

# Demographic and Economic Change in Appalachia

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**[www.prb.org](http://www.prb.org)**



# Three Big National Stories of the 1990s and 2000s

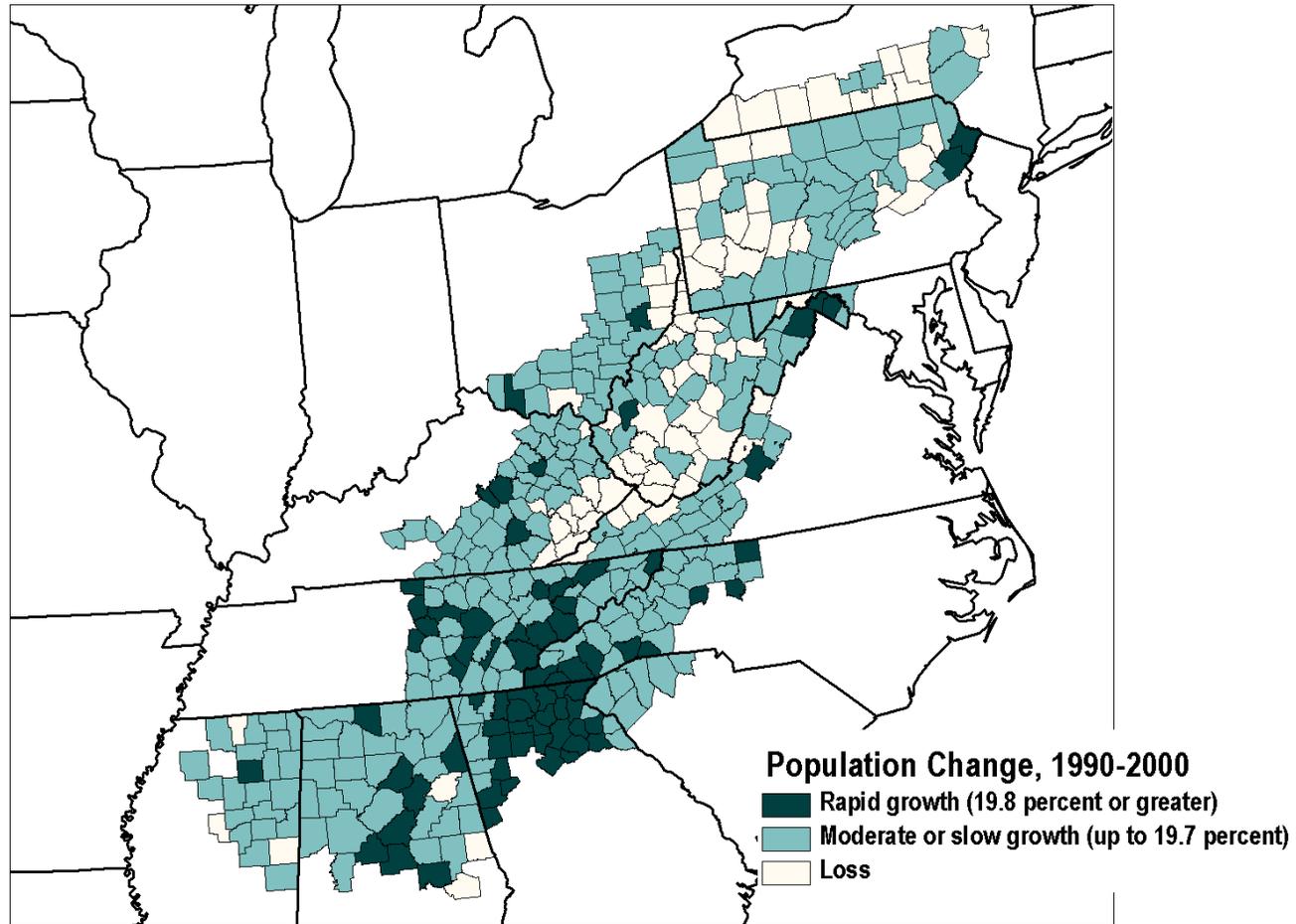
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- **Population Growth, Mainly Immigration**
- **Aging of the Population**
- **Economic Boom of the Middle and Late 90s**

**.... with varying effects in Appalachia**



Appalachia's 9 percent population growth in the 1990s masks rapid growth in some areas and population loss in others.

