

**THE APPALACHIAN REGION:  
A DATA OVERVIEW FROM THE  
2010-2014 AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY  
Chartbook**

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## FOREWORD

The data contained in this chartbook come from the 2010-2014 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 11 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The decennial long form has been replaced by the American Community Survey (ACS), a nationwide study collected continuously every year in every county in the United States.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 2010-2014 ACS data to have comparable statistics for all 420 counties in the Region.

The five-year ACS estimates for 2010-2014 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 2010 through December 2014. 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.

With the release of the 2010-2014 ACS data, we now have two non-overlapping five-year periods (the other being 2005-2009) by which we can begin to study trends in the data. However, there are some caveats in such a comparison. For the purposes of this chartbook, the most relevant issue involves population controls: While the 2010-2014 ACS estimates use the 2010 Census as the base for the population estimates used in the ACS weighting; the 2005-2009 ACS uses the 2000 Census as the base. For this reason, estimates of *numbers* (such as population size or the number of adults with a high school diploma or more) are not comparable between 2005-2009 and 2010-2014. However, estimates of *rates* and *percentages* (including income totals) are comparable between the two periods, although the Census Bureau recommends that many of these should be compared with caution. The ACS did not include a question on health insurance until 2008, which was the same year that significant changes were made to the ACS questions on disability status. As a result, 2005-2009 data for these two items are not available to measure trends. More information about comparing the 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 ACS data is available on the Web page, [“Comparing 2005-2009 ACS 5-year and 2010-2014 ACS 5-year”](#), through the Census Bureau’s website.

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 2005-2009 ACS data illustrate this problem, as they are for a time period that covers three distinct periods of economic activity: the years immediately preceding the “Great Recession” of December 2007 through June 2009; the recession itself, and the six months of economic recovery that followed the downturn. Since the 2005-2009 ACS pools data from all three periods, it smooths out the extreme variations in economic measures that would be evident in annual data from this five-year period.

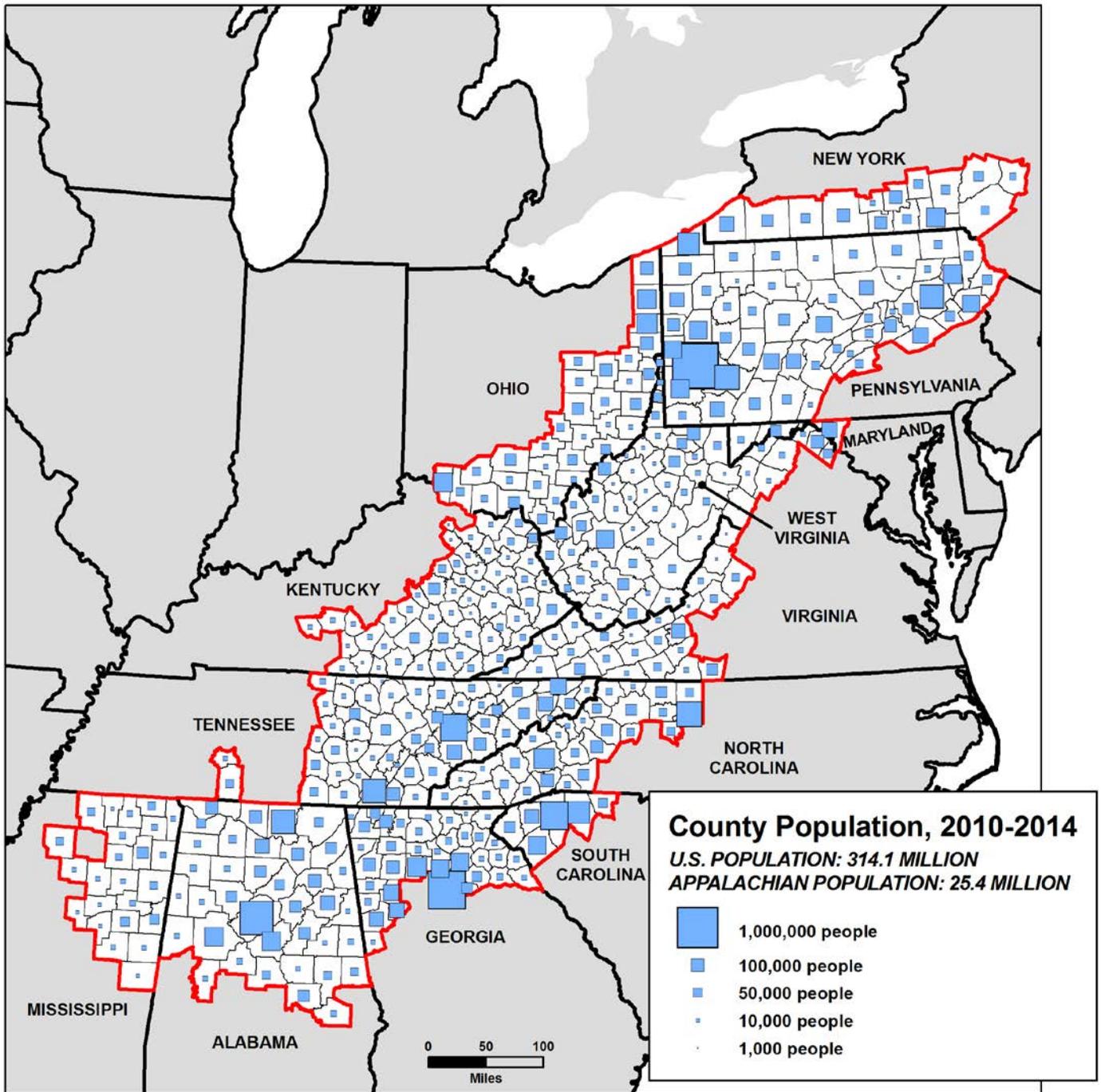
# CHAPTER 1: POPULATION BASICS

Table 1.1: Population, Land Area, and Population Density in the Appalachian Region, 2010-2014

Population, Land Area, and Density	Population, 2010-2014	Land Area (Square Miles)	Population per Square Mile of Land Area, 2010-2014
<b>United States</b>	<b>314,107,084</b>	<b>3,531,905</b>	<b>88.9</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>25,367,886</b>	<b>204,452</b>	<b>124.1</b>
<b>Subregions</b>			
Northern Appalachia	8,354,698	56,980	146.6
North Central Appalachia	2,426,928	29,337	82.7
Central Appalachia	1,909,019	29,773	64.1
South Central Appalachia	4,759,012	34,997	136.0
Southern Appalachia	7,918,229	53,365	148.4
<b>County Types</b>			
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	5,925,315	18,815	314.9
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	10,704,478	54,302	197.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	2,205,370	25,382	86.9
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	3,987,860	58,591	68.1
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	2,544,863	47,363	53.7
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>4,817,678</b>	<b>50,645</b>	<b>95.1</b>
Appalachian Alabama	3,084,897	25,763	119.7
Non-Appalachian Alabama	1,732,781	24,882	69.6
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>9,907,756</b>	<b>57,513</b>	<b>172.3</b>
Appalachian Georgia	3,008,603	11,378	264.4
Non-Appalachian Georgia	6,899,153	46,135	149.5
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>4,383,272</b>	<b>39,486</b>	<b>111.0</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	1,182,270	18,231	64.8
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	3,201,002	21,256	150.6
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>5,887,776</b>	<b>9,707</b>	<b>606.5</b>
Appalachian Maryland	252,834	1,529	165.4
Non-Appalachian Maryland	5,634,942	8,178	689.0
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>2,984,345</b>	<b>46,923</b>	<b>63.6</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	629,211	12,400	50.7
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	2,355,134	34,523	68.2
<b>New York</b>	<b>19,594,330</b>	<b>47,126</b>	<b>415.8</b>
Appalachian New York	1,060,089	11,681	90.8
Non-Appalachian New York	18,534,241	35,445	522.9
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>9,750,405</b>	<b>48,618</b>	<b>200.6</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	1,710,979	11,887	143.9
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	8,039,426	36,731	218.9
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>11,560,380</b>	<b>40,861</b>	<b>282.9</b>
Appalachian Ohio	2,029,562	15,978	127.0
Non-Appalachian Ohio	9,530,818	24,882	383.0
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>12,758,729</b>	<b>44,743</b>	<b>285.2</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	5,779,733	36,444	158.6
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	6,978,996	8,298	841.0
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>4,727,273</b>	<b>30,061</b>	<b>157.3</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	1,195,518	3,824	312.6
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	3,531,755	26,237	134.6
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>6,451,365</b>	<b>41,235</b>	<b>156.5</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	2,814,443	20,119	139.9
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	3,636,922	21,116	172.2
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>8,185,131</b>	<b>39,490</b>	<b>207.3</b>
Appalachian Virginia	765,866	11,179	68.5
Non-Appalachian Virginia	7,419,265	28,311	262.1
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>1,853,881</b>	<b>24,038</b>	<b>77.1</b>

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

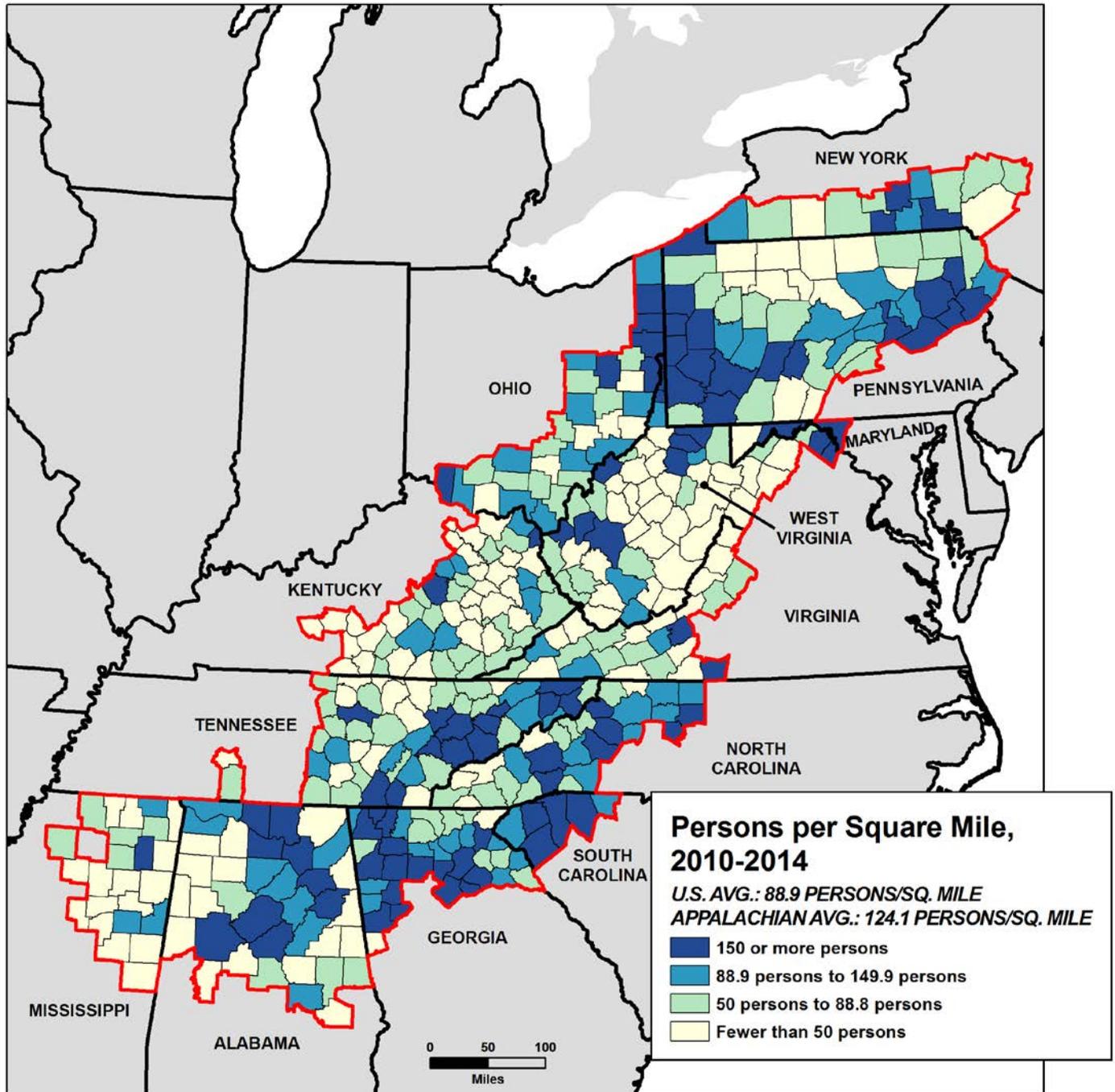
**Figure 1.1: Population Distribution in the Appalachian Region, 2010-2014**



Map Title: Population Distribution in the Appalachian Region, 2010-2014  
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

Of the 314.1 million persons in the United States during the period from 2010-2014, 25.4 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 126 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 most recent population estimates indicated that the Region had nearly 25.5 million residents in 2014 (out of 318.9 million nationwide), compared to 25.2 million in the 2010 Census.

Figure 1.2: Population per Square Mile of Land Area in the Appalachian Region, 2010-2014



Map Title: Population per Square Mile of Land Area in the Appalachian Region, 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

While Appalachia's population density was noticeably greater than the United States as a whole over the 2010-2014 period, just 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.).

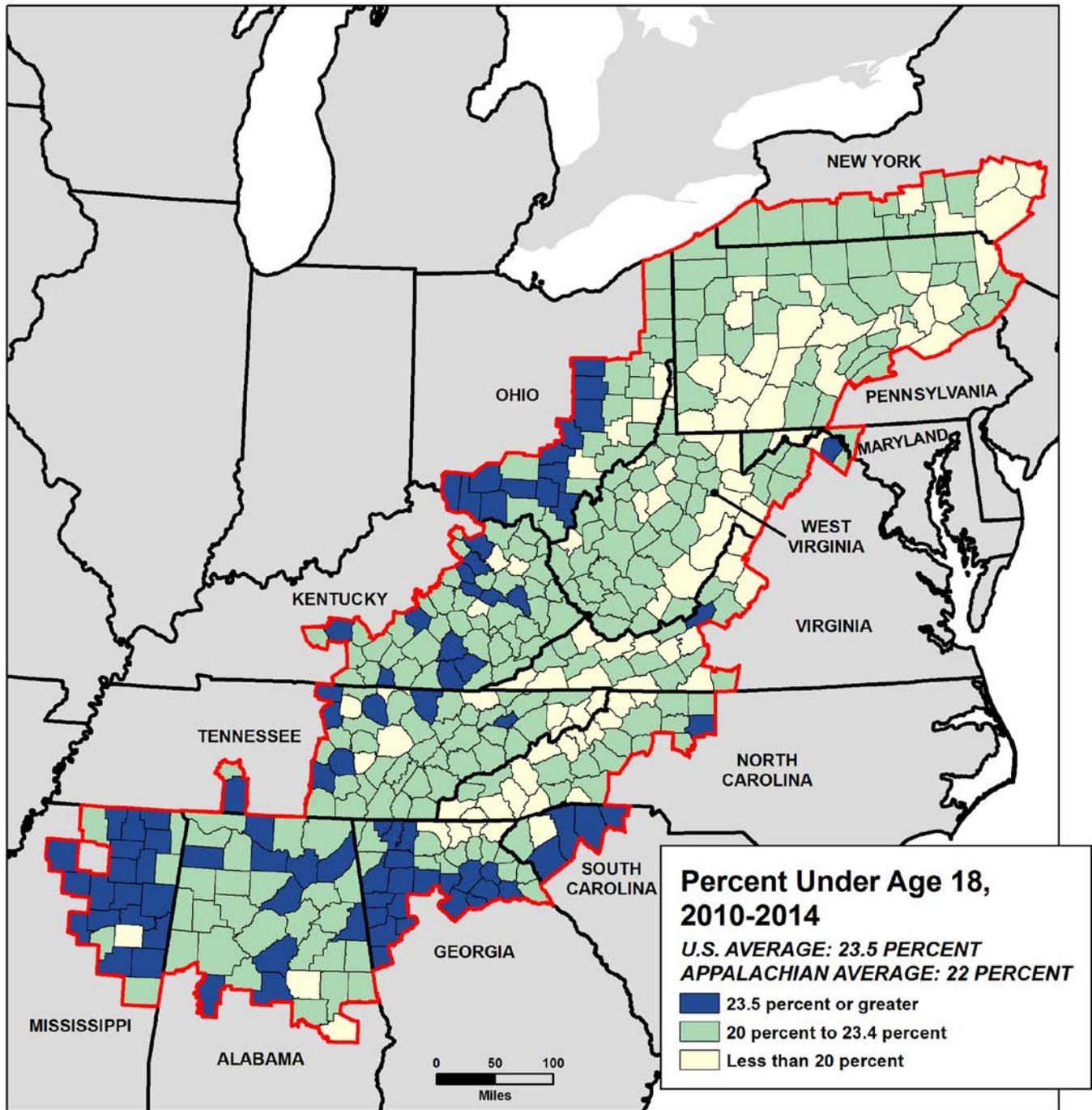
## CHAPTER 2: AGE

Table 2.1: Population in the Appalachian Region by Age Group, 2010-2014

Population by Age Group	Total Population, 2010-2014	Percent of Population				Median Age (Years)
		Under Age 18	Ages 18-24	Ages 25-64	Ages 65 and over	
<b>United States</b>	<b>314,107,084</b>	<b>23.5</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>52.8</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>37.4</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>25,367,886</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>52.4</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>40.3</b>
<b>Subregions</b>						
Northern Appalachia	8,354,698	20.4	10.1	52.1	17.4	42.0
North Central Appalachia	2,426,928	21.5	9.7	52.8	16.1	40.7
Central Appalachia	1,909,019	21.9	8.8	53.3	15.9	41.0
South Central Appalachia	4,759,012	21.0	9.9	51.8	17.3	41.3
Southern Appalachia	7,918,229	24.4	9.6	52.6	13.4	37.6
<b>County Types</b>						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	5,925,315	23.4	8.8	53.8	14.0	39.0
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	10,704,478	21.5	10.5	52.1	15.9	40.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	2,205,370	22.0	9.9	51.6	16.4	40.8
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	3,987,860	21.2	9.0	51.9	17.9	42.3
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	2,544,863	21.7	9.9	51.6	16.8	40.9
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>4,817,678</b>	<b>23.2</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>52.3</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>38.2</b>
Appalachian Alabama	3,084,897	23.0	9.7	52.8	14.5	38.7
Non-Appalachian Alabama	1,732,781	23.7	10.6	51.3	14.5	37.4
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>9,907,756</b>	<b>25.1</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>53.2</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>35.8</b>
Appalachian Georgia	3,008,603	26.4	8.9	53.1	11.5	36.5
Non-Appalachian Georgia	6,899,153	24.5	10.7	53.2	11.5	35.4
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>4,383,272</b>	<b>23.2</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>53.0</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>38.3</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	1,182,270	22.4	9.3	53.0	15.2	40.1
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	3,201,002	23.6	9.8	53.0	13.6	37.7
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>5,887,776</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>54.5</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>38.1</b>
Appalachian Maryland	252,834	20.9	9.7	53.0	16.5	41.0
Non-Appalachian Maryland	5,634,942	23.0	9.6	54.6	12.8	38.0
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>2,984,345</b>	<b>24.9</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>51.1</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>36.3</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	629,211	24.1	11.0	50.1	14.8	37.4
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	2,355,134	25.1	10.3	51.4	13.2	36.1
<b>New York</b>	<b>19,594,330</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>54.0</b>	<b>14.1</b>	<b>38.1</b>
Appalachian New York	1,060,089	20.4	13.2	50.1	16.3	40.1
Non-Appalachian New York	18,534,241	21.9	10.0	54.2	13.9	38.0
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>9,750,405</b>	<b>23.4</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>52.8</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>37.8</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	1,710,979	21.0	9.4	51.8	17.9	41.9
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	8,039,426	23.9	10.1	53.0	12.9	37.0
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>11,560,380</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>52.6</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>39.1</b>
Appalachian Ohio	2,029,562	22.4	9.0	52.1	16.4	41.1
Non-Appalachian Ohio	9,530,818	23.3	9.7	52.7	14.4	38.7
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>12,758,729</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>52.7</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>40.4</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	5,779,733	20.0	9.9	52.5	17.6	42.3
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	6,978,996	22.7	9.8	52.9	14.7	38.8
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>4,727,273</b>	<b>22.8</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>52.2</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>38.3</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	1,195,518	23.3	10.3	51.8	14.6	38.3
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<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>6,451,365</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>53.0</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>38.3</b>
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<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>1,853,881</b>	<b>20.7</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>53.2</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>41.6</b>

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

**Figure 2.1: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Under Age 18, 2010-2014**

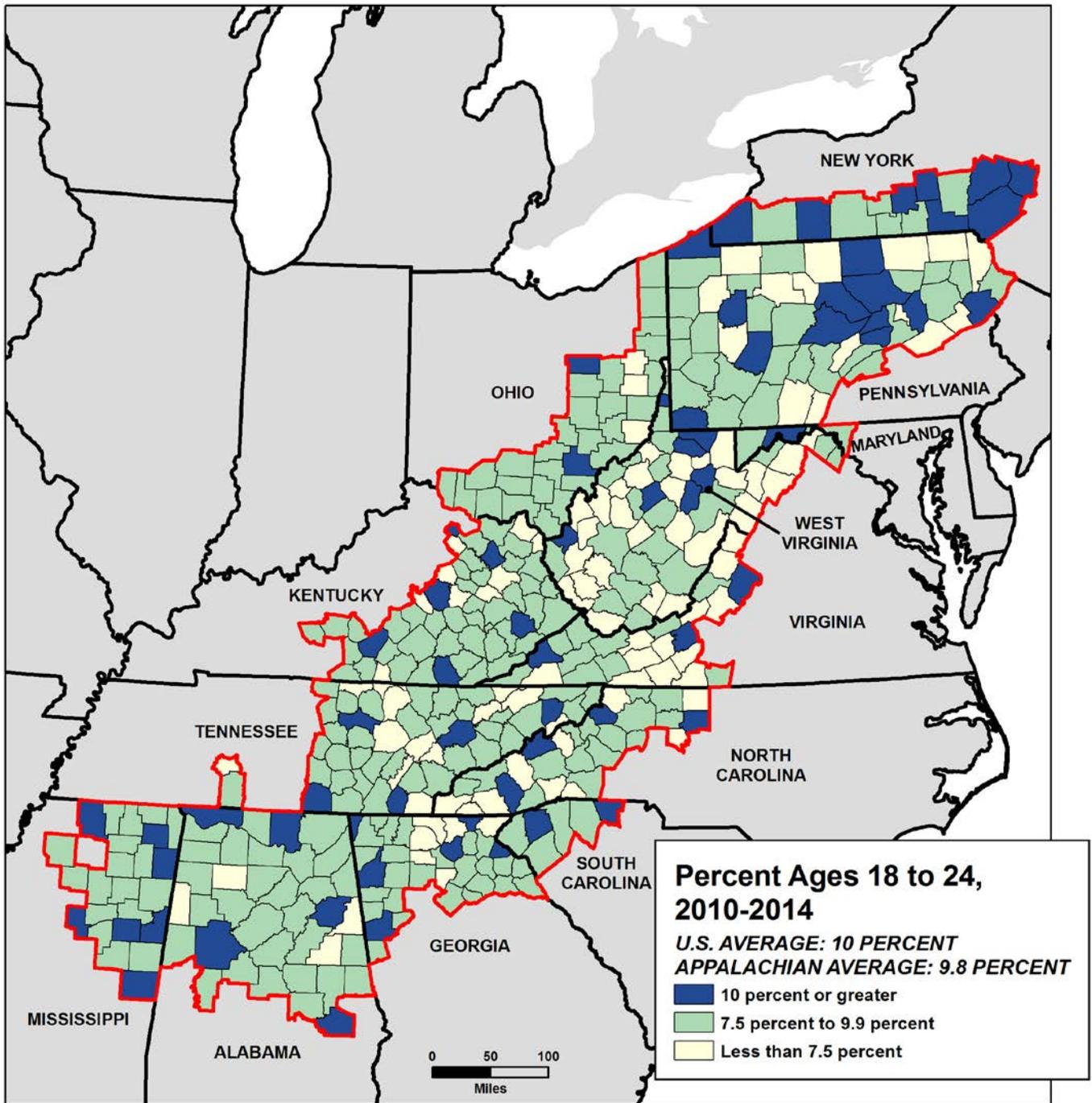


Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Under Age 18, 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

Over the 2010-2014 period, the share of children and youth under age 18 in the Appalachian population was slightly below the national average of 23.5 percent. And the share was actually less than 20 percent in 93 of the Region's counties, most of which were outside metropolitan areas. Yet in another 88 Appalachian counties, the share of children under age 18 matched or exceeded the national average. Most of these counties were in Southern Appalachia, with concentrations in Georgia, Mississippi, and South Carolina. Among the states, the Appalachian portions of Georgia and Mississippi were the only two in the Region where the under-18 percentage was greater than that of the nation as a whole.

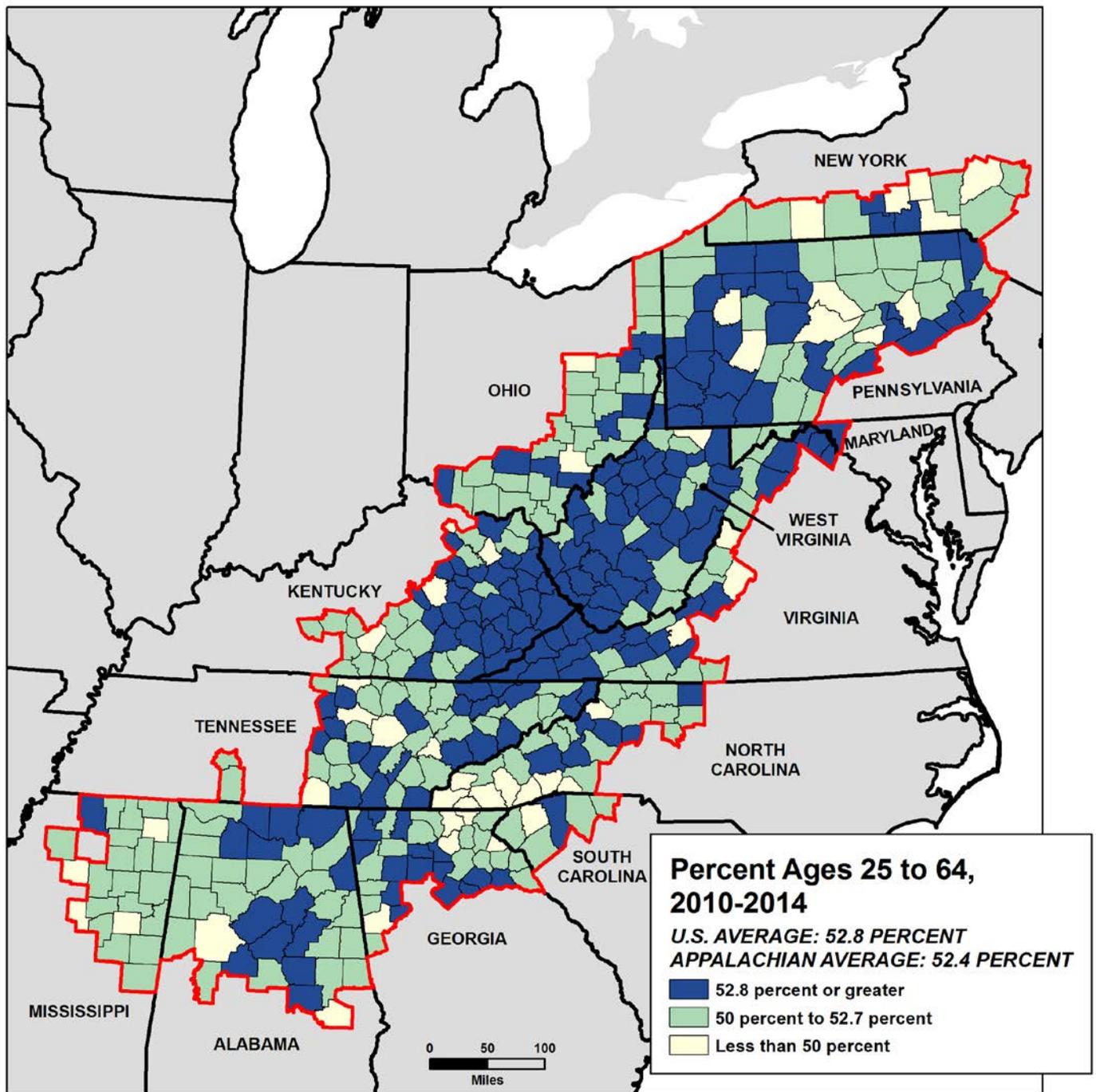
**Figure 2.2: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 18 to 24, 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 18 to 24, 2010-2014  
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

Although the share of young adults (ages 18 to 24) in Appalachia roughly equaled the national average in the 2010-2014 period, there were great variations within the Region. For example, persons in this age group made up at least 15 percent of the population in 24 counties. Nearly all of these counties are home to colleges and universities such as Penn State University (Centre County, Pa.); the University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa County, Ala.); and Clemson University (Pickens County, S.C.). In contrast, 18-to-24-year-olds made up less than 7.5 percent of the population in 100 Appalachian counties. Of the counties in this latter group, 68 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, 2010-2014**

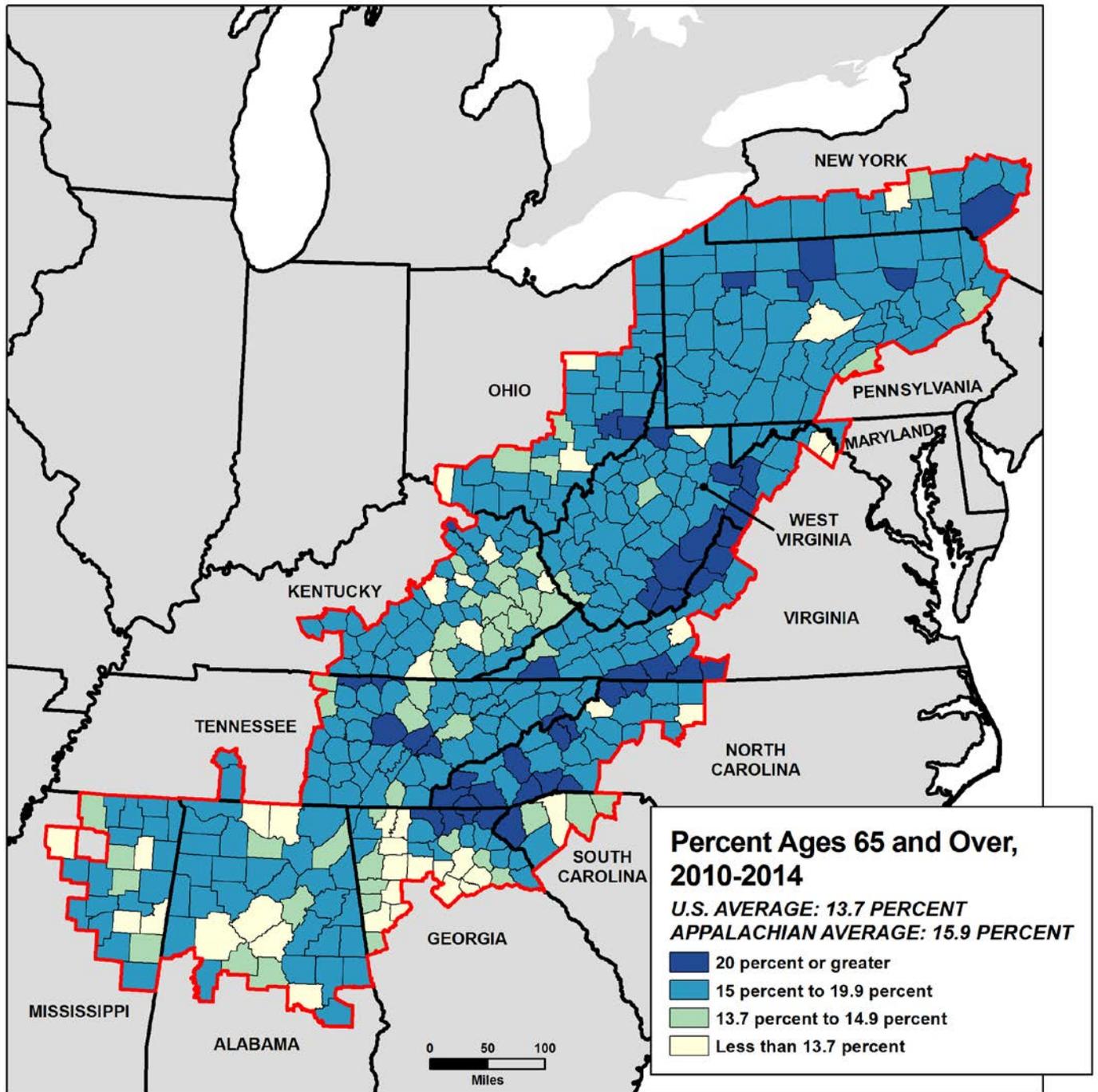


Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 25 to 64, 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 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 2010-2014 period. In 178 of the 420 Appalachian counties, the percentage of persons in this age group matched or exceeded the national average. But there were 47 counties in the Region (36 of which were outside metropolitan areas) where 25-to-64-year-olds made up less than half of the population. Many of these counties—such as Oktibbeha County, Miss., home to Mississippi State University—house colleges and universities (and thus had a high share of their populations in the 18-to-24 age range.)

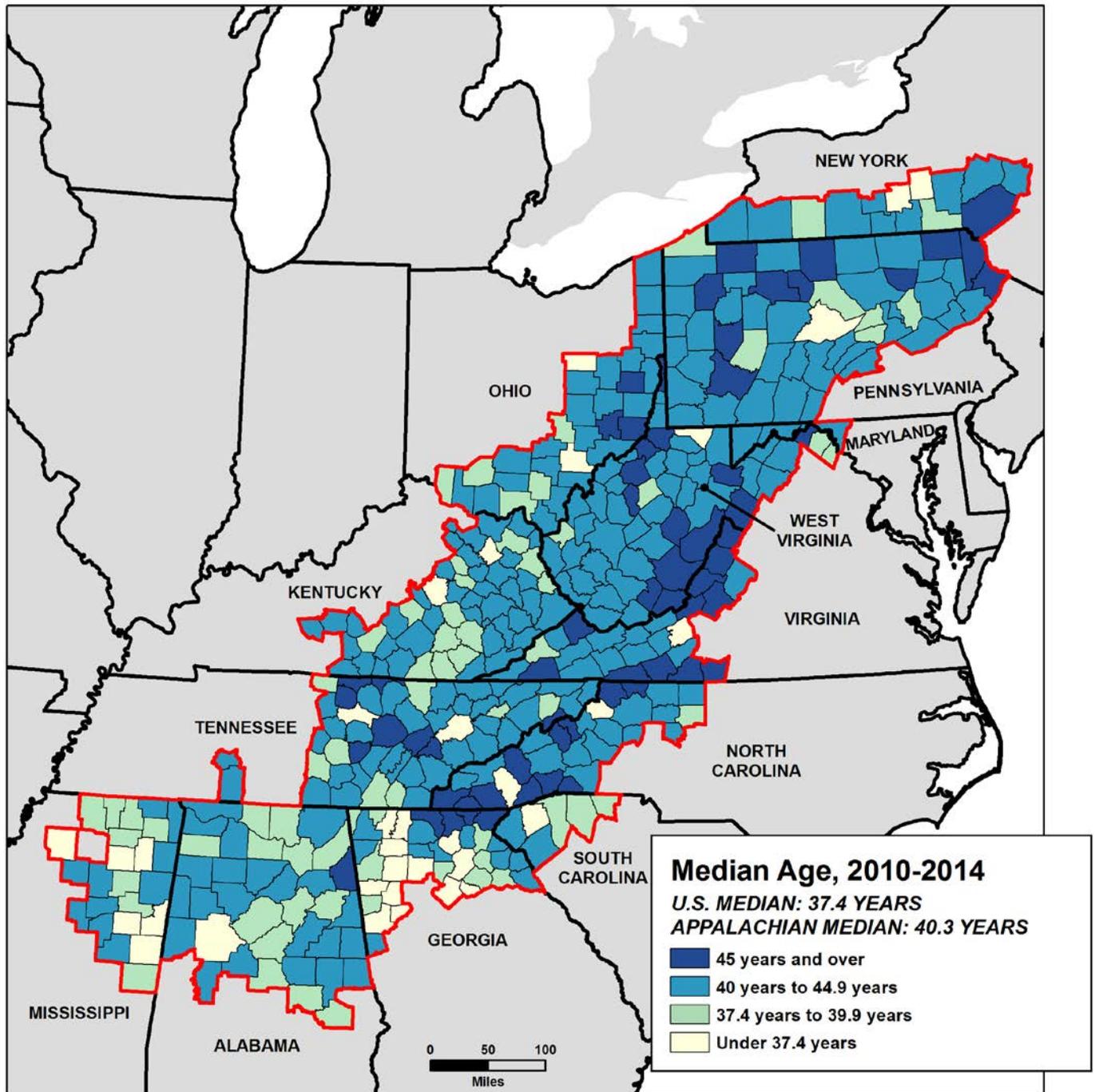
**Figure 2.4: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 65 and Over, 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 65 and Over, 2010-2014  
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

In the 2010-2014 period, the share of residents ages 65 and over in the Appalachian Region exceeded the national average by two percentage points. Moreover, the percentage of persons in this age group matched or exceeded the U.S. share in 379 of the 420 Appalachian counties. In fact, older persons made up at least 15 percent of the population in 331 Appalachian counties—and at least 20 percent in 48 of them. (Most counties in both groups were outside metropolitan areas.) In contrast, a majority of the 41 Appalachian counties with older population shares below the national average were either in metro areas or home to colleges and universities. In both Appalachia and the nation, the share of residents ages 65 and over will continue 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, 2010-2014**



Map Title: Median Age of Persons in the Appalachian Region, 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

On average, the median age of the Appalachian population was nearly three years older than that of the United States as a whole during the 2010-2014 period. Indeed, the median age of the population (the point at which half the population is older and half is younger) exceeded 40 years in the Region as a whole—and was at least 40 years in nearly three-fourths of Appalachian counties. And in 64 counties—all but 13 of which were outside metro areas—the median age was at least 45 years. Of the 34 counties with populations whose median age was younger than the national median, 21 were in Southern Appalachia—the only subregion where the overall age structure roughly resembled that of the nation. With the aging of the population in both Appalachia and the nation, median age will almost certainly continue to rise in most of the Region’s counties.

**Table 2.2: Percentage Point Change in the Share of the Population in the Appalachian Region, by Age Group, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**

Population by Age Group	Percentage Point Change in Share of Population				Change in Median Age (Years)
	Under Age 18	Ages 18-24	Ages 25-64	Ages 65 and over	
<b>United States</b>	- 1.1	+ 0.1	- 0.1	+ 1.1	+ 0.9
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	- 0.9	+ 0.2	- 0.4	+ 1.2	+ 1.3
<b>Subregions</b>					
Northern Appalachia	- 1.0	+ 0.1	- 0.1	+ 0.9	+ 1.1
North Central Appalachia	- 0.7	- 0.3	- 0.4	+ 1.4	+ 1.5
Central Appalachia	- 0.7	- 0.1	- 0.9	+ 1.6	+ 1.8
South Central Appalachia	- 0.8	+ 0.1	- 1.0	+ 1.7	+ 1.4
Southern Appalachia	- 1.1	+ 0.4	- 0.6	+ 1.3	+ 1.2
<b>County Types</b>					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	- 1.0	+ 0.3	- 0.3	+ 1.0	+ 1.1
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	- 0.9	+ 0.2	- 0.5	+ 1.2	+ 1.2
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 1.0	- 0.3	- 0.2	+ 1.3	+ 1.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	- 0.9	+ 0.1	- 0.8	+ 1.6	+ 1.6
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 1.0	- 0.1	- 0.5	+ 1.6	+ 1.6
<b>Alabama</b>	- 1.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.0	+ 1.0	+ 1.0
Appalachian Alabama	- 0.9	+ 0.3	- 0.3	+ 0.9	+ 1.1
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 1.2	- 0.3	+ 0.5	+ 1.1	+ 1.1
<b>Georgia</b>	- 1.4	+ 0.2	- 0.3	+ 1.5	+ 1.3
Appalachian Georgia	- 1.4	+ 0.5	- 0.9	+ 1.8	+ 1.6
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 1.4	+ 0.0	- 0.1	+ 1.4	+ 1.1
<b>Kentucky</b>	- 0.6	- 0.1	- 0.6	+ 1.1	+ 1.0
Appalachian Kentucky	- 0.7	- 0.2	- 0.8	+ 1.5	+ 1.8
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 0.4	- 0.1	- 0.5	+ 1.0	+ 0.8
<b>Maryland</b>	- 1.3	+ 0.2	- 0.1	+ 1.2	+ 0.8
Appalachian Maryland	- 0.8	- 0.4	+ 0.3	+ 1.0	+ 1.5
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 1.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.0	+ 1.2	+ 0.8
<b>Mississippi</b>	- 1.2	- 0.4	+ 0.5	+ 1.0	+ 1.3
Appalachian Mississippi	- 1.2	+ 0.0	+ 0.2	+ 1.0	+ 1.2
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 1.3	- 0.4	+ 0.6	+ 1.1	+ 1.4
<b>New York</b>	- 1.4	+ 0.5	+ 0.0	+ 0.9	+ 0.4
Appalachian New York	- 1.0	- 0.1	- 0.1	+ 1.2	+ 0.9
Non-Appalachian New York	- 1.4	+ 0.5	+ 0.0	+ 0.8	+ 0.4
<b>North Carolina</b>	- 1.0	+ 0.1	- 0.5	+ 1.4	+ 1.2
Appalachian North Carolina	- 1.0	+ 0.4	- 1.1	+ 1.8	+ 1.4
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 1.0	- 0.1	- 0.4	+ 1.3	+ 1.2
<b>Ohio</b>	- 0.9	+ 0.2	- 0.5	+ 1.1	+ 1.2
Appalachian Ohio	- 0.9	- 0.2	- 0.5	+ 1.4	+ 1.7
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 0.8	+ 0.3	- 0.5	+ 1.1	+ 1.1
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	- 1.0	+ 0.3	+ 0.0	+ 0.7	+ 0.8
Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 1.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.8	+ 1.1
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 1.0	+ 0.4	- 0.1	+ 0.8	+ 0.7
<b>South Carolina</b>	- 1.2	+ 0.2	- 0.7	+ 1.6	+ 1.1
Appalachian South Carolina	- 0.8	+ 0.6	- 1.1	+ 1.3	+ 0.9
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 1.3	+ 0.2	- 0.6	+ 1.6	+ 1.2
<b>Tennessee</b>	- 0.8	+ 0.4	- 0.8	+ 1.3	+ 1.0
Appalachian Tennessee	- 0.7	+ 0.1	- 1.1	+ 1.8	+ 1.6
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 0.9	+ 0.5	- 0.6	+ 1.0	+ 0.7
<b>Virginia</b>	- 0.9	- 0.3	+ 0.0	+ 1.2	+ 0.9
Appalachian Virginia	- 0.6	- 0.4	- 0.7	+ 1.7	+ 1.5
Non-Appalachian Virginia	- 1.1	- 0.3	+ 0.2	+ 1.2	+ 0.8
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	- 0.7	- 0.1	- 0.5	+ 1.3	+ 1.2

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Surveys.

## TRENDS IN AGE

- Like the United States as a whole, Appalachia's population has gotten older between the 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 periods (see Table 2.2). And it's been aging more noticeably than the national average in that time: The median age of the Region's population (the point at which half the population is older and half is younger) has risen by more than a year between these two periods, to 40.3 years. By comparison, the U.S. median age has risen by just less than a year.
- Some parts of the Appalachian Region are aging faster than others. For example, Central Appalachia's median age has risen nearly two years between 2005-2009 and 2010-2014, to 41 years. And the median age in the Region's counties outside metropolitan areas has risen more than 1.5 years, compared with just over one year for Appalachia's metropolitan counties. Yet among all Appalachian subregions and county types, as well as in the Appalachian portions of most of the states in the Region, the median age is increasing faster than the national average.
- In both the United States and Appalachia, the aging of the population has come largely at the expense of younger age groups. For example, the share of the population under age 18 is about one percentage point lower in 2010-2014 than it was in 2005-2009. Similarly, the share ages 25 to 64 has fallen by less than half a percentage point in Appalachia, particularly as older members of the baby boom cohorts move into the "65 and over" age category.

## CHAPTER 3: RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN

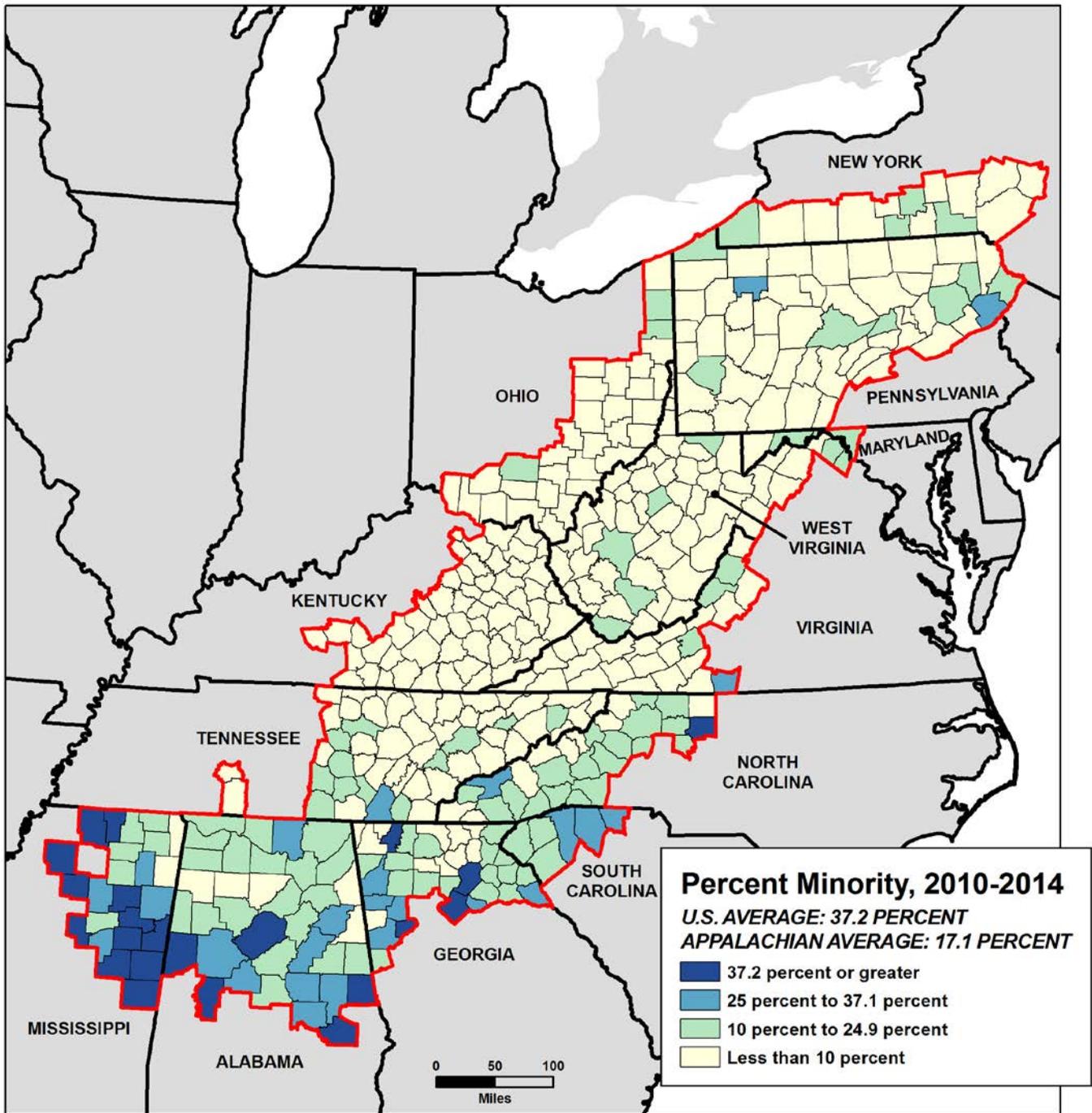
Table 3.1: Population in the Appalachian Region by Race and Hispanic Origin, 2010-2014

Population by Race and Hispanic Origin	Total Population, 2010-2014	Percent of Population				
		White Alone, Not Hispanic	Minority			
			Total	Black Alone, Not Hispanic	Hispanic or Latino	Other, Not Hispanic
<b>United States</b>	<b>314,107,084</b>	<b>62.8</b>	<b>37.2</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>16.9</b>	<b>8.1</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>25,367,886</b>	<b>82.9</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>3.4</b>
<b>Subregions</b>						
Northern Appalachia	8,354,698	89.0	11.0	5.2	2.7	3.2
North Central Appalachia	2,426,928	92.9	7.1	2.8	1.3	2.9
Central Appalachia	1,909,019	95.1	4.9	1.9	1.3	1.7
South Central Appalachia	4,759,012	85.0	15.0	7.0	4.8	3.2
Southern Appalachia	7,918,229	69.1	30.9	18.8	7.8	4.2
<b>County Types</b>						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	5,925,315	74.0	26.0	15.0	6.0	5.0
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	10,704,478	82.4	17.6	9.2	5.0	3.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	2,205,370	88.9	11.1	5.2	3.4	2.6
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	3,987,860	90.1	9.9	4.5	3.1	2.3
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	2,544,863	88.8	11.2	7.6	1.8	1.8
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>4,817,678</b>	<b>66.6</b>	<b>33.4</b>	<b>26.2</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>3.2</b>
Appalachian Alabama	3,084,897	70.5	29.5	21.9	4.5	3.1
Non-Appalachian Alabama	1,732,781	59.5	40.5	33.9	3.1	3.5
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>9,907,756</b>	<b>55.0</b>	<b>45.0</b>	<b>30.4</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>5.5</b>
Appalachian Georgia	3,008,603	66.8	33.2	13.9	13.1	6.2
Non-Appalachian Georgia	6,899,153	49.9	50.1	37.6	7.3	5.2
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>4,383,272</b>	<b>85.8</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.3</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	1,182,270	95.2	4.8	1.8	1.3	1.7
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	3,201,002	82.3	17.7	10.0	3.9	3.8
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>5,887,776</b>	<b>53.6</b>	<b>46.4</b>	<b>29.0</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>8.6</b>
Appalachian Maryland	252,834	85.5	14.5	8.2	2.8	3.5
Non-Appalachian Maryland	5,634,942	52.1	47.9	30.0	9.0	8.9
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>2,984,345</b>	<b>57.6</b>	<b>42.4</b>	<b>37.2</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>2.4</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	629,211	64.4	35.6	31.5	2.4	1.7
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Non-Appalachian New York	18,534,241	55.4	44.6	15.1	19.0	10.5
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Non-Appalachian North Carolina	8,039,426	61.1	38.9	23.8	9.0	6.0
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Appalachian Tennessee	2,814,443	88.1	11.9	5.4	3.5	2.9
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	3,636,922	64.8	35.2	25.4	5.8	4.0
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>8,185,131</b>	<b>63.9</b>	<b>36.1</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>8.8</b>
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<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>1,853,881</b>	<b>92.7</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>2.8</b>

Note: "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, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

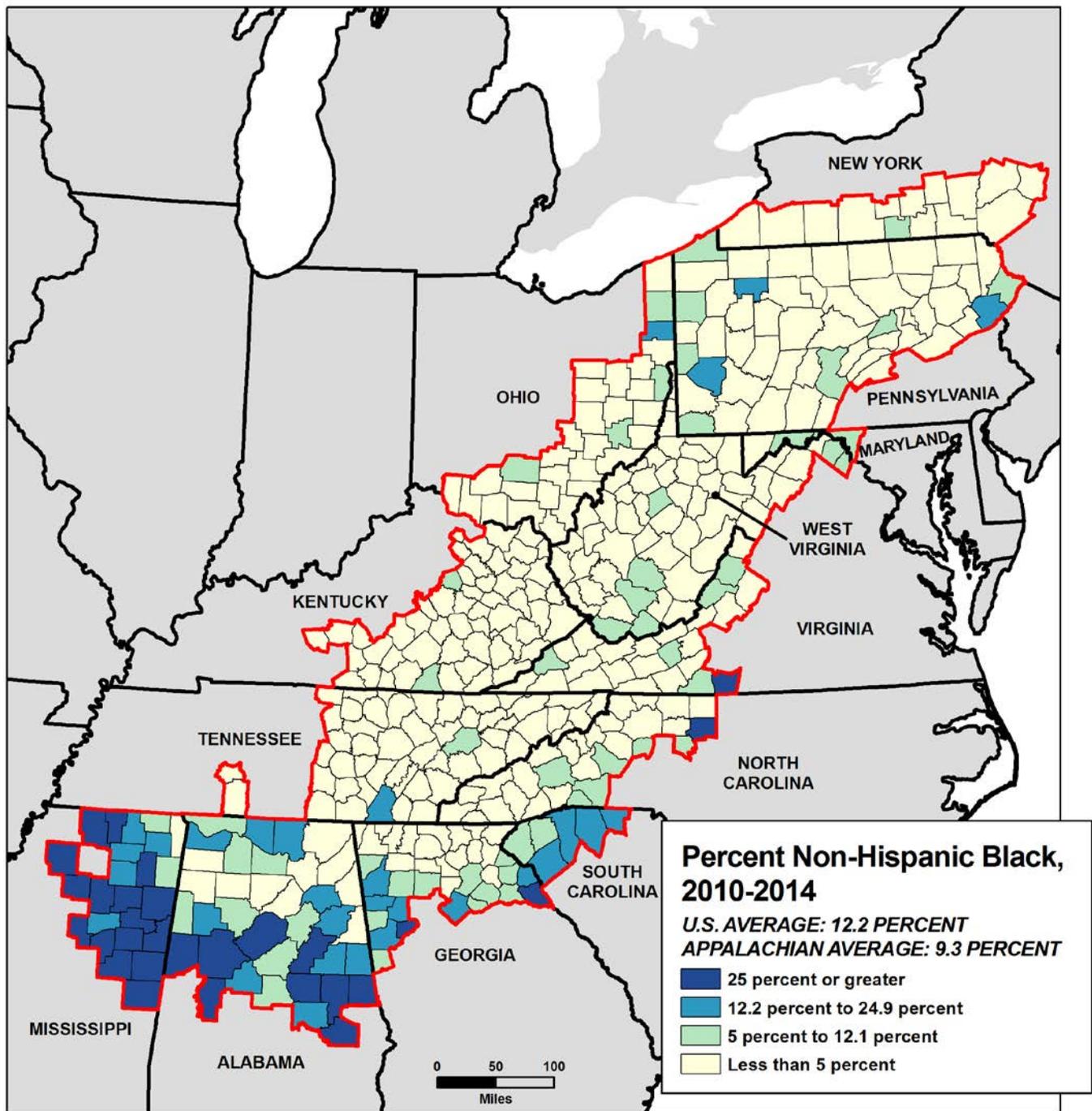
**Figure 3.1: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region That Is Minority, 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region That Is Minority, 2010-2014  
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 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 almost 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 2010-2014 period. There were just 22 counties—all but one in Southern Appalachia—where minorities’ share of the population matched or exceeded the national average of 37 percent.

