

10-1998

Industrial Resources: Webster County

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Kentucky

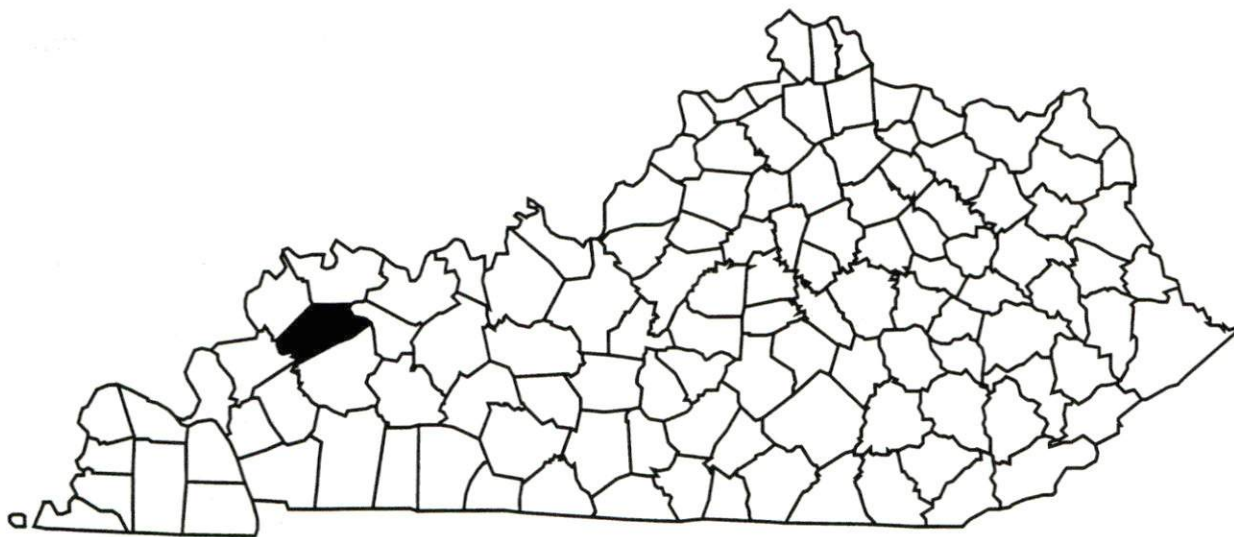
Resources For Economic Development

Kentucky

Resources For Economic Development

Webster County

October 1998



Prepared by
Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development
Division of Research
in cooperation with
Webster County Economic Development Corporation

Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development
Division of Research
500 Mero Street
2300 Capital Plaza Tower
Frankfort, KY 40601
Telephone: (502) 564-4886
Fax: (502) 564-3256
Email: econdev@mail.state.ky.us

Cost of printing paid from state funds.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
WEBSTER COUNTY, KENTUCKY – A RESOURCE PROFILE	1
LABOR MARKET STATISTICS	3
Population	3
Population Projections	3
Estimated Labor Supply	3
Labor Force Characteristics of Residents, 1997	4
Work Force Commuting Patterns (1990)	4
Selected Components of Nonagricultural Employment by Place of Work, 1996	4
Per Capita Personal Income	6
Average Placement Wages	6
Average Weekly Wages by Industry by Place of Work, 1996*	7
EXISTING INDUSTRY	8
Webster County Manufacturing Firms, Their Products and Employment	8
Recent Industrial Developments	9
Labor Organizations in Webster County	9
Selected Industrial Services – Within 50 Miles of Providence	11
TRANSPORTATION	11
Highways	11
Highway Miles from Providence, Kentucky to Selected Market Centers	11
Truck Service	11
Rail	13
Air	13
Water	13
UTILITIES	14
Electricity	14
Natural Gas	15
Public Water Supply	15
Sewerage	16
CLIMATE	14
LOCAL GOVERNMENT	14
Structure	19
Planning and Zoning	19
Local Fees and Licenses	19
Sales and Use Tax	19
State and Local Property Taxes	19
EDUCATION	21
Primary and Secondary Schools	21
Colleges and Technical Schools	21
OTHER LOCAL FACILITIES	24
RECREATION	25
APPENDIX - DEFINITIONS	26

WEBSTER COUNTY, KENTUCKY – A RESOURCE PROFILE

Webster County, with a land area of 336 square miles, is located within the Western Kentucky Coal Field region. The Green River forms the northeastern boundary of the county, while the Tradewater River forms the county's southwestern boundary. Webster County had an estimated 1997 population of 13,529.

Dixon, the county seat of Webster County, had an estimated 1996 population of 542. Dixon is located 123 miles northwest of Nashville, Tennessee; 155 miles southwest of Louisville, Kentucky; and 189 miles southeast of St. Louis, Missouri. Clay, with an estimated 1996 population of 1,073, is located in the western portion of Webster County. Providence, the largest city in Webster County, had an estimated 1996 population of 3,710. Sebree, located in the northeastern portion of Webster County near the Green River, had an estimated 1996 population of 1,536. Slaughters had an estimated 1996 population of 234, while Wheatcroft had an estimated population of 209 for the same year.

The Economic Framework – Webster County firms employed 4,221 people in 1996. Manufacturing firms in the county reported 819 employees; mining and quarrying employed 984 persons; wholesale and retail trade provided 590 jobs; 416 were employed in the service industry; state and local government accounted for 664 jobs; and contract construction firms provided 111 jobs.

