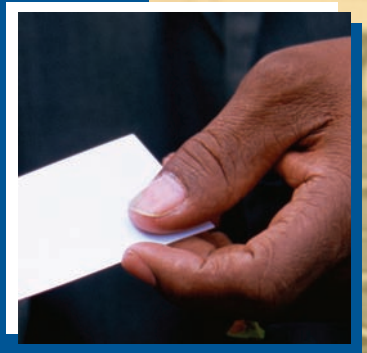

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The State of Working Illinois

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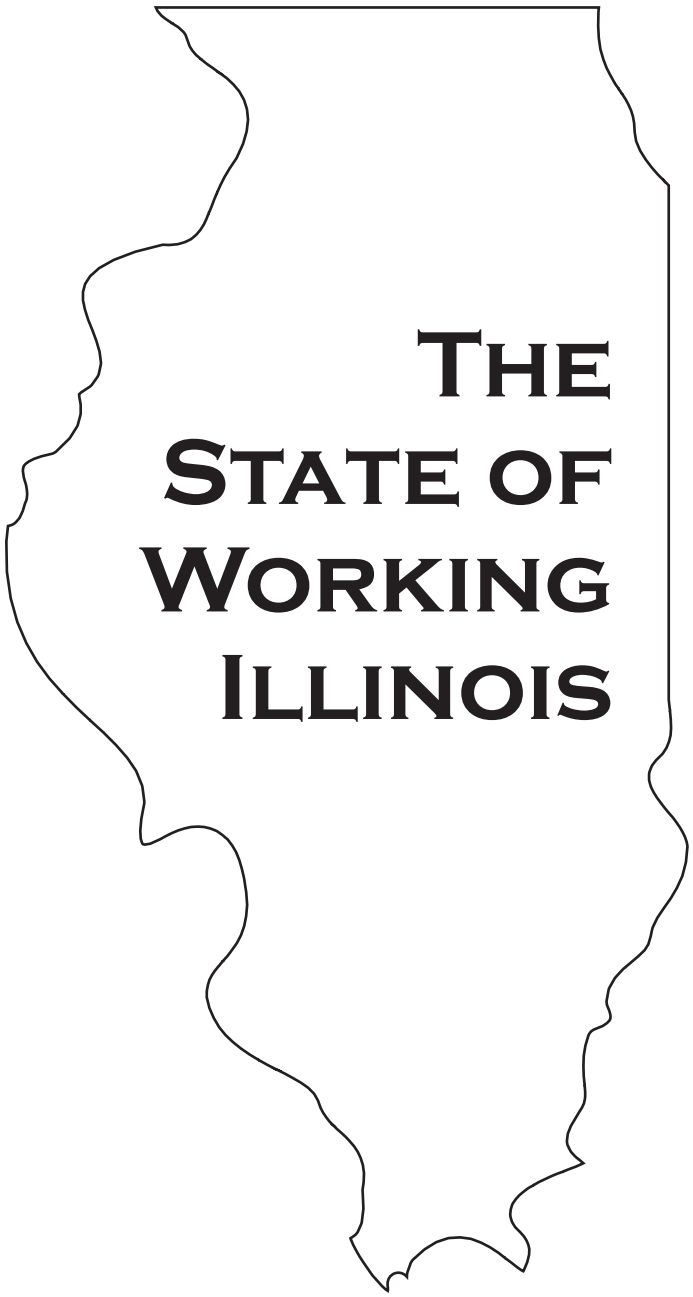

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Introduction

The Illinois economy is experiencing a major transformation. Before the last two decades, the state had consistently been one of the leaders in the nation in job growth and median income. During the last twenty years, however, as global competition bears increasingly on state and regional economics, the results have been more mixed. Job creation in Illinois now lags the nation, and while the state's median income remains greater than most states, it too is on the decline. On the positive side, the recent growth rate of the Illinois economy has rebounded. Although Illinois lagged the entire Midwest Region in economic growth from 1990-2004, from 2005-2006 Illinois fared better than the average Midwest Regional growth rate. Yet, even as Illinois' overall economy appears to be rebounding, most workers have seen their real, inflation adjusted wages decline from 2001 through 2007.

Before the last two decades, the state had consistently been one of the leaders in the nation in job growth and median income

A number of factors are working simultaneously to produce the complex patterns that are changing the Illinois economy. One primary factor has been the continued economic restructuring that has yielded many new jobs, but often replaces higher-paying jobs with lower-paying ones. Another factor is the significant portion of population growth fueled by the arrival of immigrants. Accelerating economic globalization creates an additional set of factors, the full impact of which are not yet clearly understood. These changing dynamics touch virtually every community across the state, regardless of whether it is a center-city urban neighborhood, a well-established wealthy suburban enclave, a fast-growing community on the edge of urban sprawl, or a small town struggling to cope with rural decline.

The complex interactions among these and other factors create challenges for Illinois workers, their dependents and policy makers that are increasingly different than the ones faced prior to the turn of the 21st century. This report does not attempt to explain the underlying causes of these changes. Nor does it suggest specific solutions to problems those changes have caused. Rather, the annual State of Working Illinois report provides reliable data to describe the major changes that have occurred in the state's labor markets and to chart the effects of these changes on different groups of workers and in different regions throughout the state. In this way, this report builds on our 2005 and 2006 studies.

This data will hopefully inform the public debate that must occur to develop policies that help workers, their families and communities navigate paths through the fast-changing Illinois labor market.

The first part of this report examines statewide trends related to economic growth, workforce growth, job creation, wage and salary income, and work-related benefits. The second part provides comparative data describing how these trends are impacting every county in Illinois and provides regional comparisons of these trends by combining counties into the 10 economic development regions used by policy makers at the Illinois Department of Community and Economic Opportunity.

This report is produced collaboratively by two applied research groups within Northern Illinois University (the Center for Governmental Studies and the Office for Social Policy Research) and the independent, bipartisan, non-profit Center for Tax

and Budget Accountability. Financial support for this ongoing project is provided by The Joyce Foundation and the Woods Fund of Chicago. The study's major findings are listed below.

Illinois Labor Force: Growth and Change

The Illinois Economy

- Expressed in dollars adjusted for inflation, the total value of all goods and services produced in Illinois (the state's gross domestic product, or GDP) was approximately $507 billion[1] in 2006, which ranked Illinois fifth in the nation.
- Despite having the fifth largest GDP of any state, the 2005-06 GDP growth rate for Illinois ranked only 26th in the nation, although it was nearly double the rate for the Midwest as a whole.
- Taking a longer view, from 2000 through 2006, Illinois' economic growth rate of 9.2% ranked third out of the five Midwestern states (behind Indiana and Wisconsin, ahead of Michigan and Ohio), but fell significantly below the national growth rate of 15.8% over this period.

Changes in the Illinois Labor Force

- The Illinois civilian labor force grew over the last 17 years, reaching over 6.7 million individuals eligible for work by June 2007. This meant that the state added 121,164 workers since 2006, and 807,875 since 1990.
- The number of employed workers reached an all-time high of 6.4 million in June 2007, pushing the state's unemployment rate down to 5.1%, better than the unemployment rate in the Midwest (5.7%) but worse than the national rate (4.5%).

Changing Employment Patterns

- Between 1990 and 2007, Illinois lost 239,000 manufacturing jobs. This loss of 26.0% of its in-state manufacturing jobs over 17 years was worse than both the Midwest as a whole (20.8%) or the nation generally (20.9%).
- In 1990, Manufacturing in Illinois employed more workers than any other sector, 20.4% of the total. By 2007, only 13.2% of the state's workers were employed in Manufacturing, and that sector ranked behind Professional and Business Services (17%) and Education and Health Services (15.1%), and was only marginally ahead of Retail Trade (12.2%).

Loss of Good Paying Jobs

- Although the pace of job loss in Manufacturing slowed after 2003, and even showed a slight uptick in late 2006, otherwise lower-wage job creation has continued to dominate the Illinois labor market. In the last six years, Illinois lost 142,200 jobs in Manufacturing, or 17.3% of its 2001 base. Over the same period, Illinois added 1,580,600 lower-wage service jobs, a 9.6% growth rate.

1 This figure was measured in chained dollars which are annual measures of real gross domestic product that have been adjusted with the use of an index that attempts to account for relative price changes and changes in output over time. These annual measures are considered to provide more accurate estimates of year-to-year changes in gross domestic product than measures published before 1996.

- By mid-2007, lower-wage service sectors accounted for 30.7% of all, non-agricultural, private-sector employment, significantly more than the 20.4% of total employment that Manufacturing had accounted for in 1990.
- With the exception of Construction, the sectors with the largest gains in employment between 1990 and 2007 paid average weekly wages lower than those associated with the Manufacturing jobs that the state lost.
- In other words, good-paying jobs are increasingly being replaced by lower-paying ones, with obviously negative consequences for the state's economy and its working families.

Declining Real Wages

- When wages are adjusted for inflation, most Illinois workers have actually experienced declining average weekly earnings since 2001.
- Measured in "real dollars," i.e., dollars adjusted for the effect of inflation, only four sectors registered gains in earnings since 2001 – Construction, Education and Health Services, Financial Activities, and Transportation and Utilities. The other seven sectors experienced declines in real average weekly earnings. The size of these declines ranged from a high of $118 (or -13.6%) in Information Services, to a low of $9 (or -3.5%) in Leisure and Hospitality.
- As inflation-adjusted earnings of most Illinois workers have been declining, the cost of items that collectively constitute most of their family budgets have been increasing. Significant increases in the cost of essentials like food (+23.5%), housing (+38.3%), health care (+44.7%), gas (+83.3%), and utilities (+43.0%) make it easy to appreciate how declining real wages have negatively impacted the standard of living for most working families.
- While median household income in Illinois is higher than the rest of the Midwest and the nation as a whole, it is on the decline. Measured in 2006 dollars, Illinois median household income peaked during 1999-2000. Since then it dropped almost 11 percent by 2002-2003, and has since rebounded by only 1.3 percent, leaving it about 10 percent below the earlier peak. .

Growing Income Inequality

- Nationally, the post-1980 economic trends worked to worsen income inequality in the country. The share of income held by the vast majority of American households, literally eight out of every ten, declined over the last quarter century. Only those fortunate enough to be in the wealthiest 20% of all households actually realized an increase in overall income during this period.
- Currently, income inequality in Illinois is just as severe as it is nationally. In Illinois, as in the nation, the highest-earning quintile accounts for over 50% of total household income, while the bottom three quintiles (i.e., 60% of the households) together account for only 26.6% of total household income, which is barely larger than the income share earned by the state's top 5% of households (22.7%).

The Illinois Labor Force: Composition and Characteristics

- The Illinois labor force has become much more diverse in the last 25 years.
  - The share of women in the labor force has grown sharply since 1980, although the growth peaked in 2000-02 and has fallen off slightly since then.
- There has also been a substantial increase in the ethnic and racial diversity of the state's labor force, with minorities growing from about 18% in 1980 to over 29% in 2006. The greatest part of this growth has been contributed by Hispanics, whose share nearly tripled to 11.2% in 2006.
- The state's labor force has also become better educated. In 2006, 33.8% had a college degree, while only 10.9% lacked a high school diploma.,

Ethnic/Racial Differences in Skills and Experiences

- On average, Hispanics are the state's youngest and least-educated workers. Over one third (38.6%) of Hispanics in the workforce have not even completed high school, while another 31.4% have only a high school diploma. At the other extreme, only 11.4% of Hispanics have a college degree or better.
- African-Americans had a 10% unemployment rate in 2006, nearly triple that of Whites and almost double the Hispanic rate. Since at least 1980, unemployment among African-Americans has been higher than the state's overall rate, which suggests that race plays a role in labor market outcomes.
- A pattern of high unemployment rates among the youngest cohorts characterizes all of the state's major ethnic and racial categories. Moreover, among those unemployed in the 16-to-25 cohort, half the Whites, over three-quarters of the African-Americans, and virtually all Hispanics are both unemployed and out of school. This leaves them especially vulnerable to long-term detachment from employment and to the resulting social problems.

Education a Key Factor in Employment

- In the globalized labor market of the twenty-first century, education is strongly associated with upward mobility and higher earnings. Nationally, regionally, and in Illinois, steeply higher unemployment rates are associated with lower levels of education.
- On the other hand, among all major demographic groups, higher levels of education are associated with sharply lower unemployment rates. The unemployment rate for Whites fell from 9.5% for those with less than a high school diploma to 3.5% for those with a college degree or better. Similar declines occur among African-Americans – from 22.7% to 4.5% -- and Hispanics – from 8.3% to 1.5%.

Variations in Sectoral Employment, Ethnicity and Race

- Disproportionate concentrations of women and/or minorities in some sectors, combined with comparatively low employment rates in others, indicate that diversity, while increasing in the workforce generally, has not been spread evenly across industries.
- While women predominate in some sectors, like Education and Health Services, they comprise only a minuscule proportion of the workers in Construction, and are significantly underrepresented in other higher-paying sectors, like Manufacturing and Transportation and Utilities.

- Patterns of disproportionate employment – although with more access to higher-paying sectors – also appear in Illinois when analyzing workers across major ethnic and racial groups. For example, Hispanics now comprise 22.0% of the Manufacturing workforce and 16.4% of the total number of workers in Construction, a sector in which African-Americans have had particular difficulty in gaining employment over time, and in which they currently account for only 5.4% of the workers.

- Compared to women as a group, somewhat higher proportions of African-Americans and Hispanics have found employment in higher-paying sectors like Construction and manufacturing. Nevertheless, over one quarter of the state's Hispanics (28.0%) and 38.5% of its African-Americans are employed in lower-paying service jobs.

Changes in Earnings and Job Security

Poverty and Household Income

- By 2006, only 10.6% of Illinois households fell below the poverty line, just slightly above the low-point of 10.1% reached five years earlier. The proportion of Illinois children below the poverty line has been dropping annually since 2004, and in 2006 it reached 14.9%, even below the 2001 level.

- Adjusted for inflation, the state's median household income in 2005-06 was $49,328, a decline of about 10% from the 1999-2000 high point of $54,900, but better than the recent low reached in 2002-03, during the height of the recession. Even so, median household income in Illinois in 2005-06 is still higher than in any other Midwestern state.

Changes in Real Wages and Persisting Wage Gaps

- Median hourly wages for women have increased, reaching a high of $13.85 in 2006. This represented a 19.0% gain since 1980 and has helped to reduce the male-female wage gap.

- While the male-female wage gap declined between 1980 and 2006, those between Whites, on the one hand, and African-Americans and Hispanics, on the other, have worsened. Measured in dollars adjusted for inflation, the gap between the median hourly wages of Whites and African-Americans increased by $.92 per hour (or 62.1%) since 1980. The White-Hispanic gap during the same period grew by $.54 per hour (or 14.5%).

Education Boosts Wages and Incomes

- Median wages over time have consistently varied directly with education levels, and the relationship is growing more pronounced. In 1980 the median hourly wage for those with a college degree was $7.01 more than that for workers who had not completed high school. By 2006 the gap between these two categories of wage earners had grown to $13.67, a 95.0% increase over 1980.

Minorities Behind in Education and Income

- Since African-Americans and Hispanics in Illinois generally have lower levels of education than Whites, it is not surprising that their incomes lag. Among African-Americans, 56.2% earned less than $50,000, as did 55.5% of Hispanics, but only 34.5% of Whites and 25.8% of Asians earn less than $50,000.

- While African-American and Hispanic household incomes lag behind their White and Asian counterparts, increased education works powerfully to boost the incomes of these groups. Moreover, within each of these groups, households incomes for those with college degrees is substantially higher than for those without that post-secondary credential.

- Education does not erase all disparities between Whites and minorities. Only 27.7% of the African-Americans with college degrees earn over $100,000 per year, only slightly better than half the 51.4% rate for Whites. Among Hispanics who are college educated, 38.2% achieve the $100,000 annual income level, only about three-quarters of the corresponding rate for Whites.

Union Membership Increases Wages

- In addition to education, one other factor works to boost the earnings of Illinois workers – membership in labor unions. Overall, the average weekly earnings of union members in the state are $110 per week, or 14.2%, higher than non-union members.

- The earnings premium that derives from union membership also works to boost the wages of women and some minority groups. For women, union membership yields a wage premium of about 21.5% compared to women who are not union members. African-Americans who are union members have average weekly wages that are 11.6% higher than their non-union counterparts, and the boost for Hispanic workers is 40.1%. White workers derive about a 16.3% premium in average weekly wages from union membership.

Growing Economic Insecurity: Health Insurance and Pensions

- The proportion of workers who benefit from work-based health insurance programs continues to fall. By 2004-2005, over 40 percent of Illinois workers lacked access to an employer-provided health insurance program. The proportion of Illinois residents lacking any kind of health insurance has increased from 10.9% in 1990 to 14.0% in 2006.

- The drop in private sector health insurance has left Hispanic workers and their families especially vulnerable, since only 42.3% of them have employer-provided coverage.

- Similar drops have occurred in employer-provided pensions. By the 2004-2006 period, only 48.6 percent of workers in Illinois benefited from any employer-provided pension plan, down from 55.6 percent in 1980.

Summary of Regional Trends

- In 2005, 91.6% of the state's GDP was produced within the boundaries of its nine metropolitan areas. These same metropolitan areas comprise 92.1% of the state's population.

- In 2005, the total GDP of the state's non-metropolitan rural counties totaled $46.7 billion, or 8.4% of the state's total GDP. These counties comprised 7.9% of the state's population.

- The portions of the Chicago metropolitan region that lie within the state of Illinois (about 91% of the metro region) comprised an estimated 75.6% of the state's total GDP in 2005.

- The remainder of Illinois' eight metropolitan areas combined (counting only the portions that are within Illinois) produce a GDP of about $90.0 billion. The largest among them is the group of Illinois

counties that make up the eastern portion of the St. Louis metropolitan area, with a combined GDP of $28.7 billion. The Peoria region, with $14.4 billion, and the Rockford region, with $10.9 billion, are the next two largest.

The State of Working Illinois 2007 provides a detailed summary of the job, wage, benefit, and industry trends in the state over the last 17 years. As Illinois responds to global competition and changing demographics, the picture of the state's economy is predictably mixed. On the one hand, Illinois has experienced considerable growth in both its economy and in the net number of jobs created by that economy. But these positive developments do not, by themselves, capture completely the complex set of economic and workforce trends that have been operating in the state. To depict these trends, this report draws on a wide range of employment and workforce data to better understand the opportunities, problems, and challenges faced by the state's workers and their families.[1]

Viewed over a longer time span, the picture of Illinois' economic growth is mixed

The Illinois Economy

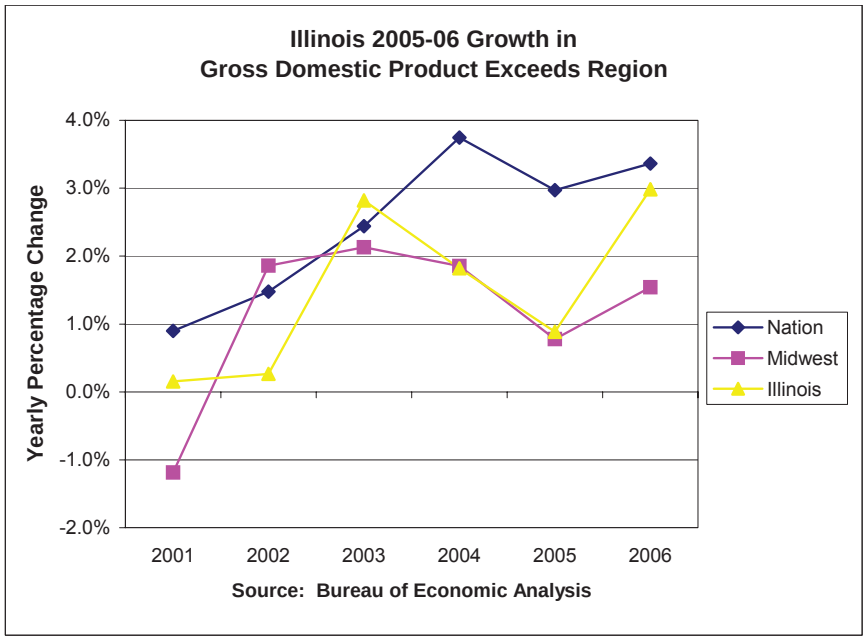
In 2006 Illinois ranked fifth nationally with a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of $507 billion, over $100 billion greater than the second-biggest state economy in the Midwest.[2] In fact, the Illinois GDP represented 30.6% of the total GDP of the five Midwestern states.[3] The 2005-06 GDP growth rate for Illinois of 3.0% was nearly double the regional rate (1.6%), although it lagged behind the national rate (3.4%) and ranked only 26th in the country.

Viewed over a slightly longer time span, the picture of Illinois economic growth is more mixed. From 2000 to 2006, the state's 9.2% real GDP growth rate did exceed the region's 7.1%, but both Indiana (10.6%) and Wisconsin (11.9%) experienced higher rates of growth than Illinois, and the nation's real growth rate of 15.8% far outpaced Illinois. And over the longer 1990 to 2006 period, while real GDP in Illinois increased by more than $170 billion, a 50.7% rate of growth, even this robust increase lagged somewhat behind the national rate of 58.7%.

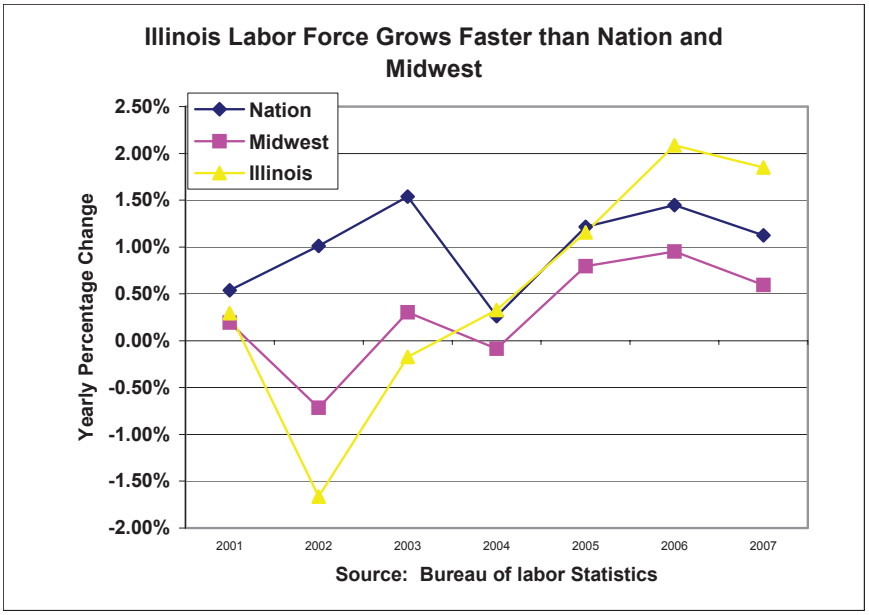
1 For the earlier reports in this series, see *The State of Working Illinois 2005* and *The State of Working Illinois 2006*. Both of these reports and the complete data series are available at www.stateofworkingillinois.niu.edu.

2 Real Gross Domestic Product expressed in millions of chained (2000) dollars. Ohio ranked second in the Midwest with a GDP of $397.2 billion. The Bureau of Economic analysis formerly designated this as Gross State Product (GSP), but altered its nomenclature in late 2006. A recent report issued by the Commission on Government Forecasting and Analysis reported the Illinois GDP for 2006 at $589 billion, but this figure is for a single year and is expressed in 2006 dollars.

3 The Midwest used throughout this report consists of the five states that the Census Bureau designates as the East North Central Division: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin.



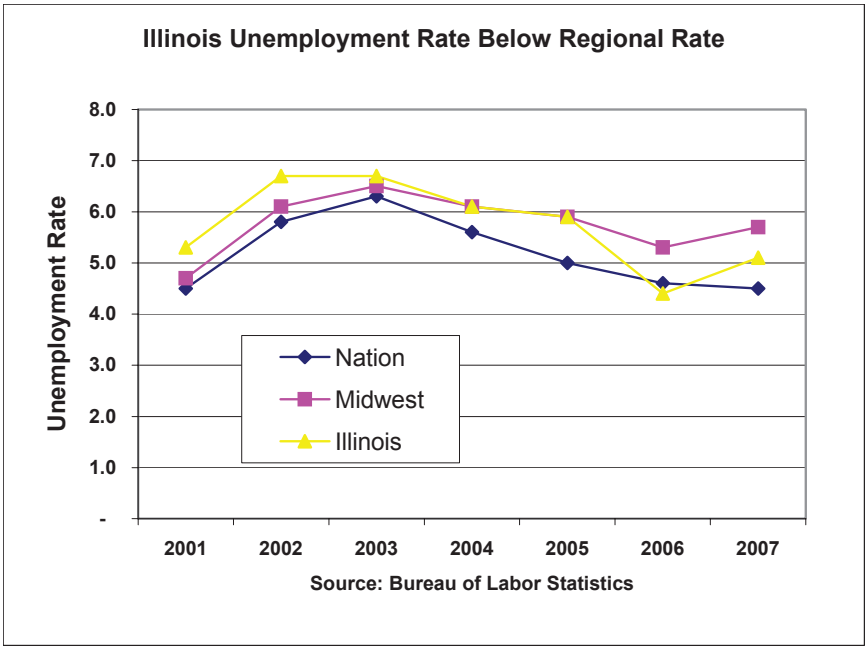
Change in the Illinois Labor Force



The Illinois civilian labor force also grew over the last 17 years, reaching over 6.7 million by June 2007.[4] This meant that the state added 121,164 workers since 2006, and 807,875 since 1990, for an average annual increase of about 40,372 workers per year.[5] The 1990-2007 growth rate of 13.6% in the state's labor force exceeded the 12.2% rate in the state's population, although it lagged behind the country's total population growth of 20.3%. But since 2005, the year-to-year rate of labor force growth in Illinois has been higher than that in the region or the nation.

4 Here and throughout, unless otherwise indicated, all year-to-year comparisons use seasonally adjusted data for the mid-year month of June.

5 Since arithmetic averages can easily be distorted by extreme values, this estimate of the annual average derives from fitting the linear trend ($Y' = a + bX$) to the 1990-2007 time series. The slope of the regression line (b in the formula) represents the numerical increase per year (X in the formula). The extent to which a straight line fits the data can be assessed by how scattered the data points are: the better the fit, the higher the value of the measurement metric, r^2 -- which has a maximum value of +1.0. In this instance, the trend is strongly linear, with $r^2 = .891$.



Of course, a growing labor force needs jobs. Fortunately, as the Illinois civilian labor force grew since 1990, the total number of jobs in both the non-farm sector as a whole and the private sector in particular also grew at similar paces – 13.3% and 13.7%, respectively. As a result, the total number of employed workers in the state also increased, reaching a high of just under 6.4 million in June 2007. Since 1990, Illinois has added an annual average of 43,201 workers to the ranks of the employed.[6]

The state's unemployment level has moved less regularly over time. It hit a peak of 492,048 in 1992, and then dropped through the mid-1990s to a low of 282,059 in 1998. Thereafter, it turned upward, reaching a post-1990s high of 428,196 in 2003. The number of unemployed fell after that, and by June 2007 stood at 344,852.[7] While not quite matching the state's lowest unemployment level realized in 1998, the current unemployment level is 147,196 (or 29.9%) below the 1992 high point for state unemployment. The state's unemployment rate has generally followed a corresponding trajectory. From 2001 through 2003, inclusive, Illinois' unemployment rate was worse than the national and regional rates, reached parity with the Midwestern unemployment rate in 2004 and 2005, and then fell below the regional unemployment rate in 2006 and 2007. By June 2007 the Illinois unemployment rate stood at 5.1%, which is better than the regional unemployment rate (5.7%) but slightly worse than the national unemployment rate (4.5%).

However, any analysis of labor force participation must also account for what are referred to as "discouraged workers," i.e., those unemployed persons who either have given up looking for jobs or are no longer able to work. The labor force participation rate – the percentage of the total number of individuals eligible for work that are either working or actively looking for work – offers some insight into the number discouraged workers and those unable to work[8].

Table 1 shows that the overall labor force participation rate for Illinois is marginally higher than the corresponding national and regional rates. Participation rates for Illinois females and those aged 16-to-24 are lower than their regional counterparts, but otherwise the patterns for the categories do not vary much across these geographies. Participation rates are weakest for the youngest and least educated cohorts. Indeed, viewed over time, the declining participation rate of individuals aged 16-to-24 in Illinois appears especially troubling. After holding relatively steady between 67% and 68% through 2000, this youthful

6 This estimate derives from fitting the linear trend to the 1990-2007 time series, and the resulting $r^2 = .776$.

7 As this description indicates, the fit between the unemployment series and linearity is quite weak, with $r^2 = .054$.

8 As the definition of the labor force participation rate implies, being counted in the labor force does not necessarily mean having a job. Four separate components comprise the labor force: persons who are working; persons who have a job but are not at work; persons unemployed but looking for work; persons unemployed on layoff from a job.

cohort's participation rate dropped 9 percentage points by 2006.[9] This suggests an increasing risk of long-term labor market detachment and resulting connections to a larger set of social problems.

TABLE 1

Labor Force Participation by Demographic Characteristics 2006			
	Nation	**Midwest**	**Illinois**
ALL	66.2%	67.3%	67.4%
GENDER			
Male	73.5%	73.9%	75.4%
Female	59.4%	61.0%	59.8%
AGE			
16-24 yrs	60.6%	63.4%	58.8%
25-54 yrs	82.9%	84.0%	84.1%
55 yrs and older	38.0%	37.5%	38.2%
RACE / ETHNICITY			
White	66.1%	67.5%	67.6%
African-American	64.0%	63.1%	62.0%
Hispanic	68.7%	71.9%	72.3%
Asian/Pacific islander	66.1%	69.7%	68.8%
EDUCATION			
Less than high school	44.7%	42.6%	44.8%
High school	64.5%	65.0%	63.6%
Some college	71.7%	73.6%	71.7%
Bachelor's or higher	78.1%	80.0%	80.0%
Source: EPI Analysis of CPS Data			

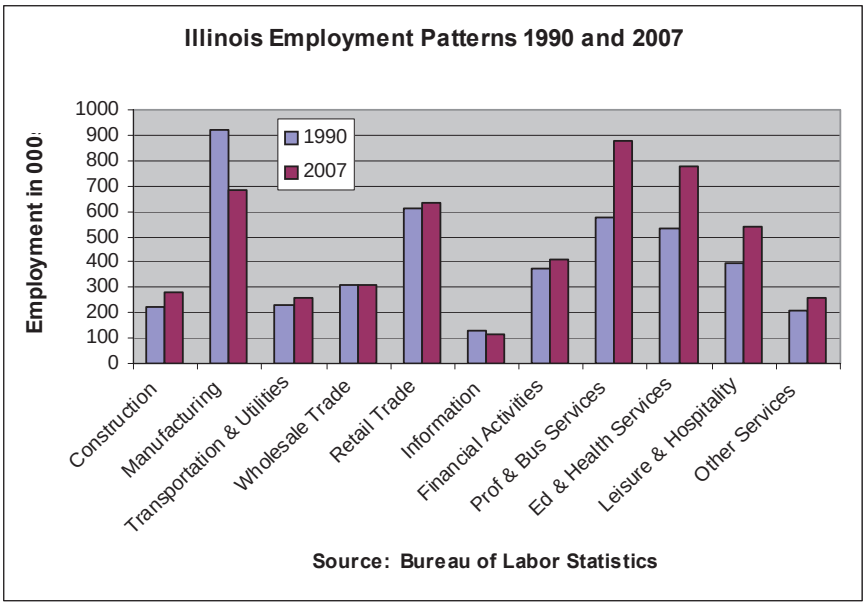
Changing Employment Patterns

More workers, more jobs, a larger GDP, and a smaller pool of unemployed persons – these are the positive dimensions of the longer-term and recent trends in the Illinois economy. But other changes over time in the state's economy and in the employment patterns of its labor force have been less beneficial to the state's workers and their families.

Between 1990 and 2007, the nation lost slightly more than 3.7 million jobs in Manufacturing. The Midwest lost 825,200 of those jobs. Illinois accounted for 28.9% of the Midwest region's loss, or 239,000 jobs over this period. As a percentage of total manufacturing jobs in the state, however, Illinois lost 26.0% of its manufacturing jobs over the past 17 years, worse than both the Midwest as a whole (20.8%) or the nation generally (20.9%).[10] Illinois' losses in Manufacturing employment combined with rapid job creation in other industries – especially in service activities – both altered the way the state's workforce

9 The larger portion of the decline was apparent by 2004; see the data from 1990 through 2004 in The State of Working Illinois 2005, Table 1, p. 12.

10 Both Michigan and Ohio experienced higher rates of decline in Manufacturing: Michigan's was 26.1% (a loss of 221,500 jobs) and Ohio's was 26.8% (a loss of 286,700 jobs).



was distributed across major industrial sectors and had consequences for the wages paid to and the benefits received by the state's workers.

The data in Table 2 show the scope of the change that occurred. In 1990 Manufacturing employed more workers than any other industry sector in Illinois, but by 2007 it ranked only third in total employment. Professional and Business Services and Education and Health Services, which had ranked 3rd and 4th in 1990, grew rapidly during the intervening years (53.3% and 45.4%, respectively) and moved into 1st and 2nd place, respectively, by 2007. Retail Trade grew only marginally (3.5%) during the period and dropped to 4th in total state employment by 2007, while the Leisure and Hospitality (36.9% growth) and Financial Activities (9.9% growth) sectors retained their earlier 5th and 6th place rankings, respectively.

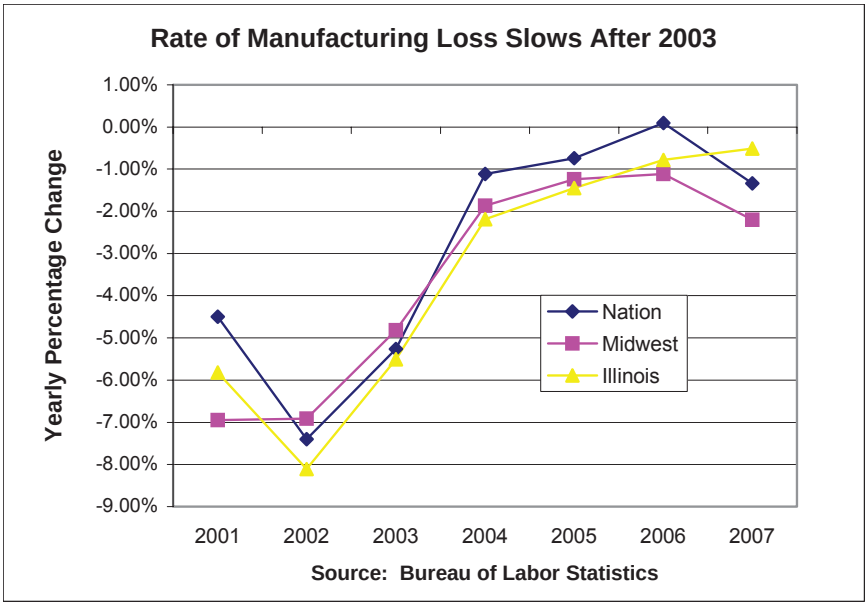
TABLE 2

Illinois Employment Change by Industry Sector 1990-2007

	Employment (in 000s)		% of Total Employment	
	1990	**2007**	**1990**	**2007**
Construction	223.7	279.8	5.0%	5.4%
Manufacturing	919	680	20.4%	13.2%
Transportation and Utilities	232.2	261.5	5.2%	5.1%
Wholesale Trade	310.8	312.2	6.9%	6.1%
Retail Trade	608.5	629.6	13.5%	12.2%
Information	131.8	116	2.9%	2.3%
Financial Activities	373.6	410.7	8.3%	8.0%
Prof and Bus Services	572.3	877.2	12.7%	17.0%
Ed and Health Services	535.1	778	11.9%	15.1%
Leisure and Hospitality	394.9	540.5	8.8%	10.5%
Other Services	206.1	260	4.6%	5.1%
TOTAL	**4,508**	**5,145.5**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

The greatest change in the Illinois workforce and economy clearly is the declining significance of Manufacturing. In 1990, slightly more than one of every five workers in the state–20.4% of the total–were employed in Manufacturing. By 2007 only 13.2% of the state's workers were employed in Manufacturing. As a result, Manufacturing employed a smaller proportion of the state's workforce than Professional



and Business Services (17%) and Education and Health Services (15.1%), and was only marginally ahead of Retail Trade (12.2%).

Other states in the Midwest and the nation as a whole also experienced losses of manufacturing jobs. Moreover, the pattern of employment change in Manufacturing over the past 17 years in Illinois showed both upward and downward movement.[11] After sagging in the early years of the 1990s, Manufacturing employment rebounded, and by 1998 it was only 10,600 below its 1990 level. But with the economic downturn in the early years of the new century, Manufacturing employment resumed its downward slide. However, the year-to-year rate of job loss in Manufacturing has slowed in very recent years. Apparently propelled by a vibrant export market, durable goods manufacturing experienced a net increase of approximately 3,500 jobs during the second-half of 2006, offsetting continued declines in non-durable manufacturing and boosting overall employment in the entire sector by about 1,600.[12]

Employment growth in other sectors after 1990 offset the job losses in Manufacturing. The three that grew at the fastest pace – Professional and Business Services (53.3%), Education and Health Services (45.4%), and Leisure and Hospitality (36.9%) – were also three of the state's largest employers by 2007. Retail Trade, which grew at a meager 3.5%, was also among the state's top-five employers.[13] Table 3 provides detail on the job growth for these largest employers.

TABLE 3

Job Growth in Largest Illinois Sectors 1990-2007

		Leading Component of Sector Growth		
	Total Job Growth (in 000s)	**Identification**	**Job Growth (in 000s)**	**% of Total Growth**
Prof and Business Services	304.9	Admin and Support Services	181.1	59.4%
Ed and Health Services	242.9	Health Care and Social Assistance	203.6	83.8%

The table reveals no great surprises. Varied types of Administrative Support activities made the largest numerical and proportionate contribution to the growth rate of Professional and Business Services. Within the Administrative Support component, the largest contributors to growth were Employment Services

11 The 1990-2007 linear regression indicates a average annual rate of job loss of –14,264, but with $r^2 = .715$.

12 Data for these subparts of the Manufacturing sector are from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

13 Despite its employment losses, Manufacturing was still the third-largest employer in 2007.

(+122,500 jobs) and Services to Buildings and Dwellings (+39,800 jobs). The only categories within the Professional and Business Services sector that realized net job losses over this period were: Waste Management and Remediation Services (-3,600 jobs), Travel Arrangement and Reservation Services (-3,100 jobs), and Other Support Services (-2.100 jobs).

The boost in employment in Education and Health Services was driven principally by growth in Health Care and Social Assistance activities, which accounted for 83.8% of all jobs created in this sector. Within that component, employment in Ambulatory Health Care Services (+84,600 jobs) and in various medical offices (+59,100 jobs) made the largest numerical contributions.[14] No component of the Health Care and Social Assistance sector registered a decline in employment between 1990 and 2007.

The major driver of employment growth in the Leisure and Hospitality sector was Accommodation and Food Services. Employment growth in Food Service (+106,000 jobs) accounted for most of that increase, with Full-Service Restaurants (+56,200 jobs) and Limited-Service Eating Places (+49,600 jobs) contributing roughly equivalent shares to overall growth in Food Service employment. With the exception of Special Food Service (-300 jobs) no component of the Leisure and Hospitality sector experienced a loss of employment, although the increase in Drinking Places (alcoholic beverages) was only 500 employees.

Retail employment is typically presented as one of the lower-paying activities that have replaced better-paying jobs in Manufacturing. In fact, employment levels in Retail Trade were quite volatile over the years from 1990 through 2007, and the overall employment increase over those years was merely 21,100.[15] General Merchandise Stores accounted for most of this modest employment growth. Increased employment in Electronics and Appliance Stores (+7,200 jobs) and in Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers (+9,500 jobs) suggests the increased presence and popularity of the so-called "big-box" outlets. Food and Beverage Stores (-14,200 jobs), Gasoline Stations (-3,700 jobs), and Clothing and Clothing Accessories (-3,400 jobs) registered declines in employment.

