



Metropolitan Chicago Region Overview of the Economy



This report is issued by The Workforce Boards of Metropolitan Chicago (WBMC) and the Metro Economic Growth Alliance of Chicago (MEGA) for the purpose of sharing economic and workforce development information for the metropolitan Chicago region. The report is issued on a quarterly basis, providing the most recent available economic indicator data.¹

The metropolitan Chicago region includes the City of Chicago and the following counties: Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Lake, Livingston, McHenry, and Will. The WBMC is a regional consortium of Workforce Boards that have collaborated for the past eight years on initiatives that address workforce and economic development issues. The Workforce Boards oversee development of a workforce system that provides individuals with education and training required for career opportunities in high demand occupations and provides employers with access to a skilled, competitive workforce. The MEGA is a partnership of lead economic organizations from throughout the metropolitan Chicago region that are committed to growing the regional economy through coordinated, effective business development. Both organizations recognize that the quality of its workforce is intrinsically linked to the strength of its economy.

The Region's Jobs

At the end of the third quarter of 2009, the metropolitan Chicago region had 5,031,598 jobs as compared to 5,045,289 at the end of the second quarter — a reduction of 13,691 jobs. Table 1 reflects the geographical distribution of jobs within the region.

The counties losing the most jobs between second and third quarter were Cook (9,180), DuPage (3,415), and Kane (1,327). Counties with an increase in jobs included Will (882), Lake (554), and DeKalb (288). In terms the proportion of county jobs lost, Kankakee (1.8%) and Livingston (1.5%) reflect the largest decreases in jobs. In terms of job increase. Grundy (.9%) and DeKalb (.6%) report the largest gains.

Metropolitan Chicago Region Geographic Distribution of Jobs Table 1								
County	2009 Jobs 2 nd Quarter							
Cook	3,120,882	3,111,702	-9,180	3%				
DuPage	698,336	694,921	-3,415	5%				
Lake	424,530	425,084	554	.1%				
Kane	253,719	252,392	-1,327	5%				
Will	244,086	244,968	882	.4%				
McHenry	121,912	121,668	-244	2%				
Kankakee	55,638	54,653	-985	-1.8%				
DeKalb	51,616	51,904	288	.6%				
Kendall	31,803	31,645	-158	5%				
Grundy	21,787	21,983	196	.9%				
Livingston	20,979	20,677	-302	-1.5%				
Total	5,045,289	5,031,598	-13,691	3%				

¹The source for all data contained in this report is Economic Modeling System, Inc., Strategic Advantage, complete employment for 2nd and 3rd quarter 2009, unless otherwise specified. Second quarter is the period ending March 2009 and third quarter is the period ending June 30, 2009.

Table 2 provides comparative regional data for second and third quarters by major industry. Within the region, the healthcare and social assistance industry has the largest number of jobs (548,681), followed by government (544,785) and retail trade (474,737). The industries with the largest gain in terms of jobs from second to third quarter 2009 were government (4,781) followed by healthcare and social assistance (3,716) and other services, except public administration (2,867). The industries with the largest loss of jobs were manufacturing (-12,263), followed by administrative and waste services (-6,160) and real estate and leasing (-4,363).

Metropolitan Chicago Region Jobs by Industry Table 2									
Industry	2009 Jobs 2 nd Quarter	% Regional Jobs 2 nd Quarter	2009 Jobs 3 rd Quarter	% Regional Jobs 3 nd Quarter	Change from 2 nd to 3 nd Quarter				
Healthcare and social assistance	544,967	10.8%	548,681	10.9%	3,716				
Government	540,004	10.7%	544,785	10.8%	4,781				
Retail trade	472,549	9.4%	474,737	9.5%	2,188				
Professional and technical services	435,871	8.6%	434,259	8.6%	-1,612				
Manufacturing	415,129	8.2%	402,866	8.0%	-12,263				
Administrative and waste services	349,356	6.9%	343,196	6.8%	-6,160				
Finance and insurance	324,023	6.4%	320,715	6.4%	-3,308				
Accommodation and food services	317,140	6.3%	318,835	6.4%	1,695				
Other services, except public administration	259,169	5.1%	262,036	5.2%	2,867				
Wholesale trade	245,641	4.9%	244,958	4.7%	-683				
Transportation and warehousing	244,896	4.9%	242,769	4.8%	-2,127				
Construction	234,235	4.6%	234,673	4.7%	438				
Real estate and rental and leasing	211,731	4.2%	207,368	4.1%	-4,363				
Educational services	151,138	3.0%	153,490	3.1%	2,352				
Information	101,084	2.0%	99,014	2.0%	-2070				
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	94,971	1.9%	96,651	1.9%	1,680				
Management of companies and enterprises	76,108	1.5%	75,338	1.5%	-770				
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	13,636	0.3%	13,405	0.3%	-231				
Utilities	11,979	0.2%	12,094	0.2%	115				
Mining	1,661	<0.1%	1,726	<0.1%	65				
Total	5,045,289	100%	5,031,598	100%	-13,691				



