

## **INTRODUCTION**

A community's economy is its lifeblood. The vitality of Shelby County's economy determines if it will grow and if the community can provide the necessary services. Without the availability of jobs and wages the community will not be attractive for the location or retention of families and continued growth. It is also understandable that the attraction, retention and expansion of business and industry and the retention of an agricultural community are needed as the basis for a strong service delivery system in Shelby County. Residential development costs more to service than other uses. The cost to provide education, offer parks and recreation programs, extend and maintain roads and other utilities, ensure a safe environment through adequate public safety agencies, and provide other needed services exceeds the amount of tax revenue generated from residential usage. Commercial and industrial uses, which generate higher tax revenues, do not require the many services needed by residences. Farms, which may not generate high tax revenues, also do not require as intensive services as other uses. Some of the employment opportunities for the residents of Shelby County are outside the community, while some are commuting into the County for employment. If Shelby County becomes a bedroom community for employers outside its boundaries the ability to provide services to those families is diminished, therefore it is important to build a strong and vibrant economy by attracting business and industry and supporting existing industrial, commercial, and agricultural sectors.

The economy of Shelby County is well positioned to grow. The County is located between Louisville and Lexington on Interstate 64. The close proximity to Louisville provides opportunities for employment as well as for the attraction of new employers for the County. In this section Shelby County's economy will be explored in terms of the available workforce, employment levels, educational levels of the workforce, wages and incomes, economic sectors, and the industrial infrastructure.

## **LABOR FORCE**

The civilian labor force is defined as the sum of both employed and unemployed persons 16 years of age and older, excluding armed forces personnel and persons in penal and mental institutions, sanitariums, and homes for the aged, infirm and needy. Persons "not in the labor force" are those not classified as employed or unemployed and include:

- persons retired
- persons engaged in their own housework
- persons not working while attending school
- persons unable to work because of long-term illness
- persons discouraged from seeking work because of personal or job market factors
- persons who are voluntarily idle

As seen in Table 5.1, the labor force status of Shelby County increased from 21,612 persons in 2011 to 22,428 person in 2015 or a 3.6% increase.

The availability of a skilled workforce is a major determinate in the attraction of business and industry, especially those paying higher wages and those that compete in an increasing global market. The workforce must be well educated which should take place at all levels: primary, high school, vocational, college, and adult workers. It is predicted that 14% of the future jobs in the United States will require a baccalaureate degree, while 81% will require at least two years of technical training beyond high school. Shelby County can also draw upon a larger labor force from the surrounding area. Table 5.2 compares the civilian labor force of Shelby County with the labor market area which includes the adjoining Kentucky counties of Anderson, Bullitt, Fayette, Franklin, Henry, Jefferson, Mercer, Oldham, Scott, Spencer, Trimble and Woodford, and the Indiana county of Floyd. In 2015

Shelby County had a civilian labor force of 21,553 with an unemployment rate of 7.3% which is lower than the labor market area unemployment rate of 8.6%. The total civilian labor force in this area was 783,636 with employment of 716,462 and unemployment of 67,172. In 2015 the civilian labor force for Shelby County increased to 22,388 with an unemployment rate of 5.7% or a 1.6% decrease. The labor market area showed an increase in civilian labor force of 21,178 and a decrease in the unemployment rate to 7.7%. At the end of 2015, Shelby County had 21,103 employed civilians in the labor force, an increase of 1,117 people from 2011. The labor market for the same period reported an increase of employed civilians from 716,462 to 743,077 or 26,615. Of the 61,737 people in the labor market area that became unemployed only 27% were from Shelby County.

**Table 5.1**  
**Shelby County, KY Labor Force Status**  
**2011 – 2015**

| Employment Status       | 2011   | 2012   | 2013   | 2014   | 2015   |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Persons 16 Years & Over | 32,434 | 32,946 | 33,518 | 34,062 | 34,680 |
| In Labor Force          | 21,612 | 21,803 | 22,069 | 22,081 | 22,428 |
| % in Labor Force        | 66.6%  | 66.2%  | 65.8%  | 64.8%  | 64.7%  |
| Civilian Labor Force    | 21,553 | 21,750 | 22,012 | 22,047 | 22,388 |
| Employed                | 19,986 | 19,919 | 20,250 | 20,404 | 21,103 |
| Unemployed              | 1,567  | 1,831  | 1,762  | 1,643  | 1,285  |
| % Unemployed            | 7.3%   | 8.4%   | 8.0%   | 7.5%   | 5.7%   |
| Armed Forces            | 59     | 53     | 57     | 34     | 40     |
| Not in Labor Force      | 10,822 | 11,143 | 11,449 | 11,981 | 12,252 |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

**Table 5.2**  
**Shelby County, KY Labor Market Civilian Labor Force**  
**Estimates**  
**2011 & 2015**

| County                   | Civilian Labor Force | Employed | Unemployed | Unemployment Rate |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------|------------|-------------------|
| <b>2011</b>              |                      |          |            |                   |
| Shelby                   | 21,553               | 19,986   | 1,567      | 7.3%              |
| Labor Market Area Totals | 783,636              | 716,462  | 67,172     | 8.6%              |
| <b>2015</b>              |                      |          |            |                   |
| Shelby                   | 22,388               | 21,103   | 1,285      | 5.7%              |
| Labor Market Area Totals | 804,814              | 743,077  | 61,737     | 7.7%              |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Table 5.3 indicates the civilian employment status by industry for the County in 2010 and 2015. Education, health & social services is the leading industry type with 4,399 employed workers in 2015 with Manufacturing not far behind with 3,061.

