State of Illinois
Pat Quinn, Governor

Department of Employment Security
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Illinois Annual Economic Analysis Report 2009

Illinois Department
of Employment Security
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Credits
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Executive Summary

The "Great Recession" that started in December 2007 probably concluded sometime around the middle of 2009 according to most private sector economists, although the National Bureau of Economic Research has not yet determined the exact month in which the recession ended. Data confirms that this period had larger employment losses than the recession of 1981-82, which was previously considered the worst period of decline in economic activity since the Great Depression of the late 1920s – early 1930s.

Oil prices stabilized through the second half of 2009 after spiking upward in 2007 and then falling back in 2008. Economic analysts believe that while total oil consumption will peak sometime after 2020, global oil density (oil demand growth divided by economic growth) has already started to fall over the last decade, and the decline will continue to accelerate. This structural change in economic production is being fueled by higher oil prices, alternative fuels and the push to address global warming concerns.

Gasoline prices have followed oil prices even though inventories of gas are relatively high and demand has declined because of the recession. Commodity prices for agricultural items such as corn and soybeans peaked in 2008 and have returned to pre-recession levels. Some of that higher price is due to extra fuel costs involved in the production cycle for these products. Metals, such as aluminum and copper, had reached peaks in price in early 2008 after longer buildups in price than the sharper peaks in agricultural commodities. Prices of these metals fell throughout 2008 but then started trending upwards in 2009, and that has continued into 2010.

The federal government has stabilized the banking industry since late 2008 by doubling the monetary base and keeping interest rates low. These steps allowed larger banks to regain their profitability in 2009 but did not increase the amount of lending by the banks to individuals and small business.

The housing market is still struggling. People who had good credit and safe loans but who lost their jobs during the recession may still face foreclosure. Commercial real estate mortgages could also be a problem as mortgages obtained during the peak of the boom in 2005- 2007 will soon be coming due. Because the value of many of the properties has fallen below the amount that was borrowed, these mortgages are considered to be "underwater."

Economists predict that roughly a quarter of the jobs eliminated since the beginning of the recession are gone and will not be coming back, even when the economy recovers. It will likely take longer to reduce unemployment rates because jobs in new industries will have to be created to replace jobs that are permanently lost in declining industries. These are structural changes to the economy rather than cyclical adjustments typical of many previous recessions. Manufacturing sectors that require a small amount of human labor or highly-skilled labor are more likely to survive in the United States.

The wealth of the years before the 2007 recession fueled the economy via consumer spending. Once the credit bubble burst it became tougher to use credit to purchase goods and invest in capital. The original decline in wealth led to reduced levels of consumer spending, which has had a negative impact on overall employment. Interest rates remain low but other concerns have kept the economy from growing at a higher rate.

The current federal government administration is promoting green industries as one solution to developing industries that are capable of creating new, good-paying jobs. Many of these industries will require high-skilled labor and so should pay good wages.

The government would like to maintain low interest rates to increase the chances that an economic recovery takes firm hold. Most economists believe that the current situation calls for the Federal Reserve to continue holding interest rates low in the near term. Economic growth forecasts are generally about 3 percent for 2010, and that is not strong enough to significantly decrease unemployment. The recovery after the recession of 1981-82 experienced five consecutive quarters of growth in the 7 to 9 percent range from the spring of 1983 through the summer of 1984. However, it is customary for a recovery to be slower when the recession is accompanied by a financial crisis similar to the most recent recession.

New industries will have to rise and create new jobs to replace jobs that are permanently lost. The economic slack should help to control inflation until an economic recovery is well underway. Wages are expected to remain under control since unemployment is expected to remain high. Problems in the housing market should also help keep downward pressure on prices. Business will likely keep prices competitive as consumers have to be concerned about their budgets. It appears that the federal government will be able to keep interest rates low at least until 2011 in order to fuel the economy.

The Illinois Economy

The Illinois economy reflected the national economy in 2009. Jobs lost at the national level were split about evenly between goods-producing industries and service-providing industries. The employment change for Illinois was a little higher for service-providing industries relative to goods-producing.

The Illinois unemployment rate increased sharply in 2009 as job losses mounted and the labor market continued to deteriorate. The unemployment rate increased 3.7 points to 10.1 percent for Illinois (its largest over-the-year gain on record) and to 9.3 percent for the nation, the highest levels recorded for both since 1983. The average duration of unemployment in Illinois was 25.8 weeks, up 5.4 weeks from 2008, and 24.4 weeks for the nation, up 6.5 weeks from the previous year. More than one-third of Illinois' unemployed were out of work for more than 26 weeks (long-term unemployed) in 2009, up 12.4 points from 2008. The proportion of long-term unemployed for the nation was 31.5 percent in 2009, up 11.8 points from the previous year.

Initial claims for regular unemployment insurance benefits increased 40.0 percent in 2009. This was the biggest annual increase since 1975 and the largest number of initial claims filed since 1982. The average number of weeks of regular

benefits claimed was 20.6, up 3.9 weeks in 2008, and the longest average weekly duration since 1983. The number of unemployment insurance claimants that exhausted their 26 weeks of regular benefits was also the highest level on record.

The federal government is promoting green industries as one solution to developing industries that are capable of creating new, good-paying jobs. Many of these industries will require high-skilled labor and should pay good wages. The science community must lead the way to create the new technologies that provide a foundation for these new industries allowing the world economy to operate more efficiently.

Green Industry in Illinois

The biofuels industry struggled to emerge as federal government policy was slow to materialize and credit was tight for new business. Corn-based ethanol and diesel made from soy and waste products still have potential for helping farmers, but advanced technologies for fuels derived from cellulosic materials may have better long-term potential. Algae appears to have the most long-term potential as a feedstock for biofuels, but commercial production could still be years away.

Advances in clean coal technology could lead to many jobs for the state as Illinois has large coal resources, and many related projects are in the pre-construction stages. The sequestration of carbon dioxide could lead to the virtual elimination of greenhouse gas emissions and make coal a more desired power source in the future.

The efficient utilization of energy via the “smart grid” is a critical component of the future economy. The basic premise of the smart grid is to modernize America’s electrical system to provide infrastructure that will encourage growth in renewable energy sources, empower consumers to reduce their energy use and lay the foundation for sustained, long-term economic expansion. A smart grid distributes electricity more efficiently and simplifies the transfer of power from the source where it is generated to the location where it is needed. Power generated from renewable energy sources located in remote areas becomes more valuable if transmission corridors are available to move it.

Improvements to efficiency in both passenger and freight rail are also underway in Illinois. High-speed rail projects in the state have received federal stimulus funding with Chicago acting as the hub of a network. Other funding has targeted the Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency program (CREATE), which hopes to solve the major problems associated with rail traffic in the Chicago area.

Educational programs at community colleges and universities around the state have been started to train people for work in fields related to these “green” industries. Certificates or degrees are already available for fields such as wind turbine technology, renewable energy, sustainable business practices, environmental resources and policy, biofuels and green technology. The number of programs is expected to expand as demand increases.

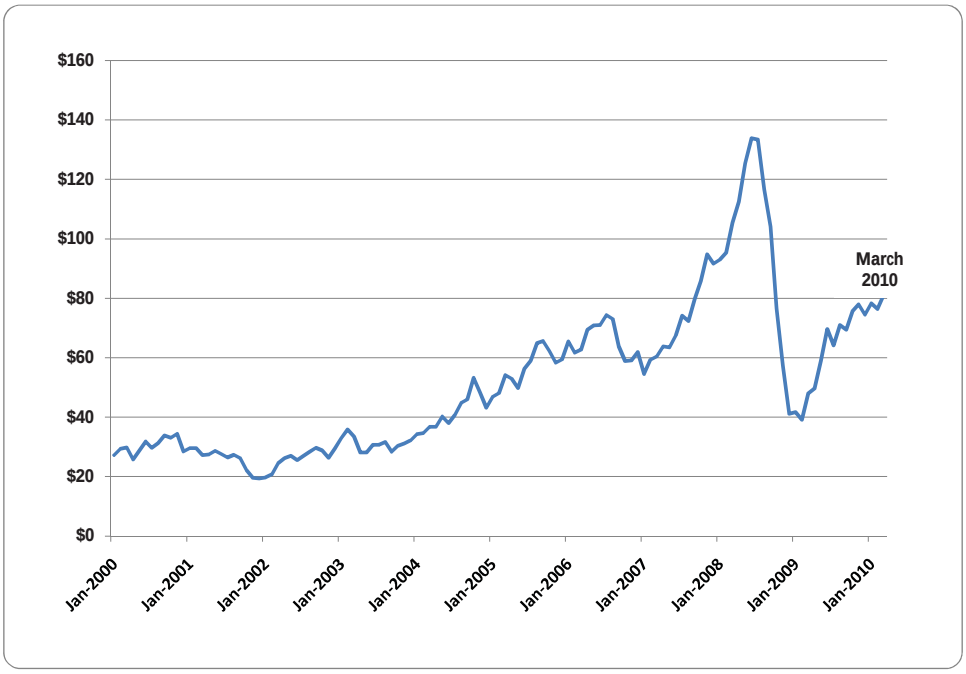
The keys for Illinois playing a major role in the growth of some of these “green” industries are the state’s location, natural resources and existing industries. The central location of the state makes it a natural transportation route for east-west and north-south travel across the country. Any capital improvements to the electrical grid and the railroads will mean a large investment of money in the state. Technological breakthroughs could allow the coal industry to rebound and the biofuels industry to grow dramatically, and could perhaps lead to some additional manufacturing employment. Growth in these industries could lead to growth in a number of occupations that would benefit the people of Illinois.

The **Larger Economy**

Economic data through the end of 2009 and early 2010 are used in this chapter to discuss the impact of the "Great Recession" on the national and global economies. The recession started in December 2007, and although most economists believe the recession ended in the middle of 2009, the exact month has yet to be determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research. The data confirms that this period had much larger employment losses than the recession of 1981-82, which was previously considered the worst period of decline in economic activity since the Great Depression of the late 1920s through most of the early 1930s.

Exhibit 1. Crude Oil Average Monthly Price ($ / Barrel)

Source: U.S. Department of Energy / Haver Analytics (West Texas Intermediate)



Oil and Other Commodities

Oil prices per barrel (see Exhibit 1) traded around the $70 to $80 range through the second half of 2009 after some volatility the previous couple of years. In 2007 prices had spiked to more than $130 due to increased demand (led by China and India), a decrease in the value of the American dollar and excessive speculation by investors. With the begining of the global recession in 2008, prices decreased as demand fell and the value of the dollar increased because of global financial concerns. Conditions at the beginning of 2010 were more like 2006 and 2007 when prices were relatively high, but not extremely high. However, crude-oil futures moved to a 17-month high at the end of March in 2010, due in part to anticipation of global economic growth.

Economic analysts believe that while total oil consumption will peak sometime after 2020, global oil density (oil demand growth divided by economic growth) has already started to fall over the last decade, and the decline will continue to accelerate. This structural change in economic production is being fueled by higher oil prices, alternative fuels and the push to address global warming concerns.[1]

Gasoline prices have followed oil prices even though inventories of gas are relatively high and demand has declined because of the recession. Average national prices are nearing $3 per gallon again after falling in 2008 and early 2009. This takes a bigger cut out of take home pay and

increases costs for businesses that rely on transportation as part of their business. It has also led to higher food costs through increased transportation costs.

Commodity prices for agricultural items such as corn and soybeans peaked in 2008, but since that time, prices have come about two-thirds of the way back down. Commodity prices are still high relative to the period before the sharp price increases. One factor is the extra fuel costs involved in the production cycle for these products. Metals such as aluminum and copper reached peaks in price in early 2008 after experiencing longer price buildups than those in agricultural commodities. This was likely due to increased demand from countries such as China and India as they needed these resources to fuel economic growth. Prices of the metals fell throughout 2008 but then started trending upwards in 2009. This upward trend has continued into 2010.

Banking, Credit and Housing

The federal government has managed to improve the overall banking situation since late 2008. Relief funds were appropriated and used to stabilize the system. A portion of these funds was used to buy up mortgage-backed securities and treasury bonds, which more than doubled the monetary base and kept interest rates low. These steps allowed the larger banks to regain their profitability. The government hoped that this would lead to an increase in loans to individuals and small businesses so that the economy would start to grow. Unfortunately, this has not yet been the case.

Exhibit 2. Loans & Leases in Bank Credit: All Commercial Banks (Seasonally Adjusted, Billion $)

Source: Federal Reserve Board / Haver Analytics

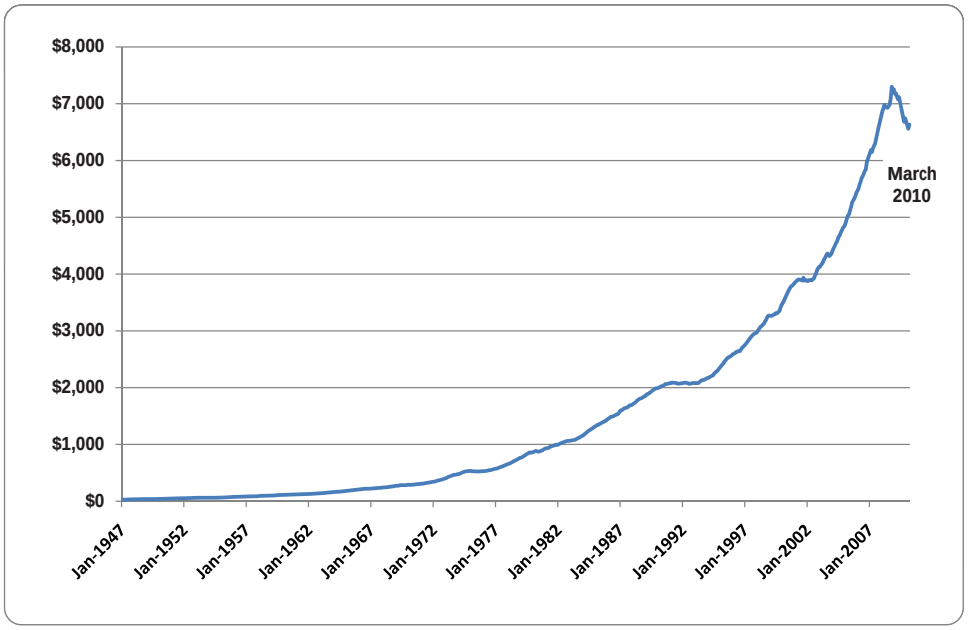


Exhibit 2 shows that the total amount of loans and leases in bank credit, made by all commercial banks in the U.S., peaked in October 2008 and has trended sharply downward since then. No other period shown in the chart, going back to January 1947, has experienced a similar decline. Banks received the injection of money but have been slow to use it to make loans. This has impacted new and small businesses as banks are the largest lenders to small business (defined as independent businesses with fewer than 500 employees). They tend to lack the collateral to obtain the loans they need to expand their businesses and start hiring, which is a concern as small businesses account for over half of private sector employment in the U.S.[2]

Part of the reason for the lack of loans is that the economic outlook for the global and national economies remains mixed. Residential real estate remains a problem as a second wave of foreclosures could be on the horizon. The first wave of people who defaulted on their mortgages consisted primarily of those who had obtained risky sub-prime mortgages and could not afford to maintain the payment schedule. The majority of the mortgages that have now gone into default are people who had good credit and safe loans but have lost their jobs during the recession and could not make their payments. Banks have been reluctant to foreclose on these homes since they would have a difficult time selling them.[3]

Exhibit 3. S&P / Case-Shiller Home Price Index: U.S. National (Seasonally Adjusted, 2000-Q1 = 100)

Source: S&P, Fiserv, and Macromarkets LLC / Haver Analytics

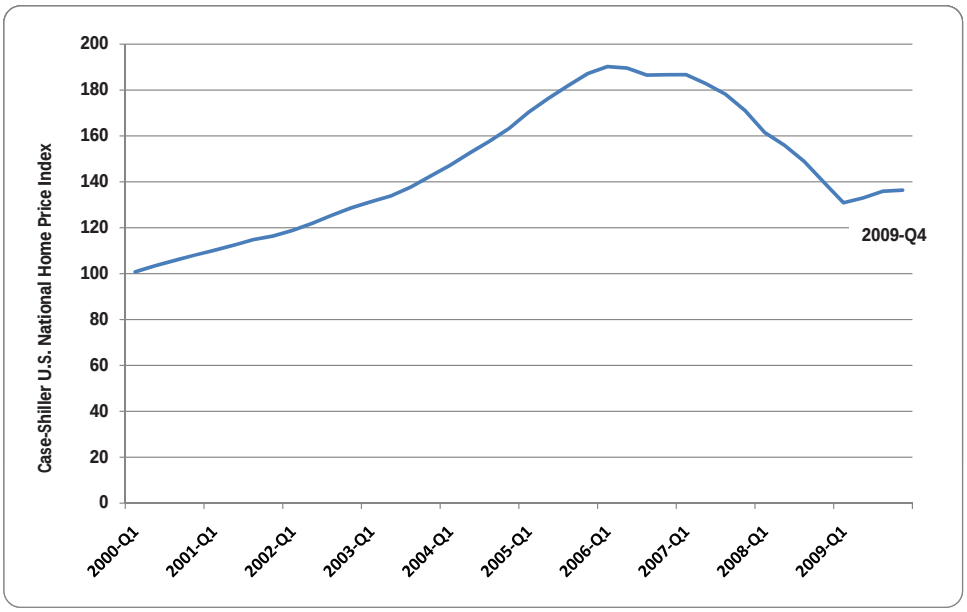


Exhibit 3 shows how housing prices peaked for the nation in 2006 and fell steadily until the start of 2009. The national price index rose slowly throughout 2009, but the value of the 2009 fourth quarter home price index is still smaller than the 2008 fourth quarter index. New home sales continue to be weak and building permits have been down since 2005 although they started to edge up in 2009. This is not good news for the construction or real estate industries.

