



PLAN • WASHINGTON COUNTY

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County Snapshot



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Introduction

The Community Snapshot contains supporting information about the County which will be used as a reference during the comprehensive planning process. Data included in this document comes from a variety of sources. The document will be amended as new information is available.



Quick Facts

Population and Size

Census 2010 Total Population - **54,876 people** (U.S. Census Bureau 2010 Demographic Profile)

1990-2000 Population growth of 11%.

- 2000-2010 Population growth of 7.4%
- April 1, 2010-July 1, 2012 percent change 0.6%

Washington County is approximately **560 square miles** and is divided into seven electoral districts:

- A-11, Harrison District
- B-11, Jefferson District
- C-11, Madison District
- D-11, Monroe District
- E-11, Taylor District
- F-11, Tyler District
- G-11, Wilson District

There are three towns located in Washington County:

- Abingdon (County Seat) – population 8,193 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2010 Demographic Profile)
- Glade Spring – population 1,456
- Damascus – population 813

County Boards, Authorities, Commissions and Committees

Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee – The Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee was created by the Board of Supervisors on August 13, 2013. The purpose of the Committee is to help staff translate community feedback, review information and draft materials and to make recommendations regarding various components of the comprehensive plan. The Committee meets on the first Wednesday of every month.

Members are:

- Phil Blevis
 - Mickey Tyler
 - Carol Jones
 - Duffy Carmack
 - Travis Staton
 - Talmage Stanley
 - Robbie Cornett
 - Phillip McCall
 - Bill Gibson
-



- Bruce Dando
- Charlie Hargis
- High School Representative from each Washington County high school

Board of Supervisors - The Board of Supervisors is the governing body of Washington County composed of seven Supervisors, one each elected from the County's seven electoral districts for four year terms. All County ordinances, the County Operating Budget, and many of the primary public policies of the Washington County government originate from the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors meets twice monthly, the second and fourth Tuesday of the month, in regular sessions. Current Board members are:

- Joseph Straten, Taylor District (E-11)
- Randy Pennington, Jefferson District (B-11)
- Phillip McCall, Harrison District (A-11)
- William Gibson, Madison District (C-11)
- Dulcie Mumpower, Wilson District (G-11)
- Wayne Stevens, Jr., Monroe District (D-11)
- Odell Owens, Tyler District (F-11)

Planning Commission - The Washington County Planning Commission is charged with advising the Washington County Board of Supervisors on matters pertaining to the County's zoning and subdivision codes and the County's Comprehensive Plan. The Planning Commission is composed of seven Commissioners appointed by the Board of Supervisors, one Commissioner from each of the County's seven Election Districts. The Commission meets on the fourth Monday of every month. Current members are:

- Joe Hutton, Harrison District (A-11)
- Paul Widener, Jefferson District ((B-11)
- Charlie Hargis, Madison District (C-11)
- Bruce Dando, Monroe District, (D-11)
- John Lentz, Taylor District (E-11)
- Michael Felty, Tyler District (F-11)
- Bill Canter, Wilson District (G-11)

Washington County Service Authority: The Washington County Service Authority (WCSA) provides public water throughout Washington County, as well as wastewater collection and treatment in portions of the County. The WCSA is an independent authority composed of a seven member Board of Commissioners appointed by the Board of Supervisors.

Industrial Development Authority: The Washington County Industrial Development Authority (IDA) is the primary organization responsible for industrial development within Washington County, including the development of publicly owned industrial parks and a variety of financing mechanisms to assist in the location or expansion of industry within the County. The IDA is composed of a seven member Board of Directors appointed at-large by the Board of Supervisors for four year terms.



Virginia Highlands Airport Authority: The Virginia Highlands Airport Authority (VHAA) is responsible for the operation of the Virginia Highlands Airport. The Authority is composed of a seven member Board of Commissioners, one member per election district, appointed by the Board of Supervisors.

Washington County Park Authority: The Park Authority owns and operates Washington County Park. The Authority is composed of an eight member Board of Directors appointed at-large by the Washington County Board of Supervisors.

Emergency Services Committee: The Washington County Emergency Services Committee provides review, oversee, investigate, develop recommendations on matters pertaining fire and emergency medical rescue services in Washington County.

Facilities Committee: The Washington County Facilities Committee provides review, oversee, investigate, develop recommendations and report on matters pertaining to County office and other building facilities, including the immediate and long-term needs of such facilities.

Personnel Committee: The Washington County Personnel Committee provides review, oversee, investigate, develop recommendations and report on matters pertaining to personnel needs, policies and practices within the Administrative Division of the County government.

Planning and Land Use Committee: The Washington County Joint Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee provides review, oversight, investigation, development of recommendations and reporting on matters pertaining to revising the Washington County Comprehensive Plan in coordination with the Washington County Planning Commission.

Economic Development Committee: The Washington County Economic Development Committee provides review, oversight, investigation, development of recommendations and reporting on matters involving coordination of County economic development activities between the Board of Supervisors and Washington County Industrial Development Authority (IDA).

School Budget Committee: The Washington County Joint School Budget Committee reviews the proposed Washington County School Board budget and the development of recommendations for funding of same for presentation in the County Administrator's Proposed and Recommended County Operating Budget, in coordination with the Washington County School Board.

Utilities Committee: The Washington County Joint Utilities Committee provides review, oversight, investigation, development of recommendations and reporting on matters pertaining to the provision of public water and sanitary sewer services throughout Washington County, in coordination with the Washington County Service Authority and the Washington County Industrial Development Authority.

Board of Social Services: Controlling body of the Washington County Department of Social Services. Members of the Board of Social Services have a limit of two full consecutive terms. The Washington County Board of Supervisors appoints the Board of Social Services, one Board member from each of the County's seven Election Districts.

Board of Zoning Appeals: The BZA is responsible for hearing and deciding requests for variances from the terms of the County Zoning Ordinance and for hearing and deciding appeals from determinations made by the Washington County Department of Zoning Administration in the administration of the County Zoning



Ordinance. The Washington County Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) is composed of five residents of Washington County appointed by the Washington County Circuit Court.

Electoral Board: The Electoral Board shall ascertain from the returns the total votes in the County for each candidate and for and against each ballot question and complete the abstract of votes cast at elections. The Washington County Electoral Board is composed of three members appointed by a majority of the circuit judges of the 28th Judicial Circuit. Appointments are based on representation of the two political parties having the highest and next highest number of votes in the Commonwealth of Virginia for Governor at the last preceding gubernatorial election.

Public Library Board of Trustees: The Washington County Library Board of Trustees is responsible for the management and control of the County's free public library system consisting of four branch library facilities in the Town of Damascus, Town of Glade Spring, Mendota and Hayter's Gap Communities, and the main library located in the Town of Abingdon. The Board of Trustees is composed of seven Trustees appointed by the Washington County Board of Supervisors.

Planning Commission: The Washington County Planning Commission is charged with advising the Washington County Board of Supervisors on matters pertaining to the County's zoning and subdivision codes and the County's Comprehensive Plan. The Planning Commission is composed of seven Commissioners appointed by the Board of Supervisors, one Commissioner from each of the County's seven Election Districts.

School Board: The Washington County School Board oversee the operations of the County's Public School system. The Washington County School Board is made up of seven elected school board members, one from each of the seven election districts.

Regional Boards, Authorities and Services

The **Bristol Virginia Utilities Authority (BVUA)** is the executive body of Bristol Virginia Utilities, providing public water, sewer, electricity and telecommunications services to the City of Bristol Virginia and portions of Washington County.

The **Highlands Community Services Board** oversees the delivery of a variety of mental health and substance abuse programs for the City of Bristol, Virginia and Washington County. The Bristol, Virginia City Council and Washington County Board of Supervisors appoint members to the Highlands Community Services Board.

The **Appalachian Juvenile Commission** formulates and interprets the policy and procedures for all operations. They are considered a political sub-division as defined in the Code of Virginia. The Commission reviews and approves the annual budget and audit. The Commission approves any new programs or expansion. Formerly known as the Highlands Juvenile Detention Center Commission, the Commission expanded and was renamed in 2003.

The **Southwest Virginia Regional Jail Authority (SWVRJA)**, a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, was formed in May 2001 by the counties of Buchanan, Dickenson, Lee, Russell, Scott, Smyth, Washington, Wise and the City of Norton. Tazewell County joined the SWVRJA in 2005. The SWVRJA is



comprised of four correctional facilities which are located in Abingdon, Duffield, Haysi and Tazewell, Virginia. The jails have an average population of 1,700 inmates which consists of both males and females. SWVRJA offers a variety of educational and rehabilitative services to the inmates in their custody.

The **Virginia Highlands Small Business Incubator Board of Directors** serves as the official decision makers for the Incubator. They provide council to the Executive Director, approve all tenants for the Incubator, provide council and advice to tenants as requested, and vote on other business matters at their monthly meetings.

Officially established in July of 1969, the **Mount Rogers Planning District Commission (MRPDC)** is authorized under the Virginia Regional Cooperation Act to serve as one of the twenty-one planning district commissions in the State. The Commission was established for the purpose of promoting orderly and efficient development of economic, physical, and social elements of the region. The MRPDC serves the Counties of Bland, Carroll, Grayson, Smyth, Washington, and Wythe and the independent Cities of Bristol and Galax.

People Incorporated of Virginia is one of the Commonwealth of Virginia's largest and most successful Community Action Agencies. Now serving Buchanan, Dickenson, Russell and Washington Counties and the city of Bristol, People Incorporated offers over 32 programs designed to, "give people a hand up, not a hand out." Throughout its long history and to this day, the agency has worked to achieve the same mission: To provide opportunities for low-income people to improve their lives, their families, and their communities.

Ninth District Development Financing, Inc. meets its objectives to create and retain jobs, promote the region's historical significance and cultural preservation, and attract tourists while supporting and expanding the tourism economy of the Ninth District by providing funding for a diverse set of thriving tourist related businesses including arts, cultural, historical, outdoor adventure, and entertainment venues.

The **New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Investment Board (NRV/MRWIB)**, supported by federal and state funds and local service agencies, shows its commitment to the region's quality of life by helping people find jobs and train for better careers. Qualified adults and youths can visit the One-Stop Centers for training, job and career counseling, and other job-related information. The WIB programs and activities carry out the Workforce Investment Act, which was written to address human needs associated with employment in each region, The Board is made up of local leaders and citizens so that all people and their interests are represented.

Virginia's aCorridor consolidates marketing and presents regional demographics, and works with local governments to enhance their economic development programs. The Mount Rogers Development Partnership Inc. was created in 1989 to promote Virginia's aCorridor as a location for new and expanded business. Stretching from the City of Bristol to the City of Galax along Interstates 81 and 77, the aCorridor includes the two cities and Washington, Smyth, Wythe, Grayson, Carroll and Bland counties.

District Three Governmental Cooperative is an agency owned and operated by its member local governments for the benefit of the citizens of Bland, Carroll, Grayson, Smyth, Washington and Wythe counties, and the cities of Bristol and Galax, Virginia. District Three Governmental Cooperative is dedicated to improving the quality of life for our citizens, especially those who are elderly and those who need assistance with transportation.



People

A comprehensive understanding of a community’s past, present and future population characteristics and trends provides a basic and essential foundation for the planning process. The population information offers an overview of the socio-economic composition of Washington County. This population overview includes data related to existing and forecasted population, age, sex, race, household size, education, and income.

