

# Franklin County

Profile 2016

## GEOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION

Seventh in land area among Virginia counties, Franklin County is bounded on the north by Roanoke and Bedford Counties, on the east by Pittsylvania County, on the south by Henry and Patrick Counties, and on the west by Floyd County. The Town of Rocky Mount is the county seat and the County's largest incorporated town. The Town of Boones Mill, the village of Ferrum, and the Smith Mountain Lake Region are also population centers. Franklin County's population, according to the 1990 Census, was 39,549; the 2000 Census population for the County was 47,286; and the 2010 Census population was 56,159. (The 2000 population from the Census Bureau includes the Town of Rocky Mount. On June 30, 2000, Rocky Mount annexed a portion of Franklin County through a voluntary settlement agreement. The 2000 Census data does not reflect the annexation of 654 persons and 1.53 square miles by Rocky Mount.)

## DEMOGRAPHICS

### Population

1980 Census – 35,740  
1990 Census – 39,549  
2000 Census – 47,286  
2010 Census – 56,159  
20010-2014 ACS – 56,360

### Area Population:

#### 2000 Census / 2010 Census

*Franklin County* – 47,286 / 56,159  
Rocky Mount – 4,565 / 4,799  
Boones Mill – 285 / 239

### Per Capita Income:

#### 1999 (from 2000 Census) / 2014 ACS

United States - \$21,587 / \$28,555  
Virginia - \$23,975 / \$33,958  
West Piedmont District - \$17,450 / \$21,111  
*Franklin County* - \$19,605 / \$24,789  
Rocky Mount - \$16,207 / \$20,943  
Boones Mill - \$16,795 / \$28,315

### Median Household Income:

#### 1999 (from 2000 Census) / 2014 ACS

United States - \$41,994 / \$53,482  
Virginia - \$46,677 / \$64,792  
West Piedmont District - \$32,259 / \$38,224  
*Franklin County* – \$38,056 / \$44,827  
Rocky Mount - \$26,927 / \$24,788  
Boones Mill - \$39,688 / \$55,000

Source: Census of Population & 2010–2014 American Community Survey (ACS), U.S. Census Bureau.

## INFRASTRUCTURE

### Government

County – Seven Member Board of Supervisors  
Incorporated Towns – Town Councils

### Communications

Fiber optics, DSL and ISDN

### Transportation

Rail - Norfolk Southern  
Road – U.S. Highway 220  
Virginia Primary Highways 40, 122 and 116  
Future Interstate 73  
Air – Roanoke Regional Airport  
Port – Hampton Roads (200 miles east)

## 2010 COMMUTING PATTERNS

People who live & work in County	7,727
Total Out-commuters	11,676
Total In-commuters	4,845
Net In-commuters (In – Out)	-6,831

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

Compiled and published by the West Piedmont Planning District Commission, 1100 Madison Street, Martinsville, VA 24112 Phone (276) 638-3987 – FAX (276) 638-8137. Email: [staff@wppdc.org](mailto:staff@wppdc.org).

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## POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

Population	2000	2010	2000-2010 Change	Percent Change
Total Population	47,286	56,159	8,873	18.8%
Male	23,306	27,706	4,400	18.9%
Female	23,980	28,453	4,473	18.7%
White	42,063	49,699	7,636	18.2%
Nonwhite	5,223	6,460	1,237	23.7%
<b>AGE</b>				
Under 5 years	2,569	3,144	575	22.4%
5-9	2,965	3,131	166	5.6%
10-14	3,185	3,243	58	1.8%
15-19	3,078	3,863	785	25.5%
20-24	2,539	3,155	616	24.3%
25-29	2,639	2,631	-8	-0.3%
30-34	3,087	2,691	-396	-12.8%
35-39	3,798	3,246	-552	-14.5%
40-44	3,807	3,720	-87	-2.3%
45-49	3,621	4,362	741	20.5%
50-54	3,592	4,503	911	25.4%
55-59	3,127	4,268	1,141	36.5%
60-64	2,514	4,325	1,811	72.0%
65-69	2,182	3,531	1,349	61.8%
70-74	1,782	2,445	663	37.2%
75-79	1,304	1,794	490	37.6%
80-84	854	1,155	301	35.2%
85 and over	643	952	309	48.1%
Median Age	39.7	44.1	4.4	11.1%
Under 20	11,797	13,381	1,584	13.4%
Percent of total	24.9%	23.8%		
20 to 64	28,724	32,901	4,177	14.5%
Percent of total	60.7%	58.6%		
65 and over	6,765	9,877	3,112	46.0%
Percent of total	14.3%	17.6%		

