

Kentucky caters to the food and beverage industry

Where business and agriculture partner for growth.



THINK KENTUCKY

Cabinet for Economic Development

Making Business Strong.
Making Life Exceptional.

Kentucky
UNBRIDLED SPIRIT

**Kentucky
Proud.**
Kentucky
Department
of Agriculture

Kentucky's food and beverage industry

A vital part of Kentucky's economy

#6

Ranked 6th in the nation for number of farms

Agriculture contributes
\$45.6 billion
to Kentucky's economy each year.

\$770m exported in food, kindred products and distilled spirits in 2016

300+ food and beverage-related facilities

Nearly **50,000** employees in Kentucky's food and beverage-related industries

More than **\$7b** in GDP from food, beverage and related products manufacturing

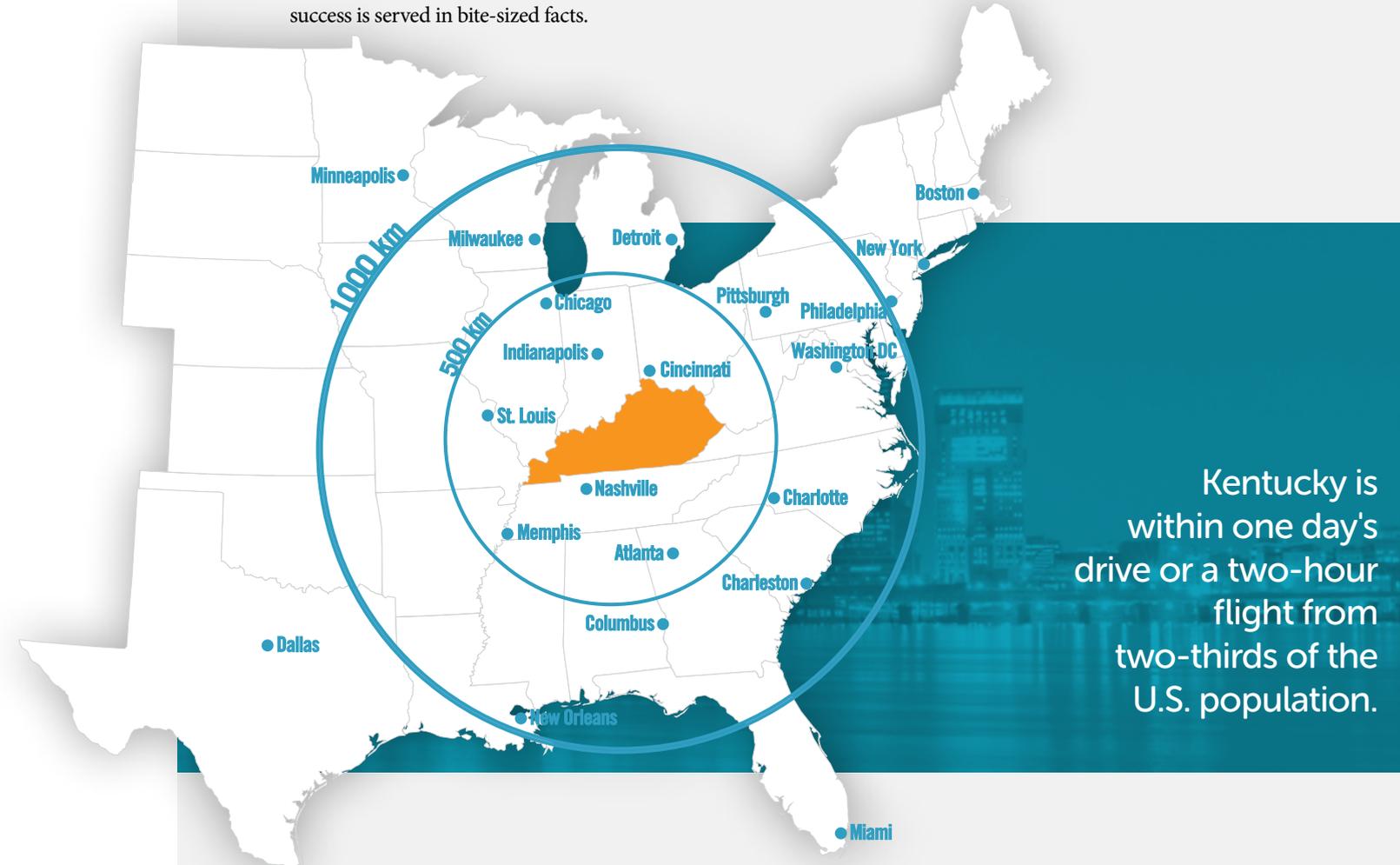
Farmland covers **50+%** of Kentucky's total acreage

Freshness starts in Kentucky

And travels fast

There is no better time than now to locate or expand a food and beverage industry facility in Kentucky. Food and beverage manufacturers and distributors, along with numerous container and packaging manufacturers, packaging plants, refrigerated warehousing operations and other food and beverage industry facilities are thriving in the commonwealth. Where freshness is vital, Kentucky's central location will ensure products get to market quickly – a critical need for companies selling perishable products.

The state's proximity to massive consumer markets, combined with an abundance of natural agricultural resources and transportation networks, allows companies to produce and transport quality products cost effectively and efficiently. From headquarters to food processing to an ever-expanding bourbon industry, food and beverage facilities are creating an economic feast across Kentucky. What makes Kentucky the perfect location for food and beverage industries? Our recipe for success is served in bite-sized facts.



Starting at ground level

Agriculture provides the raw materials

Our agriculture industry is rapidly growing. Companies are supported by Kentucky's historically strong agricultural base of more than 77,000 farms and more than 13 million acres of farmland (50+ percent of the state's total acreage). In fact, the state is sixth in the nation for total number of farms.

Our abundance of farmland, combined with the products we grow and raise, makes Kentucky the ideal location for food and beverage companies seeking a home. The access to nearby raw materials keeps costs and transportation expenses low.

Kentucky's excellent growing season allows for bountiful harvests and superior yields. Add the passion and determination that comes from family farms, and it's a recipe for success.

