



Industry Spotlight

CLEX - Biopharma and Life Sciences

Greater Lexington Bluegrass Alliance Region



Kentucky's Bluegrass Region

Commerce Lexington
Economic Development
330 E Main Street, Suite 205
Lexington, KY 40507
859-254-4447
www.locateinlexington.com

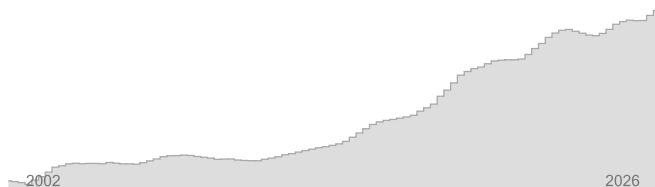
Spotlight Summary	3
Industry Snapshot	4
Staffing Pattern	5
Geographic Distribution	6
Employment Distribution by Type	7
Establishments	8
GDP & Productivity.....	9
Supply Chain: Top Suppliers	10
Postsecondary Programs Linked to CLEX - Biopharma and Life Sciences.....	11
Greater Lexington Bluegrass Alliance Region Regional Map	12
Data Notes.....	13
Industry Definition	14
Region Definition.....	15
FAQ.....	16

Spotlight Summary

CLEX - Biopharma and Life Sciences

Greater Lexington Bluegrass Alliance Region – 2026Q1

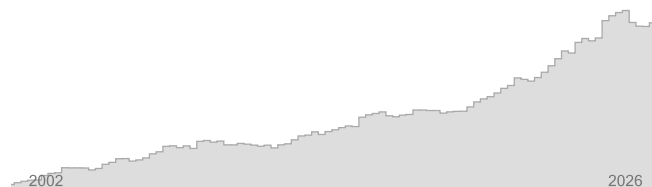
EMPLOYMENT



2,039

Regional employment / **1,242,926** in the nation

WAGES



\$111,067

Avg Wages per Worker / **\$174,703** in the nation

5.6% ↑

Avg Ann % Change Last 10 Years / **+3.1%** in the U.S.



0.5%

% of Total Employment / **0.7%** in the U.S.

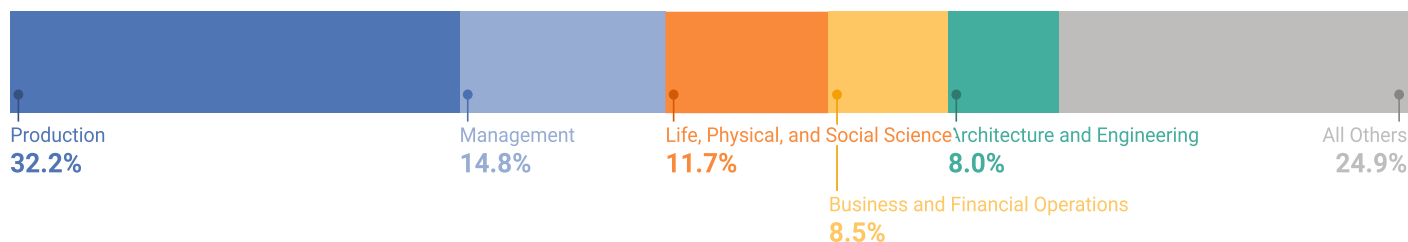


3.6% ↑

Avg Ann % Change Last 10 Years / **+3.3%** in the U.S.