**Table 5.3**  
**Shelby County, KY Labor Force Status by Industry**  
**2010 & 2015**

| Industry   | Number of Workers |        | % of County |      |
|--|-------------------|--------|-------------|------|
|  | 2010              | 2015   | 2010        | 2015 |
| Agriculture  | 879               | 743    | 4.3         | 3.5  |
| Construction   | 1,310             | 1,315  | 6.5         | 6.2  |
| Manufacturing  | 3,089             | 3,061  | 15.3        | 14.5 |
| Wholesale Trade  | 384               | 591    | 1.9         | 2.8  |
| Retail Trade   | 2,016             | 2,491  | 9.9         | 11.8 |
| Transportation & Warehousing   | 1,161             | 871    | 5.7         | 4.1  |
| Finance, Insurance & Real Estate   | 1,493             | 1,519  | 7.4         | 7.2  |
| Information  | 390               | 288    | 1.9         | 1.4  |
| Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative, & Waste Management | 1,558             | 1,755  | 7.7         | 8.3  |
| Education, Health & Social Services                                      | 3,934             | 4,399  | 19.4        | 20.9 |
| Arts, Entertainment & Recreation   | 1,667             | 1,737  | 8.2         | 8.2  |
| Public Administration  | 1,004             | 1,292  | 5.0         | 6.2  |
| Other Services   | 1,373             | 1,041  | 6.8         | 4.9  |
|  | 20,258            | 21,103 | 100%        | 100% |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

## UNEMPLOYMENT

Table 5.4 and Figure 5.1 show the annual unemployment rate for the U.S., Kentucky, the Shelby County Labor Market Area, and Shelby County over the past twelve years (2004-2015). Unemployment rates for Shelby County were slightly higher than the U.S. from 2005 to 2008, but significantly lower from 2009 to 2015. The unemployment rate for Shelby County has remained lower than the State of Kentucky and the Labor Market from 2009 to 2015 as well.

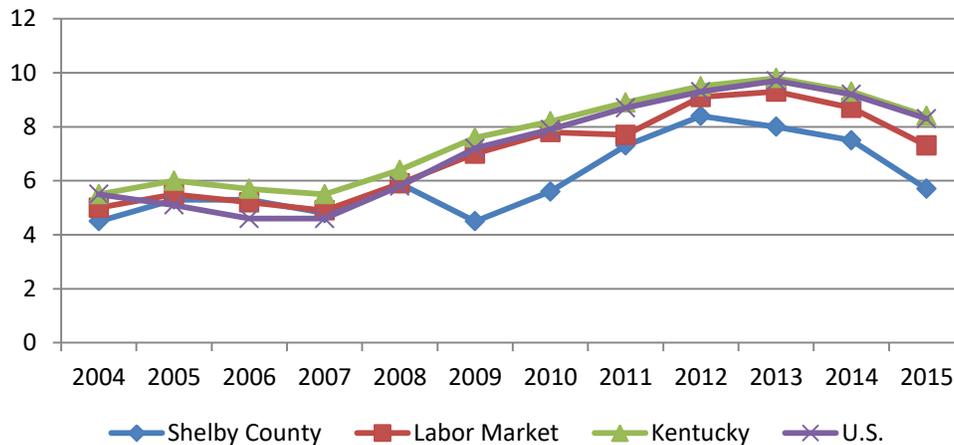
**Table 5.4**  
**Unemployment Rates**  
**2004 – 2015**

| Year | U.S. | Kentucky | Labor Market | Shelby County |
|------|------|----------|--------------|---------------|
| 2004 | 5.5  | 5.5      | 5.0          | 4.5           |
| 2005 | 5.1  | 6.0      | 5.5          | 5.3           |
| 2006 | 4.6  | 5.7      | 5.2          | 5.3           |
| 2007 | 4.6  | 5.5      | 4.9          | 4.8           |
| 2008 | 5.8  | 6.4      | 5.9          | 5.9           |
| 2009 | 7.2  | 7.6      | 7.0          | 4.5           |
| 2010 | 7.9  | 8.2      | 7.8          | 5.6           |
| 2011 | 8.7  | 8.9      | 7.7          | 7.3           |
| 2012 | 9.3  | 9.5      | 9.1          | 8.4           |
| 2013 | 9.7  | 9.8      | 9.3          | 8.0           |
| 2014 | 9.2  | 9.3      | 8.7          | 7.5           |
| 2015 | 8.3  | 8.4      | 7.3          | 5.7           |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

**Figure 5.1**  
**Unemployment Rates**  
**2004 - 2015**

Source: U.S. Census Bureau



## COMMUTING

Table 5.5 presents a summary of Shelby County commuting patterns for 2010 and 2015. Of the total workforce residing in the County in 2015, 51.4% lived and worked in the County, while 47.2% of the residing workforce commuted outside the County for employment. Between 2010 and 2015 the residents residing and working in the county increased 1.5% and those residents commuting outside the county decreased by 1%.

**Table 5.5**  
**Shelby County, KY Commuting Patterns**  
**2010 & 2015**

| Residents of Shelby County     | 2010   | Percent | 2015   | Percent |
|--------------------------------|--------|---------|--------|---------|
| Working and Residing in County | 9,893  | 49.9    | 10,454 | 51.4    |
| Commuting Out of County        | 9,569  | 48.2    | 9,591  | 47.2    |
| Working outside Kentucky       | 376    | 1.9     | 279    | 1.4     |
| Total Residents                | 19,838 | 100.0   | 20,324 | 100.0   |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

In 2000, Shelby County had a high percentage of its total residents commuting outside of the County for employment with 68%, ranking 51 out of the 120 Kentucky Counties. Jefferson was the lowest with 7.7% while Spencer County was the highest with 77.9% of its residents commuting elsewhere.

Jefferson County was the most predominant destination for Shelby County commuters, with 6,428 residents leaving the County in 2000. Franklin County ranked second with 1,120 residents commuting out of Shelby County. To a much lesser extent, other destinations are Henry, Oldham, Scott and Fayette Counties. In 2000 over 5,000 workers commuted into Shelby County for employment. The most prevalent residences for those commuting into Shelby County were Jefferson, Henry, and Spencer counties. A vital factor in commuting is the economy and the necessary demand for jobs within a certain location. As that demand grows, so does the commuters and the economy.

