

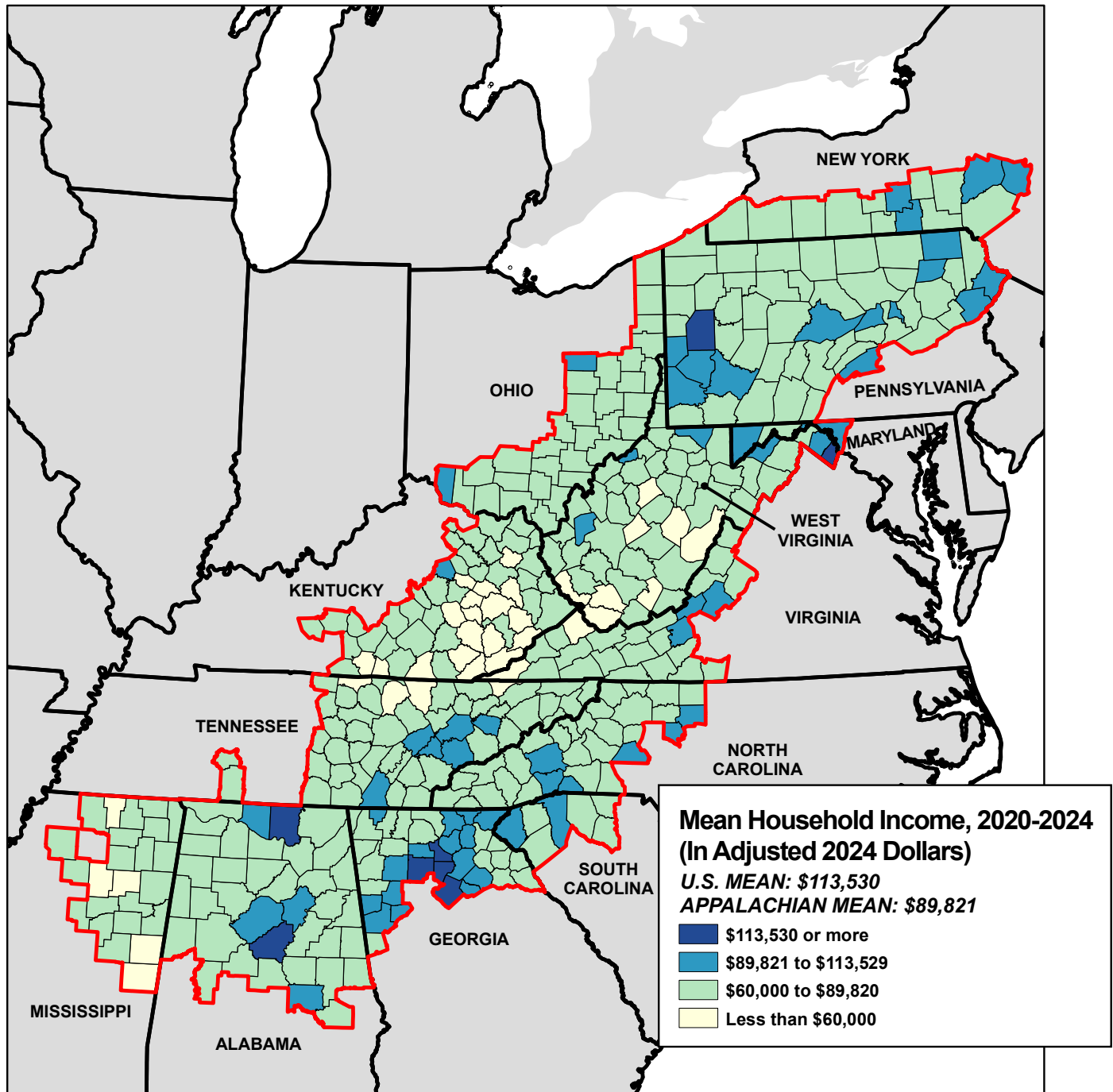
CHAPTER 9: INCOME AND POVERTY

Table 9.1: Household, Family, and Per Capita Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2024 Dollars), 2020-2024

Income	Household Income, 2020-2024 (2024 Dollars)		Family Income, 2020-2024 (2024 Dollars)		Per Capita Income, 2020-2024 (2024 Dollars)
	Mean HH Income	Median HH Income	Mean Family Income	Median Family Income	
United States	\$113,530	\$80,734	\$134,109	\$99,999	\$44,673
Appalachian Region	\$89,821	\$66,555	\$107,815	\$85,002	\$36,770
Subregions					
Northern Appalachia	\$90,541	\$67,806	\$110,755	\$88,643	\$38,496
North Central Appalachia	\$83,500	\$62,315	\$100,550	\$80,615	\$34,780
Central Appalachia	\$68,288	\$50,224	\$81,681	\$64,742	\$27,923
South Central Appalachia	\$87,747	\$64,138	\$105,754	\$81,848	\$36,749
Southern Appalachia	\$97,168	\$72,365	\$114,088	\$89,792	\$37,633
County Types					
Large Metro (metro pop. 1 million +)	\$106,691	\$80,457	\$127,268	\$100,831	\$42,603
Small Metro (metro pop. <1 million)	\$90,601	\$66,973	\$109,580	\$86,151	\$37,411
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metro	\$81,176	\$62,095	\$96,125	\$78,439	\$33,043
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metro	\$77,534	\$58,507	\$92,316	\$74,307	\$32,269
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	\$72,219	\$52,913	\$86,963	\$68,826	\$29,774
Alabama	\$88,898	\$63,999	\$108,061	\$83,032	\$36,087
Appalachian Alabama	\$92,522	\$67,578	\$111,743	\$86,706	\$37,399
Non-Appalachian Alabama	\$82,328	\$59,111	\$101,178	\$77,863	\$33,694
Georgia	\$106,944	\$77,353	\$124,976	\$93,754	\$40,924
Appalachian Georgia	\$108,423	\$84,420	\$121,966	\$97,851	\$39,142
Non-Appalachian Georgia	\$106,305	\$74,425	\$126,497	\$92,206	\$41,758
Kentucky	\$87,807	\$63,726	\$105,537	\$81,505	\$35,821
Appalachian Kentucky	\$67,522	\$49,616	\$80,276	\$63,698	\$27,328
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	\$94,707	\$69,703	\$114,558	\$89,371	\$38,752
Maryland	\$136,642	\$103,678	\$162,068	\$127,817	\$52,979
Appalachian Maryland	\$92,329	\$70,890	\$109,584	\$89,507	\$37,430
Non-Appalachian Maryland	\$138,596	\$105,771	\$164,318	\$130,182	\$53,636
Mississippi	\$78,922	\$56,447	\$94,579	\$73,163	\$31,549
Appalachian Mississippi	\$72,324	\$52,343	\$87,582	\$69,884	\$29,587
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	\$80,701	\$57,836	\$96,447	\$74,304	\$32,059
New York	\$128,247	\$85,974	\$151,821	\$106,873	\$50,712
Appalachian New York	\$86,112	\$65,329	\$105,388	\$85,747	\$36,184
Non-Appalachian New York	\$130,699	\$88,237	\$154,396	\$109,014	\$51,498
North Carolina	\$101,208	\$72,388	\$120,769	\$90,290	\$41,385
Appalachian North Carolina	\$86,720	\$63,274	\$104,419	\$80,223	\$36,670
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	\$104,739	\$74,790	\$124,751	\$93,644	\$42,501
Ohio	\$96,990	\$71,389	\$118,759	\$92,749	\$40,552
Appalachian Ohio	\$80,898	\$61,487	\$97,407	\$79,123	\$33,602
Non-Appalachian Ohio	\$100,175	\$73,625	\$123,160	\$96,546	\$41,947
Pennsylvania	\$107,538	\$77,971	\$130,780	\$100,262	\$44,355
Appalachian Pennsylvania	\$93,710	\$69,925	\$114,965	\$91,508	\$40,033
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	\$118,869	\$86,468	\$143,213	\$109,103	\$47,699
South Carolina	\$95,567	\$69,324	\$113,803	\$86,707	\$39,236
Appalachian South Carolina	\$93,912	\$68,742	\$111,386	\$86,043	\$37,920
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	\$96,157	\$69,632	\$114,686	\$87,914	\$39,712
Tennessee	\$96,820	\$69,595	\$114,915	\$87,314	\$39,437
Appalachian Tennessee	\$87,887	\$64,375	\$105,267	\$81,710	\$36,462
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	\$103,714	\$74,282	\$122,484	\$93,167	\$41,679
Virginia	\$128,260	\$93,170	\$151,714	\$115,213	\$50,666
Appalachian Virginia	\$77,878	\$56,552	\$96,347	\$75,854	\$33,016
Non-Appalachian Virginia	\$133,155	\$97,814	\$156,823	\$120,052	\$52,286
West Virginia (entire state)	\$81,190	\$59,608	\$98,068	\$77,710	\$34,203

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020-2024 American Community Survey.

Figure 9.1: Mean Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2024 Dollars), 2020-2024

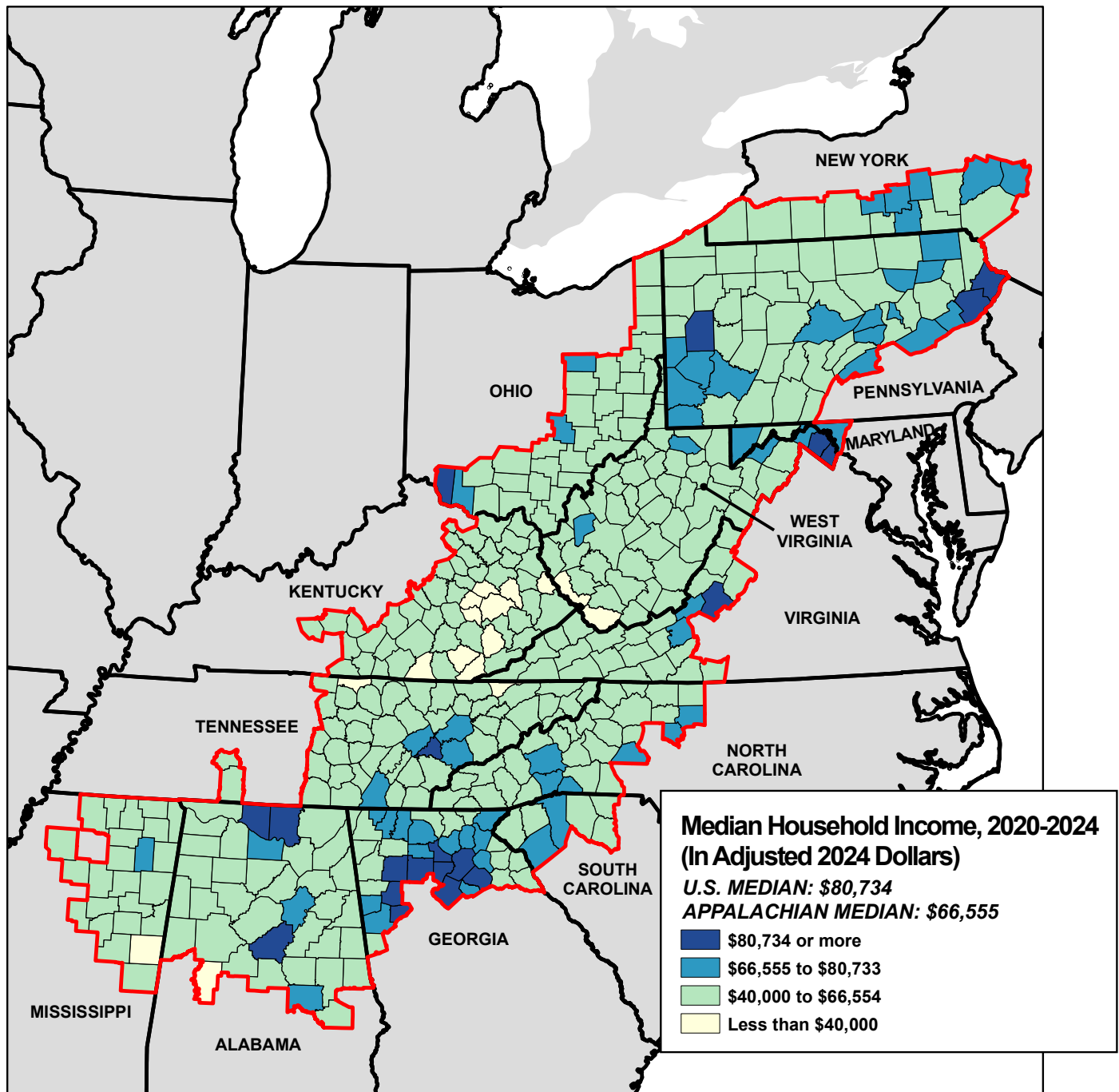


Map Title: Mean Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2024 Dollars), 2020-2024

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020-2024 American Community Survey.

In the 2020-2024 period, the mean income of Appalachian households was \$89,821, just 79 cents for every dollar of the U.S. average (\$113,530). In 70 counties (53 of which in metropolitan areas), the average household income was at least the regional average – eight of these counties, all of which were in metropolitan areas, had average household income that matched or exceeded the national mean. In contrast, mean household income was less than \$60,000 in 37 counties – all but two of which were outside metro areas, and 27 of which were in Central Appalachia (18 in Kentucky alone).

Figure 9.2: Median Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2024 Dollars), 2020-2024

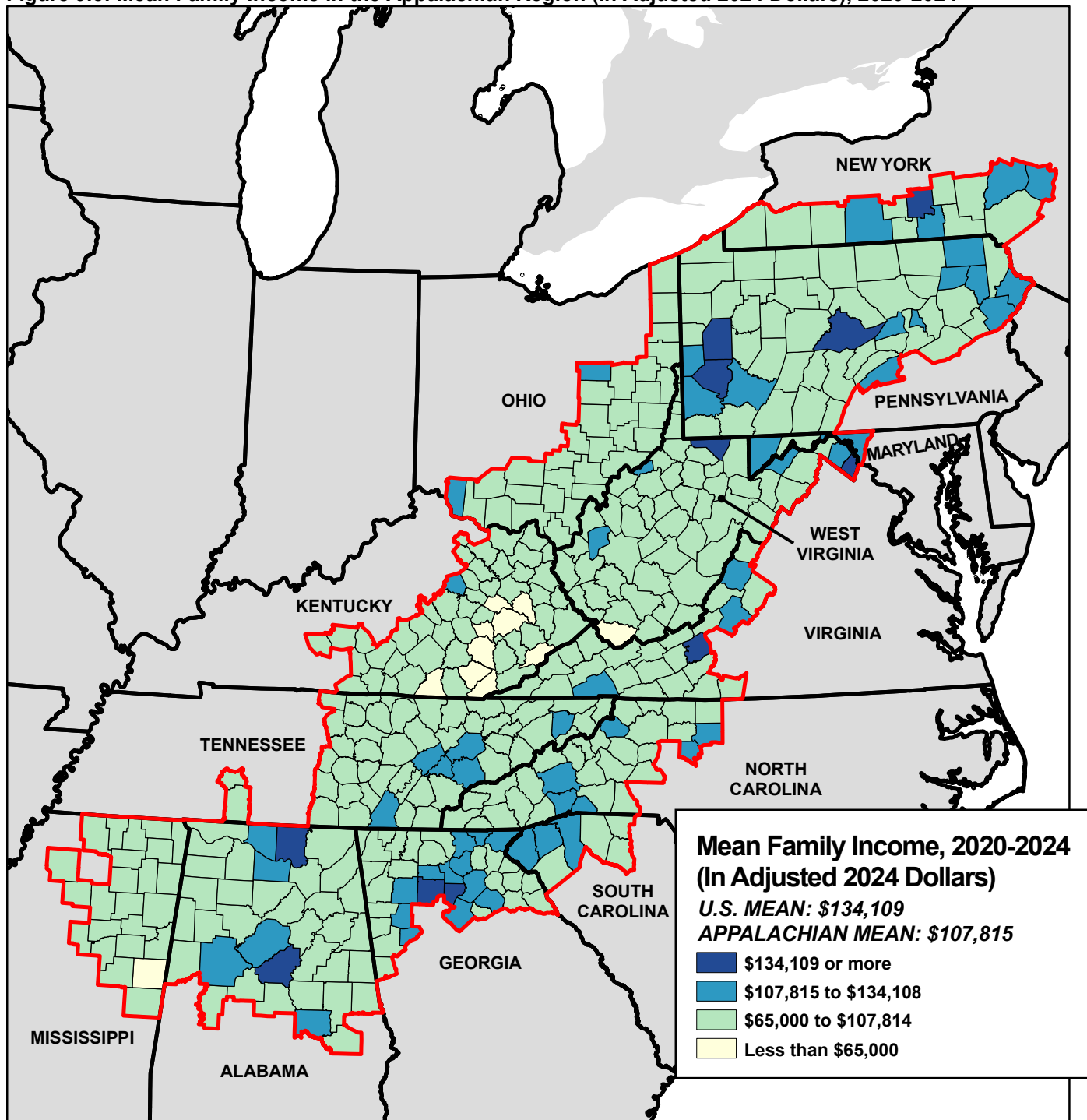


Map Title: Median Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2024 Dollars), 2020-2024

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020-2024 American Community Survey.

