



SOUTHEAST CRESCENT REGIONAL COMMISSION

2022 SC Council of Governments Annual Training Conference
November 20-22, 2022
Myrtle Beach, SC

Presenter: Dr. Jennifer Clyburn Reed, Federal Co-Chair

SCRC Oversight & Leadership

Authorizing legislation, also referred to as the statute, outlines SCRC leadership which is comprised of the **Federal Co-Chair**, appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, the **States Co-Chair**, voted to the role by the Governors of the member states, and the remaining **Governors** of the Southeast Crescent states.



Dr. Jennifer Clyburn Reed
SCRC Federal Co-Chair



Governor Henry McMaster
States Co-Chair

SCRC Governors & Alternates

State of Alabama

Governor Kay Ivey

Alternate - Kenneth Boswell

State of Florida

Governor Ron DeSantis

Alternate - Katherine Russo

State of Georgia

Governor Brian Kemp

Alternate - Christopher Nunn

State of Mississippi

Governor Tate Reeves

Alternate - Kristen Windham

State of North Carolina

Governor Roy Cooper

Alternate - Jim McCleskey

State of South Carolina

Governor Henry McMaster

Alternate - Jordan Marsh

State of Virginia

Governor Glenn Youngkin

Alternate - Bryan Horn



SOUTHEAST CRESCENT REGIONAL COMMISSION

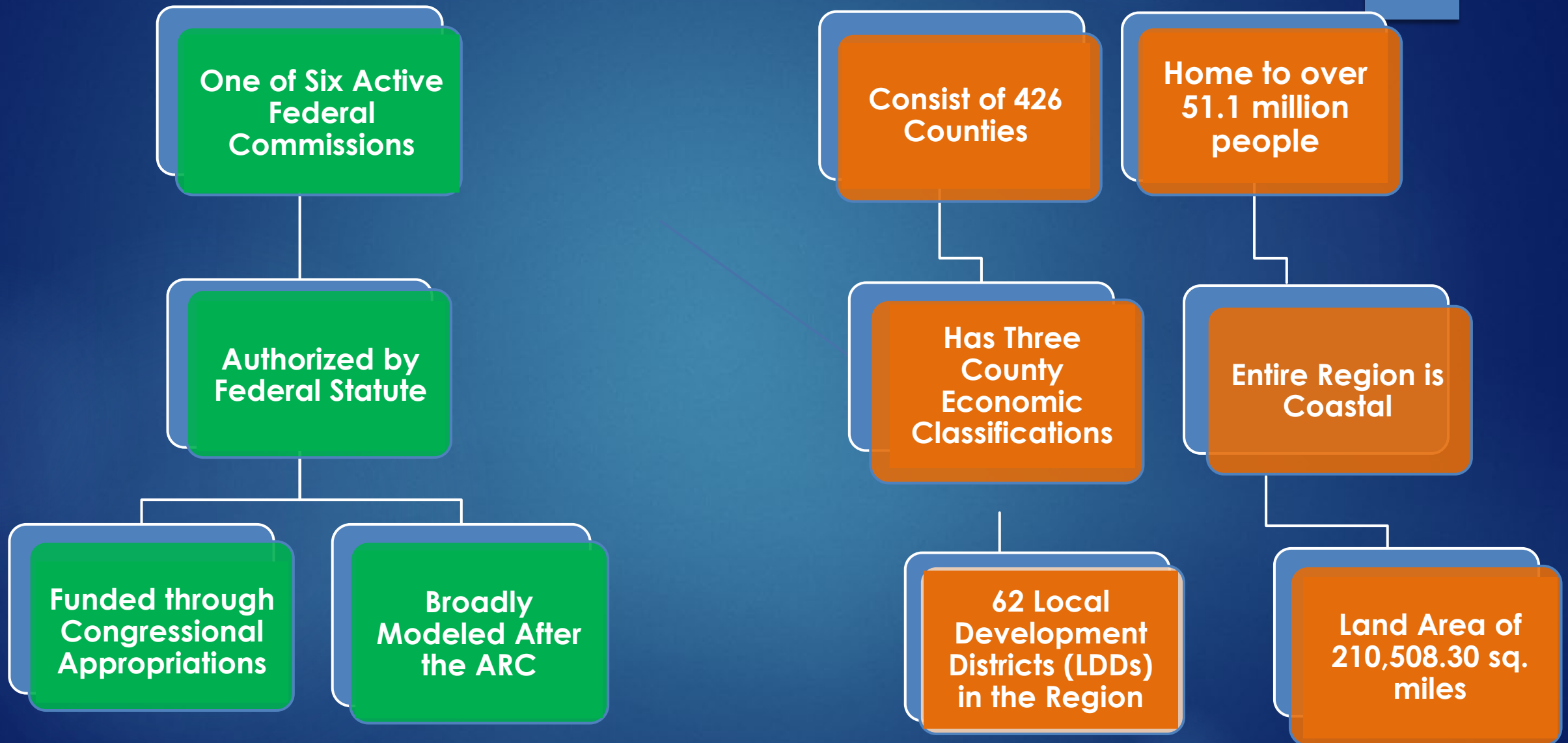
Legislative History

- ▶ The SCRC concept was first introduced by university researchers working on rural development issues in 1990 at Tuskegee University's Annual Professional Agricultural Workers Conference for 1862 and 1890 Land-Grant Universities.
- ▶ In 1994, the Southern Rural Development Commission Act was introduced in the House Agriculture Committee.
- ▶ The concept was reintroduced in Congress and various non-governmental initiatives sustained discussion and interest in the concept.
- ▶ Supportive legislation was reintroduced in 2002, which led to other legislative efforts until authorization in 2008.