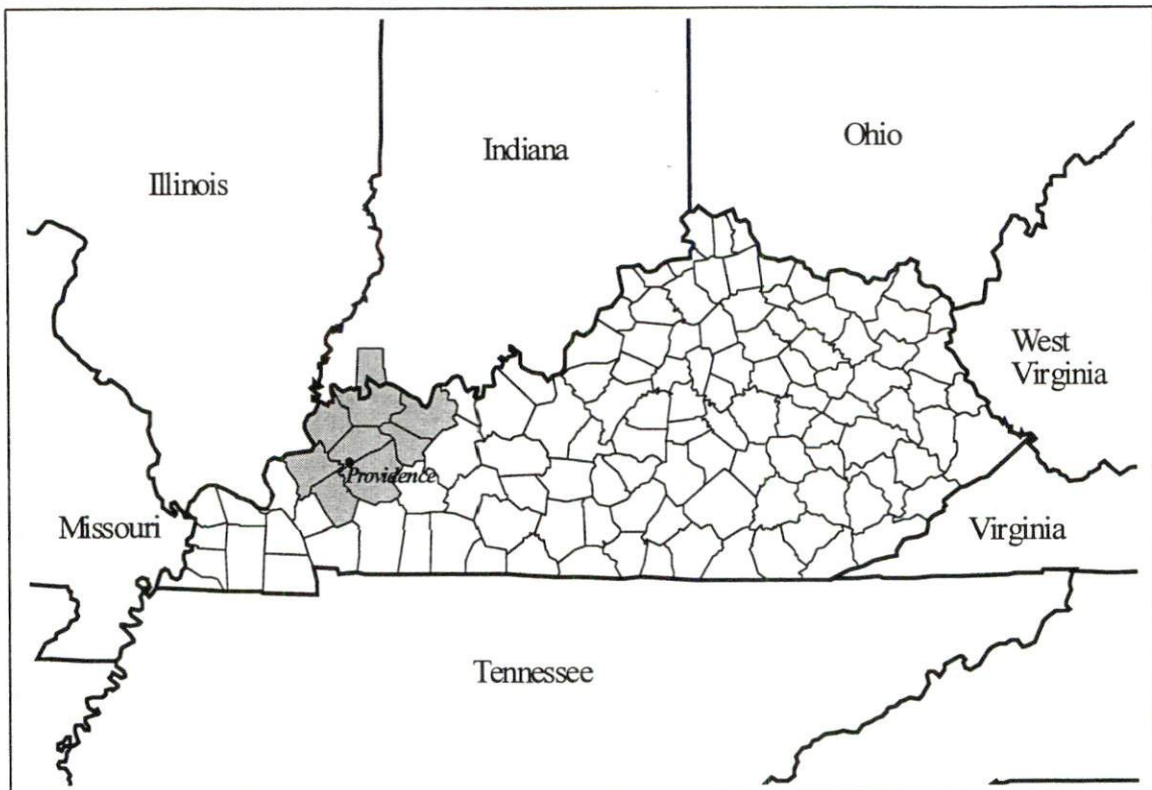
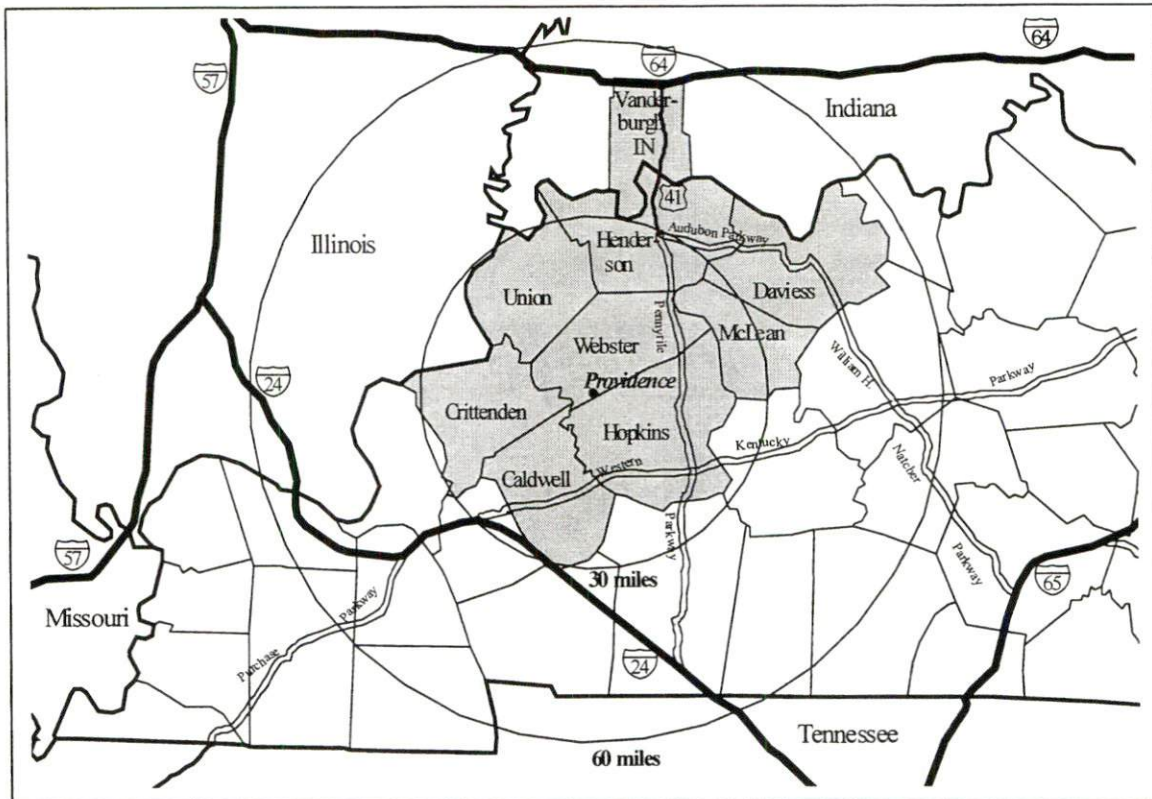
Labor Supply – There is a current estimated labor supply of 95,500 persons available for industrial jobs in the labor market area. In addition, from 1999 to 2003, approximately 27,895 young persons in the labor market area will become 18 years of age and potentially available for industrial jobs.

Transportation – Major highways serving Webster County include the Pennyriple Parkway, U.S. 41, U.S. 41 Alternate, and Kentucky 109. Twenty-five trucking companies serve Webster County. CSX Transportation provides rail service to Providence and Sebree while Western Kentucky Railway serves Providence. The Evansville Regional Airport, 39 miles north of Dixon, provides the nearest scheduled commercial airline service. The Providence-Webster County Airport maintains a 3,800-foot paved runway.

Power and Fuel – Providence Municipal Utilities provides electric service to Providence. Kentucky Utilities Company provides electric power to Clay, Dixon, Sebree, and parts of Webster County. Webster County is also served by Green River Electric Corporation and Henderson-Union Electric Cooperative. Natural gas service is provided to Clay by Clay Gas System, to Providence by Providence Municipal Utilities, and to Sebree by Western Kentucky Gas Company.

Education – The Providence Independent School System provides primary and secondary education to Providence. Clay, Dixon, Sebree, and unincorporated Webster County are served by the Webster County School System. Eleven institutions of higher learning are located within 60 miles of Dixon. Technical training facilities in the area include the Webster County Area Technology Center, in Dixon, the Madisonville Technical College and the Madisonville Health Extension, both 24 miles southeast of Dixon.

Labor Market Area Maps



Note: For detailed topographical and general highway maps call Maps and Publications at 502-564-4715. For industrial site maps call Site Evaluation at 502-564-7140.

LABOR MARKET STATISTICS

The Webster County labor market area includes Webster County and the following additional counties: Caldwell; Crittenden; Daviess; Henderson; Hopkins; McLean; Union; and Vanderburgh, IN.

Population

	<u>1980</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1996*</u>	<u>1997*</u>
Labor Market Area	405,910	403,985	411,132	411,340
Webster County	14,832	13,955	13,474	13,529
Providence	4,434	4,123	3,710	N/A
Sebree	1,516	1,510	1,536	N/A
Clay	1,356	1,173	1,073	N/A
Dixon	533	552	542	N/A

* Population estimates.

N/A: Not available.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Population Projections

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2020</u>
Labor Market Area	417,339	426,188	431,164
Webster County	13,774	14,035	14,075

Note: Population projections are from High Growth Series forecast.

Source: University of Louisville, Urban Studies Center, State Data Center. Population projections for the out-of-state counties were estimated by the Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development.

