



*Photo: Savannah Historic District (Georgia)  
Photographer: Carla Parris*



## **SOUTHEAST CRESCENT REGIONAL COMMISSION**

***Building Sustainable Communities  
and Supporting Economic Growth  
Across the Southeast Crescent  
Region***

# **FY 2022 Annual Report**

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# SOUTHEAST CRESCENT REGIONAL COMMISSION

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**SOUTHEAST CRESCENT**  
REGIONAL COMMISSION

### Message from Federal Co-Chair Dr. Jennifer Clyburn Reed and 2022 States' Co-Chair Governor Henry McMaster

We are pleased to present the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2022.

The Southeast Crescent Regional Commission (SCRC) is roused with excitement, celebrating the conclusion of the agency's first year in existence. At the same time, we anxiously anticipate the future. While we can celebrate several measurable, meaningful, and impactful accomplishments, we have also met goals that were not as tangible or visible. This report details those successes.

The Southeast Crescent Regional Commission (SCRC) was authorized in the 2008 Farm Bill (P.L. 110-234), and began operations in January 2021 when the Federal Co-Chair, Dr. Jennifer Clyburn Reed, was sworn into the office upon confirmation by the U.S. Senate. On April 21, 2022, the SCRC announced its first State Co-Chair, Governor Henry McMaster of South Carolina.

The mission of a regional commission is to alleviate the burden of poverty on citizens via a federal-state partnership serving as a grantmaking entity for projects promoting sustainable economic growth and development within a specified region. SCRC spans 210,508 square miles in seven states – Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. In FY 2022, SCRC had 51.1 million residents in 428 counties or county equivalents, of which 179 were classified as being distressed or in persistent poverty.

Overcoming the obstacles of persistent poverty and pervasive issues experienced from economic distress are daunting tasks. Working in collaboration with our member states, SCRC has made significant headway in building this agency into a viable entity.

Funding available in FY 2022 came from multiple sources: \$5 million appropriated in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022; \$3.75 million from prior year congressional appropriations; and \$5 million provided by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, IJA or BIL). This funding has allowed the agency to get off to a solid start. The Commission has reached out to other federal agencies to form partnerships to broaden and deepen our reach and impact. We anticipate several announcements of initiatives in FY 2023.

Priorities for the agency included establishing a foundation from which to operate and carry out the intents and purposes of the governing statute. The first major task was to create a set of Bylaws, a process that began in March 2022 and concluded in October 2022 with an adopted document by the Commission. The agency was statutorily bound to complete the second major task, to produce a five-year strategic plan on or before the end of the first year of activation. The Five-Year Strategic Plan process which began in April 2022, concluded with an affirmed document in December 2022, meeting the deadline.



*Message from the SCRC Co-Chairs*  
*February 23, 2023*

SCRC is on par to make investments in local and regional initiatives and launch our flagship grant program in FY 2023. By collaborating and communicating with local development districts, community organizations, our Governors' Alternates and State program managers, we will accomplish a great deal throughout the region. SCRC will invest in basic public infrastructure; transportation infrastructure; telecommunications infrastructure; job skills training; business development and entrepreneurship; basic health care and other public services; conservation, tourism, recreation, and preservation of open space; and renewable and alternative energy sources. At least 50% of SCRC funds will be conferred in economically distressed counties and areas of economic distress.

SCRC is committed to building sustainable communities and strengthening economic growth in the 428 counties and county equivalents that make up the Southeast Crescent footprint. We look forward to the continued work with our state and regional partners to support the launch and execution of the grant program and initiatives. This will allow SCRC to achieve its mission to ensure a prosperous future for the people who call the Southeast Crescent region home.

Kind Regards,



**Dr. Jennifer Clyburn Reed**  
Federal Co-Chair  
Southeast Crescent Regional Commission



**The Honorable Henry McMaster**  
Governor of South Carolina  
2022 States' Co-Chair

## Commission Members

*Policy and oversight decisions for the Commission are made by the Federal Co-Chair and a majority of Governors from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia.*

### CO-CHAIRS



**Dr. Jennifer Clyburn Reed**  
*Federal Co-Chair*



**The Honorable Henry McMaster**  
*Governor, State of South Carolina  
States' Co-Chair*

### BOARD OF GOVERNORS



#### Representing the State of Alabama

**The Honorable Kay Ivey, Governor**

**State Alternate:** Kenneth Boswell,  
Director, Dept. of Economic and  
Community Affairs

**SCRC State Program Managers:**  
Crystal Talley and Leslie Clark, Alabama  
Dept. of Economic and Community Affairs



#### Representing the State of Florida

**The Honorable Ron DeSantis, Governor**

**State Alternate:** Katherine Russo,  
Director, Federal Relations, Office of the  
Governor

**SCRC State Program Managers:** N/A



#### Representing the State of Georgia

**The Honorable Brian Kemp, Governor**

**State Alternate:** Commissioner  
Christopher Nunn, Georgia Dept. of  
Community Affairs

**SCRC State Program Manager:** Brittany  
Pittman, Georgia Dept. of Community  
Affairs



Meaher State Park (Baldwin County, AL),  
Photo: Alabama Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources



Piedmont Park (Fulton County, GA), Photo: Explore Georgia



**Representing the State of Mississippi**

**The Honorable Tate Reeves, Governor**

**State Alternate:** Kristen Windham, Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor

**State Program Managers:** Mike Armour and Andrea Rose, Mississippi Development Authority



Port of Gulfport (Harrison County, MS), Photo: Mississippi Development Authority, Photographer: Tate K. Nations



**Representing the State of North Carolina**

**The Honorable Roy Cooper, Governor**

**State Alternate:** Jim McCleskey, Director, North Carolina Washington Office

**SCRC State Program Manager:** Olivia A. Collier, North Carolina Dept. of Commerce



Periauger boat passes 1886 Roanoke River Lighthouse (Chowan County, NC), Photo: Destination Downtown Edenton



