

CHAPTER 2: POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this chapter is to provide the demographic information needed for making sound decisions about Campbell County's future. In order to plan for the future it is necessary to understand the characteristics of the County's population, and how those characteristics are changing over time. Characteristics of population include social and economic indicators such as age, gender, household size, income, and education level. Population data serve as an indicator of future demand for various land uses, community facilities, and services from the public and private sectors. Studies of population distribution indicate where concentrations of people can be found and therefore the most desirable locations for the infrastructure needed to serve them. Some programs and facilities are targeted to specific segments of the population, thus information on those population segments is needed for the effective delivery of services.

The first section of this chapter is a profile of relevant statistics for Campbell County based on the 2020 U. S. Census and the American Community Survey Estimates. The profile is a quick reference for characteristics of the County's population. Following the profile are several charts related to specific topics of importance to the planning process. Significant trends are discussed in the narrative following each graphic. The information provided is based largely on U. S. Bureau of the Census statistics. It has been supplemented with other state and local data where appropriate. Because more demographic information is available than can be put to practical use in this report, we are presenting the data that is key to an overall understanding of Campbell County. Additional information can be obtained through the Weldon-Cooper Center for Public Service at the University of Virginia and through the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

CAMPBELL COUNTY DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

POPULATION AND GROWTH

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2010</u>
TOTAL POPULATION:	55,696	54,842
RATE OF POPULATION INCREASE (2010-2020):	1.6%	-----

AGE AND DISABILITY

MEDIAN AGE (YEARS): (STATE MEDIAN IN 2020 IS 38.4)	43.1	41.1
PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION OVER AGE 17:	80.0%	78.0%
PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION OVER AGE 64:	20.0%	15.8%
PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION (OVER AGE 4) THAT HAS A DISABILITY:	14.2%	14.4%

RACE AND GENDER

PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION IDENTIFYING THEIR RACE AS WHITE:	80.9%	82.7%
PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION IDENTIFYING THEIR RACE AS BLACK:	14.1%	14.3%
PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION-MALE	48.5%	48.4%

INCOME AND POVERTY

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME:	\$52,319	\$45,432
PERCENTAGE OF FAMILIES BELOW POVERTY LEVEL:	7.3%	9.7%
PERCENTAGE OF FAMILIES EARNING \$100,000 OR MORE PER YEAR:	27.2%	17.5%

WORK AND TRAVEL

PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION (OVER 15) IN THE LABOR FORCE:	59.3%	62.3%
PERCENTAGE OF WORKERS COMMUTING TO WORK BY DRIVING ALONE:	86.7%	83.6%
MEAN TRAVEL TIME TO WORK (IN MINUTES):	24.2	21.5
PERCENTAGE OF WORKERS WORKING AT HOME:	3.8%	3.0%

HOUSING AND HOUSEHOLDS

PERCENTAGE OF HOUSING UNITS THAT ARE OWNER-OCCUPIED:	73.0%	76.5%
PERCENTAGE OF HOUSING UNITS THAT ARE VACANT:	10.9%	12.8%
PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLDS MADE UP OF MARRIED COUPLE FAMILY:	49.4%	51.4%
AVERAGE FAMILY SIZE (PERSONS):	2.88	3.03

