

### DuPage County, Illinois

**Economic Overview** 

April 2024

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# **Demographic Profile**

The population in DuPage County, Illinois was 930,559 per American Community Survey data for 2017-2021.

The region has a civilian labor force of 513,798 with a participation rate of 68.6%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in DuPage County, Illinois, 54.0% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 35.8% in the nation.

The median household income in DuPage County, Illinois is \$107,035 and the median house value is \$361,700.

	54111						
		Percent	Value				
	DuPage County, Illinois	Illinois	USA	DuPage County, Illinois	Illinois	USA	
Demographics							
Population (ACS)	_	_	-	930,559	12,757,634	331,097,593	
Male	49.6%	49.5%	49.6%	461,287	6,313,019	164,200,298	
Female	50.4%	50.5%	50.4%	469,272	6,444,615	166,897,295	
Median Age <sup>2</sup>	_	_	_	39.9	38.7	38.5	
Under 18 Years	22.3%	22.1%	22.1%	207,472	2,820,477	73,213,705	
18 to 24 Years	8.6%	9.3%	9.4%	80,206	1,190,741	31,282,896	
25 to 34 Years	12.4%	13.6%	13.7%	114,989	1,735,194	45,388,153	
35 to 44 Years	13.4%	13.1%	12.9%	124,498	1,673,766	42,810,359	
45 to 54 Years	13.1%	12.6%	12.4%	121,587	1,607,931	41,087,357	
55 to 64 Years	13.8%	13.0%	12.9%	128,788	1,658,618	42,577,475	
65 to 74 Years	9.8%	9.5%	9.7%	91,005	1,212,282	32,260,679	
75 Years and Over	6.7%	6.7%	6.8%	62,014	858,625	22,476,969	
Race: White	70.0%	65.8%	65.9%	651,437	8,388,659	218,123,424	
Race: Black or African American	4.9%	13.9%	12.5%	45,625	1,774,605	41,288,572	
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	0.3%	0.4%	0.8%	2,746	55,819	2,786,431	
Race: Asian	12.6%	5.8%	5.8%	116,819	738,071	19,112,979	
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	361	5,476	624,863	
Race: Some Other Race	4.6%	6.6%	6.0%	42,819	842,553	20,018,544	
Race: Two or More Races	7.6%	7.5%	8.8%	70,752	952,451	29,142,780	
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	14.8%	17.8%	18.7%	137,806	2,275,704	61,755,866	
Population Growth							
Population (Pop Estimates) <sup>4</sup>	_	_	_	920,901	12,582,032	333,287,557	
Population Annual Average Growth <sup>4</sup>	-0.1%	-0.2%	0.6%	-782	-30,100	1,940,990	
People per Square Mile	-	—	—	2,809.4	226.7	94.3	
Economic							
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	68.6%	65.1%	63.3%	513,798	6,678,194	167,857,207	
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	87.2%	84.7%	82.8%	314,588	4,239,922	106,380,520	
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.1%	0.2%	0.5%	417	19,469	1,236,378	
Veterans, Age 18-64	1.9%	3.1%	4.3%	10,593	244,188	8,636,019	
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	86.3%	79.4%	77.1%	9,146	193,835	6,656,238	
Median Household Income <sup>2</sup>	_	_	_	\$107,035	\$78,433	\$75,149	
Per Capita Income	_	_	_	\$55,107	\$43,198	\$41,261	
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	_	_	_	28.4	28.4	26.7	
Commute via Public Transportation	5.1%	7.0%	3.8%	24,612	434,228	5,945,723	
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64							
No High School Diploma	5.9%	9.0%	10.1%	28,790	601,352	17,373,867	
High School Graduate	16.3%	23.4%	25.1%	79,905	1,562,144	43,176,248	
Some College, No Degree	16.1%	19.6%	19.7%	78,851	1,309,077	33,916,989	
Associate's Degree	7.7%	8.9%	9.2%	37,915	592,752	15,886,884	

#### Summary<sup>1</sup>

Source: JobsEQ<sup>®</sup>, http://www.chmuraecon.com/jobseq Copyright © 2024 Chmura Economics & Analytics, All Rights Reserved.

