

Illinois Job Index



Illinois Coalition for Jobs, Growth & Prosperity

Release
9/x/2006

data
Jan 1990 / Aug 2006

issue
10.0

www.jobsillinois.us

For the September 2006 Illinois Job Index, the Coalition issued a Positive rating. The state's economy continues the growth at the similar pace with Nation.

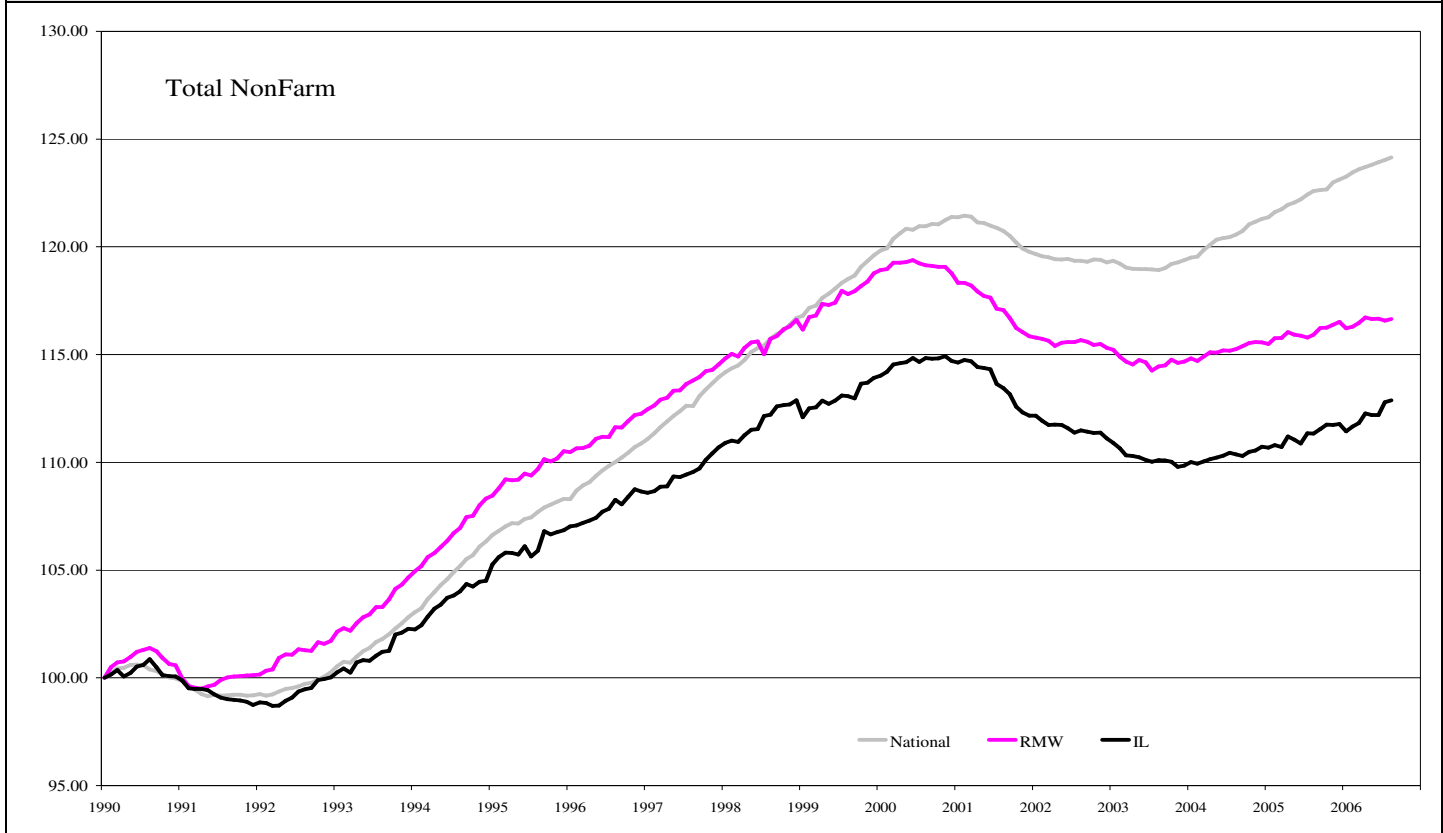
The Illinois Coalition for Jobs, Growth & Prosperity publishes the monthly Illinois Job Index and MSA Report as tools for elected officials, policy leaders and the public. We can better understand the Illinois economy and business climate by comparing and measuring Illinois employment growth rates against 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.