At \$66,555, median household income in Appalachia (the point at which half the households have higher incomes and the other half have lower incomes) was just 82 cents for every dollar of the United States median (\$80,734) during the 2020-2024 period. There were 81 counties in Appalachia (57 of which were in metropolitan areas) that had household incomes at or above the Appalachian median, and 20 of these counties had incomes at or above the national median. On the other hand, 16 counties in the region had median household incomes below \$40,000 – all but one of which were outside metro areas and all but two were in Central Appalachia. This distribution is not surprising: median household income was \$52,913 for rural counties and \$50,224 for Central Appalachia. It is useful to note that the income levels displayed here reflect income received during the five-year period inclusive of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Figure 9.3: Mean Family Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2024 Dollars), 2020-2024

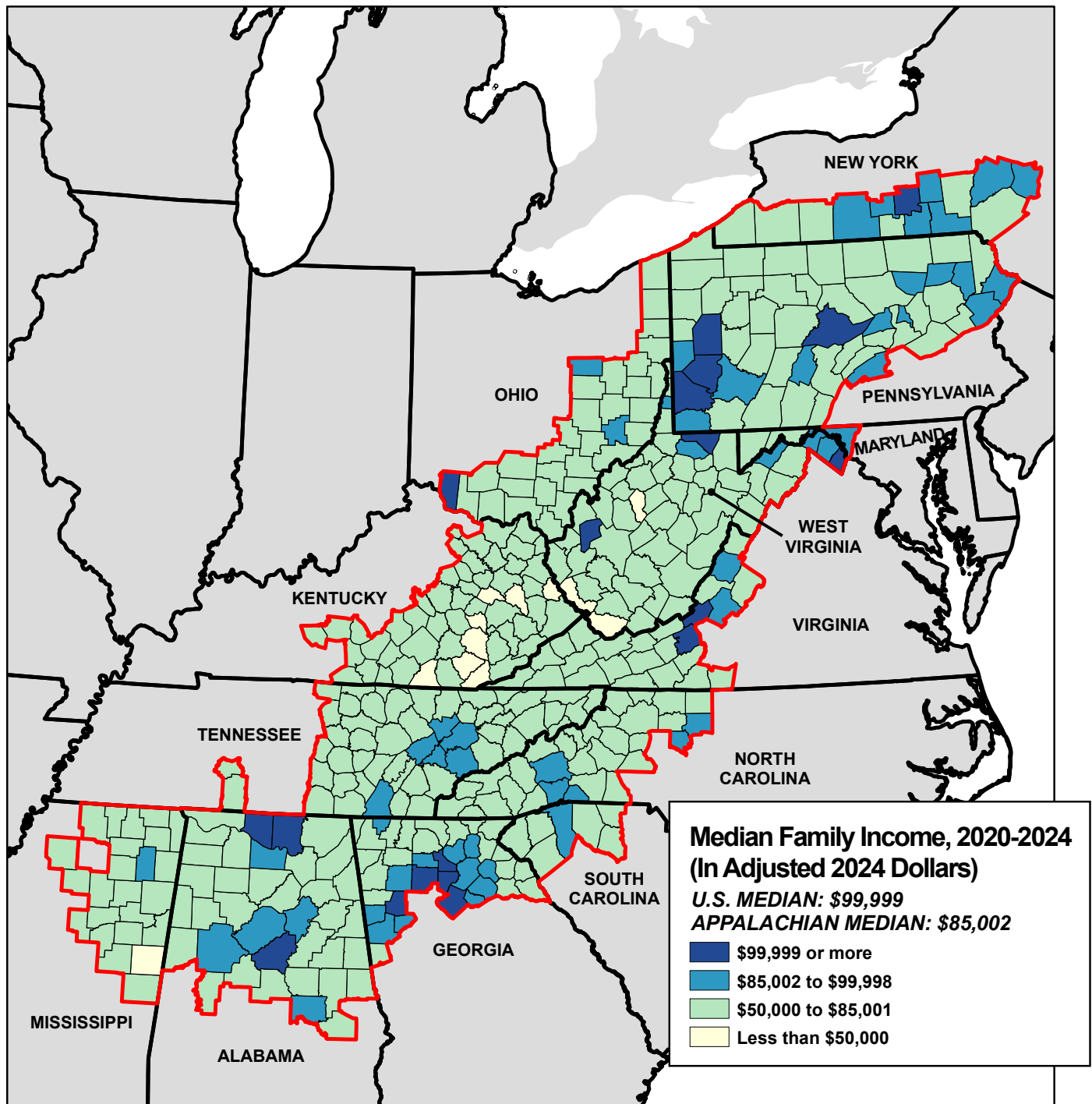


Map Title: Mean Family Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2024 Dollars), 2020-2024

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020-2024 American Community Survey.

Average family income in Appalachia was just 80 percent of the national average of \$134,109 in 2020-2024. In 70 Appalachian counties (51 of which were in metropolitan areas), the average income of families matched or surpassed the regional average of \$107,815 for the 2020-2024 period. And of this group, there were 11 counties (all of which were part of metro areas) where the mean family income was equal to or greater than the national average. In contrast, mean family income was less than \$65,000 in 11 Appalachian counties, all of which were in rural areas. Additionally, all but one of the counties in the lowest income group were in Central Appalachia with nine of these in Kentucky alone. Overall, the mean family income over the 2020-2024 period was just \$86,963 for rural counties, \$81,681 for Central Appalachia, and \$80,276 for Appalachian Kentucky.

Figure 9.4: Median Family Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2024 Dollars), 2020-2024

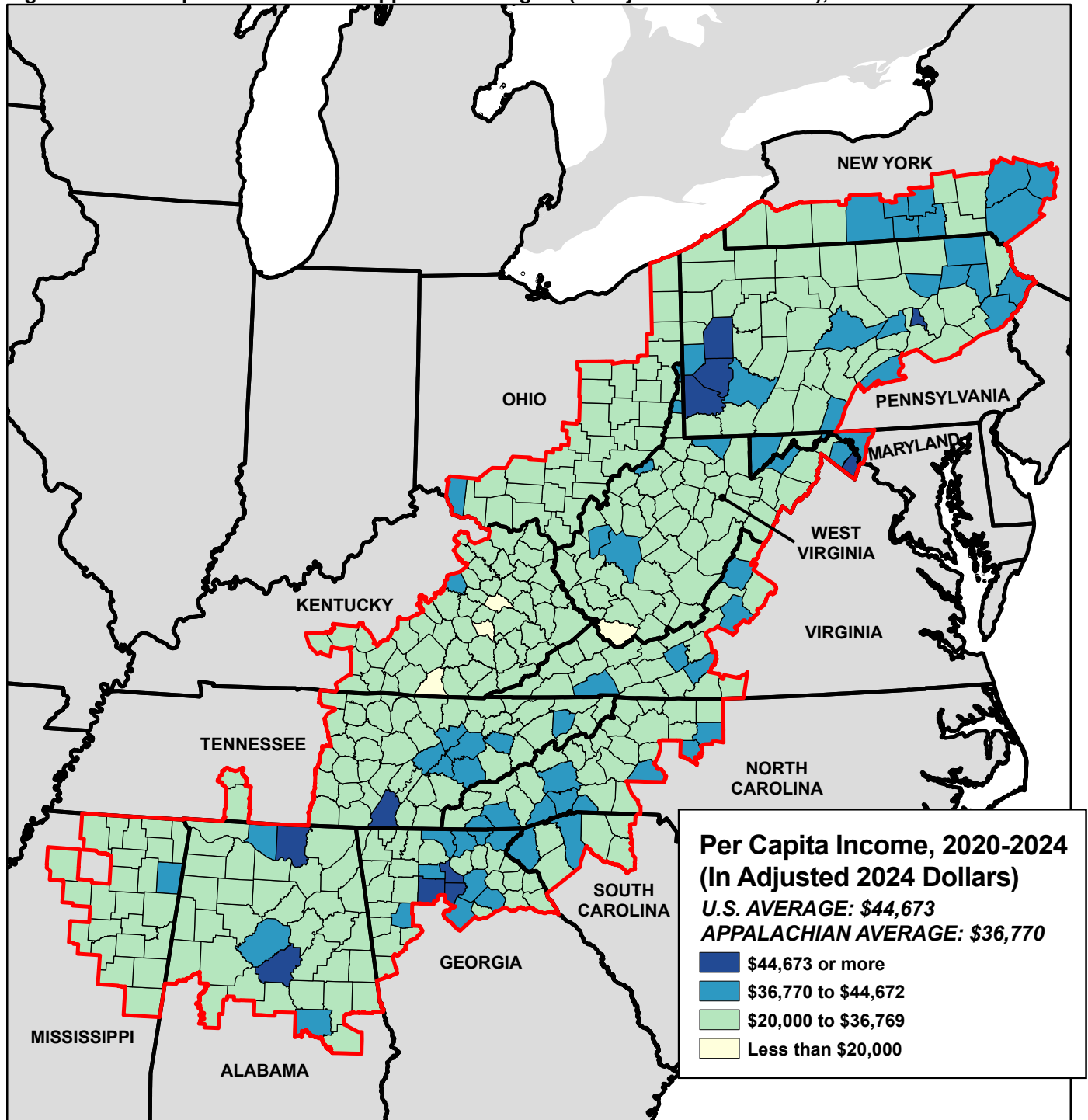


Map Title: Median Family Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2024 Dollars), 2020-2024

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020-2024 American Community Survey.

At \$85,002, median family income in Appalachia was just 85 cents for every dollar of the U.S. median (\$99,999) during the 2020-2024 period. Yet in 78 Appalachian counties – 58 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 Appalachian Region's median (\$85,002). 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 12 counties. All but three of the latter group were rural counties not adjacent to a metro area (where median family income in the region's rural counties overall was \$68,826), and eight were in Appalachian Kentucky (where median family income was \$63,698 – the lowest among the Appalachian portions of states).

Figure 9.5: Per Capita Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2024 Dollars), 2020-2024



Map Title: Per Capita Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2024 Dollars), 2020-2024

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020-2024 American Community Survey.

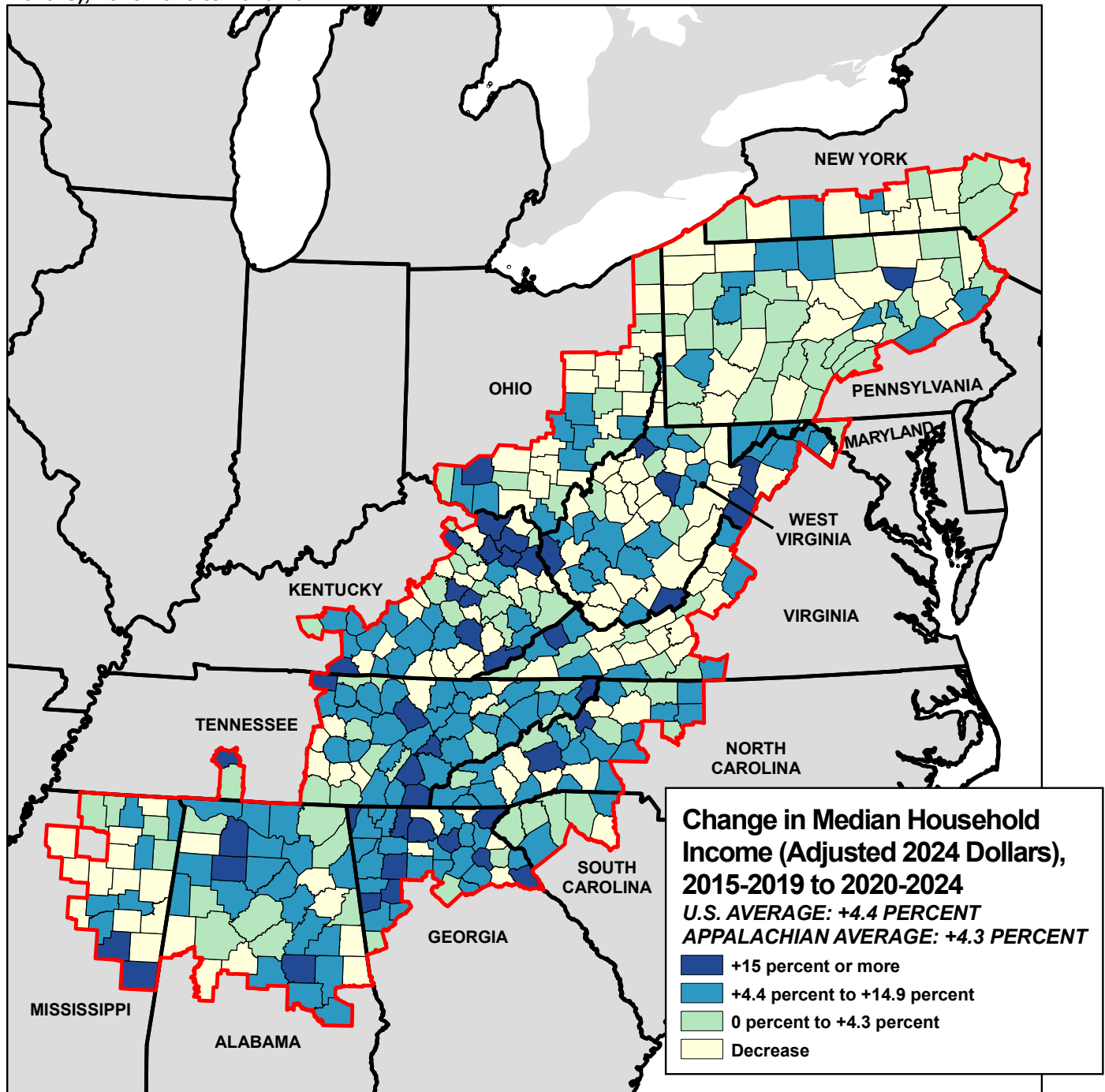
At \$36,770, per capita income in the Appalachian Region was just 82 cents for every dollar of the U.S. average of \$44,673 during the 2020-2024 period. And there was considerable variation within the Appalachian Region. Per capita income was the same or higher than the regional average in 79 Appalachian counties; most of these counties were in Northern Appalachia with large pockets in South Central and Southern Appalachia. In 11 of these counties, per capita income was at or above the national average – all but one of which were in metro areas including Pittsburgh and suburban Atlanta. Yet, per capita income was below the regional average in 344 counties – more than half (206) of which were rural or nonmetropolitan counties adjacent to small metros.

Table 9.2: Change in Household, Family, and Per Capita Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2024 Dollars), 2015-2019 to 2020-2024

Income	Percent Change in Household Income (In 2024 Dollars)		Percent Change in Family Income (in 2024 Dollars)		Percent Change in Per Capita Income (In 2024 Dollars)
	Mean HH Income	Median HH Income	Mean Family Income	Median Family Income	
United States	+ 4.1	+ 4.4	+ 4.9	+ 5.2	+ 6.4
Appalachian Region	+ 3.8	+ 4.3	+ 4.7	+ 5.0	+ 5.2
Subregions					
Northern Appalachia	+ 1.6	+ 1.2	+ 2.8	+ 2.5	+ 3.3
North Central Appalachia	+ 3.0	+ 3.6	+ 4.1	+ 5.0	+ 4.8
Central Appalachia	+ 2.5	+ 6.3	+ 4.3	+ 7.4	+ 3.4
South Central Appalachia	+ 5.3	+ 6.3	+ 6.0	+ 6.2	+ 6.5
Southern Appalachia	+ 5.1	+ 5.6	+ 5.6	+ 6.3	+ 6.6
County Types					
Large Metro (metro pop. 1 million +)	+ 3.8	+ 4.3	+ 4.3	+ 4.1	+ 4.8
Small Metro (metro pop. <1 million)	+ 4.0	+ 4.3	+ 4.9	+ 5.0	+ 5.4
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metro	+ 2.8	+ 4.5	+ 3.1	+ 4.4	+ 4.3
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metro	+ 3.3	+ 3.7	+ 4.4	+ 4.2	+ 4.8
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	+ 2.6	+ 3.3	+ 4.5	+ 5.1	+ 4.1
Alabama	+ 3.4	+ 2.9	+ 4.7	+ 4.7	+ 5.0
Appalachian Alabama	+ 4.0	+ 4.5	+ 5.3	+ 5.5	+ 5.4
Non-Appalachian Alabama	+ 2.2	+ 2.1	+ 3.4	+ 3.2	+ 4.0
Georgia	+ 5.4	+ 7.1	+ 6.0	+ 7.5	+ 7.0
Appalachian Georgia	+ 6.5	+ 7.8	+ 6.4	+ 7.9	+ 7.6
Non-Appalachian Georgia	+ 5.0	+ 6.3	+ 5.9	+ 7.3	+ 6.9
Kentucky	+ 1.7	+ 2.4	+ 3.3	+ 4.0	+ 3.3
Appalachian Kentucky	+ 1.9	+ 6.6	+ 3.7	+ 6.8	+ 2.7
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	+ 1.4	+ 1.8	+ 2.9	+ 3.0	+ 3.2
Maryland	- 0.4	- 0.7	+ 0.9	+ 0.7	+ 2.2
Appalachian Maryland	+ 3.2	+ 4.3	+ 2.7	+ 3.2	+ 6.6
Non-Appalachian Maryland	- 0.5	- 1.2	+ 0.8	+ 0.5	+ 2.0
Mississippi	+ 2.1	+ 1.7	+ 3.3	+ 4.3	+ 5.2
Appalachian Mississippi	+ 2.4	+ 1.8	+ 3.9	+ 6.0	+ 6.0
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	+ 2.0	+ 1.9	+ 3.2	+ 3.7	+ 5.0
New York	+ 2.2	+ 2.0	+ 3.2	+ 2.9	+ 4.8
Appalachian New York	+ 0.8	+ 0.3	+ 2.6	+ 2.2	+ 2.7
Non-Appalachian New York	+ 2.2	+ 2.2	+ 3.1	+ 2.6	+ 4.8
North Carolina	+ 6.9	+ 7.7	+ 7.6	+ 7.2	+ 9.2
Appalachian North Carolina	+ 4.9	+ 6.2	+ 6.0	+ 5.2	+ 6.4
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	+ 7.1	+ 7.0	+ 7.8	+ 7.6	+ 9.8
Ohio	+ 2.4	+ 2.5	+ 4.1	+ 4.0	+ 4.4
Appalachian Ohio	+ 0.4	+ 1.3	+ 2.2	+ 2.4	+ 2.5
Non-Appalachian Ohio	+ 2.6	+ 2.3	+ 4.3	+ 4.7	+ 4.6
Pennsylvania	+ 3.0	+ 2.6	+ 4.1	+ 3.8	+ 4.9
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 2.2	+ 1.5	+ 3.2	+ 2.7	+ 3.6
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 2.9	+ 3.4	+ 4.1	+ 3.8	+ 5.6
South Carolina	+ 5.6	+ 5.9	+ 6.1	+ 6.2	+ 8.3
Appalachian South Carolina	+ 4.2	+ 4.2	+ 3.6	+ 3.1	+ 5.9
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	+ 6.1	+ 5.8	+ 7.1	+ 7.5	+ 9.2
Tennessee	+ 5.2	+ 6.1	+ 5.5	+ 7.1	+ 7.3
Appalachian Tennessee	+ 5.6	+ 7.4	+ 6.0	+ 7.4	+ 6.6
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	+ 4.7	+ 4.8	+ 5.1	+ 7.0	+ 7.8
Virginia	+ 2.4	+ 2.0	+ 3.6	+ 3.9	+ 4.8
Appalachian Virginia	+ 3.5	+ 1.8	+ 5.1	+ 4.7	+ 5.2
Non-Appalachian Virginia	+ 2.1	+ 1.1	+ 3.3	+ 2.8	+ 4.6
West Virginia (entire state)	+ 3.6	+ 3.7	+ 4.9	+ 5.9	+ 5.0

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024 American Community Surveys.

