

CHAPTER 7: INCOME AND POVERTY

Table 7.1: Household, Family, and Per Capita Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2010 Dollars), 2006-2010

Income	Household Income, 2006-2010 (2010 Dollars)		Family Income, 2006-2010 (2010 Dollars)		Per Capita Income, 2006-2010 (2010 Dollars)
	Mean HH Income	Median HH Income	Mean Family Income	Median Family Income	
United States	70,883	51,914	82,446	62,982	27,334
Appalachian Region	56,458	42,498	66,724	53,191	22,727
Subregions					
Northern Appalachia	57,397	44,001	68,724	55,859	23,635
North Central Appalachia	52,678	40,089	62,408	50,467	21,371
Central Appalachia	44,163	32,278	52,017	40,947	17,820
South Central Appalachia	54,568	40,537	64,939	51,100	22,638
Southern Appalachia	61,043	45,784	70,774	55,838	23,441
County Types					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	67,923	51,692	79,981	63,871	26,759
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	57,416	43,264	68,464	54,835	23,358
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	51,446	40,501	59,842	49,592	20,386
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	49,062	37,958	57,702	47,391	19,909
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	45,321	33,387	53,351	42,010	18,317
Alabama	57,655	42,081	68,275	52,863	22,984
Appalachian Alabama	59,577	43,535	70,486	54,743	23,780
Non-Appalachian Alabama	54,183	39,786	64,198	50,087	21,562
Georgia	66,620	49,347	76,702	58,790	25,134
Appalachian Georgia	67,239	52,714	75,200	60,677	24,293
Non-Appalachian Georgia	66,366	47,957	77,396	58,062	25,496
Kentucky	56,009	41,576	66,166	52,046	22,515
Appalachian Kentucky	44,246	31,521	52,194	40,042	17,638
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	60,356	45,527	71,559	57,301	24,373
Maryland	91,454	70,647	106,643	85,098	34,849
Appalachian Maryland	61,605	47,724	72,982	60,136	24,533
Non-Appalachian Maryland	92,876	72,052	108,229	87,154	35,325
Mississippi	52,484	37,881	61,026	47,031	19,977
Appalachian Mississippi	46,591	33,864	54,774	42,770	18,200
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	54,139	39,322	62,802	48,468	20,457
New York	80,374	55,603	93,102	67,405	30,948
Appalachian New York	56,801	44,577	67,716	55,741	23,048
Non-Appalachian New York	81,855	56,987	94,664	68,749	31,413
North Carolina	61,781	45,570	72,592	56,153	24,745
Appalachian North Carolina	54,855	40,803	65,260	51,676	22,927
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	63,398	46,821	74,278	57,500	25,145
Ohio	62,205	47,358	74,164	59,680	25,113
Appalachian Ohio	52,488	41,001	61,504	50,904	20,963
Non-Appalachian Ohio	64,264	48,929	76,967	62,013	26,010
Pennsylvania	67,282	50,398	80,704	63,364	27,049
Appalachian Pennsylvania	58,628	44,643	70,540	56,931	24,267
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	75,045	56,429	89,727	70,656	29,408
South Carolina	58,941	43,939	69,172	54,223	23,443
Appalachian South Carolina	58,560	43,740	69,322	54,926	23,293
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	59,071	44,048	69,120	54,263	23,493
Tennessee	59,212	43,314	69,725	53,246	23,722
Appalachian Tennessee	53,944	39,823	64,028	49,825	22,247
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	63,618	46,482	74,505	57,088	24,883
Virginia	82,584	61,406	95,703	73,514	32,145
Appalachian Virginia	49,150	37,617	58,515	47,737	20,384
Non-Appalachian Virginia	86,461	65,342	99,980	77,888	33,422
West Virginia (entire state)	51,064	38,380	60,821	48,896	21,232

