

Illinois Job Index



Illinois Coalition for Jobs, Growth & Prosperity

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For the January 2008 Illinois Job Index, the Coalition issued a negative rating. Nation and RMW also posted a negative growth in this month.

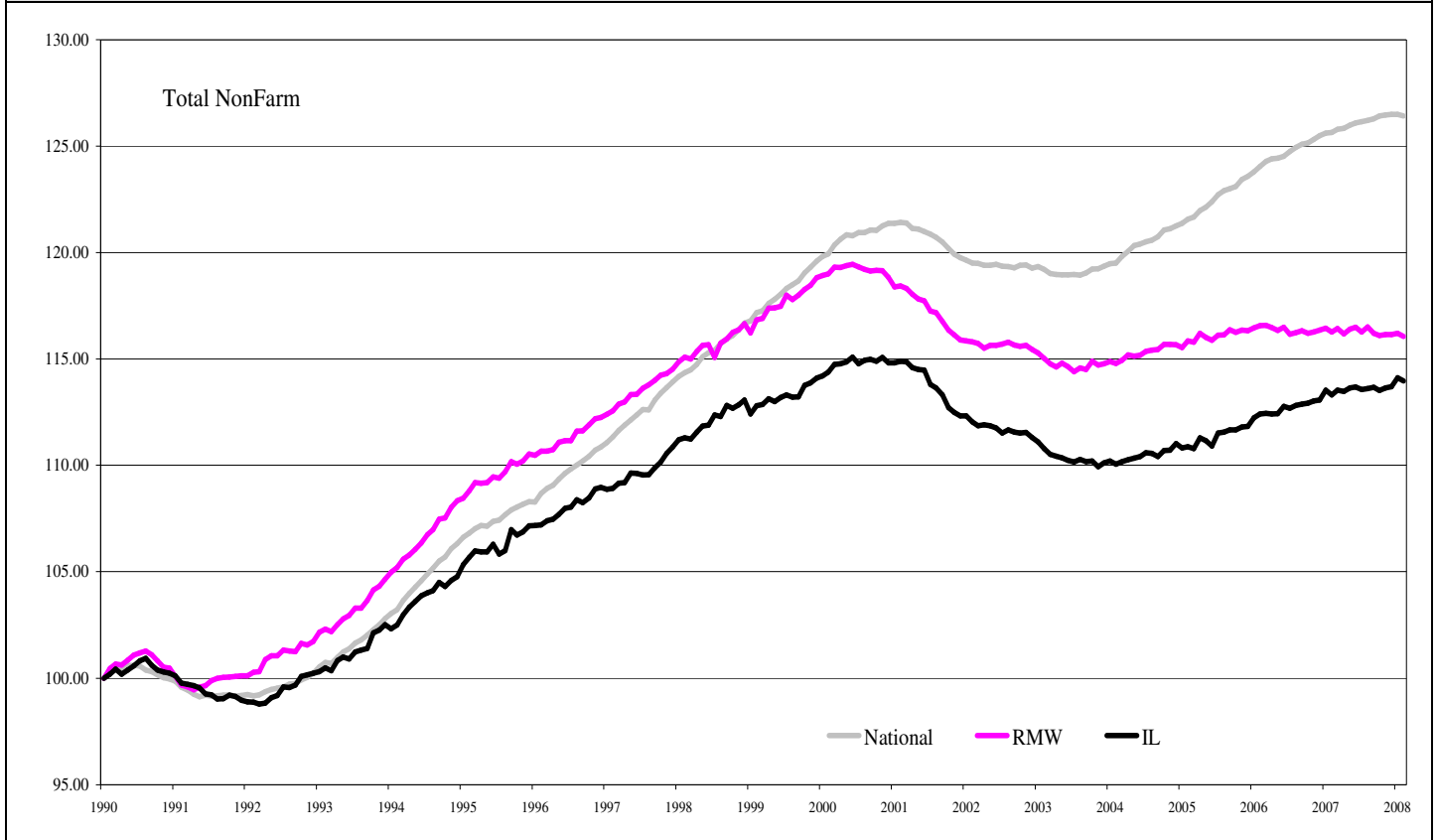
The Illinois Coalition for Jobs, Growth & Prosperity publishes the monthly Illinois Job Index and MSA Report as tools for elected officials, policy leaders and the public. We can better understand the Illinois economy and business climate by comparing and measuring Illinois employment growth rates against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

