



**GROWTH  
PARTNERSHIP**

# NKY KNOWS FOOD & FLAVORING

## NKY IS THE SECRET INGREDIENT

Strategically positioned for food, flavor, and perishables, Northern Kentucky is experiencing high growth and expansion in food, flavor, and beverage research, manufacturing, and distribution.

Popular food, candy, bourbon, and beer is made in Northern Kentucky. Family food favorites like Keebler Fudge Stripes cookies, Hillshire Farm Beef Lit'l Smokies Smoked Sausage, Red Baron pizzas, and Airheads are just a few.

The Northern Kentucky region is a key part of the Cincinnati MSA. Centrally located on the I-75 corridor with strong rail service, an inland port, and two major air cargo hubs at the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport (CVG), the Northern Kentucky region is a proven location for the food, flavor, and beverage industry.



**#1**

**Location for  
population served  
within a 1-day drive**

Source: Claritas

**1.5M**

**Labor shed**

Source: ESRI, 2022 EY Target Industry Study

## Recent Announcements

**Bakery Express  
\$20M | 180 jobs**

**Chick-fil-A Supply  
\$100M | 178 jobs**

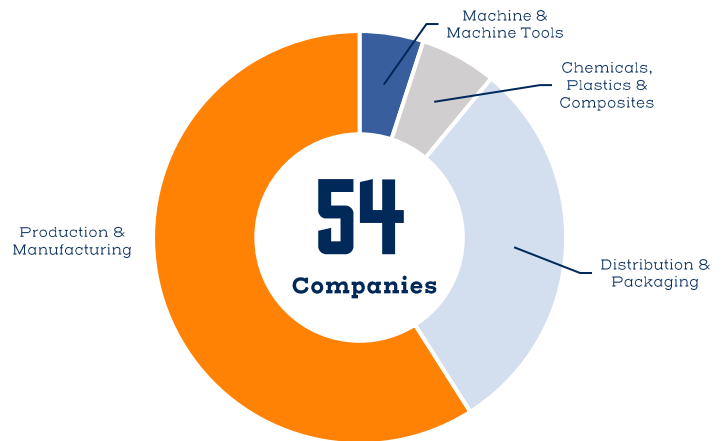
**80 Acres Farms  
\$74M | 125 jobs**

**Niagara Bottling  
\$129.8M | 60 jobs**

**Castellini  
\$16.6M | 180 jobs**

**SYGMA Kentucky  
300 jobs**

### Northern Kentucky Food & Flavoring Companies by Sector



### Food & Flavoring Industries in the Cincinnati MSA

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYEES	AVG. ANNUAL WAGES
Other Food Manufacturing	6,698	\$82,710
Beverage Manufacturing	3,808	\$68,695
Bakeries & Tortilla Manufacturing	3,093	\$54,217
Fruit and Vegetable Preserving and Specialty Food Manufacturing	1,295	\$75,699
Sugar and Confectionary Product Manufacturing	740	\$64,014
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,634</b>	<b>\$72,194</b>

Source: JobsEQ Q3 2024; 2022 EY Target Industry Study



## Workforce Overview

Among the 50+ [food, flavor, and beverage](#) companies in Northern Kentucky, these major employers are drawing on an educated talent base and well-trained workforce.

### Selected Occupations in the Cincinnati MSA to Support the Food & Flavoring Industry

OCCUPATION	EMPLOYEES	AVG. ANNUAL WAGES
Mechanical Engineers	2,532	\$112,400
Food Batchmakers	2,031	\$42,500
Bakers	1,724	\$35,800
Butchers and Meat Cutters	947	\$39,400
Slaughterers and Meat Packers	370	\$40,300
Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	800	\$39,300
Food Processing Workers, All Other	551	\$38,500
Mechanical Engineering Technologists and Technicians	337	\$71,100
Food Cooking Machine Operators and Tenders	320	\$44,400
Food and Tobacco Roasting, Baking, and Drying Machine Operators and Tenders	148	\$44,400
Food Scientists and Technologists	132	\$76,100
Agricultural Technicians	75	\$46,400
Food Science Technicians	110	\$69,700
Agricultural Engineers	12	\$95,000

Source: JobsEQ Q3 2024

### Wage Comparison

REGION	AVG. ANNUAL WAGE
Northern Kentucky	\$53,500
Cincinnati	\$59,900
Columbus	\$61,200
Indianapolis	\$62,500
Louisville	\$61,000

Source: JobsEQ Q3 2024. Average wages reflect selected occupations based on SOC code.

## Major Employers

### Production & Manufacturing

- 80 Acres Farms
- Bakery Express Midwest
- Ferrara
- Lyons Magnus
- McLane Company
- Newly Weds Foods
- Niagara Bottling
- Perfetti Van Melle USA
- Schwan's Company
- Taylor Farms
- Tyson Foods - Hillshire Brands

### R&D, Technology & Headquarters

- ADM Flavors
- ADM Global Technology Center
- Avure Technologies
- Darling Ingredients
- Flottweg Separation Technology
- Galerie Candy & Gifts
- Givaudan
- Kona Ice
- Remke
- ZoomEssence

### Distribution & Packaging

- Chick-fil-A Supply
- Coca Cola
- Dollar General
- Novolex
- Paper Water Bottle
- R.A Jones
- SYGMA, a Sysco Company
- United Dairy Farmers
- Verst Logistics
- Zumbiel Packaging

### Brewing & Distilling

- Alexandria Brewing Company
- Birous Brewing Co.
- Boone County Distilling Co.
- Braxton Brewing Company
- Darkness Brewing
- New Riff Distilling
- Wooden Cask Brewing Company