# THE APPALACHIAN REGION: A DATA OVERVIEW FROM THE 2007-2011 AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY Chartbook 

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APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION

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## FOREWORD

The data contained in this chartbook come from the 2007-2011 American Community Survey. While the types of demographic and housing data included in Chapters 1 through 4 were also collected in the 2010 decennial census, the types of social and economic data included in Chapters 5 through 8 were not. This is because unlike previous censuses-which consisted of a "short form" of basic demographic and housing questions and a "long form" (used for a sample of households) that also asked detailed questions about social, economic, and housing characteristics-the 2010 census only had a short form.

The decennial long form has been replaced by the American Community Survey (ACS), a nationwide study collected continuously every year in every county in the United States. The ACS is designed to provide communities with reliable and timely demographic, social, economic, and housing data each year. However, the annual sample size of the ACS is much smaller than the sample size of the decennial census long form; therefore, data from five years must be combined to provide reliable estimates for geographic areas with fewer than 20,000 people. Since a number of counties in the Appalachian region have fewer than 20,000 residents, we must use the 2007-2011 ACS data to have comparable statistics for all 420 counties in the region.

The five-year ACS estimates for 2007-2011 represent concepts that are fundamentally different from those associated with data from the decennial census. While the main function of the census is to provide counts of people for congressional apportionment and legislative redistricting, the primary purpose of the ACS is to measure the changing characteristics of the U.S. population. Moreover, while the decennial census provides a "snapshot" of the U.S. population once every 10 years, the ACS has been described as a "moving video image" that is continually updated. Finally, while the census provides "point in time" estimates designed to approximate an area's characteristics on a specific date, the ACS provides "period" estimates that represent data collected over a period of time. The five-year estimates in this chartbook, therefore, are data collected over the five-year (or 60-month) period from January 2007 through December 2011. These ACS estimates are not averages of monthly or annual values, but rather an aggregation of data collected over the five-year period.

For areas with consistent population characteristics throughout the calendar year, ACS period estimates might not differ much from those that would result from a point-in-time survey like the decennial census. However, ACS period estimates might be noticeably different from point-in-time estimates for areas with seasonal populations or those that experience a natural disaster such as a hurricane. For example, a resort community in the upper Midwest might be dominated by locals in the winter months and by temporary workers and tourists in the summer months, with a corresponding decrease in employment rates during the winter and increase in these rates during the summer. In such a community, the ACS period estimate of the percent of persons in the labor force, which is based on data across the entire calendar year, would likely be higher than the decennial census point-in-time estimate from April 1.

While five-year ACS data are needed to provide reliable estimates for areas with small populations, they can make it difficult to track trends in these areas. The 2007-2011 ACS data illustrate this problem. The 2007-2011 time period covers three distinct periods of economic activity: the months of economic growth in 2007 that preceded the onset of the recession in December of that year; the recession period itself from December 2007 through June 2009; and the beginning of the economic recovery that followed the downturn. Since the 2007-2011 ACS pools data from all three periods, it smooths out the extreme variations in economic measures that would be evident in annual data from the recent severe recession.

## CHAPTER 1: POPULATION BASICS

Table 1.1: Population, Land Area, and Population Density in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011

| Population, Land Area, and Density | Population, 2007-2011 | Land Area (Square Miles) | Population per Square Mile of Land Area, 2007-2011 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| United States Appalachian Region | $\begin{array}{r} \hline 306,603,772 \\ 25,138,634 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 3,531,905 \\ 204,452 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 86.8 \\ 123.0 \end{array}$ |
| Subregions |  |  |  |
| Northern Appalachia North Central Appalachia Central Appalachia South Central Appalachia Southern Appalachia | $8,386,003$ $2,414,961$ $1,916,690$ $4,689,747$ $7,731,233$ | $\begin{aligned} & 56,980 \\ & 29,337 \\ & 29,773 \\ & 34,997 \\ & 53,365 \end{aligned}$ | 147.2 <br> 82.3 <br> 64.4 <br> 134.0 <br> 144.9 |
| County Types |  |  |  |
| Large Metros (pop. 1 million +) <br> Small Metros (pop. <1 million) <br> Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros <br> Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro) | $\begin{array}{r} \text { 5,739,321 } \\ 10,131,903 \\ 1,694,488 \\ 5,035,983 \\ 2,536,939 \end{array}$ | 17,579 <br> 50,179 <br> 18,822 <br> 69,090 <br> 48,781 | $\begin{array}{r} 326.5 \\ 201.9 \\ 90.0 \\ 72.9 \\ 52.0 \end{array}$ |
| Alabama | 4,747,424 | 50,645 | 93.7 |
| Appalachian Alabama Non-Appalachian Alabama | $\begin{aligned} & 3,043,430 \\ & 1,703,994 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 25,763 \\ & 24,882 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 118.1 \\ 68.5 \end{array}$ |
| Georgia | 9,600,612 | 57,513 | 166.9 |
| Appalachian Georgia Non-Appalachian Georgia | $\begin{aligned} & 2,899,705 \\ & 6,700,907 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 11,378 \\ & 46,135 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 254.9 \\ & 145.2 \end{aligned}$ |
| Kentucky | 4,316,040 | 39,486 | 109.3 |
| Appalachian Kentucky Non-Appalachian Kentucky | $\begin{aligned} & 1,184,118 \\ & 3,131,922 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 18,231 \\ & 21,256 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 65.0 \\ 147.3 \end{array}$ |
| Maryland | 5,736,545 | 9,707 | 591.0 |
| Appalachian Maryland | 252,034 | 1,529 | 164.8 |
| Non-Appalachian Maryland | 5,484,511 | 8,178 | 670.6 |
| Mississippi | 2,956,700 | 46,923 | 63.0 |
| Appalachian Mississippi Non-Appalachian Mississippi | $\begin{array}{r} 627,703 \\ 2,328,997 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 12,400 \\ & 34,523 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 50.6 \\ & 67.5 \end{aligned}$ |
| New York | 19,302,448 | 47,126 | 409.6 |
| Appalachian New York | 1,066,767 | 11,681 | 91.3 |
| Non-Appalachian New York | 18,235,681 | 35,445 | 514.5 |
| North Carolina | 9,418,736 | 48,618 | 193.7 |
| Appalachian North Carolina | 1,686,926 | 11,887 | 141.9 |
| Non-Appalachian North Carolina | 7,731,810 | 36,731 | 210.5 |
| Ohio | 11,525,536 | 40,861 | 282.1 |
| Appalachian Ohio | 2,043,794 | 15,978 | 127.9 |
| Non-Appalachian Ohio | 9,481,742 | 24,882 | 381.1 |
| Pennsylvania | 12,660,739 | 44,743 | 283.0 |
| Appalachian Pennsylvania | 5,790,556 | 36,444 | 158.9 |
| Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania | 6,870,183 | 8,298 | 827.9 |
| South Carolina | 4,575,864 | 30,061 | 152.2 |
| Appalachian South Carolina | 1,160,395 | 3,824 | 303.5 |
| Non-Appalachian South Carolina | 3,415,469 | 26,237 | 130.2 |
| Tennessee | 6,297,991 | 41,235 | 152.7 |
| Appalachian Tennessee | 2,768,286 | 20,119 | 137.6 |
| Non-Appalachian Tennessee | 3,529,705 | 21,116 | 167.2 |
| Virginia | 7,926,192 | 39,490 | 200.7 |
| Appalachian Virginia | 768,548 | 11,179 | 68.7 |
| Non-Appalachian Virginia | 7,157,644 | 28,311 | 252.8 |
| West Virginia (entire state) | 1,846,372 | 24,038 | 76.8 |

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

Figure 1.1: Population Distribution in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011


Map Title: Population Distribution in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011
Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

Of the 306.6 million persons in the United States during the period from 2007-2011, 25.1 million lived in the Appalachian region. Yet the population of the region's 420 counties varied greatly. On one hand, two-thirds of the counties had populations of fewer than 50,000 people, and 125 counties had fewer than 20,000 residents. On the other hand, pockets of the Appalachian population lived in large and mid-sized metropolitan areas, including Pittsburgh, Birmingham, and the Atlanta suburbs. Allegheny County, Pa. (where Pittsburgh is located) had 1.2 million residents. It is important to note that the Appalachian population has continued to grow: the latest population estimates indicate the region had 25.3 million residents in 2011 (out of 311.6 million Americans nationwide), compared to 25.2 million in the 2010 Census.

Figure 1.2: Population per Square Mile of Land Area in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011


Map Title: Population per Square Mile of Land Area in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011
Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

While Appalachia's population density was noticeably greater than the United States as a whole over the 2007-2011 period, only two-fifths of the region's counties had population concentrations at or above the national average. Most of the high-density counties were in metropolitan areas, both large (Pittsburgh, Birmingham, suburban Atlanta) and small (Winston-Salem, N.C.; Knoxville, Tenn.).

