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Merriam-Webster SINCE 1828   moonshine   × Q

DICTIONARY   THESAURUS

moonshine *noun*

🔖 Save Word

moon·shine | \ ˈmün-ˌshīn 🔊 \

Definition of *moonshine*

1   : MOONLIGHT

2   : empty talk : NONSENSE

3   : Intoxicating liquor
     especially : illegally distilled corn whiskey

↓ **Synonyms**

↓ **Example Sentences**

↓ **Learn More about *moonshine***

WORD OF THE DAY

oxymoron 🔊

contradictory or incongruous
words

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spirit ▭

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Learner: spiritVideo pronunciationAmerican: spiritEnglish: spirit1English: spirit2English: SpiritExample sentencesRelated word partnersTrendsIn other languages

Definition of 'spirit'

◉
Word Frequency
Share
×

spirit

(spɪrɪt)
Word forms: spirits
1. singular noun
Your spirit is the part of you that is not physical and that consists of your character and feelings.
The human spirit is virtually indestructible.
2. countable noun
A person's spirit is the nonphysical part of them that is believed to remain alive after their death.
His spirit has left him and all that remains is the shell of his body.
3. countable noun
A spirit is a ghost or supernatural being.
In the Middle Ages branches were hung outside country houses as a protection against evil spirits.
4. uncountable noun
Spirit is the courage and determination that helps people to survive in difficult times and to keep their way of life and their beliefs.
She was a very brave girl and everyone who knew her admired her spirit.

5. uncountable noun
Spirit is the liveliness and energy that someone shows in what they do.
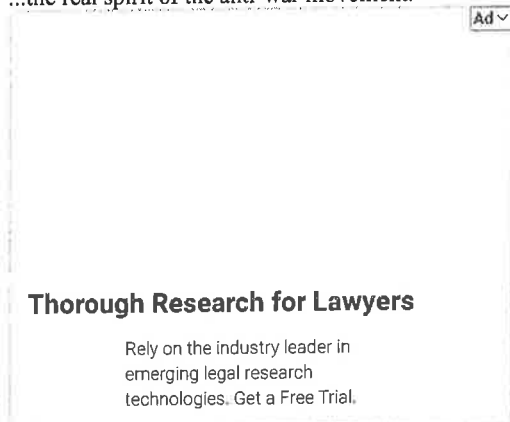They played with spirit.
6. singular noun
The spirit in which you do something is the attitude you have when you are doing it.
Their problem can only be solved in a spirit of compromise.
7. uncountable noun
A particular kind of spirit is the feeling of loyalty to a group that is shared by the people who belong to the group.
There is a great sense of team spirit in the squad.
8. singular noun
A particular kind of spirit is the set of ideas, beliefs, and aims that are held by a group of people.
...the real spirit of the anti-war movement.

9. singular noun
The spirit of something such as a law or an agreement is the way that it was intended to be interpreted or applied.
The requirement for work permits violates the spirit of the 1950 treaty.
10. countable noun
You can refer to a person as a particular kind of spirit if they show a certain characteristic or if they show a lot of enthusiasm in what they are doing.
I like to think of myself as a free spirit.
11. plural noun
Your spirits are your feelings at a particular time, especially feelings of happiness or unhappiness.
At supper, everyone was in high spirits.
12. plural noun
Spirits are strong alcoholic drinks such as whiskey and gin.
The only problem here is that they don't serve beer - only wine and spirits.

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Video: pronunciation of
spirit

You may also like

spirit in American English

('spɪrɪt)
noun
1.
a.
the life principle, esp. in human beings, originally regarded as inherent in the breath or as infused by a deity
b.
soul (sense 1)
2.
the thinking, motivating, feeling part of a person, often as distinguished from the body; mind; intelligence
3. [also S-]
life, will, consciousness, thought, etc., regarded as separate from matter
4.
a supernatural being, esp. one thought of as haunting or possessing a person, house, etc., as a ghost, or as inhabiting a certain region, being of a certain good (or evil) character, etc., as an angel, demon, fairy, or elf
5.
an individual person or personality thought of as showing or having some specific quality
the brave spirits who pioneered
6. [usually pl.]
frame of mind; disposition; mood; temper
in high spirits
7.
vivacity, courage, vigor, enthusiasm, etc.
to answer with spirit
8.
enthusiasm and loyalty
school spirit
9.
real meaning; true intention
to follow the spirit if not the letter of the law

10.
a pervading animating principle, essential or characteristic quality, or prevailing tendency or attitude
the spirit of the Renaissance
11.
a divine animating influence or inspiration
12. [usually pl.]
strong alcoholic liquor produced by distillation
13. Obsolete
a.
any of certain substances or fluids thought of as permeating organs of the body
b. Alchemy
sulfur, sal ammoniac, mercury, or orpiment
14. [often pl.]; Chemistry
a.
any liquid produced by distillation, as from wood, shale, etc.
spirits of turpentine
b.

alcohol (sense 1)
15. Dyeing
a solution of a tin salt, etc., used as a mordant
16. [often pl.]; Pharmacy
an alcoholic solution of a volatile or essential substance
spirits of camphor
verb transitive
17.
to inspirit, animate, encourage, cheer, etc.
(often with up)
18.
to carry (away, off, etc.) secretly and swiftly, or in some mysterious way
adjective
19.
a.
of spirits or spiritualism
b. US
believed to be manifested by spirits
spirit rapping

20.
operating by the burning of alcohol
a spirit lamp
Idioms:
out of spirits
the Spirit
Webster's New World College Dictionary, 4th Edition. Copyright © 2010 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. All rights reserved.
Word origin
ME < OFr espirit < L spiritus, breath, courage, vigor, the soul, life, in LL(Ec), spirit < spirare, to blow, breathe < IE base *(s)peis-, to blow > (prob.) Norw fisa, to puff, blow, OSlav piskati, to pipe, whistle
Word Frequency

spirit in British English 1

('spɪrɪt)
noun
1.
the force or principle of life that animates the body of living things
2.
temperament or disposition
truculent in spirit
3.
liveliness; mettle
they set to it with spirit
4.
the fundamental, emotional, and activating principle of a person; will
the experience broke his spirit
5.
a sense of loyalty or dedication
team spirit
6.
the prevailing element; feeling
a spirit of joy pervaded the atmosphere
7.
state of mind or mood; attitude
he did it in the wrong spirit
8. (plural)
an emotional state, esp with regard to exaltation or dejection
in high spirits
9.
a person characterized by some activity, quality, or disposition
a leading spirit of the movement
10.
the deeper more significant meaning as opposed to a pedantic interpretation
the spirit of the law

