

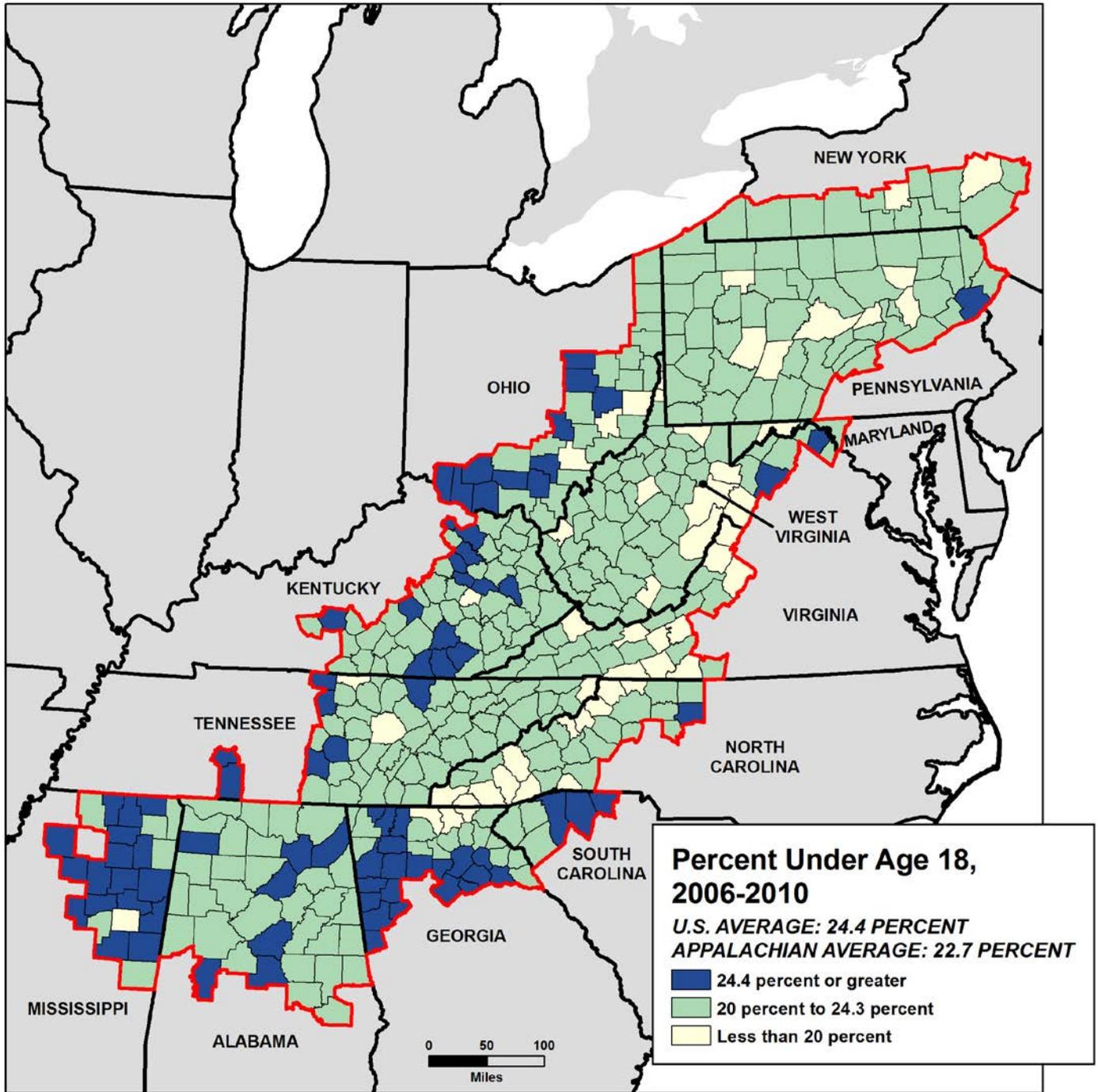
CHAPTER 2: AGE

Table 2.1: Population in the Appalachian Region by Age Group, 2006-2010

Population by Age Group	Total Population, 2006-2010	Percent of Population				Median Age (Years)
		Under Age 18	Ages 18-24	Ages 25-64	Ages 65 and over	
United States	303,965,272	24.4	9.9	53.0	12.7	36.9
Appalachian Region	25,002,346	22.7	9.6	52.8	14.8	39.4
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	8,387,792	21.3	9.9	52.1	16.6	41.2
North Central Appalachia	2,405,769	22.1	9.6	53.3	15.0	39.9
Central Appalachia	1,914,972	22.6	8.7	54.0	14.7	39.9
South Central Appalachia	4,653,980	21.7	9.7	52.8	15.8	40.3
Southern Appalachia	7,639,833	25.2	9.4	53.2	12.2	36.7
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	5,689,437	24.1	8.7	54.1	13.1	38.2
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	10,063,148	22.2	10.4	52.5	14.8	39.2
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	1,691,526	23.2	9.8	51.9	15.1	39.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	5,024,462	22.0	9.3	52.6	16.1	40.7
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	2,533,773	22.7	9.1	52.4	15.7	40.2
Alabama	4,712,651	24.0	10.0	52.5	13.5	37.5
Appalachian Alabama	3,020,853	23.7	9.7	53.1	13.5	37.8
Non-Appalachian Alabama	1,691,798	24.6	10.6	51.4	13.4	36.9
Georgia	9,468,815	26.0	10.1	53.7	10.3	35.0
Appalachian Georgia	2,848,461	27.3	8.6	54.1	10.0	35.4
Non-Appalachian Georgia	6,620,354	25.5	10.7	53.5	10.4	34.8
Kentucky	4,285,828	23.8	9.6	53.6	13.1	37.7
Appalachian Kentucky	1,182,639	23.1	9.2	53.6	14.1	39.0
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	3,103,189	24.1	9.7	53.5	12.7	37.2
Maryland	5,696,423	23.9	9.6	54.6	11.9	37.6
