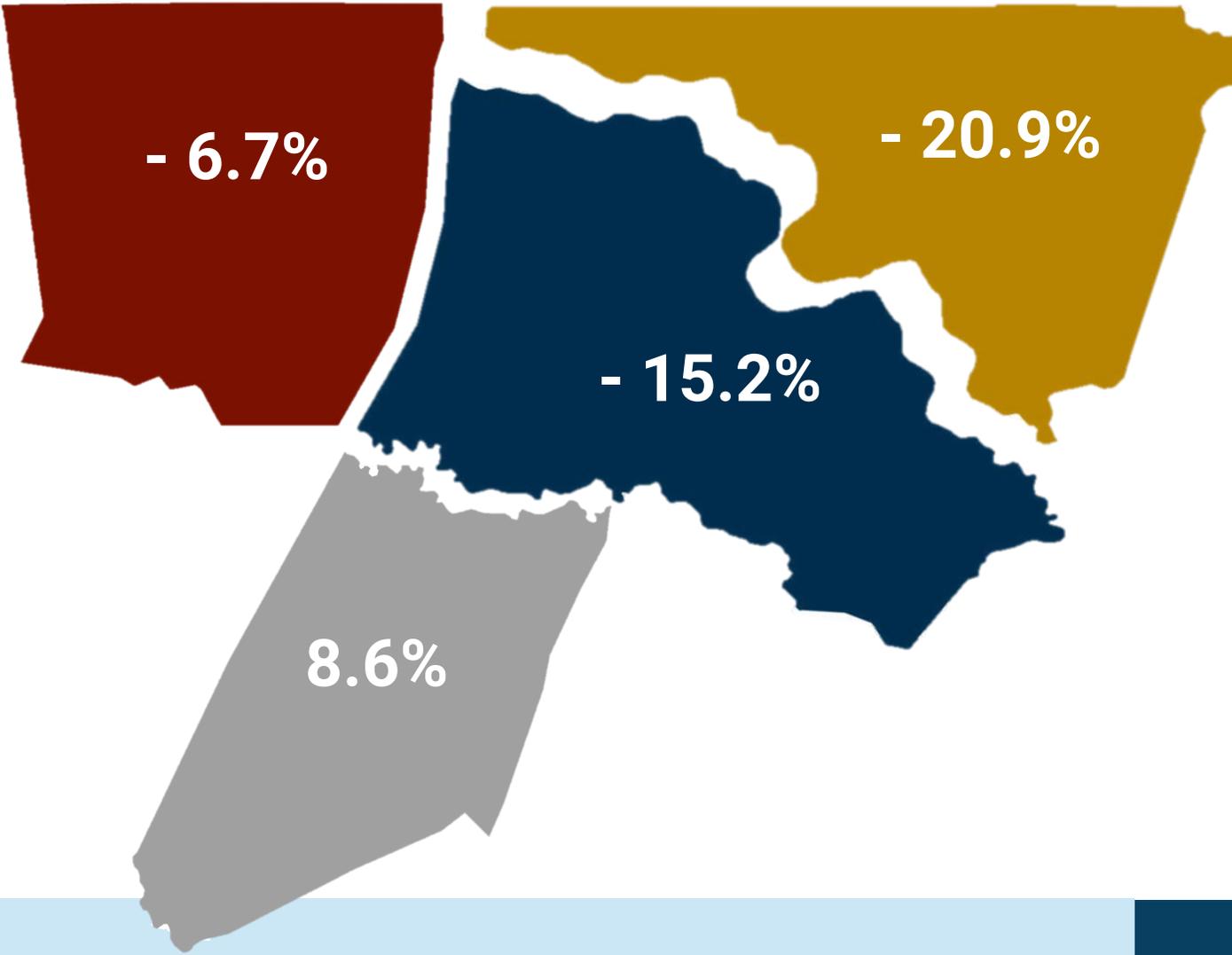
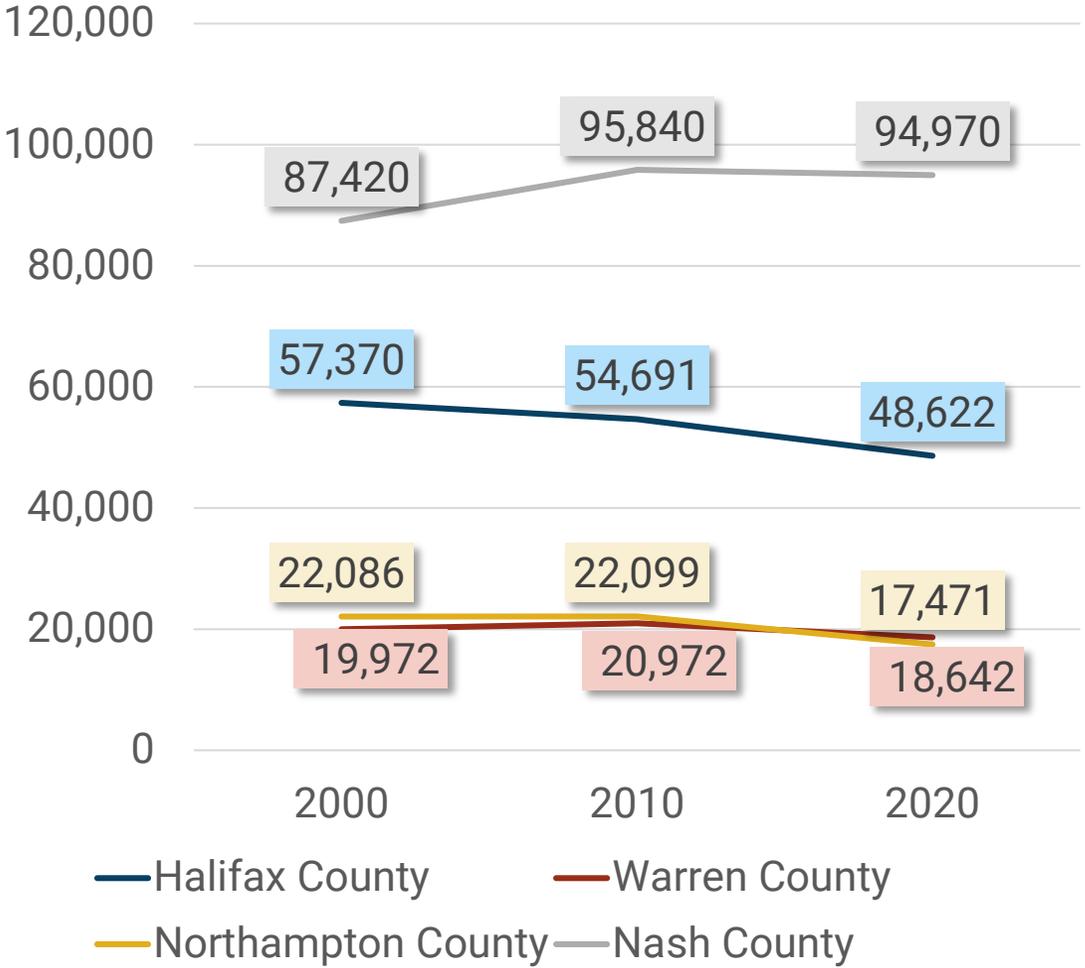
Halifax County and most surrounding county's have lost population since 2000.