Finally, while not one of the largest or fastest-growing sectors, the average weekly wages associated with the Financial Activities sector topped those in Manufacturing (although by only about $14). Between 1990 and 2007, employment in this sector increased at a rate of 9.9%, peaking at 410,700 in 2007. While Insurance Carriers and Related Activities lost employment during the period, all of the other components of the sector gained. Credit Intermediation and Related Activities and Real Estate and Rental and Leasing were among the largest gainers, adding 18,500 and 12,000 in employment, respectively. However, recent banking acquisitions, the collapse of the sub-prime mortgage market specifically and the housing bubble generally and the attendant ripple effect, may threaten employment levels in this good-paying sector.[16]

Loss of Good-Paying Jobs

Since overall employment is increasing and even outstripping growth in the size of the labor force, why should we care about shifts in employment patterns? What difference does it make to workers, their families, and to the state? The answer is simple – changes in Illinois employment patterns have had significant

14 This is the sum of growth in three separately reported categories: Offices of Physicians, Office of Dentists, and Offices of Other Health Care Practitioners.

15 The 1990-2007 linear regression has an $r^2 = .384$, which indicates the up-and-down movement of employment over the period. Employment in Retail Trade peaked in 2000 at 649,800, which is 20,200 above the 2007 level.

16 The acquisition of LaSalle Bank Corp. by the Bank of America threatens as many as 10,500 jobs, and the credit, housing, and employment markets are just beginning to feel effects of the sub-prime collapse; see *Chicago Tribune*, 4 and 23 August 2007, reports in Business Section.

economic implications for the state, its economy, and its working families. For the most part, these changes have involved replacing good-paying jobs with ones that provide lower wages and fewer benefits.

Of course, not all jobs in the service sector, or in other sectors that are growing rapidly, pay lower wages than Manufacturing. In June 2007, average weekly earnings for Illinois' Manufacturing sector jobs were $682, or $573 less than weekly earnings in Construction, the state's highest-paying sector.[17] Moreover, the average weekly earnings in Information Services and in Financial Activities also topped those in Manufacturing, by $65 and $14, respectively. On the other hand, the average weekly earnings in four of the sectors of the Illinois economy that showed the largest absolute job growth between 1990 and 2007 ran behind the earnings in Manufacturing: Professional and Business Services lagged by $23; Education and Health Services by $124; Leisure and Hospitality by $429; and Other Services by $194.[18]

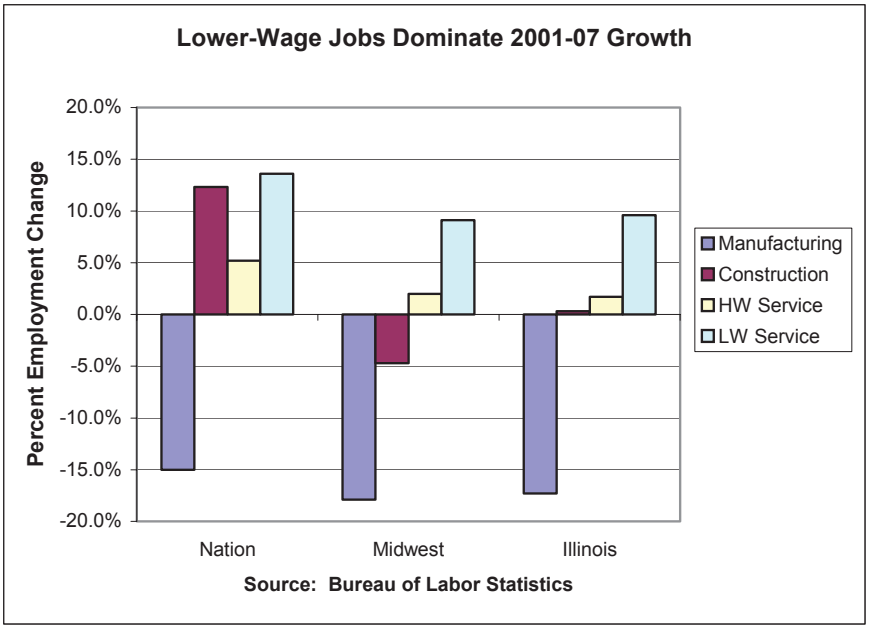
With the exception of Construction, the sectors with the largest gains in employment between 1990 and 2007 generated average earnings lower than those associated with the Manufacturing jobs that the state lost. Good-paying jobs, in other words, were increasingly being replaced by lower-paying ones, with obviously negative consequences for the state's economy and its working families.

Recent patterns are not significantly more encouraging. Although the pace of job loss in Manufacturing slowed after 2003 and even showed a slight uptick in late 2006, but otherwise lower-wage job creation has continued to dominate the Illinois labor market, as well as in those of the Midwest and the nation.

In the last six years alone, Illinois lost 142,200 jobs in Manufacturing, or 17.3% of its 2001 base. This proportionate loss was greater than the national rate (-15.0%) and only slightly below the Midwest's rate (-17.9%). Over the same period, the state added 1,580,600 lower-wage service jobs, a 9.6% growth rate that exceeded the region's growth rate for lower-wage service jobs (9.1%) but fell below the national

17 All BLS weekly wages are for June 2007 and have been rounded to the nearest dollar. For most sectors, the June wage figures are modestly higher than for the other months of 2007, but we have used them since the employment data are from that month. However, even using the January through June mean of the average wages for each sector would not alter the patterns reported here, although the specific numbers would differ slightly.

18 Other Services is a category reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. It includes Repair and Maintenance, Personal and Laundry Services, and Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations. Employment in Other Services increased by 53,900 between 1990 and 2007, for a growth rate of 26.2%., the state's fourth-fastest rate.



rate (13.6%).[19] Meanwhile, Illinois is failing behind both the Midwest and the nation in adding higher-wage service jobs. Since 2001 higher-wage service jobs in Illinois increased by 1,405,500, a 1.7% growth rate. This lagged both the Midwest's growth rate for higher-wage service jobs (2.0%) and the nation's (5.1%).

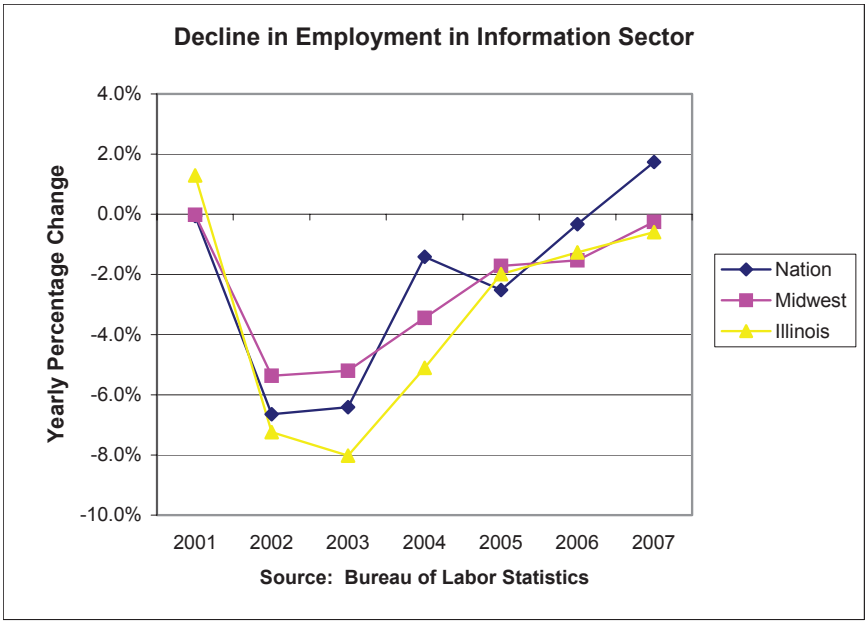
As a result, by mid-2007 the number of persons employed in lower-wage service jobs in Illinois was 12.4% higher than the number working in higher-wage service jobs. Of course, the state has likely always had more persons employed in lower-wage service industries than in higher-paying ones, but the current margin is considerably greater than the 5.4% in 1990 and 4.4% in 2001. Viewed another way, by mid-2007 lower-wage service activities comprised 30.7% of non-agricultural, private-sector employment in the state, much more than the 20.4% share that Manufacturing had accounted for in 1990.

But what of employment in Construction? Measured by average weekly earnings, it is the highest-paying sector in Illinois and experienced net growth between 1990 and 2007. Employment in Construction, however, is highly volatile, because it is so sensitive to changes in the larger economy. The large post-1997 employment gains in Construction were mainly concentrated between 1997 and 2001; after that employment dropped sharply, and recent gains have only brought the total back to its 2001 level. Measured as a share of the workforce, employment in Construction has not increased

19 Lower-wage service jobs are those in Education and Health Services, Leisure and Hospitality, and Other Services. Higher-wage service jobs are those in Information Services, Financial Activities, and Professional and Business Services. For discussion and empirical evidence, see Matt Eskew and Paul Kleppner, "The Future of High-Wage Jobs in Illinois" (State of Working Illinois Policy Brief, August 2006).

appreciably in the past 17 years – it was 5.0% in 1990 and is now 5.4%. If recent developments in mortgage and financial markets result in the expected reduction in credit availability, construction projects and related jobs will likely be negatively impacted.

With average weekly earnings of $747, Information Services rank as the second-highest paying sector behind Construction. But, consistent with national and regional patterns, Illinois has also begun losing jobs in this higher-paying sector. After gaining 20,900 Information Services jobs between 1990 and 1998, the trend changed and Illinois lost 36,700 higher-paying jobs in this sector between 1998 and 2007, wiping out the gains registered in the prior growth period.[20] By 2007 the state's employment in this sector had dropped to 116,000, 12.0% below 1990 and 24.0% below the 1998 peak.



Within the large industrial sectors, the picture is generally more troubling. For example, of the 239,000 jobs lost in Manufacturing since 1990, 176,100 have been in durable goods manufacturing. The average weekly earnings in that industry in 2007 were $716, or $88 more than in non-durable goods manufacturing.

Professional and Business Services is generally a higher-wage service activity, with weekly earnings that averaged only $23 less than in Manufacturing. But not all activities within this sector pay high wages. In both Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services the average weekly earnings were only $458, which was $201 less than the average in the industry as a whole. This is significant because these subsectors were responsible for 53.6% of the total number of new jobs created in the Professional and Business Services sector between 1997 and 2007.[21]

Jobs in the Leisure and Hospitality sector averaged weekly earnings of $253, only 37.1% of the average weekly earnings in Manufacturing. The largest single component within this sector is Accommodation and Food Service, which accounted for 86.6% of the entire sector's growth between 1997 and 2007. But the weekly earnings in Accommodation and Food Service averaged only $237, even below the sector-wide average.

Ironically, given the stereotypes associated with the sector, the changes in employment in Retail Trade appear somewhat more promising. The average weekly earnings in General Merchandise Stores – which accounted for most of the 1990 to 2007 growth in employment–is only $315, even below the sector's av-

20 The 1990-2007 linear trend shows a very weak fit, with $r^2 = 161$; but the 1997-2007 linear trend shows an average annual loss of 4,135 jobs and with an $r^2 = .873$.

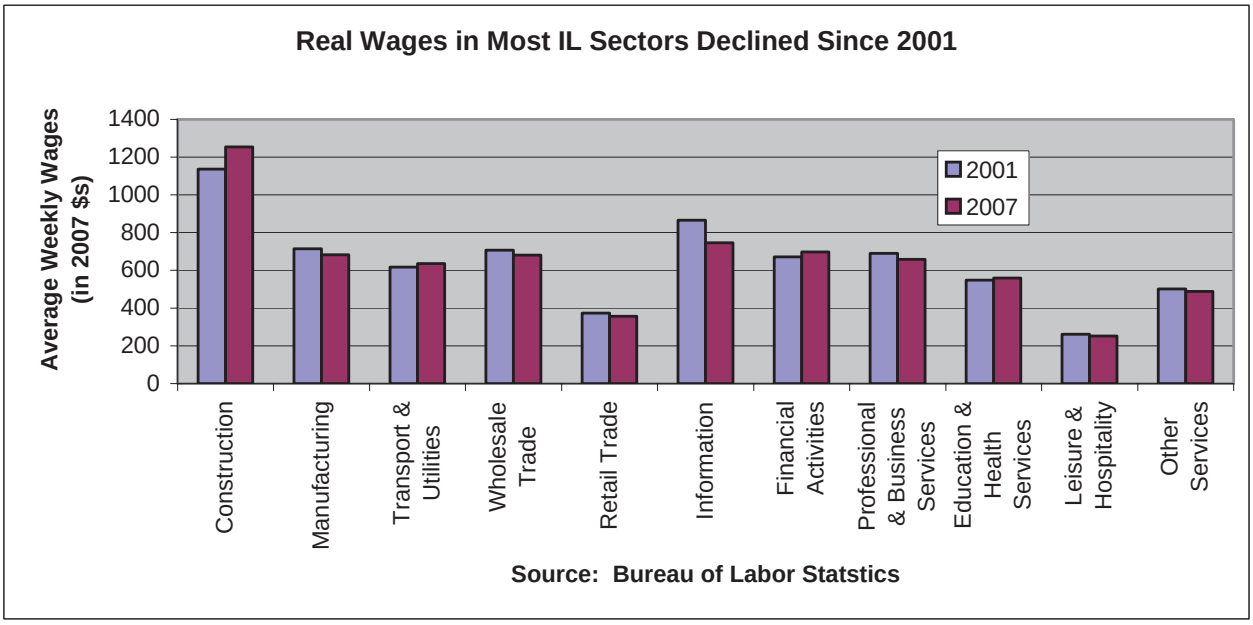
21 Unfortunately, BLS reports average earnings only for the combination of these two components -- Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services. Combined, these two added 80,900 jobs of the total 150,900 that Professional and Business Services added between 1997 and 2007.

erage of $357 per week. However, the average weekly earnings in Electronics and Appliance Stores – in which jobs grew at 36.4% between 1990 and 2007 – were $617. This is well above the sector average and only $64 below Manufacturing.

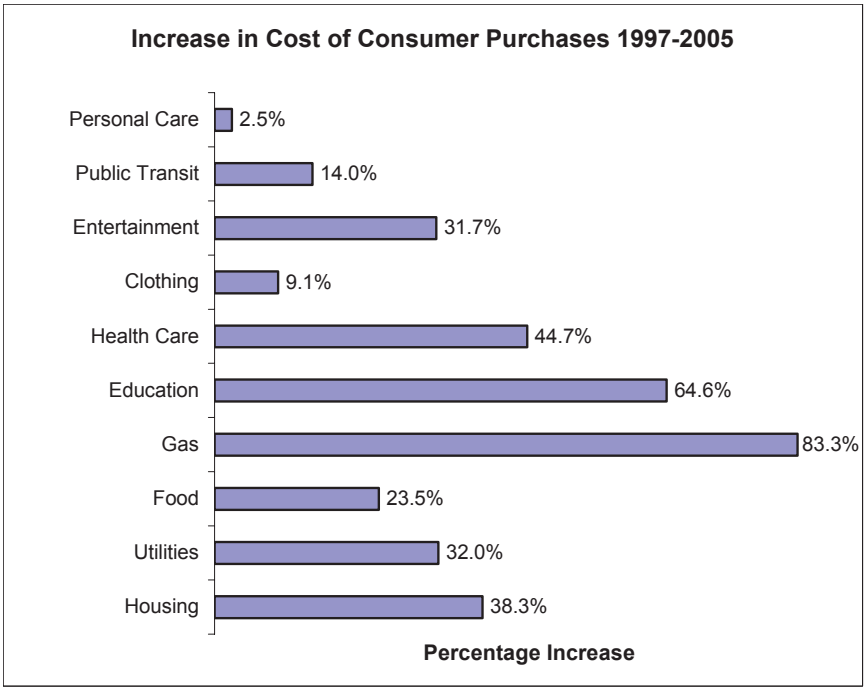
Declining Real Wages

Even those workers who did not face loss of employment, or the need to shift into another sector to remain employed, faced the problems associated with shrinking earnings. Expressed in "nominal dollars," i.e., without adjusting for the impact of inflation on purchasing power, most workers in Illinois saw their wages increase in recent years. From 2001 to 2007, the increases in nominal dollars ranged from a high of $291 in average weekly earnings in Construction to a low of $14 in Information Services. But when these wages expressed in nominal dollars are adjusted for the impact of the inflation that occurred during the interval, the workers in most sectors in Illinois experienced declines in their real average weekly wages.

Earnings gains from 2001 to 2007 offset the erosive effect of inflation in only four sectors, and even then by relatively modest amounts. Measured in "real dollars," i.e., dollars adjusted for the effect of inflation, the largest gain in real earnings was still in Construction -- $118 or 10.3% in average weekly earnings – and the smallest gain was $10 or 1.8% in Education and Health Services. Other sectors registering gains in real average weekly earnings were Financial Activities ($26 or 3.8%) and Transportation and Utilities ($20 or 3.2%). All other sectors experienced declines in real average weekly earnings. The size of these declines ranged from a high of $118 (or -13.6%) in Information Services to a low of $9 (or -3.5%) in Leisure and Hospitality. Employees in Manufacturing lost $32 (or -4.4%); those in Professional and Business Services lost $32 (or -4.5%); and those in Retail Trade lost $16 (or -4.2%).



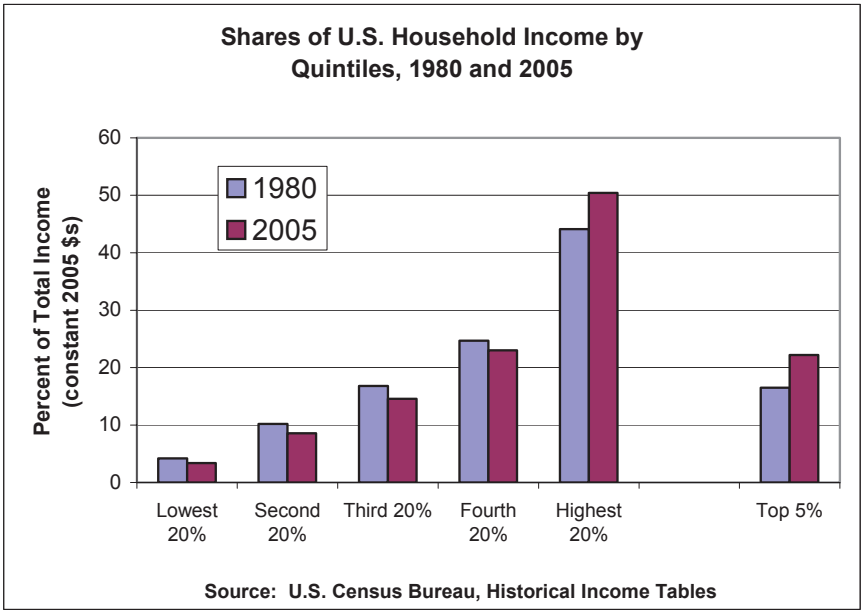
As the real, inflation-adjusted earnings of most Illinois workers have been declining, the cost of items that collectively comprise most of their family budgets have been increasing. While there are some differences in the time frames of the wage and cost-of-living series, data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics show significant increases in the cost of essentials like food, housing, health care, gas, and utilities. These make



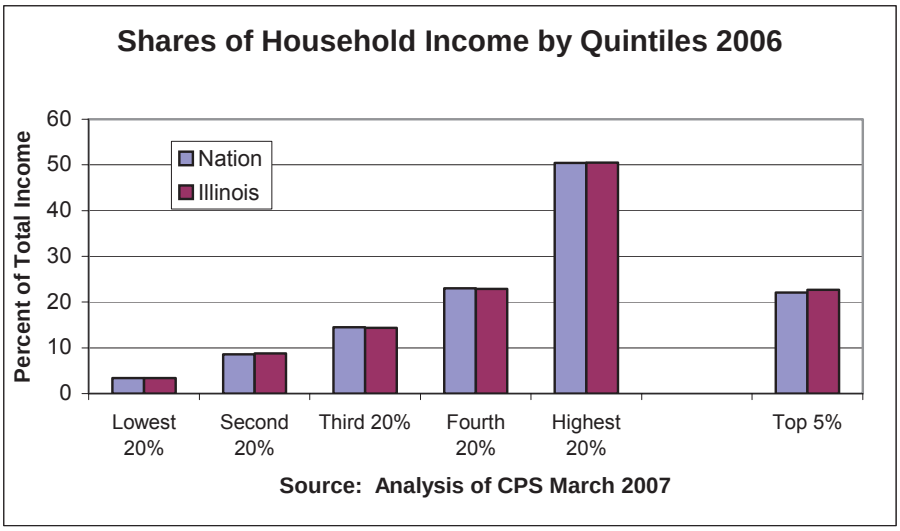
it easy to appreciate how declining real wages have negatively impacted the standard of living for most working families, and constrained or eliminated their ability to save.[22]

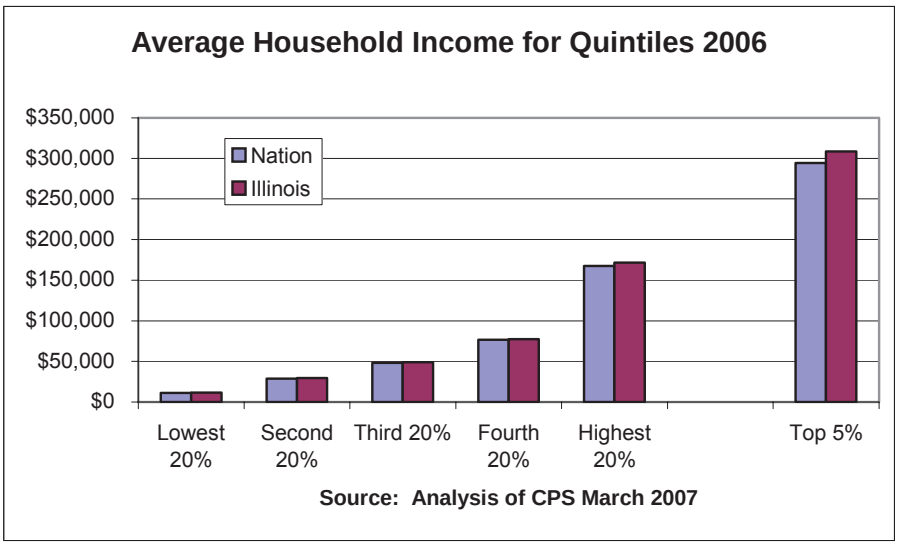
Growing Income Inequality

The decline of employment in the Manufacturing sector combined with increased employment in lower-paying service sector jobs have contributed to the nation's growing income inequality. While data over time specific to Illinois are not readily available, the national data show how post-1980 trends have worked to worsen income inequality in the country in a dramatic fashion. The share of income held by the vast majority of American households, literally eight out of every ten, has declined over the last quarter century. Only those fortunate enough to be in the wealthiest 20% of all households actually realized an increase in overall income during this period. Shifting employment patterns are not the sole cause of this worsening inequality in the distribution of income, but it clearly played a significantly contributing role.



22 Ann D'Innocenzio, "Higher food bills squeezing working families," Chicago Sun-Times, 21 October 2007, p. 16A, uses reports from merchants like Wal-Mart, 7-Eleven, and Family Dollar to show that higher costs for basic budget items are now affecting middle-income working families as well as the poor.





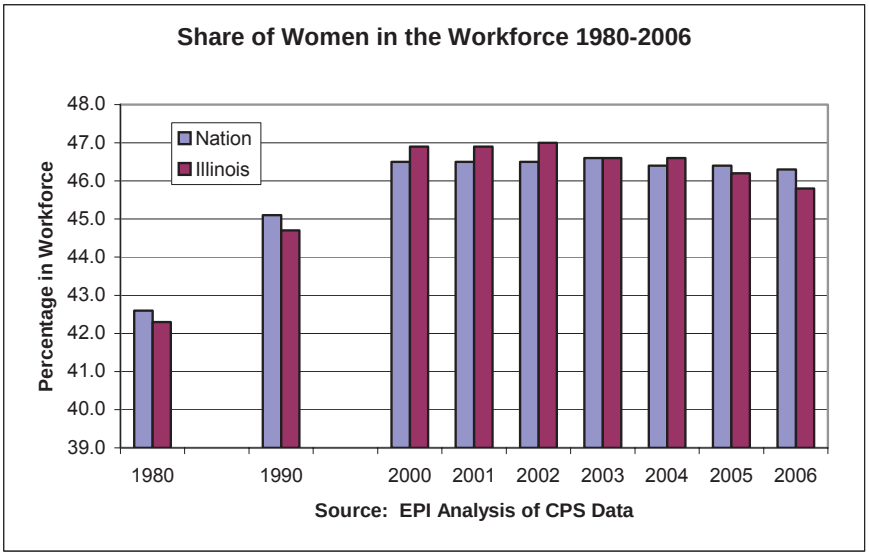
Income inequality in Illinois is just as severe as it is nationally

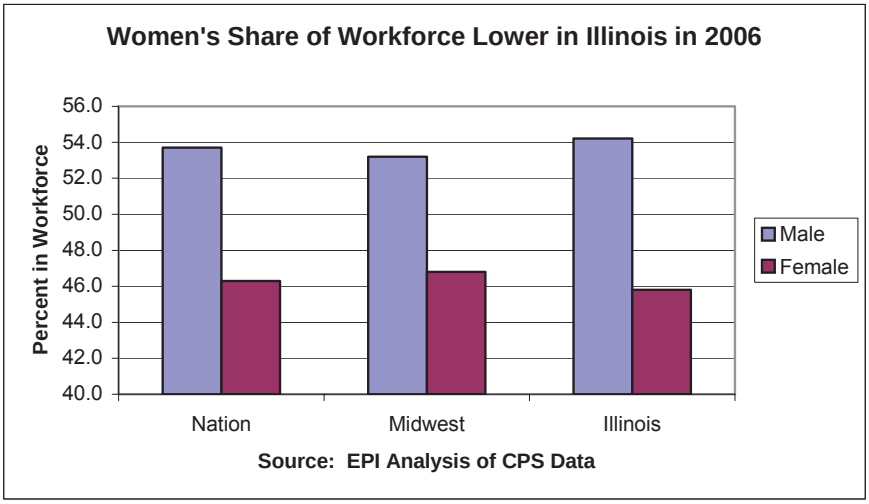
Currently, income inequality in Illinois is just as severe as it is nationally. In Illinois, as in the nation, the highest-earning quintile accounts for over 50% of the country's total household income, while the bottom three quintiles (i.e., 60% of the households) together account for only 26.6%, which is barely larger than the income share earned by the state's top 5% of households (22.7%).

The severity of this income inequality is starkly illustrated by the differences in average household incomes for each of the income quintiles and for the top 5% of earners. While the lowest income quintile in Illinois had a meager household income of only $11,482, the highest income quintile earned $171,514. But the disparity becomes even more dramatic when compared to the average household income of $308,328 associated with the top 5% of Illinois households.

As the structure of job opportunities and the resulting employment patterns were changing in Illinois, so was the composition of the state's labor force. One of the most significant changes was that larger numbers of women moved into the workforce. As a result, the male-female balance shifted: women grew from 42.3% of the state's workforce in 1980 to a high of 47.0% in 2002. But after reaching that peak, women's share of the workforce dropped in Illinois, while remaining relatively stable at the national level. By 2006 women comprised a smaller share of the Illinois workforce (45.8%) than they did at the national (46.3%) or regional (46.8%) levels.

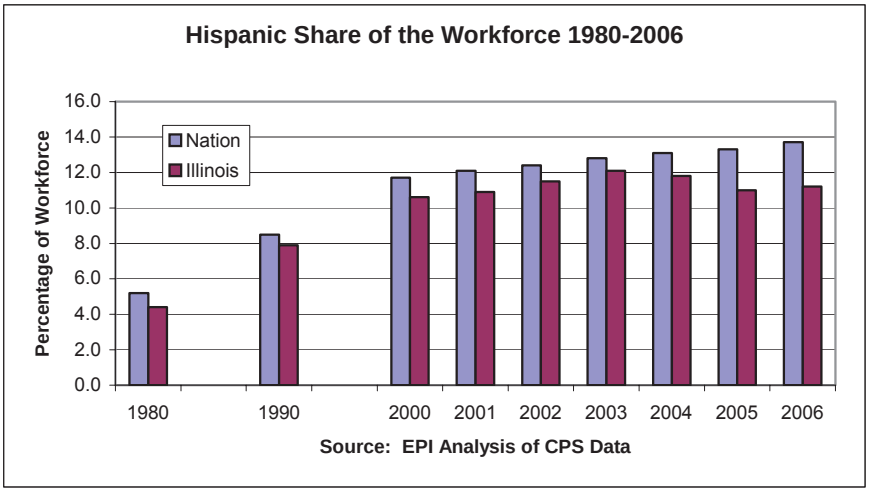
By 2006 women comprised a smaller share of the Illinois workforce

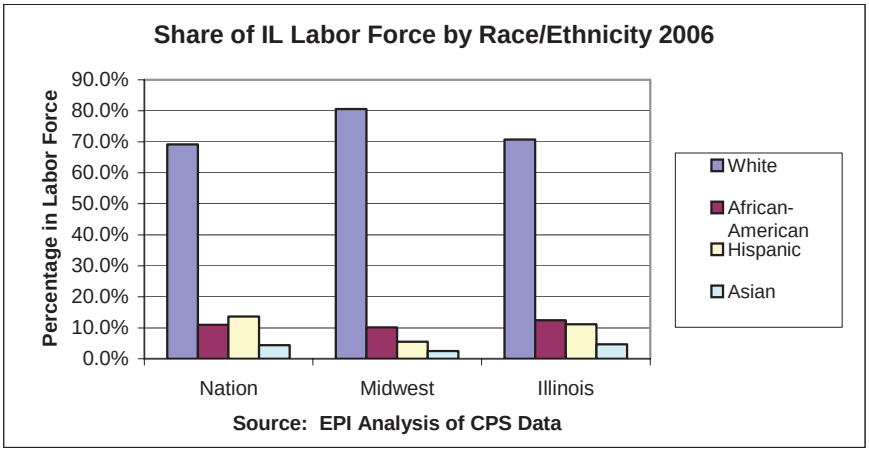


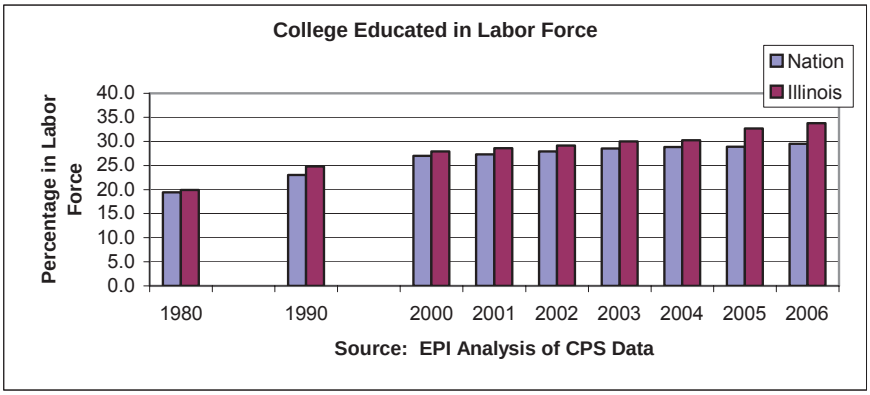


The Illinois labor force also became more ethnically and racially diverse over the last 20 years. Whites remain the dominant component, but their share of the Illinois workforce has dropped to 70.7%, a decline of 11.4 percentage points since 1980. Minority groups, which in 1980 made up only 15.7% of the workforce, grew to 28.4% in 2006. The African-American share peaked at 13.5% in 2000, but dropped to 12.5% by 2006, only 1.2 percentage points above the 1980 level. The Asian share of the workforce nearly doubled between 1990 and 2006, reaching 4.7% in the latter year. But the greatest change in the ethnic/racial mix in the workforce was

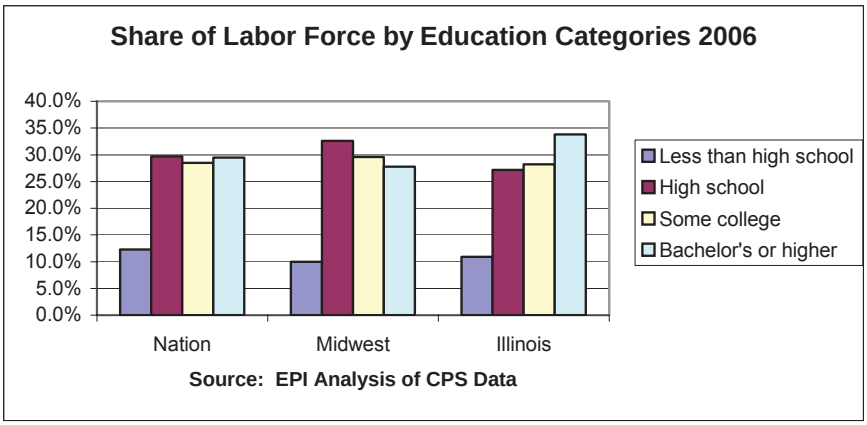
the growth of Hispanic participation, which increased from 4.4% in 1980 to 11.2% in 2006. The rate of increase in Hispanic participation in the Illinois workforce was only marginally slower than the 8.5 percentage-point gain at the national level. Moreover, the Hispanic share of the Illinois labor force was more than twice that of the Midwest's labor force (5.5%).







The Illinois labor force has also become much better educated. In 1980 only about one fifth of the state's workers (19.9%) had a college degree or more, almost mirroring the national figure (19.4%). Another 20.5% of Illinois workers in 1980 had less than a high school education. But by 2006 the share of the state's work force with a college education had grown to 33.8%, well above both the national (29.5%) and regional (27.8%) levels. Correspondingly, the proportion of the Illinois workforce with less than high school diploma shrunk to 10.9%. Since educational attainment is a good proxy for the skills required to cope with an increasingly complex and globalized labor market, Illinois seems better prepared for success than the Midwest as a whole, or even the nation.



Ethnic/Racial Differences in Skills and Experiences

Access to higher-paying jobs, which are essential to upward mobility and the capacity to accumulate wealth over the course of a working career, depends on work experience and the skill sets that individuals bring to their jobs. By using age and education as reasonable proxies, we can examine differences in skill sets and experiences among the state's ethnic and racial groups (see Table 4).

TABLE 4

IL Ethnic and Racial Differences in Age and Education

	White (%)	African-American (%)	Hispanic (%)	Asian (%)
AGE CATEGORIES				
16 to 25	19.1	17.2	23.1	15.0
26 to 35	20.7	22.9	33.6	29.0
36 to 45	22.0	25.7	20.4	34.3
46 to 55	25.2	25.2	16.4	18.9
56 to 65	13.0	8.9	6.5	3.9
EDUCATION CATEGORIES				
Less than High School	6.4	7.5	38.6	5.9
High School Graduate	28.1	29.9	31.4	12.1
Some College	21.6	29.1	14.6	10.4
Associate's Degree	9.0	8.3	4.0	7.5
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	35.0	25.1	11.4	64.2

Source: Analysis of CPS March 2007

The state's ethnic and racial groups bring widely dissimilar social characteristics into the labor market. Hispanics are by far the youngest group with 56.7% under 36 years of age and only 6.5% in the oldest age category. In contrast, only 39.8% of Whites are under 36 and 38.2% over 45 years of age. African-Americans are catching up to Whites in age – with 34.1% over 45 and 40.1% under 36. Among Asians the largest age group is 36-to-45 and only 22.8% are older than 45. These age distributions indicate that Whites have the most experienced and Hispanics the least experienced workers.

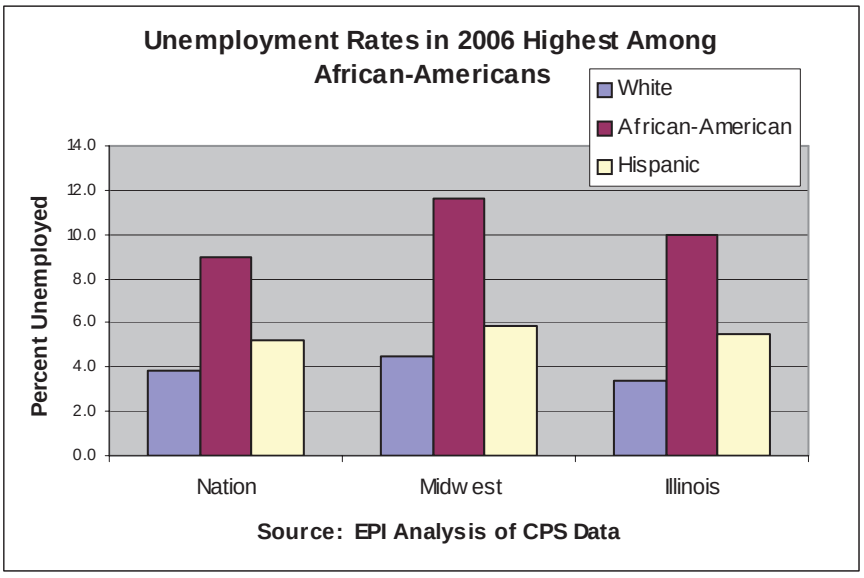
Asians are by far the best educated in the workforce – 64.2% have at least a college degree, and another 17.9% have some college or an associate degree. That means that more than eight of every ten Asians in the workforce have some education beyond high school. In sharp contrast, over one third (38.6%) of Hispanics in the workforce have not even completed high school, while another 31.4% have only a high school diploma. Taken together, this means that more than seven of ten Hispanics have no better than a high school education. Moreover, only 11.4% of Hispanics have a college degree or better, the smallest percentage of the state's main ethnic/racial categories. At a time when post-secondary training is increasingly required for good-paying jobs, this educational profile among Hispanics represents a serious obstacle to future upward mobility and economic advancement.

The White and African-American educational profiles show higher proportions without post-secondary training and lower percentages of college graduates than Asians. The profiles for these two groups are also basically similar to each other, with the notable exception being the higher percentage of Whites with college degrees. But, as we shall see below, the narrowing education gap between Whites and African-Americans has not eliminated wage differentials. At every level of education, even among those with college degrees, Whites earn more on average than African-Americans.

A consideration of current employment status reveals dramatically how these educational differences operate to impact the Illinois labor market.

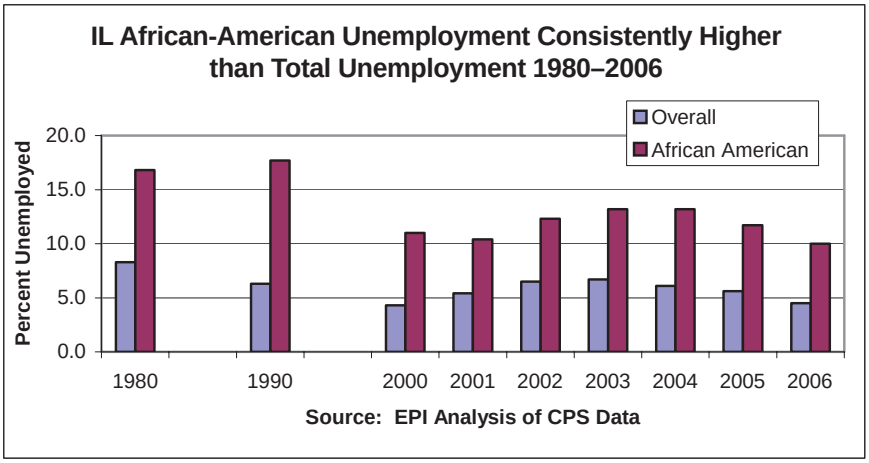
Ethnic/Racial Differences in Employment Patterns

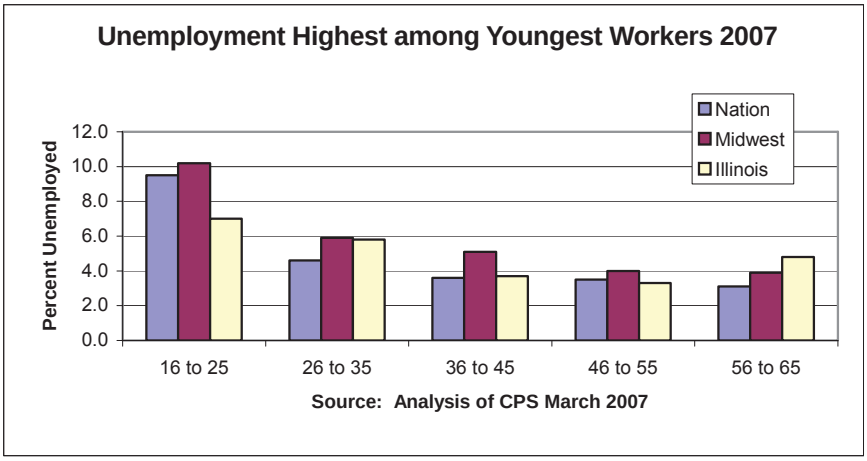
Hispanics are by far the youngest and least educated of the state's workers, but they do not have the highest unemployment rate, although it was higher than that of Whites.[23] African-Americans in Illinois had a 10.0% unemployment rate in 2006, nearly triple that of Whites (3.4%) and almost double the Hispanic rate (5.5%). That pattern also characterized the region and the nation. However, the Illinois unemployment rate for African-Americans was worse than the national rate of 9.0% but was below that of the Midwest (11.6%) and was the lowest of the states within the region.

