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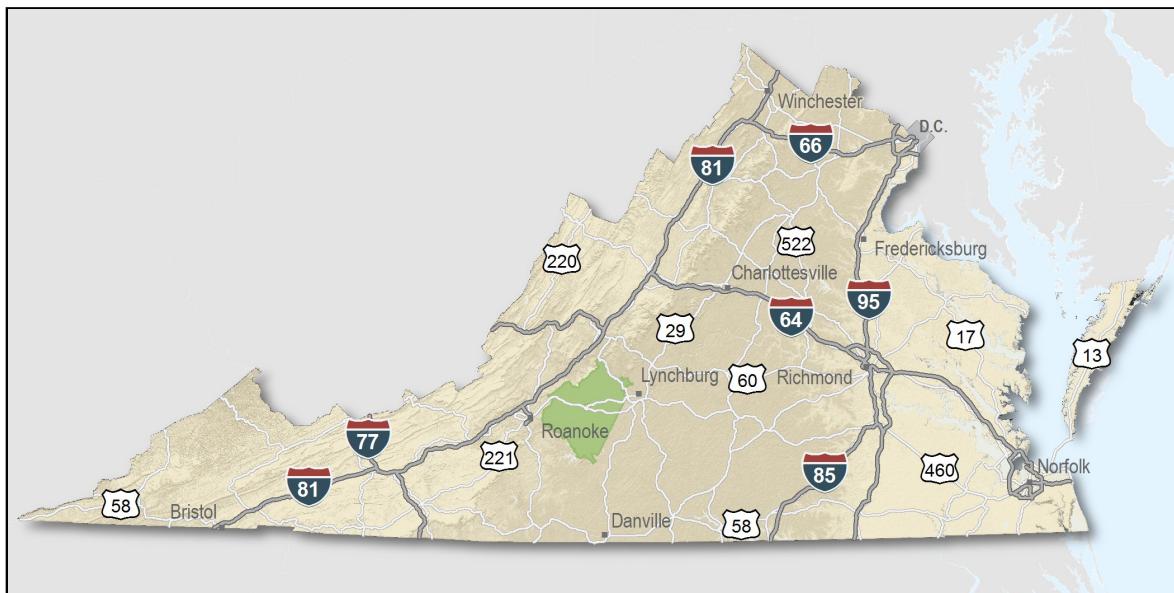
# Bedford County, Virginia

# Overview

Only a few locations can guarantee the right combination of resources that are crucial to your business's success. Virginia's premier location offers excellent domestic and international access. Centrally located on the U.S. East Coast, more than 47 percent of the U.S. population is within a day's drive, and our integrated transportation system of highways, railroads, airports and seaports ensures that you can reach every one of your markets efficiently. Close proximity to Washington, D.C. facilitates contact with policy makers and the federal government system.

Virginia continues to rank among America's leading states for business by CNBC and Forbes.com. Business-first values, easy access to markets, stable and competitive operating costs, and a talented workforce all drove Virginia to the top. This unique combination of assets has encouraged businesses to prosper here for more than 400 years. Like you, they searched the world over for that convergence of resources that would help ensure their prosperity. For them, their search ended here. Chances are yours will too.

- AAA bond rating- Virginia has maintained a AAA rating since 1938, longer than any other state.
- Right-to-work law allows individuals the right to work regardless of membership in a labor union or organization.
- Corporate income tax rate of 6% has not been increased since 1972.
- Headquarters to 37 Fortune 1000 firms.
- Headquarters to 56 firms each with annual revenue over \$1 billion.
- More than 21,400 high-tech establishments operate in Virginia.
- More than 700 internationally-owned businesses from 40 countries are located in Virginia.
- Ranks third among the 50 states as a recipient of federal R&D funds.
- Streamlined permitting process.
- Recruitment training programs to help new businesses become operational faster.
- Programs at little or no cost to help businesses increase international sales.