- Northampton has lost **4,615** people
- Warren County has lost **1,330** people
- Nash County has gained **7,550**



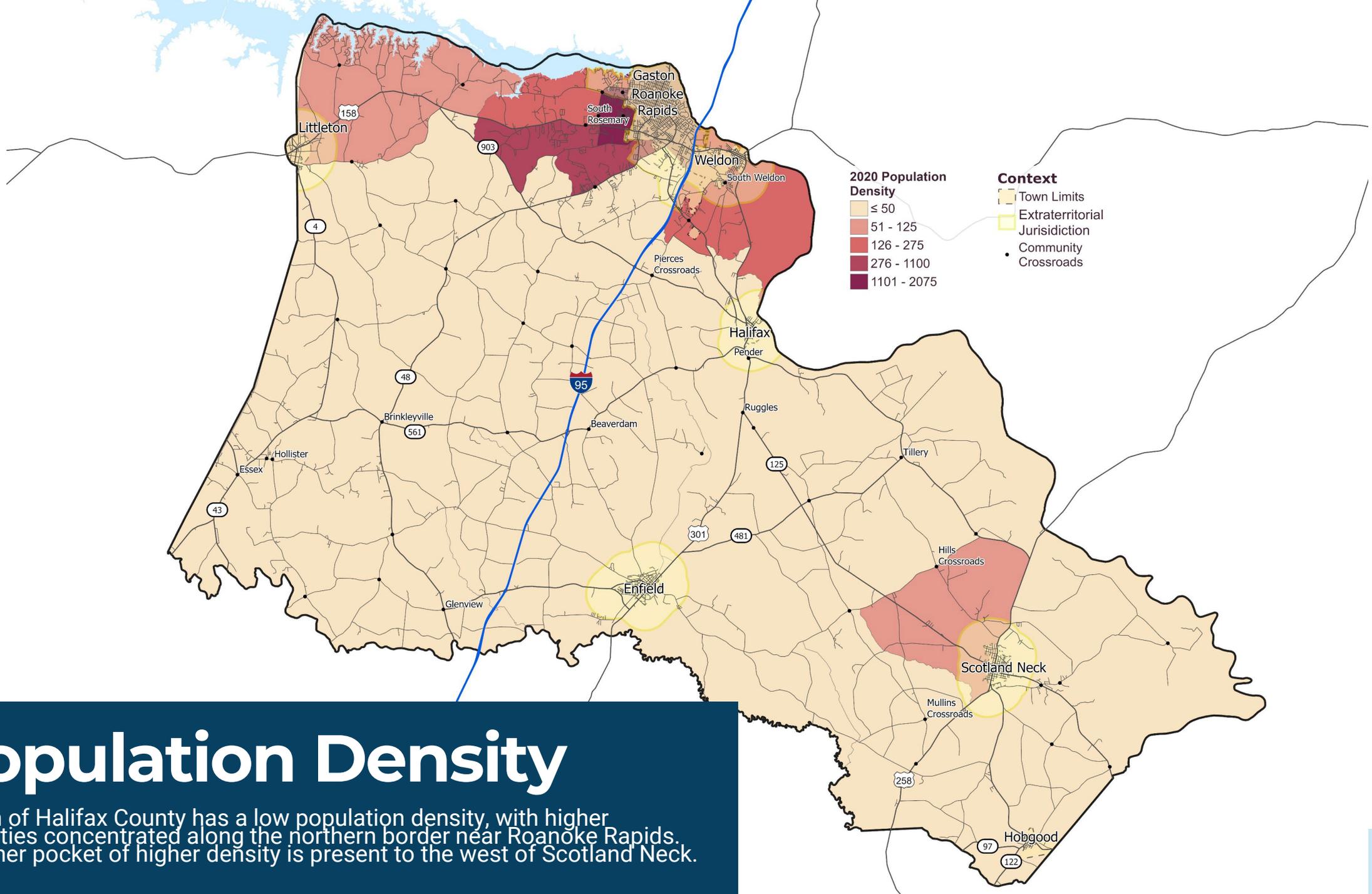
Source: Decennial Census (2000, 2010, 2020)

# Population Comparison



Source: Decennial Census (2000, 2010, 2020)





# Population Density

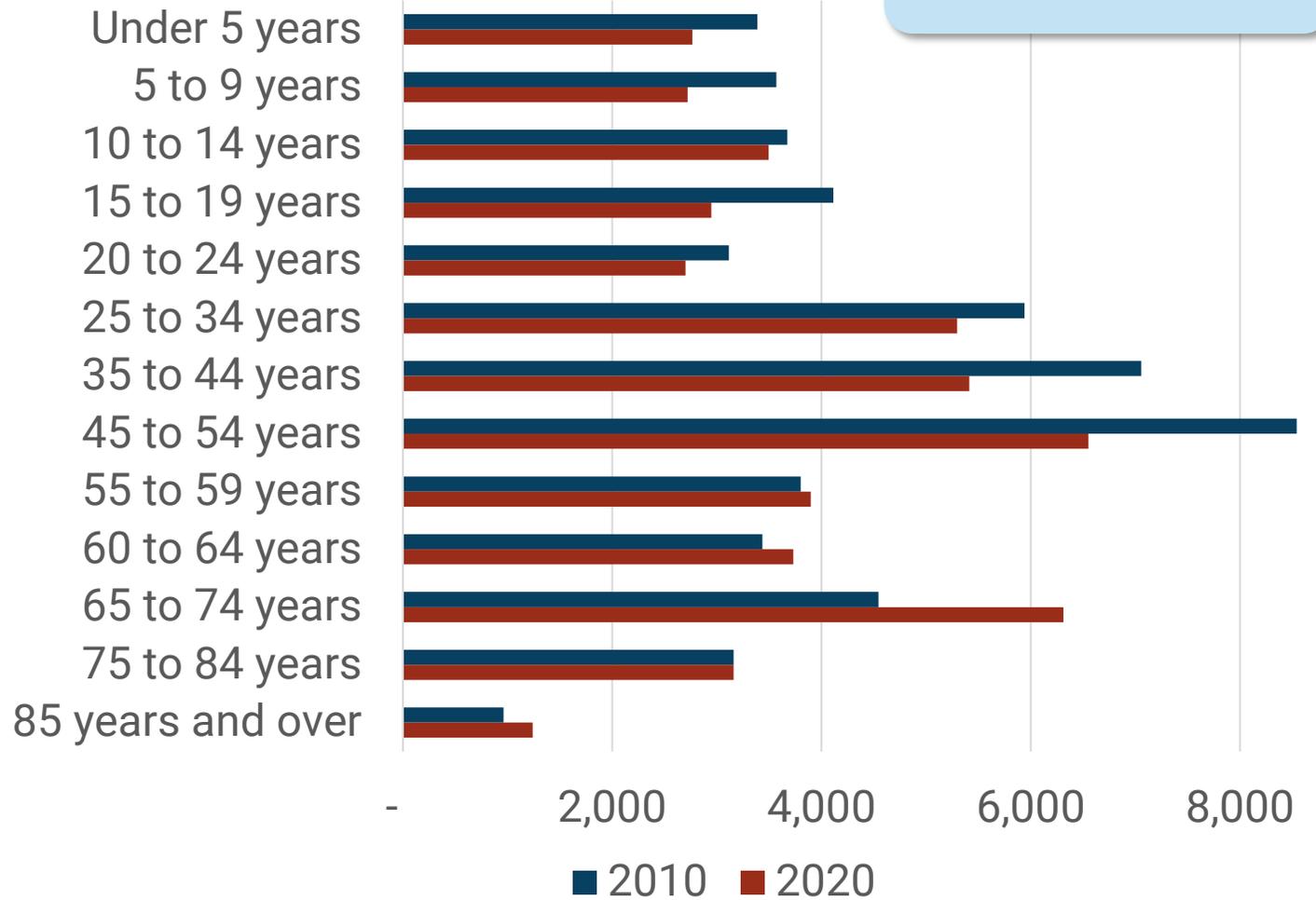
Much of Halifax County has a low population density, with higher densities concentrated along the northern border near Roanoke Rapids. Another pocket of higher density is present to the west of Scotland Neck.