As reported by the 2010 Census for Shelby County, the preferred method of transportation to work is by car, truck, or van with 76.4% of residents driving alone and 16.5% of residents carpooling. A total of 0.2% residents

used public transportation, while roughly 1.8% indicated they walked to work, 0.5% used other means, and 4.5% worked at home. In 2010, the mean travel time to work for Shelby County residents was 24.7 minutes.

Commuting statistics for the residents of the City of Shelbyville are similar to that of Shelby County. In Shelbyville the preferred method of transportation to work is by car, truck, or van with 70.1% of residents driving to work alone and 21.7% carpooling. A total of 0.2% residents of the city reported using public transportation and 2.8% indicated they walked to work. Less than one percent (0.9%) claimed they use other means to commute to work, and 4.2% worked at home. In 2010, the mean travel time to work for residents of Shelbyville was 23.3 minutes.

Commuting statistics for the residents of the City of Simpsonville are similar to that of Shelby County and the City of Shelbyville. In Simpsonville the preferred method of transportation to work is by car, truck, or van with 90.4% of residents driving to work alone and 6.6% carpooling. Very few residents of the city reported using public transportation (0.3%), but 1.5% indicated they walked to work. No residents of the city claimed they use other means to commute to work, and 1.2% worked at home. In 2010, the mean travel time to work for residents of Simpsonville was 24.2 minutes.

## **EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY**

Employment information at the county level is available for industries covered by unemployment insurance. This generally includes all workers except self-employed individuals, unpaid family members, some student workers, agricultural workers, domestic workers, rail workers, employees of certain religious organizations, and certain government employees. A summary of employment in industries covered by unemployment insurance for 2015 is shown in Table 5.6. Figure 5.2 shows the 2015 employment by industries covered by unemployment insurance.

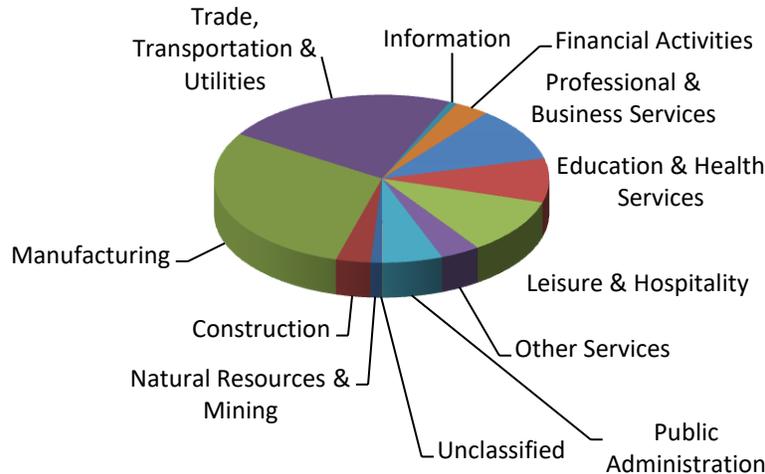
**Table 5.6**  
**Shelby County, KY**  
**Employment by Industry**  
**2015**

| Industry                          | Shelby County |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Natural Resources & Mining        | 154           |
| Construction                      | 473           |
| Manufacturing                     | 4,183         |
| Trade, Transportation & Utilities | 3,221         |
| Information                       | 110           |
| Financial Activities              | 475           |
| Professional & Business Services  | 1,472         |
| Education & Health Services       | 1,203         |
| Leisure & Hospitality             | 1,524         |
| Other Services                    | 544           |
| Public Administration             | 824           |
| Unclassified                      | 3             |
| All Industries                    | 14,186        |

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

**Figure 5.2**  
**Shelby County, KY Employment by Industry**  
**2015**

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



As of 2015, the manufacturing sector provided the largest number of jobs in Shelby County accounting for 29.5% of the jobs covered by unemployment insurance. Utilities, Trade & Transportation followed closely behind the Manufacturing sector accounting for 22.7% of the jobs covered by unemployment insurance.

Table 5.7 shows the average weekly wages in 2015 for industries in Shelby County covered by unemployment insurance. The manufacturing sector paid the highest wages per week followed by the financial sector. The lowest wages were paid in the leisure & hospitality and “other” services sectors. The average weekly wages for all industries in Shelby County were 90.3% of the average for Kentucky overall.

**Table 5.7**  
**Shelby County, KY Average Weekly Wages by Industry**  
**2015**

| Industry                          | Shelby County | Kentucky   | % of Kentucky |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|------------|---------------|
| Natural Resources & Mining        | \$614.00      | \$1,075.00 | 57.1%         |
| Construction                      | \$777.00      | \$993.00   | 78.3%         |
| Manufacturing                     | \$967.00      | \$1,091.00 | 88.6%         |
| Trade, Transportation & Utilities | \$728.00      | \$758.00   | 96%           |
| Information                       | \$669.00      | \$944.00   | 70.9%         |
| Financial Activities              | \$908.00      | \$1,169.00 | 77.7%         |
| Professional & Business Services  | \$640.00      | \$878.00   | 72.9%         |
| Education & Health Services       | \$790.00      | \$878.00   | 90%           |
| Leisure & Hospitality             | \$297.00      | \$312.00   | 95.2%         |
| Other Services                    | \$575.00      | \$587.00   | 98%           |
| Public Administration             | \$719.00      | \$496.00   | 145%          |
| Unclassified                      | \$618.00      | \$1,006.00 | 61.4%         |
| All Industries                    | \$750.00      | \$831.00   | 90.3%         |

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

## **MANUFACTURING**

The Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development published a Kentucky Directory of Manufacturers that list manufacturers by county and community. This document, updated January 3, 2018, provides contact information along with a short summary of each business. Table 5.8 lists the manufacturing firms found throughout Shelby County. According to the directory, there are a total of 35 manufacturing firms in Shelby County with an

employment of 5,091. These firms manufacture a variety of products indicating a diverse economic base. The majority of the manufacturing firms are located in or near Shelbyville. Martinrea Heavy Stamping in Shelbyville employs the largest number of workers with 1,100 employees in 2017.

