Illinois
Job Index:
MSA Report

Illinois Coalition for Jobs, Growth & Prosperity

Release	data	Issue	
9/x/2006	**Jan 1990 / Aug 2006**	**10.1**	**www.jobsillinois.us**

As a companion to the September 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.

	Total non-farm employment	July 2006 – Aug 2006		Last 12 months	
		Growth Rate (%)	Number of Jobs	Growth Rate (%)	Number of Jobs
September 2006	Illinois non-Metro (Rural)	+0.24	+1,300	+4.85	+25,000
	Illinois non-Chicago (Downstate)	+0.12	+2,000	+1.69	+28,400
	Illinois Metro	+0.06	+3,300	+1.04	+55,500
	Illinois	+0.08	+4,600	+1.37	+80,500
	Rest of Midwest (RMW)	+0.07	+14,300	+0.63	+125,600
	Nation	+0.09	+128,000	+1.28	+1,708,000

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 a positive net gain of 4,600 jobs in August but at a sharply reduced ratel from the very large increase in the previous month (from 0.53% to 0.08%).
- The State has now gained over 80,000 jobs over the 12-month period, the largest in six years, consequently, state experienced a faster growth pattern over 12-month period compared to Nation for the first time since September 1998.
- Downstate's growth slowed from the previous month's rate of 1.13% down to 0.12% this month. This monthly rate is slower than the average monthly rate in 2006, which is 0.17%.
- Unlike the previous month, the share of the new jobs created in Downstate out of the total new jobs in Illinois fell down from the 62% to 43%; however over the 12-month period, Downstate had faster growth than the Chicago MSA.
- For the seven consecutive months since February this year, non-Metro rather than Metro has led the job growth pattern in Illinois.

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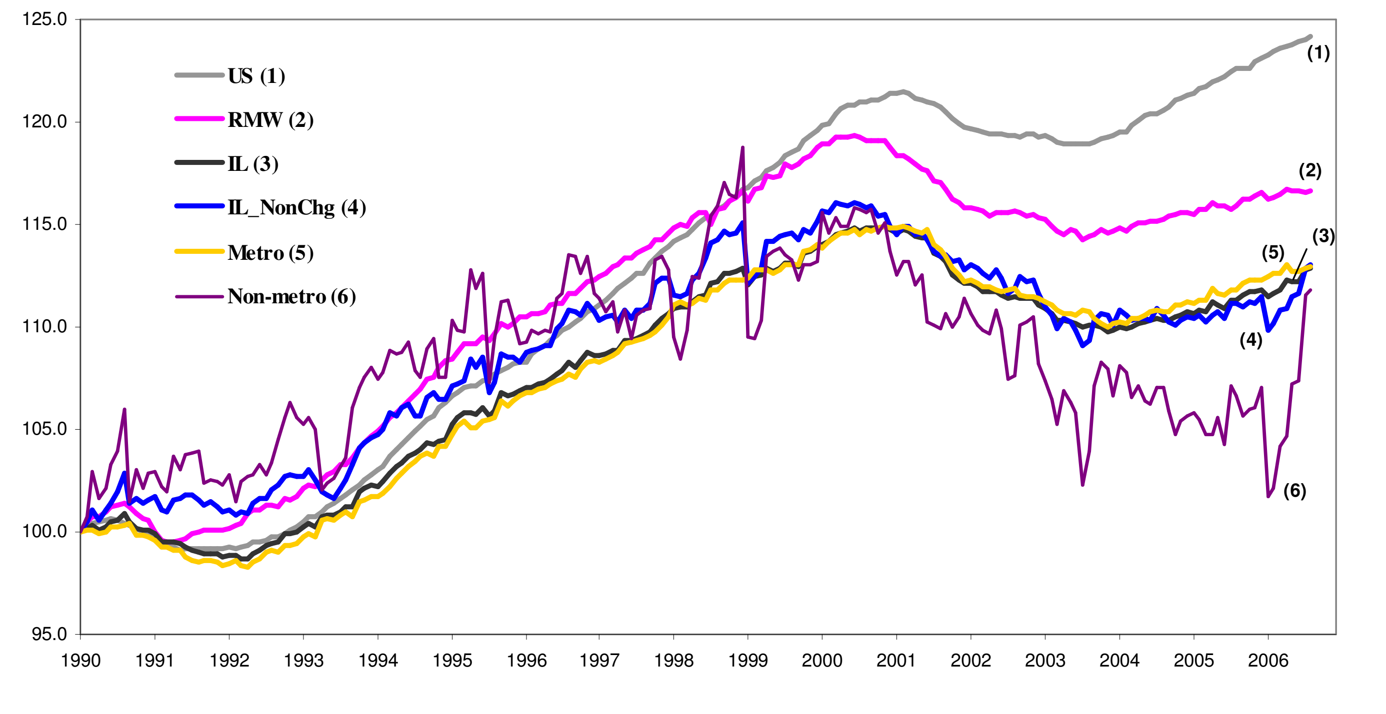
- Only three MSAs in Illinois had positive monthly gains; Chicago with 2,600 jobs, Metro-East with 1,600 jobs and Kankakee with 100. The addition of 4,300 new jobs from these MSAs contrast with the loss of 1,000 jobs in the other seven MSAs.
- Chicago has created new jobs for the last two consecutive months; however the growth pattern in August was much slower than the previous month's, even slower than the average monthly rate of 0.11% in 2006.
- The share of Illinois' monthly job gains accounted for by Chicago fell below 70% last month for the first time in 2 years declined again to 65% this month.
- The second largest monthly gain was from Metro-East creating 1,600 jobs, the largest monthly gain for the MSA in 2006.
- Champaign-Urbana and Davenport-Rock Island-Moline have had net losses in their job markets for the last several consecutive months, six months for the former with net losses of 2,000 jobs and five months for the latter with net losses of 1,600 jobs.
- Bloomington-Normal had the biggest losses over the 12-month period, 1,300 jobs at -1.44%.

