



ECONOMIC DASHBOARD

Q2: April 11, 2025

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

PRO-CHICAGOLAND DECISIONS

as of Apr. 9, 2025

Companies making a known pro-Chicagoland decision in 2025

28

- 25 Expansions
- 3 Relocations/New Market Entrants
- 19 City Investments, including 1 on the S/W Sides
- 9 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 Mar. 2025 12 month % change, all items	TOTAL ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURES METRO AREA 2024	WEEKLY OFFICE OCCUPANCY METRO AREA As of Apr. 2	PUBLIC TRANSIT Mar. 30 – Apr. 5 Benchmark: Mar. 2019	AVG. DAILY FLIGHTS Feb. 2025
CHI	+3.7%	\$392B	52.5%	-31% (CTA) -46% (Metra)	1,900 (ORD) 352 (MDW)
NYC	+3.8%	\$913B	54.1%	-15% (MTA) -25% (LIRR)	1,098 (JFK) 946 (LGA)
LA	+3.0%	\$525B	49.1%	-17%	1,322
HOU	+1.0% (Feb.)	\$278B	63.6%	-19%	1,106

CHICAGO FED SURVEY OF ECONOMIC CONDITIONS



-10.0

Mar. 2025
Suggests economic growth is below trend.

-1.0

from Feb. 2025

CHICAGO BUSINESS BAROMETER



47.6

Mar. 2025

+2.1

from Feb. 2025

HOUSING

NEW PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL PERMITS
METRO AREA
2/1/25 – 2/28/25

1,937

+19.1% FROM YTD 2024 | #27 METRO RANK

ALL BUILDING PERMITS
CITY ONLY
4/1/24 – 3/31/25

6,284

-28 CHANGE FROM 3/1/24 – 2/28/25

TRADE & BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

	TRADE VALUE METRO AREA Feb. 2025	HOTEL OCCUPANCY CITY (CBD) ONLY Feb. 2025	OPEN TABLE RESERVATIONS METRO AREA Mar. 2025 Benchmark: Feb. 2024	BUSINESS LICENSE APPLICATIONS CITY ONLY 4/1/24-3/31/25
CHI	\$32.2B	49.6%	+11%	6,284
NYC	\$46.4B	73.5%	+7%	N/A
LA	\$25.0B	72.0%	+5%	N/A
HOU	\$16.1B	N/A	+19%	N/A

INNOVATION – METRO AREA

Q1 2025	GROWTH CAPITAL (PRE-VC, VC + PE) RAISED		
	VENTURE CAPITAL	PRIVATE EQUITY	VC + PE
SF	\$60.76B	\$1.02B	\$61.78B
NYC	\$7.68B	\$4.22B	\$11.90B
BOS	\$3.85B	\$1.87B	\$5.72B
LA	\$2.83B	\$1.17B	\$4.00B
SEA	\$2.45B	\$641.8M	\$3.09B
CHI	\$582.74M	\$631.8M	\$1.21B

INNOVATION – CITY & COUNTIES

Q1 2025	GROWTH CAPITAL RAISED	
	CAPITAL RAISED	DEAL COUNT
CHICAGO CITY	\$1.10B	82
COOK SUBURBS	\$26.29M	13
DUPAGE	\$4.98M	5
KANE	\$1.25M	1
KENDALL	\$0	0
LAKE	\$66.3M	6
MCHENRY	\$0	0
WILL	\$11.5M	2

MACROECONOMIC

	NOMINAL GDP (PROJECTED)		BUSINESS COUNT		EMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT			ACTIVE JOB POSTINGS	
	Q2 2025	PRIOR QUARTER CHANGE	Q3 2024	PRIOR QUARTER CHANGE	Feb. 2025 (Prelim.)	PRIOR MONTH CHANGE	Feb. 2025 (Prelim.)	CHANGE FROM Jan. 2025	CHANGE FROM Feb. 2024	Mar. 2025 As of Apr. 8	PRIOR MONTH CHANGE
CHI	\$920B	1.2% ▲	255,967	0.5% ▲	4,657,500	0.2% ▲	5.3%	0.2pp ▲	0.1pp ▼	209,039	2.9% ▲
NYC	\$2,457B	1.2% ▲	666,364	0.4% ▼	9,913,500	0.4% ▲	4.4%	0.3pp ▼	0.3pp ▼	339,644	0.5% ▲
LA	\$1,536B	1.2% ▲	741,325	2.3% ▲	6,265,900	0.6% ▲	5.4%	0pp =	0.4pp ▲	224,407	0.3% ▼
HOU	\$750B	1.6% ▲	174,556	0.4% ▼	3,452,600	0.4% ▲	4.5%	0.1pp ▲	0pp =	128,779	0.4% ▲

