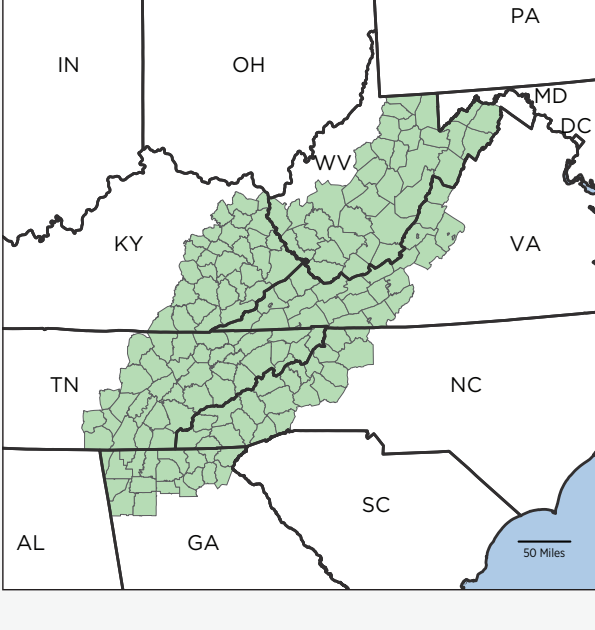


Central Appalachia



A number of delineations for Appalachia have appeared over the last 125 years, each with different designs and practical uses. For this infographic, Central Appalachia is defined in accordance with leading Appalachian history scholar and author John Alexander Williams' "core" counties, identified as those counties that appeared in each of six previous major delineations (see table below). This Central Appalachia delineation consists of 172 counties or county equivalents that fall within six states: Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia.

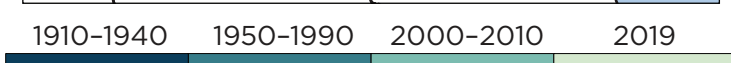
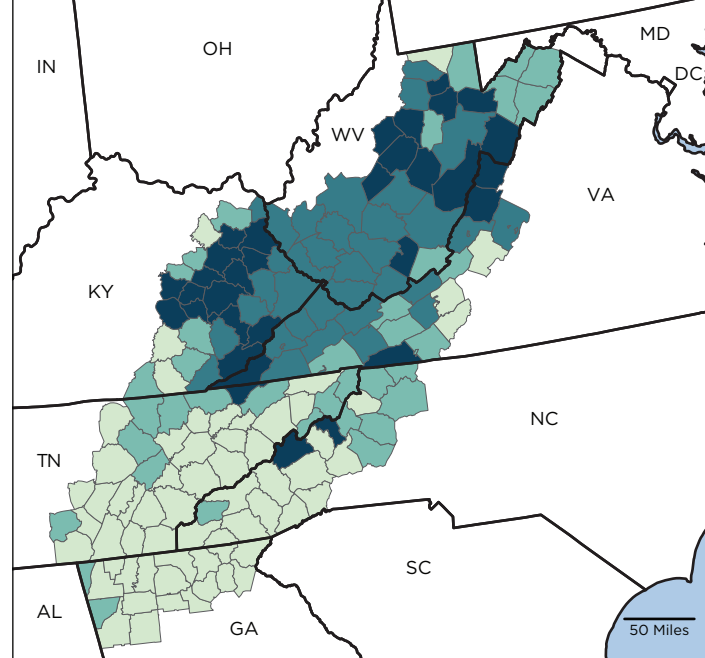
Delineation	Year	Number of counties
Berea College	1896	207 counties in 9 states
John C. Campbell	1921	269 counties in 9 states
U.S. Department of Agriculture	1935	205 counties in 6 states
Ford Foundation	1962	190 counties in 7 states
Appalachian Regional Commission	1965 to present	428 counties in 13 states (as of 2008)
Raitz & Ulack	1981	462 counties in 13 states

Source: Scales et al., "Mapping Appalachia: A Digital Collection," <<https://mapappalachia.geography.vt.edu/>>, accessed on August 5, 2019.