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



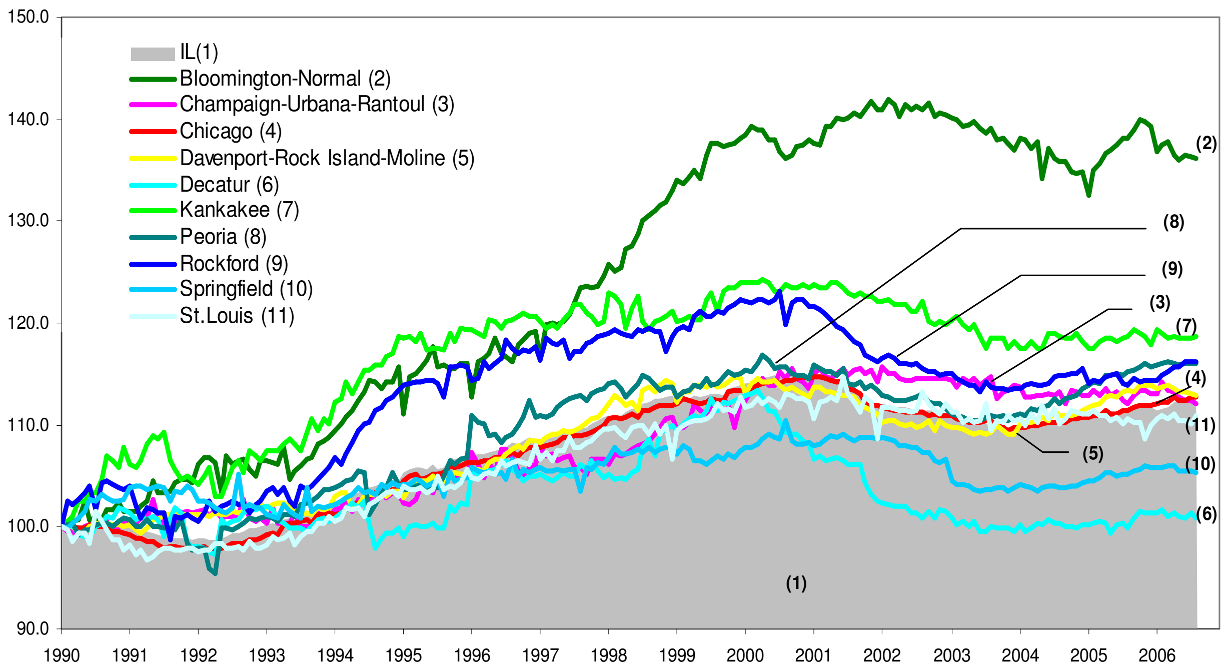
Talking Points

State, Downstate & Metro	▪ After the big jump-up in the State's job index by 0.6 point in the previous month, the job index increased only by 0.1 point and for both Nation and RMW, the index rose by 0.1 point as well resulting in the unchanged gaps with State's index. ▪ Downstate maintained a higher job index than Chicago for two consecutive months for the first time since August 2004. ▪ Metro still has the higher level of job index compared to non-Metro; however the growth pattern of non-Metro had much faster than that of Metro since February of this year.

By MSA

Total non-farm employment Seasonally adjusted unless noted*	July 2006 – Aug 2006			Last 12 months	
Market Area	Change compared to Illinois	Growth Rate %	Number of Jobs	Growth Rate %	Number of Jobs
Bloomington-Normal (B-N)	-	- 0.11	- 100	- 1.44	- 1,300
Champaign-Urbana (C-U-R)	-	- 0.18	- 200	0.00	0
Chicago	-	0.06	2,600	1.24	52,100
Davenport-Rock Island-Moline (D-R-M)	-	- 0.11	- 200	- 0.48	- 900
Decatur	-	- 0.37	- 200	1.11	600
Kankakee	+	0.24	100	0.00	0
Peoria	-	- 0.06	- 100	0.72	1,300
Rockford	-	- 0.06	- 100	1.95	3,000
Springfield	-	- 0.09	- 100	0.18	200
Metro-East*	+	0.67	1,600	0.21	500
Illinois		0.08	4,600	1.37	80,500

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

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