Appalachian Maryland	251,112	21.7	9.7	53.1	15.5	40.0
Non-Appalachian Maryland	5,445,311	24.0	9.6	54.7	11.7	37.4
Mississippi	2,941,991	25.7	10.5	51.2	12.6	35.8
Appalachian Mississippi	626,534	25.0	10.7	50.5	13.8	36.7
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	2,315,457	25.9	10.4	51.4	12.2	35.5
New York	19,229,752	22.8	10.0	53.9	13.3	37.7
Appalachian New York	1,068,045	21.6	12.7	50.4	15.3	39.4
Non-Appalachian New York	18,161,707	22.9	9.9	54.1	13.2	37.6
North Carolina	9,271,178	24.1	9.8	53.4	12.6	37.1
Appalachian North Carolina	1,673,291	21.8	9.1	52.9	16.3	40.9
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	7,597,887	24.7	10.0	53.6	11.8	36.3
Ohio	11,512,431	24.0	9.5	52.7	13.8	38.3
Appalachian Ohio	2,045,822	23.4	9.0	52.4	15.3	39.9
Non-Appalachian Ohio	9,466,609	24.2	9.6	52.8	13.4	37.9
Pennsylvania	12,612,705	22.4	9.8	52.6	15.3	39.8
Appalachian Pennsylvania	5,787,246	21.0	9.8	52.4	16.9	41.5
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	6,825,459	23.6	9.7	52.8	13.9	38.2
South Carolina	4,511,428	23.7	10.2	52.9	13.2	37.4
Appalachian South Carolina	1,143,985	23.9	10.0	52.7	13.4	37.6
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	3,367,443	23.6	10.3	52.9	13.1	37.4
Tennessee	6,234,968	23.9	9.5	53.6	13.1	37.6
Appalachian Tennessee	2,745,426	22.2	9.2	53.3	15.4	40.0
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	3,489,542	25.2	9.7	53.8	11.3	35.7
Virginia	7,841,754	23.5	10.1	54.6	11.8	37.2
Appalachian Virginia	768,130	19.9	11.7	52.0	16.4	40.9
Non-Appalachian Virginia	7,073,624	23.9	9.9	54.8	11.4	36.8
West Virginia (entire state)	1,840,802	21.2	9.2	53.9	15.8	41.1

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey.