Population Distribution

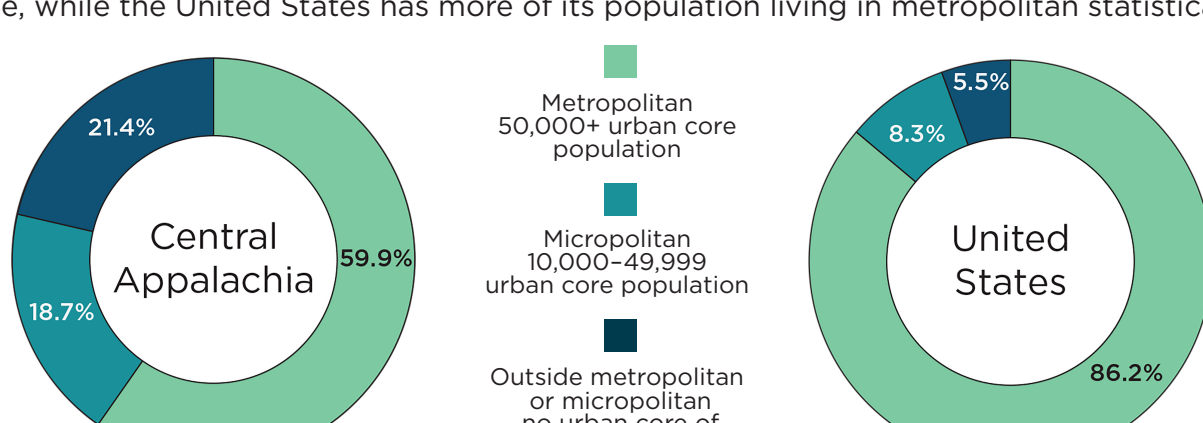
Over the period of 1910 to 2019, 32 of the 172 counties in Central Appalachia saw their populations peak in the censuses between 1910 and 1940. Another 39 counties had their highest populations in censuses between 1950 and 1990, while the peak for 38 counties was in 2000 or 2010. The remaining 63 counties reached their highest populations in Vintage 2019 estimates.

Period of Maximum Population



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 Censuses, Vintage 2019 Population Estimates; Richard L. Forstall, "Population of States and Counties of the United States: 1790 to 1990," U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC, 1996.

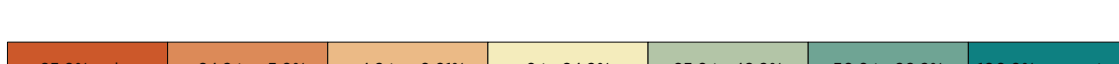
As of 2019, Central Appalachia had a higher proportion of its population living within micropolitan statistical areas, or outside of metropolitan or micropolitan statistical areas, than the United States as a whole, while the United States has more of its population living in metropolitan statistical areas.



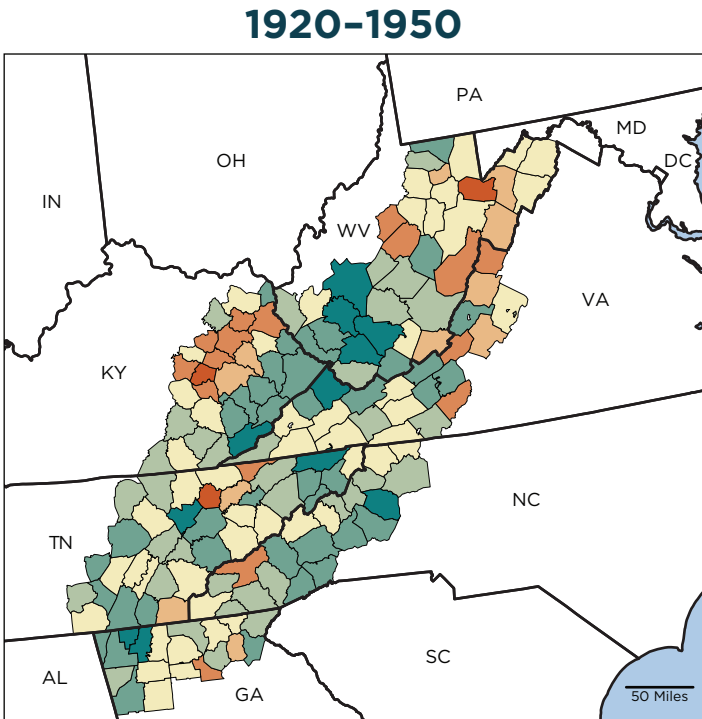
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2019 Population Estimates; Office of Management and Budget, March 2020, Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Area delineations.