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

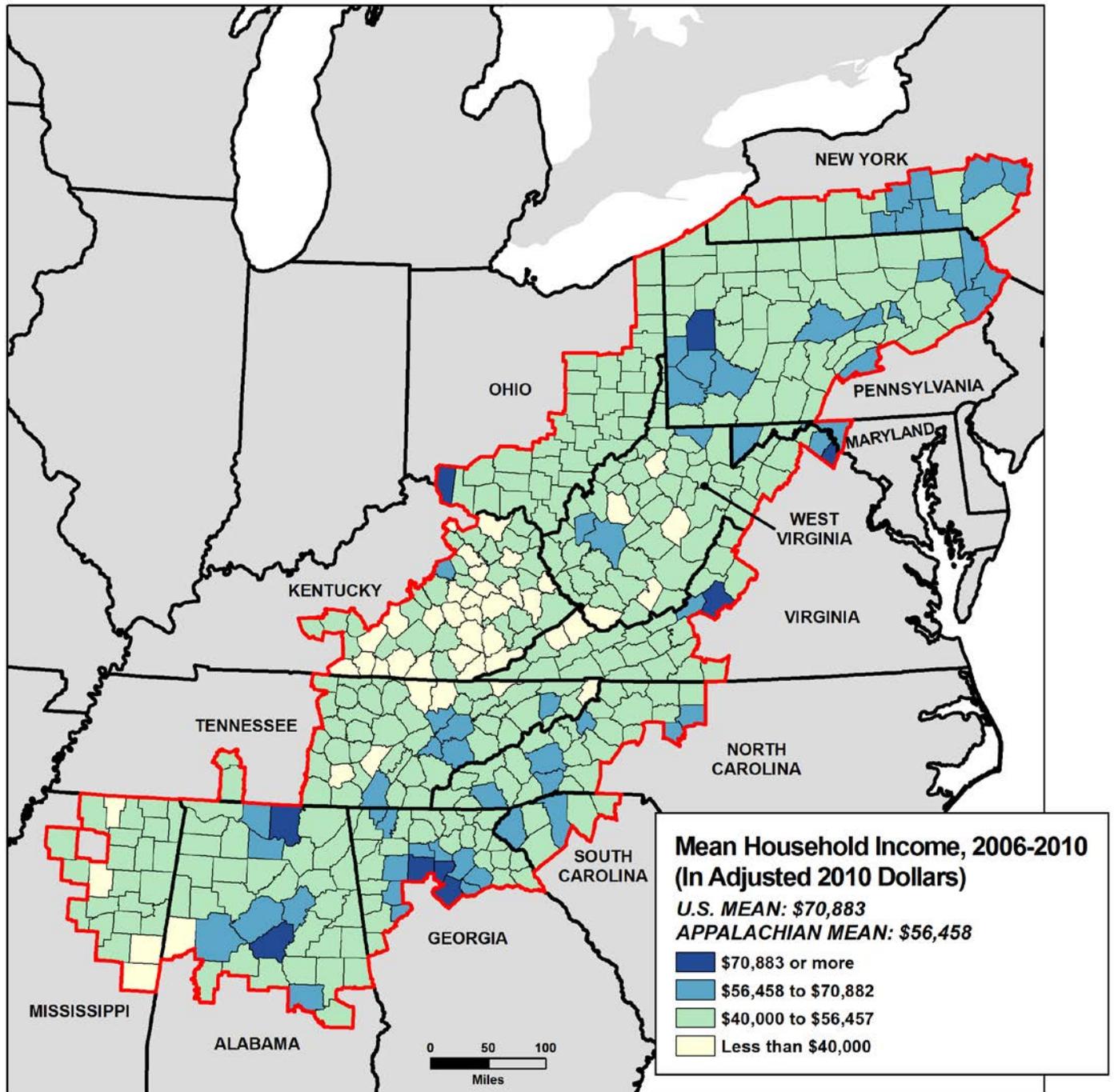
Table 7.2: Poverty Status of Persons in the Appalachian Region, 2006-2010