**Table 5.8**  
**Shelby County, KY Manufacturing Firms**  
**2012**

| Location/Firm & Address  | Product   | Date Established | Employment (Year) |
|--|---|------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Bagdad</b>  |   |                  |                   |
| Bagdad Roller Mills, Inc.<br>5740 Elmburg Road<br>Bagdad, KY 40003                                       | Feed merchandising  | 1884             | 17 (2016)         |
| <b>Finchville</b>  |   |                  |                   |
| Finchville Farms Country Hams<br>5157 Taylorsville Road<br>Finchville, KY 40022                          | Country ham & seasoned bacon processing & packing   | 1947             | 8 (2016)          |
| <b>Shelbyville</b>   |   |                  |                   |
| Amcor Flexibles Americas -<br>Shelbyville<br>6850 Midland Industrial Drive<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065      | Flexible packaging for pharmaceutical industry  | 1994             | 115 (2016)        |
| Audubon Block Company<br>1083 Brooks Industrial Road<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065                            | Wooden furniture components, corner and glue blocks, cleats   | 1985             | 6 (2016)          |
| Bekaert Corporation<br>2000 Isaac Shelby Drive<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065                                  | Preformed steel staple wire, fine wire, flat wire, nylon-coated wire, tin-coated wire and galvanized wire                                 | 1990             | 96 (2016)         |
| Bemis Flexible Packaging –<br>Curwood Division<br>6700 Midland Industrial Drive<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065 | Flexible packaging for food industry  | 1988             | 283 (2016)        |
| Blaze Products Corporation<br>1101 Isaac Shelby Drive<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065                           | Manufacture chafing dish fuel, guardian hand sanitizer. Aluminum, ethanol, methanol & diethylene  | 1984             | 35 (2016)         |
| Blitz Builders, Inc.<br>1173 Brooks Industrial Road<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065                             | Wooden framed & steel sided pole buildings – post frame construction, custom builders; agricultural, commercial, residential and churches | 1980             | 35 (2016)         |
| Bluegrass Roller Service<br>1091 Brooks Industrial Road<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065                         | Rubber covered rollers for industrial applications  | 1981             | 17 (2014)         |
| Creative Packaging Company<br>1700 Isaac Shelby Drive<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065                           | Corrugated paper & protective polystyrene foam packaging-rock ten, styrochem-resin  | 1988             | 140 (2017)        |
| Crop Production Service<br>256 Old Brunnerstown Road<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065                            | Fertilizer blending   | 2010             | 12 (2017)         |
| Diageo Americas Supply, Inc.<br>3900 Benson Pike<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065                                | Bourbon manufacturing and distribution  | 2017             | 31 (2017)         |
| Ficosa North America Corp.<br>6601 Midland Industrial Drive<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065                     | Automotive trim parts   | 1987             | 207 (2017)        |
| Katayama American Co., Inc.<br>6901 Midland Industrial Drive<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065                    | Automotive door sashes and moldings   | 1989             | 355 (2016)        |

|  |  |      |              |
|--|--|------|--------------|
| Kentucky-Indiana Lumber Co.<br>Truss Plant<br>151 Brighton Circle<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065 | Wooden floor & roof trusses<br>and wall panels   | 2001 | 60 (2017)    |
| Kittrich Corporation<br>1000 Commerce Circle<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065                      | Paper converting & packaging   | 2006 | 34 (2016)    |
| Macro Plastics, Inc.<br>545 Pierce Industrial Road<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065                | Manufacture and distribute<br>plastic containers and other<br>plastic industrial products  | 2010 | 29 (2016)    |
| Martinrea Heavy Stamping<br>1000 Old Brunerstown Road<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065             | Automobile parts stamping &<br>assembly  | 1988 | 1,100 (2017) |
| Nifco America Corporation<br>380 Hudson Boulevard<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065                 | Manufacture plastic injection<br>molded fasteners for the<br>automotive industry   | 2008 | 220 (2017)   |
| Ohio Valley Aluminum Co LLC<br>1100 Brooks Industrial Road<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065        | Aluminum extrusion billet  | 1960 | 120 (2017)   |
| Omega Plastics of KY<br>901 Commerce Drive<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065                        | Plastic & high-density<br>polyethylene bags, can liners  | 1980 | 200 (2017)   |
| Pharmco-Aaper<br>1101 Isaac Shelby Drive<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065                          | Plastic & high-density<br>polyethylene bags, can lines<br>and stretch film   | 1980 | 200 (2017)   |
| Process Machinery, Inc.<br>1636 Isaac Shelby Drive<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065                | Engineer, manufacture and<br>installation of processing plants<br>for the Mineral Processing<br>Industry   | 1979 | 92 (2017)    |
| Revere Packaging, LLC<br>39 Pearce Industrial Road<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065                | Aluminum foil containers &<br>plastic dome food covers   | 1967 | 59 (2017)    |
| Roll Forming Corp.<br>1070 Brooks Industrial Road<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065                 | Headquarters, expertise in the<br>design and production of roll<br>formed product solutions.   | 1947 | 235 (2017)   |
| Rut N Strut Distillery, LLC<br>500 Gordon Lane<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065                    | Craft Distillery   | 2016 | n/a          |
| Ryerson, Inc.<br>920 Old Brunerstown Road<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065                         | Aluminum & stainless steel<br>processing   | 1990 | 40 (2014)    |
| Sentinel News<br>703 Taylorsville Road<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065                            | Newspaper publishing   | 1972 | 12 (2017)    |
| Smyrna Ready Mix<br>998 Old Finchville Road<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065                       | Ready-mix concrete   | 2003 | 6 (2016)     |
| Sonoco Protective Solutions<br>255 Hudson Boulevard<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065               | Custom made insulated<br>shipping containers, polar pack<br>icepacks   | 2015 | 74 (2016)    |
| Sonoco Protective Solutions<br>255 Hudson Boulevard<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065               | Manufacture foam filled<br>products for the automotive<br>industry; manufacture<br>temperature assurance<br>packaging for pharmaceutical<br>industry | 2015 | 80 (2016)    |
| Stanley Black & Decker Corp.<br>125 Harry Long Road<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065               | Circular saw blades  | 1977 | 122 (2017)   |
| Stelised, Inc.   | Designs prototype plastic parts,   | 2000 | 25 (2016)    |

