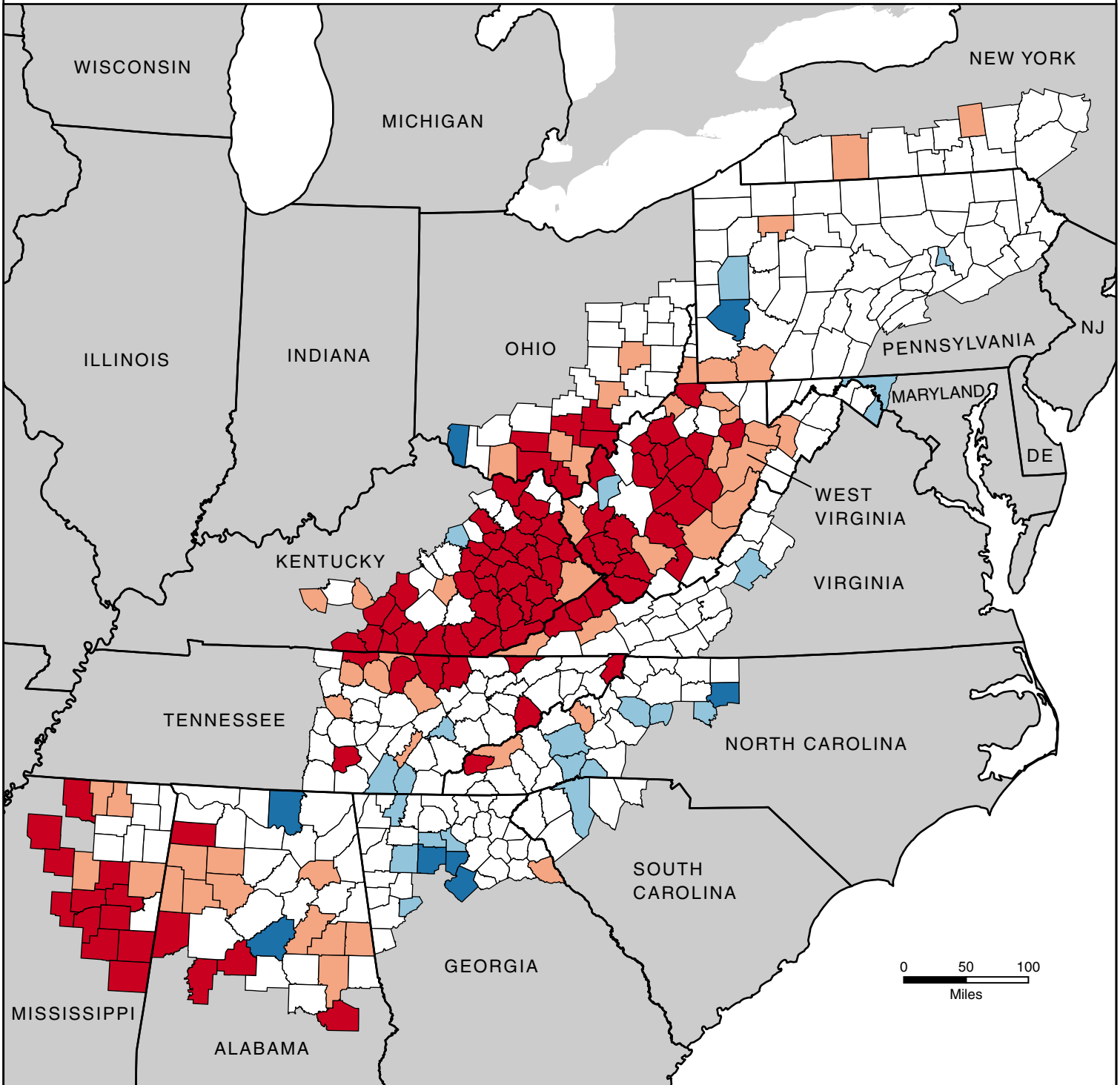


# County Economic Status in Appalachia, Fiscal Year 2004

(Effective October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2004 - Includes the At-Risk Category)



Each fiscal year the Appalachian Regional Commission classifies each county into one of four economic levels based on the comparison of three county economic indicators (three-year average unemployment, per-capita market income, and poverty) to their respective national averages. This map includes an unofficial category that targets counties that are at-risk of becoming distressed. See the reverse side for a description of each economic level.

### County Economic Levels

- Distressed (91)
- At-Risk (51)
- Transitional (238)
- Competitive (22)
- Attainment (8)



Map Created: December 2002.  
 Data Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, LAUS, 1999-2001;  
 U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, REIS, 2000;  
 U.S. Census Bureau, DP3, 2000.

**Criteria for County Economic Levels of the  
Appalachian Regional Commission  
Fiscal Year 2004 - Includes the At-Risk Category**

**Latest County Data as of December 1, 2002**

| <b>FY 2004<br/>Economic<br/>Level</b> | <b>No. of<br/>Counties in<br/>Appalachia</b> | <b>1999-2001<br/>Three-Year Average<br/>Unemployment Rate</b>  |            | <b>2000 Per Capita<br/>"Market" Income</b>      |            | <b>1990 Census<br/>Poverty Rate</b>   |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|------------|---|------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Distressed</b>                     | 91   | 6.5% or more<br>[150% of U.S. 4.3%]                            | <i>and</i> | \$17,203 or less<br>[67% of U.S. \$25,676]      | <i>and</i> | 18.6% or more<br>[150% of U.S. 12.4%] | <i>OR</i> twice U.S. poverty rate and qualify on one other indicator |
| <b>At-Risk*</b>                       | 51   | 5.4% or more<br>[125% of U.S. 4.3%]                            | <i>and</i> | \$17,203 or less<br>[67% of U.S. \$25,676]      | <i>and</i> | 15.5% or more<br>[125% of U.S. 12.4%] |  |
| <b>Transitional</b>                   | 238  | All counties not in other classes. Individual indicators vary. |            |   |            |                                       |  |
| <b>Competitive</b>                    | 22   | 4.3% or less<br>[100% of U.S.]                                 | <i>and</i> | \$20,541 - \$25,675<br>[80% of U.S. = \$20,541] | <i>and</i> | 12.4% or less<br>[100% of U.S.]       |  |
| <b>Attainment</b>                     | 8  | 4.3% or less<br>[100% of U.S.]                                 | <i>and</i> | \$25,676 or more<br>[100% of U.S.]              | <i>and</i> | 12.4% or less<br>[100% of U.S.]       |  |

\*The at-risk category is a sub-set of the official transitional category. This category is used to research and monitor counties at-risk of becoming distressed and those working to become transitional. The at-risk category is not used for ARC funding distributions.

Note: Indicator threshold values may not calculate to the exact U.S. average breaking point due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor - Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), 1999-2001 (employment data);  
U.S. Department of Commerce - Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System (REIS), 2000 (income data);  
U.S. Department of Commerce - Bureau of the Census (DP3), 2000 (poverty data).

Calculations made by the Appalachian Regional Commission, 1666 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20009 [phone: 202-884-7780].  
December 2002.