Poverty Status	Poverty Universe, 2006-2010	Persons Below Poverty Level, 2006-2010	
		Number	Percent
United States	296,141,149	40,917,513	13.8
Appalachian Region	24,244,056	3,791,020	15.6
Subregions			
Northern Appalachia	8,065,072	1,090,138	13.5
North Central Appalachia	2,328,303	395,762	17.0
Central Appalachia	1,861,986	427,551	23.0
South Central Appalachia	4,519,766	739,391	16.4
Southern Appalachia	7,468,929	1,138,178	15.2
County Types			
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	5,585,922	661,872	11.8
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	9,721,607	1,482,892	15.3
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	1,636,782	277,402	16.9
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	4,845,075	839,254	17.3
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	2,454,670	529,600	21.6
Alabama	4,596,836	786,544	17.1
Appalachian Alabama	2,947,863	465,256	15.8
Non-Appalachian Alabama	1,648,973	321,288	19.5
Georgia	9,204,793	1,445,752	15.7
Appalachian Georgia	2,802,406	365,389	13.0
Non-Appalachian Georgia	6,402,387	1,080,363	16.9
Kentucky	4,157,077	735,782	17.7
Appalachian Kentucky	1,144,664	279,679	24.4
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	3,012,413	456,103	15.1
Maryland	5,557,115	476,732	8.6
Appalachian Maryland	236,844	28,025	11.8
Non-Appalachian Maryland	5,320,271	448,707	8.4
Mississippi	2,845,365	604,272	21.2
Appalachian Mississippi	609,056	138,500	22.7
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	2,236,309	465,772	20.8