Job Growth

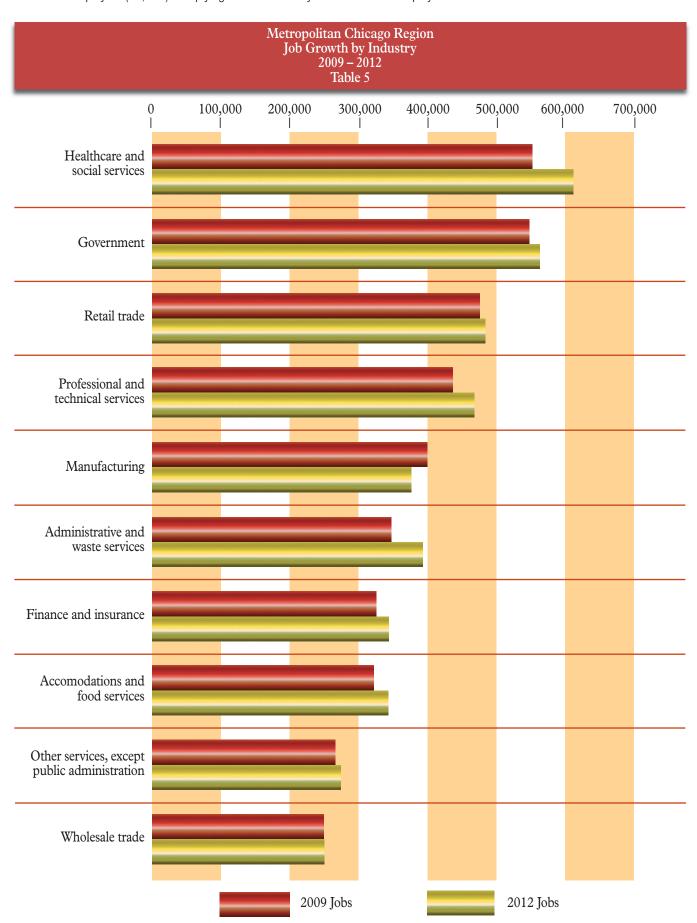
Tables 3 and 4 reflect the anticipated rate of growth for jobs over the next three years. The region's anticipated growth is similar to the nation at 6% and slightly higher than the State's rate of 5%. It is projected that over the next three years, the region's jobs will increase by 286,899, from 5,031,598 to 5,318,497. Currently, the region's jobs represent 70% of the State's total jobs and 72.4% of the State's total business establishments.



Tables 5 and 6 provide projected job growth data specific to the region's industries. The health care and social assistance industry reflects the largest increase in jobs with 63,155, following by administrative and waste services with 49,909 and professional and technical services with 32,864. The manufacturing industry reflects the largest job loss — with a decrease of 26,676 jobs.



While the healthcare and social assistance industry represents the largest number of jobs, it ranks sixth in number of establishments (20,847). Professional and technical services has nearly 150,000 fewer employees than healthcare/social assistance but the largest number of employers (42,479) – implying that this industry has more small employers.



