



ECONOMIC DASHBOARD

Q1: February 7, 2025

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

PRO-CHICAGOLAND DECISIONS

as of February 5

Companies making a known pro-Chicagoland decision in 2025

1

1 Expansion
0 Relocations/New Market Entrants

0 City Investments, including 0 on the S/W Sides
1 GCEP (Regional) Investments

140 pro-Chicago decisions in 2024
163 pro-Chicago decisions in 2023
180 pro-Chicago decisions in 2022

SPENDING & ACTIVITY

	CONSUMER PRICE INDEX METRO AREA Dec. 2024 12 month % change, all items	CONSUMER SPEND METRO AREA On hold - next data update Feb. 2025	WEEKLY OFFICE OCCUPANCY METRO AREA As of Jan. 29	PUBLIC TRANSIT Jan. 26 - Feb. 1 Benchmark: Jan 2019	AVG. DAILY FLIGHTS Dec. 2024
CHI	+3.9%	N/A	57.2%	-40% (CTA) -48% (Metra)	1,949 (ORD) 401 (MDW)
NYC	+4.3%	N/A	54.9%	-34% (MTA) -50% (LIRR)	1,158 (JFK) 899 (LGA)
LA	+3.4%	N/A	48.5%	-26%	1,419
HOU	+1.0%	N/A	64.9%	-18%	1,154

CHICAGO FED SURVEY OF ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

METRO AREA

-9.0

Jan. 2025
Suggests economic growth is near trend.

-12.0

from Dec. 2024

CHICAGO BUSINESS BAROMETER

METRO AREA

39.5

Jan. 2025

+2.6

from Dec. 2024

HOUSING

NEW PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL PERMITS

METRO AREA
1/1/24 - 12/31/24

17,516

+16.5% FROM YTD 2023 | #15 METRO RANK

ALL BUILDING PERMITS

CITY ONLY
2/1/24 - 1/31/25

5,978

-1,930 CHANGE FROM 2/1/23-1/31/24

TRADE & BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

	TRADE VALUE METRO AREA 2024	HOTEL OCCUPANCY CITY (CBD) ONLY Dec. 2024	OPEN TABLE RESERVATIONS METRO AREA Jan. 2025 Benchmark: Jan. 2024	BUSINESS LICENSE APPLICATIONS CITY ONLY 2/1/24 - 1/31/25
CHI	\$295B	58.4%	+12%	6,361
NYC	\$245B	88.2%	+7%	N/A
LA	\$333B	61.7%	-15%	N/A
HOU	\$223B	N/A	+11%	N/A

INNOVATION - METRO AREA

2024	GROWTH CAPITAL (PRE-VC, VC + PE) RAISED		
	VENTURE CAPITAL	PRIVATE EQUITY	VC + PE
SF	\$97.45B	\$7.54B	\$104.99B
NYC	\$29.72B	\$12.70B	\$42.42B
BOS	\$15.76B	\$1.30B	\$17.06B
LA	\$12.46B	\$5.04B	\$17.5B
SEA	\$3.30B	\$1.24B	\$4.54B
CHI	\$2.71B	\$1.61B	\$4.32B

INNOVATION - CITY & COUNTIES

2024	GROWTH CAPITAL RAISED	
	CAPITAL RAISED	DEAL COUNT
CHICAGO CITY	\$2.77B	432
COOK SUBURBS	\$967.8M	62
DUPAGE	\$390.5M	43
KANE	\$0.44M	4
KENDALL	\$0	0
LAKE	\$146.1M	18
MCHENRY	\$3.9M	2
WILL	\$12.3M	20

MACROECONOMIC

	NOMINAL GDP (PROJECTED)		BUSINESS COUNT		EMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT			ACTIVE JOB POSTINGS	
	Q1 2025	PRIOR QUARTER CHANGE	Q2 2024	PRIOR QUARTER CHANGE	Dec. 2024 (Prelim.)	PRIOR MONTH CHANGE	Dec. 2024 (Prelim.)	CHANGE FROM Nov. 2024	CHANGE FROM Dec. 2023	Dec. 2024 As of Feb. 5	PRIOR MONTH CHANGE
CHI	\$908B	0.9% ▲	254,553	0.9% ▲	4,792,578	0.5% ▼	4.4%	0.5pp ▼	0.4pp ▲	179,270	5.3% ▼
NYC	\$2,427B	0.9% ▲	669,095	0.9% ▲	9,821,412	0.4% ▼	4.3%	0.1pp ▼	0.2pp ▲	318,097	4.5% ▼
LA	\$1,518B	0.9% ▲	724,836	1.9% ▲	6,257,971	0.2% ▼	5.2%	0.2pp ▼	0.5pp ▲	203,671	8.8% ▼
HOU	\$738B	1.4% ▲	175,290	0.4% ▼	3,610,500	0.4% ▲	4.1%	0.4pp ▼	0.3pp ▲	111,485	7.0% ▼

