

Australia's relationship with

KENTUCKY



KEY FACTS

- **Population:** 4,467,673 (2019)
- **Major Cities:** Frankfort (Capital), Louisville, Lexington, Bowling Green
- **Gross Domestic Product:** USD\$215 billion (2019)
- **Key Industries:** trade, transportation, mining, manufacturing (aerospace, food and beverage, utilities, automobile production)
- **Known for:** 'Kentuckians', nick named 'The Bluegrass State', Horse Racing, 95% of the world's bourbon, Coal, Tobacco, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Fort Campbell and Fort Knox, Abraham Lincoln, Johnny Depp, Jefferson Davis
- **National Rankings:** (out of 50 states)
 - Economy: 39th
 - Healthcare: 44th
 - Infrastructure: 26th
 - Education: 38th
 - Tax burden: 22nd
 - State size by area: 37th
 - State size by population: 26th
 - Density: 22nd

ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP

- **Two-way Trade:** \$471 million (goods)
- **Value of Australian exports to KY:** \$107 million (goods)
- **KY exports to Australia:** \$364 million (goods)
- **KY goods and services exported to Australia:** alcoholic beverages, pharmaceuticals, aircraft and auto parts

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE LINKS

- **Representation:** Australia's relationship with Kentucky is managed by the Consulate General in Washington DC

POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

- **Governor:** Andy Beshear (D), next election - 2023

- **2020 Presidential Outcome:** Trump 62.5%
- **Senators:** Mitch McConnell (R), Rand Paul (R)
- **House:** 5 Republicans, 1 Democrat

AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITY

- **Australians Living in Kentucky:** Robert Curran (Artistic Director of Louisville Ballet and previously principal artist at the Australian Ballet); Justine Sowry (former member of the Australian National Hockey Team now the University of Louisville field hockey team coach); Max Duffy (University of Kentucky football player)

AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS

A total of 12 Australian companies are present in Kentucky, spanning across sectors including healthcare, construction, technology and agriculture. Notable examples include:

- **Amcor Flexibles:** Subsidiary of Amcor Ltd, a global packaging solutions company supplying a broad range of rigid and flexible packaging products with offices in Shelbyville and Nicholasville
- **Boral Bricks:** Manufactures and supplies building and construction materials with offices in Elizabethtown, Bowling Green, Louisville and Paducah
- **Cardno:** Provides environmental consulting as well as civil engineering, surveying, architectural and project management services with an office in Louisville
- **Dyno Nobel Inc:** Global leader in commercial explosives with an office in Lexington
- **Orica Limited:** Australian-based multinational corporation that is one of the world's largest provider of commercial explosive and blasting systems to the mining, quarrying, oil and gas, as well as construction markets with an office in Georgetown

GLOBAL BUSINESS

Kentucky's economy is centred primarily on manufacturing, trade, mining, agriculture, and tourism. The services sector generates around two-thirds of Kentucky's gross product and employs more workers than any other segment of the state's economy. Major companies headquartered in Kentucky include:

- **Brown-Forman Corporation:** One of the largest American-owned companies in the spirits and wine business. Based in Louisville, it manufactures several well-known brands, including Jack Daniel's, Early Times, Old Forester, Woodford Reserve, Canadian Mist, GlenDronach, BenRiach, Glenglassaugh, Finlandia, Herradura, Korbelt, and Chambord.
- **GE Appliances:** Appliances company headquartered in Louisville and owned by Chinese conglomerate Haier. It is one of the largest appliance brands in the US and manufactures appliances under the brands of GE, Profile, Café, Monogram and Hotpoint. The company owns FirstBuild, a global co-creation community and state-of-the-art micro-factory in Louisville.
- **Yum!:** American fast food company headquartered in Louisville. A Fortune 500 corporation, Yum! operates Taco Bell, KFC, Pizza Hut and WingStreet worldwide.
- **UPS Airlines:** American cargo airline based in Louisville. UPS Airlines is the world's third largest cargo airline in terms of freight volume flown and flies to 779 destinations worldwide.
- **Kindred Healthcare:** Healthcare services company that operates long-term acute-care hospitals and provides rehabilitation services across the US. Kindred's headquarters and support centre are located in Louisville.

CULTURE

- **Kentucky Derby:** international horse race held in Louisville on the first Saturday in May (first leg of the Triple Crown)
- **Cumberland Falls:** nick named 'Niagara of the South'
- **Mammoth Cave National Park:** the longest cave system known in the world
- **The Bourbon Trail:** a tour of the most famous distilleries in the world

SCIENCE & INNOVATION

- **Entrepreneurship Ranking:** 30th (based on new firm births as a share of total businesses in the state, rank out of 51)
- **Tech Jobs Ranking:** 43rd (based on share of engineers and computer scientists in the workforce, rank out of 51)
- **BERD Intensity Ranking:** 32nd (based on business expenditure on R&D per dollar of state output, rank out of 51)
- **New Economy Index Ranking:** 39th (based on composite index that reports on the innovation-driven economy, rank out of 51)