TOP OCCUPATION GROUPS



TOP INDUSTRIES

Avg Ann % Change in Employment, Last 10 Years

5.0 % ↑



Pharmaceutical Preparation Manufacturing

7.8 % ↑



In-Vitro Diagnostic Substance Manufacturing

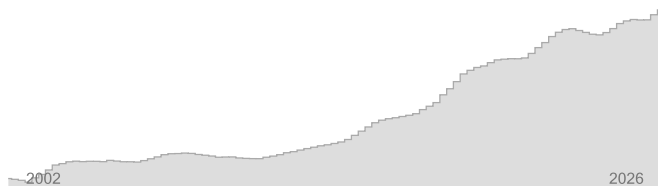
4.8 % ↑



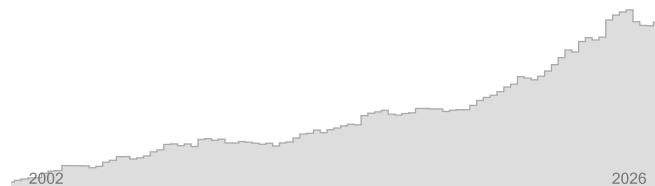
Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences (except Nanotechnology and Biotechnology)

Industry Snapshot

EMPLOYMENT



WAGES

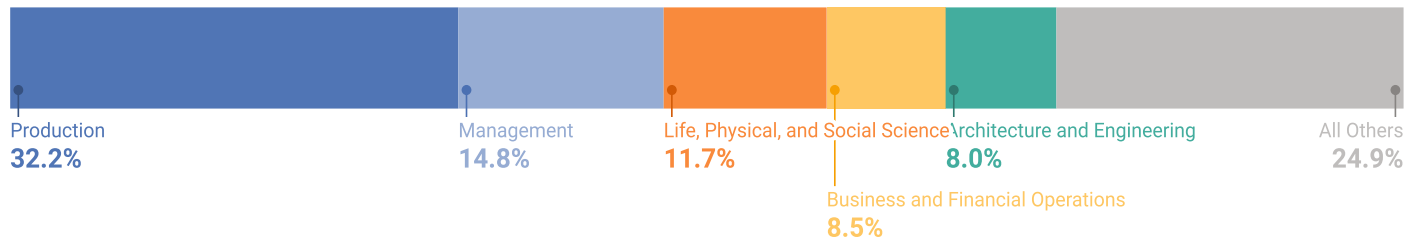


6-Digit Industry	Empl	Avg Ann Wages	LQ	5yr History	Annual Demand	Forecast Ann Growth
Pharmaceutical Preparation Manufacturing	895	\$122,298	1.64		86	0.5%
In-Vitro Diagnostic Substance Manufacturing	378	\$75,706	5.72		36	0.4%
Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences (except Nanotechnology and Biotechnology)	361	\$116,492	0.27		30	0.9%
Medicinal and Botanical Manufacturing	240	\$111,873	2.18		24	0.7%
Research and Development in Biotechnology (except Nanobiotechnology)	136	\$123,791	0.20		11	0.8%
Research and Development in Nanotechnology	16	\$101,822	0.28		1	0.8%
Biological Product (except Diagnostic) Manufacturing	12	\$77,845	0.11		1	0.4%
CLEX - Biopharma and Life Sciences	2,039	\$111,067	0.70		189	0.6%

💡 Employment is one of the broadest and most timely measures of a region's economy. Fluctuations in the number of jobs shed light on the health of an industry. A growing employment base creates more opportunities for regional residents and helps a region grow its population.

💡 Since wages and salaries generally compose the majority of a household's income, the annual average wages of a region affect its average household income, housing market, quality of life, and other socioeconomic indicators.

