Kentucky Venues manages and operates the Kentucky Exposition Center and the Kentucky International Convention Center. Each month we plan to provide you with details about the events that are at our properties.

Kentucky Venues Overall April 2026 Forecast

Number of Events	Est. Attendance	Est. Economic Impact
26	**173,600**	**$38,858,808**

Kentucky Exposition Center Forecast

(detailed information page 2)

Number of Events	Est. Attendance	Est. Economic Impact
16	**157,950**	**$30,684,000**

Kentucky International Convention Center Forecast

(detailed information page 8)

Number of Events	Est. Attendance	Est. Economic Impact
10	**15,650**	**$8,174,808**

Please Note: Events that are booked as a public event and ones booked by the Kentucky Venues staff may not have an estimated economic impact. Estimated attendance is provided by the show organizer and estimated economic impact is calculated by Louisville Tourism. Louisville Tourism utilizes the Destinations International Event Impact Calculator (EIC) which is the official industry standard for measuring the Estimated Economic Impact (EEI) of an event. Once event specific data is entered into the system (dates, attendance, room nights, number of exhibits, etc.), the calculator uses eight different sources of industry data (including city-specific data such as average room rate) to compile a complete event impact analysis. Some events may use different study models with varying numbers for total "Economic Impact".

EVENTS ADVISORY

April 2026

Kentucky Exposition Center

EVENTS	DATES
Kentucky National Dairy Show & Sale	April 2-4
Easter Over Louisville	April 3
Bourbon Beatdown Demo Derby	April 3-4
LOVB Volleyball	April 10-12
Precision Arts Challenge 2026	April 10-12
JVA World Challenge	April 10-12
Royal Weekend- Derby City Crown	April 11-12
Turn It Up Dance Challenge	April 17-19
PlantFest Expo	April 18
Hometown Barrel Squad	April 18
Bluegrass World of Wheels Custom Car Show	April 18-19
Louisville Home Show	April 18-19
KDF Packet Pick Up	April 23-24
LUXXE Arts Challenge 2026	April 24-26
Grassroots Showcase	April 24-26
Kentucky Derby Festival Great Bed Races	April 27

**Event is closed to the general public.*

Events confirmed as of March 15, 2026

All dates and times are subject to change

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KENTUCKY NATIONAL DAIRY SHOW & SALE	
Est. Attendance	550
Est. Economic Impact	$61,894
Location	Pavilion
Dates & Times	April 2-4
Details	The Kentucky National Dairy Show & Sale showcases dairy cattle from across the region in breed shows, judging competitions, and a sale featuring top-quality dairy genetics.
Website	https://www.kyagr.com/marketing/national-dairy-show.html

EASTER OVER LOUISVILLE	
Est. Attendance	5,000
Est. Economic Impact	$42,255
Location	Broadbent Arena
Dates & Times	Friday, April 3 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Entry to event begins at 4:30 p.m.
Admission	Free General Admission and VIP Package also available for purchase.
Details	Easter Over Louisville is a large Easter celebration event organized by Word Media Group, featuring one of the largest Easter egg hunts ever hosted in Louisville and a special appearance by Dog the Bounty Hunter.
Website	https://easteroverlouisville.org

BOURBON BEATDOWN DEMO DERBY	
Est. Attendance	8,000
Est. Economic Impact	$59,901
Location	Freedom Hall
Dates & Times	Friday, April 3 at 6:00 p.m. Saturday, April 4 at 4:30 p.m.
Admission	Tickets start at $61.15
Details	The Bourbon Beatdown Demo Derby features demolition derby action, with drivers competing in heart-pounding crashes and competitions to be the last car running.
Website	https://twistedmetalmotorsportsllc.com/

LOVB VOLLEYBALL	
Est. Attendance	5,000
Est. Economic Impact	$1,109,505
Location	Freedom Hall
Dates & Times	April 10-12, times vary.

Admission	Tickets start at $14.15.
Details	League One Volleyball (LOVB) brings professional women's volleyball to Louisville for the first time ever. Watch elite athletes compete in the pro volleyball league that is revolutionizing the sport in the United States.
Website	https://www.lovb.com/pro-league

PRECISION ARTS CHALLENGE 2026

Est. Attendance	1,000
Est. Economic Impact	$223,952
Location	West Hall
Dates & Times	April 10-12
Details	Kids' dance competition where children learn as competitors, find inspiration as dancers, and are applauded as artists.
Website	https://www.precisionartschallenge.com/

JVA WORLD CHALLENGE

Est. Attendance	90,000
Est. Economic Impact	$19,002,673
Location	South Wing, East Hall, North Wing
Dates & Times	April 10-12
Details	One of the largest youth volleyball tournaments in the country, the JVA World Challenge brings together thousands of junior volleyball athletes and their families from around the nation to compete across hundreds of courts hosted by both the Kentucky Exposition Center and Kentucky International Convention Center.
Website	https://jvavolleyball.org/tournaments/jva-hosted-events/jva-world-challenge/