Figure 9.6: Percent Change in Median Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2024 Dollars), 2015-2019 to 2020-2024



Map Title: Percent Change in Median Household Income in the Appalachian Region (In Adjusted 2024 Dollars), 2015-2019 to 2020-2024

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024 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 4.3 percent higher in 2020-2024 than it was in 2015-2019. While this was just slightly less than the national increase of 4.4 percent, household income rose at or above the national median in over two-fifths (188 counties) of Appalachia's 423 counties. Moreover, median household income rose at least 15 percent in 44 Appalachian counties between the two periods. But not all the news was positive: In 139 Appalachian counties, real median household income fell between 2015-2019 and 2020-2024. Of these counties, two-thirds (92) were in non-metro areas.

Table 9.3: Number of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, by Age Group, 2020-2024

Poverty Status	All Ages	Under Age 18	Ages 18-64			Ages 65 and Over
			Total	Ages 18-24	Ages 25-64	
United States	40,735,661	11,678,577	22,989,925	5,106,325	17,883,600	6,067,159
Appalachian Region	3,660,109	1,021,559	2,086,191	450,520	1,635,671	552,359
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	1,026,855	275,781	587,671	131,246	456,425	163,403
North Central Appalachia	383,059	100,158	225,676	48,514	177,162	57,225
Central Appalachia	380,662	101,826	220,056	33,377	186,679	58,780
South Central Appalachia	734,135	194,108	423,389	100,786	322,603	116,638
Southern Appalachia	1,135,398	349,686	629,399	136,597	492,802	156,313
County Types						
Large Metro (metro pop. 1 million +)	719,899	209,008	402,493	82,940	319,553	108,398
Small Metro (metro pop. <1 million)	1,502,193	417,810	869,965	216,612	653,353	214,418
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metro	346,212	98,891	193,548	38,478	155,070	53,773
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metro	634,198	174,560	354,809	59,887	294,922	104,829
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	457,607	121,290	265,376	52,603	212,773	70,941
Alabama	772,360	236,808	430,050	99,059	330,991	105,502
Appalachian Alabama	461,507	138,815	256,789	57,714	199,075	65,903
Non-Appalachian Alabama	310,853	97,993	173,261	41,345	131,916	39,599
Georgia	1,430,012	457,697	792,111	175,998	616,113	180,204
Appalachian Georgia	371,602	119,475	202,923	38,865	164,058	49,204
Non-Appalachian Georgia	1,058,410	338,222	589,188	137,133	452,055	131,000
Kentucky	708,321	203,892	406,946	84,772	322,174	97,483
Appalachian Kentucky	251,122	68,537	145,645	24,082	121,563	36,940
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	457,199	135,355	261,301	60,690	200,611	60,543
Maryland	574,017	156,135	322,253	66,852	255,401	95,629
Appalachian Maryland	31,869	8,859	18,316	3,248	15,068	4,694
Non-Appalachian Maryland	542,148	147,276	303,937	63,604	240,333	90,935
Mississippi	538,793	175,348	292,162	60,524	231,638	71,283
Appalachian Mississippi	112,911	34,271	63,306	14,993	48,313	15,334
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	425,882	141,077	228,856	45,531	183,325	55,949
New York	2,711,742	730,485	1,522,265	292,596	1,229,669	458,992
Appalachian New York	152,488	36,855	95,200	29,047	66,153	20,433
Non-Appalachian New York	2,559,254	693,630	1,427,065	263,549	1,163,516	438,559
North Carolina	1,360,882	406,744	763,187	170,326	592,861	190,951
Appalachian North Carolina	280,860	75,575	157,862	33,044	124,818	47,423
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	1,080,022	331,169	605,325	137,282	468,043	143,528
Ohio	1,529,692	454,817	865,885	187,243	678,642	208,990
Appalachian Ohio	304,718	88,910	171,596	31,497	140,099	44,212
Non-Appalachian Ohio	1,224,974	365,907	694,289	155,746	538,543	164,778
Pennsylvania	1,475,496	408,658	824,732	170,137	654,595	242,106
Appalachian Pennsylvania	670,244	176,099	380,908	83,748	297,160	113,237
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	805,252	232,559	443,824	86,389	357,435	128,869
South Carolina	725,690	217,364	400,987	85,625	315,362	107,339
Appalachian South Carolina	189,378	57,125	106,381	25,025	81,356	25,872
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	536,312	160,239	294,606	60,600	234,006	81,467
Tennessee	950,340	289,295	530,766	111,676	419,090	130,279
Appalachian Tennessee	427,287	116,889	243,907	51,606	192,301	66,491
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	523,053	172,406	286,859	60,070	226,789	63,788
Virginia	837,363	229,811	482,446	117,209	365,237	125,106
Appalachian Virginia	118,170	25,359	73,848	22,578	51,270	18,963
Non-Appalachian Virginia	719,193	204,452	408,598	94,631	313,967	106,143
West Virginia (entire state)	287,953	74,790	169,510	35,073	134,437	43,653

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are based on family size and composition. In 2024, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$31,812. 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, 2020-2024 American Community Survey.

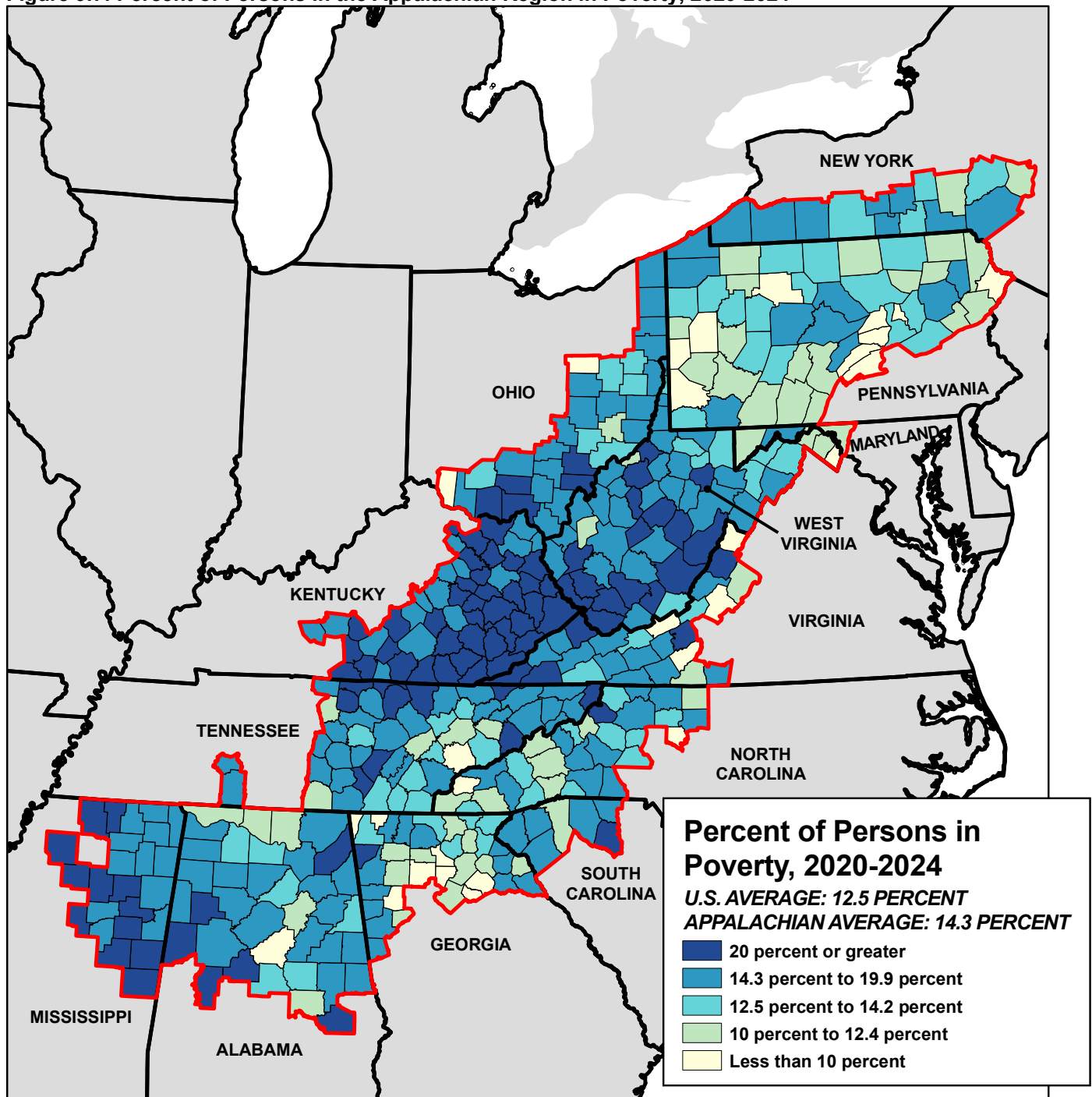
Table 9.4: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, by Age Group, 2020-2024

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	16.1	11.6	18.7	10.5	10.8
Appalachian Region	14.3	18.8	13.7	21.5	12.4	11.1
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	13.3	18.0	12.9	21.9	11.6	9.9
North Central Appalachia	15.9	20.1	15.9	24.8	14.5	11.7
Central Appalachia	21.2	26.3	20.9	24.4	20.4	16.5
South Central Appalachia	14.2	18.8	13.8	23.9	12.2	10.9
Southern Appalachia	13.2	17.6	12.1	18.5	11.1	11.0
County Types						
Large Metro (metro pop. 1 million +)	11.2	14.8	10.4	16.4	9.5	9.8
Small Metro (metro pop. <1 million)	14.2	18.9	13.8	24.1	12.0	10.5
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metro	15.0	20.4	14.3	20.7	13.3	11.5
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metro	15.9	21.4	15.4	19.9	14.8	12.1
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	18.9	23.7	18.9	26.2	17.6	14.2
Alabama	15.6	21.3	14.6	23.6	13.1	12.0
Appalachian Alabama	14.5	19.4	13.4	21.3	12.1	11.7
Non-Appalachian Alabama	17.8	24.5	16.8	27.7	14.9	12.4
Georgia	13.4	18.3	12.1	18.7	10.9	11.3
Appalachian Georgia	10.8	14.4	9.6	13.0	9.1	9.6
Non-Appalachian Georgia	14.6	20.1	13.2	21.3	11.8	12.0
Kentucky	16.1	20.3	15.4	23.0	14.2	12.8
Appalachian Kentucky	22.4	27.4	22.0	27.2	21.2	17.6
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	13.9	17.9	13.2	21.7	11.8	10.9
Maryland	9.4	11.5	8.7	14.1	7.9	9.5
Appalachian Maryland	13.4	17.7	13.0	16.4	12.5	10.0
Non-Appalachian Maryland	9.3	11.3	8.5	14.0	7.7	9.4
Mississippi	18.9	26.0	17.3	24.2	16.1	14.6
Appalachian Mississippi	19.2	25.1	18.2	26.7	16.5	14.8
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	18.8	26.2	17.1	23.4	16.0	14.5
New York	14.0	18.3	12.8	19.2	11.8	13.3
Appalachian New York	15.9	19.6	16.7	31.4	13.9	10.1
Non-Appalachian New York	13.9	18.3	12.6	18.4	11.7	13.5
North Carolina	13.0	17.7	12.0	19.6	10.8	10.6
Appalachian North Carolina	14.0	19.2	13.4	21.3	12.2	11.0
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	12.8	17.4	11.7	19.2	10.5	10.4
Ohio	13.3	17.8	12.6	20.0	11.4	10.0
Appalachian Ohio	15.9	21.4	15.4	20.7	14.5	11.5
Non-Appalachian Ohio	12.8	17.1	12.1	19.8	10.8	9.7
Pennsylvania	11.7	15.6	11.0	17.8	10.0	9.9
Appalachian Pennsylvania	12.3	16.5	11.8	20.7	10.6	9.6
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	11.3	15.0	10.3	15.6	9.5	10.1
South Carolina	14.1	19.4	13.1	20.7	11.9	11.0
Appalachian South Carolina	13.8	18.5	13.0	22.1	11.5	10.7
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	14.2	19.8	13.2	20.2	12.1	11.0
Tennessee	13.8	18.8	12.7	19.6	11.6	11.0
Appalachian Tennessee	14.4	19.2	13.8	21.6	12.6	11.3
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	13.3	18.6	11.9	18.2	10.9	10.8
Virginia	9.9	12.3	9.3	17.1	8.1	8.8
Appalachian Virginia	17.0	19.5	18.1	35.4	14.9	12.1
Non-Appalachian Virginia	9.3	11.8	8.6	15.2	7.6	8.4
West Virginia (entire state)	16.7	21.5	16.8	25.4	15.4	12.0

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are based on family size and composition. In 2024, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$31,812. 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, 2020-2024 American Community Survey.

Figure 9.7: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2020-2024

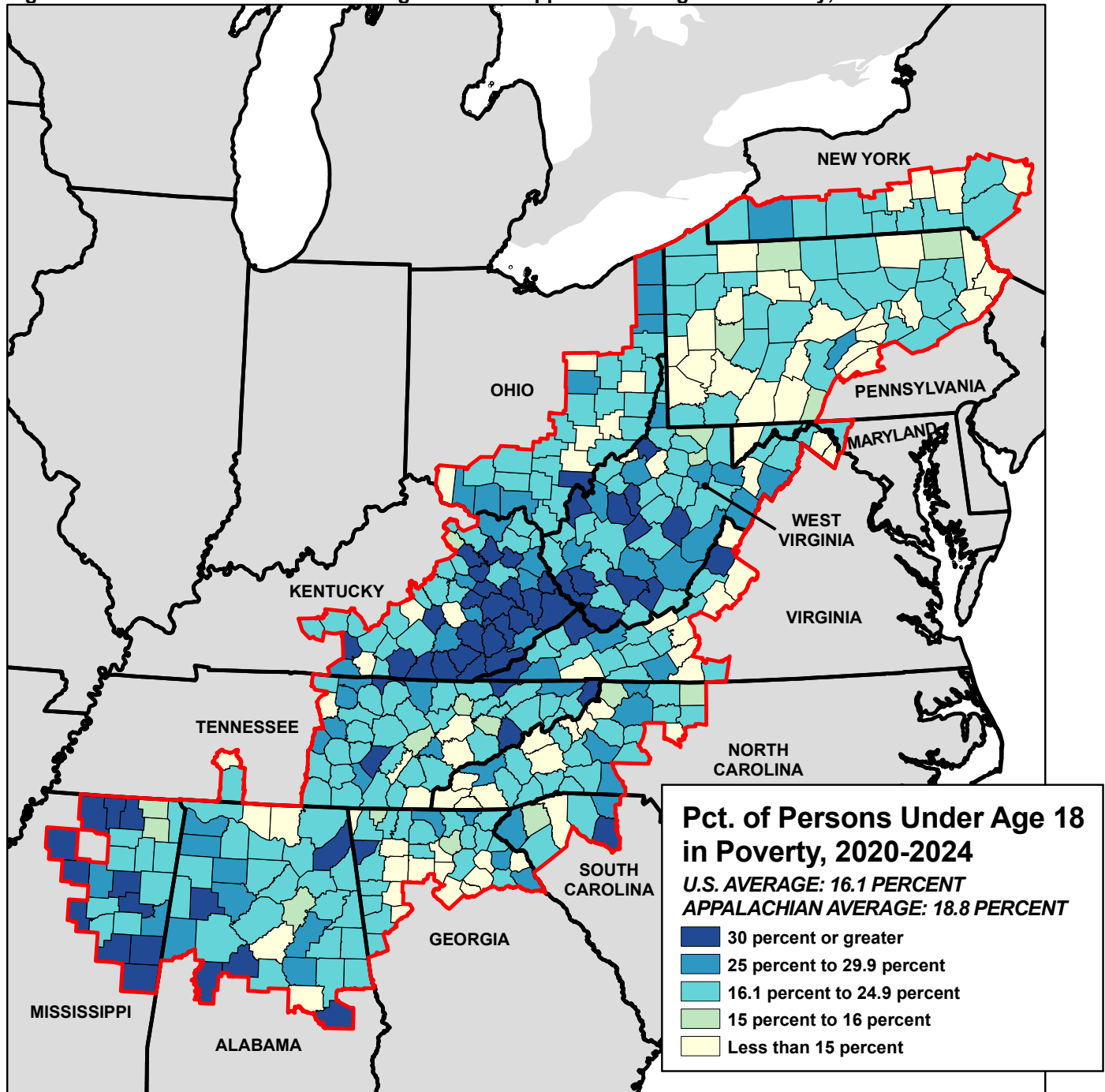


Map Title: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2020-2024

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020-2024 American Community Survey.