## CHAPTER 2: AGE

Table 2.1: Population in the Appalachian Region by Age Group, 2007-2011

| Population by Age Group | Total Population, 2007-2011 | Percent of Population |  |  |  | Median Age (Years) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Under Age 18 | $\begin{gathered} \text { Ages } \\ 18-24 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Ages } \\ & 25-64 \end{aligned}$ | Ages 65 and over |  |
| United States | 306,603,772 | 24.2 | 10.0 | 53.0 | 12.9 | 37.0 |
| Appalachian Region | 25,138,634 | 22.6 | 9.7 | 52.8 | 15.0 | 39.6 |
| Subregions |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Northern Appalachia | 8,386,003 | 21.1 | 10.0 | 52.2 | 16.7 | 41.4 |
| North Central Appalachia | 2,414,961 | 22.0 | 9.6 | 53.2 | 15.2 | 40.1 |
| Central Appalachia | 1,916,690 | 22.4 | 8.7 | 54.0 | 14.9 | 40.2 |
| South Central Appalachia | 4,689,747 | 21.5 | 9.8 | 52.6 | 16.1 | 40.5 |
| Southern Appalachia | 7,731,233 | 25.0 | 9.5 | 53.1 | 12.4 | 36.9 |
| County Types |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Large Metros (pop. 1 million +) | 5,739,321 | 24.0 | 8.7 | 54.1 | 13.2 | 38.4 |
| Small Metros (pop. <1 million) | 10,131,903 | 22.1 | 10.5 | 52.5 | 15.0 | 39.3 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros | 1,694,488 | 23.0 | 9.8 | 51.8 | 15.4 | 40.1 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros | 5,035,983 | 21.8 | 9.3 | 52.5 | 16.3 | 41.0 |
| Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro) | 2,536,939 | 22.6 | 9.1 | 52.3 | 16.0 | 40.5 |
| Alabama | 4,747,424 | 23.8 | 10.1 | 52.5 | 13.6 | 37.7 |
| Appalachian Alabama | 3,043,430 | 23.5 | 9.7 | 53.0 | 13.7 | 38.0 |
| Non-Appalachian Alabama | 1,703,994 | 24.4 | 10.6 | 51.4 | 13.6 | 37.0 |
| Georgia | 9,600,612 | 25.8 | 10.1 | 53.6 | 10.5 | 35.2 |
| Appalachian Georgia | 2,899,705 | 27.1 | 8.6 | 53.9 | 10.3 | 35.7 |
| Non-Appalachian Georgia | 6,700,907 | 25.2 | 10.7 | 53.5 | 10.5 | 34.9 |
| Kentucky | 4,316,040 | 23.7 | 9.6 | 53.5 | 13.2 | 37.8 |
| Appalachian Kentucky | 1,184,118 | 22.9 | 9.2 | 53.6 | 14.3 | 39.3 |
| Non-Appalachian Kentucky | 3,131,922 | 23.9 | 9.7 | 53.5 | 12.8 | 37.3 |
| Maryland | 5,736,545 | 23.6 | 9.6 | 54.6 | 12.1 | 37.8 |
| Appalachian Maryland | 252,034 | 21.4 | 9.8 | 53.1 | 15.6 | 40.2 |
| Non-Appalachian Maryland | 5,484,511 | 23.7 | 9.6 | 54.7 | 11.9 | 37.6 |
| Mississippi | 2,956,700 | 25.6 | 10.4 | 51.3 | 12.7 | 35.9 |
| Appalachian Mississippi | 627,703 | 24.8 | 10.8 | 50.5 | 14.0 | 36.9 |
| Non-Appalachian Mississippi | 2,328,997 | 25.8 | 10.3 | 51.6 | 12.3 | 35.7 |
| New York | 19,302,448 | 22.5 | 10.1 | 53.9 | 13.4 | 37.8 |
| Appalachian New York | 1,066,767 | 21.3 | 12.8 | 50.4 | 15.5 | 39.7 |
| Non-Appalachian New York | 18,235,681 | 22.6 | 10.0 | 54.1 | 13.3 | 37.7 |
| North Carolina | 9,418,736 | 24.0 | 9.8 | 53.4 | 12.8 | 37.3 |
| Appalachian North Carolina | 1,686,926 | 21.6 | 9.1 | 52.7 | 16.6 | 41.1 |
| Non-Appalachian North Carolina | 7,731,810 | 24.5 | 10.0 | 53.5 | 12.0 | 36.4 |
| Ohio | 11,525,536 | 23.8 | 9.5 | 52.8 | 13.9 | 38.5 |
| Appalachian Ohio | 2,043,794 | 23.2 | 9.0 | 52.4 | 15.5 | 40.2 |
| Non-Appalachian Ohio | 9,481,742 | 23.9 | 9.6 | 52.8 | 13.6 | 38.1 |
| Pennsylvania | 12,660,739 | 22.1 | 9.8 | 52.7 | 15.4 | 39.9 |
| Appalachian Pennsylvania | 5,790,556 | 20.7 | 9.9 | 52.4 | 16.9 | 41.7 |
| Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania | 6,870,183 | 23.3 | 9.8 | 52.8 | 14.0 | 38.4 |
| South Carolina | 4,575,864 | 23.5 | 10.3 | 52.8 | 13.5 | 37.7 |
| Appalachian South Carolina | 1,160,395 | 23.7 | 10.2 | 52.5 | 13.6 | 37.8 |
| Non-Appalachian South Carolina | 3,415,469 | 23.4 | 10.3 | 52.9 | 13.4 | 37.6 |
| Tennessee | 6,297,991 | 23.7 | 9.5 | 53.5 | 13.3 | 37.8 |
| Appalachian Tennessee | 2,768,286 | 22.0 | 9.3 | 53.1 | 15.7 | 40.3 |
| Non-Appalachian Tennessee | 3,529,705 | 25.0 | 9.8 | 53.8 | 11.4 | 35.9 |
| Virginia | 7,926,192 | 23.3 | 10.1 | 54.6 | 12.1 | 37.3 |
| Appalachian Virginia | 768,548 | 19.6 | 11.8 | 52.0 | 16.6 | 41.0 |
| Non-Appalachian Virginia | 7,157,644 | 23.7 | 9.9 | 54.8 | 11.6 | 36.9 |
| West Virginia (entire state) | 1,846,372 | 21.0 | 9.2 | 53.8 | 15.9 | 41.1 |

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

Figure 2.1: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Under Age 18, 2007-2011


Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Under Age 18, 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

During the 2007-2011 period, the share of children and youth in the Appalachian population was slightly below the national average of 24 percent. And the percentage actually fell below 20 percent in one-sixth of the region's counties (mostly outside metropolitan areas). Yet in another one-fifth of the counties, the proportion under age 18 matched or exceeded the national average. Most of these were in southern Appalachia-the only subregion where the under-18 share exceeded the national average.

Figure 2.2: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 18 to 24, 2007-2011


Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 18 to 24, 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

The share of young adults (ages 18 to 24) in Appalachia roughly equaled the national average in the 2007-2011 period. Yet there also were great variations within the region. For example, persons in this age group made up at least 15 percent of the population in 22 counties-most of which house colleges and universities. In contrast, 18-to-24-year-olds made up less than 7.5 percent of the population in 112 Appalachian counties. Of the counties in this latter group, 81 were outside metropolitan areas, suggesting a possible lack of opportunities in these communities for youth making the transition to adulthood.

Figure 2.3: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 25 to 64, 2007-2011


Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 25 to 64, 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

In both the United States and Appalachia, adults in the prime working ages (ages 25 to 64) made up a slight majority of all residents in the 2007-2011 period. In more than half of Appalachian counties, the percentage of persons in this age group matched or exceeded the national average. But there were 34 counties in the region ( 28 of which were outside metropolitan areas) where 25-to-64-year-olds made up less than half of the population. Many of these counties house colleges and universities (and thus had a high share of their populations in the 18-to-24 age range.)

Figure 2.4: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 65 and Over, 2007-2011


Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 65 and Over, 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

The Appalachian region had a larger proportion of residents ages 65 and over in the 2007-2011 period than did the nation as a whole. And in 371 of the region's 420 counties, the share of persons in this age group matched or exceeded the national average. Older persons, in fact, made up at least 15 percent of the population in more than two-thirds of Appalachia's counties, most of which were outside metropolitan areas. In contrast, a majority of the 49 Appalachian counties with older population shares below the national average were either in metro areas or home to colleges and universities. And in Appalachia and the nation, the share of residents ages 65 and over is expected to increase over the coming years as the large baby boom cohorts continue to move into this age group.

Figure 2.5: Median Age of Persons in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011


Map Title: Median Age of Persons in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011
Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

On average, the Appalachian population was more than two-and-a-half years older than that of the United States as a whole during the 2007-2011 period. Indeed, the median age of the population (the point at which half the population is older and half is younger) was at least 40 years in nearly two-thirds of the region's counties. In 30 counties-almost all of which were outside metro areas-the median age was at least 45 years. Most of the counties with populations younger than the national median age were in southern Appalachia-the only subregion where the overall age structure roughly resembled that of the nation. In most Appalachian counties, median age will likely continue to rise with the aging of the region's population.

## CHAPTER 3: RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN

Table 3.1: Population in the Appalachian Region by Race and Hispanic Origin, 2007-2011

| Population by Race and Hispanic Origin | Total Population, 2007-2011 | Percent of Population |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | White Alone, Not Hispanic | Minority |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Total | Black Alone, Not Hispanic | Hispanic or Latino | Other, Not Hispanic |
| United States | 306,603,772 | 64.2 | 35.8 | 12.2 | 16.1 | 7.6 |
| Appalachian Region | 25,138,634 | 83.9 | 16.1 | 9.1 | 4.0 | 3.0 |
| Subregions |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Northern Appalachia | 8,386,003 | 89.8 | 10.2 | 5.1 | 2.3 | 2.8 |
| North Central Appalachia | 2,414,961 | 93.4 | 6.6 | 2.8 | 1.2 | 2.6 |
| Central Appalachia | 1,916,690 | 95.5 | 4.5 | 1.9 | 1.1 | 1.5 |
| South Central Appalachia | 4,689,747 | 85.8 | 14.2 | 7.0 | 4.4 | 2.9 |
| Southern Appalachia | 7,731,233 | 70.4 | 29.6 | 18.4 | 7.3 | 3.9 |
| County Types |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Large Metros (pop. 1 million +) | 5,739,321 | 75.3 | 24.7 | 14.6 | 5.5 | 4.6 |
| Small Metros (pop. <1 million) | 10,131,903 | 83.4 | 16.6 | 9.0 | 4.4 | 3.1 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros | 1,694,488 | 88.8 | 11.2 | 4.7 | 3.9 | 2.6 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros | 5,035,983 | 90.2 | 9.8 | 4.9 | 2.9 | 2.1 |
| Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro) | 2,536,939 | 89.1 | 10.9 | 7.8 | 1.6 | 1.6 |
| Alabama | 4,747,424 | 67.3 | 32.7 | 26.1 | 3.7 | 3.0 |
| Appalachian Alabama | 3,043,430 | 71.3 | 28.7 | 21.7 | 4.2 | 2.8 |
| Non-Appalachian Alabama | 1,703,994 | 60.1 | 39.9 | 33.8 | 2.8 | 3.3 |
| Georgia | 9,600,612 | 56.3 | 43.7 | 30.1 | 8.6 | 5.0 |
| Appalachian Georgia | 2,899,705 | 68.8 | 31.2 | 13.0 | 12.4 | 5.8 |
| Non-Appalachian Georgia | 6,700,907 | 50.9 | 49.1 | 37.5 | 6.9 | 4.7 |
| Kentucky | 4,316,040 | 86.6 | 13.4 | 7.7 | 2.9 | 2.8 |
| Appalachian Kentucky | 1,184,118 | 95.5 | 4.5 | 1.8 | 1.2 | 1.5 |
| Non-Appalachian Kentucky | 3,131,922 | 83.2 | 16.8 | 9.9 | 3.5 | 3.3 |
| Maryland | 5,736,545 | 55.2 | 44.8 | 29.0 | 7.9 | 7.9 |
| Appalachian Maryland | 252,034 | 86.8 | 13.2 | 7.8 | 2.5 | 2.9 |
| Non-Appalachian Maryland | 5,484,511 | 53.8 | 46.2 | 29.9 | 8.1 | 8.2 |
| Mississippi | 2,956,700 | 58.2 | 41.8 | 36.9 | 2.6 | 2.3 |
| Appalachian Mississippi | 627,703 | 64.9 | 35.1 | 31.4 | 2.2 | 1.5 |
| Non-Appalachian Mississippi | 2,328,997 | 56.4 | 43.6 | 38.4 | 2.7 | 2.5 |
| New York | 19,302,448 | 58.7 | 41.3 | 14.5 | 17.4 | 9.4 |
| Appalachian New York | 1,066,767 | 90.3 | 9.7 | 2.5 | 3.0 | 4.2 |
| Non-Appalachian New York | 18,235,681 | 56.9 | 43.1 | 15.2 | 18.2 | 9.8 |
| North Carolina | 9,418,736 | 65.7 | 34.3 | 21.2 | 8.1 | 5.1 |
| Appalachian North Carolina | 1,686,926 | 81.5 | 18.5 | 8.6 | 6.6 | 3.2 |
| Non-Appalachian North Carolina | 7,731,810 | 62.2 | 37.8 | 23.9 | 8.4 | 5.5 |
| Ohio | 11,525,536 | 81.4 | 18.6 | 12.0 | 3.0 | 3.7 |
| Appalachian Ohio | 2,043,794 | 91.9 | 8.1 | 4.3 | 1.6 | 2.2 |
| Non-Appalachian Ohio | 9,481,742 | 79.1 | 20.9 | 13.6 | 3.3 | 4.0 |
| Pennsylvania | 12,660,739 | 79.8 | 20.2 | 10.4 | 5.5 | 4.3 |
| Appalachian Pennsylvania | 5,790,556 | 89.8 | 10.2 | 5.2 | 2.3 | 2.7 |
| Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania | 6,870,183 | 71.5 | 28.5 | 14.7 | 8.1 | 5.7 |
| South Carolina | 4,575,864 | 64.3 | 35.7 | 27.8 | 4.9 | 3.1 |
| Appalachian South Carolina | 1,160,395 | 74.8 | 25.2 | 16.4 | 5.6 | 3.3 |
| Non-Appalachian South Carolina | 3,415,469 | 60.7 | 39.3 | 31.7 | 4.6 | 3.0 |
| Tennessee | 6,297,991 | 75.9 | 24.1 | 16.5 | 4.4 | 3.2 |
| Appalachian Tennessee | 2,768,286 | 88.9 | 11.1 | 5.4 | 3.1 | 2.6 |
| Non-Appalachian Tennessee | 3,529,705 | 65.7 | 34.3 | 25.3 | 5.4 | 3.6 |
| Virginia | 7,926,192 | 65.2 | 34.8 | 19.2 | 7.6 | 8.0 |
| Appalachian Virginia | 768,548 | 90.4 | 9.6 | 5.4 | 1.8 | 2.3 |
| Non-Appalachian Virginia | 7,157,644 | 62.5 | 37.5 | 20.6 | 8.3 | 8.6 |
| West Virginia (entire state) | 1,846,372 | 93.2 | 6.8 | 3.1 | 1.2 | 2.5 |