#### Summary<sup>1</sup>

		Percent			Value	
	DuPage County,			DuPage County,		
	Illinois	Illinois	USA	Illinois	Illinois	USA
Bachelor's Degree	32.5%	23.9%	22.4%	159,209	1,597,576	38,451,123
Postgraduate Degree	21.5%	15.2%	13.4%	105,192	1,012,608	23,058,233
Housing						
Total Housing Units	_	_	_	365,347	5,427,357	140,943,613
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) <sup>2,5</sup>	_	_	_	\$361,700	\$239,100	\$281,900
Homeowner Vacancy	0.8%	1.3%	1.1%	2,197	44,539	931,393
Rental Vacancy	5.7%	5.6%	5.5%	5,691	98,381	2,623,236
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	26.9%	33.3%	35.2%	93,684	1,655,952	44,238,593
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	4.2%	10.8%	8.3%	14,670	537,346	10,474,870
Social						
Poverty Level (of all people)	6.3%	11.8%	12.5%	57,674	1,467,893	40,521,584
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	6.9%	13.0%	11.5%	24,002	643,897	14,486,880
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	1.4%	1.4%	1.4%	13,258	179,407	4,476,703
Disconnected Youth <sup>3</sup>	1.0%	2.4%	2.5%	490	16,063	430,795
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	20.3%	33.6%	34.0%	41,224	906,495	23,568,955
Uninsured	5.2%	7.0%	8.7%	47,832	882,918	28,315,092
With a Disability, Age 18-64	5.7%	9.2%	10.5%	32,332	712,767	20,879,820
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	57.1%	47.3%	45.5%	18,458	337,448	9,492,098
Foreign Born	19.9%	14.1%	13.7%	184,833	1,804,681	45,281,071
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	9.3%	8.6%	8.2%	81,855	1,030,616	25,704,846

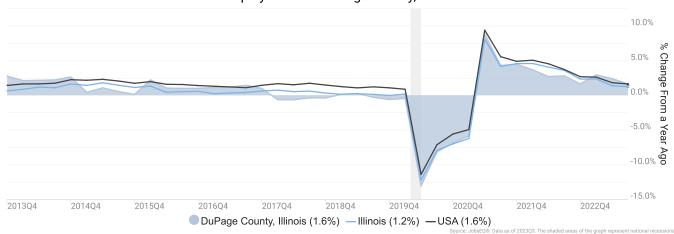
#### Source: JobsEQ®

American Community Survey 2018-2022, unless noted otherwise
Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.
Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.

Consust Population Established for calculating median house values changed with the 2022 data set, so pre-2022 values are not directly comparable with later data.

# **Employment Trends**

As of 2023Q3, total employment for DuPage County, Illinois was 648,125 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2023Q3, employment increased 1.6% in the region.

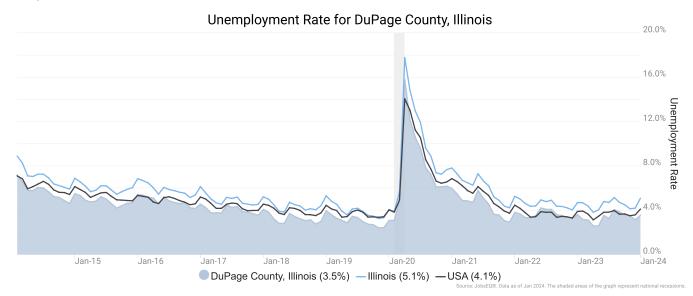


Employment for DuPage County, Illinois

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2023Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q3.

# **Unemployment Rate**

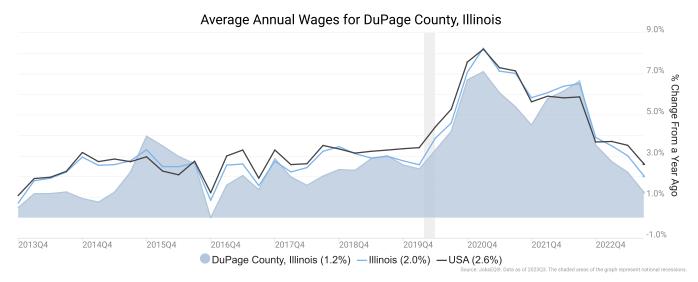
The unemployment rate for DuPage County, Illinois was 3.5% as of January 2024. The regional unemployment rate was lower than the national rate of 4.1%. One year earlier, in January 2023, the unemployment rate in DuPage County, Illinois was 3.6%.



Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through January 2024

# Wage Trends

The average worker in DuPage County, Illinois earned annual wages of \$76,240 as of 2023Q3. Average annual wages per worker increased 1.2% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$70,183 in the nation as of 2023Q3.



Annual average wages per worker data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2023Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q3.

# Cost of Living Index

The Cost of Living Index estimates the relative price levels for consumer goods and services. When applied to wages and salaries, the result is a measure of relative purchasing power. The cost of living is 16.9% higher in DuPage County, Illinois than the U.S. average.

#### **Cost of Living Information**

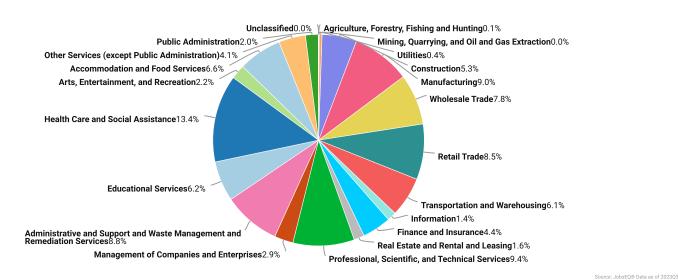
		Cost of Living Inde	ĸ
	Annual Average Salary	(Base US)	US Purchasing Power
DuPage County, Illinois	\$76,240	116.9	\$65,194
Illinois	\$72,625	103.1	\$70,413
USA	\$70,183	100.0	\$70,183

Source: JobsEQ® Data as of 2023Q3

Cost of Living per COLI, data as of 2023Q3, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

# **Industry Snapshot**

The largest sector in DuPage County, Illinois is Health Care and Social Assistance, employing 86,720 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (60,810 workers) and Manufacturing (58,085). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Wholesale Trade (LQ = 2.05), Management of Companies and Enterprises (1.86), and Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (1.39).



### Total Workers for DuPage County, Illinois by Industry

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2023Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q3.

Sectors in DuPage County, Illinois with the highest average wages per worker are Management of Companies and Enterprises (\$153,881), Utilities (\$133,203), and Finance and Insurance (\$126,654). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Health Care and Social Assistance (+11,787 jobs), Transportation and Warehousing (+6,727), and Construction (+1,885).

Over the next 1 year, employment in DuPage County, Illinois is projected to contract by 3,689 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Health Care and Social Assistance with a +0.2% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Health Care and Social Assistance (+151 jobs), Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (+56), and Management of Companies and Enterprises (+9).