91%

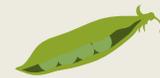
91 percent of Kentucky's 77,000 farms are family-owned and operated

Kentucky harvests what the country needs.

Below are Kentucky's rankings for the top crops in the U.S.



CORN
14th



SOYBEANS
15th



WHEAT
15th



Grown in Kentucky



CORN

Kentucky farmers harvested 225 million bushels last year, worth \$856.2 million.



HAY

Kentucky ranks No. 9 in the nation for hay production, and produced 5.7 million tons of hay.



SOYBEANS

Last year, soybean farmers harvested 88.7 million bushels for an \$815.9 million production value.



WHEAT

Last year, farmers harvested 32.1 million bushels of winter wheat for a \$171.8 million value.



VEGETABLES

Kentucky vegetable farmers, at last report, see nearly \$30 million in vegetables each year.



NURSERY PRODUCTS

The value of nursery, greenhouse, floriculture and sod products in Kentucky is nearly \$80 million per year.



FRUITS, TREE NUTS AND BERRIES

Nearly \$8 million in fruits, tree nuts and berries are sold in Kentucky each year.



Raising Kentucky's stock

Animals as a valuable resource

Kentucky's livestock industry has proven vital to the commonwealth's agricultural growth. Cattle (both dairy and beef), swine, poultry and horses all add tremendous value to Kentucky's economy.

Dairy

There are 61,000 dairy cows in Kentucky, residing on 690 dairy farms. These dairy cows produce nearly 125 million gallons of milk, amounting to nearly \$202 million.

Beef

Kentucky is the leading beef cattle state east of the Mississippi River, home to more than 1 million beef cows.

Poultry

Poultry products, which includes both broilers and layers, are Kentucky's leading ag commodity. Poultry farmers produced 1.28 billion eggs in 2015 with a \$191.7 million production value. Kentucky's poultry industry employs more than 7,000 people and provides work for another 20,000 in related industries and jobs.

Swine

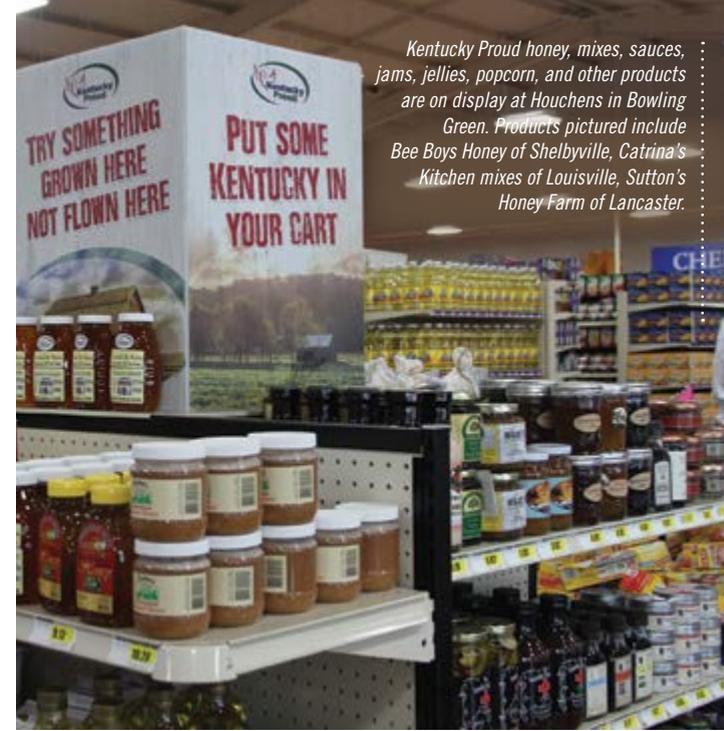
Kentucky's swine inventory totaled 430,000 head last year, ranking 18th in the nation. More than 1,200 hog farms in Kentucky sold \$108 million in product during the last reporting period.

Sheep

Kentucky's sheep industry has enjoyed a comeback in recent years. Kentucky's sheep inventory totaled 53,000 in 2016, 26th in the United States.

Goats

Kentucky has emerged as a leading state in goat production. Kentucky's goat inventory totaled 64,000 in 2016, good enough for seventh in the nation.



Kentucky Proud honey, mixes, sauces, jams, jellies, popcorn, and other products are on display at Houchens in Bowling Green. Products pictured include Bee Boys Honey of Shelbyville, Catrina's Kitchen mixes of Louisville, Sutton's Honey Farm of Lancaster.

Kentucky Proud

Locally grown products are in demand

Kentucky Proud, the state's official farm marketing program, is the engine that is driving Kentucky's vibrant local food movement. It has greatly increased sales of Kentucky-made products while also generating millions of dollars in revenue for Kentucky family farmers and small businesses.

A study by the University of Kentucky found that Kentucky Proud has achieved 69 percent brand recognition statewide, including 80 percent in the state's largest urban market, Louisville, and 75 percent in Lexington, Kentucky's no. 2 market in size.

Retailers have seen tangible benefits while promoting products as Kentucky Proud. Consumers are requesting those products because they know the food will be fresh and locally grown.

The return on investment for Kentucky Proud products is significant. In a recent study, Kentucky Proud returned \$2.94 in new farm income for every \$1 invested, according to the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund.

Any agricultural product grown, raised, produced, processed or manufactured in Kentucky can receive the Kentucky Proud designation. Nearly 6,000 farmers, processors, retailers, restaurants, school districts, colleges and universities, farmers' markets, Kentucky state parks and Kentucky Farm Bureau Certified Roadside Markets are members. The program is administered by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture.

FARMERS, PROCESSORS, RETAILERS, RESTAURANTS, SCHOOL DISTRICTS, COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES, FARMERS' MARKETS, KENTUCKY STATE PARKS AND KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU CERTIFIED ROADSIDE MARKETS

6,000 Kentucky Proud members



From farm to table

Manufacturing adds value

Once those raw materials are grown, raised or harvested, they are used in countless ways by Kentucky's wide range of food and beverage-related manufacturing firms. In total, Kentucky has 300+ such facilities in every part of the state.