11.
that which constitutes a person's intangible being as contrasted with his or her physical presence
I shall be with you in spirit
12.
a.
an incorporeal being, esp the soul of a dead person
b.
(as modifier)
spirit world
verb (transitive)
13. (usually foll by away or off)
to carry off mysteriously or secretly
14. (often foll by up)
to impart animation or determination to
Collins English Dictionary. Copyright © HarperCollins Publishers
Word origin
C13: from Old French esperit, from Latin spīritus breath, spirit; related to spīrāre to breathe
Word Frequency

spirit in British English 2

('spɪrɪt)
noun
1. (often plural)
any distilled alcoholic liquor such as brandy, rum, whisky, or gin
2. chemistry
a.
an aqueous solution of ethanol, esp one obtained by distillation
b.
the active principle or essence of a substance, extracted as a liquid, esp by distillation
3. pharmacology
a.
a solution of a volatile substance, esp a volatile oil, in alcohol
b.
(as modifier)
a spirit burner
4. alchemy
any of the four substances sulphur, mercury, sal ammoniac, or arsenic
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Word origin
C14: special use of spirit1, name applied to alchemical substances (as in sense 4), hence extended to distilled liquids
Word Frequency

Spirit in British English

('spɪrɪt)
noun
the Spirit
1.
a. another name for the Holy Spirit
b.
God, esp when regarded as transcending material limitations
2.
the influence of God or divine things upon the soul
3. Christian Science
God or divine substance
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Example sentences including
spirit

These examples have been automatically selected and may contain sensitive content. Read more...

Well, everything is relative and there was life with Evelyn as well as the spirit of Bas haunting us at home. Anita Anderson SOMEBODY (2001)But even then the Dead Hand functioned, the spirit inside indifferent to any physical harm. Garth Nix LIRAEL: DAUGHTER OF THE CLAYR (2001)It was a bunker, virtually indestructible, symbolic of the Conch spirit. James Grippando A KING'S RANSOM (2001)

Synonyms of 'spirit'

soul, life, psyche, ego
life force, vital spark, breath, mauri
ghost, phantom, spectre, vision
courage, guts, grit, balls
liveliness, energy, vigour, life
attitude, character, quality, humour
team spirit, loyalty, togetherness
heart, sense, nature, soul
intention, meaning, purpose, substance
feeling, atmosphere, character, feel
resolve, will, drive, resolution
mood, feelings, morale, humour
strong alcohol, liquor, the hard stuff, firewater
More Synonyms of **spirit**

Word lists with spirit

General drug terms

Quick word challenge

Quiz Review

Question: 1

-

Score: 0 / 5

Which *drug term* am I?

a mixture of one or more finely ground powdered drugs
blockadefluidextracttrituration

Which *drug term* am I?

a substance, such as sugar or gum, used to prepare a drug or drugs in a form suitable for administration
bioavailabilityexcipientplacebo

Which *drug term* am I?

any alcoholic drink, esp spirits, or such drinks collectively
intoxicatingliquorspirit

Which *drug term* am I?

an inactive substance or other sham form of therapy administered to a patient usually to compare its effects with those of a real drug or treatment, but sometimes for the psychological benefit to the patient through his believing he is receiving treatment
bioavailabilitymedian lethal doseplacebo

Which *drug term* am I?

the passage of a gas, fluid, drug, etc, through the mucous membranes or skin
absorptionbioavailabilityblockade
Your score:
Check | See the answer | Next | Next quiz | Review

WIKIPEDIA

Moonshine

Moonshine was originally a slang term for high-proof distilled spirits that were usually produced illicitly, without government authorization.[1] In recent years, however, commercial products labelled as moonshine have seen a resurgence of popularity.[2]

Moonshine historically referred to "clear, unaged whiskey",[3] once made with barley in Scotland and Ireland or corn mash in the United States,[4] though sugar became just as common in illicit liquor during the last century. The word originated in the British Isles as a result of excise laws, but only became meaningful in the United States after a tax passed during the Civil War outlawing non-registered stills. Illegal distilling accelerated during the Prohibition era (1920-1933) which mandated a total ban on alcohol production under the Eighteenth Amendment of the Constitution. Since the amendment's repeal in 1933, laws focus on evasion of taxation on any type of spirits or intoxicating liquors. Applicable laws were historically enforced by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives of the US Department of Justice, but are now usually handled by state agencies. Enforcement agents were once known colloquially as "revenuers". Distilling beverage alcohol outside of a registered distillery remains illegal in the United States and most countries around the world.
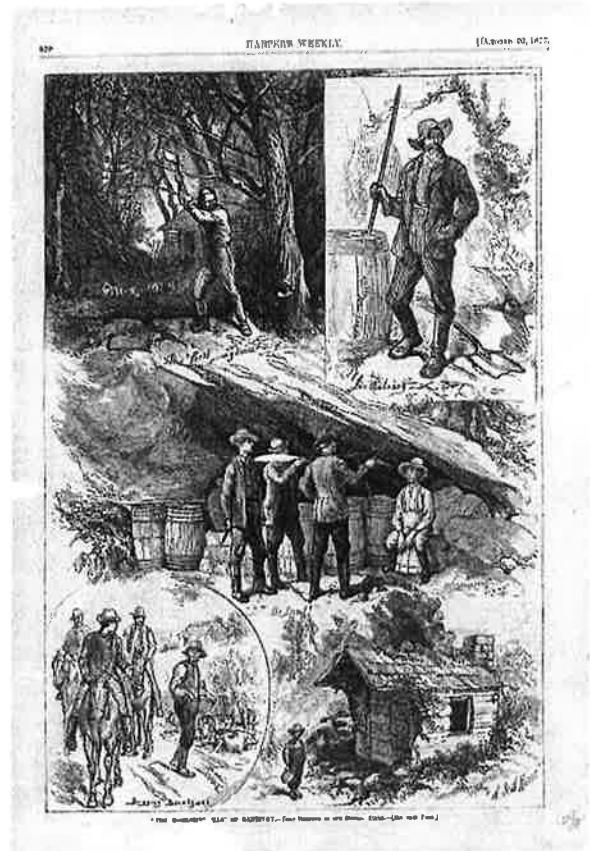
The Moonshine Man of Kentucky, an illustration from *Harper's Weekly,* 1877, showing five scenes from the life of a Kentucky moonshiner

Contents

Terminology

Moonshine is known by many nicknames in English, including **white liquor, white lightning, mountain dew, choop, hooch, homebrew, shiney, white whiskey**, and **mash liquor**. Other languages and countries have their own terms for moonshine (see *Moonshine by country*).
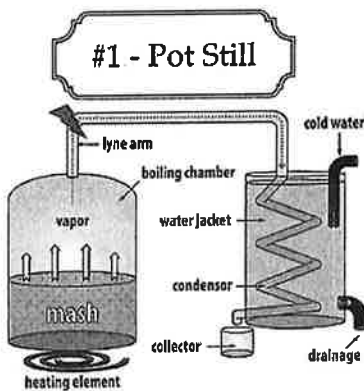
History

Etymology

The word "moonshine" is believed to be derived from the term "moonrakers" used for early English smugglers and illegal Appalachian distillers who produced and distributed whiskey.[5][6] The U.S. Government considers the word a "fanciful term" and does not regulate its use on the labels of commercial products, as such, legal moonshines may be any type of spirit, which must be indicated elsewhere on the label.[7]