New York	18,710,113	2,650,166	14.2
Appalachian New York	1,010,347	151,732	15.0
Non-Appalachian New York	17,699,766	2,498,434	14.1
North Carolina	9,013,443	1,399,945	15.5
Appalachian North Carolina	1,628,120	261,543	16.1
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	7,385,323	1,138,402	15.4
Ohio	11,199,642	1,586,292	14.2
Appalachian Ohio	1,982,449	324,787	16.4
Non-Appalachian Ohio	9,217,193	1,261,505	13.7
Pennsylvania	12,199,544	1,509,858	12.4
Appalachian Pennsylvania	5,571,977	714,893	12.8
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	6,627,567	794,965	12.0
South Carolina	4,369,147	716,537	16.4
Appalachian South Carolina	1,109,604	169,033	15.2
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	3,259,543	547,504	16.8
Tennessee	6,075,066	1,002,467	16.5
Appalachian Tennessee	2,677,523	452,975	16.9
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	3,397,543	549,492	16.2
Virginia	7,595,386	781,516	10.3
Appalachian Virginia	734,111	128,713	17.5
Non-Appalachian Virginia	6,861,275	652,803	9.5
West Virginia (entire state)	1,789,092	310,495	17.4

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are determined by family size and composition. In 2010, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$22,113.

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

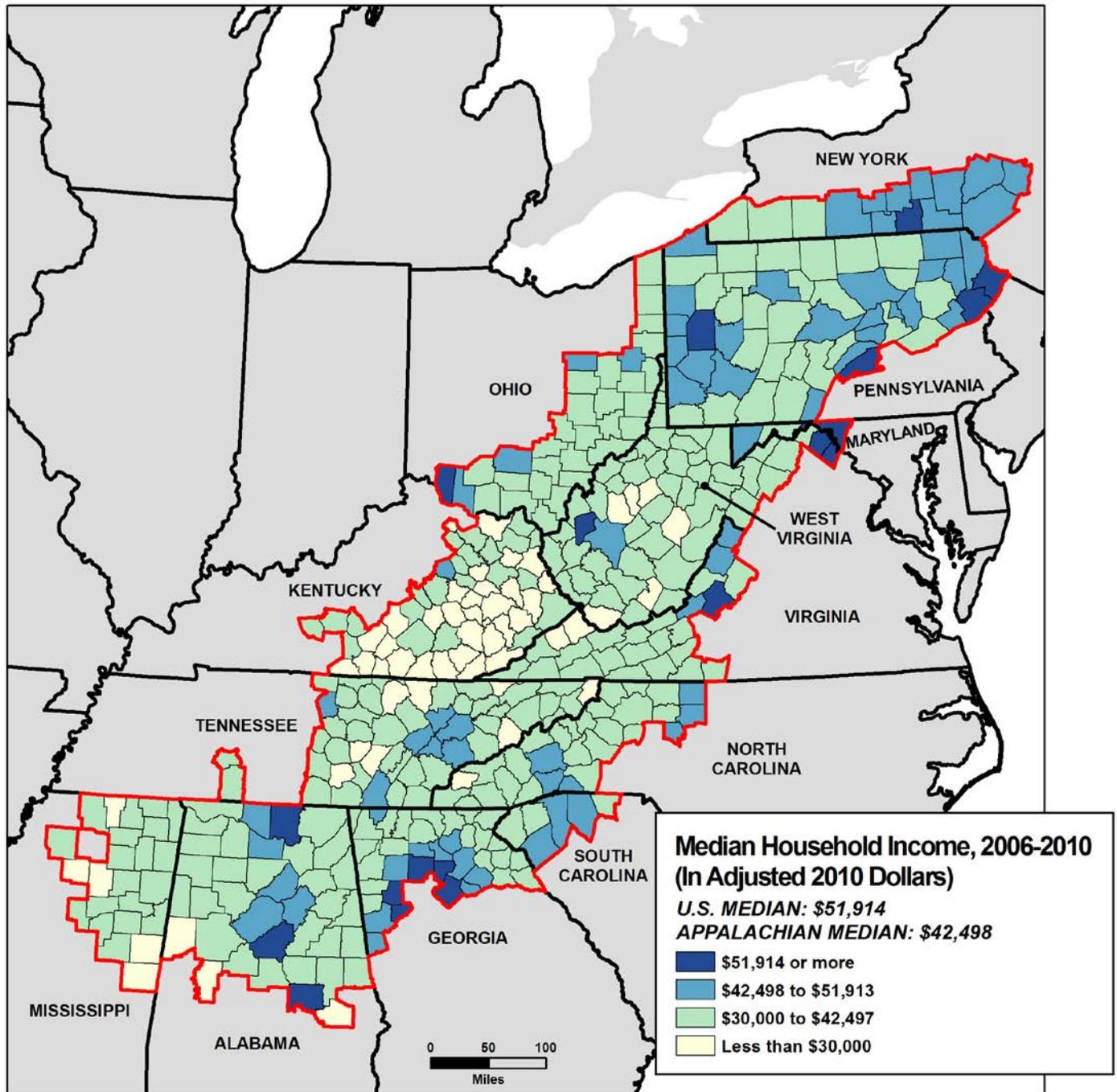
Figure 7.1: Mean Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2010 Dollars), 2006-2010



