

THE APPALACHIAN REGION: A DATA OVERVIEW FROM THE 2018-2022 AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY Chartbook

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FOREWORD

This document, “The Appalachian Region: A Data Overview from the 2018-2022 American Community Survey Chartbook” (“the Chartbook”) is the 14th version to be produced for the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) by the Population Reference Bureau (PRB). The Chartbook describes the rich diversity of the Appalachian Region on a host of demographic and economic measures and provides an important annual view of the area and its people.

The data contained in the 2018-2022 Chartbook describe how residents in the Appalachian Region were faring before and during the COVID-19 pandemic that began in March 2020. Nearly half of the years during this time period were pre-pandemic and half were during the pandemic era. Thus, this Chartbook is a blend of these two eras. As future data releases reflect the post-pandemic era, data users will have additional insights on the long-term changes that the pandemic brought to Appalachia’s social and economic dynamics.

Most of the data shown here come from the 2018-2022 American Community Survey (ACS), a nationwide study collected continuously every year in every county in the United States by the U.S. Census Bureau. The ACS is designed to provide communities with reliable and timely demographic, social, economic, and housing data each year. To provide as much county-level data as possible, we use ACS 5-year data files which provide reliable estimates for geographic areas with fewer than 20,000 people. Since many counties in the Appalachian Region have fewer than 20,000 residents, these data permit comparable statistics for all 423 counties in the Region.

The primary purpose of the ACS is to measure the changing characteristics of the U.S. population in a way that is continually updated. The estimates in this Chartbook, therefore, are data collected over the five-year (or 60-month) period from January 2018 through December 2022. These ACS estimates are not averages of monthly or annual values, but rather an aggregation of data collected continuously over that time period.

We use two non-overlapping five-year periods (2018-2022 and 2013-2017) to present trends in the data in the Chartbook. However, the Census Bureau recommends caution in such comparisons in some instances, due to occasional changes in question wording and the coding of responses. And in some years, the ACS has added or removed certain questions. For example, the ACS added questions on computer and Internet access in 2013. As a result, this is the first Chartbook which includes trend data on computer device ownership and internet access. And for the 2018-2022 ACS, the Census Bureau refined its methodology to minimize the effect of nonresponse bias on the data collected in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. More information about comparing the 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 ACS data is available on the Web page, ["Comparing 2013-2017 ACS 5-year and 2018-2022 ACS 5-year"](#), through the Census Bureau’s website.

While ACS five-year data are needed to provide reliable estimates for areas with small populations, they can make it difficult to track trends in these areas. The 2018-2022 ACS data illustrate this problem, as they are for a time period that covers two distinct periods of economic activity: the two years and two months prior to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States (January 2018 through February 2020), and the two years and 10 months after the pandemic hit (March 2020 through December 2022). Since the 2018-2022 ACS pools data from both periods, it smooths out the extreme variations in the social and economic measures that would be evident in annual data from this five-year period.

The data in Chapters 1 through 3 are not from the ACS, but from the postcensal population estimates from the Census Bureau’s Population Division. Every year, the Census Bureau produces July 1 estimates for years following the most recent decennial census, using current data on births, deaths, and migration. These estimates, which the Census Bureau revises and updates every year, are available for every U.S. county by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin. The Population Estimates data are more timely than the five-year ACS estimates and are considered the official population estimates for the geographic areas shown in the Chartbook. More information on the Vintage 2022 estimates is available on the Web page, ["Methodology Updates for the Vintage 2022 Estimates"](#) through the Census Bureau’s website.

This year’s Chartbook includes two appendices. Appendix A uses selected demographic and socioeconomic measures to provide an overview comparing rural Appalachia (defined here as nonmetropolitan counties not adjacent to any metropolitan area) to rural areas outside the Appalachian Region. (It also includes a map showing the location of these rural counties.) Appendix B contains two reference maps—one of the five Appalachian subregions, and one of the five rural-urban county types. Both the subregions and county types are referenced throughout the report.

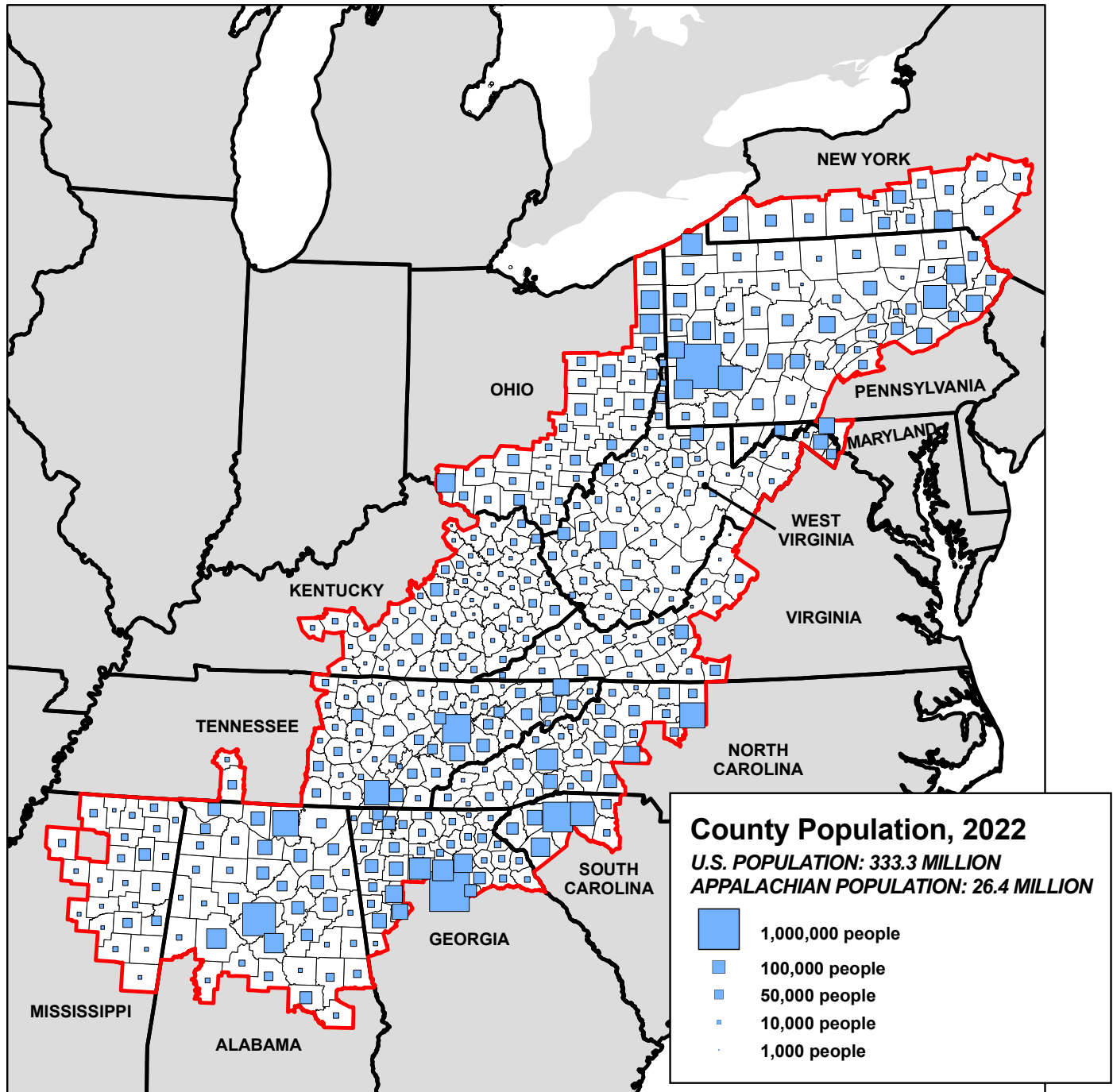
CHAPTER 1: POPULATION BASICS

Table 1.1: Population, Land Area, and Population Density in the Appalachian Region, July 1, 2022

Population, Land Area, and Density	Population, July 1, 2022	Change Since July 1, 2010		Land Area (Square Miles)	Population per Square Mile of Land Area, July 1, 2022
		Number	Percent		
United States	333,287,557	+ 23,960,414	+ 7.7	3,533,038	94.3
Appalachian Region	26,417,212	+ 872,643	+ 3.4	205,840	128.3
Subregions					
Northern Appalachia	8,028,459	- 223,414	- 2.7	56,396	142.4
North Central Appalachia	2,480,420	- 77,354	- 3.0	29,923	82.9
Central Appalachia	1,852,312	- 67,503	- 3.5	29,773	62.2
South Central Appalachia	5,293,143	+ 318,119	+ 6.4	35,866	147.6
Southern Appalachia	8,762,878	+ 922,795	+ 11.8	53,883	162.6
County Types					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	6,355,232	+ 501,399	+ 8.6	18,817	337.7
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	11,356,153	+ 530,050	+ 4.9	55,213	205.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	2,310,432	- 3,447	- 0.1	25,847	89.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	3,931,695	- 63,326	- 1.6	58,598	67.1
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	2,463,700	- 92,033	- 3.6	47,364	52.0
Alabama	5,074,296	+ 288,782	+ 6.0	50,647	100.2
Appalachian Alabama	3,276,927	+ 209,298	+ 6.8	25,763	127.2
Non-Appalachian Alabama	1,797,369	+ 79,484	+ 4.6	24,884	72.2
Georgia	10,912,876	+ 1,200,667	+ 12.4	57,717	189.1
Appalachian Georgia	3,479,640	+ 538,829	+ 18.3	11,380	305.8
Non-Appalachian Georgia	7,433,236	+ 661,838	+ 9.8	46,337	160.4
Kentucky	4,512,310	+ 163,846	+ 3.8	39,492	114.3
Appalachian Kentucky	1,161,263	- 24,490	- 2.1	18,230	63.7
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	3,351,047	+ 188,336	+ 6.0	21,261	157.6
Maryland	6,164,660	+ 375,876	+ 6.5	9,711	634.8
Appalachian Maryland	251,436	- 1,403	- 0.6	1,529	164.4
Non-Appalachian Maryland	5,913,224	+ 377,279	+ 6.8	8,182	722.7
Mississippi	2,940,057	- 30,558	- 1.0	46,924	62.7
Appalachian Mississippi	606,434	- 22,516	- 3.6	12,401	48.9
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	2,333,623	- 8,042	- 0.3	34,523	67.6
New York	19,677,151	+ 277,195	+ 1.4	47,124	417.6
Appalachian New York	1,018,524	- 47,342	- 4.4	11,682	87.2
Non-Appalachian New York	18,658,627	+ 324,537	+ 1.8	35,442	526.5
North Carolina	10,698,973	+ 1,124,387	+ 11.7	48,623	220.0
Appalachian North Carolina	2,050,171	+ 97,763	+ 5.0	12,752	160.8
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	8,648,802	+ 1,026,624	+ 13.5	35,871	241.1
Ohio	11,756,058	+ 216,609	+ 1.9	40,859	287.7
Appalachian Ohio	1,968,186	- 73,868	- 3.6	15,978	123.2
Non-Appalachian Ohio	9,787,872	+ 290,477	+ 3.1	24,881	393.4
Pennsylvania	12,972,008	+ 260,602	+ 2.1	44,742	289.9
Appalachian Pennsylvania	5,666,710	- 126,005	- 2.2	36,443	155.5
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	7,305,298	+ 386,607	+ 5.6	8,299	880.3
South Carolina	5,282,634	+ 646,788	+ 14.0	30,064	175.7
Appalachian South Carolina	1,399,877	+ 197,184	+ 16.4	4,338	322.7
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	3,882,757	+ 449,604	+ 13.1	25,726	150.9
Tennessee	7,051,339	+ 695,821	+ 10.9	41,232	171.0
Appalachian Tennessee	3,031,001	+ 242,638	+ 8.7	20,123	150.6
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	4,020,338	+ 453,183	+ 12.7	21,110	190.4
Virginia	8,683,619	+ 659,615	+ 8.2	39,482	219.9
Appalachian Virginia	731,887	- 38,336	- 5.0	11,180	65.5
Non-Appalachian Virginia	7,951,732	+ 697,951	+ 9.6	28,302	281.0
West Virginia (entire state)	1,775,156	- 79,109	- 4.3	24,041	73.8

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2020 and Vintage 2022 Population Estimates.

Figure 1.1: Population Distribution in the Appalachian Region, July 1, 2022

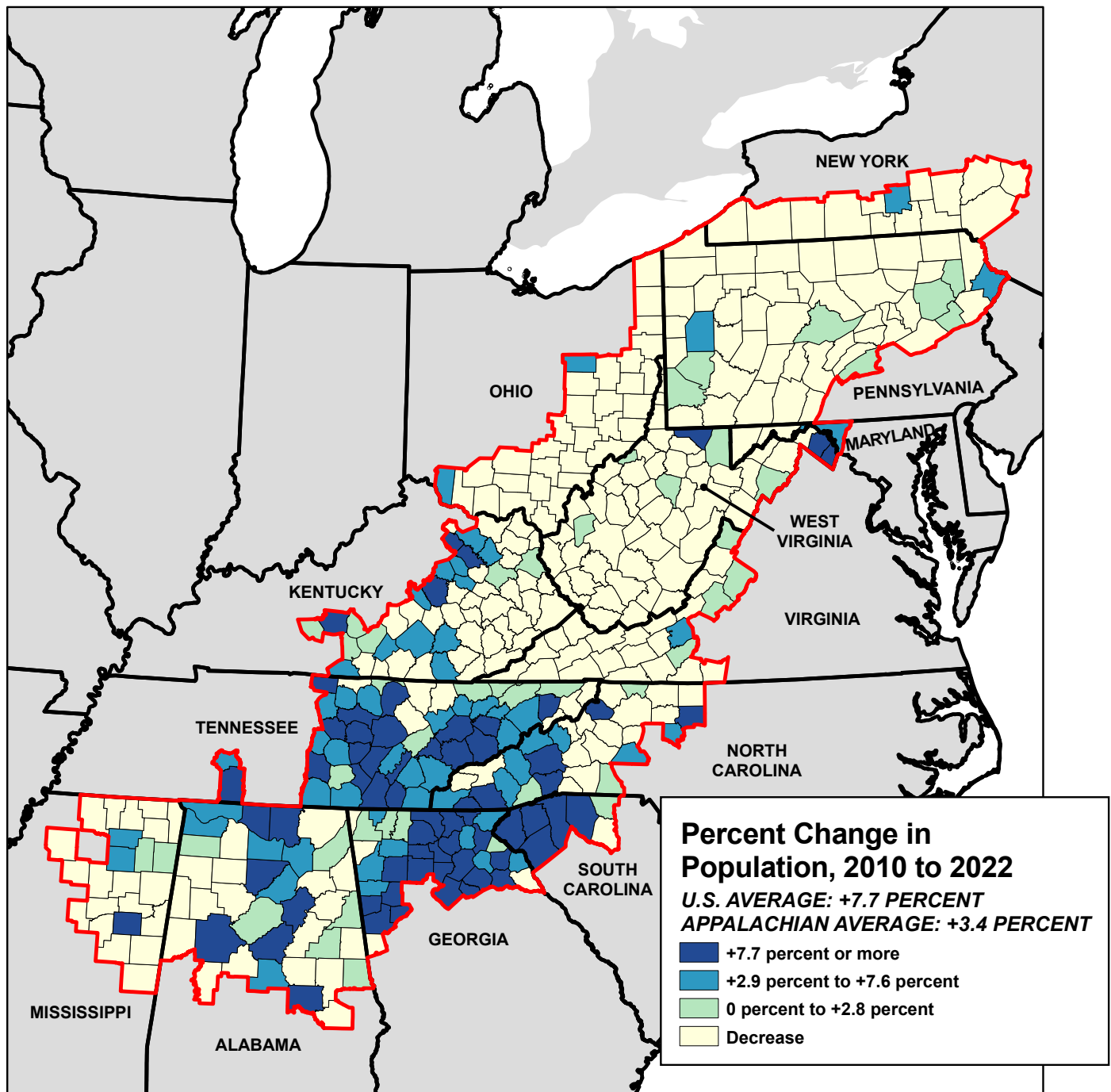


Map Title: Population Distribution in the Appalachian Region, July 1, 2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2022 Population Estimates.

Of the 333.3 million persons in the United States as of July 1, 2022, 26.4 million lived in the Appalachian Region—an increase of nearly 873,000 residents compared with July 1, 2010. Yet, throughout the region’s 423 counties population size varied greatly. While most counties had fairly small population sizes – two-thirds of the counties had populations of fewer than 50,000 people, and 131 counties had fewer than 20,000 residents – pockets of the Region include large and mid-sized metropolitan areas, including Pittsburgh, Birmingham, and the Atlanta suburbs. The most populous county in the Region was Allegheny County, Pennsylvania (where Pittsburgh is located) which had more than 1.2 million residents in 2022.

Figure 1.2: Population Change in the Appalachian Region, July 1, 2010 to July 1, 2022

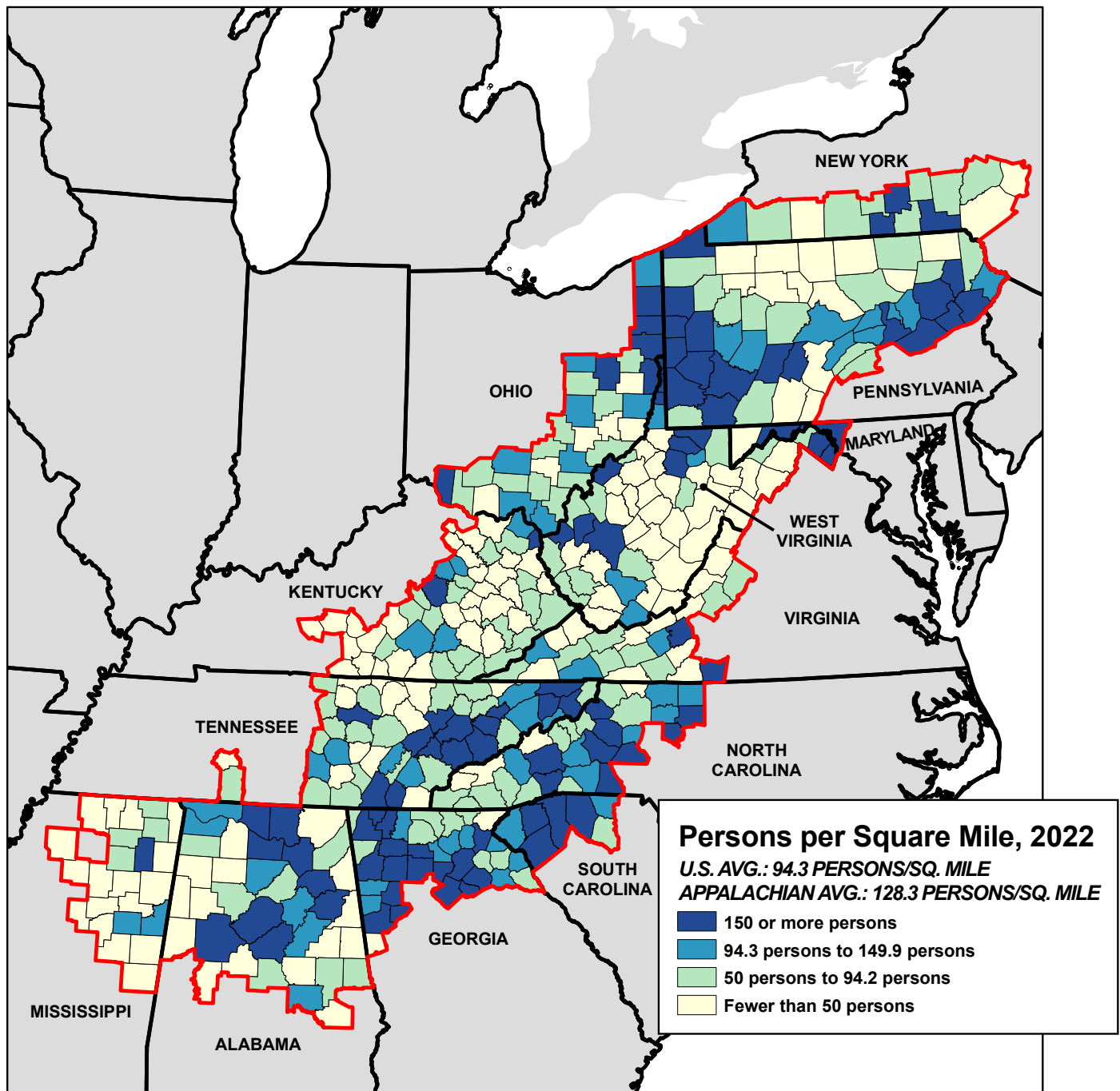


Map Title: Population Change in the Appalachian Region, July 1, 2010 to July 1, 2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2020 and 2022 Population Estimates.

The size of the Appalachian Region's population has grown by 3.4 percent between 2010 and 2022. However, the Region's growth was less than half that of the national population increase of 7.7 percent. Despite the overall pattern of growth in the Region, in the Appalachian sections of eight states (including all of West Virginia) population declined since 2010. On the other hand, at 11.8 percent, population growth in Southern Appalachia exceeded the national average. Of the 67 counties where population grew at or above the national rate, 59 were in the five states (Alabama, Georgia, the Carolinas, and Tennessee) whose Appalachian sections gained population. Population growth was particularly high in the Appalachian parts of Georgia and South Carolina, with increases of 18.3 percent and 16.4 percent, respectively. Many of the highest growth counties were retirement destination communities. In fact, two-thirds of the most rapidly growing counties – those with population growth exceeding 20 percent – were retirement destination communities.

Figure 1.3: Population per Square Mile of Land Area in the Appalachian Region, July 1, 2022



Map Title: Population per Square Mile of Land Area in the Appalachian Region, July 1, 2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2022 Population Estimates.

While the Appalachian Region's population density was noticeably greater than the United States average in 2022, less than two-fifths of the Region's counties had population concentrations at or above the national average. Throughout the Region, there were 161 high-density counties (defined as those where the population concentration matched or exceeded the national average). Of these, 107 were in metropolitan areas, both large (Pittsburgh, suburban Atlanta) and small (Knoxville, Tennessee; Winston-Salem, North Carolina; Greenville, South Carolina; Chattanooga, Tennessee). And more than half of these high-density counties were in the Appalachian portions of Southern states, particularly Georgia and Tennessee.

BASIC POPULATION TRENDS

- The Appalachian Region had a population of 26.4 million persons in 2022—nearly 873,000 more residents than in mid-2010 (see Table 1.1). However, compared with the United States growth rate of 7.7 percent, growth in the Region has been relatively slow, at 3.4 percent.
- The Appalachian portion of eight states lost population between July 2010 and July 2022. And in five of those states – Mississippi, New York, Ohio, Virginia, and West Virginia – the population declined by more than three percent. Population loss was most common in counties outside of metropolitan areas. Of the 269 non-metropolitan counties in the Region, 181 saw a decrease in population since 2010. Rural counties were especially susceptible to declining population size, with 77 of the 107 rural Appalachian counties seeing a decrease in population.
- In contrast to the other three subregions, South Central and Southern Appalachia increased in population size between 2010 and 2022. Southern Appalachia saw a particularly sharp rise of 11.8 percent – more than four points higher than the national average.
- The five states where Appalachian populations have grown since 2010 were all in the South—Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. Georgia’s and South Carolina’s Appalachian sections have grown especially rapidly since 2010, with increases of 18.3 and 16.4 percent, respectively.
- Several possible factors account for the rapid growth in some parts of Appalachia. Many counties that were home to colleges and universities also had population growth at or above the national average. Nearly one in four of the 67 counties with growth rates matching or exceeding that of the U.S. as a whole had at least one college or university, such as Spartanburg County, South Carolina (Wofford College and University of South Carolina Upstate); Tuscaloosa County, Alabama (University of Alabama); and Greenville County, South Carolina (Furman University). Many of these high-growth counties also boast a diversified economy. Of the 67 counties where population growth met or exceeded the U.S. average, 30 were classified as “non-specialized” by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service (ERS) – meaning that their economies were not dependent on a single economic factor or industry. Yet, being a retirement-friendly county may have been the most impactful factor driving population growth in the Region. Of the 67 Appalachian counties where population growth exceeded the national average, just over half were also “retirement destination” counties according to ERS.
- In contrast to high-growth counties, 252 of the Region’s 423 counties saw a decline in population between mid-2010 and mid-2022. Of these, more than one in five were classified as “manufacturing-dependent” by ERS, meaning that manufacturing in those counties accounted for 23 percent or more of the county’s earnings or 16 percent of the county’s employment. Lack of job opportunities may drive population decline, as three-fifths of the 252 counties where population size decreased were classified as low-employment counties (where less than 65 percent of adults 25 to 64-years-old were employed).

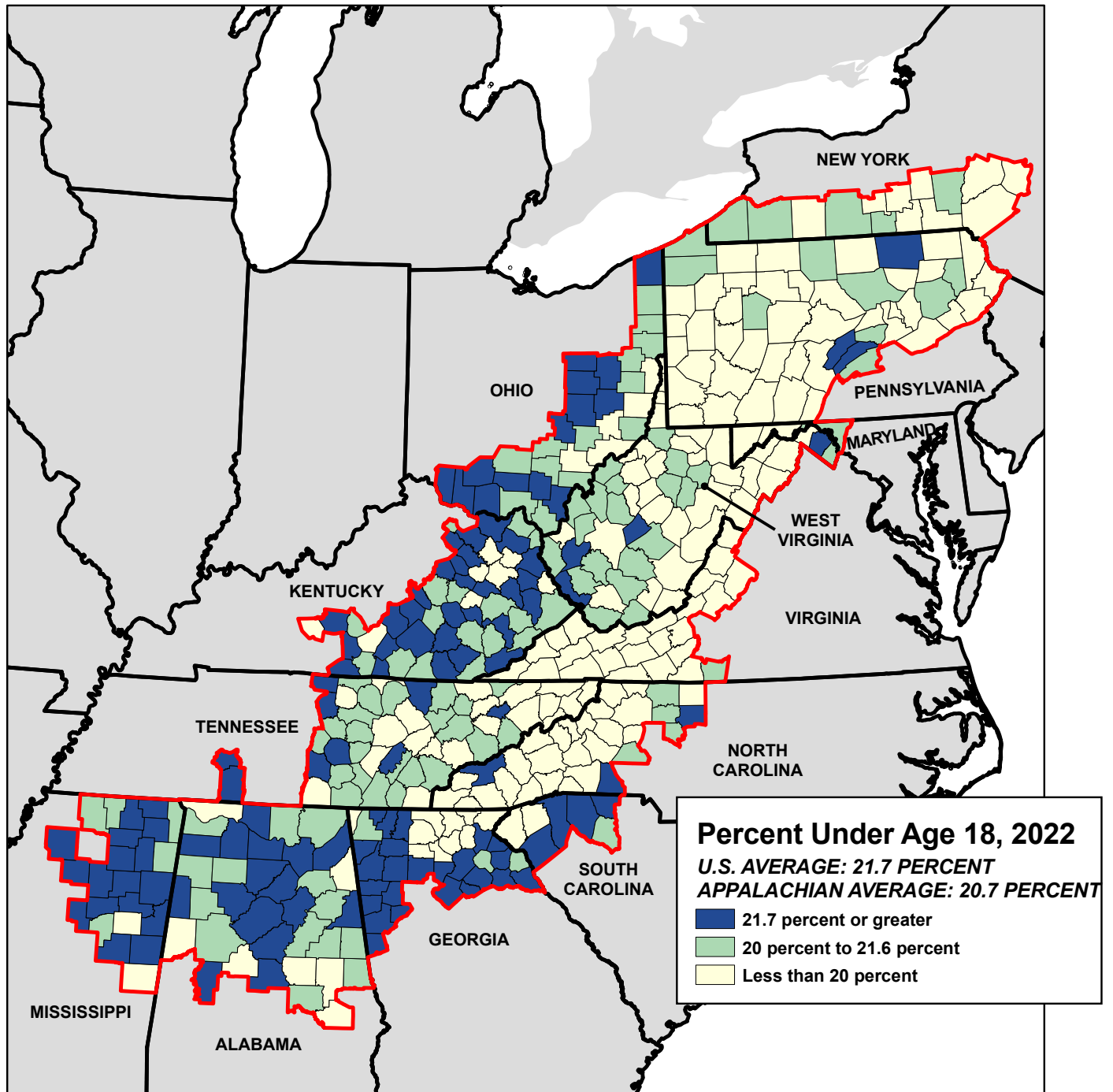
CHAPTER 2: AGE

Table 2.1: Population in the Appalachian Region by Age Group, July 1, 2022

Population by Age Group	Total Population, July 1, 2022	Percent of Population				Median Age (Years)
		Under Age 18	Ages 18-24	Ages 25-64	Ages 65 and over	
United States	333,287,557	21.7	9.4	51.5	17.3	38.9
Appalachian Region	26,417,212	20.7	9.4	50.4	19.5	41.3
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	8,028,459	19.3	9.6	49.8	21.4	42.7
North Central Appalachia	2,480,420	20.3	9.1	50.2	20.4	42.2
Central Appalachia	1,852,312	21.2	8.3	50.6	19.9	42.2
South Central Appalachia	5,293,143	19.6	9.5	50.1	20.8	42.6
Southern Appalachia	8,762,878	22.6	9.6	51.1	16.7	38.9
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	6,355,232	21.7	8.8	52.0	17.5	40.0
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	11,356,153	20.3	10.1	50.2	19.4	40.9
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	2,310,432	20.9	9.3	49.6	20.1	41.9
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	3,931,695	20.1	8.6	49.5	21.8	43.7
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	2,463,700	20.6	9.6	49.0	20.8	42.2
Alabama	5,074,296	21.9	9.7	50.4	18.0	39.4
Appalachian Alabama	3,276,927	21.7	9.7	50.7	17.9	39.5
Non-Appalachian Alabama	1,797,369	22.3	9.7	49.8	18.3	39.3
Georgia	10,912,876	23.0	9.8	52.2	15.1	37.5
Appalachian Georgia	3,479,640	23.8	9.3	52.0	15.0	38.4
Non-Appalachian Georgia	7,433,236	22.6	10.0	52.2	15.1	37.2
Kentucky	4,512,310	22.3	9.3	50.9	17.6	39.4
Appalachian Kentucky	1,161,263	21.9	8.7	50.6	18.8	41.1
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	3,351,047	22.4	9.4	51.0	17.2	38.8
Maryland	6,164,660	21.8	8.7	52.5	16.9	39.6
Appalachian Maryland	251,436	20.1	9.0	51.3	19.7	41.7
Non-Appalachian Maryland	5,913,224	21.9	8.7	52.6	16.8	39.5
Mississippi	2,940,057	23.1	9.9	49.8	17.3	38.5
Appalachian Mississippi	606,434	22.6	11.0	48.6	17.8	38.3
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	2,333,623	23.2	9.7	50.1	17.1	38.5
New York	19,677,151	20.3	9.2	52.5	18.1	39.9
Appalachian New York	1,018,524	18.7	13.3	47.1	20.9	41.2
Non-Appalachian New York	18,658,627	20.4	8.9	52.7	18.0	39.8
North Carolina	10,698,973	21.4	9.7	51.4	17.4	39.2
Appalachian North Carolina	2,050,171	19.3	9.0	50.1	21.7	43.5
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	8,648,802	22.0	9.9	51.8	16.4	38.4
Ohio	11,756,058	21.8	9.1	50.7	18.4	39.7
Appalachian Ohio	1,968,186	21.3	8.6	49.8	20.4	42.0
Non-Appalachian Ohio	9,787,872	21.9	9.2	50.9	18.0	39.3
Pennsylvania	12,972,008	20.2	9.3	50.9	19.6	40.9
Appalachian Pennsylvania	5,666,710	18.9	9.2	50.3	21.5	43.0
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	7,305,298	21.2	9.3	51.4	18.1	39.4
South Carolina	5,282,634	21.2	9.4	50.4	19.1	40.3
Appalachian South Carolina	1,399,877	22.0	9.6	50.7	17.7	39.0
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	3,882,757	20.9	9.3	50.3	19.6	40.8
Tennessee	7,051,339	21.8	9.1	51.7	17.3	39.1
Appalachian Tennessee	3,031,001	20.2	9.0	50.8	20.0	41.9
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	4,020,338	23.0	9.2	52.5	15.3	37.2
Virginia	8,683,619	21.5	9.5	52.1	16.9	39.0
Appalachian Virginia	731,887	17.9	11.4	48.4	22.3	43.7
Non-Appalachian Virginia	7,951,732	21.8	9.3	52.5	16.4	38.7
West Virginia (entire state)	1,775,156	19.8	9.0	50.0	21.2	42.8

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2022 Population Estimates.

Figure 2.1: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Under Age 18, July 1, 2022

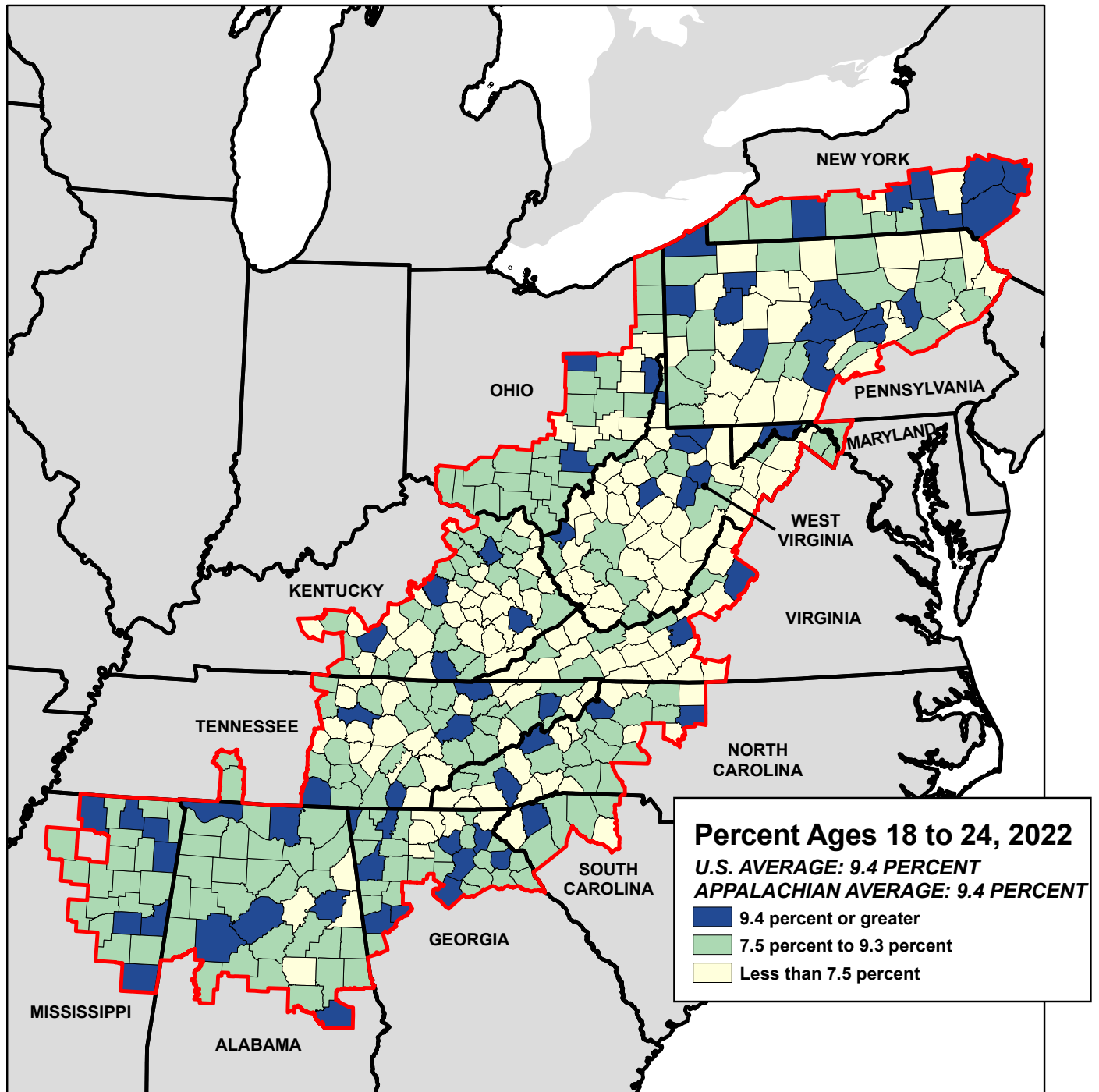


Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Under Age 18, July 1, 2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2022 Population Estimates.

As of mid-2022, the share of children and youth under age 18 in the Appalachian population was slightly below the national average of 21.7 percent. In 184 of the Region's 423 counties, the share was less than 20 percent. Most of these were small metropolitan counties or counties adjacent to small metropolitan areas. And while Pennsylvania had 40 of the 184 counties with a low share of children and youth under 18 – the highest concentration among the Appalachian states – there were also pockets throughout Virginia, West Virginia, and North Carolina. On the other hand, in 123 Appalachian counties the share of children under age 18 matched or exceeded the national average. Half of these counties were in Southern Appalachia, with concentrations in Georgia and Kentucky. The Appalachian sections of five Southern states – Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, and South Carolina – had shares of children under 18 matching or exceeding the national average.

Figure 2.2: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 18 to 24, July 1, 2022

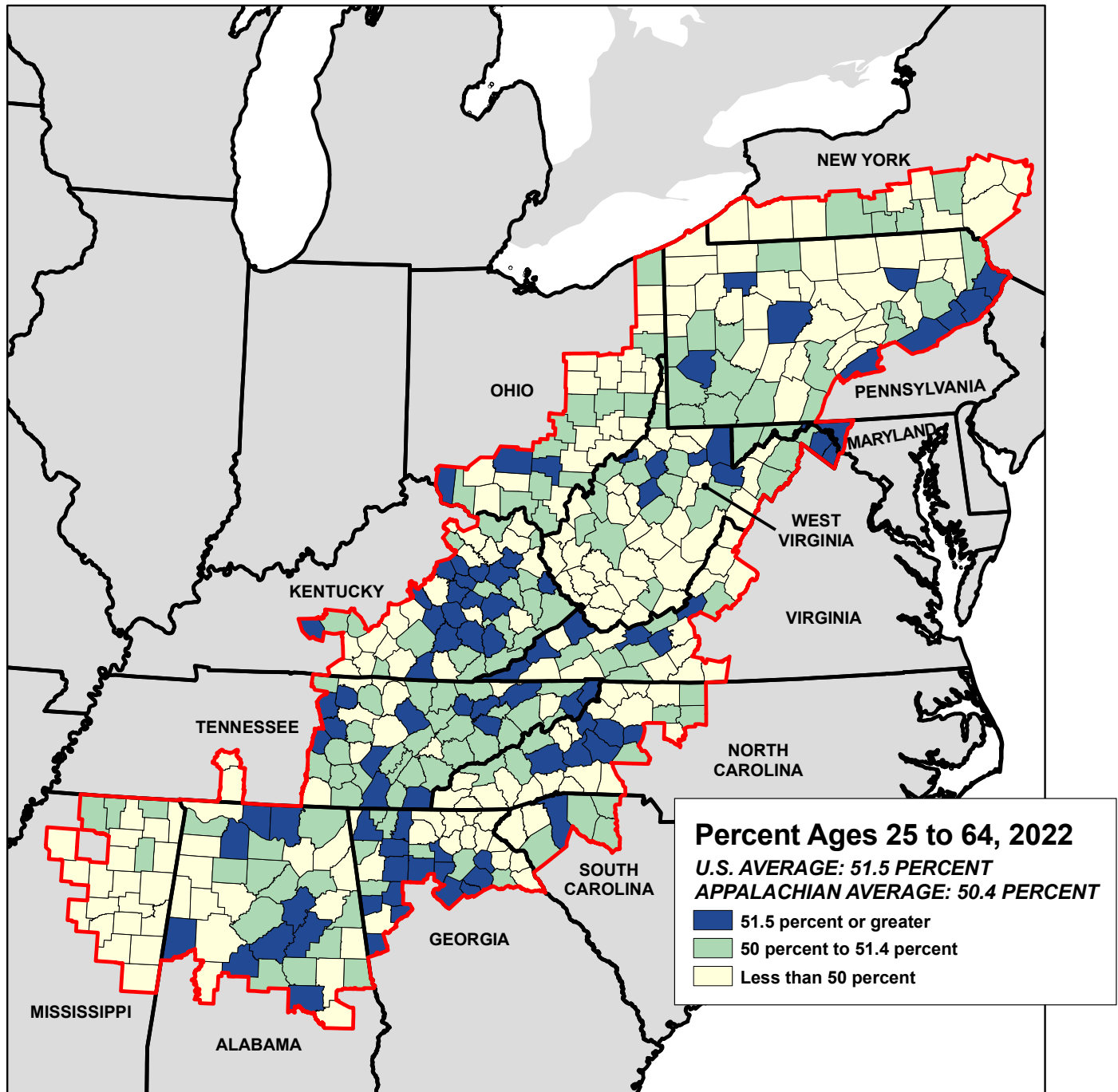


Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 18 to 24, July 1, 2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2022 Population Estimates.

The share of young adults (ages 18 to 24) in the Appalachian Region in 2022 was equal to the national average of 9.4 percent. However, concentrations existed throughout the Region. Young adults in this age group comprised at least 15 percent of the population in 22 of the Region's 423 counties. All but one of these counties are home to colleges and universities, such as Oktibbeha County, Mississippi (Mississippi State University); Watauga County, North Carolina (Appalachian State University); and Tompkins County, New York (Cornell University). In contrast, 18-to-24-year-olds made up less than 7.5 percent of the population in 160 Appalachian counties. Of those counties, 117 were outside of metropolitan areas, 50 were in rural counties, and 99 of these were classified as low-employment counties, suggesting a lack of opportunities for young adults in this age group.

Figure 2.3: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 25 to 64, July 1, 2022

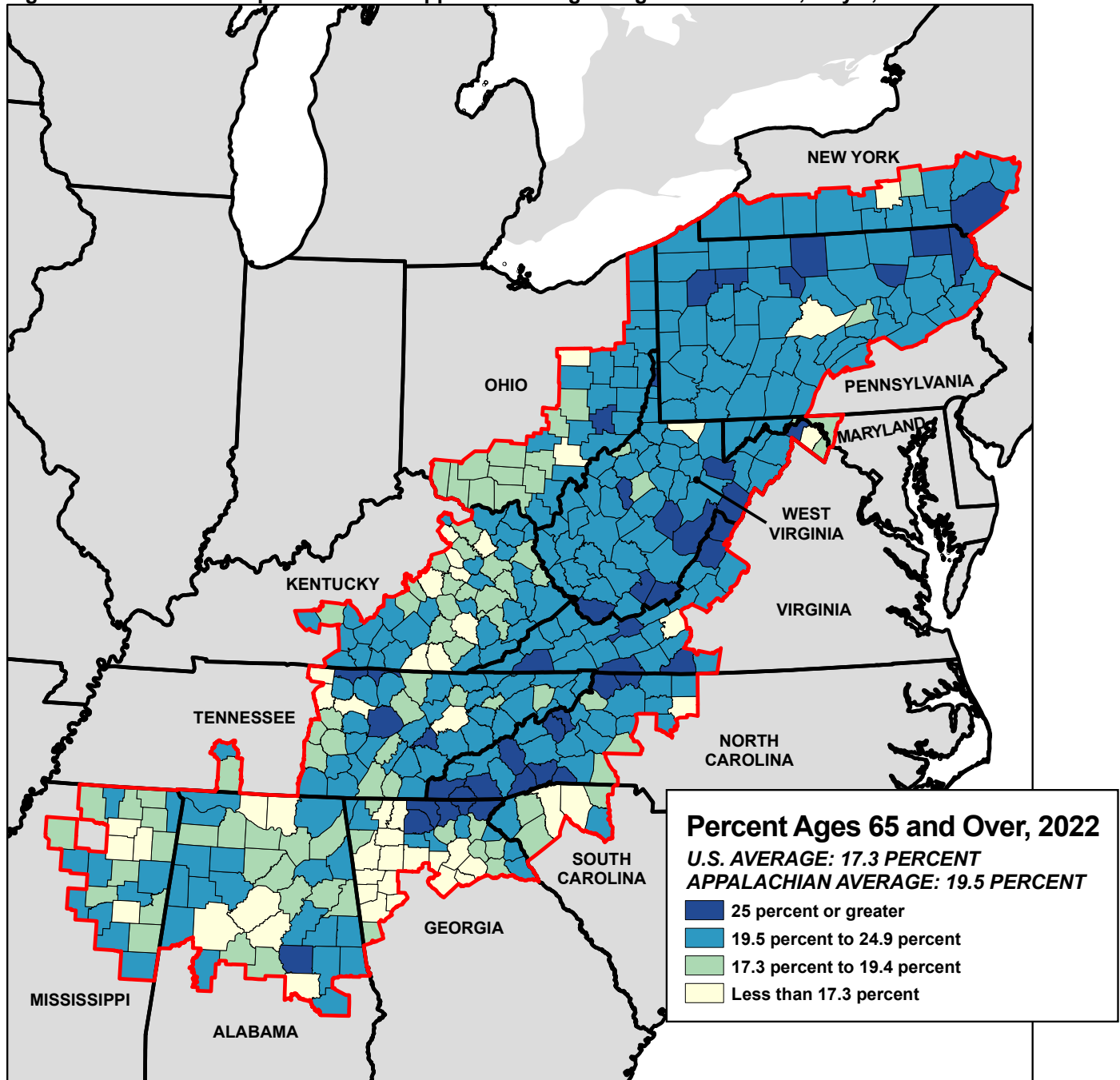


Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 25 to 64, July 1, 2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2022 Population Estimates.

Adults ages 25 to 64 made up a slight majority of residents in the Appalachian Region and in the nation as a whole. Yet, the Region's share of adults in this age group was 1.1 percentage points lower than the national average of 51.5 percent. In 200 of the Region's 423 counties, less than half of the population was comprised of persons in this age group – 154 of which were outside of metropolitan areas. These 200 counties generally had a lower percentage of the working age population because of above average populations of either college students (Montgomery County, Virginia) or retirees (Towns County, Georgia). On the other hand, in 90 of the 423 Appalachian counties the percentage of persons in this age group matched or exceeded the national average. Many of these counties were metropolitan counties, where opportunities for employment and recreation may be more concentrated for adults in this age group.

Figure 2.4: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 65 and Over, July 1, 2022

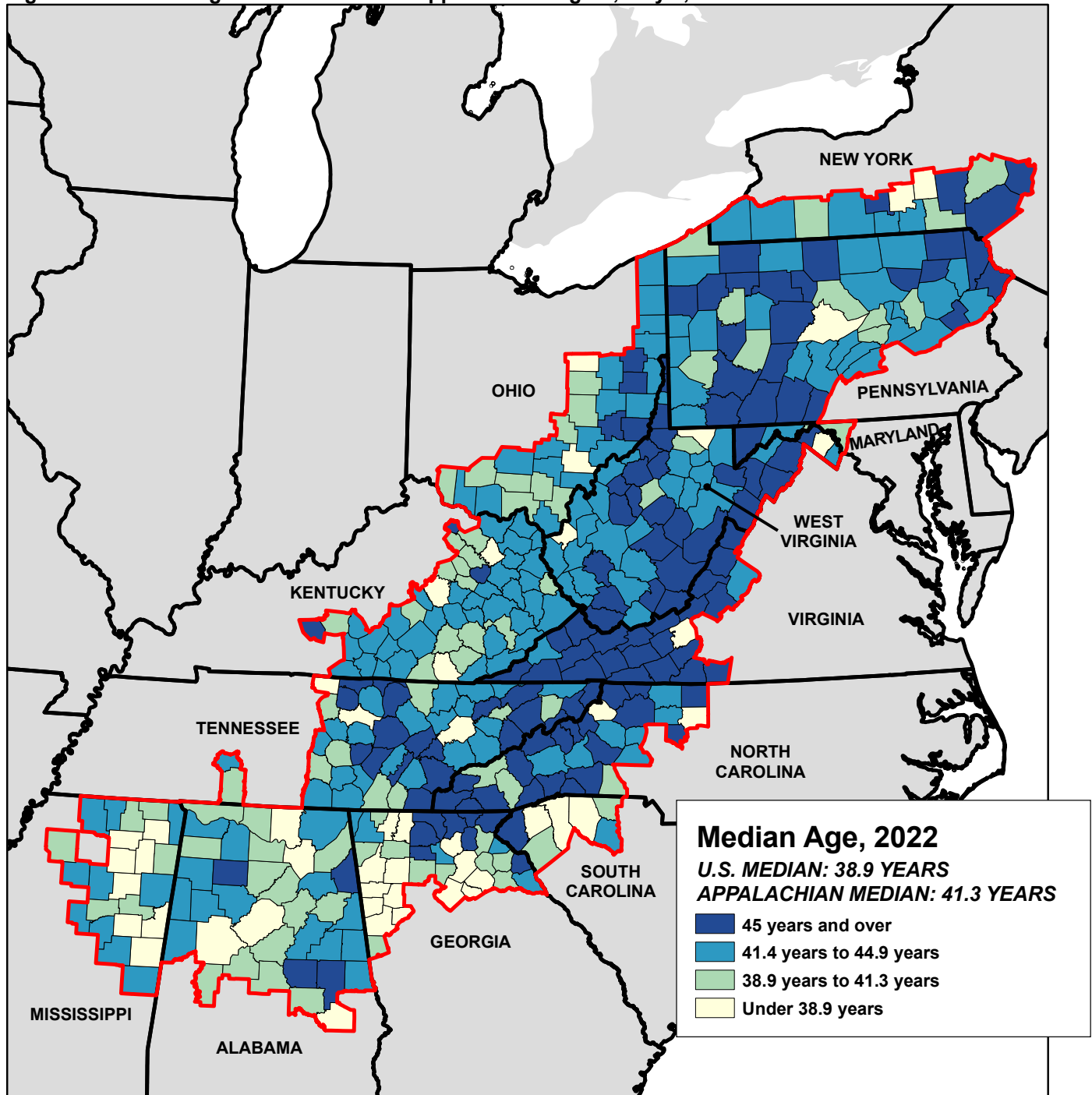


Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Ages 65 and Over, July 1, 2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2022 Population Estimates.

In the Appalachian Region, the share of adults ages 65 and older exceeded the national average of 17.3 percent by more than two percentage points in 2022. Moreover, the percentage of persons in this age group matched or exceeded the U.S. share in 375 of the 423 Appalachian counties—and was at least 19.5 percent in 292 of them. In fact, there were 46 counties in the Region where older persons made up 25 percent or more of the population, and all but five of these were outside metropolitan areas. In contrast, of the 48 Appalachian counties with older population shares below the national average, most were either in metro areas or home to colleges and universities. Of the subregions, only Southern Appalachia had a share of older adults below the national average. As more of the large baby boom cohort moves into this age group, the share of residents ages 65 and over will continue to increase over the coming years in both Appalachia and the nation.

Figure 2.5: Median Age of Persons in the Appalachian Region, July 1, 2022



Map Title: Median Age of Persons in the Appalachian Region, July 1, 2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2022 Population Estimates.

At 41.3 years, the median age of the Appalachian population (the point at which half of the population is older and half is younger) was 2.4 years older than that of the United States as of mid-2022. In fact, 376 Appalachian counties had median ages at or above the national average, and more than two-thirds of the Region's 423 counties had median ages exceeding the regional average as well. Meanwhile, in 132 counties the median age was at least 45 years. And while large- and small-metropolitan county types throughout the Region had median ages below the regional median, among metro-adjacent and rural counties the median age was higher. Southern Appalachia was the only subregion with a median age below the regional median. In fact, more than half of the 105 Southern Appalachian counties had a median age at or below the Appalachian median. Most of the Southern counties with the lowest median ages were concentrated in Georgia and Mississippi.

Table 2.2: Percentage Point Change in the Share of the Population in the Appalachian Region, by Age Group, July 1, 2010 to July 1, 2022

Population by Age Group	Percentage Point Change in Share of Population				Change in Median Age (Years)
	Under Age 18	Ages 18-24	Ages 25-64	Ages 65 and over	
United States	- 2.3	- 0.5	- 1.5	+ 4.2	+ 1.7
Appalachian Region	- 1.7	- 0.3	- 2.4	+ 4.3	+ 1.4
Subregions					
Northern Appalachia	- 1.6	- 0.5	- 2.5	+ 4.6	+ 1.0
North Central Appalachia	- 1.4	- 0.4	- 3.1	+ 4.9	+ 1.7
Central Appalachia	- 1.0	- 0.4	- 3.4	+ 4.8	+ 1.8
South Central Appalachia	- 1.9	- 0.2	- 2.5	+ 4.5	+ 1.8
Southern Appalachia	- 2.3	+ 0.1	- 1.9	+ 4.0	+ 1.7
County Types					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	- 2.1	+ 0.0	- 2.1	+ 4.2	+ 1.4
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	- 1.6	- 0.3	- 2.3	+ 4.2	+ 1.3
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 1.6	- 0.5	- 2.4	+ 4.5	+ 1.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	- 1.6	- 0.2	- 3.0	+ 4.8	+ 1.9
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 1.5	- 0.2	- 3.2	+ 4.9	+ 1.8
Alabama	- 1.7	- 0.3	- 2.1	+ 4.2	+ 1.5
Appalachian Alabama	- 1.7	- 0.1	- 2.3	+ 4.1	+ 1.3
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 1.8	- 0.8	- 1.9	+ 4.5	+ 2.1
Georgia	- 2.6	- 0.2	- 1.4	+ 4.4	+ 2.1
Appalachian Georgia	- 3.3	+ 0.7	- 1.7	+ 4.4	+ 2.4
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 2.4	- 0.7	- 1.4	+ 4.3	+ 2.1
Kentucky	- 1.2	- 0.3	- 2.6	+ 4.3	+ 1.3
Appalachian Kentucky	- 0.8	- 0.5	- 3.1	+ 4.4	+ 1.6
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 1.5	- 0.3	- 2.5	+ 4.2	+ 1.4
Maryland	- 1.6	- 1.0	- 2.2	+ 4.6	+ 1.6
Appalachian Maryland	- 1.2	- 0.7	- 2.0	+ 3.9	+ 1.3
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 1.6	- 1.0	- 2.1	+ 4.7	+ 1.7
Mississippi	- 2.3	- 0.4	- 1.7	+ 4.4	+ 2.5
Appalachian Mississippi	- 2.0	+ 0.2	- 1.9	+ 3.7	+ 1.3
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 2.4	- 0.5	- 1.6	+ 4.6	+ 2.8
New York	- 2.0	- 1.0	- 1.5	+ 4.5	+ 1.9
Appalachian New York	- 2.3	+ 0.5	- 3.5	+ 5.3	+ 1.1
Non-Appalachian New York	- 1.9	- 1.2	- 1.5	+ 4.6	+ 2.0
North Carolina	- 2.4	- 0.3	- 1.8	+ 4.4	+ 1.8
Appalachian North Carolina	- 2.5	+ 0.0	- 2.5	+ 5.1	+ 2.3
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 2.4	- 0.3	- 1.6	+ 4.3	+ 2.0
Ohio	- 1.8	- 0.5	- 2.1	+ 4.3	+ 0.9
Appalachian Ohio	- 1.6	- 0.4	- 2.6	+ 4.8	+ 1.4
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 1.8	- 0.5	- 1.9	+ 4.2	+ 1.0
Pennsylvania	- 1.7	- 0.6	- 1.8	+ 4.2	+ 0.7
Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 1.6	- 0.8	- 2.2	+ 4.5	+ 1.0
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 1.9	- 0.6	- 1.4	+ 4.0	+ 0.8
South Carolina	- 2.1	- 0.9	- 2.3	+ 5.4	+ 2.4
Appalachian South Carolina	- 1.6	- 0.6	- 1.6	+ 3.8	+ 0.9
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 2.3	- 1.0	- 2.5	+ 5.9	+ 3.1
Tennessee	- 1.7	- 0.5	- 1.7	+ 3.8	+ 1.0
Appalachian Tennessee	- 1.6	- 0.2	- 2.2	+ 4.0	+ 1.3
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 1.8	- 0.6	- 1.3	+ 3.7	+ 1.2
Virginia	- 1.6	- 0.5	- 2.5	+ 4.6	+ 1.5
Appalachian Virginia	- 1.6	- 0.3	- 3.6	+ 5.5	+ 2.4
Non-Appalachian Virginia	- 1.7	- 0.5	- 2.4	+ 4.6	+ 1.7
West Virginia (entire state)	- 1.1	- 0.1	- 3.9	+ 5.1	+ 1.5

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2020 and Vintage 2022 Population Estimates.

TRENDS IN AGE

- Keeping with the national trend, Appalachia's population became older between 2010 and 2022. The Region's pace of aging has been similar – albeit slightly slower – than the nation's, with a rise in age of 1.4 years compared with the U.S. increase of 1.7 years during this 12-year period (See Table 2.2).
- Aging varies throughout the Region, with some areas – such as the Appalachian portions of Georgia, North Carolina, and Virginia – having median age increase by more than two years, while others – such as the Appalachian sections of South Carolina and Pennsylvania – having median age increase by one year or less. And while non-metropolitan counties adjacent to small metros and rural counties had median age rise just above the national average, large and small metropolitan counties had an increase in median age more similar to the Region as a whole. Among the states, median age ranged from nearly 44 years in the Appalachian sections of North Carolina and Virginia, to just over 38 years in Appalachian Georgia and Mississippi (See Table 2.1). Of the Appalachian subregions, only Northern Appalachia's change in median age (1.0 years) was slower than the national average of 1.7 years.
- In both the United States and Appalachia, the rise in population among those 65 and older is accompanied by a decline in the share of persons ages 25 to 64 and 18-years-old or younger. In Appalachia, the share of adults ages 25 to 64 decreased by 2.4 percentage points, while the share of persons aged 18-years or younger decreased by 1.7 percentage points. Meanwhile, the share of young adults in the Region – those aged 18 to 24 – declined only slightly, by 0.3 percentage points. The decline in the share of adults ages 25 to 64 is largely because older members of the baby boom cohort are now ages 65 and older, which has increased the share of this older population group. The share of adults ages 65 or older in the Region increased by 4.3 percentage points between mid-2010 and mid-2022, and by 4.2 percentage points in the nation as a whole. The share of adults 65 and older grew most in North Central (4.9 percentage points) and Central Appalachia (4.8 percentage points), in nonmetropolitan counties adjacent to small metros (4.8 points), and in rural counties (4.9 percentage points).
- While much of Appalachia is “aging in place”, the migration of some older residents to retirement destinations is aging parts of the Region. For example, one quarter of the 132 Appalachian counties where the median age is at least 45 years—such as Towns County, Georgia; Sullivan County, Pennsylvania; Clay County, North Carolina; and Noble County, Ohio— have been designated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service as “retirement destination” counties.

CHAPTER 3: RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN

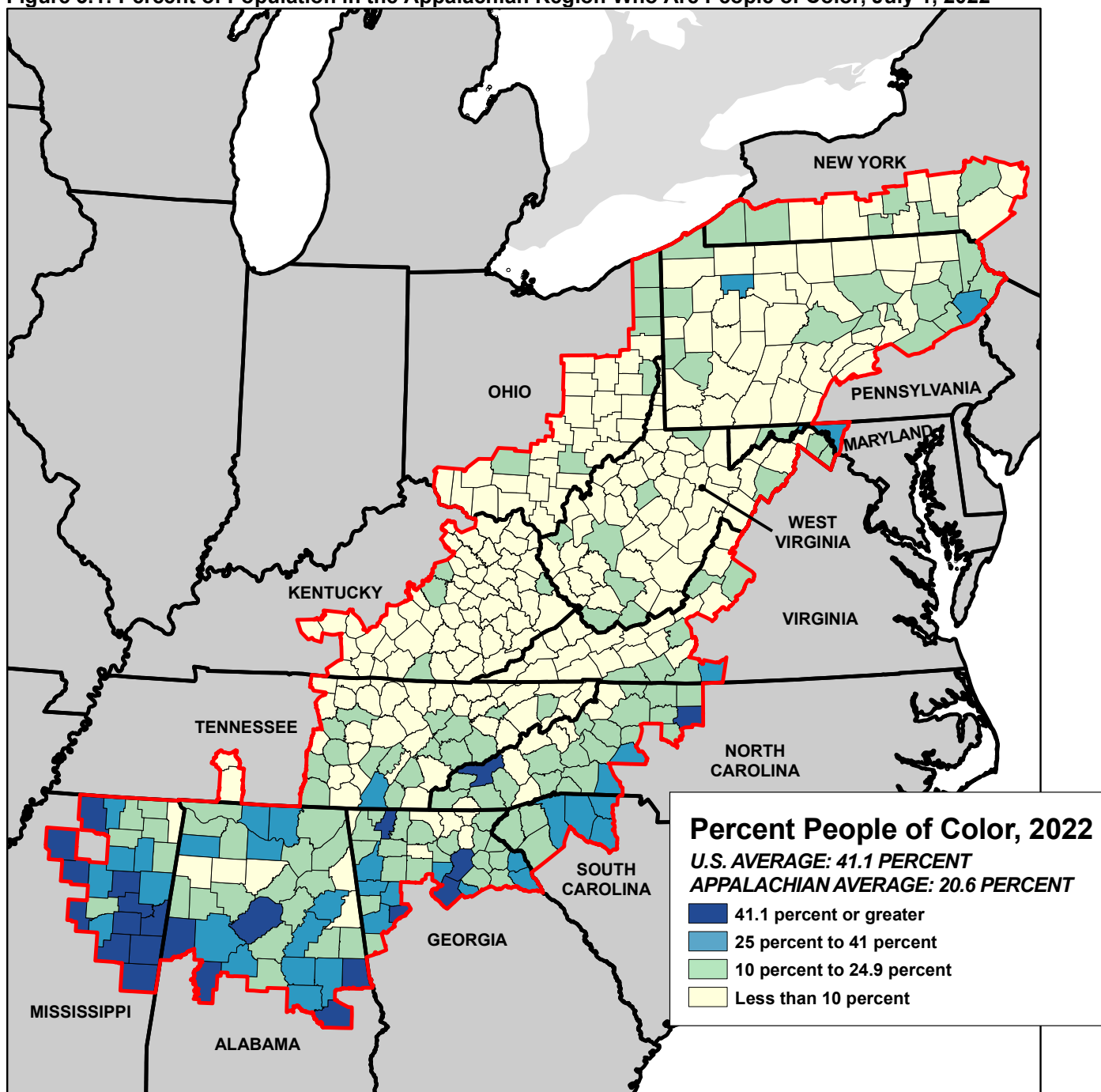
Table 3.1: Population in the Appalachian Region by Race and Hispanic Origin, July 1, 2022

Population by Race and Hispanic Origin	Total Population, July 1, 2022	Percent of Population				
		White Alone, Not Hispanic	People of Color			
			Total	Black Alone, Not Hispanic	Hispanic or Latino	Other, Not Hispanic
United States	333,287,557	58.9	41.1	12.6	19.1	9.4
Appalachian Region	26,417,212	79.4	20.6	10.2	6.1	4.3
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	8,028,459	86.1	13.9	5.7	4.2	4.0
North Central Appalachia	2,480,420	91.7	8.3	3.2	1.9	3.2
Central Appalachia	1,852,312	93.7	6.3	2.0	2.1	2.2
South Central Appalachia	5,293,143	82.5	17.5	7.3	6.4	3.9
Southern Appalachia	8,762,878	64.9	35.1	19.8	9.5	5.7
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	6,355,232	68.7	31.3	16.8	7.5	6.9
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	11,356,153	79.1	20.9	9.9	6.8	4.2
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	2,310,432	86.4	13.6	6.0	4.6	3.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	3,931,695	88.3	11.7	4.5	4.4	2.8
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	2,463,700	87.3	12.7	7.8	2.6	2.3
Alabama	5,074,296	64.7	35.3	26.4	4.9	3.9
Appalachian Alabama	3,276,927	68.3	31.7	22.6	5.5	3.7
Non-Appalachian Alabama	1,797,369	58.2	41.8	33.5	4.0	4.4
Georgia	10,912,876	50.4	49.6	32.1	10.5	7.1
Appalachian Georgia	3,479,640	59.6	40.4	16.5	15.2	8.7
Non-Appalachian Georgia	7,433,236	46.1	53.9	39.4	8.2	6.3
Kentucky	4,512,310	83.2	16.8	8.4	4.3	4.1
Appalachian Kentucky	1,161,263	93.9	6.1	1.9	2.1	2.1
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	3,351,047	79.5	20.5	10.6	5.1	4.8
Maryland	6,164,660	48.3	51.7	30.4	11.5	9.9
Appalachian Maryland	251,436	80.3	19.7	10.0	5.2	4.5
Non-Appalachian Maryland	5,913,224	46.9	53.1	31.3	11.7	10.1
Mississippi	2,940,057	56.0	44.0	37.4	3.6	3.0
Appalachian Mississippi	606,434	62.6	37.4	31.9	3.1	2.4
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	2,333,623	54.3	45.7	38.8	3.7	3.2
New York	19,677,151	54.2	45.8	14.4	19.7	11.7
Appalachian New York	1,018,524	87.1	12.9	3.1	4.3	5.5
Non-Appalachian New York	18,658,627	52.4	47.6	15.0	20.5	12.0
North Carolina	10,698,973	61.5	38.5	21.2	10.5	6.8
Appalachian North Carolina	2,050,171	77.6	22.4	9.4	8.7	4.3
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	8,648,802	57.7	42.3	24.0	10.9	7.4
Ohio	11,756,058	77.3	22.7	12.9	4.5	5.4
Appalachian Ohio	1,968,186	90.1	9.9	4.4	2.5	3.0
Non-Appalachian Ohio	9,787,872	74.7	25.3	14.6	4.9	5.8
Pennsylvania	12,972,008	74.5	25.5	10.8	8.6	6.1
Appalachian Pennsylvania	5,666,710	85.9	14.1	5.8	4.3	4.0
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	7,305,298	65.6	34.4	14.7	11.9	7.7
South Carolina	5,282,634	63.5	36.5	25.6	6.6	4.3
Appalachian South Carolina	1,399,877	71.2	28.8	16.6	7.8	4.4
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	3,882,757	60.7	39.3	28.9	6.2	4.3
Tennessee	7,051,339	72.9	27.1	16.4	6.4	4.4
Appalachian Tennessee	3,031,001	86.2	13.8	5.4	5.0	3.5
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	4,020,338	62.9	37.1	24.6	7.4	5.0
Virginia	8,683,619	59.8	40.2	19.2	10.5	10.5
Appalachian Virginia	731,887	88.0	12.0	5.7	3.0	3.3
Non-Appalachian Virginia	7,951,732	57.2	42.8	20.4	11.2	11.2
West Virginia (entire state)	1,775,156	91.2	8.8	3.6	2.1	3.2

Note: "Other" includes these racial groups: (a) American Indian and Alaska Native alone; (b) Asian alone; (c) Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone; and (d) Two or more races.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2022 Population Estimates.

Figure 3.1: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Who Are People of Color, July 1, 2022

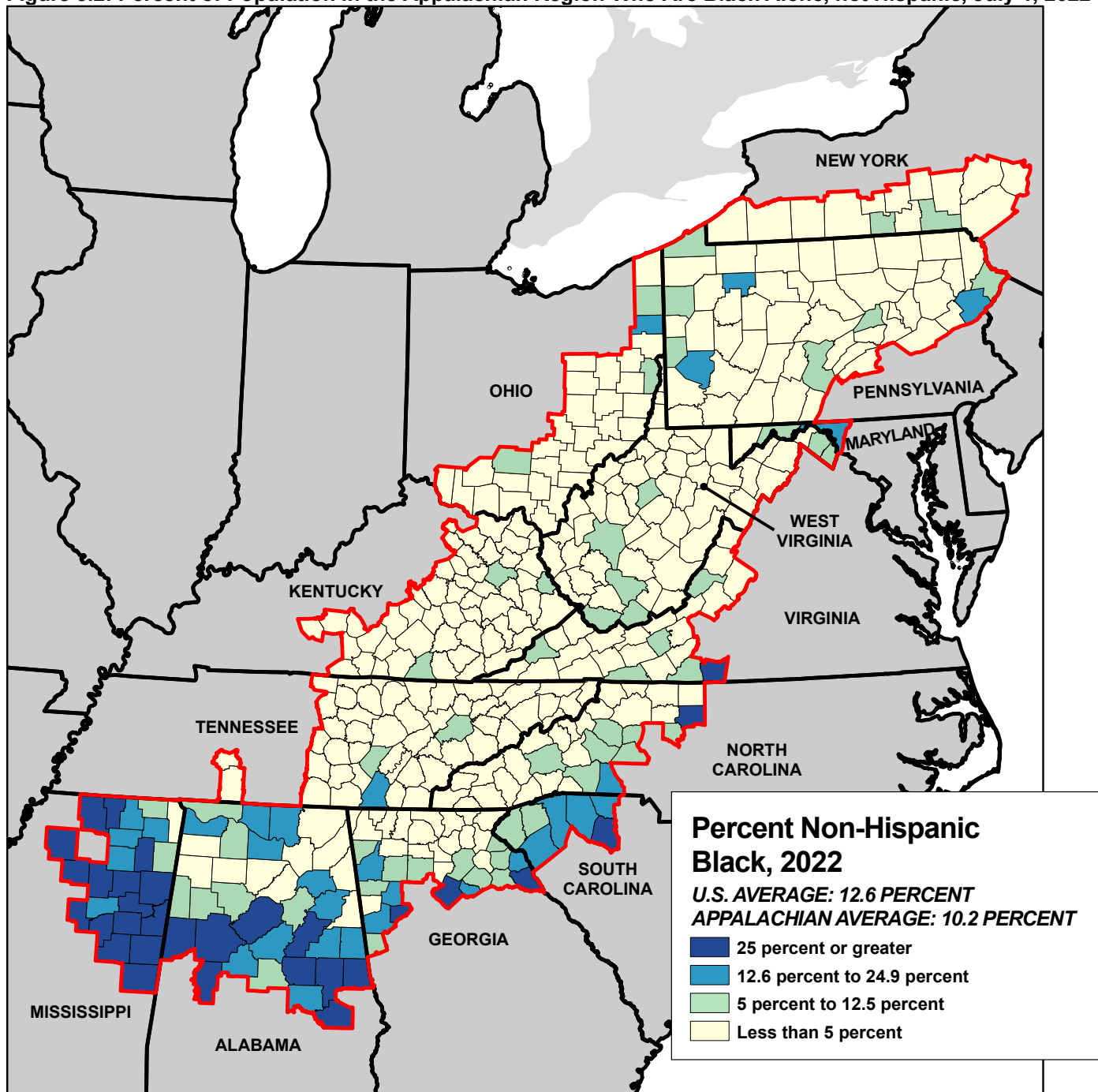


Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Who Are People of Color, July 1, 2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2022 Population Estimates.

The Appalachian Region is significantly less racially and ethnically diverse than the nation as a whole at just 20.6 percent, compared with the U.S. average of 41.1 percent. In fact, in more than half of the Region's 423 counties less than 10 percent of the population was comprised by people of color (defined as anyone who identified with a racial or ethnic group *other than* "White alone, not Hispanic"). The share of people of color in the population was lowest in Central and North Central Appalachia, both of which had people of color comprising less than 10 percent of the total population. And in non-metropolitan counties adjacent to large- and small-metros and rural counties, the share of people of color in the total population was less than 15 percent. Only 22 counties in the Region had a higher share of people of color than the U.S. average – all of which were in the South and half of which were in Mississippi.

Figure 3.2: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Who Are Black Alone, not Hispanic, July 1, 2022

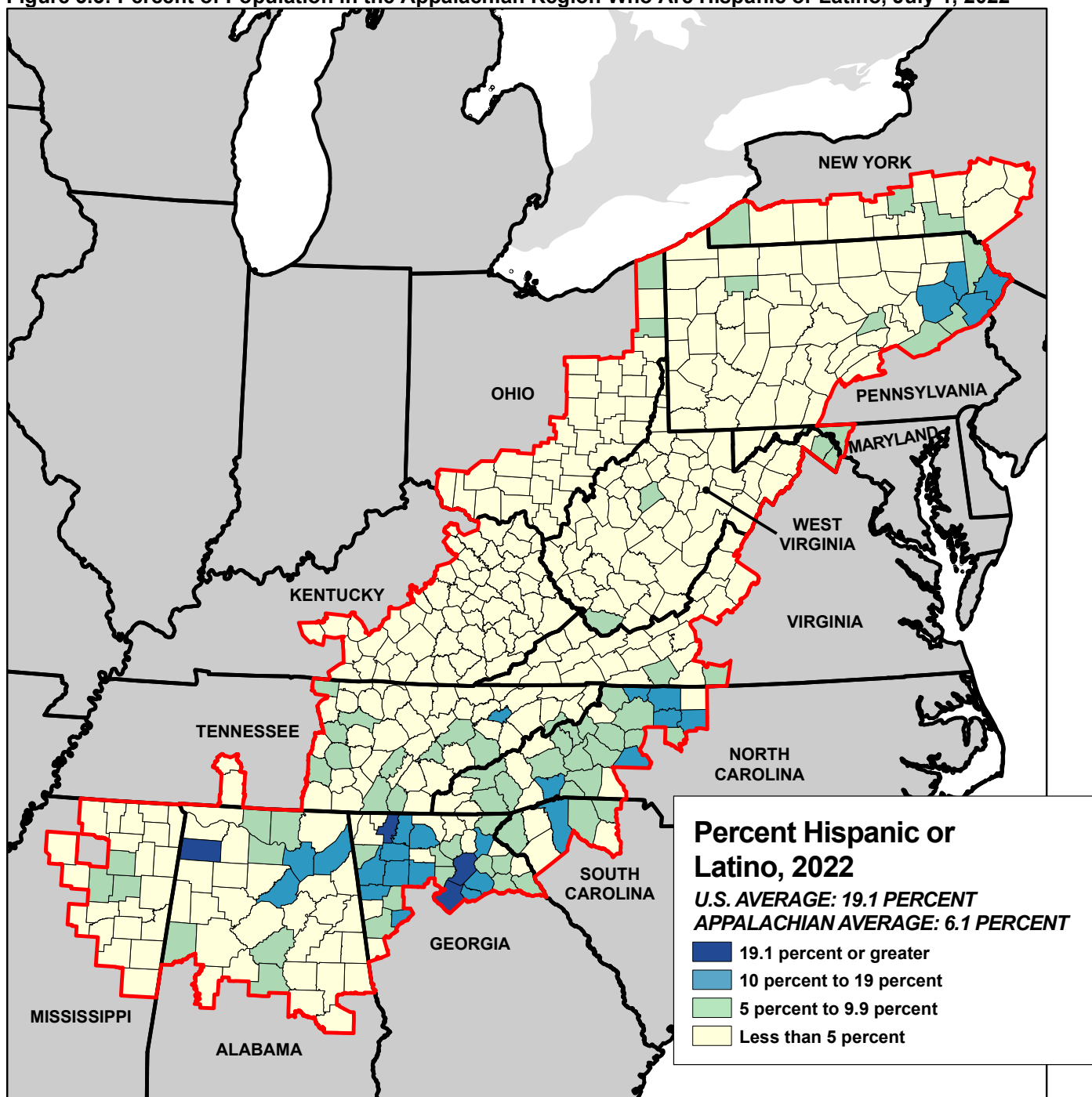


Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Who Are Black Alone, not Hispanic, July 1, 2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2022 Population Estimates.

Non-Hispanic Black people are the largest group of color represented in Appalachia as of 2022, yet their share of the Region's population (10.2 percent) was still lower than the United States average of 12.6 percent. In fact, the Black population was less than that of the U.S. average in all subregions and county types, except for Southern Appalachia and those with large metropolitan areas. In most of the Region – 354 of the Region's 423 counties – the share of the population made up by Black, non-Hispanic residents is even lower than the Region's average of 10.2 percent. And in nearly three-fourths of those counties the share was less than 5 percent. On the other hand, in Southern Appalachia the share of non-Hispanic Black residents exceeds that of the U.S., at nearly 20 percent of the Southern Appalachian population. In fact, the share of the population made up by Black residents in Southern Appalachia exceeds the national average in half of the subregion's counties and at least one in four residents identifies as Black in 29 of Southern Appalachia's 105 counties.

Figure 3.3: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Who Are Hispanic or Latino, July 1, 2022



Map Title: Percent of Population in the Appalachian Region Who Are Hispanic or Latino, July 1, 2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2022 Population Estimates.

While Hispanic and Latino people are the largest population of color in the United States as of 2022, comprising just over 19 percent of the total population, in Appalachia just over six percent of the Region's population identified as Hispanic or Latino. Less than one in four Appalachian counties had a Hispanic or Latino population of at least five percent, most of which were located in Southern and South Central Appalachia. In fact, of the 30 counties where Hispanic and Latino people comprised at least 10 percent of the population, 19 were located in Southern states. The share of Hispanic or Latino residents exceeded the national average in only four of the Region's 423 counties – Whitfield County, Georgia; Hall County, Georgia; Gwinnett County, Georgia; and Franklin County, Alabama.

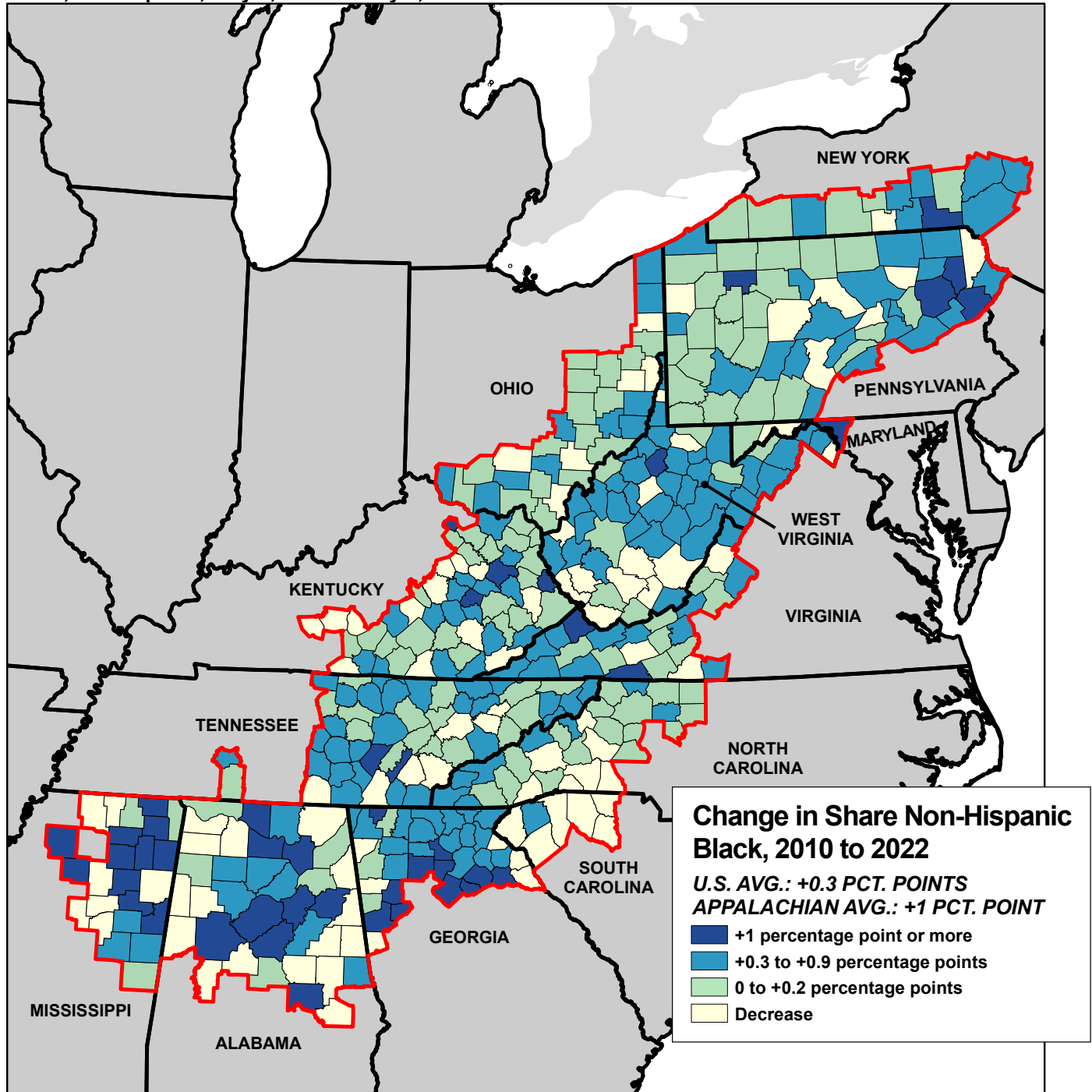
Table 3.2: Percentage Point Change in the Share of the Population in the Appalachian Region, by Race and Hispanic Origin, July 1, 2010 to July 1, 2022

Population by Race and Hispanic Origin	Percentage Point Change in Share of Population				
	White Alone, Not Hispanic	People of Color			
		Total	Black Alone, Not Hispanic	Hispanic or Latino	Other, Not Hispanic
United States	- 4.9	+ 4.9	+ 0.3	+ 2.7	+ 1.9
Appalachian Region	- 4.1	+ 4.1	+ 1.0	+ 1.9	+ 1.3
Subregions					
Northern Appalachia	- 3.4	+ 3.4	+ 0.5	+ 1.7	+ 1.2
North Central Appalachia	- 1.8	+ 1.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.7	+ 0.9
Central Appalachia	- 1.8	+ 1.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.8	+ 0.8
South Central Appalachia	- 2.7	+ 2.7	+ 0.1	+ 1.7	+ 1.0
Southern Appalachia	- 5.1	+ 5.1	+ 1.2	+ 2.0	+ 1.8
County Types					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	- 6.4	+ 6.4	+ 2.0	+ 1.8	+ 2.5
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	- 4.0	+ 4.0	+ 0.7	+ 2.1	+ 1.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 2.4	+ 2.4	+ 0.2	+ 1.4	+ 0.9
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	- 2.3	+ 2.3	+ 0.1	+ 1.4	+ 0.8
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 2.0	+ 2.0	+ 0.4	+ 0.9	+ 0.7
Alabama	- 2.4	+ 2.4	+ 0.3	+ 1.0	+ 1.0
Appalachian Alabama	- 2.8	+ 2.8	+ 0.9	+ 1.1	+ 0.9
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 1.7	+ 1.7	- 0.4	+ 1.0	+ 1.2
Georgia	- 5.5	+ 5.5	+ 1.9	+ 1.7	+ 2.1
Appalachian Georgia	- 8.6	+ 8.6	+ 3.3	+ 2.5	+ 2.9
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 4.5	+ 4.5	+ 1.8	+ 1.1	+ 1.6
Kentucky	- 3.2	+ 3.2	+ 0.7	+ 1.2	+ 1.3
Appalachian Kentucky	- 1.5	+ 1.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.7	+ 0.7
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 3.5	+ 3.5	+ 0.6	+ 1.4	+ 1.5
Maryland	- 6.4	+ 6.4	+ 1.3	+ 3.3	+ 1.9
Appalachian Maryland	- 6.1	+ 6.1	+ 2.0	+ 2.6	+ 1.5
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 6.4	+ 6.4	+ 1.2	+ 3.2	+ 1.9
Mississippi	- 2.0	+ 2.0	+ 0.5	+ 0.8	+ 0.7
Appalachian Mississippi	- 2.2	+ 2.2	+ 0.6	+ 0.8	+ 0.8
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 1.9	+ 1.9	+ 0.4	+ 0.8	+ 0.7
New York	- 4.2	+ 4.2	- 0.2	+ 2.0	+ 2.4
Appalachian New York	- 3.0	+ 3.0	+ 0.5	+ 1.2	+ 1.3
Non-Appalachian New York	- 4.2	+ 4.2	- 0.3	+ 2.0	+ 2.4
North Carolina	- 3.8	+ 3.8	+ 0.0	+ 2.1	+ 1.8
Appalachian North Carolina	- 3.1	+ 3.1	+ 0.2	+ 1.9	+ 1.0
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 3.7	+ 3.7	- 0.3	+ 2.1	+ 2.0
Ohio	- 3.9	+ 3.9	+ 0.8	+ 1.4	+ 1.8
Appalachian Ohio	- 1.8	+ 1.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.9	+ 0.8
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 4.2	+ 4.2	+ 0.8	+ 1.5	+ 1.9
Pennsylvania	- 5.0	+ 5.0	+ 0.3	+ 2.9	+ 1.8
Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 3.7	+ 3.7	+ 0.4	+ 1.9	+ 1.4
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 5.5	+ 5.5	- 0.1	+ 3.4	+ 2.0
South Carolina	- 0.6	+ 0.6	- 2.1	+ 1.5	+ 1.3
Appalachian South Carolina	- 3.1	+ 3.1	- 0.3	+ 2.1	+ 1.3
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	+ 0.1	- 0.1	- 2.6	+ 1.3	+ 1.3
Tennessee	- 2.8	+ 2.8	- 0.2	+ 1.8	+ 1.3
Appalachian Tennessee	- 2.6	+ 2.6	+ 0.0	+ 1.7	+ 1.0
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 2.5	+ 2.5	- 0.8	+ 1.8	+ 1.4
Virginia	- 5.1	+ 5.1	+ 0.1	+ 2.6	+ 2.4
Appalachian Virginia	- 2.5	+ 2.5	+ 0.4	+ 1.1	+ 1.0
Non-Appalachian Virginia	- 5.0	+ 5.0	- 0.2	+ 2.6	+ 2.5
West Virginia (entire state)	- 2.0	+ 2.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.9	+ 1.0

Note: "Other" includes these racial groups: (a) American Indian and Alaska Native alone; (b) Asian alone; (c) Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone; and (d) Two or more races.

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2020 and Vintage 2022 Population Estimates.

Figure 3.4: Percentage Point Change in the Share of the Population in the Appalachian Region Who Are Black Alone, not Hispanic, July 1, 2010 to July 1, 2022

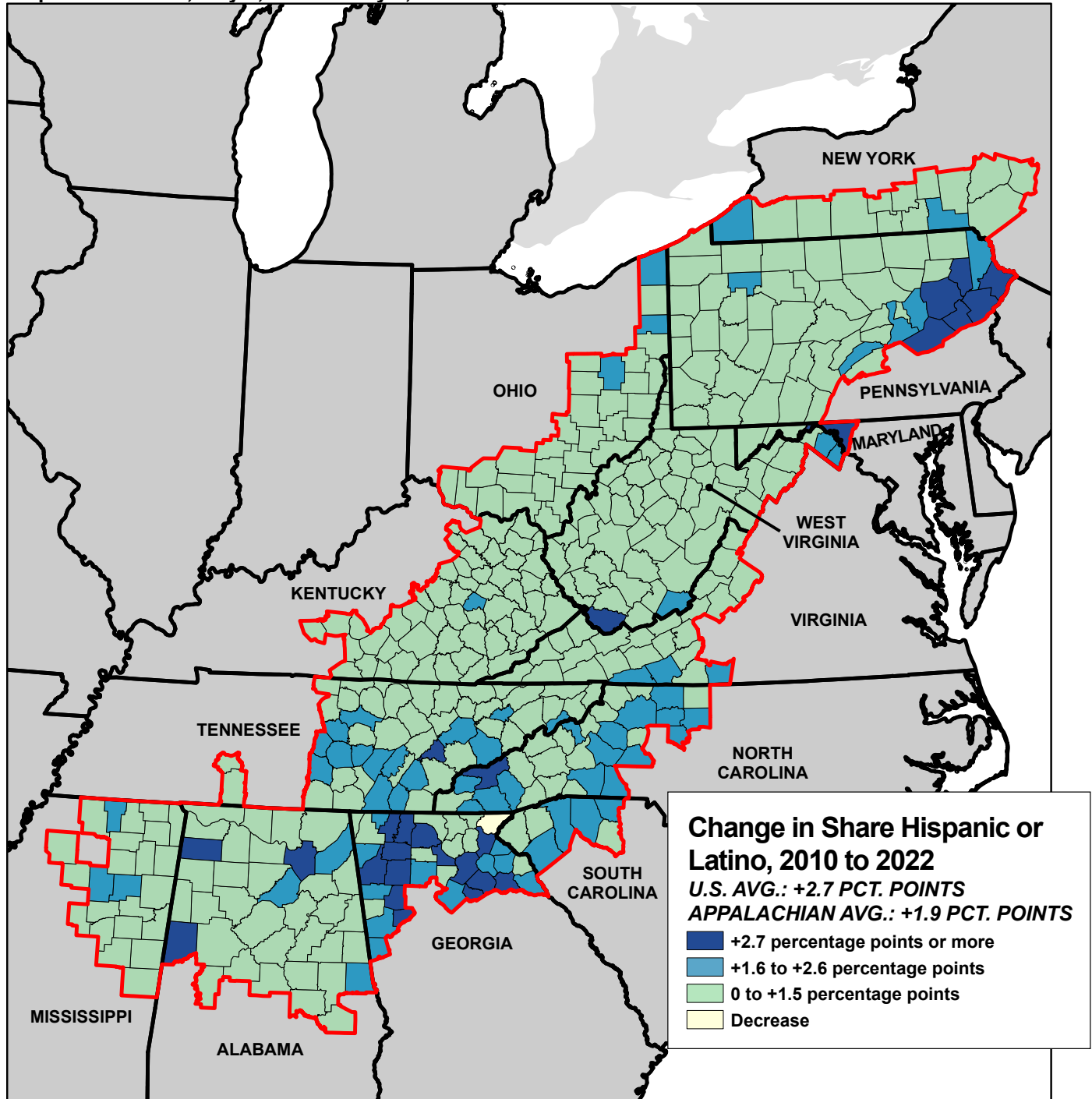


Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of the Population in the Appalachian Region Who Are Black Alone, not Hispanic, July 1, 2010 to July 1, 2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2020 and Vintage 2022 Population Estimates.

Although the Black share of the U.S. population barely changed between 2010 and 2022, their share of the Appalachian population increased a full percentage point, from 9.2 percent to 10.2 percent. And in 46 of the Region's counties, the share of the Black population increased by at least one percentage point. 34 of these counties were in Southern states, with concentrations in Alabama, Georgia, and Mississippi. In fact, in Appalachian Georgia, the share increased by more than three percentage points during this period. On the other hand, the share of the Black population decreased in over one in five Appalachian counties. These counties were also concentrated in Southern portions of the Region, particularly in Alabama.

Figure 3.5: Percentage Point Change in the Share of the Population in the Appalachian Region Who Are Hispanic or Latino, July 1, 2010 to July 1, 2022



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of the Population in the Appalachian Region Who Are Hispanic or Latino, July 1, 2010 to July 1, 2022
 Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2020 and Vintage 2022 Population Estimates.

The Hispanic/Latino share of the Appalachian population rose by nearly two percentage points from 2010 to 2022—although this increase was noticeably below the national average over the past decade. Yet, pockets of more rapid growth can be seen throughout the Region – in 27 of the Region’s 423 counties the share of Hispanic or Latino people grew by at least the national average of 2.7 percentage points and in 70 counties the rate of growth met or exceeded the regional average, such as Luzerne County, Pennsylvania where the Hispanic/Latino population grew by more than 10 percent. Meanwhile, just one county – Rabun County, Georgia – had a decline in the Hispanic/Latino share of the population.

TRENDS IN RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN

- The Appalachian Region has become more racially and ethnically diverse since 2010. Between July 1, 2010, and July 1, 2022, the share of people of color rose by 4.1 percentage points, for a total of 20.6 percent (See Tables 3.1 and 3.2). Yet, compared with the national increase of 4.9 percentage points during the same period, the Appalachian Region is diversifying more slowly and there are fewer people of color residing there than in the nation as a whole.
- Southern Appalachia saw the most pronounced increase in residents of color, with an increase of 5.1 percentage points from 2010 to 2022. At the same time, large metropolitan areas (those with a population of 1 million or more) saw a 6.4 percentage point increase in such populations. Among the states, Georgia's population increased in diversity most, with the state's Appalachian population of color growing by 8.6 percentage points. The increase in the Appalachian portion of all but two states – Georgia and Maryland – was less than that of the Region as a whole.
- The largest group of color in the Appalachian Region identifies as Black, while Hispanic and Latino people are the largest group of color in the nation as a whole. Despite the overall higher share of Black residents in the Region, the growth of the Hispanic/Latino population – particularly in pockets of Georgia and Pennsylvania – has fueled much of the increasing diversity of Appalachia. The Hispanic/Latino share of the Appalachian population rose by nearly two percentage points between July 2010 and July 2022, while the share of Black residents rose by one percentage point. The share of the Black and Hispanic/Latino population rose most in Southern Appalachia and the Appalachian portions of Georgia and Maryland. While the Black share of the population increased most in large metropolitan areas, the Hispanic/Latino share of the population rose most in smaller metropolitan counties.

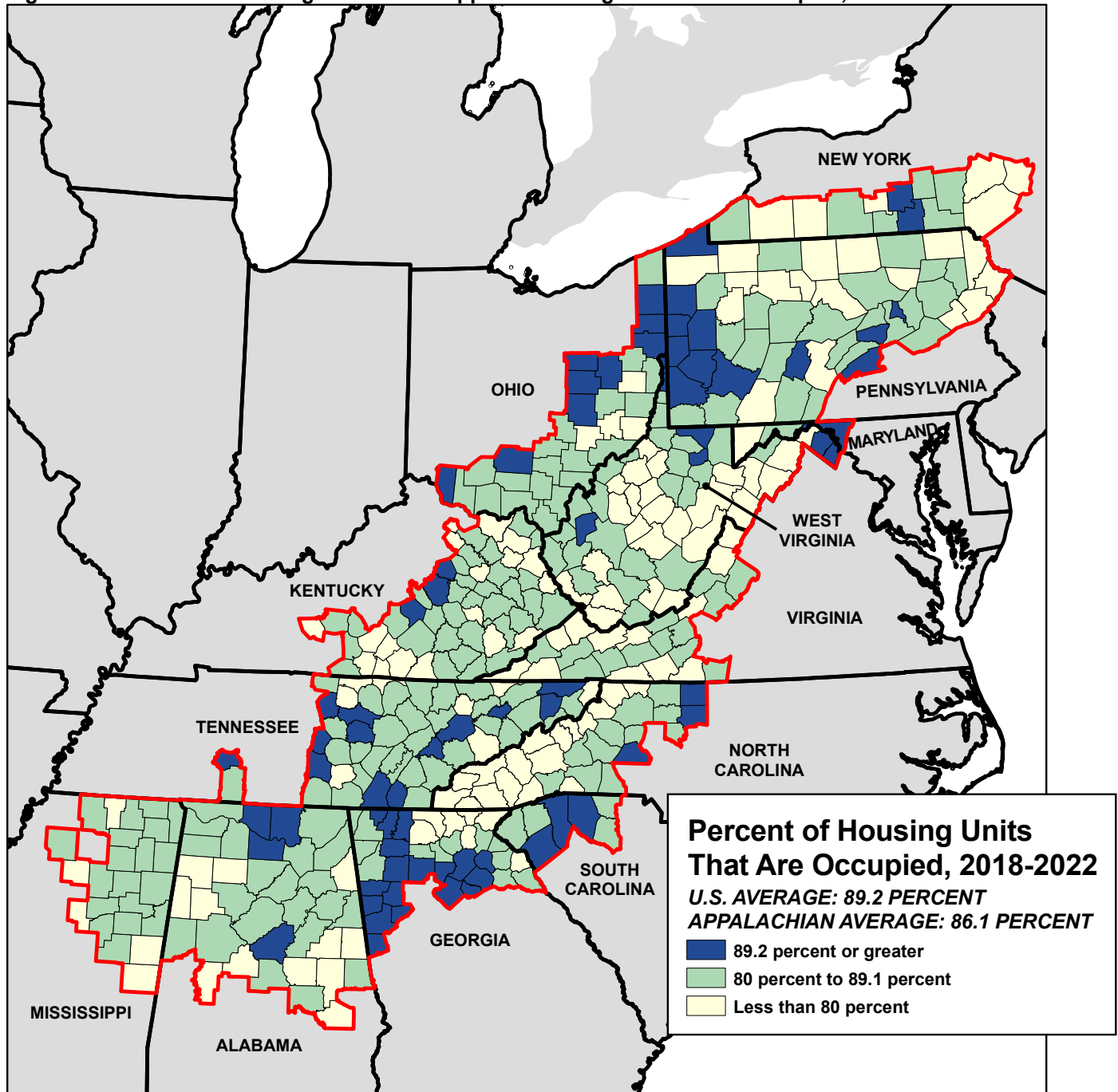
CHAPTER 4: HOUSING OCCUPANCY, TENURE, AND TYPE

Table 4.1: Occupancy and Tenure of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2018-2022

Housing Occupancy and Tenure	Total Number of Housing Units	Number of Occupied Housing Units	Percent of Total Housing Units		Percent of Occupied Housing Units	
			Occupied	Vacant	Owner-Occupied	Renter-Occupied
United States	140,943,613	125,736,353	89.2	10.8	64.8	35.2
Appalachian Region	11,993,671	10,323,976	86.1	13.9	71.5	28.5
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	3,858,965	3,318,254	86.0	14.0	71.3	28.7
North Central Appalachia	1,164,075	991,975	85.2	14.8	73.4	26.6
Central Appalachia	868,139	716,672	82.6	17.4	72.9	27.1
South Central Appalachia	2,471,979	2,096,342	84.8	15.2	70.4	29.6
Southern Appalachia	3,630,513	3,200,733	88.2	11.8	71.5	28.5
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	2,687,568	2,438,480	90.7	9.3	71.5	28.5
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	5,081,023	4,463,176	87.8	12.2	70.0	30.0
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	1,077,901	902,199	83.7	16.3	72.6	27.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	1,922,153	1,557,054	81.0	19.0	74.2	25.8
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	1,225,026	963,067	78.6	21.4	73.1	26.9
Alabama	2,296,920	1,933,150	84.2	15.8	69.7	30.3
Appalachian Alabama	1,455,362	1,248,925	85.8	14.2	71.2	28.8
Non-Appalachian Alabama	841,558	684,225	81.3	18.7	67.0	33.0
Georgia	4,426,780	3,946,490	89.2	10.8	65.0	35.0
Appalachian Georgia	1,297,278	1,180,662	91.0	9.0	72.4	27.6
Non-Appalachian Georgia	3,129,502	2,765,828	88.4	11.6	61.9	38.1
Kentucky	1,999,202	1,769,102	88.5	11.5	68.1	31.9
Appalachian Kentucky	534,839	446,244	83.4	16.6	71.8	28.2
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	1,464,363	1,322,858	90.3	9.7	66.9	33.1
Maryland	2,531,075	2,318,124	91.6	8.4	67.5	32.5
Appalachian Maryland	115,084	98,961	86.0	14.0	68.6	31.4
Non-Appalachian Maryland	2,415,991	2,219,163	91.9	8.1	67.4	32.6
Mississippi	1,324,992	1,121,269	84.6	15.4	69.2	30.8
Appalachian Mississippi	285,894	238,653	83.5	16.5	69.4	30.6
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	1,039,098	882,616	84.9	15.1	69.1	30.9
New York	8,494,452	7,604,523	89.5	10.5	54.3	45.7
Appalachian New York	509,447	419,502	82.3	17.7	69.5	30.5
Non-Appalachian New York	7,985,005	7,185,021	90.0	10.0	53.4	46.6
North Carolina	4,739,881	4,105,232	86.6	13.4	66.2	33.8
Appalachian North Carolina	1,002,504	816,834	81.5	18.5	70.5	29.5
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	3,737,377	3,288,398	88.0	12.0	65.1	34.9
Ohio	5,251,209	4,789,408	91.2	8.8	66.8	33.2
Appalachian Ohio	896,900	791,590	88.3	11.7	72.0	28.0
Non-Appalachian Ohio	4,354,309	3,997,818	91.8	8.2	65.8	34.2
Pennsylvania	5,753,908	5,193,727	90.3	9.7	69.2	30.8
Appalachian Pennsylvania	2,726,461	2,350,602	86.2	13.8	71.7	28.3
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	3,027,447	2,843,125	93.9	6.1	67.1	32.9
South Carolina	2,362,253	2,023,085	85.6	14.4	70.9	29.1
Appalachian South Carolina	591,979	532,493	90.0	10.0	71.3	28.7
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	1,770,274	1,490,592	84.2	15.8	70.8	29.2
Tennessee	3,050,850	2,713,635	88.9	11.1	67.1	32.9
Appalachian Tennessee	1,357,536	1,190,080	87.7	12.3	70.6	29.4
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	1,693,314	1,523,555	90.0	10.0	64.3	35.7
Virginia	3,625,285	3,289,776	90.7	9.3	66.9	33.1
Appalachian Virginia	361,245	293,390	81.2	18.8	71.7	28.3
Non-Appalachian Virginia	3,264,040	2,996,386	91.8	8.2	66.4	33.6
West Virginia (entire state)	859,142	716,040	83.3	16.7	74.2	25.8

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Figure 4.1: Percent of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region That Are Occupied, 2018-2022

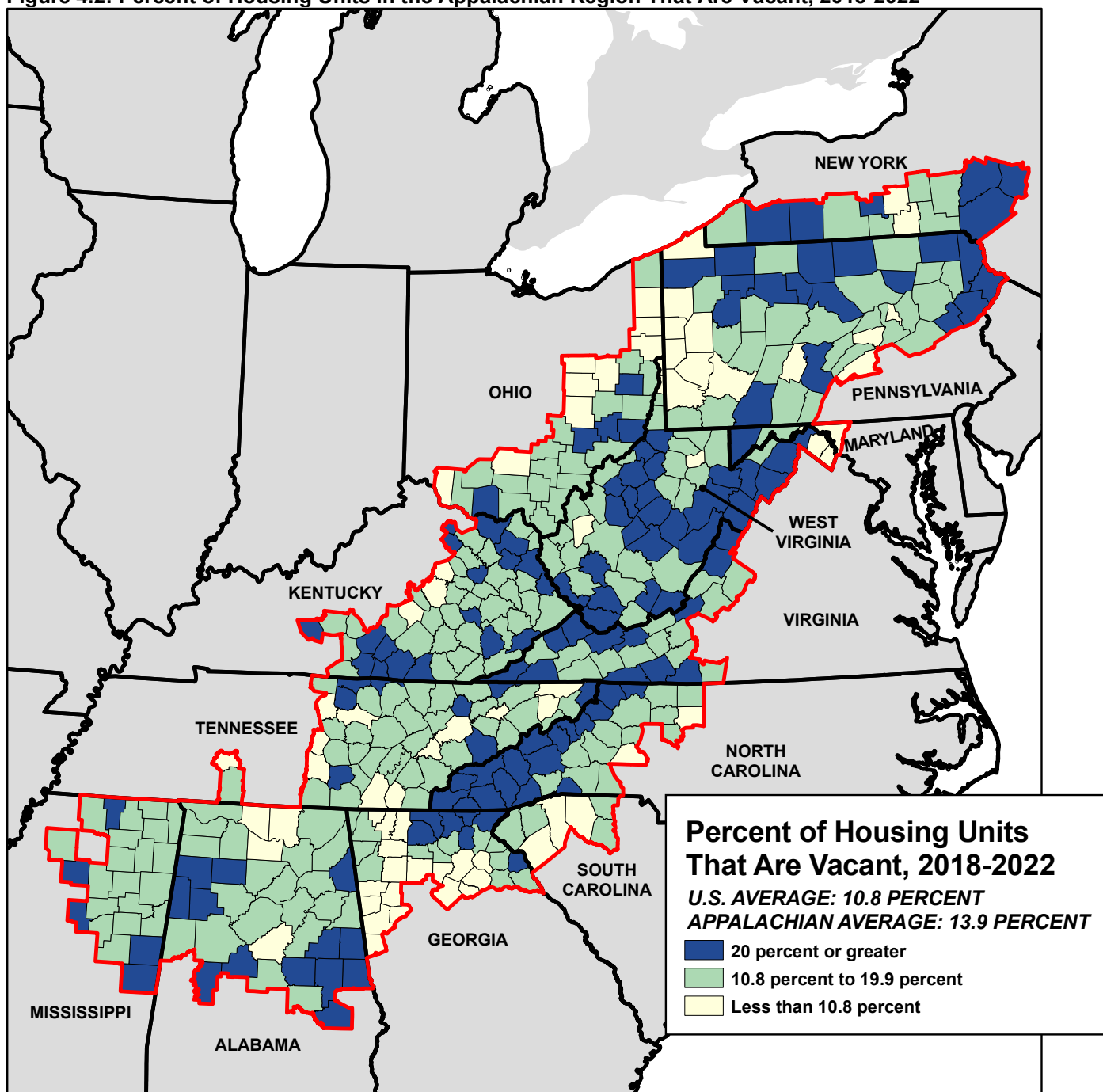


Map Title: Percent of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region That Are Occupied, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

The home occupancy rate in Appalachia was just over three percentage points lower than the national average of 89.2 percent. However, throughout the Region there were 75 counties where the home occupancy rate matched or exceeded the national average with larger clusters in Georgia, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee. Among these 75 counties, three-fourths were located in metropolitan areas – such as the suburbs of Atlanta, Birmingham, Cincinnati, and Pittsburgh. On the other hand, in 132 of the Region's 423 counties, the share of housing units that were occupied was less than 80 percent. And of these low housing occupancy counties, 114 were located outside of metropolitan areas, in counties adjacent to metropolitan areas and rural counties.

