



CABINET FOR
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



Special Committee—

Air Mobility & Aviation Economic Development Task Force

November 4, 2025

Our *New* Kentucky Home

TEAM KENTUCKY:

BUILDING A BETTER TOMORROW



*A stable job is the beginning.
A safe place to live & a community to call home
allows us to **dream bigger, do better and create
more opportunities** for future generations who
live in the **special place we call Kentucky.***

SHARED RESPONSIBILITY - SHARED OPPORTUNITY

WHY?

Our Vision

Team Kentucky: Great jobs for neighbors supporting one another to build a better Kentucky with an economy that works for all residents and not just a few

WHAT?

Our Mission

Earn trust, be strategic and a super collaborator in growing jobs, investments and opportunity in all of our interdependent communities

Strategic Imperatives

A Global Winner in the Automotive Future

A Leader in the US Manufacturing Renaissance

Natural Assets: Capitalize on what makes KY unique, including logistics, hospitality and tourism

Capture our fair share of tomorrow's jobs in business, financial and professional services, including remote work

Invest in high-potential areas like aerospace, agritech and life sciences

HOW?

Operational Priorities

Competitive products:
Best Value
Best Service
Speed & Certainty

Workforce:
Collaborate to define roles and be active in developing the future workforce

Entrepreneurism & Innovation:
KY is known as the "make and ideate, launch-ready state"

Infrastructure:
Coordinate with stakeholders to accelerate growth

Placemaking:
Create welcoming communities with measurable quality-of-life benefits

Leadership Behaviors

Lead with Impact: Straight Talk: Bias for Action with Accountability

- Serve
- Listen

- Build
- Lead

Shared Responsibilities
Shared Opportunities

Our Values

Respect

Inclusion & Diversity

Teamwork

Compliance

Spirit of Winning with Integrity

2025 Performance Goals

10,250
NEW JOBS
ANNOUNCED

\$6.08B
NEW INVESTMENT

\$27.03 AVERAGE
HOURLY WAGE
WITHOUT BENEFITS

15% INCREASE IN
TEAM KY ED/SITE
MEDIA IMPRESSIONS

1,300 COMPLIANCE
REVIEWS FOUND
ACCEPTABLE

750 BUSINESS
APPLICATIONS
APPROVED

RECORD-BREAKING MOMENTUM

Administration-to-Date (Dec 2019 – Sept. 2025)



63,300+

New full-time jobs
announced



\$26.12

Average hourly
incentivized wage
before benefits (2024)



\$40.8B

Announced
investment



**BlueOval SK,
AESC & Ford**

The three largest
economic development
projects in Kentucky

Note: Apple announcement is not included
in investment total. CED is working on final
details.

AVIATION IS A KEY DRIVER OF ECONOMIC GROWTH

Kentucky is home to **more than 100 aerospace-related facilities employing over 20,000 workers** in a diverse mix of sectors that includes aerospace parts and components, MRO, R&D, logistics, and engineering services.

AVIATION'S IMPORTANT ROLE IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Attracts new businesses to the Commonwealth
- Supports business retention and expansion
- Provides employment and workforce development opportunities
- Increases global reach of Kentucky businesses
- Supports tourism and talent attraction



