State of Illinois
Department of Employment Security

Illinois Workforce & Career Information Guide

Where to find information about Careers, Wages & Workers
The mission of the Illinois Department of Employment Security is to support economic stability in Illinois by administering the Unemployment Insurance, Employment Service and Labor Market Information programs. We manage these programs cost-effectively and continuously seek to exceed our customers’ expectations with the high quality of service we deliver. These services are easily accessible to all of our customers through the use of applicable technology and by working with other service providers within a statewide network of Illinois workNet Centers.
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The Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) has been designated by the Governor as the state’s premier source for workforce and career information.

This information includes employment statistics, industry and occupational projections, wages and demographic characteristics. IDES collects, analyzes and disseminates this data in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics and Employment Training Administration.

The data help monitor and forecast national, statewide and local economic trends to assist in the development of public policy. They also help our customers, including employers and business associations, job seekers and labor organizations, students and parents, teachers and counselors, elected officials and economic developers make informed career, education and economic development decisions.
The IDES website features up-to-date labor market information for a variety of users. The site has customized entry portals for individuals, employers, or workforce partners. See the following pages for more information about each of these portals, then choose the description that best fits your needs.

You can use our online labor market information for:
- Career planning programs and materials
- Wage information
- Projected employment
- Regional workforce information
- Unemployment data
- And much more….

For more information:
- Call us toll-free at 1-877-566-6230 and press 1.
- Email des.icrn@illinois.gov (for help with career information).
- Email des.lmi@illinois.gov (for help with other labor market data).
Career Information for Students and Job Seekers

www.ides.illinois.gov (select “Individuals,” then “Career Information”)

Are you currently unemployed and looking for work? Are you a student preparing to make decisions on your future career? Begin your career planning and job search here.

• **CIS Job Seeker**
  CIS Job Seeker is for the experienced worker preparing for a career change or one who wants to get back into the workforce after layoff or retirement. It features current openings, job search resources and retraining options.

• **CIS Junior** - Explore occupations based on interests and find information about the world of work. Includes classroom activities. Suitable for grades 5-8.

• **CIS Plus** - Additional premium features available for lease such as GED preparation, as well as ACT and SAT courses and practice tests.

• **CIS** - Find information on occupations, education, and financial aid. Use the My CIS Portfolio to create resumes and to plan both classes and career paths.

• **Learn More Earn More** - Highlights occupations expected to provide the most job openings each year, organized by education and training requirements.

• **Summer Job Central** - Trying to decide on a career? The Illinois Department of Employment Security offers a variety of career exploration materials. You’ll find information on occupations, how to prepare and how to pay for school or training. See also regional wages, self-assessments, course planners and job search hints.

For help with career information, email des.icrn@illinois.gov or call 1-877-566-6230 and press 1.
Labor Market Information for Employers and Workforce Partners
www.ides.illinois.gov (select “Employers” or “Workforce Partners,” then “Labor Market Information”)

Labor market information for employers and workforce partners includes employment statistics, job forecasts, wages and demographic characteristics. IDES collects, analyzes and disseminates this data in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and Employment and Training Administration (ETA).

Information offered includes:
• Business Employment Dynamics
• Commuting Patterns
• Current Employment Statistics (CES)
• Employment Projections
• Help Wanted Online (HWOL) Reports
• Illinois Labor Market Review
• Illinois Virtual Labor Market Information
• Legislative District Dashboard
• Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)
• Local Employment Dynamics (LED)
• Mass Layoff Statistic (MLS)
• Monthly Employment and Unemployment Press Releases
• Occupational Wages (OES)
• Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages (QCEW)
• Targeted Employment Areas / EB-5 Visa Program
• Unemployment Insurance program data
• Workforce Availability Information

Additional workforce information can be accessed at the Illinois Workforce Info Center (Virtual LMI) - http://www.ides.illinois.gov/Pages/VLMI.aspx.

For help with labor market information, email des.lmi@illinois.gov or call 1-877-566-6230 and press 1.
Data from each of the following programs can be accessed at www.ides.illinois.gov/Pages/Data_Statistics.aspx - see page 10 for other ways to order these products.

- **Wages**
  - **Occupational Wage Data**
    - [www.ides.illinois.gov/LMI/Pages/Quarterly_Census_of_Employment_and_Wages.aspx](http://www.ides.illinois.gov/LMI/Pages/Quarterly_Census_of_Employment_and_Wages.aspx)
    - A statewide report showing entry level, median and experienced hourly wages for more than 700 occupations in Illinois. Wage information for metropolitan areas and other substate regions also available online.
    - *Produced annually, online only.*

- **Industry and Occupational Outlook**
  - **Employment Projections**
    - [www.ides.illinois.gov/LMI/Pages/Employment_Projections.aspx](http://www.ides.illinois.gov/LMI/Pages/Employment_Projections.aspx)
    - A statewide report showing expected employment over the next 10 years for industries and occupations. Reports for metropolitan areas and other substate regions also available online.
    - *Produced every other year, online only.*

- **Occupational Outlook, Wages and Education**
  - **Learn More Earn More**
    - This brochure highlights occupations expected to provide the most job openings each year, organized by education and training requirements. Growth by occupational groups is also provided.

- **Labor Force**
  - Labor force information (the total number of people employed and unemployed in a geographic area) is updated monthly on our website:
    - News releases and reports for the state and local areas
    - Maps displaying unemployment rates by county, metropolitan area, and local workforce area

- **Workforce Demographics**
  - **Workforce Availability (Affirmative Action) Data**
    - [www.ides.illinois.gov/LMI/Pages/Worforce_Availability_Information.aspx](http://www.ides.illinois.gov/LMI/Pages/Worforce_Availability_Information.aspx)
    - A report showing demographic and occupational characteristics of the population and labor force for the state, metropolitan areas, and individual counties.
    - *Produced annually, online only.*
Commuting Patterns
www.ides.illinois.gov/LMI/Pages/Commuting_Patterns.aspx
A report on workers’ commuting patterns from county to county in Illinois.
Updated after every Census, online only.