Metropolitan Chicago Region
Industry Growth & Establishments
Table 6

Industry	2009 Jobs 3 rd Quarter	2012 Jobs	Change	2008 Number of Establishments
Healthcare and social assistance	548,681	611,836	63,155	20,847
Government	544,785	559,877	15,092	2,791
Retail trade	474,737	482,912	8,175	25,803
Professional and technical services	434,259	467,123	32,864	42,479
Manufacturing	402,866	376,190	-26,676	14,812
Administrative and waste services	343,196	393,105	49,909	15,639
Finance and insurance	320,715	342,493	21,778	16,645
Accommodation and food services	318,835	341,286	22,451	16,855
Other services, except public administration	262,036	271,739	9,703	25,495
Wholesale trade	244,958	246,999	2,041	24,043
Transportation and warehousing	242,769	254,624	11,855	9,239
Construction	234,673	249,928	15,255	27,755
Real estate and rental and leasing	207,368	239,146	31,778	11,000
Educational services	153,490	171,159	17,669	3,429
Information	99,014	97,574	-1,440	5,187
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	96,651	106,672	10,021	3,457
Management of companies and enterprises	75,338	79,889	4,551	1,234
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	13,405	12,883	-522	485
Utilities	12,094	11,226	-868	196
Mining	1,726	1,836	110	110
Total	5,031,598	5,318,497	286,899	267,503

Location Quotient

The location quotient (LQ) is a way of quantifying industry concentration in a region as compared to the nation. It indicates what makes a region "unique" in comparison to the national average. A LQ score of 1 or more indicates the industry has a relative concentration in the region that is higher than the nation. These industries are viewed as the region's assets. The location quotient is often used to identify emerging export industries that bring money into the region and, if declining, could erode the region's economic base.

As reflected in Table 7, finance and insurance (1.37), wholesale trade ((1.33) and transportation and warehousing and education services (1.33) have the highest 2009 LQs. All three appear to remain relatively steady into 2012 indicating a concentration of these industries in the metro region.

Metropolitan Chicago Region Location Quotient Breakdown Table 7								
Industry	2009 Jobs	2009 LQ	2012 LQ					
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	13,405	0.12	0.12					
Mining	1,726	0.06	0.06					
Utilities	12,094	0.70	0.66					
Construction	234,673	0.81	0.80					
Manufacturing	402,866	1.09	1.04					
Wholesale trade	244,958	1.33	1.30					
Retail trade	474,737	0.90	0.89					
Transportation and warehousing	242,769	1.33	1.33					
Information	99,014	1.01	0.97					
Finance and insurance	320,715	1.37	1.36					
Real estate and rental and leasing	207,368	0.94	0.93					
Professional and technical services	434,259	1.25	1.26					
Management of companies and enterprises	75,338	1.31	1.32					
Administrative and waste services	343,196	1.19	1.22					
Educational services	153,490	1.30	1.33					
Healthcare and social assistance	548,681	1.00	1.02					
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	96,651	0.93	0.94					
Accommodation and food services	318,835	0.92	0.92					
Other services, except public administration	262,036	0.99	0.99					
Government	544,785	0.78	0.78					
Total	5,031,598	1	1					

Metropolitan Chicago Region Unemployment Rates Table 8								
Area	September 2009	August 2009	September 2008	Change Over the Month	Change Over the Year			
Cook County	10.6%	10.0%	6.6%	0.6	4.0			
DeKalb County	9.2%	9.1%	5.5%	0.1	3.7			
DuPage County	8.6%	8.2%	5.0%	0.4	3.6			
Grundy County	11.4%	11.0%	6.1%	0.4	5.3			
Kane County	9.9%	9.7%	5.8%	0.2	4.1			
Kankakee County	12.8%	12.5%	8.6%	0.3	4.2			
Kendall County	10.4%	10.1%	5.7%	0.3	4.7			
Lake County	10.0%	9.8%	6.5%	0.2	3.5			
Livingston County	10.7%	10.7%	6.2%	0.0	4.5			
McHenry County	9.3%	9.1%	5.5%	0.2	3.8			
Will County	9.9%	9.5%	5.7%	0.4	4.2			
Metropolitan Chicago Region	10.2%	9.7%	6.3%	0.5	3.9			

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Not Seasonally Adjusted

Unemployment Summary

Unemployment rates for the region as well as individual counties are reflected in Table 8. Unemployment for the region increased from 9.7% in August 2009 to 10.2% in September 2009. Over the past year, the region's unemployment rate increased significantly, from 6.3% to 10.2%. Grundy County reflects the largest increase over the past year, followed by Kendall and Livingston Counties. Lake County reflects the lowest increase. As of September, DuPage County had the lowest unemployment rate at 8.6%.

