

CHAPTER 11: VETERAN STATUS

Table 11.1: Veteran Status of Adult Civilians in the Appalachian Region by Age Group, 2008-2012

Veteran Status	Civilian Population				Percent Who Are Veterans			
	Ages 18 and Over	Ages 18-34	Ages 35-64	Ages 65 and Over	Ages 18 and Over	Ages 18-34	Ages 35-64	Ages 65 and Over
United States	234,029,580	71,169,745	122,188,394	40,671,441	9.3	2.4	8.9	22.8
Appalachian Region	19,566,659	5,421,770	10,298,598	3,846,291	10.4	2.4	9.8	23.2
Subregions								
Northern Appalachia	6,628,349	1,774,042	3,440,152	1,414,155	11.1	2.4	10.0	24.8
North Central Appalachia	1,890,637	521,943	995,549	373,145	11.1	2.9	10.7	23.7
Central Appalachia	1,488,078	394,900	802,447	290,731	8.8	2.2	8.3	19.2
South Central Appalachia	3,705,815	1,001,718	1,928,097	776,000	10.6	2.3	10.0	22.7
Southern Appalachia	5,853,780	1,729,167	3,132,353	992,260	9.7	2.4	9.7	22.4
County Types								
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	4,401,044	1,236,913	2,389,535	774,596	9.8	2.3	9.1	23.9
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	7,943,265	2,278,578	4,111,054	1,553,633	10.7	2.4	10.3	23.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	1,307,987	352,669	689,814	265,504	10.9	2.3	10.5	23.5
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	3,948,072	1,032,489	2,076,249	839,334	10.8	2.5	10.0	22.8
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	1,966,291	521,121	1,031,946	413,224	9.7	2.4	8.8	20.9
Alabama	3,630,798	1,078,744	1,888,749	663,305	11.0	3.0	11.2	23.2
Appalachian Alabama	2,341,390	688,161	1,227,373	425,856	10.5	2.5	10.7	22.8
Non-Appalachian Alabama	1,289,408	390,583	661,376	237,449	11.8	3.9	12.2	23.9
Georgia	7,174,586	2,282,374	3,845,586	1,046,626	9.8	2.7	10.5	22.6
Appalachian Georgia	2,144,430	634,264	1,196,254	313,912	8.9	2.2	8.9	22.4
Non-Appalachian Georgia	5,030,156	1,648,110	2,649,332	732,714	10.2	2.9	11.2	22.7
Kentucky	3,301,237	966,178	1,751,982	583,077	9.7	2.6	9.7	21.4
Appalachian Kentucky	913,404	252,123	489,282	171,999	8.4	2.1	8.0	18.6
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	2,387,833	714,055	1,262,700	411,078	10.2	2.7	10.4	22.6
Maryland	4,406,628	1,308,738	2,382,164	715,726	9.9	3.1	9.8	22.9
