



NOVEMBER 2023

ECONOMIC SUMMARY



FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO


It has been a busy quarter for economic development in our region. We have seen major projects land, setting our region up for continued expansion as we finish 2023.

The third quarter showed steady growth of both the national and regional economies, despite continued inflationary pressures and economic uncertainty. Key findings in our most recent Economic Summary report include:

- GLI's pipeline of projects grew by 47% during the past quarter showing increased appetite for business development in our region.
- The project pipeline industry mix remains similar to the past several quarters, with approximately 45% of projects in Manufacturing, 13% in Lifelong Wellness & Aging Care, 17% in Logistics, 15% in Business Services, 2% in Food & Beverage, and 8% in other sectors.
- Despite higher interest rates and a sustained period of above-normal inflation, both national and regional unemployment rates remained low at 3.7% and 3.8%, respectively, in Q3 2023.

Our regional business growth efforts continue to gain momentum and more stakeholders are investing in regionalism. Over the past quarter, GLI has represented the region at two national conferences and also hosted a group of eight national site selectors for our annual Familiarization Tour. You can learn more about these events in the following pages.

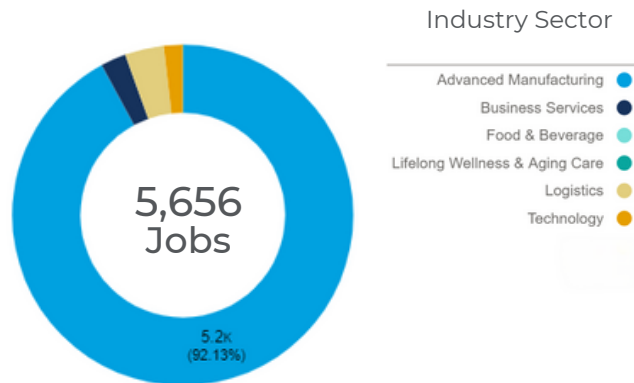
We appreciate your continued investment in GLI and support of our economic development efforts. We look forward to even more exciting results through the remainder of the year.


Sarah Davasher-Wisdom
President and CEO, GLI



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PIPELINE

As the regional economic development organization for the Greater Louisville region, GLI has 47 active projects in its pipeline, a 47% increase compared to last quarter. These projects represent 5,656 potential new jobs for our region across a variety of industry sectors. The bulk of the jobs currently in our pipeline are in the Advanced Manufacturing, Lifelong Wellness & Aging Care, Logistics, and Business Services industries.



GLI's economic development team works with site consultants, brokers, utility partners, state officials, and companies directly to assist with business growth opportunities in Greater Louisville. Below is GLI's current economic development project pipeline, representing prospective companies we're supporting throughout their growth process.