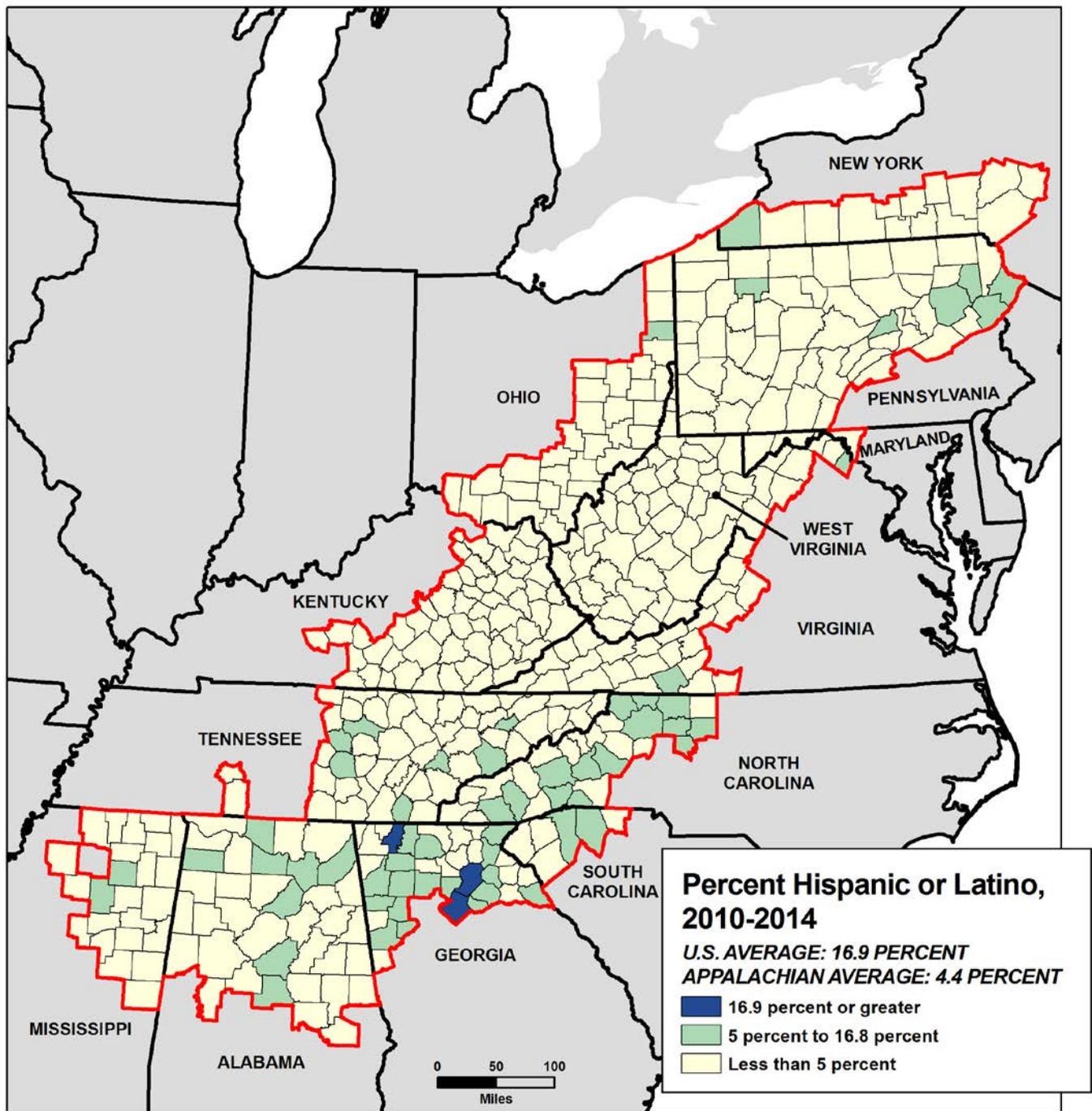
Figure 3.2: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region That Is Black Alone, not Hispanic, 2010-2014



Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region That Is Black Alone, not Hispanic, 2010-2014  
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

Although non-Hispanic African Americans remained the largest single minority group in Appalachia during the 2010-2014 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 52 of the Region’s 59 counties where the black share of the population matched or surpassed that of the nation—as well as 27 of the 29 where at least one in four residents was African American. At the other end of the spectrum, persons who were “black alone, not Hispanic” accounted for less than 5 percent of the residents in nearly three-fourths of Appalachian counties.

**Figure 3.3: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region That Is Hispanic or Latino, 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region That Is Hispanic or Latino, 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

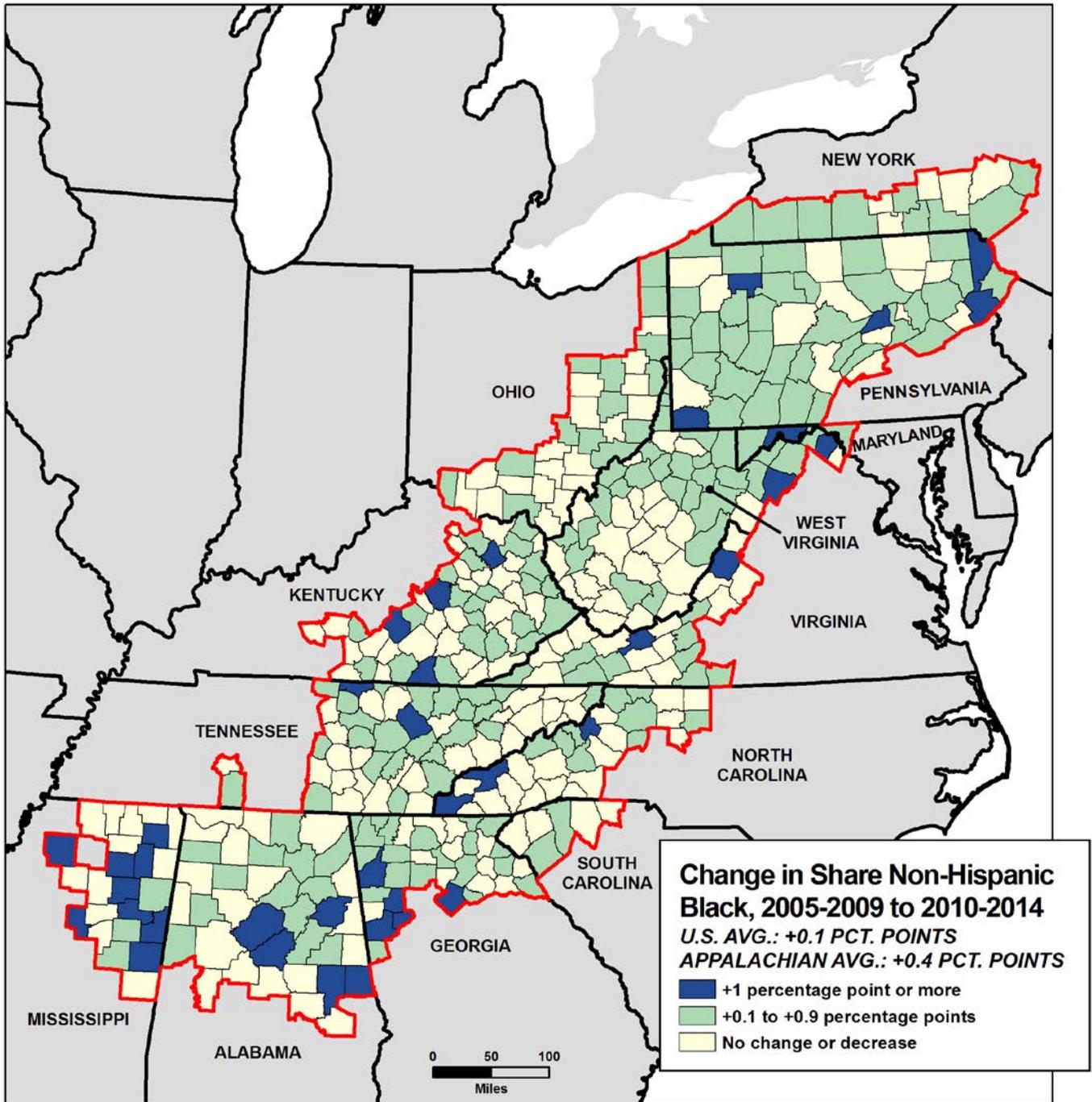
While Hispanics have become the United States' largest minority group, they made up only one in 25 residents in the Appalachian Region during the 2010-2014 period. The county patterns reflect this fact, as Hispanics were at least 5 percent of the population in just 63 of Appalachia's 420 counties, mostly in Southern and South Central Appalachia. Moreover, just three Appalachian counties (Gwinnett, Hall, and Whitfield—all in Georgia) had Latino population shares that matched or exceeded the national average.

**Table 3.2: Percentage Point Change in the Share of the Population in the Appalachian Region, by Race and Hispanic Origin, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**

Population by Race and Hispanic Origin	Percentage Point Change in Share of Population				
	White Alone, Not Hispanic	Minority			
		Total	Black Alone, Not Hispanic	Hispanic or Latino	Other, Not Hispanic
<b>United States</b>	<b>- 3.0</b>	<b>+ 3.0</b>	<b>+ 0.1</b>	<b>+ 1.8</b>	<b>+ 1.1</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>- 2.1</b>	<b>+ 2.1</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>	<b>+ 1.0</b>	<b>+ 0.6</b>
<b>Subregions</b>					
Northern Appalachia	- 1.8	+ 1.8	+ 0.4	+ 0.8	+ 0.7
North Central Appalachia	- 0.8	+ 0.8	- 0.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
Central Appalachia	- 0.5	+ 0.5	+ 0.0	+ 0.4	+ 0.2
South Central Appalachia	- 1.6	+ 1.6	+ 0.0	+ 1.1	+ 0.5
Southern Appalachia	- 3.0	+ 3.0	+ 0.7	+ 1.5	+ 0.6
<b>County Types</b>					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	- 3.7	+ 3.7	+ 1.2	+ 1.4	+ 1.0
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	- 2.1	+ 2.1	+ 0.3	+ 1.2	+ 0.6
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 1.1	+ 1.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.6	+ 0.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	- 1.0	+ 1.0	- 0.1	+ 0.8	+ 0.3
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 0.8	+ 0.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.5	+ 0.2
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>- 1.9</b>	<b>+ 1.9</b>	<b>+ 0.2</b>	<b>+ 1.2</b>	<b>+ 0.5</b>
Appalachian Alabama	- 2.0	+ 2.0	+ 0.3	+ 1.2	+ 0.5
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 1.9	+ 1.9	+ 0.1	+ 1.1	+ 0.7
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>- 3.4</b>	<b>+ 3.4</b>	<b>+ 1.0</b>	<b>+ 1.4</b>	<b>+ 1.0</b>
Appalachian Georgia	- 5.0	+ 5.0	+ 2.0	+ 2.1	+ 0.9
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 2.9	+ 2.9	+ 0.9	+ 0.9	+ 1.0
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>- 1.9</b>	<b>+ 1.9</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>	<b>+ 0.8</b>	<b>+ 0.8</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	- 0.5	+ 0.5	+ 0.0	+ 0.3	+ 0.2
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 2.2	+ 2.2	+ 0.4	+ 1.0	+ 0.9
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>- 4.1</b>	<b>+ 4.1</b>	<b>+ 0.5</b>	<b>+ 2.2</b>	<b>+ 1.5</b>
Appalachian Maryland	- 3.0	+ 3.0	+ 1.1	+ 0.9	+ 0.9
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 4.2	+ 4.2	+ 0.5	+ 2.2	+ 1.6
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>- 1.2</b>	<b>+ 1.2</b>	<b>+ 0.3</b>	<b>+ 0.7</b>	<b>+ 0.2</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	- 0.9	+ 0.9	+ 0.2	+ 0.6	+ 0.1
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 1.3	+ 1.3	+ 0.3	+ 0.7	+ 0.3
<b>New York</b>	<b>- 3.0</b>	<b>+ 3.0</b>	<b>- 0.2</b>	<b>+ 1.9</b>	<b>+ 1.5</b>
Appalachian New York	- 1.8	+ 1.8	+ 0.3	+ 0.8	+ 0.6
Non-Appalachian New York	- 3.2	+ 3.2	- 0.2	+ 1.9	+ 1.5
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>- 2.8</b>	<b>+ 2.8</b>	<b>+ 0.3</b>	<b>+ 1.7</b>	<b>+ 1.0</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	- 1.8	+ 1.8	- 0.1	+ 1.4	+ 0.5
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 3.0	+ 3.0	+ 0.2	+ 1.7	+ 1.0
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>- 2.0</b>	<b>+ 2.0</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>	<b>+ 0.7</b>	<b>+ 0.9</b>
Appalachian Ohio	- 0.7	+ 0.7	- 0.1	+ 0.5	+ 0.4
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 2.2	+ 2.2	+ 0.5	+ 0.7	+ 1.0
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>- 3.0</b>	<b>+ 3.0</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>	<b>+ 1.4</b>	<b>+ 1.1</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 1.9	+ 1.9	+ 0.4	+ 0.9	+ 0.7
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 3.5	+ 3.5	+ 0.3	+ 1.9	+ 1.3
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>- 1.2</b>	<b>+ 1.2</b>	<b>- 0.7</b>	<b>+ 1.3</b>	<b>+ 0.6</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	- 1.8	+ 1.8	+ 0.1	+ 1.2	+ 0.5
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 0.9	+ 0.9	- 0.9	+ 1.3	+ 0.6
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>- 2.0</b>	<b>+ 2.0</b>	<b>+ 0.3</b>	<b>+ 1.1</b>	<b>+ 0.6</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	- 1.6	+ 1.6	+ 0.0	+ 1.0	+ 0.5
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 2.1	+ 2.1	+ 0.3	+ 1.1	+ 0.7
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>- 3.1</b>	<b>+ 3.1</b>	<b>- 0.4</b>	<b>+ 1.7</b>	<b>+ 1.8</b>
Appalachian Virginia	- 0.6	+ 0.6	- 0.1	+ 0.4	+ 0.4
Non-Appalachian Virginia	- 3.2	+ 3.2	- 0.5	+ 1.8	+ 1.8
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>- 0.8</b>	<b>+ 0.8</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>	<b>+ 0.2</b>	<b>+ 0.6</b>

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Surveys.

**Figure 3.4: Percentage Point Change in the Share of the Population in the Appalachian Region That Is Black Alone, not Hispanic, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**

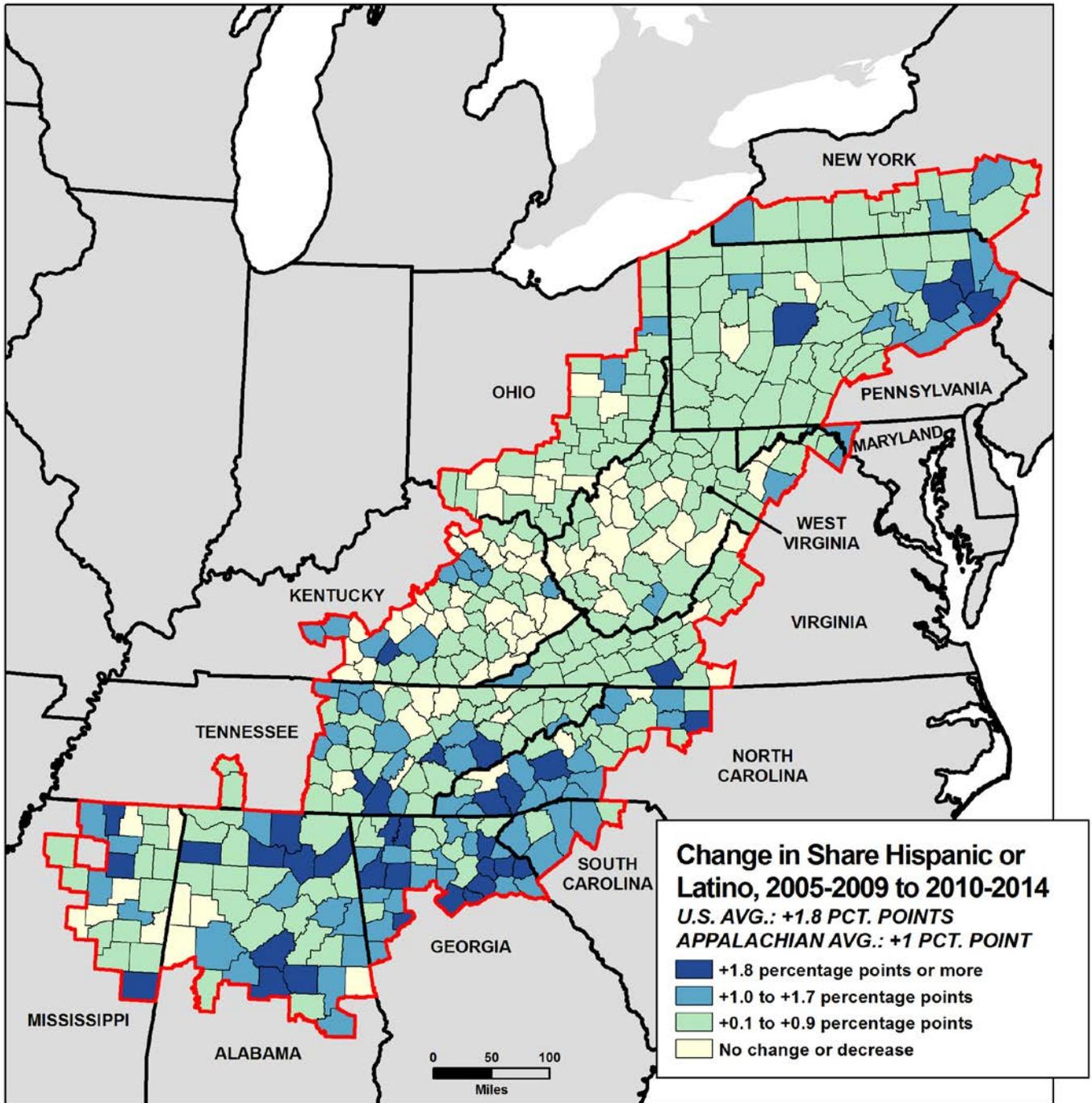


Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of the Population in the Appalachian Region That Is Black Alone, not Hispanic, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Surveys.

Although African Americans' share of the U.S. population barely budged between the 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 periods, their share of the Appalachian population rose nearly half a percentage point, from 8.9 percent to 9.3 percent. And there were 38 counties—with both large and small African American concentrations—where blacks' share of the population increased by at least one percentage point. Yet in nearly half of Appalachia's 420 counties, the African American share of the population has either stayed the same or decreased.

**Figure 3.5: Percentage Point Change in the Share of the Population in the Appalachian Region That Is Hispanic or Latino, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of the Population in the Appalachian Region That Is Hispanic or Latino, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Surveys.

The Hispanic/Latino share of the Appalachian population rose by a full percentage point between 2005-2009 and 2010-2014—although this increase was barely more than half the national average for the period. Still, there were 37 counties (32 of which were in South Central or Southern Appalachia) where the Hispanic share of the population grew at or above the national rate. Opportunities in such industries as poultry processing (such as in DeKalb County, Ala.) and construction (in the counties surrounding Atlanta)—as well as in creating small businesses—have been given as possible factors fueling this growth.

## TRENDS IN RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN

- The Appalachian Region has become more racially and ethnically diverse since 2005-2009. Between that period and 2010-2014, the share of the population that is minority (defined as anyone who identifies with a racial or ethnic group *other than* “white alone, not Hispanic”) has risen two percentage points to 17 percent (see Tables 3.1 and 3.2). The pace of the increased diversity, however, is not as great as that of the nation as a whole.
- Within the Region, racial diversity is increasing the most in Southern Appalachia and counties that are part of large metropolitan areas (1 million population or more). Since the 2005-2009 period, minorities’ share of Southern Appalachia’s population has risen three percentage points. Among counties in large metros, the minority share has grown nearly four percentage points. Not surprisingly, these two areas have minority concentrations in 2010-2014 (31 percent and 26 percent, respectively) that come closest to the national minority share of 37 percent.
- Although African Americans comprise the largest minority group in Appalachia, Hispanics have fueled much (if not most) of the minority increase. The Hispanic/Latino share of the Appalachian population rose a full percentage point between 2005-2009 and 2010-2014—more than twice the increase for the Region’s African American share. The increase in the Latino population may be associated with employment opportunities in such industries as poultry processing and construction, as well as in creating small businesses. As with the overall minority population, Southern Appalachia and large metropolitan areas had the greatest increases in both the black and Latino shares.

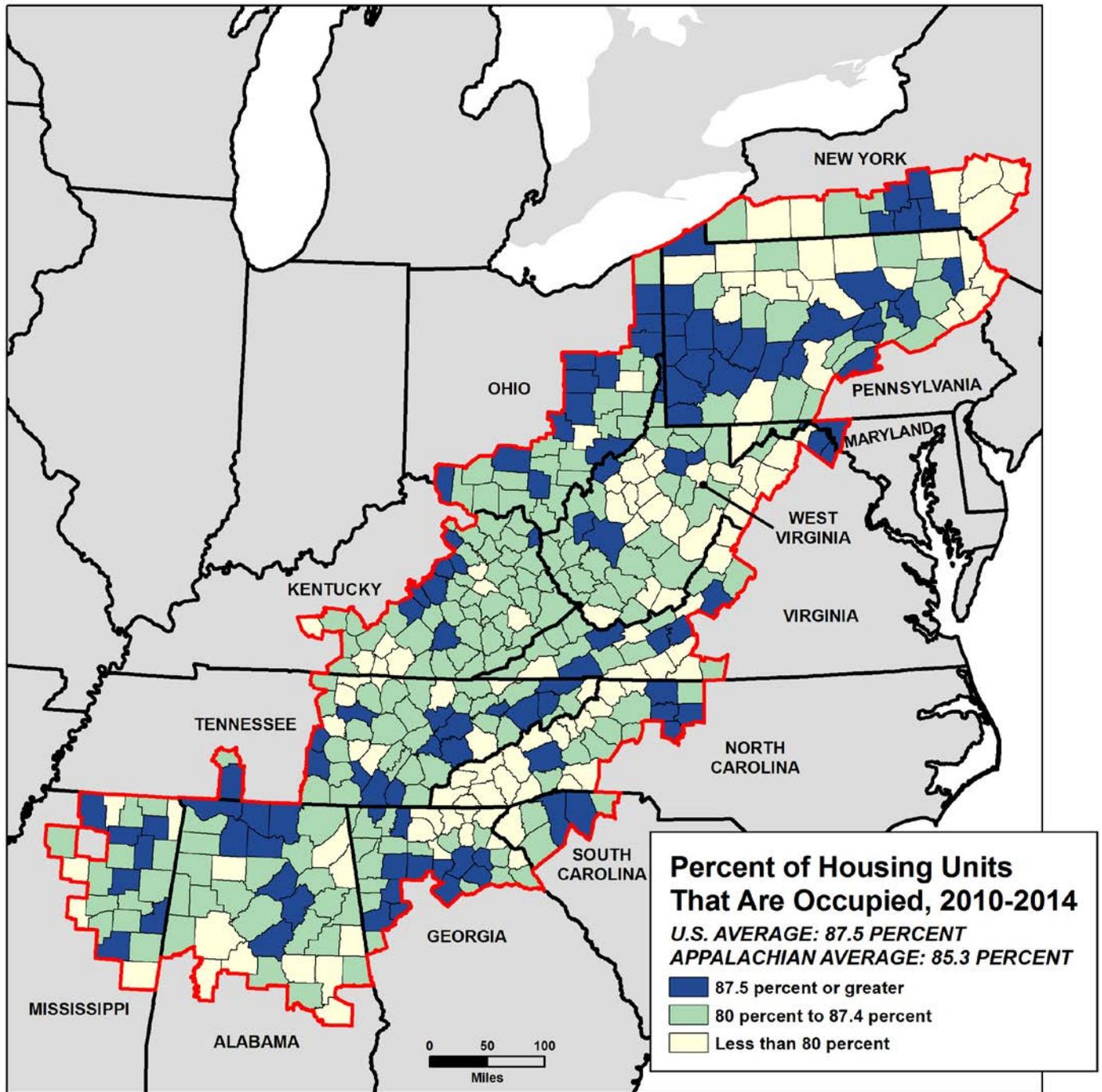
## CHAPTER 4: HOUSING OCCUPANCY AND TENURE

Table 4.1: Occupancy and Tenure of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2010-2014

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	Owner-Occupied	Renter-Occupied
<b>United States</b>	<b>132,741,033</b>	<b>116,211,092</b>	<b>87.5</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>64.4</b>	<b>35.6</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>11,568,252</b>	<b>9,864,931</b>	<b>85.3</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>70.9</b>	<b>29.1</b>
<b>Subregions</b>						
Northern Appalachia	3,921,988	3,355,468	85.6	14.4	71.1	28.9
North Central Appalachia	1,118,267	948,749	84.8	15.2	72.5	27.5
Central Appalachia	882,818	743,861	84.3	15.7	72.6	27.4
South Central Appalachia	2,271,961	1,911,459	84.1	15.9	69.7	30.3
Southern Appalachia	3,373,218	2,905,394	86.1	13.9	70.6	29.4
<b>County Types</b>						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	2,542,453	2,255,767	88.7	11.3	71.0	29.0
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	4,799,982	4,194,613	87.4	12.6	69.3	30.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	1,025,615	854,079	83.3	16.7	71.6	28.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	1,950,197	1,570,638	80.5	19.5	73.5	26.5
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	1,250,005	989,834	79.2	20.8	72.8	27.2
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>2,190,638</b>	<b>1,842,174</b>	<b>84.1</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>69.2</b>	<b>30.8</b>
Appalachian Alabama	1,388,749	1,183,725	85.2	14.8	70.6	29.4
Non-Appalachian Alabama	801,889	658,449	82.1	17.9	66.6	33.4
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>4,114,496</b>	<b>3,540,690</b>	<b>86.1</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>64.2</b>	<b>35.8</b>
Appalachian Georgia	1,184,283	1,030,657	87.0	13.0	71.3	28.7
Non-Appalachian Georgia	2,930,213	2,510,033	85.7	14.3	61.2	38.8
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>1,938,836</b>	<b>1,702,235</b>	<b>87.8</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>67.7</b>	<b>32.3</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	539,633	457,188	84.7	15.3	71.1	28.9
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	1,399,203	1,245,047	89.0	11.0	66.4	33.6
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>2,399,375</b>	<b>2,155,983</b>	<b>89.9</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>67.1</b>	<b>32.9</b>
Appalachian Maryland	113,279	96,110	84.8	15.2	67.3	32.7
Non-Appalachian Maryland	2,286,096	2,059,873	90.1	9.9	67.1	32.9
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>1,284,794</b>	<b>1,092,627</b>	<b>85.0</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>68.9</b>	<b>31.1</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	279,507	236,948	84.8	15.2	70.8	29.2
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	1,005,287	855,679	85.1	14.9	68.4	31.6
<b>New York</b>	<b>8,153,309</b>	<b>7,255,528</b>	<b>89.0</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>53.8</b>	<b>46.2</b>
Appalachian New York	509,252	420,333	82.5	17.5	69.4	30.6
Non-Appalachian New York	7,644,057	6,835,195	89.4	10.6	52.9	47.1
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>4,385,668</b>	<b>3,742,514</b>	<b>85.3</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>65.8</b>	<b>34.2</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	861,098	689,167	80.0	20.0	69.9	30.1
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	3,524,570	3,053,347	86.6	13.4	64.9	35.1
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>5,135,173</b>	<b>4,570,015</b>	<b>89.0</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>66.9</b>	<b>33.1</b>
Appalachian Ohio	903,218	791,140	87.6	12.4	71.9	28.1
Non-Appalachian Ohio	4,231,955	3,778,875	89.3	10.7	65.8	34.2
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>5,578,393</b>	<b>4,957,736</b>	<b>88.9</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>69.5</b>	<b>30.5</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	2,722,997	2,331,629	85.6	14.4	71.4	28.6
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	2,855,396	2,626,107	92.0	8.0	67.8	32.2
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>2,160,383</b>	<b>1,795,715</b>	<b>83.1</b>	<b>16.9</b>	<b>68.6</b>	<b>31.4</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	520,679	454,064	87.2	12.8	68.8	31.2
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	1,639,704	1,341,651	81.8	18.2	68.5	31.5
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>2,839,142</b>	<b>2,487,349</b>	<b>87.6</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>67.1</b>	<b>32.9</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	1,296,820	1,124,425	86.7	13.3	69.9	30.1
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	1,542,322	1,362,924	88.4	11.6	64.8	35.2
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>3,403,241</b>	<b>3,041,710</b>	<b>89.4</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>66.7</b>	<b>33.3</b>
Appalachian Virginia	365,540	307,186	84.0	16.0	71.4	28.6
Non-Appalachian Virginia	3,037,701	2,734,524	90.0	10.0	66.1	33.9
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>883,197</b>	<b>742,359</b>	<b>84.1</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>73.0</b>	<b>27.0</b>

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

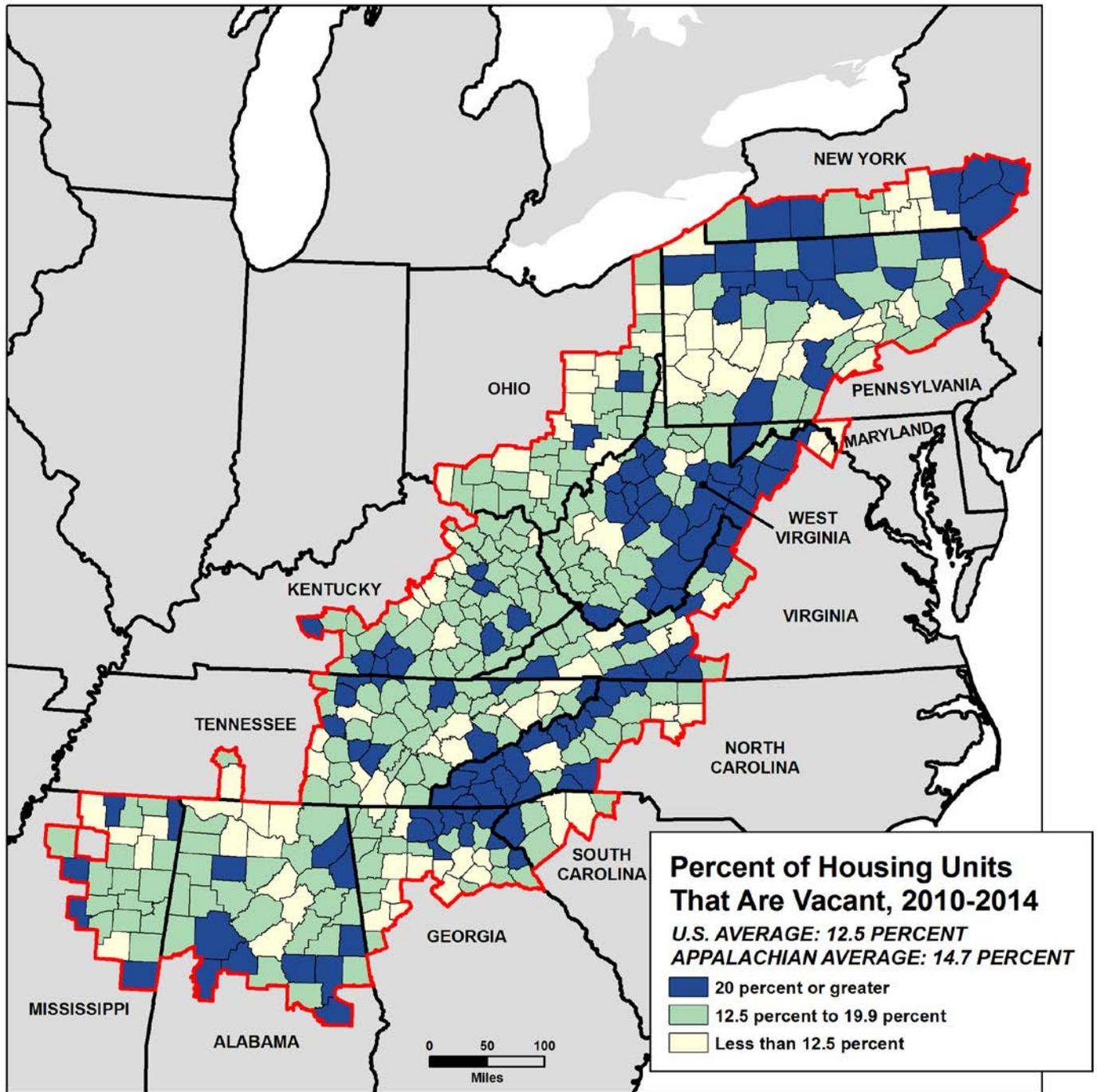
**Figure 4.1: Percent of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region That Are Occupied, 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percent of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region That Are Occupied, 2010-2014  
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

Although the home occupancy rate during the 2010-2014 period was slightly lower in Appalachia than in the United States as a whole, there were 111 counties in the Region that had occupancy rates matching or exceeding the national average. And while they were scattered throughout the Region, 75 of these counties were in metropolitan areas, such as Pittsburgh, the Atlanta and Birmingham suburbs, and Winston-Salem, N.C. Conversely, less than four-fifths of housing units were occupied in 116 Appalachian counties—all but 19 of which lay outside metropolitan areas.

Figure 4.2: Percent of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region That Are Vacant, 2010-2014

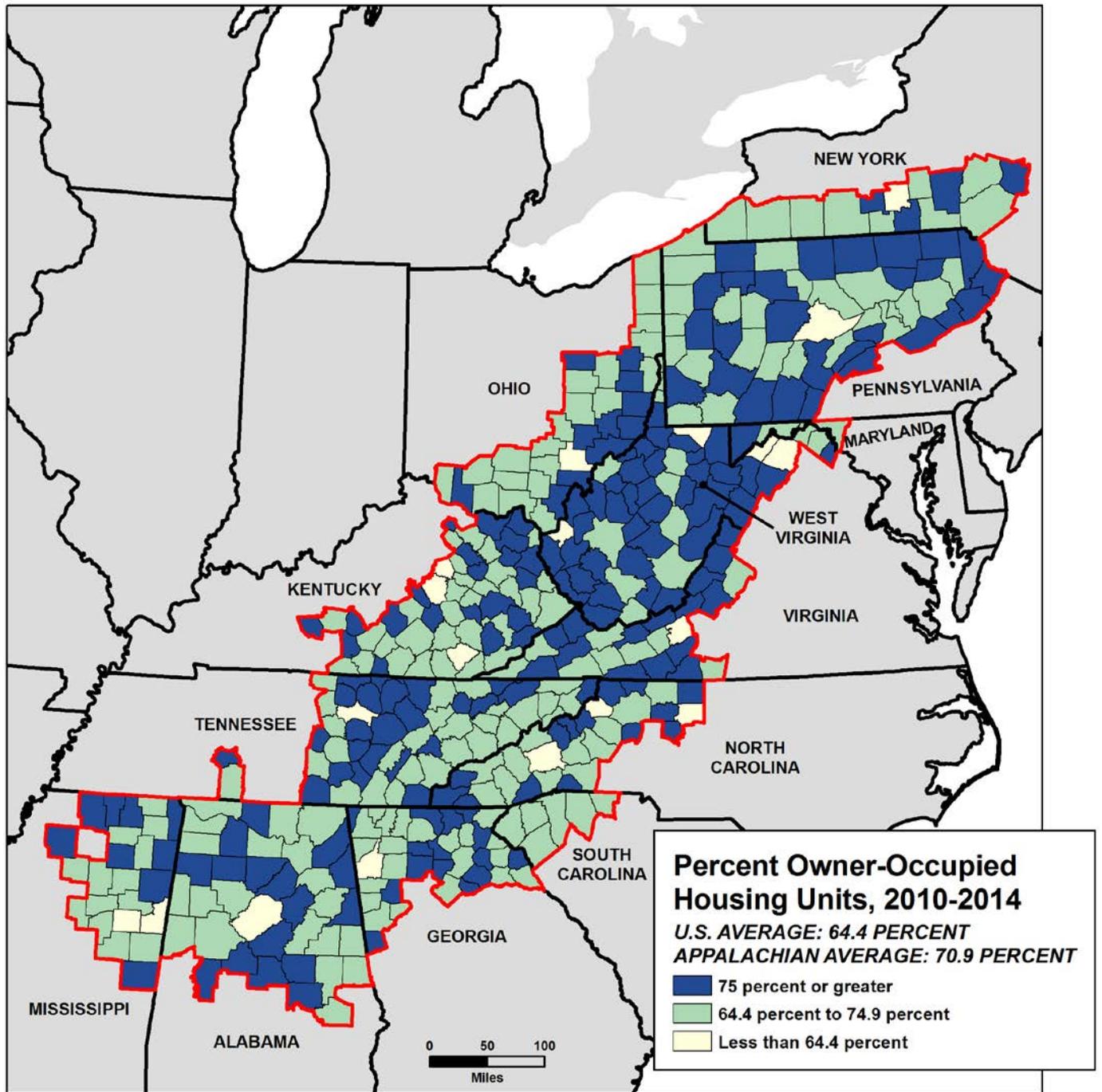


Map Title: Percent of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region That Are Vacant, 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

In Appalachia, one in seven housing units were vacant during the 2010-2014 period, compared to one in eight for the nation as a whole. Vacancy rates varied within the Region, however. While more than one-fourth of Appalachian counties (nearly all outside metropolitan areas) had vacancy rates at or above 20 percent, another one-fourth (mostly in metro areas) had rates below the national average. It is important to note that in 164 of the 316 Appalachian counties with vacancy rates of 12.5 percent or more, at least one-third of the vacant units were designated for seasonal or occasional use—suggesting significant recreational, resort, or retirement activity in the community. Examples of such areas include the Great Smoky Mountains along the North Carolina-Tennessee border, the Greenbrier resort in West Virginia (Greenbrier County), and the Pocono Mountains in northeastern Pennsylvania.

**Figure 4.3: Percent Owner-Occupied Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2010-2014**

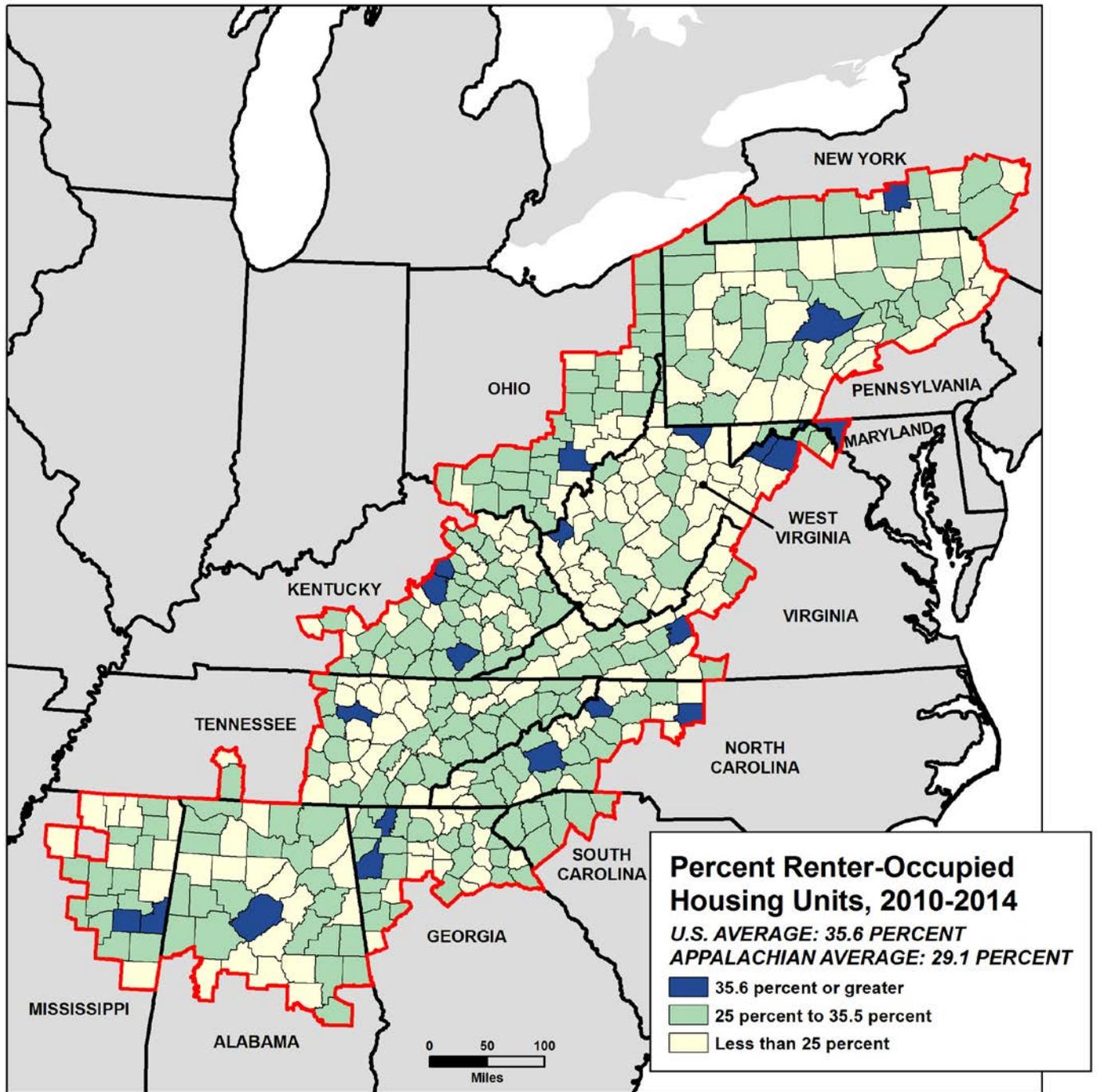


Map Title: Percent Owner-Occupied Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

In the 2010-2014 period, homeownership was more common in the Appalachian Region than in the rest of the country. In all but 19 counties, the share of owner-occupied housing units matched or exceeded the national average. Indeed, the homeownership rate was at least 75 percent in 195 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 the older age structure of the Appalachian population.

**Figure 4.4: Percent Renter-Occupied Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percent Renter-Occupied Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2010-2014  
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

The share of renter-occupied housing units during the 2010-2014 period was well below the national average throughout Appalachia; in fact, it was less than 25 percent in 192 of the Region’s 420 counties. Among the 21 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. Examples of these counties include Montgomery County, Va. (Virginia Tech, Radford University); Athens County, Ohio (Ohio University); and Watauga County, N.C. (Appalachian State University).

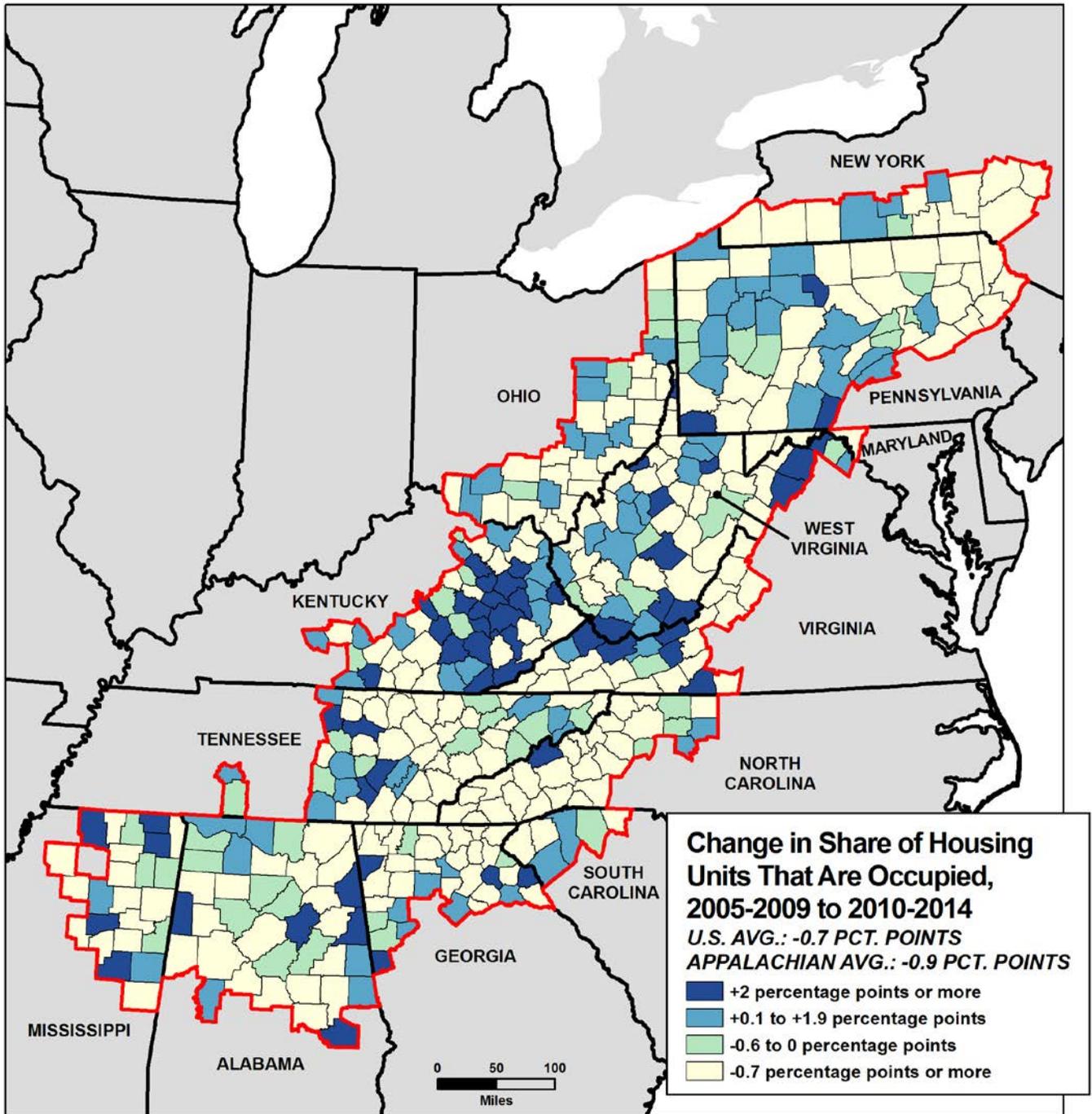
**Table 4.2: Percentage Point Change in Occupancy and Tenure of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**

Housing Occupancy and Tenure	Percentage Point Change, Share of Total Housing Units		Percentage Point Change, Share of Occupied Housing Units	
	Occupied	Vacant	Owner-Occupied	Renter-Occupied
<b>United States</b>	- 0.7	+ 0.7	- 2.5	+ 2.5
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	- 0.9	+ 0.9	- 1.7	+ 1.7
<b>Subregions</b>				
Northern Appalachia	- 0.7	+ 0.7	- 1.3	+ 1.3
North Central Appalachia	- 0.6	+ 0.6	- 1.3	+ 1.3
Central Appalachia	- 0.1	+ 0.1	- 1.5	+ 1.5
South Central Appalachia	- 1.7	+ 1.7	- 2.2	+ 2.2
Southern Appalachia	- 1.0	+ 1.0	- 2.0	+ 2.0
<b>County Types</b>				
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	- 0.1	+ 0.1	- 2.2	+ 2.2
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	- 1.0	+ 1.0	- 1.9	+ 1.9
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 0.8	+ 0.8	- 1.7	+ 1.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	- 1.7	+ 1.7	- 1.2	+ 1.2
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 1.2	+ 1.2	- 1.0	+ 1.0
<b>Alabama</b>	- 0.9	+ 0.9	- 1.6	+ 1.6
Appalachian Alabama	- 1.2	+ 1.2	- 1.4	+ 1.4
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 0.5	+ 0.5	- 2.0	+ 2.0
<b>Georgia</b>	- 0.5	+ 0.5	- 3.3	+ 3.3
Appalachian Georgia	- 0.9	+ 0.9	- 3.0	+ 3.0
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 0.4	+ 0.4	- 3.6	+ 3.6
<b>Kentucky</b>	+ 0.0	+ 0.0	- 2.5	+ 2.5
Appalachian Kentucky	+ 0.7	- 0.7	- 2.0	+ 2.0
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 0.3	+ 0.3	- 2.7	+ 2.7
<b>Maryland</b>	- 0.6	+ 0.6	- 2.5	+ 2.5
Appalachian Maryland	- 2.0	+ 2.0	- 1.3	+ 1.3
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 0.5	+ 0.5	- 2.5	+ 2.5
<b>Mississippi</b>	- 1.5	+ 1.5	- 1.6	+ 1.6
Appalachian Mississippi	- 1.2	+ 1.2	- 1.3	+ 1.3
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 1.5	+ 1.5	- 1.7	+ 1.7
<b>New York</b>	- 0.8	+ 0.8	- 1.9	+ 1.9
Appalachian New York	- 1.7	+ 1.7	- 0.6	+ 0.6
Non-Appalachian New York	- 0.7	+ 0.7	- 1.9	+ 1.9
<b>North Carolina</b>	- 0.7	+ 0.7	- 2.3	+ 2.3
Appalachian North Carolina	- 2.4	+ 2.4	- 2.5	+ 2.5
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 0.2	+ 0.2	- 2.2	+ 2.2
<b>Ohio</b>	- 0.4	+ 0.4	- 2.6	+ 2.6
Appalachian Ohio	- 0.9	+ 0.9	- 1.8	+ 1.8
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 0.3	+ 0.3	- 2.8	+ 2.8
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	- 0.4	+ 0.4	- 2.0	+ 2.0
Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 0.5	+ 0.5	- 1.3	+ 1.3
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 0.3	+ 0.3	- 2.5	+ 2.5
<b>South Carolina</b>	- 0.7	+ 0.7	- 1.7	+ 1.7
Appalachian South Carolina	- 0.2	+ 0.2	- 2.1	+ 2.1
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 0.8	+ 0.8	- 1.6	+ 1.6
<b>Tennessee</b>	- 1.1	+ 1.1	- 2.6	+ 2.6
Appalachian Tennessee	- 1.4	+ 1.4	- 2.2	+ 2.2
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 0.7	+ 0.7	- 2.9	+ 2.9
<b>Virginia</b>	- 0.6	+ 0.6	- 2.5	+ 2.5
Appalachian Virginia	- 1.3	+ 1.3	- 1.0	+ 1.0
Non-Appalachian Virginia	- 0.6	+ 0.6	- 2.7	+ 2.7
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	- 0.2	+ 0.2	- 1.3	+ 1.3

Note: Since occupied units and vacant units sum to the total number of housing units, the sum of the percentage point changes for the two categories will equal zero. The same principle holds for the sum of the percentage point changes for owner-occupied units and renter-occupied units, since these two categories sum to the total number of occupied housing units.