- ▶ Operationally active in January 2022, upon the confirmation and swearing-in of the Federal Co-Chair.

SCRC Mission:

Southeast Crescent Regional Commission (SCRC) is an economic development partnership agency of the federal government and its seven member state governments of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. Authorized in the *Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008*, SCRC's mission is to build sustainable communities and strengthen economic growth across the Southeast Crescent region.

SCRC Key Facts



SCRC Three County Economic Classifications

Distressed counties are the most economically depressed counties, ranking at or below 25% of the nation's counties. These counties are the most severely and persistently economically distressed and underdeveloped and have high rates of poverty, unemployment, or outmigration.

Transitional counties are transitioning between strong and weak economies, ranking between 26% and 74% of the nation's counties. These counties are economically distressed and underdeveloped or have recently suffered high rates of poverty, unemployment, or outmigration.

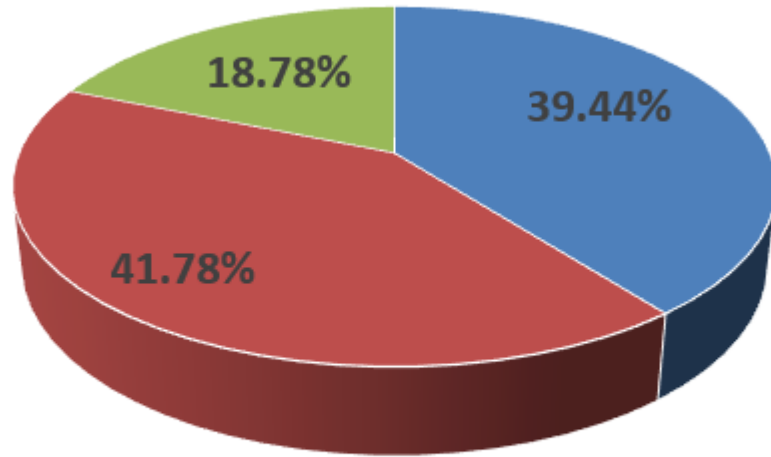
Attainment counties are economically the strongest counties, ranking at or above the top 25% of the nation's counties. These counties are neither distressed or transitional.

SCRC Regional Economic Overview

SCRC States	# of Distressed Counties	% of SCRC Distressed Counties	# of Transitional Counties	% of SCRC Transitional Counties	# of Attainment Counties	% of SCRC Attainment Counties
Alabama	2	1.2%	10	5.6%	1	1.2%
Florida	21	12.5%	34	19.1%	12	15.0%
Georgia	79	47.0%	33	18.5%	10	12.5%
Mississippi	14	8.3%	4	2.2%	0	0.0%
North Carolina	26	15.5%	35	19.7%	8	10.0%
South Carolina	18	10.7%	17	9.6%	4	5.0%
Virginia	8	4.8%	45	25.3%	45	56.3%
Southeast Crescent Region	168	100.0%	178	100.0%	80	100.0%