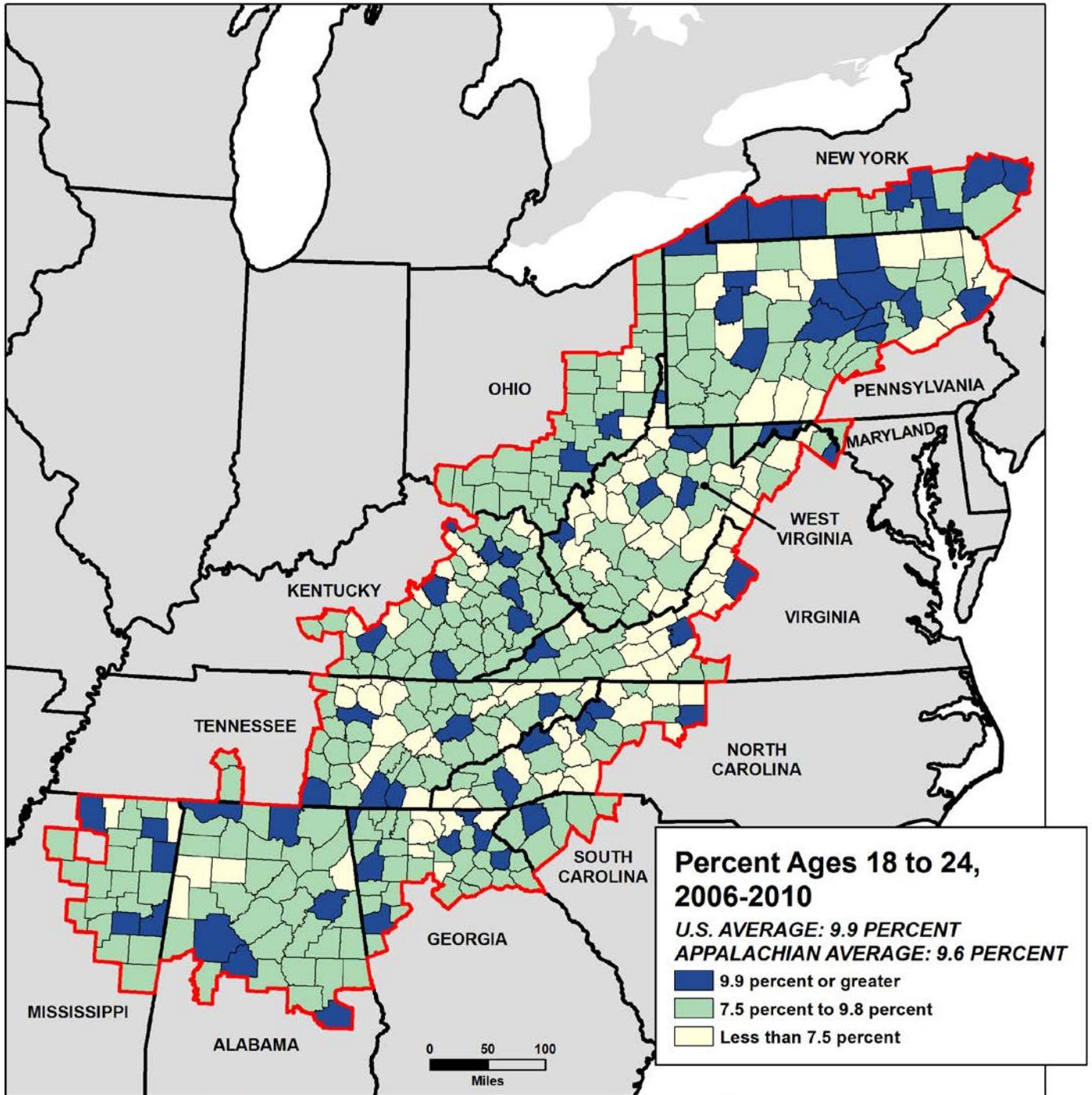
Figure 2.1: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Under Age 18, 2006-2010



Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Under Age 18, 2006-2010
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey.

Over the 2006-2010 period, the share of children and youth in the Appalachian population was slightly below the national average of 24 percent. And the percentage actually fell below 20 percent in one-eighth of the region's counties (mostly outside metropolitan areas). In another one-fifth of the counties, however, the proportion of children under age 18 matched or exceeded the national average. Most of these were in southern Appalachia. Results from the 2010 census suggest that children's share of the Appalachian (and U.S.) population continued to decline slightly in recent years.

