

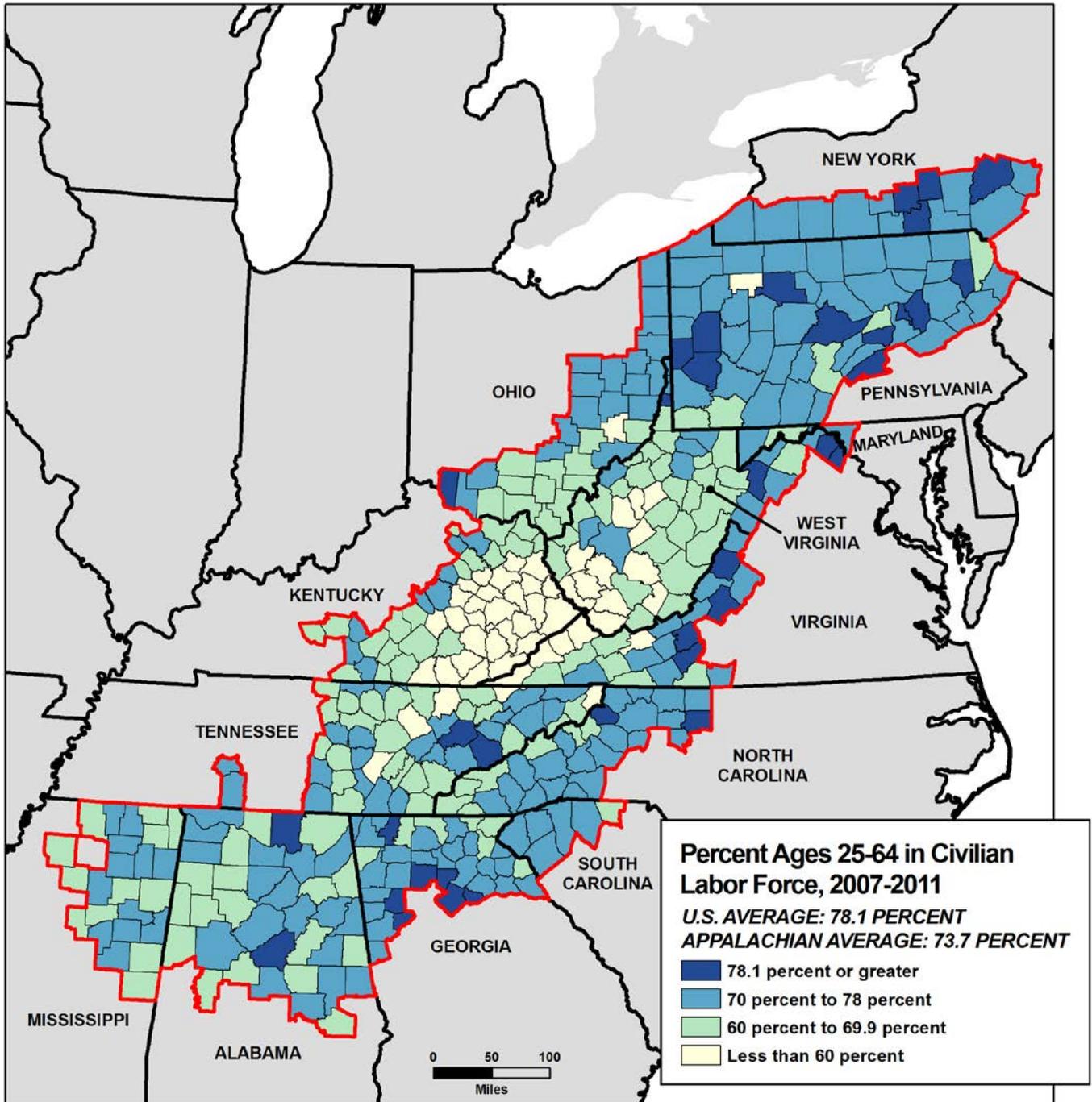
CHAPTER 6: LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT

Table 6.1: Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment Status of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011