**Representing the State of South Carolina**

**The Honorable Henry McMaster, Governor**

**State Alternate:** Jordan Marsh, Director, Federal Affairs, Office of the Governor

**SCRC State Program Managers:** Caroline Griffin and Tina Thomas, South Carolina Dept. of Commerce

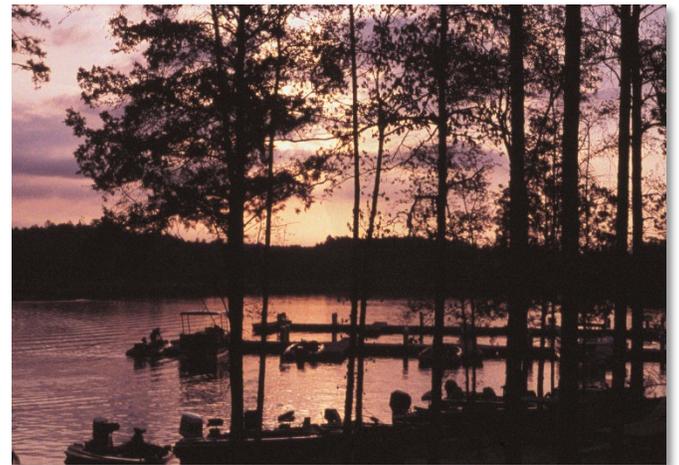


**Representing the State of Virginia**

**The Honorable Glenn Youngkin, Governor**

**State Alternate:** Bryan Horn, Director, Virginia Dept. of Housing and Community Development

**SCRC State Program Managers:** Matt Weaver and Rachel Jordan, Virginia Dept. of Housing and Community Development



Calhoun Falls State Recreation Area (Abbeville County, SC), Photo: South Carolina Dept. of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism

## About the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission

### The SCRC Mission:

To build sustainable communities and strengthen economic growth across the Southeast Crescent region.



Deer Island, Biloxi Beach (Harrison County, MS),  
Photo: Mississippi Development Authority

Established in the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (“The Farm Bill”)<sup>i</sup>, SCRC’s focus is on addressing issues related to economic development and poverty in its 428 counties across Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. Of the 428 counties in FY 2022, 42 percent were categorized as persistent poverty.

Persistent-poverty counties typically have high rates of unemployment; banking, healthcare, and broadband deserts; and a scarcity of quality, affordable housing and safe drinking water.<sup>ii</sup> Looking ahead, SCRC is committed to investing at least 50 percent of funds in “distressed counties and isolated areas of distress in the region... that have high rates of poverty, unemployment, or outmigration”<sup>iii</sup> to ensure the economic development and sustainable growth of communities across the Southeast.



Indian Springs State Park (Butts County, GA),  
Photo: Explore Georgia

### The Uniqueness of the SCRC Region

The residents of the Southeast Crescent region proudly represent and contribute to the unique spirit, culture, traditions, and natural environment of the region. From the Florida Everglades to the Mississippi Palisades, and the saltwater marshes in South Carolina’s Lowcountry to the Little River Canyon National Preserve in Alabama, the beauty of the Southeast Crescent is as unique as its people. Many SCRC counties are home to a larger share of Black and/or African American residents as well as Latinx and/or Hispanic residents as compared to the national average.<sup>iv</sup>

Situated between the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Ocean, the region boasts more than 600 colleges and universities and is home to important historic sites and locations – from the home of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Georgia, the famous Fredericksburg battlefield in Virginia, and the location of the first flight in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina – drawing visitors and residents year-round.

Further, the states' coastal access and port infrastructure enable SCRC states to serve as gateways for local, state-wide, and regional commerce. Seaports across all seven states have played an important role in spurring statewide as well as regional economic and industry development, employment, labor income, annual gross state product, and tax revenue.<sup>v</sup> Investments in ports and regional transportation infrastructure will continue enabling the efficient transport of goods and secure future economic success for the Southeast Crescent region.



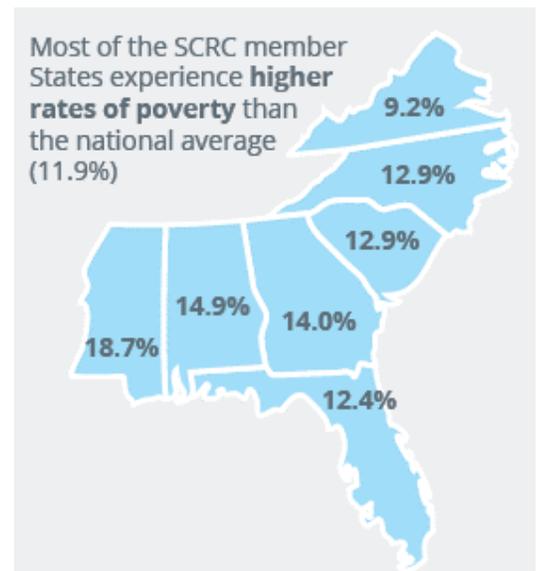
Port of Charleston (Charleston County, SC), Photo: South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism



Port of Mobile (Mobile County, AL), Photo: Alabama Port Authority

Despite the myriad of assets and opportunities, challenges remain. The Southeast Crescent region encompasses areas with the highest rates of poverty in the United States, and almost six million people live in SCRC's distressed counties. In 2020, state-wide poverty rates ranged from 9.2 percent in Virginia to 18.7 percent in Mississippi.<sup>vi</sup> In all seven states of SCRC, Black households face the largest gap in median household income, as compared to their Hispanic and non-Hispanic White counterparts.<sup>vii</sup>

Infrastructure in the region – including water, transit, and broadband – is considered mediocre by the American Society of Civil Engineers,<sup>viii</sup> while healthcare costs, healthcare access, and health outcomes are among the lowest ranking in the country. Through an economic mobility lens, the region has lower-than-average median household income levels and job growth rates, while a lack of economic diversification in some communities leaves them susceptible to economic turbulence. Legacy barriers in housing impact the socioeconomic security and well-being of residents today, while the region's stunning environmental landscape comes at the high cost of vulnerability to extreme weather events, such as hurricanes and floods.



## Guiding Principles

Of the seven states served by SCRC, six are shared with the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) and Delta Regional Authority (DRA). Like SCRC, these regional commissions are charged with improving regional economic development by investing in programmatic activities across their service areas. ARC and DRA have been active for 57 years and 22 years, respectively, and provide successful models of programs, projects, and activities that drive community and economic development, job growth, and socio-economic outcomes. During FY 2022, its first year of operation, SCRC used successful examples from partner commissions; replicating and adapting, where necessary, best practices; and using lessons learned to guide organizational development, and program formation aimed at improving outcomes for the residents of the Southeast Crescent region.