Estimated Labor Supply

	<u>Available Labor, 1997</u>				<u>Future Labor Becoming 18 years of age 1999 through 2003</u>
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Unemployed</u>	<u>Potential Labor Supply</u>	<u>Under- employed</u>	
Labor Market Area	95,500	11,632	7,180	76,688	27,895
Webster County	1,464	408	338	719	1,024

Note: Unemployed – people not working but actively seeking work. Potential Labor Supply – represents the number of persons not in the labor force, but would like a job (based on national estimates). Underemployed – people employed in wholesale/retail trade and non-professional services. See Appendix for further explanation.

Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development, Future Labor Supply Becoming 18 Years of Age, 1999 through 2003.

Labor Force Characteristics of Residents, 1997

	<u>Webster County</u>	<u>Labor Market Area</u>
Civilian Labor Force	5,722	213,399
Employed	5,314	201,767
Unemployed	408	11,632
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.1	5.5

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Work Force Commuting Patterns (1990)

Workers commuting out of Webster County	2,145
Workers commuting into Webster County	1,835
Working and residing in Webster County	3,079

Source: University of Louisville, State Data Center.

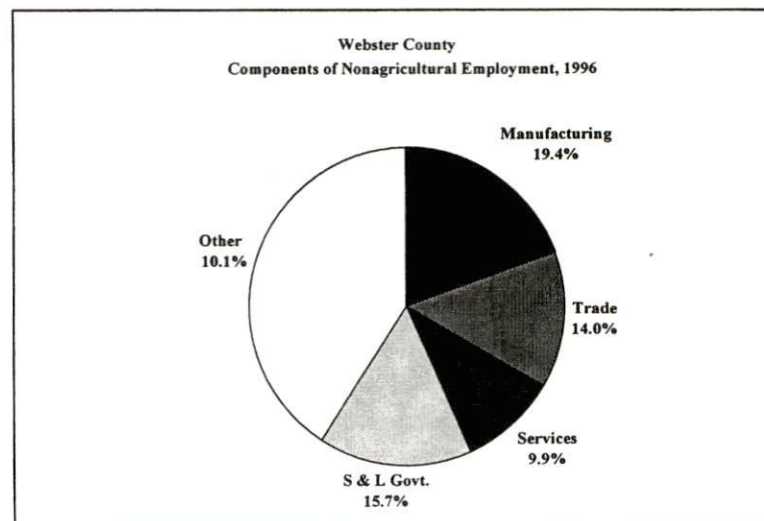
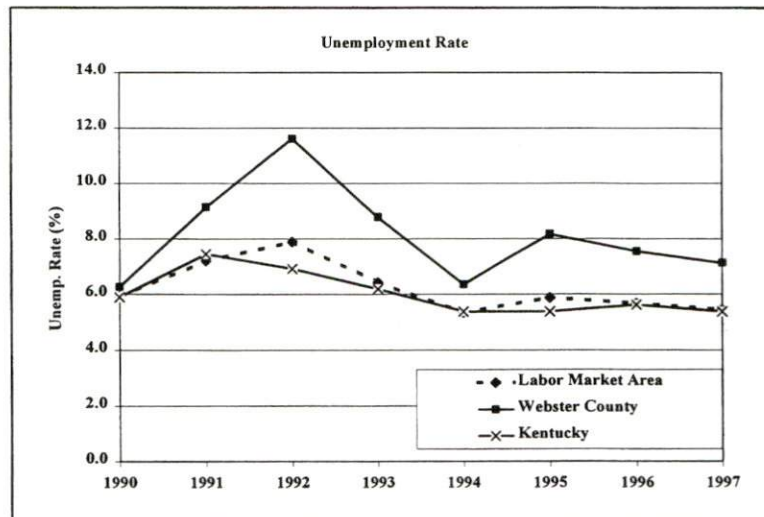
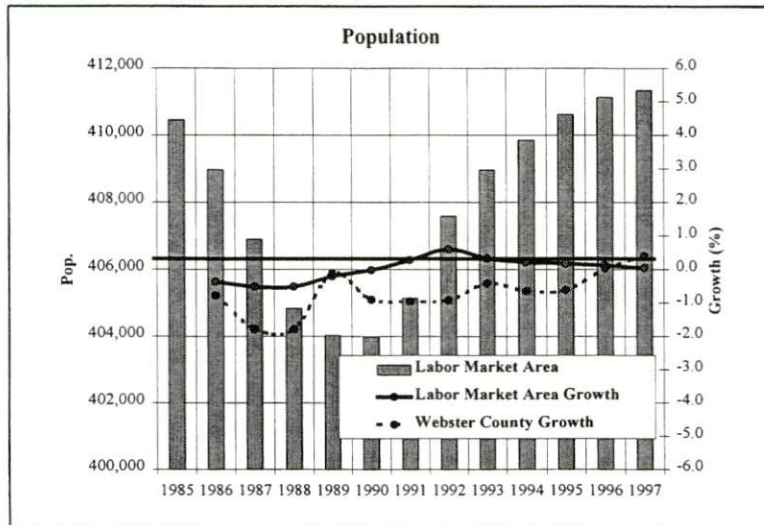
Selected Components of Nonagricultural Employment by Place of Work, 1996

	<u>Webster County</u>	<u>Labor Market Area</u>
All Industries	4,221	198,332
Mining & Quarrying	984	3,977
Contract Construction	111	11,185
Manufacturing	819	39,300
Transportation & Public Utilities	427	9,130
Wholesale & Retail Trade	590	51,536
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	170	9,246
Services	416	50,934
State & Local Government	664	21,834
Other	40	699

Note: Excludes domestic workers, railway workers, certain nonprofit corporations, majority of federal government workers, and self-employed workers.

Source: Kentucky Workforce Development Cabinet, Average Monthly Workers Covered by Kentucky Unemployment Insurance Law, 1996.

Selected Charts



Per Capita Personal Income

	<u>1992</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>Percent Change (1992-1996)</u>
Webster County	\$16,150	\$17,644	9.3
Labor Market Area Range	\$13,221 - \$20,646	\$15,313 - \$24,105	-
Kentucky	\$16,761	\$19,773	18.0
U. S.	\$20,631	\$24,436	18.4

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis. 1998.

Average Placement Wages

Webster County is served by the Henderson local office of the Kentucky Department for Employment Services. The focus of the following data is on job placements made by the Henderson local office and may therefore be used as an indicator of the wages which employers in the area pay new employees. During the twelve months which ended on June 30, 1998, the local employment office filled Webster County job openings in various occupational categories. The average hourly wage for selected occupational categories were:

	<u>Number of Placements</u>	<u>Average Wage (\$)</u>
All Occupations	1,964	6.29
Professional, Technical & Managerial	15	9.81
Clerical	138	5.28
Sales	16	6.51
Domestic	1	5.15
Services (excluding domestic)	210	5.85
Agricultural, Fishery, Forestry, etc.	13	5.73
Processing	1,041	5.79
Machine Trades	223	8.54
Bench Work	93	6.36
Structural	64	8.20
Motor Freight/Transportation	20	8.29
Packaging and Materials Handling	103	6.60
Other	27	6.51

Note: Occupational categories are taken from the Dictionary of Occupational Titles published by the U.S. Department of Labor. The Henderson local office serves Henderson, Union, and Webster Counties.