# Age Cohorts

Halifax County is trending older, with the age groups that are **55+** seeing increases between 2010 and 2020.

The County's median age has slightly increased by **2.8** years since 2010. In 2010, the County's median age was 41.1 which was significantly lower than 2000.

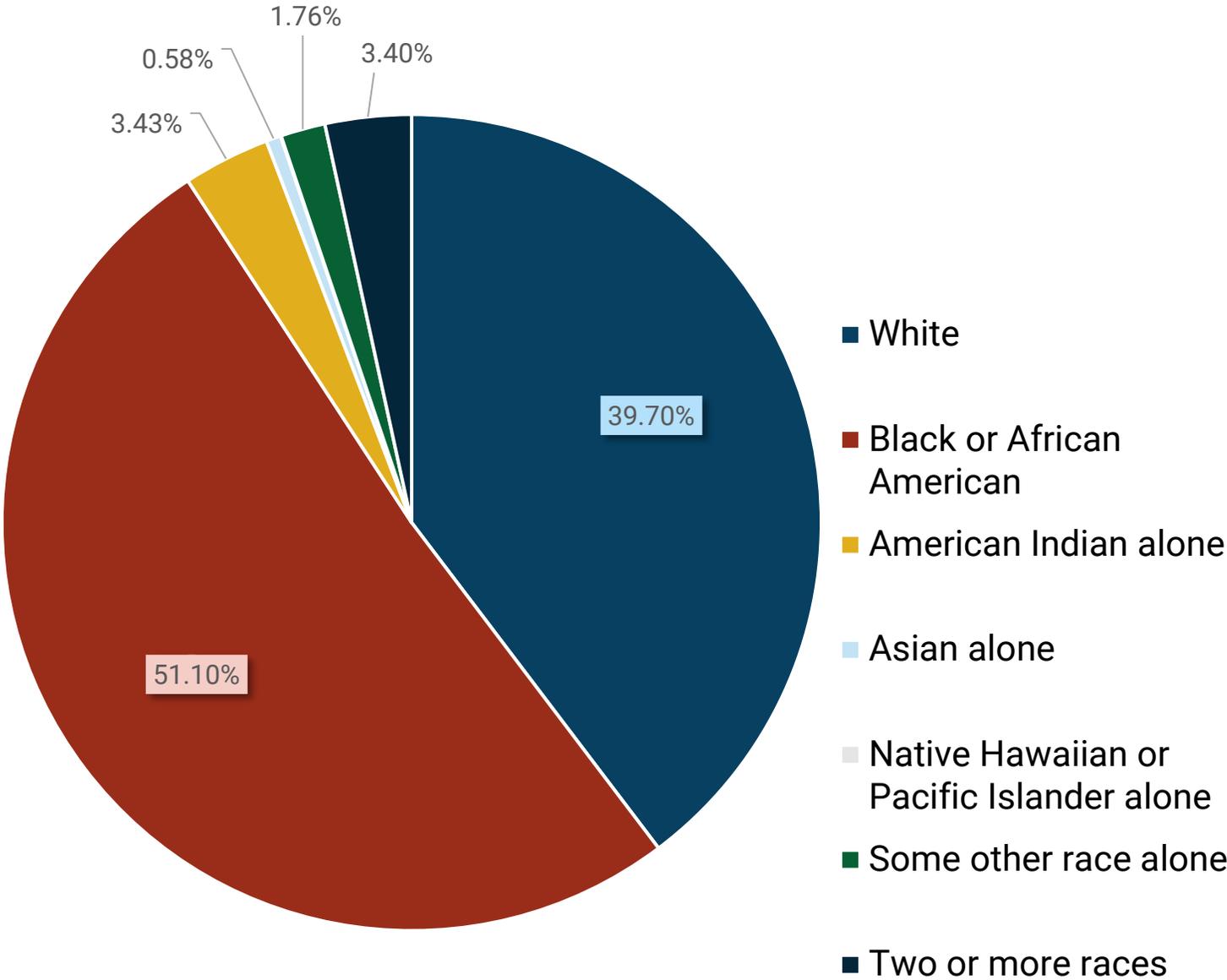
Median Age (2020)  
**43.9**



# Racial Makeup

Halifax County is primarily Black or African American at **51.1%**, and White at **39.7%**.

