



ECONOMIC DASHBOARD

Q1: January 9, 2026

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

PRO-CHICAGOLAND DECISIONS

as of January 9, 2025

Companies making a known
pro-Chicagoland decision in 2025






200

148 Expansions
52 Relocations/New Market Entrants

80 City investments, including 9 on
the S/W Sides
120 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 Nov. 2025 12 month % change, all items	 TOTAL ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURES METRO AREA 2025	 WEEKLY OFFICE OCCUPANCY METRO AREA Dec. 3	 PUBLIC TRANSIT Dec. 28 - Jan. 3 Benchmark: Dec. 2019	 AVG. DAILY FLIGHTS Nov. 2025
CHI	+2.5%	\$403B (+2.5% from 2024)	56.4%	-37% (CTA) -43% (Metra)	2,304 (ORD) 393 (MDW)
NYC	+3.0%	\$959B (+5.0% from 2024)	57.0%	-20% (MTA) -19% (LIRR)	1,129 (JFK) 978 (LGA)
LA	+3.6%	\$537B (+2.3% from 2024)	46.9%	-38%	1,381
HOU	N/A (1.1% in Aug. 2025)	\$290B (+4.3% from 2024)	61.1%	-23%	1,205

CHICAGO FED
SURVEY OF
ECONOMIC
CONDITIONS
METRO AREA



-11

Dec. 2025

Suggests economic
growth was
below trend

-10

from Nov. 2025

CHICAGO
BUSINESS
BAROMETER
METRO AREA



43.5

Dec. 2025

+7.2

from Nov. 2025

HOUSING

NEW PRIVATE
RESIDENTIAL
PERMITS
METRO AREA
1/1/25 – 8/31/25

11,410

+1.6%
FROM
YTD 2024





#16
METRO
RANK

ALL BUILDING
PERMITS
CITY ONLY
1/1/25 – 12/31/25

5,555

-1,658
CHANGE FROM
1/1/24 – 12/31/24

TRADE & BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

	 TRADE VALUE Sept. 2025	 HOTEL OCCUPANCY CITY (CBD) ONLY Nov. 2025	 OPENTABLE RESERVATIONS CITY ONLY Dec. 2025 Benchmark: Dec. 2024	 BUSINESS LICENSE APPLI- CATIONS CITY ONLY 1/1/25-12/31/25
CHI	\$44.0B <i>O'Hare Airport</i>	67.6%	+4%	6,194
NYC	\$26.6B <i>JFK Airport</i>	87.5%	+10%	N/A
LA	\$23.5B <i>Port of LA</i>	65.6%	+5%	N/A
HOU	\$16.7B <i>Port of Houston</i>	N/A	+9%	N/A

INNOVATION – METRO AREA







Q4 2025	GROWTH CAPITAL (PRE-VC, VC + PE) RAISED			
	VC	PE	VC + PE	Change from Q4 2025
SF	\$41.43B	\$306M	\$41.74B	-18% ▼
NYC	\$21.98B	\$2.82B	\$25.0B	116% ▲
BOS	\$4.28B	\$622M	\$5.81B	51% ▲
LA	\$3.99B	\$2.93B	\$7.15B	111% ▲
SEA	\$1.5B	\$100M	\$1.61B	109% ▲
CHI	\$1.08B	\$1.66B	\$2.73B	146% ▲

INNOVATION – CITY & COUNTIES

Q4 2025	GROWTH CAPITAL RAISED	
	CAPITAL RAISED	DEAL COUNT
CHICAGO CITY	\$1.14B	89
COOK SUBURBS	\$35.35M	15
DUPAGE	\$39.87M	9
KANE	N/A (undisclosed)	1
KENDALL	\$0	0
LAKE	\$0.63M	3
MCHENRY	\$5.2M	2
WILL	N/A (undisclosed)	2

