

CHAPTER 5: EDUCATION

Table 5.1: Educational Attainment of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region, 2009-2013

| Education (Highest Level Attained) | Total Population Ages 25 and Over, 2009-2013 | Percent of Population Ages 25 and Over | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| | | Less than High School Diploma | High School Diploma or More | | | |
| | | | Total | H.S. Grad, No Postsecondary Degree | Associate's Degree | Bachelor's Degree or More |
| United States | 206,587,852 | 14.0 | 86.0 | 49.4 | 7.8 | 28.8 |
| Appalachian Region | 17,227,705 | 15.4 | 84.6 | 55.0 | 7.8 | 21.7 |
| Subregions | | | | | | |
| Northern Appalachia | 5,800,330 | 11.0 | 89.0 | 57.6 | 8.8 | 22.6 |
| North Central Appalachia | 1,666,039 | 15.3 | 84.7 | 59.3 | 7.0 | 18.4 |
| Central Appalachia | 1,322,449 | 25.1 | 74.9 | 56.2 | 6.1 | 12.7 |
| South Central Appalachia | 3,267,409 | 16.6 | 83.4 | 53.5 | 7.7 | 22.2 |
| Southern Appalachia | 5,171,478 | 17.3 | 82.7 | 51.4 | 7.6 | 23.6 |
| County Types | | | | | | |
| Large Metros (pop. 1 million +) | 3,979,809 | 11.5 | 88.5 | 51.6 | 8.3 | 28.6 |
| Small Metros (pop. <1 million) | 7,235,000 | 14.4 | 85.6 | 54.5 | 7.9 | 23.1 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros | 1,497,669 | 16.9 | 83.1 | 58.9 | 8.2 | 16.0 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros | 2,776,907 | 18.5 | 81.5 | 58.8 | 7.4 | 15.3 |
| Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro) | 1,738,320 | 22.3 | 77.7 | 55.6 | 7.1 | 15.0 |
| Alabama | 3,193,338 | 16.9 | 83.1 | 53.1 | 7.4 | 22.6 |
| Appalachian Alabama | 2,062,954 | 16.9 | 83.1 | 52.6 | 7.3 | 23.2 |
| Non-Appalachian Alabama | 1,130,384 | 16.9 | 83.1 | 53.9 | 7.5 | 21.6 |
| Georgia | 6,323,120 | 15.3 | 84.7 | 49.8 | 6.9 | 28.0 |
| Appalachian Georgia | 1,916,301 | 16.9 | 83.1 | 50.6 | 7.3 | 25.2 |
| Non-Appalachian Georgia | 4,406,819 | 14.5 | 85.5 | 49.5 | 6.8 | 29.2 |
| Kentucky | 2,920,579 | 17.0 | 83.0 | 54.4 | 7.1 | 21.5 |
| Appalachian Kentucky | 805,911 | 25.2 | 74.8 | 55.4 | 6.2 | 13.3 |
| Non-Appalachian Kentucky | 2,114,668 | 13.9 | 86.1 | 54.0 | 7.4 | 24.7 |
| Maryland | 3,922,827 | 11.3 | 88.7 | 45.6 | 6.3 | 36.8 |
| Appalachian Maryland | 175,109 | 13.6 | 86.4 | 60.0 | 7.8 | 18.6 |
| Non-Appalachian Maryland | 3,747,718 | 11.2 | 88.8 | 45.0 | 6.2 | 37.7 |
| Mississippi | 1,918,110 | 18.5 | 81.5 | 53.2 | 8.1 | 20.1 |
| Appalachian Mississippi | 406,936 | 22.1 | 77.9 | 53.2 | 7.9 | 16.9 |
| Non-Appalachian Mississippi | 1,511,174 | 17.6 | 82.4 | 53.2 | 8.2 | 21.0 |
| New York | 13,211,060 | 14.8 | 85.2 | 43.5 | 8.4 | 33.2 |
| Appalachian New York | 704,768 | 11.1 | 88.9 | 53.0 | 11.8 | 24.1 |
| Non-Appalachian New York | 12,506,292 | 15.1 | 84.9 | 43.0 | 8.2 | 33.7 |
| North Carolina | 6,408,022 | 15.1 | 84.9 | 49.0 | 8.7 | 27.3 |
| Appalachian North Carolina | 1,183,722 | 16.3 | 83.7 | 51.0 | 8.8 | 23.9 |
| Non-Appalachian North Carolina | 5,224,300 | 14.8 | 85.2 | 48.5 | 8.7 | 28.0 |
| Ohio | 7,746,520 | 11.5 | 88.5 | 55.5 | 7.8 | 25.2 |
| Appalachian Ohio | 1,389,454 | 14.5 | 85.5 | 61.7 | 7.8 | 16.0 |
| Non-Appalachian Ohio | 6,357,066 | 10.9 | 89.1 | 54.1 | 7.9 | 27.1 |
| Pennsylvania | 8,712,762 | 11.3 | 88.7 | 53.5 | 7.6 | 27.5 |
| Appalachian Pennsylvania | 4,039,586 | 10.3 | 89.7 | 57.1 | 8.6 | 24.0 |
| Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania | 4,673,176 | 12.2 | 87.8 | 50.4 | 6.7 | 30.6 |
| South Carolina | 3,118,029 | 15.5 | 84.5 | 50.8 | 8.7 | 25.1 |
| Appalachian South Carolina | 785,287 | 16.8 | 83.2 | 49.4 | 9.1 | 24.7 |
| Non-Appalachian South Carolina | 2,332,742 | 15.0 | 85.0 | 51.3 | 8.5 | 25.2 |
| Tennessee | 4,292,718 | 15.6 | 84.4 | 54.2 | 6.3 | 23.8 |
| Appalachian Tennessee | 1,933,170 | 17.3 | 82.7 | 55.6 | 6.6 | 20.5 |
| Non-Appalachian Tennessee | 2,359,548 | 14.2 | 85.8 | 53.0 | 6.2 | 26.6 |
| Virginia | 5,427,938 | 12.5 | 87.5 | 45.3 | 7.0 | 35.2 |
| Appalachian Virginia | 527,915 | 20.1 | 79.9 | 53.6 | 8.3 | 18.0 |
| Non-Appalachian Virginia | 4,900,023 | 11.7 | 88.3 | 44.4 | 6.8 | 37.1 |
| West Virginia (entire state) | 1,296,592 | 16.1 | 83.9 | 59.2 | 6.3 | 18.3 |