Table 9 reflects unemployment by industry. The manufacturing industry reflects the highest regional unemployment for July at 18.5%, with a 2% increase since April. Construction follows at 16.2% for July which is a significant improvement over April at 25.1%. Healthcare and social assistance and government, the two largest industries, had unemployment rates of 4.1% and 3.8% respectively.

Metropolitan Chicago Region Unemployment by Industry Table 9										
Description	2009 Jobs 2 nd Quarter 2009	April Unemployment	% Total Jobs	2009 Jobs 3 rd Quarter 2009	July Unemployment	% Total Jobs	State %	National %		
Manufacturing	415,129	66,559	16%	402,866	74,514	18.5%	18.9%	17.1%		
Construction	234,235	58,871	25.1%	234,673	38,022	16.2%	16.5%	12.9%		
Accommodation and food services	317,140	27,003	8.5%	318,835	37,217	11.7%	11.6%	10.6%		
Administrative and waste services	349,356	42,379	12.1%	343,196	37,402	10.9%	10.8%	10.8%		
Retail trade	472,549	43,987	9.3%	474,737	48,651	10.2%	10.3%	9.7%		
Transportation and warehousing	244,896	19,455	7.9%	242,769	23,771	9.8%	9.9%	8.8%		
Wholesale trade	245,641	20,447	8.3%	244,958	19,956	8.1%	8.3%	8.2%		
Information	101,084	6,820	6.7%	99,014	7,115	7.2%	7.2%	8.3%		
Mining	1,661	162	9.7%	1,726	116	6.7%	5.9%	10.8%		
Professional and technical services	435,871	23,709	5.4%	434,259	27,628	6.4%	6.4%	6.1%		
Educational services	151,138	4,091	2.7%	153,490	9,454	6.2%	6.5%	7.9%		
Other services, except public admin.	259,169	10,929	4.2%	262,036	14,787	5.6%	5.7%	6.0%		
Finance and insurance	324,023	14,722	4.5%	320,715	16,293	5.1%	5.1%	4.6%		
Healthcare and social assistance	544,967	15,565	2.9%	548,681	22,449	4.1%	4.1%	4.5%		
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	94,971	4,828	5.1%	96,651	3,849	4.0%	3.9%	5.4%		
Government	540,004	16,496	3.1%	544,785	20,503	3.8%	3.7%	3.0%		
Management of companies & enterprises	76,108	2,003	2.6%	75,338	2,007	2.7%	2.6%	2.6%		
Real estate and rental and leasing	211,731	5,457	2.6%	207,368	5,475	2.6%	2.6%	2.5%		
Utilities	11,979	213	1.8%	12,094	281	2.3%	2.3%	3.7%		
Agriculture, forestry, fishing & hunting	13,636	173	1.3%	13,405	119	0.9%	0.8%	3.3%		
	5,045,289	422,414		5,031,598	456,568					