Lumberton Mural (Robeson County, NC),  
Photo: Lumberton Main Street Program

In accordance with 40 U.S.C. Chapter 2 § 15501, SCRC will make investments that will address the following needs:

- Develop transportation infrastructure;
- Develop basic public infrastructure;
- Develop telecommunications infrastructure;
- Assist the region in obtaining job skills training, skills development and employment-related education, entrepreneurship, technology, and business development;
- Provide assistance to severely economically distressed and underdeveloped areas in the region that lack financial resources for improving basic health care and other public services;
- Promote resource conservation, tourism, recreation, and preservation of open space in a manner consistent with economic development goals; and
- Promote the development of renewable and alternative energy sources.



Statesboro Mainstreet Farmers Market  
(Bulloch County, GA), Photo: Explore Georgia

## A Brief Review of 2022

In FY 2022, SCRC worked in collaboration with its seven member states to engage and inform stakeholders about the agency and started preliminary assessments of the needs and assets of the region as required by statute (40 U.S.C. Chapter 2 § 15303 *et seq.*). Despite working with limited staff and resources, SCRC circulated a seven-state survey to capture feedback from residents on what was needed or existing to make one, *Love Where You Live*. A series of virtual community meetings, *Coffee and Conversation*, were also held for each of the seven states. Responses from both outreach efforts served as the foundation of the Commission's inaugural five-year strategic plan, adopted in 2022. The plan serves as SCRC's comprehensive economic and infrastructure development plan that is a blueprint to champion equity-centered, anti-poverty efforts – the catalyst for regional economic growth and community sustainability.

### Strategic Goals

With a focus on service, equity, and resiliency, SCRC identified six strategic goals to address specific gaps in resident opportunities throughout the region and the needed resources to help fill those gaps.

1. Invest in Critical Infrastructure
2. Improve Health and Support Services Access and Outcomes
3. Strengthen Workforce Capacity
4. Foster Entrepreneurial and Business Development Activities
5. Expand Affordable Housing Stock and Access
6. Promote Environmental Conservation, Preservation, and Access



Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College  
(Harrison County, Mississippi), Photo: Mississippi Development Authority

At this critical moment in our formation, SCRC is positioned to set the standard for anti-poverty and economic growth efforts in the region. Driven to affect change, the SCRC's strategic plan established four key impact measures to evaluate all efforts and investments made by the agency from 2023 to 2027. These targets will measure the outcomes associated with all priority initiatives and activities of the inaugural SCRC grant program scheduled to launch in FY 2023.

**Target 1:** Number of households and businesses with new or improved access to critical services because of SCRC efforts or investments.

**Target 2:** Number of jobs created and/or retained through SCRC efforts and investments.

**Target 3:** Number of communities with enhanced capacity due to SCRC efforts or investments.

**Target 4:** Value of community and resident wealth attained or built as a result of SCRC efforts or investments.

## Other FY 2022 Highlights

- **SCRC Bylaws**

Pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §15304(a)(4), the Commission established a set of Bylaws to govern certain policies and procedures of the Commission. In creating the Commission, Congress developed roles for both Federal and State when forming programs and policies. The combined talents, resources, and insights of both governments are required to make maximum use of the programs and funds authorized under the Act. In the interest of public integrity and transparency in operations, the Commission will adhere to federal agency standards and as deemed necessary by legal counsel.

- **Delta Regional Authority (DRA) Conference – New Orleans, LA**

The SCRC Federal Co-Chair served as a guest of DRA during their annual conference. This opportunity gave SCRC insight into what to expect and how to respond to the needs of varied community entities.

- **National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) Conference – Arlington, VA**

As an advocate for promoting community development and economic competitiveness, NADO reached out to SCRC to offer support in engaging its members with SCRC. NADO serves as a key conduit to local development districts (LDDs) throughout the region. Attending their annual policy conference gave SCRC an opportunity to be introduced to this audience and connect with economic development leaders in SCRC member states.

- **Local Development Districts (LDD) Capacity Building Program**

In an effort to formulate a capacity building program for LDDs located in the Southeast Crescent region, SCRC assessed existing LDD programs and related statutes of other regional commissions. As a result, the SCRC determined that it will assist 62 LDDs with administrative expenses incurred from assisting communities with development planning. The primary goal of the LDD program will be to increase SCRC outreach activities to local governments, community groups, the business community, as well as distressed and transitional communities while improving local access to funding sources and assisting communities in the preparation to receive financial investments.

- **Research and Evaluation Consortium**

To guide decision makers, policymakers, and partners in making informed and effective development decisions, SCRC determined in FY 2022 that it will invest in research, data gathering, and impact evaluation of agency programs. SCRC will collaborate with researchers, evaluators, mapping specialists, and economists to track trends and address economic and infrastructure developments and barriers in the region. Findings will be published on multiple platforms.

- **State Capacity Cooperative Program**

In FY 2022, the SCRC decided that it will enter into cooperative agreements with member States to assist with compliance of grants awarded within their states and facilitating training and outreach efforts. Additionally, member States will collaborate with and oversee grant administration of grant awards and assist LDDs with technical assistance.

- **Crescent Care Collaborative**

In FY 2022, the Crescent Care Collaborative was launched in response to medical professional shortages and low access to quality healthcare throughout the region. The first initiative of the Collaborative is the J-1 visa waiver program. A J-1 visa waiver allows foreign physicians, who trained in the United States, to work in medically underserved areas or health professional shortage areas within the SCRC region for three years. The Collaborative will also form partnerships with larger medical systems to host mobile clinics in rural areas where access to medical care is lacking or scarce.



Scenic View on the Blue Ridge Parkway (Roanoke County, VA); Photo: Visit Roanoke, Photographer: Robert Stevens

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## SCRC Regional Footprint

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### 428 Counties and County Equivalents

**Alabama – 13 counties** - Autauga, Baldwin, Coffee, Covington, Crenshaw, Dale, Geneva, Henry, Houston, Lee, Mobile, Montgomery County, Pike

**Florida – 67 counties** - Alachua, Baker, Bay, Bradford, Brevard, Broward, Calhoun, Charlotte, Citrus, Clay, Collier, Columbia, DeSoto, Dixie, Duval, Escambia, Flagler, Franklin, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Glades, Gulf, Hamilton, Hardee, Hendry, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Holmes, Indian River, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lake, Lee, Leon, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Manatee, Marion, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Nassau, Okaloosa, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Putnam, Santa Rosa, Sarasota, Seminole, St. Johns, St. Lucie, Sumter, Suwannee, Taylor, Union, Volusia, Wakulla, Walton, Washington

