

Population Growth

Since 1980, the New River Valley has experienced steady population growth. Total population increased from 141,343 in 1980 to 152,680 in 1990, a rate of eight percent over the ten year period. The 2000 data reveals an 8.2 percent increase between 1990 and 2000, giving the New River Valley a population of 165,146. Over 50 percent of the New River Valley population resides in Montgomery County, which consistently exhibits the most population growth in the New River Valley. When viewing 2000 data on a percentage basis, Floyd County grew the fastest at 16 percent. Montgomery County also had a strong growth at 13.1 percent. Table 4 provides population data for jurisdictions in the New River Valley and Virginia. Figure 6 represents the population change for 1980, 1990, and 2000.

**Table 4
Population: 1980-2005**

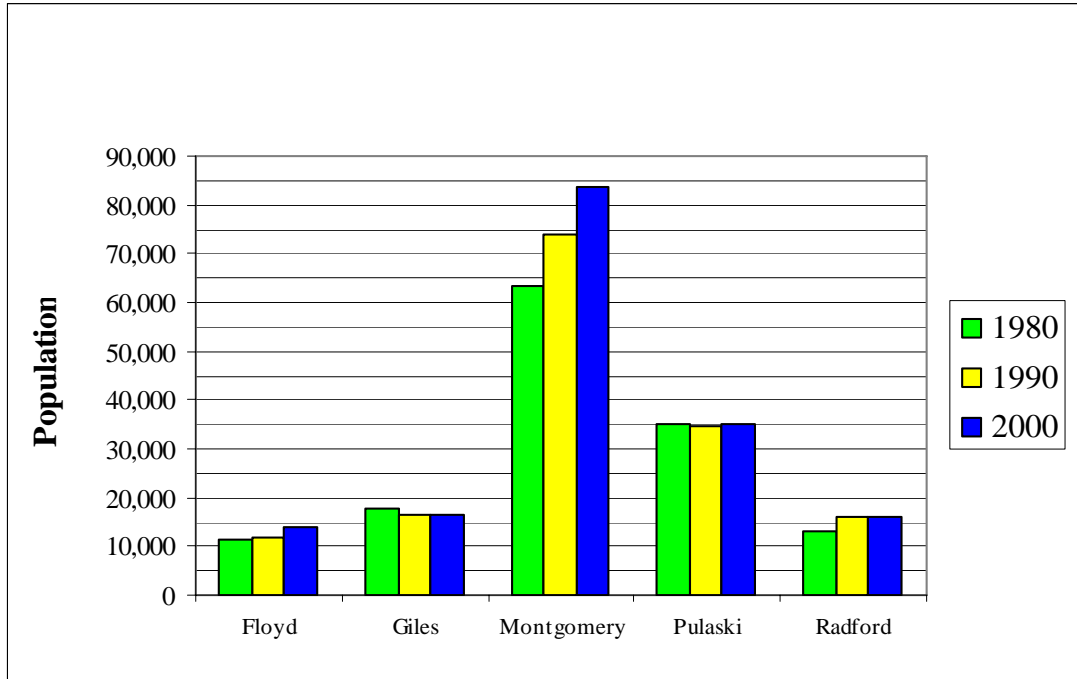
JURISDICTION	1980	1990	PERCENT CHANGE 1980-90	2000	PERCENT CHANGE 1990-2000	*2005
Floyd County	11,563	11,965	3.5	13,874	16.0	14,800
Towns:						
Floyd	411	396	-3.6	432	9.1	
Giles County	17,810	16,366	-8.1	16,657	1.8	16,500
Towns:						
Glen Lyn	235	170	-27.7	151	-11.2	
Narrows	2,516	2,082	-17.2	2,111	1.4	
Pearisburg	2,128	2,064	-3.0	2,729	32.2	
Pembroke	1,302	1,064	-18.3	1,134	6.6	
Rich Creek	746	670	-10.2	665	-0.7	
Montgomery County	63,516	73,913	16.4	83,629	13.1	87,900
Towns:						
Blacksburg	30,638	34,590	12.9	39,573	14.4	
Christiansburg	10,345	15,004	45.0	16,947	12.9	
Pulaski County	35,229	34,496	-2.1	35,127	1.8	34,400
Towns:						
Dublin	2,368	2,012	-15.0	2,288	13.7	
Pulaski	10,106	9,985	-1.2	9,473	-5.1	
City of Radford	13,225	15,940	20.5	15,859	-0.5	15,500
New River Valley	141,343	152,680	8.0	165,146	8.2	169,100
Virginia	5,346,818	6,187,358	15.7	7,078,515	14.4	7,567,500

Sources: U. S. Census Bureau.

*2004 Final & 2005 Provisional Estimates, Virginia Cities & Counties: Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, 2006.