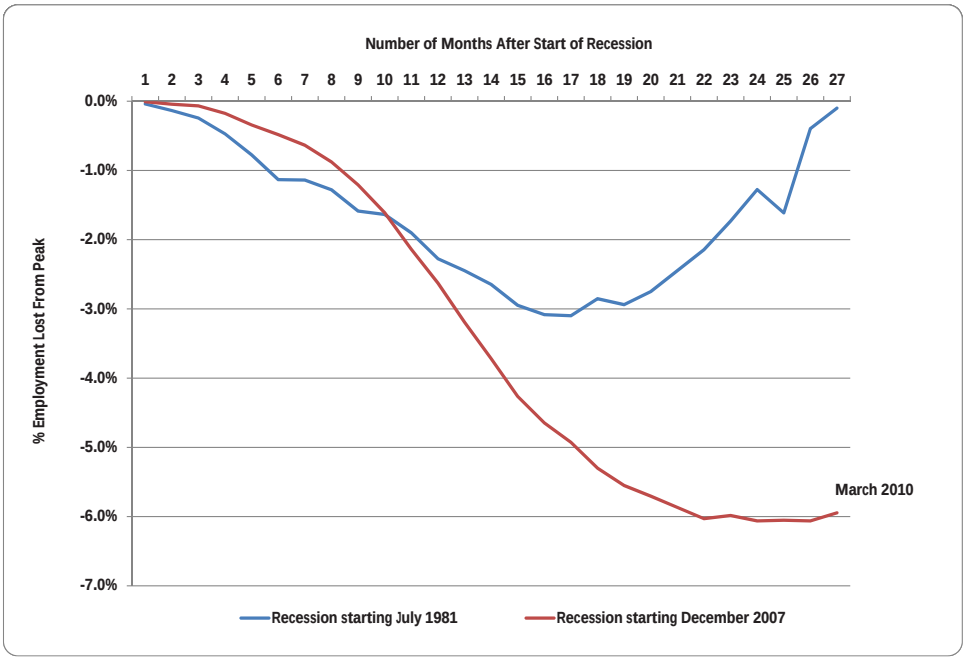
Analysts have expectations of a commercial real estate loan crisis. Commercial real estate mortgages are typically paid off or refinanced within five years. Those properties with mortgages obtained during the peak of the boom in 2005, 2006, and 2007 will be coming due in the 2010-2012 time frame. These mortgages are considered to be "underwater" because the value of many of the properties has fallen below the amount that was borrowed. Community banks have a high proportion of commercial real estate loans relative to their capital and are most at risk. This also has a negative impact on the amount of money that can be loaned to small businesses.[4]

Employment

Exhibit 4 is based on a graph in last year's annual report that includes additional data through March 2010. The data through March 2009 shows that the current recession had just eclipsed the highest percentage loss of payroll employment reached (relative to the peak employment reached in the month before the recession started) during the 1981 recession. An additional 12 months of data show that the highest cumulative percentage loss of employment in the latest recession is double that of the 1981 recession (6.1 versus 3.1 percent). The cumulative job losses of the recession that started in December 2007 appear to have finally bottomed out 26 months after peak employment, whereas the 1981

Exhibit 4. Comparison of Cumlative Percentage Employment Losses for 1981 & 2007 Recessions

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics & Illinois Department of Employment Security



recession reached its job trough 17 months after peak employment.

It appears that unemployment rates will stay relatively high for the foreseeable future. Economists project that about a quarter of the jobs eliminated since the beginning of the recession (8.4 million as of February 2010) are gone and will not return when the economy improves. Many of these eliminated positions are blue-collar jobs that have either been automated or moved overseas. It will likely take longer to reduce unemployment rates because jobs in new industries will have to be created to replace jobs that have been permanently lost in declining industries. Such structural economic changes differ from cyclical changes that are typical of many previous recessions.[5]

The manufacturing industry is undergoing a dramatic shift in industry composition. Heavy manufacturing sectors such as automobiles, furniture and chemicals are experiencing a reduction in production capacity, while high-tech sectors such as computers, semiconductors and communications equipment are showing an increase in production capacity. Manufacturing that requires little human labor or highly-skilled labor is likely to be more prevalent in the United States.[6]

The manufacturing sector is finally starting to show some small increases in employment early in 2010 after being in decline since 2006. One positive movement in manufacturing is the "onshoring" trend. Some manufacturers are finding that it is cheaper to move operations back to the United States since the relatively weak value of the U.S. dollar makes it more expensive to import products from countries overseas.[7]

An examination of employment data shows that young companies account for most job creation. Excluding startups (0 to 1 year old), new firms (that are 1 to 5 years old) accounted for two-thirds of job creation in the 2006-2007 time period. Startups were excluded from the study since all jobs at those businesses are created when they open. However a third of those businesses close by the second year and half close by the fifth year, resulting in job losses.[8] This information shows the importance of available credit for new and small businesses on economic growth.

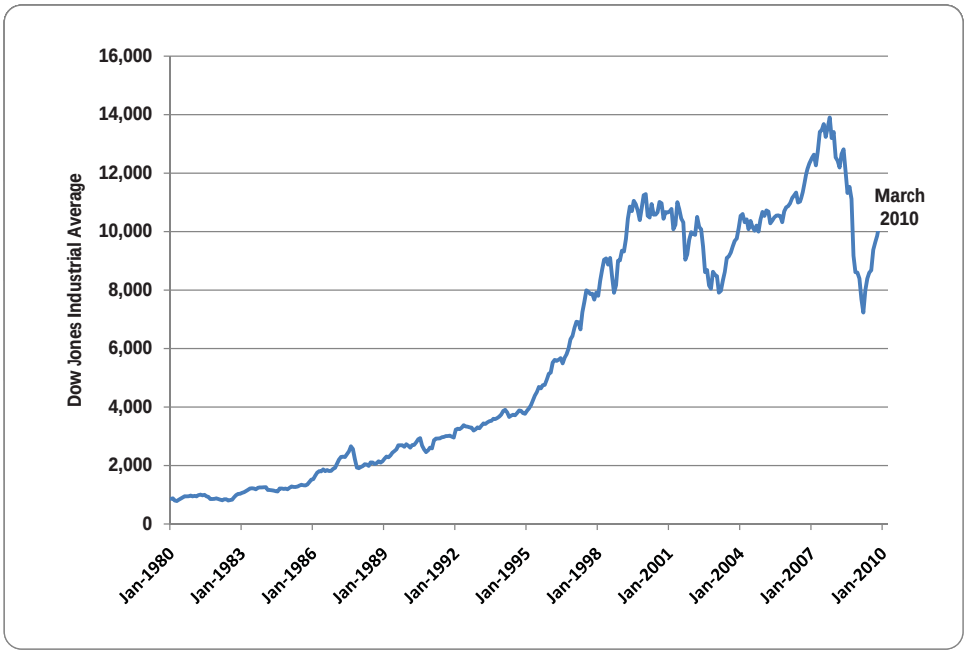
Statistics show that the retirement of at least 83 million baby boomers in the next few years will have both positive and negative impacts on the labor supply. The workers on the verge of retirement likely make higher wages than the people who will replace them, but they may also take knowledge with them that won't be easily replaced. Healthcare costs could be less for employers as the age distribution of their employees would likely decrease. The high volume of retirements may also create openings for younger staff that have had to wait their turn. However, the recent economy's impact on retirement accounts may have delayed this outflow of labor. [9]

Household Economics

The nation's households lost $14 trillion of wealth due to sharp declines in real estate and other financial assets during the recession. Households regained about $5 trillion of wealth since the time wealth reached its bottom in the first quarter of 2009 through September 2009 (the latest data available).[10]

Exhibit 5. Dow Jones Industrial Average

Source: Wall Street Journal / Haver Analytics



The Dow Jones Industrial Average (as shown in Exhibit 5) reached its bottom in March 2009 before moving upwards 61 percent from that time through the end of the calendar year. However, it is possible that the period of large gains associated with the rebound created by people who entered the market in anticipation of a recovery is over.[11] The index has undergone moderate up and down changes early in 2010; so it could be years before the index climbs back to its previous all-time high established in 2007.

The household wealth before the 2007 recession fueled consumer spending, which drove the economy. Once the credit bubble burst, it became tougher to use credit to purchase goods and invest in capital. The value of real estate, that often acted as collateral, has not recovered and it may take years before it does recover to its previous high values. The original decline in wealth led to reduced levels of consumer spending, which has had a negative impact on overall employment. Interest rates remain low but other concerns have kept the economy from growing at a higher rate.

Although many warning signs exist, it is difficult for individuals, as well as analysts, to foresee what is on the economic horizon. Some think interest rates are likely to rise given the amount of money that the government has injected into the economy and the level of debt that the government has accumulated. Higher interest rates would slow down the economic recovery by making it more expensive for business to invest in capital and for consumers to make large purchases such as houses and vehicles. Higher interest rates would also likely be a drag on the stock market holding down wealth.

One big concern is the stability of the housing market. Almost one-fourth of the houses in the U.S. that have mortgages are worth less than the balance of their loans. The current economic situation is such that it may be years before home prices increase and the balance drops below the value of the house in these situations. This has resulted in a phenomenon known as "strategic defaults," where people have decided they are financially better off by walking away from their mortgage and their house. The proportion of this type of default has risen from 23 percent of total defaults in March 2009 to 35 percent in December 2009. The probability of a strategic default increases for an individual if they know someone who has already done it and with the greater value of negative equity, even if they could afford the monthly payments.[12]

Demand for large vehicles such as SUVs is likely to decline as consmers shift to smaller vehicles that get better gas mileage. Households will likely cut costs by limiting the amount of miles they drive and perhaps the amount they spend on entertainment outside of the home. This could have a negative impact on employment for the leisure and hospitality sector.

Government Policies

The federal government has managed to keep interest rates low over the last few years in an effort to spur borrowing to fuel economic growth. The government's strategy has helped many banks regain their fiscal soundness, but it has failed to create easier credit for businesses and individuals as a catalyst for economic growth. The government would like to continue keeping interest rates low to increase the chances that an economic recovery takes firm hold. The faster the economy grows the more hiring will take place in the labor market.

Maintaining low interest rates for too long could lead to an overheated economy, fueling inflation. However raising rates too soon could stall economic growth. Continued low interest rates are of particular concern to seniors whose quality of life is dependent on the amount of interest they earn from their savings. The average yield on a one-year certificate of deposit in 2006 was 5.4 percent ($5,400 in retirement income for a $100,000 investment). Now the one-year CD rate is 1.3 percent, and only $1,300 of annual interest income is returned for a $100,000 investment.[13]

Although most economists are concerned about inflation in the long term, it seems that the majority believe that the current situation calls for the Federal Reserve to continue holding interest rates low in the near term.[14] Economic growth forecasts are generally about 3 percent for 2010, and that is not high enough to significantly decrease unemployment. The recovery after the recession of 1981-82 experienced five consecutive quarters of growth in the 7 to 9 percent range from the spring of 1983 through the summer of 1984. It is customary for a recovery to be slower when the recession is accompanied by a financial crisis.[15]

Summary

Economists' predictions are mixed regarding the future of the economy. Some believe that slow economic growth (similar to 1990-91 and 2001 recessions) will prevail for the next few years. A few are expecting the high rate of economic growth that occurred in 1983-84. Others are predicting that the economy will fall into a double-dip recession. Most analysts agree that unemployment rates will remain high for at least the next couple of years and many of the jobs lost will not return. New industries are needed to create new jobs so that the nation can move toward its productive capacity. This same economic slack should help to control inflation until an economic recovery is well underway. Wages are expected to remain under control since unemployment is expected to remain high. Problems in the housing market should also help keep downward pressure on prices. Business will need to keep prices competitive as consumers have to be concerned about their budgets. It now appears that the federal government will keep interest rates low at least until 2011 in order to encourage economic growth.

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A Comparison of **Recent Employment Changes** for the **United States** and **Illinois**

The Illinois economy reflected the national economy in 2009 as they both continued to feel the effects of the "Great Recession" that began in December 2007. Prices of gasoline and commodities came down from their peaks of the previous year in part due to decreasing demand. Employment losses continued to mount in almost all industries. Available credit for households and small business remained tight. The housing market stayed sluggish as the market carried an excess inventory and uncertainty prevailed.

Data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program and the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program are utilized in this chapter to compare recent employment trends in the national and state economies.

QCEW employment is commonly called "covered" employment as it includes employment covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) programs. UI tax records are filed each quarter and so employment and wage data are released once each quarter. The data are generally available on a delayed basis since the tax records must be collected and compiled every quarter. The employer database from this program serves as the framework from which employer survey samples are drawn for the CES program. CES is then able to provide monthly employment estimates.

QCEW Employment and Wages

Data from the QCEW program provides detailed information on industry employment and wages. Exhibit 1, on the next page, shows a comparison of the number of employed and average quarterly wages (AQW) for the United States and Illinois in the third quarters of 2007 and 2009. This coincides with the two-year period from right before the recent recession was determined to have begun with the most current QCEW data available.

Employment decreased slightly more in Illinois (-6.4%) than in the United States (-6.0%) over the two-year period. The data show

Exhibit 1. QCEW Employment Change Comparison for the United States and Illinois (2007 Q3 – 2009 Q3)

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Illinois Department of Employment Security

	2007 Q3 United States		2009 Q3 United States			2007 Q3 - 2009 Q3			
	Number Employed	Avg. Qtrly. Wages*	Number Employed	Avg. Qtrly. Wages	% of Total Employment	Change in Employed	% Change Employed	% Change AQW	% of Total Emp. Change
TOTAL	**136,229,924**	**$10,932**	**128,088,742**	**$10,863**	**100.0%**	**-8,141,182**	**-6.0%**	**-0.6%**	**100.0%**
Private Sector (NAICS)	**114,772,802**	**$10,935**	**106,481,670**	**$10,801**	**83.1%**	**-8,291,132**	**-7.2%**	**-1.2%**	**101.8%**
GOODS-PRODUCING	**23,551,646**	**$12,657**	**19,448,503**	**$12,642**	**15.2%**	**-4,103,143**	**-17.4%**	**-0.1%**	**50.4%**
Natural Resources and Mining	1,933,659	$11,123	1,866,851	$10,957	1.5%	-66,808	-3.5%	-1.5%	0.8%
Construction	7,773,772	$11,883	5,957,428	$12,314	4.7%	-1,816,344	-23.4%	3.6%	22.3%
Manufacturing	13,844,215	$13,307	11,624,224	$13,081	9.1%	-2,219,991	-16.0%	-1.7%	27.3%
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**91,221,156**	**$10,490**	**87,033,167**	**$10,390**	**67.9%**	**-4,187,989**	**-4.6%**	**-1.0%**	**51.4%**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	26,303,522	$9,516	24,411,972	$9,260	19.1%	-1,891,550	-7.2%	-2.7%	23.2%
Information	3,034,370	$17,192	2,767,506	$17,237	2.2%	-266,864	-8.8%	0.3%	3.3%
Financial Activities	8,119,992	$16,251	7,507,863	$15,463	5.9%	-612,129	-7.5%	-4.8%	7.5%
Professional and Business Services	18,010,880	$13,457	16,316,372	$13,818	12.7%	-1,694,508	-9.4%	2.7%	20.8%
Educational and Health Services	17,518,622	$10,351	18,290,109	$10,597	14.3%	771,487	4.4%	2.4%	-9.5%
Leisure and Hospitality	13,573,332	$4,764	13,180,374	$4,713	10.3%	-392,958	-2.9%	-1.1%	4.8%
Other Services	4,441,072	$7,183	4,339,923	$7,127	3.4%	-101,149	-2.3%	-0.8%	1.2%
Unclassified	219,366	$10,060	219,048	$9,552	0.2%	-318	-0.1%	-5.0%	0.0%
State & Local Government	**18,732,860**	**$10,080**	**18,790,931**	**$10,315**	**14.7%**	**58,071**	**0.3%**	**2.3%**	**-0.7%**
Federal Government	**2,724,262**	**$16,670**	**2,816,141**	**$16,833**	**2.2%**	**91,879**	**3.4%**	**1.0%**	**-1.1%**

