

## CHAPTER 7: INCOME AND POVERTY

Table 7.1: Household, Family, and Per Capita Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2012 Dollars), 2008-2012

Income	Household Income, 2008-2012 (2012 Dollars)		Family Income, 2008-2012 (2012 Dollars)		Per Capita Income, 2008-2012 (2012 Dollars)
	Mean HH Income	Median HH Income	Mean Family Income	Median Family Income	
<b>United States</b>	<b>73,034</b>	<b>53,046</b>	<b>85,065</b>	<b>64,585</b>	<b>28,051</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>58,465</b>	<b>43,626</b>	<b>69,212</b>	<b>54,925</b>	<b>23,486</b>
<b>Subregions</b>					
Northern Appalachia	60,231	45,940	72,258	58,388	24,826
North Central Appalachia	55,485	41,817	66,004	53,212	22,507
Central Appalachia	45,872	33,173	54,021	42,433	18,466
South Central Appalachia	55,904	41,074	66,788	52,144	23,138
Southern Appalachia	62,326	46,414	72,291	56,689	23,794
<b>County Types</b>					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	69,988	53,063	82,247	65,486	27,465
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	59,419	44,326	71,106	56,559	24,122
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	53,030	41,290	62,043	51,156	21,009
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	51,257	39,220	60,365	49,133	20,748
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	46,868	34,456	55,184	43,680	18,960
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>59,273</b>	<b>43,160</b>	<b>70,237</b>	<b>54,326</b>	<b>23,587</b>
Appalachian Alabama	61,112	44,308	72,301	55,997	24,327
Non-Appalachian Alabama	55,972	41,242	66,446	52,309	22,268
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>67,659</b>	<b>49,604</b>	<b>77,926</b>	<b>59,198</b>	<b>25,309</b>
Appalachian Georgia	68,071	52,912	76,169	60,784	24,330
Non-Appalachian Georgia	67,489	48,156	78,744	58,534	25,733
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>57,876</b>	<b>42,610</b>	<b>68,559</b>	<b>53,833</b>	<b>23,210</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	45,516	32,264	53,845	41,548	18,141
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	62,422	46,794	74,198	59,115	25,111
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>94,941</b>	<b>72,999</b>	<b>110,686</b>	<b>88,092</b>	<b>36,056</b>
Appalachian Maryland	62,897	48,671	73,686	61,143	24,800
Non-Appalachian Maryland	96,458	74,389	112,407	90,398	36,570
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>54,176</b>	<b>38,882</b>	<b>63,148</b>	<b>48,300</b>	<b>20,670</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	48,115	34,554	56,834	44,469	18,907
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	55,871	40,176	64,919	49,625	21,144
<b>New York</b>	<b>83,578</b>	<b>57,683</b>	<b>96,853</b>	<b>69,968</b>	<b>32,104</b>
Appalachian New York	58,919	46,074	70,505	58,102	23,938
Non-Appalachian New York	85,116	58,809	98,445	71,207	32,578
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>63,562</b>	<b>46,450</b>	<b>74,684</b>	<b>57,146</b>	<b>25,285</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	55,716	41,081	66,430	51,878	23,206
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	65,366	47,895	76,541	58,633	25,735
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>63,996</b>	<b>48,246</b>	<b>76,523</b>	<b>61,163</b>	<b>25,857</b>
Appalachian Ohio	54,528	42,256	64,034	53,044	21,813
Non-Appalachian Ohio	65,996	49,721	79,281	63,478	26,725
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>70,243</b>	<b>52,267</b>	<b>84,421</b>	<b>65,980</b>	<b>28,190</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	61,854	46,933	74,521	59,708	25,623
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	77,731	57,834	93,115	72,798	30,340
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>60,416</b>	<b>44,623</b>	<b>70,863</b>	<b>55,058</b>	<b>23,906</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	59,985	44,307	70,914	55,736	23,680
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	60,564	44,735	70,846	55,228	23,982
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>60,861</b>	<b>44,140</b>	<b>71,757</b>	<b>54,737</b>	<b>24,294</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	55,455	40,430	65,979	51,309	22,822
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	65,370	47,645	76,572	58,523	25,444
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>86,343</b>	<b>63,636</b>	<b>99,955</b>	<b>76,566</b>	<b>33,326</b>
Appalachian Virginia	51,515	38,648	61,690	49,371	21,313
Non-Appalachian Virginia	90,314	67,790	104,228	81,166	34,600
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>54,072</b>	<b>40,400</b>	<b>64,914</b>	<b>51,770</b>	<b>22,482</b>