Population (Current)

Census 2010 Total Population – **54,876** persons

2012 Population Estimates – **55,190** persons (as of July 1, 2012)

	April 1, 2010		Population Estimate (as of July 1)		
	Census	Estimates Base	2010	2011	2012
Washington County, Virginia	54,876	54,876	54,879	54,188	55,190

Source: U.S. Census, 2012 Population Estimates

Population History

	1960 Census	1970 Census	1980 Census	1990 Census	2000 Census	2010 Census
Washington County	38,076	40,835	46,487	45,887	51,103	54,876

Source: Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service

Population Forecast

2020 Population: 57,040

2030 Population: 58,800

2040 Population: 60,402

Source: Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service



Population Forecast By Age

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2030</u>	<u>2040</u>
<u>Under 5 years</u>	2,542	2,589	2,681
<u>5 to 9 years</u>	2,799	2,869	2,964
<u>10 to 14 years</u>	3,293	3,132	3,245
<u>15 to 19 years</u>	3,484	3,301	3,443
<u>20 to 24 years</u>	2,980	3,237	3,131
<u>25 to 29 years</u>	2,916	3,101	2,989
<u>30 to 34 years</u>	2,953	3,041	3,361
<u>35 to 39 years</u>	3,438	3,481	3,766
<u>40 to 44 years</u>	3,508	3,473	3,639
<u>45 to 49 years</u>	3,797	3,749	3,862
<u>50 to 54 years</u>	3,909	3,739	3,767
<u>55 to 59 years</u>	4,365	4,013	4,031
<u>60 to 64 years</u>	4,529	4,079	3,970
<u>65 to 69 years</u>	3,977	4,262	3,986
<u>70 to 74 years</u>	3,545	4,115	3,771
<u>75 to 79 years</u>	2,331	2,991	3,260
<u>80 to 84 years</u>	1,450	2,095	2,475
<u>85 years and over</u>	1,225	1,533	2,062
Total:	57,041	58,800	60,403



Population Forecast By Race

<u>Race/Ethnicity Group</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2030</u>	<u>2040</u>
<u>White, Total</u>	54,846	55,625	55,643
<u>Black or African American, Total</u>	726	781	802
<u>Asian (All 41-48), Total</u>	375	624	1,051
<u>Other Races, Total</u>	1,093	1,769	2,906
<u>Total Population, Not Hispanic or Latino</u>	55,748	56,453	56,151
<u>Total Population, Hispanic or Latino (All 20-29)</u>	1,292	2,347	4,250
Total:	57,041	58,800	60,403

Sex and Age

Median Age – **43.7** (SOURCE: U.S. Census, 2010 Demographic Profile)

Male Population – **49.3%**

Female Population – **50.7%**

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
SEX AND AGE		
Total population	54,876	100.0
Under 5 years	2,725	5.0
5 to 9 years	3,011	5.5
10 to 14 years	3,090	5.6
15 to 19 years	3,340	6.1
20 to 24 years	2,949	5.4
25 to 29 years	2,935	5.3
30 to 34 years	3,040	5.5
35 to 39 years	3,549	6.5
40 to 44 years	3,738	6.8
45 to 49 years	4,209	7.7
50 to 54 years	4,424	8.1



55 to 59 years	4,152	7.6
60 to 64 years	3,976	7.2
65 to 69 years	3,159	5.8
70 to 74 years	2,500	4.6
75 to 79 years	1,851	3.4
80 to 84 years	1,234	2.2
85 years and over	994	1.8
Median age (years)	43.7	(X)
16 years and over	45,423	82.8
18 years and over	44,122	80.4
21 years and over	42,042	76.6
62 years and over	12,056	22.0
65 years and over	9,738	17.7
Male population	27,070	49.3
Under 5 years	1,361	2.5
5 to 9 years	1,521	2.8
10 to 14 years	1,609	2.9
15 to 19 years	1,738	3.2
20 to 24 years	1,571	2.9
25 to 29 years	1,527	2.8
30 to 34 years	1,547	2.8
35 to 39 years	1,757	3.2
40 to 44 years	1,902	3.5
45 to 49 years	2,113	3.9
50 to 54 years	2,138	3.9
55 to 59 years	2,032	3.7
60 to 64 years	1,956	3.6
65 to 69 years	1,517	2.8
70 to 74 years	1,194	2.2
75 to 79 years	810	1.5
80 to 84 years	481	0.9
85 years and over	296	0.5
Median age (years)	42.4	(X)
16 years and over	22,245	40.5
18 years and over	21,585	39.3
21 years and over	20,494	37.3
62 years and over	5,414	9.9
65 years and over	4,298	7.8
Female population	27,806	50.7
Under 5 years	1,364	2.5
5 to 9 years	1,490	2.7
10 to 14 years	1,481	2.7
15 to 19 years	1,602	2.9
20 to 24 years	1,378	2.5
25 to 29 years	1,408	2.6



30 to 34 years	1,493	2.7
35 to 39 years	1,792	3.3
40 to 44 years	1,836	3.3
45 to 49 years	2,096	3.8
50 to 54 years	2,286	4.2
55 to 59 years	2,120	3.9
60 to 64 years	2,020	3.7
65 to 69 years	1,642	3.0
70 to 74 years	1,306	2.4
75 to 79 years	1,041	1.9
80 to 84 years	753	1.4
85 years and over	698	1.3
Median age (years)	45.1	(X)
16 years and over	23,178	42.2
18 years and over	22,537	41.1
21 years and over	21,548	39.3
62 years and over	6,642	12.1
65 years and over	5,440	9.9

SOURCE: U.S. Census, 2010 Demographic Profile

Race

RACE		
Total population	54,876	100.0
One Race	54,492	99.3
White	53,249	97.0
Black or African American	690	1.3
American Indian and Alaska Native	99	0.2
Asian	203	0.4
Asian Indian	40	0.1
Chinese	53	0.1
Filipino	21	0.0
Japanese	9	0.0
Korean	19	0.0
Vietnamese	21	0.0
Other Asian [1]	40	0.1
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	16	0.0
Native Hawaiian	1	0.0
Guamanian or Chamorro	6	0.0
Samoan	3	0.0
Other Pacific Islander [2]	6	0.0
Some Other Race	235	0.4



Two or More Races	384	0.7
White; American Indian and Alaska Native [3]	138	0.3
White; Asian [3]	47	0.1
White; Black or African American [3]	124	0.2
White; Some Other Race [3]	38	0.1
Race alone or in combination with one or more other races: [4]		
White	53,615	97.7
Black or African American	840	1.5
American Indian and Alaska Native	251	0.5
Asian	258	0.5
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	28	0.1
Some Other Race	282	0.5
HISPANIC OR LATINO		
Total population	54,876	100.0
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	724	1.3
Mexican	469	0.9
Puerto Rican	44	0.1
Cuban	36	0.1
Other Hispanic or Latino [5]	175	0.3
Not Hispanic or Latino	54,152	98.7
HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
Total population	54,876	100.0
Hispanic or Latino	724	1.3
White alone	451	0.8
Black or African American alone	4	0.0
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	9	0.0
Asian alone	1	0.0
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	10	0.0
Some Other Race alone	214	0.4
Two or More Races	35	0.1
Not Hispanic or Latino	54,152	98.7
White alone	52,798	96.2
Black or African American alone	686	1.3
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	90	0.2
Asian alone	202	0.4
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	6	0.0
Some Other Race alone	21	0.0
Two or More Races	349	0.6

SOURCE: U.S. Census, 2010 Demographic Profile Data



PLACE OF BIRTH				
Total population	54,628	*****	54,628	(X)
Native	54,090	+/-131	99.0%	+/-0.2
Born in United States	53,956	+/-154	98.8%	+/-0.3
State of residence	33,851	+/-1,064	62.0%	+/-1.9
Different state	20,105	+/-1,090	36.8%	+/-2.0
Born in Puerto Rico, U.S. Island areas, or born abroad to American parent(s)	134	+/-84	0.2%	+/-0.2
Foreign born	538	+/-131	1.0%	+/-0.2
U.S. CITIZENSHIP STATUS				
Foreign-born population	538	+/-131	538	(X)
Naturalized U.S. citizen	220	+/-86	40.9%	+/-16.5
Not a U.S. citizen	318	+/-136	59.1%	+/-16.5
YEAR OF ENTRY				
Population born outside the United States	672	+/-154	672	(X)
Native	134	+/-84	134	(X)
Entered 2000 or later	2	+/-4	1.5%	+/-3.5
Entered before 2000	132	+/-84	98.5%	+/-3.5
Foreign born	538	+/-131	538	(X)
Entered 2000 or later	214	+/-95	39.8%	+/-14.8
Entered before 2000	324	+/-111	60.2%	+/-14.8
WORLD REGION OF BIRTH OF FOREIGN BORN				
Foreign-born population, excluding population born at sea	538	+/-131	538	(X)
Europe	182	+/-83	33.8%	+/-16.6
Asia	98	+/-57	18.2%	+/-9.2
Africa	20	+/-31	3.7%	+/-5.6
Oceania	0	+/-95	0.0%	+/-6.7
Latin America	224	+/-127	41.6%	+/-18.3
Northern America	14	+/-17	2.6%	+/-3.3
LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME				
Population 5 years and over	51,900	+/-61	51,900	(X)
English only	50,911	+/-222	98.1%	+/-0.4
Language other than English	989	+/-210	1.9%	+/-0.4
Speak English less than "very well"	274	+/-118	0.5%	+/-0.2
Spanish	547	+/-151	1.1%	+/-0.3
Speak English less than "very well"	144	+/-77	0.3%	+/-0.1
Other Indo-European languages	228	+/-100	0.4%	+/-0.2
Speak English less than "very well"	20	+/-18	0.0%	+/-0.1
Asian and Pacific Islander languages	123	+/-63	0.2%	+/-0.1
Speak English less than "very well"	73	+/-57	0.1%	+/-0.1
Other languages	91	+/-87	0.2%	+/-0.2



Speak English less than "very well"	37	+/-37	0.1%	+/-0.1
ANCESTRY				
Total population	54,628	*****	54,628	(X)
American	10,255	+/-966	18.8%	+/-1.8
Arab	113	+/-119	0.2%	+/-0.2
Czech	168	+/-154	0.3%	+/-0.3
Danish	66	+/-67	0.1%	+/-0.1
Dutch	713	+/-282	1.3%	+/-0.5
English	7,779	+/-822	14.2%	+/-1.5
French (except Basque)	886	+/-306	1.6%	+/-0.6
French Canadian	108	+/-68	0.2%	+/-0.1
German	6,990	+/-568	12.8%	+/-1.0
Greek	41	+/-49	0.1%	+/-0.1
Hungarian	149	+/-101	0.3%	+/-0.2
Irish	6,461	+/-753	11.8%	+/-1.4
Italian	979	+/-315	1.8%	+/-0.6
Lithuanian	0	+/-95	0.0%	+/-0.1
Norwegian	142	+/-90	0.3%	+/-0.2
Polish	494	+/-243	0.9%	+/-0.4
Portuguese	12	+/-17	0.0%	+/-0.1
Russian	212	+/-146	0.4%	+/-0.3
Scotch-Irish	2,876	+/-462	5.3%	+/-0.8
Scottish	1,421	+/-370	2.6%	+/-0.7
Slovak	3	+/-5	0.0%	+/-0.1
Subsaharan African	104	+/-87	0.2%	+/-0.2
Swedish	295	+/-161	0.5%	+/-0.3
Swiss	23	+/-23	0.0%	+/-0.1
Ukrainian	29	+/-40	0.1%	+/-0.1
Welsh	313	+/-147	0.6%	+/-0.3
West Indian (excluding Hispanic origin groups)	28	+/-36	0.1%	+/-0.1