Process

#1 - Pot Still

cold water
lyne arm
boiling chamber
vapor
water jacket
condensor
mash
collector
drainage
heating element

A diagram showing the metal pot and the condensation coil apparatus

A historical moonshine distilling-apparatus in a museum

Moonshine distillation was done at night to avoid discovery.[8] While moonshiners were present in urban and rural areas around the United States after the civil war, moonshine concentrated in Appalachia because the limited road network made it easy to evade revenue officers but also because it was difficult and expensive to transport corn crops. As a study of farmers in Cocke County, Tennessee, observes: "One could transport much more value in corn if it was first converted to whiskey. One horse could haul ten times more value on its back in whiskey than in corn."[9] Moonshiners in Harlan County, Kentucky, like Maggie Bailey, sold moonshine in order to provide for their families.[10] Others, like Amos Owens from Rutherford County, North Carolina and Marvin "Popcorn" Sutton from Maggie Valley, North Carolina, sold moonshine in nearby areas. Sutton's life was covered in a documentary on the Discovery Channel called "Moonshiners". The bootlegger once said that the malt (a combination of corn, barley, rye) is what makes the basic moonshine

recipe work.[11] In modern usage, the term "moonshine" still implies the liquor is produced illegally, and the term is sometimes used on the labels of legal products to market them as providing a forbidden drinking experience.

Once distilled, drivers called bootleggers smuggled the moonshine across the region in specially adapted cars, which were ordinary on the outside but modified with souped-up engines, extra interior room, and heavy-duty shock absorbers to coddle the jars of illicit alcohol. After Prohibition ended, the out-of-work drivers kept their skills sharp through organized races, which led to the formation of the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing (NASCAR).[12]

Safety

Poorly produced moonshine can be contaminated, mainly from materials used in the construction of the still. Stills employing automotive radiators as condensers are particularly dangerous; in some cases, glycol produced from antifreeze can be a problem. Radiators used as condensers could also contain lead at the connections to the plumbing. Using these methods often resulted in blindness or lead poisoning[13] in those who consumed tainted liquor.[14] This was an issue during Prohibition when many died from ingesting unhealthy substances. Consumption of lead-tainted moonshine is a serious risk factor for saturnine gout, a very painful but treatable medical condition that damages the kidneys and joints.[15]

Although methanol is not produced in toxic amounts by fermentation of sugars from grain starches,[16] contamination is still possible by unscrupulous distillers using cheap methanol to increase the apparent strength of the product. Moonshine can be made both more palatable and perhaps less dangerous by discarding the "foreshot" – the first few ounces of alcohol that drip from the condenser. Because methanol vaporizes at a lower temperature than ethanol it is commonly believed that the foreshot contains most of the methanol, if any, from the mash. However, research shows this is not the case, and methanol is present until the very end of the distillation run. Despite this, distillers will usually collect the foreshots until the temperature of the still reaches 80 degrees Celsius (176 Fahrenheit).[17] Additionally, the head that comes immediately after the foreshot typically contains small amounts of other undesirable compounds, such as acetone and various aldehydes.[18]

Alcohol concentrations at higher strengths (the GHS identifies concentrations above 24% ABV as dangerous[19]) are flammable and therefore dangerous to handle. This is especially true during the distilling process when vaporized alcohol may accumulate in the air to dangerous concentrations if adequate ventilation is not provided.

Tests

A quick estimate of the alcoholic strength, or proof, of the distillate (the ratio of alcohol to water) is often achieved by shaking a clear container of the distillate. Large bubbles with a short duration indicate a higher alcohol content, while smaller bubbles that disappear more slowly indicate lower alcohol content.[20]

A more reliable method is to use an alcoholmeter or hydrometer. A hydrometer is used during and after the fermentation process to determine the potential alcohol percent of the moonshine, whereas an alcoholmeter is used after the product has been distilled to determine the volume percent or proof.[21]

A common folk test for the quality of moonshine was to pour a small quantity of it into a spoon and set it on fire. The theory was that a safe distillate burns with a blue flame, but a tainted distillate burns with a yellow flame. Practitioners of this simple test also held that if a radiator coil had been used as a condenser, then there would be lead in the distillate, which would give a reddish flame. This led to the mnemonic, "Lead burns red and makes you dead." or "Red means dead."[22]

Former West Virginia moonshiner John Bowman explains the workings of a still. November 1996. American Folklife Center

Prevalence

Varieties of moonshine are produced throughout the world.

See also

- Desi liquor
- Bathtub gin
- Bootleggers and Baptists
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
- Congener (alcohol)
- Corn whiskey
- Dixie Mafia
- Free Beer
- Hokonui moonshine
- Homebrewing
- Moonshine in popular culture
- Nip joint
- Okolehao
- Onyx Moonshine
- Pitorro
- Poitín
- Rum-running
- Sour mash

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External links

- "Moonshine – Blue Ridge Style" (http://www.blueridgeinstitute.org/moonshine/index.html) An Exhibition Produced by the Blue Ridge Institute (http://www.blueridgeinstitute.org) and the Museum of Ferrum College (http://www.ferrum.edu)
- *Déantús an Phoitín* (*Poteen Making*), by Mac Dara Ó Curraidhín (a one-hour 1998 Irish documentary film on the origins of the craft).
- North Carolina Moonshine (http://www.ibiblio.org/moonshine/) – Historical information, images, music, and film excerpts
- Moonshine news page (http://historyofalcoholanddrugs.typepad.com/alcohol_and_drugs_history/moonshi ne/index.html) – Alcohol and Drugs History Society
- Georgia Moonshine (http://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/nge/Article.jsp?id=h-2580) – History and folk traditions in Georgia, USA
- "Moonshine 'tempts new generation'" (https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-10556048) – BBC on distilling illegal liquor in the 21st century.
- Moonshine Franklin Co Virginia (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TywPjx3VHeM) Moonshine Still from the past – Video
- Dangers of Drinking Homemade Moonshine (http://lessaccounting.com/moonshine) Video about the dangers of drinking moonshine