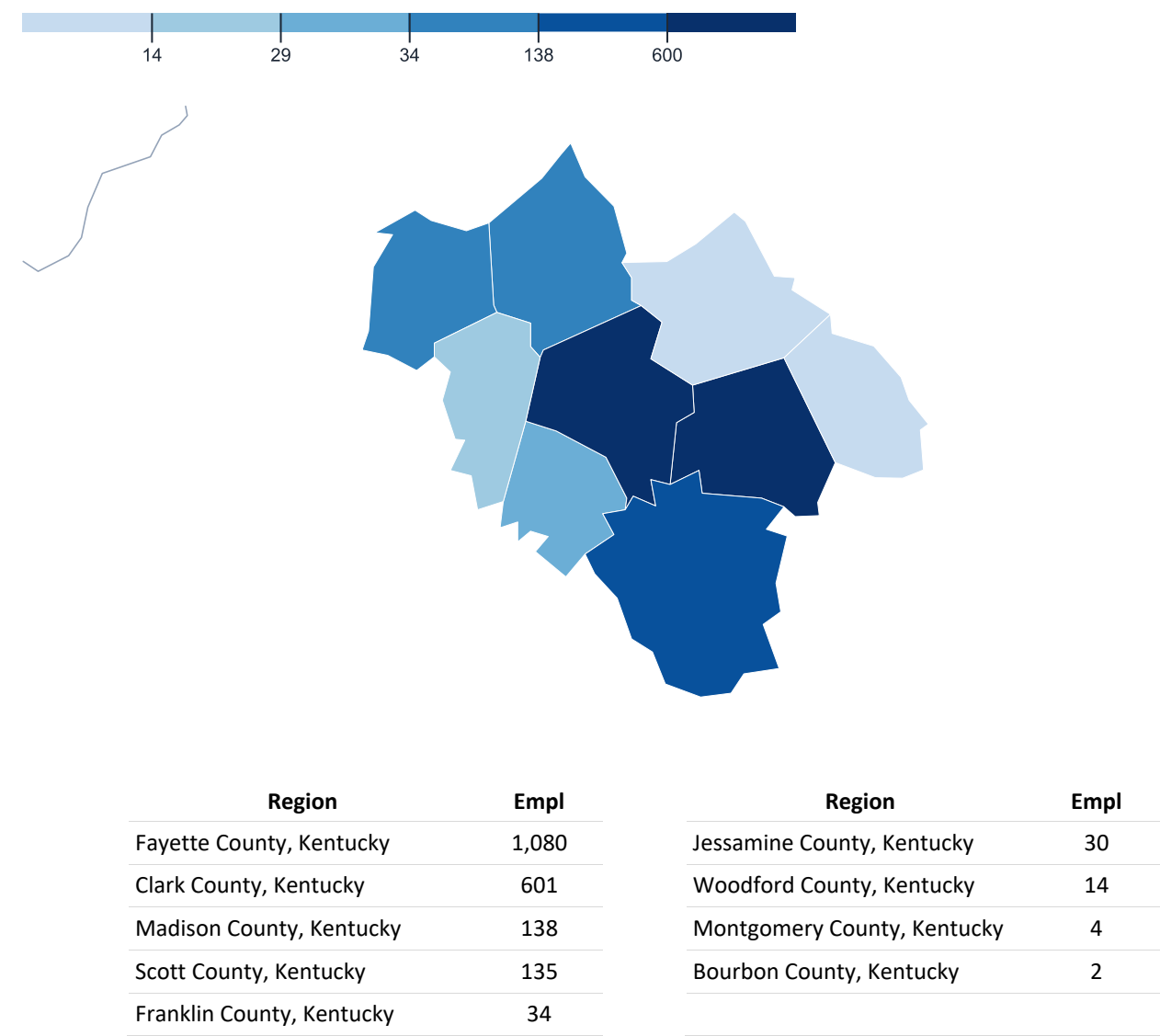
Staffing Pattern



6-digit Occupation	Empl	Avg Ann Wages	Annual Demand
Chemical Equipment Operators and Tenders	217	\$53,500	25
Packaging and Filling Machine Operators and Tenders	167	\$43,700	20
Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	94	\$57,900	12
Industrial Engineers	65	\$108,900	5
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	62	\$88,200	6
General and Operations Managers	62	\$156,000	5
Industrial Production Managers	54	\$145,600	4
Chemists	50	\$79,300	4
Medical Scientists, Except Epidemiologists	36	\$109,800	2
Managers, All Other	35	\$170,800	3
Remaining Component Occupations	1,166	\$93,200	109
Total	2,006		

💡 The mix of occupations points to the ability of a region to support an industry and its flexibility to adapt to future demand. Industry wages are a component of the cost of labor for regional employers.

