

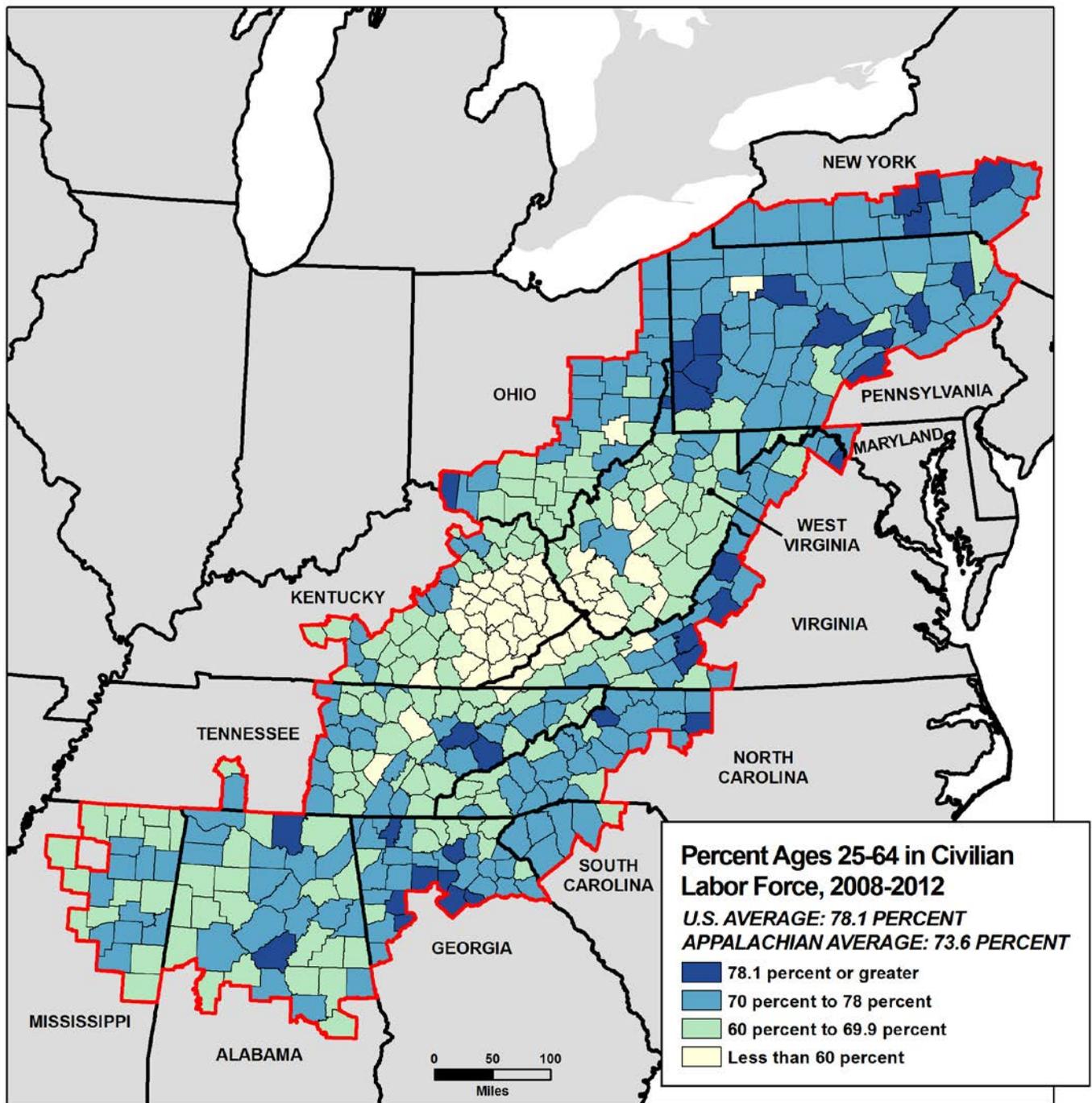
CHAPTER 6: LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT

Table 6.1: Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment Status of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2008-2012