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

Table 5.2: Educational Attainment of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2009-2013

| Education (Highest Level Attained) | Total Population Ages 25-64, 2009-2013 | Percent of Population Ages 25-64 | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| | | Less than High School Diploma | High School Diploma or More | | | |
| | | | Total | H.S. Grad, No Postsecondary Degree | Associate's Degree | Bachelor's Degree or More |
| United States | 164,736,810 | 12.2 | 87.8 | 48.7 | 8.6 | 30.5 |
| Appalachian Region | 13,293,435 | 12.5 | 87.5 | 55.0 | 9.1 | 23.5 |
| Subregions | | | | | | |
| Northern Appalachia | 4,368,476 | 8.1 | 91.9 | 56.2 | 10.5 | 25.2 |
| North Central Appalachia | 1,285,024 | 11.9 | 88.1 | 59.8 | 8.2 | 20.1 |
| Central Appalachia | 1,025,548 | 19.8 | 80.2 | 59.5 | 7.1 | 13.6 |
| South Central Appalachia | 2,468,957 | 13.3 | 86.7 | 54.2 | 8.9 | 23.6 |
| Southern Appalachia | 4,145,430 | 15.0 | 85.0 | 51.4 | 8.5 | 25.1 |
| County Types | | | | | | |
| Large Metros (pop. 1 million +) | 3,174,273 | 9.3 | 90.7 | 50.0 | 9.4 | 31.3 |
| Small Metros (pop. <1 million) | 5,575,780 | 11.7 | 88.3 | 54.3 | 9.1 | 24.9 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros | 1,142,764 | 13.8 | 86.2 | 59.4 | 9.6 | 17.2 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros | 2,079,261 | 14.8 | 85.2 | 60.1 | 8.8 | 16.2 |
| Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro) | 1,321,357 | 18.2 | 81.8 | 57.6 | 8.3 | 15.8 |
| Alabama | 2,512,764 | 14.4 | 85.6 | 53.2 | 8.4 | 24.0 |
| Appalachian Alabama | 1,626,176 | 14.4 | 85.6 | 52.5 | 8.3 | 24.7 |
| Non-Appalachian Alabama | 886,588 | 14.5 | 85.5 | 54.4 | 8.5 | 22.6 |
| Georgia | 5,233,103 | 13.3 | 86.7 | 49.7 | 7.6 | 29.4 |
| Appalachian Georgia | 1,587,005 | 15.1 | 84.9 | 50.4 | 7.9 | 26.6 |
| Non-Appalachian Georgia | 3,646,098 | 12.5 | 87.5 | 49.4 | 7.4 | 30.7 |
| Kentucky | 2,322,704 | 13.4 | 86.6 | 55.2 | 8.1 | 23.3 |
| Appalachian Kentucky | 630,085 | 19.9 | 80.1 | 58.5 | 7.3 | 14.3 |
| Non-Appalachian Kentucky | 1,692,619 | 11.0 | 89.0 | 54.0 | 8.4 | 26.6 |
| Maryland | 3,184,155 | 9.4 | 90.6 | 45.1 | 6.8 | 38.6 |
| Appalachian Maryland | 134,373 | 10.6 | 89.4 | 60.0 | 9.0 | 20.3 |
| Non-Appalachian Maryland | 3,049,782 | 9.4 | 90.6 | 44.5 | 6.7 | 39.5 |
| Mississippi | 1,525,277 | 15.8 | 84.2 | 53.9 | 9.3 | 21.0 |
| Appalachian Mississippi | 315,923 | 18.8 | 81.2 | 54.4 | 9.1 | 17.7 |
| Non-Appalachian Mississippi | 1,209,354 | 15.1 | 84.9 | 53.7 | 9.3 | 21.9 |
| New York | 10,515,677 | 12.6 | 87.4 | 42.3 | 9.4 | 35.7 |
| Appalachian New York | 534,481 | 8.8 | 91.2 | 51.9 | 13.5 | 25.7 |
| Non-Appalachian New York | 9,981,196 | 12.8 | 87.2 | 41.8 | 9.2 | 36.2 |
| North Carolina | 5,112,862 | 12.8 | 87.2 | 48.6 | 9.6 | 28.9 |
| Appalachian North Carolina | 887,868 | 13.7 | 86.3 | 51.3 | 10.1 | 24.8 |
| Non-Appalachian North Carolina | 4,224,994 | 12.6 | 87.4 | 48.1 | 9.5 | 29.8 |
| Ohio | 6,079,874 | 9.1 | 90.9 | 54.6 | 9.0 | 27.2 |
| Appalachian Ohio | 1,063,612 | 11.6 | 88.4 | 61.5 | 9.4 | 17.5 |
| Non-Appalachian Ohio | 5,016,262 | 8.6 | 91.4 | 53.1 | 9.0 | 29.3 |
| Pennsylvania | 6,707,961 | 8.5 | 91.5 | 52.2 | 8.8 | 30.4 |
| Appalachian Pennsylvania | 3,037,705 | 7.3 | 92.7 | 55.4 | 10.3 | 27.0 |
| Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania | 3,670,256 | 9.6 | 90.4 | 49.6 | 7.6 | 33.3 |
| South Carolina | 2,451,814 | 13.0 | 87.0 | 51.3 | 9.6 | 26.0 |
| Appalachian South Carolina | 616,326 | 14.0 | 86.0 | 49.7 | 10.1 | 26.1 |
| Non-Appalachian South Carolina | 1,835,488 | 12.7 | 87.3 | 51.9 | 9.4 | 26.0 |
| Tennessee | 3,404,782 | 12.6 | 87.4 | 54.7 | 7.1 | 25.6 |
| Appalachian Tennessee | 1,473,132 | 13.7 | 86.3 | 56.8 | 7.5 | 22.0 |
| Non-Appalachian Tennessee | 1,931,650 | 11.8 | 88.2 | 53.1 | 6.9 | 28.3 |
| Virginia | 4,404,652 | 10.2 | 89.8 | 44.8 | 7.6 | 37.3 |
| Appalachian Virginia | 395,126 | 14.6 | 85.4 | 55.8 | 9.8 | 19.8 |
| Non-Appalachian Virginia | 4,009,526 | 9.8 | 90.2 | 43.8 | 7.4 | 39.1 |
| West Virginia (entire state) | 991,623 | 12.5 | 87.5 | 60.0 | 7.4 | 20.1 |

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

Table 5.3: Educational Attainment of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region, 2009-2013