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

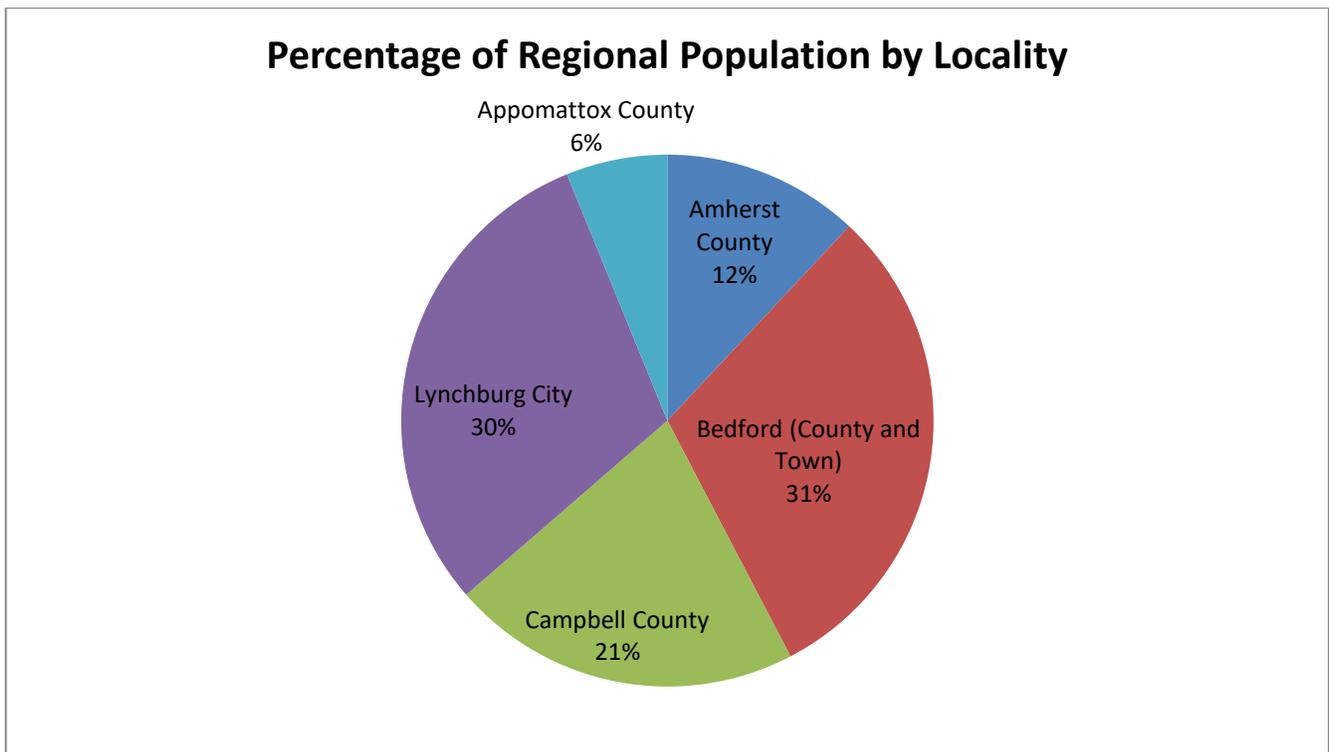
PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION (OVER AGE 24) WHO ARE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES OR HIGHER:	88.8%	83.2%
PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION (OVER AGE 24) WHO HAVE A BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR HIGHER:	23.5%	16.5%

NATIVITY

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2010</u>
PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION BORN IN VIRGINIA:	70.0%	74.3%
PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION BORN IN THE U.S.A.:	96.4%	97.4%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2020; American Community Survey, 2016-2020 5 Year Estimates; American Community Survey, 2008-2012 5 Year Estimates; and U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010

PERCENTAGE OF REGIONAL POPULATION BY LOCALITY



Source: U. S. Census Bureau, Census 2020

Our region includes the six localities shown in the chart above and has a total population of 261,593 according to the 2020 U. S. Census. Campbell County has a total population of 55,696 making it the third largest population in our region, representing twenty-one percent (21%) of the region's total. The percentage dropped slightly from 2010 when Campbell County represented twenty-two (22%) of the region's total population. Although Campbell County's population grew during the past decade, it did so at a slower rate than that of Bedford County, Appomattox County, and Lynchburg City. Amherst County experienced a loss of population between 2010 and 2020. Overall, our region experienced a total population growth rate of 3.5% between 2010 and 2020, while Campbell County had a growth rate of 1.6%.