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Surveys.

**Figure 4.5: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region That Are Occupied, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**

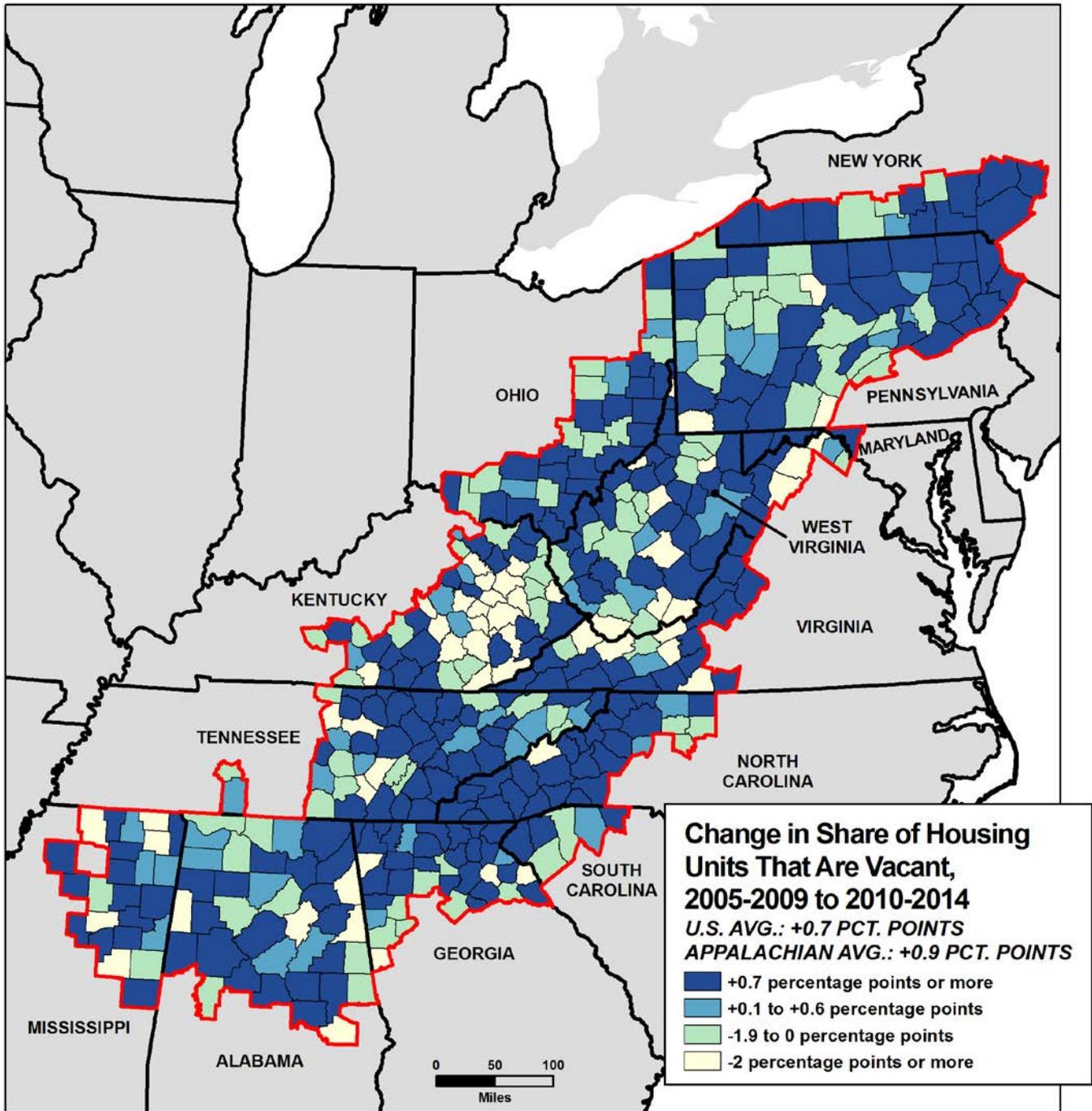


Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region That Are Occupied, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Surveys.

Appalachia’s home occupancy rate in 2010-2014 was nearly a full percentage point lower than it was in 2005-2009, a slightly greater decline than the nation as a whole. While this might reflect the effects of the Great Recession, other factors may also be at play. For example, severe weather events like the “Super Outbreak” of tornadoes that swept parts of Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee in April 2011, caused extreme structural damage and displaced families and (in some cases) entire communities. In 138 Appalachian counties, however, the occupancy rate actually increased between the two periods, and the rate rose at least two percentage points in 57 of these counties. One-third of the 57 counties in the latter group were in Kentucky; in that state’s Appalachian section, the occupancy rate increased nearly three-quarters of a percentage point during the period.

**Figure 4.6: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region That Are Vacant, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**

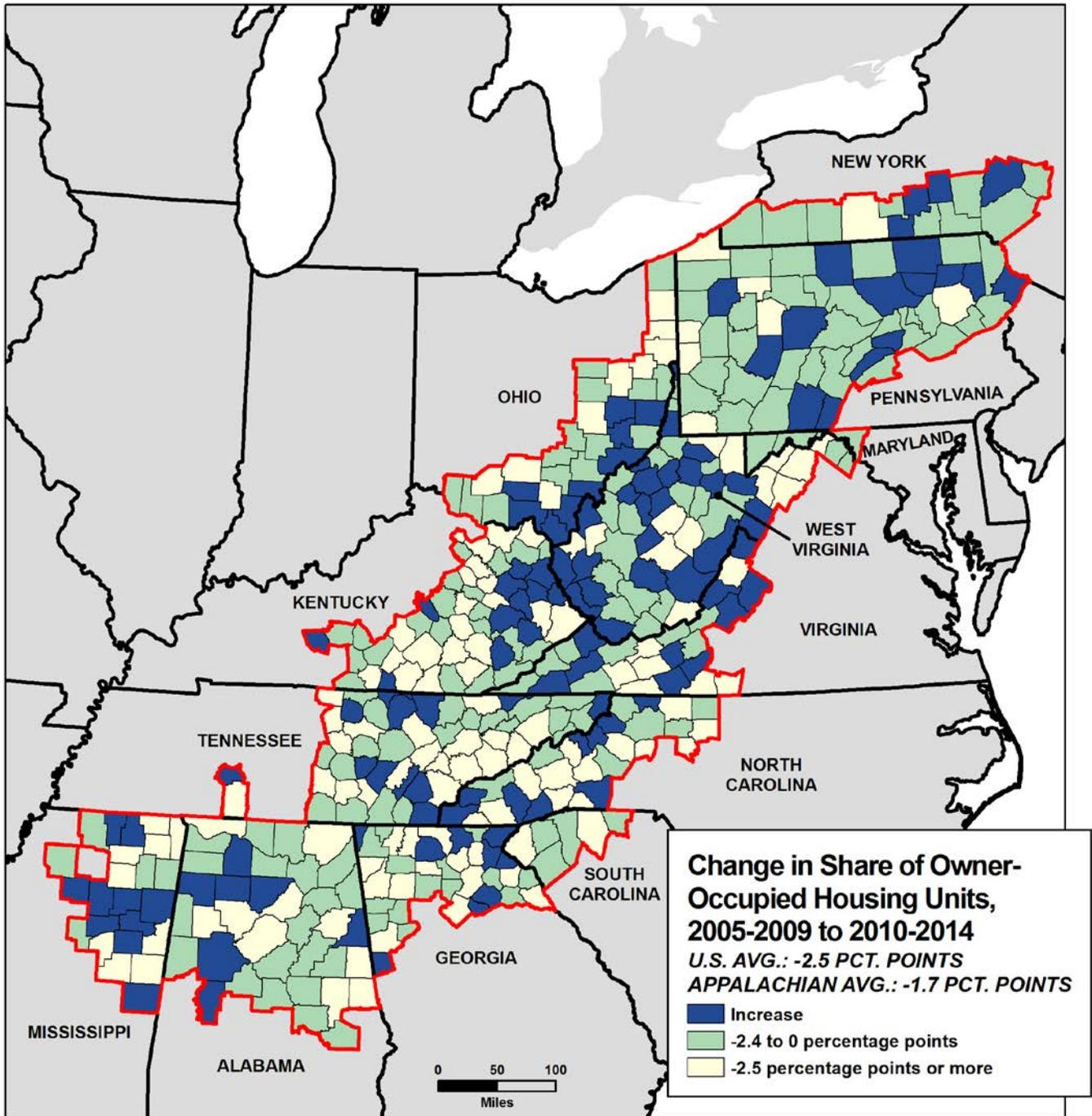


Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region That Are Vacant, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Surveys.

Between 2005-2009 and 2010-2014, the percentage of vacant housing units grew slightly more in Appalachia than in the nation as a whole. And in 228 of the Region's 420 counties, the increase was greater than or equal to the U.S. average. While this at least partly suggests the failure of occupancy rates to return to pre-recessionary levels, another possible factor could be an increase in the share of vacant units that were designed for seasonal or occasional use (which would suggest significant recreational or retirement activity). In 138 of the 228 Appalachian counties where overall vacancy rates rose at or above the national average, the percentage of vacant units designed for seasonal use increased.

**Figure 4.7: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Owner-Occupied Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**

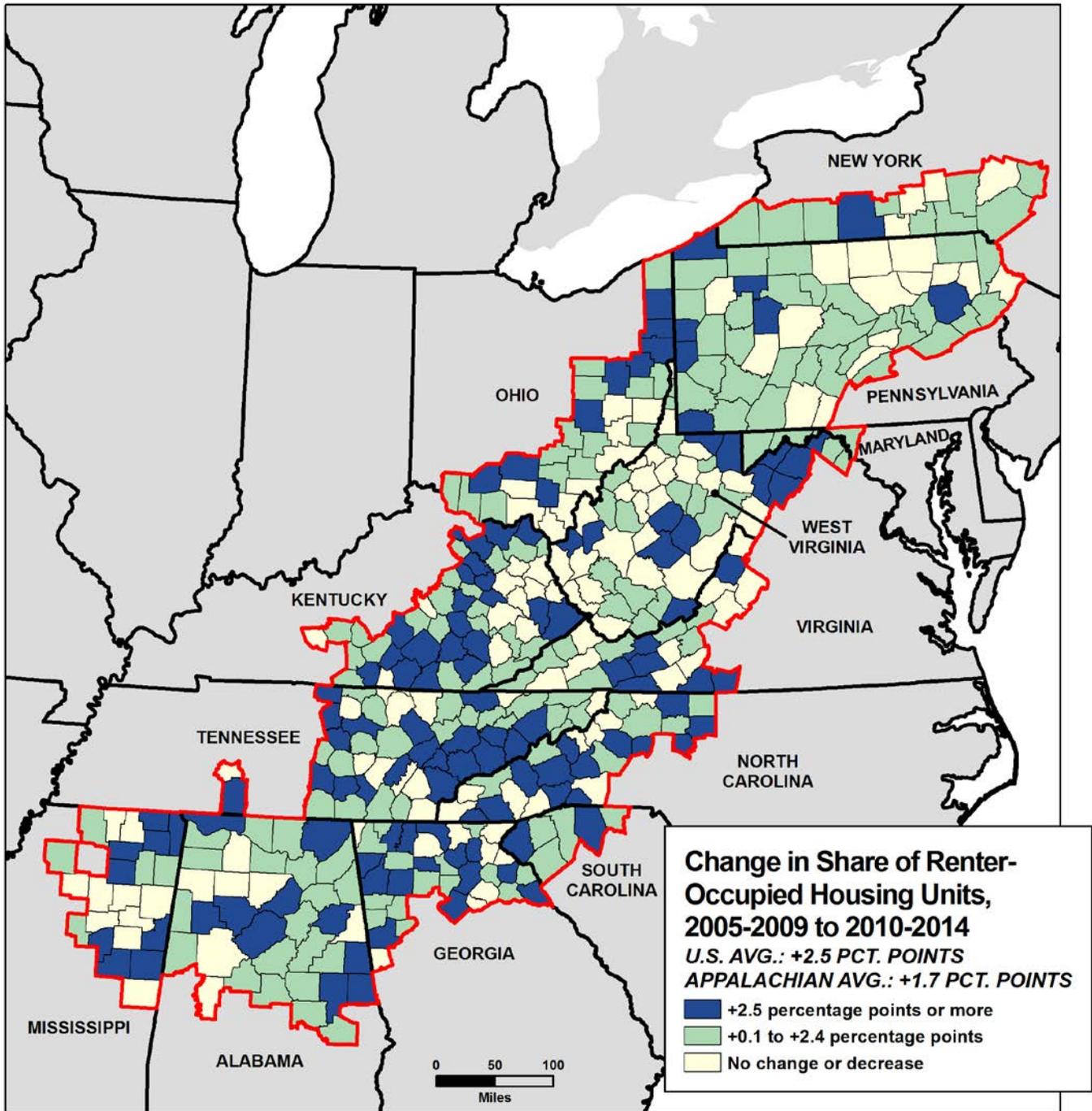


Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Owner-Occupied Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Surveys.

The share of owner-occupied housing units fell by nearly two percentage points in the Appalachian Region between 2005-2009 and 2010-2014. The decline was even greater for the nation, as well as in 126 Appalachian counties where homeownership rates fell by at least 2.5 percentage points. Still, there were 119 counties in the Region—91 of which were outside metropolitan areas—where homeownership actually increased during the period. While these 119 counties were scattered throughout Appalachia, 54 of them were in four states—West Virginia, Virginia, Kentucky, and Ohio. (West Virginia alone had 23 of these counties.)

**Figure 4.8: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Renter-Occupied Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Renter-Occupied Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Surveys.

Although the share of renter-occupied housing units didn't increase as much in Appalachia as it did nationwide between 2005-2009 and 2010-2014, there were variations within the Region. In 126 Appalachian counties, for example, the increases in rental rates matched or exceeded the national average. More than half of the counties in this group were in South Central and Southern Appalachia; in Georgia's Appalachian counties, the share increased three percentage points. Conversely, the percentage of units occupied by renters either stayed the same or decreased in 122 counties.

## TRENDS IN HOUSING OCCUPANCY AND TENURE

- At just over 85 percent in 2010-2014, Appalachia's home occupancy rate is nearly a full percentage point lower than it was in 2005-2009 (see Tables 4.1 and 4.2). This decrease—present among all subregions, county types, and the Appalachian portions of nearly every state—suggests that occupancy rates have not yet returned to pre-recession levels. However, other factors, such as the displacement caused by severe weather events like the April 2011 Super Outbreak of tornadoes that devastated parts of Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee, may also be at play,
- Among the subregions, the occupancy rate declined nearly two percentage points in South Central Appalachia, while it barely dipped in Central Appalachia. And in large metropolitan areas, occupancy rates only fell a tenth of a percentage point, while the decline was significantly greater among the other county types. One factor in the decrease in occupancy rates, however, might be an increase in the percentage of vacant units that were designed for seasonal or occasional use. In both Appalachia and the nation as a whole, the share of such units rose nearly three percentage points between 2005-2009 and 2010-2014.
- Homeownership rates in Appalachia fell nearly two percentage points between 2005-2009 and 2010-2014. Among subregions, the declines were greatest in South Central and Southern Appalachia, while there was an urban/rural pattern among county types (with the drop in homeownership being greatest among counties in large metropolitan areas). As with the drop in the occupancy rate, the decrease in homeownership suggests the continued effects of the 2007-2009 recession and the slow economic recovery that followed.

## CHAPTER 5: EDUCATION

Table 5.1: Educational Attainment of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region, 2010-2014

Education (Highest Level Attained)	Total Population Ages 25 and Over, 2010-2014	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
<b>United States</b>	<b>209,056,129</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>86.3</b>	<b>49.1</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>29.3</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>17,320,560</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>85.1</b>	<b>54.9</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>22.2</b>
<b>Subregions</b>						
Northern Appalachia	5,810,016	10.6	89.4	57.3	9.0	23.2
North Central Appalachia	1,671,350	14.9	85.1	59.1	7.2	18.8
Central Appalachia	1,322,335	24.3	75.7	56.6	6.2	13.0
South Central Appalachia	3,290,236	16.1	83.9	53.4	7.8	22.8
Southern Appalachia	5,226,623	16.7	83.3	51.5	7.8	24.0
<b>County Types</b>						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	4,017,403	11.1	88.9	51.2	8.4	29.3
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	7,279,771	14.0	86.0	54.4	8.0	23.6
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	1,499,964	16.3	83.7	59.0	8.3	16.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	2,783,387	17.8	82.2	59.0	7.6	15.6
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	1,740,035	21.8	78.2	55.7	7.3	15.2
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>3,217,902</b>	<b>16.3</b>	<b>83.7</b>	<b>53.1</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>23.1</b>
Appalachian Alabama	2,078,151	16.2	83.8	52.6	7.6	23.6
Non-Appalachian Alabama	1,139,751	16.4	83.6	53.9	7.6	22.1
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>6,410,416</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>85.0</b>	<b>49.7</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>28.3</b>
Appalachian Georgia	1,945,523	16.5	83.5	50.6	7.3	25.5
Non-Appalachian Georgia	4,464,893	14.3	85.7	49.3	6.9	29.5
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>2,939,709</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>83.5</b>	<b>54.4</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>21.8</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	807,377	24.5	75.5	55.6	6.3	13.6
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	2,132,332	13.5	86.5	54.0	7.7	24.9
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>3,973,193</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>89.0</b>	<b>45.4</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>37.3</b>
Appalachian Maryland	175,481	13.4	86.6	59.8	7.9	18.9
Non-Appalachian Maryland	3,797,712	10.9	89.1	44.7	6.3	38.1
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>1,929,591</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>81.9</b>	<b>53.0</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>20.4</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	408,212	21.3	78.7	53.4	8.2	17.1
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	1,521,379	17.2	82.8	52.9	8.6	21.3
<b>New York</b>	<b>13,329,734</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>85.4</b>	<b>43.2</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>33.7</b>
Appalachian New York	703,822	10.8	89.2	52.8	11.8	24.5
Non-Appalachian New York	12,625,912	14.8	85.2	42.7	8.3	34.2
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>6,495,047</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>85.4</b>	<b>48.8</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>27.8</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	1,191,973	16.0	84.0	50.6	8.9	24.5
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	5,303,074	14.3	85.7	48.4	8.8	28.5
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>7,781,111</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>88.8</b>	<b>55.1</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>25.6</b>
Appalachian Ohio	1,390,859	14.1	85.9	61.4	8.1	16.4
Non-Appalachian Ohio	6,390,252	10.5	89.5	53.8	8.1	27.6
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>8,764,740</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>89.0</b>	<b>53.1</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>28.1</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	4,050,549	9.9	90.1	56.7	8.8	24.6
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	4,714,191	12.0	88.0	50.1	6.8	31.1
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>3,163,095</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>85.0</b>	<b>51.0</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>25.3</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	794,737	16.2	83.8	49.7	9.1	25.0
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	2,368,358	14.6	85.4	51.4	8.6	25.5
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>4,336,243</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>84.9</b>	<b>54.1</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>24.4</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	1,946,990	16.7	83.3	55.7	6.6	21.0
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	2,389,253	13.7	86.3	52.8	6.3	27.2
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>5,501,125</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>87.9</b>	<b>45.0</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>35.8</b>
Appalachian Virginia	528,272	19.3	80.7	53.9	8.4	18.5
Non-Appalachian Virginia	4,972,853	11.4	88.6	44.1	7.0	37.6
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>1,298,614</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>84.4</b>	<b>59.3</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>18.7</b>

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

**Table 5.2: Educational Attainment of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2010-2014**

Education (Highest Level Attained)	Total Population Ages 25-64, 2010-2014	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	Bachelor's Degree or More
<b>United States</b>	<b>165,878,168</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>88.0</b>	<b>48.4</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>30.9</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>13,286,008</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>87.8</b>	<b>54.7</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>23.9</b>
<b>Subregions</b>						
Northern Appalachia	4,356,717	8.0	92.0	55.7	10.6	25.7
North Central Appalachia	1,281,012	11.7	88.3	59.4	8.4	20.5
Central Appalachia	1,018,214	19.1	80.9	59.7	7.3	13.9
South Central Appalachia	2,466,419	13.0	87.0	54.1	8.9	24.1
Southern Appalachia	4,163,646	14.6	85.4	51.3	8.6	25.4
<b>County Types</b>						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	3,188,383	9.2	90.8	49.5	9.5	31.8
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	5,577,979	11.5	88.5	54.0	9.2	25.3
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	1,137,416	13.5	86.5	59.4	9.7	17.5
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	2,068,639	14.4	85.6	60.1	8.9	16.5
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	1,313,591	17.8	82.2	57.5	8.6	16.0
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>2,518,641</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>86.0</b>	<b>53.1</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>24.4</b>
Appalachian Alabama	1,629,780	14.0	86.0	52.4	8.6	25.0
Non-Appalachian Alabama	888,861	14.0	86.0	54.3	8.6	23.1
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>5,272,180</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>86.8</b>	<b>49.4</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>29.8</b>
Appalachian Georgia	1,598,803	14.9	85.1	50.2	8.0	26.9
Non-Appalachian Georgia	3,673,377	12.4	87.6	49.1	7.5	31.0
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>2,325,213</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>86.9</b>	<b>55.1</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>23.4</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	627,183	19.4	80.6	58.5	7.5	14.6
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	1,698,030	10.9	89.1	53.8	8.7	26.7
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>3,209,136</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>90.7</b>	<b>44.8</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>39.0</b>
Appalachian Maryland	133,887	10.9	89.1	59.5	9.2	20.4
Non-Appalachian Maryland	3,075,249	9.3	90.7	44.1	6.8	39.9
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>1,526,423</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>84.5</b>	<b>53.6</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>21.2</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	315,268	18.2	81.8	54.5	9.5	17.7
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	1,211,155	14.8	85.2	53.4	9.7	22.1
<b>New York</b>	<b>10,574,562</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>87.5</b>	<b>42.0</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>36.1</b>
Appalachian New York	530,711	8.8	91.2	51.7	13.5	26.0
Non-Appalachian New York	10,043,851	12.7	87.3	41.5	9.2	36.6
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>5,148,955</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>87.4</b>	<b>48.3</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>29.4</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	886,242	13.7	86.3	50.9	10.1	25.4
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	4,262,713	12.3	87.7	47.8	9.6	30.3
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>6,076,512</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>91.0</b>	<b>54.1</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>27.7</b>
Appalachian Ohio	1,058,300	11.5	88.5	61.0	9.7	17.9
Non-Appalachian Ohio	5,018,212	8.5	91.5	52.6	9.2	29.7
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>6,723,182</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>91.5</b>	<b>51.6</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>30.9</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	3,034,425	7.2	92.8	54.8	10.4	27.6
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	3,688,757	9.6	90.4	49.0	7.7	33.7
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>2,467,644</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>87.3</b>	<b>51.4</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>26.2</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	619,795	13.7	86.3	49.9	10.1	26.3
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	1,847,849	12.4	87.6	52.0	9.5	26.2
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>3,418,025</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>87.8</b>	<b>54.5</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>26.1</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	1,472,503	13.2	86.8	56.9	7.6	22.3
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	1,945,522	11.4	88.6	52.7	7.0	28.9
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>4,440,077</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>90.1</b>	<b>44.5</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>37.9</b>
Appalachian Virginia	392,122	14.0	86.0	55.9	9.8	20.3
Non-Appalachian Virginia	4,047,955	9.5	90.5	43.4	7.5	39.6
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>986,989</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>87.8</b>	<b>59.8</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>20.6</b>

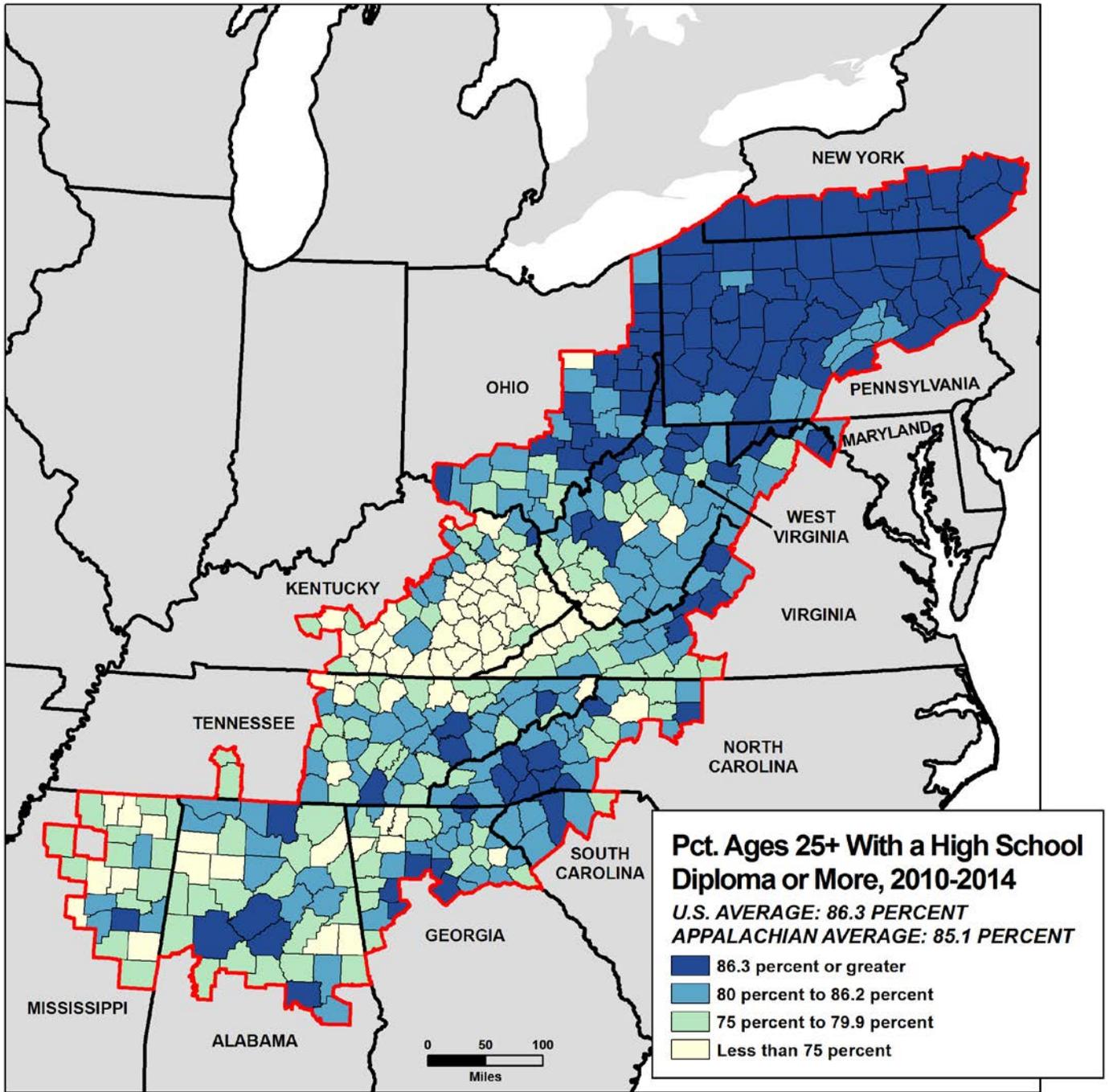
Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

**Table 5.3: Educational Attainment of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region, 2010-2014**

Education (Highest Level Attained)	Total Population Ages 65 and Over, 2010-2014	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
<b>United States</b>	<b>43,177,961</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>80.0</b>	<b>51.9</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>23.2</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>4,034,552</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>76.0</b>	<b>55.6</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>16.4</b>
<b>Subregions</b>						
Northern Appalachia	1,453,299	18.4	81.6	62.0	4.0	15.6
North Central Appalachia	390,338	25.4	74.6	58.3	3.1	13.2
Central Appalachia	304,121	41.7	58.3	45.9	2.4	10.0
South Central Appalachia	823,817	25.4	74.6	51.2	4.5	19.0
Southern Appalachia	1,062,977	25.0	75.0	52.1	4.4	18.5
<b>County Types</b>						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	829,020	18.8	81.2	57.6	4.3	19.3
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	1,701,792	22.2	77.8	55.6	4.2	18.0
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	362,548	25.3	74.7	57.6	3.9	13.2
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	714,748	27.6	72.4	55.8	3.6	13.0
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	426,444	33.9	66.1	49.9	3.4	12.8
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>699,261</b>	<b>24.6</b>	<b>75.4</b>	<b>53.1</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>18.4</b>
Appalachian Alabama	448,371	24.4	75.6	53.5	4.0	18.1
Non-Appalachian Alabama	250,890	24.9	75.1	52.3	4.0	18.8
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>1,138,236</b>	<b>23.3</b>	<b>76.7</b>	<b>50.9</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>21.6</b>
Appalachian Georgia	346,720	23.9	76.1	52.5	4.4	19.1
Non-Appalachian Georgia	791,516	23.0	77.0	50.3	4.1	22.6
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>614,496</b>	<b>29.4</b>	<b>70.6</b>	<b>51.7</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>15.6</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	180,194	42.2	57.8	45.2	2.4	10.2
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	434,302	24.0	76.0	54.4	3.7	17.8
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>764,057</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>82.0</b>	<b>47.8</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>30.0</b>
Appalachian Maryland	41,594	21.3	78.7	60.9	3.8	14.1
Non-Appalachian Maryland	722,463	17.8	82.2	47.1	4.2	30.9
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>403,168</b>	<b>27.7</b>	<b>72.3</b>	<b>50.8</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>17.4</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	92,944	31.6	68.4	49.8	3.7	14.9
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	310,224	26.6	73.4	51.1	4.1	18.2
<b>New York</b>	<b>2,755,172</b>	<b>22.8</b>	<b>77.2</b>	<b>47.8</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>24.5</b>
Appalachian New York	173,111	17.0	83.0	56.2	6.7	20.0
Non-Appalachian New York	2,582,061	23.2	76.8	47.2	4.8	24.8
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>1,346,092</b>	<b>22.3</b>	<b>77.7</b>	<b>50.7</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>21.6</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	305,731	22.6	77.4	50.0	5.2	22.1
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	1,040,361	22.2	77.8	50.9	5.5	21.4
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>1,704,599</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>81.1</b>	<b>58.9</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>18.3</b>
Appalachian Ohio	332,559	22.4	77.6	62.6	3.1	11.9
Non-Appalachian Ohio	1,372,040	18.1	81.9	58.1	4.0	19.9
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>2,041,558</b>	<b>19.3</b>	<b>80.7</b>	<b>58.1</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>18.7</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	1,016,124	18.1	81.9	62.3	3.8	15.8
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	1,025,434	20.5	79.5	53.9	3.9	21.7
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>695,451</b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>77.0</b>	<b>49.2</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>22.3</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	174,942	25.4	74.6	48.8	5.4	20.3
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	520,509	22.2	77.8	49.3	5.5	22.9
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>918,218</b>	<b>25.7</b>	<b>74.3</b>	<b>52.6</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>18.2</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	474,487	27.4	72.6	52.0	3.7	16.9
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	443,731	23.8	76.2	53.3	3.2	19.6
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>1,061,048</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>78.7</b>	<b>47.1</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>27.0</b>
Appalachian Virginia	136,150	34.4	65.6	48.0	4.2	13.3
Non-Appalachian Virginia	924,898	19.4	80.6	47.0	4.5	29.1
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>311,625</b>	<b>26.4</b>	<b>73.6</b>	<b>57.6</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>13.0</b>

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

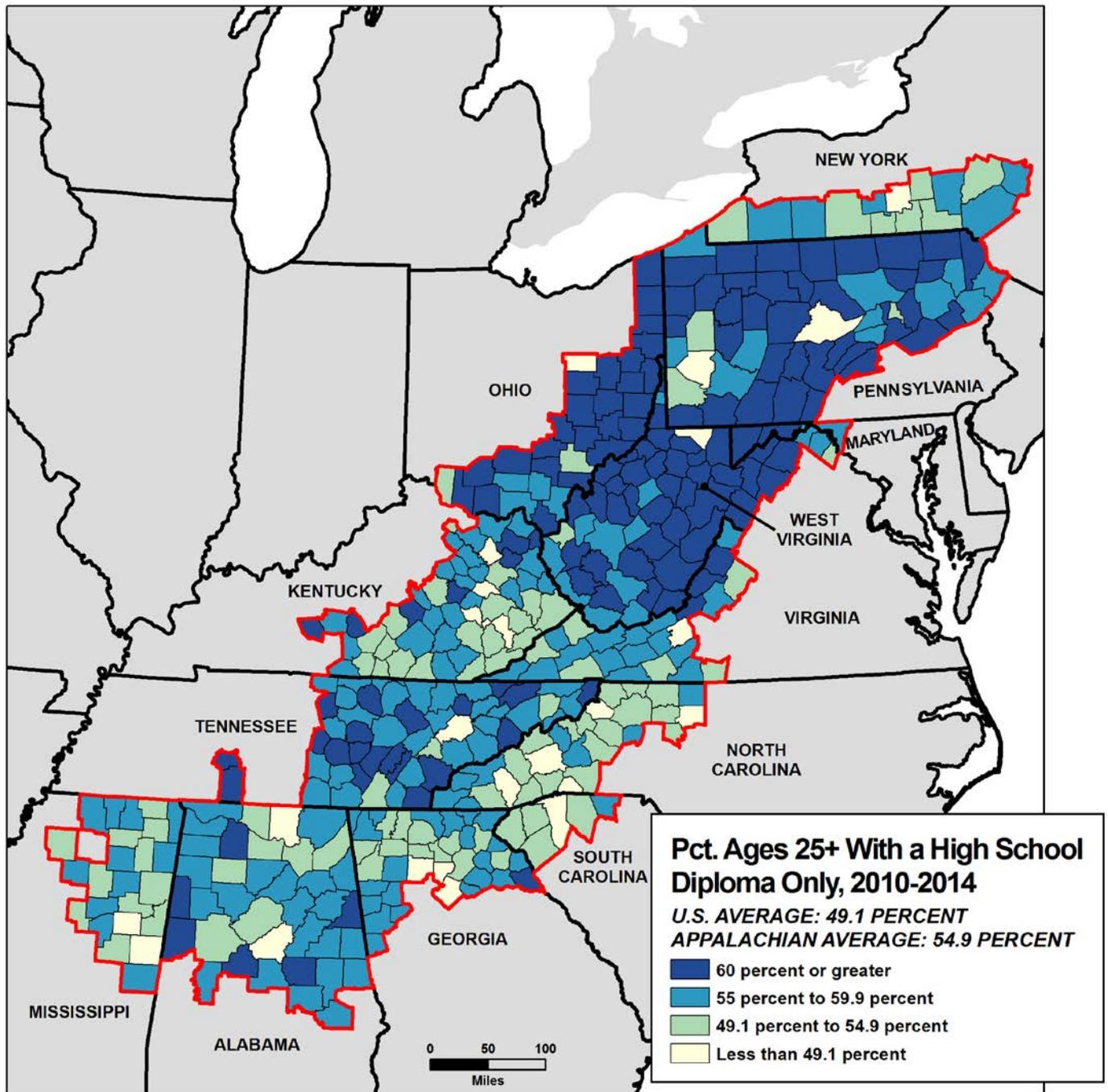
**Figure 5.1: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma or More, 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma or More, 2010-2014  
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

Although the share of Appalachian adults with at least a high school diploma was slightly below the national average over the 2010-2014 period, it matched or exceeded the national share in 120 counties in the Region—104 of which were either in Northern Appalachia or in metropolitan areas. The rates were especially high in the Appalachian sections of Pennsylvania and New York, where the share of adults who had completed high school was 90 percent and 89 percent, respectively. Yet in 71 counties, less than three-fourths of adults had completed high school; all but three of those counties were in Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia. Nearly half of these 71 counties were in Kentucky alone; just 76 percent of adults in the state’s Appalachian counties had a high school diploma or more in 2010-2014.

**Figure 5.2: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma but With No Postsecondary Degree, 2010-2014**

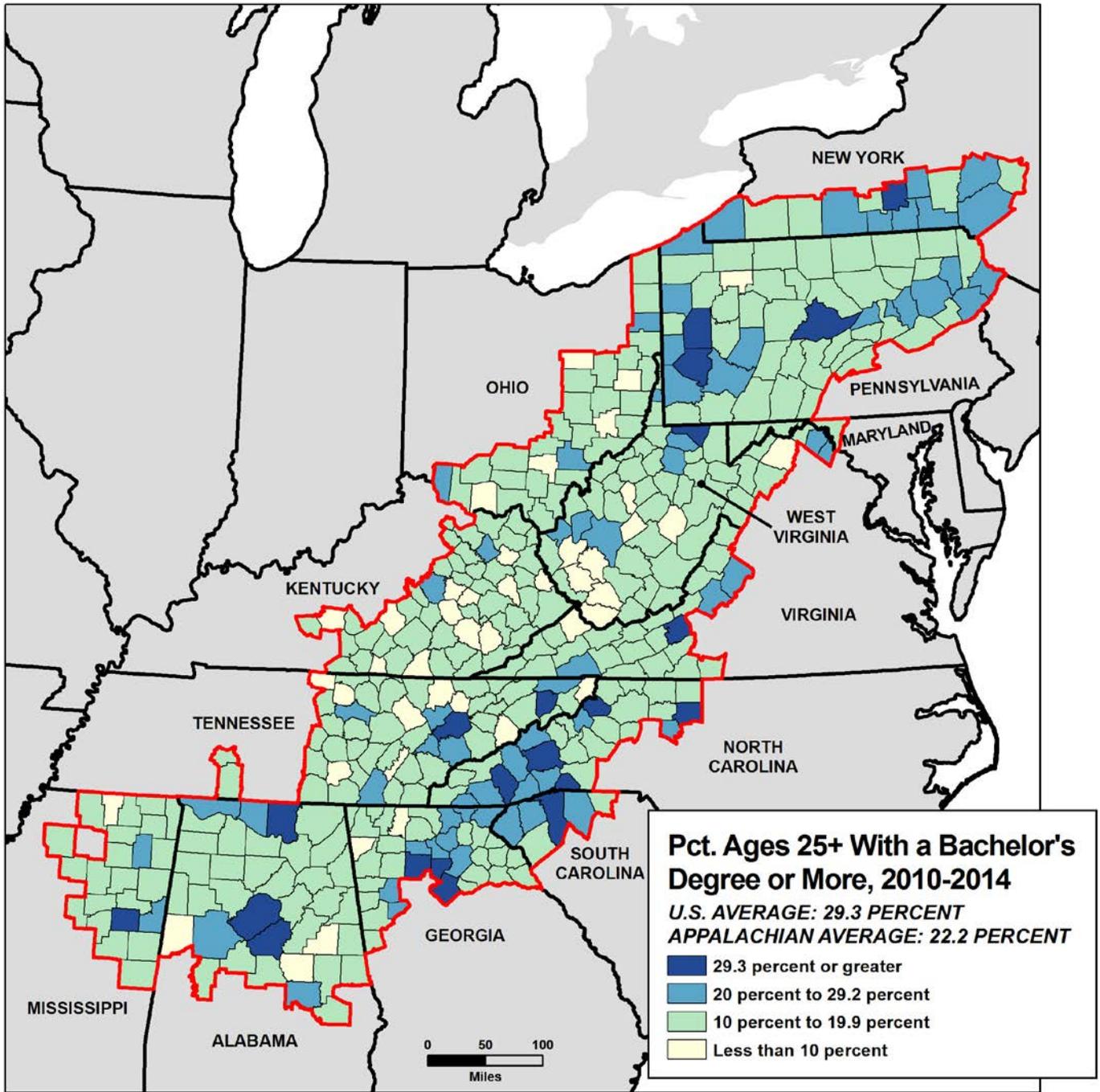


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma but With No Postsecondary Degree, 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

During the 2010-2014 period, 55 percent of adults in the Appalachian Region had a high school diploma, but no postsecondary degree (including an associate’s degree). And the share was at least 60 percent in a full one-third (140) of the Region’s 420 counties—most of them in three states: Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. 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 even finished high school.

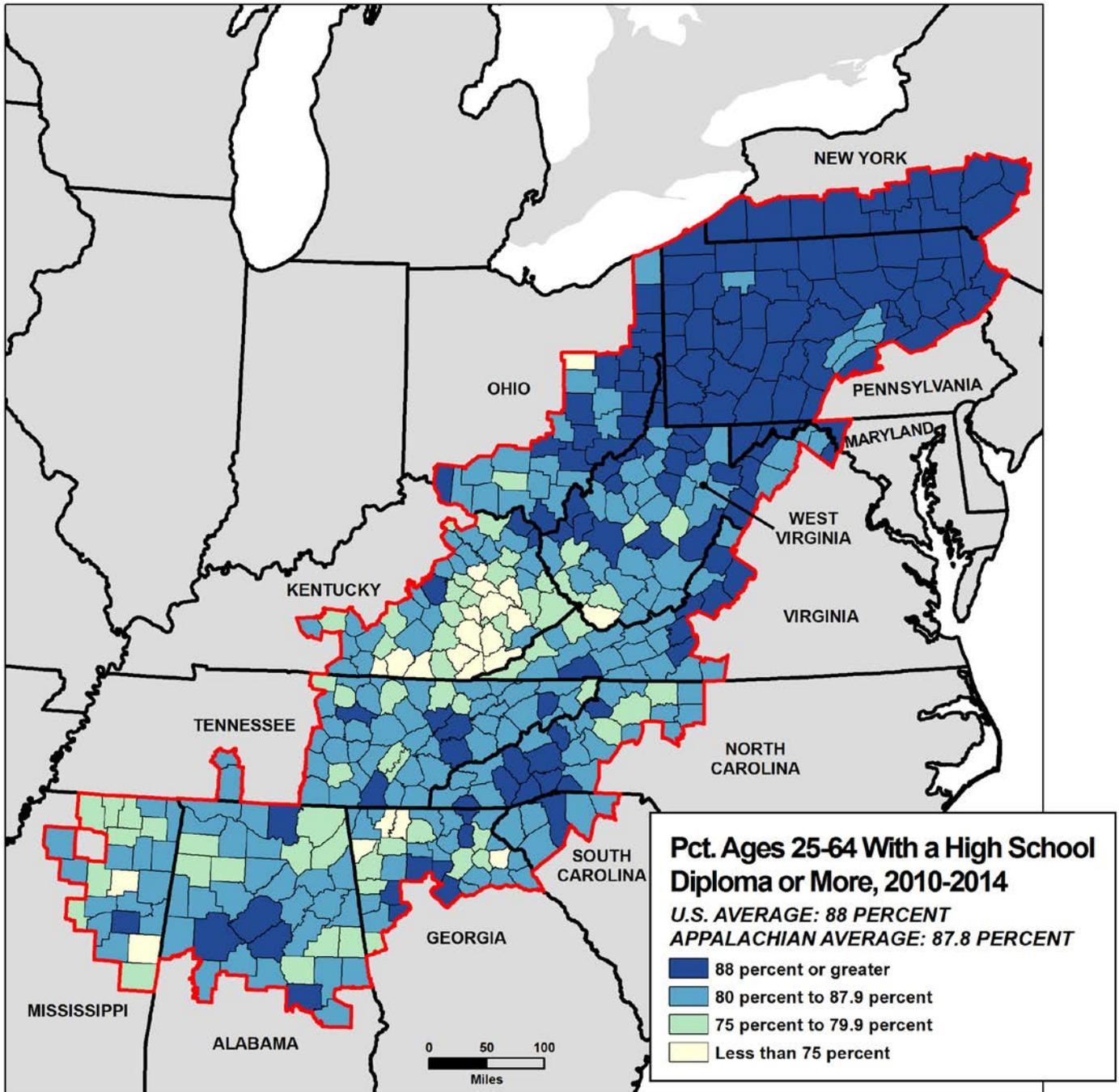
**Figure 5.3: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2010-2014  
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

The share of adults with a bachelor's degree or more was seven percentage points lower in Appalachia during the 2010-2014 period than in the nation as a whole. Indeed, the rate was lower than the national average in 399 of the Region's 420 counties. In fact, less than one in five residents ages 25 and over were graduates of a four-year college or university in 330 Appalachian counties. And in 43 counties—nearly all of which were either outside metropolitan areas or in Central Appalachia—the share was less than one in 10. The 21 counties where the percentage of college graduates matched or surpassed the national average were mostly either in metro areas (e.g., Pittsburgh and Birmingham) or home to a college or university (such as Monongalia County, W.Va., where West Virginia University is located).

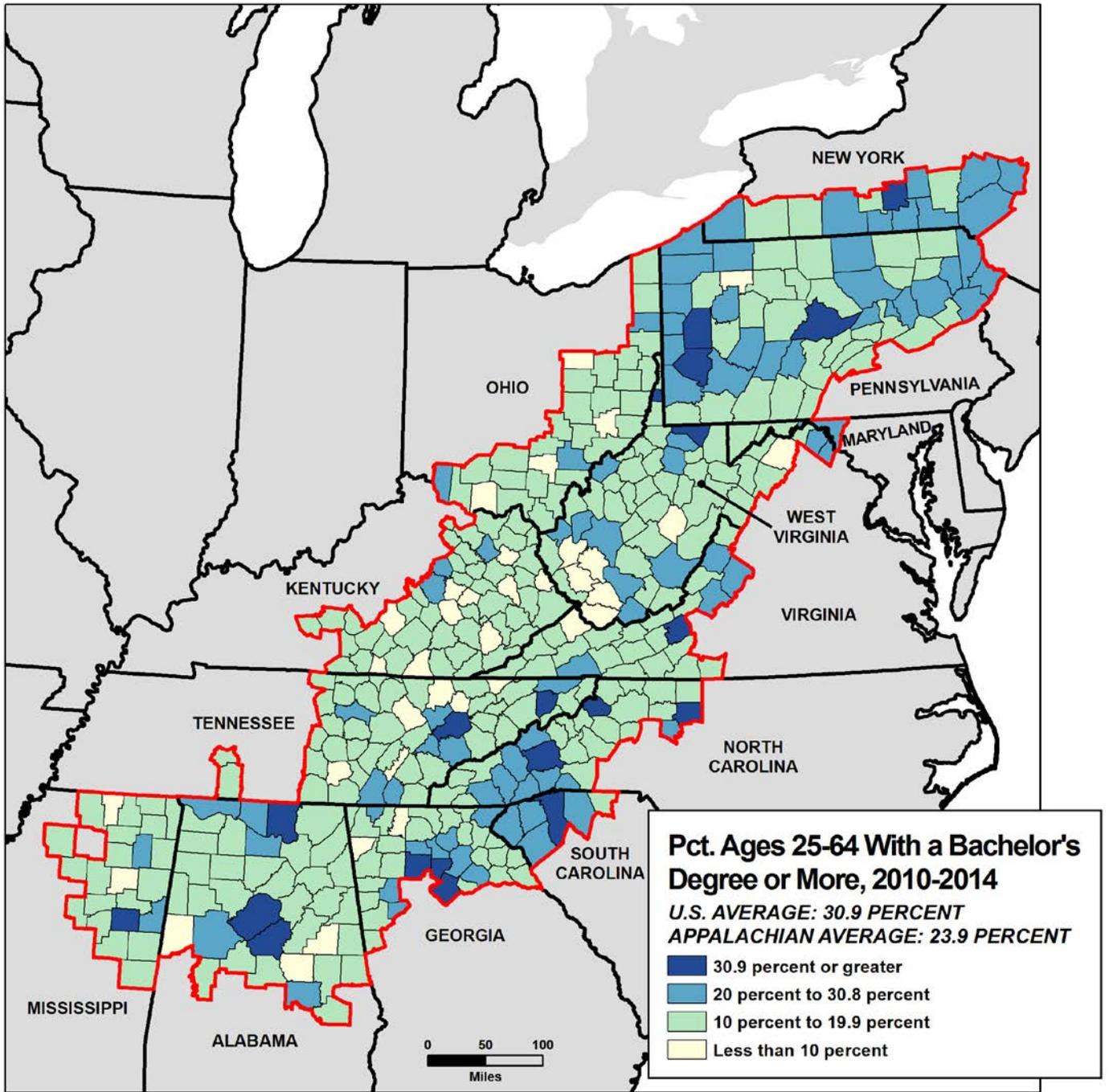
**Figure 5.4: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma or More, 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma or More, 2010-2014  
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

In 2010-2014, the percentage of working-age adults (ages 25 to 64) in the Appalachian Region with at least a high school diploma was almost at the national average of 88 percent, and the share matched or exceeded the national rate in 143 counties. These counties were almost equally divided between metropolitan and non-metropolitan counties, and most were in Northern or North Central Appalachia. In the Appalachian sections of New York and Pennsylvania, the share with a high school diploma or more exceeded 90 percent. At the other end of the spectrum, less than three-fourths of working-age adults had finished high school in 22 Appalachian counties. Almost all of these counties were outside metropolitan areas, and two-thirds were in Kentucky.

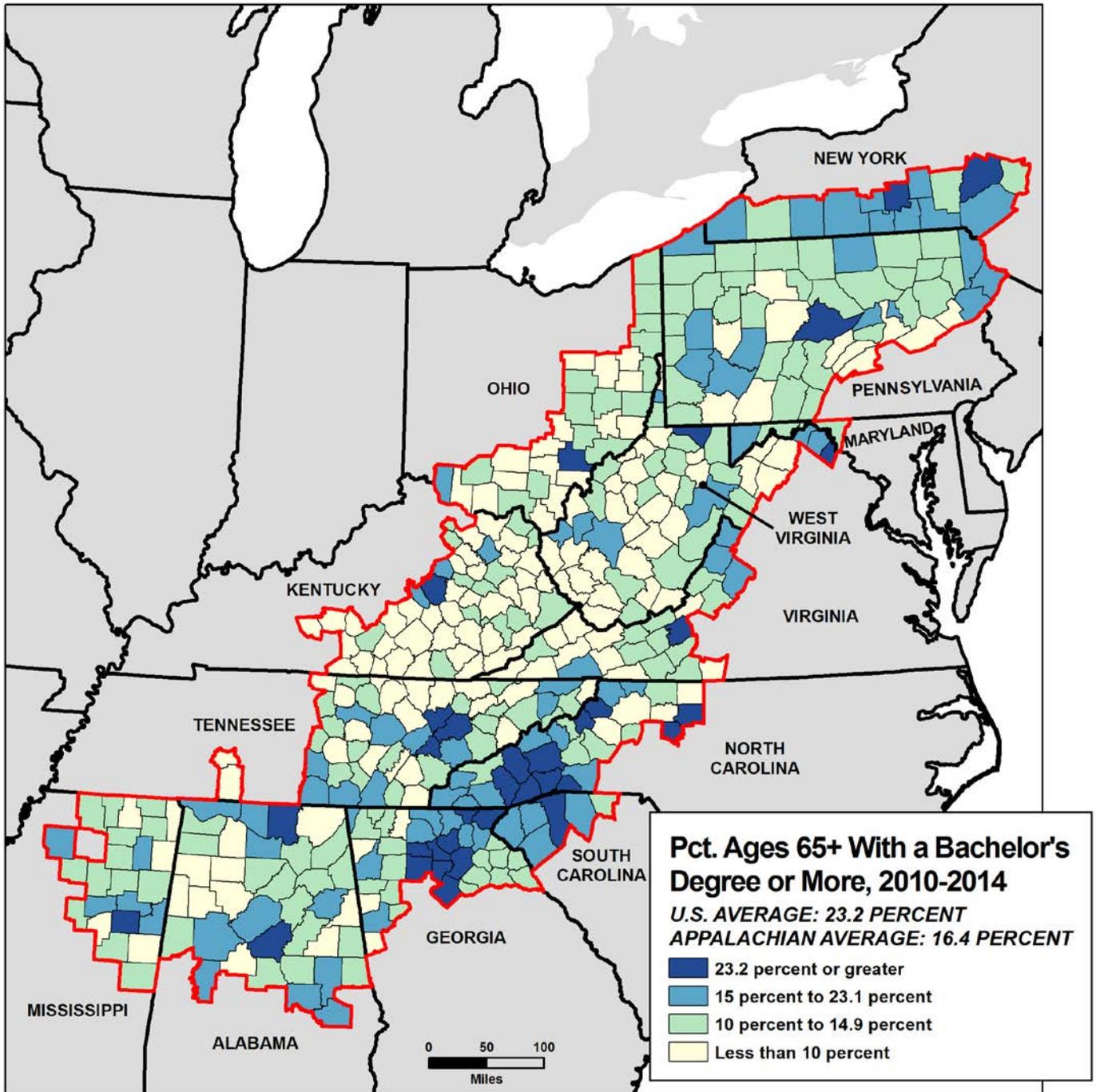
**Figure 5.5: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2010-2014  
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

Just 24 percent of Appalachia's working age population had a bachelor's degree or more in 2010-2014—seven percentage points lower than the U.S. average of nearly 31 percent. This is a striking indicator of the lower educational level of the Appalachian workforce. Indeed, just 14 percent of working-age adults in Central Appalachia had a bachelor's degree, as did only 16 percent of residents of rural Appalachian counties that were not adjacent to metro areas. There were only 20 Appalachian counties—all either in metro areas (e.g., suburban Atlanta) or home to a four-year college or university (such as Knox County, Tenn., home of the University of Tennessee)—where 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, less than one in 10 adults had a four-year degree in 36 counties. Of the counties in the latter group, 27 were outside metropolitan areas, suggesting a lack of opportunities for college-educated adults.