Note: County totals include the Towns within the County.

**Figure 6
Population Change**



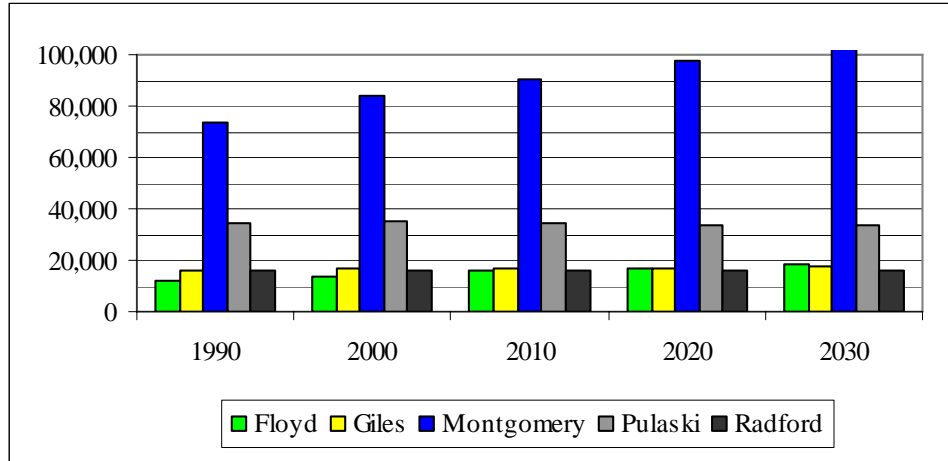
Population Projections

Current population counts and projections through the year 2030 for each jurisdiction, the New River Valley, and Virginia are provided in Table 5. Most population figures in the New River Valley jurisdictions are expected to continue to increase with Pulaski County and the City of Radford showing slight decreases until 2030. Projections show that by the year 2030, a total of 190,600 people will reside in the region, an increase of 15.4% or 25,454 people from 2000. Figure 7 shows the current population as well as projections through the year 2030.

**Table 5
Current Population and Projections: 1990-2030**

JURISDICTION	1990	2000	2010	2020	2030
Floyd County	11,965	13,874	15,800	17,200	18,500
Giles County	16,366	16,657	16,800	17,100	17,400
Montgomery County	73,913	83,629	90,800	97,900	105,000
Pulaski County	34,496	35,127	34,200	34,000	34,000
City of Radford	15,940	15,859	15,700	15,700	15,700
New River Valley	152,680	165,146	173,300	181,900	190,600
Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford MSA	140,175	151,272	157,500	164,700	172,100
Virginia	6,187,358	7,078,515	7,892,900	8,601,900	9,275,101
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau. Virginia Employment Commission, 2010-2030.					

**Figure 7
Current Population and Projections**



Population Characteristics

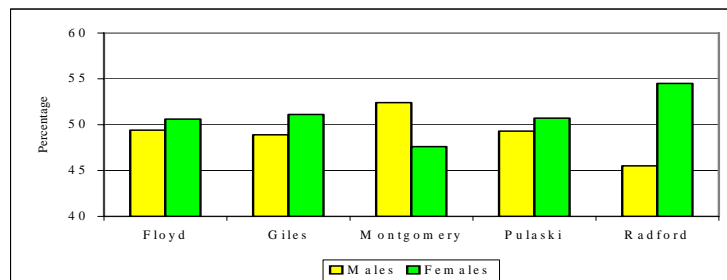
Population by sex, race, and age for New River Valley jurisdictions is provided in Tables 6, 7, 8, and 9. This data is based upon the 2000 Census. Figures 8 and 9 graphically illustrate the percentage differences for population by sex and age.

**Table 6
Population By Sex**

JURISDICTION	2000 CENSUS POPULATION	MALE	%	FEMALE	%
Floyd County	13,874	6,849	49.4%	7,025	50.6%
Giles County	16,657	8,141	48.9%	8,516	51.1%
Montgomery County	83,629	43,806	52.4%	39,823	47.6%
Pulaski County	35,127	17,334	49.3%	17,793	50.7%
City of Radford	15,859	7,215	45.5%	8,644	54.5%
New River Valley	165,146	83,345	50.5%	81,801	49.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

**Figure 8
Population By Sex**



**Table 7
Population By Race**

Jurisdiction	2000 Census Population	White	Black or African American	American Indian, and Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	Some Other Race	Two or More Races
Floyd County	13,874	13,418	277	12	13	2	50	102
Giles County	16,657	16,226	263	23	31	0	26	88
Montgomery County	83,629	75,270	3,055	151	3,320	30	526	1,277
Pulaski County	35,127	32,529	1,957	54	114	13	131	329
City of Radford	15,859	13,990	1,284	39	226	4	77	239
New River Valley	165,146	151,433	6,836	279	3,704	49	810	2,035