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		
United States	162,959,524	127,281,931	78.1	92.3	7.7
Appalachian Region	13,274,525	9,773,077	73.6	92.3	7.7
Subregions					
Northern Appalachia	4,371,353	3,326,660	76.1	93.2	6.8
North Central Appalachia	1,284,229	901,871	70.2	92.8	7.2
Central Appalachia	1,030,314	621,222	60.3	91.4	8.6
South Central Appalachia	2,468,338	1,829,318	74.1	92.0	8.0
Southern Appalachia	4,120,291	3,094,006	75.1	91.6	8.4
County Types					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	3,118,372	2,441,183	78.3	92.6	7.4
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	5,324,515	3,987,569	74.9	92.5	7.5
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	875,143	636,024	72.7	91.3	8.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	2,635,115	1,848,449	70.1	92.0	8.0
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	1,321,380	859,852	65.1	91.8	8.2
Alabama	2,489,955	1,811,178	72.7	91.7	8.3
Appalachian Alabama	1,617,058	1,182,049	73.1	91.9	8.1
Non-Appalachian Alabama	872,897	629,129	72.1	91.3	8.7
Georgia	5,161,628	3,959,633	76.7	91.2	8.8
Appalachian Georgia	1,575,704	1,227,180	77.9	91.5	8.5
Non-Appalachian Georgia	3,585,924	2,732,453	76.2	91.1	8.9
Kentucky	2,308,586	1,658,092	71.8	92.2	7.8
Appalachian Kentucky	632,613	383,864	60.7	91.0	9.0
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	1,675,973	1,274,228	76.0	92.5	7.5
Maryland	3,138,237	2,594,517	82.7	93.8	6.2
Appalachian Maryland	134,045	98,495	73.5	93.0	7.0
Non-Appalachian Maryland	3,004,192	2,496,022	83.1	93.8	6.2
Mississippi	1,512,942	1,091,947	72.2	91.8	8.2
Appalachian Mississippi	315,163	224,852	71.3	91.1	8.9
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	1,197,779	867,095	72.4	92.0	8.0
New York	10,446,414	8,199,737	78.5	92.8	7.2
Appalachian New York	537,308	412,263	76.7	93.5	6.5
Non-Appalachian New York	9,909,106	7,787,474	78.6	92.7	7.3
North Carolina	5,025,144	3,883,067	77.3	91.2	8.8
Appalachian North Carolina	887,932	664,477	74.8	91.4	8.6
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	4,137,212	3,218,590	77.8	91.2	8.8
Ohio	6,072,729	4,744,122	78.1	91.9	8.1
Appalachian Ohio	1,067,172	775,104	72.6	91.3	8.7
Non-Appalachian Ohio	5,005,557	3,969,018	79.3	92.1	7.9
Pennsylvania	6,679,308	5,239,344	78.4	93.1	6.9
Appalachian Pennsylvania	3,034,674	2,323,966	76.6	93.5	6.5
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	3,644,634	2,915,378	80.0	92.8	7.2
South Carolina	2,417,140	1,816,278	75.1	90.7	9.3
Appalachian South Carolina	612,366	459,925	75.1	91.1	8.9
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	1,804,774	1,356,353	75.2	90.6	9.4
Tennessee	3,376,323	2,534,671	75.1	91.9	8.1
Appalachian Tennessee	1,471,211	1,069,339	72.7	91.9	8.1
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	1,905,112	1,465,332	76.9	91.9	8.1
Virginia	4,287,516	3,412,296	79.6	94.6	5.4
Appalachian Virginia	397,622	274,457	69.0	93.3	6.7
Non-Appalachian Virginia	3,889,894	3,137,839	80.7	94.7	5.3
West Virginia (entire state)	991,657	677,106	68.3	93.7	6.3

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

Figure 6.1: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Who Are In the Labor Force, 2008-2012

