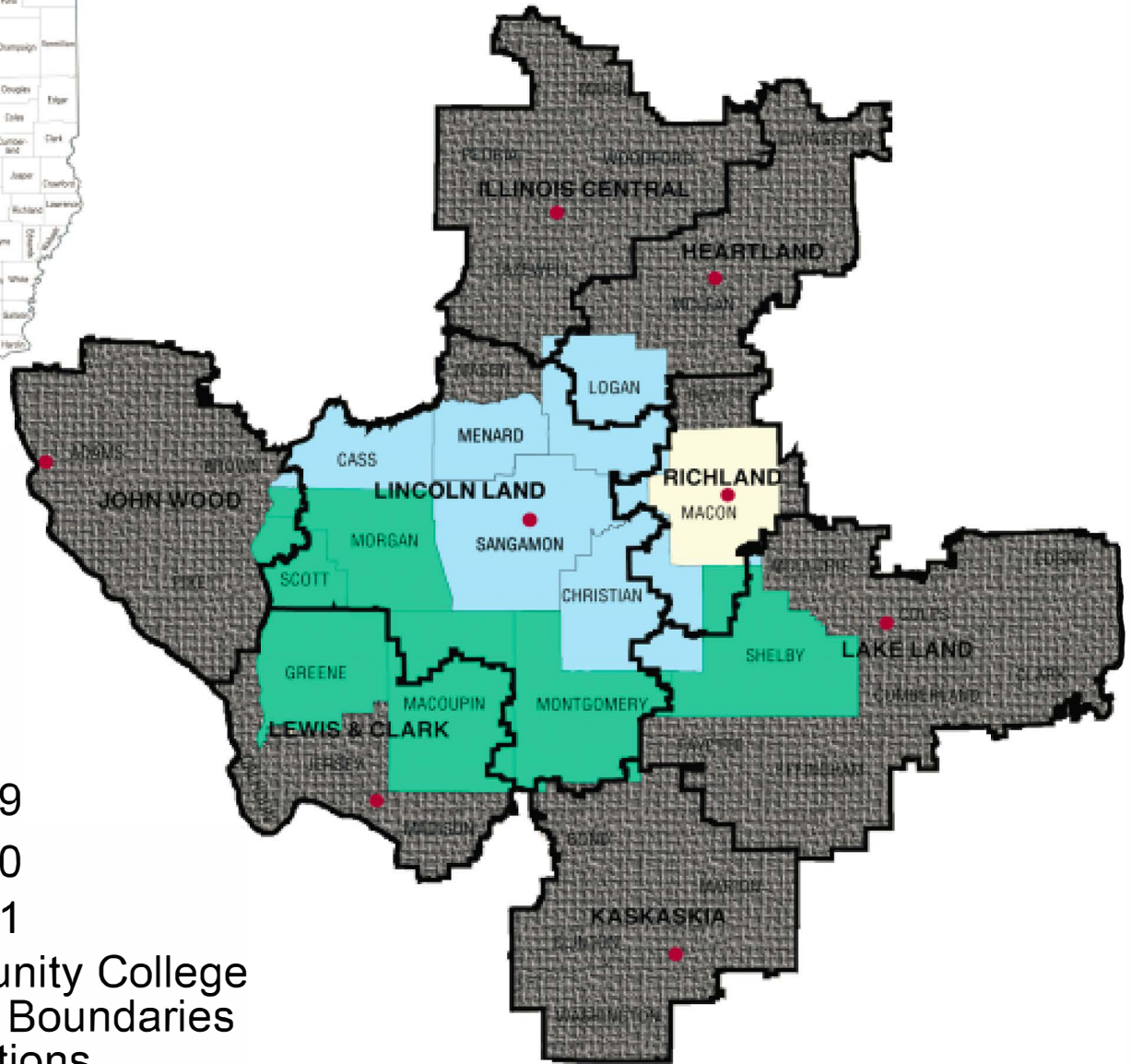






2024 Regional Plan Data Packet

EDR 1 - Central



-  LWIA 19
-  LWIA 20
-  LWIA 21
-  Community College District Boundaries & Locations

Demographic Overview

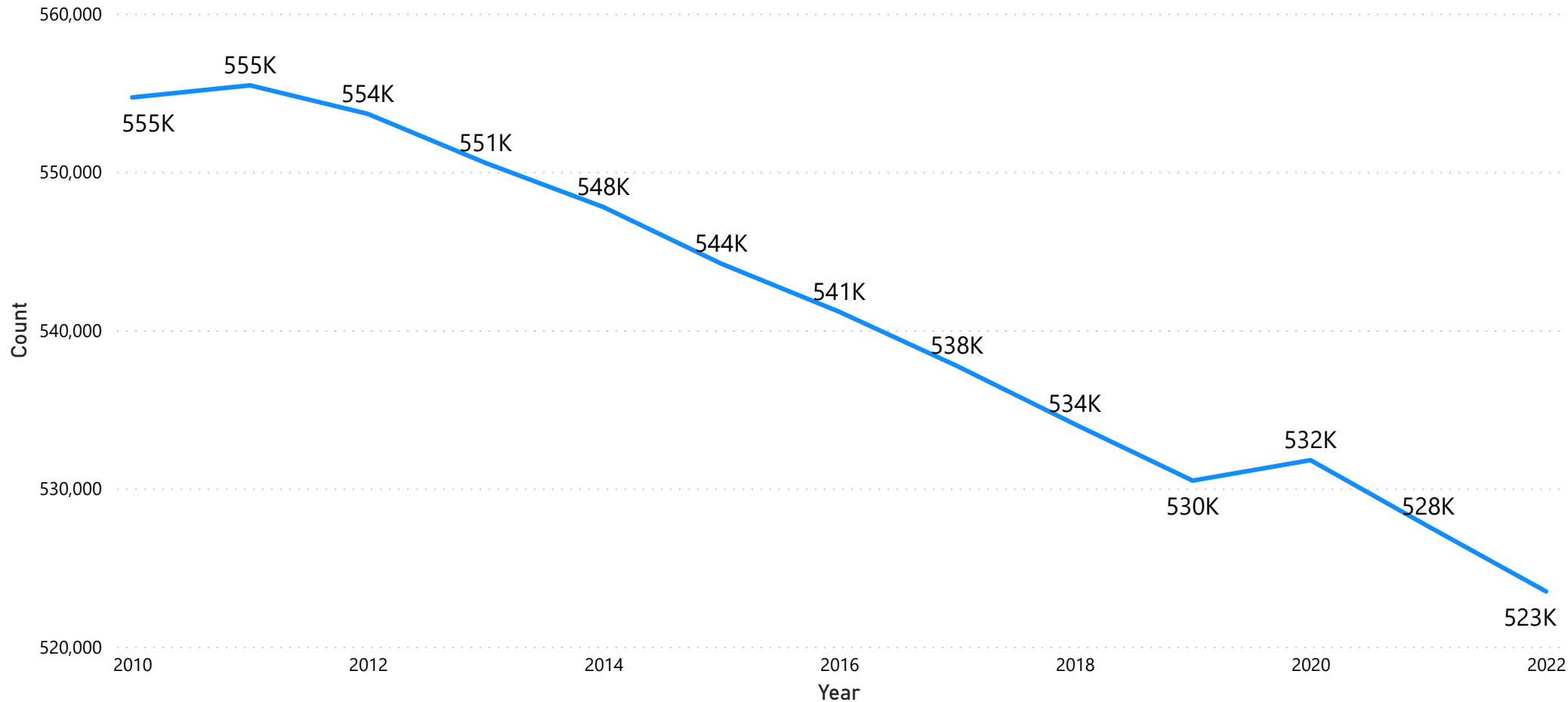
- Total Population Over Time
- Age
- Race & Ethnicity
- Educational Attainment
- Bachelor's Degree Fields
- Largest Cities in Region
- Language
- Disabilities
- Veterans
- Income for Families With Children
- Income by Race/Ethnicity
- Poverty Rate
- Counts of Population Below Poverty Level
- Asset-Limited, Income-Constrained, Employed (ALICE) Status
- Target Populations

Total Population Over Time

Illinois has a population of 12,582,032 and is the 6th largest state in the nation. Below are the estimated total population and share of total population over time, along with the 2022 population for each county in the region.

Care must be taken when comparing population for 2019 and 2020, as the 2019 estimate was based on migration and aging adjustments from the 2010 census, and 2020 was a full count of the population. The Census Bureau did not revise previous population estimates to reconcile with the 2020 full counts.

Total Population by Year



Region

County	2022 Population
Cass	12,657
Christian	33,436
Greene	11,651
Logan	27,591
Macon	101,483
Macoupin	44,245
Menard	12,121
Montgomery	28,020
Morgan	32,209
Sangamon	194,534
Scott	4,790
Shelby	20,761
Total	523,498

4.3%

Share of State in 2010

4.2%

Share of State in 2022

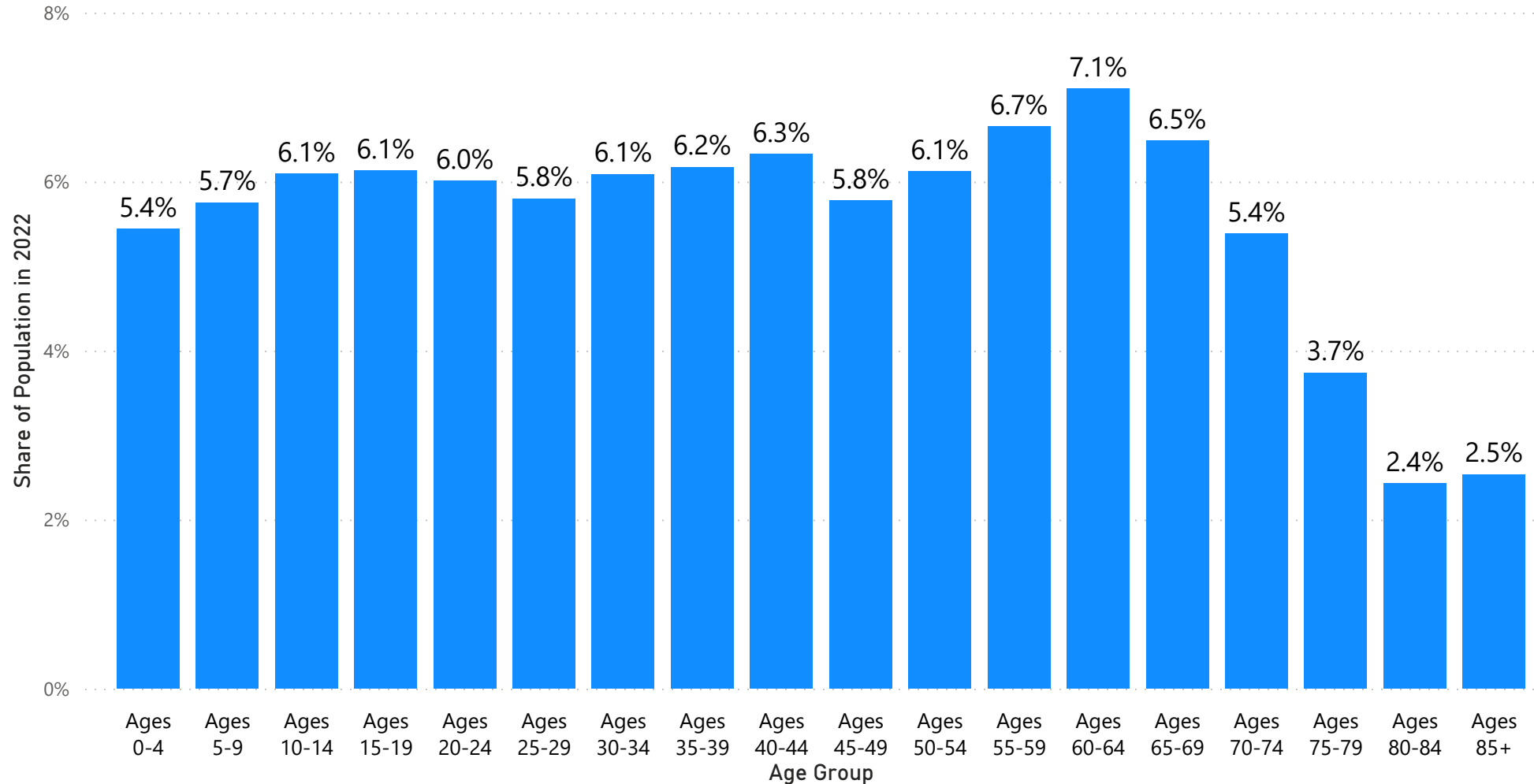
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, 2010-2019 & 2020-2022.

Age Composition in 2022

Region

The median age in Illinois has been steadily increasing over the past decade. In 2022, the median age was 39.2 compared to 36.6 in 2010. Statewide, just over 17% of Illinois residents are age 65 and over. Below is the composition of population by age in the region.

Population by Age Group



Age Group Count in 2022

Ages 0-4	28,479
Ages 5-9	30,097
Ages 10-14	31,875
Ages 15-19	32,090
Ages 20-24	31,436
Ages 25-29	30,345
Ages 30-34	31,856
Ages 35-39	32,304
Ages 40-44	33,098
Ages 45-49	30,231
Ages 50-54	32,037
Ages 55-59	34,814
Ages 60-64	37,164
Ages 65-69	33,933
Ages 70-74	28,186
Ages 75-79	19,570
Ages 80-84	12,713
Ages 85+	13,270

Total **523,498**

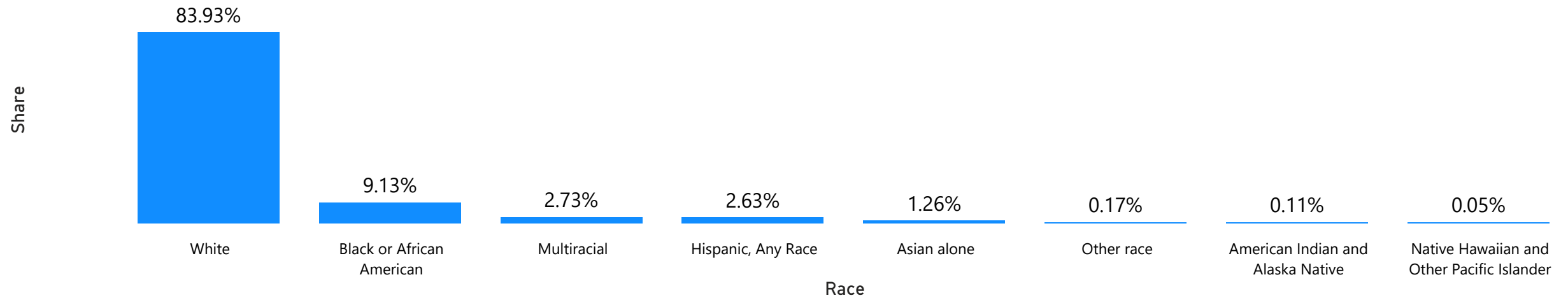
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual County Resident Population Estimates, 2022.

Population by Race / Ethnicity

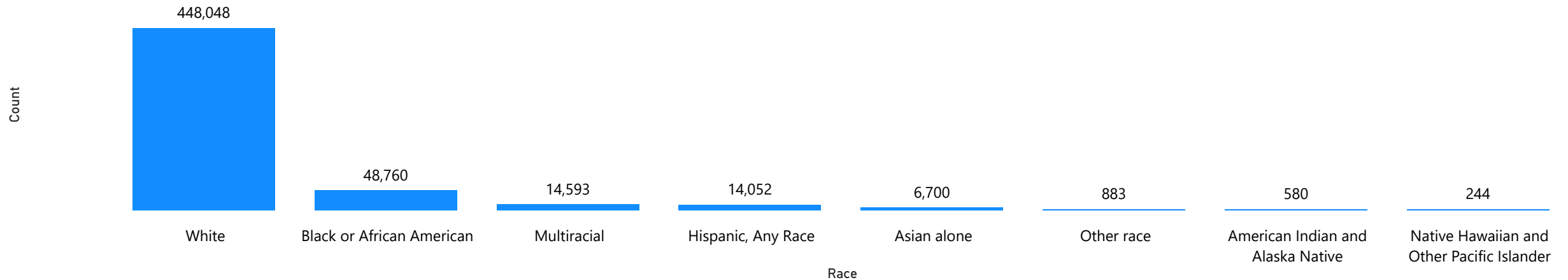
Region

Statewide, about 60% of the population is white, 17% is Hispanic, and 14% is African American. Below is the composition of the population in the region by race and ethnicity, along with estimated population levels for 2017-2021. On this page, Hispanic ethnicity includes all races, and all other categories are non-Hispanic.

Share of Population by Race/Ethnicity



Count of Population by Race/Ethnicity



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Table DP05.

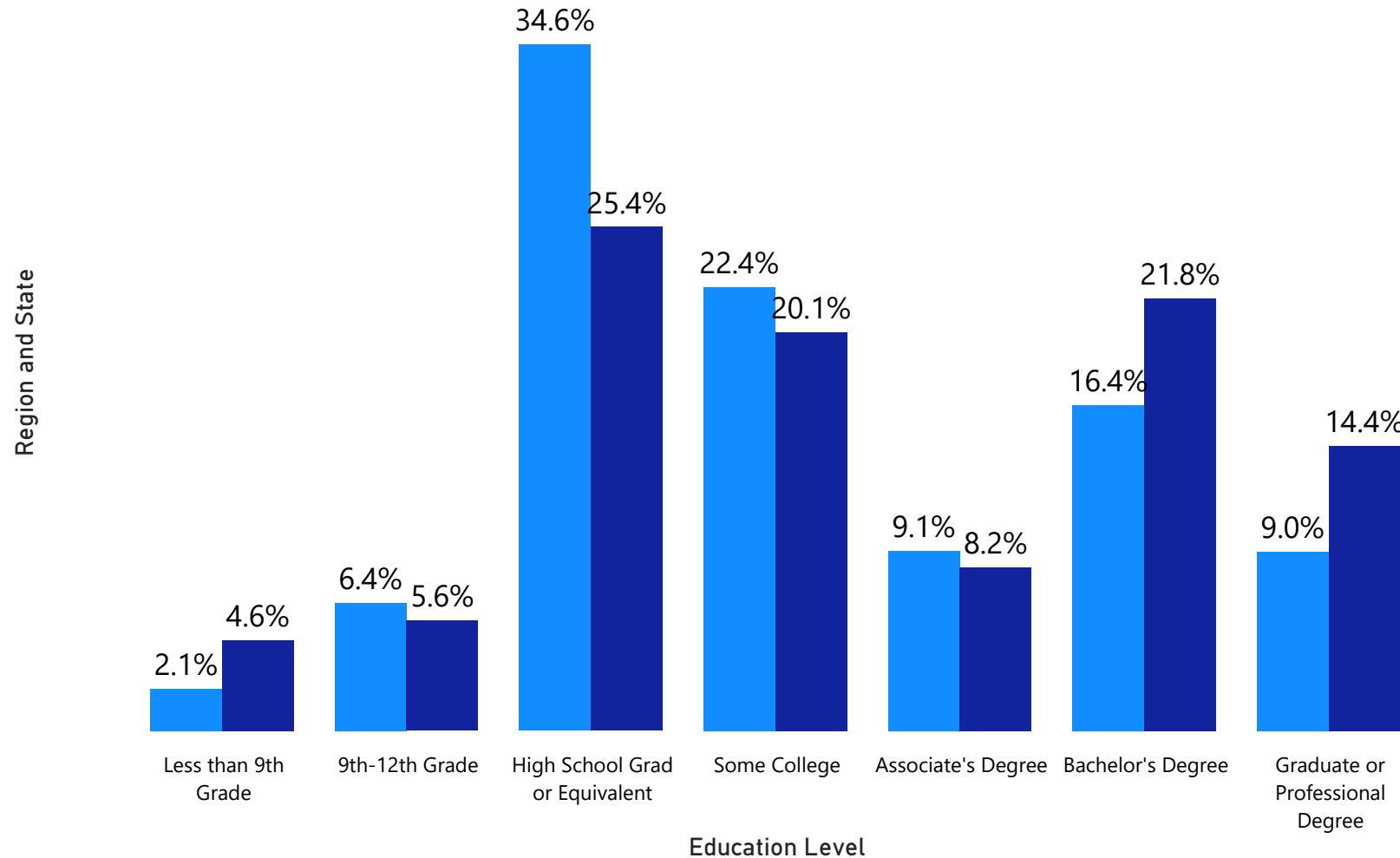
Education Attainment of Population 25 & Over

Region

Over 64% of Illinois residents 25 & over continued education past high school. Below are the educational attainment characteristics of the region compared to the state.

Share of Population Age 25+ by Education Level

● Region ● State



Group	Count Ages 25+
Less than 9th Grade	7,848
9th-12th Grade	24,013
High School Grad or Equivalent	129,151
Some College	83,536
Associate's Degree	33,818
Bachelor's Degree	61,330
Graduate or Professional Degree	33,679
Total	373,375

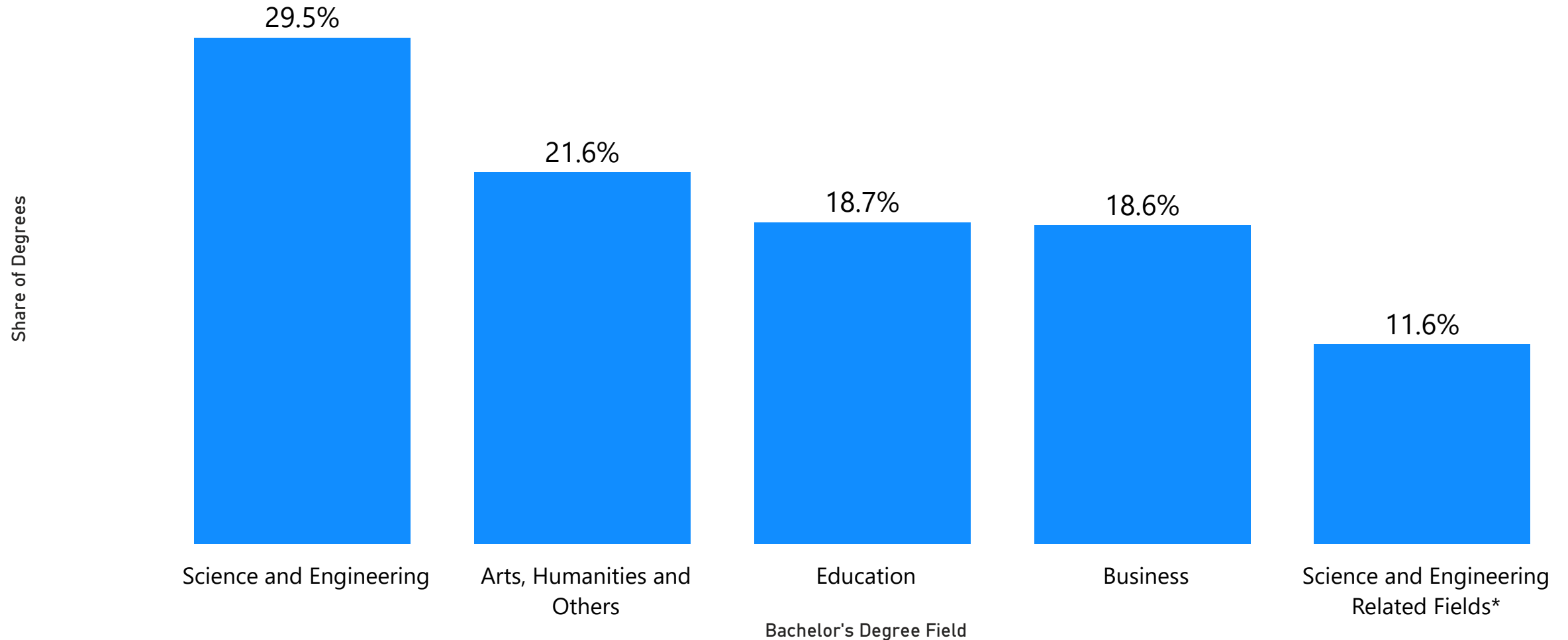
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Table S1501.

Bachelor Degree Population by Field

Region
Central

In Illinois, 36% of individuals 25 or older hold at least a Bachelor's degree, which is higher than the national figure of 32%. Below is the share of bachelor's degree holders in the region by field of study.

Share of Bachelor's Degrees by Field



*E.g., pre-med, engineering technology.

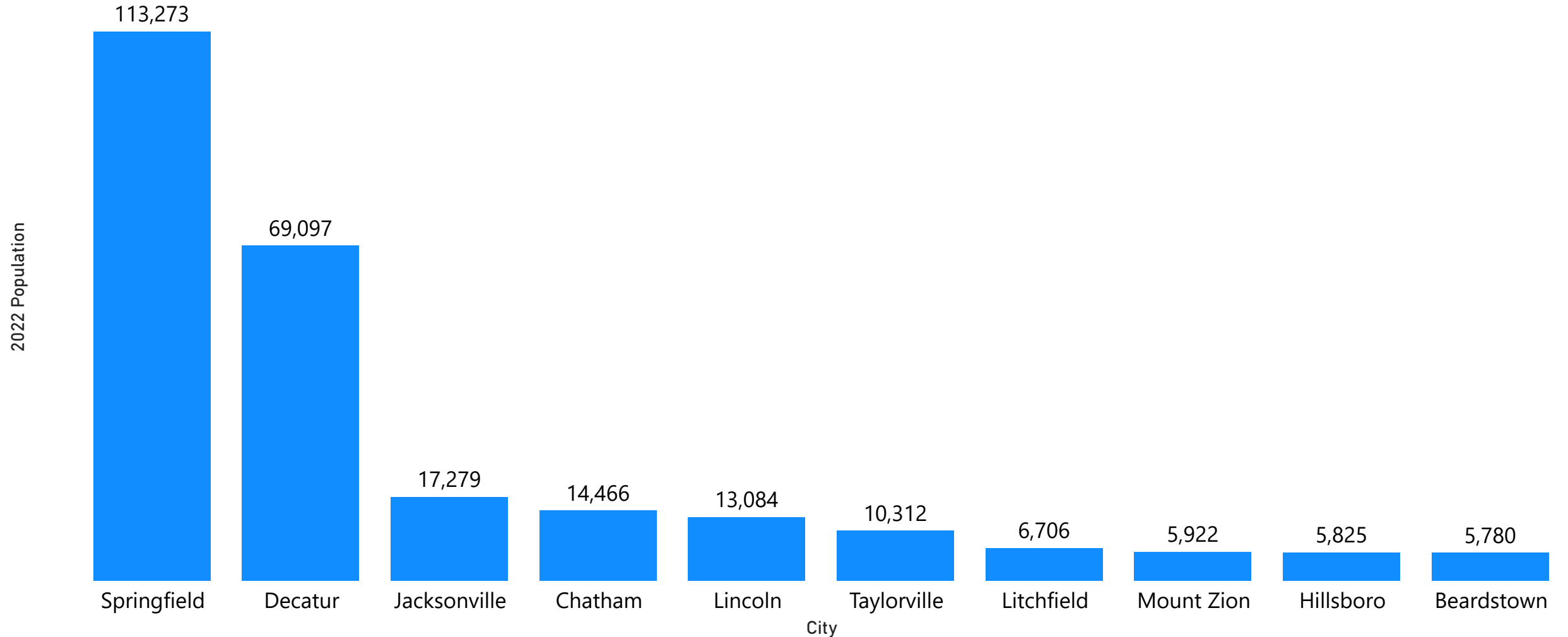
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Table S1502.

Population by Largest Cities in Region

Region

Below are the 2022 population estimates for the 10 largest cities in the region. These population counts differ from American Community Survey data which shows average population over a multi-year period.

2022 Population by City

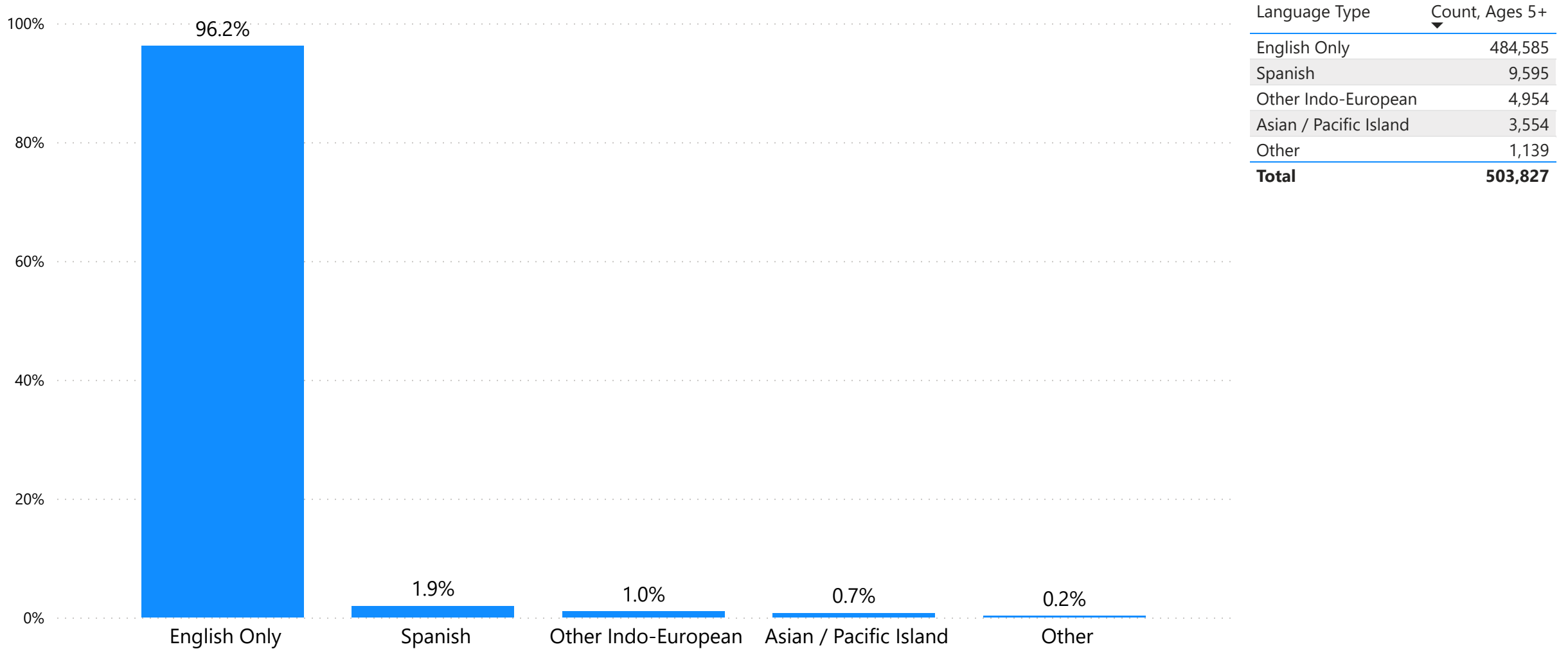


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 Population Estimates. City-to-region crosswalk based on GIS analysis by the Center for Governmental Studies at Northern Illinois University.

Population Ages 5+ by Language Spoken At Home

Region

Statewide, 23.2% of Illinois residents speak a language other than English at home. On the national level, 21.7% of the population speaks a language other than English at home. Below is the composition of population in the region by language spoken at home.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Table S1601.

Population with Disabilities by Age and Type

Region
Central

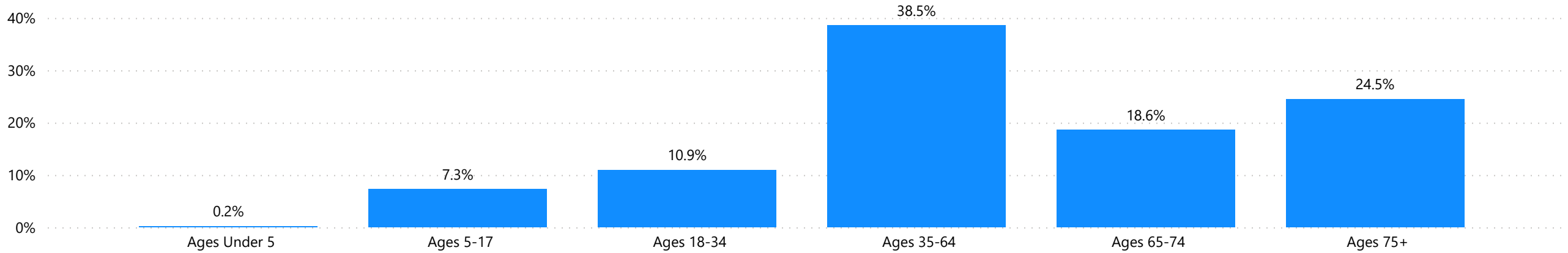
75,728

14.6%

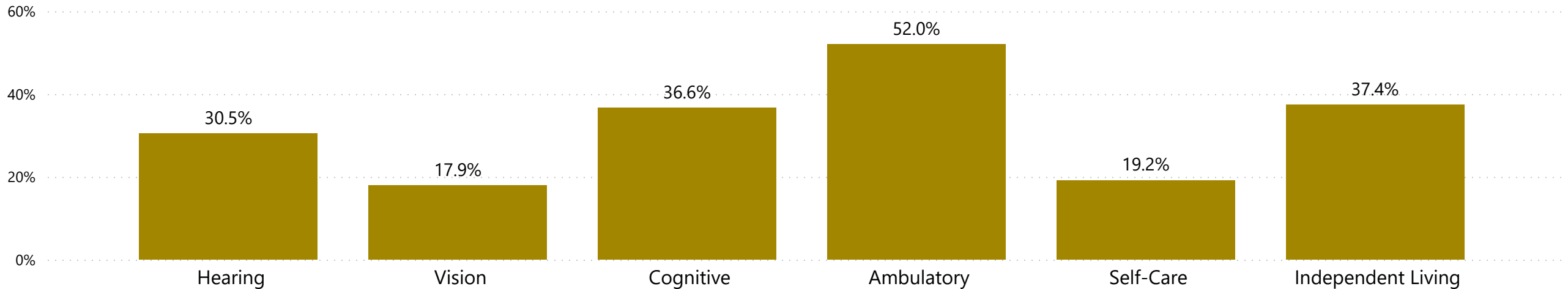
Persons with Disabilities in Region

Share

Share of Persons with Disabilities by Age



Share of Persons with Disabilities by Type*



*Sum of percentages can exceed 100 due to persons with multiple disabilities.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Table S1810.