WHO'S HIRING (Mar. 2025)

COMPANY	UNIQUE JOB POSTINGS
University of Chicago	3,112
Advocate Aurora Health	2,132
Walgreens Boots Alliance	1,358
Walmart	1,069
Uline	938
Northshore Health System	935
Northwestern University	928

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY (Q2 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	245,718	0.7% ▲	90,874	0.6% ▲	272,889	0.4% ▲	420,788	0.3% ▲	392,379	0.6% ▲	75,547	0.3% ▲
NYC	594,286	0.8% ▲	201,654	0.6% ▲	393,869	0.3% ▲	348,789	0.3% ▲	873,200	0.6% ▲	65,218	0.4% ▲
LA	319,256	0.7% ▲	139,080	0.7% ▲	244,733	0.4% ▲	463,206	0.2% ▲	456,535	0.5% ▲	56,963	0.7% ▲
HOU	128,374	0.8% ▲	61,839	0.6% ▲	168,865	0.5% ▲	240,633	0.4% ▲	288,596	0.7% ▲	18,444	0.3% ▲

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE (Q1 2025, CBRE)

	ABSORPTION/DEMAND (YTD)	AVAILABILITY	QUARTERLY CHANGE	VACANCY	QUARTERLY CHANGE
OFFICE MARKET (CBD)	66,522 sqft	26.5%	▲ 0.1 pp	24.8%	▲ 0.4 pp
OFFICE MARKET (SUBURBAN)	-259,204 sqft	28.0%	▼ 0.4 pp	27.1%	▼ 0.1 pp
INDUSTRIAL MARKET (METRO AREA)	1,412,192 sqft	8.5%	▲ 4.6 pp	5.4%	▼ 1.9 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	Feb. 2025 (Prelim.)	CHANGE FROM Jan. 2025	Feb. 2025 (Prelim.)	CHANGE FROM Jan. 2025	CHANGE FROM Feb. 2024	Mar. 2025 As of Mar. 6	CHANGE FROM Feb. 2025
CHICAGO CITY	\$514.8B	0.6% ▲	141,309	1.0% ▲	1,399,623	-0.3% ▼	5.5%	0.3pp ▲	0.0pp =	76,199	2.1% ▲
COOK SUBURBS					1,214,602	-0.3% ▼	5.5%	1.2pp ▲	0.4pp ▲	39,383	6.6% ▼
DUPAGE	\$113.3B	0.1% ▼	34,615	0.9% ▲	495,5877	-0.3% ▼	4.3%	0.3pp ▼	0.2pp ▲	28,923	0.3% ▲
KANE	\$33.3B	0.5% ▲	13,089	1.1% ▲	258,763	-0.3% ▼	5.2%	0.2pp ▲	1.3pp ▼	10,231	2.0% ▲
KENDALL	\$4.7B	1.2% ▲	2,497	1.2% ▲	71,966	-0.4% ▼	4.4%	0.2pp ▼	0.5pp ▼	1,505	10.0% ▲
LAKE	\$93.9B	1.5% ▲	20,200	1.1% ▲	342,656	0.7% ▲	5.3%	0.2pp ▼	1.1pp ▼	18,770	6.0% ▲
MCHENRY	\$14.3B	0.0% =	8,018	1.0% ▲	171,444	-0.3% ▼	5.1%	0.1pp ▲	0.1pp ▲	5,160	2.0% ▲
WILL	\$43.0B	0.2% ▲	16,163	1.9% ▲	371,592	-0.3% ▼	5.5%	0.3pp ▲	0.0pp =	13,016	3.0% ▲
METRO AREA	\$886B	3.7% ▲	254,553	0.9% ▲	4,736,459	-0.3% ▼	5.3%	0.2pp ▲	0.1pp ▼	201,189	3.0% ▲