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	161,736,741	126,293,518	78.1	92.8	7.2
Appalachian Region	13,253,025	9,767,461	73.7	92.8	7.2
Subregions					
Northern Appalachia	4,373,847	3,326,217	76.0	93.6	6.4
North Central Appalachia	1,283,905	902,375	70.3	93.2	6.8
Central Appalachia	1,034,015	624,693	60.4	92.0	8.0
South Central Appalachia	2,465,273	1,832,879	74.3	92.6	7.4
Southern Appalachia	4,095,985	3,081,297	75.2	92.2	7.8
County Types					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	3,100,115	2,427,591	78.3	93.1	6.9
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	5,306,826	3,976,121	74.9	93.1	6.9
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	877,684	639,030	72.8	92.0	8.0
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	2,642,102	1,861,003	70.4	92.5	7.5
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	1,326,298	863,716	65.1	92.4	7.6
Alabama	2,477,896	1,808,472	73.0	92.4	7.6
Appalachian Alabama	1,610,309	1,180,616	73.3	92.6	7.4
Non-Appalachian Alabama	867,587	627,856	72.4	92.0	8.0
Georgia	5,111,728	3,932,272	76.9	92.0	8.0
Appalachian Georgia	1,561,655	1,219,157	78.1	92.2	7.8
Non-Appalachian Georgia	3,550,073	2,713,115	76.4	91.9	8.1
Kentucky	2,299,922	1,655,141	72.0	92.7	7.3
Appalachian Kentucky	634,331	385,313	60.7	91.7	8.3
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	1,665,591	1,269,828	76.2	92.9	7.1
Maryland	3,111,944	2,569,588	82.6	94.3	5.7
Appalachian Maryland	133,629	99,025	74.1	93.7	6.3
Non-Appalachian Maryland	2,978,315	2,470,563	83.0	94.3	5.7
Mississippi	1,509,059	1,090,534	72.3	92.3	7.7
Appalachian Mississippi	315,871	224,306	71.0	91.6	8.4
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	1,193,188	866,228	72.6	92.5	7.5
New York	10,393,903	8,134,407	78.3	93.3	6.7
Appalachian New York	537,703	412,770	76.8	93.9	6.1
Non-Appalachian New York	9,856,200	7,721,637	78.3	93.3	6.7
North Carolina	4,976,341	3,851,634	77.4	91.9	8.1
Appalachian North Carolina	887,159	667,674	75.3	92.2	7.8
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	4,089,182	3,183,960	77.9	91.9	8.1
Ohio	6,072,811	4,749,667	78.2	92.3	7.7
Appalachian Ohio	1,070,516	777,059	72.6	91.7	8.3
Non-Appalachian Ohio	5,002,295	3,972,608	79.4	92.4	7.6
Pennsylvania	6,659,205	5,221,463	78.4	93.7	6.3
Appalachian Pennsylvania	3,034,073	2,320,953	76.5	93.9	6.1
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	3,625,132	2,900,510	80.0	93.4	6.6
South Carolina	2,396,425	1,803,137	75.2	91.5	8.5
Appalachian South Carolina	608,150	457,218	75.2	91.7	8.3
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	1,788,275	1,345,919	75.3	91.4	8.6
Tennessee	3,356,696	2,526,611	75.3	92.3	7.7
Appalachian Tennessee	1,468,765	1,069,287	72.8	92.5	7.5
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	1,887,931	1,457,324	77.2	92.2	7.8
Virginia	4,244,031	3,374,389	79.5	95.0	5.0
Appalachian Virginia	398,918	276,218	69.2	93.7	6.3
Non-Appalachian Virginia	3,845,113	3,098,171	80.6	95.1	4.9
West Virginia (entire state)	991,946	677,865	68.3	94.0	6.0

