

LIVESTOCK ON FARMS JANUARY 1

YEAR	All Cattle (including milk cows)	Milk Cows (2 years and older) 1/	Hogs and Pigs 2/	Stock Sheep and Lambs
1935	20,587	NA	6,839	2,656
1940	24,079	NA	7,717	2,225
1945	27,916	NA	6,752	1,479
1950	35,680	15,010	8,242	2,059
1954	39,921	15,013	6,862	1,056
1959	38,711	11,116	8,113	1,075
1964	39,108	9,002	2,894	653
1969	41,953	6,372	2,063	315
1974	51,019	6,356	2,326	144
1978	40,298	5,537	2,612	229
1982	48,739	5,900	2,815	255
1987	45,240	5,340	1,839	875
1992	55,814	4,213	860	871
1997	52,043	3,490	808	578

1/ "Milk cows that have calved" beginning in 1970. 2/ Beginning in 1970 hog inventory data refers to preceding December. NA Not available.

FARM INCOME AND SALES

	1997	1992	1987
Number of farms:	1,198	1,227	1,240
Farm income and sales:		-Thousand Dollars-	
Crops Sold	1,980	2,169	1,588
Grains	148	226	122
Tobacco	(D)	399	162
Field seeds, hay, forage, and silage	288	406	314
Other field crops	(D)	8	(D)
Vegetables, sweet corn and melons	(D)	(D)	29
Fruits, nuts and berries	341	534	646
Nursery and greenhouse products	836	601	(D)
Forest Products Sold	522	144	16
Livestock, Poultry and Products Sold	14,389	15,323	14,244
Poultry and products	(D)	(D)	(D)
Dairy products	(D)	8,438	(D)
Cattle and calves	6,235	6,583	4,768
Hogs and pigs	154	131	323
Sheep, lambs and wool	6	(D)	(D)
Other livestock and products	137	161	312
Total income from sales:	16,369	17,493	15,832
Custom work and other agricultural services:	300	156	111

(D) Data withheld to avoid disclosing information for individual farms.

NUMBER OF FARMS, BY SIZE, GROUP

YEAR	Size of Farm (Acres)						All Farms
	1-9	10-49	50-179	180-499	500-999	1,000-1,999	
1974	37	199	679	333	44	13	1,306
1978	28	195	651	308	50	14	1,246
1982	43	280	659	296	60	15	1,353
1987	43	256	598	277	52	14	1,240
1992	43	260	588	266	57	13	1,227
1997	53	275	535	262	64	9	1,198

1/ Applies to 1997. ---- Represents zero.

OPERATORS' OCCUPATION AND AGE

	1982	1987	1992	1997
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Operators by principal occupation:

Farming	507	494	511	474
Other	846	746	716	724

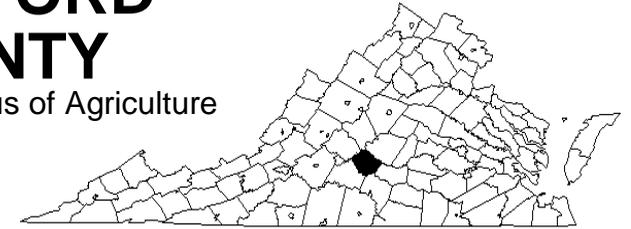
Operators by age group:

Under 25 years	11	10	4	4
25 to 34 years	85	74	69	45
35 to 44 years	231	183	169	165
45 to 54 years	309	295	275	258
55 to 64 years	NA	297	326	320
65 years and over	NA	381	384	406
Average Age	56	56	57	58

NA Not available.

BEDFORD COUNTY

U.S. Census of Agriculture



Bedford County is situated in the highest elevations of the Piedmont Plateau. The James River forms the northern boundary, the Roanoke River the southern, and the Blue Ridge Mountains the western. In 1997, there were 194,946 acres in farms, 40 percent of the total area of 483,100 acres. According to the **1997 Census of Agriculture**, there were 1,198 farms in the county averaging 163 acres each in size. Average value per farm, including land and buildings, was \$283,060.