Over the 2020-2024 period, 14.3 percent of Appalachian residents lived below the poverty level (income below \$31,812 for a family of two adults and two children in 2024) – nearly two percentage points higher than the U.S. average. But there is a great deal of variation within Appalachia: In 95 counties, at least 20 percent of people were in poverty, yet in 86 counties the poverty rate was lower than the national average of 12.5 percent. And there was a geographic pattern: All but 13 of the counties with poverty rates at or above 20 percent were outside metropolitan areas, and more than half were in Central Appalachia which had a poverty rate of 21.2 percent. Appalachian Kentucky alone had 38 of these counties and a poverty rate of 22.4 percent, while West Virginia and the Appalachian portions of Mississippi and Tennessee also had high poverty clusters. In contrast, counties where poverty was lower than the U.S. rate were mostly in Northern Appalachia and/or metropolitan areas.

Figure 9.8: Percent of Persons Under Age 18 in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2020-2024

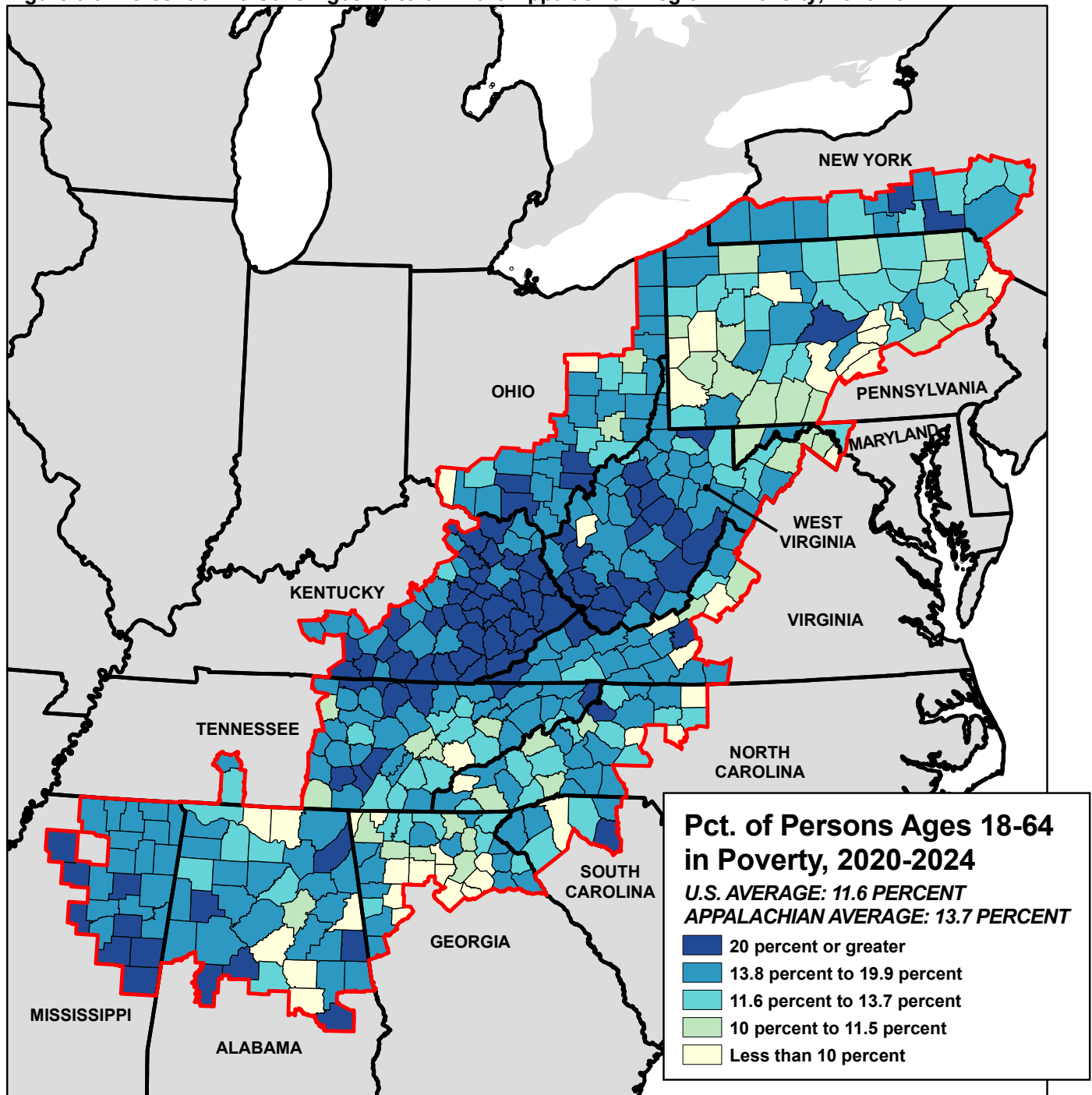


Map Title: Percent of Persons Under Age 18 in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2020-2024

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020-2024 American Community Survey.

Child poverty in the Appalachian Region was 18.8 percent in 2020-2024 – 2.7 percentage points above the national rate of 16.1 percent. And the problem is even more acute in some parts of Appalachia. In 61 counties, at least 30 percent of children under age 18 lived below the poverty level (income below \$31,812 for a family of two adults and two children in 2024). All but eight of these counties were outside metropolitan areas and just over half were in the most rural areas. Central Appalachia was home to 30 of the counties with the highest child poverty rates, while another 18 were in Southern Appalachia. However, there were 102 counties (primarily in Northern Appalachia; with large pockets in Southern and South Central Appalachia) where child poverty rates were below the national average. And among the 84 counties where child poverty was less than 15 percent, 39 were in metro areas and 30 were in Northern Appalachia.

Figure 9.9: Percent of Persons Ages 18 to 64 in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2020-2024

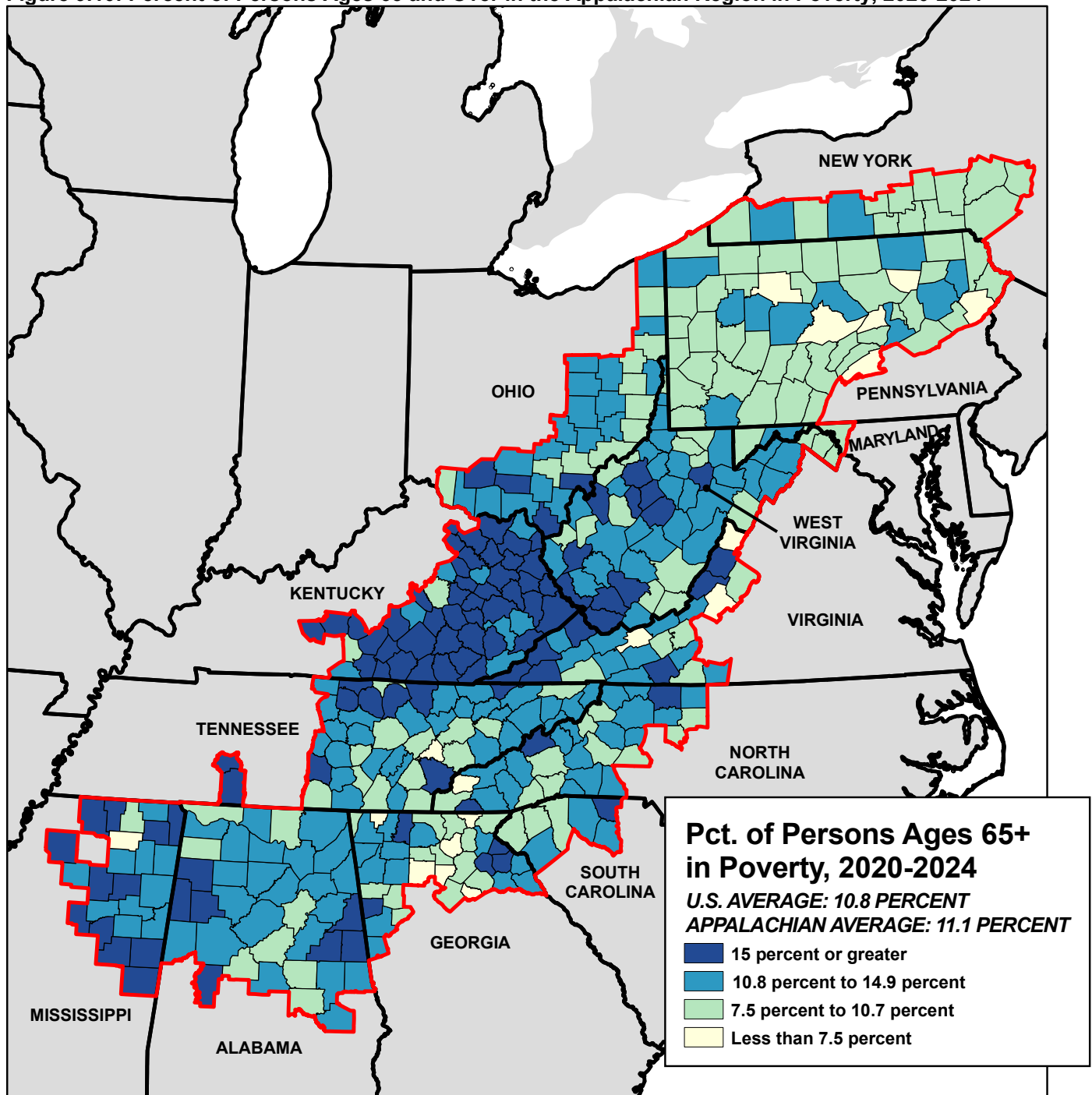


Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 18 to 64 in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2020-2024

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020-2024 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 2020-2024 period. The share of Appalachian residents in this age group with incomes below the poverty level (income of less than \$31,812 for a family of two adults and two children in 2024) was 13.7 percent, more than two percentage points above the U.S. average of 11.6 percent. Within the Appalachian Region, there were geographic patterns of poverty concentration. Of the 89 counties where at least one in five 18-to-64-year-olds were poor, 75 were outside metropolitan areas and 49 were in Central Appalachia – with 37 of these in Kentucky alone. Conversely, 50 of the 80 counties with rates below the national average were in metro areas and 28 were in Northern Appalachia, while another 26 were in Southern Appalachia – the two subregions with the lowest overall poverty rates for this age group.

Figure 9.10: Percent of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2020-2024



Map Title: Percent of Persons Ages 65 and Over in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2020-2024

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020-2024 American Community Survey.

The poverty rate for the oldest residents of Appalachia was 11.1 percent in 2020-2024, just above the national rate of 10.8 percent. Yet poverty among the 65-plus population was below the U.S. average in 149 counties, 61 of which were in Northern Appalachia alone, where the share of older adults in poverty was lowest at 9.9 percent. On the other hand, poverty was especially prevalent among the senior population in Central Appalachia, where 16.5 percent of residents ages 65 and over were poor in 2020-2024. Moreover, Appalachian Kentucky had 44 of the 104 Appalachian counties where the poverty rate among seniors was 15 percent or higher. (As determined by a series of income thresholds based on family size and composition, the poverty level in 2024 was \$18,961 for a family of two adults headed by someone age 65 or older.)

Table 9.5: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, by Age Group, 2015-2019 to 2020-2024

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	- 0.9	- 2.4	- 1.0	- 2.7	- 0.7	+ 1.5
Appalachian Region	- 1.0	- 2.4	- 1.2	- 3.3	- 0.9	+ 1.8
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	- 0.3	- 1.3	- 0.6	- 3.5	0.0	+ 1.7
North Central Appalachia	- 0.8	- 2.2	- 1.2	- 4.0	- 0.7	+ 2.2
Central Appalachia	- 2.3	- 4.9	- 2.5	- 5.4	- 2.1	+ 2.2
South Central Appalachia	- 1.5	- 3.6	- 1.8	- 3.2	- 1.6	+ 1.8
Southern Appalachia	- 1.0	- 2.1	- 1.2	- 2.1	- 1.0	+ 1.5
County Types						
Large Metro (metro pop. 1 million +)	- 0.6	- 1.1	- 0.7	- 1.6	- 0.5	+ 1.4
Small Metro (metro pop. <1 million)	- 1.0	- 2.3	- 1.3	- 3.3	- 1.0	+ 1.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metro	- 1.2	- 3.0	- 1.5	- 4.2	- 1.0	+ 2.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metro	- 1.0	- 2.9	- 1.2	- 4.3	- 0.7	+ 2.0
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 1.5	- 4.1	- 1.5	- 4.2	- 1.2	+ 2.0
Alabama	- 1.1	- 2.6	- 1.3	- 1.9	- 1.2	+ 1.8
Appalachian Alabama	- 1.0	- 2.5	- 1.4	- 1.7	- 1.3	+ 2.0
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 1.1	- 2.9	- 1.0	- 1.7	- 0.9	+ 1.4
Georgia	- 1.7	- 3.2	- 1.5	- 3.2	- 1.4	+ 1.1
Appalachian Georgia	- 1.3	- 2.3	- 1.3	- 2.0	- 1.1	+ 0.7
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 1.9	- 3.7	- 1.7	- 3.6	- 1.4	+ 1.2
Kentucky	- 1.2	- 3.2	- 1.3	- 2.7	- 1.0	+ 1.8
Appalachian Kentucky	- 2.1	- 4.7	- 2.4	- 4.3	- 2.1	+ 2.3
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 0.9	- 2.7	- 0.8	- 2.0	- 0.6	+ 1.7
Maryland	+ 0.2	- 0.6	+ 0.2	- 0.3	+ 0.3	+ 1.8
Appalachian Maryland	+ 0.2	- 0.7	+ 0.3	- 3.0	+ 0.8	+ 1.3
Non-Appalachian Maryland	+ 0.3	- 0.6	+ 0.2	- 0.2	+ 0.2	+ 1.8
Mississippi	- 1.4	- 2.7	- 1.5	- 4.0	- 1.1	+ 1.8
Appalachian Mississippi	- 0.5	- 1.9	- 0.5	- 3.6	0.0	+ 1.5
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 1.6	- 2.9	- 1.8	- 4.2	- 1.4	+ 1.8
New York	- 0.1	- 1.3	0.0	- 0.9	+ 0.1	+ 1.8
Appalachian New York	0.0	- 1.9	+ 0.2	- 1.4	+ 0.4	+ 1.9
Non-Appalachian New York	- 0.1	- 1.2	- 0.1	- 0.9	+ 0.1	+ 1.8
North Carolina	- 1.7	- 3.5	- 1.8	- 3.7	- 1.4	+ 1.5
Appalachian North Carolina	- 1.6	- 3.7	- 1.8	- 3.7	- 1.5	+ 1.8
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 1.7	- 3.4	- 1.7	- 3.8	- 1.4	+ 1.3
Ohio	- 0.7	- 2.1	- 0.8	- 2.7	- 0.6	+ 1.9
Appalachian Ohio	- 0.5	- 2.0	- 0.7	- 2.8	- 0.4	+ 2.3
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 0.7	- 2.1	- 0.8	- 2.8	- 0.6	+ 1.8
Pennsylvania	- 0.7	- 2.0	- 0.9	- 4.0	- 0.4	+ 1.8
Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 0.4	- 1.4	- 0.8	- 4.3	- 0.1	+ 1.5
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 0.9	- 2.4	- 1.1	- 3.7	- 0.7	+ 1.9
South Carolina	- 1.1	- 2.8	- 1.2	- 2.8	- 0.9	+ 1.6
Appalachian South Carolina	- 0.2	- 0.6	- 0.5	- 1.7	- 0.3	+ 2.0
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 1.4	- 3.6	- 1.4	- 3.2	- 1.1	+ 1.3
Tennessee	- 1.4	- 3.1	- 1.6	- 2.8	- 1.4	+ 1.6
Appalachian Tennessee	- 1.6	- 3.4	- 1.9	- 2.5	- 1.8	+ 1.8
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 1.4	- 2.8	- 1.4	- 3.0	- 1.1	+ 1.6
Virginia	- 0.7	- 1.6	- 0.8	- 2.8	- 0.5	+ 1.3
Appalachian Virginia	- 1.6	- 4.4	- 1.7	- 5.5	- 1.0	+ 1.9
Non-Appalachian Virginia	- 0.5	- 1.3	- 0.6	- 2.5	- 0.3	+ 1.3
West Virginia (entire state)	- 0.9	- 2.3	- 1.3	- 4.9	- 0.7	+ 2.5

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are based on family size and composition. In 2024, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$31,812. 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, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024 American Community Surveys.