"Other" includes these racial groups: (a) American Indian and Alaska Native alone; (b) Asian alone; (c) Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone; (d) Some other race alone; and (e) Two or more races.
Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

Figure 3.1: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region That Is Minority, 2007-2011


Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region That Is Minority, 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

The Appalachian region is significantly less racially and ethnically diverse than the United States as a whole, and most parts of the region have remained far below the national average in their minority populations. In two-thirds of Appalachian counties, minorities (defined as anyone who identifies with a racial or ethnic group other than "white alone, not Hispanic") made up less than 10 percent of the population during the 2007-2011 period. There were just 23 counties-all but one in southern Appalachia-where minorities' share of the population matched or exceeded the national average.

Figure 3.2: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region That Is Black Alone, not Hispanic, 2007-2011


Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region That Is Black Alone, not Hispanic, 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

Although non-Hispanic African Americans remained the largest single minority group in Appalachia during the 20072011 period, their share of the region's total population was still lower than in the United States as a whole. Within the region, the largest proportions were in southern Appalachia-the only subregion where blacks' share of the population exceeded the national average. Southern Appalachia also had 51 of the 57 counties in the entire Appalachian region where the black share of the population matched or surpassed that of the nation. At the other end of the spectrum, persons who are "black alone, not Hispanic" accounted for less than 5 percent of the residents in three-fourths of Appalachian counties.

Figure 3.3: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region That Is Hispanic or Latino, 2007-2011


Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region That Is Hispanic or Latino, 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

Although Hispanics have become the United States' largest minority group, they made up just 1 in 25 residents in the Appalachian region during the 2007-2011 period. The county patterns reflect this fact as well, as Hispanics constituted at least 5 percent of the population in just 53 of Appalachia's 420 counties. Moreover, just three Appalachian counties (Gwinnett, Hall, and Whitfield-all in Georgia) had Latino population shares that matched or exceeded the national average.

## CHAPTER 4: HOUSING OCCUPANCY AND TENURE

Table 4.1: Occupancy and Tenure of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011

| Housing Occupancy and Tenure | Total Number of Housing Units | Number of Occupied Housing Units | Percent of Total Housing Units |  | Percent of Occupied Housing Units |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Occupied | Vacant | OwnerOccupied | RenterOccupied |
| United States | 131,034,946 | 114,761,359 | 87.6 | 12.4 | 66.1 | 33.9 |
| Appalachian Region | 11,490,089 | 9,841,725 | 85.7 | 14.3 | 72.2 | 27.8 |
| Subregions |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Northern Appalachia | 3,919,105 | 3,370,189 | 86.0 | 14.0 | 72.0 | 28.0 |
| North Central Appalachia | 1,114,448 | 947,409 | 85.0 | 15.0 | 73.7 | 26.3 |
| Central Appalachia | 883,033 | 743,101 | 84.2 | 15.8 | 73.7 | 26.3 |
| South Central Appalachia | 2,243,622 | 1,903,915 | 84.9 | 15.1 | 71.3 | 28.7 |
| Southern Appalachia | 3,329,881 | 2,877,111 | 86.4 | 13.6 | 72.3 | 27.7 |
| County Types |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Large Metros (pop. 1 million +) | 2,487,817 | 2,201,325 | 88.5 | 11.5 | 72.6 | 27.4 |
| Small Metros (pop. <1 million) | 4,551,464 | 4,012,596 | 88.2 | 11.8 | 70.5 | 29.5 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros | 787,588 | 655,916 | 83.3 | 16.7 | 73.4 | 26.6 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros | 2,428,170 | 1,983,364 | 81.7 | 18.3 | 74.0 | 26.0 |
| Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro) | 1,235,050 | 988,524 | 80.0 | 20.0 | 74.3 | 25.7 |
| Alabama | 2,161,247 | 1,831,269 | 84.7 | 15.3 | 70.7 | 29.3 |
| Appalachian Alabama | 1,371,750 | 1,178,345 | 85.9 | 14.1 | 71.8 | 28.2 |
| Non-Appalachian Alabama | 789,497 | 652,924 | 82.7 | 17.3 | 68.6 | 31.4 |
| Georgia | 4,063,024 | 3,490,754 | 85.9 | 14.1 | 66.8 | 33.2 |
| Appalachian Georgia | 1,167,385 | 1,015,316 | 87.0 | 13.0 | 73.7 | 26.3 |
| Non-Appalachian Georgia | 2,895,639 | 2,475,438 | 85.5 | 14.5 | 64.0 | 36.0 |
| Kentucky | 1,921,067 | 1,681,085 | 87.5 | 12.5 | 69.5 | 30.5 |
| Appalachian Kentucky | 539,703 | 452,719 | 83.9 | 16.1 | 72.5 | 27.5 |
| Non-Appalachian Kentucky | 1,381,364 | 1,228,366 | 88.9 | 11.1 | 68.4 | 31.6 |
| Maryland | 2,369,168 | 2,128,377 | 89.8 | 10.2 | 68.7 | 31.3 |
| Appalachian Maryland | 112,743 | 96,491 | 85.6 | 14.4 | 69.0 | 31.0 |
| Non-Appalachian Maryland | 2,256,425 | 2,031,886 | 90.0 | 10.0 | 68.7 | 31.3 |
| Mississippi | 1,266,417 | 1,085,062 | 85.7 | 14.3 | 70.6 | 29.4 |
| Appalachian Mississippi | 277,558 | 236,714 | 85.3 | 14.7 | 72.0 | 28.0 |
| Non-Appalachian Mississippi | 988,859 | 848,348 | 85.8 | 14.2 | 70.2 | 29.8 |
| New York | 8,081,303 | 7,215,687 | 89.3 | 10.7 | 54.8 | 45.2 |
| Appalachian New York | 508,925 | 425,969 | 83.7 | 16.3 | 69.6 | 30.4 |
| Non-Appalachian New York | 7,572,378 | 6,789,718 | 89.7 | 10.3 | 53.9 | 46.1 |
| North Carolina | 4,286,863 | 3,664,119 | 85.5 | 14.5 | 67.8 | 32.2 |
| Appalachian North Carolina | 849,340 | 688,752 | 81.1 | 18.9 | 71.8 | 28.2 |
| Non-Appalachian North Carolina | 3,437,523 | 2,975,367 | 86.6 | 13.4 | 66.9 | 33.1 |
| Ohio | 5,119,693 | 4,554,007 | 89.0 | 11.0 | 68.7 | 31.3 |
| Appalachian Ohio | 904,644 | 795,610 | 87.9 | 12.1 | 73.4 | 26.6 |
| Non-Appalachian Ohio | 4,215,049 | 3,758,397 | 89.2 | 10.8 | 67.7 | 32.3 |
| Pennsylvania | 5,554,939 | 4,952,566 | 89.2 | 10.8 | 70.6 | 29.4 |
| Appalachian Pennsylvania | 2,718,652 | 2,337,440 | 86.0 | 14.0 | 72.3 | 27.7 |
| Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania | 2,836,287 | 2,615,126 | 92.2 | 7.8 | 69.2 | 30.8 |
| South Carolina | 2,117,357 | 1,758,732 | 83.1 | 16.9 | 69.8 | 30.2 |
| Appalachian South Carolina | 513,188 | 446,736 | 87.1 | 12.9 | 70.2 | 29.8 |
| Non-Appalachian South Carolina | 1,604,169 | 1,311,996 | 81.8 | 18.2 | 69.6 | 30.4 |
| Tennessee | 2,794,990 | 2,457,997 | 87.9 | 12.1 | 69.0 | 31.0 |
| Appalachian Tennessee | 1,281,117 | 1,119,931 | 87.4 | 12.6 | 71.5 | 28.5 |
| Non-Appalachian Tennessee | 1,513,873 | 1,338,066 | 88.4 | 11.6 | 67.0 | 33.0 |
| Virginia | 3,345,898 | 2,991,025 | 89.4 | 10.6 | 68.4 | 31.6 |
| Appalachian Virginia | 364,122 | 307,622 | 84.5 | 15.5 | 72.0 | 28.0 |
| Non-Appalachian Virginia | 2,981,776 | 2,683,403 | 90.0 | 10.0 | 68.0 | 32.0 |
| West Virginia (entire state) | 880,962 | 740,080 | 84.0 | 16.0 | 74.3 | 25.7 |

[^0]Figure 4.1: Percent of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region That Are Occupied, 2007-2011


Map Title: Percent of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region That Are Occupied, 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

Although the home occupancy rate during the 2007-2011 period was slightly lower in Appalachia than in the United States as a whole, rates varied within the region. On one hand, 116 of the 420 counties had occupancy rates that were at or above the national average. And while they were scattered throughout the region, 75 of these counties were in metropolitan areas. Conversely, less than four-fifths of housing units were occupied in 113 Appalachian counties-all but 15 of which lay outside metropolitan areas. It is important to note that Appalachia's occupancy rate in the 2007-2011 period was three percentage points lower than it was in the 2000 census, indicating that housing occupancy has not yet returned to pre-recession levels.