	2007 Q3 Illinois		2009 Q3 Illinois			2007 Q3 - 2009 Q3			
	Number Employed	Avg. Qtrly. Wages*	Number Employed	Avg. Qtrly. Wages	% of Total Employment	Change in Employed	% Change Employed	% Change AQW	% of Total Emp. Change
TOTAL	**5,916,802**	**$11,597**	**5,538,863**	**$11,405**	**100.0%**	**-377,939**	**-6.4%**	**-1.7%**	**100.0%**
Private Sector (NAICS)	**5,098,835**	**$11,672**	**4,715,835**	**$11,401**	**85.1%**	**-383,000**	**-7.5%**	**-2.3%**	**101.3%**
GOODS-PRODUCING	**986,466**	**$13,730**	**822,039**	**$13,517**	**14.8%**	**-164,427**	**-16.7%**	**-1.5%**	**43.5%**
Natural Resources and Mining	27,915	$10,333	26,658	$9,847	0.5%	-1,257	-4.5%	-4.7%	0.3%
Construction	285,308	$14,581	230,669	$14,987	4.2%	-54,639	-19.2%	2.8%	14.5%
Manufacturing	673,243	$13,510	564,712	$13,090	10.2%	-108,531	-16.1%	-3.1%	28.7%
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**4,112,369**	**$11,179**	**3,893,796**	**$10,955**	**70.3%**	**-218,573**	**-5.3%**	**-2.0%**	**57.8%**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	1,194,992	$10,183	1,112,022	$9,833	20.1%	-82,970	-6.9%	-3.4%	22.0%
Information	116,427	$15,810	104,787	$15,191	1.9%	-11,640	-10.0%	-3.9%	3.1%
Financial Activities	395,603	$17,693	360,979	$16,966	6.5%	-34,624	-8.8%	-4.1%	9.2%
Professional and Business Services	884,876	$14,173	779,635	$14,440	14.1%	-105,241	-11.9%	1.9%	27.8%
Educational and Health Services	771,868	$10,519	806,917	$10,626	14.6%	35,049	4.5%	1.0%	-9.3%
Leisure and Hospitality	544,291	$4,808	528,101	$4,774	9.5%	-16,190	-3.0%	-0.7%	4.3%
Other Services	197,001	$8,196	194,225	$8,168	3.5%	-2,776	-1.4%	-0.3%	0.7%
Unclassified	7,311	$9,484	7,130	$9,154	0.1%	-181	-2.5%	-3.5%	0.0%
State & Local Government	**731,155**	**$10,544**	**736,669**	**$10,868**	**13.3%**	**5,514**	**0.8%**	**3.1%**	**-1.5%**
Federal Government	**86,812**	**$16,055**	**86,359**	**$16,188**	**1.6%**	**-453**	**-0.5%**	**0.8%**	**0.1%**

* 2007 Q3 wage data have been multiplied by the ratio of (September 2009 CPI / September 2007 CPI) for better comparison to 2009 Q3 wage data
CPI for All Urban Consumers, All Items was used

that the average quarterly wage (AQW) (initial wages corrected for inflation using the Consumer Price Index (CPI)) for all employment fell significantly more in Illinois (-1.7%) over this two-year period than it did for the nation (-0.6%). This reduction in real wages is of serious concern and is reflective of the poor economy.

The jobs lost at the national level were split about evenly between goods-producing industries (natural resources and mining; construction; and manufacturing) and service-providing industries (trade, transportation, and utilities; information; financial activities; professional and business services; educational and health services; leisure and hospitality; other services; and unclassified). The employment change for Illinois was a little higher for service-providing industries relative to goods-producing. This information is a little misleading as there are about four and a half times as many jobs in the service-providing industries relative to goods-producing

industries for both the United States (67.9% of all jobs in the third quarter of 2009 vs. 15.2% in these two broad sectors) and Illinois (70.3% vs. 14.8%). That means a much higher proportion of goods-producing industry jobs were lost during the two-year period relative to service-providing industry jobs.

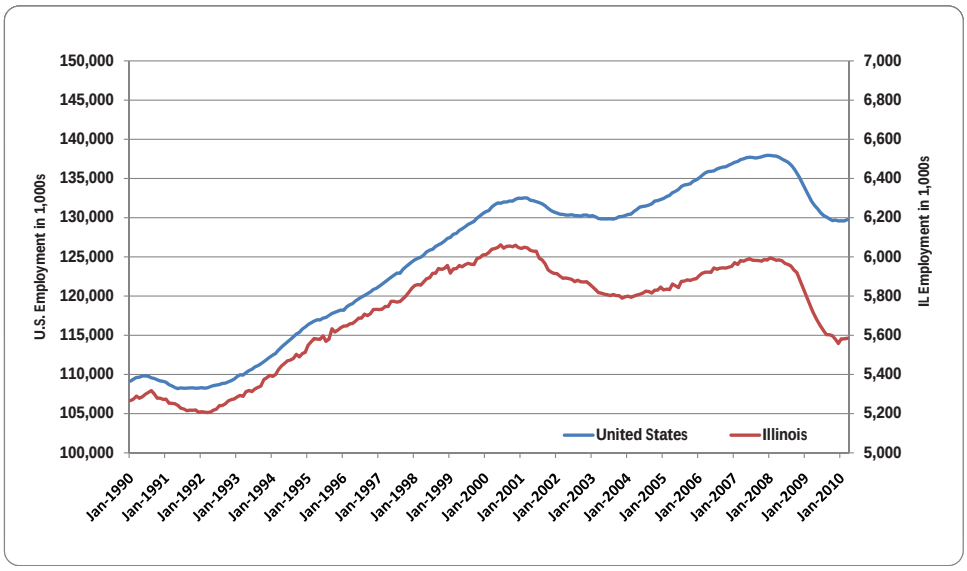
Illinois' proportion of total lost jobs was higher than the nation in manufacturing (28.7% vs. 27.3%), financial activities (9.2% vs. 7.5%), and professional and business services (27.8% vs. 20.8%). In contrast, the United States' proportion of total lost jobs was higher than Illinois in construction (22.3 % vs. 14.5%), trade, transportation, and utilities (23.2% vs. 22.0%), and leisure and hospitality (4.8% vs. 4.3%).

The employment numbers reveal that the nation has a higher proportion of total jobs than Illinois (2009, third quarter) in natural resources and mining (1.5% vs. 0.5%), construction (4.7% vs. 4.2%), and leisure and hospitality (10.3% vs. 9.5%). Illinois has a higher proportion of total jobs than the United States in manufacturing (10.2% vs. 9.1%), trade, transportation, and utilities (20.1% vs. 19.1%), financial activities (6.5% vs. 5.9%), and professional and business services (14.1% vs. 12.7%). Other notable differences include a higher proportion of employment for federal government (2.2% vs. 1.6%) and state and local government (14.7% vs. 13.3%) for the nation relative to Illinois.

Some of these proportional differences are accounted for through available natural resources, population growth, geography, traditional industries, and labor supply of Illinois relative to the nation as a whole.

Exhibit 2. Payroll Employment

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Illinois Department of Employment Statistics / Haver Analytics



Inflation-adjusted average quarterly wages (AQW) show that private sector real wages have declined more in Illinois (-2.3%) than in the United States (-1.2%). However, real wages for state and local government are up for both Illinois (3.1%) and the nation (2.3%) and for federal government [Illinois (0.8%) and U.S. (1.0%)]. The increases in public wages are likely in large part due to existing public union contracts and the short-term stability of public sector jobs. It is interesting that the real wages are increasing for construction (2.8% for Illinois, 3.6% for U.S.), professional and business services (1.9% for Illinois, 2.7% for U.S.) during a time when both industry sectors were hit with large employment losses. This is likely due to a higher proportion of lost jobs coming from the group making lower wages in those industries.

CES Employment

Exhibit 2 is a chart of CES (a.k.a. payroll employment) monthly data series (seasonally adjusted) for the United States and Illinois for the last 20 years (January 1990 through March 2010). The United States data is measured on the left vertical scale and the Illinois data is measured on the right vertical scale. The paths of the two series appear to be parallel for the first six or seven years. Around 1997 Illinois' employment growth slips a little relative to national employment growth. This slippage continues through at least the beginning of

2008 and then starts up again at some point in 2009.

Exhibit 3 helps us understand the divergence in paths shown in Exhibit 2. This chart shows a comparison of over-the-year percent changes in payroll employment for the United States and Illinois. The paths of the two series go back and forth crossing with each other a few times before 1997. The line for the U.S. series then stays above the line for the Illinois series almost all of the time between 1997 and 2008. This means that the employment growth of the nation exceeded the employment growth of Illinois for almost that entire time span. The two series overlap between 2008 and part way through 2009 before the U.S. series turns upward before the Illinois series, which reaches a lower bottom.

Exhibit 4 supplies a more detailed look at the paths of cumulative percent change in employment since the recent recession began in December 2007. It shows that the paths of Illinois and the United States have followed similar trajectories with the U.S. even falling slightly faster than Illinois seven to 12 months into the recession. The percentage for Illinois falls below the national percentage 15 months after the beginning of the recession and the path for Illinois continued to fall further below the path for the national series. Both paths bottom out around 24 months after the start of the recession, but it is clear that Illinois (-7.3% at bottom) felt a larger negative impact than the nation (-6.1% at bottom).

The period of time where the cumulative percentage employment change since the start of the recession (December 2007) for Illinois fell below the corresponding number for the nation was from March 2009 until the most recently available data (March 2010). During this span of time it appears that the effects of the recession had a deeper impact on Illinois than the nation as cumulative employment losses from the peak employment leveled off faster (and at a lower cumulative loss percentage) for the nation than it did for Illinois. It is interesting that the percentage

Exhibit 3. Over-the-Year Percent Change in Payroll Employment

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Illinois Department of Employment Statistics / Haver Analytics

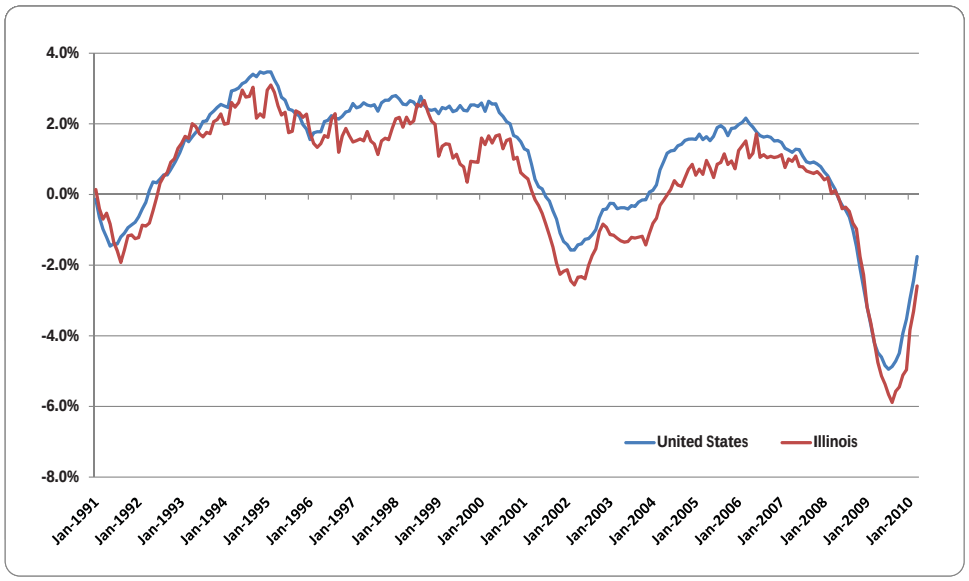
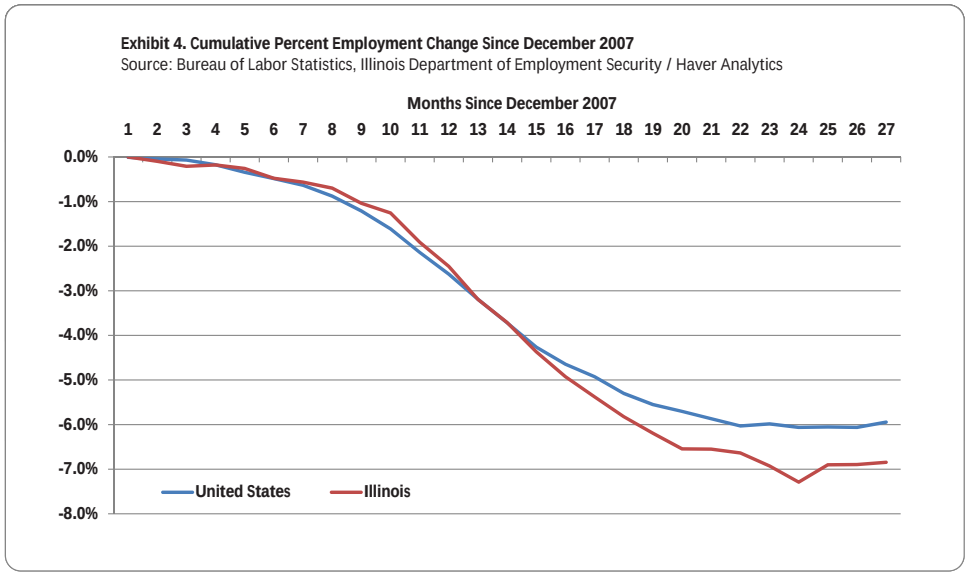


Exhibit 4. Cumulative Percent Employment Change Since December 2007

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Illinois Department of Employment Statistics / Haver Analytics



employment loss for construction is higher for Illinois than the nation in this most recent 12-month period.

Exhibit 5. Percentage Change in Payroll Employment from March 2009 to March 2010, by Industry

	% Change in Employment March 2009 - March 2010		% Change in Employment March 2009 - March 2010
	United States	Illinois	East North Central C.D.
Total Nonfarm Employment	**-1.8%**	**-2.6%**	-2.5%
Mining *	-3.9%	-3.1%	-1.0%
Construction	-11.1%	-14.2%	-12.1%
Manufacturing	-5.2%	-7.5%	-5.9%
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	-1.9%	-2.1%	-2.7%
Information	-4.7%	-5.1%	-6.0%
Financial Activities	-3.2%	-2.9%	-4.1%
Professional and Business Services	-1.3%	-3.0%	-1.1%
Educational and Health	1.8%	1.9%	1.1%
Leisure and Hospitality	-0.7%	-2.7%	-2.0%
Other Services	-1.3%	-2.2%	-2.5%
Government	-0.3%	-0.2%	-0.7%

East North Central Census Division (ENCCD) is comprised of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin
* Employment for Natural Resources and Mining for East North Central Census Division

Exhibit 5 breaks down the percentage change in payroll employment by industry for the United States, Illinois and the industrial Midwest, represented by the East North Central Census Division (ENCCD – comprises Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin), from March 2009 to March 2010. The data table shows that Illinois had a reduction in employment of 2.6% compared to 1.8 % loss for the United States during this 12-month period. The ENCCD area lost 2.5% of its employment, which is almost identical to the percentage lost for Illinois. The industrial Midwest (ENCCD) has a higher percentage employment loss than the nation, as does Illinois, in both construction and manufacturing for the 12-month period.

It can also be seen in Exhibit 3 that the over-the-year percentage change in payroll employment turned up faster, and at a lower bottom, for the U.S. after the 1990-91 and 2001 recessions. It would seem that the national economy shed its jobs earlier and faster in the recent recession (and the other recessions) compared to Illinois and the industrial Midwest (ENCCD). Part of this can be explained by below national average economic growth trends for the Midwest as a whole. The different composition of industries between the Midwest and national average may also determine what percentage of jobs are permanently lost (structural) as opposed to those that are temporarily lost (cyclical). This may help explain the path of rebound following periods of economic recession.

The **Illinois Labor Force**

Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

The Local Area Unemployment Statistics program provides monthly and annual estimates of the labor force, employed, unemployed and the unemployment rate for the state, metropolitan areas, counties and municipalities that have a population of at least 25,000. Statewide and sub-state labor force data are available on the Illinois Department of Employment Security's (IDES') labor market information Web site called LMI Source: http://lmi.ides.state.il.us/laus/lausmenu.htm. Monthly press releases and the press release schedule are also on the site. Access national unemployment rate data and Current Population Survey program information at http://stats.bls.gov/cps/home.htm.

Exhibit 1. Labor Force Data for Illinois, U.S.

