

Kentucky Economic Analysis PY 2025

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Prepared by



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Table of Contents

Introduction.....	1
Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	3
Personal Income.....	8
Population Estimates and Projections	9
Educational Attainment.....	14
Civilian Labor Force	16
Labor Force Participation.....	19
Unemployment Insurance Claims.....	20
Covered Employment and Wages.....	22
Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates	301
Occupational Projections	412

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List of Tables

Table 1 - Covered Employment by Major Industry Sector in Kentucky, 2015, 2020, & 2025	24
Table 2 - Comparison of Median Hourly Earnings for Major Occupational Group	312
Table 3 - Largest Occupations in Kentucky by Typical Education Required for Entry, 2026.....	334
Table 4 - Est. Employment and Median Hourly Wage by Occupational Group and LWA, 2026.....	378
Table 5 - Top Five Occupations by Estimated Employment in Each LWA, 2026.....	390
Table 6 - Most Job Openings by Skill Classification, 2023 to 2033	456
Table 7 - Job Openings by LWA.....	467

List of Figures

Figure 1 - Kentucky's Local Workforce Areas (LWA).....	2
Figure 2 - Gross Domestic Product in Kentucky (in billions USD)	3
Figure 3 - Over-The-Year Change in Gross Domestic Product.....	3
Figure 4 - Kentucky Quarterly GDP, 2020-2025 (in billions).....	4
Figure 5 - U.S. and Kentucky GDP for Public and Private Sectors, 2015-2025	5
Figure 6 - Share of Kentucky GDP by Industry, 2015 and 2025	7
Figure 7 - Per Capita Personal Income for Kentucky and U.S.	8
Figure 8 - Per Capita Personal Income by LWA, 2024	8
Figure 9 - Change in Population by Decade, Kentucky and the U.S., 1910 - 2020.....	9
Figure 10 - Kentucky Population, 1910-2020	9
Figure 11 - Population by LWA, 2015-2025	10
Figure 12 - Kentucky Population by Age Group, 2015 to 2025	11
Figure 13 - Population by Age Group by LWA, 2015 to 2025.....	12
Figure 14 - Population Projections to 2050	13
Figure 15 - Population Projections to 2050 by LWA.....	13
Figure 16 - Educational Attainment Adults Age 25 - 64.....	14
Figure 17 - Share of Kentucky Adults (25-64) with at least a High School Diploma by LWA	15
Figure 18 - Share of Kentucky Adults (25-64) with at least a Bachelor's Degree by LWA.....	15
Figure 19 - Annual Unemployment Rates, U.S. and KY, 2010-2025 (not seasonally adjusted).....	16
Figure 20 - Monthly Unemployment Rates for KY, 2023-2025 (not seasonally adjusted).....	17
Figure 21 - Kentucky Civilian Labor Force, 2015 to 2025 (not seasonally adjusted).....	17
Figure 22 - Average Civilian Labor Force and Unemployment Rates in Kentucky LWAs, 2025 (not seasonally adjusted).....	18
Figure 23 - Annual Labor Force Participation Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	19
Figure 24 - Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims in Kentucky, 2015-2025	20
Figure 25 - Share of Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by Quarter in Kentucky, 2021-2025.....	20
Figure 26 - Initial and Continuing Unemployment Insurance Claims in Kentucky by Month, 2025.....	21
Figure 27 - Initial and Continuing Unemployment Insurance Claims by LWA relative to total KY claims, 2025.....	21
Figure 28 - Average Annual Covered Employment in Kentucky, 2015-2025	22
Figure 29 - Change in Average Annual Covered Employment from Prior Year, 2015 to 2025	22
Figure 30 - Year-Over-Year Change in Covered Employment by Quarter, 2024 to 2025	23
Figure 31 - Share of Covered Employment by LWA, 2015, 2020, & 2025	25
Figure 32 - Change in Covered Employment by LWA, 2015-2025.....	25
Figure 33 - Share of Covered Employment by Major Industry Groups, 2015 and 2025	26
Figure 34 - Average Annual Wages, 2015 to 2025.....	27
Figure 35 - Average Annual Wages by Industry Sector, 2015, 2020, and 2025	28
Figure 36 - Average Annual Wages by LWA, 2015, 2020, and 2025	29

Figure 37 - Share of Occupational Employment by Median Hourly Wage in Kentucky, 2026	30
Figure 38 - Estimated mployment by Level of Education	32
Figure 39 - Median Hourly Wage by Level of Education.....	32
Figure 40 - Median Hourly Wage for All Occupations by LWA, 2026.....	36
Figure 41 - Projected Job Openings in Kentucky by Event Type, 2023 to 2033	41
Figure 42 - Total Job Openings by Major Occupational Group, 2023 to 2033	42
Figure 43 - Projected Job Openings by Required Education, 2023 to 2033	43
Figure 44 - Change in Employment by Required Education, 2023-2033	44
Figure 45 - Projected Job Openings by LWA, 2023 to 2033.....	46
Figure 46 - Kentucky Occupational Outlook by LWA, 2023 to 2033.....	48

The Program Year (PY) 2025 Kentucky Economic Analysis report is produced by the Workforce Intelligence Branch of the Kentucky Center for Statistics (KYSTATS) to provide a detailed analysis of the economy and workforce of the Commonwealth and its ten Local Workforce Areas (LWAs). This report is compiled in accordance with Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) No.4-25, issued by the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration (ETA).

This analysis provides an in-depth review of Kentucky's labor market conditions and economy, including population, demographics, workforce, and industrial and occupational employment trends and activities. The report also compares the state's economic outcomes relative to the nation as a whole.

The primary focus of this report includes the years 2015 to 2025. Projection estimates for occupations cover the years 2023 to 2033.

To better understand the diversity of Kentucky's economy, this report also provides demographic and economic information on the Commonwealth's ten LWAs, shown in Figure 1 below. The designation of LWAs was mandated in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2015 (WIOA).

Like the counties that comprise them, these ten LWAs can vary significantly in terms of unemployment, occupational employment and growth, population, and educational attainment. Generally speaking, the more populous and urban LWAs have higher educational levels, greater employment growth, and lower unemployment rates when compared to the more rural LWAs.

Multiple data sources are used in this report. Measures of the overall economy include Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and personal income, which come from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). Population and population projections are from the Kentucky State Data Center at the University of Louisville. Other demographic information is from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2020 Census and its annual updates as well as the American Community Survey (ACS). ACS 5-year estimates (2020-2024) provide information on economic and demographic characteristics at the county-level. Data for all 120 counties are aggregated to provide estimates at the LWA level.

Labor force data are from Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) programs. Information on the United States labor force comes from the Current Population Survey (CPS). Additional labor force data for Kentucky and the ten LWAs come from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program administered by the Workforce Intelligence Branch at KYSTATS.

Data from the BLS Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program are used to measure covered industry employment and wage growth over time.

Occupational estimates are available for more than 700 detailed occupations produced by the BLS Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) program and KYSTATS.

Local Workforce Area

- Bluegrass
- Cumberlands
- EKCEP
- Green River
- Kentuckiana Works
- Lincoln Trail
- Northern Kentucky
- South Central
- TENCO
- West Kentucky

Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

GDP, produced by the BEA, measures the value of the goods and services produced in the U.S., states, and Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA). GDP estimates are also available by industry.

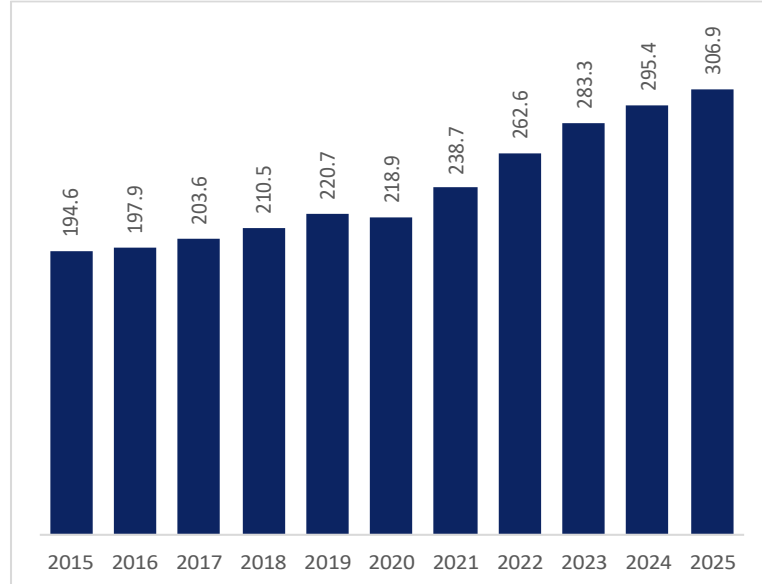
Kentucky's GDP was \$306.9 billion in 2025, a 3.9 percent increase from 2024.

The growth rate of GDP is an indicator of a region's overall economic health. Figure 3 compares the annual change in GDP for the U.S. and Kentucky. From 2015 to 2019 (prior to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic)

Kentucky's GDP grew at a slower compound annual

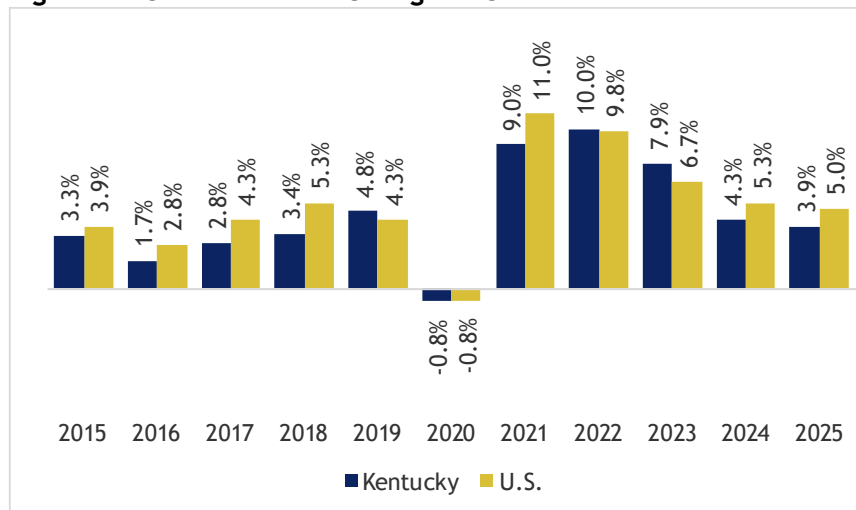
rate than the U.S.: 3.2% vs. 4.2%. In 2020, the GDP of Kentucky fell 0.78 percent from 2019, slightly more than the U.S. decrease of 0.76 percent. From 2021 through 2025, Kentucky's GDP grew at a compound annual rate more than twice that of the pre-COVID years (6.5%), and just slightly less than the U.S. post-COVID-19 GDP compound annual growth rate of 6.7%.

Figure 2 - Gross Domestic Product in Kentucky (in billions USD)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, "Annual Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by State," (accessed April 2026)

Figure 3 - Over-The-Year Change in Gross Domestic Product

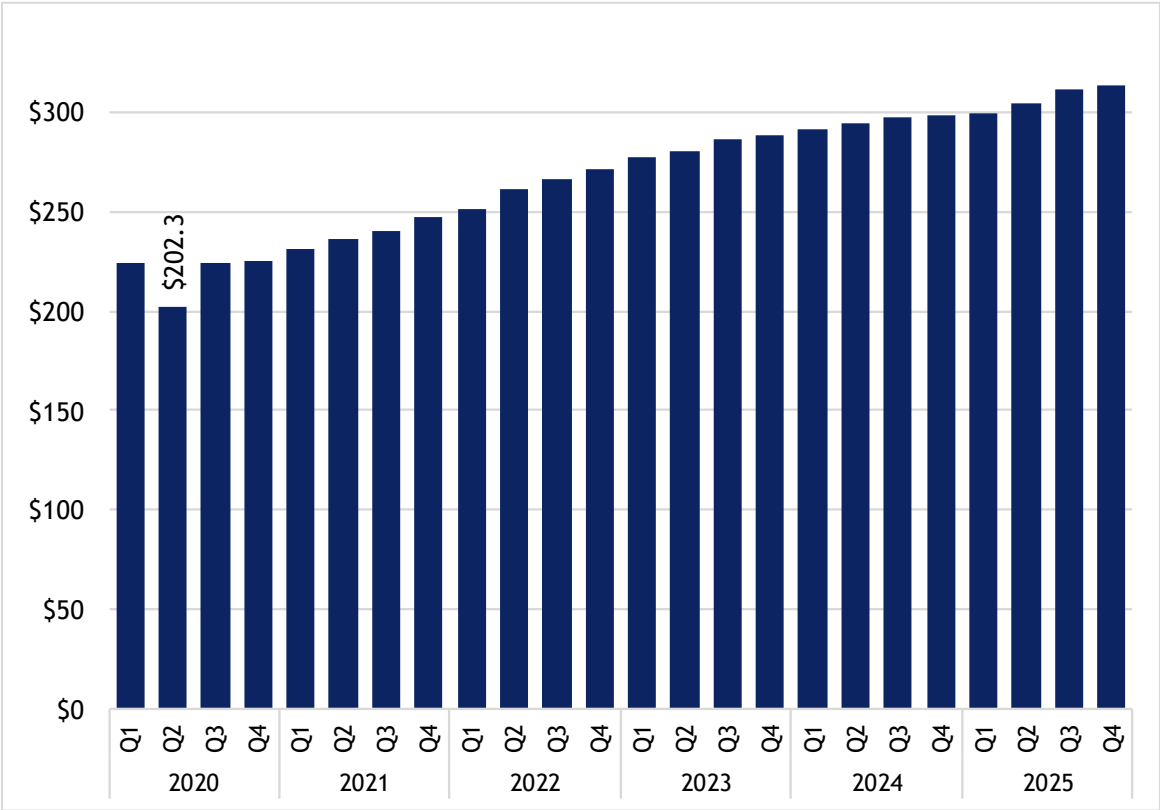


Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, "Annual Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by State," (accessed April 2026)

Kentucky GDP dropped sharply in the second quarter of 2020 as businesses closed in response to the coronavirus; GDP fell below 2019 levels but rose just as sharply in the third quarter. By the fourth

quarter of 2020, GDP exceeded pre-COVID levels and continued to rise to \$313.2 billion in the fourth quarter of 2025.

Figure 4 - Kentucky Quarterly GDP, 2020-2025 (in billions)

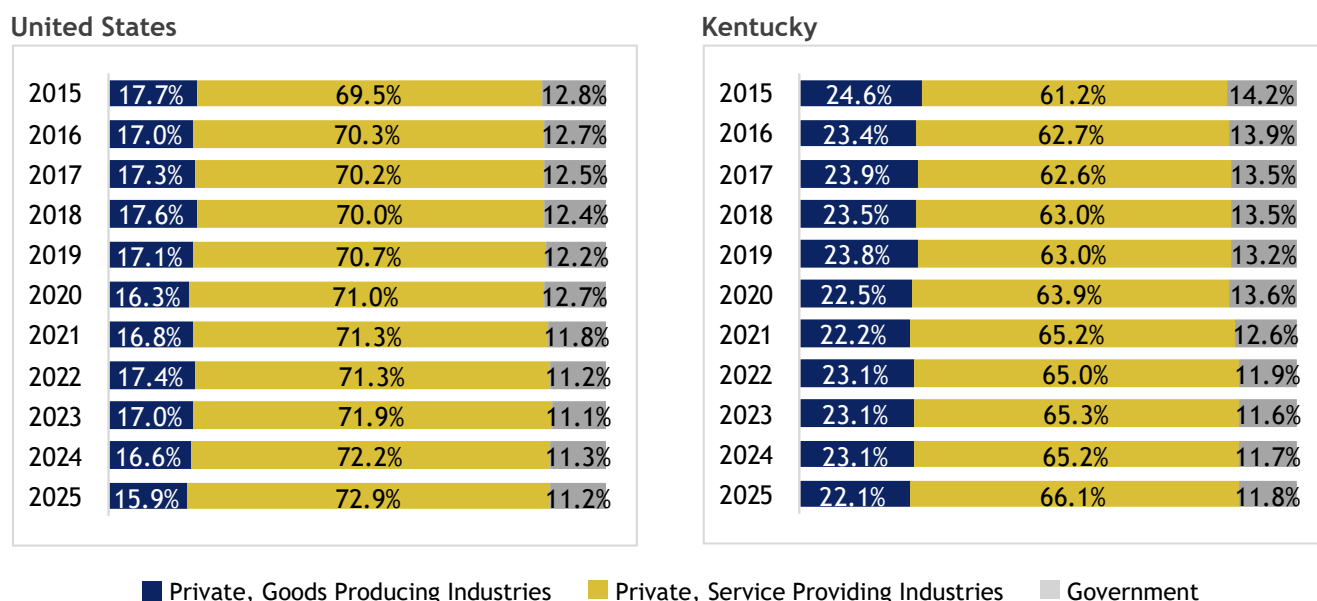


Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, “Quarterly Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by State,” (accessed April 2026)



GDP is classified into three major categories: Private Goods Producing, Private Service Providing, and Government. Compared to the U.S., a larger percentage of Kentucky's economy is made up of Private, Goods Producing industries, and government, while Private, Service Providing industries comprise a smaller percentage of total GDP. Further examination of the data at this level shows the shift between Goods Producing Sectors and Service Providing Sectors. As shown in Figure 5, 69.5 percent of U.S. GDP in 2015 was from Private, Service Providing industries. This increased to 72.9 percent in 2025. In Kentucky, 66.1 percent of the state's GDP was attributed to Private Service Providing industries in 2025, an increase from 61.2% in 2015, but still below the U.S. percentage in 2025 (72.9%).

Figure 5 - U.S. and Kentucky GDP for Public and Private Sectors, 2015-2025



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, "Annual Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by State," (accessed April 2026). Yearly percentages may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.

As mentioned above, Kentucky's economy relies more heavily on Private, Goods Producing industries than does the U.S. economy. In 2025, nearly one-quarter of the state's GDP was attributed to Private, Goods Producing industries, 22.1 percent, which was down from a peak of 24.6 percent (2015) in the years between 2015 and 2025. The U.S. share declined from 17.7 percent to 15.9 percent between 2015 and 2025, and the gap between the U.S. and Kentucky narrowed. The difference in share in the Private, Goods Producing industries between the U.S and KY was 6.9 percentage points in 2015 and 6.2 percentage points in 2025.

Government as a share of GDP was also higher in Kentucky than in the U.S., 11.8 percent in 2025 compared to 11.2 percent in the U.S. This share declined for both the U.S. and Kentucky, but Kentucky experienced a larger drop, 2.4 percentage points, since 2015.

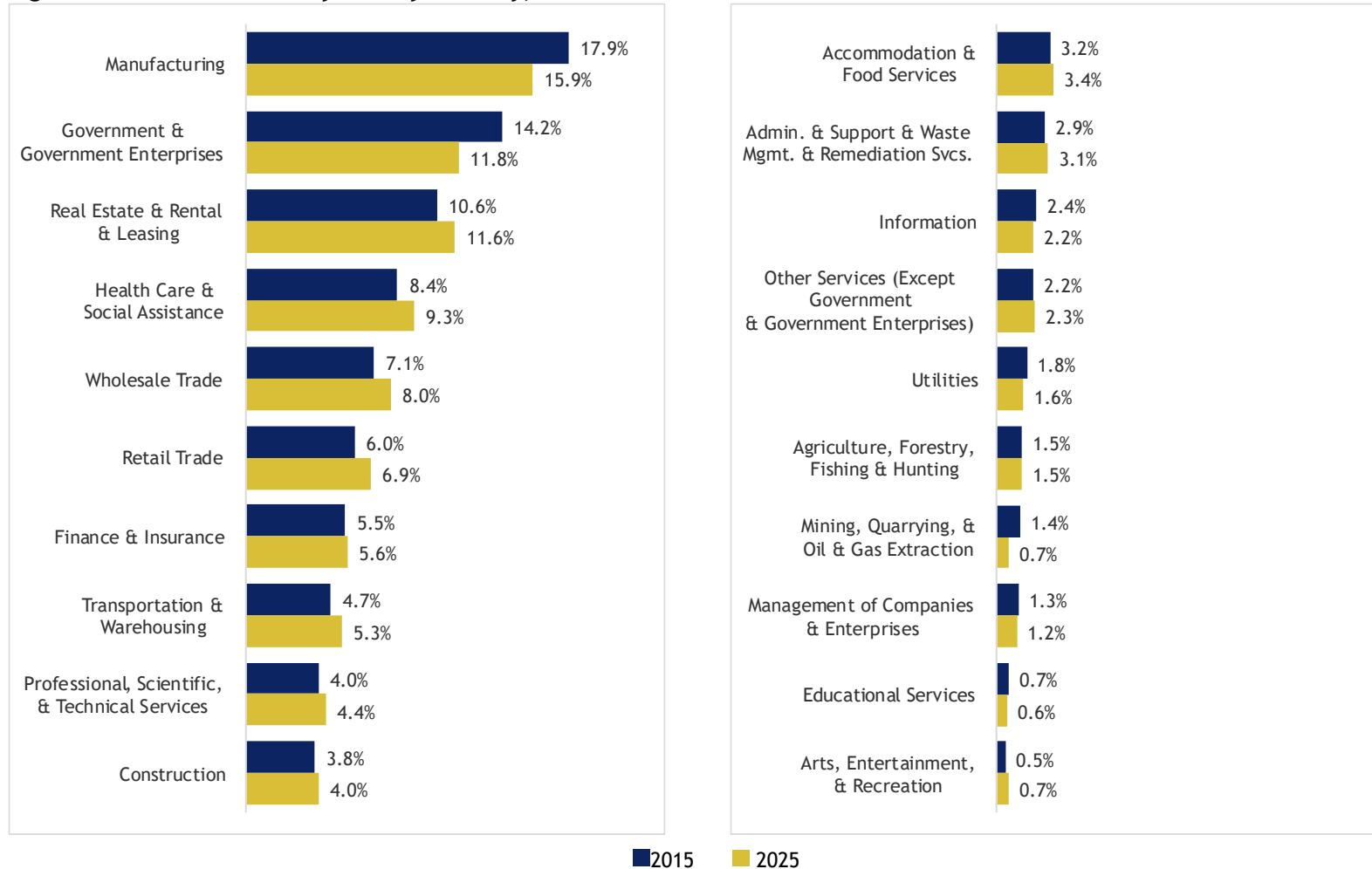
Figure 6 examines the contribution individual economic sectors made towards the state GDP in 2015 and 2025. In 2015, four sectors made up just over half of the state's GDP; Manufacturing, Government, Real Estate and Rental and Leasing, and Health Care and Social Assistance together accounted for 51.1% of Kentucky GDP. By 2025, the combined share of GDP for these four sectors had fallen to 48.6%. During this period, the largest gains in total GDP were found in the Real

Estate and Rental and Leasing (1.0%), Health Care & Social Assistance (0.9%), Wholesale Trade (0.9%) and Retail Trade (0.9%) sectors.

Manufacturing was the largest contributor to state GDP in both 2015 and 2025, decreasing from 17.9 percent to 15.9 percent of total GDP over that period. Nationally, Manufacturing decreased its contribution to GDP from 11.3 percent to 9.4 percent over this same period. The second largest contributor to Kentucky GDP was Government, which also made up a declining share of state GDP as discussed above.

In addition to Manufacturing and Government, several other sectors experienced a declining share of GDP since 2015, but the Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction sector was the only sector in which GDP decreased over that period. In 2015, this sector contributed \$2.72 billion to state GDP, 1.4 percent of total GDP. In 2025, this dropped to \$2.25 billion, 0.7 percent of state GDP.

Figure 6 - Share of Kentucky GDP by Industry, 2015 and 2025



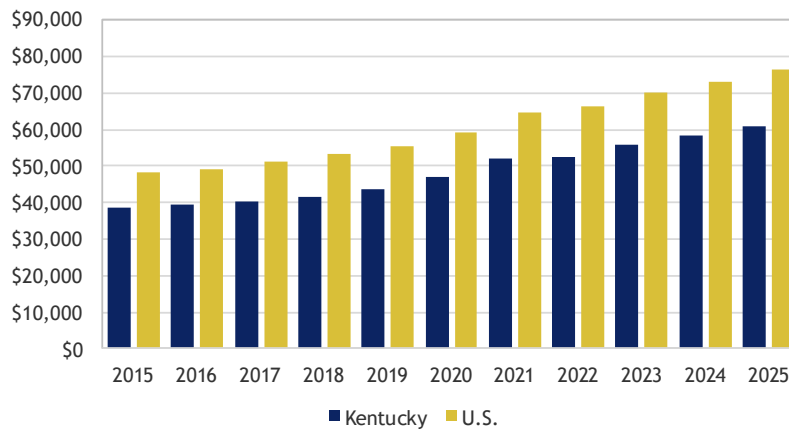
Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, "Annual Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by State," (accessed April 2026). Totals may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.

