



# ECONOMIC DASHBOARD

Q1: March 14, 2025

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

## PRO-CHICAGOLAND DECISIONS

as of Mar. 14, 2025

Companies making a known pro-Chicagoland decision in 2025

**17**

14 Expansion  
3 Relocations/New Market Entrants

11 City Investments, including 0 on the S/W Sides

6 GCEP (Regional) Investments

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

## SPENDING & ACTIVITY

	<b>CONSUMER PRICE INDEX</b> METRO AREA Feb. 2025 12 month % change, all items	<b>TOTAL ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURES</b> METRO AREA 2024	<b>WEEKLY OFFICE OCCUPANCY</b> METRO AREA As of March. 5	<b>PUBLIC TRANSIT</b> Mar. 2 – 8 Benchmark: Mar 2019	<b>AVG. DAILY FLIGHTS</b> Jan. 2025
<b>CHI</b>	+3.8%	\$392B	56.3%	-31% (CTA)   -43% (Metra)	1,862 (ORD)   350 (MDW)
<b>NYC</b>	+4.2%	\$913B	55.1%	-14% (MTA)   -32% (LIRR)	1,076 (JFK)   915 (LGA)
<b>LA</b>	+3.1%	\$525B	49.1%	-17%	1,326
<b>HOU</b>	+1.0%	\$278B	64.0%	-19%	1,113

## CHICAGO FED SURVEY OF ECONOMIC CONDITIONS



**-10.0**

**Feb. 2025**  
*Suggests economic growth is below trend.*

**-2.0**

from Jan. 2025

## CHICAGO BUSINESS BAROMETER



**45.5**

**Feb. 2025**

**+6.0**

from Jan. 2025

## HOUSING

**NEW PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL PERMITS**  
METRO AREA  
1/1/25 – 1/31/25

819

+10.2%  
FROM YTD 2024

#30  
METRO RANK

**ALL BUILDING PERMITS**  
CITY ONLY  
3/1/24 – 2/28/25

6,312

-2,083  
CHANGE FROM 3/1/23-2/29/24

## TRADE & BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

	<b>TRADE VALUE</b> METRO AREA Jan. 2025	<b>HOTEL OCCUPANCY</b> CITY (CBD) ONLY Jan. 2025	<b>OPEN TABLE RESERVATIONS</b> METRO AREA Feb. 2025 Benchmark: Feb. 2024	<b>BUSINESS LICENSE APPLICATIONS</b> CITY ONLY 3/1/24 – 2/28/25
<b>CHI</b>	\$31.9B	36.7%	+13%	6,225
<b>NYC</b>	\$49.3B	70.7%	+3%	N/A
<b>LA</b>	\$31.1B	62.3%	+6%	N/A
<b>HOU</b>	\$17.5B	N/A	+17%	N/A

## INNOVATION – METRO AREA

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

## INNOVATION – CITY & COUNTIES

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

MACROECONOMIC											
	NOMINAL GDP (PROJECTED)		BUSINESS COUNT		EMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT			ACTIVE JOB POSTINGS	
	Q1 2025	PRIOR QUARTER CHANGE	Q3 2024	PRIOR QUARTER CHANGE	Dec. 2024 (Prelim.)	PRIOR MONTH CHANGE	Dec. 2024 (Prelim.)	CHANGE FROM Nov. 2024	CHANGE FROM Dec. 2023	Feb. 2025 (As of Feb. 5)	PRIOR MONTH CHANGE
CHI	\$908B	0.9% ▲	255,967	0.5% ▲	4,792,578	0.5% ▼	4.4%	0.5pp ▼	0.4pp ▲	203,191	0% =
NYC	\$2,427B	0.9% ▲	666,364	0.4% ▼	9,821,412	0.4% ▼	4.3%	0.1pp ▼	0.2pp ▲	337,766	1.0% ▼
LA	\$1,518B	0.9% ▲	741,325	2.3% ▲	6,257,971	0.2% ▼	5.2%	0.2pp ▼	0.5pp ▲	223,905	0% =
HOU	\$738B	1.4% ▲	174,556	0.4% ▼	3,610,500	0.4% ▲	4.1%	0.4pp ▼	0.3pp ▲	128,638	2.0% ▲

WHO'S HIRING (Feb. 2025)	
COMPANY	UNIQUE JOB POSTINGS
University of Chicago	3,006
Advocate Aurora Health	1,950
Walgreens Boots Alliance	1,313
Northwestern University	1,116
Walmart	1,021
Northwestern Memorial	961
Abbvie	858