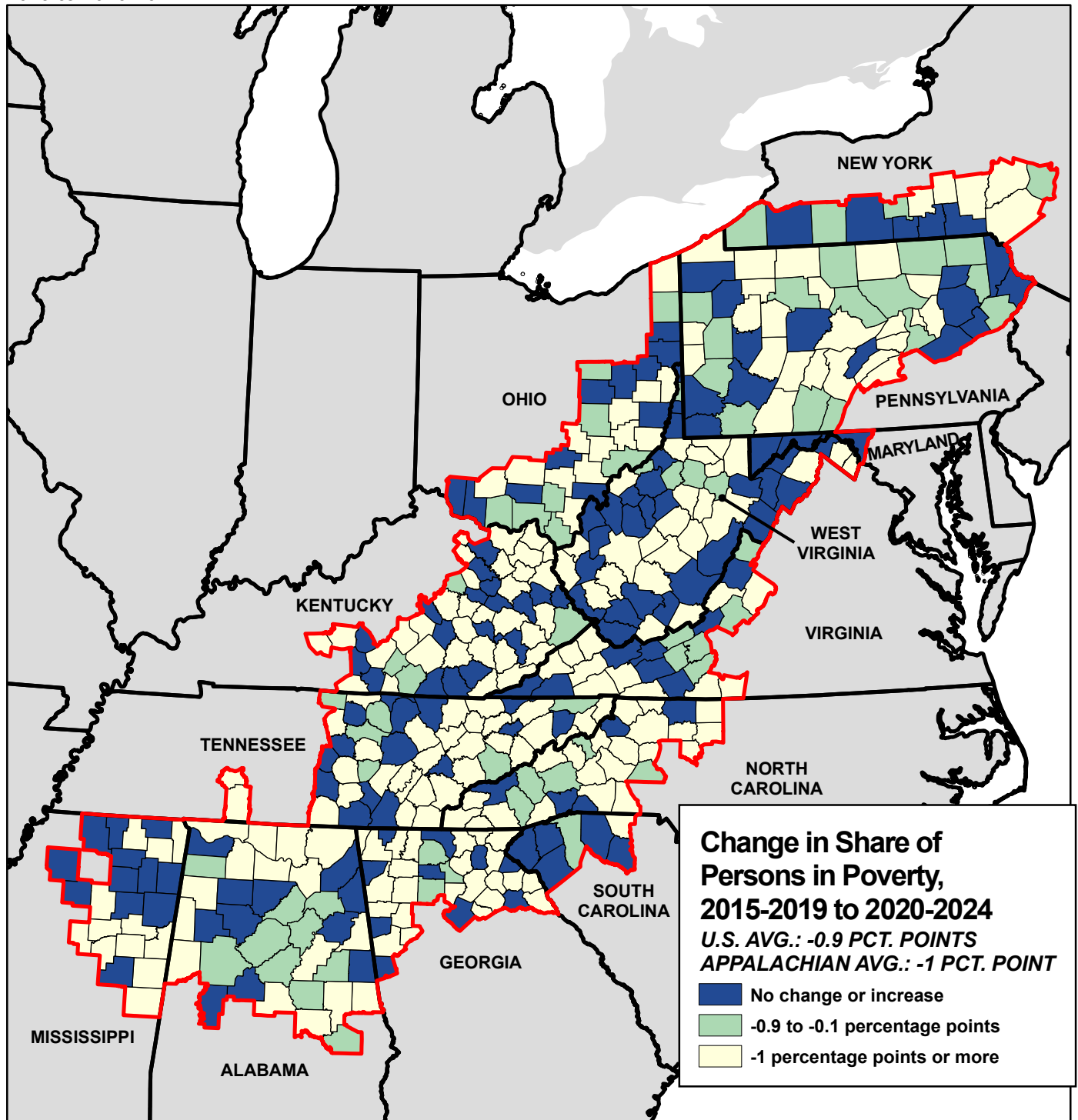
Table 9.6: Income-to-Poverty Ratio for Persons in the Appalachian Region, 2020-2024

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	327,079,188	6.0	6.4	15.8	71.8
Appalachian Region	25,679,306	6.6	7.6	18.4	67.4
Subregions					
Northern Appalachia	7,725,164	6.4	6.9	16.9	69.8
North Central Appalachia	2,407,889	7.4	8.5	18.9	65.2
Central Appalachia	1,793,850	9.2	12.0	23.3	55.5
South Central Appalachia	5,158,126	6.5	7.7	19.5	66.3
Southern Appalachia	8,594,277	6.1	7.1	17.9	68.9
County Types					
Large Metro (metro pop. 1 million +)	6,402,937	5.5	5.8	14.8	74.0
Small Metro (metro pop. <1 million)	10,566,551	6.8	7.4	18.0	67.8
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metro	2,308,650	6.8	8.2	20.4	64.6
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metro	3,983,195	6.8	9.2	21.4	62.7
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	2,417,973	8.5	10.4	22.7	58.4
Alabama	4,944,352	7.3	8.4	18.8	65.6
Appalachian Alabama	3,193,222	6.7	7.7	18.2	67.4
Non-Appalachian Alabama	1,751,130	8.3	9.5	19.9	62.4
Georgia	10,679,691	6.5	6.9	17.2	69.5
Appalachian Georgia	3,440,999	5.0	5.8	16.5	72.7
Non-Appalachian Georgia	7,238,692	7.2	7.4	17.4	67.9
Kentucky	4,409,674	7.6	8.5	18.9	65.0
Appalachian Kentucky	1,123,162	9.9	12.5	23.1	54.6
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	3,286,512	6.8	7.1	17.5	68.6
Maryland	6,074,976	4.9	4.5	11.6	79.0
Appalachian Maryland	237,443	6.2	7.2	17.4	69.2
Non-Appalachian Maryland	5,837,533	4.9	4.4	11.4	79.4
Mississippi	2,851,006	8.8	10.1	21.2	59.9
Appalachian Mississippi	589,153	8.7	10.5	23.2	57.6
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	2,261,853	8.8	10.0	20.6	60.6
New York	19,362,417	7.0	7.0	14.4	71.6
Appalachian New York	961,001	8.0	7.9	17.7	66.4
Non-Appalachian New York	18,401,416	6.9	7.0	14.2	71.8
North Carolina	10,444,377	6.2	6.8	17.5	69.4
Appalachian North Carolina	1,999,457	6.3	7.7	19.8	66.2
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	8,444,920	6.2	6.6	17.0	70.2
Ohio	11,512,055	6.3	7.0	16.0	70.7
Appalachian Ohio	1,918,211	7.3	8.6	19.1	65.0
Non-Appalachian Ohio	9,593,844	6.1	6.6	15.4	71.8
Pennsylvania	12,600,920	5.7	6.1	14.9	73.4
Appalachian Pennsylvania	5,461,008	5.9	6.4	16.3	71.4
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	7,139,912	5.5	5.8	13.8	74.9
South Carolina	5,156,455	6.8	7.3	17.9	68.0
Appalachian South Carolina	1,370,903	6.5	7.3	18.5	67.7
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	3,785,552	6.8	7.3	17.7	68.2
Tennessee	6,907,625	6.5	7.3	18.1	68.2
Appalachian Tennessee	2,966,870	6.3	8.1	19.7	65.9
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	3,940,755	6.6	6.7	16.9	69.8
Virginia	8,462,722	5.0	4.9	13.3	76.8
Appalachian Virginia	694,970	8.7	8.3	20.7	62.3
Non-Appalachian Virginia	7,767,752	4.7	4.6	12.7	78.1
West Virginia (entire state)	1,722,907	7.7	9.0	19.3	64.0

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are based on family size and composition. In 2024, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$31,812. 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, 2020-2024 American Community Survey.

Figure 9.11: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2015-2019 to 2020-2024



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region in Poverty, 2015-2019 to 2020-2024

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024 American Community Surveys.

The share of Appalachian residents living below the poverty level (income of less than \$31,812 for a family of two adults and two children in 2024) decreased by 1 percentage point between the 2015-2019 and 2020-2024 periods, slightly greater than the 0.9 percentage point decline nationally. In 213 of Appalachia's 423 counties, the poverty rate declined by at least the Appalachian average and nearly half were in South Central and Southern Appalachia. Conversely, there were 143 counties – 44 of which were in West Virginia and Appalachian Kentucky – where poverty rates stayed the same or increased between the two periods.

Table 9.7: Number of Persons in the Appalachian Region Below 50% of Poverty Level, by Age Group, 2020-2024

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	19,657,810	5,557,483	11,793,445	2,866,711	8,926,734	2,306,882
Appalachian Region	1,698,116	486,519	1,021,148	263,971	757,177	190,449
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	492,608	134,992	298,950	80,608	218,342	58,666
North Central Appalachia	177,930	49,737	109,706	29,231	80,475	18,487
Central Appalachia	164,926	51,215	97,603	17,615	79,988	16,108
South Central Appalachia	334,621	88,336	208,191	59,552	148,639	38,094
Southern Appalachia	528,031	162,239	306,698	76,965	229,733	59,094
County Types						
Large Metro (metro pop. 1 million +)	350,202	102,687	204,531	47,196	157,335	42,984
Small Metro (metro pop. <1 million)	716,255	199,002	440,653	134,761	305,892	76,600
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metro	156,116	45,823	92,924	21,507	71,417	17,369
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metro	269,050	78,753	158,559	30,222	128,337	31,738
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	206,493	60,254	124,481	30,285	94,196	21,758
Alabama	359,285	111,433	209,698	57,327	152,371	38,154
Appalachian Alabama	214,556	64,698	125,169	33,280	91,889	24,689
Non-Appalachian Alabama	144,729	46,735	84,529	24,047	60,482	13,465
Georgia	694,123	218,657	409,034	101,037	307,997	66,432
Appalachian Georgia	172,848	54,977	98,585	20,431	78,154	19,286
Non-Appalachian Georgia	521,275	163,680	310,449	80,606	229,843	47,146
Kentucky	335,476	104,575	198,428	47,055	151,373	32,473
Appalachian Kentucky	110,682	35,452	64,940	12,832	52,108	10,290
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	224,794	69,123	133,488	34,223	99,265	22,183
Maryland	299,319	77,407	177,384	39,012	138,372	44,528
Appalachian Maryland	14,799	3,991	8,680	1,967	6,713	2,128
Non-Appalachian Maryland	284,520	73,416	168,704	37,045	131,659	42,400
Mississippi	250,129	89,338	137,921	32,995	104,926	22,870
Appalachian Mississippi	51,051	16,242	29,894	8,352	21,542	4,915
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	199,078	73,096	108,027	24,643	83,384	17,955
New York	1,349,608	357,287	818,550	167,083	651,467	173,771
Appalachian New York	76,461	17,669	51,246	19,615	31,631	7,546
Non-Appalachian New York	1,273,147	339,618	767,304	147,468	619,836	166,225
North Carolina	646,536	195,891	383,006	97,027	285,979	67,639
Appalachian North Carolina	126,599	34,440	76,253	17,838	58,415	15,906
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	519,937	161,451	306,753	79,189	227,564	51,733
Ohio	729,204	224,088	428,412	102,745	325,667	76,704
Appalachian Ohio	139,474	43,341	81,103	16,220	64,883	15,030
Non-Appalachian Ohio	589,730	180,747	347,309	86,525	260,784	61,674
Pennsylvania	712,218	201,014	419,734	100,396	319,338	91,470
Appalachian Pennsylvania	322,361	87,470	194,834	51,949	142,885	40,057
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	389,857	113,544	224,900	48,447	176,453	51,413
South Carolina	348,614	104,626	203,142	49,260	153,882	40,846
Appalachian South Carolina	89,576	26,322	53,050	14,902	38,148	10,204
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	259,038	78,304	150,092	34,358	115,734	30,642
Tennessee	446,711	140,218	261,588	59,587	202,001	44,905
Appalachian Tennessee	187,136	52,832	114,453	28,094	86,359	19,851
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	259,575	87,386	147,135	31,493	115,642	25,054
Virginia	424,748	115,513	260,003	73,180	186,823	49,232
Appalachian Virginia	60,308	12,406	41,184	16,875	24,309	6,718
Non-Appalachian Virginia	364,440	103,107	218,819	56,305	162,514	42,514
West Virginia (entire state)	132,265	36,679	81,757	21,616	60,141	13,829

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are based on family size and composition. In 2024, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$31,812. 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, 2020-2024 American Community Survey.

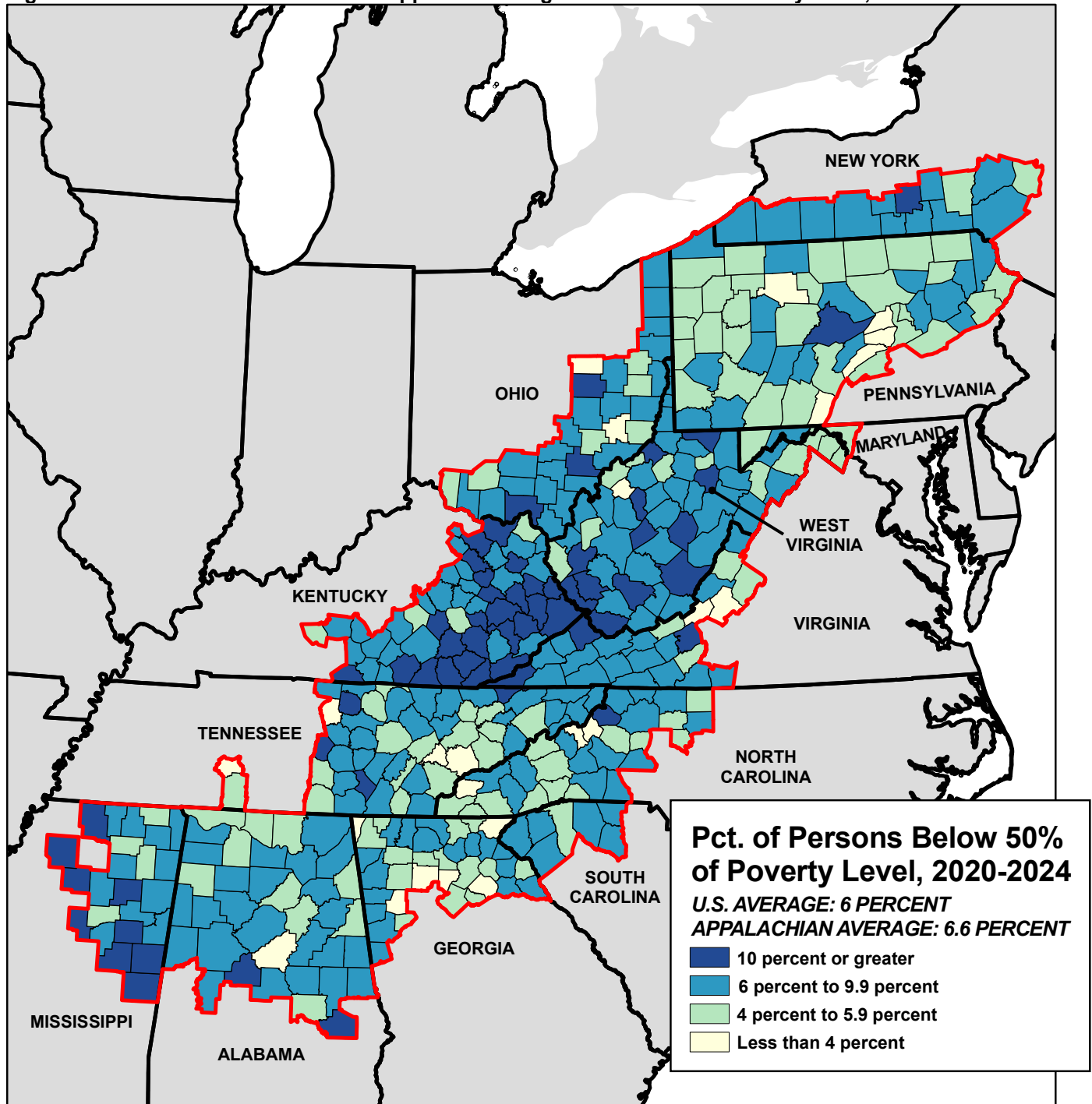
Table 9.8: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region Below 50% of Poverty Level, by Age Group, 2020-2024

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	6.0	7.7	5.9	10.5	5.2	4.1
Appalachian Region	6.6	8.9	6.7	12.6	5.7	3.8
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	6.4	8.8	6.6	13.4	5.5	3.6
North Central Appalachia	7.4	10.0	7.7	14.9	6.6	3.8
Central Appalachia	9.2	13.2	9.3	12.9	8.7	4.5
South Central Appalachia	6.5	8.6	6.8	14.1	5.6	3.6
Southern Appalachia	6.1	8.2	5.9	10.4	5.2	4.2
County Types						
Large Metro (metro pop. 1 million +)	5.5	7.2	5.3	9.3	4.7	3.9
Small Metro (metro pop. <1 million)	6.8	9.0	7.0	15.0	5.6	3.8
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metro	6.8	9.4	6.9	11.6	6.1	3.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metro	6.8	9.6	6.9	10.0	6.4	3.7
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	8.5	11.8	8.9	15.1	7.8	4.4
Alabama	7.3	10.0	7.1	13.7	6.0	4.3
Appalachian Alabama	6.7	9.1	6.5	12.3	5.6	4.4
Non-Appalachian Alabama	8.3	11.7	8.2	16.1	6.8	4.2
Georgia	6.5	8.7	6.2	10.7	5.5	4.1
Appalachian Georgia	5.0	6.6	4.7	6.9	4.3	3.8
Non-Appalachian Georgia	7.2	9.7	6.9	12.5	6.0	4.3
Kentucky	7.6	10.4	7.5	12.8	6.7	4.3
Appalachian Kentucky	9.9	14.2	9.8	14.5	9.1	4.9
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	6.8	9.2	6.7	12.2	5.8	4.0
Maryland	4.9	5.7	4.8	8.2	4.3	4.4
Appalachian Maryland	6.2	8.0	6.2	9.9	5.6	4.5
Non-Appalachian Maryland	4.9	5.6	4.7	8.2	4.2	4.4
Mississippi	8.8	13.2	8.2	13.2	7.3	4.7
Appalachian Mississippi	8.7	11.9	8.6	14.9	7.4	4.7
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	8.8	13.6	8.1	12.7	7.3	4.7
New York	7.0	9.0	6.9	10.9	6.3	5.0
Appalachian New York	8.0	9.4	9.0	21.2	6.6	3.7
Non-Appalachian New York	6.9	8.9	6.8	10.3	6.3	5.1
North Carolina	6.2	8.5	6.0	11.2	5.2	3.7
Appalachian North Carolina	6.3	8.7	6.5	11.5	5.7	3.7
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	6.2	8.5	5.9	11.1	5.1	3.8
Ohio	6.3	8.8	6.2	11.0	5.5	3.7
Appalachian Ohio	7.3	10.4	7.3	10.7	6.7	3.9
Non-Appalachian Ohio	6.1	8.4	6.0	11.0	5.3	3.6
Pennsylvania	5.7	7.7	5.6	10.5	4.9	3.7
Appalachian Pennsylvania	5.9	8.2	6.1	12.8	5.1	3.4
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	5.5	7.3	5.2	8.8	4.7	4.0
South Carolina	6.8	9.3	6.6	11.9	5.8	4.2
Appalachian South Carolina	6.5	8.5	6.5	13.2	5.4	4.2
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	6.8	9.7	6.7	11.4	6.0	4.2
Tennessee	6.5	9.1	6.2	10.5	5.6	3.8
Appalachian Tennessee	6.3	8.7	6.5	11.7	5.6	3.4
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	6.6	9.4	6.1	9.5	5.5	4.2
Virginia	5.0	6.2	5.0	10.7	4.2	3.5
Appalachian Virginia	8.7	9.6	10.1	26.4	7.1	4.3
Non-Appalachian Virginia	4.7	5.9	4.6	9.0	3.9	3.4
West Virginia (entire state)	7.7	10.5	8.1	15.7	6.9	3.8

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are based on family size and composition. In 2024, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$31,812. 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, 2020-2024 American Community Survey.