*Data Provided by: Appalachian Regional Commission, Data & Research
- applied to Southeast Crescent Region (November 2022)*

SCRC County Economic Classifications



- Distressed Classification
- Attainment Classification
- Transitional Classification

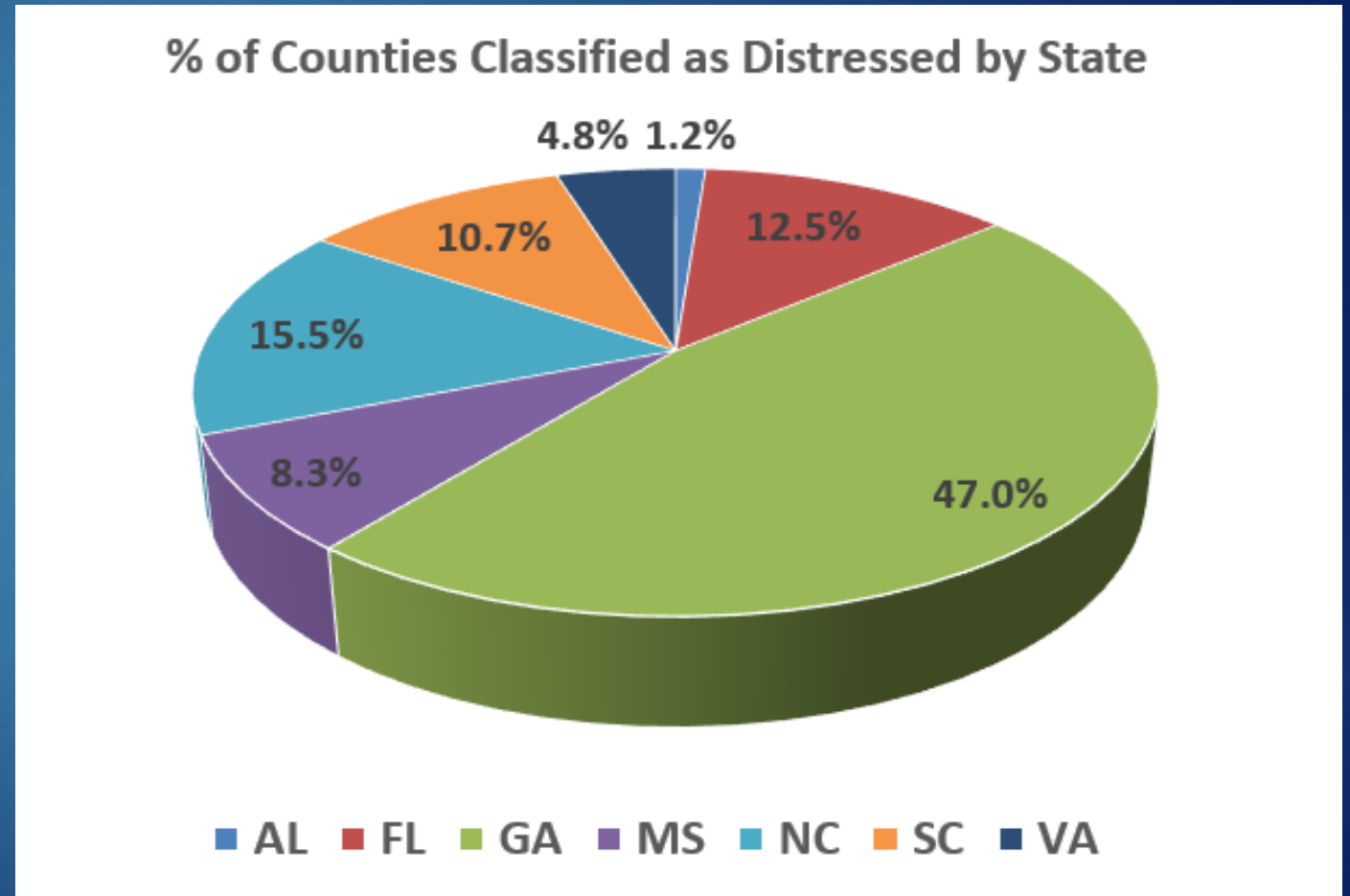
	# of Counties	% of Counties
Distressed Classification	168	39.44%
Transitional Classification	178	41.78%
Attainment Classification	80	18.78%
Total	426	100.00%