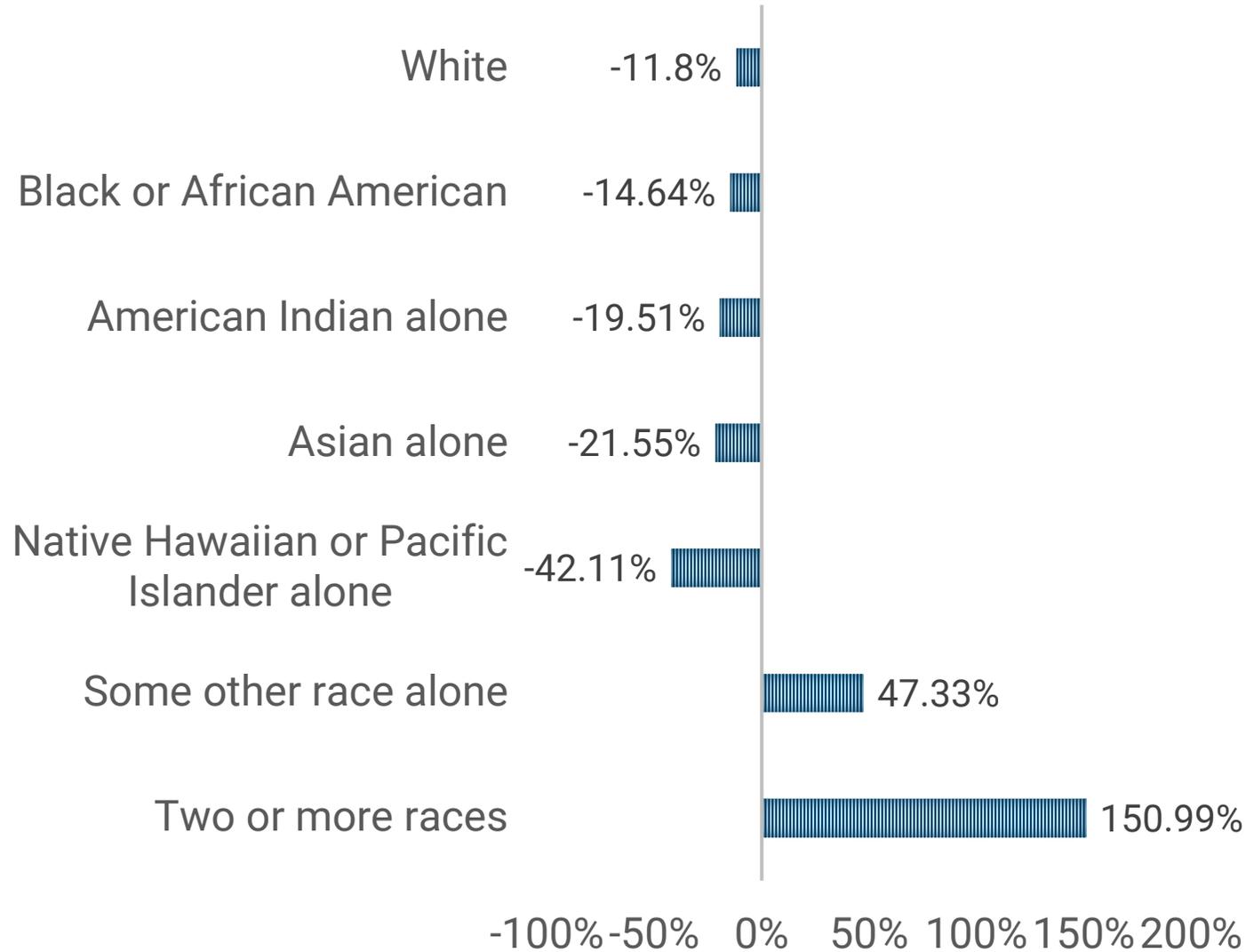
Other races include American Indian (**3.4%**), Two or more (**3.4%**), Some other race alone (**1.7%**), and Asian alone (**0.5%**)



Source: Decennial Census (2020)



## PERCENT CHANGE 2010-2020



# Population Diversity

From 2010 to 2020, Halifax County has lost population in almost all population segments except for Some Other Race and Two or More Races.

Some other Race alone increased by approximately **47%**.

Two or more races increased by approximately **151%**.



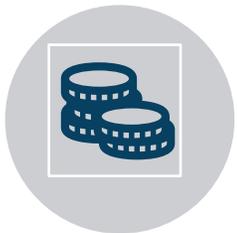
Source: American Community Survey, 5- year estimates (2010, 2020)

# Employment Top Industries

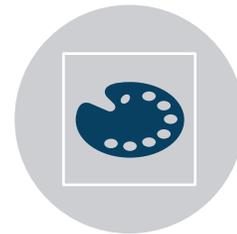
## Industry Growth from 2020 to 2022



PROFESSIONAL, SCIENTIFIC,  
AND TECHNICAL SERVICES  
+44%  
CHANGE FROM 2020-2022

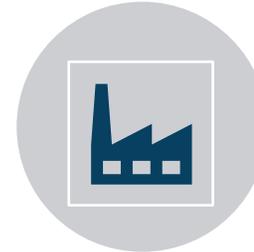


MANAGEMENT OF  
COMPANIES &  
ENTERPRISE, +31%  
CHANGE FROM 2020-2022



ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT,  
AND RECREATION +24%  
CHANGE FROM 2020-2022