**Georgia – 122 counties** - Appling, Atkinson, Bacon, Baker, Baldwin, Ben Hill, Berrien, Bibb, Bleckley, Brantley, Brooks, Bryan, Bulloch, Burke, Butts, Calhoun, Camden, Candler, Charlton, Chatham, Chattahoochee, Clarke, Clay, Clayton, Clinch, Cobb, Coffee, Colquitt, Columbia, Cook, Coweta, Crawford, Crisp, De Kalb, Decatur, Dodge, Dooly, Dougherty, Early, Echols, Effingham, Emanuel, Evans, Fayette, Fulton, Glascock, Glynn, Grady, Greene, Hancock, Harris, Henry, Houston, Irwin, Jasper, Jeff Davis, Jefferson, Jenkins, Johnson, Jones, Lamar, Lanier, Laurens, Lee, Liberty, Lincoln, Long, Lowndes, Macon, Marion, McDuffie, McIntosh, Meriwether, Miller, Mitchell, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Muscogee, Newton, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Peach, Pierce, Pike, Pulaski, Putnam, Quitman, Randolph, Richmond, Rockdale, Schley, Screven, Seminole, Spalding, Stewart, Sumter, Talbot, Taliaferro, Tattnall, Taylor, Telfair, Terrell, Thomas, Tift, Toombs, Treutlen, Troup, Turner, Twiggs, Upson, Walton, Ware, Warren, Washington, Wayne, Webster, Wheeler, Wilcox, Wilkes, Wilkinson, Worth

**Mississippi – 18 counties** - Clarke, Forrest, George, Greene, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Jones, Lamar, Lauderdale, Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Pearl River, Perry, Scott, Stone, Wayne

**North Carolina – 69 counties** - Alamance, Anson, Beaufort, Bertie, Bladen, Brunswick, Cabarrus, Camden, Carteret, Caswell, Chatham, Chowan, Columbus, Craven, Cumberland, Currituck, Dare, Davidson, Duplin, Durham, Edgecombe, Franklin, Gaston, Gates, Granville, Greene, Guilford, Halifax, Harnett, Hertford, Hoke, Hyde, Iredell, Johnston, Jones, Lee, Lenoir, Lincoln, Martin, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Moore, Nash, New Hanover, Northampton, Onslow, Orange, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Person, Pitt, Randolph, Richmond, Robeson, Rockingham, Rowan, Sampson, Scotland, Stanly, Tyrrell, Union, Vance, Wake, Warren, Washington, Wayne, Wilson

**South Carolina – 39 counties** - Abbeville, Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Beaufort, Berkeley, Calhoun, Charleston, Chester, Chesterfield, Clarendon, Colleton, Darlington, Dillon, Dorchester, Edgefield, Fairfield, Florence, Georgetown, Greenwood, Hampton, Horry, Jasper, Kershaw, Lancaster, Laurens, Lee, Lexington, Marion, Marlboro, McCormick, Newberry, Orangeburg, Richland, Saluda, Sumter, Williamsburg, York

**Virginia – 100 counties & county equivalents** - Accomack, Albemarle, **Alexandria city**, Amelia, Amherst, Appomattox, Arlington, Augusta, Bedford, Brunswick, Buckingham, Campbell, Caroline, Charles City, Charlotte, **Charlottesville city**, **Chesapeake city**, Chesterfield, Clarke, **Colonial Heights city**, Culpeper, Cumberland, **Danville city**, Dinwiddie, **Emporia city**, Essex, Fairfax, **Fairfax City**, Falls **Church city**, Fauquier, Fluvanna, Franklin, **Franklin city**, Frederick, **Fredericksburg city**, Gloucester, Goochland, Greene, Greensville, Halifax, **Hampton city**, Hanover, **Harrisonburg city**, Henrico, **Hopewell city**, Isle Of Wight, James City, King And Queen, King George, King William, Lancaster, Loudoun, Louisa, Lunenburg, **Lynchburg city**, Madison, **Manassas city**, **Manassas Park city**, Mathews, Mecklenburg, Middlesex, Nelson, New Kent, **Newport News city**, **Norfolk city**, Northampton, Northumberland, Nottoway, Orange, Page, **Petersburg city**, Pittsylvania, **Poquoson city**, **Portsmouth city**, Powhatan, Prince Edward, Prince George, Prince William, Rappahannock, Richmond, **Richmond city**, Roanoke, **Roanoke city**, Rockingham, **Salem city**, Shenandoah, Southampton, Spotsylvania, Stafford, **Staunton city**, **Suffolk city**, Surry, Sussex, **Virginia Beach city**, Warren, **Waynesboro city**, Westmoreland, **Williamsburg city**, **Winchester city**, York

## Economic Designation Methodology

### SCRC Economic Designation of Counties & County Equivalents

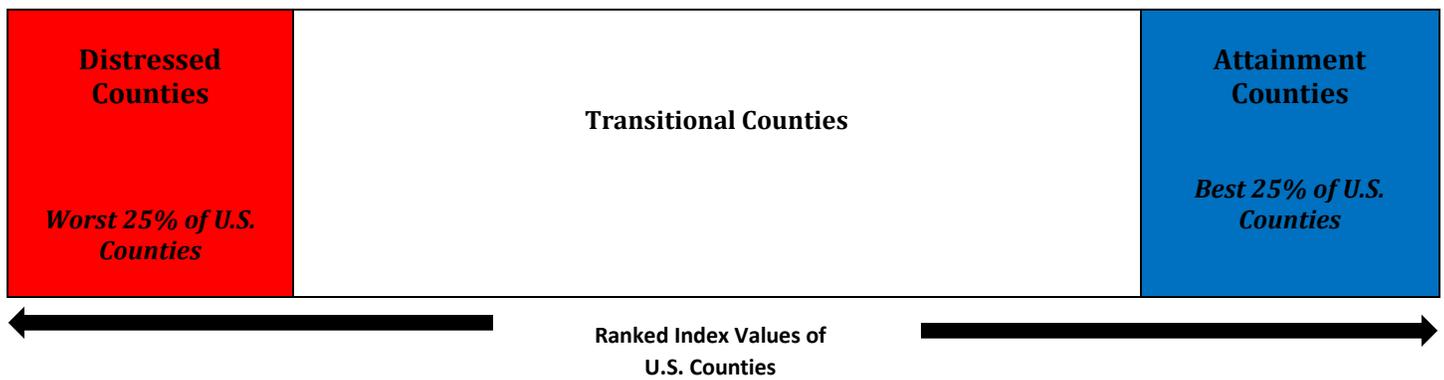
In accordance with 40 U.S.C. § 15702, the SCRC will annually assign economic designations to counties and areas within the region, the categories are:

- A. **Distressed Counties** – Those counties that are the most severely and persistently economically distressed and underdeveloped and have high rates of poverty, unemployment, or outmigration.
- B. **Transitional Counties** – Those counties that are economically distressed and underdeveloped or have recently suffered high rates of poverty, unemployment, or outmigration.
- C. **Attainment Counties** – Those counties in its region that **are not** designated as distressed or transitional counties.