Source: Census 2000 & 2010, U.S. Census Bureau.

## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT Population 25 Years & Over

Less than 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	2,818– 7.0%
9 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade, No Diploma	3,999– 9.9%
High School Graduate (includes equivalency)	13,210–32.8%
Some College, No Degree	9,346– 23.2%
Associate Degree	2,920– 7.3%
Bachelor's Degree	5,202– 12.9%
Graduate or Professional Degree	2,769– 6.9%
Total Persons 25 Years and Over	40,264

Source: 2010-2014 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau.

## HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Household Type	2000	2014	2000-2014 Change	Percent Change
Total	18,963	23,248	4,285	22.6%
Married Couple	11,405	13,328	1,923	16.9%
Male Householder	745	830	85	11.4%
Female Householder	1,778	2,322	544	30.6%
Non-Family	5,035	6,768	1,733	34.4%
<b>Persons per:</b>				
Household	2.44	2.36		
Family	2.84	2.80		
<b>Housing Occupancy &amp; Tenure</b>				
Total Units	22,717	29,386	6,669	29.4%
Occupied Units	18,963	23,248	4,285	22.6%
Vacant Units	3,754	6,138	2,384	63.5%
Owner Occupied	15,386	18,072	2,686	17.5%
Percent	81.8%	77.7%		
Renter Occupied	3,577	5,176	1,599	44.7%
Percent	18.9%	22.3%		
<b>Units in Structure</b>				
Single Family	15,945	21,645	5,700	35.7%
Multi-Family Mobile Homes and Other	1,653	2,446	793	48.0%
Total	22,717	29,386	6,669	29.4%
<b>2010-2014 Financial Characteristics</b>			<b>County</b>	<b>Virginia</b>
Median Gross Rent			\$668	\$1,108
Median Value (Owner-Occupied Units)			\$163,000	\$243,500

Source: Census 2000 and 2010-2014 ACS, U.S. Census Bureau.

## POVERTY STATUS - 2014

Persons for Whom Poverty was Determined	54,812
Persons Below Poverty Level	7,943
Percent of Persons Below Poverty Level	14.5%
Percent of Families Below Poverty Level	10.1%

Source: 2010-2014 ACS, U.S. Census Bureau.

## AGRICULTURE 2007 - 2012

	2007	2012	Change
Number of Farms	1,043	1,023	-1.9%
Land in Farms (acres)	166,592	164,564	-1.2%
Average Size (acres)	160	161	0.6%
Market Value of Products Sold (\$1000)	\$53,968	\$65,442	21.3%

Source: Census of Agriculture, USDA, NASS.