## Top Sectors, 2022



MANUFACTURING,  
16%  
OF HALIFAX COUNTY JOBS IN  
2022



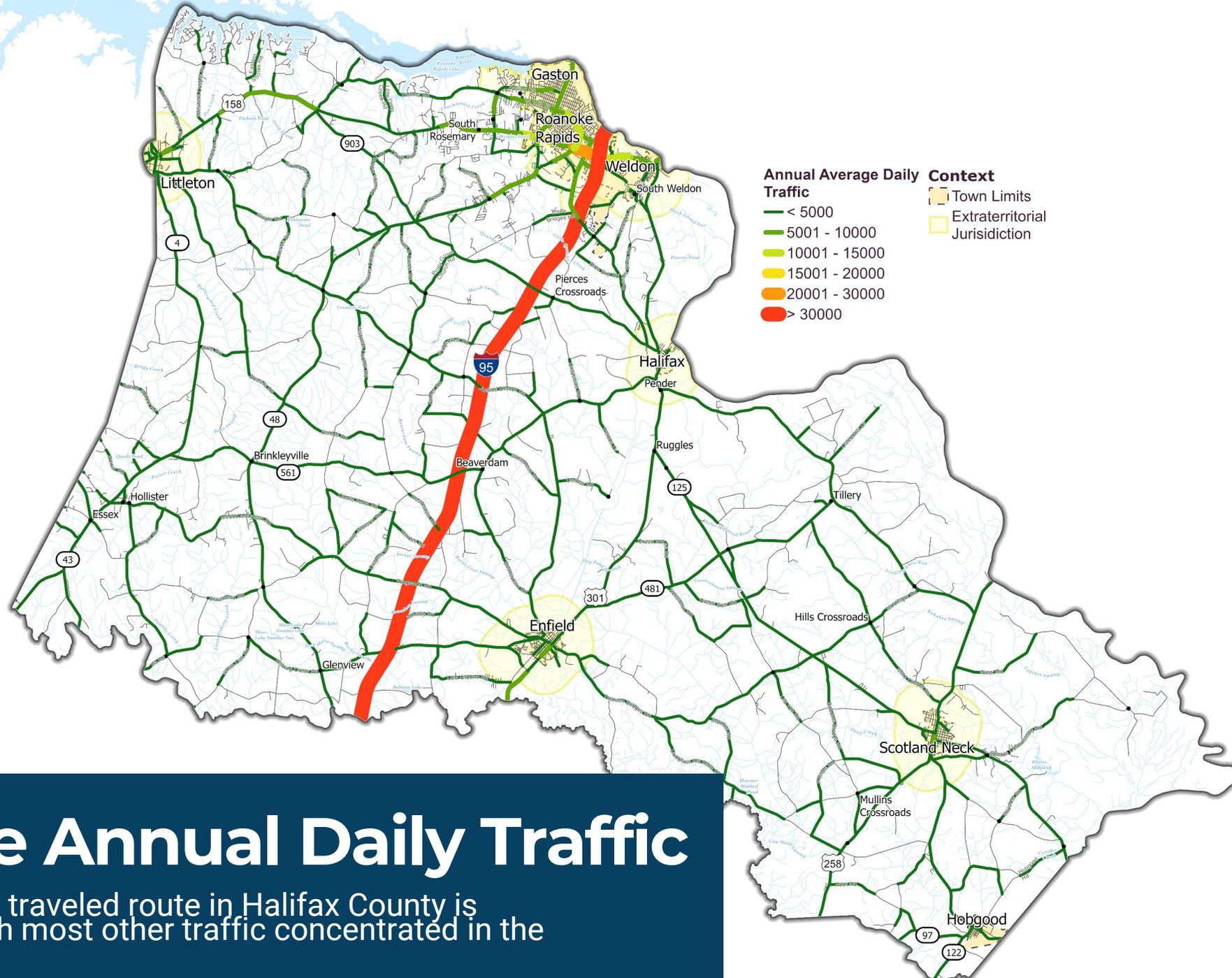
HEALTH CARE AND  
SOCIAL ASSISTANCE,  
15%  
OF HALIFAX COUNTY JOBS IN  
2022



RETAIL TRADE, 14%  
OF HALIFAX COUNTY JOBS IN  
2022

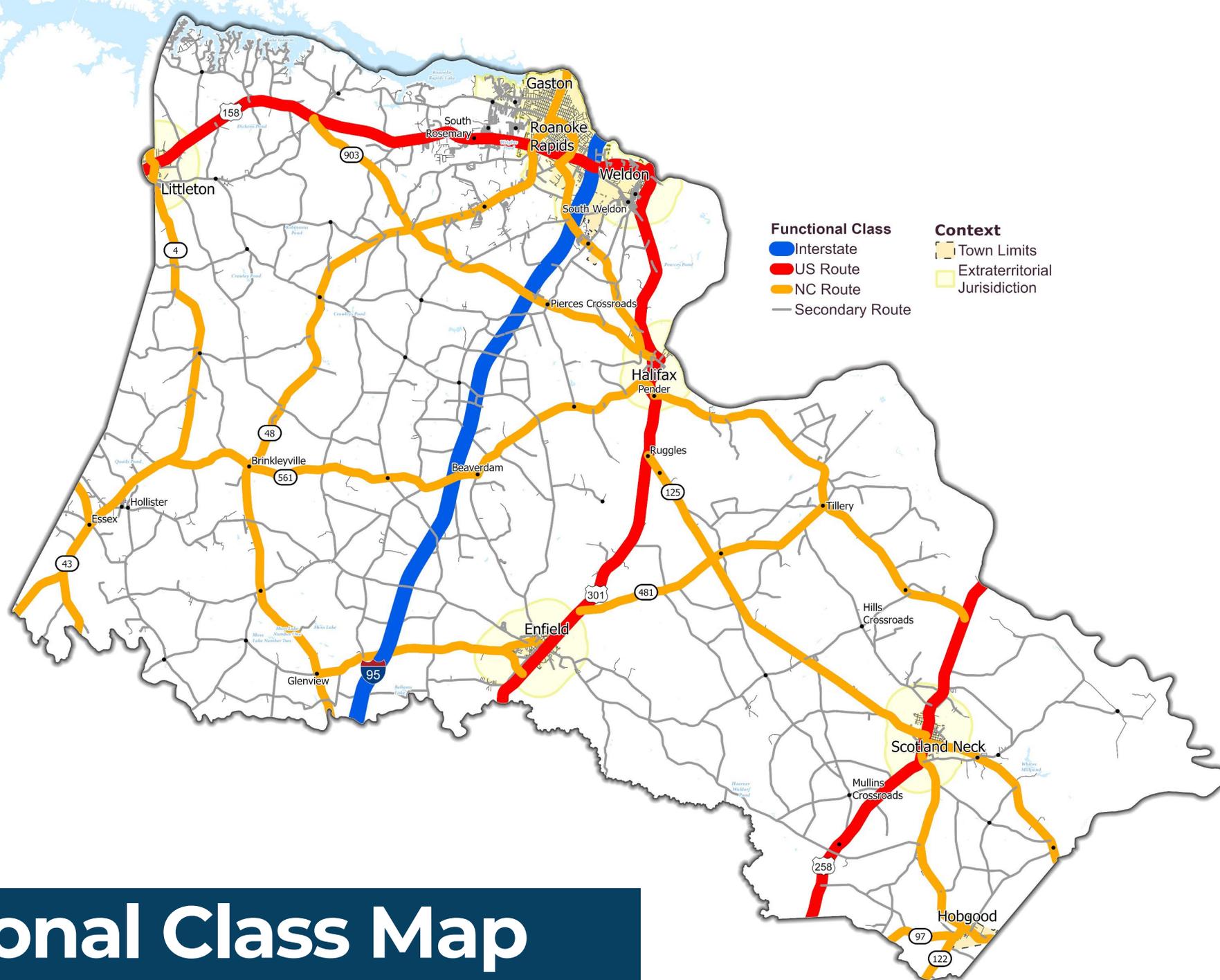


# Transportation



# Average Annual Daily Traffic

The most heavily traveled route in Halifax County is Interstate 95, with most other traffic concentrated in the towns.