Map Title: Mean Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2010 Dollars), 2006-2010
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey.

In the 2006-2010 period (which covers the years before, during, and after the economic recession of 2007-2009), the mean income of Appalachian households was \$56,458, just 80 percent of the U.S. average. Patterns within the region show an even greater dispersion: In just nine of the region's counties, average household income matched or exceeded that of the nation as a whole. And in only 58 other counties, mean household income matched or surpassed the Appalachian average. Almost all of these counties were in metropolitan areas. In contrast, median income was less than \$40,000 in 45 counties; all of these counties were outside metro areas, and three-fourths of them were in central Appalachia.

Figure 7.2: Median Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2010 Dollars), 2006-2010

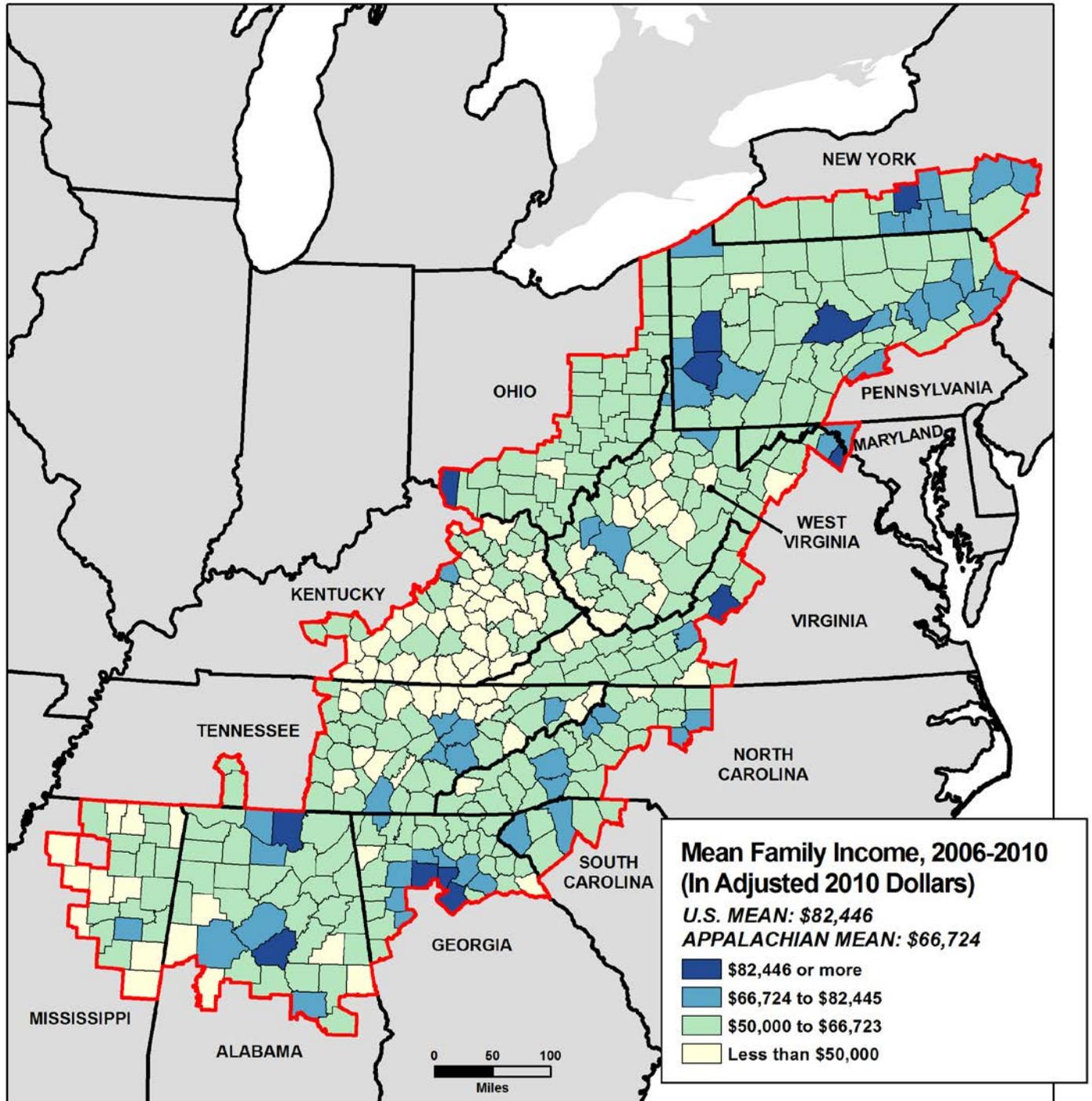


Map Title: Median Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2010 Dollars), 2006-2010

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

At \$42,498, median household income in Appalachia (the level at which half the households have higher incomes and the other half have lower incomes) was 82 percent that of the United States during the 2006-2010 period. While 19 counties in the region (almost all of them in metropolitan areas) had household incomes at or above the national median, another 56 had median household incomes below \$30,000. Nearly all the counties in the latter group were outside metropolitan areas (39 of them were not adjacent to any metro), and 37 of them were in central Appalachia. This development is not surprising: median household income was \$33,387 for the most rural counties and \$32,278 for central Appalachia. It is useful to note that the income levels displayed here reflect income received not only during the years of the 2007-2009 economic downturn, but also in the years before and after it.