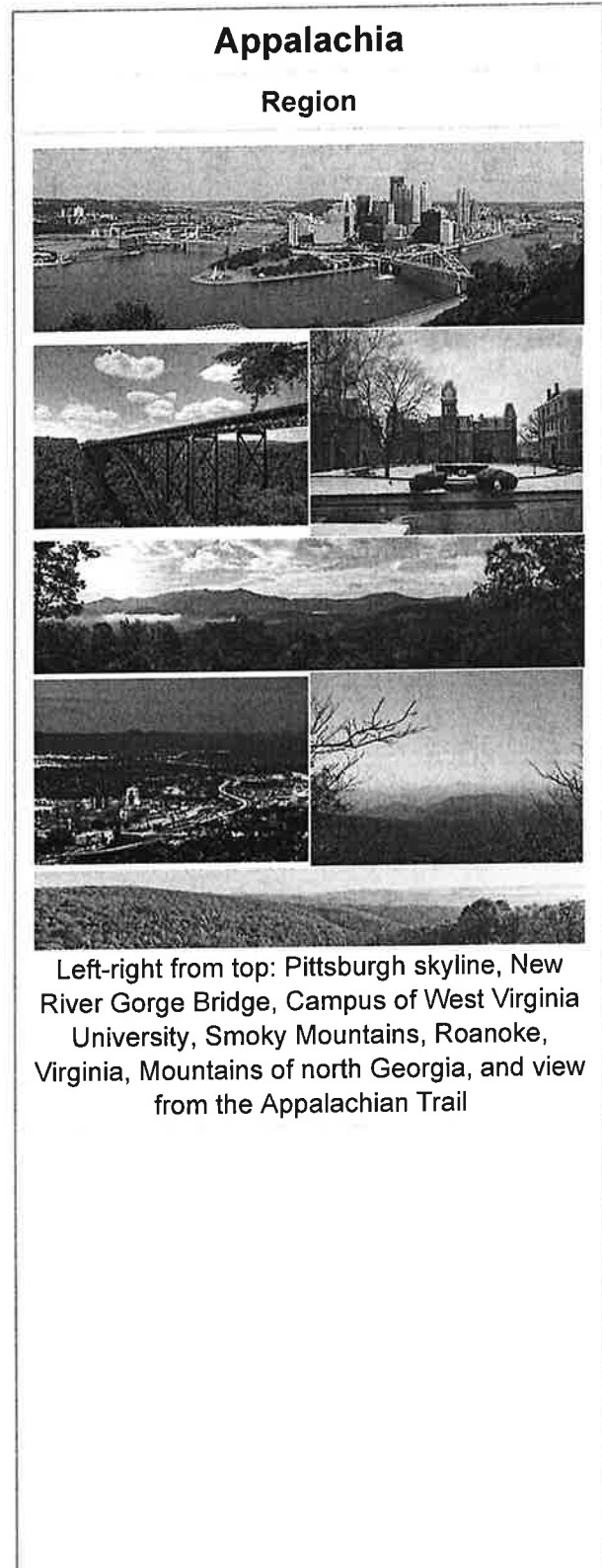This page was last edited on 5 November 2019, at 00:14 (UTC).

WIKIPEDIA

Appalachia

Appalachia (/ˌæpəˈlætʃə, -ˈleɪtʃə/) is a cultural region in the Eastern United States that stretches from the Southern Tier of New York State to northern Alabama and Georgia.[1] While the Appalachian Mountains stretch from Belle Isle in Canada to Cheaha Mountain in Alabama, the cultural region of Appalachia typically refers only to the central and southern portions of the range, from the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, southwesterly to the Great Smoky Mountains. As of the 2010 United States Census, the region was home to approximately 25 million people.[2]

Since its recognition as a distinctive region in the late 19th century, Appalachia has been a source of enduring myths and distortions regarding the isolation, temperament, and behavior of its inhabitants. Early 20th century writers often engaged in yellow journalism focused on sensationalistic aspects of the region's culture, such as moonshining and clan feuding, and often portrayed the region's inhabitants as uneducated and prone to impulsive acts of violence. Sociological studies in the 1960s and 1970s helped to re-examine and dispel these stereotypes.[3]

While endowed with abundant natural resources, Appalachia has long struggled and been associated with poverty. In the early 20th century, large-scale logging and coal mining firms brought wage-paying jobs and modern amenities to Appalachia, but by the 1960s the region had failed to capitalize on any long-term benefits[4] from these two industries. Beginning in the 1930s, the federal government sought to alleviate poverty in the Appalachian region with a series of New Deal initiatives, such as the construction of dams to provide cheap electricity and the implementation of better farming practices. On March 9, 1965, the Appalachian Regional Commission[5] was created to further alleviate poverty in the region, mainly by

Appalachia

Region

Left-right from top: Pittsburgh skyline, New River Gorge Bridge, Campus of West Virginia University, Smoky Mountains, Roanoke, Virginia, Mountains of north Georgia, and view from the Appalachian Trail

diversifying the region's economy and helping to provide better health care and educational opportunities to the region's inhabitants. By 1990, Appalachia had largely joined the economic mainstream, but still lagged behind the rest of the nation in most economic indicators.[3]

Contents

The Appalachian Region

Areas included under the Appalachian Regional Commission's charter

Coordinates: 38.80°N 81.00°W

Counties or county-equivalents	420
States	13
Population (2010)	
• **Total**	25 million
Demonym(s)	Appalachian

Defining the Appalachian region

William G. Frost

Since Appalachia lacks definite physiographical or topographical boundaries, there has been some disagreement over what exactly the region encompasses. The most commonly used modern definition of Appalachia is the one initially defined by the Appalachian Regional Commission in 1965 and expanded over subsequent decades.[3] The region defined by the Commission currently includes 420 counties and eight independent cities in 13 states, including all of West Virginia, 14 counties in New York, 52 in Pennsylvania, 32 in Ohio, 3 in Maryland, 54 in Kentucky, 25 counties and 8 cities in Virginia,[6] 29 in North Carolina, 52 in Tennessee, 6 in South Carolina, 37 in Georgia, 37 in Alabama, and 24 in Mississippi.[1] When the Commission was established, counties were added based on economic need, however, rather than any cultural parameters.[3]

The first major attempt to map Appalachia as a distinctive cultural region came in the 1890s with the efforts of Berea College president William Goodell Frost, whose "Appalachian America" included 194 counties in 8 states.[7]:11–14 In 1921, John C. Campbell published *The Southern Highlander and His Homeland* in which he modified Frost's map to include 254 counties in 9 states. A landmark survey of the region in the following decade by the United States Department of Agriculture defined the region as consisting of 206 counties in 6 states. In 1984, Karl Raitz and Richard Ulack expanded the ARC's definition to include 445 counties in 13 states, although they removed all counties in Mississippi and added two in New Jersey. Historian John Alexander Williams, in his 2002 book *Appalachia: A History*, distinguished between a "core" Appalachian region consisting of 164 counties in West Virginia, Kentucky, Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina, and Georgia, and a greater region defined by the ARC.[3] In the *Encyclopedia of Appalachia* (2006), Appalachian State University historian Howard Dorgan suggested the term "Old Appalachia" for the region's cultural boundaries, noting an academic tendency to ignore the southwestern and northeastern extremes of the ARC's pragmatic definition.[8]

Toponymy and pronunciation

While exploring inland along the northern coast of Florida in 1528, the members of the Narváez expedition, including Álvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca, found a Native American village near present-day Tallahassee, Florida, whose name they transcribed as *Apalchen* or *Apalachen* (IPA: [apaˈlatʃen]). The name was soon altered by the Spanish to Apalachee and used as a name for the tribe and region spreading well inland to the north. Pánfilo de Narváez's expedition first entered Apalachee territory on June 15, 1528, and applied the name. Now spelled

