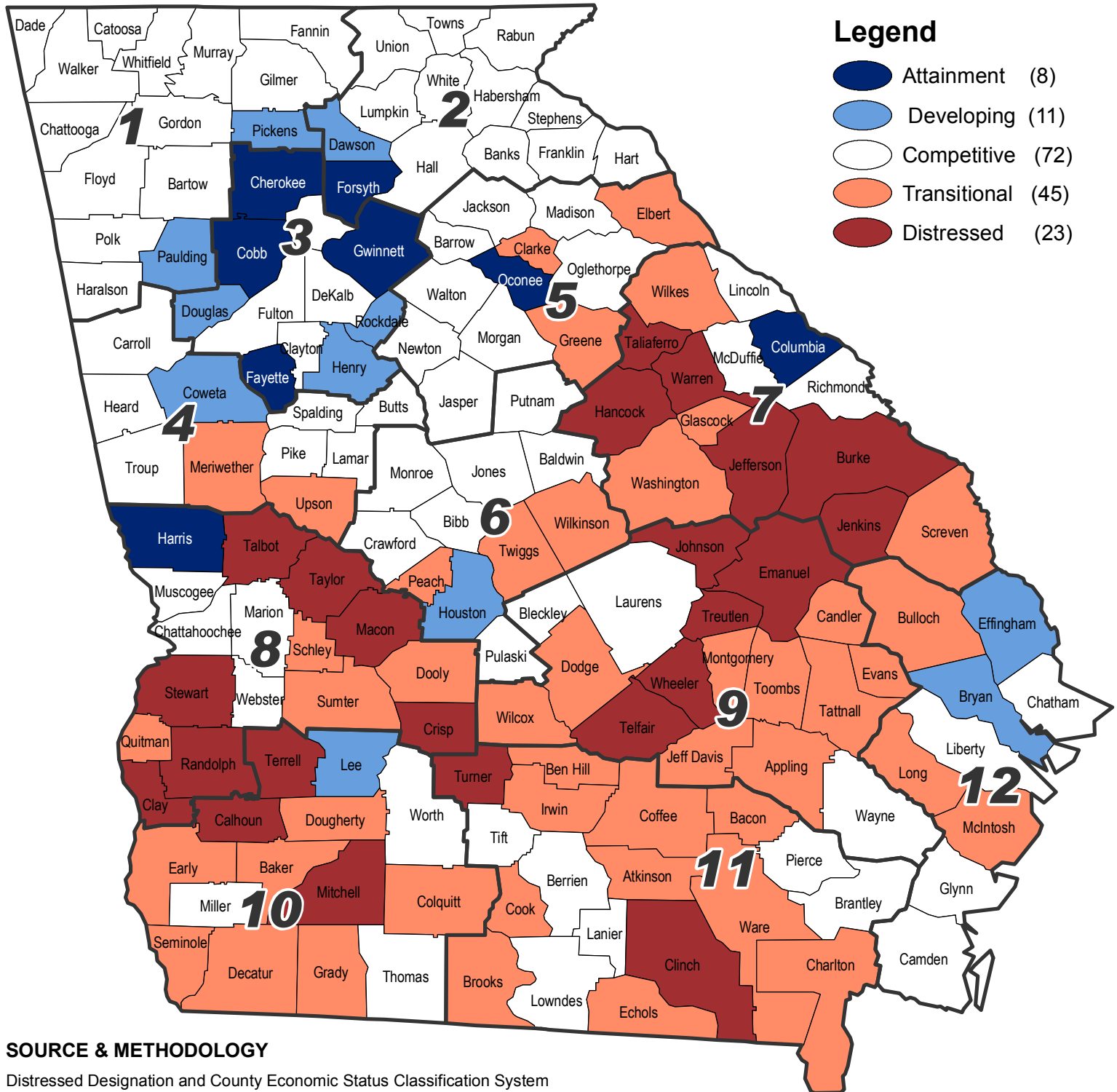


# Economic Status

Georgia counties as compared to other US counties



## SOURCE & METHODOLOGY

Distressed Designation and County Economic Status Classification System

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) uses an index-based county economic classification system to identify and monitor the economic status of Appalachian 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 (2003 - 2006) (Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics)  
 per capita market income (2005) (Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System),  
 and poverty rate (2000) (Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau, Census of Population and Housing 2000 SF3)—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.

Map prepared by: Georgia Department of Community Affairs, October, 2008