

Weather Bureau/National Weather Service History in Kentucky

Location	Type	Years	Details
Bowling Green	WBAS	1944-1953	A Weather Bureau Airport Station was established at the Bowling Green Airport in December 1944, and became the official climatological station for the area. Operations were transferred to the Civil Aviation Administration in June 1953.
Covington	WBAS WBO WSO	1947-1994	The Weather Bureau established a WBAS at the new Cincinnati-Northern Kentucky Airport in January 1947. The Cincinnati city office of the Weather Bureau/National Weather Service remained in downtown Cincinnati until being relocated here in 1971. It remained at the airport until being moved to a new Weather Forecast Office in Wilmington, OH in February 1994.
<u>Jackson</u>	WSO WFO	1981-present	This office was established as the result of a flood event in the late 1970's, in order to improve radar and service to the area. A WSR-74S radar was commissioned 4/1/1981. The office was upgraded to a Weather Forecast Office during the modernization of the mid 1990's, and the radar replaced with a WSR-88D in 1996.
Lexington	SigSvc WBO WBAS AWSC WSO WSCMO	1872-1876, 1887-1933, 1944-1996	A Signal Service office in Lexington opened in 1872, but was closed in 1876. The station was re-established in October 1887, and taken over by the Weather Bureau in the early 1890's. The office closed again in July 1933. In July 1944, a new Weather Bureau Airport Station opened at Blue Grass Field. A separate Agricultural Service Office was established at the University of Kentucky in 1966; this was closed in late 1976. The office was closed in March 1996 as part of the NWS modernization, and was contracted out for a time later that year.
<u>Louisville</u>	SigSvc WBO WBAS WSFO WSCMO WFO	1871-present	The Signal Service established weather observations 9/11/1871 at the Customs House downtown. Observations continued in various locations downtown through 5/7/1930; the Weather Bureau assumed responsibility in July 1897. On 5/7/1930, the Weather Bureau opened an airport station at Bowman Field, and relocated it to Standiford Field 12/1/1947. After a couple moves over the years, a new facility was opened 2/23/1995.
<u>Paducah</u>	WSO WFO	1984-current	The National Weather Service established a new office in western Kentucky in 1984, at the Paducah Airport, to improve radar coverage for the region. The "temporary" office building, which remained in use until the end of 1994, was a double-wide trailer. The office replaced the one in Cairo, IL. A WSR-74C was installed at the Paducah Airport in 1984, and was replaced by the WSR-88D in late 1994. The staff was increased by early 1995 to handle additional forecast functions, as a result of the NWS modernization.