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

**Table 7.2: Number of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, by Age Group, 2008-2012**

Poverty Status	All Ages	Under Age 18	Ages 18-64			Ages 65 and Over
			Total	Ages 18-24	Ages 25-64	
<b>United States</b>	<b>44,852,527</b>	<b>15,188,844</b>	<b>25,961,446</b>	<b>6,869,467</b>	<b>19,091,979</b>	<b>3,702,237</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>4,060,430</b>	<b>1,290,428</b>	<b>2,397,175</b>	<b>607,517</b>	<b>1,789,658</b>	<b>372,827</b>
<b>Subregions</b>						
Northern Appalachia	1,141,104	354,222	673,950	193,439	480,511	112,932
North Central Appalachia	406,514	121,397	250,018	66,380	183,638	35,099
Central Appalachia	442,891	133,486	263,955	49,077	214,878	45,450
South Central Appalachia	805,391	242,314	487,821	129,676	358,145	75,256
Southern Appalachia	1,264,530	439,009	721,431	168,945	552,486	104,090
<b>County Types</b>						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	736,688	244,576	427,355	102,367	324,988	64,757
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	1,595,224	499,695	959,938	273,836	686,102	135,591
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	299,496	96,917	176,152	44,838	131,314	26,427
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	883,618	277,289	516,749	121,183	395,566	89,580
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	545,404	171,951	316,981	65,293	251,688	56,472
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>842,292</b>	<b>290,406</b>	<b>480,563</b>	<b>122,960</b>	<b>357,603</b>	<b>71,323</b>
Appalachian Alabama	504,125	172,174	288,312	69,857	218,455	43,639
Non-Appalachian Alabama	338,167	118,232	192,251	53,103	139,148	27,684
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>1,645,272</b>	<b>589,734</b>	<b>940,598</b>	<b>240,337</b>	<b>700,261</b>	<b>114,940</b>
Appalachian Georgia	426,796	153,349	241,848	48,135	193,713	31,599
Non-Appalachian Georgia	1,218,476	436,385	698,750	192,202	506,548	83,341
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>781,485</b>	<b>257,124</b>	<b>455,986</b>	<b>108,735</b>	<b>347,251</b>	<b>68,375</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	287,153	87,893	169,982	32,771	137,211	29,278
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	494,332	169,231	286,004	75,964	210,040	39,097
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>532,116</b>	<b>162,813</b>	<b>315,957</b>	<b>82,812</b>	<b>233,145</b>	<b>53,346</b>
Appalachian Maryland	31,246	9,938	17,900	4,704	13,196	3,408
Non-Appalachian Maryland	500,870	152,875	298,057	78,108	219,949	49,938
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>640,132</b>	<b>236,967</b>	<b>349,146</b>	<b>88,678</b>	<b>260,468</b>	<b>54,019</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	142,811	49,889	79,774	22,588	57,186	13,148
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	497,321	187,078	269,372	66,090	203,282	40,871
<b>New York</b>	<b>2,814,409</b>	<b>891,923</b>	<b>1,632,167</b>	<b>391,594</b>	<b>1,240,573</b>	<b>290,319</b>
Appalachian New York	161,749	47,961	101,057	34,719	66,338	12,731
Non-Appalachian New York	2,652,660	843,962	1,531,110	356,875	1,174,235	277,588
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>1,563,464</b>	<b>535,502</b>	<b>904,719</b>	<b>234,921</b>	<b>669,798</b>	<b>123,243</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	295,748	92,583	175,732	43,689	132,043	27,433
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	1,267,716	442,919	728,987	191,232	537,755	95,810
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>1,723,485</b>	<b>593,726</b>	<b>1,003,726</b>	<b>267,792</b>	<b>735,934</b>	<b>126,033</b>
Appalachian Ohio	338,151	115,232	195,198	46,161	149,037	27,721
Non-Appalachian Ohio	1,385,334	478,494	808,528	221,631	586,897	98,312
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>1,604,464</b>	<b>502,796</b>	<b>943,428</b>	<b>264,113</b>	<b>679,315</b>	<b>158,240</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	743,893	223,847	440,666	130,154	310,512	79,380
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	860,571	278,949	502,762	133,959	368,803	78,860
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>787,788</b>	<b>268,467</b>	<b>453,366</b>	<b>115,167</b>	<b>338,199</b>	<b>65,955</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	190,798	63,597	111,497	28,365	83,132	15,704
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	596,990	204,870	341,869	86,802	255,067	50,251
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>1,069,017</b>	<b>359,880</b>	<b>621,136</b>	<b>151,591</b>	<b>469,545</b>	<b>88,001</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	484,816	147,008	291,992	69,956	222,036	45,816
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	584,201	212,872	329,144	81,635	247,509	42,185
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>859,032</b>	<b>265,922</b>	<b>516,806</b>	<b>150,712</b>	<b>366,094</b>	<b>76,304</b>
Appalachian Virginia	136,618	35,764	86,732	27,874	58,858	14,122
Non-Appalachian Virginia	722,414	230,158	430,074	122,838	307,236	62,182
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>316,526</b>	<b>91,193</b>	<b>196,485</b>	<b>48,544</b>	<b>147,941</b>	<b>28,848</b>

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are determined by family size and composition. In 2012, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$23,283. The poverty universe does not include unrelated individuals under age 15, people living in college dormitories, and people living in institutional group quarters.

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

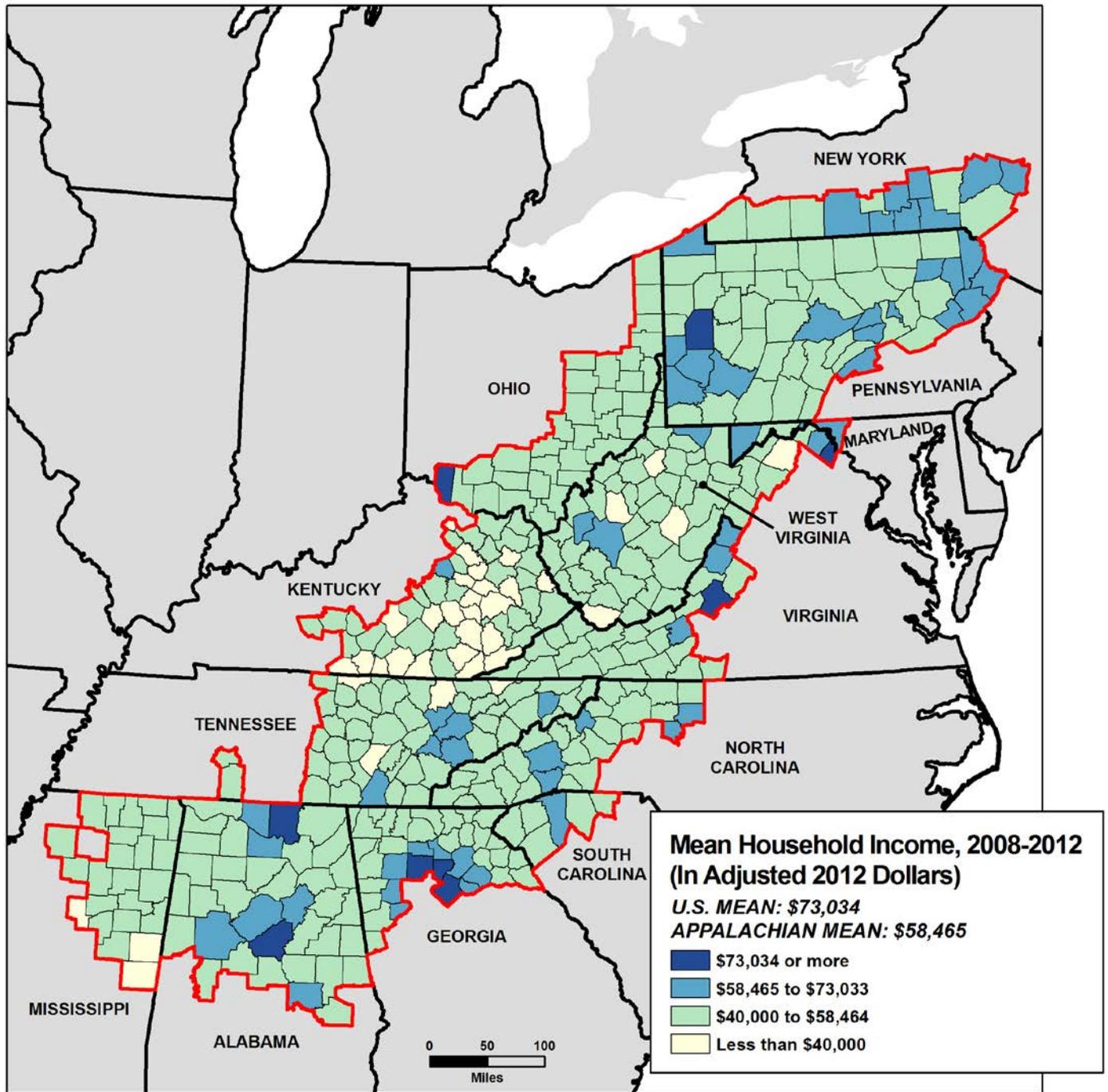
**Table 7.3: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, by Age Group, 2008-2012**