You want examples? Nestle manufactures its popular Hot Pockets snacks in Mt. Sterling. Schwan's Florence plant produces the Red Baron and Freschetta pizza lines. Kellogg's makes its marquee Pop-Tarts and Nutrigrain bars here.

Kentucky is a dominant manufacturing force in the U.S. According to Food Processing Magazine, 33 of the country's top 100 food processing companies have facilities in Kentucky, including eight of the top 10 and 13 of the top 20.

Kentucky also features substantial international investment. Currently, some 500 Kentucky manufacturing, service and technology-related businesses are internationally owned, representing 34 countries. Those include such renowned companies as Beam Suntory, Bel Brands, Diageo, Grupo Bimbo, Four Roses, JBS USA, Mizkan, Nestle, Perfetti Van Melle, Pilgrim's Pride and Wild Turkey.

Statewide, our manufacturing community boasts 4,500 manufacturers, employing 245,000 Kentuckians. In addition, a recent nationwide state-by-state comparison by Ball State University gives Kentucky an "A" ranking for both manufacturing and logistics industry health.

In short, manufacturing is our "bread and butter."



KENTUCKY'S MANUFACTURING GDP (19.3%) HAS GROWN AT NEARLY TWICE THE NATIONAL AVERAGE SINCE 2008.

-U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis



LABOR COSTS ARE 18% BELOW THE U.S. AVERAGE

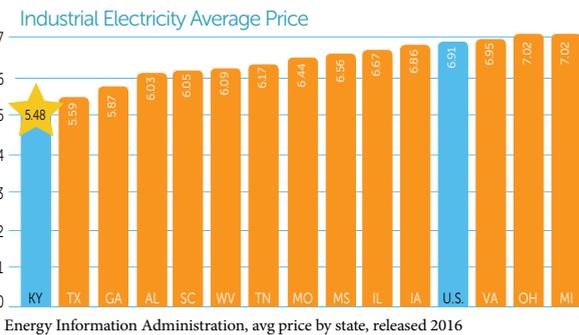
-U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

KENTUCKY IS NOW A RIGHT TO WORK STATE



KENTUCKY GETS AN "A" IN MANUFACTURING AND LOGISTICS INDUSTRY HEALTH

-Center for Business and Economic Research



OUR INDUSTRIAL ELECTRICITY RATES ARE THE LOWEST IN THE EASTERN U.S. AND ONE OF THE LOWEST IN THE COUNTRY.

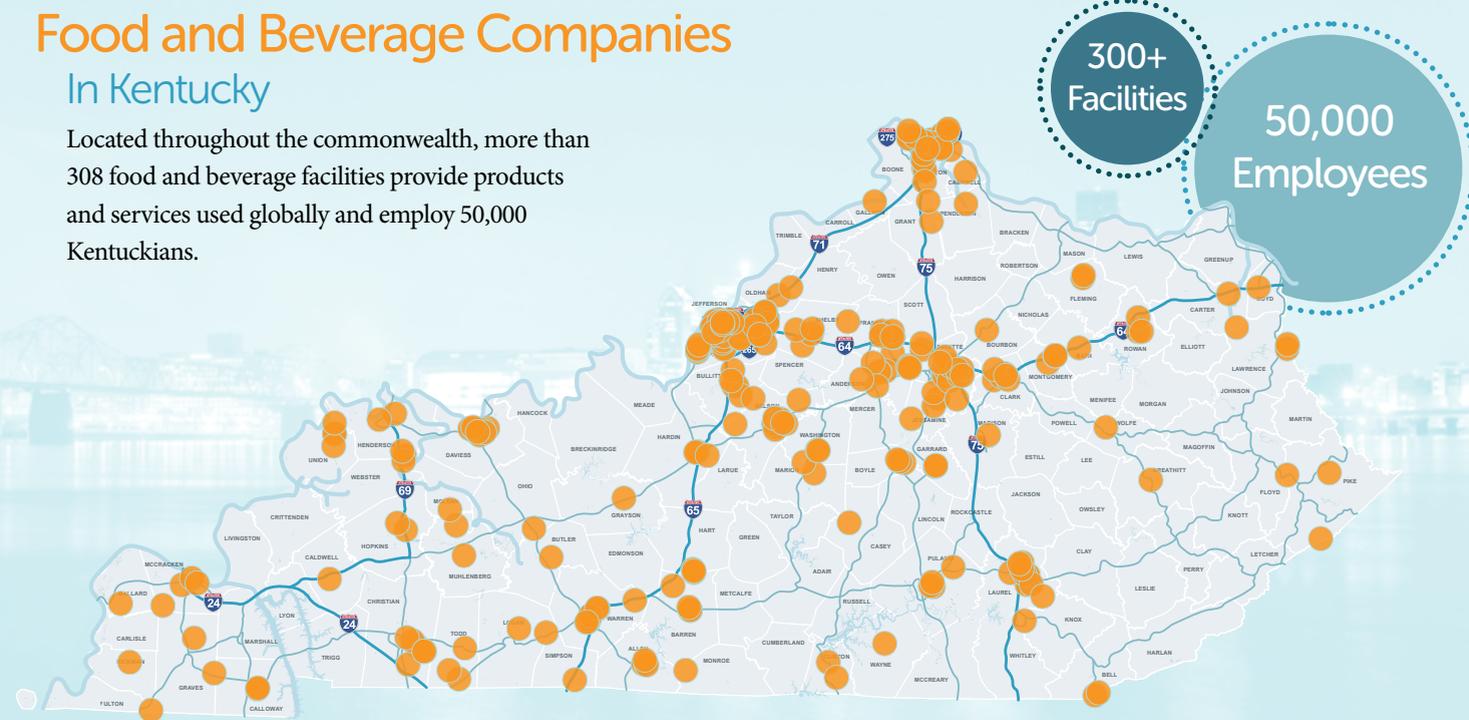
This bakery will allow us to expand our capacity, serve our customers and create a very unique work experience for the citizens of this region. We plan to be a good neighbor in this area for a long time.

