

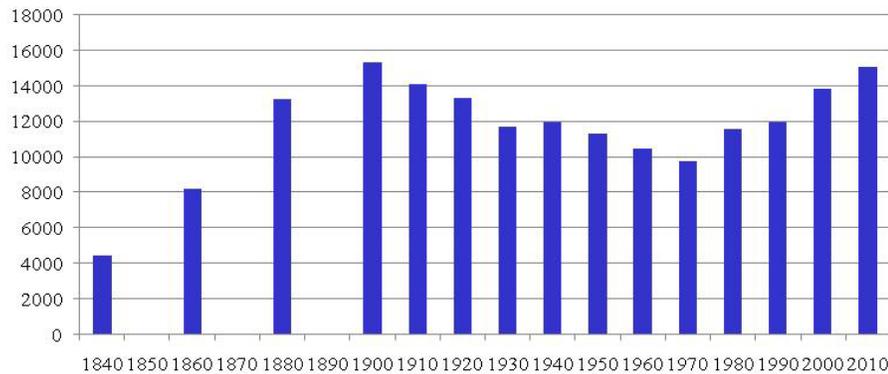
CHAPTER 4.

WHAT IS OUR POPULATION?

Floyd County has experienced a steady increase in population since the 1970's, with a 10.1% percent increase from 2000 to 2010 alone. This trend reverses the declining trend which characterized the 1950's and 1960's, when significant out-migration of persons of working age combined with a drop in the birth rate. The County's population in 2010 was 15,279, which approached our peak population of 15,388 in 1900 (see Figure 7).

Figure 7

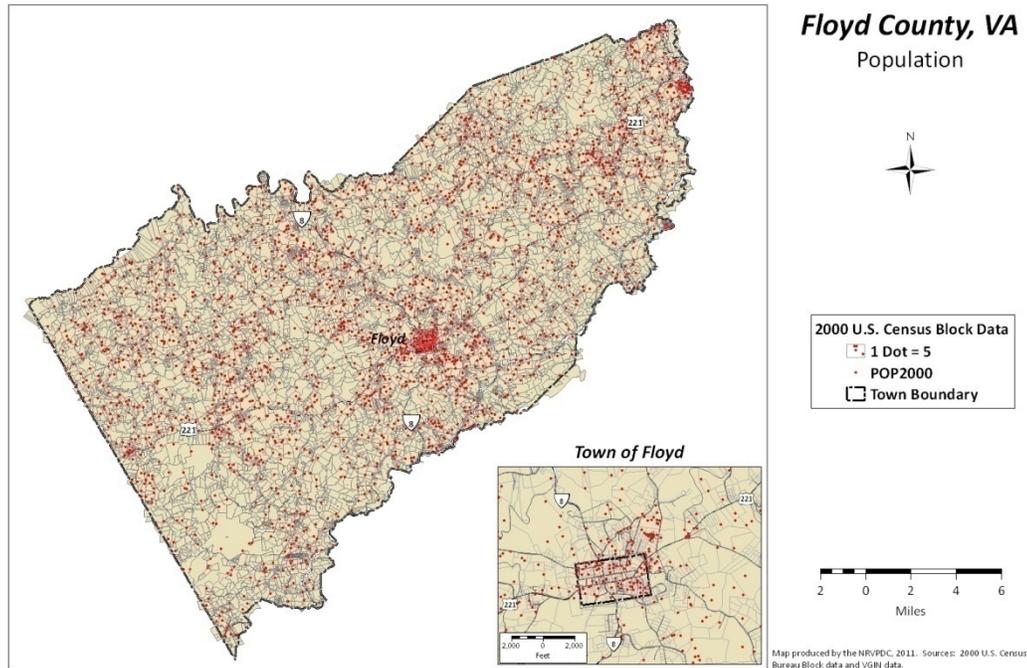
Population in Floyd Co.: 1840 to Present



Source: US Census Bureau

The population of Floyd County is widely dispersed, with the main cluster being in the Town of Floyd. See the map below of population density. Please note that while we have the main population number from the 2010 Census as of this writing, we do not have more detailed data yet. All other population and demographic information comes from other estimates.

Map 14



Population by Race

Floyd County’s population is predominantly white, though 1.8% is Black or African American and 0.9% lists themselves as two or more races. Additionally about 0.9% is American Indian (or Alaska Native.) Raw estimates are available in Table 4.