SCRC County Economic Classifications

Data Provided by: Appalachian Regional Commission, Data & Research – applied to Southeast Crescent Region (November 2022)

Distressed SCRC Counties by State

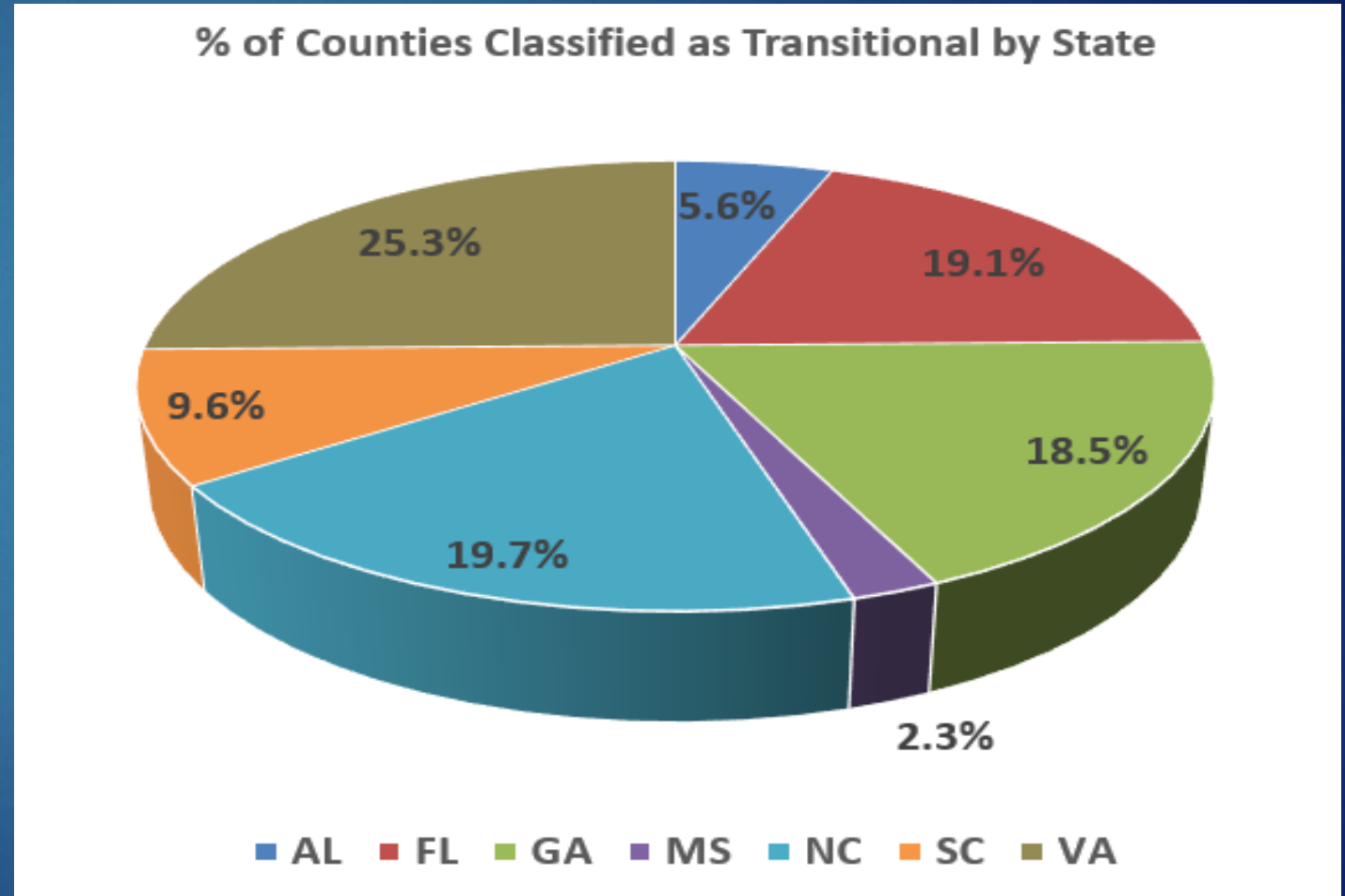
Distressed counties are ranked in the lower 25% of the nation's counties. Many have experienced decades of economic depression.