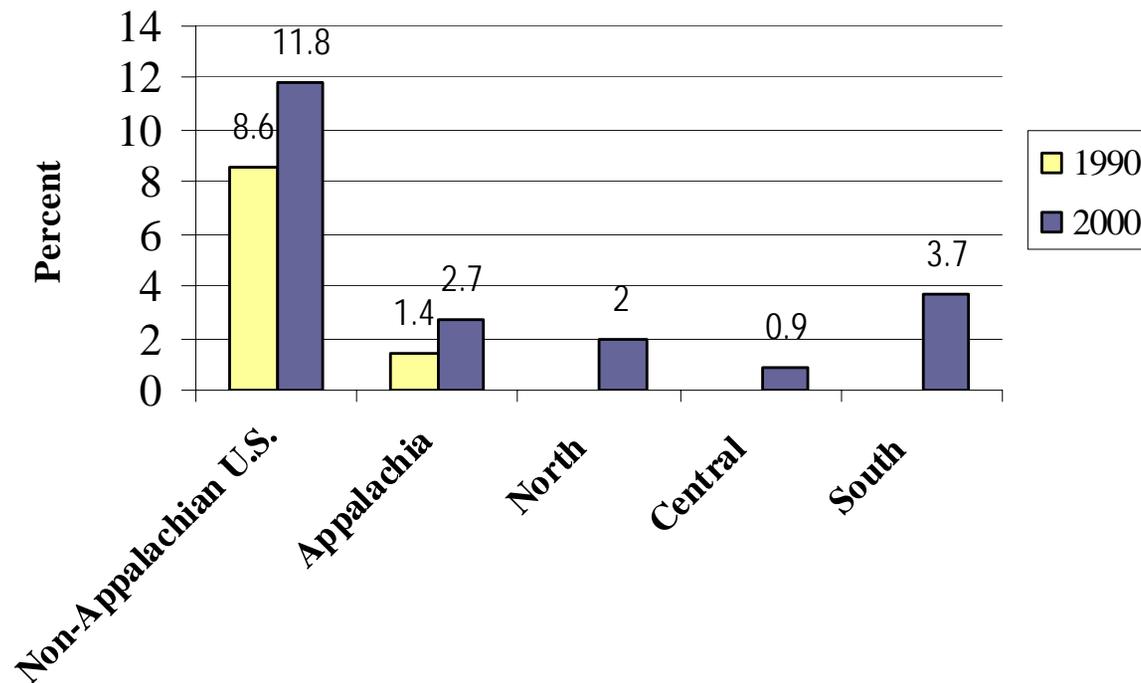


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 census.



Despite increase, Appalachia still has fewer immigrants.

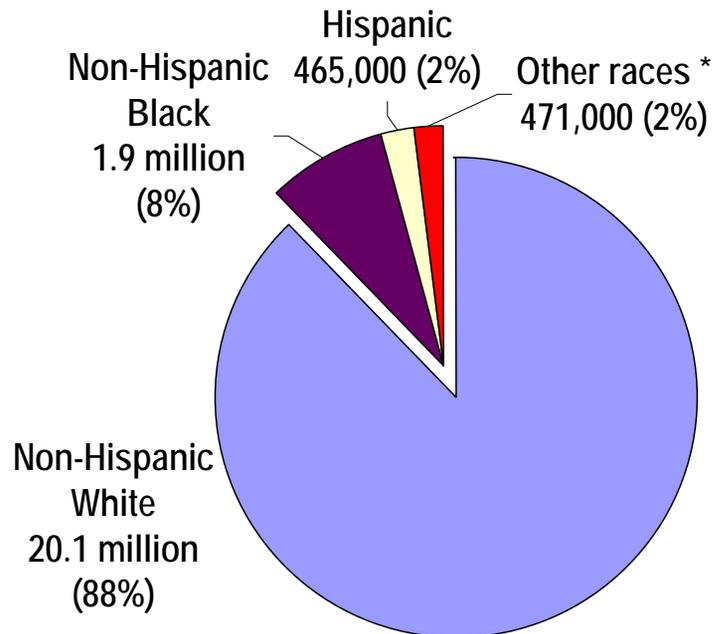
Foreign-born population in Appalachia and non-Appalachian United States, 1990 and 2000



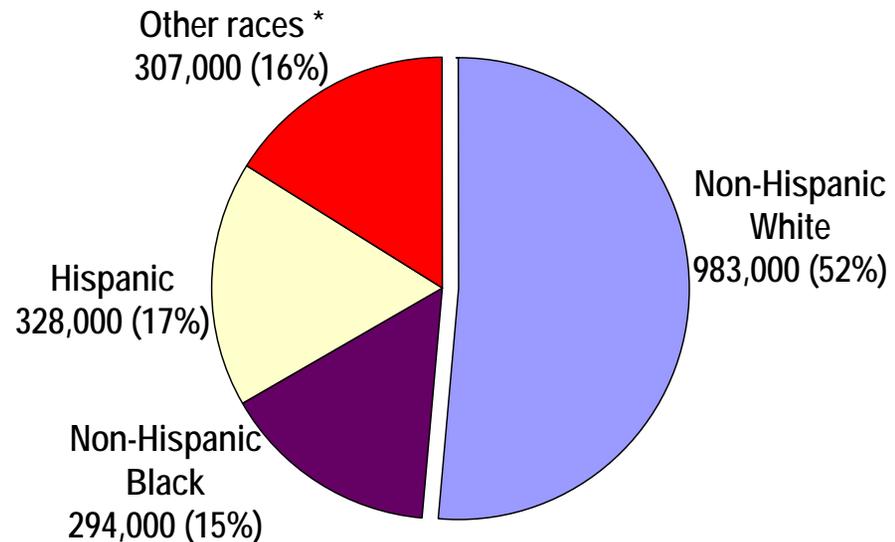
Minorities' share of Appalachia's population rose to 12 percent.

