

CHAPTER 11: VETERAN STATUS

Table 11.1: Veteran Status of Adult Civilians in the Appalachian Region by Age Group, 2009-2013

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	236,576,902	71,976,195	122,749,665	41,851,042	9.0	2.4	8.4	22.2
Appalachian Region	19,677,415	5,450,287	10,292,858	3,934,270	10.1	2.3	9.3	22.8
Subregions								
Northern Appalachia	6,640,709	1,786,764	3,422,091	1,431,854	10.7	2.4	9.4	24.3
North Central Appalachia	1,899,240	522,981	995,244	381,015	10.8	2.7	10.3	23.4
Central Appalachia	1,489,834	393,308	799,625	296,901	8.5	2.0	7.7	19.0
South Central Appalachia	3,731,998	1,007,344	1,926,202	798,452	10.2	2.2	9.3	22.5
Southern Appalachia	5,915,634	1,739,890	3,149,696	1,026,048	9.4	2.3	9.2	22.0
County Types								
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	4,496,704	1,261,704	2,429,464	805,536	9.5	2.2	8.7	23.4
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	8,344,994	2,386,097	4,299,677	1,659,220	10.3	2.3	9.7	23.3
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	1,715,342	466,223	894,214	354,905	10.4	2.3	9.7	22.6
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	3,132,362	794,439	1,640,277	697,646	10.6	2.5	9.4	22.7
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	1,988,013	541,824	1,029,226	416,963	9.1	2.3	8.0	20.4
Alabama	3,660,703	1,085,924	1,894,205	680,574	10.6	2.9	10.7	22.6
Appalachian Alabama	2,358,822	690,963	1,231,081	436,778	10.2	2.4	10.3	22.2
Non-Appalachian Alabama	1,301,881	394,961	663,124	243,796	11.4	3.8	11.6	23.2
Georgia	7,269,336	2,303,945	3,875,374	1,090,017	9.5	2.7	9.9	22.2
Appalachian Georgia	2,175,812	637,893	1,208,623	329,296	8.7	2.1	8.4	22.3
Non-Appalachian Georgia	5,093,524	1,666,052	2,666,751	760,721	9.8	2.9	10.6	22.2
Kentucky	3,323,981	971,460	1,754,646	597,875	9.4	2.5	9.2	21.2
Appalachian Kentucky	915,148	251,398	487,924	175,826	8.1	2.0	7.5	18.3
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	2,408,833	720,062	1,266,722	422,049	9.9	2.7	9.8	22.3
Maryland	4,457,690	1,328,709	2,390,309	738,672	9.6	3.0	9.3	22.3
Appalachian Maryland	199,249	55,251	103,262	40,736	10.7	2.4	10.2	22.9