Population Change

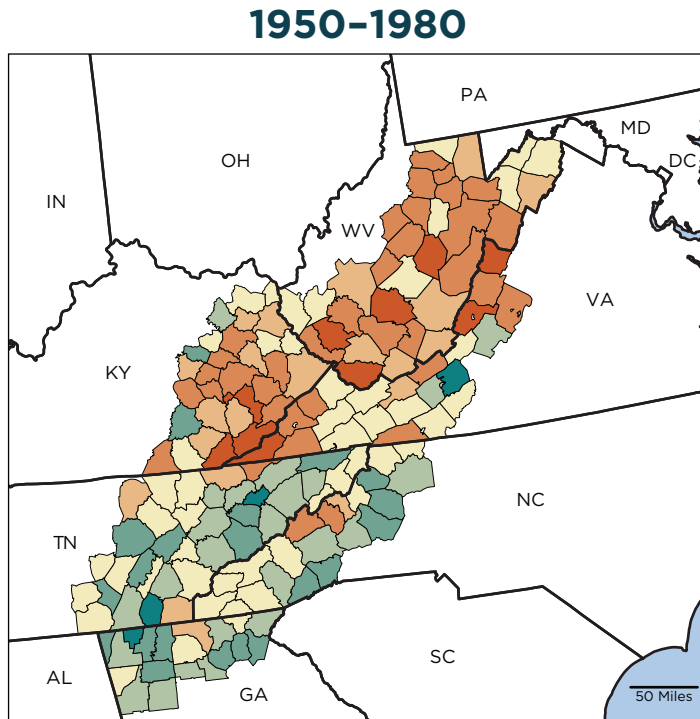
Levels of population growth and decline have varied in the region since 1920, with the fastest growth seen between 1920 and 1950. Beginning in the period of 1950 to 1980 and continuing through the 2010 Census, the region generally sorted into geographical areas of growth or decline.