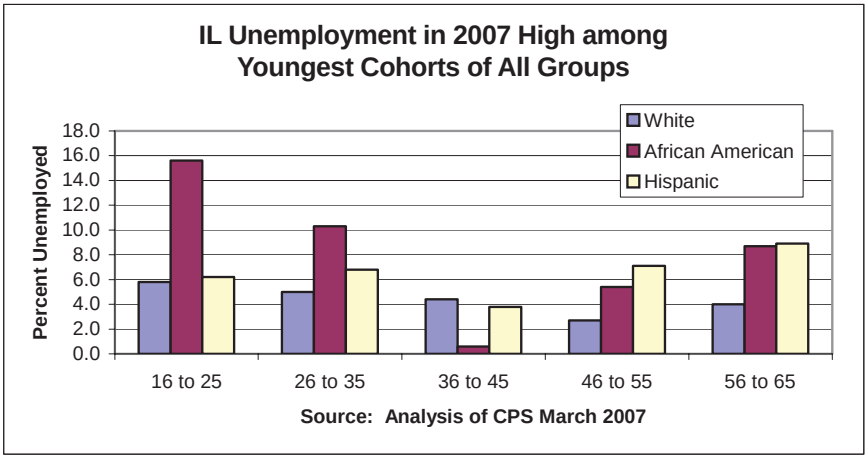


Relatively high unemployment has been a consistent characteristic of the African-American workforce. Through good economic times and bad, unemployment within the African-American community has been higher than the state's overall rate. That finding by itself strongly suggests that something more than benign labor-market dynamics may have been operating to produce the high rates of unemployment.

23 The sample numbers involved for Asians are too small to produce meaningful estimates, and so that category is excluded from the analysis that follows.





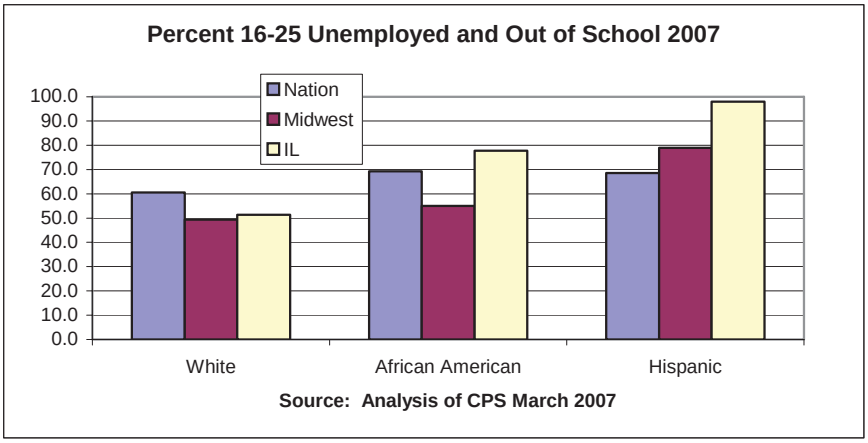


As might be expected, unemployment was highest among the youngest age cohort. That was true in Illinois, the Midwest, and the nation. But in 2007 the Illinois unemployment rate for this youthful cohort was just 7.0%, below the national (9.5%) and the Midwestern (10.2%) rates. The unemployment rate in Illinois for youth was also considerably lower (4.9 percentage points less) than it had been in 2006.

This pattern of high unemployment among the youngest age groups also characterizes all of the state's major ethnic and racial categories. It is especially severe among younger African-Americans, with 15.6% of African-Americans aged 16 to 25 unemployed, and 10.3% of African-Americans in the 26-to-35 category unemployed. Hispanic unemployment rates are also generally higher than those for Whites, although only modestly so–except in the 46-to-55 age group.[24]

Among those unemployed in the youngest cohort, in Illinois over half the Whites (51.4%), just over three-quarters of the African-Americans (77.7%), and virtually all of the Hispanics are both out of work and out of school. This means that an estimated 23,492 White youth, 14,362 African-American youth, and 11,241 Hispanic youth are neither working nor pursuing an education that would enhance

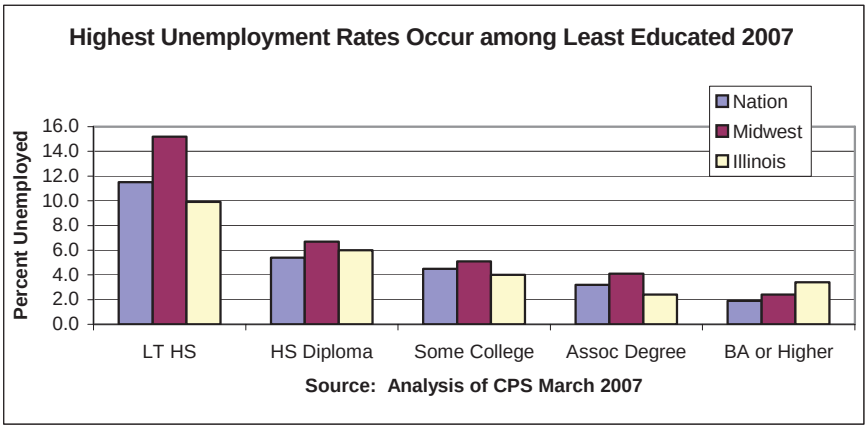
24 The seemingly high unemployment rate among the oldest category of Hispanics may be an anomaly resulting from the small number of cases in that age bracket.



their future employment prospects. The fact that these youth are neither working nor pursuing educational opportunities leaves them especially vulnerable to long-term detachment from employment and to related social problems. These rates of "dual detachment" in Illinois are higher for both African-Americans and Hispanics than they are for the nation or the Midwest.[25]

Education a Key Factor in Employment

In the globalized labor market of the twenty-first century, education is strongly associated with upward mobility and higher earnings. Nationally, regionally, and in Illinois, higher unemployment rates are associated with lower levels of education. Individuals in Illinois with less than a high school education are three times more likely to be unemployed than those with a B.A. or more. Both nationally and in the Midwest, persons with less than a high school diploma are six times more likely to be unemployed than those with a B.A. or higher.

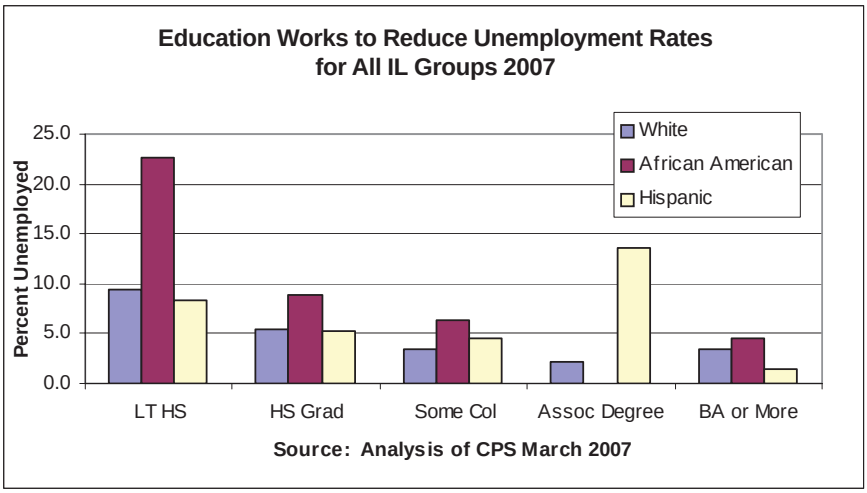


This pattern holds when we look at Illinois's main ethnic and racial categories. Among Whites, African-Americans, and Hispanics, lower unemployment rates characterize the better-educated categories.[26] For example, the unemployment rate for Whites fell from 9.5% for those with less than a high school diploma to 3.5% for those with a college degree or better. Similar declines occur among African-Americans – from 22.7% to 4.5% -- and Hispanics – from 8.3% to 1.5%.

However, at every level of educational attainment, except among those with an Associate Degree, the unemployment rate is higher for African-Americans than for Whites or Hispanics. For those with less than a high school diploma, the 22.7% unemployment rate among African-Americans was more than double that for Hispanics or Whites. Moreover, even at the highest educational level, those with a college degree or more, African-American unemployment was one percentage point higher than for Whites and three

25 At the national level, 69.3% of African-American youth and 68.6% of Hispanic youth are out of work and out of school. In the Midwest, 55.0% of African-American youth and 78.9% of Hispanic youth fall into this "dual detachment" category.

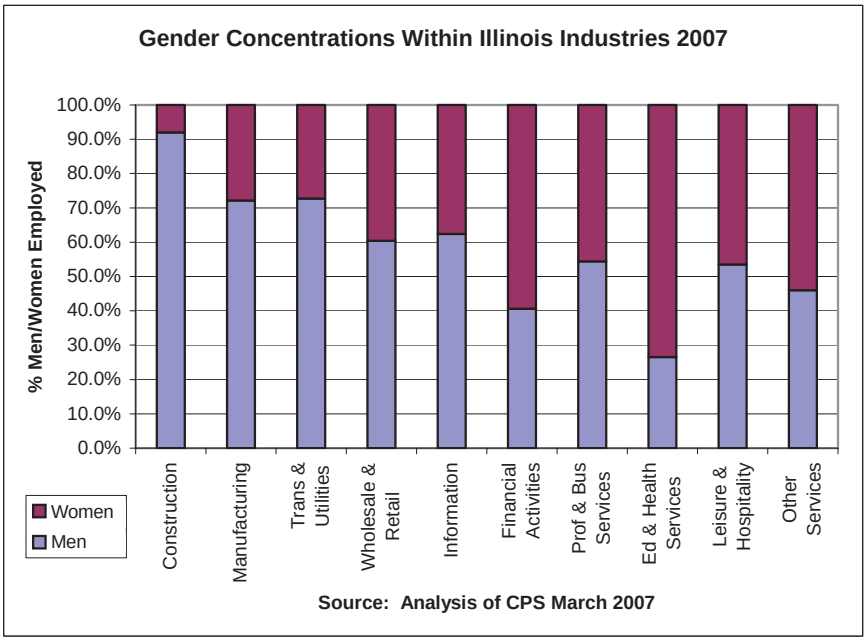
26 The exception is the high unemployment rate (13.5%) among Hispanics with an Associate Degree, but that anomaly is very likely explained by the small number of cases in the category.



percentage points more than for Hispanics. Comparatively high unemployment rates irrespective of educational accomplishment of African-Americans suggests the operation of discrimination in access to the labor market.

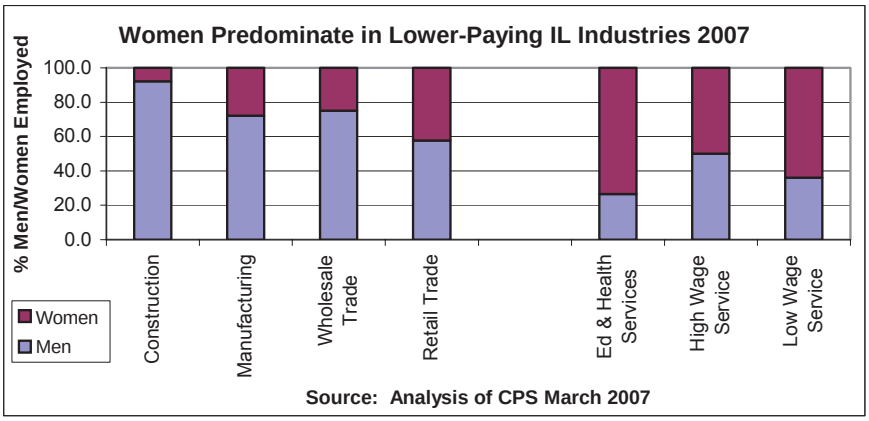
Variations in Sectoral Employment by Gender, Ethnicity, and Race

Disproportionate concentrations of women and/or minorities in some sectors, combined with comparatively low employment rates in others, indicate that diversity, while increasing in the workforce generally, has not been spread evenly across industries, or even nearly so. For example, almost one third of all women in the workforce (31.6%) are in the Education and Health Services sector, where they make up nearly three-quarters (73.5%) of the total employees, but women comprise only a minuscule 7.9% of the workers in Construction. Women constitute a larger share of the workers in Manufacturing (27.9%) and Transportation and Utilities (27.3%), two other higher-paying sectors, but still represent less than one-third of the workers in either. These data suggest that employers within some sectors remain resistant to hiring female employees.



As a result, women seem to be gaining employment opportunities mainly in lower-paying sectors. Women predominate in lower-paying service activities (64.0%), but only break even with men in higher-paying service employment (50.0%). Moreover, while women make up 39.6% of the combined Wholesale and Retail sector, a detailed breakdown shows that males make up 75.0% of the employees in the Wholesale Trade sector, and women are 42.3% of the workforce in the Retail Trade sector. Since wages in Wholesale Trade are generally higher than those in Retail Trade, these variations represent a

significant gender wage gap. Moreover, within each category of activity, men earn more on average than women. In Wholesale Trade in 2006, men earned on average $1137 per week, and women only $610; in Retail Trade men earned $670 per week and women $454.[27] Thus, men remain disproportionately concentrated in the better-paying activities in this and other sectors, as women gain employment mainly in lower-paying jobs.



Patterns of disproportionate employment – although with more access to higher-paying jobs – also appear in Illinois when analyzing workers across major ethnic and racial groups. Particular ethnic and racial groups concentrate in specific industries. For example, 24.4% of all Hispanics in the workforce are employed in Manufacturing. As a result, Hispanics now comprise 22.0% of the Manufacturing workforce in Illinois, even though they constitute only 11.2% of the state's total workers. Hispanics also make up 16.4% of the total number of workers in Construction, a sector in which African-Americans have had particular difficulty in gaining employment over time.28 Hispanics were also heavily employed in Leisure and Hospitality: 12.3% of all Hispanics in the workforce were in this sector, and they made up 20.2% of the sector's total workers. But Hispanics were only 6.9% of the workers in Education and Health Services, 7.0% in Information, and 7.5% in Financial Activities.

Over one quarter (28.1%) of the state's African-American workers were employed in Education and Health Services, where they constitute 18.0% of the sector's workforce. African-Americans were even more prominent in Transportation and Utilities, where they comprised 24.1% of the total workers. On the other hand, continuing patterns of under- representation, African-Americans made up only 5.4% of the workers in Construction and 8.3% in the Information Services sector.

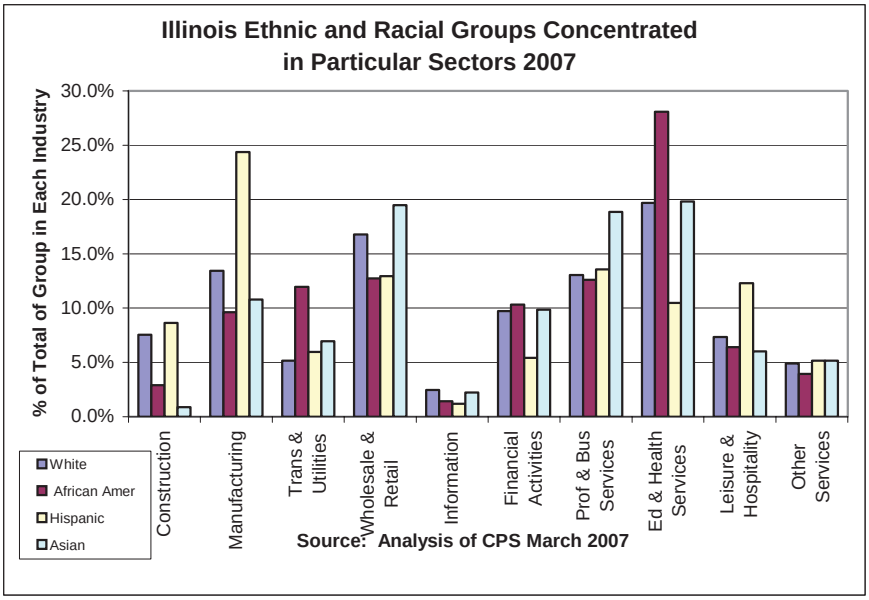
Compared to women as a group, somewhat higher proportions of African-Americans and Hispanics in Illinois found employment in higher-paying industries like Construction, Manufacturing, and Transportation and Utilities. Nevertheless, over one quarter of the state's Hispanics (28.0%) and 38.5% of its African-Americans were employed in lower-paying service jobs.

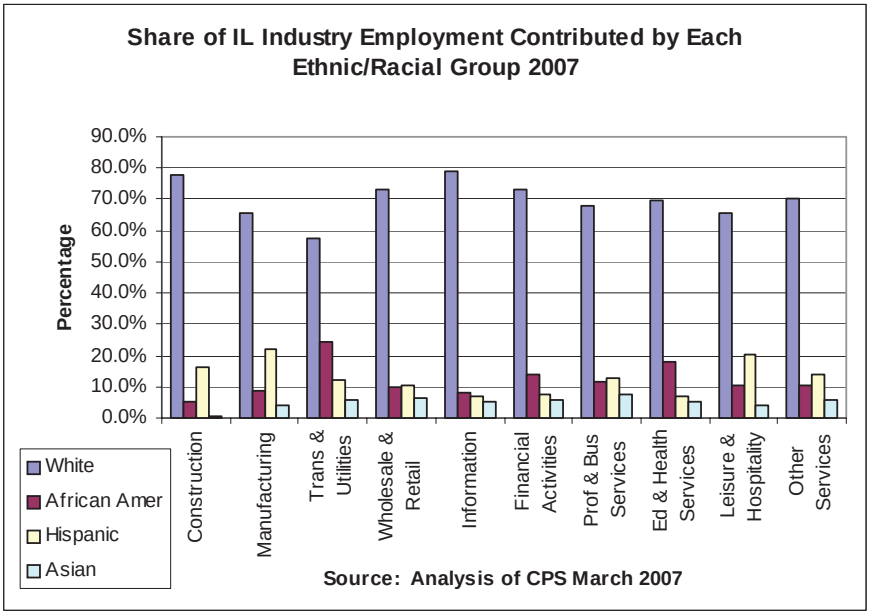
Overall Asians fared better than African-Americans and Hispanics. Of all Asians in the state's workforce, 19.8% were employed in Education and Health Services, where they constitute 5.3% of the sector's total workers. Another 18.8% of the state's Asian workers were in Professional and Business Services, and they accounted for 7.4% of the workers in that sector. Moreover, as we shall see below, in several sectors the average weekly earnings of Asians are considerably above those of other ethnic and racial groups.

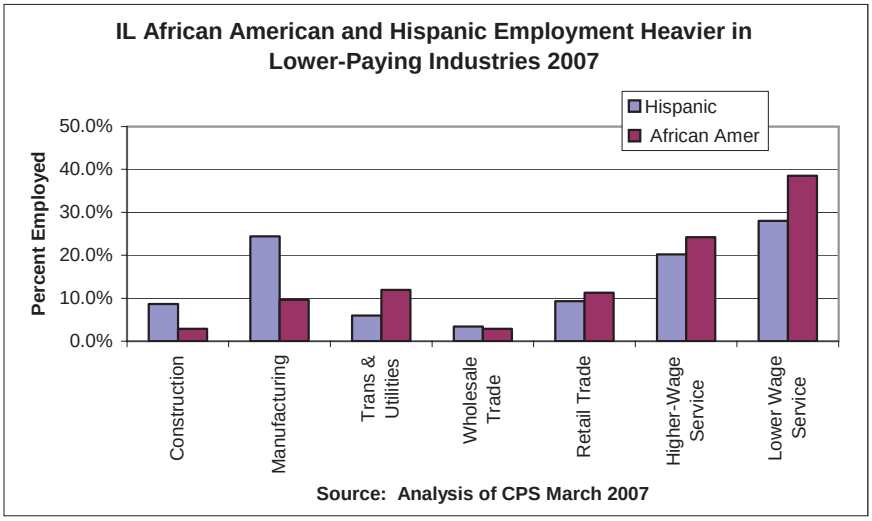
Finally, since Whites account for 70.7% of the state's workforce, they also comprised a majority of workers in all industrial sectors. They exceeded their proportionate share of the workforce in three higher-paying sectors: Financial Activities (72.9%), Construction (77.5%), and Information Services (79.2%). They also

27 The wage data are from an analysis of the Current Population Survey Outgoing Rotation Group (ORG) for 2006.

28 In 2007 African-Americans were 12.5% of the state's total workforce, but they were only 5.4% of the employees in the Construction sector.







are more highly represented in the more economically mixed Wholesale and Retail Trade sector (73.2%).

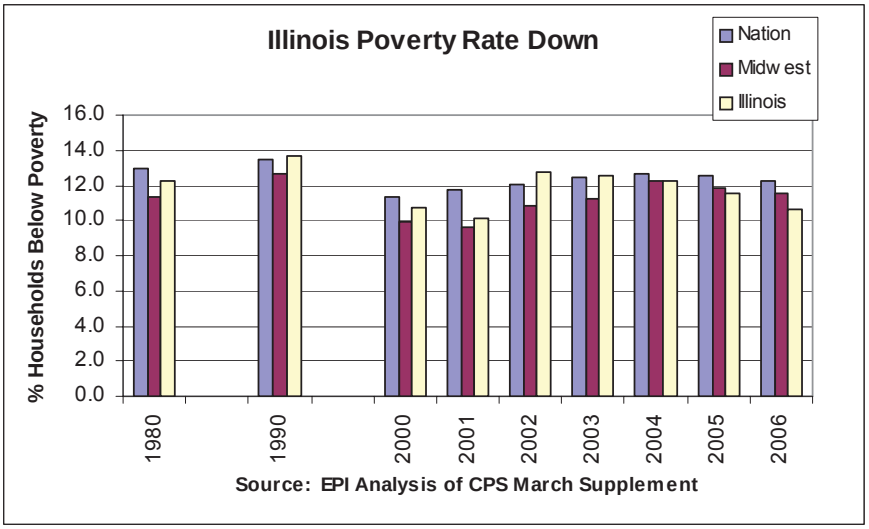
One or more factors could be operating to produce these patterns of ethnic/racial concentration. The skills, experiences, and education levels that individuals bring to the labor force may limit their options. Networks of friends and relatives may provide access to sectors where employment is known to be available. Or, discriminatory employment practices may be operating. Regardless of which factors are working, the outcome is that access to job options, earnings and future economic mobility is limited

Poverty and Household Income

More jobs, more workers, and a shrinking pool of unemployed workers should translate into greatly enhanced economic security for the state's workers and its their families. But the economic trends that have impacted the nation and Illinois in recent years have not always been beneficial. As a result, the economic security of the state's workers has not been materially boosted.

The economic security of the state's workers has not been materially boosted

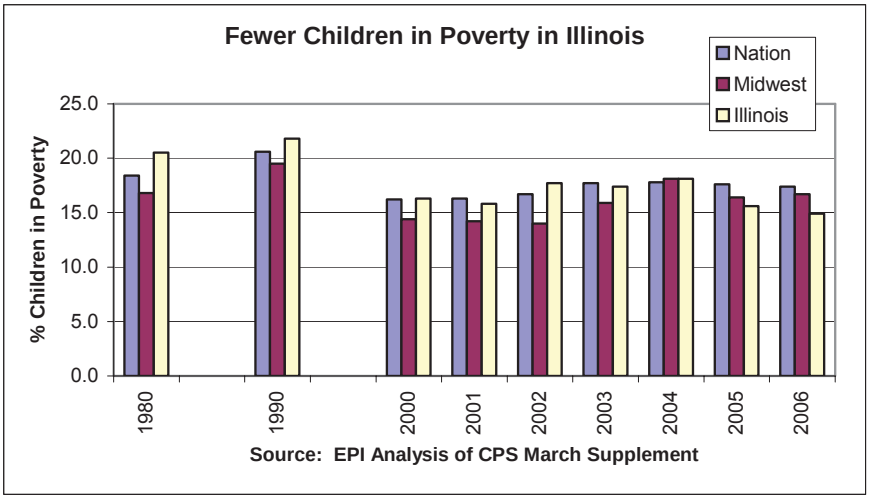
The proportion of Illinois households falling below the official federal poverty line dropped during the economically booming 1990s, reaching a low of 10.1% in 2001. But this and other measures of poverty worsened after that, as the effects of the 2001 recession and the terrorist attack in New York City rippled through the economy. Illinois rebounded fairly quickly, however, and the poverty indicators have been improving over the past several years. By 2006 only 10.6% of Illinois households fell below the poverty line, just slightly higher than the low-point reached five years earlier. Moreover, in 2005 and 2006 the Illinois poverty rate was lower than the national or Midwestern rates.

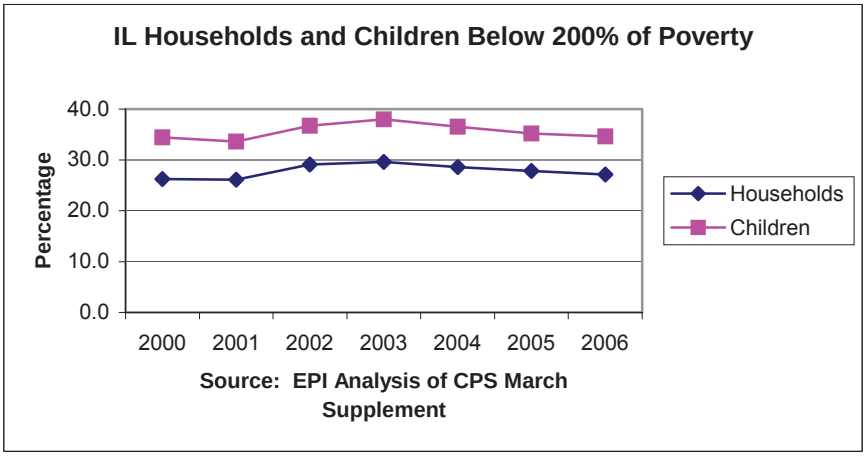


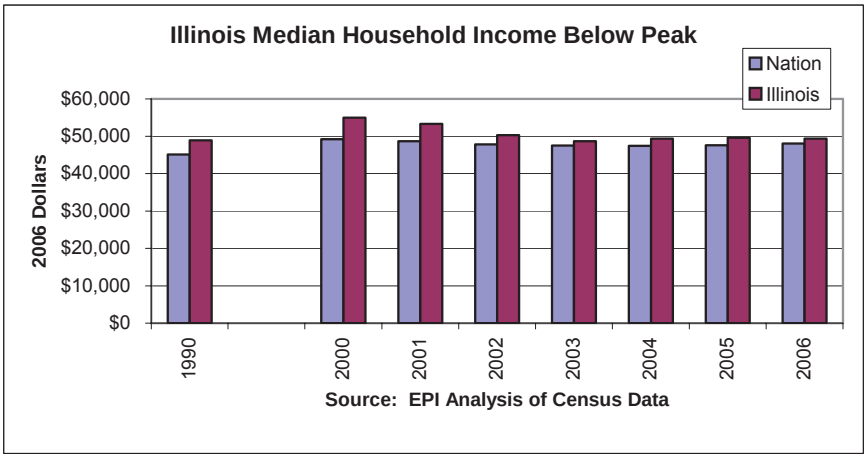
Poverty among the state's children has followed generally the same trajectory as the household poverty rate. It improved throughout the 1990s, hit a low point in 2001 (15.8%), then worsened over the following three years. But the proportion of Illinois children below the poverty line has been dropping annually since 2004. In 2006 it was 14.9% -- even below its 2001 level – and lower than the national and regional rates.

However, analysts generally agree that the official poverty line is an unrealistically low indicator of whether a family has sufficient income to support itself. For instance, the national poverty guidelines issued by the Department of Health and Human Services establish the poverty level for a family of four at $20,650 for 2007. Several years ago, the Economic Policy Institute (EPI) completed an analysis of the income needed to cover the bare essentials for a family of four both in rural Illinois and in Chicago.[29] Adjusting EPI's analysis to 2006 dollars,

29 Sylvia Altegretto, "Basic Family Budgets" (Washington, D.C.: Economic Policy Institute, 2005).







a subsistence budget for a family of four in rural Illinois would require $38,956 annually, almost double the poverty level, while in Chicago it would require $46,763, or more than double the federal poverty standard.

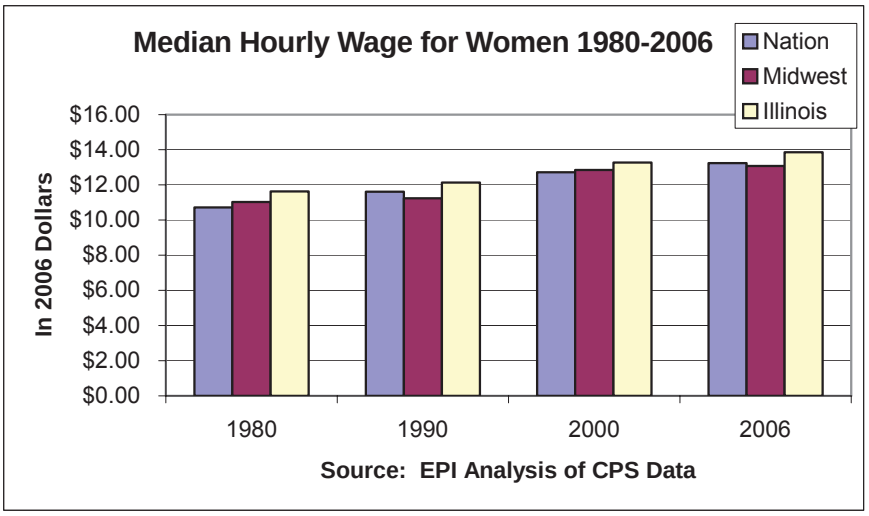
Given the cost of a subsistence budget in Illinois, it is far more realistic to use 200 percent of poverty (the "Subsistence Level") as the measurement for whether a family's annual income is at least adequate to cover basic living expenses. In 2006, over one quarter (27.1%) of the state's households and over one third (34.6%) of its children were below this Subsistence Level. However, both measures were below their 2003 peaks – 29.6% and 38.0%, respectively – and both were also lower than the corresponding national and regional rates.

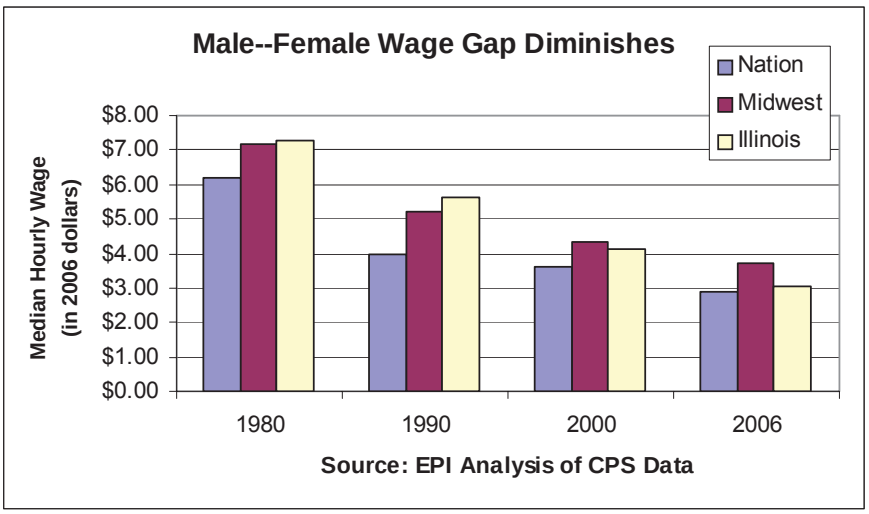
It is not just those at the bottom of the economic ladder who have felt the effects of conflicting economic trends over recent years. Measured in constant (2006) dollars, the state's median household income has declined from its 1999-2000 peak of $54,990. However, Illinois has remained above the national median household income and has begun to bounce back somewhat in recent years. The 2005-06 two-year moving average was $49,328, which put the state's median household income $642 above its recent low in 2002-03.[30] Median household income in Illinois in 2005-06 was also higher than that of any other state in the Midwestern region.

30 To avoid distortion caused by sudden economic changes, the measure for median household income averages the income for two years. In this case, the measure is a two-year moving average; i.e., each year is used as both the first and the second of the two years – e.g., 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, etc. In the accompanying graphic, the years indicated are the second of the two; e.g., 1990 is the two-year moving average for 1989-90 and 2000 is the average for 1999-2000, and so on.

Changes in Real Wages and Persisting Wage Gaps

Viewed over time, there have been some noticeable changes in the economic standing of the state's major demographic groups. For example, median hourly wages for women have increased, reaching a high of $13.85 in 2006.[31] This represented growth of $.58 (4.3%) since 2000, and an even more striking gain of $2.22 (19.0%) since 1980. Median hourly wages for women in Illinois consistently exceeded their regional and national counterparts.





However, the incremental growth in hourly wages paid to women has not been large enough to eliminate the male-female wage gap. The differential between the median hourly wages of men and women in Illinois was $7.26 per hour in 1980, higher than either the national or regional differences. That gap has diminished over time and dropped to $3.05 in 2006, a 57.9% reduction over the 26-year period. Even after this progress, however, the Illinois wage gap between men and women remained at 6.2% (or $.18) above the national level, although it was $.65 (or 17.5%) below the regional difference.

The increase in real hourly wages for women, although small in recent years, has been an important factor in reducing the male-female wage gap. But almost as important has been the fact that real median hourly wages for men have dropped by $1.99 (or 10.5%) since 1980. Measured in real (2006) dollars, the increase in women's wages since 1980 accounts for 52.7% of the total decline in the wage gap in Illinois, while the erosion of men's wages contributed 47.2%.

While it is important to acknowledge the steady decrease in the male-female wage gap over a 26-year period, women still earn on average 18.0% less than their male counterparts. Moreover, as the data in Table 5 reveal, the gap is considerably larger in several important industries in Illinois.[32]

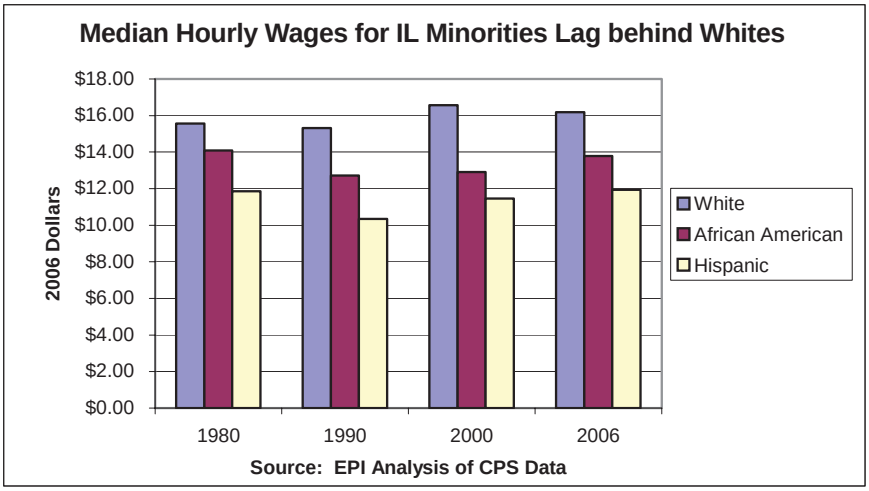
31 Here and throughout this section, hourly and weekly earnings are expressed consistently in 2006 dollars. The earlier discussion of declining real wages at the sector level used BLS data which was reported in 2007 dollars.

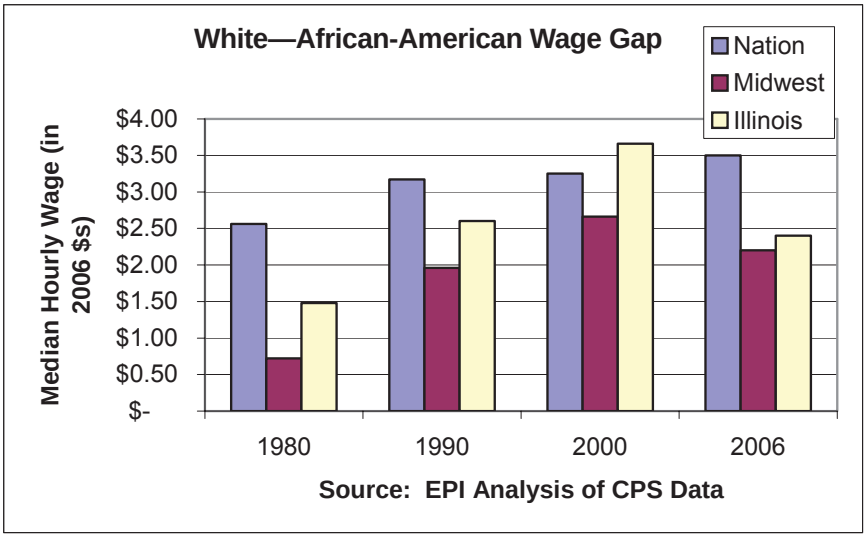
32 The data show by how much the male wage exceeded the female wage in each of the itemized industries.

TABLE 5

Male–Female Wage Differences 2006		
	Median Hourly	**Average Weekly**
Finance and Insurance	$14.53	$604
Health Care and Social Assistance	$4.28	$395
Information Services	$9.13	$175
Prof., Scientific and Technical Services	$9.44	$309
Wholesale Trade	$5.40	$528
Source: Analysis of CPS 2006 ORG Data		

Examination of the wages paid to the state's major ethnic and racial groups reveals a similar pattern of unequal outcomes. But while the male-female wage gap declined between 1980 and 2006, those between Whites, on the one hand, and African-Americans and Hispanics, on the other, have worsened.



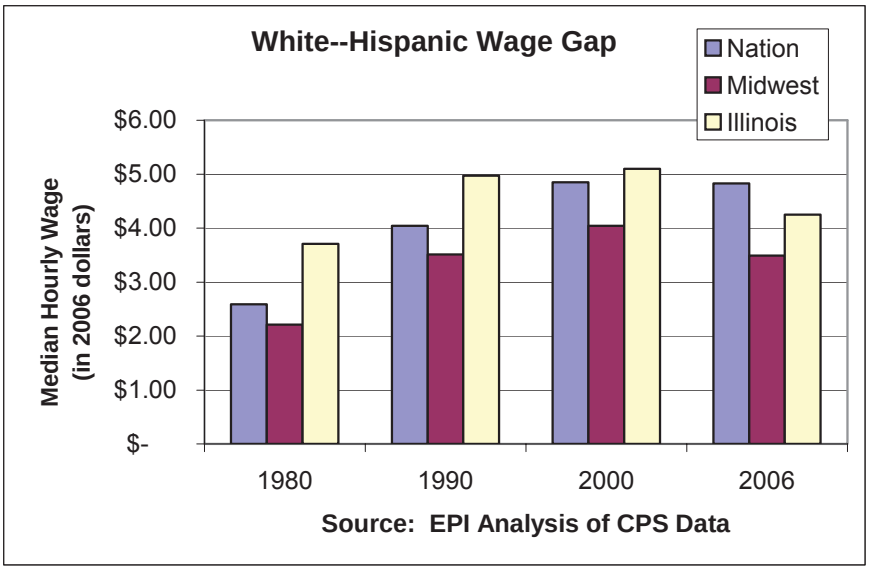


Median hourly wages for Whites in Illinois have been consistently higher over the years than those for African-Americans and Hispanics. Moreover, while real wages for Whites increased modestly between 1980 and 2006 (by $.61 per hour, or 3.9%), those for African-Americans declined slightly (by $.31 per hour, or 2.2%). and remained virtually unchanged for Hispanics (gaining only $.07 or 0.5%) over the 26-years period.

As a result of this two-way movement, the wage gaps between Whites and minorities in Illinois increased. The gap between White and African-American median hourly wages grew from $1.48 in 1980 to a high of $3.66 in 2000. It has fallen since then and was $2.40 in 2006, an increase of $.92 per hour (or 62.1%) over its 1980 size. The Illinois gap in 2006 was larger than its regional counterpart, as it has

been consistently over the years, but it was still 31.4% (or $1.10) below the national difference.

The White-Hispanic wage gap is larger. Growing from $3.71 in 1980 to a high of $5.10 in 2000, the difference has dropped to $4.25 in 2006, which represents an increase of 14.5% (or $.54) over the 1980 level. As with the White-African-American wage gap, the White-Hispanic wage gap in Illinois is larger than that of the region, but it is still $.58 per hour (or 12.0%) lower than the national gap.