KENTUCKY IS NUMBER 1

IN AIR CARGO
BY WEIGHT



IN AEROSPACE
RELATED EXPORTS

100+ AEROSPACE & DEFENSE
COMPANIES
EMPLOYING **23,000** PEOPLE

\$680
MILLION
& MORE THAN
1,700
JOBS
ANNOUNCED
SINCE 2021

\$18.9 BILLION
IN EXPORTS OF AEROSPACE PRODUCTS

3 AIR CARGO
HUBS

AMAZON | DHL | UPS

2 MILITARY
BASES

FORT CAMPBELL & FORT KNOX

KENTUCKY'S TOP AEROSPACE COMPANIES



Mazak
MACHINE TOOLS

LOCKHEED MARTIN 

 **SAFRAN**

MEGGITT

 GE Aerospace

Raytheon



BAE SYSTEMS

ECONOMIC IMPACT

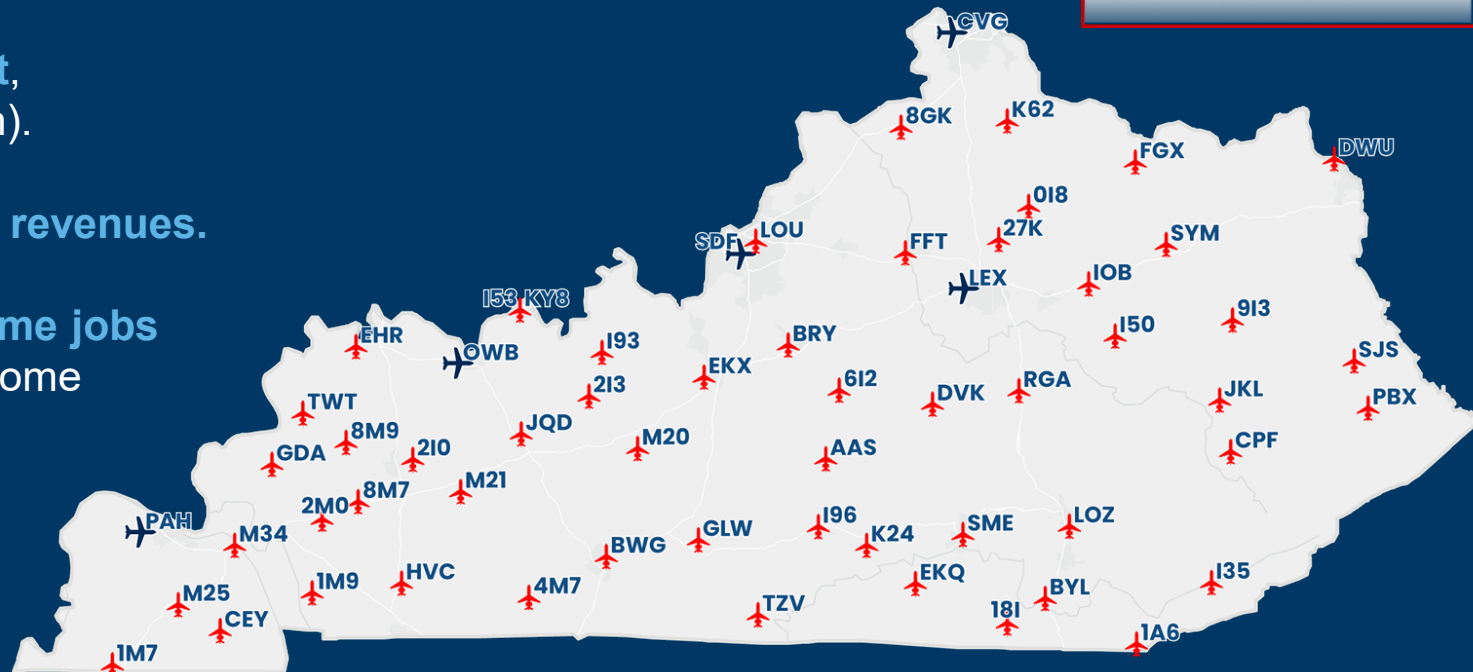
5 Commercial, 53 General Aviation Airports

- 39 airports statewide with 5,000 ft or longer
- 12.8 million passengers

\$23.7 billion in total economic output,
or about 9.1% of its GDP (\$261.5 billion).

Over \$ 1 billion to state and local tax revenues.

Support over 116,000 part- and full-time jobs
that generated \$8 billion in personal income



Source: Economic Contribution of Kentucky Airports, KYTC
Data based on 2022 figures

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Louisville Muhammad Ali
International Airport (SDF) &
Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky
International Airport (CVG),
**rank among the top cargo
airports in the world**

#1 in Air Cargo by Weight


RANK	ST	2022 LANDED WEIGHT (LBS.)	2021 LANDED WEIGHT (LBS.)	% CHANGE
1	KY	27,405,011,689	25,984,667,455	5.50%
2	CA	25,777,601,928	29,608,288,563	-12.90%
3	AK	24,442,783,397	25,358,306,025	-3.60%
4	TN	24,433,031,806	25,711,247,681	-5.00%
5	FL	15,369,438,173	16,040,700,681	-4.20%
6	TX	13,048,518,016	12,263,624,884	6.40%
7	IL	11,364,946,159	12,113,248,776	-6.20%
8	IN	7,673,675,100	7,568,985,654	1.40%
9	NY	7,273,012,809	7,800,878,073	-6.80%
10	PA	5,048,798,311	5,237,172,476	-3.60%