| Education (Highest Level Attained) | Total Population Ages 65 and Over, 2009-2013 | Percent of Population Ages 65 and Over | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| | | Less than High School Diploma | High School Diploma or More | | | |
| | | | Total | H.S. Grad, No Postsecondary Degree | Associate's Degree | Bachelor's Degree or More |
| United States | 41,851,042 | 21.0 | 79.0 | 52.1 | 4.6 | 22.3 |
| Appalachian Region | 3,934,270 | 25.5 | 74.5 | 55.3 | 3.7 | 15.5 |
| Subregions | | | | | | |
| Northern Appalachia | 1,431,854 | 19.8 | 80.2 | 61.8 | 3.7 | 14.7 |
| North Central Appalachia | 381,015 | 26.9 | 73.1 | 57.7 | 2.9 | 12.5 |
| Central Appalachia | 296,901 | 43.5 | 56.5 | 44.7 | 2.3 | 9.6 |
| South Central Appalachia | 798,452 | 26.8 | 73.2 | 51.2 | 4.2 | 17.9 |
| Southern Appalachia | 1,026,048 | 26.6 | 73.4 | 51.5 | 4.1 | 17.7 |
| County Types | | | | | | |
| Large Metros (pop. 1 million +) | 805,536 | 20.3 | 79.7 | 57.6 | 3.9 | 18.2 |
| Small Metros (pop. <1 million) | 1,659,220 | 23.5 | 76.5 | 55.5 | 4.0 | 17.0 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros | 354,905 | 27.1 | 72.9 | 57.2 | 3.6 | 12.2 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros | 697,646 | 29.3 | 70.7 | 54.9 | 3.3 | 12.4 |
| Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro) | 416,963 | 35.5 | 64.5 | 49.0 | 3.3 | 12.2 |
| Alabama | 680,574 | 25.9 | 74.1 | 52.7 | 3.7 | 17.6 |
| Appalachian Alabama | 436,778 | 26.0 | 74.0 | 53.0 | 3.7 | 17.4 |
| Non-Appalachian Alabama | 243,796 | 25.9 | 74.1 | 52.3 | 3.8 | 18.0 |
| Georgia | 1,090,017 | 24.7 | 75.3 | 50.5 | 4.0 | 20.9 |
| Appalachian Georgia | 329,296 | 25.5 | 74.5 | 52.1 | 4.1 | 18.3 |
| Non-Appalachian Georgia | 760,721 | 24.3 | 75.7 | 49.8 | 3.9 | 22.0 |
| Kentucky | 597,875 | 31.0 | 69.0 | 51.2 | 3.0 | 14.8 |
| Appalachian Kentucky | 175,826 | 44.0 | 56.0 | 44.0 | 2.2 | 9.7 |
| Non-Appalachian Kentucky | 422,049 | 25.5 | 74.5 | 54.2 | 3.4 | 16.9 |
| Maryland | 738,672 | 19.2 | 80.8 | 47.8 | 4.1 | 28.9 |
| Appalachian Maryland | 40,736 | 23.5 | 76.5 | 60.1 | 3.6 | 12.9 |
| Non-Appalachian Maryland | 697,936 | 19.0 | 81.0 | 47.1 | 4.1 | 29.8 |
| Mississippi | 392,833 | 28.9 | 71.1 | 50.8 | 3.7 | 16.6 |
| Appalachian Mississippi | 91,013 | 33.4 | 66.6 | 48.8 | 3.6 | 14.2 |
| Non-Appalachian Mississippi | 301,820 | 27.6 | 72.4 | 51.3 | 3.8 | 17.3 |
| New York | 2,695,383 | 23.6 | 76.4 | 48.2 | 4.6 | 23.6 |
| Appalachian New York | 170,287 | 18.2 | 81.8 | 56.4 | 6.4 | 19.0 |
| Non-Appalachian New York | 2,525,096 | 23.9 | 76.1 | 47.7 | 4.5 | 23.9 |
| North Carolina | 1,295,160 | 24.0 | 76.0 | 50.4 | 5.0 | 20.6 |
| Appalachian North Carolina | 295,854 | 24.0 | 76.0 | 50.2 | 4.8 | 21.0 |
| Non-Appalachian North Carolina | 999,306 | 23.9 | 76.1 | 50.5 | 5.1 | 20.5 |
| Ohio | 1,666,646 | 20.1 | 79.9 | 58.8 | 3.5 | 17.6 |
| Appalachian Ohio | 325,842 | 23.9 | 76.1 | 62.2 | 2.8 | 11.2 |
| Non-Appalachian Ohio | 1,340,804 | 19.2 | 80.8 | 58.0 | 3.7 | 19.1 |
| Pennsylvania | 2,004,801 | 20.7 | 79.3 | 57.9 | 3.5 | 17.9 |
| Appalachian Pennsylvania | 1,001,881 | 19.6 | 80.4 | 62.1 | 3.5 | 14.8 |
| Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania | 1,002,920 | 21.8 | 78.2 | 53.7 | 3.6 | 20.9 |
| South Carolina | 666,215 | 24.4 | 75.6 | 48.9 | 5.2 | 21.5 |
| Appalachian South Carolina | 168,961 | 26.7 | 73.3 | 48.3 | 5.5 | 19.5 |
| Non-Appalachian South Carolina | 497,254 | 23.6 | 76.4 | 49.1 | 5.2 | 22.1 |
| Tennessee | 887,936 | 27.1 | 72.9 | 52.4 | 3.3 | 17.2 |
| Appalachian Tennessee | 460,038 | 28.8 | 71.2 | 51.8 | 3.5 | 15.9 |
| Non-Appalachian Tennessee | 427,898 | 25.4 | 74.6 | 53.0 | 3.0 | 18.6 |
| Virginia | 1,023,286 | 22.6 | 77.4 | 47.2 | 4.2 | 26.0 |
| Appalachian Virginia | 132,789 | 36.4 | 63.6 | 47.1 | 3.9 | 12.6 |
| Non-Appalachian Virginia | 890,497 | 20.6 | 79.4 | 47.2 | 4.2 | 28.0 |
| West Virginia (entire state) | 304,969 | 27.9 | 72.1 | 56.9 | 2.8 | 12.4 |

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

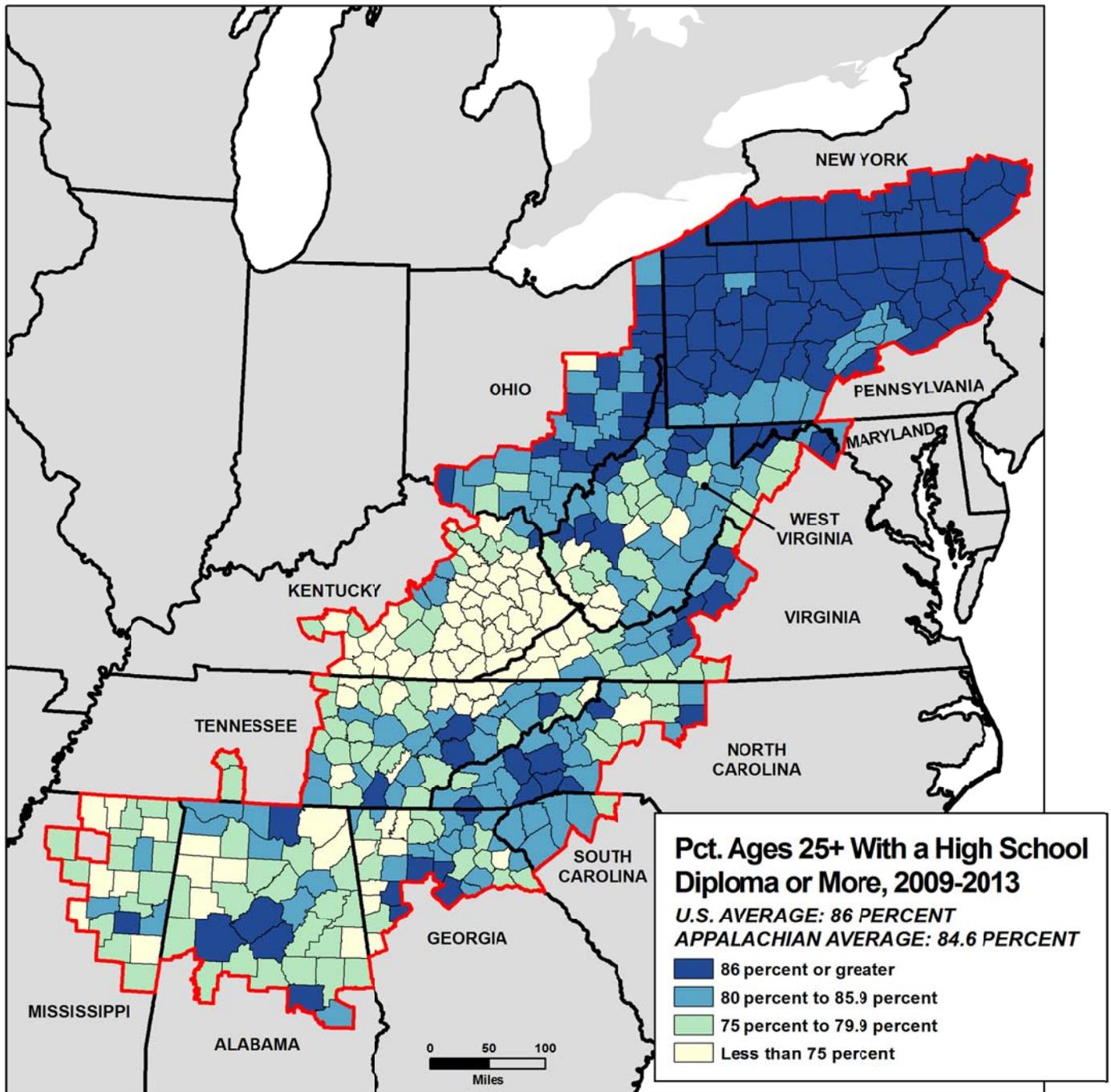
Table 5.4: Bachelor's Degree Field (First Major) for Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2009-2013