# Functional Class Map



# Agriculture



**220**

**Farms in Halifax County**

**183,565**

**Acres of farmland**

**834**

**Average acreage of farms**

**\$188.7M**

**Total market value**

**Farming in  
Halifax  
County**



# Top Crops & Livestock

## TOP 3 CROPS BY ACRE

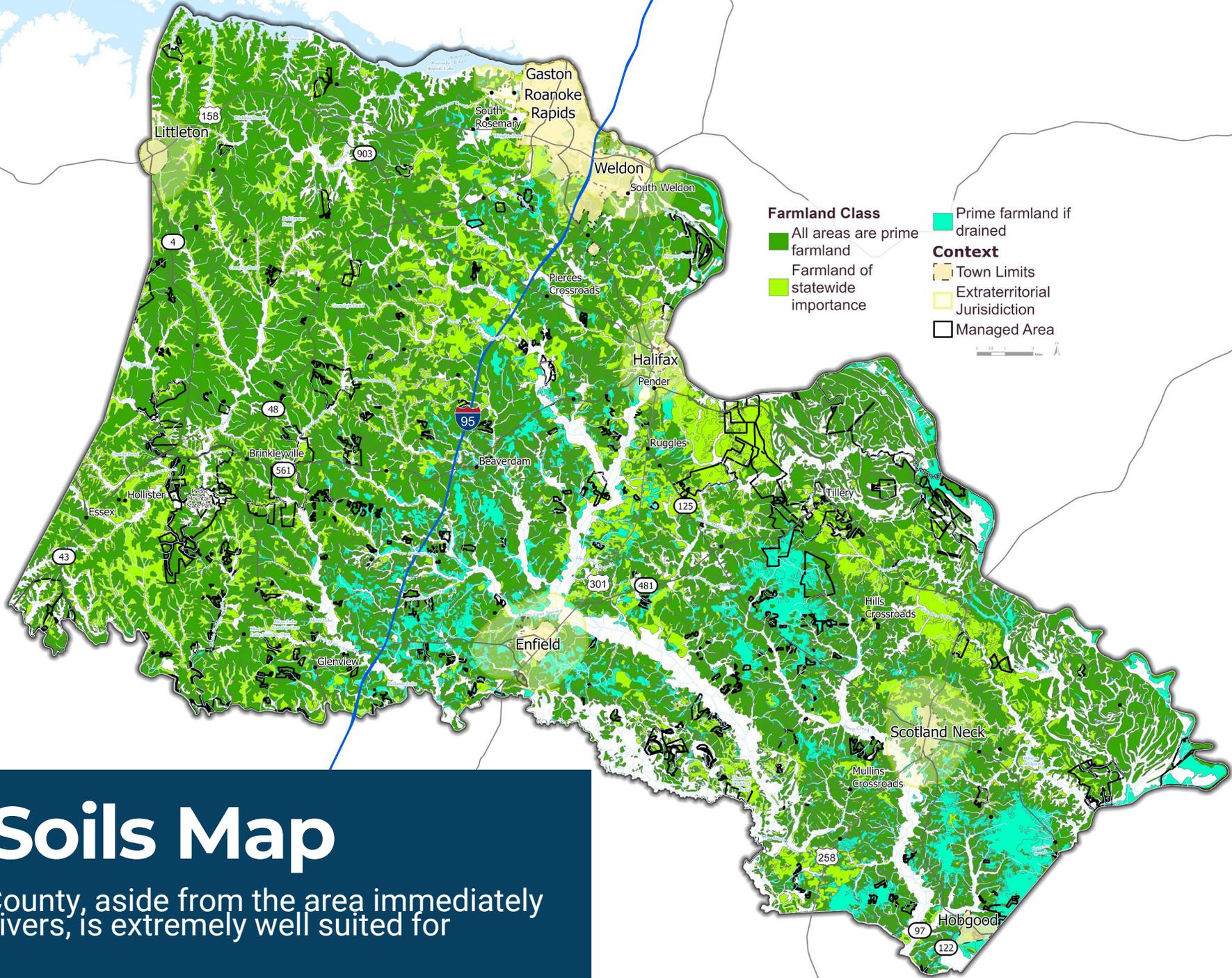
1. Cotton (55,793 acres)
2. Soybeans (41,585 acres)
3. Peanuts (10,323 acres)

## LIVESTOCK INVENTORY

1. Meat Poultry (>300,000)
2. Egg Poultry (>200,000)
3. Hogs & Pigs (>37,000)





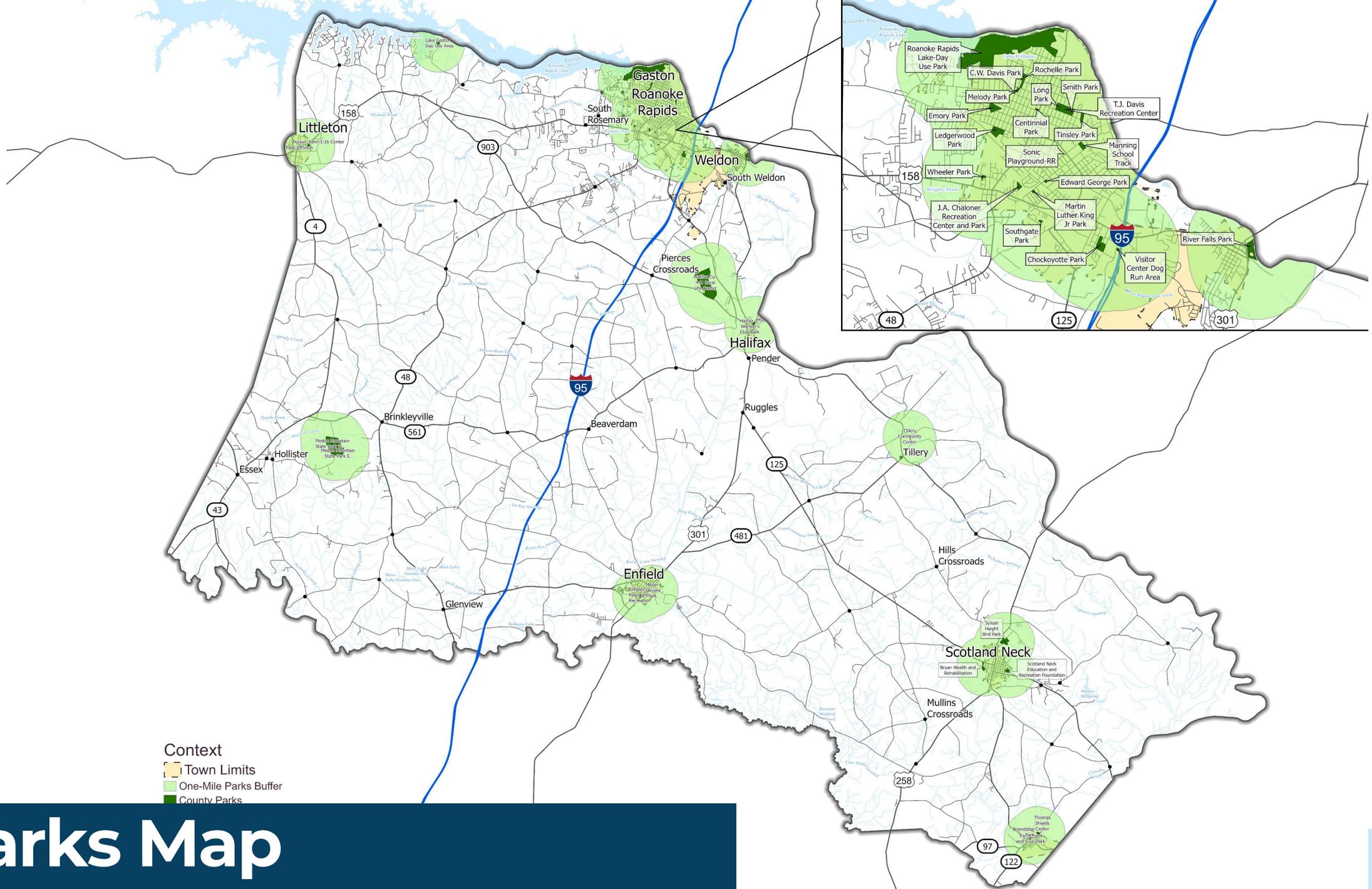


# Prime Soils Map

Most of Halifax County, aside from the area immediately surrounding the rivers, is extremely well suited for agriculture.