Poverty Status	All Ages	Under Age 18	Ages 18-64			Ages 65 and Over
			Total	Ages 18-24	Ages 25-64	
<b>United States</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>24.8</b>	<b>11.8</b>	<b>9.4</b>
<b>Appalachian Region</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>23.2</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>28.5</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>10.0</b>
<b>Subregions</b>						
Northern Appalachia	14.2	20.7	13.5	27.7	11.2	8.3
North Central Appalachia	17.3	23.5	17.0	32.2	14.6	9.7
Central Appalachia	23.8	32.0	22.8	32.3	21.3	16.2
South Central Appalachia	17.6	24.5	17.1	32.6	14.6	10.0
Southern Appalachia	16.6	22.9	15.2	25.0	13.5	10.8
<b>County Types</b>						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	13.0	18.0	12.0	21.8	10.5	8.6
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	16.2	22.8	15.6	30.4	13.1	9.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	18.3	25.7	17.5	30.7	15.3	10.3
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	18.2	26.0	17.3	29.7	15.4	11.1
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	22.2	30.9	21.1	31.9	19.4	14.2
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>26.0</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>28.1</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>11.1</b>
Appalachian Alabama	16.9	24.3	15.4	25.6	13.7	10.6
Non-Appalachian Alabama	20.2	28.9	18.6	32.1	16.1	12.0
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>24.1</b>	<b>15.7</b>	<b>27.3</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>11.3</b>
Appalachian Georgia	14.7	19.6	13.4	20.0	12.4	10.3
Non-Appalachian Georgia	18.6	26.2	16.7	30.0	14.3	11.7
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>25.7</b>	<b>17.2</b>	<b>29.4</b>	<b>15.2</b>	<b>12.2</b>
Appalachian Kentucky	25.1	33.4	23.8	34.0	22.2	17.7
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	16.1	22.9	14.8	27.8	12.7	9.9
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>7.7</b>
Appalachian Maryland	13.2	19.2	12.2	22.3	10.5	9.0
Non-Appalachian Maryland	9.3	12.0	8.6	16.4	7.3	7.6
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>22.3</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>19.8</b>	<b>32.4</b>	<b>17.5</b>	<b>14.6</b>
Appalachian Mississippi	23.3	32.8	21.3	36.6	18.3	15.3
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	22.0	31.7	19.4	31.2	17.3	14.4
<b>New York</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>22.5</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>11.4</b>
Appalachian New York	16.1	22.1	16.1	35.3	12.5	8.0
Non-Appalachian New York	14.8	20.9	13.4	21.7	12.0	11.7
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>23.8</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>28.5</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>10.2</b>
Appalachian North Carolina	17.9	25.8	17.3	32.3	15.0	9.9
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	16.6	23.5	15.1	27.7	13.0	10.3
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>15.4</b>	<b>22.2</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>27.4</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>8.1</b>
Appalachian Ohio	17.1	25.1	16.1	27.8	14.3	9.0
Non-Appalachian Ohio	15.0	21.6	14.0	27.3	11.8	7.8
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>18.4</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>24.8</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>8.4</b>
Appalachian Pennsylvania	13.4	19.2	12.7	27.1	10.4	8.4
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	12.8	17.7	12.0	22.9	10.2	8.4
<b>South Carolina</b>	<b>17.6</b>	<b>25.3</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>28.2</b>	<b>14.1</b>	<b>10.6</b>
Appalachian South Carolina	16.7	23.3	15.7	28.0	13.7	9.9
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	17.8	26.0	16.3	28.3	14.3	10.8
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>24.5</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>27.7</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>10.6</b>
Appalachian Tennessee	17.8	24.6	17.3	30.1	15.2	10.6
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	16.8	24.4	14.9	25.9	13.1	10.5
<b>Virginia</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>21.9</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>7.9</b>
Appalachian Virginia	18.6	24.3	18.8	39.2	15.1	11.2
Non-Appalachian Virginia	10.3	13.7	9.5	19.9	7.9	7.5
<b>West Virginia (entire state)</b>	<b>17.6</b>	<b>24.1</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>31.8</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>9.9</b>

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are determined by family size and composition. In 2012, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$23,283. The poverty universe does not include unrelated individuals under age 15, people living in college dormitories, and people living in institutional group quarters.

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

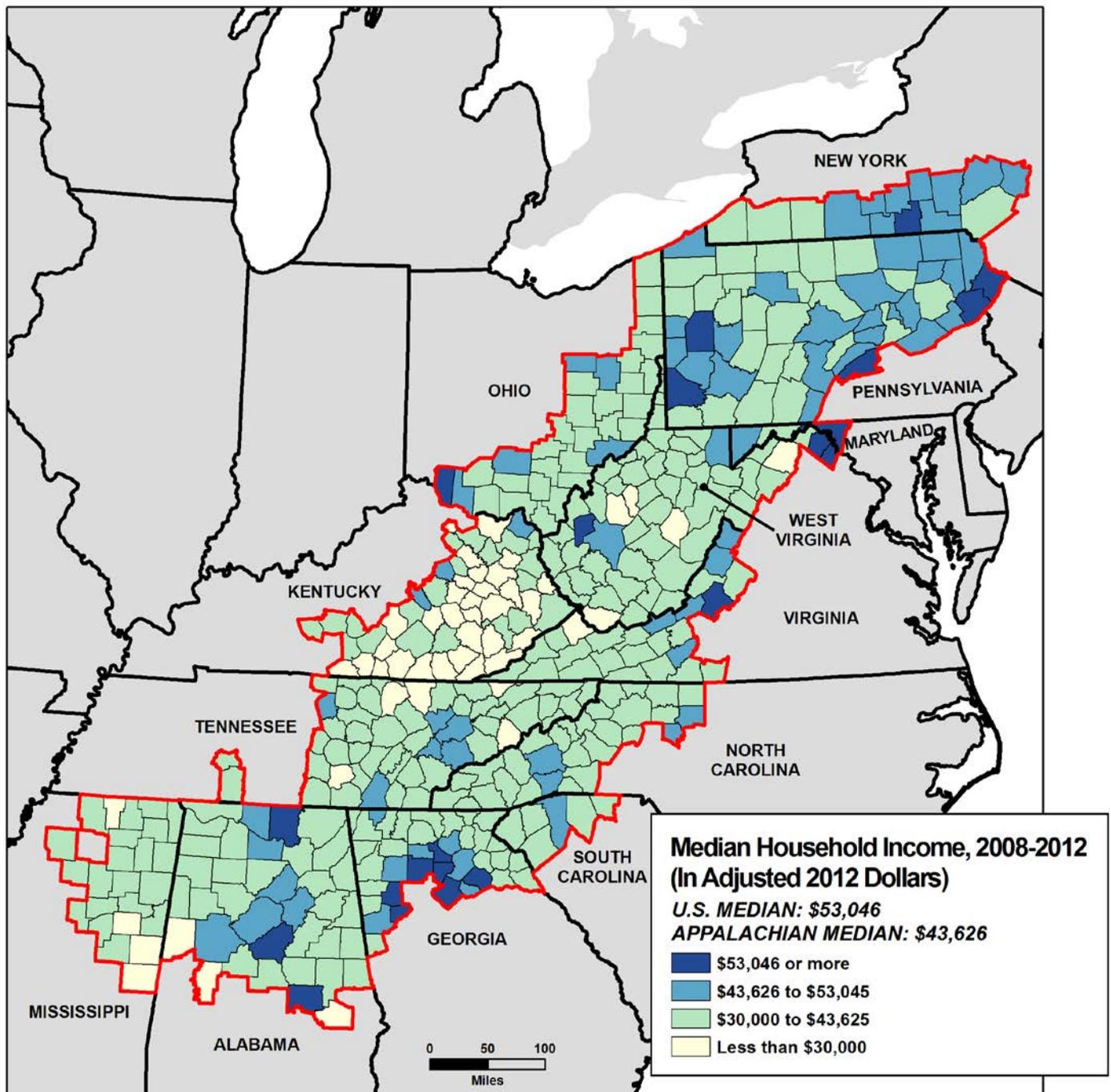
**Figure 7.1: Mean Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2012 Dollars), 2008-2012**