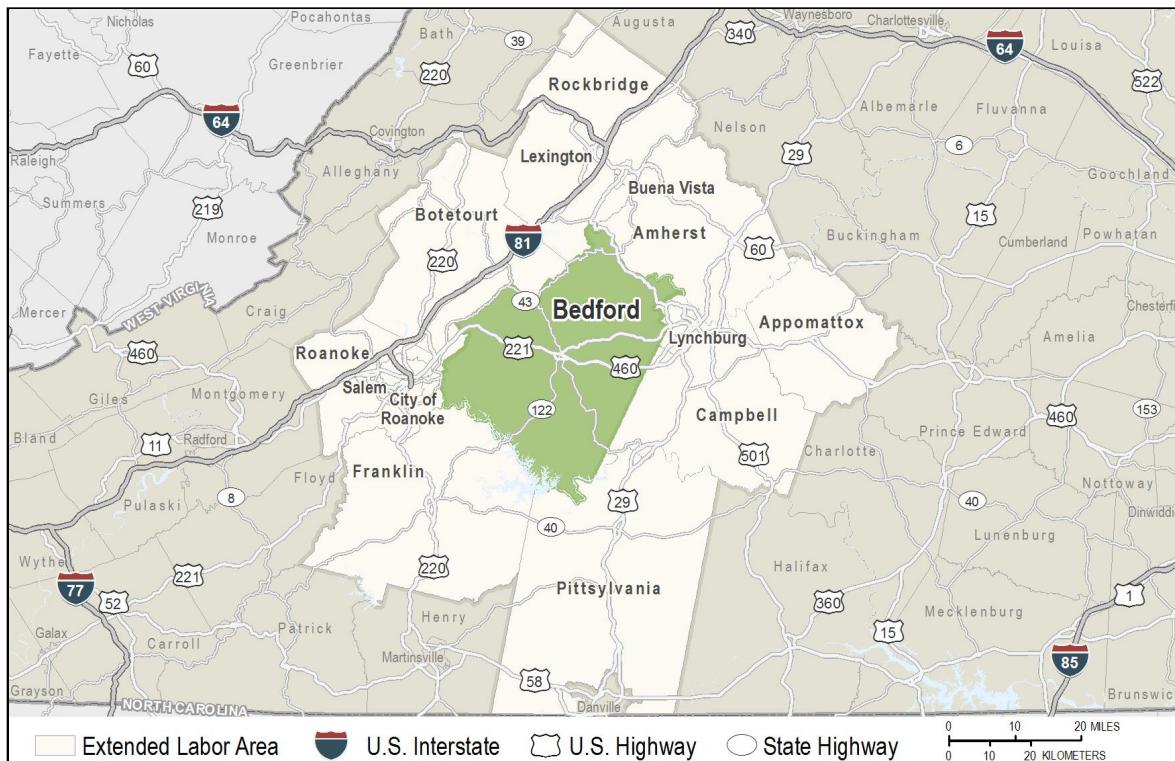


# Location

Bedford County consists of 759.9 square miles located in west-central Virginia just east of the Roanoke metropolitan area and west of the Lynchburg area. The scenic Blue Ridge Mountains make up the county's western border. The James River forms the northeast boundary. The 23,400-acre Smith Mountain Lake is situated to the south. The community is home to a diversified industrial base and displays an appealing quality of life.

The town of Bedford is 115 miles west of Richmond, the state capital; 210 miles southwest of Washington, D.C.; and 215 miles west of Norfolk. Lynchburg is about 24 miles east and Roanoke is 29 miles west.

Bedford is part of the Lynchburg Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA).



# Bedford County

Natural beauty combined with progressive thinking -- that's Bedford, Virginia.

Bedford is one of the fastest growing areas in VA. Located within a day's drive of all major mid-Atlantic markets, the Bedford community is decidedly pro-active, resulting in a healthy, diverse economy. Bedford advantages include: Workforce programs that engage business, public schools and community college. Sites with infrastructure and zoning in place. Enterprise and Technology Zones plus local incentives. High-speed broadband service. Agricultural economic development program. Historic Centertown Bedford – a Main Street Community. Scenic beauty with mountain and lake recreation.



