

VS.9 20TH CENTURY AND BEYOND – 2020 UPDATE

STANDARD VS.9A

VIRGINIA’S ECONOMY TRANSFORMS

During the 20th century and beyond, Virginia changed from a rural, agricultural society to a more urban, industrial society.

During the early 20th century, agriculture began to change.

- **Mechanization** (the tractor) and improvements in transportation changed farming.
- Crop prices were low.

Growth of Virginia’s cities

- People moved from rural to urban areas for economic opportunities.
- **Technological developments** in transportation, roads, railroads, and streetcars helped cities grow.
- **Coal mining** spurred the growth of Virginia

During the 20th century, **Northern Virginia** has experienced **growth** due to increases in the number of **federal jobs** located in the region.

In the late 20th century and the early 21st century, **Northern Virginia** and the **Coastal Plain (Tidewater)** region have grown due to **computer technology**.

Virginia’s population has become **increasingly diverse** as people have moved to Virginia from many other states and countries.

STANDARD VS.9B

WOMEN’S SUFFRAGE & GREAT DEPRESSION

As Virginia became more urban and industrial, it became more connected with the rest of the United States and was greatly impacted by major national events.

With the New Deal, the federal government began to take on a much larger role in the daily lives of Virginians.



1920 - The Constitution was amended to give women the right to vote.

The U.S. Constitution was **amended** in 1920 to give **women the right to vote**.

- **Maggie L. Walker** was an African American leader from Virginia who supported equal rights for women.

The **Great Depression** was a period of worldwide harsh economic conditions during the 1930s.

- Many Virginians **lost their jobs**, farms, homes, and businesses.
- The federal government established **New Deal** programs to provide **employment** and ease many hardships.

STANDARD VS.9C

DESEGREGATION & MASSIVE RESISTANCE

After World War II, African Americans demanded equal treatment and the recognition of their rights as American citizens.

As a result of the Civil Rights Movement, laws were passed that made racial discrimination illegal.

Terms to know

- **Segregation:** The separation of people, usually based on race or religion
- **Desegregation:** Legal end of racial segregation
- **Integration:** Full equality of all races in the use of public facilities

STANDARD VS.9D

IMPORTANT VIRGINIANS



Barbara Johns led her classmates on a student strike against segregation in 1951

Many individuals from Virginia have had social, political, and economic impact on life in Virginia during the twentieth century and beyond.

Citizens who made political, social, and/or economic contributions

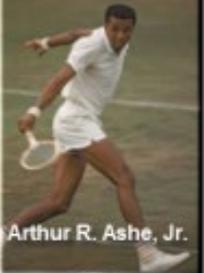
- **Maggie L. Walker** was the first African American woman to establish and become a **bank president** in the United States.
- **Harry F. Byrd, Sr.**, as governor, was known for a “**Pay As You Go**” policy for road improvements, and he **modernized** Virginia state government.
- **Oliver W. Hill, Sr.**, was a lawyer and **civil rights leader** who worked for equal rights of African Americans.
 - He played a key role in the Brown v. Board of Education decision.
- **Arthur R. Ashe, Jr.**, was the first African American winner of a major men’s **tennis** singles championship.
 - He was also an author and eloquent spokesperson for **social change**.
- **A. Linwood Holton, Jr.**, as **governor** of Virginia, promoted **racial equality** and appointed more African Americans and women to positions in state government than previous governors.
- **L. Douglas Wilder**, as governor of Virginia, was the **first African American** to be elected a state **governor** in the United States



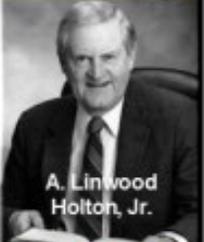
Maggie Walker



Oliver W. Hill, Sr.



Arthur R. Ashe, Jr.



A. Linwood Holton, Jr.



L. Douglas Wilder

Desegregation and Massive Resistance in Virginia

- **Barbara Johns**, a 16-year-old high school junior in Farmville, Virginia, led a student **strike** against segregation in 1951.
 - The case, **Davis v. Prince Edward**, became of one of the five cases reviewed by the U.S. Supreme Court when it declared segregation unconstitutional in **Brown v. Board of Education**.
- The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in 1954 (**Brown v. Board of Education**) that “**separate but equal**” public schools were **unconstitutional**.



- All public schools, including those in Virginia, were **ordered to desegregate**.
- Virginia’s government established a policy of **Massive Resistance**, which fought to “resist” the desegregation of public schools.
- Some schools were closed to **avoid desegregation**.
- The policy of **Massive Resistance failed**, and



Sen. Harry F. Byrd opposed school integration and called for “Massive Resistance”.

Virginia’s public schools were **integrated**.

- **Harry F. Byrd, Sr.**, led a **Massive Resistance** Movement against the desegregation of public schools.