Appalachian Maryland	198,657	54,921	103,571	40,165	11.1	2.6	10.5	24.1
Non-Appalachian Maryland	4,207,971	1,253,817	2,278,593	675,561	9.9	3.2	9.8	22.8
Mississippi	2,200,661	682,913	1,133,907	383,841	9.4	2.8	9.5	21.1
Appalachian Mississippi	472,307	142,837	240,208	89,262	8.4	2.5	8.0	19.3
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	1,728,354	540,076	893,699	294,579	9.7	2.9	9.9	21.6
New York	15,054,725	4,630,801	7,783,290	2,640,634	6.4	1.3	5.4	17.9
Appalachian New York	841,457	252,192	421,864	167,401	10.6	2.3	10.2	23.9
Non-Appalachian New York	14,213,268	4,378,609	7,361,426	2,473,233	6.1	1.3	5.2	17.5
North Carolina	7,180,691	2,120,791	3,811,931	1,247,969	10.3	3.0	10.5	22.2
Appalachian North Carolina	1,331,244	346,818	697,007	287,419	10.5	2.0	9.7	22.6
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	5,849,447	1,773,973	3,114,924	960,550	10.3	3.2	10.6	22.1
Ohio	8,804,336	2,513,814	4,655,920	1,634,602	10.1	2.2	9.8	23.4
Appalachian Ohio	1,570,752	414,754	835,239	320,759	11.1	2.3	10.5	23.9
Non-Appalachian Ohio	7,233,584	2,099,060	3,820,681	1,313,843	9.9	2.2	9.6	23.3
Pennsylvania	9,907,988	2,774,490	5,161,151	1,972,347	9.9	2.1	8.7	24.0
Appalachian Pennsylvania	4,601,010	1,222,401	2,388,527	990,082	11.1	2.5	9.8	25.1
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	5,306,978	1,552,089	2,772,624	982,265	8.8	1.8	7.8	22.8
South Carolina	3,516,451	1,039,901	1,836,452	640,098	11.3	3.2	11.5	23.8
Appalachian South Carolina	895,653	263,905	468,518	163,230	10.1	2.4	10.0	23.1
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	2,620,798	775,996	1,367,934	476,868	11.7	3.5	12.0	24.0
Tennessee	4,842,197	1,424,997	2,555,781	861,419	10.2	2.6	10.3	22.3
Appalachian Tennessee	2,176,580	585,671	1,144,233	446,676	10.6	2.4	10.2	22.5
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	2,665,617	839,326	1,411,548	414,743	9.9	2.8	10.5	22.0
Virginia	6,044,223	1,820,162	3,235,556	988,505	12.1	4.5	12.7	24.4
Appalachian Virginia	617,984	173,870	313,936	130,178	9.8	2.2	9.1	21.5
Non-Appalachian Virginia	5,426,239	1,646,292	2,921,620	858,327	12.4	4.8	13.1	24.8
West Virginia (entire state)	1,461,791	389,853	772,586	299,352	11.3	3.0	10.7	23.6