Figure 2.2: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 18 to 24, 2006-2010

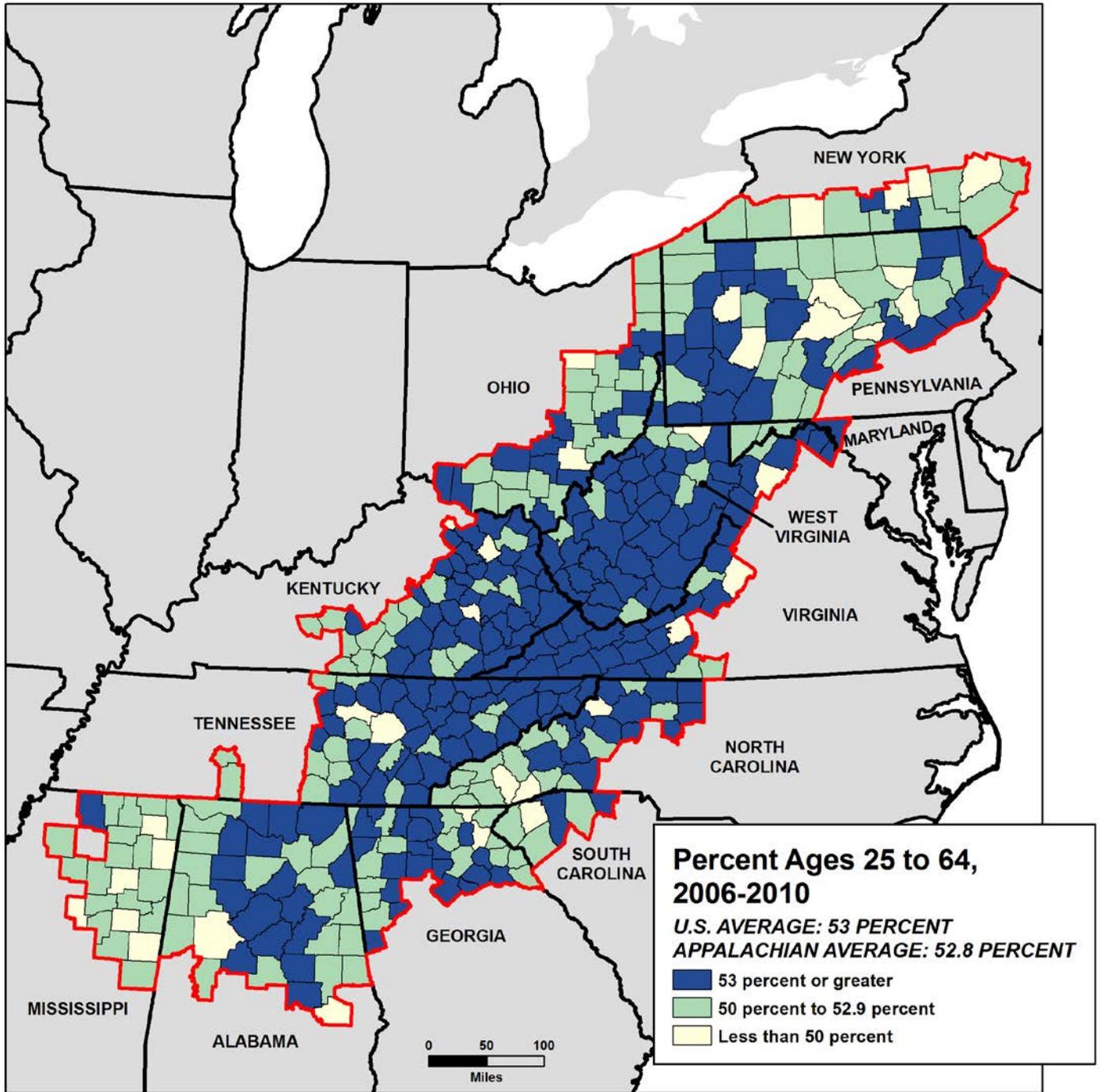


Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 18 to 24, 2006-2010

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey.

While the share of young adults (ages 18 to 24) in Appalachia roughly equaled the national average in the 2006-2010 period (as well as in the 2010 census), there were great variations within the region. For example, persons in this age group made up at least 15 percent of the population in 22 counties—most of which house colleges and universities. In contrast, 18-to-24-year-olds made up less than 7.5 percent of the population in 111 Appalachian counties. Of the counties in the latter group, 77 were outside metropolitan areas, suggesting a possible lack of opportunities in these communities for youth making the transition to adulthood.