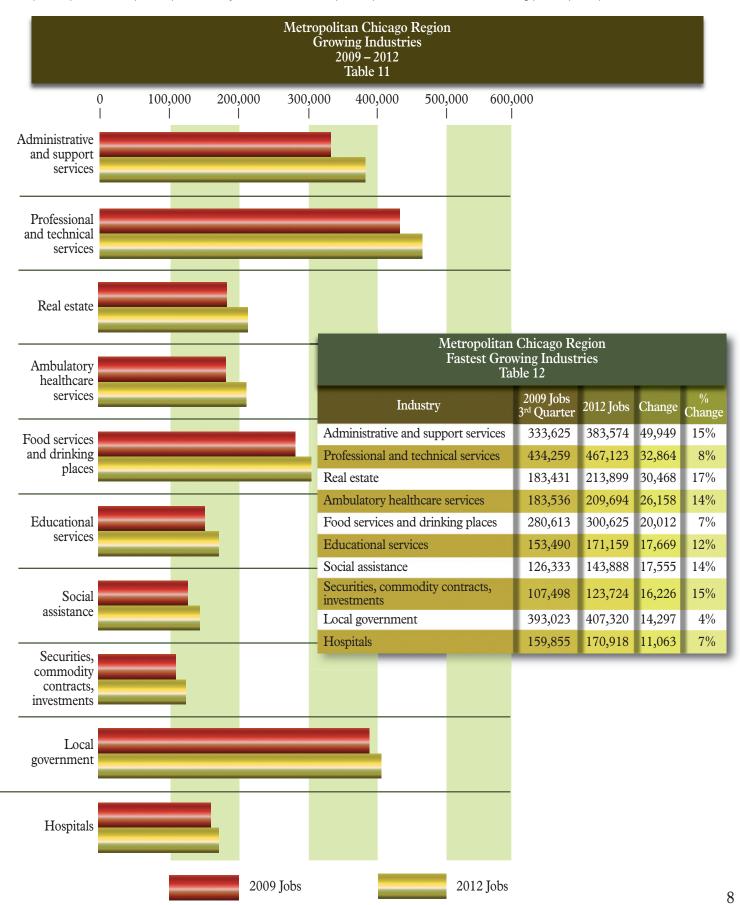
Unemployment rates for occupations are reflected in Table 10. Many of the occupations with the highest unemployment are prevalent in those industries that are experiencing the highest unemployment (e.g., manufacturing, construction, accommodations and food, retail trade, and transportation and warehousing). Production occupations reflect the highest rate of unemployment, with 80,153 unemployed as of July. While office and administrative support jobs had only a 6.9% unemployment rate, it represents the third largest group of individuals unemployed (52,152).

Metropolitan Chicago Region Unemployment by Occupation Table 10								
Occupation	2009 Jobs 3 rd Quarter	July 2009 Unemployment	% Total Jobs	State %	National %			
Production occupations	327,483	80,153	24.5%	24.8%	15.4%			
Food preparation and serving related occupations	310,163	33,634	10.8%	10.7%	9.3%			
Transportation and material moving occupations	340,867	36,700	10.8%	10.8%	12.6%			
Sales and related occupations	639,271	66,773	10.4%	10.4%	7.7%			
Architecture and engineering occupations	63,858	6,663	10.4%	10.6%	7.6%			
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	6,536	585	8.9%	8.6%	24.7%			
Computer and mathematical science occupations	127,972	10,186	8.0%	7.9%	7.0%			
Construction and extraction occupations	204,072	16,034	7.9%	7.6%	15.8%			
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	177,611	13,728	7.7%	7.6%	8.5%			
Healthcare support occupations	109,662	8,341	7.6%	7.7%	6.3%			
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	154,132	11,643	7.6%	7.6%	8.8%			
Office and administrative support occupations	755,096	52,152	6.9%	6.9%	7.0%			
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations	131,465	8,900	6.8%	6.8%	5.8%			
Management occupations	330,364	20,117	6.1%	6.1%	5.7%			
Protective service occupations	106,407	5,723	5.4%	5.3%	7.5%			
Personal care and service occupations	179,279	9,620	5.4%	5.4%	7.7%			
Business and financial operations occupations	330,328	17,325	5.2%	5.2%	3.6%			
Military Occupations	34,747	1,707	4.9%	5.1%	2.2%			
Community and social services occupations	66,349	3,052	4.6%	4.6%	3.0%			
Legal occupations	51,910	2,382	4.6%	4.6%	4.5%			
Education, training, and library occupations	302,830	11,061	3.7%	3.6%	3.9%			
Life, physical, and social science occupations	50,016	1,307	2.6%	2.6%	4.4%			
Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations	231,182	4,905	2.1%	2.1%	2.1%			



Fastest Growing Industries

As the economy recovers in the coming years, it is important to look at what industries will provide the most jobs opportunities. In an effort to be more specific in identifying those industries that will grow the fastest over the next three years, the following data drills down one layer. Tables 11 and 12 identify the top ten industries and anticipated growth, with rates as high as 17%. Those industries expected to experience the largest number of new jobs include: administrative and support services (49,949), professional and technical services (32,864), real estate (30,468), ambulatory healthcare services (26,158), and food services and drinking places (2,012).

