



ECONOMIC DASHBOARD

Q1: January 10, 2025

*All data reflect the Chicago metro area geography, unless otherwise noted.
Sources available upon request.*

PRO-CHICAGOLAND DECISIONS

as of December 19

Companies making a known pro-Chicagoland decision in 2024

118

- 91 Expansions
- 27 Relocations/New Market Entrants
- 57 City Investments, including 10 on the S/W Sides
- 61 GCEP (Regional) Investments

- 163 pro-Chicago decisions in 2023
- 180 pro-Chicago decisions in 2022
- 173 pro-Chicago decisions in 2021

SPENDING & ACTIVITY

	CONSUMER PRICE INDEX METRO AREA Nov. 2024 12 month % change, all items	CONSUMER SPEND METRO AREA On hold - next data update Feb. 2025	WEEKLY OFFICE OCCUPANCY METRO AREA As of Dec. 18	PUBLIC TRANSIT Dec. 29 - Jan. 4 Benchmark: Dec. 2019	AVG. DAILY FLIGHTS Nov. 2024
CHI	+3.8%	N/A	53.7%	-37% (CTA) -43% (Metra)	1,966 (ORD) 410 (MDW)
NYC	+4.3%	N/A	53.2%	-28% (MTA) -46% (LIRR)	1,136 (JFK) 953 (LGA)
LA	+3.2%	N/A	47.3%	-22%	1,382
HOU	+2.1% (Oct.)	N/A	60.3%	-19%	1,159

CHICAGO FED SURVEY OF ECONOMIC CONDITIONS METRO AREA



0.0

Dec. 2024
Suggests economic growth is near trend.

+11.0

from Nov. 2024

CHICAGO BUSINESS BAROMETER METRO AREA



36.9

Dec. 2024

-3.3

from Nov. 2024

HOUSING

NEW PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL PERMITS
METRO AREA
1/1/24 - 11/30/24

16,340

+17.7% FROM YTD 2023 | #14 METRO RANK

ALL BUILDING PERMITS
CITY ONLY
1/1/24 - 12/31/24

5,923

-2,007 CHANGE FROM 1/1/23-12/31/23

TRADE & BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

	TRADE VALUE METRO AREA Nov. 2024	HOTEL OCCUPANCY CITY (CBD) ONLY Nov. 2024	OPEN TABLE RESERVATIONS METRO AREA Dec. 2024 Benchmark: Dec. 2023	BUSINESS LICENSE APPLICATIONS CITY ONLY 1/1/24 - 12/31/24
CHI	\$27.9B	72.8%	+19%	6,310
NYC	\$20.0B	86.8%	+9%	N/A
LA	\$27.7B	67.5%	+7%	N/A
HOU	\$18.9B	N/A	+15%	N/A

INNOVATION - METRO AREA

Q3 2024	GROWTH CAPITAL (PRE-VC, VC + PE) RAISED		
	VENTURE CAPITAL	PRIVATE EQUITY	VC + PE
SF	\$24.04B	\$1.51B	\$25.55B
NYC	\$7.98B	\$7.45B	\$15.43B
LA	\$3.24B	\$775.82M	\$4.01B
BOS	\$3.57B	\$53.77M	\$3.62B
SEA	\$1.16B	\$301.0M	\$1.46B
CHI	\$460.88M	\$367.80M	\$828.68M

INNOVATION - CITY & COUNTIES

Q3 2024	GROWTH CAPITAL RAISED	
	CAPITAL RAISED	DEAL COUNT
CHICAGO CITY	\$527.71M	91
COOK SUBURBS	\$259.98M	11
DUPAGE	\$20.75M	11
KANE	\$0	0
KENDALL	\$0	0
LAKE	\$12.61M	2
MCHENRY	\$3.00M	1
WILL	\$0	0

MACROECONOMIC

	NOMINAL GDP (PROJECTED)		BUSINESS COUNT		EMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT			ACTIVE JOB POSTINGS	
	Q1 2025	PRIOR QUARTER CHANGE	Q2 2024	PRIOR QUARTER CHANGE	Nov. 2024 (Prelim.)	PRIOR MONTH CHANGE	Nov. 2024 (Prelim.)	CHANGE FROM Oct. 2024	CHANGE FROM Nov. 2023	Nov. 2024 As of Jan. 10	PRIOR MONTH CHANGE
CHI	\$906B	0.9% ▲	254,553	0.9% ▲	4,813,809	0.6% ▲	4.9%	0.4pp ▼	0.9pp ▲	189,206	6.7% ▼
NYC	\$2,426B	0.9% ▲	669,095	0.9% ▲	9,864,413	0.4% ▼	4.4%	0.0pp =	0.1pp ▲	333,095	3.9% ▼
LA	\$1,514B	0.9% ▲	724,836	1.9% ▲	6,270,856	0.4% ▼	5.4%	0.2pp ▼	0.6pp ▲	223,329	5.9% ▼
HOU	\$737B	1.4% ▲	175,290	0.4% ▼	3,596,553	0.3% ▲	4.5%	0.0pp =	0.8pp ▲	119,837	8.3% ▼