A closer analysis of earnings differences within important industries reveals additional income inequality. In each of the industries displayed in Table 6, there is a gap between the earnings of Whites, on the one hand, and African-Americans and Hispanics, on the other. Moreover, the gaps in the higher-paying activities are especially large. For example, Hispanics are increasingly finding employment in higher-paying sectors like Construction and Durable Goods Manufacturing, yet the data in Table 6 show that their average weekly wages lag considerably behind their White counterparts.[33] In both cases, this disparity is greater than would have resulted from the general gap in hourly wages.[34] Thus, the data in Table 6 suggest that even when African-Americans and Hispanics are able to secure jobs in higher-paying sectors, they do not earn as much from that employment as Whites.

Finally, it is worth noting that in the service sectors itemized in Table 6, Asians have higher average weekly earnings that Whites. That pattern also occurs in other service activities that typically require higher levels of education. For instance, in Information Services the average weekly earnings of Asians are $390 greater than Whites, and $236 greater in Professional, Scientific and Technical Services.

33 The data in Table 6 reflect the differences between the average (i.e., mean) weekly earnings of Whites in 2006 and those of the other specified groups. All of the earnings data were expressed in 2006 dollars. Positive numbers indicate higher White earnings; negative ones indicate that the earnings of Whites were lower.

34 The overall White-Hispanic wage gap is $4.25 per hour. Assuming a 40-hour work week, that would produce a gap in weekly earnings of $170. But since the Hispanic average weekly earnings in Construction is $701, and $604 in Durable Goods Manufacturing, employment in these sectors is preferable to that in, for example, Accommodation and Food Service, when the average weekly earnings for the group is only $397.

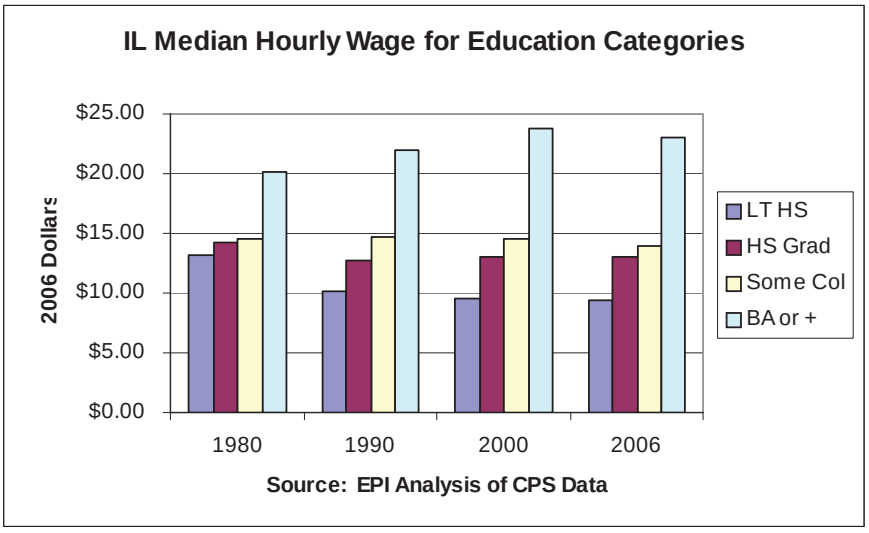
TABLE 6

White-Minority Differences in Average Weekly Earnings 2006			
	African-American	**Hispanic**	**Asian**
Construction	$310	$274	$137
Durable Goods Manufacturing	$398	$382	$351
Finance and Insurance	$350	$373	-$78
Management, Administrative, and Support	$173	$241	-$107
Educational Services	$43	$102	-$319
Health Care and Social Assistance	$152	$150	-$175
Source: Analysis of CPS 2006 ORG Data			

Education Boosts Wages and Incomes

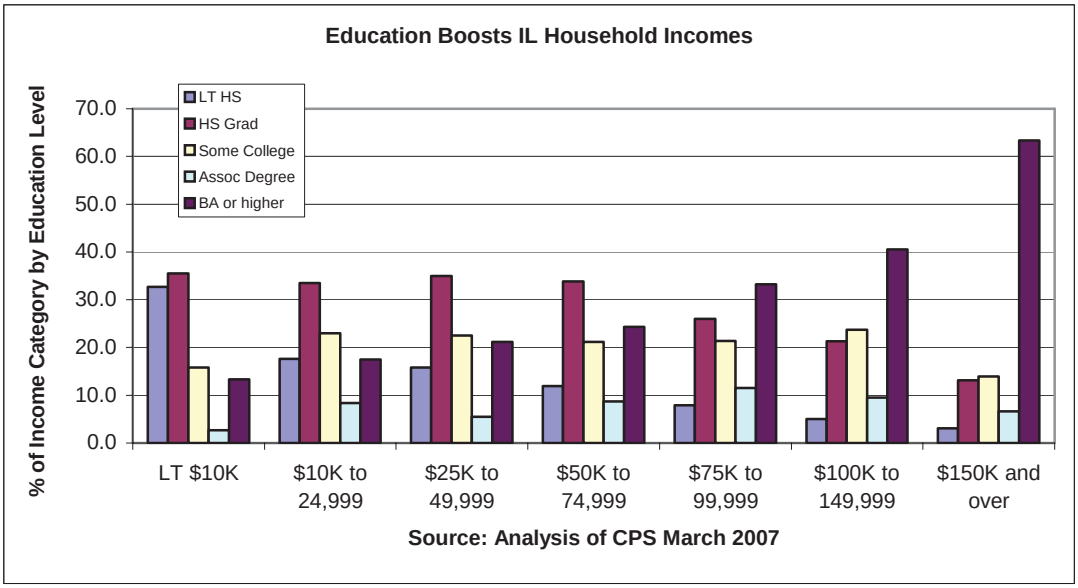
As the Illinois economy has changed over the past decades, so have the requirements for good-paying jobs. The decline of manufacturing jobs and the growth of service activities have shifted the skill sets needed to access and retain good-paying jobs. As a result, wages vary ever more closely with skills – or what can proxy for them, education levels. An examination of median hourly wages by education categories illustrates this development.

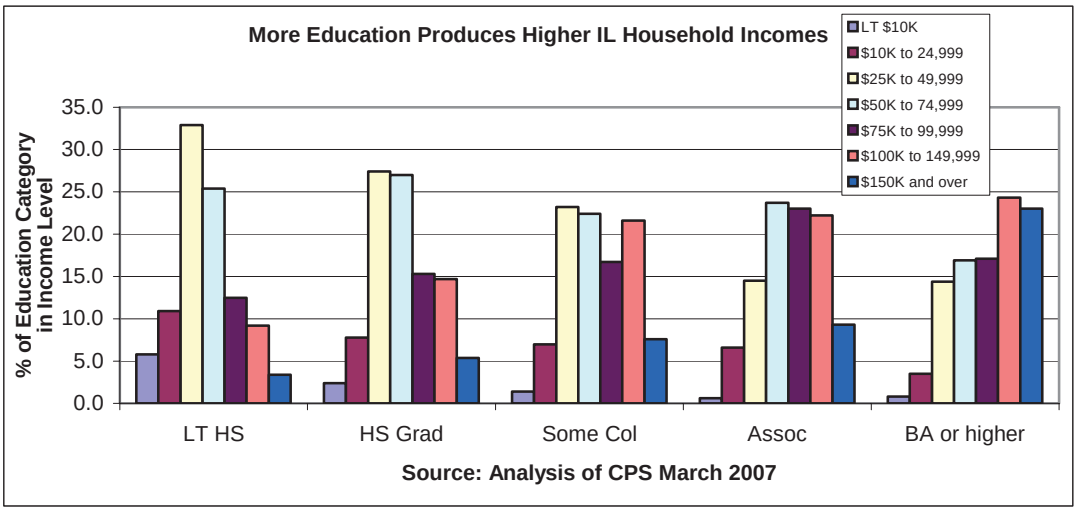
Expressed in real (2006) dollars, between 1980 and 2006, median hourly wages for those with less than a high school diploma fell by $3.77 (-28.7%). Individuals with only a high school education experienced an 8.7% drop (-$1.25). Workers with some college but no degree experienced a $.64 drop (-4.3%) in median wages. On the other hand, only those with at least a college degree experienced any gains: $2.89 per hour (14.3%)



While median wages over time have consistently varied directly with education levels, the relationship has grown more pronounced. In 1980 the median hourly wage for those with less than a high school diploma was 65.1% of the size of the corresponding wage for those with at least a college degree, and the gap between these two median hourly wages was $7.01. By 2006 those with less than a high school diploma were earning a median hourly wage that was only 40.5% of that earned by those in the top education category, and the gap between the two categories of wage earners had grown to $13.67, a 95.0% increase over 1980. The deterioration in wage status for those lacking a post-secondary education demonstrates that they are more likely to be consigned to lower-paying jobs that lacked pathways for significant upward economic mobility.

In light of these changes, it is not surprising that household income in Illinois is strongly linked to education levels. Workers with low levels of education clustered in the lower-income categories. Of those with less than a high school diploma, 49.6% earned under $50,000, as did 37.6% of those who had only graduated from high school. Indeed, the income category into which the largest percentage of both of these groups fell was $25,000 to $49,999.[35] It was only as workers moved up the education ladder -- and especially as they attained a post-secondary credential -- that the household incomes they reported improved appreciably. Of those who had earned an associate degree, 54.5% earned $75,000 or more. And among those with at least a B.A. degree, 66.4% earned $75,000 or more, and 23.0% of them -- better than twice the proportion of any of the other educational levels – were in the top category of income earners, making $150,000 per year and over.





35 Of those with less than a high school diploma, 32.9% fell into this category, as did 27.4% of those who had only graduated from high school.

Minorities Behind in Education and Income

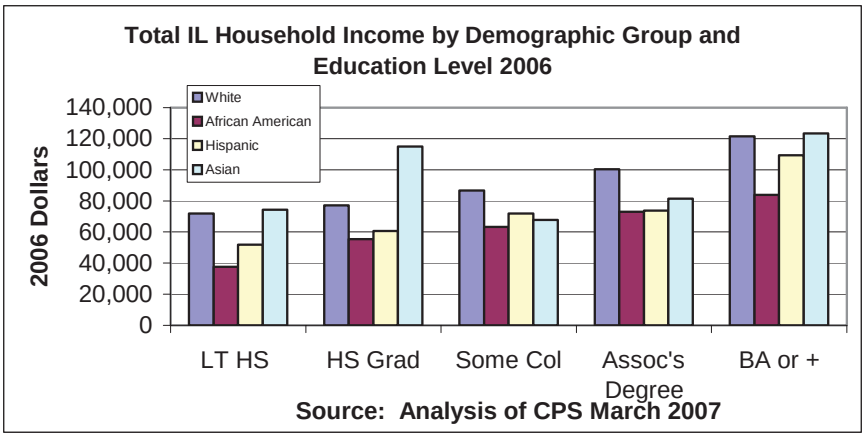
The state's largest minority groups – African-Americans and Hispanics – generally have lower levels of education than Whites, so it is not surprising that their household incomes cluster toward the lower categories. Among African-Americans, 56.2% earned less than $50,000, as did 55.5% of Hispanics.[36] Only 34.5% of Whites and 25.8% of Asians fall into the three lower income categories. At the other end of the income ladder, while in recent years African-Americans and Hispanics have improved their respective shares, they still lag considerably behind Whites and Asians. For example, only 26.5% of African-Americans and 22.8% of Hispanics earn $75,000 or more, while 42.9% of Whites and 51.4% of Asians earn at that level. Moreover, only very small proportions of African-American and Hispanic workers fall into the top earnings category -- $150,000 and over; but 11.8% of the Whites and 22.3% of the Asians reported earnings at this level.

TABLE 7

Percent of Each Group in Illinois Within Each Income Category

Income Category	White (%)	African-American (%)	Hispanic (%)	Asian (%)
LT $10K	2.6	7.2	5.9	2.6
$10K to 24,999	8.1	16.4	10.8	5.7
$25K to 49,999	23.8	32.6	38.8	17.5
$50K to 74,999	22.6	17.3	21.8	22.8
$75K to 99,999	14.2	13.7	9.8	16.3
$100K to 149,999	16.9	9.8	10.2	12.8
$150K and over	11.8	3.0	2.8	22.3

Source: Analysis of CPS March 2007



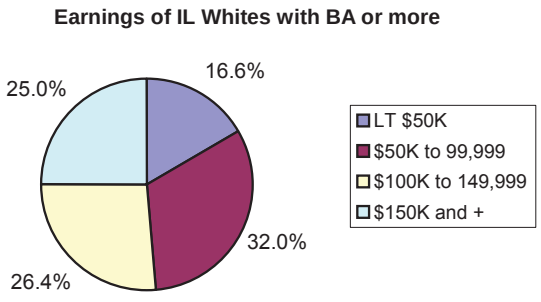
While African-American and Hispanic household incomes lag behind their White and Asian counterparts, increased education works powerfully to boost the incomes of these groups. For all of the state's major ethnic/racial groups, with only one exception, increased education levels correlate with increased household income.[37] Moreover, within each of these groups, households incomes for

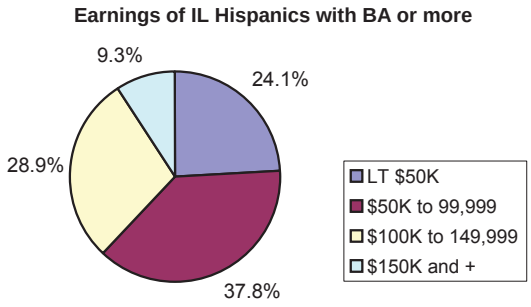
36 It is worth noting that percentages of African-Americans and Hispanics falling into the three-lowest earnings categories are smaller now than they were earlier. In the 2005 report, the respective percentages were 71.1% and 60.5%. Correspondingly, the percentages earning in the top-three categories (i.e., $75,000 or more) in the 2005 report were 12.5% for African-Americans and 13.6% for Hispanics. See The State of Working Illinois 2005, Table 3, p. 28, for the detailed data.

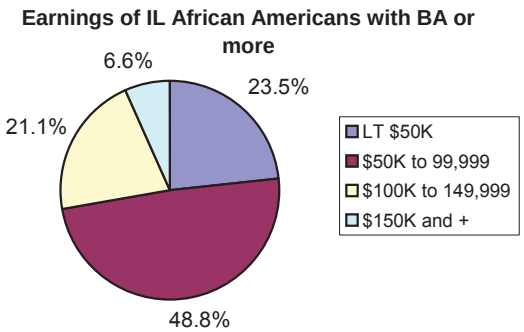
37 The exception is the extremely high level of income reported for Asians with only a high school diploma, but this may be a product of the small number of cases falling into that cell.

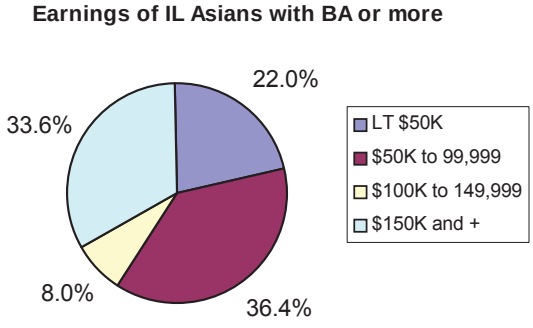
those with college degrees is substantially higher than for those without that post-secondary credential. This demonstrated importance of education to higher earnings obviously raises questions concerning access to quality K-12 education generally and the increasing costs of post-secondary training specifically, and the extent to which these factors operate to restrict opportunity for difference ethnic, racial, and income groups.

However, education does not erase all disparities between Whites and minorities. Even when education is taken into account, Whites and Asians retain their earnings advantages over African-Americans and Hispanics. For example, among Whites and Asians with at least a college degree, 51.4% and 41.6%, respectively, earn over $100,000 per year, and 25.0% of the Whites and 33.6% of the Asians fall into the highest category of annual earnings, $150,000 or more. Smaller proportions of African-Americans and Hispanics have at least a bachelor's degree (25.1% and 11.4%, respectively), but this level of education does not increase incomes as broadly for them as it does among Whites and Asians. For instance, only 27.7% of the African-Americans with college degrees or better earn over $100,000 per year, which is just slightly better than half the rate for Whites. Among Hispanics who are college educated, 38.2% achieve the $100,000 annual income level, only about three-quarters of the corresponding rate for Whites Moreover, among African-Americans and Hispanics who are college educated only 6.6% and 9.3%, respectively, reached the top earnings category. Thus, as these data show, even at the top level of educational attainment, appreciably greater percentages of Whites and Asians than African-Americans and Hispanics realize top economic benefits. While the route to increased household incomes for these minority groups in Illinois is clearly through education, the substantial disparities in earnings that persist even within the same high level of educational attainment reinforces earlier suggestions of unequal outcomes.



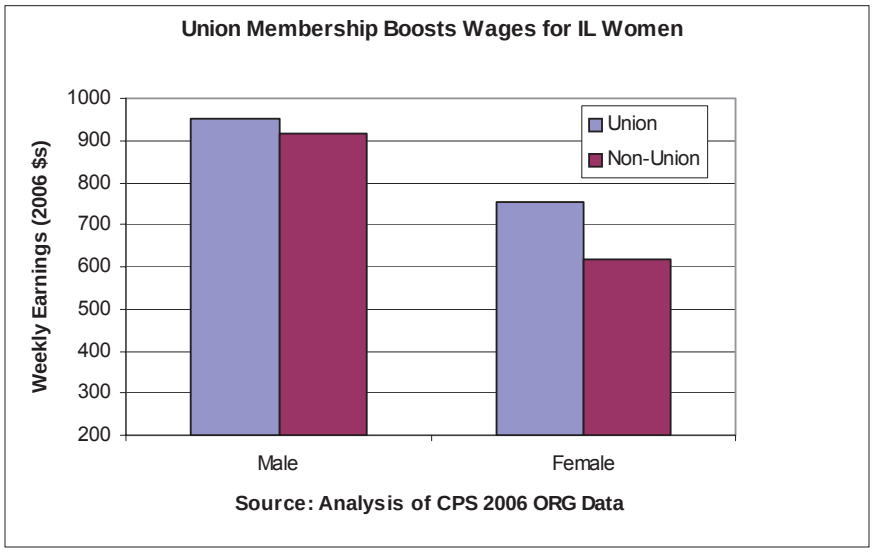


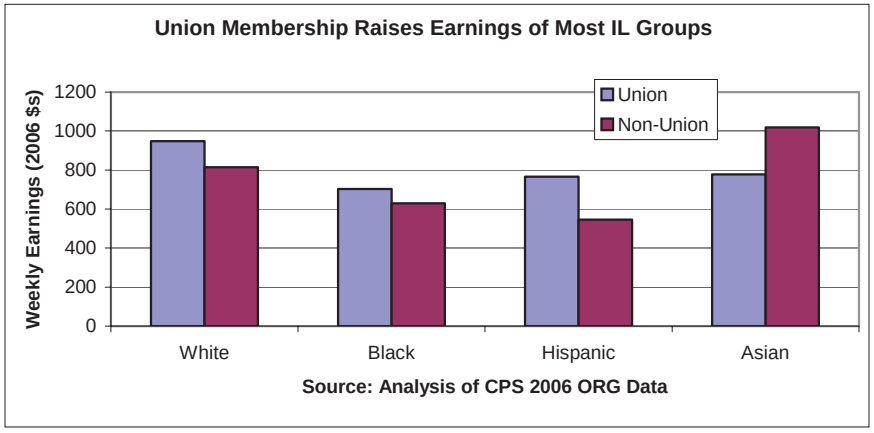




Union Membership Increases Wages

In addition to education, one other factor works to boost the earnings of Illinois workers – membership in labor unions. Overall, the average weekly earnings of union members in the state are $110 per week, or 14.2%, higher than non-union members.[38] The earnings premium that derives from union membership also works to boost the wages of women and some minority groups. For women, union membership yields a wage premium of about 21.5% compared to females who are not members of unions. African-Americans who are union members have average weekly wages that are 11.6% higher than their non-union counterparts, and the boost for Hispanic workers is 40.1%. White workers derive about a 16.3% premium in average weekly wages from union membership. The single exception occurs among Asians, as those who are not union members earn a weekly average wage that is 30.8% above that of union members.[39]





Comparatively few workers in Illinois benefit from the union boost in weekly earnings, because only 16.4% of the state's workforce were union members in 2006, a drop from 20.8% in 1990. An even smaller percentage of females – 12.1% -- were members of unions. Union membership also varied considerably across ethnic and racial groups: African-Americans and Hispanics had the highest rates, 25.0% and 26.2%, respectively, while 13.8% of Whites and only 7.3% of Asians were members of labor unions.[40]

Union membership also varies considerably across industry sectors in Illinois. Of those employed in Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services only 1.2% are union members, as are only 6.2% of the workers in Management, Administrative and Support Services. Together these are the two major components of the Professional and Business

38 The average weekly earnings of union members are $880, compared to $770 for those who are not members. The data are from an analysis of the CPS Outgoing Rotation Group (ORG) for 2006.

39 The high number of Asians in management, professional, and scientific occupations may explain this exception.

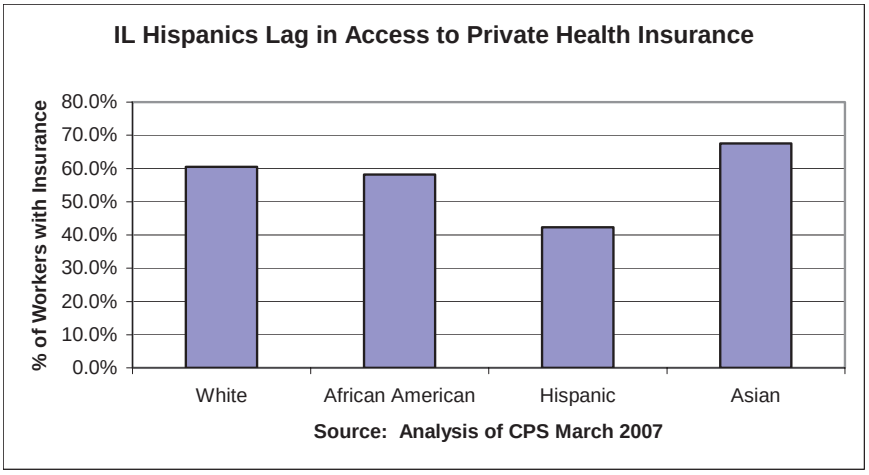
40 The demographic breakdown of union membership rates comes from analysis of the March 2007 CPS. The over-time rates of union membership are from an EPI analysis of CPS data.

Services sector, the fastest growing sector in Illinois since 1990. Other activities with low proportions of union members include: Retail Trade (5.9%); Health Care and Social Assistance (7.9%); Finance and Insurance (1.6%); and Accommodation and Food Service (4.7%).[41]

Growing Economic Insecurity: Health Insurance and Pensions

In addition to the loss of higher-paying jobs and declines in real wages, Illinois workers and their families have had to cope with other aspects of heightened economic insecurity, especially the decline of employer-provided health care and pension benefits. All aspects of the costs associated with health care have been rising, and at a pace exceeding the general rate of inflation and nominal wage increments. Per capita health care costs in 2005 were $6,697, which represented an increase of 138.1% over 1990, and 39.8% over 2000.[42] The average annual rate of increase in per capita health care expenditures was 6.5% between 1993 and 2000, but accelerated to 7.9% between 2001 and 2005. These rapidly escalating health care costs have been accompanied by increases in private health insurance premiums, both for individuals and companies. Between 1993 and 2000, the average annual increase in health insurance premiums was 6.7%, but between 2001 and 2005 period it averaged 8.1%. Between 1993 and 2005, the overall increase in premiums for employer provided health insurance has been 134.9%.

In the face of such rapid cost increases, many employers have eliminated or drastically scaled back their health insurance plans for employees. Indeed, the National Bureau of Economic Research reported two years ago that 14.0% of small businesses were offering their employees significant incentives not to participate in company medical plans or aggressively encouraging them to enroll in a spouse's plan.[43] Nationally and in Illinois, private sector employer-provided health insurance began declining in the 1980s. At the beginning of that decade 69.9% of the nation's workforce and 75.4% of the state's had employer-provided coverage; but by the end of the 1980s, those percentages had dropped to 60.4% and 66.0%, respectively. Thereafter, the decline continued, although more slowly. By 2004-06, 55.3% of the workers nationally and 59.2% of the workers in Illinois had employer-provided health insurance.



However, in some important subsectors, the rate of coverage is considerably lower. For example, in Management, Administrative and Support Services only 38.7% of the workers have employer-provided health insurance. In Retail Trade the coverage is only 41.7% and 40.6% in the Other Services sector. A meager 24.7% of the workers in Accommodation and Food Service have employer-provided health insurance, as do 27.3% in Art, Entertainment

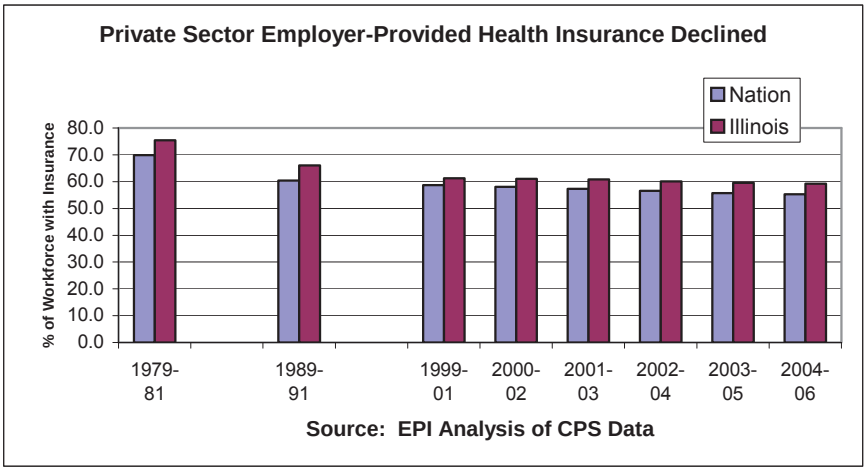
41 Analysis of the Current Population Survey Outgoing Rotation Group (ORG) for 2006.

42 Data on health care costs are from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Office of the Actuary, National Health Statistics Group, at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalHealthExpendData.

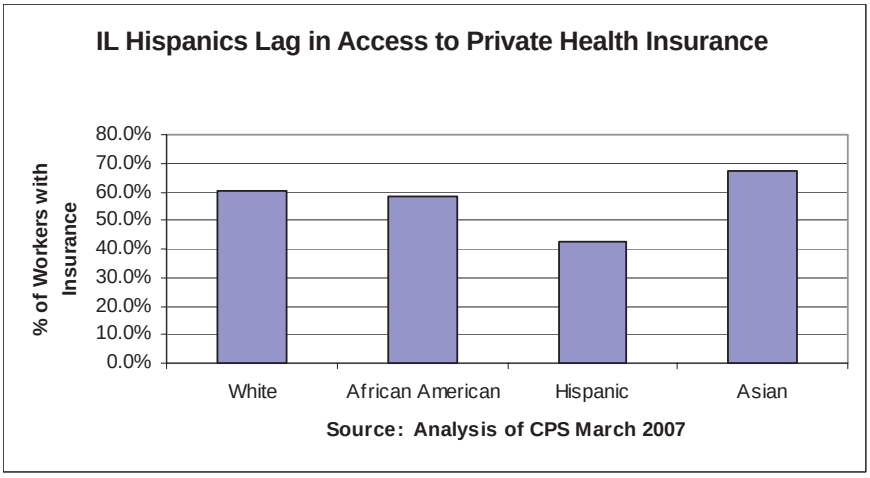
43 National Bureau of Economic Research, The NBER Digest (August 2005).

and Recreation – which includes the politically popular gambling casinos.[44]

The drop in private sector health insurance has left Hispanic workers and their families especially vulnerable, since only 42.3% of them have employer-provided coverage. Among White and African-American workers only slightly better than half have health insurance through their employers, while 67.5% of the Asian workers do.



This shrinkage in employer provided health coverage means that an ever increasing number of Illinois workers and their families lack the security of access to affordable medical care. The proportion of Illinois residents lacking any health insurance has increased from 10.9% in 1990 to 14.0% in 2006. While that is below the 15.8% rate of uninsured at the national level, it does mean that large numbers of citizens are routinely placed in medical jeopardy, unable to afford treatment for themselves and their families. Moreover, even those with health insurance have had to incur more health related costs out of their family budgets due to increases in premiums, higher co-pays, prescription drug price increases, or all three.



Changes in pension coverage – especially in reducing or eliminating employer provided programs – have also reduced the economic security of many workers in Illinois. During the 1979-81 period, 49.8% of workers nationally, along with 55.6% in Illinois, were covered by private sector employer-provided pension plans, nearly all of which were defined benefit plans. A sharp decline in coverage began during the 1980s, and by 1989-90 national coverage had dropped to 44.0% and the Illinois coverage to 50.8%. Some small gains in coverage occurred during the 1990s, but the decline resumed after 2000. By the 2004-06 period, only 44.1% of the national workforce, and 48.6% of the state's workers, had an employer-provided pension.

Access to employer-provided pensions also varies greatly across industrial subsectors in Illinois. Of the workers in Retail Trade, 46.2% have pension plans available to them. But in other growing activities, the coverage rates are even lower: Real Estate and Leasing, 32.7%; Other Services, 30.2%; Art,

44 Analysis of CPS March 2007.

Entertainment, and Recreation, 30.4%; and Accommodation and Food Service, 25.3%.[45]

Currently, only 53.7% of the Illinois workforce has an employer-provide pension plan. As might be expected, Whites (at 58.3%) and Asians (at 56.1%) were considerably more likely to have employer-provided pensions than minorities. African-American workers—at 47.3%—fall below the coverage levels of both of these groups, and the Hispanic coverage rate (35.3%) lags even further.[46] But even the highest rate of coverage—that for Whites -- means that only slightly more than half of the group had access to an employer-provided retirement plan.

Patterns of New Job Creation

More than 24% of all occupations are expected to decline

Projections of new job creation in Illinois over the next decade developed by the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) reveal patterns that will reinforce the polarization of the workforce into high-wage and low-wage segments. One way to reveal these patterns is to sort all jobs by occupational category, and then group occupations by the level of education and/or job training that employers require.

Table 8 compares 2004 and projected 2014 data on the distribution of all jobs in the state by the level of required education and/or job training. The data reveal that about 51.5 % of all new jobs that are expected to be created require only

TABLE 8

The Number of Illinois Jobs in Occupations by Preparation Level 2004–2014 Projection

	2004		2014		Difference	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total
Short Term OJT	2,179,898	36.6%	2,334,497	36.0%	154,599	29.5%
Moderate Term OJT	1,220,467	20.5%	1,274,118	19.7%	53,651	10.2%
Long Term OJT	409,698	6.9%	442,216	6.8%	32,518	6.2%
Work Experience in related Occupation	459,866	7.7%	489,151	7.5%	29,285	5.6%
Postsecondary vocational training	231,695	3.9%	258,152	4.0%	26,457	5.0%
Associate's Degree	209,541	3.5%	245,988	3.8%	36,447	7.0%
Bachelor's Degree	745,365	12.5%	868,170	13.4%	122,805	23.4%
Bachelor's Degree or higher, plus work experience	281,560	4.7%	317,910	4.9%	36,350	6.9%
Master's Degree	84,996	1.4%	97,420	1.5%	12,424	2.4%
Doctoral Degree	52,821	0.9%	60,378	0.9%	7,557	1.5%
First Professional Degree	81,278	1.4%	93,311	1.4%	12,033	2.3%
Total	5,957,185	100.0%	6,481,311	100.0%	524,126	100.0%

45 Analysis of CPS March 2007.

46 Analysis of CPS March 2007.

on-the-job training and/or similar work experience. About 12 % of new jobs are expected to require some post-secondary vocational training or an associate degree. About 36.5% will require at least a bachelor's degree.

Table 9 uses these same definitions to categorize the number of occupations that are expected to experience growth or decline from 2004 to 2014. The data in the table reveal that a great deal of occupational churning is expected to occur over the next decade. Structural shifts in the economy that were discussed earlier in this report are shifting the skills that workers need to have. In total, more than 24% of all occupations are expected to decline. The great majority of the decline will be felt in low-skill occupations that require less formal on-the-job training while at the same time most of the growth will occur in different occupations that also require only on-the-job training. Of the 424 occupations that require only on-the-job training or some related work experience, 153 are expected to decline while 271 are expected to grow. Even occupations that require low skill levels are undergoing major shifts in response to economic restructuring. The table also reveals that very few high skill occupations are expected to decline. Of the 209 occupations that require at least a bachelors degree, only 9 are expected to experience job decline through 2014.

TABLE 9

Occupations in Illinois by Preparation Level and Projected Job Change 2004–2014

	Stable or Growing Occupations		**Declining Occupations**		**Overall Total Occupations**	
Preparation Level	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total
Short-term on-the-job training	87	16.2%	42	23.7%	129	18.1%
Moderate-term on-the-job training	86	16.0%	80	45.2%	166	23.2%
Long-term on-the-job training	56	10.4%	24	13.6%	80	11.2%
Work experience in a related occupation	42	7.8%	7	4.0%	49	6.9%
Postsecondary vocational training	37	6.9%	8	4.5%	45	6.3%
Associate degree	35	6.5%	1	0.6%	36	5.0%
Bachelor's degree	87	16.2%	9	5.1%	96	13.4%
Bachelor's or higher degree, plus work experience	27	5.0%	3	1.7%	30	4.2%
Master's degree	34	6.3%	3	1.7%	37	5.2%
Doctoral degree	30	5.6%	0	0.0%	30	4.2%
First professional degree	16	3.0%	0	0.0%	16	2.2%
Grand Total	**537**	**100.0%**	**177**	**100.0%**	**714**	**100.0%**

Tables 10 and 11 provide detailed information about which occupations are expected to experience the largest scale of growth or decline across the entire state. If current trends continue, only seven of the high-growth occupations listed in Table 10 will require a formal educational degree, and only two of those seven will require a bachelors degree. The remaining occupations mostly require only very limited on-the-job training. Only one (Carpentry) requires more than one year of on-the-job training. Only one of the occupations expected to experience the largest job losses requires any formal education (Travel Agents) and it requires only some post-secondary vocational training. More than 46% of the new jobs in the 20 largest growing occupations require only short-term on-the-job training. The list of declining occupations presented in Table 11 shows clearly the power of advancing technologies to transform the nature of work and to make obsolete many routine skills that low-skilled workers once relied upon for job security.

Table 12 presents the income consequences of these patterns by showing the average wages for occupations categorized according to educational and/or experience requirements. Using these data, the median income of the largest growing occupations that require only short-term on-the-job training is only about $1,000 higher than the poverty level for a family of four ($19,743 vs. the poverty level of $18,850). These occupations are expected to create 128,894 new jobs, or 46% of all new jobs in the occupations projected to experience the largest growth.

TABLE 11

Preparation Level	**2006 Weighted Median Wage**
First professional degree	$88,939.57
Bachelor's or higher degree, plus work experience	$68,413.59
Doctoral degree	$55,948.51
Bachelor's degree	$54,709.34
Master's degree	$50,950.99
Work experience in a related occupation	$49,698.28
Associate degree	$48,341.82
Long-term on-the-job training	$43,512.51
Moderate-term on-the-job training	$33,516.18
Postsecondary vocational training	$32,724.09
Short-term on-the-job training	$20,983.16

TABLE 10

Illinois Occupations with the Largest Projected Growth 2004–2014					
Growing Occupations	**Base Employment 2004**	**Projected Employment 2014**	**Numeric Growth**	**Median Wage (2004)**	**Preparation level***
1. Registered Nurses	100,053	119,357	19,304	$52,394	Associate Deg.
2. Retail Salespersons	187,843	207,112	19,269	$19,542	Short-term OJT
3. Laborers and Freight, Stock, Material Movers	154,242	171,683	17,441	$20,718	Short-term OJT
4. Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maid/Hskpr	108,965	125,872	16,907	$20,792	Short-term OJT
5. Business Operations Specialists, All Other	62,470	76,845	14,375	$57,791	Bachelor Degree
6. Customer Service Representatives	93,003	107,118	14,115	$30,154	Moderate OJT
7. Secondary Sch Teachers, Exc Sp/VocEd	69,645	81,153	11,508	$52,693	Bachelor Degree
8. Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	75,321	85,661	10,340	$38,782	Moderate OJT
9. Comb Food Prep/Srv Wkrs, Fast Food	76,923	87,232	10,309	$14,833	Short-term OJT
10. Waiters and Waitresses	78,400	88,641	10,241	$14,401	Short-term OJT
11. Elementary School Teachers, Exc SpecEd	52,459	62,464	10,005	$47,648	Bachelor Degree
12. General and Operations Managers	76,502	86,279	9,777	$81,927	BA + experience
13. Accountants and Auditors	56,181	65,567	9,386	$54,874	Bachelor Degree
14. Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	59,317	68,407	9,090	$20,581	Short-term OJT
15. Teacher Assistants	45,155	53,327	8,172	$19,228	Short-term OJT
16. Computer Systems Analysts	24,650	31,865	7,215	$73,367	Bachelor Degree
17. Receptionists and Information Clerks	50,801	57,865	7,064	$23,260	Short-term OJT
18. Truck Drivers, Light or Delivery Services	43,102	50,110	7,008	$29,030	Short-term OJT
19. Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	45,911	52,455	6,544	$21,225	Short-term OJT
20. Sales Reps, Whole and Mfg, Exc Tech/Sci	77,373	83,795	6,422	$51,708	Moderate OJT
21. Food Preparation Workers	38,958	44,981	6,023	$17,087	Short-term OJT
22. Management Analysts	26,998	32,956	5,958	$69,165	BA + experience
23. Home Health Aides	20,225	25,869	5,644	$20,280	Short-term OJT
24. Carpenters	51,126	56,741	5,615	$51,950	Long-term OJT
25. Computer Software Engineers, Applications	13,597	19,169	5,572	$71,991	Bachelor Degree
26. Computer Software Engineers, Software	13,600	19,100	5,500	$83,693	Bachelor Degree
27. Personal and Home Care Aides	20,446	25,628	5,182	$16,724	Short-term OJT
28. Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	18,524	23,689	5,165	$25,806	Post. Voc.
29. Exec Secretaries and Adm Assistants	73,774	78,851	5,077	$36,279	Moderate OJT
30. Team Assemblers	63,844	68,826	4,982	$22,499	Moderate OJT

*OJT = on-the-job training

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security; U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

TABLE 12

Illinois Occupations with the Largest Projected Decrease 2004 - 2014					
Declining Occupations	**Base Employment 2004**	**Projected Employment 2014**	**Numeric Growth**	**Median Wage (2006)**	**Preparation Level**
1. Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	72,106	63,144	-8,962	$19,868	Short-term OJT
2. Secretaries, Exc Legal, Medical, and Executive	78,239	73,463	-4,776	$26,490	Moderate OJT
3. File Clerks	10,783	6,387	-4,396	$22,096	Short-term OJT
4. Order Clerks	12,350	8,863	-3,487	$26,293	Short-term OJT
5. Mail Clerks and Machine Operators, Exc Postal	8,721	5,250	-3,471	$21,256	Short-term OJT
6. Cut, Punch, and Press Mach Setters, Ops and Tend	15,755	12,412	-3,343	$25,754	Moderate OJT
7. Cashiers	134,187	130,861	-3,326	$16,658	Short-term OJT
8. Computer Operators	5,704	3,671	-2,033	$33,394	Moderate OJT
9. Production Workers, All Other	23,218	21,235	-1,983	$23,230	Moderate OJT
10. Telemarketers	13,195	11,271	-1,924	$22,127	Short-term OJT
11. Switchboard Operators, Including Answg Svc	10,115	8,650	-1,465	$22,652	Short-term OJT
12. Sewing Machine Operators	7,292	5,856	-1,436	$19,128	Moderate OJT
13. Electrical and Electronic Equipment Assemblers	10,287	8,944	-1,343	$23,575	Short-term OJT
14. Machine Feeders and Offbearers	6,261	4,941	-1,320	$24,117	Short-term OJT
15. Meter Readers, Utilities	2,602	1,341	-1,261	$30,484	Short-term OJT
16. Billing and Posting Clerks and Machine Ops	19,791	18,544	-1,247	$28,812	Moderate OJT
17. Office Machine Operators, Except Computer	4,316	3,103	-1,213	$23,529	Short-term OJT
18. Credit Authorizers, Checkers, and Clerks	2,809	1,671	-1,138	$37,641	Short-term OJT
19. Metal Workers and Plastic Workers, All Other	5,998	4,916	-1,082	$26,304	Moderate OJT
20. Photographic Processing Machine Operators	2,797	1,740	-1,057	$20,385	Short-term OJT
21. Parts Salespersons	10,155	9,160	-995	$29,714	Moderate OJT
22. Inspect, Test, Sort, Sampl, and Weighers	22,040	21,086	-954	$28,761	Moderate OJT
23. Data Entry Keyers	15,823	14,875	-948	$25,080	Moderate OJT
24. Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other	17,717	16,771	-946	$25,879	Moderate OJT
25. Parking Lot Attendants	6,207	5,313	-894	$17,030	Short-term OJT
26. Travel Agents	5,884	5,078	-806	$25,607	Post Vocational
27. Prepress Technicians and Workers	4,162	3,403	-759	$35,805	Long-term OJT
28. Correctional Officers and Jailers	15,340	14,586	-754	$43,125	Moderate OJT

Regional Data

To better understand how employment and job creation trends vary across regions in the state, the following sections provide descriptive information for each of the ten Economic Development Regions (EDRs) identified by the Illinois Department of Community and Economic Opportunity (DCEO).