Changes in total population are not, by themselves, necessarily positive or negative influences; however, they often impact other factors that contribute or detract from the quality of life in a community. Changes in transportation patterns and land use are examples of factors directly affected by shifts in population. These topics are discussed in more detail elsewhere in the Comprehensive Plan. Another consequence of population change is the effect on election district boundaries for the House of Delegates, State Senate, and U. S. House of Representatives. These districts must contain a certain population, but do not follow local jurisdictional lines. Any single locality can have its influence with state and federal legislators altered by a change in the makeup of the district, particularly if the locality is split among two or more districts or is included with another locality with different interests.

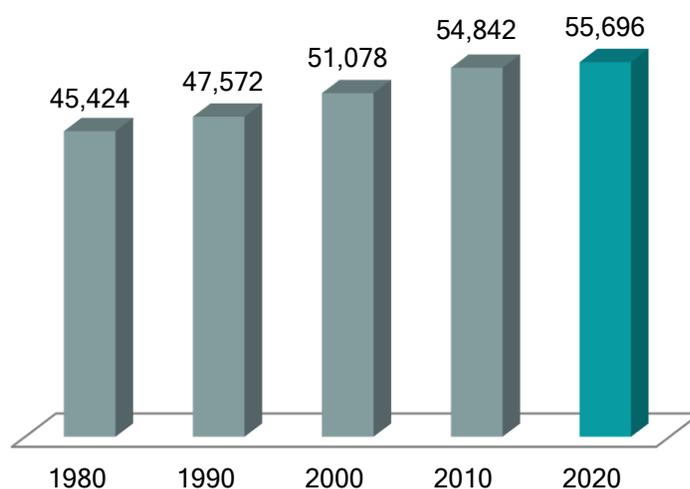
POPULATION GROWTH 1980-2020

Campbell County experienced moderate growth in total population from 1980 through 2010 but that growth rate has slowed in the last decade. The population grew 7.4% between 1990 and 2000 and between 2000 and 2010. The population growth slowed between 2010 and 2020 with a growth rate of 1.6%. There are two major factors influencing total population growth: natural increase and net migration. Natural increase represents the difference between births and deaths of County residents over a given time period.

Net migration is found by subtracting the number of persons leaving the County from those moving in. Natural increase is the leading component of past rises in total population.

However, data from the Virginia Department of Health shows that there have been more deaths than births over the past decade. Between January 1, 2010 and December 31, 2020, there were 5,414 births and

6,087 deaths. There was a net population change of 854 from 2010 to 2020. This data shows that net migration was the reason for the increase in population over the past decade.



Sources: 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010, 2020 = U. S. Census of Population

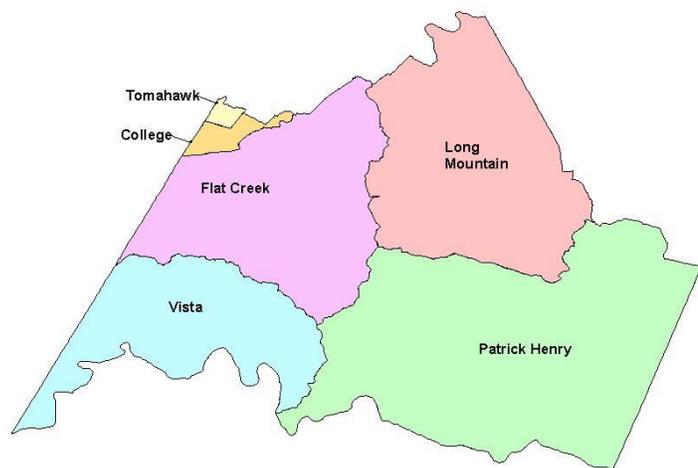
POPULATION GROWTH BY MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT 1980-2020

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT	POPULATION BY YEAR				
	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020
College	4,762	5,979	6,365	7,509	8,076
Flat Creek	13,280	14,460	16,261	18,122	19,313
Long Mountain	8,171	8,664	9,855	10,731	10,478
Patrick Henry	7,373	7,047	7,090	7,123	6,821
Tomahawk	4,204	4,126	4,037	3,860	3,938
Vista	7,634	7,296	7,470	7,497	7,070
Total County	45,424	47,572	51,078	54,842	55,696

Sources: 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010, 2020 = U. S. Census of Population

The preceding table illustrates the fact that general population growth is not uniform within all areas of the County. Knowing where population changes are occurring is important information in planning the most appropriate locations for public infrastructure and service delivery. It is also a factor in private sector business decisions regarding business location, marketing strategies and employment.

