

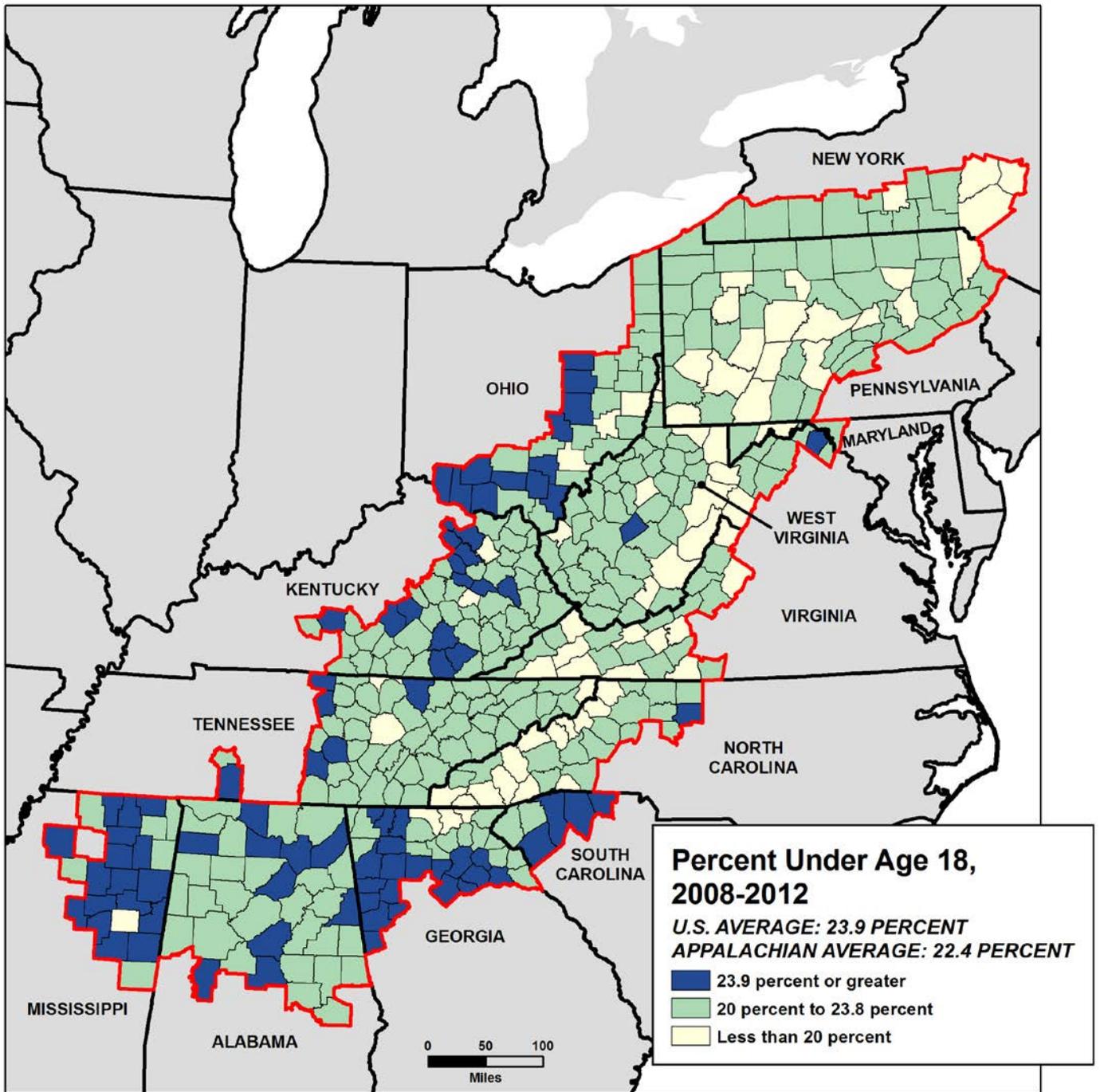
CHAPTER 2: AGE

Table 2.1: Population in the Appalachian Region by Age Group, 2008-2012

Population by Age Group	Total Population, 2008-2012	Percent of Population				Median Age (Years)
		Under Age 18	Ages 18-24	Ages 25-64	Ages 65 and Over	
United States	309,138,711	23.9	10.0	52.9	13.2	37.2
Appalachian Region	25,233,601	22.4	9.7	52.7	15.2	39.8
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	8,377,805	20.8	10.1	52.2	16.9	41.7
North Central Appalachia	2,420,540	21.8	9.7	53.1	15.4	40.3
Central Appalachia	1,915,597	22.3	8.7	53.8	15.2	40.5
South Central Appalachia	4,716,965	21.4	9.8	52.4	16.5	40.8
Southern Appalachia	7,802,694	24.9	9.5	52.9	12.7	37.1
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	5,780,046	23.8	8.8	54.0	13.4	38.6
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	10,184,048	21.9	10.5	52.4	15.3	39.6
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	1,693,460	22.7	9.9	51.7	15.7	40.3
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	5,039,432	21.6	9.4	52.3	16.7	41.3
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	2,536,615	22.4	9.2	52.2	16.3	40.7
Alabama	4,777,326	23.7	10.1	52.4	13.9	37.8
Appalachian Alabama	3,061,793	23.4	9.8	52.9	13.9	38.2
Non-Appalachian Alabama	1,715,533	24.2	10.6	51.4	13.8	37.1
Georgia	9,714,569	25.6	10.2	53.5	10.8	35.4
Appalachian Georgia	2,939,195	27.0	8.7	53.7	10.7	35.9
Non-Appalachian Georgia	6,775,374	25.0	10.8	53.4	10.8	35.1
Kentucky	4,340,167	23.5	9.6	53.4	13.4	38.0
Appalachian Kentucky	1,183,655	22.8	9.2	53.5	14.5	39.6
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	3,156,512	23.8	9.7	53.4	13.0	37.4
Maryland	5,785,496	23.3	9.7	54.6	12.4	37.9