"Appalachian", it is the fourth oldest surviving European place-name in the U.S.[9] After the de Soto expedition in 1540, Spanish cartographers began to apply the name of the tribe to the mountains themselves. The first cartographic appearance of *Apalchen* is on Diego Gutiérrez' map of 1562; the first use for the mountain range is the map of Jacques le Moyne de Morgues in 1565.[10] Le Moyne was also the first European to apply "Apalachen" specifically to a mountain range as opposed to a village, native tribe, or a southeastern region of North America.[11]

Detail of Gutierrez' 1562 map showing the first known cartographic appearance of a variant of the name "Appalachia"

The name was not commonly used for the whole mountain range until the late 19th century. A competing and often more popular name was the "Allegheny Mountains", "Alleghenies", and even "Alleghania." In the early 19th century, Washington Irving proposed renaming the United States either "Appalachia" or "Alleghania".[12]

In northern U.S. dialects, the mountains are pronounced /æpəˈleɪtʃənz/ or /æpəˈleɪʃənz/. The cultural region of Appalachia is pronounced /æpəˈleɪʃ(i)ə/, also /æpəˈleɪtʃ(i)ə/, all with a third syllable like "lay". In southern U.S. dialects, the mountains are called the /æpəˈlætʃənz/, and the cultural region of Appalachia is pronounced /ˈæpəˈlætʃ(i)ə/, both with a third syllable like the "la" in "latch".[13][14] This pronunciation is favored in the "core" region in central and southern parts of the Appalachian range. The occasional use of the "sh" sound for the "ch" in the last syllable in northern dialects was popularized by Appalachian Trail organizations in New England in the early 20th century.[7]:11–14

History

Early history

Native American hunter-gatherers first arrived in what is now Appalachia over 16,000 years ago. The earliest discovered site is the Meadowcroft Rockshelter in Washington County, Pennsylvania, which some scientists claim is pre-Clovis culture. Several other Archaic period (8000–1000 BC) archaeological sites have been identified in the region, such as the St. Albans site in West Virginia and the Icehouse Bottom site in Tennessee. In the 16th century, the de Soto and Juan Pardo expeditions explored the mountains of South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Georgia, and encountered complex agrarian societies consisting of Muskogean-speaking inhabitants. De Soto indicated that much of the region west of the mountains was part of the domain of Coosa, a paramount chiefdom centered around a village complex in northern Georgia.[15] By the time English explorers arrived in Appalachia in the late 17th century, the central part of the region was controlled by Algonquian tribes (namely the Shawnee) and the southern part of the region was controlled by the Cherokee. The French based in modern-day Quebec also made inroads into the northern areas of the region in modern-day New York state and Pennsylvania. By the mid 18th century the French had outposts such as Fort Duquesne and Fort Le Boeuf controlling the access points of the Allegheny River valley and upper Ohio valley after exploration by Celeron de Bienville.

European migration into Appalachia began in the 18th century. As lands in eastern Pennsylvania, the Tidewater region of Virginia and the Carolinas filled up, immigrants began pushing further and further westward into the Appalachian Mountains. A relatively large proportion of the early backcountry immigrants were Ulster Scots—later known as "Scotch-Irish"— who were seeking cheaper land and freedom from Quaker leaders, many of whom considered the Scotch-Irish "savages". Others included Germans from the Palatinate region and English settlers from the Anglo-Scottish border country. Between 1730 and 1763, immigrants trickled into western Pennsylvania, the Shenandoah Valley area of Virginia, and western Maryland. Thomas Walker's discovery of Cumberland Gap in 1750 and the end of the French and Indian War in 1763 lured settlers deeper into the mountains, namely to upper east Tennessee, northwestern North Carolina, upstate South Carolina, and central Kentucky. Between 1790 and 1840, a series of treaties with the Cherokee and other Native American tribes opened up lands in north Georgia, north Alabama, the Tennessee Valley, the Cumberland Plateau regions, and the Great Smoky Mountains along what is now the Tennessee-North Carolina border.[7]:30–44 The last of these treaties culminated in the removal of the bulk of the Cherokee population (as well as Choctaw, Chickasaw and others) from the region via the Trail of Tears from 1831 until 1838.

Daniel Boone Escorting Settlers through the Cumberland Gap (George Caleb Bingham, oil on canvas, 1851–52)

The Appalachian frontier

Appalachian frontiersmen have long been romanticized for their ruggedness and self-sufficiency. A typical depiction of an Appalachian pioneer involves a hunter wearing a coonskin cap and buckskin clothing, and sporting a long rifle and shoulder-strapped powder horn. Perhaps no single figure symbolizes the Appalachian pioneer more than Daniel Boone (1734–1820), a long hunter and surveyor instrumental in the early settlement of Kentucky and Tennessee. Like Boone, Appalachian pioneers moved into areas largely separated from "civilization" by high mountain ridges, and had to fend for themselves against the elements. As many of these early settlers were living on Native American lands, attacks from Native American tribes were a continuous threat until the 19th century.[16]:7–13, 19

The Earnest Fort-house in Greene County, Tennessee. Built around 1782 during the Cherokee–American wars, it is located just south of Chuckey on the banks of the Nolichucky River.

As early as the 18th century, Appalachia (then known simply as the "backcountry") began to distinguish itself from its wealthier lowland and coastal neighbors to the east. Frontiersmen often bickered with lowland and tidewater "elites" over taxes, sometimes to the point of armed revolts such as the Regulator Movement (1767–1771) in North Carolina.[17]:59–69 In 1778, at the height of the American Revolution, backwoodsmen from Pennsylvania, Virginia, and what is now Kentucky took part in George Rogers Clark's Illinois campaign. Two years later, a

group of Appalachian frontiersmen known as the Overmountain Men routed British forces at the Battle of Kings Mountain after rejecting a call by the British to disarm.[7]:64–68 After the war, residents throughout the Appalachian backcountry—especially the Monongahela region in western Pennsylvania, and antebellum northwestern Virginia (now the north-central part of West Virginia) — refused to pay a tax placed on whiskey by the new American government, leading to what became known as the Whiskey Rebellion.[7]:118–19 The resulting tighter Federal controls in the Monongahela valley resulted in many whiskey/bourbon makers migrating via the Ohio River to Kentucky and Tennessee where the industry could flourish.

Early 19th century

In the early 19th century, the rift between the yeoman farmers of Appalachia and their wealthier lowland counterparts continued to grow, especially as the latter dominated most state legislatures. People in Appalachia began to feel slighted over what they considered unfair taxation methods and lack of state funding for improvements (especially for roads). In the northern half of the region, the lowland "elites" consisted largely of industrial and business interests, whereas in the parts of the region south of the Mason–Dixon line, the lowland elites consisted of large-scale land-owning planters.[17]:59–69 The Whig Party, formed in the 1830s, drew widespread support from disaffected Appalachians.