Figure 4.2: Percent of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region That Are Vacant, 2018-2022

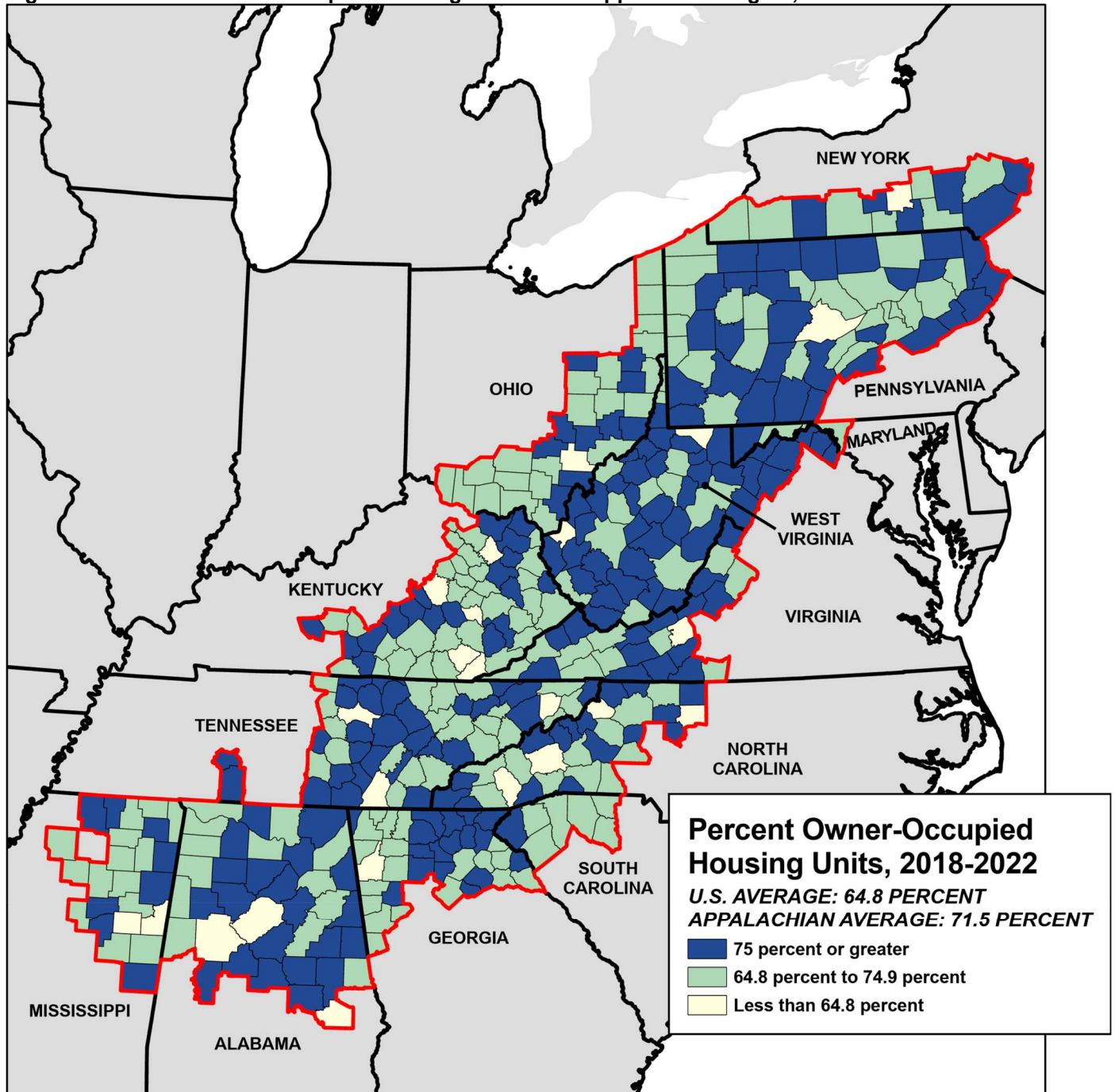


Map Title: Percent of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region That Are Vacant, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Slightly less than 14 percent of housing units in Appalachia were vacant during the 2018-2022 period, compared with just 10.8 percent for the nation as a whole. Yet, the share of vacant housing units varied throughout the Region. In 135 Appalachian counties – all but 18 of which were outside of metropolitan areas – the share of housing units that were vacant was at least 20 percent. On the other hand, 72 of the Region's 423 counties had vacancy rates below the national average of 10.8 percent. It is important to note that in 92 of the 135 Appalachian counties with vacancy rates of 20 percent or more, at least one-third of the vacant units were designated for seasonal or occasional use—suggesting the likelihood of significant recreational, resort, or retirement activity in the community. Examples of such areas include the Pocono Mountains in northeastern Pennsylvania and the Great Smoky Mountain range along the North Carolina-Tennessee border.

Figure 4.3: Percent Owner-Occupied Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2018-2022

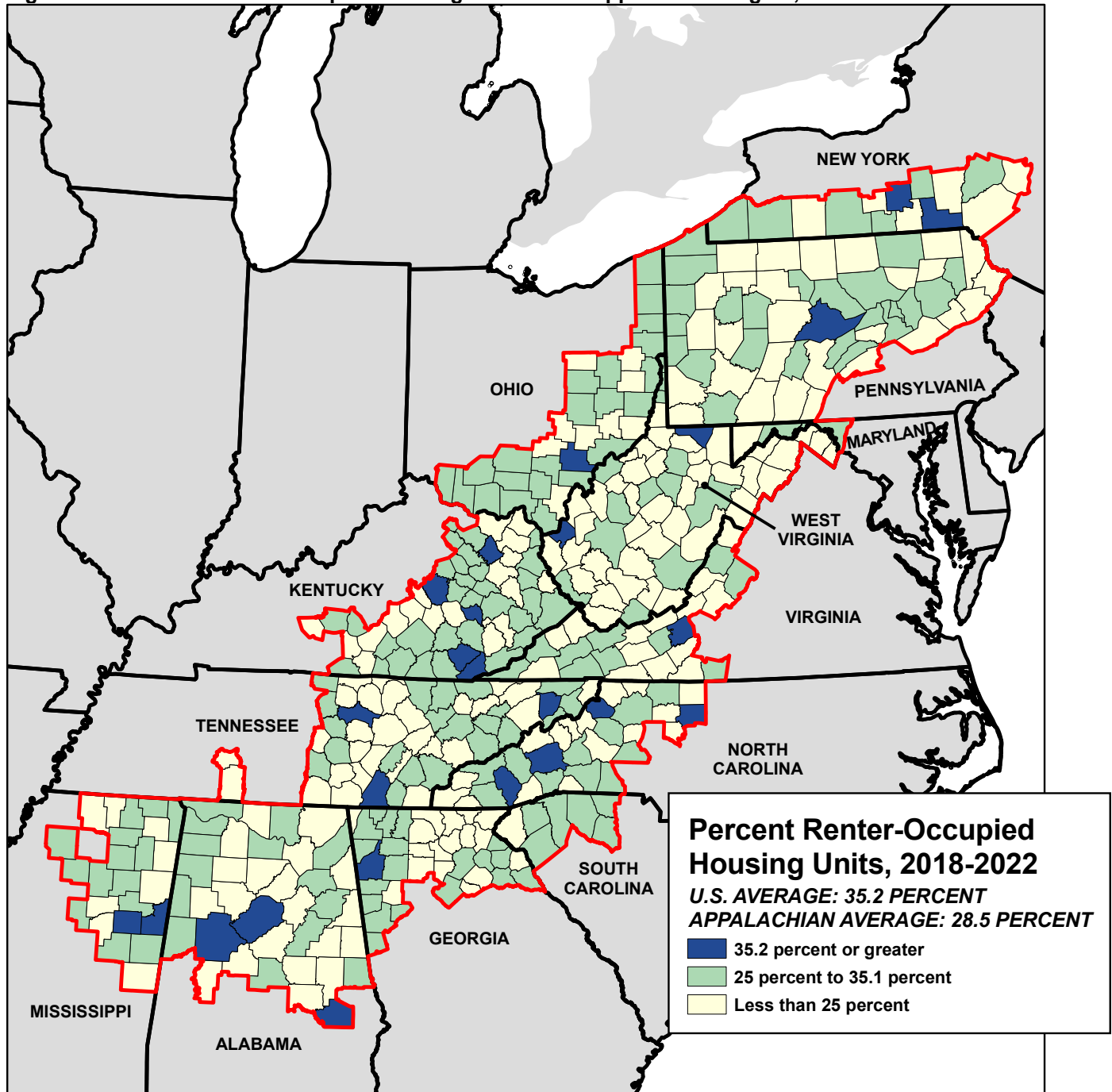


Map Title: Percent Owner-Occupied Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

The Appalachian Region boasted higher rates of homeownership than the nation as a whole in the 2018-2022 period. In all but 24 Appalachian counties, the share of owner-occupied housing units exceeded the national average of 64.8 percent. And in 208 of the Region's 423 counties – scattered throughout the Region – the share was at least 75 percent. Of those counties where homeownership rates fell below 64.8 percent, most had a college or university where student populations may contribute to lower homeownership rates. However, it is important to note that in some areas, high homeownership rates might be related to low levels of economic and residential mobility, as well as the older age structure of the Appalachian population.

Figure 4.4: Percent Renter-Occupied Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2018-2022



Map Title: Percent Renter-Occupied Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

The share of renter-occupied housing units in Appalachia was nearly seven percentage points lower than the national average. Throughout the Region, 206 counties had a share of renter-occupied units that was less than 25 percent. The share matched or exceeded the national average in just 25 of the Region's counties, and more than three-quarters of these were home to colleges or universities – such as Monongalia County, West Virginia (West Virginia University); Tompkins County, New York (Cornell); or Madison County, Kentucky (Eastern Kentucky University) – where student populations contribute to higher demand for rental housing.

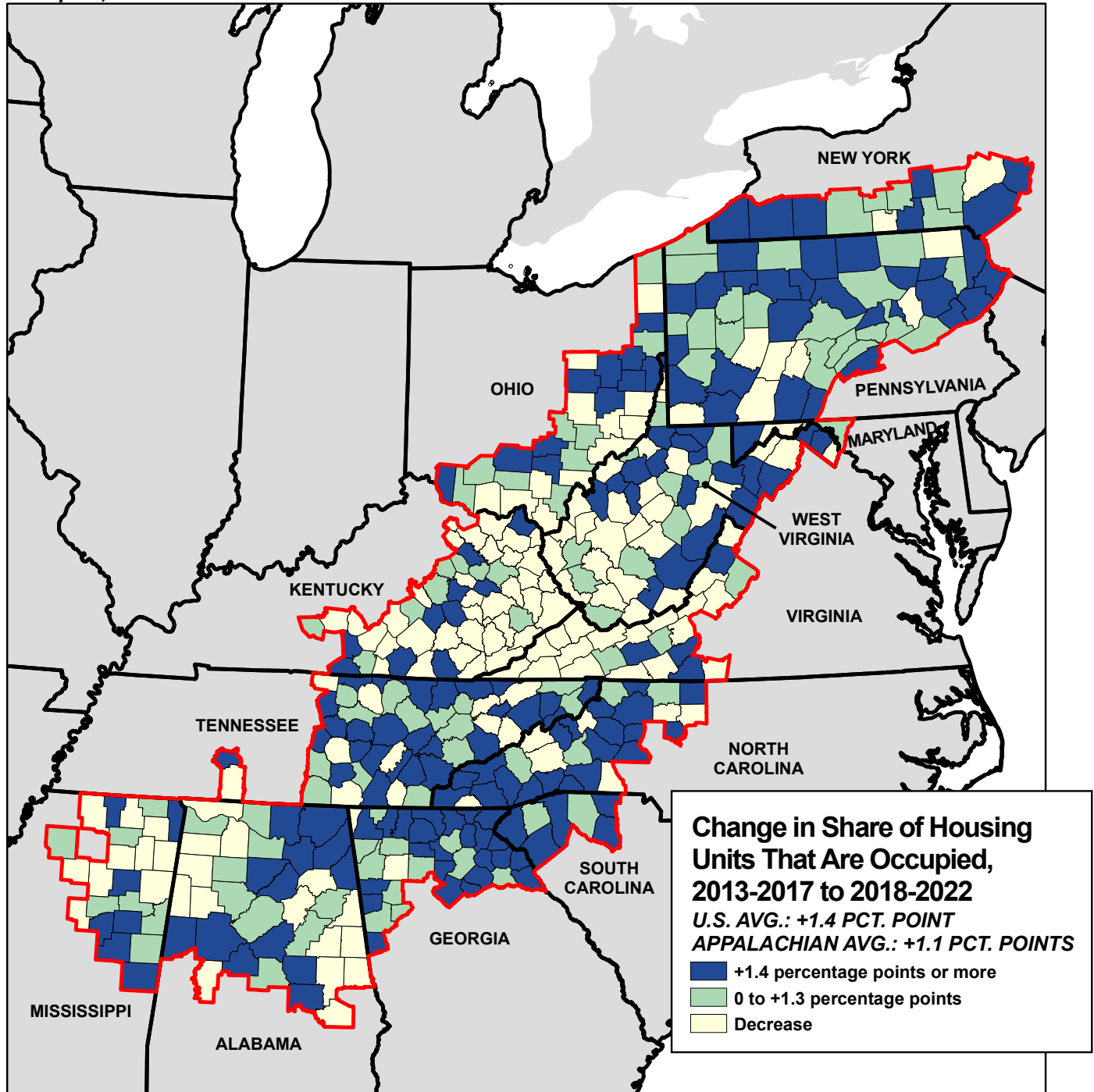
Table 4.2: Percentage Point Change in Occupancy and Tenure of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Housing Occupancy and Tenure	Percentage Point Change, Share of Total Housing Units		Percentage Point Change, Share of Occupied Housing Units	
	Occupied	Vacant	Owner-Occupied	Renter-Occupied
United States	+ 1.4	- 1.4	+ 1.0	- 1.0
Appalachian Region	+ 1.1	- 1.1	+ 1.1	- 1.1
Subregions				
Northern Appalachia	+ 1.3	- 1.3	+ 0.6	- 0.6
North Central Appalachia	+ 0.7	- 0.7	+ 1.3	- 1.3
Central Appalachia	- 0.8	+ 0.8	+ 0.9	- 0.9
South Central Appalachia	+ 0.7	- 0.7	+ 1.1	- 1.1
Southern Appalachia	+ 1.7	- 1.7	+ 1.6	- 1.6
County Types				
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	+ 1.5	- 1.5	+ 1.0	- 1.0
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	+ 0.8	- 0.8	+ 1.2	- 1.2
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	+ 0.9	- 0.9	+ 1.5	- 1.5
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	+ 1.2	- 1.2	+ 1.2	- 1.2
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	+ 0.4	- 0.4	+ 0.7	- 0.7
Alabama	+ 1.0	- 1.0	+ 1.1	- 1.1
Appalachian Alabama	+ 1.2	- 1.2	+ 1.1	- 1.1
Non-Appalachian Alabama	+ 0.5	- 0.5	+ 1.2	- 1.2
Georgia	+ 2.1	- 2.1	+ 2.0	- 2.0
Appalachian Georgia	+ 2.4	- 2.4	+ 2.1	- 2.1
Non-Appalachian Georgia	+ 1.8	- 1.8	+ 2.0	- 2.0
Kentucky	+ 0.7	- 0.7	+ 1.1	- 1.1
Appalachian Kentucky	- 0.8	+ 0.8	+ 1.1	- 1.1
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	+ 1.2	- 1.2	+ 1.2	- 1.2
Maryland	+ 1.7	- 1.7	+ 0.7	- 0.7
Appalachian Maryland	+ 1.8	- 1.8	+ 1.2	- 1.2
Non-Appalachian Maryland	+ 1.8	- 1.8	+ 0.6	- 0.6
Mississippi	+ 0.3	- 0.3	+ 1.1	- 1.1
Appalachian Mississippi	+ 0.0	+ 0.0	- 0.6	+ 0.6
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	+ 0.3	- 0.3	+ 1.5	- 1.5
New York	+ 1.0	- 1.0	+ 0.3	- 0.3
Appalachian New York	+ 1.4	- 1.4	+ 0.3	- 0.3
Non-Appalachian New York	+ 1.0	- 1.0	+ 0.3	- 0.3
North Carolina	+ 0.9	- 0.9	+ 1.2	- 1.2
Appalachian North Carolina	+ 0.5	- 0.5	+ 1.3	- 1.3
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	+ 1.0	- 1.0	+ 1.2	- 1.2
Ohio	+ 1.7	- 1.7	+ 0.7	- 0.7
Appalachian Ohio	+ 0.8	- 0.8	+ 0.7	- 0.7
Non-Appalachian Ohio	+ 1.8	- 1.8	+ 0.8	- 0.8
Pennsylvania	+ 1.7	- 1.7	+ 0.2	- 0.2
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 1.3	- 1.3	+ 0.6	- 0.6
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 1.8	- 1.8	- 0.1	+ 0.1
South Carolina	+ 1.7	- 1.7	+ 2.3	- 2.3
Appalachian South Carolina	+ 1.6	- 1.6	+ 2.9	- 2.9
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	+ 1.7	- 1.7	+ 2.1	- 2.1
Tennessee	+ 1.2	- 1.2	+ 0.8	- 0.8
Appalachian Tennessee	+ 1.4	- 1.4	+ 1.2	- 1.2
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	+ 1.1	- 1.1	+ 0.6	- 0.6
Virginia	+ 1.1	- 1.1	+ 0.7	- 0.7
Appalachian Virginia	- 1.4	+ 1.4	+ 0.2	- 0.2
Non-Appalachian Virginia	+ 1.4	- 1.4	+ 0.8	- 0.8
West Virginia (entire state)	+ 0.3	- 0.3	+ 1.5	- 1.5

Note: Since occupied units and vacant units sum to the total number of housing units, the sum of the percentage point changes for the two categories will equal zero. The same principle holds for the sum of the percentage point changes for owner-occupied units and renter-occupied units, since these two categories sum to the total number of occupied housing units.

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Figure 4.5: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region That Are Occupied, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

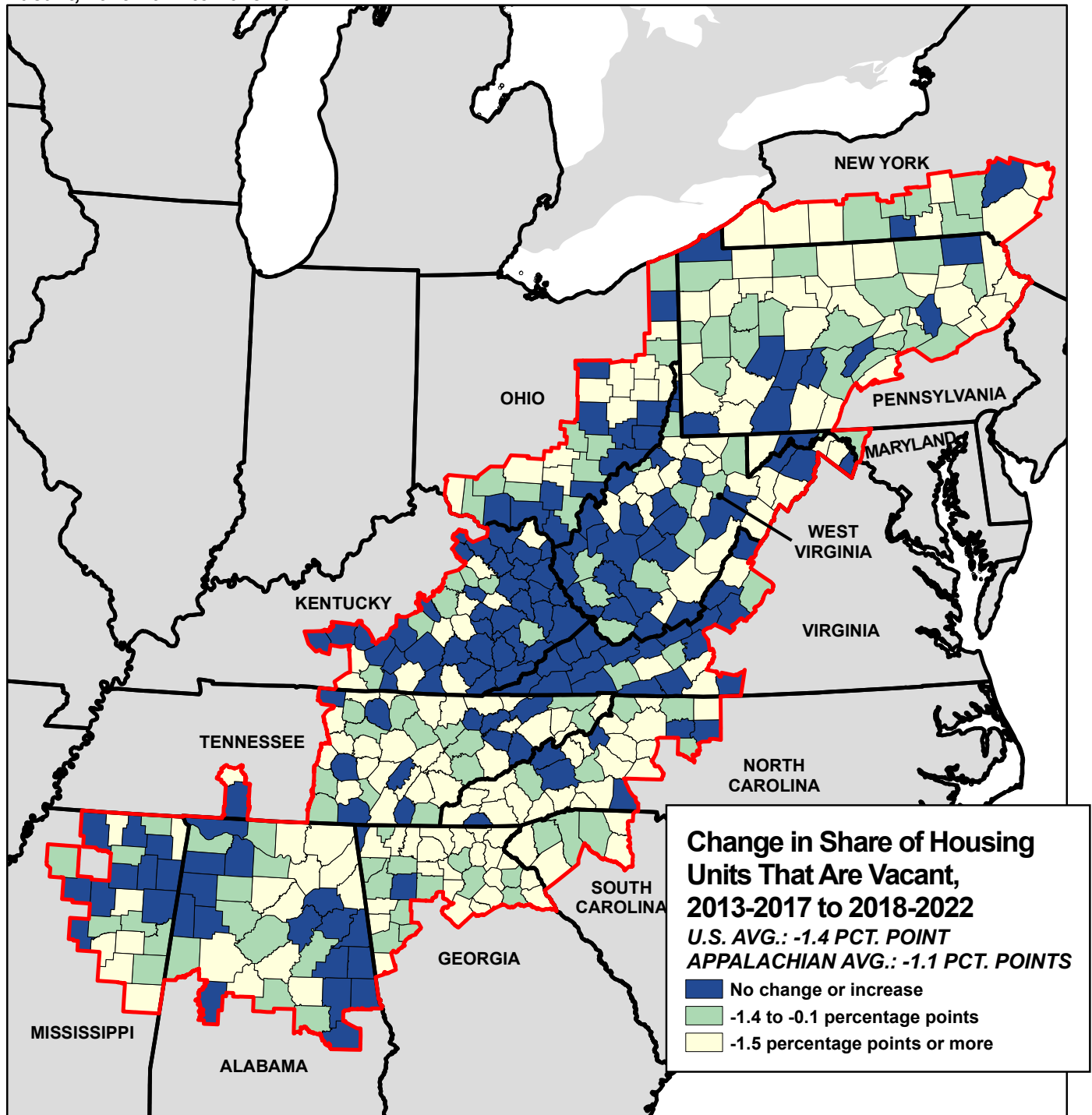


Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region That Are Occupied, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Appalachia's home occupancy rate increased 1.1 percentage points between the 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 periods, yet not as much as the national increase of 1.4 percentage points. Yet, in 175 of the Region's 423 counties the increase matched or exceeded the national average. While the Region overall saw increasing occupancy, 145 counties saw a decrease during this period.

Figure 4.6: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region That Are Vacant, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

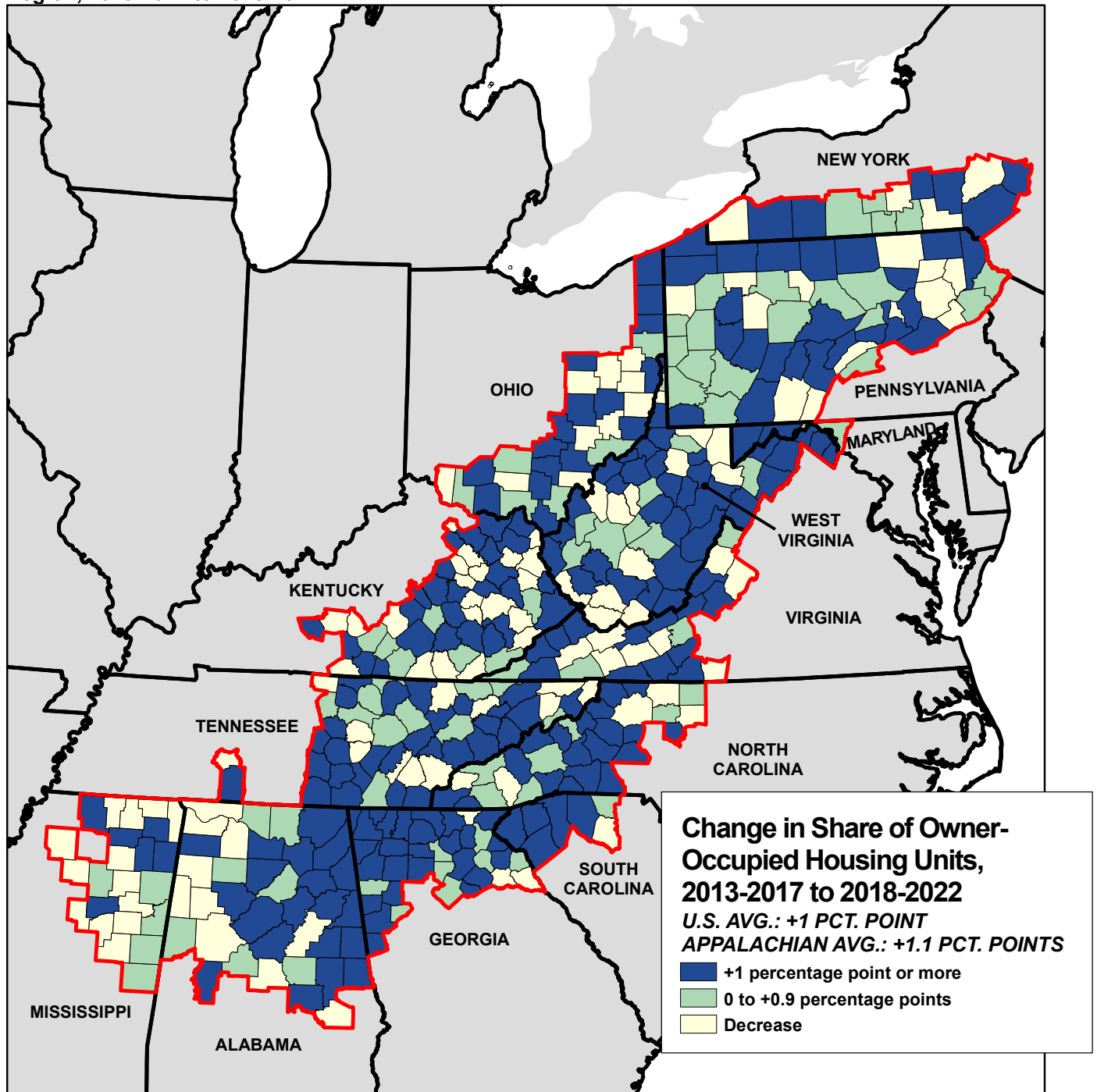


Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region That Are Vacant, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022, the share of vacant housing units declined 1.1 percentage points in Appalachia and 1.4 points in the nation as a whole. Despite the overall decline throughout the Region, 151 counties remained constant or saw an increase in vacant housing units during this period. All of the subregions with the exception of Central Appalachia saw a decline. And the Appalachian portions of Kentucky and Virginia also saw an increase in the share of vacant housing units, while Appalachian Mississippi's share remained constant.

Figure 4.7: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Owner-Occupied Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

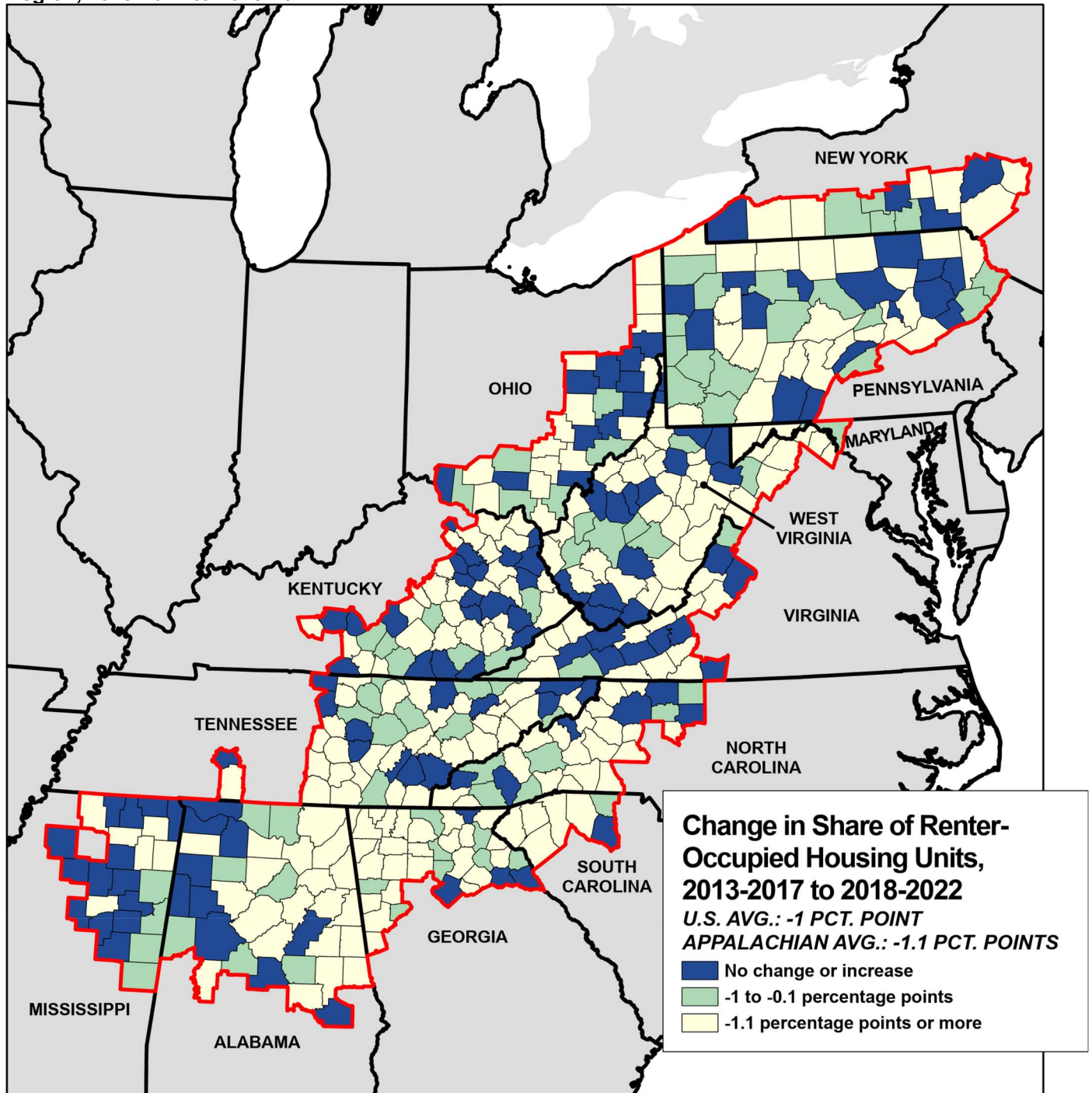


Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Owner-Occupied Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

The share of owner-occupied housing units rose at about the same rate in Appalachia as it did nationwide between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022. In fact, the increase was at or above the national average in more than half of the Region's 423 counties. Yet, in 113 of the Region's counties homeownership rates fell during this period –and one-third of these were located in the Region's rural counties. Counties in both groups were scattered throughout the Appalachian Region.

Figure 4.8: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Renter-Occupied Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Renter-Occupied Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

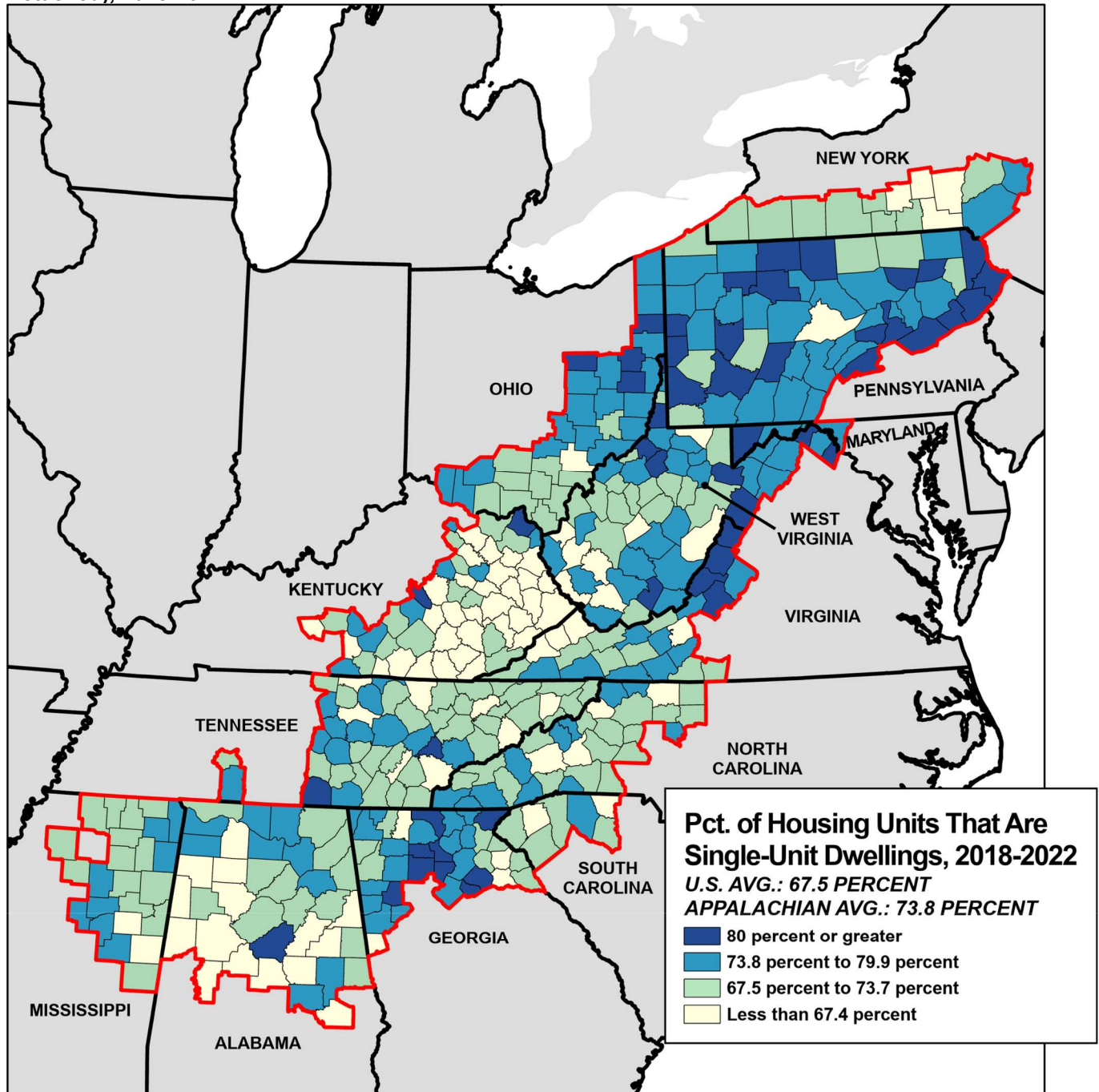
The share of renter-occupied housing units decreased at about the same rate in Appalachia as it did nationwide between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022. Yet variations were present within the Region: For example, there were 221 Appalachian counties where the decrease in rental shares exceeded the national average of one percentage point. And the Appalachian portions of all states except for Mississippi also saw an overall decrease in renter-occupied units. At the same time, in 123 counties the share of renter-occupied housing units stayed the same or increased.

Table 4.3: Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, by Type of Housing, 2018-2022

Housing Units (Type of Housing)	Total Number of Housing Units (Occupied and Vacant)	Percent of All Housing Units					
		Single-Unit Dwellings (Attached or Detached)	Multiple-Unit Fixed Dwellings			Mobile Homes	Boats, RVs, Vans, Etc.
			Total	Two to Four Units	Five or More Units		
United States	140,943,613	67.5	26.6	7.8	18.8	5.8	0.1
Appalachian Region	11,993,671	73.8	15.2	5.8	9.4	10.9	0.1
Subregions							
Northern Appalachia	3,858,965	76.0	17.9	8.3	9.5	6.1	0.0
North Central Appalachia	1,164,075	73.7	13.1	5.0	8.1	13.1	0.1
Central Appalachia	868,139	67.6	9.3	4.2	5.1	23.0	0.1
South Central Appalachia	2,471,979	71.7	15.2	5.2	10.0	12.9	0.2
Southern Appalachia	3,630,513	74.2	14.4	4.3	10.2	11.2	0.1
County Types							
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	2,687,568	77.2	17.4	5.0	12.4	5.3	0.1
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	5,081,023	73.0	17.6	6.6	11.0	9.3	0.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	1,077,901	73.6	12.5	6.4	6.1	13.8	0.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	1,922,153	73.3	10.5	5.2	5.3	16.0	0.2
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	1,225,026	70.2	10.2	4.9	5.3	19.4	0.1
Alabama	2,296,920	70.8	16.4	4.8	11.7	12.6	0.2
Appalachian Alabama	1,455,362	71.9	15.9	4.5	11.3	12.0	0.2
Non-Appalachian Alabama	841,558	68.9	17.4	5.2	12.2	13.5	0.2
Georgia	4,426,780	70.9	20.9	5.0	15.9	8.1	0.1
Appalachian Georgia	1,297,278	79.1	12.8	3.5	9.3	8.1	0.1
Non-Appalachian Georgia	3,129,502	67.5	24.3	5.7	18.6	8.1	0.1
Kentucky	1,999,202	70.5	18.5	7.1	11.4	10.9	0.1
Appalachian Kentucky	534,839	66.4	10.2	4.7	5.5	23.3	0.1
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	1,464,363	72.0	21.5	7.9	13.6	6.4	0.1
Maryland	2,531,075	72.6	26.1	3.6	22.5	1.3	0.0
Appalachian Maryland	115,084	78.8	17.2	6.5	10.8	4.0	0.0
Non-Appalachian Maryland	2,415,991	72.3	26.5	3.5	23.0	1.2	0.0
Mississippi	1,324,992	70.6	14.8	5.6	9.1	14.5	0.2
Appalachian Mississippi	285,894	70.2	12.6	6.1	6.5	17.1	0.1
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	1,039,098	70.7	15.4	5.5	9.9	13.8	0.2
New York	8,494,452	46.8	51.0	16.7	34.3	2.1	0.0
Appalachian New York	509,447	67.6	22.8	13.4	9.3	9.6	0.1
Non-Appalachian New York	7,985,005	45.5	52.8	16.9	35.9	1.7	0.0
North Carolina	4,739,881	69.8	18.6	4.7	13.9	11.6	0.1
Appalachian North Carolina	1,002,504	70.8	14.3	4.7	9.6	14.7	0.1
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	3,737,377	69.5	19.8	4.7	15.1	10.7	0.1
Ohio	5,251,209	73.7	22.7	8.1	14.6	3.5	0.0
Appalachian Ohio	896,900	76.4	13.8	5.8	8.0	9.7	0.1
Non-Appalachian Ohio	4,354,309	73.1	24.6	8.6	16.0	2.3	0.0
Pennsylvania	5,753,908	75.6	20.7	8.3	12.4	3.6	0.0
Appalachian Pennsylvania	2,726,461	77.0	17.5	7.8	9.8	5.4	0.0
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	3,027,447	74.5	23.6	8.7	14.8	1.9	0.0
South Carolina	2,362,253	67.5	17.3	4.5	12.8	15.0	0.2
Appalachian South Carolina	591,979	71.3	15.5	4.4	11.0	13.0	0.2
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	1,770,274	66.3	17.9	4.5	13.4	15.7	0.2
Tennessee	3,050,850	72.2	19.2	5.7	13.5	8.5	0.1
Appalachian Tennessee	1,357,536	72.1	15.5	5.6	9.9	12.3	0.2
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	1,693,314	72.3	22.1	5.8	16.3	5.6	0.1
Virginia	3,625,285	72.6	22.9	4.4	18.5	4.5	0.0
Appalachian Virginia	361,245	71.7	12.0	4.0	8.0	16.2	0.1
Non-Appalachian Virginia	3,264,040	72.7	24.1	4.5	19.6	3.2	0.0
West Virginia (entire state)	859,142	73.4	12.6	5.0	7.7	13.9	0.1

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Figure 4.9: Percent of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region That Are Single-Unit Dwellings (Attached or Detached), 2018-2022



Map Title: Percent of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region That Are Single-Unit Dwellings (Attached or Detached), 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

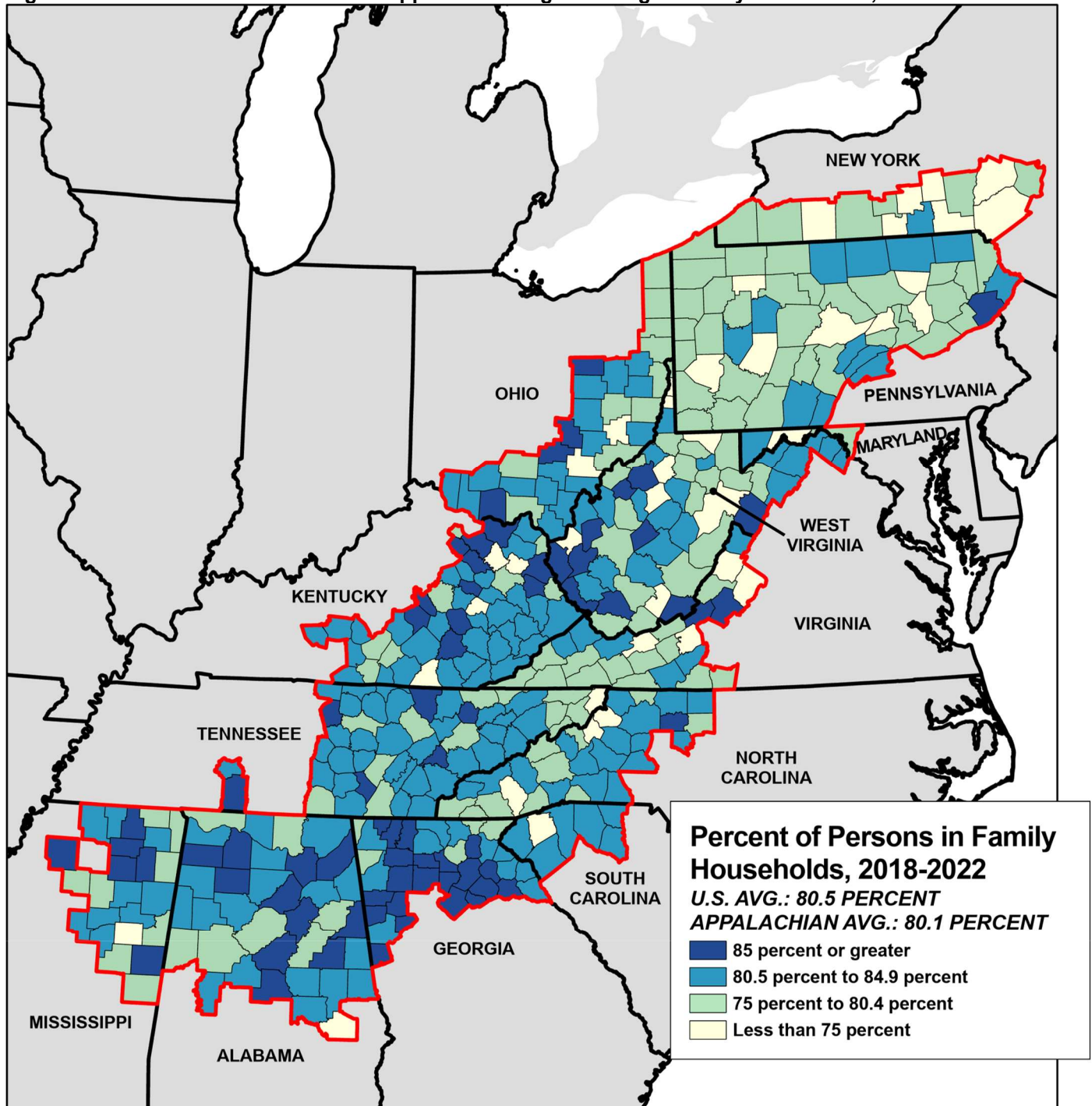
The share of housing units in the Appalachian Region that were single-unit dwellings (whether attached or detached) during the 2018-2022 period was more than 6 percentage points higher than the national average of 67.5 percent. In 193 of the Region's 423 counties, the share was even higher than the regional average of 73.8 percent – most of which were concentrated in the North, particularly Pennsylvania. Furthermore, in 52 counties the share of the housing stock that was single-unit dwellings was at least 80 percent. Conversely, in 84 counties – primarily in Central and South Central Appalachia – the share of single-unit dwellings was below the national average. High shares of mobile home units contribute to the lower share of single-unit dwellings in many of these counties – at least 25 percent of housing units were mobile homes in 53 of these 84 counties.

Table 4.4: Population in Households and Group Quarters in the Appalachian Region, 2018-2022

Population in Households and Group Quarters	All Persons	Percent of All Persons			
		In Households			In Group Quarters
		Total	In Family Households	In Non-Family Households	
United States	331,097,593	97.6	80.5	17.0	2.4
Appalachian Region	26,240,932	97.1	80.1	16.9	2.9
Subregions					
Northern Appalachia	8,080,715	96.1	76.7	19.4	3.9
North Central Appalachia	2,497,942	97.0	79.1	17.8	3.0
Central Appalachia	1,859,868	97.0	81.8	15.2	3.0
South Central Appalachia	5,216,015	97.3	79.4	17.9	2.7
Southern Appalachia	8,586,392	97.9	83.8	14.2	2.1
County Types					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	6,290,236	98.2	82.1	16.1	1.8
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	11,238,060	96.8	78.9	17.8	3.2
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	2,302,089	96.7	80.2	16.5	3.3
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	3,933,395	96.9	80.5	16.3	3.1
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	2,477,152	96.1	79.8	16.3	3.9
Alabama	5,028,092	97.4	81.2	16.1	2.6
Appalachian Alabama	3,242,224	97.3	81.5	15.8	2.7
Non-Appalachian Alabama	1,785,868	97.5	80.6	16.8	2.5
Georgia	10,722,325	97.7	82.2	15.4	2.3
Appalachian Georgia	3,376,260	98.8	87.4	11.4	1.2
Non-Appalachian Georgia	7,346,065	97.2	79.9	17.3	2.8
Kentucky	4,502,935	97.3	80.0	17.2	2.7
Appalachian Kentucky	1,165,722	96.9	81.6	15.2	3.1
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	3,337,213	97.4	79.5	17.9	2.6
Maryland	6,161,707	98.0	81.8	16.2	2.0
Appalachian Maryland	251,662	93.8	76.9	16.9	6.2
Non-Appalachian Maryland	5,910,045	98.1	82.0	16.1	1.9
Mississippi	2,958,846	96.8	81.4	15.4	3.2
Appalachian Mississippi	611,707	96.9	80.8	16.1	3.1
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	2,347,139	96.8	81.6	15.2	3.2
New York	19,994,379	97.0	78.8	18.2	3.0
Appalachian New York	1,024,085	94.5	73.3	21.2	5.5
Non-Appalachian New York	18,970,294	97.2	79.1	18.0	2.8
North Carolina	10,470,214	97.4	80.0	17.3	2.6
Appalachian North Carolina	2,028,520	97.4	79.5	18.0	2.6
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	8,441,694	97.3	80.2	17.2	2.7
Ohio	11,774,683	97.5	78.4	19.1	2.5
Appalachian Ohio	1,982,771	97.2	79.9	17.3	2.8
Non-Appalachian Ohio	9,791,912	97.6	78.1	19.4	2.4
Pennsylvania	12,989,208	96.8	78.6	18.2	3.2
Appalachian Pennsylvania	5,704,184	96.2	76.8	19.4	3.8
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	7,285,024	97.2	80.0	17.2	2.8
South Carolina	5,142,750	97.3	80.4	16.9	2.7
Appalachian South Carolina	1,356,201	97.6	81.4	16.2	2.4
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	3,786,549	97.2	80.0	17.2	2.8
Tennessee	6,923,772	97.8	80.5	17.3	2.2
Appalachian Tennessee	2,967,648	97.7	80.5	17.2	2.3
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	3,956,124	97.9	80.6	17.3	2.1
Virginia	8,624,511	97.3	80.4	16.9	2.7
Appalachian Virginia	736,981	95.2	75.9	19.3	4.8
Non-Appalachian Virginia	7,887,530	97.4	80.8	16.7	2.6
West Virginia (entire state)	1,792,967	97.1	79.0	18.1	2.9

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Figure 4.10: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region Living in Family Households, 2018-2022



Map Title: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region Living in Family Households, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

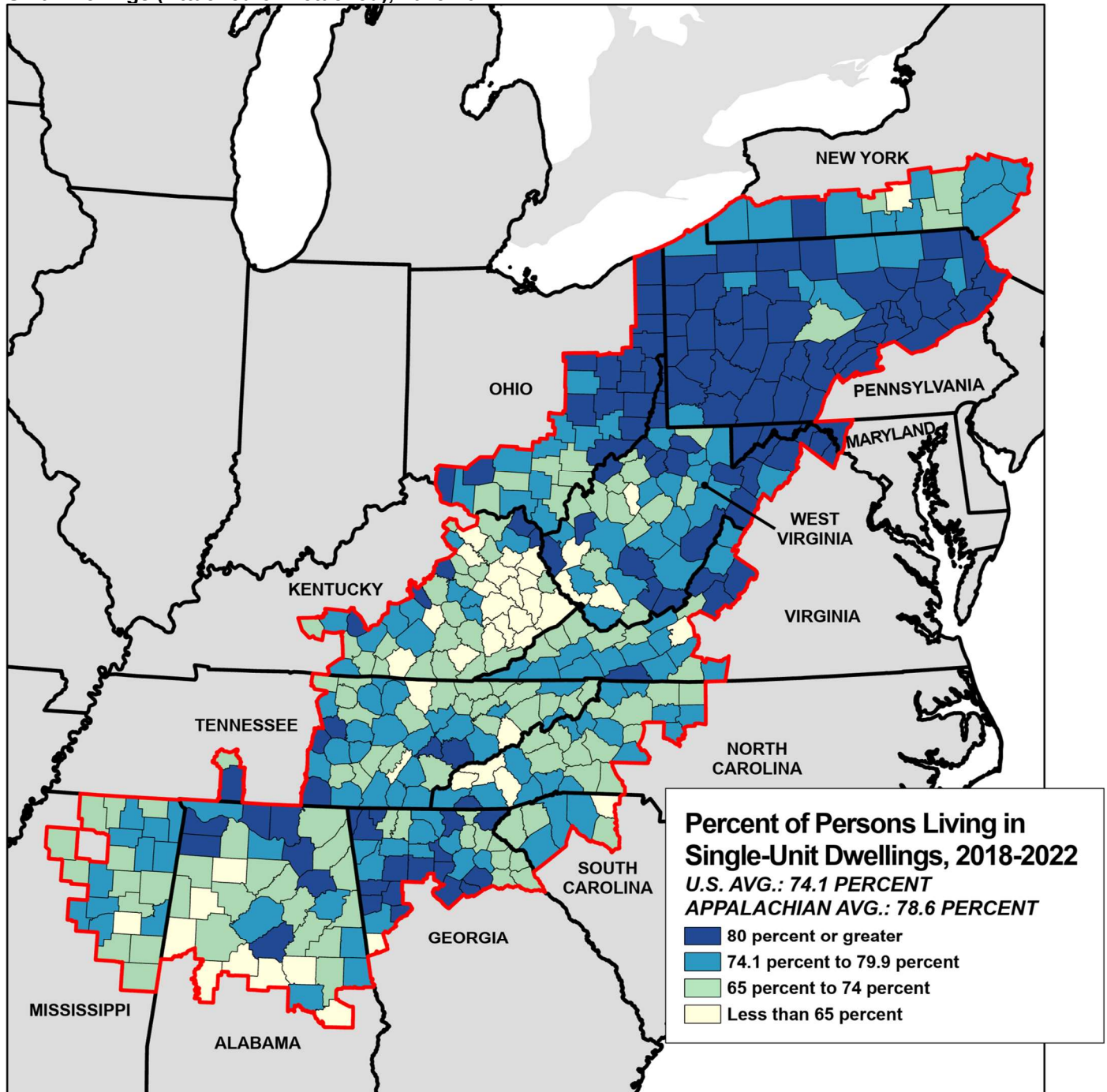
Just over 80 percent of Appalachia's residents lived in family households during 2018-2022, which was just below the national average. Yet in 73 counties in the Region, at least 85 percent lived in family households. And more than half of these counties were in Southern Appalachia. In contrast, there were 40 Appalachian counties where less than three-fourths of the residents were in family households. Just under half of the counties in the latter group had at least 10 percent of their residents living in group quarters, whether dormitories (in counties housing a college or university), nursing care facilities, or prisons. Counties such as Forest County, Pennsylvania and Gilmer County, West Virginia are noteworthy examples: these counties house prisons, and more than one in four persons living there are in group quarters. A more typical example is Allegany County, Maryland where Frostburg State University is located, and 10.6 percent of residents reside in group quarters.

Table 4.5: Population in Occupied Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, by Type of Housing, 2018-2022

Population in Housing Units (Type of Housing)	Total Population in Occupied Housing Units	Percent of Population in Occupied Housing Units					
		In Single-Unit Dwellings (Attached or Detached)	In Multiple-Unit Fixed Dwellings			In Mobile Homes	In Boats, RVs, Vans, Etc.
			Total	Two to Four Units	Five or More Units		
United States	322,994,302	74.1	20.6	6.8	13.8	5.2	0.1
Appalachian Region	25,473,986	78.6	10.9	4.4	6.5	10.4	0.1
Subregions							
Northern Appalachia	7,764,727	82.4	12.5	6.3	6.2	5.0	0.0
North Central Appalachia	2,422,532	78.6	9.1	3.5	5.6	12.2	0.1
Central Appalachia	1,804,010	70.5	6.9	3.2	3.7	22.5	0.1
South Central Appalachia	5,075,572	75.5	11.4	4.0	7.4	12.9	0.1
Southern Appalachia	8,407,145	78.8	10.5	3.2	7.2	10.7	0.1
County Types							
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	6,177,172	83.1	11.8	3.5	8.2	5.0	0.0
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	10,877,881	78.3	12.6	5.0	7.6	9.0	0.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	2,227,149	78.0	9.1	4.9	4.3	12.8	0.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	3,810,631	76.3	7.5	3.8	3.7	16.0	0.2
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	2,381,153	73.0	7.8	3.8	4.0	19.2	0.1
Alabama	4,895,191	76.1	11.4	3.7	7.8	12.4	0.1
Appalachian Alabama	3,154,831	76.6	11.2	3.5	7.8	12.0	0.1
Non-Appalachian Alabama	1,740,360	75.1	11.7	3.9	7.8	13.0	0.2
Georgia	10,473,460	76.7	15.4	4.1	11.3	7.8	0.1
Appalachian Georgia	3,336,285	82.9	9.6	2.8	6.8	7.5	0.1
Non-Appalachian Georgia	7,137,175	73.9	18.1	4.7	13.5	7.9	0.1
Kentucky	4,380,020	76.0	13.6	5.6	8.0	10.3	0.1
Appalachian Kentucky	1,129,199	69.4	7.6	3.6	4.0	22.8	0.1
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	3,250,821	78.3	15.7	6.3	9.4	6.0	0.1
Maryland	6,035,558	79.8	19.1	2.7	16.4	1.1	0.0
Appalachian Maryland	236,117	83.6	12.5	4.6	7.9	3.8	0.0
Non-Appalachian Maryland	5,799,441	79.6	19.4	2.7	16.7	1.0	0.0
Mississippi	2,864,355	74.2	11.4	4.7	6.7	14.3	0.1
Appalachian Mississippi	592,660	72.8	9.7	4.9	4.9	17.4	0.1
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	2,271,695	74.5	11.8	4.7	7.1	13.6	0.1
New York	19,400,423	52.3	45.9	17.0	28.9	1.7	0.0
Appalachian New York	967,312	73.5	18.0	11.2	6.8	8.5	0.1
Non-Appalachian New York	18,433,111	51.2	47.4	17.3	30.0	1.3	0.0
North Carolina	10,194,060	74.5	13.8	3.6	10.1	11.6	0.1
Appalachian North Carolina	1,976,199	73.6	10.7	3.5	7.3	15.6	0.1
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	8,217,861	74.8	14.5	3.7	10.8	10.7	0.0
Ohio	11,481,298	81.3	15.7	5.9	9.8	3.0	0.0
Appalachian Ohio	1,927,491	81.9	9.4	4.1	5.3	8.6	0.1
Non-Appalachian Ohio	9,553,807	81.2	16.9	6.3	10.6	1.9	0.0
Pennsylvania	12,572,124	82.8	14.3	6.2	8.1	2.9	0.0
Appalachian Pennsylvania	5,488,848	83.4	12.1	5.8	6.3	4.4	0.0
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	7,083,276	82.4	15.9	6.5	9.4	1.6	0.0
South Carolina	5,004,353	72.6	11.9	3.5	8.5	15.3	0.1
Appalachian South Carolina	1,323,369	76.2	11.3	3.1	8.1	12.4	0.1
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	3,680,984	71.4	12.2	3.6	8.6	16.3	0.1
Tennessee	6,771,183	77.8	14.0	4.6	9.4	8.1	0.1
Appalachian Tennessee	2,899,077	76.4	11.3	4.4	6.9	12.1	0.2
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	3,872,106	78.8	16.0	4.8	11.2	5.1	0.1
Virginia	8,387,705	79.1	17.1	3.5	13.7	3.7	0.0
Appalachian Virginia	701,325	75.5	9.9	3.1	6.8	14.6	0.0
Non-Appalachian Virginia	7,686,380	79.4	17.8	3.5	14.3	2.8	0.0
West Virginia (entire state)	1,741,273	78.2	8.6	3.5	5.2	13.1	0.1

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Figure 4.11: Among Persons in the Appalachian Region in Occupied Housing Units, Percent Living in Single-Unit Dwellings (Attached or Detached), 2018-2022



Map Title: Among Persons in the Appalachian Region in Occupied Housing Units, Percent Living in Single-Unit Dwellings (Attached or Detached), 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

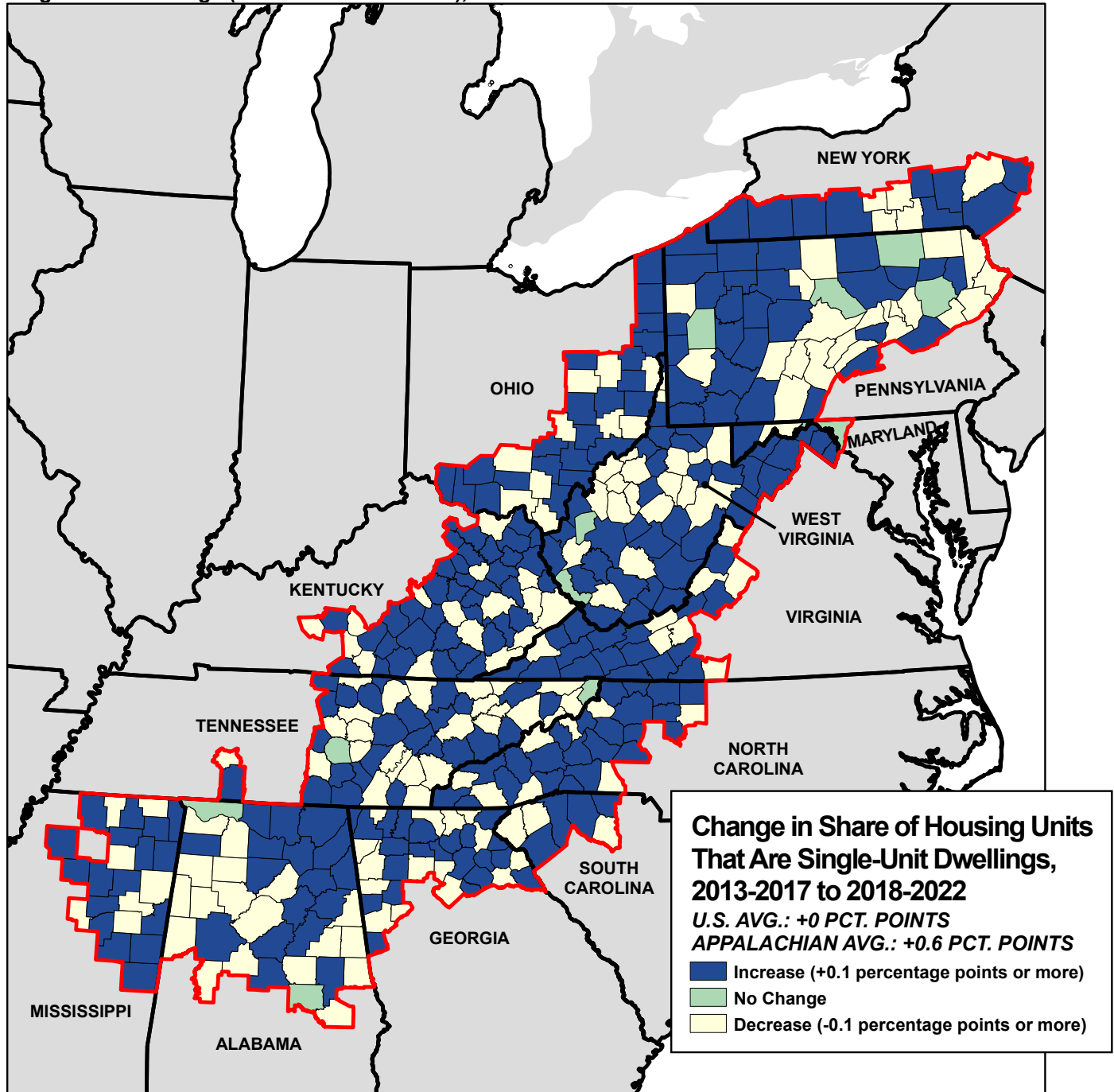
Of the Appalachian population who live in occupied housing units, 78.6 percent lived in single-unit dwellings during the 2018-2022 period, more than four percentage points above the national average. And the share was even greater in 125 counties throughout Appalachia, where at least four in five residents lived in single-unit homes. While pockets existed throughout the Region, Northern Appalachia had the highest concentration of counties with the largest share of residents living in single-unit homes. On the other hand, in 164 of the Region's counties the share living in single-unit dwellings was below the national average of 74.1 percent while in 41 counties – primarily in Central Appalachia – the share was below 65 percent. In 36 of these 41 counties, at least one in four residents lived in mobile homes, contributing to the lower rates of single-unit dwellings.

Table 4.6: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, by Type of Housing, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Housing Units (Type of Housing)	Percentage Point Change in Share of All Housing Units					
	Single-Unit Dwellings (Attached or Detached)	Multiple-Unit Fixed Dwellings			Mobile Homes	Boats, RVs, Vans, Etc.
		Total	Two to Four Units	Five or More Units		
United States	+ 0.0	+ 0.5	- 0.2	+ 0.8	- 0.5	+ 0.0
Appalachian Region	+ 0.6	+ 0.3	- 0.2	+ 0.5	- 1.0	+ 0.0
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	+ 0.3	+ 0.2	- 0.3	+ 0.4	- 0.5	+ 0.0
North Central Appalachia	+ 0.5	+ 0.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.4	- 1.0	+ 0.0
Central Appalachia	+ 1.4	+ 0.1	- 0.1	+ 0.2	- 1.6	+ 0.0
South Central Appalachia	+ 0.5	+ 0.6	+ 0.0	+ 0.6	- 1.2	+ 0.1
Southern Appalachia	+ 0.8	+ 0.2	- 0.1	+ 0.4	- 1.1	+ 0.0
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	+ 0.3	+ 0.2	- 0.2	+ 0.4	- 0.5	+ 0.1
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	+ 0.6	+ 0.3	- 0.2	+ 0.6	- 1.0	+ 0.0
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	+ 1.0	- 0.2	- 0.2	+ 0.0	- 0.8	+ 0.0
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	+ 0.7	+ 0.2	- 0.1	+ 0.2	- 0.9	+ 0.1
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	+ 0.5	+ 0.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.2	- 1.0	+ 0.0
Alabama	+ 0.7	+ 0.0	- 0.2	+ 0.3	- 0.8	+ 0.1
Appalachian Alabama	+ 0.4	+ 0.1	- 0.1	+ 0.1	- 0.7	+ 0.1
Non-Appalachian Alabama	+ 1.1	- 0.1	- 0.5	+ 0.4	- 1.1	+ 0.1
Georgia	+ 0.7	+ 0.3	- 0.2	+ 0.5	- 1.0	+ 0.0
Appalachian Georgia	+ 0.7	+ 0.5	+ 0.0	+ 0.5	- 1.2	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Georgia	+ 0.6	+ 0.4	- 0.1	+ 0.5	- 1.0	+ 0.0
Kentucky	+ 0.8	+ 0.2	- 0.1	+ 0.3	- 1.1	+ 0.0
Appalachian Kentucky	+ 1.3	- 0.2	- 0.4	+ 0.3	- 1.2	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	+ 0.6	+ 0.2	- 0.1	+ 0.3	- 0.8	+ 0.0
Maryland	- 0.3	+ 0.5	- 0.2	+ 0.7	- 0.2	+ 0.0
Appalachian Maryland	+ 0.2	+ 0.0	+ 0.3	- 0.2	- 0.3	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 0.4	+ 0.5	- 0.1	+ 0.7	- 0.1	+ 0.0
Mississippi	+ 0.3	+ 0.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.0	- 0.6	+ 0.1
Appalachian Mississippi	+ 0.8	+ 0.9	+ 0.3	+ 0.6	- 1.7	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	+ 0.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.3	- 0.1	- 0.3	+ 0.1
New York	- 0.2	+ 0.4	- 0.9	+ 1.3	- 0.3	+ 0.0
Appalachian New York	+ 0.3	+ 0.5	- 0.2	+ 0.7	- 0.8	+ 0.1
Non-Appalachian New York	- 0.2	+ 0.3	- 1.0	+ 1.3	- 0.1	+ 0.0
North Carolina	+ 0.5	+ 1.1	- 0.1	+ 1.2	- 1.6	+ 0.0
Appalachian North Carolina	+ 0.8	+ 1.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.9	- 1.9	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	+ 0.5	+ 1.1	- 0.2	+ 1.3	- 1.5	+ 0.1
Ohio	+ 0.6	- 0.3	- 0.7	+ 0.3	- 0.3	+ 0.0
Appalachian Ohio	+ 0.9	- 0.1	- 0.2	+ 0.1	- 0.8	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Ohio	+ 0.5	- 0.4	- 0.8	+ 0.4	- 0.1	+ 0.0
Pennsylvania	- 0.1	+ 0.4	- 0.3	+ 0.7	- 0.4	+ 0.0
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 0.3	+ 0.2	- 0.1	+ 0.4	- 0.5	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 0.2	+ 0.6	- 0.4	+ 0.9	- 0.3	+ 0.0
South Carolina	+ 1.8	- 0.3	- 0.5	+ 0.1	- 1.6	+ 0.1
Appalachian South Carolina	+ 1.7	- 0.2	- 0.4	+ 0.2	- 1.6	+ 0.1
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	+ 1.9	- 0.4	- 0.5	+ 0.1	- 1.5	+ 0.1
Tennessee	+ 0.5	+ 0.3	- 0.5	+ 0.8	- 0.8	+ 0.0
Appalachian Tennessee	+ 0.5	+ 0.3	+ 0.0	+ 0.3	- 0.8	+ 0.1
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	+ 0.5	+ 0.2	- 0.8	+ 1.0	- 0.6	+ 0.0
Virginia	- 0.2	+ 0.9	- 0.1	+ 1.0	- 0.7	+ 0.0
Appalachian Virginia	+ 0.9	+ 0.5	- 0.1	+ 0.6	- 1.4	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Virginia	- 0.4	+ 0.9	+ 0.0	+ 0.9	- 0.5	+ 0.0
West Virginia (entire state)	+ 0.6	+ 0.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.5	- 1.2	+ 0.0

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Figure 4.12: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region That Are Single-Unit Dwellings (Attached or Detached), 2013-2017 to 2018-2022



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Housing Units in the Appalachian Region That Are Single-Unit Dwellings (Attached or Detached), 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

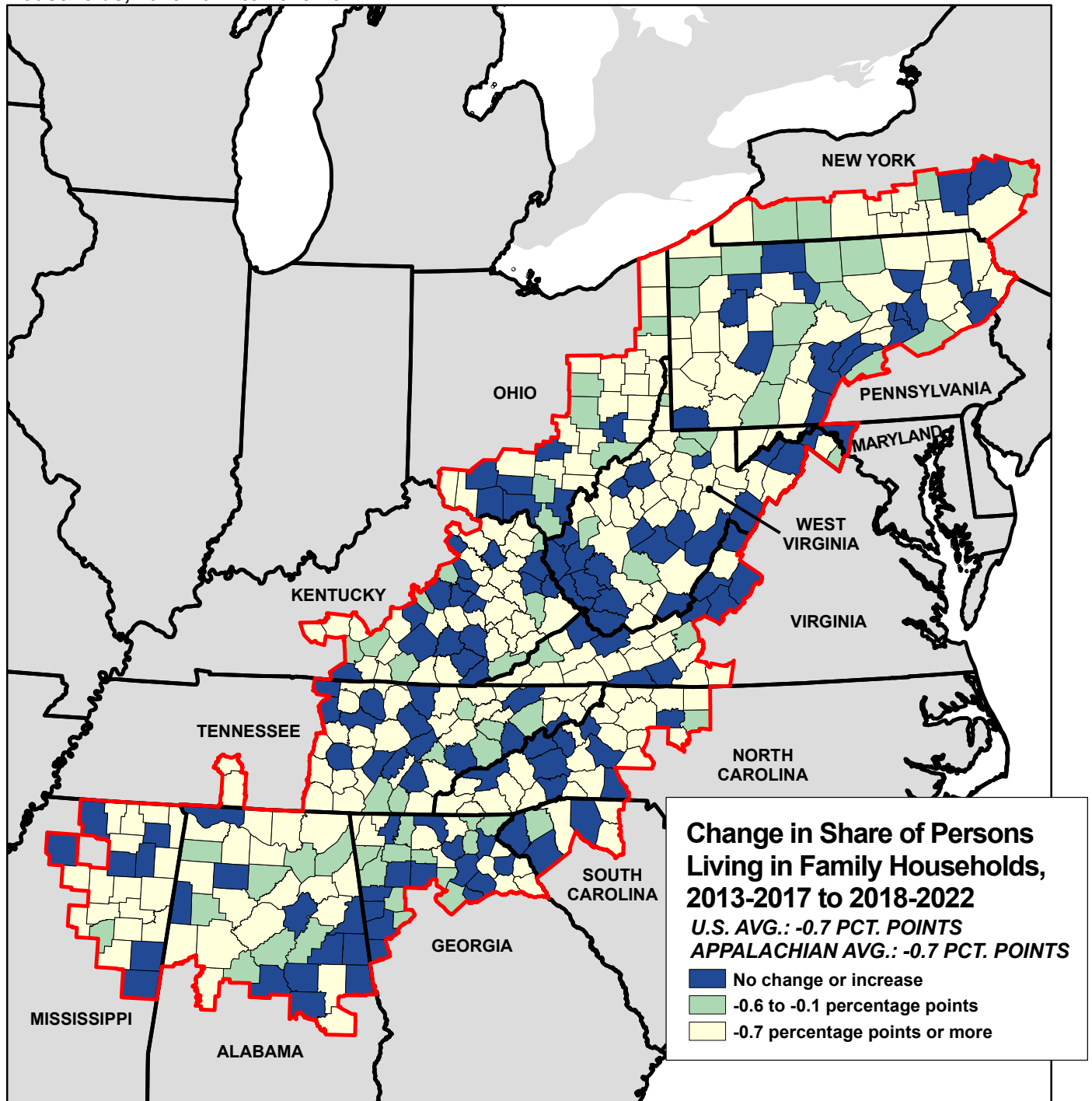
The share of single-unit dwellings among the housing stock increased 0.6 percentage points in Appalachia between the 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 periods, while the nation's share remained constant. Indeed, in 257 of the Region's 423 counties the share of single-unit dwellings increased. On the other hand, in 155 of the Region's counties the share of single-unit homes decreased. The slight rise in the share of single-unit homes in Appalachia seems to have come at the expense of mobile homes, the share of which fell one percentage point between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022.

Table 4.7: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region Living in Households and Group Quarters, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Population in Households and Group Quarters	Percentage Point Change in Share of All Persons			
	In Households			In Group Quarters
	Total	In Family Households	In Non-Family Households	
United States	+ 0.1	- 0.7	+ 0.7	- 0.1
Appalachian Region	+ 0.1	- 0.7	+ 0.7	- 0.1
Subregions				
Northern Appalachia	+ 0.2	- 1.0	+ 1.2	- 0.2
North Central Appalachia	+ 0.0	- 1.1	+ 1.0	+ 0.0
Central Appalachia	+ 0.1	- 0.3	+ 0.4	- 0.1
South Central Appalachia	+ 0.0	- 0.7	+ 0.7	+ 0.0
Southern Appalachia	- 0.1	- 0.4	+ 0.4	+ 0.1
County Types				
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	+ 0.0	- 0.6	+ 0.7	+ 0.0
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	+ 0.0	- 0.8	+ 0.7	+ 0.0
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	+ 0.1	- 0.4	+ 0.6	- 0.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	+ 0.1	- 0.6	+ 0.6	- 0.1
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 0.1	- 0.9	+ 0.8	+ 0.1
Alabama	- 0.1	- 0.9	+ 0.7	+ 0.1
Appalachian Alabama	- 0.2	- 1.0	+ 0.7	+ 0.2
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 0.1	- 0.9	+ 0.8	+ 0.1
Georgia	+ 0.2	- 0.4	+ 0.5	- 0.2
Appalachian Georgia	+ 0.0	+ 0.0	+ 0.0	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Georgia	+ 0.3	- 0.5	+ 0.8	- 0.3
Kentucky	+ 0.3	- 0.5	+ 0.7	- 0.3
Appalachian Kentucky	+ 0.2	- 0.2	+ 0.3	- 0.2
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	+ 0.2	- 0.6	+ 0.8	- 0.2
Maryland	+ 0.3	- 0.4	+ 0.7	- 0.3
Appalachian Maryland	+ 0.6	- 0.3	+ 0.9	- 0.6
Non-Appalachian Maryland	+ 0.2	- 0.4	+ 0.6	- 0.2
Mississippi	+ 0.0	- 1.0	+ 0.9	+ 0.0
Appalachian Mississippi	- 0.3	- 1.5	+ 1.2	+ 0.3
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	+ 0.0	- 0.8	+ 0.9	+ 0.0
New York	- 0.1	- 1.0	+ 0.9	+ 0.1
Appalachian New York	+ 0.2	- 1.1	+ 1.3	- 0.2
Non-Appalachian New York	+ 0.0	- 1.0	+ 0.9	+ 0.0
North Carolina	+ 0.1	- 0.7	+ 0.7	- 0.1
Appalachian North Carolina	+ 0.0	- 0.6	+ 0.7	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	+ 0.0	- 0.7	+ 0.8	+ 0.0
Ohio	+ 0.2	- 1.1	+ 1.3	- 0.2
Appalachian Ohio	+ 0.3	- 1.0	+ 1.2	- 0.3
Non-Appalachian Ohio	+ 0.2	- 1.1	+ 1.2	- 0.2
Pennsylvania	+ 0.1	- 0.7	+ 0.8	- 0.1
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 0.1	- 0.9	+ 1.0	- 0.1
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 0.1	- 0.5	+ 0.6	- 0.1
South Carolina	+ 0.1	- 0.6	+ 0.7	- 0.1
Appalachian South Carolina	+ 0.0	- 0.4	+ 0.5	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	+ 0.1	- 0.7	+ 0.8	- 0.1
Tennessee	+ 0.1	- 1.0	+ 1.1	- 0.1
Appalachian Tennessee	+ 0.1	- 0.7	+ 0.8	- 0.1
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	+ 0.2	- 1.1	+ 1.3	- 0.2
Virginia	+ 0.2	- 0.6	+ 0.8	- 0.2
Appalachian Virginia	- 0.3	- 1.2	+ 0.8	+ 0.3
Non-Appalachian Virginia	+ 0.1	- 0.6	+ 0.8	- 0.1
West Virginia (entire state)	- 0.3	- 1.2	+ 0.9	+ 0.3

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Figure 4.13: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region Living in Family Households, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region Living in Family Households, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

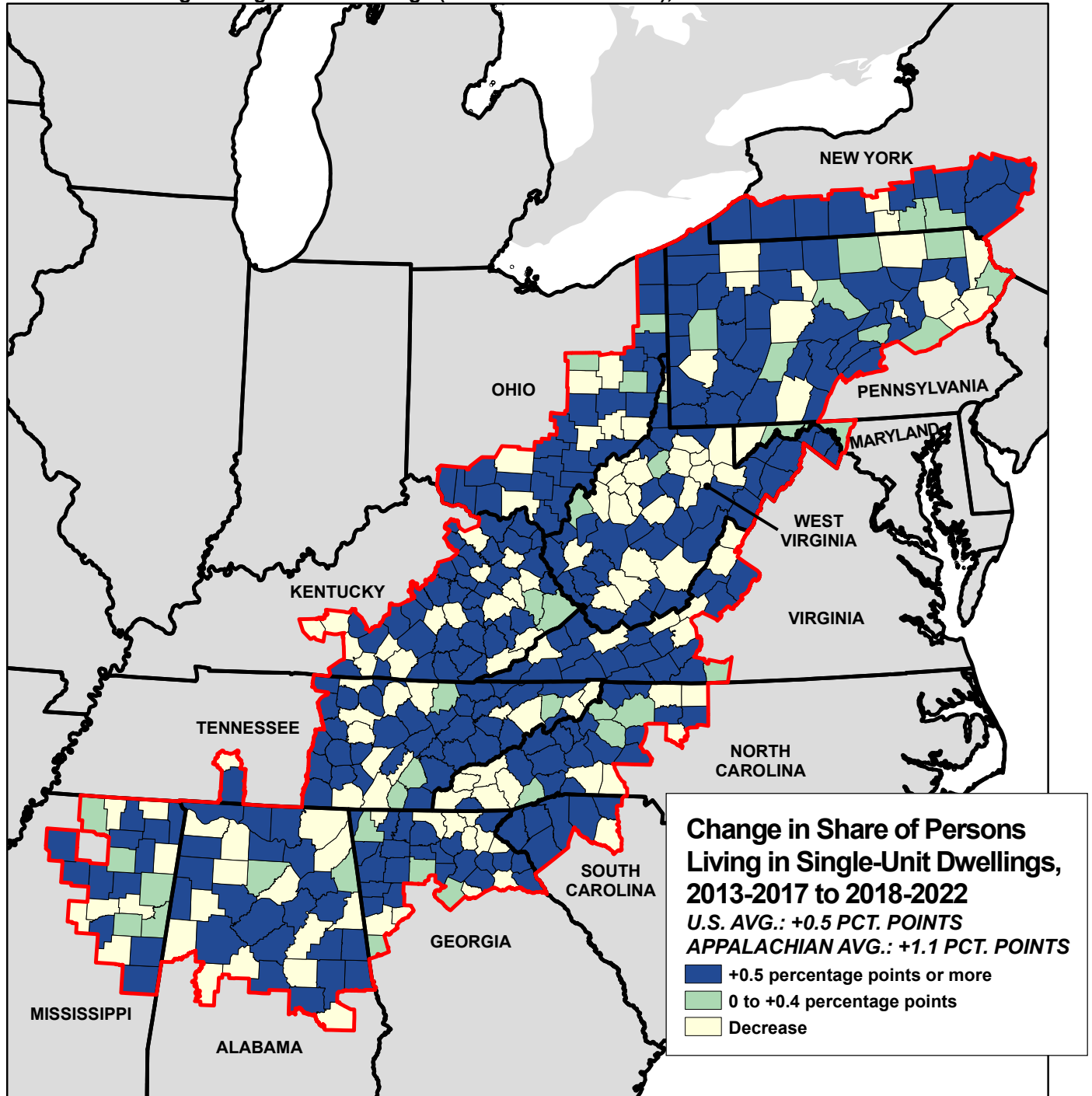
In the Appalachian Region, the share of persons living in family households fell 0.7 percentage points between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022, the same rate as the U.S. as a whole. In fact, in 225 of the Region's 423 counties, the share of persons living in family households declined by at least 0.7 percentage points. And in 183 counties throughout Appalachia, the share fell by more than one percentage point. On the other hand, in 131 counties the share of persons living in family households remained the same or increased. Yet, no Appalachian parts of states saw an overall increase in the share of persons living in family households during this period, and only Appalachian Georgia remained constant.

Table 4.8: Percentage Point Change in the Share of the Population in Occupied Housing Units in the Appalachian Region, by Type of Housing, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Population in Housing Units (Type of Housing)	Percentage Point Change in Share of Population in Occupied Housing Units					
	In Single-Unit Dwellings (Attached or Detached)	In Multiple-Unit Fixed Dwellings			In Mobile Homes	In Boats, RVs, Vans, Etc.
		Total	Two to Four Units	Five or More Units		
United States	+ 0.5	- 0.1	- 0.4	+ 0.3	- 0.4	+ 0.0
Appalachian Region	+ 1.1	- 0.2	- 0.2	+ 0.1	- 1.0	+ 0.0
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	+ 0.8	- 0.3	- 0.3	+ 0.0	- 0.6	+ 0.0
North Central Appalachia	+ 1.3	- 0.1	- 0.1	+ 0.0	- 1.2	+ 0.1
Central Appalachia	+ 1.7	- 0.2	- 0.4	+ 0.2	- 1.5	+ 0.0
South Central Appalachia	+ 1.1	+ 0.1	- 0.2	+ 0.3	- 1.4	+ 0.0
Southern Appalachia	+ 1.4	- 0.2	- 0.3	+ 0.0	- 1.1	+ 0.0
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	+ 0.7	- 0.2	- 0.3	- 0.1	- 0.5	+ 0.0
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	+ 1.3	- 0.2	- 0.3	+ 0.1	- 1.1	+ 0.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	+ 1.5	- 0.4	- 0.3	+ 0.0	- 1.1	+ 0.0
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	+ 1.0	- 0.3	- 0.4	+ 0.2	- 0.9	+ 0.1
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	+ 1.0	+ 0.1	- 0.1	+ 0.2	- 1.0	+ 0.0
Alabama	+ 1.3	- 0.5	- 0.4	+ 0.0	- 0.8	+ 0.0
Appalachian Alabama	+ 0.9	- 0.5	- 0.3	- 0.1	- 0.6	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Alabama	+ 1.8	- 0.6	- 0.7	+ 0.1	- 1.3	+ 0.2
Georgia	+ 1.3	- 0.5	- 0.3	- 0.2	- 0.9	+ 0.0
Appalachian Georgia	+ 1.1	- 0.1	- 0.1	+ 0.0	- 0.9	+ 0.1
Non-Appalachian Georgia	+ 1.4	- 0.5	- 0.3	- 0.1	- 0.9	+ 0.0
Kentucky	+ 0.9	- 0.1	- 0.3	+ 0.2	- 0.8	+ 0.1
Appalachian Kentucky	+ 1.4	- 0.7	- 0.9	+ 0.2	- 0.8	+ 0.1
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	+ 0.6	+ 0.0	- 0.1	+ 0.2	- 0.6	+ 0.1
Maryland	- 0.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.0	+ 0.0
Appalachian Maryland	- 0.2	- 0.3	+ 0.0	- 0.3	+ 0.5	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 0.2	+ 0.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.0	+ 0.0
Mississippi	+ 0.6	+ 0.0	+ 0.2	- 0.2	- 0.6	+ 0.0
Appalachian Mississippi	+ 1.1	+ 0.7	+ 0.3	+ 0.5	- 1.8	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	+ 0.4	- 0.3	+ 0.2	- 0.5	- 0.2	+ 0.0
New York	+ 0.6	- 0.5	- 1.0	+ 0.6	- 0.1	+ 0.0
Appalachian New York	+ 1.2	- 0.3	- 0.7	+ 0.4	- 0.9	+ 0.1
Non-Appalachian New York	+ 0.6	- 0.5	- 1.1	+ 0.5	- 0.1	+ 0.0
North Carolina	+ 1.4	+ 0.3	- 0.3	+ 0.5	- 1.7	+ 0.1
Appalachian North Carolina	+ 1.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.0	+ 0.4	- 1.4	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	+ 1.5	+ 0.2	- 0.3	+ 0.5	- 1.7	+ 0.0
Ohio	+ 0.8	- 0.5	- 0.5	+ 0.1	- 0.3	+ 0.0
Appalachian Ohio	+ 1.1	- 0.3	- 0.2	- 0.1	- 0.8	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Ohio	+ 0.7	- 0.6	- 0.6	+ 0.0	- 0.1	+ 0.0
Pennsylvania	+ 0.2	+ 0.2	- 0.2	+ 0.4	- 0.3	+ 0.0
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 0.7	- 0.2	- 0.2	+ 0.0	- 0.5	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 0.1	+ 0.3	- 0.2	+ 0.5	- 0.3	+ 0.0
South Carolina	+ 2.4	- 0.5	- 0.5	+ 0.1	- 2.1	+ 0.1
Appalachian South Carolina	+ 2.8	- 0.5	- 0.5	- 0.1	- 2.3	+ 0.1
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	+ 2.3	- 0.4	- 0.5	+ 0.1	- 2.0	+ 0.1
Tennessee	+ 1.3	- 0.3	- 0.4	+ 0.1	- 1.0	+ 0.0
Appalachian Tennessee	+ 1.2	- 0.1	- 0.2	+ 0.1	- 1.2	+ 0.1
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	+ 1.3	- 0.5	- 0.5	+ 0.0	- 0.8	+ 0.0
Virginia	+ 0.5	+ 0.1	- 0.1	+ 0.2	- 0.7	+ 0.0
Appalachian Virginia	+ 1.6	+ 0.6	- 0.1	+ 0.6	- 2.1	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Virginia	+ 0.4	+ 0.0	- 0.1	+ 0.1	- 0.4	+ 0.0
West Virginia (entire state)	+ 1.5	+ 0.0	+ 0.0	+ 0.2	- 1.6	+ 0.1

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Figure 4.14: Among Persons in the Appalachian Region in Occupied Housing Units, Percentage Point Change in the Share Living in Single-Unit Dwellings (Attached or Detached), 2013-2017 to 2018-2022



Map Title: Among Persons in the Appalachian Region in Occupied Housing Units, Percentage Point Change in the Share Living in Single-Unit Dwellings (Attached or Detached), 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

The share of Appalachian residents living in single-unit homes was just over a full percentage point higher in 2018-2022 than in 2013-2017, well above the national increase of 0.5 points. Likewise, the share increased at or above the national average in 260 of the Region's 423 counties. Among the states, South Carolina in particular had a sharp rise of 2.8 percentage points, while Appalachian Kentucky, New York, Tennessee, Virginia, and all of West Virginia had increases above the regional average. On the other hand, the share declined in 123 of the Region's counties. As with the share of housing units, this increase has largely happened because the percentage of the Appalachian population living in mobile homes fell one point between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022.

TRENDS IN HOUSING OCCUPANCY, TENURE, AND TYPE

- At 86.1 percent during the 2018-2022 period, Appalachia's home occupancy rate increased by 1.1 percentage points relative to the 2013-2017 period (see Tables 4.1 and 4.2). Occupancy rates increased in all Appalachian subregions with the exception of Central Appalachia, which had a 0.8 percentage point decline. Among the states, only the Appalachian portions of Kentucky and Virginia had declining home occupancy during this time. Throughout the Region, all county types had an average increase in home occupancy rates with large metropolitan areas having the highest rate of increase.
- Homeownership in the Appalachian Region rose by just over one percentage point between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022. While all of the subregions had a rise in homeownership during this time, the North and South Central and Southern Appalachia areas had increases which met or exceeded the regional average. Metropolitan areas and counties surrounding metropolitan areas had higher rates of increase relative to rural counties, with counties adjacent to large metropolitan areas increasing their homeownership rates most (1.5 points).
- Of the housing units in the Appalachian Region, single-unit dwellings accounted for 73.8 percent in 2018-2022, an increase of 0.6 percentage points compared with the 2013-2017 period (see Tables 4.3 and 4.6). The share increased in all county types and subregions, and particularly in Central Appalachia (1.4 points) and counties adjacent to large metropolitan areas (one point). The share also rose in the Appalachian portion of all 13 states, but especially in Appalachian Kentucky (1.3 points) and South Carolina (1.7 points). Throughout Appalachia, the rising share of single-unit homes is proportional to the decline in mobile homes, the share of which has fallen one percentage point since 2013-2017, with slightly larger drops in Central and South Central Appalachia, as well as the Appalachian sections of Mississippi and the Carolinas.
- At 80.1 percent, the share of Appalachian residents living in family households in 2018-2022 was 0.7 percentage points lower than in the 2013-2017 period (see Tables 4.4 and 4.7). This decline was present in all of the Appalachian subregions and county types, particularly in North Central Appalachia (1.1 points). West Virginia and the Appalachian portions of Mississippi and Virginia saw the most dramatic declines, while only Appalachian Georgia avoided decline – maintaining the same share in 2018-2022 as in 2013-2017.
- The share of the Appalachian population residing in single-unit dwellings was 78.6 percent in 2018-2022, a 1.1 percentage point increase compared with the 2013-2017 period (see Tables 4.5 and 4.8). The share rose in all Appalachian subregions, county types, and portions of states except for the Appalachian portion of Maryland, which saw a slight decline. Yet, even among the states which saw an increase the rate varied considerably, from a 2.8 percentage point increase in Appalachian South Carolina to a 0.7 percentage point increase in Appalachian Pennsylvania. The increase in persons living in single-unit residences throughout the Region has come in conjunction with a decline in persons residing in mobile home units; the share of the Appalachian population living in mobile home units declined by 1 percentage point between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022.