Personal Income

While GDP is a measure of the economic health of the state, a metric that measures the economic well-being of its residents is personal income. Personal income includes wages, employer-provided supplements such as insurance, proprietors' income, dividends, interest, rents, and government benefits. Personal income does not include capital gains or losses from investments. Per capita personal income allows for comparison across states or with the U.S.

Kentucky residents received nearly \$280 billion in personal income in 2025, an increase of 4.6 percent from 2024, slightly lower than the national increase of 4.9 percent. Personal income has grown at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 5.0 percent per year in Kentucky since 2015 compared to U.S. growth of 5.4 percent over the same period.

Figure 7 - Per Capita Personal Income for Kentucky and U.S.



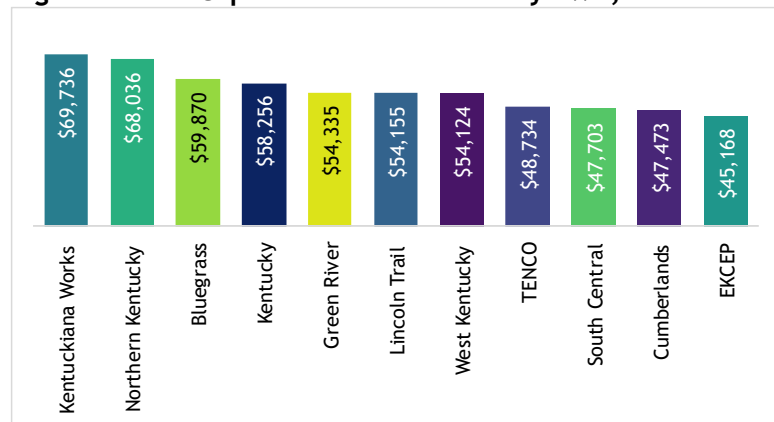
A comparison of per capita income in the U.S. and Kentucky is shown in Figure 7. In 2025, Kentucky's per capita income reached \$60,673. For the U.S., per capita income was \$76,393. For most of the last decade, the gap has widened. In 2025, Kentucky's

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, "Personal Income Summary," (accessed April 2026)

per capita personal income was 79.4 percent of the U.S. average, down from 80.7 percent in 2015. While per capita income is growing in Kentucky at a compound annual rate of 4.6 percent, it remains lower than the U.S. average and is growing at a slower rate (U.S. CAGR of 4.7 percent).

Personal income, population, and per capita personal income data are available at the county level through 2024. As shown in Figure 8, when these 2024 estimates are aggregated by LWA, Kentuckiana Works, Northern Kentucky, and Bluegrass LWAs had higher per capita personal income than the state overall.

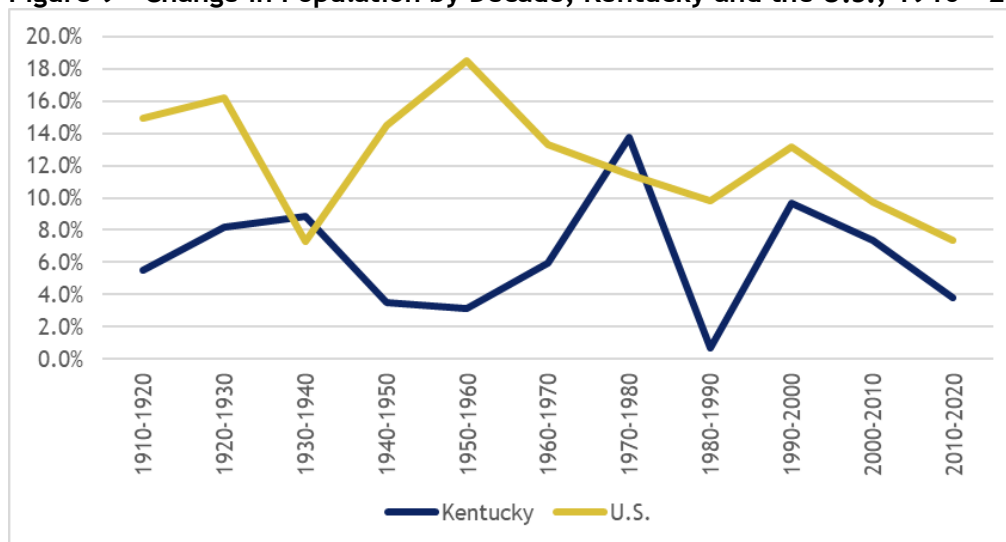
Figure 8 - Per Capita Personal Income by LWA, 2024



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, "Personal Income Summary," (accessed April 2026)

In 2020, Kentucky's population surpassed 4.5 million residents. However, population growth in the Commonwealth has lagged national rates for decades. Between 1910 and 2020, Kentucky's population growth rate exceeded the national average twice, first between 1930 to 1940 and most recently between 1970 and 1980. In 2020, Kentucky's population increased 3.8 percent since 2010, about half of the national rate (7.4%).

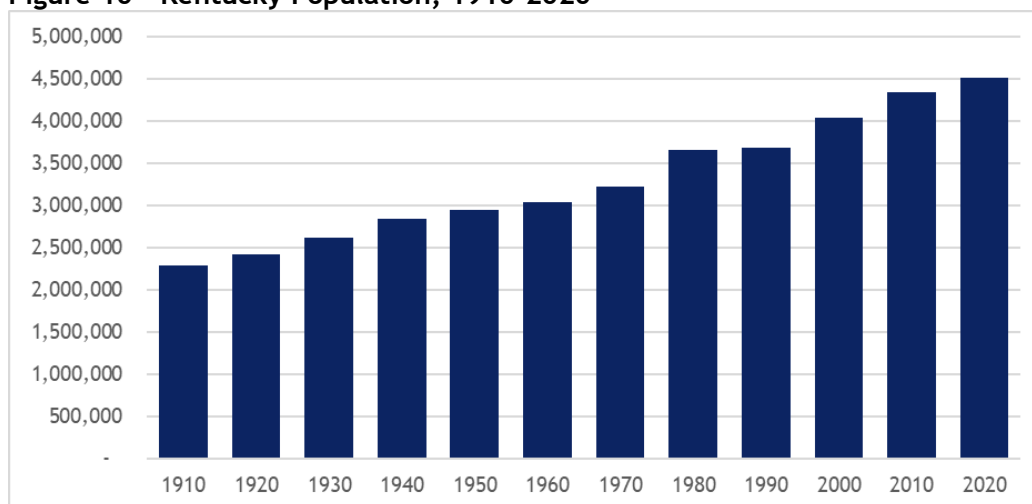
Figure 9 - Change in Population by Decade, Kentucky and the U.S., 1910 - 2020



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, "Historical Population Change Data (1910-2020)," (accessed June 2026)

Between 1970 and 1980, the state added 442,071 residents, the most growth in any decade between 1910 and 2020. The next largest growth occurred between 1990 and 2000 with 356,473 additional residents. Between 2010 and 2020, Kentucky's population grew by an additional 166,469 residents, the smallest population increase since the ten-year period from 1980 to 1990.

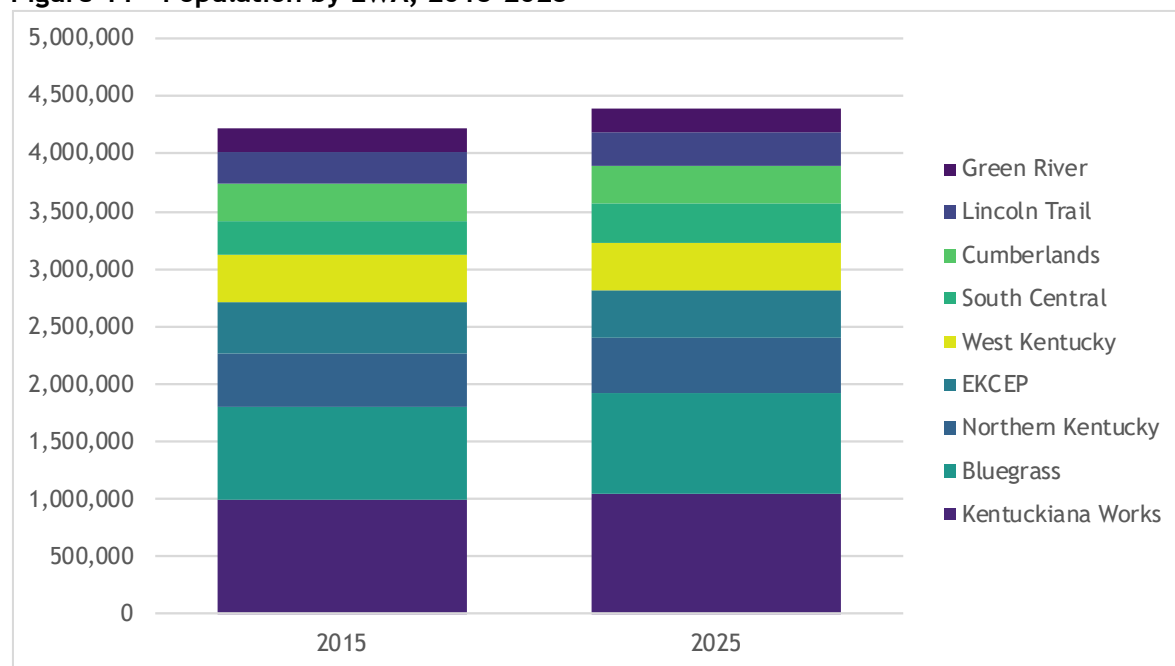
Figure 10 - Kentucky Population, 1910-2020



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, "Historical Population Change Data (1910-2020)," (accessed June 2026)

Two of the 10 LWAs in Kentucky lost population between 2015 and 2025, with the largest decrease occurring in EKCEP with 35,186 fewer residents. West Kentucky also lost population over this time frame. The largest population increase occurred in the Bluegrass LWA with 60,875 additional residents. More than half of Kentucky's population is concentrated in three LWAs: Kentuckiana Works (22.5 percent), Bluegrass (18.2 percent), and Northern Kentucky (10.3 percent).

Figure 11 - Population by LWA, 2015-2025



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, "County Population by Characteristics:" 2010-2020 and 2020-2025, (accessed June 2026)

Counties with the largest absolute growth were:

- Jefferson (+ 29,900 residents)
- Warren (+ 25,151)
- Boone (+ 17,046)
- Fayette (+ 13,672)
- Madison (+ 13,422)

The five counties with the largest absolute decreases were:

- Pike County (- 7,110 residents)
- Bell County (- 4,547)
- Floyd County (- 3,144)
- Christian County (- 3,128)
- Letcher County (- 3,091)

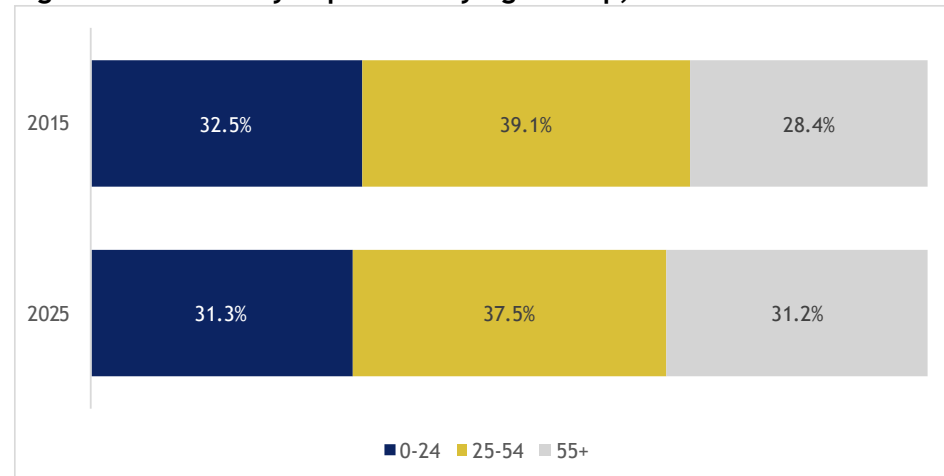
Age

Kentucky's population is slightly older than the nation as a whole. In 2025, the median age of the Kentucky population was 39.5 while the U.S. median age was 39.4.

A closer look at population by age group shows that the share of the Kentucky population that is

between the ages of 25 and 54 (gold bars in Figure 12), considered prime age workers, has declined. In 2015, 39.1 percent of Kentucky's population was between the ages of 25 and 54. This fell to 37.5 percent by 2025. The share of Kentucky's population over the age of 54 increased over this same period, up to 31.2 percent in 2025 from 28.4 percent in 2015, an additional 180,137 residents. The number of young people, those under the age of 25, increased slightly since 2015. In 2025, there were 1,443,434 residents under the age of 25, compared to 1,440,480 people under 25 in 2015, an increase of 0.2%. However, the share of total population of those under 25 actually decreased from 32.5 percent to 31.3 percent.

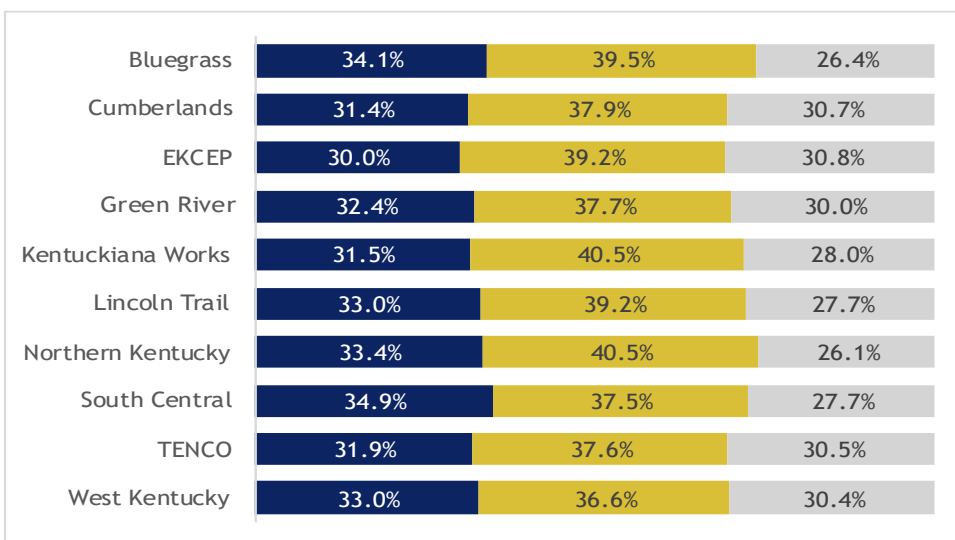
Figure 12 - Kentucky Population by Age Group, 2015 to 2025



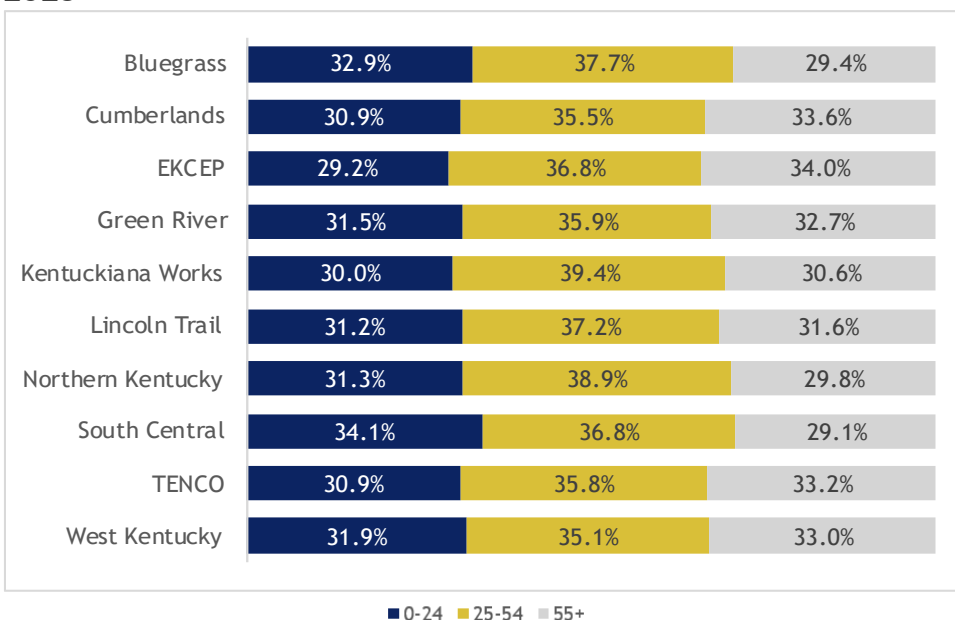
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, "County Population by Characteristics:" 2010-2020 and 2020-2025 (accessed June 2026)

Figure 13 - Population by Age Group by LWA, 2015 to 2025

2015



2025



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, "County Population by Characteristics:" 2010-2020 and 2020-2025 (accessed June 2026). Percentages may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.

2015. The EKCEP and Cumberlands LWAs experienced the largest decline in share for this population group, each down 2.4 percentage points between 2015 and 2025.

There were three LWAs where the share of their population between the ages of 25 and 54 exceeded the state share of 37.5 percent in 2025 - Kentuckiana Works (39.4 percent), Northern Kentucky (38.9 percent), and Bluegrass (37.7 percent).

In all the LWAs, the share of the population over the age of 54 grew between 2015 and 2025. Growth in this group was highest in the Lincoln Trail and Northern Kentucky LWAs. In 2015, 27.7 percent of the Lincoln Trail LWA population was over the age of 54. This increased 3.9 percentage points to 31.6 percent in 2025. Northern Kentucky experienced a 3.7 percentage point increase, up to 29.8 percent in 2025 from 26.1 percent in 2015. The LWA with the highest share of its population over the age of 54 in 2025 was EKCEP at 34.0 percent.

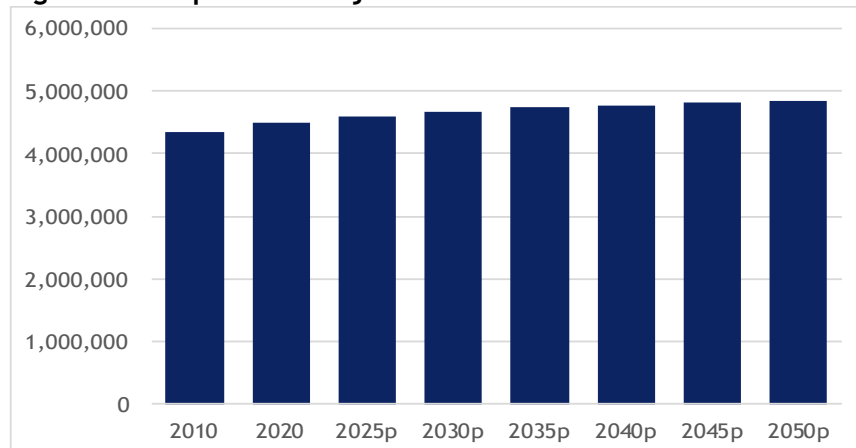
The prime working-age population share was 37.5 percent in the state in 2025, down from 39.1 percent in

South Central LWA had the largest share of residents younger than 25 in 2025, 34.1 percent, as compared to 31.3 percent for the state.

Population Projections

According to the Kentucky State Data Center, the state population is projected to reach over 4.8 million residents by 2050. As shown in Figure 14, this is an increase of almost 335,000 residents between 2020 and 2050, a CAGR of 0.2 percent per year.

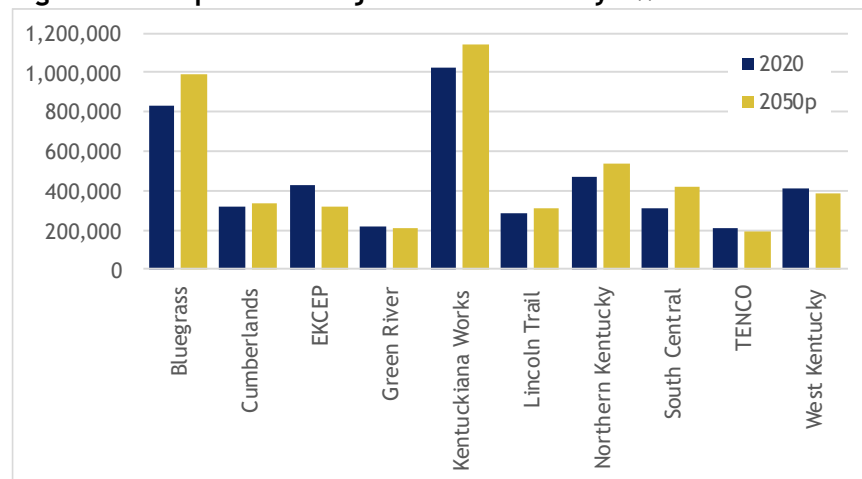
Figure 14 - Population Projections to 2050



p = projection

Source: Kentucky State Data Center, "Population Projections by Sex and Five-Year Age Group," (accessed June 2026)

Figure 15 - Population Projections to 2050 by LWA



p = projection

Source: Kentucky State Data Center, "Population Projections by Sex and Five-Year Age Group," (accessed August 2026)

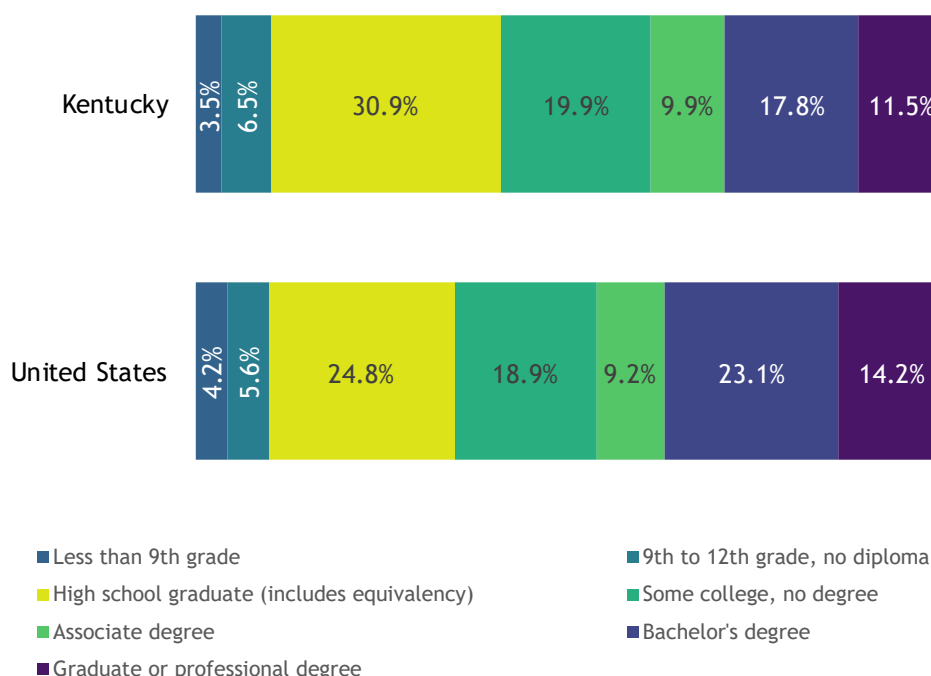
Most of the population growth from 2020 to 2050 is projected to occur within the two largest LWAs: Bluegrass (+160,558) and Kentuckiana Works (+113,018). South Central LWA (+106,158) is also expected to experience strong growth, as it is projected to pass West Kentucky (-25,998), Cumberland (+10,818), and EKCEP (-116,191) to become the fourth-largest LWA by 2050. Population CAGR in all LWAs from 2020 to 2050

is projected to fall in a narrow range from -1.0 percent to 1.0%. Four LWAs are projected to experience population declines over this period: TENCO (-0.1 percent per year), Green River (-0.1 percent per year), West Kentucky (-0.2 percent per year), and EKCEP (-1.0 percent per year).