	March 2008 Negative		Jan 2008 – Feb 2008		Last 12 months	
		Total non-farm employment	Growth Rate %	Number of Jobs	Growth Rate%	Number of Jobs
		Nation	-0.05	-63,000	+0.63	+860,000
		RMW	-0.12	-24,600	-0.18	-35,400
		Illinois	-0.14	-8,300	+0.57	+34,100

Talking Points

Illinois Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Illinois lost 8,300 jobs at -0.14% in February 2008, declining from a revised 0.37% gain in January. This is the largest number of jobs lost by Illinois after February 2007. ▪ Through February, the average growth rate of Illinois in 2008 stood at 0.12% which is greater than the average growth rate for 2007 of 0.05%, and the average growth rate in the recent recovery period for Illinois since early 2004 of 0.07%. ▪ In February, Illinois, the Nation and the RMW all lost jobs, for the first time after April 2003. ▪ Over the last 12-months, Illinois employment grew by 0.57%, below the 0.63% growth of the Nation while RMW continued with a negative rating at -0.18% for the sixth consecutive month. ▪ While Illinois lost 8,300 jobs in February, in 2007 Illinois gained by 2,742 jobs on average every month. ▪ Until February 2008, the cumulative job growth for the Nation, Illinois and RMW compared to January 1990 stood at 26.42%, 13.96% and 16.06% respectively.