Non-Appalachian Maryland	4,258,441	1,273,458	2,287,047	697,936	9.5	3.0	9.3	22.2
Mississippi	2,216,273	687,968	1,135,472	392,833	9.1	2.7	8.9	20.6
Appalachian Mississippi	474,512	143,876	239,623	91,013	8.1	2.4	7.4	18.8
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	1,741,761	544,092	895,849	301,820	9.3	2.8	9.3	21.1
New York	15,171,222	4,682,212	7,793,627	2,695,383	6.0	1.3	5.0	17.2
Appalachian New York	842,290	253,592	418,411	170,287	10.2	2.4	9.4	23.5
Non-Appalachian New York	14,328,932	4,428,620	7,375,216	2,525,096	5.8	1.3	4.7	16.7
North Carolina	7,282,130	2,145,372	3,841,598	1,295,160	9.9	2.9	9.9	21.9
Appalachian North Carolina	1,341,610	349,554	696,202	295,854	10.1	1.9	9.0	22.4
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	5,940,520	1,795,818	3,145,396	999,306	9.9	3.1	10.0	21.7
Ohio	8,843,597	2,528,595	4,648,356	1,666,646	9.8	2.1	9.2	22.9
Appalachian Ohio	1,572,209	413,782	832,585	325,842	10.8	2.3	10.0	23.7
Non-Appalachian Ohio	7,271,388	2,114,813	3,815,771	1,340,804	9.6	2.1	9.0	22.8
Pennsylvania	9,963,649	2,805,135	5,153,713	2,004,801	9.5	2.1	8.1	23.3
Appalachian Pennsylvania	4,612,887	1,233,642	2,377,364	1,001,881	10.7	2.4	9.2	24.5
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	5,350,762	1,571,493	2,776,349	1,002,920	8.4	1.8	7.2	22.0
South Carolina	3,566,687	1,053,163	1,847,309	666,215	11.0	3.3	10.9	23.4
Appalachian South Carolina	906,488	267,158	470,369	168,961	9.6	2.3	9.2	22.6
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	2,660,199	786,005	1,376,940	497,254	11.4	3.6	11.5	23.7
Tennessee	4,892,602	1,438,025	2,566,641	887,936	9.9	2.6	9.7	22.2
Appalachian Tennessee	2,192,816	588,294	1,144,484	460,038	10.3	2.3	9.5	22.5
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	2,699,786	849,731	1,422,157	427,898	9.6	2.8	9.9	21.9
Virginia	6,129,622	1,853,420	3,252,916	1,023,286	11.9	4.6	12.2	23.8
Appalachian Virginia	618,358	174,085	311,484	132,789	9.3	2.1	8.4	20.8
Non-Appalachian Virginia	5,511,264	1,679,335	2,941,432	890,497	12.1	4.8	12.7	24.2
West Virginia (entire state)	1,467,214	390,799	771,446	304,969	10.9	2.7	10.1	23.2