Appalachian Maryland	252,606	21.2	9.7	53.2	15.9	40.5
Non-Appalachian Maryland	5,532,890	23.4	9.7	54.7	12.2	37.7
Mississippi	2,967,620	25.4	10.4	51.3	12.9	36.0
Appalachian Mississippi	628,451	24.6	10.9	50.3	14.2	37.1
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	2,339,169	25.6	10.3	51.5	12.6	35.8
New York	19,398,125	22.3	10.2	53.9	13.6	38.0
Appalachian New York	1,064,968	21.0	12.9	50.5	15.7	39.9
Non-Appalachian New York	18,333,157	22.3	10.0	54.1	13.5	37.8
North Carolina	9,544,249	23.8	9.9	53.2	13.1	37.4
Appalachian North Carolina	1,696,854	21.5	9.2	52.4	16.9	41.3
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	7,847,395	24.4	10.1	53.4	12.2	36.6
Ohio	11,533,561	23.6	9.5	52.7	14.2	38.8
Appalachian Ohio	2,038,670	22.9	9.0	52.4	15.7	40.5
Non-Appalachian Ohio	9,494,891	23.7	9.7	52.8	13.8	38.3
Pennsylvania	12,699,589	21.9	9.9	52.7	15.5	40.1
Appalachian Pennsylvania	5,789,026	20.5	10.0	52.5	17.1	41.9
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	6,910,563	23.1	9.9	52.8	14.2	38.5
South Carolina	4,630,351	23.3	10.3	52.6	13.8	37.9
Appalachian South Carolina	1,173,255	23.6	10.2	52.3	13.9	38.0
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	3,457,096	23.2	10.3	52.7	13.8	37.8
Tennessee	6,353,226	23.5	9.6	53.4	13.6	38.0
Appalachian Tennessee	2,786,292	21.8	9.3	52.9	16.0	40.5
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	3,566,934	24.8	9.8	53.7	11.6	36.0
Virginia	8,014,955	23.1	10.1	54.5	12.3	37.4
Appalachian Virginia	768,355	19.5	11.8	51.8	16.9	41.3
Non-Appalachian Virginia	7,246,600	23.4	9.9	54.8	11.8	37.0
West Virginia (entire state)	1,850,481	20.9	9.2	53.7	16.2	41.3

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008-2012 American Community Survey.