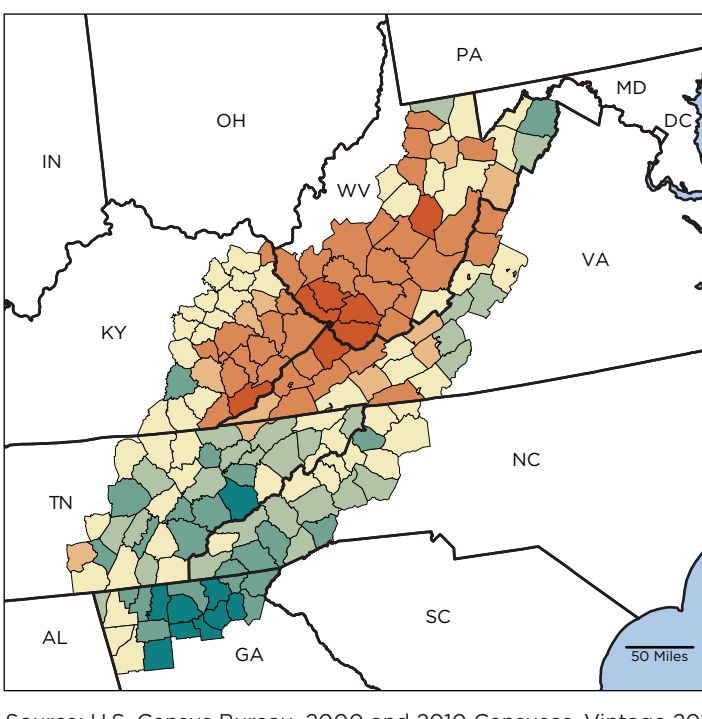
1920-1950



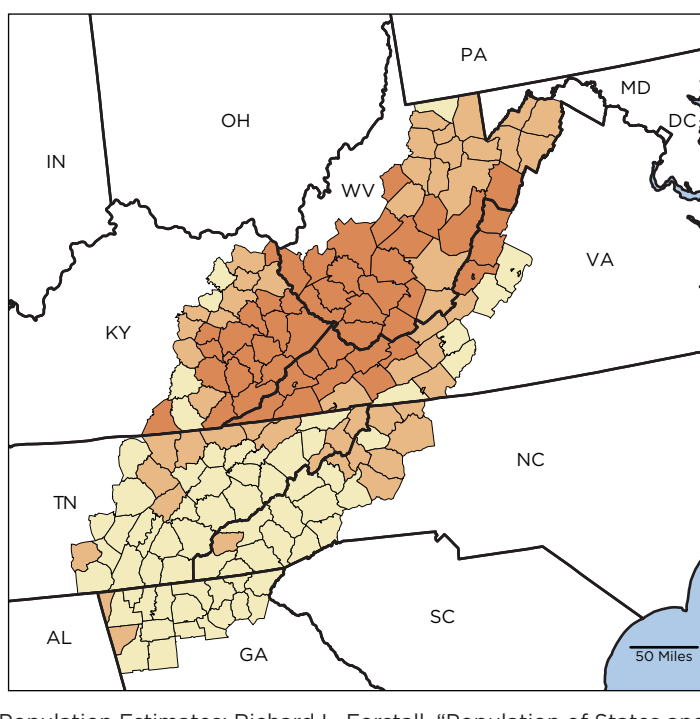
1950-1980



1980-2010

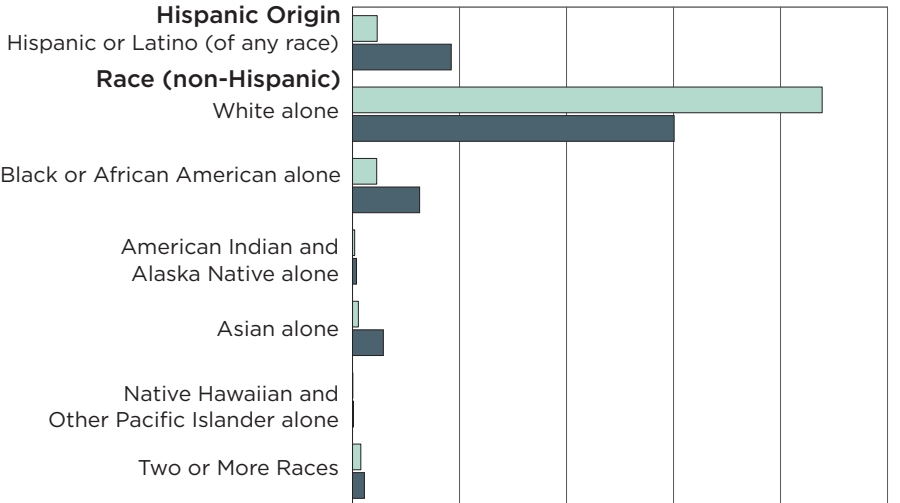


2010-2019



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 Censuses, Vintage 2019 Population Estimates; Richard L. Forstall, "Population of States and Counties of the United States: 1790 to 1990," U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC, 1996.

Race and Ethnicity



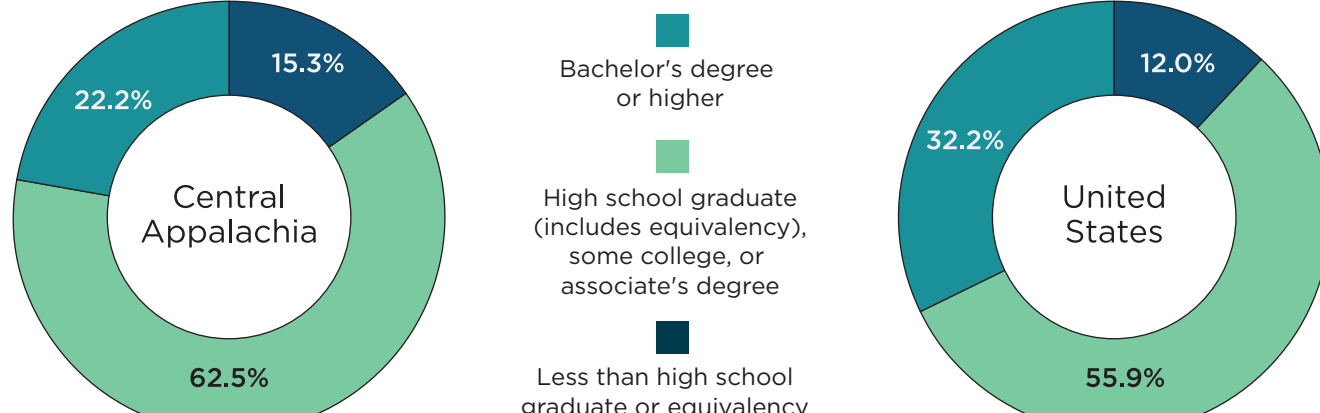
In 2019, the non-Hispanic White alone population accounted for 88 percent of Central Appalachia's population, while for the United States overall it was 60 percent of the total population.