Racial and ethnic distribution of Appalachian population, 1990, and of Appalachian population change, 1990-2000

TOTAL POPULATION, 2000



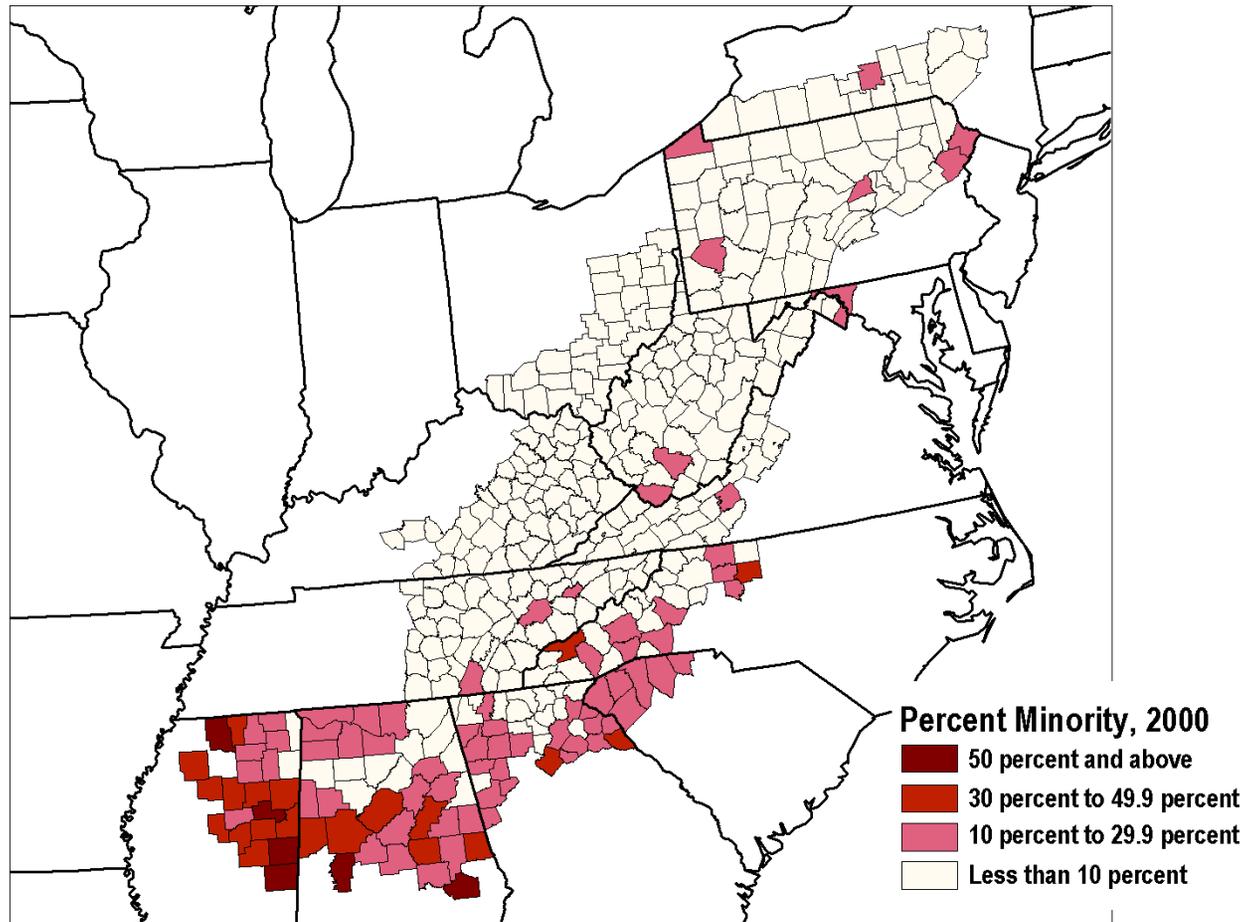
PERSONS ADDED, 1990-2000



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 census.



Only one-fourth of Appalachian counties were at least 10 percent minority in 2000.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 census.