↑	September 2006 Positive	July 2006 – Aug 2006		Last 12 months		
		Total non-farm employment	Growth Rate %	Number of Jobs	Growth Rate%	Number of Jobs
		Nation	+0.09	+128,000	+1.28	+1,708,000
		RMW	+0.07	+14,300	+0.63	+125,600
Illinois	+0.08	+4,600	+1.37	+80,500		

Talking Points

Illinois Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Illinois had continued to create new jobs in August but at a much slower growth rate compared to the monthly growth in the previous month. Compared to the monthly growth at the national level, Illinois had a marginally slower growth pattern; however, the state rate was slightly faster than the RMW. The growth rate over the 12-month period in Illinois exceeded the national growth rate for the first time in 8 years (since September 1998), 1.37% for the state and 1.28% for nation. Illinois has added 80,500 new jobs in the last 12-months, the largest job creation since September 2000 when the state added 96,700 over the prior 12 months. This is mainly due to the huge gains over 10,000 of monthly gains for the several months in the last 12-month period. In April and July in 2006 the state had over 20,000 monthly job gains, 22,700 in April and 31,100 in July this year. Almost 40% of the new job creation over 12-month period in Midwest was from Illinois, while RMW-six states combined added only 60% of the total gains in Midwest. However, in terms of the total job gains since January 1990, Illinois' share of the total job gains in Midwest has been approximately 20% compared for the 80% of RMW. Consequently, the job index in Illinois still remains 3.79% lower than that in RMW and 11.28% lower than that in the Nation.
Nation Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nation increased the monthly gains from the previous month's revised 121,000 to 128,000 in August. Unlike the last three months when the actual gains were below the forecasts, this month's job gain is slightly over the forecast made by economists, 125,000. In terms of the growth pattern over the 12-month period, the Nation's was the lowest since July 2004. This may be caused by the sluggish monthly growth patterns since April 2006 with less than 0.10% of monthly growth rate for each of the five months. This pattern resulted in the nation's slower growth pattern over 12-month period compared to Illinois'; however, the nation still had a growth pattern that was twice as fast as the one in RMW. The job index at the national level had increased slightly faster than the ones both in RMW and Illinois, consequently the gaps has increased this month.