Nation Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ While economists had forecast the addition of 25,000 jobs in February, the nation lost 63,000 jobs which is the biggest loss after March 2003. ▪ Thus this is for the first time after June 2003 that the nation has posted a net job loss for two consecutive months. ▪ The Nation added 860,000 new jobs at 0.63% over the last 12 months. This is the smallest gain recorded over any 12-month period after February 2004. ▪ While the Nation posted a negative growth rate in February, the average job growth rate for 2007 was 0.08% and the average since the recent recovery period after September 2003 was 0.12%.

Total non-farm Employment growth rate Jan 1990 – Feb 2008

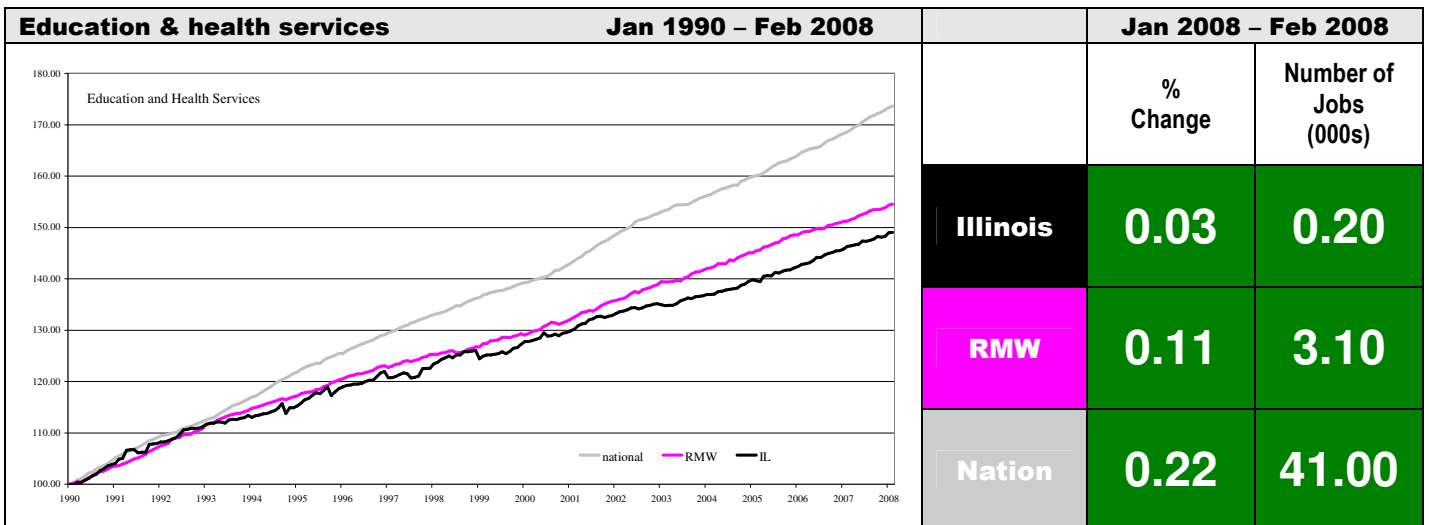