The educational attainment of the adult working-age population (those between the ages of 25 and 64) is often used as an indicator of the skills of the workforce. For example, the share of the population with at least a bachelor's degree shows the potential supply of workers for occupations requiring those credentials for entry.

When comparing the educational attainment of Kentucky residents in this age range, the largest group is comprised of those who have attained a high school diploma or equivalent (30.9 percent), with the second largest group being those who have attended some college but did not earn a degree (19.9 percent). A little over one-quarter of Kentucky adults (29.3 percent) have at least a bachelor's degree compared to 37.3 percent in the U.S. The share of adults that have not completed high school was 10.0 percent in Kentucky compared to 9.8 percent in the U.S.

Figure 16 - Educational Attainment Adults Age 25 - 64



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2020-2024 Five-Year Estimates, "Educational Attainment," (accessed April 2026). Percentages may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.

Figure 17 - Share of Kentucky Adults (25-64) with at least a High School Diploma by LWA

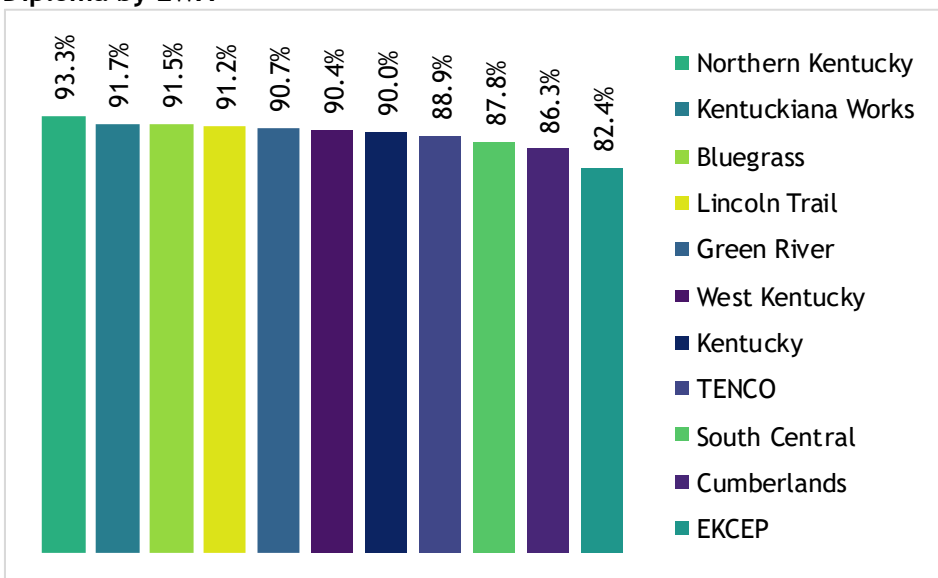
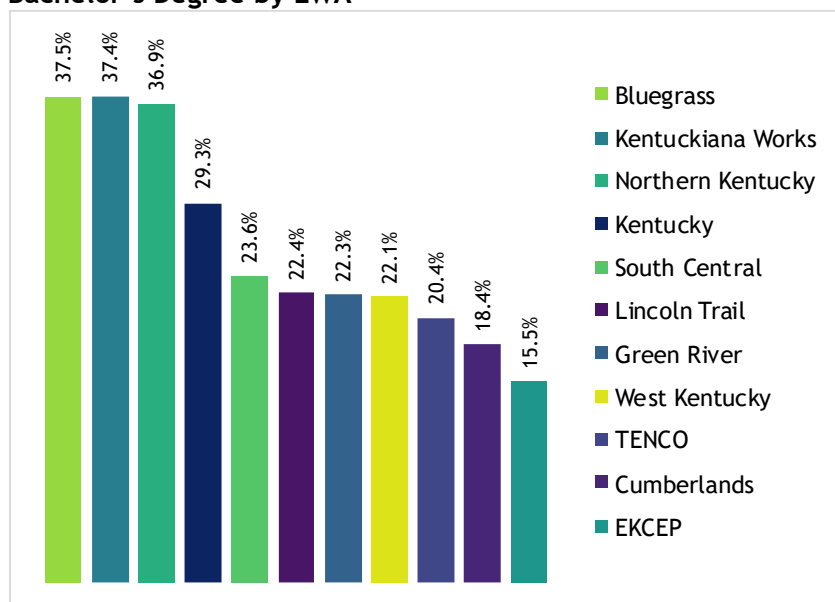


Figure 17 shows the percentage of Kentucky adults age 25 to 64 with at least a high school degree by LWA. Six LWAs have a larger share than the state value of 90.0 percent.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2020-2024 Five-Year Estimates, "Educational Attainment," (accessed April 2026)

There are three LWAs with a higher share of the adult population with at least a bachelor's degree than the state value of 29.3 percent: Bluegrass (37.5%), Kentuckiana Works (37.4%), and Northern Kentucky (36.9%). The remaining seven LWAs have lower percentages of bachelor's degree completers, the lowest being EKCEP with 15.5 percent of the adult population age 25 to 64.

Figure 18 - Share of Kentucky Adults (25-64) with at least a Bachelor's Degree by LWA



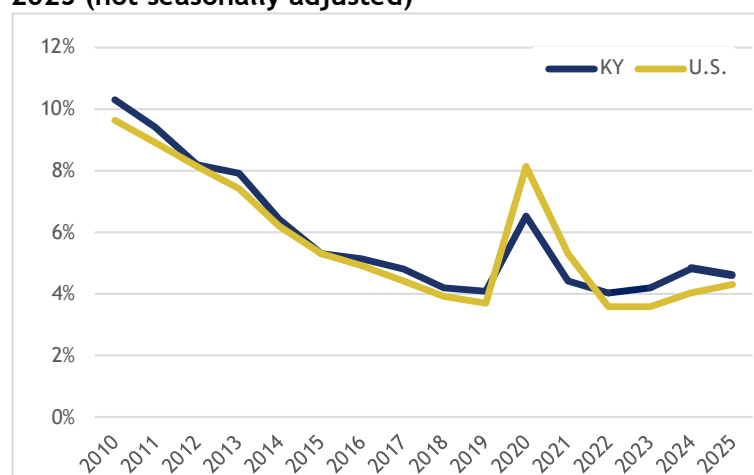
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2020-2024 Five-Year Estimates, "Educational Attainment," (accessed April 2026)

LAUS defines the civilian labor force as the civilian non-institutional population over the age of 16 that is either working or actively looking for work. Retirees and students without jobs, for example, are not included. The civilian non-institutional population includes those residing in the 50 states and the District of Columbia who do not live in institutions (for example, correctional facilities, long-term care hospitals, or nursing homes) and who are not on active duty in the Armed Forces. Persons are classified as unemployed if they do not have a job, have actively looked for work in the prior four weeks, and are currently available to work. Persons who were waiting to be recalled to a job from which they had been laid off need not have been looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

The LAUS program produces monthly and annual estimates of the civilian labor force, employment, unemployment, and unemployment rate for the state and substate areas. The unemployment rate is calculated as the unemployed percent of the civilian labor force. Employment estimates include agricultural workers, self-employed persons, unpaid family workers, private household workers, and those temporarily absent from work for reasons such as illness, vacation, or labor management disputes. National unemployment rates are from the Current Population Survey program, which is conducted by the Bureau of Census for the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

After the 2008 recession, both the Kentucky and U.S. unemployment rates fell at similar rates each year from 2011 to 2019. In Kentucky, the unemployment rate fell from 10.3 percent in 2010 to 4.1 percent in 2019. The U.S. rate was 9.6 percent in 2010 and 3.7% in 2019. During the 2020 economic downturn, rates increased sharply to 8.1% in the U.S. and 6.5% in Kentucky. Rates decreased almost as sharply in 2021, then moderated slightly in 2022, when the lowest unemployment rate for both Kentucky and the U.S. over this entire period was reached. Since 2022, rates in Kentucky increased faster than in the U.S. until 2025, when Kentucky's rate fell from 4.8 percent in 2024 to 4.6 percent in 2025¹ while the U.S. rate increased from 4.0 percent to 4.3 percent.

Figure 19 - Annual Unemployment Rates, U.S. and KY, 2010-2025 (not seasonally adjusted)

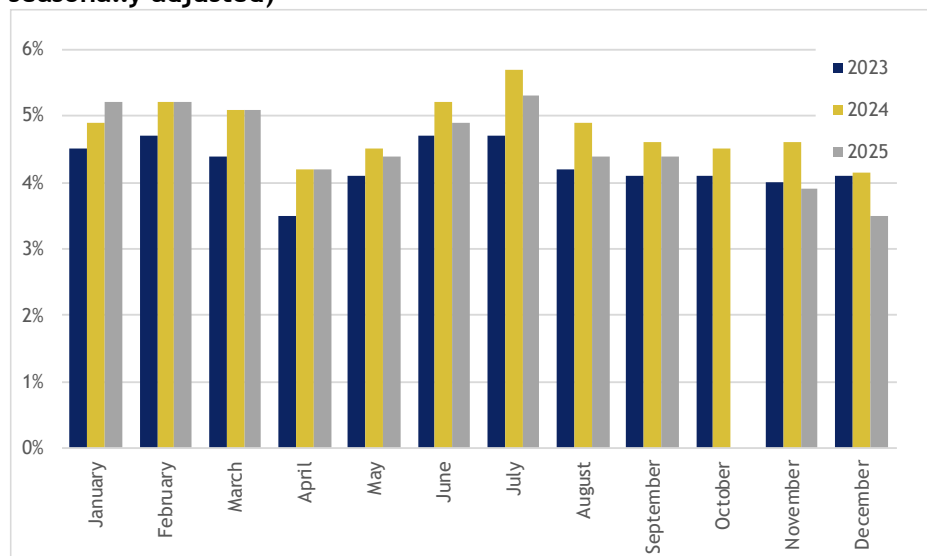


Source: KYSTATS, Labor Market Information Branch, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) Report, (accessed June 2026)

¹ The 2025 unemployment rates for Kentucky and the U.S. are an 11-month average; October data were unavailable.

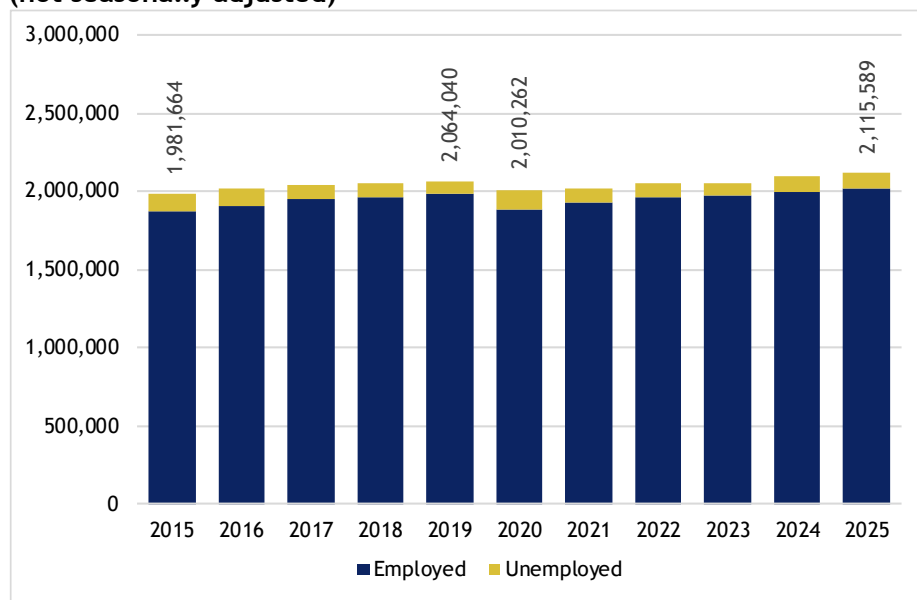
Looking at annual averages masks the variability in monthly unemployment rates over the course of the year. Figure 20 presents an examination of monthly rates from 2023 through 2025. Yearly lows are found in April of 2023 and December during 2024 and 2025. Highs are found in July each year. Consistent with the annual changes in rates experienced over this period, monthly unemployment rates were higher in each month of 2024 compared to 2023. In 2025, rates were lower than or equal to those of the corresponding month from 2024 in all months except January.

Figure 20 - Monthly Unemployment Rates for KY, 2023-2025 (not seasonally adjusted)



Source: KYSTATS, Labor Market Information Branch, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) Report, (accessed June 2026). October 2025 was unavailable.

Figure 21 - Kentucky Civilian Labor Force, 2015 to 2025 (not seasonally adjusted)



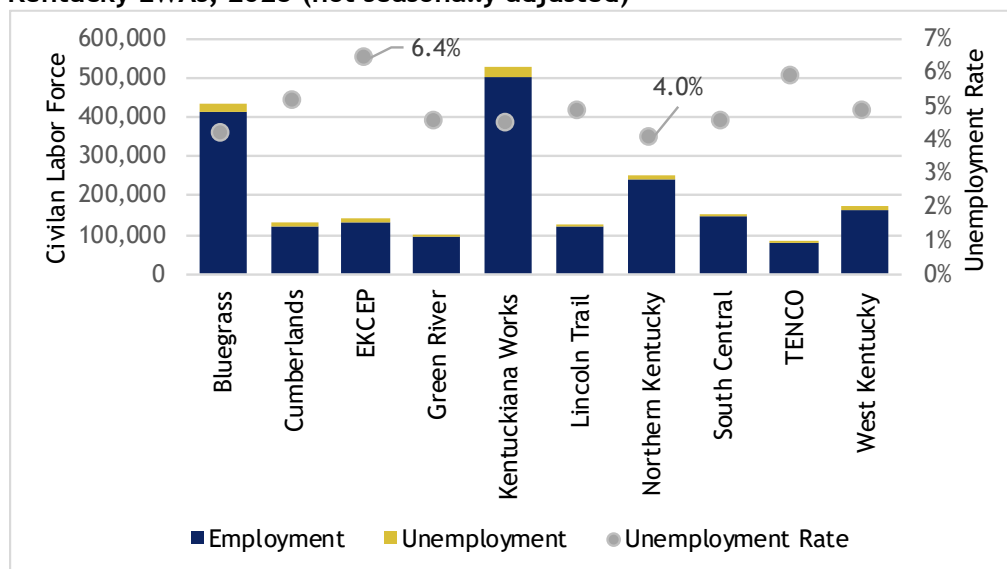
Source: KYSTATS, Labor Market Information Branch, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) Report, (accessed June 2026). Note: 2025 CLF is an 11-month average.

The civilian labor force (CLF) includes the employed and the unemployed. Between 2015 and 2019, the labor force increased every year, gaining over 82,000 people. However, the impacts of COVID-19 reduced the workforce by almost 54,000 to 2,010,262 in 2020. In the time since, the civilian labor

force has increased each year and by 2024 the CLF had risen above pre-COVID levels. At the end of 2025, the CLF was nearly 52,000 people higher than in 2019.

Both the size of the civilian labor force and the unemployment rate varied widely by region. As shown in Figure 22, the average annual unemployment rate in 2025² ranged from a low of 4.0 percent in the Northern Kentucky LWA (which had the third largest CLF with 250,000 people) to a high of 6.4 percent in the EKCEP LWA (141,000 CLF).

Figure 22 - Average Civilian Labor Force and Unemployment Rates in Kentucky LWAs, 2025 (not seasonally adjusted)



Source: KYSTATS, Labor Market Information Branch, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) Report, (accessed July 2026). Note: the 2025 CLF is an 11-month average.

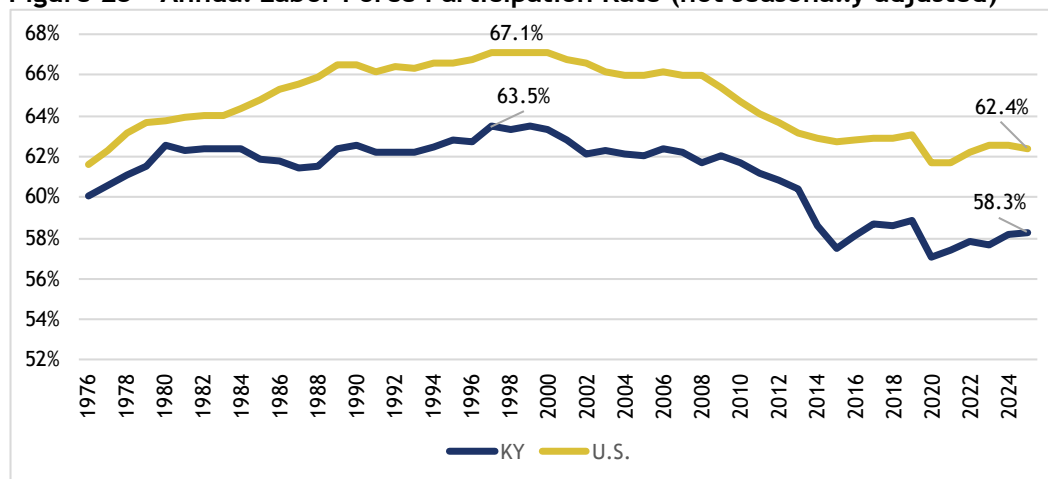
² The 2025 unemployment rate for Kentucky is an 11-month average; October data were unavailable.

Labor Force Participation

The Labor Force Participation Rate (LFPR) is a key measure of the labor market - providing information on the share of the overall population in the labor force. The LFPR is the civilian labor force (employed plus unemployed) as a percent of the civilian non-institutional population.

The annual U.S. LFPR peaked from 1997 to 2000 at 67.1 percent, (not seasonally adjusted). By the end of 2020, the U.S. rate had dropped to 61.7 percent. In Kentucky, the not seasonally adjusted LFPR peaked in 1997, and again in 1999, at 63.5 percent. Similar to U.S. trends, the LFPR in Kentucky decreased over the next two decades, dropping to its lowest point of 57.1 percent in 2020. As of 2025³, at 58.3%, Kentucky's LFPR has not returned to 2019's pre-COVID-19 level of 58.9%.

Figure 23 - Annual Labor Force Participation Rate (not seasonally adjusted)

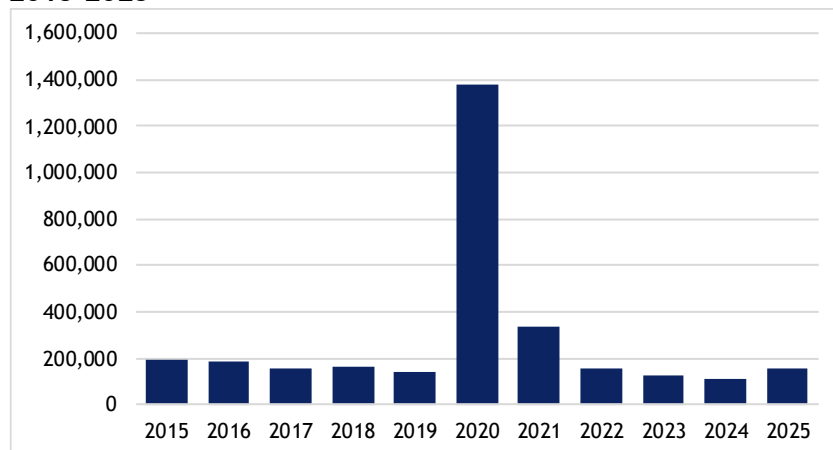


Source: KYSTATS, Labor Market Information Branch, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) Report, "Labor Force Participation Rate," (accessed June 2026)

³ The 2025 unemployment rates for Kentucky and the U.S. are an 11-month average; October data were unavailable.

Although Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims are not a representation of total unemployment, they are another way to assess the labor market. Initial claims can be an indicator of emerging unemployment, whereas continued claims indicate the level of difficulty the unemployed encounter finding a new job.

Figure 24 - Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims in Kentucky, 2015-2025



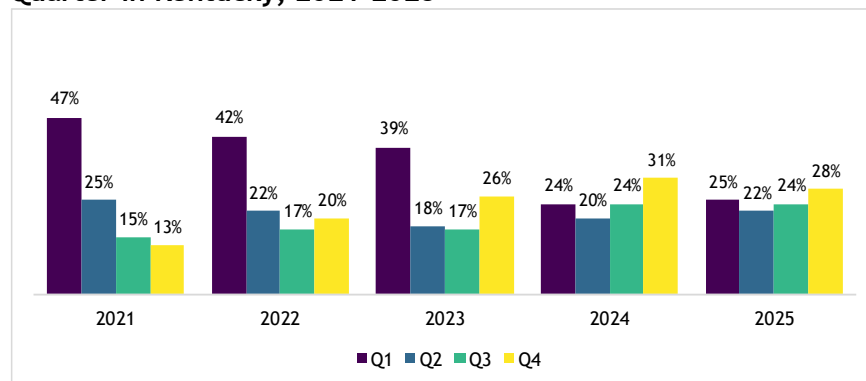
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, "ETA 5159, Claims and Payment Activities" (accessed June 2026)

As shown in Figure 24, the number of initial UI claims filed in 2020 reached nearly 1.4 million. UI initial claims fell by more than a million in 2021 to 338,002, then in 2023, initial claims fell back below pre-COVID levels at 125,598. It should be noted that in 2020 there was a

change in UI eligibility adopted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. UI was expanded to include individuals typically not covered by UI including the self-employed, independent contractors, freelance workers, substitute teachers, and childcare workers employed by religious affiliated organizations and non-profits. In addition, workers that left employment due to risk of exposure or the need to care for a family member affected by COVID-19 were also eligible.

From 2021 through 2023, the largest share of initial claims in Kentucky were filed in the first quarter. By contrast, in 2024 and 2025, the largest share of initial claims were filed in the

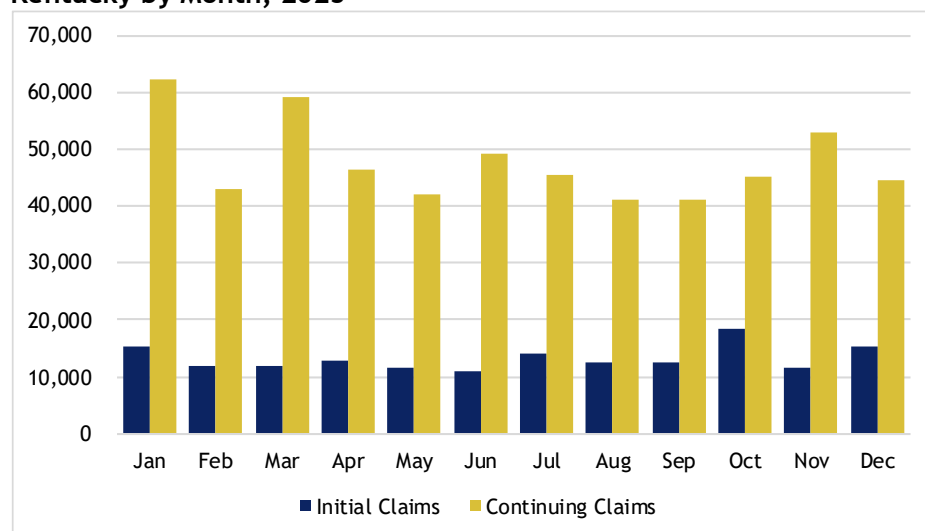
Figure 25 - Share of Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by Quarter in Kentucky, 2021-2025



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, "ETA 5159, Claims and Payment Activities" (accessed June 2026). Totals may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.

fourth quarter, and unlike the previous three years, the number of claims filed in each quarter were more similar. This trend was similar, though much more pronounced in Kentucky than in the U.S. after 2021; U.S. initial claims in 2022 through 2025 returned to pre-COVID-19 levels, and the initial claim shares were more similar across all four quarters.