Tensions between the mountain counties and state governments sometimes reached the point of mountain counties threatening to break off and form separate states. In 1832, bickering between western Virginia and eastern Virginia over the state's constitution led to calls on both sides for the state's separation into two states.[7]:141 In 1841, Tennessee state senator (and later U.S. president) Andrew Johnson introduced legislation in the Tennessee Senate calling for the creation of a separate state in East Tennessee. The proposed state would have been known as "Frankland" and would have invited like-minded mountain counties in Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama to join it.[18]

The U.S. Civil War

By 1860, the Whig Party had disintegrated. Sentiments in northern Appalachia had shifted to the pro-abolitionist Republican Party. In southern Appalachia, abolitionists still constituted a radical minority, although several smaller opposition parties (most of which were both pro-Union and pro-slavery) were formed to oppose the planter-dominated Southern Democrats. As states in the southern United States moved toward secession, a majority of Southern Appalachians still supported the Union.[19] In 1861, a Minnesota newspaper identified 161 counties in Southern Appalachia—which the paper called "Alleghenia"—where Union support remained strong, and which might provide crucial support for the defeat of the Confederacy.[7]:11–14 However, many of these Unionists—especially in the mountain areas of North Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama—were "conditional" Unionists in that they opposed secession, but also opposed violence to prevent secession, and thus when their respective state legislatures voted to secede, their support shifted to the Confederacy.[7]:160–65 Kentucky sought to remain neutral at the outset of the conflict, opting not to supply troops to either side. After Virginia voted to secede, several mountain counties in northwestern Virginia rejected the ordinance and with the help of the Union Army established a separate state, admitted to the Union as West Virginia in 1863. However, half the counties included in the new state, comprising two-thirds of its territory, were secessionist and pro-Confederate.[20]

This caused great difficulty for the new Unionist state government in Wheeling, both during and after the war.[21] A similar effort occurred in East Tennessee, but the initiative failed after Tennessee's governor ordered the Confederate Army to occupy the region, forcing East Tennessee's Unionists to flee to the north or go into hiding.[7]:160–65 The one exception was the so-called Free and Independent State of Scott.[22]

Both central and southern Appalachia suffered tremendous violence and turmoil during the Civil War. While there were two major theaters of operation in the region—namely the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia (and present-day West Virginia) and the Chattanooga area along the Tennessee-Georgia border—much of the violence was caused by bushwhackers and guerrilla war. The northernmost battles of the entire war were fought in Appalachia with the Battle of Buffington Island and the Battle of Salineville resulting from Morgan's Raid. Large numbers of livestock were killed (grazing was an important part of Appalachia's economy), and numerous farms were destroyed, pillaged, or neglected.[19] The actions of both Union and Confederate armies left many inhabitants in the region resentful of government authority and suspicious of outsiders for decades after the war.[17]:109–23 [16]:39–45
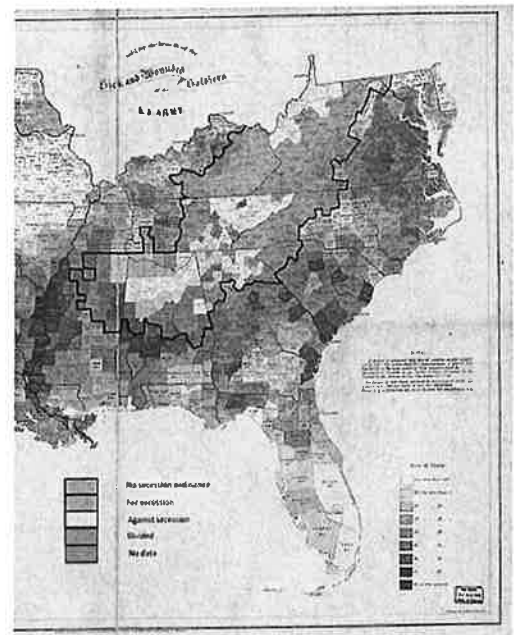
Map of the county secession votes of 1860–1861 in Appalachia within the ARC definition. Virginia and Tennessee show the public votes, while the other states show the vote by county delegates to the conventions.

Late 19th and early 20th centuries

Economic boom

After the war, northern parts of Appalachia experienced an economic boom, while economies in the southern parts of the region stagnated, especially as Southern Democrats regained control of their respective state legislatures at the end of Reconstruction.[19] Pittsburgh as well as Knoxville grew into major industrial centers, especially regarding iron and steel production. By 1900, the Chattanooga area and north Georgia and northern Alabama had experienced similar changes due to manufacturing booms in Atlanta and Birmingham at the edge of the Appalachian region. Railroad construction between the 1880s and early 20th century gave the greater nation access to the vast coalfields in central Appalachia, making the economy in that part of the region practically

Entrance to mine shaft in West Virginia, photographed by Lewis Wickes Hine in 1908

synonymous with coal mining. As the nationwide demand for lumber skyrocketed, lumber firms turned to the virgin forests of southern Appalachia, using sawmill and logging railroad innovations to reach remote timber stands. The Tri-Cities area of Tennessee and Virginia and the Kanawha Valley of West Virginia became major petrochemical production centers.[17]:131–141

Stereotypes

The late 19th and early 20th centuries also saw the development of various regional stereotypes. Attempts by President Rutherford B. Hayes to enforce the whiskey tax in the late 1870s led to an explosion in violence between Appalachian "moonshiners" and federal "revenuers" that lasted through the Prohibition period in the 1920s.[7]:187–193 The breakdown of authority and law enforcement during the Civil War may have contributed to an increase in clan feuding, which by the 1880s was reported to be a problem across most of Kentucky's Cumberland region as well as Carter County in Tennessee, Carroll County in Virginia, and Mingo and Logan counties in West Virginia.[17]:109–23 [7]:187–93 Regional writers from this period such as Mary Noailles Murfree and Horace Kephart liked to focus on such sensational aspects of mountain culture, leading readers outside the region to believe they were more widespread than in reality. In an 1899 article in *The Atlantic*, Berea College president William G. Frost attempted to redefine the inhabitants of Appalachia as "noble mountaineers"— relics of the nation's pioneer period whose isolation had left them unaffected by modern times.[17]:109–23

Today, residents of Appalachia are viewed by many Americans as uneducated and unrefined, resulting in culture-based stereotyping and discrimination in many areas, including employment and housing. Such discrimination has prompted some to seek redress under prevailing federal and state civil rights laws.[23]

Feuds

Appalachia, and especially Kentucky, became nationally known for its violent feuds, especially in the remote mountain districts. They pitted the men in extended clans against each other for decades, often using assassination and arson as weapons, along with ambushes, gunfights, and pre-arranged shootouts. The infamous Hatfield-McCoy Feud of the 19th century was the best known of these family feuds. Some of the feuds were continuations of violent local Civil War episodes.[24] Journalists often wrote about the violence, using stereotypes that "city folks" had developed about Appalachia; they interpreted the feuds as the natural products of profound ignorance, poverty, and isolation, and perhaps even inbreeding. In reality, the leading participants were typically well-to-do local elites with networks of clients who were fighting for local political power.[25]

Modern Appalachia

Logging firms' rapid devastation of the forests of the Appalachians sparked a movement among conservationists to preserve what remained and allow the land to "heal". In 1911, Congress passed the Weeks Act, giving the federal government authority to create national forests east of the Mississippi River and control timber harvesting. Regional writers and business interests led a movement to create national parks in the eastern United States similar to Yosemite and Yellowstone in the west, culminating in the creation of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Tennessee and North Carolina, Shenandoah National Park in Virginia,

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park in Kentucky, Virginia and Tennessee, and the Blue Ridge Parkway (connecting the two) in the 1930s.[17]:200–210 During the same period, New England forester Benton MacKaye led the movement to build the 2,175-mile (3,500 km) Appalachian Trail, stretching from Georgia to Maine.