Geographic Distribution



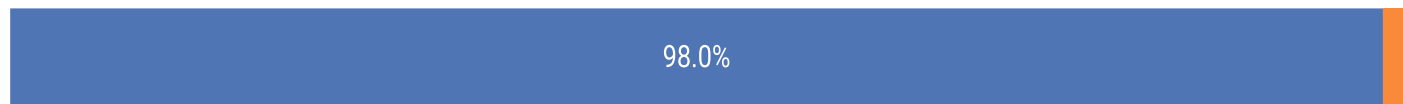
Source: JobsEQ®

💡 The geographic distribution of industry employment by place of work illustrates the impact on labor force demand and commuting patterns.

Employment Distribution by Type

The table below shows the employment mix by ownership type for CLEX - Biopharma and Life Sciences for the Greater Lexington Bluegrass Alliance Region. Four of these ownership types — federal, state, and local government and the private sector — together constitute “Covered Employment” (employment covered by the Unemployment Insurance programs of the United States and reported via the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages).

“Self-Employment” refers to unincorporated self-employment and represents workers whose primary job is self-employment (that is, these data do not include workers whose primary job is a wage-and-salary position that is supplemented with self-employment).



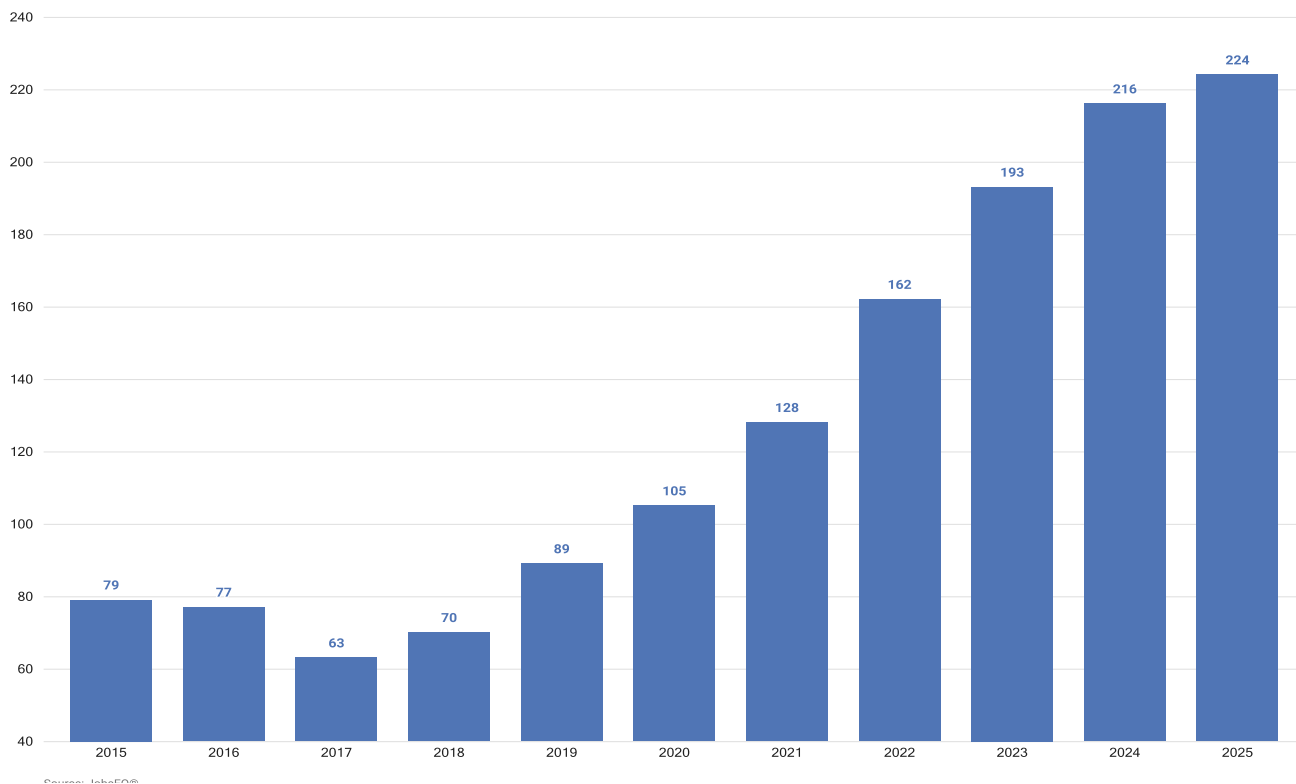
	Empl	%
Private	1,998	98.0%
Self-Employment	41	2.0%