Map Title: Mean Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2012 Dollars), 2008-2012  
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008-2012 American Community Survey.

In the 2008-2012 period (which covers the years during and after the economic recession of 2007-2009), the mean income of Appalachian households was \$58,465, just 80 percent of the U.S. average (\$73,034). In just nine of the Region’s counties (all of which were in metropolitan areas), average household income matched or exceeded that of the nation as a whole. And in only 60 other counties (47 of which were in metros), mean household income matched or surpassed the Appalachian average. In contrast, mean household income was less than \$40,000 in 36 counties—35 of which were outside metro areas, and 28 of which were in Central Appalachia.

Figure 7.2: Median Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2012 Dollars), 2008-2012

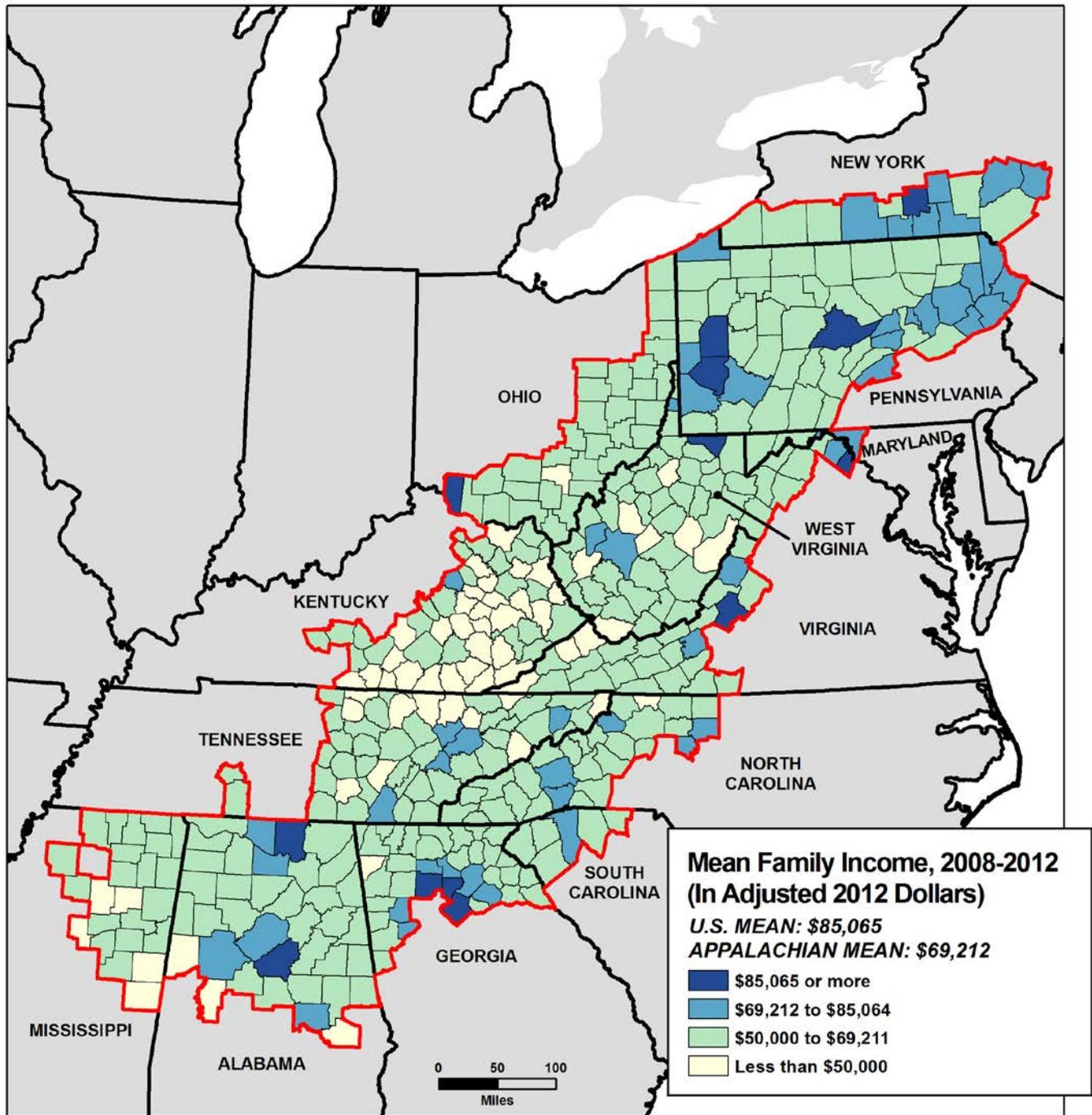


Map Title: Median Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2012 Dollars), 2008-2012

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

At \$43,626, 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 (\$53,046) during the 2008-2012 period. There were 22 counties in the Region (all but two of which were in metropolitan areas) that had household incomes at or above the national median, while another 72 had incomes at or above the regional median. On the other hand, 49 counties in the Region had median household incomes below \$30,000—47 of which were outside metro areas and 36 of which were in Central Appalachia. This distribution is not surprising: median household income was \$34,456 for the most rural counties and \$33,173 for Central Appalachia. It is useful to note that the income levels displayed here reflect income received not only during the 2007-2009 economic downturn, but also in the years after it ended.

