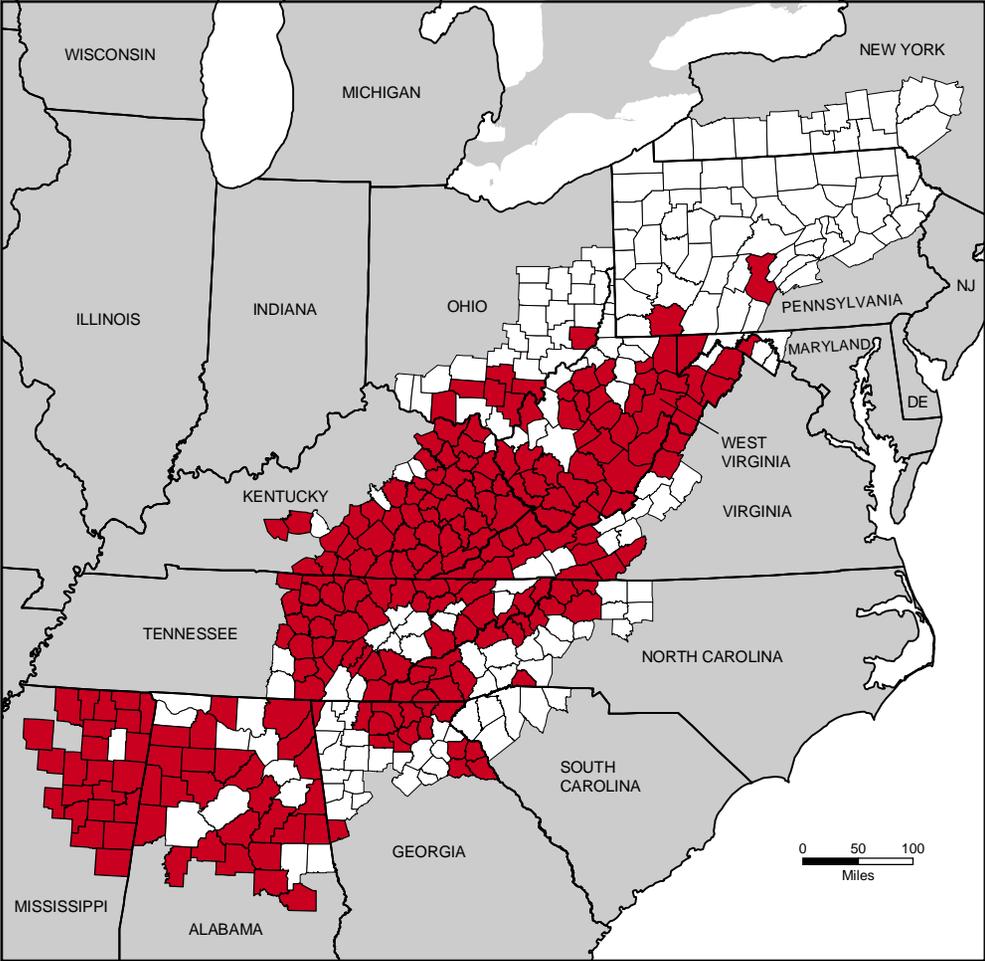


Distressed Counties in the Appalachian Region

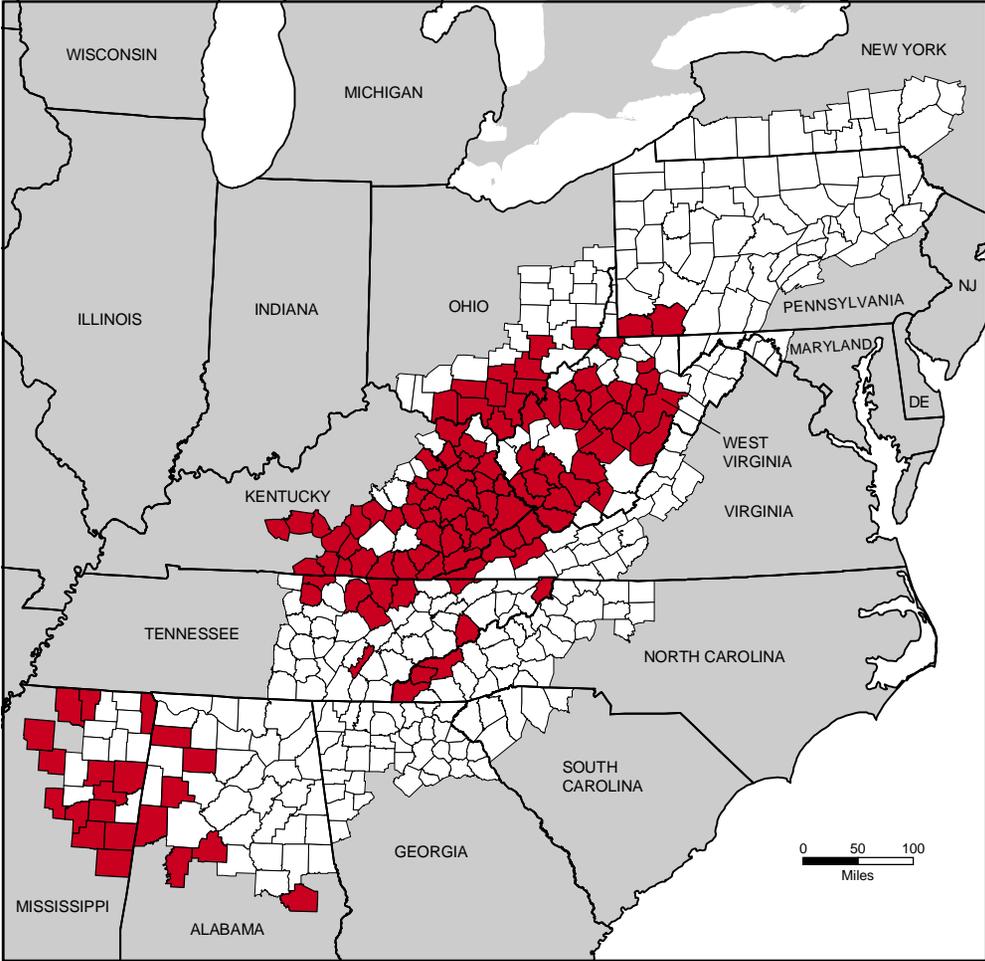
1960

223 Distressed Counties



FY 2003

121 Distressed Counties



Definition of Distress in 1960:
 Distressed counties have an unemployment rate that is at least 1.5 times the U.S. average of 5.1 percent; a per capita market income that is two-thirds or less of the U.S. average of \$1,639; and a poverty rate that is at least 1.5 times the U.S. average of 22.1 percent; OR they have 2 times the U.S. poverty rate and qualify on the unemployment or income indicator.

Data Sources:
 Unemployment: Census data from USDA, Economic Research Service (ERS), 1960;
 Income: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1960;
 Poverty: Office of Economic Opportunity data from USDA, ERS, 1960.



Appalachian
 Regional
 Commission

Definition of Distress in Fiscal Year 2003:
 Distressed counties have a three-year average unemployment rate that is at least 1.5 times the U.S. average of 4.2 percent; a per capita market income that is two-thirds or less of the U.S. average of \$24,819; and a poverty rate that is at least 1.5 times the U.S. average of 13.1 percent; OR they have 2 times the U.S. poverty rate and qualify on the unemployment or income indicator.

Data Sources:
 Unemployment: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1998-2000;
 Income: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, 1999;
 Poverty: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1990.