CHAPTER 5: EDUCATION, DEVICE OWNERSHIP, AND INTERNET ACCESS

Table 5.1: Educational Attainment of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region, 2018-2022

Education (Highest Level Attained)	Total Population Ages 25 and Over, 2018-2022	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 or More		
					Total	Associate's Degree	Bachelor's Degree or More
United States	226,600,992	10.9	89.1	46.1	43.1	8.7	34.3
Appalachian Region	18,270,641	11.3	88.7	52.7	36.0	9.3	26.7
Subregions							
Northern Appalachia	5,736,141	8.2	91.8	53.7	38.0	10.2	27.8
North Central Appalachia	1,754,699	10.9	89.1	57.8	31.2	8.5	22.7
Central Appalachia	1,304,680	17.9	82.1	58.2	23.9	8.1	15.8
South Central Appalachia	3,683,310	11.5	88.5	52.1	36.4	9.3	27.1
Southern Appalachia	5,791,811	12.7	87.3	49.3	38.0	8.9	29.1
County Types							
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	4,353,231	8.4	91.6	47.3	44.2	9.4	34.8
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	7,801,537	10.6	89.4	51.9	37.5	9.3	28.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	1,600,959	12.7	87.3	57.4	29.8	9.8	20.0
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	2,793,037	13.5	86.5	58.4	28.1	9.2	18.9
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	1,721,877	16.3	83.7	56.5	27.3	8.8	18.4
Alabama	3,428,520	12.3	87.7	51.6	36.1	8.9	27.2
Appalachian Alabama	2,220,053	12.3	87.7	50.8	36.9	8.8	28.1
Non-Appalachian Alabama	1,208,467	12.3	87.7	53.0	34.7	9.1	25.6
Georgia	7,158,620	11.3	88.7	46.8	41.9	8.3	33.6
Appalachian Georgia	2,243,426	13.0	87.0	47.9	39.2	8.2	30.9
Non-Appalachian Georgia	4,915,194	10.5	89.5	46.3	43.2	8.3	34.9
Kentucky	3,067,109	11.8	88.2	52.9	35.3	8.8	26.5
Appalachian Kentucky	804,782	18.1	81.9	57.1	24.8	8.3	16.5
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	2,262,327	9.6	90.4	51.4	39.0	9.0	30.0
Maryland	4,260,095	9.0	91.0	41.9	49.1	6.9	42.2
Appalachian Maryland	177,612	10.7	89.3	58.0	31.2	8.6	22.6
Non-Appalachian Maryland	4,082,483	8.9	91.1	41.2	49.9	6.8	43.1
Mississippi	1,968,322	13.8	86.2	51.7	34.5	10.6	23.9
Appalachian Mississippi	405,130	16.3	83.7	53.0	30.6	10.2	20.4
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	1,563,192	13.1	86.9	51.4	35.5	10.7	24.8
New York	14,021,808	12.4	87.6	40.0	47.6	8.8	38.8
Appalachian New York	695,571	9.0	91.0	49.7	41.4	12.7	28.7
Non-Appalachian New York	13,326,237	12.6	87.4	39.5	48.0	8.6	39.3
North Carolina	7,172,112	10.6	89.4	45.5	43.9	10.0	33.9
Appalachian North Carolina	1,447,077	11.7	88.3	49.3	39.0	10.5	28.4
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	5,725,035	10.3	89.7	44.5	45.2	9.9	35.2
Ohio	8,097,704	8.6	91.4	52.2	39.2	8.8	30.4
Appalachian Ohio	1,386,220	11.3	88.7	59.5	29.2	9.3	19.9
Non-Appalachian Ohio	6,711,484	8.0	92.0	50.7	41.3	8.7	32.5
Pennsylvania	9,128,083	8.3	91.7	49.1	42.6	8.8	33.8
Appalachian Pennsylvania	4,087,026	7.4	92.6	53.0	39.6	10.1	29.4
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	5,041,057	9.1	90.9	45.9	45.0	7.8	37.2
South Carolina	3,553,321	10.7	89.3	48.6	40.7	10.1	30.6
Appalachian South Carolina	923,202	11.8	88.2	47.5	40.8	10.1	30.7
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	2,630,119	10.3	89.7	49.0	40.7	10.0	30.6
Tennessee	4,758,712	10.7	89.3	51.9	37.4	7.7	29.7
Appalachian Tennessee	2,090,075	11.9	88.1	54.6	33.5	8.2	25.3
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	2,668,637	9.8	90.2	49.7	40.5	7.3	33.1
Virginia	5,919,142	8.9	91.1	42.3	48.8	7.8	41.0
Appalachian Virginia	518,938	13.1	86.9	55.2	31.7	9.7	22.0
Non-Appalachian Virginia	5,400,204	8.5	91.5	41.1	50.4	7.6	42.8
West Virginia (entire state)	1,271,529	11.6	88.4	57.7	30.7	8.0	22.7

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Table 5.2: Educational Attainment of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2018-2022

Education (Highest Level Attained)	Total Population Ages 25 to 64, 2018-2022	Percent of Population Ages 25 to 64					
		Less than High School Diploma	High School Diploma or More				
			Total	H.S. Grad, No Postsecondary Degree	Associate's Degree or More		
					Total	Associate's Degree	Bachelor's Degree or More
United States	171,863,344	10.1	89.9	44.9	45.0	9.2	35.8
Appalachian Region	13,341,618	10.2	89.8	51.4	38.4	10.3	28.2
Subregions							
Northern Appalachia	4,082,237	7.4	92.6	51.0	41.6	11.5	30.1
North Central Appalachia	1,265,175	9.5	90.5	56.8	33.6	9.7	24.0
Central Appalachia	948,658	15.1	84.9	59.1	25.8	9.4	16.5
South Central Appalachia	2,632,917	10.3	89.7	51.7	38.0	10.2	27.9
Southern Appalachia	4,412,631	11.9	88.1	48.2	39.8	9.6	30.3
County Types							
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	3,299,874	7.7	92.3	44.8	47.5	10.1	37.4
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	5,693,720	9.8	90.2	50.6	39.6	10.2	29.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	1,155,036	11.9	88.1	56.6	31.5	10.9	20.5
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	1,967,060	12.1	87.9	58.2	29.7	10.4	19.3
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	1,225,928	14.3	85.7	56.6	29.1	10.1	19.0
Alabama	2,557,486	11.3	88.7	50.7	38.0	9.8	28.2
Appalachian Alabama	1,662,078	11.4	88.6	49.7	38.9	9.6	29.3
Non-Appalachian Alabama	895,408	11.1	88.9	52.6	36.3	10.0	26.2
Georgia	5,618,175	10.4	89.6	45.7	43.9	8.7	35.1
Appalachian Georgia	1,760,777	12.4	87.6	46.7	40.8	8.7	32.2
Non-Appalachian Georgia	3,857,398	9.4	90.6	45.3	45.3	8.8	36.5
Kentucky	2,310,670	10.4	89.6	51.9	37.8	9.8	28.0
Appalachian Kentucky	594,014	15.3	84.7	57.9	26.9	9.5	17.4
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	1,716,656	8.7	91.3	49.8	41.6	10.0	31.6
Maryland	3,273,941	8.2	91.8	40.8	50.9	7.2	43.8
Appalachian Maryland	129,422	9.6	90.4	56.9	33.5	9.7	23.8
Non-Appalachian Maryland	3,144,519	8.2	91.8	40.2	51.7	7.1	44.6
Mississippi	1,480,572	12.3	87.7	51.2	36.4	11.9	24.5
Appalachian Mississippi	299,636	14.3	85.7	53.0	32.8	11.7	21.1
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	1,180,936	11.8	88.2	50.8	37.4	12.0	25.4
New York	10,619,524	10.9	89.1	38.4	50.6	9.3	41.3
Appalachian New York	491,713	8.6	91.4	47.8	43.6	13.7	29.9
Non-Appalachian New York	10,127,811	11.1	88.9	38.0	51.0	9.1	41.8
North Carolina	5,424,187	9.8	90.2	44.2	46.0	10.5	35.5
Appalachian North Carolina	1,023,273	11.1	88.9	48.9	40.0	11.4	28.6
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	4,400,914	9.5	90.5	43.1	47.4	10.3	37.1
Ohio	6,029,142	7.7	92.3	50.2	42.1	9.7	32.4
Appalachian Ohio	999,100	10.5	89.5	57.9	31.6	10.6	21.1
Non-Appalachian Ohio	5,030,042	7.1	92.9	48.7	44.1	9.5	34.6
Pennsylvania	6,693,678	7.3	92.7	46.5	46.2	9.7	36.5
Appalachian Pennsylvania	2,911,200	6.4	93.6	49.9	43.6	11.4	32.2
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	3,782,478	7.9	92.1	43.9	48.1	8.4	39.8
South Carolina	2,614,804	9.7	90.3	48.2	42.1	10.7	31.4
Appalachian South Carolina	690,140	10.7	89.3	46.6	42.7	10.8	31.9
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	1,924,664	9.4	90.6	48.7	41.9	10.6	31.2
Tennessee	3,603,399	9.5	90.5	50.9	39.6	8.3	31.3
Appalachian Tennessee	1,514,207	10.4	89.6	54.3	35.3	9.0	26.3
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	2,089,192	8.9	91.1	48.4	42.7	7.7	35.0
Virginia	4,538,136	7.7	92.3	41.0	51.2	8.3	43.0
Appalachian Virginia	360,973	10.0	90.0	55.8	34.2	10.9	23.3
Non-Appalachian Virginia	4,177,163	7.5	92.5	39.8	52.7	8.0	44.7
West Virginia (entire state)	905,085	10.0	90.0	57.0	33.0	9.0	24.0

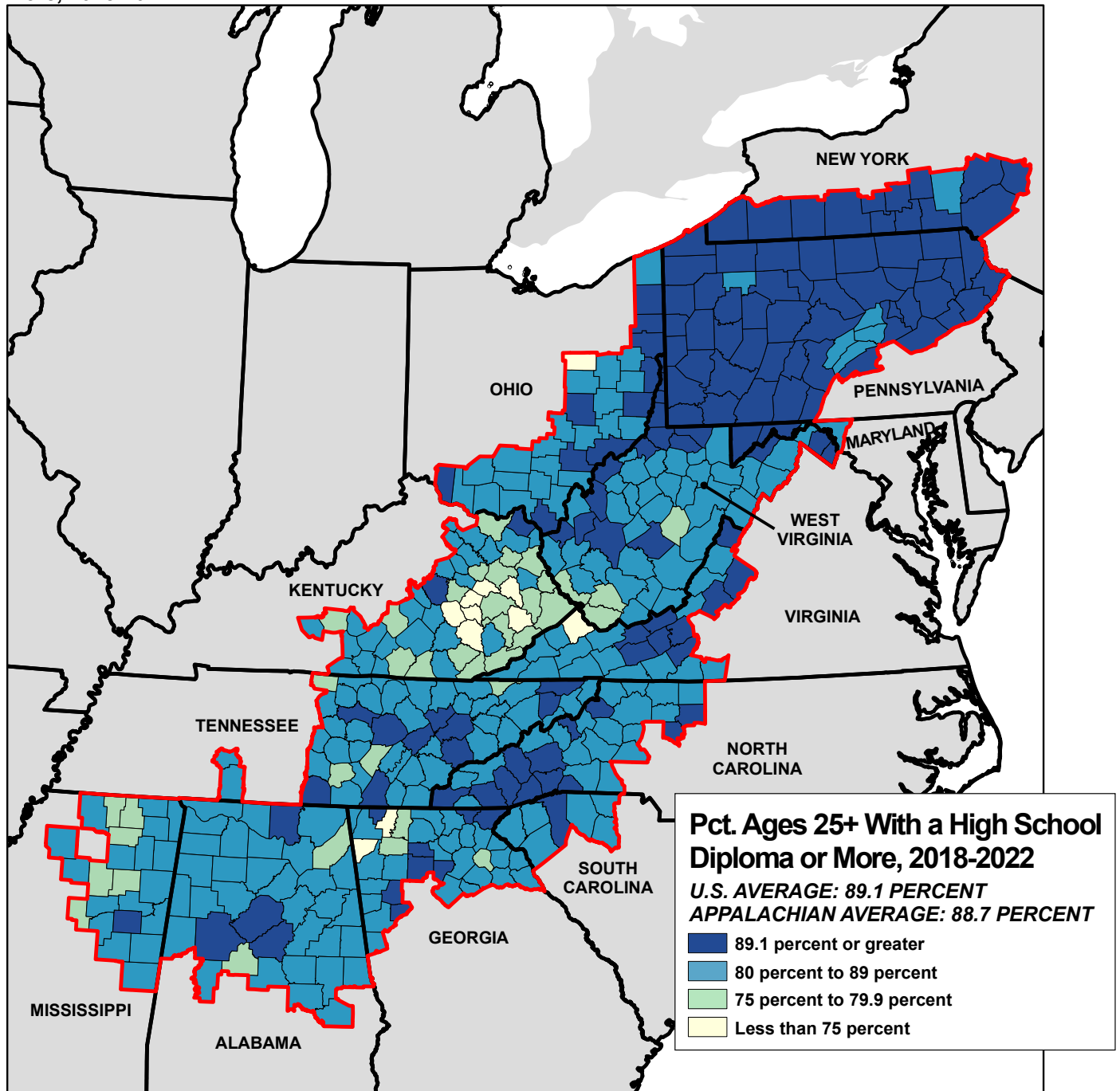
Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Table 5.3: Educational Attainment of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region, 2018-2022

Education (Highest Level Attained)	Total Population Ages 65 and Over, 2018-2022	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 or More		
					Total	Associate's Degree	Bachelor's Degree or More
United States	54,737,648	13.2	86.8	49.9	36.9	7.2	29.7
Appalachian Region	4,929,023	14.1	85.9	56.4	29.5	6.8	22.7
Subregions							
Northern Appalachia	1,653,904	10.4	89.6	60.4	29.2	7.1	22.1
North Central Appalachia	489,524	14.5	85.5	60.5	25.1	5.6	19.4
Central Appalachia	356,022	25.4	74.6	55.8	18.8	4.8	13.9
South Central Appalachia	1,050,393	14.4	85.6	53.2	32.4	7.3	25.1
Southern Appalachia	1,379,180	15.4	84.6	52.7	31.9	6.8	25.1
County Types							
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	1,053,357	10.6	89.4	55.4	34.0	7.2	26.9
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	2,107,817	13.0	87.0	55.4	31.6	6.9	24.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	445,923	14.9	85.1	59.4	25.6	6.8	18.8
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	825,977	16.9	83.1	58.7	24.3	6.4	18.0
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	495,949	21.2	78.8	56.0	22.8	5.7	17.2
Alabama	871,034	15.1	84.9	54.1	30.8	6.5	24.3
Appalachian Alabama	557,975	14.9	85.1	54.1	31.0	6.5	24.5
Non-Appalachian Alabama	313,059	15.6	84.4	54.1	30.3	6.4	23.9
Georgia	1,540,445	14.6	85.4	50.5	34.9	6.7	28.1
Appalachian Georgia	482,649	14.8	85.2	52.2	33.0	6.6	26.5
Non-Appalachian Georgia	1,057,796	14.5	85.5	49.7	35.7	6.8	28.9
Kentucky	756,439	16.4	83.6	56.1	27.5	5.6	21.9
Appalachian Kentucky	210,768	26.1	73.9	54.9	19.0	4.9	14.1
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	545,671	12.7	87.3	56.5	30.8	5.9	25.0
Maryland	986,154	11.6	88.4	45.5	42.9	5.8	37.1
Appalachian Maryland	48,190	13.8	86.2	60.9	25.3	5.8	19.4
Non-Appalachian Maryland	937,964	11.5	88.5	44.7	43.8	5.8	38.0
Mississippi	487,750	18.2	81.8	53.2	28.6	6.6	22.0
Appalachian Mississippi	105,494	22.1	77.9	53.3	24.6	6.0	18.6
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	382,256	17.1	82.9	53.2	29.8	6.8	22.9
New York	3,402,284	17.0	83.0	44.7	38.3	7.3	31.0
Appalachian New York	203,858	10.0	90.0	54.2	35.8	10.2	25.6
Non-Appalachian New York	3,198,426	17.5	82.5	44.1	38.4	7.1	31.3
North Carolina	1,747,925	13.1	86.9	49.5	37.4	8.7	28.7
Appalachian North Carolina	423,804	13.1	86.9	50.5	36.4	8.5	27.9
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	1,324,121	13.0	87.0	49.2	37.7	8.7	29.0
Ohio	2,068,562	11.2	88.8	57.9	30.9	6.4	24.5
Appalachian Ohio	387,120	13.6	86.4	63.5	22.9	5.9	17.0
Non-Appalachian Ohio	1,681,442	10.7	89.3	56.6	32.7	6.5	26.2
Pennsylvania	2,434,405	11.2	88.8	56.1	32.7	6.4	26.3
Appalachian Pennsylvania	1,175,826	9.8	90.2	60.7	29.5	6.9	22.6
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	1,258,579	12.5	87.5	51.8	35.7	6.0	29.7
South Carolina	938,517	13.3	86.7	49.9	36.9	8.4	28.5
Appalachian South Carolina	233,062	14.7	85.3	50.0	35.2	8.3	26.9
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	705,455	12.8	87.2	49.8	37.4	8.4	29.0
Tennessee	1,155,313	14.4	85.6	54.9	30.7	6.0	24.7
Appalachian Tennessee	575,868	15.7	84.3	55.4	28.8	6.0	22.9
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	579,445	13.1	86.9	54.3	32.5	5.9	26.6
Virginia	1,381,006	12.6	87.4	46.6	40.7	6.3	34.4
Appalachian Virginia	157,965	20.2	79.8	54.0	25.8	6.9	18.9
Non-Appalachian Virginia	1,223,041	11.7	88.3	45.7	42.7	6.2	36.4
West Virginia (entire state)	366,444	15.4	84.6	59.7	24.9	5.4	19.5

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

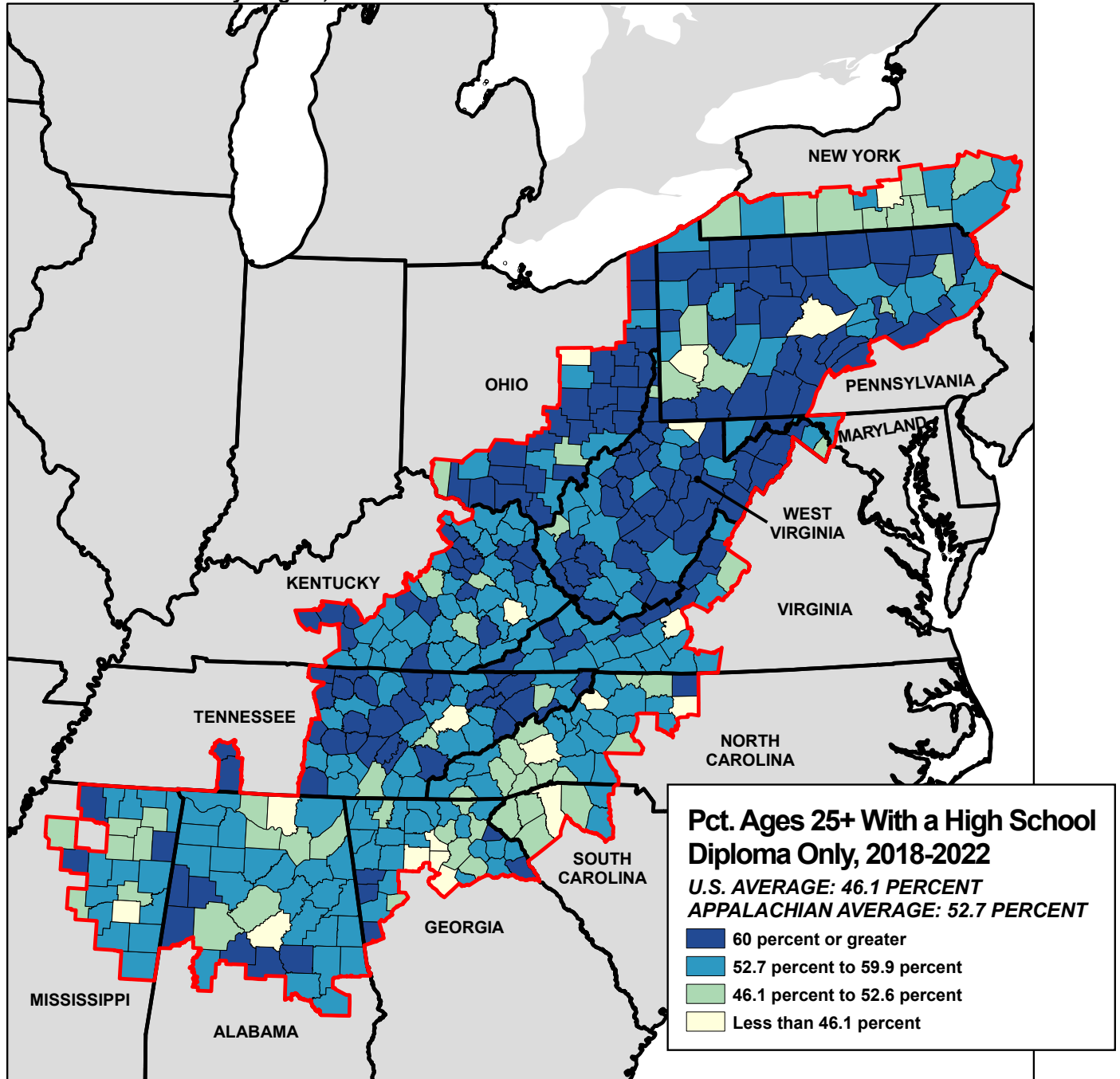
Figure 5.1: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma or More, 2018-2022



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma or More, 2018-2022
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Although the share of Appalachian adults with at least a high school diploma was below the national average for the 2018-2022 period, it matched or exceeded the national share in 136 counties in the Region, nearly two-thirds of which were located in Northern and North Central Appalachia. The shares of adults 25 or older with a high school diploma or more were especially high in Northern Appalachia (91.8 percent), Appalachian Pennsylvania (92.6 percent) and New York (91 percent), and in large metropolitan areas (91.6 percent). In just 11 Appalachian counties, less than three-fourths of adults had at least a high school diploma. Of these counties, most were located in Central Appalachia and in the most rural counties. Appalachian Kentucky, which includes 7 of the 11 counties where less than three-fourths of adults had completed high school, had the lowest share of high school completion among the Region's states, at 81.9 percent.

Figure 5.2: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma but With No Postsecondary Degree, 2018-2022

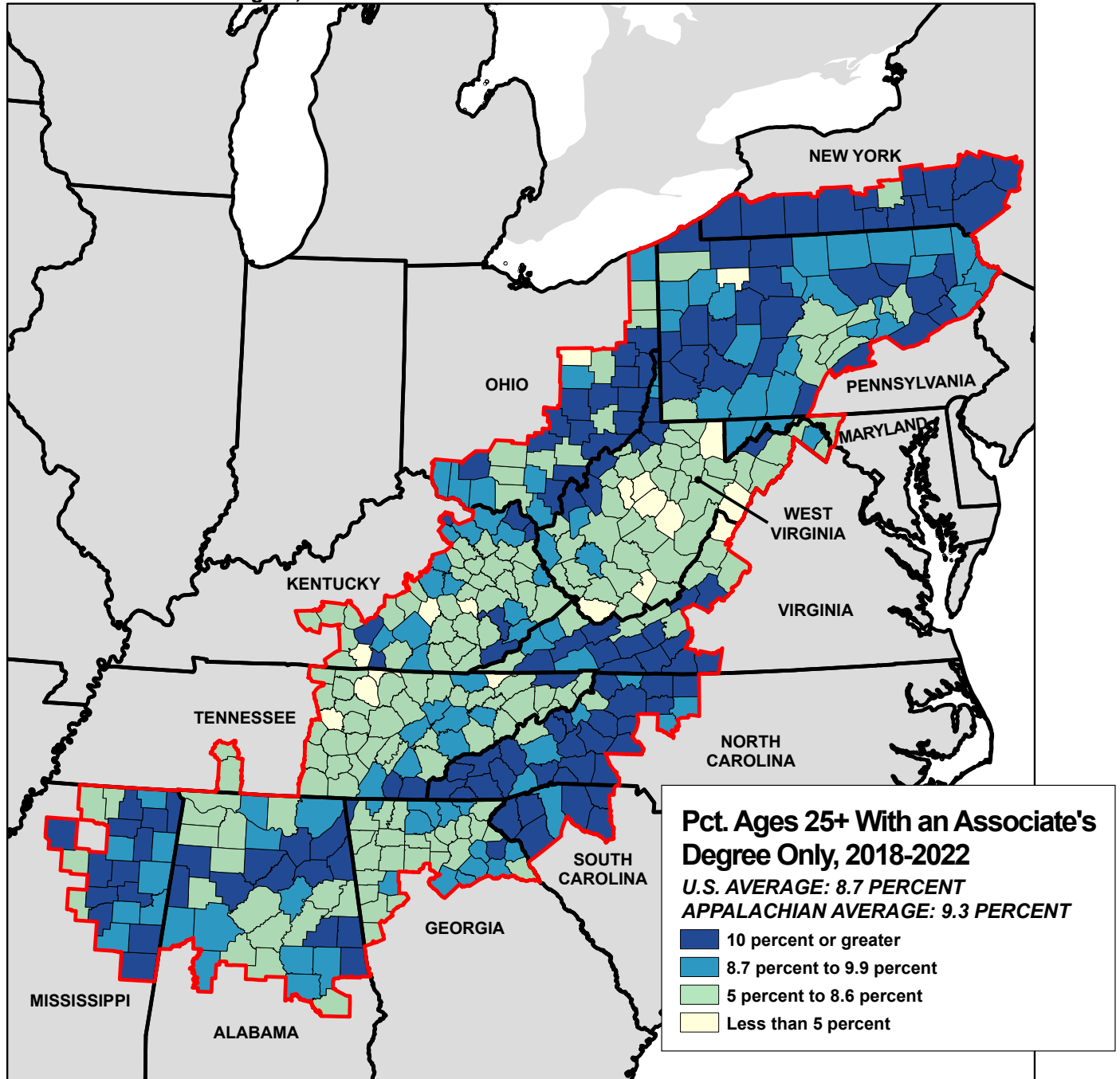


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma but With No Postsecondary Degree, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

During the 2018-2022 period, 52.7 percent of adults ages 25 and over 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 159 of the Region's 423 counties—118 of these were in four states: Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and West Virginia. And in Northern, North Central, and Central Appalachia as well as non-metropolitan counties throughout the Region, the shares exceeded the regional average of 52.7 percent. Many of these adults may have attended college but did not graduate, while others may have acquired vocational training.

Figure 5.3: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With an Associate's Degree but Without a Bachelor's Degree, 2018-2022

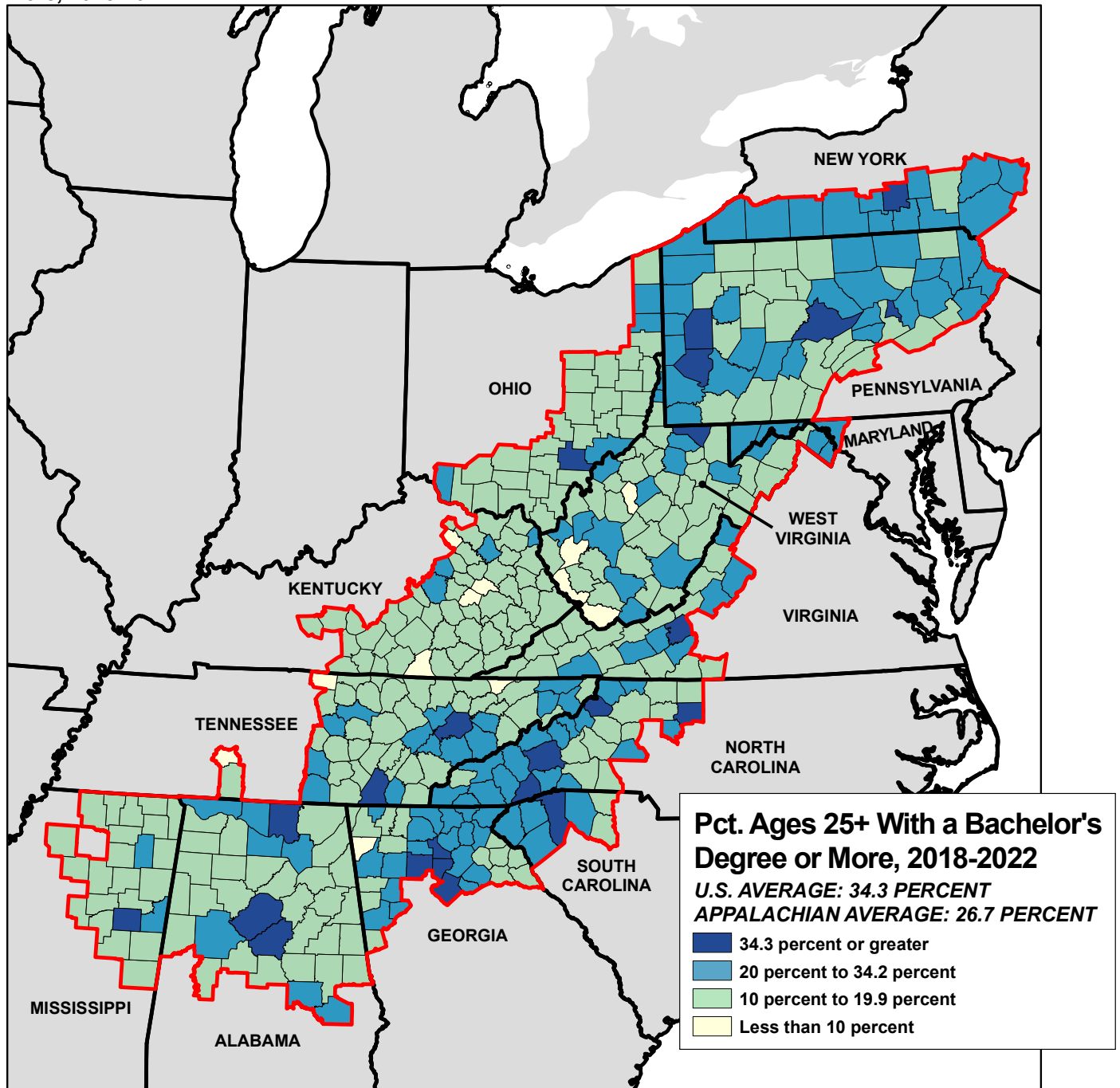


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With an Associate's Degree but Without a Bachelor's Degree, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

In the Appalachian Region, the share of adults ages 25 and over with an associate's degree was 9.3 percent – slightly higher than the national average of 8.7 percent. In parts of Appalachia, the share was even higher including the Appalachian portion of six states – Mississippi, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and the Carolinas. These six states account for nearly two-thirds of the 136 counties in the Region where the share of adults with an associate's degree was at least 10 percent. In contrast, the share was less than five percent in 18 other Appalachian counties – eight of which were located in West Virginia, where the overall share of adults with associate's degrees throughout the state is just eight percent. In all but one of these counties, the share of adults who have completed high school or more is also below the regional average, indicating that lower overall educational attainment in these counties contributes to differences in associate's degree holders.

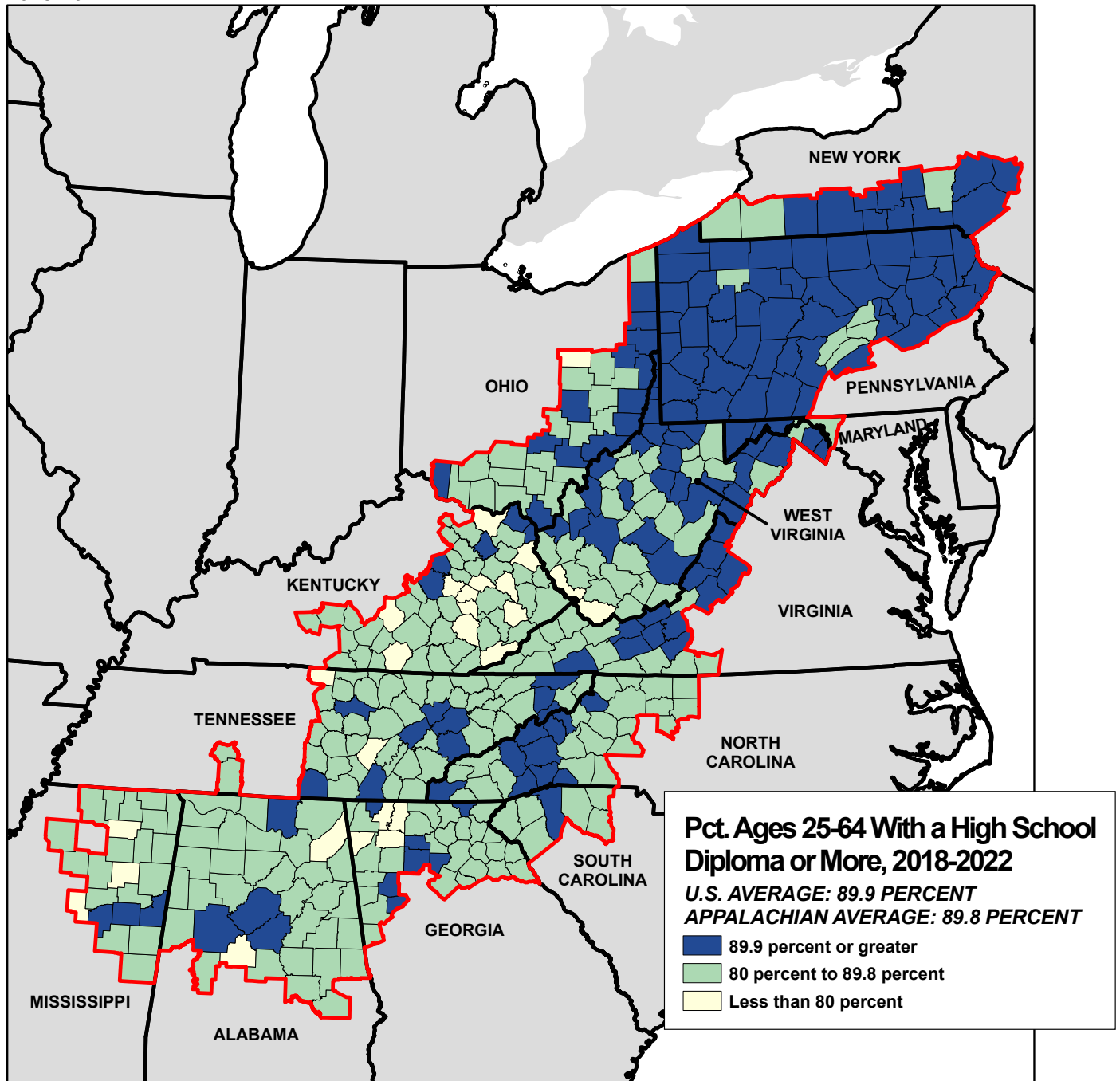
Figure 5.4: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2018-2022



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2018-2022
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

The share of adults ages 25 and over with a bachelor's degree or more was 7.6 percentage points lower in Appalachia during the 2018-2022 period than in the nation as a whole. This was lower than the national average in 400 of the Region's 423 counties, and less than one in five residents ages 25 and over were graduates of a four-year college or university in 268 Appalachian counties. Of these counties, one-third were among the Region's rural counties. Conversely, in 23 of the Region's counties, the share of adults with a bachelor's degree matched or exceeded the national average. These counties were primarily in metropolitan areas and just over half were home to colleges or universities, such as Monongalia County, West Virginia (West Virginia University) or Centre County, Pennsylvania (Penn State).

Figure 5.5: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma or More, 2018-2022

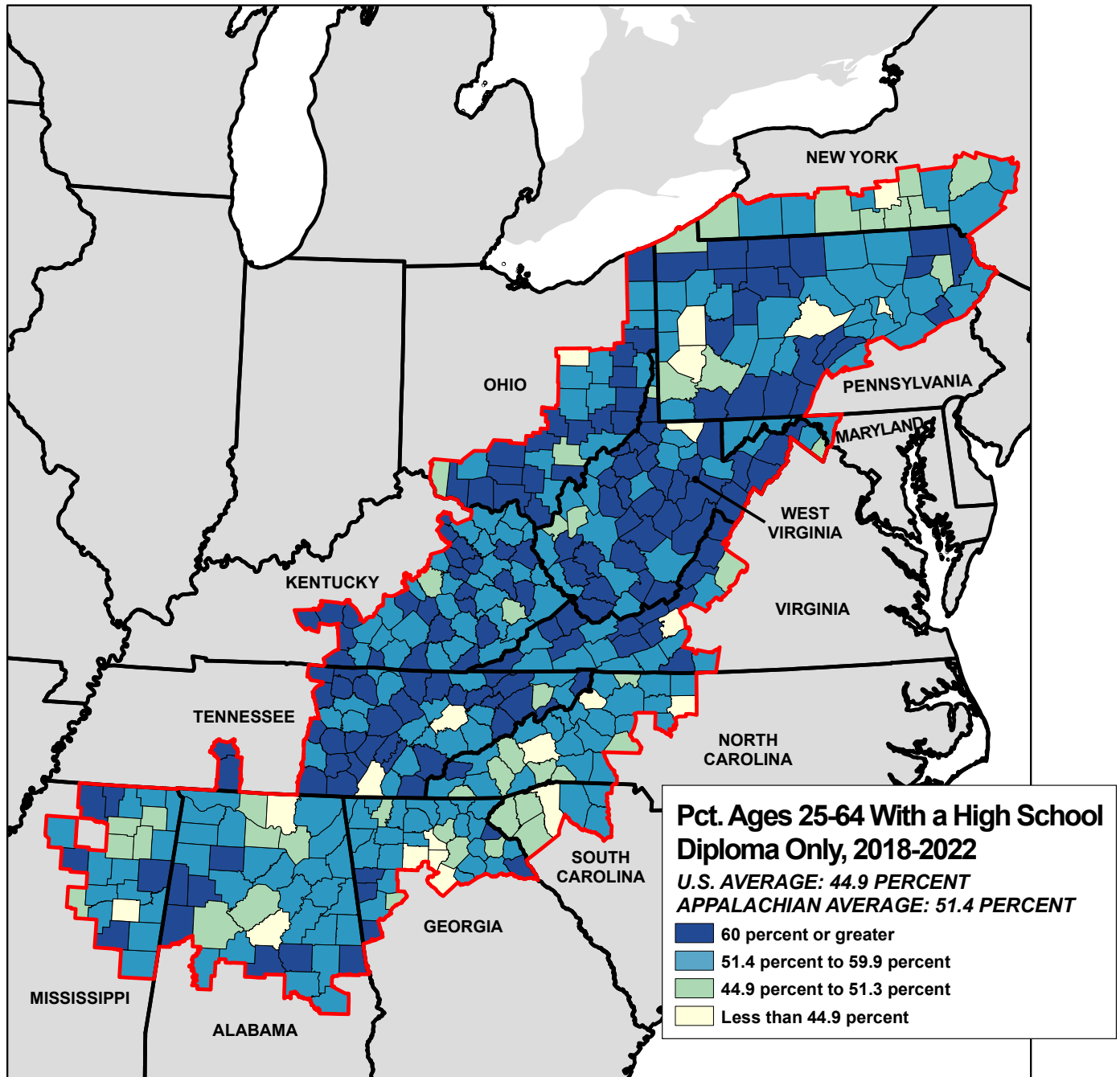


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma or More, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

In 2018-2022, the percentage of working-age adults (ages 25 to 64) in the Appalachian Region with at least a high school diploma was almost equal to the national average of 89.9 percent, and the share matched or exceeded the national rate in 151 counties. Over half of these counties were in metropolitan areas and two-thirds were located in Northern and North Central Appalachia. In the Appalachian portions of Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and all of West Virginia the share of adults in this age group who had completed high school was at least 90 percent. At the other end of the spectrum, less than 80 percent of working-age adults had finished high school in 26 Appalachian counties. More than half of these counties were in Central Appalachia or were among rural counties, with the heaviest concentration (12 counties) in Appalachian Kentucky.

Figure 5.6: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma but With No Postsecondary Degree, 2018-2022

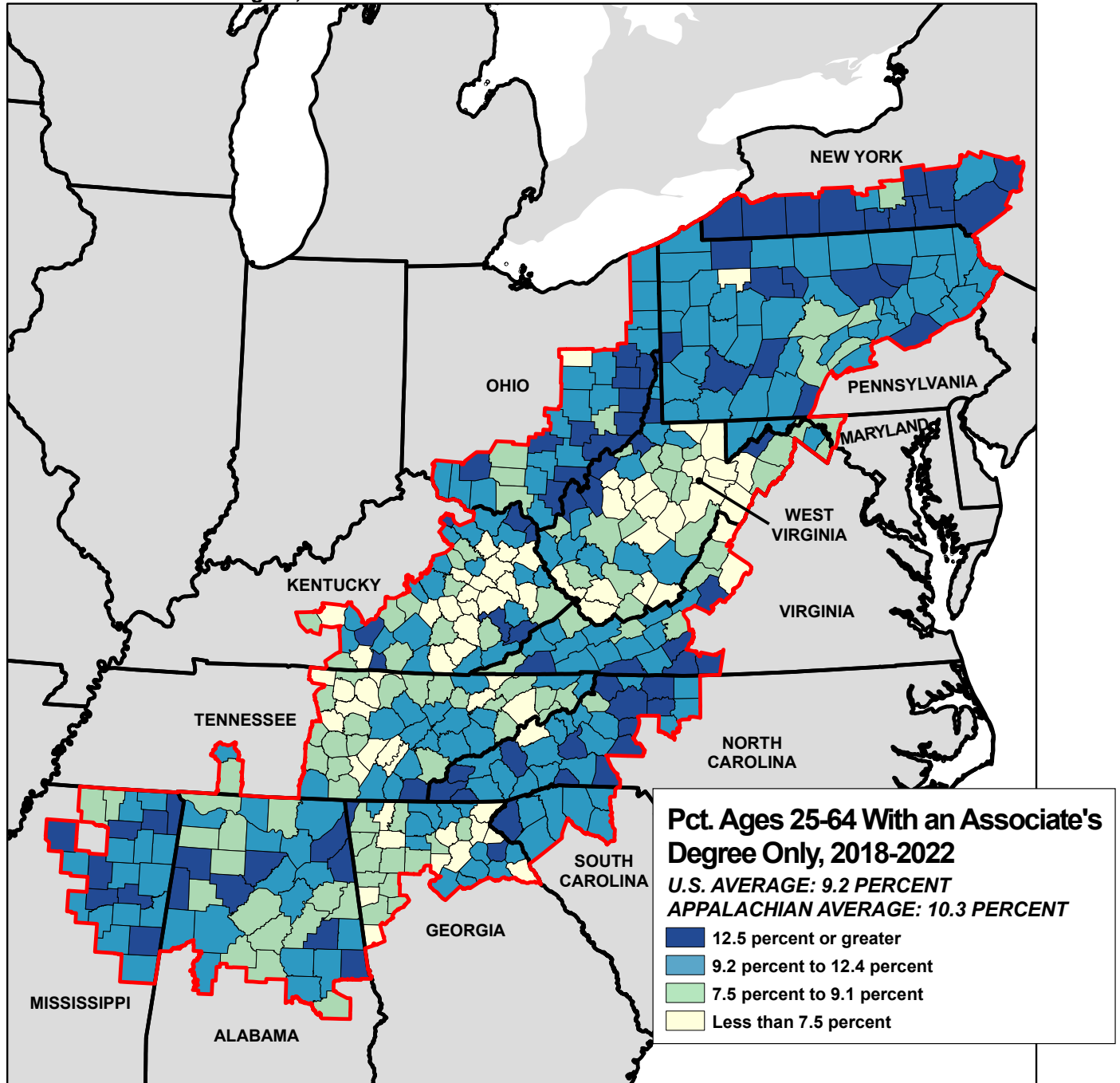


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma but With No Postsecondary Degree, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

In 2018-2022, 51.4 percent of working-age adults (ages 25 to 64) in the Appalachian Region had a high school diploma but no postsecondary degree, compared to just 44.9 percent nationally. The share of adults in this age group was at least 60 percent in 157 of Appalachia's 423 counties, with concentrations in Appalachian Tennessee and West Virginia. And in the Region's non-metropolitan counties, the share with a high school diploma only exceeded 56 percent. In contrast, there were 21 counties in the Region where the share of 25-to-64-year-old adults who had a high school diploma, but no secondary degree, was below the national average. Two-thirds of the latter counties were located in South Central and Southern Appalachia, and most were located in metropolitan areas. Many working-age adults with this level of attainment may still have continued their education after high school, either by attending college without graduating or by acquiring vocational training.

Figure 5.7: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region With an Associate's Degree but Without a Bachelor's Degree, 2018-2022

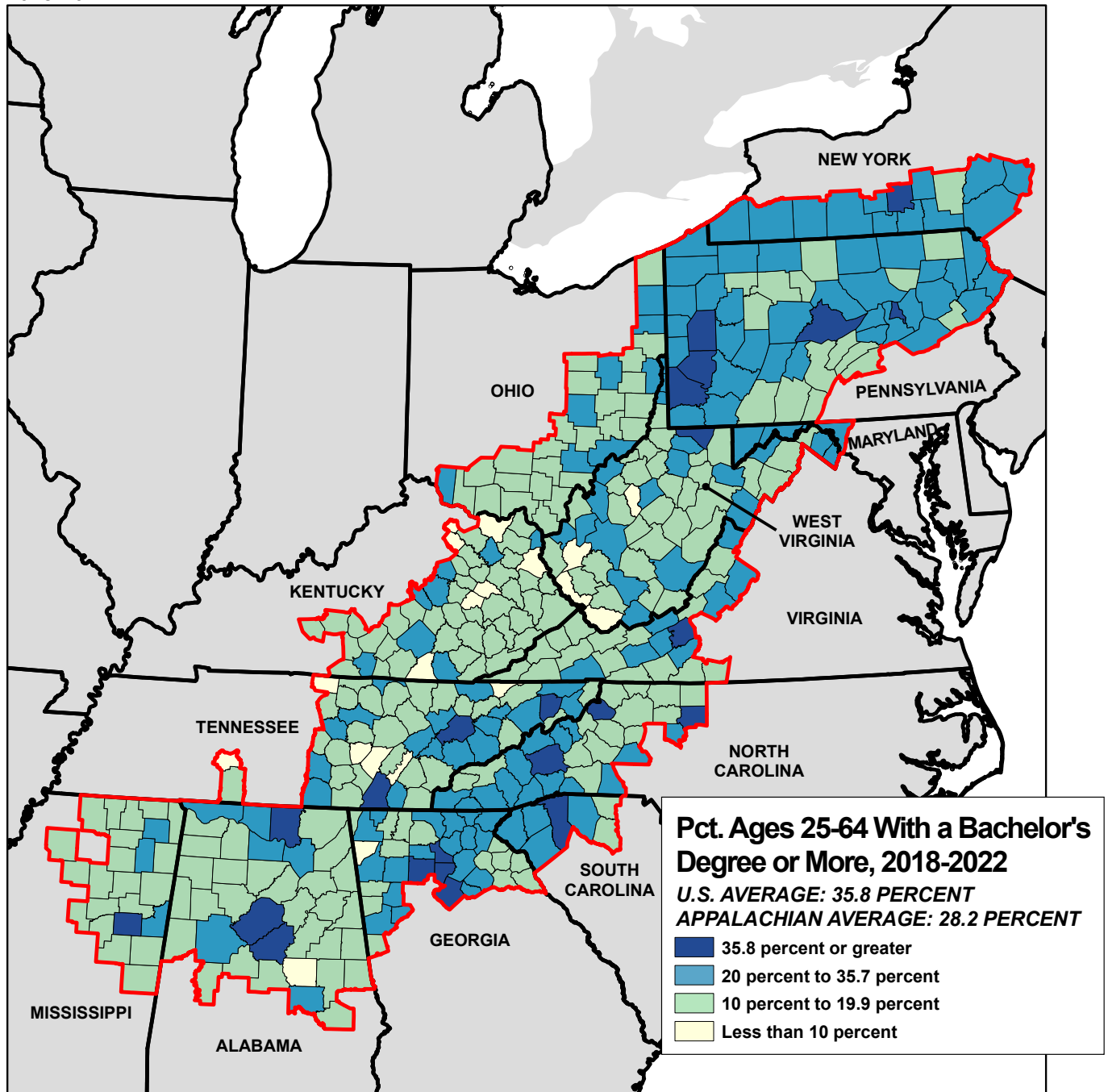


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region With an Associate's Degree but Without a Bachelor's Degree, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

In 2018-2022, 10.3 percent of working-age adults (ages 25 to 64) in Appalachia had attained an associate's degree but not a bachelor's degree, compared with 9.2 percent nationally. And the share was even higher in much of the Region: In 85 Appalachian counties, at least one in eight working-age adults had an associate's degree as their highest level of education. In the Appalachian sections of Pennsylvania, North Carolina, New York, and Mississippi the share exceeded 11 percent. On the other hand, there were 66 counties in the Region where less than 7.5 percent of 25-to-64-year-olds had attained an associate's degree only. All but five of the counties in the latter group were in four states—Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia.

Figure 5.8: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2018-2022

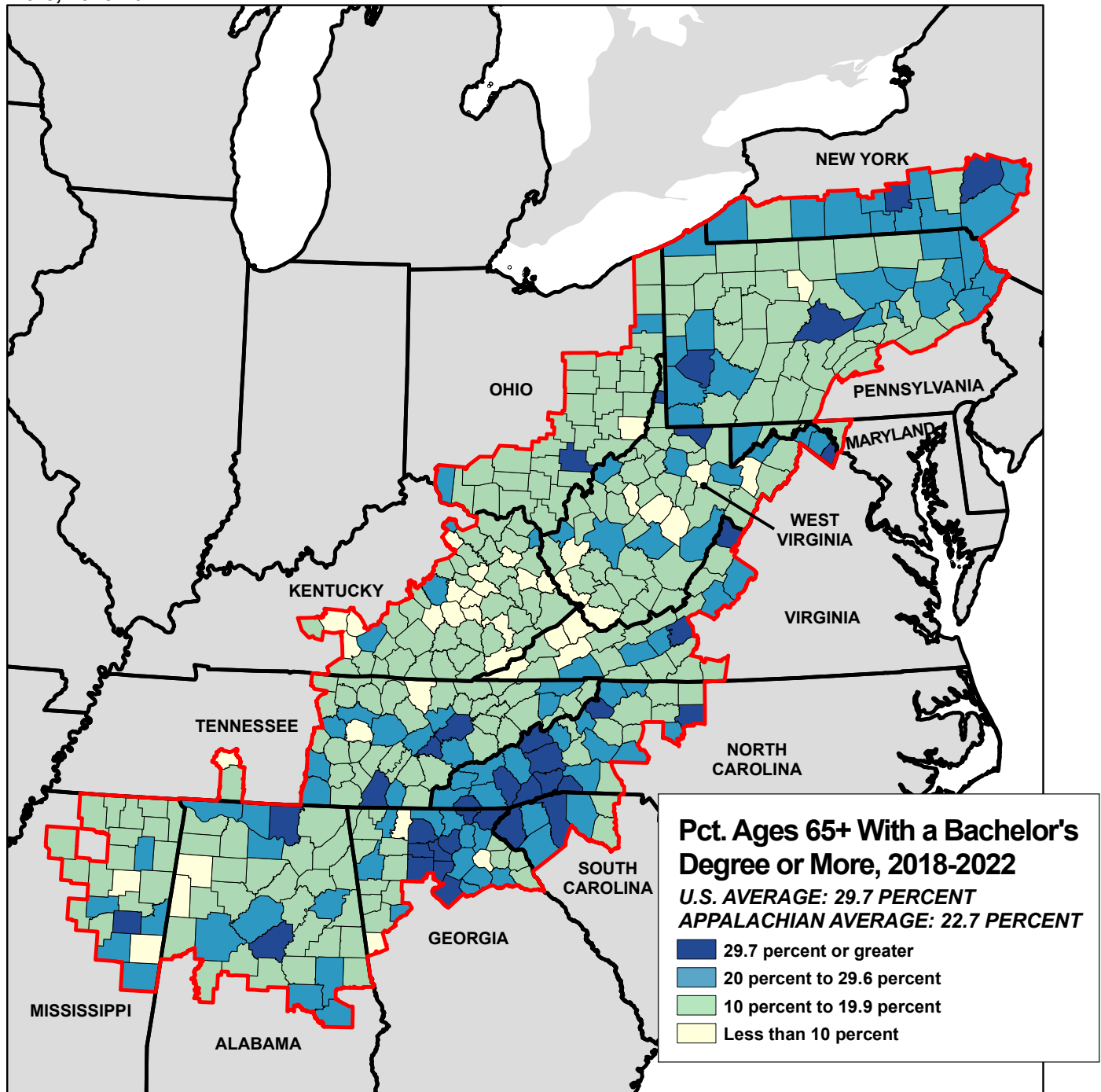


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

The share of 25-to-64-year-old adults in the Appalachian Region who had attained a bachelor's degree or more in 2018-2022 was 7.6 percentage points lower than the U.S. average of 35.8 percent – highlighting a striking gap in educational attainment between the Region and the rest of the nation. And in some portions of Appalachia, this gap was even more profound – in Central Appalachia just one in six adults in this age group had at least a bachelor's degree and in non-metropolitan counties throughout the Region about one in every five 25-to-64-year-olds had this level of education. Yet, in Appalachia's large metropolitan areas the share actually exceeded the national average. Scattered throughout the Region, the share who had attained at least a bachelor's degree matched or exceeded the national average in 23 counties. Of these counties, all but two were metropolitan counties and more than half were homes to colleges or universities.

Figure 5.9: Percent of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2018-2022



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2018-2022
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

The share of older Americans in Appalachia (those ages 65 and over) who attained a bachelor's degree or higher was seven percentage points lower than the national average for their age group in 2018-2022. In 40 of the Region's 423 counties, less than one in ten older adults had completed at least a bachelor's degree. And in North Central and Central Appalachia, non-metro counties throughout the Region, West Virginia and the Appalachian sections of Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, Ohio, and Virginia less than one in five older adults had a bachelor's degree or more. Of these 40 counties, just three were in metropolitan areas. In contrast, in 36 of the Region's counties, the share of older adults who had a bachelor's degree or higher matched or exceeded the national average of 29.7 percent. These latter counties were primarily in metropolitan areas. Further, nearly half of these counties had a college or university – such as Buncombe County, North Carolina, home to University of North Carolina Asheville.

Table 5.4: Percentage Point Change in Educational Attainment of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Education (Highest Level Attained)	Percentage Point Change in Share 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 or More		
				Total	Associate's Degree	Bachelor's Degree or More
United States	- 1.8	+ 1.8	- 2.0	+ 3.9	+ 0.4	+ 3.4
Appalachian Region	- 2.3	+ 2.3	- 1.4	+ 3.8	+ 0.7	+ 3.0
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	- 1.5	+ 1.5	- 2.1	+ 3.6	+ 0.8	+ 2.8
North Central Appalachia	- 2.3	+ 2.3	- 1.0	+ 3.2	+ 0.7	+ 2.5
Central Appalachia	- 4.1	+ 4.1	+ 0.9	+ 3.2	+ 1.2	+ 2.0
South Central Appalachia	- 2.9	+ 2.9	- 0.9	+ 3.8	+ 0.8	+ 3.0
Southern Appalachia	- 2.6	+ 2.6	- 1.5	+ 4.1	+ 0.6	+ 3.5
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	- 1.6	+ 1.6	- 2.5	+ 4.0	+ 0.5	+ 3.4
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	- 2.2	+ 2.2	- 1.6	+ 3.9	+ 0.8	+ 3.0
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 2.4	+ 2.4	- 1.2	+ 3.5	+ 0.9	+ 2.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	- 3.0	+ 3.0	- 0.1	+ 3.1	+ 1.0	+ 2.1
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 3.5	+ 3.5	+ 0.7	+ 2.9	+ 0.8	+ 2.0
Alabama	- 2.4	+ 2.4	- 1.0	+ 3.4	+ 0.7	+ 2.7
Appalachian Alabama	- 2.4	+ 2.4	- 1.3	+ 3.7	+ 0.7	+ 3.0
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 2.4	+ 2.4	- 0.6	+ 3.0	+ 0.9	+ 2.1
Georgia	- 2.4	+ 2.4	- 2.0	+ 4.5	+ 0.8	+ 3.7
Appalachian Georgia	- 2.4	+ 2.4	- 1.8	+ 4.2	+ 0.4	+ 3.7
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 2.5	+ 2.5	- 2.2	+ 4.7	+ 0.9	+ 3.8
Kentucky	- 3.0	+ 3.0	- 1.1	+ 4.1	+ 0.8	+ 3.3
Appalachian Kentucky	- 4.1	+ 4.1	+ 1.1	+ 3.0	+ 1.3	+ 1.8
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 2.5	+ 2.5	- 1.9	+ 4.4	+ 0.7	+ 3.7
Maryland	- 1.2	+ 1.2	- 2.4	+ 3.6	+ 0.4	+ 3.2
Appalachian Maryland	- 1.4	+ 1.4	- 1.3	+ 2.6	+ 0.3	+ 2.3
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 1.2	+ 1.2	- 2.4	+ 3.6	+ 0.4	+ 3.3
Mississippi	- 2.8	+ 2.8	- 1.3	+ 4.1	+ 1.5	+ 2.6
Appalachian Mississippi	- 3.4	+ 3.4	- 0.3	+ 3.6	+ 1.5	+ 2.1
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 2.7	+ 2.7	- 1.5	+ 4.2	+ 1.5	+ 2.7
New York	- 1.5	+ 1.5	- 2.2	+ 3.6	+ 0.1	+ 3.5
Appalachian New York	- 1.0	+ 1.0	- 1.8	+ 2.9	+ 0.4	+ 2.5
Non-Appalachian New York	- 1.5	+ 1.5	- 2.2	+ 3.7	+ 0.1	+ 3.5
North Carolina	- 2.5	+ 2.5	- 2.3	+ 4.8	+ 0.7	+ 4.0
Appalachian North Carolina	- 2.8	+ 2.8	- 1.0	+ 3.9	+ 0.8	+ 3.0
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 2.4	+ 2.4	- 2.6	+ 5.1	+ 0.8	+ 4.2
Ohio	- 1.6	+ 1.6	- 1.8	+ 3.4	+ 0.3	+ 3.2
Appalachian Ohio	- 1.7	+ 1.7	- 1.2	+ 2.9	+ 0.6	+ 2.4
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 1.6	+ 1.6	- 1.9	+ 3.5	+ 0.2	+ 3.2
Pennsylvania	- 1.8	+ 1.8	- 2.5	+ 4.4	+ 0.6	+ 3.7
Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 1.6	+ 1.6	- 2.2	+ 3.8	+ 0.9	+ 2.8
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 1.9	+ 1.9	- 2.7	+ 4.7	+ 0.5	+ 4.2
South Carolina	- 2.8	+ 2.8	- 1.6	+ 4.4	+ 0.8	+ 3.6
Appalachian South Carolina	- 2.9	+ 2.9	- 1.6	+ 4.6	+ 0.3	+ 4.3
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 2.7	+ 2.7	- 1.6	+ 4.4	+ 0.9	+ 3.4
Tennessee	- 2.8	+ 2.8	- 1.6	+ 4.4	+ 0.7	+ 3.6
Appalachian Tennessee	- 3.0	+ 3.0	- 1.0	+ 4.0	+ 1.0	+ 3.0
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 2.5	+ 2.5	- 2.1	+ 4.7	+ 0.5	+ 4.0
Virginia	- 2.1	+ 2.1	- 1.6	+ 3.7	+ 0.3	+ 3.4
Appalachian Virginia	- 4.0	+ 4.0	+ 1.4	+ 2.6	+ 0.8	+ 1.8
Non-Appalachian Virginia	- 1.9	+ 1.9	- 1.8	+ 3.7	+ 0.2	+ 3.5
West Virginia (entire state)	- 2.5	+ 2.5	- 1.4	+ 3.9	+ 1.1	+ 2.8

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Table 5.5: Percentage Point Change in Educational Attainment of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Education (Highest Level Attained)	Percentage Point Change in Share of Population Ages 25 to 64					
	Less than High School Diploma	High School Diploma or More				
		Total	H.S. Grad, No Postsecondary Degree	Associate's Degree or More		
				Total	Associate's Degree	Bachelor's Degree or More
United States	- 1.3	+ 1.3	- 2.3	+ 3.6	+ 0.2	+ 3.5
Appalachian Region	- 1.4	+ 1.4	- 2.1	+ 3.4	+ 0.6	+ 2.9
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	- 0.5	+ 0.5	- 2.8	+ 3.2	+ 0.5	+ 2.7
North Central Appalachia	- 1.1	+ 1.1	- 1.8	+ 2.8	+ 0.7	+ 2.3
Central Appalachia	- 2.4	+ 2.4	- 0.6	+ 3.0	+ 1.3	+ 1.9
South Central Appalachia	- 1.8	+ 1.8	- 1.5	+ 3.3	+ 0.6	+ 2.7
Southern Appalachia	- 1.9	+ 1.9	- 2.1	+ 3.8	+ 0.5	+ 3.5
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	- 0.9	+ 0.9	- 3.0	+ 3.8	+ 0.2	+ 3.6
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	- 1.2	+ 1.2	- 2.2	+ 3.4	+ 0.5	+ 2.8
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 1.1	+ 1.1	- 2.0	+ 3.1	+ 0.6	+ 2.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	- 1.8	+ 1.8	- 0.9	+ 2.7	+ 0.8	+ 1.9
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 2.3	+ 2.3	- 0.5	+ 2.8	+ 0.8	+ 2.0
Alabama	- 1.6	+ 1.6	- 1.6	+ 3.2	+ 0.7	+ 2.5
Appalachian Alabama	- 1.6	+ 1.6	- 1.8	+ 3.4	+ 0.5	+ 2.9
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 1.6	+ 1.6	- 1.2	+ 2.9	+ 0.8	+ 2.0
Georgia	- 1.9	+ 1.9	- 2.6	+ 4.5	+ 0.6	+ 3.8
Appalachian Georgia	- 1.8	+ 1.8	- 2.3	+ 4.0	+ 0.3	+ 3.9
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 2.1	+ 2.1	- 2.7	+ 4.8	+ 0.9	+ 3.9
Kentucky	- 1.7	+ 1.7	- 2.2	+ 4.0	+ 0.7	+ 3.3
Appalachian Kentucky	- 2.7	+ 2.7	- 0.2	+ 3.0	+ 1.2	+ 1.7
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 1.4	+ 1.4	- 2.9	+ 4.3	+ 0.6	+ 3.7
Maryland	- 0.7	+ 0.7	- 2.7	+ 3.3	+ 0.2	+ 3.2
Appalachian Maryland	- 0.6	+ 0.6	- 1.8	+ 2.4	+ 0.1	+ 2.3
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 0.7	+ 0.7	- 2.6	+ 3.4	+ 0.3	+ 3.2
Mississippi	- 2.2	+ 2.2	- 2.2	+ 4.3	+ 1.6	+ 2.6
Appalachian Mississippi	- 2.9	+ 2.9	- 0.8	+ 3.8	+ 1.6	+ 2.2
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 2.0	+ 2.0	- 2.5	+ 4.5	+ 1.7	+ 2.8
New York	- 1.1	+ 1.1	- 2.5	+ 3.5	- 0.2	+ 3.7
Appalachian New York	+ 0.0	+ 0.0	- 2.5	+ 2.5	- 0.1	+ 2.6
Non-Appalachian New York	- 1.0	+ 1.0	- 2.5	+ 3.6	- 0.2	+ 3.7
North Carolina	- 1.7	+ 1.7	- 2.7	+ 4.4	+ 0.4	+ 4.0
Appalachian North Carolina	- 1.8	+ 1.8	- 1.3	+ 3.0	+ 0.4	+ 2.6
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 1.7	+ 1.7	- 3.0	+ 4.8	+ 0.5	+ 4.3
Ohio	- 0.9	+ 0.9	- 2.3	+ 3.2	+ 0.0	+ 3.2
Appalachian Ohio	- 0.7	+ 0.7	- 1.9	+ 2.6	+ 0.3	+ 2.4
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 0.9	+ 0.9	- 2.3	+ 3.2	- 0.1	+ 3.2
Pennsylvania	- 0.9	+ 0.9	- 3.2	+ 4.1	+ 0.4	+ 3.7
Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 0.6	+ 0.6	- 2.9	+ 3.4	+ 0.6	+ 2.8
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 1.3	+ 1.3	- 3.4	+ 4.5	+ 0.3	+ 4.3
South Carolina	- 2.1	+ 2.1	- 2.1	+ 4.3	+ 0.6	+ 3.7
Appalachian South Carolina	- 2.2	+ 2.2	- 2.3	+ 4.4	+ 0.1	+ 4.3
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 2.1	+ 2.1	- 2.1	+ 4.2	+ 0.7	+ 3.4
Tennessee	- 1.8	+ 1.8	- 2.5	+ 4.3	+ 0.5	+ 3.7
Appalachian Tennessee	- 1.8	+ 1.8	- 2.0	+ 3.8	+ 0.8	+ 2.9
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 1.7	+ 1.7	- 2.8	+ 4.5	+ 0.2	+ 4.3
Virginia	- 1.5	+ 1.5	- 2.2	+ 3.6	+ 0.2	+ 3.5
Appalachian Virginia	- 2.8	+ 2.8	+ 0.7	+ 2.1	+ 0.8	+ 1.3
Non-Appalachian Virginia	- 1.3	+ 1.3	- 2.3	+ 3.7	+ 0.1	+ 3.5
West Virginia (entire state)	- 1.2	+ 1.2	- 2.4	+ 3.5	+ 1.0	+ 2.5

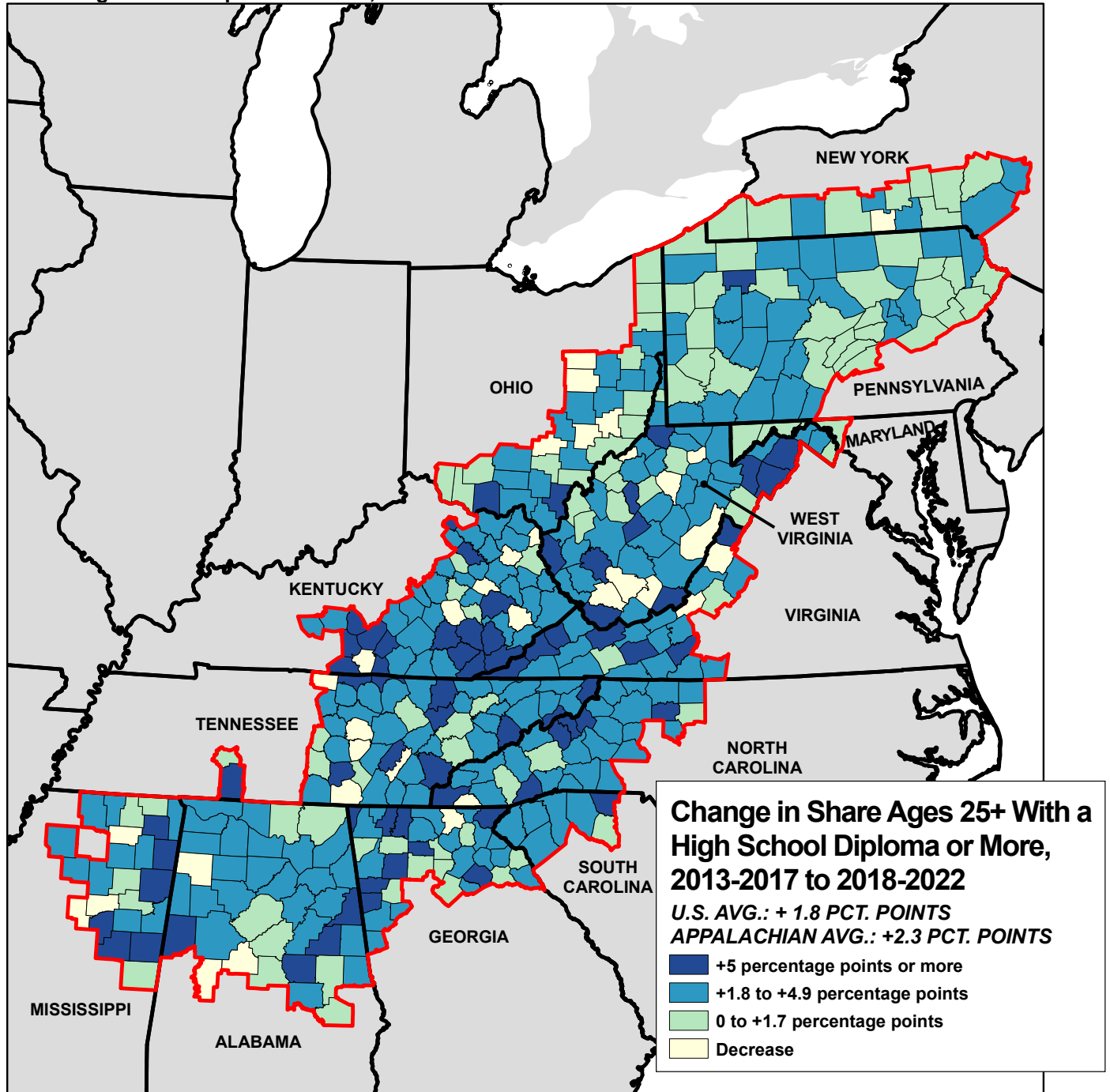
Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Table 5.6: Percentage Point Change in Educational Attainment of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Education (Highest Level Attained)	Percentage Point Change in Share 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 or More		
				Total	Associate's Degree	Bachelor's Degree or More
United States	- 4.0	+ 4.0	- 1.3	+ 5.3	+ 1.5	+ 3.8
Appalachian Region	- 5.8	+ 5.8	+ 0.2	+ 5.5	+ 1.8	+ 3.7
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	- 4.5	+ 4.5	- 1.3	+ 5.7	+ 2.0	+ 3.7
North Central Appalachia	- 6.2	+ 6.2	+ 1.1	+ 5.2	+ 1.4	+ 3.8
Central Appalachia	- 10.1	+ 10.1	+ 5.9	+ 4.2	+ 1.6	+ 2.5
South Central Appalachia	- 6.3	+ 6.3	+ 0.8	+ 5.5	+ 1.7	+ 3.8
Southern Appalachia	- 5.5	+ 5.5	+ 0.0	+ 5.5	+ 1.5	+ 3.9
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	- 4.4	+ 4.4	- 1.5	+ 5.9	+ 1.9	+ 4.2
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	- 5.4	+ 5.4	- 0.4	+ 5.8	+ 1.7	+ 4.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 6.2	+ 6.2	+ 0.6	+ 5.5	+ 1.8	+ 3.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	- 6.5	+ 6.5	+ 1.8	+ 4.6	+ 1.8	+ 3.0
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 7.4	+ 7.4	+ 3.7	+ 3.8	+ 1.4	+ 2.5
Alabama	- 5.5	+ 5.5	+ 0.4	+ 5.1	+ 1.6	+ 3.5
Appalachian Alabama	- 5.3	+ 5.3	- 0.2	+ 5.5	+ 1.6	+ 3.9
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 5.5	+ 5.5	+ 1.4	+ 4.2	+ 1.4	+ 2.8
Georgia	- 5.0	+ 5.0	- 0.5	+ 5.4	+ 1.6	+ 3.7
Appalachian Georgia	- 5.3	+ 5.3	- 0.2	+ 5.5	+ 1.5	+ 4.1
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 4.9	+ 4.9	- 0.6	+ 5.4	+ 1.8	+ 3.6
Kentucky	- 7.5	+ 7.5	+ 2.2	+ 5.3	+ 1.5	+ 3.8
Appalachian Kentucky	- 9.4	+ 9.4	+ 5.4	+ 4.0	+ 1.8	+ 2.3
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 6.5	+ 6.5	+ 0.9	+ 5.6	+ 1.4	+ 4.3
Maryland	- 3.4	+ 3.4	- 1.9	+ 5.3	+ 1.0	+ 4.4
Appalachian Maryland	- 3.7	+ 3.7	- 0.4	+ 4.0	+ 1.2	+ 2.8
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 3.4	+ 3.4	- 2.0	+ 5.3	+ 1.0	+ 4.4
Mississippi	- 5.9	+ 5.9	+ 1.8	+ 4.1	+ 1.6	+ 2.5
Appalachian Mississippi	- 5.6	+ 5.6	+ 1.6	+ 3.9	+ 1.8	+ 2.2
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 6.0	+ 6.0	+ 1.8	+ 4.2	+ 1.6	+ 2.5
New York	- 3.7	+ 3.7	- 1.8	+ 5.5	+ 1.5	+ 4.0
Appalachian New York	- 3.9	+ 3.9	- 0.8	+ 4.6	+ 2.1	+ 2.6
Non-Appalachian New York	- 3.6	+ 3.6	- 1.9	+ 5.5	+ 1.5	+ 4.0
North Carolina	- 5.5	+ 5.5	- 1.3	+ 6.8	+ 2.2	+ 4.5
Appalachian North Carolina	- 6.0	+ 6.0	- 0.2	+ 6.2	+ 2.2	+ 4.0
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 5.4	+ 5.4	- 1.6	+ 6.9	+ 2.2	+ 4.7
Ohio	- 4.4	+ 4.4	- 1.0	+ 5.4	+ 1.6	+ 3.8
Appalachian Ohio	- 4.7	+ 4.7	+ 0.0	+ 4.7	+ 1.7	+ 3.0
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 4.3	+ 4.3	- 1.2	+ 5.5	+ 1.6	+ 3.9
Pennsylvania	- 4.8	+ 4.8	- 1.5	+ 6.3	+ 1.7	+ 4.5
Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 4.8	+ 4.8	- 1.4	+ 6.1	+ 2.1	+ 4.0
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 4.9	+ 4.9	- 1.4	+ 6.3	+ 1.4	+ 4.9
South Carolina	- 5.3	+ 5.3	- 0.1	+ 5.5	+ 1.7	+ 3.8
Appalachian South Carolina	- 6.0	+ 6.0	+ 0.2	+ 5.7	+ 1.3	+ 4.4
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 5.1	+ 5.1	- 0.3	+ 5.4	+ 1.7	+ 3.6
Tennessee	- 6.6	+ 6.6	+ 1.0	+ 5.6	+ 1.7	+ 3.9
Appalachian Tennessee	- 6.9	+ 6.9	+ 1.7	+ 5.0	+ 1.4	+ 3.7
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 6.3	+ 6.3	+ 0.2	+ 6.0	+ 1.9	+ 4.1
Virginia	- 5.3	+ 5.3	+ 0.0	+ 5.1	+ 0.8	+ 4.3
Appalachian Virginia	- 8.2	+ 8.2	+ 3.6	+ 4.6	+ 1.1	+ 3.5
Non-Appalachian Virginia	- 4.7	+ 4.7	- 0.3	+ 5.1	+ 0.8	+ 4.2
West Virginia (entire state)	- 6.9	+ 6.9	+ 1.4	+ 5.5	+ 1.5	+ 4.1

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Figure 5.10: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma or More, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

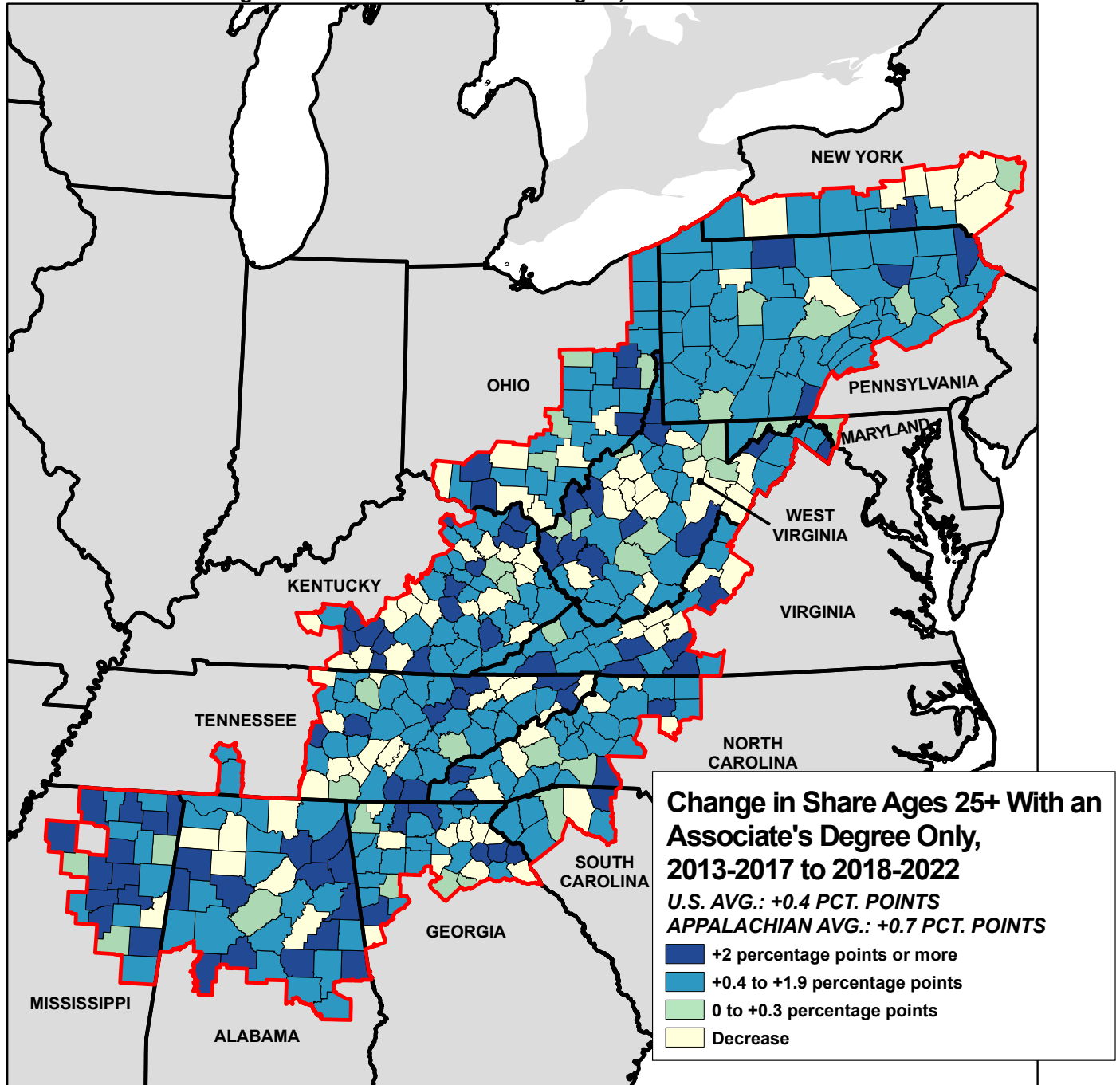


Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a High School Diploma or More, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

The Appalachian Region made gains in educational attainment between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022, with an increase of 2.3 percentage points of adults with a high school diploma – a higher rise than the U.S. had during this time. This rise continues a longstanding trend, and the increase was even more pronounced in some parts of the Region – in 180 of the Region’s 423 counties the share of adults with at least a high school degree rose by at least three percentage points and in 72 of these counties the share rose by at least five percentage points. The highest concentrations of these counties were in Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia. And the Appalachian portions of Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Virginia had pronounced increases of at least three percentage points.

Figure 5.11: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With an Associate's Degree but Without a Bachelor's Degree, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

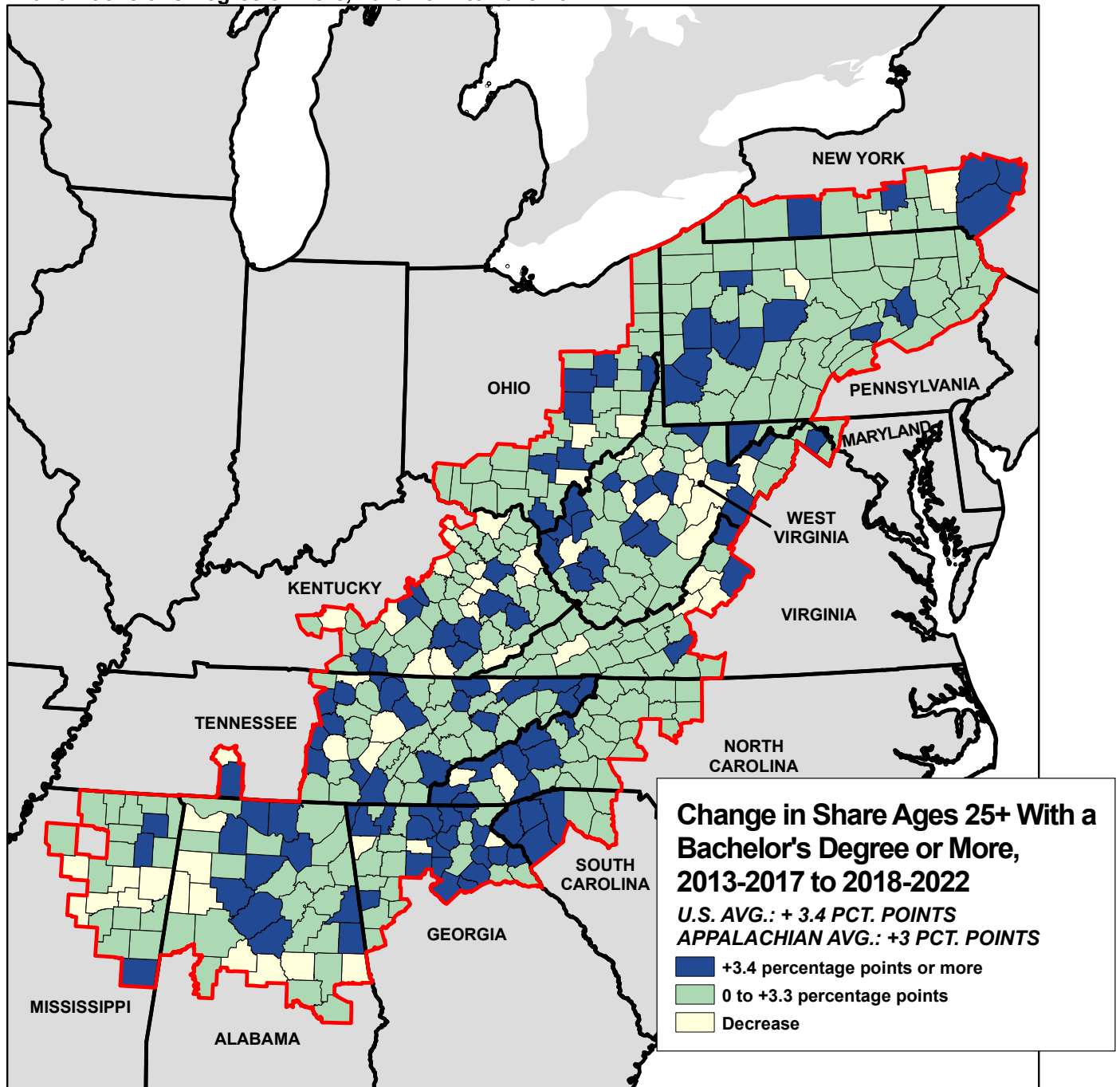


Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With an Associate's Degree but Without a Bachelor's Degree, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

The share of adults ages 25 and older in the Appalachian Region whose highest level of education was an associate's degree rose by 0.7 percentage points from 2013-2017 to 2018-2022, slightly more than the increase of 0.4 percentage points seen at the national level. And in 231 of the Region's 423 counties, the increase was even greater than the regional average – half of which were small metropolitan counties and those adjacent to them – while in 86 counties, the share rose by at least two percentage points. Conversely, in 87 counties the share decreased; however, of these counties 73 also had an increase in the attainment of a bachelor's degree or more.

Figure 5.12: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

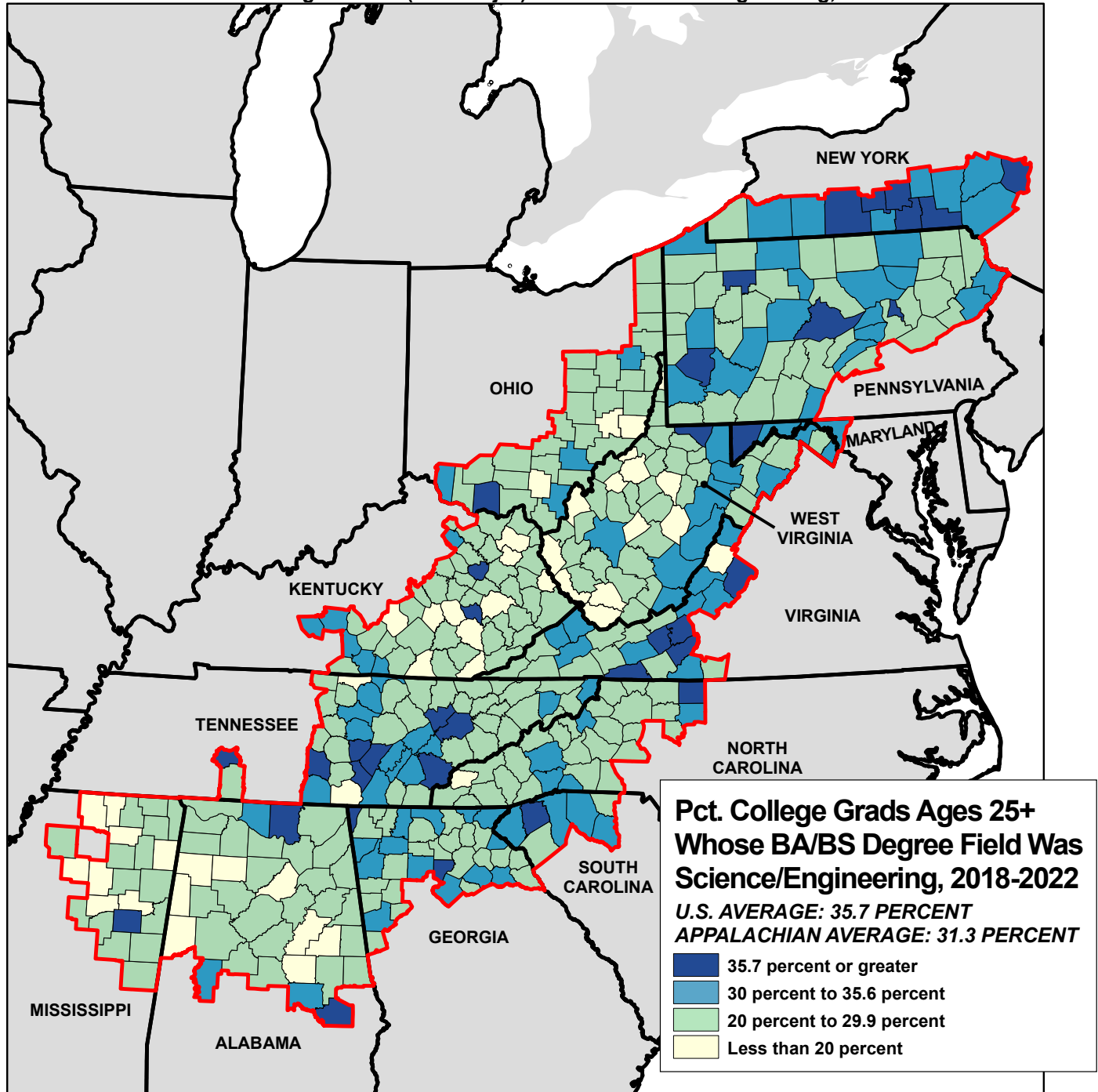
Although the percentage of Appalachian adults ages 25 and over with at least a bachelor's degree is considerably lower than the national average, that share has been increasing at a comparable pace to the nation. In Appalachia the share with a bachelor's degree was three percentage points higher in 2018-2022 than it was in 2013-2017, suggesting a continued trend toward greater educational attainment in the Region. And in 115 of the Region's 423 counties – scattered throughout Appalachia – the share of adults 25 and over with a bachelor's degree or more increased at least as much as the national average of 3.4 percent. Yet not all counties in the Region saw a rise in attainment of bachelor's degrees and higher – in 61 counties the share with this level of education declined and most of these counties were in non-metropolitan areas.

Table 5.7: Bachelor's Degree Field (First Major) for Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2018-2022

Bachelor's Degree Field (First Major)	Total Population Ages 25 and Over With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2018-2022	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	77,751,347	35.7	9.8	20.2	11.4	22.9
Appalachian Region	4,878,645	31.3	11.4	20.0	16.2	21.1
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	1,593,983	32.3	11.8	17.9	16.5	21.5
North Central Appalachia	398,640	28.8	13.1	18.1	19.4	20.7
Central Appalachia	205,820	26.7	13.3	16.2	23.9	20.0
South Central Appalachia	997,394	31.7	11.2	18.9	15.1	23.2
Southern Appalachia	1,682,808	31.3	10.6	23.5	15.0	19.7
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	1,517,030	32.9	10.6	23.0	12.8	20.8
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	2,195,219	32.2	11.5	19.2	15.4	21.6
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	320,729	27.6	12.0	18.0	22.0	20.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	528,193	28.1	12.4	17.3	21.4	20.8
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	317,474	26.3	12.4	17.2	23.5	20.5
Alabama	932,845	29.7	10.9	23.3	15.8	20.3
Appalachian Alabama	623,074	30.3	11.0	23.5	15.3	19.9
Non-Appalachian Alabama	309,771	28.6	10.8	23.0	16.6	21.1
Georgia	2,407,707	33.1	9.4	23.8	11.9	21.8
Appalachian Georgia	693,849	32.6	10.1	24.8	13.6	18.9
Non-Appalachian Georgia	1,713,858	33.3	9.2	23.4	11.2	22.9
Kentucky	811,939	29.7	11.8	19.4	15.6	23.5
Appalachian Kentucky	133,161	25.2	13.5	15.5	24.2	21.6
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	678,778	30.5	11.5	20.2	13.9	23.9
Maryland	1,798,746	41.6	8.8	18.0	8.9	22.6
Appalachian Maryland	40,132	34.3	10.3	15.6	17.0	22.8
Non-Appalachian Maryland	1,758,614	41.8	8.8	18.1	8.8	22.6
Mississippi	470,071	26.4	13.0	21.5	19.8	19.4
Appalachian Mississippi	82,776	24.6	11.8	19.9	25.2	18.4
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	387,295	26.7	13.2	21.8	18.7	19.6
New York	5,439,415	35.1	9.2	18.5	10.4	26.9
Appalachian New York	199,420	37.2	9.6	12.3	17.1	23.8
Non-Appalachian New York	5,239,995	35.0	9.2	18.7	10.1	27.0
North Carolina	2,428,890	34.5	9.6	20.5	12.0	23.4
Appalachian North Carolina	411,179	30.5	10.9	17.9	15.3	25.5
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	2,017,711	35.3	9.4	21.0	11.4	23.0
Ohio	2,459,325	31.1	11.8	21.3	14.9	21.0
Appalachian Ohio	276,213	26.2	13.7	19.1	21.0	20.0
Non-Appalachian Ohio	2,183,112	31.7	11.5	21.5	14.1	21.1
Pennsylvania	3,081,318	33.9	10.8	19.6	13.6	22.2
Appalachian Pennsylvania	1,203,546	32.4	11.9	18.6	15.7	21.4
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	1,877,772	34.9	10.1	20.2	12.2	22.7
South Carolina	1,088,770	32.2	10.1	22.6	14.1	21.0
Appalachian South Carolina	283,109	32.2	10.5	21.4	14.4	21.5
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	805,661	32.2	9.9	23.0	14.0	20.8
Tennessee	1,413,670	30.5	10.9	22.3	13.1	23.3
Appalachian Tennessee	529,326	31.9	11.6	20.1	15.3	21.0
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	884,344	29.6	10.4	23.6	11.8	24.6
Virginia	2,424,822	40.6	7.9	18.7	8.9	23.9
Appalachian Virginia	114,081	34.5	10.7	15.9	16.1	22.9
Non-Appalachian Virginia	2,310,741	40.9	7.8	18.8	8.6	23.9
West Virginia (entire state)	288,779	28.7	13.6	17.8	19.8	20.2

Note: Examples of "Science- and Engineering-Related Fields" include nursing, architecture, and mathematics teacher education.
Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Figure 5.13: 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, 2018-2022



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, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Among the nearly 4.9 million adults in Appalachia with a bachelor's degree or more, just over 31 percent held a science or engineering degree (including majors in computers, mathematics, and statistics; biological, agricultural, and environmental sciences; physical and related science; psychology; social sciences and engineering). Yet, in 35 counties, the share of BA/BS holders with a degree in this field matched or exceeded the national average of 35.7 percent – 11 of which were home to a college or university, including major research universities such as Virginia Tech and Penn State. In contrast, in 45 counties in the Region less than one-fifth of adult college graduates had a science and engineering degree - more than half of which were in the Region's rural areas.

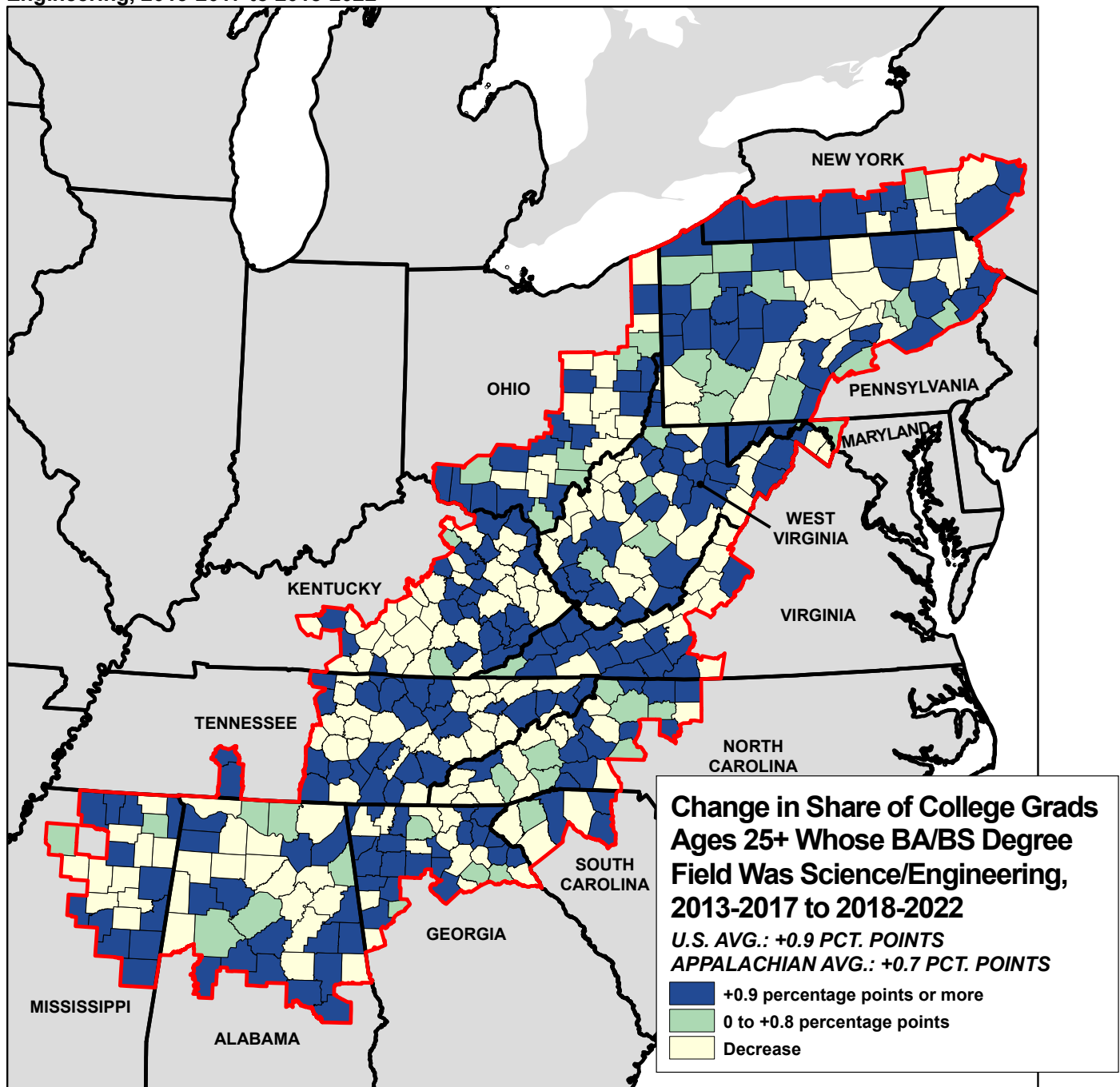
Table 5.8: Percentage Point Change in Bachelor's Degree Field (First Major) for Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Bachelor's Degree Field (First Major)	Percentage Point Change in Share 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	+ 0.9	+ 0.5	- 0.2	- 1.3	+ 0.2
Appalachian Region	+ 0.7	+ 0.5	- 0.2	- 1.6	+ 0.6
Subregions					
Northern Appalachia	+ 0.6	+ 0.6	- 0.4	- 1.8	+ 1.0
North Central Appalachia	+ 0.5	+ 0.3	- 0.7	- 1.2	+ 1.3
Central Appalachia	+ 0.6	- 0.1	+ 0.4	- 2.2	+ 1.5
South Central Appalachia	+ 0.2	+ 0.5	- 0.1	- 1.1	+ 0.6
Southern Appalachia	+ 1.1	+ 0.8	- 0.3	- 1.6	+ 0.0
County Types					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	+ 1.3	+ 0.6	- 0.7	- 1.5	+ 0.5
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	+ 0.3	+ 0.6	- 0.2	- 1.4	+ 0.6
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	+ 0.5	+ 0.4	+ 0.6	- 2.0	+ 0.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	+ 0.7	+ 0.3	+ 0.0	- 2.1	+ 1.1
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	+ 0.2	+ 0.8	+ 0.4	- 2.2	+ 0.8
Alabama	+ 0.4	+ 0.6	+ 0.1	- 1.6	+ 0.6
Appalachian Alabama	+ 0.2	+ 0.9	+ 0.1	- 1.4	+ 0.3
Non-Appalachian Alabama	+ 0.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.2	- 2.1	+ 1.2
Georgia	+ 1.0	+ 0.4	- 0.5	- 1.5	+ 0.6
Appalachian Georgia	+ 2.3	+ 0.8	- 0.8	- 1.6	- 0.7
Non-Appalachian Georgia	+ 0.5	+ 0.3	- 0.4	- 1.5	+ 1.1
Kentucky	+ 0.8	+ 0.2	- 0.7	- 1.3	+ 0.9
Appalachian Kentucky	+ 0.2	+ 0.4	+ 0.7	- 2.7	+ 1.4
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	+ 0.8	+ 0.2	- 0.9	- 0.9	+ 0.8
Maryland	+ 0.6	+ 0.1	- 0.2	- 1.0	+ 0.3
Appalachian Maryland	+ 1.2	+ 0.9	- 0.9	- 2.0	+ 0.8
Non-Appalachian Maryland	+ 0.6	+ 0.2	- 0.1	- 0.9	+ 0.3
Mississippi	+ 1.0	+ 0.9	+ 0.1	- 2.0	+ 0.1
Appalachian Mississippi	- 0.2	+ 0.2	- 0.1	- 1.0	+ 0.9
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	+ 1.2	+ 0.9	+ 0.1	- 2.1	- 0.1
New York	+ 0.9	+ 0.5	- 0.4	- 1.0	+ 0.1
Appalachian New York	+ 0.5	+ 0.3	- 0.4	- 1.4	+ 1.0
Non-Appalachian New York	+ 0.9	+ 0.5	- 0.4	- 1.1	+ 0.0
North Carolina	+ 0.3	+ 0.3	+ 0.3	- 1.2	+ 0.4
Appalachian North Carolina	+ 0.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.2	- 1.1	+ 0.8
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	+ 0.4	+ 0.4	+ 0.2	- 1.2	+ 0.3
Ohio	+ 0.4	+ 0.8	- 0.3	- 1.2	+ 0.4
Appalachian Ohio	+ 0.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.3	- 1.6	+ 0.7
Non-Appalachian Ohio	+ 0.4	+ 0.8	- 0.5	- 1.2	+ 0.3
Pennsylvania	+ 0.7	+ 0.4	- 0.2	- 1.6	+ 0.8
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 0.7	+ 0.7	- 0.5	- 1.9	+ 1.1
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 0.7	+ 0.3	- 0.1	- 1.3	+ 0.5
South Carolina	+ 0.8	+ 0.9	+ 0.4	- 1.8	- 0.3
Appalachian South Carolina	+ 0.3	+ 1.2	- 0.4	- 2.1	+ 0.9
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	+ 0.9	+ 0.8	+ 0.6	- 1.7	- 0.7
Tennessee	+ 0.6	+ 0.6	- 0.3	- 1.9	+ 1.1
Appalachian Tennessee	+ 0.6	+ 0.4	- 0.4	- 1.5	+ 0.7
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	+ 0.5	+ 0.6	- 0.3	- 2.1	+ 1.3
Virginia	+ 0.1	+ 0.4	- 0.3	- 0.8	+ 0.7
Appalachian Virginia	- 0.9	+ 0.7	- 0.7	- 0.2	+ 1.3
Non-Appalachian Virginia	+ 0.1	+ 0.4	- 0.3	- 0.8	+ 0.6
West Virginia (entire state)	+ 0.1	+ 1.0	- 1.3	- 1.0	+ 1.3

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

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Figure 5.14: Among Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Bachelor's Degree or More, Percentage Point Change in the Share Whose Bachelor's Degree Field (First Major) Was Science and Engineering, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022



Map Title: Among Persons Ages 25 and Over in the Appalachian Region with a Bachelor's Degree or More, Percentage Point Change in the Share Whose Bachelor's Degree Field (First Major) Was Science and Engineering, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Among adults in the Appalachian Region with a bachelor's degree or more, the share with a degree in the science and engineering field was 0.7 percentage points greater in 2018-2022 than it was in 2013-2017. And in 200 Appalachian counties, the increase matched or exceeded the national average (0.9 points). The share with a degree in science and engineering increased most in Southern Appalachia and in the Region's large metropolitan counties. Yet in 177 of the Region's counties, the share actually decreased—including in 39 of the 45 counties where less than one-fifth of adult college graduates had a science and engineering degree.

