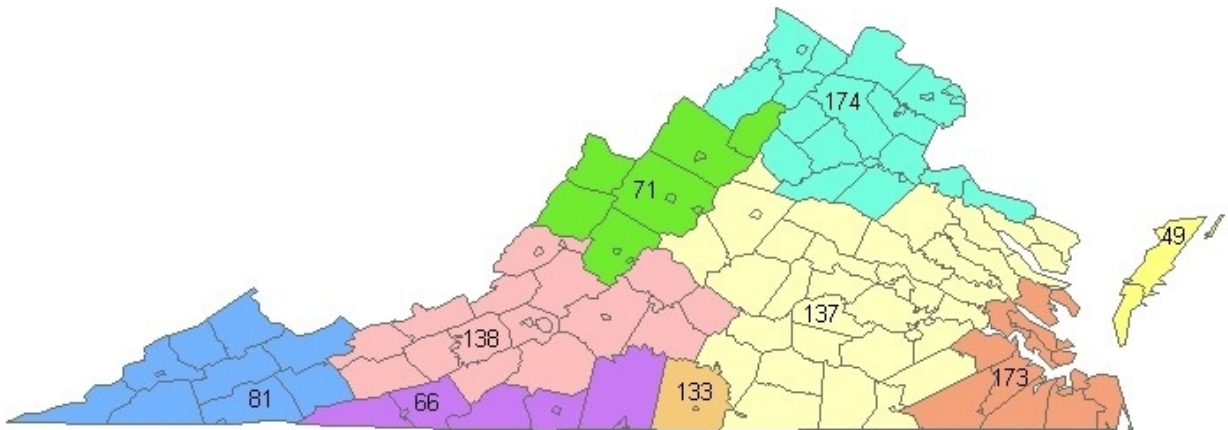


Commonwealth of Virginia Business Economic Area (BEA) Map

"Business Economic Areas" or "BEAs" mean a categorization method established by the United States Department of Commerce – Bureau of Economic Analysis and used by the state agency to identify geographically similar trade and economic communities. Some more populated BEAs are further broken down into smaller subsets or peer groupings, based upon number of unique participants served by authorized stores.

"Peer group" means a classification of applicants and authorized stores into groups based on common characteristics or criteria that affect food prices for the purpose of applying appropriate competitive price criteria to stores at authorization and limiting payments for foods at competitive pricing levels.



Legend:

BEA Code	Peer Group(s)	Business Economic Area Name	Total Stores
49	10	Accomack, Northampton	10
66	11	Danville	37
71	12	Harrisonburg	37
81	13	Bristol	55
133	14	Halifax	4
137	15, 16, 17	Richmond, Charlottesville, Central Virginia	172
138	25, 26, 27	Roanoke, Christiansburg, Radford	97
173	35, 36, 37	Tidewater	171
174	45, 46, 47	Northern Virginia	181
Stores Outside Virginia – Pocomoke City MD, Franklin WV, and Middlesboro KY, Lancaster, PA			4
Total Stores			768

The totals in the above chart are based on the number of authorized retail stores the Division of WIC and Community Nutrition Services has as of July 1, 2009. There are 18 peer groups presently being used by the Virginia WIC Program.