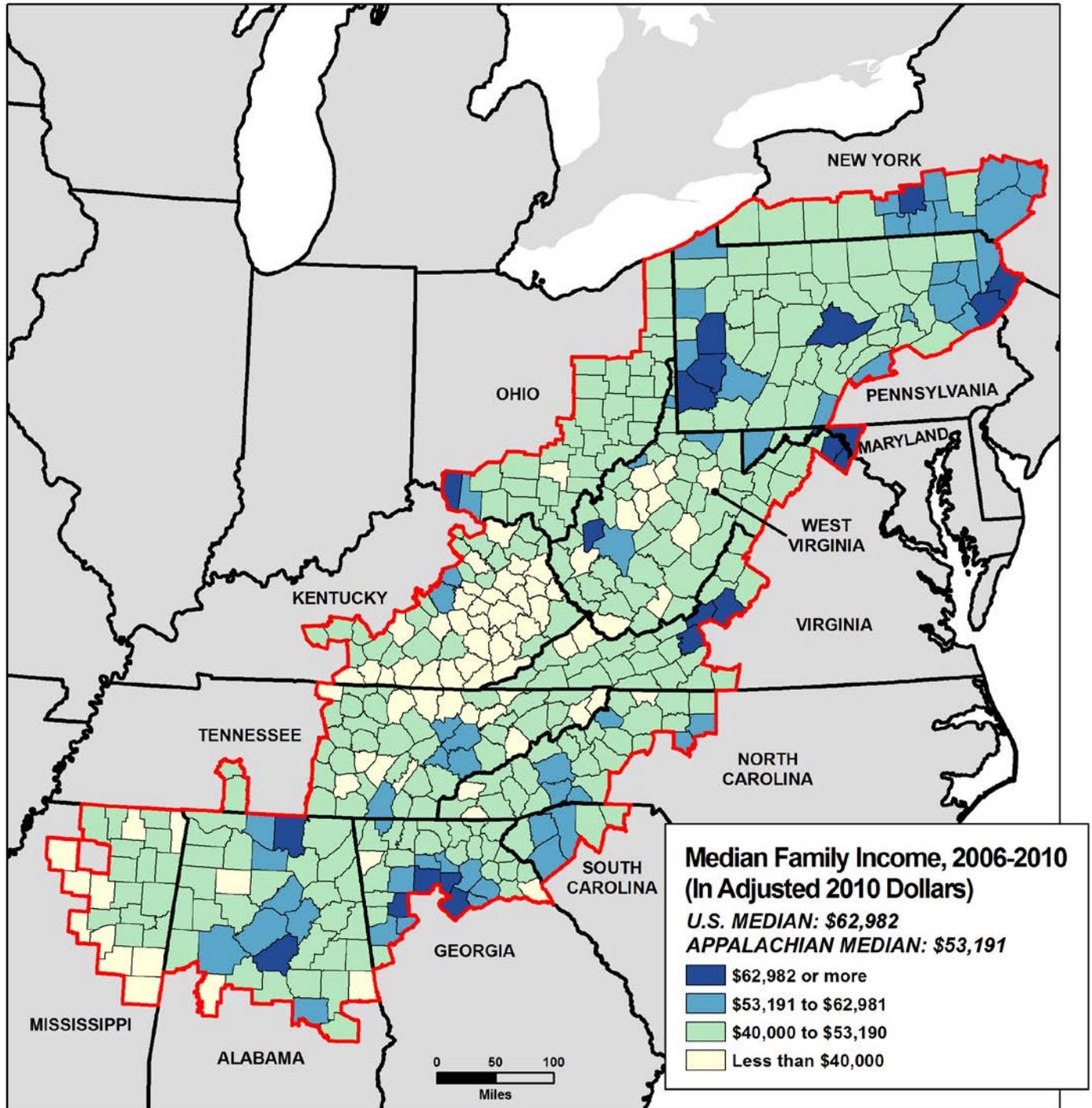
Figure 7.3: Mean Family Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2010 Dollars), 2006-2010



Map Title: Mean Family Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2010 Dollars), 2006-2010
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey.

In only 12 Appalachian counties (all in metropolitan areas), the average income of families matched or surpassed the U.S. mean of \$82,446 for the 2006-2010 period. Indeed, there were only 66 counties (55 of which were part of metro areas) where mean family income was equal to or greater than the Appalachian regional average (\$66,724). In contrast, mean family income was less than \$50,000 in 87 Appalachian counties. Most of these counties were either in the most remote rural areas or in central Appalachia—mean family income over the 2006-2010 period (a time frame that includes extended periods of economic growth and decline) was less than \$55,000 for both areas.

Figure 7.4: Median Family Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2010 Dollars), 2006-2010