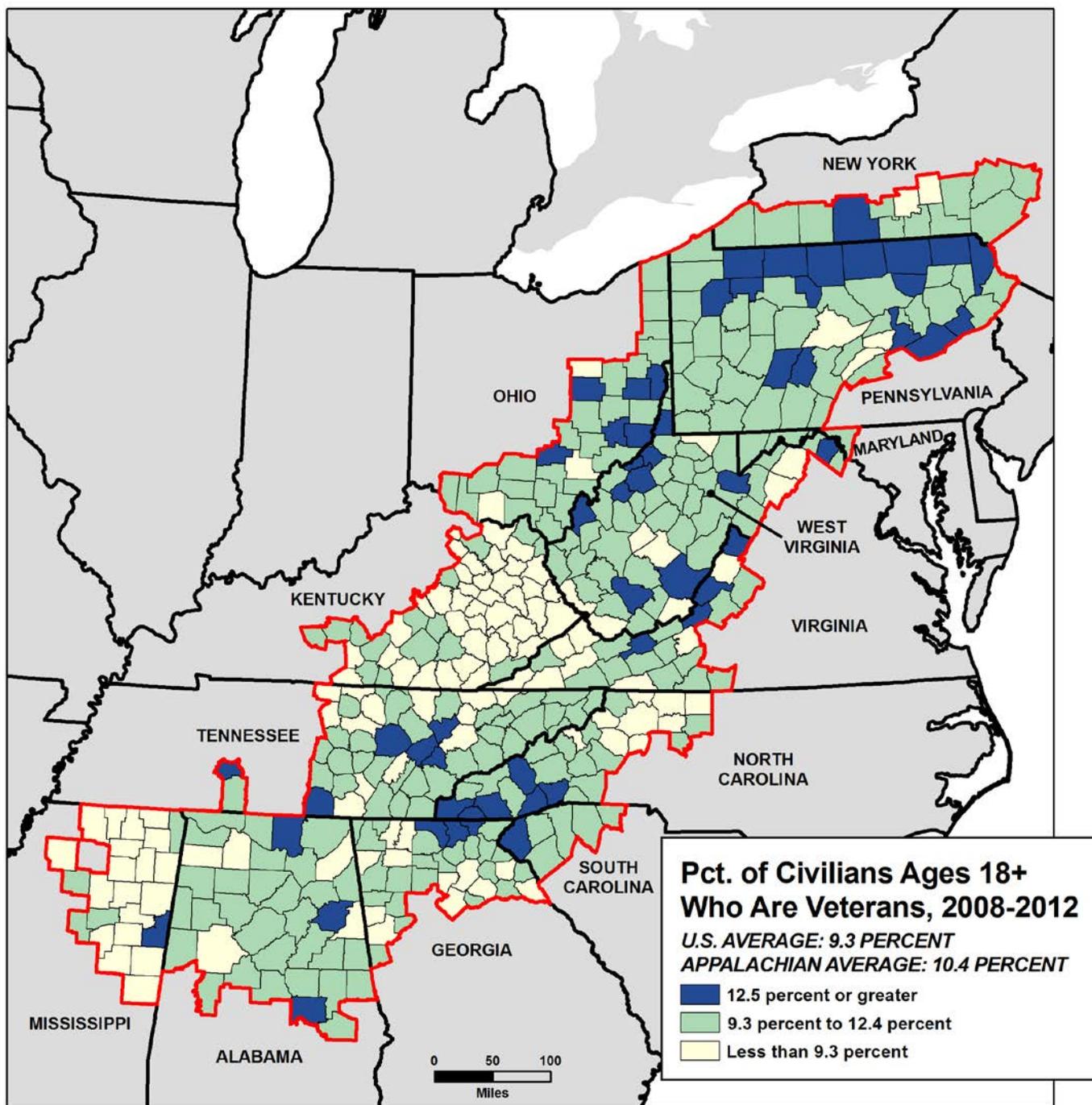
Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008-2012 American Community Survey.