Data Provided by: Appalachian Regional Commission, Data & Research – applied to Southeast Crescent Region (November 2022)

Transitional SCRC Counties by State

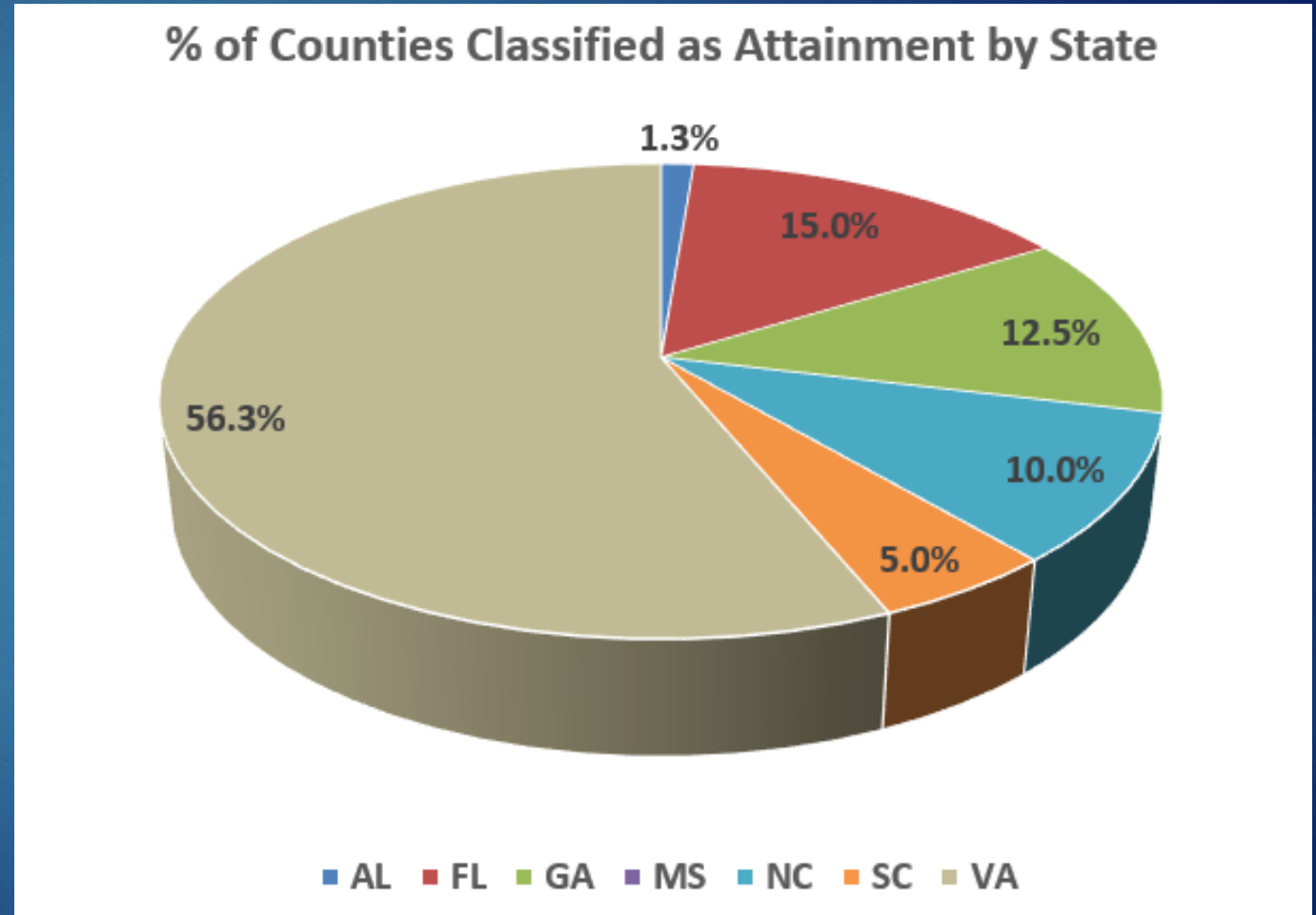
Transitional counties are ranked within a wide range spanning the middle, between the lower 25% and upper 25%.



Data Provided by: Appalachian Regional Commission, Data & Research – applied to Southeast Crescent Region (November 2022)

Attainment SCRC Counties by State

Attainment counties are economically the strongest counties, ranking in the top 25% of the nation's counties.