The Black or African American alone, Asian alone, and Hispanic or Latino of any race populations accounted for higher proportions of the total population of the United States as a whole than those found in Central Appalachia.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2019 Population Estimates.

Education

Looking at educational attainment, Central Appalachia has a higher proportion of adults with a high school diploma or less, while the United States has a higher proportion of adults with a college degree or above.

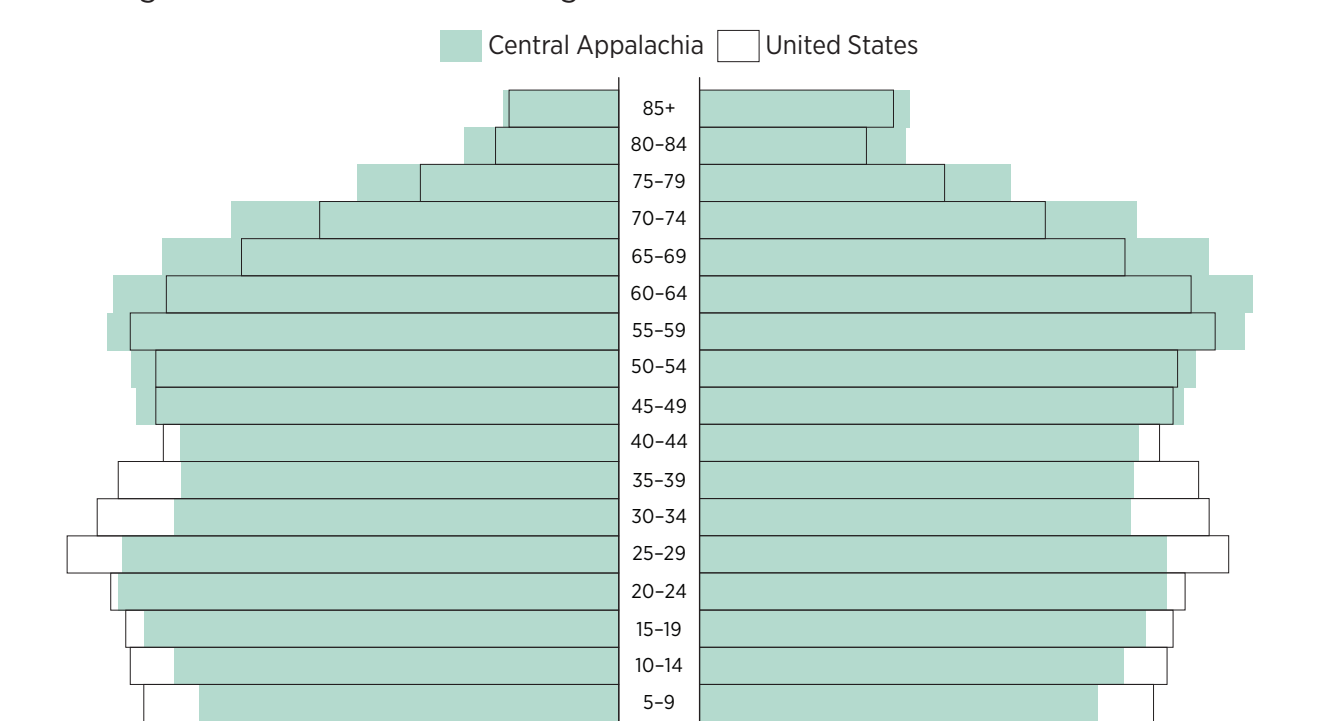


Note: Percent distribution of the population aged 25 and older. Data based on sample. More information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions is available at <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey, 5-year estimates.

Age and Sex Distribution

Central Appalachia's age structure skews older than that of the United States as a whole. The United States has greater proportions of its population than Central Appalachia in all of the age cohorts from 0-4 through 40-44, while Central Appalachia has greater proportions of its population in all of the age cohorts from 45-49 through 85+.