| Bachelor's Degree Field (First Major) | Total Population Ages 25 and Over With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2009-2013 | Percent of Population Ages 25 and Over With a Bachelor's Degree or More | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| | | Science and Engineering | Science- and Engineering-Related Fields | Business | Education | Arts, Humanities, and Other |
| United States | 59,583,138 | 34.7 | 9.0 | 20.4 | 13.6 | 22.4 |
| Appalachian Region | 3,735,689 | 30.7 | 10.4 | 20.1 | 18.8 | 20.0 |
| Subregions | | | | | | |
| Northern Appalachia | 1,311,915 | 31.6 | 11.0 | 17.9 | 19.2 | 20.2 |
| North Central Appalachia | 306,397 | 28.5 | 12.0 | 18.4 | 21.7 | 19.3 |
| Central Appalachia | 167,820 | 26.5 | 11.3 | 16.0 | 27.6 | 18.6 |
| South Central Appalachia | 726,569 | 31.7 | 10.2 | 19.0 | 17.1 | 22.1 |
| Southern Appalachia | 1,222,988 | 30.2 | 9.3 | 24.2 | 17.3 | 19.0 |
| County Types | | | | | | |
| Large Metros (pop. 1 million +) | 1,139,394 | 31.7 | 9.9 | 23.6 | 15.0 | 19.8 |
| Small Metros (pop. <1 million) | 1,672,265 | 32.1 | 10.3 | 19.5 | 17.7 | 20.5 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros | 240,037 | 26.5 | 11.2 | 17.6 | 25.5 | 19.2 |
| Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros | 423,542 | 27.7 | 11.3 | 17.0 | 24.4 | 19.7 |
| Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro) | 260,451 | 25.8 | 10.9 | 17.1 | 26.8 | 19.4 |
| Alabama | 722,692 | 29.4 | 9.9 | 23.3 | 18.6 | 18.8 |
| Appalachian Alabama | 478,174 | 30.2 | 9.8 | 23.7 | 17.7 | 18.6 |
| Non-Appalachian Alabama | 244,518 | 27.9 | 10.2 | 22.3 | 20.4 | 19.2 |
| Georgia | 1,767,834 | 31.7 | 8.7 | 24.7 | 14.1 | 20.8 |
| Appalachian Georgia | 482,222 | 30.3 | 9.1 | 25.8 | 16.0 | 18.8 |
| Non-Appalachian Georgia | 1,285,612 | 32.3 | 8.5 | 24.2 | 13.4 | 21.6 |
| Kentucky | 628,673 | 29.6 | 10.8 | 19.8 | 17.9 | 21.9 |
| Appalachian Kentucky | 107,083 | 24.9 | 11.8 | 15.2 | 28.0 | 20.2 |
| Non-Appalachian Kentucky | 521,590 | 30.6 | 10.6 | 20.7 | 15.8 | 22.2 |
| Maryland | 1,443,918 | 41.2 | 8.2 | 18.0 | 10.5 | 22.1 |
| Appalachian Maryland | 32,536 | 33.6 | 8.8 | 17.7 | 18.8 | 21.1 |
| Non-Appalachian Maryland | 1,411,382 | 41.4 | 8.2 | 18.0 | 10.3 | 22.1 |
| Mississippi | 385,985 | 25.3 | 11.4 | 22.1 | 22.2 | 18.9 |
| Appalachian Mississippi | 68,705 | 22.8 | 10.4 | 21.8 | 26.9 | 18.1 |
| Non-Appalachian Mississippi | 317,280 | 25.8 | 11.7 | 22.2 | 21.2 | 19.1 |
| New York | 4,386,500 | 34.3 | 8.5 | 18.7 | 12.0 | 26.4 |
| Appalachian New York | 169,915 | 36.9 | 9.2 | 12.2 | 19.3 | 22.4 |
| Non-Appalachian New York | 4,216,585 | 34.2 | 8.5 | 19.0 | 11.7 | 26.6 |
| North Carolina | 1,747,409 | 34.1 | 8.8 | 20.3 | 14.1 | 22.7 |
| Appalachian North Carolina | 282,771 | 31.1 | 10.4 | 17.3 | 16.4 | 24.8 |
| Non-Appalachian North Carolina | 1,464,638 | 34.7 | 8.5 | 20.9 | 13.6 | 22.3 |
| Ohio | 1,948,460 | 30.6 | 10.2 | 21.5 | 17.4 | 20.2 |
| Appalachian Ohio | 222,625 | 26.0 | 12.5 | 18.3 | 24.3 | 18.9 |
| Non-Appalachian Ohio | 1,725,835 | 31.2 | 9.9 | 21.9 | 16.5 | 20.4 |
| Pennsylvania | 2,399,664 | 33.6 | 9.8 | 19.5 | 16.0 | 21.1 |
| Appalachian Pennsylvania | 968,596 | 31.6 | 11.1 | 18.7 | 18.5 | 20.1 |
| Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania | 1,431,068 | 34.9 | 9.0 | 20.0 | 14.3 | 21.8 |
| South Carolina | 781,282 | 31.8 | 8.5 | 22.4 | 16.2 | 21.1 |
| Appalachian South Carolina | 193,887 | 32.3 | 8.4 | 22.3 | 16.2 | 20.8 |
| Non-Appalachian South Carolina | 587,395 | 31.7 | 8.5 | 22.4 | 16.2 | 21.3 |
| Tennessee | 1,023,548 | 29.7 | 9.7 | 22.7 | 16.3 | 21.7 |
| Appalachian Tennessee | 396,834 | 31.1 | 10.2 | 20.8 | 18.3 | 19.7 |
| Non-Appalachian Tennessee | 626,714 | 28.8 | 9.3 | 23.9 | 15.0 | 23.0 |
| Virginia | 1,911,033 | 40.2 | 7.4 | 18.9 | 10.4 | 23.1 |
| Appalachian Virginia | 94,844 | 35.8 | 9.2 | 16.1 | 17.8 | 21.1 |
| Non-Appalachian Virginia | 1,816,189 | 40.4 | 7.3 | 19.0 | 10.1 | 23.2 |
| West Virginia (entire state) | 237,497 | 28.3 | 12.0 | 19.1 | 21.8 | 18.8 |

Note: Examples of "Science- and Engineering-Related Fields" include nursing, architecture, and mathematics teacher education.

