13 states
420 counties
205,000 sq. miles
24.8 million people
73 local development districts
High-Poverty Counties in the Appalachian Region
(Counties with Rates At Least 1.5 Times the U.S. Average)

1960
295 High-Poverty Counties

FY 2010
116 High-Poverty Counties


Population Trends

- 80% of Appalachian counties had lower population growth than the nation as a whole from 2000 to 2008.
- Proportion of population over age 65 is higher in Appalachia than in the nation (14.3% vs. 12.4%)—and it’s growing.
- Due in part to continuing outmigration of the college-age and working-age population.
Percent Population Change
2000 to 2008

Percent Change

- 20.1% to 70.8%
- 10.1% to 20.0%
- 0.0% to 10.0%
- -5.0% to -0.1%
- -16.9% to -5.1%

U.S. = 8.0%
Appalachia = 5.0%
Educational Attainment

• The proportion of adults in Appalachia with a college degree is about two-thirds that of the nation.

• Educational attainment is well below average throughout central and southern Appalachia.

• In central Appalachia, 25% of residents have attended college, compared to 50% for the nation.
Educational Attainment: Percent Completed High School, 2000

Percent Completed High School

- **49.2% to 60.7%**
- **60.8% to 68.7%**
- **68.8% to 76.6%**
- **76.7% to 91.4%**

U.S. = 80.4%
Appalachia = 76.8%
Educational Attainment: Percent Completed College, 2000

Percent Completed College

- 4.9% to 11.5%
- 11.6% to 17.3%
- 17.4% to 27.0%
- 27.1% to 47.5%

U.S. = 24.4%
Appalachia = 17.6%
Per Capita Income

- Per capita personal income and average wage and salary earnings were 20% lower in Appalachia than in the nation in 2007.
- Per capita market income (personal income less transfer payments) in Appalachia was 74% of the national average in 2007.
- Proprietors’ income in Appalachia was 66% of the national average in 2007.
Per Capita Market Income, 2007

Per Capita Market Income:
- $8,483 to $15,886
- $15,887 to $20,434
- $20,435 to $26,449
- $26,450 to $40,595

U.S. = $32,930
Appalachia = $24,360
Employment Trends

• Employment growth in Appalachia averaged 0.8% per year during the 2002-2007 economic expansion, compared to 1.2% per year for the nation.

• In this recession, the nation lost 8 million jobs—all the jobs gained since 2004.

• Appalachia lost 800,000 jobs—all the jobs gained since 2000.
Average Annual Employment Change
Q1 2002 to Q1 2008

Percent Change

- 1.2% to 6.0%
- 0.0% to 1.1%
- -3.1% to -0.1%
- -4.4% to -3.2%

U.S. = 1.2%
Appalachia = 0.8%
Average Annual Employment Change
Q4 2007 to Q4 2009

Percent Change

- 0.0% to 2.9%
- -5.0% to -0.1%
- -10.0% to -5.1%
- -15.0% to -10.1%
- -25.1% to -15.1%

U.S. = -5.5%
Appalachia = -6.7%
Unemployment Rates

• Unemployment rates in Appalachia were about the same as in the nation during the 2002-2007 expansion.
• Two-thirds of Appalachian counties now have higher unemployment rates than the nation.
• Unemployment is more severe in the western and southern regions of Appalachia.
• More workers are giving up the job search and leaving the labor force in Appalachia.
Unemployment Rates in Appalachia, 2007

Percent Unemployed

- 12.0% or more
- 10.0% to 12.0%
- 8.0% to 10.0%
- 6.0% to 8.0%
- 4.0% to 6.0%
- 2.0% to 4.0%

U.S. = 4.6%
Appalachia = 4.7%
Unemployment Rates in Appalachia, 2008

Percent Unemployed

- 12.0% or more
- 10.0% to 12.0%
- 8.0% to 10.0%
- 6.0% to 8.0%
- 4.0% to 6.0%
- 2.0% to 4.0%

U.S. = 5.8%
Appalachia = 5.9%
Unemployment Rates in Appalachia, 2009
(4th Quarter)

Percent Unemployed

- 12.0% or more
- 10.0% to 12.0%
- 8.0% to 10.0%
- 6.0% to 8.0%
- 4.0% to 6.0%
- 2.0% to 4.0%

U.S. = 9.5%
Appalachia = 9.8%
Unemployment Rates in Appalachia, 2009
(4th Quarter)

County Rate is Higher than the National Average
(276 of 420 Counties)

U.S. = 9.5%
Appalachia = 9.8%
Employment Trends

• Appalachia lost more than 35,000 jobs (-8.8%) in farming, forestry, and natural resources from 2000 to 2007.

• Appalachia lost more than 424,000 manufacturing jobs (-22%) during the same period.

• These industries are projected to lose even more jobs over the coming years.
Key Sectors

Key employment sectors in Appalachia:
- Mining
- Manufacturing
- Natural Resources
- Utilities

Key growth sectors in Appalachia:
- Health and Education
- Personal Services
- Professional Services
- Public Administration
Employment growth forecast 2007-2015, North Central Appalachia

Employment concentration 2007, North Central Appalachia
Employment growth forecast 2007-2015, South Central Appalachia

Employment concentration 2007, South Central Appalachia