# Labor Market

## Population

### Gender Distribution (2018)

	Male	Female
Bedford County	49.3%	50.7%

### Race/Ethnicity (2018)

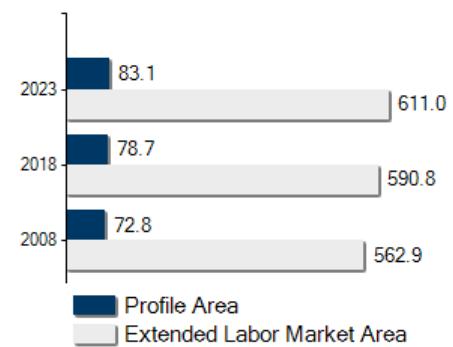
#### Classification

	Profile Area	Extended Labor Area
White	70,588	465,707
Black	5,612	98,137
Two or More	1,262	12,339
Asian	985	11,808
American Indian or Alaska Native	278	2,407
Pacific Islander	22	390
Hispanic (may be of any race)	1,790	23,270

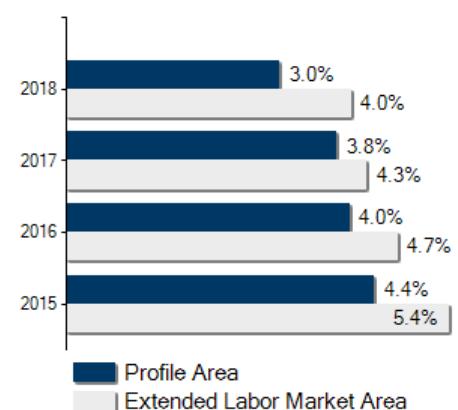
### Median Age (2018)

47 years

## Population in Thousands



## Unemployment Rates



## Civilian Labor Force (2020)

Bedford County	37,737
Extended Labor Market Area	282,526
Total	320,263

## Labor Force Participation (2013-2017)

Bedford County	60.6%
Extended Labor Market Area	59.8%

## Unemployment

### Unemployment Rate (May 2021)

Bedford County	3.6%
Extended Labor Market Area	4.1%
Statewide	4.1%

### Unemployed (2020)

Bedford County	1,937
Extended Labor Market Area	17,386
Total	19,323

### Underemployed (4th Quarter 2019)

Bedford County	3,303
Extended Labor Market Area	22,410
Total	25,713



# Labor Market

## Commute Time (2013-2017)

Worked from home	1,550	4.3%
Under 15 minutes	6,797	19.7%
15-24 minutes	10,488	30.4%
25-34 minutes	8,073	23.4%
35-44 minutes	3,381	9.8%
45-59 minutes	3,726	10.8%
Over 60 minutes	1,966	5.7%
Mean Travel Time to Work (minutes)	27	

## Additional Labor Resources

High School Graduates Not Continuing (2017-2018)	186
Two-Year College Graduates (Spring 2018)	2,480
Two-Year College Enrollees (Fall 2018)	11,854
Other College and University Graduates (Spring 2018)	19,349
Total	33,869



# Labor Market

## Career Readiness Certificate (06/30/2017-06/30/2018)

Virginia's Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) assists employers by certifying that a recipient possesses core skills in applied math, reading for information, and locating information. The CRC certification is based on established Workeys® assessment tests. Virginia uses a three-tiered approach (bronze, silver, gold) to credentialing certificate holders that is based on the recipient's level of development skills.

Bedford County	9
Extended Labor Market Area	169
Total	178

## Educational Attainment

On-Time Graduation Rate (Class of 2018)	91.8%
Percentage of Bedford County population age 25+ who are high school graduates (2013-2017)	89.6%
Percentage of Bedford County population age 25+ who have earned a Bachelor's Degree or higher (2013-2017)	28.3%



# Labor Market

## Employment by Sector\* (4th Qtr. 2018)

Agriculture Forestry Fishing and Hunting	118	0.6%
Mining Quarrying and Oil and Gas Extraction	0	0
Utilities	N.D.	N.D.
Construction	1,188	6.2%
Manufacturing	2,256	11.8%
Wholesale Trade	1,061	5.6%
Retail Trade	2,309	12.1%
Transportation and Warehousing	252	1.3%
Information	184	1.0%
Finance and Insurance	460	2.4%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	255	1.3%
Professional Scientific and Technical Services	1,210	6.3%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	N.D.	N.D.
Administrative and Support and Waste Management	1,282	6.7%
Educational Services	46	0.2%
Health Care and Social Assistance	2,381	12.5%
Arts Entertainment and Recreation	243	1.3%
Accommodation and Food Services	1,629	8.5%
Other Services	895	4.7%
Total Government	3,129	16.4%
Federal Government	126	0.7%
State Government	255	1.3%
Local Government	2,748	14.4%
Unclassified	63	0.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,084</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