MACROECONOMIC											
NOMINAL GDP (PROJECTED)			BUSINESS COUNT		EMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT			ACTIVE JOB POSTINGS	
	Q1 2026	PRIOR QUARTER CHANGE	Q2 2025	PRIOR QUARTER CHANGE	Sept. 2025 (Prelim.)	PRIOR MONTH CHANGE	Sept. 2025 (Prelim.)	CHANGE FROM Aug 2025	CHANGE FROM Aug. 2024	Dec. 2025 As of Jan. 7	PRIOR MONTH CHANGE
CHI	\$955B	1.1% ▲	249,612	1.0% ▲	4,781,542	0.0% ▲	4.2%	0.4pp ▼	0.8pp ▼	184,422	6% ▼
NYC	\$2,565B	1.2% ▲	670,257	0.2% ▲	9,730,403	0.2% ▼	5.3%	0.1pp ▲	1.0pp ▲	321,762	6% ▼
LA	\$1,582B	1.2% ▲	741,023	0.6% ▲	6,421,857	0.7% ▲	5.5%	0.4pp ▼	0.0pp =	191,818	8% ▼
HOU	\$802B	1.5% ▲	173,138	0.5% ▼	3,733,290	0.9% ▲	4.8%	0.2pp ▲	0.4pp ▲	103,737	7% ▼

WHO'S HIRING (DEC. 2025)	
COMPANY	UNIQUE JOB POSTINGS
University of Chicago	1,838
Northwestern Memorial Healthcare	1,783
Advocate Aurora Health	1,332
Starbucks	1,168
CVS Health	1,104
Walgreens Boots Alliance	1,049
Northshore University Health System CDC	1,023






EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY (Q1 2026, 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	248,086 0.4% ▲	94,662 0.3% ▼	268,739 0.2% ▲	406,473 0.0% =	399,299 0.4% ▲	72,938 0.2% ▲					
NYC	572,490 0.4% ▲	193,962 0.3% ▼	383,946 0.1% ▲	331,949 0.1% ▼	853,130 0.2% ▲	64,973 0.0% =					
LA	297,060 0.4% ▲	127,074 0.3% ▼	240,580 0.1% ▲	451,534 0.1% ▼	445,637 0.1% ▲	54,191 0.5% ▲					
HOU	129,611 0.6% ▲	64,447 0.4% ▼	174,704 0.4% ▲	240,057 0.2% ▲	285,463 0.6% ▲	18,448 0.3% ▲					

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE (Q3 2025, CBRE)				
ABSORPTION/DEMAND (YTD)		AVAILABILITY	QUARTERLY CHANGE	VACANCY
OFFICE MARKET (CBD)		(243,183 sqft)	28.0%	▲ 1.0 pp
OFFICE MARKET (SUBURBAN)		129,699 sqft	28.1%	▼ 0.1 pp
INDUSTRIAL MARKET (METRO AREA)		4,924,731 sqft	8.5%	= 0.0 pp