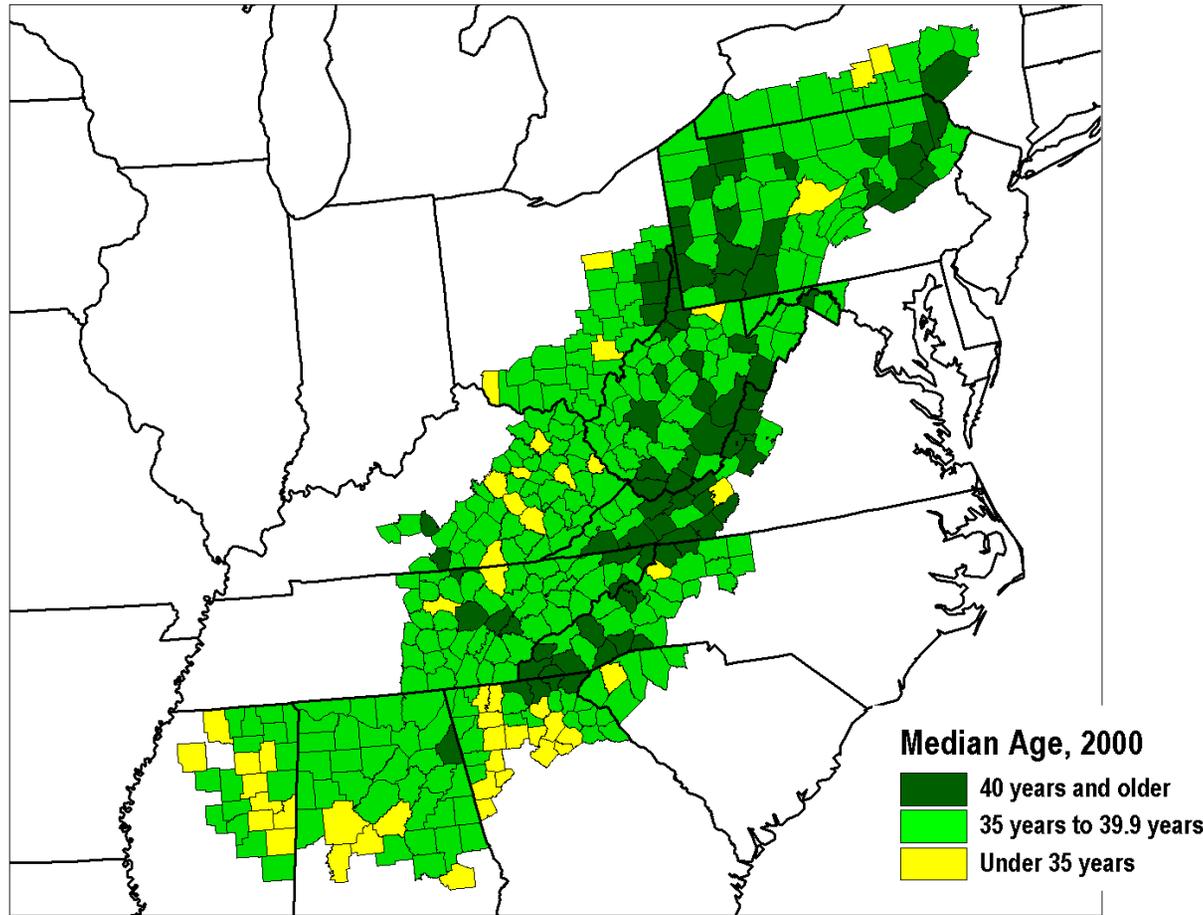
Appalachia is “older” than the U.S. as a whole.

	School ages (5-19)	Working ages (20-64)	Retirement ages (65+)
United States	21.7%	59.1%	12.4%
Appalachia	20.5	59.1	14.3
Northern	20.4	57.8	16.1
Central	20.3	59.9	13.8
Southern	20.6	60.1	12.8
Attainment	20.2	60.2	13.1
Competitive	20.9	60.0	12.4
Transitional	20.4	58.7	14.9
Distressed	20.9	59.2	14.0

Source: PRB analysis of data from Census 2000, SF3 release



In one-fifth of Appalachian counties, median age of the population was over 40 years.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 census.



# Aging Due Mainly to Out-Migration of Young Adults

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**Pct. change in size of population in:**

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<b>Birth years</b>	<b>U.S.</b>	<b>Appalachia</b>	<b>Northern Appalachia</b>
1976-1980	10.8%	4.5%	-1.9%
1971-1975	9.2	-8.9	-20.9
1966-1970	7.8	2.0	-8.5
1961-1965	6.5	12.1	6.4

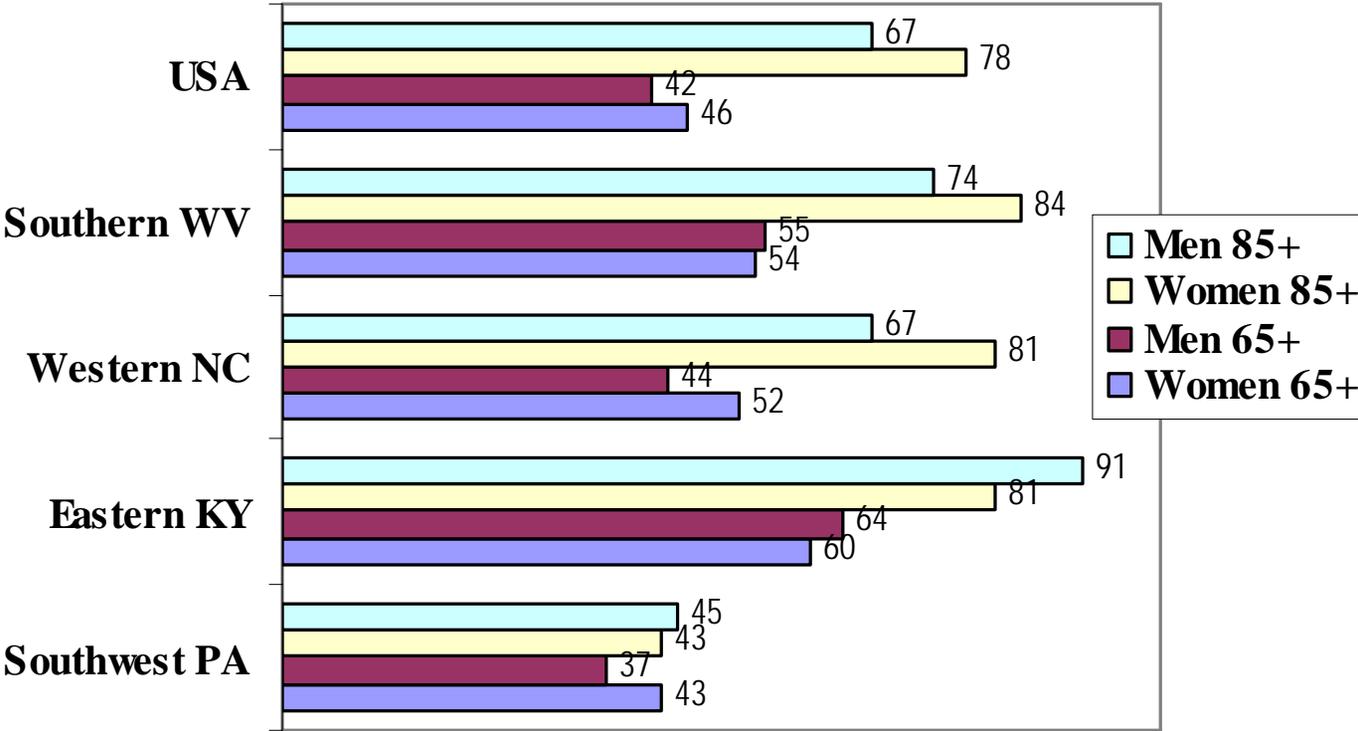
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Source: PRB tabulation of data from 1990 and 2000 Censuses