Table 11.2: Veteran Status of Adult Civilians in the Appalachian Region by Gender, 2008-2012

Veteran Status	Civilian Population Ages 18 and Over			Percent Who Are Veterans		
	Both Sexes	Males	Females	Both Sexes	Males	Females
United States	234,029,580	113,202,658	120,826,922	9.3	17.9	1.3
Appalachian Region	19,566,659	9,470,287	10,096,372	10.4	20.3	1.1
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	6,628,349	3,222,362	3,405,987	11.1	21.7	1.1
North Central Appalachia	1,890,637	925,539	965,098	11.1	21.5	1.2
Central Appalachia	1,488,078	729,471	758,607	8.8	17.2	0.7
South Central Appalachia	3,705,815	1,782,905	1,922,910	10.6	20.7	1.2
Southern Appalachia	5,853,780	2,810,010	3,043,770	9.7	18.8	1.2
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	4,401,044	2,106,423	2,294,621	9.8	19.2	1.2
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	7,943,265	3,831,378	4,111,887	10.7	20.8	1.2
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	1,307,987	639,322	668,665	10.9	21.2	1.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	3,948,072	1,936,128	2,011,944	10.8	20.8	1.1
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	1,966,291	957,036	1,009,255	9.7	18.9	0.9
Alabama	3,630,798	1,726,015	1,904,783	11.0	21.3	1.6
Appalachian Alabama	2,341,390	1,117,541	1,223,849	10.5	20.5	1.4
Non-Appalachian Alabama	1,289,408	608,474	680,934	11.8	22.9	1.9
Georgia	7,174,586	3,430,159	3,744,427	9.8	18.4	1.9
Appalachian Georgia	2,144,430	1,040,095	1,104,335	8.9	17.1	1.2
Non-Appalachian Georgia	5,030,156	2,390,064	2,640,092	10.2	19.0	2.1
Kentucky	3,301,237	1,593,712	1,707,525	9.7	18.8	1.2
Appalachian Kentucky	913,404	446,339	467,065	8.4	16.3	0.7
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	2,387,833	1,147,373	1,240,460	10.2	19.7	1.4
Maryland	4,406,628	2,087,790	2,318,838	9.9	18.8	2.0
Appalachian Maryland	198,657	100,962	97,695	11.1	20.3	1.5
Non-Appalachian Maryland	4,207,971	1,986,828	2,221,143	9.9	18.7	2.0
Mississippi	2,200,661	1,044,753	1,155,908	9.4	18.3	1.4
Appalachian Mississippi	472,307	223,450	248,857	8.4	16.8	0.9
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	1,728,354	821,303	907,051	9.7	18.7	1.5
New York	15,054,725	7,160,909	7,893,816	6.4	12.7	0.6
Appalachian New York	841,457	411,430	430,027	10.6	20.5	1.2
Non-Appalachian New York	14,213,268	6,749,479	7,463,789	6.1	12.2	0.6
North Carolina	7,180,691	3,406,784	3,773,907	10.3	19.8	1.7
Appalachian North Carolina	1,331,244	637,434	693,810	10.5	20.6	1.2
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	5,849,447	2,769,350	3,080,097	10.3	19.6	1.8
Ohio	8,804,336	4,232,442	4,571,894	10.1	19.8	1.2
Appalachian Ohio	1,570,752	766,433	804,319	11.1	21.6	1.0
Non-Appalachian Ohio	7,233,584	3,466,009	3,767,575	9.9	19.5	1.2
Pennsylvania	9,907,988	4,757,718	5,150,270	9.9	19.5	1.0
Appalachian Pennsylvania	4,601,010	2,232,844	2,368,166	11.1	21.8	1.1
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	5,306,978	2,524,874	2,782,104	8.8	17.5	1.0
South Carolina	3,516,451	1,673,146	1,843,305	11.3	21.8	1.7
Appalachian South Carolina	895,653	428,924	466,729	10.1	19.8	1.2
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	2,620,798	1,244,222	1,376,576	11.7	22.5	1.9
Tennessee	4,842,197	2,317,686	2,524,511	10.2	19.8	1.4
Appalachian Tennessee	2,176,580	1,048,578	1,128,002	10.6	20.8	1.1
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	2,665,617	1,269,108	1,396,509	9.9	19.0	1.6
Virginia	6,044,223	2,887,305	3,156,918	12.1	22.5	2.7
Appalachian Virginia	617,984	304,725	313,259	9.8	18.9	1.0
Non-Appalachian Virginia	5,426,239	2,582,580	2,843,659	12.4	22.9	2.9
West Virginia (entire state)	1,461,791	711,532	750,259	11.3	22.0	1.1