**Figure 5.6: Percent of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2010-2014  
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

While nearly one in four older Americans (ages 65 and over) had at least a bachelor's degree in the 2010-2014 period, less than one in 10 older adults had one in 148 of Appalachia's 420 counties. Three-fourths of these counties were outside metropolitan areas, and two-fifths were in Central Appalachia--Kentucky alone had one-fourth of these counties. Yet in 34 Appalachian counties, the share of older adults with a four-year degree was at or above the national average. These were either counties in metropolitan areas (like suburban Atlanta), counties that had a college or university (such as Tompkins County, N.Y., home to Cornell University and Ithaca College), or counties with significant retirement or seasonal activity (the latter suggested by the fact that much of their vacant housing is for seasonal or occasional use—such as Rabun and Towns counties in Georgia, home of the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest).

**Table 5.4: Percentage Point Change in Educational Attainment of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**

Education (Highest Level Attained)	Percentage Point Change in Share 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
<b>United States</b>	- 1.7	+ 1.7	- 0.5	+ 0.5	+ 1.8
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	- 2.8	+ 2.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.8	+ 1.8
<b>Subregions</b>					
Northern Appalachia	- 2.2	+ 2.2	- 0.5	+ 0.9	+ 2.0
North Central Appalachia	- 2.6	+ 2.6	- 0.2	+ 1.1	+ 1.7
Central Appalachia	- 4.6	+ 4.6	+ 3.0	+ 0.7	+ 1.1
South Central Appalachia	- 3.3	+ 3.3	+ 0.8	+ 0.8	+ 1.9
Southern Appalachia	- 2.8	+ 2.8	+ 0.4	+ 0.9	+ 1.5
<b>County Types</b>					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	- 1.8	+ 1.8	- 1.0	+ 0.7	+ 2.1
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	- 2.7	+ 2.7	+ 0.0	+ 0.8	+ 1.9
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 3.3	+ 3.3	+ 0.6	+ 1.1	+ 1.6
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	- 3.4	+ 3.4	+ 1.4	+ 0.9	+ 1.2
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 3.9	+ 3.9	+ 1.7	+ 1.0	+ 1.2
<b>Alabama</b>	- 2.9	+ 2.9	+ 0.5	+ 0.9	+ 1.6
Appalachian Alabama	- 3.0	+ 3.0	+ 0.5	+ 1.0	+ 1.5
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 2.7	+ 2.7	+ 0.5	+ 0.6	+ 1.6
<b>Georgia</b>	- 2.1	+ 2.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.6	+ 1.2
Appalachian Georgia	- 2.2	+ 2.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.6	+ 1.3
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 2.0	+ 2.0	+ 0.3	+ 0.6	+ 1.1
<b>Kentucky</b>	- 3.2	+ 3.2	+ 0.6	+ 0.8	+ 1.8
Appalachian Kentucky	- 4.6	+ 4.6	+ 2.7	+ 0.8	+ 1.0
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 2.5	+ 2.5	- 0.1	+ 0.8	+ 1.9
<b>Maryland</b>	- 1.5	+ 1.5	- 0.7	+ 0.0	+ 2.1
Appalachian Maryland	- 2.9	+ 2.9	+ 1.1	+ 0.2	+ 1.6
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 1.4	+ 1.4	- 0.8	+ 0.1	+ 2.1
<b>Mississippi</b>	- 3.0	+ 3.0	+ 0.6	+ 1.0	+ 1.3
Appalachian Mississippi	- 3.7	+ 3.7	+ 1.1	+ 1.3	+ 1.3
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 2.8	+ 2.8	+ 0.5	+ 1.0	+ 1.3
<b>New York</b>	- 1.2	+ 1.2	- 1.0	+ 0.4	+ 1.9
Appalachian New York	- 1.8	+ 1.8	- 0.1	+ 0.8	+ 1.1
Non-Appalachian New York	- 1.2	+ 1.2	- 1.1	+ 0.3	+ 1.9
<b>North Carolina</b>	- 2.4	+ 2.4	- 0.2	+ 0.6	+ 2.0
Appalachian North Carolina	- 2.8	+ 2.8	- 0.1	+ 0.6	+ 2.3
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 2.3	+ 2.3	- 0.2	+ 0.6	+ 1.9
<b>Ohio</b>	- 2.0	+ 2.0	- 1.0	+ 1.0	+ 2.0
Appalachian Ohio	- 2.3	+ 2.3	- 0.5	+ 1.3	+ 1.5
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 2.0	+ 2.0	- 1.0	+ 0.9	+ 2.2
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	- 2.1	+ 2.1	- 0.6	+ 0.5	+ 2.1
Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 2.3	+ 2.3	- 0.8	+ 0.8	+ 2.2
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 2.0	+ 2.0	- 0.3	+ 0.3	+ 2.0
<b>South Carolina</b>	- 2.8	+ 2.8	+ 0.4	+ 0.5	+ 1.8
Appalachian South Carolina	- 3.1	+ 3.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.9	+ 1.9
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 2.7	+ 2.7	+ 0.5	+ 0.4	+ 1.9
<b>Tennessee</b>	- 3.1	+ 3.1	+ 0.5	+ 0.7	+ 2.0
Appalachian Tennessee	- 3.7	+ 3.7	+ 1.4	+ 0.8	+ 1.5
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 2.7	+ 2.7	- 0.2	+ 0.5	+ 2.4
<b>Virginia</b>	- 2.1	+ 2.1	- 0.7	+ 0.5	+ 2.4
Appalachian Virginia	- 4.4	+ 4.4	+ 2.0	+ 0.6	+ 1.9
Non-Appalachian Virginia	- 1.8	+ 1.8	- 0.9	+ 0.5	+ 2.3
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	- 2.8	+ 2.8	+ 0.5	+ 0.7	+ 1.6

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Surveys.

**Table 5.5: Percentage Point Change in Educational Attainment of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**

Education (Highest Level Attained)	Percentage Point Change in Share 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	Bachelor's Degree or More
<b>United States</b>	- 1.0	+ 1.0	- 0.8	+ 0.4	+ 1.4
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	- 1.6	+ 1.6	- 0.7	+ 0.8	+ 1.5
<b>Subregions</b>					
Northern Appalachia	- 0.9	+ 0.9	- 1.6	+ 0.8	+ 1.7
North Central Appalachia	- 1.6	+ 1.6	- 1.4	+ 1.2	+ 1.8
Central Appalachia	- 3.8	+ 3.8	+ 2.1	+ 0.7	+ 1.0
South Central Appalachia	- 2.3	+ 2.3	+ 0.0	+ 0.7	+ 1.7
Southern Appalachia	- 1.6	+ 1.6	- 0.5	+ 0.8	+ 1.2
<b>County Types</b>					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	- 0.6	+ 0.6	- 1.8	+ 0.6	+ 1.8
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	- 1.6	+ 1.6	- 0.8	+ 0.8	+ 1.6
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 2.2	+ 2.2	- 0.2	+ 1.1	+ 1.3
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	- 2.2	+ 2.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.9	+ 1.0
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 2.9	+ 2.9	+ 0.8	+ 1.1	+ 0.9
<b>Alabama</b>	- 1.5	+ 1.5	- 0.4	+ 0.8	+ 1.1
Appalachian Alabama	- 1.4	+ 1.4	- 0.6	+ 1.0	+ 1.0
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 1.6	+ 1.6	- 0.2	+ 0.6	+ 1.2
<b>Georgia</b>	- 1.2	+ 1.2	- 0.3	+ 0.7	+ 0.9
Appalachian Georgia	- 1.3	+ 1.3	- 0.5	+ 0.7	+ 1.1
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 1.3	+ 1.3	- 0.2	+ 0.7	+ 0.8
<b>Kentucky</b>	- 2.1	+ 2.1	- 0.3	+ 0.8	+ 1.6
Appalachian Kentucky	- 3.8	+ 3.8	+ 1.8	+ 1.0	+ 1.0
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 1.3	+ 1.3	- 1.1	+ 0.8	+ 1.7
<b>Maryland</b>	- 0.6	+ 0.6	- 1.1	+ 0.0	+ 1.6
Appalachian Maryland	- 1.4	+ 1.4	- 0.4	+ 0.0	+ 1.7
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 0.5	+ 0.5	- 1.2	+ 0.0	+ 1.7
<b>Mississippi</b>	- 1.9	+ 1.9	- 0.2	+ 1.2	+ 0.9
Appalachian Mississippi	- 2.4	+ 2.4	+ 0.2	+ 1.2	+ 0.9
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 1.8	+ 1.8	- 0.2	+ 1.1	+ 0.9
<b>New York</b>	- 0.5	+ 0.5	- 1.2	+ 0.2	+ 1.5
Appalachian New York	- 0.9	+ 0.9	- 0.2	+ 0.7	+ 0.5
Non-Appalachian New York	- 0.4	+ 0.4	- 1.3	+ 0.2	+ 1.5
<b>North Carolina</b>	- 1.3	+ 1.3	- 1.0	+ 0.5	+ 1.8
Appalachian North Carolina	- 1.6	+ 1.6	- 0.6	+ 0.4	+ 1.9
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 1.3	+ 1.3	- 1.0	+ 0.5	+ 1.8
<b>Ohio</b>	- 1.1	+ 1.1	- 1.7	+ 1.0	+ 1.9
Appalachian Ohio	- 1.2	+ 1.2	- 1.6	+ 1.6	+ 1.4
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 1.1	+ 1.1	- 1.8	+ 0.9	+ 1.9
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	- 0.8	+ 0.8	- 1.6	+ 0.4	+ 1.8
Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 0.8	+ 0.8	- 2.0	+ 0.7	+ 2.1
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 0.8	+ 0.8	- 1.1	+ 0.2	+ 1.6
<b>South Carolina</b>	- 1.8	+ 1.8	- 0.3	+ 0.5	+ 1.5
Appalachian South Carolina	- 2.0	+ 2.0	- 0.5	+ 0.9	+ 1.6
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 1.7	+ 1.7	- 0.1	+ 0.4	+ 1.5
<b>Tennessee</b>	- 2.2	+ 2.2	- 0.3	+ 0.7	+ 1.9
Appalachian Tennessee	- 2.8	+ 2.8	+ 0.6	+ 0.9	+ 1.4
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 1.7	+ 1.7	- 1.0	+ 0.5	+ 2.1
<b>Virginia</b>	- 1.4	+ 1.4	- 1.2	+ 0.4	+ 2.2
Appalachian Virginia	- 3.6	+ 3.6	+ 1.3	+ 0.3	+ 2.0
Non-Appalachian Virginia	- 1.1	+ 1.1	- 1.4	+ 0.4	+ 2.0
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	- 1.6	+ 1.6	- 0.8	+ 0.7	+ 1.8

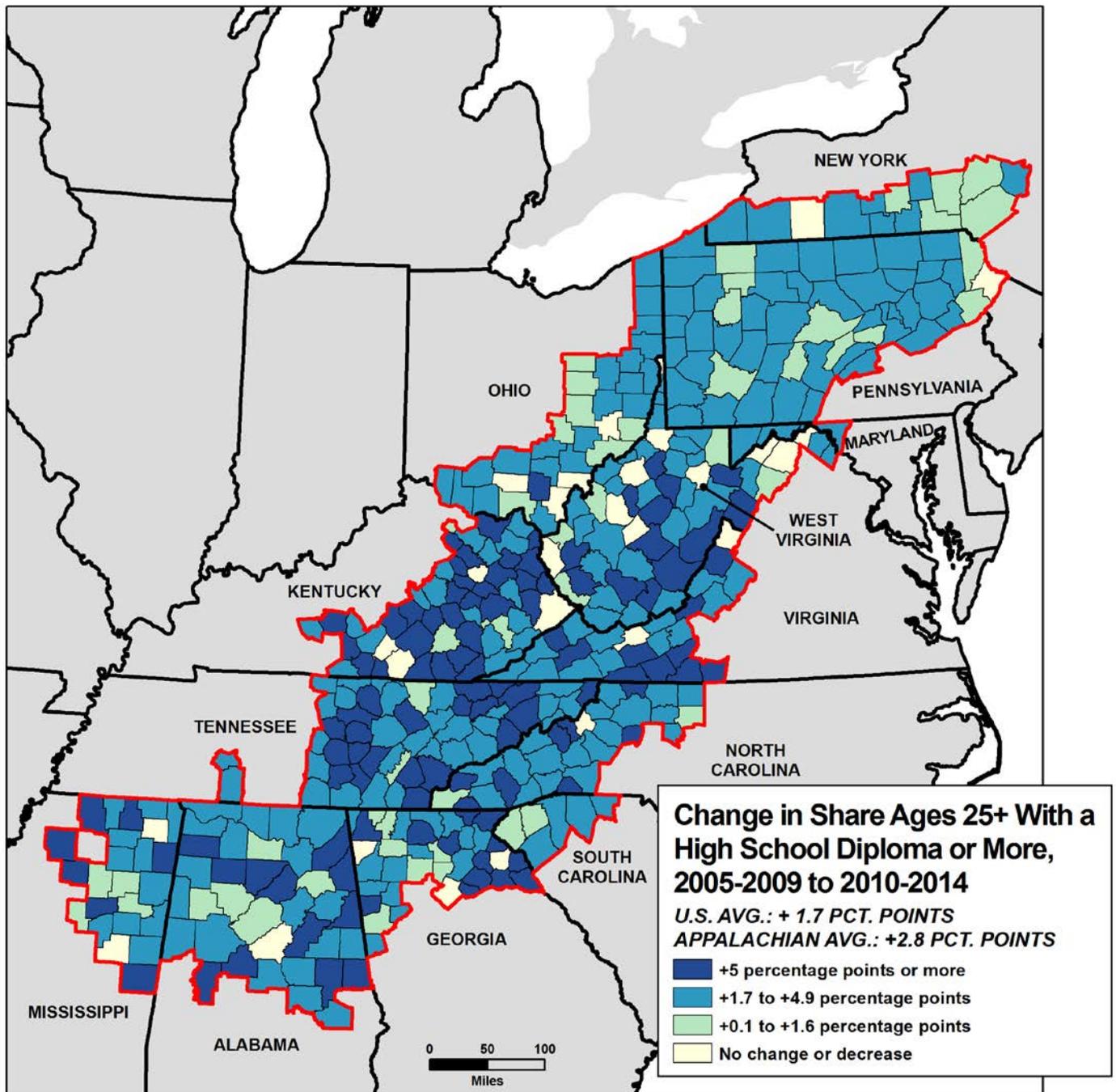
Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Surveys.

**Table 5.6: Percentage Point Change in Educational Attainment of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**

Education (Highest Level Attained)	Percentage Point Change in Share 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
<b>United States</b>	<b>- 5.8</b>	<b>+ 5.8</b>	<b>+ 0.7</b>	<b>+ 1.0</b>	<b>+ 3.9</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>- 7.8</b>	<b>+ 7.8</b>	<b>+ 3.4</b>	<b>+ 1.2</b>	<b>+ 3.1</b>
<b>Subregions</b>					
Northern Appalachia	- 6.8	+ 6.8	+ 2.5	+ 1.2	+ 3.1
North Central Appalachia	- 7.3	+ 7.3	+ 4.3	+ 0.9	+ 2.1
Central Appalachia	- 10.0	+ 10.0	+ 7.5	+ 0.7	+ 1.8
South Central Appalachia	- 8.0	+ 8.0	+ 3.5	+ 1.4	+ 3.3
Southern Appalachia	- 9.2	+ 9.2	+ 4.2	+ 1.4	+ 3.6
<b>County Types</b>					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	- 7.3	+ 7.3	+ 2.0	+ 1.4	+ 3.9
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	- 7.5	+ 7.5	+ 2.9	+ 1.2	+ 3.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 7.7	+ 7.7	+ 3.4	+ 1.4	+ 2.9
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	- 8.6	+ 8.6	+ 5.4	+ 1.1	+ 2.1
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 8.8	+ 8.8	+ 5.4	+ 1.1	+ 2.3
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>- 8.8</b>	<b>+ 8.8</b>	<b>+ 4.1</b>	<b>+ 1.2</b>	<b>+ 3.6</b>
Appalachian Alabama	- 9.5	+ 9.5	+ 4.6	+ 1.3	+ 3.6
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 7.6	+ 7.6	+ 3.1	+ 0.9	+ 3.6
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>- 7.9</b>	<b>+ 7.9</b>	<b>+ 3.0</b>	<b>+ 0.9</b>	<b>+ 4.0</b>
Appalachian Georgia	- 8.7	+ 8.7	+ 3.8	+ 1.1	+ 3.8
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 7.6	+ 7.6	+ 2.7	+ 0.8	+ 4.1
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>- 8.8</b>	<b>+ 8.8</b>	<b>+ 4.7</b>	<b>+ 1.1</b>	<b>+ 3.1</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	- 9.9	+ 9.9	+ 7.4	+ 0.9	+ 1.7
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 8.3	+ 8.3	+ 3.5	+ 1.2	+ 3.6
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>- 6.4</b>	<b>+ 6.4</b>	<b>+ 0.8</b>	<b>+ 0.7</b>	<b>+ 5.0</b>
Appalachian Maryland	- 8.8	+ 8.8	+ 6.2	+ 1.0	+ 1.7
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 6.3	+ 6.3	+ 0.5	+ 0.6	+ 5.1
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>- 8.3</b>	<b>+ 8.3</b>	<b>+ 4.0</b>	<b>+ 0.9</b>	<b>+ 3.3</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	- 9.7	+ 9.7	+ 5.0	+ 1.6	+ 3.1
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 7.8	+ 7.8	+ 3.7	+ 0.7	+ 3.4
<b>New York</b>	<b>- 4.6</b>	<b>+ 4.6</b>	<b>- 0.6</b>	<b>+ 1.1</b>	<b>+ 4.0</b>
Appalachian New York	- 5.5	+ 5.5	+ 0.1	+ 1.7	+ 3.5
Non-Appalachian New York	- 4.5	+ 4.5	- 0.7	+ 1.1	+ 4.1
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>- 8.0</b>	<b>+ 8.0</b>	<b>+ 3.0</b>	<b>+ 1.4</b>	<b>+ 3.6</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	- 7.7	+ 7.7	+ 1.9	+ 1.4	+ 4.2
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 8.1	+ 8.1	+ 3.3	+ 1.4	+ 3.4
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>- 6.4</b>	<b>+ 6.4</b>	<b>+ 1.7</b>	<b>+ 1.1</b>	<b>+ 3.5</b>
Appalachian Ohio	- 6.9	+ 6.9	+ 3.1	+ 1.1	+ 2.7
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 6.2	+ 6.2	+ 1.5	+ 1.2	+ 3.7
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>- 7.0</b>	<b>+ 7.0</b>	<b>+ 2.5</b>	<b>+ 1.1</b>	<b>+ 3.4</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 6.9	+ 6.9	+ 2.5	+ 1.2	+ 3.2
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 7.2	+ 7.2	+ 2.5	+ 1.1	+ 3.7
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>- 8.0</b>	<b>+ 8.0</b>	<b>+ 3.0</b>	<b>+ 1.2</b>	<b>+ 3.8</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	- 8.2	+ 8.2	+ 3.1	+ 1.3	+ 3.7
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 7.9	+ 7.9	+ 3.0	+ 1.1	+ 3.7
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>- 8.5</b>	<b>+ 8.5</b>	<b>+ 4.2</b>	<b>+ 0.9</b>	<b>+ 3.4</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	- 8.5	+ 8.5	+ 4.8	+ 1.1	+ 2.7
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 8.6	+ 8.6	+ 3.7	+ 0.7	+ 4.2
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>- 6.6</b>	<b>+ 6.6</b>	<b>+ 1.3</b>	<b>+ 1.1</b>	<b>+ 4.2</b>
Appalachian Virginia	- 8.8	+ 8.8	+ 4.9	+ 1.7	+ 2.1
Non-Appalachian Virginia	- 6.1	+ 6.1	+ 0.8	+ 0.9	+ 4.5
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>- 7.8</b>	<b>+ 7.8</b>	<b>+ 5.1</b>	<b>+ 0.8</b>	<b>+ 2.0</b>

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Surveys.

**Figure 5.7: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma or More, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**

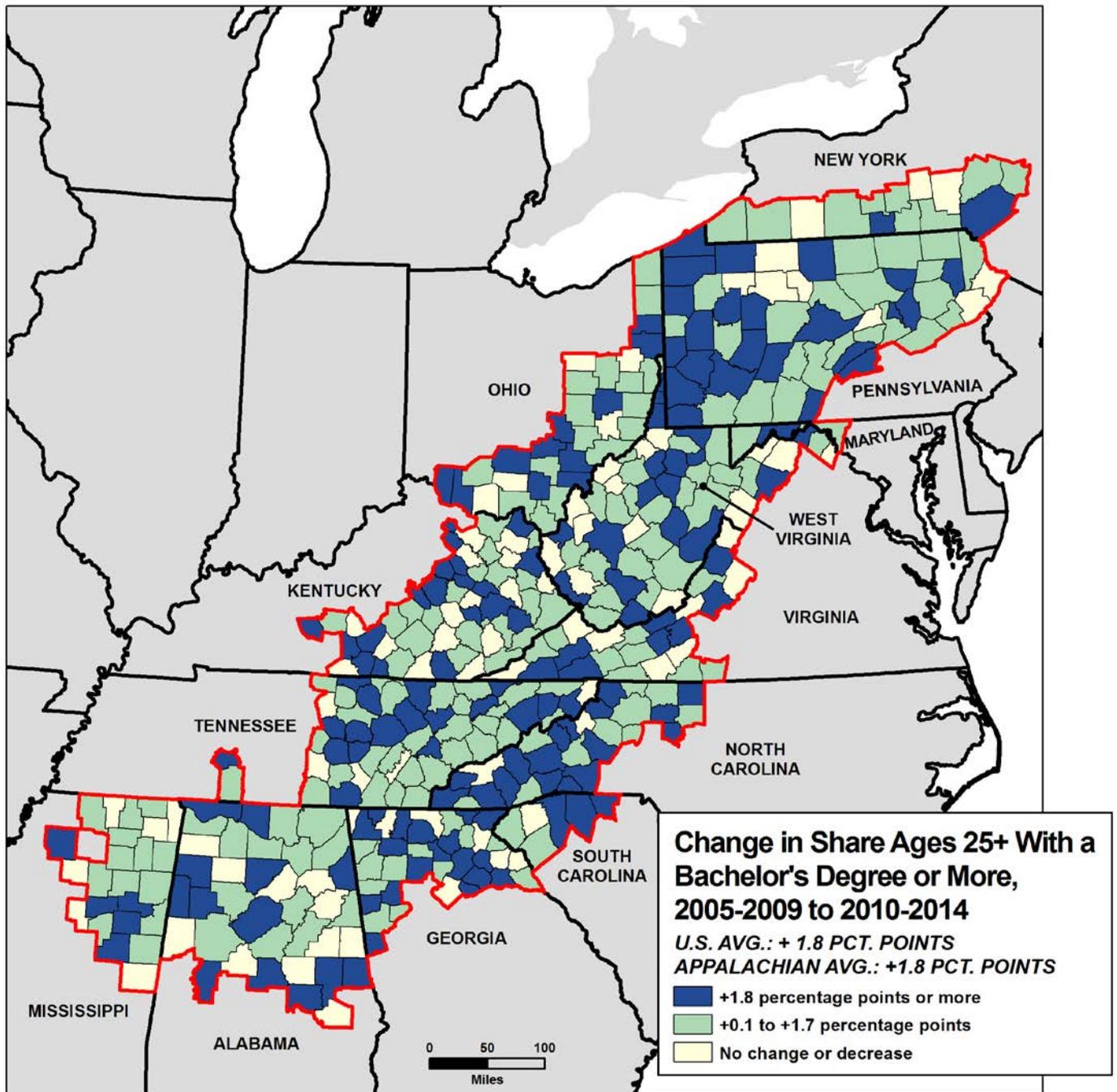


Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma or More, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Surveys.

Since the 2005-2009 period, the share of Appalachian adults who have completed high school or more has increased nearly three percentage points. This rise, which is a full percentage point above the national average, has continued a longstanding trend in the Region. And that increase has been even greater in some places: The share of adults with at least a high school diploma rose by more than four percentage points in the Appalachian counties of Kentucky and Virginia. In 115 Appalachian counties—mostly in Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia—the share of adults with a high school diploma or more rose by at least five percentage points (three times the national average) between 2005-2009 and 2010-2014. In most of these counties, however, less than 80 percent of adult residents have completed high school.

**Figure 5.8: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Surveys.

Although the percentage of Appalachian adults with at least a bachelor's degree is considerably lower than the national average, that share has been increasing. Both in Appalachia and nationwide, it was nearly two percentage points higher in 2010-2014 than it was in 2005-2009, suggesting a continued trend toward greater educational attainment among cohorts entering this age group. And in 156 of the Region's 420 counties (distributed throughout the Region), the increased share matched or exceeded the national average. Conversely, the share of adults with at least a four-year degree either remained the same or decreased in 84 counties. Although spread throughout the Region, two-thirds of the counties in the latter group were outside metropolitan areas.

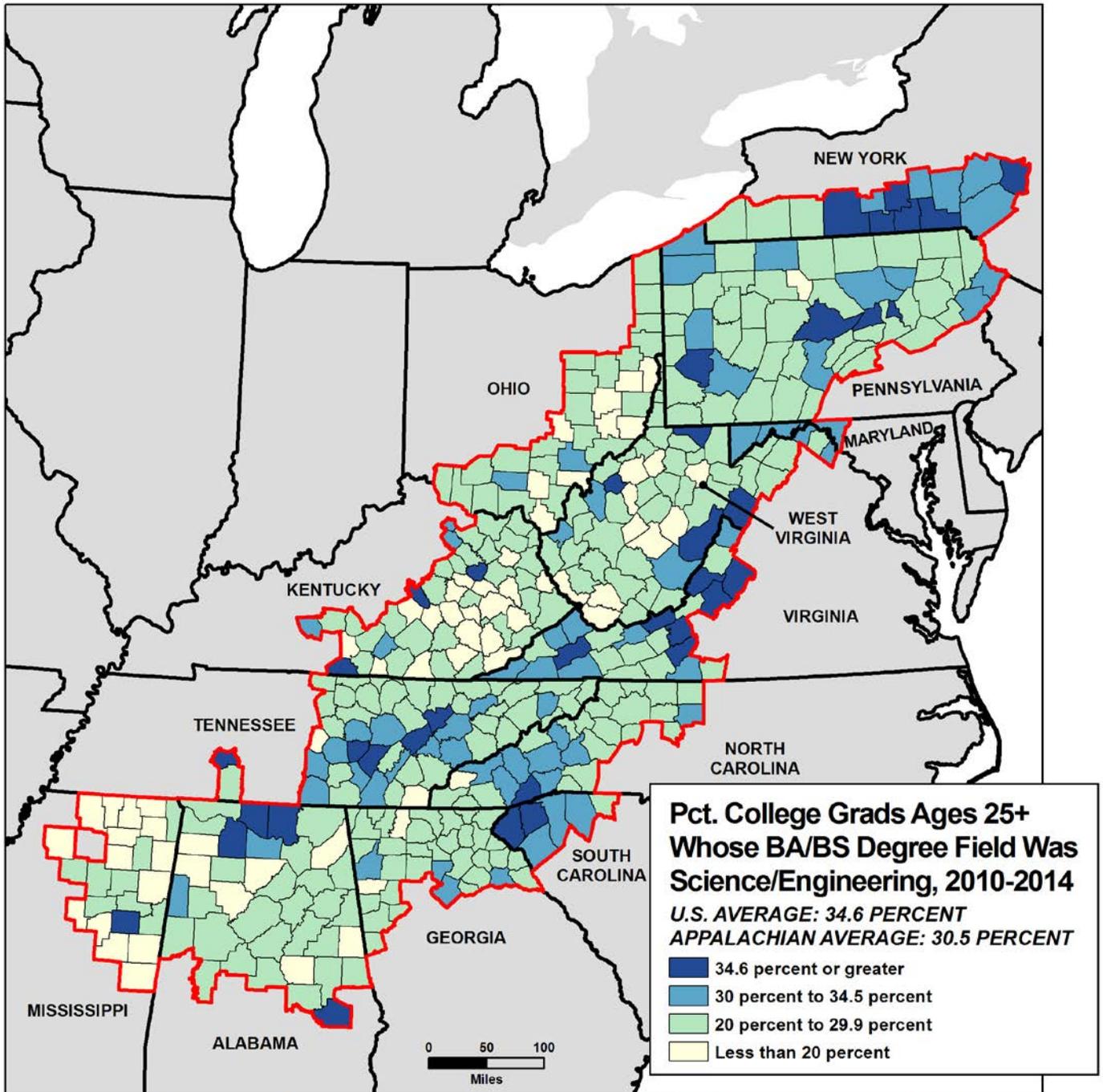
**Table 5.7: Bachelor's Degree Field (First Major) for Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2010-2014**

Bachelor's Degree Field (First Major)	Total Population Ages 25 and Over With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2010-2014	Percent of Population Ages 25 and Over With a Bachelor's Degree or More				
		Science and Engineering	Science- and Engineering-Related Fields	Business	Education	Arts, Humanities, and Other
<b>United States</b>	<b>61,206,147</b>	<b>34.6</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>20.4</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>22.5</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>3,837,499</b>	<b>30.5</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>18.7</b>	<b>20.1</b>
<b>Subregions</b>						
Northern Appalachia	1,346,760	31.5	11.1	18.0	19.2	20.3
North Central Appalachia	314,529	28.1	12.2	18.8	21.6	19.4
Central Appalachia	171,388	26.3	11.3	16.0	27.6	18.7
South Central Appalachia	750,273	31.6	10.3	19.1	17.1	22.0
Southern Appalachia	1,254,549	29.9	9.5	24.3	17.1	19.2
<b>County Types</b>						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	1,175,326	31.6	10.0	23.6	14.9	19.9
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	1,716,820	31.9	10.5	19.6	17.6	20.6
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	246,433	26.1	11.1	17.7	25.3	19.8
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	434,004	27.4	11.4	17.5	24.3	19.4
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	264,916	25.3	10.8	17.0	27.3	19.7
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>741,813</b>	<b>29.1</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>23.5</b>	<b>18.2</b>	<b>19.2</b>
Appalachian Alabama	489,573	29.8	10.0	23.9	17.2	19.1
Non-Appalachian Alabama	252,240	27.8	10.3	22.7	20.0	19.3
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>1,814,893</b>	<b>31.8</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>24.6</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>20.8</b>
Appalachian Georgia	496,706	30.3	9.2	26.0	15.9	18.7
Non-Appalachian Georgia	1,318,187	32.4	8.5	24.1	13.3	21.7
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>640,032</b>	<b>29.4</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>19.9</b>	<b>17.8</b>	<b>22.0</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	110,031	24.6	11.9	15.0	28.2	20.3
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	530,001	30.4	10.8	20.9	15.6	22.3
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>1,481,778</b>	<b>41.1</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>22.1</b>
Appalachian Maryland	33,101	33.2	8.8	17.4	19.1	21.5
Non-Appalachian Maryland	1,448,677	41.2	8.3	18.1	10.3	22.1
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>393,764</b>	<b>24.9</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>22.8</b>	<b>18.9</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	69,655	22.4	10.3	21.0	27.9	18.5
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	324,109	25.4	11.6	22.2	21.7	19.0
<b>New York</b>	<b>4,489,413</b>	<b>34.1</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>26.5</b>
Appalachian New York	172,433	36.2	9.5	12.5	19.2	22.6
Non-Appalachian New York	4,316,980	34.0	8.5	19.1	11.7	26.6
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>1,805,259</b>	<b>33.8</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>20.4</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>22.8</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	292,431	31.0	10.5	17.6	16.3	24.6
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	1,512,828	34.4	8.8	21.0	13.5	22.4
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>1,993,863</b>	<b>30.7</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>20.4</b>
Appalachian Ohio	228,722	25.3	12.7	18.8	24.1	19.1
Non-Appalachian Ohio	1,765,141	31.4	10.0	21.9	16.2	20.5
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>2,462,801</b>	<b>33.3</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>19.6</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>21.1</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	996,753	31.6	11.1	18.8	18.4	20.2
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	1,466,048	34.5	9.3	20.2	14.1	21.8
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>801,638</b>	<b>31.8</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>22.5</b>	<b>16.1</b>	<b>20.9</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	198,615	31.8	8.8	22.4	16.4	20.7
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	603,023	31.8	8.7	22.6	16.0	21.0
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>1,057,517</b>	<b>29.9</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>22.7</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>21.5</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	408,257	31.0	10.4	20.7	18.3	19.6
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	649,260	29.2	9.4	24.0	14.6	22.8
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>1,967,572</b>	<b>40.3</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>23.2</b>
Appalachian Virginia	97,756	35.5	9.1	16.5	17.8	21.1
Non-Appalachian Virginia	1,869,816	40.5	7.2	19.1	9.9	23.3
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>243,466</b>	<b>28.2</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>19.2</b>	<b>21.6</b>	<b>18.9</b>

Note: Examples of "Science- and Engineering-Related Fields" include nursing, architecture, and mathematics teacher education.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

**Figure 5.9: Among Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor’s Degree or More, Percent Whose Bachelor’s Degree Field (First Major) Was Science and Engineering, 2010-2014**



Map Title: Among Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor’s Degree or More, Percent Whose Bachelor’s Degree Field (First Major) Was Science and Engineering, 2010-2014  
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

Among the 3.8 million adults in the Appalachian Region with a bachelor’s degree or more, 31 percent held a degree in the science and engineering field—slightly lower than the national share of 35 percent. But there was much variation within the Region. In 37 Appalachian counties, for example, the share of BA/BS holders with science and engineering degrees matched or exceeded the national average. Yet in another 66 counties in the Region, less than one-fifth of adult college graduates had a science and engineering degree. Science and engineering jobs are becoming increasingly important in keeping the United States competitive in the global economy. The field of science and engineering includes the following detailed fields and majors: computers, mathematics, and statistics; biological, agricultural, and environmental sciences; physical and related science; psychology; social sciences; and engineering.

## TRENDS IN EDUCATION

- Since the 2005-2009 period, the share of adults in Appalachia with at least a high school diploma has risen nearly three percentage points, to 85 percent in 2010-2014 (see Tables 5.1 and 5.4). The increase is a full percentage point greater than the national average, placing the Region's high school completion prevalence almost equal to that of the country. Most of this increase is due to the rising share of adults attaining a bachelor's degree or more.
- Within the Region, the high school completion prevalence increased the most in Central Appalachia (an improvement of more than four percentage points) and in Appalachia's most rural counties (an increase of almost four points). With these improvements, the share of adults completing high school in these areas has surpassed 75 percent as of 2010-2014. The Appalachian sections of Kentucky and Virginia had the largest increases among the states.
- The share of adults in the Region with at least a bachelor's degree also has increased since 2005-2009—in this case, by nearly two percentage points to 22 percent. The increase has been greatest in Northern and South Central Appalachia, in metropolitan areas, and in the Appalachian portions of North Carolina and Pennsylvania. In Central Appalachia, the Region's most rural counties, and in Appalachian Kentucky, the improvement has been smaller.
- The pattern of improvement among working-age adults ages 25 to 64 has been similar to that of all adults, except that the overall improvement was about 1.5 percentage points for both high school and college completion (see Table 5.5). Central Appalachia, Appalachian Kentucky and Virginia, and the Region's most rural counties still had the greatest improvement in the share with at least a high school diploma. With the exception of Appalachian Virginia, these geographic areas showed the smallest gains in the share with a bachelor's degree.
- The greatest improvement since 2005-2009 has been among adults ages 65 and over. The share of older adults in Appalachia with at least a high school diploma has risen nearly eight percentage points; the share with at least a bachelor's degree has increased three points (see Table 5.6). Possible factors fueling this increase include both the influx of younger, more educated cohorts into the older ages, and the arrival of well-educated older adults moving into the Region upon retirement. Within Appalachia's subregions, county types, and states, the patterns of improvement that were present among working-age adults generally held among older adults as well. (In Central Appalachia, for example, the share of older adults with at least a high school diploma rose 10 percentage points, while the share with a bachelor's degree or more increased less than two points.)

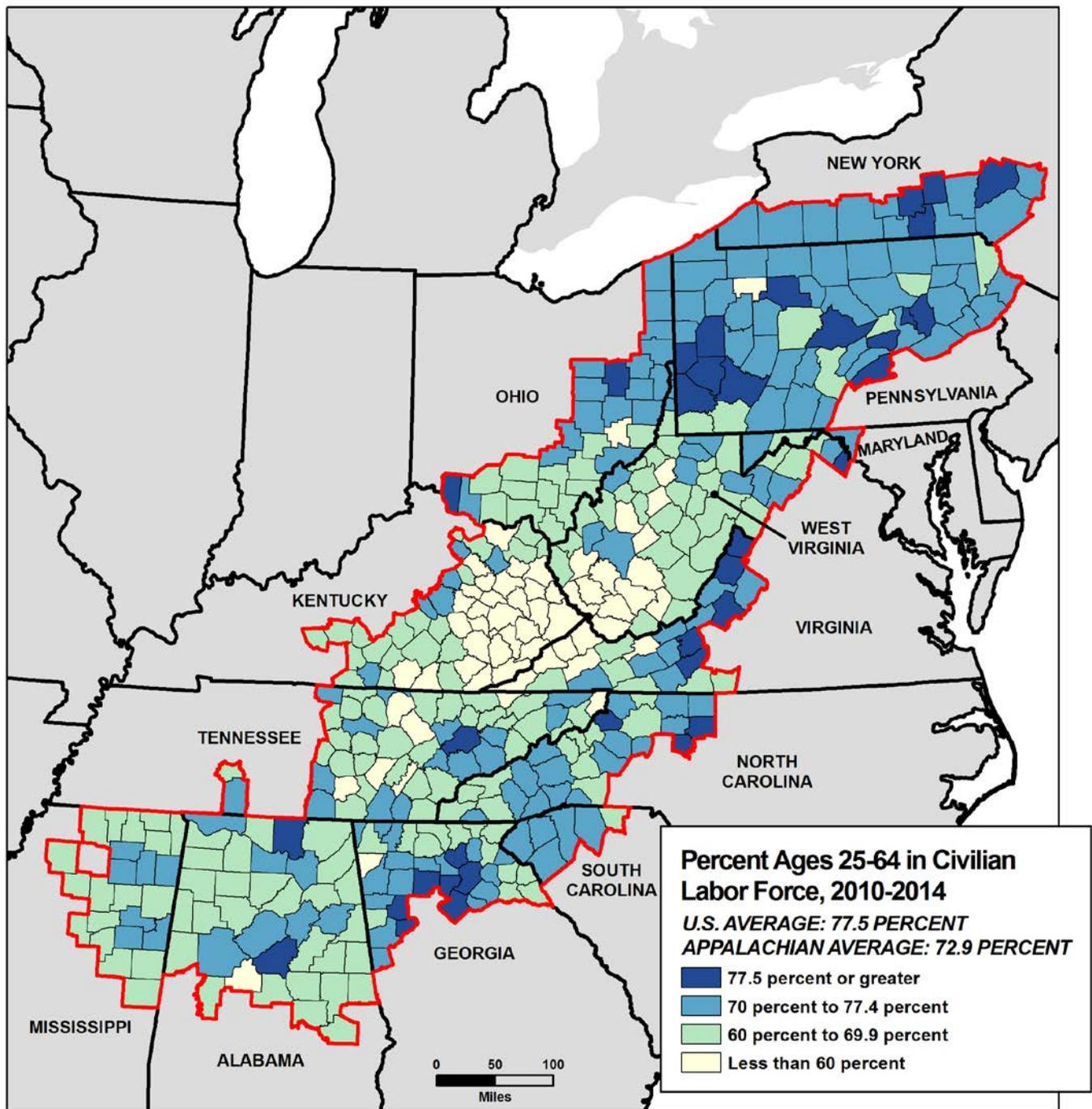
# CHAPTER 6: LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT

**Table 6.1: Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment Status of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2010-2014**

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		
<b>United States</b>	<b>165,245,617</b>	<b>128,142,180</b>	<b>77.5</b>	<b>92.3</b>	<b>7.7</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>13,273,124</b>	<b>9,678,436</b>	<b>72.9</b>	<b>92.4</b>	<b>7.6</b>
<b>Subregions</b>					
Northern Appalachia	4,354,045	3,291,683	75.6	93.3	6.7
North Central Appalachia	1,279,958	886,661	69.3	92.5	7.5
Central Appalachia	1,017,699	608,154	59.8	91.0	9.0
South Central Appalachia	2,463,574	1,804,429	73.2	92.1	7.9
Southern Appalachia	4,157,848	3,087,509	74.3	91.8	8.2
<b>County Types</b>					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	3,185,622	2,472,976	77.6	92.8	7.2
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	5,571,467	4,122,854	74.0	92.5	7.5
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	1,136,646	806,986	71.0	91.7	8.3
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	2,067,015	1,427,014	69.0	92.1	7.9
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	1,312,374	848,606	64.7	91.5	8.5
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>2,507,599</b>	<b>1,802,304</b>	<b>71.9</b>	<b>91.7</b>	<b>8.3</b>
Appalachian Alabama	1,627,053	1,174,647	72.2	92.0	8.0
Non-Appalachian Alabama	880,546	627,657	71.3	91.2	8.8
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>5,241,944</b>	<b>3,969,363</b>	<b>75.7</b>	<b>91.1</b>	<b>8.9</b>
Appalachian Georgia	1,597,164	1,228,692	76.9	91.7	8.3
Non-Appalachian Georgia	3,644,780	2,740,671	75.2	90.9	9.1
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>2,316,304</b>	<b>1,654,964</b>	<b>71.4</b>	<b>92.2</b>	<b>7.8</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	626,882	376,564	60.1	90.6	9.4
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	1,689,422	1,278,400	75.7	92.7	7.3
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>3,191,303</b>	<b>2,625,562</b>	<b>82.3</b>	<b>93.4</b>	<b>6.6</b>
Appalachian Maryland	133,734	97,801	73.1	92.3	7.7
Non-Appalachian Maryland	3,057,569	2,527,761	82.7	93.4	6.6
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>1,520,294</b>	<b>1,088,207</b>	<b>71.6</b>	<b>91.5</b>	<b>8.5</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	314,398	221,380	70.4	91.2	8.8
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	1,205,896	866,827	71.9	91.5	8.5
<b>New York</b>	<b>10,561,077</b>	<b>8,263,850</b>	<b>78.2</b>	<b>92.5</b>	<b>7.5</b>
Appalachian New York	530,496	401,699	75.7	93.3	6.7
Non-Appalachian New York	10,030,581	7,862,151	78.4	92.5	7.5
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>5,098,459</b>	<b>3,906,779</b>	<b>76.6</b>	<b>91.2</b>	<b>8.8</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	885,111	653,564	73.8	91.5	8.5
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	4,213,348	3,253,215	77.2	91.2	8.8
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>6,069,420</b>	<b>4,699,414</b>	<b>77.4</b>	<b>92.4</b>	<b>7.6</b>
Appalachian Ohio	1,057,745	757,919	71.7	91.9	8.1
Non-Appalachian Ohio	5,011,675	3,941,495	78.6	92.5	7.5
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>6,718,332</b>	<b>5,248,706</b>	<b>78.1</b>	<b>92.9</b>	<b>7.1</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	3,032,546	2,310,323	76.2	93.5	6.5
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	3,685,786	2,938,383	79.7	92.5	7.5
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>2,451,548</b>	<b>1,830,897</b>	<b>74.7</b>	<b>91.2</b>	<b>8.8</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	619,233	462,790	74.7	91.8	8.2
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	1,832,315	1,368,107	74.7	90.9	9.1
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>3,405,136</b>	<b>2,531,531</b>	<b>74.3</b>	<b>92.2</b>	<b>7.8</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	1,471,110	1,056,895	71.8	92.1	7.9
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	1,934,026	1,474,636	76.2	92.2	7.8
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>4,368,319</b>	<b>3,467,717</b>	<b>79.4</b>	<b>94.5</b>	<b>5.5</b>
Appalachian Virginia	391,587	268,207	68.5	93.2	6.8
Non-Appalachian Virginia	3,976,732	3,199,510	80.5	94.6	5.4
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>986,065</b>	<b>667,955</b>	<b>67.7</b>	<b>93.1</b>	<b>6.9</b>

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

**Figure 6.1: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Who Are In the Labor Force, 2010-2014**

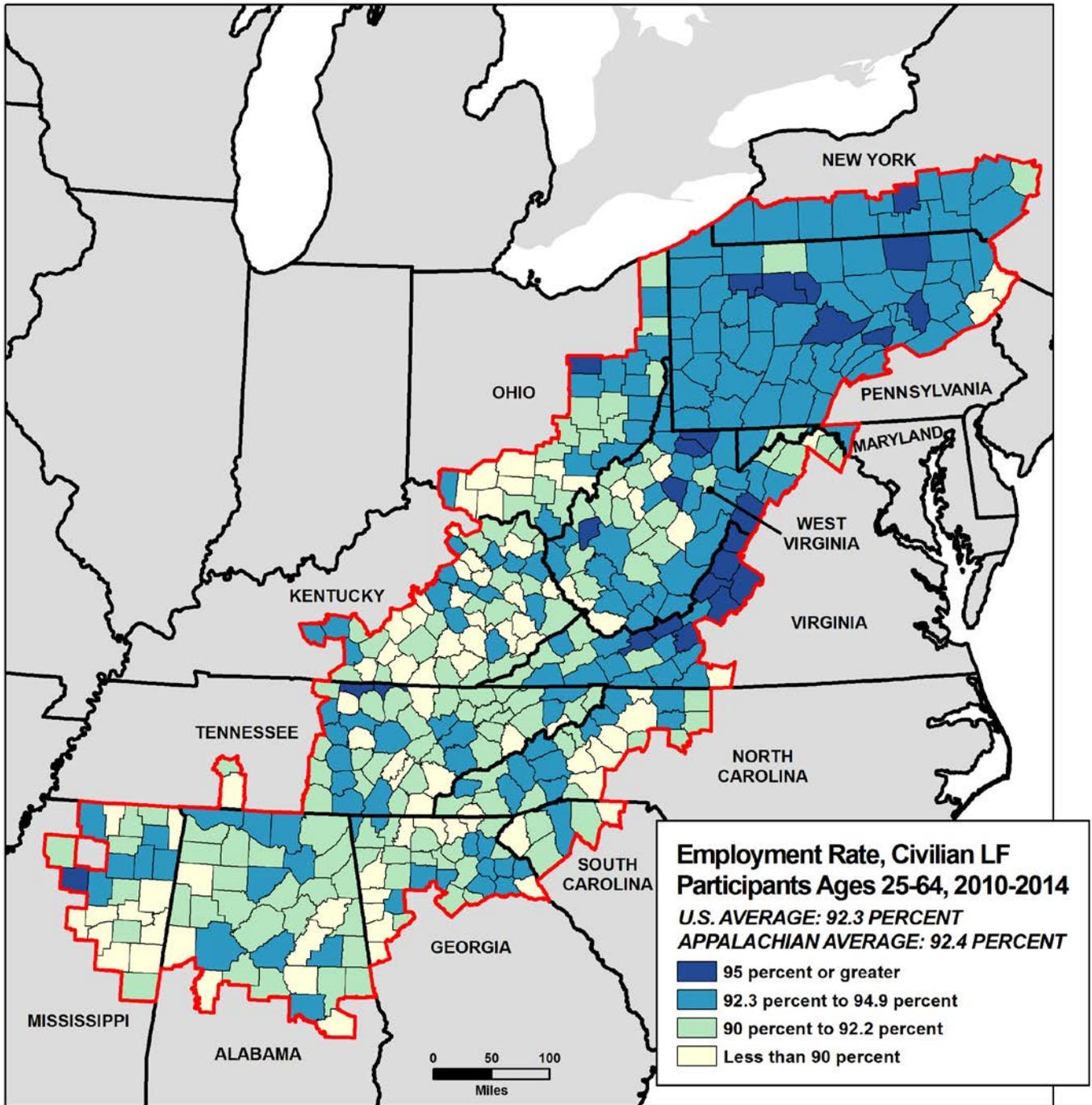


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Who Are In the Labor Force, 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

In the 2010-2014 period, 73 percent of Appalachia’s civilian population in the prime working ages (ages 25 to 64) were in the civilian labor force, slightly below the U.S. average of nearly 78 percent. In 36 Appalachian counties (27 of which were in metropolitan areas), the share was at or above the national average, yet there were 58 counties where less than 60 percent of 25-to-64-year-olds were in the civilian labor force. Nearly all the counties in the latter group were outside of metropolitan areas, and 42 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 nearly all of the counties where labor force participation levels were at or above the national rate, the share of working-age adults with at least a high school diploma also matched or exceeded the U.S. average.

