

Illinois

Job Index:

MSA Report



Illinois Coalition for Jobs, Growth & Prosperity

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As a companion to the July 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.

August 2006	Total non-farm employment	June 2006 – July 2006		Last 12 months	
		Growth Rate %	Number of Jobs	Growth Rate%	Number of Jobs
	Illinois non-Metro (Rural)	+3.34	+17,400	+3.66	+19,000
	Illinois non-Chicago (Downstate)	+0.98	+16,600	+1.41	+23,700
	Illinois Metro	+0.23	+12,400	+1.04	+55,400
	Illinois	+0.50	+29,800	+1.27	+74,400
	Rest of Midwest (RMW)	-0.08	-16,400	+0.68	+134,900
	Nation	+0.08	+113,000	+1.30	+1,737,000

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

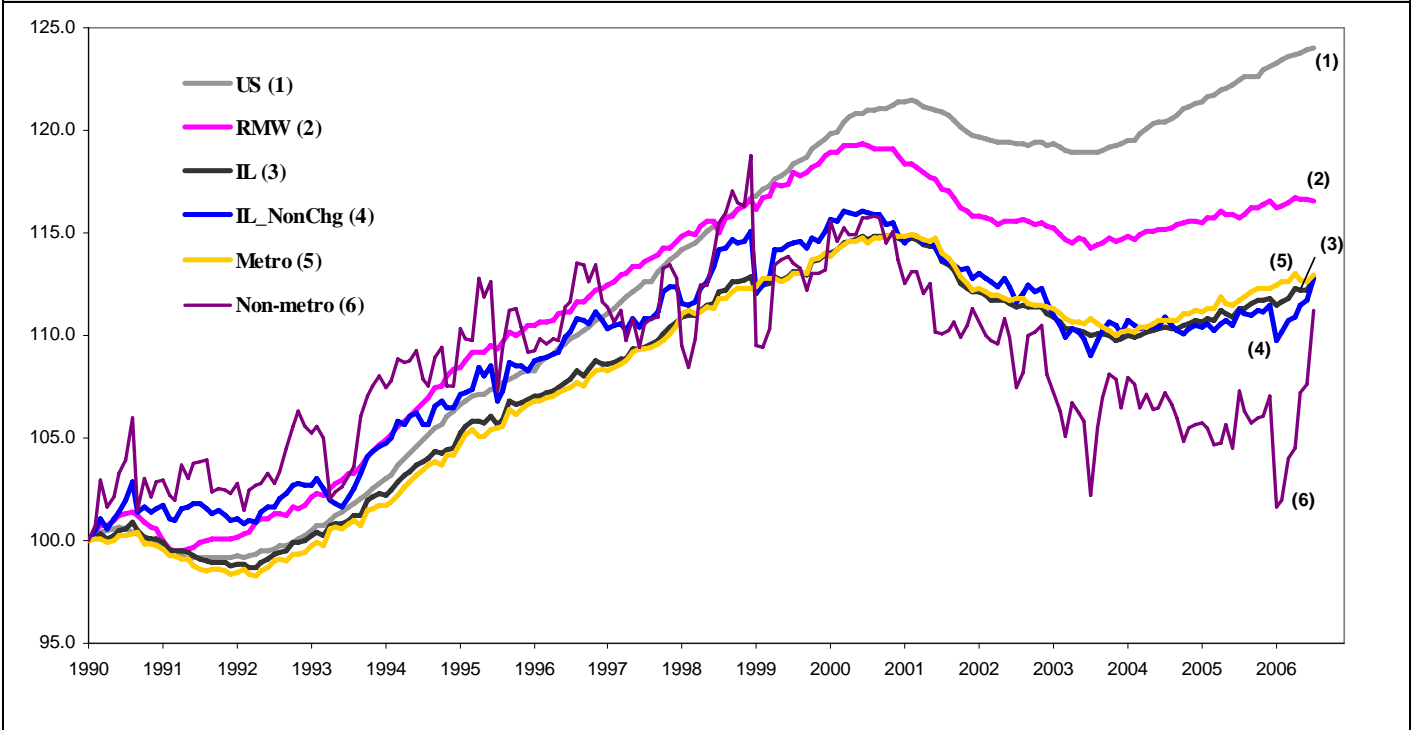
State, Downstate & Metro

- Illinois had the largest monthly job gain among the 50 states and showed the largest monthly gain since November 1999 at 0.50% of monthly growth rate creating 29,800 new jobs in July 2006.
- For the seven months in 2006, Illinois has averaged monthly gains of 7,300 while RMW has averaged monthly job gains of 1,200, only one sixth of the monthly gain in Illinois.
- After the two straight months with slower job growth compared to Nation, Illinois' growth rate exceeded the Nation's as observed for the three month period from February through April in 2006.
- In the previous two months, Chicago had net losses while Downstate added new jobs, alleviating a net loss in May and no growth in June in Illinois. However, in July, both Downstate and Chicago recorded net gains but with three times faster monthly growth rate in Downstate compared to Chicago.
- For the first time since August 2004, Downstate reveals the faster growth pattern over the 12-month period than Chicago.
- While Metro's growth was slower than the Nation over the 12-month period, non-Metro's growth rate was almost three times faster than the Nation's, 3.66% and 1.30%, respectively.

