

## Demographic Data

| Population (2000 census):                       |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| City of Owensboro                               | 54,067                 |
| City of Whitesville                             | 632                    |
| Daviess Co. (outside Owensboro and Whitesville) | 36,846                 |
| <b>Total</b>                                    | <b>91,545</b>          |
| <b>Urban / Rural Mix</b>                        | <b>67,665 / 23,789</b> |

## Current Workforce

|                         |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Metro* area (June 2010) | 52,989 |
| Owensboro-Daviess Co.   | 44,589 |

\* Metro: Daviess, Hancock and McLean Counties

## Benchmark Communities

Throughout the town meeting, there will be references to “benchmark” communities or “peer regions.” These 13 communities, identified by Dr. Paul Coomes, an economist at the University of Louisville, are of comparable size to Owensboro-Daviess County that share other key characteristics that serve as a valid point of comparison.

### These benchmark communities are:

Jonesboro, Arkansas  
Pine Bluff, Arkansas  
Albany, Georgia  
Kokomo, Indiana  
Dubuque, Iowa  
Hopkinsville, Kentucky  
Paducah, Kentucky  
Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Lewiston, Maine  
Elmira, New York  
Sumter, South Carolina  
Victoria, Texas  
Danville, Virginia

## Jobs Lost

| Unemployed in Owensboro-Daviess Co. (Jul 2010)     | 9.3 % (4,679) |
|--|---------------|
| Ave. length of unemployment in O-DC (Jul 2010)     | 34.2 weeks    |
| Jobs lost in metro area since the recession began: |               |
| Louisville metro                                   | 30,700        |
| Lexington metro                                    | 13,000        |
| Evansville-Henderson metro                         | 8,000         |
| Bowling Green metro                                | 4,000         |
| Clarksville, TN metro                              | 4,000         |
| <b>Owensboro metro</b>                             | <b>3,100</b>  |
| Elizabethtown metro                                | 2,400         |

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## Jobs lost by local employer:

|                        |                |
|------------------------|----------------|
| HON                    | 144 (Oct 2009) |
| GE (phasing out)       | 88 (Jun 2010)  |
| National Linen         | 153 (Nov 2005) |
| Diversified Healthcare | 39 (Mar 2005)  |
| West Irving Die Cast   | 96 (Dec 2008)  |
| Quality Container      | 12 (Sep 2008)  |
| DANA                   | 103 (Jun 2008) |
| Executive Inn          | 72 (Jun 2008)  |
| Daramic                | 180 (Nov 2009) |

## Bankruptcies in Owensboro-Daviess County

| 2006 | 2010 |
|------|------|
| 293  | 347  |

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**Jobs Gained**

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Jobs gained in metro area<br>(July 2009 – July 2010) | 500 |
|--|-----|

**Since 2007, 29 existing Daviess County businesses received expansion assistance from the state to create up to 1400 jobs.**

**Summary of Recent Locations and Expansions (2007-Present)**

|                    | Companies | Jobs    | Investment    |
|--------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|
| Manufacturing      | 24        | 526-550 | \$109,939,818 |
| Supportive/Service | 5         | 197-800 | \$28,881,075  |

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**“Eighty-nine percent of new jobs are created by small business.”**

**Jean Horstman, President**  
 Interise (Boston)

**10 Fastest Growing Industries in Kentucky**

1. Management & technical consulting
2. Financial investment
3. Individual & family services
4. Gambling
5. Community care facilities for elderly
6. Warehousing & storage
7. Performing arts & sports promotion
8. Hospitals
9. Outpatient care centers
10. Security & commodity investment

*Workforce Kentucky*

**Top 20 Employers in Owensboro-Daviess County**

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Owensboro Medical Health System                    | 3,346          |
| Daviess County Public Schools                      | 1,785          |
| US Bank Home Mortgage                              | 950            |
| Owensboro Public Schools                           | 778            |
| River Valley Behavioral Health                     | 542 (district) |
| Toyotetsu Mid America LLC                          | 540            |
| Owensboro Community and Technical College          | 494            |
| Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline Inc             | 484            |
| City of Owensboro                                  | 481            |
| Commonwealth of Kentucky                           | 471            |
| Specialty Foods Group Inc (Field Packing Division) | 450            |
| Unilever Foods                                     | 445            |
| Swedish Match North America                        | 354            |
| Unifirst   | 336            |
| Kimberly-Clark Corp                                | 335            |
| Daviess County Fiscal Court                        | 320-350*       |
| Green River District Health Department             | 260 (district) |
| Boardwalk Pipeline                                 | 250            |
| Premium Allied Tool Inc                            | 250            |
| OMU  | 243            |

*\* Includes seasonal, county clerk and sheriff employees*

**“Two out of three jobs created come from existing companies.”**

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## Comparisons with Peer Regions Resources Devoted to Economic Development

|                           | Funds from Gov't | Funds from Private Sources | Total Funding    |
|---------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| Dubuque, Iowa             | \$1,200,000      | \$578,000                  | \$1,700,000      |
| Kokomo, Indiana           | \$375,000        | \$753,000                  | \$1,500,000      |
| Paducah, Kentucky         | \$560,000        | \$840,000                  | \$1,400,000      |
| Albany, Georgia           | \$498,000        | \$347,000                  | \$845,000        |
| Sumter, South Carolina    | \$457,000        | \$153,000                  | \$610,000        |
| Elmira, New York          | \$315,728        | \$291,441                  | \$607,000        |
| <b>Greater O'boro EDC</b> | <b>\$336,000</b> | <b>\$185,000</b>           | <b>\$596,000</b> |
| Pine Bluff, Arkansas      | \$0              | \$500,000                  | \$500,000        |

Note: Information requested but unavailable from Victoria, Texas; Jonesboro, Arkansas; Danville, Virginia and Lewiston-Auburn, Maine. Peer regions identified for the EDC by U of L economist Paul Coomes in 1998.