Veteran Population by Age, Type, Race, & Education

Region

34,073

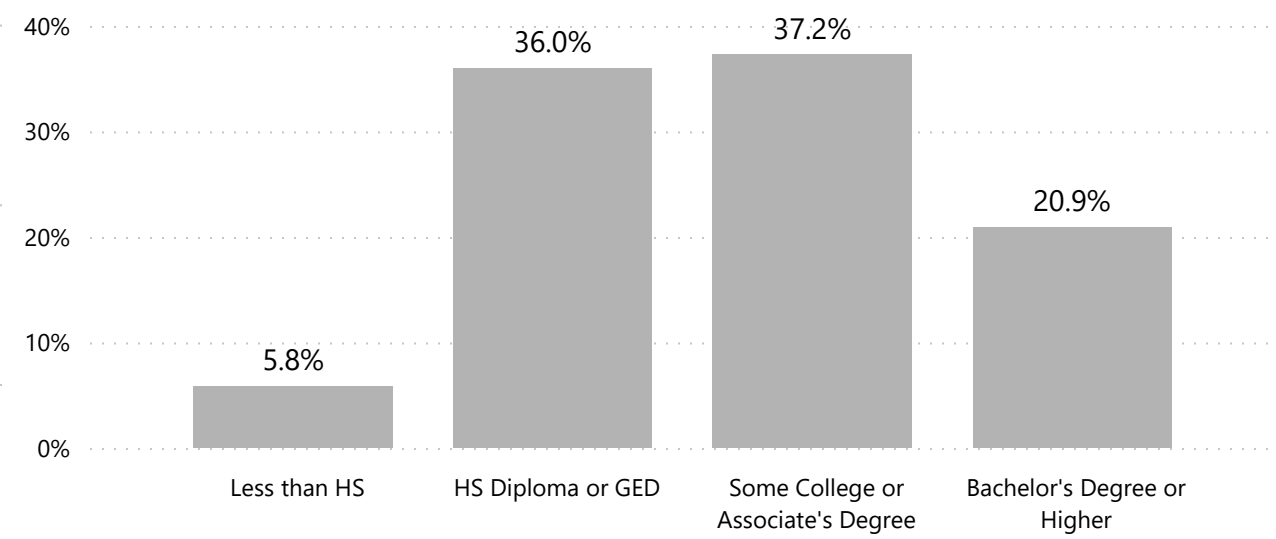
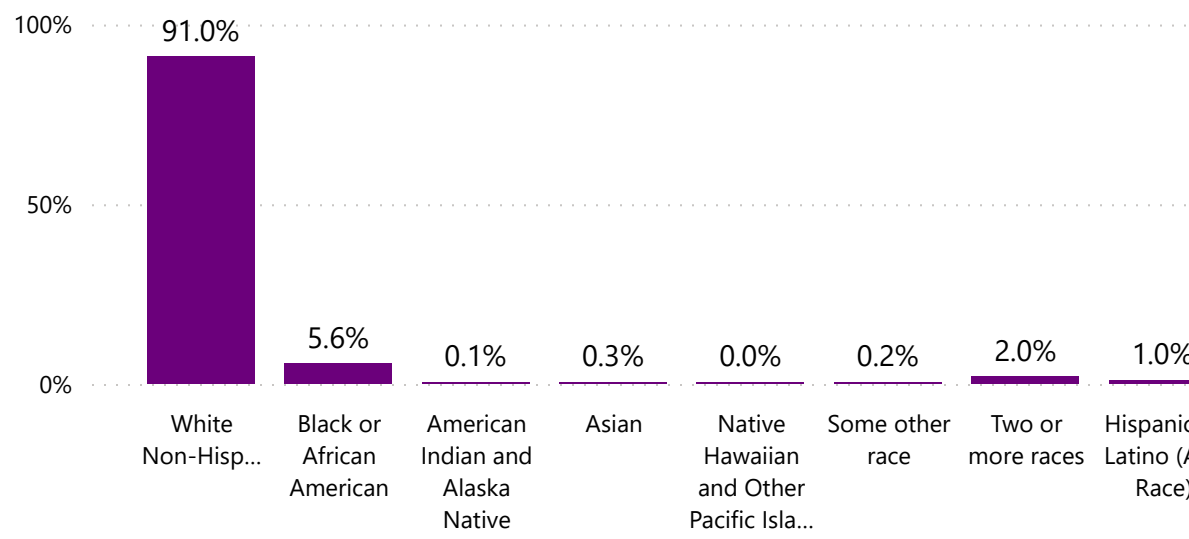
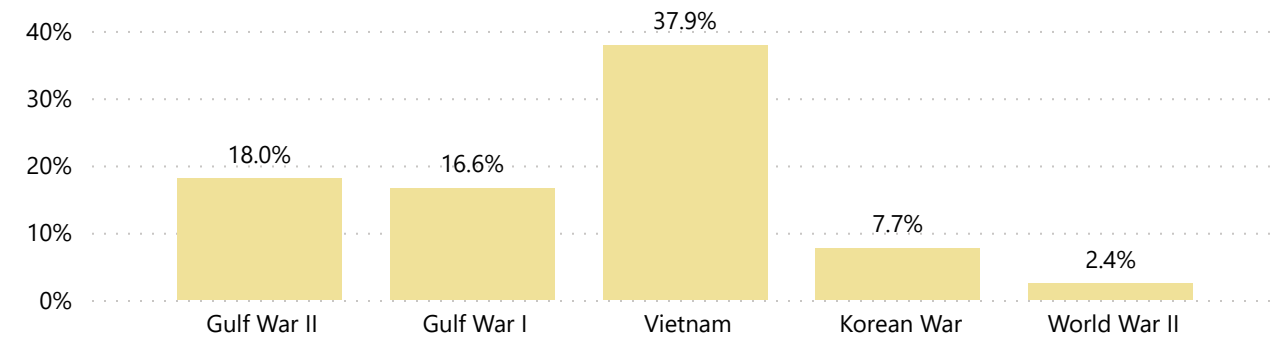
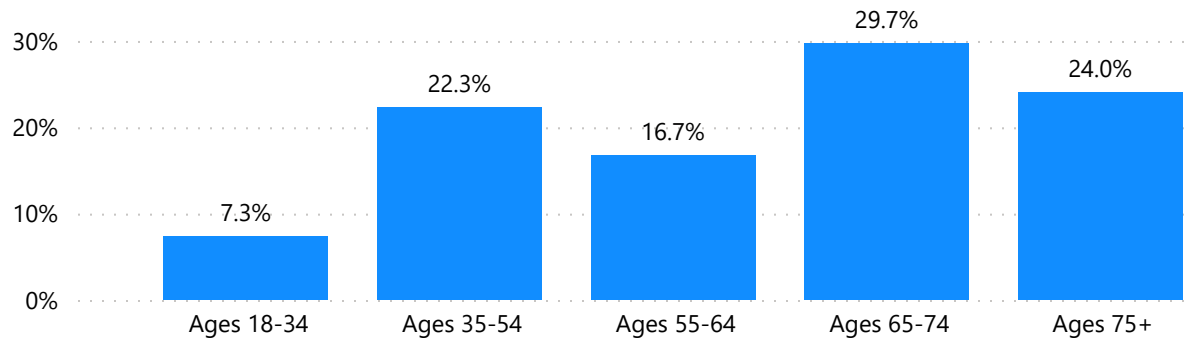
Veterans in Region

Statewide, there are 537,552 veterans in Illinois, which is about 5% of the total population. On the national level, veterans represent about 6% of the total population. Below is some information on the share of the veteran population in the region by age, race, period of service, and educational attainment.

8.2%

% of Population Ages 18+

Periods of service do not total 100% because not all categories are included in the American Community Survey. Race/Ethnicity exceeds 100% because Hispanic ethnicity includes all races.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Table S2101.

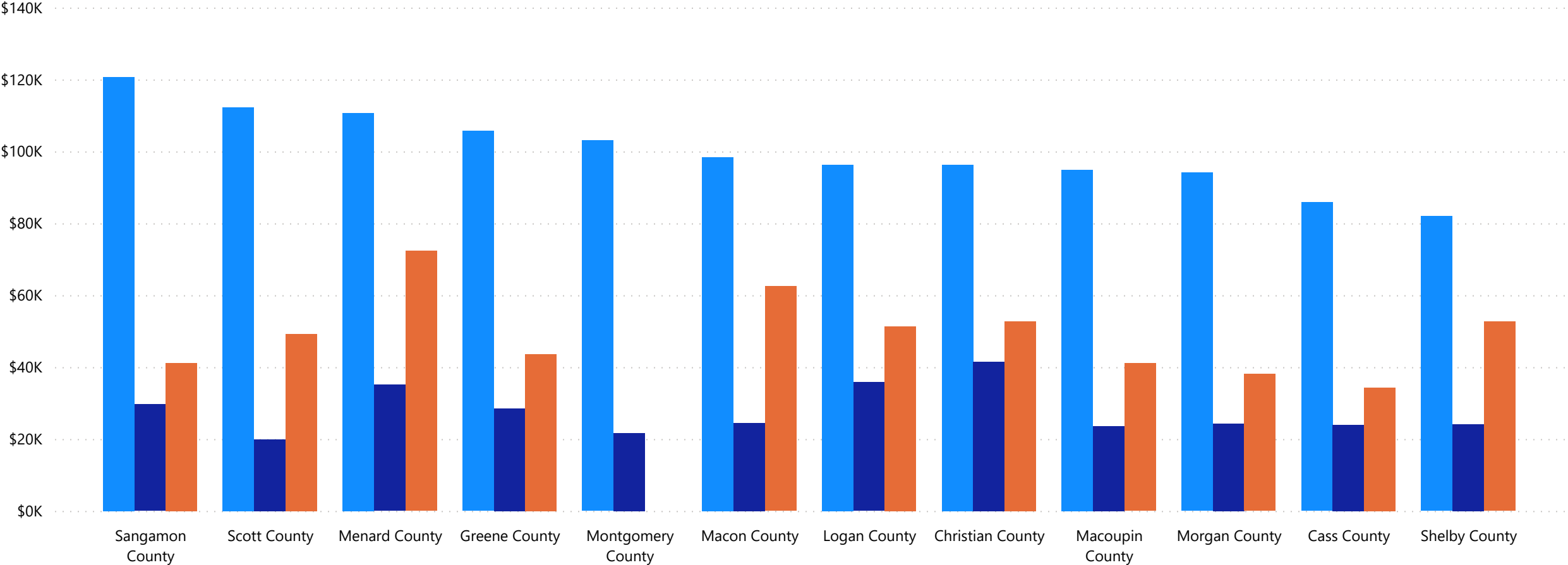
Median Income by County- Households with Children

Region

The statewide median income for all households was \$72,563, which is 5% higher than the national level of \$69,021. In Illinois, the median income was \$110,026 for married couples with children, \$32,586 for single mother households, and \$50,942 for single father households.

Median Income by Household Type

● Married couples with children ● Single mother ● Single father



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Table S1903.

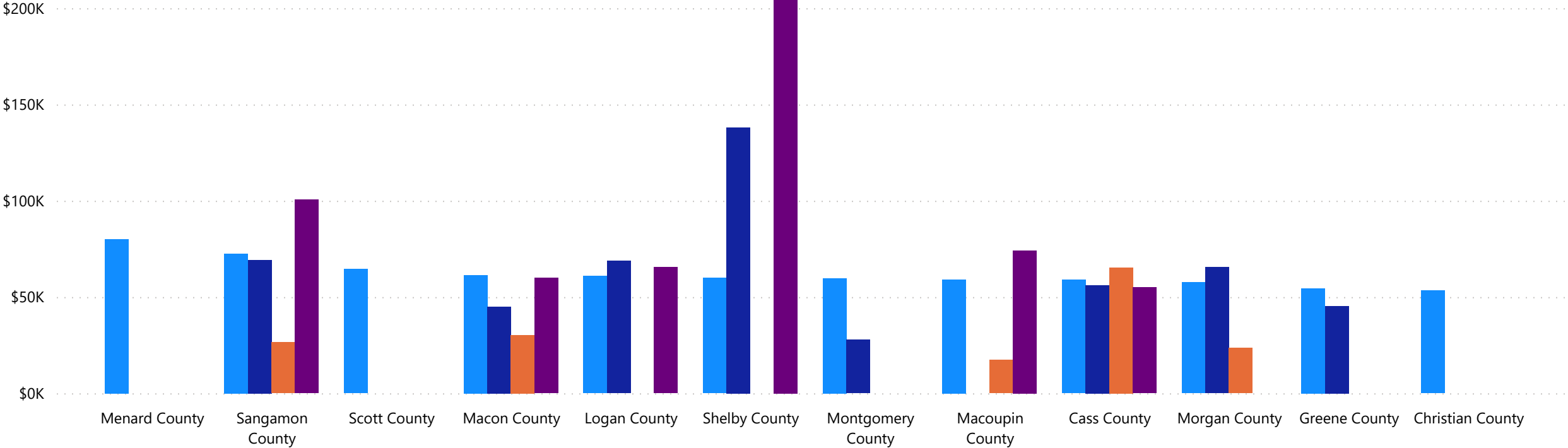
Median Income by County and Race

Region

Statewide, the median income for African American households is \$46,401, Asian households is \$98,367, Hispanic households is \$58,791, and White households is \$73,533. Below are the American Community Survey responses for household income by race in each county of the region. *Care must be taken when comparing income, as some counties do not have sufficient American Community Survey responses regarding income for some racial and ethnic groups. It is not possible to compute a region-wide median income in the American Community Survey data provided.*

Median Household Income by Race

● White Non-Hispanic
 ● Hispanic or Latino
 ● Black or African American
 ● Asian



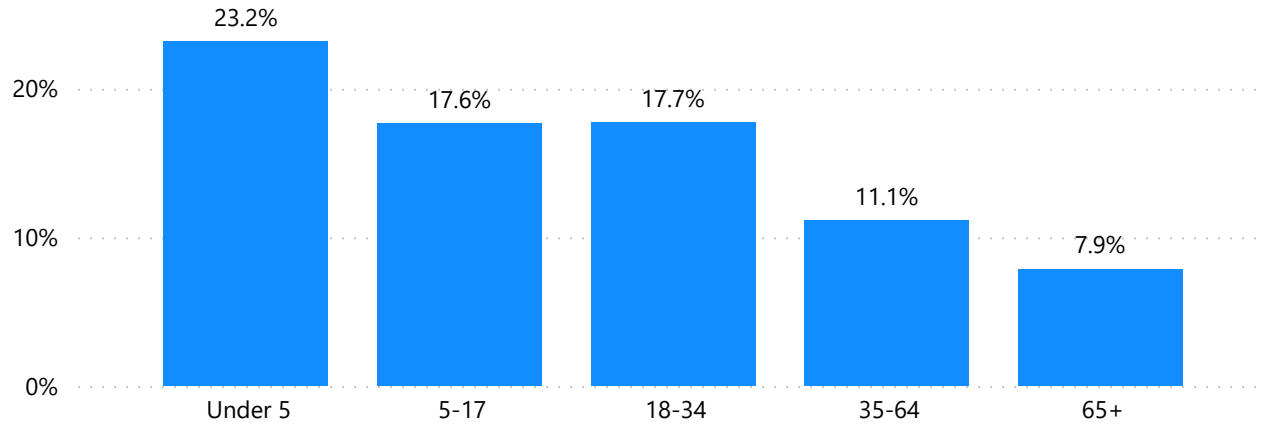
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Table S1903.

Poverty Rates by Age, Sex, Race/Ethnicity, and Education

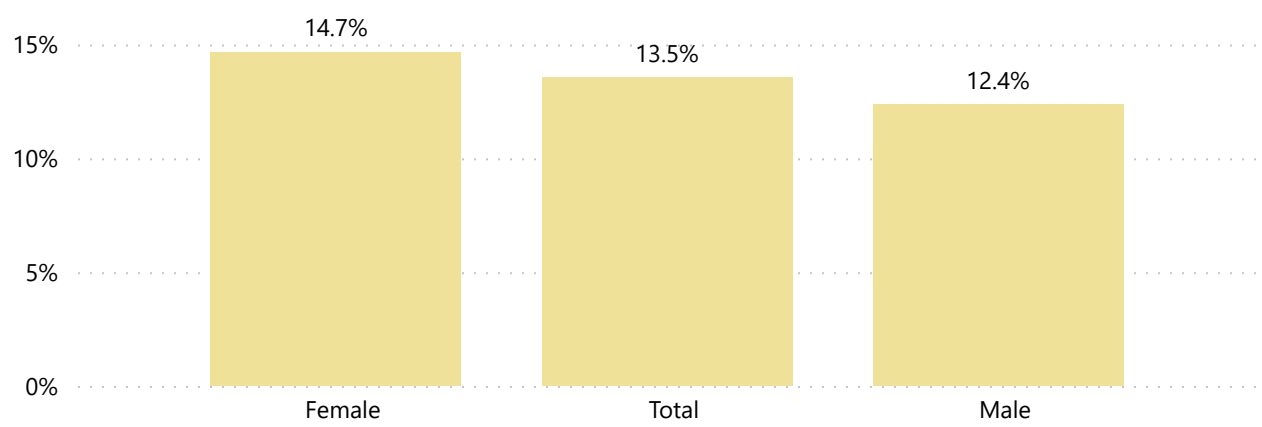
Region
 Central

Roughly 1.5 million Illinois residents live below poverty. Children under the age of 5 (17%), females (13%), African Americans (25%), and individuals lacking a high school diploma or equivalent (22%) are more likely to live below poverty. Below are the percentage of residents in the region experiencing poverty by several characteristics. *Percentages are to their total populations in the region- e.g., the percentage of all males, the percentage of all females, etc. For this reason, percentages do not total 100.*

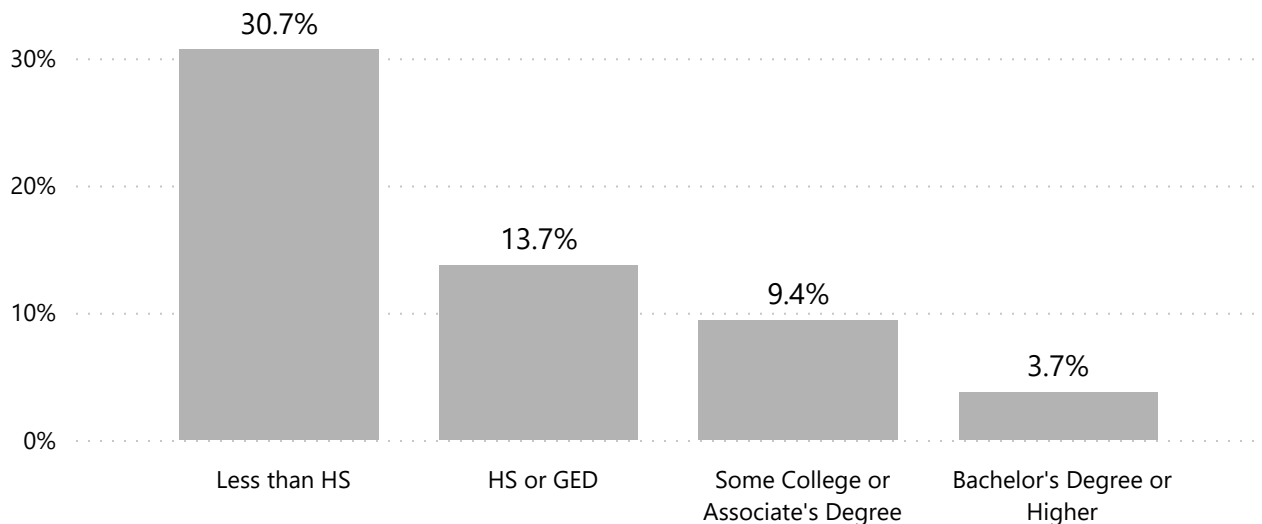
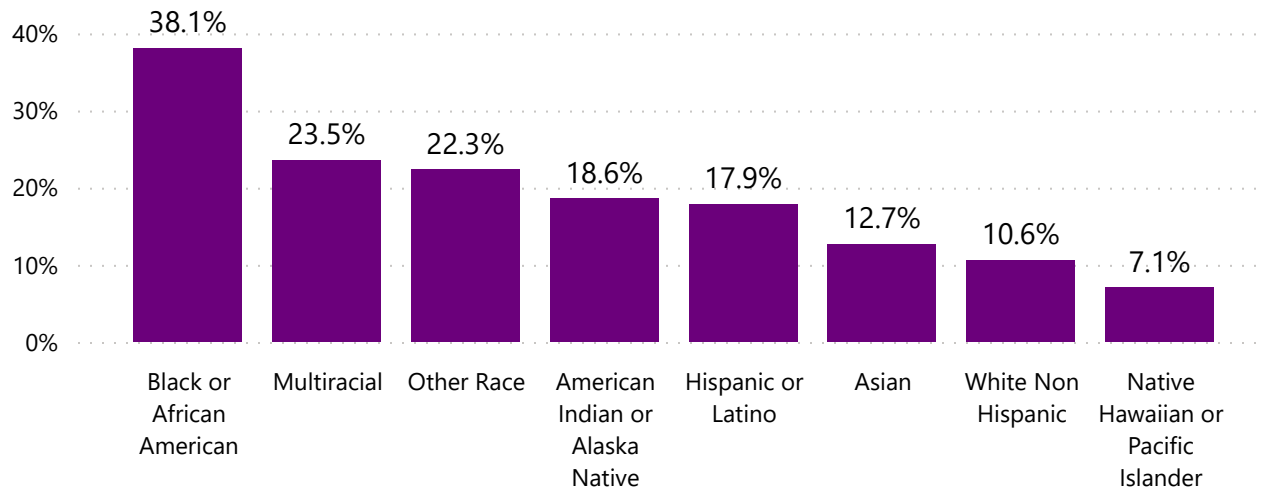
By Age



By Sex



By Race/Ethnicity



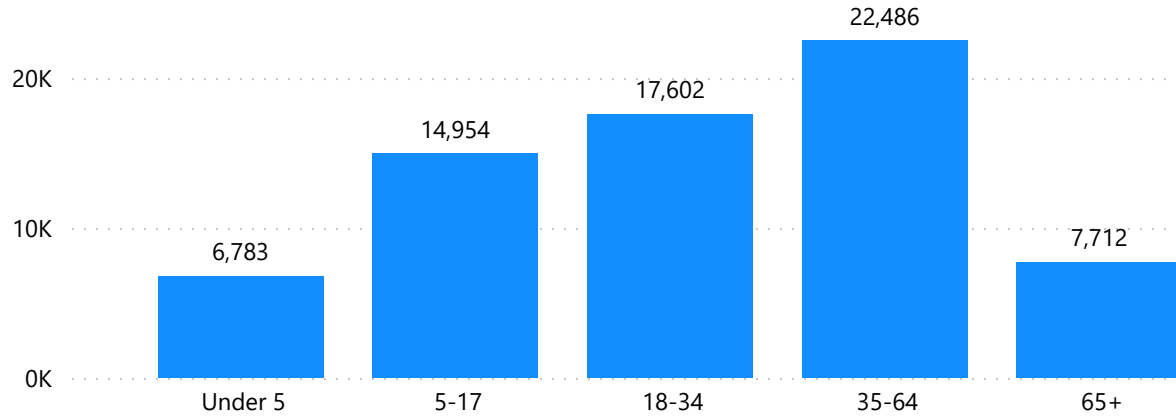
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Table S1701

Counts of Population Below Poverty Level

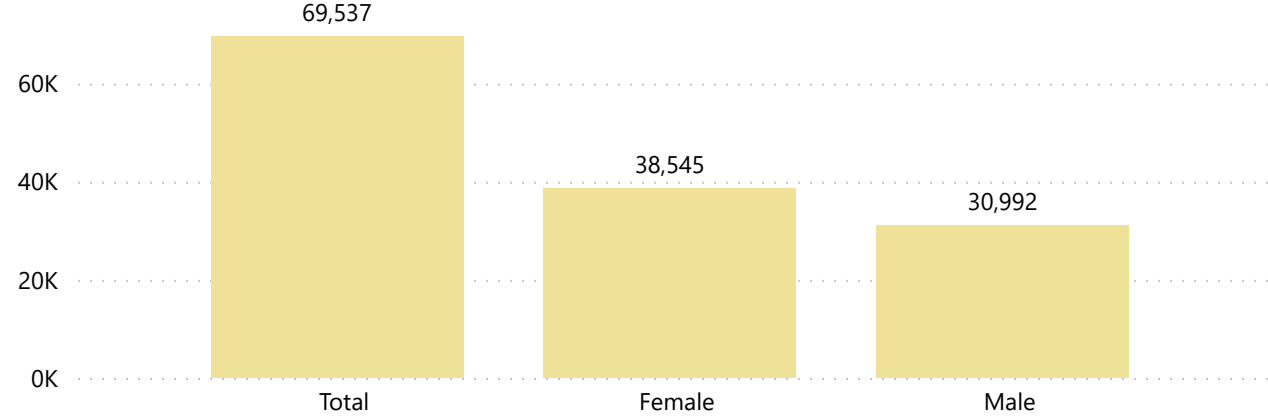
Region

Roughly 1.5 million Illinois residents live below poverty. Children under the age of 5 (17%), females (13%), African Americans (25%), and individuals lacking a high school diploma or equivalent (22%) are more likely to live below poverty. Below counts of the population in the region with income below poverty level by various characteristics.

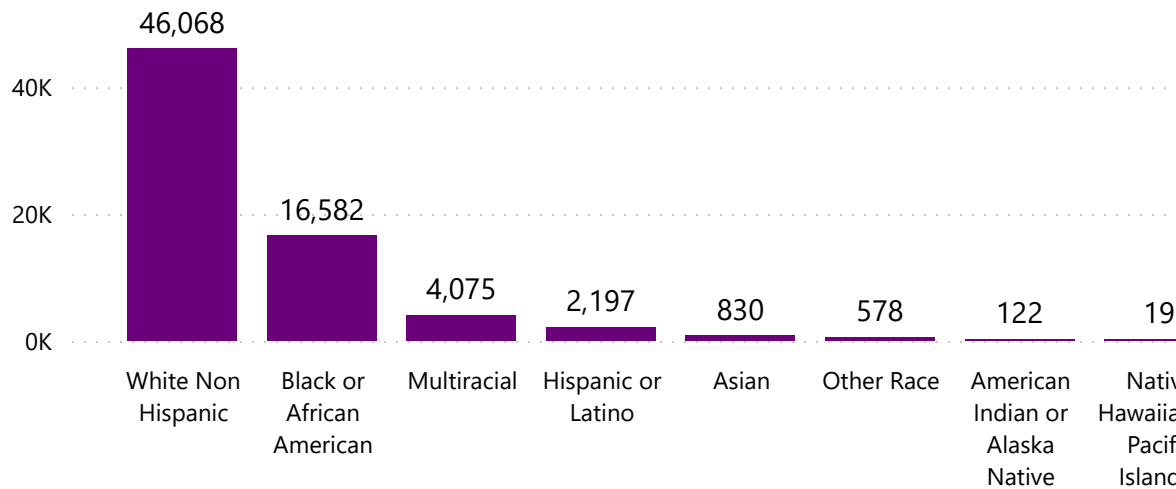
By Age



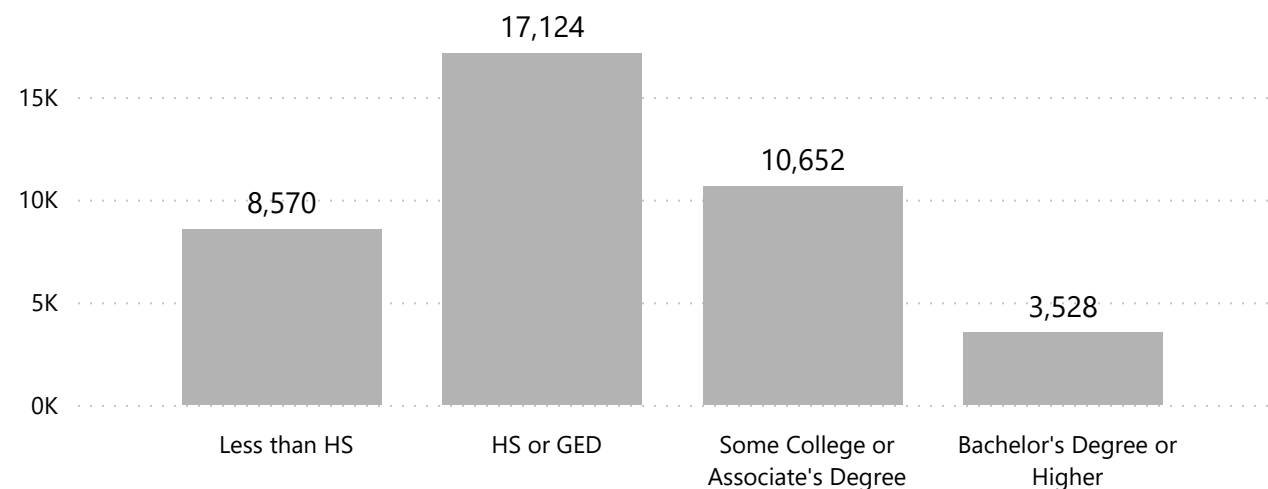
By Sex



By Race/Ethnicity



By Educational Attainment



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Table S1701

ALICE Population

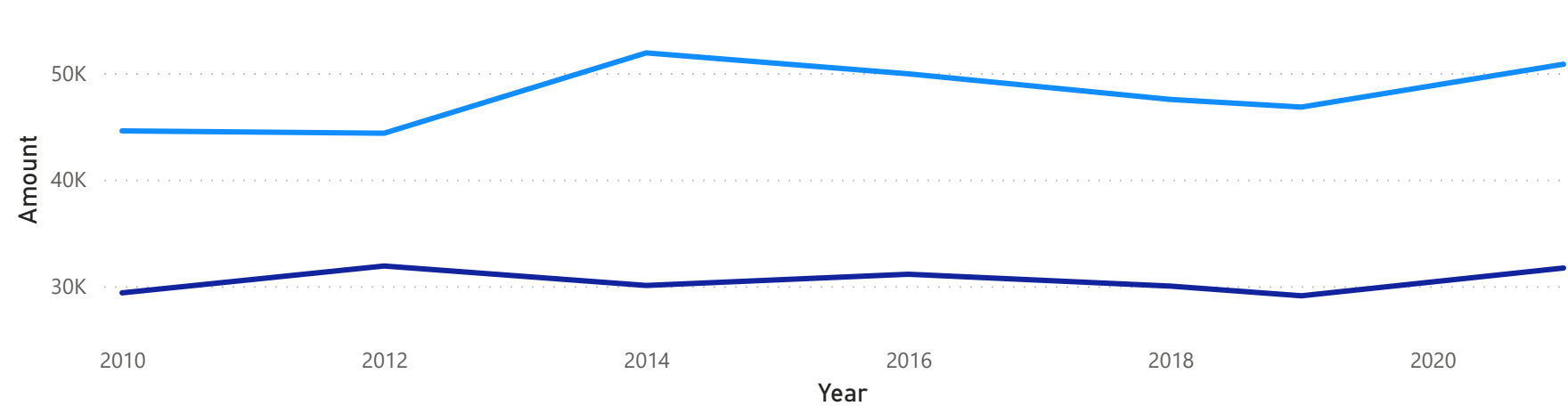
Asset-Limited, Income-Constrained, Employed persons

Region

The United Way identified an ALICE threshold for persons with income above poverty level, but who nonetheless cannot meet basic costs of living in their counties. The ALICE threshold is based on a household survival budget that includes housing, childcare, food, transportation, healthcare, a smartphone plan, taxes, and a modest reserve for unanticipated one-time costs. Below is a summary of the ALICE population in the region over time and by county.

Count of ALICE & Poverty Households

Indicator ● ALICE Households ● Poverty Households

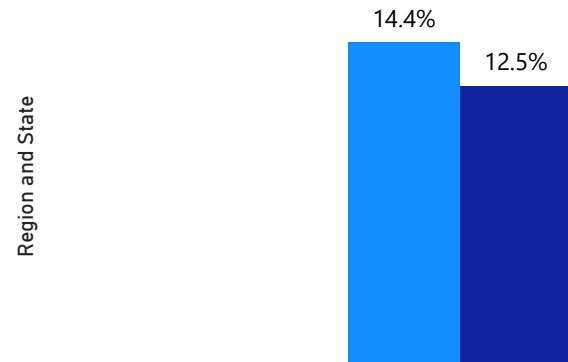


ALICE Threshold by County, 2021

County	ALICE Households	Threshold - Under 65	Threshold - Over 65
Cass	1,297	\$50,000	\$40,000
Christian	4,362	\$50,000	\$40,000
Greene	1,296	\$50,000	\$40,000
Logan	3,019	\$50,000	\$40,000
Macon	10,778	\$45,000	\$40,000
Macoupin	4,864	\$50,000	\$45,000
Menard	1,080	\$50,000	\$45,000
Montgomery	2,733	\$50,000	\$40,000
Morgan	3,942	\$45,000	\$45,000
Sangamon	14,959	\$45,000	\$45,000
Scott	550	\$50,000	\$40,000
Shelby	1,935	\$45,000	\$40,000

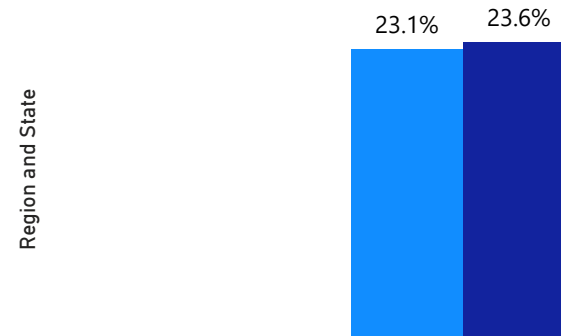
Share of Households Below Poverty Level, 2021

● Region ● State



Share of Households Above Poverty Level but Below ALICE Threshold, 2021

● Region ● State



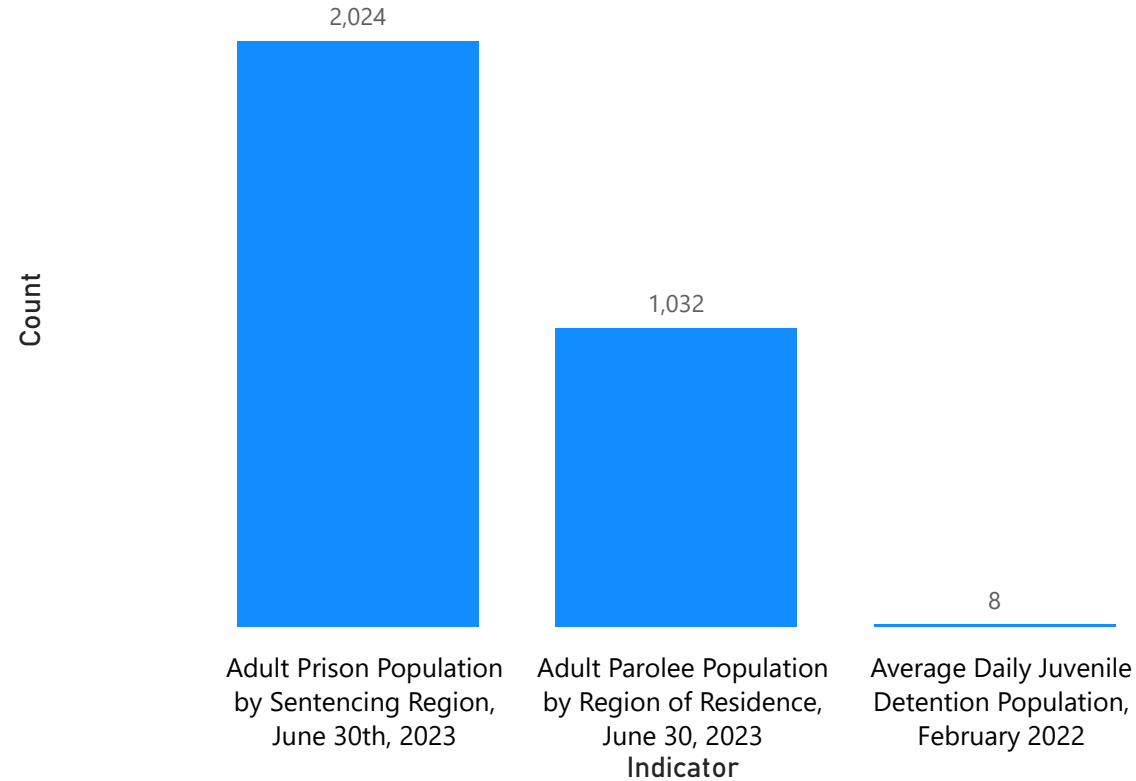
Source: United Way of Illinois, 2021 ALICE Dataset.