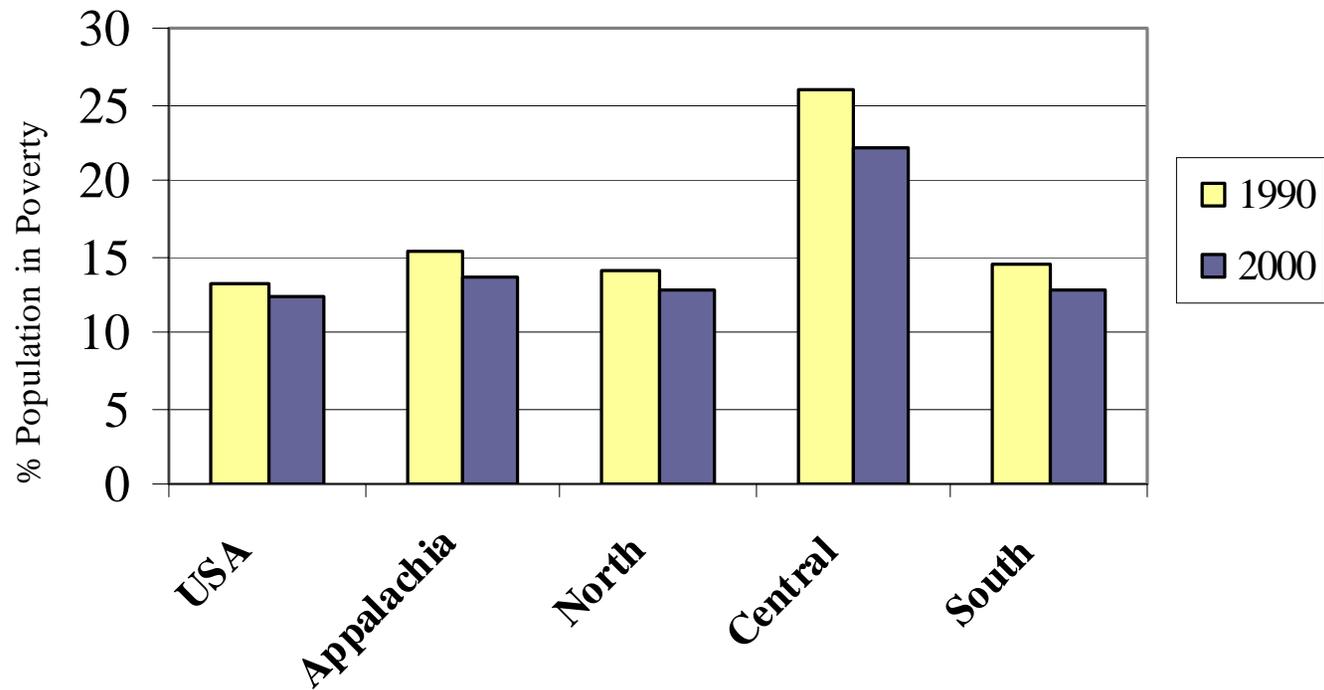


Disability rates for the older population generally higher in Appalachia.