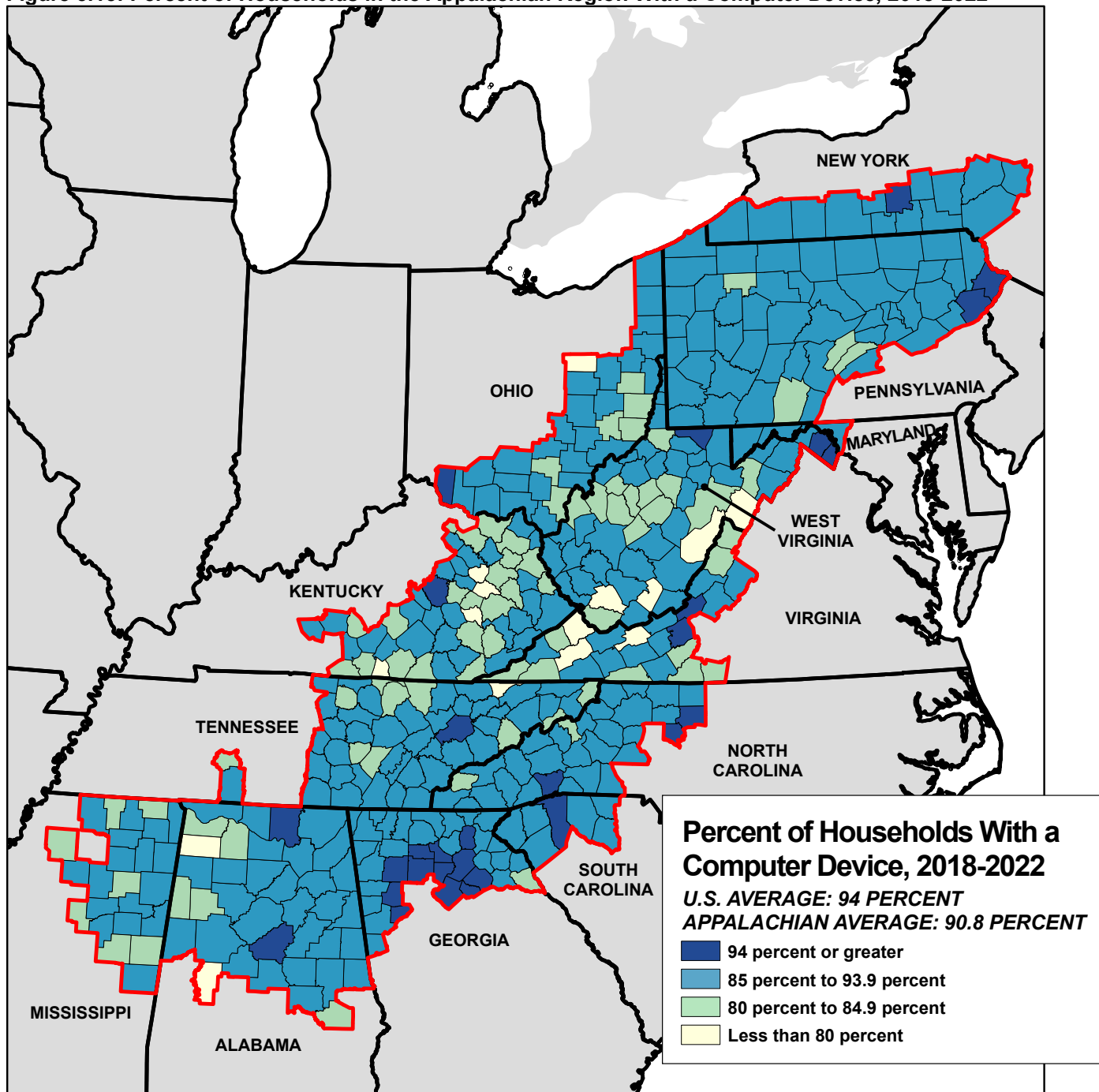
Table 5.9: Households in the Appalachian Region With a Computer Device, By Type of Device, 2018-2022

Device Ownership	Total Households	Percent of Households With One of More Computer Devices					Percent of Households Without a Computer Device
		Total	Desktop or Laptop Computer	Smartphone	Tablet	Other Device	
United States	125,736,353	94.0	79.3	88.2	63.4	2.6	6.0
Appalachian Region	10,323,976	90.8	72.9	83.4	58.7	2.0	9.2
Subregions							
Northern Appalachia	3,318,254	90.2	74.2	81.1	58.7	1.8	9.8
North Central Appalachia	991,975	89.4	70.0	80.6	56.9	1.7	10.6
Central Appalachia	716,672	87.0	64.1	78.1	54.1	1.6	13.0
South Central Appalachia	2,096,342	90.8	72.3	84.1	57.4	2.2	9.2
Southern Appalachia	3,200,733	92.7	74.8	87.5	61.3	2.3	7.3
County Types							
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	2,438,480	93.4	79.4	87.3	64.7	2.3	6.6
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	4,463,176	91.4	73.8	84.4	59.2	2.1	8.6
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	902,199	89.3	69.6	81.0	56.0	1.6	10.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	1,557,054	88.2	67.0	79.0	53.5	1.8	11.8
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	963,067	86.9	64.8	78.3	52.5	1.6	13.1
Alabama	1,933,150	91.1	70.2	85.5	56.8	2.1	8.9
Appalachian Alabama	1,248,925	91.5	71.5	86.0	58.2	2.1	8.5
Non-Appalachian Alabama	684,225	90.3	67.9	84.6	54.1	2.2	9.7
Georgia	3,946,490	94.1	79.3	89.5	64.1	2.4	5.9
Appalachian Georgia	1,180,662	95.0	81.5	90.4	66.9	2.7	5.0
Non-Appalachian Georgia	2,765,828	93.8	78.4	89.2	62.9	2.3	6.2
Kentucky	1,769,102	91.6	72.7	85.2	60.0	2.5	8.4
Appalachian Kentucky	446,244	87.6	65.2	79.2	55.4	1.7	12.4
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	1,322,858	93.0	75.2	87.2	61.6	2.8	7.0
Maryland	2,318,124	95.3	84.2	89.6	68.8	2.9	4.7
Appalachian Maryland	98,961	90.6	73.7	81.9	59.0	1.7	9.4
Non-Appalachian Maryland	2,219,163	95.5	84.7	90.0	69.2	3.0	4.5
Mississippi	1,121,269	90.0	65.7	84.9	52.9	2.1	10.0
Appalachian Mississippi	238,653	87.7	60.0	82.8	48.2	1.3	12.3
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	882,616	90.7	67.3	85.5	54.1	2.3	9.3
New York	7,604,523	93.1	79.2	86.4	63.4	2.7	6.9
Appalachian New York	419,502	91.1	75.7	80.7	59.3	1.9	8.9
Non-Appalachian New York	7,185,021	93.2	79.4	86.8	63.7	2.8	6.8
North Carolina	4,105,232	93.1	77.9	87.4	61.5	2.3	6.9
Appalachian North Carolina	816,834	90.8	73.0	83.5	56.7	2.5	9.2
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	3,288,398	93.7	79.1	88.4	62.7	2.3	6.3
Ohio	4,789,408	92.8	76.7	85.8	61.9	2.2	7.2
Appalachian Ohio	791,590	89.0	69.7	80.6	56.7	1.4	11.0
Non-Appalachian Ohio	3,997,818	93.5	78.1	86.8	62.9	2.3	6.5
Pennsylvania	5,193,727	91.9	77.8	84.1	62.1	2.2	8.1
Appalachian Pennsylvania	2,350,602	90.3	75.0	81.3	59.2	1.9	9.7
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	2,843,125	93.2	80.1	86.5	64.5	2.4	6.8
South Carolina	2,023,085	92.7	74.7	87.1	60.4	3.8	7.3
Appalachian South Carolina	532,493	92.6	74.4	86.8	61.6	2.3	7.4
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	1,490,592	92.7	74.8	87.3	60.0	4.3	7.3
Tennessee	2,713,635	92.3	74.1	86.8	60.6	2.9	7.7
Appalachian Tennessee	1,190,080	90.9	71.4	84.7	58.1	1.9	9.1
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	1,523,555	93.4	76.1	88.5	62.5	3.6	6.6
Virginia	3,289,776	94.0	81.6	88.5	65.7	2.7	6.0
Appalachian Virginia	293,390	87.3	66.7	78.7	52.2	1.9	12.7
Non-Appalachian Virginia	2,996,386	94.7	83.1	89.5	67.0	2.8	5.3
West Virginia (entire state)	716,040	88.8	69.0	79.3	56.1	1.7	11.2

Note: Device percentages are not mutually exclusive.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Figure 5.15: Percent of Households in the Appalachian Region With a Computer Device, 2018-2022



Map Title: Percent of Households in the Appalachian Region With a Computer Device, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

In 2018-2022, 90.8 percent of households in the Appalachian Region had one or more computer devices (desktop or laptop, smartphone, tablet, or other device)—more than three points below the national average. The share was below 85 percent in 93 of Appalachia’s 423 counties. Among those counties, 83 were outside of metropolitan areas and more than one-third were in Central Appalachia. On the other hand, in 29 Appalachian counties the share of households with a computer device matched or exceeded the national average. Of these, half were in Southern Appalachia and all but three were in metropolitan areas. These data indicate an ongoing “digital divide” between urban and rural areas in Appalachia as well as between the Region and the rest of the nation. Even before the COVID-19 pandemic hit, computer devices had become commonly used for such activities as schoolwork, entertainment, online banking, health care access, and socializing—and the pandemic’s effects magnified the importance of such devices during the 2018-2022 time period.

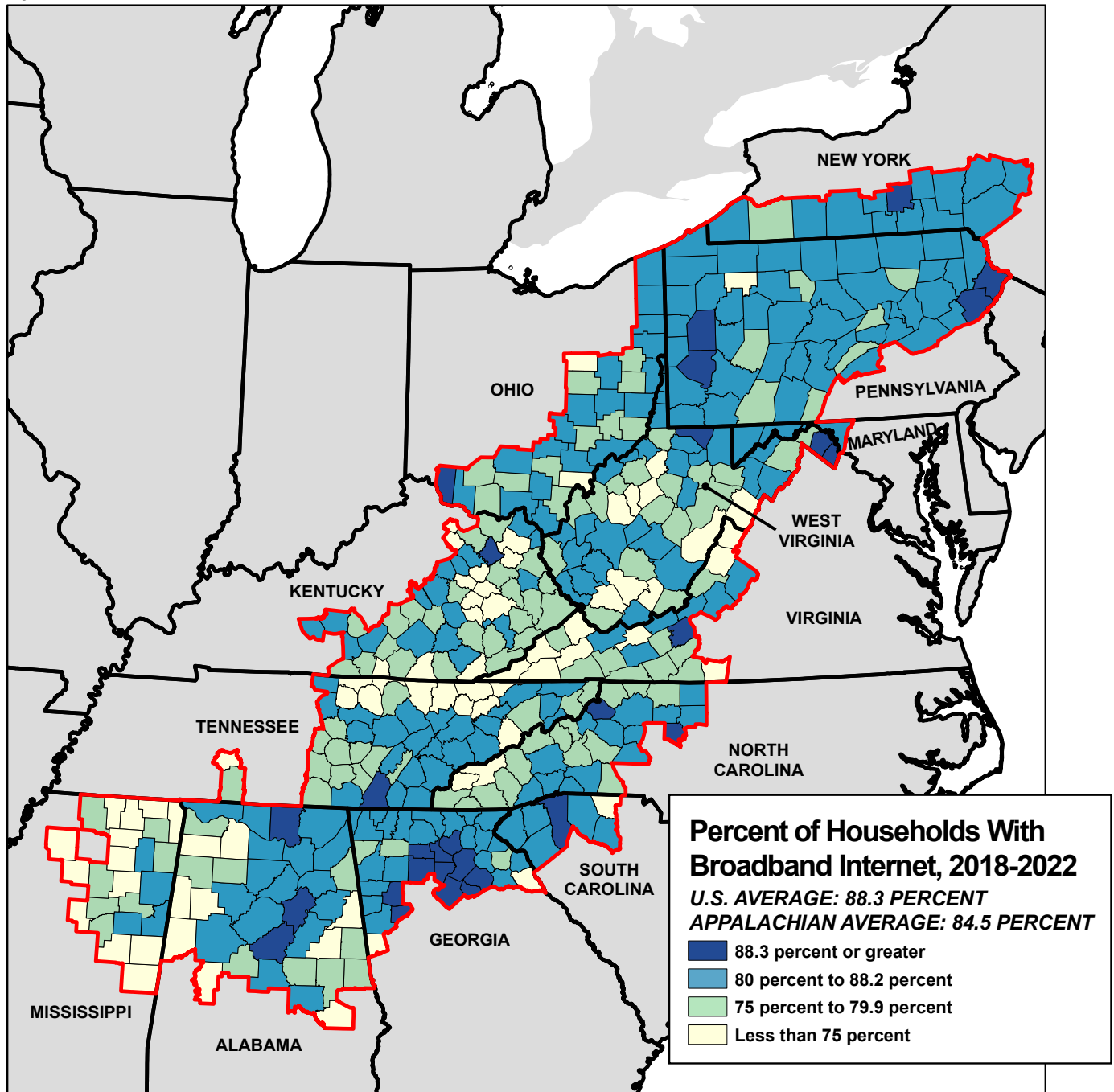
Table 5.10: Households in the Appalachian Region With an Internet Subscription, By Type of Subscription, 2018-2022

Type of Internet Subscription	Total Households	Percent of Households With an Internet Subscription					
		Total	Dial-Up Only	Broadband (High-Speed)			
				Total	Cable, Fiber Optic, or DSL	Cellular	Satellite
United States	125,736,353	88.5	0.2	88.3	73.3	81.1	6.7
Appalachian Region	10,323,976	84.8	0.3	84.5	68.1	75.0	6.8
Subregions							
Northern Appalachia	3,318,254	85.3	0.4	85.0	70.2	74.5	5.3
North Central Appalachia	991,975	83.4	0.3	83.1	65.6	71.4	7.4
Central Appalachia	716,672	79.7	0.3	79.4	63.5	67.1	7.0
South Central Appalachia	2,096,342	83.7	0.2	83.5	66.9	73.6	6.4
Southern Appalachia	3,200,733	86.4	0.1	86.3	68.5	79.4	8.4
County Types							
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	2,438,480	88.9	0.2	88.8	75.4	81.4	6.1
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	4,463,176	85.5	0.2	85.3	69.6	75.7	6.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	902,199	82.4	0.3	82.1	62.5	71.3	8.0
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	1,557,054	80.9	0.4	80.5	60.3	69.6	8.0
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	963,067	79.5	0.3	79.2	60.7	68.3	8.4
Alabama	1,933,150	84.1	0.3	83.8	63.2	76.5	8.8
Appalachian Alabama	1,248,925	85.1	0.1	85.0	65.4	77.1	8.5
Non-Appalachian Alabama	684,225	82.3	0.6	81.6	59.2	75.4	9.4
Georgia	3,946,490	87.9	0.1	87.8	73.0	81.0	7.7
Appalachian Georgia	1,180,662	89.8	0.1	89.7	75.2	83.9	8.0
Non-Appalachian Georgia	2,765,828	87.1	0.1	86.9	72.0	79.8	7.5
Kentucky	1,769,102	85.8	0.2	85.6	68.1	77.4	6.9
Appalachian Kentucky	446,244	81.1	0.3	80.7	64.7	70.2	7.2
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	1,322,858	87.4	0.2	87.2	69.2	79.9	6.8
Maryland	2,318,124	90.7	0.2	90.6	78.6	83.7	4.7
Appalachian Maryland	98,961	84.6	0.2	84.4	67.9	75.6	6.0
Non-Appalachian Maryland	2,219,163	91.0	0.2	90.8	79.1	84.1	4.6
Mississippi	1,121,269	80.2	0.2	80.0	55.1	73.6	10.8
Appalachian Mississippi	238,653	77.1	0.1	77.0	48.1	71.2	11.0
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	882,616	81.0	0.2	80.8	56.9	74.2	10.8
New York	7,604,523	88.4	0.2	88.2	75.6	80.0	4.1
Appalachian New York	419,502	85.5	0.4	85.1	70.0	72.6	6.9
Non-Appalachian New York	7,185,021	88.5	0.2	88.4	75.9	80.5	3.9
North Carolina	4,105,232	87.1	0.1	87.0	73.3	79.0	6.2
Appalachian North Carolina	816,834	83.7	0.2	83.4	67.4	73.7	6.8
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	3,288,398	88.0	0.1	87.8	74.8	80.3	6.1
Ohio	4,789,408	87.8	0.2	87.6	73.4	79.3	6.1
Appalachian Ohio	791,590	83.3	0.3	83.0	63.8	71.6	7.7
Non-Appalachian Ohio	3,997,818	88.7	0.2	88.5	75.3	80.9	5.7
Pennsylvania	5,193,727	87.4	0.3	87.1	74.3	78.8	4.4
Appalachian Pennsylvania	2,350,602	85.8	0.4	85.4	71.5	75.5	4.6
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	2,843,125	88.8	0.2	88.6	76.6	81.6	4.2
South Carolina	2,023,085	85.2	0.2	85.0	68.9	77.7	7.6
Appalachian South Carolina	532,493	86.2	0.1	86.1	69.7	78.4	7.6
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	1,490,592	84.8	0.2	84.7	68.6	77.5	7.6
Tennessee	2,713,635	85.9	0.2	85.7	68.8	78.2	6.4
Appalachian Tennessee	1,190,080	83.7	0.2	83.5	66.8	73.2	5.5
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	1,523,555	87.6	0.1	87.5	70.4	82.0	7.1
Virginia	3,289,776	88.9	0.2	88.7	73.7	82.1	6.0
Appalachian Virginia	293,390	79.0	0.4	78.6	60.6	66.6	9.1
Non-Appalachian Virginia	2,996,386	89.8	0.2	89.7	75.0	83.7	5.7
West Virginia (entire state)	716,040	83.0	0.3	82.7	67.2	70.1	6.7

Note: Households can have more than one type of Internet subscription at a time. Broadband categories are not mutually exclusive.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Figure 5.16: Percent of Households in the Appalachian Region With a Broadband Internet Subscription, 2018-2022



Map Title: Percent of Households in the Appalachian Region With a Broadband Internet Subscription, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

During the 2018-2022 period, the share of Appalachian households with access to broadband internet (including cable, fiber optic, DSL, cellular, or satellite) was nearly four percentage points lower than the national average of 88.3 percent. There are also signs of a rural-urban “digital divide” within the Region: In 73 Appalachian counties, less than 75 percent of households had broadband internet— all but 10 of these were outside metropolitan areas and more than forty percent of which were in rural counties. In contrast, almost all 29 counties with subscription rates at or above the national average were in metro areas and/or home to a four-year university. Access to broadband or high-speed internet service enhances the ability to pay bills online, pursue learning, telework, and socially connect and has become a tool for promoting economic development. With high-speed internet access becoming even more important in light of trends toward increased remote interaction since the COVID-19 pandemic, these are signs that many communities in the Region continue to be at risk of being left behind.

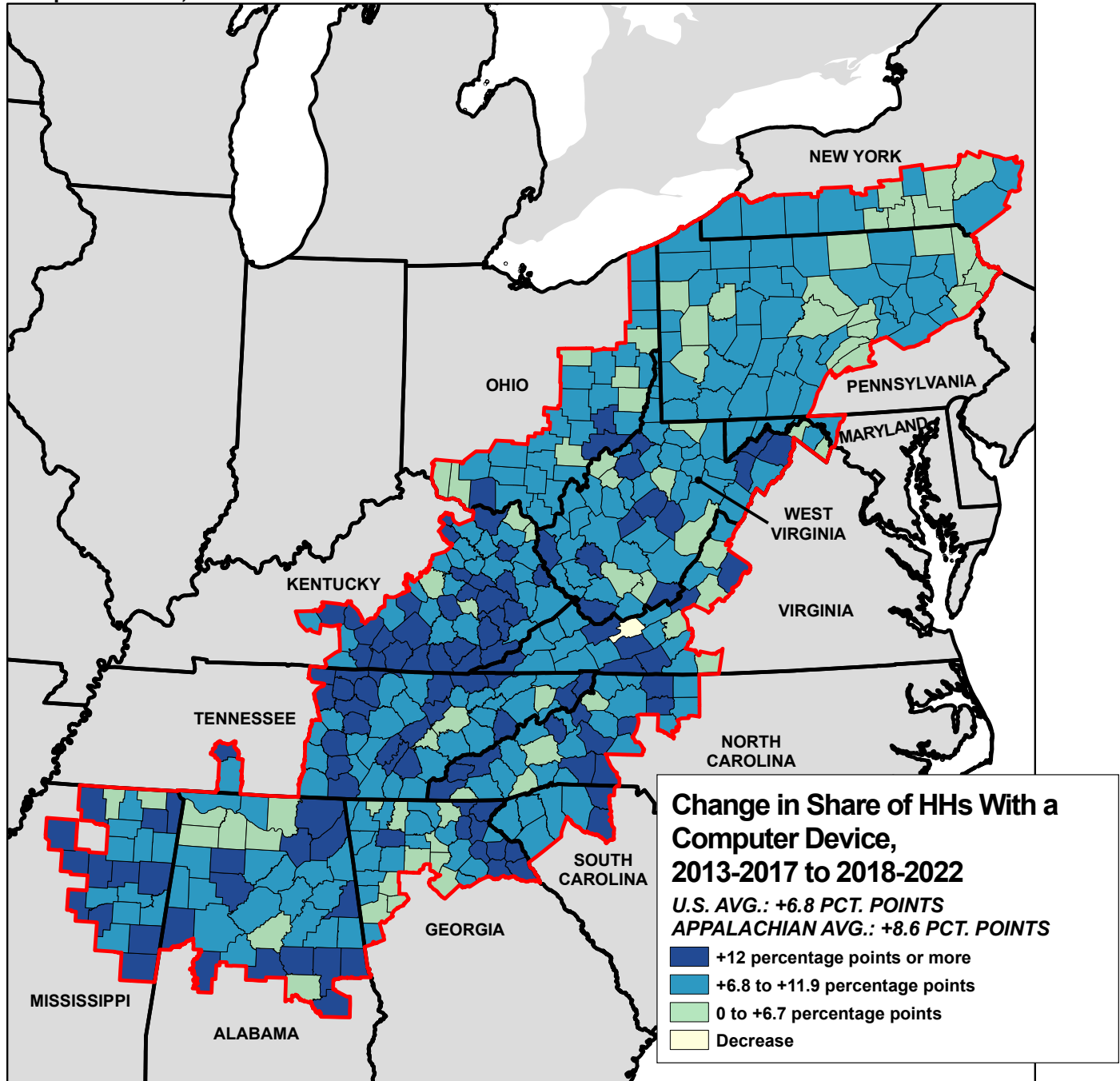
Table 5.11: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Households in the Appalachian Region With a Computer Device, By Type of Device, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Device Ownership	Percentage Point Change in Share of Households With One or More Computer Devices				
	Total	Desktop or Laptop Computer	Smartphone	Tablet	Other Device
United States	+ 6.8	+ 1.1	+ 17.1	+ 9.7	- 2.2
Appalachian Region	+ 8.6	+ 0.7	+ 19.6	+ 10.4	- 1.6
Subregions					
Northern Appalachia	+ 7.4	- 0.3	+ 19.2	+ 11.2	- 1.5
North Central Appalachia	+ 8.7	- 0.5	+ 19.8	+ 10.7	- 1.7
Central Appalachia	+ 12.1	+ 0.4	+ 23.2	+ 12.2	- 1.7
South Central Appalachia	+ 9.3	+ 1.1	+ 21.0	+ 10.1	- 0.9
Southern Appalachia	+ 8.4	+ 1.9	+ 18.0	+ 9.3	- 1.9
County Types					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	+ 6.5	+ 1.3	+ 16.5	+ 10.5	- 1.8
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	+ 8.2	+ 0.7	+ 19.1	+ 9.8	- 1.8
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	+ 9.6	+ 0.7	+ 21.5	+ 11.7	- 1.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	+ 10.4	- 0.1	+ 22.3	+ 10.7	- 1.1
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	+ 11.1	- 0.1	+ 22.6	+ 10.7	- 1.1
Alabama	+ 9.7	+ 1.5	+ 19.6	+ 8.6	- 1.6
Appalachian Alabama	+ 8.9	+ 1.5	+ 18.5	+ 8.5	- 1.4
Non-Appalachian Alabama	+ 11.0	+ 1.4	+ 21.5	+ 8.5	- 1.7
Georgia	+ 7.1	+ 2.3	+ 16.9	+ 9.6	- 2.4
Appalachian Georgia	+ 6.6	+ 2.1	+ 16.5	+ 10.0	- 2.8
Non-Appalachian Georgia	+ 7.3	+ 2.3	+ 17.1	+ 9.3	- 2.2
Kentucky	+ 9.2	+ 1.2	+ 19.4	+ 10.4	- 1.6
Appalachian Kentucky	+ 12.0	+ 0.5	+ 22.9	+ 12.7	- 2.0
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	+ 8.1	+ 1.2	+ 17.9	+ 9.5	- 1.5
Maryland	+ 5.1	+ 1.1	+ 14.4	+ 10.7	- 3.4
Appalachian Maryland	+ 9.3	+ 1.2	+ 19.5	+ 11.4	- 1.5
Non-Appalachian Maryland	+ 4.9	+ 1.1	+ 14.2	+ 10.7	- 3.4
Mississippi	+ 11.0	+ 1.7	+ 19.1	+ 6.5	- 1.6
Appalachian Mississippi	+ 11.6	+ 0.5	+ 19.5	+ 4.5	- 0.9
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	+ 10.9	+ 2.1	+ 19.0	+ 7.0	- 1.9
New York	+ 6.3	+ 0.2	+ 16.4	+ 10.3	- 3.3
Appalachian New York	+ 6.7	- 1.3	+ 20.6	+ 12.7	- 1.3
Non-Appalachian New York	+ 6.2	+ 0.3	+ 16.2	+ 10.2	- 3.4
North Carolina	+ 7.6	+ 2.0	+ 17.9	+ 9.4	- 2.2
Appalachian North Carolina	+ 9.2	+ 1.2	+ 21.1	+ 10.1	- 0.6
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	+ 7.2	+ 2.2	+ 17.1	+ 9.1	- 2.6
Ohio	+ 7.0	+ 0.7	+ 17.7	+ 10.0	- 1.5
Appalachian Ohio	+ 8.1	- 0.5	+ 19.4	+ 10.3	- 1.4
Non-Appalachian Ohio	+ 6.7	+ 0.9	+ 17.3	+ 9.8	- 1.6
Pennsylvania	+ 7.1	+ 1.1	+ 18.2	+ 11.5	- 1.5
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 7.3	+ 0.0	+ 18.9	+ 11.2	- 1.5
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 6.9	+ 1.8	+ 17.4	+ 11.6	- 1.7
South Carolina	+ 8.5	+ 1.6	+ 18.4	+ 9.4	- 2.0
Appalachian South Carolina	+ 9.4	+ 2.1	+ 19.3	+ 10.8	- 1.9
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	+ 8.2	+ 1.4	+ 18.2	+ 8.9	- 2.0
Tennessee	+ 9.1	+ 1.9	+ 19.1	+ 10.0	- 1.5
Appalachian Tennessee	+ 10.0	+ 1.5	+ 21.2	+ 10.6	- 1.1
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	+ 8.4	+ 2.1	+ 17.5	+ 9.5	- 2.0
Virginia	+ 5.4	+ 0.6	+ 15.4	+ 9.5	- 2.3
Appalachian Virginia	+ 9.5	- 1.2	+ 21.8	+ 8.7	- 1.3
Non-Appalachian Virginia	+ 5.0	+ 0.7	+ 14.6	+ 9.5	- 2.4
West Virginia (entire state)	+ 9.0	- 0.8	+ 20.0	+ 10.7	- 2.2

Note: Device percentages are not mutually exclusive.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Figure 5.17: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Households in the Appalachian Region With a Computer Device, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Households in the Appalachian Region With a Computer Device, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

The share of Appalachian households with at least one computer device (desktop or laptop, smartphone, tablet, or other device) increased by 8.6 percentage points – nearly two points more than in the U.S. as a whole. Most Appalachian counties had an increase at least that of the national average, and in 121 of the Region’s counties the share increased even further, by at least 12 points. Of these 121 counties, four-fifths were outside of metropolitan areas, and most were concentrated in Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia. The most rural counties throughout Appalachia had an overall increase in device ownership of more than 11 percentage points, while Central Appalachia had an overall increase of greater than 12 points. Increases in smartphone and tablet ownership drove much of the Region’s increase in device ownership.

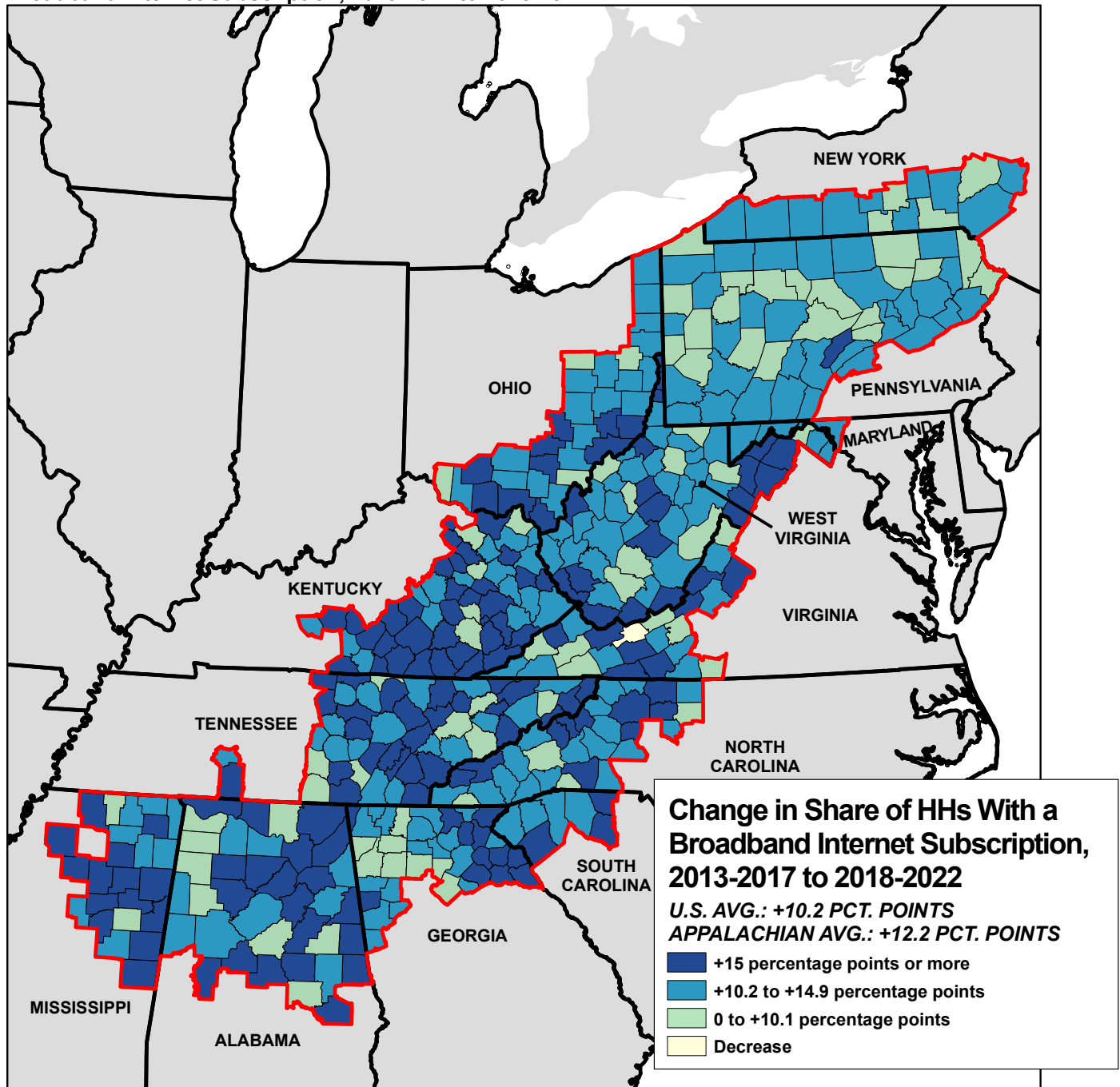
Table 5.12: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Households in the Appalachian Region With a Broadband Internet Subscription, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Type of Internet Subscription	Percentage Point Change in Share of Households With an Internet Subscription					
	Total	Dial-Up Only	Broadband (High-Speed)			
			Total	Cable, Fiber Optic, or DSL	Cellular	Satellite
United States	+ 9.8	- 0.4	+ 10.2	+ 6.3	+ 31.8	+ 1.3
Appalachian Region	+ 11.7	- 0.5	+ 12.2	+ 7.4	+ 32.2	+ 1.4
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	+ 10.2	- 0.6	+ 10.8	+ 5.7	+ 32.3	+ 0.9
North Central Appalachia	+ 12.1	- 0.6	+ 12.7	+ 7.1	+ 31.3	+ 1.2
Central Appalachia	+ 14.5	- 0.6	+ 15.1	+ 10.3	+ 32.6	+ 1.1
South Central Appalachia	+ 11.8	- 0.5	+ 12.4	+ 8.1	+ 31.8	+ 1.1
Southern Appalachia	+ 12.2	- 0.5	+ 12.7	+ 8.0	+ 32.3	+ 2.3
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	+ 10.0	- 0.4	+ 10.5	+ 6.5	+ 32.2	+ 1.4
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	+ 11.1	- 0.5	+ 11.6	+ 7.0	+ 31.7	+ 1.3
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	+ 13.0	- 0.8	+ 13.8	+ 8.2	+ 32.1	+ 1.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	+ 13.2	- 0.7	+ 13.9	+ 7.1	+ 32.4	+ 1.4
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	+ 14.0	- 0.6	+ 14.6	+ 9.5	+ 33.5	+ 1.4
Alabama	+ 13.2	- 0.4	+ 13.6	+ 7.6	+ 31.6	+ 2.8
Appalachian Alabama	+ 13.2	- 0.5	+ 13.7	+ 8.6	+ 31.4	+ 2.6
Non-Appalachian Alabama	+ 13.4	- 0.2	+ 13.5	+ 5.7	+ 32.0	+ 3.4
Georgia	+ 10.7	- 0.4	+ 11.0	+ 7.3	+ 31.8	+ 1.9
Appalachian Georgia	+ 9.7	- 0.4	+ 10.1	+ 5.8	+ 33.2	+ 1.9
Non-Appalachian Georgia	+ 11.1	- 0.3	+ 11.3	+ 7.8	+ 31.3	+ 1.9
Kentucky	+ 12.3	- 0.5	+ 12.7	+ 7.4	+ 31.0	+ 1.0
Appalachian Kentucky	+ 15.0	- 0.6	+ 15.5	+ 10.3	+ 33.7	+ 1.2
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	+ 11.2	- 0.4	+ 11.6	+ 6.2	+ 29.9	+ 0.9
Maryland	+ 7.3	- 0.3	+ 7.8	+ 4.3	+ 30.5	+ 0.9
Appalachian Maryland	+ 12.2	- 0.8	+ 13.0	+ 8.1	+ 31.1	+ 0.8
Non-Appalachian Maryland	+ 7.1	- 0.3	+ 7.4	+ 4.1	+ 30.5	+ 0.9
Mississippi	+ 15.3	- 0.5	+ 15.7	+ 8.9	+ 32.5	+ 2.9
Appalachian Mississippi	+ 16.7	- 0.7	+ 17.4	+ 10.1	+ 32.8	+ 2.7
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	+ 14.8	- 0.4	+ 15.3	+ 8.5	+ 32.3	+ 3.0
New York	+ 9.0	- 0.3	+ 9.3	+ 3.8	+ 34.3	+ 0.9
Appalachian New York	+ 10.3	- 0.6	+ 10.9	+ 7.6	+ 33.3	+ 0.5
Non-Appalachian New York	+ 8.8	- 0.2	+ 9.2	+ 3.5	+ 34.4	+ 0.9
North Carolina	+ 10.7	- 0.5	+ 11.2	+ 8.1	+ 31.4	+ 1.3
Appalachian North Carolina	+ 11.3	- 0.5	+ 11.8	+ 7.4	+ 32.4	+ 1.4
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	+ 10.6	- 0.4	+ 10.9	+ 8.2	+ 31.1	+ 1.3
Ohio	+ 10.0	- 0.5	+ 10.5	+ 7.3	+ 31.5	+ 1.4
Appalachian Ohio	+ 11.8	- 0.7	+ 12.6	+ 6.5	+ 32.1	+ 1.6
Non-Appalachian Ohio	+ 9.6	- 0.4	+ 10.0	+ 7.3	+ 31.4	+ 1.2
Pennsylvania	+ 9.8	- 0.5	+ 10.3	+ 5.4	+ 32.8	+ 1.0
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 9.9	- 0.6	+ 10.5	+ 5.3	+ 32.2	+ 0.8
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 9.6	- 0.5	+ 10.1	+ 5.4	+ 33.2	+ 1.2
South Carolina	+ 12.2	- 0.4	+ 12.6	+ 8.1	+ 32.1	+ 2.2
Appalachian South Carolina	+ 13.0	- 0.4	+ 13.4	+ 8.8	+ 31.5	+ 2.0
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	+ 11.9	- 0.4	+ 12.4	+ 7.8	+ 32.4	+ 2.2
Tennessee	+ 12.9	- 0.4	+ 13.3	+ 9.3	+ 31.8	+ 0.9
Appalachian Tennessee	+ 12.9	- 0.5	+ 13.3	+ 9.2	+ 31.7	+ 0.4
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	+ 12.8	- 0.4	+ 13.2	+ 9.5	+ 31.7	+ 1.2
Virginia	+ 8.2	- 0.5	+ 8.7	+ 5.3	+ 29.3	+ 0.8
Appalachian Virginia	+ 11.0	- 0.7	+ 11.8	+ 7.9	+ 29.0	+ 2.4
Non-Appalachian Virginia	+ 7.7	- 0.4	+ 8.2	+ 4.9	+ 29.2	+ 0.7
West Virginia (entire state)	+ 12.0	- 0.4	+ 12.4	+ 7.0	+ 31.4	+ 1.2

Note: Households can have more than one type of Internet subscription at a time. Broadband categories are not mutually exclusive.

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Figure 5.18: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Households in the Appalachian Region With a Broadband Internet Subscription, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Households in the Appalachian Region With a Broadband Internet Subscription, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

In the Appalachian Region, the share of households with broadband internet access (including cable, fiber optic, DSL, cellular, or satellite) increased by 12.2 percentage points between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022, a full two percentage points more than the national rate of increase. And this increase was even more pronounced in some areas – in 156 of the Region’s 423 counties the share increased by at least 15 points – with clusters throughout the Central and Southern portions of the Region. Of these counties with the highest rate of increase, three-fourths were outside of metropolitan areas and one-third were in the Region’s most rural areas. These increases show progress toward bringing the Region’s rural communities closer to their urban neighbors when it comes to digital resources. However, in 138 of the 156 Appalachian counties with an increase of at least 15 percent, the share of households with broadband internet was below 85 percent, and in 78 of those counties, the share was below 80 percent.

TRENDS IN EDUCATION, DEVICE OWNERSHIP, AND INTERNET ACCESS

- Since the 2013-2017 period, the share of Appalachian adults ages 25 and over with at least a high school diploma has risen more than two percentage points, to 88.7 percent in 2018-2022, a larger increase than for the U.S. overall (see Tables 5.1 and 5.4). Within the Region, the prevalence of adults ages 25 and over with at least a high school diploma increased most in Central Appalachia and in counties outside of metropolitan areas – particularly in the Region’s rural counties. With these changes, the share of adults who have at least a high school education as of 2018-2022 has reached 82.1 percent in Central Appalachia and 83.7 percent in the Region’s rural areas. The Appalachian sections of Virginia, Mississippi, and Kentucky had the largest increases among the states – with a rise greater than three percentage points in all three states.

The share of Appalachian adults ages 25 and over with an associate’s degree as their highest level of education increased by 0.7 percentage points, to 9.3 percent, between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022. Central Appalachia and the Appalachian sections of Kentucky, Mississippi, and all of West Virginia had the greatest increases, of more than one percentage point. Meanwhile, the share of adults 25 and older in the Region who had at least a bachelor’s degree increased by three percentage points, with more than one in four Appalachian adults having a bachelor’s degree or more in 2018-2022. The share of degree holders with at least a bachelor’s rose most in Southern Appalachian as well as in large metropolitan areas throughout the Region. Appalachian Georgia and South Carolina had notable increases in the share of adults with at least a bachelor’s degree – rising 3.7 and 4.3 percentage points respectively since 2013-2017.

- The group with the most notable changes in educational attainment since 2013-2017 has been adults ages 65 and over. The share of older adults in Appalachia with at least a high school diploma has risen 5.8 percentage points; the share with at least a bachelor’s degree has increased 3.7 percentage points (see Table 5.6). Possible factors fueling this increase may include the arrival of well-educated older adults moving into the Region upon retirement.
- Even as the Region has seen improvement to educational attainment since 2013-2017, the share of adults in all age groups who hold a bachelor’s degree or higher was still lower than in the U.S. as a whole in 2018-2022 (see Tables 5.1 through 5.3). For example, in Central Appalachia, the share of adults 25 and older with a bachelor’s degree or more (15.8 percent) was less than half the national average (34.3 percent) – as were the shares of working-age and older adults.
- Among adults in Appalachia with a bachelor’s degree or more, the share with a degree in the science and engineering field was just over 31 percent in 2018-2022—0.7 percentage points higher than it was in 2013-2017—and comparable to national increases (see Tables 5.7 and 5.8). While the share rose in most parts of the Region, the increase was especially noticeable in Southern Appalachia, counties in large metropolitan areas, and Appalachian Maryland and Georgia.
- While the Appalachian Region still lags behind the U.S. in device ownership and internet access – and the rural-urban “digital divide” persists in the Region – the share of households with at least one computer device and with broadband internet access increased between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022. The share of households in the Region with at least one computer device rose 8.6 percent since 2013-2017, while the share with broadband internet access increased by 12.2 percent (see Tables 5.11 and 5.12). These increases were above the national average. Programs at the federal and state level to narrow persistent gaps in digital resources may have contributed to the rise in device ownership and internet access throughout Appalachia.

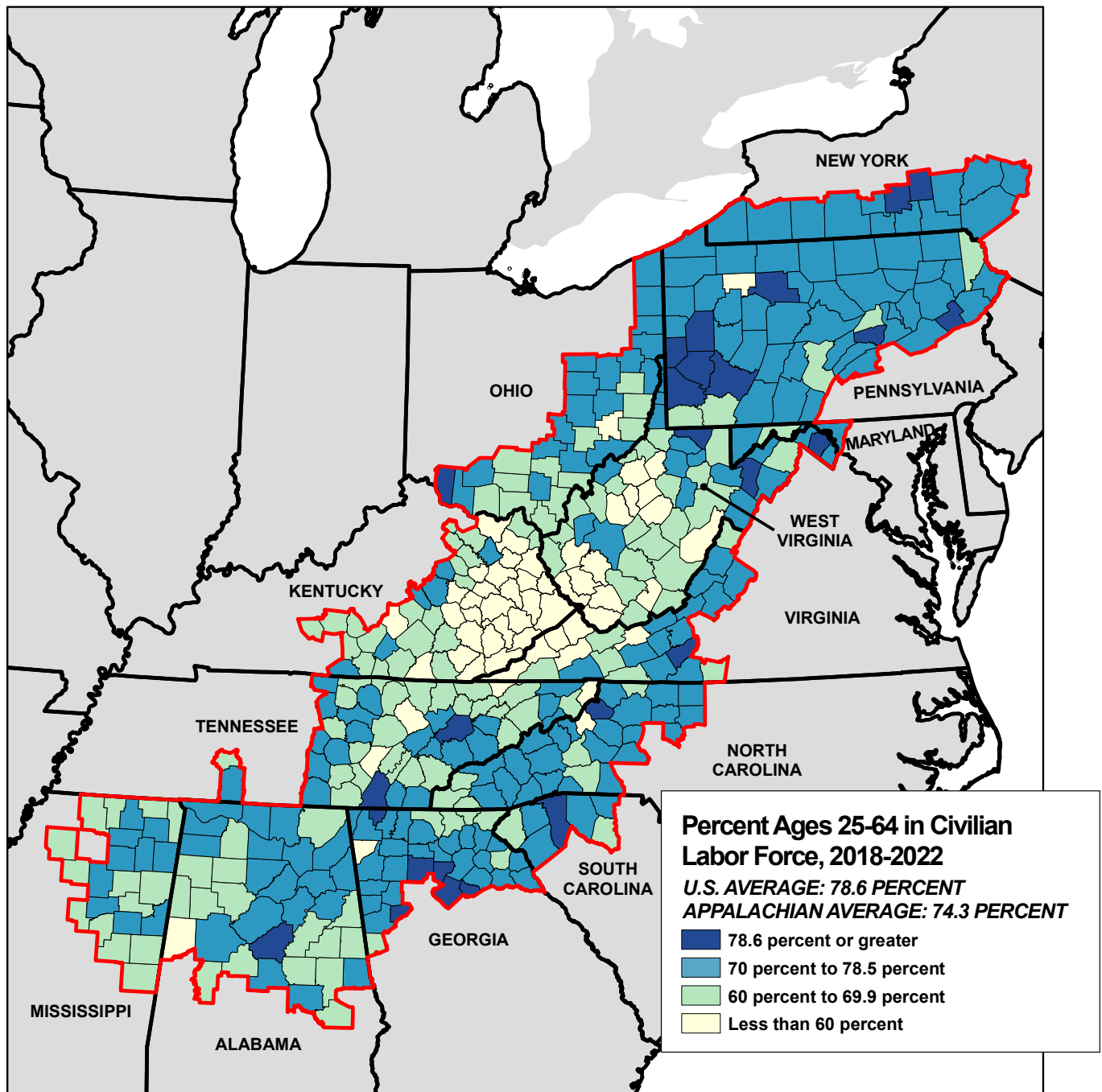
CHAPTER 6: LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT

Table 6.1: Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment Status of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2018-2022

Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment	Total Number of Civilian Persons Ages 25-64	Total Persons Ages 25-64 in Civilian Labor Force		Employment Rate (Pct. of Civ. Labor Force)	Unemployment Rate (Pct. of Civ. Labor Force)
		Number	Percent		
United States	171,066,804	134,484,641	78.6	95.5	4.5
Appalachian Region	13,323,501	9,894,384	74.3	95.7	4.3
Subregions					
Northern Appalachia	4,078,053	3,121,413	76.5	95.4	4.6
North Central Appalachia	1,263,116	889,307	70.4	95.4	4.6
Central Appalachia	948,203	579,500	61.1	94.4	5.6
South Central Appalachia	2,629,228	1,955,534	74.4	95.9	4.1
Southern Appalachia	4,404,901	3,348,630	76.0	96.1	3.9
County Types					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	3,296,076	2,608,479	79.1	96.0	4.0
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	5,684,178	4,276,756	75.2	95.8	4.2
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	1,153,736	832,350	72.1	95.4	4.6
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	1,965,501	1,373,373	69.9	95.5	4.5
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	1,224,010	803,426	65.6	95.0	5.0
Alabama	2,544,774	1,854,986	72.9	95.7	4.3
Appalachian Alabama	1,658,679	1,225,516	73.9	95.9	4.1
Non-Appalachian Alabama	886,095	629,470	71.0	95.4	4.6
Georgia	5,580,142	4,325,166	77.5	95.7	4.3
Appalachian Georgia	1,758,731	1,378,141	78.4	96.5	3.5
Non-Appalachian Georgia	3,821,411	2,947,025	77.1	95.4	4.6
Kentucky	2,302,659	1,675,758	72.8	95.8	4.2
Appalachian Kentucky	593,742	365,008	61.5	94.5	5.5
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	1,708,917	1,310,750	76.7	96.2	3.8
Maryland	3,248,781	2,680,250	82.5	95.8	4.2
Appalachian Maryland	129,120	93,181	72.2	95.6	4.4
Non-Appalachian Maryland	3,119,661	2,587,069	82.9	95.8	4.2
Mississippi	1,471,615	1,061,799	72.2	94.7	5.3
Appalachian Mississippi	298,246	213,853	71.7	95.1	4.9
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	1,173,369	847,946	72.3	94.7	5.3
New York	10,602,970	8,381,093	79.0	94.7	5.3
Appalachian New York	491,264	370,441	75.4	95.2	4.8
Non-Appalachian New York	10,111,706	8,010,652	79.2	94.7	5.3
North Carolina	5,369,466	4,165,019	77.6	95.8	4.2
Appalachian North Carolina	1,021,844	767,307	75.1	95.8	4.2
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	4,347,622	3,397,712	78.2	95.8	4.2
Ohio	6,019,836	4,728,918	78.6	95.8	4.2
Appalachian Ohio	998,494	722,760	72.4	95.4	4.6
Non-Appalachian Ohio	5,021,342	4,006,158	79.8	95.9	4.1
Pennsylvania	6,686,151	5,319,998	79.6	95.5	4.5
Appalachian Pennsylvania	2,908,114	2,252,600	77.5	95.6	4.4
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	3,778,037	3,067,398	81.2	95.5	4.5
South Carolina	2,595,281	1,974,753	76.1	95.8	4.2
Appalachian South Carolina	689,245	531,120	77.1	96.1	3.9
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	1,906,036	1,443,633	75.7	95.7	4.3
Tennessee	3,589,276	2,728,935	76.0	95.8	4.2
Appalachian Tennessee	1,512,307	1,109,476	73.4	95.7	4.3
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	2,076,969	1,619,459	78.0	95.9	4.1
Virginia	4,449,490	3,575,199	80.4	96.5	3.5
Appalachian Virginia	360,521	245,629	68.1	96.4	3.6
Non-Appalachian Virginia	4,088,969	3,329,570	81.4	96.5	3.5
West Virginia (entire state)	903,194	619,352	68.6	94.8	5.2

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

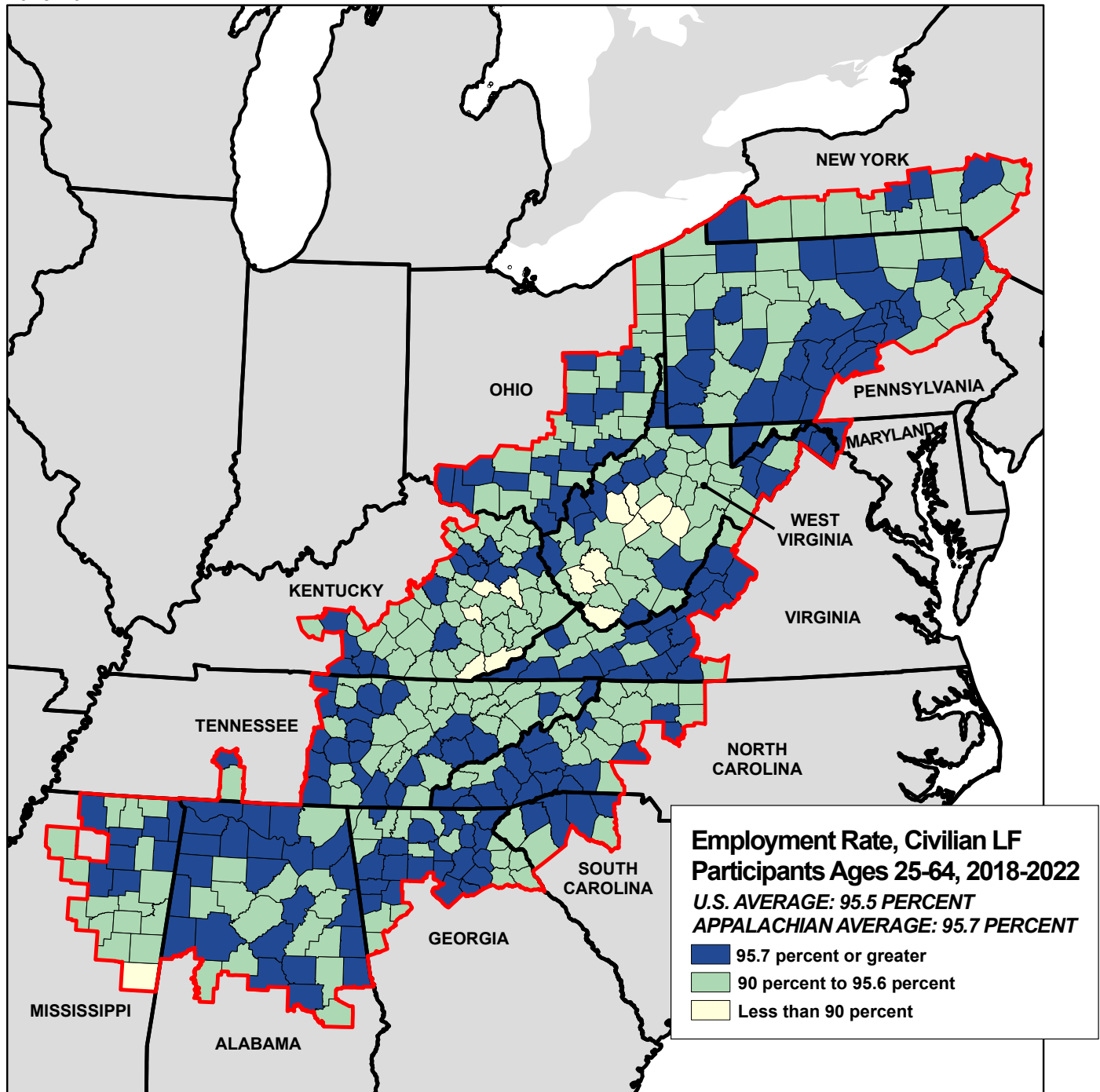
Figure 6.1: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Who Are In the Civilian Labor Force, 2018-2022



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Who Are In the Civilian Labor Force, 2018-2022
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

In the 2018-2022 period, 74.3 percent of Appalachia's civilian population in the prime working ages (ages 25 to 64) were in the civilian labor force, more than four percentage points below the U.S. average of 78.6 percent. In 26 Appalachian counties (21 of which were in metropolitan areas), the share was at or above the national average, yet there were 56 counties where less than 60 percent of 25-to-64-year-olds were in the civilian labor force. All but four of the counties in the latter group were outside of metropolitan areas, and 40 were in Central Appalachia. Indeed, just 61.1 percent of working-age residents in Central Appalachia and 65.6 percent of those in rural areas were in the labor force. And there are indications of a possible connection between educational attainment and labor force participation. For example, in 23 of the 26 counties where labor force participation levels were at or above the national rate, 90 percent or more of working-age adults had attained at least a high school diploma.

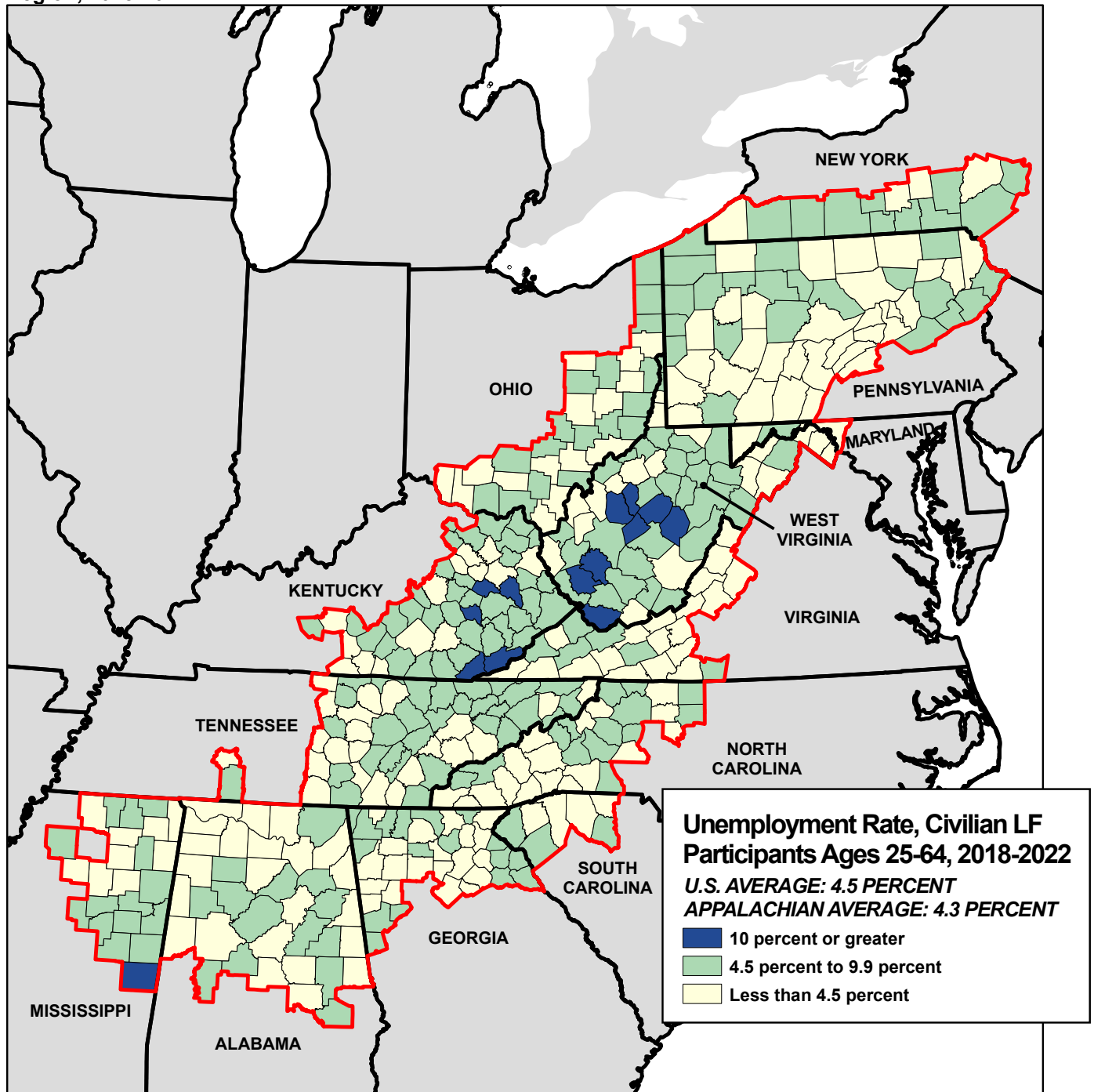
Figure 6.2: Employment Rate for Civilian Labor Force Participants Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2018-2022



Map Title: Employment Rate for Civilian Labor Force Participants Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2018-2022
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

At 95.7 percent, the employment rate in Appalachia among members of the civilian labor force ages 25 to 64 was slightly above the national rate during the 2018-2022 period. Although there were only slight differences among subregions and urban/rural county types, there was some variation at the county level. In 209 of the Region's 423 counties, the employment rate matched or exceeded the national average, yet there were 14 counties in the Region (eight of which were in Central Appalachia) where employment among 25-to-64-year-olds was less than 90 percent—all but two of which were outside metropolitan areas. Because the 2018-2022 period includes the first 34 months of the COVID-19 pandemic, the above numbers reflect some of the pandemic's early impacts, particularly in Central Appalachian counties already facing low employment.

Figure 6.3: Unemployment Rate for Civilian Labor Force Participants Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2018-2022



Map Title: Unemployment Rate for Civilian Labor Force Participants Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2018-2022
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

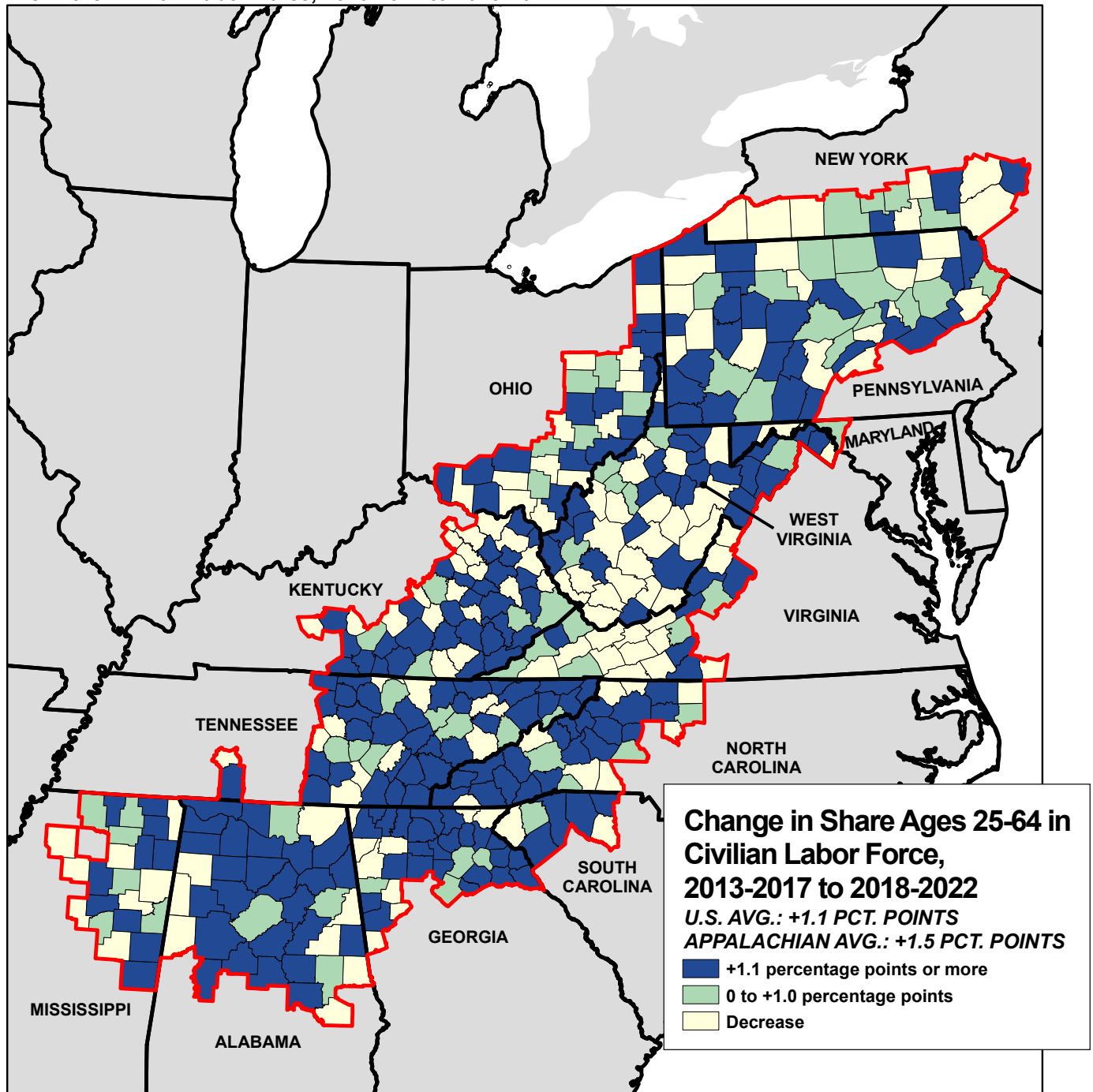
Unemployment in the Appalachian Region among persons ages 25 to 64 was just below the national average of 4.5 percent during the 2018-2022 period. Yet, the jobless rate was at least 10 percent in 14 Appalachian counties—all but two of which were outside metropolitan areas and eight of which were in Central Appalachia—the subregion with the highest overall rate of unemployment. Conversely, the unemployment rate was below the national average in 198 other counties, with 108 of these located in South Central and Southern Appalachia—the subregions where the jobless levels were below the national rate. There are indications of a connection between unemployment and educational attainment: In 13 of the 14 Appalachian counties with double-digit unemployment, the share of 25-to-64-year-olds with at least a high school diploma was below the national average of 89.9 percent; in five of those counties, the share was below 80 percent.

Table 6.2: Percentage Point Change in Civilian Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment Status of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment	Percentage Point Change		
	Labor Force Participation Rate	Employment Rate (Pct. of Civ. Labor Force)	Unemployment Rate (Pct. of Civ. Labor Force)
United States	+ 1.1	+ 0.9	- 0.9
Appalachian Region	+ 1.5	+ 1.1	- 1.1
Subregions			
Northern Appalachia	+ 1.0	+ 0.5	- 0.5
North Central Appalachia	+ 1.0	+ 0.9	- 0.9
Central Appalachia	+ 1.4	+ 1.7	- 1.7
South Central Appalachia	+ 1.4	+ 1.3	- 1.3
Southern Appalachia	+ 1.8	+ 1.5	- 1.5
County Types			
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	+ 1.2	+ 1.0	- 1.0
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	+ 1.4	+ 1.1	- 1.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	+ 1.6	+ 1.2	- 1.2
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	+ 1.1	+ 1.3	- 1.3
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	+ 1.2	+ 1.5	- 1.5
Alabama	+ 1.7	+ 1.7	- 1.7
Appalachian Alabama	+ 2.3	+ 1.6	- 1.6
Non-Appalachian Alabama	+ 0.6	+ 1.9	- 1.9
Georgia	+ 1.6	+ 1.7	- 1.7
Appalachian Georgia	+ 1.3	+ 1.6	- 1.6
Non-Appalachian Georgia	+ 1.8	+ 1.8	- 1.8
Kentucky	+ 1.2	+ 1.4	- 1.4
Appalachian Kentucky	+ 1.6	+ 2.0	- 2.0
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	+ 0.9	+ 1.3	- 1.3
Maryland	+ 0.5	+ 0.8	- 0.8
Appalachian Maryland	+ 0.5	+ 1.4	- 1.4
Non-Appalachian Maryland	+ 0.4	+ 0.8	- 0.8
Mississippi	+ 0.9	+ 1.7	- 1.7
Appalachian Mississippi	+ 1.2	+ 1.5	- 1.5
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	+ 0.8	+ 1.9	- 1.9
New York	+ 0.6	+ 0.3	- 0.3
Appalachian New York	+ 0.1	+ 0.6	- 0.6
Non-Appalachian New York	+ 0.7	+ 0.3	- 0.3
North Carolina	+ 1.1	+ 1.6	- 1.6
Appalachian North Carolina	+ 1.1	+ 1.3	- 1.3
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	+ 1.1	+ 1.6	- 1.6
Ohio	+ 1.2	+ 1.0	- 1.0
Appalachian Ohio	+ 1.1	+ 0.9	- 0.9
Non-Appalachian Ohio	+ 1.2	+ 1.1	- 1.1
Pennsylvania	+ 1.5	+ 0.8	- 0.8
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 1.2	+ 0.5	- 0.5
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 1.6	+ 1.0	- 1.0
South Carolina	+ 1.3	+ 1.6	- 1.6
Appalachian South Carolina	+ 2.3	+ 1.1	- 1.1
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	+ 0.9	+ 1.9	- 1.9
Tennessee	+ 1.6	+ 1.2	- 1.2
Appalachian Tennessee	+ 1.9	+ 1.2	- 1.2
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	+ 1.5	+ 1.2	- 1.2
Virginia	+ 0.9	+ 0.9	- 0.9
Appalachian Virginia	- 0.1	+ 1.9	- 1.9
Non-Appalachian Virginia	+ 0.8	+ 0.8	- 0.8
West Virginia (entire state)	+ 1.0	+ 0.7	- 0.7

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Figure 6.4: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Who Are In the Civilian Labor Force, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

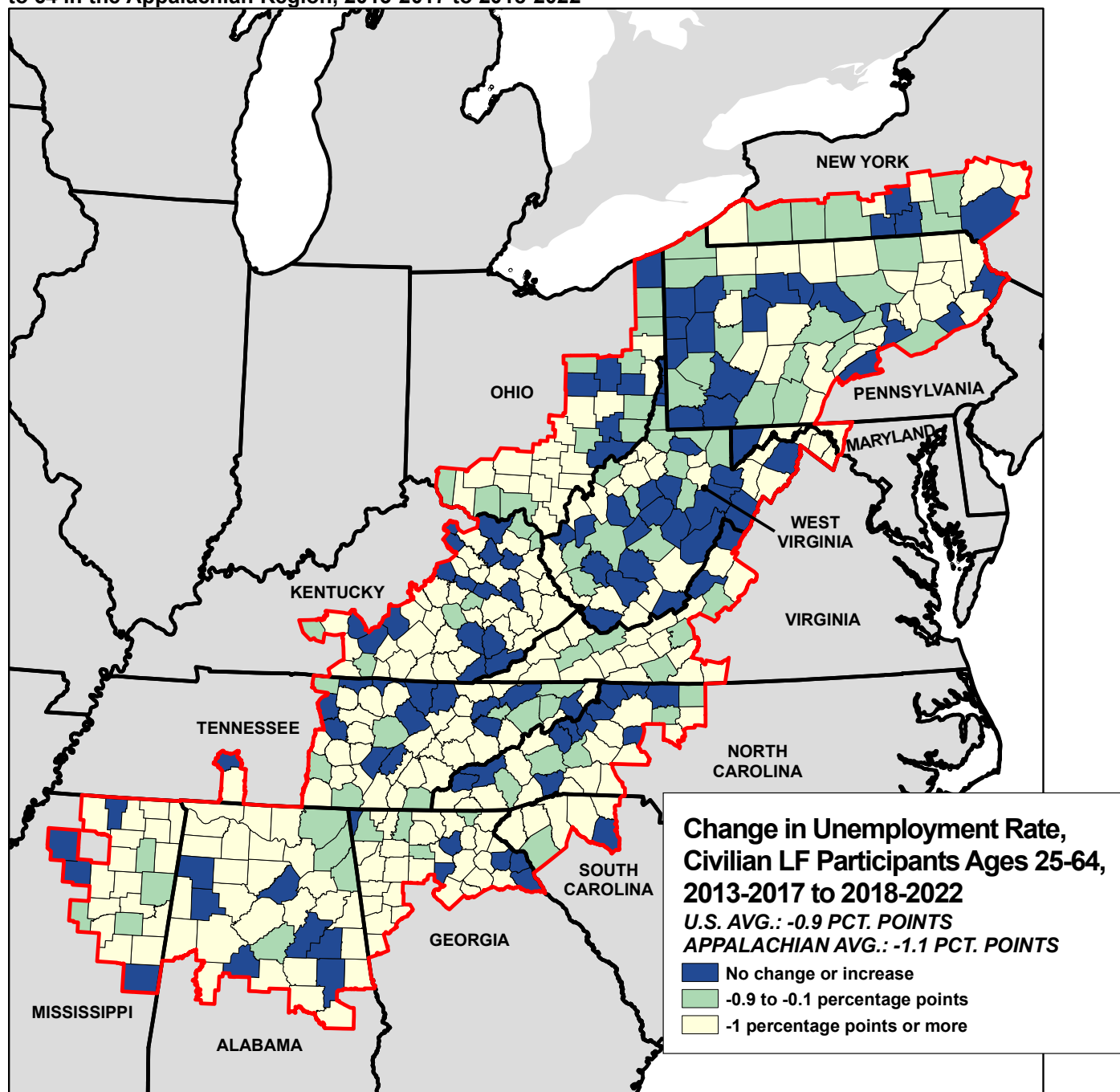


Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Who Are In the Civilian Labor Force, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

In the Appalachian Region, the labor force participation rate among civilians ages 25 to 64 was 1.5 percentage points higher in 2018-2022 than it was in 2013-2017, slightly outpacing the national increase of 1.1 points. In fact, 218 of Appalachia's 423 counties had increases in labor force participation rates that matched or exceeded the U.S. average. Included in this group are four of the seven South Carolina counties; that state's Appalachian section saw an increase of 2.3 percentage points. Yet participation rates also fell in some parts of Appalachia—there were 137 counties in the Region where the share of adults in the labor force decreased between the two periods. In Appalachian Virginia where 15 of the 25 Appalachian counties saw no change or a decrease, the labor force participation rate declined by 0.1 points between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022, while non-Appalachian Virginia saw an increase of 0.8 percentage points.

Figure 6.5: Percentage Point Change in the Unemployment Rate for Civilian Labor Force Participants Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Unemployment Rate for Civilian Labor Force Participants Ages 25 to 64 in the Appalachian Region, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Unemployment among civilian labor force participants in Appalachia declined by 1.1 percentage points between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022, compared with the national decrease of 0.9 percentage points. More than half of the counties in the Region had an unemployment rate decrease that exceeded the national average. More than half of those counties were in South Central and Southern Appalachia. These numbers suggest that slow recovery from more recent economic forces such as the early period of the COVID-19 pandemic may be at play in some areas.

TRENDS IN LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT

- Among working-age adults (ages 25 to 64), Appalachia's labor force participation rate in 2018-2022 was 74.3 percent, 1.5 percentage points higher than its rate in 2013-2017 (see Tables 6.1 and 6.2). This share increased in all five subregions, all five urban-rural county types, and the Appalachian sections of 12 states. The largest increase was in South Carolina and Alabama's Appalachian section, where labor force participation increased 2.3 percentage points. Meanwhile, the participation rate fell 0.1 percentage points in Appalachian Virginia.
- Within the civilian labor force, the employment rate in Appalachia was 95.7 percent, which was 1.1 percentage points higher than the employment rate in 2013-2017. Among the subregions, the increase was greatest in Central Appalachia, where employment rose by 1.7 percentage points. Employment in Northern Appalachia, however, rose by less than the national average of 0.9 percentage points. Elsewhere in the Region, the employment rate rose above the national average in all county types. Among the states, employment increased the most in the Appalachian sections of Kentucky and Virginia (2 percentage points in Kentucky and 1.9 percentage points in Virginia). Conversely, Appalachian Pennsylvania, New York, and the entire state of West Virginia had the smallest increase, all of which were under the national average.
- As Appalachia's employment rate rose between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022, its unemployment rate fell. The Region's unemployment rate of 4.3 percent in the later period is 1.1 percentage points lower than its rate in 2013-2017.
- Although there are some parts of the Appalachian Region that likely have not yet rebounded from the economic downturn of 2007-2009, the rise in labor force participation and employment (along with the corresponding lower rates of unemployment) support the idea of economic recovery in much of the Region. Most of these labor force and employment patterns occurred before the onset of the coronavirus pandemic in March 2020, which mutes the economic impact of the first months of the pandemic.

CHAPTER 7: TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUTING PATTERNS

Table 7.1: Means of Transportation for Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region, 2018-2022

Means of Transportation	Total Workers Ages 16 and Over	Percent of Workers Ages 16 and Over					
		Car, Truck, or Van (Drove Alone)	Car, Truck, or Van (Carpooled)	Public Transportation (Excluding Taxicab)	Walked	Taxicab, Motorcycle, Bicycle, or Other Means	Worked at Home
United States	156,703,623	71.7	8.5	3.8	2.4	1.9	11.7
Appalachian Region	11,627,092	78.5	8.7	0.9	2.0	1.2	8.6
Subregions							
Northern Appalachia	3,678,538	75.7	8.4	2.0	3.2	1.5	9.2
North Central Appalachia	1,047,191	80.5	8.4	0.6	2.4	1.1	7.0
Central Appalachia	668,886	81.2	10.1	0.2	1.8	0.8	5.8
South Central Appalachia	2,321,934	80.1	8.5	0.4	1.5	1.1	8.2
Southern Appalachia	3,910,543	79.3	9.0	0.4	1.0	1.2	9.2
County Types							
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	3,014,087	74.2	8.4	1.9	1.7	1.2	12.6
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	5,065,571	79.5	8.5	0.7	1.9	1.3	8.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	981,025	80.5	9.4	0.3	2.4	1.2	6.2
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	1,615,497	80.9	9.5	0.3	2.2	1.1	6.0
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	950,912	80.7	9.5	0.3	2.4	1.5	5.6
Alabama	2,183,677	82.8	8.1	0.3	1.1	1.0	6.7
Appalachian Alabama	1,439,121	82.4	8.3	0.3	1.0	0.9	7.1
Non-Appalachian Alabama	744,556	83.7	7.7	0.3	1.3	1.1	5.9
Georgia	5,010,799	74.2	9.0	1.5	1.3	1.8	12.3
Appalachian Georgia	1,594,332	75.1	10.0	0.4	0.9	1.2	12.3
Non-Appalachian Georgia	3,416,467	73.8	8.5	2.0	1.5	2.1	12.2
Kentucky	1,993,847	79.0	9.1	0.7	2.0	1.2	8.0
Appalachian Kentucky	423,719	80.3	10.7	0.2	2.0	0.8	5.9
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	1,570,128	78.6	8.7	0.9	2.0	1.4	8.5
Maryland	3,101,081	68.2	7.8	5.5	1.9	1.8	14.7
Appalachian Maryland	109,455	77.9	8.8	1.1	1.7	1.4	9.2
Non-Appalachian Maryland	2,991,626	67.8	7.8	5.7	1.9	1.9	14.9
Mississippi	1,232,826	83.6	8.9	0.3	1.3	1.5	4.5
Appalachian Mississippi	251,816	86.7	7.3	0.1	0.9	1.1	3.9
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	981,010	82.8	9.3	0.3	1.3	1.6	4.7
New York	9,394,994	50.5	6.3	23.4	5.7	2.5	11.6
Appalachian New York	448,474	74.6	9.0	1.6	5.1	1.6	8.0
Non-Appalachian New York	8,946,520	49.3	6.2	24.5	5.7	2.6	11.8
North Carolina	4,919,645	75.2	8.6	0.8	1.6	1.4	12.4
Appalachian North Carolina	902,461	79.5	9.0	0.4	1.5	1.2	8.4
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	4,017,184	74.3	8.5	0.9	1.6	1.4	13.3
Ohio	5,579,288	78.1	7.6	1.2	2.0	1.3	9.8
Appalachian Ohio	853,945	81.0	8.6	0.4	2.1	1.6	6.3
Non-Appalachian Ohio	4,725,343	77.5	7.4	1.3	2.0	1.2	10.5
Pennsylvania	6,200,303	71.1	7.7	4.3	3.3	1.7	11.8
Appalachian Pennsylvania	2,642,283	74.8	8.3	2.3	3.2	1.3	10.0
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	3,558,020	68.4	7.3	5.8	3.4	2.0	13.2
South Carolina	2,344,150	79.2	8.5	0.5	1.8	1.6	8.5
Appalachian South Carolina	625,274	79.8	8.8	0.3	1.3	1.6	8.2
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	1,718,876	79.0	8.3	0.5	1.9	1.6	8.6
Tennessee	3,213,248	78.8	8.5	0.5	1.2	1.3	9.7
Appalachian Tennessee	1,314,708	80.8	8.4	0.3	1.3	1.0	8.2
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	1,898,540	77.4	8.6	0.6	1.2	1.5	10.7
Virginia	4,290,610	70.9	8.3	3.0	2.1	1.7	14.0
Appalachian Virginia	298,287	80.8	8.2	0.8	2.4	1.3	6.5
Non-Appalachian Virginia	3,992,323	70.2	8.3	3.1	2.1	1.7	14.5
West Virginia (entire state)	723,217	80.4	8.2	0.7	2.6	1.3	6.9

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Table 7.2: Means of Transportation for Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region Below the Poverty Level, 2018-2022

Means of Transportation	Total Workers Ages 16 and Over Below the Poverty Level	Percent of Workers Ages 16 and Over Below the Poverty Level					
		Car, Truck, or Van (Drove Alone)	Car, Truck, or Van (Carpooled)	Public Transportation (Excluding Taxicab)	Walked	Taxicab, Motorcycle, Bicycle, or Other Means	Worked at Home
United States	8,589,451	64.8	12.4	6.3	5.3	3.5	7.8
Appalachian Region	711,150	70.2	13.4	2.5	5.1	2.6	6.3
Subregions							
Northern Appalachia	206,226	63.9	11.9	5.5	8.9	3.1	6.8
North Central Appalachia	71,326	70.4	11.5	2.4	7.2	2.7	5.9
Central Appalachia	56,156	72.8	14.6	0.4	4.2	1.6	6.4
South Central Appalachia	151,047	72.9	13.1	1.7	3.2	2.6	6.6
Southern Appalachia	226,395	73.4	15.1	0.9	2.5	2.3	5.8
County Types							
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	137,971	65.2	14.8	5.0	4.9	2.3	7.8
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	322,218	71.0	12.7	2.7	4.8	2.8	6.0
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	67,078	71.0	12.2	1.0	6.7	3.2	5.9
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	108,699	71.3	15.3	0.8	5.1	1.8	5.7
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	75,184	73.5	11.8	0.8	5.1	2.6	6.2
Alabama	143,425	77.6	12.4	1.3	2.6	1.8	4.4
Appalachian Alabama	87,391	77.2	12.9	1.2	2.3	1.9	4.4
Non-Appalachian Alabama	56,034	78.2	11.5	1.4	3.0	1.6	4.4
Georgia	299,523	67.0	14.7	3.1	3.0	3.9	8.3
Appalachian Georgia	79,099	67.8	19.2	0.6	2.8	2.0	7.6
Non-Appalachian Georgia	220,424	66.8	13.1	3.9	3.1	4.6	8.5
Kentucky	134,547	70.7	13.7	2.3	4.7	3.2	5.4
Appalachian Kentucky	38,957	71.6	15.6	0.3	4.6	1.5	6.4
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	95,590	70.4	12.9	3.1	4.7	4.0	5.0
Maryland	116,540	59.6	12.0	10.5	5.1	4.0	8.7
Appalachian Maryland	5,984	74.5	11.3	3.2	5.6	2.0	3.3
Non-Appalachian Maryland	110,556	58.8	12.1	10.9	5.1	4.1	8.9
Mississippi	102,778	78.6	12.6	0.5	2.2	2.4	3.7
Appalachian Mississippi	19,717	82.7	8.1	0.1	1.8	2.6	4.7
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	83,061	77.6	13.7	0.6	2.3	2.4	3.4
New York	474,398	37.1	7.9	31.4	11.3	3.8	8.6
Appalachian New York	31,388	58.9	12.4	5.6	11.4	3.4	8.2
Non-Appalachian New York	443,010	35.6	7.5	33.2	11.3	3.8	8.6
North Carolina	297,114	70.1	14.4	2.6	2.8	2.5	7.8
Appalachian North Carolina	61,625	71.5	15.2	1.6	3.0	2.1	6.6
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	235,489	69.7	14.1	2.8	2.7	2.5	8.1
Ohio	323,796	67.8	12.9	4.2	5.9	2.8	6.4
Appalachian Ohio	58,942	70.7	12.5	1.4	6.1	3.5	5.8
Non-Appalachian Ohio	264,854	67.2	12.9	4.8	5.9	2.6	6.5
Pennsylvania	297,277	57.8	11.2	11.1	8.4	3.7	7.8
Appalachian Pennsylvania	134,707	62.9	11.5	6.5	9.3	2.6	7.1
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	162,570	53.6	10.8	15.0	7.6	4.7	8.3
South Carolina	149,829	71.4	14.3	1.5	3.1	3.8	5.8
Appalachian South Carolina	40,188	71.2	15.3	1.2	2.7	3.7	5.9
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	109,641	71.5	14.0	1.6	3.2	3.8	5.8
Tennessee	190,311	73.5	13.1	1.8	2.4	2.7	6.4
Appalachian Tennessee	82,580	74.9	12.2	1.1	2.8	2.4	6.7
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	107,731	72.5	13.9	2.4	2.2	2.9	6.1
Virginia	188,743	65.2	12.7	4.9	4.6	3.9	8.7
Appalachian Virginia	20,905	70.3	10.1	3.9	5.2	4.0	6.6
Non-Appalachian Virginia	167,838	64.5	13.0	5.1	4.6	3.9	8.9
West Virginia (entire state)	49,667	70.6	11.3	2.9	7.0	3.1	5.0

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are based on family size and composition. In 2022, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$29,678. The poverty universe does not include unrelated individuals under age 15, people living in college dormitories, and people living in institutional group quarters.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Table 7.3: Availability of Vehicles for Households in the Appalachian Region, 2018-2022

Availability of Vehicles	Total Households	Percent of Households				
		No Vehicle Available	One Vehicle Available	Two Vehicles Available	Three Vehicles Available	Four or More Vehicles Available
United States	125,736,353	8.3	32.6	37.0	14.7	7.3
Appalachian Region	10,323,976	6.7	31.2	37.4	16.3	8.3
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	3,318,254	9.2	34.4	36.7	13.7	6.1
North Central Appalachia	991,975	7.4	32.1	36.7	15.9	7.9
Central Appalachia	716,672	7.3	30.9	35.7	17.1	9.0
South Central Appalachia	2,096,342	5.2	29.6	37.4	17.8	9.9
Southern Appalachia	3,200,733	4.7	28.8	38.7	18.1	9.7
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	2,438,480	6.6	31.2	38.9	15.6	7.6
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	4,463,176	6.6	31.9	37.2	16.1	8.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	902,199	6.8	30.1	37.0	16.8	9.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	1,557,054	6.6	30.0	36.5	17.5	9.5
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	963,067	7.4	31.1	36.4	16.6	8.6
Alabama	1,933,150	5.6	31.4	36.7	17.3	9.1
Appalachian Alabama	1,248,925	5.2	30.0	36.9	18.1	9.9
Non-Appalachian Alabama	684,225	6.2	33.9	36.3	15.8	7.9
Georgia	3,946,490	6.0	32.3	38.0	15.8	7.9
Appalachian Georgia	1,180,662	3.7	26.8	40.8	18.5	10.1
Non-Appalachian Georgia	2,765,828	7.0	34.7	36.8	14.6	7.0
Kentucky	1,769,102	6.7	31.8	37.7	15.9	7.9
Appalachian Kentucky	446,244	7.4	31.0	36.2	16.7	8.7
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	1,322,858	6.5	32.1	38.1	15.7	7.6
Maryland	2,318,124	8.7	32.7	36.3	15.0	7.4
Appalachian Maryland	98,961	8.3	30.7	36.0	16.7	8.2
Non-Appalachian Maryland	2,219,163	8.7	32.8	36.3	14.9	7.4
Mississippi	1,121,269	6.1	32.2	36.7	16.6	8.4
Appalachian Mississippi	238,653	5.6	29.9	37.2	17.7	9.6
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	882,616	6.2	32.8	36.5	16.3	8.1
New York	7,604,523	29.0	33.1	25.8	8.5	3.7
Appalachian New York	419,502	10.2	35.7	36.9	12.0	5.1
Non-Appalachian New York	7,185,021	30.1	32.9	25.1	8.2	3.7
North Carolina	4,105,232	5.4	31.3	38.1	16.7	8.5
Appalachian North Carolina	816,834	5.3	30.5	36.9	17.6	9.7
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	3,288,398	5.4	31.6	38.4	16.5	8.2
Ohio	4,789,408	7.4	33.4	37.7	14.5	7.0
Appalachian Ohio	791,590	7.5	30.7	36.4	16.8	8.6
Non-Appalachian Ohio	3,997,818	7.4	34.0	37.9	14.0	6.7
Pennsylvania	5,193,727	10.6	34.4	36.0	13.1	5.9
Appalachian Pennsylvania	2,350,602	9.2	34.7	36.8	13.5	5.9
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	2,843,125	11.7	34.2	35.4	12.9	5.9
South Carolina	2,023,085	5.7	32.2	38.7	16.0	7.3
Appalachian South Carolina	532,493	5.4	30.2	38.8	17.4	8.2
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	1,490,592	5.8	32.9	38.7	15.6	7.0
Tennessee	2,713,635	5.3	30.6	38.1	17.0	9.0
Appalachian Tennessee	1,190,080	5.1	29.0	37.7	17.9	10.2
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	1,523,555	5.5	31.8	38.3	16.3	8.0
Virginia	3,289,776	6.1	30.3	37.6	17.0	9.0
Appalachian Virginia	293,390	6.4	29.1	35.9	18.5	10.2
Non-Appalachian Virginia	2,996,386	6.0	30.4	37.8	16.9	8.9
West Virginia (entire state)	716,040	8.2	34.1	36.8	14.4	6.6

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Table 7.4: Number of Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Live in Households With No Vehicle Available, by Means of Transportation, 2018-2022

Availability of Vehicles	Total Workers Ages 16 and Over	Car, Truck, or Van (Drove Alone)	Car, Truck, or Van (Carpooled)	Public Transportation (Excluding Taxicab)	Walked	Taxicab, Motorcycle, Bicycle, or Other Means	Worked at Home
United States	6,626,478	1,551,170	656,327	2,161,937	841,487	599,075	816,482
Appalachian Region	304,789	114,399	56,658	33,182	43,805	31,942	24,803
Subregions							
Northern Appalachia	148,962	41,002	24,753	25,420	26,060	17,143	14,584
North Central Appalachia	26,106	10,807	4,338	1,850	4,929	2,297	1,885
Central Appalachia	14,473	6,680	3,344	193	2,250	887	1,119
South Central Appalachia	41,374	19,888	7,233	2,930	4,177	4,506	2,640
Southern Appalachia	73,874	36,022	16,990	2,789	6,389	7,109	4,575
County Types							
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	80,067	25,611	12,455	18,188	10,977	5,261	7,575
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	127,090	51,938	22,236	13,106	17,586	13,823	8,401
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	27,324	10,271	5,399	716	4,474	3,645	2,819
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	42,103	17,480	10,295	798	5,949	4,204	3,377
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	28,205	9,099	6,273	374	4,819	5,009	2,631
Alabama	40,765	22,824	7,626	1,560	3,596	3,196	1,963
Appalachian Alabama	24,892	14,729	4,073	1,047	2,288	1,683	1,072
Non-Appalachian Alabama	15,873	8,095	3,553	513	1,308	1,513	891
Georgia	143,407	47,748	29,023	23,040	11,514	19,009	13,073
Appalachian Georgia	30,951	12,814	9,021	1,058	2,524	3,200	2,334
Non-Appalachian Georgia	112,456	34,934	20,002	21,982	8,990	15,809	10,739
Kentucky	48,445	17,664	9,074	5,315	7,242	5,361	3,789
Appalachian Kentucky	9,339	4,213	2,203	100	1,468	549	806
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	39,106	13,451	6,871	5,215	5,774	4,812	2,983
Maryland	124,693	31,165	14,262	43,226	10,552	11,606	13,882
Appalachian Maryland	3,193	1,422	463	429	304	319	256
Non-Appalachian Maryland	121,500	29,743	13,799	42,797	10,248	11,287	13,626
Mississippi	26,643	13,621	5,840	502	2,368	2,754	1,558
Appalachian Mississippi	4,594	2,273	934	15	539	516	317
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	22,049	11,348	4,906	487	1,829	2,238	1,241
New York	2,006,221	136,460	60,441	1,156,525	259,560	108,547	284,688
Appalachian New York	20,906	5,346	2,489	3,140	4,994	2,585	2,352
Non-Appalachian New York	1,985,315	131,114	57,952	1,153,385	254,566	105,962	282,336
North Carolina	103,189	41,667	19,208	11,048	8,854	11,443	10,969
Appalachian North Carolina	16,837	8,181	2,722	1,279	1,436	2,341	878
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	86,352	33,486	16,486	9,769	7,418	9,102	10,091
Ohio	169,722	52,079	33,591	27,980	22,829	19,365	13,878
Appalachian Ohio	31,342	9,333	7,608	1,092	4,041	6,818	2,450
Non-Appalachian Ohio	138,380	42,746	25,983	26,888	18,788	12,547	11,428
Pennsylvania	309,915	69,607	38,260	90,883	47,825	29,317	34,023
Appalachian Pennsylvania	101,653	28,831	15,787	20,993	17,929	8,048	10,065
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	208,262	40,776	22,473	69,890	29,896	21,269	23,958
South Carolina	53,641	20,983	13,250	3,179	4,631	8,161	3,437
Appalachian South Carolina	13,437	6,206	2,962	669	1,038	1,710	852
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	40,204	14,777	10,288	2,510	3,593	6,451	2,585
Tennessee	62,193	28,357	11,271	5,617	5,723	6,136	5,089
Appalachian Tennessee	21,758	10,237	4,410	1,216	2,390	1,834	1,671
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	40,435	18,120	6,861	4,401	3,333	4,302	3,418
Virginia	120,651	40,199	17,139	24,068	12,804	11,358	15,083
Appalachian Virginia	6,659	3,340	1,057	509	888	558	307
Non-Appalachian Virginia	113,992	36,859	16,082	23,559	11,916	10,800	14,776
West Virginia (entire state)	19,228	7,474	2,929	1,635	3,966	1,781	1,443

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Table 7.5: Percent of Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Live in Households With No Vehicle Available, by Means of Transportation, 2018-2022

Availability of Vehicles	Total Workers Ages 16 and Over	Car, Truck, or Van (Drove Alone)	Car, Truck, or Van (Carpooled)	Public Transportation (Excluding Taxicab)	Walked	Taxicab, Motorcycle, Bicycle, or Other Means	Worked at Home
United States	4.3	1.4	4.9	37.0	26.1	20.7	4.5
Appalachian Region	2.6	1.3	5.6	33.1	23.4	22.8	2.5
Subregions							
Northern Appalachia	4.1	1.5	8.0	36.0	26.6	32.5	4.4
North Central Appalachia	2.5	1.3	5.0	33.5	23.0	20.0	2.6
Central Appalachia	2.2	1.2	5.0	13.4	22.8	16.4	2.9
South Central Appalachia	1.8	1.1	3.7	31.4	15.7	17.8	1.4
Southern Appalachia	1.9	1.2	4.8	21.0	20.1	15.8	1.3
County Types							
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	2.7	1.1	4.9	32.7	25.4	15.0	2.0
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	2.5	1.3	5.2	36.8	23.0	22.4	2.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	2.8	1.3	5.9	28.6	23.0	30.2	4.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	2.6	1.3	6.8	20.0	20.3	24.3	3.6
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	3.0	1.2	7.0	15.6	25.4	36.4	5.1
Alabama	1.9	1.3	4.3	22.7	18.5	15.0	1.4
Appalachian Alabama	1.7	1.2	3.4	23.3	19.4	12.8	1.1
Non-Appalachian Alabama	2.1	1.3	6.2	21.6	17.1	18.5	2.1
Georgia	2.9	1.3	6.5	32.7	21.5	21.3	2.1
Appalachian Georgia	1.9	1.1	5.7	15.5	20.0	16.4	1.2
Non-Appalachian Georgia	3.3	1.4	7.0	34.6	22.0	22.7	2.6
Kentucky	2.5	1.1	5.0	37.6	24.4	22.2	2.4
Appalachian Kentucky	2.2	1.2	4.9	13.0	23.2	16.8	3.2
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	2.5	1.1	5.1	39.0	24.7	23.0	2.3
Maryland	4.0	1.5	5.9	25.4	20.3	20.5	3.1
Appalachian Maryland	2.9	1.7	4.8	39.8	18.3	21.9	2.6
Non-Appalachian Maryland	4.1	1.5	5.9	25.3	20.4	20.5	3.1
Mississippi	2.2	1.3	5.4	15.7	21.7	15.1	2.8
Appalachian Mississippi	1.8	1.0	5.1	8.8	31.4	18.4	3.3
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	2.3	1.4	5.4	16.1	19.9	14.4	2.7
New York	21.6	2.9	10.3	53.2	52.4	46.5	26.6
Appalachian New York	4.8	1.6	6.2	47.0	27.7	36.4	6.9
Non-Appalachian New York	22.4	3.0	10.5	53.2	53.3	46.8	27.2
North Carolina	2.1	1.1	4.7	29.6	15.4	17.6	1.8
Appalachian North Carolina	1.9	1.1	3.4	36.2	12.5	21.3	1.2
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	2.2	1.1	5.0	28.9	16.1	16.8	1.9
Ohio	3.1	1.2	8.0	43.4	24.1	27.5	2.6
Appalachian Ohio	3.7	1.4	10.4	32.6	27.0	48.9	4.6
Non-Appalachian Ohio	3.0	1.2	7.4	43.9	23.6	22.2	2.3
Pennsylvania	5.1	1.6	8.1	34.5	27.7	28.4	4.7
Appalachian Pennsylvania	3.9	1.5	7.3	34.6	25.8	24.2	3.9
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	5.9	1.7	8.7	34.5	29.0	30.4	5.2
South Carolina	2.3	1.1	6.8	32.7	19.4	22.1	1.8
Appalachian South Carolina	2.2	1.3	5.4	37.5	18.4	18.0	1.7
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	2.4	1.1	7.4	31.6	19.8	23.4	1.8
Tennessee	2.0	1.1	4.2	36.3	18.9	15.3	1.7
Appalachian Tennessee	1.7	1.0	4.0	29.5	19.1	14.5	1.6
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	2.1	1.2	4.2	38.7	18.7	15.6	1.7
Virginia	2.9	1.3	4.9	19.2	19.4	15.9	2.5
Appalachian Virginia	2.3	1.4	4.4	23.6	19.8	16.0	1.6
Non-Appalachian Virginia	2.9	1.3	4.9	19.2	19.4	15.9	2.6
West Virginia (entire state)	2.7	1.3	5.0	36.3	23.8	20.1	3.0

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Table 7.6: Relationship Between Number of Workers and Availability of Vehicles for Households in the Appalachian Region With One or More Workers, 2018-2022

Availability of Vehicles	Total Households With One or More Workers	Percent of Households With One or More Workers			
		Households With Zero Vehicles	Households Where Workers Exceed Vehicles	Households Where Workers Equal Vehicles	Households Where Vehicles Exceed Workers
United States	92,206,778	5.1	6.7	51.8	36.5
Appalachian Region	6,986,915	3.1	4.6	49.0	43.3
Subregions					
Northern Appalachia	2,231,694	4.8	5.7	52.2	37.2
North Central Appalachia	636,784	3.0	4.5	47.9	44.5
Central Appalachia	413,180	2.5	4.0	42.1	51.4
South Central Appalachia	1,398,317	2.2	3.7	47.2	47.0
Southern Appalachia	2,306,940	2.2	4.2	48.4	45.2
County Types					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	1,785,564	3.3	5.1	52.8	38.9
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	3,053,505	3.0	4.6	49.8	42.6
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	590,370	3.2	4.1	46.1	46.5
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	981,448	3.0	4.2	43.8	48.9
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	576,028	3.3	4.1	44.5	48.1
Alabama	1,317,193	2.2	3.6	47.7	46.5
Appalachian Alabama	864,122	2.1	3.5	47.2	47.2
Non-Appalachian Alabama	453,071	2.5	3.7	48.6	45.2
Georgia	2,961,777	3.4	5.8	51.8	39.0
Appalachian Georgia	905,874	2.1	4.9	49.9	43.0
Non-Appalachian Georgia	2,055,903	4.0	6.1	52.7	37.2
Kentucky	1,210,636	3.0	4.9	50.6	41.4
Appalachian Kentucky	261,170	2.6	4.4	43.4	49.6
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	949,466	3.2	5.1	52.6	39.2
Maryland	1,790,892	5.0	7.7	54.3	33.1
Appalachian Maryland	66,458	3.6	4.5	49.4	42.5
Non-Appalachian Maryland	1,724,434	5.0	7.8	54.5	32.7
Mississippi	760,012	2.6	4.3	46.8	46.3
Appalachian Mississippi	155,411	2.1	3.4	44.8	49.7
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	604,601	2.8	4.5	47.3	45.5
New York	5,492,805	24.3	12.7	41.8	21.1
Appalachian New York	276,860	5.7	6.5	52.6	35.3
Non-Appalachian New York	5,215,945	25.3	13.1	41.3	20.3
North Carolina	2,962,655	2.6	4.7	50.5	42.2
Appalachian North Carolina	539,544	2.3	4.0	47.6	46.1
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	2,423,111	2.7	4.9	51.1	41.3
Ohio	3,400,301	3.6	4.6	54.1	37.7
Appalachian Ohio	518,964	3.8	3.9	46.6	45.7
Non-Appalachian Ohio	2,881,337	3.6	4.7	55.5	36.2
Pennsylvania	3,691,350	6.2	7.3	53.2	33.3
Appalachian Pennsylvania	1,593,180	4.7	5.9	53.1	36.2
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	2,098,170	7.3	8.3	53.3	31.2
South Carolina	1,416,442	2.8	4.9	50.4	42.0
Appalachian South Carolina	381,533	2.7	4.4	49.0	43.9
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	1,034,909	2.9	5.1	50.8	41.2
Tennessee	1,944,312	2.3	4.1	49.9	43.7
Appalachian Tennessee	799,177	2.0	3.4	46.7	47.9
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	1,145,135	2.6	4.6	52.1	40.7
Virginia	2,494,175	3.4	6.1	51.4	39.1
Appalachian Virginia	178,405	2.7	3.5	42.6	51.2
Non-Appalachian Virginia	2,315,770	3.5	6.3	52.1	38.2
West Virginia (entire state)	446,217	3.3	4.9	49.0	42.9

Note: "Households Where Workers Equal Vehicles" include households with three (3) or more workers with three (3) or more vehicles available. Because those are open-ended categories, some of these households could have more workers than available vehicles, while others could have more vehicles than workers.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Table 7.7: Travel Time to Work for Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region, by Amount of Time, 2018-2022

Travel Time to Work (Minutes)	Workers Ages 16 and Over	Percent of Workers Ages 16 and Over				Mean Travel Time to Work (Minutes)
		Less Than 15 Minutes	15 Minutes to 29 Minutes	30 Minutes to 59 Minutes	60 Minutes or More	
United States	138,386,938	25.8	36.4	29.0	8.9	26.7
Appalachian Region	10,626,068	27.9	37.0	27.2	8.0	25.8
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	3,340,305	31.7	35.8	25.0	7.5	24.9
North Central Appalachia	973,676	28.1	36.1	26.4	9.4	26.7
Central Appalachia	629,760	30.1	32.2	27.6	10.1	27.2
South Central Appalachia	2,131,011	28.7	40.9	24.7	5.7	23.8
Southern Appalachia	3,551,316	23.4	36.8	30.9	9.0	27.4
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	2,633,512	20.7	33.7	35.0	10.6	29.3
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	4,655,870	28.6	41.2	24.3	6.0	24.0
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	920,303	33.0	32.9	24.8	9.4	25.6
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	1,518,667	31.4	33.6	26.3	8.7	25.9
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	897,716	34.1	34.4	23.4	8.0	24.6
Alabama	2,038,271	25.7	39.1	28.2	6.9	25.3
Appalachian Alabama	1,337,368	24.9	38.6	29.3	7.2	25.7
Non-Appalachian Alabama	700,903	27.3	40.1	26.2	6.5	24.6
Georgia	4,396,399	22.3	35.6	31.9	10.2	28.4
Appalachian Georgia	1,397,903	19.9	32.8	34.6	12.6	30.6
Non-Appalachian Georgia	2,998,496	23.4	36.8	30.7	9.1	27.4
Kentucky	1,835,303	30.3	39.2	24.3	6.2	23.9
Appalachian Kentucky	398,511	32.1	32.6	25.9	9.4	26.5
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	1,436,792	29.8	41.1	23.9	5.3	23.2
Maryland	2,646,267	17.3	32.3	36.4	14.0	32.0
Appalachian Maryland	99,407	28.4	37.3	23.3	11.0	27.4
Non-Appalachian Maryland	2,546,860	16.9	32.1	36.9	14.1	32.2
Mississippi	1,177,214	28.9	37.2	26.4	7.5	25.4
Appalachian Mississippi	242,060	30.7	36.6	26.0	6.6	24.0
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	935,154	28.4	37.4	26.5	7.8	25.8
New York	8,306,205	20.0	29.6	32.9	17.5	33.2
Appalachian New York	412,647	39.6	35.2	19.5	5.7	21.7
Non-Appalachian New York	7,893,558	19.0	29.3	33.6	18.2	33.8
North Carolina	4,310,113	26.4	39.6	27.5	6.5	25.0
Appalachian North Carolina	826,985	29.3	41.8	23.1	5.8	23.6
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	3,483,128	25.7	39.1	28.5	6.6	25.3
Ohio	5,031,783	28.9	40.5	25.4	5.2	23.6
Appalachian Ohio	800,292	30.3	35.9	25.3	8.5	25.7
Non-Appalachian Ohio	4,231,491	28.6	41.4	25.4	4.6	23.2
Pennsylvania	5,466,237	26.4	35.8	29.2	8.6	26.7
Appalachian Pennsylvania	2,377,242	30.1	35.6	26.6	7.7	25.5
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	3,088,995	23.5	35.9	31.2	9.4	27.7
South Carolina	2,144,553	24.9	39.2	29.3	6.6	25.5
Appalachian South Carolina	573,985	25.0	42.3	27.6	5.2	24.8
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	1,570,568	24.8	38.1	30.0	7.1	25.8
Tennessee	2,901,815	24.9	39.1	29.2	6.8	25.5
Appalachian Tennessee	1,207,298	27.1	39.9	26.8	6.2	24.5
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	1,694,517	23.2	38.6	30.9	7.3	26.2
Virginia	3,691,483	22.3	36.9	31.2	9.5	27.9
Appalachian Virginia	278,808	32.3	36.5	24.3	6.9	24.0
Non-Appalachian Virginia	3,412,675	21.5	36.9	31.8	9.8	28.2
West Virginia (entire state)	673,562	29.0	36.6	24.9	9.5	26.3

Note: Persons ages 16 and over who primarily worked from home are excluded from this analysis.