|  |   |      |            |
|--|---|------|------------|
| 310 Martin Luther King Blvd<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065                               | injection molding and assembly  |      |            |
| Superb IPC<br>300 Isaac Shelby Drive<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065                      | Powder coating service for<br>automotive, appliance, and<br>general industry  | 2010 | 94 (2016)  |
| Wikoff Color Corp.<br>1101 Brooks Industrial Road<br>Shelbyville, KY 40065         | Printing ink, overprint varnish,<br>press chemicals, aids & aqueous<br>coatings   | 1976 | 5 (2017)   |
| <b>Simpsonville</b>  |   |      |            |
| Auto Truck Group, LLC<br>30 Kingbrook Parkway<br>Simpsonville, KY 40067            | Full line upfitters in the work<br>truck industry   | 2015 | 51 (2016)  |
| Faurecia Seating<br>65 Kingbrook Parkway<br>Simpsonville, KY 40067                 | Manufacturer of automobile<br>seating   | 2016 | 450 (2016) |
| Isopure Corp.<br>141 Citizens Boulevard<br>Simpsonville, KY 40067                  | Reverse osmosis water<br>purifying equipment, water<br>purification equipment<br>deionization for medical<br>applications | 1996 | 44 (2016)  |
| Neff Packaging Solutions, Inc.<br>10 Kingbrook Parkway<br>Simpsonville, KY 40067   | Manufacture folding cartons   | 2007 | 98 (2017)  |
| Purnell Old Folks Sausage, Inc.<br>6931 Shelbyville Road<br>Simpsonville, KY 40067 | Sausage products  | 1954 | 270 (2017) |
| Stelised, Inc.<br>125 Citizens Boulevard<br>Simpsonville, KY 40067                 | Plastics injection molding,<br>plastic parts for POP industry,<br>tool making for tools of plastic<br>parts               | 1998 | 14 (2017)  |
| Source: 2018 Kentucky Directory of Manufacturers – January 2018                    |   |      | 5,091      |

## **U.S. ECONOMIC CENSUS**

The U.S. Department of Commerce conducts an Economic Census every five years to provide a detailed portrait of the U.S. economy from the national to the local level. The Economic Census covers nearly all of the U.S. economy in its basic collection of establishment statistics. Censuses of agriculture and governments are conducted at the same time.

In 1997 the U.S. Census Bureau adopted the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) for reporting and delineating business types. As SIC, Standard Industrial Classification, codes were used prior to 1997, data from an earlier economic census cannot be compared to the 1997 or later economic census data. The NAICS was developed jointly by the U.S., Canada and Mexico in order to provide new comparability in statistics about business activity in North America. The latest Economic Census available for Shelby County was conducted in 2012 and published in 2015. The 2017 Economic Census data will not be available until 2020. Data for economic sectors with few establishments in Shelby County is not available at the county level as publication of the data could reveal the identity or activity of an individual or business. No data is available for the following sectors: Mining, Utilities, Construction, Transportation and Warehousing, Finance and Insurance, and Management of Companies and Enterprises.

Table 5.9 shows data for all sectors of the Shelby County economy for which the 2007 and 2012 U.S. Census information is available at the county level. The number of establishments for each sector reported has increased except in the areas of wholesale trade, retail trade and real estate, rental & leasing. The sectors that experienced a reduction in the number of paid employees are the manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade

and real estate, rental & leasing. The largest reduction in paid employees occurred in the manufacturing with a 973 reduction.

The most notable improvements from 2007 to 2012 were in the health care & social assistance sectors of Shelby County’s economy. The health care industry experienced an increase in employment with a 5.8% increase in paid employees for the period. The professional, scientific & technical services sector had the greatest increase in the number of establishments from 76 to 94, a 19% increase which was the second highest percentage. The information sector had the highest percentage increase of establishments at 22% and the other services (except public administration) sector had the third highest at 15%. Shelby County along with many areas of Kentucky has experienced a loss of manufacturing jobs. Shelby County lost 973 (21.5%) paid employees between 2007 and 2012.

**Table 5.9**  
**Shelby County, KY Summary of U.S. Economic Census**  
**2007 & 2012**

|   | # of Establishments |      | Sales, Receipts, Etc. (\$1,000) |           | Annual Payroll (\$1,000) |         | Paid Employees |       |
|---|---------------------|------|---------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|---------|----------------|-------|
|   | 2007                | 2012 | 2007                            | 2012      | 2007                     | 2012    | 2007           | 2102  |
| Manufacturing   | 52                  | 55   | 1,373,120                       | 1,484,511 | 178,200                  | 149,236 | 4,535          | 3,562 |
| Wholesale Trade   | 36                  | 33   | 320,777                         | D         | 26,814                   | D       | 618            | E     |
| Retail Trade  | 146                 | 126  | 498,709                         | 569,082   | 37,440                   | 39,312  | 1,755          | 1,654 |
| Information   | 14                  | 18   | N                               | N         | 4,219                    | 5,637   | 122            | 142   |
| Real Estate & Rental & Leasing                                      | 45                  | 39   | 21,481                          | 27,224    | 3,811                    | 4,274   | 169            | 155   |
| Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services                      | 76                  | 94   | 32,045                          | 35,352    | 10,569                   | 10,680  | 317            | 317   |
| Administrative & Support & Waste Management & Remediation           | 41                  | 43   | 22,822                          | D         | 10,426                   | D       | 836            | E     |
| Education Services (Taxable & Exempt listed together)               | 6                   | 6    | D                               | 1,343     | D                        | 261     | A              | 12    |
| Health Care & Social Assistance (Taxable & Exempt listed together)  | 79                  | 85   | 114,862                         | 110,808   | 44,248                   | 44,543  | 1,333          | 1,415 |
| Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (Taxable & Exempt listed together) | N                   | 12   | N                               | 8,487     | N                        | 2,633   | N              | 134   |
| Accomodation & Food Services  | 52                  | 61   | D                               | D         | D                        | D       | G              | G     |
| Other Services (except public administration)                       | 59                  | 67   | 39,375                          | 50,249    | 11,836                   | 13,366  | 405            | 501   |

