



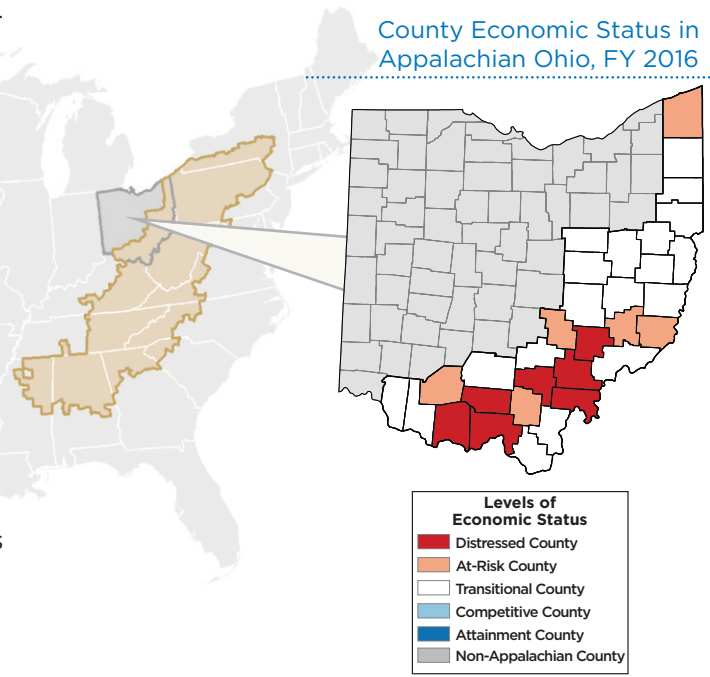
# INVESTMENTS IN OHIO

October 2015–January 2017

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) is a federal-state partnership. Its mission is to innovate, partner, and invest to build community capacity and strengthen economic growth in 420 counties across the 13 Appalachian states. ARC’s strategic plan identifies five investment goals to advance this mission: creating economic opportunity; preparing a ready workforce; building critical infrastructure; leveraging natural and cultural assets; and cultivating leadership and community capacity.

In partnership with the **Ohio Governor’s Office of Appalachia**, ARC has supported **41 projects** in Ohio totaling nearly **\$9.7 million**. These investments have been matched by **\$34.4 million** and will attract an additional **\$5.0 million** in leveraged private investments in Ohio. They will also create or retain **750 jobs**, train and educate more than **400 students and workers**, and benefit the **two million residents** in **Ohio’s 32 Appalachian counties**.

County Economic Status in Appalachian Ohio, FY 2016



## INVESTMENT PRIORITIES IN OHIO

The Ohio Governor’s Office of Appalachia has prioritized these three ARC investment goals:



### ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

ARC has invested nearly **\$2.2 million** in entrepreneurial and business strategies to strengthen the economy in Appalachian Ohio.



### READY WORKFORCE

ARC has invested over **\$2.2 million** to increase the education, knowledge, skills, and health of Ohio’s Appalachian residents to work and succeed.



### CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

ARC has invested nearly **\$3.9 million** in Ohio’s critical infrastructure development, including broadband, transportation, and water/wastewater systems.



### ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES

ARC has invested nearly **\$1.4 million** to leverage cultural and natural assets and cultivate leadership and community capacity in Appalachian Ohio.

## IMPACT ON DISTRESSED COUNTIES

In Appalachian Ohio, **7 counties** were considered economically distressed in fiscal year 2016. **21 projects** totaling **74%** of ARC investment dollars will have a direct impact on these counties.

## INVESTMENTS IN ACTION

Momentum is growing to help southeast Ohio train workers, build infrastructure, and expand market opportunities to meet the needs of the growing renewable energy market sector and diversify the local economy. For instance, ARC invested **\$1.4 million** for **Hocking College** in Nelsonville, Ohio, to develop the **Appalachia RISES** (Revitalizing an Industry-Ready Skilling Ecosystem for Sustainability) Initiative and work with other training institutions to create and support workforce development to meet the needs of several emerging alternative energy sectors, including solar. Another grant went to **Rural Action** in The Plains, Ohio, to develop a strategic plan and feasibility study for the **Appalachian Ohio Solar Supply-Chain Initiative**. This regional planning effort will focus building a partnership to develop a regional solar manufacturing supply-chain in response to a major utility’s plan to deploy new solar resources in Ohio and could create hundreds of new jobs in the solar industry.