**Table 4
Floyd County Population by Race, 2005-09**

	Floyd County, Virginia	
	Estimate	Margin of Error
Total:	14,756	*****
Population of one race:	14,618	+/-60
White	14,214	+/-130
Black or African American	271	+/-71
American Indian and Alaska Native	133	+/-138
Asian alone	0	+/-127
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0	+/-127
Some other race	0	+/-127
Population of two or more races:	138	+/-60
Two races including Some other race	0	+/-127
Two races excluding Some other race, and three or more races	138	+/-60
Population of two races:	138	+/-60
White; Black or African American	57	+/-50
White; American Indian and Alaska Native	81	+/-59
White; Asian	0	+/-127
Black or African American; American Indian and Alaska Native	0	+/-127
All other two race combinations	0	+/-127
Population of three races	0	+/-127
Population of four or more races	0	+/-127

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey

According to American Community Survey 2005-2009 data the Hispanic population is approximately 337 in Floyd County which is an 80% increase over the 187 from the 2000 Census (and that an even more dramatic increase from 59 persons in 1990.) Table 5 shows the Hispanic population estimate.

Table 5
Hispanic and Non-Hispanic Population in Floyd County, 2005-2009

	Floyd County, Virginia	
	Estimate	Margin of Error
Total:	14,756	*****
Not Hispanic or Latino	14,419	*****
Hispanic or Latino	337	*****

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey

In 2000, 383 people reported speaking a language other than English at home (222 Spanish, 152 native European languages other than English); 152 speak English less than “very well.” An estimate of that data derived from 2005-2009, suggested only 242 people speak a language other than English at home. Other languages spoken at home, in order of occurrence, are Spanish, German, Hungarian, Other Native North American, Hebrew, Chinese, French, Portugese and Arabic. All of these also reported speaking English well, except the Arabic speakers and a portion of the Spanish speakers. Part of this diversity arises from place of birth, as shown in Table 6 below.

Table 6
Place of Birth of Floyd County Residents, 2005-2009

	Floyd County, Virginia	
	Estimate	Margin of Error
Total:	14,756	*****
Native:	14,648	+/-87
Born in state of residence	10,416	+/-621
Born in other state in the United States:	4,147	+/-616
Northeast	1,509	+/-574
Midwest	310	+/-144
South	1,869	+/-383
West	459	+/-203
Born outside the United States:	85	+/-66
Puerto Rico	6	+/-14
U.S. Island Areas	0	+/-127
Born abroad of American parent(s)	79	+/-63
Foreign born:	108	+/-87
Naturalized U.S. citizen	58	+/-76
Not a U.S. citizen	50	+/-41

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey

Based on the mobility information below, no residents in the County reported living abroad 12 months earlier. Of those living in Floyd County, about 88% were living in the same house as of 1 year ago.

Table 7
Mobility of Those Now Living in Floyd County, 2005-2009

	Floyd County, Virginia	
	Estimate	Margin of Error
Total:	14,630	+/-89
Same house 1 year ago	13,070	+/-509
Different house in United States 1 year ago:	1,560	+/-516
Metropolitan Statistical Area:	425	+/-213
Moved from principal city	205	+/-204
Moved from remainder of Metropolitan Statistical Area	220	+/-132
Micropolitan Statistical Area	22	+/-36
Not in a Metropolitan or Micropolitan Statistical Area 1 year ago	1,113	+/-468
Abroad 1 year ago	0	+/-127

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey

Population by Age

Understanding the number of citizens in each age range is essential for planning service provision such as schools. Table 8 below shows estimates of people in various age brackets under 18. Table 9 also reveals that 150 grandparents are responsible for their grandchildren under 18 in Floyd County.

Table 8
Population Under 18 in Floyd County, 2005-09

	Floyd County, Virginia	
	Estimate	Margin of Error
Total:	3,220	+/-92
In households:	3,220	+/-92
Under 3 years	462	+/-101
3 and 4 years	354	+/-87
5 years	175	+/-77
6 to 8 years	538	+/-179
9 to 11 years	541	+/-128
12 to 14 years	567	+/-189
15 to 17 years	583	+/-44
In group quarters	0	+/-127

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey

Table 9
Population Living with Own Grandchildren in Floyd County, 2005-09

	Floyd County, Virginia	
	Estimate	Margin of Error
Total:	9,724	+/-75
Living with own grandchildren under 18 years:	221	+/-138
Grandparent responsible for own grandchildren under 18 years:	150	+/-127
Grandparent responsible less than 6 months	0	+/-127
Grandparent responsible 6 to 11 months	0	+/-127
Grandparent responsible 1 or 2 years	79	+/-105
Grandparent responsible 3 or 4 years	43	+/-51
Grandparent responsible 5 years or more	28	+/-47
Grandparent not responsible for own grandchildren under 18 years	71	+/-53
Not living with own grandchildren under 18 years	9,503	+/-145