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

Figure 11.1: Percent of Adult Civilians in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2008-2012

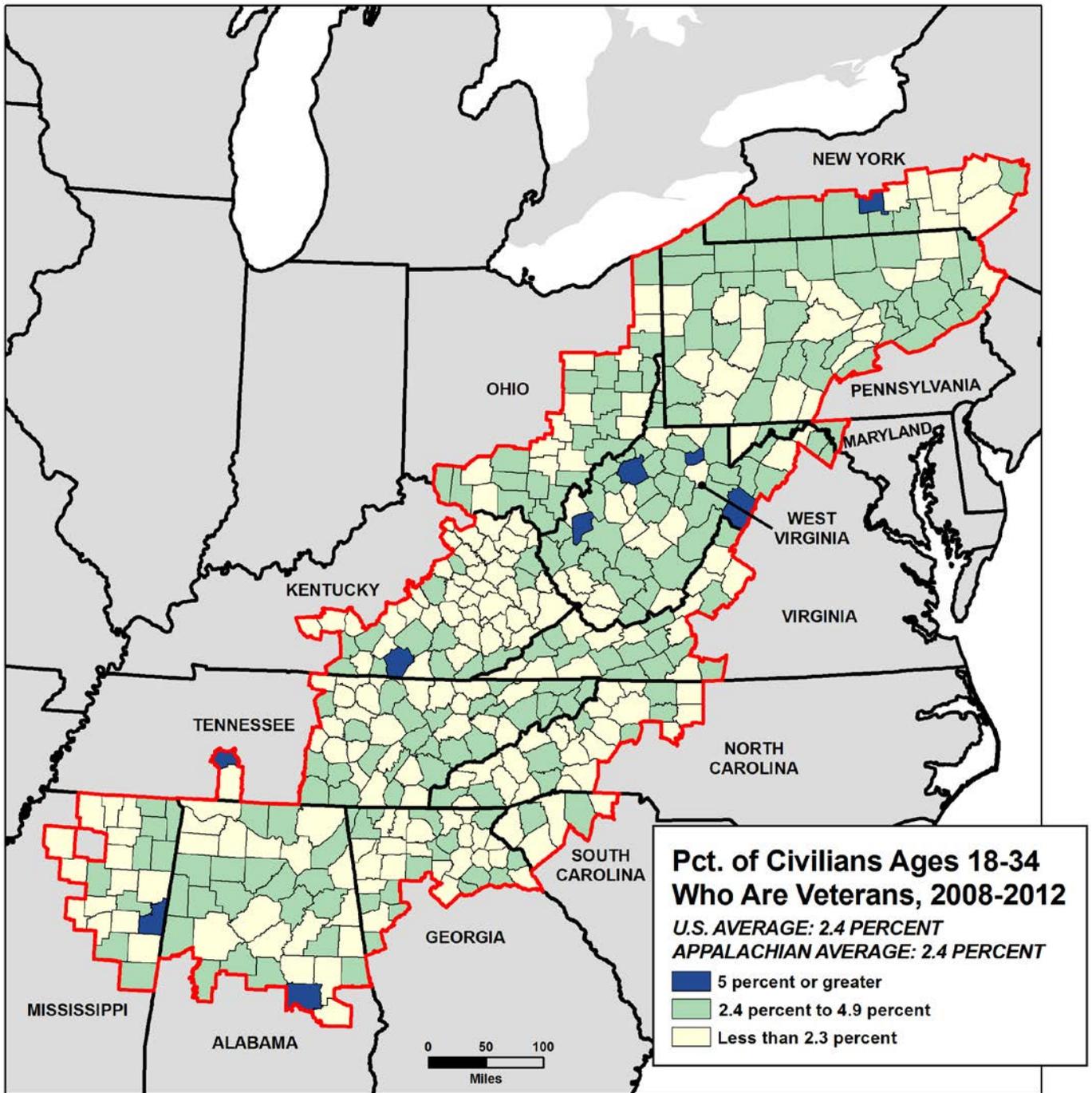


Map Title: Percent of Adult Civilians in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2008-2012

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

In 2008-2012, slightly more than 10 percent of adult civilians in the Appalachian Region were veterans—men and women who have served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, the National Guard or Reserves, or in the U.S. Merchant Marine during World War II. While slightly higher than the national average, the rate was even higher in some parts of the Region: In 57 Appalachian counties, at least one in eight civilian residents were veterans. In contrast, the veteran prevalence rate was actually lower than the national average in 121 counties.