Figure 4.2: Percent of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region That Are Vacant, 2007-2011


Map Title: Percent of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region That Are Vacant, 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

In Appalachia, 14 percent of housing units were vacant during the 2007-2011 period, which is about two percentage points above the national average. (The 2007-2011 rates for both the United States and Appalachia were about a full percentage point higher than what was observed in the 2010 Census, which suggests that vacancy rates may have started to drop by 2010 as the nation began to recover from the housing bust.) Vacancy rates varied within the region, however. While one-fourth of Appalachian counties (nearly all outside metropolitan areas) had vacancy rates exceeding 20 percent, another one-fourth (mostly in metro areas) had rates below the national average. It is important to note that in 158 of the 308 Appalachian counties with vacancy rates of 12.4 percent or more, at least one in three vacant units were designed for seasonal or occasional use, suggesting significant recreational, resort, or retirement activity in the community.

Figure 4.3: Percent Owner-Occupied Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011


Map Title: Percent Owner-Occupied Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

In the 2007-2011 period, homeownership was more common in the Appalachian region than in the rest of the country. In all but 18 counties, the share of owner-occupied housing units matched or exceeded the national average. Indeed, the homeownership rate was at least 75 percent in 231 of Appalachia's 420 counties. It is important to note that for some parts of the region, the high homeownership rates might be related to low levels of economic and residential mobility, the rise in the number and share of mobile homes among the housing stock, and to a lesser extent, the older age structure of the Appalachian population.

Figure 4.4: Percent Renter-Occupied Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011


Map Title: Percent Renter-Occupied Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

Throughout Appalachia, the share of renter-occupied housing units during the 2007-2011 period was well below the national average; in fact, it was less than 25 percent in more than half of the region's counties. Among the 18 Appalachian counties where the share of renter-occupied units matched or exceeded the national average, most are home to colleges or universities, where students make up a fairly sizeable share of the population. The share of renter-occupied units in Appalachia was a percentage point higher than it was in the 2000 Census, suggesting a shift towards rental units in response to the recession and the housing crisis.

## CHAPTER 5: EDUCATION

Table 5.1: Educational Attainment of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011

| Education (Highest Level Attained) | Total Population Ages 25 and Over, 2007-2011 | Percent of Population Ages 25 and Over |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Less than High School Diploma | High School Diploma or More |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Total | H.S. Grad, No Postsecondary Degree | Associate's Degree | Bachelor's Degree or More |
| United States | 202,048,123 | 14.6 | 85.4 | 49.6 | 7.6 | 28.2 |
| Appalachian Region | 17,036,098 | 16.5 | 83.5 | 55.0 | 7.5 | 21.0 |
| Subregions |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Northern Appalachia | 5,776,891 | 11.8 | 88.2 | 57.9 | 8.4 | 21.9 |
| North Central Appalachia | 1,651,606 | 16.5 | 83.5 | 59.3 | 6.5 | 17.7 |
| Central Appalachia | 1,319,918 | 27.2 | 72.8 | 55.0 | 5.7 | 12.2 |
| South Central Appalachia | 3,222,852 | 17.8 | 82.2 | 53.2 | 7.4 | 21.7 |
| Southern Appalachia | 5,064,831 | 18.3 | 81.7 | 51.5 | 7.2 | 23.0 |
| County Types |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Large Metros (pop. 1 million +) | 3,861,361 | 12.2 | 87.8 | 51.7 | 8.0 | 28.1 |
| Small Metros (pop. <1 million) | 6,835,850 | 15.3 | 84.7 | 54.5 | 7.6 | 22.6 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros | 1,138,814 | 17.2 | 82.8 | 59.1 | 7.6 | 16.1 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros | 3,466,949 | 19.6 | 80.4 | 58.0 | 7.3 | 15.1 |
| Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro) | 1,733,124 | 24.0 | 76.0 | 55.7 | 6.4 | 14.0 |
| Alabama | 3,138,078 | 18.1 | 81.9 | 52.9 | 7.0 | 22.0 |
| Appalachian Alabama | 2,030,318 | 18.0 | 82.0 | 52.6 | 6.9 | 22.5 |
| Non-Appalachian Alabama | 1,107,760 | 18.2 | 81.8 | 53.6 | 7.2 | 21.0 |
| Georgia | 6,152,481 | 16.0 | 84.0 | 49.9 | 6.6 | 27.5 |
| Appalachian Georgia | 1,863,055 | 17.6 | 82.4 | 50.7 | 6.9 | 24.8 |
| Non-Appalachian Georgia | 4,289,426 | 15.3 | 84.7 | 49.5 | 6.5 | 28.7 |
| Kentucky | 2,881,383 | 18.3 | 81.7 | 54.3 | 6.7 | 20.6 |
| Appalachian Kentucky | 803,719 | 27.4 | 72.6 | 54.1 | 5.7 | 12.7 |
| Non-Appalachian Kentucky | 2,077,664 | 14.8 | 85.2 | 54.4 | 7.1 | 23.7 |
| Maryland | 3,828,550 | 11.8 | 88.2 | 45.8 | 6.3 | 36.1 |
| Appalachian Maryland | 173,326 | 15.1 | 84.9 | 59.3 | 7.7 | 17.9 |
| Non-Appalachian Maryland | 3,655,224 | 11.7 | 88.3 | 45.2 | 6.2 | 36.9 |
| Mississippi | 1,892,687 | 19.7 | 80.3 | 52.9 | 7.8 | 19.7 |
| Appalachian Mississippi | 404,459 | 23.1 | 76.9 | 53.3 | 7.6 | 16.1 |
| Non-Appalachian Mississippi | 1,488,228 | 18.7 | 81.3 | 52.8 | 7.9 | 20.6 |
| New York | 12,999,473 | 15.4 | 84.6 | 43.9 | 8.2 | 32.5 |
| Appalachian New York | 702,920 | 11.7 | 88.3 | 53.1 | 11.4 | 23.7 |
| Non-Appalachian New York | 12,296,553 | 15.6 | 84.4 | 43.4 | 8.1 | 33.0 |
| North Carolina | 6,229,136 | 15.9 | 84.1 | 49.1 | 8.5 | 26.5 |
| Appalachian North Carolina | 1,167,782 | 17.2 | 82.8 | 51.1 | 8.7 | 23.0 |
| Non-Appalachian North Carolina | 5,061,354 | 15.6 | 84.4 | 48.6 | 8.5 | 27.3 |
| Ohio | 7,688,501 | 12.2 | 87.8 | 55.8 | 7.5 | 24.5 |
| Appalachian Ohio | 1,387,220 | 15.3 | 84.7 | 61.9 | 7.1 | 15.7 |
| Non-Appalachian Ohio | 6,301,281 | 11.5 | 88.5 | 54.5 | 7.6 | 26.4 |
| Pennsylvania | 8,611,136 | 12.1 | 87.9 | 53.8 | 7.4 | 26.7 |
| Appalachian Pennsylvania | 4,017,485 | 11.1 | 88.9 | 57.5 | 8.2 | 23.1 |
| Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania | 4,593,651 | 12.9 | 87.1 | 50.6 | 6.6 | 29.8 |
| South Carolina | 3,031,432 | 16.4 | 83.6 | 51.0 | 8.4 | 24.2 |
| Appalachian South Carolina | 766,999 | 17.8 | 82.2 | 49.8 | 8.7 | 23.7 |
| Non-Appalachian South Carolina | 2,264,433 | 16.0 | 84.0 | 51.4 | 8.3 | 24.4 |
| Tennessee | 4,205,976 | 16.8 | 83.2 | 54.1 | 6.0 | 23.0 |
| Appalachian Tennessee | 1,903,914 | 18.7 | 81.3 | 55.1 | 6.1 | 20.0 |
| Non-Appalachian Tennessee | 2,302,062 | 15.3 | 84.7 | 53.3 | 6.0 | 25.5 |
| Virginia | 5,279,997 | 13.4 | 86.6 | 45.5 | 6.7 | 34.4 |
| Appalachian Virginia | 527,163 | 21.8 | 78.2 | 52.6 | 8.0 | 17.5 |
| Non-Appalachian Virginia | 4,752,834 | 12.5 | 87.5 | 44.7 | 6.6 | 36.2 |
| West Virginia (entire state) | 1,287,738 | 17.4 | 82.6 | 59.0 | 6.0 | 17.6 |

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

Table 5.2: Educational Attainment of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011