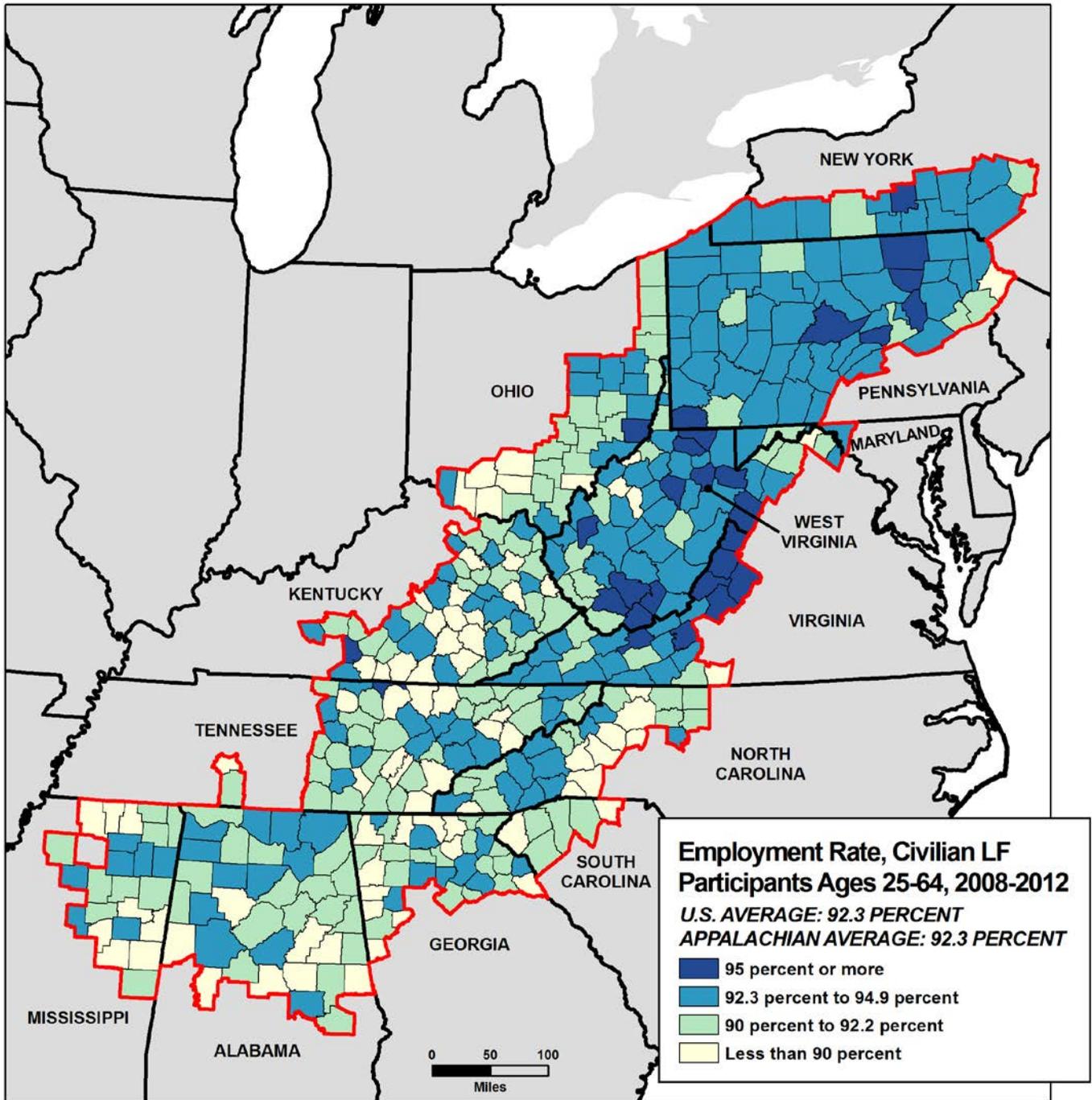


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Who Are In the Labor Force, 2008-2012

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

In the 2008-2012 period (a period of both economic growth and decline), nearly 74 percent of Appalachia’s civilians in the prime working ages (ages 25 to 64) were in the civilian labor force, slightly below the U.S. average of 78 percent. In 35 Appalachian counties (25 of which were in metropolitan areas), the share was above the national average. On the other hand, there were 46 counties where less than 60 percent of 25-to-64-year-olds were in the civilian labor force. Nearly all of these counties were outside of metropolitan areas, and 37 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 was also at or above the U.S. average.