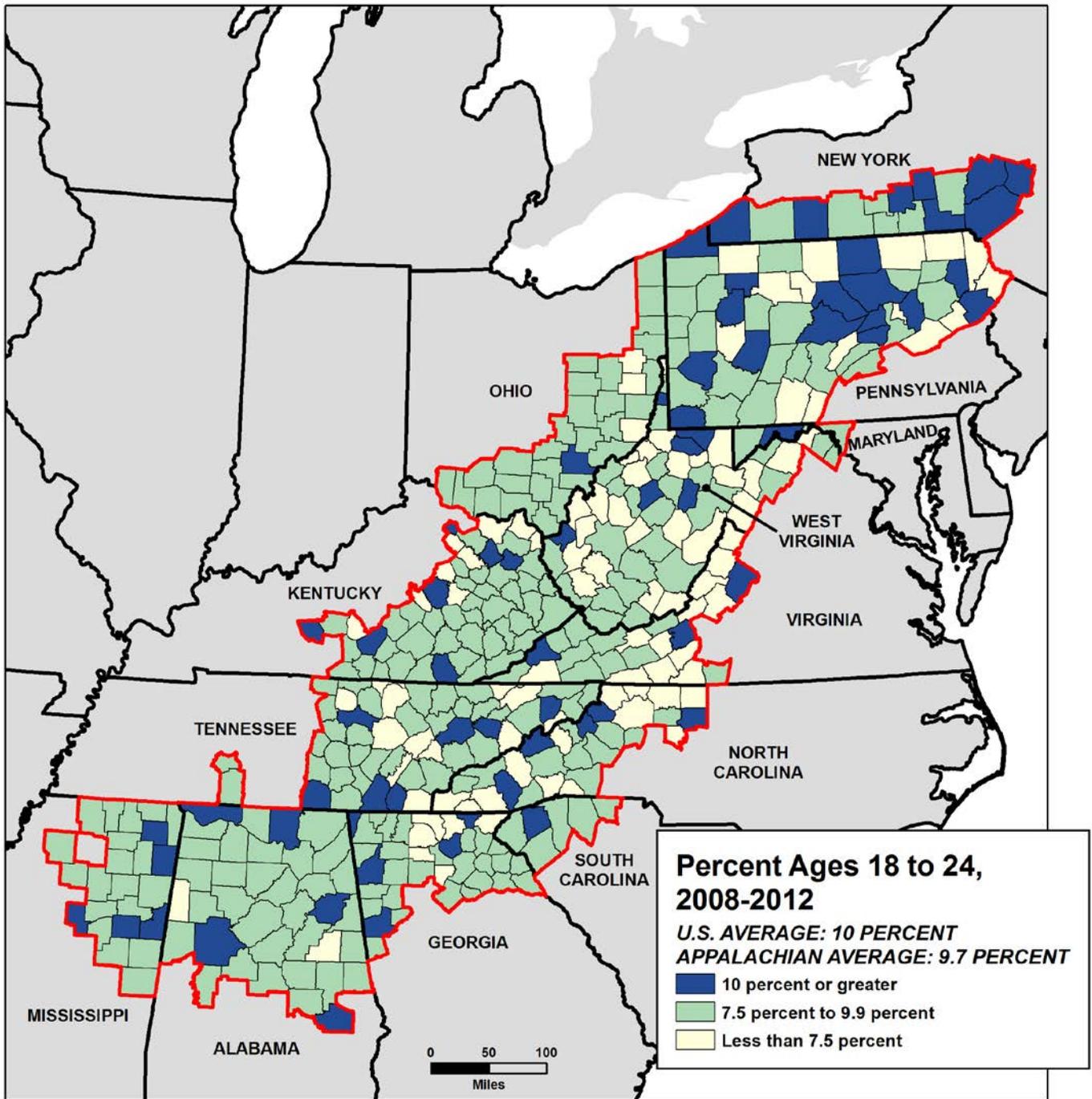
Figure 2.1: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Under Age 18, 2008-2012



Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Under Age 18, 2008-2012
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008-2012 American Community Survey.