| Education (Highest Level Attained) | Total Population Ages 25-64, 2007-2011 | Percent of Population Ages 25-64 |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Less than High School Diploma | High School Diploma or More |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Total | H.S. Grad, No Postsecondary Degree | Associate's Degree | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { Bachelor's } \\ & \text { Degree or } \end{aligned}$ More |
| United States | 162,439,303 | 12.5 | 87.5 | 49.0 | 8.4 | 30.0 |
| Appalachian Region | 13,269,994 | 13.1 | 86.9 | 55.3 | 8.7 | 22.9 |
| Subregions |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Northern Appalachia | 4,377,838 | 8.4 | 91.6 | 56.9 | 10.1 | 24.6 |
| North Central Appalachia | 1,285,383 | 12.6 | 87.4 | 60.3 | 7.6 | 19.4 |
| Central Appalachia | 1,034,698 | 21.5 | 78.5 | 58.6 | 6.8 | 13.2 |
| South Central Appalachia | 2,468,167 | 14.1 | 85.9 | 54.2 | 8.6 | 23.1 |
| Southern Appalachia | 4,103,908 | 15.5 | 84.5 | 51.8 | 8.1 | 24.6 |
| County Types |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Large Metros (pop. 1 million +) | 3,104,046 | 9.6 | 90.4 | 50.4 | 9.1 | 30.9 |
| Small Metros (pop. <1 million) | 5,315,478 | 12.2 | 87.8 | 54.5 | 8.7 | 24.5 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros | 878,405 | 13.7 | 86.3 | 59.9 | 9.0 | 17.4 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros | 2,644,096 | 15.5 | 84.5 | 59.6 | 8.6 | 16.2 |
| Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro) | 1,327,969 | 19.5 | 80.5 | 58.1 | 7.5 | 14.9 |
| Alabama | 2,490,744 | 15.1 | 84.9 | 53.4 | 8.0 | 23.5 |
| Appalachian Alabama | 1,614,298 | 15.1 | 84.9 | 52.9 | 7.9 | 24.2 |
| Non-Appalachian Alabama | 876,446 | 15.3 | 84.7 | 54.3 | 8.2 | 22.2 |
| Georgia | 5,146,372 | 13.8 | 86.2 | 49.9 | 7.2 | 29.2 |
| Appalachian Georgia | 1,563,809 | 15.6 | 84.4 | 50.5 | 7.5 | 26.4 |
| Non-Appalachian Georgia | 3,582,563 | 13.0 | 87.0 | 49.6 | 7.1 | 30.4 |
| Kentucky | 2,310,527 | 14.3 | 85.7 | 55.6 | 7.7 | 22.4 |
| Appalachian Kentucky | 634,735 | 21.8 | 78.2 | 57.7 | 6.7 | 13.8 |
| Non-Appalachian Kentucky | 1,675,792 | 11.5 | 88.5 | 54.8 | 8.1 | 25.7 |
| Maryland | 3,133,932 | 9.7 | 90.3 | 45.5 | 6.8 | 38.0 |
| Appalachian Maryland | 133,911 | 11.5 | 88.5 | 60.1 | 8.9 | 19.5 |
| Non-Appalachian Maryland | 3,000,021 | 9.6 | 90.4 | 44.8 | 6.7 | 38.9 |
| Mississippi | 1,517,496 | 16.6 | 83.4 | 53.7 | 8.9 | 20.7 |
| Appalachian Mississippi | 316,858 | 19.4 | 80.6 | 54.8 | 8.9 | 17.0 |
| Non-Appalachian Mississippi | 1,200,638 | 15.9 | 84.1 | 53.5 | 8.9 | 21.7 |
| New York | 10,408,574 | 12.8 | 87.2 | 42.8 | 9.3 | 35.1 |
| Appalachian New York | 538,061 | 9.2 | 90.8 | 51.9 | 13.2 | 25.7 |
| Non-Appalachian New York | 9,870,513 | 13.0 | 87.0 | 42.3 | 9.1 | 35.6 |
| North Carolina | 5,024,997 | 13.2 | 86.8 | 49.0 | 9.5 | 28.3 |
| Appalachian North Carolina | 888,365 | 14.2 | 85.8 | 51.7 | 10.0 | 24.1 |
| Non-Appalachian North Carolina | 4,136,632 | 13.0 | 87.0 | 48.5 | 9.3 | 29.2 |
| Ohio | 6,081,641 | 9.4 | 90.6 | 55.2 | 8.7 | 26.7 |
| Appalachian Ohio | 1,071,039 | 11.8 | 88.2 | 62.3 | 8.6 | 17.3 |
| Non-Appalachian Ohio | 5,010,602 | 8.9 | 91.1 | 53.7 | 8.7 | 28.7 |
| Pennsylvania | 6,666,563 | 8.8 | 91.2 | 52.8 | 8.6 | 29.7 |
| Appalachian Pennsylvania | 3,037,085 | 7.6 | 92.4 | 56.3 | 9.9 | 26.2 |
| Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania | 3,629,478 | 9.9 | 90.1 | 49.9 | 7.5 | 32.6 |
| South Carolina | 2,414,936 | 13.6 | 86.4 | 51.8 | 9.3 | 25.3 |
| Appalachian South Carolina | 608,943 | 14.6 | 85.4 | 50.3 | 9.8 | 25.2 |
| Non-Appalachian South Carolina | 1,805,993 | 13.3 | 86.7 | 52.3 | 9.2 | 25.3 |
| Tennessee | 3,369,729 | 13.4 | 86.6 | 54.9 | 6.8 | 24.8 |
| Appalachian Tennessee | 1,470,350 | 14.7 | 85.3 | 56.6 | 7.1 | 21.6 |
| Non-Appalachian Tennessee | 1,899,379 | 12.4 | 87.6 | 53.6 | 6.6 | 27.4 |
| Virginia | 4,323,957 | 10.8 | 89.2 | 45.2 | 7.4 | 36.6 |
| Appalachian Virginia | 399,273 | 16.1 | 83.9 | 54.9 | 9.7 | 19.3 |
| Non-Appalachian Virginia | 3,924,684 | 10.3 | 89.7 | 44.2 | 7.2 | 38.3 |
| West Virginia (entire state) | 993,267 | 13.3 | 86.7 | 60.2 | 7.0 | 19.4 |

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

Table 5.3: Educational Attainment of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011

| Education (Highest Level Attained) | Total Population Ages 65 and Over, 2007-2011 | Percent of Population Ages 65 and Over |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Less than High School Diploma | High School Diploma or More |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Total | H.S. Grad, No Postsecondary Degree | Associate's Degree | Bachelor's Degree or More |
| United States | 39,608,820 | 23.2 | 76.8 | 52.0 | 4.1 | 20.7 |
| Appalachian Region | 3,766,104 | 28.5 | 71.5 | 54.1 | 3.2 | 14.2 |
| Subregions |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Northern Appalachia | 1,399,053 | 22.4 | 77.6 | 61.0 | 3.2 | 13.4 |
| North Central Appalachia | 366,223 | 29.9 | 70.1 | 56.0 | 2.4 | 11.7 |
| Central Appalachia | 285,220 | 47.8 | 52.2 | 41.8 | 1.9 | 8.4 |
| South Central Appalachia | 754,685 | 29.9 | 70.1 | 49.8 | 3.5 | 16.8 |
| Southern Appalachia | 960,923 | 29.9 | 70.1 | 50.4 | 3.5 | 16.1 |
| County Types |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Large Metros (pop. 1 million +) | 757,315 | 22.8 | 77.2 | 57.2 | 3.4 | 16.5 |
| Small Metros (pop. <1 million) | 1,520,372 | 26.1 | 73.9 | 54.6 | 3.5 | 15.8 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros | 260,409 | 28.9 | 71.1 | 56.5 | 3.0 | 11.5 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros | 822,853 | 32.7 | 67.3 | 52.9 | 2.8 | 11.6 |
| Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro) | 405,155 | 38.9 | 61.1 | 47.6 | 2.7 | 10.8 |
| Alabama | 647,334 | 29.5 | 70.5 | 51.2 | 3.3 | 16.0 |
| Appalachian Alabama | 416,020 | 29.7 | 70.3 | 51.4 | 3.2 | 15.8 |
| Non-Appalachian Alabama | 231,314 | 29.2 | 70.8 | 50.9 | 3.4 | 16.5 |
| Georgia | 1,006,109 | 27.4 | 72.6 | 49.9 | 3.7 | 19.0 |
| Appalachian Georgia | 299,246 | 28.4 | 71.6 | 51.4 | 3.6 | 16.6 |
| Non-Appalachian Georgia | 706,863 | 27.0 | 73.0 | 49.3 | 3.7 | 20.0 |
| Kentucky | 570,856 | 34.8 | 65.2 | 49.2 | 2.6 | 13.4 |
| Appalachian Kentucky | 168,984 | 48.8 | 51.2 | 40.6 | 1.9 | 8.7 |
| Non-Appalachian Kentucky | 401,872 | 28.8 | 71.2 | 52.8 | 2.9 | 15.4 |
| Maryland | 694,618 | 21.6 | 78.4 | 47.5 | 3.8 | 27.1 |
| Appalachian Maryland | 39,415 | 27.2 | 72.8 | 56.8 | 3.6 | 12.5 |
| Non-Appalachian Maryland | 655,203 | 21.3 | 78.7 | 46.9 | 3.8 | 28.0 |
| Mississippi | 375,191 | 31.9 | 68.1 | 49.5 | 3.4 | 15.3 |
| Appalachian Mississippi | 87,601 | 36.7 | 63.3 | 47.7 | 2.8 | 12.8 |
| Non-Appalachian Mississippi | 287,590 | 30.4 | 69.6 | 50.0 | 3.5 | 16.1 |
| New York | 2,590,899 | 25.5 | 74.5 | 48.4 | 4.1 | 22.0 |
| Appalachian New York | 164,859 | 20.0 | 80.0 | 57.0 | 5.6 | 17.4 |
| Non-Appalachian New York | 2,426,040 | 25.9 | 74.1 | 47.8 | 4.0 | 22.3 |
| North Carolina | 1,204,139 | 27.0 | 73.0 | 49.2 | 4.5 | 19.3 |
| Appalachian North Carolina | 279,417 | 26.8 | 73.2 | 49.4 | 4.3 | 19.6 |
| Non-Appalachian North Carolina | 924,722 | 27.1 | 72.9 | 49.1 | 4.5 | 19.2 |
| Ohio | 1,606,860 | 22.6 | 77.4 | 58.2 | 3.0 | 16.2 |
| Appalachian Ohio | 316,181 | 26.9 | 73.1 | 60.8 | 2.1 | 10.2 |
| Non-Appalachian Ohio | 1,290,679 | 21.6 | 78.4 | 57.5 | 3.2 | 17.7 |
| Pennsylvania | 1,944,573 | 23.3 | 76.7 | 57.3 | 3.1 | 16.3 |
| Appalachian Pennsylvania | 980,400 | 22.1 | 77.9 | 61.4 | 3.0 | 13.5 |
| Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania | 964,173 | 24.5 | 75.5 | 53.1 | 3.2 | 19.1 |
| South Carolina | 616,496 | 27.3 | 72.7 | 47.9 | 4.8 | 20.0 |
| Appalachian South Carolina | 158,056 | 29.7 | 70.3 | 47.6 | 4.7 | 18.0 |
| Non-Appalachian South Carolina | 458,440 | 26.5 | 73.5 | 48.0 | 4.8 | 20.7 |
| Tennessee | 836,247 | 30.6 | 69.4 | 50.8 | 2.8 | 15.8 |
| Appalachian Tennessee | 433,564 | 32.1 | 67.9 | 50.1 | 2.9 | 14.9 |
| Non-Appalachian Tennessee | 402,683 | 28.9 | 71.1 | 51.6 | 2.8 | 16.7 |
| Virginia | 956,040 | 25.0 | 75.0 | 47.1 | 3.6 | 24.3 |
| Appalachian Virginia | 127,890 | 39.6 | 60.4 | 45.5 | 3.0 | 12.0 |
| Non-Appalachian Virginia | 828,150 | 22.8 | 77.2 | 47.3 | 3.7 | 26.2 |
| West Virginia (entire state) | 294,471 | 31.1 | 68.9 | 54.8 | 2.6 | 11.5 |

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

Figure 5.1: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma or More, 2007-2011


Map Titte: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma or More, 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

Although the share of Appalachian adults with at least a high school diploma was slightly below the national average over the 2007-2011 period, it matched or exceeded the national share in 102 counties in the region-two-thirds of them in northern Appalachia and three-fifths in metro areas. And the regional share was nearly seven percentage points higher than it was in the 2000 Census, suggesting a continued trend toward increased high school completion. Yet in 123 counties, less than three-fourths of adults had completed high school; 100 of those were nonmetropolitan counties located in central, south central, and southern Appalachia.

Figure 5.2: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma but With No Postsecondary Degree, 2007-2011


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma but With No Postsecondary Degree, 2007-2011
Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.
In nine out of 10 Appalachian counties, at least half of the adult population had a high school diploma, but no postsecondary degree (including an associate's degree) during the 2007-2011 period. Many of these adults had attended college but did not graduate, while others acquired vocational training. Conversely, many of the adults outside of this group did earn an associate's or bachelor's degree, while others never finished high school at all.

Figure 5.3: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2007-2011


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

In 399 of Appalachia's 420 counties, the share of adults with a bachelor's degree or more in the 2007-2011 period was lower than the national average of 28 percent. In fact, less than one-fifth of persons ages 25 and over were graduates of a four-year college or university in 339 Appalachian counties. And in 71 counties-mostly outside metropolitan areas and/or in central Appalachia—less than one in 10 adults had at least a bachelor's degree. The 21 counties where the percentage of college graduates matched or surpassed the national average were either in metropolitan areas or home to a well-known college or university. Most of these counties also experienced higher than average residential mobility rates. On a positive note, the share of adults (both in Appalachia and nationwide) with a four-year degree was three percentage points higher in the 2007-2011 period than it was in 2000, suggesting a continued trend toward greater educational attainment among cohorts entering this age group.