Figure 26 - Initial and Continuing Unemployment Insurance Claims in Kentucky by Month, 2025

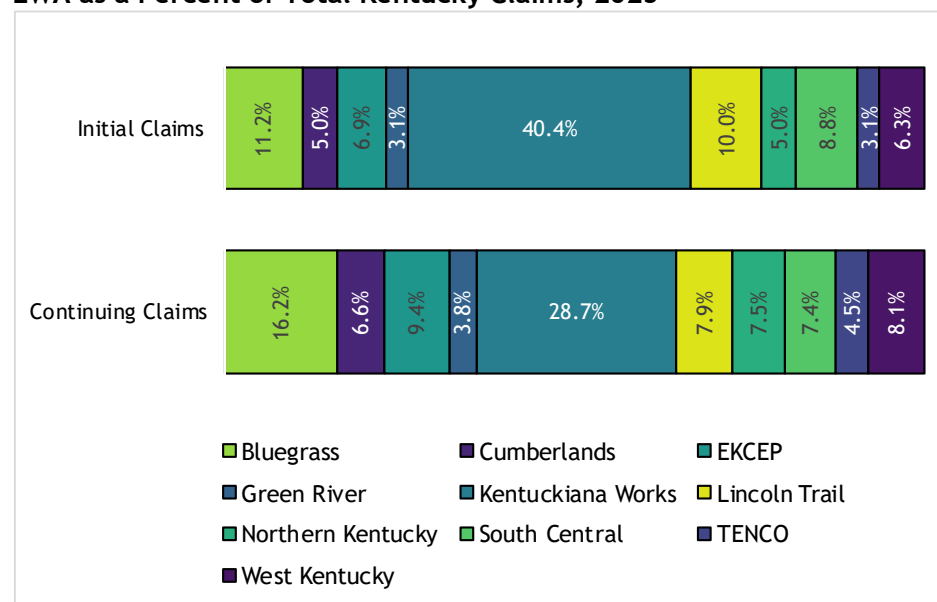


In October 2025, initial unemployment insurance claims in Kentucky peaked with 18,400 claims. Continuing claims peaked in January and varied widely during 2025, ranging between 62,548 (January) and 41,149 (September) claims per month.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, "ETA 5159, Claims and Payment Activities" (accessed June 2026)

Among Kentucky's regions, UI claims in 2025 were concentrated in the larger LWAs. Of all initial claims, 40.4 percent were made in the Kentuckiana Works LWA, followed by 11.2 percent in the Bluegrass LWA. Almost 29 percent of continuing claims were made in the Kentuckiana Works LWA. The fewest initial claims were made in the Green

Figure 27 - Initial and Continuing Unemployment Insurance Claims by LWA as a Percent of Total Kentucky Claims, 2025

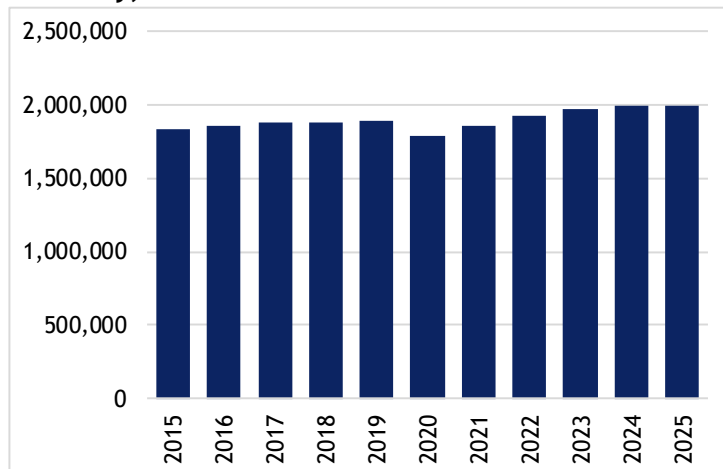


Source: Kentucky Unemployment Insurance (UI), Office of Employment and Training, UI Quality Control Branch, Unemployment claims data (accessed June 2026). Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

River and TENCO LWAs (3.1 percent of the total, or 4,636 and 4,650 initial claims, respectively). Green River also had the fewest continuing claims during 2025 (3.8 percent of the statewide total in each LWA with 19,945 continuing claims).

The QCEW program publishes quarterly employment and wages by industry sector for employers covered by the UI program. Data are aggregated from single establishments into industries organized by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

Figure 28 - Average Annual Covered Employment in Kentucky, 2015-2025

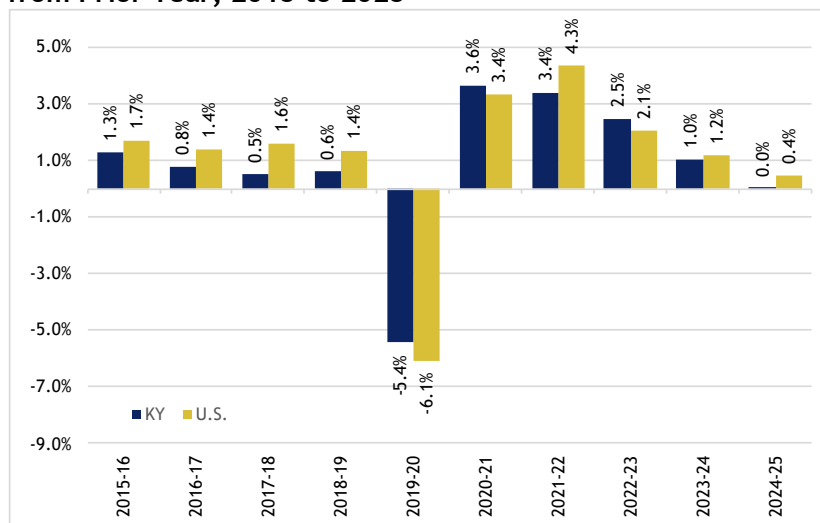


Source: KYSTATS, Labor Market Information Branch, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), "Employment and Wages by Industry," (accessed June 2026)

In 2025, average annual employment showed no statistical growth (0.0 percent) in jobs compared to 2024, continuing a slowing in the pace of growth that began in 2022. From 2021 through 2025, Kentucky added 131,060 jobs: 65,302 jobs were added in 2021, 62,766 in 2022, 47,495 in 2023, 20,299 in 2024, and 500 in 2025.

Between 2015 and 2019, job growth in the U.S., measured by year-over-year changes in employment in the QCEW program, was higher than the rate of job growth in Kentucky. The rate of job loss in the U.S. between 2019 and 2020 was also greater, 6.1 percent compared to 5.4 percent in Kentucky. The post-pandemic recovery was stronger in Kentucky in two of the five years following 2020; in 2021, Kentucky experienced a 3.6 percent increase compared to 3.4 percent in the U.S., and in 2023, Kentucky's 2.5 percent again exceeded the U.S. job growth of 2.1 percent.

Figure 29 - Change in Average Annual Covered Employment from Prior Year, 2015 to 2025

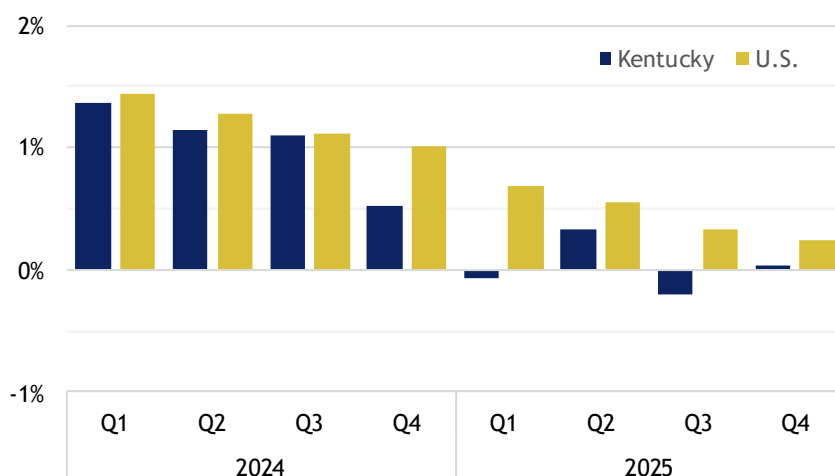


Sources: KYSTATS, Labor Market Information Branch, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), "Employment and Wages by Industry," (accessed June 2026) and U.S. Bureau Labor Statistics, QCEW for the U.S., (accessed June 2026)

recovery was stronger in Kentucky in two of the five years following 2020; in 2021, Kentucky experienced a 3.6 percent increase compared to 3.4 percent in the U.S., and in 2023, Kentucky's 2.5 percent again exceeded the U.S. job growth of 2.1 percent.

While job growth increased in the U.S. in 2022, the growth in both the U.S. and Kentucky slowed from 2023 through 2025.

Figure 30 - Year-Over-Year Change in Covered Employment by Quarter, 2024 to 2025



Sources: KYSTATS, Labor Market Information Branch, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), “Employment and Wages by Industry,” (accessed June 2026) and U.S. Bureau Labor Statistics, QCEW for the U.S., (accessed June 2026)

Figure 30 compares year-over-year quarterly employment changes in Kentucky and the U.S. from 2023 to 2024 and 2024 to 2025. Looking at employment changes in this manner can minimize the effects of seasonality. The pace of job growth in 2024 decreased from quarter 1 to quarter 4 for both the U.S. and Kentucky. In 2025, Kentucky’s growth rate teetered above and below 0%, while the U.S. rate continued its steady decline from 2024.

Table 1 shows employment by the 20 major industry sectors in Kentucky in five-year increments from 2015 to 2025. Over that entire period there was a slight change in the ranking of sectors with the largest number of jobs: Government, Health Care and Social Assistance, Manufacturing, and Retail Trade remain at the top of the list, however, Health Care and Social Assistance moved up one spot, swapping positions with Manufacturing. The largest sector, Government (296,632 jobs), had among the smallest percentages of change over this decade, gaining 954 jobs, or 0.3 percent. Over this same period, Health Care and Social Assistance gained the largest number of jobs of any sector (55,750) and is within 6,500 jobs of replacing Government in the top spot. Other sectors with significant job gains included Transportation and Warehousing (34,328) and Construction (17,125).

Ten of the twenty sectors experienced stronger growth than the state CAGR (0.8%). Two sectors experienced a compound annual growth rate of over 2.5 percent: the Transportation and Warehousing sector increased at a CAGR of 3.2 percent between 2015 and 2025, increasing to 125,806 jobs, and the Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation sector saw jobs increase at a CAGR of 2.8 percent, from 21,011 to 27,618 jobs.

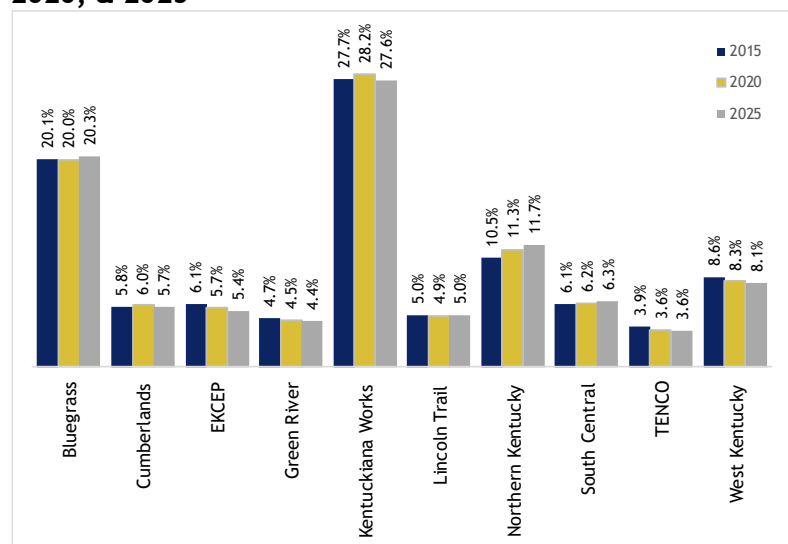
Five sectors experienced a declining number of jobs since 2015. Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services saw a loss of 7,088 jobs (-0.6% CAGR); Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction lost 6,824 jobs (-6.6% CAGR); Information saw a decrease of 4,682 jobs (-2.0% CAGR); Finance and Insurance lost 497 jobs (-0.1% CAGR); and Utilities fell by 93 jobs (-0.1% CAGR).

Table 1 - Covered Employment by Major Industry Sector in Kentucky, 2015, 2020, & 2025

Industry Sector	Employment			Change Since 2015		
	2015	2020	2025	Absolute	Percent	CAGR
Accommodation and Food Services	166,775	146,974	179,017	12,242	7.3%	0.7%
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	122,020	110,966	114,932	-7,088	-5.8%	-0.6%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	8,098	8,826	9,312	1,214	15.0%	1.4%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	21,011	18,395	27,618	6,607	31.4%	2.8%
Construction	75,887	77,810	93,012	17,125	22.6%	2.1%
Educational Services	18,480	17,806	20,956	2,476	13.4%	1.3%
Finance and Insurance	72,845	72,721	72,348	-497	-0.7%	-0.1%
Government	295,678	280,810	296,632	954	0.3%	0.0%
Health Care and Social Assistance	234,392	245,797	290,142	55,750	23.8%	2.2%
Information	25,256	20,314	20,574	-4,682	-18.5%	-2.0%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	19,962	20,134	22,047	2,085	10.4%	1.0%
Manufacturing	241,384	235,557	252,211	10,827	4.5%	0.4%
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	13,730	7,267	6,906	-6,824	-49.7%	-6.6%
Other Services (except Public Administration)	46,642	40,489	49,060	2,418	5.2%	0.5%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	73,596	77,062	88,536	14,940	20.3%	1.9%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	18,660	19,552	22,843	4,183	22.4%	2.0%
Retail Trade	209,835	201,736	210,278	443	0.2%	0.0%
Transportation and Warehousing	91,478	112,499	125,806	34,328	37.5%	3.2%
Utilities	6,565	6,732	6,472	-93	-1.4%	-0.1%
Wholesale Trade	74,806	72,570	81,677	6,871	9.2%	0.9%
All Industries	1,837,102	1,794,018	1,990,380	153,278	8.3%	0.8%

Source: KYSTATS, Labor Market Information Branch, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), "Employment and Wages by Industry," (accessed June 2026)

Figure 31 - Share of Covered Employment by LWA, 2015, 2020, & 2025



Source: KYSTATS, Labor Market Information Branch, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), "Employment and Wages by Industry," (accessed June 2026)

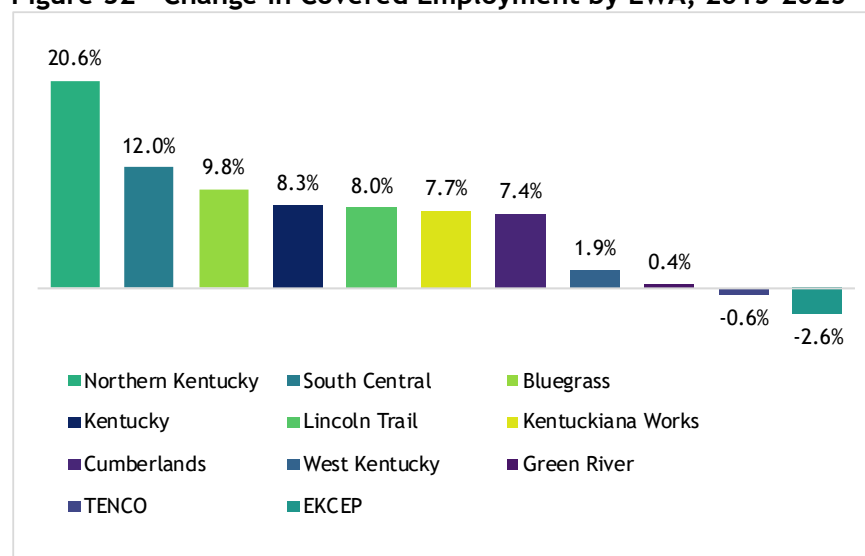
As with civilian labor force statistics data, QCEW data indicate that employment in Kentucky is concentrated in the LWAs with the largest population bases: Kentuckiana Works, Bluegrass, and Northern Kentucky. This concentration is also growing as illustrated in Figure 31. In 2015, 27.7 percent of Kentucky's overall employment was in the Kentuckiana Works LWA, but this decreased to 27.6 percent in 2025. Over the same ten-year period, Northern Kentucky and Bluegrass increased their employment share. Northern Kentucky, which was one of only two LWAs to grow each five-year period, had the largest percentage gain of the three, from 10.5 percent to

11.7 percent. Together, these three areas comprised 59.6 percent of the overall covered employment in the Commonwealth in 2025, up from 58.3 percent in 2015. Several LWAs experienced declining concentrations of employment over the same period. EKCEP suffered the largest drop in employment (-2,925 jobs) as well as employment concentration, dropping from 6.1 percent in 2015 to 5.4 percent in 2025.

Between 2015 and 2025, employment grew 8.3 percent throughout Kentucky, increasing by 153,278 jobs. Three of the LWAs experienced growth rates higher than the state. These areas with the largest growth as a percent of 2015 levels were Northern Kentucky at 20.6 percent (39,778 jobs), Bluegrass at 9.8 percent (35,971 jobs), and South Central at 12.0 percent (13,490 jobs).

Of the remaining eight LWAs, two experienced declining employment over this period. But even though overall employment decreased, there were still sectors in those LWAs that

Figure 32 - Change in Covered Employment by LWA, 2015-2025

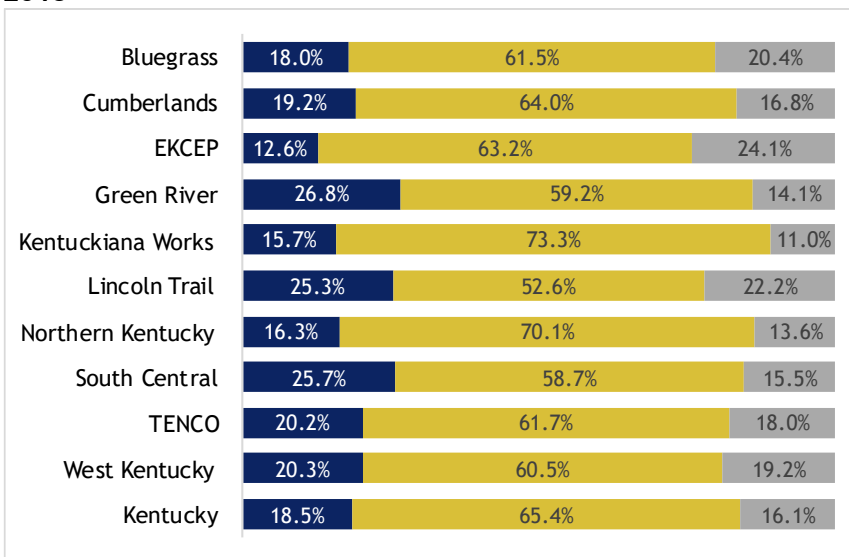


Source: KYSTATS, Labor Market Information Branch, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), "Employment and Wages by Industry," (accessed June 2026)

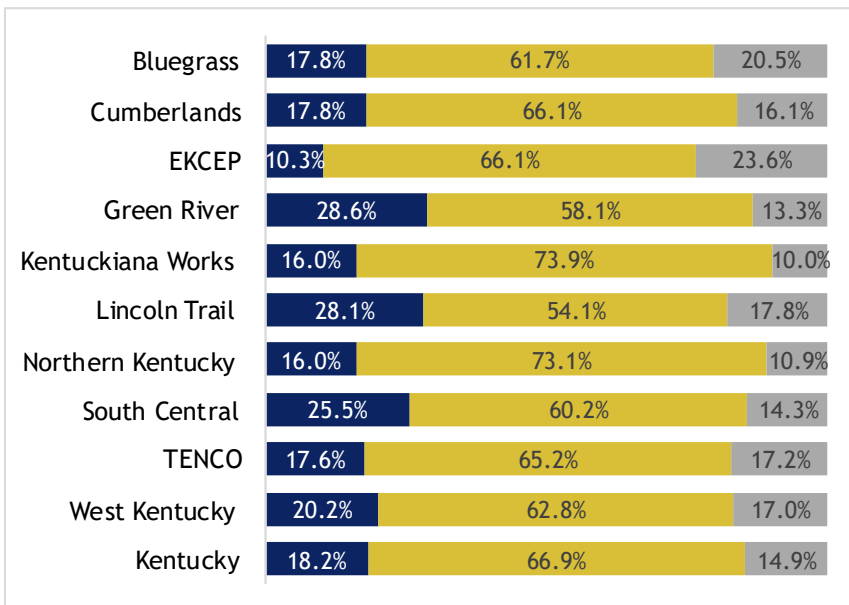
experienced growth. For example, in EKCEP, which saw the largest decline in overall employment, the following sectors saw growth between 2015 and 2025: Health Care and Social Assistance, Manufacturing, Educational Services, Construction, Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services, Management of Companies and Enterprises, Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting, and Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation.

Figure 33 - Share of Covered Employment by Major Industry Groups, 2015 and 2025

2015



2025



■ Goods producing ■ Service providing ■ Government

Source: KYSTATS, Labor Market Information Branch, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), "Employment and Wages by Industry," (accessed June 2026)

In 2015, 18.5 percent of all Kentucky employment was in Goods Producing sectors. This includes:

- Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting
- Construction
- Manufacturing
- Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction

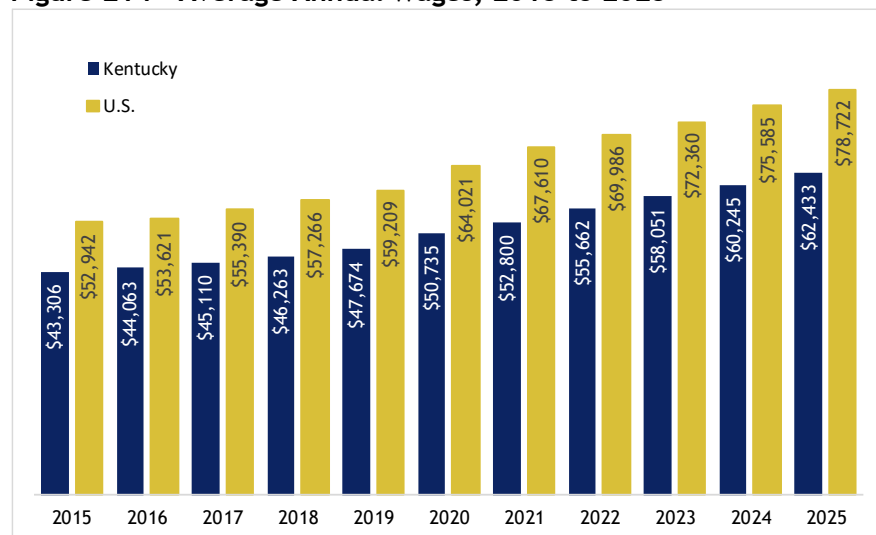
The LWAs with more than 20 percent of employment in this major industry group in 2015 were Green River, Lincoln Trail, South Central, TENCO and West Kentucky. By 2025, the share of Goods Producing employment had decreased in all of these except Green River and Lincoln Trail. In TENCO, the share fell by 2.7 percentage points.

Service Providing sectors include all other sectors except for Government. This major group makes up most of the employment in all LWAs. From 2015 to 2025, employment in Service Providing industries in Kentucky grew from 65.4 percent to 66.9 percent. The LWA with the lowest share of employment in this supersector during 2025 was Lincoln Trail (54.1 percent of

employment) while Kentuckiana Works had the largest share of employment in this group (73.9 percent).

Employment in Government decreased from 16.1 percent in 2015 throughout Kentucky to 14.9 percent by 2025. LWAs with more than 20 percent of 2025 employment in Government were Bluegrass and EKCEP.

Figure 214 - Average Annual Wages, 2015 to 2025



Source: KYSTATS, Labor Market Information Branch, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), "Employment and Wages by Industry," (accessed June 2026)

The average annual wage for covered workers in Kentucky grew 3.6 percent in 2025, reaching \$62,433. This compares to an average annual wage for U.S. covered workers of \$78,722, which was an increase of 4.2 percent from 2024. The gap between the average wage in Kentucky and the U.S. overall widened from 2015 to 2025. In 2015, the average annual wage for Kentucky covered workers was 81.8 percent of the U.S. average. By 2025, this

had fallen to 79.3 percent. Over this period, average annual wages grew faster in the U.S. (4.0% CAGR) than in Kentucky (3.7% CAGR).

As shown in Figure 35, the highest average annual wage for covered workers during 2025 in Kentucky was \$116,920 in the Management of Companies and Enterprises sector followed by Utilities at \$114,887. Combined, employment in these two industries made up 1.4 percent of total covered employment. Industries with the lowest average annual wages were Accommodation and Food Services (\$24,356) and Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation (\$34,951). Combined, these two sectors accounted for 10.4 percent of jobs in 2025.