Source: Kentucky Workforce Development Cabinet, Department for Employment Services.

Average Weekly Wages by Industry by Place of Work, 1996*

	<u>Webster County</u>	<u>Kentucky (Statewide)</u>	<u>Tennessee</u>	<u>Virginia</u>
All Industries	\$533.59	\$465.37	\$495.00	\$525.00
Mining & Quarrying	1011.08	774.09	718.00	763.00
Contract Construction	416.95	489.34	524.00	515.00
Manufacturing	383.42	608.28	592.00	615.00
Transportation & Public Utilities	762.62	620.62	620.00	718.00
Wholesale & Retail Trade	253.30	319.59	N/A	N/A
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	324.47	576.81	653.00	688.00
Services	255.00	420.80	471.00	550.00
State & Local Government	377.81	473.35	N/A	N/A
	<u>Indiana</u>	<u>Ohio</u>	<u>Illinois</u>	<u>U.S.</u>
All Industries	\$507.00	\$528.00	\$599.00	\$550.00
Mining & Quarrying	810.00	732.00	887.00	916.00
Contract Construction	577.00	590.00	731.00	583.00
Manufacturing	699.00	738.00	737.00	697.00
Transportation & Public Utilities	614.00	641.00	725.00	694.00
Wholesale & Retail Trade	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	587.00	638.00	874.00	802.00
Services	434.00	466.00	547.00	523.00
State & Local Government	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

N/A - Not Available.

Note: The average weekly wage for each category includes salaries and wages of all persons working for that type of business. For example, the manufacturing category includes both production workers and administrative personnel. Domestic workers, railway workers, certain nonprofit corporations, majority of federal government workers, and self-employed workers are excluded. Wages for U.S. and surrounding states rounded to nearest dollar.

Sources: Kentucky Workforce Development Cabinet, Average Weekly Wages of Workers Covered by Kentucky Unemployment Insurance Law, 1996. U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Wages, Annual Averages, 1996, November 1997.

EXISTING INDUSTRY

Webster County Manufacturing Firms, Their Products and Employment

<u>Firm</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>1997 Emp.</u>	<u>Date Established</u>
<u>Clay</u>			
Clay Machine Works, Inc.	Machine shop: mining equipment, farm machinery & cylinder repairing; arc welding	17	1967
Pride Industries, Inc.	Steel & aluminum standing seam roofing	15	1976
Southern States Co-Op, Inc.	Fertilizer & animal feed mixing & blending	5	1967
Western Bluegrass, Inc.	Wood preserving & treated lumber	4	1979
<u>Dixon</u>			
Collins Engineering, Inc.	Machine shop: general & CNC machining, boring, cutting, lathe & mill work	12	N/A
DAPCO, Inc.	Coal mine vehicles	10	1990
Pioneer Packaging	Plastic injection molded & decorated containers	15	1985
Pioneer Plastics, Inc.	Refrigerator parts, restaurant supplies & custom injection molding	65	1981
<u>Providence</u>			
Carhartt, Inc.	Men's work & casual clothing	220	1981
Hoov-R-Line Operation	Plastic plumbing parts	145	1974
Journal-Enterprise, Inc.	Newspaper publishing	9	1902
Northern Printing & Office Supply	Offset & letterpress printing, typesetting, plastic, spiral, side & saddle stitch binding	3	1973
Providence Machine, Inc.	Machine shop: structural metal fabricating & mining machinery parts	28	1956
Quality Fabrication, Inc.	Machine shop: general, CNC lathe, & mill machining, sheet, plate, ornamental & structural metal fabricating	13	1982
Tri-Valley Plastics, Inc.	Custom injection & blow molded plastic products	40	1989
West KY Steel Construction	Steel fabricating for coal mining industry	12	1958
<u>Sebree</u>			
Ashby Electric Co., Inc.	Electric motors	23	1971
Carhartt, Inc.	Men's work clothing & jeans	195	1973
Colonel's Corn Products	Corn chips	10	1989
Freezer Services	Frozen foods	30	1998
Scott Manufacturing, Inc.	Fabricated fiberglass & insulation	50	1973
Sebree Banner	Newspaper publishing, offset printing & computer typesetting	4	1892
Sebree Wholesale	Lace and craft supplies	30	1987
Tyson Foods Feed Mill	Chicken feed	40	1997
<u>Wheatcroft</u>			
Da-Co Machine & Fabricating	Machine shop: general machining, grinding, drilling, boring, cutting, honing, lathe & mill work; arc, gas, indl., MIG, TIG, spot welding	5	1977

<u>Firm</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>1997 Emp.</u>	<u>Date Established</u>
Meadows Machine	Machine shop: general machining; arc, MIG & gas welding; structural & sheet steel fabricating; mill & lathe work; surface, OD & ID grinding	8	1992

Sources: Kentucky Directory of Manufacturers published by Harris InfoSource in cooperation with the Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development, Division of Research; Webster County Economic Development Corporation.

Recent Industrial Developments

A \$1.2 million expansion at Pioneer Plastics in Dixon is expected to be completed in October 1998 and will increase the production capabilities, add new equipment, and increase employment by 20 percent.

Hudson Foods recently purchased 274 acres in the Robards-Sebree area to construct a poultry processing plant and an adjacent protein rendering plant. A feed mill will be built on 120 acres just north of Sebree and a hatchery built on 45 acres in Beech Grove. Total initial investment will be over \$60 million (this excludes nearly \$72 million in investment by area farmers for construction of chicken houses, growers fee of \$20 million, and purchasing of corn from area farmers of \$45 million per year). Employment is expected to reach 1,200 to 1,500 in five years.

A new fully developed industrial site is located between the CSX Railroad and U.S. 41 at the northern city limits of Sebree. A 48,750 square-foot spec building has been completed and is immediately available for occupancy.

Also in Sebree, Freezer Services of Omaha, Nebraska is building a new 100,000 square-foot facility that will serve as a blast freeze operation, distribution center, and refrigerated warehouse for various food processors, primarily Tyson Foods. Approximately 25 people are expected to be hired in the first year. Freezer Services' total investment in the Sebree operation is an estimated \$8 million.

Telecommunications

Webster County is served by a digital central office which homes on the Madisonville SESS. It is connected via fiber optics. Broadband services are available to subscribers including frame relay. Point of Presence access is available from AT&T, Sprint and Long Distance Management.

Labor Organizations in Webster County

United Food and Commercial Workers, AFL-CIO, CLC
 United Garment Workers of America, AFL-CIO, CLC
 United Steelworkers of America, AFL-CIO-CLC

Source: Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development, Division of Research.