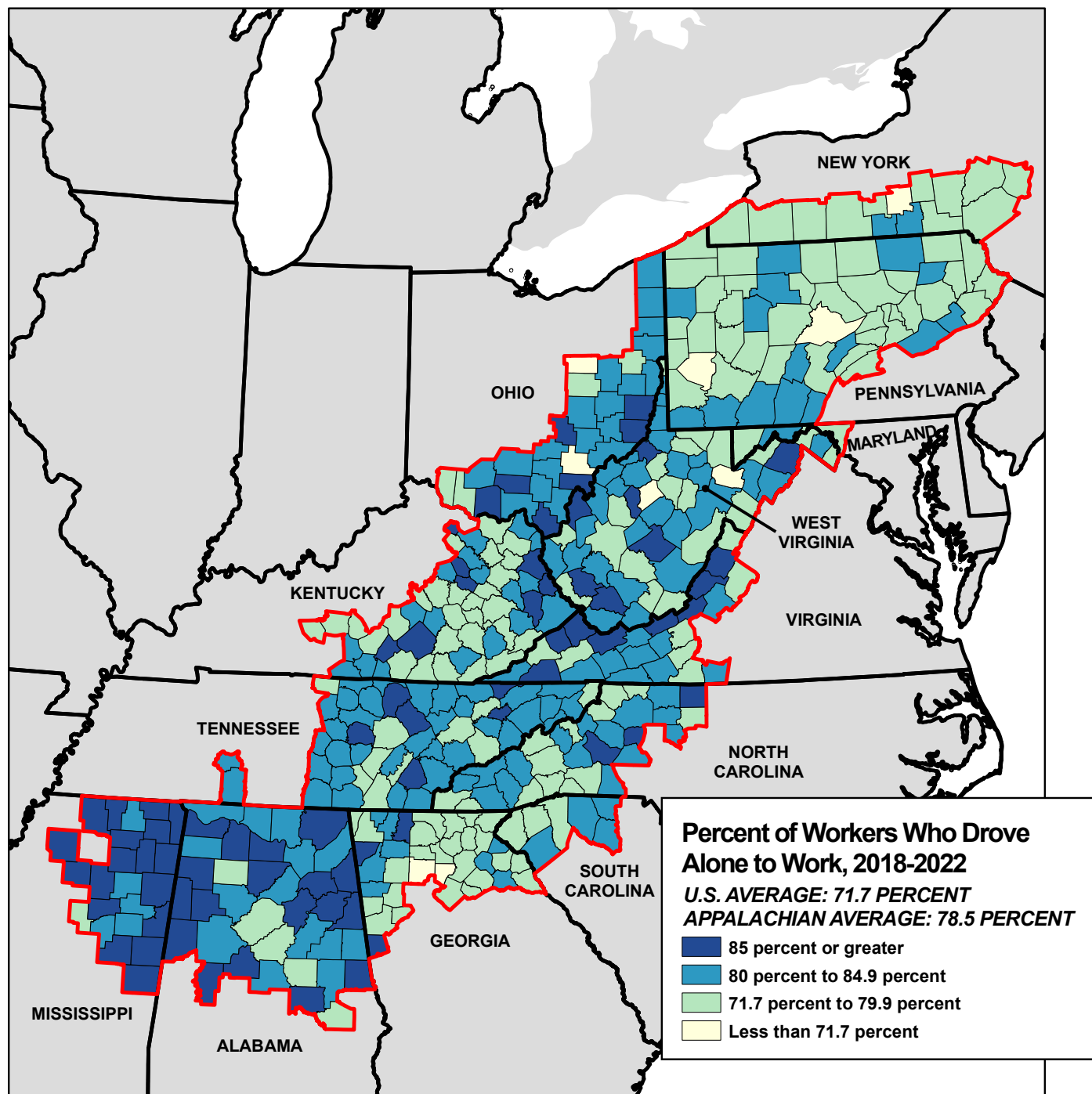
Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Table 7.8: Place of Work (State and County Level) for Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region, 2018-2022

Place of Work (State and County Level)	Workers Ages 16 and Over	Percent of Workers Ages 16 and Over			
		Worked in County of Residence	Worked Outside County of Residence		
			Total	Worked in State of Residence	Worked Outside State of Residence
United States	156,703,623	74.2	25.8	22.5	3.3
Appalachian Region	11,627,092	69.0	31.0	26.7	4.2
Subregions					
Northern Appalachia	3,678,538	74.9	25.1	21.3	3.8
North Central Appalachia	1,047,191	63.6	36.4	24.7	11.7
Central Appalachia	668,886	60.0	40.0	34.2	5.8
South Central Appalachia	2,321,934	71.1	28.9	26.0	2.9
Southern Appalachia	3,910,543	65.4	34.6	31.5	3.1
County Types					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	3,014,087	66.3	33.7	31.4	2.3
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	5,065,571	72.6	27.4	22.4	5.0
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	981,025	66.9	33.1	29.3	3.8
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	1,615,497	65.0	35.0	29.2	5.8
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	950,912	68.0	32.0	28.1	4.0
Alabama	2,183,677	72.9	27.1	22.9	4.2
Appalachian Alabama	1,439,121	71.6	28.4	25.8	2.6
Non-Appalachian Alabama	744,556	75.4	24.6	17.3	7.3
Georgia	5,010,799	60.9	39.1	36.5	2.6
Appalachian Georgia	1,594,332	56.6	43.4	40.0	3.4
Non-Appalachian Georgia	3,416,467	63.0	37.0	34.8	2.2
Kentucky	1,993,847	68.6	31.4	25.2	6.2
Appalachian Kentucky	423,719	62.5	37.5	32.6	4.9
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	1,570,128	70.3	29.7	23.2	6.6
Maryland	3,101,081	59.4	40.6	26.4	14.2
Appalachian Maryland	109,455	71.6	28.4	14.9	13.4
Non-Appalachian Maryland	2,991,626	58.9	41.1	26.8	14.2
Mississippi	1,232,826	63.0	37.0	28.4	8.6
Appalachian Mississippi	251,816	61.7	38.3	32.5	5.9
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	981,010	63.3	36.7	27.3	9.3
New York	9,394,994	67.7	32.3	30.2	2.0
Appalachian New York	448,474	77.7	22.3	19.9	2.3
Non-Appalachian New York	8,946,520	67.2	32.8	30.8	2.0
North Carolina	4,919,645	72.4	27.6	25.2	2.4
Appalachian North Carolina	902,461	72.3	27.7	25.5	2.2
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	4,017,184	72.4	27.6	25.1	2.5
Ohio	5,579,288	70.9	29.1	26.5	2.6
Appalachian Ohio	853,945	62.2	37.8	29.5	8.3
Non-Appalachian Ohio	4,725,343	72.4	27.6	26.0	1.6
Pennsylvania	6,200,303	72.8	27.2	22.6	4.6
Appalachian Pennsylvania	2,642,283	75.9	24.1	21.0	3.1
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	3,558,020	70.5	29.5	23.8	5.8
South Carolina	2,344,150	71.0	29.0	23.8	5.2
Appalachian South Carolina	625,274	74.8	25.2	22.7	2.6
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	1,718,876	69.6	30.4	24.2	6.2
Tennessee	3,213,248	72.2	27.8	24.4	3.4
Appalachian Tennessee	1,314,708	70.7	29.3	26.4	2.9
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	1,898,540	73.2	26.8	23.1	3.8
Virginia	4,290,610	54.1	45.9	39.2	6.7
Appalachian Virginia	298,287	59.5	40.5	32.8	7.7
Non-Appalachian Virginia	3,992,323	53.7	46.3	39.7	6.6
West Virginia (entire state)	723,217	66.9	33.1	20.5	12.6

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Figure 7.1: Percent of Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Drove Alone to Work, 2018-2022

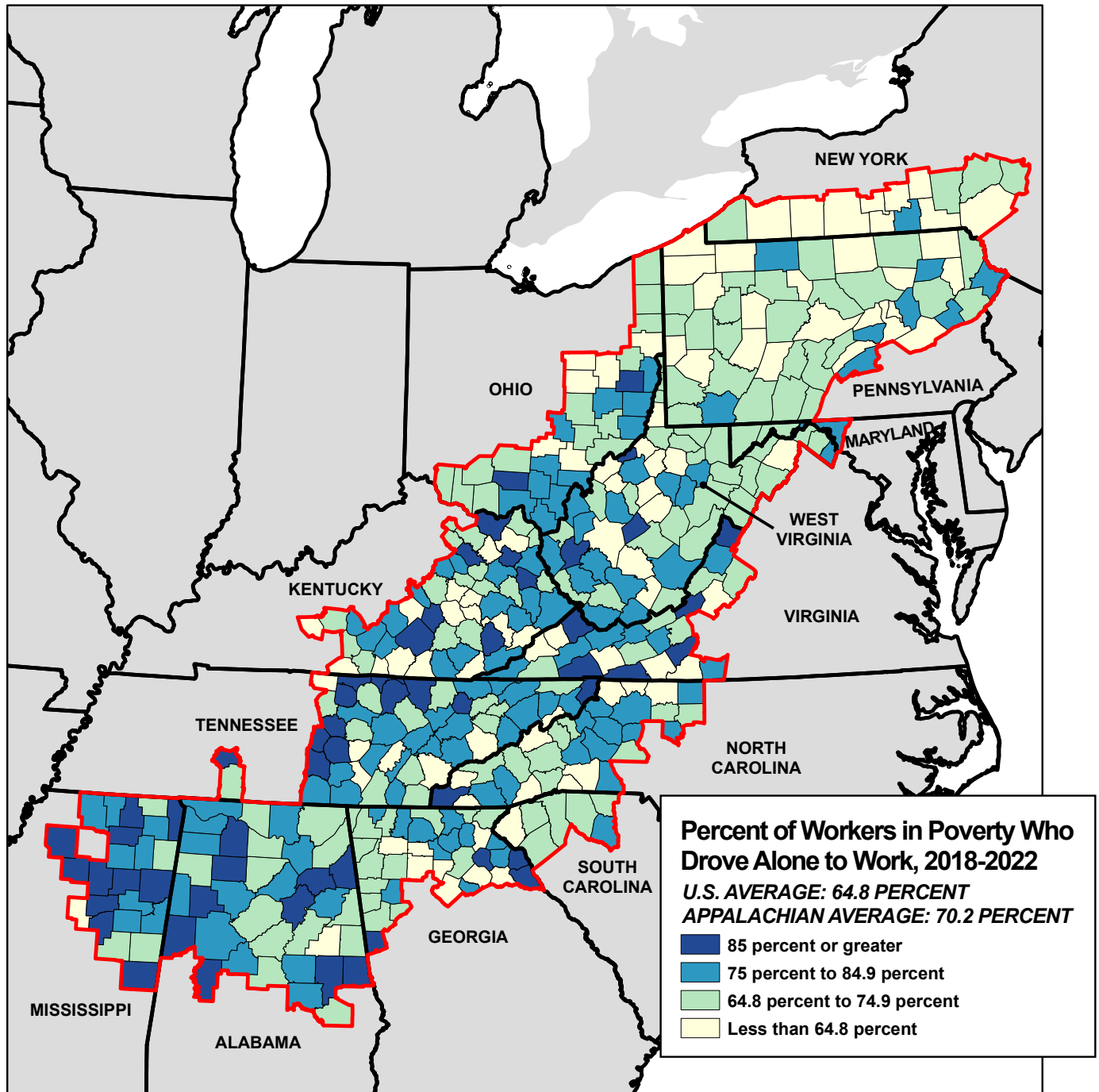


Map Title: Percent of Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Drove Alone to Work, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

In the 2018-2022 period, 78.5 percent of workers in the Appalachian Region drove alone to their jobs, which is nearly seven percentage points higher than the nationwide share. And the percentage is even greater in much of Appalachia: In 78 Appalachian counties, at least 85 percent of workers drove alone. Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia accounted for 66 of these counties, including 36 in Alabama and Mississippi alone. (The share of workers driving alone exceeded 82 percent in the Appalachian sections of both states.) In contrast, Northern Appalachia had four of the nine counties in the Region where the share of workers driving alone was below the national average; it was the subregion with the lowest percentage of workers who drove alone. Among the county types, only counties in metro areas had less than 80 percent of workers driving alone to work.

Figure 7.2: Percent of Workers Ages 16 and Over Below the Poverty Level in the Appalachian Region Who Drove Alone to Work, 2018-2022

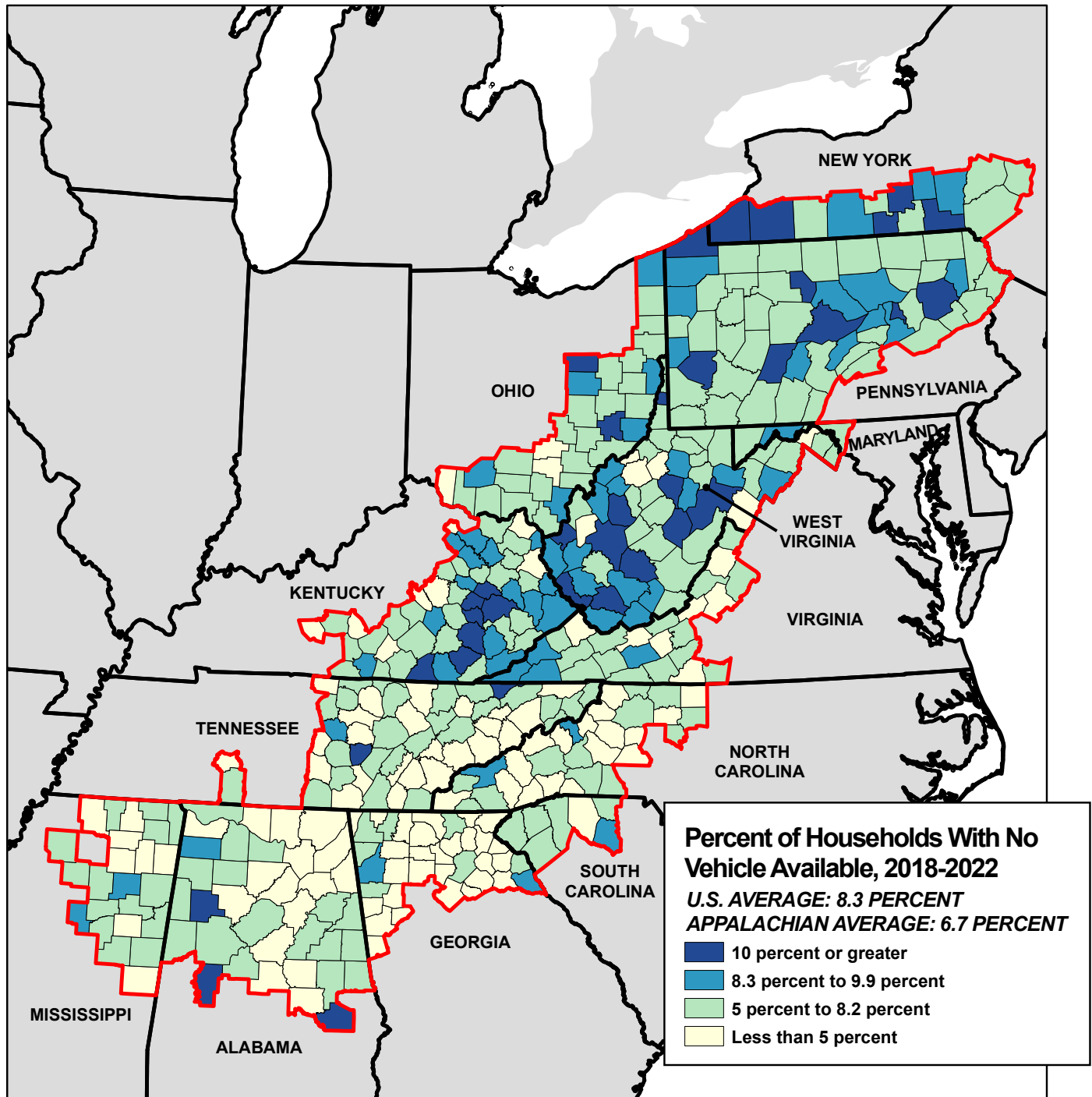


Map Title: Percent of Workers Ages 16 and Over Below the Poverty Level in the Appalachian Region Who Drove Alone to Work, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Among workers with incomes below the poverty level (\$29,678 for a family of two adults and two children in 2022), the share who drove alone to their places of employment was 70.2 percent in Appalachia, compared to just 64.8 percent nationally. The share was at least 75 percent in 180 of the Region's 423 counties, and at least 85 percent in 56 of them. Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia had the vast majority of counties in both groups; the share of poor workers who drove alone exceeded 72 percent in all three subregions. In contrast, 33 of the 95 counties with rates below the national average were in Northern Appalachia—the only subregion where fewer than two-thirds of workers below the poverty level drove alone to their jobs. Among the states, the lowest share driving alone to work in the Region was 58.9 percent in Appalachian New York.

Figure 7.3: Percent of Households in the Appalachian Region With No Vehicle Available, 2018-2022

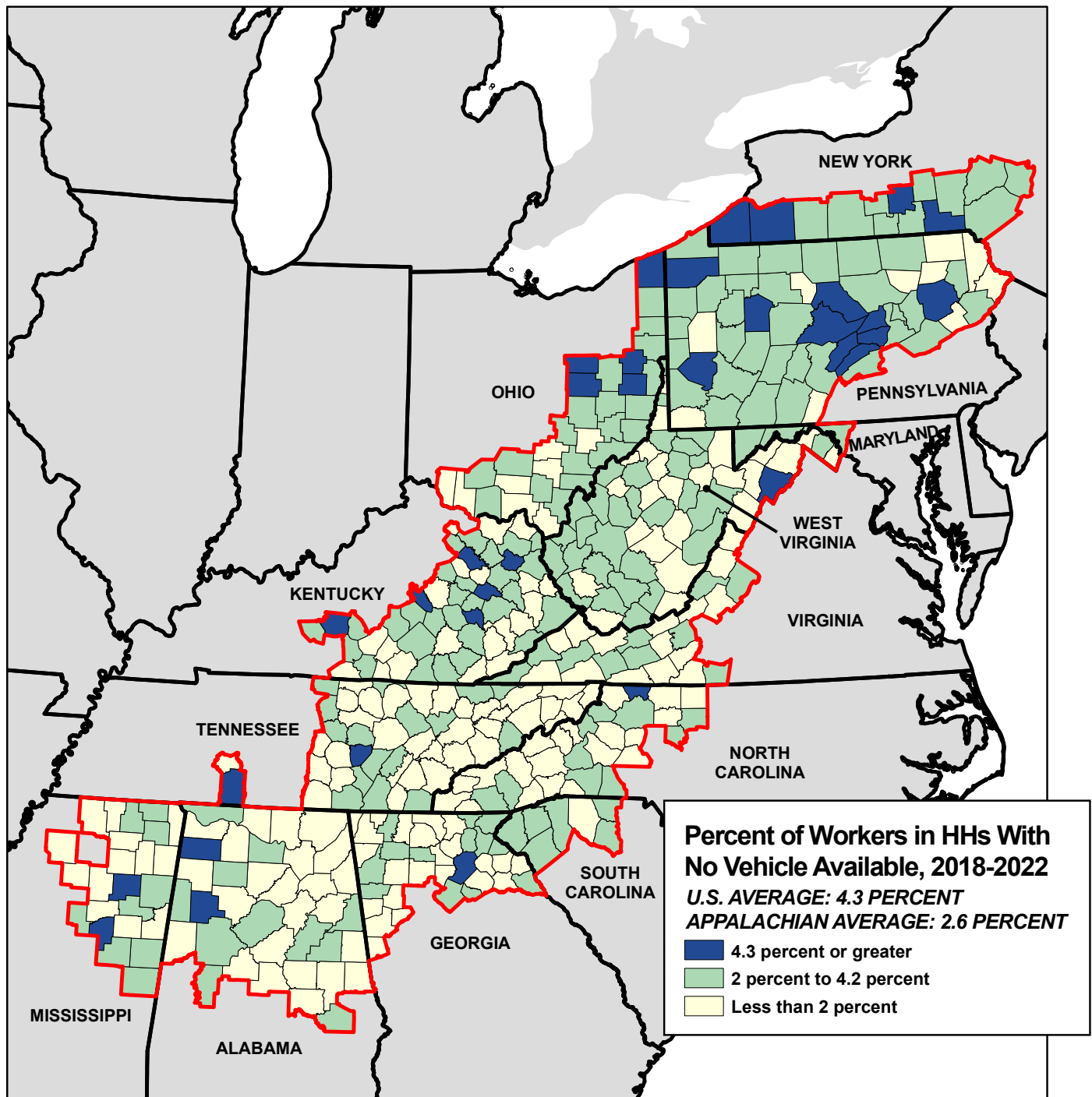


Map Title: Percent of Households in the Appalachian Region With No Vehicle Available, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Having a reliable mode of transportation can be an important part of many household members' abilities to gain and keep employment. Yet in Appalachia, 6.7 percent of households have no vehicle available to get to current and/or potential employment. While this is lower than the national average of 8.3 percent, that is not the case in much of the Region. In fact, there were 36 Appalachian counties where at least one in 10 households had no vehicle available; 29 of these counties were in four states—New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Kentucky. Yet in 118 other counties in the Region, less than 5 percent of households were without any motor vehicle. South Central and Southern Appalachia had 95 of the counties in the latter group.

Figure 7.4: Percent of Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Live in Households With No Vehicle Available, 2018-2022

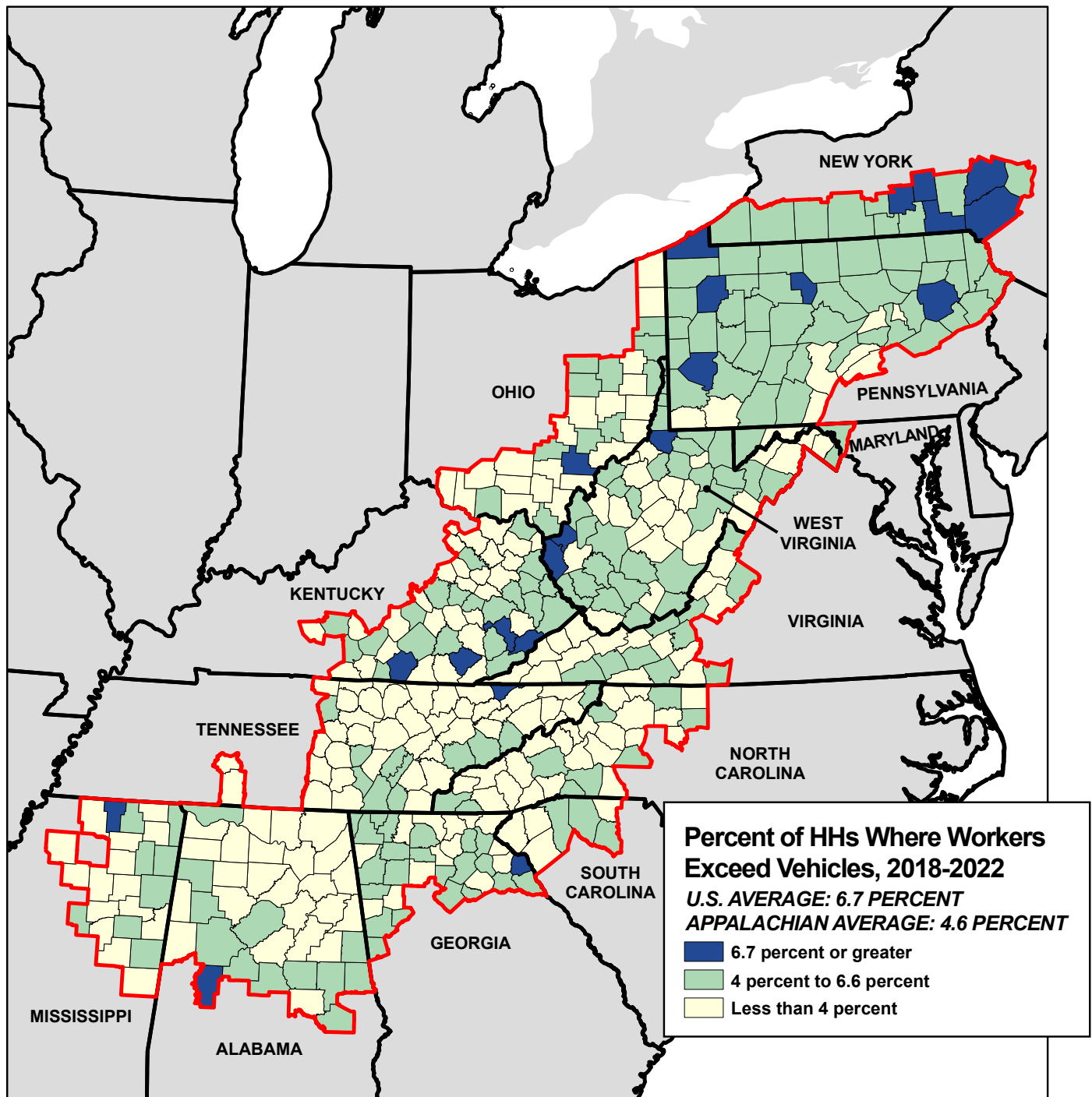


Map Title: Percent of Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Live in Households With No Vehicle Available, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Just 2.6 percent of Appalachian workers live in households with no vehicle available, compared with 4.3 percent of workers nationally. And the share is even lower in a large part of the Region: In 192 of Appalachia's 423 counties, less than 2 percent of the workforce did not have a vehicle in their household. These counties were heavily concentrated in Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia; the share of workers without a vehicle was around 2 percent in all three subregions. In contrast, Northern Appalachia had 19 of the Region's 34 counties where the share of workers in zero-vehicle households was at or above the U.S. average.

Figure 7.5: Percent of Households With One or More Workers in the Appalachian Region Where the Number of Workers Exceeds the Number of Vehicles Available, 2018-2022

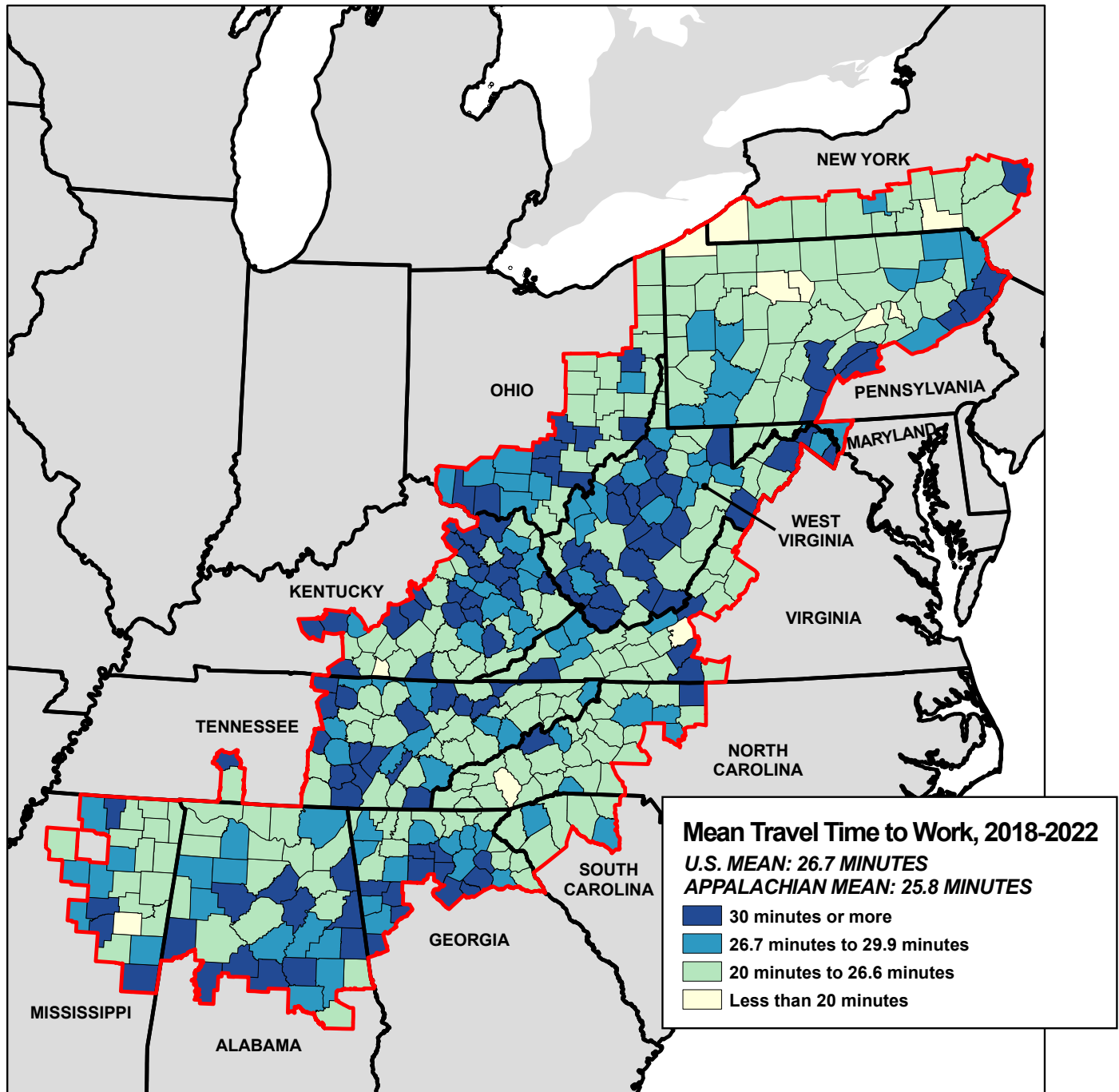


Map Title: Percent of Households With One or More Workers in the Appalachian Region Where the Number of Workers Exceeds the Number of Vehicles Available, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

In 4.6 percent of Appalachian households, the number of workers in the household exceeds the number of vehicles available, compared with 6.7 percent nationwide. Workers in such households must often make special arrangements to accommodate different work schedules and responsibilities. This share is even lower than the Appalachian average in much of the Region—less than 4 percent in more than half of Appalachia's 423 counties. Yet in 22 Appalachian counties, the share of households with more workers than vehicles matched or exceeded the national average. Almost half of the counties in the latter group were in New York and Pennsylvania. The Appalachian sections of these two states were the only ones where workers exceeded available vehicles in more than 5 percent of the households.

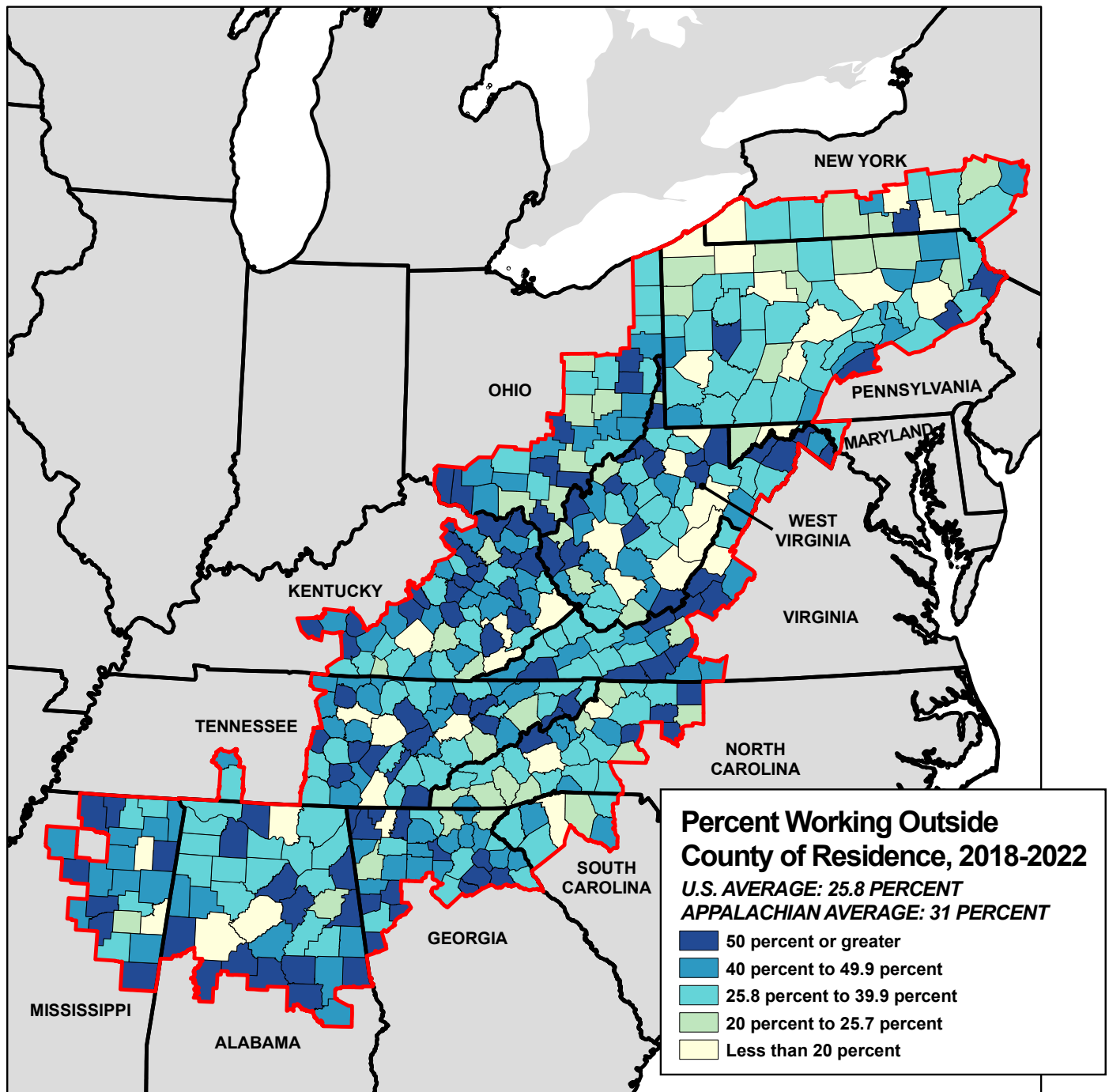
Figure 7.6: Mean Travel Time to Work for Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region, 2018-2022



Map Title: Mean Travel Time to Work for Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region, 2018-2022
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

In the Appalachian Region, workers ages 16 and older took, on average, 25.8 minutes to get to their jobs, nearly a minute less than workers nationwide. But that was not the case in much of Appalachia: In 202 of the Region's 423 counties, the mean travel time to work was at or above the national average. And in 112 Appalachian counties, workers averaged a half hour or more to get to their jobs. More than two-fifths of these 112 counties were in metropolitan areas, including suburban Atlanta and the exurban counties of New York City (Pike County, Pennsylvania) and Washington, D.C. (Jefferson County, West Virginia). Yet workers in 62 nonmetropolitan counties—43 of which were in Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia—faced similarly lengthy commutes. By comparison, workers in just 11 Appalachian counties had average commutes lasting less than 20 minutes. All of these counties were home to colleges and universities (for example, Montgomery County, Virginia, home to Virginia Tech). It is important to note that these data cover the 2018-2022 period, so these commuting patterns include the COVID-19 pandemic.

Figure 7.7: Percent of Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Work Outside Their County of Residence, 2018-2022



Map Title: Percent of Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Work Outside Their County of Residence, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

In the Appalachian Region, 31 percent of workers ages 16 and older had jobs outside their county of residence during 2018-2022, over five percentage points above the national average. And the share is even higher in most of the Region: In 213 of Appalachia's 423 counties, at least 40 percent of workers had their primary employment outside their county of residence. And in 111 of these counties, at least half of workers were commuting to another county. Most of the counties in this latter group were in metropolitan areas, including the suburbs and exurbs of Atlanta, Birmingham, and Cincinnati. In contrast, just 37 Appalachian counties had fewer than one in five workers employed outside their residential county. Many of these counties housed colleges and universities (like Watauga County, North Carolina, home to Appalachian State University).

Table 7.9: Percentage Point Change in Means of Transportation for Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Means of Transportation	Percentage Point Change in Share of Workers Ages 16 and Over					
	Car, Truck, or Van (Drove Alone)	Car, Truck, or Van (Carpooled)	Public Transportation (Excluding Taxicab)	Walked	Taxicab, Motorcycle, Bicycle, or Other Means	Worked at Home
United States	- 4.7	- 0.7	- 1.3	- 0.3	+ 0.1	+ 7.0
Appalachian Region	- 3.7	- 0.6	- 0.3	- 0.3	+ 0.0	+ 4.7
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	- 4.1	- 0.5	- 0.5	- 0.4	+ 0.3	+ 5.2
North Central Appalachia	- 2.3	- 0.7	- 0.2	- 0.4	+ 0.0	+ 3.6
Central Appalachia	- 2.2	- 0.2	- 0.1	- 0.1	- 0.4	+ 3.0
South Central Appalachia	- 3.1	- 0.6	- 0.1	- 0.2	- 0.1	+ 3.9
Southern Appalachia	- 4.4	- 0.6	- 0.1	- 0.1	+ 0.1	+ 5.3
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	- 6.1	- 0.8	- 0.7	- 0.3	+ 0.1	+ 7.8
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	- 3.6	- 0.4	- 0.2	- 0.3	+ 0.1	+ 4.3
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 2.6	- 0.1	- 0.1	- 0.2	+ 0.1	+ 2.9
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	- 1.5	- 0.6	+ 0.0	- 0.4	+ 0.0	+ 2.6
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 1.6	- 0.5	- 0.1	- 0.2	+ 0.1	+ 2.3
Alabama	- 3.1	- 0.5	- 0.1	+ 0.0	+ 0.0	+ 3.6
Appalachian Alabama	- 3.6	- 0.4	- 0.1	+ 0.0	- 0.1	+ 4.2
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 2.0	- 0.5	+ 0.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.0	+ 2.5
Georgia	- 5.3	- 1.0	- 0.6	- 0.2	+ 0.1	+ 7.1
Appalachian Georgia	- 5.9	- 0.5	- 0.2	- 0.2	- 0.2	+ 6.9
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 4.9	- 1.3	- 0.8	- 0.2	+ 0.3	+ 7.1
Kentucky	- 3.2	- 0.5	- 0.4	- 0.3	- 0.2	+ 4.6
Appalachian Kentucky	- 2.2	+ 0.0	- 0.1	- 0.3	- 0.6	+ 3.1
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 3.5	- 0.6	- 0.4	- 0.3	+ 0.0	+ 4.9
Maryland	- 5.6	- 1.3	- 3.3	- 0.5	+ 0.4	+ 10.2
Appalachian Maryland	- 3.1	- 1.0	+ 0.0	- 1.2	+ 0.3	+ 5.1
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 5.7	- 1.3	- 3.4	- 0.5	+ 0.5	+ 10.4
Mississippi	- 1.5	- 0.5	+ 0.0	- 0.1	- 0.1	+ 2.4
Appalachian Mississippi	+ 1.3	- 2.3	- 0.1	- 0.3	+ 0.1	+ 1.4
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 2.2	+ 0.0	- 0.1	- 0.2	- 0.2	+ 2.7
New York	- 2.4	- 0.3	- 4.8	- 0.6	+ 0.6	+ 7.5
Appalachian New York	- 3.0	- 0.2	- 0.3	- 0.9	+ 0.3	+ 4.1
Non-Appalachian New York	- 2.3	- 0.3	- 5.1	- 0.6	+ 0.6	+ 7.7
North Carolina	- 6.0	- 0.9	- 0.2	- 0.2	+ 0.1	+ 7.2
Appalachian North Carolina	- 2.9	- 0.4	- 0.1	- 0.2	+ 0.0	+ 3.5
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 6.6	- 1.0	- 0.3	- 0.3	+ 0.1	+ 8.1
Ohio	- 5.3	- 0.1	- 0.4	- 0.2	+ 0.2	+ 5.9
Appalachian Ohio	- 3.5	+ 0.6	- 0.1	- 0.1	+ 0.3	+ 2.9
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 5.7	- 0.2	- 0.5	- 0.2	+ 0.1	+ 6.6
Pennsylvania	- 5.3	- 0.8	- 1.3	- 0.5	+ 0.3	+ 7.4
Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 4.4	- 0.7	- 0.7	- 0.3	+ 0.1	+ 5.9
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 5.9	- 0.7	- 1.7	- 0.5	+ 0.4	+ 8.6
South Carolina	- 3.4	- 0.8	- 0.1	- 0.4	+ 0.1	+ 4.7
Appalachian South Carolina	- 4.6	- 0.5	- 0.2	- 0.1	+ 0.6	+ 4.8
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 3.0	- 1.0	- 0.1	- 0.5	+ 0.0	+ 4.6
Tennessee	- 4.8	- 0.5	- 0.2	- 0.2	+ 0.0	+ 5.6
Appalachian Tennessee	- 3.3	- 0.6	- 0.1	- 0.1	- 0.1	+ 4.3
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 5.8	- 0.3	- 0.4	- 0.1	+ 0.1	+ 6.4
Virginia	- 6.4	- 1.0	- 1.4	- 0.3	+ 0.0	+ 9.2
Appalachian Virginia	- 2.3	- 0.6	- 0.3	+ 0.0	+ 0.1	+ 3.1
Non-Appalachian Virginia	- 6.7	- 1.0	- 1.6	- 0.4	- 0.1	+ 9.6
West Virginia (entire state)	- 1.8	- 1.5	- 0.2	- 0.3	+ 0.2	+ 3.7

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Table 7.10: Percentage Point Change in Means of Transportation for Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region Below the Poverty Level, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Means of Transportation	Percentage Point Change in Share of Workers Ages 16 and Over Below the Poverty Level					
	Car, Truck, or Van (Drove Alone)	Car, Truck, or Van (Carpooled)	Public Transportation (Excluding Taxicab)	Walked	Taxicab, Motorcycle, Bicycle, or Other Means	Worked at Home
United States	+ 0.1	- 0.5	- 2.0	- 0.9	+ 0.0	+ 3.4
Appalachian Region	- 1.4	- 0.1	- 0.3	- 0.7	+ 0.0	+ 2.6
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	- 0.3	- 0.6	- 0.5	- 1.5	+ 0.3	+ 2.7
North Central Appalachia	+ 0.8	- 1.2	+ 0.3	- 1.9	+ 0.2	+ 1.9
Central Appalachia	- 3.2	+ 0.9	- 0.2	- 0.2	- 0.7	+ 3.2
South Central Appalachia	- 1.8	- 0.1	- 0.3	- 0.1	+ 0.1	+ 2.2
Southern Appalachia	- 2.4	+ 0.2	- 0.2	- 0.1	- 0.5	+ 3.0
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	- 1.8	- 0.6	- 0.6	- 1.2	- 0.2	+ 4.4
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	- 1.1	+ 0.0	- 0.3	- 0.9	+ 0.0	+ 2.3
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 0.9	- 0.7	+ 0.1	- 0.5	+ 0.5	+ 1.6
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	- 1.6	+ 0.7	- 0.1	- 0.1	- 0.8	+ 1.8
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 2.7	- 0.6	- 0.2	+ 0.3	+ 0.5	+ 2.6
Alabama	- 1.9	- 0.1	+ 0.1	- 0.1	- 0.1	+ 2.1
Appalachian Alabama	- 1.2	- 0.6	- 0.1	- 0.4	- 0.1	+ 2.2
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 3.0	+ 0.5	+ 0.4	+ 0.4	- 0.1	+ 1.9
Georgia	- 1.7	- 0.8	- 1.7	- 0.4	+ 0.3	+ 4.4
Appalachian Georgia	- 4.2	+ 2.4	- 0.3	+ 0.0	- 1.7	+ 3.8
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 0.8	- 1.9	- 2.3	- 0.5	+ 1.0	+ 4.5
Kentucky	- 0.5	+ 0.5	- 0.8	- 1.5	+ 0.4	+ 1.9
Appalachian Kentucky	- 3.8	+ 2.1	- 0.3	- 0.3	- 1.1	+ 3.4
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	+ 0.8	- 0.2	- 0.9	- 2.0	+ 1.1	+ 1.4
Maryland	+ 2.9	- 1.3	- 4.9	- 1.3	+ 1.2	+ 3.4
Appalachian Maryland	+ 8.5	- 4.5	+ 0.0	- 2.0	- 0.4	- 1.7
Non-Appalachian Maryland	+ 2.6	- 1.1	- 5.2	- 1.3	+ 1.2	+ 3.6
Mississippi	- 0.1	- 0.7	- 0.5	- 0.2	- 0.6	+ 2.0
Appalachian Mississippi	+ 0.6	- 3.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.7	+ 2.4
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 0.2	+ 0.1	- 0.6	- 0.3	- 0.9	+ 1.8
New York	+ 3.1	+ 0.1	- 6.0	- 1.8	+ 0.9	+ 3.7
Appalachian New York	- 2.2	+ 0.7	- 0.6	- 2.1	+ 0.5	+ 3.7
Non-Appalachian New York	+ 3.4	+ 0.0	- 6.2	- 1.7	+ 0.9	+ 3.7
North Carolina	- 1.5	- 1.6	- 0.4	- 0.5	+ 0.2	+ 3.9
Appalachian North Carolina	- 3.0	+ 2.0	- 0.3	- 0.2	- 0.4	+ 1.8
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 1.1	- 2.6	- 0.5	- 0.6	+ 0.2	+ 4.5
Ohio	- 1.0	+ 0.5	- 1.5	- 0.8	- 0.1	+ 2.9
Appalachian Ohio	- 3.1	+ 0.8	+ 0.3	- 0.2	+ 0.5	+ 1.8
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 0.5	+ 0.4	- 1.8	- 0.9	- 0.3	+ 3.1
Pennsylvania	- 0.3	- 1.3	- 1.3	- 1.7	+ 0.9	+ 3.7
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 0.5	- 1.1	- 0.6	- 1.9	- 0.2	+ 3.1
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 0.7	- 1.6	- 2.0	- 1.6	+ 1.8	+ 4.1
South Carolina	- 2.0	- 0.6	- 0.3	- 0.4	+ 0.4	+ 2.8
Appalachian South Carolina	- 3.3	- 0.3	- 0.5	+ 0.0	+ 0.8	+ 3.3
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 1.6	- 0.7	- 0.2	- 0.5	+ 0.3	+ 2.7
Tennessee	- 0.8	- 1.2	- 0.4	- 0.4	+ 0.2	+ 2.6
Appalachian Tennessee	- 0.8	- 1.5	- 0.2	+ 0.0	+ 0.1	+ 2.5
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 0.6	- 0.9	- 0.6	- 0.7	+ 0.2	+ 2.6
Virginia	- 0.5	- 0.5	- 2.1	- 0.9	- 0.2	+ 4.2
Appalachian Virginia	- 2.0	- 2.8	- 0.2	+ 0.6	+ 1.6	+ 2.9
Non-Appalachian Virginia	- 0.3	- 0.3	- 2.3	- 1.0	- 0.4	+ 4.2
West Virginia (entire state)	+ 1.6	- 1.8	+ 0.1	- 2.0	+ 0.9	+ 1.1

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are based on family size and composition. In 2022, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$29,678. The poverty universe does not include unrelated individuals under age 15, people living in college dormitories, and people living in institutional group quarters.

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Table 7.11: Percentage Point Change in Availability of Vehicles for Households in the Appalachian Region, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Availability of Vehicles	Percentage Point Change in Share of Households				
	No Vehicle Available	One Vehicle Available	Two Vehicles Available	Three Vehicles Available	Four or More Vehicles Available
United States	- 0.5	- 0.6	- 0.4	+ 0.5	+ 0.9
Appalachian Region	- 0.6	- 1.0	- 0.2	+ 0.7	+ 1.1
Subregions					
Northern Appalachia	- 0.3	+ 0.1	- 0.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.4
North Central Appalachia	- 0.5	- 0.5	- 0.7	+ 0.7	+ 0.9
Central Appalachia	- 1.4	- 1.5	- 0.5	+ 1.5	+ 1.9
South Central Appalachia	- 0.7	- 1.7	+ 0.0	+ 0.7	+ 1.5
Southern Appalachia	- 0.7	- 1.4	- 0.3	+ 0.9	+ 1.4
County Types					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	- 0.5	- 0.6	- 0.2	+ 0.4	+ 0.8
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	- 0.7	- 0.9	- 0.3	+ 0.7	+ 1.0
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 0.5	- 1.7	- 0.1	+ 0.8	+ 1.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	- 0.5	- 1.1	- 0.3	+ 0.6	+ 1.4
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 1.0	- 1.3	- 0.1	+ 1.0	+ 1.5
Alabama	- 0.6	- 1.3	- 0.3	+ 1.1	+ 1.3
Appalachian Alabama	- 0.7	- 1.7	- 0.3	+ 1.3	+ 1.5
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 0.7	- 0.7	- 0.4	+ 0.6	+ 1.3
Georgia	- 0.7	- 0.9	- 0.2	+ 0.7	+ 1.2
Appalachian Georgia	- 0.4	- 0.8	- 0.7	+ 0.4	+ 1.5
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 0.8	- 0.9	+ 0.0	+ 0.7	+ 1.1
Kentucky	- 1.0	- 1.2	- 0.2	+ 1.1	+ 1.3
Appalachian Kentucky	- 1.4	- 2.1	+ 0.0	+ 1.4	+ 2.0
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 0.8	- 0.9	- 0.4	+ 1.1	+ 1.0
Maryland	- 0.4	+ 0.3	- 0.7	+ 0.4	+ 0.4
Appalachian Maryland	- 0.6	- 1.1	+ 0.8	+ 0.5	+ 0.2
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 0.4	+ 0.3	- 0.7	+ 0.4	+ 0.5
Mississippi	- 0.6	- 1.0	- 0.4	+ 0.8	+ 1.2
Appalachian Mississippi	- 1.1	- 1.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.4	+ 1.6
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 0.4	- 1.1	- 0.6	+ 0.9	+ 1.1
New York	+ 0.0	+ 0.3	- 0.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Appalachian New York	- 0.3	- 0.2	+ 0.2	- 0.3	+ 0.5
Non-Appalachian New York	+ 0.0	+ 0.3	- 0.5	+ 0.0	+ 0.2
North Carolina	- 0.7	- 0.8	- 0.3	+ 0.6	+ 1.3
Appalachian North Carolina	- 0.5	- 1.0	- 0.7	+ 0.7	+ 1.5
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 0.8	- 0.7	- 0.3	+ 0.6	+ 1.2
Ohio	- 0.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.6
Appalachian Ohio	- 0.4	- 0.2	- 0.2	+ 0.3	+ 0.4
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 1.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.0	+ 0.6
Pennsylvania	- 0.5	+ 0.3	- 0.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 0.3	+ 0.2	- 0.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.4
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 0.7	+ 0.5	- 0.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
South Carolina	- 0.8	- 1.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.9	+ 0.8
Appalachian South Carolina	- 1.2	- 1.5	+ 0.2	+ 1.5	+ 1.0
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 0.7	- 1.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.8	+ 0.8
Tennessee	- 0.8	- 1.6	+ 0.0	+ 0.9	+ 1.5
Appalachian Tennessee	- 0.8	- 2.2	+ 0.1	+ 1.0	+ 1.8
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 0.7	- 1.1	- 0.2	+ 0.8	+ 1.2
Virginia	- 0.2	- 0.1	- 0.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
Appalachian Virginia	- 0.8	- 0.6	+ 0.6	- 0.1	+ 1.0
Non-Appalachian Virginia	- 0.2	+ 0.0	- 0.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
West Virginia (entire state)	- 0.5	- 0.6	- 0.5	+ 0.7	+ 1.0

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Table 7.12: Percentage Point Change in Share of Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Live in Households With No Vehicle Available, by Means of Transportation, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Availability of Vehicles	Percentage Point Change in Share Who Live in Households With No Vehicle Available						
	Total Workers Ages 16 and Over	Car, Truck, or Van (Drove Alone)	Car, Truck, or Van (Carpooled)	Public Transportation (Excluding Taxicab)	Walked	Taxicab, Motorcycle, Bicycle, or Other Means	Worked at Home
United States	- 0.1	+ 0.2	- 0.4	+ 1.7	- 0.9	+ 1.4	+ 0.4
Appalachian Region	+ 0.0	+ 0.2	- 0.4	+ 5.3	- 0.3	+ 1.4	- 0.7
Subregions							
Northern Appalachia	+ 0.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.1	+ 7.1	+ 0.0	+ 4.7	- 1.6
North Central Appalachia	- 0.1	+ 0.1	- 0.7	+ 4.1	+ 1.6	- 0.9	- 0.8
Central Appalachia	+ 0.1	+ 0.1	- 0.4	+ 6.5	+ 1.6	- 2.7	+ 0.4
South Central Appalachia	- 0.1	+ 0.1	- 0.4	- 1.4	- 1.3	+ 2.6	- 0.3
Southern Appalachia	- 0.1	+ 0.1	- 0.7	+ 1.2	- 2.3	- 3.1	+ 0.0
County Types							
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	+ 0.0	+ 0.1	- 0.2	+ 6.8	- 2.2	- 1.2	+ 0.2
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	+ 0.0	+ 0.2	- 0.5	+ 3.0	- 0.4	+ 1.4	- 0.5
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	+ 0.0	+ 0.1	- 1.0	+ 4.5	- 1.0	+ 4.2	- 1.5
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	+ 0.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.1	+ 5.1	+ 1.1	+ 1.9	- 1.2
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	+ 0.0	+ 0.0	- 1.4	- 1.8	+ 2.4	+ 4.9	- 1.7
Alabama	- 0.1	+ 0.2	- 1.4	- 7.2	- 4.1	- 0.8	- 0.1
Appalachian Alabama	- 0.2	+ 0.1	- 1.8	- 8.0	- 2.8	- 2.2	- 0.3
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 0.1	+ 0.0	- 0.4	- 5.6	- 6.2	+ 1.2	+ 0.4
Georgia	- 0.2	+ 0.2	- 0.7	- 0.4	- 3.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
Appalachian Georgia	- 0.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.1	+ 2.0	- 2.0	- 3.7	+ 0.1
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 0.3	+ 0.2	- 0.9	- 0.5	- 3.7	+ 1.2	+ 0.2
Kentucky	- 0.2	+ 0.1	- 0.7	- 4.3	+ 1.2	- 0.9	- 1.3
Appalachian Kentucky	- 0.1	+ 0.2	- 1.2	+ 4.2	+ 2.7	- 6.1	+ 0.1
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 0.3	+ 0.1	- 0.4	- 5.2	+ 0.8	- 0.1	- 1.5
Maryland	- 0.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.7	+ 3.0	- 1.0	+ 3.4	+ 0.6
Appalachian Maryland	- 0.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.2	+ 5.5	- 4.3	- 9.4	- 1.2
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 0.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.6	+ 3.0	- 0.8	+ 3.8	+ 0.6
Mississippi	+ 0.0	+ 0.0	- 1.0	- 5.5	+ 1.7	+ 1.0	+ 0.8
Appalachian Mississippi	- 0.3	- 0.1	- 0.8	+ 1.8	+ 5.6	- 2.3	+ 0.8
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	+ 0.0	+ 0.1	- 1.1	- 6.8	+ 1.3	+ 1.3	+ 0.9
New York	- 0.3	+ 0.5	- 0.9	+ 0.5	- 1.6	- 1.3	+ 3.4
Appalachian New York	+ 0.3	+ 0.1	- 2.1	+ 12.4	- 1.5	+ 10.1	+ 1.9
Non-Appalachian New York	- 0.4	+ 0.5	- 0.9	+ 0.5	- 1.7	- 1.8	+ 3.1
North Carolina	- 0.2	+ 0.0	- 1.4	+ 0.3	- 2.5	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Appalachian North Carolina	- 0.1	- 0.1	- 1.0	+ 3.4	- 3.3	+ 2.5	- 0.3
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 0.2	+ 0.0	- 1.6	+ 0.0	- 2.3	- 0.7	+ 0.4
Ohio	+ 0.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.0	+ 3.3	+ 2.0	+ 3.5	- 1.6
Appalachian Ohio	+ 0.4	+ 0.2	- 1.1	+ 7.3	+ 5.6	+ 10.2	- 3.6
Non-Appalachian Ohio	+ 0.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.1	+ 3.1	+ 1.3	+ 1.4	- 1.2
Pennsylvania	+ 0.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.0	+ 2.4	- 0.3	+ 2.4	- 1.7
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 0.2	+ 0.3	+ 0.8	+ 6.6	- 0.1	+ 1.0	- 1.4
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 0.1	+ 0.4	- 0.8	+ 1.1	- 0.4	+ 2.8	- 2.0
South Carolina	+ 0.0	+ 0.1	- 0.7	- 1.5	- 2.9	+ 3.0	+ 0.5
Appalachian South Carolina	+ 0.0	+ 0.1	- 0.7	+ 15.2	- 4.2	- 5.2	+ 0.4
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	+ 0.0	+ 0.2	- 0.6	- 5.8	- 2.4	+ 5.2	+ 0.5
Tennessee	+ 0.0	+ 0.1	- 0.5	- 0.8	- 1.7	+ 1.7	- 0.2
Appalachian Tennessee	+ 0.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.1	- 8.7	+ 0.2	+ 1.6	- 0.1
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 0.1	+ 0.2	- 1.1	+ 2.0	- 3.1	+ 1.5	- 0.3
Virginia	+ 0.2	+ 0.2	- 0.3	+ 3.1	+ 2.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.2
Appalachian Virginia	+ 0.3	+ 0.3	- 0.2	+ 2.5	+ 4.6	+ 5.9	- 0.8
Non-Appalachian Virginia	+ 0.1	+ 0.2	- 0.3	+ 3.2	+ 1.9	+ 0.0	+ 0.3
West Virginia (entire state)	- 0.1	+ 0.2	- 1.1	+ 2.6	- 1.1	+ 0.0	- 0.4

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Table 7.13: Change in Relationship Between Number of Workers and Availability of Vehicles for Households in the Appalachian Region With One or More Workers, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Availability of Vehicles	Percentage Point Change in Share of Households With One or More Workers			
	Households With Zero Vehicles	Households Where Workers Exceed Vehicles	Households Where Workers Equal Vehicles	Households Where Vehicles Exceed Workers
United States	+ 0.0	+ 0.1	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Appalachian Region	- 0.1	- 0.1	- 0.2	+ 0.5
Subregions				
Northern Appalachia	+ 0.1	- 0.1	- 0.3	+ 0.1
North Central Appalachia	- 0.2	+ 0.0	- 0.3	+ 0.5
Central Appalachia	+ 0.0	- 0.1	- 0.8	+ 0.9
South Central Appalachia	+ 0.0	- 0.3	- 0.2	+ 0.6
Southern Appalachia	- 0.1	- 0.1	- 0.2	+ 0.4
County Types				
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	+ 0.0	+ 0.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	- 0.1	- 0.2	- 0.3	+ 0.5
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 0.1	- 0.5	- 0.6	+ 1.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	- 0.1	- 0.1	- 1.0	+ 1.1
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	+ 0.0	- 0.2	- 0.5	+ 0.7
Alabama	- 0.2	- 0.2	- 0.6	+ 0.9
Appalachian Alabama	- 0.1	- 0.2	- 0.6	+ 0.9
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 0.1	- 0.3	- 0.7	+ 1.1
Georgia	- 0.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.2	- 0.3
Appalachian Georgia	- 0.1	- 0.1	+ 0.5	- 0.4
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 0.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.2	- 0.3
Kentucky	- 0.3	- 0.1	- 0.3	+ 0.5
Appalachian Kentucky	+ 0.0	+ 0.1	- 0.6	+ 0.6
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 0.2	- 0.1	- 0.2	+ 0.6
Maryland	+ 0.0	- 0.3	+ 0.6	- 0.2
Appalachian Maryland	- 0.4	- 1.6	+ 1.3	+ 0.6
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 0.1	- 0.2	+ 0.6	- 0.3
Mississippi	- 0.1	- 0.1	- 1.4	+ 1.5
Appalachian Mississippi	- 0.4	- 0.1	- 0.4	+ 1.0
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	+ 0.1	- 0.1	- 1.6	+ 1.8
New York	+ 0.1	+ 0.7	- 0.4	- 0.5
Appalachian New York	+ 0.1	- 0.3	- 0.1	+ 0.4
Non-Appalachian New York	+ 0.1	+ 0.9	- 0.3	- 0.6
North Carolina	- 0.2	+ 0.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.0
Appalachian North Carolina	- 0.1	- 0.1	+ 0.0	+ 0.2
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 0.2	+ 0.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.0
Ohio	- 0.1	+ 0.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.0
Appalachian Ohio	+ 0.1	+ 0.1	- 0.5	+ 0.2
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 0.1	- 0.1	+ 0.2	- 0.1
Pennsylvania	+ 0.3	+ 0.5	- 0.2	- 0.5
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 0.1	- 0.1	- 0.2	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 0.2	+ 0.8	- 0.2	- 0.8
South Carolina	- 0.1	- 0.2	- 0.3	+ 0.7
Appalachian South Carolina	- 0.1	- 0.3	- 0.9	+ 1.4
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	+ 0.0	- 0.2	- 0.2	+ 0.4
Tennessee	- 0.1	- 0.4	- 0.4	+ 0.9
Appalachian Tennessee	+ 0.0	- 0.4	- 0.6	+ 1.0
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 0.1	- 0.4	- 0.3	+ 0.8
Virginia	+ 0.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.3	- 0.7
Appalachian Virginia	+ 0.2	- 0.4	- 0.2	+ 0.4
Non-Appalachian Virginia	+ 0.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.3	- 0.7
West Virginia (entire state)	- 0.2	+ 0.0	- 0.4	+ 0.7

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Table 7.14: Change in Travel Time to Work for Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region, by Amount of Time, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Travel Time to Work (Minutes)	Percentage Point Change in Share of Workers Ages 16 and Over				Change in Mean Travel Time to Work (Minutes)
	Less Than 15 Minutes	15 Minutes to 29 Minutes	30 Minutes to 59 Minutes	60 Minutes or More	
United States	- 0.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.4	+ 0.0	+ 0.3
Appalachian Region	- 1.0	- 0.2	+ 0.9	+ 0.4	+ 0.7
Subregions					
Northern Appalachia	- 0.3	- 0.2	+ 0.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
North Central Appalachia	- 1.2	+ 0.5	+ 0.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Central Appalachia	- 1.0	- 0.9	+ 0.6	+ 1.4	+ 1.5
South Central Appalachia	- 1.5	+ 0.0	+ 1.0	+ 0.5	+ 0.8
Southern Appalachia	- 0.9	- 0.6	+ 1.2	+ 0.4	+ 0.7
County Types					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	- 0.7	+ 0.0	+ 0.9	- 0.2	+ 0.1
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	- 1.2	- 0.3	+ 1.0	+ 0.6	+ 0.8
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 0.7	- 1.2	+ 1.0	+ 0.9	+ 1.0
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	- 1.2	- 0.2	+ 0.7	+ 0.6	+ 0.9
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 1.3	- 0.2	+ 0.7	+ 0.8	+ 1.0
Alabama	- 0.7	- 0.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.8	+ 0.7
Appalachian Alabama	- 0.6	- 0.9	+ 0.6	+ 0.9	+ 0.8
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 0.9	+ 0.8	- 0.7	+ 0.9	+ 0.7
Georgia	- 0.4	- 0.3	+ 0.9	- 0.1	+ 0.4
Appalachian Georgia	- 0.4	- 0.5	+ 1.4	- 0.6	+ 0.2
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 0.4	- 0.3	+ 0.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Kentucky	- 0.5	+ 0.0	- 0.1	+ 0.7	+ 0.8
Appalachian Kentucky	- 1.6	- 0.6	+ 0.8	+ 1.4	+ 1.8
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 0.3	+ 0.2	- 0.3	+ 0.4	+ 0.5
Maryland	+ 0.3	+ 1.1	+ 0.0	- 1.4	- 0.7
Appalachian Maryland	- 2.5	+ 0.6	+ 1.8	+ 0.2	+ 1.0
Non-Appalachian Maryland	+ 0.4	+ 1.1	- 0.1	- 1.5	- 0.7
Mississippi	- 2.0	+ 0.1	+ 1.1	+ 0.8	+ 1.0
Appalachian Mississippi	- 2.6	+ 0.1	+ 1.6	+ 0.7	+ 0.5
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 1.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.9	+ 0.9	+ 1.2
New York	+ 0.0	+ 0.3	- 0.2	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Appalachian New York	+ 0.0	- 1.2	+ 0.6	+ 0.6	+ 0.8
Non-Appalachian New York	+ 0.0	+ 0.4	- 0.2	+ 0.0	+ 0.2
North Carolina	- 1.1	- 0.5	+ 1.0	+ 0.6	+ 0.7
Appalachian North Carolina	- 1.4	- 0.1	+ 0.9	+ 0.6	+ 0.9
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 1.0	- 0.6	+ 1.0	+ 0.6	+ 0.7
Ohio	+ 0.0	+ 0.1	- 0.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Appalachian Ohio	- 0.4	- 0.3	+ 0.3	+ 0.3	+ 0.4
Non-Appalachian Ohio	+ 0.0	+ 0.2	- 0.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Pennsylvania	- 0.4	+ 0.5	+ 0.3	- 0.4	+ 0.0
Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 0.3	+ 0.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 0.4	+ 0.8	+ 0.3	- 0.6	- 0.2
South Carolina	- 2.0	- 0.3	+ 1.5	+ 0.8	+ 1.2
Appalachian South Carolina	- 2.6	- 0.4	+ 1.9	+ 1.2	+ 1.9
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 1.9	- 0.2	+ 1.4	+ 0.7	+ 1.0
Tennessee	- 1.0	- 0.5	+ 0.9	+ 0.6	+ 0.7
Appalachian Tennessee	- 1.5	- 0.4	+ 1.3	+ 0.7	+ 0.8
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 0.8	- 0.4	+ 0.6	+ 0.6	+ 0.6
Virginia	+ 0.0	+ 0.6	+ 0.1	- 0.8	- 0.3
Appalachian Virginia	- 0.7	+ 1.1	- 0.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Non-Appalachian Virginia	+ 0.1	+ 0.6	+ 0.2	- 0.8	- 0.4
West Virginia (entire state)	- 1.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.7	+ 0.3	+ 0.6

Note: Persons ages 16 and over who primarily worked from home are excluded from this analysis.

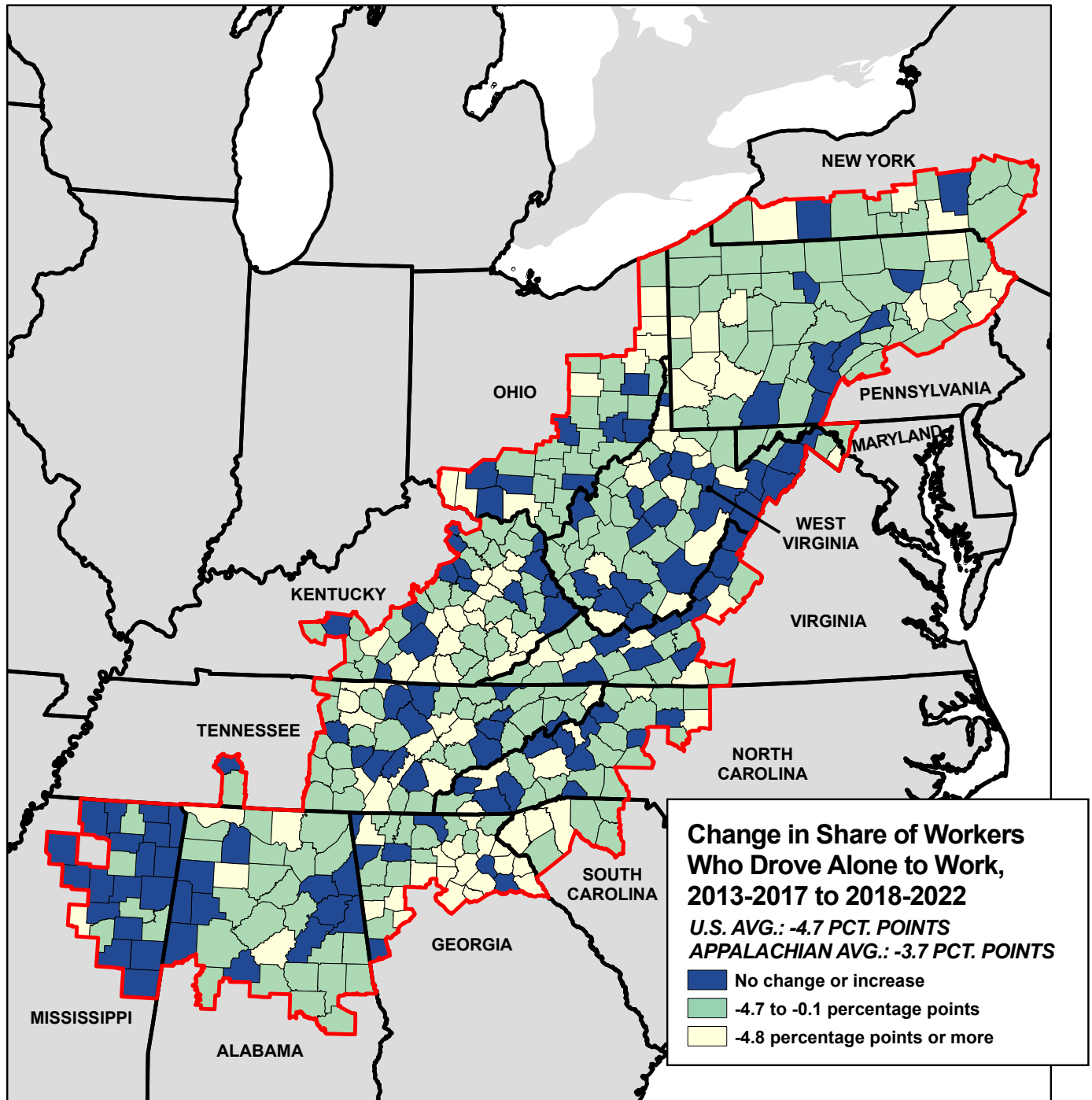
Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Table 7.15: Percentage Point Change in Share of Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region, by Place of Work (State and County Level), 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Place of Work (State and County Level)	Percentage Point Change in Share of Workers Ages 16 and Over			
	Worked in County of Residence	Worked Outside County of Residence		
		Total	Worked in State of Residence	Worked Outside State of Residence
United States	+ 1.8	- 1.8	- 1.4	- 0.4
Appalachian Region	+ 0.6	- 0.6	- 0.5	- 0.3
Subregions				
Northern Appalachia	+ 1.1	- 1.1	- 0.9	- 0.2
North Central Appalachia	+ 0.6	- 0.6	- 0.6	+ 0.0
Central Appalachia	- 0.5	+ 0.5	+ 0.7	- 0.1
South Central Appalachia	+ 0.2	- 0.2	+ 0.0	- 0.3
Southern Appalachia	+ 1.2	- 1.2	- 0.9	- 0.2
County Types				
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	+ 2.5	- 2.5	- 2.2	- 0.3
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	+ 0.2	- 0.2	+ 0.0	- 0.2
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 0.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.5	- 0.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	+ 0.1	- 0.1	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 0.7	+ 0.7	+ 0.9	- 0.1
Alabama	+ 0.2	- 0.2	+ 0.2	- 0.4
Appalachian Alabama	+ 0.2	- 0.2	+ 0.0	- 0.2
Non-Appalachian Alabama	+ 0.3	- 0.3	+ 0.3	- 0.6
Georgia	+ 2.4	- 2.4	- 2.3	- 0.1
Appalachian Georgia	+ 3.1	- 3.1	- 2.6	- 0.5
Non-Appalachian Georgia	+ 2.3	- 2.3	- 2.3	+ 0.0
Kentucky	+ 0.5	- 0.5	- 0.3	- 0.3
Appalachian Kentucky	- 0.2	+ 0.2	- 0.2	+ 0.5
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	+ 0.8	- 0.8	- 0.3	- 0.4
Maryland	+ 5.7	- 5.7	- 3.1	- 2.6
Appalachian Maryland	- 0.5	+ 0.5	- 1.4	+ 1.8
Non-Appalachian Maryland	+ 5.9	- 5.9	- 3.2	- 2.8
Mississippi	- 0.6	+ 0.6	+ 0.3	+ 0.3
Appalachian Mississippi	- 2.4	+ 2.4	+ 2.1	+ 0.4
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 0.1	+ 0.1	- 0.2	+ 0.3
New York	+ 3.5	- 3.5	- 3.1	- 0.5
Appalachian New York	+ 0.8	- 0.8	- 0.5	- 0.4
Non-Appalachian New York	+ 3.7	- 3.7	- 3.2	- 0.5
North Carolina	+ 0.9	- 0.9	- 0.8	- 0.2
Appalachian North Carolina	+ 0.2	- 0.2	+ 0.2	- 0.4
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	+ 1.1	- 1.1	- 1.0	- 0.1
Ohio	+ 1.3	- 1.3	- 1.2	- 0.1
Appalachian Ohio	+ 1.0	- 1.0	- 0.9	- 0.1
Non-Appalachian Ohio	+ 1.3	- 1.3	- 1.2	- 0.1
Pennsylvania	+ 2.3	- 2.3	- 1.7	- 0.6
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 1.3	- 1.3	- 1.0	- 0.3
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 3.3	- 3.3	- 2.3	- 0.9
South Carolina	+ 0.4	- 0.4	- 0.4	- 0.1
Appalachian South Carolina	- 0.1	+ 0.1	- 0.2	+ 0.4
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	+ 0.5	- 0.5	- 0.4	- 0.1
Tennessee	+ 0.6	- 0.6	- 0.3	- 0.3
Appalachian Tennessee	- 0.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.3	- 0.1
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	+ 1.2	- 1.2	- 0.7	- 0.4
Virginia	+ 5.6	- 5.6	- 3.5	- 2.1
Appalachian Virginia	+ 0.5	- 0.5	+ 0.4	- 0.9
Non-Appalachian Virginia	+ 6.1	- 6.1	- 3.8	- 2.2
West Virginia (entire state)	+ 0.1	- 0.1	- 0.4	+ 0.3

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Figure 7.8: Percentage Point Change in Share of Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Drove Alone to Work, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

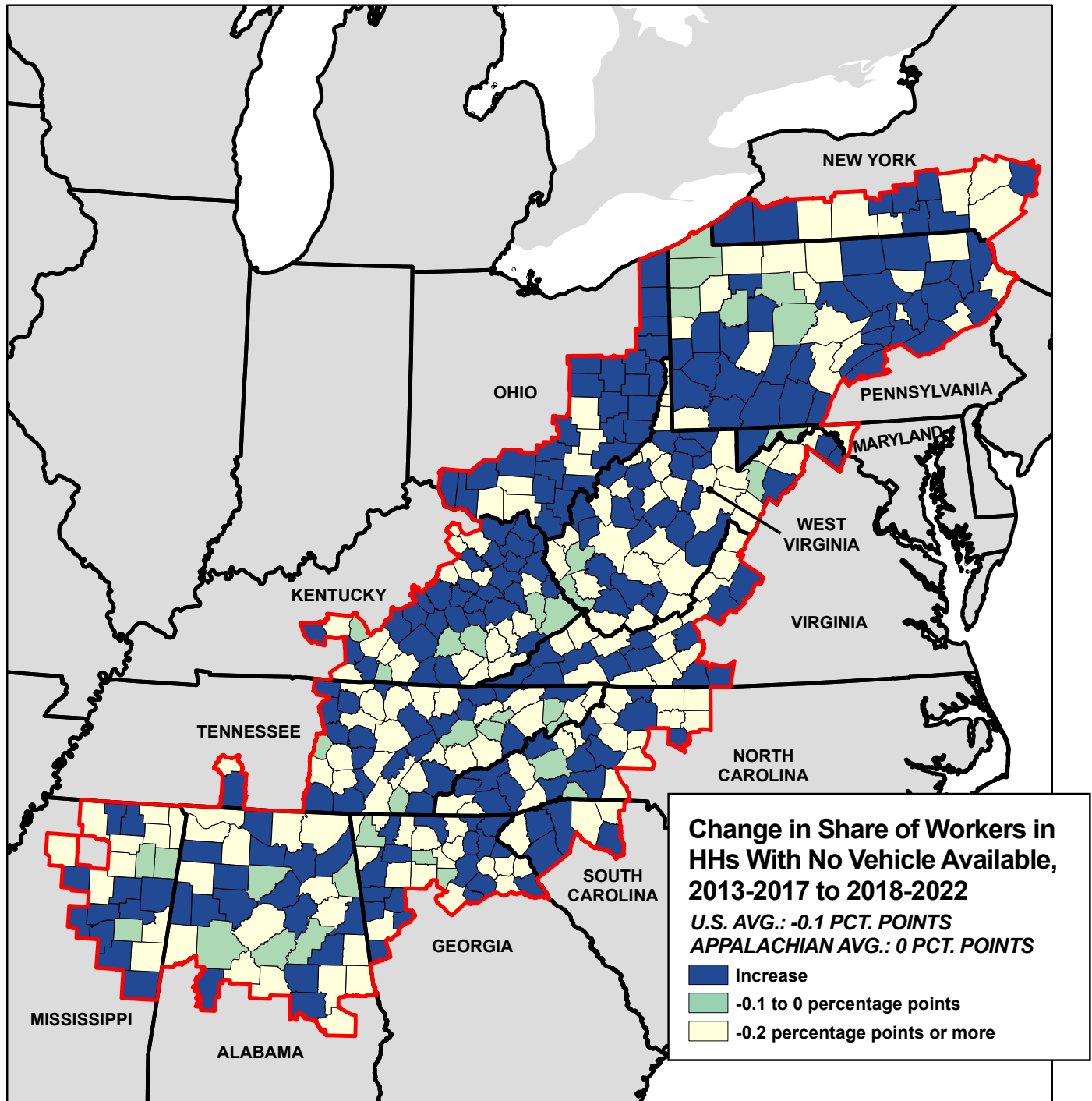


Map Title: Percentage Point Change in Share of Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Drove Alone to Work, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

The share of Appalachian workers who drove alone to work fell by 3.7 percentage points between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022, compared with a decrease of 4.7 points nationwide. Although more than two years of the latter period pre-date the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, early mitigation efforts (such as lockdown measures) may have had a minor impact on the change due to increases in remote work. The decrease between the two periods was greater than the national average of 4.7 points in 101 of Appalachia's 423 counties and the largest decrease was in large metro counties, at 6.1 percentage points. Yet in 120 other counties, the percentage driving alone remained constant or increased between the two periods. Only Appalachian Mississippi saw an increase in the share of workers driving to work alone.

Figure 7.9: Percentage Point Change in Share of Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Live in Households With No Vehicle Available, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

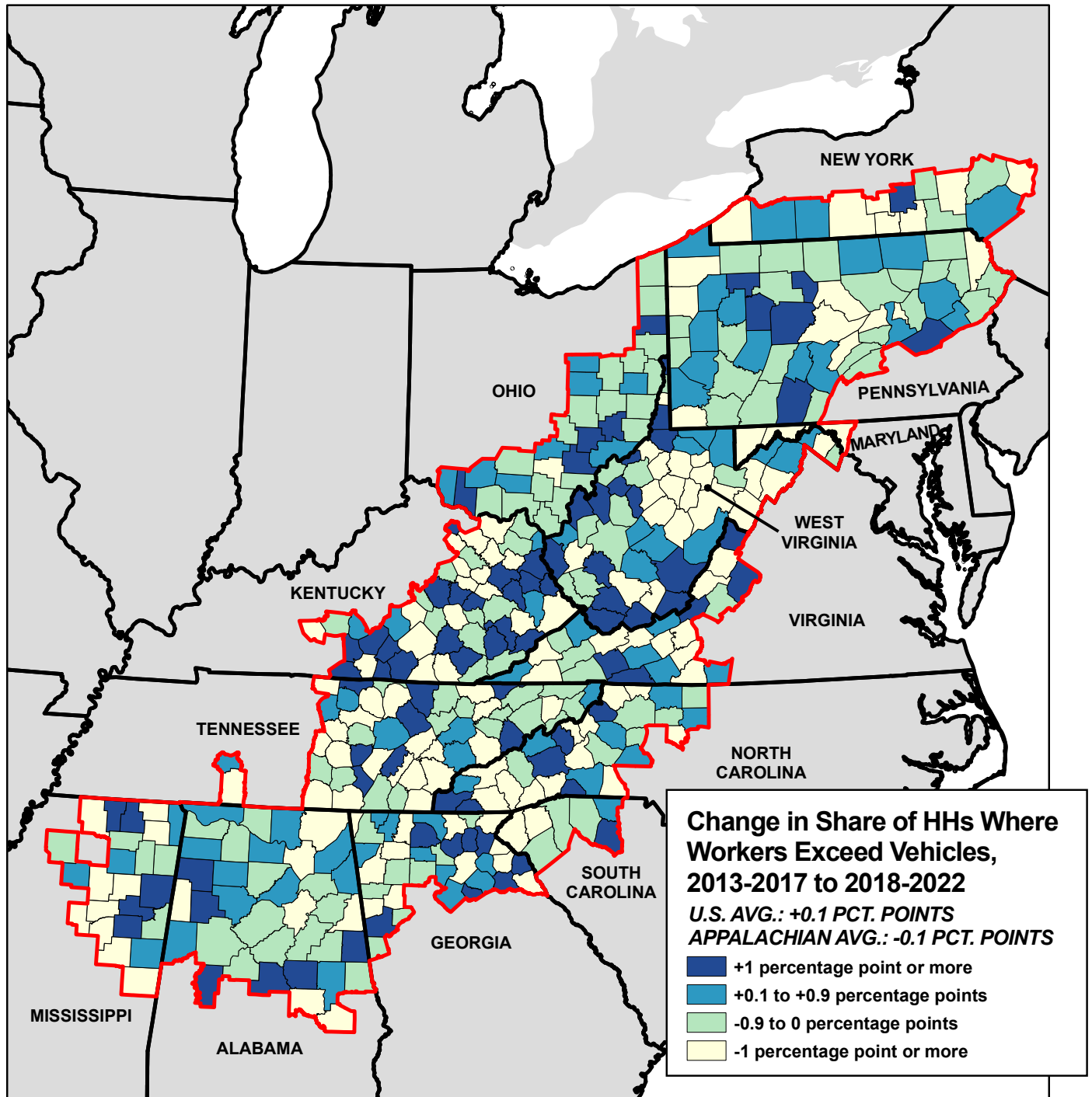


Map Title: Percentage Point Change in Share of Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Live in Households With No Vehicle Available, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Between the 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 periods, the share of workers in households with no vehicle available remained unchanged in Appalachia (0 percentage points) and barely declined in the nation as a whole (0.1 points). Yet in 173 of the Region's 423 counties, the percentage change decrease was greater than the national average. By contrast, the percentage remained constant or increased in another 228 counties throughout the Region, as well as in the Appalachian portions of New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. The share also increased slightly in Central and Northern Appalachia.

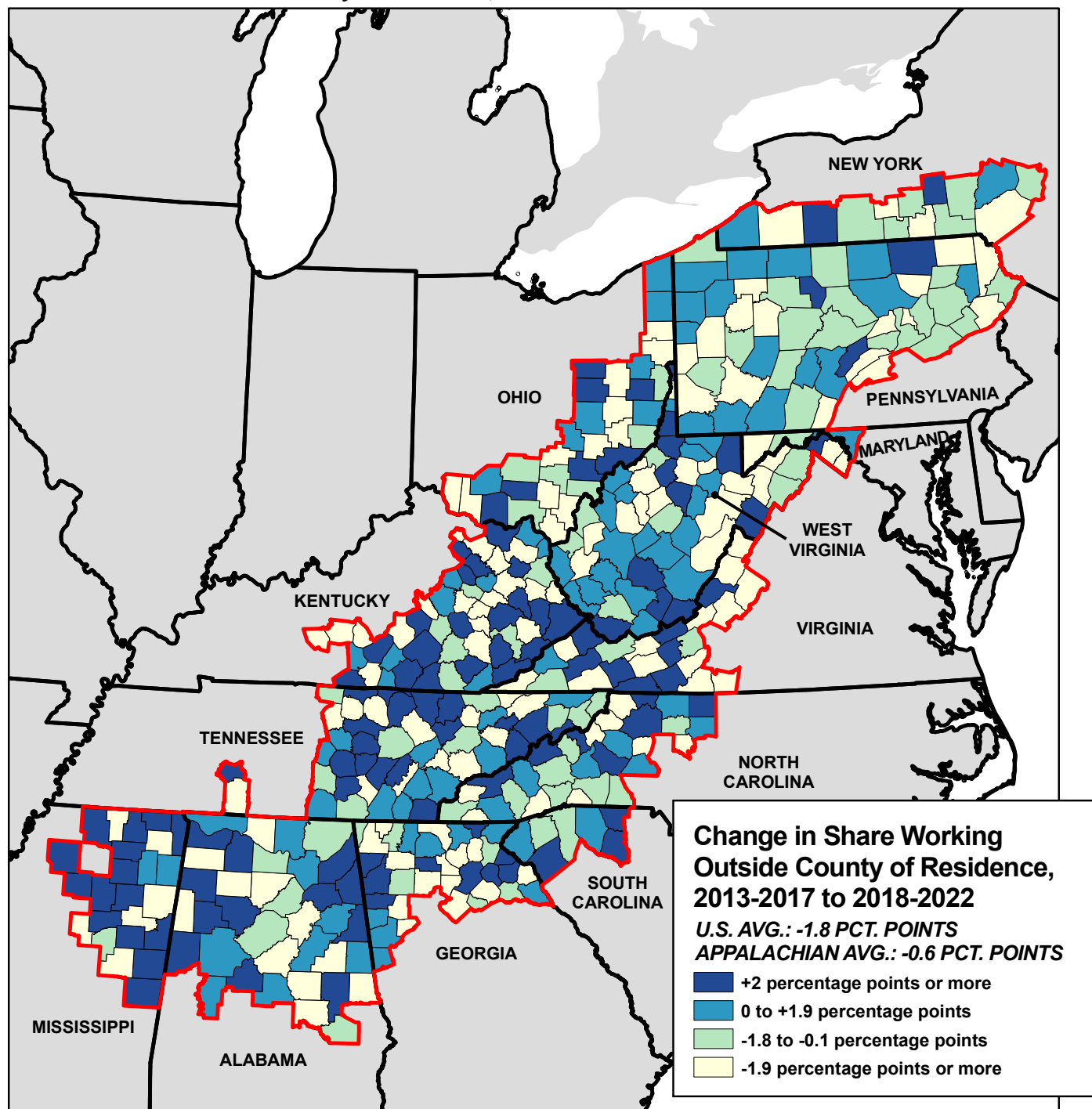
Figure 7.10: Percentage Point Change in Share of Households With One or More Workers in the Appalachian Region Where the Number of Workers Exceeds the Number of Vehicles Available, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in Share of Households With One or More Workers in the Appalachian Region Where the Number of Workers Exceeds the Number of Vehicles Available, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022
Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022, the percentage of Appalachian households where the number of workers exceeded the number of available vehicles decreased slightly in Appalachia (0.1 percentage points), compared with a slight increase of 0.1 points nationwide. Within the Region, however, changes were more noticeable. In 131 of the Region's 423 counties, for example, the share of households where workers exceeded vehicles decreased by at least a full percentage point. Meanwhile, the share increased by a full point or more in another 86 Appalachian counties.

Figure 7.11: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Worked Outside Their County of Residence, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Workers Ages 16 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Worked Outside Their County of Residence, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022
 Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

The share of Appalachian residents working outside their county of residence was 0.6 percentage points lower in 2018-2022 than in 2013-2017. And the decrease was even greater in much of the Region: In 135 of Appalachia's 423 counties, the share fell more than the national average of 1.8 percentage points. On the other hand, there were 210 Appalachian counties where the share working outside their residential county was the same or higher in 2018-2022. In 117 of these counties, the increase was at least two percentage points.

TRENDS IN TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUTING PATTERNS

- At nearly 80 percent, the share of Appalachian workers who drove alone to work in 2018-2022 was 3.7 percentage points lower than it was in 2013-2017 (see Tables 7.1 and 7.9), and likewise decreased in most parts of the Region. The decreases were greatest in Southern Appalachia (4.4 points), counties in large metropolitan areas (6.1 points), and the Appalachian sections of Georgia and South Carolina (5.9 and 4.6 points, respectively). Conversely, only Appalachian Mississippi showed an increase (1.3 percentage points). The percentage of Appalachian workers carpooling to their jobs also declined; that share fell 0.6 percentage points between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022.
- The share of those working at home increased 4.7 percentage points between the two periods, reflecting some effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Yet, the increase in the share of those working at home for the nation as a whole was more than two percentage points greater than for the Appalachian Region. Non-metropolitan counties in Appalachia saw increases of less than three percentage points, while the Region's large metro areas saw a rise in working from home greater than the national average.
- The share of Appalachian workers below the poverty level (\$29,678 for a family of two adults and two children in 2022) who drove alone to their jobs (70.2 percent in 2018-2022) was lower than it was for all workers, and the change from 2013-2017 was not as pronounced (see Tables 7.2 and 7.10). Still, the general patterns between the two periods were similar to that found for all workers—including decreases in workers driving alone and carpooling (1.4 and 0.1 percentage points, respectively), and increases in working from home (2.6 points). However, the share of workers in poverty who drove alone did rise in some parts of the Region, such as the Appalachian parts of Maryland, Mississippi, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.
- In 2018-2022, 6.7 percent of Appalachian households lacked an available vehicle to get to current and/or potential employment, down 0.6 points from 2013-2017 (see Tables 7.3 and 7.11). Within the Region, the decline occurred among every subregion, every urban-rural county type, and in the Appalachian portions of every state. The decline was largest in Appalachian Kentucky and South Carolina, where the share fell by 1.4 and 1.2 percentage points, respectively.
- The share of workers in households with no vehicle available (2.6 percent) was unchanged in Appalachia between the 2013-2017 and the 2018-2022 periods (see Tables 7.5 and 7.12). And among the subregions, county types, and Appalachian portion of states, the share generally neither rose nor fell more than 0.3 percentage points. (Appalachian Ohio was an exception, as the share there increased 0.4 points.) For workers lacking a vehicle in Appalachia, public transportation usage grew (5.3 percentage points) more than the national average (1.7 points).
- In 2018-2022, the number of workers exceeded the number of vehicles available in 4.6 percent of Appalachian households—a figure that fell just 0.1 percentage points from its 2013-2017 level (see Tables 7.6 and 7.13). And the change was slight in most of Appalachia: In virtually every subregion, urban-rural county type, and state, the share of households with more workers than vehicles changed no more than 0.4 percentage points. The only exceptions within the Region were in the Appalachian sections of Maryland (decrease of 1.6 percentage points) and non-metro counties adjacent to large metros (decrease of 0.5 points).
- On average, Appalachian workers traveled 25.8 minutes to their jobs in 2018-2022, 0.7 minutes longer than they did in 2013-2017 (see Tables 7.7 and 7.14), and the average commute was longer throughout the Region—in every subregion, every county type, and every state's Appalachian section. Moreover, a greater percentage of workers had longer commutes: the share of workers taking between 30 minutes and 59 minutes to get to their jobs rose 0.9 percentage points between the 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 periods. And the share who took at least an hour to get to work rose by 0.4 percentage points in Appalachia—the largest increases were in the Central subregion (1.4 points), Appalachian Kentucky (1.4 points), and Appalachian South Carolina (1.2 points).
- In the Appalachian Region, 31 percent of employed residents ages 16 and over worked outside their county of residence in 2018-2022, representing a decrease of 0.6 percentage points from the 2013-2017 period (see Tables 7.8 and 7.15). There was considerable variation within the Region, however: for example, the share decreased 2.5 points in large metros while increasing 0.5 points in Central Appalachia and decreasing over 1 percentage point in Southern and Northern Appalachia.

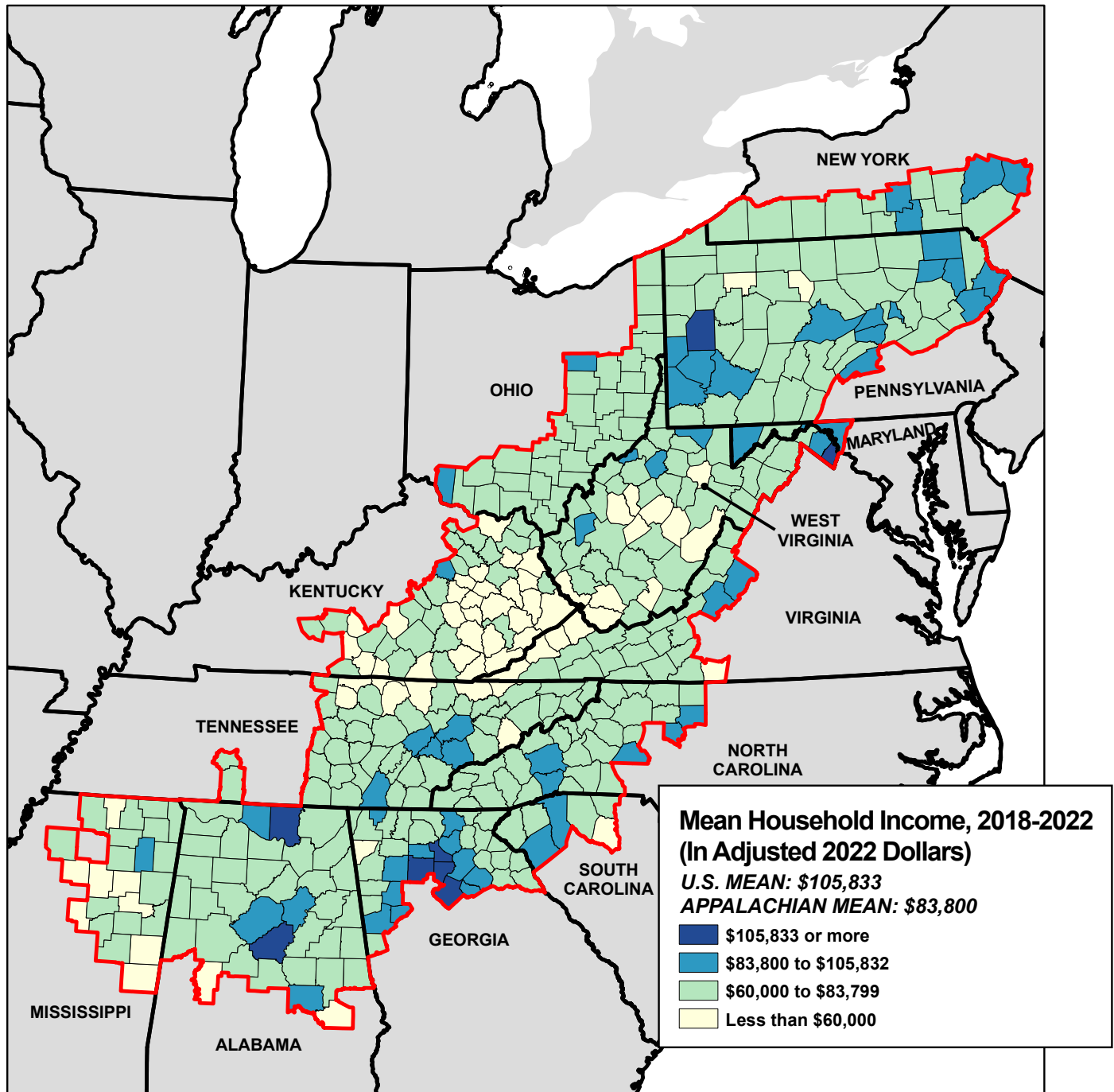
CHAPTER 8: INCOME AND POVERTY

Table 8.1: Household, Family, and Per Capita Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2022 Dollars), 2018-2022

Income	Household Income, 2018-2022 (2022 Dollars)		Family Income, 2018-2022 (2022 Dollars)		Per Capita Income, 2018-2022 (2022 Dollars)
	Mean HH Income	Median HH Income	Mean Family Income	Median Family Income	
United States	105,833	75,149	124,530	92,646	41,261
Appalachian Region	83,800	61,688	100,125	78,809	34,031
Subregions					
Northern Appalachia	85,160	63,743	103,531	83,235	35,891
North Central Appalachia	77,926	57,536	93,875	74,719	32,085
Central Appalachia	64,262	46,722	75,913	59,374	25,857
South Central Appalachia	80,733	58,713	97,195	74,972	33,586
Southern Appalachia	90,596	67,165	105,826	83,089	34,886
County Types					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	100,525	75,268	119,563	95,135	39,966
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	84,210	62,037	101,286	79,693	34,529
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	73,931	56,043	87,763	71,768	30,014
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	72,411	54,369	85,636	68,843	29,701
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	67,211	48,879	80,247	63,388	27,307
Alabama	82,992	59,609	100,358	77,363	33,344
Appalachian Alabama	86,392	62,713	103,521	80,389	34,636
Non-Appalachian Alabama	76,787	54,694	94,357	72,733	30,999
Georgia	99,345	71,355	115,812	86,169	37,836
Appalachian Georgia	100,516	77,362	112,726	90,341	36,166
Non-Appalachian Georgia	98,846	69,087	117,345	85,080	38,603
Kentucky	83,093	60,183	98,972	76,273	33,515
Appalachian Kentucky	64,398	46,616	75,440	58,883	25,598
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	89,400	65,646	107,347	83,833	36,280
Maryland	129,642	98,461	152,797	120,081	49,865
Appalachian Maryland	87,429	65,880	104,449	84,717	35,109
Non-Appalachian Maryland	131,525	100,193	154,909	122,331	50,493
Mississippi	74,149	52,985	88,319	67,731	29,209
Appalachian Mississippi	69,316	49,693	83,414	66,077	27,989
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	75,456	53,926	89,630	68,701	29,527
New York	120,883	81,386	142,442	100,846	47,173
Appalachian New York	81,428	61,450	98,807	80,106	33,941
Non-Appalachian New York	123,186	83,508	144,868	102,614	47,888
North Carolina	92,878	66,186	110,687	82,890	37,641
Appalachian North Carolina	80,194	57,867	96,384	73,809	33,558
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	96,028	68,607	114,207	86,027	38,622
Ohio	90,958	66,990	110,726	86,508	37,729
Appalachian Ohio	76,262	57,729	91,439	74,045	31,335
Non-Appalachian Ohio	93,868	69,172	114,711	90,112	39,023
Pennsylvania	100,837	73,170	121,721	93,685	41,234
Appalachian Pennsylvania	87,936	65,769	107,276	86,079	37,241
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	111,502	80,933	133,125	101,461	44,360
South Carolina	88,488	63,623	104,941	79,830	36,072
Appalachian South Carolina	87,997	63,880	104,059	79,670	35,411
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	88,664	63,628	105,265	80,364	36,309
Tennessee	89,267	64,035	105,921	80,258	36,040
Appalachian Tennessee	80,724	58,900	96,627	74,755	33,336
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	95,940	68,698	113,279	85,855	38,069
Virginia	120,553	87,249	142,106	107,504	47,210
Appalachian Virginia	71,141	52,395	87,696	69,623	29,908
Non-Appalachian Virginia	125,392	92,304	147,163	112,674	48,827
West Virginia (entire state)	75,575	55,217	91,003	71,678	31,462

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Figure 8.1: Mean Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2022 Dollars), 2018-2022

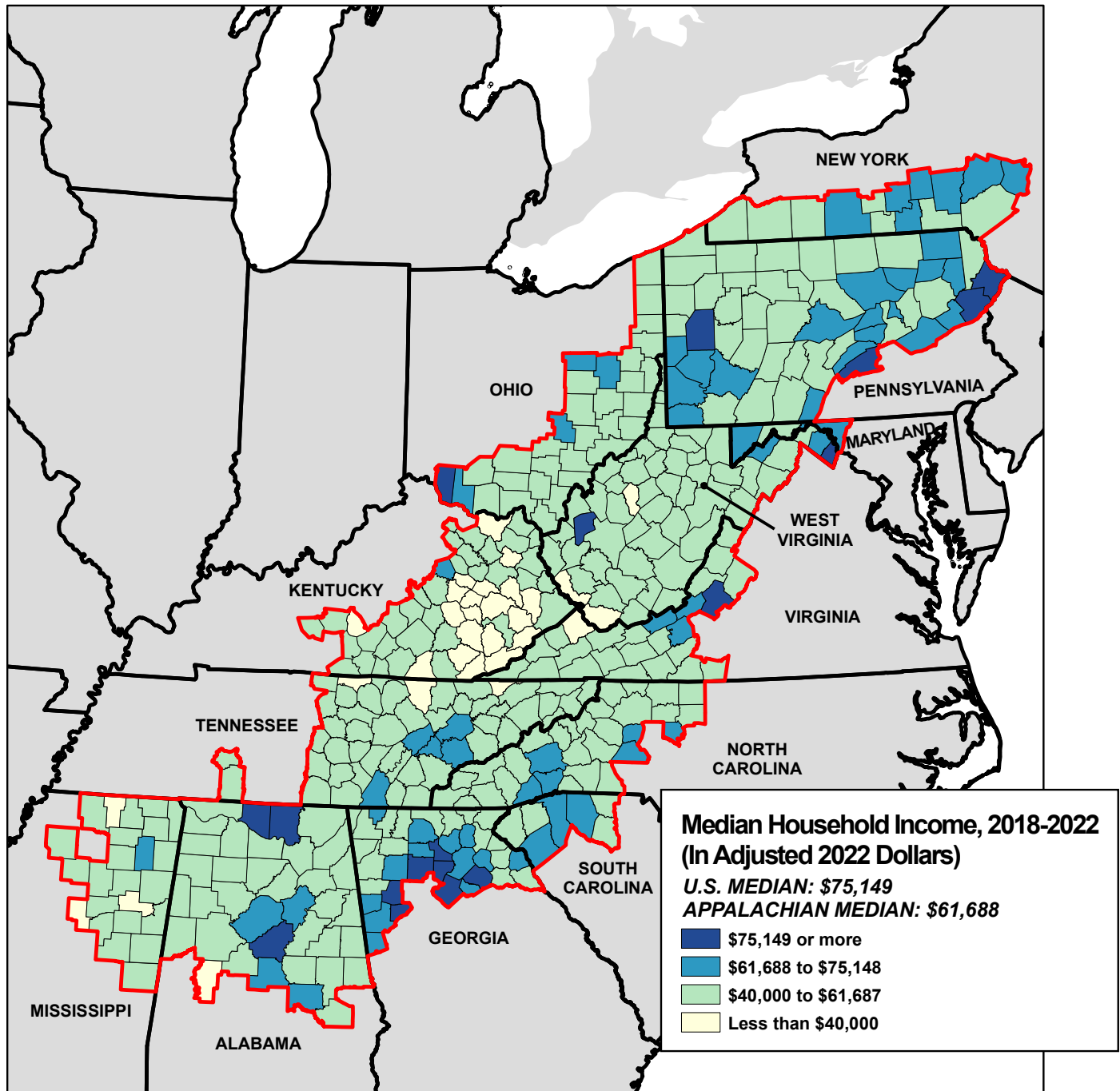


Map Title: Mean Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2022 Dollars), 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

In the 2018-2022 period, the mean income of Appalachian households was \$83,800, just 79 percent of the U.S. average (\$105,833). In 66 counties (53 of which in metropolitan areas), the average household income was greater than the Regional average – eight of these counties had average household income that matched or exceeded the national mean. All counties in the latter group were in metropolitan areas. In contrast, mean household income was less than \$60,000 in 66 counties—62 of which were outside metro areas, and 42 of which were in Central Appalachia (28 in Kentucky alone).