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

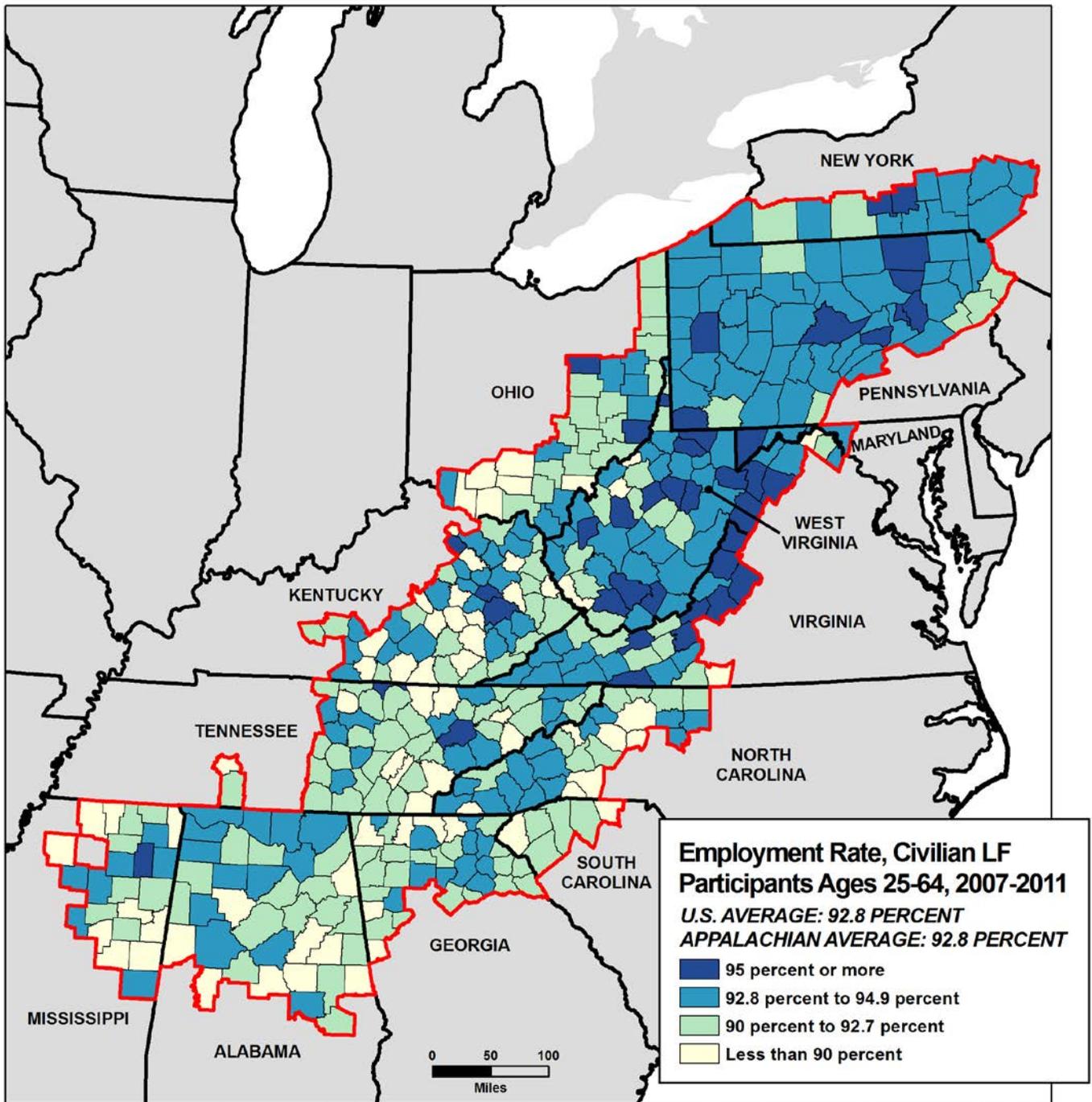
Figure 6.1: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Who Are In the Labor Force, 2007-2011



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Who Are In the Labor Force, 2007-2011
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

In the 2007-2011 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 36 Appalachian counties (scattered throughout the region), the share was at or above the national average; two-thirds of those counties were in metropolitan areas. On the other hand, there were 51 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 40 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 most of the counties with labor force participation rates matching or exceeding that of the nation, the share of working-age adults with at least a high school diploma was also at or above the U.S. average.