Industry sectors paying higher wages than the state average (\$62,433) in 2025 include:

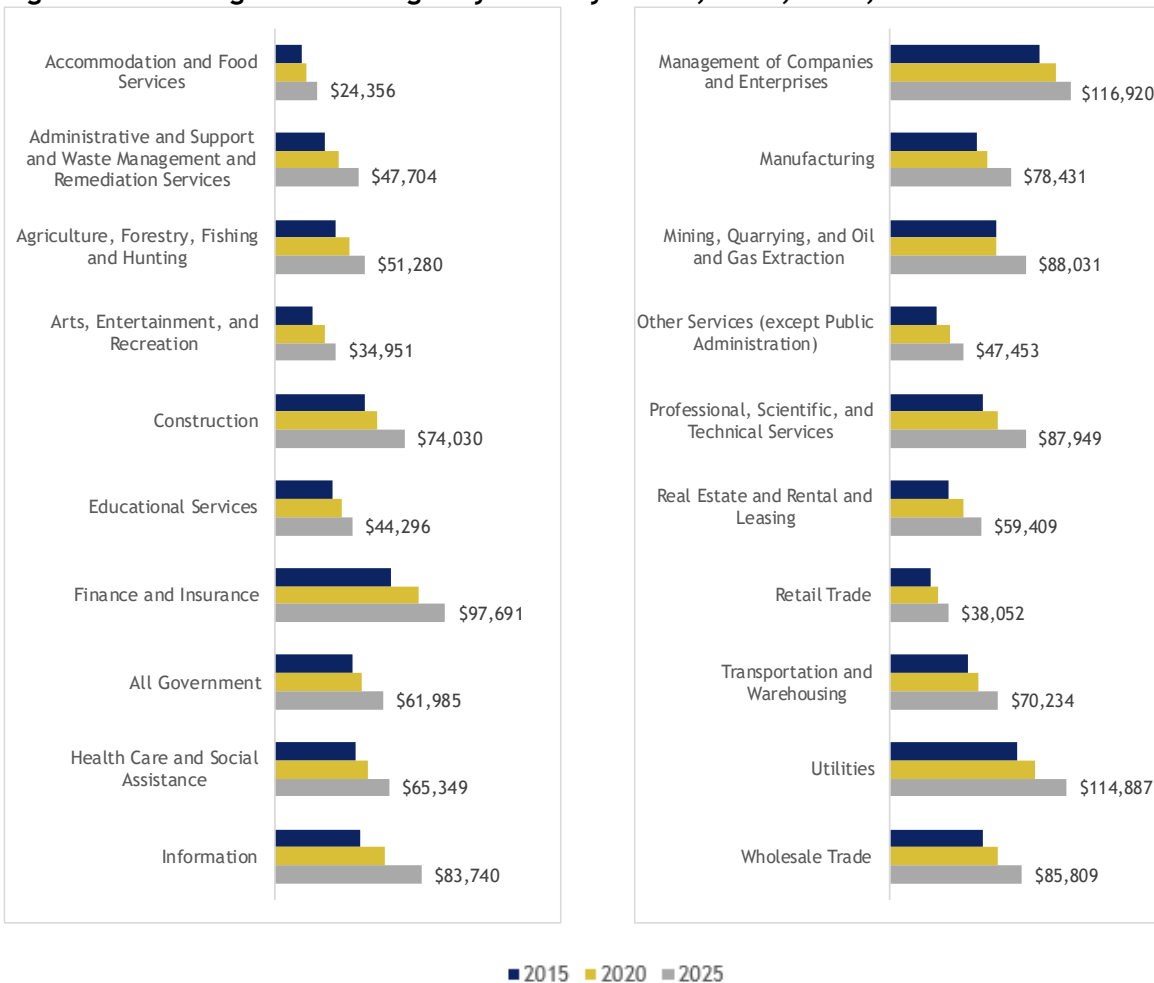
- Construction
- Finance and Insurance
- Health Care and Social Assistance
- Information
- Management of Companies and Enterprises
- Manufacturing
- Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction
- Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services
- Transportation and Warehousing
- Utilities
- Wholesale Trade

Sectors that experienced faster wage growth than the state between 2015 and 2025 (44.2 percent) include:

- Accommodation and Food Services (56.8%)
- Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (68.7%)

- Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (48.4%)
- Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation (61.0%)
- Finance and Insurance (47.0%)
- Information (70.7%)
- Other Services (except Public Administration) (56.8%)
- Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (46.0%)
- Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (55.5%)
- Retail Trade (46.6%)

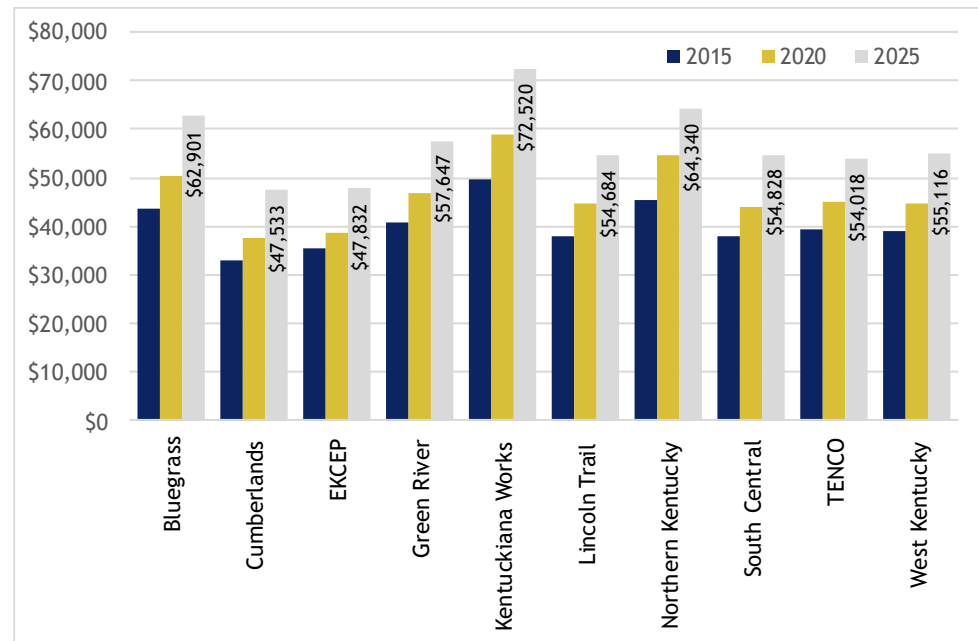
Figure 35 - Average Annual Wages by Industry Sector, 2015, 2020, and 2025



Source: KYSTATS, Labor Market Information Branch, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), "Employment and Wages by Industry," (accessed June 2026)

Average annual wages grew in all the LWAs between 2015 and 2025. The highest wages were paid in Kentuckiana Works, reaching \$72,520 in 2025, a 46.0 percent increase from 2015. The next highest wage was paid in Northern Kentucky at \$64,340 per year, a 41.7 percent increase from 2015. Kentuckiana Works, South Central, and Bluegrass had higher growth

Figure 36 - Average Annual Wages by LWA, 2015, 2020, and 2025

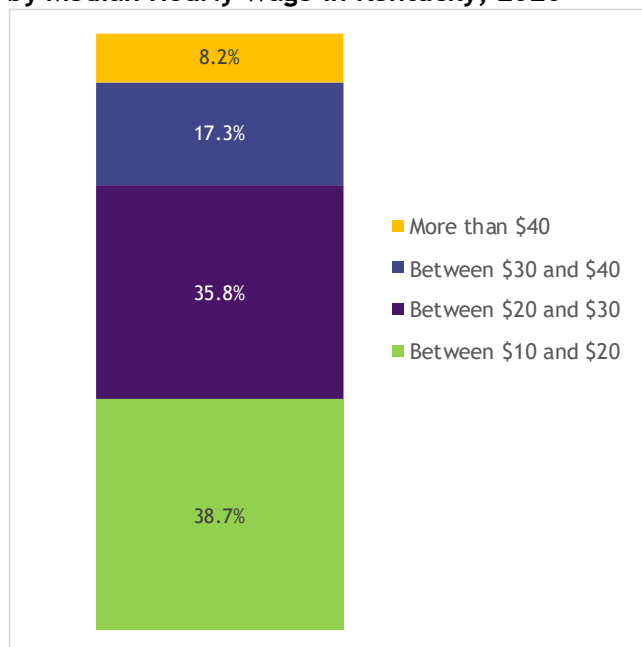


Source: KYSTATS, Labor Market Information Branch, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), "Employment and Wages by Industry," (accessed June 2026)

rates than the state growth of 44.2 percent between 2015 and 2025. The lowest average annual wages were paid in the Cumberlandlands LWA, averaging \$47,533 in 2025. EKCEP followed with an average of \$47,832. Wage growth was also the slowest in EKCEP over this time frame, 34.9 percent since 2015.

In addition to understanding employment and wages by industry sector, similar estimates are available for more than 700 detailed occupations produced by the OEWS program. The OEWS survey is designed to create detailed, cross-sectional, employment and wage estimates, providing a “snapshot” of occupational employment and wages for a particular area and time. It is not designed to be used as a time series.

Figure 37 - Share of Occupational Employment by Median Hourly Wage in Kentucky, 2026



Note: Total does not sum to 100 percent since several occupations did not have a median hourly wage.
Source: KYSTATS Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics, “2026 Statewide Occupational Employment & Wages” (accessed July 2026)

According to occupational employment and wage estimates, Kentucky’s median wage across all occupations was \$22.56 per hour compared to the U.S. median hourly wage across all occupations of \$24.51.

Figure 37 displays the distribution of wage estimates across all occupations in the Kentucky labor market. Of the nearly 2 million estimated jobs in Kentucky, the majority, 38.7 percent, paid between \$10 and \$20 per hour. Another 35.8 percent of all jobs paid between \$20 and \$30 per hour and another 25.5 percent paid more than \$30 per hour.

The OEWS estimates categorize occupations into 22 major groups. As shown in Table 2 below, the median hourly wage was higher in Kentucky than the same group nationally for

four groups: Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations (\$18.91 per hour in Kentucky compared to \$17.61 in the U.S.), Production Occupations (\$22.96 per hour in Kentucky compared to \$22.59 in the U.S.), Healthcare Support Occupations (\$18.60 per hour in Kentucky compared to \$18.43 in the U.S.), and Transportation and Material Moving Occupations (\$21.37 per hour in Kentucky compared to \$21.32 in the U.S.).

In those occupational groups where the United States had a higher median hourly wage, the largest differences were seen in Management Occupations, Computer and Mathematical Occupations, and Legal Occupations.

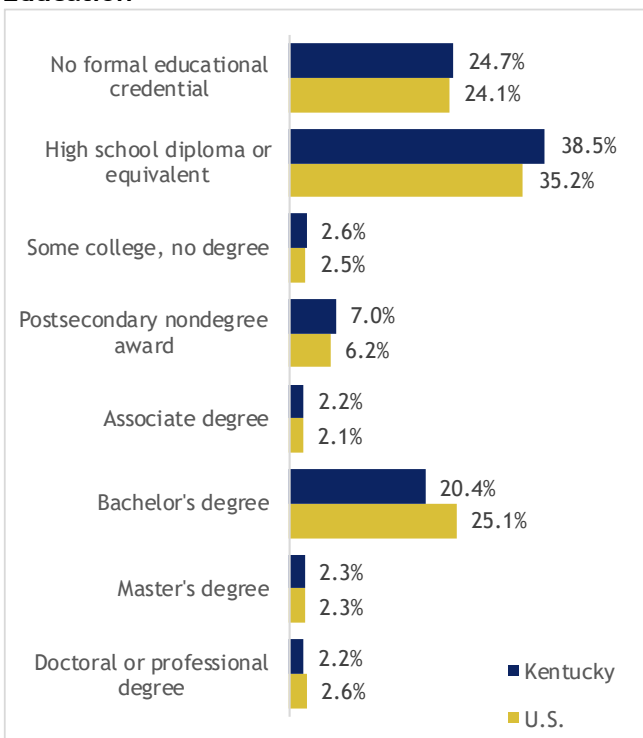
Table 2 - Comparison of Median Hourly Earnings for Major Occupational Groups

SOC Code	Major Occupational Group	Median Hourly Wage		Estimated Employment in Kentucky
		U.S.	Kentucky	
00-0000	Total	\$24.51	\$22.56	2,000,360
11-0000	Management	\$60.83	\$47.71	121,940
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	\$39.74	\$34.33	92,450
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	\$52.54	\$40.67	39,210
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	\$47.85	\$40.72	27,580
19-0000	Life, Physical and Social Science	\$39.68	\$34.68	13,790
21-0000	Community and Social Services	\$28.03	\$26.20	34,550
23-0000	Legal	\$49.28	\$37.73	10,580
25-0000	Education, Training and Library	\$29.12	\$25.34	108,650
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports and Media	\$30.17	\$23.13	17,920
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	\$41.60	\$37.76	141,040
31-0000	Healthcare Support	\$18.43	\$18.60	85,150
33-0000	Protective Service	\$24.08	\$20.34	44,000
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving-Related	\$16.85	\$13.76	175,720
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	\$18.12	\$16.80	53,490
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	\$17.51	\$15.00	32,360
41-0000	Sales and Related	\$18.52	\$16.63	170,640
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	\$22.81	\$20.95	251,890
45-0000	Farming, Fishing and Forestry	\$17.61	\$18.91	2,620
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	\$28.63	\$25.55	76,790
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance and Repair	\$28.66	\$27.68	94,130
51-0000	Production	\$22.59	\$22.96	180,330
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	\$21.32	\$21.37	225,530

Source: KYSTATS Occupational Employment and Wages Statistics, “2026 Statewide Employment & Wages” and BLS, “U.S. Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics, May 2025,” (accessed July 2026)

The occupational groups in Kentucky with the largest estimated employment were Office and Administrative Support, Transportation and Material Moving, Production, Food Preparation and Serving Related, and Sales and Related Occupations.

Figure 22 - Estimated Employment by Level of Education



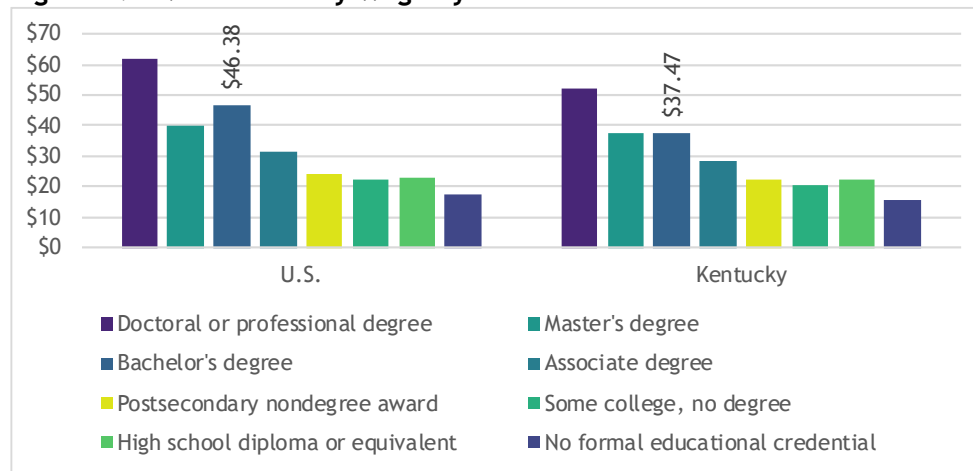
Sources: KYSTATS Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics, “2026 Statewide Employment & Wages” and BLS, “U.S. Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics, May 2025” and “Typical Entry-Level Educational Requirement Data, May 2025,” (accessed July 2026)

The BLS publication, “Typical Entry-Level Educational Requirement Data, May 2025” presents employment and wage data for occupations by the typical education required for entry. As shown in Figure 38, 38.5 percent of Kentucky employment is in occupations that require a high school diploma or equivalent for entry. This compares to 35.2 percent in the U.S. At the same time, the share of employees in occupations that require a bachelor’s degree is lower in Kentucky (20.4 percent) than in the U.S. (25.1 percent).

The median hourly wage by level of education (Figure 39) shows that Kentucky employees make less per hour than U.S. employees with the same education level. An employee in an occupation that requires a high school diploma for entry in Kentucky earns 96.4 percent of U.S. workers with the same entry requirements. For occupations requiring a bachelor’s degree, Kentucky employees, with a median hourly wage of \$37.47, earn 80.8 percent of the median U.S. wage (\$46.38 per hour). In the U.S., employees in jobs requiring a bachelor’s degree have a median hourly wage 2.0 times higher than those employed in jobs requiring a

high school diploma (\$23.10 per hour). In Kentucky, that ratio is lower at 1.7 (\$22.27 per hour).

Figure 39 - Median Hourly Wage by Level of Education



Sources: KYSTATS Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics, “2026 Statewide Employment & Wages” and BLS “Typical Entry-Level Educational Requirement Data, May 2025,” (accessed July 2026)

Table 3 provides information on the five largest occupations in Kentucky by education typically required for entry.

Table 3 - Largest Occupations in Kentucky by Typical Education Required for Entry, 2026

SOC Code Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) Title		Estimated Employment	Hourly Wage				
			Entry	25 th Percentile	Median	75 th Percentile	Experienced
No formal education requirement							
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	57,930	\$14.85	\$17.07	\$20.56	\$22.51	\$23.92
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	51,250	\$10.77	\$12.59	\$14.26	\$17.19	\$21.08
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	47,730	\$14.18	\$15.14	\$17.70	\$20.97	\$29.01
41-2011	Cashiers	44,550	\$10.44	\$11.58	\$13.75	\$15.14	\$17.09
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	41,860	\$10.38	\$10.96	\$13.04	\$14.27	\$16.55
High school diploma or equivalent							
51-2090	Miscellaneous Assemblers and Fabricators	47,320	\$16.13	\$18.35	\$23.05	\$28.72	\$31.89
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	38,630	\$14.15	\$16.97	\$18.61	\$22.98	\$28.76
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	31,260	\$13.52	\$14.88	\$17.52	\$21.85	\$23.60
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	29,750	\$10.89	\$14.63	\$18.21	\$22.48	\$27.29
43-6013	Medical Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	26,430	\$14.76	\$17.28	\$18.63	\$22.09	\$23.93
Postsecondary non-degree award							
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	31,760	\$18.59	\$22.99	\$27.09	\$33.66	\$41.17
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	23,410	\$14.61	\$17.38	\$18.45	\$21.21	\$22.33
31-9092	Medical Assistants	13,440	\$15.84	\$17.58	\$18.88	\$22.09	\$23.05
49-3023	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	11,140	\$14.53	\$17.30	\$21.58	\$28.84	\$35.54
29-2061	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	8,570	\$23.28	\$26.10	\$29.07	\$31.29	\$35.20

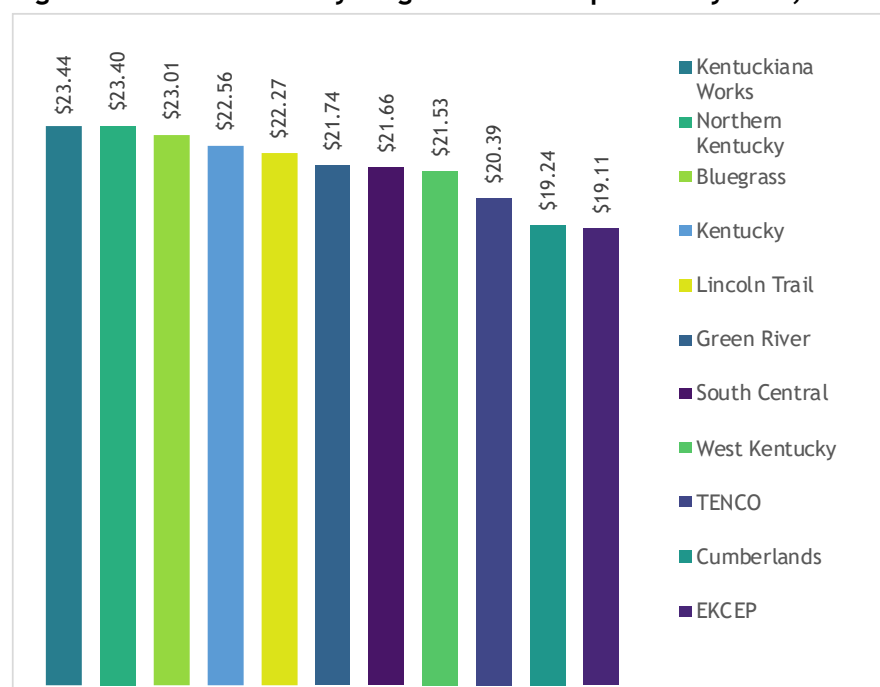
SOC Code	Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) Title	Estimated Employment	Hourly Wage				
			Entry	25 th Percentile	Median	75 th Percentile	Experienced
Some college, no degree							
43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	23,480	\$14.47	\$18.01	\$22.38	\$27.22	\$32.18
25-9045	Teaching Assistants, Except Postsecondary	16,330	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
15-1232	Computer User Support Specialists	9,460	\$17.79	\$21.63	\$27.81	\$34.51	\$43.26
49-2011	Computer, Automated Teller, and Office Machine Repairers	1,440	\$17.45	\$17.90	\$22.63	\$27.10	\$29.79
43-4151	Order Clerks	930	\$15.72	\$17.19	\$19.53	\$22.39	\$25.05
Associate degree							
25-2011	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	8,520	\$11.30	\$13.38	\$14.32	\$18.89	\$24.89
29-2034	Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	3,630	\$24.87	\$29.72	\$33.50	\$39.12	\$47.68
23-2011	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	3,540	\$17.58	\$22.70	\$28.76	\$34.10	\$37.85
31-2021	Physical Therapist Assistants	2,580	\$13.40	\$24.19	\$29.56	\$35.48	\$38.22
29-1126	Respiratory Therapists	2,530	\$28.04	\$30.34	\$34.98	\$38.33	\$44.49
Bachelor's degree							
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	52,100	\$19.47	\$25.87	\$38.16	\$59.96	\$85.01
29-1141	Registered Nurses	50,300	\$30.85	\$36.38	\$38.96	\$46.73	\$53.73
25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	19,080	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
25-2031	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	12,780	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
13-2011	Accountants and Auditors	11,930	\$24.40	\$29.35	\$36.19	\$46.53	\$58.28

SOC Code	Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) Title	Estimated Employment	Hourly Wage				
			Entry	25 th Percentile	Median	75 th Percentile	Experienced
Master's degree							
21-1018	Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	7,690	\$16.90	\$20.06	\$26.05	\$34.90	\$39.94
21-1012	Educational, Guidance, and Career Counselors and Advisors	5,030	\$19.64	\$23.60	\$30.94	\$37.78	\$47.79
11-9032	Education Administrators, Kindergarten through Secondary	4,940	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	4,770	\$46.01	\$51.08	\$59.07	\$63.81	\$78.35
25-9031	Instructional Coordinators	3,380	\$20.85	\$24.98	\$30.59	\$39.39	\$49.20
Doctoral or professional degree							
23-1011	Lawyers	5,770	\$30.29	\$37.57	\$48.82	\$71.69	\$89.99
29-1051	Pharmacists	5,030	\$40.52	\$62.01	\$65.64	\$76.10	\$81.22
25-1199	Postsecondary Teachers, All Other	4,120	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
29-1123	Physical Therapists	3,390	\$35.53	\$38.94	\$48.42	\$55.20	\$61.02
29-1229	Physicians, All Other	3,340	\$58.00	\$105.07	\$157.40	\$217.62	\$264.33

N/A = Not available

Source: KYSTATS Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics, "2026 Statewide Employment & Wages" and BLS, "Typical Entry-Level Educational Requirement Data, May 2025," (accessed July 2026)

Figure 40 - Median Hourly Wage for All Occupations by LWA, 2026



Source: KYSTATS, Occupational Employment and Wages Statistics, “Statewide Employment & Wages” and “2026 LWA Employment & Wages” (accessed July 2026)

The median hourly wage for all occupations per LWA ranged from a low of \$19.11 to a high of \$23.44, as shown in Figure 40. The middle of this range was occupied by four LWAs where the median hourly wage fell into a range from \$21.53 to \$22.27. However, at the upper end of the spectrum, three LWAs, Kentuckiana Works, Northern Kentucky, and Bluegrass each had a median hourly wage that exceeded \$23. Conversely, the lowest median hourly wage for all occupations was \$19.11 in the EKCEP LWA followed by Cumberland LWA at \$19.24 per hour.

Table 4 provides estimated employment and median hourly wages for the major occupation groups for each LWA. The five occupations with the highest estimated employment for each LWA are presented in Table 5.