Over the 2008-2012 period, the share of children and youth under age 18 in the Appalachian population was slightly below the national average of 24 percent. And the share was actually less than 20 percent in one-sixth of the Region's counties, most of which were outside metropolitan areas. Yet in another one-fifth of the counties, the share of children under age 18 matched or exceeded the national average. Most of these counties were in Southern Appalachia—the only subregion 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, 2008-2012

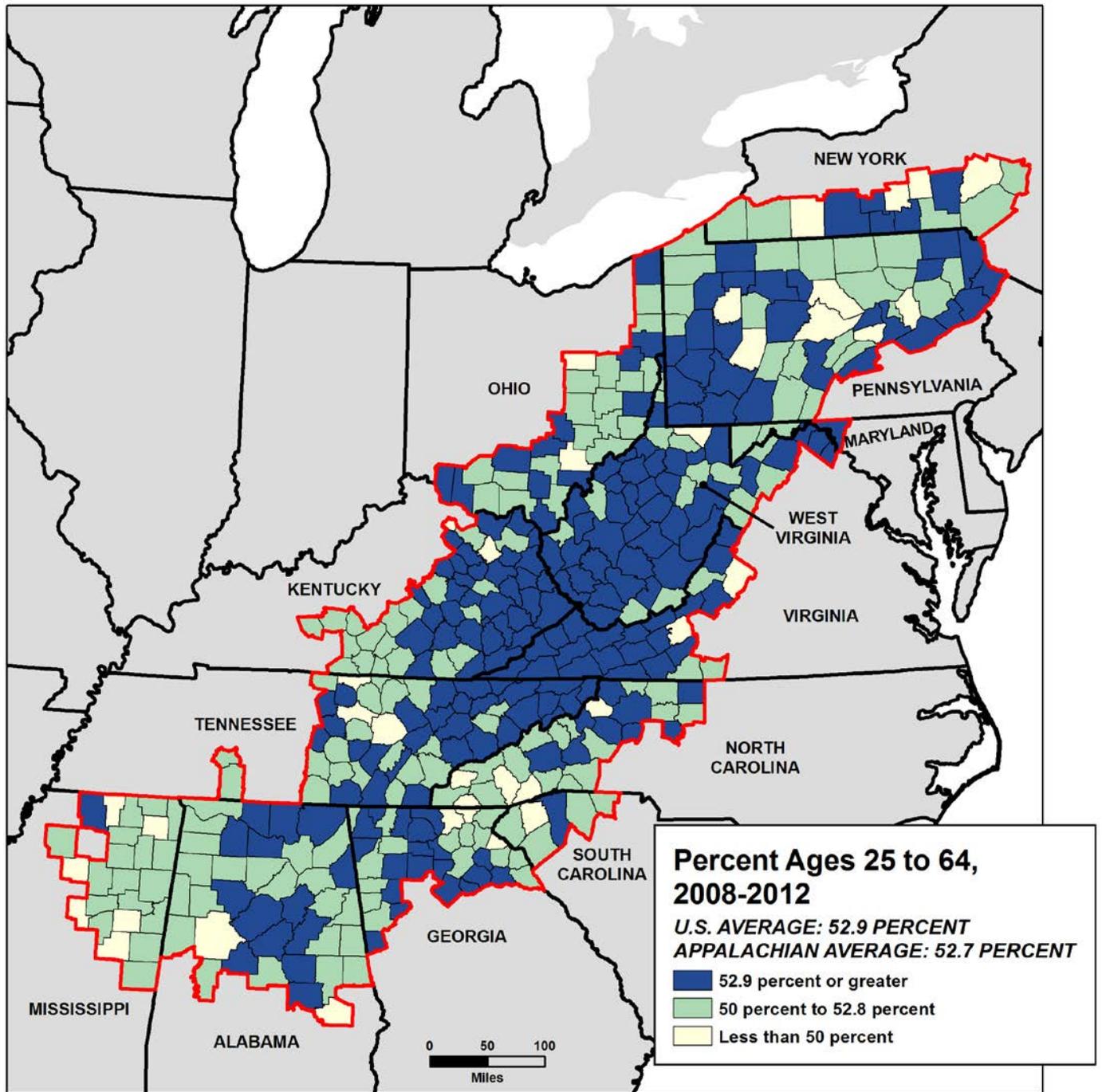


Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 18 to 24, 2008-2012

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008-2012 American Community Survey.