Total non-farm Employment growth rate Jan 1990 – Aug 2006

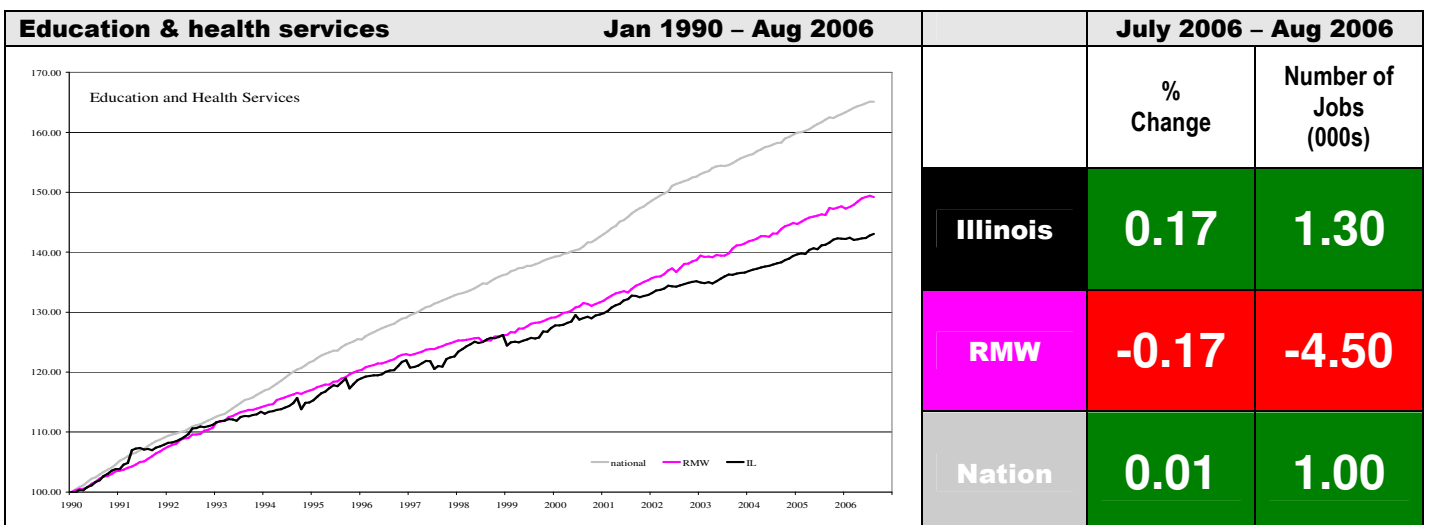
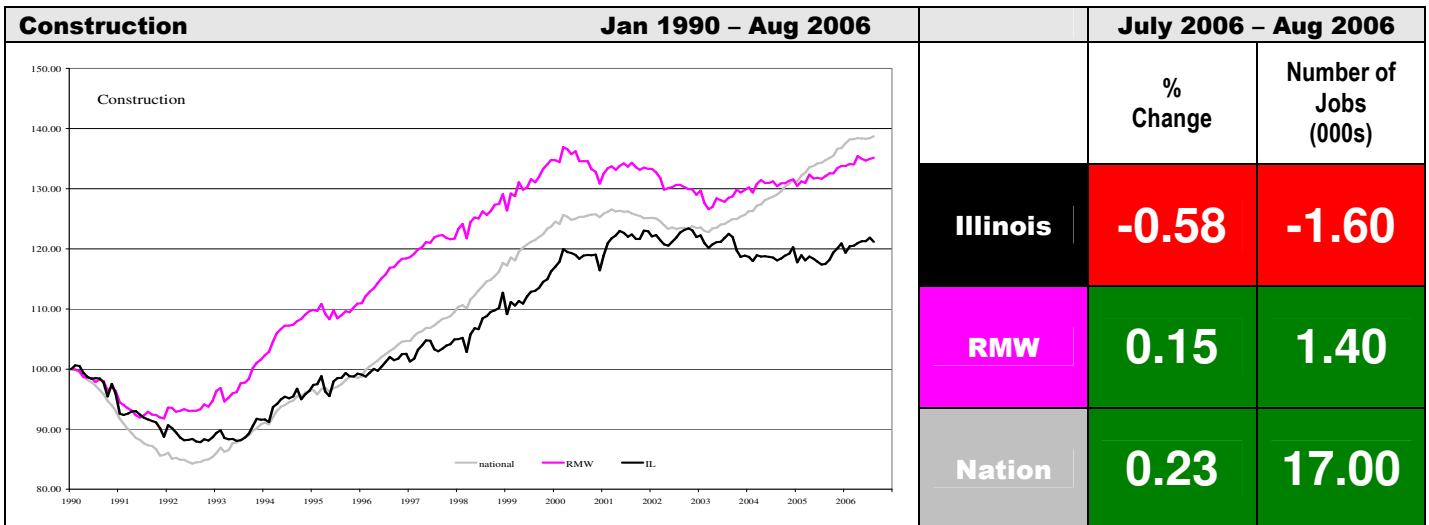


