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*RURAL ALABAMA AND
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT*

Baker Allen

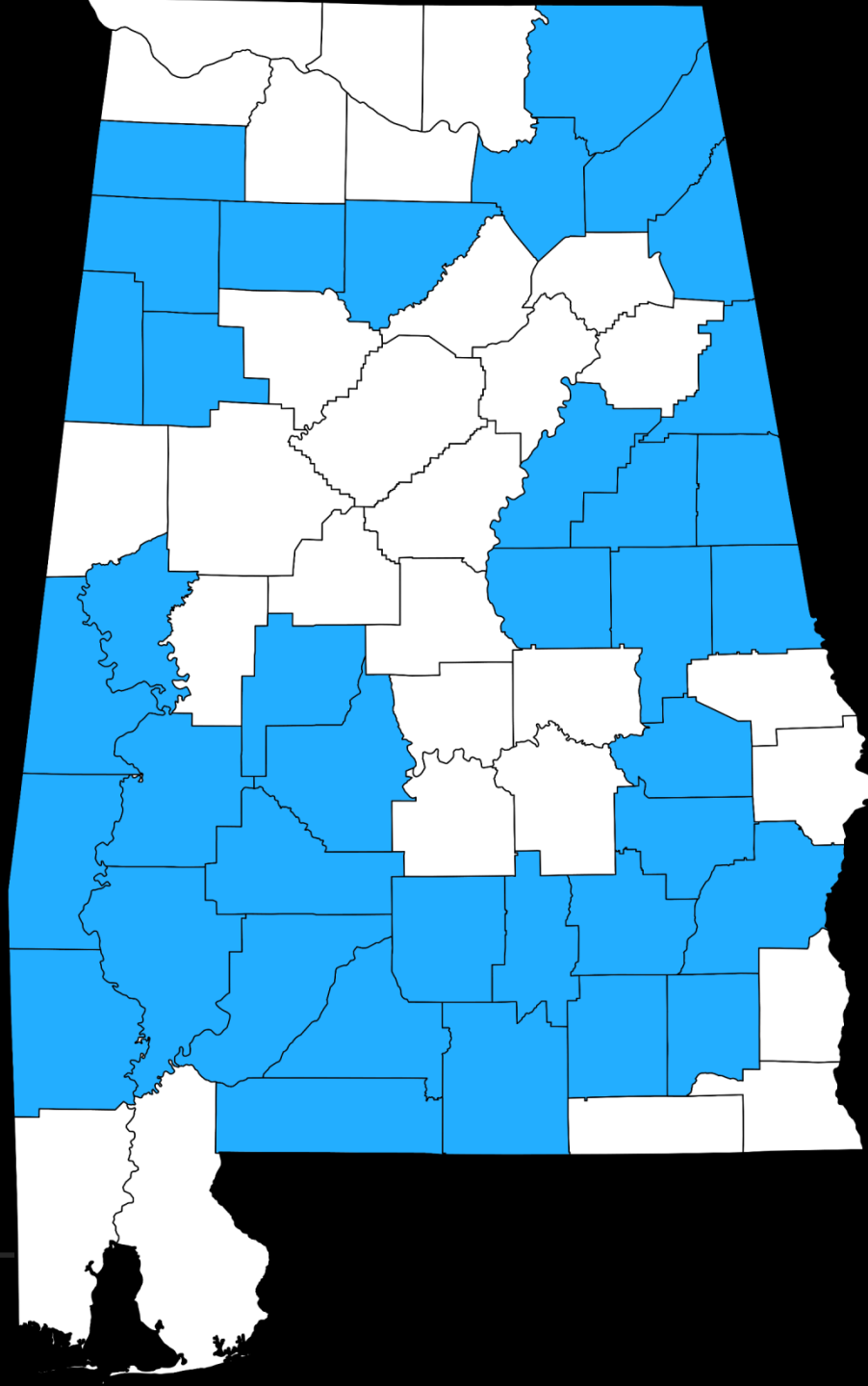
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Rural Alabama

38 counties

24% of the population




*Workforce and
Education
Attainment Goal
Development
Goal:*

500,000 additional Alabamians will earn postsecondary degrees, certificates, and credentials by 2025.




How do we get there?




- I. Develop skills necessary for a student to pursue a career.
 - II. Connect those student to career opportunities in growing in-demand industries.
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Statewide Obstacles

- Teacher shortage especially in STEM fields
 - Misalignment between career and technical education programs and regional industry demand
 - Lack of employability skills and job experience among youths and young adults
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Rural Obstacles

- All the same statewide obstacles
 - Transportation
 - Less work-based learning opportunities
 - Higher unemployment rates
 - Lack of access to broadband internet speeds
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Rural Workforce Development

- Career and technical education center in every county
 - Professional development for educators.
 - Broadband Deployment
 - Career exploration for 5th-7th grade students
 - Target regionally in-demand careers through LMI data and feedback from the Alabama Workforce Council
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Career and Technical Education Centers

- In 2015, the Alabama State Department of Education set out to build a CTE center in every county.
 - Each of center contains a simulated workplace.
 - Provides students with a place to develop employability skills.
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Teacher Professional Development

- Develop pathways for existing teachers to earn certificates for computer science
 - Combine computer science professional development funding streams and focus on training, not equipment
 - Fully funding our CTE directors
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Career Exploration

- Use Perkins funds for 5th-7th grade for career exploration.
 - Allocate WIOA title I funds for career development
 - Adopt technology to allow students to explore different career paths
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