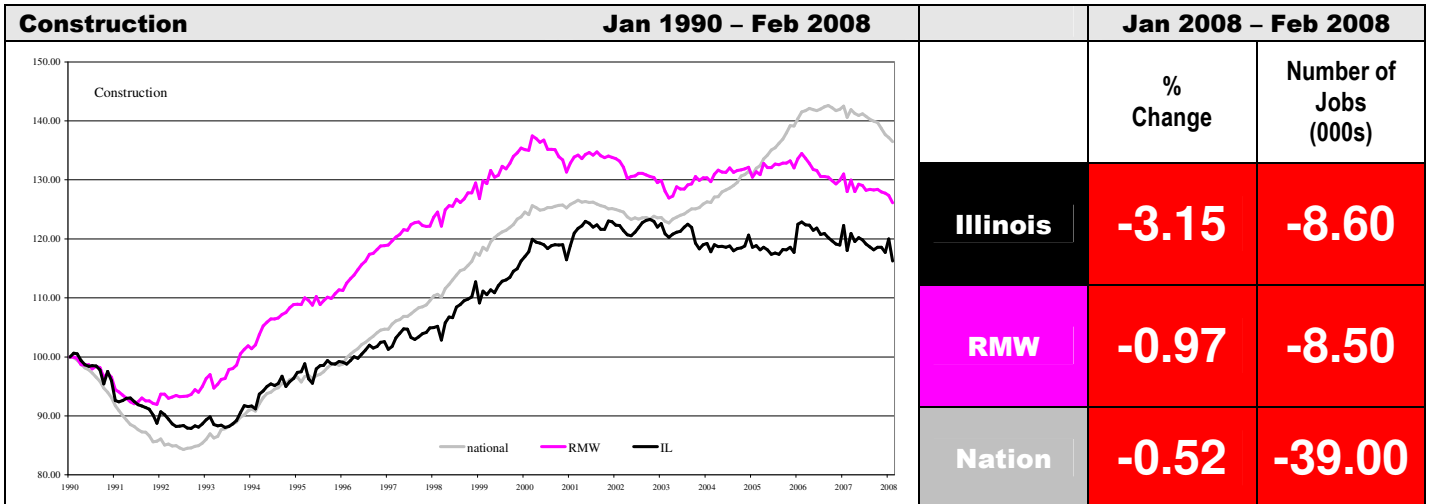


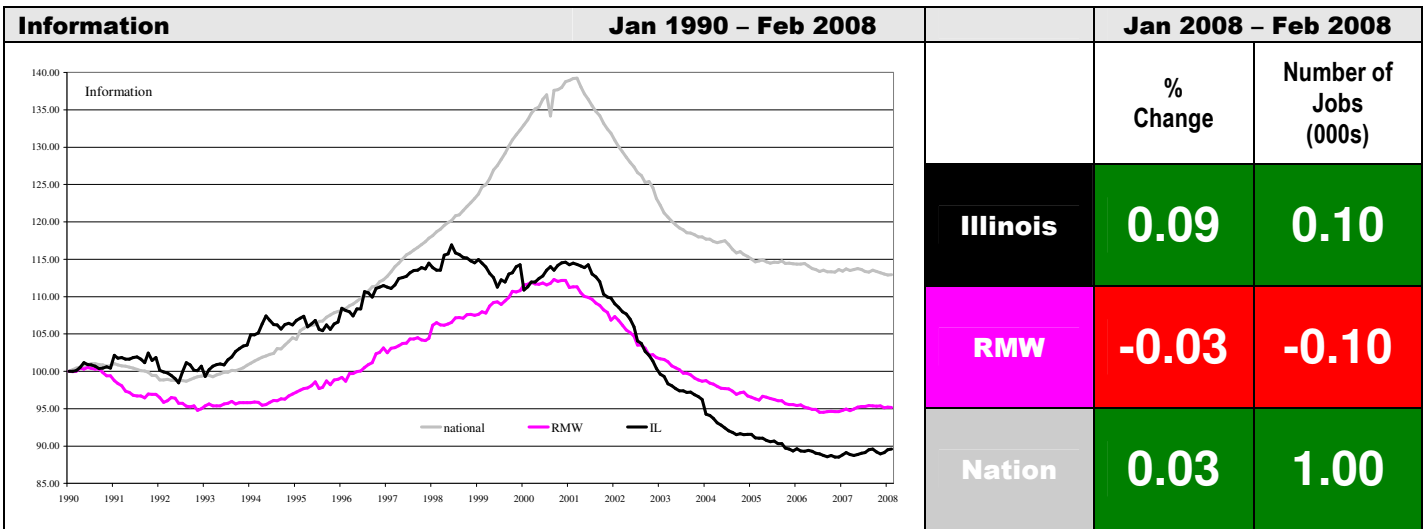
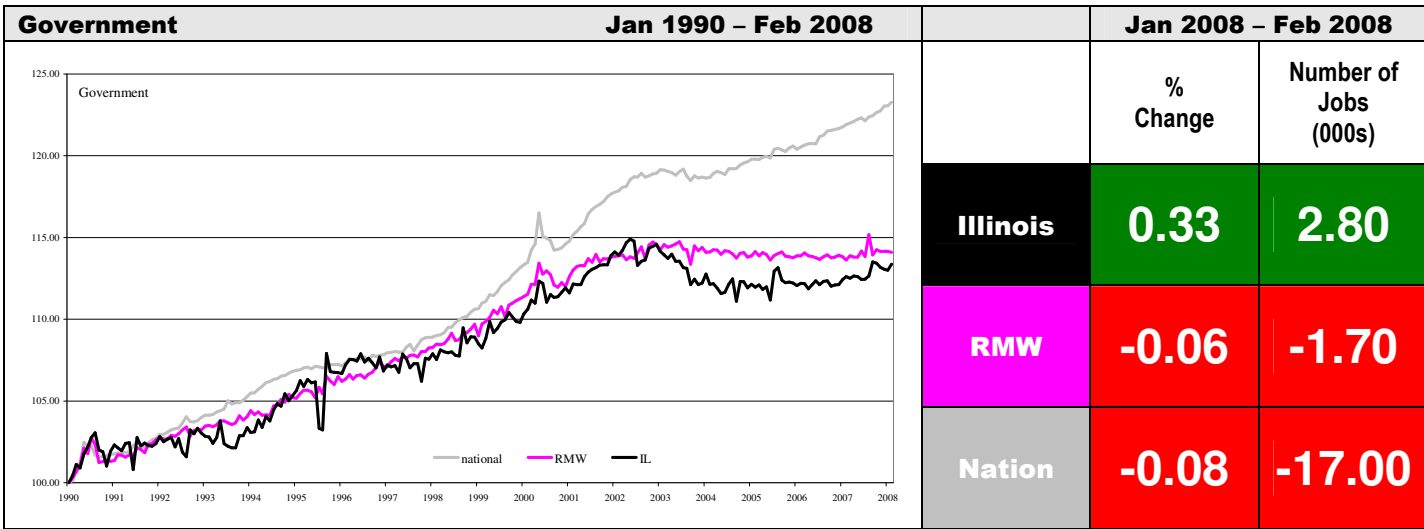
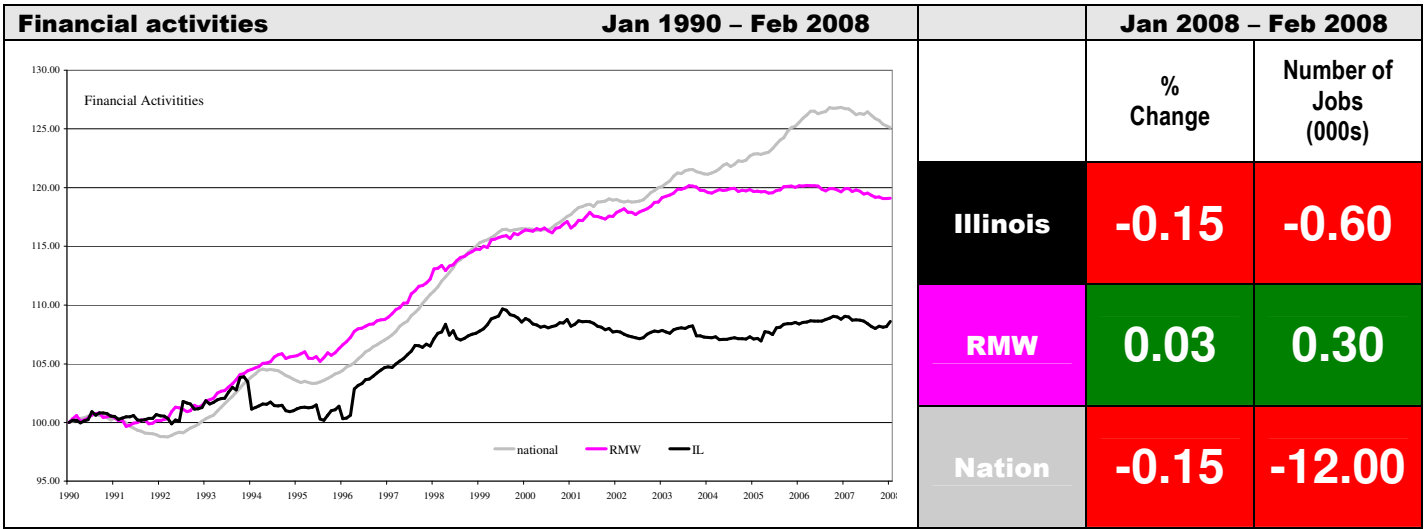
By employment sector:

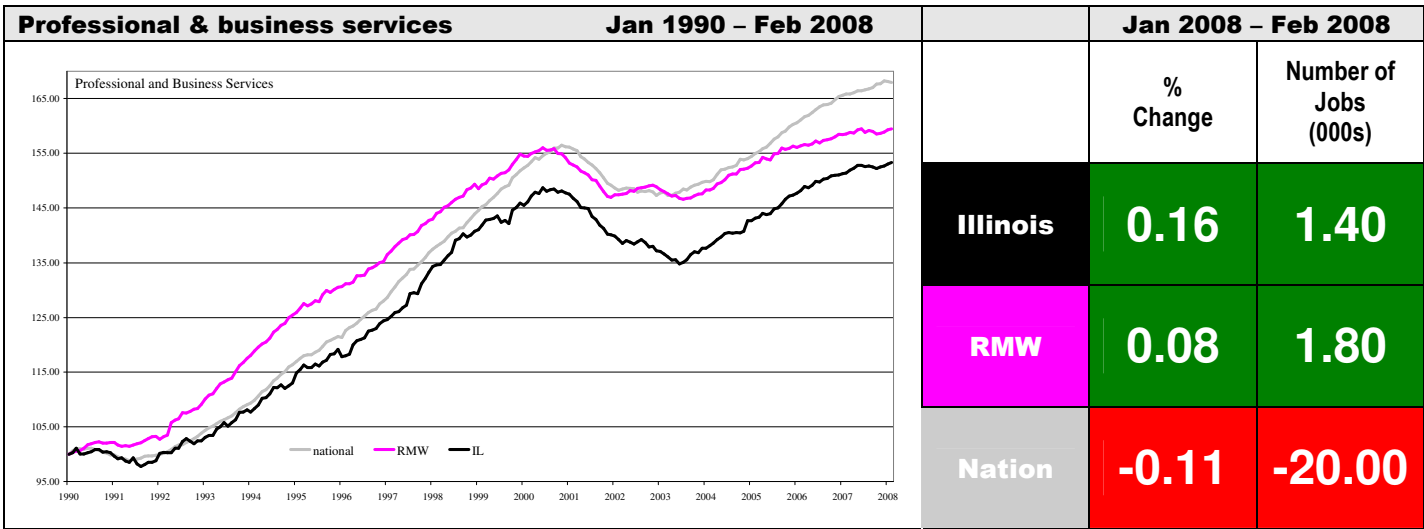
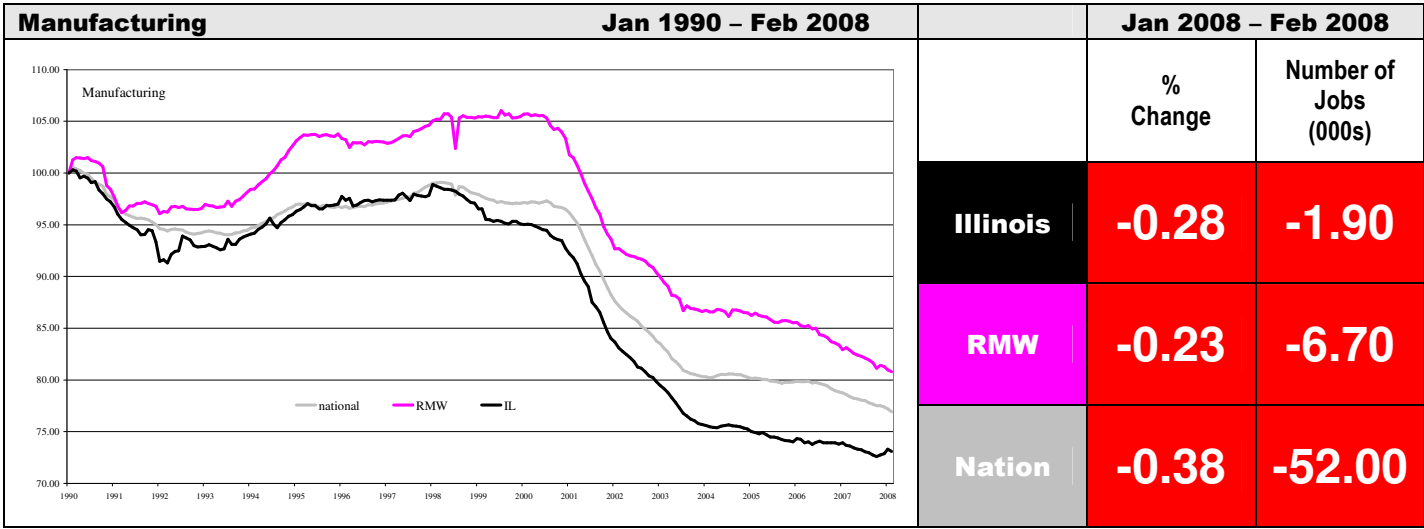
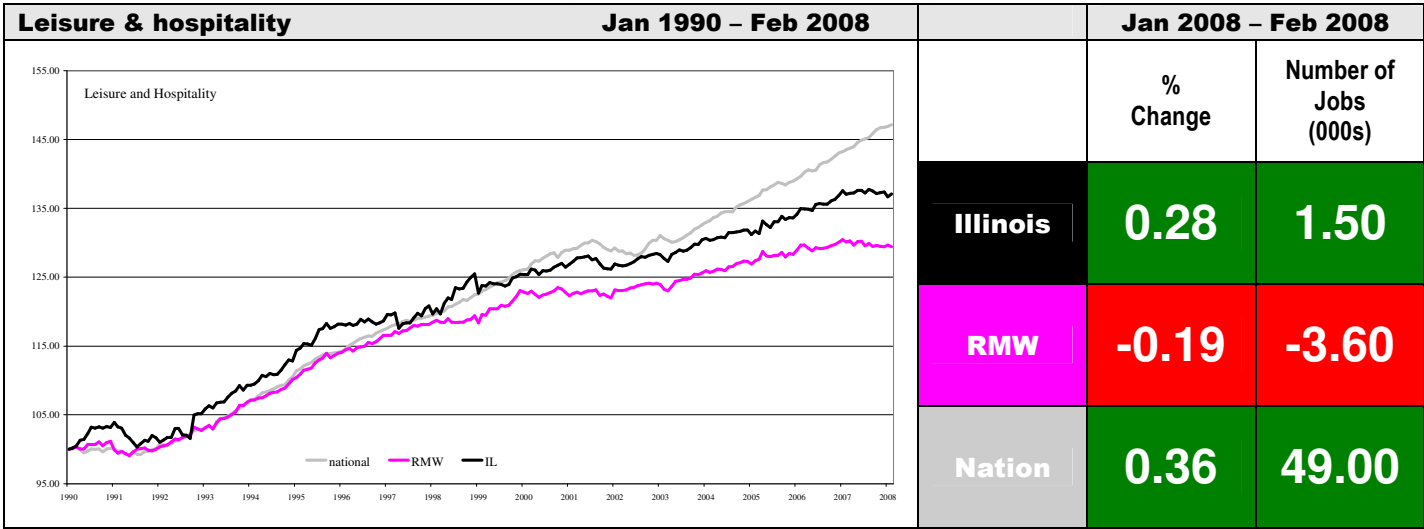
Total non-farm Employment growth rate by sector									
Monthly growth rates	Jan 2008 – Feb 2008			Jan 1990 – Jan 2008					
	Illinois vs. RMW	Illinois vs. Nation	Midwest vs. Nation	Illinois				RMW	Nation
				vs. RMW	vs. Nation	Number of Jobs	Rate %	Rate %	Rate %
Construction	-	-	-	-	-	36,900	16.23	26.10	36.50
Education & health	-	-	-	-	-	259,400	49.03	54.52	73.62