N.D. - Not Disclosed

\*By Business Establishment



# Labor Market

## Major Employers

### Manufacturing

#### Company

Andrew Corporation  
Bedford Weaving Mills, Inc.  
Georgia-Pacific  
Harris  
Intercon, Inc.  
Sam Moore Furniture, LLC  
Sentry Equipment Erectors  
Smyth Company  
Sterling Blower  
TEVA

#### Product/Service

repeaters/equipment for wireless industry  
Textiles  
Paperboard  
Radio communications systems  
Harnesses for electrical wiring  
Upholstered furniture  
Conveyor systems  
Lithographer  
Blowers and Aux. Systems  
Pharmaceuticals

### NonManufacturing

#### Company

Bedford Memorial Hospital  
Cintas  
Coleman-Adams Construction Co.  
Inservice America Inc.  
Mail America  
RST Marketing

#### Product/Service

Health Care  
Clean and rent uniforms  
Construction  
Telemarketing  
Printing & mass mailing  
Direct Mail



# Labor Market

**Closings, Reductions, Layoffs (7/2018 to date)**

Date	Type	Company	Product/Service	Employees Affected
11/22/2019	Layoff	Teva Pharmaceuticals, USA*	Pharmaceuticals	220

\*Internationally-owned

**Union Activity (8/1/2015 - 8/1/2018)**

Petitions filed for decertification	0
Petitions filed for representation	0
Petitions filed for raid	0
Elections won by union	0
Elections won by company	0



# Labor Market

## Estimated Earnings (May 2018)

Occupation	Median Wage (US\$)	Mean Wage (US\$)	Median Salary (US\$)	Mean Salary (US\$)
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	12.45	13.24	25,899	27,550
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	16.18	16.94	33,639	35,244
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	19.85	22.11	41,288	45,982
Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	17.88	19.13	37,180	39,788
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	18.97	19.35	39,475	40,247
Machinists	24.35	25.21	50,647	52,440
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	26.90	28.42	55,952	59,119
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	18.55	19.08	38,583	39,691
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	21.71	22.94	45,156	47,724
Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists	21.23	21.38	44,150	44,473
Office Clerks, General	12.72	13.52	26,448	28,122
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	14.98	15.77	31,157	32,796
Receptionists and Information Clerks	11.46	11.97	23,846	24,891
Customer Service Representatives	12.15	13.96	25,264	29,027
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	16.83	17.12	35,011	35,601
First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	24.30	26.54	50,551	55,205
Industrial Engineers	37.71	38.90	78,427	80,893
Electrical Engineers	58.57	55.99	121,841	116,460
Software Developers, Systems Software	51.72	52.07	107,569	108,314
Accountants and Auditors	34.00	35.93	70,714	74,735

## Per Capita Personal Income (2017)

\$43,826

## Median Family Income (2013-2017)

\$71,534



# Education

## Public School Enrollment (Fall 2018)

Level	Number	Enrollment
Elementary	13	4,306
Middle	3	2,210
High School	3	3,118

## Student Teacher Ratio (FY 2018)

Elementary	13:1
Secondary	12:1

## Per Pupil Expenditure (FY 2018) (US\$)

10,722.00
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## On-Time Graduation Rate (Class of 2018)

91.8%
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## High School Graduates Continuing Education (2017-2018)

76.4%
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## Advanced Programs (2017-2018)

### Governor's Schools

Central VA Governor's School For Science and Technology  
Roanoke Valley Governor's School for Science &Technology

### Governor's STEM Academies and Health Academies

Bedford County Public Schools Governor's Health Sciences Academy  
Lynchburg Regional Governor's STEM Academy

Governor's School Enrollment	48
Students taking 1 or more Advanced Placement (AP) Courses	406
Students taking 1 or more AP Exams	357
Students taking 1 or more Dual Enrollment Courses	507

## Workforce Development Facilities

Facility	Type
Bedford Science & Technology Center	Career and Technical Center
Lynchburg Workforce Center	Satellite Center
Region 2000 Career Center	Comprehensive Center