Although the share of young adults (ages 18 to 24) in Appalachia roughly equaled the national average in the 2008-2012 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 23 counties—most of which are home to colleges and universities. In contrast, 18-to-24-year-olds made up less than 7.5 percent of the population in 97 Appalachian counties. Of the counties in this latter group, 67 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, 2008-2012

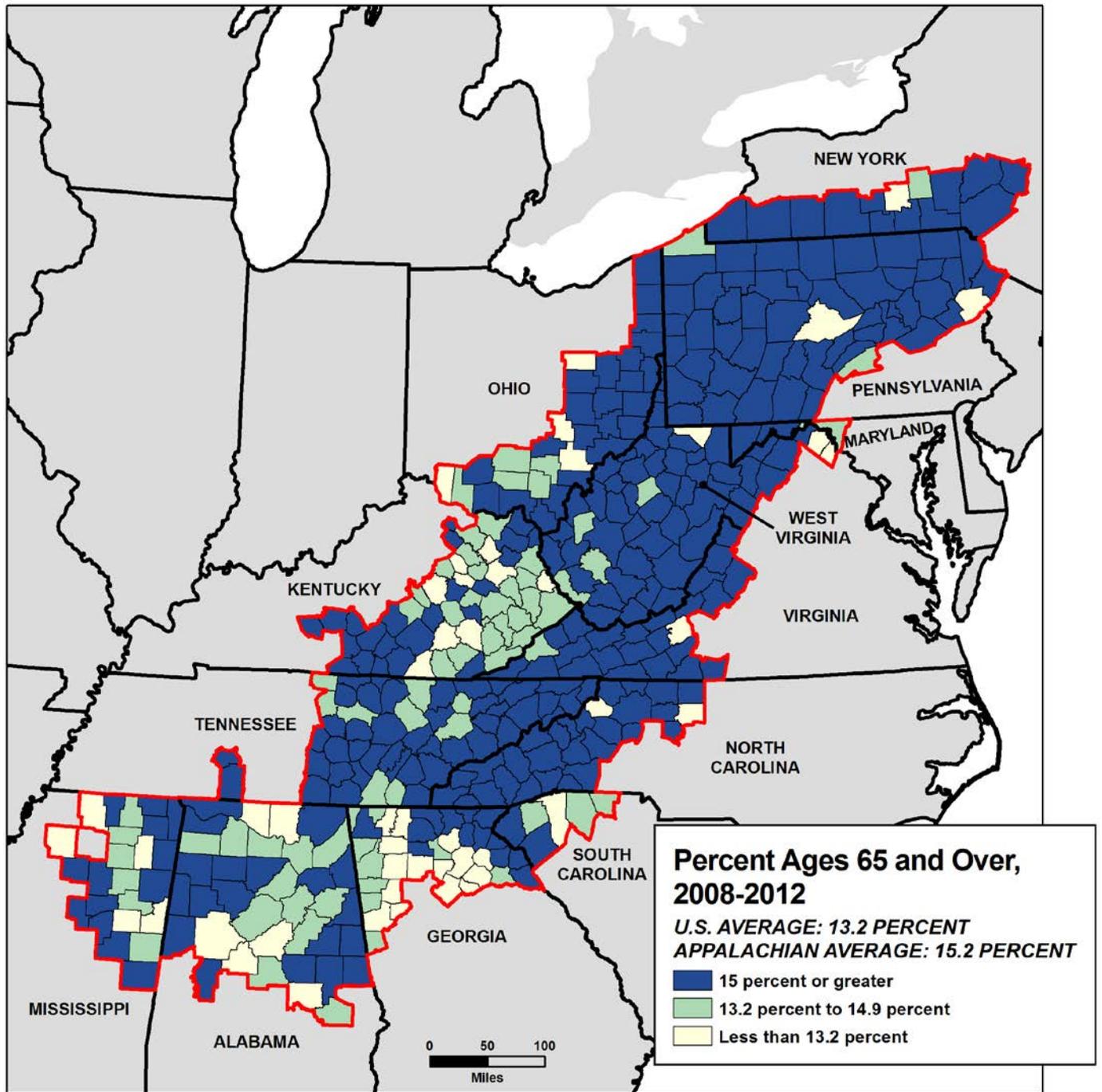


Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 25 to 64, 2008-2012

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008-2012 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 2008-2012 period. In 210 of the 420 Appalachian counties, the percentage of persons in this age group matched or exceeded the national average. But there were 37 counties in the Region (31 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, 2008-2012