Data from the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) identify industrial sectors and occupational growth by sector, employment, education, and income changes in each region. (Additional employment and demographic data are available on the State of Working Illinois website.) The tables for each region identify the top 20 sectors in each region that are projected to create the largest number of new jobs during the years 2004 through 2014 (the most recent period for which ten-year projections are available). These data do not project all new job growth but they provide a good estimate of the overall patterns by focusing on the larger sectors. A similar analysis was performed to identify the occupations that are expected to create the largest number of new jobs in each region through 2014. These occupational data also identify the broad patterns in job creation. In particular, occupational projections help distinguish between jobs that pay higher wages from those that pay lower wages.

Most new jobs will be created in occupations that have median wages lower than the state's median wage

New Job Creation is Not Projected to Reverse Long-Term Trend of Lower Median Wages

The drop in household income provides a key statewide trend. In addition, there has been a concurrent drop or stagnation in the median wage for men in general and for African-Americans and Hispanics in particular since 1980. The long-term erosion of the median wage for more and more groups of Illinois workers, despite some recent partial recovery, is also reflected in the growing income inequality data presented previously in this report.

To reverse these trends, the Illinois economy will need to create a new wave of "high-wage" jobs to avoid perpetuating the drop in median wages that has been experienced by many Illinois workers since 1990. IDES occupational projections of the new jobs expected to be created in Illinois between 2004 and 2014 based on current industry trends, however, indicate that Illinois will not generate enough high wage jobs to counter growing income inequality. In fact, we estimate that less than half - only 45.6% - of the new jobs expected to be created through 2014 will have wages that exceed the current median wage ($40,217) in Illinois. Most new jobs (54.4%) will be created in occupations that have median wages lower than the state's median wage.

The imbalance between the creation of high and low wage jobs is even more striking when we look at the extremes. The bottom of the wage scale is growing much faster than the top. Only 36,827 new jobs statewide, or 6.2% of all new jobs, are expected to be created in occupations that have a median wage twice the state's median wage (twice $40,217, or $80,434). On the lower end of the pay scale, however, 110,464 new jobs statewide, or 18.5% of all new jobs, are expected to be created in occupations that have a median wage less than half the state's median

wage (half of $40,217, or $20,108). Statewide, the economy is projected to produce about three new jobs that pay less than half the state's median wage for every one job that pays more than twice the state's median wage. If these patterns stay in place, they will continue to push down the state's median wage for the foreseeable future.

Data summarized in Table 9 show that no region in Illinois is expected to create more jobs above the statewide median wage than below between 2004 and 2014. The region that comes closest to that goal is the state's largest, the Northeastern region, where about half of the jobs will be created in occupations that have median wages above the statewide median. Looking at the extremes in the Northeastern region, these data project that for every one job created in an occupation that has median wages twice the level of the statewide median, two jobs will be produced in occupations that have median wages less than half the statewide median.

The West Central region is projected to perform the worst in this regard, with only 20 % of its projected new job growth coming in occupations that have median wages above the statewide median and 80% of all new jobs in occupations with median wages below the statewide median. Looking at the extremes in the West Central region reveals that for every one job created in an occupation that has median wages twice the statewide median, almost 63 jobs are projected to be created in occupations that have median wages less than half the statewide median.

TABLE 13

New Job Creation Is Not Projected to Reverse Long-Term Trend of Lower Median Wages

Region	Projected Creation of New Jobs in Region Through 2014	Percent of new Jobs in Region with Median Wages Above State Median Wage ($40,217)	Percent of New Jobs in Region with Current Wages Twice the State Median Wage	Percent of New Jobs in Region with Current Wages Half the State Median Wage
Northern Stateline	21,705	35.3%	3.4%	46.5%
Northeastern	479,142	49.5%	6.5%	13.1%
Northwestern	14,218	37.9%	1.9%	25.6%
North Central	34,425	38.8%	1.9%	24.3%
Central	18,436	35.6%	2.1%	31.7%
East Central	11,609	41.5%	2.1%	17.6%
West Central	4,895	20.0%	0.6%	38.1%
Southeastern	5,819	25.6%	1.8%	37.9%
Southern	6,996	35.9%	1.4%	39.5%
Southwestern	18,498	41.2%	2.8%	26.1%
Statewide	597,815	45.6%	6.2%	18.5%

*Median wage for the state was calculated from statewide data provided by IDES and weighting by # jobs in each wage category. Only wage data from growing occupations was used in this analysis.

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security

Creation of New Jobs Will Be Uneven Across Illinois

As discussed earlier in this report, the overall economy of Illinois has begun to grow in the last few years at a rate higher than the rest of the Midwest region, and even slightly above the U.S. national average. If this trend continues, it can yield important benefits for the entire state. But it is unclear how broadly this growth will be distributed within the state. In the previous section, we examined the difficulty that may emerge in using this growth to achieve further improvements in the state's median wages across the full range of occupations, and how that goal may be more easily reached in the Northeastern region than in any other part of the state. This section looks more directly at the distribution of all job growth across the state's different regions, regardless of the wages that are paid to new jobs in different occupations.

As the map below indicates, growth in total employment for the period from 2000 to 2006 was not distributed evenly across the state. Not only did the Northeastern region receive a large majority of the higher-wage growth, it also received a large majority of all job growth. This pattern is not expected to change in the projected period of 2004 to 2014. During those years, the Northeastern region is expected to be the principal engine of new job growth in the state. About 80.15 % of all new jobs are projected to be created in the Northeastern region, even though the region contains only 68.32% of all existing jobs and 68.26 % of the state's population.

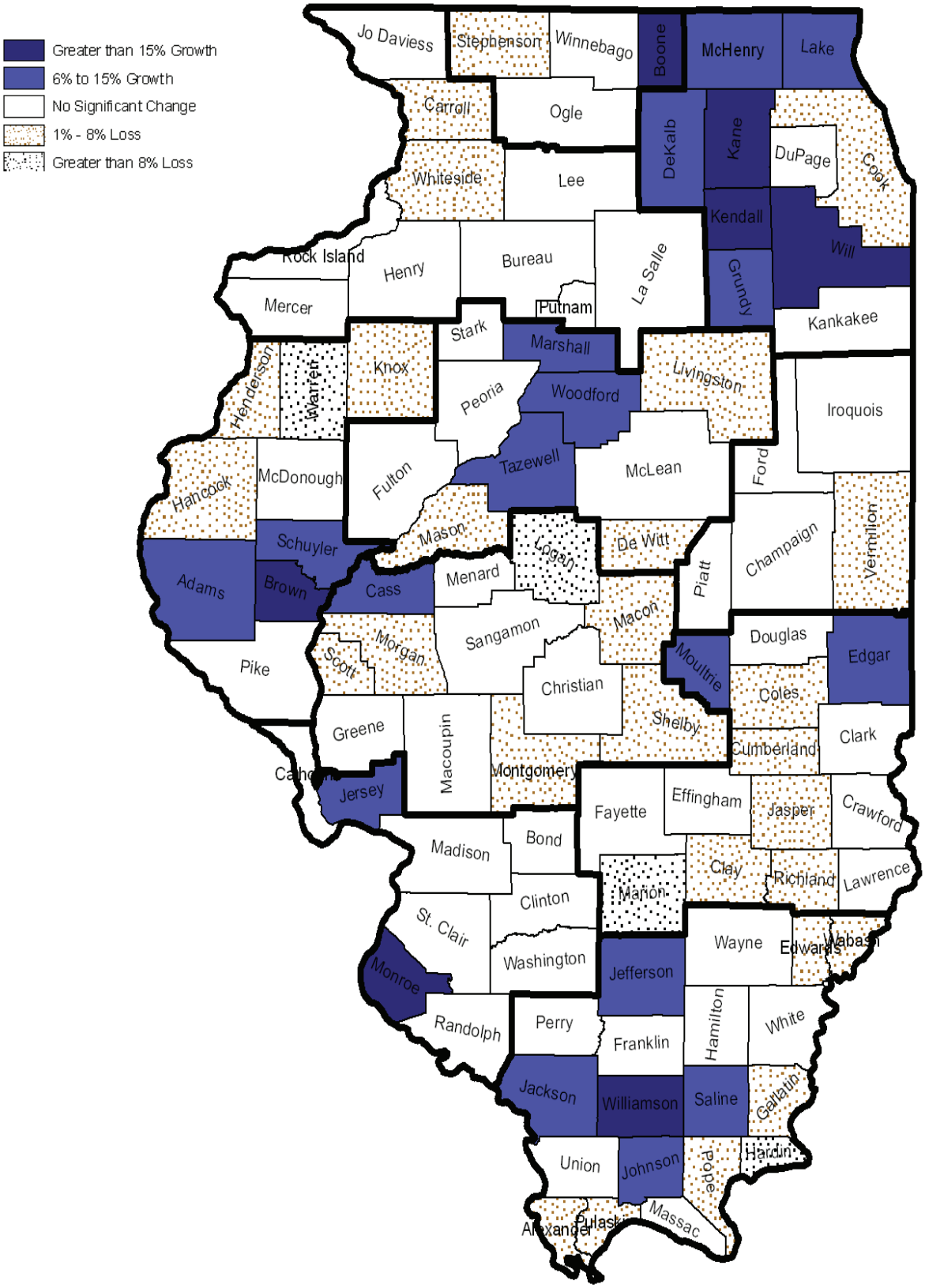
The weakest region in terms of job growth is expected to be the Southern region, where only 3.09 % of new jobs are expected to be created even though 5.24 % of all jobs are there now, as well as 5.36 % of the state's population.

TABLE 14

Percent of Projected New Job Creation by Region 2004-2014

	Percent of Population 2007	Percent of Jobs 2007	Percent of New Jobs Projected 2004-2014
Northern Stateline	3.5%	3.6%	3.6%
Northeastern	68.2%	68.3%	80.1%
Northwestern	3.9%	3.9%	2.3%
North Central	4.8%	5.1%	5.7%
Central	4.5%	4.3%	3.0%
East Central	2.7%	2.8%	1.9%
West Central	1.7%	1.7%	0.8%
Southeastern	2.0%	2.1%	0.9%
Southern	3.0%	2.7%	1.1%
Southwestern	5.3%	5.2%	3.0%
Statewide	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

County Job Gain/Loss 2000–2007

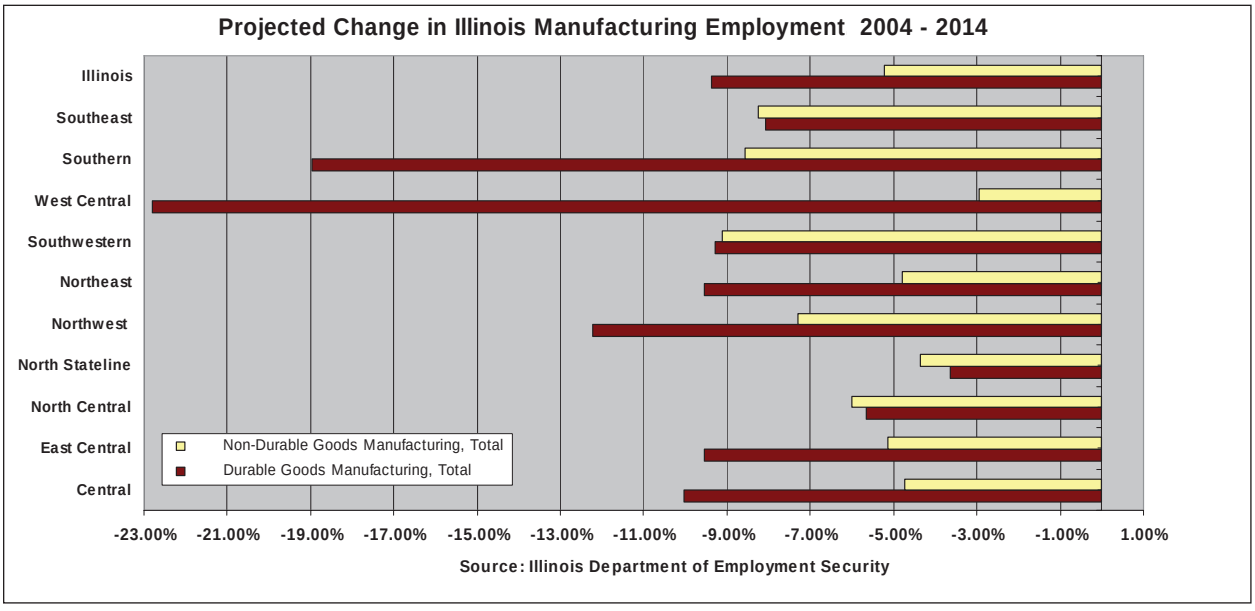


Manufacturing Will Continue to be a Major Sector in Illinois

Workers, communities and companies continue to suffer from the loss of jobs in the manufacturing sector throughout Illinois. Although the rate of decline has slowed considerably over the last few years, the longer-term projections made by the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) anticipate continued job erosion. The erosion is expected to hit the durable goods producing sectors harder than the non-durable goods sectors. The net effect of long-term erosion is expected to be a net loss of about 53,000 jobs between 2004 and 2014.

Ironically, the continued loss of overall employment in the manufacturing sector will coincide with a period of time that is expected to bring about high rates of retirement among older workers. Many of the manufacturing sectors contain large percentages of older workers (this was the subject of a previous publication in the State of Working Illinois series). The combination of these two trends (continued erosion of jobs and high retirement rates) is likely to yield an unusually high need for new workers in many otherwise declining sectors. Since many manufacturing jobs will continue to pay wages that are well above the state's averages, these sectors will continue to play an important role in providing good wages for Illinois workers. Indeed, by 2014 the manufacturing sector is expected to still provide almost 13.5 % of all jobs in the state.

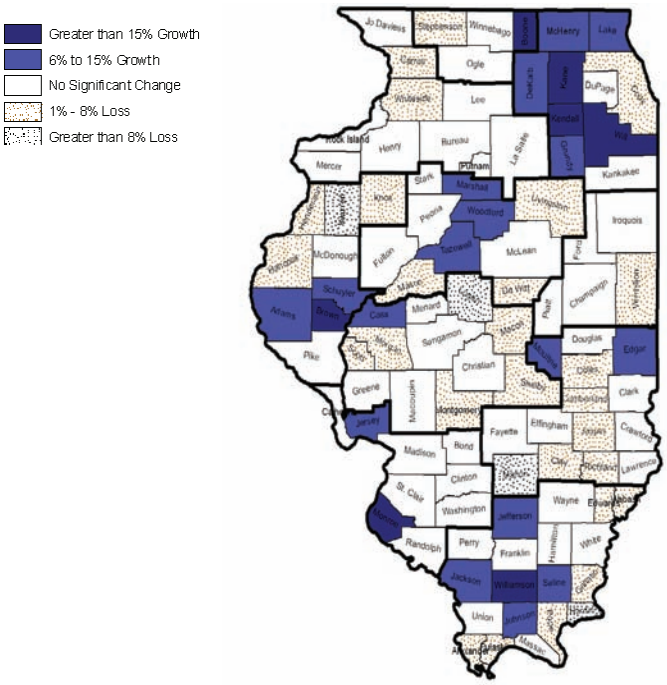
These statewide trends will affect regions within Illinois differently. The West Central Region is projected to be hit the worst in terms of overall job losses. These losses are expected to be worst among the durable goods sectors within that region's network of small and medium sized towns. Durable goods producers in the Southern Region are also expected to see continued job erosion at levels higher than the state average. The least erosion among manufacturing jobs is projected in the Northern Stateline region, which has the Rockford area as its core. Even with projected losses, the Rockford region's economy is expected to maintain its traditional manufacturing strength.



Illinois Summary

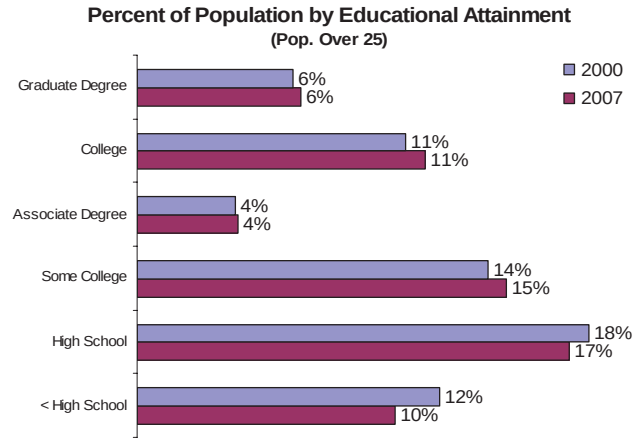
Profile	2000	2007	% Change
Population (1/1/2007):	12,419,293	12,864,772	3.59%
Population, Median Age:	34.7	34.7	0.00%
Percent Population 65+:	12.08%	11.49%	-4.85%
White Population, Alone:	9,125,471	9,288,264	1.78%
Black Population, Alone:	1,876,875	1,835,030	-2.23%
Asian Population, Alone:	428,213	526,898	23.05%
Other Population:	988,734	1,214,580	22.84%
Hispanic Population:	1,530,262	1,848,260	20.78%

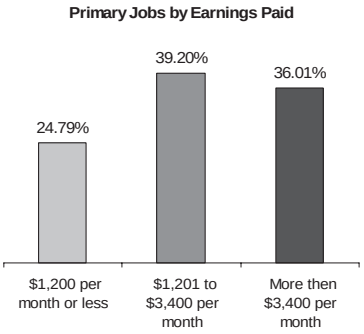
County Job Gain/Loss 2000–2007

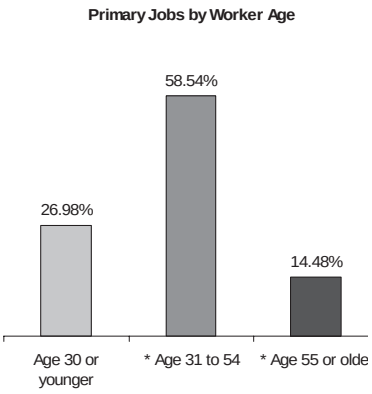


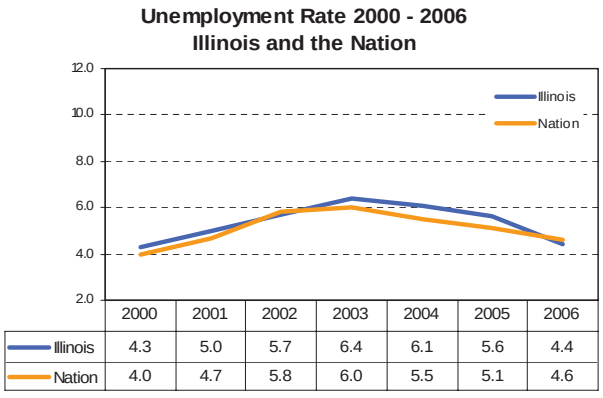
Total Employment 2000–2007

Area Name	2000	2007	% Change
Central Region	265,625	268,065	0.92%
East Central Region	168,963	173,418	2.64%
North Central Region	305,427	317,044	3.80%
Northwest Region	239,572	241,146	0.66%
Northeast Region	3,929,299	4,227,462	7.59%
Northern Stateline Region	203,601	223,763	9.90%
Southeast Region	135,579	134,401	-0.87%
Southern Region	167,498	169,600	1.25%
Southwestern Region	307,922	323,938	5.20%
West Central	111,836	108,897	-2.63%
Statewide Total	5,835,322	6,187,734	6.04%









Illinois Industry Structure Summary

- Illinois lost 15,896 manufacturing jobs (2.3%) from 2003 – 2005, a significant decrease from the previous two year period.
- The state has an annual mean wage of $48,880 for stable manufacturing jobs.
- Manufacturing jobs make up 10.7% of total employment in Illinois in 2005.
- Higher-wage service jobs make up 21.4% of total employment in Illinois in 2005.
- Lower-wage service jobs make up 31.8% of total employment in Illinois in 2

Illinois—Industry Structure

Sector	Employment, 2003	Employment, 2005	Employment Change 2003–2005	Separations Stable Jobs, 2005	New Hires Stable Jobs, 2005	Stable Jobs: Mean Earnings, 2005	New Hires Stable Jobs: Mean Earnings, 2005
Total Public/Private Employment In Sectors	6,179,371	6,258,174	1.3%	451,921	429,861	$44,244	$28,140
Manufacturing Total	685,921	670,025	-2.3%	62,445	56,928	$48,881	$36,076
Higher–Wage Service	1,307,877	1,339,638	2.4%	113,164	136,647	$50,788	$34,281
Lower–Wage Service	1,952,310	1,992,865	2.1%	169,605	129,434	$29,168	$18,646

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security.
*Total differs from the total employment data in the other tables because it excludes self-employed and agricultural workers

Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Industries Summary

- The State of Illinois is projected to gain 214,914 net new jobs between 2004 and 2014, an 8.6% increase.
- 50% of this net growth is projected to come from three industries: Food Services and Drinking Places, with a weighted mean wage of $15,936; Specialty Trade Contractors, with a weighted mean wage of $53,976; and Nursing and Residential Care Facilities, with a weighted mean wage of $25,572. These three sectors are projected to create 108,448 of the total 214,914 new jobs statewide between 2004 and 2014.
- Mean annual wages in Illinois' top growth sectors range from a low of $15,936 for Food Services and Drinking Places to a high of $109,152 for Securities, Commodities and Financial Activities.
- The top 20 growth sectors make up 84.0% of the total job growth in Illinois.

[1] Includes: NAICS 31-33 Manufacturing. U.S. Census Bureau. 2007 NAICS Codes and Titles.

[2] Higher-wage service includes: NAICS 51 Information, NAICS 52 Finance and insurance, NAICS 53 Real estate and rental and leasing, NAICS 54 Professional and technical services, NAICS 55 Management of companies and enterprises, and NAICS 56 Administrative and waste services. U.S. Census Bureau. 2002 NAICS Codes and Titles.

[3] Lower-wage service includes: NAICS 61 Educational services, NAICS 62 Health care and social assistance, NAICS 71 Arts, entertainment, and recreation, NAICS 72 Accommodation and food services, and 81 Other Services (except Public Administration). U.S. Census Bureau. 2007 NAICS Codes and Titles.

Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Industries						
Rank	NAICS	Title	Employment, 2004	Projected Employment, 2014	Employment Change	Mean Wage, 2005
		All Public and Private Employment	4,232,989	4,447,903	214,914	
		Total - declining industries*	1,057,684	978,139	-79,545	
		Total - growing industries*	3,175,305	3,469,764	294,459	
1	722///	Food Services and Drinking Places	375,618	425,558	49,940	$15,936.00
2	238///	Specialty Trade Contractors	181,608	213,019	31,411	$53,976.00
3	623///	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	121,390	148,487	27,097	$25,572.00
4	813///	Religious, Civic and Professional Orgs.	146,933	165,462	18,529	$36,936.00
5	493///	Warehousing and Storage	37,010	49,507	12,497	$36,516.00
6	622///	Hospitals	246,805	258,843	12,038	$44,520.00
7	511///	Publishing Industries (except Internet)	220,901	231,015	10,114	$55,308.00
8	713///	Amusements, Gambling and Recreation Ind.	59,054	68,602	9,548	$20,964.00
9	551///	Management of Companies and Enterprises	88,036	97,310	9,274	$77,820.00
10	523///	Securities, Commodities and Financial Acti.	49,588	58,176	8,588	$109,152.00
11	441///	Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	71,770	79,022	7,252	$44,424.00
12	444///	Building Material and Garden Equip. Stores	50,355	57,129	6,774	$28,872.00
13	811///	Repair and Maintenance	56,180	62,947	6,767	$35,892.00
14	522///	Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	146,439	153,001	6,562	$55,776.00
15	236///	Construction of Buildings	57,174	62,815	5,641	$52,380.00
16	484///	Truck Transportation	66,301	71,880	5,579	$46,236.00
17	423///	Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	164,408	169,526	5,118	$58,752.00
18	812///	Personal and Laundry Services	56,493	61,489	4,996	$24,084.00
19	443///	Electronics and Appliance Stores	27,260	32,054	4,794	$44,832.00
20	326///	Plastics and Rubber Products Mfg.	49,416	54,143	4,727	$44,772.00

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security.
Totals in declining and growing industry do not include government industries (9-----).

Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Occupations Summary

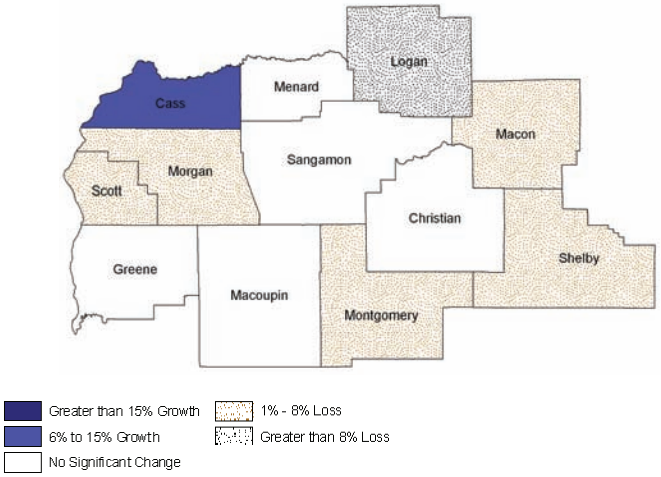
- The occupation of Primary/Secondary/Special Education School Teacher, with a mean wage of $47,051, is projected to produce the highest level of growth, averaging 3,877 additional jobs annually from 2004 through 2014.
- The top five occupations, Primary/Secondary/Special Education School Teachers, Computer Specialists, Health Diagnosing/Treating Practitioners, Business Operations Specialists and Construction Trades Workers are projected to make up 28.4% of all new jobs in the state from 2004 to 2014.
- The median wage of occupations that are projected to grow in Illinois between 2004 and 2014 range from a low of $14,797 for Food and Beverage Serving Workers to a high of $138,899 for Air Transportation Workers.
- The top 20 growth occupations are projected to comprise 71.4% of all new jobs created in Illinois between 2004 and 2014.

Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Occupations								
Rank	SOC	Title	Employment, 2004	Projected Employment, 2014	Employment Change	Annual Growth	Annual Replacements	Mean Wage, 2005
		All Public and Private Employment	6,264,189	6,802,435	538,246			
		Total - Growing Occupations	5,453,232	6,026,951	573,719			
		Total - Declining Occupations	810,957	775,484	-35,473			
1	25-2000	Primary/Sec./Special Ed Sch Teachrs	199,839	238,608	38,769	3,877	4,679	$47,051.92
2	15-1000	Computer Specialists	133,137	165,879	32,742	3,274	1,753	$65,436.01
3	29-1000	Health Diagnosng/ Treatng Practitnrs	180,787	213,071	32,284	3,229	3,603	$57,303.67
4	13-1000	Business Operations Specialists	175,403	207,678	32,275	3,228	3,072	$54,960.48
5	47-2000	Construction Trades Workers	221,886	248,856	26,970	2,697	4,076	$53,516.69
6	35-3000	Food and Beverage Serving Workers	205,727	231,563	25,836	2,584	9,865	$14,797.48
7	53-3000	Motor Vehicle Operators	173,796	196,615	22,819	2,282	2,625	$31,858.24
8	37-2000	Bldg Cleaning and Pest Control Wrkrs	167,360	189,593	22,233	2,223	3,284	$20,035.78
9	53-7000	Material Moving Workers	270,016	292,180	22,164	2,435	7,642	$21,921.16
10	41-2000	Retail Sales Workers	347,620	365,115	17,495	2,182		$18,686.09
11	29-2000	Health Technologists and Technicians	108,142	125,213	17,071	1,747	1,913	$35,072.15
12	35-2000	Cooks and Food Preparation Workers	129,313	145,276	15,963	1,596	4,176	$17,317.15
13	13-2000	Financial Specialists	125,369	140,753	15,384	1,564	2,221	$53,998.92
14	31-1000	Nursing, Psych and Home Health Aides	80,350	95,252	14,902	1,490	1,053	$20,507.24
15	43-4000	Information and Record Clerks	231,450	245,057	13,607	2,467	4,737	$27,807.60
16	39-9000	Other Personal Care/ Service Workers	88,888	102,155	13,267	1,327	2,023	$19,230.55
17	11-1000	Top Executives	107,199	119,504	12,305	1,265	1,993	$59,112.76
18	25-1000	Postsecondary Faculty	82,099	93,966	11,867	1,187	1,854	$50,696.88
19	21-1000	Counselors/Soc Wrkrs/ Comm Srv Specs	66,013	77,292	11,279	1,128	1,263	$38,343.00
20	31-9000	Other Healthcare Support Occupations	2,431	2,871	440	44	50	$24,940
Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security								

Central Regional Summary

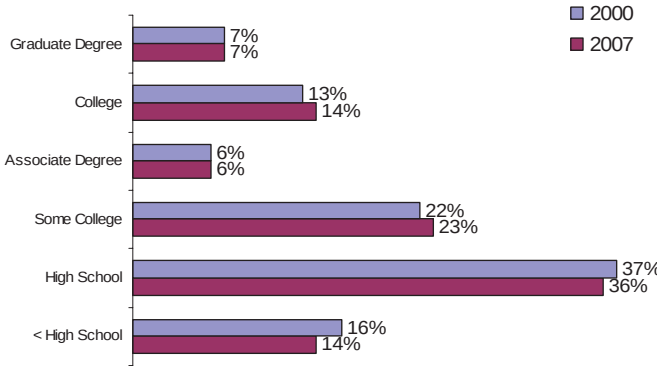
Profile	2000	2007	% Change
Population (1/1/2007):	586,956	581,960	-0.85%
Population, Median Age:	36.3	36.2	-0.03%
Percent Population 65+:	84,659	80,806	-4.55%
White Population, Alone:	533,041	527,034	-1.13%
Black Population, Alone:	41,040	39,359	-4.10%
Asian Population, Alone:	3,699	4,520	22.20%
Other Population:	9,176	11,047	20.39%
Hispanic Population:	6,829	10,523	54.09%

County Job Gain/Loss 2000–2007



Percent of Population by Educational Attainment

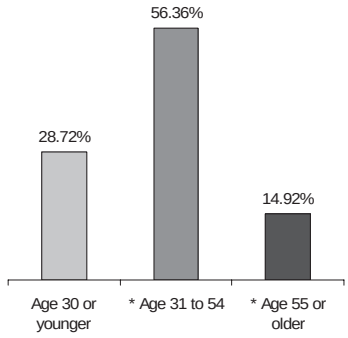
(Pop. Over 25)



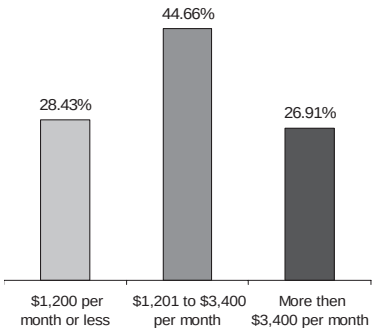
Total Employment 2000–2007

Area Name	2000	2007	% Change
Cass County	6,420	6,543	1.92%
Christian County	15,962	16,045	0.52%
Greene County	6,311	6,159	-2.41%
Logan County	13,932	13,653	-2.00%
Macon County	52,715	51,243	-2.79%
Macoupin County	22,646	22,885	1.06%
Menard County	6,482	6,624	2.19%
Montgomery County	12,937	12,891	-0.36%
Morgan County	17,395	17,110	-1.64%
Sangamon County	97,410	101,760	4.47%
Scott County	2,731	2,672	-2.16%
Shelby County	10,684	10,480	-1.91%
Total	265,625	268,065	0.92%

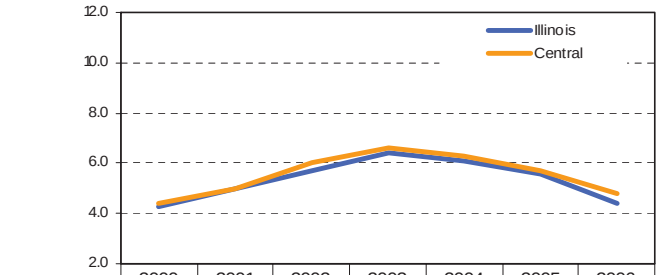
Primary Jobs by Worker Age



Primary Jobs by Earnings Paid



Unemployment Rate 2000 - 2006
Illinois and the Central Region



	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Illinois	4.3	5.0	5.7	6.4	6.1	5.6	4.4
Central	4.4	5.0	6.0	6.6	6.3	5.7	4.8

Central Illinois Industry Structure Summary

- The Central Illinois region gained 225 manufacturing jobs (1.1%) from 2003 – 2005, the only region that showed an increase in the manufacturing industry.
- The region has an annual mean wage of $44,751 for stable manufacturing jobs.
- Manufacturing jobs make up 9.1% of total employment in the Central Illinois region.
- Higher-wage service jobs make up 13.8% of total employment in the Central Illinois region.
- Lower-wage service jobs make up 28.0% of total employment in the Central Illinois region.

Central Illinois—Industry Structure

Sector	Employment, 2003	Employment, 2005	Employment Change 2003–2005	Separations Stable Jobs, 2005	New Hires Stable Jobs, 2005	Stable Jobs: Mean Earnings, 2005	New Hires Stable Jobs: Mean Earnings, 2005
Total Public/Private Employment In Sectors	230,676	228,365	-2,311	18,309	16,381	$37,039	$21,490
Manufacturing Total	20,535	20,760	225	1,212	1,031	$44,751	$31,914
Higher–Wage Service	31,924	31,576	-348	2,844	3,027	$35,439	$24,038
Lower–Wage Service	63,824	63,968	144	6,941	5,821	$23,086	$14,922

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security.
*Total differs from the total employment data in the other tables because it excludes self-employed and agricultural workers

Central Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Industries Summary

- The Central Illinois region is projected to gain 14,387 net new jobs between 2004 and 2014, a 6.9% increase. This is less than the statewide projected net increase of 9.3%.
- 48.9% of all new jobs projected to be created between 2004 and 2014 are projected to occur within five industries: Food Services and Drinking Places with a weighted mean wage of $12,687; Ambulatory Health Care Services with a weighted mean wage of $63,003; Educational Services with a weighted mean wage of $29,220; Administrative and Support Services with a weighted mean wage of $24,980; and Nursing and Residential Care Facilities with a weighted mean wage of $22,660. These five industries are projected to create 8,455 new jobs.
- Mean annual wages in the Central Illinois regions' top growth sectors range from a low of $12,687 for Food Services and Drinking Places to a high of $63,003 for Ambulatory Health Care Services.
- The top 20 growth sectors make up 88.5% of all new jobs in the Central Illinois region.
- Although manufacturing jobs are expected to decline another 6.9% by 2014, the manufacturing sector will continue to be an important source of higher-paying jobs for workers.

[1] Includes: NAICS 31-33 Manufacturing. U.S. Census Bureau. 2007 NAICS Codes and Titles.

[2] Higher-wage service includes: NAICS 51 Information, NAICS 52 Finance and insurance, NAICS 53 Real estate and rental and leasing, NAICS 54 Professional and technical services, NAICS 55 Management of companies and enterprises, and NAICS 56 Administrative and waste services. U.S. Census Bureau. 2002 NAICS Codes and Titles.

[3] Lower-wage service includes: NAICS 61 Educational services, NAICS 62 Health care and social assistance, NAICS 71 Arts, entertainment, and recreation, NAICS 72 Accommodation and food services, and 81 Other Services (except Public Administration). U.S. Census Bureau. 2007 NAICS Codes and Titles.

Central Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Industries						
Rank	NAICS	Title	Employment, 2004	Projected Employment, 2014	Employment Change	Mean Wage, 2005
		All Public and Private Employment	208,483	222,873	14,387	
		Total - Declining Industries	39,252	36,349	-2,903	
		Total - Growing Industries	169,231	186,524	17,290	
1	722///	Food Services and Drinking Places	16,826	19,561	2,735	$12,687
2	621///	Ambulatory Health Care Services	8,049	9,807	1,757	$63,003
3	611///	Educational Services	20,196	21,697	1,501	$29,220
4	561///	Administrative and Support Services	7,612	8,941	1,329	$24,980
5	623///	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	7,300	8,433	1,133	$22,660
6	541///	Professional, Scientific and Tech. Services	7,736	8,822	1,087	$48,557
7	624///	Social Assistance	5,116	6,185	1,069	$19,609
8	813///	Religious, Civic and Professional Orgs.	7,884	8,948	1,064	$29,795
9	238///	Specialty Trade Contractors	6,615	7,294	679	$42,621
10	622///	Hospitals	13,637	14,111	474	$35,174
11	444///	Building Material and Garden Equip. Stores	2,339	2,635	295	$27,256
12	441///	Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	3,616	3,894	278	$33,572
13	493///	Warehousing and Storage	742	1,015	273	$36,717
14	812///	Personal and Laundry Services	2,108	2,372	263	$22,564
15	811///	Repair and Maintenance	2,116	2,371	255	$29,955
16	551///	Management of Companies and Enterprises	1,654	1,896	242	$40,659
17	452///	General Merchandise Stores	6,730	6,959	229	$19,340
18	424///	Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	4,272	4,496	224	$41,454
19	522///	Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	5,774	5,986	212	$37,321
20	721///	Accommodation	2,535	2,730	195	$16,549

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security.
Totals in declining and growing industry do not include government industries (9-----).