Sources: 2007 and 2012 U.S. Economic Census  
A – 0 to 19 employees  
D – Withheld to avoid disclosing data of individual companies; data are included in higher level totals  
E – 250 to 499 employees  
G – 1,000 to 2,499 employees  
N – Not Available

## **AGRICULTURE**

Table 5.10 presents farmland statistics for Shelby County. According to the U.S. Census of Agriculture, there were a total of 1,518 Shelby County farms in 2012, a decrease of 8% since 2007, 2.5% since 2002 and 1% since 1997. Over this same fifteen year period, the number of farm acres decreased by 2.4%, but the number of acres of harvested cropland has increased 19.3%. These numbers can be attributed to the fact that many farm operations are consolidating as farmers sell out to other farmers or developers. Therefore, active agricultural operations are declining in number but harvesting more crops.

The 2012 Census of Agricultural reports the average size of a farm in Shelby County is 131 acres with the median size being 49 acres. In 2012, the average estimated value of all land and buildings per farm was \$640,994 with an estimated market value of \$4,881 per acre. The estimated average value of all machinery and equipment was \$68,175 per farm. The total market value of agricultural products sold in 2012 was \$76,804,000 with a \$50,595

average per farm. Table 5.11 shows Shelby County farms by farm size, and Table 5.12 shows the number of farms by the value of sales.

**Table 5.10**  
**Shelby County, KY Farmland**

| Year | # of Farms | Acres in Farms | Harvested Cropland |
|------|------------|----------------|--------------------|
| 1997 | 1,533      | 204,292        | 79,705             |
| 2002 | 1,557      | 201,667        | 89,373             |
| 2007 | 1,651      | 205,286        | 93,994             |
| 2012 | 1,518      | 199,341        | 98,726             |

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

**Table 5.11**  
**Shelby County, KY Farms**  
**By Size**  
**2012**

| Acreage | Number |
|---------|--------|
| 1-9     | 108    |
| 10-49   | 657    |
| 50-179  | 511    |
| 180-499 | 181    |
| 500-999 | 30     |
| 1,000 + | 31     |

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

**Table 5.12**  
**Shelby County, KY Farms**  
**By Value of Sales**  
**2012**

| Value               | Number |
|---------------------|--------|
| Less than \$2,500   | 656    |
| \$2,500 - \$4,999   | 152    |
| \$5,000 - \$9,999   | 192    |
| \$10,000 - \$24,999 | 223    |
| \$25,000 - \$49,999 | 115    |
| \$50,000 - \$99,999 | 65     |
| \$100,000 or more   | 115    |

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

According to the 2012 Census of Agricultural reports, Shelby County ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in the state out of 120 counties for production of tobacco. There were 3,370 acres of harvested tobacco. This compares to 2,485 harvested acres in 2007. Shelby County ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in the state out of 120 counties for the production of forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop. The lowest production crop for Shelby County in 2012 was wheat for grain which the county ranked 27 out of 120 counties. Overall Shelby County ranked 20<sup>th</sup> out of 120 counties in 2012 for crop and livestock cash receipts which totaled \$76,804,000.

Shelby County is the Saddlebred Horse Capital of the World as well as the Hackney Pony Capital of the World. The market value of these animals is \$2,083,000 per the Ag Census. Their contribution to tourism is not reflected in the Ag Census.

Corn and soybean sales were the largest revenue maker for Shelby County in the 2012 Ag Census. The sales of cattle were the number 2 revenue maker with tobacco sales at number 3. The value of corn and soybeans sold were 2.6 times that of tobacco.

**Table 5.13**  
**Shelby County, KY Agricultural Production**  
**2012**

| <b>Crops</b>  | <b>Acres Harvested</b>   | <b>Rank in State</b> |
|---|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Forage-land (hay, haylage, grass silage, greenchop) | 38,007                   | 8                    |
| Soybeans for beans                                  | 27,124                   | 20                   |
| Corn for grain                                      | 25,877                   | 22                   |
| Tobacco   | 3,370                    | 2                    |
| Wheat for grain, all                                | 3,267                    | 27                   |
| <b>Livestock</b>                                    | <b>Number</b>            | <b>Rank in State</b> |
| All Cattle & Calves                                 | 32,737                   | 28                   |
| Layers  | 6,057                    | 28                   |
| Horses & ponies                                     | 4,694                    | 4                    |
| Sheep & lambs                                       | 1,134                    | 12                   |
| Goats, all  | 724                      | 23                   |
| <b>Cash Receipts</b>                                | <b>Dollars (\$1,000)</b> | <b>Rank in State</b> |
| Crops   | 54,844                   | 12                   |
| Livestock, poultry, etc.                            | 21,960                   | 42                   |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>76,804</b>            | <b>20</b>            |

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

## **TOURISM**

Shelby County has several key attractions for tourism. Like every county in Kentucky, tourism plays an important role in the local economy. Shelby County and the two cities that comprise the County have several events that bring in tourists. Shelbyville offers the annual Shelbyville Horse Show as well as the summer Street Party Concerts in downtown, Jephtha Creed Distillery, and other various events. Horse Farm Tours of the American Saddlebred Farms, Wakefield-Scearce Galleries, and the abundance of antique shops are a large part of tourism in Shelby County. Shelby County has various recreation areas from Guist Creek Lake, Lake Shelby, the Clear Creek Park Family Activity Center, Shelby Trails, and Red Orchard Park to name a few. The Outlet Shoppes of the Bluegrass in Simpsonville attracts a large number of visitors to the County. In the future Bulleit Bourbon Distillery is anticipated to be a big tourist destination with their proposed visitor center and being a stop on the Kentucky Bourbon Trail.