#### DuPage County, Illinois, 2023Q3<sup>1</sup>

			Current		5-Year History						
NAICS	Industry	Empl	Avg Ann Wages	LQ	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
NAICS	Health Care and Social	Стири	wages	LQ	Change	Allin 70	Demanu	LAILS	Transfers	Glowin	Glowin
62	Assistance	86,720	\$71,188	0.92	11,787	3.0%	8,623	4,080	4,392	151	0.2%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	60,810	\$106,367	1.27	-2,717	-0.9%	5,007	2,007	2,944	56	0.1%
31	Manufacturing	58,085	\$85,107	1.11	943	0.3%	5,191	2,333	3,496	-638	-1.1%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	56,717	\$56,501	1.39	-2,362	-0.8%	6,040	2,786	3,692	-439	-0.8%
44	Retail Trade	55,036	\$46,273	0.85	-7,014	-2.4%	6,764	3,335	4,178	-749	-1.4%
42	Wholesale Trade	50,277	\$103,574	2.05	-276	-0.1%	4,500	2,033	3,028	-562	-1.1%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	43,078	\$29,303	0.77	-2,305	-1.0%	7,232	3,415	4,165	-347	-0.8%
61	Educational Services	39,869	\$60,611	0.77	-1,727	-0.8%	3,404	1,834	1,902	-333	-0.8%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	39,609	\$65,864	1.24	6,727	3.8%	4,262	1,886	2,440	-63	-0.2%
23	Construction	34,277	\$87,356	0.88	1,885	1.1%	2,669	1,197	1,754	-282	-0.8%
52	Finance and Insurance	28,565	\$126,654	1.10	-3,287	-2.2%	2,256	1,003	1,384	-132	-0.5%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	26,622	\$50,257	0.96	-1,726	-1.2%	2,856	1,324	1,706	-173	-0.7%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	18,673	\$153,881	1.86	-1,281	-1.3%	1,605	651	945	9	0.0%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	14,194	\$30,962	1.12	638	0.9%	2,076	895	1,216	-36	-0.3%
92	Public Administration	12,679	\$84,949	0.43	-468	-0.7%	1,053	513	649	-110	-0.9%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	10,354	\$84,613	0.90	-789	-1.5%	931	477	520	-66	-0.6%
51	Information	8,974	\$113,730	0.69	-2,267	-4.4%	793	316	486	-9	-0.1%
22	Utilities	2,767	\$133,203	0.84	222	1.7%	205	99	142	-36	-1.3%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	503	\$41,706	0.06	-53	-2.0%	56	29	31	-3	-0.7%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	203	\$96,731	0.09	-76	-6.2%	17	7	12	-2	-1.1%
99	Unclassified	114	\$70,702	0.08	-36	-5.4%	12	6	7	-1	-0.6%
	Total - All Industries	648,125	\$76,240	1.00	-4,182	-0.1%	66,820	31,085	39,424	-3,689	-0.6%

Source: JobsEQ®

Data as of 2023Q3

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. All data based upon a four-quarter moving average

Exits and transfers are approximate estimates based upon occupation separation rates.

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2023Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q3. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

# **Occupation Snapshot**

The largest major occupation group in DuPage County, Illinois is Office and Administrative Support Occupations, employing 84,961 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Transportation and Material Moving Occupations (67,500 workers) and Management Occupations (60,134). High location quotients (LQs) indicate occupation groups in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The major groups with the largest LQs in the region are Computer and Mathematical Occupations (LQ = 1.28), Management Occupations (1.23), and Transportation and Material Moving Occupations (1.19).

Occupation groups in DuPage County, Illinois with the highest average wages per worker are Management Occupations (\$142,100), Legal Occupations (\$138,800), and Computer and Mathematical Occupations (\$109,200). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 1.3% among Legal Occupations to 5.7% among Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations.

Over the next 1 year, the fastest growing occupation group in DuPage County, Illinois is expected to be Computer and Mathematical Occupations with a +0.7% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Healthcare Support Occupations (+187 jobs) and Computer and Mathematical Occupations (+178). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Office and Administrative Support Occupations (9,142 jobs) and Transportation and Material Moving Occupations (8,253).