Bill Quigg
President, Richmond Baking Company

Food and Beverage Companies

In Kentucky

Located throughout the commonwealth, more than 308 food and beverage facilities provide products and services used globally and employ 50,000 Kentuckians.



300+ Facilities

50,000 Employees



Beyond “people food”

Niche industries provide additional growth

Kentucky’s food and beverage industry continues to expand in additional areas to serve the growing need for customers. That growth is exemplified in the animal feed and wood products industries.

Feeding the Animals

Kentucky has more than 30 manufacturing operations that produce food and nutritional supplements for animals.

Pet food producers such as Champion Petfood, FreshChoice, Hill’s Pet Nutrition and the Hyland Company take care of many of the country’s pets, while a wide variety of mills and other producers provide food and supplements for larger animals. Manufacturers have found Kentucky ideal because of abundant natural resources and local suppliers.

Strengthening the Wood Industry

Wood that is grown in Kentucky is being used for a variety of food and beverage-related purposes. The bourbon industry has product aging in more than five million Kentucky-made barrels, and that number continues to grow. That has contributed to the influx of barrel stave manufacturers in the commonwealth.

In addition, wooden pallets and crates manufactured from Kentucky wood carry food and beverage products throughout the world. Soon, billions of ice cream sticks also will be made in Kentucky.

Since nearly half of Kentucky’s 25 million acres are covered in forests, wood is a renewable resource that is being properly managed to ensure adequate supplies in the future.

Kentucky bourbon is aged in new white oak barrels that have been charred to enhance the flavor and color of the bourbon.

Just a few months after its grand opening in Auburn, Ky., Champion Petfoods announced a major expansion of its operations to bring total employment to 200.



Manufacturers Kentucky Pet Food

Alltech Inc
Nicholasville

Champion Petfoods USA
Auburn

Dinovite
Crittenden

Excel Equine
Louisville

Fresh Choice Complete Diet
Warsaw

Hill’s Pet Nutrition
Bowling Green

“We rely on Kentucky farmers, ranchers and fishermen...and local people to fill our team. We have found the world’s best in Kentucky.”

Frank Burdzy

CEO and President
Champion Petfoods

Have a drink on us

Spirits create a wealth of opportunities

Few places around the globe are known for the spirits they produce. However, Kentucky proudly carries that distinction. While some of our beverages are well known, others are growing in stature and popularity.

For example, we export wine to France, vodka to Russia and scotch to Scotland. We even make legal moonshine! But bourbons, wines and craft beers are gathering the most attention. Our perfect combination of climate, conditions and pure limestone water are factors in our success.

Bourbon

The world associates bourbon with Kentucky, and with good reason. Ninety-five percent of the world's supply is distilled here, and production continues to grow. Just 15 years ago, annual production was less than 500,000 barrels. Today, production has almost tripled.

There are nearly 60 bourbon distilleries in Kentucky, owned by large corporations and small craft distillers. Collectively, the industry generates more than \$8.5 billion in revenue annually and employs more than 17,500 Kentuckians. In the past five years, some \$1.5 billion in capital projects have been completed, are under construction or are in the planning stage.

Bourbon also is a visitor attraction with many distilleries offering tours and tastings along the official Kentucky Bourbon Trail and the Kentucky Bourbon Trail Craft Tour. Nearly a million visitors travel all or parts of the trails each year.

Top bourbon manufacturing employers in Kentucky

Jim Beam, Maker's Mark
Beam Suntory – 1,298

Buffalo Trace, Glenmore Distillery
Sazerac Co. – 1,213

Woodford Reserve, Early Times
Brown-Forman – 1,166

Heaven Hill
Heaven Hill Distilleries – 622

Wild Turkey
Gruppo Campari – 151

Four Roses
Kirin Company – 105

Spirited facts

About the bourbon industry



95% of the world's bourbon is
made in Kentucky



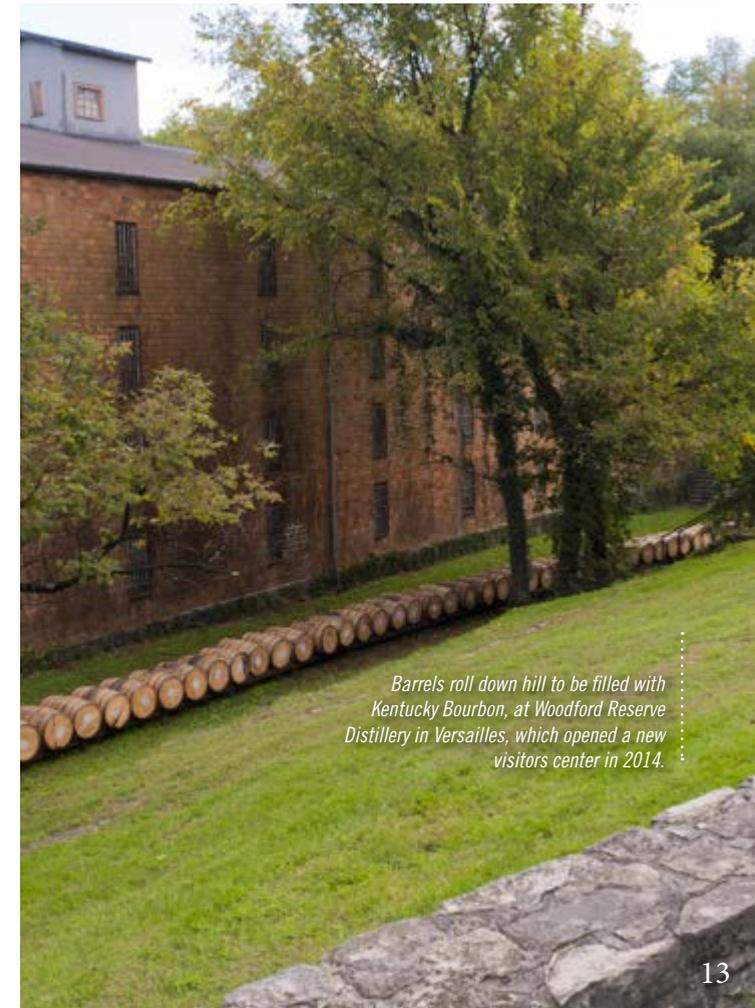
Between 15 and 20 million
bushels of corn are used by
Kentucky's bourbon and spirits
industry.