Selected Industrial Services – Within 50 Miles of Providence

Miles	City	Custom Plastics Producers	Electric Motor Repair	Heat Treating Facilities	Industrial Waste Removal	Machine Shops, Tool & Die	Metal Castings	Metal Finishers	Metal Service Centers	Mill- wrights & Riggers
	Providence					X				
7	Dixon	X								
14	Dawson Springs	X								
16	Madisonville				X	X		X		
18	Corydon	X								
20	Princeton		X							
21	Marion					X				
26	Henderson	X				X	X			
33	Cadiz	X								
36	Greenville					X			X	
37	Hopkinsville	X	X		X	X			X	
39	Livermore					X				
44	Owensboro	X	X		X	X		X	X	X
47	Elkton				X					
49	McHenry					X				

Note: Miles are calculated as the straight-line distance from city center to city center; not road miles.

Source: Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development, Division of Research.

TRANSPORTATION

Highways

Mayor highways serving Webster County include the Pennyrile Parkway, U.S. 41, U.S. 41 Alternate, Kentucky 56, and Kentucky 109. An interchange with the Pennyrile Parkway, a multi-lane highway, is located two miles east of Sebree. The Pennyrile Parkway provides access to the Audubon Parkway to the north and the Western Kentucky Parkway to the south. Interchanges with the Western Kentucky Parkway are located 16 miles south of Providence via Kentucky 109.

Highway Miles from Providence, Kentucky to Selected Market Centers

<u>City</u>	<u>Highway Miles</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Highway Miles</u>
Atlanta, GA	367	Kansas City, MO	435
Baltimore, MD	746	Knoxville, TN	299
Birmingham, AL	313	Los Angeles, CA	2,043
Charleston, WV	382	Louisville, KY	171
Chicago, IL	358	Minneapolis, MN	737
Cincinnati, OH	268	Nashville, TN	121
Cleveland, OH	519	New Orleans, LA	653
Columbia, SC	561	New York, NY	892
Columbus, OH	375	Pittsburgh, PA	557
Dallas, TX	699	Raleigh, NC	658
Des Moines, IA	579	Richmond, VA	700
Detroit, MI	531	St. Louis, MO	186
Indianapolis, IN	284	Tallahassee, FL	638

Note: Mileage computations are via the best interstate or primary highways, not necessarily the most direct route of travel.

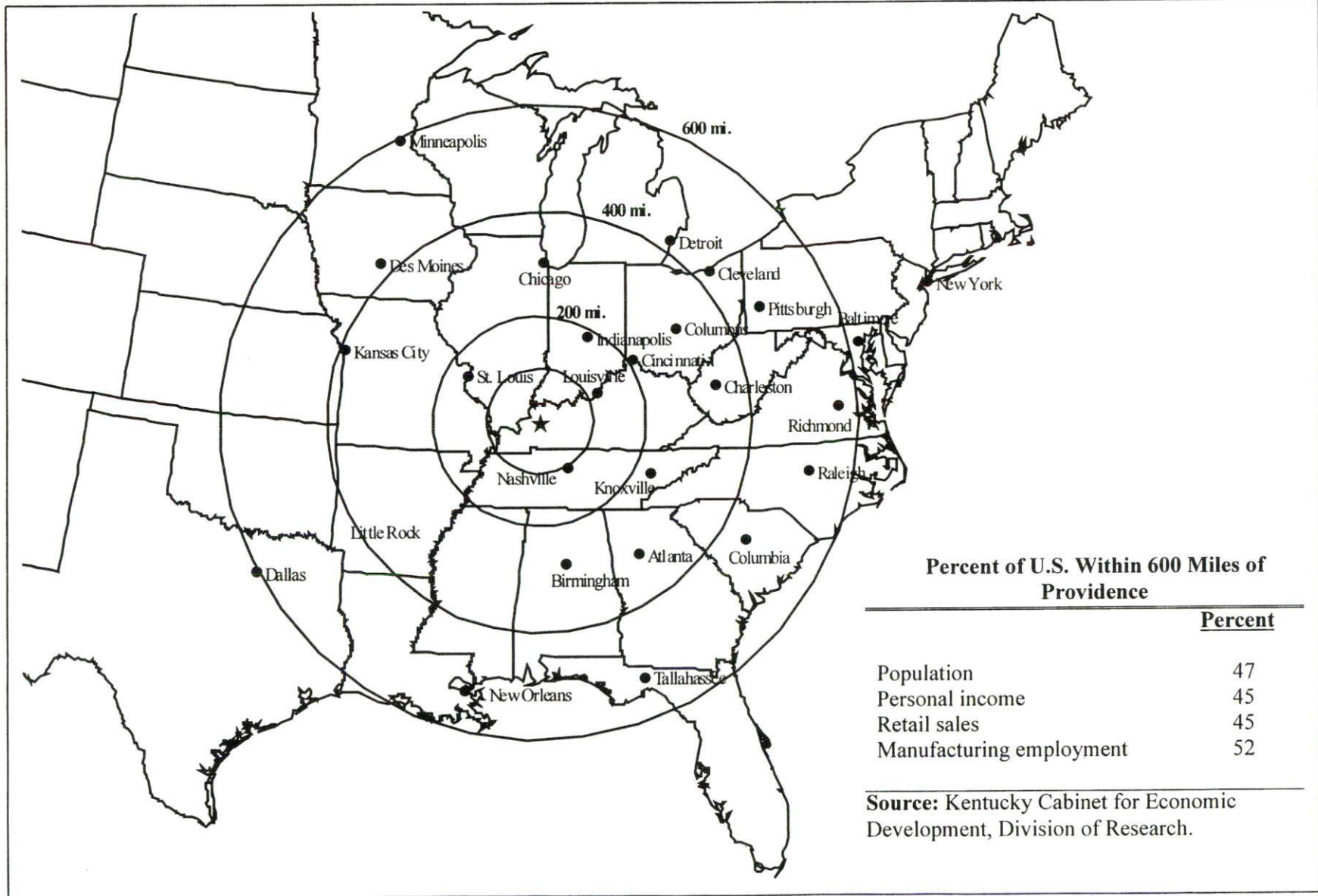
Source: AAA Map 'n' Go, DeLORME, 1998.

Truck Service

Twenty-five common carrier trucking companies provide interstate and/or intrastate service to Webster County.

Source: American Motor Carrier Directory, Fall 1998.

Selected Market Centers Map



Rail

Webster County is served by an excellent network of rail companies. CSX Transportation provides main line rail service to Sebree and branch line service to Providence. Western Kentucky Railway provides short line service to Providence. CSX Transportation provides the nearest intermodal facilities at Evansville, Indiana, 36 miles north of Dixon.