### Methodology

In FY 2022, SCRC used an index-based county economic classification system to identify and monitor the economic status of its counties. The system involves the creation of a national index of county economic status through a comparison of each county's averages for three economic indicators—three-year average unemployment rate, per capita market income, and poverty rate—with national averages. The resulting values are summed and averaged to create a composite index value for each county. Each county in the nation is then ranked, based on its composite index value, with higher values indicating higher levels of distress.

### SCRC County Economic Status Designation by National Index Value Rank



## SCRC County and County Equivalents Listing by Economic Designation

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### SCRC FY 2022 Distressed Counties and County Equivalents - 179

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#### Alabama (3)

Covington, Geneva, and Pike

#### Florida (21)

Bradford, Calhoun, Citrus, DeSoto, Dixie, Gadsden, Glades, Hamilton, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Holmes, Jackson, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Okeechobee, Putnam, Taylor, Union, Washington

#### Georgia (88)

Appling, Atkinson, Bacon, Baker, Baldwin, Ben Hill, Berrien, Bibb, Bleckley, Brantley, Brooks, Bulloch, Burke, Butts, Calhoun, Candler, Charlton, Chattahoochee, Clarke, Clay, Clayton, Clinch, Coffee, Colquitt, Cook, Crawford, Crisp, Decatur, Dodge, Dooly, Dougherty, Early, Echols, Emanuel, Evans, Glascock, Grady, Hancock, Irwin, Jeff Davis, Jefferson, Jenkins, Johnson, Lamar, Lanier, Laurens, Lincoln, Long, Lowndes, Macon, Marion, McDuffie, McIntosh, Meriwether, Mitchell, Montgomery, Peach, Pierce, Pulaski, Quitman, Randolph, Richmond, Screven, Seminole, Spalding, Stewart, Sumter, Talbot, Taliaferro, Tattnall, Taylor, Telfair, Terrell, Tift, Toombs, Treutlen, Turner, Twiggs, Upson, Ware, Warren, Washington, Wayne, Webster, Wheeler, Wilcox, Wilkes, Wilkinson

#### Mississippi (16)

Clarke, Forrest, George, Greene, Hancock, Harrison, Jones, Lauderdale, Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Pearl River, Perry, Scott, Stone, Wayne

#### North Carolina (26)

Anson, Bertie, Bladen, Caswell, Columbus, Cumberland, Duplin, Edgecombe, Greene, Halifax, Hertford, Hoke, Hyde, Jones, Lenoir, Martin, Northampton, Richmond, Robeson, Sampson, Scotland, Tyrrell, Vance, Warren, Washington, Wilson

#### South Carolina (17)

Abbeville, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Chester, Chesterfield, Clarendon, Colleton, Dillon, Fairfield, Hampton, Laurens, Lee, Marion, Marlboro, Orangeburg, Williamsburg

#### Virginia (8)

Brunswick, Buckingham, Charlotte, Greenville, Emporia City, Mecklenburg, Prince Edward, Sussex

## **SCRC FY 2022 Transitional Counties and County Equivalents - 171**

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### **Alabama (10)**

Autauga, Baldwin, Coffee, Crenshaw, Dale, Henry, Houston, Lee, Mobile, Montgomery

### **Florida (34)**

Alachua, Baker, Bay, Brevard, Broward, Charlotte, Clay, Columbia, Duval, Escambia, Flagler, Franklin, Gilchrist, Gulf, Hernando, Hillsborough, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lake, Lee, Leon, Manatee, Marion, Miami-Dade, Orange, Osceola, Pasco, Polk, Santa Rosa, St. Lucie, Sumter, Suwannee, Volusia, Wakulla

### **Georgia (24)**

Camden, Chatham, DeKalb, Glynn, Greene, Henry, Houston, Jasper, Jones, Lee, Liberty, Miller, Monroe, Muscogee, Newton, Oglethorpe, Pike, Putnam, Rockdale, Schley, Thomas, Troup, Walton, Worth

### **Mississippi (2)**

Jackson, Lamar

### **North Carolina (37)**

Alamance, Beaufort, Brunswick, Cabarrus, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Davidson, Durham, Franklin, Gaston, Gates, Granville, Guilford, Harnett, Johnston, Lee, Lincoln, Montgomery, Moore, Nash, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Person, Pitt, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, Wayne

### **South Carolina (19)**

Aiken, Berkeley, Calhoun, Darlington, Dorchester, Edgefield, Florence, Georgetown, Greenwood, Horry, Jasper, Kershaw, Lancaster, Lexington, McCormick, Newberry, Richland, Saluda, Sumter

### **Virginia (45)**

Accomack, Amelia, Amherst, Appomattox, Augusta, Campbell, Caroline, Charles City, Colonial Heights City, Cumberland, Danville City, Dinwiddie, Essex, Franklin, Franklin City, Halifax, Hampton City, Harrisonburg City, Hopewell City, King and Queen, Lancaster, Louisa, Lunenburg, Lynchburg City, Nelson, Newport News City, Norfolk City, Northampton, Northumberland, Nottoway, Page, Petersburg City, Pittsylvania, Portsmouth City, Prince George, Richmond, Richmond City, Roanoke City, Rockingham, Shenandoah, Southampton, Staunton City, Surry, Waynesboro City, Westmoreland

## SCRC FY 2022 Attainment Counties and County Equivalents - 78

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### Alabama (0)

### Florida (12)

Collier, Indian River, Martin, Monroe, Nassau, Okaloosa, Palm Beach, Pinellas, Sarasota, Seminole, St. Johns, Walton

### Georgia (10)

Bryan, Cobb, Columbia, Coweta, Effingham, Fayette, Fulton, Harris, Morgan, Oconee