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

**Table 8
Population Percentages By Race**

Jurisdiction	White	Black or African American	American Indian, and Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	Some Other Race	Two or More Races
Floyd	96.7%	2.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.4%	0.7%
Giles	97.4%	1.6%	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.2%	0.5%
Montgomery	90.0%	3.7%	0.2%	4.0%	0.0%	0.6%	1.5%
Pulaski	92.6%	5.6%	0.2%	0.3%	0.0%	0.4%	0.9%
Radford	88.2%	8.1%	0.2%	1.4%	0.0%	0.5%	1.5%
New River Valley	91.7%	4.1%	0.2%	2.2%	0.0%	0.5%	1.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

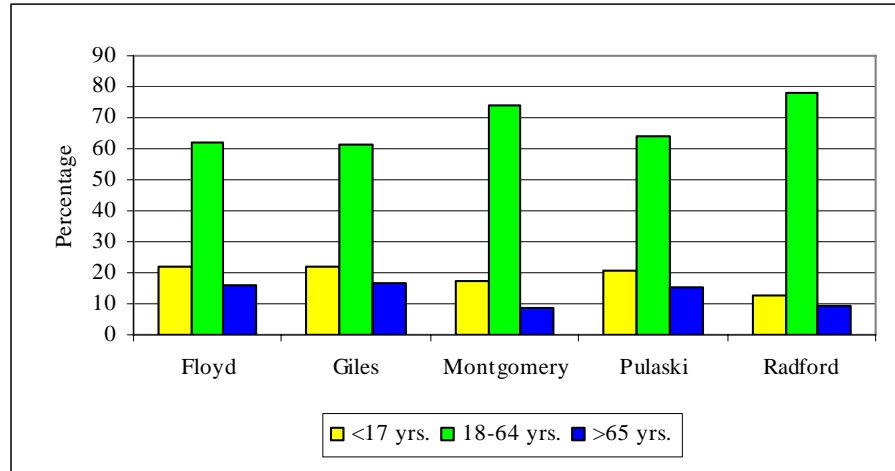
**Table 9
Population By Age**

Jurisdiction	2000 CENSUS POPULATION	17 AND UNDER	%	18-64 YEARS	%	OVER 65 YEARS	%
Floyd County	13,874	3,080	22.2%	8,588	61.9%	2,206	15.9%
Giles County	16,657	3,668	22.0%	10,207	61.3%	2,782	16.7%
Montgomery County	83,629	14,340	17.1%	62,084	74.2%	7,205	8.6%
Pulaski County	35,127	7,239	20.6%	22,555	64.2%	5,333	15.2%
City of Radford	15,859	2,049	12.9%	12,345	77.8%	1,465	9.2%
New River Valley	165,146	30,376	18.4%	115,779	70.1%	18,991	11.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

As shown in Figure 9, the impact of Radford University on the City of Radford population and Virginia Tech on Montgomery County is clear when the relative age categories are compared among the jurisdictions.

**Figure 9
Age Components**



A comparison of the median age for individual jurisdictions as well as Virginia is provided in Table 10. Median age for both Montgomery County and the City of Radford is lowered by the concentration of college students residing in these jurisdictions. Increased enrollment at the two universities also dampened or reversed the trend toward increased median age in these two localities, in contrast to the other New River Valley jurisdictions and the State.

**Table 10
Median Age: 1970-2000**

JURISDICTION	1970	1980	1990	2000
Floyd County	33.7	33.9	37.6	40.5
Giles County	30.3	32.8	37.9	40.2
Montgomery County	22.9	23.3	25.5	25.9
Pulaski County	28.6	31.3	36.6	40.3
City of Radford	22.4	23.0	22.0	22.8
Virginia	27.5	29.8	32.6	35.7

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

Population density within the Valley is similar to the average density within the State. Urbanization greatly influences the density, with the City of Radford having an average of 1,585.9 persons per square mile, while Floyd County has an average of 36.4 persons per square mile. Table 11 provides information on population density and land area for each jurisdiction, the New River Valley, and Virginia.

Table 11
Population Density and Land Area

JURISDICTION	2000 CENSUS POPULATION	2000 LAND AREA SQUARE MILES	2000 PERSONS PER SQUARE MILE
Floyd County	13,874	381	36.4
Giles County	16,657	357	46.7
Montgomery County	83,629	388	215.5
Pulaski County	35,127	321	109.4
City of Radford	15,859	10	1,585.9
New River Valley	165,146	1,457	113.3
Virginia	7,078,515	39,594	178.8
Source: U.S. Census Bureau.			