Target Population Characteristics

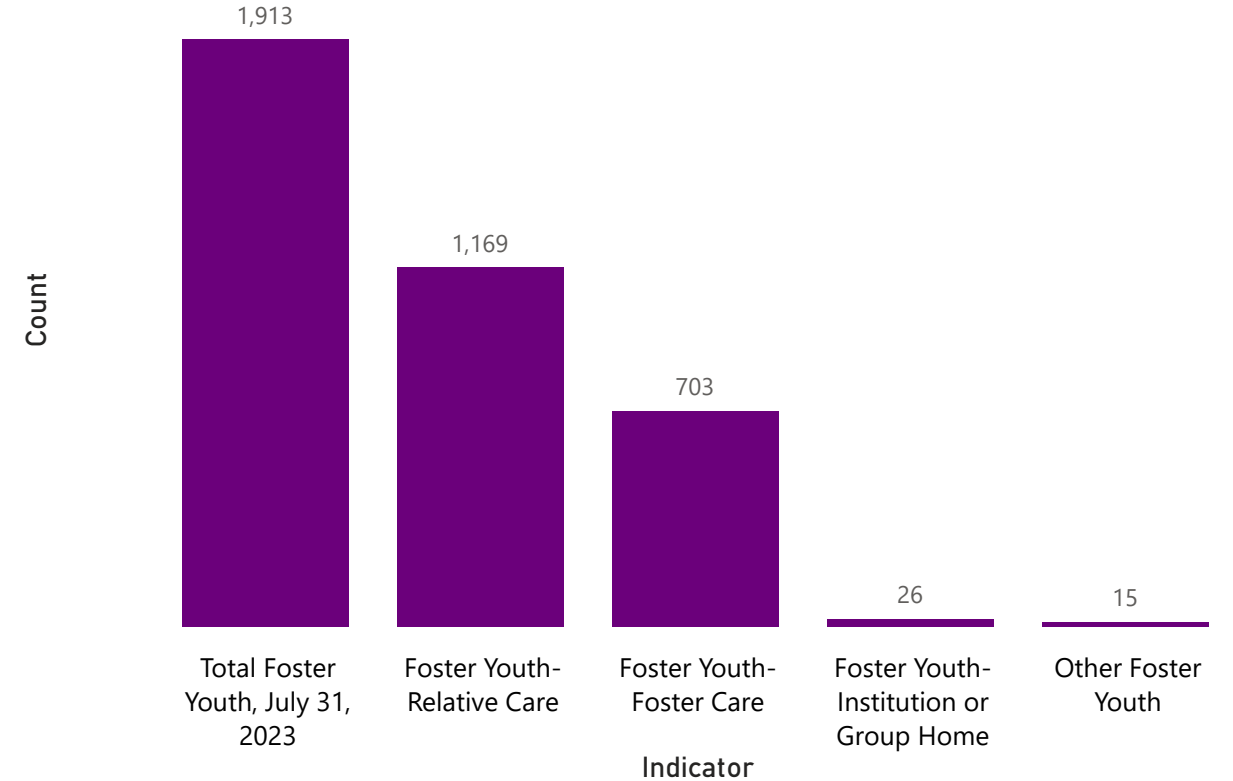
Region

Below are some counts of various target populations in the EDR. Please note that timing of the counts varies by indicator, due to the data being reported at different times by several agencies. All data were most recent available at time of writing in August 2023.

Justice-Involved Populations



Foster Care Indicators



Data Sources

Justice-Involved Populations

Prison Population- Illinois Department of Corrections, Prison Population Data Set, 6/30/2023
Parolee Population- Illinois Department of Corrections, Parole Population Data Set, 6/30/2023
Juvenile Population- Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, JMIS Monthly Data Report, February 2022

Foster Care Indicators

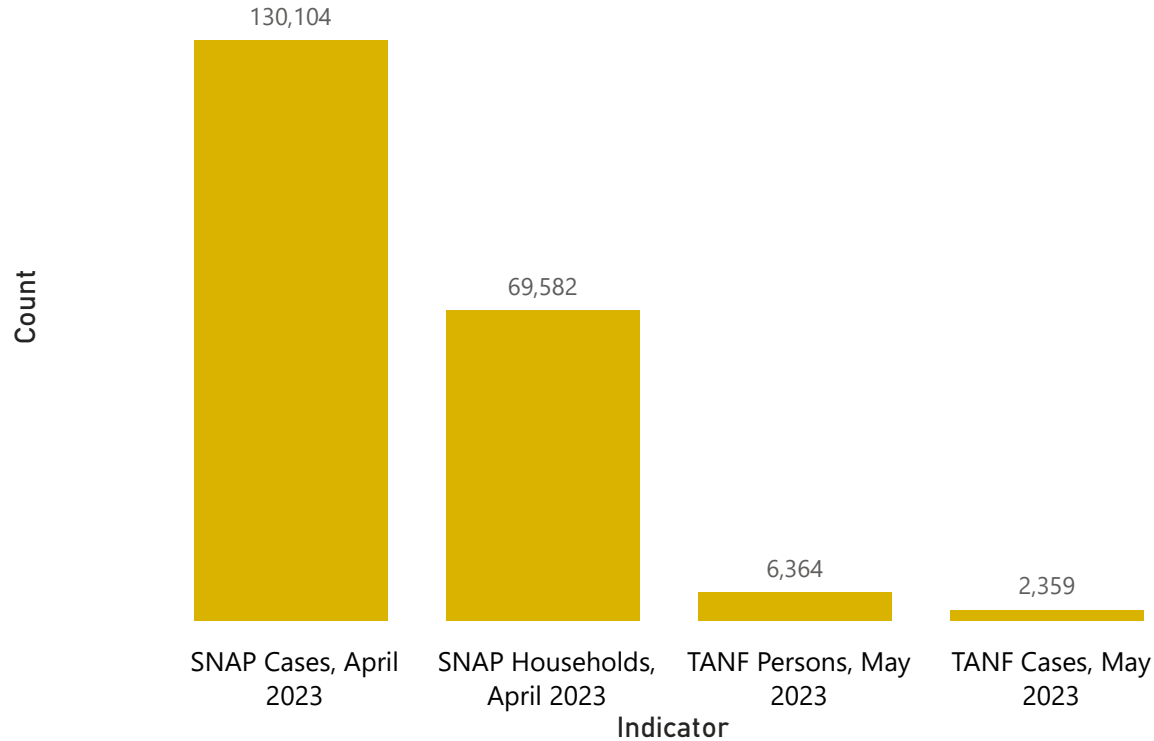
Illinois Department of Children & Family Services- Youth in Care by County, July 31, 2023.

Target Population Characteristics (Continued)

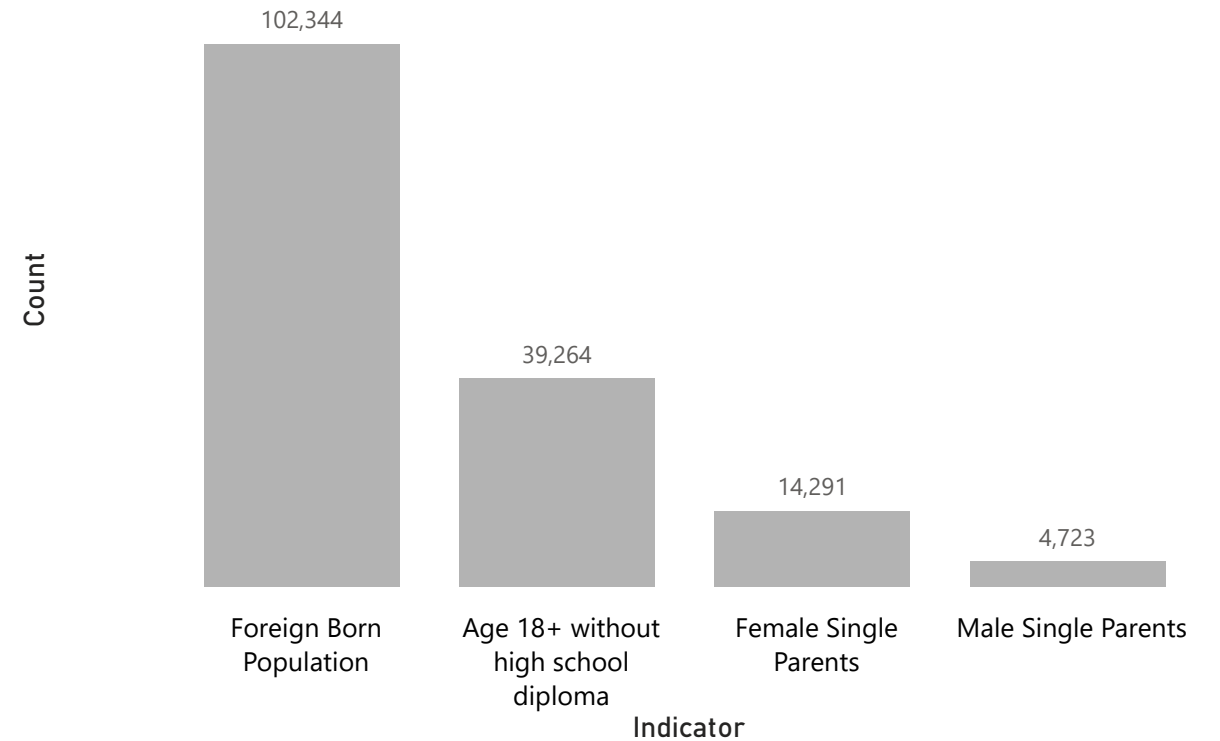
Region

Below are some counts of various target populations in the EDR. Please note that timing of the counts varies by indicator, due to the data being reported at different times by several agencies. All data were most recent available at time of writing in August 2023.

Low-Income Indicators



Other Indicators



Data Sources

Low-Income Indicators

Illinois Department of Human Services, SNAP Data by Servicing Office, April 2023

Illinois Department of Human Services, TANF Cases & Persons by Office of Service, May 2023

Other Indicators

Foreign-born population- U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Table DP02

Age 18+ without high school diploma- U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Table S1501

Single parents- U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Table S1903

Recent Employment Trends

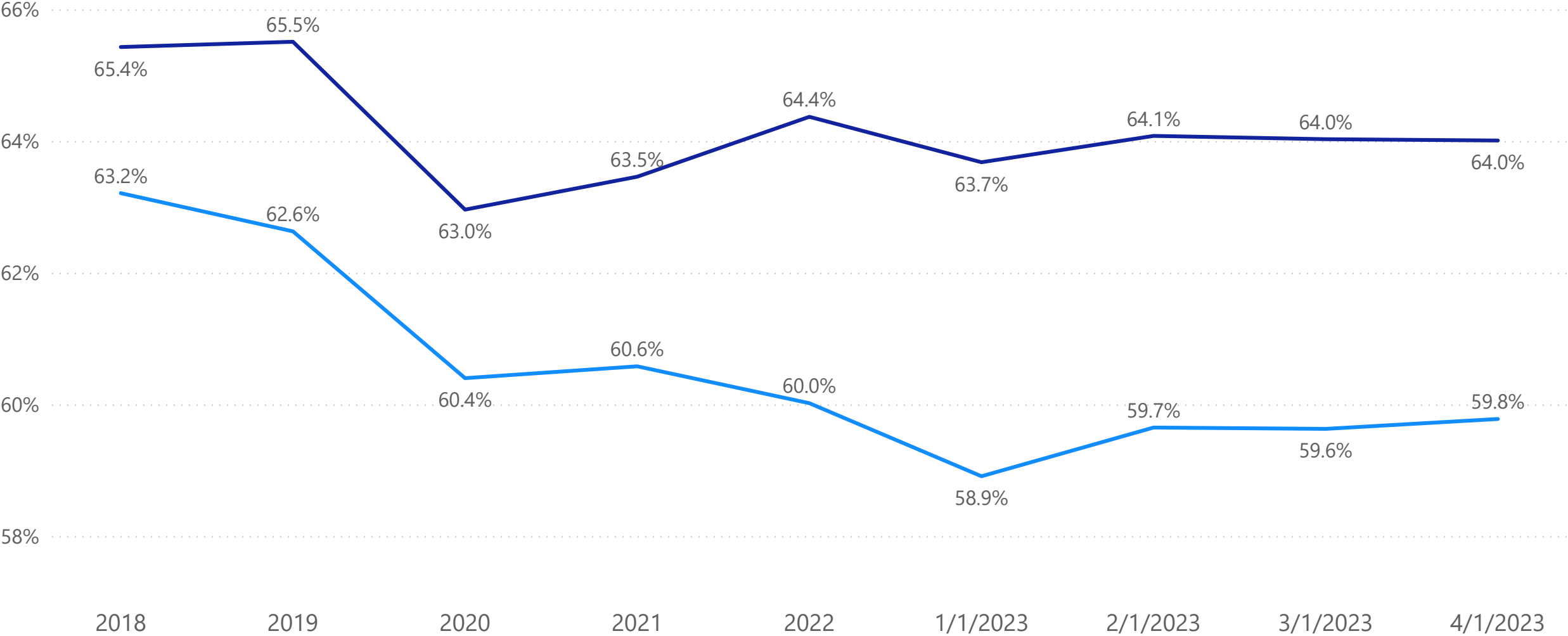
- Labor Force Participation
- Unemployment Over Time
- Total Employment Relative to 2019
- Leading, Emerging, and Maturing Sectors
- Sectors Relative to 2019
- Sector Employment by Quarter, 2019-2023 Q2
- Year-Over-Year Employment Change by Sector (July 2022 - July 2023)
- Location Quotients and Annual Employment Changes *Within* Regions

Labor Force Participation Rates Over Time, 2018- April 2023

Region

Below is the trend in labor force participation rates for the region and Illinois since 2018. Statewide, labor force participation decreased in 2020 and remained below 2019 levels as of April 2023.

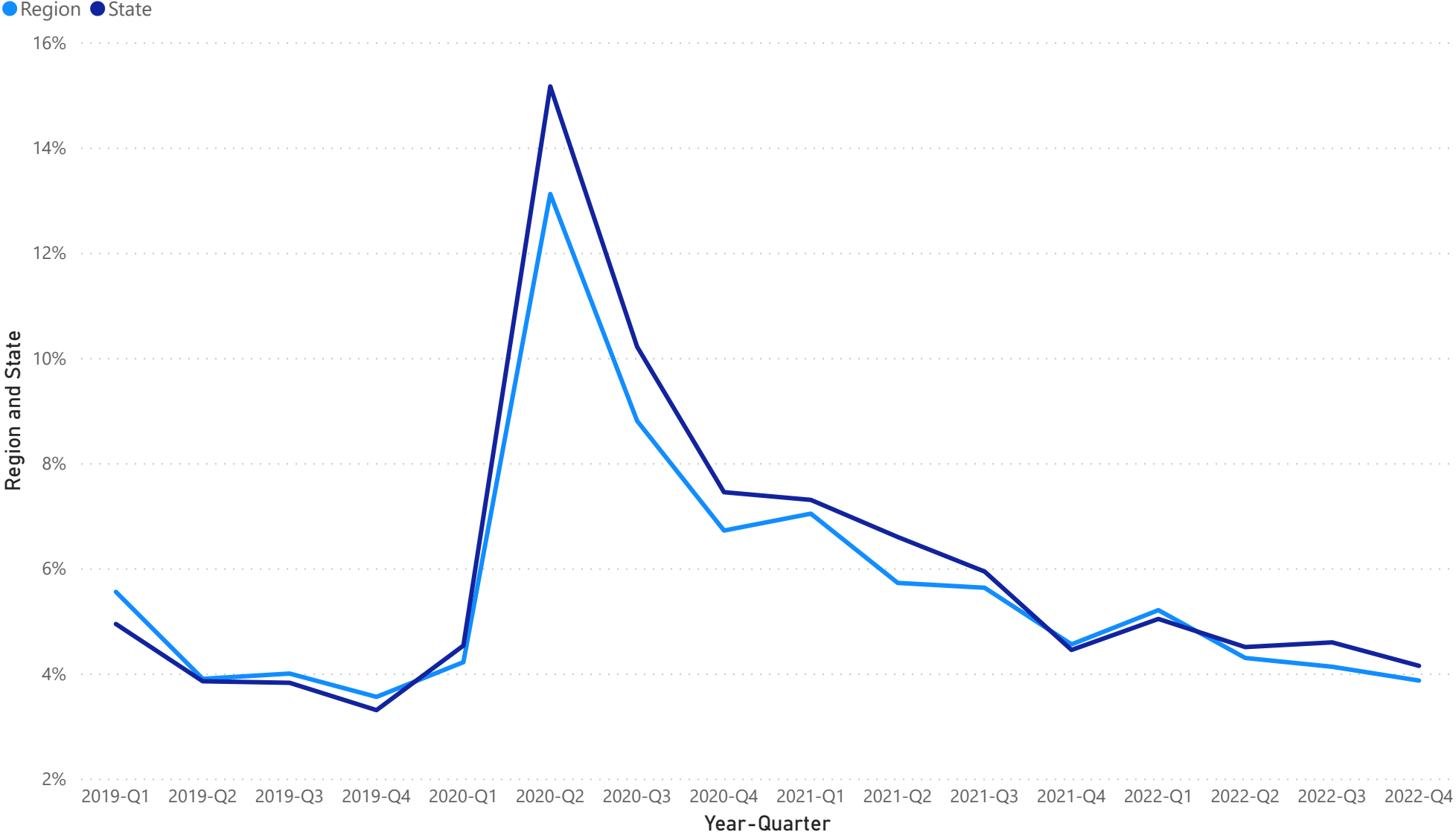
● Region ● State



Source: Estimates by Lightcast, 2023.

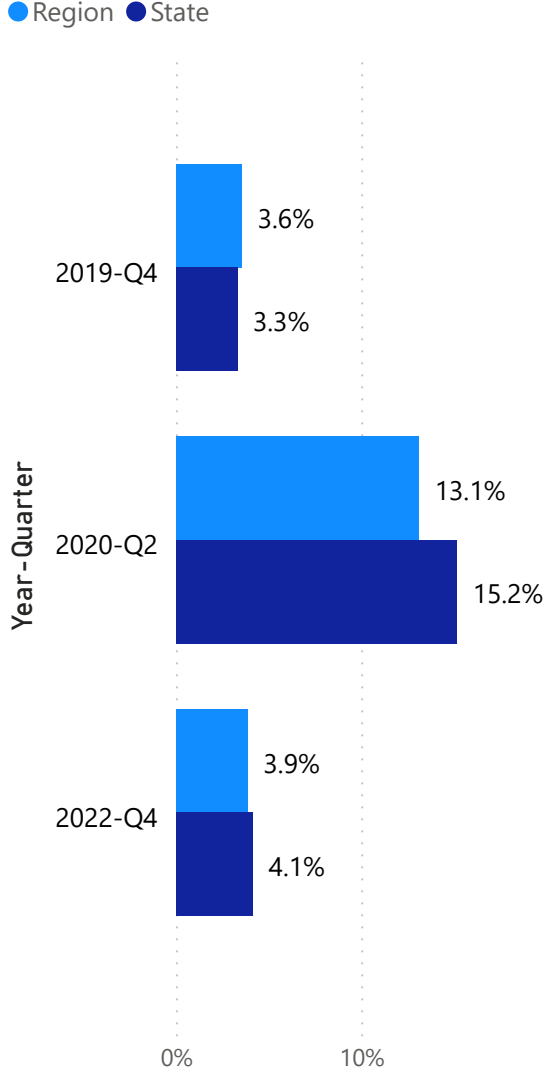
Unemployment Rates Over Time, 2019-2022

Below are the quarterly unemployment rates over time for the region and the state. On the right are unemployment rates for selected time frames before, during, and after the pandemic downturn.



Region

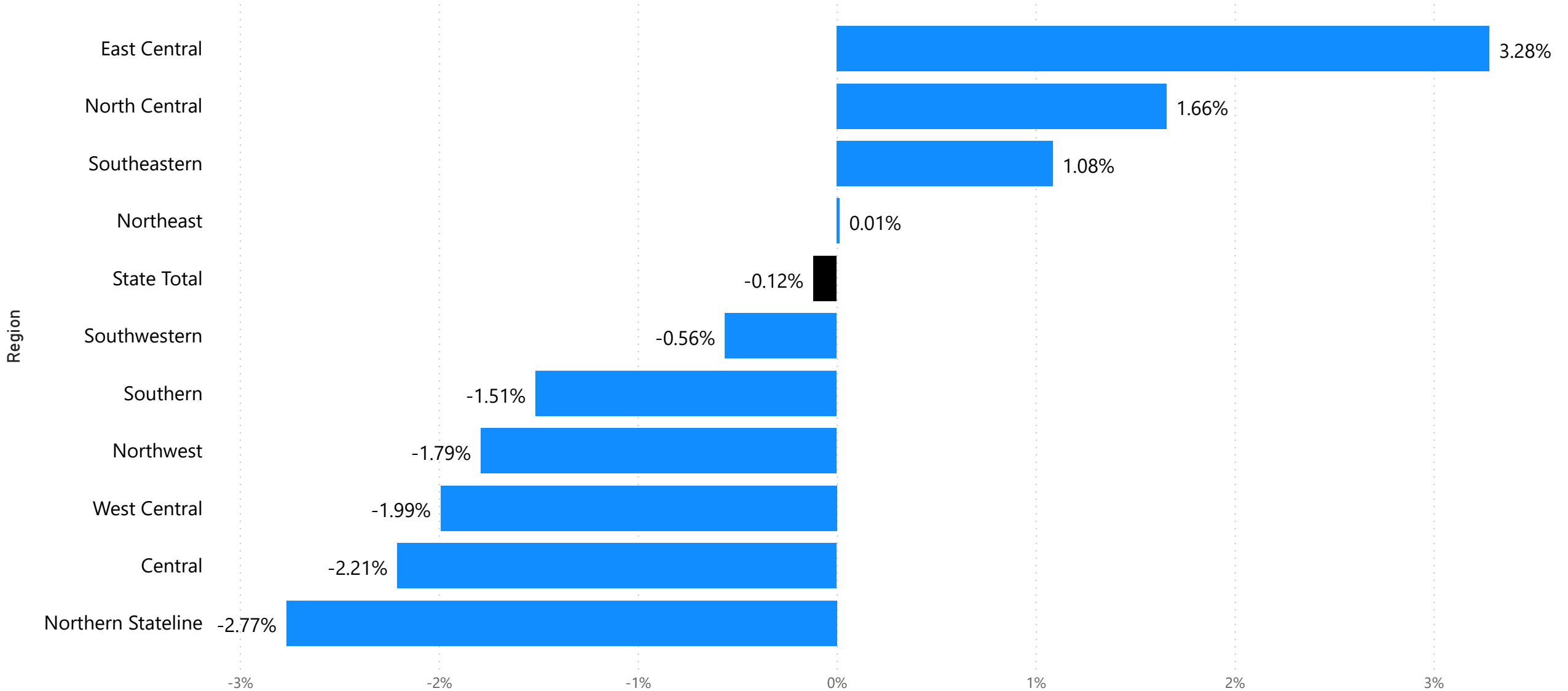
Unemployment Rates Before, During, and After Pandemic Downturn



Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, respective years.

% Change in Total Nonfarm Employment, Q2 2019 - Q2 2023 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Below is a high-level comparison of total employment by region for Q2 2019 (pre-pandemic) vs Q2 2023 (latest available at time of writing). Regions are sorted by size of employment growth/declines. Statewide, total employment in Q2 2023 was 0.12% lower than in Q2 2019. In six of ten regions, employment was lower in Q2 2023 than in Q2 2019.



Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security, Current Employment Statistics, respective years.

Sectors, Industries, and Clusters

The terms "sector", "industry" and "cluster" are sometimes a source of confusion, and can be an unnecessary source of debate among various stakeholders.

Sector describes a large segment of the economy, while **Industry** refers to a much more specific group of companies or businesses. The terms industry and sector are often used interchangeably to describe a group of companies that operate in the same segment of the economy or share a similar business type. *In this regional data packet, sector refers to a broad industry category while Industries refer to components of those sectors. For example, Food Manufacturing is an industry within the Manufacturing Sector.*

A **cluster** is a regional concentration of related industries in a particular location. Clusters are a striking feature of economies, making regions uniquely competitive for jobs and private investment. Adding to the confusion, the education community established a national framework of 16 "career clusters", which links programs of study to occupations with similar knowledge and skill requirements. *Industry clusters are typically considered in economic development strategic plans.*

The table on the upper left is a standardized list of Industries from the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) at its highest, "2-digit" sector level. Within each of these sectors, the NAICS groups similar companies into ever-increasing levels of granularity, down to the "6-digit" level. The table on the lower right shows how this works in the Construction sector, with just a partial list of more detailed codes. There are literally thousands of 6-digit NAICS codes, which may be viewed at naics.com/search. For our purposes, 2-3 digit NAICS codes provide sufficient detail.

NAICS is the standard used by Federal statistical agencies in classifying business establishments for the purpose of collecting, analyzing, and publishing statistical data related to the U.S. business economy. Like all data, NAICS does have some limitations and caveats. For example, NAICS classifies businesses based on their primary activities, but a specific business may have significant activity in other sectors. For example, Wal-Mart's primary activity is a retailer, but it employs thousands of workers focused on Transportation /Distribution / Logistics at its distribution centers and in-house trucking division.

Readers are cautioned to not make assumptions on the types of businesses or occupations implied by high level groupings. For example, the NAICS "Information" sector primary includes industries focused on publishing and telecommunications. Occupations requiring "information technology" skills are embedded in companies from all sectors. We must look beyond the Information sector to discern the full extent of the supply and demand for jobs and workers needing IT skills. There are significant numbers of tech workers spread across manufacturing, finance, government and many other sectors. Likewise, "Energy" is not a sector in the NAICS model, but energy-related industries and occupations are found in sectors such construction, manufacturing, and professional services.

Code	Sector Title	Number of US Entities
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	376,065
21	Mining	33,725
22	Utilities	52,025
23	Construction	1,564,895
31-33	Manufacturing	667,833
42	Wholesale Trade	719,282
44-45	Retail Trade	1,893,740
48-49	Transportation and Warehousing	733,597
51	Information	386,163
52	Finance and Insurance	806,762

Code	Sector Title	Number of US Entities
53	Real Estate Rental and Leasing	947,112
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	2,576,732
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	97,749
56	Administrative and Support and Waste... Services	1,641,698
61	Educational Services	439,219
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	1,724,350
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	397,633
72	Accommodation and Food Services	928,144
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	1,986,470
92	Public Administration	259,365

NAICS Code	Industry Title
▼ 23	Construction
▼ 2361	Residential Building Construction
236115	New Single-Family Housing Construction (except For-Sale Builders)
236116	New Multifamily Housing Construction (except For-Sale Builders)
236117	New Housing For-Sale Builders
236118	Residential Remodelers

Regional Sector Analysis

Change in Employment and Location Quotient

The maps on the following pages show the "where" for selected economic data at the regional and county levels. This view allows readers to more easily see how each county contributes to the overall economic engine in a region and how regions as a whole compare to other areas of the state.

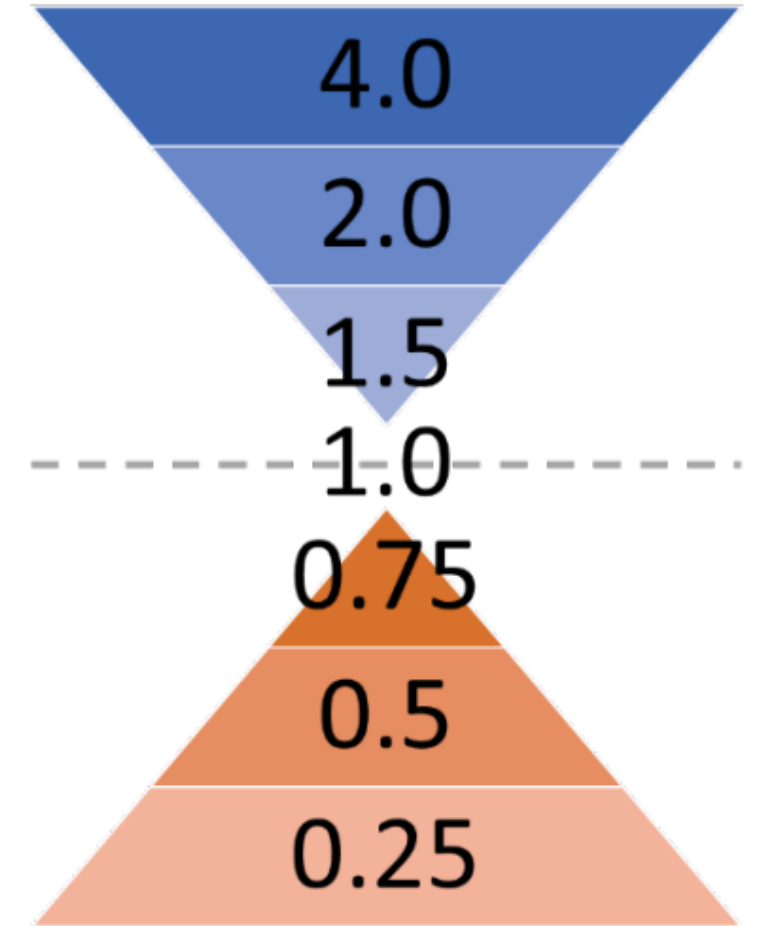
The **Employment Change** maps indicate the level of gain or loss of employment between Q4 2021 and Q4 2022 (latest available at time of writing). These maps can be used to understand where gains and losses occurred, and identify targets of opportunity where skilled workers may be in greater demand, or identify areas which may be in need of attention from regional workforce and economic development agencies.

The **The Location Quotient (LQ)** maps indicate counties where sector employment is most and least concentrated as of Q4 2022. The LQ value indicates how concentrated employment in a given sector compares to the nation.

An LQ of 1.0 means employment is in line with the overall national employment for that sector. A value greater than 1.0 means that sector's employment is more heavily concentrated here than in the nation, while values less than 1.0 indicate employment is less concentrated than the nation. The farther away from 1.0, the greater the difference between what is happening in the county than the nation. For example, if a sector represents 40% of employment in a county and that sector nationally represents 10% of employment, it would have an LQ of 4.0, or a concentration of employment that is 4 times higher than the nation.

Note: Some maps on the following pages have counties shaded black, indicating an insufficient number of workers to reach federal employment reporting thresholds. This data is suppressed to protect the privacy of employers and workers in those counties. We use 2-digit NAICS level data to minimize the instances of data suppression.

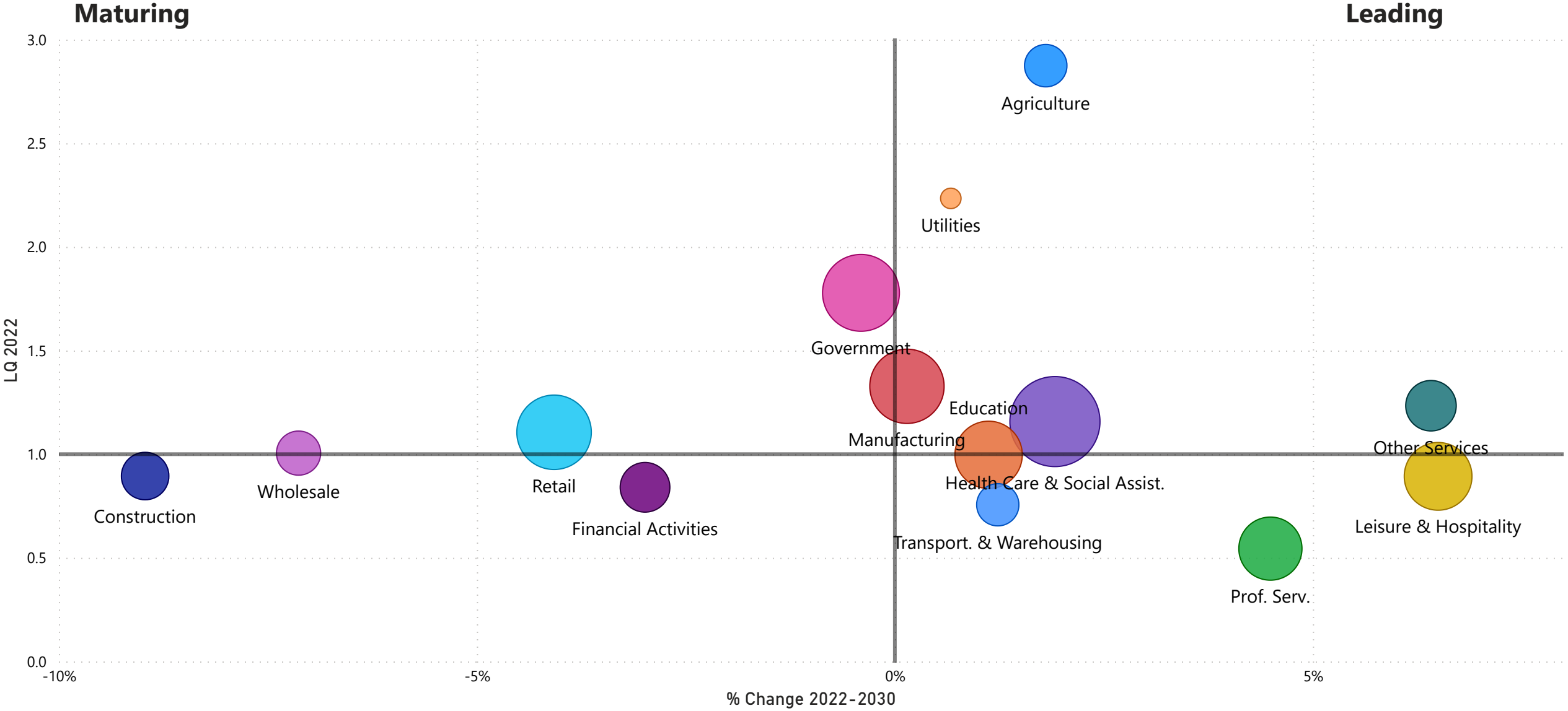
The maps on the following pages can be used to quickly see where sector-based employment is concentrated and the degree to which it is above or below the national level. Areas with high LQs might have an inherent advantage, while areas with low LQs might have an inherent disadvantage for supporting a particular sector's businesses with skilled workers.



Employment and Location Quotients by Sector

Bubble size corresponds to total employment in 2022. Some sectors excluded in lower left quadrant due to disproportionately low location quotients and employment declines. Education includes public and private, and government excludes education.

Region



Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security, unpublished 2022-2030 employment forecasts.

Emerging

Notes on Bubble Charts

The bubble chart on the previous page compares sectors by their projected employment change, for 2022-2030, their employment location quotient, and their total employment size in 2022. The X axis shows percent changes, the Y axis shows location quotients, and the size of the bubbles corresponds to total employment size in 2022.

- The upper right quadrant of the chart shows *leading sectors*- those with location quotients greater than 1 and projected employment growth.
- The upper left quadrant shows *maturing sectors*- those with large location quotients, but projected employment declines.
- The lower right quadrant shows *emerging sectors*- those with location quotients below 1, but with growing employment.
- The lower left quadrant shows sectors with low location quotients and declining employment.