Central Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Occupations Summary

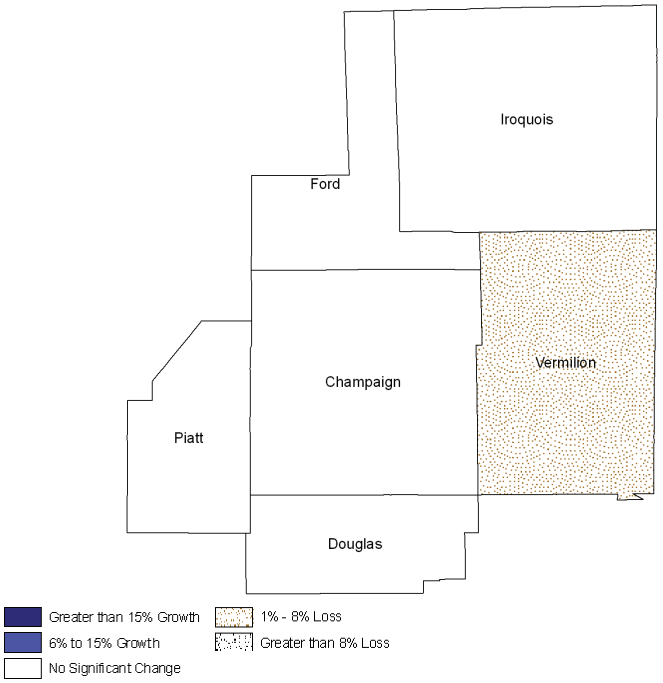
- The Food and Beverage Serving Workers occupation, with a mean wage of $17,370, is projected to produce the highest level of job growth, averaging 133 additional jobs annually from 2004 through 2014.
- The top five growth occupations, Food and Beverage Serving Workers, Health Diagnosing/Treating Practitioners, Primary/Secondary/Special Education School Teachers, Business Operations Specialists and Cooks and Food Preparation Workers are projected to create 30.3% of all new jobs in the Central Illinois region.
- The mean wage in the Central Illinois region's top growth occupations ranges from a low of $17,370 for Food and Beverage Serving Workers to a high of $105,578 for Top Executives.
- The top 20 growth occupations are projected to create 75.3% of all new jobs in the Central Illinois region

Central Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Occupations								
Rank	SOC	Title	Employment, 2004	Projected Employment, 2014	Employment Change	Annual Growth	Annual Replacements	Mean Wage, 2005
		All Public and Private Employment	253,259	267,567	14,308			
		Total - Growing Occupations	204,212	221,111	16,899			
		Total - Declining Occupations	49,047	46,456	-2,591			
1	35-3000	Food and Beverage Serving Workers	9,283	10,611	1,328	133	444	$17,369.89
2	29-1000	Health Diagnosng/Treatng Practitnrs	8,847	10,148	1,301	130	178	$63,263.49
3	25-2000	Primary/Sec./Special Ed Sch Teachrs	9,409	10,346	937	94	219	$44,019.15
4	13-1000	Business Operations Specialists	6,709	7,504	795	80	117	$63,935.61
5	35-2000	Cooks and Food Preparation Workers	5,930	6,694	764	76	192	$19,646.12
6	15-1000	Computer Specialists	4,352	5,099	747	75	58	$71,760.54
7	41-2000	Retail Sales Workers	15,229	15,900	671	67	633	$22,594.11
8	37-2000	Bldg Cleaning and Pest Control Wrkrs	6,854	7,520	666	67	136	$22,783.02
9	53-3000	Motor Vehicle Operators	7,100	7,744	644	64	110	$34,074.31
10	47-2000	Construction Trades Workers	9,576	10,212	636	64	173	$51,244.61
11	29-2000	Health Technologists and Technicians	5,380	5,973	593	59	96	$37,012.16
12	31-1000	Nursing, Psych and Home Health Aides	4,450	5,017	567	57	59	$22,828.66
13	39-9000	Other Personal Care/Service Workers	4,573	5,109	536	54	105	$26,604.09
14	21-1000	Counselors/Soc Wrkrs/Comm Srv Specs	5,126	5,652	526	53	97	$44,318.10
15	11-9000	Other Management Occupations	8,178	8,622	444	44	161	$39,452.35
16	35-9000	Other Food Prep/Serving Workers	2,991	3,369	378	38	99	$17,567.34
17	31-9000	Other Healthcre Support Occupations	2,042	2,375	333	33	42	$26,579.07
18	11-1000	Top Executives	4,300	4,629	329	33	79	$105,578.38
19	21-1000	Counselors/Soc Wrkrs/Comm Srv Specs	66,013	77,292	11,279	1,128	1,263	$38,343.00
20	31-9000	Other Healthcare Support Occupations	2,431	2,871	440	44	50	$24,940
Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security								

EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL SUMMARY

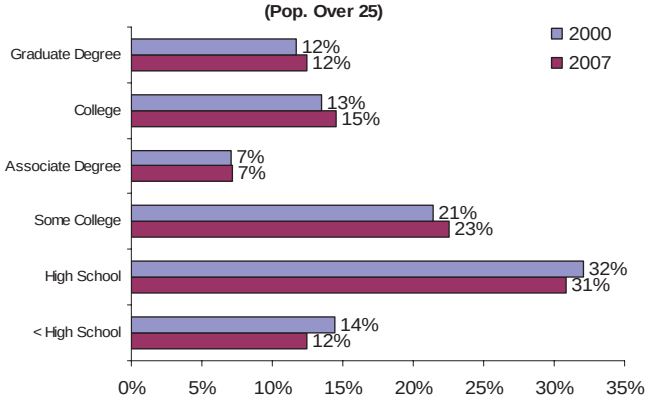
Profile	2000	2007	% Change
Population (1/1/2007):	345,450	349,106	1.06%
Population, Median Age:	33.5	33.4	-0.36%
Percent Population 65+:	45,040	43,452	-3.50%
White Population, Alone:	293,157	290,719	-0.83%
Black Population, Alone:	29,284	30,332	3.58%
Asian Population, Alone:	12,402	14,827	19.55%
Other Population:	10,607	13,228	24.71%
Hispanic Population:	9,891	13,180	33.25%

County Job Gain/Loss 2000–2007



Percent of Population by Educational Attainment

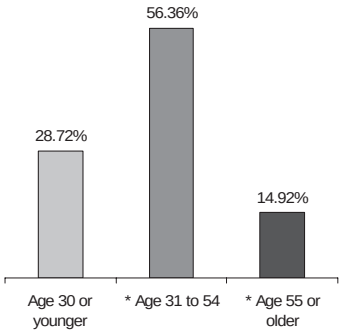
(Pop. Over 25)



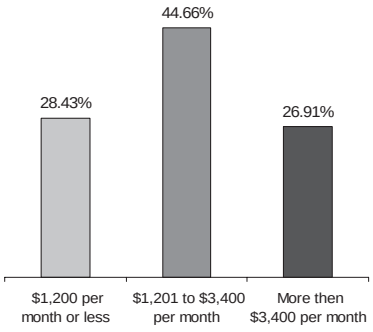
Total Employment 2000–2007

Area Name	2000	2007	% Change
Campaign County	93,373	98,007	4.96%
Douglas County	9,514	9,540	0.27%
Ford County	6,893	6,948	0.80%
Iroquois County	14,956	14,756	-1.34%
Piatt County	8,507	8,779	3.20%
Vermilion County	35,720	35,388	-0.93%
Regional Total	168,963	173,418	2.64%

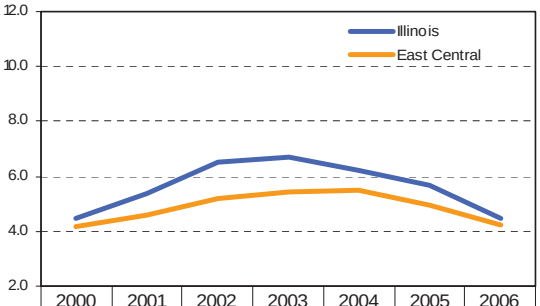
Primary Jobs by Worker Age



Primary Jobs by Earnings Paid



Unemployment Rate 2000 - 2006
Illinois and the East Central Region



	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Illinois	4.5	5.4	6.5	6.7	6.2	5.7	4.5
East Central	4.2	4.6	5.2	5.4	5.5	5.0	4.2

East Central Illinois Industry Structure Summary

- The East Central Illinois region lost 303 manufacturing jobs (18.0%) from 2003 – 2005.
- The East Central Illinois region has an annual mean wage of $37,730 for stable manufacturing jobs.
- Manufacturing jobs make up 13.9% of total employment in the East Central Illinois region.
- Higher-wage service jobs make up 14.0% of total employment in the East Central Illinois region.
- Lower-wage service jobs make up 40.3% of total employment in the East Central Illinois region.

East Central Illinois—Industry Structure

Sector	Employment, 2003	Employment, 2005	Employment Change 2003–2005	Separations Stable Jobs, 2005	New Hires Stable Jobs, 2005	Stable Jobs: Mean Earnings, 2005	New Hires Stable Jobs: Mean Earnings, 2005
Total Public/Private Employment In Sectors	119,545	118,836	-709	11,250	9,757	$34,356	$21,490
Manufacturing Total	16,860	16,557	-303	1,098	1,018	$37,730	$31,914
Higher–Wage Service	16,155	16,661	506	1,641	1,677	$33,348	$24,038
Lower–Wage Service	46,975	47,908	933	4,677	3,661	$24,966	$14,922

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security.
*Total differs from the total employment data in the other tables because it excludes self-employed and agricultural workers

East Central Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Occupations Summary

- The top five projected growth occupations, Postsecondary Faculty, Health Diagnosing/Teating Practitioners, Primary/Secondary/Special Education School Teachers, Computer Specialists and Business Operations Specialists make up 41.1% of all projected new jobs in the East Central Illinois region.
- The only occupation expected to grow faster in the East Central Illinois region than in the state is Postsecondary Faculty. Statewide, this occupation is expected to grow 14.5% and in the East Central Illinois region it is expected to grow 17.4%. The mean wage for this occupation is $48,861.
- The mean wage in the East Central Illinois regions' top growth occupations ranges from a low of $17,454 for Food and Beverage Serving Workers to a high of $106,876 for Top Executives.
- The top 20 growth occupations projected to create 80.5% of all new jobs in the East Central Illinois region.

[1] Includes: NAICS 31-33 Manufacturing. U.S. Census Bureau. 2007 NAICS Codes and Titles.

[2] Higher-wage service includes: NAICS 51 Information, NAICS 52 Finance and insurance, NAICS 53 Real estate and rental and leasing, NAICS 54 Professional and technical services, NAICS 55 Management of companies and enterprises, and NAICS 56 Administrative and waste services. U.S. Census Bureau. 2002 NAICS Codes and Titles.

[3] Lower-wage service includes: NAICS 61 Educational services, NAICS 62 Health care and social assistance, NAICS 71 Arts, entertainment, and recreation, NAICS 72 Accommodation and food services, and 81 Other Services (except Public Administration). U.S. Census Bureau. 2007 NAICS Codes and Titles.

East Central Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Industries						
Rank	NAICS	Title	Employment, 2004	Projected Employment, 2014	Employment Change	Mean Wage, 2005
		All Public and Private Employment	209,386	223,680	14,291	
		Total - Declining Industries	40,155	37,156	-2,999	
		Total - Growing Industries	169,231	186,524	17,290	
1	611///	Educational Services	35,314	39,534	4,220	$39,146
2	621///	Ambulatory Health Care Services	5,457	6,583	1,126	$56,678
3	722///	Food Services and Drinking Places	12,438	13,425	987	$12,924
4	541///	Professional, Scientific and Tech. Services	4,588	5,343	755	$49,193
5	561///	Administrative and Support Services	3,652	4,219	567	$23,374
6	623///	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	3,565	4,113	549	$22,847
7	813///	Religious, Civic and Professional Orgs.	3,376	3,861	485	$21,042
8	493///	Warehousing and Storage	1,671	2,105	434	$33,819
9	622///	Hospitals	5,218	5,553	335	$36,000
10	624///	Social Assistance	1,943	2,229	286	$19,935
11	238///	Specialty Trade Contractors	3,637	3,901	264	$42,562
12	444///	Building Material and Garden Equip. Stores	1,395	1,558	163	$24,328
13	326///	Plastics and Rubber Products Mfg.	1,790	1,950	160	$33,708
14	441///	Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	1,956	2,090	134	$35,694
15	452///	General Merchandise Stores	3,498	3,631	133	$18,818
16	713///	Amusements, Gambling and Recreation Ind.	1,152	1,272	120	$15,147
17	484///	Truck Transportation	2,316	2,435	119	$39,350
18	423///	Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	3,238	3,353	115	$40,354
19	522///	Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	3,131	3,239	108	$33,061
20	721///	Accommodation	1,267	1,365	98	$15,835

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security.
Totals in declining and growing industry do not include government industries (9-----).

East Central Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Industries Summary

- The East Central Illinois region is projected to gain 9,882 net new jobs between 2004 and 2014, a 6.6% increase. This is less than the statewide projected net increase of 9.3%.
- 63.1% of all new jobs projected to be created between 2004 and 2014 projected to occur within five sectors: Educational Services with a weighted mean wage of $39,146; Ambulatory Health Care Services with a weighted mean wage of $56,678; Food Services and Drinking Places with a weighted mean wage of $12,924; Professional, Scientific and Technical Services with a weighted mean wage of $49,193; and Administrative and Support Services with a weighted mean wage of $23,374. These five sectors are projected to create 7,655 additional jobs.
- Mean annual wages in the East Central Illinois regions' top growth sectors range from a low of $12,923 for Food Services and Drinking Places to a high of $56,678 for Ambulatory Health Care Services.
- The top 20 growth sectors make up 92.0% of all new jobs in the East Central Illinois region.

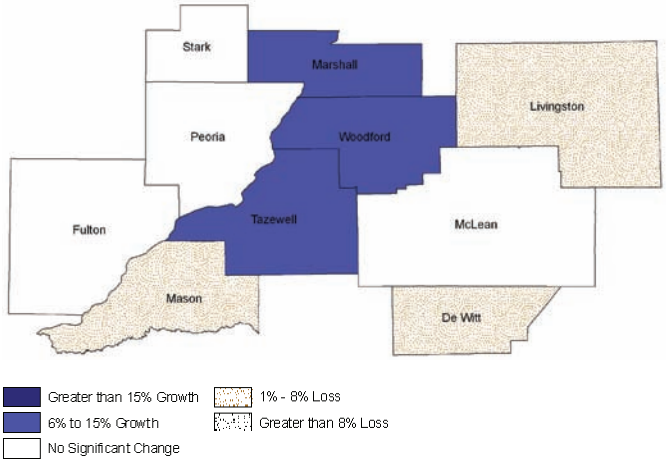
East Central Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Occupations								
Rank	SOC	Title	Employment, 2004	Projected Employment, 2014	Employment Change	Annual Growth	Annual Replacements	Mean Wage, 2005
		All Public and Private Employment	176,181	185,815	9,638			
		Total - Growing Occupations	142,223	153,729	11,506			
		Total - Declining Occupations	33,609	31,743	-1,863			
1	25-1000	Postsecondary Faculty	12,156	14,275	2,119	212	275	$48,861
2	29-1000	Health Diagnosng/Treatng Practitnrs	4,668	5,457	789	79	90	$55,779
3	25-2000	Primary/Sec./Special Ed Sch Teachrs	5,256	5,932	676	68	123	$45,000
4	15-1000	Computer Specialists	3,021	3,631	610	61	39	$63,529
5	13-1000	Business Operations Specialists	3,962	4,498	535	54	70	$63,897
6	35-3000	Food and Beverage Serving Workers	6,509	7,013	504	50	312	$17,454
7	37-2000	Bldg Cleaning and Pest Control Wrkrs	4,852	5,305	453	45	95	$26,128
8	53-3000	Motor Vehicle Operators	4,765	5,172	407	41	72	$33,456
9	29-2000	Health Technologists and Technicians	2,603	2,949	346	35	45	$34,552
10	35-2000	Cooks and Food Preparation Workers	4,176	4,521	345	35	134	$20,302
11	47-2000	Construction Trades Workers	6,087	6,413	326	33	109	$51,123
12	39-9000	Other Personal Care/Service Workers	2,919	3,215	296	30	67	$22,799
13	41-2000	Retail Sales Workers	9,508	9,782	274	27	397	$22,748
14	31-1000	Nursing, Psych and Home Health Aides	1,996	2,250	254	25	26	$25,530
15	31-9000	Other Healthcre Support Occupations	1,215	1,458	243	24	25	$31,925
16	25-9000	Other Educ. Trng and Library Occs	1,896	2,132	237	24	34	$26,844
17	13-2000	Financial Specialists	2,744	2,978	235	23	49	$60,795
18	21-1000	Counselors/Soc Wrkrs/Comm Srv Specs	1,800	2,025	224	22	35	$39,776
19	25-3000	Other Teachers and Instructors	1,614	1,826	212	21	20	$44,593
20	11-1000	Top Executives	2,549	2,727	178	18	48	$106,876

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security

North Central Regional Summary

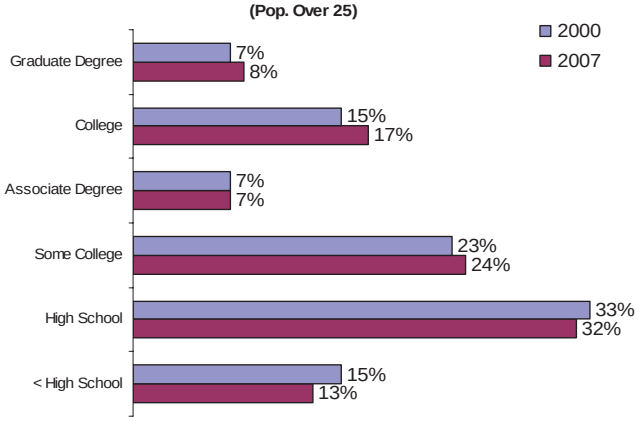
Profile	2000	2007	% Change
Population (1/1/2007):	611,298	623,920	2.06%
Population, Median Age:	35.7	35.9	0.67%
Percent Population 65+:	87,143	85,008	-2.45%
White Population, Alone:	547,890	554,596	1.22%
Black Population, Alone:	43,557	44,021	1.07%
Asian Population, Alone:	7,319	9,376	28.10%
Other Population:	12,532	15,927	27.09%
Hispanic Population:	11,038	15,828	43.40%

County Job Gain/Loss 2000–2007



Percent of Population by Educational Attainment

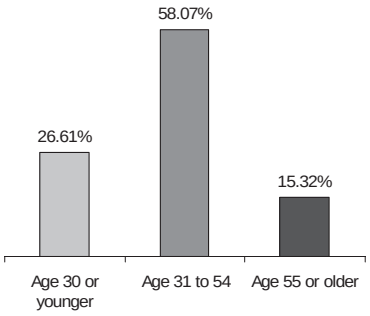
(Pop. Over 25)



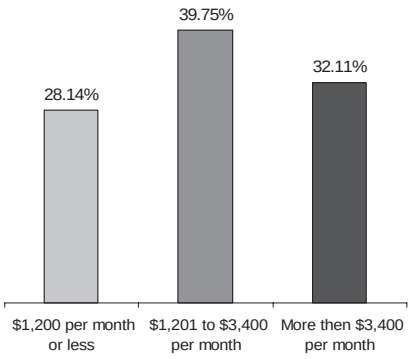
Total Employment 2000–2007

Area Name	2000	2007	% Change
De Witt County	8,374	8,502	1.53%
Fulton County	16,139	15,912	-1.41%
Livingston County	17,920	17,559	-2.01%
Marshall County	6,538	6,541	0.05%
Mason County	7,079	6,942	-1.94%
McLean County	80,905	88,126	8.93%
Peoria County	85,244	86,837	1.87%
Stark County	2,648	2,651	0.11%
Tazewell County	62,894	64,802	3.03%
Woodford County	17,686	19,172	8.40%
Total	305,427	317,044	3.80%

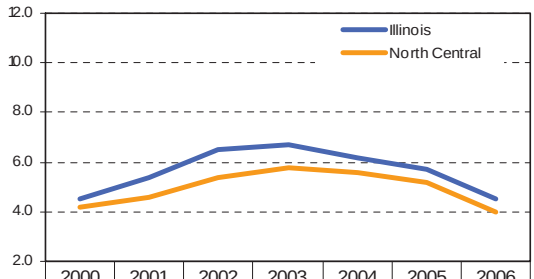
Primary Jobs by Worker Age



Primary Jobs by Earnings Paid



Unemployment Rate 2000 - 2006
Illinois and the North Central Region



	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Illinois	4.5	5.4	6.5	6.7	6.2	5.7	4.5
North Central	4.2	4.6	5.4	5.8	5.6	5.2	4.0

North Central Illinois Industry Structure Summary

- The North Central Illinois region gained 2,518 manufacturing jobs (7.3%) from 2003 – 2005.
- The region has an annual mean wage of $46,454 for stable manufacturing jobs.
- Manufacturing jobs make up 14.4% of total employment in the North Central Illinois region.
- Higher-wage service jobs make up 23.2% of total employment in the North Central Illinois region.
- Lower-wage service jobs make up 32.0% of total employment in the North Central Illinois region.

North Central Illinois—Industry Structure

Sector	Employment, 2003	Employment, 2005	Employment Change 2003–2005	Separations Stable Jobs, 2005	New Hires Stable Jobs, 2005	Stable Jobs: Mean Earnings, 2005	New Hires Stable Jobs: Mean Earnings, 2005
Total Public/Private Employment In Sectors	250,244	256,237	5,993	21,550	20,747	$40,986	$21,490
Manufacturing Total	34,305	36,823	2,518	1,915	2,028	$46,454	$31,914
Higher–Wage Service	59,391	59,494	103	4,780	4,631	$37,357	$24,038
Lower–Wage Service	80,010	82,028	2,018	8,234	7,177	$24,843	$14,922

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security.
*Total differs from the total employment data in the other tables because it excludes self-employed and agricultural workers

North Central Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Occupations Summary

- The North Central Illinois region is expected to be an important contributor to job growth in the state. Fifteen of the Top 20 growth occupations in the North Central Illinois region are projected to grow faster in the region than in the state. The three occupations in the North Central Illinois region that are projected to outpace statewide growth rates the most are: Other Healthcare Support Occupations (6.7% faster than the projected statewide average for that occupation); Food and Beverage Serving Workers (5.2% faster than the statewide average for that occupation), and Health Diagnosing/Treating Practitioners (5.1% faster than the statewide average for that occupation).
- Health Diagnosing/Treating Practitioners, an occupation with a mean annual wage of $54,538, is projected to create the most new jobs through 2014, followed by Food and Beverage Service Workers, an occupation with a mean annual wage of $17,278, Primary/Secondary/Special Education School Teachers, an occupation with a mean annual wage of $49,619, Building Clean and Pest Control Workers, an occupation with a mean annual wage of $24,042, and Computer Specialists, an occupation with a mean annual wage of $70,249. These five occupations will make up 28.8% of all new jobs created in the region through 2014.
- The weighted mean wage in the North Central Illinois region's top 20 growth occupations ranges from a low of $17,278 for Food and Beverage Serving Workers to a high of $116,568 for Top Executives.
- The top 20 growth occupations are projected to create 72.4% of all new jobs in the North Central Illinois region.

[1] Includes: NAICS 31-33 Manufacturing. U.S. Census Bureau. 2007 NAICS Codes and Titles.

[2] Higher-wage service includes: NAICS 51 Information, NAICS 52 Finance and insurance, NAICS 53 Real estate and rental and leasing, NAICS 54 Professional and technical services, NAICS 55 Management of companies and enterprises, and NAICS 56 Administrative and waste services. U.S. Census Bureau. 2002 NAICS Codes and Titles.

[3] Lower-wage service includes: NAICS 61 Educational services, NAICS 62 Health care and social assistance, NAICS 71 Arts, entertainment, and recreation, NAICS 72 Accommodation and food services, and 81 Other Services (except Public Administration). U.S. Census Bureau. 2007 NAICS Codes and Titles.

North Central Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Industries						
Rank	NAICS	Title	Employment, 2004	Projected Employment, 2014	Employment Change	Mean Wage, 2005
		All Public and Private Employment	270,130	300,830	30,693	
		Total - Declining Industries	37,376	34,859	-2,516	
		Total - Growing Industries	232,754	265,971	33,209	
1	722///	Food Services and Drinking Places	23,146	27,592	4,447	$13,457
2	611///	Educational Services	27,659	31,943	4,285	$34,935
3	561///	Administrative and Support Services	14,307	17,977	3,669	$26,173
4	621///	Ambulatory Health Care Services	10,326	13,901	3,575	$57,972
5	623///	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	9,332	11,909	2,577	$23,999
6	541///	Professional, Scientific and Tech. Services	11,300	13,715	2,415	$53,485
7	622///	Hospitals	14,736	16,128	1,392	$43,968
8	624///	Social Assistance	4,946	6,151	1,205	$19,690
9	813///	Religious, Civic and Professional Orgs.	7,037	8,009	973	$22,083
10	238///	Specialty Trade Contractors	7,864	8,819	955	$43,713
11	811///	Repair and Maintenance	3,415	4,142	727	$38,943
12	441///	Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	4,543	5,076	533	$36,610
13	333///	Machinery Mfg.	14,822	15,322	500	$67,885
14	812///	Personal and Laundry Services	2,277	2,720	443	$21,447
15	236///	Construction of Buildings	3,299	3,731	432	$44,496
16	444///	Building Material and Garden Equip. Stores	2,588	3,003	415	$27,528
17	493///	Warehousing and Storage	1,214	1,624	410	$63,116
18	452///	General Merchandise Stores	7,703	8,065	361	$19,103
19	423///	Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	6,301	6,648	347	$49,050
20	484///	Truck Transportation	4,837	5,182	345	$39,453

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security.
Totals in declining and growing industry do not include government industries (9-----).

North Central Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Industries Summary

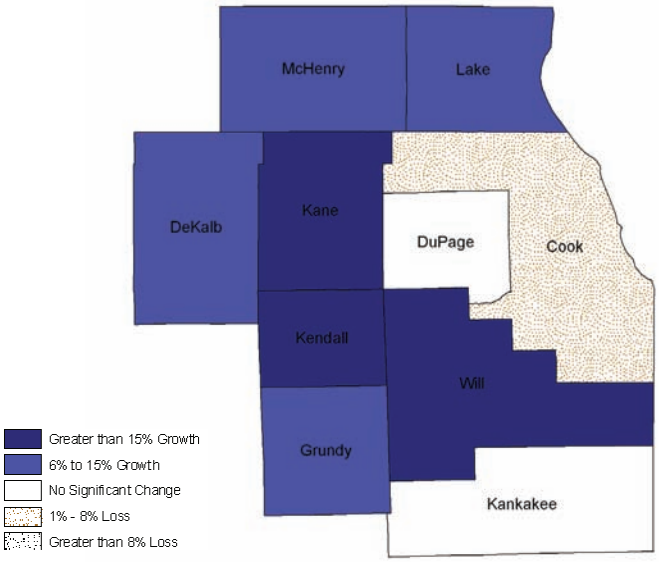
- The North Central Illinois region is projected to gain 30,693 net additional jobs between 2004 and 2014, an 11.4% increase. This is greater than the statewide projected net increase of 9.3%.
- Food Services and Drinking Places, an industry with a mean annual wage of $13,457, will have the largest growth in jobs in the region through 2014, followed by Educational Services, Administrative and Support Services, Ambulatory Health Care Services, and Nursing and Residential Care Facilities. These five industries are projected to create 55.9% of all new jobs in the North Central region through 2014.
- The weighted mean annual wages in the North Central Illinois region's top growth sectors range from a low of $13,457 for Food Services and Drinking Places to a high of $67,885 for Machinery Manufacturing.
- The top 20 growth sectors make up 90.4% of the total projected job growth in the North Central Illinois region.

North Central Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Occupations								
Rank	SOC	Title	Employment, 2004	Projected Employment, 2014	Employment Change	Annual Growth	Annual Replacements	Mean Wage, 2005
		All Public and Private Employment	329,736	361,059	31,319			
		Total - Growing Occupations	287,520	320,697	33,173			
		Total - Declining Occupations	42,216	40,362	-1,854			
1	29-1000	Health Diagnosng/Treatng Practitnrs	10,329	12,702	2,373	237	205	$54,538.19
2	35-3000	Food and Beverage Serving Workers	12,184	14,349	2,165	216	583	$17,278.14
3	25-2000	Primary/Sec./Special Ed Sch Teachrs	10,499	12,578	2,078	208	245	$49,618.70
4	37-2000	Bldg Cleaning and Pest Control Wrkrs	9,190	10,701	1,510	151	180	$24,041.97
5	15-1000	Computer Specialists	6,348	7,773	1,425	142	84	$70,248.90
6	13-1000	Business Operations Specialists	8,880	10,269	1,389	139	154	$68,834.47
7	35-2000	Cooks and Food Preparation Workers	7,770	9,107	1,337	134	251	$19,662.73
8	29-2000	Health Technologists and Technicians	6,300	7,584	1,284	128	111	$36,209.41
9	31-1000	Nursing, Psych and Home Health Aides	5,232	6,420	1,188	119	69	$22,067.67
10	41-2000	Retail Sales Workers	17,793	18,925	1,132	113	735	$22,273.03
11	53-3000	Motor Vehicle Operators	8,748	9,854	1,106	111	132	$34,191.23
12	47-2000	Construction Trades Workers	11,002	12,058	1,056	106	201	$51,745.20
13	25-1000	Postsecondary Faculty	4,778	5,673	895	90	106	$47,821.12
14	39-9000	Other Personal Care/Service Workers	4,980	5,769	789	79	114	$20,247.84
15	43-4000	Information and Record Clerks	11,205	11,994	788	79	228	$29,124.22
16	21-1000	Counselors/Soc Wrkrs/ Comm Srv Specs	3,698	4,458	760	76	70	$38,866.40
17	31-9000	Other Healthcre Support Occupations	2,551	3,280	729	73	53	$27,252.33
18	53-7000	Material Moving Workers	10,971	11,676	705	70	310	$26,927.01
19	35-9000	Other Food Prep/Serving Workers	3,883	4,533	650	65	128	$17,709.81
20	11-1000	Top Executives	5,460	6,109	649	65	102	$116,568.40
Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security								

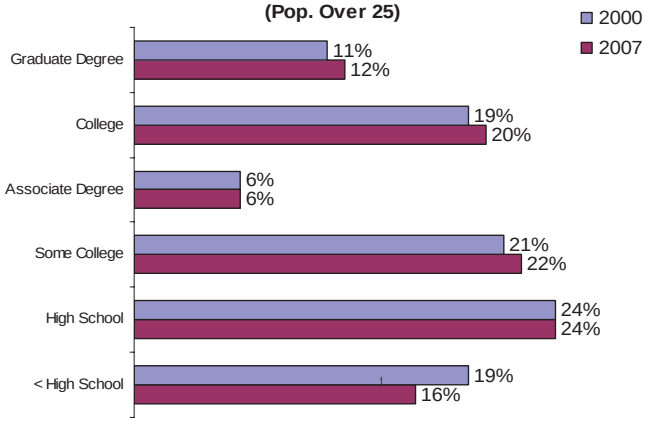
Northeastern Regional Summary

Profile	2000	2007	% Change
Population (1/1/2007):	8,376,601	8,781,456	4.83%
Population, Median Age:	33.7	33.7	-0.01%
Percent Population 65+:	902,089	898,869	-0.36%
White Population, Alone:	5,526,238	5,678,880	2.76%
Black Population, Alone:	1,575,951	1,538,830	-2.36%
Asian Population, Alone:	385,656	474,594	23.06%
Other Population:	888,756	1,089,152	22.55%
Hispanic Population:	1,421,543	1,702,649	19.77%

County Job Gain/Loss 2000–2007



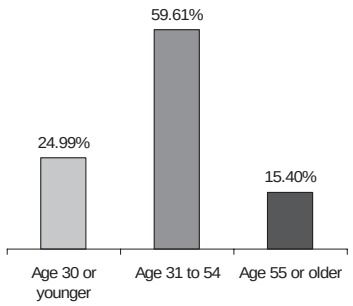
Percent of Population by Educational Attainment (Pop. Over 25)



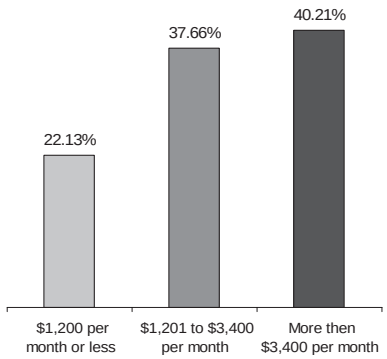
Total Employment 2000–2007

Area Name	2000	2007	% Change
Cook County	2,421,199	2,446,744	1.06%
DeKalb County	46,021	52,930	15.01%
DuPage County	476,483	498,400	4.60%
Grundy County	18,529	23,283	25.66%
Kane County	196,309	247,268	25.96%
Kankakee County	48,327	52,295	8.21%
Kendall County	28,862	48,475	67.95%
Lake County	310,967	352,065	13.22%
McHenry County	135,738	165,628	22.02%
Will County	246,864	340,374	37.88%
Total	3,929,299	4,227,462	7.59%

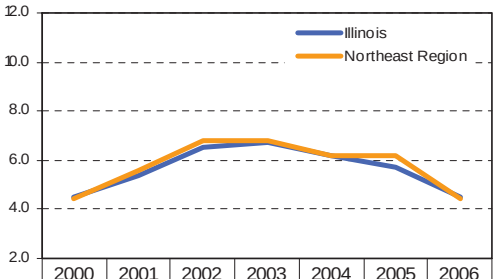
Primary Jobs by Worker Age



Primary Jobs by Earnings Paid



Unemployment Rate 2000 - 2006 Illinois and the Northeast Region



	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Illinois	4.5	5.4	6.5	6.7	6.2	5.7	4.5
Northeast Region	4.5	5.6	6.8	6.8	6.2	6.2	4.4

Northeastern Illinois Industry Structure Summary

- The Northeastern Illinois region lost 21,536 manufacturing jobs (5.0%) from 2003 – 2005.
- The region has an annual mean wage of $50,267 for stable manufacturing jobs.
- Manufacturing jobs make up 12.0% of total employment in the Northeastern Illinois region.
- Higher-wage service jobs make up 27.9% of total employment in the Northeastern Illinois region.
- Lower-wage service jobs make up 33.4% of total employment in the Northeastern Illinois region.

Northeastern Illinois—Industry Structure

Sector	Employment, 2003	Employment, 2005	Employment Change 2003–2005	Separations Stable Jobs, 2005	New Hires Stable Jobs, 2005	Stable Jobs: Mean Earnings, 2005	New Hires Stable Jobs: Mean Earnings, 2005
Total Public/Private Employment In Sectors	3,454,608	3,434,293	-20,315	326,059	311,830	$47,670	$30,651
Manufacturing Total	433,457	411,921	-21,536	27,538	22,651	$50,267	$37,938
Higher–Wage Service	927,405	958,778	31,373	90,865	112,075	$54,691	$36,910
Lower–Wage Service	1,124,122	1,146,884	22,762	129,840	96,451	$31,453	$20,385

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security.
*Total differs from the total employment data in the other tables because it excludes self-employed and agricultural workers

Northeastern Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Occupations Summary

- The Northeastern Illinois region is projected to be the state's principal source of new job growth. All twenty occupations of the region's Top 20 growth occupations are projected to grow faster in the region than in the state. The three occupations in the Northeastern Illinois region that are projected to outpace statewide growth rates the most are: Other Management Occupations (4.7% faster than the projected statewide average for that occupation); Construction Trades Workers (2.9% faster than the projected statewide average for that occupation); and Primary/Secondary/Special Education School Teachers (2.9% faster than the projected statewide average for that occupation).
- The Primary/Secondary/Special Education School Teachers occupation, with a mean wage of $63,382, is projected to produce the highest level of growth, averaging 2,961 additional jobs annually in Northeastern Illinois from 2004 through 2014.
- The top five projected growth occupations, Primary/Secondary/Special Education School Teachers, Computer Specialists, Business Operations Specialists, Construction Trades Workers and Health Diagnosing/Treating Practitioners, are expected to create 29.0% of all new jobs in the Northeastern Illinois region.
- The weighted mean wage in the Northeastern Illinois regions' top growth occupations ranges from a low of $19,128 for Food and Beverage Serving Workers to a high of $137,764 for Top Executives.
- Top 20 growth occupations are projected to create 70.9% of all new jobs in the Northeastern Illinois region.

[1] Includes: NAICS 31-33 Manufacturing. U.S. Census Bureau. 2007 NAICS Codes and Titles.

[2] Higher-wage service includes: NAICS 51 Information, NAICS 52 Finance and insurance, NAICS 53 Real estate and rental and leasing, NAICS 54 Professional and technical services, NAICS 55 Management of companies and enterprises, and NAICS 56 Administrative and waste services. U.S. Census Bureau. 2002 NAICS Codes and Titles.

[3] Lower-wage service includes: NAICS 61 Educational services, NAICS 62 Health care and social assistance, NAICS 71 Arts, entertainment, and recreation, NAICS 72 Accommodation and food services, and 81 Other Services (except Public Administration). U.S. Census Bureau. 2007 NAICS Codes and Titles.

Northeastern Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Industries						
Rank	NAICS	Title	Employment, 2004	Projected Employment, 2014	Employment Change	Mean Wage, 2005
		All Public and Private Employment	3,902,500	4,322,397	419,895	
		Total - Declining Industries	674,044	629,063	-44,982	
		Total - Growing Industries	3,228,456	3,693,334	464,877	
1	561///	Administrative and Support Services	300,095	376,679	76,584	$31,092
2	541///	Professional, Scientific and Tech. Services	282,476	352,106	69,630	$74,260
3	611///	Educational Services	330,853	386,786	55,933	$38,512
4	621///	Ambulatory Health Care Services	128,090	165,687	37,596	$52,993
5	722///	Food Services and Drinking Places	252,584	286,554	33,970	$17,478
6	238///	Specialty Trade Contractors	136,272	163,409	27,137	$57,887
7	623///	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	69,560	87,167	17,607	$27,913
8	624///	Social Assistance	58,277	73,428	15,151	$23,372
9	813///	Religious, Civic and Professional Orgs.	100,784	114,384	13,600	$42,463
10	493///	Warehousing and Storage	28,114	37,784	9,670	$35,870
11	523///	Securities,Commodities and Financial Acti.	46,194	54,259	8,065	$111,173
12	622///	Hospitals	168,561	176,209	7,648	$47,994
13	713///	Amusements, Gambling and Recreation Ind.	41,355	48,922	7,567	$21,634
14	551///	Management of Companies and Enterprises	69,788	76,780	6,992	$81,072
15	522///	Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	113,180	118,316	5,135	$61,635
16	441///	Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	45,715	50,626	4,911	$49,001
17	444///	Building Material and Garden Equip. Stores	34,377	39,210	4,833	$29,679
18	236///	Construction of Buildings	38,640	43,011	4,371	$58,473
19	811///	Repair and Maintenance	38,843	43,156	4,313	$37,946
20	484///	Truck Transportation	40,855	44,768	3,913	$49,734

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security.
Totals in declining and growing industry do not include government industries (9-----).

Northeastern Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Industries Summary

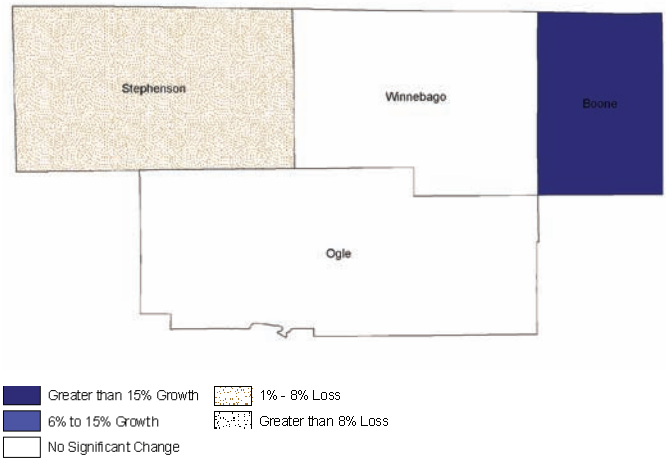
- The Northeastern Illinois region is projected to gain 419,895 additional jobs between 2004 and 2014, a 10.8% increase. This is greater than the statewide projected net increase of 9.3%.
- 58.9% of all new jobs projected to be created between 2004 and 2014 are projected to occur within the top five growth industries. Administrative and Support Services with a weighted mean wage of $31,092, Professional, Scientific and Technical Services with a weighted mean wage of $74,260, Educational Services with a weighted mean wage of $38,512, Ambulatory Health Care Services with a weighted mean wage of $52,993, and Food Services and Drinking Places with a weighted mean wage of $7,478. These five industries are projected to create 273,713 of the total 464,877 new jobs in the Northeastern Illinois region by 2014.
- Mean annual wages in the Northeastern Illinois region's top growth sectors range from a low of $17,478 for Food Services and Drinking Places to a high of $111,173 for Securities, Commodities and Financial Activities.
- The top 20 growth sectors are projected to create 89.2% of all new jobs in the Northeastern Illinois region.

