

Illinois

Job Index:

MSA Report



Illinois Coalition for Jobs, Growth & Prosperity

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As a companion to the May 2006 Illinois Job Index that reports a **Positive Rating**, this MSA Report provides a localized picture on Illinois job growth and allows for comparisons between local economies, Illinois, Nation and Rest of the Midwest.

May 2006	Total non-farm employment	Mar 2006 – Apr 2006		Last 12 months	
		Growth Rate %	Number of Jobs	Growth Rate%	Number of Jobs
	Illinois non-Metro (Rural)	+1.91	+9,600	+0.35	+1,800
	Illinois non-Chicago (Downstate)	+0.58	+9,800	+0.47	+7,900
	Illinois Metro	+0.25	+13,500	+1.02	+54,700
	Illinois	+0.39	+23,100	+0.96	+56,500
	Rest of Midwest (RMW)	+0.23	+46,100	+0.62	+122,200
	Nation	+0.10	+138,000	+1.48	+1,964,000

The Illinois Coalition for Jobs, Growth & Prosperity publishes the monthly Illinois Job Index and MSA Report as tools for elected officials, policy leaders and the public. We can better understand the Illinois economy and business climate by comparing and measuring Illinois employment growth rates against those of the Rest of the Midwest (RMW: Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin) and the Nation. Data and analysis is provided by the Illinois Economic Observatory / Regional Economics Applications Laboratory, University of Illinois. The MSA data (unless noted) were seasonally adjusted to be consistent with state totals.