ROYAL WEEKEND- DERBY CITY CROWN / UCE LOUISVILLE

Est. Attendance	2,500
Est. Economic Impact	$241,077
Location	Broadbent Arena
Dates & Times	April 11-12
Details	Cheer and dance teams compete to earn the title in this spirited regional competition hosted by Royal Events Group's Crown Cheer & Dance organization.
Website	https://www.5678royal.com/

TURN IT UP DANCE CHALLENGE

Est. Attendance	600

Est. Economic Impact	$361,914
Location	West Hall
Dates & Times	April 17-19
Details	Turn It Up Dance Challenge is a dance competition bringing together dancers of all ages and styles to compete and showcase their talents on stage.
Website	https://turnitupdance.com/

PLANTFEST EXPO

Est. Attendance	1,400
Est. Economic Impact	$232,734
Location	South Wing A
Dates & Times	Saturday, April 18 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Admission	Tickets start at $16.00.
Details	PlantFest Expo is a celebration of plants, gardening, and horticulture featuring vendors, exhibitors, and experts for plant enthusiasts and gardeners of all levels.
Website	https://plantfestexpo.com/

BLUEGRASS WORLD OF WHEELS CUSTOM CAR SHOW

Est. Attendance	10,000
Est. Economic Impact	$1,372,314
Location	South Wing B, South Wing C
Dates & Times	Saturday, April 18 from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Sunday, April 19 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Admission	Tickets available, check website for pricing.
Details	The Bluegrass World of Wheels Custom Car Show showcases hundreds of beautifully customized vehicles, hot rods, lowriders, and classics with awards, vendors, and entertainment for automotive enthusiasts.
Website	https://bluegrassworldofwheels.com/

LOUISVILLE HOME SHOW

Est. Attendance	1,500
Est. Economic Impact	$13,889
Location	East Hall A, East Hall B
Dates & Times	Saturday, April 18 from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Sunday, April 19 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Admission	Free Admission in advance or $10 at the door.

Details	The Louisville Home Show connects homeowners with local contractors, designers, and home improvement vendors, offering ideas and solutions for home renovation, remodeling, and décor.
Website	https://www.kyhomeshow-ke.com/

HOMETOWN BARREL SQUAD

Est. Attendance	400
Est. Economic Impact	$44,965
Location	Covered Arena
Dates & Times	Saturday, April 18
Details	A barrel racing competition featuring equestrian competitors and their horses competing for top times in this classic rodeo event.
Website	https://www.facebook.com/p/Hometown-Barrel-Squad-LLC-61555158268784/

KDF PACKET PICK UP

Est. Attendance	10,000
Est. Economic Impact	$2,048,742
Location	Freedom Hall
Dates & Times	Thursday, April 23 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Friday, April 24 from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Admission	Free for registered participants.
Details	The Kentucky Derby Festival Packet Pick Up is where thousands of registered runners collect their race materials for the Kentucky Derby Festival Mini Marathon and Marathon, one of the country's premier running events. The venue also features a Health & Fitness Expo with vendors, exhibitors, and family activities.
Website	https://kdf.org/

LUXXE ARTS CHALLENGE 2026

Est. Attendance	2,000
Est. Economic Impact	$1,117,529
Location	East Hall
Dates & Times	April 24-26
Details	LUXXE Arts Challenge is a prestigious dance competition presented by Precision Arts where dancers compete across a variety of disciplines and age divisions, showcasing technical skill and artistry.
Website	https://www.precisionartschallenge.com/

GRASSROOTS SHOWCASE

Est. Attendance	18,000

Est. Economic Impact	$4,727,602
Location	South Wing
Dates & Times	April 24-26
Details	Grassroots Showcase by 3 Step Sports is one of the premier youth basketball events in the country, bringing together elite travel basketball teams from across the nation to compete in front of college coaches and scouts.
Website	https://threestep.com/

KENTUCKY DERBY FESTIVAL GREAT BED RACES

Est. Attendance	2,000
Est. Economic Impact	$23,054
Location	Broadbent Arena, Pavilion
Dates & Times	Monday, April 27 at 6:00 p.m.
Admission	Free Admission with Pegasus Pin
Details	The Kentucky Derby Festival Great Bed Races is a beloved Louisville tradition where teams of costumed competitors race on decorated beds, competing for bragging rights and festival glory as part of the Kentucky Derby Festival celebrations.
Website	https://kdf.org/

EVENTS ADVISORY

April 2026

Kentucky International Convention Center

EVENTS	DATES
Bates Memorial Easter Homecoming Celebration	**April 5**
JVA World Challenge 2026	**April 10-12**
Kentucky Writing Workshop	**April 24**
2026 Taste of Derby	**April 30**
**Closed Shows*	
Connect Marketplace*	**April 14-16**
2026 Big O Tires Annual Convention*	**April 15-16**
AAOE Annual Conference 2026*	**April 20-22**
WHSL Market Week 2026*	**April 21-22**
Sport Clips Annual National Huddle 2026*	**April 25-28**
Quanta Inc Derby Executives*	**April 30**