### Mississippi (0)

### North Carolina (6)

Chatham, Iredell, Mecklenburg, Orange, Union, Wake

### South Carolina (3)

Beaufort, Charleston, York

### Virginia (47)

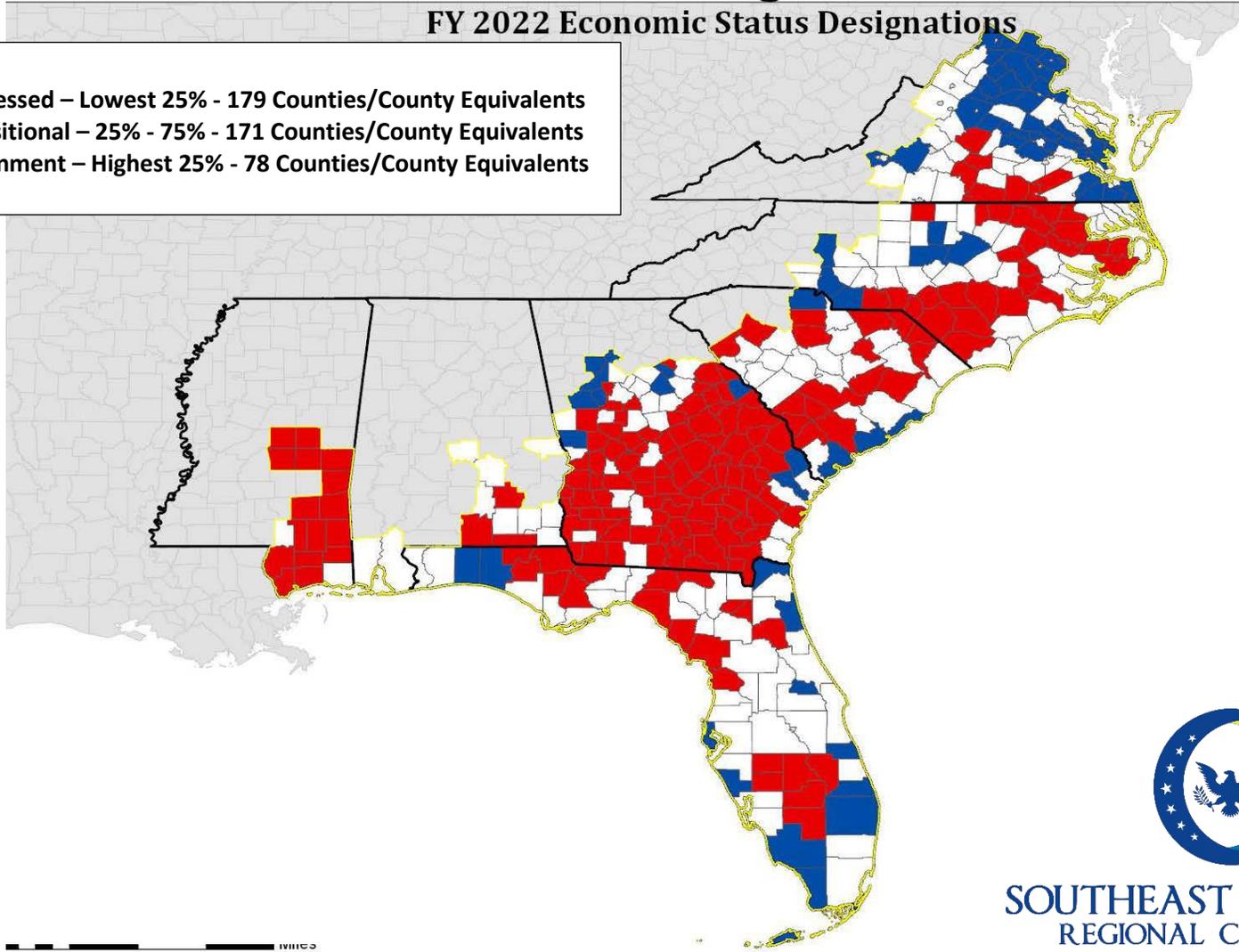
Albemarle, Alexandria City, Arlington, Bedford, Chesapeake City, Charlottesville City, Chesterfield, Clarke, Culpeper, Fairfax, Fairfax City, Falls Church City, Fauquier, Fluvanna, Frederick, Fredericksburg City, Gloucester, Goochland, Greene, Hanover, Henrico, Isle of Wight, James City, King George, King William, Loudoun, Madison, Manassas City, Manassas Park City, Mathews, Middlesex, New Kent, Orange, Poquoson City, Powhatan, Prince William, Rappahannock, Roanoke, Salem City, Spotsylvania, Stafford, Suffolk City, Virginia Beach City, Warren, Williamsburg City, Winchester City, York

# Southeast Crescent Regional Commission

## FY 2022 Economic Status Designations

**Legend**

-  Distressed – Lowest 25% - 179 Counties/County Equivalents
-  Transitional – 25% - 75% - 171 Counties/County Equivalents
-  Attainment – Highest 25% - 78 Counties/County Equivalents



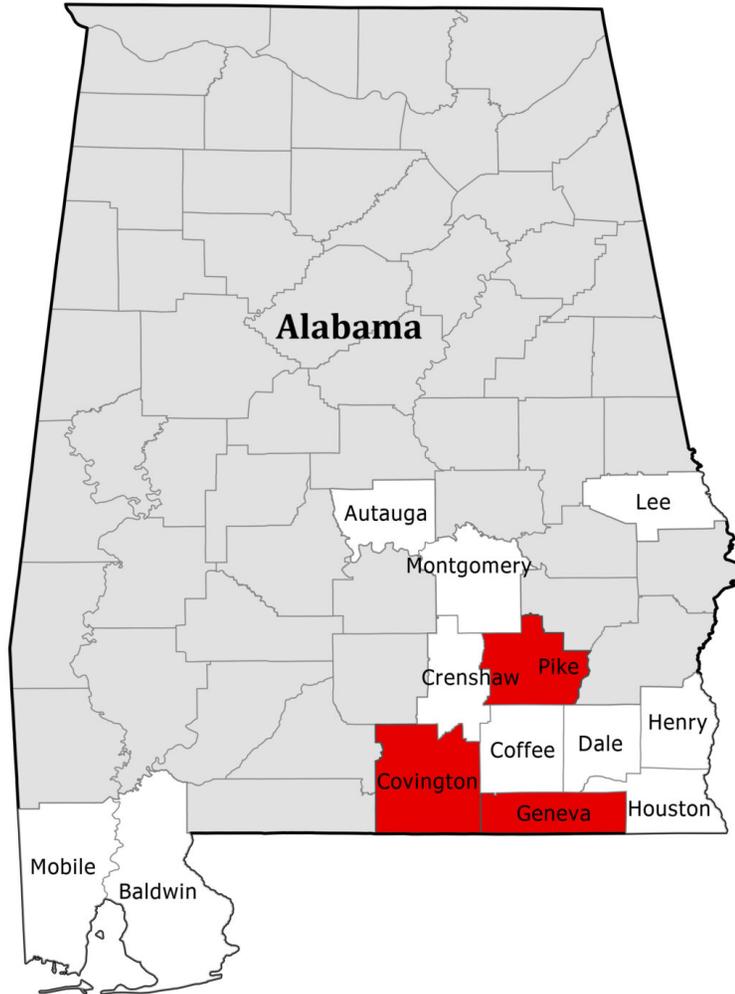
**SOUTHEAST CRESCENT**  
REGIONAL COMMISSION

