

# 2022 UNFILTERED - THE PROOF IS HERE®

Kentucky is the birthplace of Bourbon, crafting 95% of the world's supply. Only the Bluegrass State has the perfect natural mix of climate, corn and pure limestone water necessary for producing the world's greatest Bourbon.

# 95%

Kentucky taxes distilling operations higher than all other large industries in the state. **Distilling generates \$286 million in local and state tax revenue each and every year.** That's **\$180 million** more tax revenue for the government annually versus 12 years ago.

KDA distillers buy more than **17 million bushels of corn** each year, with 75% coming from Kentucky farmers. Corn production has tripled in many Kentucky counties where distillers are located. Nine bushels of corn and three bushels of other grains equals one barrel of Bourbon.



KDA member distilleries are in the middle of a **\$5.2 billion** building boom, including \$3.3 billion in the next three years. This includes new distilleries, warehouses and bottling facilities,



with over **\$100 million** planned to expand Kentucky Bourbon Trail® experiences.

Bourbon is revolutionizing Kentucky tourism and pouring much-needed revenue into local communities. Kentucky Bourbon Trail® visitors



spend between **\$400 and \$1,200** on average during their trip. More than 70% of visitors are from outside Kentucky.

Distilling is a **\$9 billion** signature industry in Kentucky, generating more than **22,500 jobs** with an annual payroll topping **\$1.23 billion**. There is now at least one distillery in **40 of Kentucky's 120 counties**.



Kentucky has the **fifth-highest Bourbon and spirits tax rate in the country**, and the state's distillers by far pay more in federal alcohol tax – **\$1.8 billion** – than any other state. Almost a quarter of all federal alcohol taxes are paid by Kentucky distillers.



Kentucky remains the only place in the world that taxes aging spirits, with **distilleries paying nearly \$40 million in barrel taxes in 2022**. This discriminatory tax impedes growth, puts our homegrown industry at a competitive disadvantage and jeopardizes Kentucky's ability to attract new distilleries.

Kentucky distillers filled a record **2.6 million** barrels in 2021 – fourth year in a row topping 2 million. Bourbon production has increased **475%** since 1999.

Distilling has the highest job spin-off factor among top 20 Kentucky manufacturers by employees; **for every distilling job, three more are created**.



The total number of all aging barrels in Kentucky is nearly **12 million**, the most ever in the modern era of American whiskey. This includes Bourbon, Brandy and other spirits.

Kentucky boasts an all-time record of **11.4 million barrels of Bourbon** aging in warehouses across the Commonwealth.

There are two-and-a-half barrels of Bourbon for every person living in the Commonwealth.



The tax-assessed value of all aging barrels has catapulted over 200% in the last decade to **\$5.2 billion** while the value of real and tangible property owned by Kentucky distillers has quadrupled in that time to **\$1.5 billion**.

By 2025, Bourbon will be a **\$9.3 billion** industry fueling more than **24,000 jobs** with **\$1.3 billion** in payroll and **\$308 million** in annual local and state tax revenue.



Capital investments between 2021-2025 will create **4,565** new jobs, **\$258 million** in payroll and **\$29 million** in tax revenue.

The KDA created the Kentucky Bourbon Trail® tour in 1999 to give visitors a first-hand experience into crafting the world's most iconic brands, and the Kentucky Bourbon Trail Craft Tour® in 2012, the first attraction in the country to showcase boutique distilleries.



The Kentucky Bourbon Trail® and Kentucky Bourbon Trail Craft Tour® experiences are busier than ever with total attendance exceeding **2.1 million** in 2022 - a new record! There are now **42 KBT® distillery destinations** across the state, with more on the way.

The KDA, a non-profit trade group founded in 1880, represents 80 members, including 50 distilling companies operating 73 locations in 40 counties across the Commonwealth - the most since the glorious Repeal of Prohibition. The KDA's ranks have swelled with new distilleries and dozens of industry partner members, all working together to strengthen Kentucky's rightful place as the one, true, authentic home for Bourbon.