**Event is closed to the general public.*
Events confirmed as of March 15, 2026
All dates and times are subject to change

www.kyconvention.org | Facebook | Twitter | Instagram

BATES MEMORIAL EASTER HOMECOMING CELEBRATION	
Est. Attendance	3,000
Est. Economic Impact	$27,985
Location	Ballroom
Dates & Times	Sunday, April 5 at 11:00 a.m.
Admission	Free Admission
Details	Bates Memorial Baptist Church's annual Easter Homecoming Celebration brings the community together for worship, fellowship, and celebration of the Easter holiday.
Website	https://www.batesmemorial.com/events

JVA WORLD CHALLENGE 2026	
Est. Attendance	3,000
Est. Economic Impact	Combined with KEC portion of the tournament
Location	North Hall, South Hall, Meeting Rooms
Dates & Times	April 10-12
Details	The KICC portion of one of the largest youth volleyball tournaments in the country. JVA World Challenge brings thousands of junior volleyball athletes together to compete across the Kentucky Exposition Center and Kentucky International Convention Center.
Website	https://jvavolleyball.org/tournaments/jva-hosted-events/jva-world-challenge/

KENTUCKY WRITING WORKSHOP	
Est. Attendance	120
Est. Economic Impact	$14,394
Location	Meeting Rooms
Dates & Times	Friday, April 24 from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Admission	Registration required. See website for details
Details	The Kentucky Writing Workshop is a one-day intensive writing conference offering sessions with published authors and literary agents, designed to help writers improve their craft and learn about the publishing industry.
Website	https://kentuckywritingworkshop.com/

2026 TASTE OF DERBY	
Est. Attendance	2,000
Est. Economic Impact	$17,233
Location	Ballroom

Dates & Times	Thursday, April 30 from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.
Admission	Tickets available, check website for pricing.
Details	The Taste of Derby is an exclusive culinary celebration featuring premier restaurants, chefs, and bourbon brands that captures the spirit of Kentucky Derby week with exceptional food, drinks, and entertainment.
Website	https://www.kentuckyderby.com/visit/special-events/taste-of-derby/

Closed Shows

CONNECT MARKETPLACE*	
Est. Attendance	2,000
Est. Economic Impact	$2,579,147
Location	Ballroom, North Hall, South Hall, Meeting Rooms
Dates & Times	April 14-16
Admission	This event is closed to the public.
Details	Informa Connect Spring Marketplace is a premier industry trade event where buying and merchandising professionals connect with top brands, discover new products, and conduct business.
Website	https://informaconnect.com/connect-spring-marketplace/

2026 BIG O TIRES ANNUAL CONVENTION*	
Est. Attendance	700
Est. Economic Impact	$788,384
Location	Conference Theatre, South Hall B
Dates & Times	April 15-16
Admission	This event is closed to the public.
Details	Big O Tire franchisees, partners, and corporate team members gather for the annual convention featuring business meetings, training sessions, vendor exhibits, and networking opportunities.

AAOE ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2026*	
Est. Attendance	900
Est. Economic Impact	$1,225,530
Location	Ballroom, Conference Theatre, North Hall, South Hall, Meeting Rooms
Dates & Times	April 20-22
Admission	This event is closed to the public.
Details	The American Alliance of Orthopaedic Executives (AAOE) Annual Conference brings together orthopaedic practice administrators and executives for education, networking, and professional development.

Website	https://www.aaoe.net/events/aaoe-annual-conference-2026

WHSL MARKET WEEK 2026*	
Est. Attendance	600
Est. Economic Impact	$158,437
Location	North Hall C, North Hall E
Dates & Times	April 21-22
Admission	This event is closed to the public.
Details	WHSL Market Week is a wholesale buying event where independent retailers connect with brands and vendors to preview and purchase merchandise for their stores.
Website	https://whslmarket.com/

SPORT CLIPS ANNUAL NATIONAL HUDDLE 2026*	
Est. Attendance	3,300
Est. Economic Impact	$3,380,616
Location	Ballroom, North Hall, South Hall, Meeting Rooms
Dates & Times	April 25-28
Admission	This event is closed to the public.
Details	Sport Clips' annual national franchise convention brings together franchisees, team members, and corporate staff for training, inspiration, vendor showcases, and strategic sessions to drive business growth.
Website	https://sportclips.com/

QUANTA INC DERBY EXECUTIVES*	
Est. Attendance	30
Est. Economic Impact	$11,067
Location	Meeting Room M101
Dates & Times	April 30
Admission	This event is closed to the public.
Details	A private executive meeting held in conjunction with Kentucky Derby weekend.