



ILLINOIS

Fact Sheet

Illinois State Officials

Governor Pat Quinn (D)
 Lieutenant Governor Vacant
 Attorney General Lisa Madigan (D)
 Secretary of State Jesse White (D)
 Comptroller Daniel W. Hynes (D)
 Treasurer Alexi Giannoulias (D)

U.S. Senators

Richard J. Durbin (D)
 Roland W. Burris (D)

Illinois Legislative Leaders

Senate President John J. Cullerton (D)
 Senate Minority Leader Christine Radogno (R)
 Speaker of the House Michael J. Madigan (D)
 House Minority Leader Tom Cross (R)

Legislature

Illinois is divided into 59 legislative and 118 representative districts. One state senator is elected from each legislative district, and one state representative is elected from each representative district, resulting in 177 members of the Illinois General Assembly.

Illinois History

- French explorer Louis Jolliet and Jesuit Father Jacques Marquette discovered the area known as Illinois in 1673.
- The Illinois area was organized as a territory on February 3, 1809.
- Illinois became the 21st state to enter the Federal Union on December 3, 1818.
- Shadrack Bond was the first Governor of Illinois in 1818.

Population (Based on the 2000 U.S. census, 2008 estimates)

- Illinois is the fifth-most populous state in the country with a population of 12,901,563.
- Illinois has 102 counties. The largest in population is Cook, which includes Chicago and its suburbs, with a population of 5,294,664. Pope County, located in the Shawnee National Forest in southeastern Illinois, is the smallest in population with 4,079 people.

Capital Cities

- Kaskaskia — 1818 to 1820
- Vandalia — 1820 to 1839
- Springfield — December 1839 to present

State Capitol Building

- Illinois has had six State Capitol Buildings — one in Kaskaskia, three in Vandalia and two in Springfield.
- The fifth Capitol — the Old State Capitol in downtown Springfield — is where Abraham Lincoln served as a state legislator and is open to the public as a historic site.
- The sixth and present State Capitol is located at Second & Capitol Streets in Springfield and dates back to 1868. It took 20 years to complete the building at a cost of \$4.5 million.

State Symbols

The Great Seal of Illinois and the Illinois State Flag are two of the state's official symbols. Other state symbols are:

- Amphibian Eastern Tiger Salamander
- Animal White-tailed Deer
- Bird Cardinal
- Dance Square Dance
- Fish Bluegill
- Flower Violet
- Fossil Tully Monster
- Fruit Goldrush Apple
- Insect Monarch Butterfly
- Mineral Fluorite
- Nickname Prairie State
- Prairie Grass Big Bluestem
- Reptile Painted Turtle
- Slogan "Land of Lincoln"
- Snack Food Popcorn
- Soil Drummer Silty Clay Loam
- Song "Illinois"
- Tree White Oak

JESSE WHITE
 SECRETARY OF STATE



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Illinois' 10 Most Populous Cities (2008 estimates)

Chicago (Cook County)	2,853,114
Aurora (DuPage/Kane/Kendall/Will Counties)	171,782
Rockford (Winnebago County)	157,272
Joliet (Kendall/Will Counties)	146,125
Naperville (DuPage/Will Counties)	143,112
Springfield (Sangamon County)	117,352
Peoria (Peoria County)	114,114
Elgin (Cook/Kane Counties)	106,330
Waukegan (Lake County)	90,788
Cicero (Cook County)	80,414

Geography

- Illinois is 385 miles long and 218 miles wide.
- Land and water areas measure approximately 58,000 square miles.
- The highest point is 1,235 feet at Charles Mound in Jo Daviess County.
- The lowest point is 279 feet at Fort Defiance Point in Alexander County.

Economy

- Illinois is a leader in agriculture, transportation, manufacturing and food processing.
- Illinois ranks sixth in the nation in exports with \$53.7 billion.
- Illinois ranks sixth in the nation in retail and food services sales, which totaled \$176.4 billion in 2007.
- Illinois ranks 12th in the nation in per capita income with \$42,397 in 2008.

Transportation

- With Lake Michigan to the northeast, the Mississippi bordering the west and its location in the Midwest, Illinois is the hub of America's transportation network and a mainstream of American shipping.
- Illinois ranks fourth in the nation in the total value of truck shipments and the value of shipments originating in the state.
- Illinois has the fourth-largest highway system in the nation with 139,157 miles of roads.
- Illinois' nearly 8,000-mile network of railroads is the nation's second largest.
- O'Hare International Airport in Chicago is the nation's second-busiest airport.

Industry/Manufacturing

- Illinois is a leader in the production of machinery, electronics, housewares, appliances, foods, grains and pet food, among other items.
- Illinois ranks fifth in the nation in the number of manufacturing establishments, with 15,692 plants employing approximately 648,892 people in 2007.

Coal/Oil Production

- Illinois produces nearly 32 million tons of coal annually, ranking the state ninth among coal-producing states.
- Oil production in Illinois was 9.4 million barrels in 2008, ranking it 14th among oil-producing states.

Agriculture

- Illinois has approximately 75,900 farms on nearly 27 million acres.
- Illinois is the nation's second-leading soybean producer, with 427 million bushels harvested in 2008.
- Illinois is the second-leading state in corn production, with 2.1 billion bushels harvested in 2008.
- Other major agricultural commodities include wheat, sorghum, pork, beef, milk, fruits, vegetables and hay.

Technology

Illinois is a leader in information technology and biotechnology. The University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana is home of the Center for Supercomputing Research & Development, and Argonne National Laboratory near Chicago is one of the largest state-of-the-art scientific laboratories and research centers in the country.

Higher Education

- Illinois ranks seventh in the nation in the number of institutions for higher education.
- Illinois has the third-largest community college system in the country.

Illinois' Major Public Universities and their populations (2008)

University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana	43,246
Illinois State University • Normal	20,799
University of Illinois at Chicago	25,835
Western Illinois University • Macomb	13,175
University of Illinois at Springfield	4,711
Northeastern Illinois University • Chicago	11,193
Southern Illinois University Carbondale	20,673
Eastern Illinois University • Charleston	12,040
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville	13,602
Governors State University • University Park	5,636
Northern Illinois University • DeKalb	24,397
Chicago State University • Chicago	6,820

Other Illinois Facts

- Illinois is home to the nationally and internationally acclaimed Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield.
- Illinois lays claim to our nation's 44th President, Barack Obama, whose home is in Chicago.
- Illinois boasts the nation's tallest office building — the 110-story Willis Tower (formerly the Sears Tower) in Chicago.
- The Illinois State Fair in Springfield boasts one of the largest livestock expositions in the country.
- Illinois has the sixth-largest State Parks and Recreation areas in the nation, with 538,000 acres serving 46,005 visitors annually.