Kentucky has more than 6.7
million barrels of Bourbon aging in
warehouses. We have more barrels
than people (4.4 million)!

Bourbon is America's only native spirit.
To be called Bourbon, it must meet
certain requirements:

- Contain at least 51 percent corn
- Aged in charred new oak barrels
- Bottled at no less than 80 proof



*Barrels roll down hill to be filled with
Kentucky Bourbon, at Woodford Reserve
Distillery in Versailles, which opened a new
visitors center in 2014.*



A staff member pours a craft brew at Country Boy Brewing on Chair Avenue in Lexington. A four-year-old company, they are expanding to a Georgetown brewhouse in 2017.

Kentucky craft beer

A brew for success

Kentucky's young craft brewing industry already is generating hundreds of jobs and millions of dollars in economic activity. It's also creating unique opportunities for Kentucky farmers.

Kentucky had 40 microbreweries in 2016, up from 11 just five years before, and they employed an estimated 570 people, the Kentucky Guild of Brewers reported. Beer production in Kentucky generates \$495 million of economic impact a year. The Kentucky legislature doubled the maximum legal production of a Kentucky microbrewery to 50,000 barrels per year in 2016, touching off a wave of expansion in the industry.

The growth of craft brewing in Kentucky has boosted demand for hops, and Kentucky farmers could fill that need. Kentucky's climate and landscape are ideal for the crop; in fact, hop production was widespread in Kentucky, particularly Northern Kentucky, until the early 20th century. In 2016, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture initiated talks with brewers, universities and hop growers to study the potential for hop production in Kentucky.



Kentucky craft brewers produce up to 100,000 barrels of beer per year.

Kentucky wine

More than just grapes

Some say that Kentucky was "the original wine country" in the U.S., since the country's first commercial vineyard started here in 1798. The climate and soil combine to make a perfect combination for growing grapes.

Prohibition nearly wiped out wine production in Kentucky, but in recent years, it has made a dramatic resurgence. In 2000, only 10 wineries existed in the commonwealth. Today, more than 70 small wineries are in operation, producing 173,000 gallons fermented per year.

Kentucky wines have excelled in numerous regional and national competitions, including the San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition, the Indy International Wine Competition, the Kentucky Commonwealth Commercial Wine Competition and the Kentucky Derby Festival Wine Competition.

Just as Kentucky's bourbon industry has attracted a legion of tourists, so has wine. More than 216,000 visitors from across the globe sipped and savored last year in Kentucky wineries, and the attraction to the Kentucky grape continues to grow. The full economic impact was measured recently at \$165.3 million annually, which supports more than 1,250 Kentucky jobs.

Keeping Kentucky's Economic Glass Full



THE ORIGINAL "WINE COUNTRY."

1798 The first commercial vineyard in the U.S. was in Kentucky.



Produced 89,000 Cases of Wine last year.

Attracting 216,000 Wine-Related Tourists.

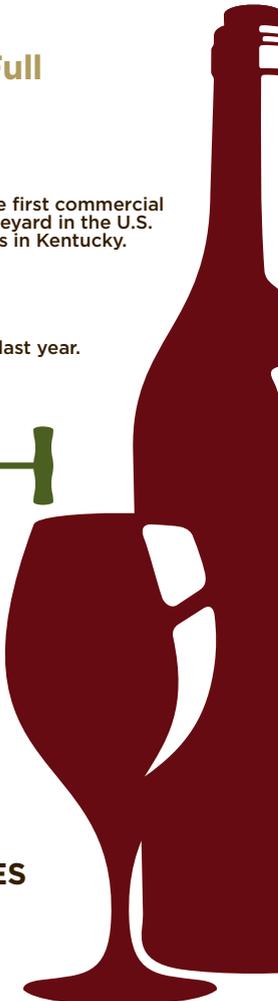
WHAT DOES KENTUCKY'S WINE INDUSTRY POUR INTO THE STATE?

Wages Paid



\$37.2m

Full Economic Impact of KENTUCKY WINE & GRAPES \$165.3m Cheers!



Overnight shipping

Almost anywhere in the world

If a company ships food or beverage products throughout the country or around the world, Kentucky is the place to be. We're located at the center of a 34-state distribution area in the eastern U.S. Kentucky's borders are within 600 miles of more than 65 percent of the nation's population, personal income and manufacturing establishments, perfect for shipping fresh products. In addition, Kentucky's airport system consists of six commercial airports and dozens of regional airports, plus two international cargo hubs (UPS and DHL), with a third global hub, Amazon Prime Air, announced in 2017. In addition, FedEx has a strong distribution presence throughout Kentucky. Supplement that with 20 interstate highways and controlled-access parkways, 2,700+ rail miles, nearly 2,000 miles of commercially navigable waterways and nine public river ports, and it's easy to see why Kentucky is a logistics dream.

We also have numerous container and packaging plants, refrigerated warehousing operations and other facilities to help your product stay fresh along the way.

Kentucky ranks No. 3 in the U.S. for total air cargo shipments, due to the presence of global shipping hubs for both UPS and DHL. That means overnight delivery worldwide.



80+
airplanes land daily

148k
packages delivered daily

130+
airplanes land daily

1.5m
packages delivered daily



A UPS worker prepares a crate for shipment from its global Worldport in Louisville.

Logistics options

Galore

- HIGHWAYS & BYWAYS**
10 interstates
10 state parkways
- GLOBAL SHIPPING HUBS**
UPS and DHL
Amazon Prime - coming soon

- AIRPORTS**
6 commercial, including
2 international
60+ regional

- WATERWAYS**
nearly 2,000 miles
of commercially
navigable waterways
9 public riverports

- RAILROADS**
2,760 miles of track
2,299 miles of
Class I track

- FREIGHT**
275 million tons
move across
Kentucky roadways
each week

Kentucky's distributors

Get products to market

On top of a perfect location and an abundance of logistics options, Kentucky offers a strong network of food and beverage distributors who get product to market without delay.