Flat Creek has grown steadily since 1980 and that trend is continuing. Many of the major residential developments currently under construction are within the Flat Creek area, which includes a large portion of Route 29 (Wards Road), the western portion of Route 24 (Colonial Highway), and the areas around Evington, New London, and the Lynchburg Regional Airport.



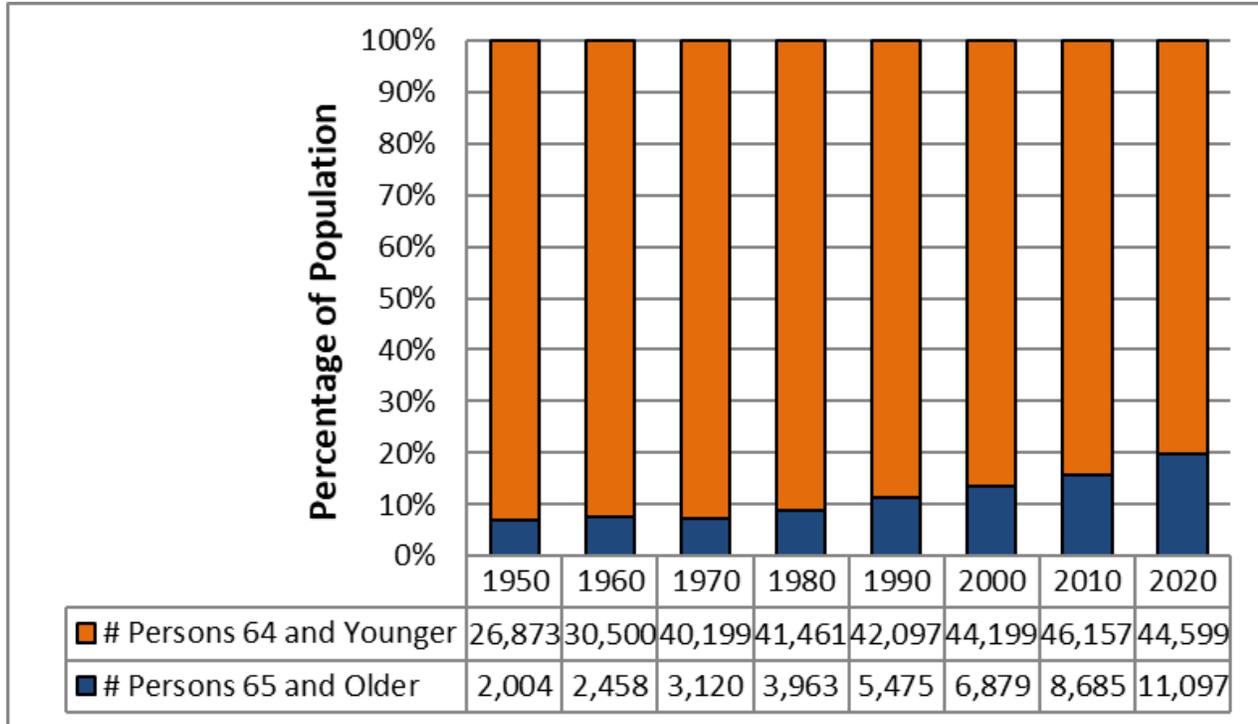
The **Long Mountain** area grew at a slow steady rate from 1980 to 2010, but experienced a slight decrease in population between 2010 and 2020. There are currently no large-scale residential developments under construction in this area; however, the availability of land and the extension of public water to parts of the Long Mountain area could be growth factors later in the decade. Long Mountain includes Rustburg, Concord, the eastern portion of Route 24 (Village Highway), the northern portion of Route 501 (Campbell Highway), and eastern Route 460 (Richmond Highway).