Elevations range from about 800 feet above sea level in the southern county to 3,800 and 4,200 on the highest mountain peaks in the northern and western sections. Temperatures vary widely, averaging about 38 degrees in January and 76 in July. The frost free growing season is about 179 days extending from around April 20 to October 16. Annual precipitation averages 43 inches, with June and July averaging about 4.25 inches and August 5 inches.

Livestock, poultry, and poultry products were the leading source of Bedford farm income in 1997, accounting for 88 percent of the total receipts. Crops provided the remaining 12 percent.

The city of Bedford is the county seat and, in 1990, had an estimated population of 6,073. The county is located between two of the State's larger metropolitan centers--Lynchburg, with a population of 66,049, to the east and Roanoke, with 96,509 in population, to the west. These cities provide markets for much of the agricultural production as well as employment for many of the increased number of residential and part-time farmers in Bedford County.

In 1990, the estimated county population was 45,656. Total gross personal income in 1990 was \$749.4 million or an average of \$16,413 per capita.



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FARM DATA & LAND USE

YEAR	Number of Farms	Land in Farms	Avg. Value Per Acre For Land & Buildings	LAND USE					
				Cropland			Other Pasture ^{1/}	Woodland	
				Harvested	Other	Pasture		Pasture	Not Pastured
				Number	Acres	Dollars	-Acres-		
1935	4,347	398,198	25	74,172	26,316	87,320	NA	NA	NA
1940	4,105	387,478	33	81,231	13,865	68,587	NA	NA	NA
1945	3,566	366,599	41	85,111	15,531	10,289	118,590	32,420	93,661
1950	3,180	355,855	69	65,657	16,063	28,705	91,506	50,746	88,849
1954	3,059	349,184	71	65,470	10,679	19,670	92,383	64,738	82,502
1959	2,250	302,413	121	58,872	7,493	18,060	87,173	53,508	67,722
1964	1,912	270,555	145	51,783	8,547	11,658	88,313	51,087	51,034
1969	1,537	239,907	203	41,990	9,844	45,725	NA	NA	NA
1974 ^{2/}	1,306	214,622	483	44,443	6,411	49,141	NA	NA	NA
1978	1,246	212,630	678	44,238	5,770	44,283	33,313	36,118	38,788
1982	1,353	218,546	1,016	47,532	4,878	41,815	35,253	36,488	42,351
1987	1,240	204,190	1,007	44,736	6,726	45,425	31,272	31,562	35,411
1992	1,227	200,507	1,206	49,258	3,531	50,449	28,735	26,590	35,831
1997	1,198	194,946	1,877	46,636	3,182	52,115	26,812	24,371	35,972

^{1/} Due to changes in definition and wording of questions, figures for "cropland pasture" and "other pasture" are not always comparable from the Census. Acreage beginning with 1964 refer to pastureland and rangeland, other than cropland and woodland pastured, on farms with sales of agricultural products of \$2,500 and over. ^{2/} Beginning with 1964, agricultural operations under individual management with annual sales of \$1,000 or more. NA Not Available.

APPLE AND PEACH TREE NUMBERS

YEAR	APPLES				PEACHES			
	No. Farms Reporting	Non-bearing Trees	Bearing Trees	Total	No. Farms Reporting	Non-bearing Trees	Bearing Trees	Total
1935	2,728	31,815	196,331	228,146	1,685	13,676	30,376	44,052
1940	2,018	21,983	127,300	149,283	1,277	20,920	33,635	54,555
1945	1,786	NA	NA	119,280	1,107	NA	NA	39,777
1950	1,442	23,922	71,314	95,236	733	5,756	16,135	21,891
1954*	326	8,220	37,137	45,357	129	2,310	7,109	9,419
1959*	97	11,313	25,715	37,028	44	3,166	4,586	7,752
1964*	88	7,106	27,803	34,909	34	722	2,508	3,230
1969* ^{1/}	22	12,559	31,584	44,143	2	NA	350	350
1974* ^{1/}	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
1978 ^{2/}	37	NA	NA	NA	19	NA	NA	NA
1982	28	3,517	20,065	23,582	17	515	4,181	4,696
1987	22	5,676	32,641	38,317	11	(D)	(D)	5,725
1992	32	6,338	29,583	35,921	13	1,751	5,066	6,817
1997	26	6,137	12,890	19,027	9	(D)	(D)	(D)