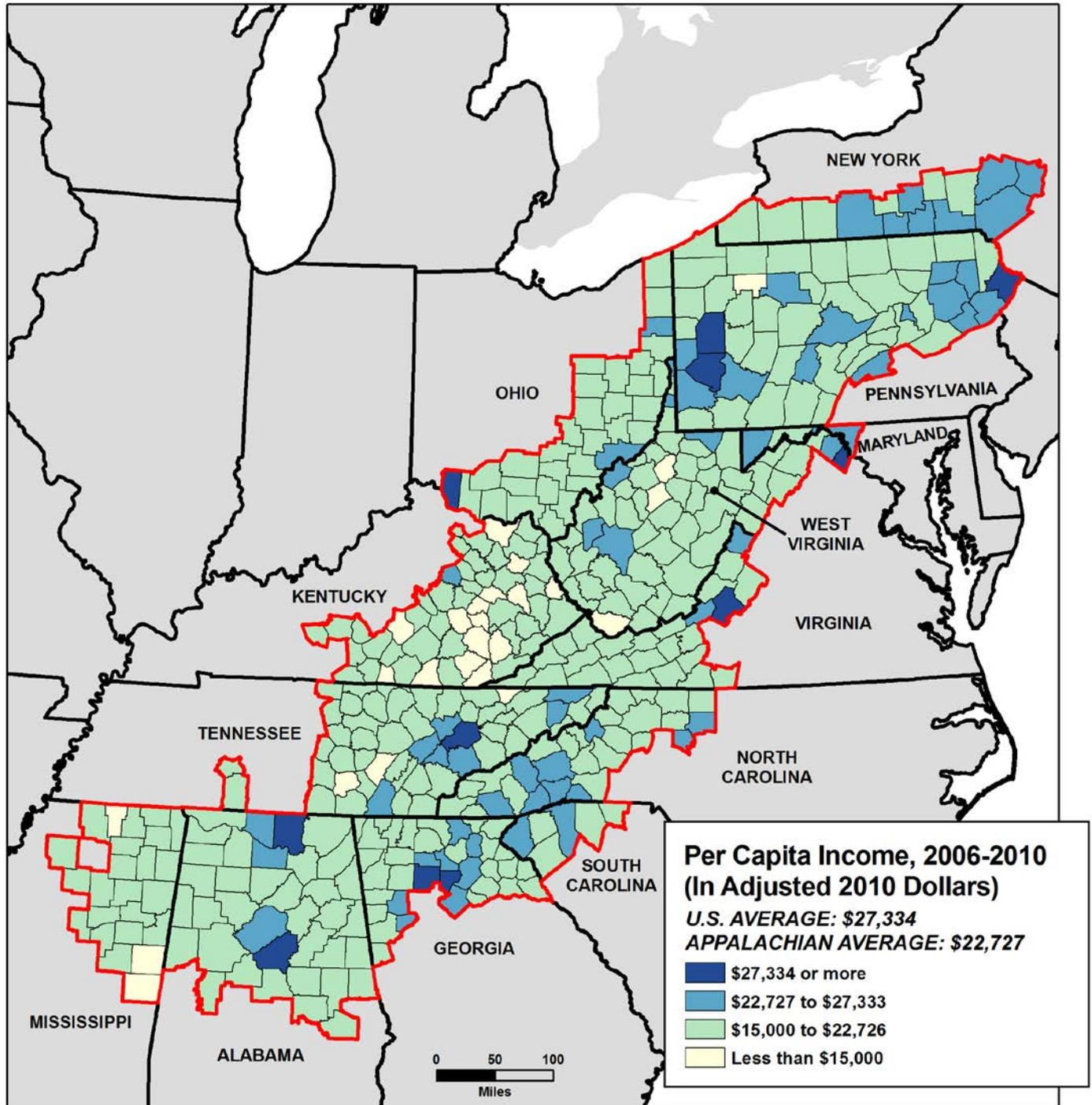


Map Title: Median Family Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2010 Dollars), 2006-2010

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

In 21 Appalachian counties—nearly all in metro areas—median family income (the level where half of all families have higher incomes while the other half have lower incomes) was at or above the U.S. median of \$62,982 during the 2006-2010 period. In another 58 counties (again, mostly in metro areas), median income matched or exceeded the median for families in the Appalachian region (\$53,191). In contrast, median family income was less than \$40,000 in 76 counties. Of the counties in this latter group, 47 were rural counties not adjacent to a metro area (median family income in those counties was just over \$42,000), while 42 were in central Appalachia (where median family income was slightly less than \$41,000). It is important to note that the 2006-2010 period includes years of a booming U.S. economy, a major recession, and the beginnings of an economic recovery.