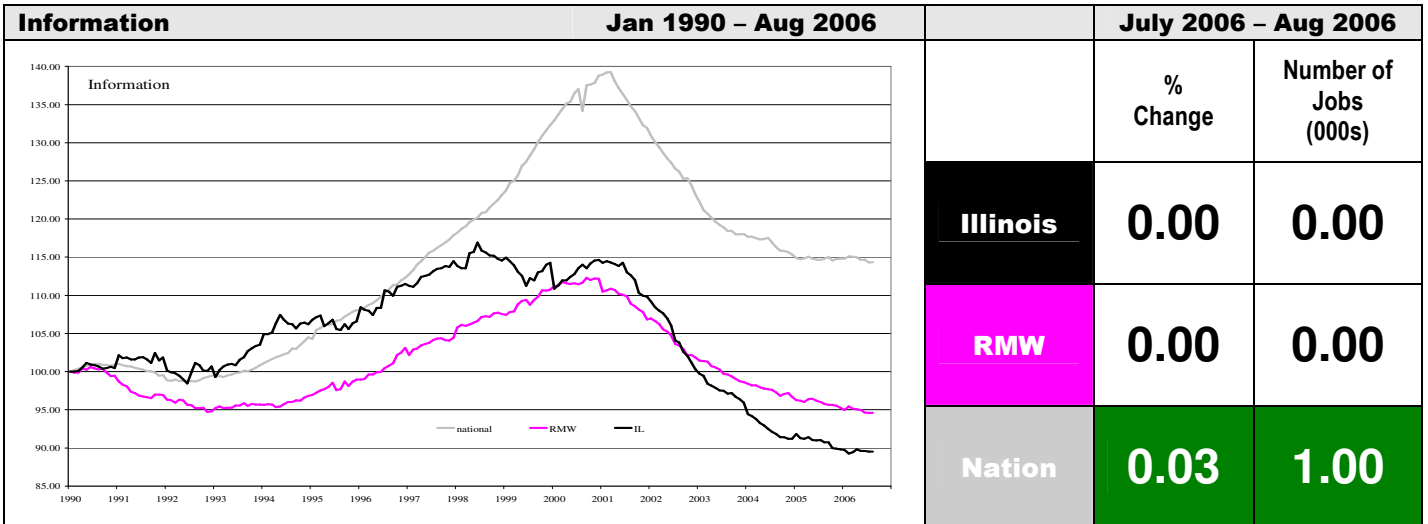
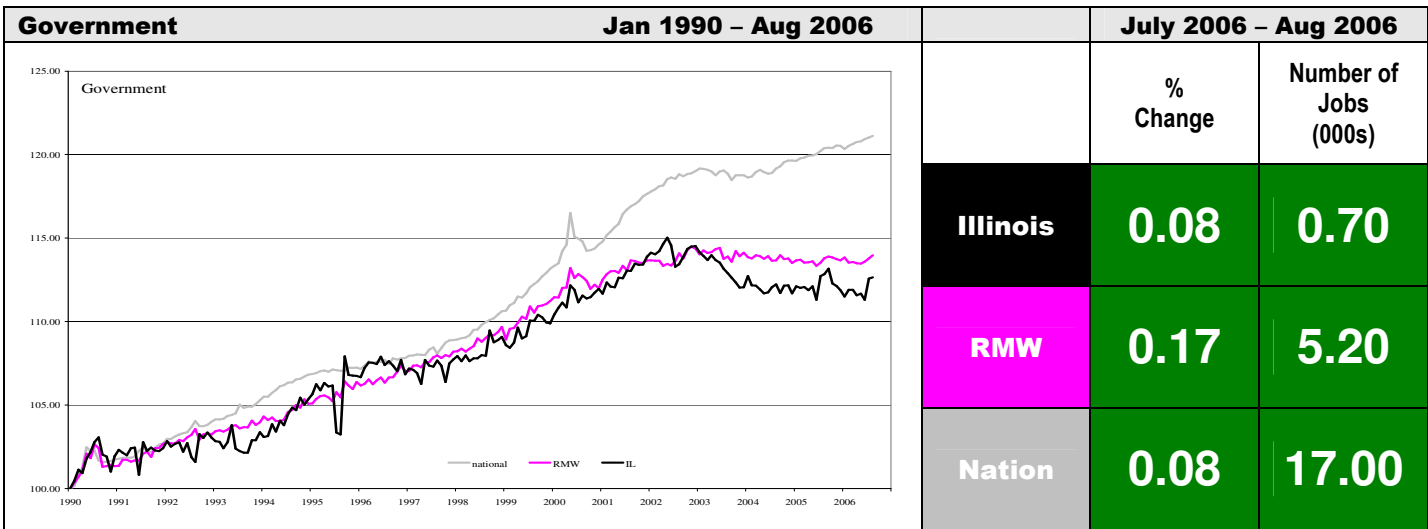
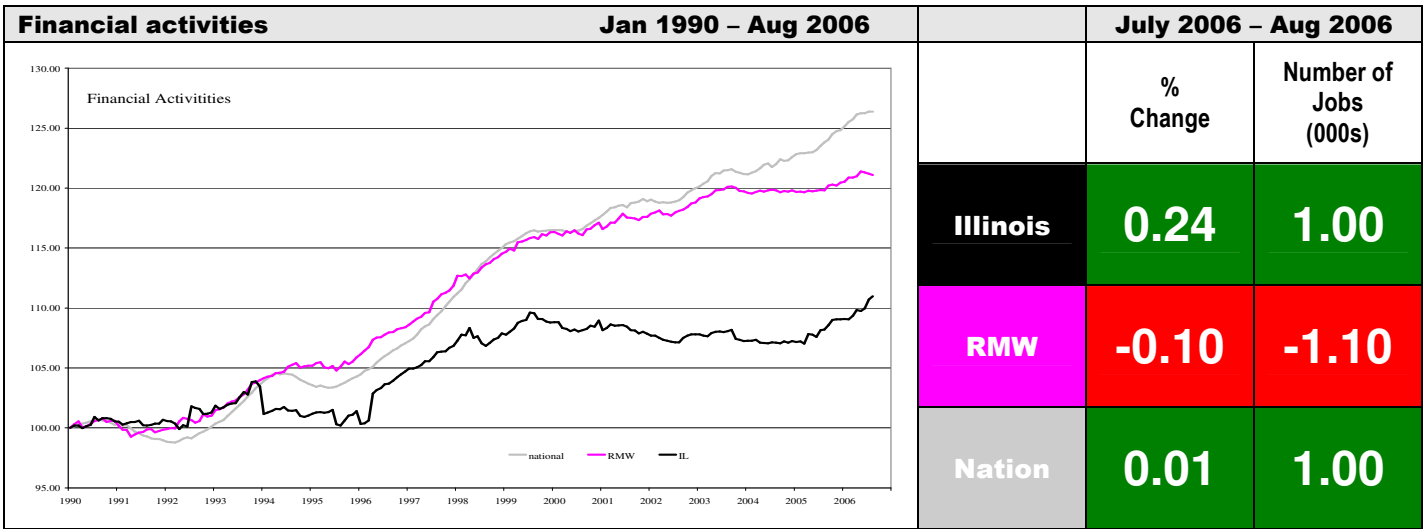
By employment sector:

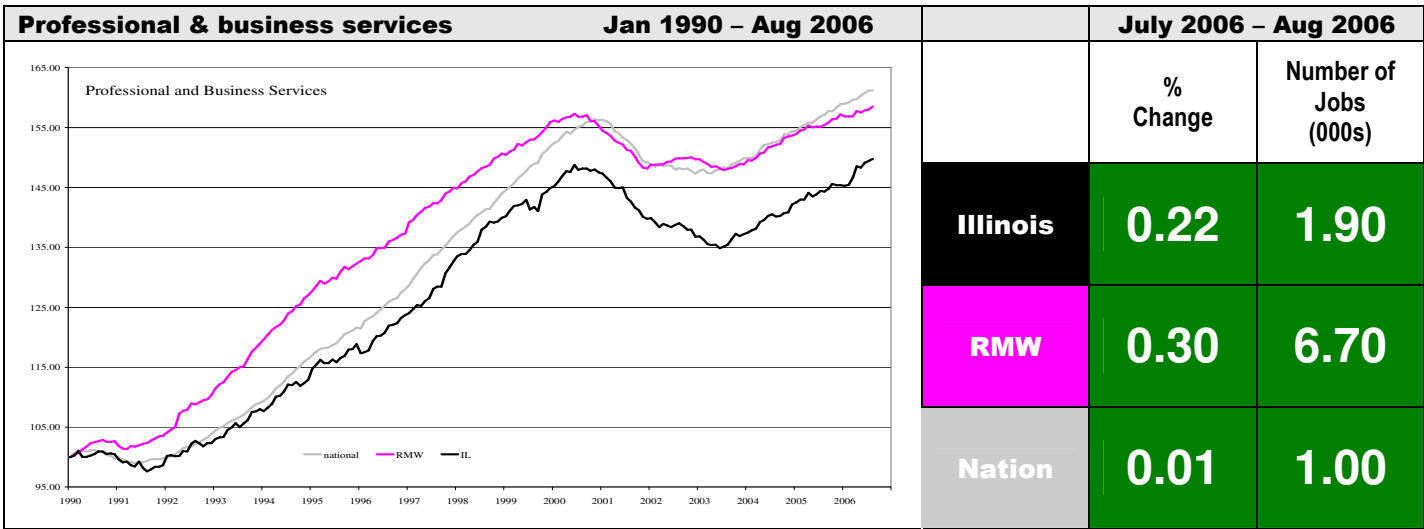
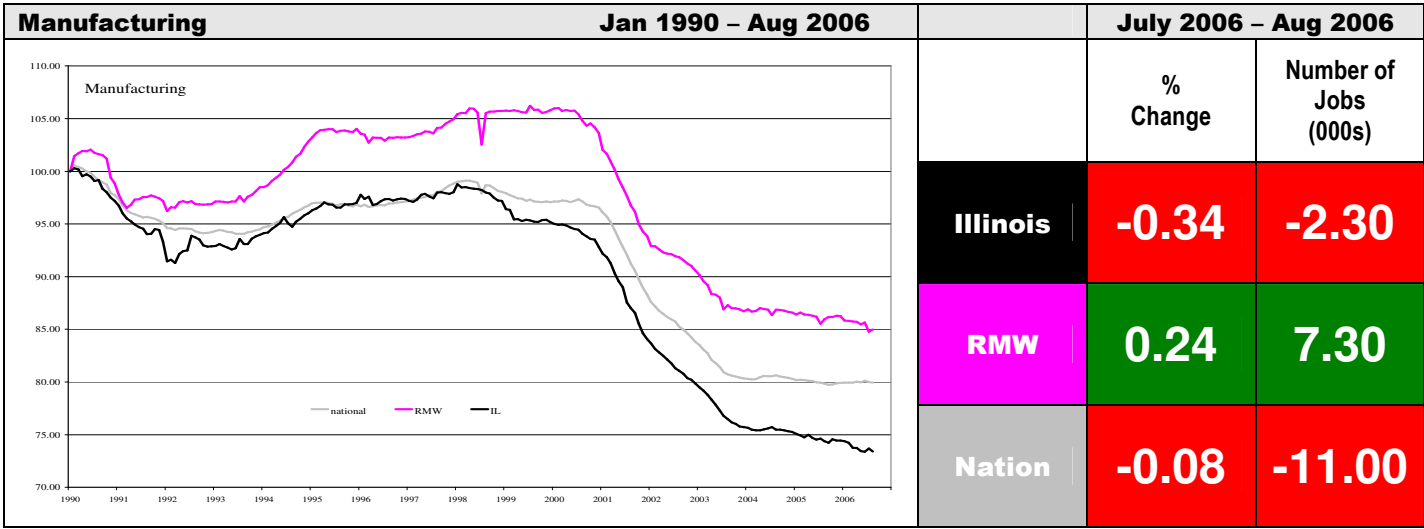
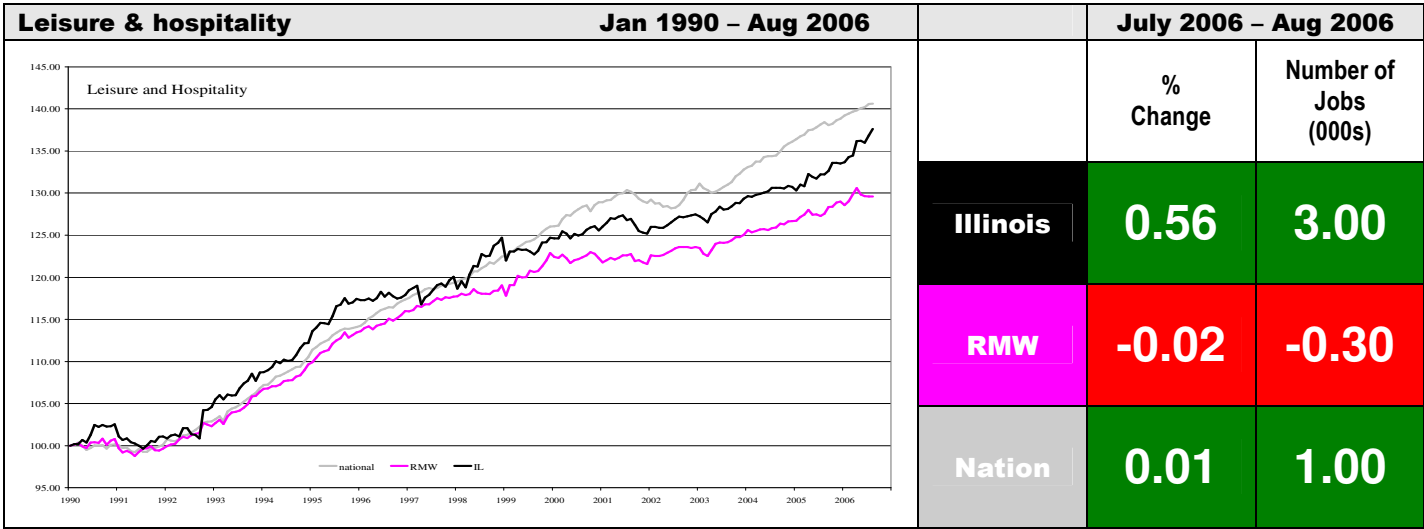
Total non-farm Employment growth rate by sector									
Monthly growth rates	July 2006 – Aug 2006			Jan 1990 – Aug 2006					
	Illinois vs. RMW	Illinois vs. Nation	Midwest vs. Nation	Illinois		RMW	Nation	Rate %	Rate %
				vs. RMW	vs. Nation				
Construction	-	-	-	-	-	48,100	21.15	35.15	38.71
Education & health	+	+	-	-	-	227,800	43.05	49.18	65.13
Financial activities	+	+	-	-	-	40,900	10.97	21.10	26.39
Government	-	+	+	-	-	95,400	12.65	13.97	21.11
Information	=	-	-	-	-	-13,700	-10.49	-5.42	14.34
Leisure & hospitality	+	+	+	+	-	146,200	37.63	29.60	40.61
Manufacturing	-	-	+	-	-	-245,500	-26.58	-15.03	-20.07
Professional & business services	-	+	+	-	-	284,400	49.77	58.52	61.19
Trade, transportation & utilities (TTU)	+	+	+	-	-	51,500	4.48	8.88	14.55
Other Services	-	-	+	+	-	54,500	26.53	22.87	27.86