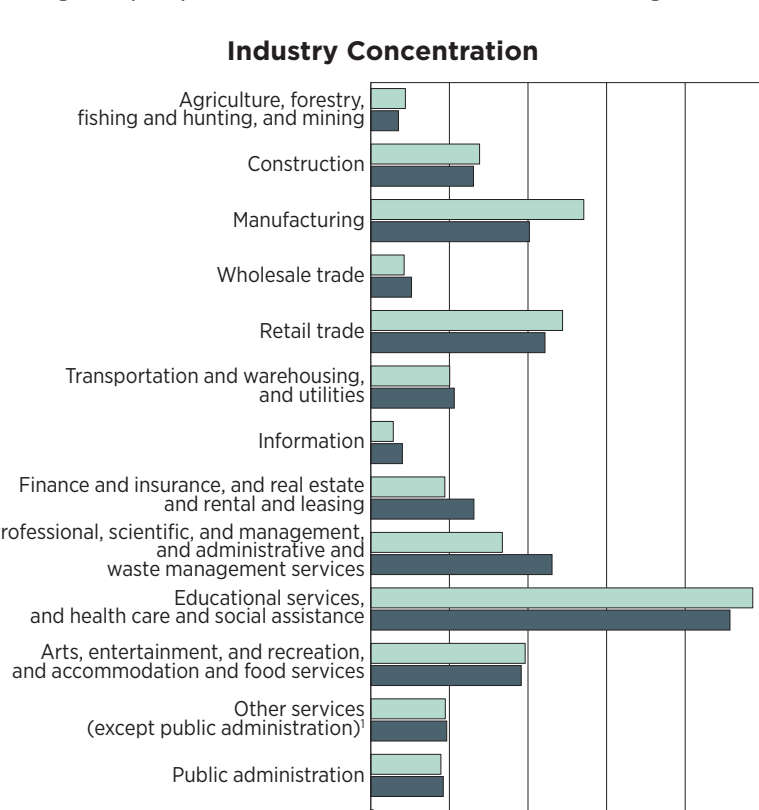
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2019 Population Estimates.

Industry and Occupation

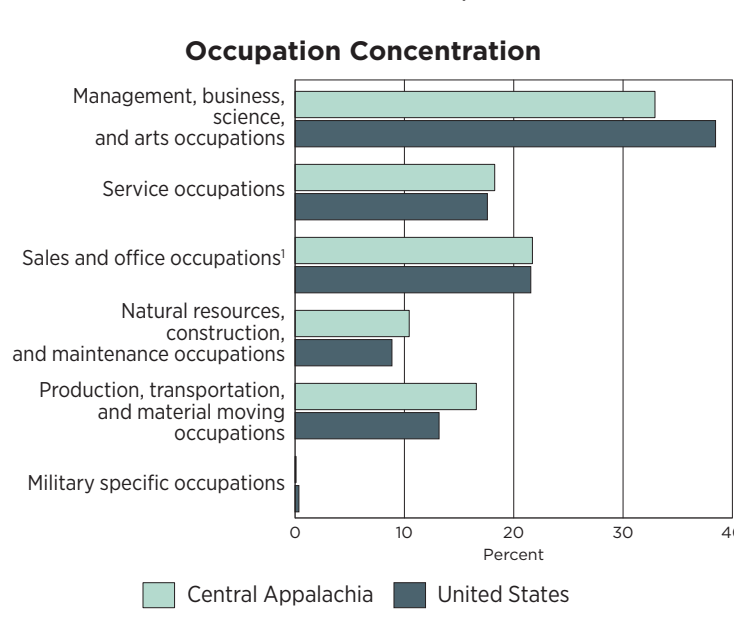
Central Appalachia has a higher proportion of its workforce in the manufacturing industry than the country as a whole. The United States has a higher proportion of its workforce in the professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services industries.

Central Appalachia has a higher proportion of its workforce in production, transportation, and material moving occupations than the United States as a whole. The United States as a whole has a higher proportion of its workforce in management, business, science, and arts occupations.

Industry Concentration



Occupation Concentration



Estimates for the United States and Central Appalachia are not significantly different.

Note: Percent distribution of workers aged 16 and older. Data based on sample. More information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions is available at <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey, 5-year estimates.