Percentage reporting a disability, Census 2000



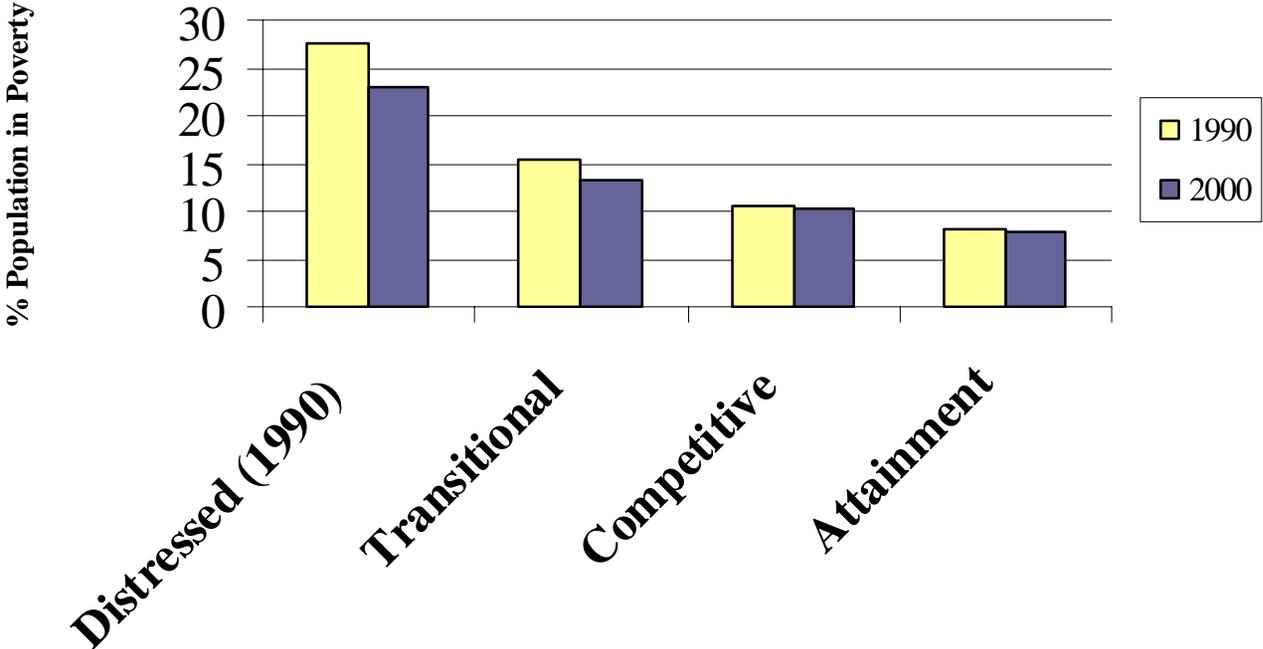
During the 1990s, poverty rates decreased and the gap with the rest of the U.S. narrowed.



Source: Black and Sanders, Table A4



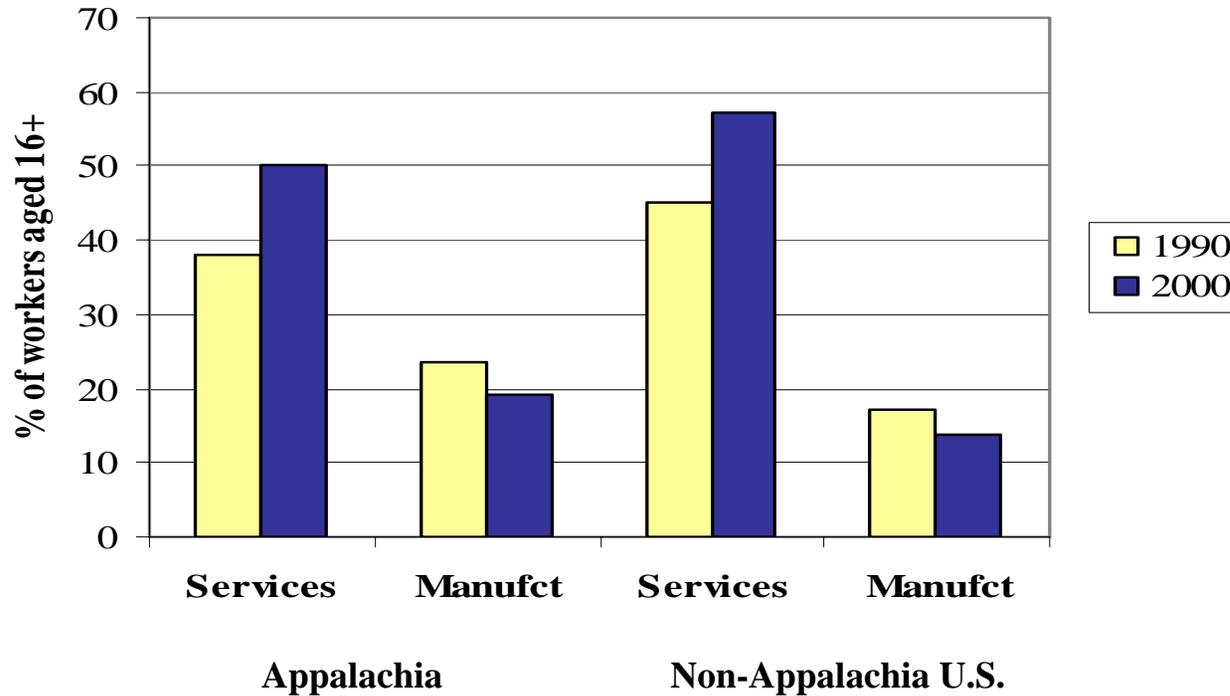
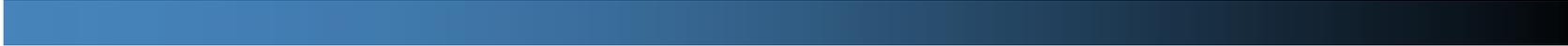
Improvement in poverty rates was in counties distressed or transitional in 1990.