Figure 9.12: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region Below 50% of Poverty Level, 2020-2024

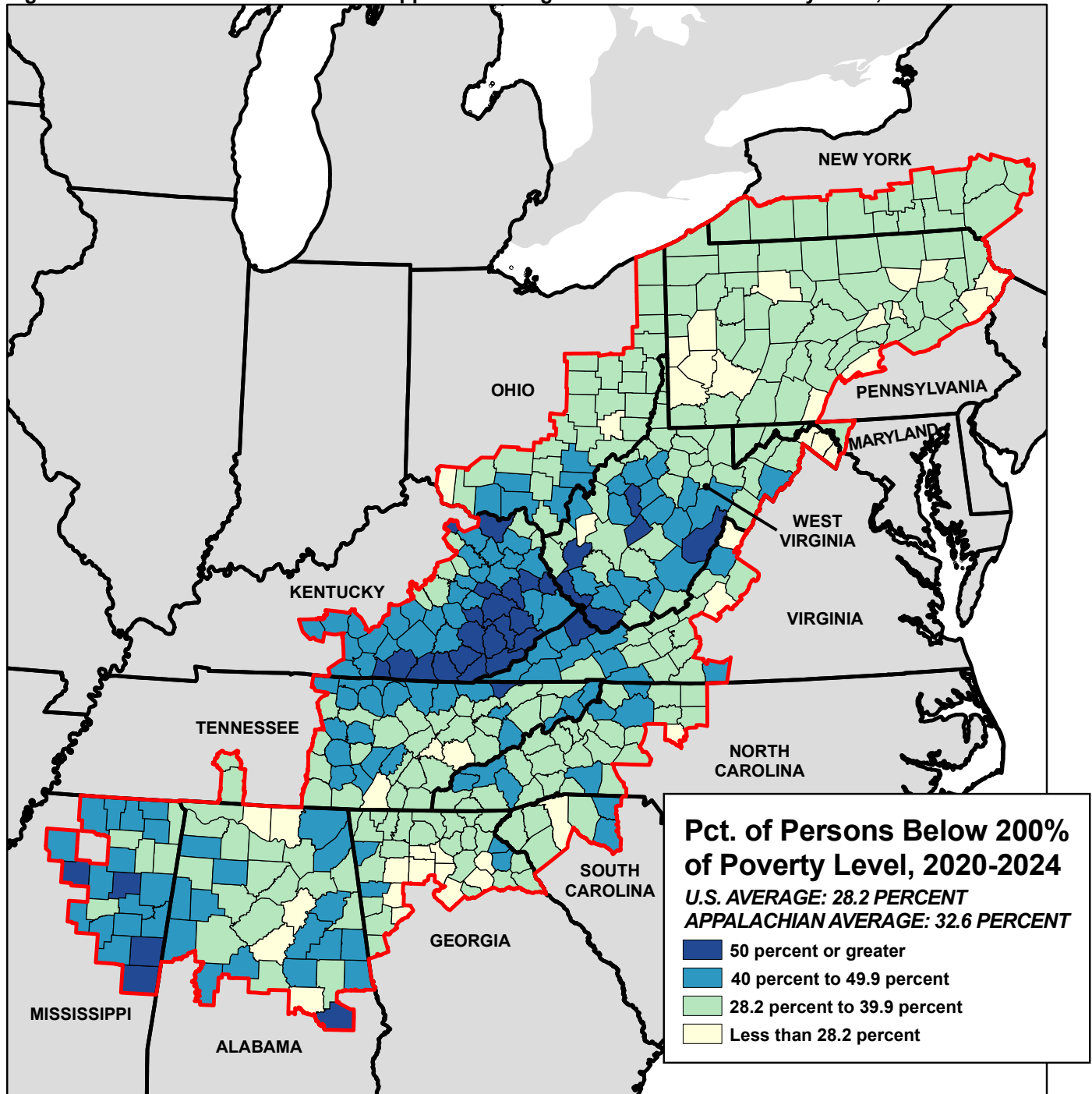


Map Title: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region Below 50% of Poverty Level, 2020-2024

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020-2024 American Community Survey.

In the 2020-2024 period, 6.6 percent of Appalachian residents were in deep poverty (incomes below 50 percent of the poverty level, or less than \$15,906 for a family of two adults and two children in 2024). This was slightly higher than the national average of six percent, and the situation was even worse in some parts of the Appalachian Region. For example, at least one in 10 residents lived in deep poverty in 61 Appalachian counties. All but 11 of these counties were outside metropolitan areas, and 33 of them were in Central Appalachia. (Kentucky alone had 25 counties in this group.) In contrast, there were 24 counties in Appalachia where less than four percent of the population had incomes below 50 percent of the poverty level. All but two of these 24 counties were in Northern, South Central, and Southern Appalachia, where the share of residents in deep poverty was lower than the regional average.

Figure 9.13: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region Below 200% of Poverty Level, 2020-2024



Map Title: Percent of Persons in the Appalachian Region Below 200% of Poverty Level, 2020-2024

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020-2024 American Community Survey.

Nearly one-third (32.6 percent) of people in the Appalachian Region had incomes less than twice the poverty level in 2020-2024, more than four percentage points higher than the national rate of 28.2 percent. (In 2024, a family of two adults and two children fell in this category if their income was less than \$63,624.) The share of people who were poor (below 100 percent of poverty) and low-income (between 100 percent and 199 percent of poverty) was 40 percent or more in 156 of Appalachia's 423 counties; these were overwhelmingly in the Central and Southern subregions. And in 33 Appalachian counties, at least half of residents had incomes below 200 percent of the poverty level; 25 of these counties were in Central Appalachia with 20 in Kentucky alone. In contrast, there were 42 counties in the Appalachian Region where the share of people who were poor and low-income was below the national average, 30 of which were in Northern Appalachia. Of these counties, 31 were in metropolitan areas, including counties outside of Atlanta and Birmingham.

Table 9.9: Percentage Point Change in Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region, by Income-to-Poverty Ratio, 2015-2019 to 2020-2024

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	0.0	- 1.0	- 1.6	+ 2.7
Appalachian Region	+ 0.1	- 1.1	- 1.4	+ 2.5
Subregions				
Northern Appalachia	+ 0.4	- 0.7	- 1.0	+ 1.3
North Central Appalachia	+ 0.1	- 0.9	- 1.2	+ 2.0
Central Appalachia	- 0.7	- 1.5	- 0.1	+ 2.4
South Central Appalachia	- 0.3	- 1.3	- 1.6	+ 3.1
Southern Appalachia	+ 0.1	- 1.2	- 2.1	+ 3.1
County Types				
Large Metro (metro pop. 1 million +)	+ 0.4	- 0.8	- 1.8	+ 2.3
Small Metro (metro pop. <1 million)	+ 0.1	- 1.2	- 1.5	+ 2.5
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metro	- 0.1	- 1.1	- 1.0	+ 2.2
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metro	- 0.1	- 0.8	- 1.1	+ 2.1
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 0.3	- 1.3	- 0.7	+ 2.2
Alabama	- 0.1	- 0.9	- 1.3	+ 2.5
Appalachian Alabama	+ 0.1	- 1.3	- 1.6	+ 2.7
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 0.6	- 0.5	- 0.9	+ 2.1
Georgia	- 0.3	- 1.4	- 2.0	+ 3.8
Appalachian Georgia	+ 0.1	- 1.4	- 2.7	+ 4.0
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 0.4	- 1.4	- 1.7	+ 3.5
Kentucky	+ 0.1	- 1.3	- 0.5	+ 1.8
Appalachian Kentucky	- 0.6	- 1.5	- 0.5	+ 2.7
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	+ 0.3	- 1.2	- 0.4	+ 1.3
Maryland	+ 0.4	- 0.2	- 0.8	+ 0.6
Appalachian Maryland	+ 0.7	- 0.5	- 0.6	+ 0.4
Non-Appalachian Maryland	+ 0.5	- 0.2	- 0.8	+ 0.6
Mississippi	- 0.3	- 1.1	- 0.8	+ 2.2
Appalachian Mississippi	+ 0.7	- 1.2	- 1.4	+ 2.0
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 0.6	- 1.0	- 0.8	+ 2.4
New York	+ 0.6	- 0.7	- 1.3	+ 1.3
Appalachian New York	+ 0.7	- 0.7	- 1.3	+ 1.3
Non-Appalachian New York	+ 0.6	- 0.6	- 1.3	+ 1.2
North Carolina	- 0.3	- 1.4	- 2.1	+ 3.7
Appalachian North Carolina	- 0.2	- 1.3	- 1.7	+ 3.2
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 0.2	- 1.5	- 2.1	+ 3.8
Ohio	0.0	- 0.7	- 1.2	+ 1.9
Appalachian Ohio	+ 0.2	- 0.7	- 0.9	+ 1.4
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 0.1	- 0.8	- 1.2	+ 2.0
Pennsylvania	+ 0.1	- 0.7	- 1.0	+ 1.7
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 0.3	- 0.7	- 0.9	+ 1.3
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 0.1	- 0.8	- 1.1	+ 2.0
South Carolina	0.0	- 1.1	- 2.0	+ 3.1
Appalachian South Carolina	+ 0.3	- 0.4	- 1.5	+ 1.7
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 0.2	- 1.4	- 2.2	+ 3.7
Tennessee	0.0	- 1.4	- 1.6	+ 3.1
Appalachian Tennessee	- 0.3	- 1.3	- 1.5	+ 3.1
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	+ 0.1	- 1.5	- 1.6	+ 3.0
Virginia	- 0.1	- 0.6	- 0.9	+ 1.6
Appalachian Virginia	- 0.3	- 1.2	- 0.1	+ 1.7
Non-Appalachian Virginia	0.0	- 0.5	- 0.9	+ 1.5
West Virginia (entire state)	+ 0.1	- 0.9	- 1.4	+ 2.3

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are based on family size and composition. In 2024, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$31,812. 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, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024 American Community Surveys.

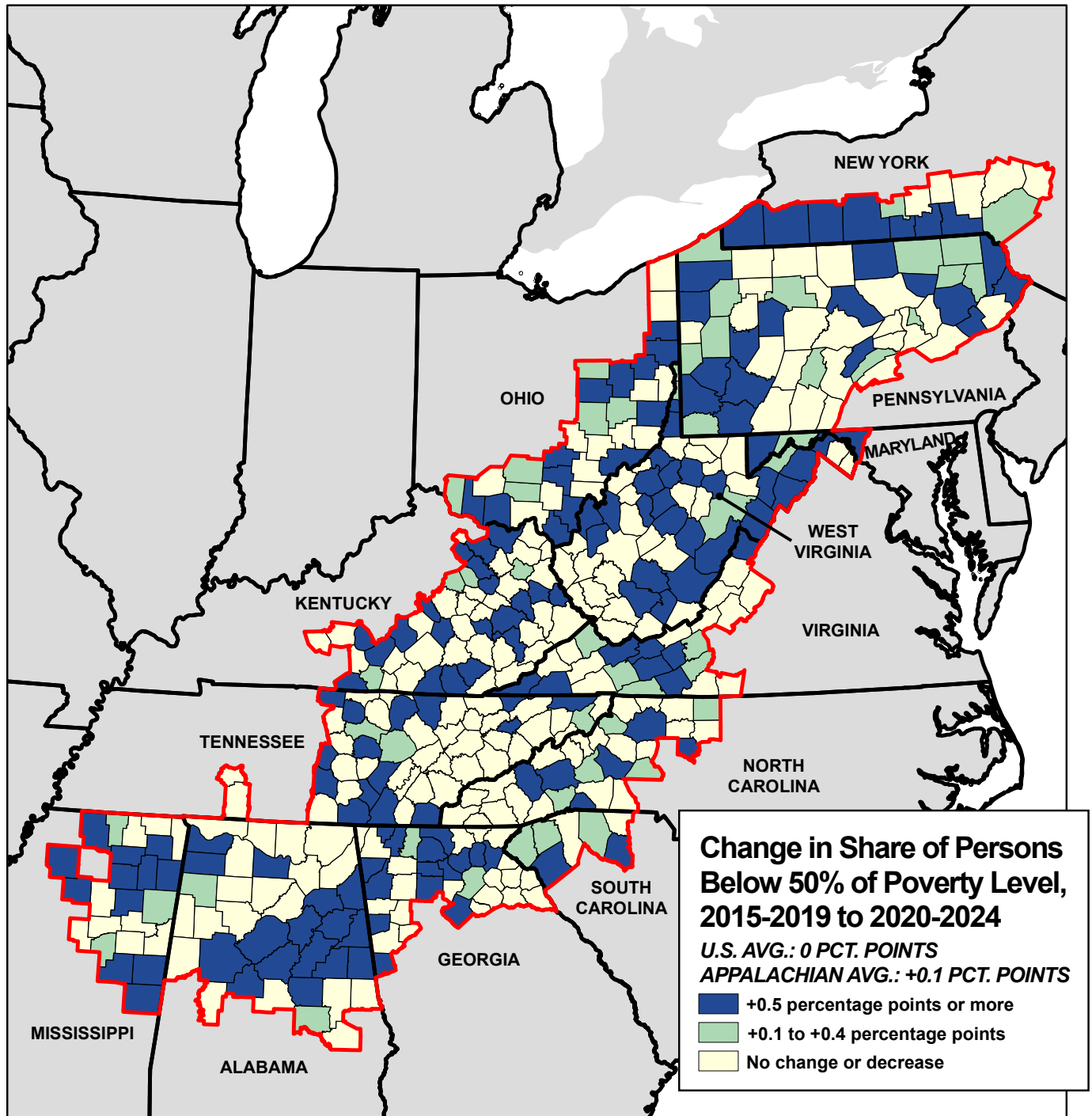
Table 9.10: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region Below 50% of Poverty Level, by Age Group, 2015-2019 to 2020-2024

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	0.0	- 0.5	0.0	- 1.3	+ 0.2	+ 1.1
Appalachian Region	+ 0.1	- 0.4	0.0	- 1.7	+ 0.2	+ 1.1
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	+ 0.4	+ 0.3	+ 0.4	- 1.9	+ 0.7	+ 1.0
North Central Appalachia	+ 0.1	- 0.4	0.0	- 2.1	+ 0.3	+ 1.4
Central Appalachia	- 0.7	- 2.2	- 0.7	- 2.7	- 0.5	+ 1.3
South Central Appalachia	- 0.3	- 1.1	- 0.4	- 1.8	- 0.1	+ 1.1
Southern Appalachia	+ 0.1	+ 0.1	0.0	- 0.9	+ 0.2	+ 1.3
County Types						
Large Metro (metro pop. 1 million +)	+ 0.4	+ 0.3	+ 0.2	- 0.7	+ 0.4	+ 1.0
Small Metro (metro pop. <1 million)	+ 0.1	- 0.3	0.0	- 1.4	+ 0.2	+ 1.3
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metro	- 0.1	- 0.5	- 0.2	- 2.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.9
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metro	- 0.1	- 0.9	- 0.2	- 2.7	+ 0.2	+ 1.2
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 0.3	- 1.2	- 0.2	- 2.7	+ 0.1	+ 1.5
Alabama	- 0.1	- 1.2	- 0.1	- 0.8	0.0	+ 1.4
Appalachian Alabama	+ 0.1	- 0.4	0.0	- 0.6	+ 0.2	+ 1.6
Non-Appalachian Alabama	- 0.6	- 2.3	- 0.4	- 1.2	- 0.3	+ 1.1
Georgia	- 0.3	- 0.7	- 0.3	- 1.3	- 0.1	+ 0.8
Appalachian Georgia	+ 0.1	+ 0.3	- 0.1	- 0.6	- 0.1	+ 0.9
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 0.4	- 1.3	- 0.4	- 1.5	- 0.1	+ 0.8
Kentucky	+ 0.1	- 0.7	+ 0.1	- 1.0	+ 0.3	+ 1.6
Appalachian Kentucky	- 0.6	- 1.6	- 0.7	- 2.4	- 0.4	+ 1.5
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	+ 0.3	- 0.3	+ 0.3	- 0.6	+ 0.5	+ 1.6
Maryland	+ 0.4	- 0.2	+ 0.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.5	+ 1.5
Appalachian Maryland	+ 0.7	+ 0.7	+ 0.5	- 0.6	+ 0.7	+ 1.8
Non-Appalachian Maryland	+ 0.5	- 0.2	+ 0.4	+ 0.3	+ 0.5	+ 1.4
Mississippi	- 0.3	- 0.8	- 0.4	- 2.2	- 0.1	+ 1.1
Appalachian Mississippi	+ 0.7	+ 1.2	+ 0.5	- 3.3	+ 1.2	+ 1.1
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 0.6	- 1.2	- 0.6	- 1.9	- 0.4	+ 1.1
New York	+ 0.6	0.0	+ 0.7	- 0.3	+ 0.8	+ 1.5
Appalachian New York	+ 0.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.8	- 0.1	+ 0.9	+ 1.1
Non-Appalachian New York	+ 0.6	- 0.1	+ 0.7	- 0.3	+ 0.8	+ 1.5
North Carolina	- 0.3	- 0.9	- 0.4	- 1.8	- 0.1	+ 1.1
Appalachian North Carolina	- 0.2	- 1.0	- 0.3	- 2.6	0.0	+ 1.1
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 0.2	- 0.8	- 0.4	- 1.7	- 0.1	+ 1.2
Ohio	0.0	- 0.5	0.0	- 1.5	+ 0.3	+ 1.1
Appalachian Ohio	+ 0.2	- 0.5	+ 0.3	- 2.0	+ 0.6	+ 1.1
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 0.1	- 0.6	- 0.1	- 1.4	+ 0.2	+ 1.1
Pennsylvania	+ 0.1	- 0.3	0.0	- 2.3	+ 0.3	+ 1.0
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 0.3	+ 0.3	+ 0.2	- 2.4	+ 0.6	+ 0.9
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	- 0.1	- 0.7	- 0.3	- 2.2	+ 0.1	+ 1.2
South Carolina	0.0	- 0.6	- 0.2	- 1.2	0.0	+ 1.4
Appalachian South Carolina	+ 0.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.1	- 0.6	+ 0.2	+ 1.6
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 0.2	- 0.8	- 0.2	- 1.4	+ 0.1	+ 1.3
Tennessee	0.0	- 0.7	- 0.2	- 1.2	+ 0.1	+ 1.2
Appalachian Tennessee	- 0.3	- 1.1	- 0.3	- 0.9	- 0.3	+ 0.9
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	+ 0.1	- 0.4	0.0	- 1.6	+ 0.2	+ 1.6
Virginia	- 0.1	- 0.4	- 0.1	- 1.8	+ 0.2	+ 1.0
Appalachian Virginia	- 0.3	- 2.5	- 0.2	- 3.1	+ 0.3	+ 1.7
Non-Appalachian Virginia	0.0	- 0.3	0.0	- 1.6	+ 0.2	+ 0.9
West Virginia (entire state)	+ 0.1	- 0.7	- 0.1	- 2.0	+ 0.2	+ 1.7

Note: Poverty status is determined by a series of income thresholds that are based on family size and composition. In 2024, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$31,812. 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, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024 American Community Surveys.