Employment Trends
Where Workers Work in the Chicago Metro Area
www.ides.illinois.gov/LMI/Pages/Where_Workers_Work.aspx
A report showing employment by industry for counties in the Chicago metropolitan area and for Chicago communities by ZIP code.
Published annually, online only.

Help Wanted Online (HWOL)
www.ides.illinois.gov/LMI/Pages/HWOL.aspx
Find out about current job demand through the Conference Board’s HWOL® Data Series Program. This resource provides a real-time compilation of all online advertised job vacancies in Illinois and its local areas.

Career Planning
Kids and Careers
A brochure for parents that includes three easy steps for creating a career plan, important timelines for helping teens move from high school to work or further education and training and information about the fastest growing fields and the occupations that are the best bets in Illinois.
Spanish version also available.

Summer Job Central
A seasonal brochure that provides information for young people looking for seasonal employment. It includes links to resources, websites with summer job listings, and a parents’ guide to summer work.

Illinois Labor Market Review
www.ides.illinois.gov/LMI/Pages/Illinois_Labor_Market_Review.aspx
A quarterly labor market information journal published online. The journal features current information on labor market issues affecting Illinois.
Data from each of the following programs can be accessed at www.ides.illinois.gov/Pages/Data_Statistics.aspx - see page 10 for other ways to order these products.

📖 = printed report  📖 = available online

**Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages (QCEW)**

This program produces the most comprehensive count of employment and wages for workers covered under the Illinois Unemployment Insurance Act and the Federal Unemployment Compensation programs. Data elements include the number of Illinois firms, employment and total wages and employers’ contributions. Data are available by industry for the state, counties and subcounties (Chicago only).

**Uses:**
- Area and industry analysis
- Determining plant location

**Publications:**
- Illinois at Work  📖
- Where Workers Work in the Chicago Metro Area  📖

**Current Employment Statistics**

Current Employment Statistics is a monthly survey of business establishments’ payroll data. The voluntary survey helps estimate current employment, earnings and work hours (manufacturing) for all major nonfarm industries on a statewide and metropolitan area basis.

**Uses:**
- Gauging economic health of Illinois industries
- Determining labor market demands
Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Local Area Unemployment Statistics produce monthly estimates of unemployment rates and employment and labor force statistics for the state and all major local areas, including counties and communities with 25,000 people or more. Annual data for smaller areas are available upon request.

Uses:
• Analyzing available labor market supply
• Analyzing the economy’s health
• Planning for employment and training programs
• Determining eligibility for various federal assistance programs and federal funding

Mass Layoff Statistics

Mass Layoff Statistics is a program designed to identify, describe and track large job cutbacks. 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.

Uses:
• Analyzing declining industries or geographic areas
• Tabulating displaced workers in declining industries
• Estimating the impact of foreign trade on the economy

Occupational Employment Statistics

This program conducts an annual survey of business establishments, including the number of workers employed and average wage by occupation. The data are available for the state, metropolitan areas and other substate regions.

Uses:
• Career planning
• Identifying key occupations within industries
• Estimating current wages for occupations

Publications:
Occupational Wage Data
Learn More Earn More
**Employment Projections**

This program provides two- and 10-year employment projections for industries and occupations. Data are available for the state and local Workforce Investment Areas.

**Uses:**
- Career planning
- Identifying current job openings
- Curriculum planning

**Publications:**
- Employment Projections
- Learn More Earn More

**Unemployment Insurance Statistics and Forecasting**

This program develops statistics and forecasts weekly claims for unemployment insurance as well as the unemployment insurance trust fund solvency. From weekly claims, this program produces statistics on duration of claims, employment services delivered to claimants, and demographics of claimants. Data are available for aggregations of census blocks, such as counties, local office jurisdictions, and legislative districts. In addition, this program forecasts exhaustion of unemployment insurance benefits and conducts research into claimant re-employment outcomes. The unemployment insurance trust fund solvency forecasts are based on projections of unemployment insurance revenue and benefits paid.

**Uses:**
- Identifying current trends in labor market supply and forecasting claimant duration of unemployment insurance benefits by claimant demographics (age, education, veteran status, and industry)
- Developing indicators for economic trends
- Strategic planning for delivery of employment services and re-employment outcomes
- Maintaining the solvency of the unemployment insurance trust fund

**Publications:**
- Legislative District Dashboard
ACCESSING INFORMATION

Here are four ways you can access our data and publications:

2. Email us at des.icrn@illinois.gov for career information or des.lmi@illinois.gov for other labor market data.
3. Submit your request in writing to us at:
   Workforce Information
   Illinois Department of Employment Security
   33 South State, 9th Floor
   Chicago, IL 60603

Printed Materials (see pages 5-9 for details)

- Learn More Earn More
- Kids & Careers (English & Spanish)
- Summer Job Central
PRODUCED BY

Economic Information and Analysis
Illinois Department of Employment Security
33 South State Street, 9th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60603

Email:
• des.icrn@illinois.gov for help with career information or
• des.lmi@illinois.gov for help with other labor market data

Please email us with any questions you may have.
Nondiscrimination

IDES is an equal opportunity employer and complies with all state and federal nondiscrimination laws in the administration of its programs. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Contact the Office manager of the IDES office nearest you or the IDES Equal Opportunity Officer at (312) 793-9290 or TDD/TTY at (312) 793-9350.

Note: The information contained in this brochure is subject to change at any time. For the latest information, visit the IDES Web site at www.ides.illinois.gov.