HAMPTON VA
NEWS RELEASE

Hampton named 25th most diverse city in U.S., especially economically

May 15, 2016 – Hampton is one of the most diverse cities in the United States, according to a recent study that considered social class, ethno-racial, economic and household diversity. The study, conducted by personal and business financial website Wallet Hub using U.S. Census data, noted that diversity can offer economic growth, cultural richness and innovation.

Among the 140 midsize cities surveyed, Hampton ranked 5th overall. That means the city had a range of incomes, educational attainment, ethnicities, region of birth, industries, household sizes and ages.

Mayor George Wallace said our diversity is an asset. "Having people from a variety of ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds makes us a stronger, progressive and more innovative city. It enhances the quality of our stores, our arts, our restaurants, as well as our larger businesses."

Hampton's economy was tallied as the 4th most diverse in the nation, among cities of all sizes. That statistic looked at diversity of industry types, diversity of occupations and class of worker (government, private, self-employed, unpaid family care).

Noted Economic Development Director Leonard Sledge: "The diversity of our citizens makes Hampton a great place to live, work, play, and grow a business. The presence of Hampton University, NASA, Langley Air Force Base, the National Institute of Aerospace, and many other organizations help make Hampton a melting pot for innovative ideas and a dynamic workforce."

Alexandria was the only other Virginia city among the top 50 most diverse cities. It ranked 45th.

Evolution Finance launched Wallet Hub in February 2012 as a one-stop destination for all the tools and information consumers and small business owners need to make better financial decisions and save money. For details on the study and its methodology, visit https://wallethub.com/edu/most-diverse-cities/12690/#main-findings

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