Source: Ilinois Department of Employment Security and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Year	Unemployment Rate IL	Unemployment Rate US	IL Labor Force Participation Rate	IL Employment Population Ratio	Number of Weeks Unemployed IL	Number of Weeks Unemployed US	% Unemployed for More Than 26 Weeks IL	% Unemployed for More Than 26 Weeks US
1995	5.2	5.6	68.3	64.8	18.0	16.6	19.2	17.3
1996	5.3	5.4	68.6	64.9	16.5	16.7	16.9	17.4
1997	4.8	4.9	68.7	65.4	16.7	15.8	16.5	15.8
1998	4.5	4.5	68.6	65.5	15.9	14.5	15.5	14.1
1999	4.5	4.2	69.1	66.1	14.8	13.4	12.8	12.3
2000	4.5	4.0	69.2	66.1	13.6	12.6	12.9	11.4
2001	5.4	4.7	68.6	64.9	14.9	13.1	14.2	11.8
2002	6.5	5.8	67.3	62.9	18.5	16.6	19.8	18.3
2003	6.7	6.0	66.5	62.0	20.9	19.2	25.8	22.1
2004	6.2	5.5	66.4	62.2	23.1	19.6	26.0	21.8
2005	5.8	5.1	66.6	62.7	24.1	18.4	27.0	19.6
2006	4.6	4.6	67.4	64.3	21.7	16.8	24.3	17.6
2007	5.1	4.6	68.3	64.8	19.3	16.8	22.6	17.6
2008	6.4	5.8	68.0	63.6	20.4	17.9	23.1	19.7
2009	10.1	9.3	66.8	60.1	25.8	24.4	35.5	31.5

The Illinois unemployment rate increased sharply in 2009 as job losses mounted and the labor market continued to deteriorate. Annually, the unemployment rate increased 3.7 percentage points to 10.1 percent (see Exhibit 1), reporting its highest level since 1983 and largest over-the-year gain on record. Nationally, the unemployment rate jumped 3.5 points to 9.3 percent, also the highest level recorded since 1983.

The Illinois unemployment rate increased for all demographic groups in 2009, including men, women, racial minorities and teenagers (ages 16-19). However, some groups fared worse than others. Unemployment data on racial, gender and youth groups are online at http://lmi.ides.state.il.us/laus/characteristics_emp_unemp.htm. The unemployment rate for men rose 4.2 points to 11.1 percent, while women saw their unemployment rate climb 2.5 points to 8.7 percent. White, black and Hispanic workers all reported significant unemployment rate increases in 2009, but large disparities among these groups persisted. The 2009 unemployment rate for whites was 9.0 percent, as compared to 17.1 percent for blacks and 11.6 percent for Hispanics. The unemployment rate for those ages

16-19 rose 4.5 points to 25.8 percent, the highest teenage unemployment rate on record. The biggest increase was found among black teenagers, who saw their unemployment rate jump 10.2 points to 50.2 percent.

The number of people in the Illinois labor force declined in 2009, falling 69,700 or 1.0 percent. The percentage of Illinois working-age residents in the labor force decreased 1.2 points to 66.8 percent in 2009. The labor force participation rate for men dropped for the third year in a row, down 1.3 points to 73.3 percent, while women saw their participation rate fall 0.4 point to 60.6 percent. Labor force participation rates declined for all racial groups, including whites (-1.0 point), blacks (-0.8 point) and Hispanics (-2.1 points). Among teenagers, the labor force participation rate decreased 6.7 points to 37.1 percent, the lowest level on record.

The number of people employed was down 306,000 (4.9 percent) in 2009, the largest annual decrease on record. The percentage of the Illinois working-age population that was employed fell 3.5 points in 2009 to 60.1 percent, the lowest percentage since 1985. Men saw their employment percentage decline 4.3 points to 65.2 percent (the lowest on record), while the employment percentage for women dropped 1.9 points to 55.3 percent. Employment participation rates declined for all racial groups: whites (-3.2 points), blacks (-3.7 points) and Hispanics (-5.4 points). Teenagers saw their employment participation rate decrease 7.0 points to 27.5 percent, the lowest level on record.

Exhibit 2. Union Membership in Illinois, U.S.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Bureau of National Affairs

	ILLINOIS		U.S	% Private	% Public
YEAR	Union Members	% of Employed	% of Employed	Sector Employed	Sector Employed
1983	1,064	24.2	20.1	16.5	36.7
1990	N/A	N/A	16.0	11.9	36.5
1991	N/A	N/A	16.0	11.7	36.9
1992	N/A	N/A	15.7	11.4	36.6
1993	N/A	N/A	15.7	11.1	37.7
1994	N/A	N/A	15.5	10.8	38.7
1995	1,042	20.2	14.9	10.3	37.7
1996	1,043	20.0	14.5	10.2	37.6
1997	971	18.5	14.1	9.8	37.2
1998	1,004	18.9	13.9	9.5	37.5
1999	993	18.0	13.9	9.4	37.3
2000	1,049	18.3	13.4	9.0	36.9
2001	1,013	18.1	13.3	8.9	36.8
2002	1,069	19.6	13.3	8.6	37.3
2003	967	17.9	12.9	8.2	37.2
2004	908	16.8	12.5	7.9	36.4
2005	927	16.9	12.5	7.8	36.5
2006	931	16.4	12.0	7.4	36.2
2007	842	14.5	12.1	7.5	35.9
2008	939	16.6	12.4	7.6	36.8
2009	951	17.5	12.3	7.2	37.4

The length of time required to find new employment grew significantly in 2009. The average duration of unemployment in Illinois was 25.8 weeks, up 5.4 weeks from 2008. Nationally, the 2009 average duration of unemployment was 24.4 weeks, up 6.5 weeks from the previous year. More than one-third (35.5 percent) of Illinois' unemployed was out of work for more than 26 weeks in 2009 (also referred to as long-term unemployment), up 12.4 points from 2008. Across the U.S., the proportion of those of out of work who were considered long-term unemployed was 31.5 percent in 2009, up 11.8 points from the previous year.

Union Membership

About 951,000 Illinois workers, or 17.5 percent of all those employed in wage and salary jobs in 2009, were members of unions (see Exhibit 2). The percentage of Illinois workers who were members of unions rose 0.9 point from 2008. However, Illinois union membership percentages have declined steadily over the past few decades; in 1983, nearly one out of four Illinois workers belonged to unions.

Union membership proportions in wage and salary jobs (12.3 percent) continued to be lower nationally than in Illinois, holding at roughly the same percentage since 2004. About 7 percent of all private sector workers were members of unions in 2009, less than half of the percentage reported 25 years earlier. More than one-third (37.4 percent) of all public sector workers were members of unions in 2009; this percentage has remained fairly stable for the past 25 years.

Mass Layoff Statistics

The Mass Layoff Statistics program is a federal-state initiative that identifies, describes and tracks large job cutbacks in private, nonfarm industries. Establishments that have 50 or more initial unemployment insurance claims filed against them within a consecutive five-week period are identified as having potential mass layoffs. Once identified, employers are interviewed by telephone to collect information not available in unemployment insurance administrative records, such as the size and duration of the layoff, the reason for the layoff, the open/closed status of the worksite, and recall plans for the affected workers. An extended mass layoff is defined as a layoff event involving at least 50 workers separated for more than 30 days. Names, locations and other information on individual employers collected in the mass layoff program are confidential and may not be released to the public, as per federal law. Mass layoff data for Illinois at statewide and sub-state levels are online at http://lmi.ides.state.il.us/mls/mls.htm.

Exhibit 3. Mass Layoffs in Illinois

Source: Ilinois Department of Employment Security

Year	Number of Layoffs	Total Workers Separated
1996	373	64,441
1997	369	63,951
1998	385	88,732
1999	402	93,653
2000	455	108,971
2001	653	165,058
2002	603	141,461
2003	553	124,569
2004	461	107,240
2005	455	101,106
2006	408	86,832
2007	431	81,719
2008	591	120,268
2009	745	140,036

Both national and state data are available at the following Web site: http://stats.bls.gov/mls/home.htm.

Total extended mass layoffs events and worker separations increased in 2009 as employers continued to shed jobs during the severe economic downturn. The number of workers separated in extended mass layoffs increased nearly 20,000 from 2008 to 140,036 - the highest number of separations since 2001 and 2002 (see Exhibit 3).

Mass layoffs occurred across all major industry groups, but the largest numbers of separations were found in manufacturing, professional and business services and construction (see Exhibit 4). Manufacturing saw its highest number of worker separations (35,498) since 2001. Reflecting continued weakness in the real estate market, the construction (27,899) and financial activities (5,744) industries both saw their

Exhibit 4. Mass Layoffs in Illinois

Source: Ilinois Department of Employment Security

Industry Group	Number of Layoffs	Total Workers Separated
Total, all industries	745	140,036
Mining	6	955
Construction	175	27,899
Manufacturing	191	35,498
Wholesale Trade	17	2,574
Retail Trade	34	7,973
Transportation, Warehousing, Utilities	57	13,114
Information	7	1,071
Financial Activities	28	5,744
Professional & Business Services	162	28,662
Educational and Health Services	23	3,186
Leisure and Hospitality	31	11,015
Other Services, except Public Administration	14	2,345

largest number of job cutbacks on record (The year 1996 was the first complete year available for mass layoffs data.) The primary reasons that employers most frequently cited in 2009 for extended layoffs were related to business demand and included, among others, slack work, contract completion and excess inventory/saturated market place; these extended layoffs resulted in 69,739 separations. Seasonal layoffs comprised the next largest number of extended layoffs and included 38,766 separations.

In 2009, a total of 81 extended mass layoff events and 13,965 worker separations—the highest totals since 2004—occurred in Illinois due to the full or partial closure of establishments. Manufacturing (5,953), followed by retail trade (3,763) had the largest number of separations among all major industry groups.

Among the 745 extended mass layoff events reported in Illinois during 2009, 508 or about 68 percent involved at least a partial recall of workers by employers. Roughly 13 percent of employers reporting extended mass layoffs indicated that they would recall all of their separated workers, usually within 90 days. No employer recall was expected for 41,552 (30 percent) of all separated workers.

In 2009, 40 extended mass layoffs and 5,480 worker separations occurred due to the movement of work to domestic or foreign locations within the same company. Among the 40 mass layoff events, 35 involved work relocated to domestic locations, including those in Illinois. Seven of the extended mass layoffs resulted in work moved solely to foreign locations or to a combination of both foreign and domestic locations. Also, 28 of the layoffs due to the relocation of work involved the closure of Illinois locations and resulted in 3,874 separations.

Exhibit 5. Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance Benefits in Illinois

Source: Ilinois Department of Employment Security

Year	Initial Claims	First Payments	Weeks Claimed	Avg. Weekly Benefit Amount	UI Benefits Exhaustees	Avg. Duration in Weeks
1998	600,164	299,676	5,388,116	$225.65	95,300	16.3
1999	604,070	307,325	5,408,791	$240.06	92,449	15.9
2000	636,532	309,386	5,398,867	$250.22	91,236	15.8
2001	825,811	446,294	7,825,551	$269.36	129,770	15.4
2002	875,767	466,345	9,728,106	$278.84	208,620	19.0
2003	855,658	455,182	9,507,972	$279.56	205,124	19.0
2004	766,032	392,265	8,102,453	$276.96	174,155	18.9
2005	702,725	351,963	7,088,843	$282.62	141,819	18.2
2006	670,402	334,744	6,449,572	$289.22	121,579	17.3
2007	696,109	352,686	6,938,530	$302.40	124,091	17.3
2008	872,368	445,417	8,335,415	$309.53	148,766	16.7
2009	1,221,195	661,955	14,628,353	$325.53	348,987	20.6

Unemployment Insurance

Initial claims for regular unemployment insurance benefits increased 348,827(40.0%) to 1,221,195 in 2009 (see Exhibit 5). This was the biggest annual increase since 1975 and the largest number of initial claims filed since 1982. More than $4.4 billion in regular unemployment insurance benefits were paid in 2009, with an average weekly benefit amount of $326. The average number of weeks of regular benefits claimed was 20.6, up 3.9 weeks in 2008, and the longest average weekly duration since 1983. A total of 348,987 unemployment insurance claimants exhausted their 26 weeks of regular benefits, the highest level on record.

Most individuals who exhausted their regular unemployment insurance benefits in 2009 were also eligible for up to 53 weeks of the federal extended unemployment benefits, also known as Emergency Unemployment Compensation. The federal program was introduced in June 2008 through the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2008 and has been extended several times since then through additional

Exhibit 6. Initial Claims by Industry in Illinois

Source: Ilinois Department of Employment Security

BY SEX	
Male	62.7%
Female	37.3%

ETHNICITY	
Hispanic or Latino	15.2%
Not Hispanic or Latino	84.8%

RACE	
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0.4%
Asian	3.0%
Black of African-American	20.5%
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.0%
White	75.0%
N/A	1.1%

BY AGE	
Under 22	2.7%
22-24	5.5%
25-34	24.6%
35-44	24.6%
45-54	25.1%
55-59	8.9%
60-64	5.6%
65 and older	3.0%
N/A	0.0%

Exhibit 6 describes selected characteristics of unemployment insurance claimants in 2009 based on average continued weeks of benefits for the week including the 12th of each month.

BY OCCUPATION	
Management	5.2%
Business & Financial	4.2%
Computer & Math	1.7%
Architecture & Engineering	1.3%
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	0.2%
Community & Social Services	0.6%
Legal	0.4%
Education, Training & Library	1.2%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, Media	1.0%
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	1.0%
Healthcare Support	1.8%
Protective Services	0.6%
Food Prep. And Serving Related	3.5%
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	2.6%
Personal Care & Services	1.0%
Sales & Related	7.9%
Office & Admin. Support	8.1%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	0.3%
Construction & Extraction	4.1%
Installation Maint. & Repair	2.9%
Production	20.8%
Transportation & Material Moving	5.7%
Military Specific	0.1%
NA	23.7%

BY INDUSTRY	
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting	0.4%
Mining	0.3%
Utilities	0.1%
Construction	16.5%
Manufacturing	19.3%
Wholesale Trade	5.5%
Retail Trade	8.4%
Transportation & Warehouse	5.0%
Information	1.8%
Finance & Insurance	4.1%
Real Estate Rental & Leasing	1.4%
Professional Scientific & Tech Services	5.9%
Mgmt of Companies & Enterprises	0.5%
Admin & Support, Waste Mgmt, Remd.Serv	11.8%
Educational Services	2.0%
Health Care & Social Assistance	5.1%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	1.2%
Accomodation & Food Services	4.8%
Other Services Except Public Admin	2.3%
Public Administration	1.6%
NA	1.8%

federal legislation. The program initially paid 13 weeks of extended benefits for claimants nationwide who had already exhausted their regular benefits. In November 2008, under the Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2008, the number of weeks of unemployment insurance benefits available in the Emergency Unemployment Compensation program expanded from 13 to 20. A second tier of benefits was created for high unemployment states, including Illinois, which provided 13 more weeks of extended benefits. In November 2009, federal legislation was signed into law that authorized an extra 14th week of tier-two Emergency Unemployment Compensation benefits as well as third and fourth tiers that provided for up to 19 additional weeks of benefits for high unemployment states, which included Illinois.

During 2009, job seekers filed a total of 336,137 initial unemployment insurance claims and claimed 6,617,616 weeks for all tiers of Emergency Unemployment Compensation benefits. Approximately $2.2 billion in Emergency Unemployment Compensation benefits were paid with an average weekly benefit amount of $317.

Individuals who exhausted their federal Emergency Unemployment Compensation benefits in 2009 were also eligible for up to 20 weeks of state Extended Benefits, bringing the maximum number of eligible weeks of both regular and extended unemployment benefits to 99. The state Extended Benefits began in April 2009 after Illinois met the program's trigger requirements, including an insured unemployment rate that was at least 5.0 percent for the most recent 13-week period and 120 percent of the average unemployment rate for the same 13-week period during the prior two years. At the end of June 2009, the Illinois Unemployment Insurance Act was amended by the state Assembly to temporarily add an optional total unemployment rate extended benefit trigger. Under this amendment, Illinois triggers for state Extended Benefits if the three-month average Illinois seasonally adjusted unemployment rate is at least 6.5 percent and 110 percent of the average unemployment rate for the same three-month period during either of the prior two years.

During 2009, job seekers filed a total of 336,137 initial unemployment insurance claims and claimed 6,617,616 weeks for all tiers of Emergency Unemployment Compensation benefits. Approximately $2.2 billion in Emergency Unemployment Compensation benefits were paid with an average weekly benefit amount of $317.

For calendar year 2009, job seekers filed a total of 70,771 initial claims for unemployment insurance and claimed 1,067,494 unemployment insurance weeks for the state Extended Benefits program. About $347 million in Extended Benefits were paid with an average weekly benefit amount of $313. State Extended Benefits paid in 2009 were entirely federally funded.

Exhibit 6, on the previous page, describes selected characteristics of unemployment insurance claimants in 2009 based on average continued weeks of benefits for the week including the 12th of each month. Among all claimants, about 63 percent were men. By comparison, men comprised 59 percent of total unemployed as reported in the Current Population Survey. Hispanics represented 15 percent of all claimants. Among all racial groups, the largest percentage of weeks claimed were for white (75 percent) and black (21 percent) claimants. About two-thirds (67 percent) of all claimants were age 35 and older and 18 percent were at least 55 years old. Approximately 8 percent of all claimants were age 24 and younger. Among total unemployed reported in the Current Population Survey, roughly 27 percent were younger than age 25. Industries with the largest percentage of weeks claimed were manufacturing, construction, and administration and support/ waste management and remedial services. The occupational groups reporting the largest percentage of unemployment insurance claimants were production, office and administrative support, and sales and related.

