

# Kentucky's Defense Community

## Total Economic Impact – \$14.6B / 53,661 jobs

**\$3.3 billion** in employee compensation in Kentucky, which ranks 15<sup>th</sup> in nation

*6.7% of Kentucky's \$218B economy (2023)*

Proud home of our nation's premier military installations, Fort Campbell and Fort Knox



Kentucky ranks 16th highest among the 50 states in the number of total military personnel (including civilians, reservists and the National Guard)

Fourth highest number of active-duty Army personnel (31,735), following Texas, Georgia and North Carolina

The nation's finest National Guard force, recipient of the 2023 Best National Guard Command - the first ever awarded – by the Association of the U.S. Army



267,611 veterans, 7.2 percent of the Commonwealth's over 18 population

28,936 military retirees,

\$744M in annual total combined retirement pay

\$1.75B in annual federal spending for veterans' compensation and pension, for 77,064 recipients

Coast Guard Sector Ohio Valley – the "Brown Water Coast Guard" – in Louisville, Paducah, Hickman and Owensboro, manages 8,300 miles of the Ohio River, its tributaries, parts of the Mississippi and the federal lakes across 10 States



Successfully eradicated the nation's final chemical weapons stockpile at the Blue Grass Army Depot in July 2023

- 8<sup>th</sup> in Defense spending by state as a percentage of state Gross Domestic Product
- 12<sup>th</sup> in Defense-related contract spending
- 13<sup>th</sup> in Defense spending by state
- 15<sup>th</sup> in Personnel spending by state

\$11.1B in DOD grants and contract spending

Member of nine Defense State Liaison Office Priority Interstate Occupational Licensing Reciprocity Compacts

- Teacher Mobility \* Occupational Therapist \* Social Work  
 \* Cosmetology \* Licensed Professional Counseling  
 \* Psychology \* Occupational Therapist \* Nurse  
 \* Audiology/Speech-Language Pathology