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey

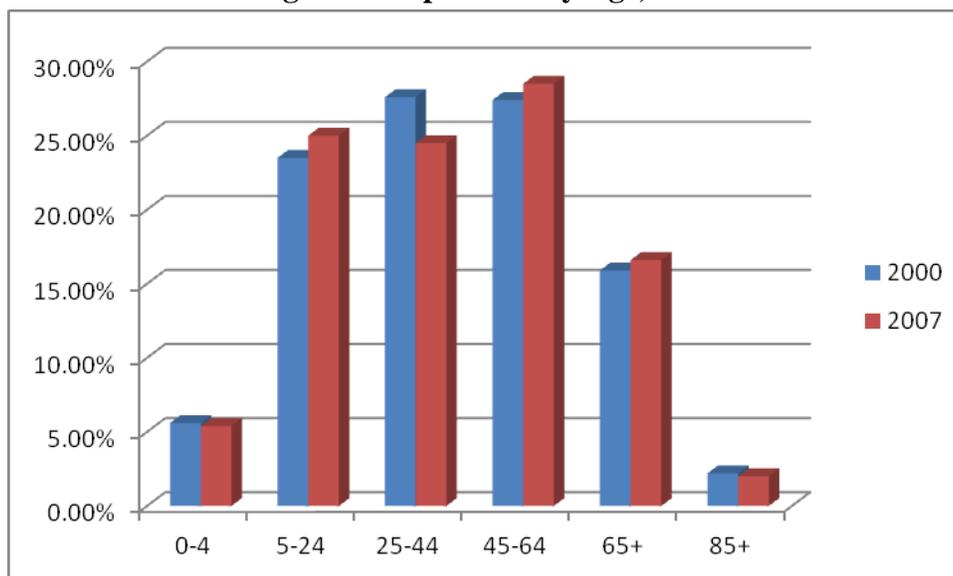
Table 10 provides a comparison of the population distribution for 1990, 2000 and 2007; with Figure 8 highlighting the distribution of ages within the County. The table illustrates that the County had sizable population gains in most age categories, with only a couple being flat. For example, the 0-4 years of age category grew by 15.4 percent in the 1990's, while only having a minimal gain of 4.7% in the 2000's. Young people (ages 5 to 24) had a net 5.5% gain in the 1990's, this increased to 15.5% in the 2000's. Though not indicated in this table, the number of school-age children (ages 5-17) also increased from 2,310 in 2000 to 2,594 in 2007.

Table 10
Floyd County Population by Age Groups: 1990-2007

		% Pop		% Pop		% Pop	% Change	% Change
	1990	1990	2000	2000	2007	2007	90-00	00-07
0-4	675	5.60%	779	5.60%	816	5.40%	15.40%	4.70%
5-24	3,092	25.80%	3,263	23.50%	3,769	25%	5.50%	15.50%
25-44	3,486	29.90%	3,831	27.60%	3,708	24.50%	9.90%	-3.20%
45-64	2,659	22.10%	3,795	27.40%	4,307	28.50%	42.70%	13.50%
65+	1,993	16.60%	2,206	15.90%	2,508	16.60%	10.70%	13.70%
85+	214	1.80%	299	2.20%	302	2%	39.70%	1%
Total	12,005		13,874		15,108		15.60%	8.80%

Source: 1990 and 2000 Census Bureau and the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service

Figure 8: Population by Age, 2007



The number of people in the 25-44 age category netted the only decrease from 2000 to 2007. It is noted that the median age in Floyd County in 2000 was 40.5 years, while it was only 35.7 in Virginia. In 1980, the median age in Floyd County was 33.9. This trend of an aging population is identified with growth in the 45-64 age range, largely due to the baby-boomer generation.

The 45-64 age range showed extreme growth from 1990-2000 with a 42.75 growth rate. This number slowed to 13.5% from 2000 to 2007. One effect of the additional 389 people in the 25-44 and 45-64 categories between 1990 and 2000 indicated increases in job demand. Some in the 45-65 group may be retired or semi-retired, yet seeking supplemental.