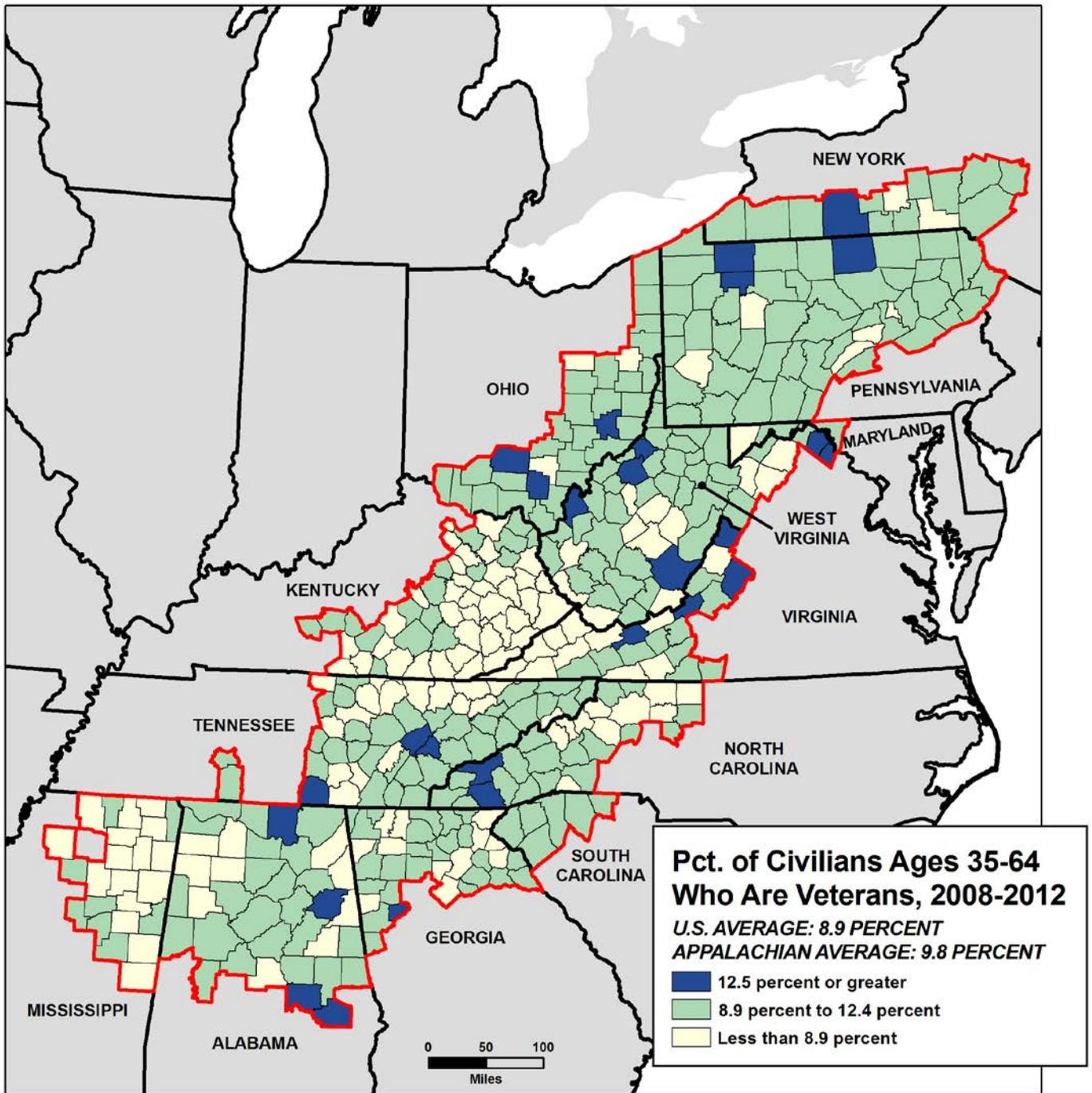
Figure 11.2: Percent of Civilians Ages 18 to 34 in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2008-2012



Map Title: Percent of Civilians Ages 18 to 34 in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2008-2012
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008-2012 American Community Survey.

Although military veterans accounted for just 2.4 percent of Appalachia’s young adult (ages 18-34) civilian population, the prevalence was higher in nearly half of the Region’s counties. In fact, there were nine Appalachian counties where at least 5 percent of 18-to-34-year-old civilians were veterans. Most veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan fall in this age group.

Figure 11.3: Percent of Civilians Ages 35 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2008-2012