SOURCE: U.S. Census, 2007-2011 American Community Survey

Relationships

RELATIONSHIP				
Population in households	53,143	+/-388	53,143	(X)
Householder	23,064	+/-461	43.4%	+/-0.8
Spouse	12,823	+/-509	24.1%	+/-1.0
Child	13,039	+/-557	24.5%	+/-1.0
Other relatives	2,155	+/-404	4.1%	+/-0.8
Nonrelatives	2,062	+/-410	3.9%	+/-0.8
Unmarried partner	1,002	+/-226	1.9%	+/-0.4
MARITAL STATUS				
Males 15 years and over	22,324	+/-161	22,324	(X)



Never married	4,946	+/-323	22.2%	+/-1.5
Now married, except separated	13,496	+/-526	60.5%	+/-2.2
Separated	633	+/-204	2.8%	+/-0.9
Widowed	815	+/-190	3.7%	+/-0.9
Divorced	2,434	+/-301	10.9%	+/-1.3
Females 15 years and over				
Never married	4,163	+/-368	17.7%	+/-1.6
Now married, except separated	13,080	+/-569	55.8%	+/-2.5
Separated	649	+/-200	2.8%	+/-0.8
Widowed	2,652	+/-283	11.3%	+/-1.2
Divorced	2,915	+/-364	12.4%	+/-1.6
FERTILITY				
Number of women 15 to 50 years old who had a birth in the past 12 months	679	+/-174	679	(X)
Unmarried women (widowed, divorced, and never married)	238	+/-130	35.1%	+/-15.0
Per 1,000 unmarried women	44	+/-24	(X)	(X)
Per 1,000 women 15 to 50 years old	56	+/-14	(X)	(X)
Per 1,000 women 15 to 19 years old	42	+/-35	(X)	(X)
Per 1,000 women 20 to 34 years old	129	+/-35	(X)	(X)
Per 1,000 women 35 to 50 years old	9	+/-8	(X)	(X)
GRANDPARENTS				
Number of grandparents living with own grandchildren under 18 years	1,356	+/-298	1,356	(X)
Responsible for grandchildren	649	+/-196	47.9%	+/-11.7
Years responsible for grandchildren				
Less than 1 year	168	+/-99	12.4%	+/-6.7
1 or 2 years	45	+/-35	3.3%	+/-2.7
3 or 4 years	152	+/-77	11.2%	+/-5.6
5 or more years	284	+/-125	20.9%	+/-8.5
Number of grandparents responsible for own grandchildren under 18 years				
Who are female	440	+/-162	67.8%	+/-10.2
Who are married	338	+/-136	52.1%	+/-17.0

SOURCE: U.S. Census, 2007-2011 American Community Survey

Income

Median Household Income - **\$41,526** (SOURCE: U.S. Census, 2007-2011 American Community Survey)Individuals Below Poverty Level – **13.6%** (SOURCE: U.S. Census, 2007-2011 American Community Survey)



INCOME AND BENEFITS (IN 2011 INFLATION-ADJUSTED DOLLARS)				
Total households	23,064	+/-461	23,064	(X)
Less than \$10,000	1,794	+/-280	7.8%	+/-1.2
\$10,000 to \$14,999	1,659	+/-251	7.2%	+/-1.1
\$15,000 to \$24,999	2,843	+/-316	12.3%	+/-1.3
\$25,000 to \$34,999	3,249	+/-423	14.1%	+/-1.8
\$35,000 to \$49,999	3,962	+/-397	17.2%	+/-1.7
\$50,000 to \$74,999	4,336	+/-420	18.8%	+/-1.8
\$75,000 to \$99,999	2,241	+/-298	9.7%	+/-1.3
\$100,000 to \$149,999	1,898	+/-265	8.2%	+/-1.1
\$150,000 to \$199,999	583	+/-182	2.5%	+/-0.8
\$200,000 or more	499	+/-157	2.2%	+/-0.7
Median household income (dollars)	41,526	+/-2,385	(X)	(X)
Mean household income (dollars)	59,803	+/-3,527	(X)	(X)
With earnings	16,965	+/-531	73.6%	+/-1.6
Mean earnings (dollars)	61,104	+/-4,518	(X)	(X)
With Social Security	9,338	+/-374	40.5%	+/-1.5
Mean Social Security income (dollars)	16,201	+/-479	(X)	(X)
With retirement income	5,027	+/-379	21.8%	+/-1.6
Mean retirement income (dollars)	16,954	+/-1,382	(X)	(X)
With Supplemental Security Income	1,368	+/-228	5.9%	+/-1.0
Mean Supplemental Security Income (dollars)	7,289	+/-880	(X)	(X)
With cash public assistance income	417	+/-126	1.8%	+/-0.5
Mean cash public assistance income (dollars)	2,454	+/-708	(X)	(X)
With Food Stamp/SNAP benefits in the past 12 months	2,381	+/-321	10.3%	+/-1.3
Families	16,565	+/-536	16,565	(X)
Less than \$10,000	696	+/-251	4.2%	+/-1.5
\$10,000 to \$14,999	625	+/-161	3.8%	+/-1.0
\$15,000 to \$24,999	1,745	+/-274	10.5%	+/-1.6
\$25,000 to \$34,999	2,160	+/-334	13.0%	+/-2.0
\$35,000 to \$49,999	2,817	+/-354	17.0%	+/-2.0
\$50,000 to \$74,999	3,711	+/-383	22.4%	+/-2.2
\$75,000 to \$99,999	2,069	+/-285	12.5%	+/-1.7
\$100,000 to \$149,999	1,842	+/-261	11.1%	+/-1.5
\$150,000 to \$199,999	453	+/-140	2.7%	+/-0.8
\$200,000 or more	447	+/-163	2.7%	+/-1.0
Median family income (dollars)	51,820	+/-3,523	(X)	(X)
Mean family income (dollars)	69,424	+/-4,773	(X)	(X)
Per capita income (dollars)	25,043	+/-1,449	(X)	(X)
Nonfamily households	6,499	+/-467	6,499	(X)
Median nonfamily income (dollars)	22,834	+/-2,561	(X)	(X)
Mean nonfamily income (dollars)	33,370	+/-4,640	(X)	(X)



Median earnings for workers (dollars)	25,452	+/-954	(X)	(X)
Median earnings for male full-time, year-round workers (dollars)	39,539	+/-2,402	(X)	(X)
Median earnings for female full-time, year-round workers (dollars)	29,119	+/-1,767	(X)	(X)

PERCENTAGE OF FAMILIES AND PEOPLE WHOSE INCOME IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS IS BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL

All families	(X)	(X)	9.4%	+/-1.6
With related children under 18 years	(X)	(X)	15.6%	+/-3.2
With related children under 5 years only	(X)	(X)	15.5%	+/-7.9
Married couple families	(X)	(X)	6.2%	+/-1.3
With related children under 18 years	(X)	(X)	9.9%	+/-2.6
With related children under 5 years only	(X)	(X)	7.7%	+/-6.3
Families with female householder, no husband present	(X)	(X)	26.0%	+/-6.2
With related children under 18 years	(X)	(X)	36.7%	+/-10.3
With related children under 5 years only	(X)	(X)	51.9%	+/-25.4
All people	(X)	(X)	13.6%	+/-1.5
Under 18 years	(X)	(X)	17.2%	+/-3.6
Related children under 18 years	(X)	(X)	16.7%	+/-3.6
Related children under 5 years	(X)	(X)	19.3%	+/-5.7
Related children 5 to 17 years	(X)	(X)	15.8%	+/-3.9
18 years and over	(X)	(X)	12.8%	+/-1.3
18 to 64 years	(X)	(X)	13.8%	+/-1.6
65 years and over	(X)	(X)	9.1%	+/-2.0
People in families	(X)	(X)	10.2%	+/-1.8
Unrelated individuals 15 years and over	(X)	(X)	31.2%	+/-3.5

Education

Percent high school graduate or higher – **81.9%** (Source: 2007-2011 American Community Survey)

Percent bachelor's degree or higher – **21.0%** (Source: 2007-2011 American Community Survey)

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT



Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	11,564	+/-343	11,564	(X)
Nursery school, preschool	646	+/-173	5.6%	+/-1.4
Kindergarten	722	+/-193	6.2%	+/-1.7
Elementary school (grades 1-8)	4,621	+/-205	40.0%	+/-2.0
High school (grades 9-12)	2,549	+/-198	22.0%	+/-1.8
College or graduate school	3,026	+/-371	26.2%	+/-2.7
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT				
Population 25 years and over	39,428	+/-115	39,428	(X)
Less than 9th grade	3,110	+/-323	7.9%	+/-0.8
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	4,016	+/-368	10.2%	+/-0.9
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	12,822	+/-738	32.5%	+/-1.9
Some college, no degree	8,068	+/-588	20.5%	+/-1.5
Associate's degree	3,115	+/-382	7.9%	+/-1.0
Bachelor's degree	5,203	+/-488	13.2%	+/-1.2
Graduate or professional degree	3,094	+/-387	7.8%	+/-1.0
Percent high school graduate or higher	(X)	(X)	81.9%	+/-1.2
Percent bachelor's degree or higher	(X)	(X)	21.0%	+/-1.7

Veterans

Number of Veterans – **4,733** (Source: 2007-2011 American Community Survey)

VETERAN STATUS				
Civilian population 18 years and over	43,853	+/-65	43,853	(X)
Civilian veterans	4,733	+/-403	10.8%	+/-0.9



Economic Development

As the County prepares its comprehensive plan, community members will be asked to consider a range of questions - "What businesses support our community and do they meet our needs? What generates our material well-being and the well-being of our neighbors? How do our production and consumption patterns impact our infrastructure and environmental resources? What kind of jobs can we expect in the future? How will future businesses impact our infrastructure and environmental resources?"

Economic Characteristics

Number of Companies - **4,934** (Source: 2007 Survey of Business Owners)

	Estimate	Margin of Error	Percent	Percent Margin of Error
EMPLOYMENT STATUS				
Population 16 years and over	45,117	+/-156	45,117	(X)
In labor force	26,256	+/-690	58.2%	+/-1.5
Civilian labor force	26,229	+/-689	58.1%	+/-1.5
Employed	24,627	+/-712	54.6%	+/-1.6
Unemployed	1,602	+/-326	3.6%	+/-0.7
Armed Forces	27	+/-24	0.1%	+/-0.1
Not in labor force	18,861	+/-679	41.8%	+/-1.5
Civilian labor force	26,229	+/-689	26,229	(X)
Percent Unemployed	(X)	(X)	6.1%	+/-1.2
Females 16 years and over	23,146	+/-194	23,146	(X)
In labor force	11,831	+/-482	51.1%	+/-2.1
Civilian labor force	11,825	+/-482	51.1%	+/-2.1
Employed	11,182	+/-453	48.3%	+/-1.9
Own children under 6 years	3,239	+/-174	3,239	(X)
All parents in family in labor force	1,992	+/-242	61.5%	+/-6.4
Own children 6 to 17 years	6,786	+/-191	6,786	(X)
All parents in family in labor force	4,419	+/-322	65.1%	+/-4.7
COMMUTING TO WORK				
Workers 16 years and over	23,988	+/-699	23,988	(X)
Car, truck, or van -- drove alone	20,208	+/-660	84.2%	+/-1.7
Car, truck, or van -- carpooled	2,435	+/-397	10.2%	+/-1.6
Public transportation (excluding taxicab)	64	+/-50	0.3%	+/-0.2
Walked	426	+/-159	1.8%	+/-0.6
Other means	85	+/-51	0.4%	+/-0.2
Worked at home	770	+/-186	3.2%	+/-0.8