Source: Black and Sanders, Table A4



During 1990s, service sector jobs continued to replace manufacturing (Non-farm Private Employment)



# Underemployment & Labor Force Participation in Appalachia, 1998

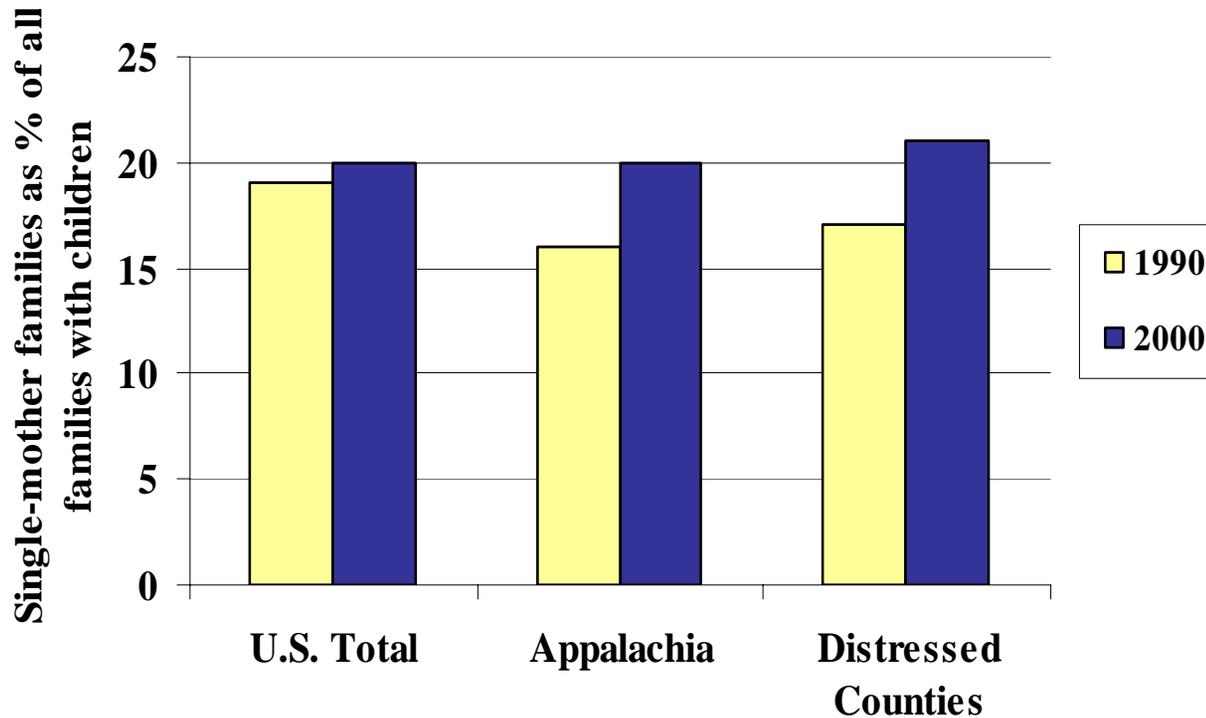
<b>Region</b>	<b>Labor Force Participation Rate 1998</b>	<b>Underemployment 1998 Estimate</b>	<b>Unemployment Rate 1998</b>
<b>United States</b>	67.7%	8.6%	4.6%
<b>Appalachia</b>	61.6%	10.0%	4.8%
<b>ARC Economic Areas</b>			
<b>Distressed Counties</b>	52.7%	15.0%	7.8%
<b>Transitional Counties</b>	61.2%	10.3%	5.0%
<b>Competitive Counties</b>	65.2%	7.4%	3.4%
<b>Attainment Counties</b>	77.1%	4.4%	2.3%



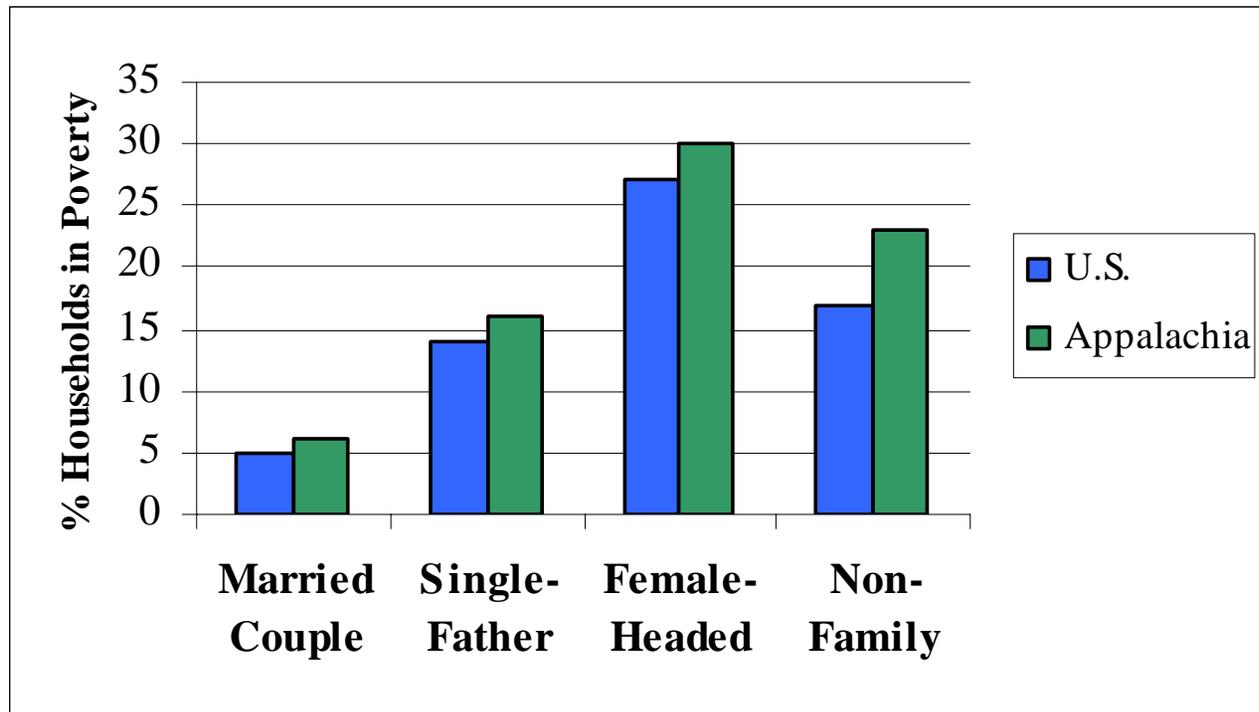
Source: Keystone Research Center, August 2001