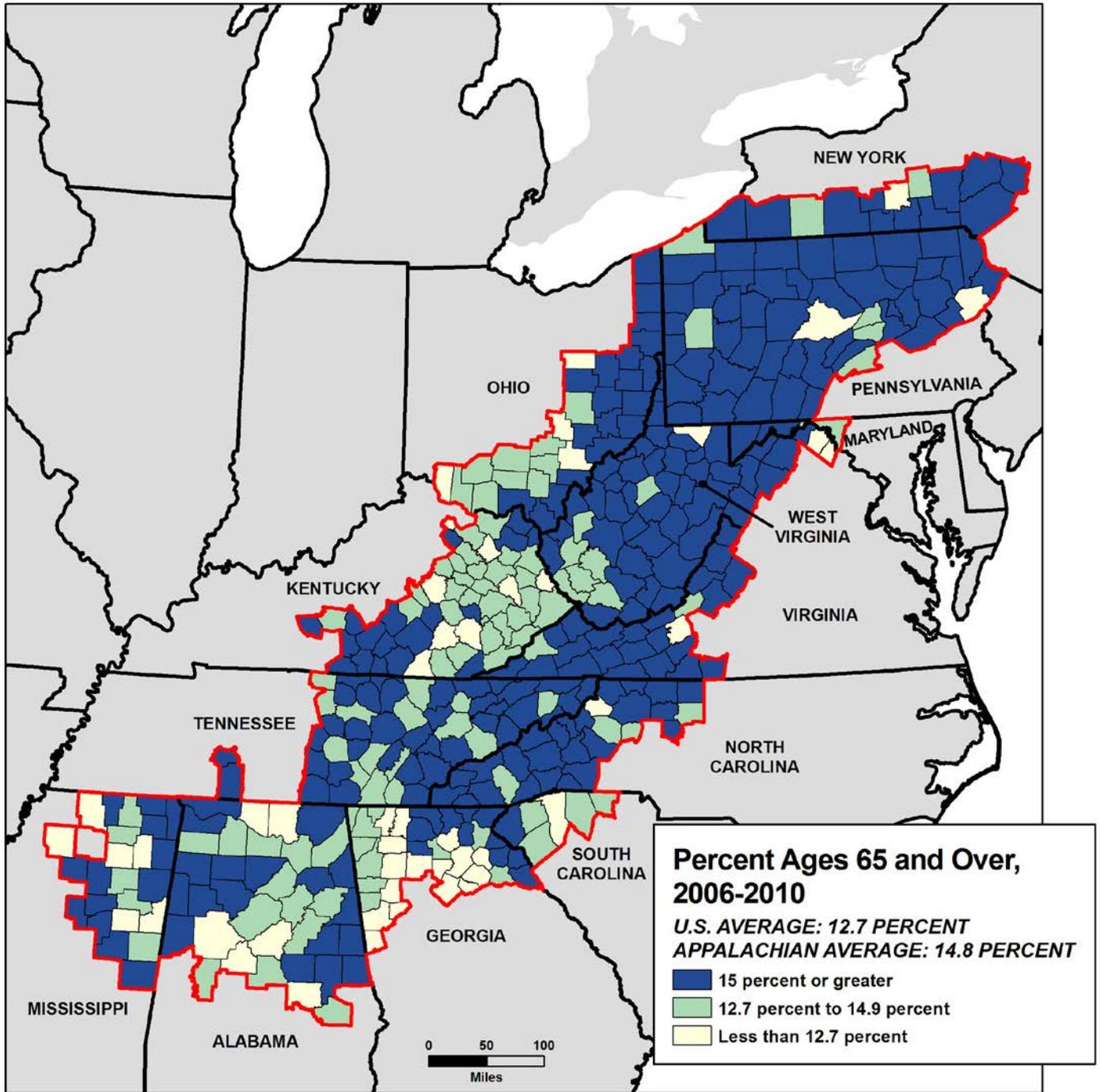
Figure 2.3: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 25 to 64, 2006-2010



Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 25 to 64, 2006-2010
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 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 2006-2010 period. In more than half of Appalachian counties, the percentage of persons in this age group exceeded the national average. But there were 36 counties in the region (30 of which were outside metropolitan areas) where 25-to-64-year-olds made up less than half of the population. Many of these counties house colleges and universities (and thus had a high share of their populations in the 18-to-24 age range.)