Some sectors are excluded in the bubble charts for clarity. We exclude some sectors in the lower left quadrant when they have disproportionately low location quotients or disproportionate employment declines in the region (e.g., LQ of 0.25 when the next lowest is 0.5, employment loss of 30% when next lowest is 10%).

The information in this chart was generated as part of a one-time initiative by the IDES, due to issues in the timing of data publications relative to the WIOA planning timeline. At the time of writing, the most recent employment forecasts available were for 2020 - 2030. In preliminary analyses of this data, nearly all sectors could have been classified as Emerging, due to sectors re-hiring after the 2020 downturn. *The IDES updates their long-term employment forecasts every two years, and forecasts for 2022 - 2032 were unavailable at the time of writing.* For the purposes of this report, the IDES developed preliminary employment estimates in 2022, for comparison with the projected employment levels in 2030. This data is intended to *reframe* the 2020-2030 employment forecasts, based on the recovery that is reflected in 2022 employment counts. *The 2022-2030 forecasts are meant to control for the portion of employment growth that was due to rehiring.*

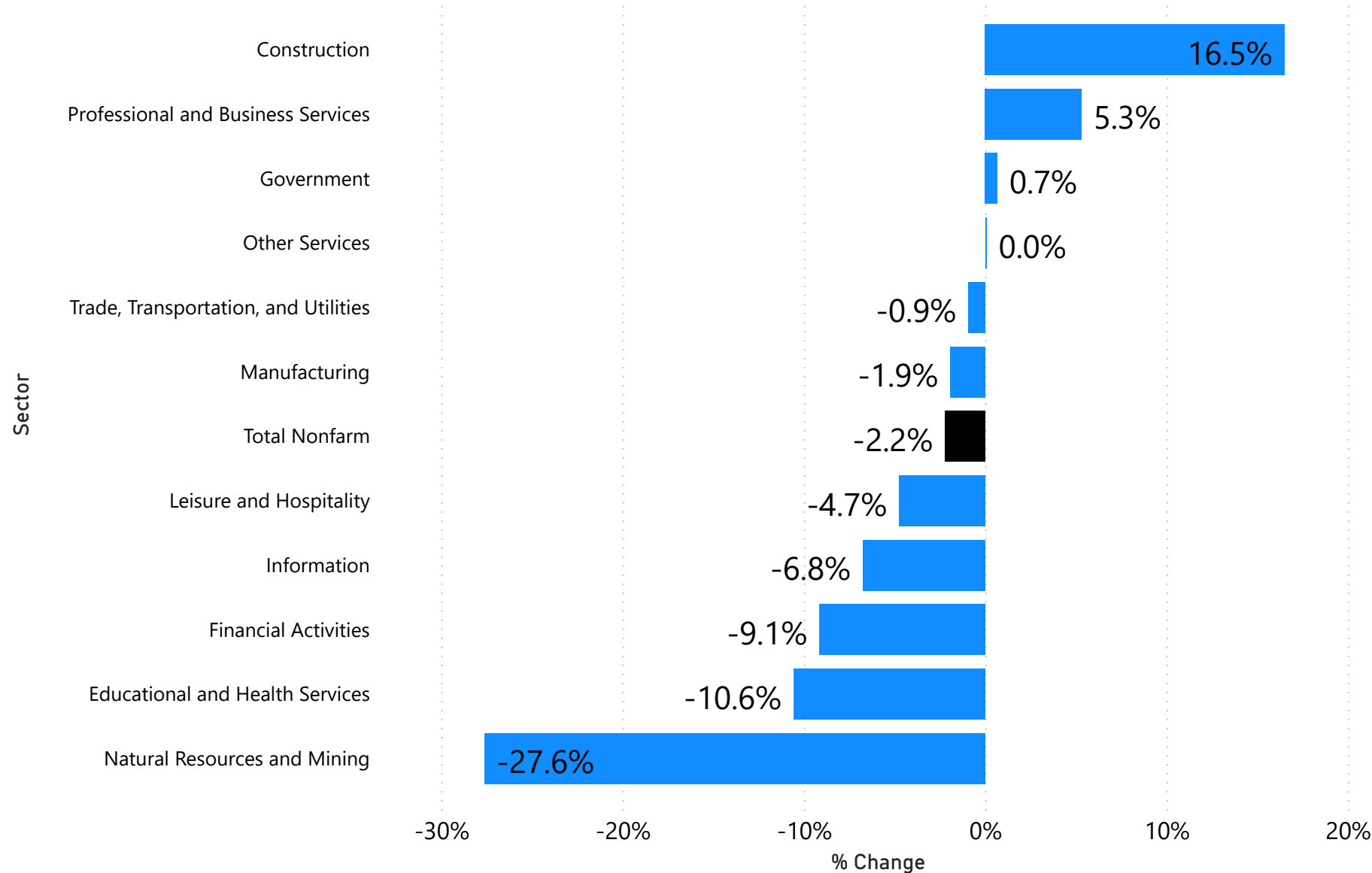
Although several other federal data sources offer counts of employment for 2022, they are not meant for direct comparison with the IDES forecasts. For example, the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages includes public school employment in Government rather than Educational Services. The bubble charts show relative employment size differences (e.g., there are more jobs in health care than in natural resources and mining), but total employment counts from this one-time initiative are not directly compatible with other data products.

The following pages show changes in regional sector employment for 2019-2022 and location quotients by county for 2022.

% Change in Regional Sector Employment, Q2 2019 - Q2 2023 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Below is a high-level comparison of total employment by sector in the region for Q2 2019 (pre-pandemic) vs Q2 2023 (latest available at time of writing). Sectors are sorted by size of % employment change. On the right are total jobs in Q2 2023 by sector, sorted by employment size.

Region



Total Employment in Q2 2023

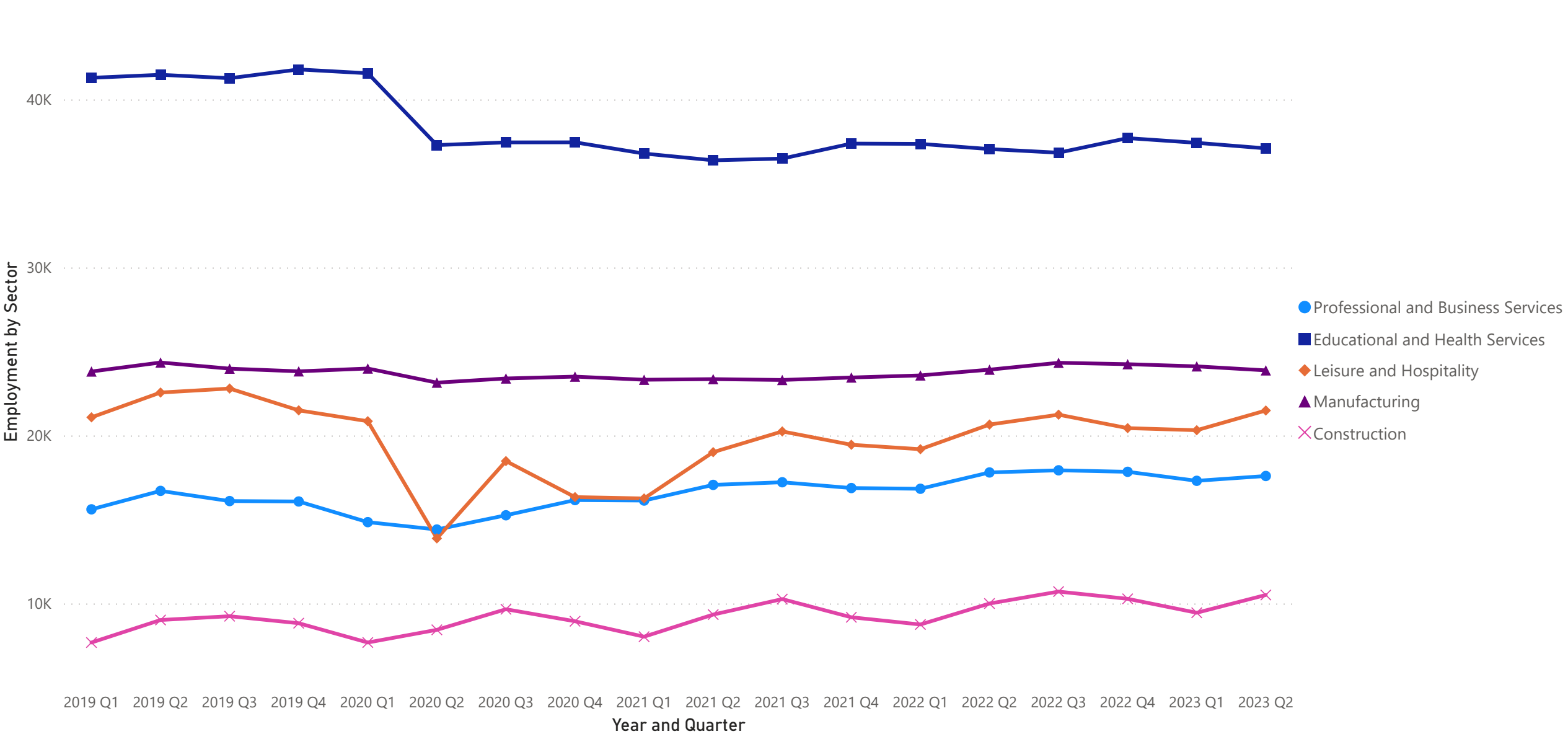
Sector	Count of Jobs
Total Nonfarm	222,902
Government	46,416
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	41,005
Educational and Health Services	37,092
Manufacturing	23,877
Leisure and Hospitality	21,488
Professional and Business Services	17,590
Other Services	11,058
Financial Activities	10,535
Construction	10,507
Information	2,942
Natural Resources and Mining	391

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security, Current Employment Statistics, respective years.

Sector Employment by Quarter, 2019-2023 Q2 (*not seasonally adjusted*)

Below are quarterly employment levels by sector in the region. Some sectors with lower statewide employment are excluded for simplicity.

Region

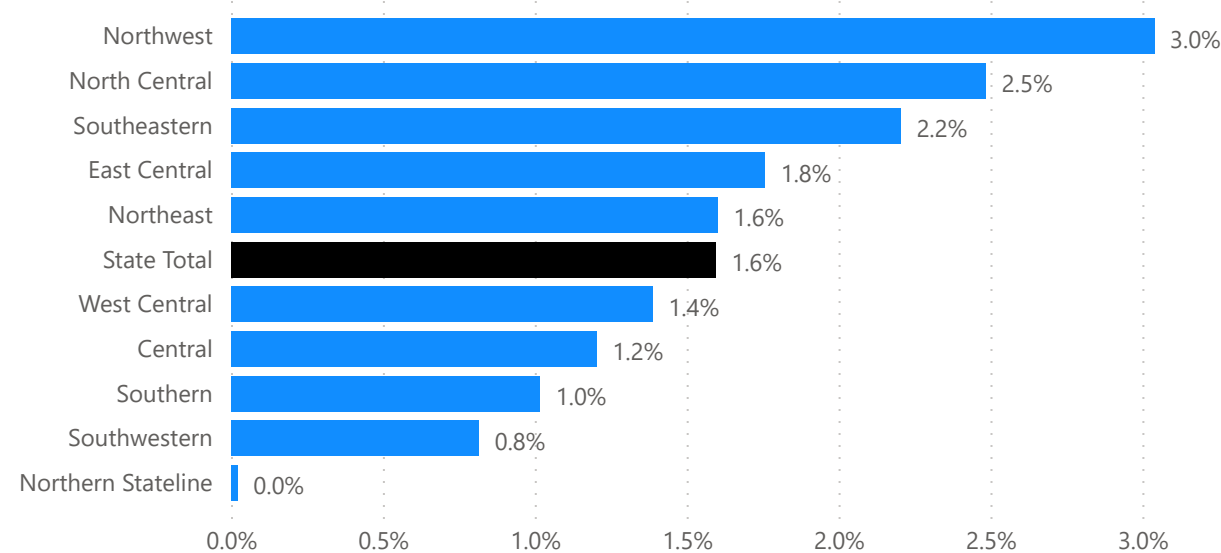


Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security, Current Employment Statistics, respective years.

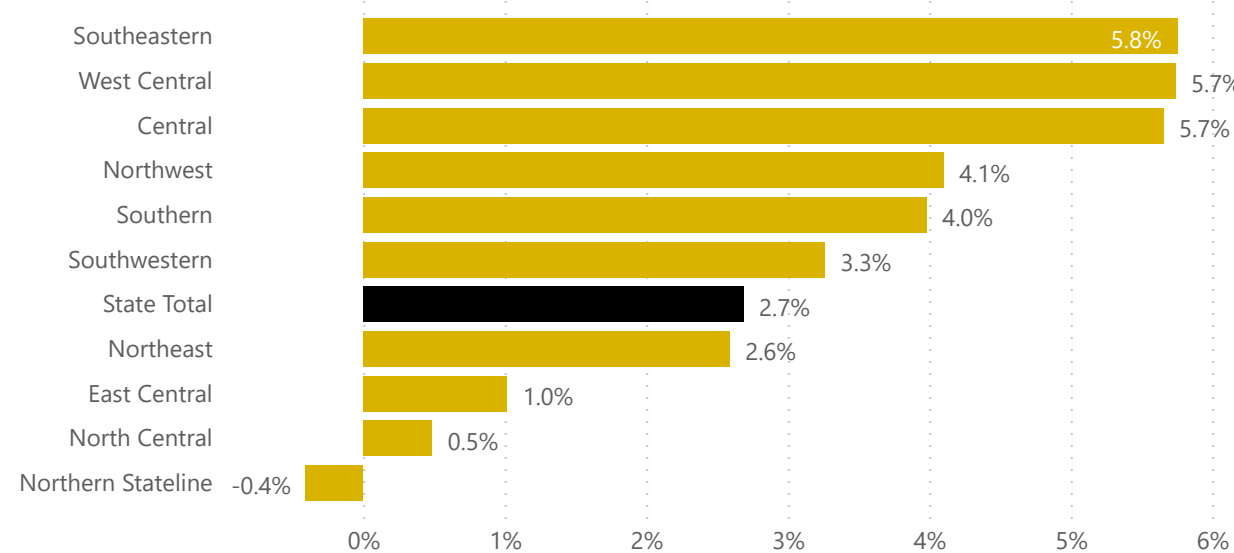
Employment Change by Sector, July 2022 vs July 2023 (Not Seasonally Adjusted, 1 of 3)

Below are comparisons of year-over-year employment changes by sector and region. *Regions and the state are sorted by % change in employment.*

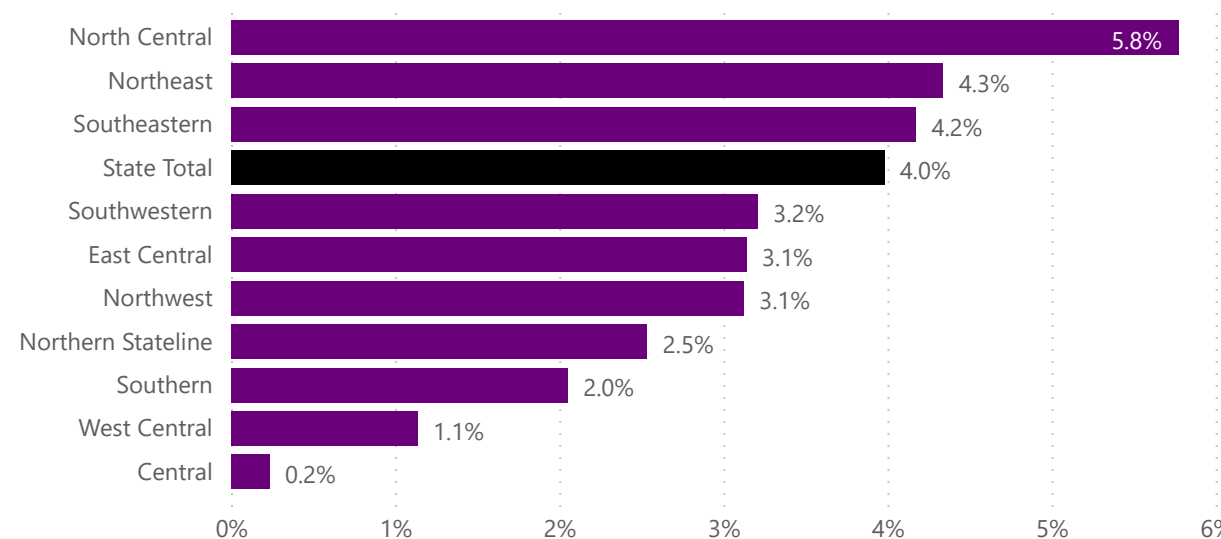
Total Nonfarm



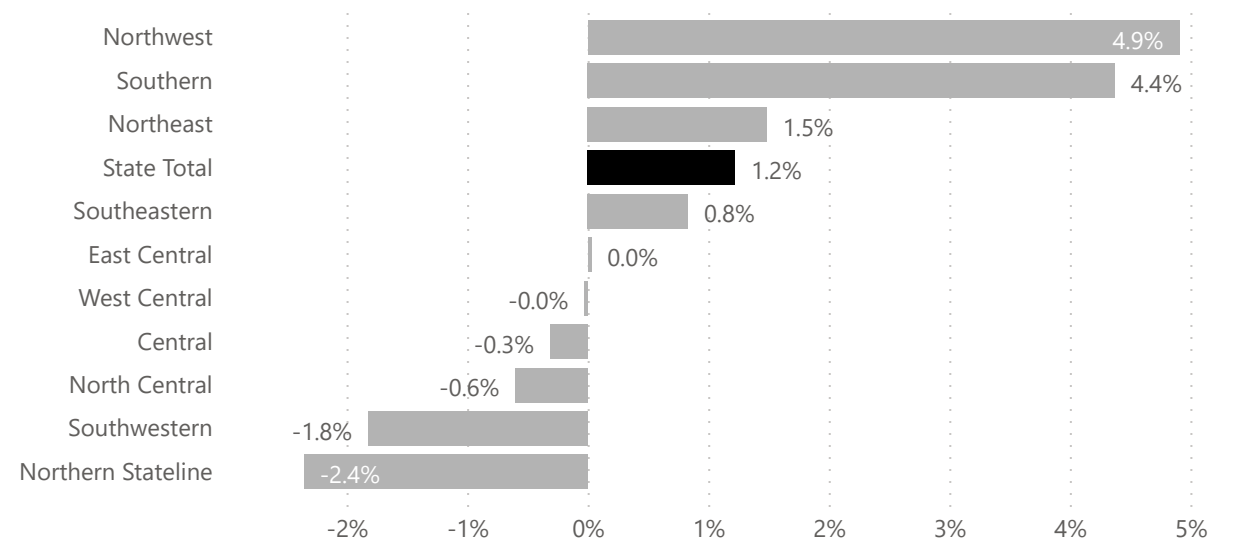
Construction



Education & Health Services



Financial Activities

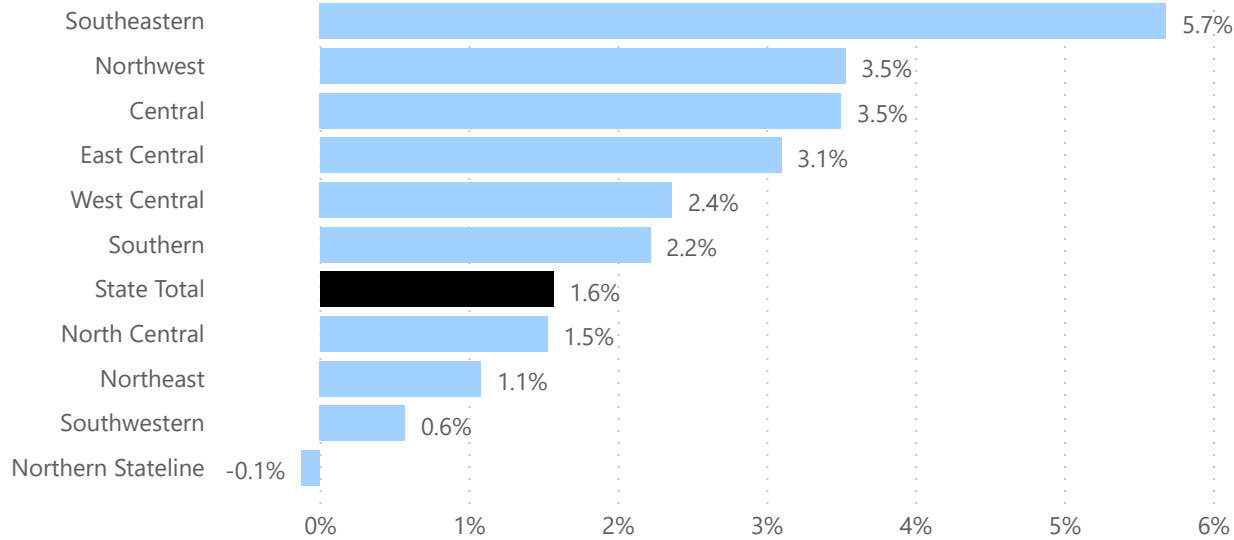


Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security, Current Employment Statistics, respective years.

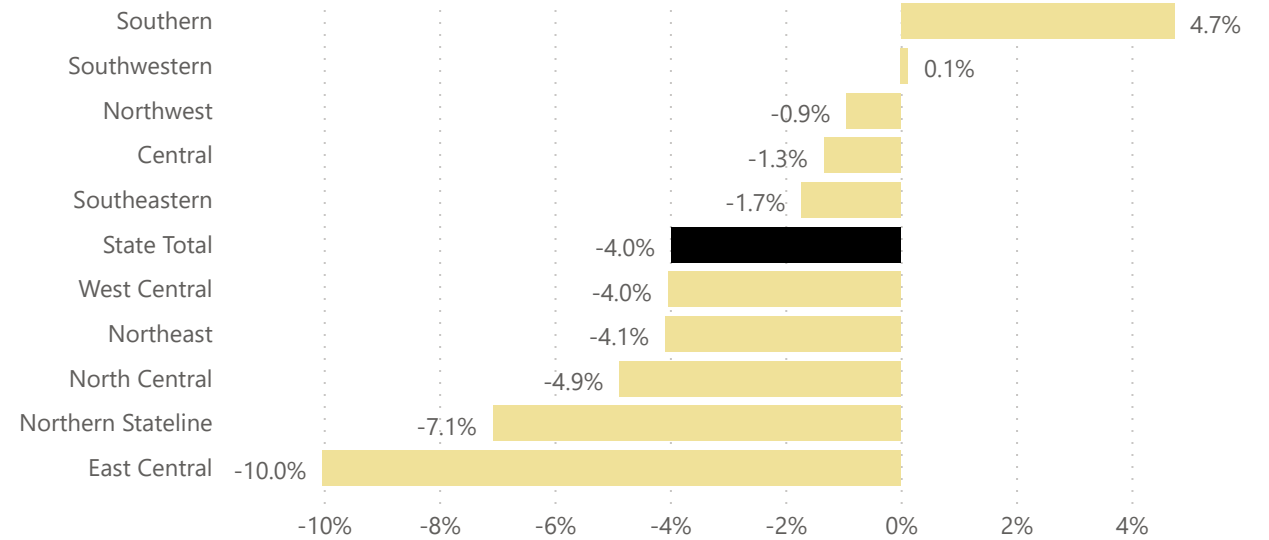
Employment Change by Sector, July 2022 vs July 2023 (Not Seasonally Adjusted, 2 of 3)

Below are comparisons of year-over-year employment changes by sector and region. *Regions and the state are sorted by % change in employment.*

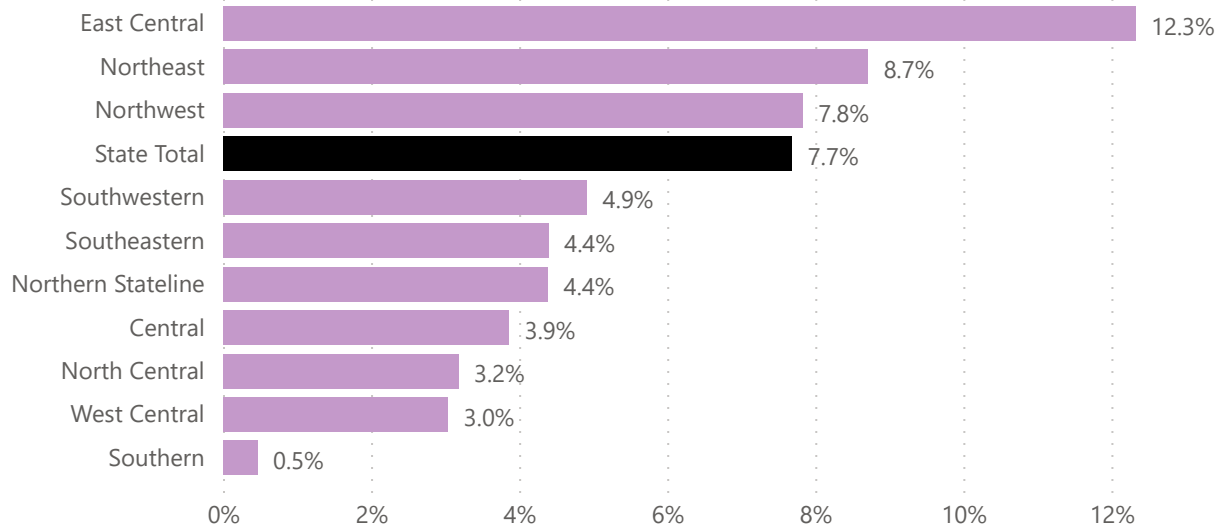
Government



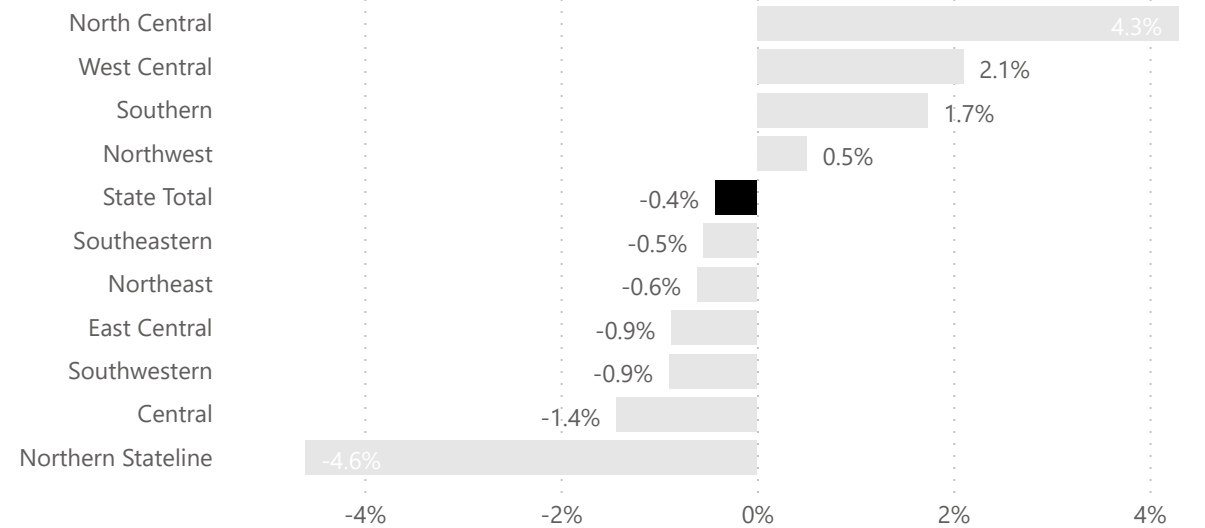
Information



Leisure & Hospitality



Manufacturing

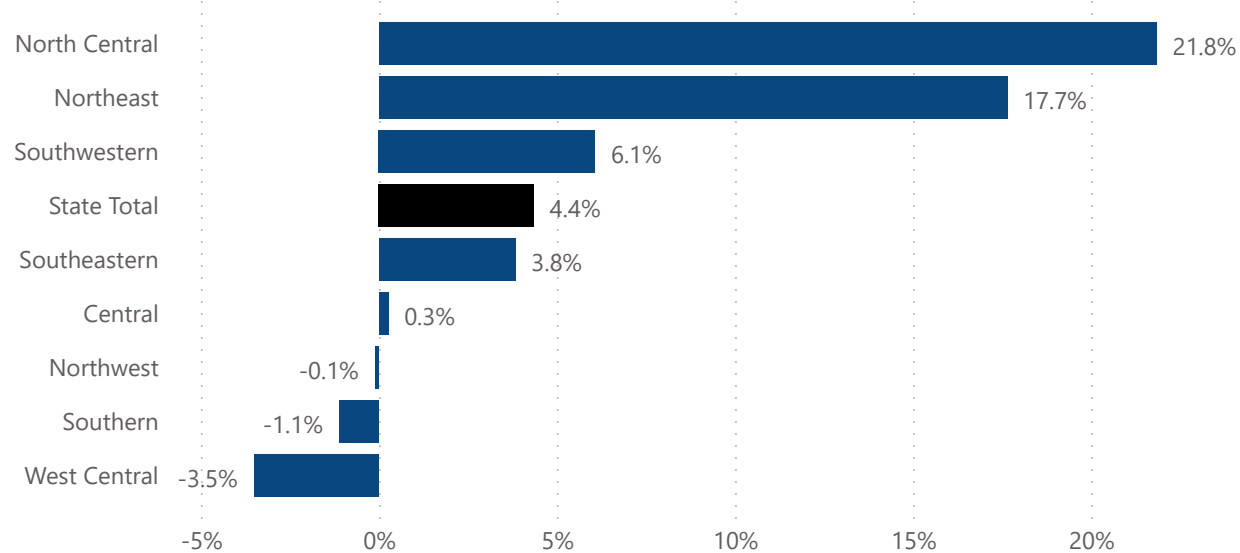


Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security, Current Employment Statistics, respective years.

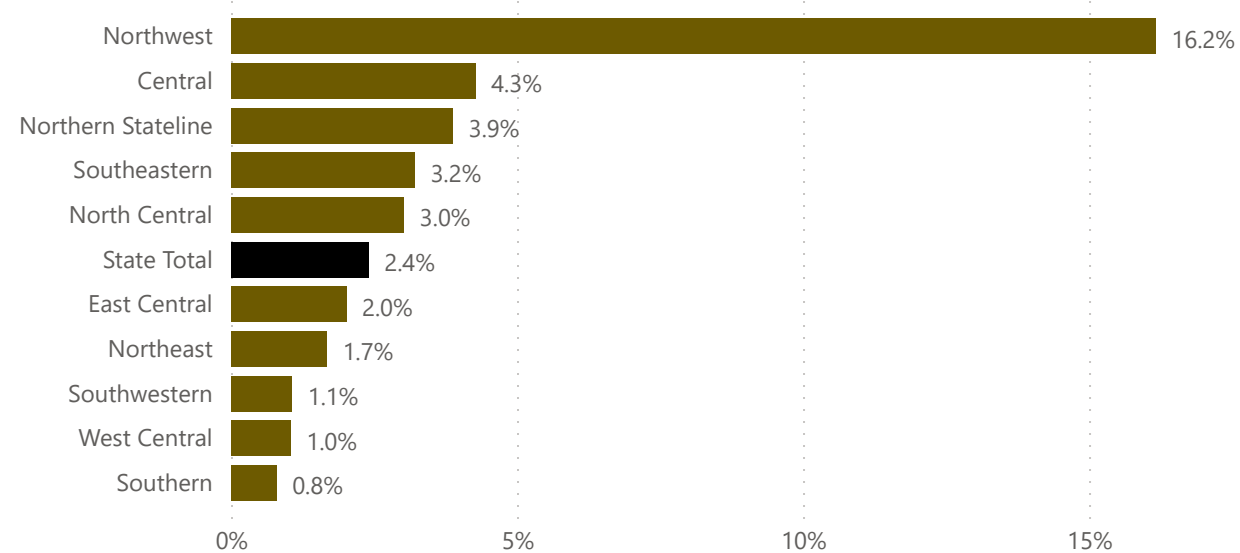
Employment Change by Sector, July 2022 vs July 2023 (Not Seasonally Adjusted, 3 of 3)

Below are comparisons of year-over-year employment changes by sector and region. *Regions and the state are sorted by % change in employment.*

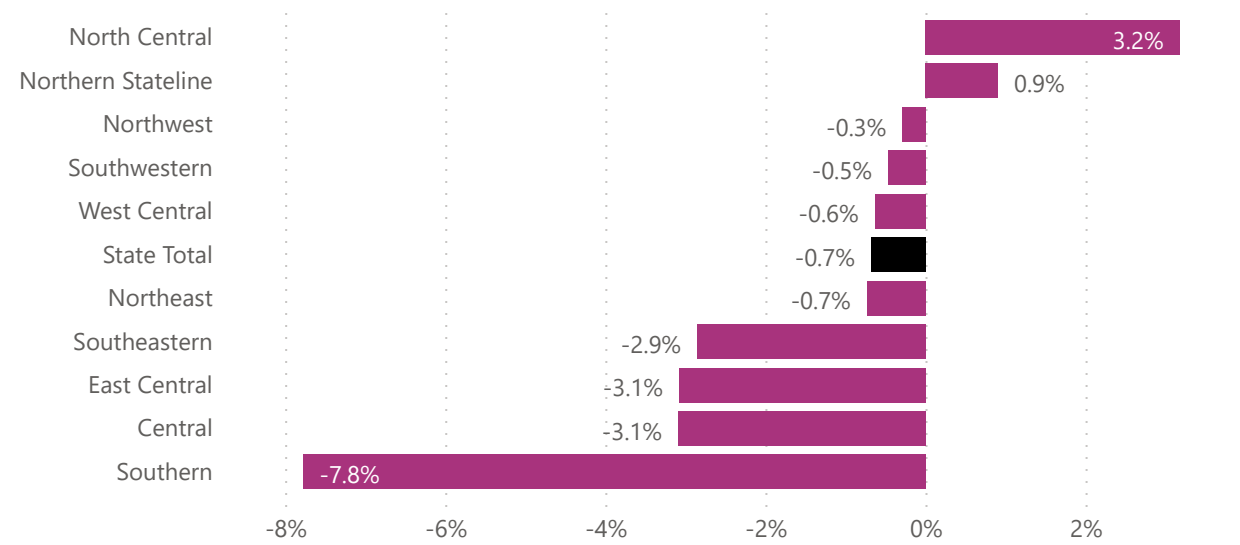
Natural Resources and Mining



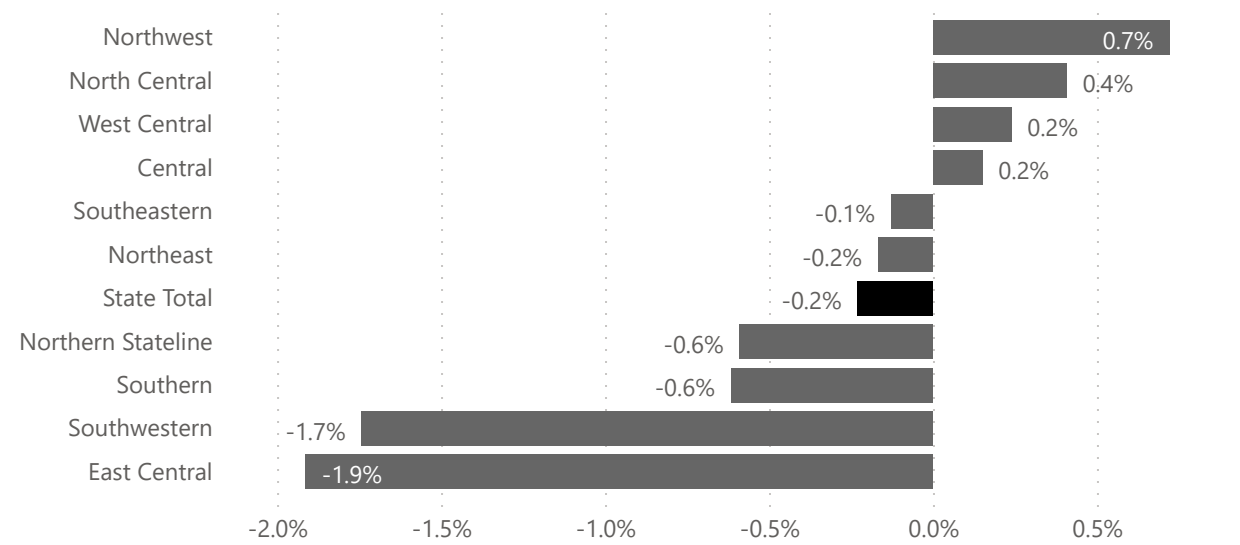
Other Services, excl. Government



Professional and Business Services



Trade, Transportation, and Utilities



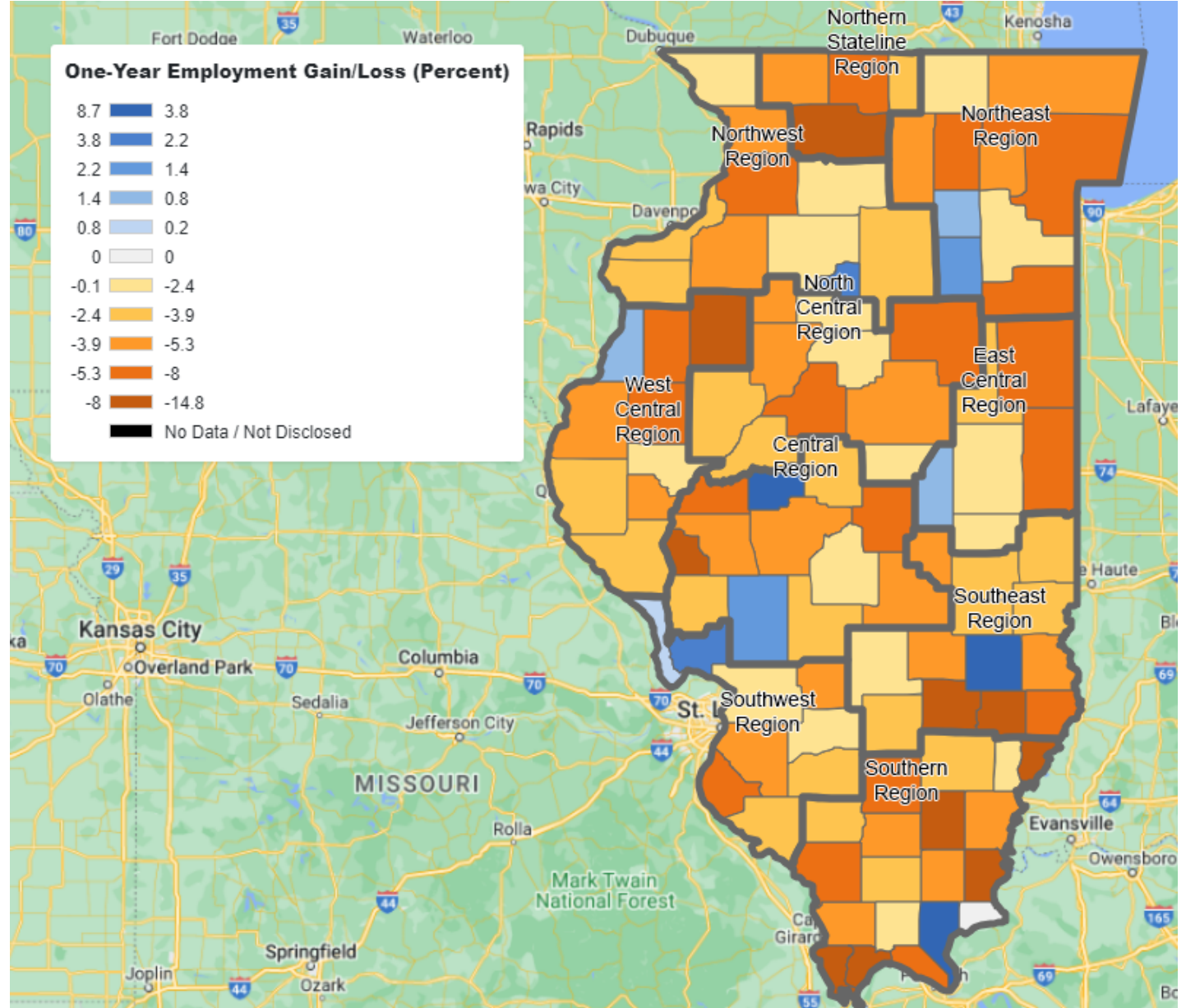
Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security, Current Employment Statistics, respective years.