MSA page (2-3)

- All ten MSAs had slower growth than Illinois as a whole.
- In July 2006, Chicago created 44% of total job gains in Illinois; however this figure is much smaller share compared to Chicago's share of 68% in Illinois over the prior 12-month period.
- Decatur showed the fastest monthly growth at 0.37% followed by Chicago. Other than these two MSAs, both Peoria and Rockford had added 100 new jobs at 0.06% of rate.
- Among 10 MSAs, only three MSAs, Rockford, Chicago and Peoria had a growth rate >1% over the prior 12-months. Rockford is the only MSA net job gains for all seven months in 2006.
- The second largest MSA in Illinois, Metro-East experienced monthly loss of 900 jobs. Other than Metro-East, only Davenport-Rock Island-Moline (D-R-M) had net losses.
- Bloomington-Normal and D-R-M are the only MSAs with net losses over 12-month period, 1,100 and 300 losses, respectively. Both MSAs are suffering from the massive losses for the previous seven months in 2006 at -0.28% and -0.11% of monthly growth rate in average, respectively.

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



Talking Points

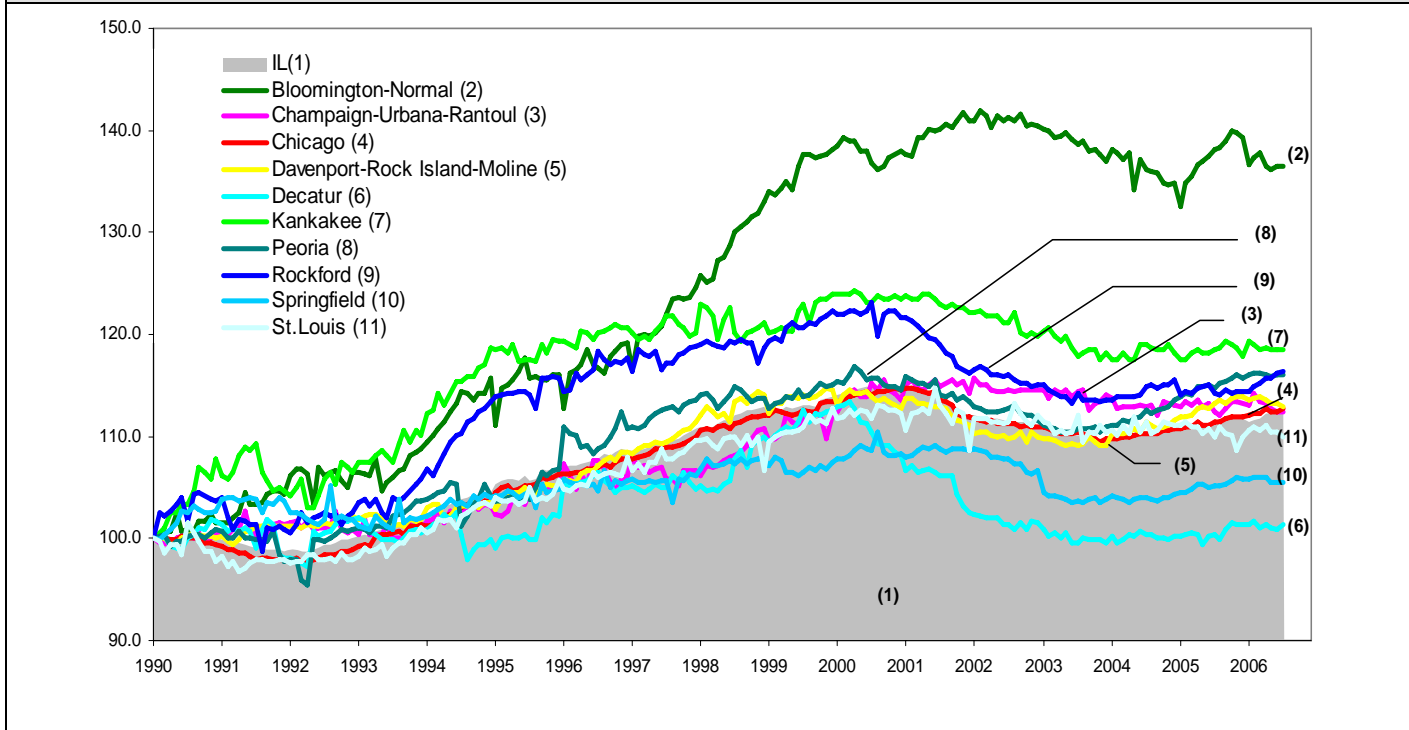
State,
Downstate
& Metro

- The State's job index jumped up rapidly by 0.6 points and this is the largest monthly increase since October 1999, resulting in the gap with Nation decreasing to the level in Nov 2005.
- Downstate's consecutive increases in job index continued for the last seven months (since January 2006) and moved the index to the same level as the State.
- While Metro has experienced fluctuating job markets in the first seven months of 2006, non-Metro had continuously improved and the index is now close to the State level.

By MSA

Total non-farm employment Seasonally adjusted unless noted*	June 2006 - July 2006			Last 12 months	
	Change compared to Illinois	Growth Rate %	Number of Jobs	Growth Rate %	Number of Jobs
Bloomington-Normal (B-N)	-	0.00	0	- 1.22	- 1,100
Champaign-Urbana (C-U-R)	-	0.00	0	0.09	100
Chicago	-	0.31	13,200	1.21	50,700
Davenport-Rock Island-Moline (D-R-M)	-	- 0.16	- 300	- 0.16	- 300
Decatur	-	0.37	200	0.92	500
Kankakee	-	0.00	0	0.00	0
Peoria	-	0.06	100	1.17	2,100
Rockford	-	0.06	100	1.88	2,900
Springfield	-	0.00	0	0.36	400
Metro-East*	-	- 0.38	- 900	0.04	100
Illinois		0.50	29,800	1.15	67,200

Total non-farm Employment growth rate Jan 1990 – July 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.

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.