Note: The ACS defines veterans as 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.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey.

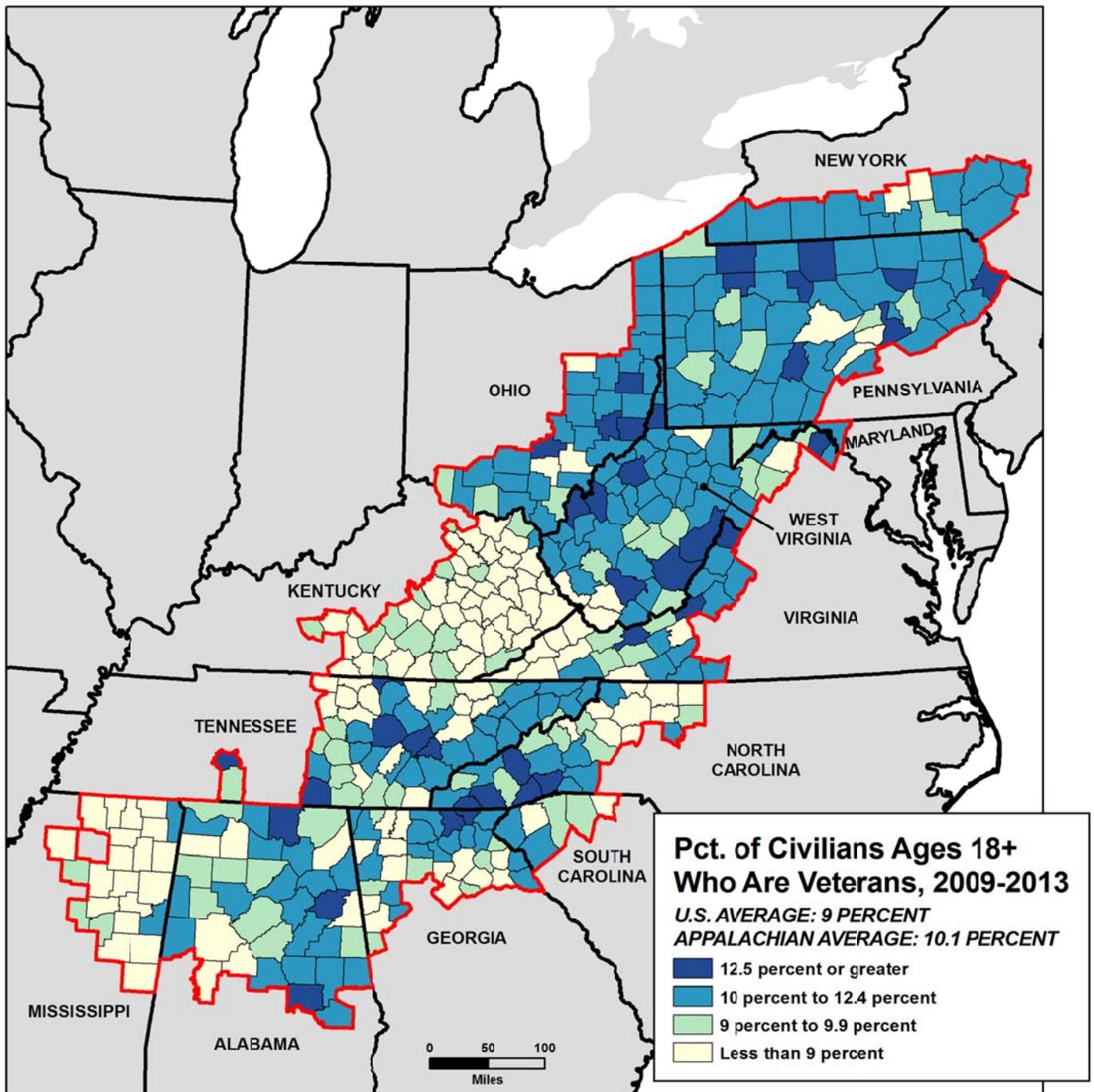
Table 11.2: Veteran Status of Adult Civilians in the Appalachian Region by Gender, 2009-2013