# Parks and Natural Resources



- Context
- Town Limits
  - One-Mile Parks Buffer
  - County Parks

# Parks Map



37  
PARKS

1,101.51  
TOTAL ACREAGE



# Parks Analysis

**STATE PARK**  
234.07 Acres

**RECREATIONAL PARKS**  
702.31 Acres

**ACTIVE PARKS**  
89.03 Acres

**PASSIVE PARKS**  
43.28 Acres

**COMMUNITY PARKS**  
30.68 Acres

**TOWN-SQUARE PARKS**  
2.14 Acres

1

STATE PARK

5

RECREATIONAL  
PARKS

10

ACTIVE PARKS

13

PASSIVE PARKS

5

COMMUNITY  
PARKS

3

TOWN-SQUARE  
PARKS

*Roanoke Canal Trail*



*Roanoke River at River Falls Park*



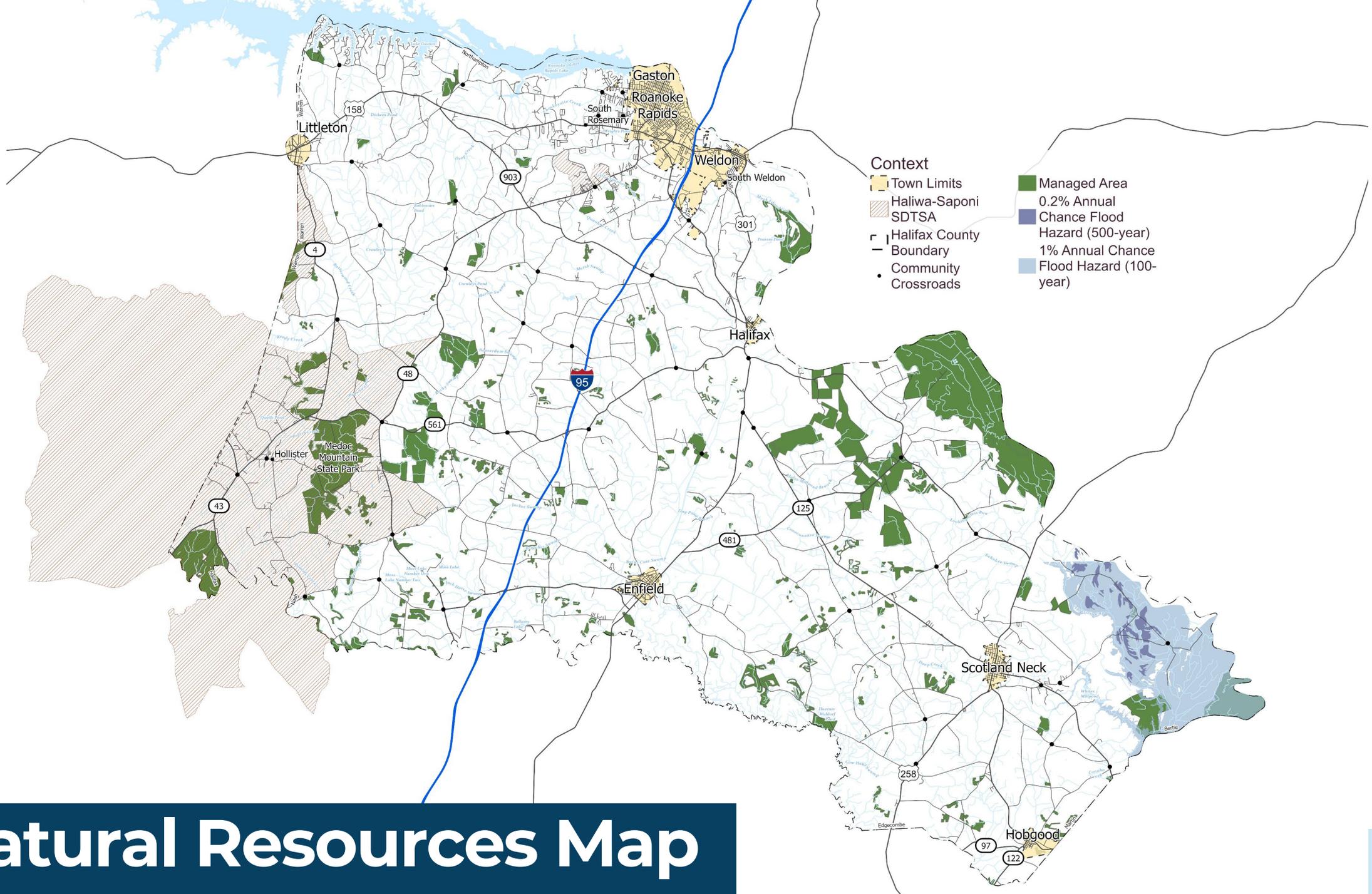
*4-H Rural Life Center Sports Court*



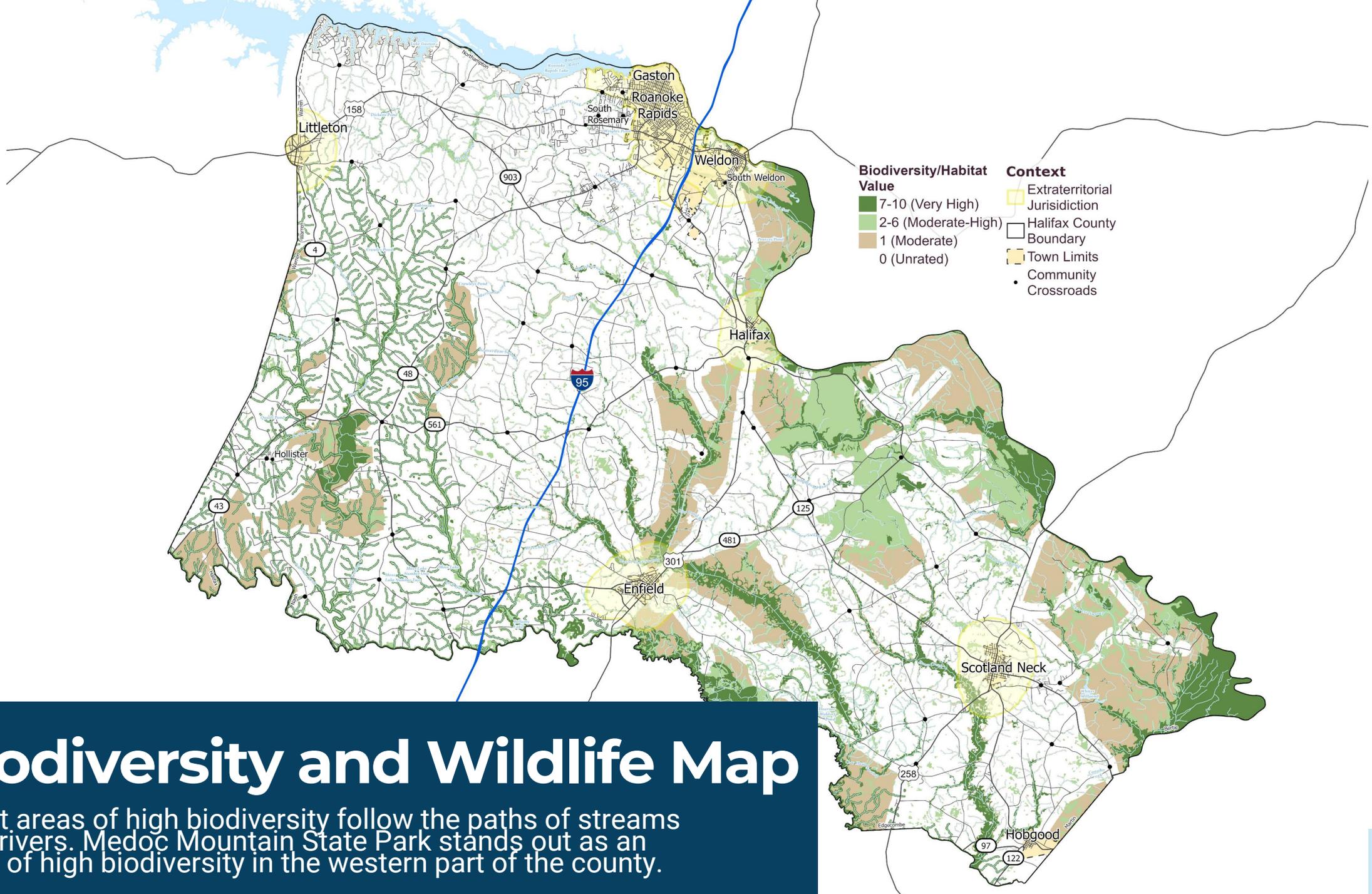
*Fishing Loop Trail*



*Visitor Center at Medoc Mountain State Park*

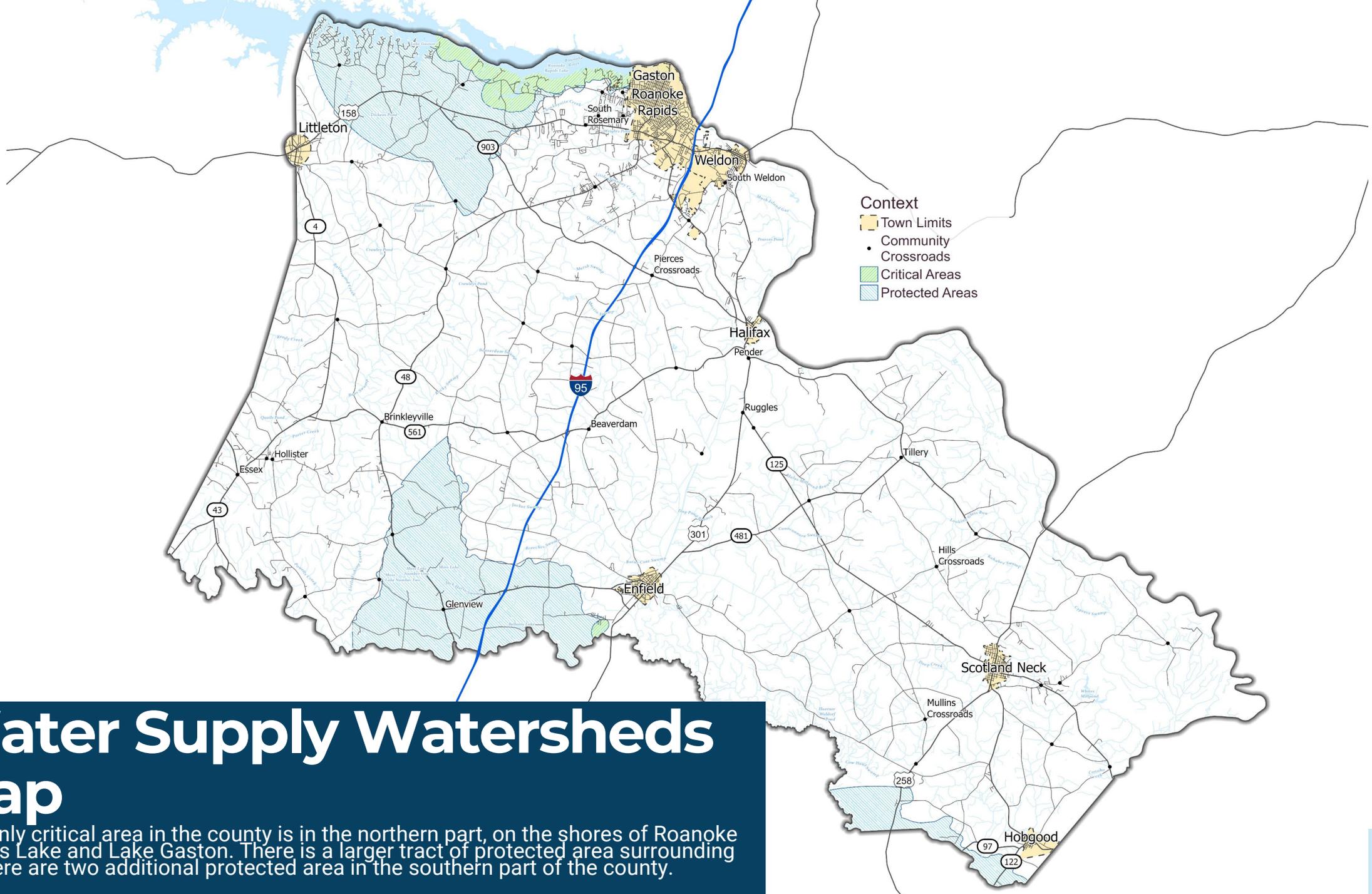


# Natural Resources Map



# Biodiversity and Wildlife Map

Most areas of high biodiversity follow the paths of streams and rivers. Medoc Mountain State Park stands out as an area of high biodiversity in the western part of the county.



**Context**

- Town Limits
- Community Crossroads
- Critical Areas
- Protected Areas

