

Kentucky Employment: May 2026
(Seasonally Adjusted)

	May 2026	Apr 2026	May 2025	OVER-the-MONTH Change	OVER-the-MONTH Rate Change	OVER-the-YEAR Change	OVER-the-YEAR Rate Change
Civilian Labor Force	2,097,040	2,097,596	2,113,717	-556	0.0%	-16,677	-0.8%
Employment	2,003,656	2,007,970	2,015,313	-4,314	-0.2%	-11,657	-0.6%
Unemployment	93,384	89,626	98,404	3,758	4.2%	-5,020	-5.1%
Unemployment Rate	4.5%	4.3%	4.7%	0.2%	-	-0.2%	-
U.S. Unemployment Rate	4.3%	4.3%	4.3%	0.0%	-	0.0%	-
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,031,100	2,034,200	2,040,200	-3,100	-0.2%	-9,100	-0.4%
Private Sector Employment	1,714,200	1,717,700	1,722,100	-3,500	-0.2%	-7,900	-0.5%
Goods Producing Industries	347,400	348,700	353,900	-1,300	-0.4%	-6,500	-1.8%
Mining and Logging	6,800	6,700	7,100	100	1.5%	-300	-4.2%
Construction	93,500	94,100	93,000	-600	-0.6%	500	0.5%
Manufacturing	247,100	247,900	253,800	-800	-0.3%	-6,700	-2.6%
Durable Goods	156,700	157,500	162,900	-800	-0.5%	-6,200	-3.8%
Non-durable Goods	90,400	90,400	90,900	0	0.0%	-500	-0.6%
Private Service Providing Industries	1,366,800	1,369,000	1,368,200	-2,200	-0.2%	-1,400	-0.1%
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	423,400	424,700	427,600	-1,300	-0.3%	-4,200	-1.0%
Wholesale Trade	80,100	81,200	81,300	-1,100	-1.4%	-1,200	-1.5%
Retail Trade	207,600	207,600	210,500	0	0.0%	-2,900	-1.4%
Transp, Warehousing, & Util.	135,700	135,900	135,800	-200	-0.1%	-100	-0.1%
Information	20,000	20,000	20,500	0	0.0%	-500	-2.4%
Financial Activities	95,200	95,800	95,600	-600	-0.6%	-400	-0.4%
Finance and Insurance	72,200	72,600	72,900	-400	-0.6%	-700	-1.0%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	23,000	23,200	22,700	-200	-0.9%	300	1.3%
Professional and Business Services	223,900	223,600	224,800	300	0.1%	-900	-0.4%
Prof, Scientific, & Tech Services	84,300	84,800	88,200	-500	-0.6%	-3,900	-4.4%
Management of Companies	21,700	21,800	22,000	-100	-0.5%	-300	-1.4%
Admin & Support & Waste Mgmt	117,900	117,000	114,600	900	0.8%	3,300	2.9%
Educational & Health Services	322,800	322,800	319,800	0	0.0%	3,000	0.9%
Educational Services	30,400	30,500	29,800	-100	-0.3%	600	2.0%
Health Care & Social Assistance	292,400	292,300	290,000	100	0.0%	2,400	0.8%
Leisure and Hospitality	207,900	207,700	206,400	200	0.1%	1,500	0.7%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	26,600	27,000	27,700	-400	-1.5%	-1,100	-4.0%
Accommodation & Food Services	181,300	180,700	178,700	600	0.3%	2,600	1.5%
Other Services	73,600	74,400	73,500	-800	-1.1%	100	0.1%
Government	316,900	316,500	318,100	400	0.1%	-1,200	-0.4%
Federal	32,800	32,800	35,900	0	0.0%	-3,100	-8.6%
State	99,800	99,700	98,700	100	0.1%	1,100	1.1%
Local	184,300	184,000	183,500	300	0.2%	800	0.4%

Sources: Kentucky Center for Statistics, Kentucky Education & Labor Cabinet.
Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.