Veteran Status	Civilian Population Ages 18 and Over			Percent Who Are Veterans		
	Both Sexes	Males	Females	Both Sexes	Males	Females
United States	236,576,902	114,530,194	122,046,708	9.0	17.2	1.3
Appalachian Region	19,677,415	9,532,939	10,144,476	10.1	19.6	1.1
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	6,640,709	3,234,511	3,406,198	10.7	20.8	1.1
North Central Appalachia	1,899,240	931,501	967,739	10.8	20.9	1.1
Central Appalachia	1,489,834	730,271	759,563	8.5	16.5	0.8
South Central Appalachia	3,731,998	1,795,815	1,936,183	10.2	20.0	1.2
Southern Appalachia	5,915,634	2,840,841	3,074,793	9.4	18.2	1.2
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	4,496,704	2,155,085	2,341,619	9.5	18.6	1.1
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	8,344,994	4,031,408	4,313,586	10.3	20.1	1.2
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	1,715,342	842,660	872,682	10.4	20.0	1.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	3,132,362	1,531,856	1,600,506	10.6	20.5	1.1
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	1,988,013	971,930	1,016,083	9.1	17.6	0.9
Alabama	3,660,703	1,741,559	1,919,144	10.6	20.6	1.6
Appalachian Alabama	2,358,822	1,126,814	1,232,008	10.2	19.9	1.4
Non-Appalachian Alabama	1,301,881	614,745	687,136	11.4	22.0	1.9
Georgia	7,269,336	3,476,099	3,793,237	9.5	17.8	1.9
Appalachian Georgia	2,175,812	1,054,483	1,121,329	8.7	16.7	1.2
Non-Appalachian Georgia	5,093,524	2,421,616	2,671,908	9.8	18.3	2.1
Kentucky	3,323,981	1,606,476	1,717,505	9.4	18.2	1.2
Appalachian Kentucky	915,148	447,524	467,624	8.1	15.7	0.8
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	2,408,833	1,158,952	1,249,881	9.9	19.1	1.4
Maryland	4,457,690	2,115,043	2,342,647	9.6	18.0	2.0
Appalachian Maryland	199,249	101,389	97,860	10.7	19.5	1.5
Non-Appalachian Maryland	4,258,441	2,013,654	2,244,787	9.5	17.9	2.0
Mississippi	2,216,273	1,053,640	1,162,633	9.1	17.6	1.3
Appalachian Mississippi	474,512	225,140	249,372	8.1	16.0	0.9
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	1,741,761	828,500	913,261	9.3	18.0	1.5
New York	15,171,222	7,225,670	7,945,552	6.0	11.9	0.6
Appalachian New York	842,290	411,894	430,396	10.2	19.6	1.1
Non-Appalachian New York	14,328,932	6,813,776	7,515,156	5.8	11.5	0.6
North Carolina	7,282,130	3,457,259	3,824,871	9.9	19.1	1.7
Appalachian North Carolina	1,341,610	642,773	698,837	10.1	19.9	1.2
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	5,940,520	2,814,486	3,126,034	9.9	18.9	1.8
Ohio	8,843,597	4,255,235	4,588,362	9.8	19.1	1.1
Appalachian Ohio	1,572,209	768,192	804,017	10.8	21.1	1.0
Non-Appalachian Ohio	7,271,388	3,487,043	3,784,345	9.6	18.7	1.2
Pennsylvania	9,963,649	4,791,937	5,171,712	9.5	18.6	1.0
Appalachian Pennsylvania	4,612,887	2,243,937	2,368,950	10.7	20.9	1.1
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	5,350,762	2,548,000	2,802,762	8.4	16.6	1.0
South Carolina	3,566,687	1,698,750	1,867,937	11.0	21.1	1.8
Appalachian South Carolina	906,488	434,404	472,084	9.6	18.8	1.2
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	2,660,199	1,264,346	1,395,853	11.4	21.9	2.0
Tennessee	4,892,602	2,342,643	2,549,959	9.9	19.2	1.4
Appalachian Tennessee	2,192,816	1,056,278	1,136,538	10.3	20.1	1.2
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	2,699,786	1,286,365	1,413,421	9.6	18.4	1.6
Virginia	6,129,622	2,934,532	3,195,090	11.9	21.8	2.7
Appalachian Virginia	618,358	304,735	313,623	9.3	17.8	0.9
Non-Appalachian Virginia	5,511,264	2,629,797	2,881,467	12.1	22.3	2.9
West Virginia (entire state)	1,467,214	715,376	751,838	10.9	21.1	1.1