## 2010-2014 ANNUAL AVERAGE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

	2010	% of Total	2011	% of Total	2012	% of Total	2013	% of Total	2014	% of Total
Agriculture	210	1.6%	209	1.6%	205	1.5%	208	1.5%	220	1.5%
Mining	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	D	N/A	D	N/A	D	N/A
Utilities	D	N/A	D	N/A	D	N/A	D	N/A	9	0.1%
Construction	1,102	8.6%	1,081	8.3%	1,091	8.1%	1,117	7.9%	1,143	7.9%
Manufacturing	2,157	16.9%	2,251	17.3%	2,361	17.6%	2,556	18.1%	2,754	18.9%
Transportation/Warehousing	326	2.6%	347	2.7%	365	2.7%	378	2.7%	404	2.8%
Wholesale Trade	482	3.8%	412	3.2%	387	2.9%	528	3.7%	533	3.7%
Retail Trade	1,905	14.9%	1,941	14.9%	1,941	14.5%	1,909	13.6%	1,934	13.3%
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	390	3.1%	387	3.0%	396	3.0%	412	2.9%	385	2.6%
Services	D	N/A	D	N/A	4,331	32.3%	4,363	31.0%	4,652	32.0%
State Government	82	0.6%	85	0.7%	86	0.6%	91	0.6%	96	0.7%
Local Government	292	2.3%	316	2.4%	323	2.4%	379	2.7%	388	2.7%
Federal Government	29	0.2%	8	0.1%	8	0.1%	9	0.1%	7	0.0%
Nonclassifiable	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
<b>Total Employment</b>	<b>12,760</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>13,011</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>13,408</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>14,086</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>14,554</b>	<b>100%</b>

"D" indicates disclosure suppression. Data is only included in the total. Figures may not always total correctly due to rounding. In 2005, reporting methods for Government and Service sectors were changed. Therefore, there may be noticeable differences reflected in prior years versus 2005 figures.

Source: Virginia Employment Commission.

### COMPONENTS OF LABOR FORCE

	2011	2015	Change
Civilian Labor Force	28,388	26,923	-5.2%
Employment	26,469	25,674	-3.0%
Unemployment Number	1,919	1,249	-34.9%
Unemployment Rate	6.8%	4.6%	-2.2%

Source: Virginia Employment Commission.

### TAXABLE SALES (\$1000) 2011 – 2015

2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
\$353,790	\$377,962	\$382,144	\$388,047	\$404,044

Source: Virginia Department of Taxation.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**Industrial Parks:** Franklin County-Rocky Mount Industrial Park\*, Commerce Center Industrial Park, West Franklin Business Park, Rocky Mount Office Technology Park\*. See Map Appendix 1 for locations.

**Contacts:** Franklin County Economic Development, (540) 483-3030, Website: [www.yesfranklincountyva.org/](http://www.yesfranklincountyva.org/); Town of Rocky Mount, (540) 483-0907, Website: <http://www.rockymountva.org/business>

\*Within Rocky Mount Enterprise Zone.

Building/Site information also available at: <http://yesvirginia.org/ToolsResources/SiteSelection>

## COMMUNITY

**Recreation/Attractions:** Blue Ridge Parkway; Turkeycock Wildlife Management Area; Philpott Lake, Marina, & Recreation Areas; Booker T. Washington National Monument; Jubal Early's Birthplace; Smith Mountain Lake; Blue Ridge Institute and Farm Museum; Historic Carolina Road Greenway & Stagecoach Stop at Waid Recreation Area; Phoebe Needles Educational Community Center; Piedmont Mill (Clement Mill); Rocky Mount Community & Hospitality Center (Depot); Rocky Mount Farmers' Market; Smart View Recreation Area; The Crooked Road Music Trail; The Harvester Performance Center; and Washington Iron Furnace.

**Education/Job Training:** Area schools include Franklin County Public Schools, Gereau Center for Applied Technology & Career Exploration, Roanoke Valley Governor's School for Science & Technology, Ferrum College, American National University, New College Institute, Patrick Henry Community College, Virginia Western Community College, and Institute for Advanced Learning & Research (IALR). Other job training: The Franklin Center for Advanced Learning & Enterprise, A.L. Philpott Technical Center at PHCC, Continued Education and Workforce Development at PHCC, Fifth District Employment & Training Consortium, and Genedge Alliance.

**Healthcare:** Carilion Franklin Memorial Hospital.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION...

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