			Current					5-Year History				1-Year Forecast			
SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages <sup>2</sup>	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads <sup>3</sup>	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth	
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	84,961	\$51,700	1.09	2,272	3.2%	1,594	-9,684	-2.1%	7,862	4,302	4,840	-1,280	-1.5%	
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	67,500	\$47,700	1.19	2,945	5.5%	1,280	4,677	1.4%	7,957	3,340	4,913	-296	-0.4%	
11-0000	Management	60,134	\$142,100	1.23	956	1.7%	2,051	5,492	1.9%	4,287	1,576	2,856	-145	-0.2%	
41-0000	Sales and Related	56,541	\$62,600	0.98	2,008	3.9%	2,516	-6,177	-2.1%	6,033	2,917	3,749	-632	-1.1%	
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	45,904	\$93,600	1.11	1,108	2.3%	1,335	2,297	1.0%	3,472	1,368	2,219	-116	-0.3%	
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	42,550	\$35,900	0.81	1,898	5.7%	1,768	-1,497	-0.7%	7,437	3,504	4,252	-319	-0.7%	
51-0000	Production	42,494	\$49,700	1.17	1,082	3.9%	736	-1,222	-0.6%	3,855	1,760	2,633	-538	-1.3%	
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	40,001	\$102,900	1.06	541	1.5%	1,617	6,611	3.7%	2,141	1,206	943	-8	0.0%	
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	27,440	\$66,200	0.80	787	2.6%	1,035	-1,282	-0.9%	2,213	1,224	1,183	-193	-0.7%	
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	26,648	\$109,200	1.28	525	2.0%	1,114	-1,323	-1.0%	1,754	583	992	178	0.7%	
31-0000	Healthcare Support	25,135	\$40,400	0.87	683	3.7%	943	4,260	3.8%	3,650	1,603	1,860	187	0.7%	
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	23,874	\$64,900	0.94	328	2.1%	563	-1,065	-0.9%	1,914	892	1,149	-127	-0.5%	
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	23,657	\$83,000	0.80	677	4.6%	143	-263	-0.2%	1,784	780	1,163	-159	-0.7%	
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	19,779	\$41,300	0.93	736	5.1%	577	-2,327	-2.2%	2,449	1,216	1,375	-142	-0.7%	
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	13,845	\$43,300	0.86	485	4.2%	515	-712	-1.0%	2,338	934	1,425	-22	-0.2%	
33-0000	Protective Service	10,615	\$59,900	0.77	373	3.9%	214	88	0.2%	1,170	598	662	-90	-0.8%	
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	10,302	\$100,300	0.98	146	1.6%	581	-348	-0.7%	620	280	374	-34	-0.3%	

### DuPage County, Illinois, 2023Q3<sup>1</sup>

#### DuPage County, Illinois, 2023Q31

			Current					5-Year History				1-Year Forecast			
SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages <sup>2</sup>	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads <sup>3</sup>	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth	
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	9,903	\$70,800	0.83	508	4.3%	371	-517	-1.0%	902	410	542	-50	-0.5%	
21-0000	Community and Social Service	7,883	\$58,700	0.68	172	1.9%	450	72	0.2%	682	299	370	13	0.2%	
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	4,446	\$96,600	0.78	103	2.2%	239	78	0.4%	341	91	255	-5	-0.1%	
23-0000	Legal	3,718	\$138,800	0.70	55	1.3%	67	-209	-1.1%	203	103	108	-9	-0.2%	
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	796	\$47,300	0.21	26	5.4%	2	-8	-0.2%	104	43	69	-8	-1.0%	
	Total - All Occupations	648,125	\$71,300	1.00	18,415	3.3%	19,710	-3,061	-0.1%	63,274	29,030	37,933	-3,689	-0.6%	

Source: JobsEQ®

Data as of 2023Q3 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

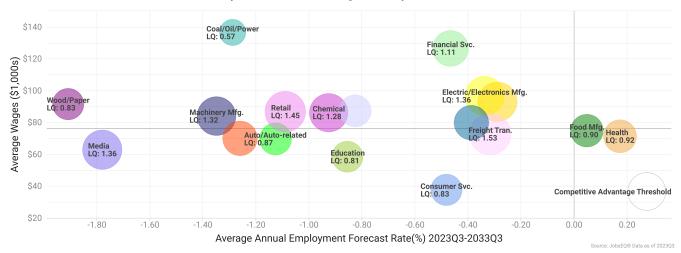
1. Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise. 2. Wage data represent the average for all Covered Employment

3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the

popup window ad list). Ad counts for ZCTA-based regions are estimates. Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2023Q2, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q3. Wages by occupation are as of 2023 provided by the BLS and imputed where necessary. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

# **Industry Clusters**

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in DuPage County, Illinois with the highest relative concentration is Freight Tran. with a location quotient of 1.53. This cluster employs 28,352 workers in the region with an average wage of \$72,682. Employment in the Freight Tran. cluster is projected to contract in the region about 0.3% per year over the next ten years.

