



## Investments in the Appalachian Region

October 2015–January 2017

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) is a federal-state partnership. Its mission is to innovate, partner, and invest to build community capacity and strengthen economic growth in 420 counties across the 13 Appalachian states. ARC’s strategic plan identifies five investment goals to advance this mission: creating economic opportunity; preparing a ready workforce; building critical infrastructure; leveraging natural and cultural assets; and cultivating leadership and community capacity.

In partnership with the states and 73 Local Development Districts (LDDs), ARC has supported **662 projects** in Appalachia totaling **\$175.7 million**. These investments have been matched by more than **\$257.4 million** and will attract an additional **\$443.3 million** in leveraged private investments in Appalachia. They will also create or retain more than **23,670 jobs**, train and educate over **49,000 students and workers**, and benefit the more than **25 million residents** in **Appalachia’s 420 counties**.

### INVESTMENT PRIORITIES IN THE APPALACHIAN REGION



#### ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

ARC has invested almost **\$41.2 million** in entrepreneurial and business strategies to strengthen the economy in Appalachia.



#### READY WORKFORCE

ARC has invested over **\$59.4 million** to increase the education, knowledge, skills, and health of Appalachian residents to work and succeed.



#### CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

ARC has invested almost **\$46.0 million** in Appalachia’s critical infrastructure development, including broadband, transportation, and water/wastewater systems.



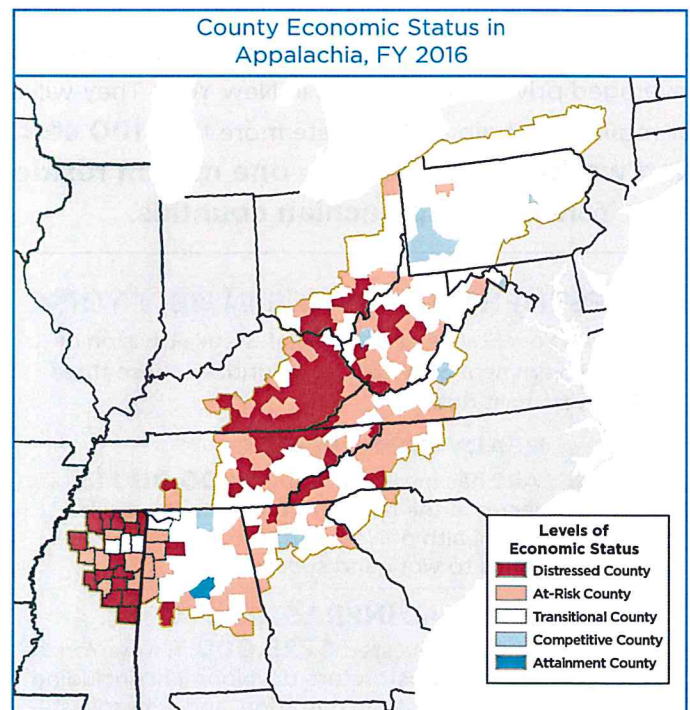
#### NATURAL AND CULTURAL ASSETS

ARC has invested almost **\$11.3 million** to leverage the economic potential of Appalachia’s natural and cultural heritage.



#### LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY CAPACITY

ARC has invested over **\$17.9 million** to build the capacity and skills of Appalachia’s current and next-generation leaders and organization to advance community and economic development.



### IMPACT ON DISTRESSED COUNTIES

In Appalachia, **93 counties** were considered economically distressed in fiscal year 2016. **394**

**projects** totaling **76%** of ARC investment dollars will have a direct impact on these counties.