Northeastern Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Occupations								
Rank	SOC	Title	Employment, 2004	Projected Employment, 2014	Employment Change	Annual Growth	Annual Replacements	Mean Wage, 2005
		All Public and Private Employment	4,350,709	4,782,084	431,375			
		Total - Growing Occupations	3,762,105	4,214,162	452,058			
		Total - Declining Occupations	588,604	567,922	-20,683			
1	25-2000	Primary/Sec./Special Ed Sch Teachrs	132,952	162,565	29,613	2,961	3,103	$63,382.45
2	15-1000	Computer Specialists	104,477	132,588	28,111	2,811	1,375	$81,397.33
3	13-1000	Business Operations Specialists	129,652	156,602	26,950	2,695	2,258	$77,147.08
4	47-2000	Construction Trades Workers	155,159	178,569	23,411	2,341	2,857	$65,537.42
5	29-1000	Health Diagnosng/ Treatng Practitnrs	121,757	144,809	23,052	2,305	2,428	$78,379.07
6	53-7000	Material Moving Workers	197,080	216,432	19,352	1,935	5,598	$27,302.46
7	35-3000	Food and Beverage Serving Workers	139,341	157,204	17,862	1,786	6,687	$19,127.77
8	53-3000	Motor Vehicle Operators	120,377	137,808	17,431	1,743	1,813	$39,166.40
9	37-2000	Bldg Cleaning and Pest Control Wrkrs	119,954	137,106	17,151	1,715	2,355	$25,088.11
10	13-2000	Financial Specialists	96,174	109,805	13,631	1,363	1,698	$80,250.71
11	41-2000	Retail Sales Workers	240,626	253,657	13,031	1,303	9,812	$25,821.75
12	29-2000	Health Technologists and Technicians	73,813	86,174	12,362	1,236	1,299	$43,416.55
13	43-4000	Information and Record Clerks	172,177	183,864	11,687	1,169	3,509	$35,708.84
14	35-2000	Cooks and Food Preparation Workers	86,652	97,784	11,133	1,113	2,801	$20,949.96
15	31-1000	Nursing, Psych and Home Health Aides	51,238	61,829	10,592	1,059	671	$24,938.23
16	39-9000	Other Personal Care/ Service Workers	59,368	69,525	10,156	1,016	1,346	$25,215.51
17	11-1000	Top Executives	77,806	87,802	9,996	1,000	1,450	$137,764.24
18	11-9000	Other Management Occupations	102,608	111,438	8,829	883	1,957	$83,781.76
19	21-1000	Counselors/Soc Wrkrs/ Comm Srv Specs	41,662	49,805	8,143	814	796	$46,446.03
20	31-9000	Other Healthcre Support Occupations	33,456	41,327	7,871	787	708	$33,910.69
Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security								

Northern Stateline Regional Summary

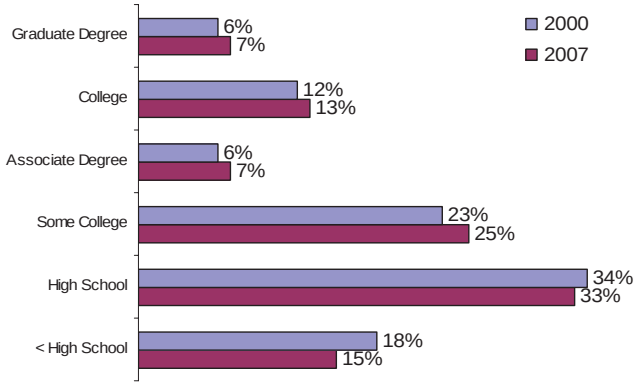
Profile	2000	2007	% Change
Population (1/1/2007):	420,215	452,920	7.78%
Population, Median Age:	36.2	36.3	0.30%
Percent Population 65+:	54,794	55,912	2.04%
White Population, Alone:	359,630	383,672	6.69%
Black Population, Alone:	33,677	34,286	1.81%
Asian Population, Alone:	5,683	7,474	31.52%
Other Population:	21,225	27,488	29.51%
Hispanic Population:	28,238	36,404	28.92%

County Job Gain/Loss 2000–2007



Percent of Population by Educational Attainment

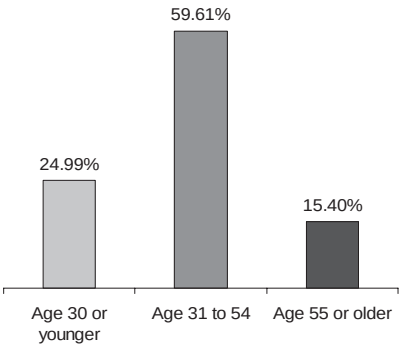
(Pop. Over 25)



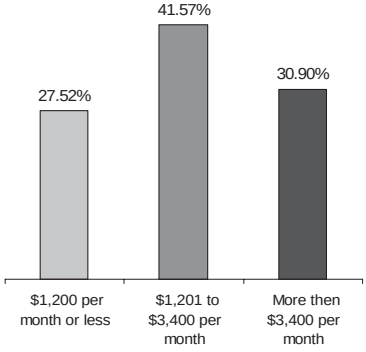
Total Employment 2000–2007

Area Name	2000	2007	% Change
Boone County	20,187	26,081	29.20%
Ogle County	24,823	27,209	9.61%
Stephenson County	23,552	23,099	-1.92%
Winnebago County	135,039	147,374	9.13%
Total	203,601	223,763	9.90%

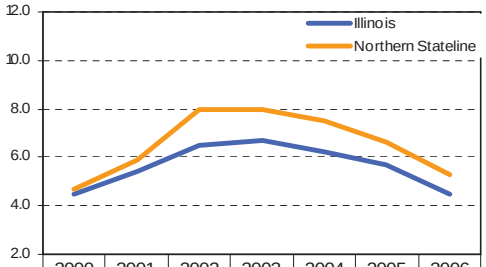
Primary Jobs by Worker Age



Primary Jobs by Earnings Paid



Unemployment Rate 2000 - 2006
Illinois and the Northern Stateline Region



	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Illinois	4.5	5.4	6.5	6.7	6.2	5.7	4.5
Northern Stateline	4.7	5.9	8.0	8.0	7.5	6.6	5.3

Northern Stateline Illinois Industry Structure Summary

- The Northern Stateline Illinois region lost 2,779 manufacturing jobs (1.8%) from 2003 – 2005.
- The region has an annual mean wage of $46,790 for stable manufacturing jobs.
- Manufacturing jobs make up 22.8% of total employment in the Northern Stateline Illinois region.
- Higher-wage service jobs make up 16.0% of total employment in the Northern Stateline Illinois region.
- Lower-wage service jobs make up 30.6% of total employment in the Northern Stateline Illinois region.

Northern Stateline Illinois—Industry Structure

Sector	Employment, 2003	Employment, 2005	Employment Change 2003–2005	Separations Stable Jobs, 2005	New Hires Stable Jobs, 2005	Stable Jobs: Mean Earnings, 2005	New Hires Stable Jobs: Mean Earnings, 2005
Total Public/Private Employment In Sectors	155,085	154,180	-905	14,427	13,859	$38,400	$23,782
Manufacturing Total	37,945	35,166	-2,779	2,362	2,054	$46,790	$39,230
Higher–Wage Service	25,189	24,684	-505	3,095	3,628	$33,299	$21,009
Lower–Wage Service	44,329	47,196	2,867	4,748	4,008	$66,737	$15,721

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security.
*Total differs from the total employment data in the other tables because it excludes self-employed and agricultural workers

Northern Stateline Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Occupations Summary

- The Northern Stateline Illinois region is projected to be an important source of job growth for the state between 2004 and 2014. Fifteen occupations among the top twenty in the region are expected to grow faster in the Northern Stateline Illinois region than statewide. The three occupations that are expected to exceed statewide growth rates the most are: Motor Vehicle Operators (7.0% faster than the statewide average for that occupation); Vehicle and Mobile Equipment Mechanics/Installers (6.3% faster than the statewide average for that occupation); and Health Diagnosing/Treating Practitioners (4.7% faster than the statewide average for that occupation).
- Primary/Secondary/Special Education School Teachers, an occupation with a mean annual wage of $52,578, is projected to have the highest increase of employment through 2014, followed by Health Diagnosing/Treating Practitioners, Material Moving Workers, Motor Vehicle Operators and Food and Beverage Serving Workers. These five occupations are projected to create 31.5% of all new jobs in the region.
- The mean wage in the Northern Stateline Illinois region's top growth occupations range from a low of $17,930 for Food and Beverage Serving Workers to a high of $134,763 for Top Executives.
- The top 20 growth occupations are projected to create 73.5% of all new jobs in the Northern Stateline Illinois region.

[1] Includes: NAICS 31-33 Manufacturing. U.S. Census Bureau. 2007 NAICS Codes and Titles.

[2] Higher-wage service includes: NAICS 51 Information, NAICS 52 Finance and insurance, NAICS 53 Real estate and rental and leasing, NAICS 54 Professional and technical services, NAICS 55 Management of companies and enterprises, and NAICS 56 Administrative and waste services. U.S. Census Bureau. 2002 NAICS Codes and Titles.

[3] Lower-wage service includes: NAICS 61 Educational services, NAICS 62 Health care and social assistance, NAICS 71 Arts, entertainment, and recreation, NAICS 72 Accommodation and food services, and 81 Other Services (except Public Administration). U.S. Census Bureau. 2007 NAICS Codes and Titles.

Northern Stateline Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Industries						
Rank	NAICS	Title	Employment, 2004	Projected Employment, 2014	Employment Change	Mean Wage, 2005
		All Public and Private Employment	182,769	201,563	18,800	
		Total - Declining Industries	47,138	43,633	-3,503	
		Total - Growing Industries	135,631	157,930	22,303	
1	561///	Administrative and Support Services	14,978	19,302	4,324	$25,751.56
2	611///	Educational Services	14,052	16,670	2,618	$29,748.61
3	722///	Food Services and Drinking Places	11,686	13,650	1,964	$13,133.11
4	621///	Ambulatory Health Care Services	6,851	8,588	1,737	$59,892.57
5	623///	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	5,340	6,724	1,384	$26,208.63
6	336///	Transportation Equipment Mfg.	4,979	6,155	1,176	$67,316.69
7	541///	Professional, Scientific and Tech. Services	5,126	6,205	1,079	$45,942.96
8	238///	Specialty Trade Contractors	6,567	7,537	970	$48,932.90
9	622///	Hospitals	8,681	9,627	946	$43,056.00
10	813///	Religious, Civic and Professional Orgs.	6,903	7,588	685	$19,637.19
11	493///	Warehousing and Storage	1,026	1,578	553	$33,487.50
12	624///	Social Assistance	2,113	2,558	445	$19,638.86
13	811///	Repair and Maintenance	2,123	2,547	424	$31,806.35
14	444///	Building Material and Garden Equip. Stores	1,911	2,204	293	$28,691.60
15	441///	Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	2,426	2,716	290	$41,342.31
16	812///	Personal and Laundry Services	1,980	2,267	287	$24,820.97
17	713///	Amusements, Gambling and Recreation Ind.	1,256	1,534	278	$16,402.60
18	236///	Construction of Buildings	1,695	1,941	246	$42,704.15
19	523///	Securities,Commodities and Financial Acti.	1,162	1,392	231	$88,613.98
20	522///	Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	3,491	3,717	226	$39,503.67

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security.
Totals in declining and growing industry do not include government industries (9-----).

Northern Stateline Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Industries Summary

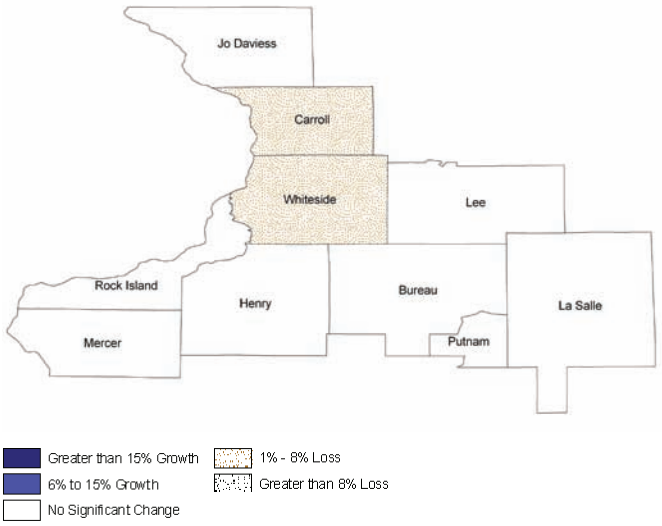
- The Northern Stateline Illinois region is projected to gain 18,818 additional jobs between 2004 and 2014, a 10.3% increase. This is greater than the statewide projected net increase of 9.3%.
- 53.9% of all new jobs created between 2004 and 201 are projected to occur in five industries: Administrative and Support Services with a weighted mean of $25,752; Educational Services with a weighted mean wage of $29,749; Food Services and Drinking Places with a weighted mean wage of $13,133; Ambulatory Health Care Services with a weighted mean wage of $59,893; and Nursing and Residential Care Facilities with a weighted mean wage of $26,209. These five industries are projected to create 12,027 new jobs within the region.
- Mean annual wages in the Northern Stateline Illinois region's top growth sectors range from a low of $13,133 for Food Services and Drinking Places to a high of $88,614 for Securities, Commodities and Financial Activities.
- The top 20 growth sectors are projected to create 90.4% of all new jobs in the Northern Stateline Illinois region.

Northern Stateline Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Occupations								
Rank	SOC	Title	Employment, 2004	Projected Employment, 2014	Employment Change	Annual Growth	Annual Replacements	Mean Wage, 2005
		All Public and Private Employment	210,090	230,182	20,090			
		Total - Growing Occupations	192,697	213,553	20,855			
		Total - Declining Occupations	18,920	18,038	-883			
1	25-2000	Primary/Sec./Special Ed Sch Teachrs	7,190	8,716	1,526	153	170	$52,578
2	29-1000	Health Diagnosng/Treatng Practitnrs	6,398	7,840	1,442	144	125	$58,240
3	53-7000	Material Moving Workers	10,926	12,310	1,384	138	306	$27,509
4	53-3000	Motor Vehicle Operators	5,895	7,080	1,185	118	85	$33,374
5	35-3000	Food and Beverage Serving Workers	6,402	7,424	1,022	102	307	$17,930
6	47-2000	Construction Trades Workers	8,258	9,258	999	100	151	$51,779
7	13-1000	Business Operations Specialists	4,861	5,729	868	87	87	$64,229
8	37-2000	Bldg Cleaning and Pest Control Wrkrs	5,128	5,935	807	81	101	$22,604
9	31-1000	Nursing, Psych and Home Health Aides	3,063	3,769	706	71	40	$22,714
10	29-2000	Health Technologists and Technicians	3,691	4,362	671	67	65	$34,997
11	41-2000	Retail Sales Workers	11,114	11,744	630	63	461	$23,817
12	35-2000	Cooks and Food Preparation Workers	4,143	4,772	629	63	134	$19,438
13	43-4000	Information and Record Clerks	7,115	7,687	573	57	144	$29,741
14	15-1000	Computer Specialists	2,549	3,037	488	49	34	$64,550
15	39-9000	Other Personal Care/Service Workers	2,739	3,194	456	46	63	$22,574
16	21-1000	Counselors/Soc Wrkrs/Comm Srv Specs	2,087	2,533	445	45	40	$43,225
17	11-1000	Top Executives	3,469	3,854	384	38	65	$134,763
18	49-3000	Vehcle and Mobile Eqpt Mechs/Instllrs	2,309	2,688	379	38	58	$38,119
19	31-9000	Other Healthcre Support Occupations	1,690	2,068	378	38	35	$30,796
20	13-2000	Financial Specialists	3,028	3,387	360	36	54	$64,227
Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security								

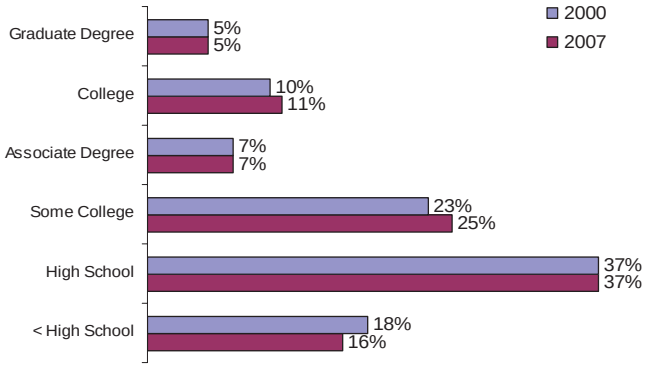
Northwestern Regional Summary

Profile	2000	2007	% Change
Population (1/1/2007):	506,127	503,227	-0.57%
Population, Median Age:	41.1	41.4	0.71%
Percent Population 65+:	81,402	78,049	-4.12%
White Population, Alone:	467,572	459,569	-1.71%
Black Population, Alone:	16,293	16,206	-0.53%
Asian Population, Alone:	3,142	3,726	18.59%
Other Population:	19,120	23,726	24.09%
Hispanic Population:	29,344	35,469	20.87%

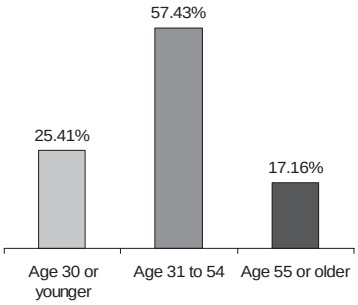
County Job Gain/Loss 2000–2007



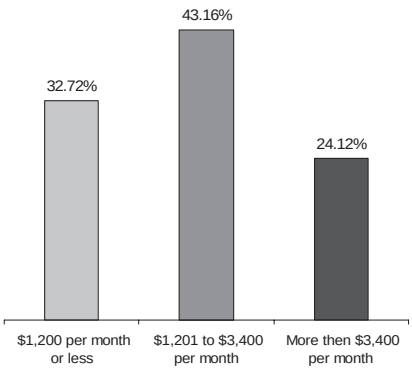
Percent of Population by Educational Attainment
(Pop. Over 25)



Primary Jobs by Worker Age



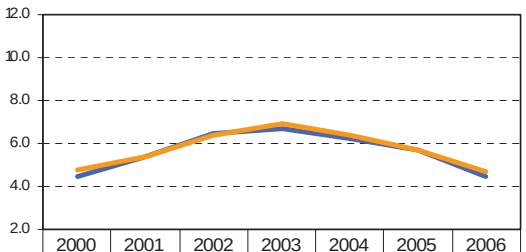
Primary Jobs by Earnings Paid



Total Employment 2000–2007

Area Name	2000	2007	% Change
Bureau County	17,392	17,454	0.36%
Carroll County	7,706	7,516	-2.47%
Henry County	25,036	25,025	-0.04%
Jo Daviess County	11,503	11,804	2.62%
La Salle County	51,029	52,464	2.81%
Lee County	16,347	16,321	-0.16%
Mercer County	7,988	8,004	0.20%
Putnam County	2,866	2,868	0.07%
Rock Island County	71,329	71,434	0.15%
Whiteside County	28,376	28,256	-0.42%
Total	239,572	241,146	0.66%

Unemployment Rate 2000 - 2006
Illinois and the Northwest Region



	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Illinois	4.5	5.4	6.5	6.7	6.2	5.7	4.5
Northwestern	4.8	5.4	6.4	6.9	6.4	5.7	4.7

Northwestern Illinois Industry Structure Summary

- The Northwestern Illinois region gained 1,238 manufacturing jobs (4.9%) from 2003 – 2005.
- The region has an annual mean wage of $41,339 for stable manufacturing jobs.
- Manufacturing jobs make up 16.0% of total employment in the Northwestern Illinois region.
- Higher-wage service jobs make up 16.7% of total employment in the Northwestern Illinois region.
- Lower-wage service jobs make up 29.2% of total employment in the Northwestern Illinois region.

Northwestern Illinois—Industry Structure

Sector	Employment, 2003	Employment, 2005	Employment Change 2003–2005	Separations Stable Jobs, 2005	New Hires Stable Jobs, 2005	Stable Jobs: Mean Earnings, 2005	New Hires Stable Jobs: Mean Earnings, 2005
Total Public/Private Employment In Sectors	161,725	166,913	5,188	14,891	15,291	$34,444	$21,184
Manufacturing Total	25,439	26,677	1,238	1,509	1,890	$41,339	$25,659
Higher–Wage Service	23,118	27,920	4,802	2,754	3,588	$30,196	$19,952
Lower–Wage Service	48,529	48,813	284	5,227	4,210	$21,072	$13,290

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security.
*Total differs from the total employment data in the other tables because it excludes self-employed and agricultural workers

Northwestern Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Occupations Summary

- The Primary/Secondary/Special Education School Teachers occupation, with a mean wage of $53,068, is projected to produce the highest level of growth in the Northwestern Illinois region, averaging 121 additional jobs annually from 2004 through 2014.
- The top five occupations, Primary/Secondary/Special Education School Teachers, Health Diagnosing/Treating Practitioners, Food and Beverage Serving Workers, Motor Vehicle Operators and Business Operations Specialists are projected to create 34.5% of all new jobs in the Northwestern Illinois region.
- The mean wage in the Northwestern Illinois region's top growth occupations ranges from a low of $16,275 for Other Food Preparations/Serving Workers to a high of $110,679 for Top Executives.
- The top 20 growth occupations are projected to create 78.7% of all new jobs in the Northwestern Illinois region.

[1] Includes: NAICS 31-33 Manufacturing. U.S. Census Bureau. 2007 NAICS Codes and Titles.

[2] Higher-wage service includes: NAICS 51 Information, NAICS 52 Finance and insurance, NAICS 53 Real estate and rental and leasing, NAICS 54 Professional and technical services, NAICS 55 Management of companies and enterprises, and NAICS 56 Administrative and waste services. U.S. Census Bureau. 2002 NAICS Codes and Titles.

[3] Lower-wage service includes: NAICS 61 Educational services, NAICS 62 Health care and social assistance, NAICS 71 Arts, entertainment, and recreation, NAICS 72 Accommodation and food services, and 81 Other Services (except Public Administration). U.S. Census Bureau. 2007 NAICS Codes and Titles.

Northwestern Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Industries						
Rank	NAICS	Title	Employment, 2004	Projected Employment, 2014	Employment Change	Mean Wage, 2005
		All Public and Private Employment	184,141	193,868	9,720	
		Total - Declining Industries	43,949	39,662	-4,289	
		Total - Growing Industries	140,192	154,206	14,009	
1	561///	Administrative and Support Services	10,809	12,841	2,032	$18,350.69
2	611///	Educational Services	16,399	18,267	1,868	$26,894.80
3	722///	Food Services and Drinking Places	14,060	15,620	1,560	$10,633.25
4	621///	Ambulatory Health Care Services	6,125	7,260	1,135	$37,306.32
5	623///	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	5,698	6,644	946	$17,769.54
6	541///	Professional, Scientific and Tech. Services	4,958	5,766	808	$40,084.66
7	624///	Social Assistance	3,049	3,489	440	$17,495.93
8	813///	Religious, Civic and Professional Orgs.	4,821	5,261	440	$14,510.69
9	713///	Amusements, Gambling and Recreation Ind.	2,220	2,644	424	$15,012.91
10	622///	Hospitals	8,325	8,717	392	$36,292.35
11	238///	Specialty Trade Contractors	5,113	5,502	389	$33,231.95
12	551///	Management of Companies and Enterprises	3,396	3,774	377	$82,853.83
13	441///	Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	3,400	3,697	297	$33,189.17
14	484///	Truck Transportation	3,603	3,879	276	$37,159.91
15	811///	Repair and Maintenance	2,204	2,470	266	$24,062.25
16	522///	Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	4,700	4,909	209	$28,350.50
17	444///	Building Material and Garden Equip. Stores	1,856	2,045	189	$24,391.35
18	424///	Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	5,169	5,357	188	$34,471.91
19	452///	General Merchandise Stores	6,010	6,171	161	$12,695.01
20	493///	Warehousing and Storage	341	498	156	$38,210.52

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security.
Totals in declining and growing industry do not include government industries (9-----).

Northwestern Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Industries Summary

- The Northwestern Illinois region is projected to gain 9,783 additional jobs between 2004 and 2014, a 5.3% increase. This is less than the statewide projected net increase of 9.3%.
- 53.8% of all new jobs projected to be created in the Northwestern Illinois region are projected to occur within five industries: Administrative and Support Services with a weighted mean wage of $18,350; Educational Services with a weighted mean wage of $26,895; Food Services and Drinking Places with a weighted mean wage of $10,633; Ambulatory Health Care Services with a weighted mean wage of $37,306; and Nursing and Residential Care Facilities with a weighted mean wage of $17,770. These five industries are projected to create 7,541 additional jobs.
- The mean annual wages in the Northwestern Illinois regions' top growth industries range from a low of $10,633 for Food Services and Drinking Places to a high of $82,854 for Management of Companies and Enterprises.
- The top 20 growth sectors are projected to create 89.6% of all projected new jobs in the Northwestern Illinois region.

Northwestern Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Occupations

Rank	SOC	Title	Employment, 2004	Projected Employment, 2014	Employment Change	Annual Growth	Annual Replacements	Mean Wage, 2005
		All Public and Private Employment	233,999	243,048	9,048			
		Total - Growing Occupations	155,485	168,062	12,572			
		Total - Declining Occupations	78,514	74,986	-3,524			
1	25-2000	Primary/Sec./Special Ed Sch Teachrs	8,321	9,528	1,207	121	198	$53,068
2	29-1000	Health Diagnosng/Treatng Practitnrs	6,669	7,636	967	97	130	$60,772
3	35-3000	Food and Beverage Serving Workers	7,827	8,635	809	81	375	$16,275
4	53-3000	Motor Vehicle Operators	7,340	8,038	698	70	111	$34,827
5	13-1000	Business Operations Specialists	5,906	6,558	653	65	107	$65,678
6	15-1000	Computer Specialists	3,423	4,017	595	59	45	$66,210
7	37-2000	Bldg Cleaning and Pest Control Wrkrs	5,399	5,920	521	52	106	$23,356
8	35-2000	Cooks and Food Preparation Workers	4,939	5,426	487	49	159	$18,783
9	29-2000	Health Technologists and Technicians	3,888	4,361	474	47	69	$34,825
10	31-1000	Nursing, Psych and Home Health Aides	3,312	3,765	454	45	43	$22,130
11	41-2000	Retail Sales Workers	13,582	14,022	440	44	565	$22,652
12	47-2000	Construction Trades Workers	7,960	8,334	374	37	145	$47,094
13	39-9000	Other Personal Care/ Service Workers	3,446	3,792	346	35	79	$20,772
14	21-1000	Counselors/Soc Wrkrs/ Comm Srv Specs	2,573	2,906	332	33	49	$38,624
15	31-9000	Other Healthcre Support Occupations	1,688	1,982	293	29	35	$27,849
16	49-3000	Vehcle and Mobile Eqpt Mechs/Instllrs	2,937	3,210	272	27	74	$36,994
17	53-7000	Material Moving Workers	9,730	9,988	258	26	271	$25,972
18	25-9000	Other Educ. Trng and Library Occs	2,028	2,281	253	25	38	n/a
19	35-9000	Other Food Prep/Serving Workers	2,498	2,736	237	24	82	$16,957
20	11-1000	Top Executives	3,686	3,905	219	22	69	$110,679

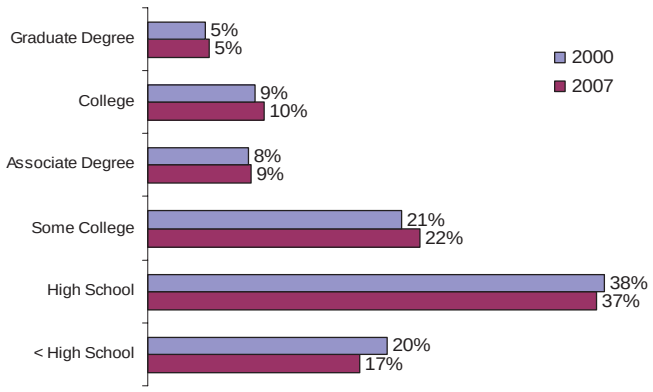
Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL SUMMARY

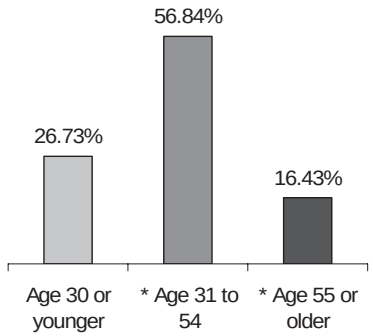
Profile	2000	2007	% Change
Population (1/1/2007):	275,648	269,341	-2.29%
Population, Median Age:	36.8	37.1	0.95%
Percent Population 65+:	46,895	44,629	-4.77%
White Population, Alone:	265,813	258,825	-2.63%
Black Population, Alone:	5,457	5,321	-2.49%
Asian Population, Alone:	1,224	1,388	13.40%
Other Population:	3,154	3,807	20.70%
Hispanic Population:	2,565	4,291	67.29%

Percent of Population by Educational Attainment

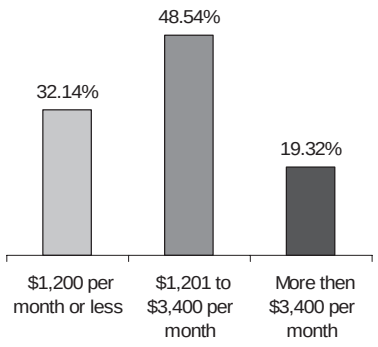
(Pop. Over 25)



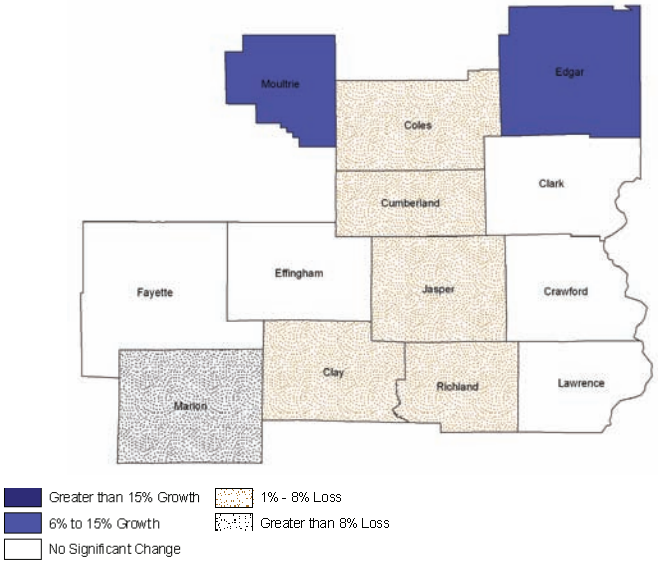
Primary Jobs by Worker Age



Primary Jobs by Earnings Paid



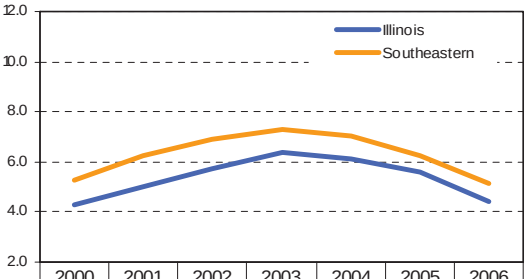
County Job Gain/Loss 2000–2007



Total Employment 2000–2007

Area Name	2000	2007	% Change
Clark County	7,862	7,953	1.16%
Clay County	6,525	6,369	-2.39%
Coles County	26,406	25,538	-3.29%
Crawford County	8,623	8,413	-2.44%
Cumberland County	5,427	5,373	-1.00%
Edgar County	8,926	8,729	-2.21%
Effingham County	17,314	17,577	1.52%
Fayette County	9,396	9,520	1.32%
Jasper County	4,906	4,838	-1.39%
Lawrence County	7,069	7,390	4.54%
Marion County	18,957	18,507	-2.37%
Moultrie County	6,913	7,019	1.53%
Richland County	7,255	7,175	-1.10%
Total	135,579	134,401	-0.87%

Unemployment Rate 2000 - 2006
Illinois and the Southeastern Central Region



	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Illinois	4.3	5.0	5.7	6.4	6.1	5.6	4.4
Southeastern	5.3	6.2	6.9	7.3	7.0	6.3	5.1

Southeastern Illinois Industry Structure Summary

- The Southeastern Illinois region gained 706 manufacturing jobs (4.5%) from 2003 – 2005.
- The region has an annual mean wage of $37,656 for stable manufacturing jobs.
- Manufacturing jobs make up 17.4% of total employment in the Southeastern Illinois region.
- Higher-wage service jobs make up 11.7% of total employment in the Southeastern Illinois region.
- Lower-wage service jobs make up 28.4% of total employment in the Southeastern Illinois region.

Southeastern Illinois—Industry Structure

Sector	Employment, 2003	Employment, 2005	Employment Change 2003–2005	Separations Stable Jobs, 2005	New Hires Stable Jobs, 2005	Stable Jobs: Mean Earnings, 2005	New Hires Stable Jobs: Mean Earnings, 2005
Total Public/Private Employment In Sectors	96,124	94,303	-1,821	8,676	7,974	$30,264	$18,052
Manufacturing Total	15,699	16,405	706	744	764	$37,656	$28,762
Higher–Wage Service	11,121	11,031	-90	1,445	1,739	$21,306	$13,327
Lower–Wage Service	26,565	26,812	247	3,098	2,360	$19,989	$13,068

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security.
*Total differs from the total employment data in the other tables because it excludes self-employed and agricultural workers

Southeastern Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Industries Summary

- The Southeastern Illinois region is projected to gain 3,713 additional jobs between 2004 and 2014, a 3.5% increase. This is less than the statewide projected net increase of 9.3%.
- 64.6% of all new jobs projected to be created in the Southeastern Illinois region are projected to occur within five industries: Administrative and Support Services with a weighted mean wage of $15,534; Educational Services with a weighted mean wage of $30,794; Food Services and Drinking Places with a weighted mean wage of $10,978; Nursing and Residential Care Facilities with a weighted mean wage of $20,176; and Ambulatory Health Care Services with a weighted mean of $42,934. These five industries are projected to create 6.069 new jobs.
- The mean annual wages in the Southeastern Illinois region's top growth sectors range from a low of $10,978 for Food Services and Drinking Places to a high of $42,934 for Ambulatory Health Care Services.
- The top 20 growth sectors make up 92.8% of the projected new jobs in the Southeastern Illinois region.

[1] Includes: NAICS 31-33 Manufacturing. U.S. Census Bureau. 2007 NAICS Codes and Titles.

[2] Higher-wage service includes: NAICS 51 Information, NAICS 52 Finance and insurance, NAICS 53 Real estate and rental and leasing, NAICS 54 Professional and technical services, NAICS 55 Management of companies and enterprises, and NAICS 56 Administrative and waste services. U.S. Census Bureau. 2002 NAICS Codes and Titles.

[3] Lower-wage service includes: NAICS 61 Educational services, NAICS 62 Health care and social assistance, NAICS 71 Arts, entertainment, and recreation, NAICS 72 Accommodation and food services, and 81 Other Services (except Public Administration). U.S. Census Bureau. 2007 NAICS Codes and Titles.

Southeastern Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Industries						
Rank	NAICS	Title	Employment, 2004	Projected Employment, 2014	Employment Change	Mean Wage, 2005
		All Public and Private Employment	105,830	109,519	3,683	
		Total - Declining Industries	27,876	25,494	-2,386	
		Total - Growing Industries	77,954	84,025	6,069	
1	561///	Administrative and Support Services	4,891	5,882	991	$1,294.53
2	611///	Educational Services	12,864	13,849	985	$2,566.18
3	722///	Food Services and Drinking Places	7,765	8,533	768	$914.86
4	623///	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	4,996	5,629	632	$1,681.31
5	621///	Ambulatory Health Care Services	3,700	4,246	546	$3,577.79
6	624///	Social Assistance	2,199	2,451	252	$1,552.60
7	493///	Warehousing and Storage	1,030	1,278	248	$3,510.00
8	541///	Professional, Scientific and Tech. Services	1,803	2,005	202	$2,933.91
9	813///	Religious, Civic and Professional Orgs.	2,528	2,659	131	$1,058.22
10	444///	Building Material and Garden Equip. Stores	1,161	1,273	112	$1,881.84
11	441///	Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	1,927	2,025	98	$2,653.19
12	423///	Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	1,873	1,968	95	$3,187.39
13	452///	General Merchandise Stores	3,526	3,612	86	$1,713.74
14	811///	Repair and Maintenance	1,156	1,239	83	$2,197.00
15	622///	Hospitals	4,428	4,507	79	n/a
16	484///	Truck Transportation	1,955	2,026	71	$3,242.88
17	238///	Specialty Trade Contractors	2,559	2,627	68	$2,807.11
18	326///	Plastics and Rubber Products Mfg.	2,275	2,339	64	$3,168.80
19	713///	Amusements, Gambling and Recreation Ind.	710	772	62	$1,167.68
20	424///	Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	2,422	2,483	61	$2,658.16

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security.
Totals in declining and growing industry do not include government industries (9-----).

Southeastern Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Occupations Summary

- The Health Diagnosing/Treating Practitioners occupation, with a mean wage of $54,741, is projected to produce the highest level of growth averaging 44 jobs annually from 2004 through 2014.
- The top five occupations, Health Diagnosing/Treating Practitioners, Food and Beverage Serving Workers, Primary/Secondary/Special Education School Teachers, Postsecondary Faculty, and Motor Vehicle Operators make up 34.9% of the total projected job growth in the Southeastern Illinois region.
- The mean wage in the Southeastern Illinois regions' top growth occupations range from a low of $15,844 for Other Food Preparations/Serving Workers to a high of $97,928 for Top Executives.
- The top 20 growth occupations are projected to create 81.5% of new jobs in the Southeastern Illinois region.

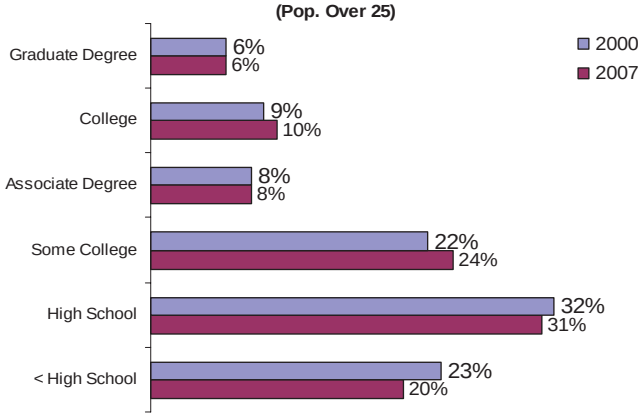
Southeastern Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Occupations								
Rank	SOC	Title	Employment, 2004	Projected Employment, 2014	Employment Change	Annual Growth	Annual Replacements	Mean Wage, 2005
		All Public and Private Employment	135,362	137,769	2,401			
		Total - Growing Occupations	85,628	90,962	5,332			
		Total - Declining Occupations	49,734	46,807	-2,931			
1	29-1000	Health Diagnosng/Treatng Practitnrs	3,662	4,106	444	44	70	$54,741
2	35-3000	Food and Beverage Serving Workers	4,198	4,586	387	39	201	$16,980
3	25-2000	Primary/Sec./Special Ed Sch Teachrs	4,893	5,260	367	37	116	$45,393
4	25-1000	Postsecondary Faculty	2,043	2,403	360	36	43	$23,827
5	53-3000	Motor Vehicle Operators	3,969	4,270	301	30	59	$33,759
6	13-1000	Business Operations Specialists	2,560	2,820	261	26	46	$55,966
7	31-1000	Nursing, Psych and Home Health Aides	2,402	2,652	250	25	31	$19,575
8	29-2000	Health Technologists and Technicians	2,216	2,428	213	21	38	$31,143
9	35-2000	Cooks and Food Preparation Workers	2,778	2,991	213	21	89	$18,540
10	37-2000	Bldg Cleaning and Pest Control Wrkrs	2,944	3,139	195	20	57	$22,106
11	39-9000	Other Personal Care/ Service Workers	2,053	2,243	189	19	47	$16,888
12	15-1000	Computer Specialists	1,449	1,631	182	18	19	$54,583
13	21-1000	Counselors/Soc Wrkrs/ Comm Srv Specs	1,675	1,854	178	18	32	$38,652
14	41-2000	Retail Sales Workers	6,883	7,051	168	17	286	$21,984
15	31-9000	Other Healthcre Support Occupations	1,000	1,150	150	15	22	$27,246
16	35-9000	Other Food Prep/Serving Workers	1,379	1,489	110	11	45	$15,844
17	49-3000	Vehcle and Mobile Eqpt Mechs/Instllrs	1,643	1,748	105	11	39	$29,427
18	25-9000	Other Educ. Trng and Library Occs	1,275	1,370	95	10	24	$24,653
19	47-2000	Construction Trades Workers	4,508	4,601	93	9	80	$38,565
20	11-1000	Top Executives	1,913	1,997	84	8	36	$97,928

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security

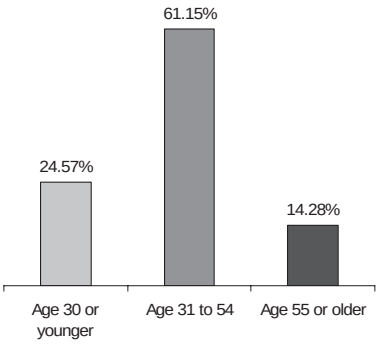
SOUTHERN REGIONAL SUMMARY

Profile	2000	2007	% Change
Population (1/1/2007):	389,777	386,795	-0.77%
Population, Median Age:	37.5	38.2	1.79%
Percent Population 65+:	63,843	61,309	-3.97%
White Population, Alone:	355,337	351,648	-1.04%
Black Population, Alone:	24,346	23,090	-5.16%
Asian Population, Alone:	3,026	3,418	12.95%
Other Population:	7,068	8,639	22.23%
Hispanic Population:	5,402	7,983	47.78%

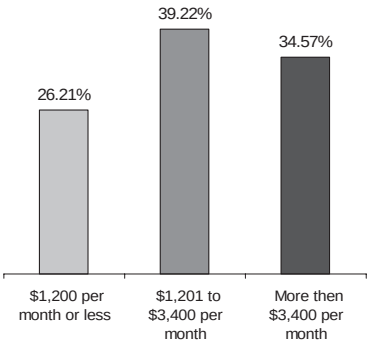
Percent of Population by Educational Attainment
(Pop. Over 25)



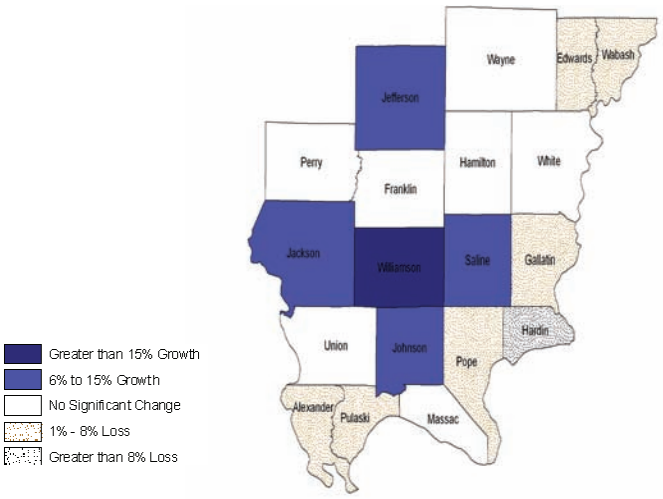
Primary Jobs by Worker Age



Primary Jobs by Earnings Paid



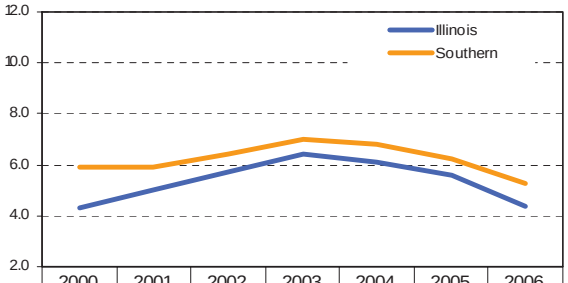
County Job Gain/Loss 2000–2007



Total Employment 2000–2007

Area Name	2000	2007	% Change
Alexander County	3,281	3,014	-8.14%
Edwards County	3,281	3,137	-4.39%
Franklin County	16,077	16,781	4.38%
Gallatin County	2,590	2,511	-3.05%
Hamilton County	3,706	3,630	-2.05%
Hardin County	1,773	1,695	-4.40%
Jackson County	28,131	27,688	-1.57%
Jefferson County	17,618	18,183	3.21%
Johnson County	4,405	4,794	8.83%
Massac County	6,721	6,868	2.19%
Perry County	9,181	9,278	1.06%
Pope County	1,883	1,815	-3.61%
Pulaski County	2,883	2,688	-6.76%
Saline County	10,543	10,445	-0.93%
Union County	7,573	7,753	2.38%
Wabash County	6,253	6,135	-1.89%
Wayne County	7,653	7,522	-1.71%
White County	6,734	6,718	-0.24%
Williamson County	27,212	28,945	6.37%
Total	167,498	169,600	1.25%

Unemployment Rate 2000 - 2006
Illinois and the Southern Region



	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Illinois	4.3	5.0	5.7	6.4	6.1	5.6	4.4
Southern	5.9	5.9	6.4	7.0	6.8	6.2	5.3

Southern Illinois Industry Structure Summary

- The Southern Illinois region lost 775 manufacturing jobs (9.5%) from 2003 – 2005.
- The region has an annual mean wage of $39,044 for stable manufacturing jobs.
- Manufacturing jobs make up 6.6% of total employment in the Southern Illinois region.
- Higher-wage service jobs make up 10.7% of total employment in the Southern Illinois region.
- Lower-wage service jobs make up 36.2% of total employment in the Southern Illinois region.