Figure 5.4: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma or More, 2007-2011


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma or More, 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

In the 2007-2011 period, the percentage of working-age adults (ages 25 to 64) in the Appalachian region with at least a high school diploma was only slightly below the share for the United States as a whole. The share matched or exceeded the national average in 126 Appalachian counties; they were almost equally divided between metropolitan and non-metropolitan counties, and most were in northern or north central Appalachia. At the other end of the spectrum, less than three in four working-age adults had finished high school in 41 counties in the region. Almost all of these counties were outside metropolitan areas, and more than half were in central Appalachia.

Figure 5.5: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2007-2011


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

Only 23 percent of the working-age population in Appalachia had a bachelor's degree or more in 2007-2011—seven percentage points lower than the U.S. average of 30 percent. This is a striking indicator of the lower educational level of the Appalachian workforce. Just 13 percent of working-age adults in central Appalachia had a bachelor's degree, as did only 15 percent of residents of rural Appalachian counties that were not adjacent to metro areas. In just 22 Appalachian counties-all either in metropolitan areas or home to a four-year college or university-the share of working-age adults ages 25 to 64 with at least a bachelor's degree matched or exceeded the national average. In contrast, there were 54 counties where less than one in 10 adults had a four-year degree, and almost all were outside metropolitan areas.

Figure 5.6: Percent of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2007-2011


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

While one in five older Americans (ages 65 and over) had attained at least a bachelor's degree in the 2007-2011 period, less than one in 10 older adults had done so in nearly half of Appalachia's 420 counties. Not surprisingly, most of these were outside metropolitan areas and one-third were in central Appalachia. (Just 8 percent of central Appalachia's older adults were college graduates.) Yet in 34 Appalachian counties, the share of older adults with a bachelor's degree or higher was at or above the national average. These were either counties in metropolitan areas, counties that had a college or university, or counties with significant retirement or seasonal activity (the latter suggested by the fact that much, if not most, of their vacant housing is for seasonal or occasional use).

CHAPTER 6: LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT
Table 6.1: Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment Status of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011

| Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment | Total Number of Civilian Persons Ages 25-64 | Total Persons Ages 25-64 in Civilian Labor Force |  | Employment Rate (Pct. of Civ. Labor Force) | Unemployment Rate (Pct. of Civ. Labor Force) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Number | Percent |  |  |
| United States | 161,736,741 | 126,293,518 | 78.1 | 92.8 | 7.2 |
| Appalachian Region | 13,253,025 | 9,767,461 | 73.7 | 92.8 | 7.2 |
| Subregions |  |  |  |  |  |
| Northern Appalachia | 4,373,847 | 3,326,217 | 76.0 | 93.6 | 6.4 |
| North Central Appalachia | 1,283,905 | 902,375 | 70.3 | 93.2 | 6.8 |
| Central Appalachia | 1,034,015 | 624,693 | 60.4 | 92.0 | 8.0 |
| South Central Appalachia | 2,465,273 | 1,832,879 | 74.3 | 92.6 | 7.4 |
| Southern Appalachia | 4,095,985 | 3,081,297 | 75.2 | 92.2 | 7.8 |
| County Types |  |  |  |  |  |
| Large Metros (pop. 1 million +) | 3,100,115 | 2,427,591 | 78.3 | 93.1 | 6.9 |
| Small Metros (pop. <1 million) | 5,306,826 | 3,976,121 | 74.9 | 93.1 | 6.9 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros | 877,684 | 639,030 | 72.8 | 92.0 | 8.0 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros | 2,642,102 | 1,861,003 | 70.4 | 92.5 | 7.5 |
| Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro) | 1,326,298 | 863,716 | 65.1 | 92.4 | 7.6 |
| Alabama | 2,477,896 | 1,808,472 | 73.0 | 92.4 | 7.6 |
| Appalachian Alabama | 1,610,309 | 1,180,616 | 73.3 | 92.6 | 7.4 |
| Non-Appalachian Alabama | 867,587 | 627,856 | 72.4 | 92.0 | 8.0 |
| Georgia | 5,111,728 | 3,932,272 | 76.9 | 92.0 | 8.0 |
| Appalachian Georgia | 1,561,655 | 1,219,157 | 78.1 | 92.2 | 7.8 |
| Non-Appalachian Georgia | 3,550,073 | 2,713,115 | 76.4 | 91.9 | 8.1 |
| Kentucky | 2,299,922 | 1,655,141 | 72.0 | 92.7 | 7.3 |
| Appalachian Kentucky | 634,331 | 385,313 | 60.7 | 91.7 | 8.3 |
| Non-Appalachian Kentucky | 1,665,591 | 1,269,828 | 76.2 | 92.9 | 7.1 |
| Maryland | 3,111,944 | 2,569,588 | 82.6 | 94.3 | 5.7 |
| Appalachian Maryland | 133,629 | 99,025 | 74.1 | 93.7 | 6.3 |
| Non-Appalachian Maryland | 2,978,315 | 2,470,563 | 83.0 | 94.3 | 5.7 |
| Mississippi | 1,509,059 | 1,090,534 | 72.3 | 92.3 | 7.7 |
| Appalachian Mississippi | 315,871 | 224,306 | 71.0 | 91.6 | 8.4 |
| Non-Appalachian Mississippi | 1,193,188 | 866,228 | 72.6 | 92.5 | 7.5 |
| New York | 10,393,903 | 8,134,407 | 78.3 | 93.3 | 6.7 |
| Appalachian New York | 537,703 | 412,770 | 76.8 | 93.9 | 6.1 |
| Non-Appalachian New York | 9,856,200 | 7,721,637 | 78.3 | 93.3 | 6.7 |
| North Carolina | 4,976,341 | 3,851,634 | 77.4 | 91.9 | 8.1 |
| Appalachian North Carolina | 887,159 | 667,674 | 75.3 | 92.2 | 7.8 |
| Non-Appalachian North Carolina | 4,089,182 | 3,183,960 | 77.9 | 91.9 | 8.1 |
| Ohio | 6,072,811 | 4,749,667 | 78.2 | 92.3 | 7.7 |
| Appalachian Ohio | 1,070,516 | 777,059 | 72.6 | 91.7 | 8.3 |
| Non-Appalachian Ohio | 5,002,295 | 3,972,608 | 79.4 | 92.4 | 7.6 |
| Pennsylvania | 6,659,205 | 5,221,463 | 78.4 | 93.7 | 6.3 |
| Appalachian Pennsylvania | 3,034,073 | 2,320,953 | 76.5 | 93.9 | 6.1 |
| Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania | 3,625,132 | 2,900,510 | 80.0 | 93.4 | 6.6 |
| South Carolina | 2,396,425 | 1,803,137 | 75.2 | 91.5 | 8.5 |
| Appalachian South Carolina | 608,150 | 457,218 | 75.2 | 91.7 | 8.3 |
| Non-Appalachian South Carolina | 1,788,275 | 1,345,919 | 75.3 | 91.4 | 8.6 |
| Tennessee | 3,356,696 | 2,526,611 | 75.3 | 92.3 | 7.7 |
| Appalachian Tennessee | 1,468,765 | 1,069,287 | 72.8 | 92.5 | 7.5 |
| Non-Appalachian Tennessee | 1,887,931 | 1,457,324 | 77.2 | 92.2 | 7.8 |
| Virginia | 4,244,031 | 3,374,389 | 79.5 | 95.0 | 5.0 |
| Appalachian Virginia | 398,918 | 276,218 | 69.2 | 93.7 | 6.3 |
| Non-Appalachian Virginia | 3,845,113 | 3,098,171 | 80.6 | 95.1 | 4.9 |
| West Virginia (entire state) | 991,946 | 677,865 | 68.3 | 94.0 | 6.0 |

[^1]Figure 6.1: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Who Are In the Labor Force, 2007-2011


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Who Are In the Labor Force, 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

In the 2007-2011 period (a period of both economic growth and decline), nearly 74 percent of Appalachia's civilians in the prime working ages (ages 25 to 64) were in the civilian labor force, slightly below the U.S. average of 78 percent. In 36 Appalachian counties (scattered throughout the region), the share was at or above the national average; two-thirds of those counties were in metropolitan areas. On the other hand, there were 51 counties where less than 60 percent of 25-to-64-year-olds were in the civilian labor force. Nearly all of these counties were outside of metropolitan areas, and 40 were in central Appalachia. Indeed, just 60 percent of working-age residents in central Appalachia and 65 percent of those in rural areas were in the labor force. And there are indications of a possible connection between educational attainment and labor force participation. For example, in most of the counties with labor force participation rates matching or exceeding that of the nation, the share of working-age adults with at least a high school diploma was also at or above the U.S. average.

Figure 6.2: Employment Rate for Civilian Labor Force Participants Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011


Map Title: Employment Rate for Civilian Labor Force Participants Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

The employment rate in Appalachia (among members of the civilian labor force ages 25 to 64) was identical to the national rate during the 2007-2011 period. Although there were only slight differences among subregions and urban/rural county types, there was some variation at the county level. In half of Appalachian counties, the employment rate matched or exceeded the national average, with 42 counties having employment rates of at least 95 percent. Yet in another 70 counties in the region, employment among 25 -to- 64 -year-olds was less than 90 percent. Three-fourths of the counties in the latter group were outside metropolitan areas.

Figure 6.3: Unemployment Rate for Civilian Labor Force Participants Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011


Map Title: Unemployment Rate for Civilian Labor Force Participants Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

Unemployment in the Appalachian region among persons ages 25 to 64 was at the national average during the 20072011 period. Within Appalachia, unemployment was at least 10 percent in 71 counties- 55 of which were outside metropolitan areas and 62 in central, south central, and southern Appalachia. Conversely, unemployment was less than 5 percent in 40 other counties; two-thirds of these were in northern or north central Appalachia. There are indications of a connection between unemployment and educational attainment: In 67 of the 71 Appalachian counties with double-digit unemployment, the share of 25 -to- 64 -year-olds with at least a high school diploma was below the national average; in 40 of these counties, the share was less than four-fifths.

