



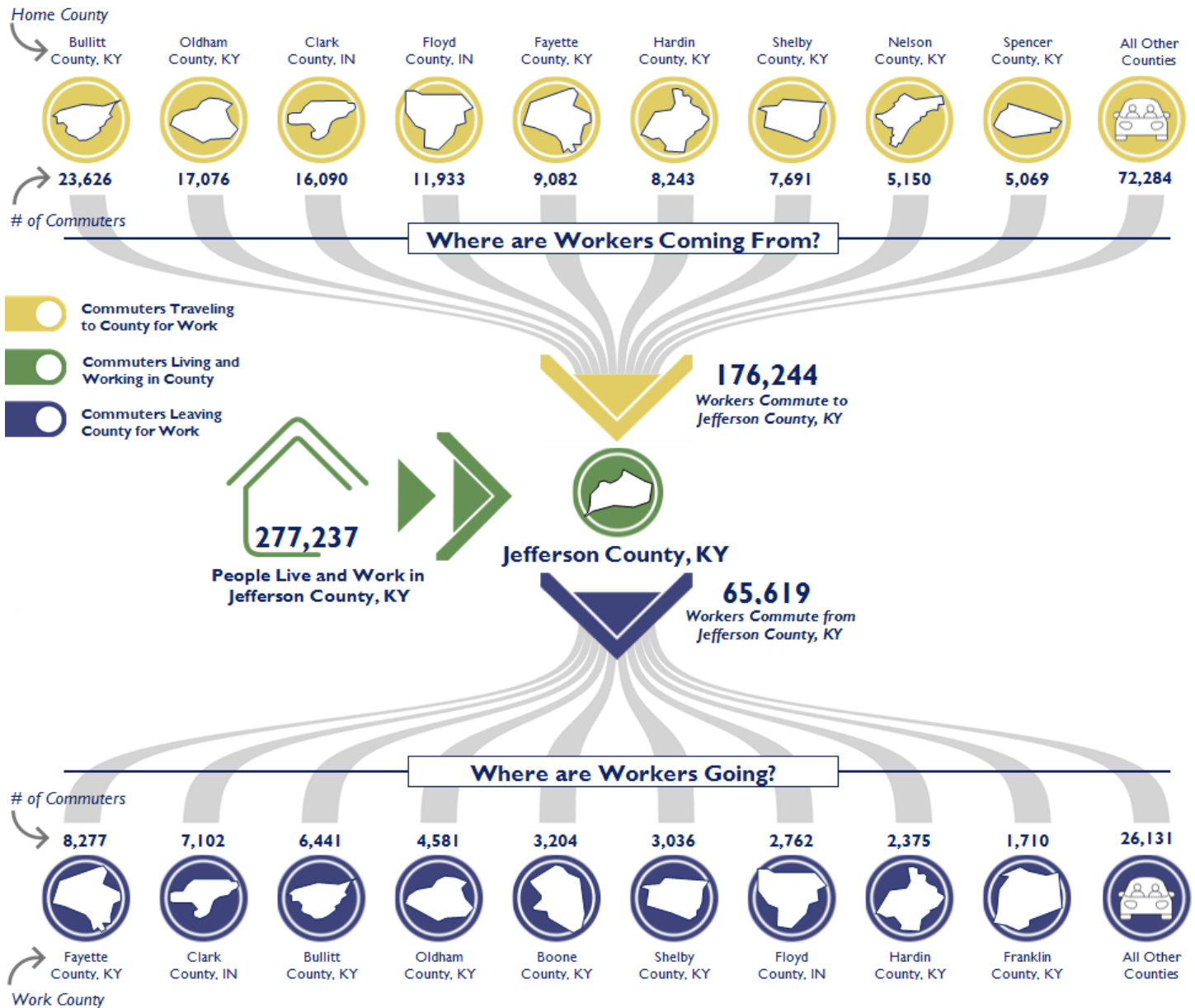
March 2020

# KENTUCKY

## LABOR FORCE UPDATE

### To and Fro: An Overview of Kentucky Commuting Patterns (2017)

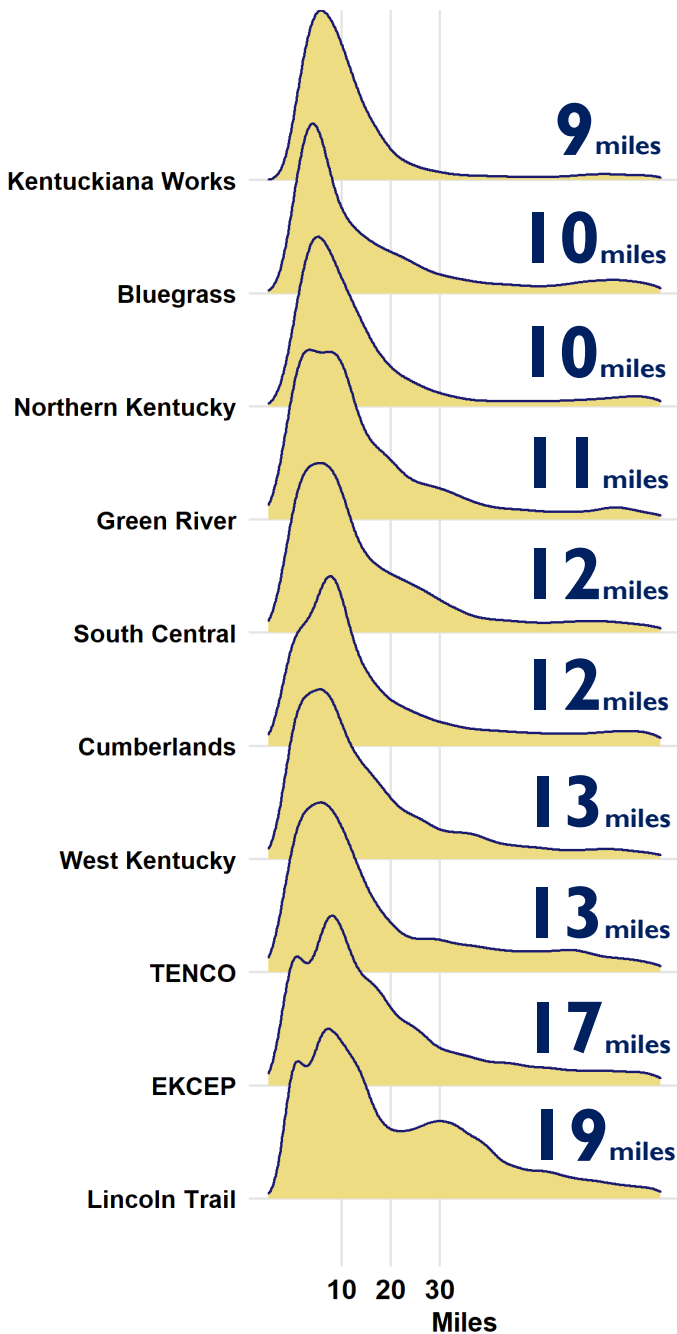
March 2020 will mark the release of KYSTATS' newest Kentucky Commuting Patterns Report (KCPR), which highlights the ways in which people move into, within, and out of Kentucky communities for work. Specifically, the KCPR is designed to be a straightforward and Kentucky-centric presentation of the most recent (2017) commuting pattern data from the U.S. Census Bureau's LODS program. So if you're a Kentuckian that has ever asked questions like 'How many residents of my community actually stay in the community to work?' or 'What types of jobs in my community attract outside workers?', then the KCPR is made for you. The following article provides a broad overview of intra- and interstate Kentucky commuting patterns, followed by a brief tutorial on the KCPR itself.





# To and Fro: An Overview of Kentucky Commuting Patterns (2017)

Distribution of Commute Distances by Local Workforce Area  
(Labeled with Average Commute Length)



**On average, workers living in the Lincoln Trail and EKCEP workforce areas have commutes nearly twice as long as workers in the Kentuckiana Works and Bluegrass areas.**

Within the state, average commutes vary substantially, depending on where a worker lives. To the left, the average distance of workers' commutes is shown by the [local workforce area](#) in which they reside. The three areas that most closely align to the region's largest metropolitan areas- Louisville, Lexington, and Cincinnati- feature the shortest commutes. The Lincoln Trail area, as well as the mostly-Appalachian areas of EKCEP and TENCO, feature the longest average commutes (up to 19 miles).