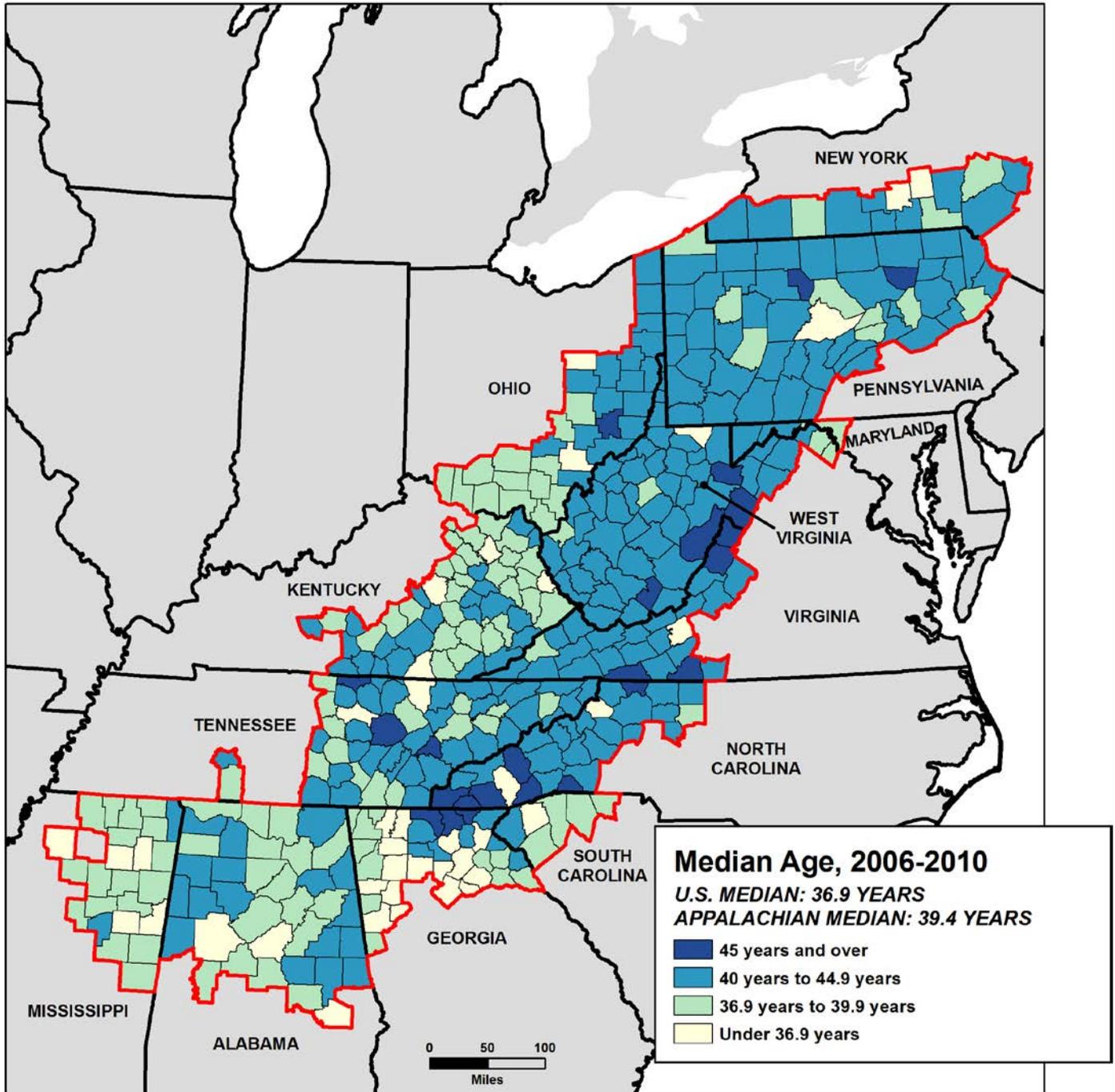
Figure 2.4: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 65 and Over, 2006-2010



Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 65 and Over, 2006-2010
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey.

The Appalachian region—as well as 371 of its 420 counties—had a larger proportion of residents ages 65 and over in the 2006-2010 period than did the nation as a whole. In fact, older persons made up at least 15 percent of the population in more than three-fifths of Appalachia’s counties, most of which were outside metropolitan areas. In contrast, a majority of the 49 Appalachian counties with older population shares below the national average were either in metro areas or home to colleges and universities. And the 2010 census results indicate that the share of residents ages 65 and over continued to grow—both in Appalachia and the nation.

Figure 2.5: Median Age of Persons in the Appalachian Region, 2006-2010



Map Title: Median Age of Persons in the Appalachian Region, 2006-2010
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey.

On average, the Appalachian population was two-and-a-half years older than that of the United States as a whole during the 2006-2010 period. Indeed, the median age of the population (the point at which half the population is older and half is younger) was at least 40 years in three-fifths of the region's counties. In 24 counties—almost all of which were outside metro areas—the median age was at least 45 years. Most of the counties with populations younger than the national median age were in southern Appalachia—the only subregion where the overall age structure approached that of the nation. Results from the 2010 census suggest that the Appalachian population continued to get older in recent years.