# Education

## Higher Education Facilities – Fall

Facility	Enrollment
Liberty University	79,152
Virginia Western Community College	6,827
Central Virginia Community College	4,047
University of Lynchburg	3,081
Roanoke College	2,033
Jefferson College of Health Sciences	1,128
American National University - Roanoke Campus	980 <sup>◊</sup>
Southern Virginia University	979
Hollins University	805
Randolph College	623
Centra College of Nursing	401 <sup>◊</sup>
Sweet Briar College	330
Virginia University of Lynchburg	304 <sup>◊</sup>
Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine	164
Roanoke Higher Education Center	*
Virginia Tech - Roanoke Center	*
Miller-Motte Technical College - Lynchburg Campus	†
Miller-Motte Technical College - Roanoke Campus	†
American National University - Lynchburg Campus	†
ECPI University - Roanoke Campus	†

<sup>\*</sup> AAAA Enrollment figures are included in participating colleges and universities.

<sup>†</sup> Enrollment figures are not available.

<sup>◊</sup> Fall Enrollment



# Transportation

## Interstates

Name	Distance
I-81	3.2 miles (5.2 km.)
I-581	4.3 miles (7.0 km.)
I-64	12.4 miles (20.0 km.)

Note: Measured from border of locality/region.

## Highways

Highway 122	Highway 221	Highway 24	Highway 43	Highway 460
Highway 48	Highway 501			

## Commercial Air Service

<b>Lynchburg Regional Airport, Lynchburg -- 21.0 miles (33.7 km.)</b>		
American Airlines		
<b>Roanoke-Blacksburg Regional Airport, Roanoke -- 34.2 miles (55.1 km.)</b>		
American Airlines	Delta Air Lines	United Airlines
Allegiant Air		

Note: Within a 75-mile drive of the center of the locality.



# Transportation

## General Aviation Service

Name	Runway Length
New London Airport, Forest	3,164 ft (964 m)
Smith Mountain Lake Airport, Moneta	3,058 ft (932 m)

## Freight Rail Service

CSX Transportation
Norfolk Southern Railway Company

## Seaports

Name	Distance
Port of Virginia	218.0 miles (350.8 km)

Note: Driving distance from the center of the locality to Port of Virginia and any other seaports within 100 miles.

## Other Ports of Entry

Name	Distance
New River Valley Airport (Virginia TradePort)	79.1 miles (127.4 km)
Port of Washington - Dulles	191.0 miles (307.4 km)

Note: Driving distance from the center of the locality to Port of Washington - Dulles and any other port of entry within 100 miles.



# Utilities

Utilities	
Electric	Southside Electric Cooperative
Electric	Appalachian Power
Electric	Town of Bedford
Natural Gas	Columbia Gas of Virginia
Telecommunications	nTelos
Telecommunications	Verizon-Virginia
Telecommunications	Shentel
Water	Bedford County Service Authority
Water	Montvale Water Company
Waste Water Treatment	Bedford County Service Authority
Waste Water Treatment	Town of Bedford
Solid Waste Disposal	Bedford County Sanitary Landfill
Solid Waste Disposal	Region 2000 Service Authority



# Financial Institutions

## Financial Institutions – 4th Qtr 2018 Assets

Bank	Assets (US\$ Millions)
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	1,689,351.0
Branch Banking and Trust Company	219,071.0
SunTrust Bank	209,720.5
First-Citizens Bank & Trust Co.	35,267.5
Union Bank & Trust Co.	13,732.0
WoodForest National Bank	5,923.7
Carter Bank & Trust	4,039.6
American National Bank & Trust Co.	1,853.1
The First Bank and Trust Co.	1,809.0
Bank of the James	675.3
First National Bank	469.5
Select Bank	221.3



# Government and Taxes

## Government

Bedford County has a County Administrator and a seven-member Board of Supervisors.

Bedford County has a comprehensive plan and zoning and subdivision ordinance.

Bedford is the county seat. The town of Bedford is the only incorporated town within the county.

## Taxes

Localities in Virginia collect a 1% sales tax. They do not tax other items taxed at the State level.

Counties and cities in Virginia are separate taxing entities. Therefore, a company pays taxes to either a county or to a city.

If a company is located in a town, it pays town and county taxes except for utility taxes which are paid only to the town and the license tax which is paid only to the town unless town law permits the additional collection of a county tax.