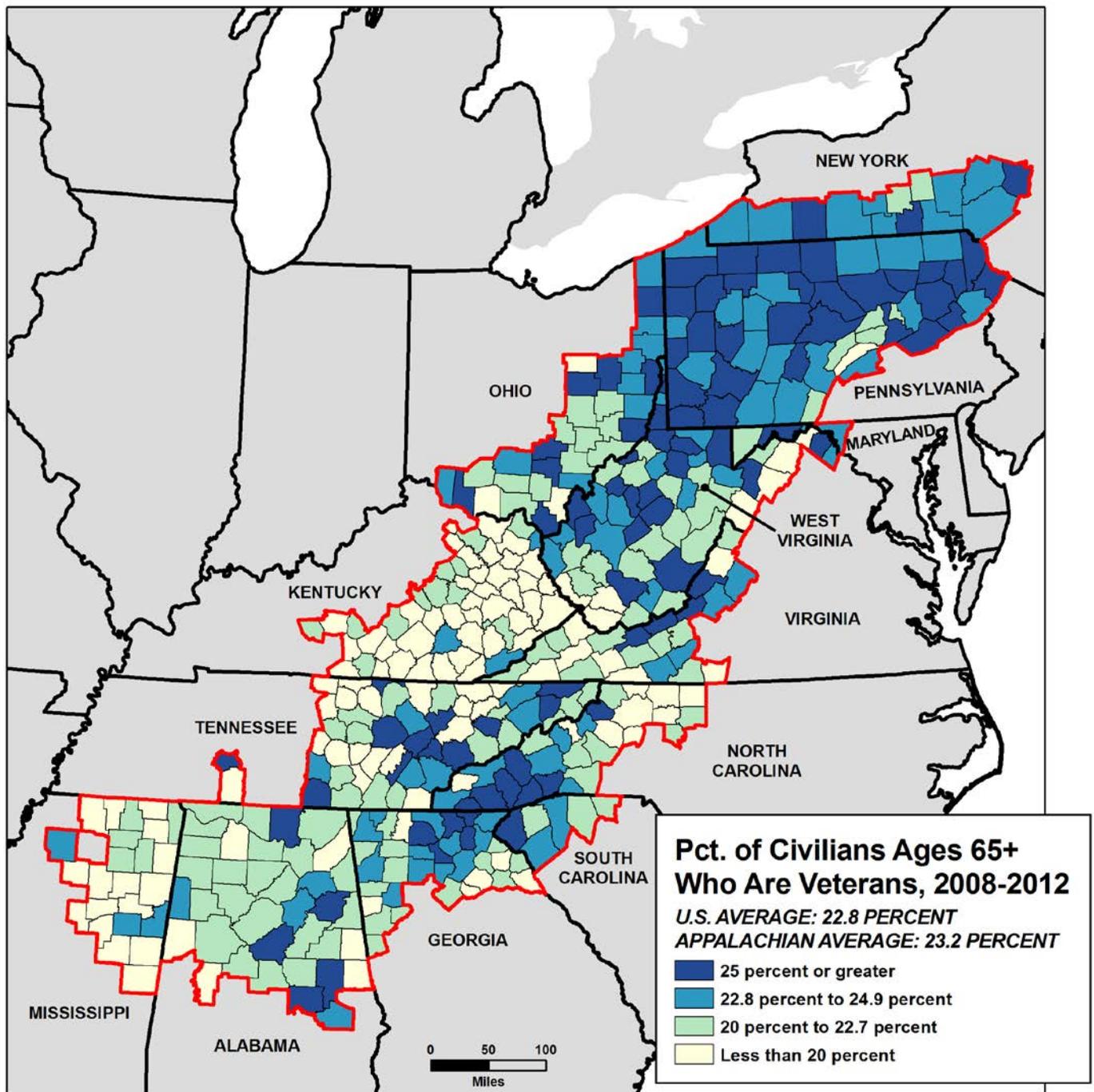


Map Title: Percent of Civilians Ages 35 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2008-2012

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

In the Appalachian Region, nearly 10 percent of civilians ages 35 to 64 were military veterans in 2008-2012, slightly greater than the U.S. rate of 9 percent. The prevalence was even higher in some counties: In 27 of them, veterans comprised at least one-eighth of the 35-to-64-year-old civilian residents. Conversely, the veteran prevalence rate was lower than the national average in 136 counties. Most veterans of the 1991 Gulf War fall in this age group, as do the youngest Vietnam veterans.

Figure 11.4: Percent of Civilians Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2008-2012



Map Title: Percent of Civilians Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2008-2012

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

In 2008-2012, nearly one-fourth of Appalachia's older civilian residents were military veterans—most of whom served during World War II and the wars in Korea and Vietnam. Yet there is some variation within the Region. For example, at least 25 percent of older civilians were veterans in 94 counties, most of which were in Northern and North Central Appalachia. By contrast, there were 113 counties where veterans comprised less than 20 percent of the older civilian residents. Almost half the counties in this latter group were in Central Appalachia, while much of the rest were in South Central and Southern Appalachia.