# Water Supply Watersheds Map

The only critical area in the county is in the northern part, on the shores of Roanoke Rapids Lake and Lake Gaston. There is a larger tract of protected area surrounding it. There are two additional protected area in the southern part of the county.



# Community Tour Highlights

# Activity Centers



**HALIFAX**



**WELDON**



**ROANOKE RAPIDS**



**LITTLETON**



**SCOTLAND NECK**



# Rural Neighborhood Centers



**WHITE OAK**



**GLENVIEW**



**HOLLISTER**



**ESSEX**

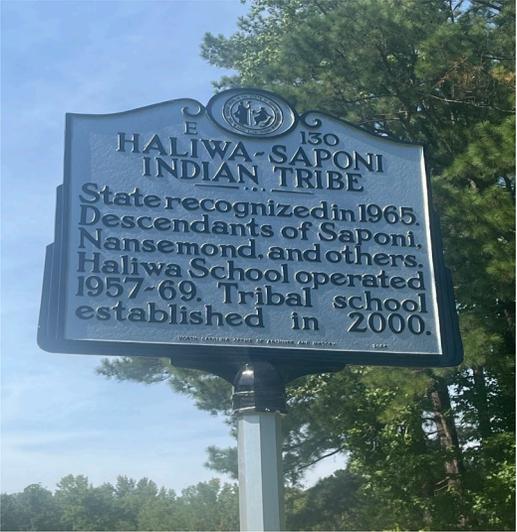
# Rural Assets



**LAKE GASTON**



**MEDOC MOUNTAIN**



**HALIWA-SAPONI TRIBAL LAND**



# Housing



# Discussion and Next Steps



**What should this  
Plan accomplish?**

**What are the biggest issues and  
opportunities facing Halifax County over the  
next 5 to 10 years?**

# Project Website

<https://www.halifaxnc.com/449/Halifax-County-Comprehensive-Land-Use-an>



# Next Steps

Additional Mapping & Analysis  
Stakeholder Interviews  
Meetings with Board of  
Commissioners and Planning  
Board  
Community Survey  
Steering Committee #2  
Public Meetings  
Draft Vision & Goals

