For the December 2006 Illinois Job Index, the Coalition issued a Negative rating. Unlike the Nation and RMW the state’s economy slightly declined in previous month.

The Illinois Coalition for Jobs, Growth & Prosperity publishes the monthly Illinois Job Index and MSA Report as tools for elected officials, policy leaders and the public. We can better understand the Illinois economy and business climate by comparing and measuring Illinois employment growth rates against those of the Rest of the Midwest (RMW: Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin) and the Nation. Data and analysis is provided by the Illinois Economic Observatory / Regional Economics Applications Laboratory, University of Illinois.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>December 2006</th>
<th>Total non-farm employment</th>
<th>Oct 2006 – Nov 2006</th>
<th>Last 12 months</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Growth Rate%</td>
<td>Number of Jobs</td>
<td>Growth Rate%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nation</td>
<td>+0.10</td>
<td>+132,000</td>
<td>+1.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RMW</td>
<td>+0.07</td>
<td>+14,200</td>
<td>+0.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>-0.01</td>
<td>-500</td>
<td>+1.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Talking Points**

**Illinois Notes**

- By loosing 500 jobs, leading to a negative rating in November, Illinois continued a loss in rate of job creation after July. With losses in two consecutive months up to November based on revised data, the job index fell below the value of August 2006.
- The job loss of Illinois last month, of -0.01% contrasts with 0.08% average growth rate of the recent recovery period since early 2004 but is a repetition of the loss of corresponding month in 2005.
- In terms of 12-month job creation since 2001 the best period for Illinois is 2006, but during November the rate declined to 1.00% which is lowest since June 2006.
- Though RMW did better than Illinois in monthly gain, in terms of 12-month job creation RMW’s performance fell down quite sharply compared to that of Illinois. As a result, based on revised data, Illinois itself created more jobs than RMW altogether over a 12 month period for the second time since 1990. A similar event occurred in November 2000 when Illinois created 97% of Jobs in Midwest.
- While the Job index for RMW is always better than that of Illinois, based on revised data, the gap between their indices came down to a minimum in October (since May 2002) and slightly increased in November.

**Nation Notes**

- At the national level the monthly addition in November of 132,000 jobs up from a revised gain of 79,000 in October, was 25% higher than the forecasted figure of 105,000 new jobs.
- Based on growth during the last 12-month period, November records 1.33% growth which is the lowest since August 2004 (except July 2006).
- National monthly growth rate of 0.10 % in November lies a little below the average monthly trend (0.12%) since September 2003 when the country started to recover from the last recession.
- The average monthly job creation of 146,800 in 2006 is still far behind the 2005 figure of 165,100.
- Since the Nation performed better compared to both Illinois and RMW the gap between indices of Illinois and Nation increased in November whereas the Indices of Nation and RMW revealed the highest gap during November.
### By employment sector:

#### Total non-farm Employment growth rate by sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Illinois vs. RMW</td>
<td>Illinois vs. Nation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education &amp; health</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial activities</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leisure &amp; hospitality</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional &amp; business services</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade, transportation &amp; utilities (TTU)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Services</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Total non-farm Employment growth rate Jan 1990 – Nov 2006

![Chart showing employment growth rate by sector from 1990 to 2006.](chart.png)
The most notable difference in November compared to previous month was in Trade, Transport and Utilities in which the Nation grew 28% faster than the previous month. Similarly in Manufacturing, the rate of loss went down by 35%. Highest loss of performance was observed in Leisure and Hospitality with a 14% decline in growth rate from the previous month.

In order of job gains in November the four major sectors in US are as follows:
- Professional and business services: 43,000 (0.25%)
- Education and Health Services: 41,000 (0.23%)
- Trade, Transport and Utilities: 34,000 (0.13%)
- Leisure and Hospitality: 31,000 (0.24%)

At the national level, the following two sectors, as in previous month, lost the greatest number of jobs in November:
- Construction: 29,000 (-0.39%)
- Manufacturing: 12,000 (-0.08%)

While Illinois observed a net loss during November, the following sectors added jobs:
- Trade, Transport and Utilities: 700 (0.06%)
- Financial activities: 600 (0.14%)
- Construction: 500 (0.18%)

Notable losing industries in order of lost job in November are:
- Trade, transport and utilities (TTU): 4,400 (-0.37%)
- Information: 700 (-0.60%)
- Government: 5900 (-0.69%)

In Illinois over the last 12-month period, Manufacturing, Government and Information registered net losses whereas Professional and Business Services, Trade, Transport and Utility and Leisure and Hospitality registered notable gains.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Financial activities</strong></th>
<th><strong>Jan 1990 – Nov 2006</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>% Change</td>
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<td>Nation</td>
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<td>18.00</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Information</strong></th>
<th><strong>Jan 1990 – Nov 2006</strong></th>
<th><strong>Oct 2006 – Nov 2006</strong></th>
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Leisure & hospitality

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Manufacturing

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Professional & business services

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Trade, transportation & utilities (TTU)  

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Other services  

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nation</td>
<td>-0.06</td>
<td>-3.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

ABOUT: The Illinois Coalition for Jobs, Growth & Prosperity is a not-for-profit 501-c-4 organization. Coalition founding members include the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce, the Illinois Business Roundtable, the Illinois Civil Justice League, the Illinois Manufacturers’ Association, and the Illinois State Chamber of Commerce. Established to provide Illinois voters with information about government-related issues that have a direct effect on jobs, the Coalition represents firms employing more than a million Illinois workers.