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	
	2024	CHANGE FROM 2023	Q3 2024	CHANGE FROM Q2 2024	Dec. 2024 (Prelim.)	CHANGE FROM Nov. 2024	Dec. 2024 (Prelim.)	CHANGE FROM Nov. 2024	CHANGE FROM Dec. 2023	Feb. 2025 <small>As of Mar. 6</small>	CHANGE FROM Jan. 2025
CHICAGO CITY	\$514.8B	0.6% ▲	141,309	1.0% ▲	1,341,274	-0.5% ▼	4.7%	1.0pp ▼	0.5pp ▲	76,199	2.1% ▲
COOK SUBURBS					1,252,472	-0.5% ▼	4.3%	0.5pp ▼	0.7pp ▲	39,383	6.6% ▼
DUPAGE	\$113.3B	0.1% ▼	34,615	0.9% ▲	513,182	-0.5% ▼	3.4%	0.6pp ▼	0.3pp ▲	28,046	0.3% ▲
KANE	\$33.3B	0.5% ▲	13,089	1.1% ▲	252,731	-0.2% ▼	4.7%	0.1pp ▲	0.4pp ▼	9,958	0.4% ▼
KENDALL	\$4.7B	1.2% ▲	2,497	1.2% ▲	71,333	-0.8% ▼	3.9%	0.5pp ▼	0.4pp ▲	1,369	2.2% ▼
LAKE	\$93.9B	1.5% ▲	20,200	1.1% ▲	346,192	0.2% ▲	4.5%	0.1pp ▲	0.6pp ▼	17,915	2.1% ▲
MCHENRY	\$14.3B	0.0% =	8,018	1.0% ▲	166,973	-6.0% ▼	4.0%	0.3pp ▼	0.5pp ▲	5,041	0.8% ▼
WILL	\$43.0B	0.2% ▲	16,163	1.9% ▲	359,991	-0.7% ▼	4.9%	0.4pp ▼	1.1pp ▲	12,593	1.4% ▼
METRO AREA	\$886B	3.7% ▲	254,553	0.9% ▲	4,792,578	-0.5% ▼	4.4%	0.5pp ▼	0.4pp ▲	190,504	0.6% ▼

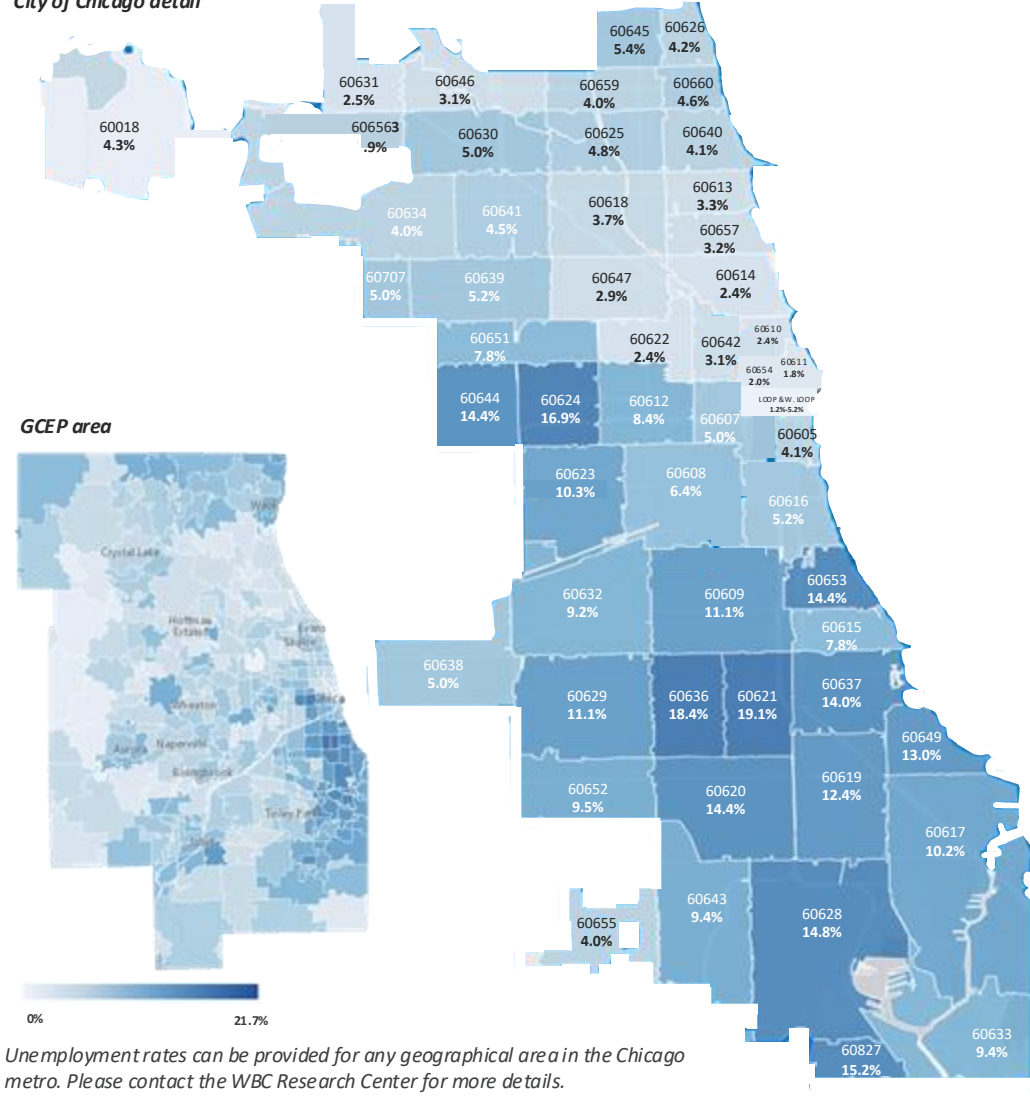
## EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY (2025, PROJECTED) – CITY OF CHICAGO AND GCEP COUNTIES

