



ECONOMIC DASHBOARD

Q1: February 6, 2026

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

PRO-CHICAGOLAND DECISIONS

as of February 5, 2026

Companies making a known pro-Chicagoland decision in 2025

97 Expansions
2 Relocations/New Market Entrants6 City investments, including 0 on the S/W Sides
3 GCEP (Regional) investments**223 pro-Chicago decisions in 2025**

140 pro-Chicago decisions in 2024

163 pro-Chicago decisions in 2023

180 pro-Chicago decisions in 2022

TRADE & BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

**TRADE VALUE**
Nov. 2025**HOTEL OCCUPANCY**
CITY (CBD) ONLY
Dec. 2025**OPENABLE RESERVATIONS**
CITY ONLY
Jan. 2026
Benchmark: Jan. 2025**BUSINESS LICENSE APPLICATIONS**
CITY ONLY
2/1/25-1/31/26

SPENDING & ACTIVITY

	CONSUMER PRICE INDEX METRO AREA Dec 2025 12 month % change, all items	TOTAL ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURES METRO AREA 2025	WEEKLY OFFICE OCCUPANCY METRO AREA Week of Jan. 7	PUBLIC TRANSIT Jan. 25 – Jan. 31 Benchmark: Dec. 2019	AVG. DAILY FLIGHTS Dec. 2025
CHI	+2.2%	\$403B (+2.5% from 2024)	51.8%	-38% (CTA)	2,236 (ORD)
NYC	+3.4%	\$959B (+5.0% from 2024)	51.8%	-6% (MTA)	1,163 (JFK)
LA	+3.0%	\$537B (+2.3% from 2024)	41.7%	-31%	959 (LGA)
HOU	+1.6%	\$290B (+4.3% from 2024)	55.8%	-32%	1,491 (MDW)
					1,236

CHICAGO FED SURVEY OF ECONOMIC CONDITIONS
METRO AREA **+13****Jan. 2026**
Suggests economic growth was above trend**+25**
from Dec. 2025CHICAGO BUSINESS BAROMETER
METRO AREA **54.0****Jan. 2026****+11.3**
from Nov. 2025

HOUSING

NEW PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL PERMITS
METRO AREA
1/1/25 – 10/31/25

14,194

-3.4%
FROM YTD 2024
#16 METRO RANKALL BUILDING PERMITS
CITY ONLY
1/1/26 – 1/31/26

89

-85%
CHANGE FROM 1/1/25 – 1/31/25

INNOVATION - METRO AREA

Q4 2025	GROWTH CAPITAL (PRE-VC, VC + PE) RAISED			
	VC	PE	VC + PE	Change from Q4 2024
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	\$.063M	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	Dec. 2025 (Prelim.)	CHANGE FROM Nov. 2025	Dec. 2025 (Prelim.)	CHANGE FROM Nov. 2025	CHANGE FROM Dec. 2024	Jan. 2026 As of Feb. 4	PRIOR MONTH CHANGE
CHI	\$962B	1.1% ▲	249,612	1.0% ▲	4,738,013	0.4% ▼	4.5%	0.0pp =	0.0pp =	1% ▲
NYC	\$2,582B	1.3% ▲	670,257	0.2% ▲	9,847,143	0.3% ▼	4.5%	0.2pp ▼	0.2pp ▲	1% ▲
LA	\$1,592B	1.3% ▲	741,023	0.6% ▲	6,467,919	0.5% ▼	4.8%	0.5pp ▼	0.4pp ▼	2% ▲
HOU	\$808B	1.6% ▲	173,138	0.5% ▼	3,741,135	0.3% ▼	4.2%	0.3pp ▼	0.2pp ▲	6% ▲

WHO'S HIRING (JAN. 2026)

COMPANY	UNIQUE JOB POSTINGS
University of Chicago	1,804
Northwestern Memorial Healthcare	1,551
Advocate Aurora Health	1,404
CVS Health	1,248
Northshore University Health System CDC	1,353
Walgreens Boots Alliance	1,247
Capital One	1,112

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	244,643	0.4% ▲	93,365	0.2% ▲	266,997	0.2% ▲	403,020	0.0% =	391,974	0.3% ▲	71,956	0.1% ▲
NYC	571,319	0.3% ▲	193,500	0.2% ▲	381,563	0.1% ▲	330,797	0.1% ▼	856,279	0.2% ▲	65,362	0.1% ▼
LA	292,990	0.3% ▲	126,623	0.3% ▲	240,849	0.0% =	449,179	0.1% ▼	442,288	0.0% =	53,855	0.3% ▲
HOU	127,910	0.4% ▲	64,036	0.3% ▲	174,136	0.3% ▲	238,285	0.6% ▲	283,419	0.4% ▲	18,141	0.2% ▲

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE (Q4 2025, CBRE)

OFFICE MARKET (CBD)	ABSORPTION/DEMAND (YTD)	AVAILABILITY	QUARTERLY CHANGE	VACANCY	QUARTERLY CHANGE
OFFICE MARKET (CBD)	(142,389 sqft)	29.2%	▲ 1.2 pp	28.2%	▲ 1.7 pp
OFFICE MARKET (SUBURBAN)	116,797 sqft	27.6%	▼ 0.5 pp	26.8%	▼ 0.5 pp
INDUSTRIAL MARKET (METRO AREA)	5,654,037 sqft	9.0%	▲ 0.5 pp	5.4%	▲ 0.1 pp