# Southeast Crescent Regional Commission

## Alabama, Economic Status FY 2022

**Legend**

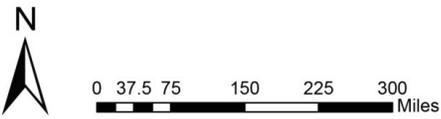
- Distressed - Lowest 25%
- Transitional - 25%-75%
- Attainment - Highest 25%



This map depicts the economic status of counties in the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission's (SCRC) service area. Using the Appalachian Regional Commission's index-based economic classification system, each county within the SCRC region is compared using the national averages of three-year average unemployment rates, per capita market income, and poverty rates as determining factors. The enacting legislation for SCRC designates three classification levels of economic status – distressed, transitional, and attainment.

The designations are defined as:

- **Distressed** counties are the most economically depressed counties. They rank in the lowest 25% of the nation's counties.
- **Transitional** counties are transitioning between strong and weak economies. They make up the largest economic status designation. Transitional counties rank between the lowest 25% and the highest 25% of the nation's counties.
- **Attainment** counties are the economically strongest counties. They rank in the highest 25% of the nation's counties.





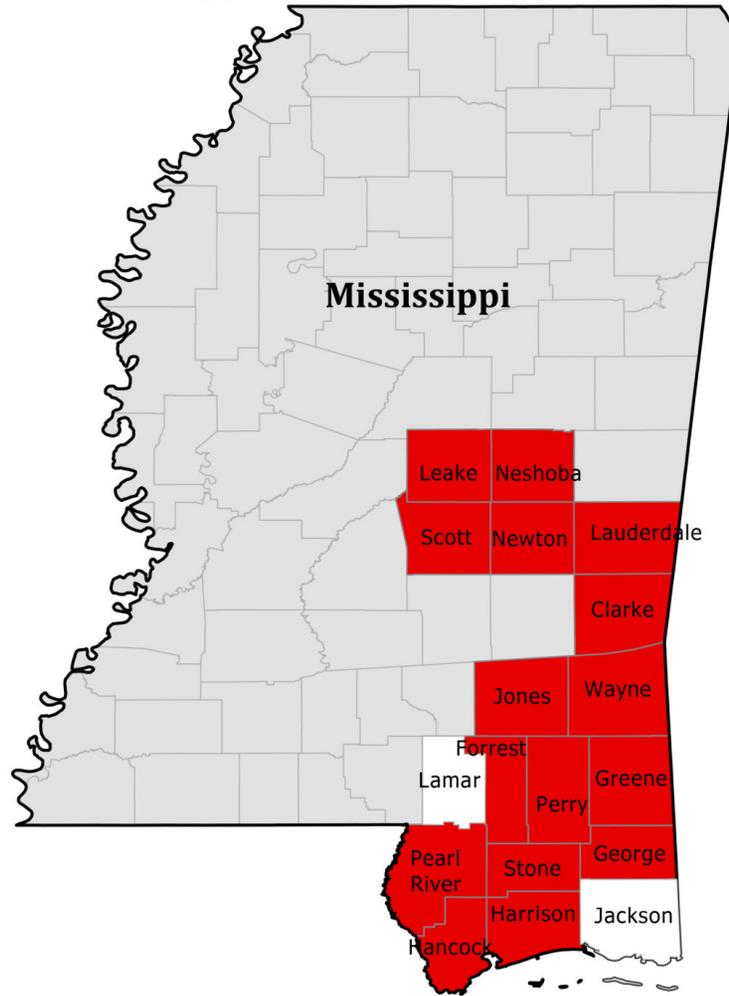


# Southeast Crescent Regional Commission

## Mississippi, Economic Status FY 2022

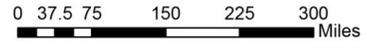
**Legend**

- Distressed - Lowest 25%
- Transitional - 25%-75%
- Attainment - Highest 25%



This map depicts the economic status of counties in the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission's (SCRC) service area. Using the Appalachian Regional Commission's index-based economic classification system, each county within the SCRC region is compared using the national averages of three-year average unemployment rates, per capita market income, and poverty rates as determining factors. The enacting legislation for SCRC designates three classification levels of economic status – distressed, transitional, and attainment.

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  - **Transitional** counties are transitioning between strong and weak economies. They make up the largest economic status designation. Transitional counties rank between the lowest 25% and the highest 25% of the nation's counties.
  - **Attainment** counties are the economically strongest counties. They rank in the highest 25% of the nation's counties.



