Economic Fact Sheet #1: Chicago and Cook County Economic Trends

Loss of Manufacturing Jobs in Chicago and Cook County¹

- In 1947, at the peak of manufacturing employment in Chicago, there were 667,407 manufacturing jobs. In 2014, just 110,445 Chicago residents were employed in manufacturing.
- In 1980, 612,828 or 26 percent of employed persons in Cook County worked in the manufacturing sector. In 2014, just 255,642 of 10.5 percent of employed persons in Cook County worked in manufacturing.

Median Income in Cook County, 1980 to 2014²

- The median household income in Cook County was $54,828 in 2014. Adjusting for inflation, the median household income in Cook County in 1980 was $58,333. Adjusted for inflation, the median household income from 1980 to 2014 decreased $3,505 or 6 percent.

Median Income in Cook County by Race/Ethnicity, 1980 to 2014³

- In Cook County in 2014, the median household income for households with a White (non-Hispanic or Latinos) householder was $70,215 while the median household income for households with a Latino householder was $45,147 and for households with a Black householder was $34,935.
- In Chicago in 2014, the median household income for households with a White (non-Hispanic or Latino) householder was $70,960 while the median household income for households with a Latino householder was $41,188 and for households with a Black householder was $30,303.

Employment to Population Ratio by Race/Ethnicity, 2014⁴

- Employment to Population Ratios in Chicago in 2014 were 68 percent for Whites (non-Hispanic or Latinos), 59.6 percent for Latinos and 42.9 percent for Blacks. The employment to population ratio gap between Whites and Blacks was 25.1 percent.

Select Neighborhood Populations⁵

- In 1960, North Lawndale had a total population of 124,937 people. The population in 2014 was 34,819, a difference of 90,118.
- In 1960, Englewood had a total population of 97,595 people. The population in 2014 was 27,297, a difference of 70,298.

Jobs with Low Incomes in Chicago, 2014⁶

- In 2014, 21.3 percent of jobs in Chicago paid less than $1,250 per month.

Number of Jobs in Chicago Community Areas⁷

- In 2014, 710,570 or 51.4 percent of all jobs in Chicago are in the Loop, the Near West Side, and the Near North Side.
- In 2014, The 52 of the 77 Community Areas had less than 10,000 jobs with most being located on the South, Far South, and Southwest Sides of Chicago.
- Hyde Park, Community Areas surrounding the Loop and on the North Side had the highest concentrations of jobs in Chicago in 2014.

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¹ Source: 1952 County and City Data Book, 1980 census and 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5 year estimate. U.S. Census Bureau.
³ Source: 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5 year estimate. U.S. Census Bureau.
⁴ Source: 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5 year estimate. U.S. Census Bureau.
Number of Jobs in Chicago Community Areas, 2014


Map Created by The Great Cities Institute.