By the 1950s, poor farming techniques and the loss of jobs to mechanization in the mining industry had left much of central and southern Appalachia poverty-stricken. The lack of jobs also led to widespread difficulties with outmigration. Beginning in the 1930s, federal agencies such as the Tennessee Valley Authority began investing in the Appalachian region.[7]:310–12 Sociologists such as James Brown and Cratis Williams and authors such as Harry Caudill and Michael Harrington brought attention to the region's plight in the 1960s, prompting Congress to create the Appalachian Regional Commission in 1965. The commission's efforts helped to stem the tide of outmigration and diversify the region's economies.[17]:200–210 Although there have been drastic improvements in the region's economic conditions since the commission's founding, the ARC still listed 82 counties as "distressed" in 2010, with nearly half of them (40) in Kentucky.[26]

There are growing IT sectors in many parts of the region.[27][28] Summit, the fastest supercomputer in the world as of 2019, is currently housed at Oak Ridge National Laboratory near Knoxville, Tennessee.[29]

Cities

Notable cities within Appalachia include:

- Altoona, Pennsylvania
- Asheville, North Carolina
- Birmingham, Alabama
- Bristol, Tennessee
- Charleston, West Virginia
- Chattanooga, Tennessee
- Greenville, South Carolina
- Huntington, West Virginia
- Huntsville, Alabama
- Johnson City, Tennessee
- Knoxville, Tennessee
- Morgantown, West Virginia
- Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- Roanoke, Virginia
- Scranton, Pennsylvania
- State College, Pennsylvania
- Wheeling, West Virginia

Culture

Ethnic groups

Brad Paisley

Brad Douglas Paisley (born October 8, 1972) is an American country music singer and songwriter. Starting with his 1999 debut album *Who Needs Pictures*, he has released eleven studio albums and a Christmas compilation on the Arista Nashville label, with all of his albums certified Gold or higher by the RIAA.[1] He has scored 32 Top 10 singles on the US *Billboard* Country Airplay chart, 19 of which have reached number 1. He set a new record in 2009 for the most consecutive singles (10) reaching the top spot on that chart.

Paisley has sold over 11 million albums and has won three Grammy Awards, 14 Academy of Country Music Awards, 14 Country Music Association Awards, and two American Music Awards. He has also earned country music's crowning achievement, becoming a member of the Grand Ole Opry.[2] Paisley also wrote songs for Pixar's *Cars* franchise ("Behind the Clouds", "Find Yourself", "Collision of Worlds" (along with Robbie Williams), "Nobody's Fool", etc.).

Brad Paisley	
Paisley performing at the White House in 2009	
Background information	
Birth name	Brad Douglas Paisley
Born	October 28, 1972 Glen Dale, West Virginia, United States
Genres	Country
Occupation(s)	Singer · songwriter
Instruments	Vocals · guitar · bass · mandolin · banjo · dobro
Years active	1998–present
Labels	Arista Nashville

Contents

Early life

Paisley was born and raised in Glen Dale, West Virginia. He is the only child of Douglas Edward "Doug" Paisley, who worked for the West Virginia Department of Transportation, and Sandra Jean "Sandy" (née Jarvis) Paisley, a teacher.[3] He has stated that his love of country music stems from his maternal grandfather, Warren Jarvis, who gave him his first guitar, a Sears Danelectro Silvertone,[4] and taught him how to play at eight years old. In third grade, he performed for the first time in public by singing in his church. Initially, they were just going to have him play the song on the guitar instead of a piano. But then the adults heard him sing the tune and said, "forget the choir, let's just have Brad do the whole thing." After that, he never had to ask for a gig until he left Glen Dale. He later recalled that "Pretty soon, I was performing at every Christmas party and Mother's Day event. The neat thing about a small town is that when you want to be an artist, by golly, they'll make you one."[4] At age 13, he wrote his first song, "Born on Christmas Day",[4] which later appeared on his album *Brad Paisley Christmas*. He had been taking lessons with local guitarist Clarence "Hank" Goddard.[4] By 13, Goddard and Paisley formed a band called "Brad Paisley and the C-Notes", with the addition of two of Paisley's adult friends.[4]

While in junior high, his principal heard him perform "Born On Christmas Day" and invited him to play at the local Rotary Club meeting. In attendance was Tom Miller, the program director of a radio station in Wheeling, West Virginia. Miller asked him if he would like to be a guest on Jamboree USA. After his first performance, he was asked to become a member of the show's weekly lineup. For the next eight years, he opened for country singers such as The Judds, Ricky Skaggs and George Jones. He would become the youngest person inducted into the Jamboree USA Hall of Fame. He also performed at the Jamboree in the Hills.[5]

Paisley graduated from John Marshall High School in Glen Dale, West Virginia, in 1991,[6] and then studied for two years at West Liberty State College in West Liberty, West Virginia. He was awarded a fully paid ASCAP scholarship to Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee, where he majored in music business and received a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the Mike Curb School of Music Business in 1995.[7] He interned at ASCAP, Atlantic Records, and the Fitzgerald-Hartley management firm. While in college, he met

Frank Rogers, a fellow student who went on to serve as his producer. Paisley also met Kelley Lovelace, who became his songwriting partner. He also met Chris DuBois in college, and he, too, would write songs for him.[5]

Within a week after graduating from Belmont, Paisley signed a songwriting contract with EMI Music Publishing;[5] and he wrote David Kersh's "Top 5" hit, "Another You", as well as David Ball's 1999 single, "Watching My Baby Not Come Back". The latter song was also co-written by Ball.[8]

Career

1999–2001: *Who Needs Pictures*

His debut as a singer was with the label Arista Nashville, with the song "Who Needs Pictures" (released February 1, 1999). In May of that same year, he made his first appearance on the Grand Ole Opry.[1] Seven months later he had his first No. 1 hit with "He Didn't Have to Be", which detailed the story of Paisley's frequent co-writer Kelley Lovelace and Lovelace's stepson, McCain Merren.[9] The album also produced a Top 20 hit with "Me Neither" and his second number 1 hit, "We Danced", both in 2000. By February 2001, the album was certified platinum.[10]