## CHAPTER 7: INCOME AND POVERTY

Table 7.1: Household, Family, and Per Capita Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2011 Dollars), 2007-2011

| Income | Household Income, 2007-2011 (2011 Dollars) |  | Family Income, 2007-2011 (2011 Dollars) |  | Per Capita Income, 2007-2011 (2011 Dollars) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Mean HH Income | Median HH Income | Mean Family Income | Median Family Income |  |
| United States | 72,555 | 52,762 | 84,422 | 64,293 | 27,915 |
| Appalachian Region | 57,866 | 43,354 | 68,414 | 54,433 | 23,252 |
| Subregions |  |  |  |  |  |
| Northern Appalachia | 59,193 | 45,245 | 70,905 | 57,454 | 24,362 |
| North Central Appalachia | 54,549 | 41,198 | 64,789 | 52,121 | 22,121 |
| Central Appalachia | 45,186 | 32,887 | 53,301 | 41,909 | 18,197 |
| South Central Appalachia | 55,705 | 41,087 | 66,424 | 52,083 | 23,076 |
| Southern Appalachia | 62,109 | 46,462 | 71,926 | 56,641 | 23,763 |
| County Types |  |  |  |  |  |
| Large Metros (pop. 1 million +) | 69,406 | 52,761 | 81,554 | 65,029 | 27,258 |
| Small Metros (pop. <1 million) | 58,874 | 44,070 | 70,305 | 56,075 | 23,911 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros | 52,480 | 41,254 | 61,181 | 50,779 | 20,806 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros | 50,532 | 38,830 | 59,475 | 48,613 | 20,467 |
| Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro) | 46,366 | 34,246 | 54,567 | 43,170 | 18,720 |
| Alabama | 59,015 | 42,934 | 69,766 | 54,001 | 23,483 |
| Appalachian Alabama | 60,809 | 44,208 | 71,783 | 55,674 | 24,228 |
| Non-Appalachian Alabama | 55,777 | 40,994 | 66,053 | 51,597 | 22,152 |
| Georgia | 67,610 | 49,736 | 77,836 | 59,262 | 25,383 |
| Appalachian Georgia | 68,003 | 53,179 | 76,032 | 61,111 | 24,416 |
| Non-Appalachian Georgia | 67,449 | 48,270 | 78,673 | 58,479 | 25,802 |
| Kentucky | 57,451 | 42,248 | 68,045 | 53,151 | 23,033 |
| Appalachian Kentucky | 45,048 | 32,062 | 53,227 | 40,860 | 17,948 |
| Non-Appalachian Kentucky | 62,022 | 46,509 | 73,736 | 58,563 | 24,956 |
| Maryland | 94,020 | 72,419 | 109,597 | 87,233 | 35,751 |
| Appalachian Maryland | 62,395 | 48,393 | 73,485 | 61,215 | 24,705 |
| Non-Appalachian Maryland | 95,521 | 73,863 | 111,290 | 89,499 | 36,259 |
| Mississippi | 53,861 | 38,718 | 62,759 | 48,057 | 20,521 |
| Appalachian Mississippi | 47,559 | 34,468 | 56,007 | 43,660 | 18,643 |
| Non-Appalachian Mississippi | 55,619 | 40,103 | 64,654 | 49,586 | 21,027 |
| New York | 82,698 | 56,951 | 95,697 | 69,202 | 31,796 |
| Appalachian New York | 57,973 | 45,355 | 69,269 | 56,967 | 23,539 |
| Non-Appalachian New York | 84,249 | 58,251 | 97,311 | 70,418 | 32,279 |
| North Carolina | 63,298 | 46,291 | 74,432 | 57,171 | 25,256 |
| Appalachian North Carolina | 55,898 | 41,379 | 66,625 | 52,388 | 23,300 |
| Non-Appalachian North Carolina | 65,011 | 47,701 | 76,205 | 58,568 | 25,683 |
| Ohio | 63,477 | 48,071 | 75,698 | 60,762 | 25,618 |
| Appalachian Ohio | 53,893 | 41,927 | 63,170 | 52,340 | 21,531 |
| Non-Appalachian Ohio | 65,506 | 49,668 | 78,464 | 63,058 | 26,499 |
| Pennsylvania | 69,282 | 51,651 | 83,126 | 65,105 | 27,824 |
| Appalachian Pennsylvania | 60,690 | 46,162 | 73,010 | 58,680 | 25,102 |
| Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania | 76,962 | 57,514 | 92,073 | 72,164 | 30,119 |
| South Carolina | 60,128 | 44,587 | 70,605 | 55,220 | 23,854 |
| Appalachian South Carolina | 59,850 | 44,481 | 70,700 | 56,155 | 23,679 |
| Non-Appalachian South Carolina | 60,223 | 44,649 | 70,572 | 55,250 | 23,914 |
| Tennessee | 60,516 | 43,989 | 71,248 | 54,332 | 24,197 |
| Appalachian Tennessee | 54,988 | 40,341 | 65,365 | 50,982 | 22,665 |
| Non-Appalachian Tennessee | 65,142 | 47,501 | 76,187 | 58,141 | 25,399 |
| Virginia | 85,323 | 63,302 | 98,742 | 75,962 | 33,040 |
| Appalachian Virginia | 50,932 | 38,310 | 60,837 | 48,966 | 21,054 |
| Non-Appalachian Virginia | 89,265 | 67,345 | 103,017 | 80,424 | 34,327 |
| West Virginia (entire state) | 52,980 | 39,550 | 63,427 | 50,511 | 22,010 |

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

Table 7.2: Poverty Status of Persons in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011

| Poverty Status | Poverty Universe, 2007-2011 | Persons Below Poverty Level, 2007-2011 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Number | Percent |
| United States | 298,787,998 | 42,739,924 | 14.3 |
| Appalachian Region | 24,377,459 | 3,930,024 | 16.1 |
| Subregions |  |  |  |
| Northern Appalachia | 8,056,939 | 1,115,831 | 13.8 |
| North Central Appalachia | 2,338,380 | 399,577 | 17.1 |
| Central Appalachia | 1,859,177 | 436,587 | 23.5 |
| South Central Appalachia | 4,559,135 | 773,070 | 17.0 |
| Southern Appalachia | 7,563,828 | 1,204,959 | 15.9 |
| County Types |  |  |  |
| Large Metros (pop. 1 million +) | 5,635,141 | 698,635 | 12.4 |
| Small Metros (pop. <1 million) | 9,793,556 | 1,541,288 | 15.7 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros | 1,638,569 | 290,073 | 17.7 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros | 4,853,085 | 865,477 | 17.8 |
| Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro) | 2,457,108 | 534,551 | 21.8 |
| Alabama | 4,631,432 | 813,385 | 17.6 |
| Appalachian Alabama | 2,970,650 | 486,228 | 16.4 |
| Non-Appalachian Alabama | 1,660,782 | 327,157 | 19.7 |
| Georgia | 9,336,746 | 1,541,462 | 16.5 |
| Appalachian Georgia | 2,854,195 | 397,391 | 13.9 |
| Non-Appalachian Georgia | 6,482,551 | 1,144,071 | 17.6 |
| Kentucky | 4,186,093 | 756,947 | 18.1 |
| Appalachian Kentucky | 1,143,841 | 283,169 | 24.8 |
| Non-Appalachian Kentucky | 3,042,252 | 473,778 | 15.6 |
| Maryland | 5,597,203 | 502,610 | 9.0 |
| Appalachian Maryland | 236,365 | 29,343 | 12.4 |
| Non-Appalachian Maryland | 5,360,838 | 473,267 | 8.8 |
| Mississippi | 2,860,440 | 617,805 | 21.6 |
| Appalachian Mississippi | 611,379 | 140,098 | 22.9 |
| Non-Appalachian Mississippi | 2,249,061 | 477,707 | 21.2 |
| New York | 18,787,162 | 2,722,107 | 14.5 |
| Appalachian New York | 1,008,359 | 159,659 | 15.8 |
| Non-Appalachian New York | 17,778,803 | 2,562,448 | 14.4 |
| North Carolina | 9,162,147 | 1,473,556 | 16.1 |
| Appalachian North Carolina | 1,641,745 | 276,940 | 16.9 |
| Non-Appalachian North Carolina | 7,520,402 | 1,196,616 | 15.9 |
| Ohio | 11,213,528 | 1,654,193 | 14.8 |
| Appalachian Ohio | 1,981,354 | 331,147 | 16.7 |
| Non-Appalachian Ohio | 9,232,174 | 1,323,046 | 14.3 |
| Pennsylvania | 12,246,520 | 1,548,869 | 12.6 |
| Appalachian Pennsylvania | 5,571,308 | 726,574 | 13.0 |
| Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania | 6,675,212 | 822,295 | 12.3 |
| South Carolina | 4,433,220 | 753,705 | 17.0 |
| Appalachian South Carolina | 1,127,604 | 181,242 | 16.1 |
| Non-Appalachian South Carolina | 3,305,616 | 572,463 | 17.3 |
| Tennessee | 6,139,176 | 1,036,199 | 16.9 |
| Appalachian Tennessee | 2,701,981 | 471,679 | 17.5 |
| Non-Appalachian Tennessee | 3,437,195 | 564,520 | 16.4 |
| Virginia | 7,681,393 | 818,422 | 10.7 |
| Appalachian Virginia | 734,458 | 133,191 | 18.1 |
| Non-Appalachian Virginia | 6,946,935 | 685,231 | 9.9 |
| West Virginia (entire state) | 1,794,220 | 313,363 | 17.5 |

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are determined by family size and composition. In 2011, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was $\$ 22,811$. The poverty universe does not include unrelated individuals under age 15, people living in college dormitories, and people living in institutional group quarters.
Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

Figure 7.1: Mean Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2011 Dollars), 2007-2011


Map Title: Mean Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2011 Dollars), 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

In the 2007-2011 period (which covers the years before, during, and after the economic recession of 2007-2009), the mean income of Appalachian households was $\$ 57,866$, just 80 percent of the U.S. average. In just nine of the region's counties, average household income matched or exceeded that of the nation as a whole. And in only 59 other counties, mean household income matched or surpassed the Appalachian average. All but 11 of the counties in these two groups were in metropolitan areas. In contrast, mean income was less than \$40,000 in 41 counties-40 of which were outside a metro area, and 31 of which were in central Appalachia.

Figure 7.2: Median Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2011 Dollars), 2007-2011


Map Title: Median Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2011 Dollars), 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

At $\$ 43,354$, median household income in Appalachia (the level at which half the households have higher incomes and the other half have lower incomes) was 82 percent that of the United States during the 2007-2011 period. There were 20 Appalachian counties (almost all of them in metropolitan areas) that had household incomes at or above the national median, while another 67 had incomes at or above the regional median. Conversely, 51 counties in the region had median household incomes below $\$ 30,000-48$ of which were outside metropolitan areas and 35 of which were in central Appalachia. This is not surprising given that median household income was only $\$ 34,246$ for rural counties not adjacent to any metro area and $\$ 32,887$ for central Appalachia.

Figure 7.3: Mean Family Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2011 Dollars), 2007-2011


Map Title: Mean Family Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2011 Dollars), 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

Only 12 Appalachian counties (all in metropolitan areas) had mean family incomes that matched or surpassed the U.S. average of $\$ 84,422$ for the 2007-2011 period. Indeed, in just an additional 55 counties ( 41 of which were part of metro areas) was mean family income equal to or greater than the Appalachian regional average ( $\$ 68,414$ ). In contrast, mean family income was less than $\$ 50,000$ in 68 Appalachian counties. Most of these counties were either in the most remote rural areas or in central Appalachia. Mean family income over the 2007-2011 period (a time frame that includes extended periods of economic growth and decline) was less than $\$ 55,000$ for both of these areas.