Table 4 - Estimated Employment and Median Hourly Wage by Occupational Group and LWA, 2026

SOC Code	Major Occupational Group	Bluegrass		Cumberlands		EKCEP		Green River		Kentuckiana Works	
		Est. Emp.	Median Hourly Wage	Est. Emp.	Median Hourly Wage	Est. Emp.	Median Hourly Wage	Est. Emp.	Median Hourly Wage	Est. Emp.	Median Hourly Wage
00-0000	Total	404,190	\$23.01	114,880	\$19.24	110,250	\$19.11	87,150	\$21.74	553,000	\$23.44
11-0000	Management	26,520	\$47.33	5,580	\$39.95	6,040	\$38.54	4,580	\$44.70	35,810	\$51.23
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	21,240	\$34.48	3,290	\$29.52	3,290	\$29.38	2,940	\$31.55	28,260	\$35.63
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	9,190	\$40.60	1,210	\$36.45	990	\$35.51	900	\$37.41	12,680	\$43.62
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	7,540	\$42.02	770	\$35.13	860	\$30.14	960	\$43.26	7,750	\$41.60
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	4,190	\$32.58	680	\$33.56	700	\$33.79	590	\$33.56	3,020	\$37.84
21-0000	Community and Social Service	7,300	\$26.97	2,620	\$24.17	4,260	\$22.67	1,470	\$24.66	8,040	\$27.65
23-0000	Legal	2,850	\$38.53	390	\$34.77	670	\$36.61	310	\$36.34	3,370	\$39.04
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	24,630	\$28.79	7,980	\$23.96	9,810	\$23.41	4,810	\$23.65	23,390	\$29.28
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	4,420	\$25.05	720	\$17.94	580	\$18.77	520	\$21.08	5,910	\$24.50
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	31,380	\$37.93	9,000	\$36.05	10,640	\$31.98	6,110	\$37.16	39,330	\$39.59
31-0000	Healthcare Support	15,570	\$18.59	6,640	\$17.74	7,350	\$16.98	4,440	\$18.14	22,820	\$20.75
33-0000	Protective Service	9,460	\$20.34	3,210	\$17.15	3,830	\$20.04	1,740	\$18.62	11,050	\$20.34
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	37,190	\$13.83	9,550	\$12.79	9,630	\$11.69	7,420	\$13.21	46,570	\$14.48
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	10,600	\$17.01	3,080	\$14.39	2,990	\$13.86	2,440	\$15.23	15,320	\$17.36
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	8,880	\$15.73	1,340	\$13.87	1,290	\$13.67	1,290	\$14.02	9,690	\$16.26
41-0000	Sales and Related	32,530	\$16.62	9,760	\$14.40	10,480	\$13.96	6,900	\$14.74	46,140	\$17.65
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	50,320	\$21.35	15,800	\$17.81	14,130	\$17.88	9,560	\$20.38	70,680	\$22.10
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	760	\$19.30	250	\$18.48	130	\$17.96	210	\$18.96	310	\$17.19
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	14,870	\$24.74	3,450	\$22.76	4,740	\$23.54	3,980	\$26.37	20,330	\$28.34
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	16,920	\$25.98	5,030	\$22.75	5,200	\$23.00	5,030	\$28.97	25,040	\$29.12
51-0000	Production	34,090	\$23.82	12,000	\$18.82	4,350	\$18.45	1,730	\$22.03	46,230	\$23.67
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	33,750	\$19.75	12,540	\$18.32	8,300	\$17.36	9,230	\$19.09	75,860	\$21.99

SOC Code	Major Occupational Group	Lincoln Trail		Northern Kentucky		South Central		TENCO		West Kentucky	
		Est. Emp.	Median Hourly Wage	Est. Emp.	Median Hourly Wage	Est. Emp.	Median Hourly Wage	Est. Emp.	Median Hourly Wage	Est. Emp.	Median Hourly Wage
00-0000	Total	99,760	\$22.27	232,090	\$23.40	126,810	\$21.66	71,660	\$20.39	158,820	\$21.53
11-0000	Management	5,920	\$47.12	14,380	\$50.95	7,080	\$45.13	3,810	\$41.05	8,830	\$44.64
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	5,280	\$36.38	11,760	\$35.96	4,220	\$31.32	2,200	\$29.70	5,900	\$32.39
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	1,830	\$41.73	5,220	\$45.34	1,330	\$37.20	610	\$37.29	1,990	\$36.94
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	1,650	\$41.71	3,130	\$45.40	1,710	\$38.64	580	\$36.76	2,210	\$40.37
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	560	\$37.50	1,430	\$37.96	710	\$35.01	430	\$34.16	1,260	\$36.09
21-0000	Community and Social Service	1,650	\$27.46	2,540	\$28.17	1,970	\$25.99	1,750	\$24.95	2,450	\$25.98
23-0000	Legal	380	\$35.25	1,010	\$37.83	550	\$36.53	280	\$33.65	650	\$36.05
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	6,000	\$23.50	10,180	\$25.01	7,750	\$24.59	4,660	\$23.41	8,660	\$23.81
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	520	\$22.52	1,900	\$23.99	1,140	\$20.09	390	\$18.78	1,050	\$21.32
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	4,870	\$36.50	12,540	\$40.75	7,980	\$36.48	7,000	\$38.37	10,820	\$36.73
31-0000	Healthcare Support	3,910	\$18.92	7,640	\$20.74	5,060	\$18.34	4,230	\$18.12	6,550	\$18.05
33-0000	Protective Service	2,120	\$20.13	4,820	\$22.59	2,420	\$19.32	1,770	\$20.28	3,150	\$21.73
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	8,980	\$13.63	20,970	\$14.54	12,330	\$13.40	7,050	\$12.71	15,250	\$13.18
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	2,590	\$16.61	5,580	\$18.03	2,850	\$16.38	1,960	\$14.81	4,290	\$15.65
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	1,290	\$15.45	3,530	\$15.42	1,850	\$14.03	990	\$13.34	1,950	\$14.21
41-0000	Sales and Related	8,510	\$15.24	19,820	\$17.79	11,220	\$14.88	6,560	\$14.28	14,580	\$14.77
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	11,470	\$20.23	30,070	\$22.27	14,100	\$19.47	8,420	\$18.65	18,460	\$19.28
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	110	\$16.90	90	\$19.38	260	\$21.52	80	\$17.79	410	\$20.54
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	4,340	\$24.63	7,040	\$27.66	5,030	\$23.83	3,050	\$24.53	7,740	\$25.26
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	5,070	\$27.17	11,410	\$29.30	6,400	\$27.41	3,290	\$24.20	8,560	\$27.12
51-0000	Production	14,270	\$22.93	18,710	\$23.02	16,660	\$23.34	5,690	\$21.48	15,140	\$22.17
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	8,450	\$18.90	38,300	\$22.25	14,200	\$19.37	6,850	\$18.19	18,940	\$18.89

Source: KYSTATS, "2026 LWA Employment & Wages," (accessed July 2026)

Table 5 - Top Five Occupations by Estimated Employment in Each LWA, 2026

SOC Code	Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) Title	Est. Emp.	Median Hourly Wage
Bluegrass			
00-0000	Total all occupations	404,190	\$23.01
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	11,440	\$38.51
51-2090	Miscellaneous Assemblers and Fabricators	10,950	\$28.71
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	10,670	\$14.39
29-1141	Registered Nurses	10,180	\$38.00
41-2011	Cashiers	8,200	\$13.94
Cumberlands			
00-0000	Total all occupations	114,880	\$19.24
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	3,590	\$17.20
51-2090	Miscellaneous Assemblers and Fabricators	3,190	\$18.95
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	3,060	\$17.70
41-2011	Cashiers	3,030	\$13.23
29-1141	Registered Nurses	2,940	\$37.80
EKCEP			
00-0000	Total all occupations	110,250	\$19.11
41-2011	Cashiers	4,340	\$13.20
29-1141	Registered Nurses	3,540	\$35.52
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	2,830	\$15.68
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	2,790	\$13.29
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	2,650	\$30.76
Green River			
00-0000	Total all occupations	87,150	\$21.74
29-1141	Registered Nurses	2,430	\$39.58
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,380	\$18.41
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	2,190	\$13.96
41-2011	Cashiers	2,070	\$13.22
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	1,990	\$35.42
Kentuckiana Works			
00-0000	Total all occupations	553,000	\$23.44
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	23,820	\$22.51
51-2090	Miscellaneous Assemblers and Fabricators	17,960	\$23.29
29-1141	Registered Nurses	15,390	\$40.99
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	14,700	\$42.05
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	13,800	\$14.68

SOC Code	Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) Title	Est. Emp.	Median Hourly Wage
Lincoln Trail			
00-0000	Total all occupations	99,760	\$22.27
51-2090	Miscellaneous Assemblers and Fabricators	4,400	\$21.71
41-2011	Cashiers	2,570	\$13.59
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	2,540	\$36.24
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	2,540	\$13.83
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	2,240	\$12.90
Northern Kentucky			
00-0000	Total all occupations	232,090	\$23.40
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	10,100	\$20.56
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	8,580	\$18.73
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	6,030	\$41.43
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	5,490	\$14.82
41-2011	Cashiers	4,960	\$13.98
South Central			
00-0000	Total all occupations	126,810	\$21.66
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	3,790	\$13.71
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	3,510	\$12.97
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	3,230	\$17.01
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	3,050	\$34.39
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	3,010	\$18.26
TENCO			
00-0000	Total all occupations	71,660	\$20.39
29-1141	Registered Nurses	2,440	\$38.95
41-2011	Cashiers	2,300	\$13.26
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	2,060	\$13.71
31-1120	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	1,850	\$19.13
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	1,770	\$33.19
West Kentucky			
00-0000	Total all occupations	158,820	\$21.53
41-2011	Cashiers	4,500	\$13.37
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	4,500	\$13.70
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	4,010	\$34.62
29-1141	Registered Nurses	3,980	\$37.60
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	3,970	\$16.84

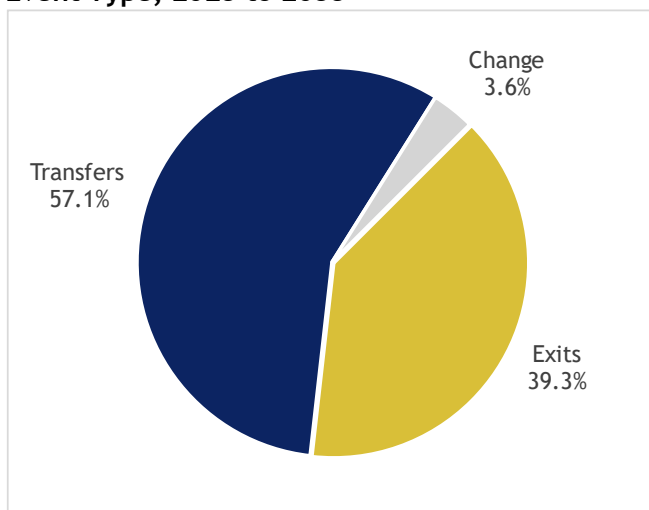
Source: KYSTATS, "2026 LWA Employment & Wages," (accessed July 2026)

Long-term occupational employment projections reflect predicted employer demand for labor over a ten-year period. Projections are available at the major and specific SOC levels. Occupational employment projections include estimates on projected job openings resulting from three events:

- Individuals transferring among occupations (e.g., a career change)
- Individuals exiting the workforce (e.g., retirement)
- Economic growth (or decline)

The projections also include information on the typical education, training, and experience needed for entry, and on-the job training typically needed to reach competency in the occupation from the BLS publication “Education and Training Assignments by Detailed Occupation.”

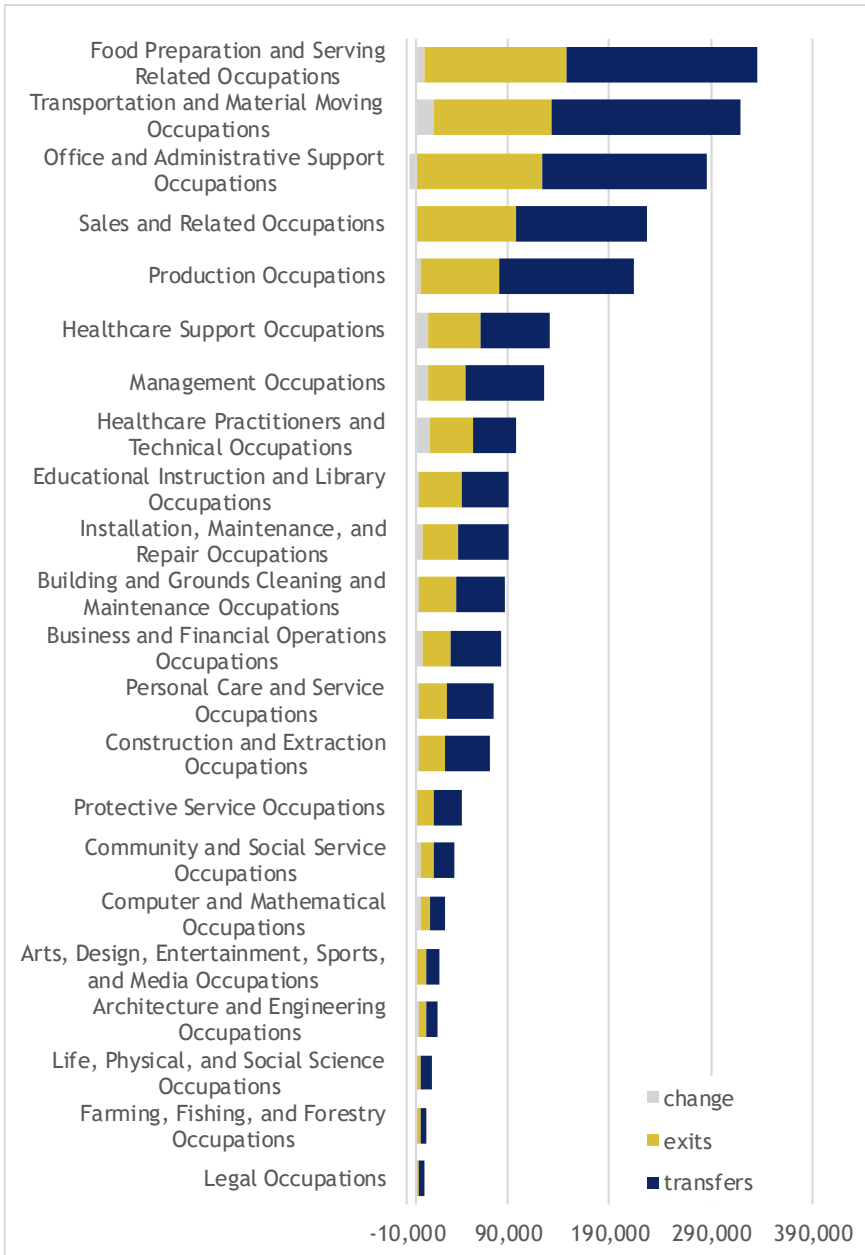
Figure 4I - Projected Job Openings in Kentucky by Event Type, 2023 to 2033



Source: KYSTATS, Labor Market Information Branch, “2023-2033 KY Occupational Outlook,” (accessed July 2026)

In Kentucky, the job market is expected to experience more than 2.4 million job openings between 2023 and 2033, with most openings attributed to workers transferring between occupations. These transfers are expected to account for 57.1 percent of the total job openings between 2023 and 2033, 1.38 million openings. An estimated 946,649 exits are projected to occur over this period as individuals leave the labor force. Economic growth accounts for the remaining 3.6 percent of projected openings (86,492 openings) between 2023 and 2033.

Figure 42 - Total Job Openings by Major Occupational Group, 2023 to 2033



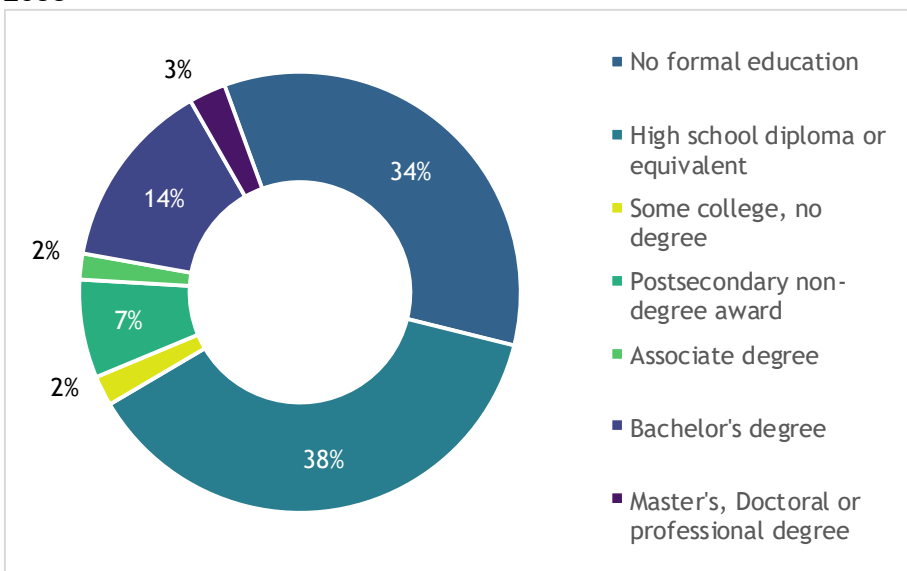
Source: KYSTATS, Labor Market Information Branch, "2023-2033 KY Occupational Outlook," (accessed July 2026)

The most projected job openings between 2023 and 2033 are in Food Preparation and Serving Related occupations. This occupational group is projected to have 335,467 projected openings, the most of any occupational group. Transportation and Material Moving occupations have the most anticipated growth with 15,990 jobs.

Transportation and Material Moving occupations are also estimated to have the next largest number of openings (319,279 jobs).

Two occupation groups are expected to have negative growth (decline) between 2023 and 2033: Office and Administrative Support occupations (-6,384 jobs) and Sales and Related Occupations (-1,916 jobs).

Figure 43 - Projected Job Openings by Required Education, 2023 to 2033



Source: KYSTATS, Labor Market Information Branch, "2023-2033 KY Occupational Outlook," (accessed July 2026)

Compared to current requirements, there will be more job openings in the next decade for those with lower levels of educational attainment. In Kentucky, 28 percent of all projected job openings from 2023 to 2033 will require an education beyond a high school diploma or equivalent award. Among all projected openings, 34 percent typically require no formal education, and 38 percent require only a high school diploma or

equivalent award. This is partially explained by the high numbers of exits from the workforce and high numbers of transfers to other occupations expected among occupations requiring these levels of education.

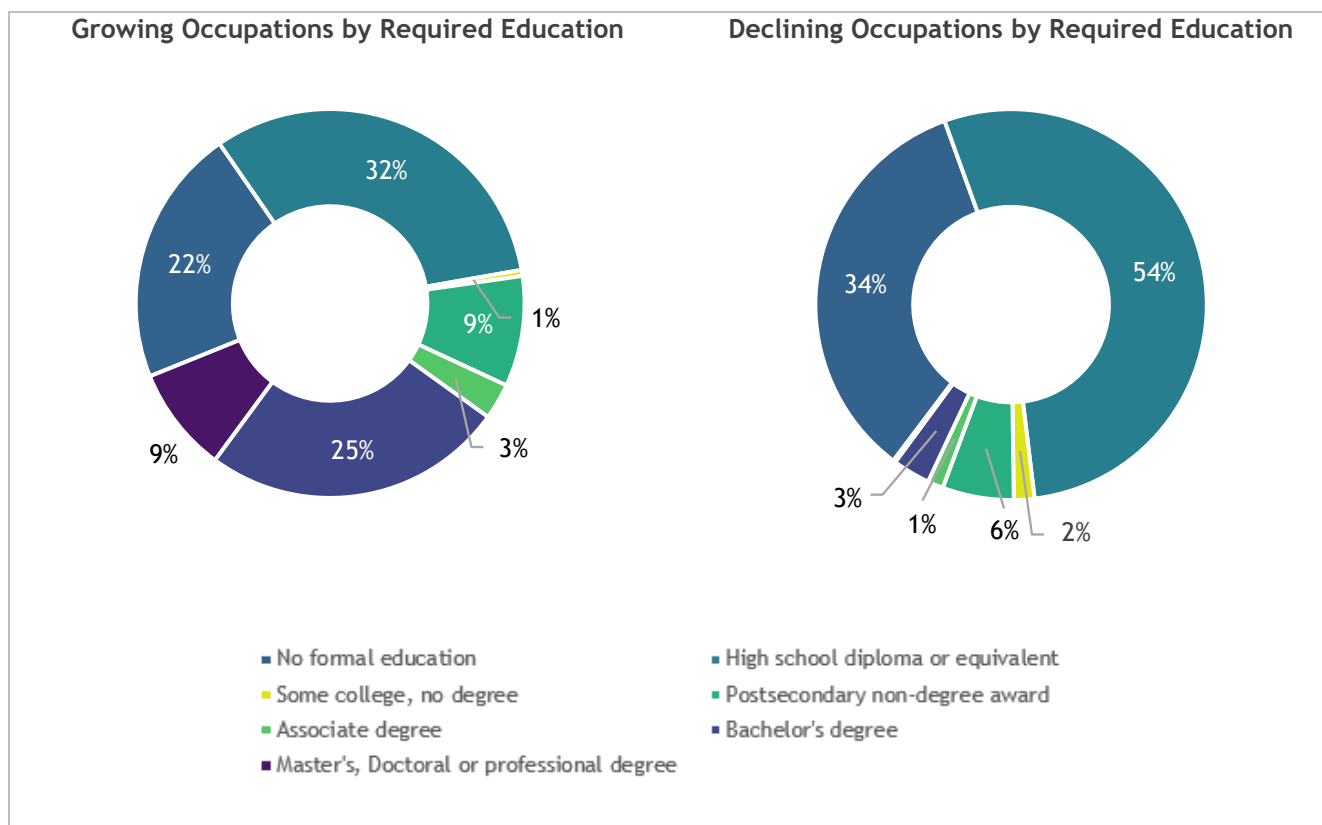
Every occupation in Kentucky is expected to have openings between 2023 and 2033. Recall that job openings come from people transferring between jobs or exiting the labor force as well as growth in the occupation. There are 496 occupations that are projected to grow between 2023 and 2033, resulting in a total increase of 108,979 openings. While 34 percent of the employment growth will be in occupations requiring a bachelor's degree or higher for entry, 53 percent will require a high school diploma or less. Occupations that have the largest projected growth include:

- Home Health and Personal Care Aides (5,599)
- Stockers and Order Fillers (4,254)
- Miscellaneous Assemblers and Fabricators (4,198)
- General and Operations Managers (3,634)
- Fast Food and Counter Workers (3,475)

There are 196 occupations that will have fewer jobs in 2033 than in 2023. In total, employment (not accounting for exits or transfers) is projected to decrease by 23,896 jobs in these occupations, the majority of which require a high school diploma or less education. The occupations expected to experience the largest declines include:

- Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks (-1,218)
- Customer Service Representatives (-1,298)
- Office Clerks, General (-1,494)
- Cooks, Fast Food (-2,345)
- Cashiers (-3,805)

Figure 44 - Change in Employment by Required Education, 2023-2033



Source: KYSTATS, Labor Market Information Branch, "2023-2033 KY Occupational Outlook," (accessed July 2026)

High school diplomas and bachelor's degrees are the two levels of educational attainment that typically grant workers entry to the widest variety of occupations, with the former qualifying workers for 263 unique occupations across the state, and the latter granting access to 165 additional occupations. Advanced postsecondary degrees (Master's, Doctoral, and other professional degrees) grant access to 95 occupations that lower levels of educational attainment do not.

Occupations can be classified as high, moderate, or basic skill by typical education required for entry.

- High skill occupations consist of those occupations requiring a bachelor's degree, master's degree or a doctoral or professional degree.
- Moderate skill occupations include occupations requiring an associate degree, postsecondary non-degree award, or some college with no degree.
- Basic skill occupations include occupations requiring either a high school diploma or equivalent or no formal education.

The occupations with the most projected job openings for each skill group are shown in Table 6. Among high skill occupations, the most openings will occur in General and Operations Managers with an expected 54,023 openings by 2033. The median wage for this occupation was \$79,370 in 2025.