Figure 7.3: Mean Family Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2012 Dollars), 2008-2012

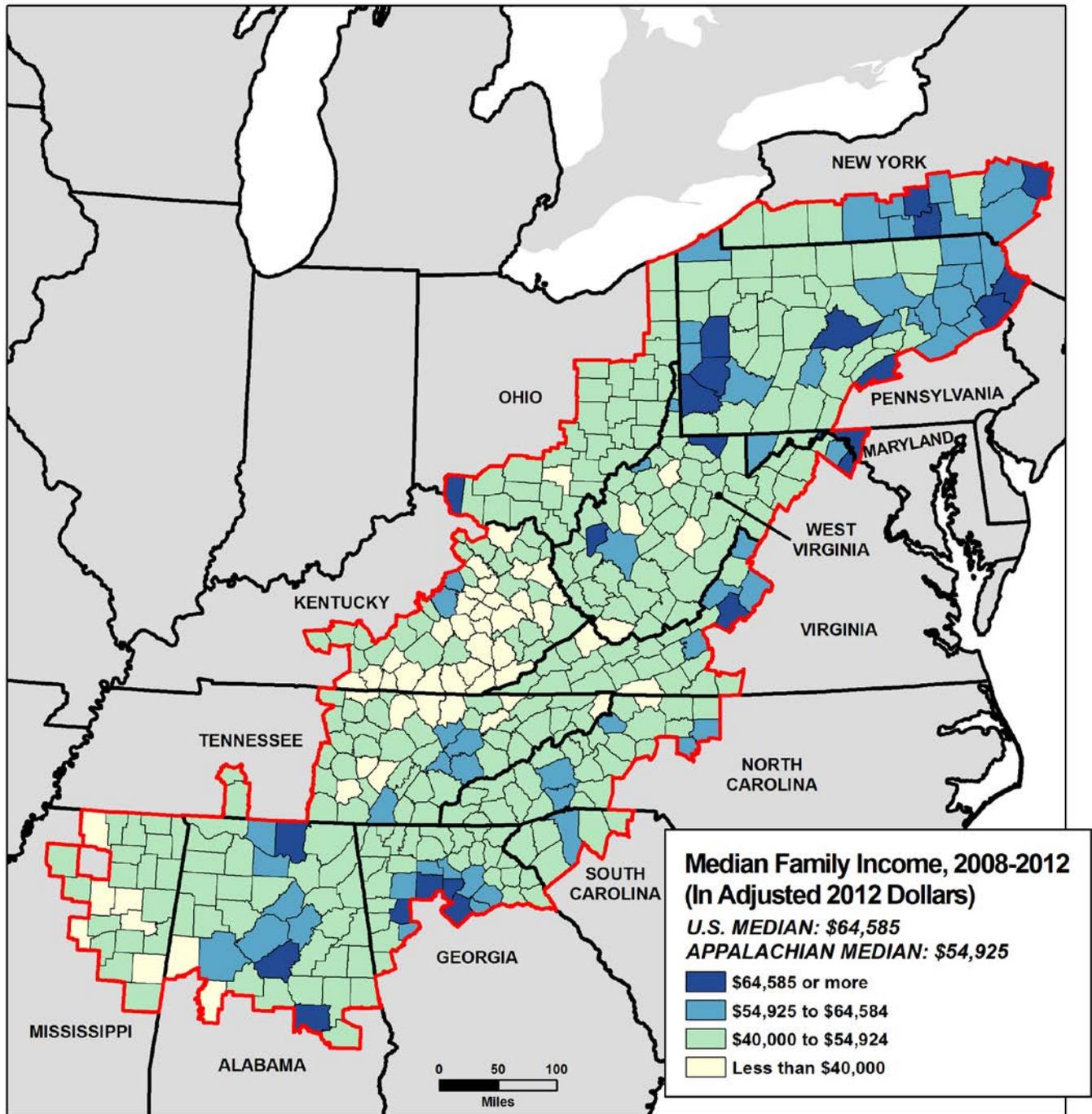


Map Title: Mean Family Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2012 Dollars), 2008-2012

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

In only 13 Appalachian counties (all in metropolitan areas), the average income of families matched or surpassed the U.S. mean of \$85,065 for the 2008-2012 period. Indeed, there were just an additional 52 counties (40 of which were part of metro areas) where mean family income was equal to or greater than the average for the Appalachian Region (\$69,212). In contrast, mean family income was less than \$50,000 in 61 Appalachian counties. All but 10 of these counties were either in the most remote rural areas or in Central Appalachia. Indeed, mean family income over the 2008-2012 period (a time frame that includes extended periods of economic decline and recovery) was well below \$60,000 for both of these areas.