Figure 7.4: Median Family Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2011 Dollars), 2007-2011


Map Title: Median Family Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2011 Dollars), 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

In 21 Appalachian counties-nearly all in metro areas-median family income (the level where half of all families have higher incomes while the other half have lower incomes) was at or above the U.S. median of $\$ 64,293$ during the 2007-2011 period. In another 58 counties (again, mostly in metro areas), median income matched or exceeded the median for families in the entire Appalachian region ( $\$ 54,433$ ). In contrast, median family income was less than $\$ 40,000$ in 66 counties. Of the counties in this latter group, most were rural counties not adjacent to a metro area (median family income in those counties was just over $\$ 43,000$ ) and/or in central Appalachia (where median family income was slightly less than $\$ 42,000$ ). It is important to note that the 2007-2011 period includes one year of prerecession economic growth and 18 months of slow post-recession recovery.

Figure 7.5: Per Capita Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2011 Dollars), 2007-2011


Map Title: Per Capita Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2011 Dollars), 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

At $\$ 23,252$, per capita income in the Appalachian region in the 2007-2011 period was 84 percent that of the U.S. average of $\$ 27,915$. Within the region, there was substantial variation: Per capita income was the same or higher than the national average in 12 Appalachian counties and was at or above the regional average in 67 others. Yet in 23 Appalachian counties, per capita income was less than $\$ 15,000$. As with other income measures, the counties with the highest per capita incomes generally were in metro areas, while the ones with the lowest were in rural areas, particularly in central Appalachia. Indeed, per capita income in the 2007-2011 period was just $\$ 18,720$ in rural Appalachian counties as a whole, and just $\$ 18,197$ in central Appalachia.

Figure 7.6: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2007-2011


Map Title: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

Over the 2007-2011 period (which includes years of economic growth and downturn), about one in six Appalachian residents lived below the poverty level (income below $\$ 22,811$ for a family of two adults and two children in 2011)nearly two percentage points above the U.S. average. Both rates are higher than they were in the 2000 Census, likely a result of the inability of incomes in the post-recovery period to fully return to pre-recession levels. Within the region, there is much variation: In 148 counties, at least one-fifth of persons were poor, yet in another 92 counties the poverty rate was below the national average. And there was a regional and urban/rural pattern: All but a handful of the counties with poverty rates exceeding 20 percent were outside of metropolitan areas, and most were in central, south central, and southern Appalachia. In contrast, most of the counties with poverty levels below the U.S. rate were in metropolitan areas, and about half were in northern Appalachia.

## CHAPTER 8: MIGRATION

Table 8.1: Mobility Status of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011

| Mobility Status in the Last Year | Total Population Ages 1 and Over, 2007-2011 | Percent of Population Ages 1 and Over |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Did Not Move in Past Year | Moved from a Different Residence in the Past Year |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | Outside the County |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | County |  | Within the State | Outside the State |
| United States | 302,754,921 | 84.6 | 15.4 | 9.3 | 6.2 | 3.2 | 2.9 |
| Appalachian Region | 24,856,295 | 86.4 | 13.6 | 7.9 | 5.7 | 3.2 | 2.4 |
| Subregions |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Northern Appalachia | 8,301,118 | 87.5 | 12.5 | 7.5 | 5.0 | 2.8 | 2.1 |
| North Central Appalachia | 2,388,584 | 86.9 | 13.1 | 7.4 | 5.7 | 3.1 | 2.6 |
| Central Appalachia | 1,895,202 | 87.9 | 12.1 | 7.1 | 5.0 | 3.0 | 2.0 |
| South Central Appalachia | 4,639,053 | 85.8 | 14.2 | 8.1 | 6.1 | 3.3 | 2.8 |
| Southern Appalachia | 7,632,338 | 84.9 | 15.1 | 8.7 | 6.4 | 3.8 | 2.6 |
| County Types |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Large Metros (pop. 1 million +) | 5,672,384 | 86.3 | 13.7 | 8.1 | 5.6 | 3.2 | 2.4 |
| Small Metros (pop. <1 million) | 10,019,041 | 85.5 | 14.5 | 8.5 | 6.0 | 3.2 | 2.9 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros | 1,675,372 | 86.6 | 13.4 | 8.1 | 5.3 | 3.4 | 1.9 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros | 4,982,051 | 87.3 | 12.7 | 7.2 | 5.5 | 3.4 | 2.1 |
| Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro) | 2,507,447 | 87.9 | 12.1 | 6.9 | 5.1 | 3.1 | 2.0 |
| Alabama | 4,690,091 | 84.5 | 15.5 | 9.3 | 6.2 | 3.3 | 2.9 |
| Appalachian Alabama | 3,007,523 | 84.8 | 15.2 | 9.2 | 6.0 | 3.5 | 2.5 |
| Non-Appalachian Alabama | 1,682,568 | 83.9 | 16.1 | 9.5 | 6.6 | 2.9 | 3.6 |
| Georgia | 9,472,294 | 83.0 | 17.0 | 8.6 | 8.4 | 4.9 | 3.5 |
| Appalachian Georgia | 2,860,564 | 85.1 | 14.9 | 8.0 | 6.9 | 4.3 | 2.6 |
| Non-Appalachian Georgia | 6,611,730 | 82.1 | 17.9 | 8.9 | 9.0 | 5.2 | 3.8 |
| Kentucky | 4,261,590 | 84.7 | 15.3 | 8.7 | 6.6 | 3.5 | 3.1 |
| Appalachian Kentucky | 1,169,685 | 87.1 | 12.9 | 7.6 | 5.3 | 3.3 | 2.0 |
| Non-Appalachian Kentucky | 3,091,905 | 83.8 | 16.2 | 9.1 | 7.1 | 3.6 | 3.5 |
| Maryland | 5,665,698 | 86.4 | 13.6 | 7.2 | 6.4 | 2.8 | 3.6 |
| Appalachian Maryland | 249,108 | 85.9 | 14.1 | 8.3 | 5.8 | 2.8 | 3.0 |
| Non-Appalachian Maryland | 5,416,590 | 86.5 | 13.5 | 7.1 | 6.4 | 2.8 | 3.6 |
| Mississippi | 2,917,370 | 85.2 | 14.8 | 8.3 | 6.5 | 3.7 | 2.8 |
| Appalachian Mississippi | 619,180 | 86.2 | 13.8 | 7.9 | 5.9 | 3.9 | 2.1 |
| Non-Appalachian Mississippi | 2,298,190 | 84.9 | 15.1 | 8.4 | 6.7 | 3.7 | 3.0 |
| New York | 19,078,454 | 88.5 | 11.5 | 6.8 | 4.7 | 2.5 | 2.2 |
| Appalachian New York | 1,056,364 | 85.3 | 14.7 | 8.5 | 6.2 | 3.8 | 2.5 |
| Non-Appalachian New York | 18,022,090 | 88.7 | 11.3 | 6.7 | 4.6 | 2.4 | 2.2 |
| North Carolina | 9,298,254 | 83.9 | 16.1 | 8.9 | 7.2 | 3.5 | 3.7 |
| Appalachian North Carolina | 1,667,538 | 87.0 | 13.0 | 7.4 | 5.6 | 3.1 | 2.5 |
| Non-Appalachian North Carolina | 7,630,716 | 83.3 | 16.7 | 9.2 | 7.5 | 3.6 | 3.9 |
| Ohio | 11,389,893 | 85.3 | 14.7 | 9.6 | 5.1 | 3.2 | 1.9 |
| Appalachian Ohio | 2,020,909 | 87.7 | 12.3 | 7.7 | 4.5 | 2.9 | 1.6 |
| Non-Appalachian Ohio | 9,368,984 | 84.8 | 15.2 | 10.0 | 5.2 | 3.2 | 2.0 |
| Pennsylvania | 12,522,536 | 87.7 | 12.3 | 7.3 | 4.9 | 2.6 | 2.4 |
| Appalachian Pennsylvania | 5,732,713 | 87.7 | 12.3 | 7.3 | 5.0 | 2.8 | 2.2 |
| Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania | 6,789,823 | 87.7 | 12.3 | 7.4 | 4.9 | 2.4 | 2.5 |
| South Carolina | 4,518,115 | 84.7 | 15.3 | 8.3 | 7.0 | 3.1 | 3.9 |
| Appalachian South Carolina | 1,145,071 | 84.1 | 15.9 | 9.6 | 6.3 | 3.0 | 3.3 |
| Non-Appalachian South Carolina | 3,373,044 | 84.9 | 15.1 | 7.8 | 7.3 | 3.1 | 4.1 |
| Tennessee | 6,221,993 | 84.1 | 15.9 | 9.7 | 6.2 | 3.0 | 3.2 |
| Appalachian Tennessee | 2,738,769 | 85.8 | 14.2 | 8.5 | 5.7 | 2.9 | 2.7 |
| Non-Appalachian Tennessee | 3,483,224 | 82.8 | 17.2 | 10.7 | 6.5 | 3.0 | 3.6 |
| Virginia | 7,829,090 | 84.3 | 15.7 | 6.6 | 9.0 | 4.9 | 4.1 |
| Appalachian Virginia | 761,651 | 85.4 | 14.6 | 7.0 | 7.7 | 4.9 | 2.7 |
| Non-Appalachian Virginia | 7,067,439 | 84.2 | 15.8 | 6.6 | 9.2 | 4.9 | 4.3 |
| West Virginia (entire state) | 1,827,220 | 87.7 | 12.3 | 6.8 | 5.5 | 2.5 | 2.9 |

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

Figure 8.1: Percent of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Had Moved in the Past Year, 2007-2011


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Had Moved in the Past Year, 2007-2011 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

Although residential mobility in Appalachia was below the national average, the percentage of residents who moved in the past year exceeded the U.S. average in one-seventh of the region's counties. Most of these counties were in southern or south central Appalachia. Most also were either counties in metropolitan areas, counties that housed a four-year college or university, or rural counties that were likely retirement or recreational destinations. Yet in onefourth of Appalachian counties, less than 10 percent of the residents had moved in the previous 12 months. Most of these counties were outside metro areas.

Figure 8.2: Percent of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Had Migrated From Outside Their County of Residence in the Past Year, 2007-2011


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Had Migrated From Outside Their County of Residence in the Past Year, 2007-2011
Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.
Although people in Appalachia were slightly less likely to have migrated from outside their county of residence in the 2007-2011 period than Americans as a whole, residents in 126 of the region's counties were more likely to have done so. These counties were scattered throughout the Appalachian region and were distributed across all urban/rural types. In 191 counties, less than 5 percent of the residents had migrated from another county-three-fourths of these counties were outside metropolitan areas, and two-fifths of those nonmetro counties were rural counties not adjacent to a metro area.

Figure 8.3: Percent of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Had Migrated From Outside Their State of Residence in the Past Year, 2007-2011


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Had Migrated From Outside Their State of Residence in the Past Year, 2007-2011
Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

The share of Americans migrating from outside their state of residence was 2.9 percent in the 2007-2011 period, compared to 2.4 percent in the Appalachian region. Yet in 88 of Appalachia's 420 counties, out-of-state migration levels were greater than the U.S. average. Slightly more than half of these counties were in southern and south central Appalachia, and about half were in metropolitan areas. In 215 counties, on the other hand, less than 2 percent of residents had come from out of state, and three-fourths of these counties were outside metropolitan areas.


[^0]:    Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

[^1]:    Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