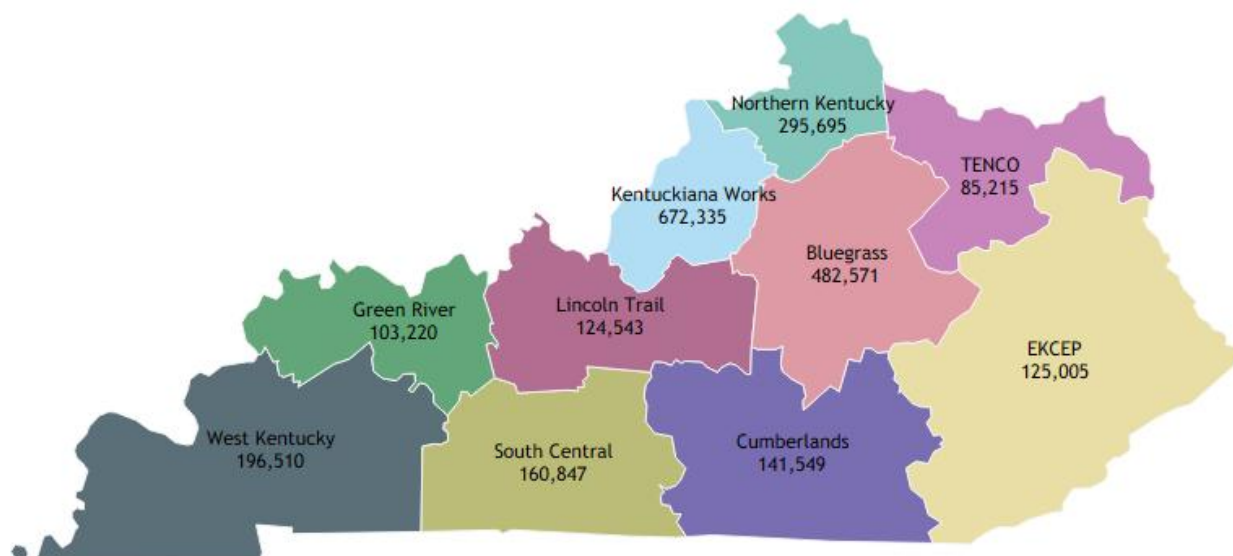
Table 6 - Most Job Openings by Skill Classification, 2023 to 2033

			Job Openings				Median Wage
SOC Code	SOC Title (Code)	Est. Emp.	Exits	Transfers	Change	Total	
Basic Skill							
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	58,567	27,531	50,337	3,376	81,244	\$42,770
51-2090	Miscellaneous Assemblers and Fabricators	49,601	19,894	35,373	4,198	59,465	\$47,950
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	48,853	30,144	50,929	4,254	85,327	\$36,810
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	48,732	31,108	40,255	1,103	72,466	\$29,650
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	44,467	22,308	35,532	-1,298	56,542	\$38,700
Moderate Skill							
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	35,860	15,174	22,584	2,534	40,292	\$56,340
43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	24,678	14,210	12,995	-1,218	25,987	\$46,550
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	22,917	13,965	18,867	1,234	34,066	\$38,370
25-9045	Teaching Assistants, Except Postsecondary	14,611	7,682	9,573	160	17,415	\$30,160
31-9092	Medical Assistants	14,061	6,648	12,713	2,108	21,469	\$39,270
High Skill							
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	60,973	14,065	36,324	3,634	54,023	\$79,370
29-1141	Registered Nurses	48,615	14,621	11,114	2,847	28,582	\$81,040
25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	17,430	5,415	6,106	224	11,745	\$60,610
13-2011	Accountants and Auditors	13,011	3,882	6,244	738	10,864	\$75,270
25-2031	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	11,882	3,230	4,020	165	7,415	\$61,560

Source: KYSTATS, Labor Market Information Branch, "2023-2033 KY Occupational Outlook," and Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS), "2026 Statewide Wage & Employment" (accessed July 2026)

Kentucky's ten LWAs are expected to experience uneven growth, with nine of the 10 LWAs growing by 1.6 percent to 7.8 percent by 2033. Six LWA's are expected to grow between 4.3 and 7.8 percent: Bluegrass, Cumberlands, Kentuckiana Works, Lincoln Trail, Northern Kentucky and South Central. The fastest growing area is projected to be South Central (7.8 percent). EKCEP is the only LWA expected to see negative growth between 2023 and 2033 (-0.7%). The remaining three LWAs will see growth between 1.6 and 2.9 percent.

Figure 45 - Projected Job Openings by LWA, 2023 to 2033



Source: KYSTATS, Labor Market Information Branch, “2023-2033 KY Occupational Outlook,” (accessed July 2026)

The following table presents total projected job openings for the LWAs (Table 7). Current and projected employment as well as total openings and contributions to openings are shown.

Table 7 - Job Openings by LWA

LWA	2023 Estimated Employment	2033 Projected Employment	Change	Exits	Transfers	Total Openings
Bluegrass	422,627	440,918	18,291	189,486	274,794	482,571
Cumberlands	119,296	125,158	5,862	56,455	79,232	141,549
EKCEP	116,424	115,561	-863	53,183	72,685	125,005
Green River	91,317	92,753	1,436	41,702	60,082	103,220
Kentuckiana Works	583,716	611,203	27,487	260,216	384,632	672,335
Lincoln Trail	102,928	110,686	7,758	47,551	69,234	124,543
Northern Kentucky	242,207	259,406	17,199	111,885	166,611	295,695
South Central	131,101	141,287	10,186	61,482	89,179	160,847
TENCO	75,471	76,893	1,422	34,855	48,938	85,215
West Kentucky	171,360	176,394	5,034	78,476	113,000	196,510

Source: KYSTATS, Labor Market Information Branch, “2023-2033 KY Occupational Outlook,” (accessed July 2026)

The following images are from the Occupational Outlook, an interactive dashboard which explores 2023-2033 long-term occupational projections for Kentucky and its LWAs, augmented with education and training requirement data. The highlighted region on the map indicates the area for which projections are being displayed.

The bar graph in the upper right displays the total number of projected job openings for a specific area in the next ten years, and the projected levels of each type of event that can produce an opening (Exits, Transfers, and Change).

The 'Educational Attainment' section provides context for the percent of projected job openings in a given area that require each level of educational attainment. Two additional bar charts show the cumulative percentage of openings above the median wage and the share of projected openings above a selected wage (the default setting is the state median wage for all occupations, \$45,740).

At the bottom of the dashboard, the total projected openings and median wage estimates are provided for the five occupations by educational attainment expected to produce the most job openings in the next ten years in the selected area.

The Full Occupation Listing dashboard provides users with a sortable list of all available occupations. Clicking on any field name will automatically sort the list of occupations by that field in descending order, and a second click will sort in ascending order. The 'Area' and 'Typical Education Required' filters will filter the table appropriately. The 'Group' filter will limit the table to only those occupations within each of the major SOC groups (e.g., Production Occupations, or Legal Occupations). The 'Keyword' search bar allows users to filter the table to only those occupations with titles containing the entered text.

Kentucky

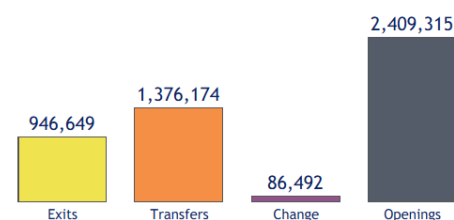


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Full Occupation Listing

select Lo
Kentucky

Breakout of Total Openings

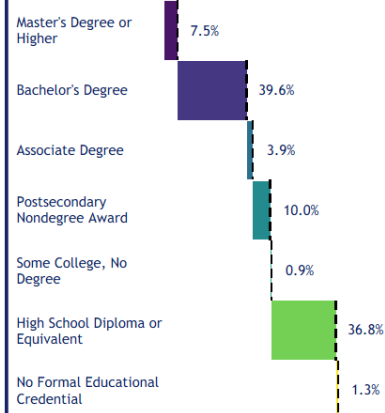
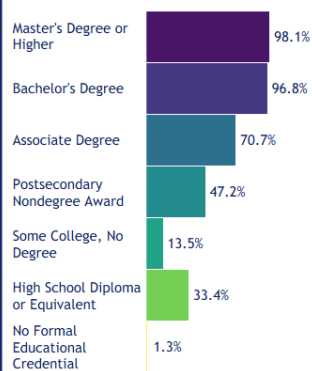


Individuals leaving the workforce (Exits) or moving on to work in another occupation (Transfers) are both examples of events that can create job openings. Overall economic growth (Change) can also create openings.

Educational Attainment Selection
All

Cumulative Percentage of Openings Above Kentucky Median Wage

Percentage Earning More Than \$45,740
(KY Median Wage All Occupations) by
Attainment Level



Fast Food and Counter Workers

Laborers and Freight, Stock, and
Material Movers. Hand

Retail Salespersons

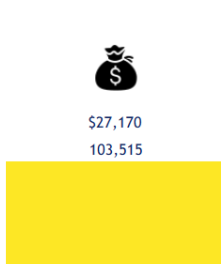


Figure 236 - Kentucky Occupational Outlook by LWA, 2023 to 2033
Bluegrass LWA



OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK (2023-2033)



The Occupational Outlook Dashboard is designed to offer insight into projected occupational employment in the state of Kentucky. Select any Local Workforce Area to filter summary estimates for 2023-2033 occupational projections. For a full list of specific occupations and their associated estimates, click 'Full Occupation Listing' to proceed. This dashboard is powered by the Kentucky Center for Statistics. Those using screen readers may need to click the enter key to select options in filters. This dashboard is best viewed on a desktop computer. If you have any questions regarding accessibility, please contact kystats@ky.gov. Follow us @KYSTATS on social media.

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Technical documentation can be found in PDF form here: https://bit.ly/TechNotes23_33

Overview

Full Occupation Listing

Select Local Workforce Area To Filter View
Bluegrass

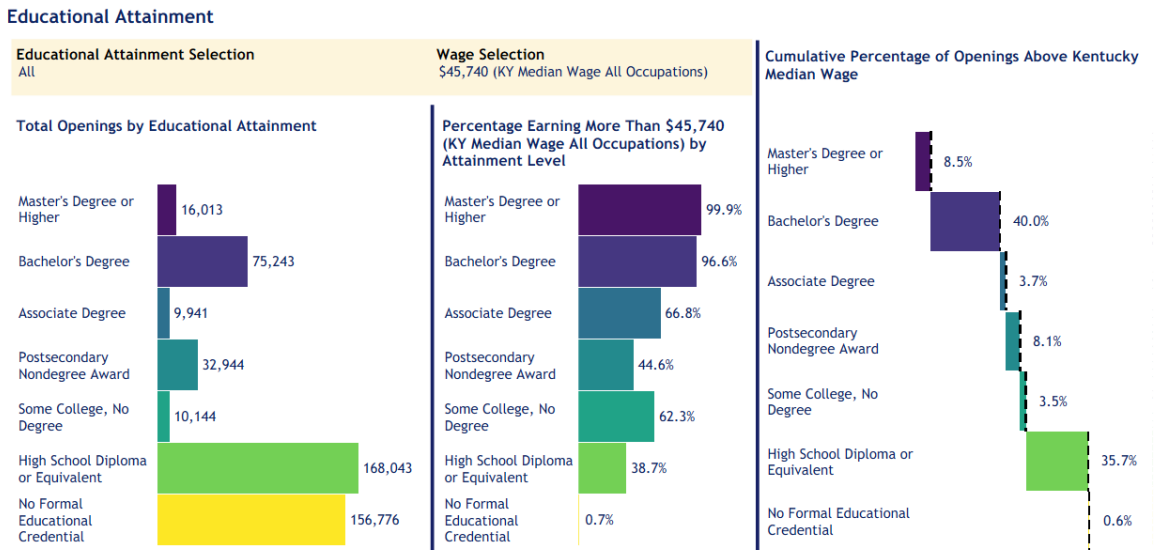
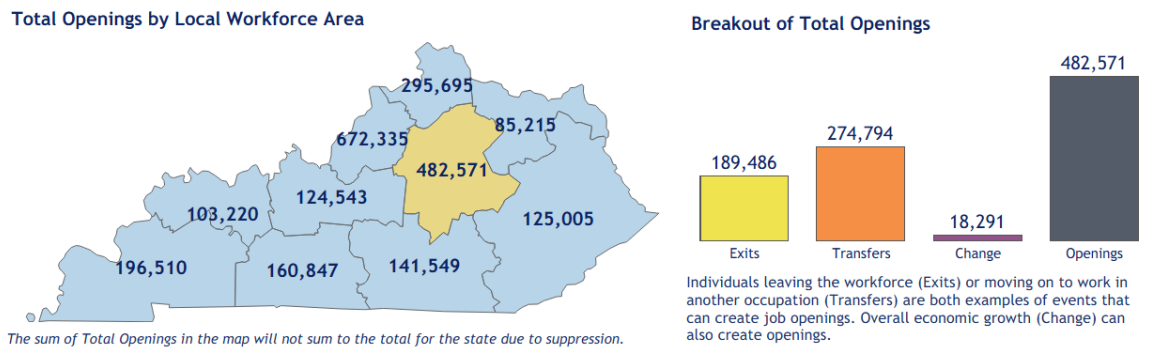


Figure 236 - Kentucky Occupational Outlook by LWA, 2023 to 2033
Cumberlands LWA



OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK (2023-2033)



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Overview

Full Occupation Listing

Select Local Workforce Area To Filter View
Cumberlands

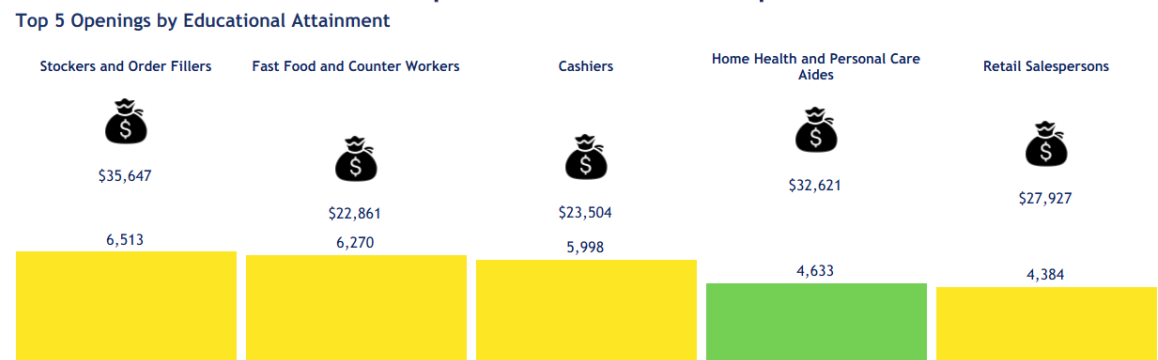
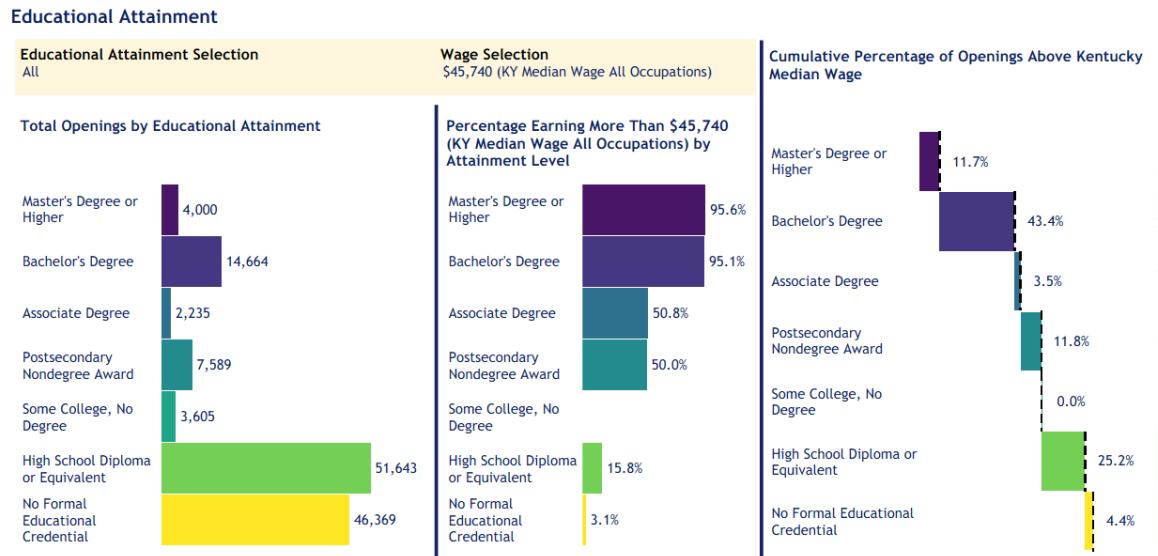
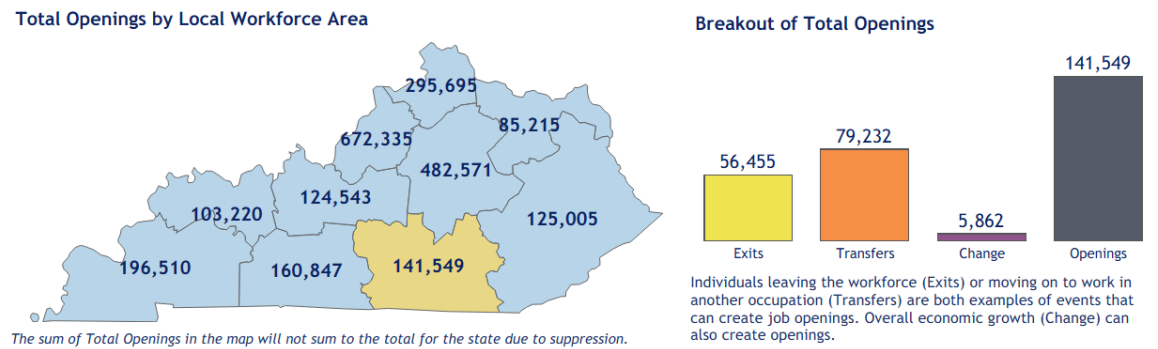


Figure 236 - Kentucky Occupational Outlook by LWA, 2023 to 2033
EKCEP LWA



OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK (2023-2033)



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Overview

Full Occupation Listing

Select Local Workforce Area To Filter View
EKCEP

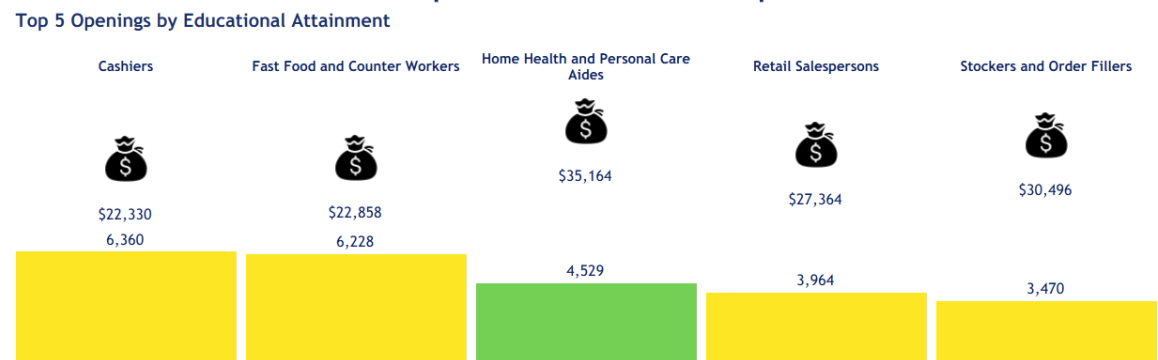
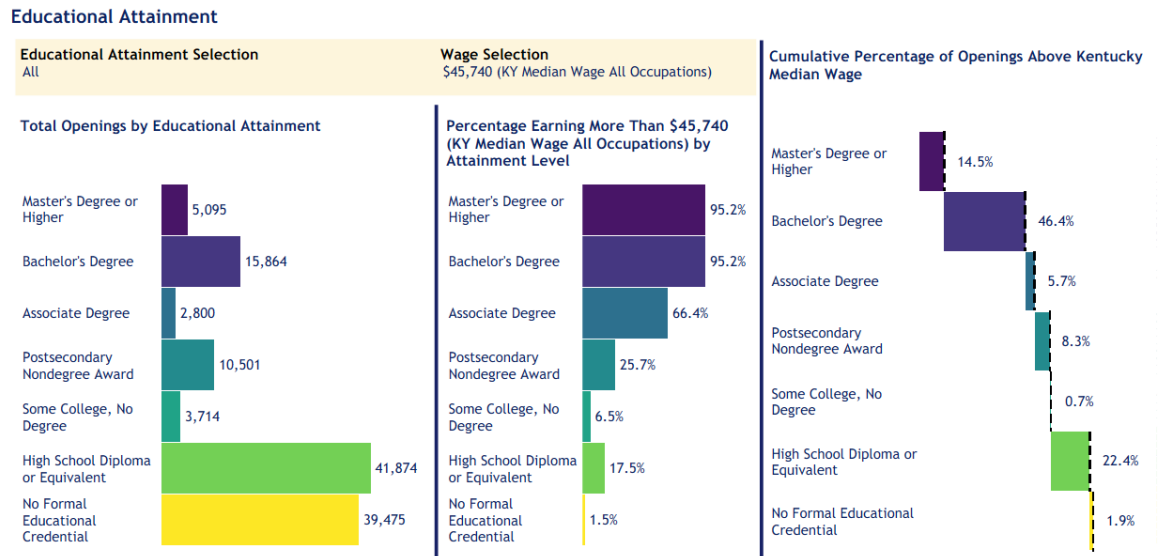
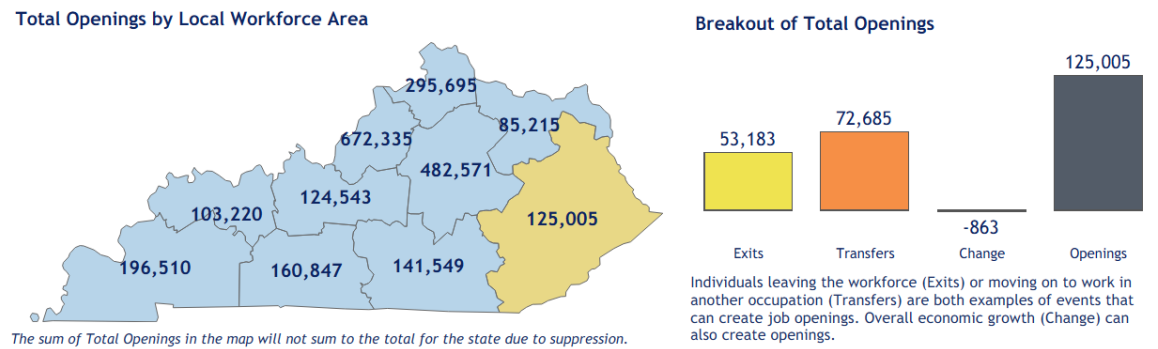


Figure 236 - Kentucky Occupational Outlook by LWA, 2023 to 2033
Green River LWA



OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK (2023-2033)