WHO'S HIRING (Nov. 2024)

COMPANY	UNIQUE JOB POSTINGS
University of Chicago	2,941
Advocate Aurora Health	2,086
Walgreens Boots Alliance	1,390
AbbVie	1,020
Chicago Public Schools	998
Northwestern Memorial Healthcare	976
Walmart	972

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY (Q1 2025, PROJECTED)

	TECH	QUARTERLY CHANGE	LIFE SCIENCES	QUARTERLY CHANGE	TD&L	QUARTERLY CHANGE	MFG	QUARTERLY CHANGE	BUS. & PRO. SERVICES	QUARTERLY CHANGE	FOOD MFG	QUARTERLY CHANGE
CHI	246,056	0.6% ▲	91,729	0.4% ▲	273,646	0.4% ▲	422,193	0.2% ▲	390,960	0.5% ▲	74,967	0.1% ▲
NYC	589,150	0.7% ▲	200,087	0.5% ▲	395,316	0.2% ▲	349,253	0.2% ▲	865,758	0.5% ▲	64,986	0.3% ▲
LA	316,787	0.6% ▲	138,904	0.5% ▲	243,078	0.3% ▲	465,855	0.1% ▲	454,753	0.3% ▲	57,227	0.5% ▲
HOU	127,329	0.6% ▲	61,865	0.4% ▲	168,906	0.4% ▲	240,171	0.2% ▲	282,907	0.5% ▲	18,407	0.1% ▲

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE (Q3 2024, CBRE)

	ABSORPTION/DEMAND (YTD)	AVAILABILITY	QUARTERLY CHANGE	VACANCY	QUARTERLY CHANGE
OFFICE MARKET (CBD)	(1,457,975) sqft	25.8%	▲ 0.1 pp	23.8%	▲ 0.2 pp
OFFICE MARKET (SUBURBAN)	(787,345) sqft	27.6%	▼ 0.1 pp	26.6%	▼ 0.1 pp
INDUSTRIAL MARKET (METRO AREA)	6,563,395 sqft	3.9%	0 pp	3.5%	▼ 0.1 pp

MACROECONOMIC – CITY OF CHICAGO AND GCEP COUNTIES

	NOMINAL GDP (ESTIMATE)		BUSINESS COUNT		EMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT			ACTIVE JOB POSTINGS	
	2023	CHANGE FROM 2022	Q2 2024	CHANGE FROM Q1 2024	Nov. 2024 (Prelim.)	CHANGE FROM Oct. 2024	Nov. 2024 (Prelim.)	CHANGE FROM Oct. 2024	CHANGE FROM Nov. 2023	Nov. 2024 As of Jan. 10	CHANGE FROM Oct. 2024
CHICAGO CITY	\$506.8B	5.2% ▲	140,581	1.0% ▲	1,348,116	1.0% ▲	5.7%	0.6pp ▼	1.2pp ▲	62,240	6.8% ▼
COOK SUBURBS					1,258,861	1.0% ▲	4.8%	0.5pp ▼	0.8pp ▲	46,650	3.7% ▼
DUPAGE	\$112.2B	5.6% ▲	34,451	0.7% ▲	515,902	1.0% ▲	4.0%	0.5pp ▼	1.1pp ▲	25,838	7.6% ▼
KANE	\$32.7B	5.2% ▲	12,993	1.2% ▲	253,013	-0.5% ▼	4.6%	0.1pp ▼	0.8pp ▲	8,954	5.5% ▼
KENDALL	\$4.5B	6.3% ▲	2,453	1.5% ▲	71,872	1.3% ▲	4.4%	0.4pp ▼	0.1pp ▲	1,481	11.9% ▼
LAKE	\$91.9B	5.2% ▲	20,088	0.8% ▲	345,218	-0.8% ▼	4.4%	0.1pp ▼	0.9pp ▲	16,110	11.7% ▼
MCHENRY	\$14.0B	4.2% ▲	7,976	1.6% ▲	168,008	1.0% ▲	4.3%	0.4pp ▼	0.0pp =	4,481	6.1% ▼
WILL	\$42.9B	6.1% ▲	16,053	0.9% ▲	362,462	1.2% ▲	4.9%	0.4pp ▼	1.1pp ▲	11,666	6.4% ▼
METRO AREA	\$840.4B	5.9% ▲	254,553	0.9% ▲	4,813,809	0.6% ▲	4.9%	0.4pp ▼	0.9pp ▲	189,206	6.7% ▼

