

# The Illinois Workforce

Illinois has an impressive workforce with the skills needed to help businesses succeed. Nearly one-half of the state's 5.9 million workers are professionals, skilled technicians, craftspeople or machine operators. Over 16 percent are employed in manufacturing. And Illinois workers are well educated – 46.3 percent have gained education beyond high school.

The Chicago metropolitan area is home to more than 4 million of the state's workers. Illinois scored third overall in a national study designed to reflect the current perceptions of different U.S. cities as desirable places in which to work. The study, commissioned by the international real estate services firm, Cushman & Wakefield, gave high marks among survey participants for the city's arts and cultural resources. Chicago was most highly rated by persons 35 to 40 years of age, males and single workers. Five other metropolitan areas include labor forces in the 100,000 to 300,000 ranges. An additional 4 metropolitan regions have labor forces between 35,000 and 99,000.

Illinois workers are known for their productivity. Illinois' manufacturing value added of \$82.93 per hour of labor is among the best in the Midwest.

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## Regional Labor Markets in Illinois/2002 Labor Force (Thousands)

<u>Labor Market</u>	<u>2003 Labor Force</u>	<u>Labor Market</u>	<u>2003 Labor Force</u>	<u>Labor Market</u>	<u>2003 Labor Force</u>	<u>Labor Market</u>	<u>2003 Labor Force</u>
Bloomington/ Normal MSA	93.0	Decatur MSA	55.8	Rockford MSA	195.5	St. Louis, IL MSA	284.4
Champaign/Urbana/ Rantoul MSA	100.2	Kankakee PMSA	52.4	Rock Island/ Moline MSA	100.2	Springfield MSA	104.9
Chicago PMSA	4,235.3	Peoria/Pekin MSA	180.1				

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security, Metro Area Annual Average Data  
MSA: OMB Metro Statistical Area; PMSA: OMB Primary Metro Statistical Area

## Non-Agricultural Employment by Industry in Illinois - 2003 Annual Averages (Thousands)

Total	5,817.6
Natural Resources and Mining	9.6
Construction	276.5
Manufacturing	717.5
Wholesale Trade	304.8
Retail Trade	627.3
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	254.7
Information	135.0
Financial Activities	403.0
Professional and Business Services	766.2
Educational and Health Services	717.9
Leisure and Hospitality	498.5
Other Services	250.9
Government	855.9

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security, Current Employment Statistics (CES)

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