## **EDUCATION LEVELS**

The educational level of an area’s population must be considered when analyzing the ability of those in the local workforce to obtain and sustain meaningful and well-paying employment in the future. In today’s economy the fastest growing professional occupations require at least a bachelor’s degree and are concentrated heavily on professional specialty groups or technology oriented. The following table, Table 5.14, compares the educational level of the U.S., Kentucky, Shelby County, and the cities of Shelbyville and Simpsonville.

At the time of the 2015 Census, 86.2% of Shelby County’s population 25 years and over were high school graduates or higher. This compares to 84.2% for Kentucky and 86.7% for the United States overall. In 2015, 23.8% of Shelby County’s population 25 years and older had a Bachelor’s degree or higher. Again, these educational levels are higher than the State of Kentucky (22.3%), but lower than the U.S. (29.8%).

**Table 5.14**  
**Education Level**  
**2010 & 2015**

|               | <b>2010<br/>High School<br/>Graduates %</b> | <b>2015<br/>High School<br/>Graduates %</b> | <b>2010<br/>Bachelor’s Degree<br/>or Above %</b> | <b>2015<br/>Bachelor’s Degree<br/>or Above %</b> |
|---------------|---|---|--|--|
| Shelbyville   | 77.1  | 81.8  | 23.3   | 17.8   |
| Simpsonville  | 88.2  | 92.6  | 33.3   | 33.6   |
| Shelby County | 83.1  | 86.2  | 23.2   | 23.8   |
| Kentucky      | 81.0  | 84.2  | 20.3   | 22.3   |
| USA           | 85.0  | 86.7  | 27.9   | 29.8   |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

## MONETARY INCOME

There are two methods of determining per capita income. The first is on the basis of monetary income alone. This is the method used by the U.S. Census Bureau. Total monetary income includes wages and salaries, net farm and non-farm self-employment, interest dividends, net rental income, social security and all other regularly received income such as pensions, unemployment compensation and alimony. Receipts not counted include various “lump sum” payments such as capital gains and inheritance. The total represents the amount of income received before deductions. Table 5.15 shows the per capita and median household incomes for Kentucky, Shelby County, and the cities of Shelbyville and Simpsonville according to the U.S. Census Bureau based on monetary income.

**Table 5.15**  
**Census Income Data**  
**2010 & 2015**

|               | <b>PER CAPITA INCOME</b>       |             |                 |
|---------------|--------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|
|               | <b>2010</b>                    | <b>2015</b> | <b>% Change</b> |
| Shelbyville   | \$23,962                       | \$20,397    | -14.88%         |
| Simpsonville  | \$23,833                       | \$26,967    | 11.6%           |
| Shelby County | \$27,593                       | \$27,631    | 0.14%           |
| Kentucky      | \$22,515                       | \$24,063    | 6.4%            |
|               | <b>MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME</b> |             |                 |
|               | <b>2010</b>                    | <b>2015</b> | <b>% Change</b> |
| Shelbyville   | \$46,186                       | \$45,398    | -1.7%           |
| Simpsonville  | \$54,167                       | \$62,708    | 13.6%           |
| Shelby County | \$55,296                       | \$60,324    | 8.3%            |
| Kentucky      | \$41,576                       | \$43,740    | 4.9%            |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

## PERSONAL INCOME

The second method of calculating per capita income is more inclusive and is termed personal per capita income. Personal per capita income includes income received from all sources such as wages and salaries, other labor income (employer contributions to private pension funds, jury and witness fee, etc.) proprietor’s income, rental income, dividend and interest earnings by individuals and transfer payments not for services rendered (such as

food stamps and welfare payments). Personal contributions for social security are deducted. Table 5.16 shows that the personal per capita income for Shelby County has increased at a slower rate than the state overall between 2000 and 2005.

**Table 5.16**  
**Personal Per Capita Income**  
**2000, 2007 & 2008**

|               | PER CAPITA INCOME |          |          |                         |
|---------------|-------------------|----------|----------|-------------------------|
|               | 2000              | 2007     | 2008     | % Change<br>2000 - 2008 |
| Shelby County | \$28,616          | \$31,320 | \$30,578 | 6.4%                    |
| Kentucky      | \$24,413          | \$30,824 | \$31,826 | 23.3%                   |

Source: KY Cabinet for Economic Development 2009 Deskbook of Economic Statistics

## POVERTY RATE

The poverty rate is considered to be the minimum level of monetary income adequate for families of different sizes in consideration of American consumption patterns. These levels are determined by comparing individual family income with annual income thresholds. The income thresholds are adjusted annually. The poverty rate is the percentage of individuals or families with incomes below the poverty level. Table 5.17 shows the percentage of persons, children, and seniors in poverty for the US, Kentucky, Shelby County, and the cities of Shelbyville and Simpsonville for all persons, those aged 17 and under, and seniors aged 65 or older.

