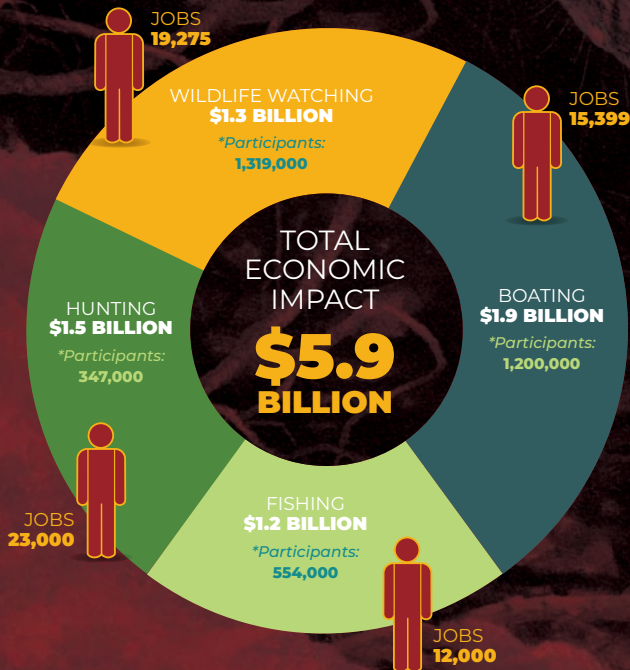




FISH and WILDLIFE RECREATION

A Vital Force for Kentucky's Economy

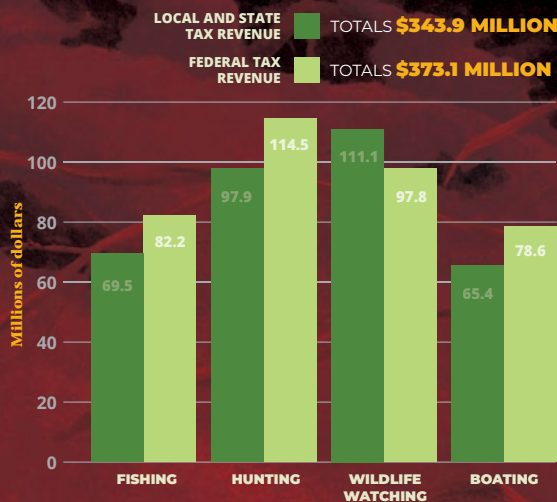


Big Business in the Bluegrass State

Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources' conservation and recreation programs help generate tremendous economic benefits to the Commonwealth from hunting, fishing and other wildlife-related recreation—producing **\$5.9 Billion in total economic impact** and supporting about **70,000 jobs**.

Users Pay, Everyone Benefits

Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife helps to produce these economic benefits using no state General Fund tax dollars. **Licenses, other user fees, and grants fund the Department.** KDFWR's spending and staffing directly produce programs and resources that benefit all of Kentucky's citizens and our state's economy at all levels.



A group of young adults enjoys a day of fishing at Brickyard Pond in Knox County. KDFWR partners with dozens of municipal governments statewide to make high quality fishing opportunities available through local Fishing in Neighborhoods (FINs) lakes.



KDFWR raises millions of fish and stocks public lakes and streams from Paducah to Pikeville for hundreds of thousands of Kentucky residents and visitors to enjoy.

**Estimates derived from statistically-representative state and national surveys. References available upon request.*



A family from central Kentucky enjoys a weekend of hunting at Yellowbank Wildlife Management Area in Breckinridge County. Many Kentuckians don't own or have recreational access to private land and thus depend on WMAs and other public lands.

CASE IN POINT:

Benefits of Public Land.

Over one-third (37%) of licensed resident hunters use public lands to hunt in Kentucky. The estimated economic impact of public hunting lands in Kentucky is \$182 per acre per year, which demonstrates their economic value in terms of tax revenues, retail expenditures and ripple effects. A substantial proportion of nonresident visitors also use public lands and waters for hunting, fishing and boating in Kentucky because of their accessibility; Kentucky businesses welcome and rely on these nonresidents' tourism dollars.

