Virginia Department of Fire Programs

Report on Digital Accessibility

2026

Overview

Federal disability-accessibility requirements applicable to information and communications technology (ICT) derive primarily from the Americans with Disabilities Act {ADA] Title II, Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, and Section 255 of the Communications Act. In 2024, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) issued a Title II regulation, 28 C.F.R. § 35.200, establishing technical accessibility requirements for state and local government web content and mobile applications based on the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 Level AA. In April 2026, DOJ extended the federal compliance deadlines to April 26, 2027, for governments serving populations of 50,000 or more and to April 26, 2028, for smaller governments and special districts.

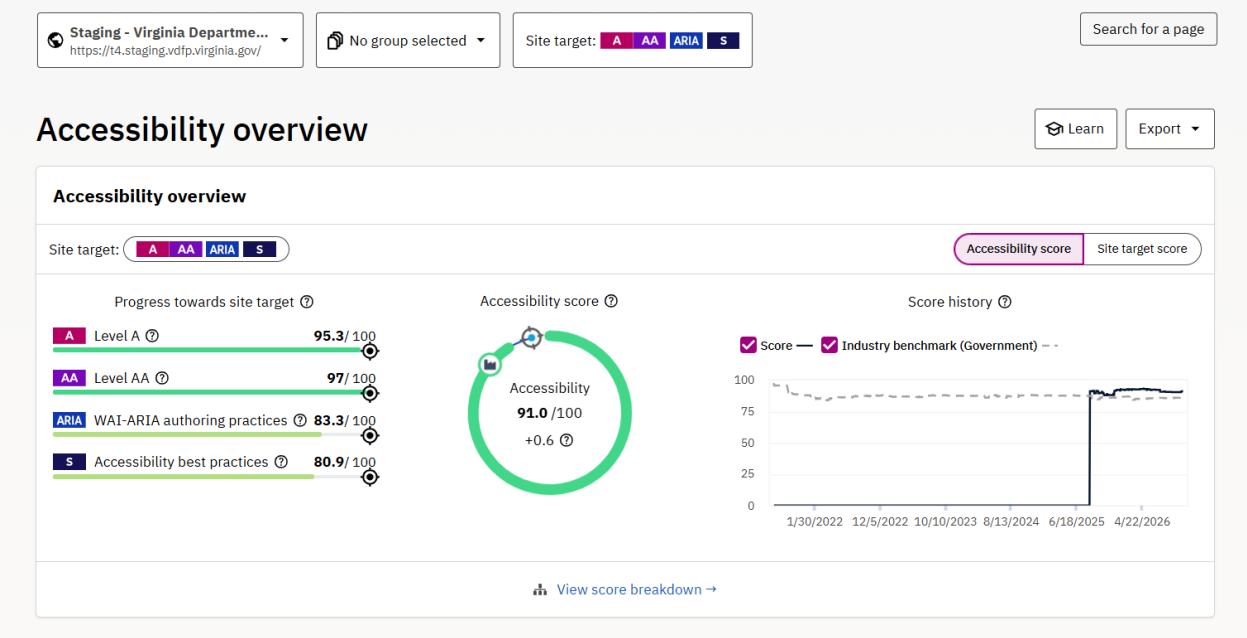
Enacted in 2025, HB2541 substantially updated Virginia's Information Technology Access Act to establish a broader digital-accessibility framework covering state agencies, public school divisions, public institutions of higher education, and political subdivisions. The law defines accessibility by reference to federal Section 508 standards, Section 255 guidelines, and 28 C.F.R. § 35.200, and requires covered entities to ensure that ICT provides individuals with disabilities equivalent access to that provided to individuals without disabilities. The law also establishes responsibilities for digital-accessibility policies and coordinators, public reporting of accessibility barriers, and accessibility requirements in technology procurement, including vendor certifications and Vendor Accessibility Road maps when deficiencies are identified.

This report fulfills the annual requirement set forth in HB2541 that executive branch agencies identify ICT that does not conform to applicable digital-accessibility requirements and is not subject to the exceptions found in 28 C.F .R. § 35201 or 36 C.F.R. Part 1194. Appendix A.§ E202. It also provides an estimate of the fiscal impact associated with bringing such technology into compliance with applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

Progress Summary to Date

Since HB2541 became law, the Virginia Department of Fire Programs ("VDFP") has identified, prioritized, and begun to remediate accessibility needs across our digital platforms. VDFP formed an accessibility working group to track and prioritize areas of non-compliance across the agency.

Since HB2541 became law, VDFP has relaunched our public facing website to meet accessibility standards.



VDFP continues to make improvements to raise our Accessibility best practices score.