Note: The ACS defines veterans as 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.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey.

Figure 11.1: Percent of Adult Civilians in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2009-2013

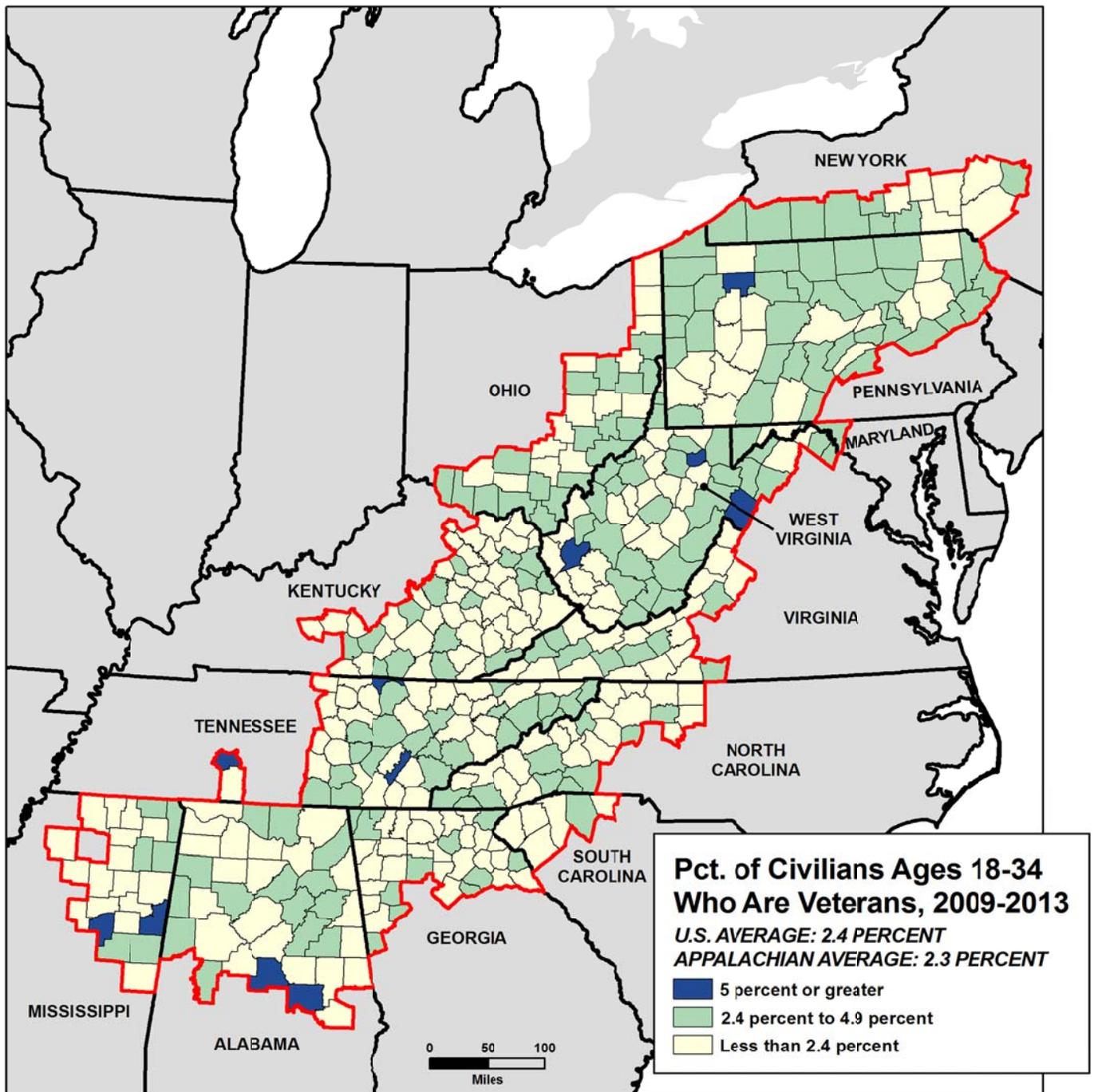


Map Title: Percent of Adult Civilians in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2009-2013

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey.

In 2009-2013, 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, there was considerable variation throughout the region. In 39 Appalachian counties, for example, at least one in eight civilian residents were veterans. In contrast, the veteran prevalence rate was actually lower than the national average in 125 counties.

Figure 11.2: Percent of Civilians Ages 18 to 34 in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2009-2013