Active Date	Project Name	Industry Sector	Total Jobs	CapEx
8/31/2021	Project Arrow	Advanced Manufacturing	510	\$ 300,000,000
1/21/2022	Project Sediment	Advanced Manufacturing	TBD	TBD
2/25/2022	Project Pizza	Advanced Manufacturing	TBD	TBD
6/24/2022	Project Putty	Advanced Manufacturing	40	TBD
7/1/2022	Project Lion	Advanced Manufacturing	350	\$ 24,000,000
8/22/2022	Project Leader	Advanced Manufacturing	800	\$ 350,000,000
11/14/2022	Project Wave	Advanced Manufacturing	TBD	TBD
8/2/2021	Project Lisbon Phase 2	Advanced Manufacturing	1550	\$ 536,000,000
2/15/2023	Project Tube	Advanced Manufacturing	50	TBD
5/4/2023	Project Spice	Advanced Manufacturing	TBD	TBD
5/25/2023	Project Q	Advanced Manufacturing	20	\$ 15,000,000
6/15/2023	Project Matrix	Advanced Manufacturing	30	\$ 10,000,000
7/19/2023	Project Veteran	Advanced Manufacturing	15	TBD
7/20/2023	Project Willow	Advanced Manufacturing	6	\$ 1,500,000
6/7/2023	Project Assembly	Advanced Manufacturing	30	\$ 31,500,000
8/22/2023	Project Spark	Advanced Manufacturing	TBD	TBD
8/22/2023	Project Pedal	Advanced Manufacturing	TBD	TBD
8/22/2023	Project Hand	Advanced Manufacturing	TBD	TBD
8/31/2023	Project Jolt	Advanced Manufacturing	1500	\$ 100,000,000
9/15/2023	Project Sheet	Advanced Manufacturing	300	TBD
9/27/2023	Project Zipper	Advanced Manufacturing	10	\$ 10,000,000
10/10/2022	Project Education	Business Services	TBD	TBD
10/19/2022	Project Denim	Business Services	30	TBD
2/1/2023	Project Wing	Business Services	TBD	TBD
5/16/2023	Project Tie	Business Services	TBD	TBD
6/29/2023	Project Celery	Business Services	100	TBD
8/3/2023	Project Confetti	Business Services	5	TBD
9/1/2023	Project Track	Business Services	TBD	TBD
8/22/2023	Project Sip	Food & Beverage	TBD	TBD
12/16/2022	Project Canvas	Health & Life Sciences	TBD	TBD
2/6/2023	Project Chrome	Health & Life Sciences	TBD	TBD
2/17/2023	Project Saturn	Health & Life Sciences	TBD	TBD
2/17/2023	Project Orbit	Health & Life Sciences	TBD	TBD
2/22/2023	Project Iron	Health & Life Sciences	TBD	TBD
8/3/2023	Project Mystery	Health & Life Sciences	TBD	TBD
7/9/2021	Project Grow	Logistics & Distribution	120	TBD
3/21/2022	Project Tread	Logistics & Distribution	40	\$ 3,000,000
1/13/2022	Project Iron Fortress	Logistics & Distribution	15	TBD
12/1/2022	Project Pepper	Logistics & Distribution	25	\$ 75,000,000
1/10/2023	Project Phase	Logistics & Distribution	TBD	TBD
1/4/2023	Project Craft	Logistics & Distribution	TBD	TBD
6/12/2023	Project Maple	Logistics & Distribution	10	TBD
7/14/2023	Project Trumpet	Logistics & Distribution	TBD	\$ 240,000,000
2/16/2023	Project Glow	Technology	TBD	TBD
9/21/2023	Project Lantern	Technology	100	\$ 500,000,000
9/27/2023	Project Blanket	Technology	TBD	TBD
1/5/2022	Project Slide	Tourism	TBD	TBD

FAM TOUR 2023

GLI wrapped up a successful Familiarization (FAM) Tour, presented by LG&E KU Energy. This annual event brought eight national site selectors to tour and explore the Greater Louisville Region. In this tour, the economic development team, along with members of the Greater Louisville Partnership, provided site selectors a two-day immersive experience that included community tours, presentations from regional partners, networking, and panel discussions to showcase what the region has to offer.