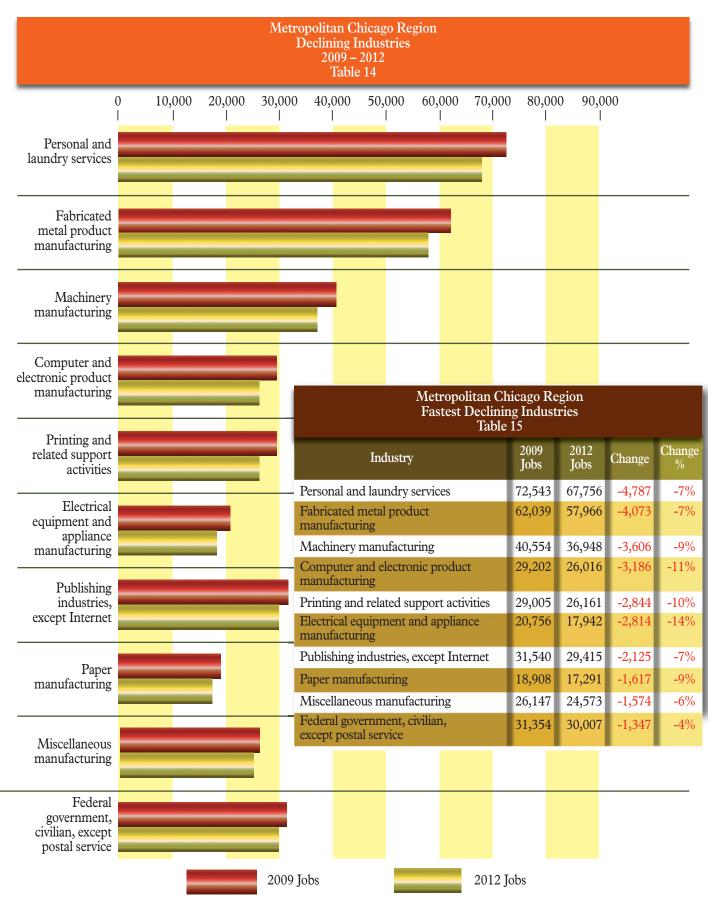


Within the top five fastest growing industries, the occupations with the largest projected growth over the next three years are reflected in Table 13. In looking at the hourly earnings, the professional and technical services occupations are the highest paying and all three require degrees. The only other occupation paying more than \$8.32 an hour (only slightly over minimum wage) to \$11.57 an hour is registered nurses at \$31.47 per hour. The occupation reflecting the largest increase in employment opportunities are real estate sales agents (9,170) and real estate brokers (9,095), with both paying just slightly over \$9.00 an hour. Six of the fifteen occupations that will provide employment opportunities require post secondary education while nine require only on-the-job training or related work experience.

Metropolitan Chicago Region High Demand Occupations in Fastest Growing Industries Table 13								
Occupation	2009 Jobs 3 rd Quarter	2012 Jobs	Change	% Change	% of Industry	Current Hourly Earnings	Educational Level	
Top Three High Demand Occupations in Pr								
Computer software engineers, applications	8,444	10,524	2,080	25%	2%	\$40.40	Bachelor's degree	
Management analysts	25,388	27,437	2,049	8%	6%	\$33.45	Degree plus work experience	
Computer software engineers, systems software	8,660	10,392	1,732	20%	2%	\$42.99	Bachelor's degree	
Top Three High Demand Occupations in Ad	lministrativ	ve and Sup	port Servi	ces				
Janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners	36,901	41,777	4,876	13%	11%	\$11.26	Short-term on-the- job training	
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	18,010	21,048	3,038	17%	5%	\$10.88	Short-term on-the- job training	
Landscaping and groundskeeping workers	16,548	19,096	2,548	15%	5%	\$11.57	Short-term on-the- job training	
Top Three High Demand Occupations in Re	al Estate							
Real estate sales agents	48,286	57,456	9,170	19%	26%	\$9.16	Postsecondary vocational award	
Real estate brokers	47,210	56,305	9,095	19%	26%	\$9.19	Work experience in a related field	
Property, real estate, and community association managers	28,727	34,100	5,373	19%	16%	\$10.99	Bachelor's degree	
Top Three High Demand Occupations in An	nbulatory l	Healthcare	e Services					
Registered nurses	12,217	14,241	2,024	17%	7%	\$31.47	Associate's degree	
Personal and home care aides	8,166	9,882	1,716	21%	4%	\$8.77	Short-term on-the- job training	
Home health aides	9,161	10,864	1,703	19%	5%	\$9.31	Short-term on-the- job training	
Top Three High Demand Occupations in Fo	od Service	s and Drir	nking Place	es				
Combined food preparation and serving workers, including fast food	51,228	55,928	4,700	9%	18%	\$8.32	Short-term on-the- job training	
Waiters and waitresses	48,092	51,214	3,122	6%	17%	\$8.32	Short-term on-the- job training	
Food preparation workers	20,786	22,526	1,740	8%	7%	\$9.35	Short-term on-the- job training	