Figure 8.2: Median Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2022 Dollars), 2018-2022

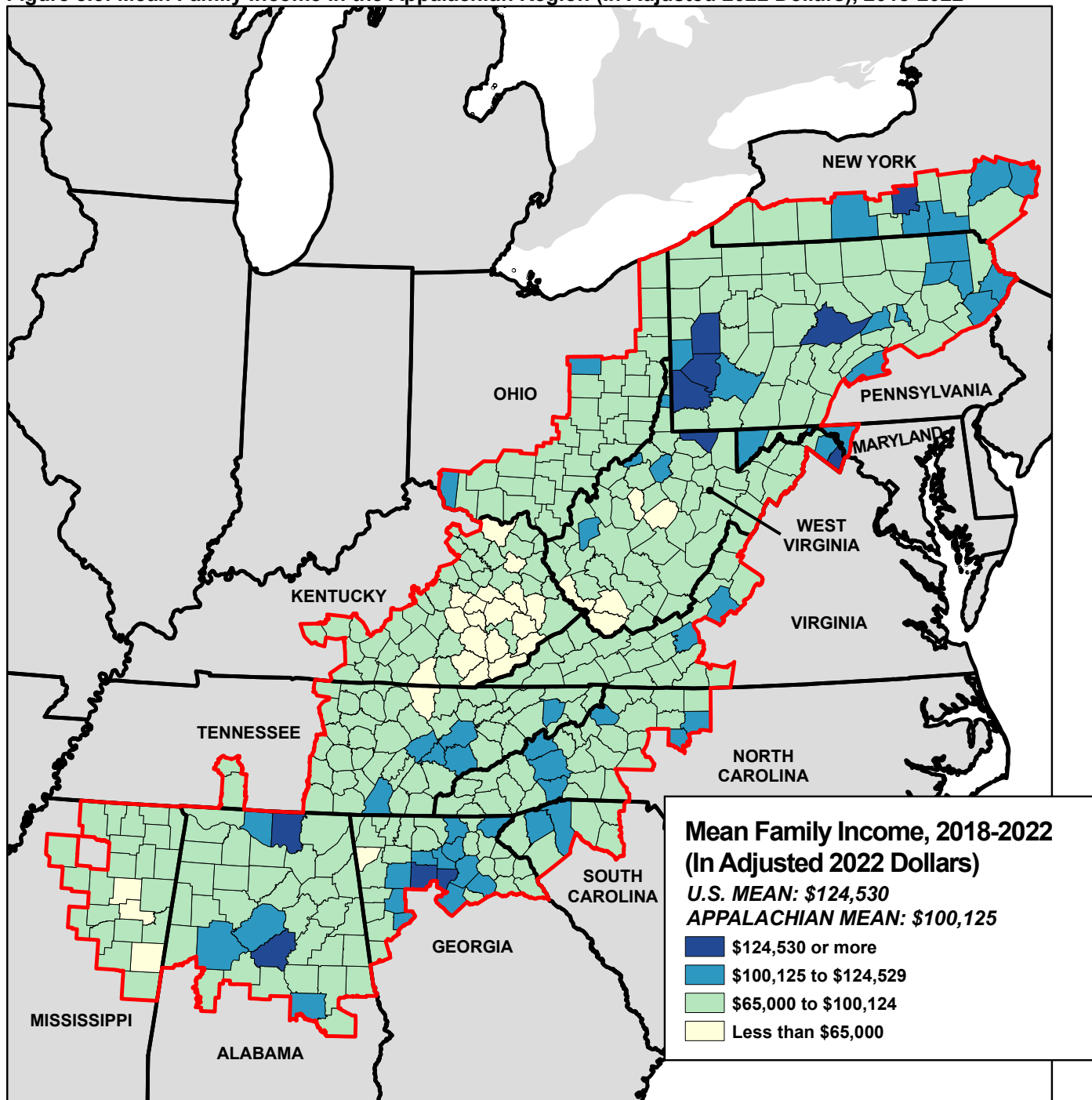


Map Title: Median Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2022 Dollars), 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

At \$61,688, median household income in Appalachia (the point at which half the households have higher incomes and the other half have lower incomes) was 82 percent that of the United States (\$75,149) during the 2018-2022 period. There were 87 counties in the Region (64 of which were in metropolitan areas) that had household incomes at or above the Appalachian median, while 18 of these counties had incomes at or above the regional median. On the other hand, 31 counties in the Region had median household incomes below \$40,000—29 of which were outside metro areas and 26 of which were in Central Appalachia. This distribution is not surprising: median household income was \$48,879 for rural counties and \$46,722 for Central Appalachia. It is useful to note that the income levels displayed here reflect income received during a five-year period that includes the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic in 2020 through 2022.

Figure 8.3: Mean Family Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2022 Dollars), 2018-2022

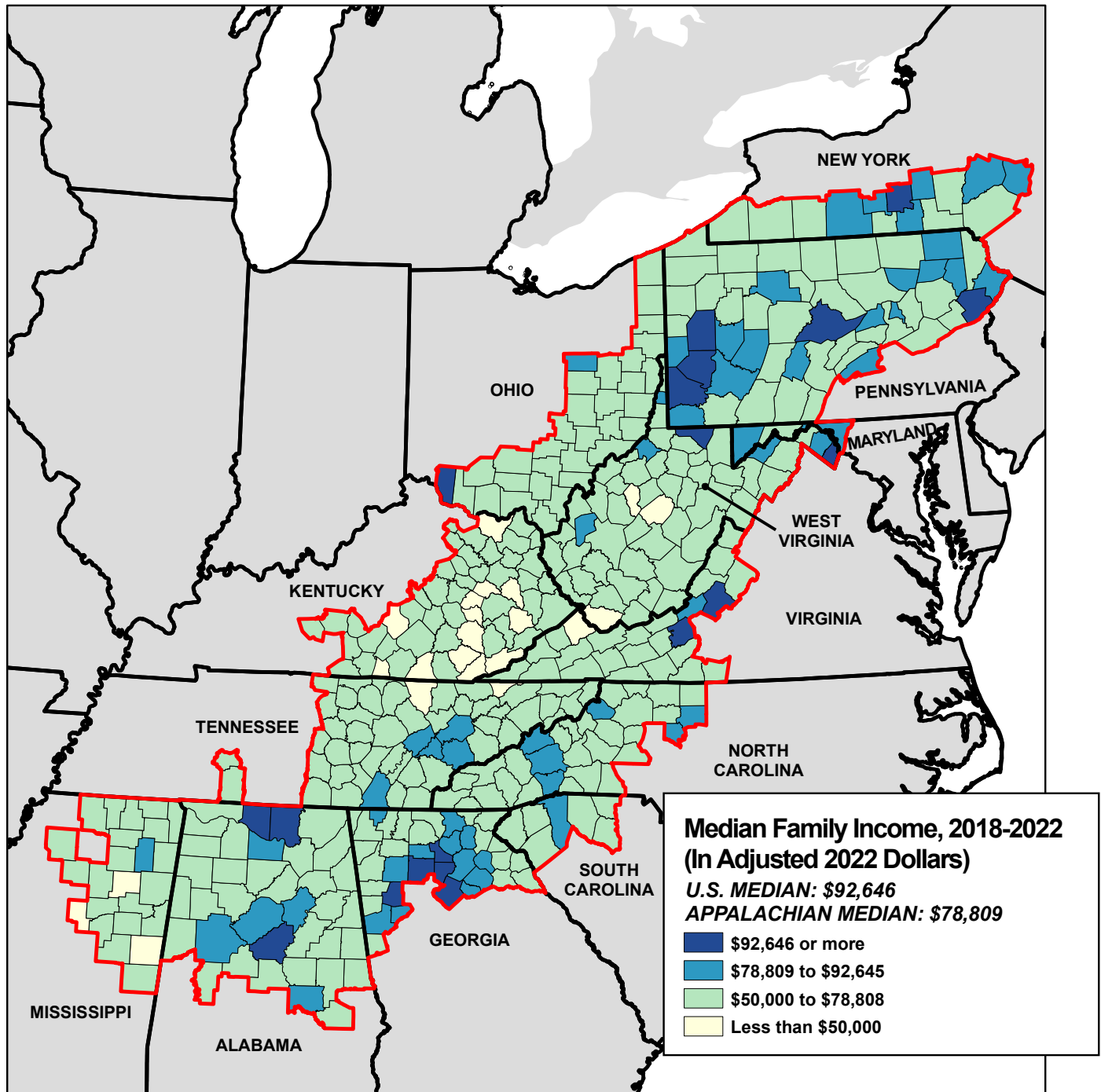


Map Title: Mean Family Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2022 Dollars), 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey

Average family income in Appalachia was just 80 percent of the national average of \$124,530 in 2018-2022. In 66 Appalachian counties (53 of which were in metropolitan areas), the average income of families matched or surpassed the regional average for the 2018-2022 period (\$100,125). And of this group, there were 11 counties (all of which were part of metro areas) where mean family income was equal to or greater than the national average. In contrast, mean family income was less than \$65,000 in 28 Appalachian counties. All of these counties were outside metropolitan areas; 21 of them did not border any metro. Additionally, 22 of the counties in the lowest income group were in Central Appalachia and 18 were in Kentucky alone. Overall, mean family income over the 2018-2022 period was just \$80,247 for rural counties, \$75,913 for Central Appalachia, and \$75,440 for Appalachian Kentucky.

Figure 8.4: Median Family Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2022 Dollars), 2018-2022

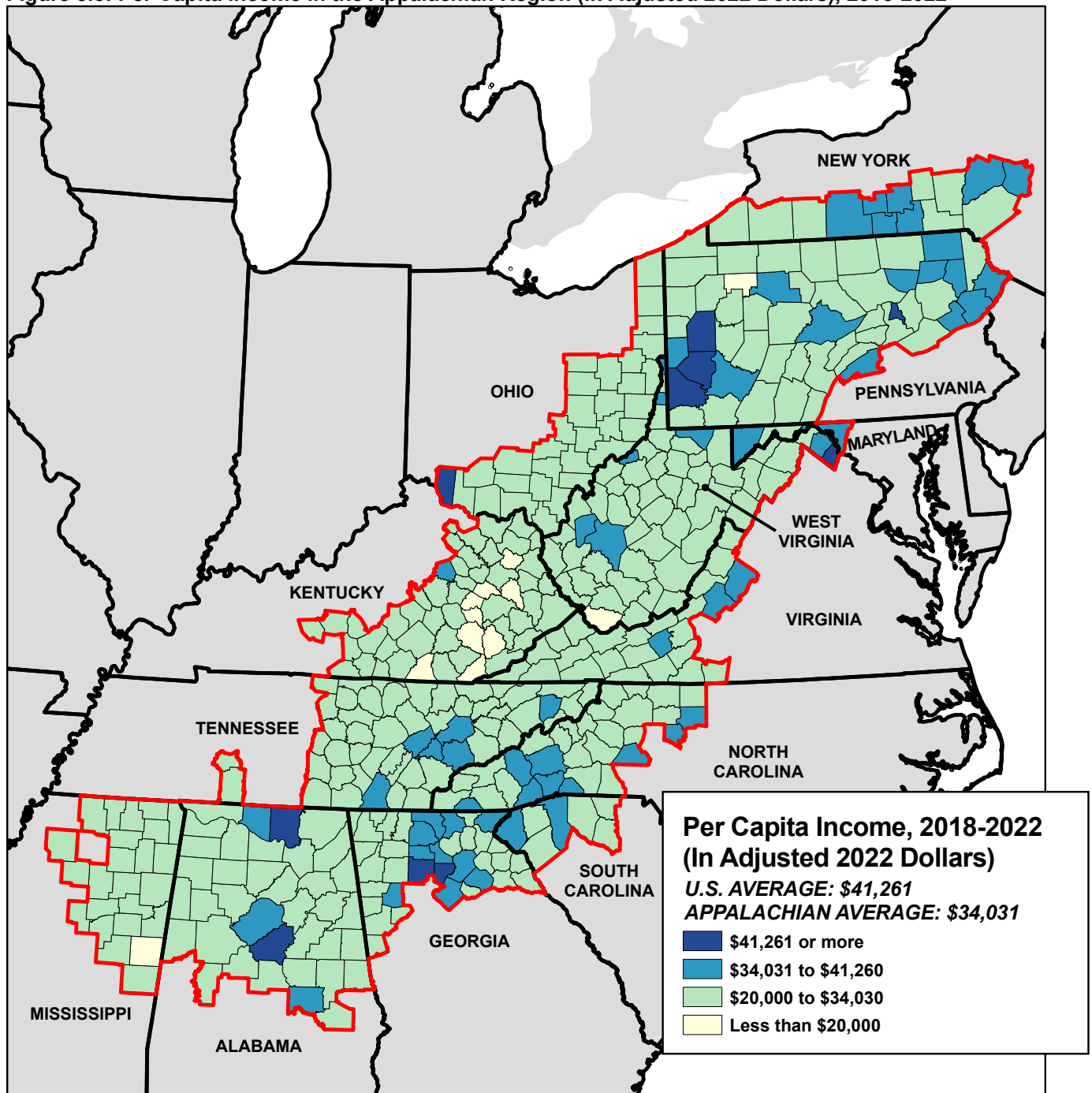


Map Title: Median Family Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2022 Dollars), 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Median family income in Appalachia was 85 percent of the U.S. median of \$92,646 during the 2018-2022 period. Yet in 79 Appalachian counties—59 of which were in metro areas—median family income (the level where half of all families have higher incomes while the other half have lower incomes) matched or exceeded the Region's median (\$78,809). In 19 of these counties (all of which were in metros), median income was at or above the median for families in the U.S. In contrast, median family income was less than \$50,000 in 22 counties. More than half of the counties in this latter group were rural counties not adjacent to a metro area (median family income in those counties as a whole was \$63,388), and 13 were in Appalachian Kentucky (where median family income was \$58,883).

Figure 8.5: Per Capita Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2022 Dollars), 2018-2022



Map Title: Per Capita Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2022 Dollars), 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

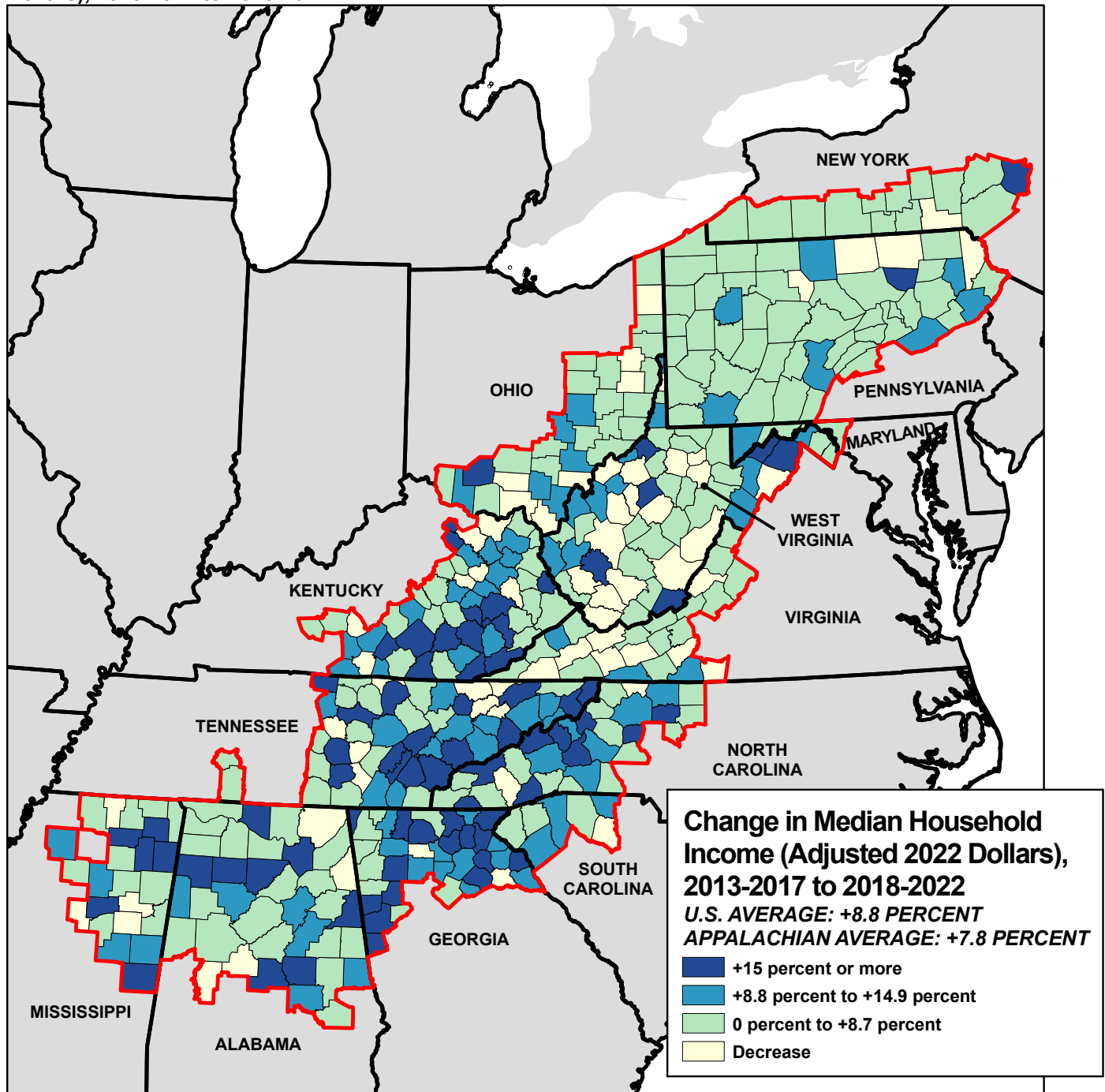
At \$34,031, per capita income in the Appalachian Region was 82 percent that of the U.S. average of \$41,261 during the 2018-2022 period. And there was considerable variation within the Region. Per capita income was the same or higher than the regional average in 72 Appalachian counties; while more than a third of these were in Northern Appalachia, there were large pockets in the North Central and Southern subregions, as well. In 10 of these counties, per capita income was at or above the national average—all of which were in metro areas including Pittsburgh, suburban Atlanta, and Clermont County, Ohio (which is part of metropolitan Cincinnati). Yet in 12 Appalachian counties, per capita income was less than \$20,000. As with other income measures, most of the counties with the highest per capita incomes were in metro areas, while those with the lowest were disproportionately in rural areas, particularly in Central Appalachia. Indeed, per capita income in 2018-2022 was only \$27,307 in rural Appalachian counties as a whole, and just \$25,857 in Central Appalachia.

Table 8.2: Change in Household, Family, and Per Capita Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2022 Dollars), 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Income	Percent Change in Household Income (In 2022 Dollars)		Percent Change in Family Income (in 2022 Dollars)		Percent Change in Per Capita Income (In 2022 Dollars)
	Mean HH Income	Median HH Income	Mean Family Income	Median Family Income	
United States	+ 8.7	+ 8.8	+ 9.4	+ 9.2	+ 10.5
Appalachian Region	+ 7.9	+ 7.8	+ 8.6	+ 9.3	+ 8.8
Subregions					
Northern Appalachia	+ 5.7	+ 4.8	+ 6.5	+ 6.6	+ 7.4
North Central Appalachia	+ 5.8	+ 4.7	+ 7.5	+ 6.8	+ 6.7
Central Appalachia	+ 7.1	+ 8.8	+ 7.3	+ 8.5	+ 6.2
South Central Appalachia	+ 8.4	+ 9.8	+ 9.4	+ 10.1	+ 9.1
Southern Appalachia	+ 10.2	+ 10.3	+ 10.3	+ 11.4	+ 11.1
County Types					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	+ 8.3	+ 8.0	+ 8.9	+ 9.8	+ 9.4
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	+ 7.4	+ 7.1	+ 8.0	+ 8.1	+ 8.6
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	+ 7.1	+ 7.7	+ 7.7	+ 9.8	+ 8.2
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	+ 7.4	+ 6.8	+ 8.3	+ 7.9	+ 7.8
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	+ 7.2	+ 7.0	+ 8.1	+ 9.4	+ 7.4
Alabama	+ 7.5	+ 7.1	+ 8.6	+ 9.3	+ 8.1
Appalachian Alabama	+ 8.3	+ 8.4	+ 9.1	+ 10.3	+ 8.9
Non-Appalachian Alabama	+ 5.7	+ 4.8	+ 7.5	+ 7.7	+ 6.5
Georgia	+ 11.0	+ 12.5	+ 11.6	+ 12.3	+ 12.8
Appalachian Georgia	+ 11.0	+ 12.0	+ 10.5	+ 12.4	+ 12.1
Non-Appalachian Georgia	+ 10.9	+ 11.9	+ 12.2	+ 12.9	+ 13.1
Kentucky	+ 7.7	+ 8.0	+ 8.0	+ 7.9	+ 8.1
Appalachian Kentucky	+ 8.7	+ 10.7	+ 8.4	+ 9.7	+ 7.4
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	+ 6.8	+ 6.5	+ 7.4	+ 7.0	+ 8.0
Maryland	+ 4.2	+ 4.2	+ 5.6	+ 4.9	+ 6.6
Appalachian Maryland	+ 6.7	+ 5.2	+ 7.1	+ 7.7	+ 10.2
Non-Appalachian Maryland	+ 4.1	+ 3.5	+ 5.5	+ 4.8	+ 6.4
Mississippi	+ 6.1	+ 5.3	+ 7.4	+ 7.3	+ 8.4
Appalachian Mississippi	+ 8.5	+ 5.9	+ 10.5	+ 11.3	+ 11.5
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	+ 5.5	+ 4.7	+ 6.6	+ 6.0	+ 7.6
New York	+ 8.0	+ 8.3	+ 8.9	+ 9.2	+ 10.2
Appalachian New York	+ 5.0	+ 3.6	+ 5.8	+ 5.2	+ 7.1
Non-Appalachian New York	+ 8.1	+ 8.4	+ 8.9	+ 9.1	+ 10.2
North Carolina	+ 10.0	+ 9.8	+ 10.9	+ 11.3	+ 11.8
Appalachian North Carolina	+ 9.1	+ 9.1	+ 10.4	+ 9.3	+ 9.8
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	+ 10.0	+ 9.8	+ 10.9	+ 11.4	+ 12.1
Ohio	+ 6.8	+ 6.7	+ 8.1	+ 8.0	+ 8.6
Appalachian Ohio	+ 5.0	+ 4.7	+ 6.5	+ 5.7	+ 6.5
Non-Appalachian Ohio	+ 7.0	+ 6.3	+ 8.1	+ 8.5	+ 8.8
Pennsylvania	+ 7.7	+ 7.3	+ 7.9	+ 7.6	+ 9.4
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 6.0	+ 5.2	+ 6.7	+ 7.0	+ 7.6
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 8.2	+ 8.2	+ 7.9	+ 7.5	+ 10.4
South Carolina	+ 10.7	+ 8.9	+ 11.3	+ 9.9	+ 13.0
Appalachian South Carolina	+ 11.6	+ 10.5	+ 11.2	+ 8.9	+ 13.1
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	+ 10.4	+ 8.4	+ 11.4	+ 10.8	+ 13.1
Tennessee	+ 9.0	+ 9.8	+ 9.5	+ 11.3	+ 10.3
Appalachian Tennessee	+ 8.7	+ 11.4	+ 9.3	+ 11.7	+ 9.4
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	+ 8.9	+ 8.6	+ 9.6	+ 11.1	+ 10.9
Virginia	+ 6.8	+ 5.9	+ 8.4	+ 7.9	+ 8.7
Appalachian Virginia	+ 2.1	+ 2.7	+ 4.3	+ 5.5	+ 2.9
Non-Appalachian Virginia	+ 6.7	+ 5.9	+ 8.2	+ 7.2	+ 8.8
West Virginia (entire state)	+ 5.8	+ 4.6	+ 7.1	+ 7.0	+ 6.0

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Figure 8.6: Percent Change in Median Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2022 Dollars), 2013-2017 to 2018-2022



Map Title: Percent Change in Median Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2022 Dollars), 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Adjusting for inflation, the median income for Appalachian households (the level where half of all households have higher incomes while the other half have lower incomes) was 7.8 percent higher in 2018-2022 than it was in 2013-2017. While this was slightly less than the national increase of 8.8 percent, household income rose at or above the national median in nearly two-fifths of Appalachia's 423 counties. Moreover, median household income rose at least 15 percent in 77 Appalachian counties between the two periods. But not all the news was positive: In 65 Appalachian counties, real median household income fell between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022. Over one-fourth of these counties were in West Virginia. And it is important to note that the overall income improvements in 2018-2022 include the economic impact resulting from the coronavirus pandemic (beginning in March 2020).

Table 8.3: Number of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, by Age Group, 2018-2022

Poverty Status	All Ages	Under Age 18	Ages 18-64			Ages 65 and Over
			Total	Ages 18-24	Ages 25-64	
United States	40,521,584	12,002,351	23,209,781	5,401,914	17,807,867	5,309,452
Appalachian Region	3,641,406	1,036,603	2,123,900	475,816	1,648,084	480,903
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	1,017,004	277,595	596,984	142,856	454,128	142,425
North Central Appalachia	387,118	104,048	233,568	51,527	182,041	49,502
Central Appalachia	391,119	108,766	229,931	37,336	192,595	52,422
South Central Appalachia	737,421	200,620	435,596	104,710	330,886	101,205
Southern Appalachia	1,108,744	345,574	627,821	139,387	488,434	135,349
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	672,256	195,273	386,380	81,797	304,583	90,603
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	1,550,897	437,783	921,030	236,326	684,704	192,084
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	346,053	100,122	199,918	41,308	158,610	46,013
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	608,952	176,221	345,327	60,195	285,132	87,404
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	463,248	127,204	271,245	56,190	215,055	64,799
Alabama	768,897	239,241	436,601	100,306	336,295	93,055
Appalachian Alabama	456,997	139,535	259,371	56,354	203,017	58,091
Non-Appalachian Alabama	311,900	99,706	177,230	43,952	133,278	34,964
Georgia	1,415,573	467,018	793,130	183,696	609,434	155,425
Appalachian Georgia	361,691	118,849	201,060	40,565	160,495	41,782
Non-Appalachian Georgia	1,053,882	348,169	592,070	143,131	448,939	113,643
Kentucky	704,758	209,149	409,549	88,749	320,800	86,060
Appalachian Kentucky	255,699	73,245	149,826	25,731	124,095	32,628
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	449,059	135,904	259,723	63,018	196,705	53,432
Maryland	558,567	158,474	318,120	66,845	251,275	81,973
Appalachian Maryland	30,952	8,068	18,758	4,158	14,600	4,126
Non-Appalachian Maryland	527,615	150,406	299,362	62,687	236,675	77,847
Mississippi	548,804	181,859	303,592	68,016	235,576	63,353
Appalachian Mississippi	109,871	33,536	62,860	17,067	45,793	13,475
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	438,933	148,323	240,732	50,949	189,783	49,878
New York	2,655,662	734,756	1,517,466	306,281	1,211,185	403,440
Appalachian New York	151,734	38,172	95,759	30,887	64,872	17,803
Non-Appalachian New York	2,503,928	696,584	1,421,707	275,394	1,146,313	385,637
North Carolina	1,357,418	415,337	775,556	179,485	596,071	166,525
Appalachian North Carolina	288,384	81,880	165,669	35,590	130,079	40,835
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	1,069,034	333,457	609,887	143,895	465,992	125,690
Ohio	1,526,507	466,135	879,279	199,331	679,948	181,093
Appalachian Ohio	304,369	89,720	175,680	33,164	142,516	38,969
Non-Appalachian Ohio	1,222,138	376,415	703,599	166,167	537,432	142,124
Pennsylvania	1,482,439	423,242	849,997	186,922	663,075	209,200
Appalachian Pennsylvania	664,066	177,623	387,978	91,263	296,715	98,465
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	818,373	245,619	462,019	95,659	366,360	110,735
South Carolina	717,849	220,230	402,980	89,898	313,082	94,639
Appalachian South Carolina	180,185	53,654	104,530	25,401	79,129	22,001
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	537,664	166,576	298,450	64,497	233,953	72,638
Tennessee	943,583	287,318	541,839	115,562	426,277	114,426
Appalachian Tennessee	422,340	116,651	248,070	51,802	196,268	57,619
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	521,243	170,667	293,769	63,760	230,009	56,807
Virginia	836,686	236,926	491,713	128,894	362,819	108,047
Appalachian Virginia	123,258	27,296	78,843	25,580	53,263	17,119
Non-Appalachian Virginia	713,428	209,630	412,870	103,314	309,556	90,928
West Virginia (entire state)	291,860	78,374	175,496	38,254	137,242	37,990

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are based on family size and composition. In 2022, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$29,678. The poverty universe does not include unrelated individuals under age 15, people living in college dormitories, and people living in institutional group quarters.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

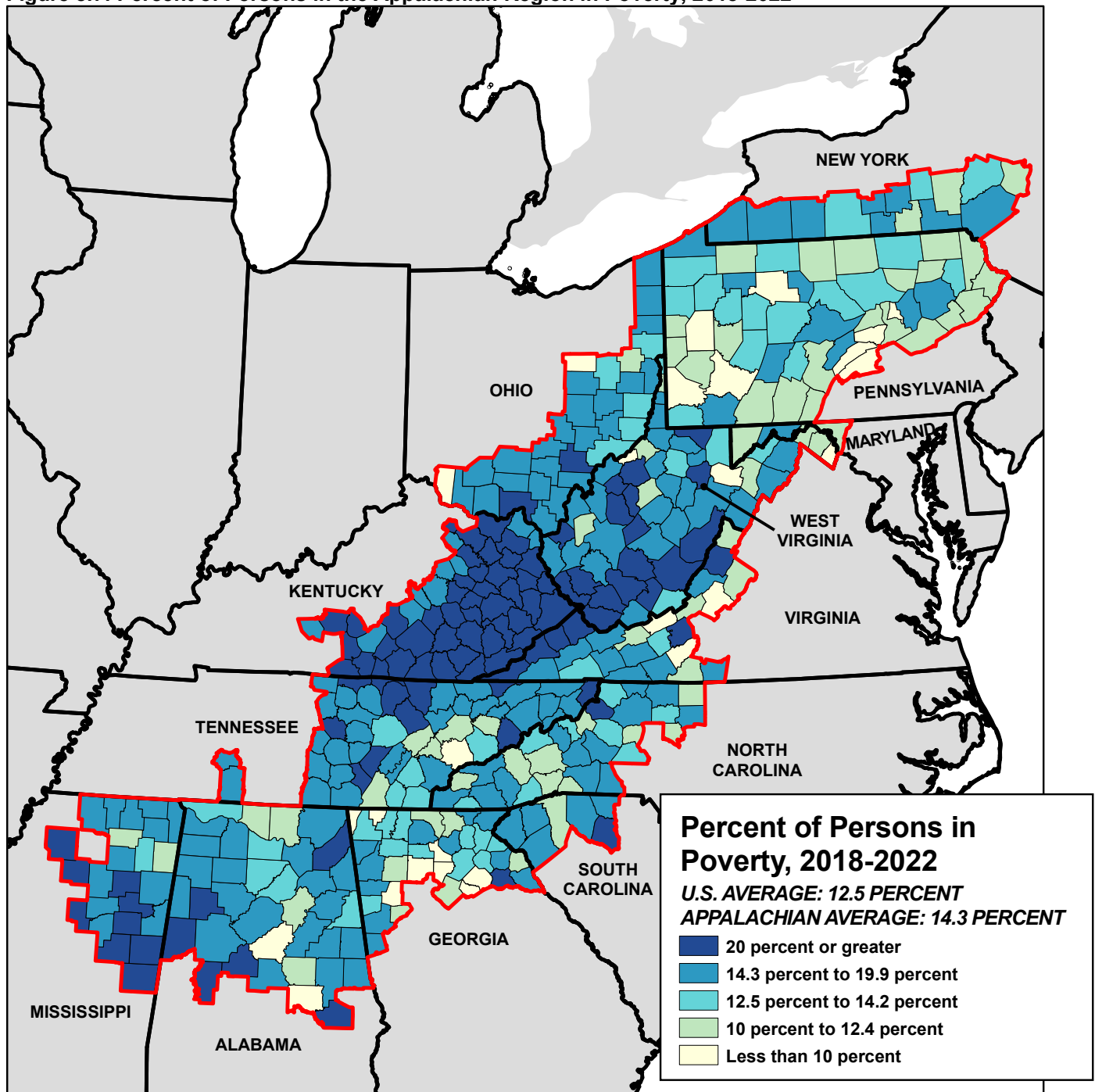
Table 8.4: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, by Age Group, 2018-2022

Poverty Status	All Ages	Under Age 18	Ages 18-64			Ages 65 and Over
			Total	Ages 18-24	Ages 25-64	
United States	12.5	16.7	11.7	19.2	10.5	10.0
Appalachian Region	14.3	19.2	13.9	22.1	12.6	10.0
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	13.1	18.0	12.9	22.6	11.4	8.9
North Central Appalachia	16.0	20.8	16.2	25.5	14.7	10.4
Central Appalachia	21.7	28.1	21.6	26.0	20.9	15.2
South Central Appalachia	14.5	19.8	14.4	24.3	12.7	9.9
Southern Appalachia	13.2	17.8	12.3	18.7	11.2	10.0
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	10.9	14.3	10.2	16.3	9.3	8.8
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	14.3	19.4	14.0	24.6	12.2	9.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	15.5	21.1	15.2	22.0	14.0	10.6
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	16.0	22.5	15.6	20.2	14.8	10.9
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	19.5	25.3	19.4	27.5	18.0	13.5
Alabama	15.7	21.9	14.8	23.2	13.4	11.0
Appalachian Alabama	14.5	20.0	13.6	20.5	12.4	10.7
Non-Appalachian Alabama	17.9	25.3	17.1	27.9	15.1	11.5
Georgia	13.5	18.9	12.2	19.3	11.0	10.3
Appalachian Georgia	10.9	14.6	9.8	13.6	9.2	8.8
Non-Appalachian Georgia	14.8	20.9	13.3	21.9	11.9	11.0
Kentucky	16.1	21.1	15.5	23.3	14.1	11.7
Appalachian Kentucky	22.7	29.3	22.3	27.8	21.4	16.0
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	13.8	18.4	13.1	21.9	11.6	10.1
Maryland	9.3	11.8	8.5	13.6	7.7	8.5
Appalachian Maryland	13.1	16.3	13.3	20.5	12.1	9.0
Non-Appalachian Maryland	9.1	11.7	8.3	13.3	7.6	8.5
Mississippi	19.2	26.8	17.8	26.0	16.3	13.4
Appalachian Mississippi	18.6	24.5	17.8	29.4	15.5	13.3
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	19.4	27.4	17.8	25.0	16.5	13.5
New York	13.6	18.1	12.5	18.9	11.5	12.2
Appalachian New York	15.6	20.1	16.5	32.5	13.3	9.0
Non-Appalachian New York	13.5	18.0	12.3	18.1	11.4	12.4
North Carolina	13.3	18.5	12.4	20.5	11.1	9.8
Appalachian North Carolina	14.6	20.9	14.1	22.3	12.9	9.9
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	13.0	18.0	12.0	20.1	10.7	9.7
Ohio	13.3	18.3	12.7	20.5	11.4	9.1
Appalachian Ohio	15.8	21.5	15.5	21.0	14.6	10.5
Non-Appalachian Ohio	12.8	17.6	12.2	20.4	10.8	8.7
Pennsylvania	11.8	16.2	11.2	18.7	10.0	8.9
Appalachian Pennsylvania	12.1	16.6	11.8	21.2	10.4	8.7
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	11.5	15.9	10.7	16.7	9.8	9.1
South Carolina	14.4	20.3	13.4	21.6	12.1	10.3
Appalachian South Carolina	13.6	18.1	13.1	22.4	11.6	9.7
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	14.6	21.1	13.6	21.3	12.3	10.5
Tennessee	14.0	19.2	13.1	20.0	12.0	10.1
Appalachian Tennessee	14.6	19.7	14.3	21.4	13.1	10.2
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	13.5	18.9	12.3	19.0	11.2	10.0
Virginia	10.0	12.8	9.5	18.2	8.1	8.0
Appalachian Virginia	17.6	21.0	18.9	38.1	15.2	11.2
Non-Appalachian Virginia	9.3	12.2	8.7	16.1	7.5	7.6
West Virginia (entire state)	16.8	22.3	17.1	26.6	15.5	10.6

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are based on family size and composition. In 2022, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$29,678. The poverty universe does not include unrelated individuals under age 15, people living in college dormitories, and people living in institutional group quarters.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Figure 8.7: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2018-2022

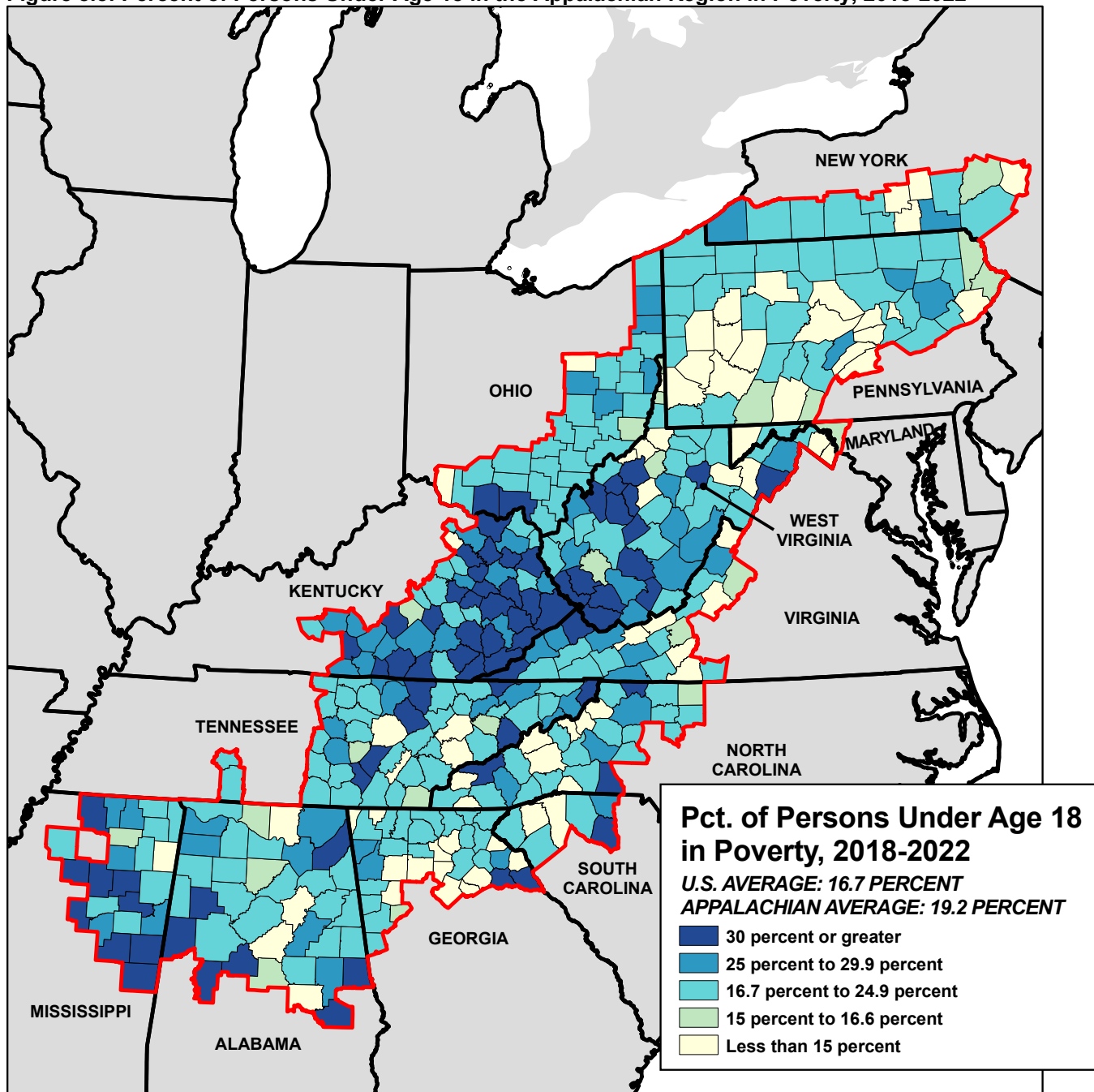


Map Title: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Over the 2018-2022 period, 14.3 percent of Appalachian residents lived below the poverty level (income below \$29,678 for a family of two adults and two children in 2022)—nearly two percentage points more than the U.S. average. But there is a great deal of variation within the Region: In 98 counties, at least 20 percent of persons were poor, yet in 93 counties the poverty rate was lower than the national average of 12.5 percent. And there was a geographic and urban/rural pattern: All but 14 of the counties with poverty rates at or above 20 percent were outside metropolitan areas, and most of them were in Central Appalachia which had a poverty rate of 21.7 percent. (With a poverty rate of 22.7 percent, Appalachian Kentucky alone had 44 of these counties, and West Virginia, Tennessee, and Mississippi also had high poverty clusters.) In contrast, the counties where poverty was lower than the U.S. rate were mostly in Northern Appalachia and/or in metropolitan areas.

Figure 8.8: Percent of Persons Under Age 18 in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2018-2022

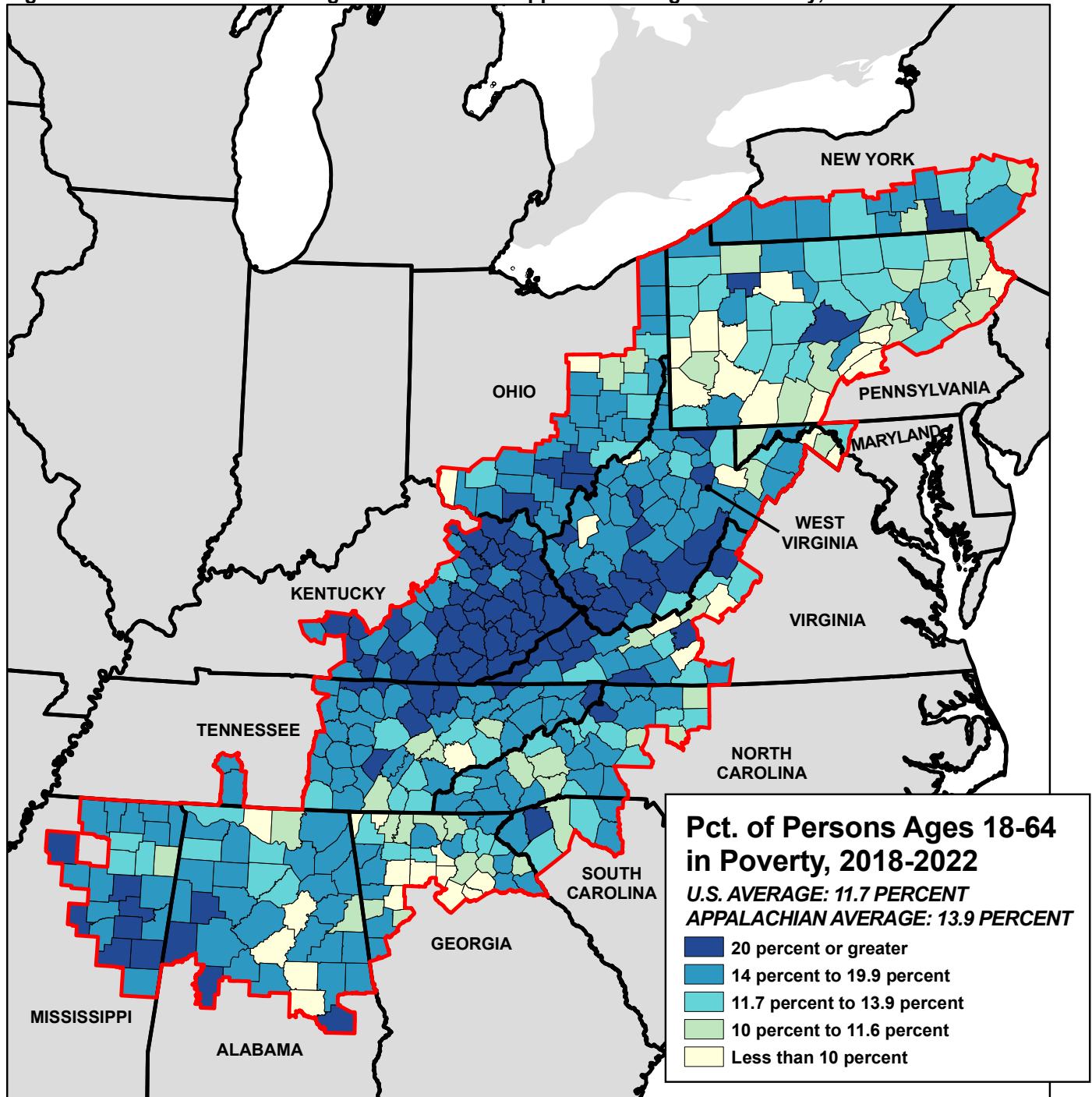


Map Title: Percent of Persons Under Age 18 in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Child poverty in the Appalachian Region was 19.2 percent in 2018-2022—2.5 percentage points above the national rate of 16.7 percent. And the problem is even more acute in some parts of Appalachia. In 73 counties, at least 30 percent of children under age 18 lived below the poverty level (income below \$29,678 for a family of two adults and two children in 2022). All but 11 of these counties were outside metropolitan areas and nearly half were in the most isolated rural areas. Central Appalachia was home to 35 of the counties with the highest child poverty rates, while another 19 were in Southern Appalachia. However, there were 95 counties (primarily in metropolitan areas and in Northern Appalachia; with large pockets in Southern and South Central Appalachia) where child poverty rates were below the national average. Indeed, 38 of the 72 Appalachian counties where child poverty was less than 15 percent were in metro areas, and 23 were in Northern Appalachia.

Figure 8.9: Percent of Persons Ages 18 to 64 in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2018-2022

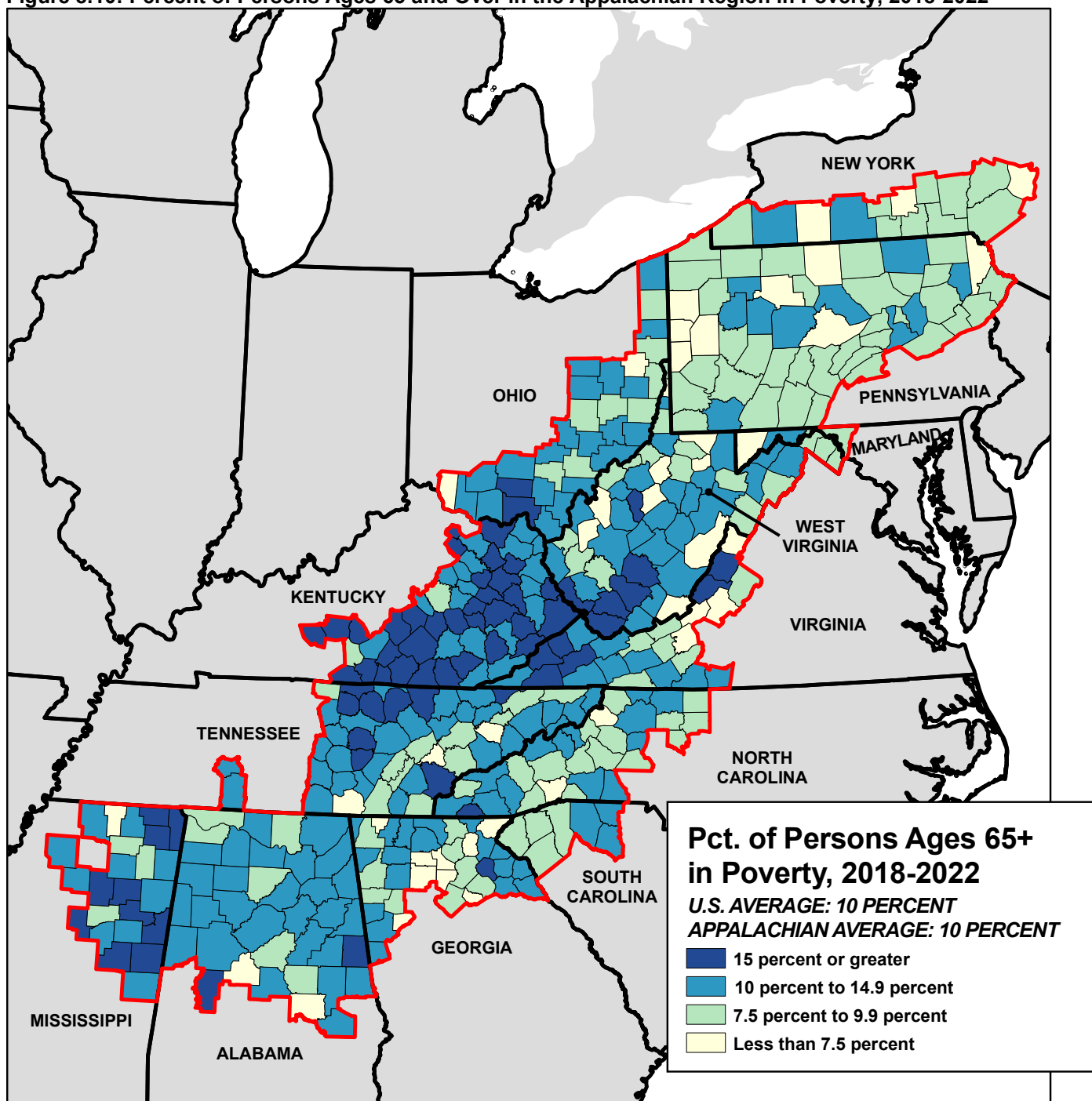


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 18 to 64 in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Though at slightly lower levels, the poverty pattern among adults ages 18 to 64 in the Appalachian Region mirrored that for the overall population in the 2018-2022 period. The share of Appalachian residents in this age group with incomes below the poverty level (income of less than \$29,678 for a family of two adults and two children in 2022) was 13.9 percent, more than two percentage points above the U.S. average of 11.7 percent. Within the Region, there were rural/urban and geographic patterns of poverty concentration. Of the 89 counties where at least one in five 18-to-64-year-olds were poor, 76 were outside metropolitan areas; 72 were in Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia; and 39 were in Kentucky alone. Conversely, 54 of the 83 counties with rates below the national average were in metro areas and 31 were in Northern Appalachia.

Figure 8.10: Percent of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2018-2022



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

The poverty rate for the oldest residents of Appalachia was 10 percent in 2018-2022, the same as the national rate. Yet poverty among the 65-plus population was below the U.S. average in 168 counties, 63 of which were in Northern Appalachia alone. But as with other age groups, poverty was especially prevalent among the senior population in Appalachian Kentucky, where more than 15 percent of residents ages 65 and over were poor in 2018-2022. Moreover, the state had 33 of the 70 Appalachian counties where the poverty rate among seniors was 15 percent or higher. (Determined by a series of income thresholds based on family size and composition, the poverty level in 2022 was \$17,689 for a family of two adults headed by someone age 65 or older.)

Table 8.5: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, by Age Group, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Poverty Status	Percentage Point Change in Share of Persons in Poverty					
	All Ages	Under Age 18	Ages 18-64			Ages 65 and Over
			Total	Ages 18-24	Ages 25-64	
United States	- 2.1	- 3.6	- 2.0	- 4.2	- 1.6	+ 0.7
Appalachian Region	- 2.0	- 3.7	- 1.9	- 4.5	- 1.5	+ 0.6
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	- 1.0	- 2.5	- 1.0	- 3.6	- 0.6	+ 0.9
North Central Appalachia	- 1.3	- 2.7	- 1.3	- 4.6	- 0.8	+ 1.1
Central Appalachia	- 2.3	- 4.1	- 2.3	- 4.8	- 1.9	+ 1.0
South Central Appalachia	- 2.6	- 4.3	- 2.6	- 5.7	- 2.2	+ 0.5
Southern Appalachia	- 2.5	- 4.2	- 2.4	- 4.1	- 2.1	+ 0.3
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	- 1.7	- 3.2	- 1.7	- 3.0	- 1.4	+ 0.4
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	- 1.7	- 3.4	- 1.8	- 4.0	- 1.4	+ 0.8
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 2.4	- 4.4	- 2.3	- 6.7	- 1.7	+ 0.8
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	- 2.0	- 3.4	- 2.1	- 5.8	- 1.6	+ 0.7
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 2.4	- 4.5	- 2.5	- 5.3	- 2.1	+ 1.0
Alabama	- 2.3	- 4.1	- 2.1	- 4.2	- 1.7	+ 0.6
Appalachian Alabama	- 2.2	- 4.0	- 2.1	- 4.2	- 1.9	+ 0.9
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 2.3	- 4.0	- 1.9	- 3.9	- 1.6	+ 0.2
Georgia	- 3.4	- 5.1	- 3.2	- 5.7	- 2.8	+ 0.0
Appalachian Georgia	- 2.8	- 4.4	- 2.7	- 3.6	- 2.5	- 0.2
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 3.6	- 5.5	- 3.4	- 6.4	- 2.8	+ 0.1
Kentucky	- 2.2	- 3.6	- 2.1	- 4.2	- 1.9	+ 0.6
Appalachian Kentucky	- 2.9	- 3.9	- 3.1	- 5.6	- 2.8	+ 0.4
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 1.9	- 3.4	- 1.8	- 3.6	- 1.5	+ 0.8
Maryland	- 0.4	- 1.1	- 0.5	- 2.1	- 0.2	+ 0.7
Appalachian Maryland	- 0.6	- 3.4	+ 0.1	- 0.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.7
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 0.4	- 0.9	- 0.5	- 2.2	- 0.2	+ 0.8
Mississippi	- 2.3	- 3.4	- 2.1	- 4.6	- 1.7	+ 0.3
Appalachian Mississippi	- 2.9	- 4.9	- 2.6	- 3.7	- 2.5	- 0.3
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 2.0	- 3.0	- 2.0	- 4.9	- 1.5	+ 0.6
New York	- 1.5	- 3.2	- 1.4	- 2.9	- 1.1	+ 0.7
Appalachian New York	- 0.8	- 2.2	- 0.6	- 1.7	- 0.5	+ 1.4
Non-Appalachian New York	- 1.5	- 3.2	- 1.4	- 2.9	- 1.1	+ 0.7
North Carolina	- 2.8	- 4.4	- 2.9	- 5.9	- 2.3	+ 0.4
Appalachian North Carolina	- 2.4	- 3.8	- 2.7	- 5.8	- 2.1	+ 0.3
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 2.9	- 4.5	- 2.9	- 5.9	- 2.4	+ 0.3
Ohio	- 1.6	- 3.0	- 1.6	- 4.3	- 1.2	+ 1.1
Appalachian Ohio	- 1.4	- 3.4	- 1.3	- 4.5	- 0.8	+ 1.5
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 1.6	- 3.0	- 1.6	- 4.3	- 1.2	+ 0.9
Pennsylvania	- 1.3	- 2.4	- 1.4	- 4.4	- 1.0	+ 0.7
Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 1.2	- 2.4	- 1.2	- 4.3	- 0.7	+ 0.7
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 1.5	- 2.4	- 1.6	- 4.5	- 1.1	+ 0.7
South Carolina	- 2.2	- 4.2	- 2.3	- 4.5	- 1.9	+ 1.0
Appalachian South Carolina	- 2.0	- 3.8	- 1.8	- 4.0	- 1.4	+ 0.8
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 2.4	- 4.4	- 2.3	- 4.7	- 2.0	+ 1.0
Tennessee	- 2.7	- 5.1	- 2.5	- 5.1	- 2.1	+ 0.6
Appalachian Tennessee	- 2.7	- 4.9	- 2.7	- 5.8	- 2.3	+ 0.4
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 2.6	- 5.1	- 2.3	- 4.6	- 1.9	+ 0.8
Virginia	- 1.2	- 2.1	- 1.2	- 3.2	- 0.9	+ 0.6
Appalachian Virginia	- 0.8	- 2.7	- 0.6	- 2.7	- 0.4	+ 1.2
Non-Appalachian Virginia	- 1.2	- 2.0	- 1.2	- 3.1	- 0.9	+ 0.6
West Virginia (entire state)	- 1.0	- 2.3	- 1.0	- 3.9	- 0.6	+ 1.4

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are based on family size and composition. In 2022, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$29,678. The poverty universe does not include unrelated individuals under age 15, people living in college dormitories, and people living in institutional group quarters.

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

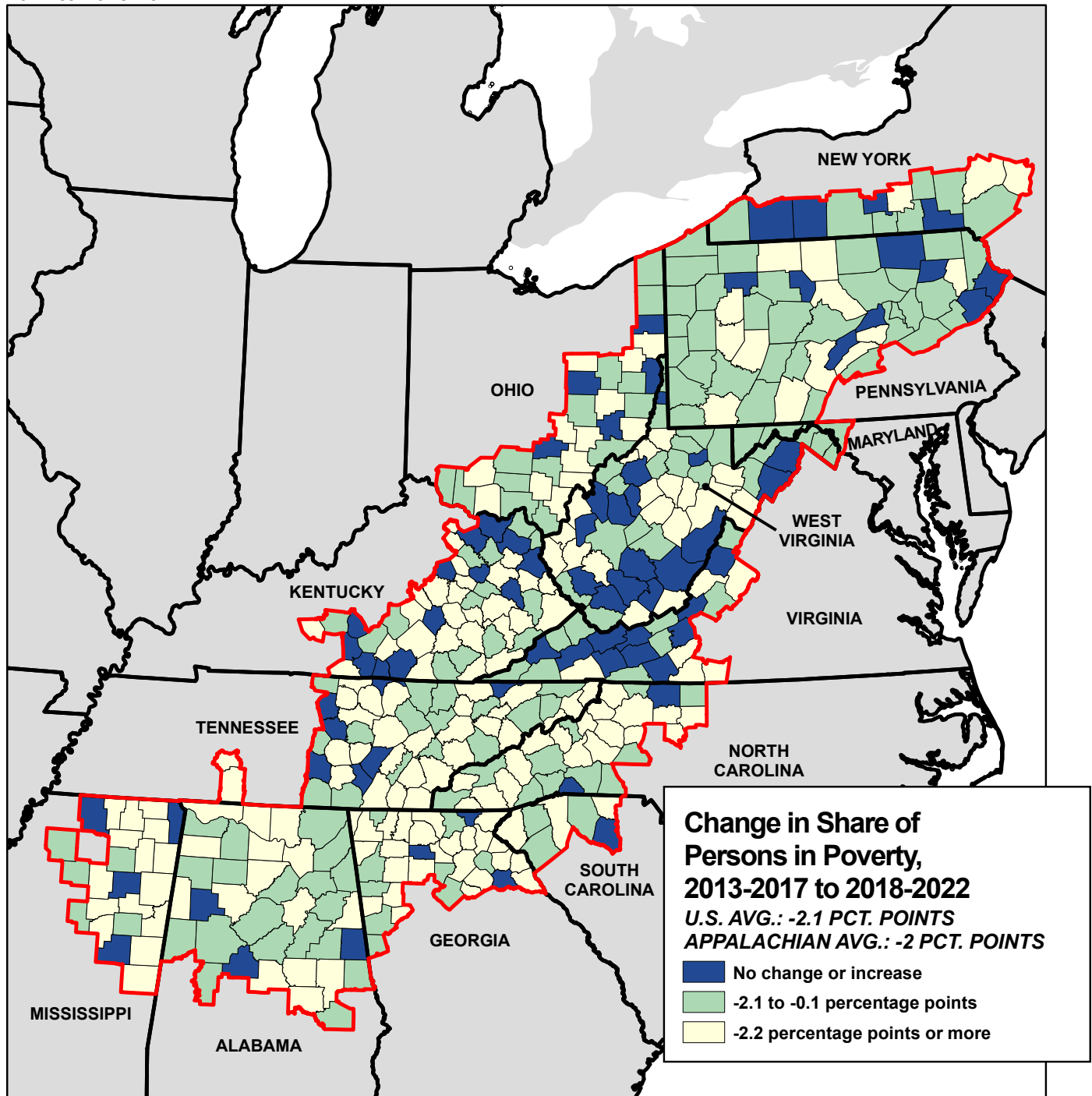
Table 8.6: Income-to-Poverty Ratio for Persons in the Appalachian Region, 2018-2022

Income-to-Poverty Ratio	Persons for Whom Poverty Status Is Determined	Percent of Persons for Whom Poverty Status is Determined			
		Below 50% of Poverty Level	50% to 99% of Poverty Level	100% to 199% of Poverty Level	200% of Poverty Level and Greater
United States	323,275,448	5.8	6.7	16.3	71.2
Appalachian Region	25,453,240	6.4	7.9	18.8	66.9
Subregions					
Northern Appalachia	7,769,006	6.1	7.0	17.1	69.8
North Central Appalachia	2,416,970	7.1	8.9	19.2	64.8
Central Appalachia	1,798,745	9.3	12.5	23.3	55.0
South Central Appalachia	5,071,830	6.5	8.0	20.0	65.5
Southern Appalachia	8,396,689	5.9	7.3	18.4	68.4
County Types					
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	6,175,328	5.2	5.7	15.0	74.1
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	10,870,482	6.6	7.6	18.4	67.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	2,226,590	6.8	8.8	21.4	63.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	3,802,950	6.6	9.4	21.8	62.2
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	2,377,890	8.4	11.1	22.9	57.6
Alabama	4,890,427	7.2	8.5	19.1	65.2
Appalachian Alabama	3,152,307	6.6	7.9	18.5	67.0
Non-Appalachian Alabama	1,738,120	8.3	9.6	20.1	61.9
Georgia	10,462,430	6.3	7.2	17.9	68.6
Appalachian Georgia	3,330,617	4.8	6.1	17.4	71.7
Non-Appalachian Georgia	7,131,813	7.0	7.8	18.1	67.2
Kentucky	4,372,749	7.3	8.8	18.9	65.0
Appalachian Kentucky	1,126,292	9.8	12.9	22.9	54.4
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	3,246,457	6.4	7.4	17.5	68.7
Maryland	6,034,320	4.6	4.7	11.7	79.1
Appalachian Maryland	236,246	5.7	7.4	17.4	69.5
Non-Appalachian Maryland	5,798,074	4.5	4.6	11.4	79.5
Mississippi	2,858,819	8.7	10.5	21.5	59.3
Appalachian Mississippi	591,016	8.2	10.4	23.2	58.2
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	2,267,803	8.8	10.6	21.0	59.6
New York	19,516,967	6.5	7.1	14.7	71.7
Appalachian New York	969,793	7.7	8.0	18.2	66.2
Non-Appalachian New York	18,547,174	6.5	7.0	14.5	72.0
North Carolina	10,186,155	6.0	7.3	18.3	68.4
Appalachian North Carolina	1,976,084	6.4	8.2	20.4	65.0
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	8,210,071	5.9	7.1	17.7	69.2
Ohio	11,472,644	6.1	7.2	16.3	70.4
Appalachian Ohio	1,925,344	7.0	8.8	19.1	65.1
Non-Appalachian Ohio	9,547,300	5.9	6.9	15.7	71.5
Pennsylvania	12,582,125	5.5	6.3	15.1	73.1
Appalachian Pennsylvania	5,490,970	5.6	6.5	16.5	71.4
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	7,091,155	5.5	6.1	14.0	74.5
South Carolina	5,002,332	6.7	7.7	18.6	67.1
Appalachian South Carolina	1,322,749	6.3	7.3	18.7	67.7
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	3,679,583	6.8	7.8	18.5	66.9
Tennessee	6,759,549	6.3	7.6	18.6	67.4
Appalachian Tennessee	2,894,110	6.3	8.3	20.2	65.2
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	3,865,439	6.4	7.1	17.5	69.0
Virginia	8,379,773	4.9	5.1	13.4	76.6
Appalachian Virginia	700,829	8.8	8.8	20.8	61.6
Non-Appalachian Virginia	7,678,944	4.5	4.8	12.8	77.9
West Virginia (entire state)	1,736,883	7.6	9.2	19.9	63.3

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are based on family size and composition. In 2022, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$29,678. The poverty universe does not include unrelated individuals under age 15, people living in college dormitories, and people living in institutional group quarters.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Figure 8.11: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

The share of Appalachian residents living below the poverty level (income of less than \$29,678 for a family of two adults and two children in 2022) decreased by 2 percentage points between the 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 periods, slightly lower than the 2.1 point decline nationally. Yet the decrease in the poverty rate was even greater than the national average in 184 of Appalachia's 423 counties (most of which were in South Central and Southern Appalachia). Conversely, there were 76 counties—39 of which were in either Kentucky, West Virginia, or Virginia—where poverty rates either stayed the same or increased between the two periods.

Table 8.7: Number of Persons in the Appalachian Region Below 50% of Poverty Level, by Age Group, 2018-2022

Income-to-Poverty Ratio (Below 50%)	All Ages	Under Age 18	Ages 18-64			Ages 65 and Over
			Total	Ages 18-24	Ages 25-64	
United States	18,860,708	5,502,682	11,494,909	3,012,433	8,482,476	1,863,117
Appalachian Region	1,638,084	480,044	1,006,056	277,665	728,391	151,984
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	470,808	131,025	291,942	86,728	205,214	47,841
North Central Appalachia	172,314	49,486	108,662	30,538	78,124	14,166
Central Appalachia	167,115	54,028	99,574	18,987	80,587	13,513
South Central Appalachia	330,894	90,706	210,397	62,288	148,109	29,791
Southern Appalachia	496,953	154,799	295,481	79,124	216,357	46,673
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	318,037	95,325	190,283	47,022	143,261	32,429
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	719,414	202,992	453,766	146,044	307,722	62,656
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	150,528	44,080	91,559	23,211	68,348	14,889
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	249,792	77,330	148,753	29,164	119,589	23,709
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	200,313	60,317	121,695	32,224	89,471	18,301
Alabama	351,011	113,325	206,770	58,811	147,959	30,916
Appalachian Alabama	206,504	64,737	121,720	33,036	88,684	20,047
Non-Appalachian Alabama	144,507	48,588	85,050	25,775	59,275	10,869
Georgia	658,872	210,880	394,886	104,432	290,454	53,106
Appalachian Georgia	158,412	50,676	93,110	20,915	72,195	14,626
Non-Appalachian Georgia	500,460	160,204	301,776	83,517	218,259	38,480
Kentucky	319,924	103,026	190,766	47,038	143,728	26,132
Appalachian Kentucky	110,932	36,883	65,412	13,449	51,963	8,637
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	208,992	66,143	125,354	33,589	91,765	17,495
Maryland	277,146	75,739	166,937	37,938	128,999	34,470
Appalachian Maryland	13,481	3,295	8,693	2,530	6,163	1,493
Non-Appalachian Maryland	263,665	72,444	158,244	35,408	122,836	32,977
Mississippi	247,837	89,047	139,851	36,671	103,180	18,939
Appalachian Mississippi	48,513	15,330	28,870	9,854	19,016	4,313
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	199,324	73,717	110,981	26,817	84,164	14,626
New York	1,277,497	350,816	788,866	175,903	612,963	137,815
Appalachian New York	74,231	17,572	50,232	20,952	29,280	6,427
Non-Appalachian New York	1,203,266	333,244	738,634	154,951	583,683	131,388
North Carolina	612,228	189,058	370,909	99,487	271,422	52,261
Appalachian North Carolina	126,334	36,024	78,098	19,579	58,519	12,212
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	485,894	153,034	292,811	79,908	212,903	40,049
Ohio	702,310	221,808	418,704	107,626	311,078	61,798
Appalachian Ohio	134,249	42,401	78,996	16,779	62,217	12,852
Non-Appalachian Ohio	568,061	179,407	339,708	90,847	248,861	48,946
Pennsylvania	693,455	202,084	417,877	109,703	308,174	73,494
Appalachian Pennsylvania	306,713	85,017	189,673	55,823	133,850	32,023
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	386,742	117,067	228,204	53,880	174,324	41,471
South Carolina	334,687	100,931	200,964	52,859	148,105	32,792
Appalachian South Carolina	83,524	24,056	51,781	15,319	36,462	7,687
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	251,163	76,875	149,183	37,540	111,643	25,105
Tennessee	427,080	133,976	256,756	61,983	194,773	36,348
Appalachian Tennessee	181,477	52,633	112,850	27,452	85,398	15,994
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	245,603	81,343	143,906	34,531	109,375	20,354
Virginia	409,343	114,477	256,510	80,078	176,432	38,356
Appalachian Virginia	61,789	13,338	43,293	19,079	24,214	5,158
Non-Appalachian Virginia	347,554	101,139	213,217	60,999	152,218	33,198
West Virginia (entire state)	131,925	38,082	83,328	22,898	60,430	10,515

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are based on family size and composition. In 2022, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$29,678. The poverty universe does not include unrelated individuals under age 15, people living in college dormitories, and people living in institutional group quarters.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

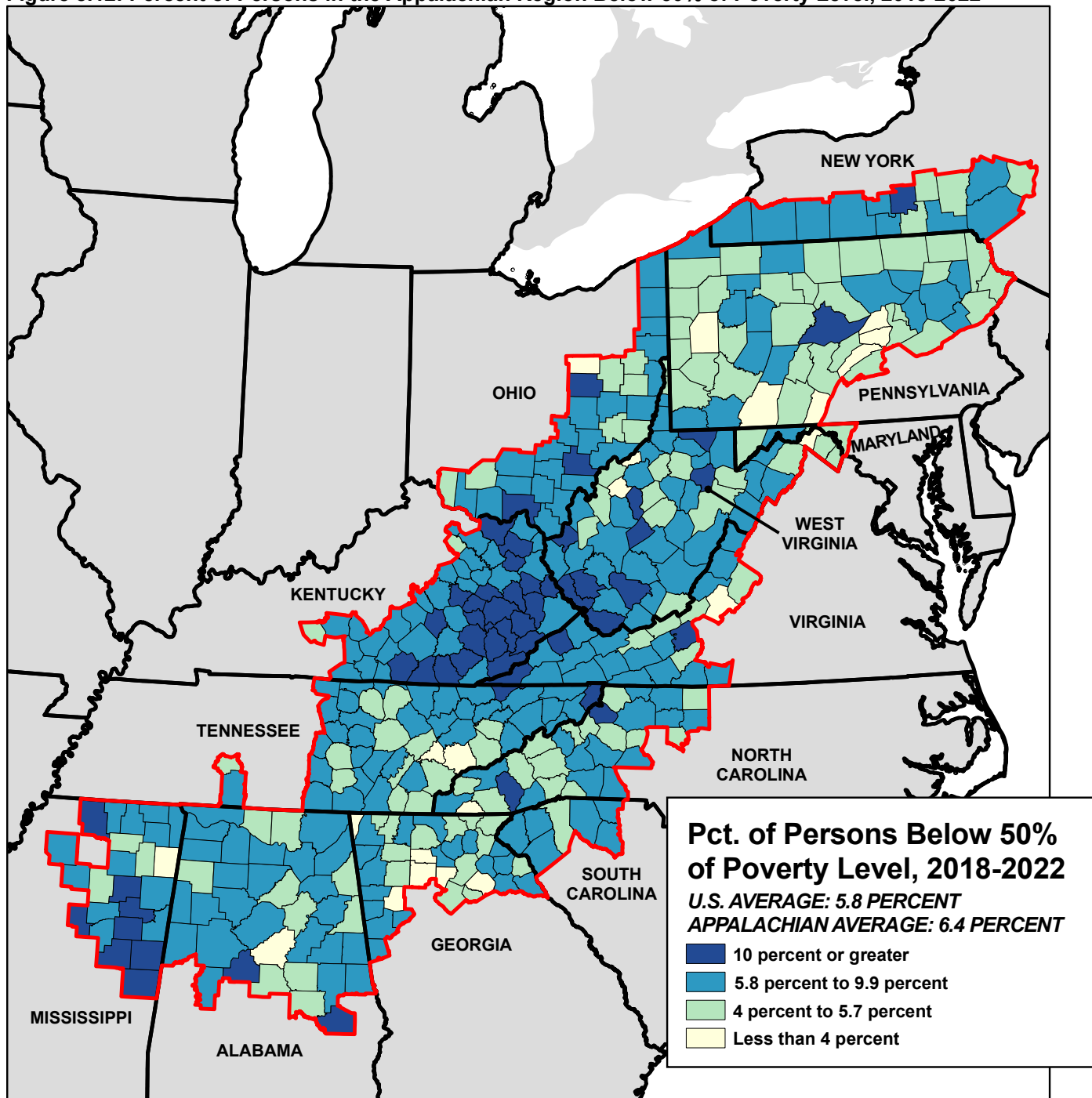
Table 8.8: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region Below 50% of Poverty Level, by Age Group, 2018-2022

Income-to-Poverty Ratio (Below 50%)	All Ages	Under Age 18	Ages 18-64			Ages 65 and Over
			Total	Ages 18-24	Ages 25-64	
United States	5.8	7.6	5.8	10.7	5.0	3.5
Appalachian Region	6.4	8.9	6.6	12.9	5.6	3.2
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	6.1	8.5	6.3	13.7	5.1	3.0
North Central Appalachia	7.1	9.9	7.5	15.1	6.3	3.0
Central Appalachia	9.3	13.9	9.3	13.2	8.7	3.9
South Central Appalachia	6.5	9.0	6.9	14.4	5.7	2.9
Southern Appalachia	5.9	8.0	5.8	10.6	5.0	3.5
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	5.2	7.0	5.0	9.4	4.4	3.2
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	6.6	9.0	6.9	15.2	5.5	3.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	6.8	9.3	6.9	12.4	6.0	3.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	6.6	9.9	6.7	9.8	6.2	3.0
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	8.4	12.0	8.7	15.8	7.5	3.8
Alabama	7.2	10.4	7.0	13.6	5.9	3.6
Appalachian Alabama	6.6	9.3	6.4	12.0	5.4	3.7
Non-Appalachian Alabama	8.3	12.3	8.2	16.3	6.7	3.6
Georgia	6.3	8.5	6.1	11.0	5.3	3.5
Appalachian Georgia	4.8	6.2	4.6	7.0	4.1	3.1
Non-Appalachian Georgia	7.0	9.6	6.8	12.8	5.8	3.7
Kentucky	7.3	10.4	7.2	12.4	6.3	3.6
Appalachian Kentucky	9.8	14.7	9.7	14.5	9.0	4.2
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	6.4	8.9	6.3	11.7	5.4	3.3
Maryland	4.6	5.7	4.5	7.7	4.0	3.6
Appalachian Maryland	5.7	6.7	6.2	12.5	5.1	3.3
Non-Appalachian Maryland	4.5	5.6	4.4	7.5	3.9	3.6
Mississippi	8.7	13.1	8.2	14.0	7.1	4.0
Appalachian Mississippi	8.2	11.2	8.2	16.9	6.5	4.3
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	8.8	13.6	8.2	13.2	7.3	4.0
New York	6.5	8.7	6.5	10.9	5.8	4.2
Appalachian New York	7.7	9.3	8.6	22.0	6.0	3.2
Non-Appalachian New York	6.5	8.6	6.4	10.2	5.8	4.2
North Carolina	6.0	8.4	5.9	11.4	5.1	3.1
Appalachian North Carolina	6.4	9.2	6.7	12.3	5.8	3.0
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	5.9	8.3	5.8	11.2	4.9	3.1
Ohio	6.1	8.7	6.0	11.1	5.2	3.1
Appalachian Ohio	7.0	10.2	7.0	10.6	6.4	3.5
Non-Appalachian Ohio	5.9	8.4	5.9	11.1	5.0	3.0
Pennsylvania	5.5	7.7	5.5	11.0	4.7	3.1
Appalachian Pennsylvania	5.6	7.9	5.8	13.0	4.7	2.8
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	5.5	7.6	5.3	9.4	4.6	3.4
South Carolina	6.7	9.3	6.7	12.7	5.7	3.6
Appalachian South Carolina	6.3	8.1	6.5	13.5	5.3	3.4
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	6.8	9.7	6.8	12.4	5.9	3.6
Tennessee	6.3	9.0	6.2	10.7	5.5	3.2
Appalachian Tennessee	6.3	8.9	6.5	11.3	5.7	2.8
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	6.4	9.0	6.0	10.3	5.3	3.6
Virginia	4.9	6.2	5.0	11.3	3.9	2.8
Appalachian Virginia	8.8	10.2	10.4	28.4	6.9	3.4
Non-Appalachian Virginia	4.5	5.9	4.5	9.5	3.7	2.8
West Virginia (entire state)	7.6	10.9	8.1	15.9	6.8	2.9

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are based on family size and composition. In 2022, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$29,678. The poverty universe does not include unrelated individuals under age 15, people living in college dormitories, and people living in institutional group quarters.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Figure 8.12: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region Below 50% of Poverty Level, 2018-2022

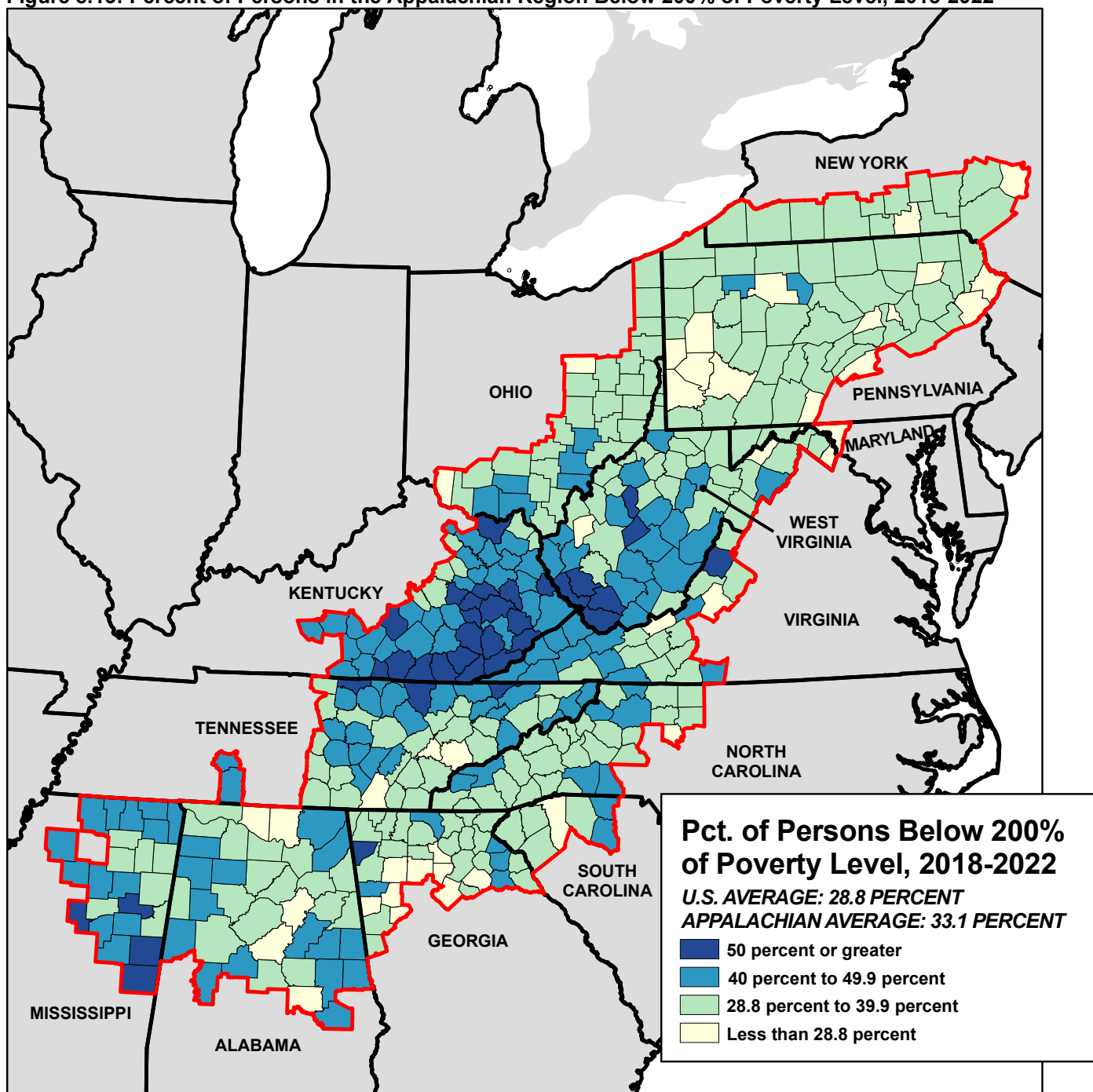


Map Title: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region Below 50% of Poverty Level, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

In the 2018-2022 period, 6.4 percent of Appalachian residents were in extreme poverty (incomes below 50 percent of the poverty level, or less than \$14,839 for a family of two adults and two children in 2022). This was slightly higher than the national average of 5.8 percent, and the situation was even worse in much of the Region. For example, at least one in 10 residents were extremely poor in 54 Appalachian counties. All but nine of these counties were outside metropolitan areas, and 29 of them were in Central Appalachia. (Kentucky alone had 23 counties in this group.) In contrast, there were 22 counties in the Region where less than 4 percent of the population had incomes below 50 percent of the poverty level. Northern and Southern Appalachia had 15 of these counties, although the group included suburban counties outside Atlanta and Birmingham.

Figure 8.13: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region Below 200% of Poverty Level, 2018-2022



Map Title: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region Below 200% of Poverty Level, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

More than one-third (33.1 percent) of persons in the Appalachian Region had incomes less than twice the poverty level in 2018-2022, more than four percentage points higher than the national rate of 28.8 percent. (In 2022, a family of two adults and two children fell in this category if their income was less than \$59,356.) The share of persons who were poor (below 100% of poverty) and low-income (between 100% and 199% of poverty) was 40 percent or more in 164 of Appalachia's 423 counties; these were overwhelmingly in the Central, South Central, and Southern subregions. And in 35 Appalachian counties, at least half of residents had incomes below 200 percent of poverty; 27 of these counties were in Central Appalachia and 20 were in Kentucky alone. In contrast, there were 42 counties in the Region where the share of persons who were poor and low-income was below the national average. About two fifths of the counties in the latter group were in Northern Appalachia, although several were also outside Atlanta and Birmingham.

Table 8.9: Percentage Point Change in Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region, by Income-to-Poverty Ratio, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Income-to-Poverty Ratio	Percentage Point Change in Share of Poverty Universe			
	Below 50% of Poverty Level	50% to 99% of Poverty Level	100% to 199% of Poverty Level	200% of Poverty Level and Greater
United States	- 0.7	- 1.4	- 1.9	+ 4.0
Appalachian Region	- 0.6	- 1.4	- 1.7	+ 3.6
Subregions				
Northern Appalachia	- 0.2	- 0.9	- 1.4	+ 2.4
North Central Appalachia	- 0.5	- 0.8	- 1.3	+ 2.6
Central Appalachia	- 0.8	- 1.4	- 0.6	+ 2.9
South Central Appalachia	- 0.8	- 1.7	- 1.9	+ 4.4
Southern Appalachia	- 0.7	- 1.8	- 2.4	+ 4.9
County Types				
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	- 0.3	- 1.5	- 2.2	+ 3.9
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	- 0.4	- 1.4	- 1.6	+ 3.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 0.9	- 1.4	- 1.5	+ 3.9
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	- 0.8	- 1.2	- 1.4	+ 3.4
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 1.1	- 1.4	- 1.0	+ 3.5
Alabama	- 0.6	- 1.6	- 1.6	+ 3.8
Appalachian Alabama	- 0.4	- 1.8	- 1.8	+ 4.0
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 1.0	- 1.3	- 1.2	+ 3.4
Georgia	- 1.4	- 2.0	- 2.1	+ 5.5
Appalachian Georgia	- 0.8	- 2.0	- 2.8	+ 5.6
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 1.6	- 1.9	- 1.8	+ 5.4
Kentucky	- 0.6	- 1.6	- 1.0	+ 3.1
Appalachian Kentucky	- 1.1	- 1.8	- 0.8	+ 3.7
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 0.4	- 1.5	- 1.0	+ 2.8
Maryland	- 0.1	- 0.3	- 1.3	+ 1.7
Appalachian Maryland	+ 0.0	- 0.6	- 0.9	+ 1.6
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 0.1	- 0.3	- 1.3	+ 1.7
Mississippi	- 1.2	- 1.1	- 1.0	+ 3.3
Appalachian Mississippi	- 0.5	- 2.4	- 1.8	+ 4.7
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 1.4	- 0.7	- 0.9	+ 2.9
New York	- 0.2	- 1.3	- 1.6	+ 3.1
Appalachian New York	+ 0.1	- 0.9	- 1.4	+ 2.2
Non-Appalachian New York	- 0.2	- 1.3	- 1.7	+ 3.2
North Carolina	- 1.0	- 1.8	- 2.1	+ 4.9
Appalachian North Carolina	- 0.8	- 1.6	- 1.8	+ 4.2
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 1.1	- 1.8	- 2.2	+ 5.0
Ohio	- 0.8	- 0.8	- 1.3	+ 2.9
Appalachian Ohio	- 0.7	- 0.8	- 1.3	+ 2.7
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 0.8	- 0.8	- 1.4	+ 3.0
Pennsylvania	- 0.5	- 0.8	- 1.4	+ 2.7
Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 0.3	- 0.9	- 1.3	+ 2.5
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 0.6	- 0.8	- 1.5	+ 3.0
South Carolina	- 0.9	- 1.4	- 2.2	+ 4.5
Appalachian South Carolina	- 0.9	- 1.1	- 2.5	+ 4.4
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 0.9	- 1.5	- 2.2	+ 4.6
Tennessee	- 0.9	- 1.9	- 2.0	+ 4.7
Appalachian Tennessee	- 0.9	- 1.8	- 2.0	+ 4.7
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 0.7	- 1.9	- 1.9	+ 4.6
Virginia	- 0.4	- 0.8	- 1.4	+ 2.6
Appalachian Virginia	+ 0.1	- 0.9	- 0.9	+ 1.7
Non-Appalachian Virginia	- 0.5	- 0.7	- 1.4	+ 2.5
West Virginia (entire state)	- 0.2	- 0.8	- 1.3	+ 2.3

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are based on family size and composition. In 2022, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$29,678. The poverty universe does not include unrelated individuals under age 15, people living in college dormitories, and people living in institutional group quarters.

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

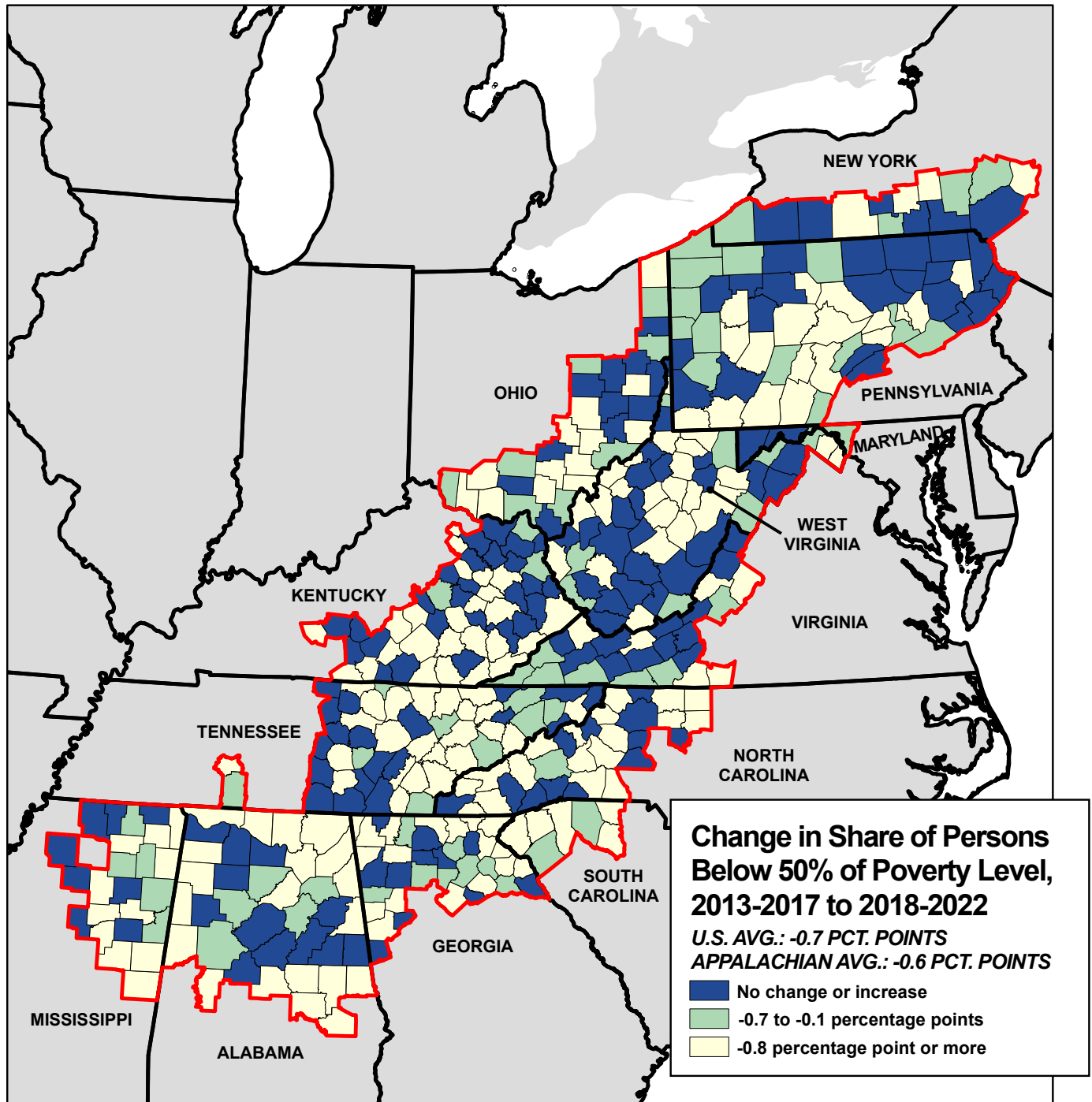
Table 8.10: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region Below 50% of Poverty Level, by Age Group, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Income-to-Poverty Ratio (Below 50%)	Percentage Point Change in Share of Persons Below 50% of Poverty Level					
	All Ages	Under Age 18	Ages 18-64			Ages 65 and Over
			Total	Ages 18-24	Ages 25-64	
United States	- 0.7	- 1.4	- 0.6	- 2.1	- 0.3	+ 0.7
Appalachian Region	- 0.6	- 1.3	- 0.5	- 2.4	- 0.2	+ 0.7
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	- 0.2	- 0.8	- 0.2	- 2.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.6
North Central Appalachia	- 0.5	- 1.2	- 0.5	- 2.8	- 0.1	+ 0.7
Central Appalachia	- 0.8	- 2.0	- 0.8	- 3.0	- 0.5	+ 0.9
South Central Appalachia	- 0.8	- 1.6	- 0.8	- 3.4	- 0.4	+ 0.5
Southern Appalachia	- 0.7	- 1.3	- 0.7	- 1.7	- 0.5	+ 0.8
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	- 0.3	- 0.5	- 0.4	- 1.0	- 0.2	+ 0.5
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	- 0.4	- 1.1	- 0.3	- 1.9	- 0.1	+ 0.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 0.9	- 2.2	- 1.0	- 4.1	- 0.5	+ 0.9
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	- 0.8	- 1.5	- 0.9	- 4.1	- 0.4	+ 0.6
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 1.1	- 2.3	- 1.0	- 3.5	- 0.6	+ 0.9
Alabama	- 0.6	- 1.7	- 0.6	- 1.2	- 0.4	+ 0.9
Appalachian Alabama	- 0.4	- 1.4	- 0.4	- 1.1	- 0.3	+ 1.1
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 1.0	- 2.3	- 0.7	- 1.4	- 0.6	+ 0.7
Georgia	- 1.4	- 2.3	- 1.2	- 2.8	- 0.9	+ 0.3
Appalachian Georgia	- 0.8	- 1.0	- 0.9	- 1.6	- 0.9	+ 0.3
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 1.6	- 3.0	- 1.3	- 3.2	- 1.0	+ 0.3
Kentucky	- 0.6	- 1.1	- 0.6	- 2.4	- 0.3	+ 1.0
Appalachian Kentucky	- 1.1	- 1.7	- 1.2	- 3.3	- 0.8	+ 1.0
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 0.4	- 0.9	- 0.4	- 2.1	- 0.1	+ 1.0
Maryland	- 0.1	- 0.5	+ 0.0	- 1.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
Appalachian Maryland	+ 0.0	- 1.6	+ 0.5	+ 2.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 0.1	- 0.5	- 0.1	- 1.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
Mississippi	- 1.2	- 2.2	- 1.0	- 3.0	- 0.7	+ 0.7
Appalachian Mississippi	- 0.5	- 1.1	- 0.4	- 1.8	- 0.2	+ 0.9
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 1.4	- 2.4	- 1.2	- 3.3	- 0.8	+ 0.7
New York	- 0.2	- 1.0	+ 0.0	- 0.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.8
Appalachian New York	+ 0.1	- 0.5	+ 0.1	- 0.1	+ 0.2	+ 1.1
Non-Appalachian New York	- 0.2	- 1.1	+ 0.0	- 0.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.8
North Carolina	- 1.0	- 1.8	- 1.1	- 3.1	- 0.7	+ 0.6
Appalachian North Carolina	- 0.8	- 1.5	- 0.8	- 4.0	- 0.3	+ 0.4
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 1.1	- 1.8	- 1.1	- 2.9	- 0.8	+ 0.6
Ohio	- 0.8	- 1.5	- 0.8	- 2.7	- 0.4	+ 0.6
Appalachian Ohio	- 0.7	- 1.9	- 0.5	- 3.4	- 0.1	+ 0.9
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 0.8	- 1.5	- 0.7	- 2.6	- 0.4	+ 0.6
Pennsylvania	- 0.5	- 0.8	- 0.5	- 2.7	- 0.2	+ 0.6
Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 0.3	- 0.6	- 0.2	- 2.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 0.6	- 0.9	- 0.8	- 2.9	- 0.5	+ 0.7
South Carolina	- 0.9	- 2.3	- 0.7	- 1.4	- 0.6	+ 0.9
Appalachian South Carolina	- 0.9	- 2.2	- 0.8	- 2.4	- 0.5	+ 0.8
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 0.9	- 2.4	- 0.6	- 1.1	- 0.5	+ 0.9
Tennessee	- 0.9	- 1.9	- 0.8	- 2.4	- 0.5	+ 0.7
Appalachian Tennessee	- 0.9	- 2.0	- 0.9	- 3.2	- 0.6	+ 0.4
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 0.7	- 2.0	- 0.7	- 1.8	- 0.4	+ 1.1
Virginia	- 0.4	- 0.7	- 0.4	- 1.9	- 0.3	+ 0.5
Appalachian Virginia	+ 0.1	- 1.2	+ 0.5	- 0.9	+ 0.6	+ 1.0
Non-Appalachian Virginia	- 0.5	- 0.7	- 0.5	- 1.9	- 0.3	+ 0.6
West Virginia (entire state)	- 0.2	- 0.8	- 0.1	- 2.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.8

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are based on family size and composition. In 2022, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$29,678. The poverty universe does not include unrelated individuals under age 15, people living in college dormitories, and people living in institutional group quarters.

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Figure 8.14: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region Below 50% of Poverty Level, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region Below 50% of Poverty Level, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

The share of Appalachian residents living in deep poverty (or 50 percent of the poverty level, and earning less than \$14,839 for a family of two adults and two children in 2022) fell 0.6 percentage points between the 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 periods, slightly below the national level of 0.7 points. But there was much variation within the Region. On one hand, deep poverty decreased more than the national level in 185 counties. Yet in 164 other counties, deep poverty rates either remained constant or increased. Northern and North Central Appalachia had more modest declines than was the case in the Central, South Central and Southern subregions. In spite of overall declines in deep poverty throughout the Region, there were still some counties where poverty increased.