**Figure 7.4: Median Family Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2012 Dollars), 2008-2012**

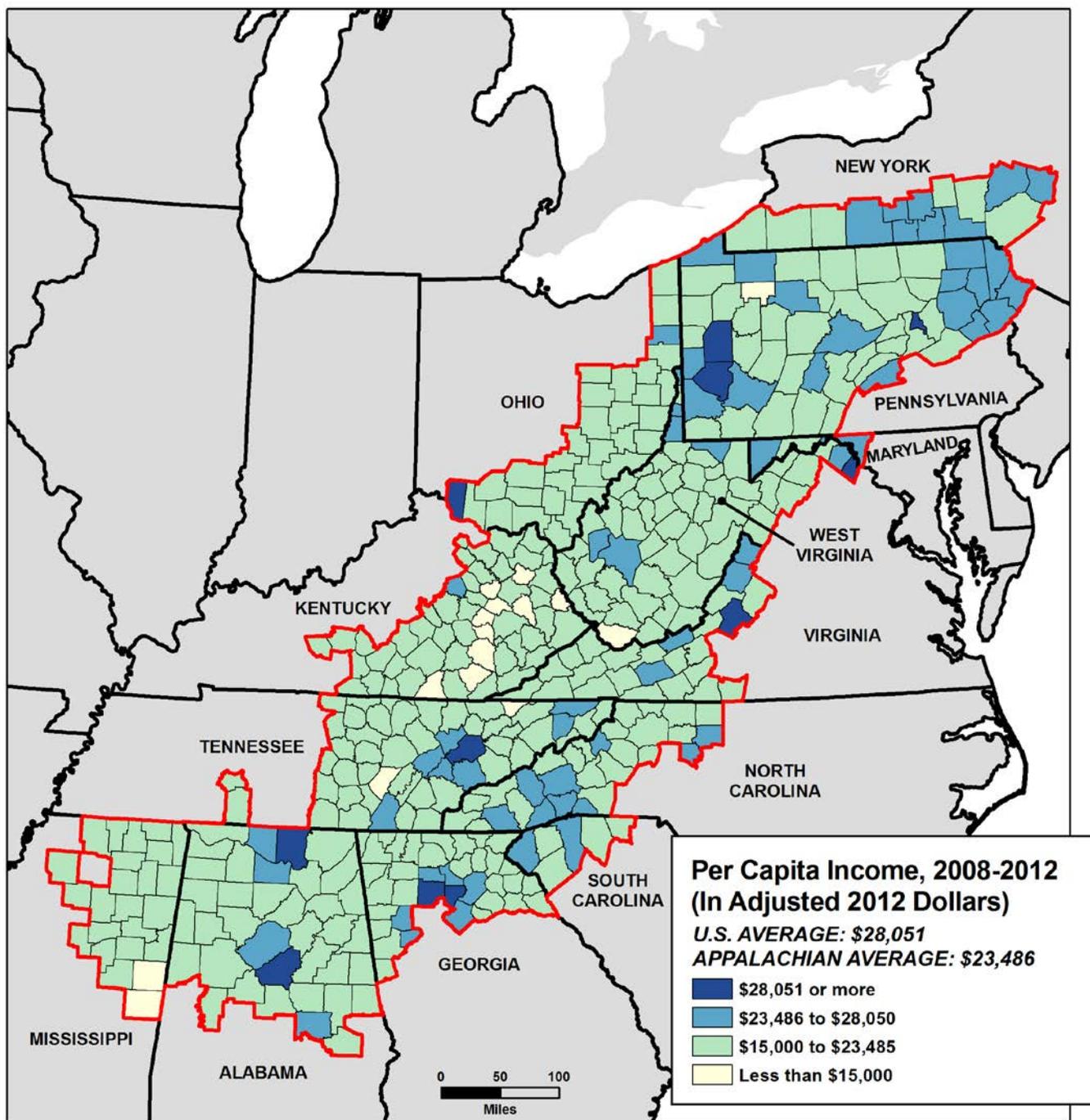


Map Title: Median Family Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2012 Dollars), 2008-2012

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

In 23 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 \$64,585 during the 2008-2012 period. In another 58 counties (again, mostly in metro areas), median income matched or exceeded the median for families in the Appalachian Region (\$54,925). In contrast, median family income was less than \$40,000 in 54 counties. Of the counties in this latter group, virtually all were either rural counties not adjacent to a metro area (median family income in those counties was \$43,680) and/or in Central Appalachia (where median family income was \$42,433). It is important to note that the 2008-2012 period includes years of both a major recession and a relatively slow economic recovery.

Figure 7.5: Per Capita Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2012 Dollars), 2008-2012

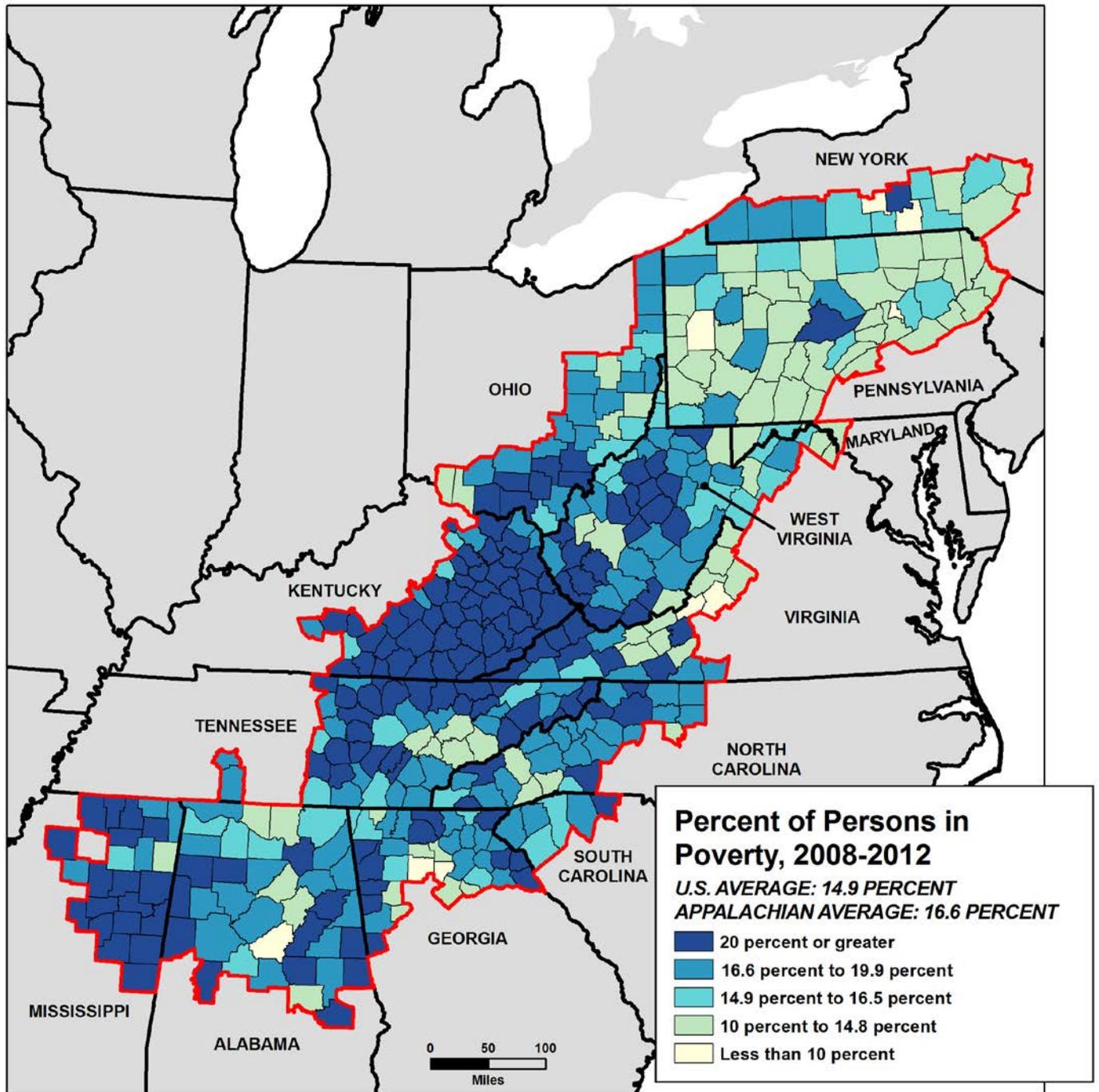


Map Title: Per Capita Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2012 Dollars), 2008-2012

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

At \$23,486, per capita income in the Appalachian Region in the 2008-2012 period was 84 percent that of the U.S. average of \$28,051. And there was greater variation 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 68 others. Yet in 16 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 2008-2012 period (which includes both recession and post-recession years) was just \$18,960 in rural Appalachian counties as a whole, and just \$18,466 in Central Appalachia.