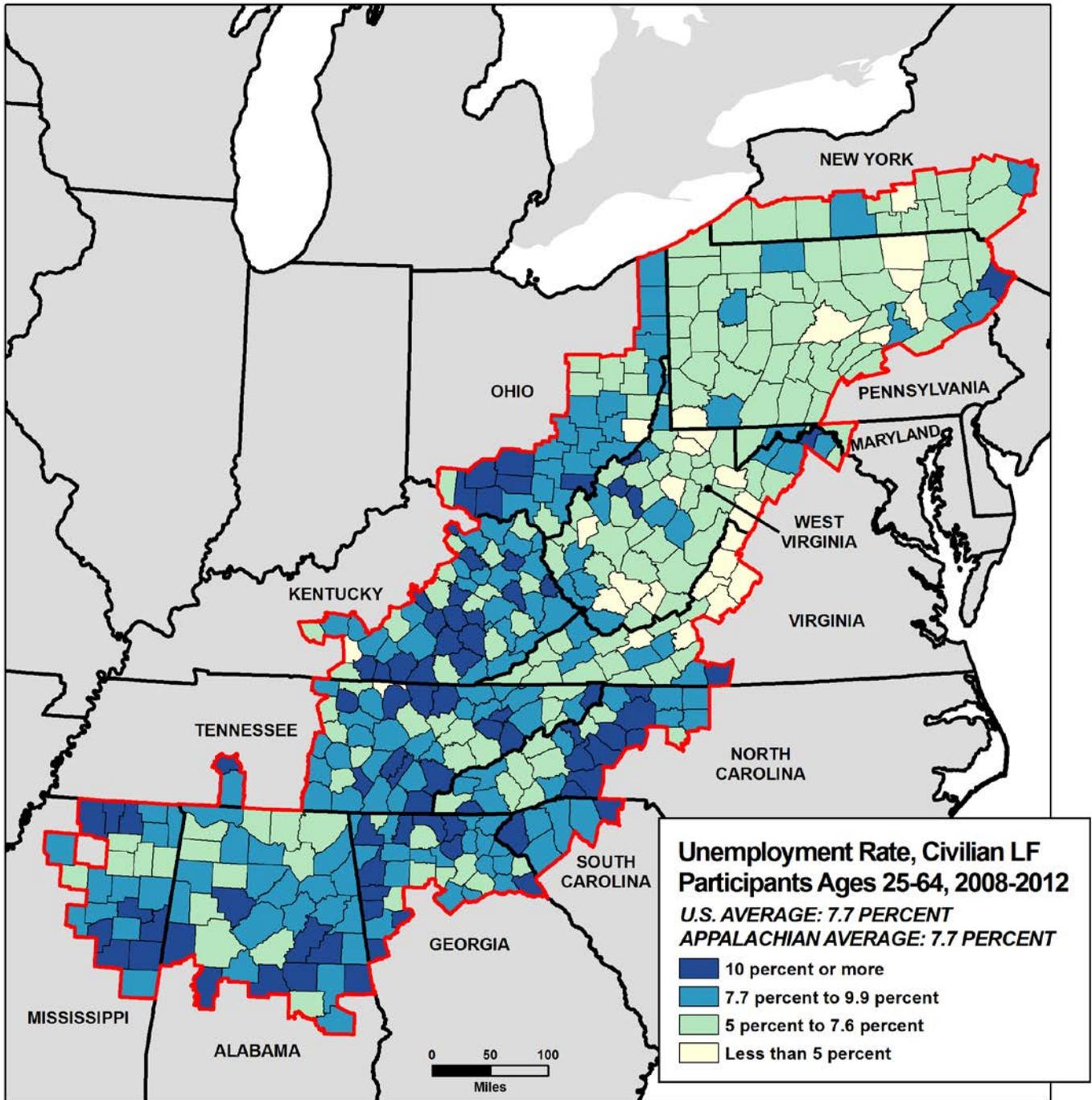
Figure 6.2: Employment Rate for Civilian Labor Force Participants Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2008-2012



Map Title: Employment Rate for Civilian Labor Force Participants Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2008-2012
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008-2012 American Community Survey.

Among members of the civilian labor force ages 25 to 64, the employment rate in Appalachia was identical to the national rate during the 2008-2012 period. Although there were only slight differences among subregions and urban/rural county types, there was some county-level variation. In nearly half of Appalachian counties, the employment rate matched or exceeded the national average, with 28 counties having employment rates of 95 percent or greater. Yet in 80 counties in the Region, employment among 25-to-64-year-olds was less than 90 percent, which suggests that they have not fully recovered economically from the recent recession. Almost three-fourths 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, 2008-2012



Map Title: Unemployment Rate for Civilian Labor Force Participants Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2008-2012
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008-2012 American Community Survey.

Unemployment in the Appalachian Region among persons ages 25 to 64 was at the national average during the 2008-2012 period. Within Appalachia, unemployment was at least 10 percent in 82 counties—60 of which were outside metropolitan areas and 71 in Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia. Conversely, unemployment was less than 5 percent in 26 other counties; 16 of these were in Northern and North Central Appalachia. There are indications of a connection between unemployment and educational attainment: In 78 of the 82 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 36 of these counties, the share was less than four-fifths.