WHO'S HIRING (Dec. 2024)

COMPANY	UNIQUE JOB POSTINGS
University of Chicago	2,827
Advocate Aurora Health	2,023
Walgreens Boots Alliance	1,365
Chicago Public Schools	1,202
Northwestern Memorial Healthcare	1,063
Walmart	1,029
Prime Healthcare Services	950

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	244,236	0.5% ▲	90,125	0.4% ▲	272,177	0.4% ▲	420,075	0.2% ▲	389,360	0.5% ▲	75,093	0.1% ▲
NYC	585,679	0.7% ▲	199,594	0.5% ▲	392,509	0.3% ▲	348,868	0.2% ▲	863,564	0.5% ▲	65,076	0.2% ▲
LA	314,709	0.5% ▲	138,715	0.5% ▲	242,415	0.3% ▲	463,672	0.0% =	454,734	0.3% ▲	56,718	0.5% ▲
HOU	126,791	0.5% ▲	61,792	0.4% ▲	167,613	0.4% ▲	240,117	0.2% ▲	282,415	0.5% ▲	18,447	0.1% ▲

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE (Q4 2024, CBRE)

	ABSORPTION/DEMAND (YTD)	AVAILABILITY	QUARTERLY CHANGE	VACANCY	QUARTERLY CHANGE
OFFICE MARKET (CBD)	(1,609,066) sqft	26.4%	▲ 0.6 pp	24.4%	▲ 0.6 pp
OFFICE MARKET (SUBURBAN)	(1,661,858) sqft	28.4%	▲ 0.8 pp	27.5%	▲ 0.9 pp
INDUSTRIAL MARKET (METRO AREA)	11,844,481 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	Dec. 2024 (Prelim.)	CHANGE FROM Nov. 2024	Dec. 2024 (Prelim.)	CHANGE FROM Nov. 2024	CHANGE FROM Dec. 2023	Dec. 2024 As of Feb. 6	CHANGE FROM Nov. 2024
CHICAGO CITY	\$506.8B	5.2% ▲	140,581	1.0% ▲	1,341,274	-0.5% ▼	4.7%	1.0pp ▼	0.5pp ▲	58,055	7.5% ▼
COOK SUBURBS					1,252,472	-0.5% ▼	4.3%	0.5pp ▼	0.7pp ▲	45,011	3.3% ▼
DUPAGE	\$112.2B	5.6% ▲	34,451	0.7% ▲	513,182	-0.5% ▼	3.4%	0.6pp ▼	0.3pp ▲	24,275	6.2% ▼
KANE	\$32.7B	5.2% ▲	12,993	1.2% ▲	252,731	-0.2% ▼	4.7%	0.1pp ▲	0.4pp ▼	8,652	3.5% ▼
KENDALL	\$4.5B	6.3% ▲	2,453	1.5% ▲	71,333	-0.8% ▼	3.9%	0.5pp ▼	0.4pp ▲	1,165	8.1% ▼
LAKE	\$91.9B	5.2% ▲	20,088	0.8% ▲	346,192	0.2% ▲	4.5%	0.1pp ▲	0.6pp ▼	16,110	4.9% ▼
MCHENRY	\$14.0B	4.2% ▲	7,976	1.6% ▲	166,973	-6.0% ▼	4.0%	0.3pp ▼	0.5pp ▲	4,273	4.1% ▼
WILL	\$42.9B	6.1% ▲	16,053	0.9% ▲	359,991	-0.7% ▼	4.9%	0.4pp ▼	1.1pp ▲	11,237	3.9% ▼
METRO AREA	\$840.4B	5.9% ▲	254,553	0.9% ▲	4,792,578	-0.5% ▼	4.4%	0.5pp ▼	0.4pp ▲	179,270	5.3% ▼