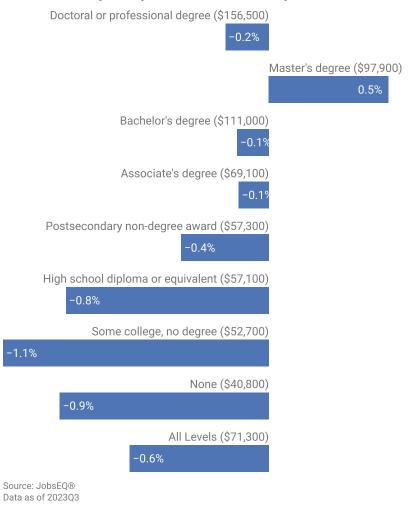


Industry Clusters for DuPage County, Illinois as of 2023Q3

Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2023Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q3. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

# **Education Levels**

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in DuPage County, Illinois is projected to contract 0.6% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to contract 0.2% per year, those requiring a bachelor's degree are forecast to contract 0.1% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to contract 0.1% per year.

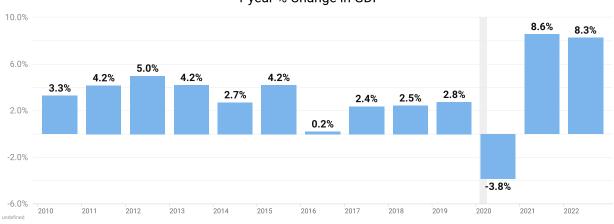


### Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Education Levels

Employment by occupation data are estimates are as of 2023Q3. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

# **Gross Domestic Product**

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2022, nominal GDP in DuPage County, Illinois expanded 8.3%. This follows growth of 8.6% in 2021. As of 2022, total GDP in DuPage County, Illinois was \$106,269,932,000.



1 year % Change in GDP

Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2022.

Of the sectors in DuPage County, Illinois, Wholesale Trade contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2022, \$14,465,177,000 The next-largest contributions came from Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (\$12,218,280,000); Manufacturing (\$11,822,315,000); and Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (\$9,687,330,000).

### GDP (in \$ millions)

Wholesale Trade (42)

\$14,465 Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (53) \$12,218 Manufacturing (31) \$11,822 Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (54) \$9,687 Finance and Insurance (52) \$8,594 Health Care and Social Assistance (62) \$7,958 Retail Trade (44) \$6,145 Transportation and Warehousing (48) \$4,883 Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (56) \$4,785 Construction (23)

Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2022.

# DuPage County, Illinois Regional Map



### What is a location quotient?

A location quotient (LQ) is a measurement of concentration in comparison to the nation. An LQ of 1.00 indicates a region has the same concentration of an industry (or occupation) as the nation. An LQ of 2.00 would mean the region has twice the expected employment compared to the nation and an LQ of 0.50 would mean the region has half the expected employment in comparison to the nation.

### What is separation demand?

Separation demand is the number of jobs required due to separations—labor force exits (including retirements) and turnover resulting from workers moving from one occupation into another. Note that separation demand does not include all turnover—it does not include when workers stay in the same occupation but switch employers. The total projected demand for an occupation is the sum of the separation demand and the growth demand (which is the increase or decrease of jobs in an occupation expected due to expansion or contraction of the overall number of jobs in that occupation).

### What is a cluster?

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. If a regional cluster has a location quotient of 1.25 or greater, the region is considered to possess a competitive advantage in that cluster.

### What is the difference between industry wages and occupation wages?

Industry wages and occupation wages are estimated via separate data sets, often the time periods being reported do not align, and wages are defined slightly differently in the two systems (for example, certain bonuses are included in the industry wages but not the occupation wages). It is therefore common that estimates of the average industry wages and average occupation wages in a region do not match exactly.

### What is NAICS?

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is used to classify business establishments according to the type of economic activity. The NAICS Code comprises six levels, from the "all industry" level to the 6-digit level. The first two digits define the top level category, known as the "sector," which is the level examined in this report.

### What is SOC?

The Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC) is used to classify workers into occupational categories. All workers are classified into one of over 804 occupations according to their occupational definition. To facilitate classification, occupations are combined to form 22 major groups, 95 minor groups, and 452 occupation groups. Each occupation group includes detailed occupations requiring similar job duties, skills, education, or experience.

About This Report

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