* Does not include data for farms with less than 20 trees and grapevines. ^{1/} Data for farms with total sales of agricultural products of \$2,500 and over. ^{2/} Data for all farms. NA Not available. (D) Data withheld to avoid disclosing information for individual farms.

POULTRY SALES

YEAR	Broilers		Turkeys		Hens & Pullets of Laying Age	
	Number of Farms	Number Sold	Number of Farms	Number Sold	Number of Farms	Number Sold
1945 ^{1/}	2,994	284,169	120	5,112	NA	NA
1950 ^{2/}	949	105,125	91	4,315	NA	NA
1954 ^{3/}	10	279,417	92	3,455	NA	NA
1959 ^{3/}	3	67,000	32	32,526	NA	NA
1964 ^{3/ 4/}	----	----	8	233	NA	NA
1969 ^{4/}	----	----	1	21	11	11,224
1974 ^{5/ 6/}	1	(D)	NA	NA	19	20,371
1978 ^{5/}	----	----	2	(D)	(D)	(D)
1982	----	----	----	----	(D)	(D)
1987	1	(D)	2	(D)	(D)	(D)
1992	----	----	----	----	(D)	(D)
1997	1	(D)	1	(D)	3	(D)

^{1/} 1945 Chickens raised. Turkeys raised. ^{2/} 1950 Chickens sold. Turkeys raised. ^{3/} 1964, 1959 and 1954 Turkeys and turkey fryers raised. ^{4/} 1969 and 1964 Broilers and other meat-type chickens less than 3 months old. 1969 and 1964 Turkeys with farm sales of \$2,500 and over. ^{5/} 1974 and 1978 Broilers and other meat type chickens sold. ^{6/} 1974 Turkeys and Hens & Pullets with farm sales of \$2,500 and over. (D) Data withheld to avoid disclosing information for individual farms. ---- Represents zero. NA Not available.

CROP ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

YEAR	CORN			WHEAT			SOYBEANS		
	Acreage	Yield	Production	Acreage	Yield	Production	Acreage	Yield	Production
		Bushels	Bushels		Bushels	Bushels		Bushels	Bushels
1935 ^{1/}	22,857	21.1	482,810	14,659	11.2	164,156	1,269	NA	NA
1940	20,538	25.8	529,750	11,376	13.1	149,180	NA	NA	126
1945	17,884	29.5	527,715	10,545	16.7	176,138	NA	NA	431
1950	11,289	36.3	409,302	9,539	19.1	182,106	64	22.3	1,430
1954	9,668	32.3	312,005	6,021	23.6	142,153	87	11.9	1,031
1959 ^{2/}	7,237	41.4	299,437	5,359	24.2	129,730	137	17.7	2,429
1964	4,132	44.2	182,745	3,029	29.6	89,686	99	10.7	1,060
1969	3,320	65.1	216,292	1,556	37.3	58,104	128	22.0	2,816
1974	5,658	72.0	407,296	2,427	37.5	91,012	576	19.5	11,236
1978	4,326	60.9	263,572	965	39.9	38,468	241	20.0	4,829
1982	4,912	76.4	375,081	1,448	28.2	40,890	335	15.1	5,070
1987	1,455	38.9	56,668	947	33.6	31,862	(D)	(D)	(D)
1992	1,919	95.9	184,096	525	38.8	20,394	(D)	(D)	(D)
1997	399	68.6	27,361	631	56.5	35,633	130	20.1	2,610

^{1/} All corn (grain equivalent, including silage and forage) 1935-54. ^{2/} For grain only, 1959-92. NA Not available. (D) Data withheld to avoid disclosing information for individual farms.