	TECH	CHANGE FROM 2024	LIFE SCIENCES	CHANGE FROM 2024	TDL	CHANGE FROM 2024	MFG	CHANGE FROM 2024	BUS. & PRO. SERVICES	CHANGE FROM 2024	FOOD MFG	CHANGE FROM 2024
CHICAGO CITY	69,774	0.2% ▲	11,467	1.7% ▼	52,704	1.6% ▲	67,591	1.4% ▼	68,983	1.1% ▲	25,615	1.2% ▲
COOK SUBURBS	36,972	0.3% ▲	17,430	0.5% ▲	101,931	1.4% ▲	106,328	1.5% ▼	245,178	0.8% ▲	16,807	2.3% ▲
DUPAGE	40,690	0.8% ▼	14,054	0.6% ▲	35,800	2.6% ▲	59,451	1.1% ▲	55,174	0.2% ▼	8,451	4.6% ▲
KANE	8,264	2.6% ▲	3,927	3.6% ▲	6,885	3.7% ▲	33,706	1.6% ▲	10,018	1.5% ▲	6,307	5.8% ▲
KENDALL	486	2.1% ▲	119	13.9% ▲	2,535	2.2% ▲	3,006	0.6% ▲	1,111	2.4% ▲	696	4.8% ▲
LAKE	31,208	0.9% ▼	27,324	0.3% ▼	9,012	3.8% ▲	53,230	0.7% ▲	18,880	1.5% ▼	2,440	3.4% ▲
MCHENRY	1,904	3.5% ▼	618	5.1% ▼	1,952	0.3% ▲	12,396	0.7% ▼	3,933	1.0% ▲	1,174	1.6% ▲
WILL	6,107	1.8% ▲	2,931	0.6% ▲	41,871	5.7% ▲	24,541	2.6% ▲	10,062	1.8% ▲	5,052	4.1% ▲

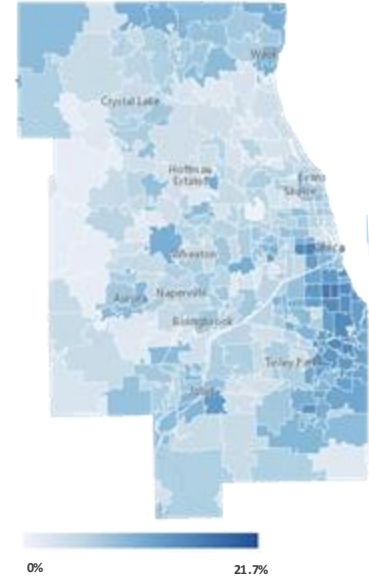
## UNEMPLOYMENT RATE MAP

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	Feb. 2025	PRIOR MONTH CHANGE	TOP ZIP CODES FOR RECRUITMENT Zip codes in Chicago with the highest concentrations of residents in high demand occupations			
Management Occupations	25,832	1% ▲	Chestnut Street	South Inner Loop	Lincoln Park	South Loop	Main Post Office
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	16,302	1% ▲	North Loop	Chestnut Street	Main Post Office	Fort Dearborn	South Loop
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	13,411	5% ▲	Downtown Station	Fort Dearborn	Main Post Office	Edge-Brook	Norwood Park
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	4,653	4% ▲	Main Post Office	Main Post Office	Chestnut Street	Lincoln Park	Chestnut Street
Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	3,097	7% ▼	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