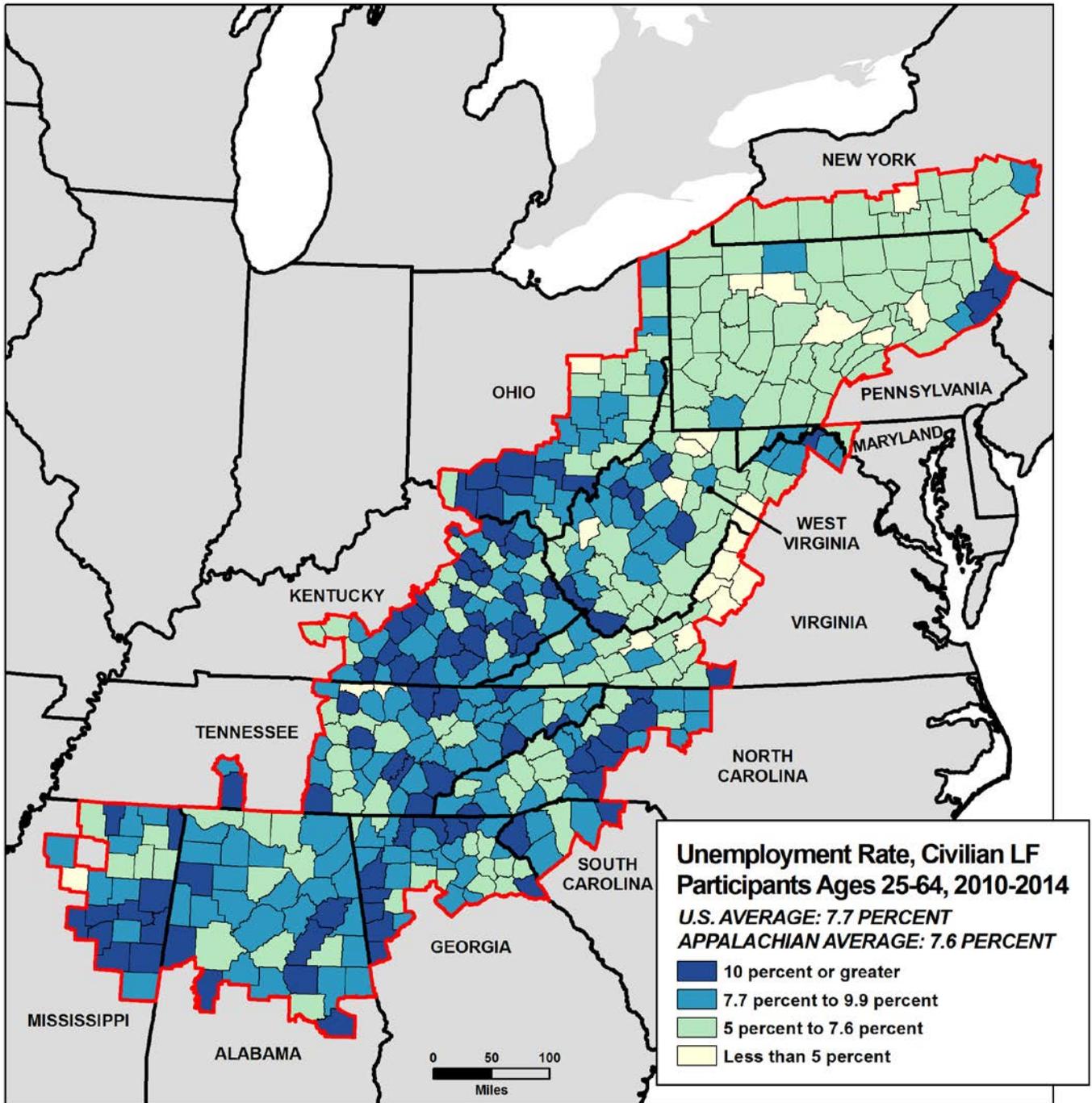
**Figure 6.2: Employment Rate for Civilian Labor Force Participants Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2010-2014**



Map Title: Employment Rate for Civilian Labor Force Participants Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2010-2014  
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

The employment rate in Appalachia among members of the civilian labor force ages 25 to 64 was nearly identical to the national rate during the 2010-2014 period. Although there were only slight differences among subregions and urban/rural county types, there was some variation at the county level. In nearly half of Appalachian counties, the employment rate matched or exceeded the national average, with 25 counties having employment rates of 95 percent or greater. (Two states, Pennsylvania and Virginia, accounted for 15 of those 25 counties.) Yet in 85 counties in the Region (most of which were in Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia), employment among 25-to-64-year-olds was less than 90 percent, which suggests that they may have not fully recovered economically from the recent recession. Four-fifths 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, 2010-2014**



Map Title: Unemployment Rate for Civilian Labor Force Participants Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2010-2014  
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

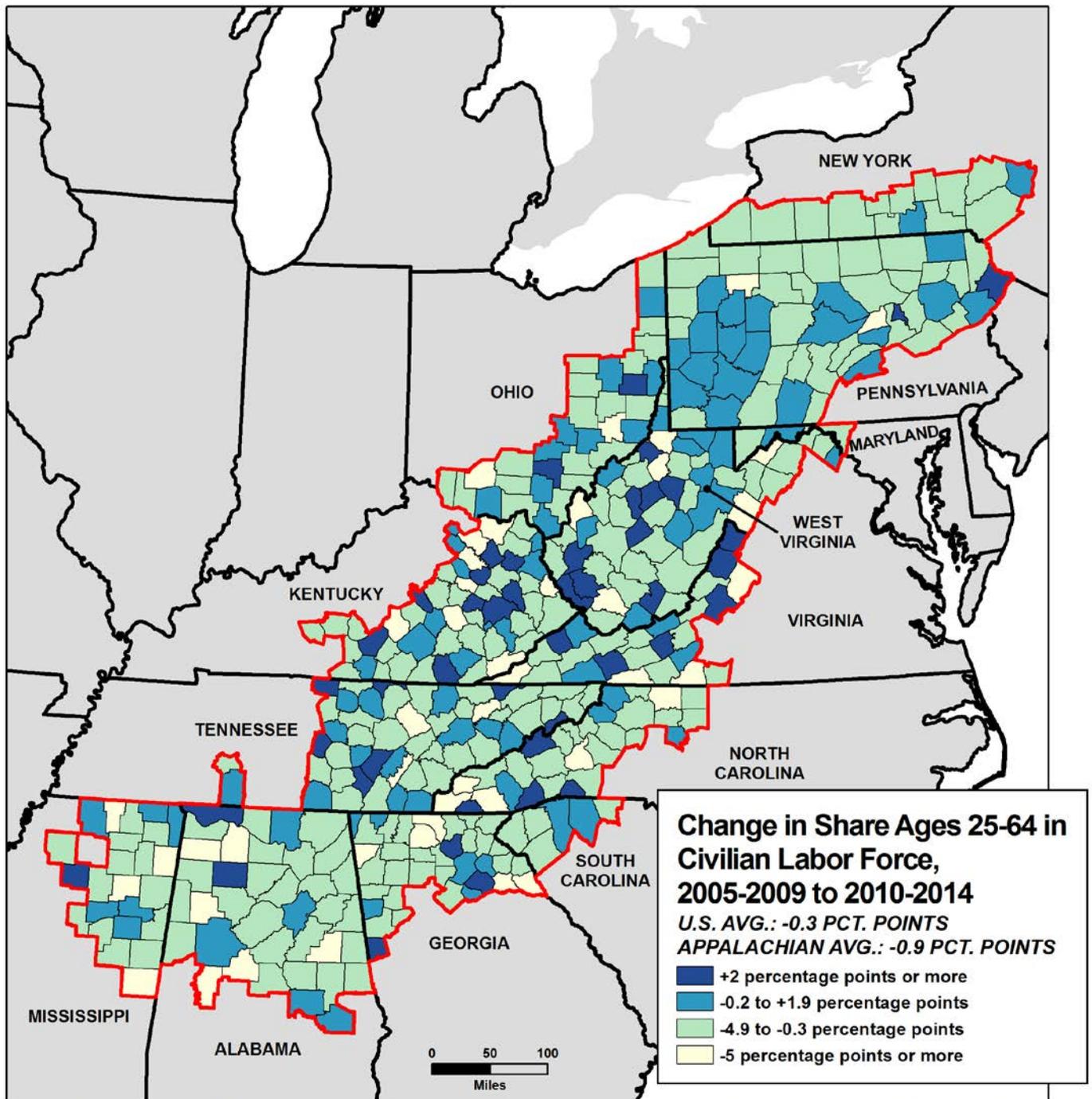
Unemployment in the Appalachian Region among persons ages 25 to 64 was just below the national average of 7.7 percent during the 2010-2014 period. Within Appalachia, the jobless rate was at least 10 percent in 89 counties—71 of which were outside metropolitan areas and 75 of which were in Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia. Conversely, unemployment was less than 5 percent in 22 other counties, with most of these located in Pennsylvania and Virginia. There are indications of a connection between unemployment and educational attainment: In 84 of the 89 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 35 of these counties, the share was less than four-fifths.

**Table 6.2: Percentage Point Change in Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment Status of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**

Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment	Percentage Point Change		
	Labor Force Participation Rate	Employment Rate (Pct. of Civ. Labor Force)	Unemployment Rate (Pct. of Civ. Labor Force)
<b>United States</b>	<b>- 0.3</b>	<b>- 2.0</b>	<b>+ 2.0</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>- 0.9</b>	<b>- 1.7</b>	<b>+ 1.7</b>
<b>Subregions</b>			
Northern Appalachia	- 0.4	- 1.2	+ 1.2
North Central Appalachia	- 1.1	- 1.7	+ 1.7
Central Appalachia	- 1.5	- 2.1	+ 2.1
South Central Appalachia	- 1.2	- 1.9	+ 1.9
Southern Appalachia	- 1.1	- 2.2	+ 2.2
<b>County Types</b>			
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	- 0.3	- 1.7	+ 1.7
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	- 0.7	- 1.8	+ 1.8
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 1.4	- 1.7	+ 1.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	- 1.8	- 1.7	+ 1.7
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 1.5	- 2.0	+ 2.0
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>- 1.1</b>	<b>- 2.4</b>	<b>+ 2.4</b>
Appalachian Alabama	- 1.2	- 2.2	+ 2.2
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 1.1	- 2.8	+ 2.8
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>- 1.3</b>	<b>- 2.7</b>	<b>+ 2.7</b>
Appalachian Georgia	- 1.3	- 2.5	+ 2.5
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 1.3	- 2.7	+ 2.7
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>- 0.7</b>	<b>- 1.8</b>	<b>+ 1.8</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	- 1.4	- 2.1	+ 2.1
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 0.6	- 1.7	+ 1.7
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>+ 0.6</b>	<b>- 2.1</b>	<b>+ 2.1</b>
Appalachian Maryland	- 1.3	- 2.5	+ 2.5
Non-Appalachian Maryland	+ 0.6	- 2.1	+ 2.1
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>- 0.9</b>	<b>- 1.8</b>	<b>+ 1.8</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	- 1.9	- 1.4	+ 1.4
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 0.7	- 2.0	+ 2.0
<b>New York</b>	<b>+ 0.7</b>	<b>- 1.9</b>	<b>+ 1.9</b>
Appalachian New York	- 1.3	- 1.4	+ 1.4
Non-Appalachian New York	+ 0.9	- 1.9	+ 1.9
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>- 0.7</b>	<b>- 2.7</b>	<b>+ 2.7</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	- 1.9	- 2.6	+ 2.6
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 0.5	- 2.6	+ 2.6
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>- 0.6</b>	<b>- 1.2</b>	<b>+ 1.2</b>
Appalachian Ohio	- 0.9	- 1.0	+ 1.0
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 0.6	- 1.2	+ 1.2
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>+ 0.1</b>	<b>- 1.8</b>	<b>+ 1.8</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 0.1	- 1.3	+ 1.3
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 0.2	- 2.1	+ 2.1
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>- 0.6</b>	<b>- 2.0</b>	<b>+ 2.0</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	- 0.4	- 1.4	+ 1.4
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 0.6	- 2.3	+ 2.3
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>- 1.0</b>	<b>- 1.4</b>	<b>+ 1.4</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	- 0.8	- 1.6	+ 1.6
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 1.1	- 1.3	+ 1.3
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>+ 0.2</b>	<b>- 1.5</b>	<b>+ 1.5</b>
Appalachian Virginia	- 1.4	- 1.6	+ 1.6
Non-Appalachian Virginia	+ 0.3	- 1.5	+ 1.5
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>- 1.0</b>	<b>- 1.7</b>	<b>+ 1.7</b>

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Surveys.

**Figure 6.4: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Who Are In the Labor Force, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**

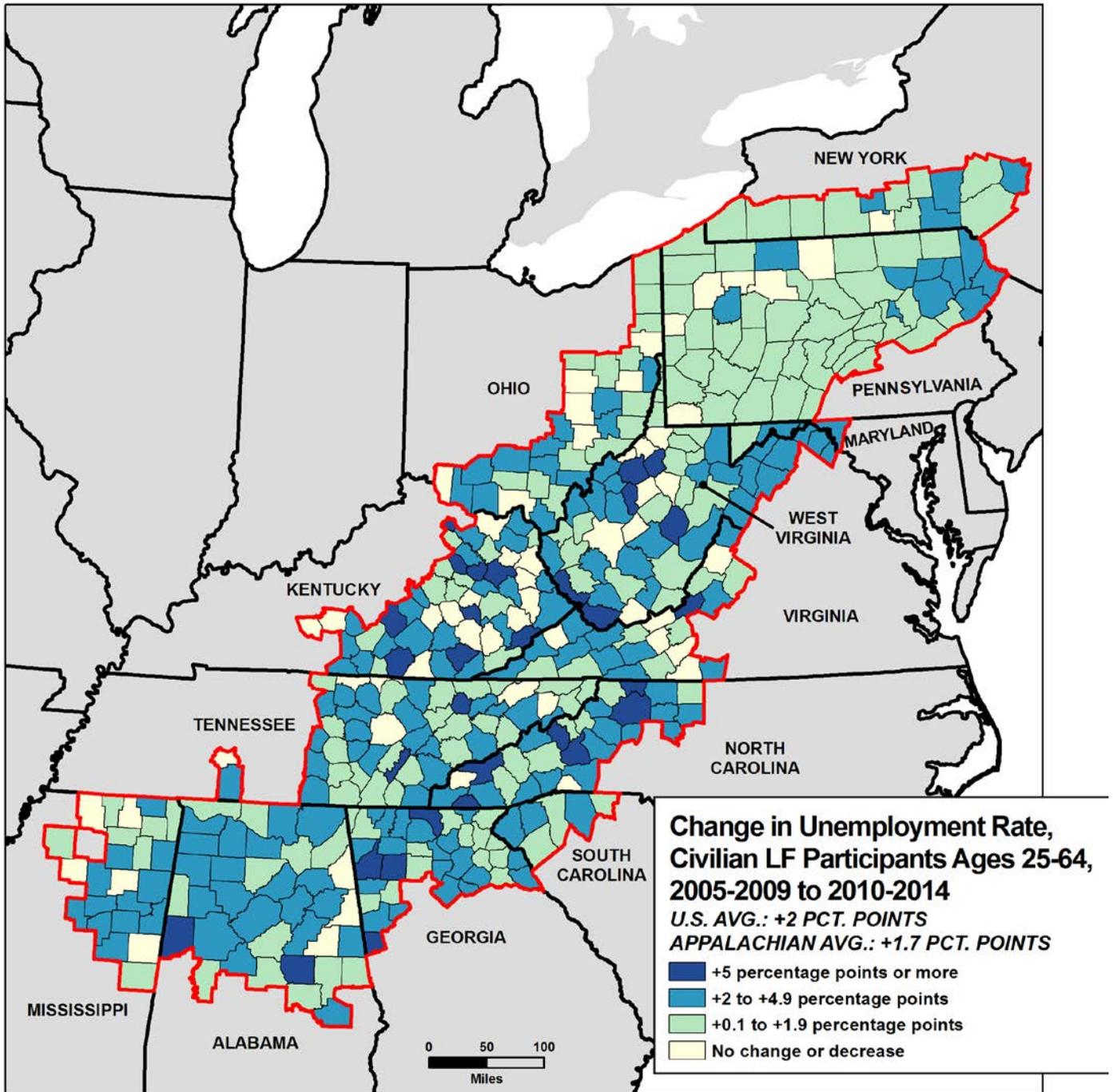


Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Who Are in the Labor Force, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

Between 2005-2009 and 2010-2014, the labor force participation rate among civilians ages 25 to 64 fell by nearly a full percentage point in the Appalachian Region, compared with 0.3 points for the nation as a whole. The decline was present in most of the Region—two in three Appalachian counties in the Region had labor force rate decreases greater than or equal to the U.S. average. And in 45 counties (mostly in Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia), the labor force participation rate among working age adults was at least five percentage points lower than in 2005-2009. But participation rates did increase in some parts of Appalachia; in fact, there were 45 counties in the Region where the share of adults in the labor force rose by at least two percentage points. One-third of the counties in this group were in Central Appalachia.

**Figure 6.5: Percentage Point Change in the Unemployment Rate for Civilian Labor Force Participants Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Unemployment Rate for Civilian Labor Force Participants Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

Unemployment among civilian labor force participants rose by about two percentage points between 2005-2009 and 2010-2014, both in Appalachia and nationwide. Indeed, the unemployment rate rose by at least two points in nearly half of the Region's 420 counties, and by at least five points in 30 of them. (Most of these counties were in Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia.) Given that the 2005-2009 period includes years prior to the "Great Recession" of 2007-2009, and that the 2010-2014 period covers the recession's immediate aftermath, this suggests that employment has not yet fully recovered from the economic downturn. There were some pockets of recovery, however: In 58 Appalachian counties, the unemployment rate in 2010-2014 was either the same or lower than it was in 2005-2009.

## TRENDS IN LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT

- Among working-age adults (ages 25 to 64), Appalachia's labor force participation rate in 2010-2014 was nearly 73 percent, almost a full percentage point lower than its rate in 2005-2009 (see Tables 6.1 and 6.2). The decline was even greater in Central Appalachia and nonmetropolitan counties; in those areas, labor force participation rates fell between 1.4 and 1.8 points.
- Within the civilian labor force, the employment rate in Appalachia was slightly more than 92 percent, which was nearly two percentage points off the 2005-2009 employment rate. Among the subregions and county types, the size of the decline was similar in almost every case—between 1.7 and 2.2 percentage points. The exception was in Northern Appalachia, where the employment rate fell just 1.2 points to a little more than 93 percent.
- As Appalachia's employment rate fell between 2005-2009 and 2010-2014, its unemployment rate rose. The Region's unemployment rate of 7.6 percent in the later period is nearly two percentage points above its rate from the earlier period.
- The lower labor force and employment rates in 2010-2014 for both Appalachia and the United States (and thus the higher unemployment rates) suggest that labor force and employment levels may have not yet rebounded from the economic downturn of 2007-2009.

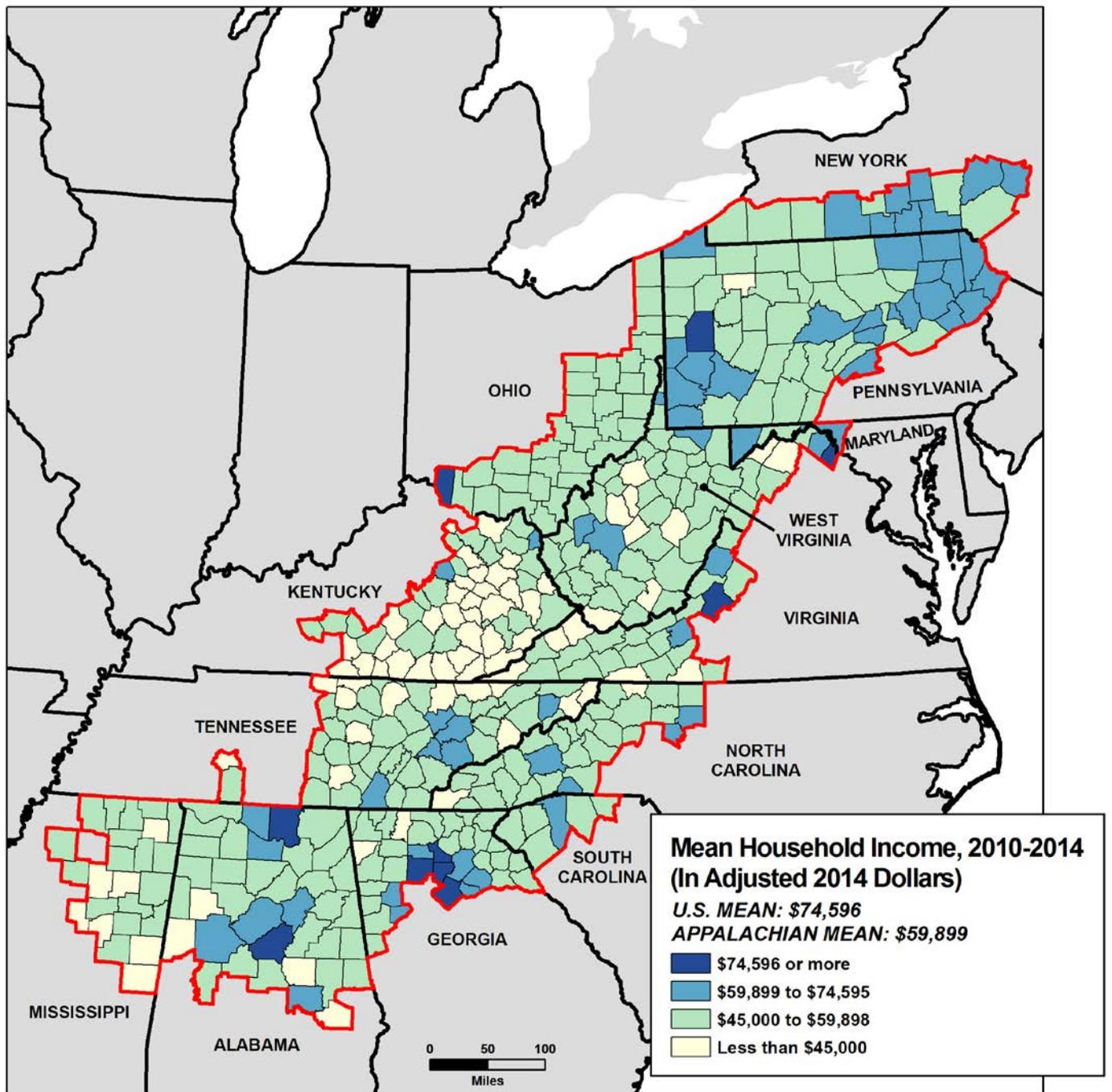
## CHAPTER 7: INCOME AND POVERTY

Table 7.1: Household, Family, and Per Capita Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2014 Dollars), 2010-2014

Income	Household Income, 2010-2014 (2014 Dollars)		Family Income, 2010-2014 (2014 Dollars)		Per Capita Income, 2010-2014 (2014 Dollars)
	Mean HH Income	Median HH Income	Mean Family Income	Median Family Income	
<b>United States</b>	<b>74,596</b>	<b>53,482</b>	<b>86,963</b>	<b>65,443</b>	<b>28,555</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>59,899</b>	<b>44,351</b>	<b>70,988</b>	<b>55,989</b>	<b>24,026</b>
<b>Subregions</b>					
Northern Appalachia	62,254	47,254	74,960	60,290	25,672
North Central Appalachia	57,032	42,743	67,850	54,501	23,121
Central Appalachia	47,152	33,956	55,645	43,473	18,995
South Central Appalachia	57,114	41,507	68,206	52,845	23,595
Southern Appalachia	63,210	46,713	73,321	57,091	24,039
<b>County Types</b>					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	71,262	53,699	83,891	66,481	27,901
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	60,707	44,995	72,615	57,385	24,549
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	53,347	40,878	62,782	51,061	21,272
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	52,208	39,663	61,340	49,671	21,239
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	48,435	35,475	57,225	45,114	19,559
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>60,205</b>	<b>43,511</b>	<b>71,423</b>	<b>54,724</b>	<b>23,936</b>
Appalachian Alabama	61,984	44,622	73,308	56,315	24,654
Non-Appalachian Alabama	57,007	41,685	67,939	52,821	22,658
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>68,317</b>	<b>49,342</b>	<b>78,856</b>	<b>59,068</b>	<b>25,427</b>
Appalachian Georgia	68,664	52,763	77,110	60,930	24,375
Non-Appalachian Georgia	68,174	47,881	79,671	58,327	25,885
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>59,312</b>	<b>43,342</b>	<b>70,337</b>	<b>54,928</b>	<b>23,741</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	46,554	33,251	55,010	42,718	18,629
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	63,997	47,568	76,225	60,528	25,629
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>97,135</b>	<b>74,149</b>	<b>112,955</b>	<b>89,416</b>	<b>36,670</b>
Appalachian Maryland	64,858	49,772	76,472	62,629	25,297
Non-Appalachian Maryland	98,641	75,664	114,625	91,636	37,180
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>54,881</b>	<b>39,464</b>	<b>64,194</b>	<b>49,125</b>	<b>20,956</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	49,604	36,156	58,327	45,265	19,437
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	56,342	40,496	65,821	50,294	21,361
<b>New York</b>	<b>85,736</b>	<b>58,687</b>	<b>99,640</b>	<b>71,419</b>	<b>32,829</b>
Appalachian New York	60,755	46,911	73,171	59,814	24,618
Non-Appalachian New York	87,273	59,777	101,209	72,546	33,299
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>64,555</b>	<b>46,693</b>	<b>75,892</b>	<b>57,328</b>	<b>25,608</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	56,357	41,257	67,071	52,103	23,436
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	66,405	48,095	77,837	58,876	26,070
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>65,491</b>	<b>48,849</b>	<b>78,539</b>	<b>62,104</b>	<b>26,520</b>
Appalachian Ohio	55,654	42,900	65,616	54,249	22,338
Non-Appalachian Ohio	67,550	50,297	81,375	64,455	27,411
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>72,210</b>	<b>53,115</b>	<b>86,912</b>	<b>67,521</b>	<b>28,912</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	64,056	48,445	77,467	62,082	26,557
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	79,449	58,371	95,122	73,601	30,863
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>61,196</b>	<b>45,033</b>	<b>71,602</b>	<b>55,506</b>	<b>24,222</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	61,125	44,734	71,877	56,288	24,028
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	61,220	45,144	71,507	55,730	24,288
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>62,344</b>	<b>44,621</b>	<b>73,630</b>	<b>55,459</b>	<b>24,811</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	56,964	40,985	67,712	52,070	23,346
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	66,782	48,142	78,519	59,212	25,944
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>88,413</b>	<b>64,792</b>	<b>102,254</b>	<b>77,939</b>	<b>33,958</b>
Appalachian Virginia	53,263	39,223	64,338	51,132	22,083
Non-Appalachian Virginia	92,361	68,927	106,375	82,490	35,183
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>55,976</b>	<b>41,576</b>	<b>67,024</b>	<b>52,875</b>	<b>23,237</b>

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

**Figure 7.1: Mean Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2014 Dollars), 2010-2014**

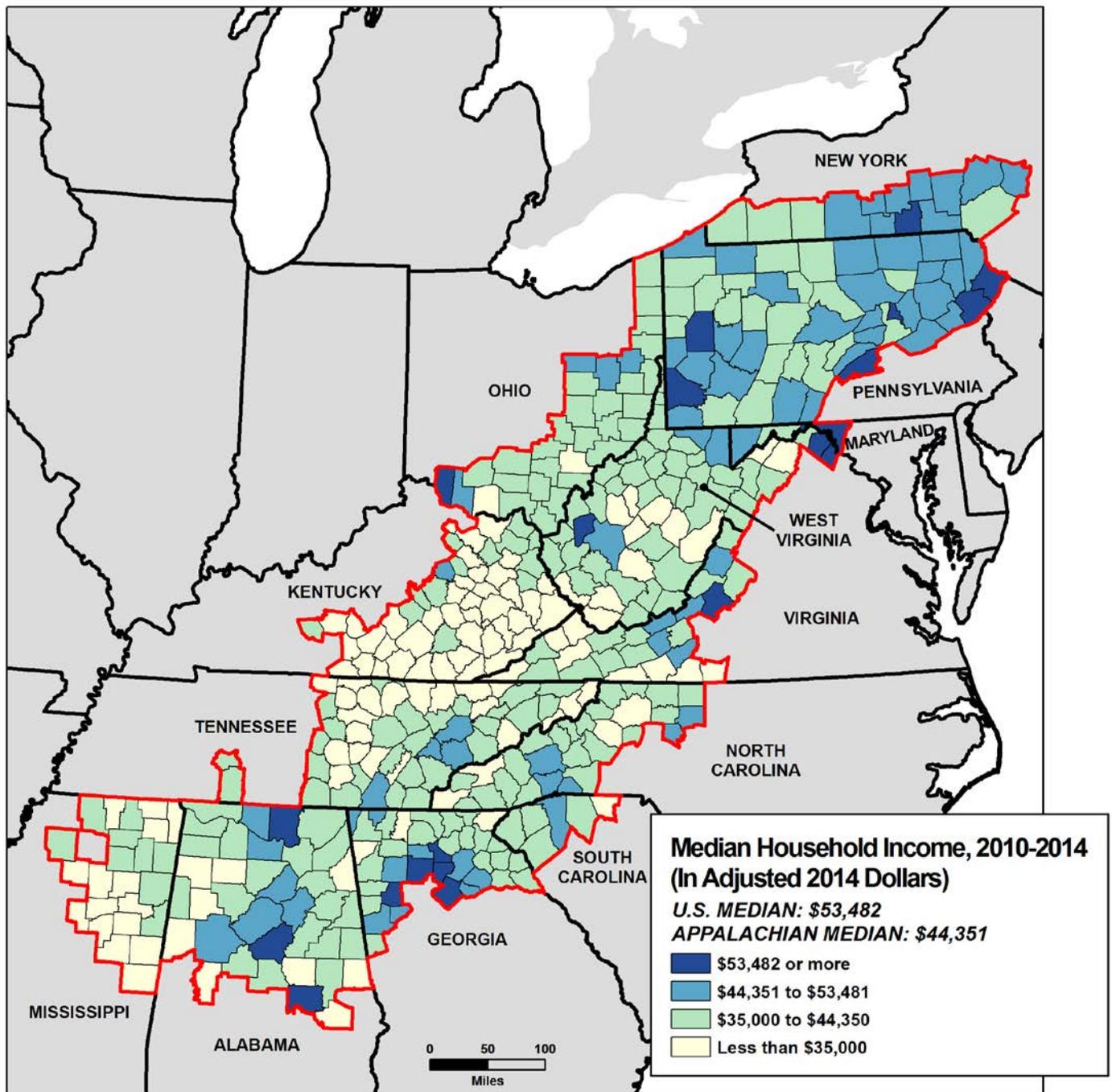


Map Title: Mean Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2014 Dollars), 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

In the 2010-2014 period (the first five-year period after the end of the economic recession of 2007-2009), the mean income of Appalachian households was \$59,899, just 80 percent of the U.S. average (\$74,596). In just 10 of the Region's counties (all of which were in metropolitan areas), average household income matched or exceeded that of the nation as a whole. And in only 63 other counties (50 of which were in metros), mean household income matched or surpassed the Appalachian average. In contrast, mean household income was less than \$45,000 in 75 counties—67 of which were outside metro areas, and 43 of which were in Central Appalachia.

Figure 7.2: Median Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2014 Dollars), 2010-2014

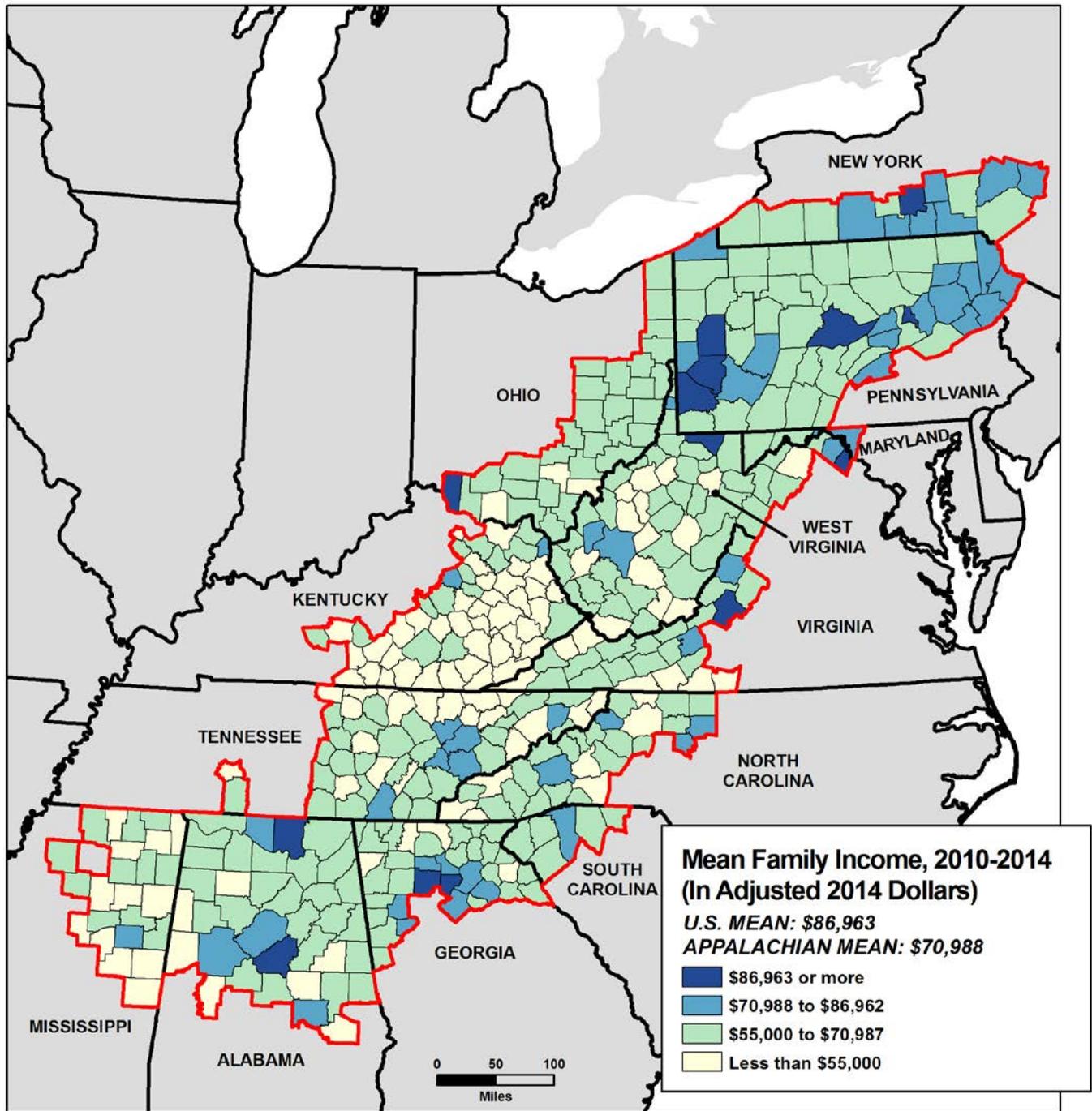


Map Title: Median Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2014 Dollars), 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

At \$44,351, median household income in Appalachia (the level at which half the households have higher incomes and the other half have lower incomes) was 83 percent that of the United States (\$53,482) during the 2010-2014 period. There were 21 counties in the Region (all of which were in metropolitan areas) that had household incomes at or above the national median, while another 74 had incomes at or above the regional median. On the other hand, 115 counties in the Region had median household incomes below \$35,000—101 of which were outside metro areas and 57 of which were in Central Appalachia. This distribution is not surprising: median household income was \$35,475 for the most rural counties and \$33,956 for Central Appalachia. It is useful to note that the income levels displayed here reflect income received in the years following the end of the 2007-2009 economic downturn.

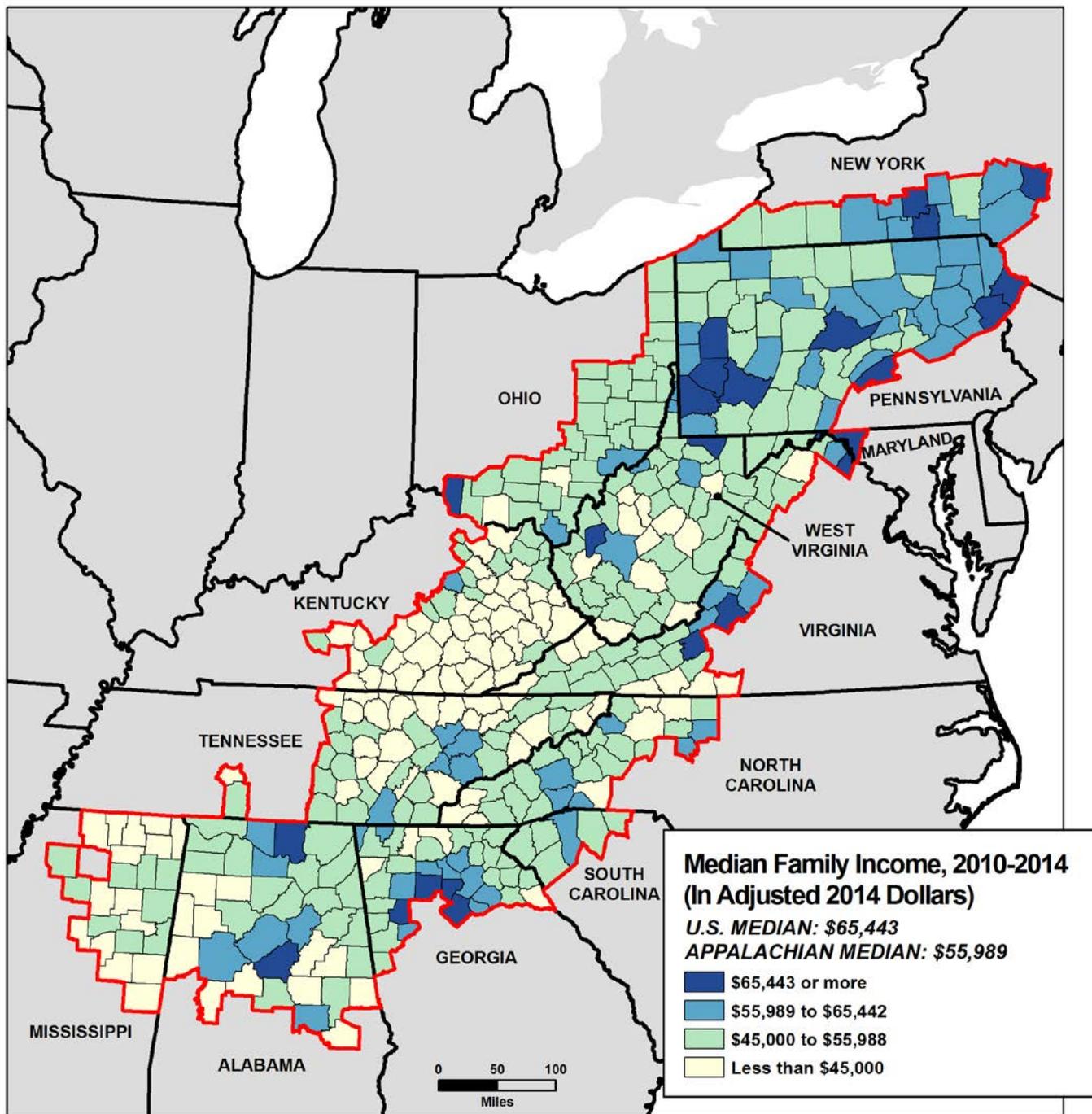
**Figure 7.3: Mean Family Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2014 Dollars), 2010-2014**



Map Title: Mean Family Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2014 Dollars), 2010-2014  
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

In just 14 Appalachian counties (all in metropolitan areas), the average income of families matched or surpassed the U.S. mean of \$86,963 for the 2010-2014 period. And there were only an additional 54 counties (43 of which were part of metro areas) where mean family income was equal to or greater than the average for the Appalachian Region (\$70,988). In contrast, mean family income was less than \$55,000 in 112 Appalachian counties. All but 14 of these counties were outside metropolitan areas, while nearly half were in Central Appalachia. Overall, mean family income over the 2010-2014 period was between \$57,225 and \$62,782 for each of the three nonmetro county types, and just \$55,645 for Central Appalachia.

Figure 7.4: Median Family Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2014 Dollars), 2010-2014

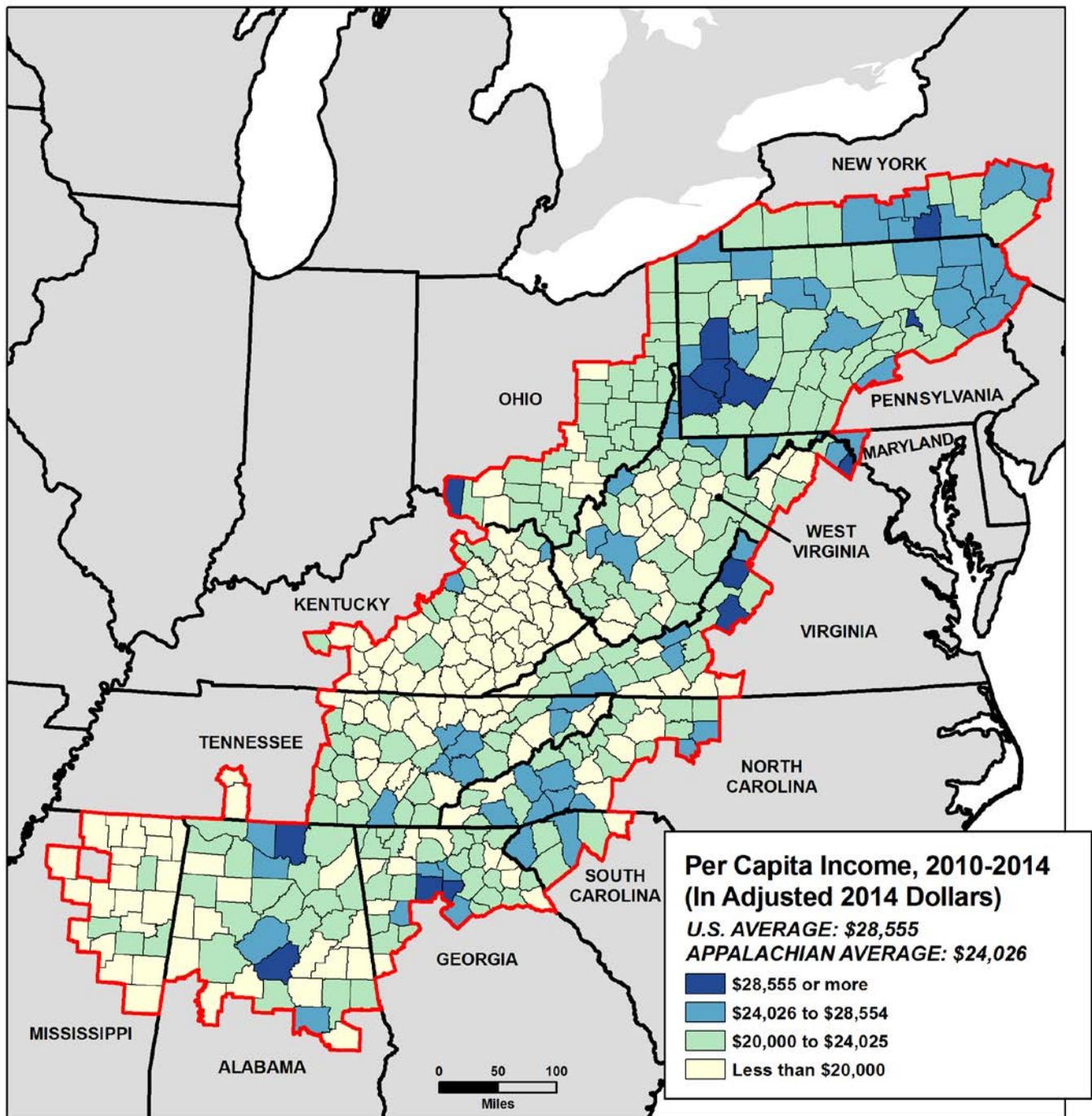


Map Title: Median Family Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2014 Dollars), 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

In 24 Appalachian counties—all of which were in metro areas—median family income (the level where half of all families have higher incomes while the other half have lower incomes) matched or exceeded the U.S. median of \$65,443 during the 2010-2014 period. In another 70 counties (43 of which were in metros), median income was at or above the median for families in the Appalachian Region (\$55,989). In contrast, median family income was less than \$45,000 in 122 counties. Of the counties in this latter group, half were rural counties not adjacent to a metro area (median family income in those counties as a whole was \$45,114), and nearly half were in Central Appalachia (where median family income was \$43,473). It is important to note that the 2010-2014 period covers a period of relatively slow economic recovery following the recession of 2007-2009.

Figure 7.5: Per Capita Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2014 Dollars), 2010-2014



Map Title: Per Capita Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2014 Dollars), 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

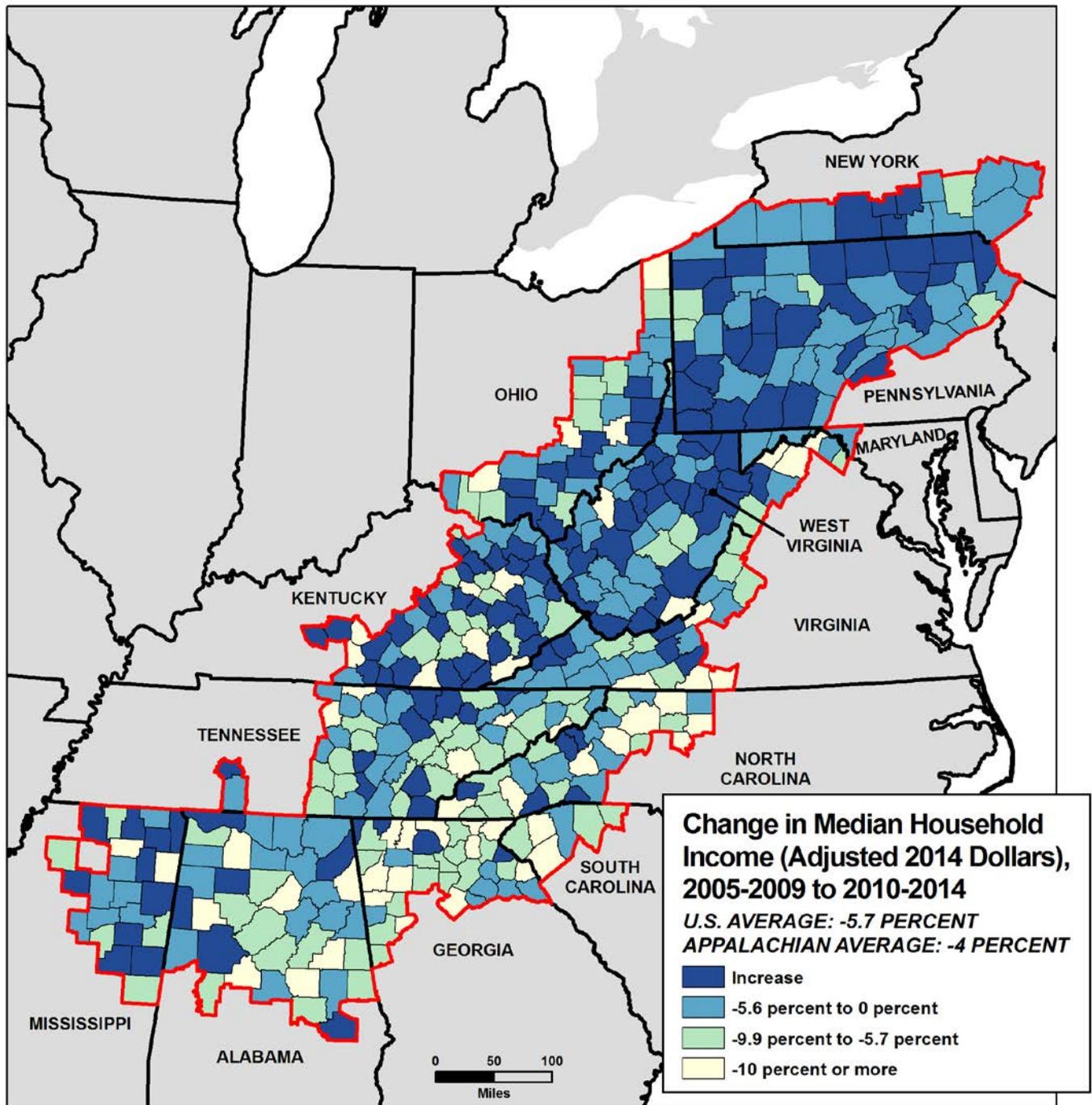
At \$24,026, per capita income in the Appalachian Region was 84 percent that of the U.S. average of \$28,555 during the 2010-2014 period. And there was considerable variation within the Region. Per capita income was the same or higher than the national average in 14 Appalachian counties, including Pittsburgh, suburban Atlanta, and Clermont County, Ohio (which is part of metropolitan Cincinnati). In 64 other counties per capita income was at or above the regional average; while nearly half of these were in Northern Appalachia, there were pockets in the South Central and Southern subregions. Yet in 157 Appalachian counties, per capita income was less than \$20,000. As with other income measures, most of the counties with the highest per capita incomes were in metro areas, while the ones with the lowest were disproportionately in rural areas, particularly in Central Appalachia. Indeed, per capita income in 2010-2014 (the period immediately following the Great Recession) was only \$19,559 in rural Appalachian counties as a whole, and just \$18,995 in Central Appalachia.

**Table 7.2: Change in Household, Family, and Per Capita Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2014 Dollars), 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**

Income	Percent Change in Household Income (In 2014 Dollars)		Percent Change in Family Income (in 2014 Dollars)		Percent Change in Per Capita Income (In 2014 Dollars)
	Mean HH Income	Median HH Income	Mean Family Income	Median Family Income	
<b>United States</b>	<b>- 3.6</b>	<b>- 5.7</b>	<b>- 3.3</b>	<b>- 4.9</b>	<b>- 4.3</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>- 2.2</b>	<b>- 4.0</b>	<b>- 2.0</b>	<b>- 3.3</b>	<b>- 2.7</b>
<b>Subregions</b>					
Northern Appalachia	+ 0.2	- 1.0	+ 0.8	- 0.4	+ 0.7
North Central Appalachia	+ 0.3	- 1.0	+ 1.0	+ 0.3	- 0.5
Central Appalachia	- 0.2	- 1.7	+ 0.2	- 1.1	- 1.2
South Central Appalachia	- 4.2	- 6.4	- 3.7	- 5.6	- 4.4
Southern Appalachia	- 5.0	- 6.7	- 5.2	- 6.8	- 6.4
<b>County Types</b>					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	- 3.0	- 4.3	- 3.1	- 4.2	- 4.1
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	- 2.4	- 4.3	- 2.0	- 3.6	- 3.2
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 2.3	- 4.2	- 1.7	- 3.1	- 2.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	- 1.0	- 2.8	- 1.0	- 2.5	+ 0.5
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 1.5	- 2.1	- 1.5	- 2.3	- 2.2
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>- 3.4</b>	<b>- 4.3</b>	<b>- 3.5</b>	<b>- 4.6</b>	<b>- 4.6</b>
Appalachian Alabama	- 3.7	- 5.5	- 4.2	- 5.7	- 4.9
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 2.7	- 2.0	- 2.1	- 1.2	- 4.0
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>- 7.5</b>	<b>- 9.6</b>	<b>- 7.2</b>	<b>- 9.0</b>	<b>- 8.2</b>
Appalachian Georgia	- 7.5	- 9.6	- 7.2	- 9.3	- 9.2
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 7.4	- 9.6	- 7.1	- 8.9	- 7.7
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>- 2.4</b>	<b>- 4.7</b>	<b>- 1.9</b>	<b>- 3.0</b>	<b>- 3.4</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	- 1.7	- 2.1	- 1.3	- 1.2	- 1.8
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 2.8	- 4.8	- 2.2	- 3.1	- 4.3
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>- 2.0</b>	<b>- 3.3</b>	<b>- 2.3</b>	<b>- 3.3</b>	<b>- 2.9</b>
Appalachian Maryland	- 3.8	- 2.0	- 5.2	- 2.7	- 6.6
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 2.0	- 3.3	- 2.3	- 3.2	- 2.8
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>- 2.5</b>	<b>- 2.8</b>	<b>- 2.1</b>	<b>- 2.6</b>	<b>- 2.8</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	- 0.3	+ 0.0	- 1.3	- 2.4	- 1.0
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 3.0	- 3.8	- 2.4	- 2.7	- 3.2
<b>New York</b>	<b>- 2.7</b>	<b>- 3.7</b>	<b>- 2.4</b>	<b>- 3.5</b>	<b>- 2.9</b>
Appalachian New York	- 1.0	- 2.3	+ 0.0	- 0.9	- 1.4
Non-Appalachian New York	- 2.8	- 4.2	- 2.6	- 3.7	- 2.9
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>- 4.4</b>	<b>- 6.1</b>	<b>- 4.3</b>	<b>- 6.4</b>	<b>- 5.5</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	- 6.8	- 7.9	- 6.7	- 8.2	- 7.0
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 3.9	- 5.7	- 3.9	- 6.0	- 5.2
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>- 3.5</b>	<b>- 6.1</b>	<b>- 2.9</b>	<b>- 4.9</b>	<b>- 3.2</b>
Appalachian Ohio	- 2.9	- 4.3	- 2.2	- 2.3	- 2.6
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 3.6	- 6.5	- 3.0	- 5.0	- 3.3
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>- 1.3</b>	<b>- 3.2</b>	<b>- 0.8</b>	<b>- 2.1</b>	<b>- 1.8</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 1.2	+ 0.2	+ 1.8	+ 0.7	+ 2.0
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 3.3	- 5.8	- 3.0	- 5.0	- 3.7
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>- 5.0</b>	<b>- 6.3</b>	<b>- 5.1</b>	<b>- 6.3</b>	<b>- 5.4</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	- 4.4	- 7.1	- 4.8	- 6.5	- 5.8
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 5.2	- 6.2	- 5.2	- 5.7	- 5.2
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>- 3.5</b>	<b>- 5.8</b>	<b>- 3.2</b>	<b>- 5.0</b>	<b>- 4.5</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	- 3.0	- 5.8	- 2.7	- 4.5	- 3.4
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 3.8	- 5.0	- 3.6	- 4.9	- 5.4
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>- 0.9</b>	<b>- 2.6</b>	<b>- 1.2</b>	<b>- 2.2</b>	<b>- 2.6</b>
Appalachian Virginia	+ 1.5	- 3.1	+ 2.8	- 0.7	+ 0.5
Non-Appalachian Virginia	- 1.3	- 2.6	- 1.7	- 2.1	- 3.0
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>+ 2.0</b>	<b>+ 0.9</b>	<b>+ 3.0</b>	<b>+ 0.7</b>	<b>+ 0.8</b>

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Surveys.

**Figure 7.6: Percent Change in Median Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2014 Dollars), 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percent Change in Median Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2014 Dollars), 2005-2009 to 2010-2014

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Surveys.

Adjusting for inflation, the median income for Appalachian households (the level where half of all households have higher incomes while the other half have lower incomes) was 4 percent lower in 2010-2014 than it was in 2005-2009, suggesting that incomes have not yet fully recovered from the recent economic downturn. While the decline was not as steep in Appalachia as in the nation as a whole, that was not the case in much of the Region: In 148 counties, real median household income fell at or above the national rate; the decline was at least 10 percent in 56 counties. Most of the counties with the sharpest declines were in South Central or Southern Appalachia. On a brighter note, however, there were 131 Appalachian counties where median household income actually rose between 2005-2009 and 2010-2014; these counties were distributed throughout the Region.