Total Employment Change by County, Q4 2021 - Q4 2022

In this map and the maps on the following pages, darker orange indicates more employment declines over the past year, while darker blue indicates more employment growth. Region-level employment changes do not reflect the employment churn that occurs *within* some regions.

Care must be taken when comparing percentage changes, as they are relative to the employment size of each county. For example, some of the largest percentage employment changes were in counties along the Southern border with smaller total employment sizes.

The following pages offer more detail by sector and by county within each region.

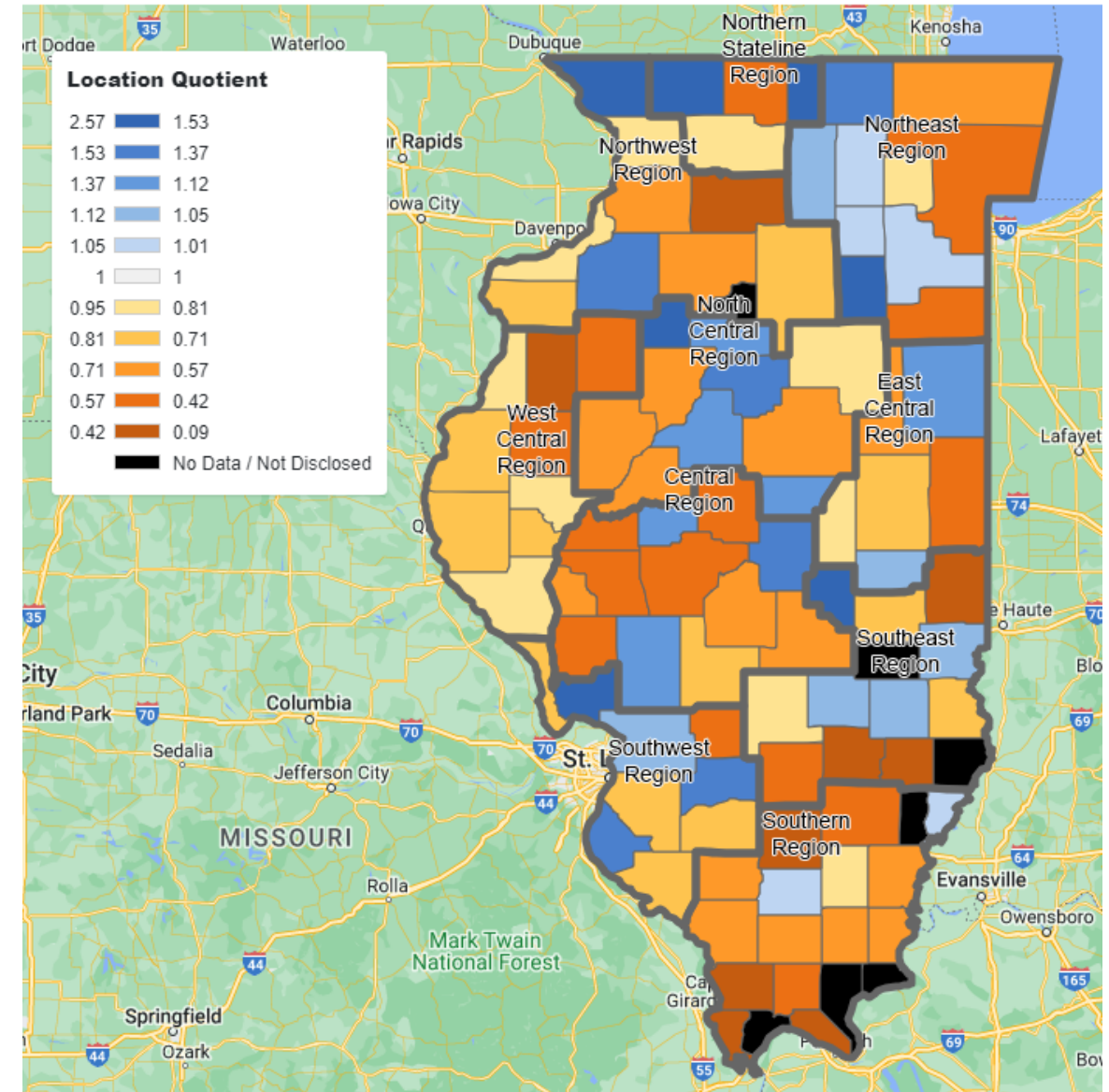
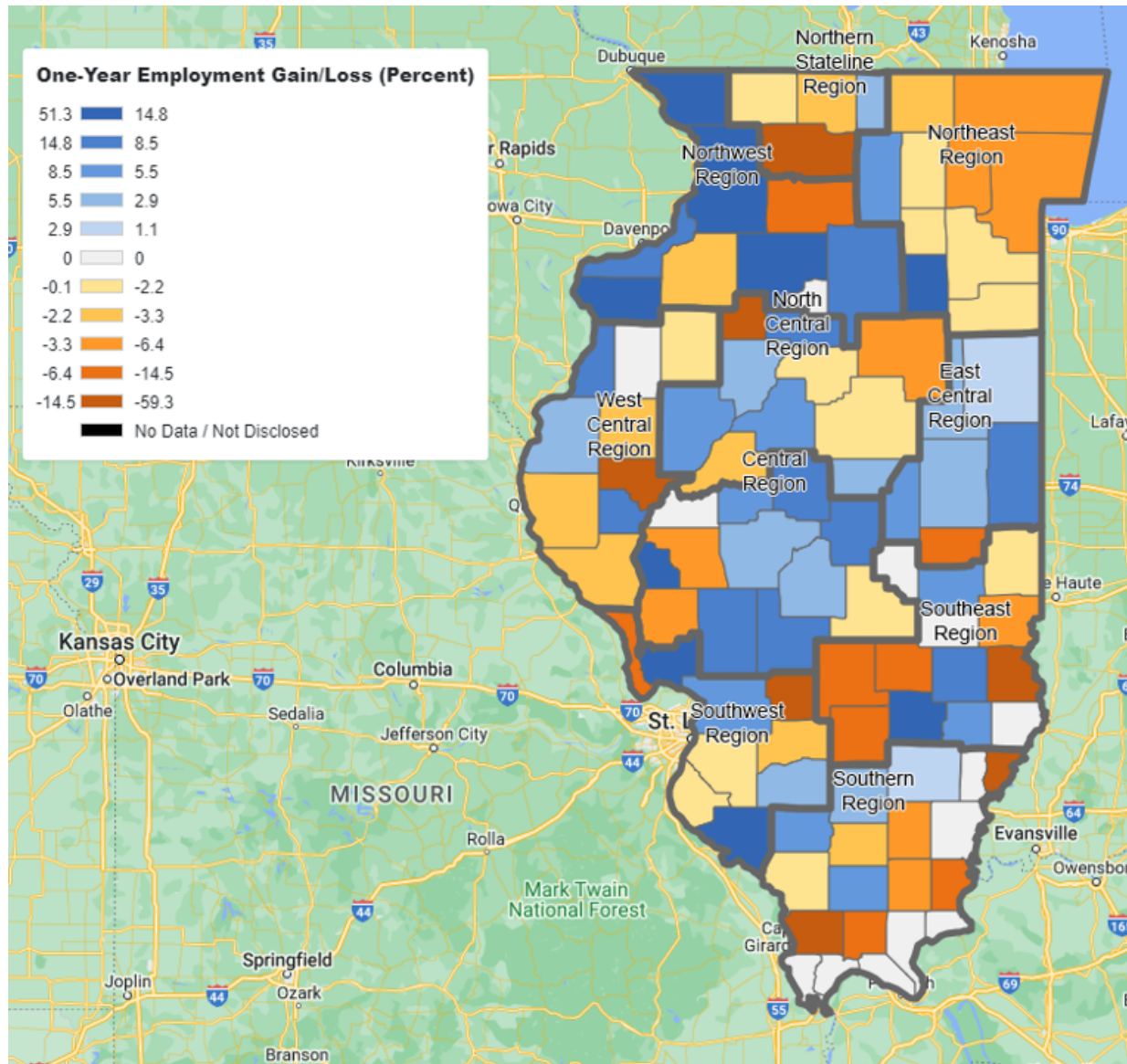


Construction Sector

Q4 2021- Q4 2022 % Employment Change & Q4 2022 Employment Location Quotient

Component Industries of Construction Sector (NAICS 23)

- Construction of Buildings- NAICS 236
- Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction - NAICS 237
- Specialty Trade Contractors - NAICS 239



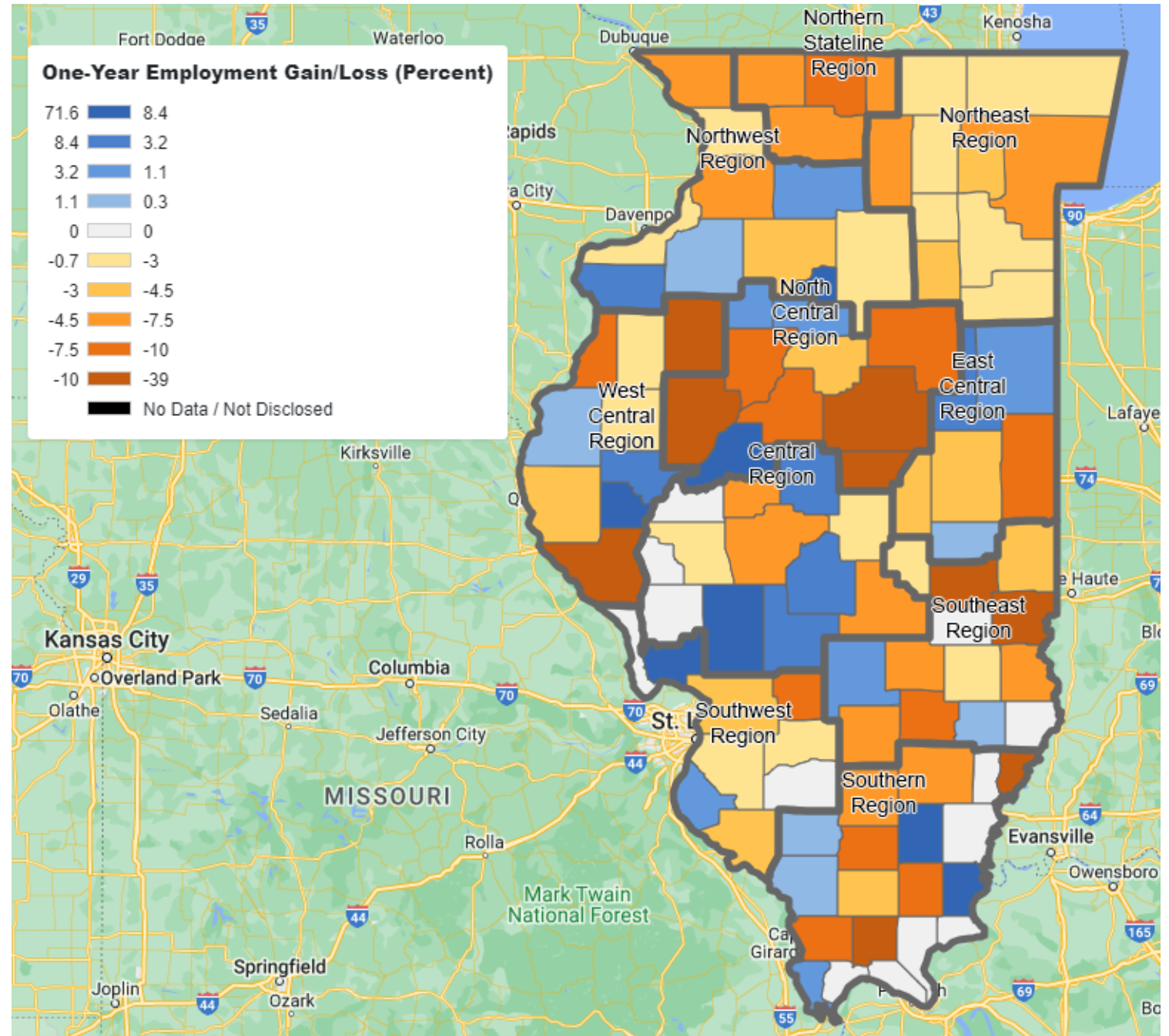
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Q4 2021 & Q4 2022. Retrieved from the Illinois Employment Business System on Illinois WorkNet.

Manufacturing Sector

Q4 2021- Q4 2022 % Employment Change

Component Industries of Manufacturing Sector (NAICS 31-33)

- Food Manufacturing (NAICS 311)
- Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing (NAICS 312)
- Textile Mills (NAICS 313)
- Textile Product Mills (NAICS 314)
- Apparel Manufacturing (NAICS 315)
- Leather and Allied Product Manufacturing (NAICS 316)
- Wood Product Manufacturing (NAICS 321)
- Paper Manufacturing (NAICS 322)
- Printing and Related Support Activities (NAICS 323)
- Petroleum and Coal Products Manufacturing (NAICS 324)
- Chemical Manufacturing (NAICS 325)
- Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing (NAICS 326)
- Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing (NAICS 327)
- Primary Metal Manufacturing (NAICS 331)
- Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing (NAICS 332)
- Machinery Manufacturing (NAICS 333)
- Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing (NAICS 334)
- Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing (NAICS 335)
- Transportation Equipment Manufacturing (NAICS 336)
- Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing (NAICS 337)
- Miscellaneous Manufacturing (NAICS 339)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Q4 2021 & Q4 2022. Retrieved from the Illinois Employment Business System on Illinois WorkNet.

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities Sector

Q4 2021- Q4 2022 % Employment Change

Component Industries of Trade, Transportation, and Utilities Sector (NAICS 22, 42, 44-45, 48-49)

Utilities (NAICS 22)

Wholesale Trade (NAICS 42)

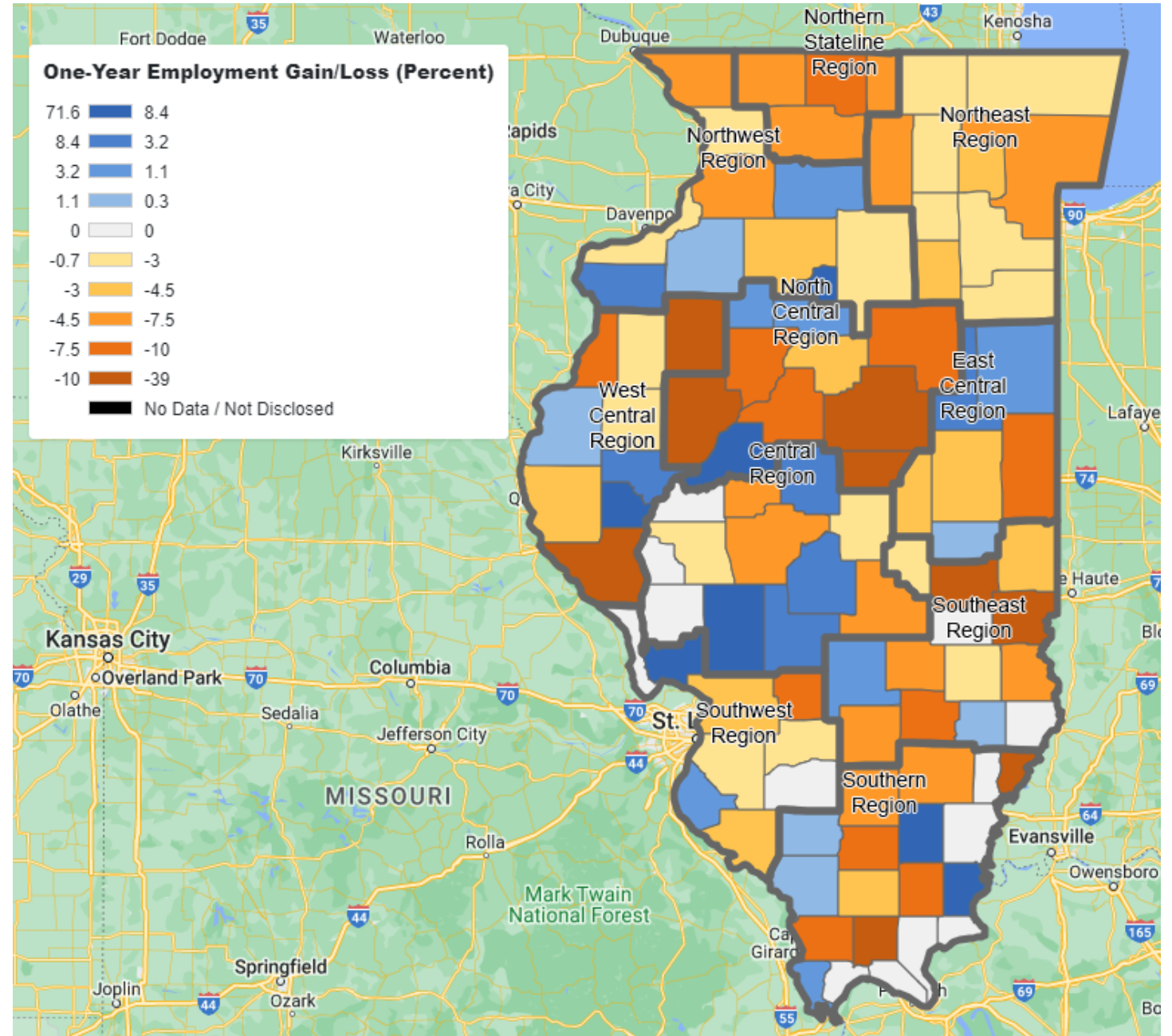
- Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods (NAICS 423)
- Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods (NAICS 424)
- Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers (NAICS 425)

Retail Trade (NAICS 44-45)

- Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers (NAICS 441)
- Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores (NAICS 442)
- Electronics and Appliance Stores (NAICS 443)
- Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers (NAICS 444)
- Food and Beverage Stores (NAICS 445)
- Health and Personal Care Stores (NAICS 446)
- Gasoline Stations (NAICS 447)
- Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores (NAICS 448)
- Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, and Music Stores (NAICS 451)
- General Merchandise Stores (NAICS 452)
- Miscellaneous Store Retailers (NAICS 453)
- Nonstore Retailers (NAICS 454)
- Miscellaneous Store Retailers (NAICS 453)
- Non-store Retailers (NAICS 454)

Transportation and Warehousing (NAICS 48-49)

- Air Transportation (NAICS 481)
- Rail Transportation (NAICS 482)
- Water Transportation (NAICS 483)
- Truck Transportation (NAICS 484)
- Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation (NAICS 485)
- Pipeline Transportation (NAICS 486)
- Scenic and Sightseeing Transportation (NAICS 487)
- Support Activities for Transportation (NAICS 488)
- Postal Service (NAICS 491)
- Couriers and Messengers (NAICS 492)
- Warehousing and Storage (NAICS 493)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Q4 2021 & Q4 2022. Retrieved from the Illinois Employment Business System on Illinois WorkNet.

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities Sector

Q4 2022 Employment Location Quotient

Component Industries of Trade, Transportation, and Utilities Sector (NAICS 22, 42, 44-45, 48-49)

Utilities (NAICS 22)

Wholesale Trade (NAICS 42)

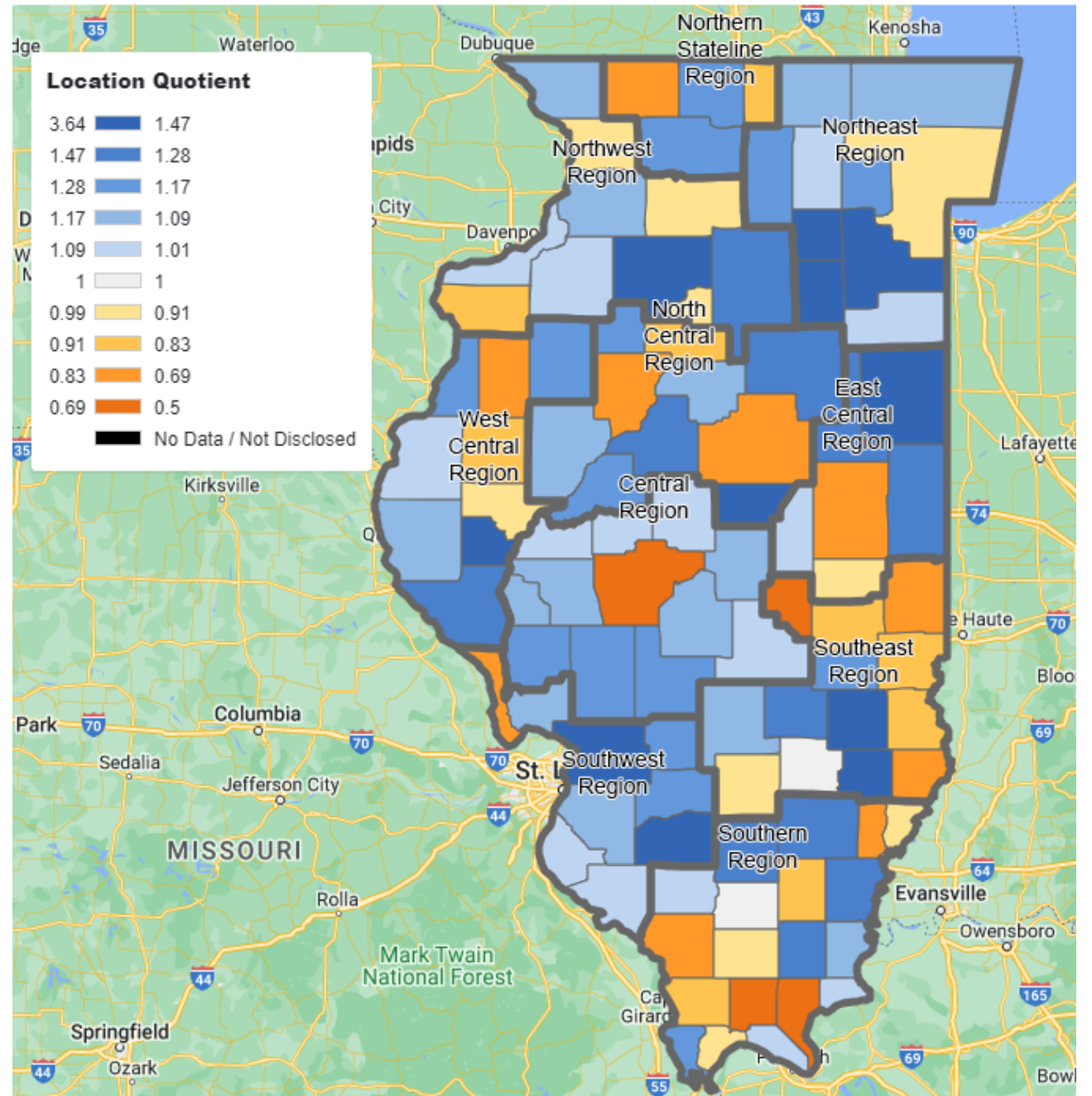
- Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods (NAICS 423)
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- Couriers and Messengers (NAICS 492)
- Warehousing and Storage (NAICS 493)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Q4 2021 & Q4 2022.
Retrieved from the Illinois Employment Business System on Illinois WorkNet.

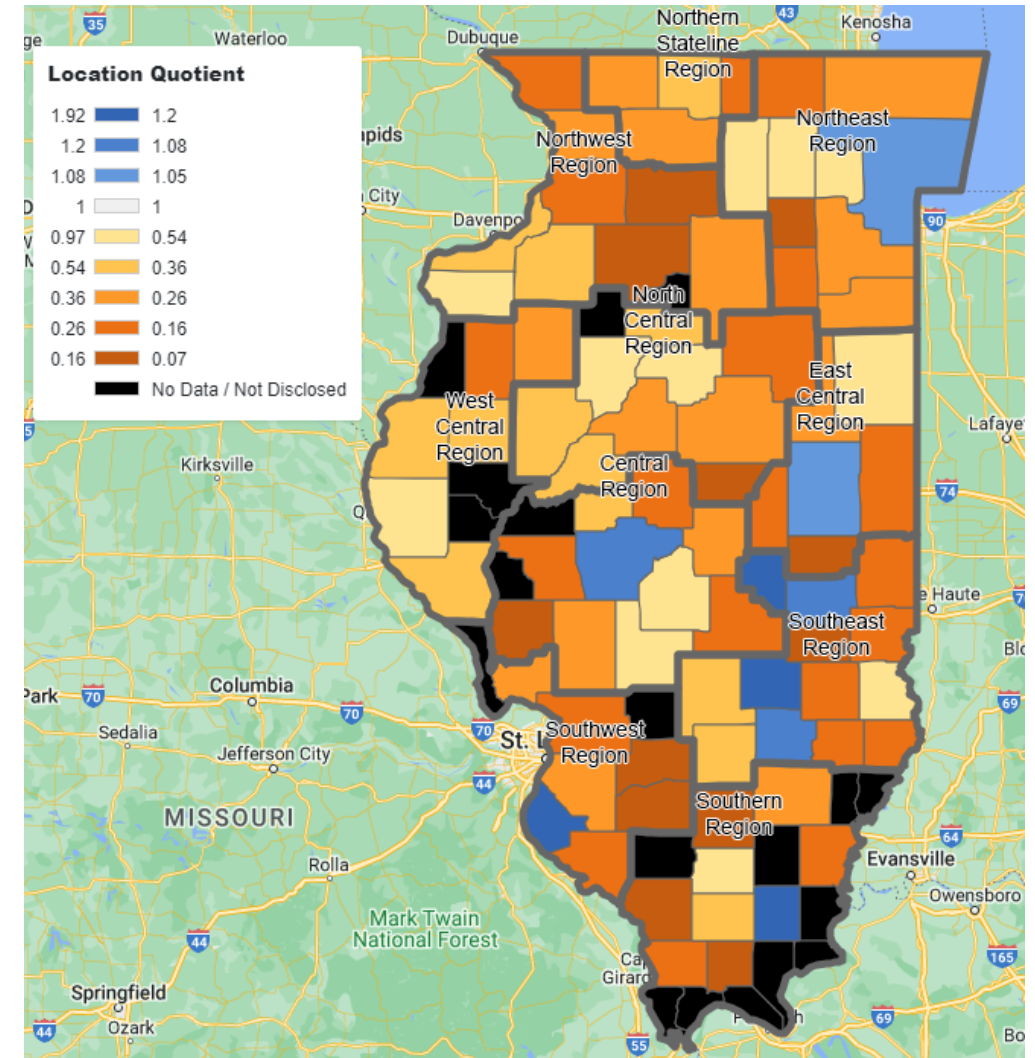
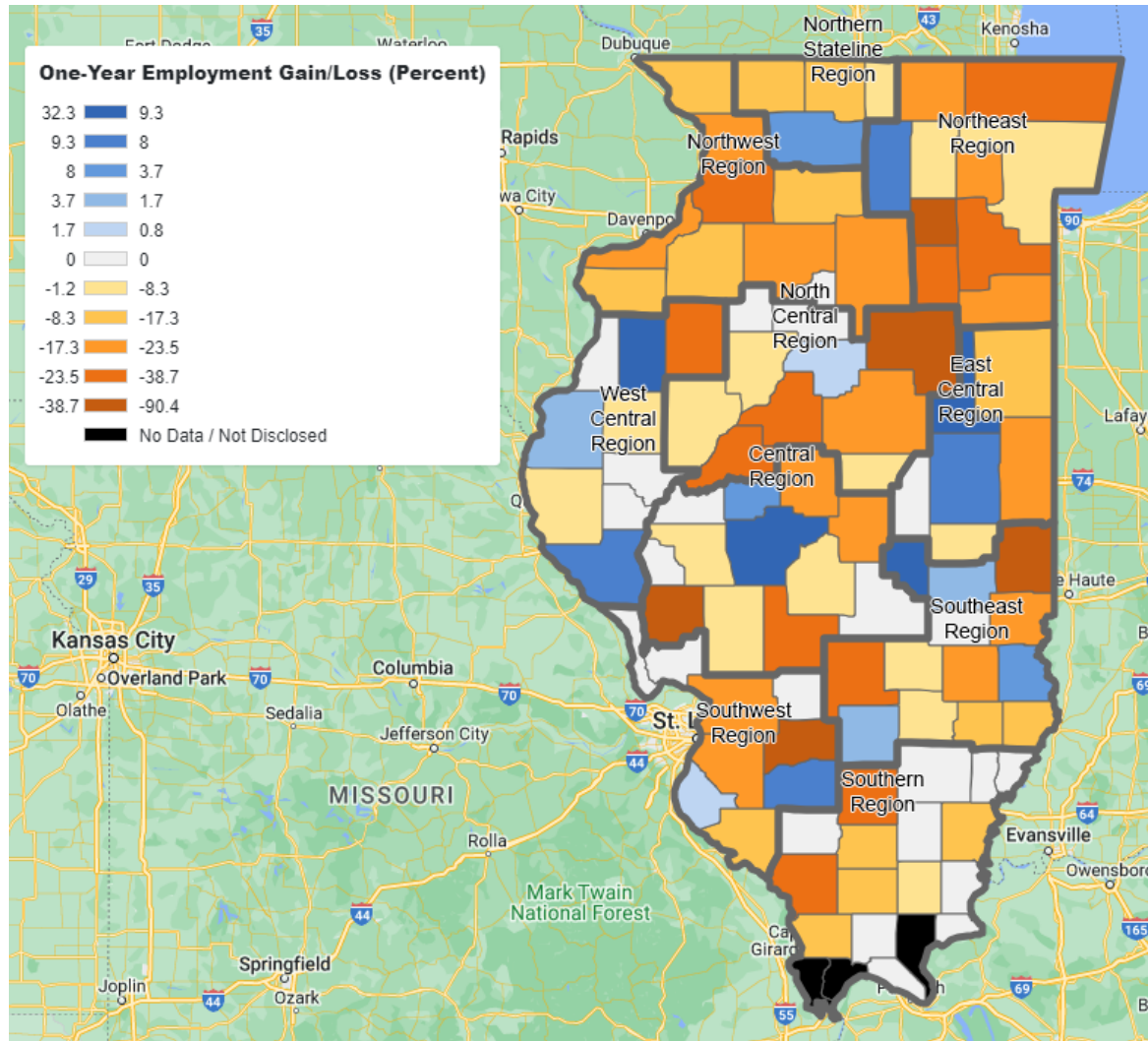
Information Sector

Q4 2021- Q4 2022 % Employment Change & Q4 2022 Employment Location Quotient

Note: Most Information Technology occupations, e.g., software developers, are employed outside of the Information industry.