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

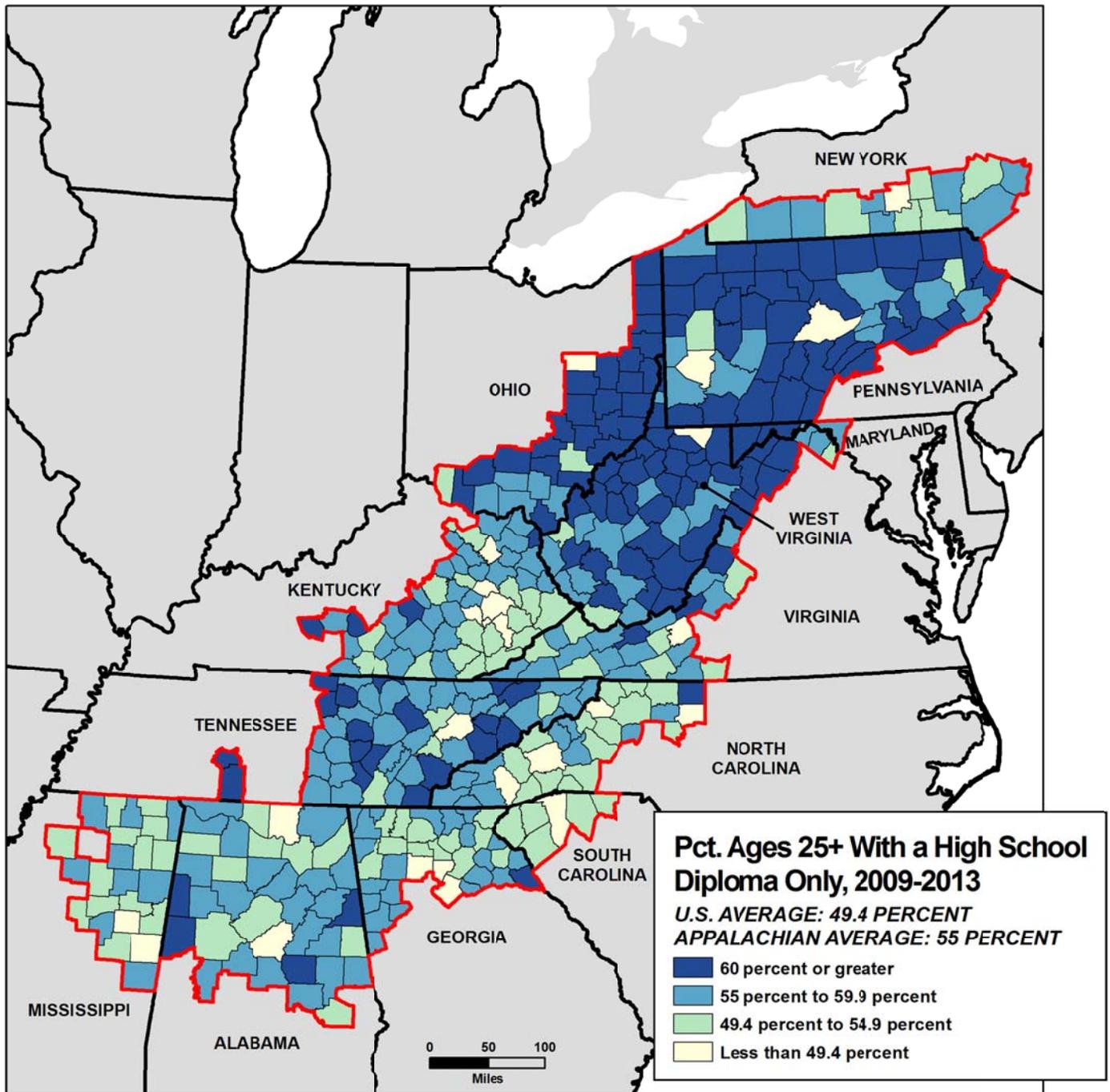
Figure 5.1: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma or More, 2009-2013



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma or More, 2009-2013
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey.

Although the share of Appalachian adults with at least a high school diploma was slightly below the national average over the 2009-2013 period, it matched or exceeded the national share in 113 counties in the Region—100 of which were either in Northern Appalachia or in metropolitan areas. And the regional share was nearly eight percentage points higher than it was in the 2000 Census, suggesting a continued trend toward increased high school completion. Yet in 86 counties, less than three-fourths of adults had completed high school; all but three of those counties were in Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia.

Figure 5.2: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma but With No Postsecondary Degree, 2009-2013