Figure 9.14: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region Below 50% of Poverty Level, 2015-2019 to 2020-2024



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Persons in the Appalachian Region Below 50% of Poverty Level, 2015-2019 to 2020-2024

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024 American Community Surveys.

The share of Appalachian residents living in deep poverty (or 50 percent of the poverty level and earning less than \$15,906 for a family of two adults and two children in 2024) increased by 0.1 percentage points between the 2015-2019 and 2020-2024 periods, while the share nationwide remained unchanged. But there was much variation within the Appalachian Region. On one hand, deep poverty either stayed the same or decreased in 214 counties. Yet in 156 other counties, deep poverty increased by at least 0.5 percentage points. The share of residents living in deep poverty increased the most in Appalachian Maryland, New York, and Mississippi (0.7 percentage points each) and decreased the most in Appalachian Kentucky (0.6 percentage points).

Table 9.11: Number and Percent of Households in the Appalachian Region Receiving SNAP, by Poverty Status, 2020-2024

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	15,572,114	12.1	6,598,381	40.6	8,973,733	7.9
Appalachian Region	1,438,132	13.6	690,904	44.5	747,228	8.3
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	511,516	15.3	229,242	50.1	282,274	9.7
North Central Appalachia	162,145	16.1	84,007	50.8	78,138	9.2
Central Appalachia	151,551	20.5	88,416	53.3	63,135	11.0
South Central Appalachia	258,105	12.0	120,873	38.8	137,232	7.4
Southern Appalachia	354,815	10.7	168,366	37.3	186,449	6.5
County Types						
Large Metro (metro pop. 1 million +)	293,137	11.5	125,952	42.5	167,185	7.4
Small Metro (metro pop. <1 million)	564,600	12.8	273,130	43.1	291,470	7.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metro	143,891	15.2	65,732	45.5	78,159	9.7
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metro	266,092	15.9	130,893	47.7	135,199	9.7
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	170,412	16.9	95,197	46.9	75,215	9.3
Alabama	273,037	13.7	138,751	43.6	134,286	8.0
Appalachian Alabama	158,976	12.4	80,658	42.4	78,318	7.1
Non-Appalachian Alabama	114,061	16.1	58,093	45.3	55,968	9.6
Georgia	499,864	12.3	212,454	39.2	287,410	8.1
Appalachian Georgia	110,522	9.0	42,488	32.0	68,034	6.2
Non-Appalachian Georgia	389,342	13.7	169,966	41.5	219,376	9.0
Kentucky	239,150	13.2	131,099	43.5	108,051	7.1
Appalachian Kentucky	95,299	20.7	58,039	53.2	37,260	10.6
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	143,851	10.6	73,060	38.0	70,791	6.1
Maryland	263,525	11.2	89,501	38.5	174,024	8.2
Appalachian Maryland	16,834	16.9	7,104	52.4	9,730	11.3
Non-Appalachian Maryland	246,691	10.9	82,397	37.6	164,294	8.0
Mississippi	154,756	13.5	88,535	40.1	66,221	7.2
Appalachian Mississippi	31,601	13.0	18,657	36.6	12,944	6.7
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	123,155	13.6	69,878	41.2	53,277	7.3
New York	1,204,048	15.6	542,538	49.9	661,510	10.0
Appalachian New York	62,303	14.7	30,891	45.7	31,412	8.8
Non-Appalachian New York	1,141,745	15.6	511,647	50.2	630,098	10.0
North Carolina	546,146	12.8	228,735	41.1	317,411	8.5
Appalachian North Carolina	112,171	13.4	48,971	41.2	63,200	8.8
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	433,975	12.6	179,764	41.1	254,211	8.5
Ohio	605,502	12.5	303,406	46.4	302,096	7.2
Appalachian Ohio	127,339	15.8	67,118	51.8	60,221	8.9
Non-Appalachian Ohio	478,163	11.8	236,288	45.0	241,875	6.8
Pennsylvania	758,140	14.4	315,795	49.5	442,345	9.5
Appalachian Pennsylvania	359,193	15.1	152,897	50.4	206,296	10.0
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	398,947	13.8	162,898	48.6	236,049	9.2
South Carolina	222,674	10.5	106,116	35.3	116,558	6.4
Appalachian South Carolina	53,716	9.6	26,563	34.3	27,153	5.7
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	168,958	10.8	79,553	35.7	89,405	6.7
Tennessee	306,318	10.8	150,250	38.5	156,068	6.4
Appalachian Tennessee	140,530	11.4	70,989	39.3	69,541	6.6
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	165,788	10.4	79,261	37.9	86,527	6.2
Virginia	307,649	9.1	125,712	36.4	181,937	6.0
Appalachian Virginia	43,921	14.7	21,590	41.0	22,331	9.1
Non-Appalachian Virginia	263,728	8.6	104,122	35.6	159,606	5.8
West Virginia (entire state)	125,727	17.3	64,939	51.9	60,788	10.1

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 2024, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$31,812. 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, 2020-2024 American Community Survey.

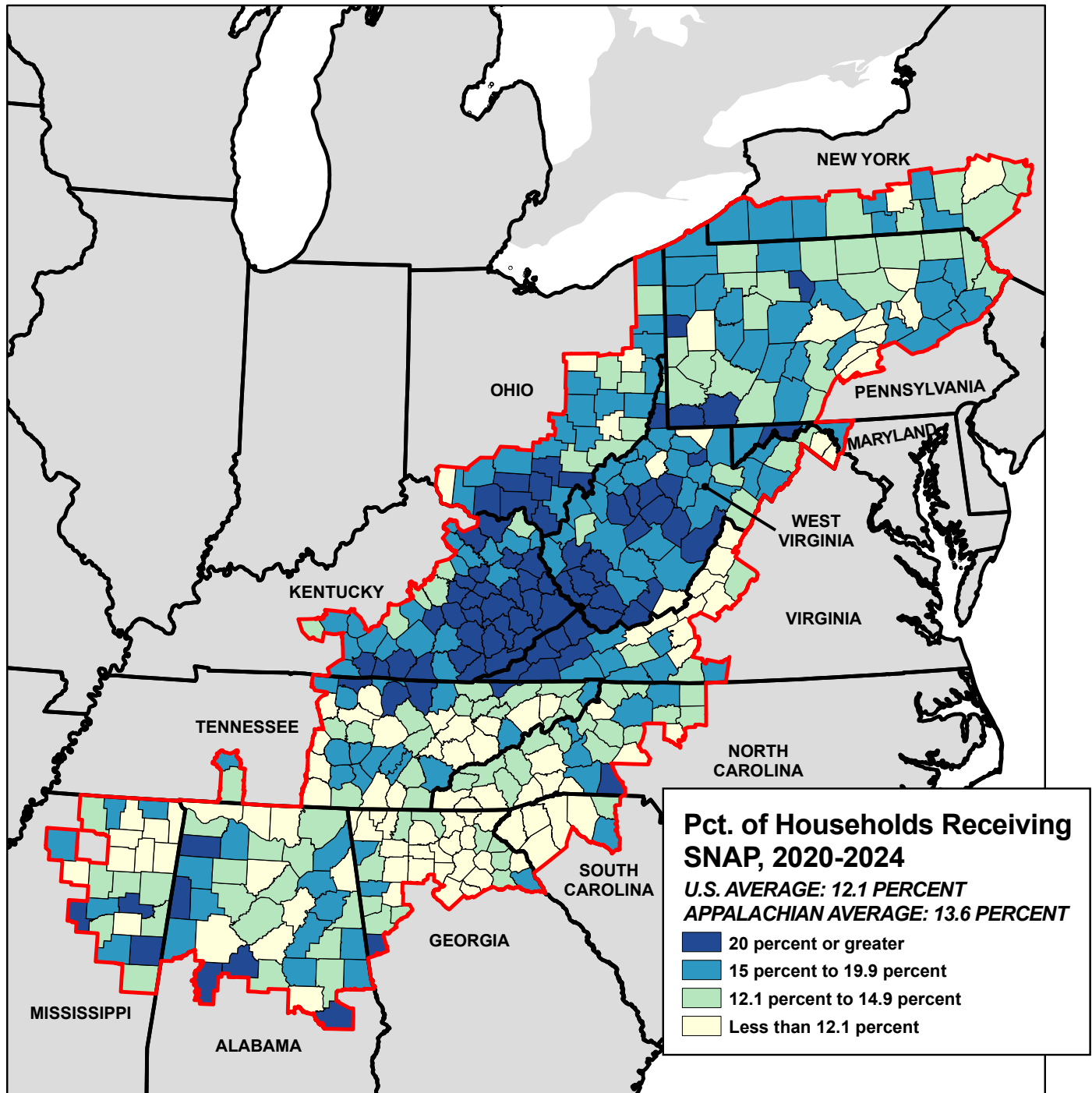
Table 9.12: Number and Percent of Households in the Appalachian Region Receiving SNAP, by Presence of Children Under Age 18, 2020-2024

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	15,572,114	12.1	7,232,940	18.9	8,339,174	9.2
Appalachian Region	1,438,132	13.6	639,959	21.6	798,173	10.5
Subregions						
Northern Appalachia	511,516	15.3	199,163	23.6	312,353	12.4
North Central Appalachia	162,145	16.1	67,988	24.9	94,157	12.8
Central Appalachia	151,551	20.5	68,130	31.0	83,421	16.1
South Central Appalachia	258,105	12.0	119,755	21.1	138,350	8.7
Southern Appalachia	354,815	10.7	184,923	17.5	169,892	7.5
County Types						
Large Metro (metro pop. 1 million +)	293,137	11.5	133,056	17.3	160,081	9.0
Small Metro (metro pop. <1 million)	564,600	12.8	257,304	21.4	307,296	9.6
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metro	143,891	15.2	62,496	23.5	81,395	12.0
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metro	266,092	15.9	113,372	25.6	152,720	12.4
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	170,412	16.9	73,731	26.4	96,681	13.2
Alabama	273,037	13.7	132,397	22.8	140,640	9.9
Appalachian Alabama	158,976	12.4	78,111	20.7	80,865	8.9
Non-Appalachian Alabama	114,061	16.1	54,286	26.8	59,775	11.8
Georgia	499,864	12.3	253,623	19.7	246,241	8.8
Appalachian Georgia	110,522	9.0	62,862	14.3	47,660	6.0
Non-Appalachian Georgia	389,342	13.7	190,761	22.5	198,581	9.9
Kentucky	239,150	13.2	119,537	22.1	119,613	9.4
Appalachian Kentucky	95,299	20.7	43,478	30.8	51,821	16.2
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	143,851	10.6	76,059	19.0	67,792	7.1
Maryland	263,525	11.2	124,597	17.2	138,928	8.5
Appalachian Maryland	16,834	16.9	7,154	25.5	9,680	13.5
Non-Appalachian Maryland	246,691	10.9	117,443	16.9	129,248	8.2
Mississippi	154,756	13.5	78,379	22.0	76,377	9.7
Appalachian Mississippi	31,601	13.0	15,131	20.8	16,470	9.7
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	123,155	13.6	63,248	22.3	59,907	9.7
New York	1,204,048	15.6	458,562	21.7	745,486	13.3
Appalachian New York	62,303	14.7	23,050	21.7	39,253	12.3
Non-Appalachian New York	1,141,745	15.6	435,512	21.7	706,233	13.3
North Carolina	546,146	12.8	270,798	21.7	275,348	9.1
Appalachian North Carolina	112,171	13.4	51,976	24.0	60,195	9.7
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	433,975	12.6	218,822	21.2	215,153	8.9
Ohio	605,502	12.5	267,352	19.7	338,150	9.7
Appalachian Ohio	127,339	15.8	52,562	23.8	74,777	12.8
Non-Appalachian Ohio	478,163	11.8	214,790	18.9	263,373	9.0
Pennsylvania	758,140	14.4	309,039	21.7	449,101	11.7
Appalachian Pennsylvania	359,193	15.1	138,493	23.5	220,700	12.3
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	398,947	13.8	170,546	20.5	228,401	11.1
South Carolina	222,674	10.5	114,035	18.8	108,639	7.2
Appalachian South Carolina	53,716	9.6	28,819	17.3	24,897	6.4
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	168,958	10.8	85,216	19.4	83,742	7.5
Tennessee	306,318	10.8	152,891	18.5	153,427	7.7
Appalachian Tennessee	140,530	11.4	66,007	19.6	74,523	8.3
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	165,788	10.4	86,884	17.7	78,904	7.1
Virginia	307,649	9.1	151,892	14.9	155,757	6.6
Appalachian Virginia	43,921	14.7	19,037	26.7	24,884	11.0
Non-Appalachian Virginia	263,728	8.6	132,855	14.1	130,873	6.2
West Virginia (entire state)	125,727	17.3	53,279	27.7	72,448	13.5

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, 2020-2024 American Community Survey.

Figure 9.15: Percent of Households in the Appalachian Region Receiving SNAP, 2020-2024



Map Title: Percent of Households in the Appalachian Region Receiving SNAP, 2020-2024

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020-2024 American Community Survey.

In 2020-2024, 13.6 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 Appalachian Region is 1.5 percentage points higher than the national share (12.1 percent), there were 102 Appalachian counties with SNAP participation rates below the U.S. average. Nearly four-fifths of these counties were in Southern and South Central Appalachia – the subregions with the lowest reciprocity rates. Conversely, the SNAP reciprocity rate matched or exceeded 20 percent in 80 other Appalachian counties. Most of the counties in the latter group were in Central Appalachia and 38 were in rural areas – both of which had the highest SNAP participation rates among Appalachia's subregions and county types.

Table 9.13: Percentage Point Change in Share of Households in the Appalachian Region Receiving SNAP, by Poverty Status, 2015-2019 to 2020-2024

Receipt of SNAP	ALL HOUSEHOLDS	Households With Income Below Poverty Level	Households With Income At or Above Poverty Level
United States	+ 0.4	- 2.4	+ 0.8
Appalachian Region	- 0.3	- 4.2	+ 0.5
Subregions			
Northern Appalachia	+ 0.9	- 1.7	+ 1.1
North Central Appalachia	- 0.2	- 3.5	+ 0.4
Central Appalachia	- 1.1	- 4.2	+ 0.6
South Central Appalachia	- 0.8	- 6.0	+ 0.4
Southern Appalachia	- 0.9	- 5.2	- 0.1
County Types			
Large Metro (metro pop. 1 million +)	0.0	- 2.9	+ 0.4
Small Metro (metro pop. <1 million)	- 0.5	- 4.2	+ 0.3
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metro	- 0.3	- 5.3	+ 0.9
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metro	- 0.3	- 4.6	+ 0.7
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 0.5	- 4.1	+ 0.6
Alabama	- 0.3	- 2.7	+ 0.5
Appalachian Alabama	- 0.5	- 3.2	+ 0.2
Non-Appalachian Alabama	+ 0.2	- 2.2	+ 0.9
Georgia	- 0.5	- 4.5	+ 0.4
Appalachian Georgia	- 1.0	- 5.7	- 0.2
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 0.3	- 4.1	+ 0.8
Kentucky	- 0.8	- 5.9	+ 0.3
Appalachian Kentucky	- 1.2	- 4.4	+ 0.5
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 0.6	- 6.3	+ 0.3
Maryland	+ 1.0	- 5.3	+ 1.3
Appalachian Maryland	+ 0.3	- 4.1	+ 0.9
Non-Appalachian Maryland	+ 1.0	- 5.3	+ 1.3
Mississippi	- 1.9	- 5.7	- 0.8
Appalachian Mississippi	- 1.7	- 7.1	- 0.8
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 2.0	- 5.2	- 0.8
New York	+ 0.9	- 1.6	+ 1.3
Appalachian New York	- 0.2	- 3.9	+ 0.2
Non-Appalachian New York	+ 0.9	- 1.4	+ 1.3
North Carolina	+ 0.2	- 3.2	+ 1.0
Appalachian North Carolina	+ 1.5	- 0.5	+ 2.1
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 0.1	- 3.9	+ 0.9
Ohio	- 0.6	- 4.5	+ 0.1
Appalachian Ohio	- 0.6	- 4.7	+ 0.2
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 0.6	- 4.5	0.0
Pennsylvania	+ 1.1	- 0.9	+ 1.3
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 1.1	- 1.0	+ 1.5
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 1.1	- 0.8	+ 1.4
South Carolina	- 1.8	- 8.1	- 0.5
Appalachian South Carolina	- 1.3	- 8.1	- 0.1
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 2.0	- 8.0	- 0.5
Tennessee	- 2.8	- 9.2	- 1.2
Appalachian Tennessee	- 2.9	- 10.3	- 1.1
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 2.5	- 8.2	- 1.4
Virginia	+ 0.9	- 1.9	+ 1.2
Appalachian Virginia	+ 1.2	- 2.0	+ 2.1
Non-Appalachian Virginia	+ 0.9	- 1.7	+ 1.2
West Virginia (entire state)	+ 0.5	- 1.8	+ 1.0

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 2024, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$31,812. The poverty universe does not include unrelated individuals under age 15, people living in college dormitories, and people living in institutional group quarters.