Component Industries of Information Sector (NAICS 51)

- Publishing Industries (except Internet) (NAICS 511)
- Motion Picture and Sound Recording Industries (NAICS 512)
- Broadcasting (except Internet) (NAICS 515)
- Internet Publishing and Broadcasting (NAICS 516)
- Telecommunications (NAICS 517)
- Data Processing, Hosting, and Related Services (NAICS 518)
- Other Information Services (NAICS 519)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Q4 2021 & Q4 2022. Retrieved from the Illinois Employment Business System on Illinois WorkNet.

Financial Activities Sector

Q4 2021- Q4 2022 % Employment Change & Q4 2022 Employment Location Quotient

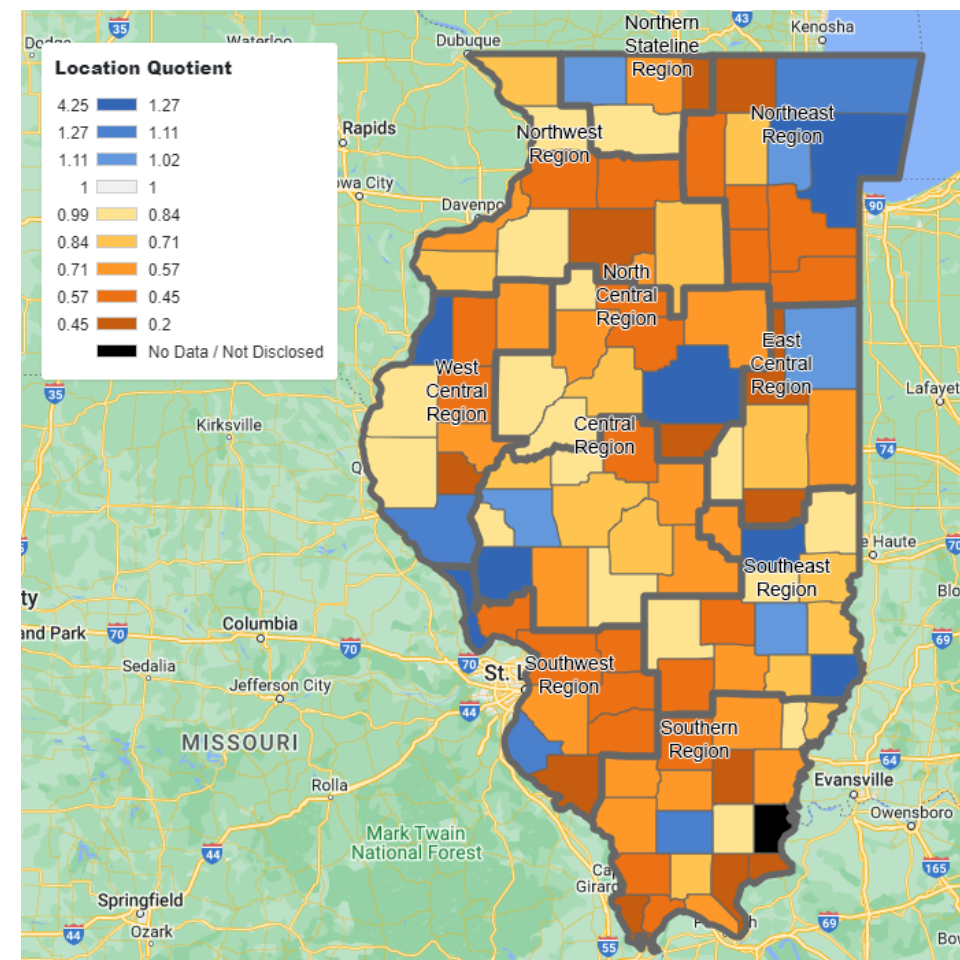
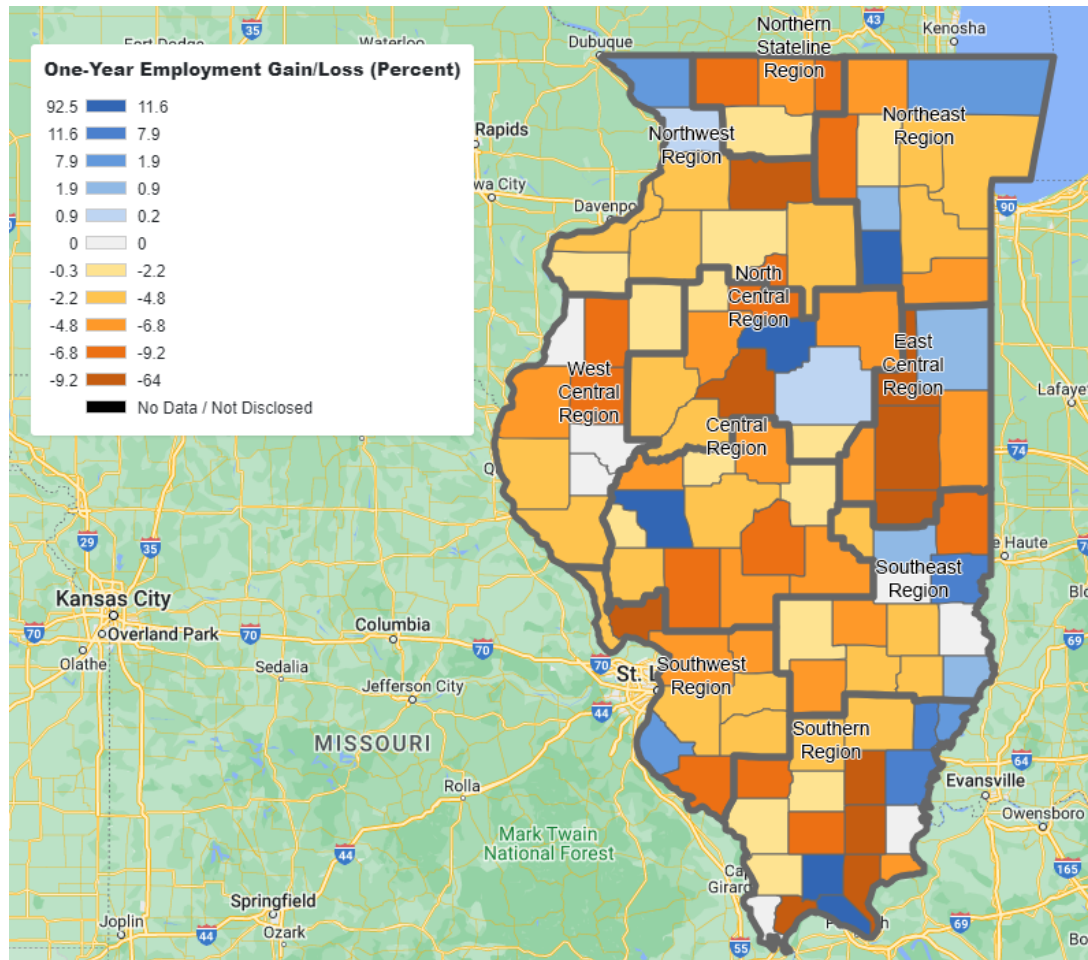
Component Industries of Financial Activities Sector (NAICS 52-53)

Finance and Insurance (NAICS 52)

- Monetary Authorities - Central Bank (NAICS 521)
- Credit Intermediation and Related Activities (NAICS 522)
- Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Related Activities (NAICS 523)
- Insurance Carriers and Related Activities (NAICS 524)
- Funds, Trusts, and Other Financial Vehicles (NAICS 525)

Real Estate, Rental, and Leasing (NAICS 53)

- Real Estate (NAICS 531)
- Rental and Leasing Services (NAICS 531)
- Lessors of Nonfinancial Intangible Assets, e.g. IP (NAICS 533)



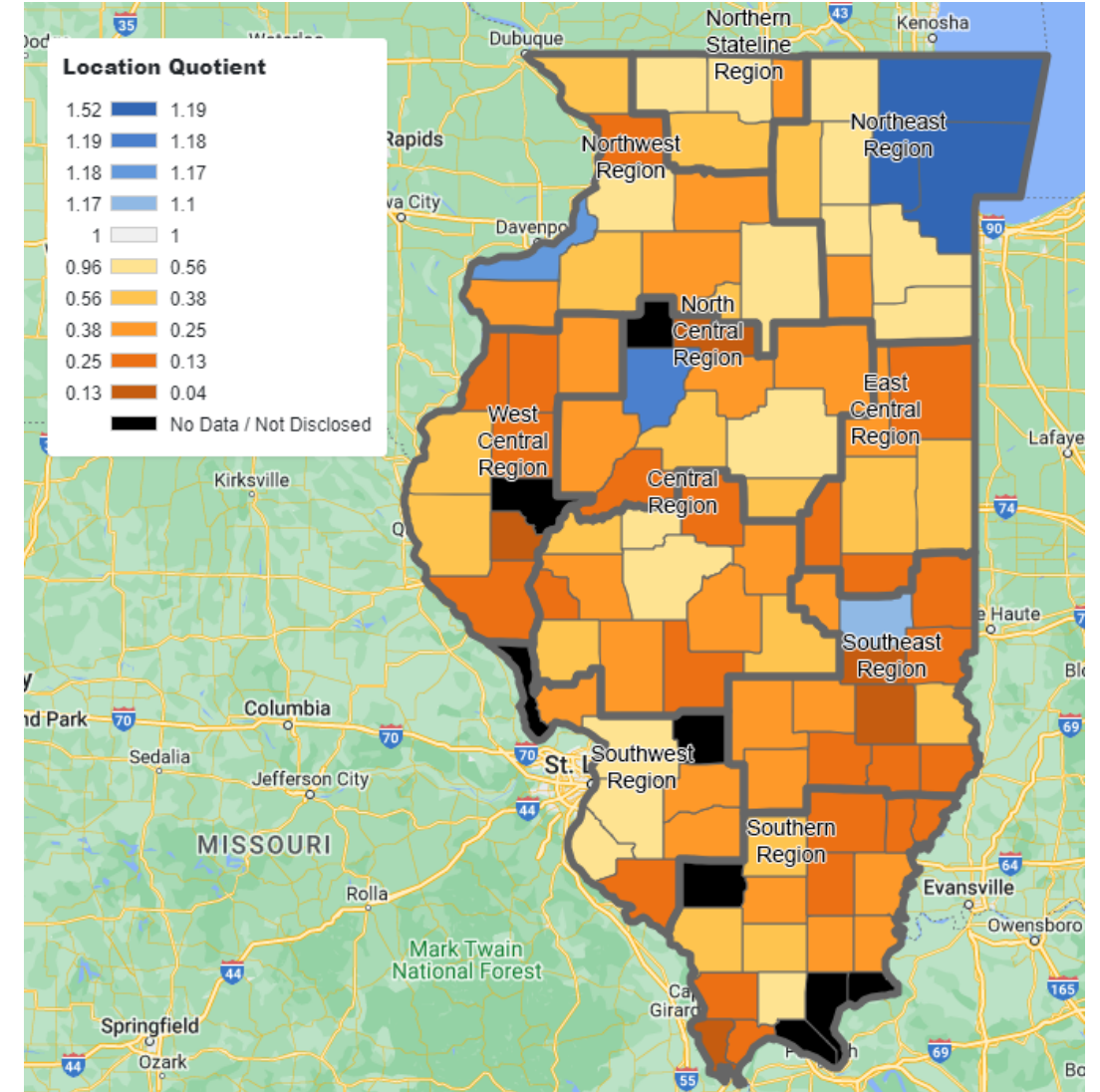
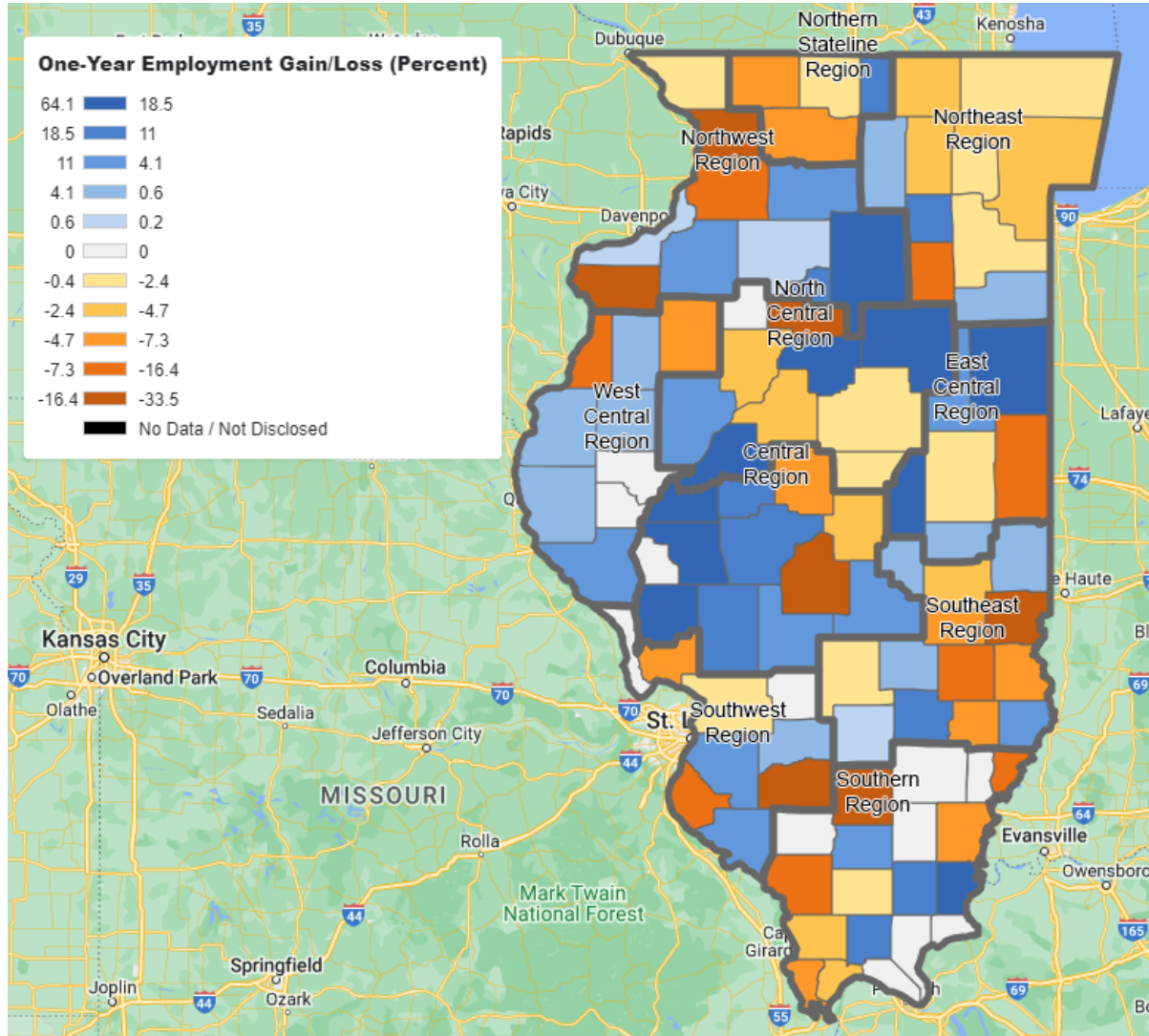
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Q4 2021 & Q4 2022. Retrieved from the Illinois Employment Business System on Illinois WorkNet.

Professional & Business Services Sector

Q4 2021- Q4 2022 % Employment Change & Q4 2022 Employment Location Quotient

Components of Professional and Business Services Sector (NAICS 54-56)

- Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (NAICS 54)
- Management of Companies and Enterprises (NAICS 55)
- Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (NAICS 56)
- Administrative and Support Services (NAICS 561)
- Waste Management and Remediation Services (NAICS 562)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Q4 2021 & Q4 2022. Retrieved from the Illinois Employment Business System on Illinois WorkNet.

Education and Health Services Sector

Q4 2021- Q4 2022 % Employment Change & Q4 2022 Employment Location Quotient

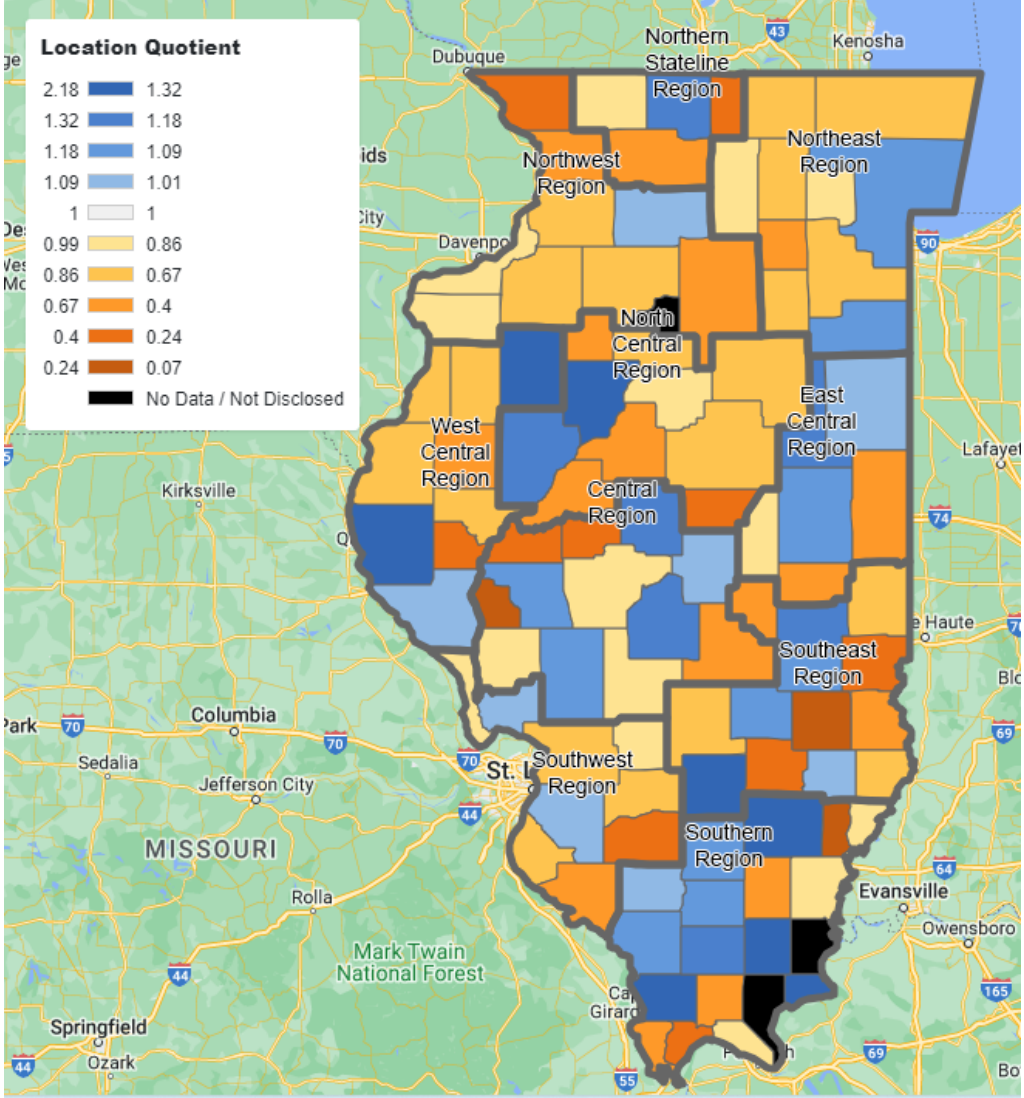
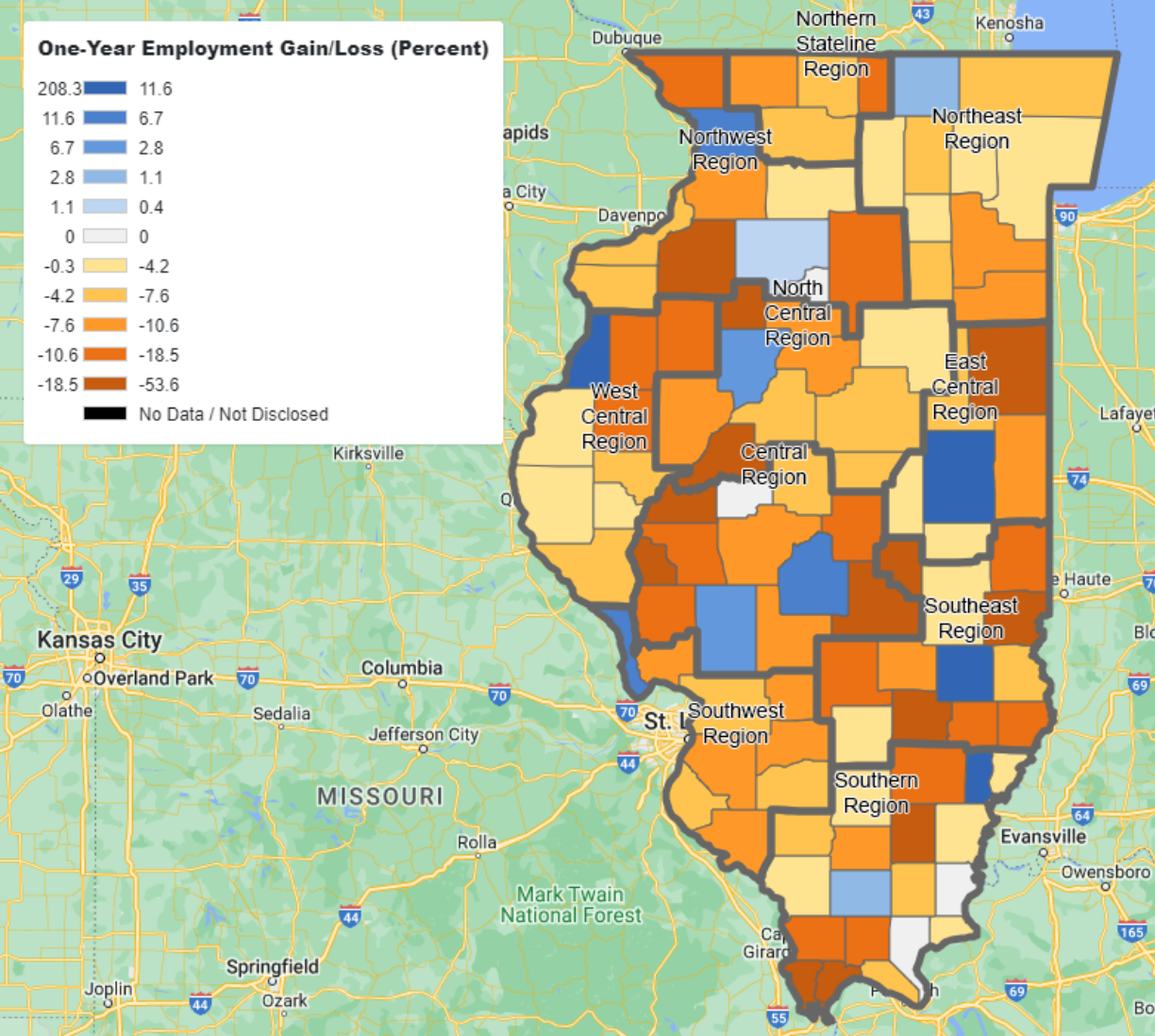
It is not possible to dissect this sector into health care or education alone in some counties, due to suppression.

Components of Education and Health Services Sector (NAICS 61-62)

Educational Services (NAICS 61)

Health Care and Social Assistance (NAICS 62)

- Ambulatory (i.e., outpatient) Health Care Services (NAICS 621)
- Hospitals (NAICS 622)
- Nursing and Residential Care Facilities (NAICS 623)
- Social Assistance (NAICS 624)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Q4 2021 & Q4 2022. Retrieved from the Illinois Employment Business System on Illinois WorkNet.

Leisure and Hospitality Sector

Q4 2021- Q4 2022 % Employment Change & Q4 2022 Employment Location Quotient

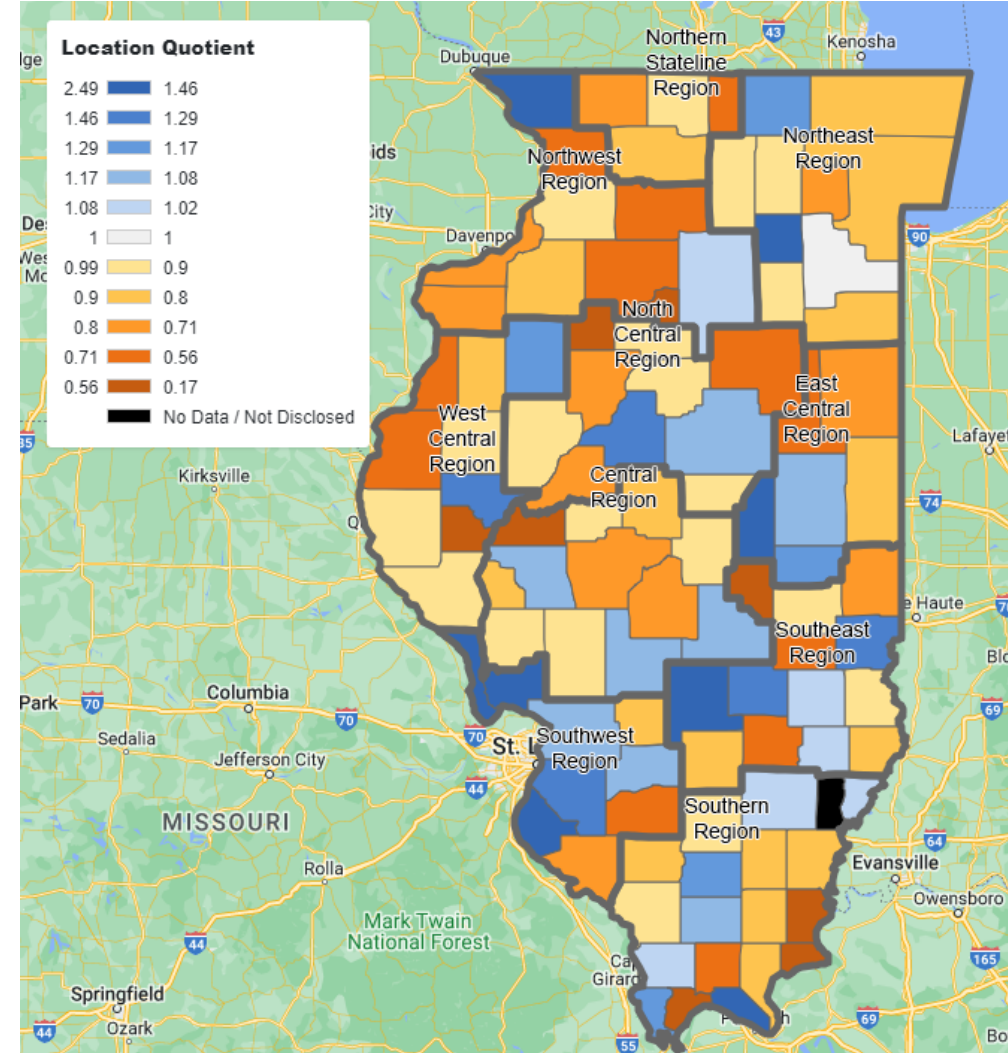
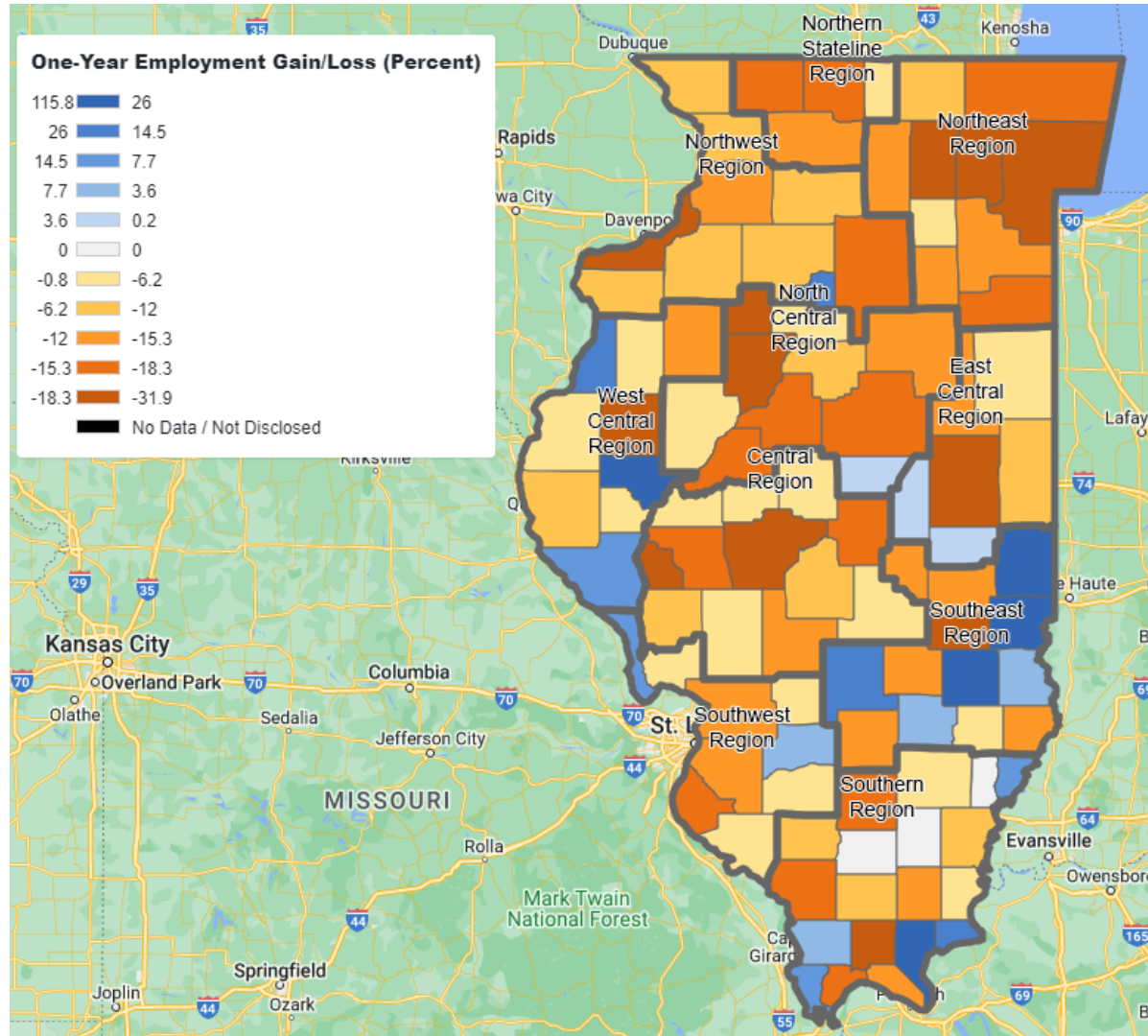
Components of Leisure and Hospitality Sector (NAICS 71-72)

Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation (NAICS 71)

- Performing Arts, Spectator Sports, and Related Industries (NAICS 711)
- Museums, Historical Sites, and Similar Institutions (NAICS 712)
- Amusement, Gambling and Recreation Industries (NAICS 713)

Accommodation and Food Services (NAICS 72)

- Accommodation (NAICS 721)
- Food Services & Drinking Places (NAICS 722)



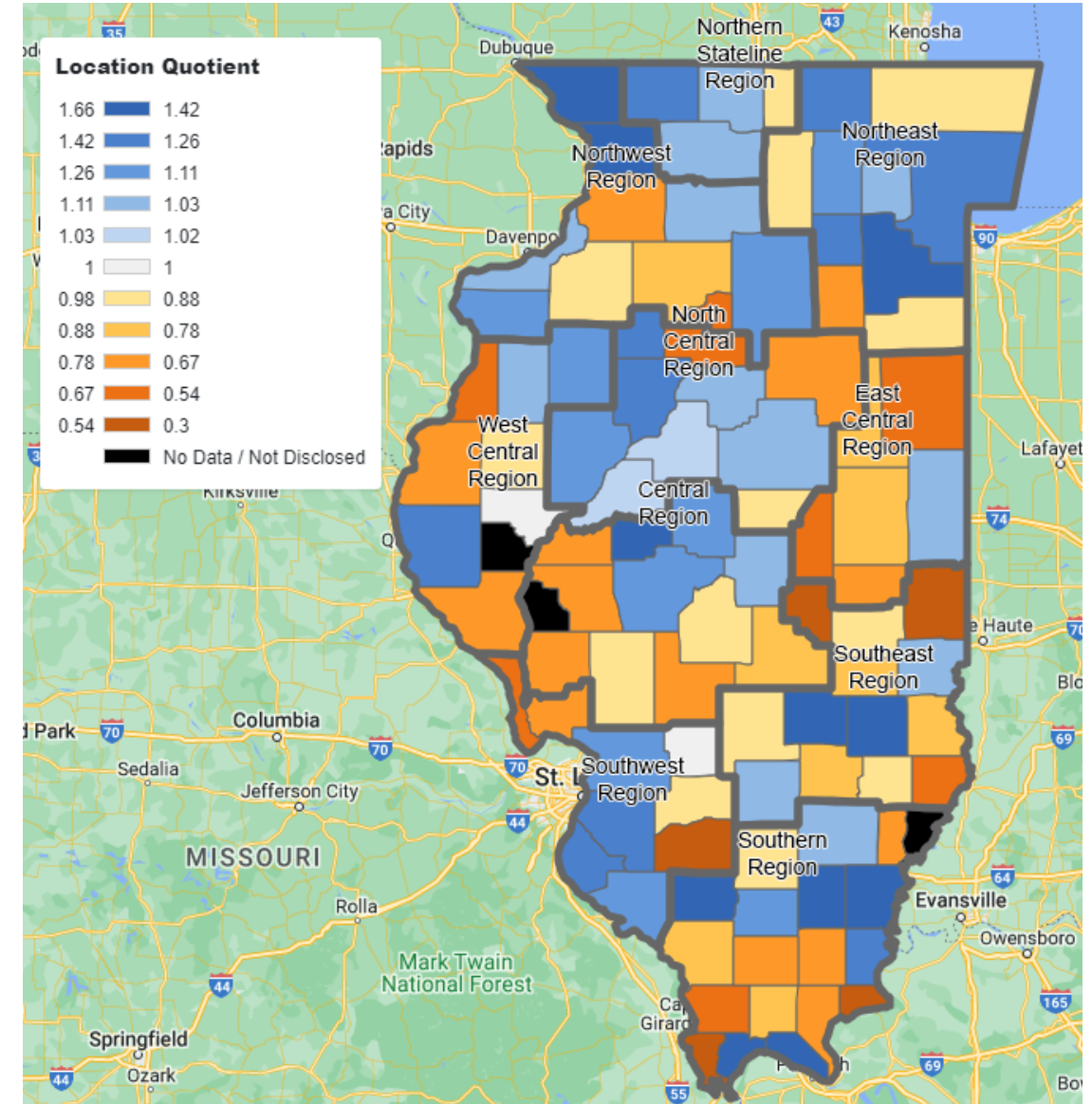
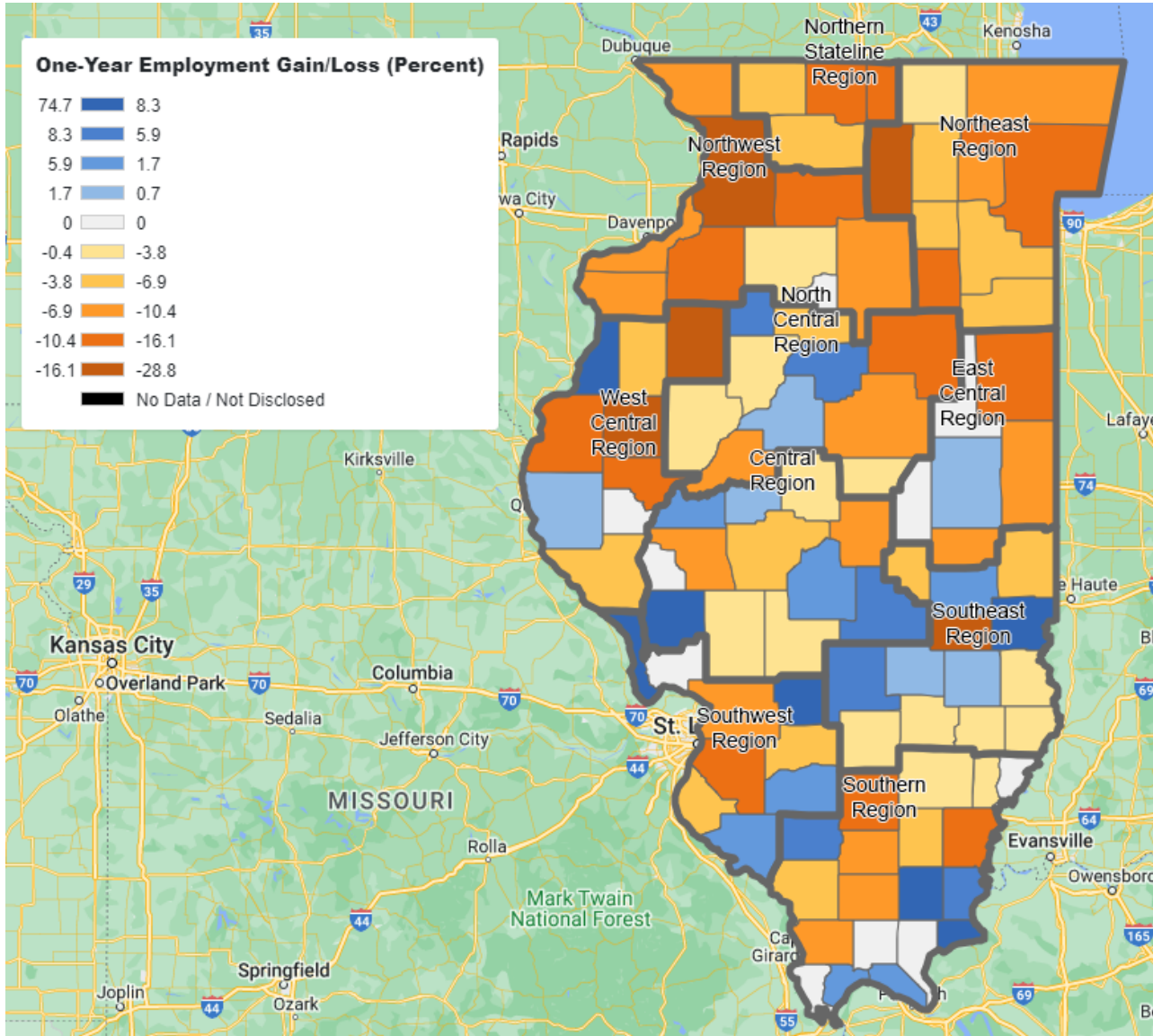
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Q4 2021 & Q4 2022. Retrieved from the Illinois Employment Business System on Illinois WorkNet.