Southern Illinois—Industry Structure

Sector	Employment, 2003	Employment, 2005	Employment Change 2003–2005	Separations Stable Jobs, 2005	New Hires Stable Jobs, 2005	Stable Jobs: Mean Earnings, 2005	New Hires Stable Jobs: Mean Earnings, 2005
Total Public/Private Employment In Sectors	110,477	111,300	823	10,628	10,038	$31,346	$21,471
Manufacturing Total	8,138	7,363	-775	416	249	$39,044	$30,721
Higher–Wage Service	11,557	11,881	324	1,194	1,490	$26,413	$18,287
Lower–Wage Service	39,469	40,315	846	4,468	3,426	$22,780	$15,026

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security.
*Total differs from the total employment data in the other tables because it excludes self-employed and agricultural workers

Southern Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Occupations Summary

- The Postsecondary Faculty occupation, with a mean wage of $27,336, is projected to produce the highest level of growth averaging 122 jobs annually from 2004 through 2014.
- The top five growth occupations, Postsecondary Faculty, Health Diagnosing/Treating Practitioners, Primary/Secondary/Special Education School Teachers, Food and Beverage Serving Workers and Motor Vehicle Operators are projected to create 40.0% of all new jobs in the Southern Illinois region.
- The weighted mean wage in the Southern Illinois regions' top growth occupations range from a low of $15,447 for Food and Beverage Serving Workers to a high of $57,620 for Health Diagnosing/Treating Practitioners.
- The top 20 growth occupations are projected to create 84.3% of all new jobs in the Southern Illinois region.

[1] Includes: NAICS 31-33 Manufacturing. U.S. Census Bureau. 2007 NAICS Codes and Titles.

[2] Higher-wage service includes: NAICS 51 Information, NAICS 52 Finance and insurance, NAICS 53 Real estate and rental and leasing, NAICS 54 Professional and technical services, NAICS 55 Management of companies and enterprises, and NAICS 56 Administrative and waste services. U.S. Census Bureau. 2002 NAICS Codes and Titles.

[3] Lower-wage service includes: NAICS 61 Educational services, NAICS 62 Health care and social assistance, NAICS 71 Arts, entertainment, and recreation, NAICS 72 Accommodation and food services, and 81 Other Services (except Public Administration). U.S. Census Bureau. 2007 NAICS Codes and Titles.

Southern Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Industries						
Rank	NAICS	Title	Employment, 2004	Projected Employment, 2014	Employment Change	Mean Wage, 2005
		All Public and Private Employment	117,380	122,547	5,167	
		Total - Declining Industries	15,424	13,461	-1,963	
		Total - Growing Industries	101,956	109,086	7,130	
1	611///	Educational Services	22,438	24,063	1,625	$31,758.13
2	722///	Food Services and Drinking Places	10,447	11,242	795	$12,224.28
3	621///	Ambulatory Health Care Services	5,051	5,844	793	$44,284.44
4	623///	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	4,704	5,274	570	$19,361.84
5	561///	Administrative and Support Services	3,668	4,090	422	$21,042.41
6	541///	Professional, Scientific and Tech. Services	2,865	3,264	399	$33,882.72
7	624///	Social Assistance	2,353	2,655	302	$18,341.23
8	238///	Specialty Trade Contractors	2,995	3,213	218	$36,180.66
9	813///	Religious, Civic and Professional Orgs.	3,681	3,883	202	$18,359.06
10	622///	Hospitals	7,084	7,260	176	$36,908.28
11	336///	Transportation Equipment Mfg.	4,541	4,705	164	$38,074.77
12	441///	Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	2,297	2,458	161	$32,273.68
13	713///	Amusements, Gambling and Recreation Ind.	1,519	1,633	114	$21,679.07
14	444///	Building Material and Garden Equip. Stores	1,293	1,396	103	$24,085.05
15	452///	General Merchandise Stores	4,297	4,398	101	$20,262.51
16	721///	Accommodation	915	1,010	95	$14,970.48
17	423///	Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	1,616	1,706	90	$38,238.03
18	484///	Truck Transportation	1,645	1,735	90	$33,316.50
19	443///	Electronics and Appliance Stores	588	662	74	$26,124.12
20	811///	Repair and Maintenance	1,116	1,190	74	$26,293.77

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security.
Totals in declining and growing industry do not include government industries (9-----).

Southern Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Industries Summary

- The Southern Illinois region is projected to gain 5,215 net new jobs between 2004 and 2014, a 4.5% increase. This is less than the statewide projected net increase of 9.3%.
- 59.0% of all new jobs between 2004 and 2014 are projected to be created by five industries: Educational Services with a weighted mean wage of $31,758; Food Services and Drinking Places with a weighted mean wage of $12,224; Ambulatory Health Care Services with a weighted mean wage of $44,284; Nursing and Residential Care Facilities with a weighted mean wage of $19,362; and Administrative and Support Services with a weighted mean wage of $21,042. These five industries are projected to create 4,205 new jobs between 2004 and 2014.
- Mean annual wages in the Southern Illinois region's top growth sectors range from a low of $12,224 for Food Services and Drinking Places to a high of $44,284 for Ambulatory Health Care Services.
- The top 20 growth sectors are projected to create 92.1% of all new jobs in the Southern Illinois region.

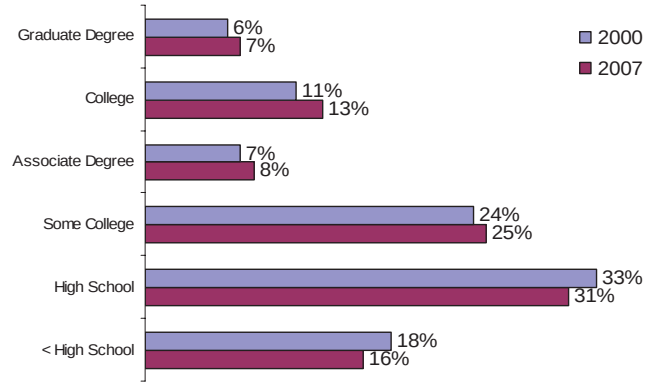
Southern Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Occupations								
Rank	SOC	Title	Employment, 2004	Projected Employment, 2014	Employment Change	Annual Growth	Annual Replacements	Mean Wage, 2005
		All Public and Private Employment	164,579	168,120	3,542			
		Total - Growing Occupations	98,336	104,987	6,652			
		Total - Declining Occupations	60,170	57,067	-3,102			
1	25-1000	Postsecondary Faculty	5,387	6,111	723	72	122	$27,336
2	29-1000	Health Diagnosng/ Treatng Practitnrs	5,260	5,907	647	65	102	$57,620
3	25-2000	Primary/Sec./Special Ed Sch Teachrs	6,301	6,841	540	54	149	$50,160
4	35-3000	Food and Beverage Serving Workers	5,560	5,967	407	41	266	$15,447
5	53-3000	Motor Vehicle Operators	4,302	4,644	342	34	66	$30,812
6	13-1000	Business Operations Specialists	3,395	3,695	300	30	60	$56,827
7	29-2000	Health Technologists and Technicians	3,027	3,295	267	27	53	$30,861
8	37-2000	Bldg Cleaning and Pest Control Wrkrs	4,053	4,292	239	24	79	$20,694
9	35-2000	Cooks and Food Preparation Workers	3,690	3,928	238	24	119	$17,732
10	31-1000	Nursing, Psych and Home Health Aides	2,567	2,802	235	23	33	$18,622
11	15-1000	Computer Specialists	1,896	2,126	230	23	25	$47,490
12	47-2000	Construction Trades Workers	5,266	5,482	216	22	95	$45,154
13	41-2000	Retail Sales Workers	9,214	9,405	191	19	384	$21,588
14	39-9000	Other Personal Care/ Service Workers	2,639	2,824	185	19	61	$19,056
15	31-9000	Other Healthcre Support Occupations	1,227	1,408	181	18	25	$27,088
16	21-1000	Counselors/Soc Wrkrs/ Comm Srv Specs	2,432	2,610	178	18	46	$42,438
17	25-9000	Other Educ. Trng and Library Occs	1,806	1,948	142	14	33	$21,198
18	49-3000	Vehcle and Mobile Eqpt Mechs/Instllrs	1,865	1,995	130	13	46	$31,549
19	35-9000	Other Food Prep/ Serving Workers	1,814	1,931	118	12	60	$18,454
20	13-2000	Financial Specialists	2,288	2,385	98	10	42	$48,709

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security

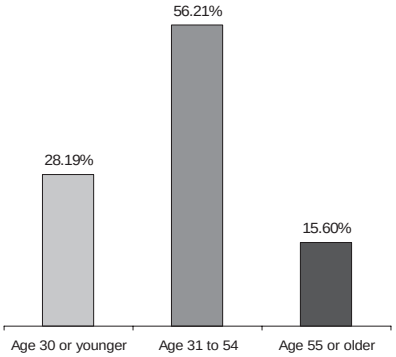
Southwestern Regional Summary

Profile	2000	2007	% Change
Population (1/1/2007):	671,603	690,062	2.75%
Population, Median Age:	36.4	36.7	0.87%
Percent Population 65+:	93,977	92,803	-1.25%
White Population, Alone:	555,651	572,228	2.98%
Black Population, Alone:	98,625	95,421	-3.25%
Asian Population, Alone:	4,502	5,841	29.74%
Other Population:	12,825	16,572	29.22%
Hispanic Population:	11,378	16,426	44.37%

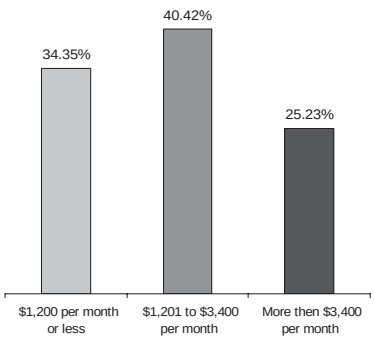
Percent of Population by Educational Attainment
(Pop. Over 25)



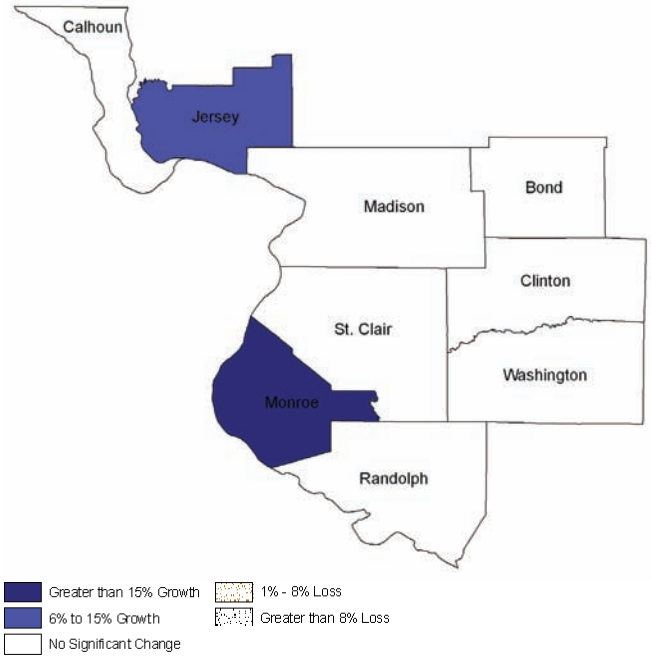
Primary Jobs by Worker Age



Primary Jobs by Earnings Paid



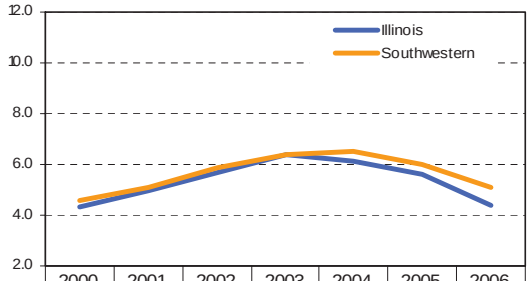
County Job Gain/Loss 2000–2007



Total Employment 2000–2007

Area Name	2000	2007	% Change
Bond County	7,711	8,055	4.46%
Calhoun County	2,335	2,416	3.47%
Clinton County	17,153	17,935	4.56%
Jersey County	10,340	11,041	6.78%
Madison County	123,641	129,694	4.90%
Monroe County	14,502	16,959	16.94%
Randolph County	14,031	13,864	-1.19%
St. Clair County	110,540	116,357	5.26%
Washington County	7,669	7,617	-0.68%
Total	307,922	323,938	5.20%

Unemployment Rate 2000 - 2006
Illinois and the Southwestern Region



	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Illinois	4.3	5.0	5.7	6.4	6.1	5.6	4.4
Southwestern	4.6	5.1	5.9	6.4	6.5	6.0	5.1

Southwestern Illinois Industry Structure Summary

- The Southwestern Illinois region lost 24,861 manufacturing jobs (51.4%) from 2003 – 2005, the only region that showed a dramatic decrease in the manufacturing industry.
- The region has an annual mean wage of $45,161 for stable manufacturing jobs.
- Manufacturing jobs make up 11.6% of total employment in the Southwestern Illinois region.
- Higher-wage service jobs make up 13.8% of total employment in the Southwestern Illinois region.
- Lower-wage service jobs make up 36.9% of total employment in the Southwestern Illinois region.

Southwestern Illinois—Industry Structure

Sector	Employment, 2003	Employment, 2005	Employment Change 2003–2005	Separations Stable Jobs, 2005	New Hires Stable Jobs, 2005	Stable Jobs: Mean Earnings, 2005	New Hires Stable Jobs: Mean Earnings, 2005
Total Public/Private Employment In Sectors	202,345	202,520	175	19,380	18,002	$34,183	$21,751
Manufacturing Total	48,329	23,468	-24,861	1,108	996	$45,161	$28,402
Higher–Wage Service	26,690	27,907	1,217	2,814	3,213	$36,183	$26,239
Lower–Wage Service	74,520	74,659	139	8,474	6,677	$23,070	$14,474

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security.
*Total differs from the total employment data in the other tables because it excludes self-employed and agricultural workers

Southwestern Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Occupations Summary

- Two occupations of the top twenty in the region are expected to grow faster in the region than in the state: Postsecondary Faculty (1.2% faster than the state average for this occupation) and Lawyers, Judges and Related Workers (0.7% faster than the state average for this occupation).
- The occupation of Primary/Secondary/Special Education School Teachers, with a mean wage of $52,495, is projected to produce the highest level of growth averaging 138 jobs annually from 2004 through 2014.
- The top five growth occupations, Primary/Secondary/Special Education School Teachers, Health Diagnosing/Treating Practitioners, Food and Beverage Serving Workers, Motor Vehicle Operators, and Business Operations Specialists are projected to create 31.1% of all new jobs in the Southwestern Illinois region.
- The weighted mean wage in the Southwestern Illinois region's top growth occupations range from a low of $16,653 for Other Food Preparation/Serving Workers to a high of $112,127 for Top Executives.
- The top 20 growth occupations are projected to create 75.5% of all new jobs in the Southwestern Illinois region.

[1] Includes: NAICS 31-33 Manufacturing. U.S. Census Bureau. 2007 NAICS Codes and Titles.

[2] Higher-wage service includes: NAICS 51 Information, NAICS 52 Finance and insurance, NAICS 53 Real estate and rental and leasing, NAICS 54 Professional and technical services, NAICS 55 Management of companies and enterprises, and NAICS 56 Administrative and waste services. U.S. Census Bureau. 2002 NAICS Codes and Titles.

[3] Lower-wage service includes: NAICS 61 Educational services, NAICS 62 Health care and social assistance, NAICS 71 Arts, entertainment, and recreation, NAICS 72 Accommodation and food services, and 81 Other Services (except Public Administration). U.S. Census Bureau. 2007 NAICS Codes and Titles.

Southwestern Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Industries						
Rank	NAICS	Title	Employment, 2004	Projected Employment, 2014	Employment Change	Mean Wage, 2005
		All Public and Private Employment	223,609	238,523	14,914	
		Total - Declining Industries	43,667	40,244	-3,423	
		Total - Growing Industries	179,942	198,279	18,337	
1	611///	Educational Services	24,905	27,472	2,567	$31,476.22
2	722///	Food Services and Drinking Places	20,420	22,504	2,084	$12,797.62
3	621///	Ambulatory Health Care Services	8,901	10,901	2,000	$48,474.75
4	541///	Professional, Scientific and Tech. Services	9,272	10,919	1,647	$55,681.85
5	561///	Administrative and Support Services	7,452	8,785	1,333	$24,359.99
6	623///	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	6,699	7,760	1,061	$22,685.83
7	813///	Religious, Civic and Professional Orgs.	7,518	8,292	774	$17,742.08
8	624///	Social Assistance	4,723	5,424	701	$20,237.84
9	238///	Specialty Trade Contractors	8,240	8,848	608	$41,516.14
10	811///	Repair and Maintenance	3,272	3,763	491	$30,915.07
11	622///	Hospitals	11,653	12,120	467	$32,783.59
12	441///	Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	4,218	4,635	418	$42,659.29
13	713///	Amusements, Gambling and Recreation Ind.	4,707	5,122	414	$28,116.64
14	493///	Warehousing and Storage	1,137	1,490	353	$31,273.56
15	484///	Truck Transportation	3,928	4,229	301	$39,525.02
16	452///	General Merchandise Stores	8,118	8,409	291	$19,414.33
17	444///	Building Material and Garden Equip. Stores	2,690	2,980	290	$29,936.98
18	236///	Construction of Buildings	3,847	4,120	273	$41,164.12
19	812///	Personal and Laundry Services	2,151	2,372	221	$19,294.94
20	522///	Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	4,477	4,677	200	$35,077.37

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security.
Totals in declining and growing industry do not include government industries (9-----).

Southwestern Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Industries Summary

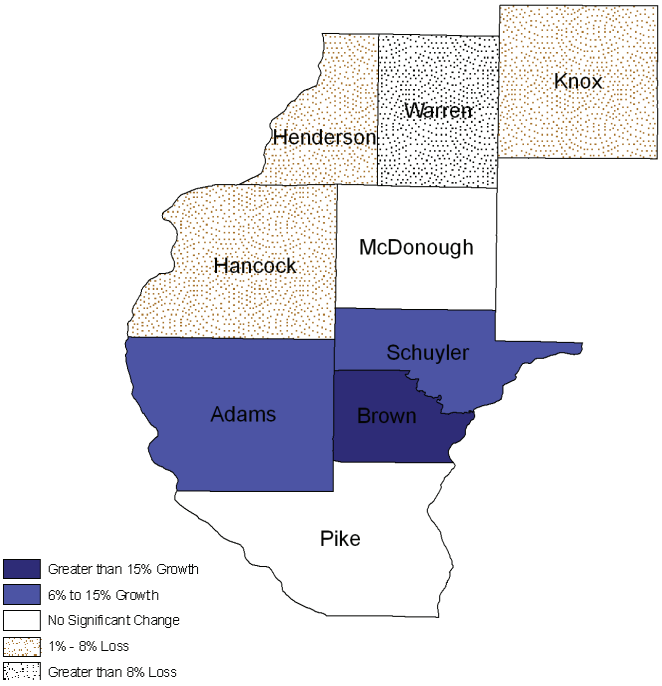
- The Southwestern Illinois region is projected to gain 14,914 additional jobs between 2004 and 2014, a 6.7% increase. This is less than the statewide projected net increase of 9.3%.
- 52.5% of all new jobs projected to be created between 2004 and 2014 are expected to occur within five industries: Educational Services with a weighted mean wage of $31,476; Food Services and Drinking Places with a weighted mean wage of $12,797; Ambulatory Health Care Services with a weighted mean wage of $48,474; Professional, Scientific and Technical Services with a weighted mean wage of $55,682; and Administrative and Support Services with a weighted mean wage of $24,359. These five industries are projected to create 9,631 new jobs.
- Mean annual wages in the Southwestern Illinois regions' top growth sectors range from a low of $12,798 for Food Services and Drinking Places to a high of $55,682 for Professional, Scientific and Technical Services.
- The top 20 growth sectors are projected to create 89.9% of all new jobs in the Southwestern Illinois region.

Southwestern Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Occupations								
Rank	SOC	Title	Employment, 2004	Projected Employment, 2014	Employment Change	Annual Growth	Annual Replacements	Mean Wage, 2005
		All Public and Private Employment	273,011	287,608	14,602			
		Total - Growing Occupations	226,002	243,467	17,467			
		Total - Declining Occupations	46,709	43,842	-2,864			
1	25-2000	Primary/Sec./Special Ed Sch Teachrs	10,647	12,031	1,384	138	250	$52,495
2	29-1000	Health Diagnosng/ Treatng Practitnrs	8,696	10,036	1,340	134	171	$59,673
3	35-3000	Food and Beverage Serving Workers	10,942	11,984	1,043	104	524	$16,961
4	53-3000	Motor Vehicle Operators	8,849	9,696	847	85	139	$32,541
5	13-1000	Business Operations Specialists	6,180	6,992	812	81	111	$63,394
6	15-1000	Computer Specialists	3,644	4,398	754	75	48	$66,436
7	41-2000	Retail Sales Workers	17,136	17,808	672	67	713	$23,500
8	47-2000	Construction Trades Workers	12,237	12,896	659	66	222	$50,393
9	29-2000	Health Technologists and Technicians	5,130	5,778	648	65	91	$35,184
10	35-2000	Cooks and Food Preparation Workers	6,877	7,518	641	64	222	$19,381
11	37-2000	Bldg Cleaning and Pest Control Wrkrs	6,685	7,324	639	64	131	$23,379
12	31-1000	Nursing, Psych and Home Health Aides	4,041	4,567	526	53	53	$22,547
13	25-1000	Postsecondary Faculty	3,232	3,737	506	51	70	$41,225
14	39-9000	Other Personal Care/ Service Workers	4,491	4,956	465	47	103	$21,587
15	49-3000	Vehcle and Mobile Eqpt Mechs/Instllrs	3,775	4,215	441	44	96	$35,765
16	21-1000	Counselors/Soc Wrkrs/ Comm Srv Specs	3,587	4,025	438	44	69	$46,079
17	31-9000	Other Healthcre Support Occupations	2,263	2,676	413	41	47	$25,831
18	11-1000	Top Executives	4,082	4,412	330	33	76	$112,127
19	25-9000	Other Educ. Trng and Library Occs	2,816	3,146	330	33	52	$25,605
20	35-9000	Other Food Prep/ Serving Workers	3,422	3,724	302	30	113	$16,653
Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security								

West Central Regional Summary

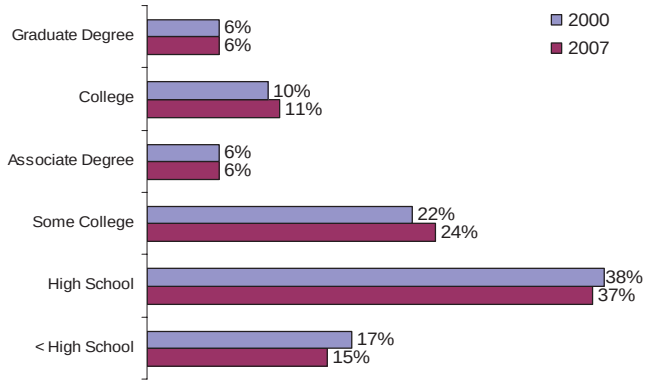
Profile	2000	2007	% Change
Population (1/1/2007):	235,618	225,985	-4.09%
Population, Median Age:	37.5	38.1	1.46%
Percent Population 65+:	40,183	37,654	-6.29%
White Population, Alone:	221,142	211,093	-4.54%
Black Population, Alone:	8,645	8,164	-5.56%
Asian Population, Alone:	1,560	1,734	11.15%
Other Population:	4,271	4,994	16.93%
Hispanic Population:	4,034	5,507	36.51%

County Job Gain/Loss 2000–2007

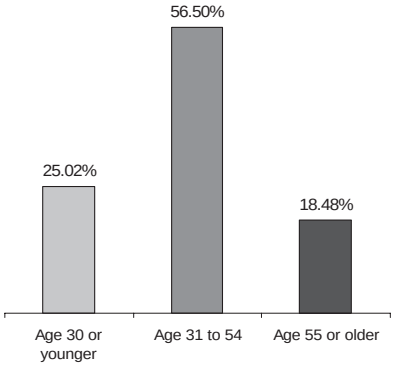


Percent of Population by Educational Attainment

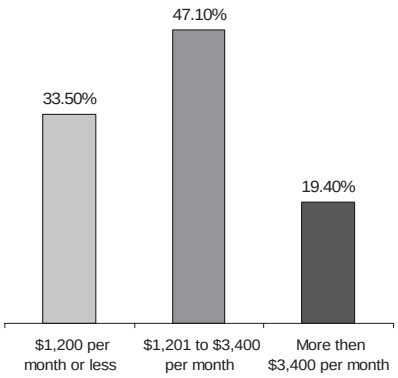
(Pop. Over 25)



Primary Jobs by Worker Age



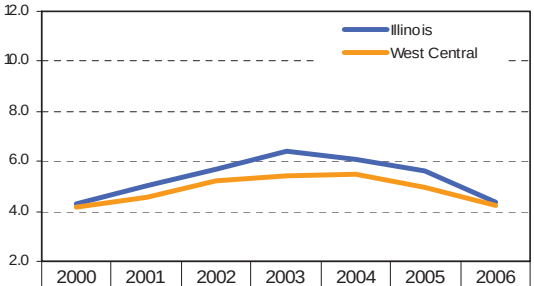
Primary Jobs by Earnings Paid



Total Employment 2000–2007

Area Name	2000	2007	% Change
Adams County	33,339	33,257	-0.25%
Brown County	2,554	2,514	-1.57%
Hancock County	10,018	9,566	-4.51%
Henderson County	3,994	3,815	-4.48%
Knox County	25,435	24,282	-4.53%
McDonough County	15,962	15,699	-1.65%
Pike County	7,735	7,577	-2.04%
Schuyler County	3,596	3,526	-1.95%
Warren County	9,203	8,661	-5.89%
Total	111,836	108,897	-2.63%

Unemployment Rate 2000 - 2006
Illinois and the West Central Region



	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Illinois	4.3	5.0	5.7	6.4	6.1	5.6	4.4
West Central	4.2	4.6	5.2	5.4	5.5	5.0	4.2

West Central Illinois Industry Structure Summary

- The West Central Illinois region lost 1,671 manufacturing jobs (16.6%) from 2003 – 2005.
- The region has an annual mean wage of $39,942 for stable manufacturing jobs.
- Manufacturing jobs make up 11.2% of total employment in the West Central Illinois region.
- Higher-wage service jobs make up 12.1% of total employment in the West Central Illinois region.
- Lower-wage service jobs make up 36.8% of total employment in the West Central Illinois region.

West Central Illinois—Industry Structure

Sector	Employment, 2003	Employment, 2005	Employment Change 2003–2005	Separations Stable Jobs, 2005	New Hires Stable Jobs, 2005	Stable Jobs: Mean Earnings, 2005	New Hires Stable Jobs: Mean Earnings, 2005
Total Public/Private Employment In Sectors	75,978	74,512	-1,466	6,749	5,979	$29,828	$21,471
Manufacturing Total	10,041	8,370	-1,671	359	476	$39,942	$30,721
Higher–Wage Service	9,029	9,016	-13	934	895	$28,497	$18,287
Lower–Wage Service	23,382	27,394	4,012	2,816	2,416	$20,579	$15,026

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security.
*Total differs from the total employment data in the other tables because it excludes self-employed and agricultural workers

West Central Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Industries Summary

- The West Central Illinois region is projected to gain 4,080 additional jobs between 2004 and 2014, a 5.1% increase. This is less than the statewide projected net increase of 9.3%.
- 60.3% of all new jobs projected to be created between 2004 and 2014 are projected to occur within five industries: Educational Services with a weighted mean wage of $31,476; Food Services and Drinking Places with a weighted mean wage of $12,797; Ambulatory Health Care Services with a weighted mean wage of $48,474; Professional, Scientific and Technical Services with a weighted mean wage of $55,682; and Administrative and Support Services with a weighted mean wage of $24,359. These five industries are projected to create 3,336 new jobs.
- Mean annual wages in the West Central Illinois region's top growth industries range from a low of $12,798 for Food Services and Drinking Places to a high of $55,682 for Professional, Scientific and Technical Services.
- The top 20 growth sectors are projected to create 89.9% of all new jobs in the West Central Illinois region.

[1] Includes: NAICS 31-33 Manufacturing. U.S. Census Bureau. 2007 NAICS Codes and Titles.

[2] Higher-wage service includes: NAICS 51 Information, NAICS 52 Finance and insurance, NAICS 53 Real estate and rental and leasing, NAICS 54 Professional and technical services, NAICS 55 Management of companies and enterprises, and NAICS 56 Administrative and waste services. U.S. Census Bureau. 2002 NAICS Codes and Titles.

[3] Lower-wage service includes: NAICS 61 Educational services, NAICS 62 Health care and social assistance, NAICS 71 Arts, entertainment, and recreation, NAICS 72 Accommodation and food services, and 81 Other Services (except Public Administration). U.S. Census Bureau. 2007 NAICS Codes and Titles.

West Central Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Industries						
Rank	NAICS	Title	Employment, 2004	Projected Employment, 2014	Employment Change	Mean Wage, 2005
		All Public and Private Employment	81,125	85,173	4,048	
		Total - Declining Industries	16,925	15,444	-1,481	
		Total - Growing Industries	64,200	69,729	5,529	
1	611///	Educational Services	11,888	13,071	1,183	$30,640.35
2	623///	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	4,198	4,834	636	$20,194.90
3	722///	Food Services and Drinking Places	6,246	6,877	631	$11,214.96
4	621///	Ambulatory Health Care Services	2,765	3,231	466	$43,457.42
5	561///	Administrative and Support Services	2,605	3,025	420	$24,065.52
6	321///	Wood Product Manufacturing	165	369	204	$17,357.05
7	624///	Social Assistance	1,670	1,864	194	$21,465.68
8	541///	Professional, Scientific and Tech. Services	1,736	1,915	179	$37,264.59
9	813///	Religious, Civic and Professional Orgs.	2,404	2,577	173	$16,195.87
10	424///	Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	3,582	3,744	162	$38,441.01
11	622///	Hospitals	4,482	4,611	129	$44,141.97
12	441///	Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	1,675	1,804	129	$32,287.71
13	238///	Specialty Trade Contractors	1,747	1,869	122	$33,831.82
14	484///	Truck Transportation	1,937	2,029	92	$41,200.81
15	444///	Building Material and Garden Equip. Stores	745	826	81	$26,965.46
16	713///	Amusements, Gambling and Recreation Ind.	636	708	72	$14,909.92
17	452///	General Merchandise Stores	2,744	2,816	72	$18,750.69
18	443///	Electronics and Appliance Stores	356	419	63	$27,053.48
19	492///	Couriers and Messengers	164	221	57	$35,796.00
20	522///	Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	1,974	2,027	53	$32,005.91

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security.
Totals in declining and growing industry do not include government industries (9-----).

West Central Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Occupations Summary

- Only one of the region's Top 20 growth occupations is projected to grow faster than the state average: Postsecondary Faculty (2.2% faster than the state average for this occupation).
- The occupation of Primary/Secondary/Special Education School Teachers, with a mean wage of $43,115, is projected to produce the highest level of growth, averaging 45 new jobs annually from 2004 through 2014.
- The top five growth occupations, Primary/Secondary/Special Education School Teachers, Health Diagnosing/Treating Practitioners, Postsecondary Faculty, Food and Beverage Serving Workers, and Motor Vehicle Operators are expected to create 38.7% of all new jobs in the West Central Illinois region.
- The weighted mean wage in the West Central Illinois regions' top growth occupations ranges from a low of $16,003 for Other Food Preparation/Serving Workers to a high of $56,845 for Postsecondary Faculty.
- The top 20 growth occupations are projected to create 84.6% of all new jobs in the West Central Illinois region.

West Central Illinois—Top 20 Projected Growth Occupations								
Rank	SOC	Title	Employment, 2004	Projected Employment, 2014	Employment Change	Annual Growth	Annual Replacements	Mean Wage, 2005
		All Public and Private Employment	111,927	114,280	2,353			
		Total - Growing Occupations	63,715	68,580	4,865			
		Total - Declining Occupations	49,154	46,639	-2,515			
1	25-2000	Primary/Sec./Special Ed Sch Teachrs	4,015	4,467	452	45	94	$43,115
2	29-1000	Health Diagnosng/Treatng Practitnrs	3,390	3,829	439	44	65	$58,899
3	25-1000	Postsecondary Faculty	2,427	2,831	404	40	52	$56,845
4	35-3000	Food and Beverage Serving Workers	3,486	3,814	328	33	167	$16,003
5	53-3000	Motor Vehicle Operators	3,473	3,735	262	26	52	$37,954
6	31-1000	Nursing, Psych and Home Health Aides	2,049	2,291	242	24	27	$19,959
7	29-2000	Health Technologists and Technicians	2,004	2,210	206	21	34	$35,203
8	35-2000	Cooks and Food Preparation Workers	2,370	2,562	192	19	76	$17,389
9	37-2000	Bldg Cleaning and Pest Control Wrkrs	2,682	2,872	190	19	53	$21,786
10	13-1000	Business Operations Specialists	2,151	2,330	179	18	38	$54,617
11	39-9000	Other Personal Care/Service Workers	2,009	2,184	175	18	47	$19,716
12	41-2000	Retail Sales Workers	6,388	6,547	159	16	267	$20,319
13	21-1000	Counselors/Soc Wrkrs/ Comm Srv Specs	1,454	1,601	147	15	27	$39,236
14	15-1000	Computer Specialists	1,290	1,424	134	13	17	$54,547
15	47-2000	Construction Trades Workers	3,271	3,396	125	13	57	$46,226
16	31-9000	Other Healthcre Support Occupations	816	934	118	12	16	$26,486
17	25-9000	Other Educ. Trng and Library Occs	1,069	1,177	108	11	20	$20,815
18	35-9000	Other Food Prep/Serving Workers	1,146	1,242	96	10	38	$15,659
19	49-3000	Vehcle and Mobile Eqpt Mechs/Instllrs	1,358	1,447	89	9	32	$34,103
20	25-3000	Other Teachers and Instructors	837	908	71	7	10	$42,306

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security

Definitions of Technical Terms Referred to in the Text

African-American

Defined by the U.S. Census Bureau as a person having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa.

Hispanic

People of Hispanic origin, in particular, were those who indicated to the Census Bureau that their origin was Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or some other Hispanic origin. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

Median Income

Median income is the amount which divides the income distribution into two equal groups, half having incomes above the median, half having incomes below the median. The median-incomes for households, families, and unrelated individuals are based on all households, families, and unrelated individuals, respectively. The median-incomes for people are based on those 15 years old and over with income.

NAICS

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) has replaced the U.S. Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system.

Poverty Line

Varies by family size and is geographically sensitive. There is one set of figures for the 48 contiguous states and D.C., one set for Alaska, and one set for Hawaii. It is calculated by the Department of Health and Human Services to assist in determining eligibility for
federal programs.

Poverty Threshold

Following the Office of Management and Budget's (OMBs) Directive 14, the Census Bureau uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to detect who is poor. If a family's total income is less than that family's threshold, then that family, and every individual in it, is considered poor for statistical purposes. The poverty thresholds do not vary geographically, but they are updated annually for inflation with the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U).

SOC

The 2000 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system is used by Federal statistical agencies to classify workers into occupational categories for the purpose of collecting, calculating, or disseminating data. All workers are classified into one of over 820 occupations according to their occupational definition.

Definitions of Technical Terms Used in Regional Data Tables[1]

Employment

Annual mean of the total number of workers employed by a given employer on the first calendar day of the reference quarter.

Separations Stable Jobs

Annual mean of quarterly total number of workers who were hired by a given employer, worked for three consecutive quarters, but were not employed by that employer in the next quarter.

New Hires Stable Jobs

Annual mean of quarterly number of workers who were hired by a given employer and worked for three consecutive quarters, but had not been employed by that employer within the past year.

Employment: Stable Jobs

All workers employed by a given employer in the reference, subsequent, and previous quarters.

Stable Jobs: Mean Earnings

Annual mean of mean monthly earnings for all workers employed by a given employer for three consecutive quarters. Only the mean of the earnings for workers who fit the definition of Employment Stable Jobs are included in this definition.

Hires All Stable Jobs

All workers who were first employed at a firm for only the last three consecutive quarters (e.g in the current quarter and the two preceding quarters but not in the quarter before those.)

Hires New Stable Jobs: Mean Earnings

Annual mean of average monthly earnings for all workers who were hired by a given employer and worked for three consecutive quarters. Only the average of the earnings for workers who fit the definition of Hires All Stable Jobs are included in this definition.

[1] Illinois Department of Employment Security is the source for these definitions.