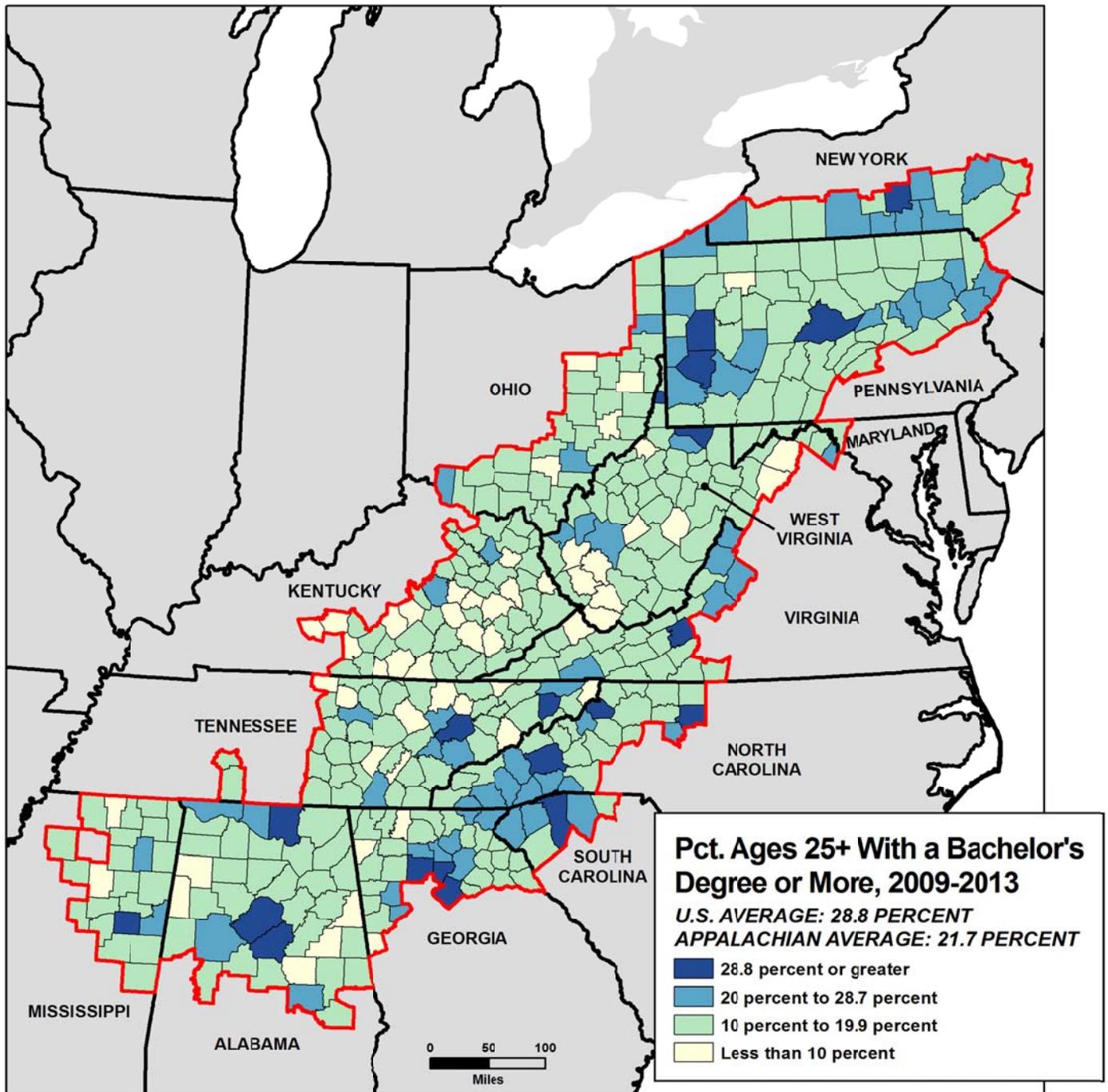


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma but With No Postsecondary Degree, 2009-2013

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

During the 2009-2013 period, 55 percent of adults in the Appalachian Region had a high school diploma, but no postsecondary degree (including an associate’s degree). And the share was at least 60 percent in 131 of the Region’s 420 counties. Many of these adults had attended college but did not graduate, while others acquired vocational training. Conversely, many of the adults outside of this group did earn an associate’s or bachelor’s degree, while others never even finished high school.

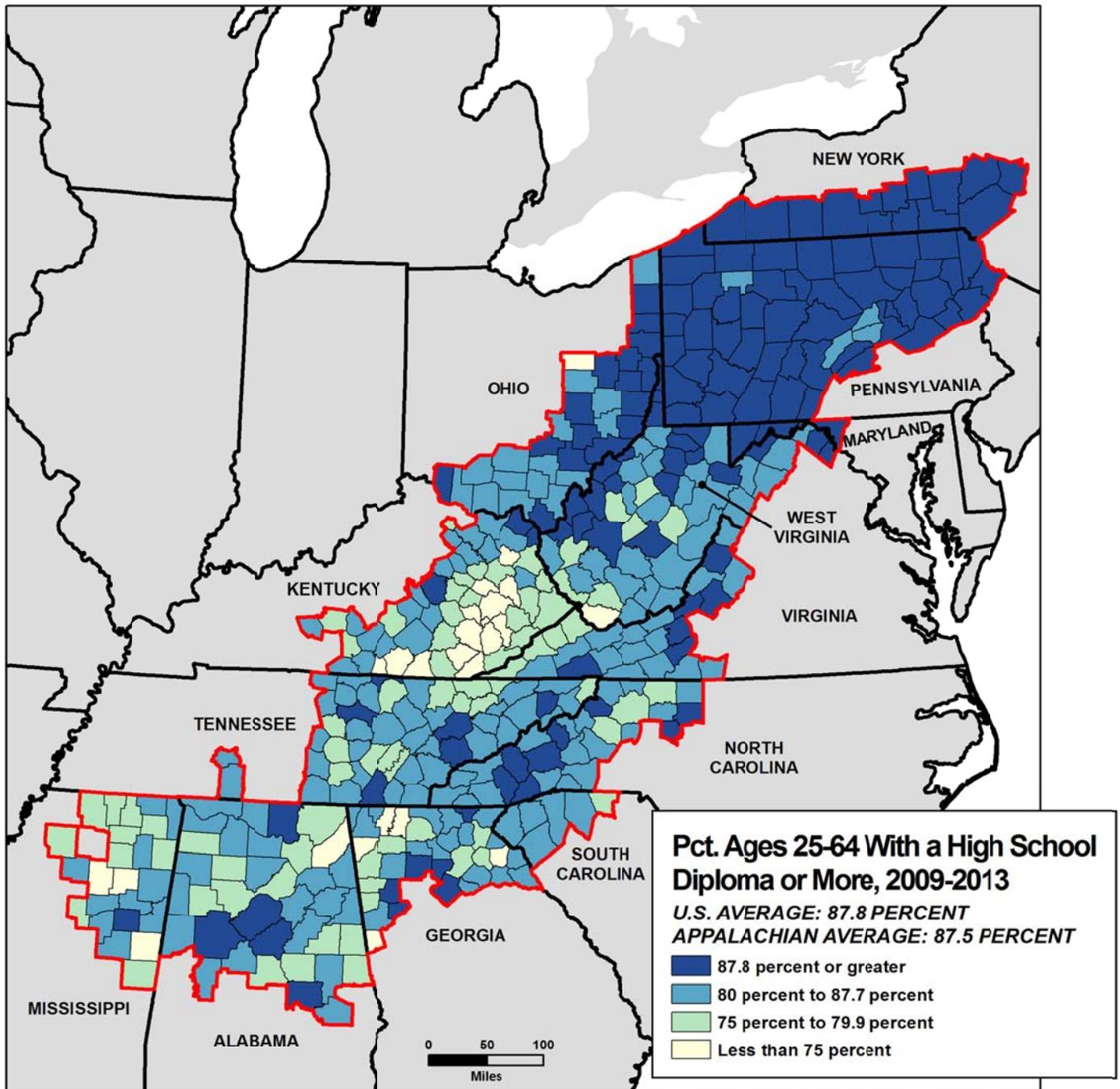
Figure 5.3: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2009-2013



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2009-2013
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey.

The share of adults with a bachelor's degree or more was seven percentage points lower in Appalachia during the 2009-2013 period than in the nation as a whole. Indeed, the rate was lower than the national average in 400 of the Region's 420 counties. In fact, fewer than one in five residents ages 25 and over were graduates of a four-year college or university in 333 Appalachian counties. And in 53 counties—nearly all of which were either outside metropolitan areas or in Central Appalachia—the share was less than one in 10. The 20 counties where the percentage of college graduates matched or surpassed the national average were either in metro areas or home to a college or university; many also had high residential mobility rates. On a positive note, the share of adults (both in Appalachia and nationwide) with a four-year degree was four percentage points higher in 2009-2013 than it was in 2000, suggesting a continued trend toward greater educational attainment among cohorts entering this age group.