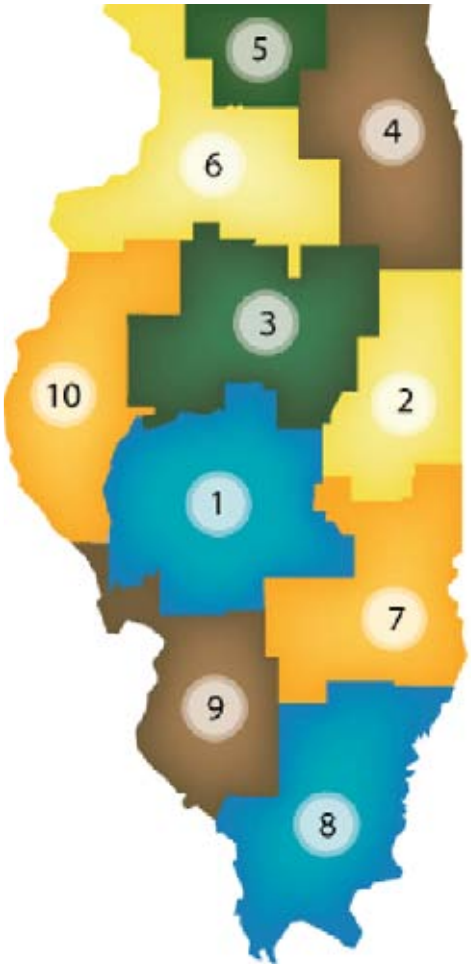
Economic Regions of **Illinois**

The state of Illinois is divided into 102 counties, which are grouped into 10 economic development regions. Illinois also comprises 11 metropolitan statistical areas, three of which cross the border into other states: the Chicago-Joliet-Naperville Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), which crosses Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin; the St. Louis MSA, which intersects Missouri and Illinois; and the Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA, which crosses Iowa and Illinois. The Chicago MSA is one of the nation's largest metropolitan areas and is also the anchor of the largest economic development region, the Northeast Economic Development Region (EDR 4). The other nine regions are located around at least one urban area with a population of at least 100,000 or around a number of smaller communities and include some of the country's richest agricultural land. The following text is a review of 2009 economic highlights in the 10 economic development regions.

Northeast Economic Development Region (EDR 4)

The Northeast Economic Development Region (EDR 4), consisting of the counties of the counties of Cook, DuPage, Lake, Will, Kane, McHenry, DeKalb, Kendall, Grundy and Kankakee, clearly dominates the state's economy. With approximately 71 percent of the state's jobs, 73 percent of its wages, and 84 percent of projected job growth, the region's

The Economic Development Regions of Illinois

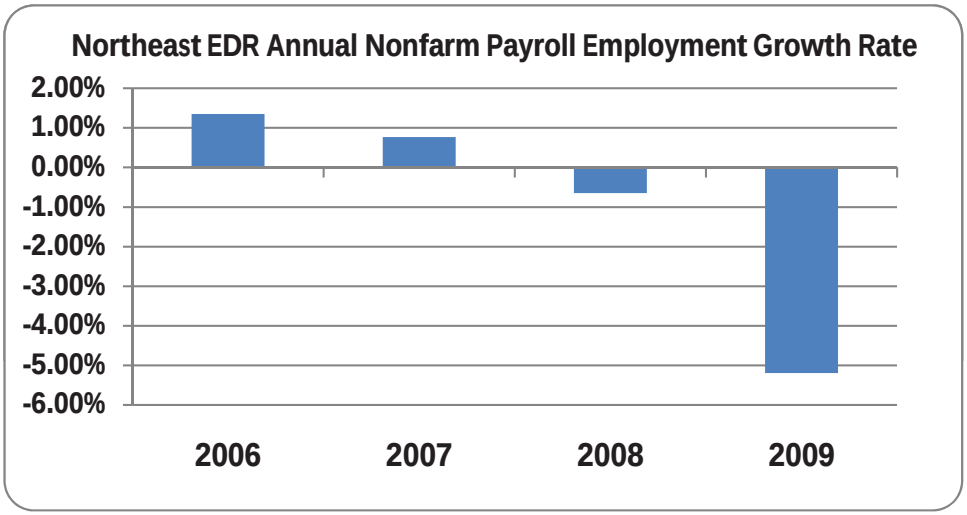


1. Central
2. East Central
3. North Central
4. Northeast
5. Northern Stateline
6. Northwest
7. Southeastern
8. Southern
9. Southwestern
10. West Central

impact is substantial. The Northeast Economic Development Region is the most diverse demographically as well as economically. Chicago is the country's third largest metropolitan area and home to the nation's second largest county. These facts, combined with the city's cultural institutions, domestic and foreign tourism, premier convention facilities and architectural monuments, cement its stature among the world's greatest cities.

Centrally located in the continental U.S., the Northeast Economic Development Region offers strategic advantages for commerce due to its access to all forms of transportation. Its historically crucial role as the hub of the country's rail network is being enhanced by renewed interest and funding of the Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency Program (CREATE), a project designed to alleviate rail interchange delays through Chicago. Currently, more time is required to pass through the Chicago area than it takes to move freight from the West Coast to Chicago. In addition, Will County and southern Cook County continue to develop as logistical container port facilities.

Connecting to all parts of the United States, an extensive system of interstate highways serves the region and its workforce. Water shipping routes connect the area to the rest of the world through the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway and the Gulf of Mexico via the Des Plaines and Mississippi rivers. Air transport facilities continue to be critical to the region's economic viability, with O'Hare International Airport a magnet in attracting economic activity and jobs to the region. Access is gained to all corners of the world through O'Hare, where a modernization program is underway to expand capacity and increase efficiency in order to assure its continued leading role in national aviation. Chicago Midway Airport adds additional passenger flight and freight capacity. Reflecting negative changes in the national economy, average annual employment in the Northeast Economic Development Region declined by nearly 220,000 jobs in 2009.



Also reflective of national trends, the region's jobs in goods-producing industries (manufacturing and construction) have declined between 2000 and 2009 from 18 percent of total employment to 13 percent. This change resulted in an increased proportion of lower-paying service-providing jobs and a general erosion of wage levels. Employment opportunities continue to exist in manufacturing; however skill requirements continue to increase, providing both challenges and training opportunities for the existing workforce. Paradoxically, these skill requirements, coupled with capital investment, have resulted in productivity improvements and a need for fewer workers.

Overall, labor demand is expected to be strong for health care workers as baby boomers enter their retirement years.

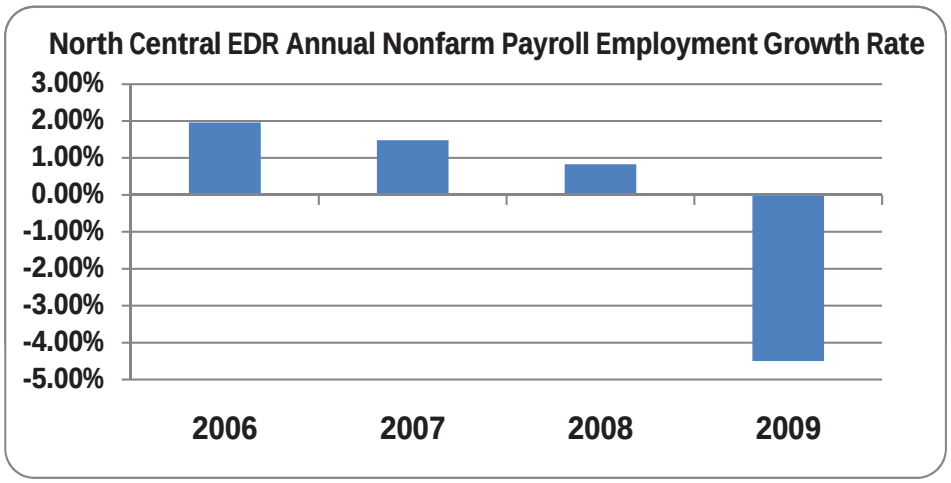
Construction, a victim of the existing turmoil in financial markets, remains one of the industry sectors with the largest employment losses. The construction and manufacturing sectors together account for more than 60 percent of the total job loss in Illinois. Residential construction has been particularly hard hit, even in Chicago collar counties, which in earlier years had received accolades for being among the fastest growing in the United States. Hospitality properties and condominiums within Chicago have also been severely impacted.

With the exception of education and health services, all industry sectors recorded average annual job losses. Prior to 2009, business and professional services had been one of two growth sectors. Early 2010 results indicate a slowing in the rate of employment declines. Education employment prospects have dimmed significantly as local governmental units trim jobs and programs as a result of reduced tax revenues. Regional recession recovery in the longer term will require a readjustment of traditional strategies for the job seeker.

North Central Economic Development Region (EDR 3)

The North Central Economic Development Region (EDR 3) is located midway between Chicago and St. Louis and consists of the following 10 counties: De Witt, Fulton, Livingston, Marshall, Mason, McLean, Peoria, Stark, Tazewell and Woodford. The area has two metropolitan statistical areas – the Peoria Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), consisting of Marshall, Peoria, Stark, Tazewell and Woodford and the Bloomington-Normal MSA, consisting of McLean County. The largest cities are Peoria and Bloomington-Normal. The area outside the cities consists of rich farmland with corn and soybeans as the major crops. Commerce runs on the many interstates that crisscross the region and on the Illinois River that flows into the Mississippi River.

The national recession, which started in late 2007, continued to impact the area labor market through 2009, first in the financial activities sector and then in the construction sector. Residential construction declined, as some planned business expansions stalled due to credit restrictions. Manufacturing was not initially hurt due to global sales by some local firms; but as the recession spread through the global economy, these firms saw declining sales, which resulted in layoffs.



The two largest economies, the Peoria and Bloomington-Normal metropolitan statistical areas, saw over-the-year declines in nonfarm payroll jobs through December 2009, with the Peoria MSA losing 14,100 jobs and the Bloomington MSA losing 2,800 jobs.

Both areas recorded employment declines in all months of 2009 compared to corresponding months in the previous year. Both areas posted major losses in the manufacturing and business and professional services sectors. Some of the losses in business and professional services were indirectly tied to manufacturing since many of the temporary help agencies in this sector supply workers to factories. If not for the large financial activities and government sectors, which are usually not severely impacted by recessions, the overall jobs situation would have been worse.

The region's unemployment rates also paint a picture of a troubled economy. The December 2009 unemployment rate for the North Central Economic Development Region was 10.5 percent, with the Peoria MSA at 11.3 percent, and the Bloomington-Normal MSA at 7.8 percent. Unemployment rates were considerably higher than those from the previous December. Most of the months of 2009 saw unemployment rates not seen since the early 1980s.

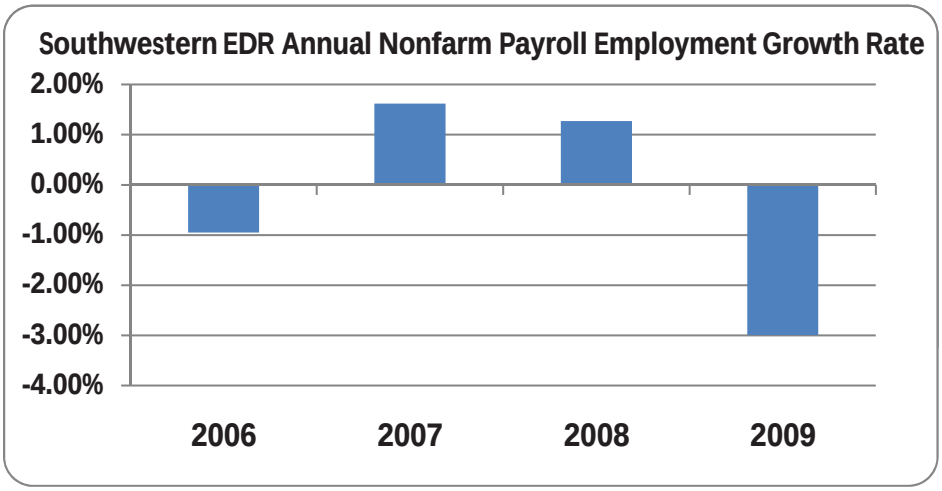
Local governments, especially schools, were contemplating layoffs due to funding issues. The ethanol and biofuels activity, which showed promise for job creation a few years ago, did not develop as expected. Wind farms are being built but do not create a large number of jobs once constructed.

As 2009 ended, a few plans for either expanding business or maintaining employment levels in some organizations were announced. A major medical instrument company is expected to locate in Fulton County. Two large labor-management contracts are in effect through 2010. One major manufacturer has a no-layoff agreement with its union.

Overall, labor demand is expected to be strong for health care workers as baby boomers enter their retirement years. The manufacturing production occupations, although not displaying growth, will still have numerous openings due to replacement demands. Factories increasingly need workers with basic math, science and communications skills and who can deal with complex computerized machinery.

Southwestern Economic Development Region (EDR 9)

River ways, runways, railways and roadways define the Southwestern Economic Development Region (EDR 9) as the most cost-effective transportation hub in the United States. The economic development region is home to the third largest labor market in Illinois. The Illinois section of the St. Louis Metropolitan Statistical Area roughly approximates the southwestern region. It borders the Mississippi River and serves as the northernmost year-round port on the river. The bi-state St. Louis region boasts the second largest rail center in the nation. Aviation resources include three southwestern Illinois airports: Mid-America Airport, St. Louis Downtown Airport (both in St. Clair County) and St. Louis Regional Airport in Madison County (which has a light rail system connecting the area's largest employer, Scott Air Force Base, with Lambert-St. Louis International Airport in St. Louis).

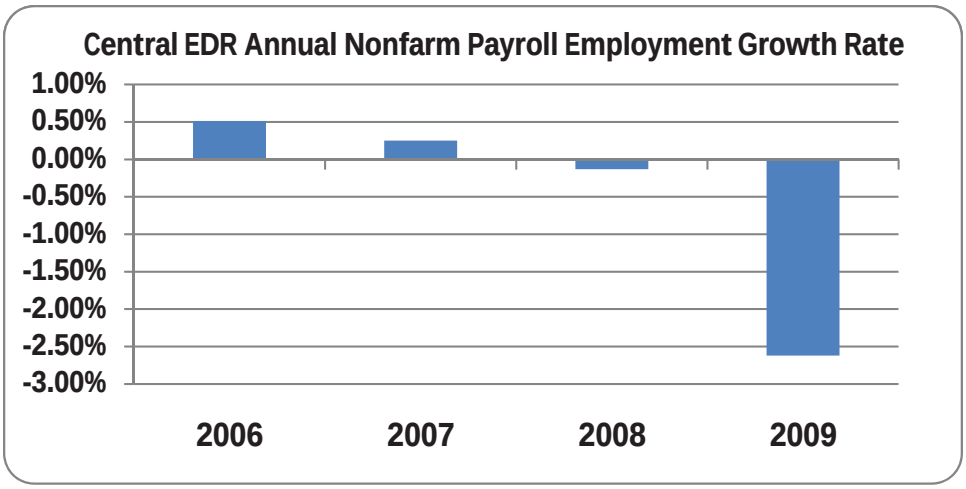


Construction of a $5 billion pipeline from Alberta, Canada to bring low-grade crude oil to the Wood River refinery has been an economic driver for the economic development region. A $3.6 billion coker and refinery expansion, which began in the third quarter of 2008, employs between 3,000 and 4,000 workers at its current peak. Completion is projected for 2011, when 35 to 50 new employees will be hired. Plans for a Mississippi River Bridge project, high speed rail service from St. Louis to Chicago, a $4 billion Prairie State Energy Campus and a $600 million steel coking facility bode well for future construction employment. Scott Air Force Base, the region's largest employer, continues the final phase of its expansion. As a result of the last round of Base Realignment and Closure actions, the 932nd Operations Group, the 73rd Airlift Squadron and the 54th Airlift Squadron were reorganized into a combined operations facility. The Illinois Air National Guard's 126th Air Refueling Wing will be part of the KC-135 Stratotanker unit that includes both guard and active duty personnel, with private contractors providing critical operational services and employment stability. Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville adds another layer of economic stability, with the national Corn to Ethanol Center poised to collaborate with workforce development partners in utilizing resources for energy production.

The region's transportation infrastructure, combined with the scale of the expanding energy facilities, holds promise for regional economic development, including a partnership with St. Louis to expand green industry and job growth. Challenges regarding the certification of the levees, which is the industrial core of the St. Louis region, resulted in the formation of the Southwestern Illinois Flood Prevention District Council in July 2009. Rebuilding the levees is largely a local responsibility and key leaders have collaborated on meeting the challenge.
The logistical advantage as a transportation hub, combined with the historical manufacturing base – now expanding to include more oil refining capacity, corn to ethanol processors and the largest coal fired generation plant in the U.S. – will bring business, government, labor and education together to move the regional economy forward.

Central Economic Development Region (EDR 1)

The Central Economic Development Region (EDR 1) is a mostly rural 12-county area in the heart of the state. The counties of the region are Cass, Christian, Greene, Logan, Macon, Macoupin, Menard, Montgomery, Morgan, Sangamon, Scott and Shelby. The area includes two metro areas: the State Capitol of Springfield in Sangamon County and Decatur in Macon County. Besides abundant agriculture, the



area has traditionally had state government as the major employing sector, especially in the Springfield area. Decatur has traditionally been the base of the area's manufacturing sector, but over the years the area has gradually diversified into a more service oriented economy. The region is also the medical hub of downstate Illinois due to Springfield's vibrant medical facilities, including the world-renowned Prairie Heart Institute.