Other Services Sector

Q4 2021- Q4 2022 % Employment Change & Q4 2022 Employment Location Quotient

Components of Other Services Sector (NAICS 81)

- Repair and Maintenance (NAICS 811)
- Personal and Laundry Services (NAICS 812)
- Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations (NAICS 813)
- Private Households (NAICS 814) e.g.- private gardeners



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Q4 2021 & Q4 2022. Retrieved from the Illinois Employment Business System on Illinois WorkNet.

Labor Market Alignment

Demand Occupations

- Typical Education Level
- Projected Annual Openings
- Skill Requirements

Enrollments and Completions for Bachelor's Degrees, Master's Degrees, and Doctorates

Community College Enrollments

Community College Completions

- Career & Technical Education
- By Type of Program
- By Career Cluster

Supply Gaps for Demand Occupations

Demand Occupations Requiring a Certificate or License

Occupation	Projected Annual Openings	Skills	Hourly Entry Wage	Hourly Experienced Wage
Nursing Assistants	309	Service Orientation, Active Listening, Social Perceptiveness	17.59	18.76
Automotive Service Techs/Mechanics	124	Equipment Maintenance, Repairing, Troubleshooting	22.84	27.90
Medical Secretaries	106	Speaking, Active Listening, Service Orientation	18.74	20.62
Fitness Trainers & Aerobics Instructors	100	Instructing, Service Orientation, Social Perceptiveness	17.68	23.55
Preschool Teachers, Ex. Special Education	99	Speaking, Learning Strategies, Instructing	15.49	19.45
Hairdressers/Hairstylists/Cosmetologists	87	Active Listening, Speaking, Service Orientation	16.90	22.29
Licensed Practical & Vocational Nurses	67	Service Orientation, Active Listening, Coordination	25.40	28.56
Emergency Medical Techs & Paramedics	50	Critical Thinking, Active Listening, Coordination	21.41	22.88
Bus/Truck/Diesel Engine Mechanics	38	Repairing, Troubleshooting, Operation & Control	24.79	30.29
Library Technicians	33	Reading Comprehension, Speaking, Active Listening	15.64	19.58

Demand Occupations Requiring an Associate's Degree

Occupation	Projected Annual Openings	Skills	Hourly Entry Wage	Hourly Experienced Wage
Registered Nurses	331	Active Listening, Social Perceptiveness, Service Orientation	37.78	42.56
Computer User Support Specialists	39	Active Listening, Speaking, Reading Comprehension	25.04	32.43
Paralegals & Legal Assistants	38	Reading Comprehension, Active Listening, Critical Thinking	24.37	31.71
Radiologic Technologists	31	Active Listening, Monitoring, Social Perceptiveness	30.07	34.43
Computer Network Support Specialists	27	Critical Thinking, Active Listening, Judgement/Decision Making	31.63	40.37
Computer Occupations, All Other	25	Critical Thinking, Reading Comprehension, Active Listening	37.62	46.78
Calibration & Eng. Techs, Ex. Drafters, All Other	16	Active Listening, Critical Thinking, Reading Comprehension	38.16	42.93
Dental Hygienists	16	Speaking, Active Listening, Critical Thinking	36.69	38.78
Physical Therapist Assistants	16	Reading Comprehension, Active Listening, Speaking	31.12	32.93
Health Info Techs/Registrars/Surg Asst, AO	10	Active Listening, Critical Thinking, Reading Comprehension	23.05	29.21

Demand Occupations Requiring a Bachelor's Degree

Occupation	Projected Annual Openings	Skills	Hourly Entry Wage	Hourly Experienced Wage
Project Mgt & Bus Op Spec., All Other	299	Active Listening, Critical Thinking, Reading Comprehension	39.41	50.00
Elem. School Teachers, Ex. Special Ed.	183	Instructing, Speaking, Learning Strategies		
Accountants & Auditors	166	Active Listening, Mathematics, Reading Comprehension	33.86	45.43
Software Developers & QA Analysts/Testers	140	Programming, System Analysis, System Evaluation	52.48	64.07
Secondary Teachers, Ex. Spec/Voc. Ed.	129	Instructing, Learning Strategies, Speaking		
Market Research Analysts & Specialists	112	Reading Comprehension, Active Listening, Complex Problem Solving	28.87	38.83
Insurance Sales Agents	108	Active Listening, Reading Comprehension, Speaking	24.07	42.64
Human Resources Specialists	95	Active Listening, Speaking, Reading Comprehension	30.83	37.62
Computer Systems Analysts	66	Critical Thinking, Active Listening, Reading Comprehension	51.45	56.61

Demand Occupations Requiring Education Beyond a Bachelor's Degree

Occupation	Projected Annual Openings	Skills	Hourly Entry Wage	Hourly Experienced Wage
General & Operations Managers	376	Active Listening, Coordination, Monitoring	45.36	69.41
Financial Managers	107	Active Listening, Critical Thinking, Monitoring	56.22	75.18
Management Analysts	94	Active Listening, Critical Thinking, Reading Comprehension	42.22	53.74
Clergy	88	Speaking, Active Listening, Service Orientation	24.97	29.67
Medical & Health Services Managers	67	Speaking, Critical Thinking, Active Listening	48.60	65.94
Lawyers	63	Active Listening, Speaking, Reading Comprehension	49.99	78.41
Sales Managers	60	Persuasion, Active Listening, Speaking	60.29	89.80
Administrative Services & Facilities Mgrs	52	Speaking, Active Listening, Coordination	41.10	55.67
Marketing Managers	50	Active Learning, Active Listening, Critical Thinking	60.91	80.85
Computer & Information Systems Managers	44	Critical Thinking, Active Listening, Reading Comprehension	62.02	76.96

Notes on Demand Occupations

Each year, the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) identifies a top-ten list of occupations at each education level with a large number of projected annual job openings and high pay for their education categories. These occupations are reported in the Learn More, Earn More publication and this report shows those demand occupations from the 2022 edition.

All demand occupations are selected based on projected number of annual job openings, not necessarily by growth. Occupations can have job openings even with projected total employment declines, due to replacements. The IDES provides long-term occupational forecasts for all occupations, but care must be taken when comparing percentage growth rates for occupations with fewer jobs in the base year.

The IDES also identifies demand occupations that typically provide on-the-job training. In this report, they are excluded in the interest of simplicity.

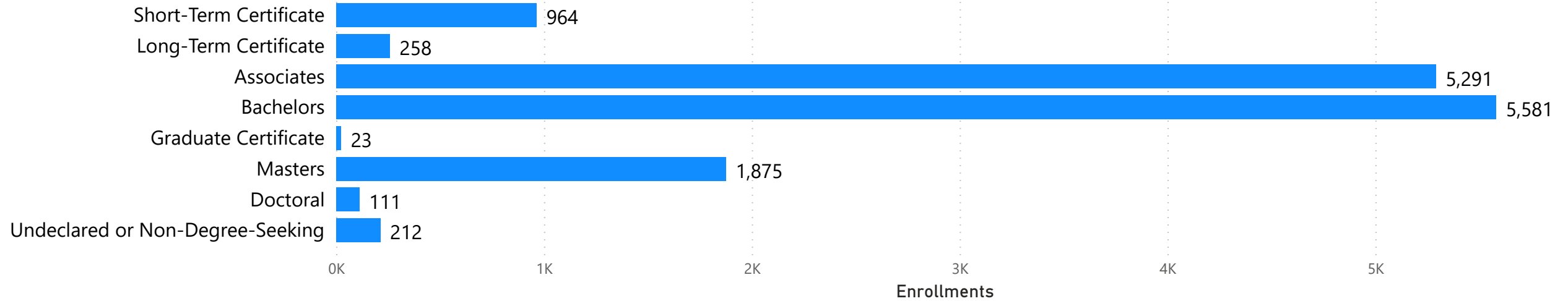
Total Enrollments and Completions by Degree Level, 2022

Region

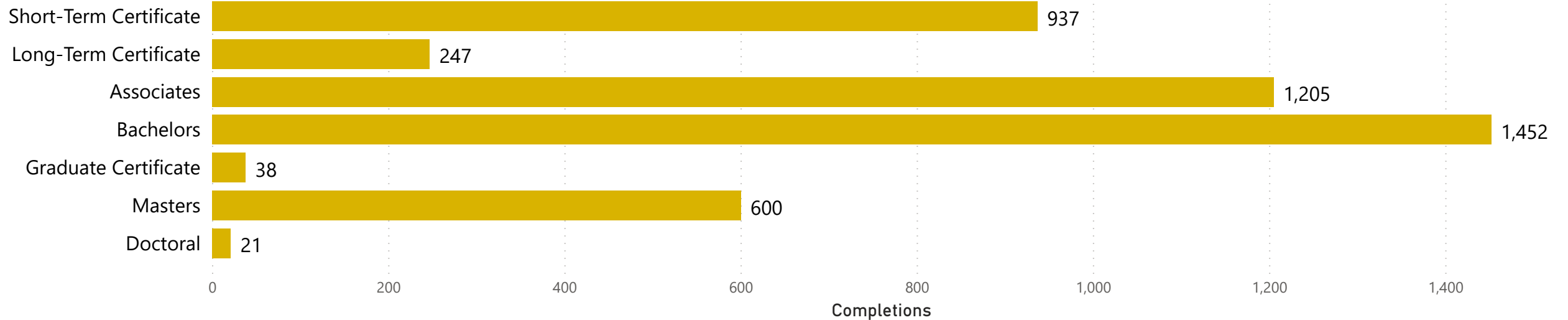
Central

Note: Enrollments and graduations are two separate cohorts- e.g., those enrolled in long-term programs in 2022 do not graduate in 2022. Enrollment in some programs might not persist from year to year. Completions in some programs might not correspond directly to labor availability, given that some international students return to their home countries.

Enrollments by Degree Level



Completions by Degree Level



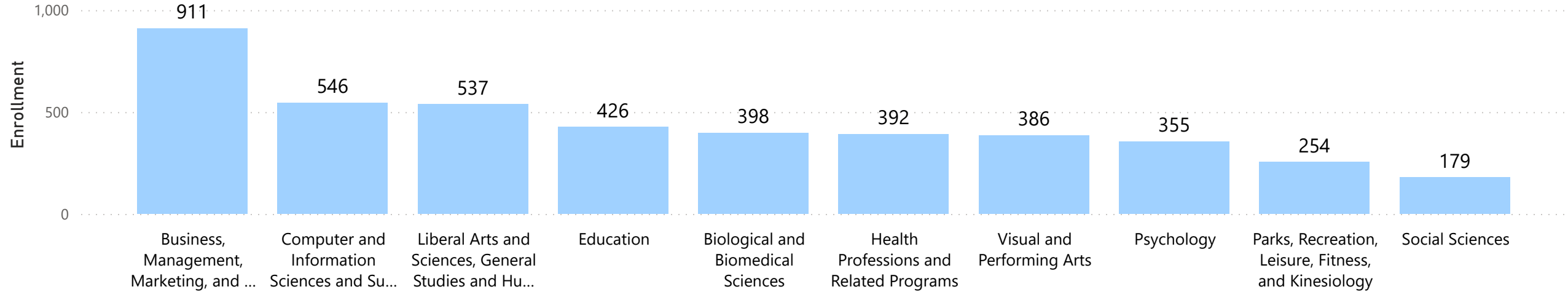
Source: Illinois Board of Higher Education, 2022.

Bachelor's Degree Enrollments and Completions by Curriculum Category, 2022

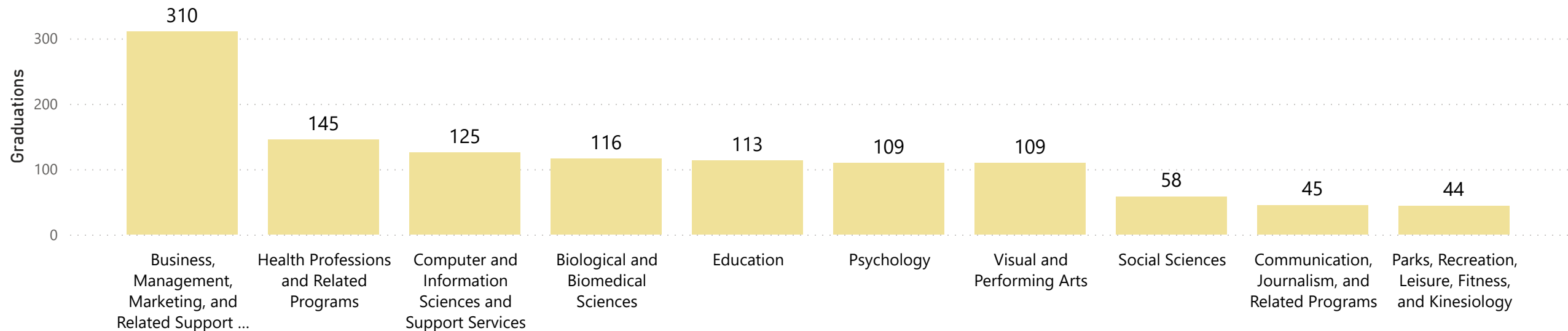
Note: Enrollments and graduations are two separate cohorts- e.g., those enrolled in long-term programs in 2022 do not graduate in 2022. Enrollment in some programs might not persist from year to year.

Region
Central

Top 10 Programs by Enrollment



Top 10 Programs by Graduations



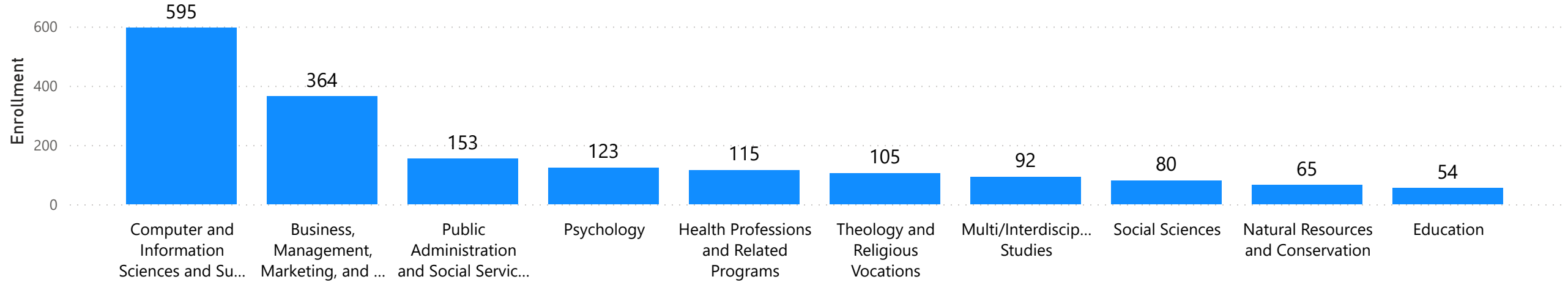
Source: Illinois Board of Higher Education, 2022.

Master's Degree Enrollments and Completions by Curriculum Category, 2022

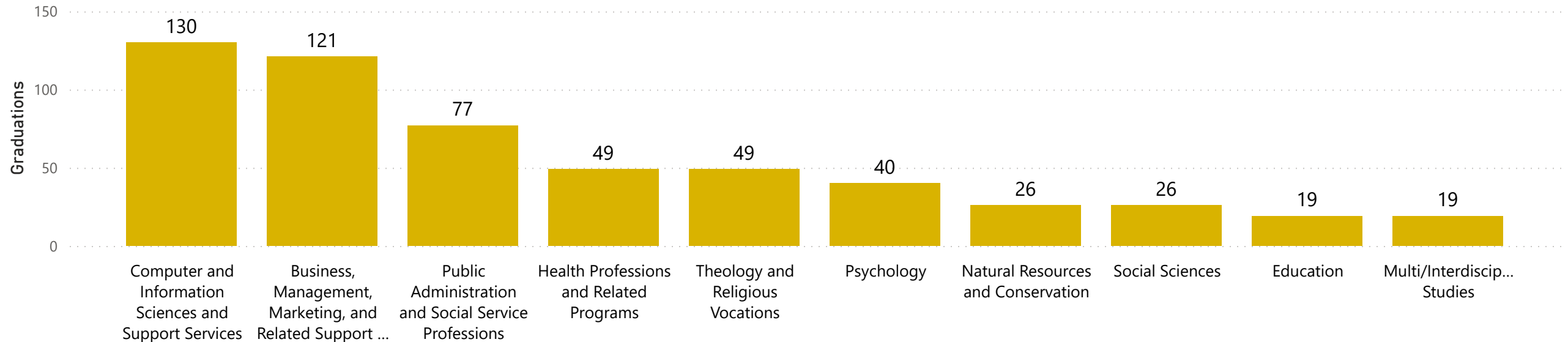
Note: Enrollments and graduations are two separate cohorts- e.g., those enrolled in long-term programs in 2022 do not graduate in 2022. Enrollment in some programs might not persist from year to year.

Region
Central

Top 10 Programs by Enrollment



Top 10 Programs by Graduations



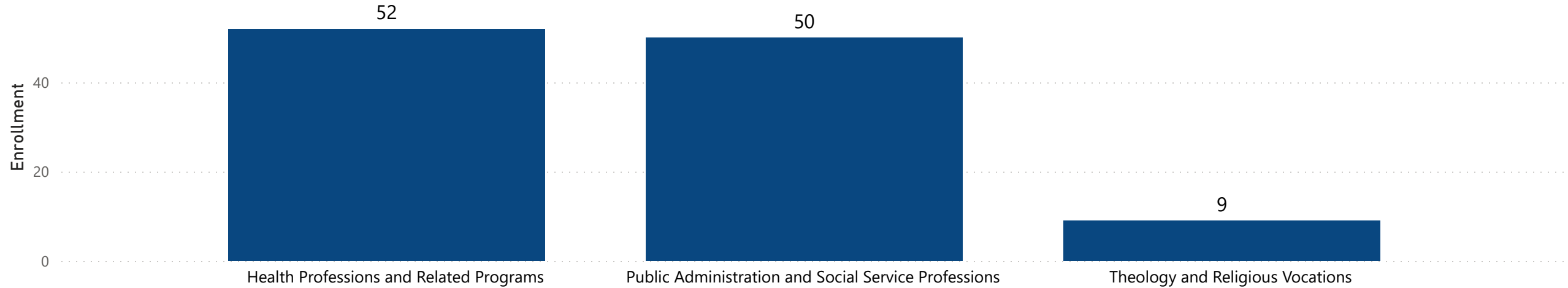
Source: Illinois Board of Higher Education, 2022.

Doctoral Enrollments and Completions by Curriculum Category, 2022

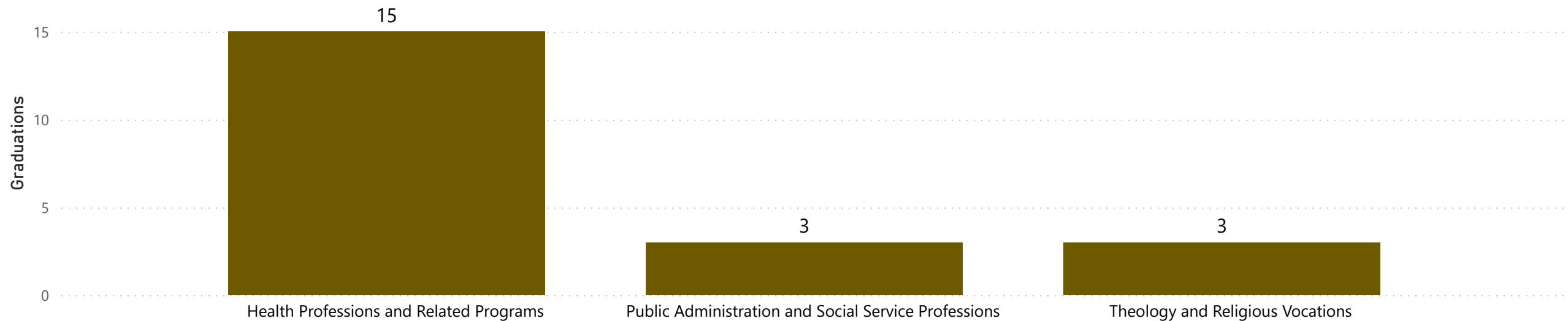
Note: Enrollments and graduations are two separate cohorts- e.g., those enrolled in long-term programs in 2022 do not graduate in 2022. Enrollment in some programs might not persist from year to year.

Region

Top 10 Programs by Enrollment



Top 10 Programs by Graduations



Detailed Community College Enrollments by Program Classification

Region

Below is a summary of recent *unduplicated* for-credit and non-credit enrollments in community college districts that are primarily located in the region. Examples of non-credit programs include professional development workshops, custom trainings for employers, and hobby/recreational offerings.

District ID	College Name	Adult Basic Education	Adult Secondary Education	Baccalaureate/Transfer	Career and Technical Education	English as a Second Language	General Studies	General Associate	Credit Total	Noncredit Total
52601	Lincoln Land	71	125	5,128	2,152	214	0	805	8,495	2,934
53701	Richland	102	23	1,850	797	48	1	425	3,488	810
Central Total	Region Total	173	148	6,978	2,949	262	1	1,230	11,983	3,744
State Total	State Total	14,248	3,914	221,791	99,977	17,871	741	22,577	396,958	106,621

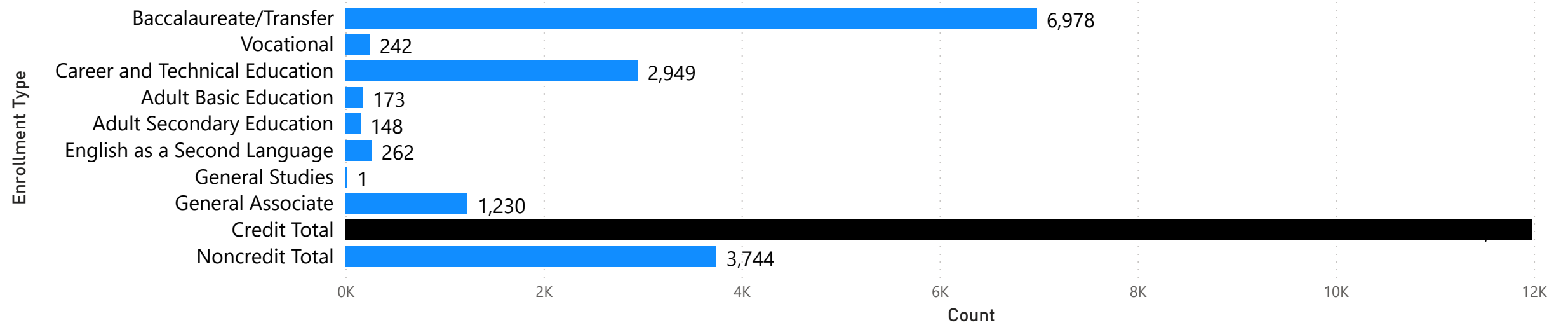
Source: Illinois Community College Board, Fiscal Year 2022 Summary of Graduates and Enrollments & ICCB Databook, Tables III-3 and III-9.

Community College Enrollments in Region

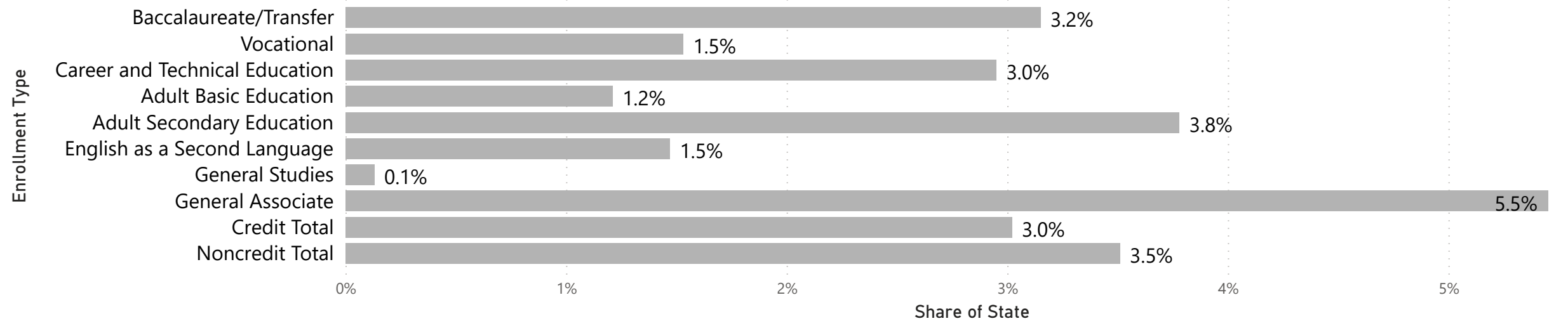
Region
Central

Below is a summary of total community college enrollments in the region for FY2022, including total counts and the share of total statewide enrollments.

Count by Enrollment Type



Share of State by Enrollment Type



Source: Illinois Community College Board, Fiscal Year 2022 Summary of Graduates and Enrollments & ICCB Databook, Tables III-3 and III-9.

Career & Technical Education Completions, FY2022

Below is a summary of recent CTE completions in community college districts that are primarily located in the region.

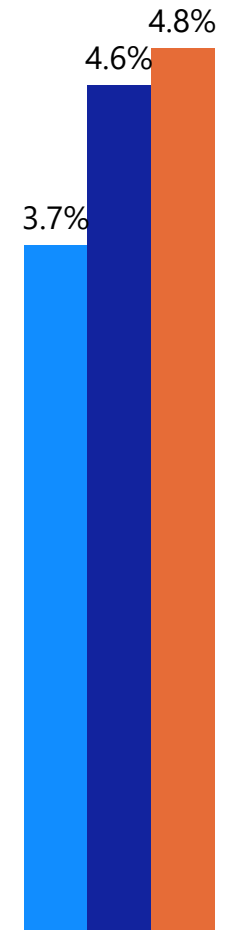
Region

Career and Technical Education Completions

District ID	College Name	Associates in Applied Science	Certificates of Less than One Year	Certs of One Year or More	Total
52601	Lincoln Land	225	656	181	1,062
53701	Richland	124	326	69	519
Central Total	Region Total	349	982	250	1,581
State Total	State Total	9,375	21,391	5,215	35,981

Share of State CTE Completions

● AAS ● Short-Term Cert. ● Long-Term Cert.



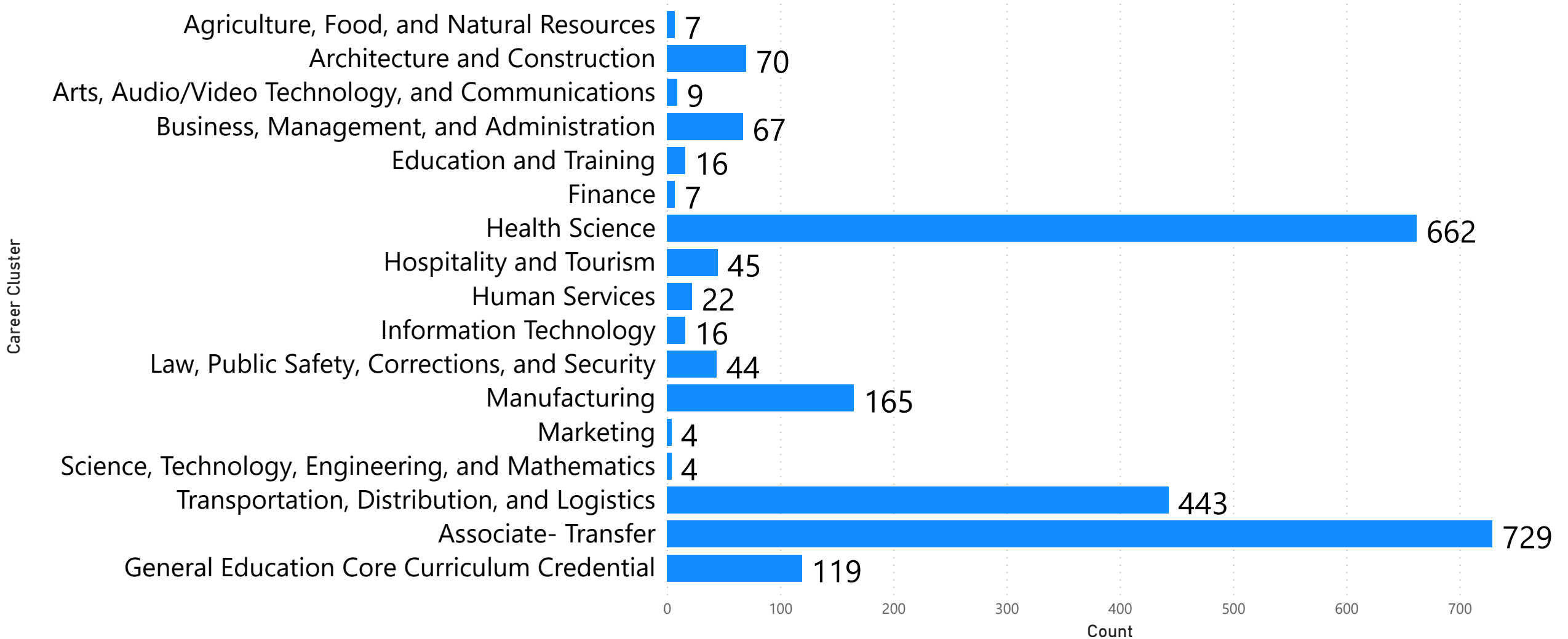
Community College Completions by Career Cluster

Below is a summary of recent graduations in community college districts that are primarily located in the region.

Region

2,429

Total Regional Completions in FY22



Community College Transfer and General Education Completions

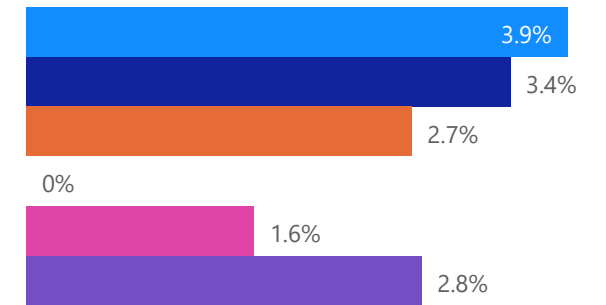
Region

Below is a summary of recent completions in community college districts in the region. Some categories are omitted for space, and due to less than 200 completers statewide.