Financial activities	-	Same	+	-	-	31,600	8.48	19.10	24.95
Government	+	+	+	-	-	100,800	13.37	14.09	23.27
Information	+	+	-	-	-	-13,600	-10.41	-4.82	12.92
Leisure & hospitality	+	-	-	+	-	143,100	37.07	29.41	47.12
Manufacturing	-	+	+	-	-	-248,500	-26.91	-19.21	-23.09
Professional & business services	+	+	+	-	-	304,200	53.29	59.46	67.95
Trade, transportation & utilities (TTU)	-	-	-	-	-	74,400	6.48	9.46	17.06
Other Services	+	-	-	+	-	55,100	26.83	22.08	30.66

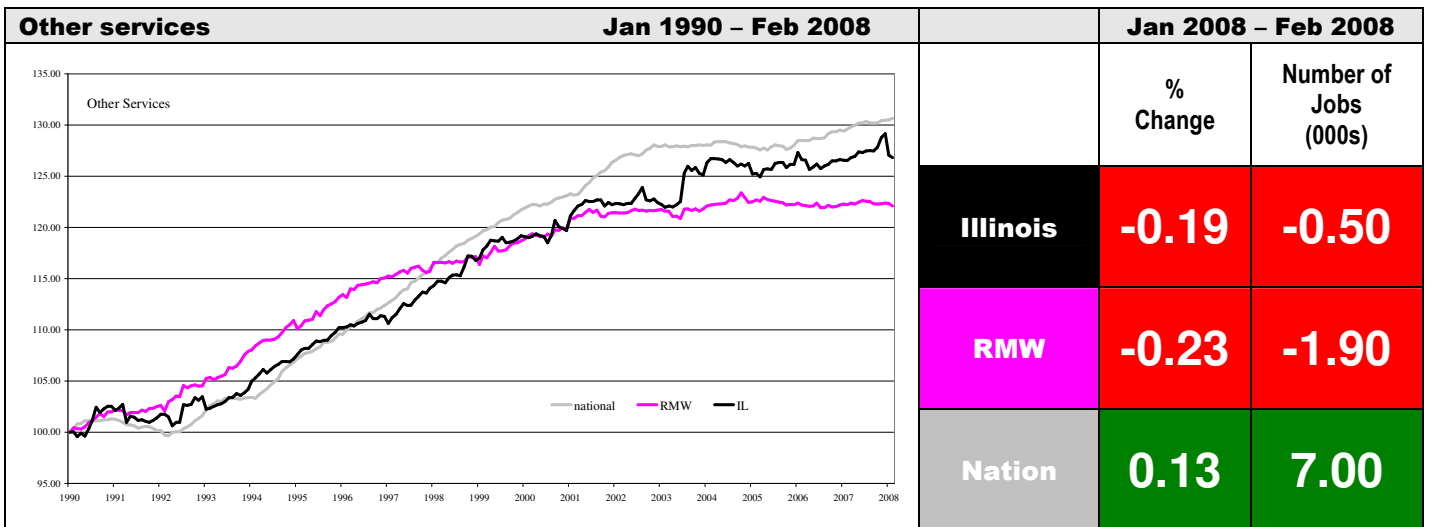
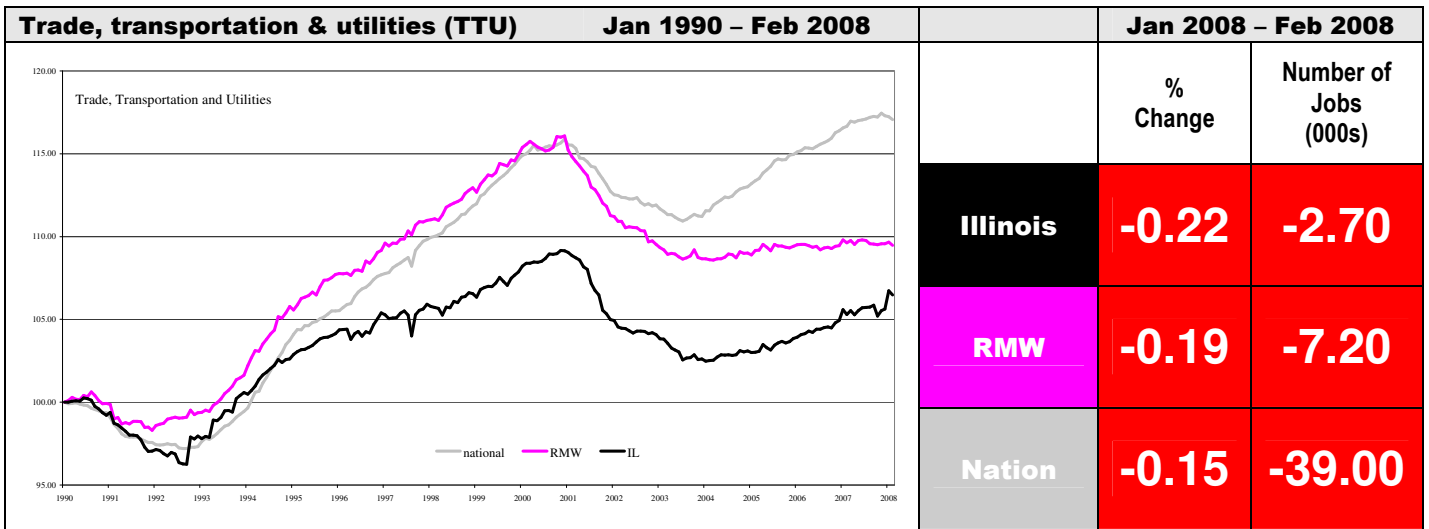
Sector notes

- While Illinois faced a 0.14% job loss in February, six sectors recorded net gains and the five remaining sectors posted net