

Jobless Numbers Trending Up

Unemployment was 4.1% this May in Cumberland County, up from 3.5 the month before, according to the Kentucky Center for Statistics (KYSTATS). Unemployment rates rose in 95 counties between May 2025 and May 2026, fell in 17 counties and stayed the same in eight counties, according to that agency, a division of the Kentucky Education and Labor Cabinet

Woodford County recorded the lowest jobless rate in the commonwealth at 3.7%. Martin County recorded the state's highest unemployment rate at 9.8 percent.

Kentucky's county unemployment rates and employment levels are not seasonally adjusted because of small sample sizes.

Employment statistics undergo sharp fluctuations due to seasonal events such as weather changes, harvests, holidays, and school openings and closings. Seasonal adjustments eliminate these influences and make it easier to observe statistical trends.

Kentucky's preliminary seasonally adjusted May 2026 state unemployment rate was given as 4.5 percent, earlier this month.

Then, the U.S. seasonally adjusted jobless rate for May was given as 4.3%, which was unchanged from April and from the 4.3% recorded in May 2025, according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

Here are more local figures as provided by the state.

Obituaries

Virginia (Smith) Farmer

Virginia (Smith) Farmer of Albany went home to be with the Lord on June 18, 2026, at the Jean Waddle Care Center of the Lake Cumberland Regional Hospital in Somerset. She was born in Burkesville, to Marvin Cartwright and Cleo (Groce) Smith.



She was of the Methodist faith, a lifelong member of Liberty Methodist Church, and attended Peolia Church. Virginia was a loving Christian woman whose kind spirit and warm smile could light up any room. She sought to share the love and light of Jesus Christ with everyone she met.

In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her husband, Harlan Farmer, whom she wed July 14, 1949; sister, Martha Lewis; niece, Linda Clark; and brothers-in-law Marcus C. Wells and Edmund "Fred" Lewis.

She is survived by her sister, Joan Smith (Barry) Breland of Albany; nephews, Greg M. Wells of Burkesville, John Lewis of Danville; niece, Whitney (Stephen) Westover of Ashburn; great-nephews, Stefan Weissrock and Cameron Smith Dillon; and great-niece, Delaney Jane Dillon; along with other family and friends.

The funeral service was conducted June 22, in the Memory Chapel of Campbell-New Funeral Home in Albany, with Bro. Larry Spears officiating, and a eulogy by Judge David Williams. Burial was in the Peolia Cemetery in Clinton County. Casket bearers were Tim H. Armstrong, Donald Neal, Greg Wells, Stephen Westover, Danny McFall and David Talbott.

Campbell-New Funeral Home in Albany was honored to be in charge of the arrangements. Online condolences at www.campbell-new.com

Etc...

Kerr/Short Family Reunion

The Kerr and Short Families' Reunion will be June 27 at Veterans Park in Burkesville, from noon till 4pm. We will be located in the AG Expo/Fairboard building and under the picnic shelter. Signs will be posted. There will be air conditioning and a playground. All friends and family are welcome. Meat, utensils, paper plates, paper towels, cups, bread, buns and drinks will be provided. Please bring a covered dish to ensure we have enough food for everyone.

Leslie Cemetery Help Request

Anyone wishing to make a donation for the 2026 mowing/maintenance fees please send check/funds to: Leslie Cemetery Fund, C/O Patricia Thomas, P.O. Box 37, Burkesville, Ky., 42717 or C/O First & Farmer's Nat'l Bank, P.O. Box 337, Burkesville, Ky. 42717. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

Shorts Chapel Help Request

Anyone with family or loved ones buried at Shorts Chapel Cemetery are encouraged to make donations to the cemetery fund. You are also welcome to take a turn in mowing the cemetery instead of contributing to the cemetery fund. This would be equally appreciated. Please place flowers on grave stones and hanging metal rods if possible. Any flowers that are placed on the ground will be removed after July 4th. Flowers on the stones will remain until they become very worn out or start causing debris on the cemetery. All donations are greatly appreciated and can be made at or mailed to: Citizens Bank of Cumberland County, Shorts Chapel Cemetery Fund, and PO Box 810, Burkesville, KY 42717. If it's more convenient for you to make donations to me personally I live beside the cemetery as well. You can reach me, Carla Kerr-Smith, at 270-433-6981. As always, thank you!

Pleasant Hill Upkeep

Pleasant Hill Church is taking donations for the upkeep of the cemetery. Please send donations to 2362 Guthrie Chapel Rd, Burkesville, Ky 42717.

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**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
40th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
CUMBERLAND CIRCUIT COURT
CASE NO. 26-CI-00003**

KAR TAX LIEN PORTFOLIO, LLC **PLAINTIFF**

VS. **NOTICE OF SALE**

**MARGARET A. WEST,
UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF MARGARET A. WEST,
FARMER HOME ADMINISTRATION,
COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, KENTUCKY** **DEFENDANTS**

Pursuant to a Judgment and Order of Sale of the Cumberland Circuit Court entered in the office of the Cumberland Circuit Court Clerk on May 5, 2026, in the above styled action, the undersigned Master Commissioner of the Cumberland Circuit Court will sell at public auction, on June 10, 2026, at 11:00 a.m., at the west door of the Cumberland County Courthouse, Burkesville, Kentucky, to the highest and best bidder, the following described real property, lying and being in Cumberland County, Kentucky, with said property being more particularly bounded and described as follows, to-wit:

PIDN: 011-00-00-006.01

Property Address: 1464 Gray Gap Road, Burkesville, Kentucky 42717

“Beginning on a 1½” pipe at the east right-of-way of the Gray Gap Road, said right-of-way being 20’ left and right of center, and said pipe being a corner to Mark Branham, and also the northwest corner of the parent tract; thence leaving the said right-of-way and with Branham and up the hill, N 36 04 17” E 192.00’ to a ¾” pipe set in the line of Branham, a new corner to the grantor, Deed Book 92, Page 148; thence leaving Branham and severing the lands of the grantor as follows: S 26 25’ 42” E 276.64’ to a ¾” pipe, S 610 09 25” W 206.69’ to a ¾” pipe set at the east right-of-way of the Gray Gap Road; thence leaving the grantor and with the said right-of-way N 16 00’ 00” W 200.00’ to the beginning, and containing 1.00 acres by survey.” Actual field survey performed by J.A. Staton, R.L.S. #2603, on the 1st day of October, 1992.”