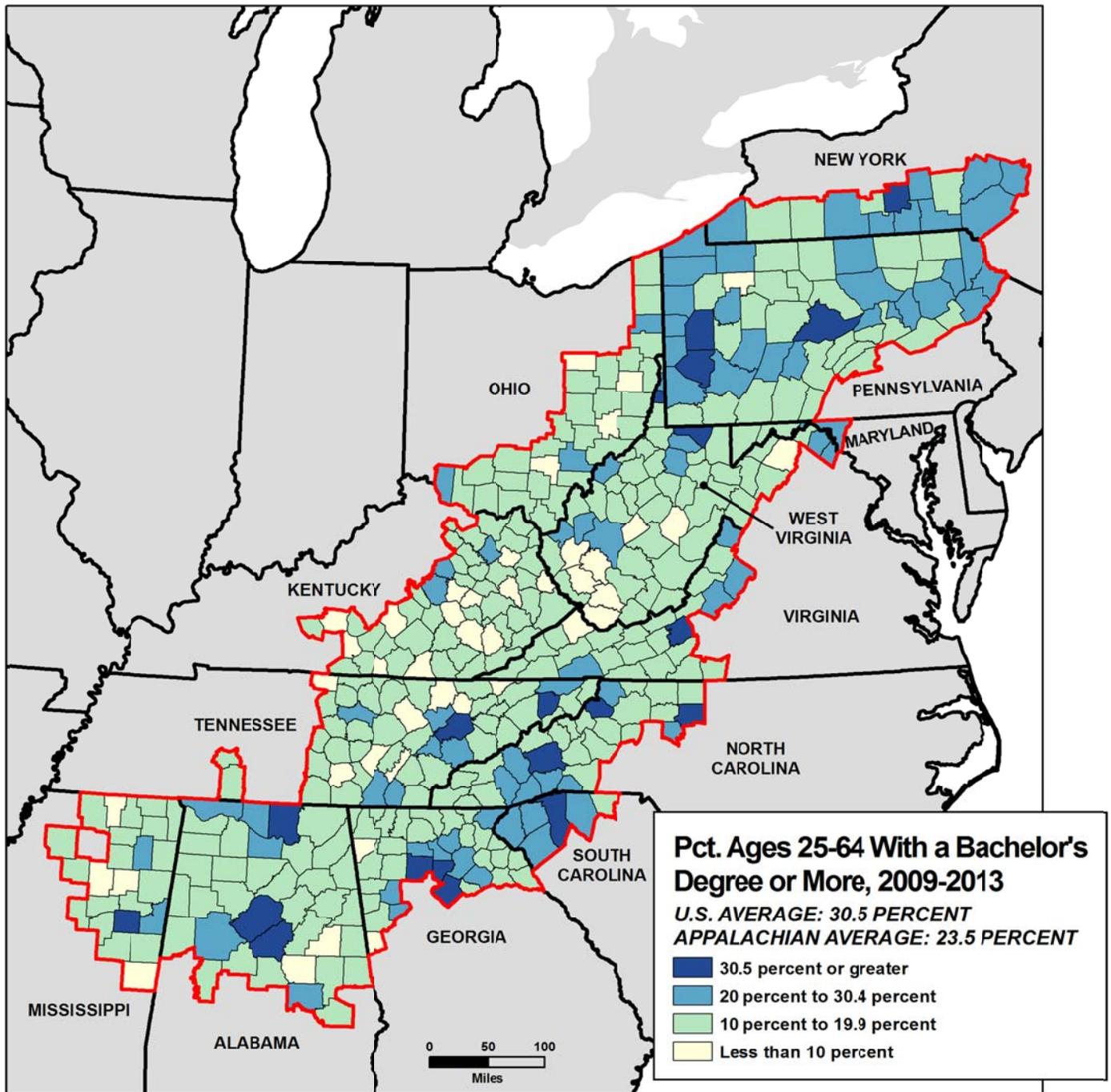
Figure 5.4: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma or More, 2009-2013



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma or More, 2009-2013
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey.

The percentage of working-age adults (ages 25 to 64) in the Appalachian Region with at least a high school diploma was almost at the national average of nearly 88 percent in 2009-2013, and the share did match or exceed the national rate in 138 counties. These counties were almost equally divided between metropolitan and non-metropolitan counties, and most were in Northern or North Central Appalachia. At the other end of the spectrum, less than three-fourths of working-age adults had finished high school in 24 Appalachian counties. Almost all of these counties were outside metropolitan areas, and more than half were in Central Appalachia.

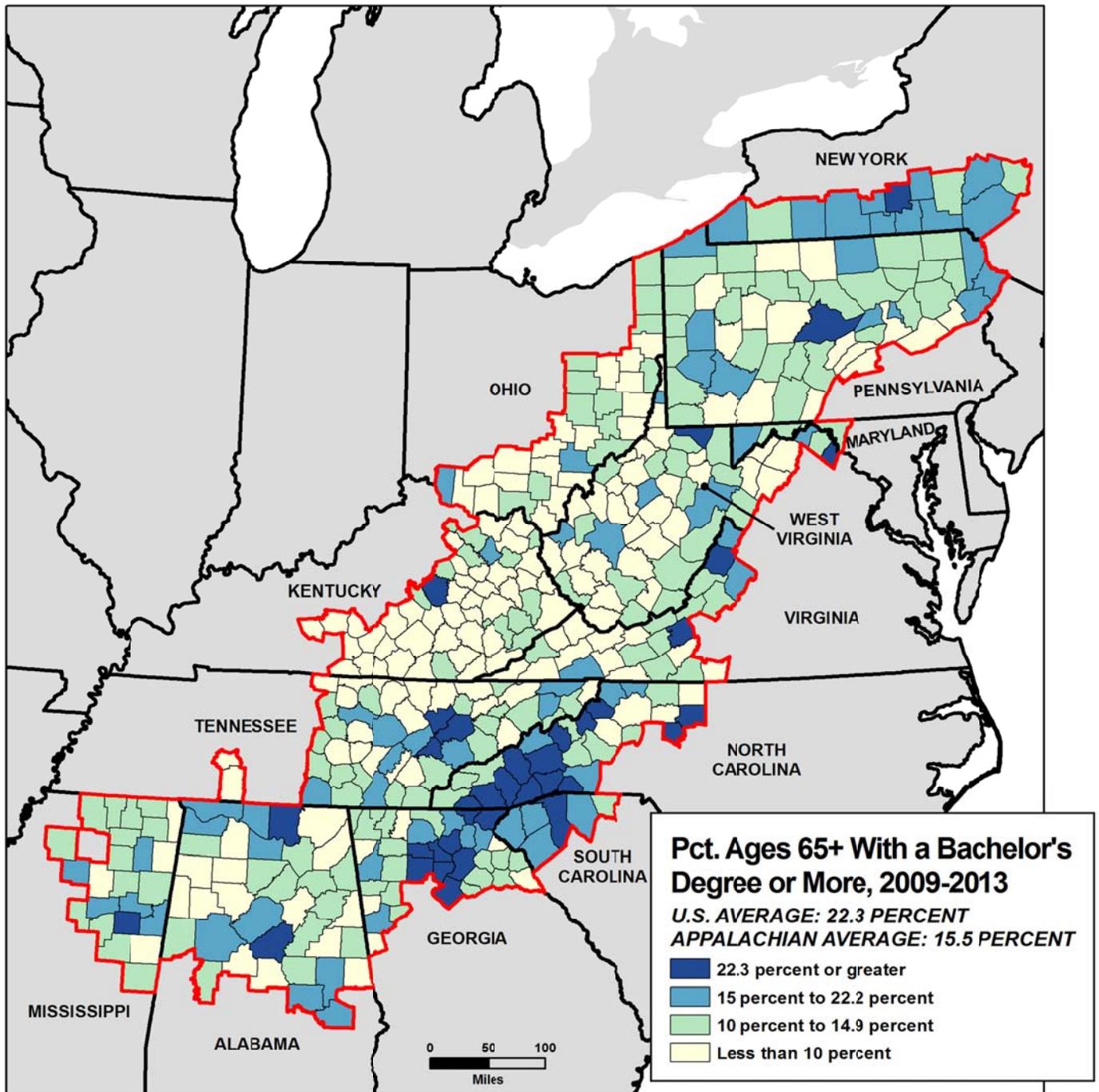
Figure 5.5: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2009-2013



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2009-2013
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey.