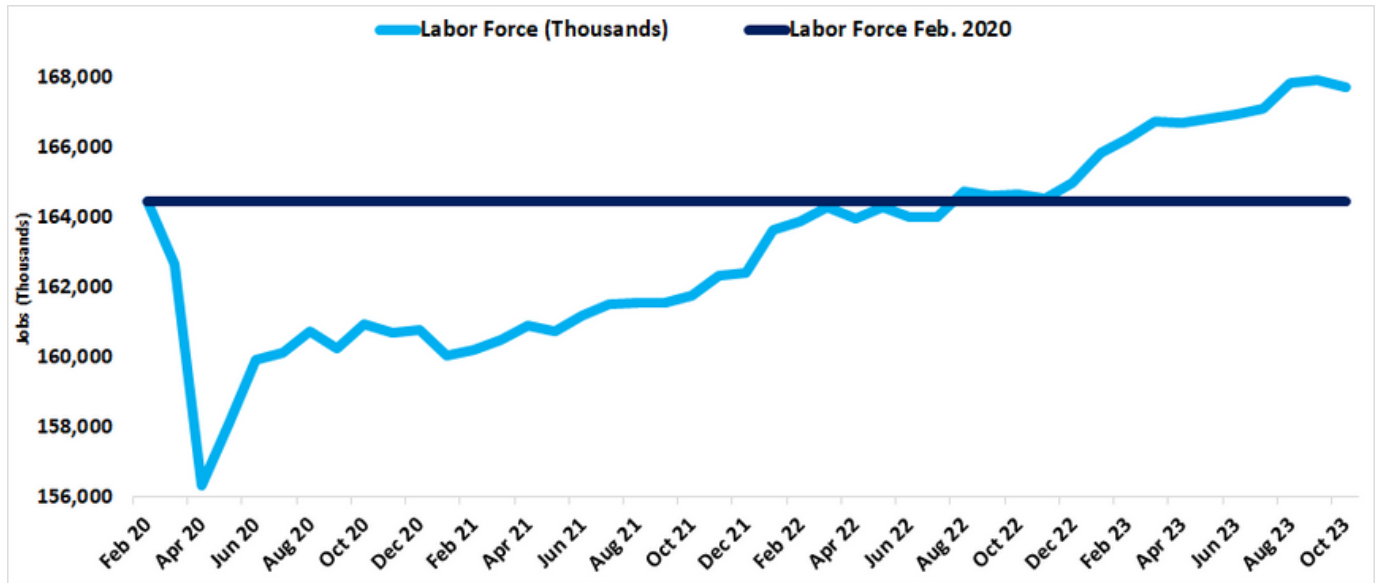
Following a full agenda of horse racing at Churchill Downs and top-tier dining experiences, FAM Tour culminated with “Looking at Lou”, an event held for business leaders to hear feedback from site selectors regarding the region’s opportunities and challenges. Feedback included strong praises for the collaborative and regional approach to economic development, which has allowed the area to develop into a high-quality place, with an abundance of parks, recreation, and arts.

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The GLI economic development team participated in the International Economic Development Council Annual Conference in Dallas, Texas. This conference provides economic developers from around the world the opportunity to learn and network with one another. Kentucky United, a committee of the Kentucky Association for Economic Development, took a delegation of Kentucky economic developers to meet with site selectors located in Dallas. The delegates were able to connect with site selectors specializing in various industries to learn how to best leverage their area’s assets. The economic development team was able to connect with 9 national site selectors, two of which later attended GLI’s FAM Tour and saw the region first-hand.