For details on routing, schedules, rates, and services contact:

Manager of Industrial Development
CSX Transportation
9420 Bunsen Parkway, Suite 212
Louisville, KY 40220
(502) 499-3025

and/or

Western Kentucky Railway
P.O. Box 66
Sturgis, KY 42459
(502) 664-9938

Air

Local

Location:
Runway length:
Phone:

Providence-Webster County Airport
Providence, Kentucky
3,800 feet
None

Commercial/International

Nearest Major Commercial Airline Service

Location:

Evansville Regional Airport
Evansville, Indiana
47 miles north of Providence

Air service:

ASA, Comair, American Eagle, Northwest, Airlink, TWA Express,
US Airways Express

Daily arrivals & departures:

98

Nearest International Airport

Location:

Nashville International Airport
Nashville, Tennessee
120 miles southeast of Providence

Air service:

Air Canada, American, American Eagle, Comair, Continental,
Corporate Express, Delta, Delta Express, Midway Connection,
Northwest, Skyway, Southwest, TWA, United, US Airways, US
Airways Express, Trans States

Daily arrivals & departures:

364

Water

The nearest navigable river is the Green River at Sebree, where a nine-foot navigation channel is maintained to the Ohio River. A private rail-served terminal at Sebree will contract with any manufacturer for use of loading and unloading facilities on the Green River.

UTILITIES

Electricity

Service area: **Clay, Dixon, Sebree, and parts of Webster County**
Company: Kentucky Utilities Company
Source of power: Kentucky Utilities Company

For industrial rates contact: Economic Development Department
Kentucky Utilities Company
One Quality Street
Lexington, KY 40507
(606) 255-2100

Service area: **Providence**
Company: Providence Municipal Utilities
Source of power: Kentucky Utilities Company

For industrial rates contact: Providence Municipal Utilities
P.O. Box 128
Providence, KY 42450
(502) 667-2511

Service area: **rural Webster County**
Company: Green River Electric Corporation and Henderson-Union Electric Cooperative
Source of power: Big Rivers Electric Corporation

For industrial rates contact: Manager of Economic Development
Big Rivers Electric Corporation
201 Third Street
P.O. Box 24
Henderson, KY 42420
(502) 827-2561

and/or

Green River Electric Corporation
3111 Fairview Drive
P.O. Box 1389
Owensboro, KY 42302
(502) 926-4141

and/or

Henderson Union Electric Cooperative
6402 Old Corydon Road
P.O. Box 18
Henderson, KY 42420
(502) 826-3991 or (800) 844-4832

Natural Gas

Service area: **Clay**
Company: Clay Gas System
Source of supply: Texas Gas Transmission Corporation

For rates and supplies contact: Clay Gas System
P.O. Box 425
Clay, KY 42404
(502) 664-2444

Service area: **Dixon and Sebree**
Company: Western Kentucky Gas Company
Source of supply: Texas Gas Transmission Corporation

For rates and supplies contact: Western Kentucky Gas Company
2401 New Hartford Road
P.O. Box 866
Owensboro, KY 42302-0866
(502) 685-8069

Service area: **Providence**
Company: Providence Municipal Utilities
Source of supply: Texas Gas Transmission Corporation

For rates and supplies contact: Providence Municipal Utilities
P.O. Box 128
Providence, KY 42450
(502) 667-2511

Public Water Supply

Service area: **Providence**
Company: City of Providence
201 East Main Street
Providence, KY 42450
(502) 667-5463

Treatment facilities information:
Treatment plant capacity: 1,500,000 gallons per day
Source of raw water: Providence City Lake
Average daily consumption: 700,000 gallons
Peak daily consumption : 1,000,000 gallons
Storage capacity: 700,000 gallons
Water pressure: 52 psi to 83 psi

Service area: **southern, northern, central and western parts of Webster County**
Company: Webster County Water District
P.O. Box 320
Dixon, KY 42409
(502) 639-9010

Treatment facilities information:

Source of raw water: Two wells
Design capacity: 864,000 gallons per day
Average daily consumption: 750,000 gallons
Peak daily consumption : At capacity
Storage capacity: 1,835,000 gallons
Water pressure: 35 psi to 150 psi

Service area: **Sebree**
Company: City of Sebree
P.O. Box 245
Sebree, KY 42455
(502) 835-7501

Treatment facilities information:

Source of treated water: Green River (Alcan Ingot Plant)
Amount that can be purchased: No set limit
Average daily consumption: 155,000 gallons
Peak daily consumption : 360,000 gallons
Storage capacity: 315,000 gallons
Water pressure: 82 psi to 122 psi

The City of Sebree has contracted with Henderson City Water and Sewer Utilities to purchase additional water and wastewater treatment services, increasing Sebree's capabilities.

Sewerage

Service area: **Providence and Dixon**
Company: City of Providence
201 East Main Street
Providence, KY 42450
(502) 667-5463

Design capacity: 629,000 gallons per day
Average daily flow: 400,000 gallons
Type of treatment: Primary
Treated effluent discharged into: Owens Creek

Service area:	Sebree
Company:	Sebree Wastewater Treatment Plant P.O. Box 245 Sebree, KY 42455 (502) 835-7501
Design capacity:	180,000 gallons per day
Average daily flow:	At capacity
Type of treatment:	Primary
Treated effluent discharged into:	Mock Roy Creek

CLIMATE

Webster County

Temperature

Average (100-year record)	56.60 degrees
Average annual 1996	54.20 degrees
Record highest, July 1954 (56-year record)	105.00 degrees
Record lowest, February 1951 (56-year record)	-23.00 degrees
Normal heating degree days (30-year record)	4,708
Normal cooling degree days (30-year record)	1,376

Precipitation

Normal total (30-year record)	43.14 inches
Normal annual snowfall (30-year record)	15.50 inches
Total precipitation 1996	64.03 inches
Normal number days precipitation (.01 inch or more) (30-year record)	114.90
Mean number days thunderstorms (56-year record)	44.90

Prevailing Winds (28-year record) South

Relative Humidity (30-year record)

12 midnight	62 percent
6 a.m.	79 percent
12 noon	82 percent
6 p.m.	59 percent

Note: Heating degree day totals are the sums of negative departures of average daily temperatures from 65 degrees F. Cooling degree day totals are the sums of positive departures of average daily temperatures from 65 degrees F.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, National Climatic Data Center, Local Climatological Data, 1996.
Station of record: Evansville, Indiana.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Structure

Clay, Providence and Sebree are each governed by a mayor and six council members. Dixon, Slaughters, and Wheatcroft are governed by a mayor and four council members. The mayor for each city is elected to a four-year term while the council members each serve two-year terms.

Webster County is served by a county judge/executive and three magistrates. Each county official serves a four-year term.

Planning and Zoning

City agency - Providence Planning Commission

Zoning enforced - Within city and 2.5 miles beyond the corporate limits

Subdivision regulations enforced - Within city only

Local codes enforced - Building and housing

Mandatory state codes enforced - Kentucky Plumbing Code, National Electric Code, Kentucky Boiler Regulations and Standards, Kentucky Building Code (modeled after BOCA code)

Local Fees and Licenses

The City of Sebree levies a business license fee ranging from \$31.25 to \$70.00. Automobile license fees are \$10.00 annually. The City of Clay levies a \$10.50 to \$15.50 unloading license fee.