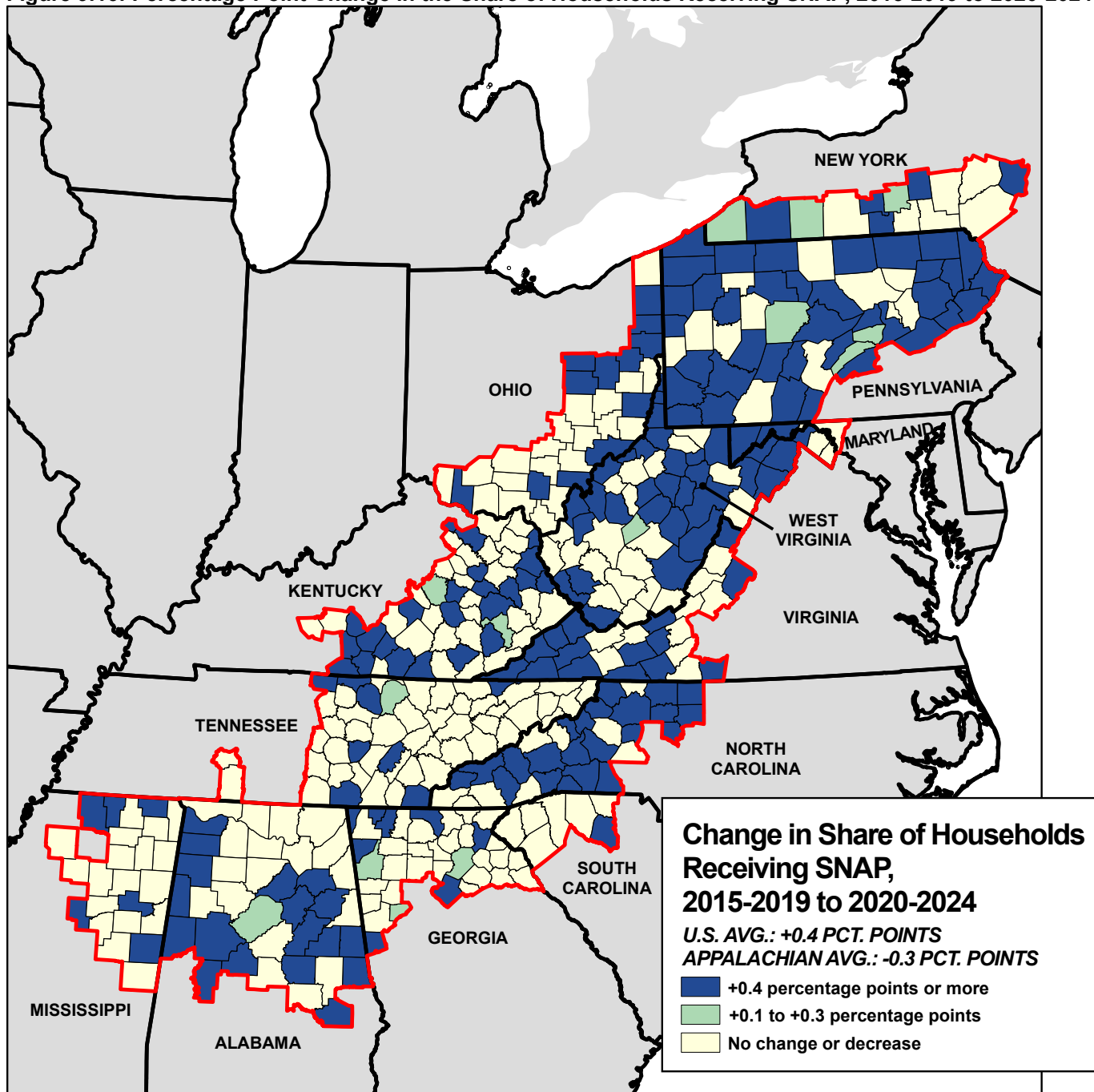
Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024 American Community Surveys.

Table 9.14: Percentage Point Change in Share of Households in the Appalachian Region Receiving SNAP Payments, by Presence of Children Under Age 18, 2015-2019 to 2020-2024

Receipt of SNAP	ALL HOUSEHOLDS	Households With Children Under Age 18	Households Without Children Under Age 18
United States	+ 0.4	- 0.1	+ 0.7
Appalachian Region	- 0.3	- 0.5	- 0.1
Subregions			
Northern Appalachia	+ 0.9	+ 1.1	+ 0.9
North Central Appalachia	- 0.2	- 0.6	+ 0.1
Central Appalachia	- 1.1	- 0.6	- 1.1
South Central Appalachia	- 0.8	- 1.3	- 0.5
Southern Appalachia	- 0.9	- 1.1	- 0.7
County Types			
Large Metro (metro pop. 1 million +)	0.0	+ 0.2	0.0
Small Metro (metro pop. <1 million)	- 0.5	- 0.7	- 0.2
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Large Metro	- 0.3	- 0.9	+ 0.1
Nonmetro, Adjacent to Small Metro	- 0.3	- 0.6	0.0
Rural (nonmetro, not adj. to a metro)	- 0.5	- 0.7	- 0.3
Alabama	- 0.3	- 0.6	0.0
Appalachian Alabama	- 0.5	- 0.8	- 0.2
Non-Appalachian Alabama	+ 0.2	0.0	+ 0.5
Georgia	- 0.5	- 1.0	0.0
Appalachian Georgia	- 1.0	- 0.9	- 0.8
Non-Appalachian Georgia	- 0.3	- 0.8	+ 0.3
Kentucky	- 0.8	+ 0.1	- 1.0
Appalachian Kentucky	- 1.2	- 0.3	- 1.5
Non-Appalachian Kentucky	- 0.6	+ 0.2	- 0.8
Maryland	+ 1.0	+ 1.6	+ 0.9
Appalachian Maryland	+ 0.3	- 1.7	+ 1.2
Non-Appalachian Maryland	+ 1.0	+ 1.7	+ 0.8
Mississippi	- 1.9	- 3.8	- 0.8
Appalachian Mississippi	- 1.7	- 3.6	- 0.7
Non-Appalachian Mississippi	- 2.0	- 3.8	- 0.8
New York	+ 0.9	+ 1.6	+ 0.9
Appalachian New York	- 0.2	- 0.2	- 0.2
Non-Appalachian New York	+ 0.9	+ 1.7	+ 0.9
North Carolina	+ 0.2	+ 1.0	+ 0.1
Appalachian North Carolina	+ 1.5	+ 2.8	+ 1.1
Non-Appalachian North Carolina	- 0.1	+ 0.6	- 0.2
Ohio	- 0.6	- 1.1	- 0.2
Appalachian Ohio	- 0.6	- 1.3	- 0.1
Non-Appalachian Ohio	- 0.6	- 1.1	- 0.3
Pennsylvania	+ 1.1	+ 1.0	+ 1.3
Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 1.1	+ 1.6	+ 1.1
Non-Appalachian Pennsylvania	+ 1.1	+ 0.7	+ 1.5
South Carolina	- 1.8	- 3.1	- 1.1
Appalachian South Carolina	- 1.3	- 0.9	- 1.3
Non-Appalachian South Carolina	- 2.0	- 3.8	- 1.0
Tennessee	- 2.8	- 3.7	- 2.1
Appalachian Tennessee	- 2.9	- 4.6	- 2.1
Non-Appalachian Tennessee	- 2.5	- 3.1	- 2.1
Virginia	+ 0.9	+ 1.2	+ 0.9
Appalachian Virginia	+ 1.2	+ 2.5	+ 1.1
Non-Appalachian Virginia	+ 0.9	+ 1.3	+ 1.0
West Virginia (entire state)	+ 0.5	+ 0.6	+ 0.6

Note: SNAP is an acronym for the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly known as the Food Stamp Program).
Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024 American Community Surveys.

Figure 9.16: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Households Receiving SNAP, 2015-2019 to 2020-2024



Map Title: Percentage Point Change in the Share of Households in the Appalachian Region Receiving SNAP, 2015-2019 to 2020-2024

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024 American Community Surveys.

The share of Appalachian households participating in the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) – formerly the Food Stamps Program – fell by 0.3 percentage points between 2015-2019 and 2020-2024, compared to a 0.4 percentage point increase in the national share of households. All subregions except Northern Appalachia had declines in the share of households receiving SNAP during this period, with Central Appalachia having the most pronounced decrease of over one percentage point. SNAP participation remained the same or decreased in 221 Appalachian counties – 63 percent of which were outside of metropolitan areas. In 72 percent, or 160, of these 221 counties, the change in the share of Appalachian residents living in poverty also remained the same or decreased from 2015-2019. Meanwhile, the share of Appalachian households receiving SNAP increased by at least the U.S. average in 188 counties. More than one in four of these counties were in Northern Appalachia – the only subregion that experienced an increase (0.9 percentage points) from 2015-2019.

TRENDS IN INCOME AND POVERTY

- Adjusting for inflation, income trends in the Appalachian Region were positive between the 2015-2019 and 2020-2024 periods (see Tables 9.1 and 9.2).
 - Mean income increased noticeably between the two periods. Mean household income, for example, rose 3.8 percent to \$89,821 in 2020-2024. Mean family income (4.7 percent) and per capita income (5.2 percent) had slightly greater increases, reaching \$107,815 and \$36,770, respectively. (All monetary figures are in 2024 dollars.)
 - Although not affected by extreme values, the two median income measures likewise have registered healthy increases since 2015-2019. Median household income (the midpoint where half of all households have higher incomes while the other half have lower incomes) rose 4.3 percent to \$66,555 in 2020-2024. Median family income increased five percent to \$85,002.
- Despite these increases, income gains since 2015-2019 were not quite as pronounced in Appalachia as they were nationally. However, Appalachia's growth in all four household and family income measures was within a half percentage point of the national average. For example, the Appalachian median household income growth from 2015-2019 was only 0.1 percentage point less than the national median.
- Within the Appalachian Region, all income measures increased for the subregions, county types, and states – even after adjusting for inflation. Among the subregions, mean income (household and family) and per capita income growth was highest in Southern and South Central Appalachia. When looking at median income (household and family), the highest growth was in those same subregions, with the addition of Central Appalachia. Meanwhile Northern Appalachia had the lowest income growth across all five income measures. Among rural-urban county types, mean household income growth was highest in small metropolitan areas (four percent) and lowest in rural areas (2.6 percent). Meanwhile, the highest median family income growth was in rural areas (5.1 percent) and lowest in large metropolitan areas (4.1 percent). Income gains among the states generally were largest in the Appalachian portions of Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, and Tennessee – where each income measure had at least a 4 percent change. Yet despite the overall increases, there were still counties throughout the Appalachian Region that experienced income declines between 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.
- Since 2015-2019, the share of Appalachian residents in poverty (incomes below \$31,812 for a family of two adults and two children in 2024) has fallen 1 percentage point to 14.3 percent in 2020-2024 (see Tables 9.4 and 9.5). Poverty decreased in all subregions, county types, and Appalachian portions of all states, except for Appalachian Maryland which increased by 0.2 percentage points and Appalachian New York which remained unchanged since 2015-2019. The decline in poverty was greatest in Appalachian Kentucky, where poverty fell by 2.1 percentage points.
- Both child poverty and poverty among young adults (ages 18 to 24) have fallen noticeably in Appalachia since 2015-2019: Child poverty dropped 2.4 percentage points to 18.8 percent in 2020-2024, while poverty among 18-to-24-year-olds fell 3.3 percentage points to 21.5 percent. Despite these decreases, nearly one-fifth of children and more than one-fifth of young adults were still in poverty. Central Appalachia (4.9 percentage points), and the Appalachian parts of Kentucky (4.7 percentage points) and Virginia (4.4 percentage points) had the largest decrease in child poverty. When looking at the poverty of young adults, Central Appalachia (5.4 percentage points) and Appalachian parts of Kentucky (4.3 percentage points), Pennsylvania (4.3 percentage points), Virginia (5.5 percentage points), and the entire state of West Virginia (4.9 percentage points) had the largest declines.
- Poverty rates among working-age adults (ages 25 to 64) in Appalachia had a more modest decline of 0.9 percentage points to a poverty rate of 12.4 percent overall. As with the other two age groups, declines in poverty for 25-to-64-year-olds happened throughout the Appalachian Region – with exceptions in Appalachian Maryland and New York where rates increased by 0.8 and 0.4 percentage points respectively, and in Appalachian Mississippi where it remained unchanged. Appalachian Kentucky had the largest poverty decline among 25-to-64-year-olds, at 2.1 percentage points.
- Poverty increased 1.8 percentage points for older residents (ages 65 and over) between 2015-2019 and 2020-2024 in Appalachia. Poverty among older residents increased for all county types, subregions, and states. Among the states, increases were most notable in West Virginia where poverty for older residents increased by 2.5 percentage points.

TRENDS IN INCOME AND POVERTY (continued)

- In 2020-2024, the share of Appalachian residents with incomes below 50 percent of the poverty level (income below \$15,902 for a family of two adults and two children in 2024) was 6.6 percent, a 0.1 percentage point increase from 2015-2019 (see Tables 9.6 through 9.10). Compared to the rest of Appalachia, Appalachian Maryland, Mississippi, and New York had the greatest increases, by 0.7 percentage points each. Among the county types, only counties in metropolitan areas had an increase in the share of Appalachian residents in deep poverty. Conversely, the share of residents with incomes below 50 percent of the poverty level decreased the most in Central Appalachia by 0.7 percentage points. The share also decreased notably among children (0.4 percentage points) and young adults ages 18-24 (1.7 percentage points) in Appalachia, while increasing 1.1 points among adults ages 65 and over.
- The share of Appalachian households participating in the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) – formerly the Food Stamps Program – was 13.6 percent in 2020-2024, a decrease of 0.3 percentage points from the Appalachian Region's share in 2015-2019 (see Tables 9.11 and 9.13). Several parts of Appalachia registered even greater decreases: For example, the decrease was notable in the Appalachian portions of Tennessee (2.9 percentage points) and Mississippi (1.7 percentage points). Among county types and subregions, the share decreased among all county types except for large metro counties where it remained unchanged. The largest decreases among subregions were in Central Appalachia (1.1 percentage points), Southern Appalachia (0.9 percentage points) and South Central Appalachia (0.8 percentage points). However, SNAP prevalence did increase in some parts of Appalachia – with the highest increases in Northern Appalachia (0.9 points) and the Appalachian portions of North Carolina (1.5 percentage points), Virginia (1.2 percentage points) and Pennsylvania (1.1 percentage points).
- Among households with income below the poverty level (\$31,812 for a family of two adults and two children in 2024), SNAP reciprocity rates fell 4.2 percentage points between 2015-2019 and 2020-2024 (see Tables 9.11 and 9.13), to 44.5 percent in the latter period. However, among Appalachian households with income at or above the poverty level, receipt of SNAP increased by 0.5 percentage points from 2015-2019 to 2020-2024 to 8.3 percent. The decrease in participation among households in poverty was present in all Appalachian state sections with Appalachian Mississippi (7.1 percentage points), South Carolina (8.1 percentage points), and Tennessee (10.3 percentage points) having the greatest declines among states.
- Meanwhile, SNAP participation among households above the poverty level increased for all county types and subregions except Southern Appalachia. Looking at the Appalachian parts of states, SNAP participation among those above the poverty level increased by at least 1 percentage point in North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and all of West Virginia and decreased by at least 1 percentage point in the Appalachian part of Tennessee.
- The SNAP reciprocity rate among Appalachian households with children under age 18 was 21.6 percent in 2020-2024, 0.5 percentage points lower than in 2015-2019 (see Tables 9.12 and 9.14). The decline in participation for households was notable in Southern and South Central Appalachia where it fell by at least one percentage point and in the Appalachian sections of Mississippi and Tennessee where it declined by 3.6 and 4.6 percentage points, respectively. On the other hand, Northern Appalachia had a notable 1.1 percentage point increase in SNAP reciprocity among households with children.
- Meanwhile, SNAP participation for Appalachian households without children fell 0.1 percentage points to 10.5 percent from 2015-2019 to 2020-2024. SNAP reciprocity among childless households increased in Northern Appalachia (0.9 percentage points) and by at least one percentage point in the Appalachian sections of Maryland, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Virginia. Declines of at least one percentage point were notable in Central Appalachia and Appalachian portions of Kentucky, South Carolina, and Tennessee.
- Overall, income and poverty trends in the Appalachian Region since 2015-2019 show that poverty has fallen while incomes have risen. However, the impact of economic events covered in these years on family and household finances – including increased costs of living – may not be reflected fully by these data.