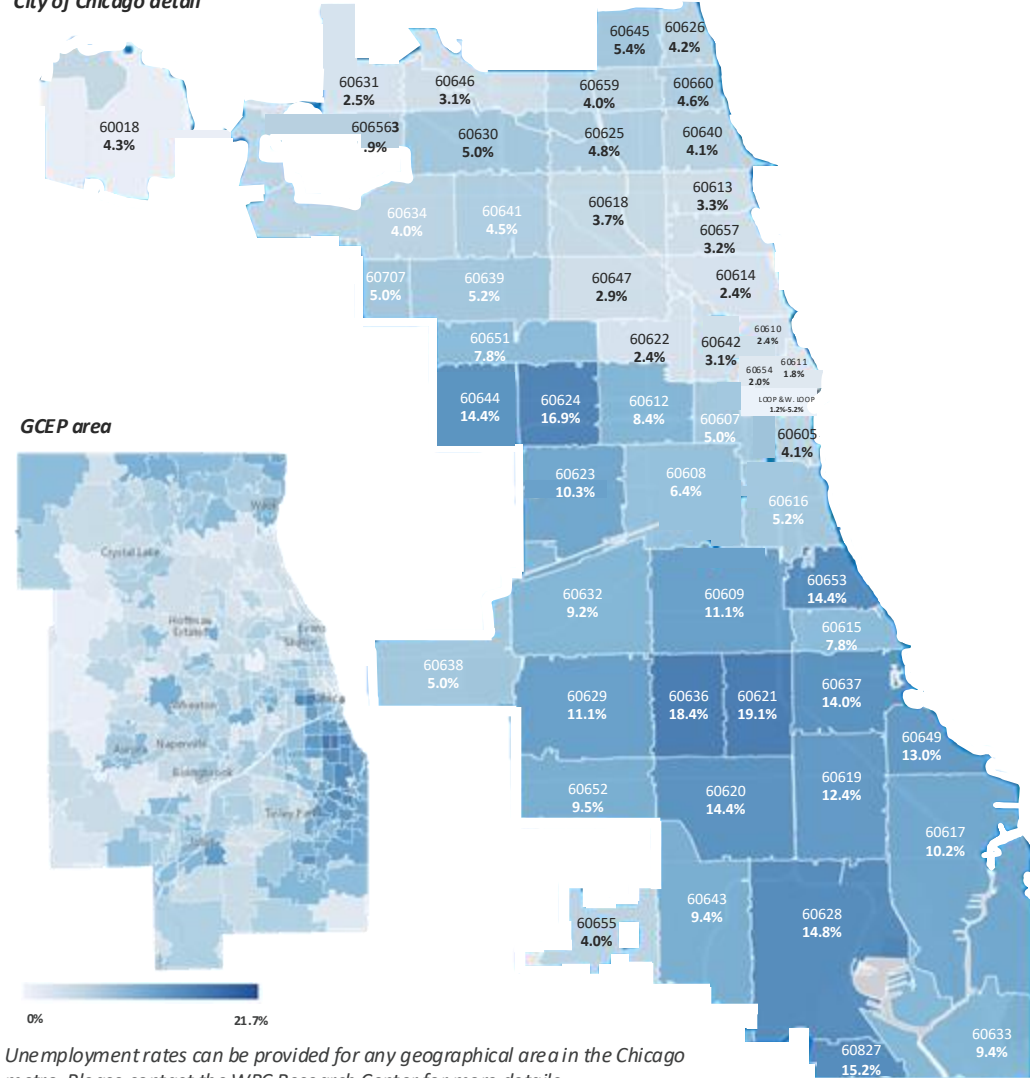
EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY (2025, PROJECTED) – CITY OF CHICAGO AND GCEP COUNTIES

	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% ▲

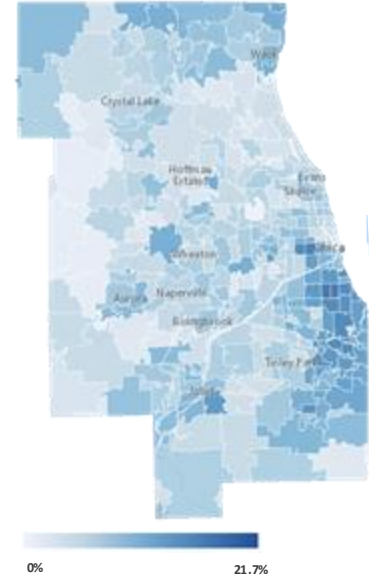
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE MAP

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	Mar. 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	26,120	1.2% ▲	Chestnut Street	South Inner Loop	Lincoln Park	South Loop	Main Post Office
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	23,036	0.1% ▼	North Loop	Chestnut Street	Main Post Office	Fort Dearborn	South Loop
Sales and Related Occupations	21,484	3.9% ▲	Downtown Station	Fort Dearborn	Main Post Office	Edge-Brook	Norwood Park
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	16,668	1.6% ▲	Main Post Office	Main Post Office	Chestnut Street	Lincoln Park	Chestnut Street
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	16,267	1.3% ▼	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