Fastest Declining Industries

Even when the economy recovers, not all industries will experience growth or stability. Those industries that are expected to suffer the fastest decline over the next three years are reflected in Tables 14 and 15. Of the top ten fastest declining industries, seven are manufacturing. Those with the largest projected job loss are: personal and laundry services (-4,787), fabricated and metal product manufacturing (-4,073), machinery manufacturing (-3,606), computer and electronic product manufacturing (-3,816) and printing and related support activities (-2,844).



Within the top five fastest declining industries, occupations that are expected to experience the greatest job loss over the next three years are reflected in Table 16. Hourly earnings range from a low of \$8.58 to a high of \$42.99. Only two of the positions require post secondary education or beyond — all others require on-the-job training or work experience. Workers affected will likely benefit from retraining that leads to the acquisition of new skills and attainment of certificates/credentials.

Metropolitan Chicago Region Occupations With Greatest Job Loss in Fastest Declining Industries Table 16								
Occupation	2009 Jobs 3 rd Quarter	2012 Jobs	Change	% Change	% of Industry	Current Hourly Earnings	Educational Level	
Occupations with Greatest Job Loss in Person	nal and La	undry Ser	vices					
Nonfarm animal caretakers	6,868	4,749	-2,119	-31%	9%	\$8.58	Short-term on-the- job training	
Personal care and service workers, all other	2,572	2,033	-539	-21%	4%	\$9.62	Short-term on-the- job training	
Managers, all other	1,256	764	-492	-39%	2%	\$33.10	Work experience in a related field	
Occupations with Greatest Job Loss in Fabri	cated Meta	al Product	Manufact	uring				
Cutting, punching, & press machine setters, operators, & tenders, metal and plastic	3,479	3,057	-422	-12%	6%	\$13.63	Moderate-term on-the-job training	
Packers and packagers, hand	1,194	991	-203	-17%	2%	\$9.28	Short-term on-the- job training	
First-line supervisors/managers of production and operating workers	3,005	2,815	-190	-6%	5%	\$26.13	Work experience in a related field	
Occupations with Greatest Job Loss in Mach	ninery Mar	nufacturing	g					
Machinists	4,105	3,720	-385	-9%	10%	\$17.29	Long-term on-the- job training	
Team assemblers	4,009	3,741	-268	-7%	10%	\$10.78	Moderate-term on-the-job training	
Tool and die makers	1,219	1,052	-167	-14%	3%	\$24.31	Long-term on-the- job training	
Occupations with Greatest Job Loss in Com	puter and l	Electronic	Product N	l anufactur	ing			
Electrical and electronic equipment assemblers	2,618	2,208	-410	-16%	9%	\$11.00	Short-term on-the- job training	
Team assemblers	1,640	1,457	-183	-11%	6%	\$10.78	Moderate-term on-the-job training	
Computer software engineers, systems software	1,183	1,009	-174	-15%	4%	\$42.99	Bachelor's degree	
Occupations with Greatest Job Loss in Print	ing and Re	lated Supp	ort Activit	ies				
Bindery workers	2,385	2,089	-296	-12%	8%	\$15.26	Short-term on-the- job training	
Printing machine operators	4,630	4,345	-285	-6%	16%	\$15.22	Moderate-term on-the-job training	
Prepress technicians and workers	1,713	1,501	-212	-12%	6%	\$18.86	Postsecondary vocational award	

For more information, visit www.mega-chicago.org. Inquiries can be directed to jetzkorn@workforceboardsmetrochicago.org.