

**Criteria for County Economic Levels of the
Appalachian Regional Commission
Fiscal Year 2006**

Latest County Data as of January 1, 2005

FY 2006 Economic Level	No. of Counties in Appalachia	2001 - 2003 Three-Year Average Unemployment Rate		2002 Per Capita "Market" Income		2000 Census Poverty Rate	<i>Alternate Criteria</i>
Distressed	77	8.3% or more [150% of U.S. 5.5%]	<i>and</i>	\$17,701 or less [67% of U.S. \$26,420]	<i>and</i>	18.6% or more [150% of U.S. 12.4%]	<i>or</i> have at least twice the U.S. poverty rate and meet the criteria for one other distressed indicator.
At-Risk	81	6.9% or more [125% of U.S. 5.5%]	<i>and</i>	\$17,701 or less [67% of U.S. \$26,420]	<i>and</i>	15.5% or more [125% of U.S. 12.4%]	<i>or</i> meet the criteria of two of the three distressed level indicators.
Transitional	222	All counties that are worse than the national average for one or more indicator but do not meet the criteria of the distressed or at-risk levels.					
Competitive	22	5.5% or less [100% of U.S.]	<i>and</i>	\$21,136 - \$26,419 [80 - 99% of U.S. \$26,420]	<i>and</i>	12.4% or less [100% of U.S.]	
Attainment	8	5.5% or less [100% of U.S.]	<i>and</i>	\$26,420 or more [100% of U.S.]	<i>and</i>	12.4% or less [100% of U.S.]	

Data Notes:

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

The at-risk level was adopted in Fiscal Year 2006 for the purpose of monitoring economic change and planning for investments in potentially distressed counties.

Data Sources:

U.S. Department of Labor - Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), 2001-2003 (employment data);

U.S. Department of Commerce - Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System (REIS), 2002 (income data);

U.S. Department of Commerce - Census Bureau, 2000 Census, SF3 (poverty data).