# Rising percentage of single-mother families with children in Nation and Appalachia.



Poverty rates higher for female-headed and non-family households in Appalachia, 1999.



Source: PRB, Analysis of Census 2000



Educational attainment lower in Appalachia than in the rest of the country.

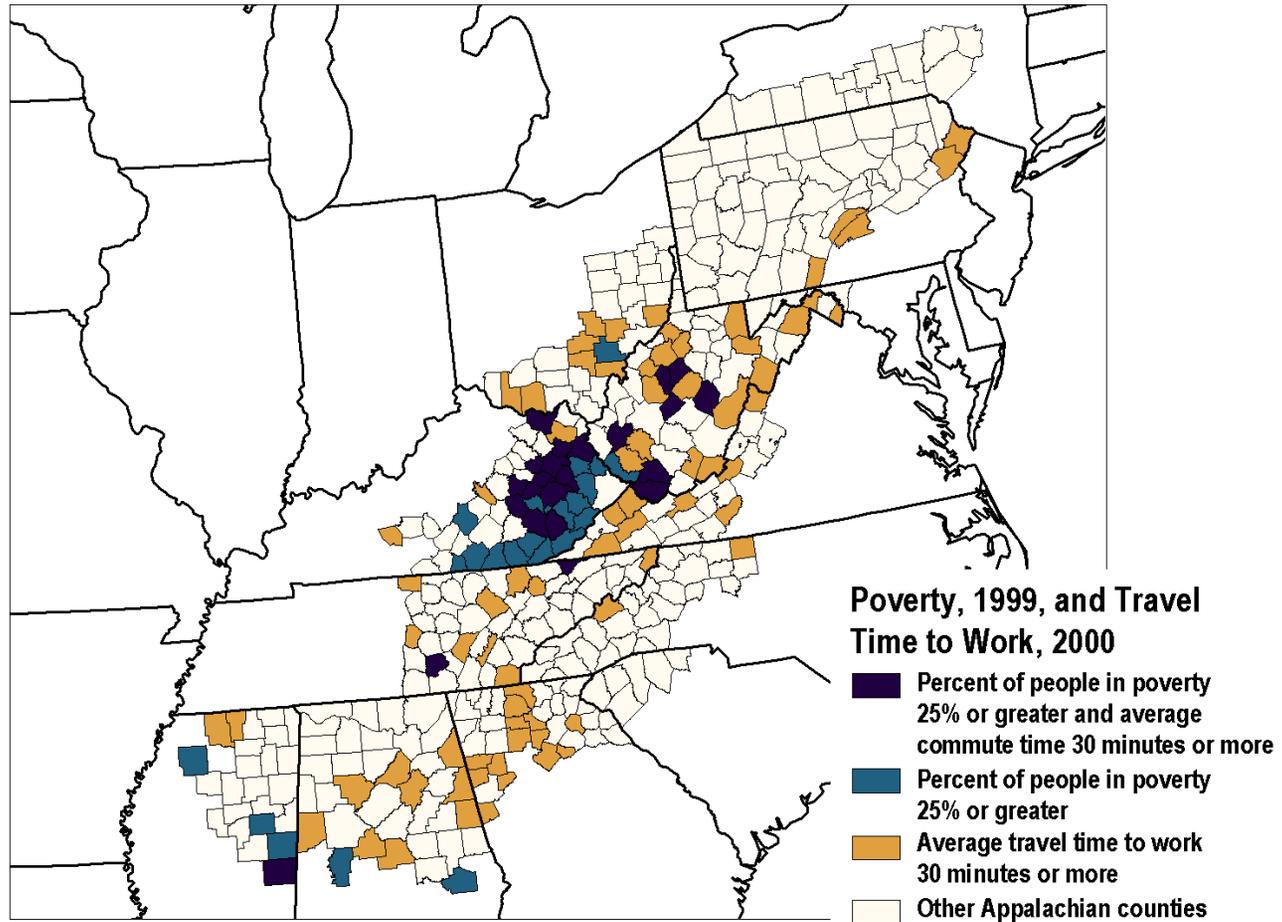
AREA	HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES Percent	COLLEGE GRADUATES Percent
APPALACHIA	76.8	17.7
NON-APPALACHIAN U.S.	80.7	25.0
Northern Appalachia	81.2	17.7
Central Appalachia	64.1	10.7
Southern Appalachia	75.2	19.2
Distressed counties	65.3	10.2
Transitional counties	76.8	16.0
Competitive counties	78.4	20.0
Attainment counties	84.6	29.4



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 census.



In one-fourth of the Appalachian counties, workers commuted at least a half-hour to their jobs.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 census.

