Appalachia
The Appalachian Regional Commission uses an index-based county economic classification system to identify and monitor the economic status of Appalachian counties. See the reverse side for a description of each economic level.

Counties per Economic Level in Appalachia and the U.S.
- Distressed: 84 (311)
- At-Risk: 114 (467)
- Transitional: 210 (1557)
- Competitive: 10 (467)
- Attainment: 2 (311)

Map Created: March 2016
Data Sources:
- Income data: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, BEA, 2014
- Poverty data: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2010-2014
Fayette County, Kentucky

60 jobs for 100 people
Floyd County, Kentucky

28 jobs for 100 people
## THE TASK AT HAND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LABOR FORCE</th>
<th>EKY REGION</th>
<th>SUB-REGION 1</th>
<th>SUB-REGION 2</th>
<th>SUB-REGION 3</th>
<th>KENTUCKY</th>
<th>US</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Labor Force</td>
<td>233,234</td>
<td>42,787</td>
<td>44,021</td>
<td>63,692</td>
<td>82,734</td>
<td>2,029,231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>216,526</td>
<td>40,533</td>
<td>41,461</td>
<td>60,524</td>
<td>74,008</td>
<td>2,056,410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2016</td>
<td>187,759</td>
<td>34,689</td>
<td>34,354</td>
<td>52,087</td>
<td>66,629</td>
<td>1,968,567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Employment</td>
<td>216,810</td>
<td>39,370</td>
<td>40,670</td>
<td>59,420</td>
<td>77,350</td>
<td>1,913,472</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>191,632</td>
<td>35,415</td>
<td>36,621</td>
<td>54,082</td>
<td>65,514</td>
<td>1,862,928</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 2016</td>
<td>171,262</td>
<td>31,561</td>
<td>31,149</td>
<td>46,793</td>
<td>61,759</td>
<td>1,876,399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment Rate</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>11.7%</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2016</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor Participation Rate</td>
<td>44.74%</td>
<td>41.09%</td>
<td>43.58%</td>
<td>42.94%</td>
<td>49.64%</td>
<td>59.80%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PLANNING

BY THE EASTERN KENTUCKY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

by John D. Whisman, Executive Director

The Eastern Kentucky Regional Planning Commission is an advisory body to the Governor of the Commonwealth, established under Kentucky statutes, to assist in the physical planning and resource development of a 32-county area in the Eastern section of the Commonwealth. The commission is attached to the Kentucky Department of Economic Development. Nine leading citizens of the area serve without pay as Commissioners, appointed to staggered terms on the non-partisan, non-political commission. They are: B. F. Reed, Chairman, Drift; Lawrence Davis, Hazard; S. C. Van Curon, Harlan; Rexford Blazer, Ashland; Dr. Adron Doran, Morehead; Rev. William M. Huie, Corbin; Harry LaViers, Paintsville; Dr. Alec Spencer, West Liberty, and R. H. Worden, Pikeville.
PROGRAM 60 AREA DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP
FOR THE BIG SANDY VALLEY

Prestonsburg, Kentucky, School Auditorium --- June 14, 1961

(E.S.T.)

AGENDA

COFFEE ON ARRIVAL

9:00 GENERAL SESSION, Clifford Latta, Workshop Chairman

9:05 INVOCATION

9:10 WELCOME, Mayor Edward B. Leslie

9:15 B. F. Reed, Chairman, Eastern Kentucky Regional Development Commission

9:20 Revised schedule, presented by Mayor Leslie

9:25 Mrs. R. V. May, Chairman, Prestonsburg Community Council

9:30 Purpose of Meeting, Clifford Latta, Workshop Chairman

9:35 Purpose of Area Councils, John Whisman, Special Assistant to Governor Combs

9:55 Federal Area Redevelopment Program, Jerry Albright, Small Industries Consultant, U. S. Department of Commerce

10:10 FORUMS: (Each Discussion Leader, 5 minutes, Group Discussion 35 minutes)

AREA DEVELOPMENT

B. F. Reed, Chairman, Eastern Kentucky Regional Development Commission

John D. Whisman, Special Assistant to the Governor

Cliff Latta, Workshop Chairman

Hobart Adams, Area Rural Development Program Chairman

TOURIST INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT

Gilbert Kingfisher, Director, Kentucky Tourist and Travel Commission

Paul Grubbs, Director of Travel Promotion, Kentucky Chamber of Commerce

Lon Rogers, Member, Breaks-Interstate Park Commission

Malcolm Mason, Development Engineer, Kentucky Utilities Company

11:10 FORUMS:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Donald Webb, Kentucky Community Development Representative

Milton Ogle, Community Resources Development Counselor, Council of the Southern Mountains

Mrs. R. V. May, Chairman, Prestonsburg Community Council

William Miller, Community Development Specialist, Eastern Kentucky Resource Development Project

COMMUNITY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT

Jerry Albright, Small Industries Consultant, U. S. Department of Commerce
Founding CO-CHAIRS

Harold Rogers
CONGRESSMAN
Kentucky's 5th Congressional District

Steven L. Beshear
GOVERNOR
Commonwealth of Kentucky
“If you don’t like change, you’re going to like irrelevance even less.”
- **Unite** partners in a shared vision
- **Be the catalyst** for systemic change
- **Reallocate resources for strategic regional investments**
- **Build on the capacity of local leaders**
- **Inspire individuals and communities through hope to take action**
SOAR Advisory Council

- Health
- Broadband
- Business Incubation
- Business Recruitment
- Education and Retraining
- Agriculture, Community & Regional Foods, Natural Resources
- Leadership Development and Youth Engagement
- Infrastructure
- Regional Identity and Collaboration
- Tourism, Arts, and Heritage
CHANGE:
Driven by Innovation
ORGANIZATION

A 'BACKBONE' COORDINATING

A COMMON AGENDA FOR CHANGE

COLLECTIVE IMPACT

OPEN AND CONTINUOUS COMMUNICATIONS

SHARED MEASUREMENT FOR DATA & RESULTS

MUTUALLY REINFORCING ACTIVITIES
disruption
Blueprint for a 21st Century Appalachia
www.soar-ky.org/blueprint
Feb-22-1998
the future of Appalachia KY hinges on our ability to embrace technology and become a participant in the 21st century digital economy
Appalachia
SOAR
the best way
to predict the future,
IS TO CREATE IT.

Jared Arnett, MBA
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Pikeville, KY 41501
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www.soar-ky.org/blueprint