CABINET FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Andy Beshear
Governor

Mayo-Underwood Building
500 Mero Street, 5th Floor
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Jeff Noel
Secretary

October 30, 2026

The Honorable Andy Beshear, Governor
700 Capital Avenue, Suite 100
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

RE: 2025 Kentucky County Population Ranking

Dear Governor Beshear:

Pursuant to KRS 154.14-050 and KRS 154.21-017, the Cabinet for Economic Development is required to submit the Kentucky County Population Ranking Calculation for the Government Resources Accelerating Needed Transformation (GRANT) Program and the Kentucky Product Development Initiative (KPDI) Program of 2024, respectively, to the Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations and Revenue and the Governor. Please note the calculation is the same for both programs, and enclosed is the calculation from 2024. KRS requires on or before June 1, 2024, and no later than June 1 every two (2) years, the Cabinet shall determine a county population ranking. This will be updated again in 2028.

Please contact me at (502) 782-1937 if there are any questions regarding this calculation.

Sincerely,

Joseph Gearon

Joseph Gearon
Deputy Commissioner
Department for Financial Services

cc: Matthew Wingate

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October 30, 2026

Senator Christian McDaniel, Co-Chair
Representative Jason Petrie, Co-Chair
Interim Joint Committee Appropriations & Revenue
Legislative Research Commission
Capitol Annex Building
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

RE: 2025 Kentucky County Population Ranking

Dear Senator McDaniel and Representative Petrie:
Pursuant to KRS 154.14-050 and KRS 154.21-017, the Cabinet for Economic Development is required to submit the Kentucky County Population Ranking Calculation for the Government Resources Accelerating Needed Transformation (GRANT) Program and the Kentucky Product Development Initiative (KPDI) Program of 2024, respectively, to the Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations and Revenue and the Governor. Please note the calculation is the same for both programs, and enclosed is the calculation for 2024. KRS requires on or before June 1, 2024, and no later than June 1 every two (2) years, the Cabinet shall determine a county population ranking. This will be updated again in 2028.

Please contact me at (502) 782-1937 if there are any questions regarding this calculation.

Sincerely,

Joseph Gearon

Joseph Gearon
Deputy Commissioner
Department for Financial Services

cc: Jennifer Hays, LRC
Matthew Wingate

County	10-Year Growth Rate Rank	Population Density Rank	County Population Ranking	Tier
Boone	5	5	10	<49
Oldham	8	6	14	<49
Warren	2	12	14	<49
Scott	1	15	16	<49
Jessamine	11	8	19	<49
Bullitt	10	10	20	<49
Fayette	19	2	21	<49
Madison	9	14	23	<49
Kenton	23	3	26	<49
Shelby	6	22	28	<49
Anderson	7	23	30	<49
Daviess	20	13	33	<49
Woodford	13	21	34	<49
Jefferson	36	1	37	<49
Boyle	21	17	38	<49
Spencer	3	35	38	<49
Laurel	22	19	41	<49
Franklin	31	11	42	<49
Nelson	16	26	42	<49
Montgomery	30	20	50	96-49
Clark	34	18	52	96-49
Simpson	4	48	52	96-49
Hardin	38	16	54	96-49
Mercer	15	40	55	96-49
McCracken	48	9	57	96-49
Campbell	54	4	58	96-49
Taylor	27	34	61	96-49
Barren	29	37	66	96-49
Rowan	32	42	74	96-49
Pulaski	45	31	76	96-49
Meade	46	33	79	96-49
Grant	49	32	81	96-49
Larue	17	66	83	96-49
Marshall	58	28	86	96-49
Garrard	37	50	87	96-49
Boyd	81	7	88	96-49
Allen	28	61	89	96-49
Whitley	44	46	90	96-49
Gallatin	53	38	91	96-49
Calloway	63	30	93	96-49
Bath	14	80	94	96-49
Hart	18	78	96	96-49
Powell	43	53	96	96-49
Russell	47	54	101	144-97
Carroll	62	41	103	144-97
Hancock	33	74	107	144-97
Logan	35	72	107	144-97
Nicholas	12	96	108	144-97
Fleming	25	84	109	144-97
Greenup	85	24	109	144-97
Harrison	52	60	112	144-97
Lyon	24	89	113	144-97
Christian	87	27	114	144-97
Bourbon	61	55	116	144-97
Lincoln	67	49	116	144-97
Henry	51	67	118	144-97
Grayson	50	70	120	144-97
Henderson	95	25	120	144-97
Perry	80	43	123	144-97
Hopkins	88	39	127	144-97
Johnson	93	36	129	144-97
Mason	78	51	129	144-97
Graves	77	56	133	144-97
Pendleton	64	69	133	144-97
Marion	72	62	134	144-97
Owen	26	109	135	144-97
Muhlenberg	79	57	136	144-97
Adair	65	73	138	144-97
Breckinridge	39	99	138	144-97
Floyd	109	29	138	144-97
Metcalfe	40	100	140	144-97
Morgan	42	98	140	144-97
Washington	55	88	143	144-97
Edmonson	57	87	144	144-97
Knox	101	44	145	192-145
Monroe	41	104	145	192-145
Trimble	84	63	147	192-145
Carter	90	58	148	192-145
Green	59	90	149	192-145
Bracken	68	83	151	192-145
Lawrence	60	92	152	192-145
Estill	89	64	153	192-145
Ohio	71	85	156	192-145
Pike	112	45	157	192-145
Rockcastle	96	68	164	192-145
Jackson	75	91	166	192-145
Bell	120	47	167	192-145
Casey	70	97	167	192-145
Letcher	115	52	167	192-145
Caldwell	74	94	168	192-145
Harlan	110	59	169	192-145
Todd	69	102	171	192-145
Trigg	66	106	172	192-145
Robertson	56	118	174	192-145
Wayne	98	77	175	192-145
Clinton	108	71	179	192-145
Clay	104	76	180	192-145
Webster	94	86	180	192-145
Menifee	73	108	181	192-145
Martin	117	65	182	192-145
Fulton	76	107	183	192-145
McLean	91	93	184	192-145
McCreary	103	82	185	192-145
Lee	92	95	187	192-145
Union	113	79	192	192-146
Knott	118	75	193	≤193
Breathitt	82	114	196	≤193
Butler	86	111	197	≤193
Magoffin	116	81	197	≤193
Crittenden	83	116	199	≤193
Elliott	100	103	203	≤193
Ballard	106	101	207	≤193
Livingston	99	110	209	≤193
Carlisle	97	115	212	≤193
Lewis	102	112	214	≤193
Wolfe	111	105	216	≤193
Leslie	107	113	220	≤193
Hickman	105	120	225	≤193
Cumberland	114	119	233	≤193
Owsley	119	117	236	≤193

Rank Tier	Counties
≤193	19
192-145	24
144-97	31
96-49	31
<49	15

Data Sourcing ACSST5Y2024.S0101
ACSST5Y2014.S0101
U.S. Census Bureau, TIGER/Line Shapefiles and Gazetteer Files.. Land area updated every 10 years. TIGER/Line Shapefiles Gazetteer Files Gazetteer Files U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Census Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) P1: RACE - Census Bureau Table