



ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: ILLINOIS

***Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs, unemployment and earnings data through April 2015**
Last updated on May 27th; Data update next on June 19th*

JOBS

- In April, private-sector employment in Illinois grew by 5,500 jobs. Over the past year, Illinois businesses have added 64,100 jobs. This compares with an increase of 80,200 jobs over the 12 months through April 2014.
- Since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment, Illinois businesses have added 363,200 jobs (an increase of 7.7 percent). Nationally, private payrolls have increased by 11.5 percent over this time.
- The state sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: professional and business services at 18.5 percent (145,800 jobs), leisure and hospitality at 9.4 percent (48,100 jobs) and mining and logging at 9.0 percent (800 jobs).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Illinois was 6.0 percent in April 2015, holding constant from March. The rate was 0.6 percentage point above the national rate of 5.4 percent.
- Unemployment is down 1.4 percentage points from one year earlier and is 5.2 percentage points below its recent peak of 11.2 percent in January 2010.
- There were 390,700 Illinois residents unemployed in April 2015.

EARNINGS

- In April 2015, average hourly earnings of private-sector workers in Illinois were \$25.79. The average workweek was 34.1 hours, and average weekly earnings were \$879.44.
- Adjusting for inflation, state average hourly earnings have risen by 2.4 percent over the past year. Nationally, real average hourly earnings have increased by 2.3 percent (not seasonally adjusted).

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Illinois	United States
Private-Sector Jobs Added	Past 12 Months	64,100	2.9 million
	Since Feb. 2010	363,200	12.3 million
Unemployment Rate	April 2015	6.0%	5.4%
	April 2014	7.4%	6.2%
	Recession-Era Peak	11.2%	10.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$57,200	\$51,900
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	\$59,000	\$56,400
Poverty Rate	2013	13.3%	14.5%
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	10.0%	12.5%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2014	7.0%	5.3%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2014	8.3%	7.2%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	12.7%	14.5%

STATE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

- ❑ Real gross domestic product (GDP) in Illinois grew by 0.9 percent in 2013 (the most recent year for which data are available), below the national average growth rate of 1.8 percent.*
- ❑ Since 2009, annual Illinois GDP growth has averaged 1.3 percent, compared with a national average annual growth rate of 2.0 percent.

HOUSING

- ❑ Home prices in Illinois increased by 3.4 percent from the first quarter of 2014 to the first quarter of 2015. They are up 10.9 percent since their recent low in the fourth quarter of 2011.
- ❑ In March 2015, builders in Illinois broke ground on 15,400 new housing units (seasonally adjusted annual rate), bringing the average over the past 12 months to 19,830 units. That marks an increase of 20.8 percent from the average over the prior 12 months.

EXPORTS

- ❑ In Illinois, goods exports totaled \$5.6 billion in March and \$64.6 billion over the past year, up 0.9 percent from the 12 months ending in March 2014 (inflation-adjusted).
- ❑ Exports over the past 12 months are up 45.0 percent from their level in 2009 (inflation-adjusted).

* Note: Because of methodological differences, total U.S. real GDP by state differs slightly from headline national GDP figures

** A list of sources used to compile the Illinois economic snapshot is available at: <http://bit.ly/JEC-state-by-state-sources>

*** For additional Illinois-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Illinois office: <http://www.ides.illinois.gov/page.aspx?item=3528>