Currently, more than 60 food and beverage-related distributors and their 10,500 employees criss-cross the state and the nation to deliver what America consumes. Those include such corporations as Walmart, Gordon Food Service, Beam Suntory, McLane, Papa John's and Zenith Logistics, which distributes for the Kroger Company.

Those distributors also take pride in providing a network of options where Kentucky Proud products can get to retailers quickly.

For example, Louisville distributor Fishmarket Seafood has managed Kroger's massive expansion of its commitment to Kentucky Proud, distributing in excess of 375 million items from Kentucky family farms, resulting in hundreds of thousands of dollars directly to Kentucky farmers.

In addition, Critchfield Meats, a family-owned distributor based in Lexington, handles well over a million pounds of chicken a year from more than 170 Western Kentucky farmers with a total worth of \$1.5 million, as well as Kentucky Proud meats, popcorn, mixes and other products.

Whether products have to travel a few miles or a few thousand miles, Kentucky distributors are available and ready to haul at a moment's notice.

Kentucky's top 20 distributors

Walmart Distribution Center 6097 1,663 employees	Dollar General Corp 550 employees	Coca-Cola Bottling 300 employees	White Castle Distributing LLC 195 employees
Beam Suntory 1,298 employees	Papa John's International 525 employees	H T Hackney Co 292 employees	River City Distributing Inc 185 employees
McLane Foodservice 1,018 employees	Gordon Food Service 500 employees	Laurel Grocery Company LLC 280 employees	Kentucky Eagle Inc 180 employees
Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co 971 employees	Castellini Company LLC 360 employees	Save-A-Lot Distribution Center 210 employees	Performance Food Service 165 employees
Zenith Logistics Inc 696 employees	Clark Distributing Co 320 employees		

Kentucky makes Your mouth water

Nearly 4,500 manufacturing facilities across Kentucky produce textiles, automobiles, food, beverages, paper products, aerospace products, appliances and thousands of other products.

T. Marzetti Salad Dressings are made in Horse Cave.



Kellogg's Pop-tarts are made at the company's facility in Pikeville.

The JIF plant in Lexington is the world's largest peanut butter-producing facility.



Ragu Spaghetti Sauce is made in Owensboro.



Hot Pockets are made by Nestle Prepared Foods in Mt. Sterling.



Keebler Fudge Stripes are made in Florence.

Airheads candy is manufactured by Perfetti Van Melle in Erlanger.



The first Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant owned and operated by Colonel Sanders is located in Corbin.



All Reynolds Wrap aluminum foil is produced in Louisville, where the company was founded in 1919.

Mini Babybel and Laughing Cow Cheese are manufactured by Bel Brands in Leitchfield.



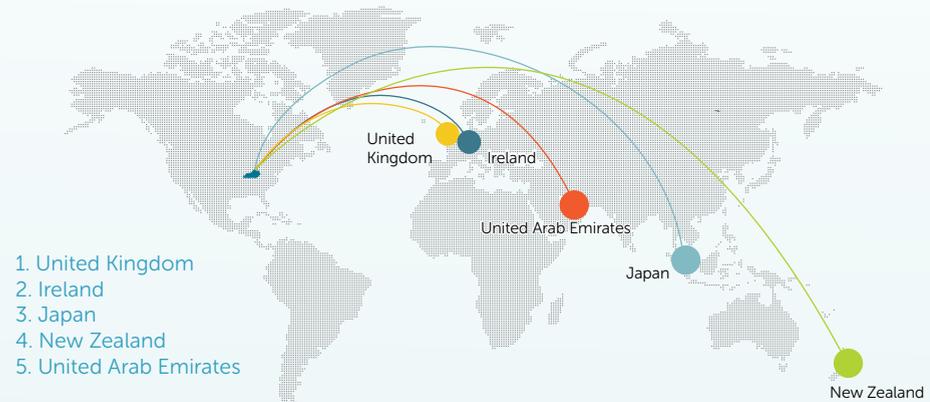
Taiwan recently agreed to purchase nearly 200 million bushels of Kentucky corn over a two-year period, making Asia Kentucky's leading destination for corn.



Feeding the world Exports provide taste of Kentucky

Kentucky makes – or grows – products the world wants. That's why, last year, more than \$1 billion in agricultural products were exported to countries throughout the world. From whiskeys and other spirits to horses and other animals to wood products to vegetables, Kentucky bourbon is working to satisfy a hungry and thirsty world.

Kentucky's top five Export destinations





BROWN-FORMAN



Yum! Brands, which operates nearly 43,000 restaurants in 135 countries, is headquartered in Louisville.



Ale-8-One soft drinks have been bottled in Winchester for more than 90 years.



Papa John's is headquartered in Louisville. The company's first franchise was sold in Fern Creek in 1986 and is still in operation today.



We headquarter it

Kentucky serves as the headquarters for many leading international food and beverage firms. For example, Kentucky is home to Yum! Brands, the largest restaurant company in the world. Yum! Brands oversee KFC, Taco Bell and Pizza Hut. Papa John's, the third-largest carryout and pizza chain in the world, also has its main offices here, as does Texas Roadhouse, a fast-growing chain of family-friendly steakhouses. Some of the world's leading bourbon brands are headquartered here too, including Brown-Forman and Heaven Hill.

In short, there's no time like the present to locate or expand your food and beverage business in Kentucky. Such businesses are thriving and there's always room for you at the table.