Mean travel time to work (minutes)	22.9	+/-0.9	(X)	(X)
OCCUPATION				
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	24,627	+/-712	24,627	(X)
Management, business, science, and arts occupations	7,857	+/-624	31.9%	+/-2.3
Service occupations	3,799	+/-413	15.4%	+/-1.7
Sales and office occupations	6,282	+/-539	25.5%	+/-2.0
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	2,638	+/-315	10.7%	+/-1.3
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	4,051	+/-460	16.4%	+/-1.8
INDUSTRY				
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	24,627	+/-712	24,627	(X)
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	582	+/-147	2.4%	+/-0.6
Construction	1,909	+/-310	7.8%	+/-1.2
Manufacturing	3,488	+/-399	14.2%	+/-1.6
Wholesale trade	750	+/-225	3.0%	+/-0.9
Retail trade	3,501	+/-382	14.2%	+/-1.4
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	1,097	+/-242	4.5%	+/-1.0
Information	371	+/-121	1.5%	+/-0.5
Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing	1,017	+/-227	4.1%	+/-0.9
Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services	1,635	+/-299	6.6%	+/-1.2
Educational services, and health care and social assistance	5,947	+/-467	24.1%	+/-1.8
Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services	1,767	+/-299	7.2%	+/-1.2
Other services, except public administration	1,379	+/-288	5.6%	+/-1.1
Public administration	1,184	+/-215	4.8%	+/-0.9
CLASS OF WORKER				
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	24,627	+/-712	24,627	(X)
Private wage and salary workers	19,038	+/-690	77.3%	+/-1.7
Government workers	4,042	+/-429	16.4%	+/-1.7
Self-employed in own not incorporated business workers	1,520	+/-257	6.2%	+/-1.0
Unpaid family workers	27	+/-23	0.1%	+/-0.1
HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE				
Civilian noninstitutionalized population	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
With health insurance coverage	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
With private health insurance	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)



With public coverage	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
No health insurance coverage	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Civilian noninstitutionalized population under 18 years	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
No health insurance coverage	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Civilian noninstitutionalized population 18 to 64 years	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
In labor force:	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Employed:	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
With health insurance coverage	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
With private health insurance	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
With public coverage	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
No health insurance coverage	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Unemployed:	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
With health insurance coverage	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
With private health insurance	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
With public coverage	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
No health insurance coverage	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Not in labor force:	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
With health insurance coverage	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
With private health insurance	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
With public coverage	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
No health insurance coverage	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)

Unemployment – July 2013

Area Name	Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
Washington County	27,804	25,767	2,037	7.3%

Source: Virginia Labor Market Information



2007 Economic Census

Meaning of 2007 NAICS code	Meaning of Type of operation or tax status code	Year	# of employer est.	Employer value of sales, shipments, receipts, revenue, or business done (\$1,000)	Annual payroll (\$1,000)	Number of paid employees for pay period including March 12	Number of nonemployer est.'s	Nonemployer value of sales, shipments, receipts, revenue, or business done (\$1,000)
Manufacturing	Total	2007	74	1,359,544	171,420	4,862	51	1,191
Wholesale trade	Merchant wholesalers, except manufacturers' sales branches and offices	2007	43	279,623	20,724	417	N	N
Retail trade	Total	2007	230	701,610	58,990	2,940	372	13,955
Information	Total	2007	9	N	D	b	20	481
Real estate and rental and leasing	Total	2007	48	15,434	3,139	131	322	19,472
Professional, scientific, and technical services	All establishments	2007	110	49,583	24,662	742	332	9,807
Professional, scientific, and technical services	Establishments subject to federal income tax	2007	110	49,583	24,662	742	N	N
Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services	Total	2007	42	D	D	e	330	5,769
Educational services	All establishments	2007	5	D	D	a	56	500
Educational services	Establishments subject to federal income tax	2007	3	D	D	a	N	N
Educational services	Establishments exempt from federal	2007	2	D	D	a	N	N



	income tax							
Health care and social assistance	All establishments	2007	143	197,740	76,091	2,092	225	9,081
Health care and social assistance	Establishments subject to federal income tax	2007	112	D	D	g	N	N
Health care and social assistance	Establishments exempt from federal income tax	2007	31	D	D	g	N	N
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	All establishments	2007	20	D	D	e	124	2,074
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	Establishments subject to federal income tax	2007	16	D	D	c	N	N
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	Establishments exempt from federal income tax	2007	4	D	D	c	N	N
Accommodation and food services	Total	2007	91	59,216	16,720	1,505	51	1,254
Other services (except public administration)	All establishments	2007	73	22,084	7,606	357	636	28,330
Other services (except public administration)	Establishments subject to federal income tax	2007	60	D	D	e	N	N
Other services (except public administration)	Establishments exempt from federal income tax	2007	13	D	D	b	N	N



Natural and Cultural Resources

Natural Resources

The natural environment places certain opportunities and constraints on the way land is used. Soil conditions, slopes, flood frequency and wetlands all affect where development can safely and feasibly occur. These and other environmentally sensitive characteristics should be given consideration in the planning process. Data related to the natural characteristics of Washington County are examined in the following section.

SOILS

Washington County was included in the "Soil Survey of Washington County Area and the City of Bristol, Virginia," a publication of the National Cooperative Soil Survey, a joint effort of the United States Department of Agriculture and other Federal and State agencies, including the Agricultural Experiment Stations and local agencies. The majority of the fieldwork for the study was completed in 1992.

Full copies of the report may be obtained through the Holston River Soil and Water Conservation District or at <http://solidatamart.nrcs.usda.gov>.

The majority of Washington County land (95%) lies in the Valley and Ridge physiographic province of Virginia. The Whitetop Mountain area (approximately 5%) in the extreme southeastern corner of the County lies in the Blue Ridge physiographic province. The County is underlain by sedimentary rocks consisting of limestone, shale, and sandstone. Limestone is the dominant rock underlying the valley and sandstone and shale form the ridges. Detailed soil maps and descriptions are contained within the "Soil Survey of Washington County Area and City of Bristol, Virginia," report. The report provides a description of soil properties and qualities, their location and a discussion of their suitability, limitations, and use and management considerations.

Soil information contained within the soil survey is essential to the comprehensive plan to inform land use decisions and identify special practices needed to ensure proper performance. Differences in soil properties can occur within short distances and can determine usability of the land. Some soils are seasonally wet and subject to flooding, others are poorly suited to use for septic tank absorption fields.

WATER SUPPLY

Public water, supplied by the Washington County Service Authority, is sourced from the Middle Fork of the Holston River, two large springs (located in the Mill Creek and Taylor's Valley communities) and from a well in Mendota.

WATERSHED

A watershed is simply the area of land that drains into a particular body of water. Bodies of water used to define a watershed may be a creek, pond or river. Virginia has defined 14 major watersheds and the entirety of Washington County lies within one of these 14, the Holston River Watershed. The three forks of the Holston River, North Middle and South, serve as drainage for the County and reach their confluence near Kingsport, Tennessee. Watershed consideration is important during the comprehensive planning process to maintain and improve water quality and ensure that future generations have adequate water supplies.



WETLANDS

The physical, chemical, and biological properties of the Commonwealth's wetlands work in concert to perform "wetland functions." Wetland functions may include: storage of water, ground water recharge, sediment trapping, transformation of nutrients, and wildlife habitat. Wetlands are some of the most productive habitats on earth, providing nursery grounds for shellfish, fish and other vertebrate wildlife.

The benefits society derives from wetlands functions are often referred to as wetland values. Some widely applicable wetland values include: flood attenuation, water purification, and wildlife habitat. When wetlands store water along a larger water body, they often serve to attenuate periodic flood waters. The process of storing water also slows water to trap sediment and pollutants caused by over land or upstream water flow. As wildlife habitat, wetlands provide hunting and fishing opportunities. The Commonwealth has five physiographic regions each with specific elevation, geologic, and hydrologic influences. Washington County is located in the Valley and Ridge region where most wetland forests or marshes are associated with streams.

Virginia's landscape also is commonly categorized by seven ecoregions. According to the U.S. EPA, "Ecoregions reflect areas of general similarity in ecosystems and in the type, quality, and quantity of environmental resources, they are designed to serve as a spatial framework for the research, assessment, management, and monitoring of ecosystems and ecosystem components" (Woods et al. 2003). The seven ecoregions in Virginia include: Piedmont, Middle Atlantic Coastal Plan, Northern Piedmont, Southeastern Plains, Blue Ridge, Ridge and Valley, and Central Appalachian. Washington County is located in the Ridge and Valley ecoregion. Each ecoregion contains a characteristic, geographically distinct assemblage of natural communities and species. The biodiversity of flora, fauna, and ecosystems that characterize an ecoregion tend to be distinct from that of other ecoregions.

Source: Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

NATIONAL AND STATE FORESTS

Jefferson National Forest -

The George Washington National Forest in west central Virginia and the Jefferson National Forest in southwest Virginia were administratively combined in 1995 to form the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests. The two national forests contain nearly 1.8 million acres; one of the largest blocks of public land in the eastern United States. The forests include 1,664,110 acres in Virginia, 123,629 acres in West Virginia, and 961 acres in Kentucky. The forest headquarters is the Forest Supervisor's Office in Roanoke, Virginia. The forests include the Mount Rogers National Recreation Area and seven Ranger Districts.

The forests are primarily Appalachian hardwood and mixed pine-hardwood forest types located within the Blue Ridge, Central Ridge and Valley, Allegheny, and Cumberland Plateau provinces. The forests are home to:

- 40 species of trees
- 2,000 species of shrubs and herbaceous plants
- 78 species of amphibians and reptiles
- 200 species of birds
- 60 species of mammals
- 2,340 miles of perennial streams
- 100 species of freshwater fishes and mussels
- 53 federally-listed Threatened or Endangered animal and plant species.



The forests are managed for multiple uses and provide many products and benefits. Developed recreation opportunities are offered at over 200 sites on the forests (including campgrounds, picnic areas and boat launches), along with nearly 2,200 miles of trails, and 1,700 miles of open roads. Elevations range from 5,729 feet at Mount Rogers to 515 feet along the South Fork of the Shenandoah River. Highlights include:

- 325 miles of the Appalachian National Scenic Trail,
- 12 National Recreation Trails totaling 143 miles,
- the 140,000 acre Mount Rogers National Recreation Area,
- 3 National Scenic Areas,
- 3 National Forest Scenic Byways,
- nearly 3 million annual recreation visits,
- 23 Wildernesses,
- 700,000 acres of lands actively managed for the production of timber and wood products,
- Over 1 million acres classified as generally remote areas where a variety of activities may occur.

Mount Rogers National Recreation Area

Located in southwest Virginia, the Mount Rogers National Recreation Area (NRA) manages approximately 200,000 acres of National Forest land near Mount Rogers. The area features four Congressionally designated wilderness areas; the Virginia Creeper Trail; the Mount Rogers Scenic Byway which traverses over 50 miles offering views of the National Recreation Area and open rural countryside; the 5000 acre Crest Zone featuring elevations over 4,000 feet, large rock formations, and a mixture of mountain balds and spruce-fir forests; a herd of wild, free-ranging ponies; and the highest elevated road in the state of Virginia leading to the summit of Whitetop Mountain.

Many activities are available in the area including camping, picnicking, sight-seeing, bird watching, trout fishing, hunting, hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, and swimming. The U.S. Forest Service has 3 rental cabins and 11 campgrounds in the Mount Rogers NRA, four of which are set up for horseback riders. There are over 500 miles of trails in the area, including 60 miles of the Appalachian Trail, 18 miles of the Virginia Creeper Trail, and 67 miles of the Virginia Highland Horse Trail. Over one million visitors come to Mount Rogers every year.

The Mount Rogers NRA was officially established and designated a National Recreational Area by the Secretary of Agriculture in 1966.