Source: FAA
Data as of 2022, Latest data available

INVESTMENT IN AIRPORTS

2024 R.S. HB 1

(175)\$35,000,000 in fiscal year 2024-2025 to the Economic Development budget unit to support capital improvements at Kentucky Commercial Airports in the following allocations: (a) \$5,000,000 for the Bluegrass Airport; (b) \$5,000,000 for the Louisville Muhammad Ali International Airport; (c) \$20,000,000 for the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport; (d) \$2,500,000 for the Barkley Regional Airport; and (e) \$2,500,000 for the Owensboro-Daviess County Regional Airport;

A large commercial airplane is shown from a low angle on a runway, with its landing gear and wings visible. The background is a hazy airport scene.

AIRPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

Cabinet for Economic Development contacted KY Department of Aviation to inquire about land availability at general aviation airports

- Understand possible development opportunities at airports
- Limitations and Challenges
- Explore **KPDI** option for land acquisition at airports

Government Resources Accelerating Needed Transformation (GRANT) Program

- A Kentucky county, city or 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization engaged in public benefit improvements that is seeking federal funding assistance.
- **Three airport projects** received approval for the GRANT match pending federal approval

MARKETING AVIATION SECTOR

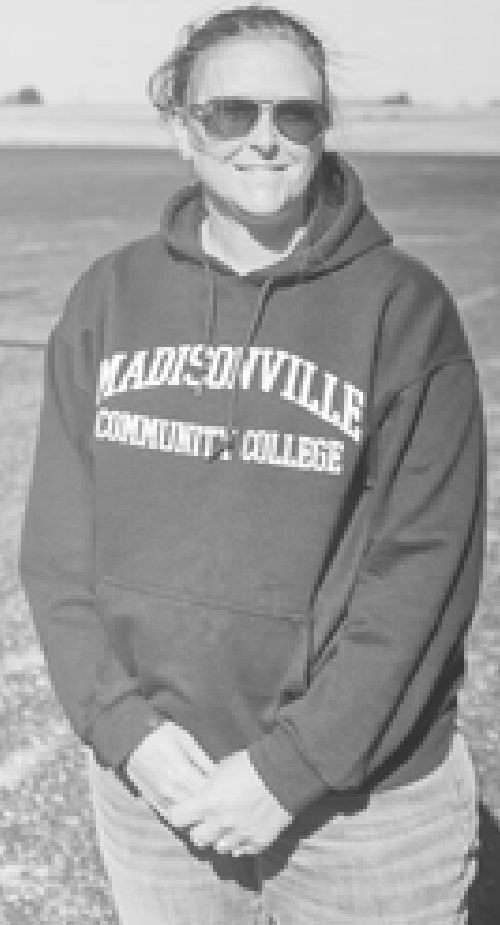
- CED promotes airport proximity and capabilities to companies looking to locate or expand in Kentucky
- Share data and/or maps pertaining to aviation supply chain
- Market aviation-related workforce and education assets:

EKU SCHOOL OF AVIATION

- Only four-year program in KY
- 100% job placement rate
- Over 400 students
- New \$25 million Flight Training Center

MADISONVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE (MCC) AVIATION PROGRAM

- Fixed-wing and helicopter training
- New hangar to support growth at neighboring Muhlenberg County Airport
- Provide more aviation opportunities for Western Kentucky



TARGETING AVIATION SECTOR

- **CED Collaborative Blueprint**
Priority Sector: Investing in high-potential opportunities, including aerospace
- CED's European Office attended the 55th International **Paris Air Show in June 2025**
 - 305,000 visitors alongside 2,400 exhibitors from 48 countries
- **Planned Trade Show:**
MRO Americas April 2026
 - Premier aviation maintenance industry event



EXHIBITOR COMPANIES



BAE SYSTEMS

MEGGITT



TEAM
KENTUCKY®

Your *New*
Kentucky
Home

THANK YOU

NewKentuckyHome.ky.gov