**Table 7.3: Number of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, by Age Group, 2010-2014**

Poverty Status	All Ages	Under Age 18	Ages 18-64			Ages 65 and Over
			Total	Ages 18-24	Ages 25-64	
<b>United States</b>	<b>47,755,606</b>	<b>15,907,395</b>	<b>27,921,992</b>	<b>7,174,432</b>	<b>20,747,560</b>	<b>3,926,219</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>4,225,983</b>	<b>1,335,435</b>	<b>2,514,968</b>	<b>618,044</b>	<b>1,896,924</b>	<b>375,580</b>
<b>Subregions</b>						
Northern Appalachia	1,168,944	356,755	700,049	191,848	508,201	112,140
North Central Appalachia	423,006	124,446	262,868	66,793	196,075	35,692
Central Appalachia	445,076	133,315	268,100	48,743	219,357	43,661
South Central Appalachia	851,150	254,920	517,929	136,898	381,031	78,301
Southern Appalachia	1,337,807	465,999	766,022	173,762	592,260	105,786
<b>County Types</b>						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	793,805	263,789	461,882	104,075	357,807	68,134
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	1,749,516	546,007	1,059,480	290,417	769,063	144,029
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	412,441	132,101	244,285	60,718	183,567	36,055
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	714,169	224,828	415,659	86,733	328,926	73,682
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	556,052	168,710	333,662	76,101	257,561	53,680
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>889,710</b>	<b>303,301</b>	<b>512,895</b>	<b>127,624</b>	<b>385,271</b>	<b>73,514</b>
Appalachian Alabama	532,498	181,798	305,935	70,750	235,185	44,765
Non-Appalachian Alabama	357,212	121,503	206,960	56,874	150,086	28,749
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>1,781,388</b>	<b>636,656</b>	<b>1,024,987</b>	<b>250,987</b>	<b>774,000</b>	<b>119,745</b>
Appalachian Georgia	458,821	166,330	260,188	50,442	209,746	32,303
Non-Appalachian Georgia	1,322,567	470,326	764,799	200,545	564,254	87,442
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>803,866</b>	<b>259,146</b>	<b>477,028</b>	<b>111,272</b>	<b>365,756</b>	<b>67,692</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	290,386	87,261	175,469	33,635	141,834	27,656
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	513,480	171,885	301,559	77,637	223,922	40,036
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>573,383</b>	<b>174,964</b>	<b>342,424</b>	<b>83,743</b>	<b>258,681</b>	<b>55,995</b>
Appalachian Maryland	33,147	10,693	19,240	4,965	14,275	3,214
Non-Appalachian Maryland	540,236	164,271	323,184	78,778	244,406	52,781
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>653,726</b>	<b>235,678</b>	<b>365,195</b>	<b>91,418</b>	<b>273,777</b>	<b>52,853</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	143,326	48,759	82,500	23,250	59,250	12,067
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	510,400	186,919	282,695	68,168	214,527	40,786
<b>New York</b>	<b>2,978,521</b>	<b>929,832</b>	<b>1,744,779</b>	<b>406,909</b>	<b>1,337,870</b>	<b>303,910</b>
Appalachian New York	167,080	48,076	106,317	35,736	70,581	12,687
Non-Appalachian New York	2,811,441	881,756	1,638,462	371,173	1,267,289	291,223
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>1,669,147</b>	<b>562,504</b>	<b>977,114</b>	<b>248,781</b>	<b>728,333</b>	<b>129,529</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	317,871	98,365	190,294	47,365	142,929	29,212
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	1,351,276	464,139	786,820	201,416	585,404	100,317
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>1,790,564</b>	<b>606,061</b>	<b>1,053,158</b>	<b>270,928</b>	<b>782,230</b>	<b>131,345</b>
Appalachian Ohio	348,696	116,000	204,191	45,345	158,846	28,505
Non-Appalachian Ohio	1,441,868	490,061	848,967	225,583	623,384	102,840
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>1,667,858</b>	<b>516,675</b>	<b>991,419</b>	<b>262,940</b>	<b>728,479</b>	<b>159,764</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	760,581	224,722	457,016	128,282	328,734	78,843
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	907,277	291,953	534,403	134,658	399,745	80,921
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>840,141</b>	<b>286,242</b>	<b>486,039</b>	<b>121,429</b>	<b>364,610</b>	<b>67,860</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	203,162	69,112	117,399	29,320	88,079	16,651
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	636,979	217,130	368,640	92,109	276,531	51,209
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>1,121,344</b>	<b>378,059</b>	<b>654,208</b>	<b>154,994</b>	<b>499,214</b>	<b>89,077</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	506,428	155,349	304,309	70,444	233,865	46,770
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	614,916	222,710	349,899	84,550	265,349	42,307
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>914,237</b>	<b>279,359</b>	<b>555,771</b>	<b>156,438</b>	<b>399,333</b>	<b>79,107</b>
Appalachian Virginia	137,762	34,184	89,143	30,141	59,002	14,435
Non-Appalachian Virginia	776,475	245,175	466,628	126,297	340,331	64,672
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>326,225</b>	<b>94,786</b>	<b>202,967</b>	<b>48,369</b>	<b>154,598</b>	<b>28,472</b>

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are determined by family size and composition. In 2014, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$24,008. 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, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

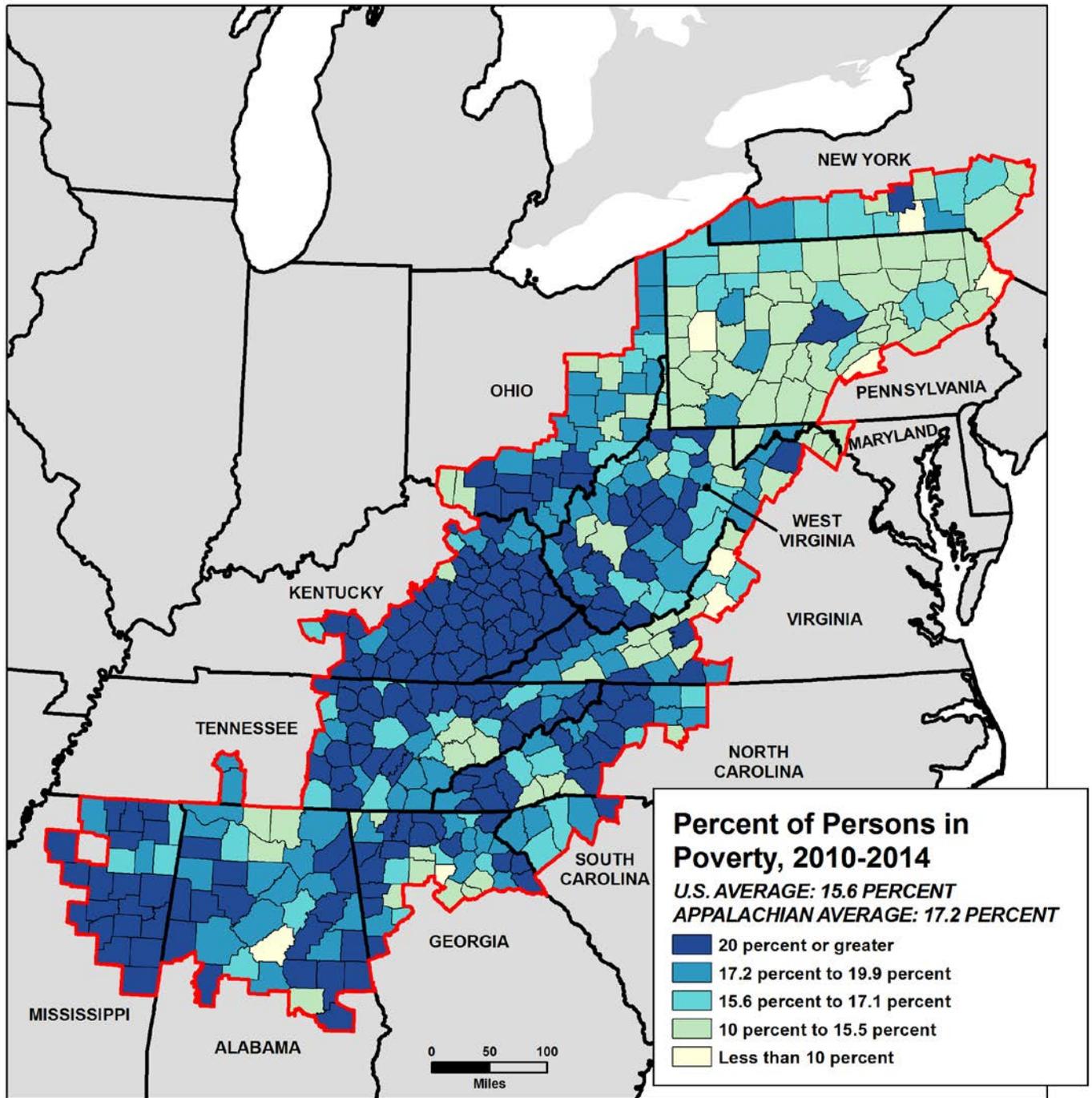
**Table 7.4: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, by Age Group, 2010-2014**

Poverty Status	All Ages	Under Age 18	Ages 18-64			Ages 65 and Over
			Total	Ages 18-24	Ages 25-64	
<b>United States</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>21.9</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>25.5</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>9.4</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>17.2</b>	<b>24.4</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>28.8</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>9.6</b>
<b>Subregions</b>						
Northern Appalachia	14.6	21.4	14.1	27.6	11.9	8.0
North Central Appalachia	18.0	24.5	18.0	32.4	15.6	9.5
Central Appalachia	24.1	32.6	23.4	31.9	22.1	14.9
South Central Appalachia	18.4	26.0	18.2	33.7	15.6	9.8
Southern Appalachia	17.3	24.4	15.9	25.2	14.4	10.2
<b>County Types</b>						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	13.7	19.3	12.7	21.6	11.3	8.5
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	16.9	24.2	16.4	30.6	14.0	8.8
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	19.4	27.7	18.8	32.1	16.5	10.3
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	18.5	27.1	17.8	27.7	16.3	10.7
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	22.7	31.2	22.3	35.4	20.1	13.1
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>27.5</b>	<b>17.6</b>	<b>29.2</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>10.8</b>
Appalachian Alabama	17.7	26.0	16.3	26.2	14.6	10.3
Non-Appalachian Alabama	21.1	30.0	19.9	34.0	17.2	11.8
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>25.9</b>	<b>16.9</b>	<b>27.9</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>10.8</b>
Appalachian Georgia	15.5	21.2	14.2	19.8	13.2	9.5
Non-Appalachian Georgia	19.8	28.2	18.1	31.1	15.7	11.4
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>26.0</b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>29.6</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>11.4</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	25.4	33.7	24.7	34.5	23.1	16.0
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	16.5	23.3	15.5	27.9	13.4	9.6
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>7.6</b>
Appalachian Maryland	14.0	20.8	13.2	23.7	11.5	8.2
Non-Appalachian Maryland	9.8	12.9	9.1	16.4	8.0	7.5
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>22.6</b>	<b>32.2</b>	<b>20.7</b>	<b>33.4</b>	<b>18.4</b>	<b>13.6</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	23.4	32.6	22.2	38.1	19.0	13.4
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	22.4	32.1	20.3	32.0	18.2	13.6
<b>New York</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>14.3</b>	<b>23.2</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>11.4</b>
Appalachian New York	16.7	22.8	17.0	35.6	13.5	7.7
Non-Appalachian New York	15.5	22.1	14.1	22.4	12.7	11.7
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>17.6</b>	<b>25.0</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>29.2</b>	<b>14.3</b>	<b>9.9</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	19.1	27.8	18.7	34.0	16.3	9.9
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	17.3	24.4	16.0	28.3	13.9	9.9
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>27.6</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>8.0</b>
Appalachian Ohio	17.8	26.0	17.0	27.4	15.3	9.0
Non-Appalachian Ohio	15.5	22.4	14.7	27.7	12.6	7.8
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>19.2</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>24.8</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>8.1</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	13.7	19.8	13.3	27.0	11.1	8.1
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	13.4	18.7	12.6	23.1	10.9	8.2
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>18.3</b>	<b>26.9</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>29.2</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>10.0</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	17.5	25.2	16.3	28.0	14.3	9.8
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	18.6	27.5	17.3	29.5	15.2	10.1
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>17.8</b>	<b>25.8</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>27.7</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>10.0</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	18.5	26.2	18.0	30.0	16.1	10.2
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	17.3	25.4	15.6	26.0	13.8	9.8
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>15.2</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>22.4</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>7.6</b>
Appalachian Virginia	18.8	23.7	19.5	41.5	15.4	10.9
Non-Appalachian Virginia	10.8	14.5	10.1	20.2	8.5	7.2
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>25.4</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>31.6</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>9.4</b>

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are determined by family size and composition. In 2014, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$24,008. 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, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

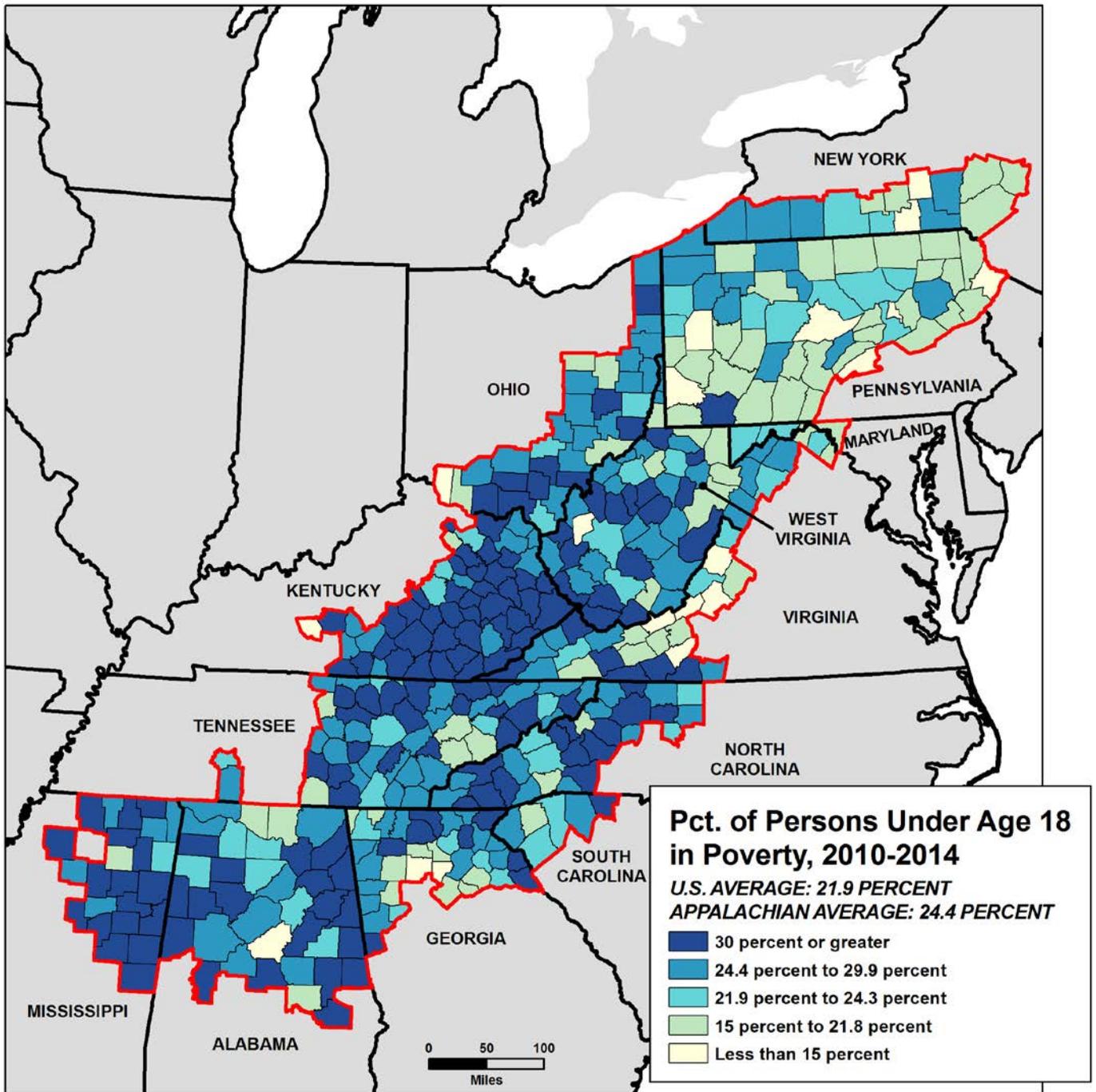
Figure 7.7: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2010-2014



Map Title: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2010-2014  
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

Over the 2010-2014 period, 17 percent of Appalachian residents lived below the poverty level (income below \$24,008 for a family of two adults and two children in 2014)—almost two percentage points above the U.S. average. But there is a great deal of variation within the Region: In 175 counties, at least 20 percent of persons were poor, yet in another 95 counties the poverty rate was lower than the national average. And there was a geographic and urban/rural pattern: Four-fifths of the counties with poverty rates at or above 20 percent were outside metropolitan areas, and they were overwhelmingly in Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia. In contrast, the counties where poverty stood below the U.S. rate were mostly in Northern Appalachia and in metropolitan areas.

**Figure 7.8: Percent of Persons Under Age 18 in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2010-2014**

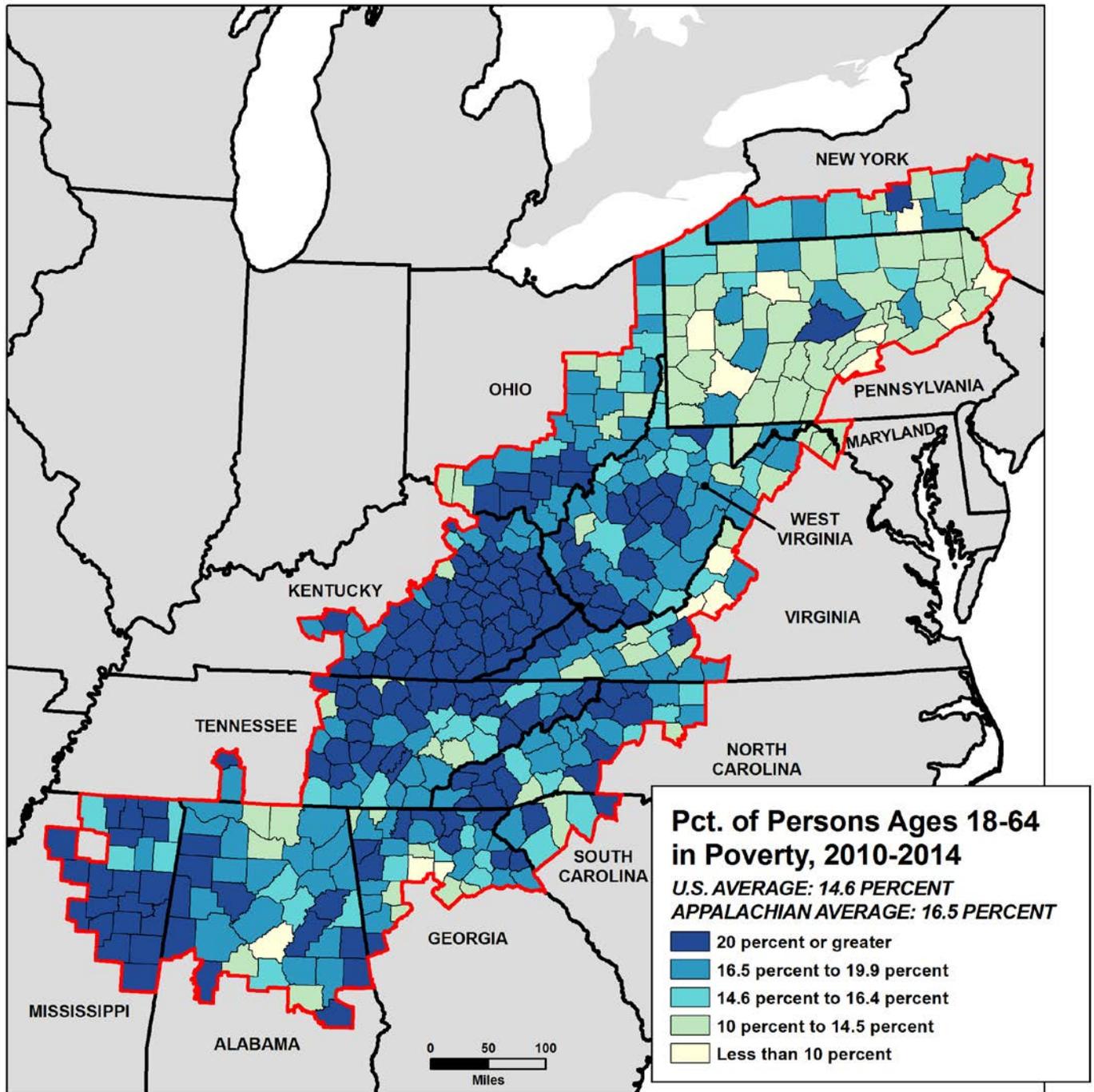


Map Title: Percent of Persons Under Age 18 in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

Child poverty in the Appalachian Region exceeded 24 percent in 2010-2014; that is more than two percentage points above the national rate. And the problem is even more acute in some parts of Appalachia. In 148 counties, at least 30 percent of children under age 18 lived below the poverty level (income below \$24,008 for a family of two adults and two children in 2014). These counties were primarily outside metropolitan areas, and many were in the most isolated rural areas. Central Appalachia was home to one-third of the counties with the highest rates, while nearly all of the rest were in South Central and Southern Appalachia. However, there were 93 counties (primarily in Northern Appalachia and in metropolitan areas) where child poverty rates were below the national average. Indeed, 17 of the 19 Appalachian counties where child poverty was less than 15 percent were in metro areas.

**Figure 7.9: Percent of Persons Ages 18 to 64 in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2010-2014**

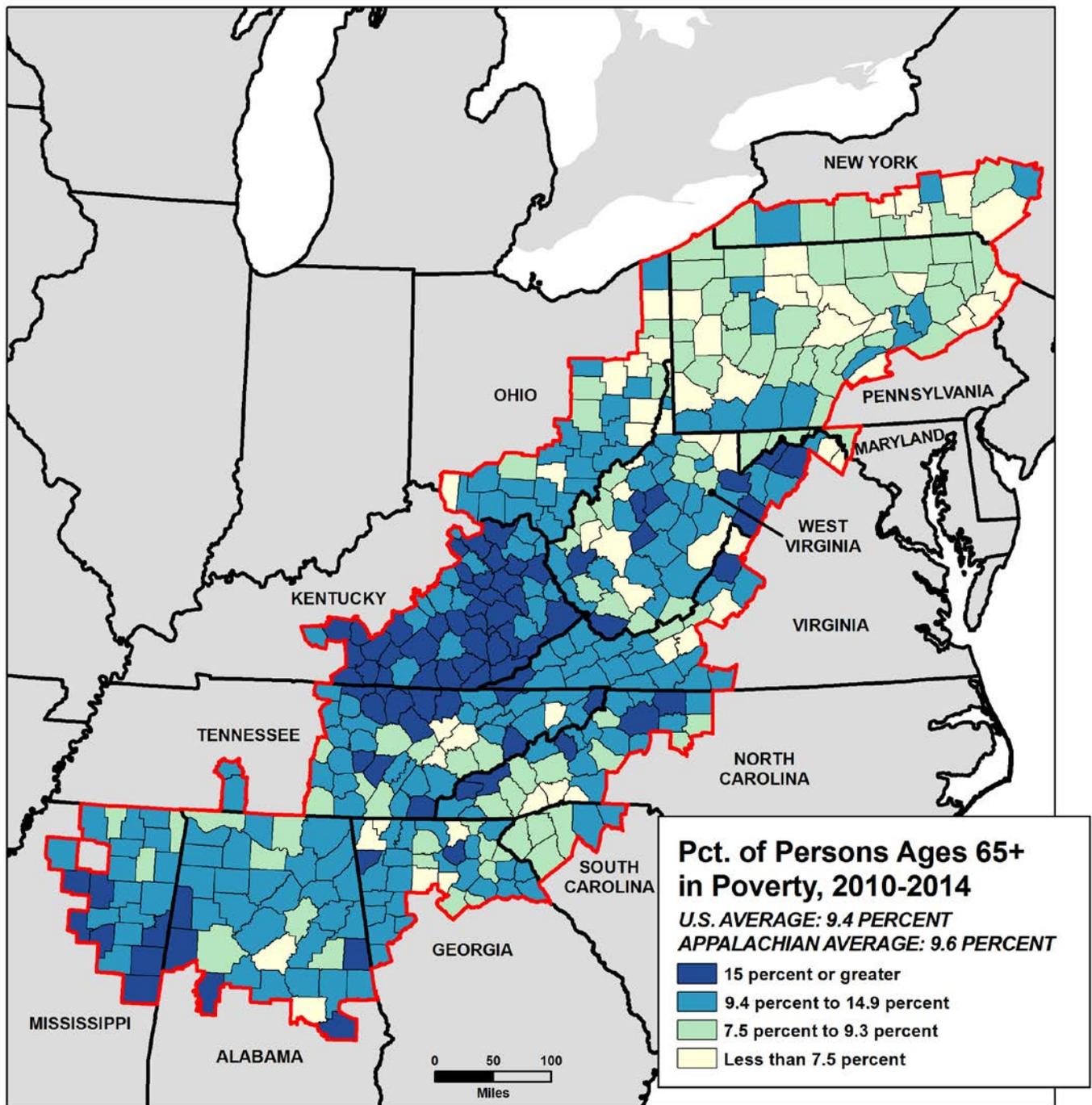


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 18 to 64 in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

Though at slightly lower levels, the poverty pattern among adults ages 18 to 64 in the Appalachian Region mirrored that for the overall population in the 2010-2014 period. Nearly 17 percent of Appalachian residents in this age group were below poverty (income of less than \$24,008 for a family of two adults and two children in 2014), and this rate was two percentage points above the U.S. average. Within the Region, there were rural/urban and geographic patterns of poverty concentration. Of the 154 counties where at least one in five 18-to-64-year-olds was poor, 128 were outside metropolitan areas, and 134 were in Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia. Conversely, all but a handful of the counties with rates below the national average were either in metro areas or in Northern Appalachia.

Figure 7.10: Percent of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2010-2014



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

The poverty rate for older residents of Appalachia was just under 10 percent in 2010-2014, only slightly above the national average. Yet the rate was actually lower than the national average in 151 counties, almost half of which were in Northern Appalachia alone. But as with other age groups, poverty was especially prevalent among the senior population in Central Appalachia, where roughly one in seven older residents was poor in 2010-2014. Moreover, this subregion had more than half of Appalachia's 80 counties where the poverty rate among seniors was at least 15 percent. (Determined by a series of income thresholds based on family size and composition, the poverty level for a family of two adults and two children was \$24,008 in 2014.)

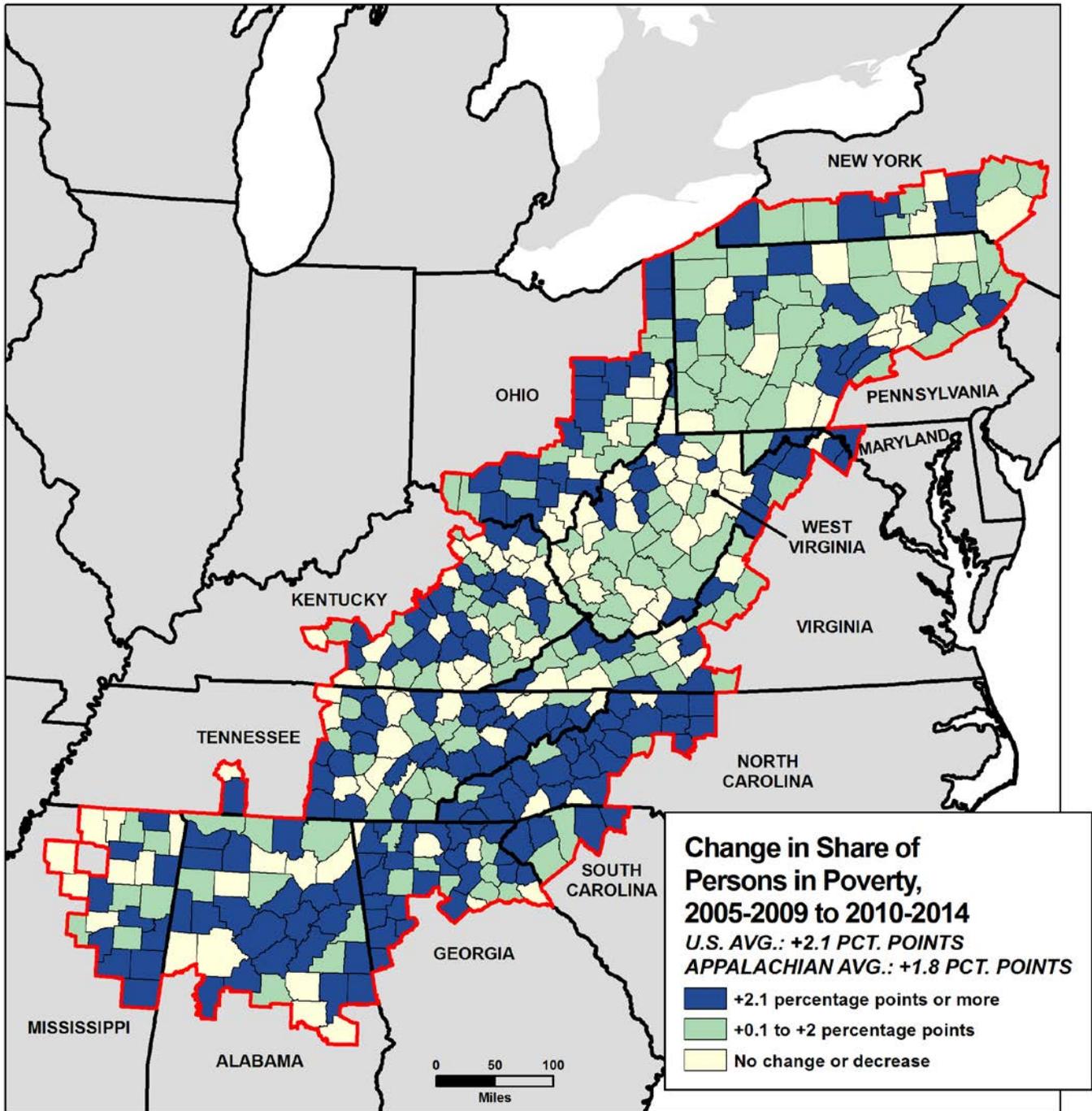
**Table 7.5: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, by Age Group, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**

Poverty Status	Percentage Point Change in Share of Persons in Poverty					
	All Ages	Under Age 18	Ages 18-64			Ages 65 and Over
			Total	Ages 18-24	Ages 25-64	
<b>United States</b>	+ 2.1	+ 3.3	+ 2.4	+ 3.0	+ 2.3	- 0.4
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	+ 1.8	+ 3.5	+ 2.2	+ 2.1	+ 2.2	- 1.5
<b>Subregions</b>						
Northern Appalachia	+ 1.3	+ 2.7	+ 1.5	+ 1.3	+ 1.5	- 1.0
North Central Appalachia	+ 0.9	+ 1.4	+ 1.5	+ 0.6	+ 1.7	- 1.3
Central Appalachia	+ 0.9	+ 2.4	+ 1.7	+ 0.9	+ 1.8	- 3.3
South Central Appalachia	+ 2.4	+ 4.2	+ 3.2	+ 4.5	+ 2.8	- 1.5
Southern Appalachia	+ 2.6	+ 4.6	+ 2.8	+ 2.3	+ 2.8	- 1.9
<b>County Types</b>						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	+ 2.1	+ 3.7	+ 2.2	+ 1.8	+ 2.2	- 0.9
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	+ 1.9	+ 3.7	+ 2.3	+ 1.6	+ 2.3	- 1.3
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	+ 2.3	+ 3.8	+ 2.9	+ 3.4	+ 2.8	- 1.3
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	+ 1.3	+ 3.2	+ 1.9	+ 2.2	+ 1.8	- 1.8
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	+ 1.4	+ 2.8	+ 2.3	+ 3.7	+ 2.2	- 2.8
<b>Alabama</b>	+ 2.1	+ 3.8	+ 2.6	+ 2.5	+ 2.5	- 1.5
Appalachian Alabama	+ 2.3	+ 4.7	+ 2.3	+ 1.5	+ 2.4	- 1.3
Non-Appalachian Alabama	+ 1.8	+ 2.3	+ 2.9	+ 4.2	+ 2.7	- 1.7
<b>Georgia</b>	+ 3.5	+ 5.6	+ 3.7	+ 3.9	+ 3.7	- 1.7
Appalachian Georgia	+ 3.2	+ 5.3	+ 3.5	+ 3.2	+ 3.4	- 2.5
Non-Appalachian Georgia	+ 3.6	+ 5.9	+ 3.9	+ 4.6	+ 3.7	- 1.3
<b>Kentucky</b>	+ 1.5	+ 2.4	+ 1.9	+ 1.9	+ 2.0	- 1.8
Appalachian Kentucky	+ 0.9	+ 2.0	+ 1.8	+ 2.0	+ 1.7	- 3.6
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	+ 1.8	+ 2.7	+ 2.2	+ 2.0	+ 2.2	- 0.8
<b>Maryland</b>	+ 1.8	+ 2.9	+ 1.9	+ 2.3	+ 1.8	- 0.5
Appalachian Maryland	+ 2.6	+ 6.0	+ 2.6	+ 3.7	+ 2.6	- 1.6
Non-Appalachian Maryland	+ 1.8	+ 2.8	+ 1.8	+ 2.3	+ 1.8	- 0.5
<b>Mississippi</b>	+ 1.2	+ 2.0	+ 2.0	+ 2.5	+ 2.1	- 2.5
Appalachian Mississippi	+ 0.9	+ 1.3	+ 2.4	+ 3.9	+ 2.2	- 4.4
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	+ 1.3	+ 2.2	+ 1.9	+ 2.0	+ 2.0	- 2.0
<b>New York</b>	+ 1.8	+ 2.5	+ 2.1	+ 2.9	+ 1.9	- 0.4
Appalachian New York	+ 1.6	+ 2.5	+ 2.2	+ 2.8	+ 2.3	- 1.2
Non-Appalachian New York	+ 1.7	+ 2.6	+ 2.1	+ 3.0	+ 1.9	- 0.3
<b>North Carolina</b>	+ 2.5	+ 4.2	+ 2.9	+ 3.5	+ 2.7	- 1.2
Appalachian North Carolina	+ 3.8	+ 6.3	+ 4.6	+ 8.0	+ 3.9	- 1.2
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	+ 2.3	+ 3.7	+ 2.6	+ 2.6	+ 2.5	- 1.3
<b>Ohio</b>	+ 2.3	+ 4.0	+ 2.5	+ 3.7	+ 2.2	- 0.5
Appalachian Ohio	+ 1.8	+ 3.3	+ 2.1	+ 1.4	+ 2.2	- 0.7
Non-Appalachian Ohio	+ 2.4	+ 4.0	+ 2.6	+ 4.3	+ 2.3	- 0.5
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	+ 1.4	+ 2.4	+ 1.8	+ 2.3	+ 1.6	- 0.9
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 1.0	+ 2.1	+ 1.3	+ 1.1	+ 1.3	- 0.9
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 1.8	+ 2.6	+ 2.2	+ 3.5	+ 1.9	- 0.8
<b>South Carolina</b>	+ 2.5	+ 4.5	+ 3.1	+ 4.6	+ 2.7	- 1.9
Appalachian South Carolina	+ 2.7	+ 4.9	+ 2.7	+ 2.6	+ 2.6	- 0.6
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	+ 2.4	+ 4.3	+ 3.1	+ 5.2	+ 2.7	- 2.3
<b>Tennessee</b>	+ 1.7	+ 3.2	+ 2.2	+ 1.7	+ 2.2	- 2.3
Appalachian Tennessee	+ 1.8	+ 3.5	+ 2.4	+ 2.1	+ 2.5	- 2.0
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	+ 1.6	+ 2.9	+ 2.1	+ 1.6	+ 2.0	- 2.5
<b>Virginia</b>	+ 1.4	+ 2.1	+ 1.9	+ 2.9	+ 1.7	- 1.3
Appalachian Virginia	+ 1.1	+ 1.5	+ 1.9	+ 3.6	+ 1.6	- 1.5
Non-Appalachian Virginia	+ 1.5	+ 2.2	+ 1.9	+ 2.9	+ 1.7	- 1.2
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	+ 0.5	+ 1.3	+ 1.1	- 0.5	+ 1.3	- 1.4

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are determined by family size and composition. In 2014, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$24,008. The poverty universe does not include unrelated individuals under age 15, people living in college dormitories, and people living in institutional group quarters.

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Surveys.

**Figure 7.11: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Surveys.

The share of Appalachian residents living below the poverty level (income of less than \$24,008 for a family of two adults and two children in 2014) increased almost two percentage points between the 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 periods, about the same as for the nation. The increase in poverty rates was even larger in much of the Region: In 180 of Appalachia’s 420 counties, the percentage point increase in the poverty rate was at or above the national average. More than half of these counties were in South Central or Southern Appalachia. There was some good news in that 112 counties had poverty rates that either decreased or stayed the same between the two periods. Still, the overall picture suggests that in the aftermath of the Great Recession, poverty rates may have not dropped to pre-recession levels.

## TRENDS IN INCOME AND POVERTY

- Adjusting for inflation, income levels in the Appalachian Region have fallen since the 2005-2009 period (see Tables 7.1 and 7.2).
  - Mean household income fell 2 percent to \$59,899 in 2010-2014. (All monetary figures are in 2014 dollars.)
  - Median household income (the level where half of all households have higher incomes while the other half have lower incomes) fell 4 percent to \$44,351.
  - Mean family income was down 2 percent to \$70,988.
  - Median family income (the level where half of all families have higher incomes while the other half have lower incomes) was down 3 percent to \$55,989.
  - Per capita income fell 3 percent to \$24,026.
- Yet the declines in income since 2005-2009 were not as severe in Appalachia as they were in the United States as a whole. (For example, median household income in the U.S. fell nearly 6 percent—two percentage points more than in Appalachia.)
- Within the Appalachian Region, the declines in income were greatest in South Central and Southern Appalachia—and for each income measure, the drops were sharper than the national average. In contrast, some income measures actually rose in the other subregions. (For example, mean household and family income actually rose slightly in Northern and North Central Appalachia, even after adjusting for inflation.) Among the county types, those in the largest metros had the biggest income declines—although the decreases were below the national average for each measure.
- Since 2005-2009, the share of Appalachian residents in poverty (incomes below \$24,008 for a family of two adults and two children in 2014) has risen nearly two percentage points to 17.2 percent in 2010-2014 (see Tables 7.4 and 7.5). Poverty increased in all subregions and among all county types, with the greatest increases occurring in South Central and Southern Appalachia. The rise in poverty rates was especially high in the Appalachian portions of Georgia and North Carolina: Poverty increased more than three percentage points in both states.
- The increase in poverty was felt in virtually every age group: Child poverty in Appalachia rose more than three percentage points (to 24 percent), and poverty among working age adults increased two percentage points. (And the overall patterns among subregions and county types generally held for each age group.) However, poverty rates actually fell for older residents (ages 65 and over) between 2005-2009 and 2010-2014, and this decline was evident throughout the Appalachian Region. (Central Appalachia and the region's most rural areas had the biggest drops in the poverty rate for older persons.)
- Overall, the income and poverty trends in the Appalachian Region since 2005-2009 suggest that, for the most part, income and poverty levels have not yet returned to pre-recession levels—which in turn may highlight how slow the recovery has been.

## CHAPTER 8: HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

Table 8.1: Number of Persons in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, by Age Group, 2010-2014

Health Insurance Status	All Ages	Under Age 18	Ages 18-24	Ages 25-64	Ages 65 and Over
<b>United States</b>	<b>43,878,131</b>	<b>5,217,055</b>	<b>7,409,689</b>	<b>30,839,325</b>	<b>412,062</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>3,256,884</b>	<b>338,296</b>	<b>545,227</b>	<b>2,356,913</b>	<b>16,448</b>
<b>Subregions</b>					
Northern Appalachia	777,972	93,710	127,651	551,225	5,386
North Central Appalachia	304,846	24,629	54,633	224,319	1,265
Central Appalachia	275,049	21,938	49,221	203,057	833
South Central Appalachia	666,985	60,199	108,854	495,721	2,211
Southern Appalachia	1,232,032	137,820	204,868	882,591	6,753
<b>County Types</b>					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	716,209	79,853	113,086	518,010	5,260
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	1,323,754	126,462	226,501	964,890	5,901
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	285,337	34,088	47,815	202,211	1,223
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	548,948	57,085	89,707	399,817	2,339
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	382,636	40,808	68,118	271,985	1,725
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>640,276</b>	<b>51,606</b>	<b>118,353</b>	<b>467,728</b>	<b>2,589</b>
Appalachian Alabama	396,557	31,618	70,438	292,930	1,571
Non-Appalachian Alabama	243,719	19,988	47,915	174,798	1,018
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>1,776,980</b>	<b>221,128</b>	<b>301,785</b>	<b>1,241,501</b>	<b>12,566</b>
Appalachian Georgia	550,328	74,549	84,333	387,173	4,273
Non-Appalachian Georgia	1,226,652	146,579	217,452	854,328	8,293
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>566,083</b>	<b>56,109</b>	<b>103,742</b>	<b>404,377</b>	<b>1,855</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	177,162	15,023	32,830	128,791	518
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	388,921	41,086	70,912	275,586	1,337
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>571,092</b>	<b>54,197</b>	<b>91,450</b>	<b>415,547</b>	<b>9,898</b>
Appalachian Maryland	22,074	2,217	3,483	16,084	290
Non-Appalachian Maryland	549,018	51,980	87,967	399,463	9,608
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>489,849</b>	<b>54,400</b>	<b>94,454</b>	<b>339,461</b>	<b>1,534</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	99,649	8,763	20,143	70,519	224
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	390,200	45,637	74,311	268,942	1,310
<b>New York</b>	<b>2,052,554</b>	<b>171,349</b>	<b>327,275</b>	<b>1,526,639</b>	<b>27,291</b>
Appalachian New York	89,638	13,189	16,269	59,675	505
Non-Appalachian New York	1,962,916	158,160	311,006	1,466,964	26,786
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>1,479,285</b>	<b>155,453</b>	<b>242,659</b>	<b>1,073,680</b>	<b>7,493</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	270,874	25,510	43,839	200,539	986
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	1,208,411	129,943	198,820	873,141	6,507
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>1,237,272</b>	<b>142,360</b>	<b>204,805</b>	<b>881,898</b>	<b>8,209</b>
Appalachian Ohio	252,316	34,304	40,746	175,283	1,983
Non-Appalachian Ohio	984,956	108,056	164,059	706,615	6,226
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>1,195,810</b>	<b>141,625</b>	<b>198,159</b>	<b>845,955</b>	<b>10,071</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	505,911	54,680	83,684	364,400	3,147
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	689,899	86,945	114,475	481,555	6,924
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>737,418</b>	<b>81,799</b>	<b>121,626</b>	<b>530,202</b>	<b>3,791</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	185,498	22,890	29,954	131,969	685
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	551,920	58,909	91,672	398,233	3,106
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>864,874</b>	<b>81,172</b>	<b>138,274</b>	<b>641,230</b>	<b>4,198</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	370,452	31,466	58,574	279,177	1,235
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	494,422	49,706	79,700	362,053	2,963
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>968,444</b>	<b>108,863</b>	<b>161,837</b>	<b>687,116</b>	<b>10,628</b>
Appalachian Virginia	96,070	7,985	18,135	69,698	252
Non-Appalachian Virginia	872,374	100,878	143,702	617,418	10,376
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>240,355</b>	<b>16,102</b>	<b>42,799</b>	<b>180,675</b>	<b>779</b>

Note: The health insurance universe consists of the civilian noninstitutional population.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

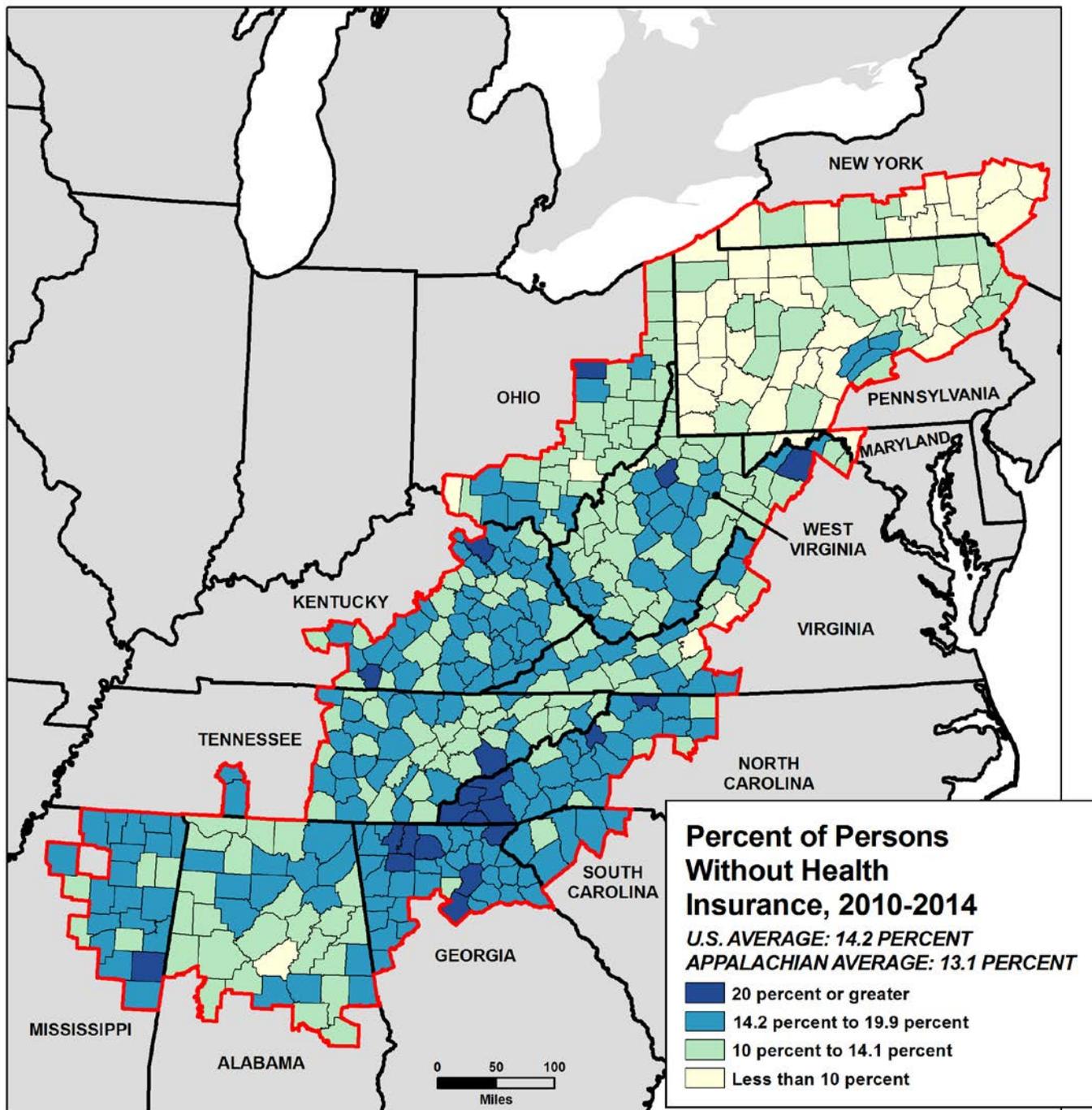
**Table 8.2: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, by Age Group, 2010-2014**

Health Insurance Status	All Ages	Under Age 18	Ages 18-24	Ages 25-64	Ages 65 and Over
<b>United States</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>24.3</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>1.0</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>22.4</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>0.4</b>
<b>Subregions</b>					
Northern Appalachia	9.5	5.5	15.5	12.9	0.4
North Central Appalachia	12.8	4.7	23.7	17.9	0.3
Central Appalachia	14.7	5.3	29.7	20.4	0.3
South Central Appalachia	14.2	6.0	23.5	20.3	0.3
Southern Appalachia	15.7	7.1	27.4	21.5	0.7
<b>County Types</b>					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	12.2	5.8	21.8	16.4	0.7
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	12.6	5.5	20.5	17.6	0.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	13.2	7.0	22.3	18.2	0.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	14.1	6.8	25.7	19.8	0.3
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	15.4	7.4	27.6	21.2	0.4
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>25.1</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Appalachian Alabama	13.0	4.5	24.0	18.3	0.4
Non-Appalachian Alabama	14.4	4.9	26.9	20.2	0.4
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>18.3</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>31.2</b>	<b>24.1</b>	<b>1.1</b>
Appalachian Georgia	18.5	9.4	31.9	24.5	1.3
Non-Appalachian Georgia	18.2	8.7	30.9	23.9	1.1
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>25.2</b>	<b>17.8</b>	<b>0.3</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	15.3	5.7	30.2	21.0	0.3
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	12.4	5.5	23.4	16.6	0.3
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>1.3</b>
Appalachian Maryland	9.2	4.2	15.3	13.0	0.7
Non-Appalachian Maryland	9.9	4.0	16.7	13.2	1.4
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>31.5</b>	<b>22.8</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	16.1	5.8	29.7	22.7	0.2
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	17.0	7.7	32.1	22.9	0.4
<b>New York</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>1.0</b>
Appalachian New York	8.6	6.1	11.8	11.4	0.3
Non-Appalachian New York	10.7	3.9	17.1	14.8	1.1
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>26.3</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>0.6</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	16.0	7.1	27.8	22.9	0.3
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	15.4	6.8	25.9	21.0	0.6
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>0.5</b>
Appalachian Ohio	12.7	7.6	22.7	16.9	0.6
Non-Appalachian Ohio	10.5	4.9	18.1	14.3	0.5
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>16.1</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>0.5</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	8.9	4.7	14.9	12.3	0.3
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	10.0	5.5	17.0	13.2	0.7
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>26.5</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>0.6</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	15.7	8.3	24.6	21.5	0.4
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	16.0	7.4	27.2	22.1	0.6
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>13.6</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>22.7</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>0.5</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	13.3	5.2	22.5	19.2	0.3
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	13.8	5.6	22.8	19.0	0.7
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>
Appalachian Virginia	12.8	5.5	20.5	18.2	0.2
Non-Appalachian Virginia	12.1	5.9	21.0	15.7	1.1
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>25.3</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>0.3</b>

Note: The health insurance universe consists of the civilian noninstitutional population.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

**Figure 8.1: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, 2010-2014**

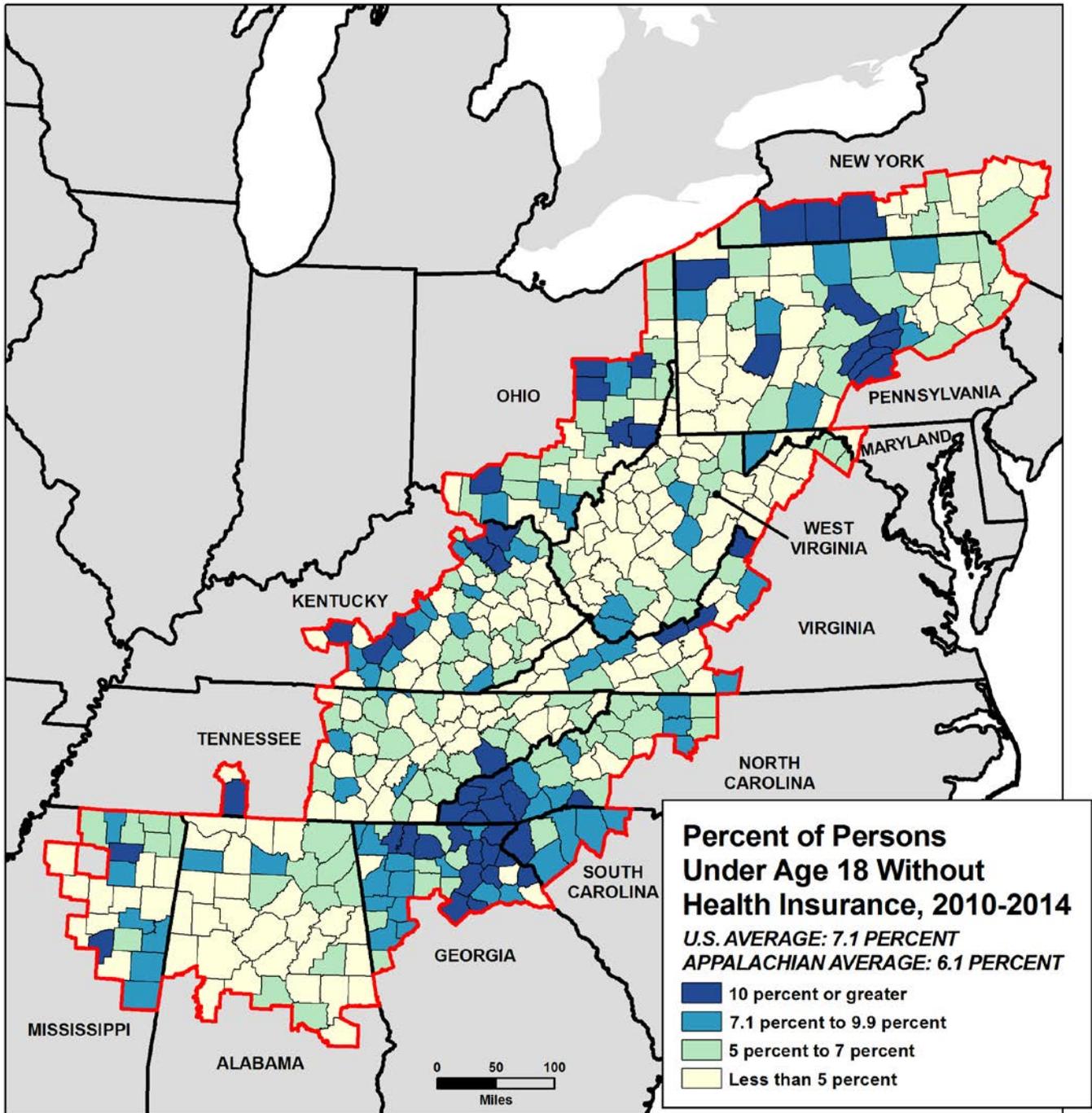


Map Title: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

Nearly 3.3 million persons in the Appalachian Region were without any kind of health insurance coverage in the 2010-2014 period—a figure representing 13 percent of Appalachia’s residents. Although the percentage for the Region is slightly lower than the U.S. share of 14 percent, almost half of the 420 Appalachian counties had non-coverage rates that matched or exceeded the national average. In 21 Appalachian counties, at least one in five residents were not covered by insurance; all but one of these were either outside metropolitan areas or in Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia. Indeed, in the Region’s most rural counties as a whole, 15 percent of residents were not covered by health insurance. At the other end of the spectrum, 49 counties had uninsured rates below 10 percent, and 43 of these were in Northern Appalachia.