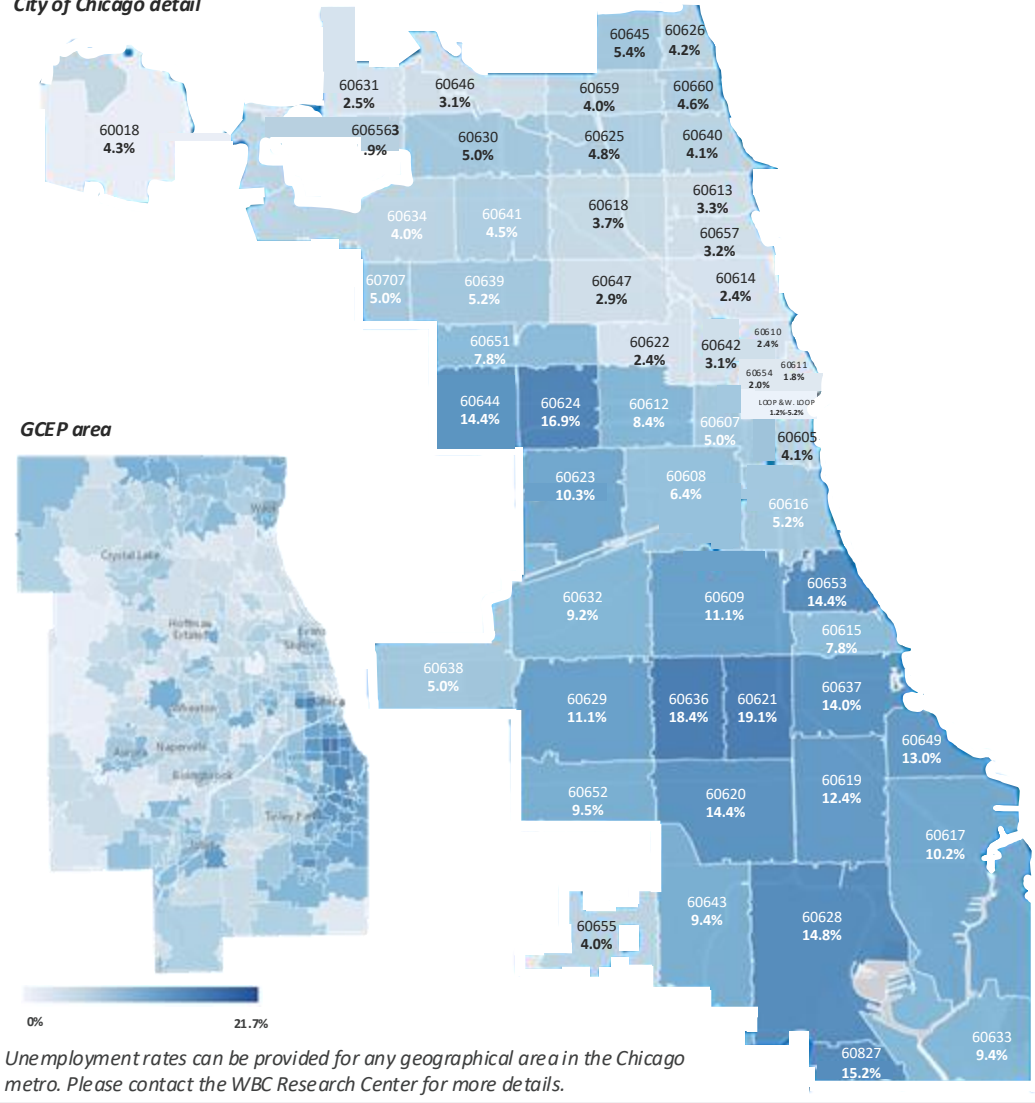
EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY (2024, PROJECTED) – CITY OF CHICAGO AND GCEP COUNTIES

	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% ▲

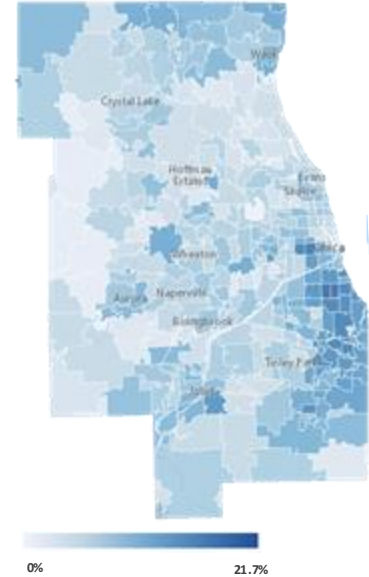
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE MAP

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	Dec. 2024	PRIOR MONTH CHANGE	TOP ZIP CODES FOR RECRUITMENT Zip codes in Chicago with the highest concentrations of residents in high demand occupations			
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	22,576	2% ▼	Chestnut Street	South Inner Loop	Lincoln Park	South Loop	Main Post Office
Management Occupations	22,371	6% ▼	North Loop	Chestnut Street	Main Post Office	Fort Dearborn	South Loop
Sales and Related	19,356	7% ▼	Downtown Station	Fort Dearborn	Main Post Office	Edge-Brook	Norwood Park
Office and Administrative Support	13,976	8% ▼	Main Post Office	Main Post Office	Chestnut Street	Lincoln Park	Chestnut Street
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	13,545	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