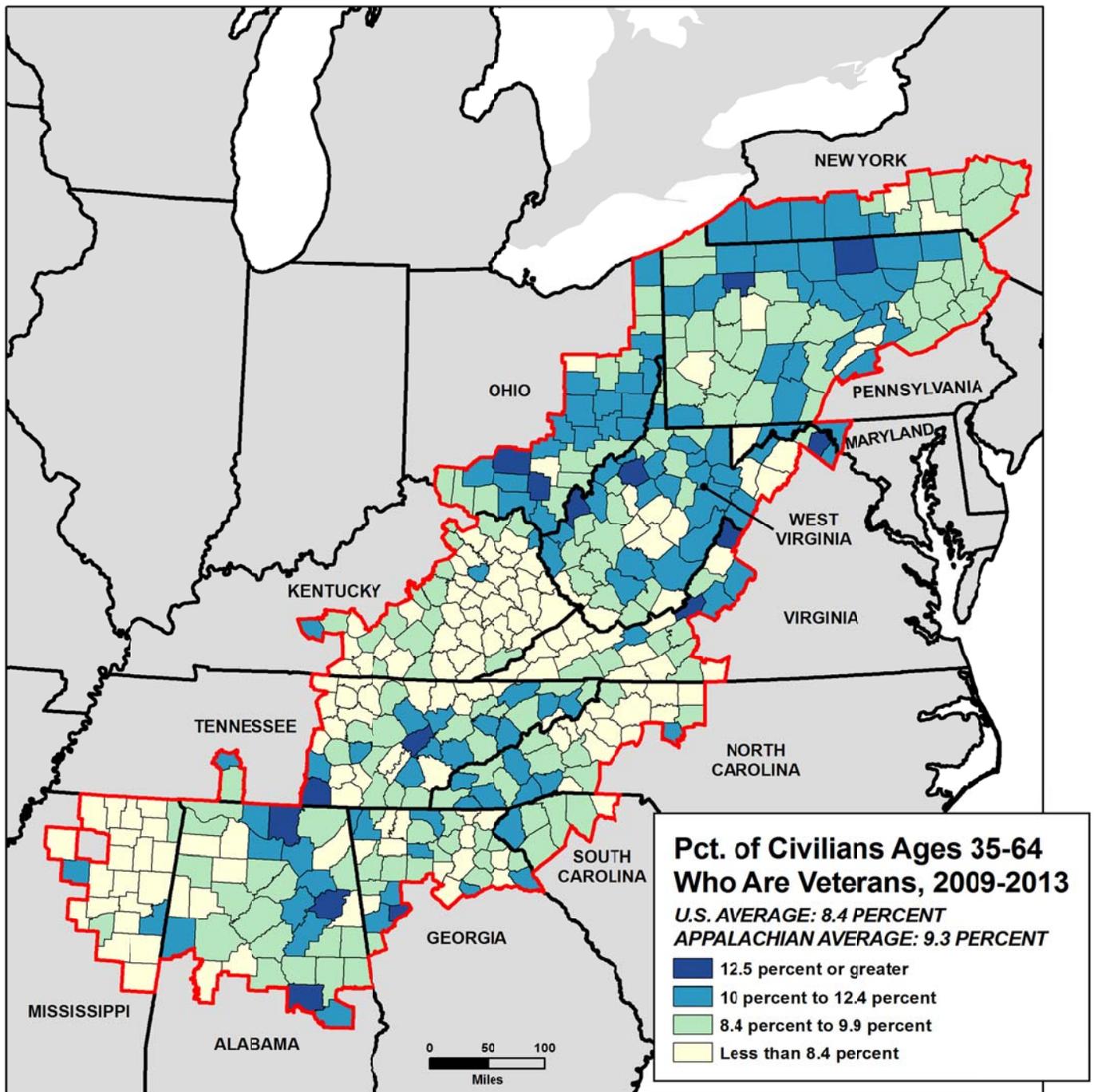


Map Title: Percent of Civilians Ages 18 to 34 in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2009-2013

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey.

Military veterans accounted for just 2.3 percent of Appalachia’s young adult (ages 18-34) civilian population in the 2009-2013 period, compared to 2.4 percent for the nation as a whole. Yet in nearly half of the Region’s counties, the prevalence was at or above the national rate. In fact, there were 11 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, 2009-2013