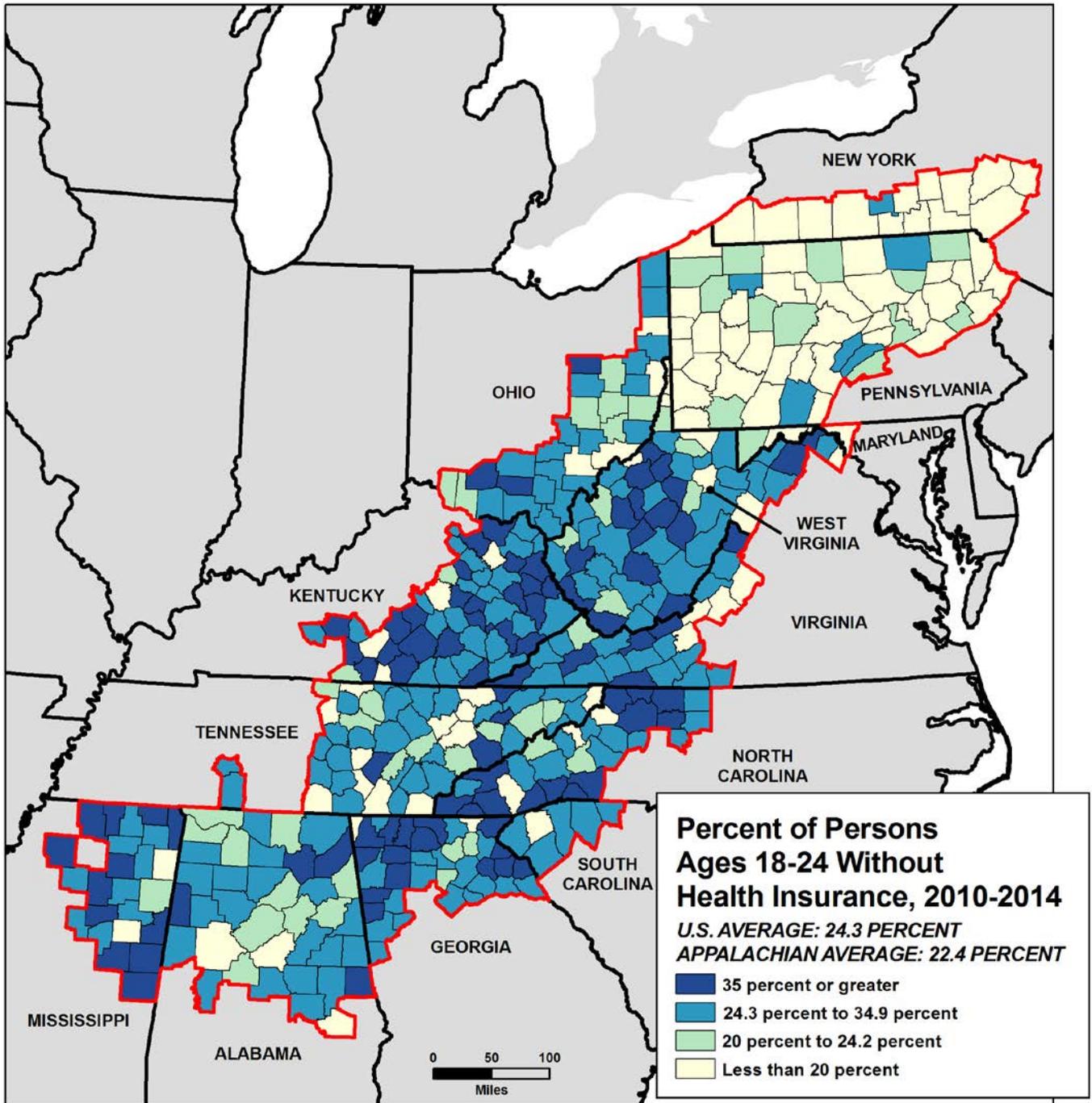
**Figure 8.2: Percent of Persons Under Age 18 in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percent of Persons Under Age 18 in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, 2010-2014  
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

Just over 6 percent of Appalachia’s children under age 18 were uninsured during 2010-2014, a full percentage point below the national average. Still, the rate varied throughout the Region. On one hand, 190 counties had non-coverage rates under 5 percent; these were spread geographically throughout the Region. Conversely, at least one in 10 children lacked health insurance in 51 other counties. All but a handful of counties in the latter group were outside metropolitan areas, and most were in South Central or Southern Appalachia.

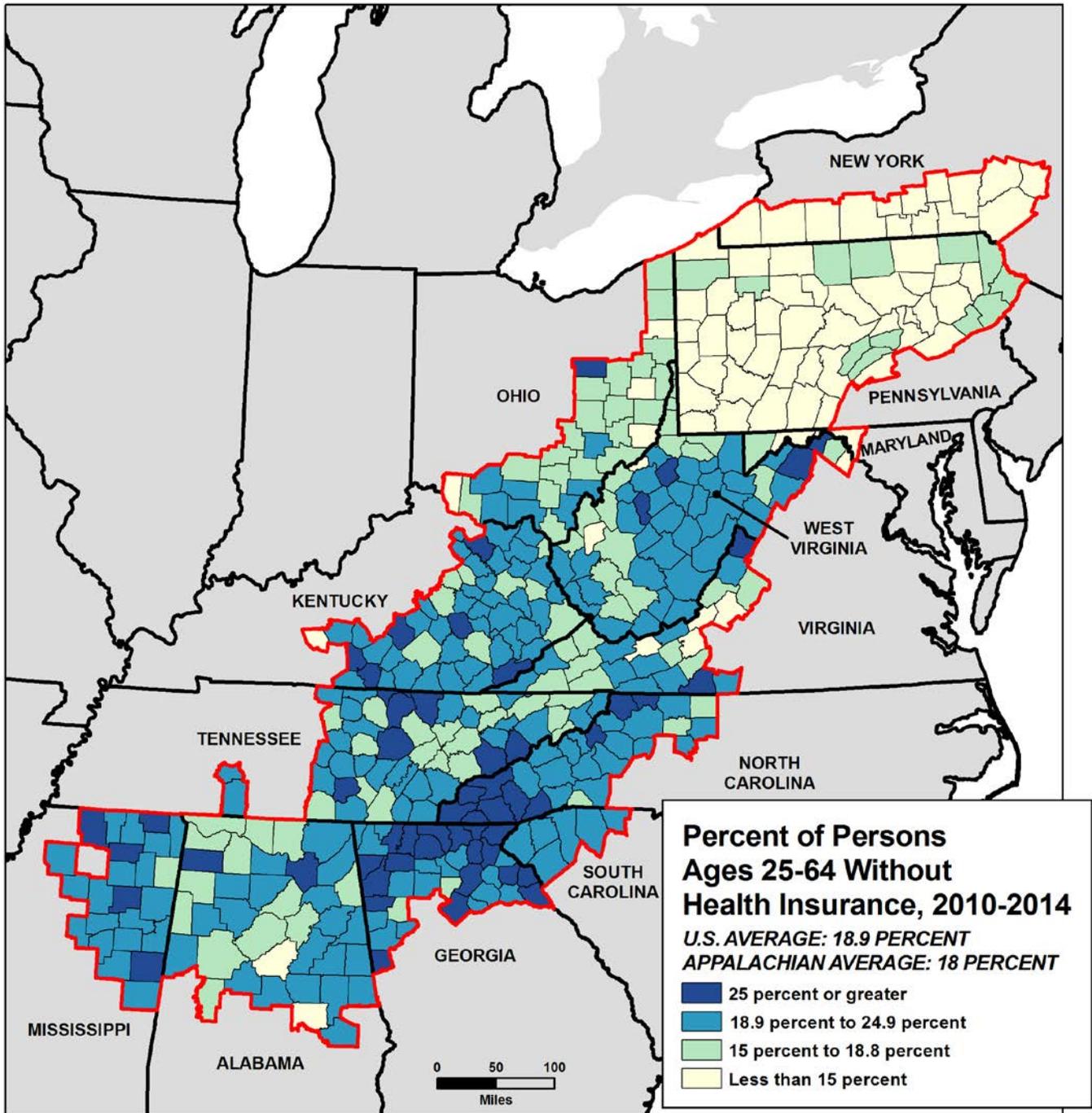
**Figure 8.3: Percent of Persons Ages 18 to 24 in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 18 to 24 in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, 2010-2014  
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

Lack of health insurance coverage was highest among young adults—more than one-fifth of Appalachian residents ages 18 to 24 were uninsured during the 2010-2014 period. Although Appalachia’s rate as a whole was slightly lower than the national average, the non-coverage problem was especially prevalent in much of Central and Southern Appalachia, as well as in the Region’s most rural counties: Three in 10 young adults in Central Appalachia were without coverage, and the share was nearly as large in the other two areas. This situation was especially dire in 97 counties, where non-coverage rates among 18-to-24-year-olds were 35 percent or higher. Among these counties, 81 were in Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia, and 82 were outside metropolitan areas. In contrast, there were 93 Appalachian counties where less than 20 percent of young adults had no health insurance; most of these were in metro areas and/or had a four-year college or university within their boundaries.

**Figure 8.4: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, 2010-2014  
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

In 2010-2014, 18 percent of Appalachia’s working-age population were not covered by health insurance. While this rate was slightly below that for the nation, there was great variation within the Region. For example, more than one-fifth of 25-to-64-year-olds in Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia were uninsured; these subregions accounted for 51 of the 56 counties with non-coverage rates of 25 percent or greater for this age group. By comparison, Northern Appalachia had 58 of the 70 counties where less than 15 percent of the working-age residents were not insured.

# CHAPTER 9: DISABILITY STATUS

Table 9.1: Number of Persons in the Appalachian Region With a Disability, by Age Group, 2010-2014

Disability Status	All Ages	Under Age 18	Ages 18-64			Ages 65 and Over
			Total	Ages 18-34	Ages 35-64	
<b>United States</b>	<b>37,874,571</b>	<b>2,991,373</b>	<b>19,703,061</b>	<b>4,072,657</b>	<b>15,630,404</b>	<b>15,180,137</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>3,958,985</b>	<b>272,413</b>	<b>2,145,226</b>	<b>395,227</b>	<b>1,749,999</b>	<b>1,541,346</b>
<b>Subregions</b>						
Northern Appalachia	1,205,955	90,847	612,596	122,151	490,445	502,512
North Central Appalachia	428,225	29,113	239,308	44,494	194,814	159,804
Central Appalachia	435,656	25,200	263,208	41,903	221,305	147,248
South Central Appalachia	779,365	49,499	417,151	73,246	343,905	312,715
Southern Appalachia	1,109,784	77,754	612,963	113,433	499,530	419,067
<b>County Types</b>						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	745,981	57,564	395,678	77,293	318,385	292,739
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	1,623,261	110,923	873,912	167,719	706,193	638,426
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	358,484	26,422	193,841	34,819	159,022	138,221
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	724,287	47,081	392,560	67,879	324,681	284,646
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	506,972	30,423	289,235	47,517	241,718	187,314
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>764,700</b>	<b>52,391</b>	<b>424,106</b>	<b>78,691</b>	<b>345,415</b>	<b>288,203</b>
Appalachian Alabama	485,025	31,044	270,350	49,242	221,108	183,631
Non-Appalachian Alabama	279,675	21,347	153,756	29,449	124,307	104,572
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>1,173,675</b>	<b>96,685</b>	<b>652,372</b>	<b>131,226</b>	<b>521,146</b>	<b>424,618</b>
Appalachian Georgia	345,341	28,699	188,186	36,439	151,747	128,456
Non-Appalachian Georgia	828,334	67,986	464,186	94,787	369,399	296,162
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>728,871</b>	<b>56,622</b>	<b>420,765</b>	<b>80,038</b>	<b>340,727</b>	<b>251,484</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	264,989	17,103	161,645	27,177	134,468	86,241
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	463,882	39,519	259,120	52,861	206,259	165,243
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>600,417</b>	<b>50,091</b>	<b>306,930</b>	<b>65,295</b>	<b>241,635</b>	<b>243,396</b>
Appalachian Maryland	37,794	3,393	20,009	4,408	15,601	14,392
Non-Appalachian Maryland	562,623	46,698	286,921	60,887	226,034	229,004
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>477,388</b>	<b>34,334</b>	<b>267,347</b>	<b>49,404</b>	<b>217,943</b>	<b>175,707</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	110,830	6,337	62,826	10,739	52,087	41,667
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	366,558	27,997	204,521	38,665	165,856	134,040
<b>New York</b>	<b>2,120,273</b>	<b>156,108</b>	<b>1,059,606</b>	<b>221,038</b>	<b>838,568</b>	<b>904,559</b>
Appalachian New York	146,438	11,861	77,027	17,408	59,619	57,550
Non-Appalachian New York	1,973,835	144,247	982,579	203,630	778,949	847,009
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>1,280,361</b>	<b>100,832</b>	<b>686,317</b>	<b>130,009</b>	<b>556,308</b>	<b>493,212</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	258,521	17,012	132,720	22,835	109,885	108,789
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	1,021,840	83,820	553,597	107,174	446,423	384,423
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>1,532,401</b>	<b>129,784</b>	<b>819,265</b>	<b>166,657</b>	<b>652,608</b>	<b>583,352</b>
Appalachian Ohio	319,924	24,122	174,735	32,424	142,311	121,067
Non-Appalachian Ohio	1,212,477	105,662	644,530	134,233	510,297	462,285
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>1,671,703</b>	<b>137,259</b>	<b>850,248</b>	<b>179,157</b>	<b>671,091</b>	<b>684,196</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	832,410	62,463	416,281	82,451	333,830	353,666
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	839,293	74,796	433,967	96,706	337,261	330,530
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>657,453</b>	<b>44,415</b>	<b>359,015</b>	<b>66,050</b>	<b>292,965</b>	<b>254,023</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	168,588	11,674	91,601	17,013	74,588	65,313
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	488,865	32,741	267,414	49,037	218,377	188,710
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>968,349</b>	<b>68,739</b>	<b>542,237</b>	<b>101,362</b>	<b>440,875</b>	<b>357,373</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	495,330	31,387	274,542	47,408	227,134	189,401
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	473,019	37,352	267,695	53,954	213,741	167,972
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>880,448</b>	<b>66,408</b>	<b>460,216</b>	<b>94,792</b>	<b>365,424</b>	<b>353,824</b>
Appalachian Virginia	141,495	6,198	77,557	12,935	64,622	57,740
Non-Appalachian Virginia	738,953	60,210	382,659	81,857	300,802	296,084
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>352,300</b>	<b>21,120</b>	<b>197,747</b>	<b>34,748</b>	<b>162,999</b>	<b>133,433</b>

Note: The ACS defines persons with a disability as having difficulty in at least one of the following six areas: hearing, vision, cognition, walking or climbing, self-care, or attending to the functions of independent living. The disability universe consists of the civilian noninstitutional population.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

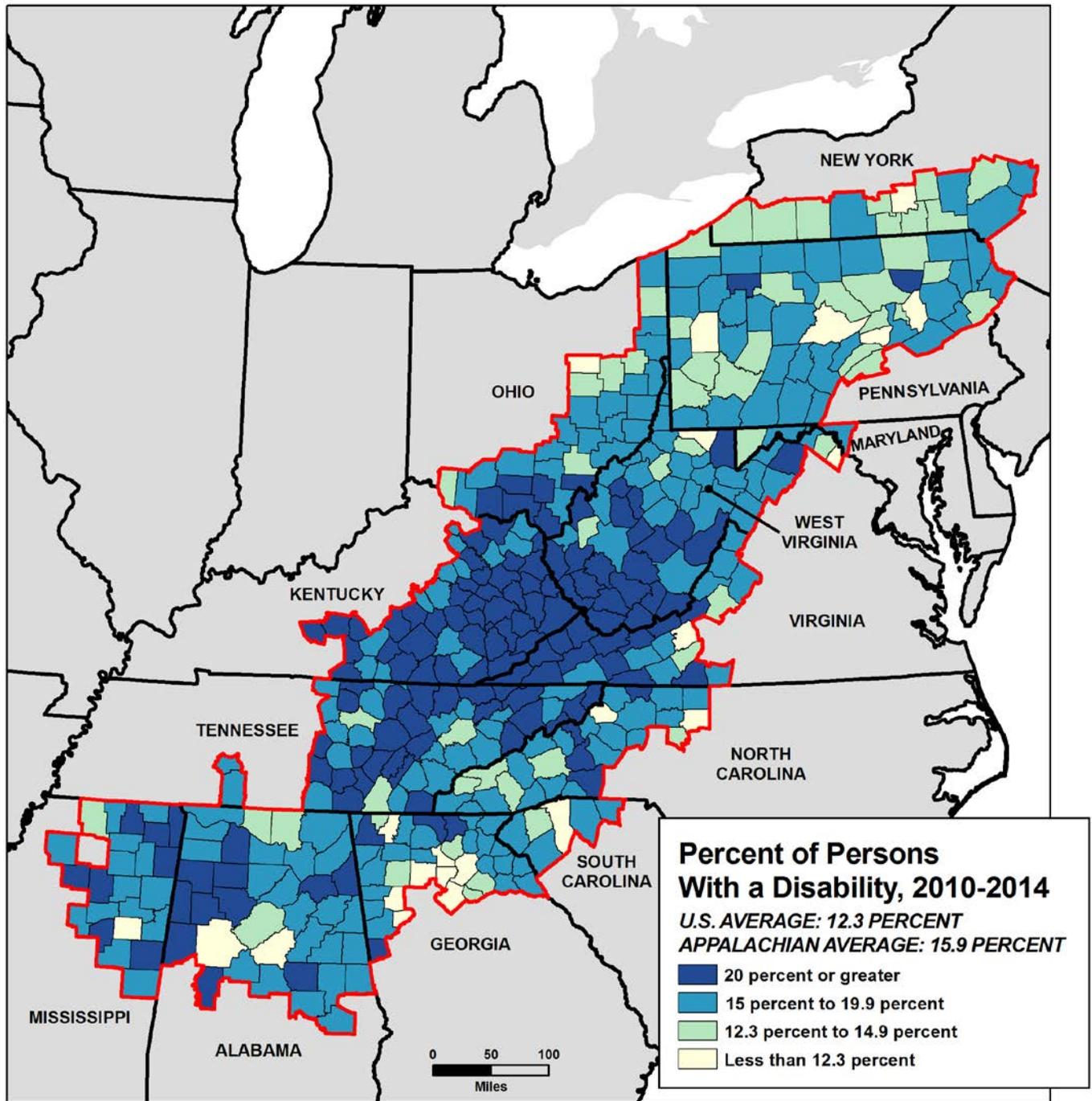
**Table 9.2: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region With a Disability, by Age Group, 2010-2014**

Disability Status	All Ages	Under Age 18	Ages 18-64			Ages 65 and Over
			Total	Ages 18-34	Ages 35-64	
<b>United States</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>36.3</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>39.5</b>
<b>Subregions</b>						
Northern Appalachia	14.7	5.4	12.0	7.0	14.7	36.0
North Central Appalachia	18.0	5.6	16.1	8.7	20.0	42.4
Central Appalachia	23.3	6.0	22.7	11.1	28.4	50.1
South Central Appalachia	16.6	5.0	14.4	7.3	18.0	39.1
Southern Appalachia	14.2	4.0	12.6	6.6	15.9	40.5
<b>County Types</b>						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	12.7	4.2	10.8	6.1	13.2	36.3
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	15.4	4.8	13.3	7.1	16.7	38.8
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	16.6	5.4	14.6	7.7	18.2	39.6
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	18.5	5.6	16.6	8.8	20.3	41.2
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	20.4	5.5	18.9	9.1	24.1	45.6
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>16.1</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>42.4</b>
Appalachian Alabama	16.0	4.4	14.2	7.2	18.2	42.2
Non-Appalachian Alabama	16.5	5.2	14.7	7.6	19.0	42.8
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>38.3</b>
Appalachian Georgia	11.6	3.6	10.2	5.7	12.5	37.8
Non-Appalachian Georgia	12.3	4.0	10.9	5.8	14.0	38.5
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>17.0</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>19.7</b>	<b>42.5</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	22.9	6.5	22.4	11.1	28.2	49.8
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	14.8	5.3	13.2	7.4	16.4	39.5
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>32.9</b>
Appalachian Maryland	15.8	6.5	13.6	8.8	16.1	36.5
Non-Appalachian Maryland	10.1	3.6	8.1	4.8	9.9	32.7
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>19.5</b>	<b>45.1</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	17.9	4.2	16.6	7.6	22.0	46.4
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	16.0	4.7	14.5	7.3	18.9	44.7
<b>New York</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>34.1</b>
Appalachian New York	14.0	5.5	11.6	6.9	14.5	34.7
Non-Appalachian New York	10.8	3.6	8.4	4.6	10.6	34.0
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>37.8</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	15.3	4.8	12.8	6.6	16.0	36.8
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	13.0	4.4	11.2	6.0	14.2	38.1
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>35.7</b>
Appalachian Ohio	16.1	5.3	14.4	8.1	17.5	38.1
Non-Appalachian Ohio	12.9	4.8	11.0	6.4	13.5	35.1
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>34.9</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	14.7	5.4	11.8	6.8	14.4	36.2
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	12.2	4.7	10.0	6.2	12.2	33.6
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>37.5</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	14.2	4.2	12.5	6.4	15.9	38.3
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	14.2	4.1	12.5	6.3	16.0	37.2
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>15.2</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>40.1</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	17.8	5.2	16.0	8.1	20.1	41.1
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	13.2	4.2	11.9	6.4	15.1	39.1
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>34.2</b>
Appalachian Virginia	18.8	4.2	16.4	7.7	21.3	43.6
Non-Appalachian Virginia	10.2	3.5	8.3	4.9	10.3	32.8
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>19.3</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>44.1</b>

Note: The ACS defines persons with a disability as having difficulty in at least one of the following six areas: hearing, vision, cognition, walking or climbing, self-care, or attending to the functions of independent living. The disability universe consists of the civilian noninstitutional population.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

**Figure 9.1: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region With a Disability, 2010-2014**

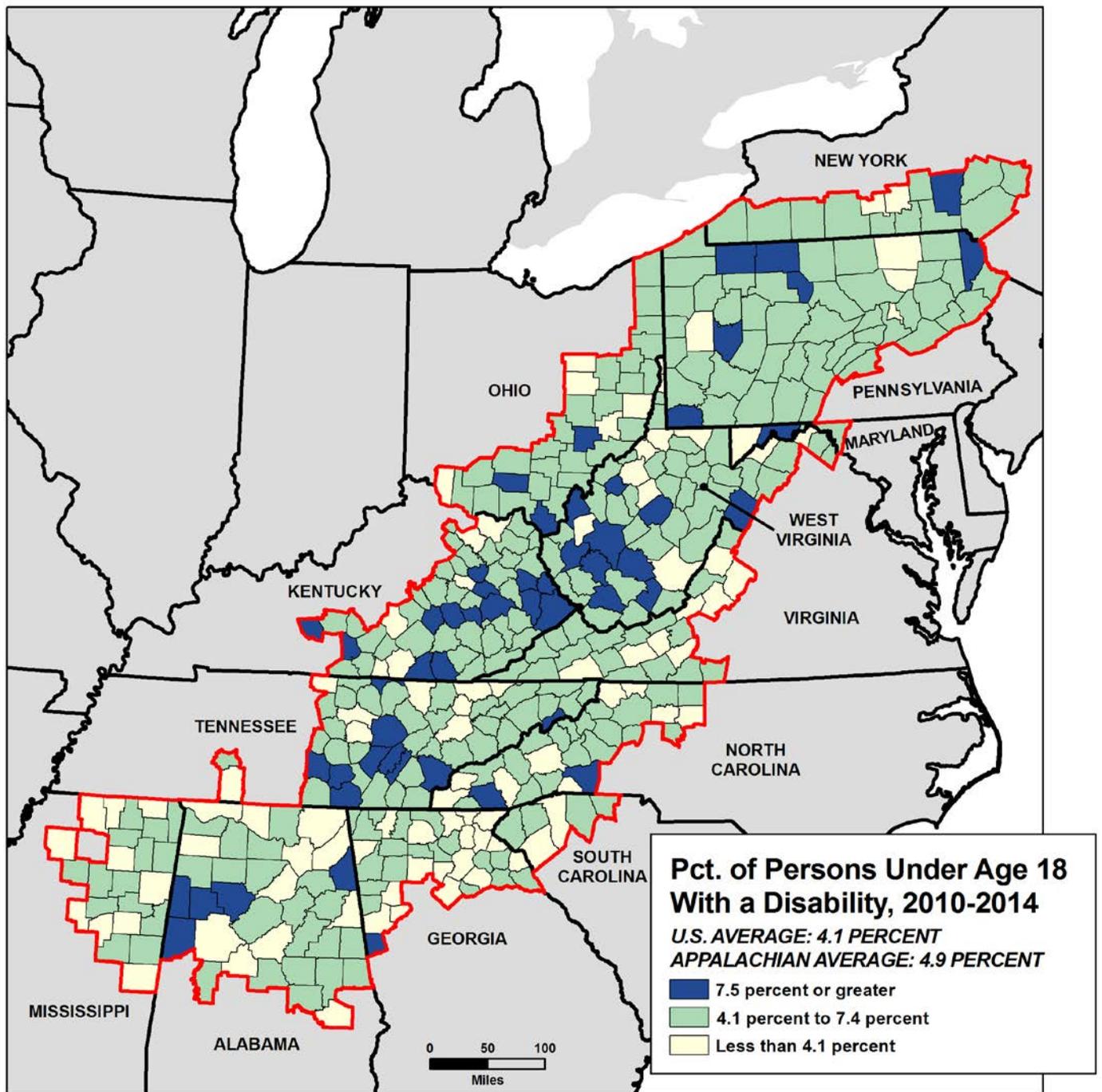


Map Title: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region With a Disability, 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

In the 2010-2014 period, about one in six Appalachian residents reported having a disability, which the ACS defines as having difficulty in at least one of the following six areas: hearing, vision, cognition, walking or climbing, self-care, or attending to the functions of independent living. Disability prevalence is particularly high in some parts of the Region; the rate was 20 percent or more in 137 counties, nearly half of which were in Central Appalachia. The Region's relatively high disability rate corresponds to the population's older age structure: In 116 of the counties with the highest disability prevalence levels, at least 15 percent of the residents were age 65 or older.

**Figure 9.2: Percent of Persons Under Age 18 in the Appalachian Region With a Disability, 2010-2014**

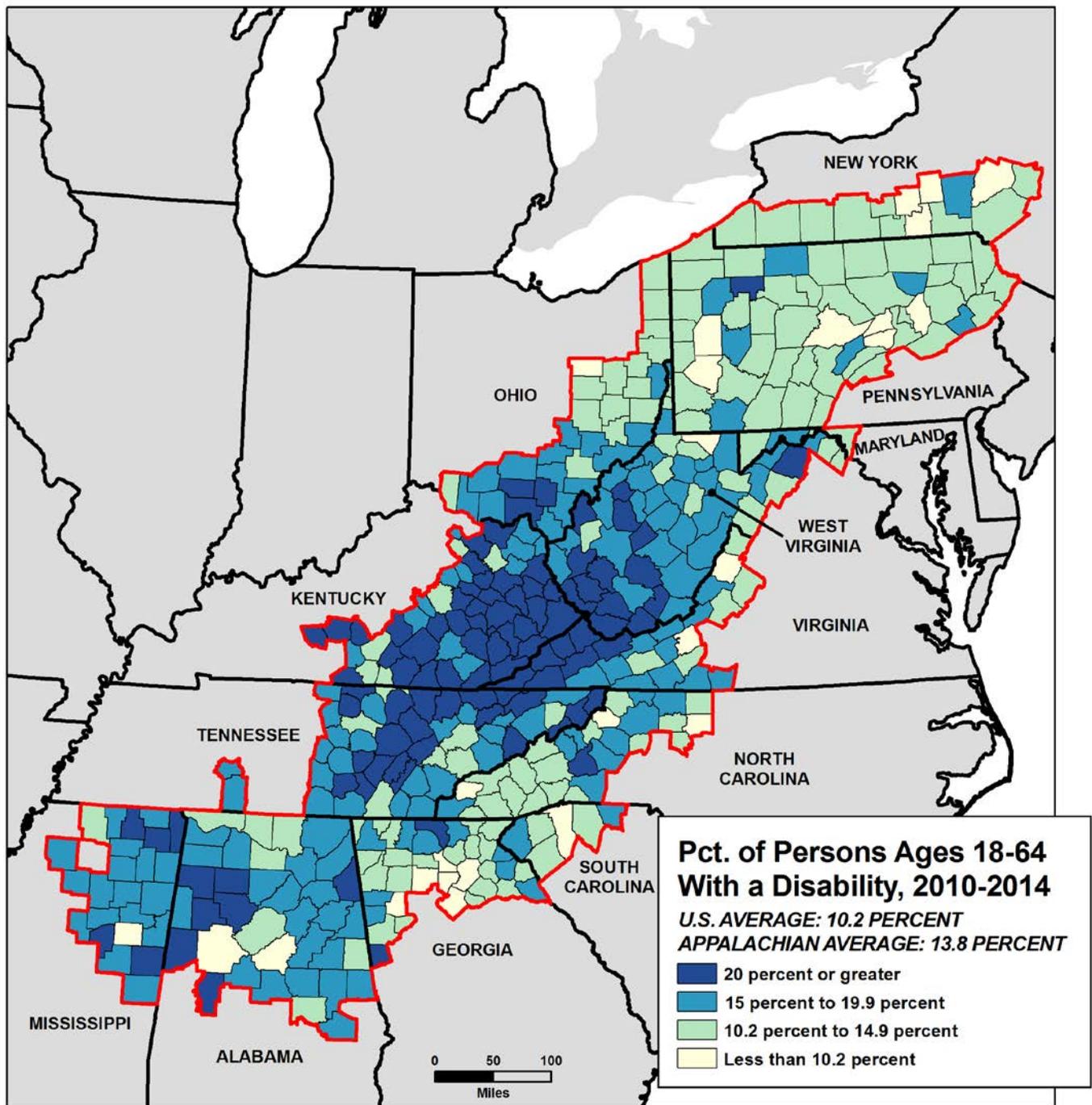


Map Title: Percent of Persons Under Age 18 in the Appalachian Region With a Disability, 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

At almost 5 percent, the prevalence of disability among children under age 18 in Appalachia was slightly higher than the national average during the 2010-2014 period. But there was variation within the Region. For example, the rate was at least 7.5 percent in 53 counties, 39 of which were outside metropolitan areas. In 97 other counties, however, the disability prevalence was below the national average of just over 4 percent. Nearly two-thirds of the counties in the latter group were in South Central and Southern Appalachia. In fact, at 4 percent, Southern Appalachia was the only subregion where the disability rate among the under-18 population was below the national average.

**Figure 9.3: Percent of Persons Ages 18 to 64 in the Appalachian Region With a Disability, 2010-2014**

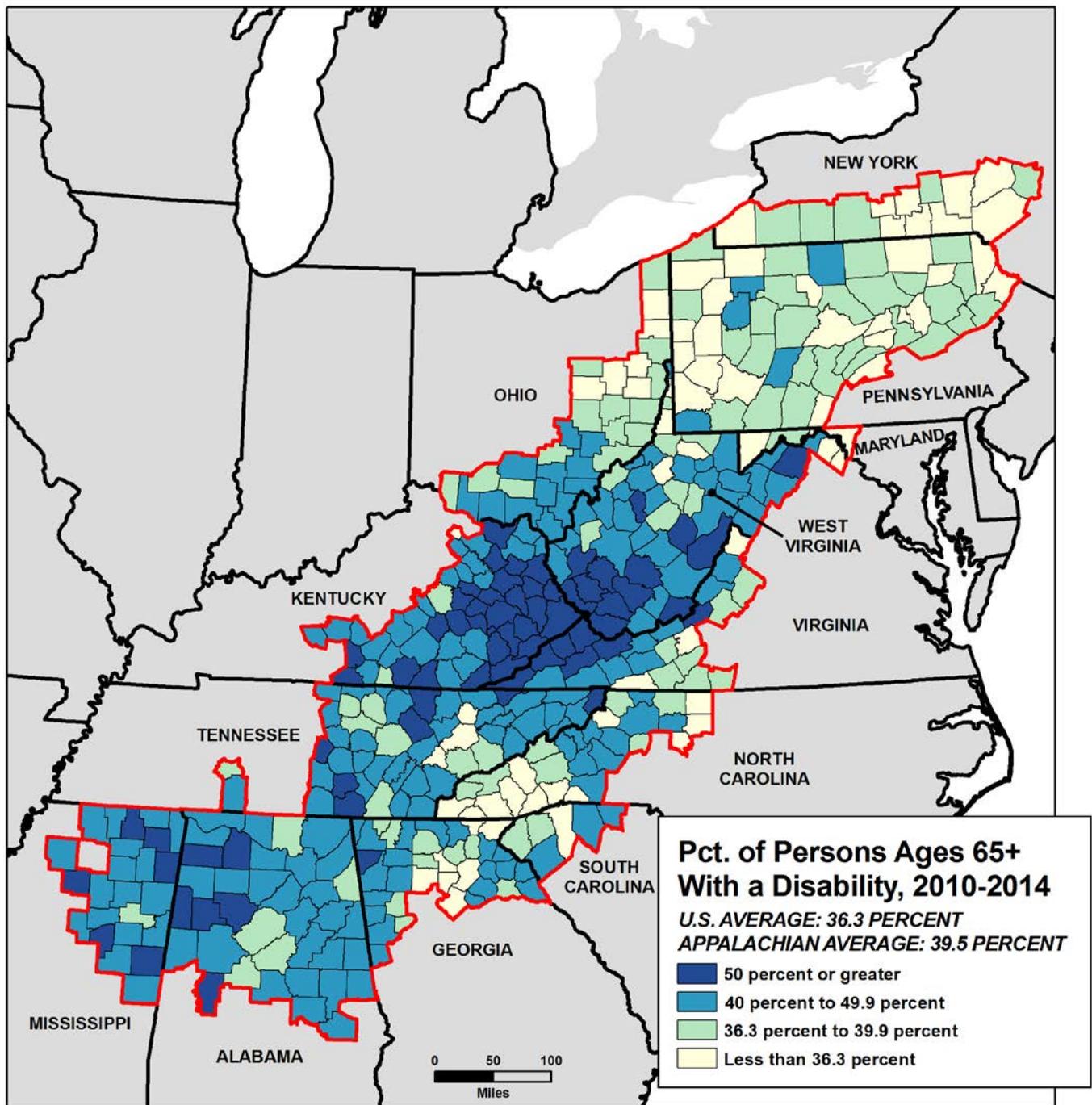


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 18 to 64 in the Appalachian Region With a Disability, 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

In the 2010-2014 period, approximately one in seven adults ages 18 to 64 in Appalachia reported a disability, compared with one in 10 in the nation as a whole. Disability prevalence was particularly high in some parts of the Region: In Central Appalachia, for example, more than one-fifth of working-age adults had a disability. Indeed, Central Appalachia had 58 of the 98 Appalachian counties where the disability rate among 18-to-64-year-olds was 20 percent or higher. Central Appalachia’s historic reliance on mining and related resource-based industries, as well as Appalachia’s relatively high rates of cancer, heart disease, and diabetes, may be associated with the subregion’s high disability prevalence.

**Figure 9.4: Percent of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Disability, 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Disability, 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

Two-fifths of adults ages 65 and over in the Appalachian Region reported a disability in the 2010-2014 period, slightly higher than the national share. And the prevalence was even greater in some parts of the Region: At least half of the older residents in 68 counties (43 of which were in Central Appalachia) had at least one disability. In 51 of these 68 counties, the share of working-age adults with a disability was at or above 20 percent (nearly twice the national average), suggesting that disabled adults in the Region may be aging in place. Yet there is some variation: In 71 other Appalachian counties, the disability rate for the older population actually was lower than the national average. Nearly all of these low-prevalence counties were in Northern, South Central, and Southern Appalachia.

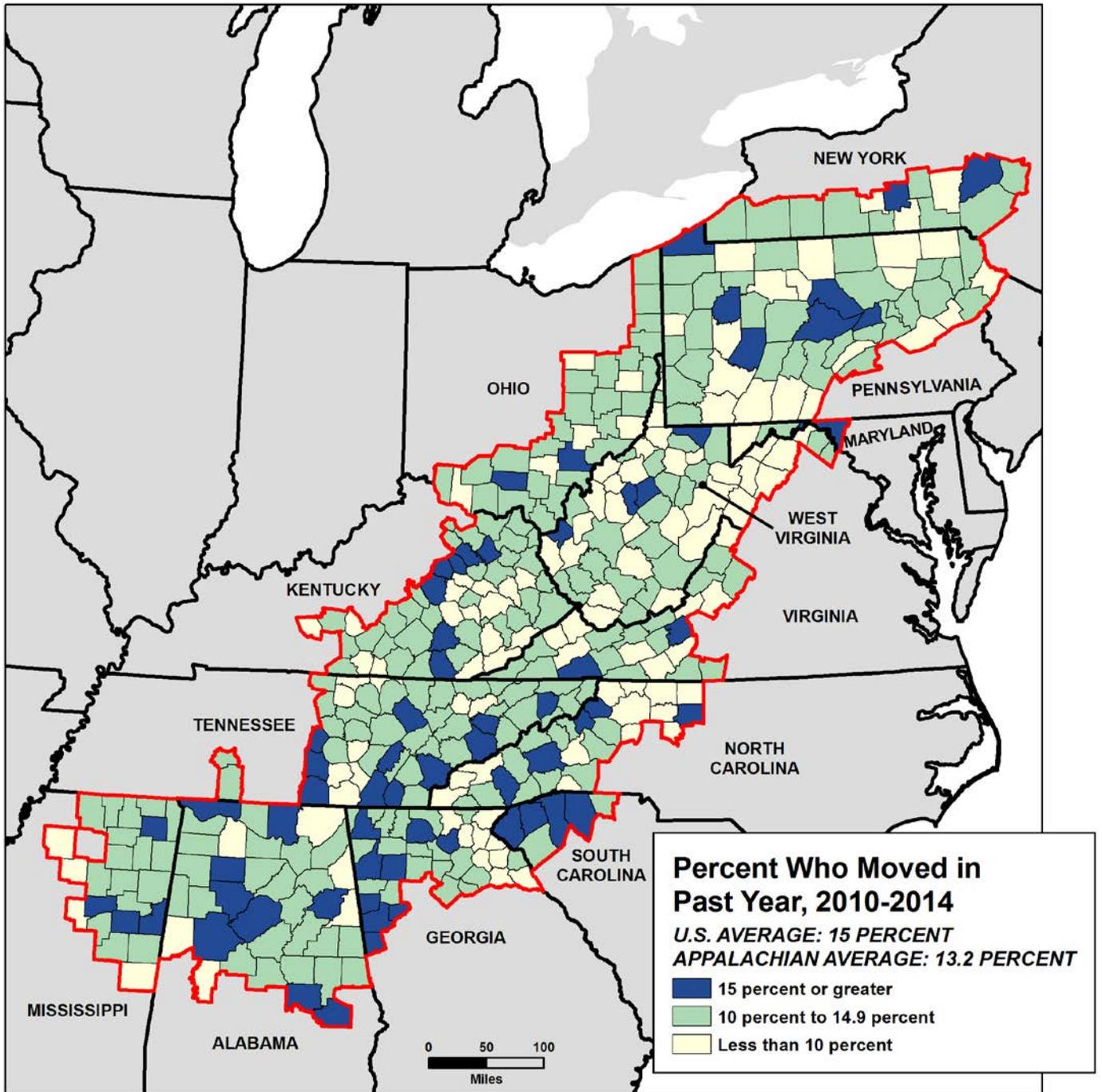
# CHAPTER 10: MIGRATION

**Table 10.1: Mobility Status of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region, 2010-2014**

Mobility Status in the Last Year	Total Population Ages 1 and Over, 2010-2014	Percent of Population Ages 1 and Over					
		Did Not Move in Past Year	Moved from a Different Residence in the Past Year				
			Within the County	Outside the County			
					Within the State	Outside the State	
<b>United States</b>	<b>310,385,254</b>	<b>85.0</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>2.9</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>25,100,544</b>	<b>86.8</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>2.3</b>
<b>Subregions</b>							
Northern Appalachia	8,275,442	87.6	12.4	7.5	4.9	2.8	2.1
North Central Appalachia	2,402,195	87.6	12.4	6.9	5.5	3.0	2.5
Central Appalachia	1,888,537	87.8	12.2	7.0	5.2	3.3	1.9
South Central Appalachia	4,710,012	86.0	14.0	7.8	6.1	3.5	2.6
Southern Appalachia	7,824,358	85.9	14.1	8.1	6.0	3.6	2.4
<b>County Types</b>							
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	5,859,324	87.1	12.9	7.5	5.4	3.1	2.3
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	10,593,567	85.9	14.1	8.2	5.9	3.1	2.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	2,183,124	86.8	13.2	7.9	5.3	3.6	1.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	3,947,103	88.1	11.9	6.8	5.1	3.2	1.9
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	2,517,426	87.6	12.4	6.8	5.6	3.6	1.9
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>4,761,857</b>	<b>85.0</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>2.6</b>
Appalachian Alabama	3,049,692	85.6	14.4	8.8	5.6	3.4	2.2
Non-Appalachian Alabama	1,712,165	84.1	15.9	9.6	6.3	3.1	3.3
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>9,784,783</b>	<b>83.8</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>3.3</b>
Appalachian Georgia	2,972,012	86.7	13.3	7.0	6.4	3.9	2.5
Non-Appalachian Georgia	6,812,771	82.6	17.4	8.7	8.6	5.0	3.7
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>4,330,623</b>	<b>84.7</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.0</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	1,168,936	86.9	13.1	7.5	5.6	3.7	1.9
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	3,161,687	83.9	16.1	9.1	7.0	3.6	3.4
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>5,819,061</b>	<b>86.7</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>3.4</b>
Appalachian Maryland	250,271	85.8	14.2	8.5	5.7	3.0	2.8
Non-Appalachian Maryland	5,568,790	86.8	13.2	7.2	6.1	2.6	3.5
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>2,947,602</b>	<b>86.0</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>2.7</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	621,583	86.0	14.0	7.9	6.1	3.9	2.1
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	2,326,019	86.0	14.0	7.5	6.5	3.7	2.8
<b>New York</b>	<b>19,374,030</b>	<b>88.9</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>2.2</b>
Appalachian New York	1,049,735	85.3	14.7	8.5	6.3	3.8	2.5
Non-Appalachian New York	18,324,295	89.1	10.9	6.4	4.5	2.3	2.2
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>9,636,656</b>	<b>84.7</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.3</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	1,694,631	86.9	13.1	7.3	5.8	3.4	2.5
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	7,942,025	84.3	15.7	8.7	7.1	3.5	3.5
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>11,431,051</b>	<b>85.4</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>2.0</b>
Appalachian Ohio	2,008,992	87.7	12.3	7.5	4.9	3.1	1.8
Non-Appalachian Ohio	9,422,059	84.9	15.1	9.8	5.3	3.3	2.1
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>12,624,313</b>	<b>88.0</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.3</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	5,725,766	87.9	12.1	7.3	4.8	2.7	2.1
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	6,898,547	88.0	12.0	7.1	4.8	2.4	2.4
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>4,672,468</b>	<b>84.5</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.8</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	1,181,071	84.9	15.1	9.0	6.1	3.0	3.1
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	3,491,397	84.4	15.6	8.3	7.3	3.3	4.0
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>6,375,527</b>	<b>84.6</b>	<b>15.4</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.1</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	2,783,984	86.0	14.0	8.2	5.8	3.2	2.6
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	3,591,543	83.4	16.6	10.2	6.4	2.9	3.5
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>8,084,641</b>	<b>84.7</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>3.9</b>
Appalachian Virginia	758,270	86.1	13.9	6.7	7.2	4.6	2.7
Non-Appalachian Virginia	7,326,371	84.5	15.5	6.5	9.0	4.9	4.1
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>1,835,601</b>	<b>88.3</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.7</b>

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

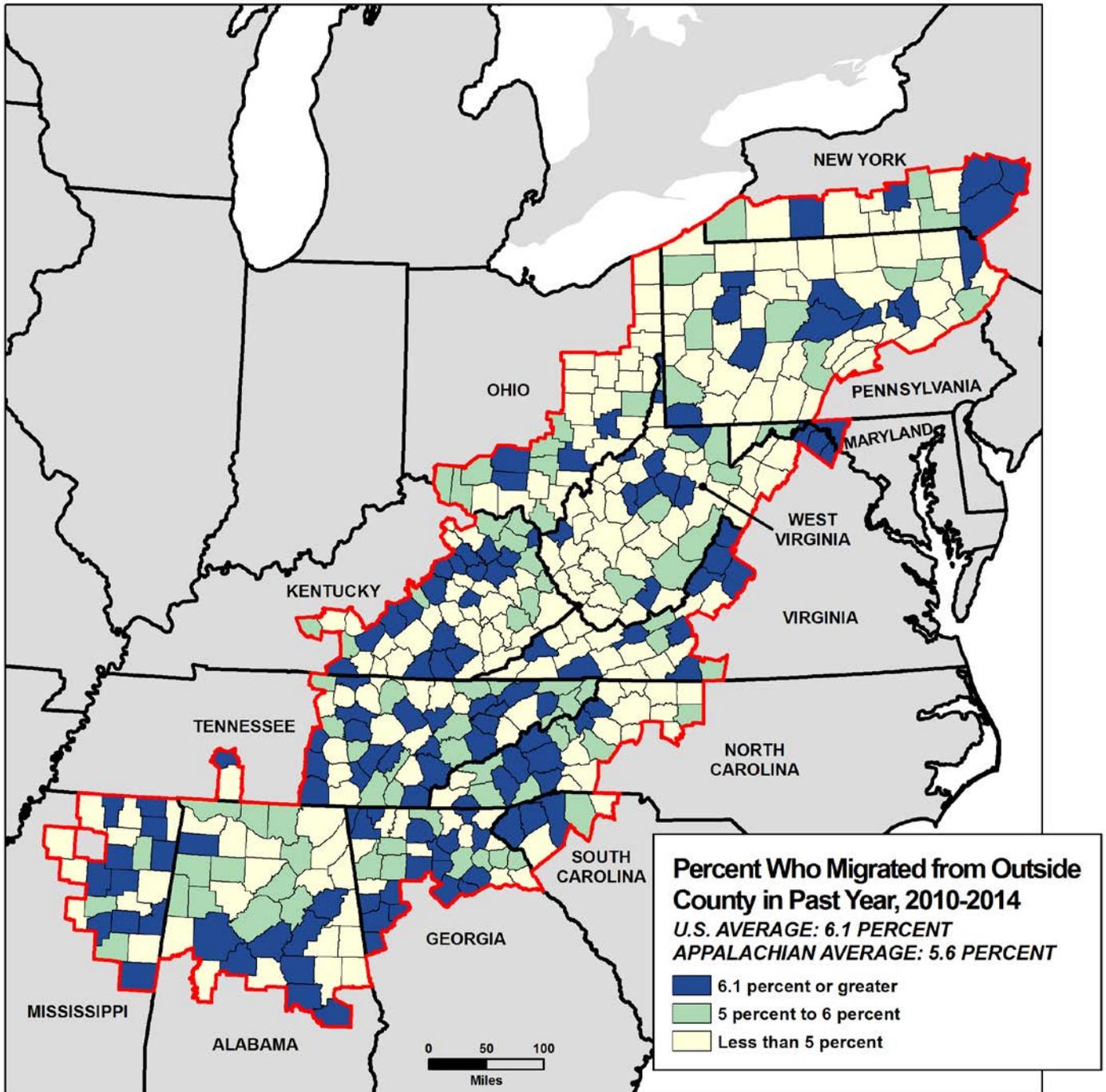
**Figure 10.1: Percent of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Had Moved in the Past Year, 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Had Moved in the Past Year, 2010-2014  
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

Residential mobility in Appalachia was below the national average, as well as in all subregions and county types. In fact, the percentage of residents who moved in the past year only matched or exceeded the U.S. average in 66 of the Region’s counties. Two-thirds of these counties were in South Central or Southern 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 123 Appalachian counties, less than 10 percent of the residents had moved in the previous 12 months; three-fourths of these counties were outside metro areas.

**Figure 10.2: Percent of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Had Migrated From Outside Their County of Residence in the Past Year, 2010-2014**

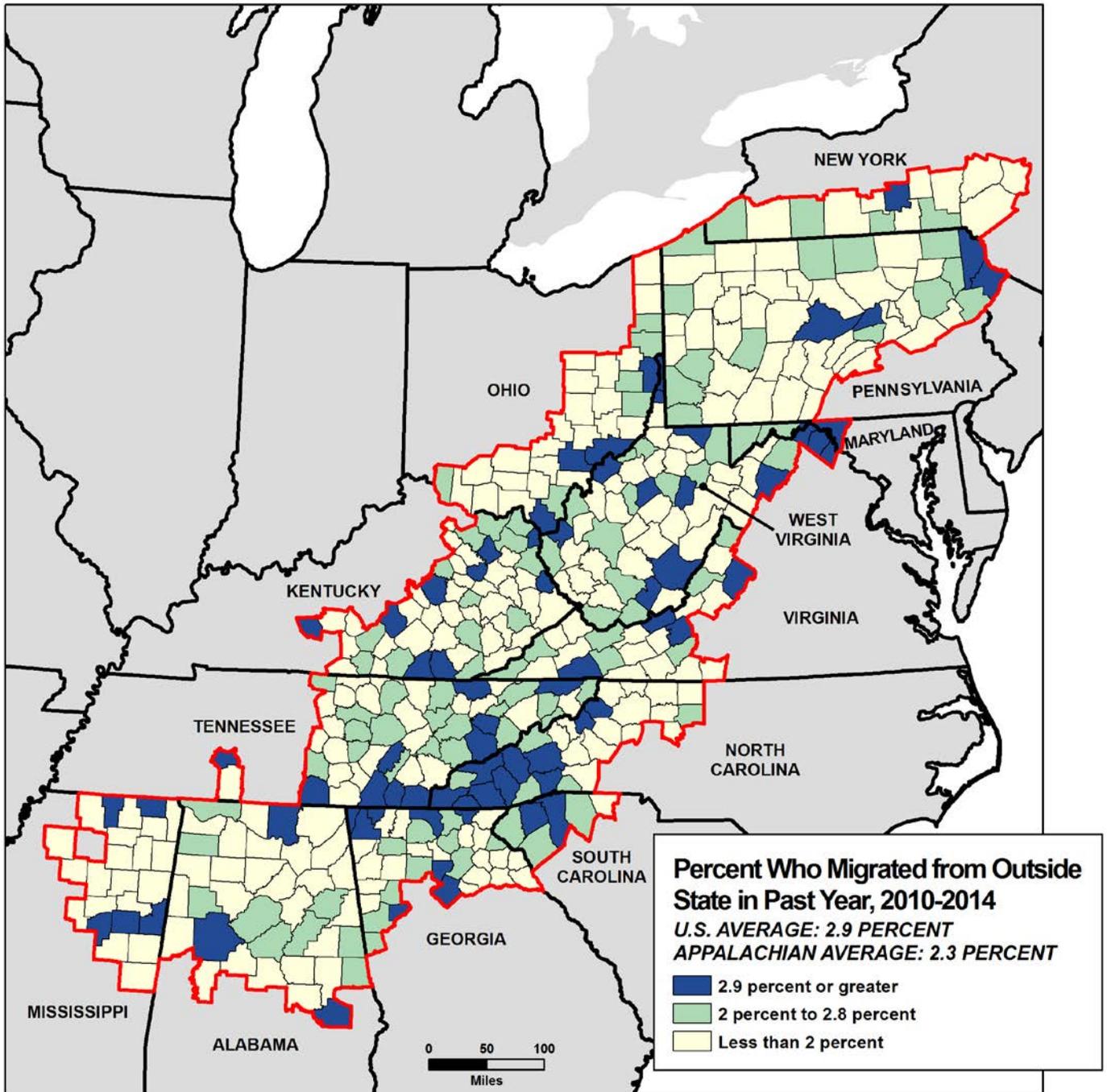


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Had Migrated From Outside Their County of Residence in the Past Year, 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

While people in Appalachia were slightly less likely to have migrated from outside their county of residence in the 2010-2014 period than Americans as a whole, residents in 131 of the Region's counties had migration rates at or above the national average. These counties were scattered throughout the Appalachian Region and were distributed across all urban/rural types. In 203 counties, however, less than 5 percent of the residents had migrated from another county. More than two-thirds of these counties were outside metropolitan areas, and two-fifths of those nonmetro counties were rural counties not adjacent to a metro area.