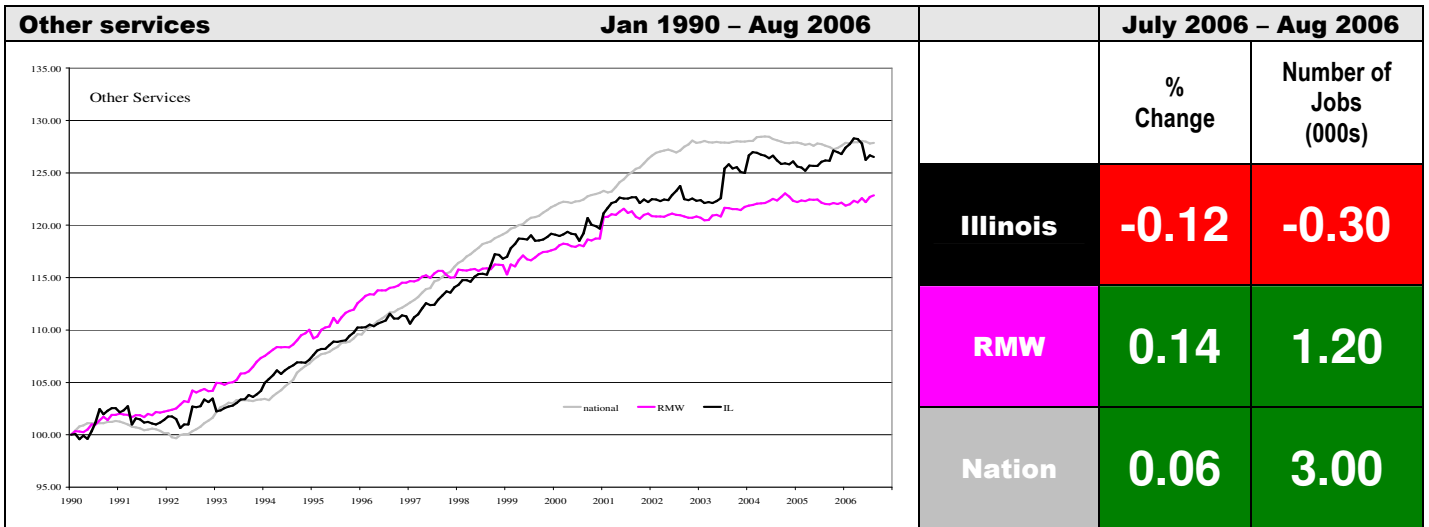
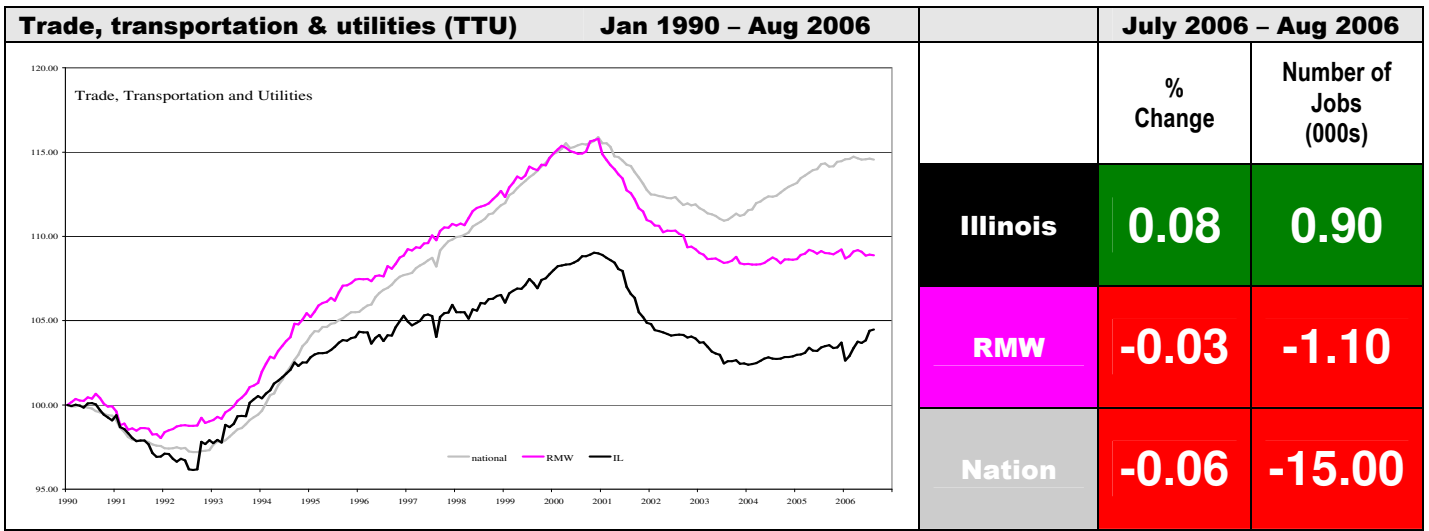
Sector notes