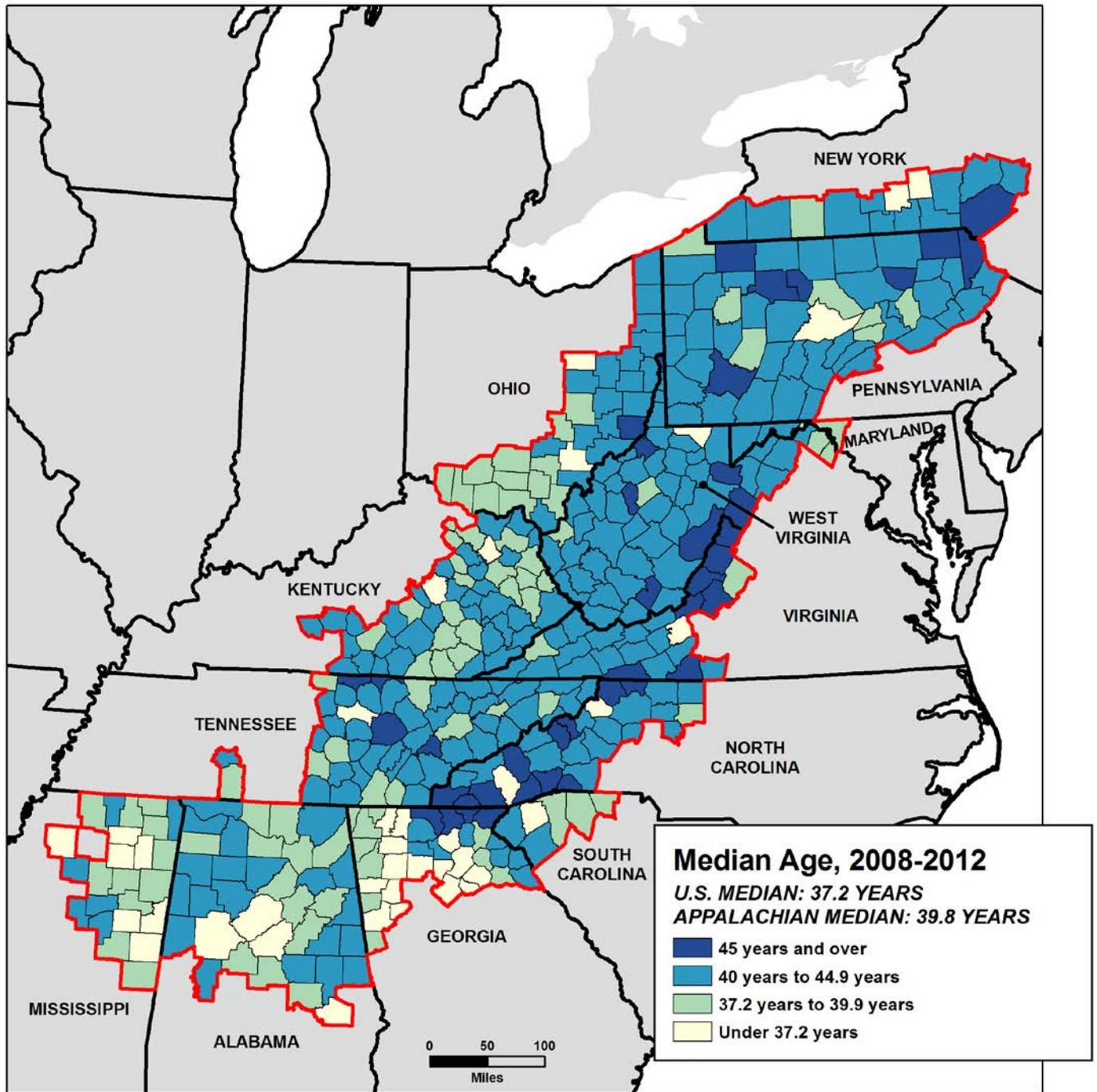


Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 65 and Over, 2008-2012

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008-2012 American Community Survey.

In the 2008-2012 period, the share of residents ages 65 and over exceeded the national average in the Appalachian Region and matched or exceeded it in 371 of its 420 counties. In fact, older persons made up at least 15 percent of the population in 296 Appalachian counties, two-thirds 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. 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, 2008-2012



Map Title: Median Age of Persons in the Appalachian Region, 2008-2012
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008-2012 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 2008-2012 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 more than two-thirds of the Region’s counties. In 42 counties—all but seven of which were outside metro areas—the median age was at least 45 years. Of the 39 counties with populations younger than the national median age, 27 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 likely continue to rise in most of the Region’s counties.