losses. Compared to January, notable performance gains were recorded for Other Services (-1.62% to -0.19%), Leisure and Hospitality (-0.49% to 0.28%) and Government (-0.06% to 0.33%) whereas Construction (1.94% to -3.15%) and Trade, Transportation and Utility (1.09% to -0.22%) faced major losses in performance.
- As regards job gains in the Nation, the following sectors recorded gains in February:
 - Leisure and Hospitality: 49,000 (0.36%)
 - Education: 41,000 (0.22%)
- Major losses were recorded for the following sectors:
 - Manufacturing: 52,000 (-0.38%)
 - Construction: 39,000 (-0.52%)
 - Trade, Transportation and Utilities: 39,000 (-0.15%)
- For the Illinois, the following sectors are notable in terms of job gains:
 - Government: 2,800 (0.33%)
 - Leisure and Hospitality: 1,500 (0.28%)
 - Professional and Business Services: 1,400 (0.16%)
- Following are the major Illinois sectors that lost jobs in January:
 - Construction: 8,600 (-3.15%)
 - Trade, Transportation and Utilities: 2,700 (0.22%)
- According to the 12-month aggregated account, Construction, Manufacturing and Financial Activities registered net losses whereas all other sectors maintained a positive rating. Education and Health Services and Trade, Transportation and Utilities were the two major contributors over that period.









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.