The region has three modes of transportation for goods: trucking, railroads and waterways. Trucking is the primary source of transportation for most goods. Interstate 55 is the north/south corridor and Interstate 72 is the east/west corridor. Most towns and cities on both of these routes benefit greatly, especially those along I-55, because it is the main artery from St. Louis to Chicago. The area also benefits from an extensive rail system that runs throughout the region and provides both freight and passenger service. The western edge of the region is bordered by the Illinois River, which has many barge facilities that provide transportation for the abundant corn and soybean crops in the region as well as many other goods. The Illinois River links to the Mississippi River that, in turn, provides a global marketplace for export products as well as an import link for incoming products from abroad.

Throughout 2009 the Central Economic Development Region, like all other areas in the state, continued to suffer through the recession. Unemployment rates soared to 25- to 30- year highs in some areas and all-time highs in other areas. The first half of 2009 was difficult for all areas but particularly so for counties with higher concentrations of manufacturing, as both large and small firms were cutting workers. The last half of 2009 was still a difficult time for employers, but the economy began to stabilize and job losses began to moderate in most counties in the region.

During 2009 most industries had declining employment levels compared to 2008, and job losses in the region totaled 5,800. The manufacturing sector accounted for 41 percent of the total job loss. Construction was also heavily impacted as financing was difficult to obtain and most companies were reluctant to expand until the economy was on more solid footing. Residential construction declined as consumers shied away from new spending. Health care was the only major sector to add workers during 2009.

The energy sector also offered some hope as one large wind farm was completed and became operational in northern Logan County. Several other wind farms scattered around the region are in the planning stage. There are two large energy-related projects in the region that are on hold due to financial issues. The Taylorville Energy Center is a $3.5 billion coal gasification power plant that will be built at the mouth of a new coal mine in Christian County. This project has the potential to create 2,500 construction jobs, 155 full-time jobs to run it and another 250 mining jobs to supply coal. The $809 million Secure Energy coal gasification plant located in Macon County will generate 330 construction jobs, 86 full-time jobs to operate the plant and about 250

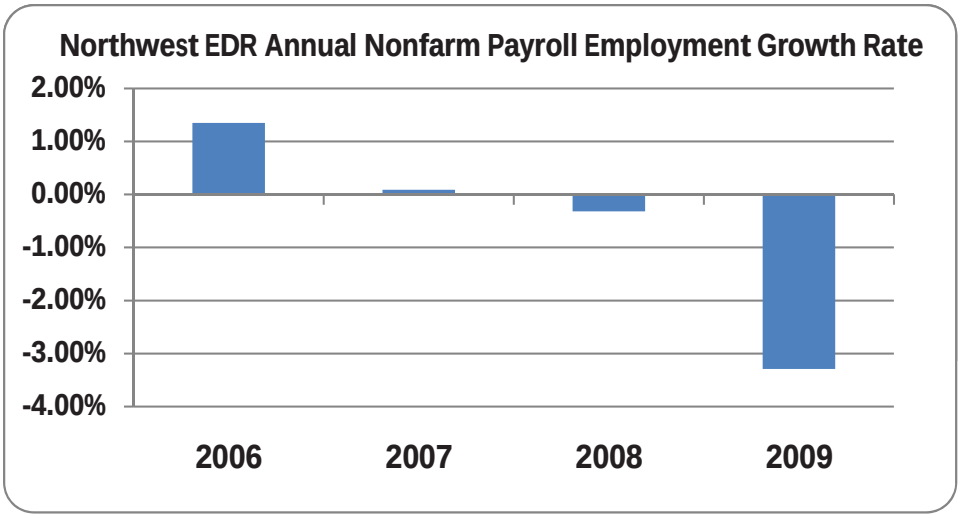
mining and trucking positions to feed the plant.

Northwest Economic Development Region (EDR 6)

The Northwest Economic Development Region (EDR 6) is located in the northwest corner of the state, south of the Wisconsin border and east of the Mississippi River. The region includes the counties of Bureau, Carroll, Henry, Jo Daviess, La Salle, Lee, Mercer, Putnam, Rock Island and Whiteside. A major east-west interstate highway links the area to a national transportation route. Interstate links also provide the area with access to north-south highways. In addition, the region's western counties are able to utilize water transportation on the Mississippi River. Future transportation plans include expanding the highway and rail that runs through the northern section of the region that connects the region to Rockford and Chicago.

The Davenport-Moline-Rock Island Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), consisting of Henry, Mercer, and Rock Island counties in Illinois, is the economic and employment center of the region.

The local economic base of the Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA experienced shifts as manufacturing, once dominant, gave way to the public sector as the largest employer. Contributing to the strength of the public sector is a military base and arsenal in the metropolitan area. The Base Realignment and Closure Commission will relocate part of the arsenal workforce. Nevertheless, the base has been expanding other operations and growing its workforce. Federal construction projects at the military base, in addition to the expansion of some base operations, are also creating employment opportunities in the region.



The recent downturn in the economy has affected the area's tourism industry. Tourism is an important segment of the area's economy, especially the winter and summer activities in the northwest county of Jo Daviess county. However, a newly opened gaming facility has helped rekindle this sector. The gaming operation and hotel complex in the Illinois section of the Quad cities led to growth in the leisure-hospitality sector. Other area counties are investing efforts into promoting and expanding local attractions to increase their tourism industry.

The warehousing industry has been expanding in recent years, with the additions of several distribution centers for national retail chains in the region. The transportation-warehousing-utilities sector grew as a national shipping company expanded its warehouse operations. The opening of new grocery outlets in 2008 led to expansions in the retail trade industry.

Following national and state trends, the economy in the Northwest Economic Development Region has experienced employment losses from the start of the recession. The region's employment diversification contributed to the region's ability to have a slower over-the-year growth in the unemployment rate compared with other regions, but as the recession has continued, the unemployment rate has reached double digits.

Within the manufacturing sector, the farm implement industry started to experience job losses, and many of the facilities in the bi-state area reduced staffing levels. While some workers in the farm implement industry were recalled near the end of 2009, most were still unemployed as of the end of the year. A producer of clothing needed to reduce costs and consolidate operations, leaving an additional 300 workers seeking new employment. As with other areas, there are record numbers of applications for even the lowest paid job openings. There also

were significant job losses in the professional and business services sector.

Northern Stateline Economic Development Region (EDR 5)

The Northern Stateline Economic Development Region (EDR 5) is located on the north-central border area of the state and includes Boone, Ogle, Stephenson and Winnebago counties. Interstate highways link three of the four counties to the Chicago metro region. A large railroad hub in Ogle County complements the area's many commercial rail transportation connections. Boone, Stephenson and Winnebago counties are on the Illinois border with Wisconsin, and this has led to a regional approach to economic development for the area. The region is dominated by the Rockford Metropolitan Statistical Area, consisting of Winnebago and Boone counties.

With a long history as a manufacturing center, the region has gone through several manufacturing transformations over the years. Recessionary pressures have returned the unemployment rate back to the historic highs of the early 1980s. As national employers reorganized to reduce costs, the region lost employment as work was shifted out of the region and the state. The region has worked to attract new industries and build upon its manufacturing base. However, the task is daunting as larger employers close their operations and as newer manufacturing jobs require higher skills.

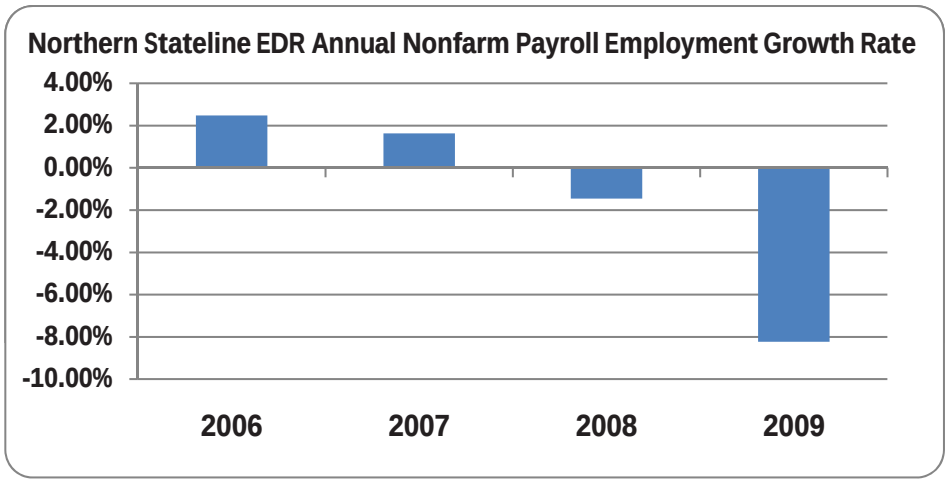
The economic changes brought on by the recession have hurt many employers in the region. The parent company of one of the region's largest employers filed for bankruptcy due to the declining automobile market. Manufacturing companies have furloughed workers, had temporary layoffs and reduced staff as their sales fell. As the country emerges from the recession, manufacturers will slowly start to add workers, but many of the old jobs may never return.

The Rochelle area provided the region with some positive news as it continued to utilize its fiber optic cable network and rail hub to attract data management and transportation-warehousing companies. The region's international airport has continued its success as a cargo facility;

The Northern Stateline region's future may include more employment in the green industry.

however, the national shipping company located there has reduced staffing levels as fewer packages are being shipped during the economic downturn. Federal and state government grants have allowed the area to develop plans for the expansion of rail transportation.

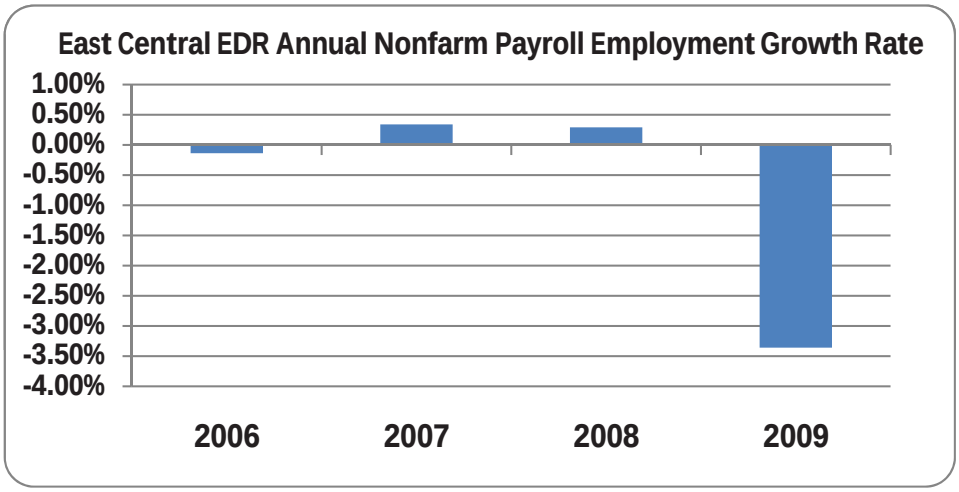
The Northern Stateline region's future may include more employment in the green industry. JoDaviess County, a western county in the neighboring region, is the location for a new, large wind farm. Highland Community College now offers a degree in wind turbine technology housed in a new building. A new facility to assemble solar panels in Rockford is now part of the region's green jobs effort. To build on its manufacturing history, local employers continue to focus their effort to supply products for the large wind turbine industry. Rock Valley College renovated its athletic facility and earned a gold rating from Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED). In 2011 the college is planning to build a new classroom building



utilizing the latest green building technology.

East Central Economic Development Region (EDR 2)

The East Central Economic Development Region (EDR 2) is located on the state's eastern border with Indiana in central Illinois and includes Champaign, Douglas, Ford, Iroquois, Piatt and Vermilion counties. Interstate highways link all of the counties in the region to metro areas. The Champaign-Urbana Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), comprising Champaign, Ford and Piatt counties, and the Danville MSA, consisting of Vermilion, are located in this region. The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Illinois' flagship university, is one of Champaign County's largest employers and has provided the area with employment stability. Manufacturing has also been an important part of the region's economic history and, like other areas in the state and nation,



has continued to experience declines during this recession. The region's two largest counties have worked to attract economic development and utilize the talent of their local workforces.

Building on its manufacturing history, Vermilion County has attracted new manufacturers and helped add employment to its existing manufacturers. However, these efforts have not been able to overcome national economic pressures on local employers to trim costs through employment reductions. The county's attempt to diversify its employment base has also slowed, as employers have been reluctant to make location changes during the recession. Champaign County has expanded its health care facilities and built a high-tech industry base that benefits from its proximity to a major university and its research capabilities. Champaign County's employment gains have been offset by large declines in the manufacturing sector, especially in the food processing sector. While some manufacturing companies have added workers, the net effect of large layoffs neutralized small-scale job gain's influence on the overall economy.

In past years, the stability of public sector employment has contributed to a lower unemployment rate than other areas. However, strong declines in the manufacturing and other industry sectors have constrained the ability of the public sector employment base to offset those declines. The public sector is also under intense pressure as state and local resources are strained, and government agencies have reduced or kept employment steady.

Changes in the economy in 2009 led to widespread job losses, and in some situations, significant layoffs. Economic changes affected more than metro areas. These layoffs have been especially difficult for small communities that lost large employers, a trend that continued as the recession entered its second year. Manufacturing has been the hardest hit, but the slowdown in the

construction sector has also led to longer periods of unemployment for individuals in the trades. Coal mining, a small employer in the Vermilion county area, has also been hit with closures and layoffs. For many years the healthcare sector was immune from reductions in their workforce, but in 2008 and 2009 the region experienced job losses in non-patient care positions at local healthcare centers. The East Central Economic Development Region experienced economic changes in 2009 in traditionally cyclical industries such as manufacturing but also in more stable industries such as health services and government employment.

Southern Economic Development Region (EDR 8)

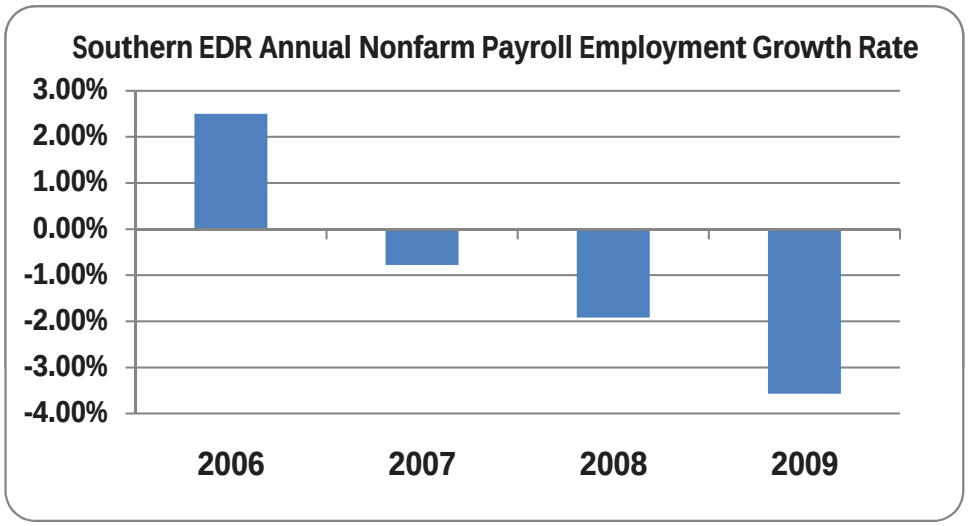
The Southern Illinois Economic Development Region (EDR 8) consists of 19 counties: Alexander, Edwards, Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jackson, Jefferson, Johnson, Massac, Perry, Pope, Pulaski, Saline, Union, Wabash, Wayne, White and Williamson. Growth potential for the region is substantial along Interstate 57, which runs north-south through the region with Interstate 24 branching off to the east, just south of the city of Marion. Along the Route 13 corridor from Marion to the cities of Carbondale and Murphysboro, substantial commercial, industrial and residential development dominates the region's labor market activity.

Manufacturing layoffs plus workweek reductions plagued the region in 2009. Compared to two years ago, many industrial plants have reduced payrolls as well as hours worked. The construction industry in 2009 was at a reduced activity level compared to previous years. However, a number of major building projects, such as highway construction, medical facilities, educational center expansions and commercial projects in progress, offset stagnant housing markets. Many of the commercial, medical, roadway and educational projects are expected to continue through 2010.

In addition, a resurgent energy industry holds much promise for southern Illinois. Illinois has one-eighth of the total coal reserves and one-quarter of the bituminous coal reserves in the nation. A $1 billion coal gasification plant and coal mining project in Jefferson County is nearing the construction phase with a number of other clean coal projects in the beginning stages of development. An increase in activity in the oil industry is also promising.

Leisure, recreation, and hospitality facilities have expanded as improvements and expansions at Rend Lake and the Shawnee National Forest have made these areas tourist destinations.