## Wage Increases

Ave. annual wage in Daviess County (1990): \$18,800  
 Ave. annual wage in Daviess County (2008): \$33,300 (177%)  
 Ave. annual wage in Benchmark Cities (1990): \$19,559  
 Ave. annual wage in Benchmark Cities (2008): \$36,752 (188%)

This wage percent increase is \$2,000 less than the benchmark cities. The impact of \$2,000 more in the annual average wage: \$94 million or \$900,000 more per year in city occupational taxes.

**“One of the perversities of this recession is that as the unemployment rate has risen, the job vacancy has risen, too. Manufacturing firms can't find skilled machinists...if we had a normal match between skills workers possess and the skills employers require, then the unemployment rate would be 6.5 percent, not 9.6 percent.”** (Narayana Kocherlakota, Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank)

**David Brooks**  
New York Times

## Average Wages (2008)

| O-DC     | Benchmark Cities* | KY       | U.S.     |
|----------|-------------------|----------|----------|
| \$33,321 | \$36,752          | \$37,163 | \$45,716 |

\* Peer regions identified for the EDC by U of L economist Paul Coomes in 1998.

- Median family income lowest level since 1997
- Corporate profits up 73.5 percent from Dec 2008 to Mar 2010

**“There will be jobs. The big question is what they are going to pay, and what kind of lives they will allow people to lead?”**

**Lawrence Katz**  
Harvard economist

## Average Annual Pay (2008)

|                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Hopkinsville, KY     | \$46,816        |
| U.S. Average         | \$45,716        |
| Kokomo, IN           | \$45,095        |
| Victoria, TX         | \$37,215        |
| Elmira, NY           | \$37,014        |
| Albany, GA           | \$36,814        |
| Pine Bluff, AR       | \$35,809        |
| Paducah, KY          | \$35,693        |
| Lewiston, ME         | \$35,629        |
| Dubuque, IA          | \$35,045        |
| Bowling Green, KY    | \$34,542        |
| Sumter, SC           | \$33,958        |
| <b>Owensboro, KY</b> | <b>\$33,321</b> |
| Jonesboro, AR        | \$32,616        |
| Danville, VA         | \$31,536        |

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## Comparisons of Primary Revenue Sources for Owensboro-Daviess County Governments

| Occupational Tax*<br>Example: \$50,000 in wages |              | Insurance Tax<br>Example: \$800 annual premium<br>(avg. home policy in Kentucky) |             | Property Tax*<br>Example: \$100,000 house |              |
|---|--------------|--|-------------|---|--------------|
| Covington                                       | \$1,250      | Newport  | \$104       | Henderson                                 | \$486        |
| Newport   | \$1,250      | Radcliff   | \$88        | Louisville                                | \$367        |
| Lexington                                       | \$1,125      | Ashland  | \$80        | Ashland                                   | \$347        |
| Hopkinsville                                    | \$1,000      | Covington  | \$80        | Covington                                 | \$299        |
| Paducah   | \$1,000      | Henderson  | \$80        | <b>Owensboro</b>                          | <b>\$259</b> |
| Radcliff  | \$1,000      | <b>Daviess Co.</b>   | <b>\$71</b> | Lexington                                 | \$254        |
| Richmond  | \$1,000      | <b>Owensboro</b>   | <b>\$64</b> | Paducah                                   | \$250        |
| Bowling Green                                   | \$925        | Richmond   | \$64        | Hopkinsville                              | \$236        |
| Frankfort                                       | \$875        | Hopkinsville   | \$60        | Newport                                   | \$225        |
| Ashland   | \$750        | Frankfort  | \$48        | Frankfort                                 | \$207        |
| Louisville                                      | \$725        | Paducah  | \$48        | Bowling Green                             | \$206        |
| <b>Owensboro</b>                                | <b>\$665</b> | Jeffersontown  | \$40        | Radcliff                                  | \$160        |
| Henderson                                       | \$500        | Lexington  | \$40        | Richmond                                  | \$148        |
| Jeffersontown                                   | \$500        | Louisville   | \$40        | Jeffersontown                             | \$148        |
| <b>Daviess Co.</b>                              | <b>\$175</b> | Bowling Green  | \$36        | <b>Daviess Co.</b>                        | <b>\$130</b> |

\* Businesses pay a comparable percentage of net profits

\* O-DC residents also pay property taxes on personal property (cars, boats, etc.)

### Economic Activity (last five years)

|            | Statewide     | Owensboro     | Owensboro Region Percent Share of State |
|------------|---------------|---------------|---|
| Projects   | 1,320         | 51            | 3.8%                                    |
| Jobs       | 57,210        | 2,859         | 4.9%                                    |
| Investment | \$9.7 billion | \$301 million | 3.1%                                    |

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### New Manufacturing Locations (Since 2000)

|                                 |          |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Statewide                       | 342      |
| Interstate corridor             | 170      |
| "Golden Triangle"               | 94       |
| <b>Greater Owensboro Region</b> | <b>9</b> |

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