Sales and Use Tax

A state sales and use tax is levied at the rate of 6.0% on the purchase or lease price of taxable goods and on utilities services. Local sales taxes are not levied in Kentucky.

State and Local Property Taxes

The Kentucky Constitution requires the state to tax all classes of taxable property, and state statutes allow local jurisdiction to tax only a few classes. All locally taxed property is subject to county taxes and school district taxes (either a county school district or an independent school district). Property located inside the city limits may also be subject to city property taxes. Property assessments in Kentucky are at 100% fair cash value. Accounts receivable are taxed at 85% of face value. Special local taxing jurisdictions (fire protection districts, watershed districts, and sanitation districts) levy taxes within their operating areas (usually a small portion of community or county).

State Property Tax Rates Per \$100 Valuation

<u>Selected Classes of Property</u>	<u>State Rate, 1997</u>	<u>Local Taxation Permitted</u>
Real Estate	\$0.157	Yes
Manufacturing Machinery	0.150	No
Pollution Control Equipment	0.150	No
Inventories:		
Raw Materials	0.050	No
Goods in Process	0.050	No
Finished Goods	0.050	Yes
Motor Vehicles	0.450	Yes
Other Tangible Personal Property	0.450	Yes
Intangibles (Accounts Receivable, Money on Hand)	0.250	No

Source: Property Tax Rates 1997, Kentucky Revenue Cabinet, Department of Property Valuation.

Local Property Tax Rates Per \$100 Valuation, 1997

<u>Taxing Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Real Estate</u>	<u>Finished Goods & Tangibles</u>	<u>Motor Vehicles</u>
<u>County</u>			
Webster County	\$0.2510	\$0.2734	\$0.2508
<u>Cities</u>			
Clay	0.2800	0.2800	0.3900
Dixon	0.1580	0.1410	0.2170
Providence	0.5000	0.5000	0.5000
Sebree	0.2710	0.3320	0.2820
<u>School Districts</u>			
Providence Independent School District	0.3360	0.3430	0.5450
Webster County School District	0.4420	0.4440	0.4360

Source: Property Tax Rates 1997, Kentucky Revenue Cabinet, Department of Property Valuation.

EDUCATION

Primary and Secondary Schools

Public School District Enrollments and Expenditures, 1996-1997

	<u>Total Enrollment</u>	<u>Expenditures Per Pupil</u>	<u>Pupil to Teacher Ratio</u>
Providence Independent	547	\$5,557	15.2 to 1
Webster County	2,167	\$5,963	17.8 to 1

Source: Kentucky Department of Education, Office of Curriculum, Assessment, and Accountability.

Transition to Adult Life of High School Graduates, 1996-1997

<u>County-wide</u>	<u>Number of Graduates</u>	<u>Percent of Total Graduates (%)</u>
Total High School Graduates	185	100.0%
To College	52	28.1%
To Vocational/Technical School	15	8.1%
To Workforce	72	38.9%
To Work & School	35	18.9%
To Military	3	1.6%
Other	8	4.3%

Source: Kentucky Department of Education, Office of Curriculum, Assessment, and Accountability.

Colleges and Technical Schools

Area Colleges and Universities Within 60 Miles of Providence

	<u>Location (Miles from Providence)</u>	<u>Enrollment (Fall 1997)</u>
Madisonville Community College	Madisonville, Kentucky (16)	2,412
Henderson Community College	Henderson, Kentucky (26)	1,075
University of Evansville	Evansville, Indiana (35)	3,130
University of Southern Indiana	Evansville, Indiana (35)	8,300
Hopkinsville Community College	Hopkinsville, Kentucky (37)	2,524
Brescia College	Owensboro, Kentucky (44)	711
Kentucky Wesleyan College	Owensboro, Kentucky (44)	774
Owensboro Community College	Owensboro, Kentucky (44)	2,300
Paducah Community College	Paducah, Kentucky (56)	2,794
Austin Peay State University	Clarksville, Tennessee (58)	7,556
Murray State University	Murray, Kentucky (58)	8,811

Note: Miles are calculated as the straight-line distance from city center to city center, not road miles.

Source: Kentucky Council on Higher Education.

Technical Schools

	Location (Mileage from Providence)	Enrollment (1997-1998)		
		Sec	P/S	Total
Webster County ATC	Dixon, Kentucky (7)	409	1	410
West Kentucky Technical College	Madisonville, Kentucky (16)	21	1,113	1,134
Madisonville Technical College	Madisonville, Kentucky (16)	74	128	202
Madisonville Technical College Madisonville Health Extension	Madisonville, Kentucky (16)	0	372	372
Caldwell County ATC	Princeton, Kentucky (20)	342	26	368
Henderson County ATC	Henderson, Kentucky (26)	701	2	703
Muhlenberg County ATC	Greenville, Kentucky (36)	142	57	199
Christian County ATC	Hopkinsville, Kentucky (37)	241	28	269
Owensboro Technical College	Owensboro, Kentucky (44)	109	365	474
Owensboro Technical College Daviess County Extension	Owensboro, Kentucky (44)	225	150	375
Ohio County ATC	Hartford, Kentucky (51)	673	23	696
Paducah ATC	Paducah, Kentucky (56)	496	24	520
Murray ATC	Murray, Kentucky (58)	237	23	260

Notes: Kentucky Tech secondary schools (Sec), called area technology centers (ATC), are operated by the Cabinet for Workforce Development and the post-secondary schools (P/S), called technical colleges, are governed by the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS). Adult courses may be offered at some secondary technical schools.

Source: Kentucky Workforce Development Cabinet, KCTCS.

Special School or Program Information

The Madisonville area has a unique facility that specializes in services to business and industry, called the Madisonville Technology Education Center (M-TEC). It houses representatives from several community resources that provide services to industry. The Kentucky Tech Training and Development Coordinator and the Kentucky Tech Career Connections Assessment Center are located at the M-Tec Center. For information call (502) 824-7009.

Customized Training

The Kentucky Tech system, through its training and development coordinators, will provide technical assistance and will identify and develop low-cost customized training programs and services for both established and prospective businesses. Businesses wanting to establish a customized training program should contact a Training and Development Coordinator at the Tech-West Region, 750 North Laffoon Street, Madisonville, Kentucky 42431, (502) 824-7552.

Assessment Services

Kentucky Tech Career Connections offers business, education, and government agencies testing packages for evaluating job applicants, selecting employees for promotional consideration and developing training programs within the organization. The Career Connections Assessment Center serving the Webster County area is located at the Madisonville Technical College campus, (502) 825-5059.

Adult Education Services

Adult education programs are available to adults who want to develop new academic skills, improve basic skills, or earn a high school equivalency diploma. In the Webster County area, adult basic education and adult literacy classes are administered through the In Webster County adult literacy is provided by the Webster County Adult Literacy Commission and the Providence Board of Education.

Tech Prep is a combined secondary and postsecondary program of studies that leads to an associate degree or diploma in a vocational-technical field. Webster County Area Technology Center offers tech prep programs in health services, machine tool technology and welding. Madisonville Technical College offers tech prep programs in business, auto, construction and welding technology.

