

## **2021 Economic Development Highlights and Indicators**

**Bardstown and Nelson County** 

January 2022

As companies started ramping back up after a difficult 2020, they were challenged to find workers in 2021. This resulted in a reduction in many Nelson County companies' hours and days open and the shutdown of some industrial production lines.

In January, Lux Row Distillery announced that their parent company, LUXCO, would be purchased by MGP Ingredients for a value of \$475 million. Lux Row Distillers also announced plans for a \$4 million expansion that will allow the company to expand its capacity by 75% and operate 24 hours a day.

Nelson County recorded the lowest unemployment rate on record in May at 3.3%.

Weyland Ventures, a Louisville development company, announced the purchase of the Parkview Motel and Kurtz Restaurant. The properties will be renovated and become part of a signature bourbon collection of boutique hotels.

On May 11<sup>th</sup>, Governor Andy Beshear and Log Still Distillery officials held a ribbon cutting for the opening of their Tasting Room, the first of several buildings to be constructed on their Dant Crossing property. In August they kicked off their concert series at The Amp.

Location of the western connector bypass was announced in March. The roadway will go from Boston Road near the Withrow Creek Bridge to the intersection of Hwy 245 and Wilson Parkway.

On June 14<sup>th</sup>, National Bourbon Day, Governor Andy Beshear joined company officials for a ribbon cutting event for the new Heaven Hill Bourbon Experience.

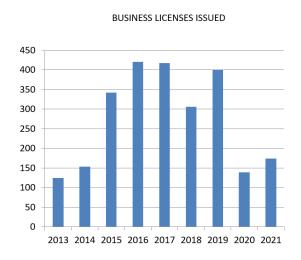
Bardstown Bourbon Company officials opened their new 55,000 sq. ft. state-of-the-art bottling facility on their campus in the Nelson County Industrial Park.

The James. B. Beam Distillery reopened their renovated James B. Beam American Outpost visitor experience including the addition of The Kitchen Table Restaurant and Bar. The new Fred B. Noe Distillery opened in late summer.

The former Holiday Inn building was sold at the end of the year to two out-of-state developers who have plans to renovate it and making a bourbon-themed accommodation experience.

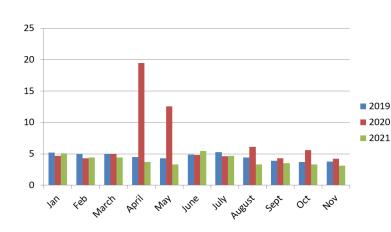
The Bardstown Arts and Crafts Fair returned after a year off due to Covid with a record crowd. The Kentucky Bourbon Festival returned with a new design and bourbon centric format for their event in September.

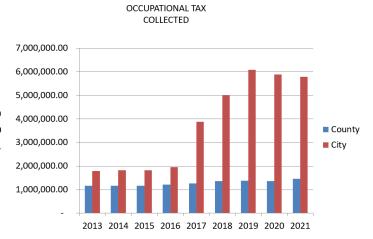
## **ECONOMIC INDICATORS FOR 2021**





UNEMPLOYMENT RATE





It is important to review historical data and see how we are trending. As we continue to focus our efforts on recruiting new businesses, expanding our tourism efforts, and enhancing our quality of life, we need to continue to strategically plan and prepare for the future of Nelson County.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Kim Huston
President
(502) 348-6402 x101 or <a href="mailto:kimhuston@nceda.net">kimhuston@nceda.net</a>