



Figure 3. Location of major structural features and the regional basins within the Appalachian basin. Boundaries of the Appalachian, Dunkard, and Pocahontas basins are modified from USGS National Oil and Gas Assessment province boundaries. Partial coverage of the Black Warrior basin, Gulf Coastal Plain, and the Eastern Interior (Illinois) basin are from the same source. The northeast-trending Allegheny structural front generally defines the eastern edge of the Appalachian basin and separates the Appalachian basin and the Valley and Ridge province. The Black Warrior basin contains coal resources that have historically been included within the Appalachian basin coal resource base. The basin occurs within the structural recess between the Appalachian and Ouachita Mountains (off the map to the west of the Mississippi embayment). The Black Warrior basin is bounded to the east by the western edge of the Appalachians and to the south and west by Cretaceous and Tertiary sediments of the Mississippi embayment and the Gulf Coastal Plain. These sediments onlap and cover Pennsylvanian rocks to the south and west of the Black Warrior basin.