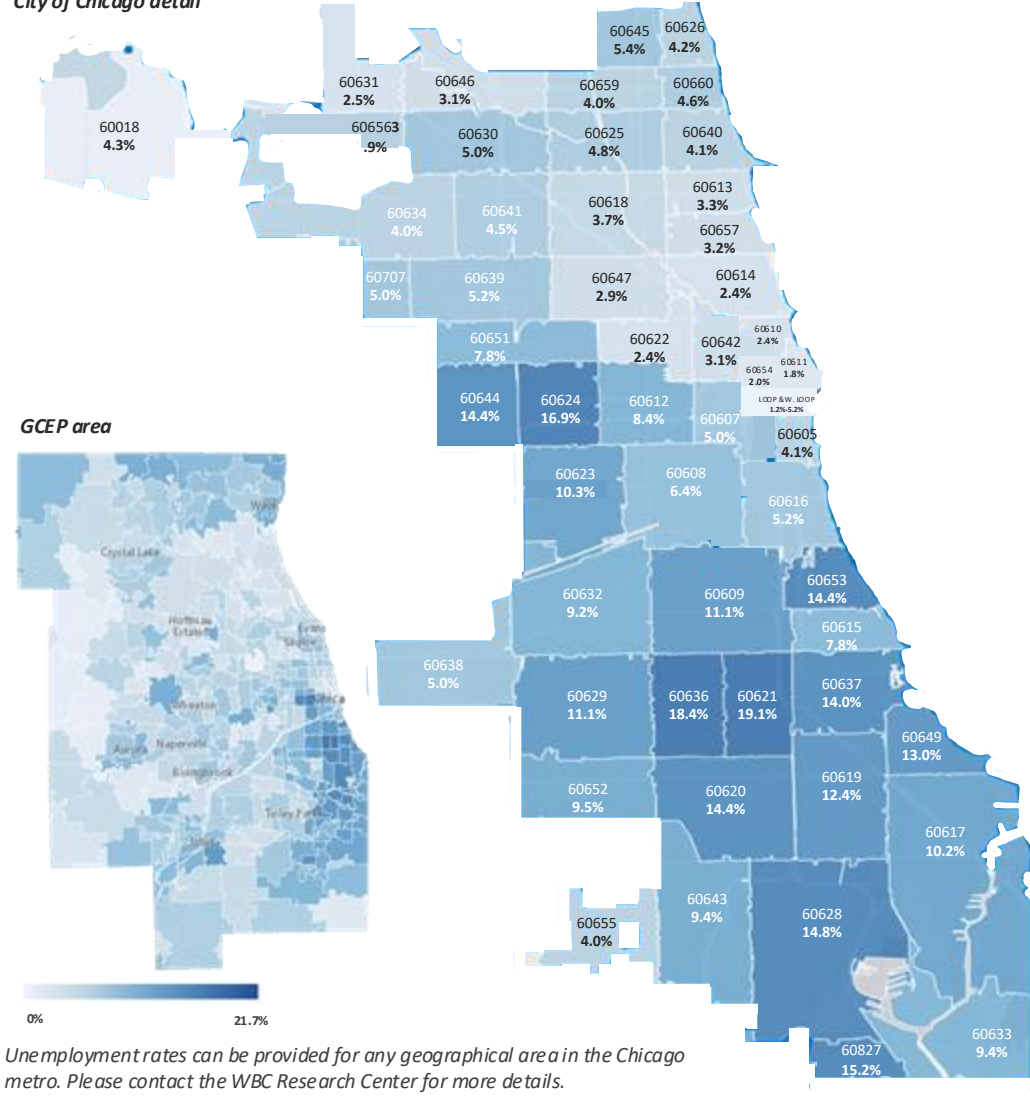
EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY (2024, PROJECTED) – CITY OF CHICAGO AND GCEP COUNTIES

	TECH	CHANGE FROM 2023	LIFE SCIENCES	CHANGE FROM 2023	TDL	CHANGE FROM 2023	MFG	CHANGE FROM 2023	BUS. & PRO. SERVICES	CHANGE FROM 2023	FOOD MFG	CHANGE FROM 2023
CHICAGO CITY	75,244	1.4% ▲	11,211	1.3% ▼	53,531	2.3% ▲	66,683	1.3% ▼	177,302	1.8% ▲	24,562	1.0% ▲
COOK SUBURBS	39,207	0.7% ▲	17,244	0.1% ▲	94,660	2.3% ▲	106,031	1.6% ▼	71,453	1.4% ▲	16,092	2.3% ▲
DUPAGE	41,607	0.4% ▼	13,684	0.4% ▲	34,140	2.9% ▲	58,252	1.2% ▲	56,241	0.2% ▲	7,541	4.2% ▲
KANE	7,768	2.0% ▲	3,632	3.5% ▲	6,018	3.6% ▲	32,348	1.5% ▲	10,065	1.7% ▲	4,967	4.6% ▲
KENDALL	526	2.3% ▲	131	14.9% ▲	2,601	3.7% ▲	2,818	0.2% ▲	1,087	2.4% ▲	625	4.9% ▲
LAKE	32,593	0.0% =	27,718	0.0% =	8,253	4.3% ▲	53,688	1.0% ▲	19,448	0.9% ▼	2,358	3.6% ▲
MCHENRY	2,160	1.9% ▼	736	2.8% ▼	1,828	1.7% ▲	12,695	0.4% ▼	3,763	0.7% ▲	1,161	1.4% ▲
WILL	5,521	0.4% ▼	3,121	2.0% ▲	38,440	6.3% ▲	23,677	2.5% ▲	9,641	0.9% ▲	4,677	4.1% ▲