**SOUTHEAST CRESCENT**  
REGIONAL COMMISSION



# Southeast Crescent Regional Commission

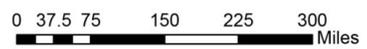
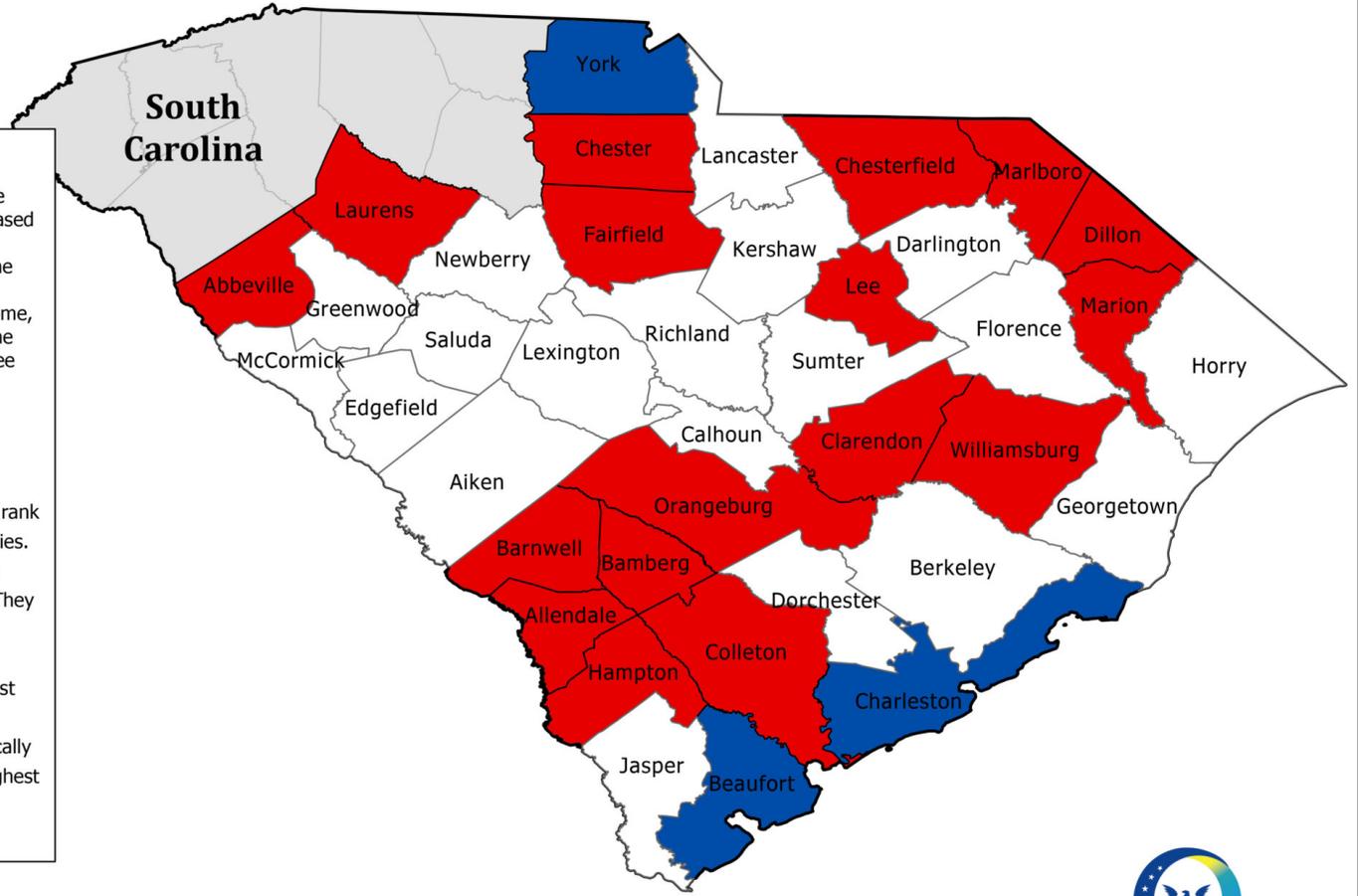
## South Carolina, Economic Status FY 2022

**Legend**

- Distressed - Lowest 25%
- Transitional - 25%-75%
- Attainment - Highest 25%

This map depicts the economic status of counties in the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission's (SCRC) service area. Using the Appalachian Regional Commission's index-based economic classification system, each county within the SCRC region is compared using the national averages of three-year average unemployment rates, per capita market income, and poverty rates as determining factors. The enacting legislation for SCRC designates three classification levels of economic status – distressed, transitional, and attainment.

- The designations are defined as:
- **Distressed** counties are the most economically depressed counties. They rank in the lowest 25% of the nation's counties.
  - **Transitional** counties are transitioning between strong and weak economies. They make up the largest economic status designation. Transitional counties rank between the lowest 25% and the highest 25% of the nation's counties.
  - **Attainment** counties are the economically strongest counties. They rank in the highest 25% of the nation's counties.



SOUTHEAST CRESCENT  
REGIONAL COMMISSION



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- <sup>i</sup> United States Government Publishing Office, et al. "Public Law 110 - 246 - Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008: An Act to Provide for the Continuation of Agricultural and Other Programs of the Department of Agriculture Through Fiscal Year 2012, and for Other Purposes. [contains Amendments to the Animal Welfare Act]." <https://naldc.nal.usda.gov/download/7690562/pdf>.
- <sup>ii</sup> "Poverty." Poverty - Healthy People 2030, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services - Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, <https://health.gov/healthypeople/priority-areas/social-determinants-health/literature-summaries/poverty>.
- <sup>iii</sup> United States Government Publishing Office, et al. "Public Law 110 - 246 - Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008: An Act to Provide for the Continuation of Agricultural and Other Programs of the Department of Agriculture Through Fiscal Year 2012, and for Other Purposes. [contains Amendments to the Animal Welfare Act]." <https://naldc.nal.usda.gov/download/7690562/pdf>.
- <sup>iv</sup> Frey, William H. "Mapping America's Diversity with the 2020 Census." *Brookings*, Brookings, 9 Mar. 2022, <https://www.brookings.edu/research/mapping-americas-diversity-with-the-2020-census/>.
- <sup>v</sup> Von Nessen, Joseph C. South Carolina State Ports Authority, 2019, The Economic Impact of the South Carolina Ports Authority – A Statewide and Regional Analysis, <https://scspa.com/wp-content/uploads/full-scspa-economic-impact-study-2019.pdf>.
- <sup>vi</sup> "State Level Poverty Data." *USDA ERS - Data Products*, USDA Economic Research Service, <https://data.ers.usda.gov/reports.aspx?ID=17826>.
- <sup>vii</sup> McCann, Adam. "States with the Biggest and Smallest Wealth Gaps by Race/Ethnicity." *WalletHub*, 25 Jan. 2022, <https://wallethub.com/edu/states-with-the-highest-and-lowest-financial-gaps-by-race/9842>.
- <sup>viii</sup> "ASCE's 2021 American Infrastructure Report Card." ASCE's 2021 Infrastructure Report Card, American Society of Civil Engineers, 22 Aug. 2022, <https://infrastructurereportcard.org/>.