



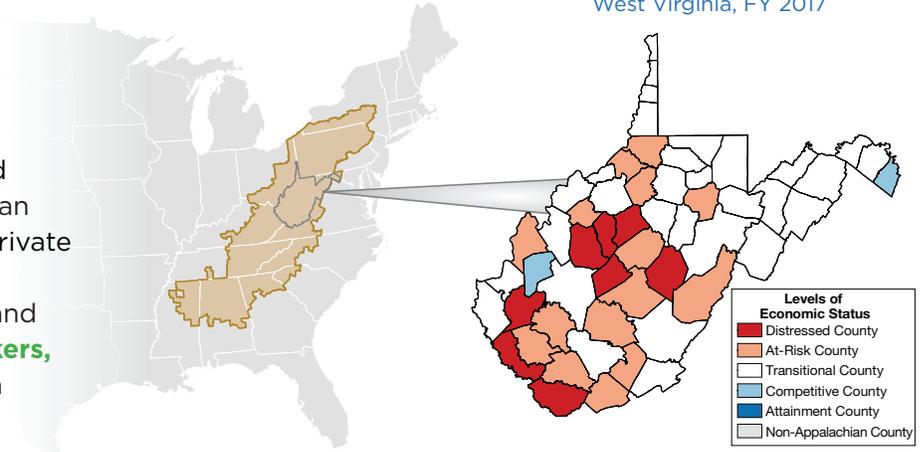
INVESTMENTS IN WEST VIRGINIA

October 1, 2016–September 30, 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.

County Economic Status in West Virginia, FY 2017

In partnership with **West Virginia Development Office**, ARC supported **55 projects** in West Virginia totaling nearly **\$19.0 million** in fiscal year 2017. These investments have been matched by nearly **\$17.1 million** and will attract an additional **\$12.2 million** in leveraged private investments in West Virginia. They will also create or retain **1,090 jobs**, train and educate over **1,320 students and workers**, and benefit the **1.8 million residents** in **West Virginia's 55 counties**.



INVESTMENT PRIORITIES IN WEST VIRGINIA

West Virginia Development Office (WVDO) has prioritized these investment goals:



ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

ARC invested over **\$7.3 million** in entrepreneurial and business strategies to strengthen the economy in West Virginia.



READY WORKFORCE

ARC invested nearly **\$5.3 million** to increase the education, knowledge, skills, and health of West Virginia's Appalachian residents to work and succeed.



CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

ARC invested over **\$5.1 million** in West Virginia's critical infrastructure development, including broadband, transportation, and water/wastewater systems.



ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES

ARC invested over **\$1.3 million** to cultivate leadership and community capacity in West Virginia.

IMPACT ON DISTRESSED COUNTIES

In West Virginia, **eight counties** were considered economically distressed in fiscal year 2017, with pockets of distress in other areas. **39 projects** totaling **78%** of ARC investment dollars will have a direct impact on these distressed counties and areas.

INVESTMENTS IN ACTION

Marshall University Research Corporation's Appalachian Hatchery project will boost workforce training opportunities in advanced manufacturing, provide critical technical assistance to local manufacturers, and create new jobs in the state's coal-impacted communities. ARC invested **\$1.5 million through the POWER Initiative** for coal-impacted communities to this program, which is run by the Robert C. Byrd Institute (RCBI), a nonprofit, advanced manufacturing center, and will **serve a 20-county region** in southern West Virginia. It is expected to **create or retain over 330 jobs**.