Table 8.11: Number and Percent of Households in the Appalachian Region Receiving SNAP, by Poverty Status, 2018-2022

Receipt of SNAP	ALL HOUSEHOLDS		Households With Income Below Poverty Level		Households With Income At or Above Poverty Level	
	Number Receiving SNAP	Percent Receiving SNAP	Number Receiving SNAP	Percent Receiving SNAP	Number Receiving SNAP	Percent Receiving SNAP
United States	14,486,880	11.5	6,332,769	40.6	8,154,111	7.4
Appalachian Region	1,362,188	13.2	675,919	45.1	686,269	7.8
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	481,054	14.5	220,658	50.2	260,396	9.0
North Central Appalachia	155,206	15.6	82,639	51.1	72,567	8.7
Central Appalachia	144,010	20.1	86,076	53.2	57,934	10.4
South Central Appalachia	246,277	11.7	122,416	40.2	123,861	6.9
Southern Appalachia	335,641	10.5	164,130	38.1	171,511	6.2
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	263,949	10.8	114,774	41.9	149,175	6.9
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	563,475	12.6	279,571	43.9	283,904	7.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	135,007	15.0	66,107	46.8	68,900	9.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	239,141	15.4	122,134	48.5	117,007	9.0
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	160,616	16.7	93,333	47.8	67,283	8.8
Alabama	257,704	13.3	134,227	43.6	123,477	7.6
Appalachian Alabama	152,057	12.2	78,939	42.8	73,118	6.9
Non-Appalachian Alabama	105,647	15.4	55,288	44.7	50,359	9.0
Georgia	477,519	12.1	209,026	40.2	268,493	7.8
Appalachian Georgia	103,467	8.8	41,419	32.7	62,048	5.9
Non-Appalachian Georgia	374,052	13.5	167,607	42.6	206,445	8.7
Kentucky	222,324	12.6	125,949	44.0	96,375	6.5
Appalachian Kentucky	89,589	20.1	55,881	53.2	33,708	9.9
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	132,735	10.0	70,068	38.6	62,667	5.5
Maryland	250,042	10.8	86,672	39.9	163,370	7.8
Appalachian Maryland	17,095	17.3	7,203	53.6	9,892	11.6
Non-Appalachian Maryland	232,947	10.5	79,469	39.0	153,478	7.6
Mississippi	154,444	13.8	88,518	41.2	65,926	7.3
Appalachian Mississippi	30,071	12.6	17,795	37.8	12,276	6.4
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	124,373	14.1	70,723	42.2	53,650	7.5
New York	1,113,122	14.6	514,761	49.8	598,361	9.1
Appalachian New York	59,800	14.3	29,673	46.2	30,127	8.5
Non-Appalachian New York	1,053,322	14.7	485,088	50.0	568,234	9.1
North Carolina	503,068	12.3	222,577	41.3	280,491	7.9
Appalachian North Carolina	99,664	12.2	47,229	40.1	52,435	7.5
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	403,404	12.3	175,348	41.7	228,056	8.0
Ohio	586,419	12.2	300,398	47.4	286,021	6.9
Appalachian Ohio	122,315	15.5	65,741	52.3	56,574	8.5
Non-Appalachian Ohio	464,104	11.6	234,657	46.2	229,447	6.6
Pennsylvania	708,782	13.6	307,465	49.8	401,317	8.8
Appalachian Pennsylvania	335,430	14.3	147,336	50.6	188,094	9.1
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	373,352	13.1	160,129	49.0	213,223	8.5
South Carolina	212,887	10.5	106,261	37.0	106,626	6.1
Appalachian South Carolina	50,046	9.4	25,977	35.6	24,069	5.2
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	162,841	10.9	80,284	37.4	82,557	6.5
Tennessee	317,058	11.7	158,786	42.2	158,272	6.8
Appalachian Tennessee	145,377	12.2	75,961	43.1	69,416	6.8
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	171,681	11.3	82,825	41.4	88,856	6.7
Virginia	274,320	8.3	119,305	35.9	155,015	5.2
Appalachian Virginia	38,173	13.0	20,120	38.7	18,053	7.5
Non-Appalachian Virginia	236,147	7.9	99,185	35.4	136,962	5.0
West Virginia (entire state)	119,104	16.6	62,645	51.5	56,459	9.5

Note: SNAP is an acronym for the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly known as the Food Stamp Program). Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are determined by family size and composition. In 2022, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$29,678. The poverty universe does not include unrelated individuals under age 15, people living in college dormitories, and people living in institutional group quarters.

Data source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

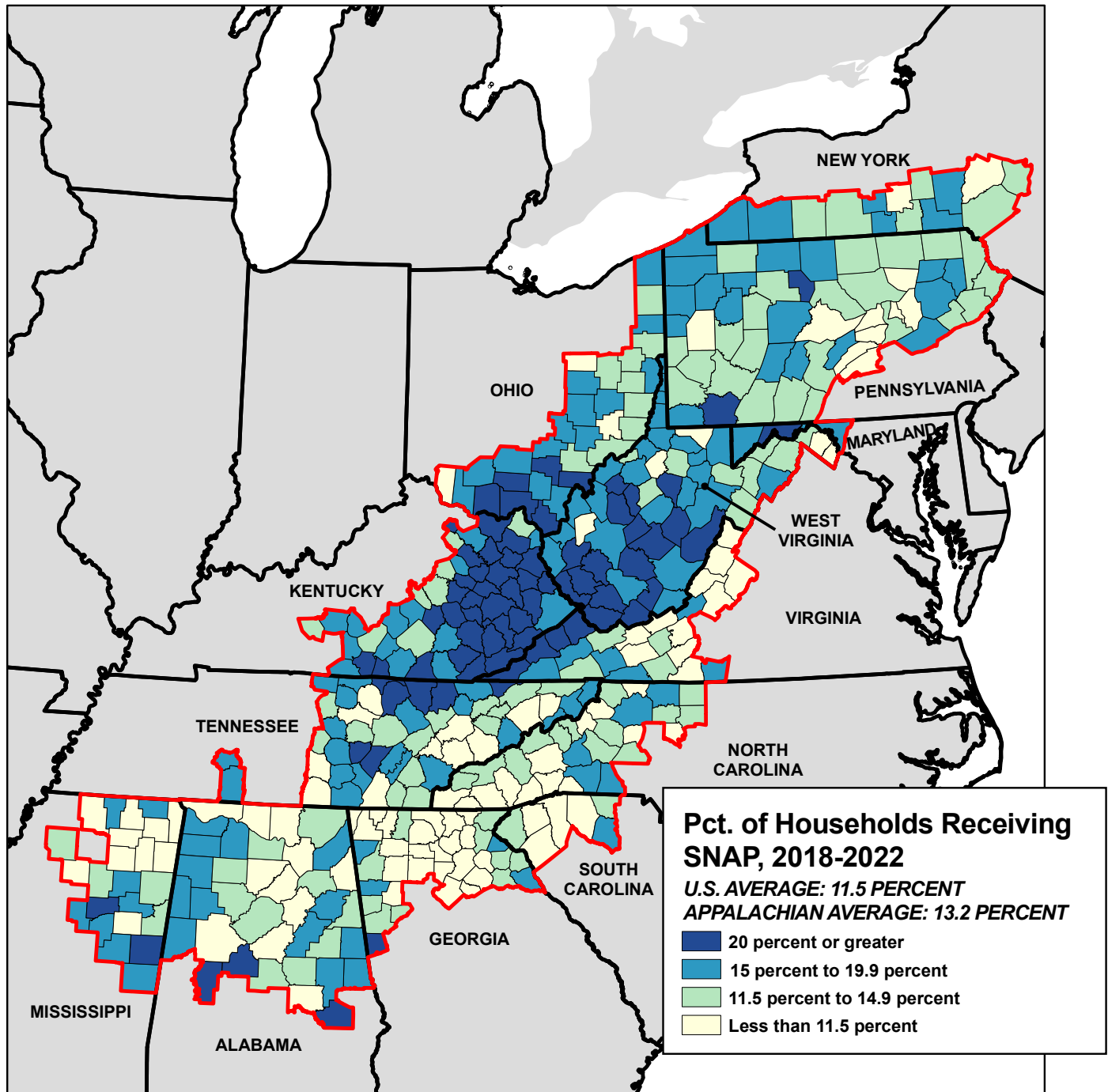
Table 8.12: Number and Percent of Households in the Appalachian Region Receiving SNAP, by Presence of Children Under Age 18, 2018-2022

Receipt of SNAP	ALL HOUSEHOLDS		Households With Children Under Age 18		Households Without Children Under Age 18	
	Number Receiving SNAP	Percent Receiving SNAP	Number Receiving SNAP	Percent Receiving SNAP	Number Receiving SNAP	Percent Receiving SNAP
United States	14,486,880	11.5	6,945,057	18.3	7,541,823	8.6
Appalachian Region	1,362,188	13.2	614,083	21.0	748,105	10.1
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	481,054	14.5	188,446	22.4	292,608	11.8
North Central Appalachia	155,206	15.6	66,332	24.7	88,874	12.3
Central Appalachia	144,010	20.1	66,439	30.9	77,571	15.5
South Central Appalachia	246,277	11.7	117,365	21.0	128,912	8.4
Southern Appalachia	335,641	10.5	175,501	17.0	160,140	7.4
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	263,949	10.8	119,482	16.1	144,467	8.5
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	563,475	12.6	260,446	21.1	303,029	9.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	135,007	15.0	59,621	23.4	75,386	11.6
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	239,141	15.4	103,908	24.8	135,233	11.9
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	160,616	16.7	70,626	26.5	89,990	12.9
Alabama	257,704	13.3	127,261	22.4	130,443	9.5
Appalachian Alabama	152,057	12.2	75,233	20.4	76,824	8.7
Non-Appalachian Alabama	105,647	15.4	52,028	26.3	53,619	11.0
Georgia	477,519	12.1	249,638	19.5	227,881	8.5
Appalachian Georgia	103,467	8.8	59,597	13.8	43,870	5.9
Non-Appalachian Georgia	374,052	13.5	190,041	22.4	184,011	9.6
Kentucky	222,324	12.6	113,058	21.1	109,266	8.9
Appalachian Kentucky	89,589	20.1	42,474	30.6	47,115	15.3
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	132,735	10.0	70,584	17.7	62,151	6.7
Maryland	250,042	10.8	119,673	16.5	130,369	8.2
Appalachian Maryland	17,095	17.3	7,433	25.9	9,662	13.8
Non-Appalachian Maryland	232,947	10.5	112,240	16.1	120,707	7.9
Mississippi	154,444	13.8	79,576	22.4	74,868	9.8
Appalachian Mississippi	30,071	12.6	14,591	20.3	15,480	9.3
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	124,373	14.1	64,985	22.9	59,388	9.9
New York	1,113,122	14.6	431,071	20.0	682,051	12.5
Appalachian New York	59,800	14.3	21,919	20.8	37,881	12.1
Non-Appalachian New York	1,053,322	14.7	409,152	20.0	644,170	12.5
North Carolina	503,068	12.3	252,232	20.7	250,836	8.7
Appalachian North Carolina	99,664	12.2	47,248	22.2	52,416	8.7
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	403,404	12.3	204,984	20.4	198,420	8.7
Ohio	586,419	12.2	264,445	19.4	321,974	9.4
Appalachian Ohio	122,315	15.5	52,519	23.9	69,796	12.2
Non-Appalachian Ohio	464,104	11.6	211,926	18.5	252,178	8.8
Pennsylvania	708,782	13.6	297,437	20.8	411,345	10.9
Appalachian Pennsylvania	335,430	14.3	129,296	22.0	206,134	11.7
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	373,352	13.1	168,141	20.0	205,211	10.2
South Carolina	212,887	10.5	110,351	19.0	102,536	7.1
Appalachian South Carolina	50,046	9.4	26,080	16.3	23,966	6.4
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	162,841	10.9	84,271	20.0	78,570	7.3
Tennessee	317,058	11.7	159,559	19.7	157,499	8.3
Appalachian Tennessee	145,377	12.2	70,075	21.0	75,302	8.8
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	171,681	11.3	89,484	18.8	82,197	7.8
Virginia	274,320	8.3	139,422	13.8	134,898	5.9
Appalachian Virginia	38,173	13.0	16,966	23.7	21,207	9.6
Non-Appalachian Virginia	236,147	7.9	122,456	13.0	113,691	5.5
West Virginia (entire state)	119,104	16.6	50,652	27.2	68,452	12.9

Note: SNAP is an acronym for the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly known as the Food Stamp Program).

Data source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Figure 8.15: Percent of Households in the Appalachian Region Receiving SNAP, 2018-2022



Map Title: Percent of Households in the Appalachian Region Receiving SNAP, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

In 2018-2022, 13.2 percent of Appalachian households received payments from the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as the Food Stamp Program. While the share for the Region is almost two percentage points higher than the national share (11.5 percent), there were 101 Appalachian counties with SNAP participation rates below the U.S. average. More than four-fifths of these counties were in Southern and South Central Appalachia—the subregions with the lowest prevalence rates. Conversely, the SNAP prevalence rate matched or exceeded 20 percent in 75 other Appalachian counties. Most of the counties in the latter group were in Central Appalachia and 40 were in rural areas—both of which had the highest SNAP participation rates among Appalachia’s subregions and urban-rural county types.

Table 8.13: Percentage Point Change in Share of Households in the Appalachian Region Receiving SNAP, by Poverty Status, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Receipt of SNAP	ALL HOUSEHOLDS	Households With Income Below Poverty Level	Households With Income At or Above Poverty Level
United States	-1.1	-4.7	+0.0
Appalachian Region	-1.7	-5.7	-0.3
Subregions			
Northern Appalachia	+0.3	-1.8	+0.9
North Central Appalachia	-0.9	-3.3	+0.0
Central Appalachia	-3.3	-7.9	-0.9
South Central Appalachia	-2.9	-8.2	-1.0
Southern Appalachia	-2.8	-7.9	-1.2
County Types			
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	-1.2	-5.3	-0.1
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	-1.6	-5.6	-0.3
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	-1.9	-6.1	-0.3
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	-1.8	-5.2	-0.4
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	-2.7	-6.5	-0.8
Alabama	-1.7	-5.0	-0.3
Appalachian Alabama	-1.7	-5.3	-0.3
Non-Appalachian Alabama	-1.6	-4.7	+0.0
Georgia	-2.4	-6.5	-0.7
Appalachian Georgia	-3.1	-9.6	-1.5
Non-Appalachian Georgia	-2.1	-5.5	-0.3
Kentucky	-3.5	-9.6	-1.3
Appalachian Kentucky	-4.0	-8.1	-1.2
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	-3.2	-10.2	-1.3
Maryland	-0.1	-5.9	+0.5
Appalachian Maryland	+0.8	-4.5	+1.8
Non-Appalachian Maryland	-0.1	-5.9	+0.4
Mississippi	-3.5	-8.2	-1.6
Appalachian Mississippi	-4.8	-10.6	-2.5
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	-3.2	-7.5	-1.4
New York	-0.6	-2.5	+0.2
Appalachian New York	-0.7	-3.5	-0.1
Non-Appalachian New York	-0.5	-2.4	+0.2
North Carolina	-1.4	-5.4	+0.0
Appalachian North Carolina	-1.4	-5.3	+0.0
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	-1.5	-5.4	+0.0
Ohio	-2.0	-6.3	-0.7
Appalachian Ohio	-1.8	-6.2	-0.5
Non-Appalachian Ohio	-2.0	-6.3	-0.7
Pennsylvania	+0.6	+0.2	+1.2
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+0.8	-0.3	+1.2
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	+0.7	+0.6	+1.1
South Carolina	-3.5	-10.1	-1.7
Appalachian South Carolina	-3.4	-10.3	-1.7
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	-3.6	-10.1	-1.6
Tennessee	-4.0	-10.0	-2.0
Appalachian Tennessee	-4.3	-10.4	-2.1
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	-3.7	-9.7	-2.0
Virginia	-0.8	-5.4	+0.0
Appalachian Virginia	-1.5	-6.7	-0.2
Non-Appalachian Virginia	-0.6	-5.0	+0.0
West Virginia (entire state)	+0.1	-2.2	+0.9

Note: SNAP is an acronym for the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly known as the Food Stamp Program). Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are determined by family size and composition. In 2022, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$29,678. The poverty universe does not include unrelated individuals under age 15, people living in college dormitories, and people living in institutional group quarters.

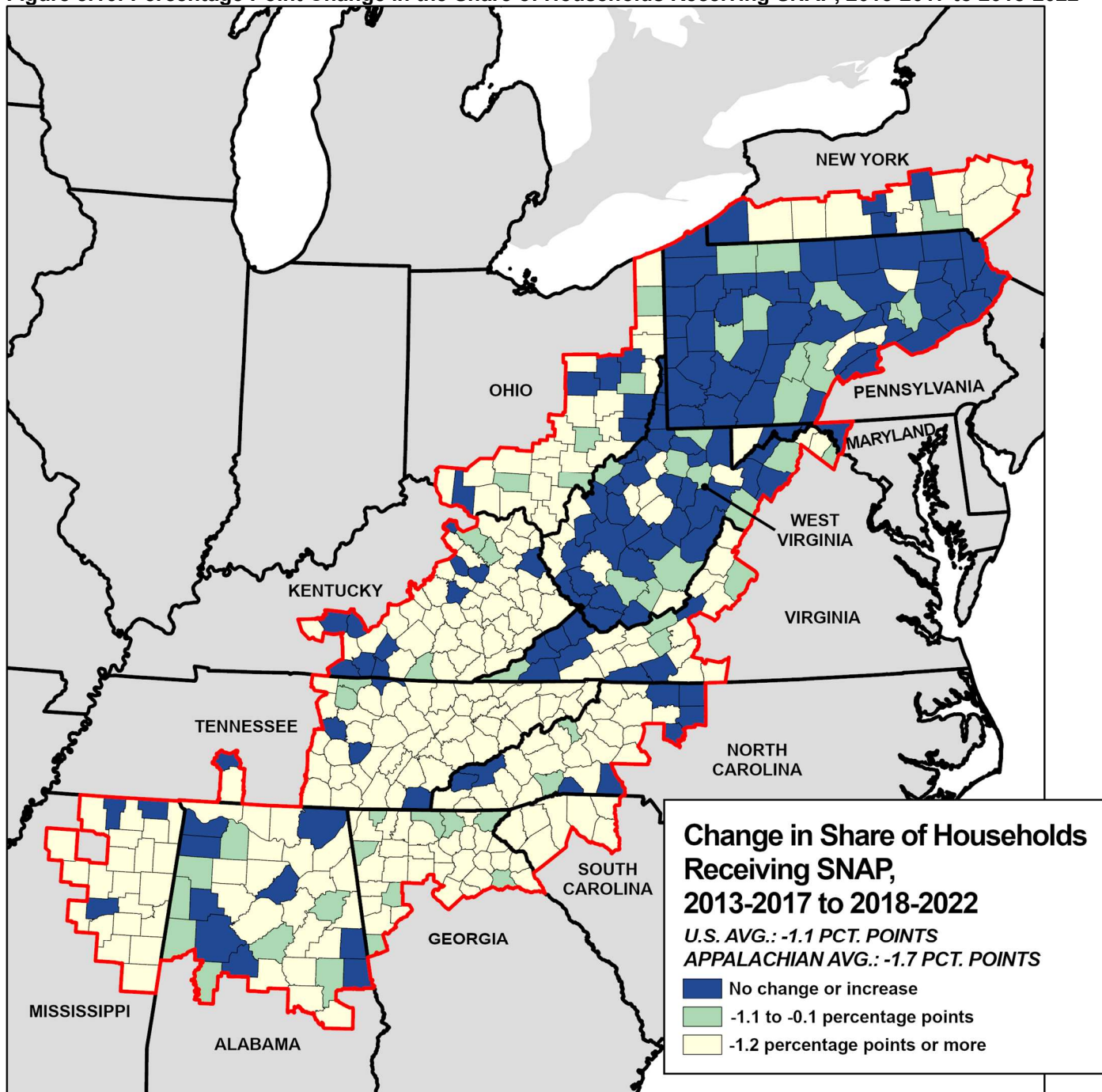
Data source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Table 8.14: Percentage Point Change in Share of Households in the Appalachian Region Receiving SNAP Payments, by Presence of Children Under Age 18, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Receipt of SNAP	ALL HOUSEHOLDS	Households With Children Under Age 18	Households Without Children Under Age 18
United States	-1.1	-2.6	-0.2
Appalachian Region	-1.7	-3.4	-0.9
Subregions			
Northern Appalachia	+0.3	-0.7	+0.9
North Central Appalachia	-0.9	-2.1	+0.0
Central Appalachia	-3.3	-3.3	-3.0
South Central Appalachia	-2.9	-4.5	-2.0
Southern Appalachia	-2.8	-4.8	-1.6
County Types			
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	-1.2	-3.0	-0.3
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	-1.6	-2.9	-0.8
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	-1.9	-3.8	-1.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	-1.8	-3.6	-0.9
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	-2.7	-3.8	-1.9
Alabama	-1.7	-3.3	-0.7
Appalachian Alabama	-1.7	-3.4	-0.8
Non-Appalachian Alabama	-1.6	-3.0	-0.6
Georgia	-2.4	-4.0	-1.2
Appalachian Georgia	-3.1	-5.0	-1.8
Non-Appalachian Georgia	-2.1	-3.4	-0.9
Kentucky	-3.5	-3.9	-3.1
Appalachian Kentucky	-4.0	-3.4	-4.2
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	-3.2	-4.0	-2.6
Maryland	-0.1	-0.8	+0.5
Appalachian Maryland	+0.8	-1.3	+1.8
Non-Appalachian Maryland	-0.1	-0.8	+0.4
Mississippi	-3.5	-6.3	-1.7
Appalachian Mississippi	-4.8	-8.3	-2.8
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	-3.2	-5.9	-1.5
New York	-0.6	-1.7	+0.1
Appalachian New York	-0.7	-2.1	+0.0
Non-Appalachian New York	-0.5	-1.7	+0.1
North Carolina	-1.4	-2.0	-0.9
Appalachian North Carolina	-1.4	-2.4	-0.8
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	-1.5	-1.9	-0.9
Ohio	-2.0	-3.7	-1.1
Appalachian Ohio	-1.8	-3.1	-1.0
Non-Appalachian Ohio	-2.0	-3.9	-1.1
Pennsylvania	+0.6	-0.1	+1.1
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+0.8	-0.2	+1.3
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	+0.7	+0.0	+1.0
South Carolina	-3.5	-5.9	-2.3
Appalachian South Carolina	-3.4	-5.7	-2.3
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	-3.6	-5.9	-2.3
Tennessee	-4.0	-6.0	-2.9
Appalachian Tennessee	-4.3	-6.4	-3.2
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	-3.7	-5.7	-2.6
Virginia	-0.8	-1.5	-0.2
Appalachian Virginia	-1.5	-2.3	-0.8
Non-Appalachian Virginia	-0.6	-1.4	-0.1
West Virginia (entire state)	+0.1	-0.8	+0.8

Note: SNAP is an acronym for the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly known as the Food Stamp Program).
Data source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Figure 8.16: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Households Receiving SNAP, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Households in the Appalachian Region Receiving SNAP, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

The share of Appalachian households participating in the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)—formerly the Food Stamps Program—fell 1.7 percentage points between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022, greater than the national decrease of 1.1 points. The declines were most pronounced in Central, South Central, and Southern Appalachia. Yet SNAP participation remained the same or increased in 128 Appalachian counties—72 of which were in Pennsylvania and West Virginia. There is a correlation between the decrease in SNAP prevalence and the decline in poverty between the two periods. In over three-fourths of the counties that had declines in SNAP usage greater than the national average, there were also declines in poverty of at least a full percentage point.

TRENDS IN INCOME AND POVERTY

- Adjusting for inflation, income trends in the Appalachian Region were positive between the 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 periods (see Tables 8.1 and 8.2).
 - Mean income increased noticeably between the two periods. Mean household income, for example, rose 7.9 percent to \$83,800 in 2018-2022. Mean family and per capita income had slightly greater increases (more than 8.5 percent each), reaching \$100,125 and \$34,031, respectively. (All monetary figures are in 2022 dollars.)
 - Although not affected by extreme values, the two median income measures likewise have registered healthy increases since 2013-2017. Median household income (the midpoint where half of all households have higher incomes while the other half have lower incomes) rose 7.8 percent to \$61,688 in 2018-2022. Median family income increased 9.3 percent to \$78,809.
- Despite these increases, the post 2013-2017 income gains were not quite as great in Appalachia as they were nationally. However, Appalachia's growth in three of the four household and family income measures was within a percentage point of the national average and Appalachian median family income was on par with growth in the national median from 2013-2017.
- Within the Appalachian Region, all income measures increased for the subregions, county types, and states—even after adjusting for inflation. Among the subregions, income growth was highest in Southern Appalachia and lowest in Northern, North Central, or Central Appalachia, depending on the measure. Among the county types, the increases were largest for counties in large metropolitan areas. Income gains among the states generally were largest in the Appalachian portions of Georgia, the Carolinas, and Tennessee. Yet despite the overall increases, there were still counties throughout the Region that experienced income declines between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022.
- Since 2013-2017, the share of Appalachian residents in poverty (incomes below \$29,678 for a family of two adults and two children in 2020) has fallen 2 percentage points to 14.3 percent in 2018-2022 (see Tables 8.4 and 8.5). Poverty decreased in all subregions, county types, and states. The decline in poverty was greatest in the Appalachian portions of Georgia, Mississippi, Kentucky, and Tennessee: Poverty fell by at least 2.5 percentage points in each case. In contrast, poverty rates decreased by just 0.6 points in Appalachian Maryland, and 0.8 points in both Appalachian New York and Virginia.
- Both child poverty and poverty among young adults (ages 18 to 24) have fallen noticeably in Appalachia since 2013-2017: Child poverty dropped 3.7 percentage points to 19.2 percent in 2018-2022, while poverty among 18-to-24-year-olds fell 4.5 points to 22.1 percent. Despite these decreases, nearly one-fifth of children and more than one-fifth of young adults were still in poverty. Appalachian Mississippi and Tennessee had the largest decrease in child poverty (4.9 points), and Appalachian North Carolina and Tennessee had the largest decrease for young adults (5.8 points). Poverty rates among working-age adults (ages 25 to 64) in Appalachia had a more modest decline of only 1.5 points to 12.6 percent. As with the other two age groups, this decrease was present almost throughout the Region—the exception was in Appalachian Maryland, where the rate among working-age adults rose slightly (0.2 percentage points). Appalachian Kentucky had the largest poverty decline among 25-to-64-year-olds, at 2.8 percentage points.
- Poverty increased 0.6 percentage points for older residents (ages 65 and over) between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 in Appalachia. Poverty among older residents increased for all county types, subregions, and states with the exception of the Appalachian Georgia and Mississippi where it decreased by 0.2 and 0.3 points, respectively. Among the states, increases were most notable in West Virginia and the Appalachian sections of Ohio, New York, and Virginia where poverty for older residents increased more than one percentage point.
- In 2018-2022, the share of Appalachian residents with incomes below 50 percent of poverty (income below \$14,839 for a family of two adults and two children in 2022) was 6.4 percent, 0.6 percentage points lower than it was in 2013-2017 (see Tables 8.6 through 8.10). Within the Region, however, counties in rural areas and Appalachian Kentucky had the greatest decreases at 1.1 percentage points each. And the share decreased noticeably among children and young adults ages 18-24 in Appalachia, while increasing 0.7 points among adults ages 65 and over.

TRENDS IN INCOME AND POVERTY (continued)

- The share of Appalachian households participating in the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)—formerly the Food Stamps Program—was 13.2 percent in 2018-2022, a decrease of 1.7 percentage points from the Region's share in 2013-2017 (Tables 8.11 and 8.13). Several parts of Appalachia registered even greater decreases: For example, the decrease was greater than three points in Central Appalachia and the Appalachian portions of five states. (In three of those states—Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee—the decline exceeded four percentage points.) However, SNAP prevalence did increase in some parts of Appalachia—most notably in Maryland and Pennsylvania, at 0.8 percentage points each.
- Among households with income below the poverty level (\$29,678 for a family of two adults and two children in 2020), SNAP prevalence rates fell 5.7 percentage points between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 (Tables 8.11 and 8.13), to 45.1 percent in the latter period. The decrease was far more modest for households at or above poverty (0.3 points to 7.8 percent in 2018-2022). The decrease in participation among households in poverty was present in all Appalachian state sections with Appalachian Mississippi, Tennessee, and South Carolina showing the greatest declines over 10 percentage points. However, prevalence among households above the poverty level decreased in most of Appalachia, but it increased in some areas, such as Northern Appalachia, West Virginia, and the Appalachian sections of Maryland and Pennsylvania.
- SNAP prevalence among Appalachian households with children under age 18 was 21 percent in 2018-2022, 3.4 percentage points lower than in 2013-2017 (Tables 8.12 and 8.14). Participation for Appalachian households without children, meanwhile, fell 0.9 points to 10.1 percent. The decline in participation for households with children occurred throughout the Region, with rates in South Central and Southern Appalachia falling by more than 4 points and the Appalachian sections of Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Tennessee all showing decreases of at least five percentage points. Conversely, SNAP prevalence among childless households increased in Northern Appalachia, West Virginia, and the Appalachian sections of Maryland and Pennsylvania—the states that showed the smallest decreases among households with children.
- Overall, the income and poverty trends in the Appalachian Region since 2013-2017 show that, for the most part, poverty levels have fallen while incomes have risen. However, the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, increased food costs, and other economic concerns may yet to be seen in these data.

CHAPTER 9: HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

Table 9.1: Number of Persons in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, by Age Group, 2018-2022

Health Insurance Status	All Ages	Under Age 35				Ages 35-64	Ages 65 and Over
		Total	Under Age 19	Ages 19-25	Ages 26-34		
United States	28,315,092	14,505,771	4,155,345	4,288,165	6,062,261	13,377,692	431,629
Appalachian Region	2,199,529	1,095,497	298,995	336,032	460,470	1,082,401	21,631
Subregions							
Northern Appalachia	431,810	236,040	84,513	63,723	87,804	190,367	5,403
North Central Appalachia	158,011	76,838	19,639	23,462	33,737	79,628	1,545
Central Appalachia	126,409	61,452	17,163	19,605	24,684	63,955	1,002
South Central Appalachia	530,122	246,442	56,100	76,508	113,834	279,215	4,465
Southern Appalachia	953,177	474,725	121,580	152,734	200,411	469,236	9,216
County Types							
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	511,335	257,329	70,299	78,974	108,056	247,784	6,222
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	923,347	455,686	111,079	144,750	199,857	459,495	8,166
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	201,842	103,422	33,287	29,338	40,797	96,523	1,897
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	348,067	168,375	48,804	49,981	69,590	176,535	3,157
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	214,938	110,685	35,526	32,989	42,170	102,064	2,189
Alabama	472,079	232,756	39,485	84,059	109,212	235,651	3,672
Appalachian Alabama	292,301	142,126	25,160	49,722	67,244	148,099	2,076
Non-Appalachian Alabama	179,778	90,630	14,325	34,337	41,968	87,552	1,596
Georgia	1,361,380	703,516	193,207	220,803	289,506	643,039	14,825
Appalachian Georgia	453,748	227,431	69,543	68,753	89,135	220,561	5,756
Non-Appalachian Georgia	907,632	476,085	123,664	152,050	200,371	422,478	9,069
Kentucky	259,538	139,792	44,129	41,995	53,668	117,573	2,173
Appalachian Kentucky	69,686	35,739	11,337	11,532	12,870	33,397	550
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	189,852	104,053	32,792	30,463	40,798	84,176	1,623
Maryland	360,485	180,803	54,783	47,674	78,346	170,807	8,875
Appalachian Maryland	12,216	6,309	1,933	1,743	2,633	5,663	244
Non-Appalachian Maryland	348,269	174,494	52,850	45,931	75,713	165,144	8,631
Mississippi	342,209	178,625	41,337	62,428	74,860	161,978	1,606
Appalachian Mississippi	68,356	36,523	8,464	12,730	15,329	31,479	354
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	273,853	142,102	32,873	49,698	59,531	130,499	1,252
New York	1,031,600	490,926	109,239	130,357	251,330	511,021	29,653
Appalachian New York	45,371	26,405	8,962	8,138	9,305	18,509	457
Non-Appalachian New York	986,229	464,521	100,277	122,219	242,025	492,512	29,196
North Carolina	1,077,458	525,008	133,271	158,942	232,795	542,297	10,153
Appalachian North Carolina	231,296	109,221	24,202	34,182	50,837	120,463	1,612
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	846,162	415,787	109,069	124,760	181,958	421,834	8,541
Ohio	740,941	401,010	127,630	111,287	162,093	329,616	10,315
Appalachian Ohio	149,737	81,255	32,017	21,085	28,153	66,496	1,986
Non-Appalachian Ohio	591,204	319,755	95,613	90,202	133,940	263,120	8,329
Pennsylvania	719,332	389,505	133,716	102,146	153,643	319,045	10,782
Appalachian Pennsylvania	281,782	151,309	50,761	40,793	59,755	127,181	3,292
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	437,550	238,196	82,955	61,353	93,888	191,864	7,490
South Carolina	512,886	250,294	62,025	79,457	108,812	258,651	3,941
Appalachian South Carolina	138,772	68,645	18,413	21,529	28,703	69,097	1,030
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	374,114	181,649	43,612	57,928	80,109	189,554	2,911
Tennessee	688,502	339,192	87,586	99,375	152,231	342,630	6,680
Appalachian Tennessee	293,107	134,519	30,786	40,867	62,866	156,086	2,502
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	395,395	204,673	56,800	58,508	89,365	186,544	4,178
Virginia	623,631	316,083	93,557	91,613	130,913	295,169	12,379
Appalachian Virginia	50,661	22,392	5,174	7,552	9,666	27,600	669
Non-Appalachian Virginia	572,970	293,691	88,383	84,061	121,247	267,569	11,710
West Virginia (entire state)	112,496	53,623	12,243	17,406	23,974	57,770	1,103

Note: The health insurance universe consists of the civilian noninstitutional population.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

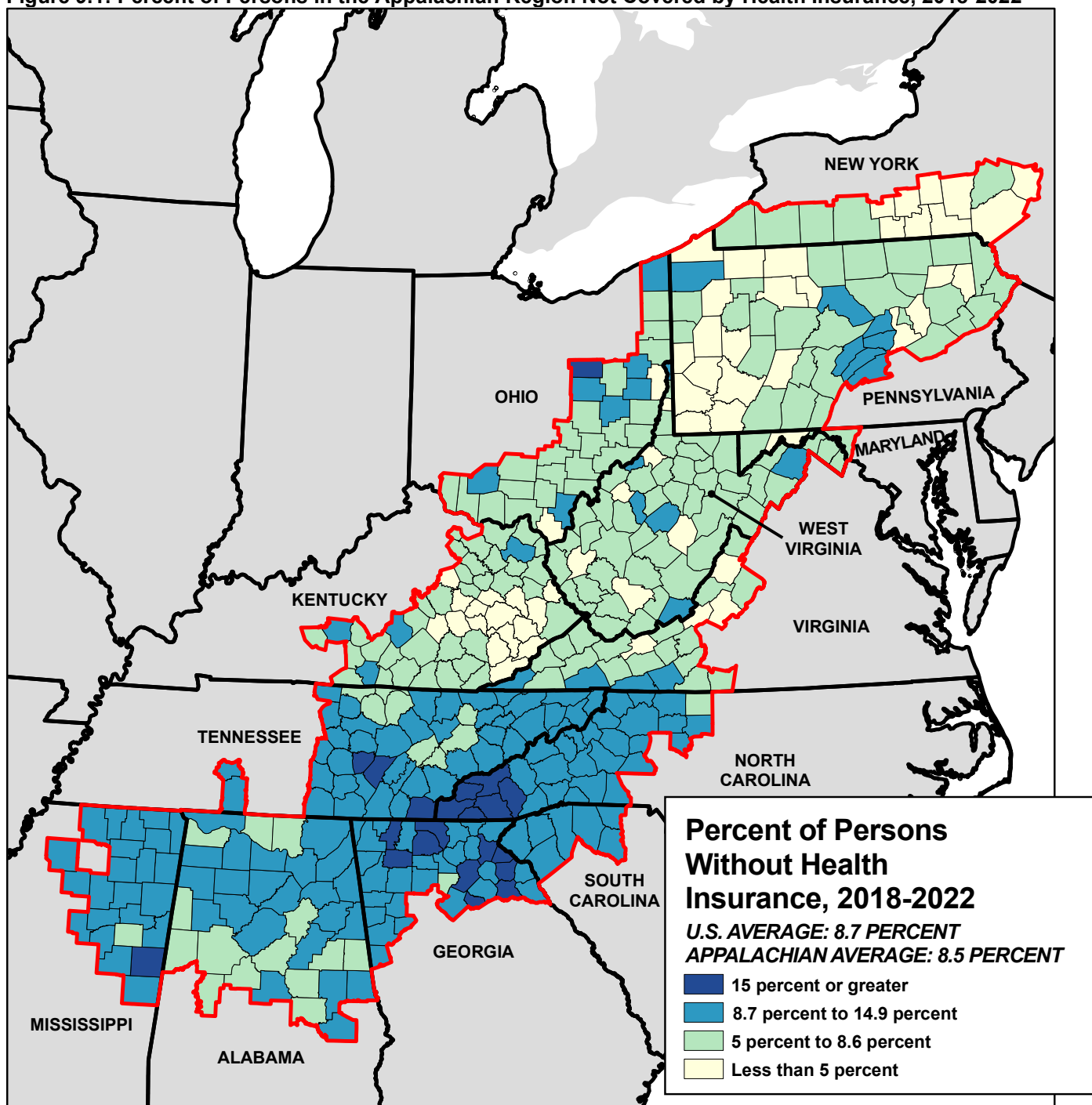
Table 9.2: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, by Age Group, 2018-2022

Health Insurance Status	All Ages	Under Age 35				Ages 35-64	Ages 65 and Over
		Total	Under Age 19	Ages 19-25	Ages 26-34		
United States	8.7	9.8	5.3	14.1	15.2	10.7	0.8
Appalachian Region	8.5	9.9	5.1	14.1	16.3	10.9	0.5
Subregions							
Northern Appalachia	5.4	7.2	5.0	8.7	10.3	6.2	0.3
North Central Appalachia	6.4	7.5	3.6	10.6	13.1	8.4	0.3
Central Appalachia	6.9	8.1	4.1	12.8	13.0	9.0	0.3
South Central Appalachia	10.3	11.5	5.1	15.8	20.5	14.1	0.4
Southern Appalachia	11.2	12.3	5.8	19.2	20.7	14.3	0.7
County Types							
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	8.2	9.4	4.8	14.7	14.9	10.0	0.6
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	8.3	9.5	4.5	13.2	16.3	10.9	0.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	8.9	10.8	6.4	14.3	17.2	11.1	0.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	9.0	10.7	5.7	15.3	17.9	11.9	0.4
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	8.9	10.8	6.5	14.5	17.1	11.1	0.5
Alabama	9.5	10.5	3.3	17.8	19.3	12.6	0.4
Appalachian Alabama	9.2	9.9	3.3	16.4	18.2	12.1	0.4
Non-Appalachian Alabama	10.3	11.4	3.4	20.1	21.4	13.4	0.5
Georgia	12.9	14.2	7.2	22.1	22.6	15.8	1.0
Appalachian Georgia	13.5	14.8	8.0	22.9	24.0	16.6	1.2
Non-Appalachian Georgia	12.6	14.0	6.9	21.7	22.0	15.4	0.9
Kentucky	5.9	7.0	4.1	10.1	10.6	6.9	0.3
Appalachian Kentucky	6.1	7.2	4.2	11.4	10.6	7.5	0.3
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	5.8	6.9	4.1	9.6	10.6	6.7	0.3
Maryland	5.9	6.7	3.8	9.2	10.8	7.1	0.9
Appalachian Maryland	5.1	6.3	3.6	8.2	10.3	6.1	0.5
Non-Appalachian Maryland	6.0	6.7	3.8	9.2	10.8	7.1	0.9
Mississippi	11.8	13.3	5.6	22.1	23.2	15.0	0.3
Appalachian Mississippi	11.4	13.1	5.7	19.8	23.1	14.4	0.3
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	11.9	13.4	5.6	22.8	23.3	15.2	0.3
New York	5.2	5.6	2.5	7.1	9.8	6.6	0.9
Appalachian New York	4.5	6.0	4.1	6.7	9.2	4.9	0.2
Non-Appalachian New York	5.3	5.6	2.4	7.1	9.8	6.7	0.9
North Carolina	10.5	11.5	5.5	16.9	19.3	13.7	0.6
Appalachian North Carolina	11.5	13.4	5.7	19.2	24.0	15.6	0.4
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	10.3	11.0	5.4	16.3	18.3	13.2	0.7
Ohio	6.4	7.7	4.6	10.4	11.9	7.4	0.5
Appalachian Ohio	7.7	9.9	7.1	12.7	13.8	8.9	0.5
Non-Appalachian Ohio	6.1	7.3	4.2	10.0	11.6	7.2	0.5
Pennsylvania	5.6	7.1	4.7	8.9	10.2	6.5	0.5
Appalachian Pennsylvania	5.0	6.6	4.3	8.1	9.7	5.9	0.3
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	6.1	7.4	4.9	9.4	10.5	6.9	0.6
South Carolina	10.2	11.4	5.3	17.6	18.9	13.5	0.4
Appalachian South Carolina	10.3	11.3	5.7	16.6	18.1	13.6	0.5
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	10.1	11.4	5.1	17.9	19.2	13.4	0.4
Tennessee	10.1	11.0	5.4	15.7	18.3	13.1	0.6
Appalachian Tennessee	10.0	10.9	4.8	15.3	19.3	13.8	0.4
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	10.2	11.1	5.9	16.1	17.6	12.6	0.7
Virginia	7.4	8.4	4.7	11.9	13.1	9.0	0.9
Appalachian Virginia	7.0	7.6	3.5	9.5	14.0	10.1	0.4
Non-Appalachian Virginia	7.5	8.5	4.8	12.2	13.1	8.9	1.0
West Virginia (entire state)	6.4	7.4	3.2	11.2	13.1	8.5	0.3

Note: The health insurance universe consists of the civilian noninstitutional population.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Figure 9.1: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, 2018-2022

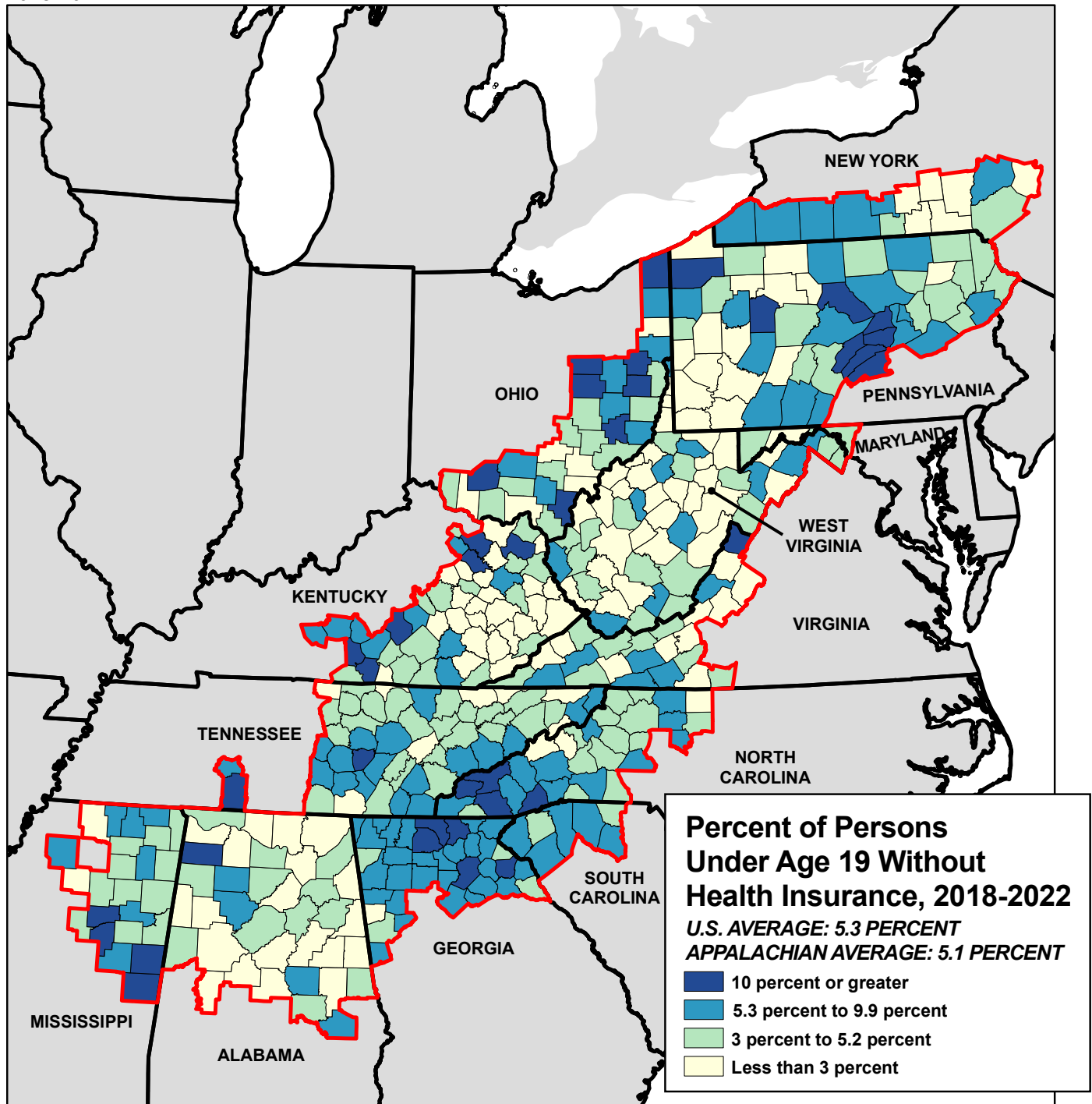


Map Title: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

About 2.2 million persons in the Appalachian Region lacked any kind of health insurance coverage in the 2018-2022 period—representing 8.5 percent of Appalachia’s residents. Although the percentage for the Region is slightly lower than the U.S. share of 8.7 percent, 192 of the 423 Appalachian counties had non-coverage rates at least as high as the national average. And in 21 Appalachian counties—10 of which were in Georgia—at least 15 percent of residents were not covered by insurance. The share without health insurance was highest in Appalachian Georgia, Mississippi, and North Carolina with rates exceeding 11 percent. In contrast, 57 counties had uninsured rates below 5 percent and three-fifths of those counties were in Kentucky or Pennsylvania.

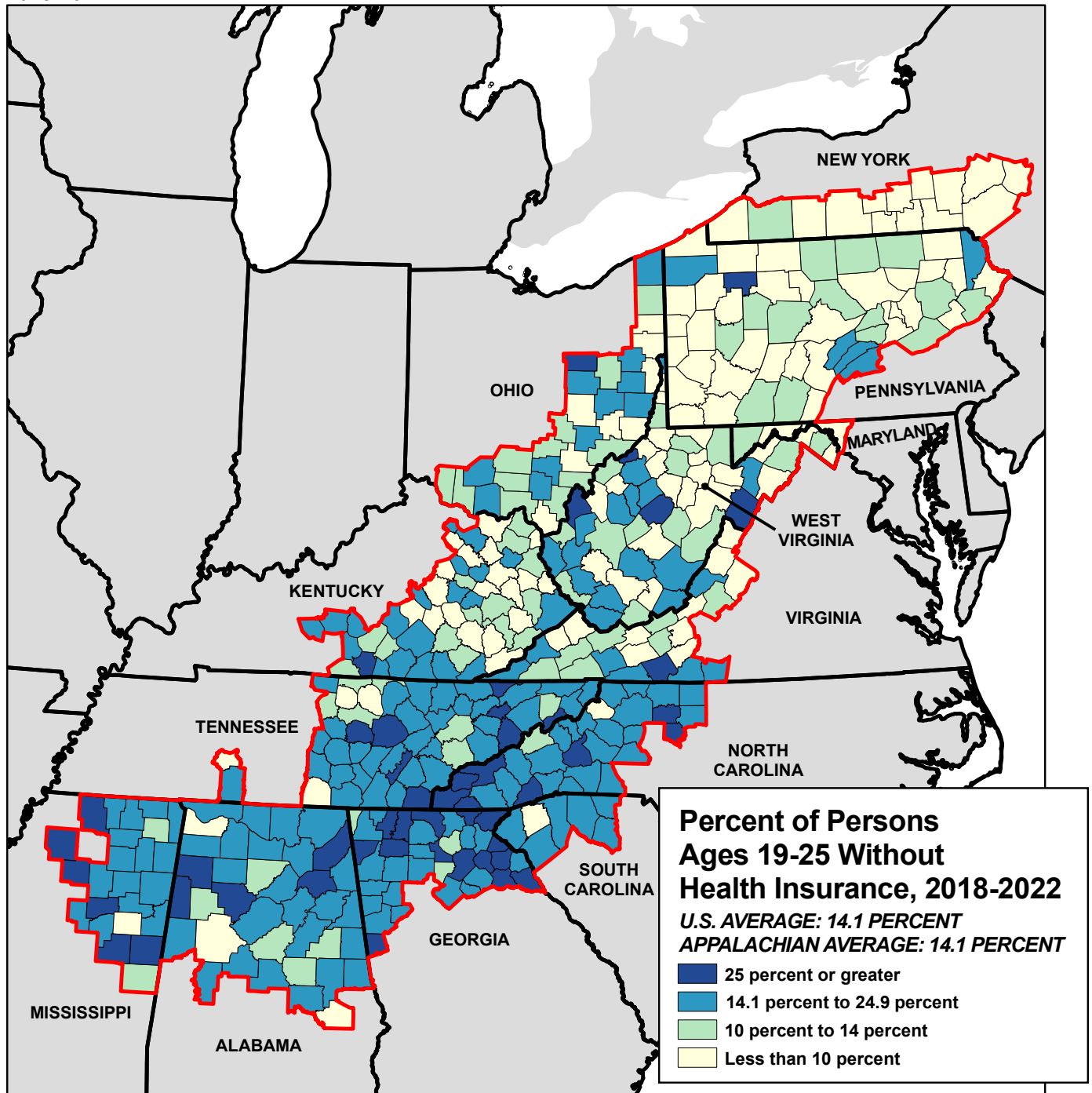
Figure 9.2: Percent of Persons Under Age 19 in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, 2018-2022



Map Title: Percent of Persons Under Age 19 in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, 2018-2022
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Just 5.1 percent of Appalachia's children and youth under age 19 were uninsured during 2018-2022 – a total of about 300,000 of the Region's children – slightly below the national average of 5.3 percent. But the rate varied throughout the Region. On one hand, 125 counties had non-coverage rates under 3 percent; 60 were in either Alabama, Maryland, Virginia, or West Virginia—four states in the Region where less than 4 percent of children and youth lacked health insurance. Conversely, at least one in 10 persons under age 19 were without health insurance in 39 other counties. While the counties in the latter group were scattered throughout various parts of Appalachia, all but three of them were outside metropolitan areas. In Appalachian Georgia, the uninsured rate for children and youth was 8 percent—nearly three percentage points above the national average.

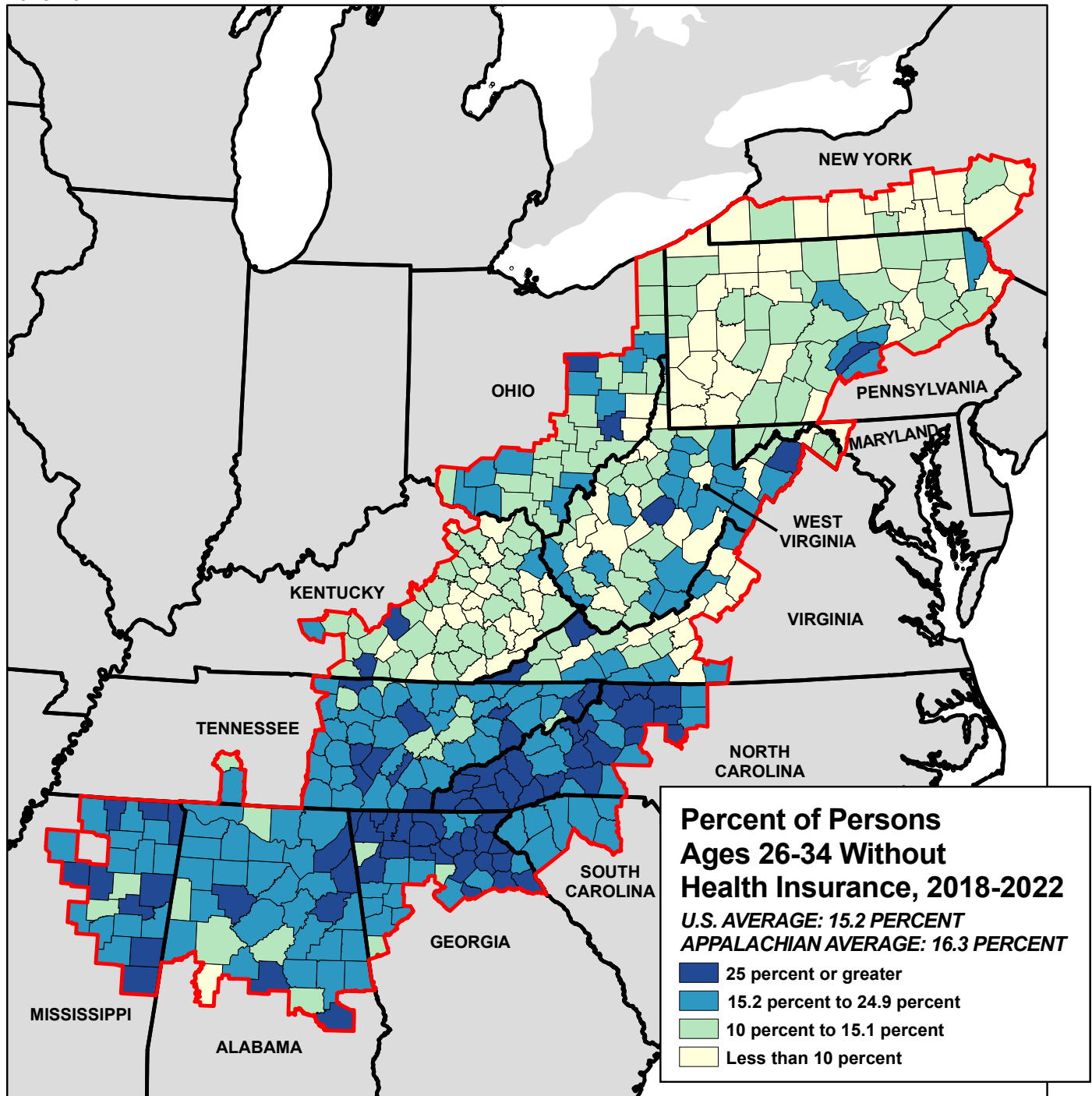
Figure 9.3: Percent of Persons Ages 19 to 25 in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, 2018-2022



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 19 to 25 in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, 2018-2022
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

During the 2018-2022 period, one in seven Appalachian residents (14.1 percent) ages 19 to 25 did not have health insurance coverage. Although Appalachia's rate for these young adults matched the national average, the non-coverage problem was especially prevalent in much of Southern Appalachia; in that subregion, close to one out of every five 19-to-25-year-olds did not have coverage. Rates of uninsured young adults were especially dire in 50 counties, where non-coverage rates reached at least 25 percent – 15 of which were located in Appalachian Georgia, where the overall share of uninsured among this age group exceeded 20 percent. Moreover, nearly three-fourths of these counties were outside metropolitan areas. In contrast, 116 Appalachian counties had less than 10 percent of persons ages 19 to 25 without health insurance; most counties in this group were in Northern or North Central Appalachia, and about one in five had a four-year college or university within their boundaries.

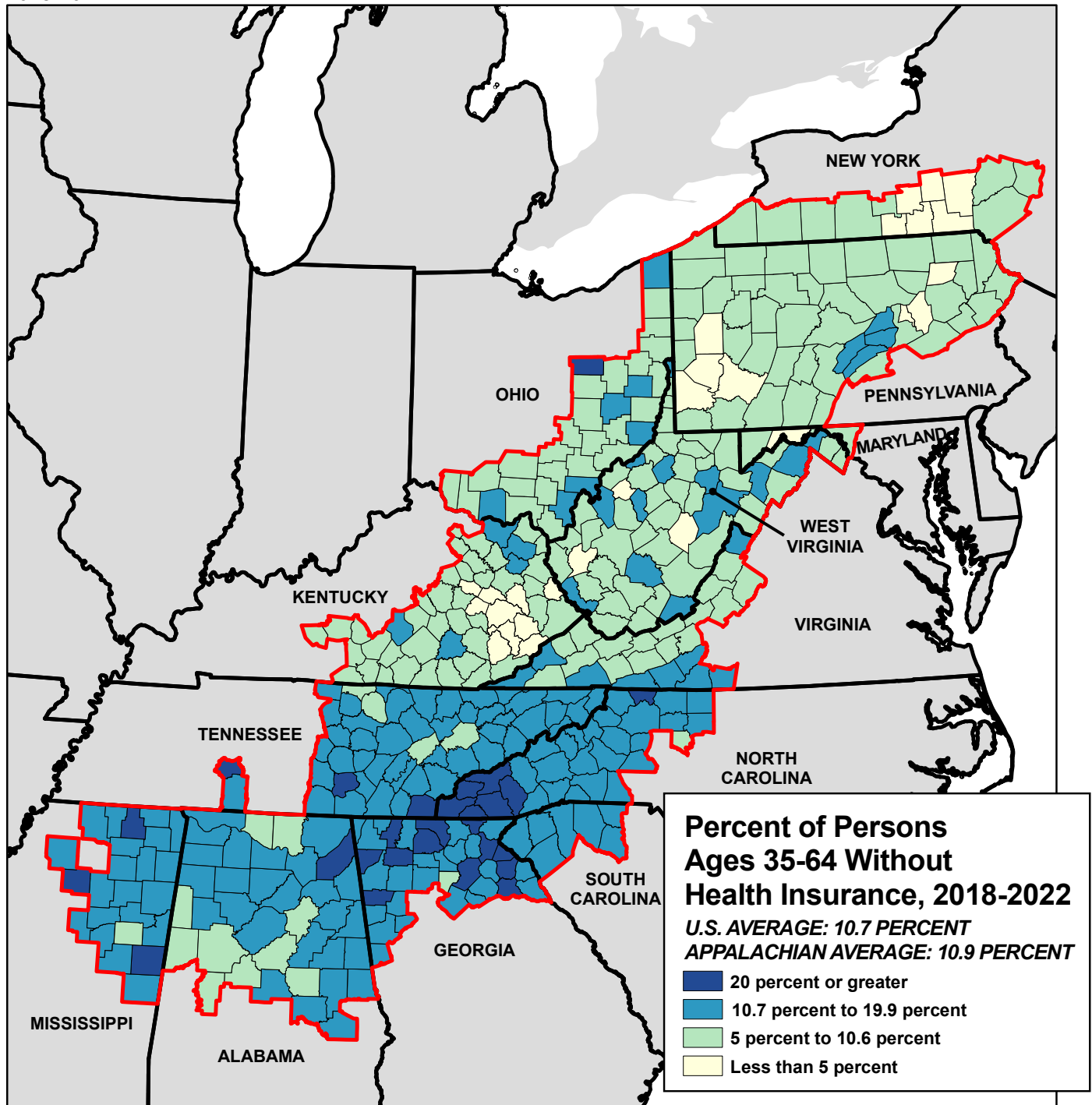
Figure 9.4: Percent of Persons Ages 26 to 34 in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, 2018-2022



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 26 to 34 in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, 2018-2022
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Lack of health insurance coverage was highest among young adults ages 26 to 34—16.3 percent of Appalachian residents in this group were uninsured during the 2018-2022 period. And the situation was even worse in South Central and Southern Appalachia, where one in five 26-to-34-year-olds were without insurance. In fact, these two subregions had 67 of the 78 counties where at least 25 percent of residents ages 26 to 34 lacked health insurance. However, 204 of Appalachia's 423 counties had non-coverage rates below the national average of 15.2 percent; these were overwhelmingly located in Northern, North Central, and Central Appalachia. And in 82 of the Region's counties less than 10 percent of young adults ages 26 to 34 were without health insurance.

Figure 9.5: Percent of Persons Ages 35 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, 2018-2022



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 35 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, 2018-2022
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

In 2018-2022, 10.9 percent of Appalachia's working-age population ages 35 to 64 were not covered by health insurance, slightly above the national rate of 10.7 percent. And counties where the highest shares of adults in this age group were uninsured were largely located in the Southern and South Central portions of the Region. In fact, of the 210 Appalachian counties where the share of 35-to-64-year-olds were uninsured exceeded the national average, nearly four-fifths were in these two subregions. And of the 27 counties where at least one in five persons in this group had no health insurance all but one were located in South Central and Southern Appalachia – primarily within Georgia and North Carolina. On the other hand, in 27 of the Region's counties the share was less than 5 percent. Of these counties, all but two were in Northern Appalachia or Central Appalachia.

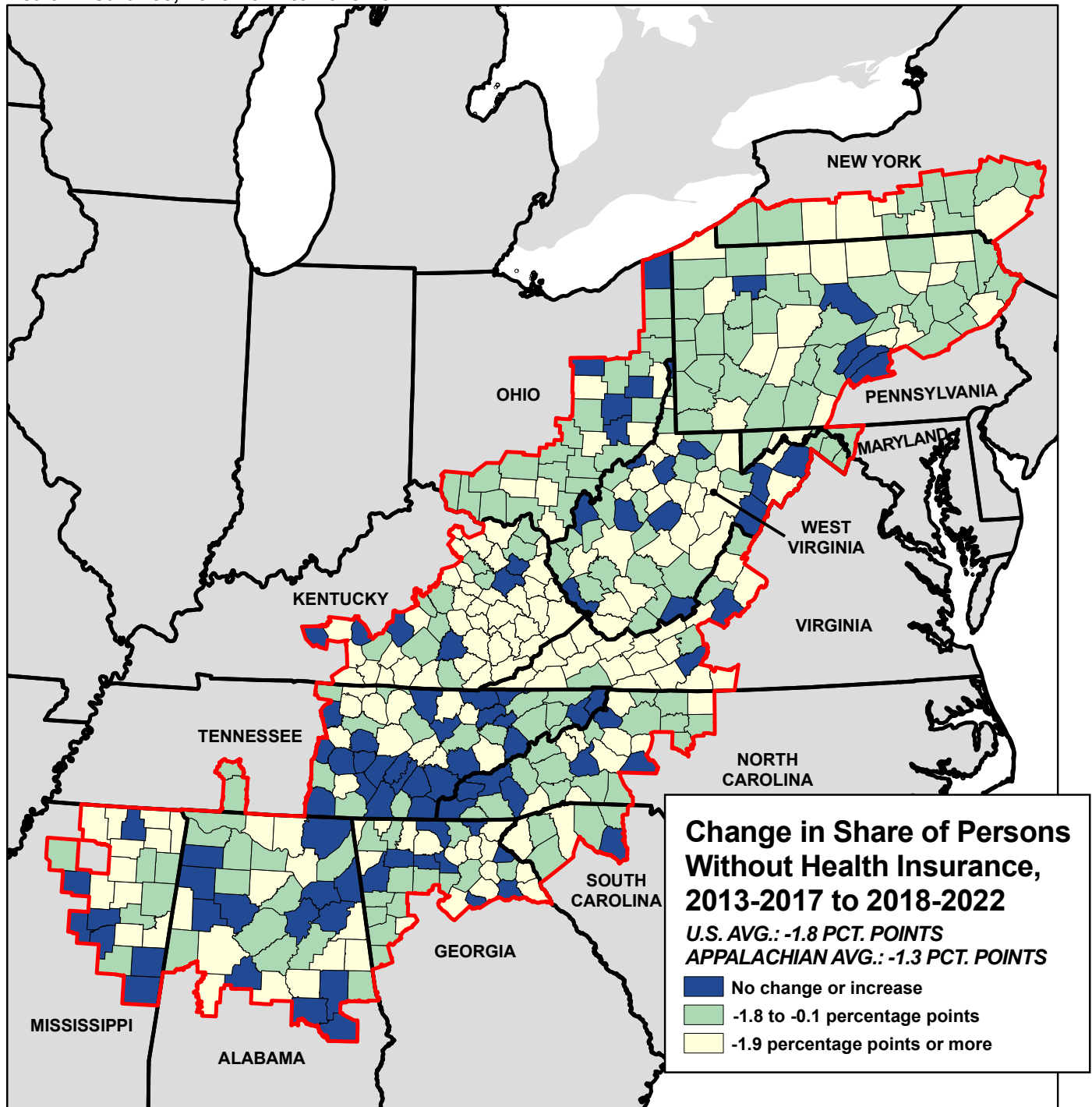
Table 9.3: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, by Age Group, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Health Insurance Status	All Ages	Under Age 35	Ages 35-64	Ages 65 and Over
United States	- 1.8	- 2.0	- 1.9	- 0.1
Appalachian Region	- 1.3	- 1.6	- 1.1	+ 0.1
Subregions				
Northern Appalachia	- 1.3	- 1.4	- 1.5	- 0.1
North Central Appalachia	- 1.5	- 1.7	- 1.4	+ 0.1
Central Appalachia	- 2.5	- 2.8	- 2.5	+ 0.0
South Central Appalachia	- 1.0	- 1.1	- 0.7	+ 0.1
Southern Appalachia	- 1.6	- 2.0	- 1.1	+ 0.0
County Types				
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	- 1.4	- 1.7	- 1.2	+ 0.0
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	- 1.2	- 1.5	- 0.9	+ 0.0
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 1.3	- 1.3	- 1.5	+ 0.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	- 1.4	- 1.7	- 1.2	+ 0.0
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 2.1	- 2.4	- 2.3	+ 0.1
Alabama	- 1.2	- 1.6	- 0.6	- 0.1
Appalachian Alabama	- 1.1	- 1.8	- 0.6	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 1.1	- 1.4	- 0.8	+ 0.0
Georgia	- 1.9	- 2.2	- 1.5	+ 0.0
Appalachian Georgia	- 1.9	- 2.3	- 1.4	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 1.9	- 2.1	- 1.6	+ 0.0
Kentucky	- 2.0	- 2.3	- 2.1	+ 0.0
Appalachian Kentucky	- 2.6	- 3.1	- 2.9	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 1.8	- 2.1	- 1.8	- 0.1
Maryland	- 1.4	- 1.6	- 1.3	- 0.2
Appalachian Maryland	- 1.6	- 1.7	- 2.1	+ 0.1
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 1.4	- 1.6	- 1.3	- 0.3
Mississippi	- 1.8	- 1.7	- 2.0	- 0.1
Appalachian Mississippi	- 1.8	- 1.3	- 2.7	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 1.9	- 1.8	- 1.8	- 0.1
New York	- 2.4	- 2.8	- 2.6	+ 0.0
Appalachian New York	- 1.5	- 1.7	- 1.7	- 0.1
Non-Appalachian New York	- 2.4	- 2.8	- 2.6	+ 0.0
North Carolina	- 1.6	- 1.7	- 1.4	+ 0.1
Appalachian North Carolina	- 1.0	- 0.8	- 0.7	+ 0.1
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 1.7	- 2.0	- 1.6	+ 0.1
Ohio	- 1.0	- 0.9	- 1.4	+ 0.0
Appalachian Ohio	- 1.1	- 0.9	- 1.3	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 1.0	- 0.9	- 1.3	+ 0.0
Pennsylvania	- 1.5	- 1.7	- 1.5	+ 0.0
Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 1.3	- 1.4	- 1.5	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 1.6	- 2.0	- 1.7	+ 0.0
South Carolina	- 1.9	- 2.0	- 1.9	+ 0.0
Appalachian South Carolina	- 1.6	- 2.2	- 1.1	+ 0.1
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 2.0	- 1.9	- 2.2	- 0.1
Tennessee	- 0.8	- 0.7	- 0.8	+ 0.1
Appalachian Tennessee	- 0.6	- 0.8	- 0.3	+ 0.1
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 0.9	- 0.6	- 1.2	+ 0.1
Virginia	- 2.5	- 2.8	- 2.7	- 0.1
Appalachian Virginia	- 3.3	- 4.4	- 3.1	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Virginia	- 2.4	- 2.6	- 2.7	- 0.1
West Virginia (entire state)	- 1.6	- 2.1	- 1.4	+ 0.2

Note: The health insurance universe consists of the civilian noninstitutional population.

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Figure 9.6: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region Not Covered by Health Insurance, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

The share of Appalachian residents not covered by health insurance fell 1.3 percentage points between the 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 periods. While the improvement is slightly less than in the nation as a whole, it was above the national average in many parts of the Region. In fact, non-coverage rates fell more than two percentage points in Central Appalachia and in the Region's rural counties. Of the 168 counties where non-coverage decreased by more than the national average, nearly three-fourths were outside of metropolitan areas. Yet, in 91 counties – more than half of which were located in Alabama, Tennessee, and West Virginia – the share of uninsured persons remained constant or increased.

TRENDS IN HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

- Between the 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 periods, the share of Appalachian residents not covered by health insurance fell 1.3 percentage points to 8.5 percent (see Tables 9.2 and 9.3). And the share fell even further – by more than two percentage points – in Central Appalachia (2.5 points), the Region’s most rural counties (2.1 points), and the Appalachian sections of Kentucky (2.6 points) and Virginia (3.3 points).
- The decline in health insurance non-coverage was greatest among children and younger adults under age 35. The uninsured rate in the under-35 population was 1.6 percentage points lower in 2018-2022 than in 2013-2017. Provisions to expand health insurance coverage, particularly among children and adults under age 26, have been cited as factors for this decline. As with the general population, declines in non-coverage among children and young adults were the greatest in Central Appalachia and the Region’s rural counties. And among the states, Appalachian Georgia, Kentucky, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia all had a decline of more than two percentage points. In particular, Appalachian Kentucky and Virginia saw the most significant declines, with the share of uninsured persons under age 35 declining by 3.1 and 4.4 percentage points, respectively.
- Among adults in the Region between the ages of 35 and 64, the share without health insurance declined just over 1 percentage point between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 – a slower rate of decline compared with the national average. Yet, as with the other age groups non-coverage among 35-to-64-year-olds decreased most – more than two percentage points – in Central Appalachia and in rural counties throughout the Region. The Appalachia sections of Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, and Virginia had a decline of more than two percentage points since 2013-2017.
- The share of adults ages 65 and over who lacked health insurance decreased slightly (0.1 percentage points) in the nation – but increased by the same proportion in the Appalachian Region between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022. Despite slight differences and fluctuations throughout Appalachia, changes to the share of older adults with health insurance were minimal.
- Analysts cite programs designed to increase coverage, including expansion of the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and provisions of the Affordable Care Act, including Medicaid expansion, as factors in the uptick of health insurance coverage of persons under age 65—particularly younger persons—in 2018-2022. But recent economic concerns in 2022 and 2023—which ultimately could result in job losses and the resulting loss of employer-based health insurance—may lead to a reversal of some of these improvements in future years.

CHAPTER 10: DISABILITY STATUS

Table 10.1: Number of Persons in the Appalachian Region With a Disability, by Age Group, 2018-2022

Disability Status	All Ages	Under Age 18	Ages 18-64			Ages 65 and Over
			Total	Ages 18-34	Ages 35-64	
United States	41,941,456	3,312,006	20,879,820	5,420,682	15,459,138	17,749,630
Appalachian Region	4,177,839	297,890	2,136,355	486,988	1,649,367	1,743,594
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	1,235,916	94,275	607,996	151,698	456,298	533,645
North Central Appalachia	448,399	28,116	234,557	51,397	183,160	185,726
Central Appalachia	433,333	29,106	241,086	44,424	196,662	163,141
South Central Appalachia	850,243	54,115	424,469	90,957	333,512	371,659
Southern Appalachia	1,209,948	92,278	628,247	148,512	479,735	489,423
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	824,092	67,803	415,407	102,720	312,687	340,882
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	1,744,337	126,146	890,154	211,805	678,349	728,037
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	395,506	26,539	205,757	47,702	158,055	163,210
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	729,515	47,197	369,095	75,251	293,844	313,223
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	484,389	30,205	255,942	49,510	206,432	198,242
Alabama	800,846	52,833	420,822	94,067	326,755	327,191
Appalachian Alabama	516,587	35,778	271,433	61,008	210,425	209,376
Non-Appalachian Alabama	284,259	17,055	149,389	33,059	116,330	117,815
Georgia	1,336,645	117,839	700,289	176,957	523,332	518,517
Appalachian Georgia	397,853	33,447	205,373	51,814	153,559	159,033
Non-Appalachian Georgia	938,792	84,392	494,916	125,143	369,773	359,484
Kentucky	777,966	61,649	427,332	98,873	328,459	288,985
Appalachian Kentucky	259,767	17,764	146,646	27,378	119,268	95,357
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	518,199	43,885	280,686	71,495	209,191	193,628
Maryland	686,244	58,077	340,183	89,880	250,303	287,984
Appalachian Maryland	39,805	3,904	19,821	4,522	15,299	16,080
Non-Appalachian Maryland	646,439	54,173	320,362	85,358	235,004	271,904
Mississippi	496,079	38,843	265,138	60,103	205,035	192,098
Appalachian Mississippi	101,645	7,598	53,814	12,470	41,344	40,233
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	394,434	31,245	211,324	47,633	163,691	151,865
New York	2,355,119	169,948	1,136,920	290,021	846,899	1,048,251
Appalachian New York	157,972	12,599	81,144	22,801	58,343	64,229
Non-Appalachian New York	2,197,147	157,349	1,055,776	267,220	788,556	984,022
North Carolina	1,367,517	102,171	691,617	162,562	529,055	573,729
Appalachian North Carolina	314,129	19,325	154,418	33,363	121,055	140,386
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	1,053,388	82,846	537,199	129,199	408,000	433,343
Ohio	1,635,891	134,912	837,414	217,062	620,352	663,565
Appalachian Ohio	336,971	23,770	175,798	39,750	136,048	137,403
Non-Appalachian Ohio	1,298,920	111,142	661,616	177,312	484,304	526,162
Pennsylvania	1,799,317	151,907	889,606	234,790	654,816	757,804
Appalachian Pennsylvania	862,292	65,055	418,941	104,641	314,300	378,296
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	937,025	86,852	470,665	130,149	340,516	379,508
South Carolina	722,000	51,491	359,972	81,278	278,694	310,537
Appalachian South Carolina	193,863	15,455	97,627	23,220	74,407	80,781
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	528,137	36,036	262,345	58,058	204,287	229,756
Tennessee	1,043,327	78,286	544,697	126,154	418,543	420,344
Appalachian Tennessee	519,140	34,817	264,977	55,293	209,684	219,346
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	524,187	43,469	279,720	70,861	208,859	200,998
Virginia	1,017,014	84,198	501,711	130,217	371,494	431,105
Appalachian Virginia	141,879	8,713	72,847	14,676	58,171	60,319
Non-Appalachian Virginia	875,135	75,485	428,864	115,541	313,323	370,786
West Virginia (entire state)	335,936	19,665	173,516	36,052	137,464	142,755

Note: The ACS defines persons with a disability as those having difficulty in at least one of the following six areas: hearing, vision, cognition, walking or climbing, self-care, or attending to the functions of independent living. The disability universe consists of the civilian noninstitutional population.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

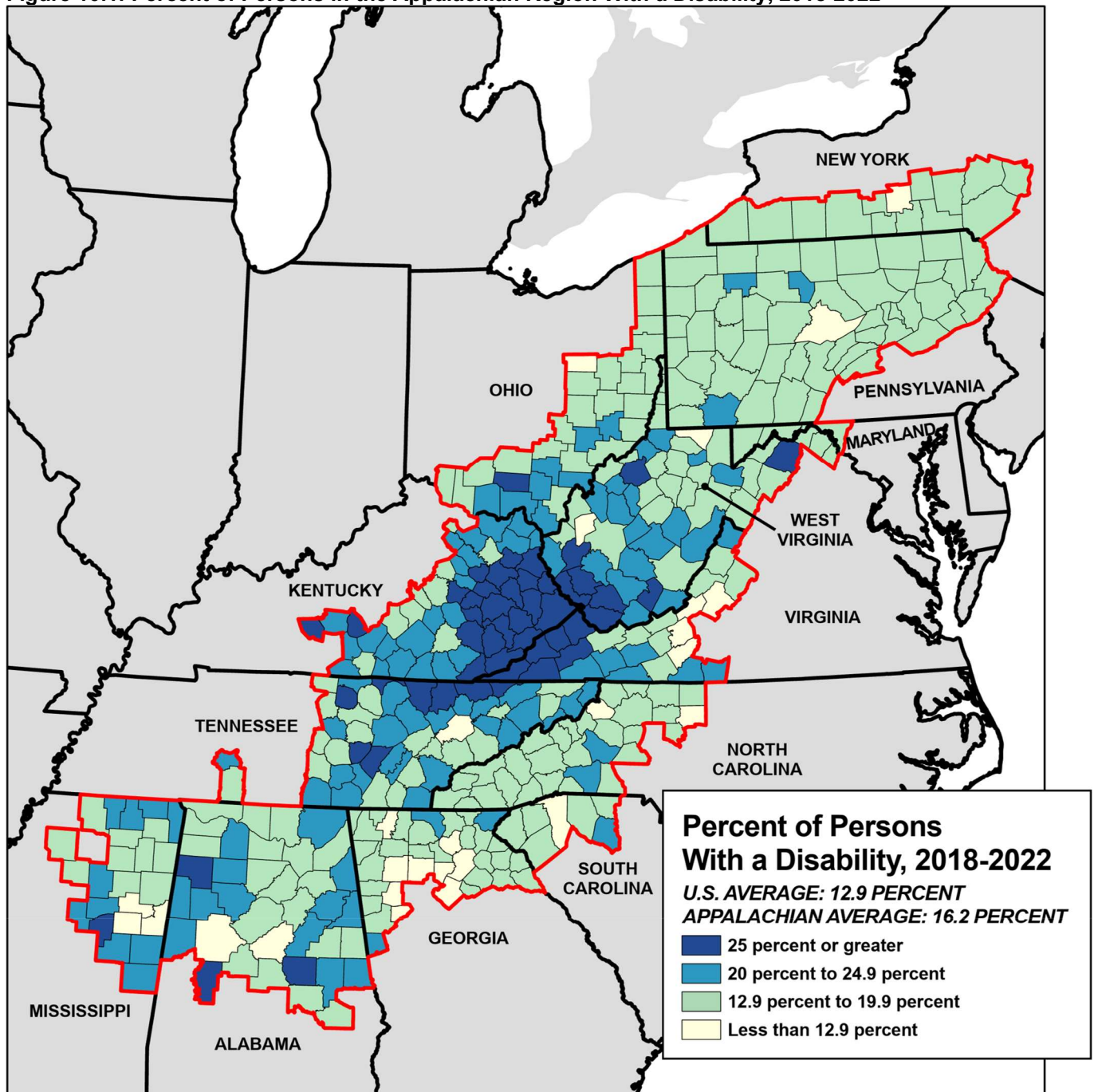
Table 10.2: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region With a Disability, by Age Group, 2018-2022

Disability Status	All Ages	Under Age 18	Ages 18-64			Ages 65 and Over
			Total	Ages 18-34	Ages 35-64	
United States	12.9	4.5	10.5	7.2	12.4	33.3
Appalachian Region	16.2	5.4	13.7	8.7	16.5	36.4
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	15.6	6.0	12.8	8.9	15.0	33.4
North Central Appalachia	18.3	5.5	16.0	10.0	19.3	39.1
Central Appalachia	23.8	7.3	22.4	12.1	27.6	47.2
South Central Appalachia	16.5	5.2	13.7	8.2	16.8	36.3
Southern Appalachia	14.3	4.7	12.2	7.9	14.6	36.3
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	13.2	4.9	10.9	7.6	12.6	33.1
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	15.8	5.5	13.2	8.5	16.1	35.6
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	17.5	5.5	15.3	10.0	18.2	37.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	18.9	5.9	16.4	9.8	19.7	39.1
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	20.0	5.9	17.9	9.7	22.5	41.4
Alabama	16.2	4.8	14.1	8.4	17.4	38.6
Appalachian Alabama	16.2	5.0	14.0	8.5	17.2	38.6
Non-Appalachian Alabama	16.2	4.3	14.3	8.4	17.8	38.6
Georgia	12.7	4.7	10.7	7.2	12.8	34.4
Appalachian Georgia	11.9	4.1	10.0	7.2	11.5	33.5
Non-Appalachian Georgia	13.1	5.0	11.1	7.3	13.5	34.9
Kentucky	17.6	6.1	16.0	10.1	19.4	39.3
Appalachian Kentucky	22.7	6.9	21.5	11.5	26.8	46.7
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	15.8	5.8	14.1	9.6	16.7	36.5
Maryland	11.3	4.3	9.1	6.8	10.4	29.9
Appalachian Maryland	16.6	7.7	13.9	9.0	16.5	35.1
Non-Appalachian Maryland	11.1	4.1	8.9	6.7	10.1	29.7
Mississippi	17.2	5.6	15.3	9.2	19.0	40.7
Appalachian Mississippi	16.9	5.5	15.0	8.9	18.9	39.7
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	17.2	5.7	15.4	9.3	19.0	41.0
New York	11.9	4.1	9.2	6.2	11.0	31.6
Appalachian New York	15.6	6.5	13.1	9.3	15.6	32.4
Non-Appalachian New York	11.7	4.0	9.0	6.0	10.8	31.6
North Carolina	13.3	4.5	11.0	7.1	13.3	33.6
Appalachian North Carolina	15.7	4.9	13.0	8.0	15.6	34.0
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	12.8	4.4	10.6	6.9	12.8	33.5
Ohio	14.1	5.2	11.9	8.4	14.0	33.2
Appalachian Ohio	17.3	5.6	15.3	10.0	18.1	36.9
Non-Appalachian Ohio	13.4	5.1	11.3	8.1	13.2	32.4
Pennsylvania	14.1	5.7	11.4	8.2	13.3	32.2
Appalachian Pennsylvania	15.4	6.0	12.4	8.7	14.5	33.3
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	13.0	5.5	10.7	7.9	12.3	31.2
South Carolina	14.3	4.7	11.9	7.4	14.5	33.8
Appalachian South Carolina	14.4	5.1	12.0	7.5	14.7	35.5
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	14.3	4.5	11.9	7.3	14.4	33.3
Tennessee	15.3	5.1	13.1	8.1	16.0	37.3
Appalachian Tennessee	17.7	5.7	15.0	8.8	18.5	39.0
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	13.5	4.7	11.6	7.7	14.1	35.6
Virginia	12.1	4.5	9.7	6.9	11.3	31.9
Appalachian Virginia	19.7	6.6	16.8	9.0	21.4	39.4
Non-Appalachian Virginia	11.4	4.3	9.0	6.7	10.4	31.0
West Virginia (entire state)	19.1	5.5	16.6	9.9	20.2	40.0

Note: The ACS defines persons with a disability as those having difficulty in at least one of the following six areas: hearing, vision, cognition, walking or climbing, self-care, or attending to the functions of independent living. The disability universe consists of the civilian noninstitutional population.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Figure 10.1: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region With a Disability, 2018-2022

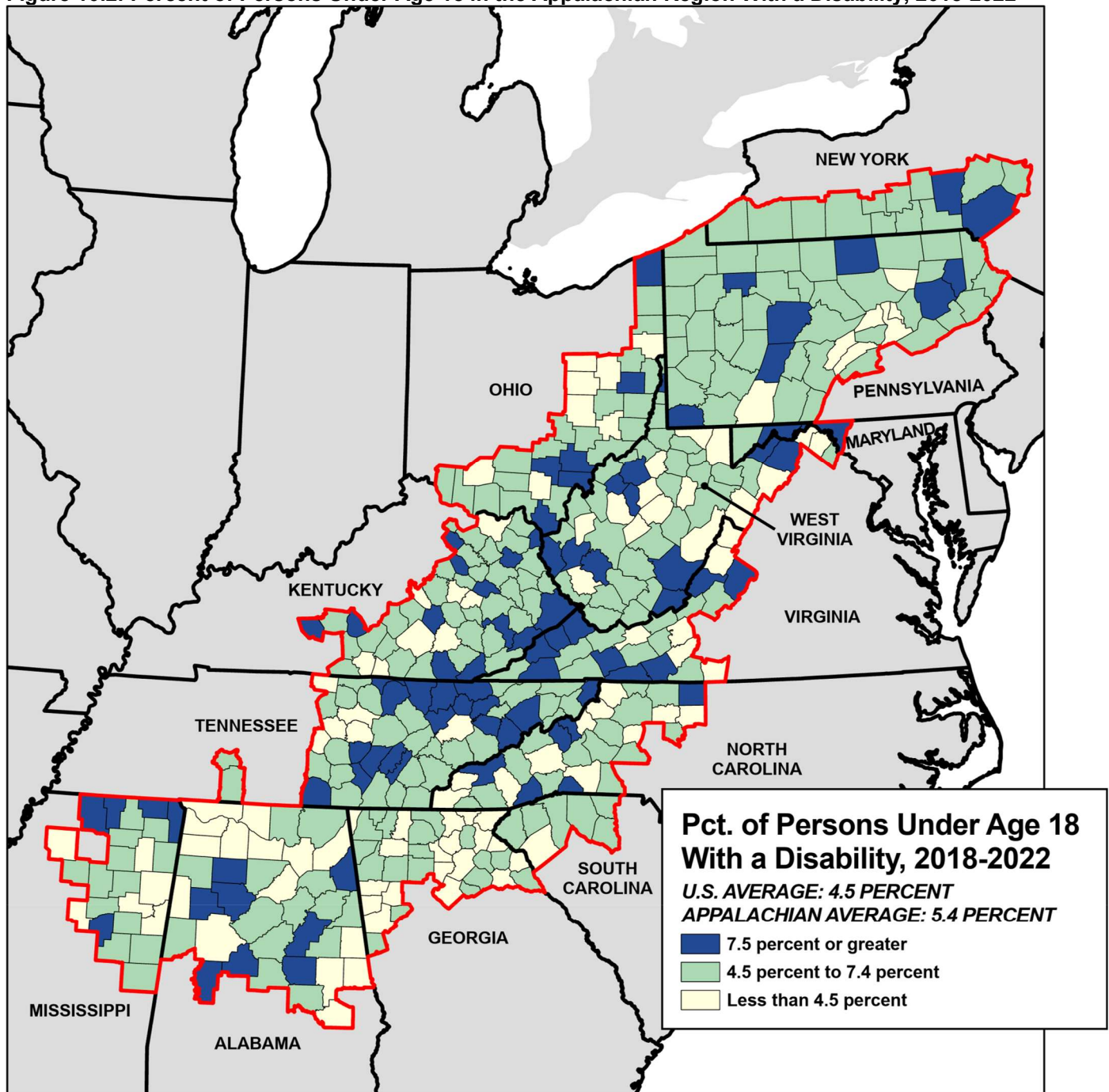


Map Title: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region With a Disability, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

One in six Appalachian residents reported having a disability in the 2018-2022 period (defined by the ACS as having difficulty in at least one of the following six areas: hearing, vision, cognition, walking or climbing, self-care, or attending to the functions of independent living). The Region's share of residents with a disability is more than three percentage points higher than the U.S. share. And disability prevalence was particularly high in the Region's rural counties and the Appalachian portion of Kentucky- where more than one in five residents reported having a disability. In fact, in 50 counties – nearly half of which were in Kentucky – at least one in four persons reported a disability. By contrast, there were only 27 counties in Appalachia with a disability rate below the national average of 12.9 percent. Appalachia's relatively high disability rate corresponds to the population's older age structure: Among the 50 counties with the highest disability prevalence, the share of residents ages 65 or older exceeded the national average (17.3 percent in mid-2022) in all but one of them.

Figure 10.2: Percent of Persons Under Age 18 in the Appalachian Region With a Disability, 2018-2022

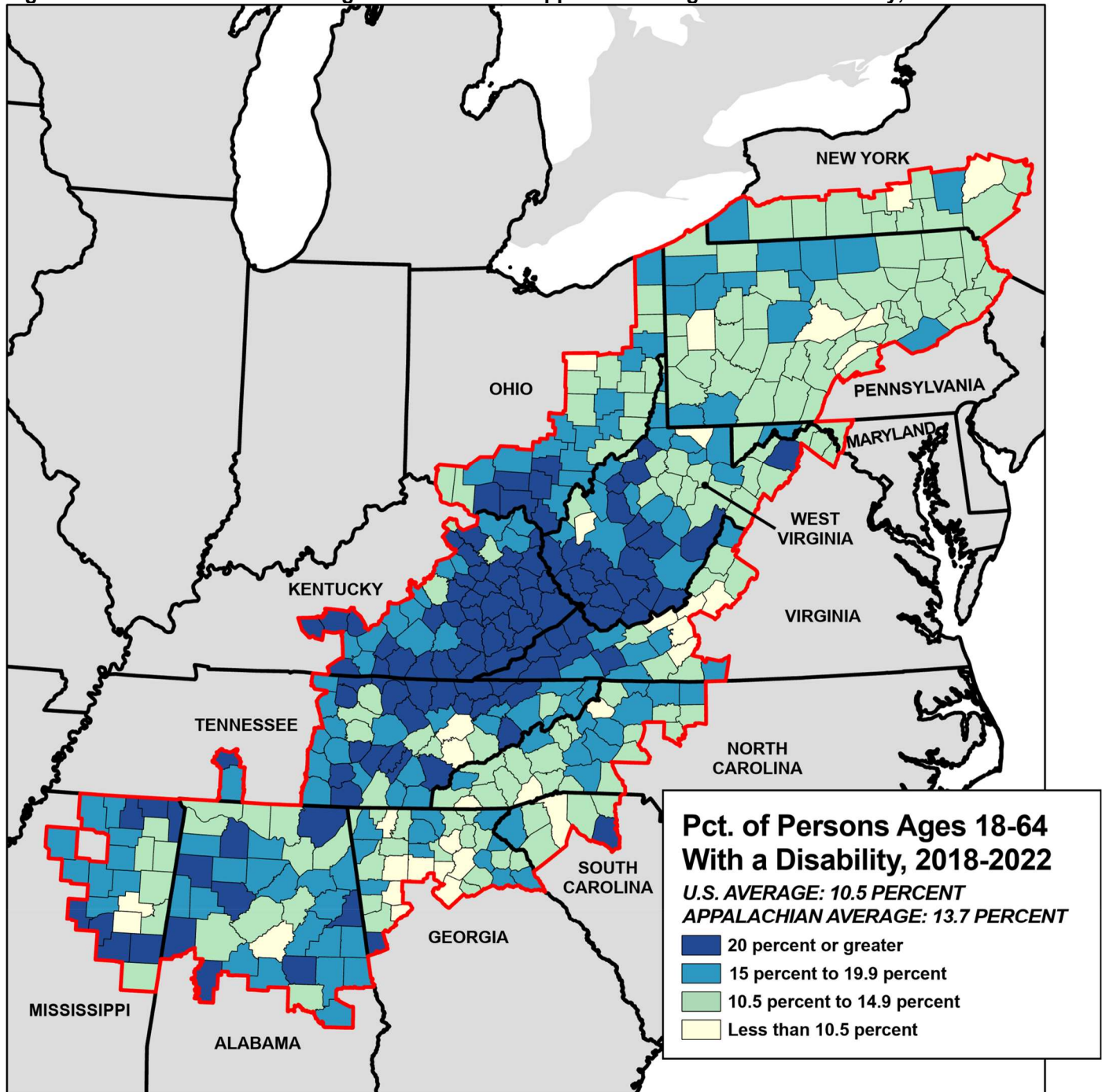


Map Title: Percent of Persons Under Age 18 in the Appalachian Region With a Disability, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

The prevalence of disability among children under age 18 in Appalachia was nearly 1 percentage point higher than the national average during the 2018-2022 period. And the rate was at least 7.5 percent in 87 Appalachian counties, 37 of which were categorized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service (ERS) as having a history of persistent child poverty (that is, more than 20 percent of children were living in poverty across the 1980, 1990, and 2000 census years). Two-thirds of these counties were outside of metropolitan areas, and nearly one-third were in Central Appalachia, where the overall share of children with disabilities exceeded 7 percent. However, in 102 other counties throughout the Region disability prevalence for children fell below the national average of 4.5 percent. These counties were largely in Southern Appalachia, the only subregion with an overall childhood disability prevalence below 5 percent. And just one in five of these counties met the ERS criteria for persistent childhood poverty – a stark contrast compared with counties in the Region which had the highest childhood disability rates.

Figure 10.3: Percent of Persons Ages 18 to 64 in the Appalachian Region With a Disability, 2018-2022

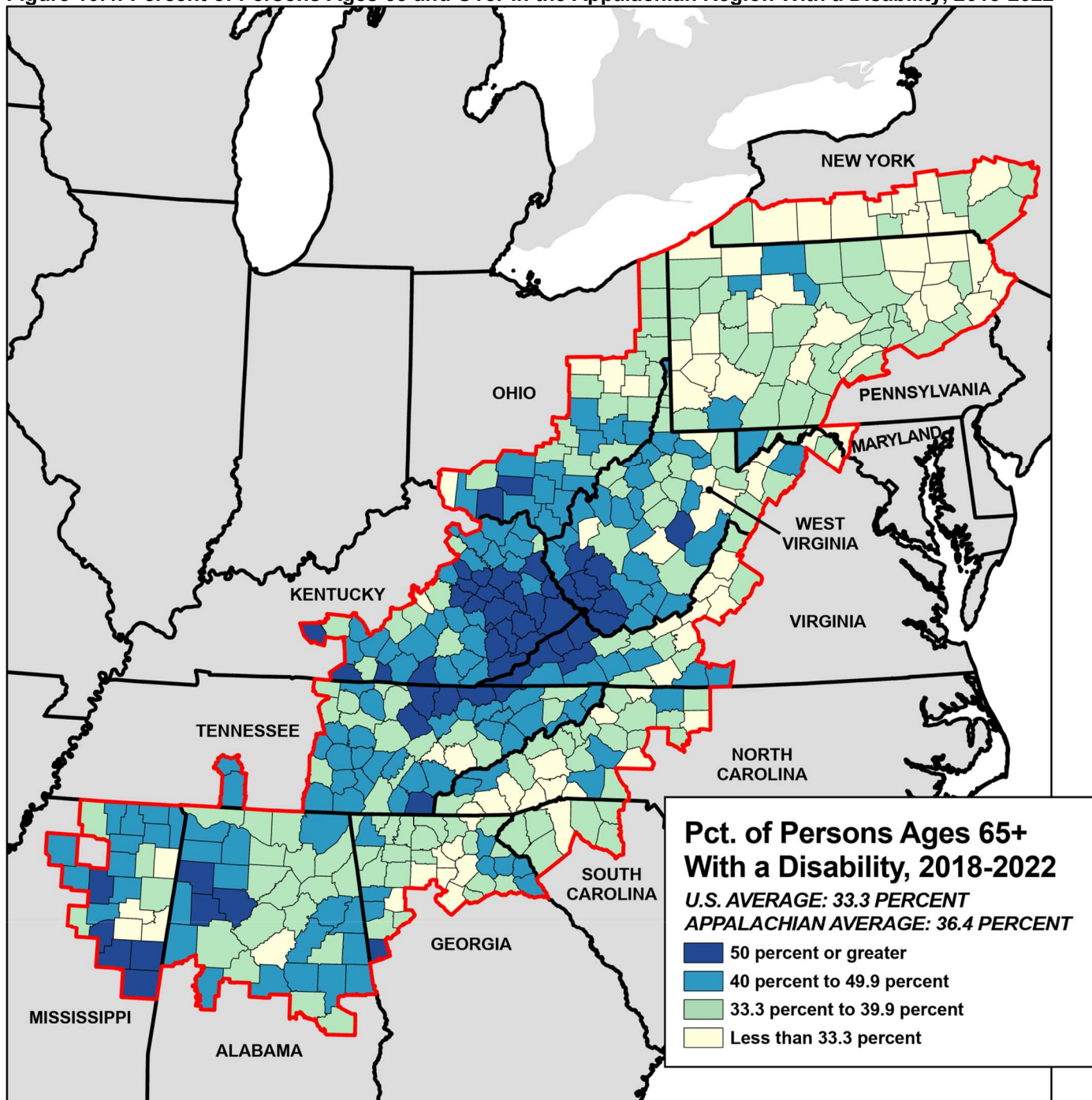


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 18 to 64 in the Appalachian Region With a Disability, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

In the 2018-2022 period, 13.7 percent of adults ages 18 to 64 in Appalachia reported a disability, compared with 10.5 percent nationally. Disability prevalence was particularly high in some parts of the Region: In Central Appalachia, for example, more than one in five adults ages 18 to 64 had a disability. In fact, Central Appalachia had more than half of the Appalachian counties where the disability rate among 18-to-64-year-olds was 20 percent or higher – and more than one-third of these counties were in Kentucky alone. High rates of poverty, the Appalachian Region's historic reliance on mining and related resource-based industries, and higher instances of cancer, heart disease, and diabetes in the Region may be associated with the subregion's high disability prevalence for this age group. Indeed, of the 109 counties where disability rates were at least 20 percent for this age group, more than one in five were designated as mining-dependent economies by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service (ERS) and three in five – including 46 Central Appalachian counties – had poverty rates exceeding 20 percent.

Figure 10.4: Percent of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Disability, 2018-2022



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region With a Disability, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

At 36.4 percent, more than one in three adults ages 65 and over in the Appalachian Region reported a disability in the 2018-2022 period – a rate which was three percentage points above the national share. And the prevalence was even greater in some parts of the Region: More than 45 percent of the older residents in Central Appalachia—and in Appalachian Kentucky—had at least one disability. In fact, 38 of the 51 Appalachian counties where at least half of the older residents reported a disability were located in Central Appalachia, and 22 of these were in Kentucky alone. And there are signs that disabled adults in the Region may be aging in place: In more than half of these counties, the share of 18-to-64-year-olds with a disability was at or above 25 percent – more than double the national average for that age group. However, in 79 of the Region’s counties, the disability rate for the older population was actually lower than the national average. Yet, only the Region’s large metropolitan areas had a share of older adults below the national average.