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Overview

Full Occupation Listing

Select Local Workforce Area To Filter View
Green River

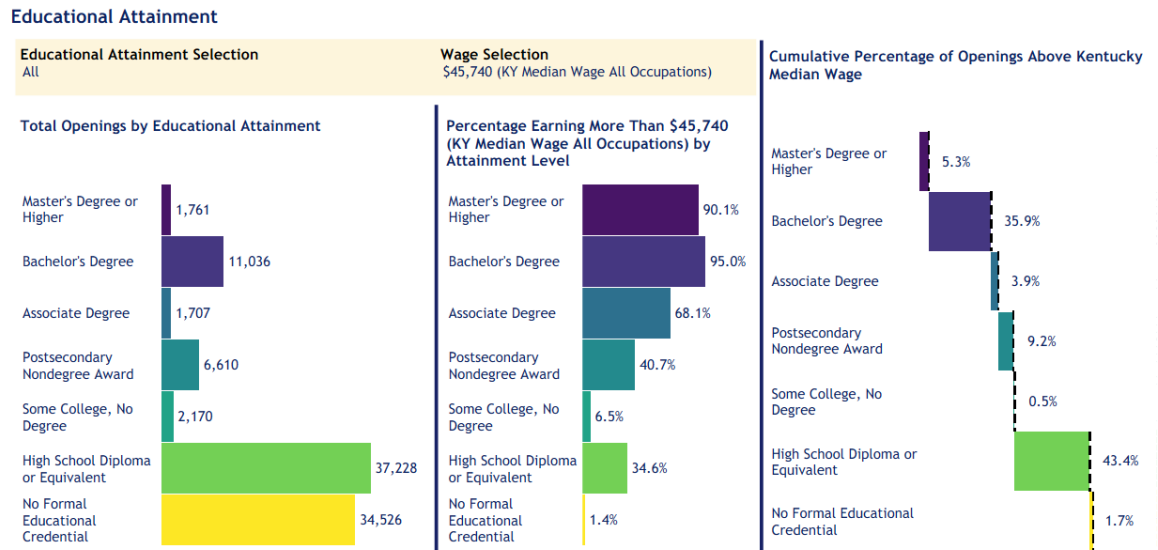
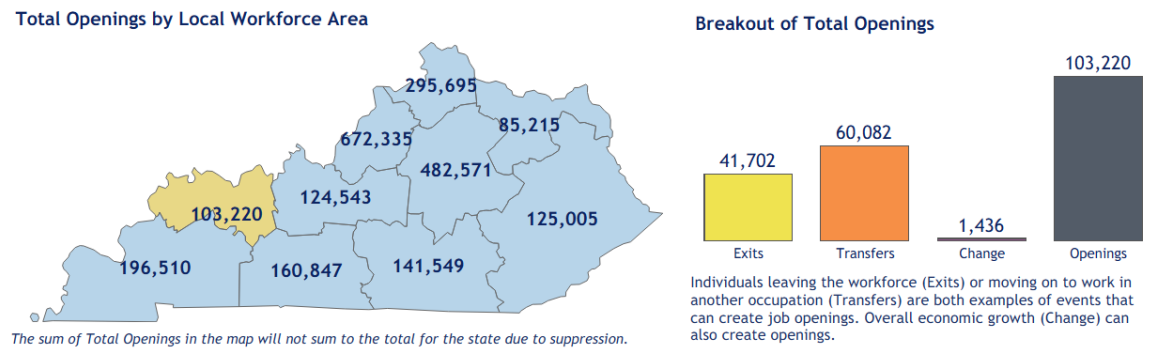


Figure 236 - Kentucky Occupational Outlook by LWA, 2023 to 2033
Kentuckiana Works LWA

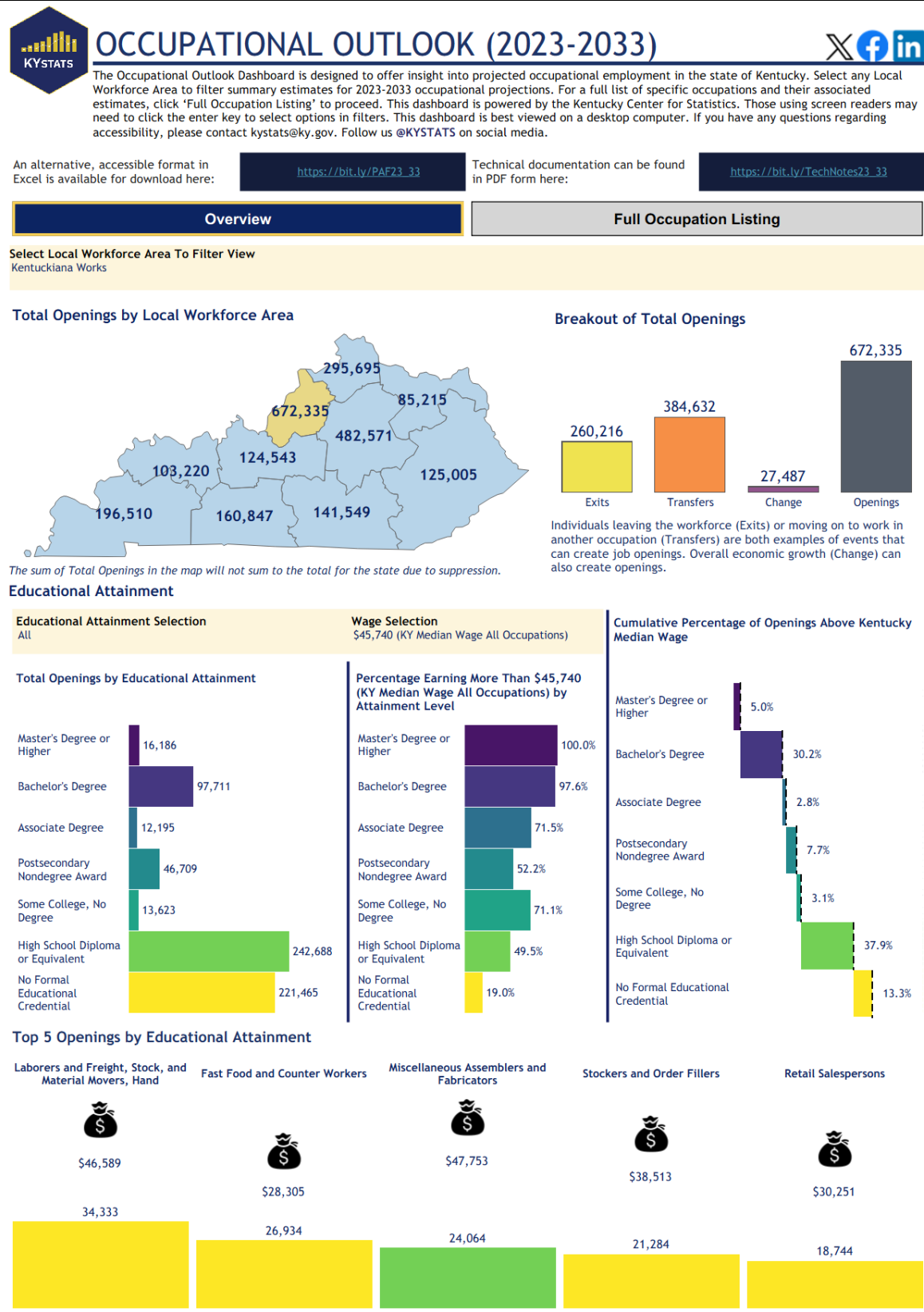


Figure 236 - Kentucky Occupational Outlook by LWA, 2023 to 2033
Lincoln Trail LWA



OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK (2023-2033)

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Overview

Full Occupation Listing

Select Local Workforce Area To Filter View
 Lincoln Trail

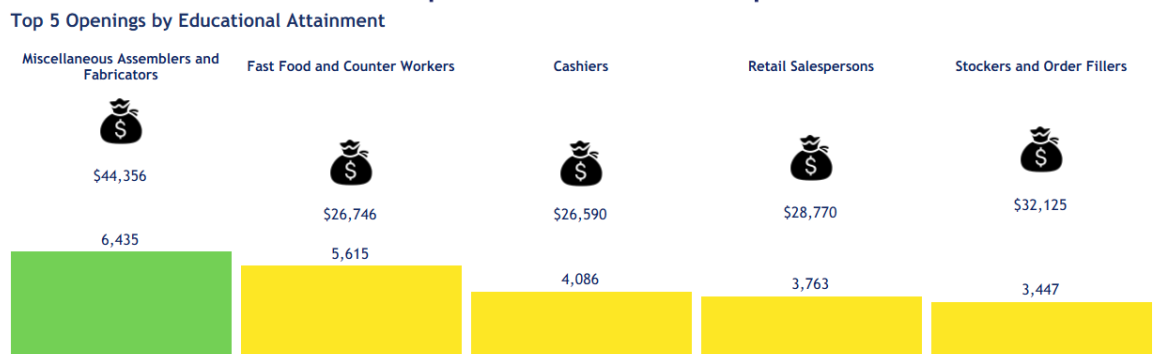
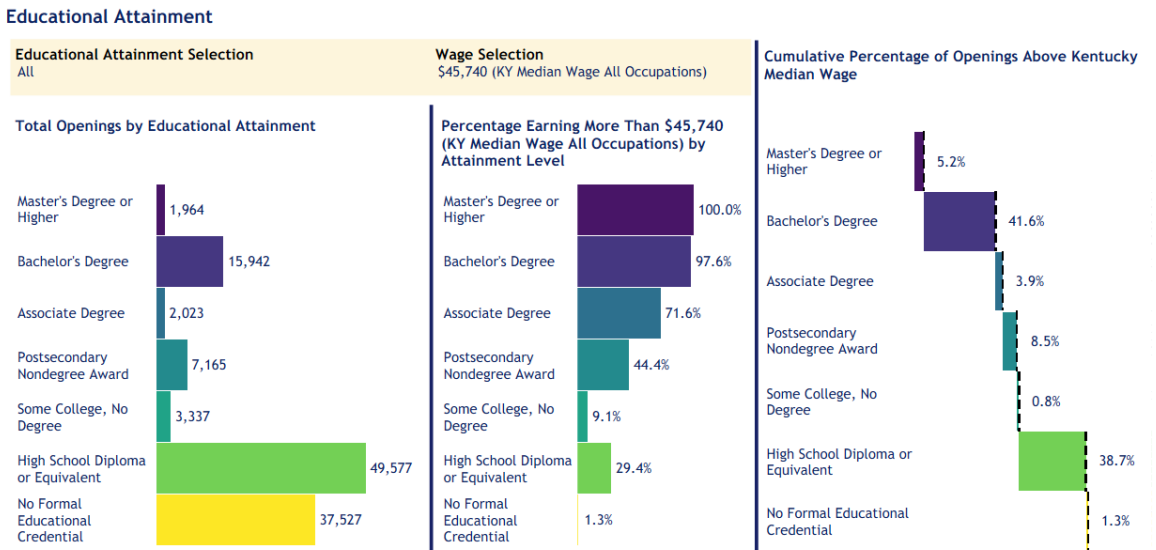
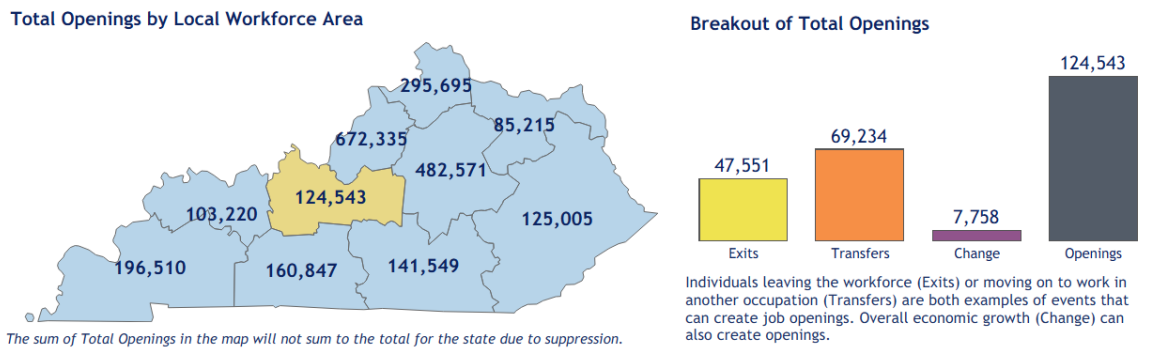


Figure 236 - Kentucky Occupational Outlook by LWA, 2023 to 2033
Northern Kentucky LWA



OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK (2023-2033)



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Overview

Full Occupation Listing

Select Local Workforce Area To Filter View
Northern Kentucky

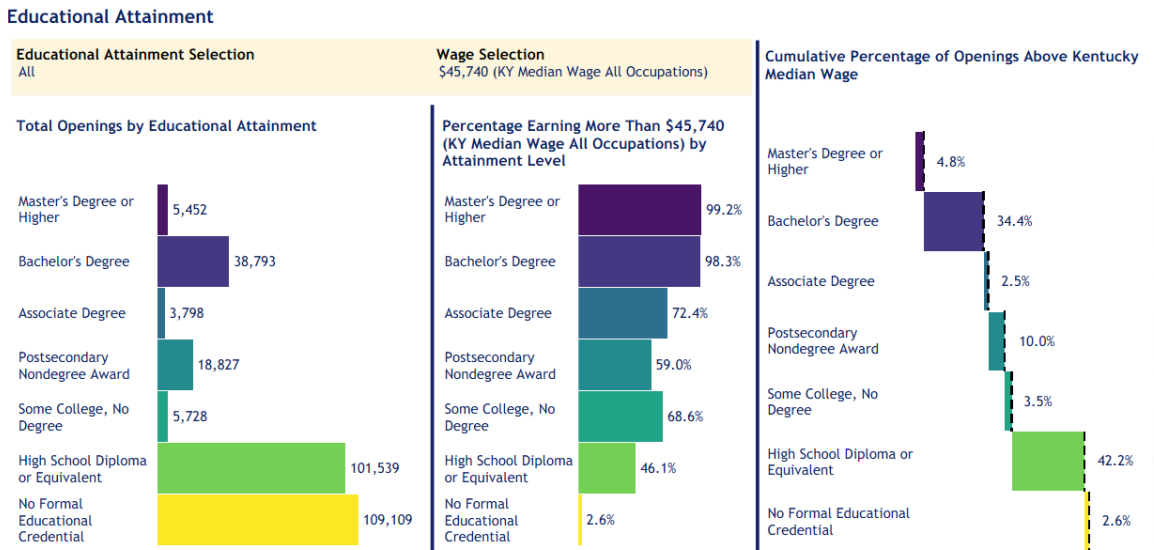
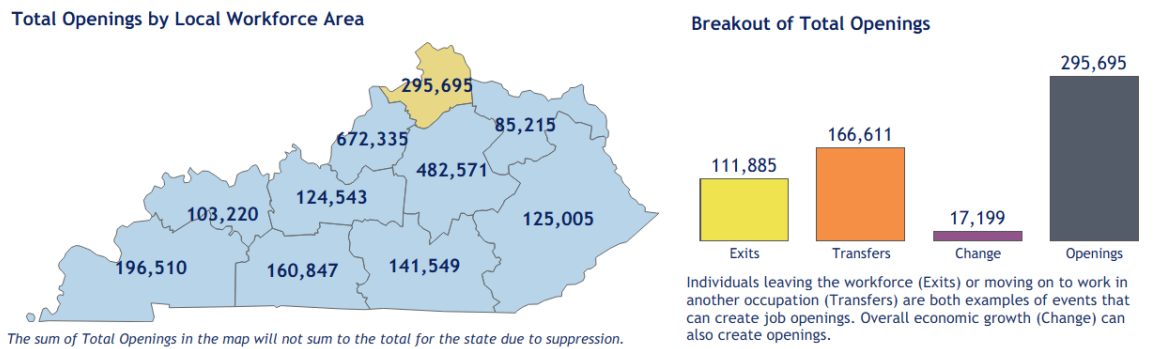


Figure 236 - Kentucky Occupational Outlook by LWA, 2023 to 2033
South Central LWA



OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK (2023-2033)



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Overview

Full Occupation Listing

Select Local Workforce Area To Filter View
South Central

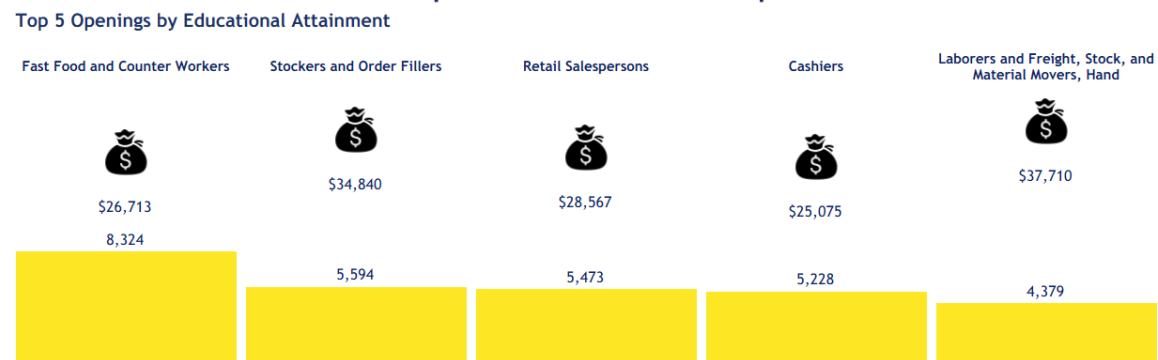
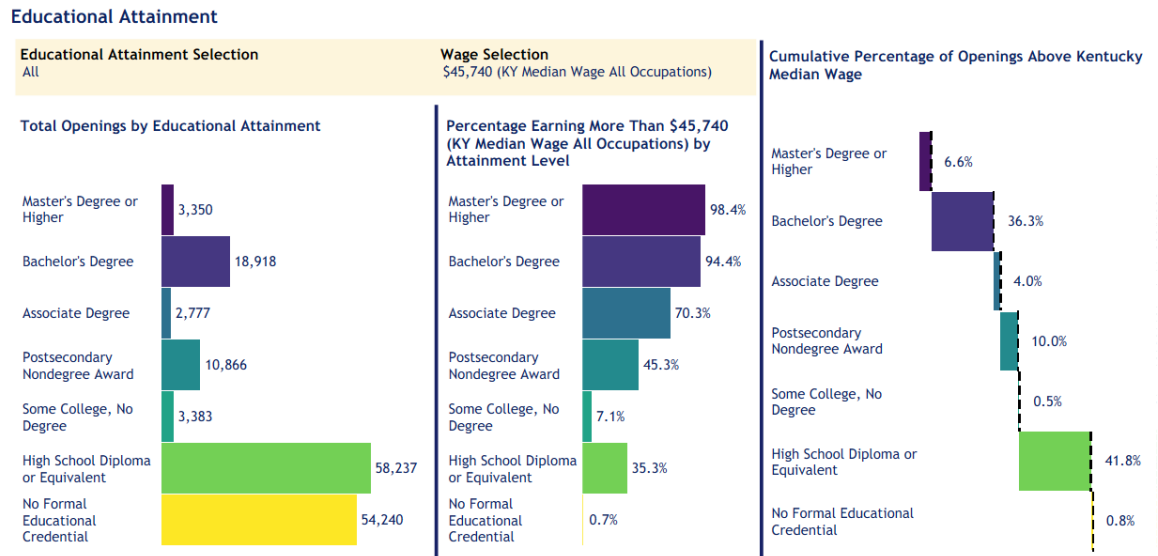
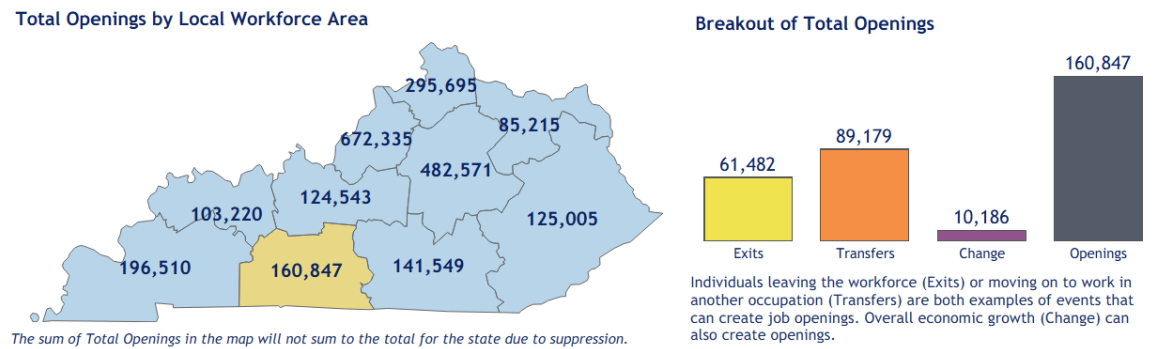


Figure 236 - Kentucky Occupational Outlook by LWA, 2023 to 2033
TENCO LWA



OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK (2023-2033)





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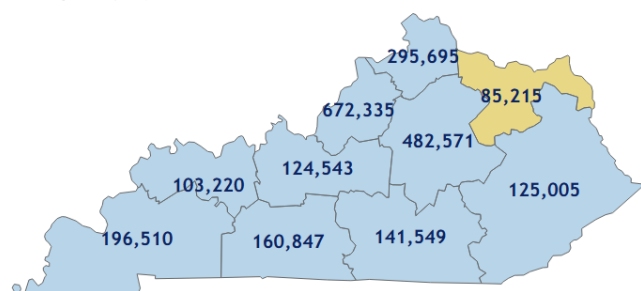
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Overview

Full Occupation Listing

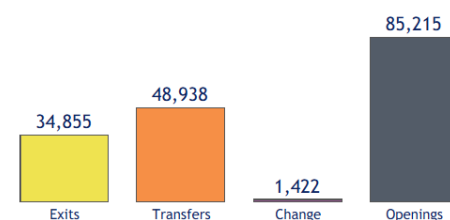
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 TENCO

Total Openings by Local Workforce Area



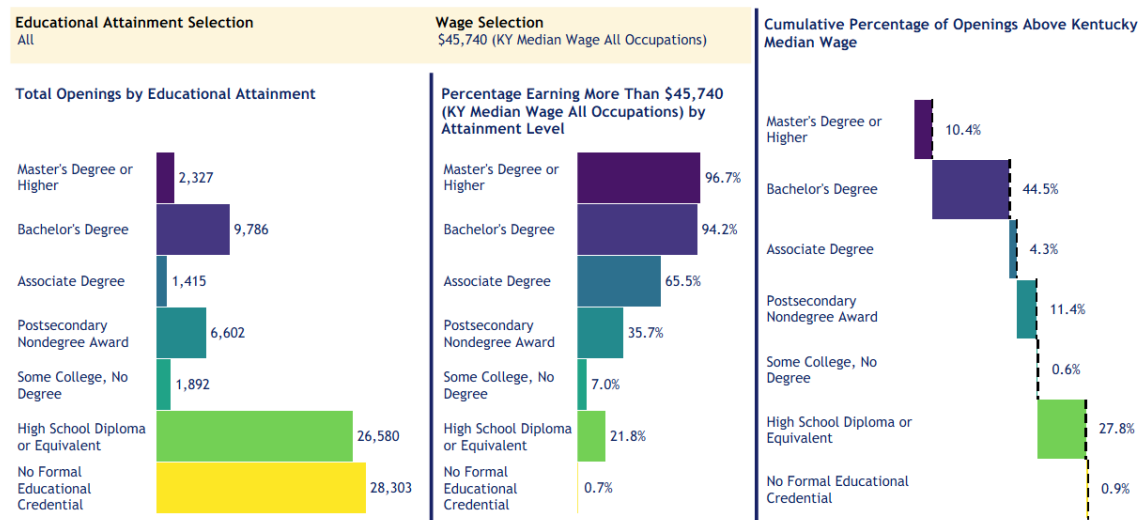
The sum of Total Openings in the map will not sum to the total for the state due to suppression.

Breakout of Total Openings



Individuals leaving the workforce (Exits) or moving on to work in another occupation (Transfers) are both examples of events that can create job openings. Overall economic growth (Change) can also create openings.

Educational Attainment



Top 5 Openings by Educational Attainment

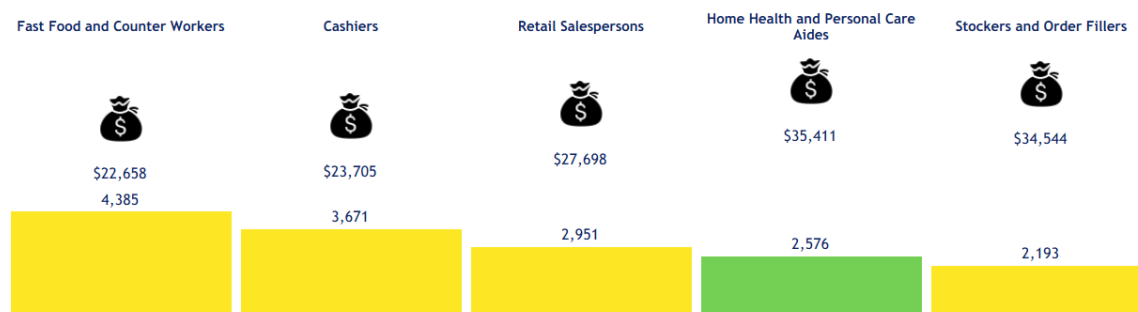


Figure 236 - Kentucky Occupational Outlook by LWA, 2023 to 2033
West Kentucky LWA