MACROECONOMIC – CITY OF CHICAGO AND GCEP COUNTIES

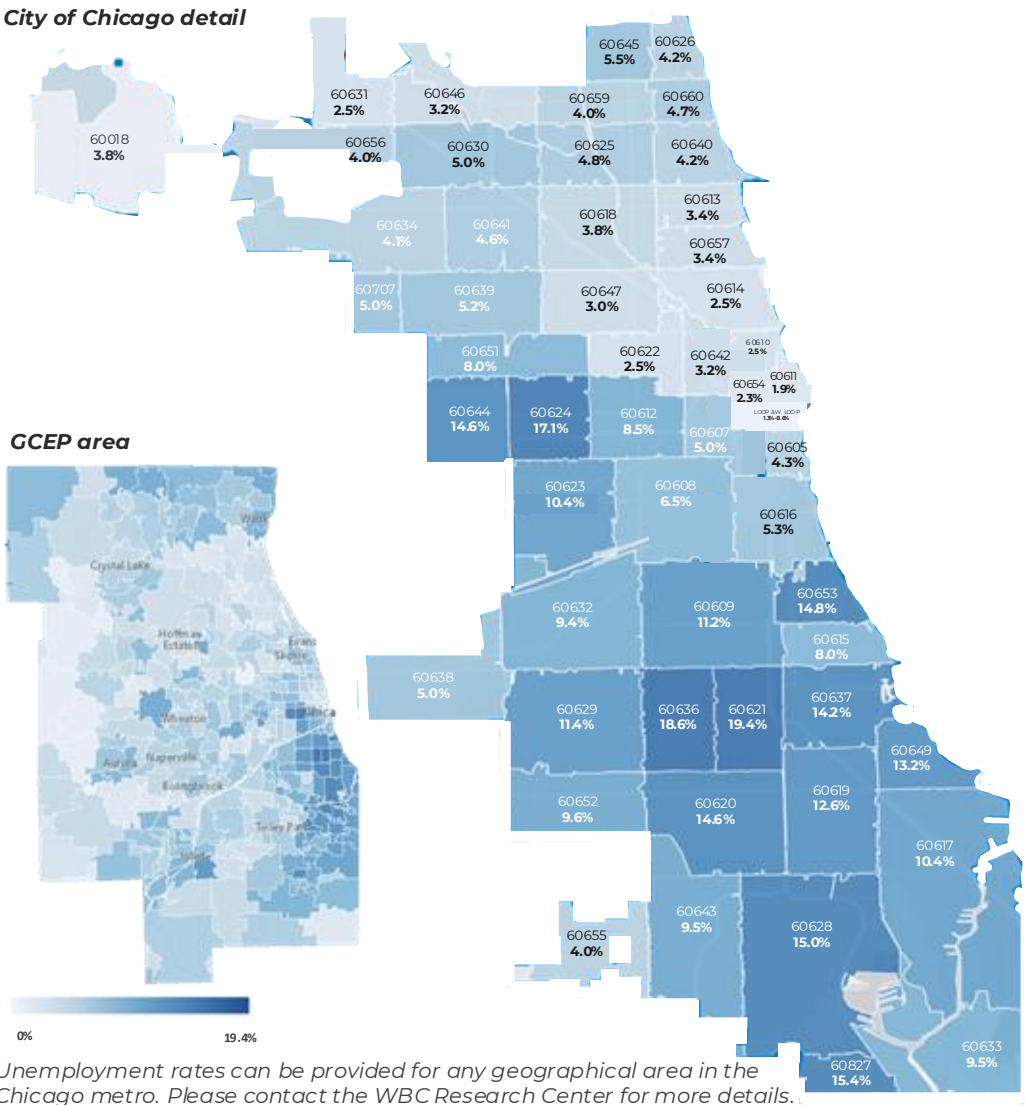
NOMINAL GDP (ESTIMATE)			BUSINESS COUNT		EMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT			ACTIVE JOB POSTINGS	
	2024	CHANGE FROM 2023	Q2 2025	CHANGE FROM Q1 2025	Sept. 2025 (Prelim.)	CHANGE FROM Aug 2025	Sept. 2025 (Prelim.)	CHANGE FROM Aug. 2025	CHANGE FROM Sept. 2024	Dec. 2025 As of Jan. 8	CHANGE FROM Nov. 2025
CHICAGO CITY	\$514.8B	0.6% ▲	137,044	1.1% ▲	1,409,103	0.5% ▲	4.5%	0.5pp ▼	1.1pp ▼	55,909	7% ▼
COOK SUBURBS					1,222,828	0.5% ▲	4.1%	0.5pp ▼	1.0pp ▼	48,673	4% ▼
DUPAGE	\$113.3B	0.1% ▼	33,639	0.9% ▲	499,897	0.5% ▲	3.5%	0.4pp ▼	0.8pp ▼	24,190	6% ▼
KANE	\$33.3B	0.5% ▲	12,889	1.2% ▲	260,907	0.6% ▲	4.4%	0.2pp ▼	0.3pp ▲	8,656	8% ▼
KENDALL	\$4.7B	1.2% ▲	2,428	1.4% ▲	72,534	0.5% ▲	4.2%	0.3pp ▼	0.3pp ▲	1,334	11% ▼
LAKE	\$93.9B	1.5% ▲	19,717	1.1% ▲	351,130	0.6% ▼	4.3%	0.3pp ▼	0.1pp ▲	16,137	6% ▼
MCHENRY	\$14.3B	0.0% =	7,808	1.3% ▲	172,754	0.5% ▲	3.4%	0.5pp ▼	0.9pp ▼	4,253	7% ▼
WILL	\$43.0B	0.2% ▲	15,717	1.2% ▲	374,654	0.5% ▲	3.8%	0.6pp ▼	1.0pp ▼	12,628	7% ▼
METRO AREA	\$920B	3.8% ▲	249,612	1.0% ▲	4,781,542	0.4% ▲	4.2%	0.4pp ▼	0.8pp ▼	184,422	5% ▼