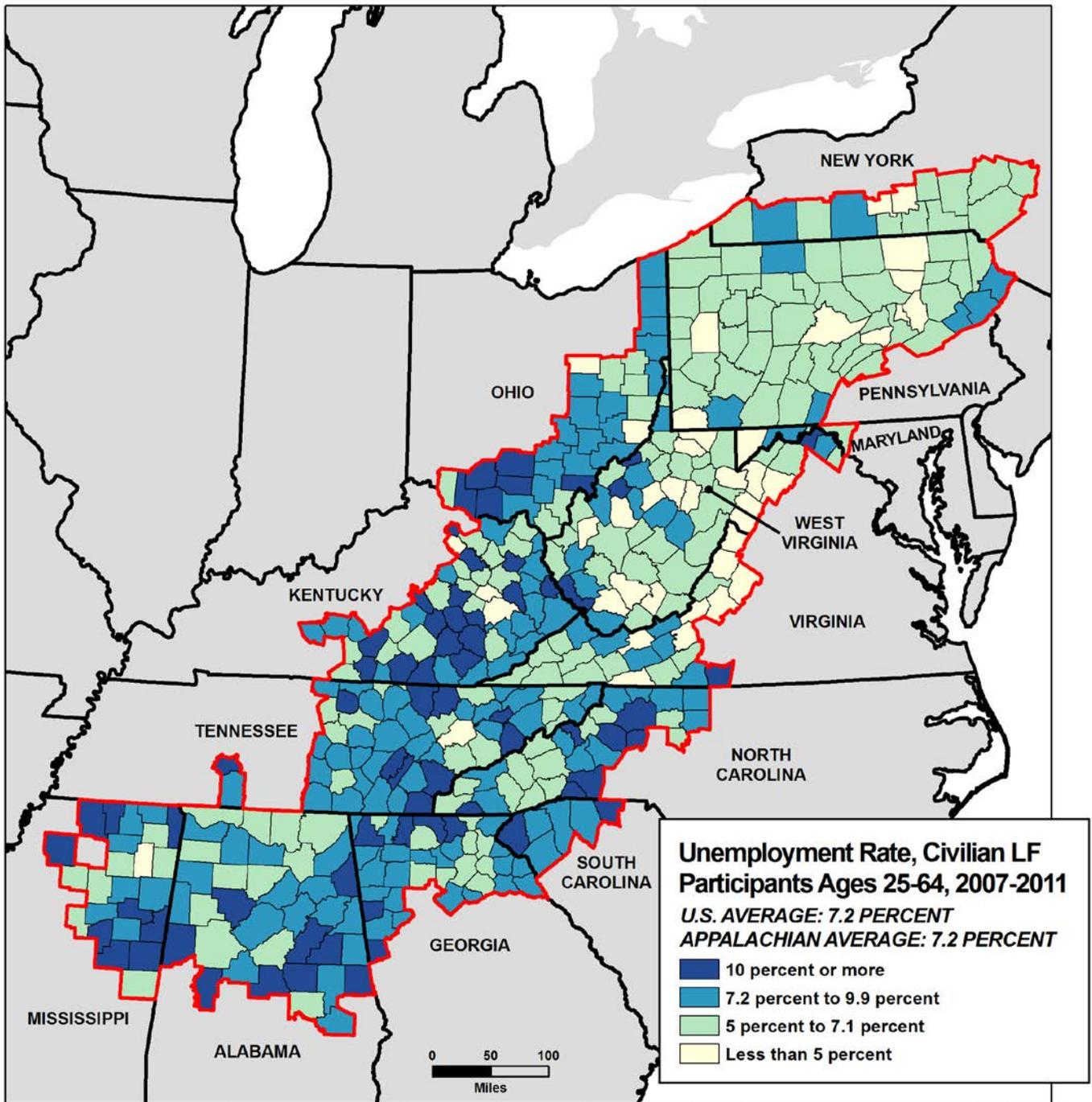
Figure 6.2: Employment Rate for Civilian Labor Force Participants Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011



Map Title: Employment Rate for Civilian Labor Force Participants Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

The employment rate in Appalachia (among members of the civilian labor force ages 25 to 64) was identical to the national rate during the 2007-2011 period. Although there were only slight differences among subregions and urban/rural county types, there was some variation at the county level. In half of Appalachian counties, the employment rate matched or exceeded the national average, with 42 counties having employment rates of at least 95 percent. Yet in another 70 counties in the region, employment among 25-to-64-year-olds was less than 90 percent. 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, 2007-2011



Map Title: Unemployment Rate for Civilian Labor Force Participants Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2007-2011
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

Unemployment in the Appalachian region among persons ages 25 to 64 was at the national average during the 2007-2011 period. Within Appalachia, unemployment was at least 10 percent in 71 counties—55 of which were outside metropolitan areas and 62 in central, south central, and southern Appalachia. Conversely, unemployment was less than 5 percent in 40 other counties; two-thirds of these were in northern or north central Appalachia. There are indications of a connection between unemployment and educational attainment: In 67 of the 71 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 40 of these counties, the share was less than four-fifths.