Employment advances continued in the health services industry. In 2009, several long-term health care facilities were opened. Major building projects at a number of hospitals are either currently underway or are in the planning stage. Leisure, recreation, and hospitality facilities have expanded as improvements and expansions at Rend Lake and the Shawnee National Forest have made these areas tourist destinations. The development of wineries and the Shawnee Hills Wine Trail south of Carbondale, the recent major expansion of the Cedarhurst Center for the Arts in Mt. Vernon and the Southern Illinois Miners baseball team in Marion have also contributed to increased tourism.



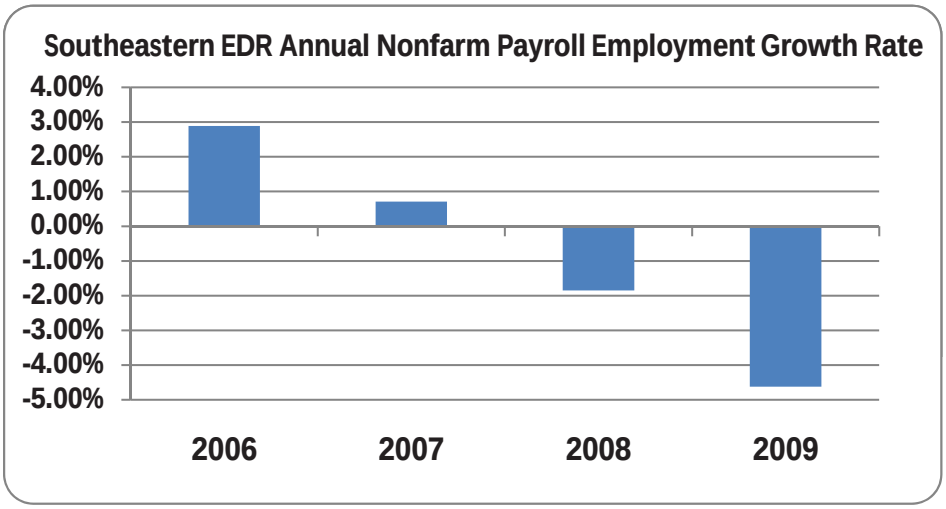
Retail trade establishments have reported mixed results. Some companies are remaining in business, while others are closing. Discount establishments and well-established family-operated businesses appeared to be weathering the national economic downturn, and a few small shopping centers opened at the prime commercial sites.

Southeastern Economic Development Region (EDR 7)

The Southeastern Illinois Economic Development Region (EDR 7) is a 13-county region in south central Illinois and consists of Clark, Clay, Coles, Crawford, Cumberland, Edgar, Effingham, Fayette, Jasper, Lawrence, Marion, Moultrie and Richland counties. Interstates 57 and 70 run through this area and cross in Effingham County. Cities along the interstate system that attract workers include Mattoon, Effingham, Vandalia and Salem. Other sizable employment communities include Paris, Olney, Robinson, Flora, Lawrenceville and Centralia.

Of all industries in the region, manufacturing has undergone the most significant changes. The numerous auto parts manufacturing factories scattered throughout the area suffered payroll losses due to the declining national economic situation. Other industrial plants have also cut back and reduced employment. While the housing market declined, numerous building projects occurred in the region in 2009, such as road construction, educational institution expansions, commercial projects and the construction of medical facilities. Employment growth has been steady over the years at transportation, distribution and warehousing facilities. Continued expansion is anticipated in the future. Traditionally, agriculture has had a major impact on the economy of this region. The solid farming industry with its support system continues, and strong rural communities still dominate the labor market in this region with corn, wheat, and soybeans as the major crops.

Employment advances continued in health services. A revitalized outlook for energy resources holds promise, with the $2 billion FutureGen coal-to-energy plant in Coles County holding the key for regional resurgence. More than 400 acres are available for the project to develop technology for cleanly converting coal to hydrogen for electricity production (advanced coal gasification techniques) and underground carbon dioxide storage (sequestration.) A final decision on the status of FutureGen is expected by early summer 2010. Another proposed project in Coles County is the Oakland coal-to-diesel fuel plant. This $1.8 billion plant and coal mine project has been slowed by financial concerns and difficulties.



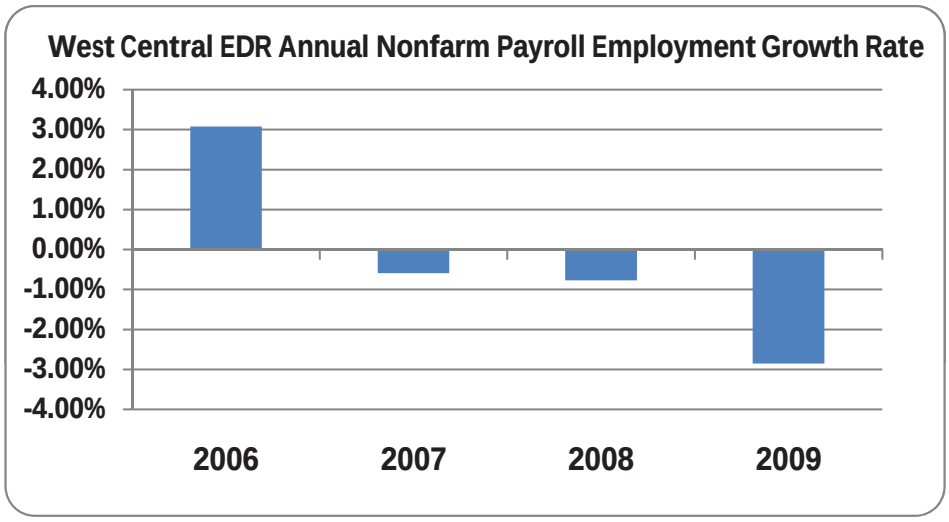
Some of the counties at the southern end of the Southeastern Economic Development Region have oil producing fields. Although a small industrial sector, the oil fields experienced a slight increase in activity during the past several years as the price of oil has increased. Although the price of oil is extremely volatile, an upturn in activity, employment and number of firms is somewhat promising. Overall labor market conditions in 2009 continued to decline during the year. If construction should begin in 2010 on the development of the two coal-gasification plants, an exciting era for the Southeastern Economic Development Region in Illinois will begin. The community leaders in the Southeastern Economic Development Region have positioned the area for dynamic growth by having developed excellent highways, easily accessible retail centers, expanded medical facilities, leisure and recreational facilities and educational opportunities.

West Central Economic Development Region (EDR 10)

The West Central Economic Development Region (EDR 10) is a rural nine-county area that is bordered on the west by the Mississippi River between the Quad Cities and St. Louis and is partially bordered on the east by the Illinois River. The nine counties are Adams, Brown, Hancock, Henderson, Knox, McDonough, Pike, Schuyler and Warren. The region is primarily farm ground that produces corn and soybeans in the summer and supports a thriving hunting industry in the winter months, especially along the Illinois and Mississippi rivers.

Due to the rural location and limited population, the area has traditionally been one of the more economically stable areas in the state. However, like all other areas in the state, the west central region was heavily impacted by the national recession during all of 2009. Although the region is the smallest in terms of population and the size of its labor force, it recorded the lowest 2009 annual average unemployment rate of all the regions in the state. The educational and health services sector was the only industry in the region to add jobs during 2009.

The region is home to some of the state's most beautiful scenery, particularly along the rivers. Local economic developers have spent much time and money on different types of festivals to attract tourists to the area to view the fall foliage along the river basins. The area along the Mississippi River is nationally renowned for its white-tail deer and water fowl hunting. The hunting season brings in hundreds of hunters to area hotels, motels and restaurants. Also, an increasing number of hunting outfitters are in the region.



Having both the Illinois and Mississippi rivers flowing through the region has created an opportunity for area fisherman. The state of Illinois has joined other Midwest states in the battle to control the spread of the invasive Asian carp in both of these rivers. Two area businesses are hoping to find a market for the exploding population of the fish while increasing employment at the same time. One business is a fish wholesale market in Pike County that has been in negotiations with Chinese and Japanese business leaders about exporting frozen carp to their countries. In China, Asian carp are considered a delicacy. The second business is in Havana in Mason County just across the Illinois River from the west central region. This business buys the fish from local fishermen and grind them into a slurry, which is then blast-heated and turned into a powdered protein and used for cattle feed. Together, these two businesses have the potential to create jobs in an industry that has been declining for some time.

Conclusion

The impact of the national recession on Illinois' economy was severe. The state's unemployment rate for 2009 was 10.1 percent, and the 2008-2009 change (3.7 points) is the largest annual unemployment increase for Illinois on record, extending back to 1976. Since the onset of the downturn in January 2008, more than 411,000 jobs were lost. The pace of layoffs in Illinois has diminished, but weakness in the labor market has presented challenges for job seekers and workforce development professionals alike. All 12 industry sectors have been adversely affected, with manufacturing and construction sectors posting the most persistently sluggish payrolls. Health care and education-related occupations present more optimistic opportunities throughout all regions of the state.

The **Status** of Illinois' **Green Industries**

A chapter in the 2008 Illinois' Annual Economic Analysis Report (http://lmi.ides.state.il.us/iaear.htm) was dedicated to establishing a baseline of various green industries of importance to Illinois. "A Clean Energy Strategy Can Create Green Jobs for the Illinois Economy" discussed biofuels, clean coal, carbon permits, renewable energy sources such as wind, solar, nuclear, and geothermal, and technology concepts such as the Smart Grid and Energy Efficiency methods. This report will highlight new developments and opportunities within Illinois' green industry.

Biofuels

Illinois is an important state in the emerging biofuels industry. However, in 2009, uncertainty over upcoming standards being developed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and a shortage of capital for loans to support small businesses resulted in a slow year for the industry. In February 2010 the EPA finalized changes to the Renewable Fuels Standards (now known as RFS2) as required by the Energy and Independence Security Act of 2007. With these rules in place, Illinois can expect to be active in the future development and expansion of the biofuel sector.

New volume standards were established for specific biofuels that take into account new greenhouse gas (GHG) emission thresholds as determined by lifecycle analysis – including production, distribution and use of the fuel by the consumer. The EPA determined that corn-based ethanol plants using new efficient technologies and biodiesel made from soy and waste products met or exceeded the required minimum GHG reduction standards. Fuels derived from cellulosic materials met and generally significantly exceeded the minimum GHG reduction standards.[1]

Algae Research

Many people believe that algae has the most long-term potential as a feedstock for biofuels. St. Louis has become a leading algae research center in part because area institutions have received $45 million for research. It was recently named "King of Algal Energy" by a reader's poll conducted by Biofuels Digest. Local scientists believe that the St. Louis climate could be capable of mass producing algae in the future.[2] The Saint Louis metro area spills over into southern Illinois, and surrounding areas possess a similar climate, so this could be good news for that region.

The rivers of Illinois maintain a high nitrate level from agricultural runoff, and research has shown that water high in nitrates is good for growing algae. Also, carbon dioxide (CO_2), a common byproduct of industrial facilities, is a good feedstock for growing algae. Some people believe that algae production facilities should be co-located with industrial facilities that produce CO_2 to make them more economically

viable.[3] Illinois' coal power plants and manufacturing industry could provide a ready supply of CO_2.

Other research has shown that photo bioreactors could be used to grow algae within abandoned coal mines. This would protect the algae production from evaporation and contamination and from the fluctuation of outdoor temperatures. Using light-emitting diodes (LEDs) as a source of light would allow scientists to utilize those portions of the light spectrum that they believe contribute to algae growth. Scientists believe that plants become saturated with light energy; so having the lights programmed to blink on and off at a fast rate could allow the algae time to process the energy before absorbing more in the next cycle.[4] This system could improve upon the growth rate obtained from actual sunlight. An on-site geothermal setup could be used to power the LEDs so that no external power source would be needed for production of the algae.

The aviation industry is pushing to develop a jet biofuel that could operate in current aircraft with no modifications to the aircraft engine (a.k.a. a drop-in fuel). This would allow the sector to stabilize the price of one of its primary inputs and meet the demand to decrease greenhouse gas emissions of a key contributor. Many people believe that algae could become a primary feedstock for this fuel in the long term. The military would like to replace petroleum products with biofuels as well. The Navy plans to utilize half of its total energy consumption for ships, aircraft, vehicles and shore installations from alternative sources by 2020.[5]

Research is also being done to grow algae using wastewater as a feedstock and producing clean water as a co-product in the process. NASA is conducting one such research project growing algae in flexible plastic bags floating offshore in the ocean where municipal wastewater can be found. Algae can grow inside the bags utilizing nutrients from the wastewater. Clean freshwater is released through forward-osmosis membranes in the sides of the bags. Each plastic bag may cover a quarter of an acre, and oil from the algae would be periodically harvested.[6]

The Navy plans to utilize half of its total energy consumption for ships, aircraft, vehicles and shore installations from alternative sources by 2020.

Another benefit is the ability to convert the lipids harvested from the algae oil into bioplastic resin and then into sustainable bioplastic. Some people believe this process could be used to manufacture more than 90% of plastics currently produced from petroleum. Bioplastic products would be biodegradable and increased production would further decrease demand for foreign oil.[7] Other bioproducts such as solvents, chemicals, briquettes, resins, etc. could be manufactured from agricultural products and wastes.

Clean Coal, Carbon Emissions Legislation

An announcement is expected in 2010 regarding the decision on whether to move forward with the FutureGen (http://www.futuregenalliance.org/) clean coal project near Mattoon, Ill. The facility plans to demonstrate the economic feasibility of producing electricity from coal, while sequestering carbon dioxide and virtually eliminating green house gas emissions. Hydrogen would be separated during the production process and could be utilized as a source of fuel for hydrogen fuel cells.

The U.S. Department of Energy is currently developing a new energy concept called Vision 21. The objective of the program is to develop multi-product energy plants that increase efficiencies to above 60 percent, while reducing pollutants and carbon emissions to virtually nothing.[8] The FutureGen project could become a key step toward realizing the goals of this plan.

Federal legislation of an energy and climate change bill is still in the negotiation stage. Any legislation that is passed will likely provide support for new nuclear power plants and carbon capture and sequestration technology in support of clean coal. However, it appears that it will be difficult to pass any legislation at this time related to the cap and trade of carbon permits.[9]

The carbon permit system in Europe did not work as well

as hoped during the economic downturn. The global recession led to decreased production in factories and so a natural reduction in carbon emissions occurred for the industry. The price of carbon permits fell due to shrinking demand and apparently had little impact on the way companies generate and use energy. This example provides an argument to those that prefer a carbon tax over a system of carbon permits.[10] University of Illinois Atmospheric Sciences professor, Donald Wuebbles, expects dramatic weather changes in Illinois by the end of the 21st century if carbon emissions remain high. The Midwest would see increased winter and spring precipitation, with drier summers. Precipitation events would be more frequent and there would be more intense periods of heavy rainfall. Illinois' climate would become more like the current climate in the states to the south of Illinois and could become like the current east Texas climate by the end of the century under the higher-emissions scenario.[11]

An increase in the number of extreme precipitation events in Illinois would impact municipal works throughout the state as the century moves forward. Since engineers take into account average rainfall per event when designing storm water runoff systems, the likelihood that these systems would fail to handle the volume of extreme storms would increase. Therefore engineering work that can help distribute the runoff in other ways will become more important. Future design work could include porous bricks as part of low-speed road and parking areas and use of landscaping techniques that move water away from potential flood zones and toward storage areas such as cisterns.

Smart Grid and Energy Efficiency

The efficient utilization of energy is a critical component of the future economy. Two primary methods for improving energy efficiency in the United States are the (1) development of the "smart grid" concept and (2) the construction and renovation of buildings so that they utilize less energy in their operation.

The basic premise of the smart grid is to modernize America's electrical system to provide infrastructure that will encourage growth in renewable energy sources, empower consumers to reduce their energy use and lay the foundation for sustained, long-term economic expansion. One part of the plan would be the construction of more transmission corridors to provide access to wind power turbine farms and other remote sources of generated power.

Making residential and non-residential buildings more energy efficient gives value to the electric power that does not need to be generated. The U.S. Department of Energy reports data showing that the average American family spends approximately $2,000 a year on home energy bills, with one-quarter to one-third of that energy wasted via air leaks through windows, ducts and poor insulation, and older appliances using too much power.[12]

An entire article dedicated to the development of the smart grid and energy efficiency methods can be found at the Illinois Labor Market Review Web page: http://lmi.ides.state.il.us/lmr/mar_2010/mar10_1.htm.

Wind Power

The value of renewable energy sources such as wind, solar and geothermal will increase with the integration of smart grid technology. A smart grid distributes electricity more efficiently and can move power from the source where

it is generated to the location where it is needed. It follows that energy sources located in remote areas become more valuable if transmission corridors are available to move the electricity to areas of greater demand.