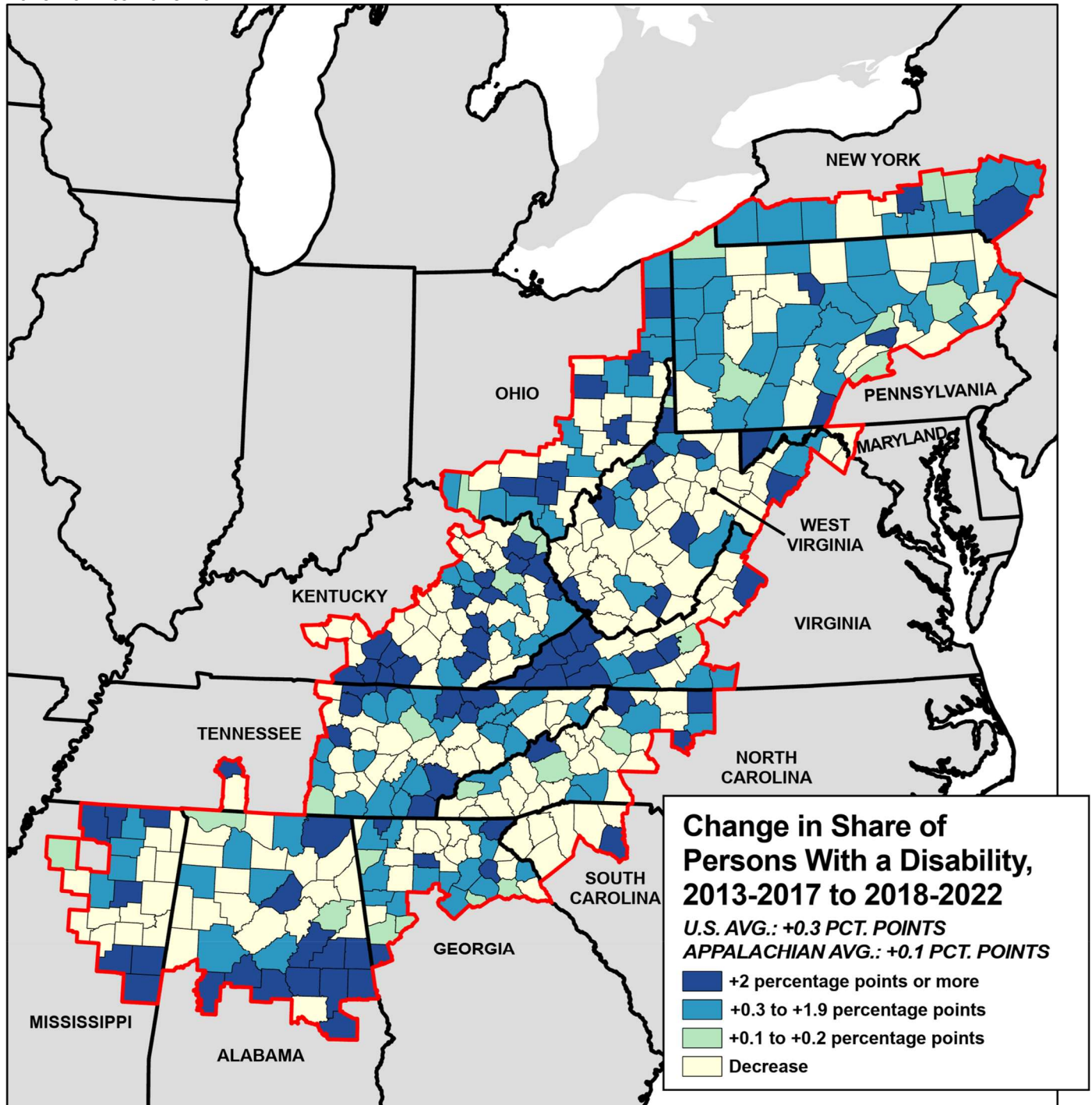
Table 10.3: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region With a Disability, by Age Group, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Disability Status	All Ages	Under Age 18	Ages 18-64			Ages 65 and Over
			Total	Ages 18-34	Ages 35-64	
United States	+ 0.3	+ 0.3	+ 0.2	+ 1.1	- 0.5	- 2.2
Appalachian Region	+ 0.1	+ 0.4	- 0.2	+ 1.1	- 0.8	- 2.1
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	+ 0.4	+ 0.4	+ 0.4	+ 1.5	- 0.1	- 1.8
North Central Appalachia	- 0.1	- 0.2	- 0.3	+ 1.0	- 0.9	- 2.3
Central Appalachia	+ 0.3	+ 1.0	- 0.1	+ 0.8	- 0.4	- 2.1
South Central Appalachia	- 0.1	+ 0.4	- 0.4	+ 0.7	- 0.9	- 1.8
Southern Appalachia	+ 0.0	+ 0.6	- 0.3	+ 1.1	- 1.1	- 2.7
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	+ 0.3	+ 0.7	+ 0.1	+ 1.3	- 0.6	- 2.1
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	+ 0.1	+ 0.4	- 0.1	+ 1.1	- 0.5	- 2.2
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	+ 0.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.0	+ 1.5	- 0.7	- 0.9
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	+ 0.0	+ 0.3	- 0.2	+ 0.7	- 0.6	- 1.6
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 0.3	+ 0.3	- 0.6	+ 0.7	- 1.1	- 2.9
Alabama	- 0.1	+ 0.1	- 0.2	+ 0.7	- 0.7	- 2.6
Appalachian Alabama	+ 0.1	+ 0.5	- 0.2	+ 0.9	- 0.7	- 2.5
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 0.2	- 0.6	- 0.1	+ 0.5	- 0.6	- 3.0
Georgia	+ 0.3	+ 0.7	+ 0.0	+ 1.2	- 0.7	- 2.5
Appalachian Georgia	+ 0.3	+ 0.6	+ 0.0	+ 1.5	- 0.8	- 2.3
Non-Appalachian Georgia	+ 0.4	+ 0.8	+ 0.1	+ 1.2	- 0.6	- 2.5
Kentucky	+ 0.3	+ 0.6	+ 0.1	+ 1.4	- 0.5	- 2.4
Appalachian Kentucky	- 0.5	+ 0.6	- 0.8	+ 0.2	- 1.2	- 3.0
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	+ 0.6	+ 0.6	+ 0.5	+ 1.8	- 0.2	- 1.9
Maryland	+ 0.5	+ 0.4	+ 0.4	+ 1.4	- 0.1	- 2.0
Appalachian Maryland	+ 0.2	+ 1.7	- 0.8	- 0.3	- 1.0	- 0.4
Non-Appalachian Maryland	+ 0.5	+ 0.3	+ 0.5	+ 1.4	- 0.1	- 2.0
Mississippi	+ 0.9	+ 1.0	+ 0.6	+ 1.7	+ 0.0	- 2.4
Appalachian Mississippi	- 0.5	+ 1.2	- 0.8	+ 1.3	- 1.8	- 4.5
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	+ 1.2	+ 1.1	+ 1.0	+ 1.8	+ 0.5	- 1.8
New York	+ 0.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.4	+ 1.1	+ 0.0	- 1.9
Appalachian New York	+ 0.9	+ 0.5	+ 1.0	+ 2.0	+ 0.4	- 1.8
Non-Appalachian New York	+ 0.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.4	+ 1.0	+ 0.0	- 1.9
North Carolina	- 0.4	+ 0.1	- 0.6	+ 0.5	- 1.1	- 3.0
Appalachian North Carolina	+ 0.1	+ 0.4	+ 0.1	+ 1.1	- 0.3	- 2.4
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 0.4	+ 0.0	- 0.7	+ 0.4	- 1.2	- 3.1
Ohio	+ 0.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.0	+ 1.3	- 0.6	- 1.6
Appalachian Ohio	+ 0.7	+ 0.3	+ 0.4	+ 1.4	+ 0.0	- 0.2
Non-Appalachian Ohio	+ 0.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.1	+ 1.3	- 0.6	- 1.9
Pennsylvania	+ 0.4	+ 0.4	+ 0.3	+ 1.4	- 0.3	- 2.1
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 0.2	+ 0.3	+ 0.2	+ 1.3	- 0.3	- 2.1
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 0.4	+ 0.6	+ 0.4	+ 1.5	- 0.2	- 2.0
South Carolina	- 0.4	+ 0.1	- 0.8	+ 0.6	- 1.6	- 2.7
Appalachian South Carolina	- 0.5	+ 0.2	- 0.7	+ 0.9	- 1.6	- 2.2
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 0.4	- 0.1	- 0.8	+ 0.4	- 1.6	- 2.8
Tennessee	- 0.1	+ 0.4	- 0.5	+ 0.7	- 1.1	- 1.9
Appalachian Tennessee	- 0.1	+ 0.5	- 0.6	+ 0.8	- 1.2	- 1.1
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 0.1	+ 0.4	- 0.5	+ 0.7	- 1.1	- 2.7
Virginia	+ 0.6	+ 0.7	+ 0.3	+ 1.2	- 0.2	- 1.2
Appalachian Virginia	+ 1.1	+ 1.9	+ 0.8	+ 0.8	+ 1.1	- 1.2
Non-Appalachian Virginia	+ 0.6	+ 0.5	+ 0.3	+ 1.3	- 0.2	- 1.0
West Virginia (entire state)	- 0.6	- 0.2	- 0.7	+ 0.8	- 1.3	- 3.8

Note: The ACS defines persons with a disability as those having difficulty in at least one of the following six areas: hearing, vision, cognition, walking or climbing, self-care, or attending to the functions of independent living. The disability universe consists of the civilian noninstitutional population.

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Figure 10.5: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region With a Disability, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region With a Disability, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

The share of Appalachian residents reporting a disability was 0.1 percentage points higher in 2018-2022 than it was in 2013-2017 – an increase slightly below the national average. Yet, there was variation throughout the Region – in 197 counties the share of the population reporting a disability actually declined, while in 88 other counties the share increased by at least two percentage points. Most of the overall increase in disability status can be attributed to rising rates among adults ages 18 to 34. In fact, while the Region's overall disability rate rose since 2013-2017, rates for children under 18 and adults over 65 actually fell during this period. Even as the population of older adults rose between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022, the share with a disability decreased by more than two percentage points.

TRENDS IN DISABILITY STATUS

- At 16.2 percent in 2018-2022, the share of Appalachian residents reporting a disability was 0.1 percentage points higher than it was in 2013-2017 (see Tables 10.2 and 10.3). Within the Region, the greatest increases in disability prevalence occurred in Northern Appalachia (0.4 percentage points) and the Appalachian sections of Virginia (1.1 percentage points), New York (0.9 percentage points), and Ohio (0.7 percentage points). Conversely the share fell by at least 0.3 points in the Region's rural areas and in Appalachian Kentucky, Mississippi, South Carolina, and West Virginia.
- Disability prevalence in Appalachia increased among both children under age 18 and young adults ages 18-34 but decreased among persons ages 35-64 and adults 65 and over. In fact, older adults saw the most notable decrease in disability rates, dropping by 2.1 points between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022. While the share of adults 18 to 34 who reported a disability was less than other adult age groups, much of the Region's overall increase in disability status rates can be attributed to the rising share – 1.1 percentage points – of adults in this age group who reported a disability in 2018-2022. Yet, there was also variation throughout the Region. For example, in Appalachian Maryland, Mississippi, and Virginia, the share of children under 18 with a disability rose by more than one percentage point.
- The share of older adults in the Appalachian Region who reported a disability fell most notably of all – declining 2.1 percentage points between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022. Appalachian Kentucky, Mississippi, and West Virginia saw particularly sharp decreases in disability incidence among this age group – with rates falling by at least three percentage points. The Region's rural counties also saw a high rate of decline – 2.9 points. Conversely, in the Appalachian portions of Ohio and Maryland, the share of older adults with a disability declined only slightly – less than 0.5 points in each.
- The aging of Appalachia's population has long been linked to the increase in disability prevalence in the Region. Yet, incidence of disability among the Region's older adults has been declining more than for any other age group – even as the population of adults 65 and older continues to rise. At the same time, adults 18-to-34-years-old are seeing the sharpest increases in disability status of any age cohort. Despite their younger age and presumably better health overall, the higher share of uninsured persons in this age group – relative to children and adults 35 and older – may contribute to the rising rates of disability for this age group in Appalachia and throughout the U.S.

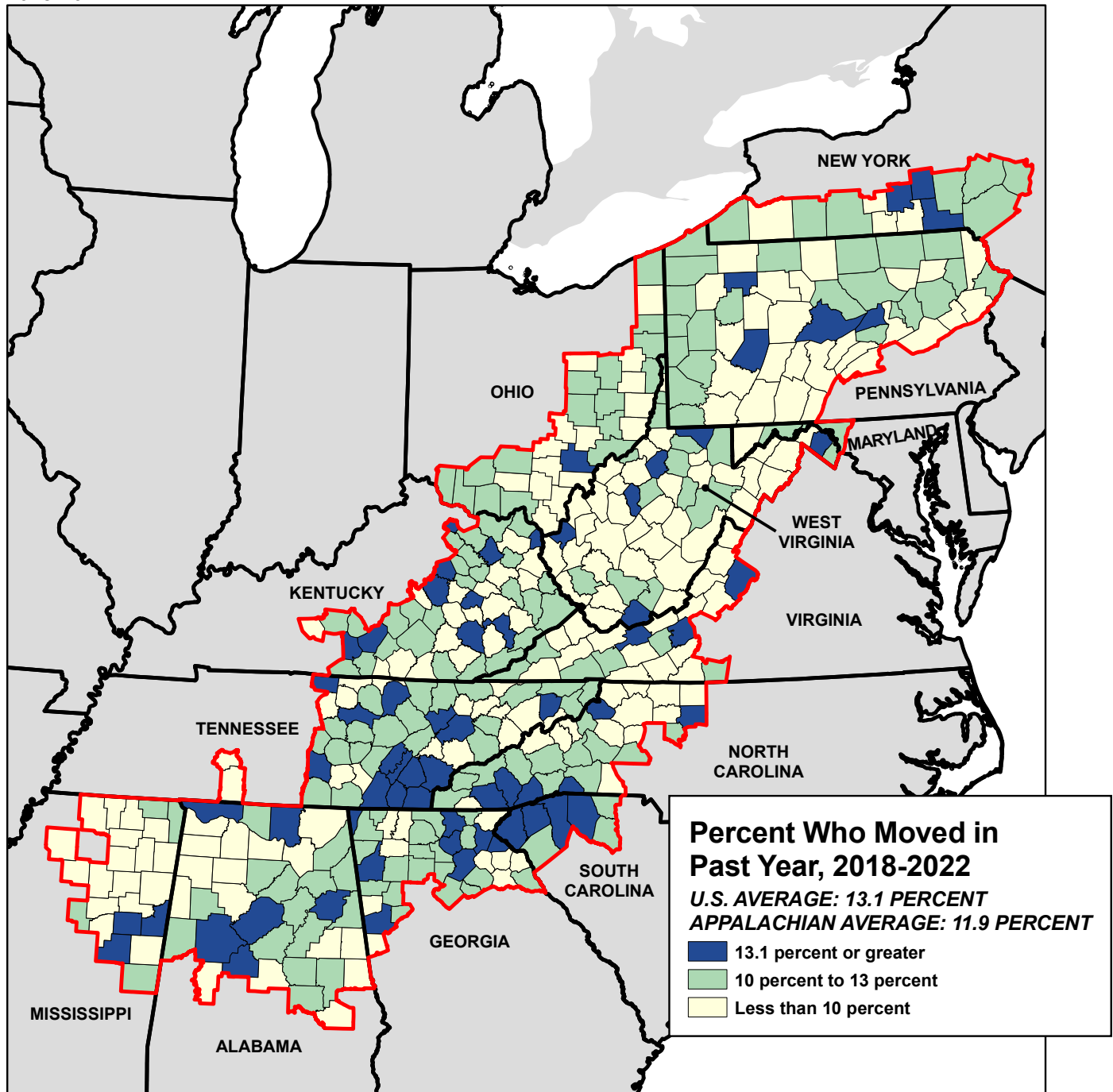
CHAPTER 11: MIGRATION

Table 11.1: Mobility Status of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region, 2018-2022

Mobility Status in the Last Year	Total Population Ages 1 and Over, 2018-2022	Percent of Population Ages 1 and Over					
		Did Not Move in Past Year	Moved from a Different Residence in the Past Year				
			Within the County	Outside the County			
						Within the State	Outside the State
United States	327,615,004	86.9	13.1	7.0	6.1	3.2	2.9
Appalachian Region	25,979,279	88.1	11.9	6.1	5.8	3.3	2.5
Subregions							
Northern Appalachia	8,005,014	88.6	11.4	6.3	5.1	2.9	2.2
North Central Appalachia	2,471,524	88.4	11.6	6.0	5.6	3.3	2.4
Central Appalachia	1,840,782	89.1	10.9	5.6	5.2	3.5	1.8
South Central Appalachia	5,167,124	87.3	12.7	6.1	6.5	3.5	3.0
Southern Appalachia	8,494,835	87.6	12.4	6.1	6.3	3.7	2.6
County Types							
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	6,226,733	88.2	11.8	6.2	5.6	3.3	2.3
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	11,127,521	87.2	12.8	6.6	6.2	3.3	3.0
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	2,279,763	88.7	11.3	5.7	5.5	3.8	1.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	3,892,781	89.2	10.8	5.5	5.3	3.2	2.1
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	2,452,481	89.1	10.9	5.5	5.4	3.5	1.9
Alabama	4,973,110	87.3	12.7	7.1	5.7	3.0	2.7
Appalachian Alabama	3,206,378	87.4	12.6	7.0	5.6	3.3	2.3
Non-Appalachian Alabama	1,766,732	87.1	12.9	7.2	5.8	2.5	3.3
Georgia	10,609,628	86.4	13.6	5.9	7.8	4.6	3.2
Appalachian Georgia	3,341,526	88.2	11.8	5.0	6.8	4.2	2.6
Non-Appalachian Georgia	7,268,102	85.5	14.5	6.3	8.2	4.8	3.5
Kentucky	4,453,757	86.6	13.4	7.2	6.2	3.5	2.7
Appalachian Kentucky	1,153,841	88.6	11.4	6.0	5.4	3.7	1.7
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	3,299,916	85.9	14.1	7.6	6.5	3.5	3.0
Maryland	6,096,285	87.7	12.3	6.1	6.2	3.0	3.2
Appalachian Maryland	249,370	88.2	11.8	6.7	5.1	2.8	2.3
Non-Appalachian Maryland	5,846,915	87.6	12.4	6.1	6.3	3.0	3.3
Mississippi	2,927,698	88.3	11.7	6.0	5.7	3.2	2.4
Appalachian Mississippi	605,396	89.5	10.5	5.4	5.1	3.3	1.8
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	2,322,302	88.0	12.0	6.1	5.8	3.2	2.6
New York	19,779,789	89.8	10.2	5.6	4.7	2.7	2.0
Appalachian New York	1,015,408	86.8	13.2	6.8	6.5	3.8	2.7
Non-Appalachian New York	18,764,381	89.9	10.1	5.5	4.6	2.6	2.0
North Carolina	10,362,852	86.2	13.8	6.5	7.3	3.7	3.6
Appalachian North Carolina	2,010,744	88.2	11.8	5.4	6.4	3.5	2.9
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	8,352,108	85.7	14.3	6.7	7.5	3.8	3.8
Ohio	11,645,871	87.0	13.0	7.7	5.3	3.3	2.0
Appalachian Ohio	1,963,244	89.0	11.0	6.2	4.9	3.2	1.7
Non-Appalachian Ohio	9,682,627	86.6	13.4	8.0	5.4	3.3	2.1
Pennsylvania	12,860,342	88.6	11.4	6.3	5.1	2.7	2.4
Appalachian Pennsylvania	5,650,612	88.8	11.2	6.3	5.0	2.7	2.2
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	7,209,730	88.4	11.6	6.3	5.3	2.7	2.6
South Carolina	5,090,760	86.5	13.5	6.1	7.4	3.2	4.1
Appalachian South Carolina	1,341,535	85.9	14.1	7.1	7.0	3.4	3.6
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	3,749,225	86.7	13.3	5.8	7.5	3.2	4.3
Tennessee	6,844,104	86.2	13.8	7.1	6.7	3.3	3.4
Appalachian Tennessee	2,937,164	86.8	13.2	6.8	6.5	3.4	3.0
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	3,906,940	85.7	14.3	7.4	6.9	3.2	3.7
Virginia	8,535,185	86.0	14.0	5.3	8.7	4.9	3.8
Appalachian Virginia	730,867	88.5	11.5	5.2	6.3	3.9	2.4
Non-Appalachian Virginia	7,804,318	85.8	14.2	5.3	8.9	5.0	3.9
West Virginia (entire state)	1,773,194	88.9	11.1	5.7	5.4	2.8	2.6

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Figure 11.1: Percent of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Had Moved in the Past Year, 2018-2022

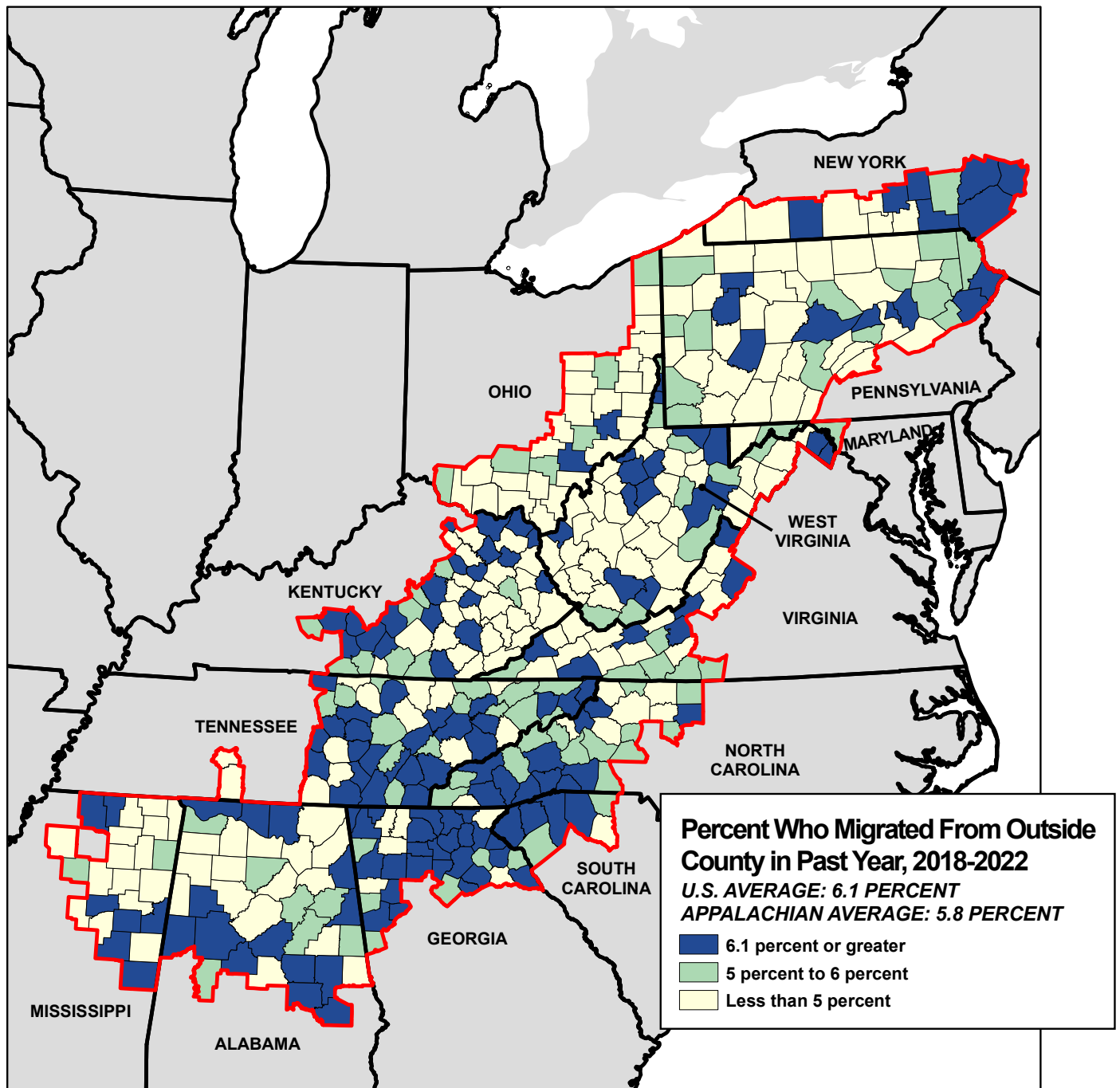


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Had Moved in the Past Year, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Residential mobility in the Appalachian Region was lower than the national average, including in all subregions and county types. In fact, the percentage of residents ages 1 and over who moved in the past year only matched or exceeded the U.S. average in 68 of the Region's counties. More than one-third of these counties were small metros – which saw the highest share of persons ages 1 and over who moved residence in the past year (12.8 percent) among the county types. Among these 68 counties, 29 housed a four-year college or university and 19 had a share of renter-occupied housing units exceeding the national average. Conversely, in 188 Appalachian counties, less than 10 percent of the residents had moved in the previous 12 months. Among these counties with low mobility rates, more than two-thirds were outside metro areas and 118 had high rates of homeownership (with at least 75 percent of occupied housing units being owner-occupied in 2018-2022).

Figure 11.2: Percent of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Had Migrated From Outside Their County of Residence in the Past Year, 2018-2022

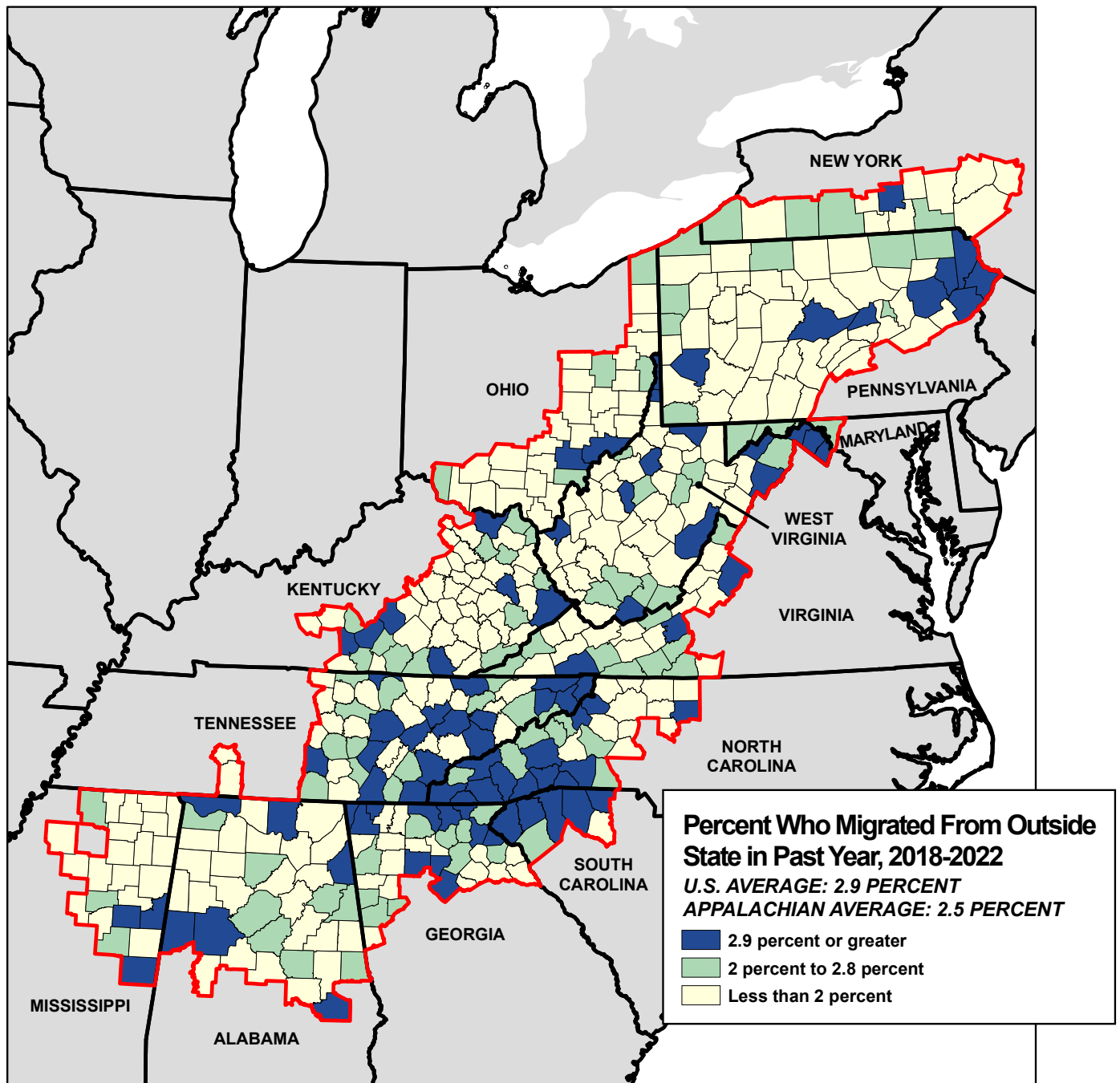


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Had Migrated From Outside Their County of Residence in the Past Year, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

While people in Appalachia were slightly less likely to have migrated from outside their county of residence in the 2018-2022 period than Americans as a whole, residents in more than one-third of the Region's 423 counties had migration rates at or above the national average of 6.1 percent. These counties were mostly in the Southern and South Central subregions. Migration rates also exceeded the national average in the Appalachian sections of Georgia, New York, the Carolinas, Tennessee, and Virginia. On the other hand, in 186 counties throughout the Region less than 5 percent of the residents had migrated from another county. More than two-thirds of these counties were outside metropolitan areas, and 57 of them were in rural parts of the Region.

Figure 11.3: Percent of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Had Migrated From Outside Their State of Residence in the Past Year, 2018-2022



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Had Migrated From Outside Their State of Residence in the Past Year, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

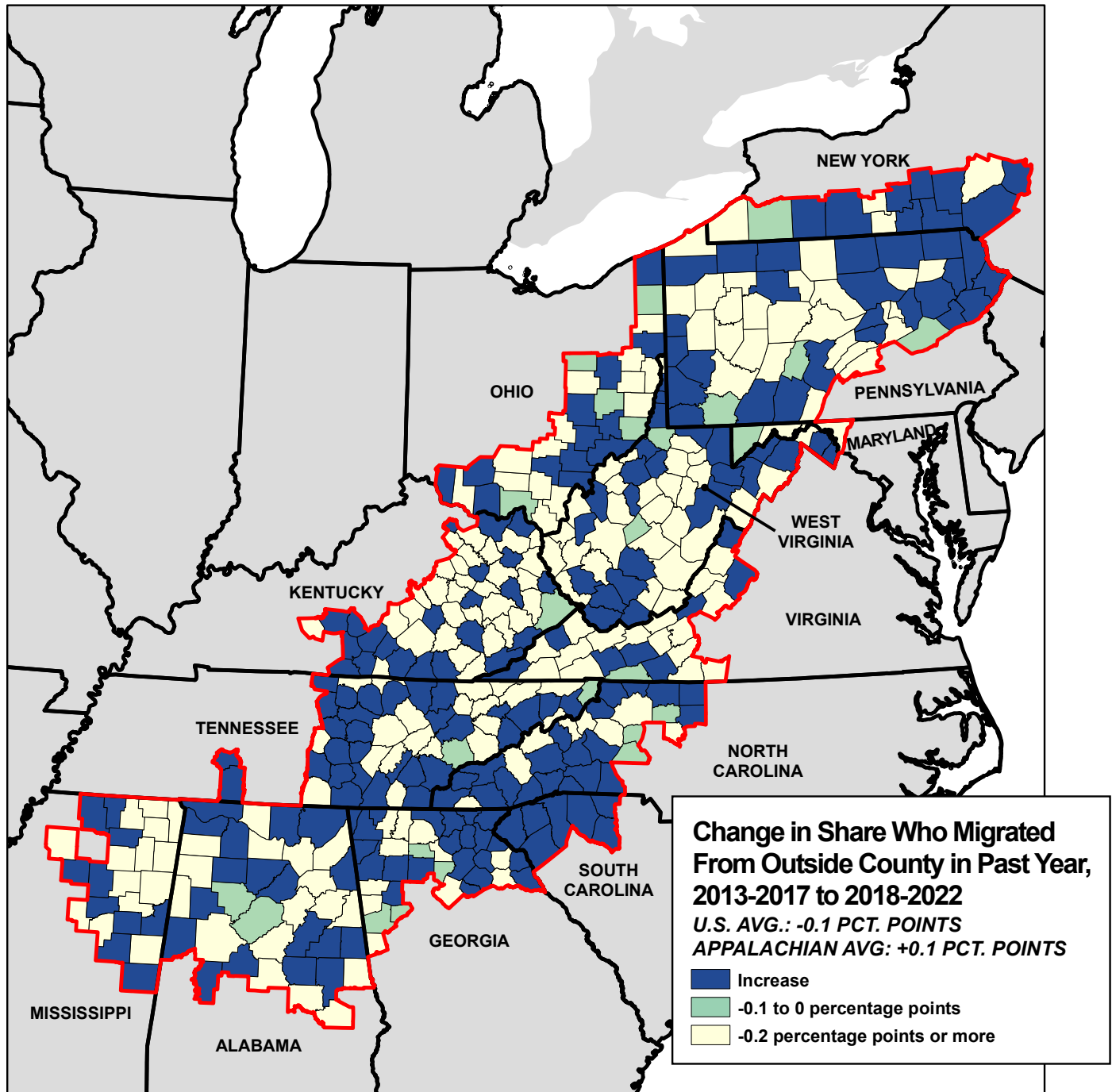
The share of people in the Appalachian Region who had migrated from outside their state of residence was 2.5 percent in the 2018-2022 period, compared with 2.9 percent of all Americans. Yet in 90 of Appalachia's 423 counties, out-of-state migration levels were at or above the U.S. average. Most of these counties were in South Central and Southern Appalachia, and almost half were in metropolitan areas. Migration of older adults to retirement friendly communities may contribute to the higher share of out-of-state migration in these counties— more than one in four were designated as "retirement destination" counties by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service. At the same time, young adults moving to attend college may also play a role – yet another one-fourth of these counties was home to a four-year college or university. In contrast, in 241 Appalachian counties – primarily nonmetropolitan areas – less than 2 percent of residents had moved to the county from out-of-state in the past year.

Table 11.2: Percentage Point Change in Mobility Status of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Mobility Status in the Last Year	Percentage Point Change in Share of Population Ages 1 and Over					
	Did Not Move in Past Year	Moved from a Different Residence in the Past Year				
			Within the County	Outside the County		
					Within the State	Outside the State
United States	+ 1.5	- 1.5	- 1.4	- 0.1	+ 0.0	- 0.1
Appalachian Region	+ 1.1	- 1.1	- 1.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.0	+ 0.1
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	+ 1.1	- 1.1	- 1.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.0	+ 0.1
North Central Appalachia	+ 0.8	- 0.8	- 0.8	+ 0.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.0
Central Appalachia	+ 1.1	- 1.1	- 0.9	- 0.4	- 0.2	+ 0.0
South Central Appalachia	+ 0.8	- 0.8	- 1.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.0	+ 0.2
Southern Appalachia	+ 1.2	- 1.2	- 1.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	+ 1.0	- 1.0	- 1.0	+ 0.0	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	+ 1.1	- 1.1	- 1.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.0	+ 0.2
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	+ 1.2	- 1.2	- 1.6	+ 0.4	+ 0.3	+ 0.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	+ 0.9	- 0.9	- 1.0	+ 0.1	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	+ 1.3	- 1.3	- 1.1	- 0.2	- 0.3	+ 0.0
Alabama	+ 1.5	- 1.5	- 1.4	+ 0.0	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Appalachian Alabama	+ 1.5	- 1.5	- 1.4	- 0.1	- 0.1	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Alabama	+ 1.4	- 1.4	- 1.3	+ 0.0	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Georgia	+ 2.1	- 2.1	- 1.8	- 0.2	+ 0.0	- 0.1
Appalachian Georgia	+ 1.0	- 1.0	- 1.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Georgia	+ 2.5	- 2.5	- 2.1	- 0.4	- 0.1	- 0.2
Kentucky	+ 2.1	- 2.1	- 1.5	- 0.6	- 0.5	- 0.1
Appalachian Kentucky	+ 1.5	- 1.5	- 0.9	- 0.6	- 0.5	- 0.1
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	+ 2.4	- 2.4	- 1.8	- 0.6	- 0.4	- 0.2
Maryland	+ 1.4	- 1.4	- 1.2	- 0.1	+ 0.2	- 0.3
Appalachian Maryland	+ 2.1	- 2.1	- 1.7	- 0.4	- 0.2	- 0.2
Non-Appalachian Maryland	+ 1.3	- 1.3	- 1.2	- 0.1	+ 0.2	- 0.3
Mississippi	+ 2.0	- 2.0	- 1.4	- 0.5	- 0.5	- 0.2
Appalachian Mississippi	+ 3.1	- 3.1	- 2.4	- 0.7	- 0.5	- 0.2
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	+ 1.7	- 1.7	- 1.2	- 0.6	- 0.4	- 0.2
New York	+ 0.4	- 0.4	- 0.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.3	- 0.1
Appalachian New York	+ 0.9	- 0.9	- 1.4	+ 0.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
Non-Appalachian New York	+ 0.3	- 0.3	- 0.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.2	- 0.1
North Carolina	+ 1.4	- 1.4	- 1.6	+ 0.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.0
Appalachian North Carolina	+ 0.8	- 0.8	- 1.3	+ 0.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	+ 1.6	- 1.6	- 1.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.0
Ohio	+ 1.9	- 1.9	- 1.6	- 0.2	- 0.1	- 0.1
Appalachian Ohio	+ 1.4	- 1.4	- 1.3	+ 0.0	+ 0.0	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Ohio	+ 2.0	- 2.0	- 1.7	- 0.2	- 0.2	- 0.1
Pennsylvania	+ 0.9	- 0.9	- 1.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.0	+ 0.0
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 1.0	- 1.0	- 1.1	+ 0.1	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 0.8	- 0.8	- 0.9	+ 0.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.0
South Carolina	+ 1.4	- 1.4	- 1.8	+ 0.4	+ 0.0	+ 0.2
Appalachian South Carolina	+ 0.7	- 0.7	- 1.4	+ 0.7	+ 0.2	+ 0.4
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	+ 1.6	- 1.6	- 1.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.0	+ 0.2
Tennessee	+ 1.0	- 1.0	- 1.5	+ 0.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Appalachian Tennessee	+ 0.4	- 0.4	- 0.8	+ 0.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	+ 1.4	- 1.4	- 1.9	+ 0.4	+ 0.3	+ 0.1
Virginia	+ 1.7	- 1.7	- 1.3	- 0.3	- 0.1	- 0.2
Appalachian Virginia	+ 2.2	- 2.2	- 1.0	- 1.1	- 0.8	- 0.4
Non-Appalachian Virginia	+ 1.7	- 1.7	- 1.4	- 0.3	- 0.1	- 0.2
West Virginia (entire state)	+ 0.6	- 0.6	- 0.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.2	- 0.1

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Figure 11.4: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Had Migrated From Outside Their County of Residence in the Past Year, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons Ages 1 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Had Migrated From Outside Their County of Residence in the Past Year, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

In Appalachia, the share of individuals migrating from outside their county of residence increased very slightly (0.1 percentage points) between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022, while the national average decreased by the same proportion (-0.1 percentage points). Indeed, the share increased in 208 of the Appalachian Region's 423 counties. Yet in 200 other counties, the share decreased by at least as much as the national average between the two periods. There was considerable variation between states in the Region – Appalachian New York, Tennessee, and the Carolinas all saw the highest increases in out-of-county migration (at least 0.5 points in each), while the Appalachian sections of Kentucky, Mississippi, and Virginia saw out-of-county migration fall by at least 0.5 points during the same period.

TRENDS IN MIGRATION

- Like Americans as a whole, Appalachian residents were slightly less mobile in 2018-2022 than they were in 2013-2017. Between the two periods, the share of persons in the Region who had moved from a different residence in the past year decreased by just over a percentage point, to 11.9 percent in 2018-2022 (see Tables 11.1 and 11.2). However, this decline only involved within-county movement; the share of residents who migrated from outside their county increased slightly between the two periods.
- Within the Region, the decline in residential mobility was greatest in Appalachian Mississippi, where the share moving in the previous year fell 3.1 percentage points. Other portions of the Region where the decline exceeded the regional average of 1.1 percentage points included Southern Appalachia (1.2), nonmetropolitan counties adjacent to large metros (1.2), rural counties (1.3) and Appalachian Alabama (1.5), Kentucky (1.5), Maryland (2.1), Ohio (1.4), and Virginia (2.2).
- The percentage of Appalachian residents migrating from outside their county of residence increased slightly between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022, in contrast to a slight decline in out-of-county migration for the nation as a whole. And the increase was most notable in Appalachian Tennessee, New York, the Carolinas, and nonmetropolitan counties adjacent to large metros. On the other hand, the share decreased by at least half of a percentage point in the Appalachian sections of Kentucky (0.6), Mississippi (0.7), and Virginia (1.1).
- The pandemic virtually halted migration, especially in 2020. Yet newly released estimates for 2023 suggest that population trends, including migration patterns, have returned to levels not seen since before the Covid-19 pandemic. The Southern United States in particular has had rising in-migration. While our data do not include 2023 yet, we anticipate seeing the migration to Appalachian areas of southern states increase over time given these ongoing trends.

CHAPTER 12: VETERAN STATUS

Table 12.1: Number of Adult Civilians in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, by Age Group and Gender, 2018-2022

Veteran Status	Total, Ages 18 and Over	By Age Group			By Gender	
		Ages 18-34	Ages 35-64	Ages 65 and Over	Males	Females
United States	17,038,807	1,466,430	7,169,589	8,402,788	15,393,807	1,645,000
Appalachian Region	1,544,929	108,812	618,593	817,524	1,422,421	122,508
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	496,219	30,745	187,063	278,411	462,162	34,057
North Central Appalachia	160,337	11,339	64,580	84,418	149,441	10,896
Central Appalachia	96,246	6,289	36,774	53,183	89,787	6,459
South Central Appalachia	327,084	21,369	125,060	180,655	300,737	26,347
Southern Appalachia	465,043	39,070	205,116	220,857	420,294	44,749
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	333,822	24,857	139,509	169,456	305,454	28,368
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	683,595	50,693	276,473	356,429	626,157	57,438
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	143,171	10,033	57,581	75,557	132,722	10,449
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	248,803	14,449	95,765	138,589	231,651	17,152
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	135,538	8,780	49,265	77,493	126,437	9,101
Alabama	316,473	25,078	143,639	147,756	282,953	33,520
Appalachian Alabama	191,121	15,351	85,297	90,473	171,790	19,331
Non-Appalachian Alabama	125,352	9,727	58,342	57,283	111,163	14,189
Georgia	610,515	55,091	301,292	254,132	534,196	76,319
Appalachian Georgia	168,401	13,808	76,345	78,248	152,609	15,792
Non-Appalachian Georgia	442,114	41,283	224,947	175,884	381,587	60,527
Kentucky	244,703	18,822	108,163	117,718	223,219	21,484
Appalachian Kentucky	56,727	3,737	22,227	30,763	52,959	3,768
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	187,976	15,085	85,936	86,955	170,260	17,716
Maryland	345,104	27,818	167,514	149,772	297,064	48,040
Appalachian Maryland	15,543	1,374	6,186	7,983	14,193	1,350
Non-Appalachian Maryland	329,561	26,444	161,328	141,789	282,871	46,690
Mississippi	155,583	12,993	70,938	71,652	140,015	15,568
Appalachian Mississippi	28,387	3,011	11,407	13,969	26,021	2,366
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	127,196	9,982	59,531	57,683	113,994	13,202
New York	634,062	46,068	235,956	352,038	585,726	48,336
Appalachian New York	61,459	3,957	23,585	33,917	56,854	4,605
Non-Appalachian New York	572,603	42,111	212,371	318,121	528,872	43,731
North Carolina	632,989	63,084	283,232	286,673	561,884	71,105
Appalachian North Carolina	121,802	8,120	43,188	70,494	111,860	9,942
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	511,187	54,964	240,044	216,179	450,024	61,163
Ohio	644,363	48,916	264,266	331,181	592,621	51,742
Appalachian Ohio	123,260	7,878	49,312	66,070	115,303	7,957
Non-Appalachian Ohio	521,103	41,038	214,954	265,111	477,318	43,785
Pennsylvania	680,824	45,077	255,058	380,689	631,172	49,652
Appalachian Pennsylvania	350,359	21,545	130,173	198,641	326,846	23,513
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	330,465	23,532	124,885	182,048	304,326	26,139
South Carolina	349,900	28,457	153,348	168,095	311,910	37,990
Appalachian South Carolina	77,134	6,900	32,067	38,167	69,874	7,260
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	272,766	21,557	121,281	129,928	242,036	30,730
Tennessee	414,746	36,206	181,423	197,117	374,140	40,606
Appalachian Tennessee	193,530	13,025	77,220	103,285	177,965	15,565
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	221,216	23,181	104,203	93,832	196,175	25,041
Virginia	654,068	63,651	341,045	249,372	559,778	94,290
Appalachian Virginia	42,312	2,431	16,283	23,598	39,285	3,027
Non-Appalachian Virginia	611,756	61,220	324,762	225,774	520,493	91,263
West Virginia (entire state)	114,894	7,675	45,303	61,916	106,862	8,032

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, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

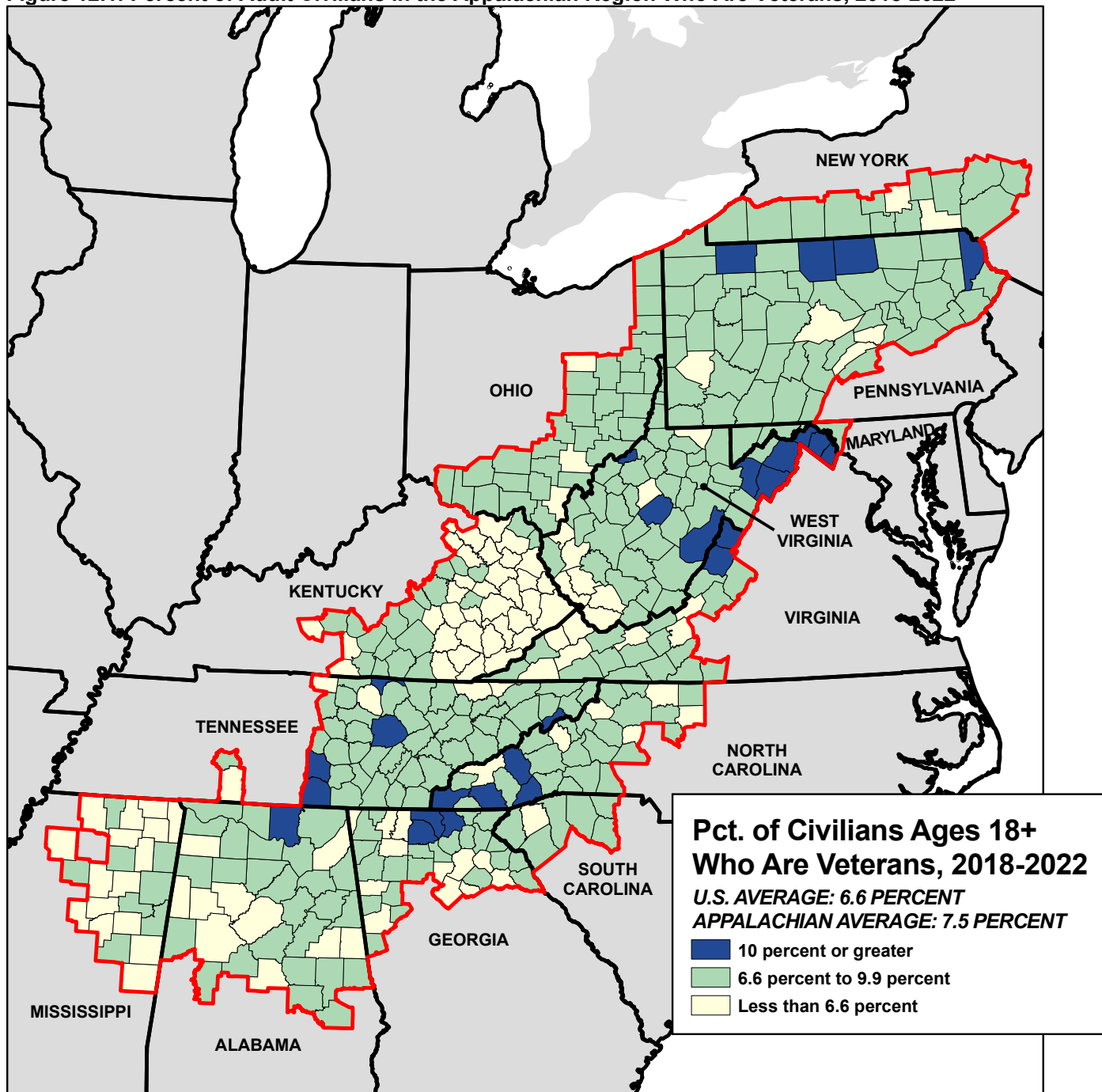
Table 12.2: Percent of Adult Civilians in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, by Age Group and Gender, 2018-2022

Veteran Status	Total, Ages 18 and Over	By Age Group			By Gender	
		Ages 18-34	Ages 35-64	Ages 65 and Over	Males	Females
United States	6.6	1.9	5.7	15.4	12.2	1.3
Appalachian Region	7.5	1.9	6.1	16.6	14.0	1.2
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	7.6	1.8	6.0	16.8	14.3	1.0
North Central Appalachia	8.1	2.2	6.7	17.2	15.2	1.1
Central Appalachia	6.6	1.7	5.0	14.9	12.4	0.9
South Central Appalachia	7.8	1.9	6.2	17.2	14.8	1.2
Southern Appalachia	7.0	2.0	6.2	16.0	13.2	1.3
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	6.8	1.8	5.6	16.1	12.9	1.1
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	7.7	2.0	6.5	16.9	14.4	1.3
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	7.9	2.1	6.5	16.9	14.7	1.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	7.9	1.8	6.3	16.8	14.9	1.1
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	6.9	1.7	5.2	15.6	13.1	0.9
Alabama	8.1	2.2	7.6	17.0	15.2	1.6
Appalachian Alabama	7.6	2.1	6.9	16.2	14.1	1.5
Non-Appalachian Alabama	9.1	2.4	8.8	18.3	17.1	2.0
Georgia	7.5	2.2	7.3	16.5	13.7	1.8
Appalachian Georgia	6.6	1.9	5.7	16.2	12.3	1.2
Non-Appalachian Georgia	7.9	2.3	8.1	16.6	14.3	2.1
Kentucky	7.0	1.9	6.3	15.6	13.1	1.2
Appalachian Kentucky	6.2	1.5	4.9	14.6	11.8	0.8
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	7.3	2.0	6.8	15.9	13.6	1.3
Maryland	7.2	2.1	6.9	15.2	13.0	1.9
Appalachian Maryland	7.7	2.5	6.3	16.6	13.8	1.4
Non-Appalachian Maryland	7.2	2.0	6.9	15.1	13.0	2.0
Mississippi	6.9	2.0	6.4	14.7	13.0	1.3
Appalachian Mississippi	6.0	2.1	5.1	13.2	11.6	1.0
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	7.1	1.9	6.8	15.1	13.4	1.4
New York	4.0	1.0	3.0	10.3	7.7	0.6
Appalachian New York	7.4	1.6	6.2	16.6	13.9	1.1
Non-Appalachian New York	3.8	0.9	2.9	9.9	7.3	0.6
North Carolina	7.8	2.7	7.1	16.4	14.5	1.7
Appalachian North Carolina	7.5	1.9	5.5	16.6	14.2	1.2
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	7.9	2.9	7.4	16.3	14.6	1.8
Ohio	7.0	1.9	5.9	16.0	13.2	1.1
Appalachian Ohio	7.9	1.9	6.5	17.1	14.9	1.0
Non-Appalachian Ohio	6.8	1.9	5.8	15.8	12.9	1.1
Pennsylvania	6.6	1.6	5.1	15.6	12.5	0.9
Appalachian Pennsylvania	7.6	1.8	5.9	16.9	14.3	1.0
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	5.8	1.4	4.5	14.5	11.0	0.9
South Carolina	8.7	2.5	7.9	17.9	16.3	1.8
Appalachian South Carolina	7.3	2.2	6.3	16.4	13.7	1.3
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	9.3	2.7	8.5	18.4	17.2	2.0
Tennessee	7.7	2.3	6.9	17.1	14.4	1.5
Appalachian Tennessee	8.2	2.0	6.7	17.9	15.5	1.3
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	7.3	2.5	6.9	16.2	13.5	1.6
Virginia	9.9	3.3	10.3	18.1	17.5	2.8
Appalachian Virginia	7.0	1.5	5.8	14.9	13.0	1.0
Non-Appalachian Virginia	10.2	3.5	10.7	18.5	17.9	2.9
West Virginia (entire state)	8.0	2.1	6.5	16.9	15.1	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, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Figure 12.1: Percent of Adult Civilians in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2018-2022

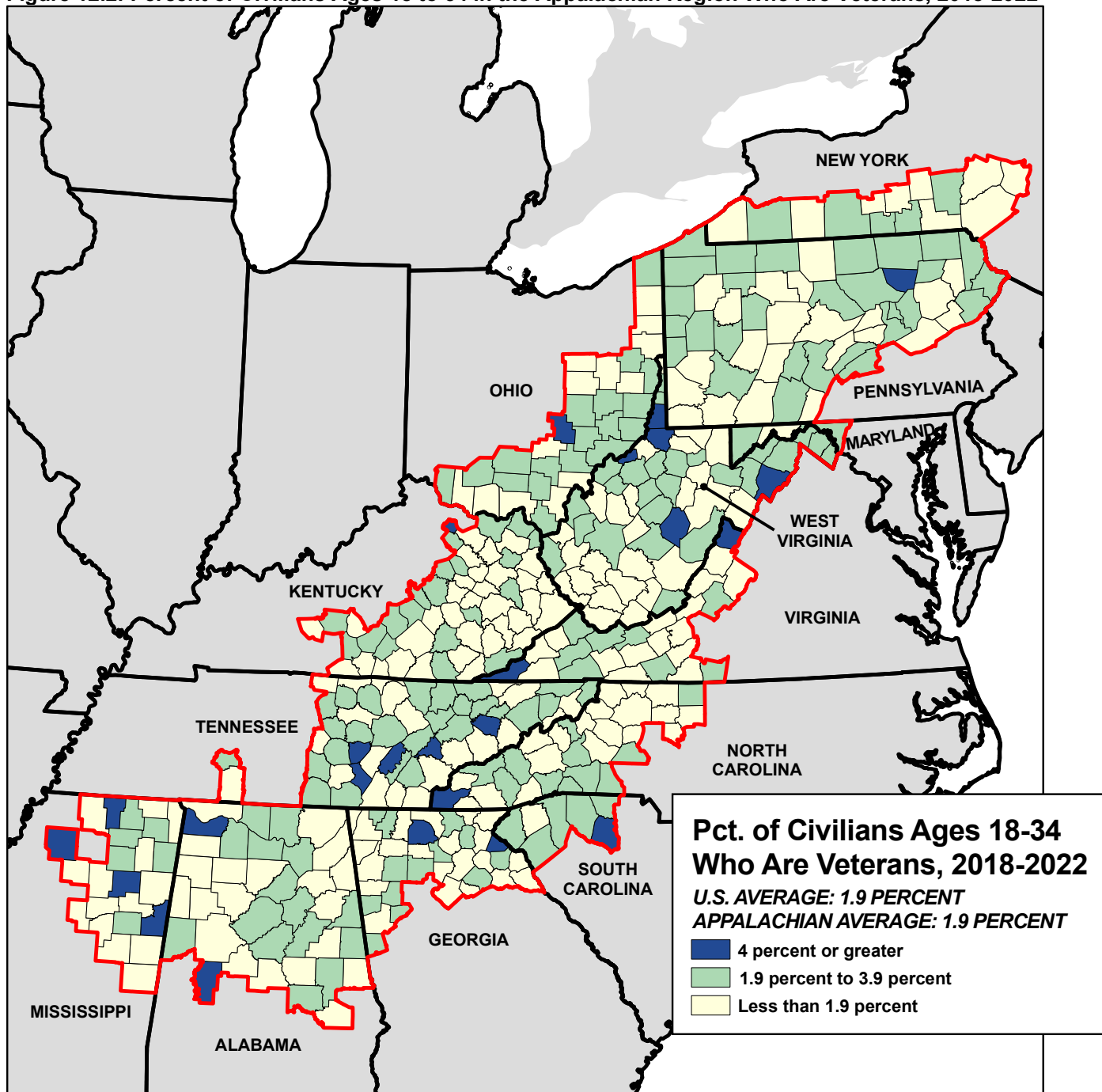


Map Title: Percent of Adult Civilians in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

In 2018-2022, 7.5 percent of adult civilians (more than 1.5 million) ages 18 and over 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 the percentage is slightly higher than the national share of 6.6 percent, there was considerable variation throughout the Region. In 28 Appalachian counties, for example, at least one in 10 civilian residents were veterans. And in North Central Appalachia, West Virginia, and Appalachian Tennessee, the share of civilians who were veterans was at least eight percent. In contrast, the veteran prevalence rate was lower than the national average in 109 counties; more than half the counties in this group were in the Appalachian portions of Georgia, Kentucky, and Mississippi—where the share of veterans among adult civilians was less than 7 percent.

Figure 12.2: Percent of Civilians Ages 18 to 34 in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2018-2022

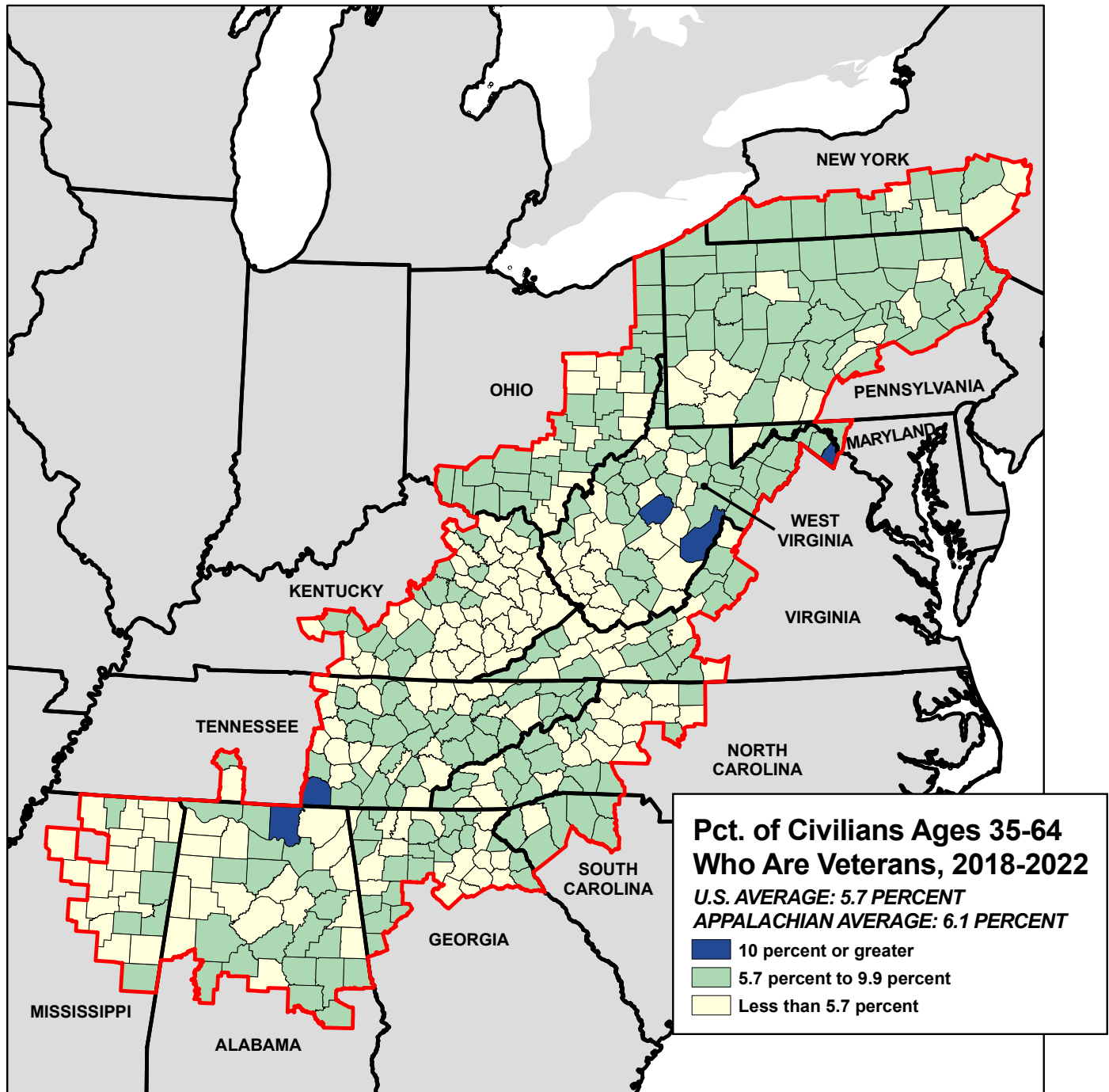


Map Title: Percent of Civilians Ages 18 to 34 in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

Military veterans accounted for 1.9 percent of Appalachia's young adult (ages 18-34) civilian population in the 2018-2022 period, the same share as it was nationally. Yet in 208 of the Region's 423 counties, the prevalence was at or above 1.9 percent. In fact, there were 25 Appalachian counties where at least 4 percent of 18-to-34-year-old civilians were veterans. Most veterans in this age group, if they served in conflicts, were in the post 9-11 era including Afghanistan.

Figure 12.3: Percent of Civilians Ages 35 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2018-2022

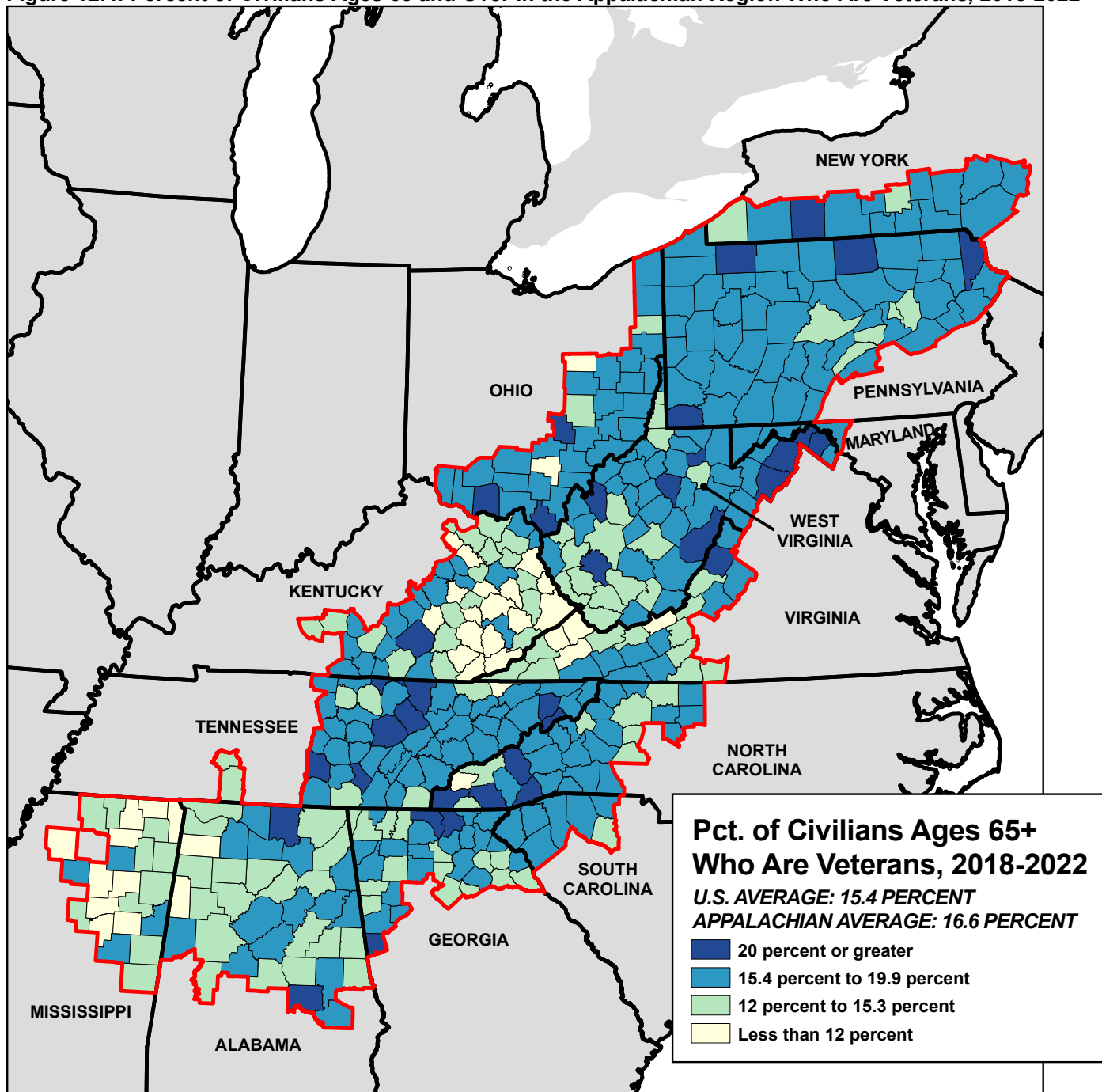


Map Title: Percent of Civilians Ages 35 to 64 in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

In the Appalachian Region, 6.1 percent of 35-to-64-year-old civilian residents were military veterans in 2018-2022, compared with 5.7 percent in the U.S. overall. The prevalence was even higher in some counties: In five of them, veterans comprised at least one in 10 civilians ages 35 to 64. Yet in 190 counties, the veteran prevalence rate was lower than the national average; more than one-fourth of the counties in this latter group were in Central Appalachia – where just five percent of 35-to-64-year-old civilians were veterans—the lowest share among the subregions. Among the county types, both the largest metropolitan areas and rural counties had the lowest share of veterans in this age group at less than 6 percent of the 35-to-64-year-old civilian population. For context, veterans of the 1991 Gulf War fall into this age group.

Figure 12.4: Percent of Civilians Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2018-2022



Map Title: Percent of Civilians Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2018-2022

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey.

In 2018-2022, 16.6 percent of Appalachia's civilian residents ages 65 and over 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 one in five older civilians were veterans in 36 of the Region's 423 counties—21 of which were in North Central and South Central Appalachia, the only two subregions where the overall share exceeded 17 percent. In contrast, there were 127 counties where veterans comprised less than 15 percent of the older civilian residents. More than one-third of these counties were in Central Appalachia, where the overall share of older adult civilians who were veterans was less than 15 percent.

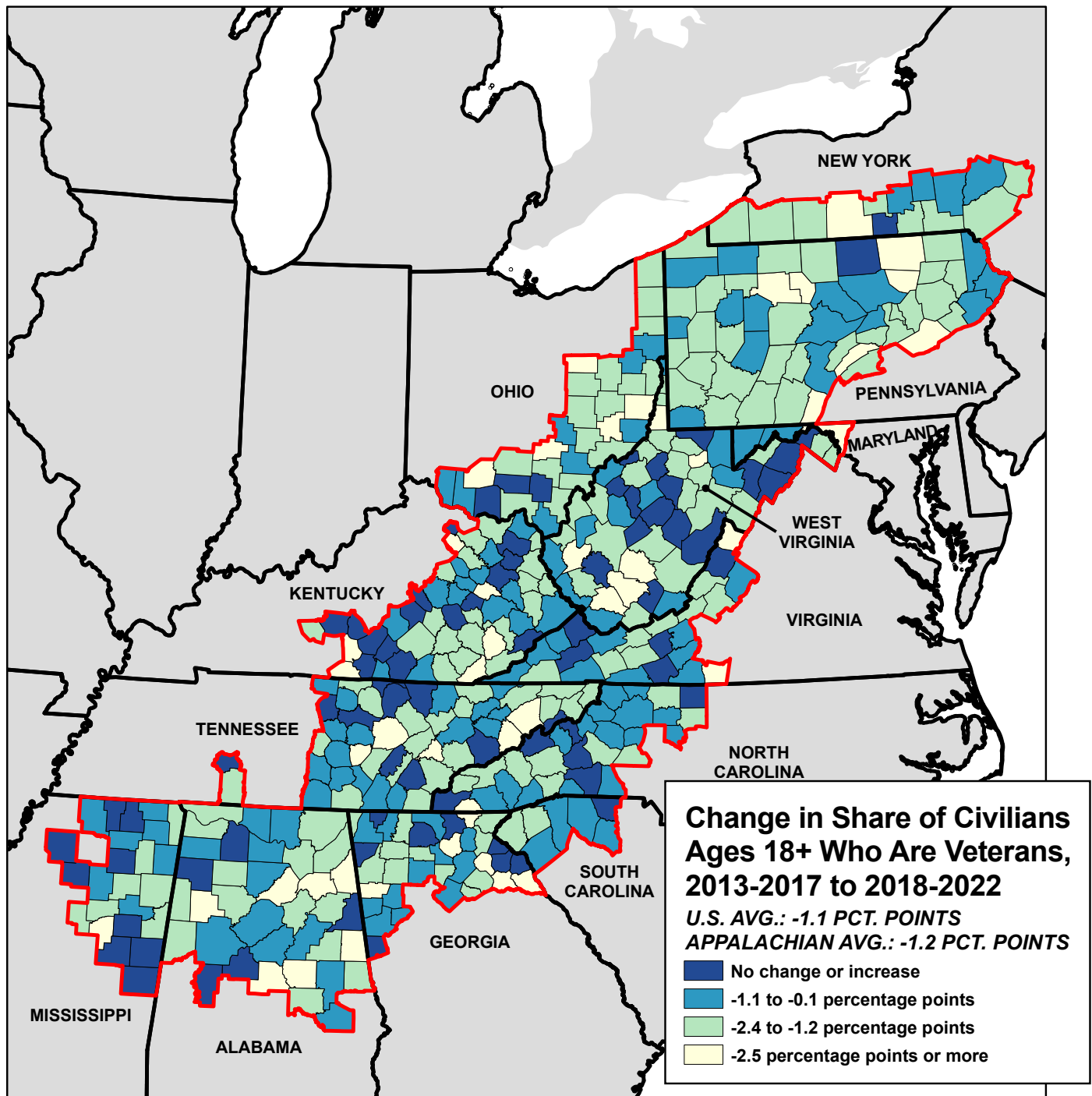
Table 12.3: Percentage Point Change in Veteran Status of Adult Civilians in the Appalachian Region, by Age Group and Gender, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Veteran Status	Percentage Point Change in Share of Adults Who Are Veterans					
	Total, Ages 18 and Over	By Age Group			By Gender	
		Ages 18-34	Ages 35-64	Ages 65 and Over	Males	Females
United States	- 1.1	- 0.3	- 0.8	- 4.0	- 2.3	+ 0.0
Appalachian Region	- 1.2	- 0.2	- 1.0	- 4.1	- 2.7	+ 0.1
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	- 1.5	- 0.3	- 1.1	- 5.0	- 3.2	- 0.1
North Central Appalachia	- 1.4	- 0.1	- 1.3	- 4.4	- 3.0	+ 0.0
Central Appalachia	- 1.0	- 0.2	- 0.9	- 3.1	- 2.2	+ 0.1
South Central Appalachia	- 1.1	- 0.2	- 0.9	- 3.4	- 2.4	+ 0.0
Southern Appalachia	- 1.1	+ 0.0	- 0.9	- 3.8	- 2.3	+ 0.1
County Types						
Large Metros (pop. 1 million +)	- 1.3	- 0.2	- 1.1	- 4.6	- 2.7	- 0.1
Small Metros (pop. <1 million)	- 1.2	- 0.1	- 1.0	- 4.2	- 2.8	+ 0.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metros	- 1.1	+ 0.0	- 0.9	- 3.8	- 2.4	+ 0.0
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metros	- 1.4	- 0.5	- 0.8	- 4.1	- 2.8	+ 0.0
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 0.8	- 0.1	- 0.7	- 3.0	- 1.7	+ 0.0
Alabama	- 1.0	- 0.3	- 0.9	- 3.3	- 2.3	+ 0.0
Appalachian Alabama	- 1.1	- 0.2	- 1.0	- 3.8	- 2.7	+ 0.1
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 0.8	- 0.4	- 0.8	- 2.5	- 1.7	+ 0.1
Georgia	- 0.9	- 0.3	- 0.9	- 3.5	- 2.0	+ 0.0
Appalachian Georgia	- 0.9	+ 0.1	- 0.8	- 3.9	- 1.9	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 1.0	- 0.5	- 0.9	- 3.3	- 2.0	+ 0.0
Kentucky	- 1.2	- 0.5	- 0.9	- 3.8	- 2.6	+ 0.0
Appalachian Kentucky	- 1.1	- 0.4	- 0.9	- 3.2	- 2.2	- 0.1
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 1.3	- 0.5	- 0.9	- 4.2	- 2.7	+ 0.0
Maryland	- 1.0	- 0.5	- 0.7	- 4.0	- 2.3	+ 0.0
Appalachian Maryland	- 1.9	+ 0.1	- 2.2	- 4.5	- 3.8	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 1.0	- 0.6	- 0.6	- 4.0	- 2.1	+ 0.1
Mississippi	- 0.8	- 0.1	- 0.6	- 3.3	- 1.6	- 0.1
Appalachian Mississippi	- 0.6	+ 0.4	- 0.5	- 3.0	- 1.3	+ 0.1
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 0.9	- 0.3	- 0.6	- 3.4	- 1.7	- 0.1
New York	- 0.9	- 0.2	- 0.5	- 3.9	- 1.8	+ 0.0
Appalachian New York	- 1.3	- 0.3	- 1.2	- 4.1	- 2.6	- 0.1
Non-Appalachian New York	- 0.9	- 0.2	- 0.4	- 3.9	- 1.8	+ 0.0
North Carolina	- 0.9	- 0.1	- 0.8	- 3.3	- 2.1	+ 0.1
Appalachian North Carolina	- 1.1	- 0.1	- 1.0	- 3.6	- 2.7	+ 0.1
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 0.9	- 0.1	- 0.8	- 3.2	- 1.9	+ 0.0
Ohio	- 1.4	- 0.2	- 1.1	- 4.5	- 2.9	+ 0.0
Appalachian Ohio	- 1.5	- 0.3	- 1.1	- 4.8	- 3.3	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 1.4	- 0.2	- 1.1	- 4.3	- 2.8	- 0.1
Pennsylvania	- 1.4	- 0.2	- 1.0	- 4.9	- 2.9	- 0.1
Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 1.5	- 0.3	- 1.0	- 5.0	- 3.2	- 0.1
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 1.2	- 0.1	- 0.9	- 4.6	- 2.6	+ 0.0
South Carolina	- 1.1	- 0.6	- 0.9	- 3.3	- 2.3	+ 0.1
Appalachian South Carolina	- 1.1	+ 0.0	- 0.8	- 4.1	- 2.8	+ 0.3
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 0.9	- 0.7	- 0.9	- 3.1	- 2.1	+ 0.0
Tennessee	- 1.0	- 0.2	- 0.8	- 3.3	- 2.2	+ 0.1
Appalachian Tennessee	- 1.0	- 0.3	- 0.9	- 3.0	- 2.2	+ 0.1
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 1.0	- 0.2	- 0.9	- 3.6	- 2.2	+ 0.0
Virginia	- 0.9	- 0.8	- 0.5	- 3.4	- 2.0	+ 0.1
Appalachian Virginia	- 0.8	- 0.1	- 0.3	- 3.6	- 1.8	+ 0.0
Non-Appalachian Virginia	- 0.9	- 0.9	- 0.5	- 3.4	- 2.1	+ 0.0
West Virginia (entire state)	- 1.5	- 0.2	- 1.3	- 4.5	- 3.1	+ 0.0

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 Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

Figure 12.5: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Adult Civilians in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Adult Civilians in the Appalachian Region Who Are Veterans, 2013-2017 to 2018-2022

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

The share of Appalachia's adult civilians ages 18 and over who were military veterans was 1.2 percentage points lower in the 2018-2022 period than it was in 2013-2017—slightly more than the national decrease of 1.1 points. The decrease was even more pronounced – at least 1.5 points – in Northern Appalachia, West Virginia, and the Appalachian sections of Maryland, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. In contrast, the decrease was less than 1 percentage point in the region's rural counties as well as the Appalachian portions of Georgia, Mississippi, and Virginia. There was also significant variation at the county level – in 48 Appalachian counties, veterans' share of the population fell by at least 2.5 percentage points. Yet the share actually stayed the same or increased in 80 other counties.

TRENDS IN VETERAN STATUS

- In Appalachia, the share of adult civilians who were military veterans declined 1.2 percentage points between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022, falling to 7.5 percent (see Tables 12.2 and 12.3). The decrease was least pronounced in the Region's rural counties (0.8 points) and most pronounced in nonmetropolitan counties adjacent to small metros (1.4 points). Among the states, Appalachian Maryland saw the largest decrease at 1.9 percentage points, while the share fell by just 0.6 points in Appalachian Mississippi. And while all of the Appalachian subregions saw a decline of at least one percentage point, Northern Appalachia's share of civilian adults who were veterans fell most, by 1.5 points, while Central Appalachia's share fell by just 1 point.
- The decrease in veteran status was more pronounced among middle-aged and older civilians than among younger ones. While the share of veterans in Appalachia fell just 0.2 percentage points among younger civilians ages 18 to 34, it declined 1 point among civilians ages 35 to 64, and 4.1 points among civilians ages 65 and over. Veteran status is more prevalent among older residents than younger ones, and mortality among the oldest veterans partially explains the notable decline among veterans ages 65 and over.
- The share of adult men in the Appalachian Region who were veterans fell 2.7 percentage points between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022, while the share among women remained virtually unchanged (rising by just one-tenth of a percentage point). Men remain far more likely than women to be military veterans—and the respective rates in Appalachia of 14 percent and 1.2 percent reflect this difference (see Table 12.2).

APPENDIX A: AN OVERVIEW OF RURAL APPALACHIA AND NON-APPALACHIAN RURAL AREAS

Comparing Rural Appalachia with Rural Areas Outside Appalachia

Of the 423 counties in the Appalachian Region, 107 are classified as rural—counties that are neither part of nor adjacent to a metropolitan area. As shown in Figure A.1, rural counties are found in 11 of the 13 states in the Appalachian Region – only Appalachian Maryland and South Carolina are exceptions. However, there are higher concentrations of rural counties in several states including Mississippi, Kentucky, Virginia, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania. There are 841 rural counties located outside the Appalachian Region, and these are scattered across the United States with higher concentrations in midwestern and western states (see Figure A.1). Given the socioeconomic disadvantages often found in rural counties throughout the country, it is instructive to compare the characteristics of rural counties within Appalachia to those of rural counties located outside the Region.

Demographic and Housing Characteristics

Rural counties in Appalachia experienced a much higher rate of population decline between 2010 and 2022 than rural counties outside the Region—3.6 percent versus 0.5 percent (see Table A.1). The population in rural Appalachia is also older with a median age of 42.2 years versus 41 years and has a smaller share of residents under age 18—20.6 percent versus 22.1 percent.

Rural Appalachia is also much less diverse with only 12.7 percent of the population being people of color, compared with 25.9 percent in the rest of rural America. However, the comparative shares vary among racial/ethnic groups. For example, there is a slightly higher concentration of non-Hispanic Black people in rural Appalachia than in rural counties outside the Region—7.8 percent compared with 6.3 percent, while there is a much smaller share of Hispanic people—2.6 percent versus 11.8 percent. There is also a much smaller share of people who are non-Hispanic American Indian or Alaska Native in rural Appalachia than in rural counties outside the Region. However, rural Appalachia is becoming more racially and ethnically diverse, as the share of people of color in the population rose two percentage points between 2010 and 2022. This compares with an increase of 3.1 points in the rest of rural America.

Education levels are lower in rural Appalachia than in rural areas in the rest of the country. Among adults ages 25 to 64, 85.7 percent of rural Appalachian residents have completed high school or more, compared with 89.4 percent of rural residents outside the Region. About 19 percent of working-age adults in rural Appalachia have completed a bachelor's degree or more, compared with 23.6 percent of adults residing in rural counties in the rest of the country. However, the share within the Region whose highest education level is an associate's degree is much closer to the share outside the Region—10.1 percent versus 11.2 percent.

Among adults ages 25 and over with a bachelor's degree, slightly more than one-fourth (26.3 percent) of rural Appalachian residents reported their first major was in a science and engineering field compared with 31.8 percent of rural adults outside Appalachia. These differences in education levels are also reflected in differences in employment and income between rural Appalachia and the rest of rural America.

The share of housing units that are single-dwelling units is five percentage points lower in rural Appalachia, but the share of housing units that are mobile homes is much higher—nearly 19.4 percent compared with only 11.2 percent in rural counties outside the Region. While housing vacancy rates are about the same for both rural Appalachia and the rest of rural America (21.4 percent and 21.8 percent, respectively), rural Appalachia has a noticeably smaller share of these vacant units that are designed for seasonal or recreational use (38.8 percent versus 51.8 percent).

Rural households within the Region are more likely to experience a digital divide than those outside Appalachia. Within rural counties in the Region, the share of households with a computer device and the share with a broadband (high-speed) Internet connection are more than three percentage points lower than for households in rural counties outside the Region. One-sixth (17.5 percent) of rural Appalachian households had no access to the Internet in 2018-2022, compared with less than one-seventh (14.1 percent) of other rural households.

Labor Force and Commuting

The share of rural Appalachian adults ages 25 to 64 in the civilian labor force is more than eight percentage points lower than in rural counties outside the Region, and the unemployment rate is slightly higher—five percent versus four percent. Commuting patterns among rural Appalachian residents who do not work at home also differ from those elsewhere in rural America. Although a higher share of rural Appalachian households had no vehicle available, workers ages 16 and over in rural counties were more likely to drive alone to work (more than 80 percent) than workers in rural counties outside the Region (about 77 percent).

Nearly one-third of rural Appalachian workers commuted outside their county of residence compared with only about one-fifth of rural workers in the rest of the country. More than three in 10 workers in rural Appalachian counties had a travel time to work of at least 30 minutes, with an average travel time of more than 24 minutes. By comparison, slightly more than two in 10 workers in rural counties outside Appalachia took at least a half-hour to get to their jobs, with an average travel time of just over 20 minutes. These commuting patterns include the first 27 months of the coronavirus pandemic beginning in March 2020 and reflect the experience of rural workers throughout the peak of pandemic shutdowns.

Income and Poverty

The lower levels of education and employment among adults in rural Appalachia are reflected in lower levels of income and higher rates of poverty and receipt of SNAP benefits than in rural counties outside the Region. At \$48,879, median household income in rural Appalachian counties is more than \$10,000 below that of households in rural counties in the rest of the country. Almost one-fifth of rural Appalachian residents live in poverty compared with less than 15 percent of persons in rural counties outside the Region. This gap is even wider among children (5.7 percentage points) and young adults ages 18 to 24 (just over six percentage points). Although the gap is smaller, even rural Appalachian adults ages 65 and over have a poverty rate that is nearly three percentage points higher than for older adults in other rural counties.

A higher share of rural Appalachian residents also have incomes below 50 percent of the poverty level and more than four in 10 are classified as low-income because their income is below 200 percent of the poverty level. While only one-sixth (16.7 percent) of all rural Appalachian households received Food Stamps/SNAP in 2018-2022, this share rose to nearly half (47.8 percent) among households in poverty. In rural counties outside Appalachia, both the share of all households and the share of households in poverty who received Food Stamps/SNAP in 2018-2022 was much lower (by roughly four and six percentage points, respectively). In the Region, more than one-fourth (26.5 percent) of rural households with children received Food Stamps/SNAP compared with only 20.3 percent of such households in rural areas outside Appalachia.

Health Insurance and Disability

One of the bright spots in rural Appalachia is the higher level of health insurance coverage compared with the rest of rural America. A smaller share of residents in rural Appalachian counties lack health insurance coverage, and this gap is present among all age groups from 19 to 64. In addition, the share of rural Appalachian residents without health insurance declined slightly more (2.1 percentage points) between 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 than the share in rural areas in the rest of the country (1.7 percentage points).

Adults between the ages of 26 and 34 had the highest share without health insurance coverage in the Region, with just over 17 percent lacking health insurance in 2018-2022. And although the share of young adults ages 19 to 25 in rural Appalachia who lack health insurance coverage is more than three percentage points lower than for young adults in rural areas outside the Region, it is important to note that 14.5 percent of rural Appalachian young adults are still without health insurance. Lack of access to health care among young adults can contribute to the development of chronic conditions and negatively affect health at older ages. It may also have put them at greater risk of not receiving needed medical treatment during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In contrast to health insurance coverage, levels of disability are much higher among rural Appalachian adults ages 18 and older than among adults in other rural areas. One-fifth of rural Appalachian residents have a disability compared with just over 16 percent of residents of rural counties outside the Region. However, this gap widens to nearly six percentage points among adults ages 35 to 64 and five percentage points among those ages 65 and older. In rural Appalachia, more than one in five (22.5 percent) of working-age adults ages 35 to 64 and 41.4 percent of adults ages 65 and older have a disability. By comparison, the respective shares are only 16.6 percent and 36.4 percent for adults in these two age groups in rural counties in the rest of the country. These higher levels of disability in rural Appalachia—especially among working-age adults—helps to explain lower levels of employment compared with rural areas outside the Region.

Veteran Status

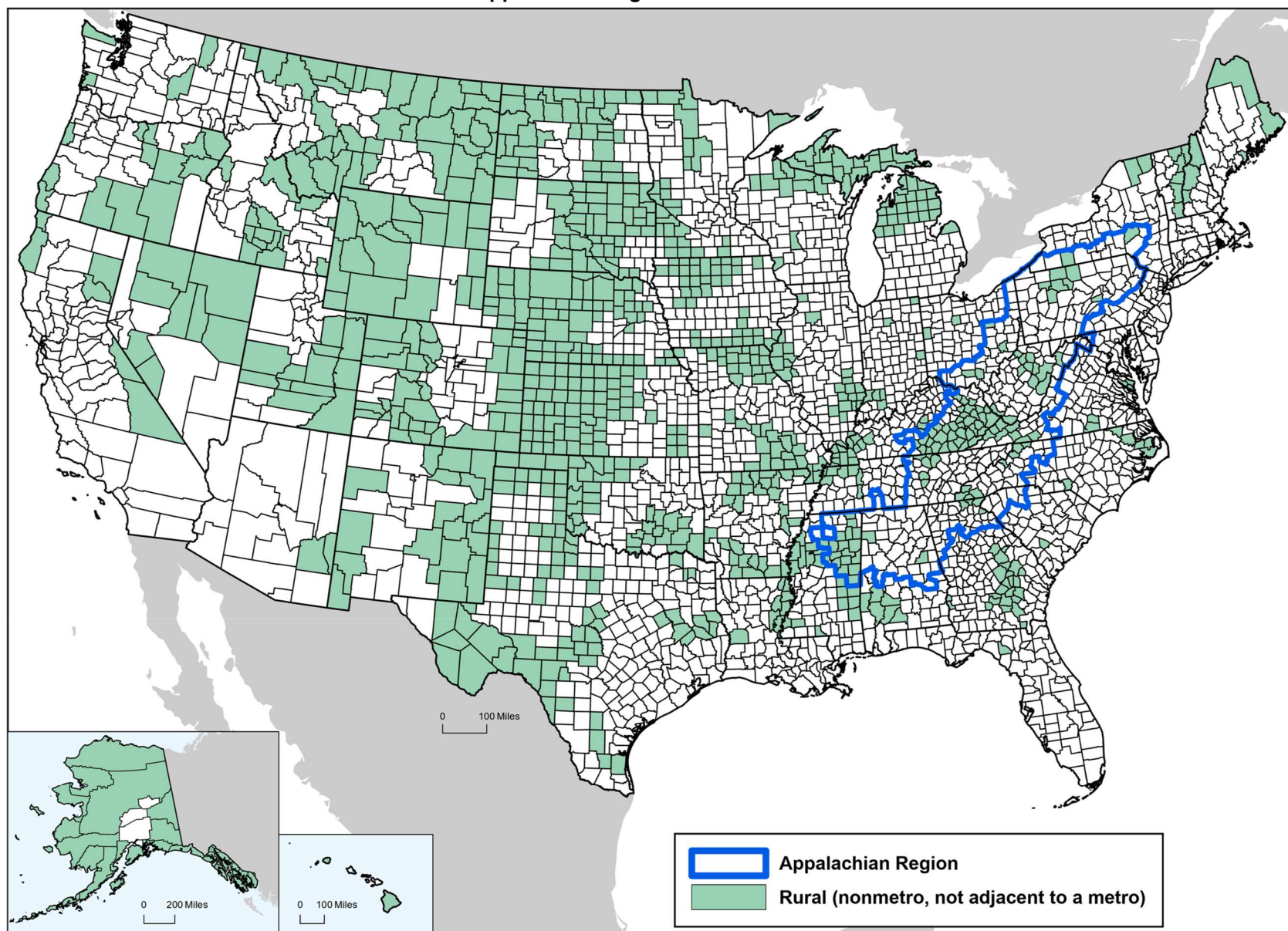
A slightly smaller share of the civilian population ages 65 and over in rural Appalachia are veterans (15.6 percent) than the share in rural counties in the rest of the country (17.2 percent). This gap is about the same between rural areas within and outside Appalachia among civilian males ages 18 and older. Only 13.1 percent of rural Appalachian adult male civilians are veterans compared with 14.5 percent of male civilians in rural areas outside the Region.

Summary

A comparison of rural counties within the Appalachian Region with those located outside Appalachia reveals some important contrasts in characteristics and overall levels of well-being between these areas. The population in rural Appalachian counties is older, less racially and ethnically diverse, and has been declining in number faster since 2010 than the population in rural counties in the rest of the country.

With the exception of health insurance coverage, rural Appalachian counties continue to lag behind rural counties in the rest of the country on many key educational, health, and economic factors. Rural Appalachian residents have lower levels of education, employment, income, and access to the Internet, as well as higher levels of poverty, SNAP benefit receipt, and disability than rural residents in other areas of the United States.

Figure A.1: Rural Counties in the United States and the Appalachian Region



Map Title: Rural Counties in the United States and the Appalachian Region

Data Source: USDA, Economic Research Service, 2013 Urban Influence Codes condensed by ARC.

Table A.1: Selected Measures for Rural Appalachia and Rural Areas Outside Appalachia

Demographic, Social, or Economic Characteristic	Appalachian, Rural (nonmetro, not adjacent to a metro)	Non-Appalachian, Rural (nonmetro, not adjacent to a metro)
NUMBER OF COUNTIES	107	841
Demographic and Housing Characteristics		
Population, July 1, 2022	2,463,700	13,200,340
Percent change (2010 to 2022), population	-3.6	-0.5
Median age, July 1, 2022	42.2	41.0
Percent of population under age 18, July 1, 2022	20.6	22.1
Percent of population that is a person of color July 1, 2022	12.7	25.9
Percent of population that is Black alone, not Hispanic, July 1, 2022	7.8	6.3
Percent of population that is Hispanic or Latino, July 1, 2022	2.6	11.8
Percent of population that is American Indian or Alaska Native alone, not Hispanic, July 1, 2022	0.3	3.3
Percentage point change (2010 to 2022), Percent of population that is minority	+2.0	+3.1
Percent of persons ages 25-64 with a high school diploma or more, 2018-22	85.7	89.4
Percent of persons ages 25-64 with an associate's degree but without a bachelor's degree, 2018-22	10.1	11.2
Percent of persons ages 25-64 with a bachelor's degree or more, 2018-22	19.0	23.6
Among persons ages 25 and over with a bachelor's degree or more, percent whose bachelor's degree field (first major) was science and engineering, 2018-22	26.3	31.8
Percent of all housing units that are single-unit dwellings, 2018-22	70.2	75.2
Percent of all housing units that are mobile homes, 2018-22	19.4	11.2
Percent of housing units that are vacant, 2018-22	21.4	21.8
Percent of vacant housing units that are for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use, 2018-22	38.8	51.8
Percent of households with one or more computer devices (including smartphone and tablet), 2018-22	86.9	90.6
Percent of households with a broadband (high-speed) Internet subscription, 2018-22	79.2	82.5
Percent of households with no access to the Internet, 2018-22	17.5	14.1
Labor Force and Commuting		
Percent of civilian labor force universe ages 25-64 (excludes Armed Forces personnel) in civilian labor force, 2018-22	65.6	74.1
Unemployment rate, persons ages 25-64 (percent of civilian labor force), 2018-22	5.0	4.0
Percent of households with no vehicle available, 2018-22	7.4	6.1
Percent of workers ages 16 and over who drove alone to work, 2018-22	80.7	77.2
Percent of workers ages 16 and over who worked outside their county of residence, 2018-22	32.0	19.6
Percent of workers ages 16 and over (not working at home) whose travel time to work was 30 minutes or more, 2018-22	31.5	23.0
Mean travel time to work in minutes for all workers ages 16 and over who didn't work at home, 2018-22	24.6	20.2
Income and Poverty		
Median household income (in adjusted 2022 dollars), 2018-22	48,879	59,550
Percent of persons in poverty, 2018-22	19.5	14.9
Percent of persons under age 18 in poverty, 2018-22	25.3	19.6
Percent of persons ages 18-24 in poverty, 2018-22	27.5	21.4
Percent of persons ages 25-64 in poverty, 2018-22	18.0	13.2
Percent of persons ages 65 and over in poverty, 2018-22	13.5	10.8
Percent of persons with income below 50 percent of poverty level, 2018-22	8.4	6.6
Percent of persons with income below 200 percent of poverty level, 2018-22	42.4	35.1
Percent of households receiving Food Stamps/SNAP, 2018-22	16.7	12.4
Percent of poor households receiving Food Stamps/SNAP, 2018-22	47.8	41.5
Percent of households with children receiving Food Stamps/SNAP, 2018-22	26.5	20.3
Health Insurance and Disability		
Percent of persons without health insurance coverage, 2018-22	8.9	10.0
Percentage point change (2013-17 to 2018-22), Percent of persons without health insurance coverage	-2.1	-1.7
Percent of persons ages 19-25 without health insurance coverage, 2018-22	14.5	17.9
Percent of persons ages 26-34 without health insurance coverage, 2018-22	17.1	18.7
Percent of persons ages 35-64 without health insurance coverage, 2018-22	11.1	12.8

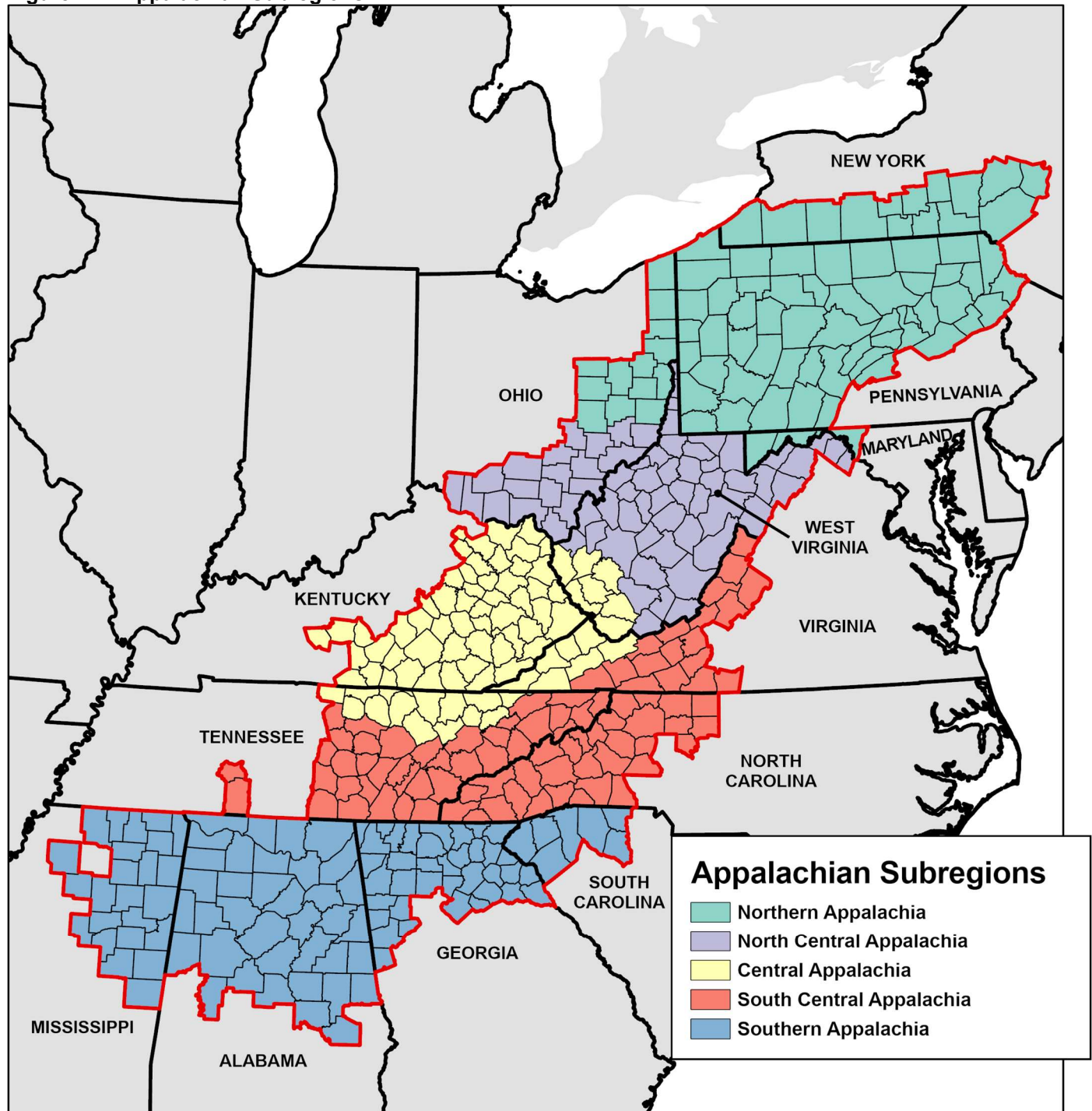
Table A.1: Selected Measures for Rural Appalachia and Rural Areas Outside Appalachia (continued)

Demographic, Social, or Economic Characteristic	Appalachian, Rural (nonmetro, not adjacent to a metro)	Non-Appalachian, Rural (nonmetro, not adjacent to a metro)
Health Insurance and Disability (continued)		
Percent of persons with a disability, 2018-22	20.0	16.3
Percent of persons ages 35-64 with a disability, 2018-22	22.5	16.6
Percent of persons ages 65 and over with a disability, 2018-22	41.4	36.4
Veteran Status		
Percent of civilian population ages 65 and over who are veterans, 2018-22	15.6	17.2
Percent of male civilian population ages 18 and over who are veterans, 2018-22	13.1	14.5

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2020 and Vintage 2022 Population Estimates; and 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 American Community Surveys.

APPENDIX B: REFERENCE MAPS

Figure B.1: Appalachian Subregions

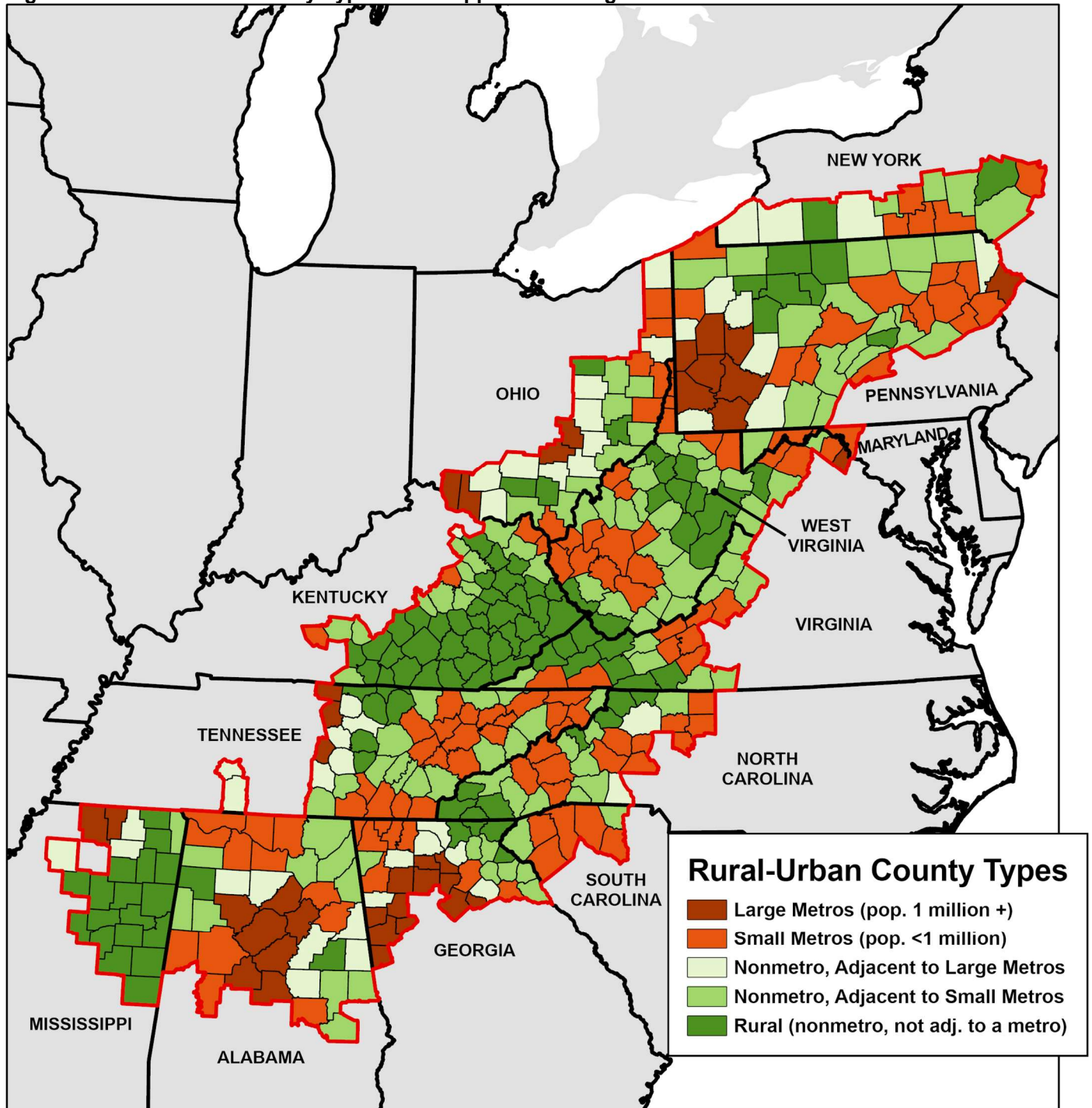


Map Title: Appalachian Subregions

Data Source: Appalachian Regional Commission.

The Appalachian Region covers 206,000 square miles and includes all of West Virginia and portions of 12 other states from New York to Mississippi. The 423 counties of the Region are grouped into five subregions, based on similarities in economic and demographic characteristics and geographic location.

Figure B.2: Rural-Urban County Types in the Appalachian Region



Map Title: Rural-Urban County Types in the Appalachian Region

Data Source: USDA, Economic Research Service, 2013 Urban Influence Codes condensed by ARC.

While Appalachia is a distinct part of the United States, the Region is far from homogeneous, including both rural counties and major metropolitan areas such as Pittsburgh, Birmingham, and parts of suburban Atlanta. This map shows the rural-urban type for each Appalachian county.