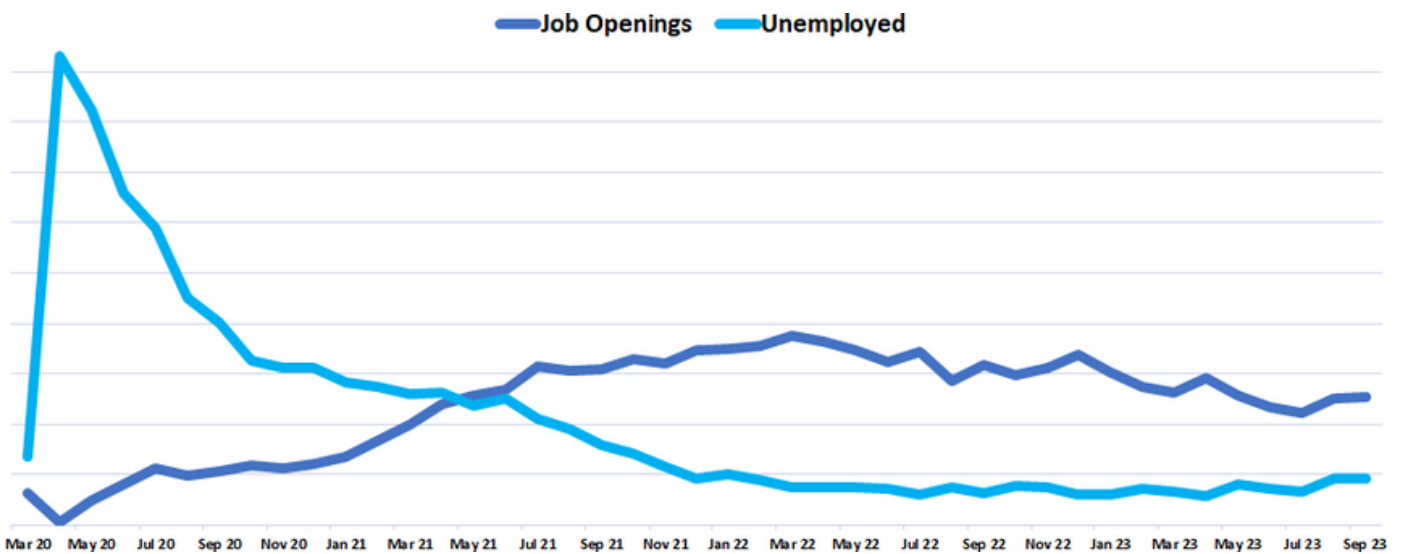
NATIONAL ECONOMIC INDICATORS

The national labor force increased from Q2 to Q3 2023, and now includes 3.3 million more workers than before the pandemic. If the labor force participation rate at the end Q3 was the same as it was pre-pandemic, there would now be 1.7 million more workers in the labor force. Despite a labor shortage of 3.3 million more job openings than unemployed workers, the economy remained resilient in Q3.



*Data and Graph from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce

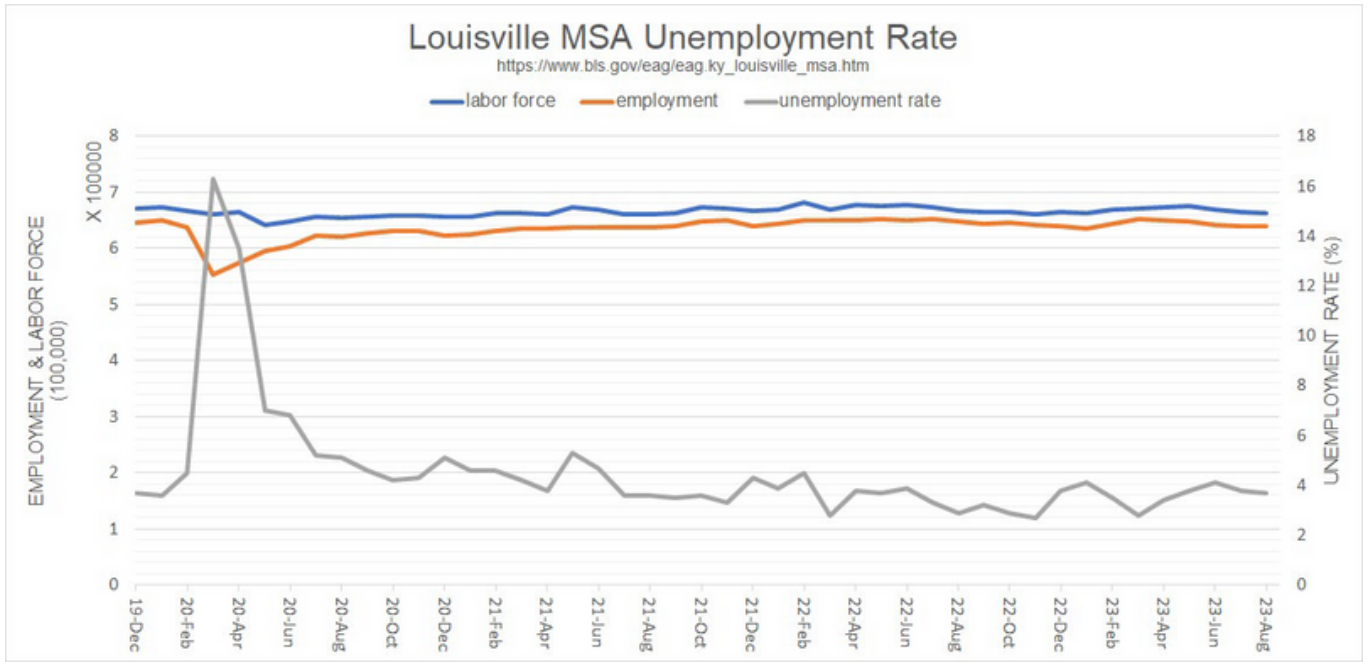
The number of job openings increased since last quarter, indicating that employers remain optimistic about the economy. The Federal Reserve continued to increase interest rates in Q3 2023 in the hopes of reducing inflation back to its 2.0% target. A soft landing still remains possible if the Federal Reserve is able to lower inflation without negatively impacting the job market and economic growth.