Source: JobsEQ®

Strong entrepreneurial activity is indicative of growing industries. Using self-employment as a proxy for entrepreneurs, a higher share of self-employed individuals within a regional industry points to future growth.

Establishments

In 2025, there were 224 CLEX - Biopharma and Life Sciences establishments in the Greater Lexington Bluegrass Alliance Region (per covered employment establishment counts), an increase from 79 establishments ten years earlier in 2015.

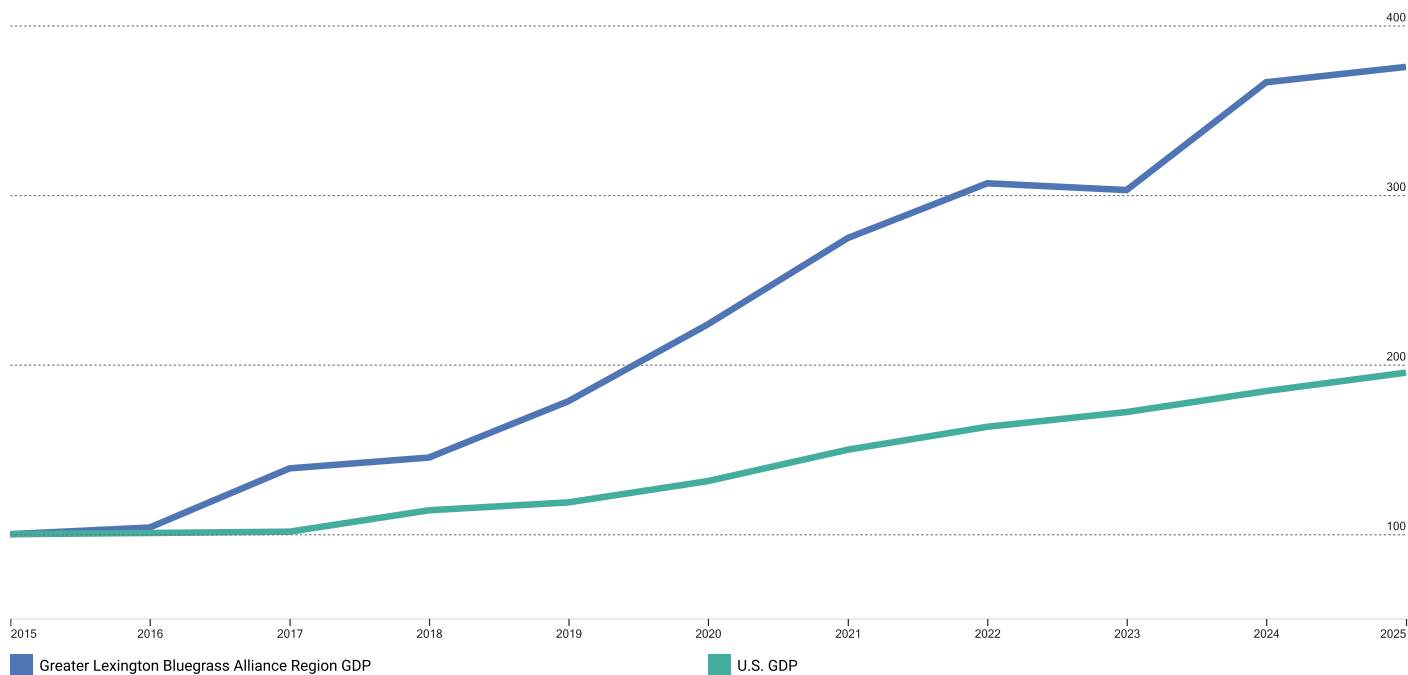


💡 New business formations are an important source of job creation in a regional economy, spurring innovation and competition, and driving productivity growth. Establishment data can provide an indicator of growth in businesses by counting each single location (such as a factory or a store) where business activity takes place, and with at least one employee.

GDP & Productivity

In 2025, CLEX - Biopharma and Life Sciences produced \$0.7 billion in GDP for the Greater Lexington Bluegrass Alliance Region.

GDP: Indexed 2015 = 100



1.3 %

Industry Share of Total GDP /
1.7 % in the nation



14.1 % ↑

Avg Ann % Change Last 10 Yrs /
6.9 % in the nation



\$547k

Output per Worker /
\$555k in the nation



💡 Gross domestic product (GDP) is the most comprehensive measure of regional economic activity, and an industry's contribution to GDP is an important indicator of regional industry strength. It is a measure of total value-added to a regional economy in the form of labor income, proprietor's income, and business profits, among others. GDP values shown on this page are nominal GDP data.

