



Employment Data Available by Legislative District

The following article was adapted from an IDES press release.

Data on unemployment insurance claims filed in Illinois, as well as demographics about claimants, are now available at the legislative district level, thanks to a new online resource provided by the Illinois Department of Employment Security called the Legislative District Dashboard. Previously, unemployment claimant information was available only at the statewide level.

“We work in a global economy, but the root of that system is planted in

neighborhoods across our state,” stated IDES Director Jay Rowell in a recent press release. “Data at this level will help decision-makers reach informed choices on how to shape their economy, address potential economic challenges and create jobs by recruiting employers.”

Six data points are available by legislative district: number of individuals receiving unemployment insurance; individuals qualifying for insurance for the first time; number of weeks of insurance that has been paid; number of

claimants with a high school degree or below as well as college experience or above; age breakdowns by under 25, between 25 and 54, and over 54; and the number of veterans receiving benefits.

The data is accessible on IDES' website at <http://www.ides.illinois.gov/page.aspx?item=3605>. Tracking at the legislative level can help planners, business leaders and others identify trends and evaluate how those trends might impact the local and regional areas.

For example, an increase in first-time applicants for unemployment insurance could indicate possible economic hardship before it is felt in the community. Conversely, a decrease in first-time applicants, or a decrease in the average number of weeks of insurance that has been paid, could indicate economic growth. Data regarding age, education and veteran status could identify areas for improvement or be used to convince a potential business that there is a ready-made workforce primed for their specific needs.

The data used in the Legislative District Dashboard reports stem from information provided to IDES by those receiving unemployment insurance benefits. The numbers are reported on a four-week moving average to smooth weekly volatility, just as it is at the national level by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. This four-week moving average provides the most accurate snapshot.

Future data by legislative district will include the number of individuals using re-employment services.

Legislative District Dashboard

What: An online IDES resource that reports number of unemployment insurance claims filed in Illinois and the demographics of claimants via legislative district.

To Access: Visit <http://www.ides.illinois.gov/page.aspx?item=3605>

Total Claimants Certified for Regular UI Benefits			
		Current	Year Ago
Education	High school degree or less	4,947	5,218
	Post-secondary education	5,830	5,972
Age	Less than 25 years old	846	1,068
	25 - 54 years old	8,190	8,982
	Greater than 54 years old	1,832	1,818
Race	White	2,641	2,939
	Black / African American	7,542	8,166
	Other	685	763
Ethnicity	Hispanic or Latino	670	718
	Not Hispanic or Latino	10,197	11,151
Military Status	Veteran	396	412
Count of total claimants		10,868	11,868

New Certifications to Collect Regular UI Benefits			
		Current	Year Ago
Education	High school degree or less	204	245
	Post-secondary education	246	277
Age	Less than 25 years old	45	59
	25 - 54 years old	339	404
	Greater than 54 years old	66	72
Military Status	Veteran	16	20
Count of new certifications		452	535

Average Weeks Certified for Regular UI Benefits			
		Current	Year Ago
Education	High school degree or less	12.08	12.29
	Post-secondary education	11.79	12.13
Age	Less than 25 years old	10.92	11.52
	25 - 54 years old	11.75	12.20
	Greater than 54 years old	13.06	13.57
Race	White	12.02	12.54
	Black / African American	11.90	12.29
	Other	11.71	12.40
Ethnicity	Hispanic or Latino	11.07	12.75
	Not Hispanic or Latino	11.97	12.33
Military Status	Veteran	13.31	13.51
Average (all claimants)		11.92	12.35