**Table 5.17**  
**Poverty Rates for Persons, Children & Seniors**  
**2012 & 2015**

|               | PERSONS IN POVERTY          |       |            |       |
|---------------|-----------------------------|-------|------------|-------|
|               | 2012                        |       | 2015       |       |
|               | Number                      | Rate  | Number     | Rate  |
| Shelbyville   | 2,684                       | 19.5% | 2,346      | 16%   |
| Simpsonville  | 290                         | 13.7% | 341        | 13%   |
| Shelby County | 5,073                       | 12.4% | 5,566      | 13%   |
| Kentucky      | 781,785                     | 18.6% | 805,841    | 18.9% |
| USA           | 44,852,527                  | 14.9% | 47,749,043 | 15.5% |
|               | RELATED CHILDREN IN POVERTY |       |            |       |
|               | 2012                        |       | 2015       |       |
|               | Number                      | Rate  | Number     | Rate  |
| Shelbyville   | 1,001                       | 25.9% | 846        | 20.1% |
| Simpsonville  | 124                         | 17.8% | 169        | 21.8% |
| Shelby County | 1,602                       | 15.7% | 1,750      | 16.6% |
| Kentucky      | 251,793                     | 25.3% | 254,088    | 25.7% |
| USA           | 14,882,336                  | 20.5% | 15,456,370 | 21.4% |
|               | SENIORS (65+) IN POVERTY    |       |            |       |
|               | 2012                        |       | 2015       |       |
|               | Number                      | Rate  | Number     | Rate  |
| Shelbyville   | 140                         | 9.6%  | 188        | 11.5% |
| Simpsonville  | 17                          | 17%   | 5          | 2.4%  |
| Shelby County | 285                         | 5.7%  | 448        | 7.8%  |
| Kentucky      | 68,375                      | 12.2% | 70,574     | 11.6% |
| USA           | 3,702,237                   | 9.4%  | 4,058,359  | 9.4%  |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Poverty rates decreased for the cities of Shelbyville and Simpsonville, but increased for Shelby County, Kentucky and the United States for “persons in poverty” from 2012 to 2015. Shelbyville is the only jurisdiction that saw a

decrease (5.8%) in the rate of impoverished children during this same time period. The greatest increase in children in poverty was Simpsonville at 4%. The poverty rates for individuals 65 and older also decreased markedly during this period for Simpsonville at 14.6% or 12 persons. The only other jurisdiction that saw a rate decrease was Kentucky at 0.6%. The greatest increase was Shelby County at 2.2% or 163 persons.

## **LOCAL COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES**

A component to the overall economic condition of an area or region is the extent to which the community engages in economic development activities in order to promote the area and maintain a diversified economy. The following organizations are dedicated to assisting Shelby County in local economic development activities.

### **Shelby County Industrial & Development Foundation**

The Shelby County Industrial & Development Foundation works towards recruiting new industries to Shelby County. While it is better if existing businesses expand to create new jobs, it is still important to attract new businesses and industries. This allows the economy to grow and support expanding populations. The Industrial Foundation attempts to accommodate the needs of small industries and distributors and to support new industrial developments.

Currently four industrial sites in Shelby County are maintained in the Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development's Database for new industries that are shovel ready. The Cabinet lists sites for manufacturing or warehouse/distribution if certain criteria for listing are met. Hi-Point Industrial Park (26 acres) and Midland Trail Industrial Park (43 acres) are located in the city limits of Shelbyville and are 2.8 miles and 2.2 miles north of Interstate 64. Windhurst Commerce Park (56 acres) is located in Shelby County and is 0.2 miles from Interstate 64. Kingbrook Commerce Park (30 acres) is located in the city limits of Simpsonville and is 0.34 miles from Interstate 64.

The Cabinet also lists sites that are not shovel ready, but have the potential for industrial development. In Shelby County there are four sites, Norfolk Southern Site, Shelbyville Site 211-010, Shelbyville – Gordon Lane and Old Seven Mile Pike – Secondary. The Norfolk Southern Site (400 acres) is located west of the Windhurst Commerce Park in Shelby County and is 2.1 miles from Interstate 64. The Shelbyville Site 211-010 (303 acres) is located in Shelby County and is 0.6 miles from Interstate 64. The Shelbyville – Gordon Lane Site (150 acres) is located in Shelby County and is 1.3 miles from Interstate 64. The Old Seven Mile Pike – Secondary (125 acres) is located in Shelby County and is 1.3 miles from Interstate 64.

The Cabinet lists industrial buildings, which are heavily constructed, free standing buildings suitable for manufacturing or warehouse/distribution in the primary listing. Certain criteria must be met to be included in the listing. Currently one industrial building is available for new industries in Shelby County according to the Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development's Database. The Lusk building consists of 202,500 square feet on 25.7 acres and is located 1.4 miles from Interstate 64 in Shelby County off Isaac Shelby Drive.

The best industrial sites require large parcels of land that are not too steep or have other environmental restrictions. They are near transportation facilities including major highways, airports, rail and river ports. Utilities are available including public sewer service. The sites should not have a negative impact on other land uses especially residential areas. As sites meeting all of these requirements are difficult to locate, it is important to determine the best sites in the community for industrial use first when preparing future land use maps. These sites should be protected from other types of development in order to insure available land for industrial growth. In addition the need for future industrial sites, the greatest local economic development need is for a skilled work force including engineers and those with technical training.

### **Shelby County Chamber of Commerce**

The Shelby County Chamber of Commerce was formed in 1926 by a group of business and professional people to find ways to advance and enhance Shelby County. Since that time the Chamber has been working to improve the economic well-being of Shelby County by coordinating ideas, energy, and financial resources to accomplish collectively what no one could accomplish individually.

### **Shelbyville/Shelby County Visitors Bureau**

The Shelbyville/Shelby County Visitors Bureau promotes tourism in Shelby County.

### **Shelby Main Street**

Founded in 1984, the Shelby Main Street is a nonprofit organization that is dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of the central business district of downtown Shelbyville. A long-term member of the Kentucky Main Street Program, Shelby Main Streets mission is *“Promoting the responsible development and retention of our downtown communities.”* They concentrate their efforts on business development, planning, promotion, historic preservation and economic restructuring.