💡 Growth in productivity (output per worker) leads to increases in wealth and higher average standards of living in a region.

Supply Chain: Top Suppliers

As of 2026Q1, CLEX - Biopharma and Life Sciences in the Greater Lexington Bluegrass Alliance Region are estimated to make \$332.9 million in annual purchases from suppliers in the United States with about 47% or \$157.3 million of these purchases being made from businesses located in the Greater Lexington Bluegrass Alliance Region.

6-digit Supplier Industries	Purchases from In-Region (\$M)	Purchases from Out-of-Region (\$M)
Medicinal and Botanical Manufacturing	\$53.1	<\$0.1
Biological Product (except Diagnostic) Manufacturing	\$2.7	\$36.5
Corporate, Subsidiary, and Regional Managing Offices	\$9.1	\$9.3
Pharmaceutical Preparation Manufacturing	\$13.8	\$2.3
Offices of Lawyers	\$4.7	\$5.0
Remaining Supplier Industries	\$73.8	\$122.5
Total	\$157.3	\$175.7

 Supplier-buyer networks can indicate local linkages between industries, regional capacity to support growth in an industry, and potential leakage of sales out of the region.

Postsecondary Programs Linked to CLEX - Biopharma and Life Sciences

Program	Awards
Bluegrass Community and Technical College	
Industrial Mechanics and Maintenance Technology/Technician	342
Eastern Kentucky University	
Biomedical Sciences, General	36
Forensic Chemistry	41
Industrial Safety Technology/Technician	110
University of Kentucky	
Biology/Biological Sciences, General	184
Biomedical Sciences, General	24
Chemistry, General	45
Industrial Engineering	40
Mechanical Engineering	164
Neuroscience	91

Source: [JobsEQ®](http://www.chmuraecon.com/jobseq)