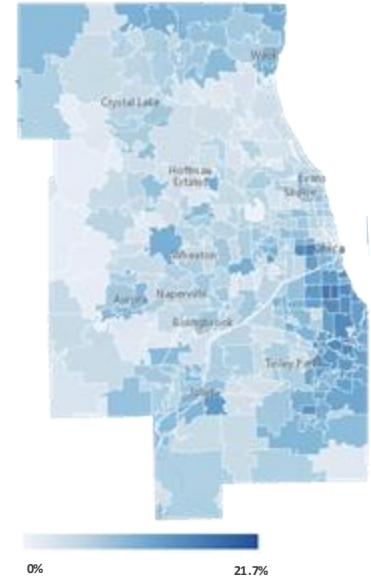
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE MAP

Estimated unemployment rates by zip code, 2024

City of Chicago detail



GCEP area



Unemployment rates can be provided for any geographical area in the Chicago metro. Please contact the WBC Research Center for more details.

JOB POSTINGS & OPPORTUNITY ZIP CODES

HIGH DEMAND OCCUPATIONS	UNIQUE JOB POSTINGS METRO AREA		HIGH OPPORTUNITY ZIP CODES IN THE CITY OF CHICAGO				
	Occupations with the most unique job postings	Nov. 2024	PRIOR MONTH CHANGE	TOP ZIP CODES FOR RECRUITMENT Zip codes in Chicago with the highest concentrations of residents in high demand occupations			
Management Occupations	22,576	4% ▼	Chestnut Street	South Inner Loop	Lincoln Park	South Loop	Main Post Office
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	20,792	0% =	North Loop	Chestnut Street	Main Post Office	Fort Dearborn	South Loop
Sales and Related	19,187	7% ▼	Downtown Station	Fort Dearborn	Main Post Office	Edge-Brook	Norwood Park
Business and Financial Operations	14,252	10% ▼	Main Post Office	Main Post Office	Chestnut Street	Lincoln Park	Chestnut Street
Office and Administrative Support	14,252	8% ▼	Riverdale	South Shore	Roseland	Hege-wisch	Grand Crossing

HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT ZIP CODES (Est. 2024 Rates)

Zip	City of Chicago Neighborhood	2024	Change from 2023	Zip	Chicagoland Suburb	2024	Change from 2023
60621	Englewood	19.1%	▼ 2.6pp	60419	Dolton	13.8%	▼ 2.2pp
60636	West Englewood	18.4%	▼ 2.3pp	60428	Markham	13.5%	▼ 2.1pp
60624	West Garfield Park	16.9%	▼ 2.4pp	60471	Richton Park	12.3%	▼ 1.8pp
60827	Riverdale	15.2%	▼ 2.2pp	60433	Joliet	12.1%	▼ 1.1pp
60628	Pullman, Roseland	14.8%	▼ 2.0pp	60096	Winthrop Harbor	11.7%	▲ 1.5pp
60620	Auburn Gresham	14.4%	▼ 2.0pp	60472	Robbins	11.6%	▼ 1.8pp
60644	Austin	14.4%	▼ 2.0pp	60473	South Holland	11.5%	▼ 1.5pp
60653	Bronzeville	14.4%	▼ 2.3pp	60426	Harvey	11.2%	▼ 1.6pp
60637	Woodlawn	14.0%	▼ 2.0pp	60476	Thornton	10.8%	▼ 0.3pp
60649	South Shore	13.0%	▼ 1.8pp	60536	Millbrook	10.7%	▲ 7.8pp
60619	Chatham, Grand Crossing	12.4%	▼ 1.8pp	60064	North Chicago	10.5%	▲ 1.5pp
60609	Back of the Yards, Fuller Park	11.1%	▼ 1.7pp	60409	Calumet City	10.5%	▼ 1.5pp
60629	West Lawn, Chicago Lawn	11.1%	▼ 1.7pp	60429	Hazel Crest	10.5%	▼ 1.6pp