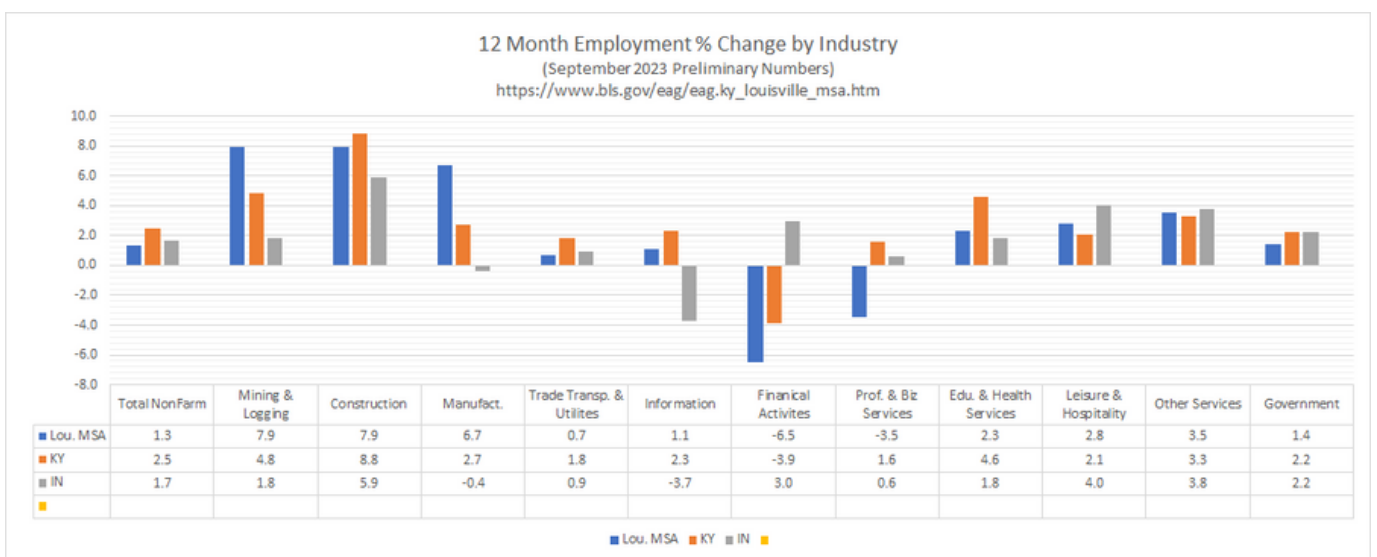
*Data and Graph from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce

LOUISVILLE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reported that the unemployment rate for the Louisville MSA was 3.7% in September. This is a slight increase compared to Q2 2023, but below the current national average of 3.8%