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY (2026, PROJECTED) – CITY OF CHICAGO AND GCEP COUNTIES

	 TECH	CHANGE FROM 2025	 LIFE SCIENCES	CHANGE FROM 2025	 TDL	CHANGE FROM 2025	 MFG	CHANGE FROM 2025	BUS. & PRO. SERVICES	CHANGE FROM 2025	 FOOD MFG	CHANGE FROM 2025
CHICAGO CITY	48,389	1.2% ▲	10,887	1.4% ▼	52,777	1.1% ▲	66,403	1.3% ▼	173,387	0.8% ▲	26,454	0.9% ▲
COOK SUBURBS	14,618	0.4% ▲	18,308	0.5% ▲	104,316	0.8% ▲	105,646	1.5% ▼	71,860	0.4% ▲	15,090	1.9% ▲
DUPAGE	24,487	0.9% ▼	14,039	0.4% ▲	36,881	1.8% ▲	60,586	0.8% ▲	53,857	0.4% ▼	8,716	3.4% ▲
KANE	3,963	3.0% ▲	4,288	3.1% ▲	7,213	2.6% ▲	34,601	1.3% ▲	10,099	1.1% ▲	6,480	5.5% ▲
KENDALL	209	2.1% ▲	106	6.9% ▲	2,349	0.5% ▲	3,067	1.3% ▲	1,077	1.2% ▲	704	3.0% ▲
LAKE	4,146	2.3% ▼	27,409	0.3% ▼	9,447	2.7% ▲	53,446	0.4% ▲	18,551	1.3% ▼	2,367	2.7% ▲
MCHENRY	474	1.0% ▲	691	1.9% ▼	1,910	0.3% ▼	12,208	0.8% ▼	4,020	0.8% ▲	1,189	1.3% ▲
WILL	3,004	4.1% ▲	2,964	0.6% ▲	43,664	3.8% ▲	25,046	1.9% ▲	9,803	1.1% ▲	5,413	3.6% ▲

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE MAP

Estimated unemployment rates by zip code, 2025 (updated yearly)



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. 2025	Prior Month Change	Top Zip Codes for Recruitment Zip codes in Chicago with the highest concentrations of residents in high demand occupations				
Management	23,746	6% ▼	Downtown Station	Fort Dearborn	Main Post Office	Edge-Brook	Norwood Park
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	21,979	5% ▼	North Loop	Chestnut Street	Main Post Office	Fort Dearborn	South Loop
Sales and Related	20,338	8% ▼	Chestnut Street	South Inner Loop	Lincoln Park	South Loop	Main Post Office
Business and Financial Operations	14,620	5% ▼	Main Post Office	Main Post Office	Chestnut Street	Lincoln Park	Chestnut Street
Transportation and Material Moving	13,826	7% ▼	Riverdale	South Shore	Roseland	Hegewisch	Grand Crossing

HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT ZIP CODES (PROJECTED 2025 RATES)

Zip	City of Chicago Neighborhood	2025	Change from 2024	Zip	Chicagoland Suburb	2025	Change from 2024
60621	Englewood	19.4%	▲0.3pp	60419	Dolton	14.3%	▲0.2pp
60636	West Englewood	18.6%	▲0.2pp	60428	Markham	13.7%	▲0.2pp
60624	West Garfield Park	17.1%	▲0.2pp	60433	Joliet	12.6%	▲0.5pp
60827	Riverdale	15.4%	▲0.2pp	60471	Richton Park	12.5%	▲0.2pp
60628	Pullman, Roseland	15.0%	▲0.2pp	60472	Robbins	12.4%	▲0.8pp
60653	Bronzeville	14.8%	▲0.4pp	60473	South Holland	11.4%	▼0.1pp
60620	Auburn Gresham	14.6%	▲0.2pp	60426	Harvey	11.3%	▲0.1pp
60644	Austin	14.6%	▲0.2pp	60409	Calumet City	10.6%	▲0.1pp
60637	Woodlawn	14.2%	▲0.2pp	60429	Hazel Crest	10.5%	▲0.0pp
60649	South Shore	13.2%	▲0.2pp	60155	Broadview	10.4%	▲0.1pp
60619	Chatham, Grand Crossing	12.6%	▲0.2pp	60406	Blue Island	10.2%	▲0.1pp
60629	West Lawn, Chicago Lawn	11.4%	▲0.3pp	60141	Hines	10.1%	▲1.6pp