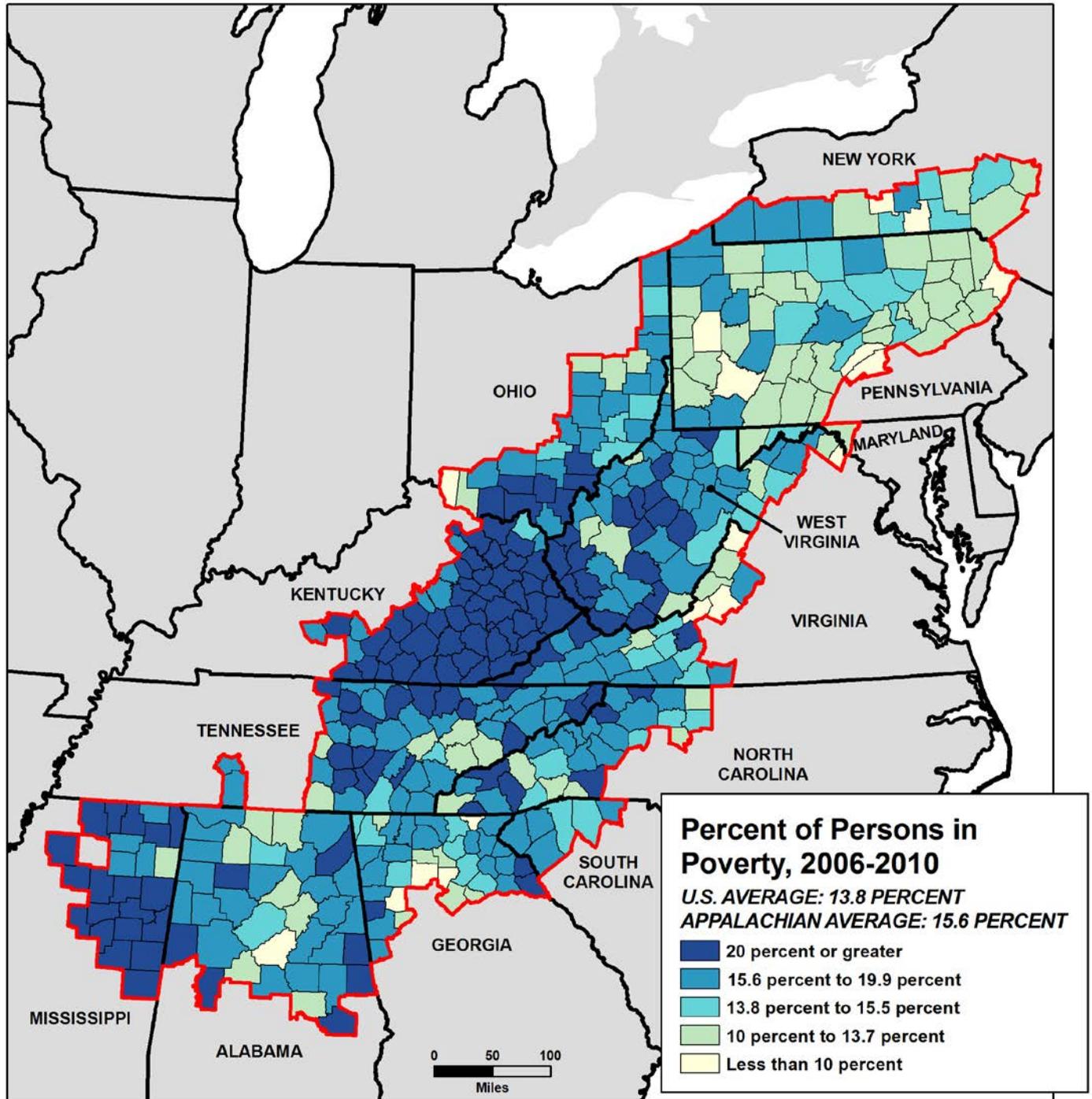
Figure 7.5: Per Capita Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2010 Dollars), 2006-2010



Map Title: Per Capita Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2010 Dollars), 2006-2010
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey.

At \$22,727, per capita income in the Appalachian region in the 2006-2010 period was 83 percent that of the U.S. average of \$27,334. And there was greater variance within the region: Per capita income was the same or higher than the national average in 11 Appalachian counties and was at or above the regional average in 64 others. Yet in 25 Appalachian counties, per capita income was less than \$15,000. As with other income measures, the counties with the highest per capita incomes generally were in metro areas, while the ones with the lowest were in rural areas, particularly in central Appalachia. Indeed, per capita income in the 2006-2010 period (which includes both pre- and post-recession years) was just \$18,317 in rural Appalachian counties as a whole, and just \$17,820 in central Appalachia.

Figure 7.6: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2006-2010



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

Over the 2006-2010 period (which includes years of economic growth and downturn), about one in six Appalachian residents lived below the poverty level (income below \$22,113 for a family of two adults and two children in 2010)—nearly two percentage points above the U.S. average. But there is much variation within the region: In 125 counties, at least one-fifth of persons were poor, yet in another 93 counties the poverty rate was below the national average. And there was a regional and urban/rural pattern: Nearly all of the counties with poverty rates exceeding 20 percent were outside of metropolitan areas, with about half in central Appalachia. In contrast, most of the counties with poverty levels below the U.S. rate were in metropolitan areas, and nearly half were in northern Appalachia.