The **College** area experienced significant growth in the 1980's, and then growth slowed in the following two decades. Between 2000 and 2010, the population growth increased again to the levels experienced in the 1980's due to new multi-family housing projects. The area continued to grow, but at a slower rate between 2010 and 2020. The College district includes Timberlake and other long-established subdivisions and some of the commercial areas of Timberlake Road.

Tomahawk, Patrick Henry, and Vista districts all experienced a decrease in population in the 1980's. The Patrick Henry and Vista districts experienced very modest growth through 2010, but both experienced a decrease in population between 2010 and 2020. The **Tomahawk** area experienced a slight reduction in population between 2000 and 2010, but experienced a slight increase in population between 2010 and 2020. It is relatively small, but includes significant commercial property along Timberlake Road. Opportunities for residential growth in this area are limited; however, some multi-family development is occurring. The Vista and Patrick Henry areas have available land, but are not experiencing a significant demand for new housing. These areas have experienced decline in local employment with traditional manufacturing centers located in the towns of Altavista and Brookneal. The **Vista** district includes the southern portion of Route 29 (Wards Road), Route 43 (Bedford Highway), Altavista, Leesville Lake, and Lynch Station. The **Patrick Henry** area is the largest of the magisterial districts and includes most of the County's rural areas. It also encompasses much of the southern portion of Route 501 (Brookneal Highway), Gladys, Naruna, and the Town of Brookneal.

The Population Density Map shown at the end of this chapter shows the distribution of population throughout the County.

PERSONS 65 AND OVER AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION



*Sources: U. S. Census of Population 1950, 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010, and 2020
and American Community Survey, 2016-2020 5 Year Estimates*

The number of persons sixty-five (65) years of age and older represents an increasingly higher percentage of the total population of Campbell County as shown in the chart above. From 1950 to 1970 the elderly population remained relatively stable between 6.9 percent and 7.5 percent. The percentage rose to 8.7 in 1980, 11.5 in 1990, 13.5 in 2000, 15.8 in 2010, and 19.9 in 2020. This trend is occurring in many localities throughout the nation, as people are generally living longer and having fewer children than in previous generations. The trend is expected to continue in Campbell County and will be additionally influenced by the development of an age-restricted community that is currently under construction with healthcare services specific to the aging population.

An increase in the 65 and over segment of the population can impact a locality in many areas. Those persons who retain reasonably good health and a good standard of living into their retirement years will generally be quite active in the community. They will often volunteer their time for various causes and/or work part-time for social opportunities as well as income. They often have different housing needs and sometimes prefer to move into smaller houses on smaller lots with less maintenance demands. They tend to exercise their right to vote in a higher percentage than other age groups and can therefore influence governmental policies.

As a group, they tend to have different spending patterns that can impact a local retail economy. They also increase the demand for leisure activities sponsored by both the public and private sectors. The elderly utilize the general health care resources of a community more than other age groups. They can also increase the demand for nursing homes, in-home health care, adult daycare and other services as they age or decline in health.

SCHOOL AGE POPULATION

In 2020, the American Community Survey Estimate reported that the population of school-aged children (ages 5 - 19) was 9,293, down from 10,459 in 2010. This does not transfer directly to the enrollment in public schools since some parents choose to send their children to private schools or home school, or send their children to schools outside of the Campbell County system. The Weldon Cooper Center projects that the school age population in 2030 will be 10,041, which represents a small increase. The expected increase in this population also indicates that enrollment in public schools should stabilize from the recent decrease through 2030.

APPENDIX A: CAMPBELL COUNTY POPULATION DENSITY MAP