Being the same property conveyed to Margaret A. West, by a deed recorded October 27, 1992 in Deed Book 99, Page 125 and recorded in the Cumberland County Clerk’s Office.

The successful bidder or bidders may elect to pay the purchase price in full at the time of the sale or be required to pay 10% percent of bid purchase price down on the date of the sale and balance of purchase price will be due and payable on or before thirty (30) days from the date of the sale with interest at the rate of 6% per annum; however, the purchase may pay all or part of the purchase price prior to the maturity with all accrued interest due at the time of said payment. If the sale be had on credit, the purchaser shall execute and deliver to the order of the Master Commissioner, his or her bond due and payable in thirty (30) days, bearing interest at the legal rate of 6% per annum from date of sale until paid, with good and sufficient surety thereon and said sale shall likewise be secured by a lien upon said property sold, which shall have the same force and effect of a judgment and said bond with acceptable surety shall be executed immediately after the sale; upon default of the terms of said bond the Master Commissioner shall immediately resell the property on the same terms and conditions set out herein.

The 2026 and all subsequent years property taxes shall be paid by the Purchaser.

**HON. HOLLY LONG PARRIGIN
MASTER COMMISSIONER
CUMBERLAND CIRCUIT COURT**

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
40th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
CUMBERLAND CIRCUIT COURT
CASE NO. 26-CI-00016**

KAR TAX LIEN PORTFOLIO, LLC **PLAINTIFF**

VS. **NOTICE OF SALE**

**UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF
JAMES LEE ROBINSON,
UNKNOWN HEIRS, ASSIGNS AND SUCCESSORS
OF JAMES LEE ROBINSON,
UNKNOWN HEIRS, ASSIGNS AND SUCCESSORS
OF JIMMIE LEE ROBINSON,
UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF
JIMMIE LEE ROBINSON,
UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF JENNIFER LYNN ROBINSON,
UNKNOWN OCCUPANT,
COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, KENTUCKY** **DEFENDANTS**

Pursuant to a Judgment and Order of Sale of the Cumberland Circuit Court entered in the office of the Cumberland Circuit Court Clerk on June 2, 2026, in the above styled action, the undersigned Master Commissioner of the Cumberland Circuit Court will sell at public auction, on June 10, 2026, at 11:30 a.m., at the west door of the Cumberland County Courthouse, Burkesville, Kentucky, to the highest and best bidder, the following described real property, lying and being in Cumberland County, Kentucky, with said property being more particularly bounded and described as follows, to-wit:

PIDN: 064-00-00-032.01

Property Address: 4130 Smith Grove Road, Burkesville, Kentucky 42717

“BEGINNING at a new point, iron pin set-marked Staton 2603 (L1) N 69 deg. 05 min 25 sec E 207.50 feet; thence, to a new iron pin set-marked Staton 2603 (L2) S 20 deg 54 min 35 sec E 207.50 feet; thence to a new iron pin set-marked Staton (L3) S 69 deg 05 min 25 sec W 209.76 feet; thence, to a new iron pin-set Staton 2603 (L4) N 21 deg 01 min 33 sec W 207.50 feet to the point of the beginning, containing approximately 1.00 acres, more or less.

SUBJECT TO A RESERVED 30 foot right of access of ingress and egress (15 foot on center of existing road), held by the Grantor, her heirs, successors & assigns using the existing driveway which extends from Highway 1880 across the lands conveyed herein to her adjoining property.

As per the actual land survey of Jake Staton, Land Surveyor Registered Number PLS 2603, with address listed as Albany, Kentucky 42602, dated 01/25/2008.

Being the same real property conveyed to James Lee Robinson, Single, by a deed recorded February 19, 2016 in Deed Book 165, Page 476 and recorded in the Cumberland County Clerk’s Office.

The successful bidder or bidders may elect to pay the purchase price in full at the time of the sale or be required to pay 10% percent of bid purchase price down on the date of the sale and balance of purchase price will be due and payable on or before thirty (30) days from the date of the sale with interest at the rate of 6% per annum; however, the purchase may pay all or part of the purchase price prior to the maturity with all accrued interest due at the time of said payment. If the sale be had on credit, the purchaser shall execute and deliver to the order of the Master Commissioner, his or her bond due and payable in thirty (30) days, bearing interest at the legal rate of 6% per annum from date of sale until paid, with good and sufficient surety thereon and said sale shall likewise be secured by a lien upon said property sold, which shall have the same force and effect of a judgment and said bond with acceptable surety shall be executed immediately after the sale; upon default of the terms of said bond the Master Commissioner shall immediately resell the property on the same terms and conditions set out herein.

The 2026 and all subsequent years property taxes shall be paid by the Purchaser.

**HON. HOLLY LONG PARRIGIN
MASTER COMMISSIONER
CUMBERLAND CIRCUIT COURT**