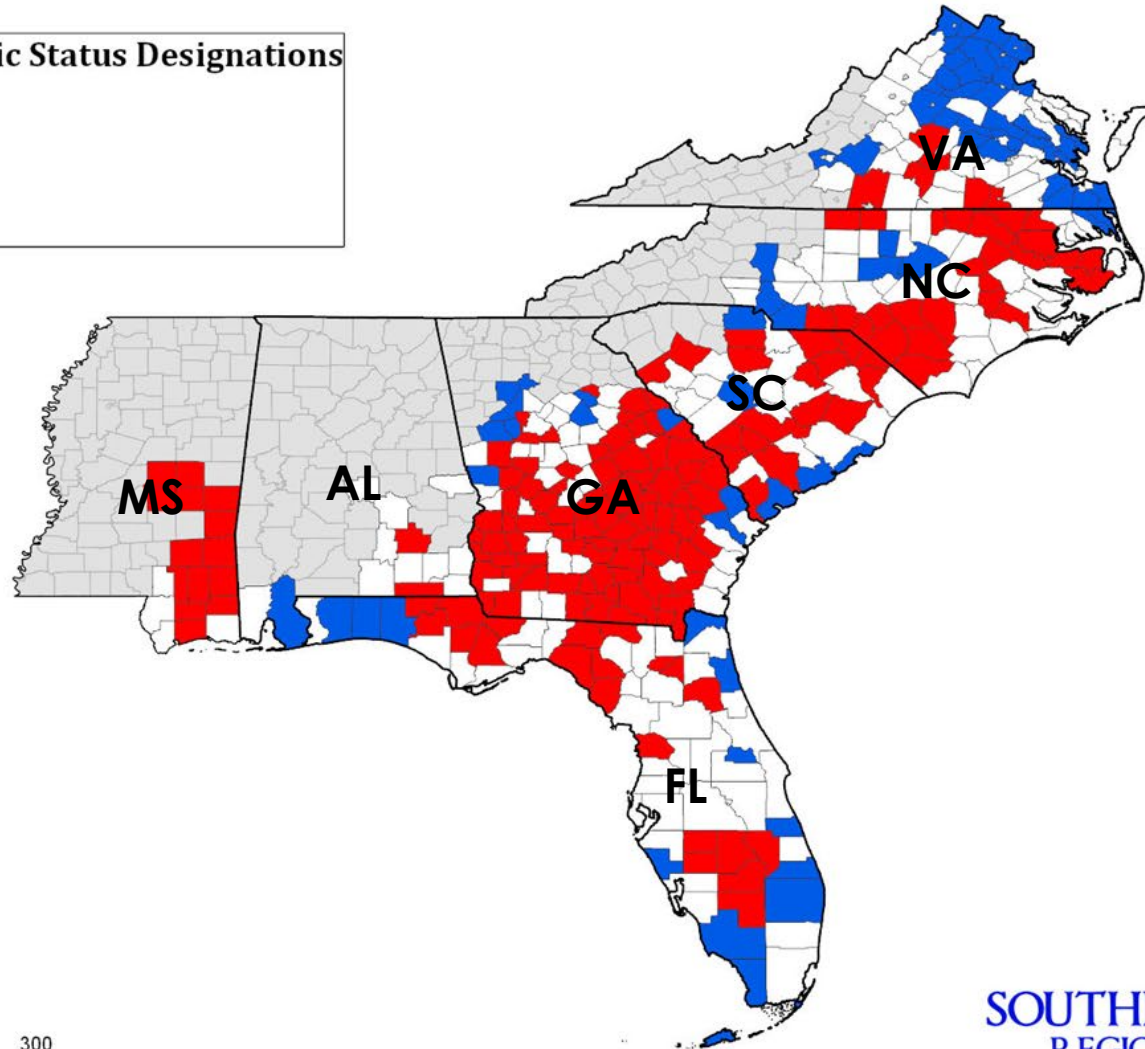
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Southeast Crescent Regional Commission

FY23 Economic Status Designations

FY23 SCRC Economic Status Designations

- Distressed
- Transitional
- Attainment



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REGIONAL COMMISSION



0 37.5 75 150 225 300
Miles

South Carolina



Functions of the SCRC

(40 USC Subtitle V, Section 15503 (A) :