Later in 2000, Paisley won the Country Music Association's (CMA) Horizon Award and the Academy of Country Music's best new male vocalist trophy. He received his first Grammy Award nomination a year later for Best New Artist. On February 17, 2001, Paisley was inducted into the Grand Ole Opry.[1] He was 28 when he accepted the invitation. PBS did a 75th anniversary concert special, in which Paisley and Chely Wright sang a song that they co-wrote called "Hard to Be a Husband, Hard to Be a Wife". This song later appeared on the compilation album *Grand Ole Opry 75th Anniversary, Vol. 2*.[11] The concert would get a CMA nomination for Vocal Event of the Year.[12] Paisley would later contribute to Wright's 2001 album *Never Love You Enough*, co-writing the tracks "One Night in Las Vegas", "Horoscope", and "Not as In Love". Paisley co-produced the former two tracks with her, in addition to playing guitar on them and featuring members of his road band, The Drama Kings; he also sang backing vocals on "One Night in Las Vegas" and "Not as In Love".[13]

2001–2003: *Part II*

In 2002, he won the CMA Music Video of the Year for "I'm Gonna Miss Her (The Fishin' Song)". Several celebrities made notable guest appearances in the video, including Little Jimmy Dickens, Kimberly Williams, Dan Patrick, and Jerry Springer. His three other singles from the *Part II* album, "I Wish You'd Stay", "Wrapped Around", and "Two People Fell in Love", all charted in the top 10. The album stayed in the charts for more than 70 weeks and was certified platinum in August 2002. To support his album, he toured the country as the opening act for Lonestar.[14]

2003–2005: *Mud on the Tires*

Paisley released his third album, *Mud on the Tires* (2003), following *Who Needs Pictures* and *Part II*. The album features the hit song "Celebrity", the video of which parodies television shows such as *Fear Factor*, *American Idol*, *The Bachelorette*, and *According to Jim*, and included such celebrities as Jason Alexander, James Belushi, Little Jimmy Dickens, Trista Rehn, and William Shatner. (Paisley later contributed to Shatner's album *Has Been*.) The album's title track, "Mud on the Tires", reached Billboard No. 1 in 2004.[15]

In addition, the ninth track from *Mud on the Tires*, "Whiskey Lullaby", a duet with Alison Krauss, reached No. 3 on the Billboard Hot Country Singles & Tracks (now Hot Country Songs) charts, and No. 41 on the Billboard Hot 100. The music video for *Whiskey Lullaby* also won several awards and was rated No. 2 on the 100 Greatest Videos by CMT in 2008. The album was certified double platinum.[14]

2005–2007: *Time Well Wasted*

In 2005, after touring with Reba McEntire and Terri Clark on the Two Hats and a Redhead Tour, he released *Time Well Wasted*, containing 15 tracks. This album includes "Alcohol", two duets — "When I Get Where I'm Going" with Dolly Parton and "Out in the Parking Lot" with Alan Jackson — and a bonus track, "Cornography", a comedy track featuring "The Kung Pao Buckaroos": Little Jimmy Dickens, George Jones, and Bill Anderson. On November 6, 2006, *Time Well Wasted* won the Country Music Association CMA Award for Best Album. It also won album of the year at the 2006 ACM Awards.

Paisley also contributed two original songs to the Disney Pixar's film *Cars*. These can be found on the film's soundtrack. This was in recognition of his contribution to the "Route 66: Main Street America" television special.

At the 2006 Grammy Awards, Paisley received four nominations: Best Country Album (for *Time Well Wasted*), Best Country Song (for "Alcohol"), Best Country Instrumental (for "Time Warp") and Best Country Vocal, Male (for "Alcohol").

2007–2008: *5th Gear*

Paisley's fifth studio album, *5th Gear*, was released in the United States on June 19, 2007. The first four singles from the album, "Ticks", "Online", "Letter to Me", and "I'm Still a Guy", all reached number one on the country music single charts, making seven straight number one hits for Paisley.[16] "Online" featured the Brentwood High School marching band playing toward the end of the song, a cameo by Jason Alexander, and again featured a cameo by William Shatner. *Throttleneck* would also reach number one, which would get Paisley his first Grammy.[17]

The fifth single from *5th Gear* actually came from a reissued version of the album — a new recording of "Waitin' on a Woman", a track cut from *Time Well Wasted*. The reissued version received unsolicited airplay in late 2006, and features less prominent string guitar and violin parts and a more "muted" musical tone. For the chart week of September 20, 2008, the song became Paisley's twelfth number-one single and his eighth straight number-one hit, making him the artist with the most consecutive Number One country hits since the inception of Nielsen SoundScan in 1990.[18]

Paisley performing live in Jacksonville, Florida, August 19, 2007

Paisley toured April 26, 2007, through February 24, 2008, in support of *5th Gear* on the Bonfires & Amplifiers Tour. The tour visited 94 cities over a 10-month period and played for more than a million fans. The tour was so successful that it was extended past its original end date to February 2008. Some of the opening acts who appeared during the tour were Taylor Swift, Kellie Pickler, Jack Ingram, Rodney Atkins and Chuck Wicks.

Paisley was nominated for three 2008 Grammy Awards related to *5th Gear*: Best Country Album (for *5th Gear*), Best Country Collaboration (for "Oh Love" with Carrie Underwood), and Best Country Instrumental (for "Throttleneck"). On February 10, 2008, he won his first Grammy award for Best Country Instrumental for "Throttleneck".

In March 2008, Paisley announced his next tour, The Paisley Party, a 42-date tour sponsored by Hershey's. The tour kicked off on June 11, 2008, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, with Wicks, Julianne Hough and Jewel as the opening acts.[16]

2008–2009: *Play*

A sixth instrumental album, titled *Play*, was released on November 4, 2008.[19] Paisley and Keith Urban released to country radio their first duet together on September 8, 2008, "Start a Band". It was the first and only single from *Play*, and it went on to become Paisley's thirteenth number one hit and his ninth in a row. The album also features collaborations with James Burton, Little Jimmy Dickens, Vince Gill, John Jorgenson, B.B. King, Albert Lee, Brent Mason, Buck Owens, Redd Volkaert and Steve Wariner. Paisley and Urban both received Entertainer of the Year nominations from the CMA on September 10, 2008. On November 12, 2008, Paisley won Male Vocalist of the Year and Music Video of the Year for "Waitin' on a Woman" during the CMAs.

2009–2010: *American Saturday Night*

Paisley announced on January 26, 2009, that he would be embarking on a new tour named American Saturday Night, with Dierks Bentley and Jimmy Wayne opening for most of the shows. Paisley's seventh studio album, *American Saturday Night*, was

Paisley performing live in Providence, Rhode Island, September 27, 2008