Talking Points

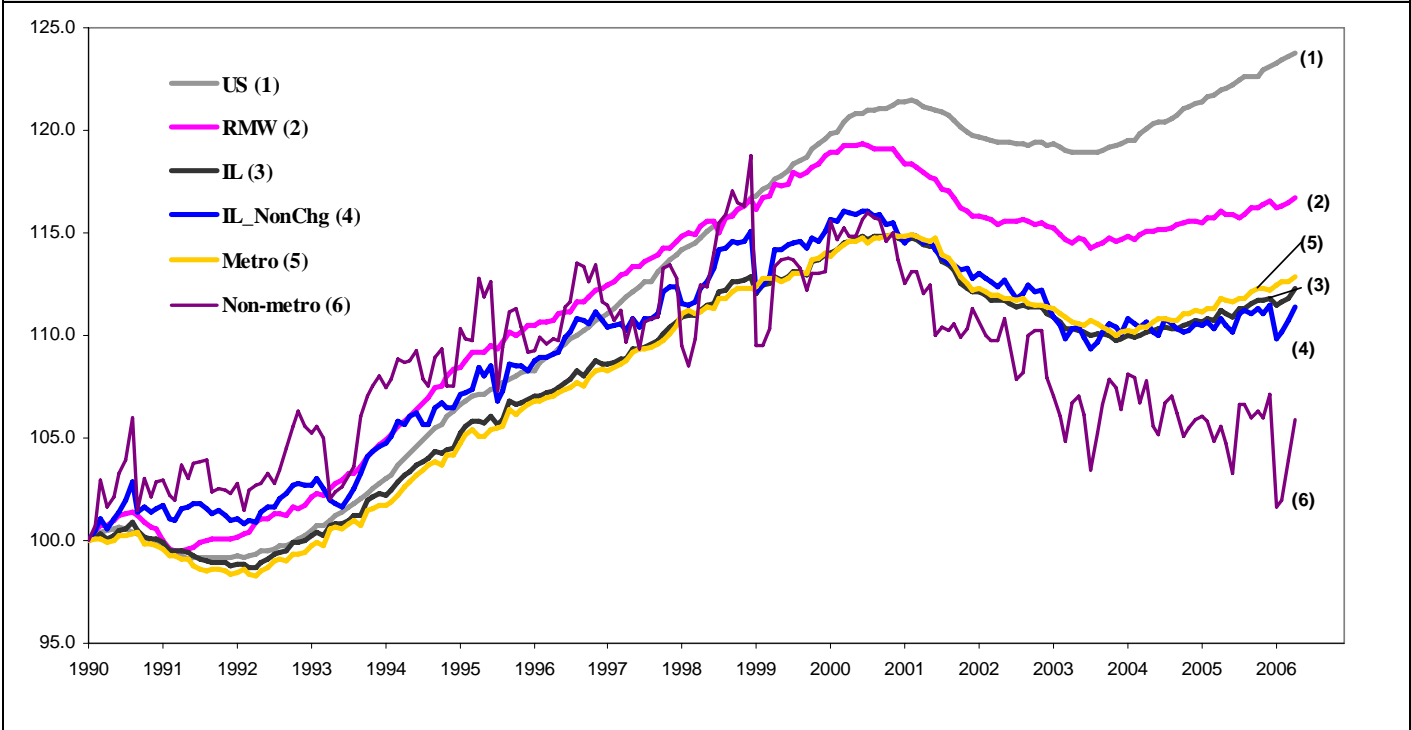
State, Downstate & Metro

- Illinois had the strongest monthly gains since July 2005, and due to the strong job growth patterns for the last three months, Illinois reached the job index level of November 2001.
- Approximately 32% of new jobs created over the last 12-month period in the Midwest were from Illinois out of the seven states in Midwest.
- After the massive loss in January 2006, Downstate had much faster growth for the last three months than Chicago, resulting in the recovery to the level recorded in at the end of 2005. During this period, Downstate led the job gains in Illinois with a stronger growth rate than Illinois.
- However, the growth patterns of Chicago and Downstate for 12-month period reveal that most of the job creation has occurred in Chicago rather than Downstate, 48,600 jobs at 1.16% for the former and 7,900 jobs at 0.47% for the latter.
- For the last two months, Metro had weaker job creation compared to Illinois; non-Metro led job creation in Illinois with close to 2% monthly growth rate.
- Even with the strong job gaining patterns of non-Metro, growth pattern over 12-month period indicates that Metro still leads the job growth in Illinois.

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- Among the ten MSAs in Illinois, half had net losses and the other half had positive gains of jobs in April 2006. Only Metro-East showed the stronger job gains compared to state (0.42% and 0.39%, respectively).
- The losses are noticeable in the following two MSAs: Bloomington-Normal and Davenport-Rock Island-Moline (D-R-M). The former lost 900 jobs, the largest loss in four months and the latter had 400 net losses, the largest loss since September 2005.
- While gross job gains of nine MSAs other than Chicago was only 200, Chicago successfully added 13,300 new jobs, the largest monthly gain in 12 months. Chicago has created 13,500 jobs for the five month period since November 2005.
- Rockford has the second largest job gains only next to Metro-East and is the only MSA with positive gains in every month of 2006 in Illinois. The average monthly growth in Rockford in 2006 is 0.26%, the highest among the 10 MSAs and twice as fast as the growth pattern in the US.
- Over 12-month period, only Chicago and Peoria had faster job gaining pattern compared to Illinois.