“A Commission shall—

“(1) assess the needs and assets of its region based on available research, demonstration projects, investigations, assessments, and evaluations of the region; prepared by Federal, State, and local agencies, universities, **local development districts**, and other nonprofit groups;

“(2) develop, on a continuing basis, comprehensive and coordinated economic and infrastructure development strategies to establish priorities and approve grants for the economic development of its region, giving due consideration to other Federal, State, and local planning and development activities in the region;

Functions of the SCRC

(40 USC Subtitle V, Section 15503 (A) :

“(3) not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section, and after taking into account State plans developed under section 15502, establish priorities in an economic and infrastructure development plan for its region, including 5-year regional outcome targets;

“(4)(A) enhance the capacity of, and provide support for, **local development districts** in its region; or “(B) if no local development district exists in an area in a participating State in the region, foster the creation of a local development district;

“(5) encourage private investment in industrial, commercial, and other economic development projects in its region;

Functions of the SCRC

(40 USC Subtitle V, Section 15503 (A) :

“(6) cooperate with and assist State governments with the preparation of economic and infrastructure development plans and programs for participating States;

“(7) formulate and recommend to the Governors and legislatures of States that participate in the Commission forms of interstate cooperation and, where appropriate, international cooperation; and

“(8) work with State and local agencies in developing appropriate model legislation to enhance local and regional economic development.

SCRC Strategic Priorities (2023 – 2027)

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

SCRC Strategic Plan & Alignment of State Economic and Infrastructure Development Plans and Strategy Statements

40 USC Subtitle V, Section 15502 (a-c) states:

- a) State Plans. – In accordance with policies established by a Commission, each State member of the Commission shall submit a comprehensive economic and infrastructure development plan for the area of the region represented by the State member.
- b) Content of Plan. – A State economic and infrastructure development plan shall reflect the goals, objectives, and priorities identified in any applicable economic and infrastructure development plan developed by the Commission...

SCRC Strategic Plan & Alignment of State Economic and Infrastructure Development Plans and Strategy Statement

40 USC Subtitle V, Section 15502 (a-c):

- c) Consultation Interested Local Parties. – In carrying out the development planning process (including the selection of programs and projects for assistance), a State shall –
 1. consult with local development districts, local units of government, and local colleges and universities; and
 2. take into consideration the goals, objectives, priorities and recommendations of the entities.

SCRC Economic Development Drivers



PEOPLE



PLACE



PARTNERSHIPS (LDDs)

Grants to SCRC LDDs - 40 USC Subtitle V, Section 15505 (a)(b)

- 1) Grants to LDDs will be made to assist with administrative expenses and planning development;
- 2) Conditions for the Grants:
 - ▶ The amount of the grant award may not exceed 80% of the administrative and planning expenses of the LDD receiving the grant; and
 - ▶ The contributions of a local development district for administrative expenses may be in cash or in kind, fairly evaluated, including space, equipment and services.

Important Role of LDDs to the Southeast

Crescent - 40 USC Subtitle V, Section 15505 (c)

- 1) Operate as a lead organization serving multi-county areas in the region at the local level;
- 2) Assist the Commission with outreach activities for local governments, community development groups, the business community, and the public;
- 3) Serve as a liaison between State and local governments, nonprofit organizations (including community-based groups and educational institutions), the business community, and citizens; and
- 4) Assist said individuals and entities in identifying, assessing, and facilitating projects and programs to promote the economic development of the region.

SCRC LDD Grant Program

- ▶ The SCRC LDD Grant program is being development. Funding guidelines may reflect similar components of existing LDD programs at other Federal Commissions:
 - Funded annually;
 - Contributes to administrative and planning costs;
 - Provide pre-application technical assistance;
 - Attend peer learning opportunities or regional trainings;
 - Local stakeholder capacity building, application screening and eligibility determination;
 - Prepare applications of prospective SCRC applicants; and
 - Provide technical assistance for project management.

Important Role as an LDD and Community Convenor:

- Reach out to your SCRC state points of contact;
- Advocate for economic development in your communities;
- Continue to serve as a catalyst for sustainable change in your communities;
- Leverage partnerships to improve the economic and infrastructure conditions of communities; and
- Share information about SCRC with community organizations and inform them of the resources that will soon be available.

Thank You!

Southeast Crescent Regional Commission

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Federal Co-Chair

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