CROP ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION

YEAR	Vegetables for sale ^{1/}	Oats Threshed or Combined ^{2/}		Barley Threshed or Combined ^{2/}		Rye Threshed or Combined ^{2/}		Potatoes ^{3/}		Sweet Potatoes	
	Acreage	Acreage	Bushels	Acreage	Bushels	Acreage	Bushels	Acreage	Bushels	Acreage	Bushels
1935	3,986	844	11,951	223	4,959	378	3,516	432	25,200	397	34,822
1940	2,424	1,262	22,512	306	7,190	224	2,626	379	25,334	275	20,700
1945	2,694	1,468	35,477	402	11,811	147	2,304	429	24,797	281	14,721
1950	916	1,405	35,162	776	20,997	136	2,400	74	17,806	21	6,203
1954	367	2,736	96,061	1,003	34,671	122	2,405	44	18,366	4	4,998
1959	308	1,928	66,254	1,007	42,951	151	3,305	22	5,767	6	3,655
1964	212	780	35,929	1,524	67,234	87	2,290	12	3,225	3	2,182
1969	61	477	21,719	1,012	52,537	16	75	NA	NA	NA	NA
1974	43	263	11,913	1,266	64,921	39	920	42	6,169	11	933
1978	48	359	12,838	828	39,104	(D)	(D)	8	1,092	(D)	(D)
1982	46	189	9,190	720	35,009	NA	NA	5	755	NA	NA
1987	29	179	9,004	554	28,223	NA	NA	8	1,431	NA	NA
1992	28	340	16,855	346	19,880	NA	NA	7	403	NA	NA
1997	9	58	2,983	237	19,690	55	1,324	2	214	NA	NA

^{1/} Excludes potatoes and sweet potatoes. ^{2/} Beginning with 1964 includes farms with total sales of agricultural products of \$2,500 and over. ^{3/} Potatoes are in hundred weight starting in 1959. NA Not available. (D) Data withheld to avoid disclosing information for individual farms.

CROP ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION

YEAR	All Hay	Alfalfa for Hay ^{1/}		Other Tame Hay ^{2/}		Small Grains for Hay ^{2/ 3/}	
	Acreage	Acreage	Tons	Acreage	Tons	Acreage	Tons
1935	21,228	1,729	2,490	10,311	8,094	1,064	776
1940	36,676	1,824	3,587	31,813	38,965	1,065	782
1945	42,203	1,870	4,269	38,773	40,284	198	167
1950	41,888	4,124	9,521	34,571	43,100	1,433	1,483
1954	46,157	6,161	9,637	31,498	26,754	5,805	6,302
1959	40,879	9,548	22,578	22,975	25,246	3,290	4,210
1964	35,204	5,513	11,387	6,361	7,916	3,083	4,726
1969	27,458	2,138	5,490	11,916	20,637	1,538	2,835
1974	27,455	2,619	6,290	NA	NA	34	NA
1978	29,846	3,709	7,719	20,703	28,282	NA	NA
1982	33,561	5,669	13,221	23,742	34,950	1,222	2,282
1987	36,145	5,383	10,162	25,781	38,586	1,610	2,789
1992	42,586	8,465	19,085	28,753	52,880	1,352	2,720
1997	42,884	2,182	5,322	34,278	61,198	1,450	2,782

^{1/} Beginning with 1964 includes farms with total sales of agricultural products of \$2,500 and over. ^{2/} Beginning with 1964 includes farms with total sales of agricultural products of \$2,500 and over. Beginning with 1978 data are for all farms. Includes clover-timothy, lespedeza and orchard grass mixtures cut for hay. ^{3/} Beginning with 1978 data are for all farms. NA Not available.