Two thirds (66%) of all workers who leave their area of residence commute out of the state, or to the Bluegrass / Kentuckiana Works areas. Kentuckiana Works retains the highest percentage of its' residents for work (83%), and is also the destination of three of the state's top ten inter-county commutes by volume (shown below). The largest volume of commuters between non-adjacent workforce areas travel from the South Central area to Kentuckiana Works (5,668).

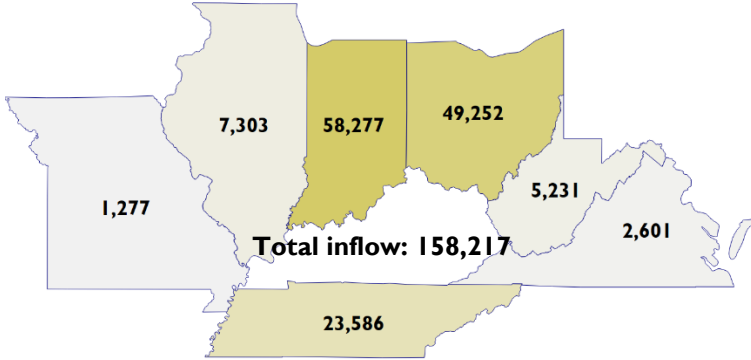
Kentuckians' Top Inter-County Commutes by Volume, 2017

Origin	Destination	Number of Workers	Distance (in miles)
Bullitt	Jefferson	23,626	14
Kenton	Boone	18,610	9
Kenton	Hamilton (OH)	17,692	12
Oldham	Jefferson	17,076	17
Campbell	Hamilton (OH)	13,387	10
Boone	Hamilton (OH)	9,768	18
Boone	Kenton	9,679	10
Jessamine	Fayette	9,249	12
Fayette	Jefferson	9,082	66
Jefferson	Fayette	8,277	66

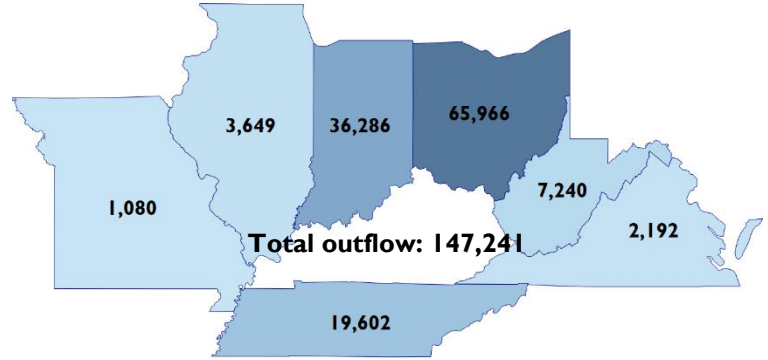


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**Inflow** of Kentucky Workers by State of Origin, 2017



**Outflow** of Kentucky Residents by Destination State, 2017

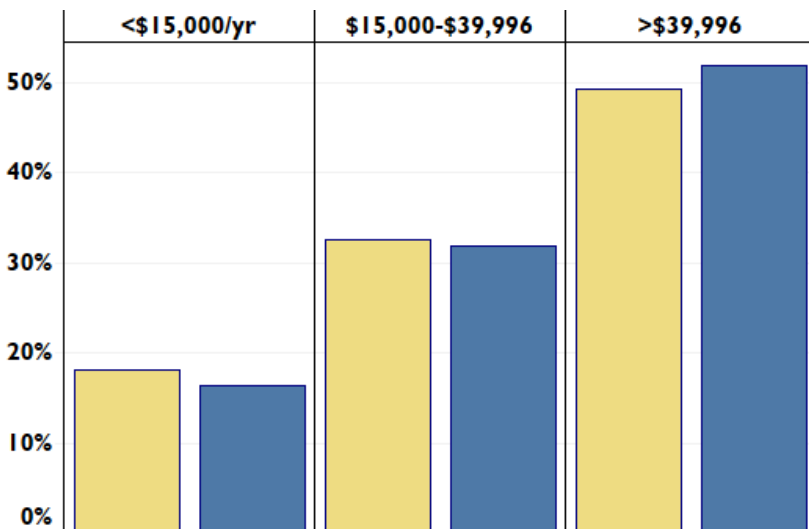


**Indiana is the most common origin of workers commuting into Kentucky, and Ohio is the most common destination of workers commuting out of the state.**

Indiana and Ohio are the two states that receive and supply the largest volumes of commuting workers to Kentucky. Nearly 66,000 Kentuckians commute into Ohio for work (45% of the state’s total outflow), and 58,277 Indianians commute into Kentucky for work (37% of the state’s total inflow). Missouri is the border state that receives and supplies the smallest volume of commuting workers to Kentucky; in fact, more Kentuckians commute to the non-border states of Georgia (1,153) and North Carolina (1,101) than to Missouri (1,080).

