



FAST FACTS

2026

UPDATED SEPTEMBER 2026

Logan · Mason · Peoria

Tazewell · Woodford

388,774

Residents across five counties

184,485

Available skilled workers

\$2 Billion+

Annual research & development investment

\$33.9 Billion

Regional exports, 2025

POPULATION

Greater Peoria	388,774
Peoria County	179,324
Tazewell County	130,605
Woodford County	38,326
Logan County	27,706
Mason County	12,813

ETHNICITY & DEMOGRAPHICS

Male	192,597
Female	197,166
Under 5 years	22,549
10 years and over	267,993
65 years and over	74,682
White	316,321
Black and African American	41,126
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	27,603
Asian, non-Hispanic	12,032
Two or more races, non-Hispanic	14,106
American Indian or Alaska Native	616
Native Hawaiian, non-Hispanic	91

AVAILABLE SKILLED WORKFORCE

184,485 workers

94.1%
High school graduate or higher

31.6%
Bachelor's degree or higher

LABOR & WORKFORCE

Labor force	188,609
Employed	177,975
Unemployed	10,222
Unemployment rate	5.42%

INDUSTRY CONCENTRATION

18.34%
Healthcare share of workforce
National average 14.91%

13.49%
Manufacturing share of workforce
National average 8.03%

COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

Bradley University · Eureka College · Illinois Central College · Methodist College · OSF College of Nursing · University of Illinois College of Medicine Peoria · University of Illinois Springfield at Peoria · Midwest Technical Institute · Heartland Community College · Spoon River Community College



THE BUSINESS CASE

COST · WAGES · INVESTMENT

\$2 B+

Annual research & development investment

\$33.9 B

Regional exports, 2025

\$350–400 M

OSF Cancer Institute investment

COST OF LIVING

95.8

C2ER composite index
100 = national average

Cost of living in Greater Peoria compared with:

Chicago, IL	18.5% lower
Ashburn, VA	16.2% lower
Denver, CO	12.9% lower
Frisco, TX	11.5% lower
Madison, WI	7.8% lower
Durham, NC	6.5% lower
Charlotte, NC	6.3% lower
Milwaukee, WI	4.9% lower
Dallas, TX	2.7% lower
Atlanta, GA	1.2% higher
Indianapolis, IN	6.7% higher
St. Louis, MO	7.0% higher

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Greater Peoria region	\$63,577
Woodford County	\$77,200
Tazewell County	\$68,657
Logan County	\$60,538
Peoria County	\$58,365
Mason County	\$54,279
Illinois	\$68,400
National average	\$65,000

WAGES AGAINST THE NATIONAL AVERAGE

Manufacturing, average hourly

\$24.48

Greater Peoria

1.9% lower

\$24.95

nationwide

Logistics	4.2% lower
Chemicals	2.5% lower
Plastics & rubber	17.9% higher

AFFORDABLE REAL ESTATE

A 100,000 sq ft warehouse costs **\$5.0 million** in Greater Peoria against **\$11.4 million** in Dallas — **56% lower**.

COMMUTE

20.8

minutes, average one-way

Shorter than Atlanta	33.1%
Shorter than Chicago	31.4%
Shorter than Dallas	25.4%
Shorter than Charlotte	21.8%
Shorter than Indianapolis	18.4%



TRANSPORTATION

Air. General Wayne A. Downing Peoria International Airport, 13 nonstop destinations. Central Illinois Regional Airport 44.5 mi · O'Hare 167 mi · Midway 160 mi · St. Louis International 175 mi.

Rail. Own terminal and switching railroad plus five Class 1 and six shortline carriers: BNSF, Canadian National, Norfolk Southern, Union Pacific, Rail America, Genesee & Wyoming, Iowa Interstate, Pioneer, T&P.

Road. I-74, I-55, I-474 and I-39, with linkages to I-57, I-80 and I-88. 65 interstate and local trucking firms. Bus: CityLink.

Water. Heart of Illinois Regional Port District, part of the Corn Belt Ports — the largest inland port system in the nation. More than 13 million tons of cargo a year.

DISTANCE FROM PEORIA (MILES)

Chicago	141	Atlanta	685
St. Louis	158	Dallas	806
Indianapolis	201	New York	901
Milwaukee	233	Denver	914
Des Moines	264	Los Angeles	1,953

UTILITIES & TELECOM

Electricity Ameren Illinois, Cornbelt Energy — industrial power near 3¢/kWh below the national average. **Natural gas** Ameren, Village of Morton. **Water** Illinois American Water and municipal systems. **Broadband & telecom** i3 Broadband, AT&T, Comcast, Mediacom, Verizon, T-Mobile, MTCO, Gallatin River Communications, Heartland Cable, Telestar.

HOSPITALS & MEDICAL

OSF Saint Francis Medical Center — the only Level 1 Trauma Center with Life Flight transport in Central Illinois · St. Jude Children's Research Hospital · Carle Health, including Methodist, Pekin and Proctor Hospitals · Abraham Lincoln Memorial · Carle Eureka · Hopedale Medical Complex · Mason District Hospital · Illinois CancerCare · Jump Trading Simulation & Education Center · University of Illinois College of Medicine research facility.

RECREATION & EVENTS

Peoria Riverfront Museum · Peoria Symphony Orchestra · Peoria Ballet · Peoria Civic Center · Peoria Park District · Wildlife Prairie Park · Sand Ridge State Park · Par-A-Dice Casino · Peoria Chiefs baseball · Peoria Rivermen hockey · Steamboat Classic · Corn Stock, Eastlight and Peoria Players theatres.

Annual events. East Peoria Festival of Lights · Morton Pumpkin Festival · Heart of Illinois Fair · Pekin Marigold Festival · Steamboat Days · Peoria Art Guild Fine Arts Fair · Eureka Lilac Festival · Central Illinois Auto Show · Santa Claus Parade · Peoria PrideFest.

MEDIA

Television WEEK (NBC), WMBD (CBS), WHOI (ABC), WYZZ (FOX), WAOE (MyNetwork), WTVP (PBS). **Radio** WCBU Peoria Public Radio, WMBD news/talk. **Newspapers** Peoria Journal Star, Pekin Daily Times, Pantagraph, Lincoln Courier, Courier Newspapers, Mason County Democrat, Metamora Herald, Woodford County Journal.

ABOUT THE GREATER PEORIA EDC

A non-profit organization that delivers value to Greater Peoria by unifying private, public and non-profit resources throughout Central Illinois. Supported by investment from businesses, organizations, counties and cities across the five counties of Logan, Mason, Peoria, Tazewell and Woodford.

CONTACT

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