Source: USDA Forest Service Website

Historic and Cultural Resources

A Brief History of Washington County, Virginia

Washington County was named for General George Washington before he was elected President. A history of Washington County, Virginia might include all the territory originally encompassed in Augusta County, formed by the Virginia House of Burgesses in 1738; Botetourt County in 1770; Fincastle County in 1772; and Washington County established on December 7, 1776. Each of the subsequent counties split from the Washington County of 1776: Russell County in 1786, Lee County in 1793, Tazewell County in 1800, Scott County in 1814, Smyth County in 1832, Wise County in 1836, Buchanan County in 1858, Dickenson County in 1880. Each has a history of its own. With a few exceptions, this article will be concerned with the current boundaries of Washington County, Virginia.



PRE-1777

The Great Valley of Virginia was a 'superhighway' for various tribes of original inhabitants of what is now known as the United States of America. Relics, such as arrowheads and tomahawk stones that attest to the presence of American Indians and continue to be found in local plowed fields. Scotch-Irish and German Settlers who traveled from Pennsylvania down what was called the Great Indian Trail encounter those people and the buffalo, which grazed along the way.

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

In the fall of 1780, four hundred men from Washington County were mustered to travel under the command of Colonel William Campbell to overcome the British troops under the command of Patrick Ferguson. North Carolina and Tennessee militia from various counties joined with the Virginians to pursue the British and engage them at King's Mountain, South Carolina. The "Overmountain Men" were ordered to yell like Indians during this attack. The confusion that resulted from the yelling and exceptional marksmanship as well as other tactics helped cause the death of Ferguson and the defeat of his troops October 7, 1780.

RAILROADS

Starting in the mid-1800's railroads carried passengers and materials through and from Washington County. Communities along the main route from Washington Springs to Goodson (now Bristol) included Glade Spring, Emory, Meadowview, Wolf Hills (now Abingdon), Fractionsville, Wyndale and Wallace. One line went from Glade Spring to Saltville by way of Litz, Keywood and Clinchburg; another line extended from Bristol to Mendota; another headed southeast from Abingdon to West Jefferson, North Carolina by way of Watauga, Barron (now Alvarado), Delmar, Drowning Ford Station, Hellena, Damascus, Laureldale, Taylors Valley, Creek Junction, Cant Work and Green Cove. For a period of time passengers arriving on a Virginia line at Bristol, Virginia had to disembark and walk a short distance to climb aboard a Tennessee train on a Tennessee line if they wanted to continue south. Roads suitable for automobiles have replaced the lines from Damascus to Laurel Bloomery, Tennessee and from Damascus to Shady Valley, Tennessee. The Virginia Creeper Trail is a linear park that has replaced the Norfolk & Western rails and crosses from Abingdon to the North Carolina line.

TOPOGRAPHY

A major part of Washington County is in the Great Valley region of Virginia, where Abingdon, the County Seat, was established. To the north are the North Fork of the Holston River and the Clinch mountain range; to the south and east are River Knobs, the junction of the Middle Fork and the South Fork of the Holston River, and the mountain ranges known as the Holston and the Virginia Iron. The combination of springs and elevation provided waterpower, harnessed behind small dams for milling grains and for sawing lumber from the abundant stands of trees. Water powered electrification with direct current brought light and heat to some homes early in the 20th Century. Grayson, Smyth, and Washington Counties join at the top of the second highest mountain (5,520 feet) in Virginia formerly known as "Meadow", because of its prominent bald field. Winter snows in that open field have caused the change of its name to White Top Mountain.

THE NOTCH

The southern boundary line of Virginia was assigned to parallel 36° 30'. In 1749 when Peter Jefferson, father of Thomas Jefferson, surveyed from about where Patrick County is today, he kept moving farther north away from the assigned parallel till he discontinued his survey east of Damascus. In 1800, the northeast tip of the new state of Tennessee joined Virginia and North Carolina on Pond Mountain. Tennessee continues on that northern parallel in Washington County, until it jogs south but not to 36°30'. Three stories are told about the Notch: (1) the surveyor was inebriated (2) iron deposits in the Iron Mountains interfered with readings of the compass and (3) the strong will of Tennesseans prevailed.



ABINGDON

In the County Seat, history can be found within the record books of the Washington County Courthouse, in the cemeteries dating before the Revolution, in the homes throughout the historic district, and dedicated markers. One historic house constructed in 1832 was the home of Brigadier General Francis Preston. After General Preston's death the Holston Conference of the Methodist Church acquired the property. On March 15, 1860 classes began in Martha Washington College for women, the first such recognition of Martha Custis, the wife of George Washington. The "War Between the States" interrupted classes while a hospital temporarily occupied the College. After that war classes resumed and continued until 1931. The enlarged campus of four buildings was purchased to change function once more to become Martha Washington Inn.

BRISTOL, VIRGINIA

Even though the General Assembly granted a charter and named the city Bristol on February 12, 1890, the area has a history dating back to 1749, when it was called Sapling Grove. At an elevation of 1672 feet, the northern half of State Street lies in Virginia; the southern half lies in Bristol, Tennessee.

DAMASCUS

Recipients of Revolutionary Land Grants were some of the earliest settlers in the southeastern part of Washington County. Even though Daniel Boone was born in Pennsylvania and moved with his father's family to the Yadkin River in North Carolina, he played an important part in future migrations by other Mocksville, North Carolina residents, who followed the Daniel Boone Trail to Kentucky and beyond. Some were so pleased by the conditions in the valley carved out by the Beaver Dam Creek and the Laurel Creek that they stayed in what would later be named Damascus.

EMORY

The village of Emory developed around the perimeter of Emory & Henry College for men, founded in 1836. Named for Bishop John Emory of the Methodist Church and Patrick Henry, the famed Virginia patriot and political leader, the college was planned by the Rev. Mr. Creed Fulton and Tobias Smyth, whose log cabin was moved from its original location to the campus, where it can be seen today. In 1861, all the students withdrew to join the army; and the main building became a hospital. In 1922, women were admitted to the college, which continues to be co-educational.

KONNAROCK

The community known as Konnarock lies in the far southeast corner of Washington County. Logging of the virgin timber in the valley and up the sides of White Top Mountain by the Hassinger Lumber Company from 1906 to Christmas Eve, 1928 provided a boom economy in the form of new homes, company buildings and sawmills, and a railroad spur to an existing line. After all the large timber was gone, the town reverted to being a remote village of people who love to live at the north base of White Top Mountain.

MENDOTA

The community in the northwest corner of Washington County took the name given the area by native people, because the name means "bend in the river." For the five eastern tribes who fished the river and hunted the woods, Mendota was an excellent place to meet. High on the cliffs, there are overlooks for viewing the river in both directions. When settlers moved in they found that the soil in this valley was rich for farming.

SALTVILLE



Part of a sea was captured in the valley near the northeast corner where Washington County borders Smyth County. This salty lake attracted birds and animals, then hunters of various tribes, then a surveyor Charles Campbell who was granted 330 acres including the remaining lake and swamp by King George II in 1748. Settlers and soldiers traveled to "The Lick" to purchase salt, the product of crystallization during boiling of the salty water. When spring rains and melting snows raised the level of the North Fork of the Holston River, flat bottom boats were used to carry salt to Chattanooga and beyond. From 1893 chemical factories provided jobs, while sadly polluting the rivers. Discovery of Woolly Mammoth remains has led to further paleontological digs and the Museum of the Middle Appalachians.

Source: Washington County website

The County possesses historic resources from different periods of significance. **13 sites** are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. These include

- Abingdon Bank
- Abingdon Historic District
- Baker-St. John House
- Brook Hall
- Crabtree-Blackwell Farm
- Edmondson Hall
- Emory and Henry College
- The Grove
- Mont Calm
- Moonlite Theatre
- Dr. William H. House
- Walnut Grove
- White's Mill

In addition to those listed on the National Register of Historic Places, historic homes, commercial buildings, mills, railroad resources, churches and cemeteries are scattered throughout the County.

The Abingdon Historic District is currently the only area in the County protected under a local historic preservation ordinance by the Town of Abingdon. At present, the Washington County Historical Society and individual, private citizens carry out historic preservation activities.

These nonrenewable resources yield unique information about our past and although many have been discovered, there are forgotten, undiscovered and unprotected cultural resources throughout the County.



Agriculture

\$1,625 - Annual Farm Income in Washington County and Bristol, VA for 2007 from the Bureau of Economic Analysis

The following information is sourced from the 2007 Census of Agriculture. Publication of the 2012 Census of Agriculture by the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service is anticipated in early 2014.

WASHINGTON CO.	2007	2002	% Change
Number of Farms	1791	1821	-2
Land in Farms	198,850 acres	197,495 acres	+1
Average Size of Farm	111 acres	108 acres	+3
Market Value of Products Sold	\$43,961,000	\$50,596,000	-13
Crop Sales \$4,897,000 (11%)			
Livestock Sales \$39,065,000 (89%)			
Average Per Farm	\$24,546	\$27,784	-12
Government Payments	\$960,000	\$804,000	+19
Average Per Farm Receiving Payments	\$2,254	\$3,496	-36

Source: 2007 Census of Agriculture

Ranked Items Among the 98 State Counties and 3,079 U.S. Counties, 2007

Item	Quantity	State Rank	Universe ¹	U.S. Rank	Universe ¹
MARKET VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SOLD (\$1,000)					
Total value of agricultural products sold	43,961	13	98	1,670	3,076
Value of crops including nursery and greenhouse	4,897	48	98	2,251	3,072
Value of livestock, poultry, and their products	39,065	10	98	968	3,069
VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	157	78	97	2,395	2,933
Tobacco	1,151	12	34	181	437
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	15	-	626
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	349	32	95	1,242	2,796
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	746	18	96	553	2,659
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	759	41	94	1,208	2,703
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	133	9	64	338	1,710



Other crops and hay	1,602	11	98	1,064	3,054
Poultry and eggs	(D)	22	96	(D)	3,020
Cattle and calves	28,768	3	96	445	3,054
Milk and other dairy products from cows	7,773	7	78	574	2,493
Hogs and pigs	39	34	86	1,684	2,922
Sheep, goats, and their products	(D)	3	95	(D)	2,998
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	443	16	94	545	3,024
Aquaculture	(D)	(D)	44	(D)	1,498
Other animals and other animal products	6	61	94	2,220	2,875
TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)					
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	40,250	6	98	449	3,060
Corn for silage	2,393	12	81	569	2,263
Corn for grain	440	72	94	2,077	2,634
Tobacco	388	10	34	170	437
Soybeans for beans	(D)	67	77	(D)	2,039
TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)					
Layers	(D)	2	97	(D)	3,024
Cattle and calves	66,021	3	97	339	3,060
Sheep and lambs	7,649	1	94	138	2,891
Goats, all	3,773	1	97	102	3,023
Horses and ponies	2,866	5	97	291	3,066

See "Census of Agriculture, Volume 1, Geographic Area Series" for complete footnotes, explanations, definitions, and methodology.

(D) Cannot be disclosed. (Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

1 -Universe is number of counties in state or U.S. with item. Data were collected for a maximum of three operators per farm.

