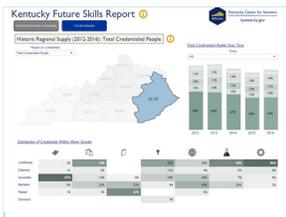


# KENTUCKY



## COLLEGE AND CAREER

### The Kentucky Future Skills Report Answers Employment Questions for Kentuckians at All Levels of Data Expertise



The Kentucky Future Skills Report allows Kentuckians at all levels of data expertise to examine past, current, and future supply and demand needs in Kentucky's workforce.

#### Learn more

<https://kcews.ky.gov/>

<https://nces.ed.gov/programs/slds/state.asp?stateabbr=KY>

**FY 2015 SLDS Grant  
Instructional Support  
Priority Area  
\$2,783,524**



[nces.ed.gov/programs/slds](https://nces.ed.gov/programs/slds)

The Kentucky Future Skills Report is an interactive report that assists policymakers, practitioners, and the general public in making education and workforce decisions. Created through a partnership between the Kentucky Center for Statistics (KYSTATS) and multiple Kentucky education and workforce agencies, this report examines the historic workforce supply, current employment outcomes, and the future workforce demand.

#### Interactive, shareable design meets multiple stakeholder needs

Like many states, Kentucky faced a problem: career and technical education (CTE) and postsecondary students were not graduating with the qualifications or majors required to fill open and in-demand jobs in the Kentucky workforce. KYSTATS partnered with local education and workforce partners to answer questions such as what Kentucky's workforce supply would look like over a 5-year period, how many people were employed in Kentucky and their average earnings, and how many jobs Kentucky would need to fill in the next 5 years.

The resulting report was an interactive Tableau dashboard that defines past, current, and future workforce trends. In its second iteration, the Kentucky Future Skills Report is easy to print as a handout for those who want to share the data quickly. Users can click on easy-to-read, interactive graphs that highlight data such as total credentials earned by workforce area, median wage and percent of individuals employed in Kentucky, and total 5 year job demand by workforce area. These data can be drilled down even further by factors such as credential level.

Following the report's creation, KYSTATS took the Kentucky Future Skills Report on the road—literally. Through the Kentucky Skills Roadshow, the KYSTATS staff presented the report to the 10 Kentucky local workforce areas. KYSTATS was able to receive real-time feedback on accessibility and user experience. This feedback has resulted in direct changes to the Kentucky Future Skills Report, such as being able to filter the report by low-, mid-, and high-skill jobs, as well as callout boxes that display important statistics like median wage and number of individuals employed. KYSTATS continues to showcase the report to stakeholders in order to get feedback for future changes.

#### New Skills for Youth models CTE pathways

Based on the conversations during the Roadshow and after viewing the Kentucky Future Skills Report, New Skills for Youth Kentucky, the state agency that governs CTE, began looking at future workforce demand by region. The Future Skills Report fostered conversations among K12, postsecondary, and workforce programs to aid K12 and and postsecondary to tailor their CTE programs to workforce demand.

In the future, KYSTATS plans to make the Kentucky Future Skills Report even more accessible by developing a Career Explorer Tool. Middle and high school students will be able to use the tool to see what jobs will be available to them in Kentucky based on their knowledge and abilities.

# STATEWIDE LONGITUDINAL DATA SYSTEMS GRANT PROGRAM

# KENTUCKY



## EVALUATION & RESEARCH

### The Kentucky Center for Statistics Offers Multiple Reports for State Agencies to Evaluate Employment Outcomes



The Kentucky Center for Statistics (KYSTATS) provides multiple reports that help policymakers and practitioners make critical decisions that affect current and future employment in the state. Two of these reports, the *Postsecondary Feedback Report* and the *Career and Technical Education (CTE) Feedback Report*, leverage critical employment outcomes data that help the state align its postsecondary education pathways to future employment needs.

#### Critical data help stakeholders evaluate workforce training

In 2014, the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education approached KYSTATS with a request: create a report that examined employment outcomes for graduates by institution. Institutions review and evaluate their programs to look at employment outcomes for their graduates.

The original report began as a series of PDFs that included 1-, 3-, and 5-year outcomes, as well as median wages for postsecondary graduates. These then evolved into a dynamic report that included 3-, 5-, and 7-year outcomes. However, the report was so well received that the data inspired even more questions from stakeholders. The current iteration of the *Postsecondary Feedback Report* is a dynamic, public-facing Tableau report that expands on the original report to cover outcomes 3, 5, and 10 years after graduation, award completion over time, and outcomes for transfer students. Future expansion will allow institutions to break down employment outcomes by major for 2 to 10 years post graduation.

**The Kentucky Postsecondary Feedback Report provides employment outcome data to help institutions and policymakers evaluate whether graduates are meeting critical employment needs in the state.**

#### Learn more

<https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Reports>

<https://nces.ed.gov/programs/slds/state.asp?stateabbr=KY>

**FY 2015 SLDS Grant Evaluation & Research Priority Area**

**\$3,400,000**

#### Interactive reports allow state agencies to use the data to make decisions about employment pathways

The goal of the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (KWIB) is to align the career pathways of Kentucky's students to the workforce needs of the state's current and future employers. KYSTATS worked with KWIB, the Kentucky Department of Education, and regional employers to create the *CTE Feedback Report*. The report defines the jobs in highest demand within five key job sectors, such as healthcare and construction. Users can examine high school performance for CTE students, including their pathway completions and college and career readiness. The report also presents postsecondary and workforce outcomes such as the percentage of students earning 30 or more credit hours during the first year of college, employment rate, and wages for pathway completers who are not enrolled in a postsecondary institution. Information is divided among cohort years from 2012 to 2017 and can be examined for each workforce development region in Kentucky.

KWIB and KDE now use the *CTE Feedback Report* to match high-demand jobs data and employment needs expressed by local employers with certificates accepted for employment in these careers. This information is used to determine how many students are completing relevant certificates in high school. KDE uses the data to make decisions about CTE offerings in schools.



[nces.ed.gov/programs/slds](https://nces.ed.gov/programs/slds)