Headquartered in Kentucky

Brown-Forman Corp

Louisville | 800 employees

Heaven Hill Distilleries Inc

Bardstown | 562 employees

Papa John's International

Louisville | 525 employees

Alltech Inc

Nicholasville | 450 employees

ADM Wild Flavors Inc

Erlanger | 415 employees

Texas Roadhouse Inc

Louisville | 362 employees

YUM! Brands Inc YSC

Louisville | 300 employees

Perfetti Van Melle USA Inc

Erlanger | 300 employees

Laurel Grocery Company LLC

London | 280 employees

Canteen Service Co

Owensboro | 275 employees

Purnell Old Folks Sausage Inc

Simpsonville | 270 employees

Dippin' Dots LLC

Paducah | 185 employees

Modern Distributors

Somerset | 170 employees

Restaurant Supply Chain Solutions LLC

Louisville | 170 employees

Houchens Industries

Bowling Green | 160 employees

Chas Seligman Dist Co Inc

Walton | 125 employees

Galerie

Hebron | 110 employees

Ale-8-One

Winchester | 96 employees

Long John Silver's LLC

Louisville | 80 employees

Fazoli's Restaurant Group Inc

Lexington | 60 employees

Kentucky's workforce

Top talent

Food and beverage companies have found a talented workforce available in Kentucky. Manufacturing is a major emphasis here. We currently boast a manufacturing workforce approaching 250,000 people, including 16,000 in the food and beverage industry.

In addition, Kentucky is now a Right-to-Work state, an important ingredient for many companies considering a new or expanded location.

We also want to ensure you have access to a skilled and trained workforce. Our Kentucky Skills Network provides companies a variety of workforce services, including recruitment, skills development, training and customized training incentives at little to no cost.

Last year, the Kentucky Skills Network provided training services for 5,000 companies and 95,000 workers.

In addition, workforce training facilities throughout the state are being constructed or improved, thanks to the innovative new \$100 million Kentucky Workforce Skills Initiative, which engages both the public and private sector to ensure training needs are met.

Our energized workforce apprentice program is involving hundreds of Kentucky companies, providing valuable on-the-job training and experience to workers. And to prepare for the future, students in our KY FAME apprentice program work at Champion Petfoods, Perdue Farms, Tyson Foods, Perfetti Van Melle and Land O' Frost while attending school.

Meanwhile, our colleges and universities are focused on educating and training the workforce of the future, focusing on the specific needs of the employer.

Kentucky brings together the skilled workers, training and recruitment resources and professional degree programs that give food and beverage companies the advantages they need for success.

8
PUBLIC
UNIVERSITIES
TOTAL
ENROLLMENT
128,482

19
INDEPENDENT
INSTITUTIONS OF
HIGHER EDUCATION
TOTAL
ENROLLMENT
35,202

16
COMMUNITY
& TECHNICAL
COLLEGES
TOTAL
ENROLLMENT
116,614



A worker at The Comfy Cow prepares ingredients for "Brown Butter Peanut Brittle Ice Cream." The Comfy Cow created 40 new jobs and invested \$2 million when it opened its first standalone production facility in Louisville.

Talent base

Supply of skilled workers in Kentucky

Food and beverage companies in Kentucky have access to a supply of qualified workers in many fields at costs below the national average. Below is a list of relevant job classifications, along with Kentucky's average hourly rate compared with the average U.S. rate.

Agricultural Engineers KY: \$32.87 U.S.: \$37.74	Food Cooking Machine Operators & Tenders KY: \$15.15 U.S.: \$14.15
Agricultural Equipment Operators KY: \$10.78 U.S.: \$14.13	Food Processing Workers, All Other KY: \$12.00 U.S.: \$12.13
Agricultural Inspectors KY: \$20.11 U.S.: \$21.06	Food Scientists and Technologists KY: \$29.38 U.S.: \$34.63
Animal Scientists KY: \$26.94 U.S.: \$34.53	Foresters KY: \$21.84 U.S.: \$29.16
Bakers KY: \$11.87 U.S.: \$12.63	Meat, Poultry and Fish Cutters and Trimmers KY: \$11.36 U.S.: \$11.93
Buyers and Purchasing Agents, Farm Products KY: \$23.82 U.S.: \$29.94	Mixing and Blending Machine Setters, Operators and Tenders KY: \$16.71 U.S.: \$17.50
Cooling and Freezing Equipment Operators and Tenders KY: \$12.33 U.S.: \$15.14	Packaging and Filling Machine Operators and Tenders KY: \$14.14 U.S.: \$14.31
Cutting and Slicing Machine Setters, Operators and Tenders KY: \$16.36 U.S.: \$15.99	Soil and Plant Scientists KY: \$22.35 U.S.: \$31.72
First-Line Supervisors of Farming, Fishing and Forestry Workers KY: \$22.87 U.S.: \$23.22	Veterinarians KY: \$41.79 U.S.: \$47.60
Food Batchmakers KY: \$14.97 U.S.: \$14.04	

Source: Chmura Economics & Analytics / JobsEQ, 2015 (Q3) Average per hour based on 40 hrs/week.

Conducting research

That is ground breaking

Kentucky's colleges and universities help keep the state's food and beverage industries ahead of the curve with groundbreaking research aimed at improving food quantity and quality. Included below are examples of the innovative work currently being performed.

University of Kentucky (UK)

Lexington

UK's Ecological Research and Education Center (EREC) Field Station allows students and researchers to study ecological and environmental issues in Kentucky, especially related to plant and disease research. In addition, UK's Poultry Research Facility provides the platform for research into poultry diets and the use of different products in those diets.

Kentucky State University (KSU)

Frankfort

KSU offers a range of aquaculture research including production, aquaponics and fisheries. The university's Aquaculture Research Center (ARC) includes 33 research ponds used to conduct research on fish disease, reproduction, water quality, physiology and production systems.

Western Kentucky University (WKU)

Bowling Green

The WKU Agriculture Research and Education Center is an 800-acre farm used by students for corn and soybean research trials, as well as USDA and faculty research. WKU also studies beef operations, dairy farming, food production, equine research and soil and plant research.

Murray State University (MSU)

Murray

MSU's Watershed Studies Institute is researching the conditions and health of Kentucky Lake, evaluating the nutrients that feed the phytoplankton population and studying fisheries to address food and nursery areas underneath the water.

Morehead State University

Morehead

Agricultural science students at Morehead State use the Derrickson Agricultural Complex and Browning Orchard in nearby Fleming County to study and raise cattle, swine and sheep, as well as gain experience with equine breeding and vegetable and grain production.

