

## Addendum to 2018 Rockbridge Area Community Health Assessment

### Economic Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic

During the early months of 2020, the global coronavirus pandemic, or COVID-19 pandemic, began impacting the United States, spreading at a rapid rate and drastically changing the health and economic climate. In order to slow the spread of COVID-19, Virginia's Governor Ralph Northam issued Executive Order 53 limiting operations of non-essential businesses, prohibiting large gatherings, extending school closures and other measures to limit the spread of the virus. Shortly thereafter, the Governor also issued a stay-at-home order, requiring Virginia residents to stay home as much as possible through June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020. This response, like that of other states, may have slowed the spread of the virus, but also impacted the economy in a substantial way. High unemployment rates and other economic impacts of the pandemic will likely worsen the social determinants of health for many people in the service area. The data below shows how the unemployment rate in the region changed from January 2020 to April 2020.

	Rockbridge County	Lexington City	Buena Vista City
<b>January 2020 Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	3.2	4.8	2.8
<b>April 2020 Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	9.4	10.3	8.7

\*Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment Statistics

This addendum to the 2018 Rockbridge Area Community Health Assessment was approved by the Carilion Stonewall Jackson Hospital Board of Directors on July 16, 2020.

## COVID-19 Cases Across the Carilion Clinic Health System

Cases of COVID-19 were identified in Virginia at the beginning of March and have continued to spread ever since. The rate of cases in the region and a snapshot of the cases seen by Carilion Clinic are below.

Statistics within the Rockbridge Area (June 30, 2020):

	<b>Rockbridge County</b>	<b>Lexington City</b>	<b>Buena Vista City</b>
<b>Cases per 100,000 people</b>	132	140	241

\*Source: Virginia Department of Health, current as of June 30, 2020

Number of Cases Diagnosed within Carilion Clinic Health System (June 29, 2020):

	<b>Positive</b>	<b>Negative</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>
Last 14 Days	270	4,752	5,022
15-30 Days	103	3,997	4,100
>30 Days	257	7,113	7,370
Grand Total	630	15,862	16,492

\*Source: Carilion Clinic, current as of June 29, 2020

The drastic changes to everyday life due to the pandemic have done more than threatened the economy and health of our communities. According to a poll by the Kaiser Family Foundation in March, 45% of adults in the US reported a negative impact to their mental health because of the pandemic<sup>1</sup>. After long periods of social distancing, business and school closures, and other disruptions to daily life caused by COVID-19, mental health is a growing concern for Carilion and will continue to be a priority issue.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.kff.org/coronavirus-covid-19/report/kff-health-tracking-poll-early-april-2020/>