Individuals crossing into and out of Kentucky for work most commonly do so for higher-income jobs (see below). Although the difference is slight, the majority (51.9%) of Kentuckians leaving the state for work do so for jobs paying more than ~\$40,000 annually, while the majority of workers commuting into Kentucky (50.7%) do so for jobs paying less than that amount.

Annual Pay of Commuting Workers Shown as a Percentage of Total **Inflow/Outflow**



**Incoming and outgoing workers that commute across the state border most commonly do so for jobs that pay more than ~\$40,000/year.**

**Of all Kentuckians that commute out of the state for work, fewer than 17% do so for jobs paying less than \$15,000/year.**



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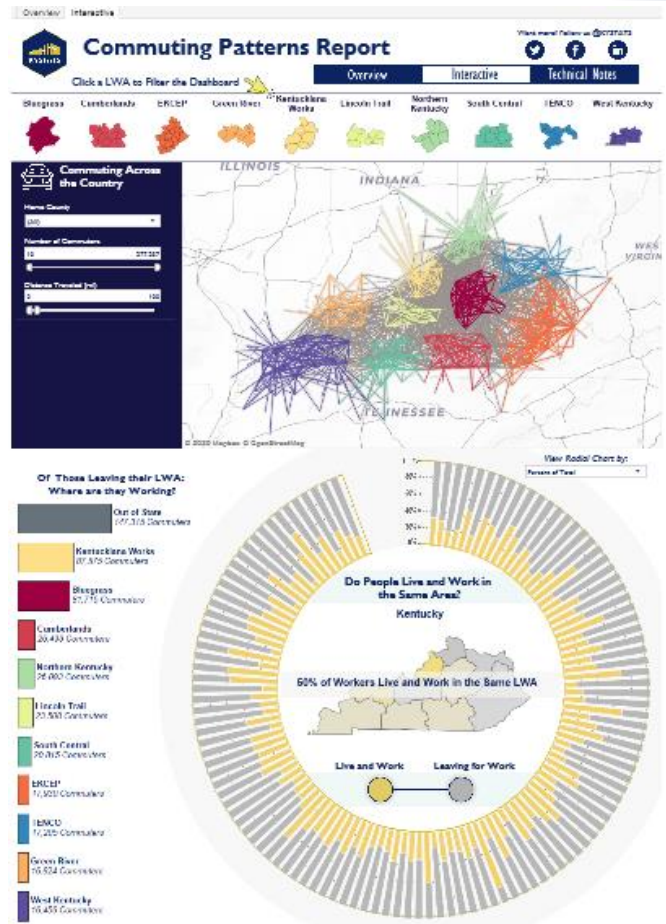
## KCPR Overview

The first dashboard (partially shown on page 1) displays commuting flows based on the selection of a county. Once a county of interest has been selected, the dashboard presents the top counties commuters travel to and from for work, and the number of workers living and working in a selected county. The dashboard also includes commuting broken into subcategories which include commuters by industry sectors, and wage groups. The user can interact with this dashboard by selecting their county of interest at the top of the dashboard.

The second dashboard (shown to the right) provides users an interactive view of commuting in and out of Kentucky. Users can filter the dashboard by workforce area. The map allows users an exploratory geographical perspective of commuting in Kentucky. The horizontal bar chart provides users a view of where workers are going when they leave their workforce area, and the radial bar chart provides perspective on the proportion of county workers staying for work in that area vs leaving. The entire dashboard can be filtered by the workforce area icons at the top of the dashboard.

The KCPR can be found at:

[https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Tableau/KCPR\\_2020](https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Tableau/KCPR_2020)



## Kentucky Labor Force Update

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