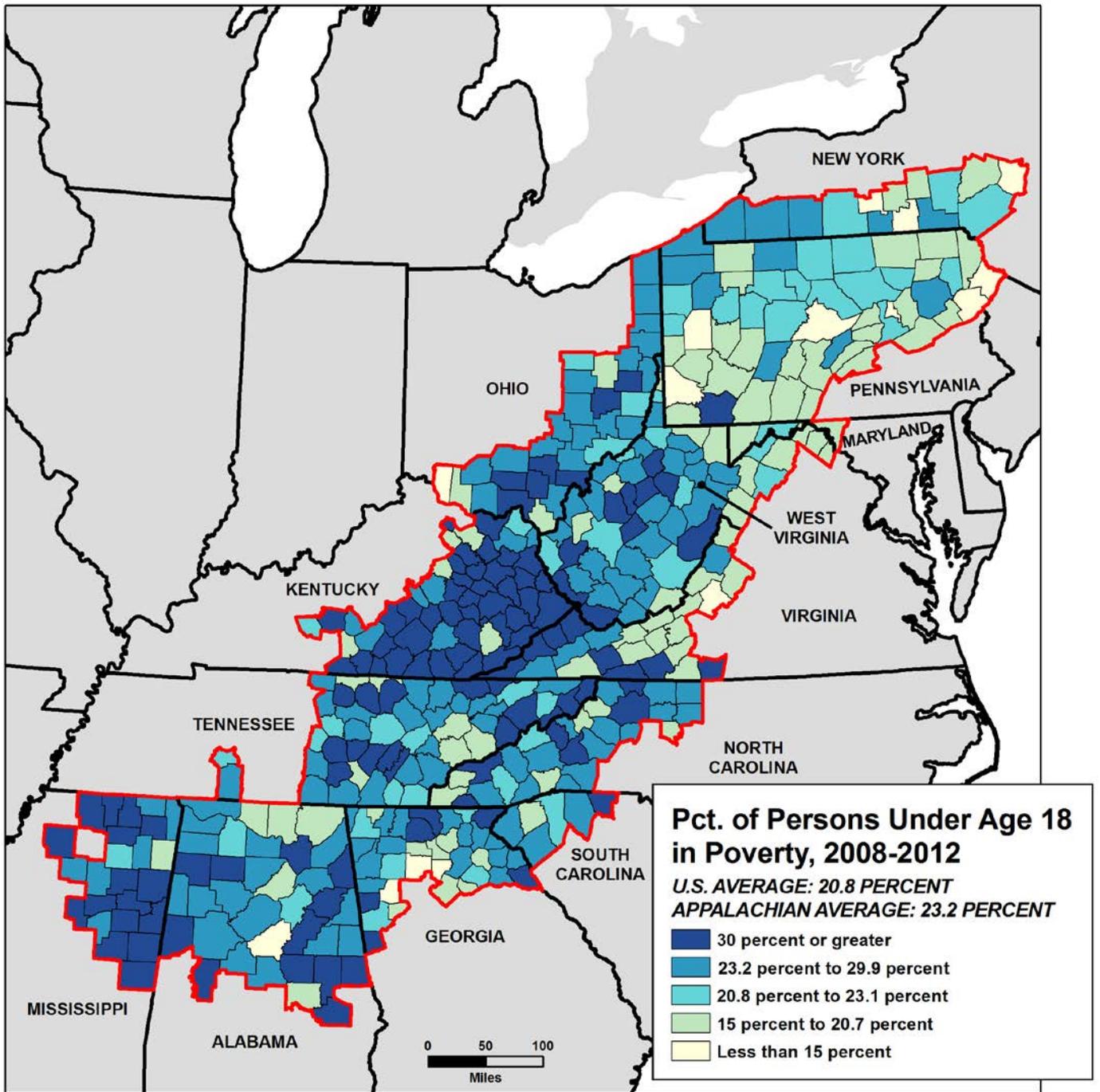
**Figure 7.6: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2008-2012**



Map Title: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2008-2012  
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008-2012 American Community Survey.

Over the 2008-2012 period (which includes years of economic downturn and recovery), about one in six Appalachian residents lived below the poverty level (income below \$23,283 for a family of two adults and two children in 2012)—nearly two percentage points above the U.S. average. Both rates are higher than they were in the 2000 Census, likely the result of the inability of incomes in the post-recovery period to completely return to pre-recession levels. But there is a great deal of variation within the Region: In 154 counties, at least one-fifth of persons were poor, yet in another 94 counties the poverty rate was lower than the national average. And there was a geographic and urban/rural pattern: Nearly all of the counties with poverty rates at or above 20 percent were outside metropolitan areas, and most were in Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia. In contrast, virtually all of the counties where poverty stood below the U.S. rate were in metropolitan areas and/or in Northern Appalachia.

**Figure 7.7: Percent of Persons Under Age 18 in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2008-2012**

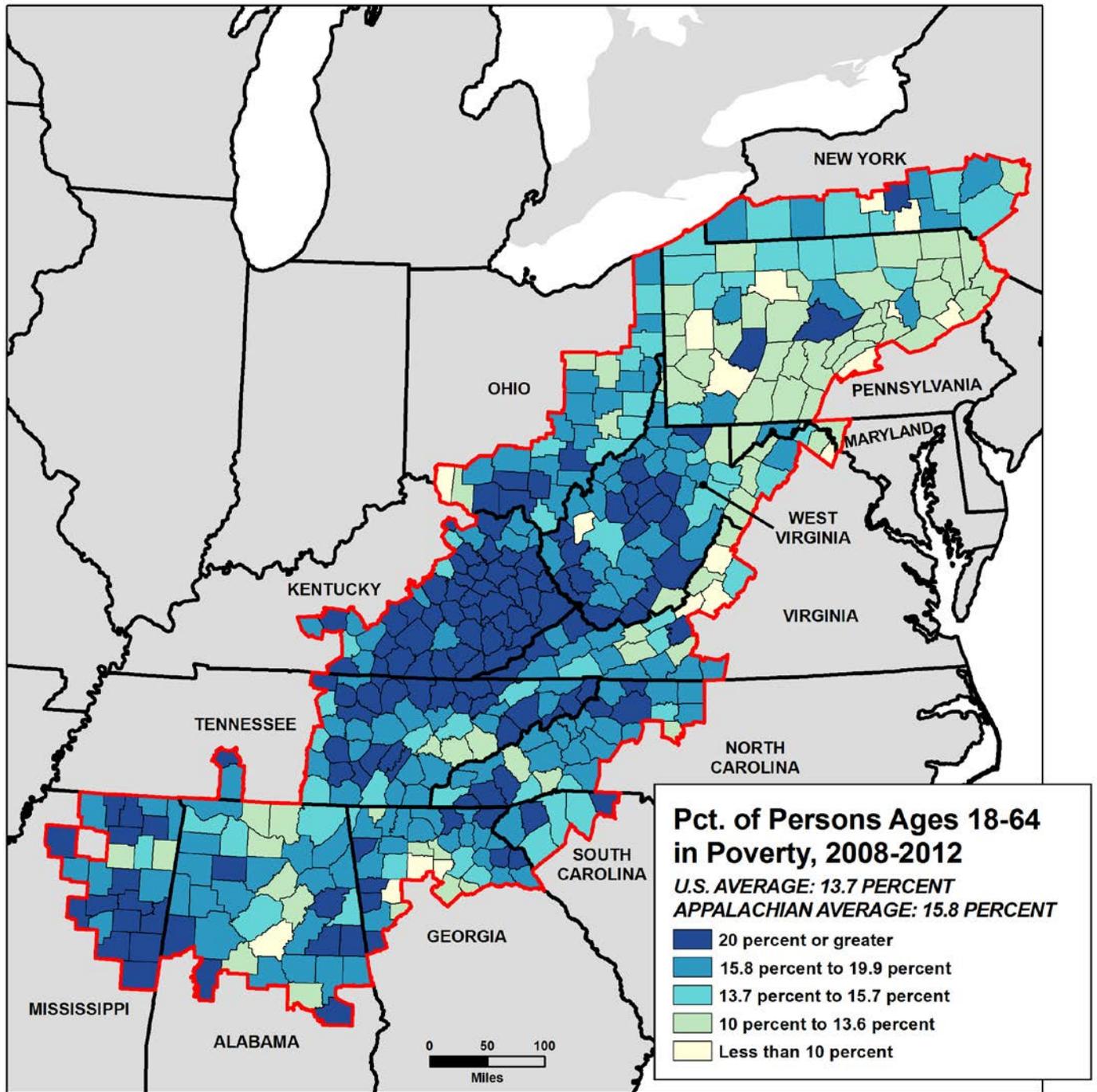


Map Title: Percent of Persons Under Age 18 in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2008-2012