- In Illinois, six industries added jobs in August and for all these industries the growth patterns were faster than the patterns at the national level. Leisure & Hospitality in Illinois created the largest number of new jobs, 3,000 at a 0.56% of monthly growth rate. Some other noticeable gains are as follows,
 - Professional & Business Services: 1,900 (0.22%)
 - Education & Health Services: 1,300 (0.17%)
 - Financial Activities: 1,000 (0.24%)
- All the gaining sectors in Illinois had positive net gains for the last three consecutive months with the only exception for Leisure & Hospitality, which had net losses in June 2006.
- Manufacturing sector in Illinois lost the largest number of jobs unlike the previous month when state added 2,300 jobs based on the revised data. Nation also lost 11,000 jobs, the second largest loss among the 10 industries; however, RMW showed the largest gain in this sector with 7,300 new jobs at 0.24% of monthly rate.
- Other than Manufacturing, only the Construction sector had net monthly loss in Illinois, while both Nation and RMW had net gains, 17,000 new jobs for the former and 1,400 new jobs for the latter.
- At the national level, the largest losses in TTU were noticeable while Illinois had added nearly 1,000 new jobs in this sector. Nation lost 26,000 jobs from the two sectors combined; only losing sectors, TTU and Manufacturing.
- Nation created the largest number of jobs in the two sectors, both adding 17,000 new jobs; Construction at 0.23% and Government at 0.08% monthly rate.
- RMW had huge gains for the Government and Professional & Business Services for the last three consecutive months and in August only, closed to 12,000 new jobs were created, 5,200 and 6,700 respectively.









ABOUT: The Illinois Coalition for Jobs, Growth & Prosperity is a not-for-profit 501-c4 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.

For more information: www.jobsillinois.us • joshua@serafin.com • 312-943-1955.

NOTE: In comparing Illinois to the Rest of the Midwest (RMW: Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin) and the Nation, we take the distribution of employment by sector as observed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and then apply the RMW or Nation growth rates to calculate the expected employment levels. Comparing these with the observed levels in 2004 provides an indication of Illinois' comparative economic performance.