Economic Characteristics	Quantity
Farms by value of sales:	572
Less than \$1,000	236
\$1,000 to \$2,499	248
\$2,500 to \$4,999	250
\$5,000 to \$9,999	181
\$10,000 to \$19,999	46
\$20,000 to \$24,999	87
\$25,000 to \$39,999	26
\$40,000 to \$49,999	78
\$50,000 to \$99,999	30
\$100,000 to \$249,999	20



\$250,000 to \$499,999	17
\$500,000 or more	43,167
Total farm production expenses (\$1,000)	24,102
Average per farm (\$)	4,133
Net cash farm income of operation (\$1,000)	2,308
Average per farm (\$)	

Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Farming	679
Other	1,112
Principal operators by sex:	
Male	1,542
Female	249
Average age of principal operator (years)	58.5
All operators by race	
American Indian or Alaska Native	-
Asian	-
Black or African American	-
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1
White	2,547
More than one race	34
All operators of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin	19

Source: 2007 Census of Agriculture



Housing

Total Housing Units: **25,601** (Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2010 Demographic Profile)

Households By Type

Subject	Washington County, Virginia			
	Estimate	Margin of Error	Percent	Percent Margin of Error
HOUSEHOLDS BY TYPE				
Total households	23,064	+/-461	23,064	(X)
Family households (families)	16,565	+/-536	71.8%	+/-1.9
With own children under 18 years	6,174	+/-403	26.8%	+/-1.6
Married-couple family	12,837	+/-497	55.7%	+/-2.1
With own children under 18 years	4,353	+/-377	18.9%	+/-1.6
Male householder, no wife present, family	1,074	+/-243	4.7%	+/-1.0
With own children under 18 years	587	+/-180	2.5%	+/-0.8
Female householder, no husband present, family	2,654	+/-365	11.5%	+/-1.5
With own children under 18 years	1,234	+/-282	5.4%	+/-1.2
Nonfamily households	6,499	+/-467	28.2%	+/-1.9
Householder living alone	5,446	+/-406	23.6%	+/-1.7
65 years and over	2,131	+/-242	9.2%	+/-1.0
Households with one or more people under 18 years	7,011	+/-442	30.4%	+/-1.8
Households with one or more people 65 years and over	6,829	+/-241	29.6%	+/-1.0
Average household size	2.30	+/-0.04	(X)	(X)
Average family size	2.69	+/-0.07	(X)	(X)

SOURCE: U.S. Census, 2007-2011 American Community Survey

Housing Occupancy

HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	25,601	100.0
Occupied housing units	22,843	89.2
Vacant housing units	2,758	10.8
For rent	577	2.3



Rented, not occupied	29	0.1
For sale only	275	1.1
Sold, not occupied	111	0.4
For seasonal, recreational, or occasional use	691	2.7
All other vacants	1,075	4.2
Homeowner vacancy rate (percent) [8]	1.6	(X)
Rental vacancy rate (percent) [9]	9.0	(X)

SOURCE: U.S. Census, 2007-2011 American Community Survey

Housing Tenure

HOUSING TENURE		
Occupied housing units	22,843	100.0
Owner-occupied housing units	17,032	74.6
Population in owner-occupied housing units	40,755	(X)
Average household size of owner-occupied units	2.39	(X)
Renter-occupied housing units	5,811	25.4
Population in renter-occupied housing units	12,494	(X)
Average household size of renter-occupied units	2.15	(X)

SOURCE: U.S. Census, 2007-2011 American Community Survey

Housing Characteristics

Subject	Washington County, Virginia			
	Estimate	Margin of Error	Percent	Percent Margin of Error
HOUSING OCCUPANCY				
Total housing units	25,480	+/-171	25,480	(X)
Occupied housing units	23,064	+/-461	90.5%	+/-1.6
Vacant housing units	2,416	+/-400	9.5%	+/-1.6
Homeowner vacancy rate	1.6	+/-0.7	(X)	(X)
Rental vacancy rate	6.1	+/-3.0	(X)	(X)
UNITS IN STRUCTURE				



Total housing units	25,480	+/-171	25,480	(X)
1-unit, detached	17,656	+/-496	69.3%	+/-1.9
1-unit, attached	458	+/-161	1.8%	+/-0.6
2 units	618	+/-174	2.4%	+/-0.7
3 or 4 units	704	+/-193	2.8%	+/-0.8
5 to 9 units	665	+/-194	2.6%	+/-0.8
10 to 19 units	512	+/-164	2.0%	+/-0.6
20 or more units	344	+/-137	1.4%	+/-0.5
Mobile home	4,523	+/-426	17.8%	+/-1.7
Boat, RV, van, etc.	0	+/-95	0.0%	+/-0.1

YEAR STRUCTURE BUILT

Total housing units	25,480	+/-171	25,480	(X)
Built 2005 or later	1,199	+/-223	4.7%	+/-0.9
Built 2000 to 2004	2,205	+/-234	8.7%	+/-0.9
Built 1990 to 1999	4,589	+/-465	18.0%	+/-1.8
Built 1980 to 1989	4,649	+/-407	18.2%	+/-1.6
Built 1970 to 1979	4,858	+/-375	19.1%	+/-1.5
Built 1960 to 1969	2,432	+/-270	9.5%	+/-1.1
Built 1950 to 1959	1,908	+/-292	7.5%	+/-1.1
Built 1940 to 1949	1,244	+/-230	4.9%	+/-0.9
Built 1939 or earlier	2,396	+/-367	9.4%	+/-1.4

ROOMS

Total housing units	25,480	+/-171	25,480	(X)
1 room	232	+/-116	0.9%	+/-0.5
2 rooms	225	+/-97	0.9%	+/-0.4
3 rooms	1,029	+/-251	4.0%	+/-1.0
4 rooms	4,486	+/-495	17.6%	+/-1.9
5 rooms	6,106	+/-518	24.0%	+/-2.0
6 rooms	5,385	+/-476	21.1%	+/-1.9
7 rooms	3,344	+/-337	13.1%	+/-1.3
8 rooms	2,109	+/-237	8.3%	+/-0.9
9 rooms or more	2,564	+/-302	10.1%	+/-1.2
Median rooms	5.6	+/-0.2	(X)	(X)

BEDROOMS

Total housing units	25,480	+/-171	25,480	(X)
No bedroom	245	+/-120	1.0%	+/-0.5
1 bedroom	1,259	+/-241	4.9%	+/-0.9
2 bedrooms	7,566	+/-455	29.7%	+/-1.8
3 bedrooms	11,934	+/-538	46.8%	+/-2.1
4 bedrooms	3,720	+/-359	14.6%	+/-1.4
5 or more bedrooms	756	+/-176	3.0%	+/-0.7

HOUSING TENURE

Occupied housing units	23,064	+/-461	23,064	(X)
Owner-occupied	17,279	+/-457	74.9%	+/-1.6
Renter-occupied	5,785	+/-407	25.1%	+/-1.6
Average household size of owner-	2.36	+/-0.06	(X)	(X)



occupied unit				
Average household size of renter-occupied unit	2.14	+/-0.11	(X)	(X)
YEAR HOUSEHOLDER MOVED INTO UNIT				
Occupied housing units	23,064	+/-461	23,064	(X)
Moved in 2005 or later	7,505	+/-505	32.5%	+/-1.9
Moved in 2000 to 2004	4,318	+/-396	18.7%	+/-1.7
Moved in 1990 to 1999	5,002	+/-415	21.7%	+/-1.7
Moved in 1980 to 1989	3,078	+/-344	13.3%	+/-1.5
Moved in 1970 to 1979	1,779	+/-242	7.7%	+/-1.1
Moved in 1969 or earlier	1,382	+/-202	6.0%	+/-0.9
VEHICLES AVAILABLE				
Occupied housing units	23,064	+/-461	23,064	(X)
No vehicles available	1,191	+/-214	5.2%	+/-0.9
1 vehicle available	6,427	+/-533	27.9%	+/-2.2
2 vehicles available	9,301	+/-566	40.3%	+/-2.3
3 or more vehicles available	6,145	+/-413	26.6%	+/-1.8
HOUSE HEATING FUEL				
Occupied housing units	23,064	+/-461	23,064	(X)
Utility gas	1,970	+/-266	8.5%	+/-1.1
Bottled, tank, or LP gas	844	+/-221	3.7%	+/-0.9
Electricity	17,018	+/-524	73.8%	+/-1.9
Fuel oil, kerosene, etc.	1,800	+/-293	7.8%	+/-1.3
Coal or coke	57	+/-43	0.2%	+/-0.2
Wood	1,287	+/-242	5.6%	+/-1.0
Solar energy	0	+/-95	0.0%	+/-0.2
Other fuel	30	+/-31	0.1%	+/-0.1
No fuel used	58	+/-44	0.3%	+/-0.2
SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS				
Occupied housing units	23,064	+/-461	23,064	(X)
Lacking complete plumbing facilities	136	+/-79	0.6%	+/-0.3
Lacking complete kitchen facilities	59	+/-52	0.3%	+/-0.2
No telephone service available	499	+/-177	2.2%	+/-0.8
OCCUPANTS PER ROOM				
Occupied housing units	23,064	+/-461	23,064	(X)
1.00 or less	22,793	+/-454	98.8%	+/-0.5
1.01 to 1.50	240	+/-114	1.0%	+/-0.5
1.51 or more	31	+/-34	0.1%	+/-0.1
VALUE				
Owner-occupied units	17,279	+/-457	17,279	(X)
Less than \$50,000	2,576	+/-329	14.9%	+/-1.8
\$50,000 to \$99,999	3,898	+/-392	22.6%	+/-2.3
\$100,000 to \$149,999	3,213	+/-358	18.6%	+/-2.0
\$150,000 to \$199,999	2,726	+/-327	15.8%	+/-1.9



\$200,000 to \$299,999	2,628	+/-293	15.2%	+/-1.6
\$300,000 to \$499,999	1,583	+/-223	9.2%	+/-1.3
\$500,000 to \$999,999	414	+/-104	2.4%	+/-0.6
\$1,000,000 or more	241	+/-118	1.4%	+/-0.7
Median (dollars)	128,900	+/-8,333	(X)	(X)

MORTGAGE STATUS

Owner-occupied units	17,279	+/-457	17,279	(X)
Housing units with a mortgage	8,853	+/-467	51.2%	+/-2.3
Housing units without a mortgage	8,426	+/-441	48.8%	+/-2.3

SELECTED MONTHLY OWNER COSTS (SMOC)

Housing units with a mortgage	8,853	+/-467	8,853	(X)
Less than \$300	31	+/-30	0.4%	+/-0.3
\$300 to \$499	386	+/-121	4.4%	+/-1.4
\$500 to \$699	1,138	+/-257	12.9%	+/-2.8
\$700 to \$999	2,275	+/-294	25.7%	+/-3.0
\$1,000 to \$1,499	2,698	+/-309	30.5%	+/-3.1
\$1,500 to \$1,999	1,039	+/-204	11.7%	+/-2.3
\$2,000 or more	1,286	+/-203	14.5%	+/-2.2
Median (dollars)	1,095	+/-40	(X)	(X)

Housing units without a mortgage	8,426	+/-441	8,426	(X)
Less than \$100	194	+/-102	2.3%	+/-1.2
\$100 to \$199	1,437	+/-211	17.1%	+/-2.4
\$200 to \$299	2,704	+/-308	32.1%	+/-3.3
\$300 to \$399	1,973	+/-263	23.4%	+/-2.9
\$400 or more	2,118	+/-280	25.1%	+/-3.0
Median (dollars)	295	+/-12	(X)	(X)

SELECTED MONTHLY OWNER COSTS AS A PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME (SMOCAPI)

Housing units with a mortgage (excluding units where SMOCAPI cannot be computed)	8,826	+/-463	8,826	(X)
Less than 20.0 percent	3,631	+/-339	41.1%	+/-3.7
20.0 to 24.9 percent	1,652	+/-279	18.7%	+/-3.1
25.0 to 29.9 percent	927	+/-180	10.5%	+/-1.9
30.0 to 34.9 percent	689	+/-164	7.8%	+/-1.8
35.0 percent or more	1,927	+/-295	21.8%	+/-2.7