**Figure 10.3: Percent of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Had Migrated From Outside Their State of Residence in the Past Year, 2010-2014**



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, 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

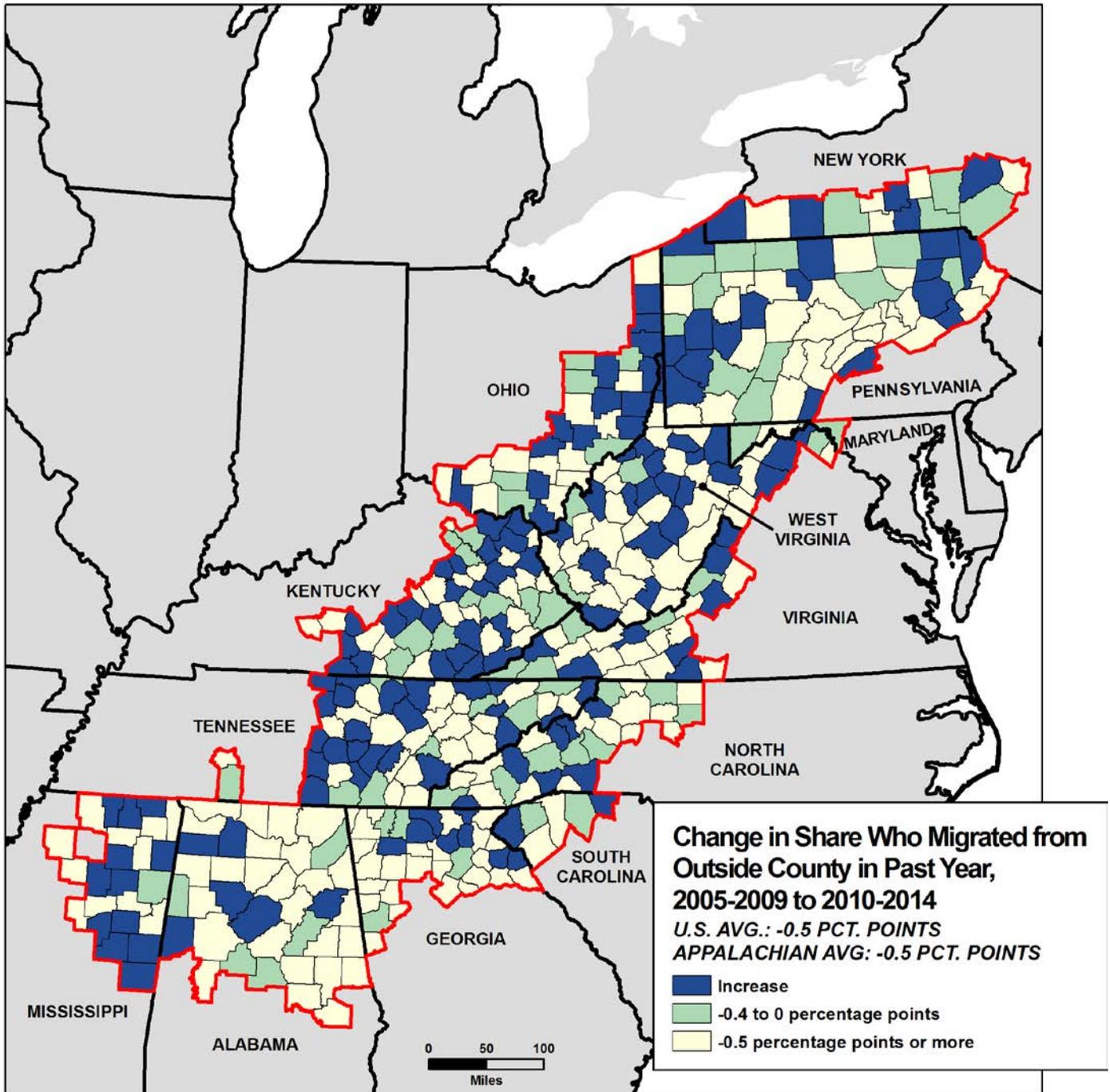
The share of people in the Appalachian Region who had migrated from outside their state of residence was 2.3 percent in the 2010-2014 period, compared with 2.9 percent of all Americans. Yet in 75 of Appalachia’s 420 counties, out-of-state migration levels were at or above the U.S. average. These counties were fairly evenly distributed throughout the Region, with about half of them in metropolitan areas. In 241 counties, on the other hand, less than 2 percent of residents had come from out of state, and more than two-thirds of these counties were outside metropolitan areas.

**Table 10.2: Percentage Point Change in Mobility Status of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**

Mobility Status in the Last Year	Percentage Point Change in Share of Population Ages 1 and Over					
	Did Not Move in Past Year	Moved from a Different Residence in the Past Year				
			Within the County	Outside the County		
				Within the State	Outside the State	
<b>United States</b>	<b>+ 1.2</b>	<b>- 1.2</b>	<b>- 0.6</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>- 0.2</b>	<b>- 0.3</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>+ 1.3</b>	<b>- 1.3</b>	<b>- 0.8</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>- 0.3</b>	<b>- 0.4</b>
<b>Subregions</b>						
Northern Appalachia	+ 0.7	- 0.7	- 0.4	- 0.3	- 0.3	+ 0.0
North Central Appalachia	+ 1.7	- 1.7	- 1.1	- 0.7	- 0.3	- 0.4
Central Appalachia	+ 0.9	- 0.9	- 0.8	- 0.2	+ 0.1	- 0.2
South Central Appalachia	+ 1.3	- 1.3	- 0.9	- 0.6	- 0.1	- 0.5
Southern Appalachia	+ 2.0	- 2.0	- 1.0	- 1.0	- 0.3	- 0.7
<b>County Types</b>						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	+ 1.5	- 1.5	- 0.9	- 0.6	- 0.3	- 0.3
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	+ 1.3	- 1.3	- 0.7	- 0.6	- 0.3	- 0.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	+ 1.6	- 1.6	- 0.8	- 0.8	- 0.4	- 0.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	+ 1.2	- 1.2	- 0.6	- 0.6	- 0.2	- 0.4
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	+ 1.0	- 1.0	- 0.9	- 0.1	+ 0.0	- 0.2
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>+ 1.1</b>	<b>- 1.1</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>- 0.7</b>	<b>+ 0.0</b>	<b>- 0.6</b>
Appalachian Alabama	+ 1.6	- 1.6	- 0.9	- 0.8	- 0.2	- 0.6
Non-Appalachian Alabama	+ 0.4	- 0.4	+ 0.1	- 0.6	+ 0.2	- 0.6
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>+ 2.1</b>	<b>- 2.1</b>	<b>- 0.9</b>	<b>- 1.3</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>- 0.8</b>
Appalachian Georgia	+ 3.0	- 3.0	- 1.3	- 1.6	- 0.8	- 0.8
Non-Appalachian Georgia	+ 1.8	- 1.8	- 0.7	- 1.2	- 0.4	- 0.7
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>+ 1.0</b>	<b>- 1.0</b>	<b>- 0.7</b>	<b>- 0.4</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>	<b>- 0.3</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	+ 1.0	- 1.0	- 0.8	- 0.2	+ 0.2	- 0.3
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	+ 1.1	- 1.1	- 0.7	- 0.5	- 0.2	- 0.3
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>+ 1.2</b>	<b>- 1.2</b>	<b>- 0.2</b>	<b>- 1.0</b>	<b>- 0.6</b>	<b>- 0.4</b>
Appalachian Maryland	+ 0.0	+ 0.0	+ 0.9	- 0.9	- 0.6	- 0.2
Non-Appalachian Maryland	+ 1.3	- 1.3	- 0.2	- 1.0	- 0.6	- 0.4
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>+ 2.3</b>	<b>- 2.3</b>	<b>- 1.6</b>	<b>- 0.7</b>	<b>- 0.4</b>	<b>- 0.4</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	+ 1.1	- 1.1	- 0.8	- 0.3	- 0.2	- 0.2
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	+ 2.6	- 2.6	- 1.8	- 0.8	- 0.3	- 0.5
<b>New York</b>	<b>+ 0.6</b>	<b>- 0.6</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>	<b>- 0.2</b>	<b>+ 0.0</b>
Appalachian New York	+ 0.9	- 0.9	- 0.3	- 0.4	- 0.4	- 0.1
Non-Appalachian New York	+ 0.6	- 0.6	- 0.5	- 0.1	- 0.2	+ 0.1
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>+ 2.0</b>	<b>- 2.0</b>	<b>- 1.1</b>	<b>- 1.1</b>	<b>- 0.2</b>	<b>- 0.9</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	+ 1.0	- 1.0	- 0.8	- 0.3	+ 0.2	- 0.4
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	+ 2.4	- 2.4	- 1.1	- 1.2	- 0.3	- 1.0
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>+ 0.7</b>	<b>- 0.7</b>	<b>- 0.6</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>	<b>+ 0.0</b>
Appalachian Ohio	+ 0.9	- 0.9	- 0.7	- 0.1	- 0.2	+ 0.1
Non-Appalachian Ohio	+ 0.7	- 0.7	- 0.6	- 0.1	+ 0.0	+ 0.1
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>+ 0.8</b>	<b>- 0.8</b>	<b>- 0.4</b>	<b>- 0.4</b>	<b>- 0.3</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 0.8	- 0.8	- 0.5	- 0.3	- 0.3	- 0.1
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 0.7	- 0.7	- 0.4	- 0.5	- 0.2	- 0.3
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>	<b>- 0.4</b>	<b>+ 0.0</b>	<b>- 0.4</b>	<b>+ 0.0</b>	<b>- 0.4</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	+ 1.6	- 1.6	- 1.1	- 0.5	- 0.1	- 0.4
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	+ 0.0	+ 0.0	+ 0.4	- 0.4	+ 0.0	- 0.4
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>+ 1.3</b>	<b>- 1.3</b>	<b>- 0.9</b>	<b>- 0.4</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>	<b>- 0.3</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	+ 1.3	- 1.3	- 0.8	- 0.5	- 0.1	- 0.5
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	+ 1.2	- 1.2	- 0.9	- 0.3	- 0.1	- 0.2
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>+ 1.4</b>	<b>- 1.4</b>	<b>- 0.4</b>	<b>- 1.0</b>	<b>- 0.4</b>	<b>- 0.6</b>
Appalachian Virginia	+ 1.8	- 1.8	- 0.8	- 0.9	- 0.5	- 0.3
Non-Appalachian Virginia	+ 1.3	- 1.3	- 0.3	- 1.0	- 0.5	- 0.5
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>+ 1.3</b>	<b>- 1.3</b>	<b>- 0.8</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>+ 0.0</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Surveys.

**Figure 10.4: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Had Migrated From Outside Their County of Residence in the Past Year, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Had Migrated From Outside Their County of Residence in the Past Year, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Surveys.

Both in Appalachia and the nation as a whole, the share of individuals migrating from outside their county of residence declined half a percentage point between the 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 periods. The decrease was most prevalent in North Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia, and was greater than or equal to the national average in 212 counties in the Region. By contrast, the percentage fell just one-tenth of a percentage point in Appalachia's most rural counties; these areas had one-third of the 148 counties where migration shares actually increased.

## TRENDS IN MIGRATION

- Like Americans as a whole, Appalachian residents were slightly less mobile in 2010-2014 than they were in 2005-2009. Between the two periods, the share of persons in the Region who had moved from a different residence in the past year decreased by slightly more than a percentage point to 13 percent in 2010-2014 (see Tables 10.1 and 10.2). Similarly, a slightly lower share of residents migrated from outside their county and their state of residence in 2010-2014 than in 2005-2009. (In both of the latter instances, the share dropped by about half a percentage point.)
- Within the Region, the decline in residential mobility was greatest in Southern and North Central Appalachia, where the share of residents who had moved in the previous year fell about two percentage points between 2005-2009 and 2010-2014. Still, all subregions and county types saw lower shares of their populations move in the later period than in the earlier one. One possible factor might lie in the rise of unemployment and the housing crisis during the Great Recession of 2007-2009. With relatively low educational attainment levels and relatively high homeownership in the Region, many Appalachian residents who lost their jobs might not have been able to sell their homes to move to another area with more employment opportunities.

# CHAPTER 11: VETERAN STATUS

Table 11.1: Veteran Status of Adult Civilians in the Appalachian Region by Age Group, 2010-2014

Veteran Status	Civilian Population				Percent Who Are Veterans			
	Ages 18 and Over	Ages 18-34	Ages 35-64	Ages 65 and Over	Ages 18 and Over	Ages 18-34	Ages 35-64	Ages 65 and Over
<b>United States</b>	<b>239,305,217</b>	<b>72,816,594</b>	<b>123,310,662</b>	<b>43,177,961</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>21.6</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>19,780,031</b>	<b>5,477,554</b>	<b>10,267,925</b>	<b>4,034,552</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>22.4</b>
<b>Subregions</b>								
Northern Appalachia	6,649,452	1,797,955	3,398,198	1,453,299	10.3	2.3	8.7	23.7
North Central Appalachia	1,904,843	523,656	990,849	390,338	10.5	2.6	9.7	22.9
Central Appalachia	1,490,526	391,745	794,660	304,121	8.2	2.0	7.3	18.7
South Central Appalachia	3,757,831	1,013,033	1,920,981	823,817	9.9	2.2	8.7	22.1
Southern Appalachia	5,977,379	1,751,165	3,163,237	1,062,977	9.0	2.2	8.5	21.7
<b>County Types</b>								
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	4,538,260	1,273,020	2,436,220	829,020	9.1	2.1	8.0	22.9
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	8,393,518	2,401,624	4,290,102	1,701,792	9.9	2.3	9.1	22.8
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	1,718,142	466,609	888,985	362,548	10.0	2.1	9.1	22.2
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	3,139,511	794,630	1,630,133	714,748	10.3	2.5	8.8	22.3
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	1,990,600	541,671	1,022,485	426,444	8.7	2.2	7.4	20.0
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>3,685,939</b>	<b>1,092,377</b>	<b>1,894,301</b>	<b>699,261</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>22.2</b>
Appalachian Alabama	2,373,278	693,695	1,231,212	448,371	9.8	2.5	9.5	22.0
Non-Appalachian Alabama	1,312,661	398,682	663,089	250,890	10.9	3.5	10.9	22.7
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>7,369,672</b>	<b>2,326,497</b>	<b>3,904,939</b>	<b>1,138,236</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>21.9</b>
Appalachian Georgia	2,211,387	643,689	1,220,978	346,720	8.3	1.9	7.8	22.0
Non-Appalachian Georgia	5,158,285	1,682,808	2,683,961	791,516	9.7	3.0	10.2	21.9
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>3,349,513</b>	<b>979,520</b>	<b>1,755,497</b>	<b>614,496</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>20.7</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	917,433	251,227	486,012	180,194	7.9	2.0	7.1	18.2
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	2,432,080	728,293	1,269,485	434,302	9.5	2.7	9.2	21.8
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>4,512,513</b>	<b>1,349,110</b>	<b>2,399,346</b>	<b>764,057</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>21.6</b>
Appalachian Maryland	199,822	55,556	102,672	41,594	10.6	2.4	10.1	22.6
Non-Appalachian Maryland	4,312,691	1,293,554	2,296,674	722,463	9.2	2.9	8.8	21.5
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>2,230,110</b>	<b>690,514</b>	<b>1,136,428</b>	<b>403,168</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>19.9</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	475,849	143,990	238,915	92,944	7.8	2.4	6.9	18.5
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	1,754,261	546,524	897,513	310,224	8.9	2.7	8.7	20.4
<b>New York</b>	<b>15,298,282</b>	<b>4,735,627</b>	<b>7,807,483</b>	<b>2,755,172</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>16.5</b>
Appalachian New York	843,194	256,017	414,066	173,111	9.7	2.3	8.8	22.8
Non-Appalachian New York	14,455,088	4,479,610	7,393,417	2,582,061	5.4	1.2	4.3	16.1
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>7,380,446</b>	<b>2,168,844</b>	<b>3,865,510</b>	<b>1,346,092</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>21.4</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	1,350,837	350,849	694,257	305,731	9.7	2.0	8.3	21.8
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	6,029,609	1,817,995	3,171,253	1,040,361	9.6	3.1	9.4	21.3
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>8,877,924</b>	<b>2,540,627</b>	<b>4,632,698</b>	<b>1,704,599</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>22.4</b>
Appalachian Ohio	1,573,763	414,265	826,939	332,559	10.4	2.2	9.4	23.1
Non-Appalachian Ohio	7,304,161	2,126,362	3,805,759	1,372,040	9.2	2.1	8.5	22.2
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>10,013,055</b>	<b>2,830,848</b>	<b>5,140,649</b>	<b>2,041,558</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>22.7</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	4,621,057	1,241,713	2,363,220	1,016,124	10.2	2.3	8.5	23.9
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	5,391,998	1,589,135	2,777,429	1,025,434	8.0	1.7	6.7	21.5
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>3,615,473</b>	<b>1,064,458</b>	<b>1,855,564</b>	<b>695,451</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>22.8</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	916,865	269,791	472,132	174,942	9.3	2.2	8.5	22.4
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	2,698,608	794,667	1,383,432	520,509	11.1	3.6	11.0	22.9
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>4,942,528</b>	<b>1,452,396</b>	<b>2,571,914</b>	<b>918,218</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>21.7</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	2,209,046	592,413	1,142,146	474,487	10.0	2.3	9.0	22.1
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	2,733,482	859,983	1,429,768	443,731	9.2	2.8	9.3	21.2
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>6,214,266</b>	<b>1,886,471</b>	<b>3,266,747</b>	<b>1,061,048</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>11.8</b>	<b>23.3</b>
Appalachian Virginia	618,473	173,770	308,553	136,150	8.7	1.9	7.4	20.5
Non-Appalachian Virginia	5,595,793	1,712,701	2,958,194	924,898	11.9	4.9	12.2	23.8
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>1,469,027</b>	<b>390,579</b>	<b>766,823</b>	<b>311,625</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>22.8</b>

Note: The ACS defines veterans as men and women who have served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, the National Guard or Reserves, or in the U.S. Merchant Marine during World War II.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

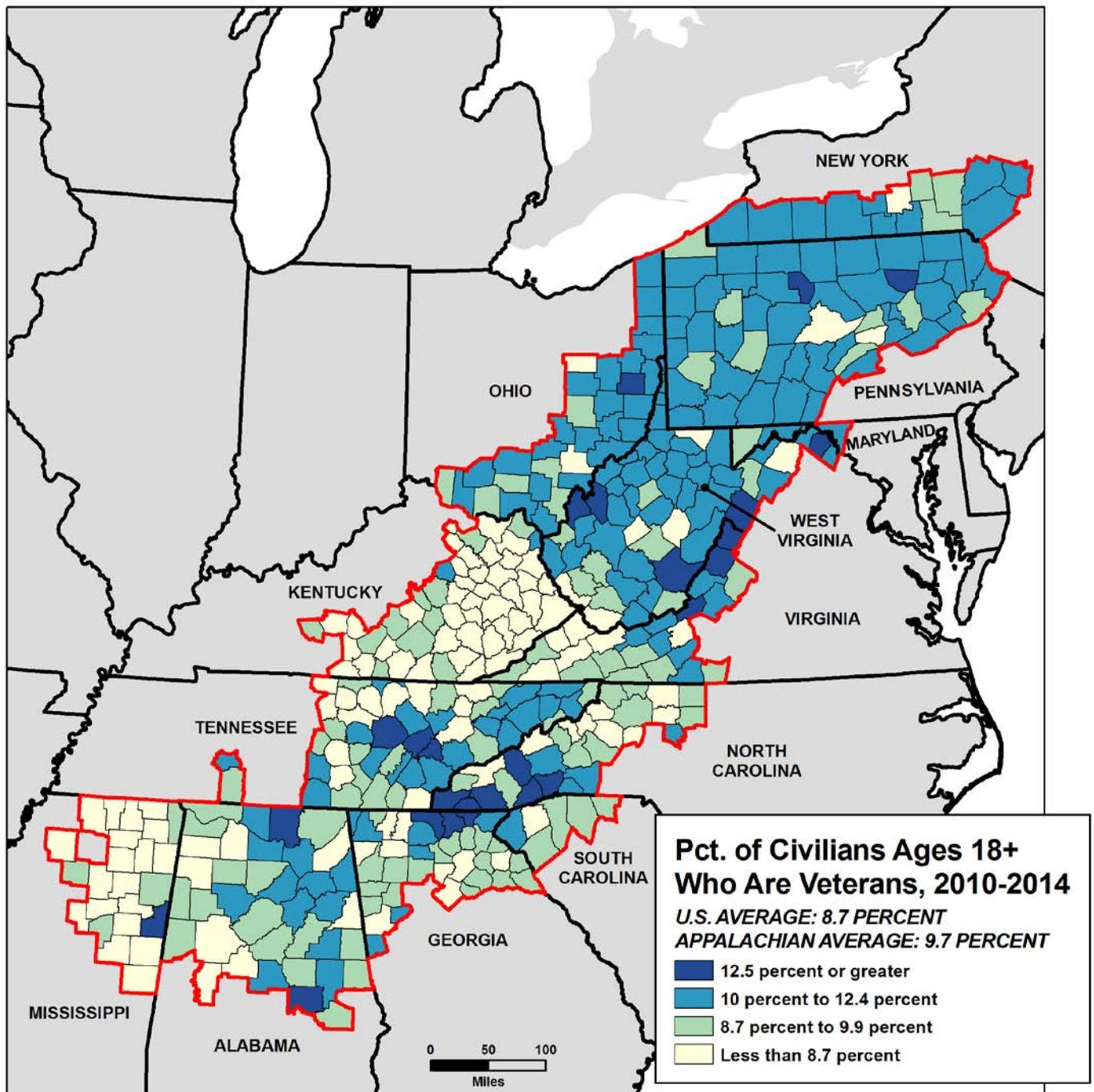
**Table 11.2: Veteran Status of Adult Civilians in the Appalachian Region by Gender, 2010-2014**

Veteran Status	Civilian Population Ages 18 and Over			Percent Who Are Veterans		
	Both Sexes	Males	Females	Both Sexes	Males	Females
<b>United States</b>	<b>239,305,217</b>	<b>115,910,744</b>	<b>123,394,473</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>1.3</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>19,780,031</b>	<b>9,589,425</b>	<b>10,190,606</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>1.1</b>
<b>Subregions</b>						
Northern Appalachia	6,649,452	3,244,710	3,404,742	10.3	19.9	1.1
North Central Appalachia	1,904,843	934,592	970,251	10.5	20.2	1.1
Central Appalachia	1,490,526	730,631	759,895	8.2	16.0	0.8
South Central Appalachia	3,757,831	1,809,722	1,948,109	9.9	19.2	1.2
Southern Appalachia	5,977,379	2,869,770	3,107,609	9.0	17.5	1.2
<b>County Types</b>						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	4,538,260	2,175,585	2,362,675	9.1	17.7	1.1
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	8,393,518	4,057,958	4,335,560	9.9	19.3	1.2
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	1,718,142	845,478	872,664	10.0	19.2	1.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	3,139,511	1,536,546	1,602,965	10.3	19.8	1.1
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	1,990,600	973,858	1,016,742	8.7	16.9	0.9
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>3,685,939</b>	<b>1,753,433</b>	<b>1,932,506</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>19.7</b>	<b>1.6</b>
Appalachian Alabama	2,373,278	1,133,648	1,239,630	9.8	19.1	1.4
Non-Appalachian Alabama	1,312,661	619,785	692,876	10.9	21.0	1.9
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>7,369,672</b>	<b>3,523,654</b>	<b>3,846,018</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>1.9</b>
Appalachian Georgia	2,211,387	1,070,411	1,140,976	8.3	16.0	1.1
Non-Appalachian Georgia	5,158,285	2,453,243	2,705,042	9.7	17.9	2.2
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>3,349,513</b>	<b>1,620,217</b>	<b>1,729,296</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>1.2</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	917,433	448,623	468,810	7.9	15.3	0.8
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	2,432,080	1,171,594	1,260,486	9.5	18.3	1.3
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>4,512,513</b>	<b>2,142,195</b>	<b>2,370,318</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>17.2</b>	<b>2.0</b>
Appalachian Maryland	199,822	101,743	98,079	10.6	19.2	1.6
Non-Appalachian Maryland	4,312,691	2,040,452	2,272,239	9.2	17.1	2.0
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>2,230,110</b>	<b>1,060,943</b>	<b>1,169,167</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>1.3</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	475,849	226,064	249,785	7.8	15.4	0.9
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	1,754,261	834,879	919,382	8.9	17.1	1.4
<b>New York</b>	<b>15,298,282</b>	<b>7,291,001</b>	<b>8,007,281</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>0.6</b>
Appalachian New York	843,194	412,571	430,623	9.7	18.7	1.2
Non-Appalachian New York	14,455,088	6,878,430	7,576,658	5.4	10.8	0.6
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>7,380,446</b>	<b>3,506,900</b>	<b>3,873,546</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>18.4</b>	<b>1.7</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	1,350,837	647,908	702,929	9.7	19.1	1.2
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	6,029,609	2,858,992	3,170,617	9.6	18.3	1.8
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>8,877,924</b>	<b>4,276,349</b>	<b>4,601,575</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>18.3</b>	<b>1.1</b>
Appalachian Ohio	1,573,763	769,852	803,911	10.4	20.2	1.0
Non-Appalachian Ohio	7,304,161	3,506,497	3,797,664	9.2	17.9	1.1
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>10,013,055</b>	<b>4,823,170</b>	<b>5,189,885</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>17.7</b>	<b>1.0</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	4,621,057	2,252,498	2,368,559	10.2	19.9	1.1
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	5,391,998	2,570,672	2,821,326	8.0	15.8	1.0
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>3,615,473</b>	<b>1,723,101</b>	<b>1,892,372</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>20.4</b>	<b>1.8</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	916,865	439,647	477,218	9.3	18.2	1.1
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	2,698,608	1,283,454	1,415,154	11.1	21.2	2.0
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>4,942,528</b>	<b>2,366,271</b>	<b>2,576,257</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>18.4</b>	<b>1.4</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	2,209,046	1,064,103	1,144,943	10.0	19.5	1.2
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	2,733,482	1,302,168	1,431,314	9.2	17.6	1.5
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>6,214,266</b>	<b>2,980,002</b>	<b>3,234,264</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>21.2</b>	<b>2.7</b>
Appalachian Virginia	618,473	305,370	313,103	8.7	16.8	0.9
Non-Appalachian Virginia	5,595,793	2,674,632	2,921,161	11.9	21.7	2.9
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>1,469,027</b>	<b>716,987</b>	<b>752,040</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>1.1</b>

Note: The ACS defines veterans as men and women who have served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, the National Guard or Reserves, or in the U.S. Merchant Marine during World War II.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

**Figure 11.1: Percent of Adult Civilians in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2010-2014**

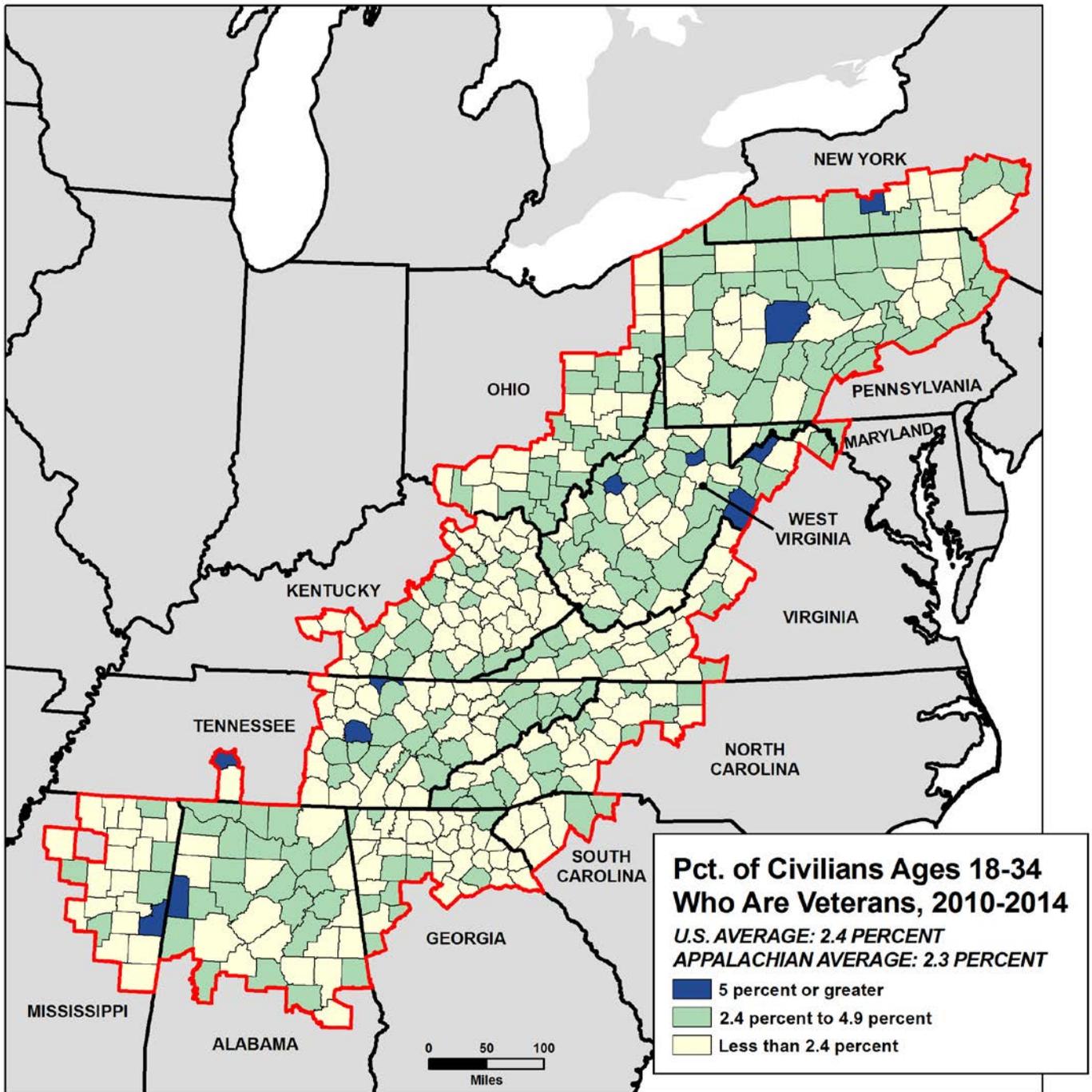


Map Title: Percent of Adult Civilians in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

In 2010-2014, nearly 10 percent of adult civilians in the Appalachian Region were veterans—men and women who have served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, the National Guard or Reserves, or in the U.S. Merchant Marine during World War II. While slightly higher than the national average, there was considerable variation throughout the Region. In 190 Appalachian counties, for example, at least one in 10 civilian residents were veterans; the share was one in eight in 26 of these counties. Northern and North Central Appalachia had most of the counties with the highest share of veterans, although there were pockets of high concentration further south. In contrast, the veteran prevalence rate was actually lower than the national average in 117 counties; nearly half the counties in this group were in Central Appalachia.

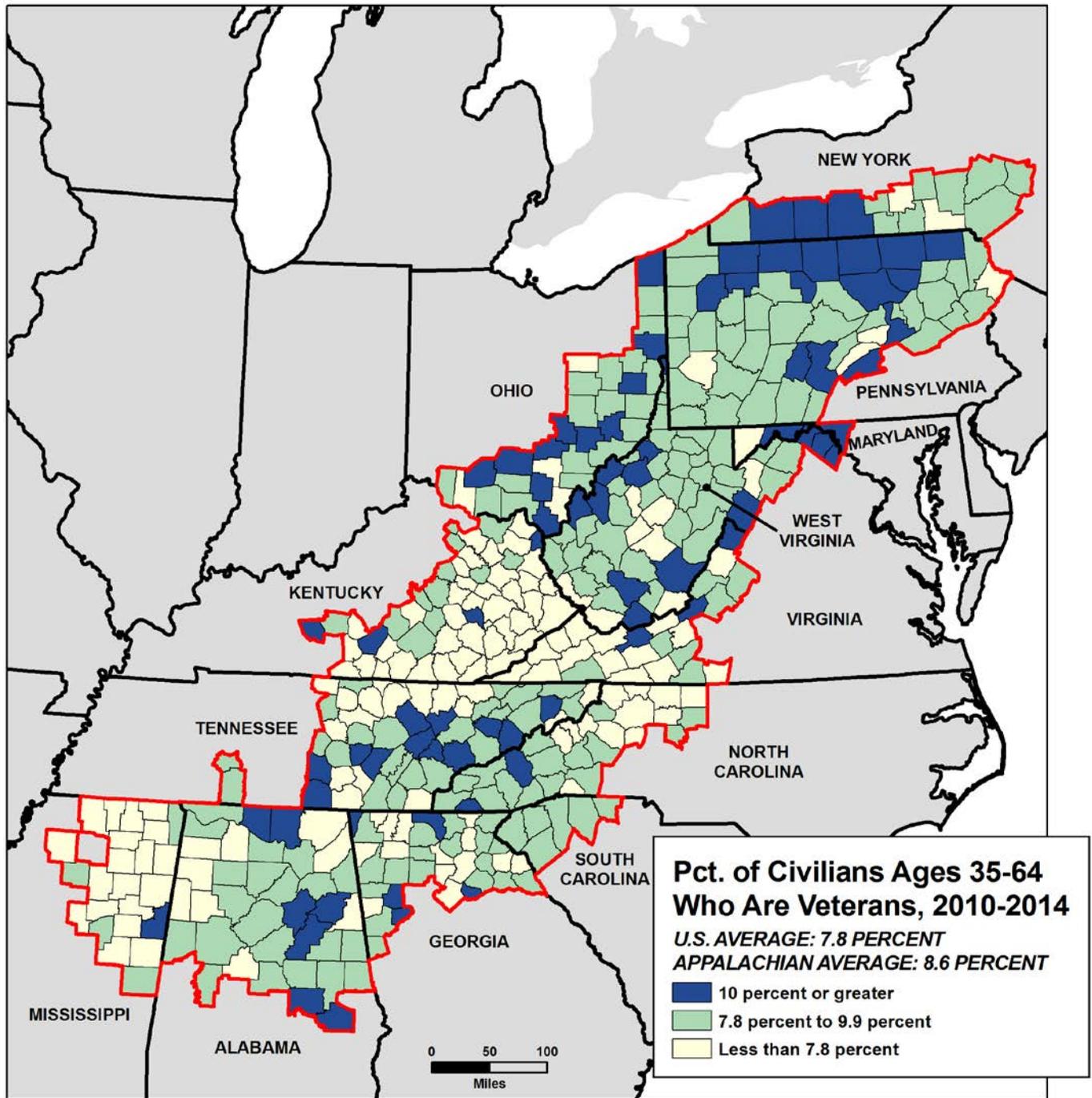
**Figure 11.2: Percent of Civilians Ages 18 to 34 in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percent of Civilians Ages 18 to 34 in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2010-2014  
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

Military veterans accounted for just 2.3 percent of Appalachia’s young adult (ages 18-34) civilian population in the 2010-2014 period, compared to 2.4 percent for the nation as a whole. Yet in nearly half of the Region’s counties, the prevalence was at or above the national rate. In fact, there were 11 Appalachian counties where at least 5 percent of 18-to-34-year-old civilians were veterans. Most veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan fall in this age group.

**Figure 11.3: Percent of Civilians Ages 35 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2010-2014**

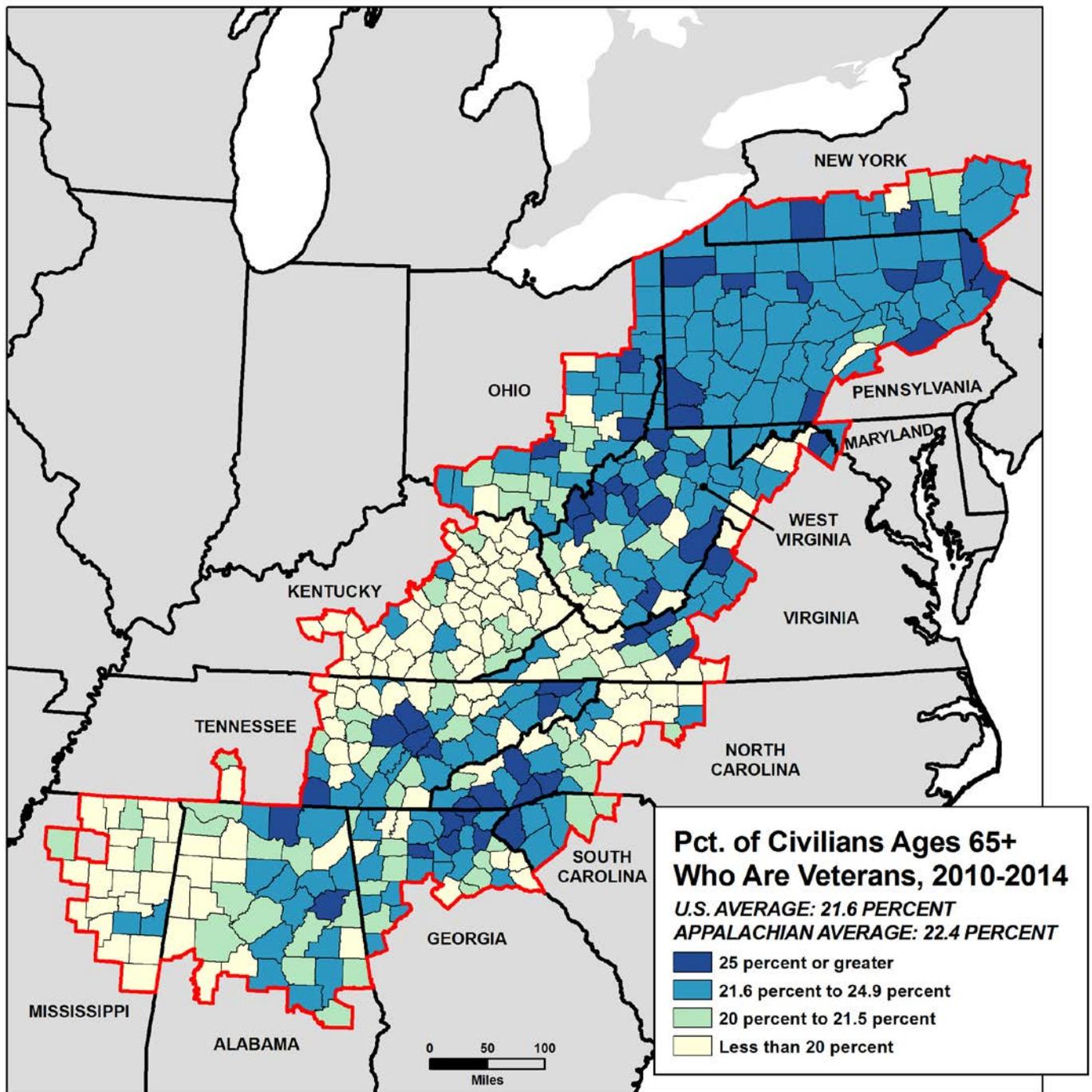


Map Title: Percent of Civilians Ages 35 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

In the Appalachian Region, nearly 9 percent of civilians ages 35 to 64 were military veterans in 2010-2014, slightly above the U.S. rate of just under 8 percent. The prevalence was even higher in some counties: In 78 of them, veterans comprised at least one-tenth of the 35-to-64-year-old civilian residents. More than half of these counties were in Northern and North Central Appalachia, although there were also pockets of concentration in the South Central and Southern subregions. Yet the veteran prevalence rate was lower than the national average in 143 counties; all but a handful of these were in Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia. Most veterans of the 1991 Gulf War fall in this age group, as do the youngest Vietnam veterans.

Figure 11.4: Percent of Civilians Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2010-2014



Map Title: Percent of Civilians Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2010-2014

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey.

In 2010-2014, more than one-fifth of Appalachia's older civilian residents were military veterans—most of whom served during World War II and the wars in Korea and Vietnam. Yet there is some variation within the Region. For example, at least 25 percent of older civilians were veterans in 53 counties. Most counties in both of these groups were in Northern and North Central Appalachia. By contrast, there were 138 counties where veterans comprised less than 20 percent of the older civilian residents. Almost half the counties in this latter group were in Central Appalachia, while all but a handful of the rest were in South Central and Southern Appalachia.

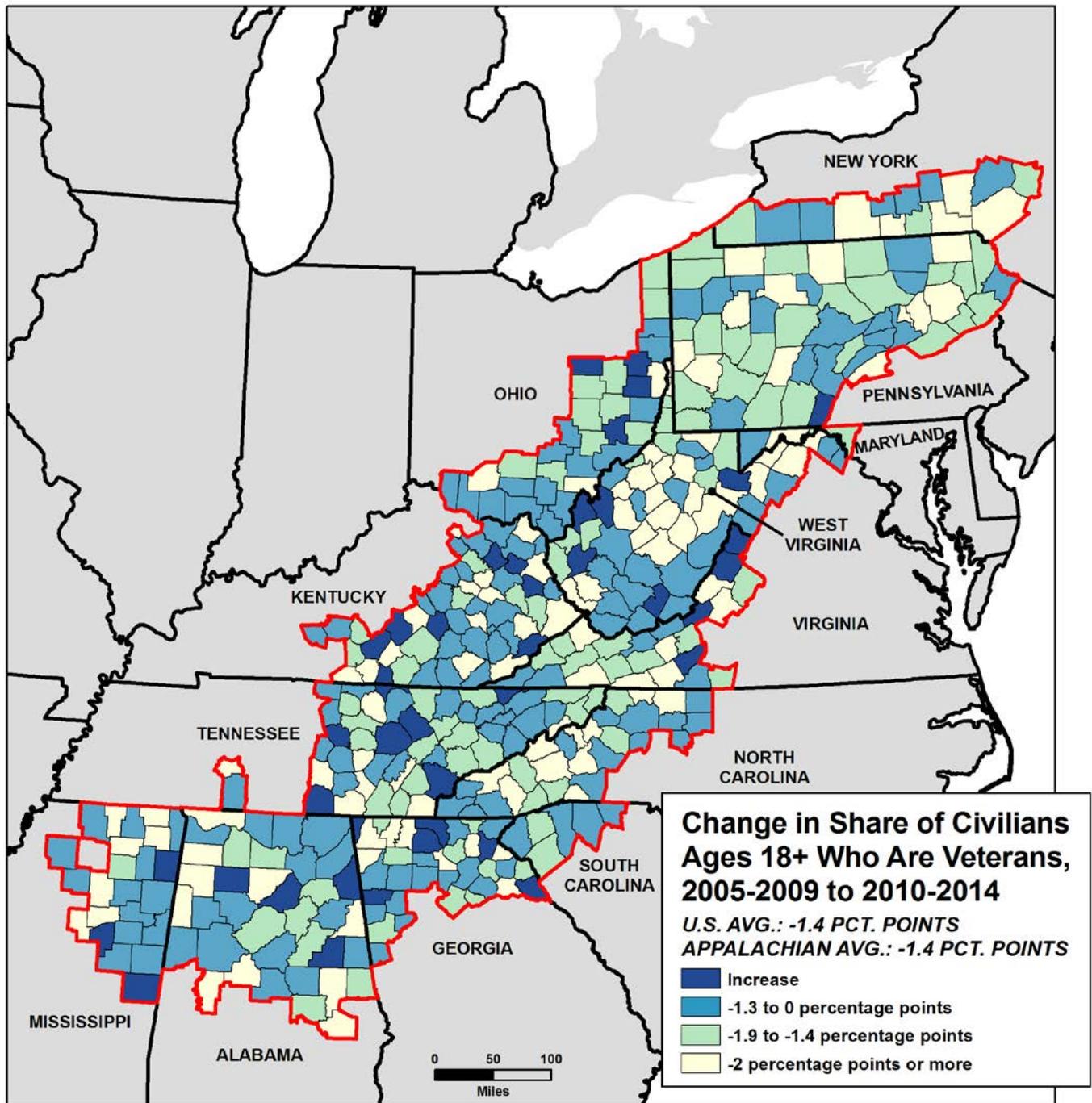
**Table 11.3: Percentage Point Change in Veteran Status of Adult Civilians in the Appalachian Region by Age Group and Gender, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**

Veteran Status	Percentage Point Change in Share of Adults Who Are Veterans					
	Total, Ages 18 and Over	By Age Group			By Gender	
		Ages 18-34	Ages 35-64	Ages 65 and Over	Males	Females
<b>United States</b>	- 1.4	- 0.3	- 2.3	- 2.3	- 3.0	+ 0.0
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	- 1.4	- 0.4	- 2.4	- 1.8	- 3.0	- 0.1
<b>Subregions</b>						
Northern Appalachia	- 1.6	- 0.4	- 2.4	- 2.0	- 3.6	- 0.1
North Central Appalachia	- 1.3	- 0.5	- 2.1	- 1.7	- 2.7	- 0.1
Central Appalachia	- 1.2	- 0.5	- 2.1	- 1.5	- 2.6	- 0.1
South Central Appalachia	- 1.4	- 0.3	- 2.5	- 1.6	- 2.9	+ 0.0
Southern Appalachia	- 1.4	- 0.4	- 2.3	- 1.5	- 2.6	- 0.1
<b>County Types</b>						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	- 1.6	- 0.5	- 2.4	- 2.0	- 3.2	- 0.2
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	- 1.6	- 0.4	- 2.4	- 2.0	- 3.2	+ 0.0
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 1.3	- 0.5	- 2.3	- 1.5	- 2.9	+ 0.0
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	- 1.3	- 0.2	- 2.3	- 1.4	- 2.8	- 0.1
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 1.3	- 0.3	- 2.3	- 1.5	- 2.8	- 0.1
<b>Alabama</b>	- 1.4	- 0.3	- 2.2	- 1.7	- 3.0	+ 0.0
Appalachian Alabama	- 1.4	- 0.2	- 2.2	- 1.6	- 2.8	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 1.4	- 0.7	- 2.1	- 1.7	- 3.2	+ 0.0
<b>Georgia</b>	- 1.1	- 0.4	- 2.0	- 1.2	- 2.3	+ 0.0
Appalachian Georgia	- 1.4	- 0.8	- 2.4	- 1.3	- 2.3	- 0.2
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 1.0	- 0.2	- 1.9	- 1.2	- 2.2	+ 0.1
<b>Kentucky</b>	- 1.3	- 0.4	- 2.2	- 1.7	- 2.8	- 0.1
Appalachian Kentucky	- 1.2	- 0.3	- 2.1	- 1.7	- 2.5	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 1.4	- 0.4	- 2.2	- 1.7	- 2.8	- 0.2
<b>Maryland</b>	- 1.7	- 0.7	- 2.2	- 2.6	- 3.4	- 0.1
Appalachian Maryland	- 1.8	- 1.1	- 2.1	- 3.2	- 4.3	+ 0.3
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 1.6	- 0.7	- 2.1	- 2.7	- 3.4	- 0.1
<b>Mississippi</b>	- 1.2	- 0.3	- 2.0	- 2.1	- 2.7	- 0.1
Appalachian Mississippi	- 1.2	+ 0.1	- 2.1	- 1.5	- 2.7	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 1.3	- 0.4	- 2.0	- 2.3	- 2.7	- 0.2
<b>New York</b>	- 1.4	- 0.2	- 1.9	- 2.7	- 3.0	- 0.1
Appalachian New York	- 1.6	+ 0.0	- 2.6	- 2.1	- 3.3	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian New York	- 1.5	- 0.2	- 1.9	- 2.8	- 3.0	- 0.1
<b>North Carolina</b>	- 1.4	- 0.5	- 2.3	- 1.8	- 2.8	+ 0.0
Appalachian North Carolina	- 1.4	- 0.2	- 2.4	- 1.7	- 2.8	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 1.4	- 0.5	- 2.2	- 1.8	- 2.7	+ 0.0
<b>Ohio</b>	- 1.5	- 0.5	- 2.3	- 1.9	- 3.1	- 0.1
Appalachian Ohio	- 1.3	- 0.5	- 2.2	- 1.3	- 2.7	- 0.1
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 1.5	- 0.4	- 2.3	- 2.1	- 3.1	- 0.2
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	- 1.7	- 0.4	- 2.5	- 2.2	- 3.7	- 0.1
Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 1.8	- 0.5	- 2.4	- 2.2	- 3.7	- 0.1
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 1.8	- 0.4	- 2.5	- 2.3	- 3.7	- 0.1
<b>South Carolina</b>	- 1.3	- 0.4	- 2.0	- 2.1	- 2.9	+ 0.1
Appalachian South Carolina	- 1.3	- 0.4	- 2.2	- 1.6	- 2.5	- 0.1
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 1.4	- 0.5	- 2.0	- 2.4	- 3.1	+ 0.1
<b>Tennessee</b>	- 1.4	- 0.2	- 2.3	- 1.5	- 2.8	+ 0.0
Appalachian Tennessee	- 1.3	- 0.3	- 2.4	- 1.4	- 2.8	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 1.3	- 0.2	- 2.2	- 1.6	- 2.8	- 0.1
<b>Virginia</b>	- 1.4	- 0.5	- 2.0	- 2.0	- 2.9	- 0.1
Appalachian Virginia	- 1.8	- 0.8	- 2.9	- 2.1	- 3.6	- 0.1
Non-Appalachian Virginia	- 1.4	- 0.5	- 2.0	- 1.9	- 2.9	- 0.1
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	- 1.4	- 0.7	- 2.2	- 1.8	- 3.1	- 0.1

Note: The ACS defines veterans as men and women who have served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, the National Guard or Reserves, or in the U.S. Merchant Marine during World War II.

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Surveys.

**Figure 11.5: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Adult Civilians in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014**



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Adult Civilians in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2005-2009 to 2010-2014

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 American Community Surveys.

The share of Appalachia’s adult civilians who were military veterans was more than a full percentage point lower in the 2010-2014 period than it was in 2005-2009. And although the magnitude of the decrease varied little among the subregions, county types, and the Appalachian versus non-Appalachian portions of the 13 states, there was some variation at the county level. In 109 Appalachian counties, for example (spread throughout the Region), veterans’ share of the population fell by at least two percentage points. Yet the share actually rose in 42 counties—33 of which are in Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia. Veterans were at least 10 percent of the civilian population in more than half of the counties where the share increased, compared to just one-third of the counties with the largest decreases.

## TRENDS IN VETERAN STATUS

- In Appalachia, the share of adult civilians who were military veterans declined more than a full percentage point between 2005-2009 and 2010-2014, falling to just under 10 percent (see Table 11.3). There was little difference in the decrease among the subregions, county types, and the Appalachian versus non-Appalachian portions of the 13 states.
- The decrease in veteran status was more pronounced among middle-aged and older civilians than among younger ones. While the share of veterans fell less than half a percentage point among younger civilians ages 18 to 34, it declined more than two points among civilians ages 35 to 64 and nearly two points among civilians ages 65 and over. As veteran status is more prevalent among older residents than younger ones, the movement of cohorts with lower prevalence rates into older ages accounts for much of the decline. (Mortality among the oldest veterans also is a factor, particularly in the decline among persons ages 65 and over.)
- Not surprisingly, the decreased share in veteran status among men has fueled the overall decrease. The share of adult men in the Appalachian Region who were veterans fell three percentage points between 2005-2009 and 2010-2014, while the share among women barely dropped. Of course, men remain far more likely than women to be military veterans—the respective rates in Appalachia were 19 percent and 1 percent.