Articulation agreements developed between various colleges and universities and the Kentucky Tech system allow students to earn credits to be used when matriculating to degree programs at a college or university. Madisonville Technical College and Madisonville Health Extension each have articulation agreements with Madisonville Community College. Madisonville Health Extension also has articulation agreements in most of its health programs with other universities throughout the state.

Bluegrass State Skills Corporation

The Bluegrass State Skills Corporation (BSSC) was established in 1984 by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky as an independent, de jure corporation to stimulate economic development through customized business and industry specific skills training programs. The BSSC works with business and industry and Kentucky's educational institutions to establish programs of skills training. The BSSC is attached to the Cabinet for Economic Development for administrative purposes, in recognition of the relationship between economic development and skills training efforts.

The BSSC is comprised of two economic development tools, matching grants and the newly authorized Skills Training Investment Credit Act. The BSSC grant program is available to new, expanding and existing business and industry. Eligible training activities include pre-employment skills training and assessment; entry level, skills upgrade and occupational upgrade training; train-the-trainer travel; and capacity-building. The Skills Training Investment Credit Act provides tax credits to existing businesses for skills upgrade training.

OTHER LOCAL FACILITIES

Local Medical Personnel

Physicians - 5
Dentists - 3

Hospitals

<u>General Hospital</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Beds</u>
Regional Medical Center of Hopkins County	Madisonville 24 miles southeast of Dixon	410
Community United Methodist Hospital	Henderson 26 miles north of Dixon	213

Other Medical Facilities and Services

Community Methodist Ambulatory Center (Dixon)
Sebree Medical Center
Trover Clinic (Providence)
Webster County Health Department (Dixon)
Providence Fire Department (provides ambulance service)
City of Sebree Emergency Medical Service
Webster County Ambulance Service

Banks and Savings & Loan Associations

Citizens Bank (Slaughters)
Dixon Bank
First Kentucky Bank (Poole)
Providence State Bank
Sebree Deposit Bank
West Kentucky Bank (Clay, Providence, and Sebree)

Newspapers

Journal Enterprise - Providence (weekly)
The Sebree Banner - Sebree (weekly)

Telephone Service

BellSouth

RECREATION

Baker Park in Dixon includes a fishing lake and little league field. Dixon Park features basketball and tennis courts, a baseball field, a picnic shelter, and concessions. The nine-hole Wildwood Golf Course is located in Dixon.

Westerfield Memorial Park in Providence contains picnic shelters and grills, a concession stand, restrooms, three baseball diamonds, two tennis courts, a basketball court, a track and a playground. The Legion Park contains a baseball diamond, Christian Youth Center, horse show ring and is the location of the annual Coal Festival. Providence Golf and Country Club features a nine-hole golf course and a swimming pool.

The 30-acre Sebree Springs Park in Sebree features a swimming pool, two tennis courts, volleyball courts, a baseball diamond, a pee-wee baseball diamond, a basketball court, a pavilion, a picnic area, three shelter houses, a horse show ring and playground equipment. Sebree Elementary School offers a football field.

The Clay Community Park in Clay is a ten-acre public park containing two lighted baseball fields with bleachers, playground equipment. Sebree Elementary School offers a football field.

Senior Citizens Centers providing meals and activities are located in Providence, Dixon, Poole, and Sebree.

Area (Within 35 miles)

Just north of Henderson, 25 miles north of Dixon, is the John James Audubon State Park, a 692-acre park where the famed naturalist gathered material for his painting, "The Birds of America." Many paintings by Audubon and his sons, and 126 first-edition prints of his paintings are on display at the Audubon Memorial and Nature Museum which is the focal point of the park. Other park features include the Audubon woods, a bird sanctuary, and a 12-acre nature preserve lake. The park features cottages and camping sites, a golf course, a tennis court, hiking trails, picnic shelters, planned recreation, and playground. Organized recreation programs are offered during the summer.

Pennyrile Forest State Resort Park near Dawson Springs is located 33 miles south of Dixon. The 24-room lodge, 13 cottages, and 68 campsites provide excellent accommodations. Other facilities and activities include a dining room, a gift shop, rental rowboats and pedal boats, a nine-hole golf course, miniature golf, hiking trails, horseback riding, picnicking, playgrounds, shuffleboard, swimming at the lodge pool and at the sand beach, and two tennis courts. Lake Beshear, only four miles from the lodge, sports good fishing.

APPENDIX - DEFINITIONS

Geographic definition of the labor market area

A county's labor market area is defined as the base county, adjacent counties, and any other major commuting counties. Adjacency is used to define the labor market area primarily because of the small size of Kentucky's counties. The major commuting counties are defined from the point of view of the base county. Major commuting counties are those counties that comprise 90% of the base county's total commuters. The source of the commuting patterns is the 1990 journey-to-work data available from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Example – Logan County

To determine the labor market area for Logan County the following steps are taken. First, the counties with workers commuting into Logan county are listed in ascending order (see the table below). The cumulative percent is calculated. Next, all counties that comprise up to 90% of the commuters are included in the labor market area (actually the cut-off will be the county that breaks the 90% threshold – Montgomery County, TN at 92.6% in this case). Although Robertson is not a major commuter county, it is included since it is adjacent. The Logan County labor market is then comprised of the seven bold-faced counties in the table below.

Labor Market Area Example – Logan County

<u>Adjacent to Logan</u>	<u>Commuter County</u>	<u>Commuters into Logan</u>	<u>Percent of Total Commuters</u>	<u>Cumulative Percent</u>
Y	Todd	385	24.4%	24.4%
Y	Warren	377	23.9	48.4
Y	Muhlenberg	365	23.2	71.5
Y	Simpson	162	10.3	81.8
Y	Butler	116	7.4	89.1
	Montgomery, TN	55	3.5	92.6
	Christian	36	2.3	94.9
	Sumner, TN	35	2.2	97.1
Y	Robertson, TN	25	1.6	98.7
	Davidson, TN	20	1.3	100.0
<i>Total Commuters into Logan County</i>		<i>1,576</i>	<i>100.0</i>	

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis. Regional Economic Information System, CD-ROM. August 1997.

Potential Labor Supply

The potential labor supply is an estimate of those persons not classified as in the labor force (not employed and not unemployed), but who want a job. The assumption is that people not in the labor force at the local level would like a job at the same rate as the nation. The U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics provides national, yearly estimates of the percent of the people not in the labor force who want a job. This percent is applied to the county-level number of people not in the labor force.

Underemployed

Wholesale/retail trade and non-professional services have historically paid low wages. The assumption is that workers in these industries would take higher paying jobs if they were available. Non-professional services excludes Miscellaneous Repair Services (SIC 7600), Health Services (SIC 8000), Legal Services (SIC 8100), and Engineering and Management Services (SIC 8700).

Total Available Labor

Total available labor is the sum of the number of unemployed, potential labor supply, and underemployed. Please note that the number of unemployed is the only generally accepted measure of labor availability. The other concepts are weaker measures and should be used with caution.