Not computed	27	+/-31	(X)	(X)
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Housing unit without a mortgage (excluding units where SMOCAPI cannot be computed)	8,381	+/-450	8,381	(X)
Less than 10.0 percent	4,215	+/-400	50.3%	+/-3.8
10.0 to 14.9 percent	1,439	+/-243	17.2%	+/-2.7
15.0 to 19.9 percent	815	+/-171	9.7%	+/-2.0



20.0 to 24.9 percent	491	+/-143	5.9%	+/-1.7
25.0 to 29.9 percent	550	+/-172	6.6%	+/-2.0
30.0 to 34.9 percent	146	+/-69	1.7%	+/-0.8
35.0 percent or more	725	+/-199	8.7%	+/-2.3
Not computed	45	+/-32	(X)	(X)
GROSS RENT				
Occupied units paying rent	5,010	+/-404	5,010	(X)
Less than \$200	145	+/-89	2.9%	+/-1.8
\$200 to \$299	231	+/-98	4.6%	+/-1.9
\$300 to \$499	1,114	+/-261	22.2%	+/-4.8
\$500 to \$749	2,120	+/-247	42.3%	+/-4.9
\$750 to \$999	951	+/-231	19.0%	+/-4.0
\$1,000 to \$1,499	311	+/-133	6.2%	+/-2.5
\$1,500 or more	138	+/-93	2.8%	+/-1.9
Median (dollars)	610	+/-23	(X)	(X)
No rent paid	775	+/-189	(X)	(X)
GROSS RENT AS A PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME (GRAPI)				
Occupied units paying rent (excluding units where GRAPI cannot be computed)	4,973	+/-408	4,973	(X)
Less than 15.0 percent	744	+/-229	15.0%	+/-4.3
15.0 to 19.9 percent	740	+/-188	14.9%	+/-3.6
20.0 to 24.9 percent	830	+/-206	16.7%	+/-3.8
25.0 to 29.9 percent	615	+/-171	12.4%	+/-3.2
30.0 to 34.9 percent	497	+/-148	10.0%	+/-3.0
35.0 percent or more	1,547	+/-268	31.1%	+/-4.9
Not computed	812	+/-199	(X)	(X)
Average family size	2.69	+/-0.07	(X)	(X)

SOURCE: U.S. Census, 2007-2011 American Community Survey



Infrastructure & Community Facilities

Schools

Washington County Schools

Elementary

- Abingdon Elementary School
- Greendale Elementary School
- High Point Elementary School
- Meadowview Elementary School
- Rhea Valley Elementary School
- Valley Institute Elementary School
- Watauga Elementary School

Middle

- Damascus Middle School
- E.B. Stanley Middle School
- Glade Spring Middle School
- Wallace Middle School

High School

- Abingdon High School
- Holston High School
- John S. Battle High School
- Patrick Henry High School

Private Schools

- Cornerstone Christian Academy

Colleges

- Emory & Henry College
- Virginia Highlands Community College
- Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center

Emergency Services

EMS Agencies

- Damascus Rescue Squad
 - Glade Spring Life Saving Crew
-



- Washington County Life Saving Crew
- Valley Rescue Squad

Fire Departments

- Abingdon Fire Department
- Meadowview Fire Department
- Clinch Mountain Fire Department

EMS/Fire Combination Departments

- Damascus Fire Department
- Glade Spring Fire Department
- Green Spring Fire Department
- Brumley Gap Fire Department
- Goodson-Kinderhook Fire Department
- Washington County Fire Rescue

County Facilities (Parks, Community Buildings)

Parks

- Leo "Muscle" Sholes Memorial Park – 34202 Stagecoach Road, Glade Spring, VA
Named after Leo "Muscle" Sholes, a Glade Spring native and noted Appalachian League baseball player of the 1950's, this park offers a public pool, softball and baseball fields, picnic shelters and open space amenities.
- Washington County Park – 19482 County Park Road, Abingdon, VA
The Washington County Park Authority owns, operates and maintains this park. The Authority consists of an eight member Board of Directors who are appointed by The Washington County Board of Supervisors for four year terms. The park is located on South Holston Lake and offers camp sites, tent sites, trailer sites with electric and water, sanitation facilities, playground, picnic shelters, boat ramp and fishing.

Community Centers

- Green Cove Community Center, Damascus, VA
- Hayter's Gap Community Center, Saltville, VA
- Taylor's Valley Community Center, Damascus, VA
- Mendota Community Center, Mendota, VA

Libraries

- Abingdon (Main Library)
 - Damascus
 - Glade Spring
-



- Hayters Gap
- Mendota

Sewer & Water

WCSA serves approximately 20,500 water and 1,500 wastewater connections. The water system consists of approximately 900 miles of water line, a 4.6-million-gallon-per-day surface water treatment plant, a 2.5-million-gallon-per-day membrane filtration plant, two springs, one well, multiple pump stations and 17 water storage tanks. The wastewater system consists of approximately 65 miles of wastewater collection lines, 24 pump stations and a wastewater treatment plant.



Transportation

The Local Government Comprehensive Plan and Transportation Plan

A comprehensive plan is an official public document adopted by a local government as a policy guide for making decisions about the long-range physical development of the community. It indicates in a general way how the government leaders, based on citizen input, want the community to develop in the future - the quantity, character, location, and rate of growth.

The plan is comprehensive in that it encompasses all the functions that make a community work, e.g. land use, transportation, community facilities, economic development, housing, historic and natural resources. The comprehensive plan may include more detailed plans for specific areas of the community, e.g. neighborhoods, "villages", and sub-areas (a certain highway corridor or portion of the locality).

§15.2-2223 of the Code of Virginia requires the planning commission of every locality to prepare a comprehensive plan for consideration by the governing body and for the governing body of every locality to adopt a comprehensive plan. Localities must review their comprehensive plan and associated transportation plan at least every five years, pursuant to §15.2-2230 of the Code, to determine whether it needs to be updated. The comprehensive plan must include a specific section dedicated to transportation planning or reference a document that serves as the community's transportation plan. The comprehensive plan, therefore, provides policy guidance and criteria for making both land use and transportation decisions and recommendations

Source: Updated Traffic Impact Analysis Regulations Administrative Guidelines



VDOT Six Year Improvement Program List

Line Item Search Results (33 line items found)										
Total Line Item Estimate: \$203,124 (K)										
UPC	Description	Route	District	Road System	Jurisdiction	Estimate	Previous	FY14	FY15-19	Balance
(Values in Thousands of Dollars)										
91186	CONSTRUCTION OF TOURSIM CENTER & BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN FACILITY	EN08	Bristol	Enhancement	Washington County	\$1,252	\$1,348	\$0	\$0	(\$97)
50537	TRAILHEAD, RELATED FACILITIES & RESTORATION	HPEN	Bristol	Enhancement	Washington County	\$315	\$308	\$0	\$0	\$7
97556	ROUTE I-81 NBL - WASHINGTON COUNTY STR #18928	81	Bristol	Interstate	Washington County	\$4,526	\$0	\$0	\$4,526	\$0
97856	INTERSTATE 81 AT EXIT 14 RAMP MODIFICATIONS	81	Bristol	Interstate	Washington County	\$37,258	\$2,600	\$1,000	\$33,658	\$0
81124	GREEN COVE STATION IMPROVEMENTS TO FOREST SERVICE FACILITY	SLEN	Bristol	Miscellaneous	Washington County	\$15	\$90	\$0	\$0	(\$75)
81125	VIRGINIA CREEPER TRAIL - CONSTRUCT RESTROOM & PARK EXPANSION	SLEN	Bristol	Miscellaneous	Washington County	\$850	\$931	\$0	\$0	(\$81)
81132	WHITE'S MILL RENOVATION	SLEN	Bristol	Miscellaneous	Washington County	\$500	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0
76503	4 LANE RAISED MEDIAN W/SHARED USE PATH - PHASE I & II PE	11	Bristol	Primary	Washington County	\$2,723	\$1,723	\$1,000	\$0	\$0
103710	RW ONLY ON PORTION OF RTE. 11 CN PROJ. UPC 99380;	11	Bristol	Primary	Washington County	\$995	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	(\$5)
104671	PAVED SHOULDERS AND RUMBLE STRIPS	19	Bristol	Primary	Washington County	\$4,360	\$0	\$0	\$4,360	\$0
16382	RTE 58 - PARALLEL LN-CORRIDOR DEV PE AND R/W ONLY IN SYP	58	Bristol	Primary	Washington County	\$45,277	\$7,896	\$0	\$0	\$37,381
16383	IMPROVE EXISTING 2-LANE ROADWAY TO A 4-LANE DIVIDED FACILITY	58	Bristol	Primary	Washington County	\$24,068	\$21,998	\$2,069	\$0	\$0
95490	ARRA - WASHINGTON 58 WIDENING (ABINGTON TO DAMASCUS)	58	Bristol	Primary	Washington County	\$23,735	\$23,235	\$0	\$0	\$500
90180	RTE 91 OVER N&W RAILWAY & RTE 609 HRRR-, WIDEN/PAVE SHOULDERS AND ADD	91	Bristol	Primary	Washington County	\$3,109	\$215	\$625	\$2,268	\$0
98457	GR BRIDGE (FED ID 18969)	91	Bristol	Primary	Washington County	\$311	\$352	\$0	\$0	(\$40)
103503	RTE 91 OVER LAUREL CREEK	91	Bristol	Primary	Washington County	\$1,602	\$375	\$0	\$1,227	\$0
16971	RTE 609 - RECONSTRUCTION	609	Bristol	Secondary	Washington County	\$4,727	\$4,628	\$99	\$0	\$0



60792	RTE 611 - RECONSTRUCTION - PE AND R/W ONLY IN PROGRAM	611	Bristol	Secondary	Washington County	\$4,718	\$1,490	\$0	\$0	\$3,228
70847	RTE 611 - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT	611	Bristol	Secondary	Washington County	\$488	\$632	\$0	\$0	(\$143)
86479	ROUTE 611 OVER TUMBLING CREEK VA STRUC 6011	611	Bristol	Secondary	Washington County	\$1,165	\$654	\$0	\$511	\$0
101388	RTE 613 OVER WOLF CREEK (VA STR 6100)	613	Bristol	Secondary	Washington County	\$753	\$140	\$250	\$363	\$0
60791	RTE 614 - RECONSTRUCTION RTE 647 - INSTALL GUARDRAIL & RUMBLE STRIPS, PAVE SHOULDERS	614	Bristol	Secondary	Washington County	\$4,450	\$3,861	\$589	\$0	\$0
81437	BRIDGE REPL-GEN SPR RD OVER WOLF CREEK (FED ID 19089)	647	Bristol	Secondary	Washington County	\$193	\$446	\$0	\$0	(\$253)
T13937	DEDICATED BRIDGE FUND -REPLACE STRUC #6108 ON RTE 670	670	Bristol	Secondary	Washington County	\$950	\$0	\$0	\$950	\$0
82360	BRIDGE REPL-WATAUGA RD OVER HUGHES CREEK (FED ID 19098)	670	Bristol	Secondary	Washington County	\$24,118	\$14,368	\$2,016	\$7,734	\$0
104831	RTE 725 - RECONSTRUCT EXISTING ROADWAY PE ONLY IN SYIP	677	Bristol	Secondary	Washington County	\$900	\$0	\$0	\$900	\$0
12501	BRIDGE REPL-TAYOR VALLEY RD OVER LAUREL CREEK (FED ID 19162)	725	Bristol	Secondary	Washington County	\$5,463	\$1,510	\$0	\$0	\$3,953
104828	RTE 747 OVER TUMBLING CREEK VA STRUC 6308	725	Bristol	Secondary	Washington County	\$725	\$0	\$0	\$725	\$0
86293	BRIDGE REPLACEMENT RTE 747 OVER TUMBLING CK (VA STR 6424)	747	Bristol	Secondary	Washington County	\$936	\$936	\$0	\$0	\$0
101380	BRIDGE REPL-WALTER ST OVER BEAVER DAM CREEK (FED ID 19212)	747	Bristol	Secondary	Washington County	\$562	\$100	\$0	\$462	\$0
104994	RTE 1212 OVER LAUREL CREEK VA STRUC 6110	1203	Bristol	Secondary	Washington County	\$850	\$0	\$0	\$850	\$0
86595	SLEN - CHESTNUT MOUNTAIN ROAD SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS	1212	Bristol	Secondary	Washington County	\$872	\$1,576	\$0	\$0	(\$704)
81129		SLEN	Bristol	Secondary	Washington County	\$359	\$448	\$0	\$0	(\$88)

Source: VDOT website, accessed 9-4-2013

Mt. Rogers Planning District Commission - 2035 Rural Long Range Transportation Plan

The Transportation and Mobility Planning Division (TMPD) of the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has worked with other modal agencies to develop VTrans 2035, the Commonwealth's multi-modal long



range plan and a more detailed subset report known as the 2035 Surface Transportation Plan. The highway element of the 2035 Surface Transportation Plan includes proposed improvements on Virginia's federal functionally classified roadways. This Rural Long Range Transportation Plan is one piece of the 2035 Plan. VDOT, Virginia's Planning District Commissions (PDCs), and the local governments they represent are partners in the development of this new initiative to create regional transportation plans in rural and small urban areas that complement those in Virginia's metropolitan areas.