The share of Appalachia's working age population with a bachelor's degree or more in 2009-2013 was seven percentage points lower than the U.S. average of nearly 31 percent. This is a striking indicator of the lower educational level of the Appalachian workforce. Indeed, just 14 percent of working-age adults in Central Appalachia had a bachelor's degree, as did only 16 percent of residents of rural Appalachian counties that were not adjacent to metro areas. There were only 20 Appalachian counties—all either in metropolitan areas or home to a four-year college or university—where the share of working-age adults ages 25 to 64 with at least a bachelor's degree matched or exceeded the national average. In contrast, less than one in 10 adults had a four-year degree in 43 counties, 33 of which were outside metropolitan areas.

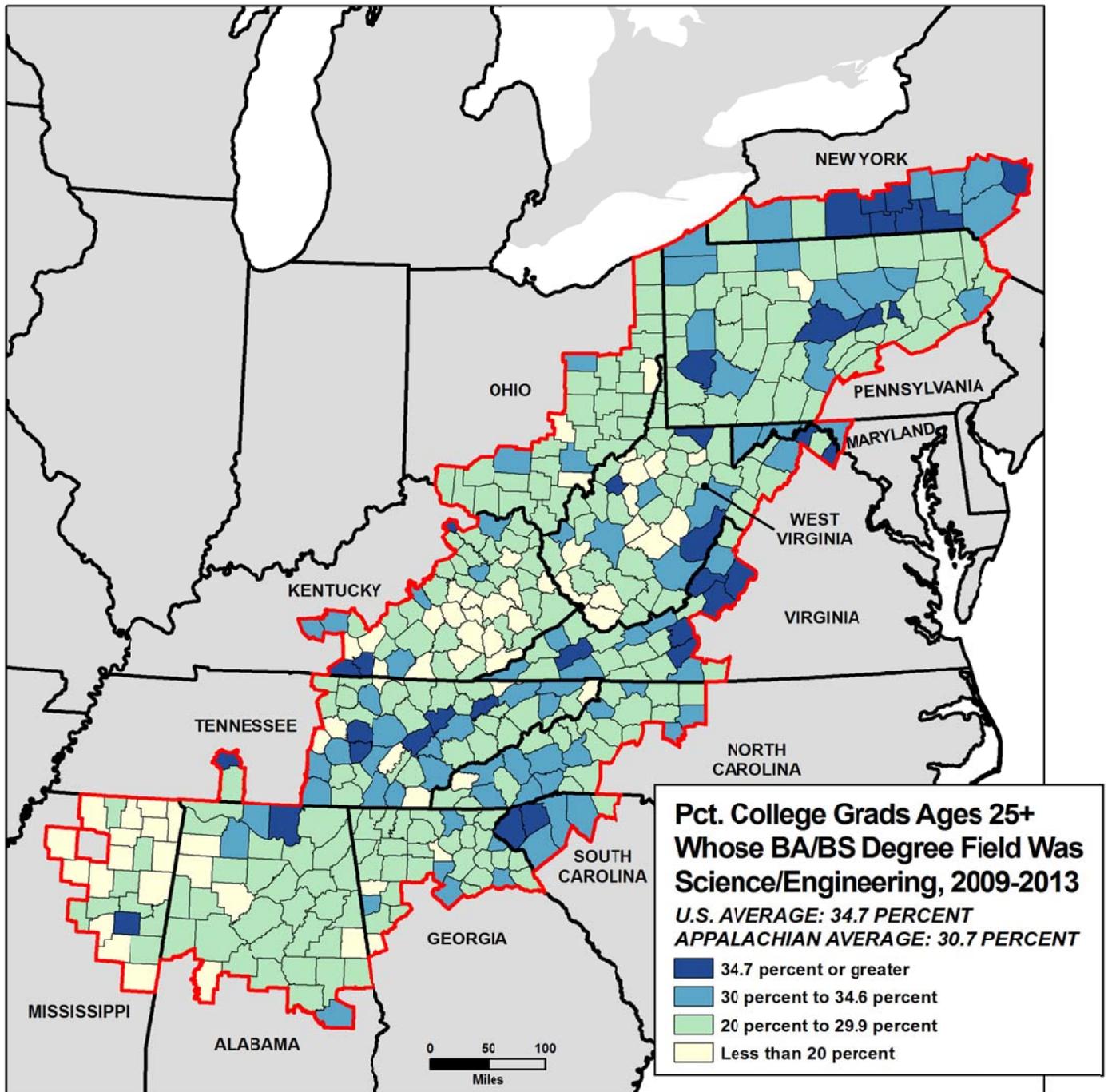
Figure 5.6: Percent of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2009-2013



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2009-2013
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey.

In the 2009-2013 period, more than one in five older Americans (ages 65 and over) had attained at least a bachelor's degree, while less than one in 10 older adults had done so in 164 of Appalachia's 420 counties. Three-fourths of these counties were outside metropolitan areas, and two-fifths were in Central Appalachia. (Just under 10 percent of Central Appalachia's older adults were college graduates.) Yet in 36 Appalachian counties, the share of older adults with a four-year degree was at or above the national average. These were either counties in metropolitan areas, counties that had a college or university, or counties with significant retirement or seasonal activity (the latter suggested by the fact that much, if not most, of their vacant housing is for seasonal or occasional use).

Figure 5.7: Among Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor’s Degree or More, Percent Whose Bachelor’s Degree Field (First Major) Was Science and Engineering, 2009-2013



Map Title: Among Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor’s Degree or More, Percent Whose Bachelor’s Degree Field (First Major) Was Science and Engineering, 2009-2013

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

Among the 3.7 million adults in the Appalachian Region with a bachelor’s degree or more, 31 percent held a degree in the science and engineering field—slightly lower than the national share of 35 percent. But there was much variation within the Region. In 35 Appalachian counties, for example, the share of BA/BS holders with science and engineering degrees matched or exceeded the national average. Yet in another 65 counties in the Region, less than one-fifth of adult college graduates had a science and engineering degree. Science and engineering jobs are becoming increasingly important in keeping the United States competitive in the global economy. The field of science and engineering includes the following detailed fields and majors: computers, mathematics, and statistics; biological, agricultural, and environmental sciences; physical and related science; psychology; social sciences; and engineering.