Lost access to private hunting and fishing sites has repeatedly been identified by lapsed participants as a top reason for dropping out. By contrast, **active and prospective hunters and anglers have identified public access sites within an hour's drive from home a most important factor in continuing or resuming participation.**

Programs Result In Participation

KDFWR programs generate tens of millions of recreation days among both Kentucky residents and nonresident visitors, sustaining a substantial proportion of Kentucky's tourism industry. Here are a few examples of these important programs:

- ❖ Fishing & Boating Access Sites
- ❖ Wildlife Management Areas for Public Hunting, Fishing & Wildlife Watching
- ❖ Fish Hatcheries & Stocking
- ❖ Fishing in Neighborhoods (FINs) lakes partnership
- ❖ Conservation Camps & Events for Youths
- ❖ Game Species Research & Harvest Management
- ❖ Mobility-impaired Access Sites
- ❖ Hunter and Angler Recruitment & Retention
- ❖ Wildlife Viewing Events & Facilities

Wildlife-Related Recreation Supports Local Economies

Purchases in local communities by hundreds of thousands of anglers, hunters, boaters, trappers, target shooters and wildlife watchers stimulate our local and state economies, creating Kentucky jobs in manufacturers, distributors and retailers of goods, as well as in service industries. Myriad examples include:

- ❖ Fishing rods and reels
- ❖ Tackle boxes, rod holders, and rod-carriers
- ❖ Fishing lines, hooks, sinkers
- ❖ Fishing baits
- ❖ Guns and ammunition
- ❖ Bows, crossbows, arrows and archery accessories
- ❖ Boats, canoes and kayaks
- ❖ Boat motors and trolling motors
- ❖ Boat trailers
- ❖ Boat registrations
- ❖ Marinas, boat storage and rental services
- ❖ Gasoline, other fuels and oils

- ❖ Coolers
- ❖ Ice
- ❖ Groceries
- ❖ Gun cleaning equipment and compounds
- ❖ Paper, foam and metal targets
- ❖ Decoys
- ❖ Game calls
- ❖ Analog and electronic calling devices/systems
- ❖ Optics including binoculars, gun scopes, rangefinders and spotting scopes
- ❖ Feeders and feeds
- ❖ Tractors, implements and other farm equipment
- ❖ Seeds and other agricultural supplies such as lime and fertilizer
- ❖ Magazines, books, DVDs, and online subscriptions
- ❖ Tree stands, portable blinds, and permanent hunting structures
- ❖ Video and still cameras, trail cameras and related electronics
- ❖ Nets and seines
- ❖ Live bait
- ❖ Clothing and accessory-wear
- ❖ Backpacks, storage bags and specialty carrying cases
- ❖ Fish finders, depth finders and related products
- ❖ ATVs, UTVs and off-road vehicles
- ❖ Trailers, hitches and accessories
- ❖ Tree seedlings and nursery plants
- ❖ Property taxes, leases and access fees
- ❖ Organization and club membership dues and contributions
- ❖ Tents, lanterns, sleeping bags and other camping equipment
- ❖ RVs and campers
- ❖ GPS and electronic mapping apps
- ❖ Maps and map tools
- ❖ Cooking equipment and supplies
- ❖ Heating and cooking fuels
- ❖ Portable hunting and fishing chairs
- ❖ Hunting- and fishing-accented furniture and décor products
- ❖ Sporting goods and department stores
- ❖ Hotels, lodges and bed-and-breakfasts
- ❖ Restaurants
- ❖ State Parks
- ❖ Gas stations
- ❖ Campgrounds
- ❖ Real estate brokers, mortgage companies and credit services
- ❖ Farm/agricultural services
- ❖ Boat and motor repair services
- ❖ Forestry and land management consulting services
- ❖ Building construction & design services
- ❖ Land surveying and boundary marking services
- ❖ Entertainment services
- ❖ Airline flights and auto rentals
- ❖ Pond and lake building services
- ❖ Guides and outfitter services
- ❖ Gunsmith services
- ❖ Meat processing services
- ❖ Taxidermy services
- ❖ Photographic processing and printing services
- ❖ Mapping and aerial photography services
- ❖ Shooting ranges and firearms instructional services
- ❖ Travel agencies
- ❖ Tour guides and related services