*Washington County recommendations included as excerpt

Source: Mount Rogers Planning District Commission – 2035 Rural Long Range Transportation Plan



Land Use

Land Use is may be defined as the manner in which a parcel of land is used or occupied. An understanding of current land use conditions is an essential first step in the comprehensive planning process. The development patterns in the county are influenced by historic factors, economic and demographic trends and a host of other forces. The distribution of people and activities within a city impacts all other aspects of the process.

Existing Zoning Classifications

- Highland Recreation District (HR) - The HR highland recreation district consists of all of the national recreation area (NRA) within the county as designated by the United States Congress. In order to accomplish the necessary controls for this area, the boundaries of this district shall be concurrent with those of the national recreation area. The intent is to keep the use of privately owned land within the national recreation area and on this designated perimeter in harmony with the rural American theme of the national recreation area. It is not intended that these lands should develop intensively for residence, either yearround or second homes. It is the intent that the primary uses will be forestry and agriculture together with certain recreational activities appropriate to the mountains.
- Shoreland Recreation District (SR) - The SR shoreland recreation district contains the land area adjacent to the South Holston Reservoir. The regulations for this district are designed to provide standards for the orderly development of land surrounding the reservoir, to protect the public access to the reservoir and to prevent pollution, including sedimentation. This district should be low-density development from the maximum contour elevation of 1,747 feet to State Route 664; and in all other areas surrounding the lake, the outside boundary line shall be located 500 feet from the Tennessee Valley Authority easement boundary line. This district shall also include all land located below the 1,747-foot elevation subject to flowage easements rights required by the Tennessee Valley Authority for the operation of South Holston Reservoir.
- Conservation Recreation District (CR) - The objective of the CR conservation and recreation district is the preservation of open space for recreation and other compatible uses consistent with some of the present characteristics. In order to prevent future indiscriminate development, it is the intent of this division to promote orderly, but limited, growth. Since much of the land area in this district has a slope steepness in excess of 20 percent, it precludes intensive development for most uses. This district includes, but is not limited to, all of the land north of the north fork of the Holston River. Any new growth that occurs in this district should not be in conflict with the existing public recreation facilities. Thus, such development must be of particular interest to the whole community, and it must be planned for before development occurs. In all instances, the development should be limited to sparse occupation for purposes of safety, health, convenience, order, etc., of the community.
- Agricultural, Limited District (A-1) - The A-1 limited agricultural district covers the portions of the county which are occupied by various open uses, such as forests, parks, farms, lakes or mountains. The A-1 limited agricultural district is established for the specific purpose of facilitating existing and future farming operations, conservation of water and other natural resources, reducing soil erosion, protecting watersheds, and reducing hazards from flood and fire. Uses not consistent with the existing character of the A-1 limited agricultural district are not permitted.



- Agricultural, General District (A-2) - Generally, the A-2 general agricultural district covers the portion of the county into which urban-type development could logically expand as the need occurs. As a general rule, it surrounds residential sections. Domestic water and sewerage facilities, police and fire protection, and other services necessary to accommodate urban-type development already exist in the district or can be economically extended as urbanization takes place. The A-2 general agricultural district is established for the specific purpose of providing for the orderly expansion of urban development into territory surrounding incorporated areas within or adjacent to the county, confining such development to such locations as can feasibly be supplied urban-type facilities, and discouraging the random scattering of residential, commercial and industrial uses into the area.
- Village District - Certain conglomerate communities exist in the county, and for the most part these communities remain as crossroad developments. In order to prevent the continuation of such haphazard development of mixed uses in a limited space, it is proposed to control the potential growth by these regulations. This is necessary because none of these communities is large enough to institute effective controls adequately and efficiently by its own contrivances. In these smaller compacted communities, it is desirable to establish a set of standards for expanding growth. The basic elements contained in this division are created to permit orderly growth to occur so that these communities may become viable local trade and service centers of the county. Included in this array of smaller unincorporated communities are Clinchburg, Emory, Greendale, Meadowview, Mendota and Taylor's Valley.
- Konnarock District - Konnarock, by its proximity to the main attractions of the National Recreation Area around Whitetop Mountain and Mount Rogers, must be guarded from development that would be detrimental to the natural beauty and culture of the region. It is the intent of this division to help with maintaining its uniqueness while still permitting orderly development.
- Residential, Limited District (R-1) - The R-1 limited residential district is composed of certain quiet, low-density residential areas plus certain open areas where similar residential development appears likely to occur. The regulations for this district are designed to stabilize and protect the essential characteristics of the district, to promote and encourage a suitable environment for family life where there are children, and to prohibit all activities of a commercial nature. To these ends, development in the R-1 limited residential district is limited to relatively low concentration; and permitted uses are limited basically to single-unit dwellings providing homes for the residents plus certain additional uses, such as schools, parks, churches, and certain public facilities that serve the residents of the district. No home occupations (including room renting) are permitted in the R-1 limited residential district.
- Residential, General District (R-2) - The R-2 general residential district is composed of certain medium to high concentration of residential uses, ordinarily located between residential and commercial areas, plus certain open areas where similar development appears likely to occur. The regulations for the R-2 general residential district are designed to stabilize and protect the essential characteristics of the district; to promote and encourage, insofar as compatible with the intensity of land use, a suitable environment for family life composed of an adult population with some children; and to permit certain commercial uses of a character unlikely to develop general concentration of traffic, crowds of customers, and general outdoor advertising. To these ends retail activity in the R-2 general residential



district is sharply limited, and this district is protected against encroachment of general commercial or industrial uses. All residential types of structures for both permanent and transient occupancy, including institutions, are permitted, plus structures for commercial uses conforming to the pattern of the district. The R-2 general residential district is not completely residential as it includes public and semipublic, institutional and other related uses. However, the R-2 general residential district is basically residential in character and, as such, should not be spotted with commercial and industrial uses.

- **Business, Limited District (B-1)** - The primary purpose of the B-1 limited business district is to establish and protect a business district that will serve the surrounding residential districts. Traffic and parking congestion in the B-1 limited business district is to be held to a minimum to protect and preserve property values in the surrounding residential districts, and insofar as possible all neighborhood business development shall take place in a limited business district. The minimum area of such the B-1 limited business district shall be one block and only include such activities as are necessary for the day-to-day operation of a normal household. In most instances the B-1 limited business district is not located on major traffic arteries.
- **Business, General, District (B-2)** - Generally the B-2 general business district covers that portion of the community intended for the conduct of governmental, professional and general commercial (predominately retail) business to which the public requires direct and frequent access, but which is not generally characterized either by constant heavy trucking other than stocking and delivery of light retail goods or by any nuisance factors other than occasioned by incidental light and noise or congregation of people and passenger vehicles. Other uses of a predominately nonretail commercial character or those which may significantly contribute to nuisance factors may be permitted in the B-2 general business district by special exception on a case-by-case basis after evaluation of the relative impact of such uses or activities on the surrounding area and establishing mitigating conditions for such uses where deemed necessary.
- **Industrial, Limited District (M-1)** - The primary purpose of the M-1 limited industrial district is to permit certain industries and businesses that may have an adverse effect in the business districts, which with appropriate restrictions should not detract from adjacent residential uses. The limitations on or provisions relating to height of buildings, horsepower, heating, flammable liquids or explosives, controlling emission of fumes, odors or noise, landscaping, buffering requirements, restrictions on proximity to adjacent uses, and the number of persons employed in the M-1 limited industrial district are imposed to protect and foster adjacent residential desirability.
- **Industrial, General District (M-2)** - The primary purpose of the M-2 general industrial district is to establish an area where the principal use of land is for heavy commercial and industrial operations, which may create some nuisance and businesses that may have an adverse effect in the business districts, and which are not properly associated with, nor particularly compatible with, residential, institutional and neighborhood commercial service establishments. The specific intent of the M-2 district is to:

(1) Encourage the construction of and the continued use of the land for heavy commercial and industrial purposes and businesses that may have an adverse effect in the business districts.



(2) Prohibit residential and neighborhood commercial use of the land and prohibit any other use which would substantially interfere with the development, continuation and expansion of commercial and industrial uses in the district.

(3) Encourage the discontinuance of existing uses that would not be permitted as new uses under the provisions of this chapter.

- Flood Hazard District (FH) - The primary purpose of the M-2 general industrial district is to establish an area where the principal use of land is for heavy commercial and industrial operations, which may create some nuisance and businesses that may have an adverse effect in the business districts, and which are not properly associated with, nor particularly compatible with, residential, institutional and neighborhood commercial service establishments. The specific intent of the M-2 district is to:

(1) Encourage the construction of and the continued use of the land for heavy commercial and industrial purposes and businesses that may have an adverse effect in the business districts.

(2) Prohibit residential and neighborhood commercial use of the land and prohibit any other use which would substantially interfere with the development, continuation and expansion of commercial and industrial uses in the district.

(3) Encourage the discontinuance of existing uses that would not be permitted as new uses under the provisions of this chapter.

- Residential, Manufactured Home District (MHR) - The MHR manufactured home residential district is composed of certain quiet, low- to medium-density residential areas plus certain open areas where similar residential development appears likely to occur. The regulations for the MHR manufactured home residential district are designed to stabilize and protect the essential characteristics of the district, to promote and encourage a suitable environment for family life and to discourage all activities of a commercial nature. To these ends, development in the MHR manufactured home residential district is limited to relatively medium concentration, and permitted uses are limited basically to single-family and two-family dwellings, manufactured homes, plus certain additional uses which are complementary to the residential uses.
- Airport District - The airport district is intended for the protection of the utility of the Virginia Highlands airport and the public investment in the facilities located at the airport now and in the future, and to further the economic development of the county through providing necessary air transportation services to the county, to prevent obstructions that have the potential for endangering the lives and property of the users of the airport and the residents of the county, reduce the size of areas available for landing, takeoff and maneuvering of aircraft, or otherwise destroy or impair the utility of the airport. It is declared that in the interest of the public health, safety and general welfare that the creation or establishment of the airport district is of benefit to the county because of the enhanced potential for economic development and interstate commerce derived from the airport facility.



Appendix

2002 Comprehensive Plan

2013 Comprehensive Plan Project Outline