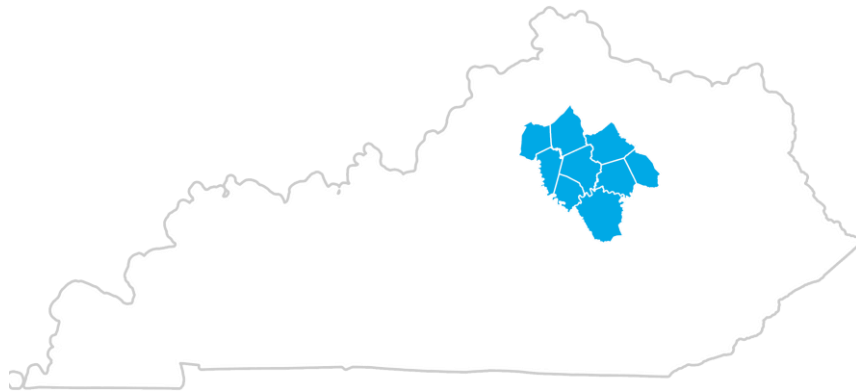


The number of graduates from postsecondary programs in the region identifies the pipeline of future workers as well as the training capacity to support industry demand.



Among postsecondary programs at schools located in the Greater Lexington Bluegrass Alliance Region, the sampling above identifies those most linked to occupations relevant to CLEX - Biopharma and Life Sciences. For a complete list see JobsEQ®, <http://www.chmuraecon.com/jobseq>

Greater Lexington Bluegrass Alliance Region Regional Map



Data Notes

- Industry employment and wages (including total regional employment and wages) are as of 2026Q1 and are based upon BLS QCEW data, imputed by Chmura where necessary, and supplemented by additional sources including Census ZBP data. Employment forecasts are modeled by Chmura and are consistent with BLS national-level 10-year forecasts.
- Occupation employment is as of 2026Q1 and is based on industry employment and local staffing patterns calculated by Chmura and utilizing BLS OEWS data. Wages by occupation are as of 2026, utilizing BLS OEWS data and imputed by Chmura.
- GDP is derived from BEA data and imputations by Chmura. Productivity (output per worker) is calculated by Chmura using industry employment and wages as well as GDP and BLS output data. Supply chain modeling including purchases by industry are developed by Chmura.
- Postsecondary awards are per the NCES and are for the 2023-2024 academic year.
- Establishment counts are per the BLS QCEW data.
- Figures may not sum due to rounding.

Industry Definition

CLEX - Biopharma and Life Sciences is defined as the following NAICS industries:

Code	Description
325411	Medicinal and Botanical Manufacturing
325412	Pharmaceutical Preparation Manufacturing
325413	In-Vitro Diagnostic Substance Manufacturing
325414	Biological Product (except Diagnostic) Manufacturing
541713	Research and Development in Nanotechnology
541714	Research and Development in Biotechnology (except Nanobiotechnology)
541715	Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences (except Nanotechnology and Biotechnology)

Region Definition

Greater Lexington Bluegrass Alliance Region is defined as the following counties:

Bourbon County, Kentucky	Madison County, Kentucky
Clark County, Kentucky	Montgomery County, Kentucky
Fayette County, Kentucky	Scott County, Kentucky
Franklin County, Kentucky	Woodford County, Kentucky
Jessamine County, Kentucky	

FAQ

What is (LQ) location quotient?

Location quotient is a measurement of concentration in comparison to the nation. An LQ of 1.00 indicates a region has the same concentration of an industry (or occupation) as the nation. An LQ of 2.00 would mean the region has twice the expected employment compared to the nation and an LQ of 0.50 would mean the region has half the expected employment in comparison to the nation.

What is annual demand?

Annual demand is a of the sum of the annual projected growth demand and separation demand. Separation demand is the number of jobs required due to separations—labor force exits (including retirements) and turnover resulting from workers moving from one occupation into another. Note that separation demand does not include all turnover—it does not include when workers stay in the same occupation but switch employers. Growth demand is the increase or decrease of jobs expected due to expansion or contraction of the overall number of jobs.

What is the difference between industry wages and occupation wages?

Industry wages and occupation wages are estimated via separate data sets, often the time periods being reported do not align, and wages are defined slightly differently in the two systems (for example, certain bonuses are included in the industry wages but not the occupation wages). It is therefore common that estimates of the average industry wages and average occupation wages in a region do not match exactly.