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

Child poverty in the Appalachian Region exceeded 23 percent in 2008-2012 (a period that includes 18 months of recession followed by a slow economic recovery); that is more than two percentage points above the national rate. And the problem is even more acute in some parts of Appalachia. In 123 counties, at least 30 percent of children under age 18 lived below the poverty level (income below \$23,283 for a family of two adults and two children in 2012). Nearly all of these counties were outside metropolitan areas, and more than half were in the most isolated rural areas. Central Appalachia was home to nearly half of the counties with the highest rates, while most of the rest were in South Central and Southern Appalachia. However, there were 103 counties where child poverty rates were below the national average. Most of these were in metropolitan areas—including 12 of the 15 counties where child poverty was 15 percent or lower.

**Figure 7.8: Percent of Persons Ages 18 to 64 in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2008-2012**

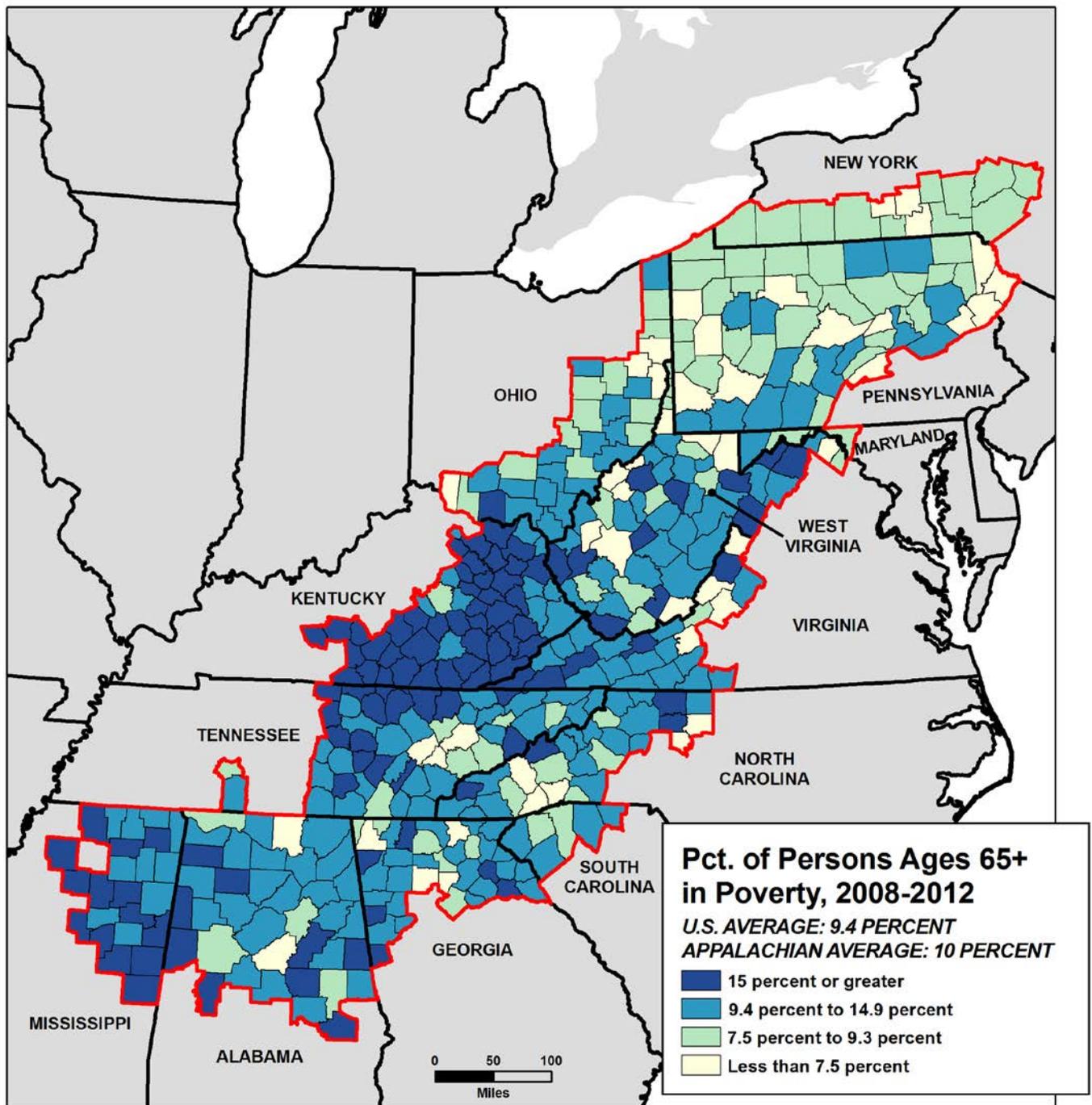


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 18 to 64 in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2008-2012

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

Though at slightly lower levels, the poverty pattern among adults ages 18 to 64 in the Appalachian Region mirrored that for the overall population in the 2008-2012 period. Nearly 16 percent of Appalachian residents in this age group were below poverty (income of less than \$23,283 for a family of two adults and two children in 2012), and this rate was two percentage points above the U.S. average. Within the Region, there were rural/urban and geographic patterns of poverty concentration. Of the 131 counties where at least one in five 18-to-64-year-olds was poor, 113 were outside metropolitan areas, and 110 were in Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia. Conversely, all but a handful of the counties with rates below the national average were either in metro areas or in Northern Appalachia.

**Figure 7.9: Percent of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2008-2012**



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

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

The poverty rate for older residents of Appalachia was 10 percent in 2008-2012 (a period of recession and recovery), only slightly higher than the national average. Yet the rate was actually lower than the national average in 134 counties, half of which were in Northern Appalachia alone. But as with other age groups, poverty was especially prevalent among the senior population in Central Appalachia, where one in six older residents was poor in 2008-2012. Moreover, this subregion had more than half of Appalachia’s 108 counties where the poverty rate among seniors was at least 15 percent. (Determined by a series of income thresholds based on family size and composition, the poverty level for a family of two adults and two children was \$23,283 in 2012.)