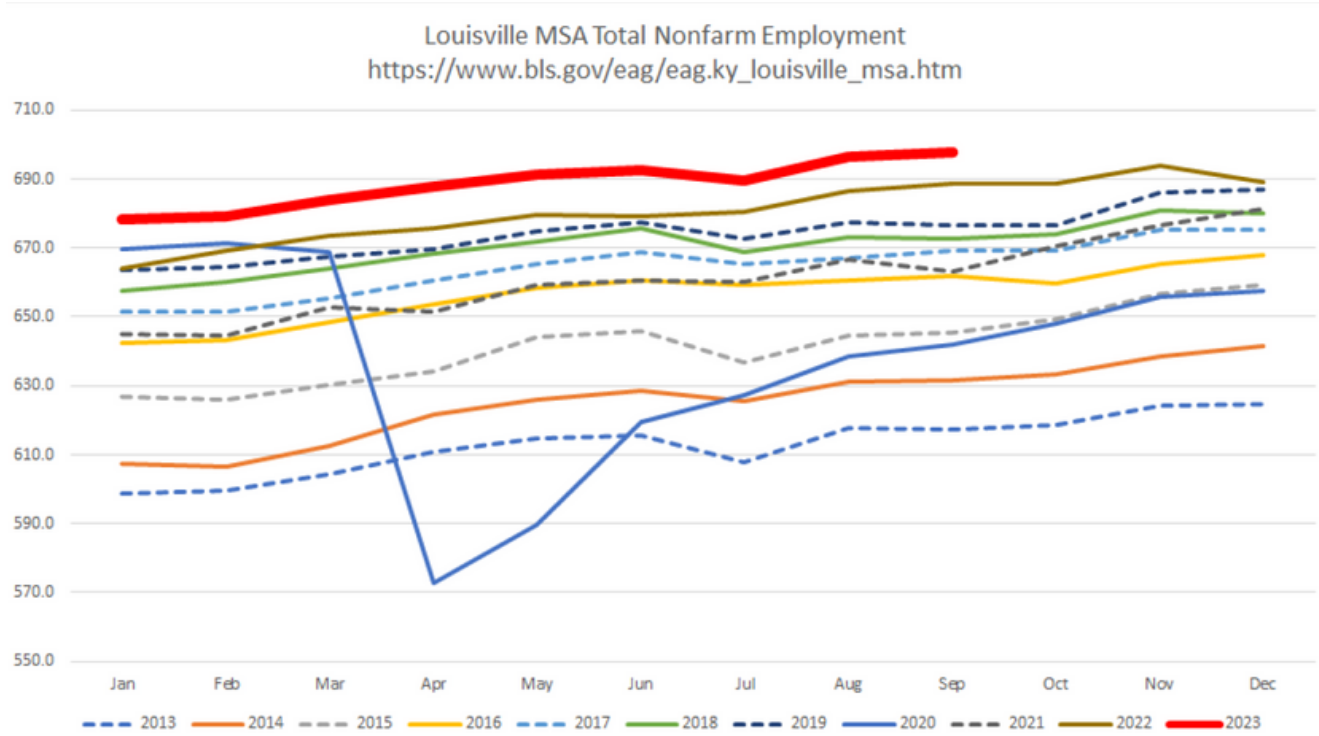


Louisville’s post-pandemic economic recovery can be seen in the industry level 12-month change figures. With the exception of recent employment declines in financial activities and professional & business services, the region’s industries have maintained healthy employment growth. The construction, mining, and logging industries led the way in Q3 2023 with 7.9% employment growth over the past 12-month period.



LOUISVILLE EMPLOYMENT RATE

Louisville's total employment at the end of Q3 2023 has increased since Q2, aligning with national employment trends. With 3.3 million more job openings than unemployed workers, the national labor shortage has improved slightly from Q2. A higher employment rate coupled with elevated wages may help buffer any potential economic headwinds spawned by higher interest and inflation rates.



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