The 13.7% decennial growth rate in the 65+ age category from 2000 to 2007 is a slight increase the previous decade. Within the 65+ category, the 85+ group has historically had a higher growth rate (more than three times that, or 39.7% from 1990 to 2000). This appears to have peaked with the actual number of people only increasing by 3 in the seven year span (although this number may increase with official Census results in 2010). While 85+ is still a very small segment of the overall population (2 %) in Floyd County, it is a much larger percentage than for Virginia at large (where only 1.2% of the population is 85+).

In the next few years, the older population, especially this eldest group, will require extensive health and housing services as it follows the likely “aging in place,” to assisted-living, to full-supportive care continuum. Currently, many people must leave the community to receive assisted-living services, so there is need for and interest in assisted living in the County. (Table 11 below shows 1,680 householders living alone; 756 of these are 65 and older.

Table 11
Households by Family Types in Floyd County, 2005-2009

	Floyd County, Virginia	
	Estimate	Margin of Error
Total:	6,009	+/-218
Family households:	4,098	+/-286
Married-couple family	3,428	+/-286
Other family:	670	+/-185
Male householder, no wife present	93	+/-64
Female householder, no husband present	577	+/-175
Nonfamily households:	1,911	+/-262
Householder living alone	1,680	+/-243
Householder not living alone	231	+/-101

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey

Total Population Changes

Historically population in Floyd County had minor changes, but from 1990 to 2000 Floyd County experienced expansive population growth of approximately 16%, and then 10.1% growth in the last decade (2000 to 2010). The pace of population growth in Floyd County in the 2000's (8.8% through 2008) was on pace with the Virginia average, and outpaced the growth rate in the New River Valley Planning District Region. Among Counties in the New River Valley Region, Floyd outpaced every county and the City of Radford as shown in Table 12.

Table 12: Floyd County and Town Population Summary: 1980-2008

Jurisdiction	1980	1990	2000	2008	Change 1980- 1990	Change 1990- 2000	Change 2000- 2008
Floyd County	11,563	11,965	13,874	15,094	3.5%	16.0%	8.8%
Floyd Town	411	396	432	438	-3.6%	9.1%	1.4%
New River Valley	141,343	152,680	165,146	172,295	8.0%	8.2%	4.3%
Virginia	5,346,818	6,189,197	7,078,515	7,795,424	15.8%	14.4%	10.1%

Source: 1980, 1990, and 2000 Census Bureau and the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service

Population Projections

Based on the recent trends, it is expected that growth will continue in Floyd County. Table 13 shows a projection of the County's population from the Virginia Workforce Connection in 2010, prior to the 2010 Census. This appears to be a low-to-moderate projection (8.2% growth). It would result in 17,796 people by 2030. Using the previous decennial growth rate of 15.57% for Floyd County produces a much higher estimate; by 2030, there would be 21,416 people in Floyd County. (There is some suggestion that population growth has slowed in late 2010, as the school attendance numbers slipped and the number of houses for sale is substantial. It is not clear if this is temporary; possible factors include the strained economy and the harshness of last winter.)

Table 13
Floyd County Population Projections

Year	Floyd County	% Change	Virginia	% Change
1990	12,005		6,187,358	
2000	13,874	15.57 %	7,078,515	14.40 %
2010 (low est)	15,201	9.56 %	8,010,239	13.16 %
2010 (high est)	16,034	15.57%		
2020 (low est)	16,448	8.20 %	8,917,396	11.32 %
2020 (high est)	18,531	15.57%		
2030 (low est)	17,796	8.20 %	9,825,019	10.18 %
2030 (high est)	21,416	15.57%		

Source: Virginia Workforce Connection, U.S. Census

The Town of Floyd, like many small towns, had experienced population declines. However, this decline appears to have reversed by the 1990's. This was due in part to the addition of a multi-family housing complex. Investment in additional housing, particularly affordable housing, within the Town could have a significant impact upon the Town population.

Chapter 4. What is Our Population?

Summary and Conclusion

Floyd County's population has grown by over 25% in the past 20 years, the fastest rate in the region. This has included large increases in the school-age population and the 45 and older population, both of which tend to require substantial services (much more so than in 1900 when population was slightly higher than it is now.) Some of this recent growth is spillover from neighboring counties that have taken steps to limit growth. Floyd County currently has no land regulations to guide or limit growth. If population growth continues at the same rate, the population will be between 17,800 and 21,400 by 2030. Population growth may have slowed temporarily in the past year due to the recession, but this is not clear.

With the growing older population, there is need for a diversity of housing choices, including assisted living.

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