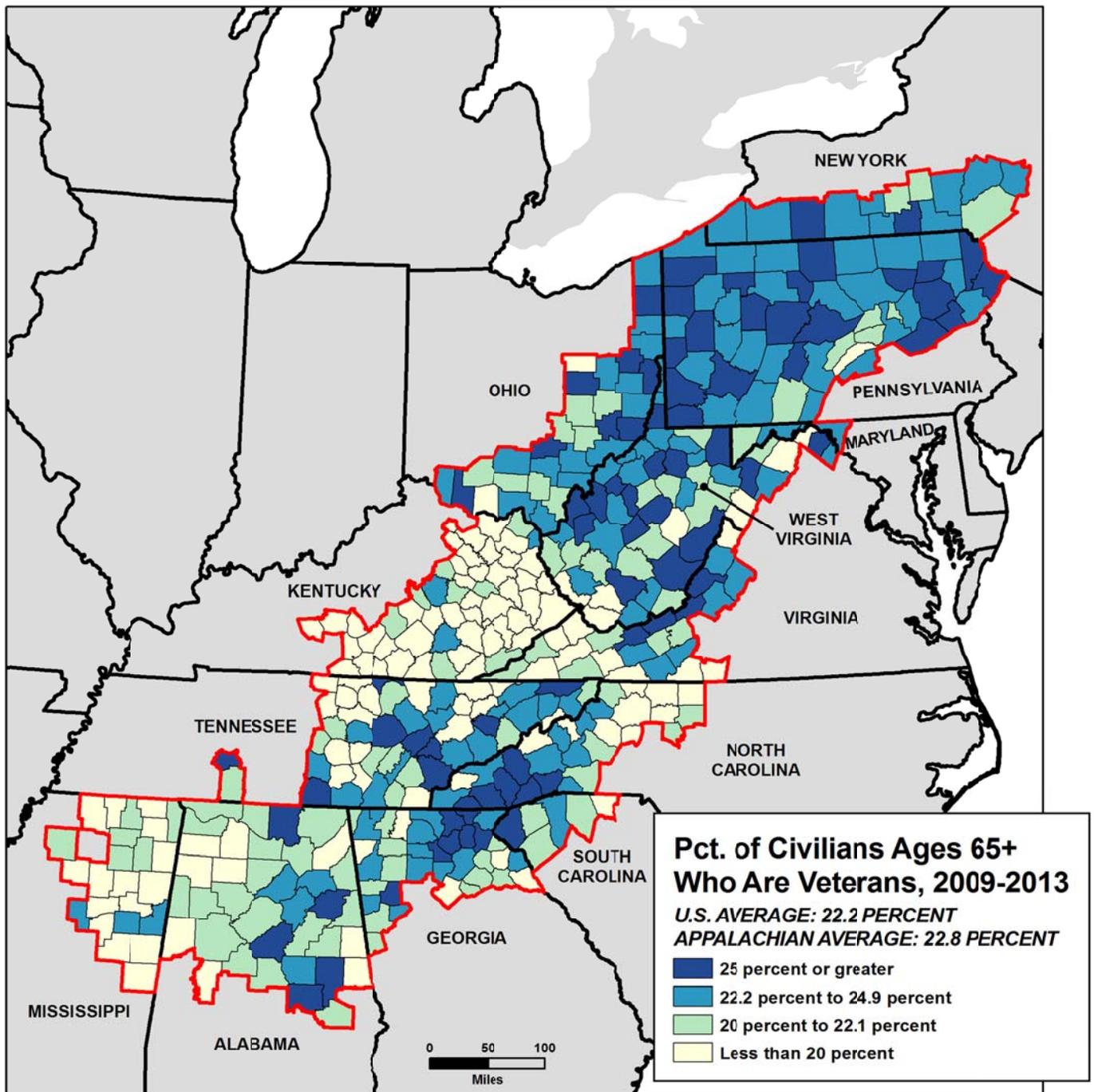


Map Title: Percent of Civilians Ages 35 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2009-2013

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey.

In the Appalachian Region, 9 percent of civilians ages 35 to 64 were military veterans in 2009-2013, slightly above the U.S. rate of 8 percent. The prevalence was even higher in some counties: In 15 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 147 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, 2009-2013



Map Title: Percent of Civilians Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2009-2013

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey.

In 2009-2013, 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 79 counties, most of which were in Northern and North Central Appalachia. By contrast, there were 120 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 nearly all of the rest were in South Central and Southern Appalachia.