Wind power continues to expand in Illinois. Data for the end of 2009 shows that Illinois now ranks seventh among states for wind power projects installed (measured in megawatts). This is up from eighth at the end of 2008. Illinois also ranked fifth among states in the amount of wind power added during 2009.[13]

Although Illinois ranks 16th in wind power potential among the states, the state has done better than that ranking by utilizing this resource for a few reasons. The wind resources in the state are reasonably close to the demand of the Chicago metropolitan area so there is a market to sell the power. Transmission lines already exist for all of the coal and nuclear plants in the state; so new ones did not have to be built to get this power to the area of demand. The state of Illinois has passed legislation that will require 25 percent of the state's electricity be generated by renewable power by 2025.[14] Continued development of the wind energy industry (as well as other renewable) would be good for Illinois because of the state's location in the middle of the country, making it necessary for the transmission system to be enhanced so that electricity can pass through the state. [15]

Solar Power

Solar power in Illinois will likely continue to be limited to smaller projects. Commonwealth Edison is developing a 10 Megawatt solar power plant on Chicago's south side made economical with the help of government funding.[16] A measure of solar efficiency, called the solar photovoltaic capacity factor, is lower in Chicago than it would be in sunny states such as Arizona, Texas and Florida. Electricity produced by solar panels in the Chicago area would have a higher unit cost than it would in a sunnier area.[17]

Solar panels can still be added to residences for supplemental power generation.

One application of interest to Illinois is using solar power to convert biomass into a synthesis gas that can then be converted into a biofuel product similar to gasoline. The process involves a solar-thermal tower surrounded by a mirror field below that reflects the sun rays toward the tower to create temperatures of nearly 1,300 degrees Celsius. The heat is used to gasify the biomass and the resulting gas can be used to produce a biofuel product or electricity.[18]

Geothermal Power

Geothermal (using heat obtained from the Earth's interior) applications initially appeared to be limited for Illinois. However the outlook is becoming brighter. Most large-scale geothermal power is currently produced in the western United States due to easily accessible hydrothermal resources. However, about 20 miles below the earth's crust the temperature is at least 1,000 degrees Fahrenheit. The ability to tap into this supply of heat could fulfill the country's requirement for power with minimal impact on the environment.[19] Research is underway to develop drills and measurement equipment that can function at around 600 degrees Fahrenheit. Equipment currently used for oil and gas exploration usually does not

face temperatures higher than 400 degrees Fahrenheit.This technology is generally called Deep Geothermal Systems (DGS) or enhanced geothermal.[20]

Nuclear Power

The biggest news regarding nuclear energy in 2009 has to do with the dramatic shift in perception of this source of electricity by many, but certainly not all, environmentalists and environmental groups. The number one reason that people have shifted their opinion is because nuclear energy plants emit no carbon when producing electricity. Other reasons include the facts technology has solved some of the problems with earlier nuclear plants and anticipated hazards have not materialized. Computer and communications technology is much improved, and the radiation leak that occurred at Three Mile Island in 1979 would be very unlikely to occur today. Technology to reprocess nuclear waste has also progressed and could be utilized to reduce current levels stored.[21]

Another breakthrough in this industry is the existence of smaller modular nuclear reactors. They are smaller than a rail car and one-tenth the cost of a big plant that can generate about 125-140 megawatts of power. The reactors could be built in factories requiring about half of the time that it would take to construct them on site. They could be located adjacent to current nuclear plants or used to replace old coal power plants. Some nuclear power plants already have permits for more reactors than they have currently built.[22]

Rail Transportation (High-Speed and CREATE)

Two big projects intended to improve efficiency in rail travel are underway in Illinois. The state will receive $1.23 billion of federal stimulus funding for high-speed rail projects, most of which will be dedicated for the route between Alton and Dwight. This route covers almost two-thirds of the distance between Chicago and St. Louis, and will improve the rail commute between the two cities. Rail projects in Michigan and Wisconsin also received funding. Both of those rail lines are part of the Chicago hub of the network.[23]

Federal stimulus funds of $233 million have also been targeted toward the Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency Program (CREATE).

Federal stimulus funds of $233 million have also been targeted toward the Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency Program (CREATE). This project hopes to solve the major problems associated with rail traffic in the Chicago area. One of the major problems concerns travel times through the very busy city of Chicago. It takes 48 hours to get a rail car from Los Angeles to Chicago and another 30 hours to move it from one side of the city to the other.[24] In addition, CREATE partners will work to create jobs, enhance public safety and promote improved air quality in the city. Warren Buffet bought the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) railroad this past year because trains move freight at a much lower cost than trucks and he expects that they will be used more in the future. The railroads will also benefit from publicly funded infrastructure improvements such as CREATE.

Water

Water is key to the future of energy. As the population grows water usage will need to be more efficient. The future of energy generation is dependent on water since the production of many types of energy currently utilizes large amounts of water. This includes nuclear (cooling towers), solar (wash solar panels to increase efficiency, especially in desert), biofuels (algae may be able to use wastewater, and production cycle could be used to clean water) and coal (mix pulverized coal with steam to create gas).

President Obama proposed $475 million for a Great Lakes Renovation Initiative. An action plan for 2010-2014 was developed by responsible agencies in an effort to address serious environmental problems including pollution and the threat of invasive species that threaten the future of the lakes.[25]

Electric Vehicles

Some people believe that all-electric vehicles should be the focus of auto

industry research. A few problems need to be solved before electric vehicles can become the dominant mode of transportation on roads and highways. It takes several hours to recharge a battery for an electric vehicle. The number of hours can be reduced if a 240-volt outlet is used instead of a 120-volt outlet, but in either case the outlet would have to be dedicated to the charging of the vehicle. The fact that approximately 80 percent of vehicles are currently not parked in garages presents an obstacle for the future of electric vehicles.[26]

In order for electric vehicles to be a viable option for the average consumer, the country will have to develop a system to charge batteries on a mass scale. Some believe that in the future gas stations could be replaced by battery stations, where the vehicle pulls in and the battery exchange is completed underneath the vehicle. It may be more likely that electric vehicles may share the future auto market with flex-fuel vehicles that burn biofuels and vehicles that utilize hydrogen to operate on fuel cells.

Summary

The national economy has shed millions of jobs over the last few years, many of which will not be coming back. That means new industries must be developed that create new jobs. Green industries have the potential to help fill the gap. Many of these industries will require high-skilled labor and should pay good wages. The science community must lead the way to create new technologies that provide a foundation for these new industries and make our world operate more efficiently.

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Illinois and **Green Jobs** in 2009

On Feb. 17, 2009 President Barack Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act during the nation's worst economic recession since the Great Depression. Nationwide, about 2.2 million jobs had been lost. The act was designed to get Americans back to work. The Congressional Budget Office reports that about two million jobs have been saved or created through investment in renewable energy, high speed rail, health technology, broadband, smart electrical grid, clean cars and batteries.

Recovery.gov shows that Illinois has been awarded nearly $7 billion as of the end of 2009 and has received $2.89 billion. Recipients of the award have reported a resulting 12,147 direct jobs. Meanwhile, the Center for American Progress expects a variety of new jobs to be created. For example, the construction of wind farms generates demand for sheet metal workers and truck drivers. Increasing the energy efficiency of buildings through retrofitting requires roofers, insulators, and building inspectors. Expanding mass transit systems will employ civil engineers, electricians, and dispatchers. The green recovery program is projected to provide a major boost to the manufacturing and construction sectors throughout the United States through much-needed spending on green infrastructure, according to the Center for Economic Progress.

Wind energy has become pervasive in Illinois. Once an oddity, huge wind turbines now march across the fields, and "wind farmer" has moved from a futuristic career to a reality. Renewable energy jobs call for trade basics plus a green overlay of skills, putting iron and steel workers, millwrights, machinists, electrical assemblers, carpenters, plumbers, welders and industrial managers back to work. In their 2009 report the Pew Charitable Trust counted 28,395 green jobs in Illinois as of 2007. The Blue-Green Action Alliance,co-sponsored by the Sierra Club and the United Steelworkers, (see www.bluegreenalliance.org) claims that clean energy manufacturing could boost that number to 57,000. Add ethanol production from Illinois corn, and it's obvious that green is more than a passing fad for the state's economy.

Tax rebates have encouraged homeowners to invest in small-scale wind turbines, solar panels, insulation, heat pumps, geothermal systems and other energy-efficient products—all of which lead to the production of goods and services to stimulate the economy. Some wholesale and retail items can be considered green, such as free trade organic coffee, reusable shopping bags, and stores that recycle clothing.

Photo Credit: J.B. Spector, Museum of Science and Industry.

Popular Science ranked Chicago in its top 10 of "America's 50 Greenest Cities" while Springfield came in at #29 and Joliet was #40. The magazine rated cities on their renewable energy, transportation, green space and recycling efforts. Chicago's mayor Richard M. Daley's drive to reduce greenhouse gas emissions has led to a host of initiatives, such as community gardens, weatherization programs and the nation's first municipal green rooftop on City Hall. The Environmental Protection Agency awarded about $700,000 in grants to train 140 unemployed workers in brownfield remediation and building retrofitting. Chicago is now a regional hub for sales and service of the all-electric Tesla Roadster, thanks in part to a 2009 U.S. Department of Energy Clean Cities Petroleum Reduction grant. Another success is The Chicago Center for Green Technology, which received a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design™ (LEED) platinum certification and is the Midwest's premier center for green design and education.

Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry's Smart Home (pictured above) was erected from modular sections and has drawn over 200,000 visitors since it opened in 2008. It showcases the latest in technology with green building techniques, sustainable materials and eco-friendly landscaping. This fun and educational permanent exhibit helps people understand what's in it for them if they go green. Although Illinois, like the rest of the nation, has lost thousands of construction jobs during the downturn, builders report that green features are becoming highly sought after in new houses.

The Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) provides Green Jobs and Resources at http://www.ilworkinfo.com/PDF/grnjbs.pdf. The Web links provide access to job posting boards, background reading, career tips and education resources. For example, Highland Community College in Freeport offers both a certificate and an associate's degree in wind turbine technology. Illinois State University in Bloomington has a renewable energy bachelor's degree. Benedictine University has two MBA programs that focus on sustainable business practices and Southern Illinois University-Carbondale has launched a Ph.D. program in environmental resources and policy. The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is home to the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center. Wabash Valley College in Mt. Carmel grants a biofuels certificate, and John A. Logan College in Carterville has a green technology certificate plus non-credit courses in solar technology. Degrees pertaining to the green industry are expanding rapidly.

IDES' Career Information System (CIS) at www.ILWorkInfo.com/icrn has in its Article Directory section "Careers in Renewable Energy" with

hyperlinks to occupations. These in turn link to JOBcentral's matching openings in Illinois. The article on "Green Occupations" has definitions and suggested industry areas to explore.

Within IDES, Martin Johnson is the coordinator for the agency's sustainability projects, and he can be reached at 312-793-4608. Other Illinois state government green initiatives can be found at http://www2.illinois.gov/green/Pages/default.aspx.

"Green jobs" used to mean those dealing with plants—agriculture, landscaping, greenhouses. Now it's so much more: protecting the environment, generating our own renewable energy, and building a sustainable, clean economy.

What constitutes a green job? That's not a casual question because occupations must be defined and coded if they're to be properly counted and attributed to the green economy. Literally billions of dollars are riding on the answer.

According to the Federal Register, the Bureau of Labor Statistics is proposing a definition that covers renewable energy, energy efficiency, pollution prevention and cleanup, and natural resource conservation. They also plan to use two ways to measure associated jobs, as an output approach, which identifies establishments that produce green goods and services, and a process approach, which tracks establishments that use environmentally-friendly production processes and practices. See Greening of the World of Work: Implications for O*NET®-SOC and New and Emerging Occupations at http://www.onetcenter.org/dl_files/Green.pdf. It divides green jobs into three categories: Increased Demand, Enhanced Skills, or New & Emerging.

References

One Source

http://www.ILWorkInfo.com

Portal page for Web sites hosted by the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES), Economic Information and Analysis (EI&A) Division. Major sections of One Source include:

LMI Source

http://lmi.ides.state.il.us – Contains complete labor market reports, data and publications that can be viewed online or saved on your computer, including employment outlook; occupational wages; unemployment statistics; and brochures such as Learn More Earn More and the 16 Guides to Career Choices.

Workforce Info Center

http://illinois.virtuallmi.com – Has current and historical workforce and occupational information for employers, job seekers, local workforce planning boards, and economic development professionals.

Illinois Career Resource Network

http://www.ilworkinfo.com/icrn.htm – Offers a variety of career exploration products for elementary, middle, high school and college students as well as adults – it's designed for anyone making career decisions.

Green Jobs & Resources

http://www.ilworkinfo.com/PDF/grnjbs.pdf – Lists sites for green employment including job boards, training programs, and degrees.

One Source E-Mail

The des.lmi@illinois.gov e-mail can be used to get assistance with ordering publications and finding data on the EI&A Web sites.

Bureau of Labor Statistics

http://stats.bls.gov – Contains national data and technical references for many of the programs operated at the state level by IDES EI&A.

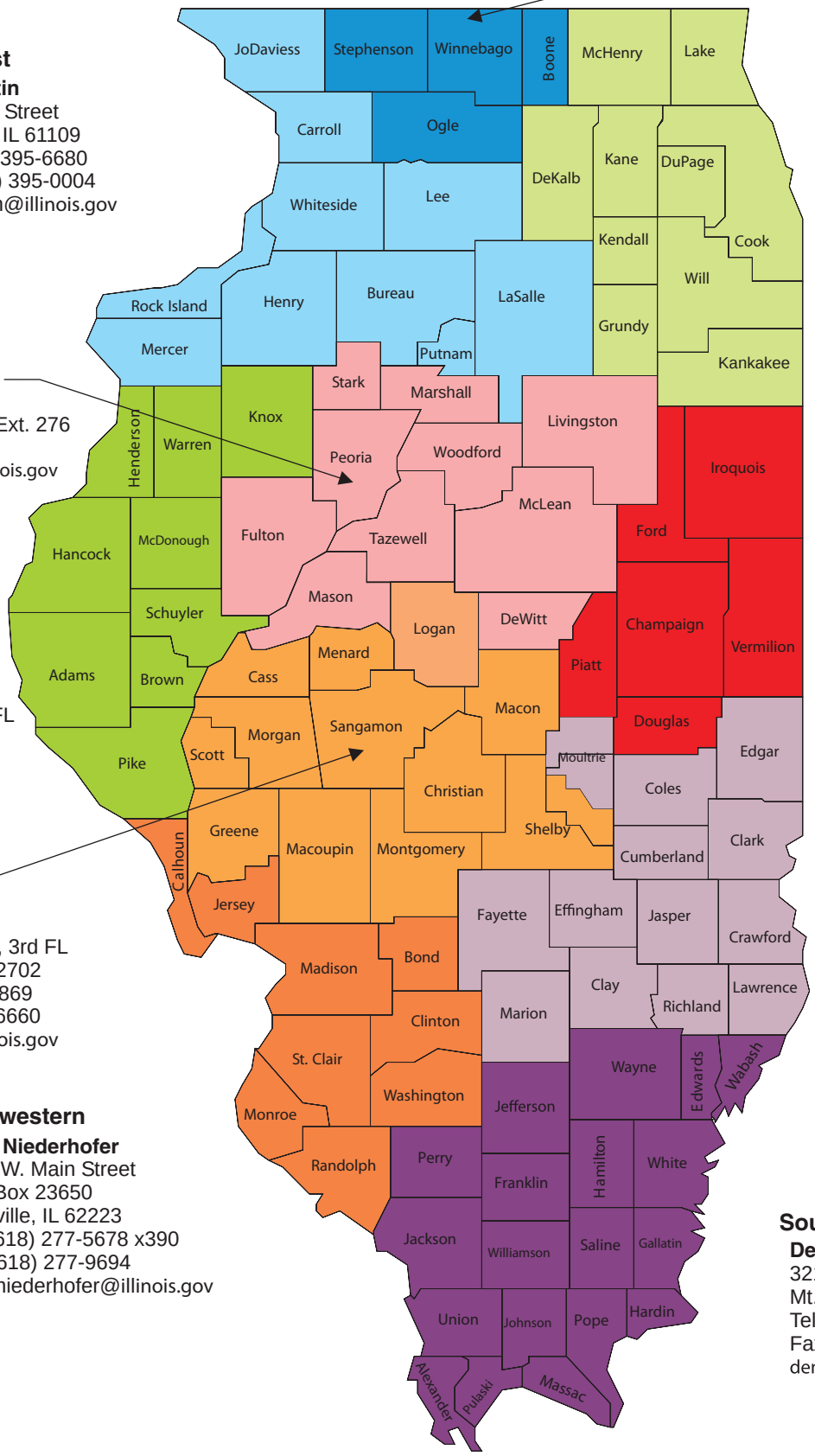
Career One Stop

http://www.careeronestop.com is the national site for locating One-Stop Career Centers, such as Illinois workNet http://www.illinoisworknet.com, to access job search and retraining information.

IDES Labor Market Economists

The following page shows a map of the 10 Economic Development Regions (EDRs) and the Labor Market Economists (LMEs) responsible for each of the areas. Contact information is provided for each of the LMEs who can provide assistance on sub-state areas.

IDES Labor Market Economists for Economic Development Regions



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