Manufacturers pay real estate, machinery and tools, truck and automobile, utility, and sales taxes.

Nonmanufacturers pay real estate, tangible personal property, truck and automobile, utility, and sales taxes. They also may pay either a merchants' capital or a license tax.

*Manufacturer's Tax Profile (Bedford) [pdf](#)*

*Non-Manufacturer's Tax Profile (Bedford) [pdf](#)*



# Community Facilities

Convenient medical care is available at Bedford Memorial Hospital located in the town of Bedford. This facility provides 178 patient beds of which 111 beds are for long-term care. In addition, both neighboring Lynchburg and Roanoke have five major hospitals to serve the vast majority of health care requirements of the region. The Bedford County Health Department also provides public health services to the community. Emergency transport is provided by rescue squad ambulances and the Life Guard 10 medical helicopter.

Twenty-four physicians practice in Bedford County representing eight specialties. Thirteen dentists have local practices in the county.

Nine retirement and nursing homes provide intermediate and extended care for 302 residents. The Carriage Hill Retirement Center offers 64 rooms for independent retirement living. In addition, the Elks National Home is located in the town of Bedford.

About 123 Protestant churches of many denominations are found in Bedford County. Two Catholic churches are located in the community. Greek Orthodox churches and Jewish synagogues are located in nearby Lynchburg and Roanoke.

The Bedford Public Library, with a collection of more than 150,000 volumes, is based in the town of Bedford and maintains five branch operations. The library offers special homebound service to persons confined to their homes.



# Community Facilities

## **(continued)**

Shopping needs of residents can be easily met through five shopping centers and in Bedford's revitalized Centertown--its central business district. In addition, the close proximity of both Roanoke and Lynchburg to Bedford provides residents a vast array of retail options ranging from regional malls to neighborhood shopping centers and specialty shops.



# Lifestyle

The county's location adjacent to the Blue Ridge Mountains puts the community in close contact with the Blue Ridge Parkway. One of America's most scenic roads, the Parkway offers numerous overlooks, campgrounds, picnic areas, and hiking trails. Just ten miles northwest of Bedford are the Peaks of Otter with lodging facilities offering travelers and visitors delicious food and fine accommodations in a beautiful, rustic setting. To the south, the 23,400-acre Smith Mountain Lake provides numerous opportunities to enjoy water sports of all types. Numerous recreational developments and several resorts can be found along the lake's 500 miles of shoreland. A 1,200-acre state park provides camping and swimming amenities along the shore.

Sport fishermen will enjoy the smallmouth bass in the James River, which forms the county's northern boundary. Also, miles of stocked mountain trout streams are available including many in the Jefferson National Forest in western Bedford County.

Bedford County offers a complete leisure services package for residents of all ages. The county operates comprehensive recreation programs including organized athletics, special events, and excursions. Liberty Lake Park is the centerpiece for recreational activity in Bedford. This 59-acre park includes a lighted multi-purpose ball field, baseball field, softball field, tennis courts, children's playgrounds, picnic shelters, and an outdoor racquetball court, the first of its kind in Virginia.

Bedford has an expanding YMCA program with an indoor junior Olympic-size swimming pool, weight room, and gymnasium. Golfers will find one public and three private golf courses in the community.

The Little Town Players perform live theatre in Bedford at the Elks National Home Theatre, producing popular drama for residents. The nearby Roanoke and Lynchburg metropolitan areas add to the cultural enrichment of Bedford residents.

**(continued)**

Bedford is the site for the National D-Day Memorial, and was chosen because of its distinction as the community that sustained the highest per capita loss of lives during the invasion.

Roanoke's Center in the Square houses science and history museums, a planetarium, a playhouse, and a fine arts center. The Lynchburg Fine Arts Center hosts two art galleries, a theater, and two dance studios and is the site of a full calendar of cultural events. Eight colleges in the region also help contribute to a high level of cultural sophistication.

In the midst of Bedford Centertown, the Bedford County Museum provides two floors of exhibits from Bedford's heritage including Indian artifacts, Revolutionary and Civil War memorabilia, examples of native wildlife, and a library of historical and genealogical information.

[Lynchburg MSA Profile](#)

[Lynchburg Region Profile](#)

[Bedford County](#)

[Virginia's Region 2000 Economic Development Partnership](#)