Eastern Kentucky University (EKU)

Richmond

Stateland Dairy and Meadowbrook Farm provide EKU students with hands-on experience in the livestock management and crop enterprises, while the university's research focuses on solving practical farm issues.



At Alltech, a scientist processes animal tissues for microscopic examination. Headquartered in Nicholasville, Alltech has 77 production facilities and three bioscience centers across the globe.



New recipes

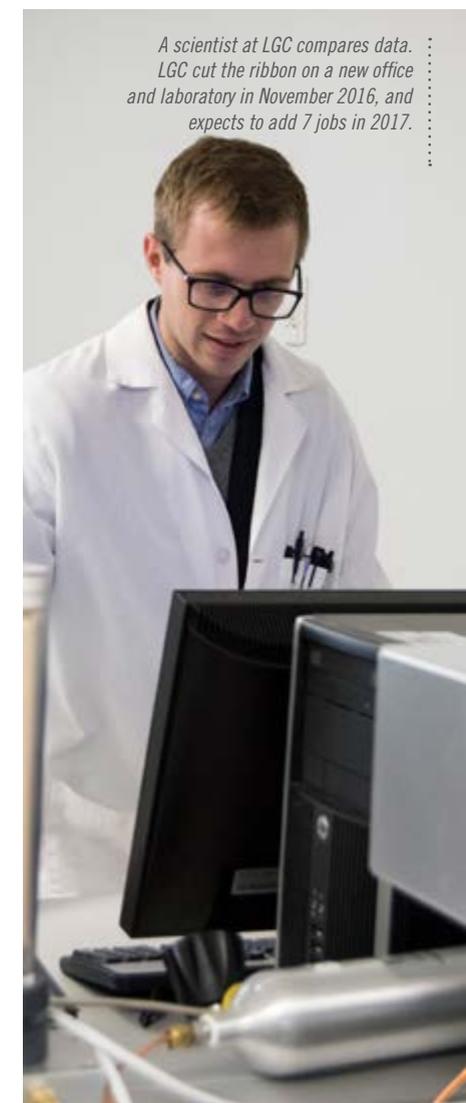
Innovative approaches improve safety

Several Kentucky businesses are making dramatic advances in the area of food and medicine safety, using cutting-edge technology to protect both humans and animals. Some of the more innovative companies include:

- Alltech, in Nicholasville, has invested years of scientific research into the development of yeast and enzyme-based animal feed supplements. With regulations differing from country to country, Alltech has researched and implemented best practices to keep animal food nutritionally balanced and free from contaminants such as heavy metals, mycotoxins, dioxins and PCBs. Using the research, the company has established standards that meet or exceed the most stringent in the world.
- Hollison, LLC, in Owensboro, has researched and improved sampling methods for companies testing their food products. Hollison's team of engineers, microbiologists and business development has developed two continuous sampling devices (DuraSampler and TrueSampler) that will allow customers to sample all food products continually, rather than through periodic sampling. This process improves food safety and is a more efficient method of testing.
- LGC, in Lexington, has expanded its laboratories to ensure the safety of sports supplements for both human and animal athletes. LGC currently provides drug testing for high-profile equine events in the U.S. and the world, and minimizes the risk of a human athlete inadvertently committing a doping violation by consuming a contaminated supplement.

We're from the Owensboro area, so to be able to stay there and expand there and be able to do it with the support of the state, the county and the city is huge for us.

Bo Barron
Vice President, Hollison



A scientist at LGC compares data. LGC cut the ribbon on a new office and laboratory in November 2016, and expects to add 7 jobs in 2017.

Kentucky will help you succeed

Support for growing businesses

The Cabinet for Economic Development strives to be a strategic partner with every Kentucky company to facilitate growth. Not only does that include providing assistance during location or expansion plans, but also along every step of the journey that follows. Kentucky offers the resources to help companies strengthen their businesses, whether they need workforce development assistance, export help or access to capital and new markets.

Your Kentucky Home

Kentucky offers a variety of available sites and buildings to food and beverage-related industries. The state also offers nearly a dozen “Build-Ready” sites, where land, utilities and all necessary permits has been acquired, a building pad is in place, and building renderings are available for immediate construction.

In addition, Kentucky features at least four sites certified as shovel ready for food and beverage processing facilities by Austin Consulting. This prestigious certification indicates the sites that are optimal for food and beverage companies, shortening the overall vetting process and ensuring a quality site for such facilities. This sites are located in Henderson (two sites), Lebanon and Russell Springs.

We Want to Partner with You

As the primary state agency responsible for encouraging business growth and job creation in the commonwealth, the Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development stands ready to help businesses explore opportunities in the commonwealth. Our experienced project managers provide professional and confidential assistance, serving as the central point of contact for all of your business investment needs. From site location and expansion opportunities to job retention and workforce training initiatives to start-up assistance and guidance in export growth, they work closely with local, regional and state-level government agencies, as well as a variety of industry partners to make the decision to invest in Kentucky an easy one.

In addition, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture offers a wide variety of resources for food producers, farmers, and other agriculture-related businesses. Grants, low-interest loans, tax incentives, marketing assistance, and entrepreneurial support are available for individuals and businesses looking to set up shop in Kentucky.

In short, Kentucky has what food and beverage-related businesses need, and we have space for you to grow with us.



Your future

Awaits you in Kentucky

To grow Kentucky’s business community, the state strives to partner with each company and mutually find ways to meet their needs. That includes providing assistance during location or expansion plans, as well as every step along the way.

Whether a company is looking for a competitive tax climate, progressive incentive programs, an ideal location or an unsurpassed quality of life, Kentucky offers the “can-do” workforce and business climate companies need to succeed.

Kentucky is emerging as a hub of manufacturing and engineering excellence in North America. We invite you to explore the many ways Kentucky can make your company a success.

We’re grateful to the state of Kentucky for their longstanding partnership and support. With this expansion, we look forward to continuing that alliance well into the future.

Bill Lovette
CEO, Pilgrim’s Pride

Making business strong.
Making life exceptional.

THINKKENTUCKY

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