MACROECONOMIC - CITY OF CHICAGO AND GCEP COUNTIES

NOMINAL GDP (ESTIMATE)			BUSINESS COUNT		EMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT		ACTIVE JOB POSTINGS		
	2025	CHANGE FROM 2024	Q2 2025	CHANGE FROM Q1 2025	Dec. 2025 (Prelim.)	CHANGE FROM Nov. 2025	Dec. 2025 (Prelim.)	CHANGE FROM Nov. 2025	CHANGE FROM Dec. 2024	Jan. 2026 As of Jan. 8	CHANGE FROM Dec. 2025
CHICAGO CITY					1,400,751	0.3% ▼	4.6%	0.3pp ▼	0.0pp =	59,395	3% ▲
COOK SUBURBS	\$560.4B	4.1% ▲	137,044	1.1% ▲	1,215,581	0.3% ▼	4.5%	0.1pp ▼	0.0pp =	49,609	2% ▼
DUPAGE	\$121.7B	2.7% ▲	33,639	0.9% ▲	496,833	0.3% ▼	3.7%	0.2pp ▼	0.1pp ▲	24,907	1% ▲
KANE	\$34.9B	2.1% ▲	12,889	1.2% ▲	253,536	1.2% ▼	5.8%	1.2pp ▲	1.4pp ▲	9,101	3% ▲
KENDALL	\$4.9B	1.0% ▲	2,428	1.4% ▲	70,523	1.2% ▼	5.1%	0.9pp ▲	1.3pp ▲	1,413	4% ▲
LAKE	\$96.9B	1.8% ▲	19,717	1.1% ▲	340,180	1.2% ▼	5.8%	1.2pp ▲	1.3pp ▲	17,235	3% ▲
MCHENRY	\$15.7B	3.5% ▲	7,808	1.3% ▲	171,845	0.3% ▼	4.1%	0.2pp ▲	0.1pp ▲	4,710	8% ▲
WILL	\$45.9B	3.0% ▲	15,717	1.2% ▲	372,481	0.3% ▼	4.5%	0.2pp ▲	0.1pp ▲	13,226	2% ▲
METRO AREA	\$920B	4.9% ▲	249,612	1.0% ▲	4,738,013	0.4% ▼	4.5%	0.0pp =	0.0pp =	192,580	1% ▲

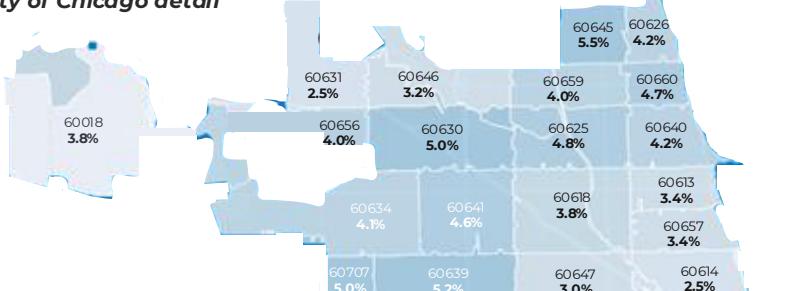
EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY (2026, PROJECTED) - CITY OF CHICAGO AND GCEP COUNTIES

	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% ▲

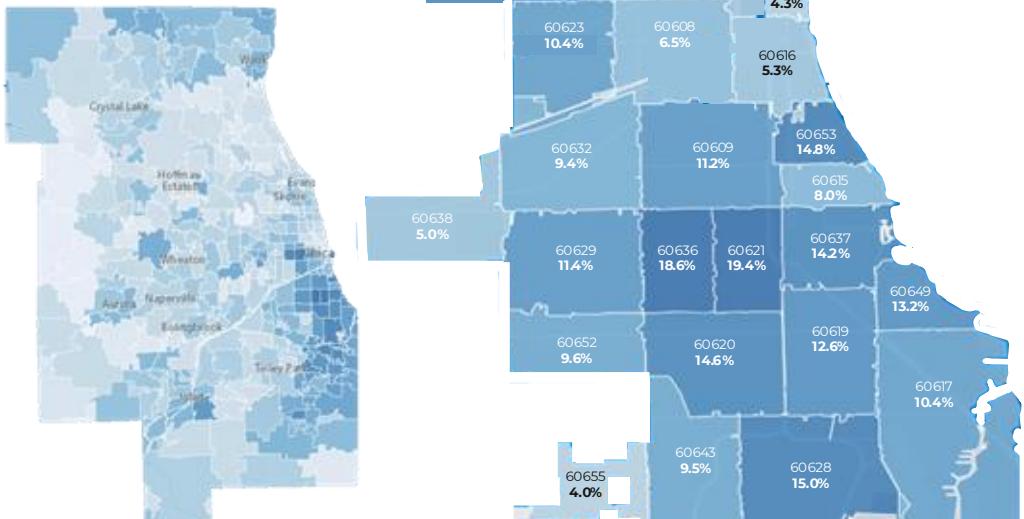
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE MAP

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

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

Occupations with the most unique job postings

UNIQUE JOB POSTINGS METRO AREA

HIGH OPPORTUNITY ZIP CODES IN THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Occupations with the most unique job postings	Jan. 2026	PRIOR MONTH CHANGE	TOP ZIP CODES FOR RECRUITMENT				
			Downtown Station	Fort Dearborn	Main Post Office	Edge-Brook	Norwood Park
Management	24,545	0% =	Downtown Station	Fort Dearborn	Main Post Office	Edge-Brook	Norwood Park
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	23,076	3% ▲	North Loop	Chestnut Street	Main Post Office	Fort Dearborn	South Loop
Sales and Related	22,191	7% ▲	Chestnut Street	South Inner Loop	Lincoln Park	South Loop	Main Post Office
Business and Financial Operations	15,409	1% ▼	Main Post Office	Main Post Office	Chestnut Street	Lincoln Park	Chestnut Street
Transportation and Material Moving	13,425	5% ▼	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