Total non-farm Employment growth rate Jan 1990 - Mar 2006



Talking Points

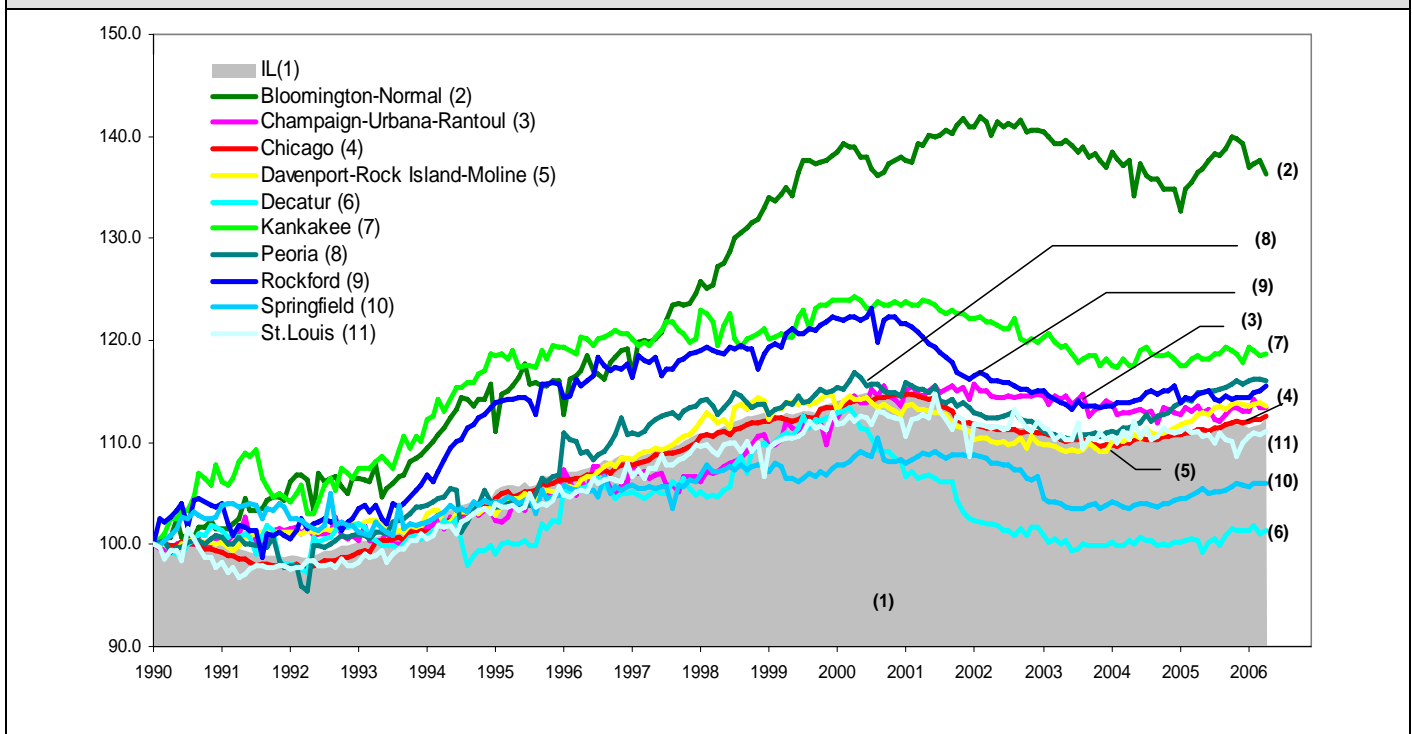
State,
Downstate
& Metro

- With the faster monthly job growth, Illinois reduced the gap with US for the first time in seven months.
- The job index in Downstate rose 0.7 points, while Chicago and Illinois gained only 0.4 points each.
- Due to the consistent and stable job gains, the job index of Metro recovered to the level observed in October 2001.

By MSA

Total non-farm employment Seasonally adjusted unless noted*	Feb 2006 - Mar 2006			Last 12 months	
	Change compared to Illinois	Growth Rate %	Number of Jobs	Growth Rate %	Number of Jobs
Bloomington-Normal (B-N)	-	- 1.00	- 900	- 0.11	- 100
Champaign-Urbana (C-U-R)	-	- 0.09	- 100	- 0.18	- 200
Chicago	-	0.32	13,300	1.16	48,600
Davenport-Rock Island-Moline (D-R-M)	-	- 0.21	- 400	0.80	1,500
Decatur	-	0.18	100	0.92	500
Kankakee	-	0.24	100	0.24	100
Peoria	-	- 0.06	- 100	1.12	2,000
Rockford	-	0.39	600	0.78	1,200
Springfield	-	- 0.09	- 100	0.72	800
Metro-East*	+	0.42	1,000	0.12	300
Illinois		0.39	23,100	0.96	56,500

Total non-farm Employment growth rate Jan 1990 – Mar 2006



Shaded area on above chart represents Illinois growth.

MSA DESCRIPTION: **Bloomington-Normal (B-N):** McLean Co. **Champaign-Urbana (C-U-R):** Champaign Co., Ford Co. & Piatt Co. **Chicago:** Cook Co. IL, DeKalb Co. IL, DuPage Co. IL, Grundy Co. IL, Kane Co. IL, Kendall Co. IL, Lake Co. IL, McHenry Co. IL, Will Co. IL & Kenosha Co. WI **Davenport-Moline-Rock Island (D-R-M):** Henry Co. IL, Mercer Co. IL, Rock Island Co. IL & Scott Co. IA **Decatur:** Macon Co. **Kankakee:** Kankakee Co. **Metro-East:** Bond Co., Calhoun Co., Clinton Co., Jersey Co., Macoupin Co., Madison Co., Monroe Co. & St. Clair Co. **Peoria-Pekin (Peoria):** Marshall Co., Peoria Co., Stark Co., Tazewell Co. & Woodford Co. **Rockford:** Boone Co. & Winnebago Co. **Springfield:** Menard Co. & Sangamon Co.

ABOUT: The Illinois Coalition for Jobs, Growth & Prosperity is a not-for-profit 501-c4 organization. Coalition founding members include the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce, the Illinois Business Roundtable, the Illinois Civil Justice League, the Illinois Manufacturers' Association, and the Illinois State Chamber of Commerce. Established to provide Illinois voters with information about government-related issues that have a direct effect on jobs, the Coalition represents firms employing more than a million Illinois workers.

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NOTE: In comparing Illinois to the Rest of the Midwest (RMW: Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin) and the Nation, we take the distribution of employment by sector as observed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and then apply the RMW or Nation growth rates to calculate the expected employment levels. Comparing these with the observed levels in 2004 provides an indication of Illinois' comparative economic performance.

The MSA data (unless noted) were seasonally adjusted to be consistent with state totals.