District ID	College Name	Associate in Arts	Associate in Science	Associate in Engineering Science	Associate in Arts and Science	General Education Core Curriculum Credential	Associate in Liberal Studies & General Education
52601	Lincoln Land	410	75	11	0	0	61
53701	Richland	94	57	1	0	119	15
Central Total	Region Total	504	132	12	0	119	76
State Total	State Total	13098	4817	349	354	7361	2709

Share of State Completions

- Arts
- Engineering
- Science
- Arts & Science
- Gen. Ed.
- Liberal Studies

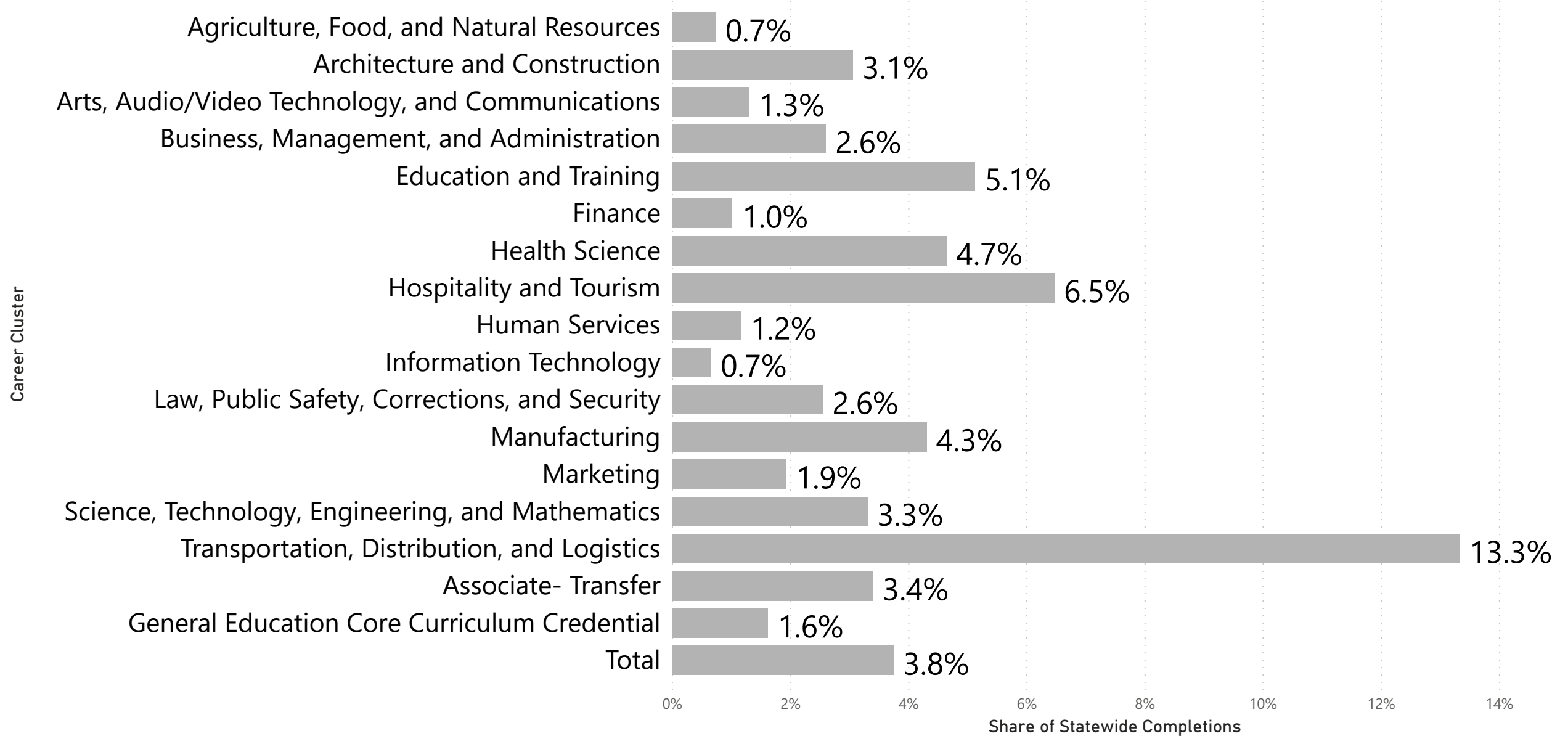


Arts, Engineering, Science, Arts & Science, Ge...

Share of State Community College Completions by Career Cluster

Below is a summary of recent graduations in community college districts that are primarily located in the region.

Region



Source: Illinois Community College Board, Fiscal Year 2022 Summary of Graduates and Enrollments & ICCB Databook, Tables III-3 and III-9.

Community College Completions by Career Cluster

Region ▼
 ▼

Below is a summary of recent graduations in community college districts that are primarily located in the region. Several categories are excluded in the interest of space, due to not matching to career clusters or having less than 500 completers statewide. *The next two pages show region totals for all categories, including some not on this page.*

District ID	College Name	Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources	Arts, Audio/Video Technology, and Communications	Architecture and Construction	Business, Management, and Administration	Health Science	Human Services	Information Technology	Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security	Manufacturing	Finance
52601	Lincoln Land	6	9	46	25	466	13	10	28	136	0
53701	Richland	1	0	24	42	196	9	6	16	29	7
Central Total	Region Total	7	9	70	67	662	22	16	44	165	7
State Total	State Total	951	694	2285	2575	14246	1904	2424	1726	3830	685

Notes on ICCB Completer Data

Care must be taken when viewing educational program data, given that program completions do not necessarily correspond to the number of individuals. Some credentials are stackable, meaning that the same person completes multiple programs. In this report, *enrollments* are unduplicated, but completions are not. In other words, enrollments show counts of individuals while completions show counts of degrees or credentials.

In previous years, these regional data packets included information for all community college districts that intersected the region boundaries. Previously, community college districts on the border of two regions were included in the data for *both* regions. In this report, we instead show information from community college districts *primarily located in the region*. In some regions, this might look like a decrease in enrollments and completions over the previous report, because a bordering community college district was included in another region.

Below is a summary of all community college districts that were affected by this change in methodology:

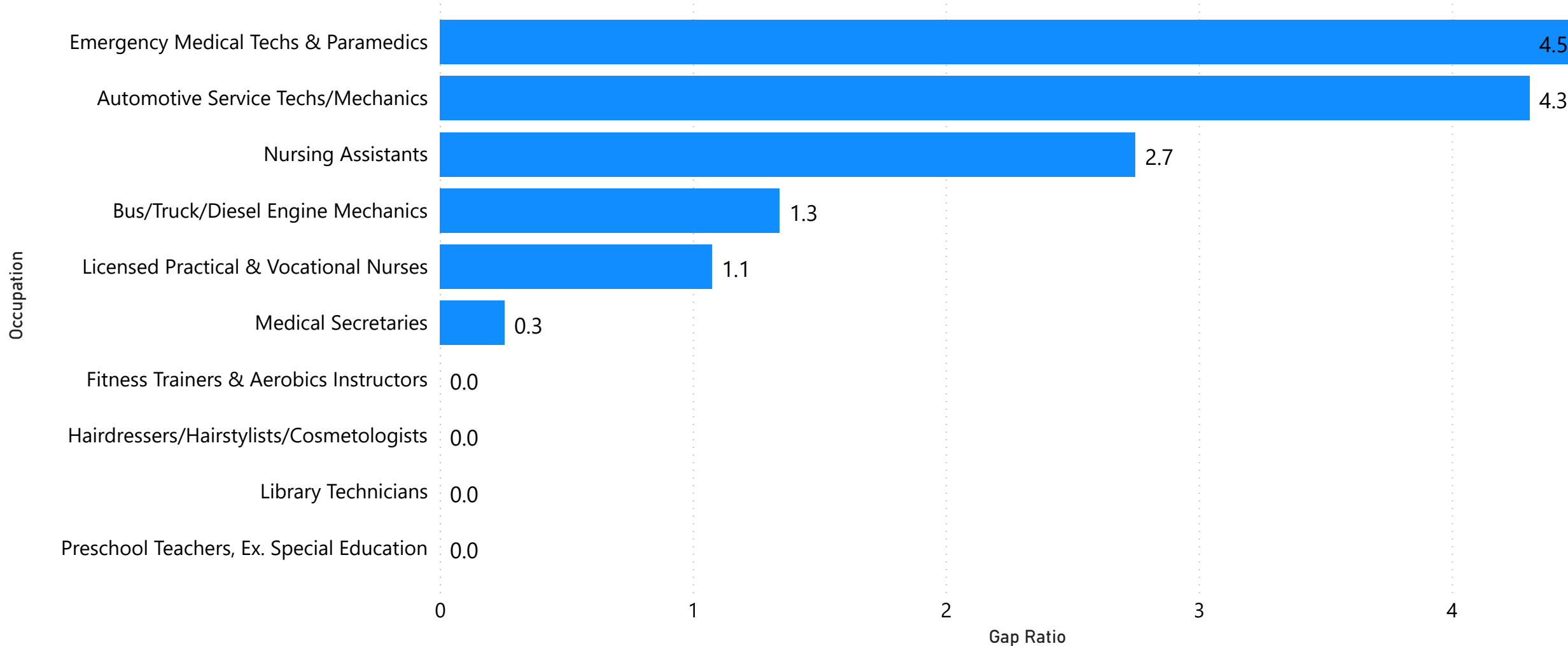
- The Central report used to include Lewis & Clark (district ID 53601). It is now found in the Southwestern report.
- The East Central report used to include Kankakee (52001). It is now found in the Northeast report.
- The Northwest report used to include Highland (51901). It is now found in the Northern Stateline report.
- The Southwestern report used to include Kaskaskia (50101). It is now found in the Southwestern report.
- The Southern report used to include Illinois Eastern (529). It is now found in the Southeastern report.

More detailed information for all community colleges is available in the ICCB Databook, available at: <https://www2.iccb.org/data/data-characteristics/>.

Supply Gap Analysis for Occupations Requiring a Certificate or License

Region
Central

The supply gap ratio is a proxy measure that provides insight on how closely supply aligns with demand for selected occupations. The calculation of the ratio is supply / demand. In this case, the supply is the number of program completions in the region associated with the occupation and the demand is the estimated number of regional job openings. A gap ratio of one indicates one completer per projected job opening. Gaps lower than one indicate more job openings than completers, and gaps greater than 1 indicate more completers than openings.



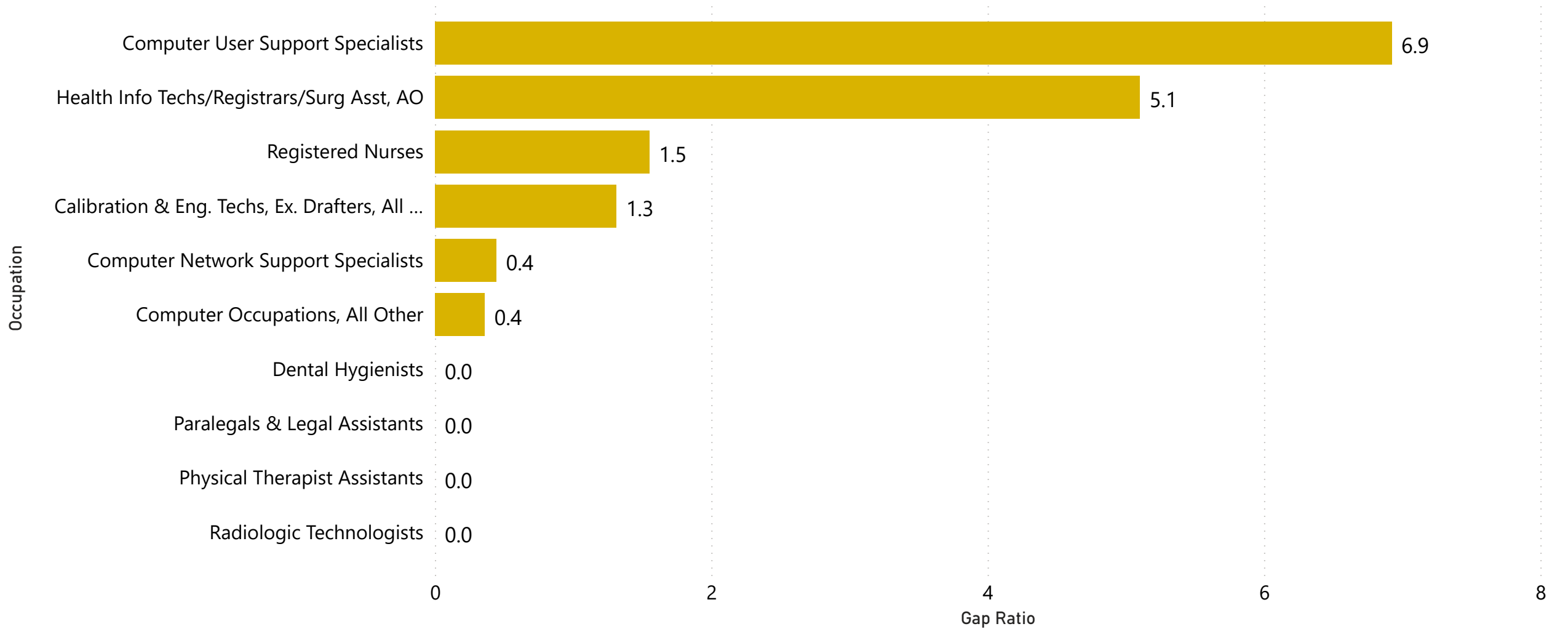
Completers do not include most apprenticeships and true OJT provided solely by employers.

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security, Illinois Board of Higher Education, & Lightcast, 2023.

Supply Gap Analysis for Occupations Requiring an Associate's Degree

Region
Central

The supply gap ratio is a proxy measure that provides insight on how closely supply aligns with demand for selected occupations. The calculation of the ratio is supply / demand. In this case, the supply is the number of program completions in the region associated with the occupation and the demand is the estimated number of regional job openings. A gap ratio of one indicates one completer per projected job opening. Gaps lower than one indicate more job openings than completers, and gaps greater than 1 indicate more completers than openings.



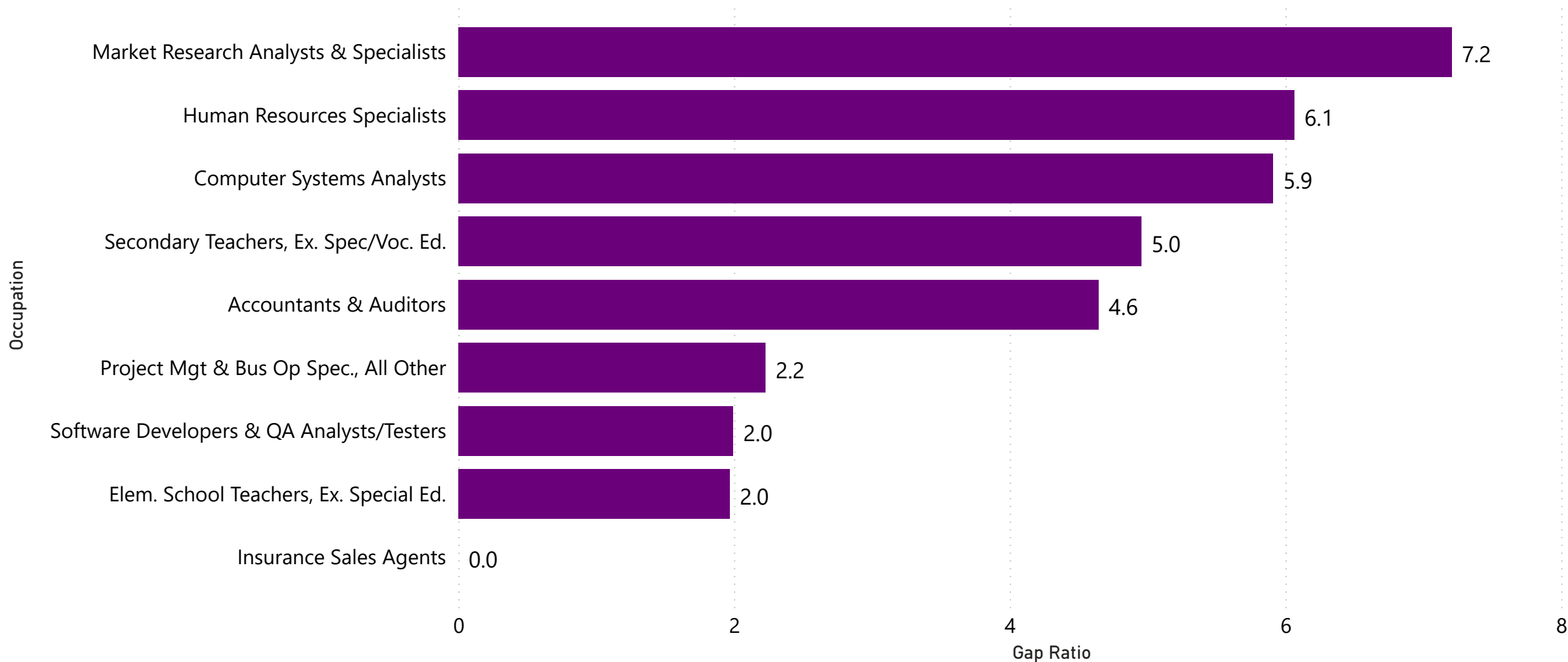
Completers do not include most apprenticeships and true OJT provided solely by employers.

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security, Illinois Board of Higher Education, & Lightcast, 2023.

Supply Gap Analysis for Occupations Requiring a Bachelor's Degree

Region
Central

The supply gap ratio is a proxy measure that provides insight on how closely supply aligns with demand for selected occupations. The calculation of the ratio is supply / demand. In this case, the supply is the number of program completions in the region associated with the occupation and the demand is the estimated number of regional job openings. A gap ratio of one indicates one completer per projected job opening. Gaps lower than one indicate more job openings than completers, and gaps greater than 1 indicate more completers than openings.



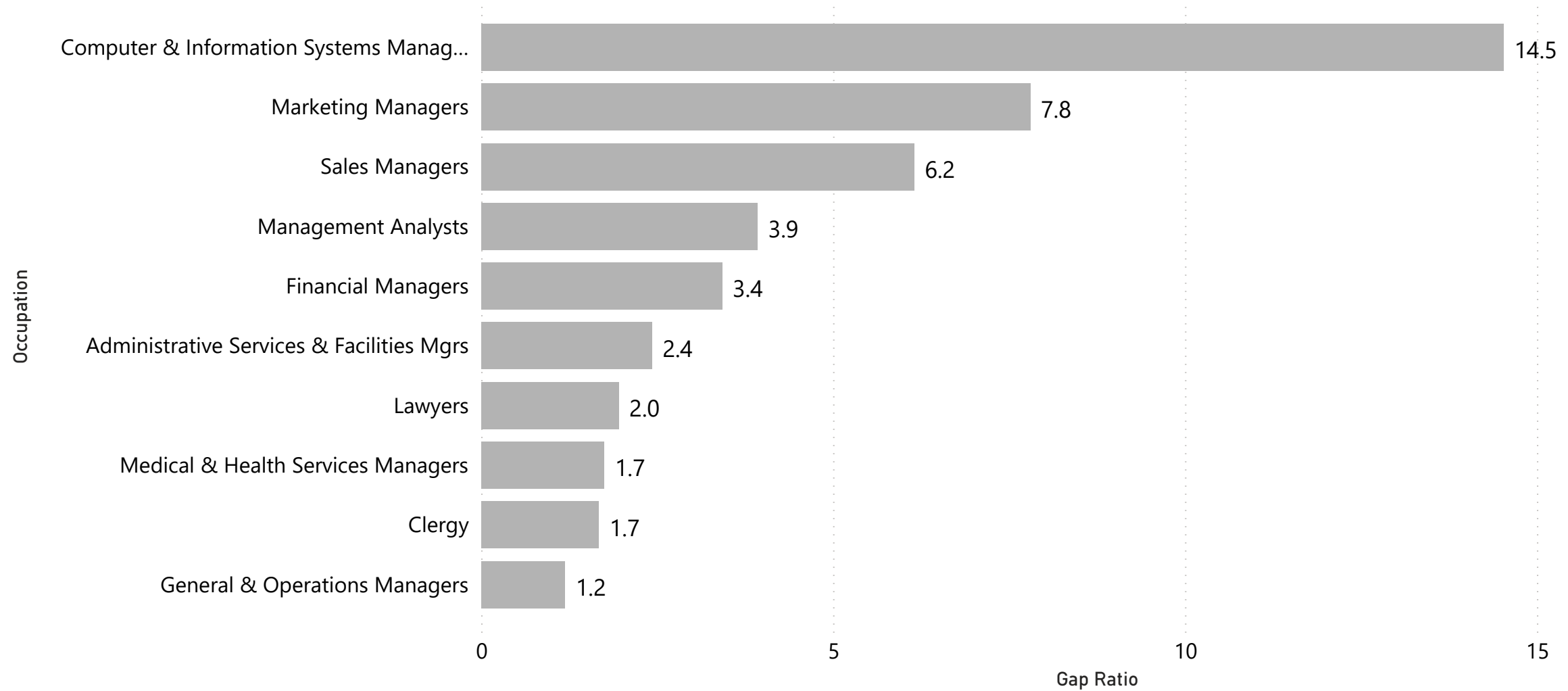
Completers do not include most apprenticeships and true OJT provided solely by employers.

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security, Illinois Board of Higher Education, & Lightcast, 2023.

Supply Gap Analysis for Occupations Requiring Education Beyond a Bachelor's Degree

Region
Central

The supply gap ratio is a proxy measure that provides insight on how closely supply aligns with demand for selected occupations. The calculation of the ratio is supply / demand. In this case, the supply is the number of program completions in the region associated with the occupation and the demand is the estimated number of regional job openings. A gap ratio of one indicates one completer per projected job opening. Gaps lower than one indicate more job openings than completers, and gaps greater than 1 indicate more completers than openings.



Completers do not include most apprenticeships and true OJT provided solely by employers.

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security, Illinois Board of Higher Education, & Lightcast, 2023.

Caveats and Limitations of Gap Analysis

The gap ratio is not intended to provide a comprehensive measure of labor market alignment- it shows an initial comparison of suitable completers in the most recent year available to the projected annual job openings in an occupation.

Suitable completers are identified via a crosswalk of curriculums to occupations developed by Lightcast. This crosswalk is based on data from the National Center for Educational Statistics and Lightcast's experience serving as a consultant for educational and workforce development agencies. It shows the types of curriculums typically completed by employees in a given occupation.

We use Lightcast's crosswalk of occupations to curriculums to identify potential target curriculums for each occupation, and then match that to counts of completions at the appropriate degree level for each occupation. For example, the gap ratios for occupations requiring a certificate or license do not consider bachelor's degree completions, and the bachelor's degree occupations do not consider associate's-degree completions in the same fields.

The gap ratio provides a conservative comparison of recent completions to annual openings. A gap ratio less than 1 (i.e., fewer suitable completers than openings) might not necessarily indicate inability for employers to fill positions. Below are several potential scenarios where job openings could be filled with persons other than recent educational completers:

- The employer provides true on-the-job training.
- Employees are qualified for the job due to past work experience or apprenticeships.
- Workers completed a suitable educational program in the past and are currently underemployed, but could qualify for a new job opening.
- The job is held by a commuter from outside the region, or someone who would move into the region for the job.

Similarly, gap ratios greater than 1 might not necessarily translate to employers easily filling job openings. Below are some examples of scenarios where job openings could remain despite a surplus of recent completers in the region.

- Job turnover, due to a mismatch of expectations as completers transition from education to the workplace.
- Completers find employment outside of the region, either by commuting out or relocating.
- Completers pursue stackable credentials or more advanced degrees before entering the labor market.
- Some programs attract international students who return to their home countries after completing their program.

For More Information

For general questions about these data packets, please contact:

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Research Specialist, NIU Center for Governmental Studies
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For more detailed questions about your region, please contact your IDES Regional Economist.

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Central	Logan Taira, MS	Labor Market Economist	217-558-1237	logan.taira@illinois.gov
Statewide	Marty M. Johnson, MBA	Manager, Workforce Analysis & Dissemination	217-557-1869	marty.johnson2@illinois.gov

Appendix. Energy Employment Activities

Employment in clean energy is difficult to quantify at a regional level, due to limitations in the standard state/federal data collections by industry and occupation. The standard data products do not clearly or consistently distinguish businesses involved in renewable energy as compared to non-renewable. For example, the Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing industry includes both electric vehicles and gasoline-powered cars. Similarly, most clean-energy occupations are included in occupational categories that include other activities. For example, supervisors of energy efficiency construction projects are included in a category that includes supervisors for other construction projects. Any estimate based on the standard industry/occupation classifications is likely to overestimate clean energy employment, as the categories are not necessarily limited to clean energy.

The next two pages show some conservative estimates of energy sector employment in the region, based on data from the U.S. Department of Energy, *2023 U.S. Energy & Employment Jobs Report*. The data is based on a national survey of employers, with results published by state and by county. The data in this survey differs from the standard industry and occupational classifications in other federal data collections.

*The county data is susceptible to suppression for business activities with less than 10 employees in the county. As a result, the data might somewhat undercount employment in regions. [An employment count of zero in this data might not reflect reality.](#) Regardless, these data might offer a **starting point** for discussions regarding the alignment of workforce and economic development plans with potential opportunities related to clean energy.*

The full county-level dataset from the Department of Energy is available at: <https://www.energy.gov/policy/us-energy-employment-jobs-report-useer>

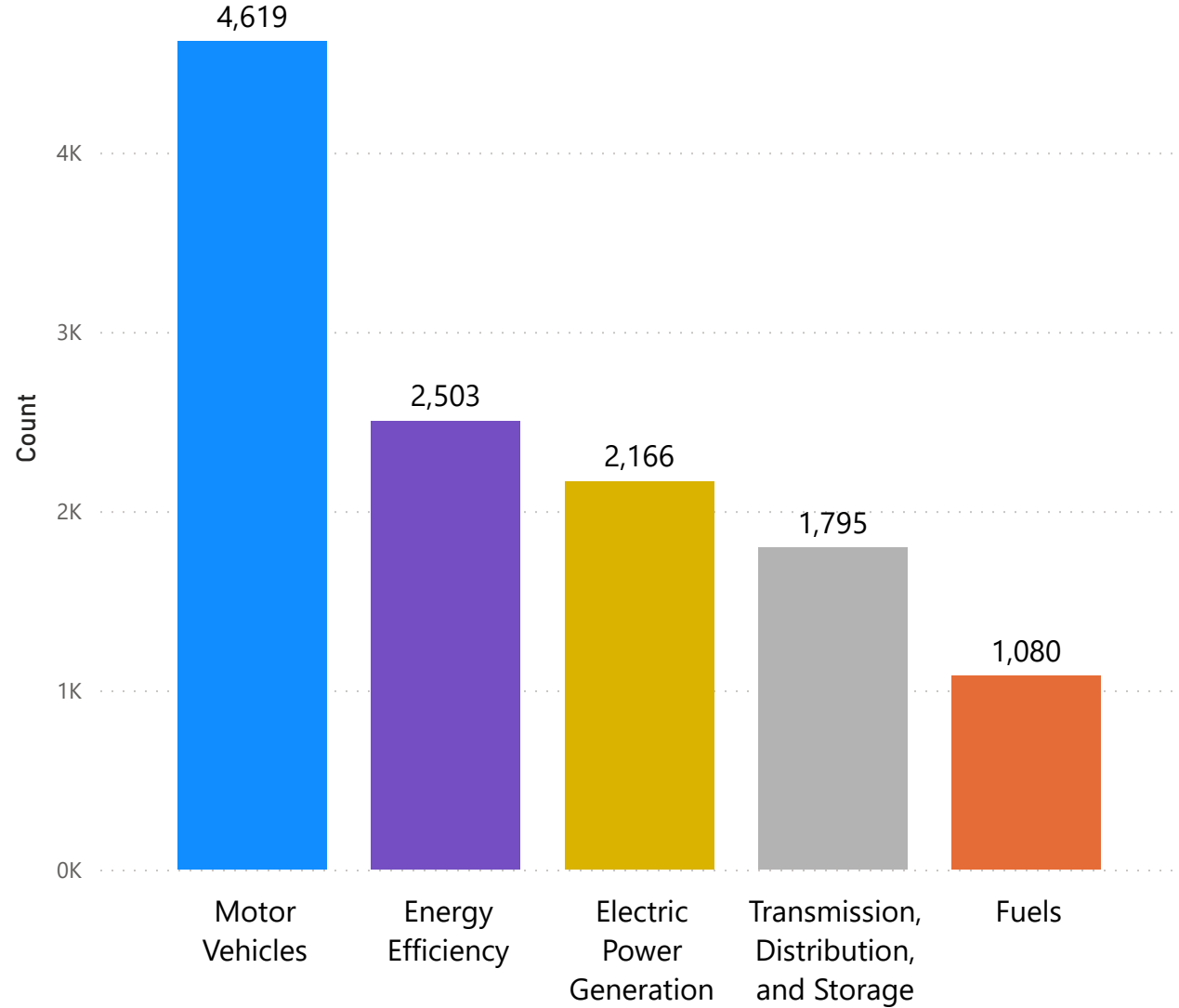
Historical county-level survey data is available from the Department of Energy, but we advise against using it for a time series analysis, due to inconsistent data availability in some counties.

Energy Employment in 2022 (1 of 2)

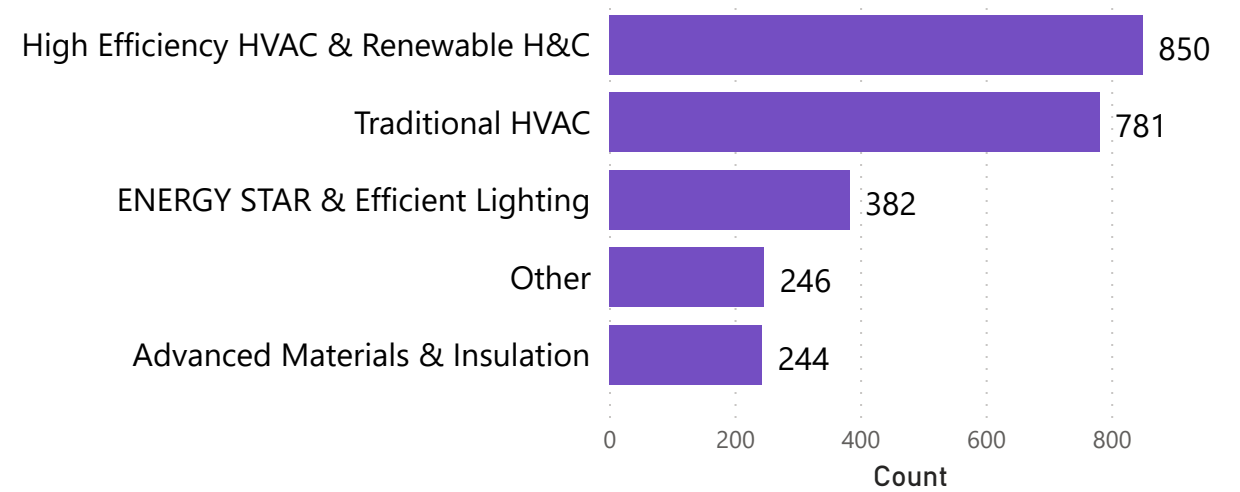
Below are estimated counts of employment in businesses related to energy. Some of these activities might involve fossil fuels. These estimates are susceptible to suppression at the county level, and so employment might be undercounted for some activities.

Region

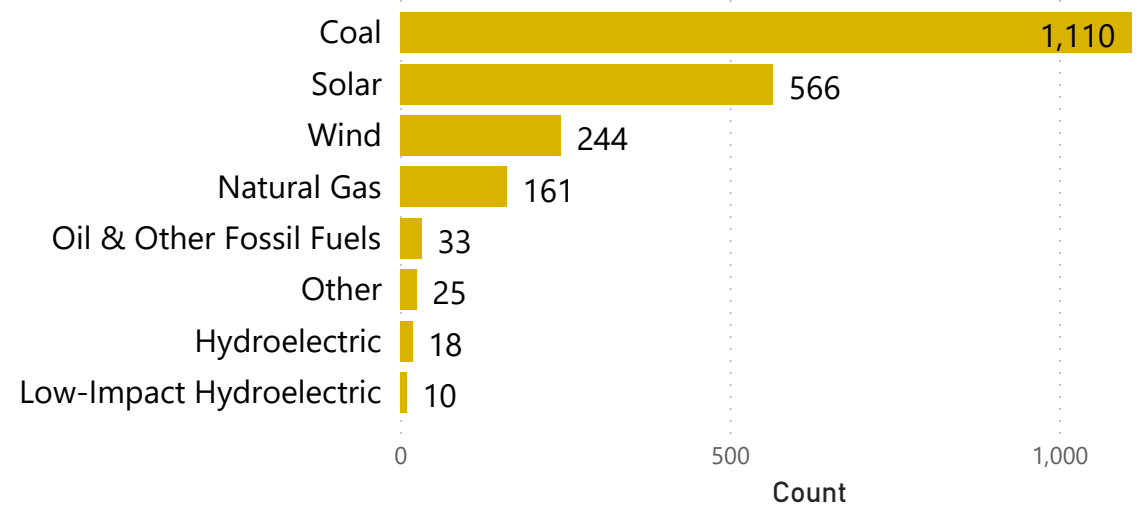
Energy Employment by Activity (Components unavailable for motor vehicles)



Energy Efficiency by Type



Electric Power Generation by Type



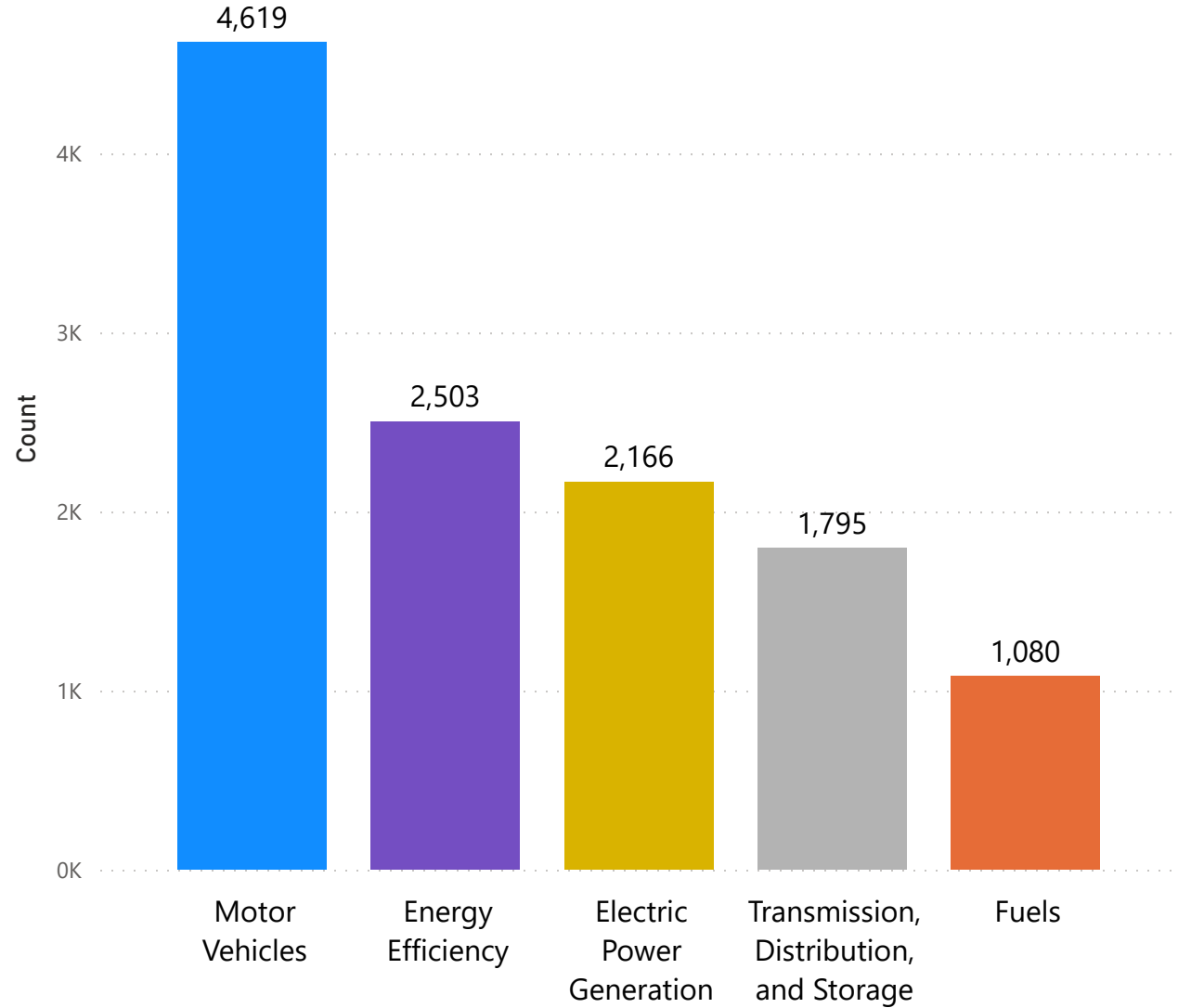
Source: U.S. Department of Energy, 2023 U.S. Energy and Employment Report, County-Level USEER Data.

Energy Employment in 2022 (2 of 2)

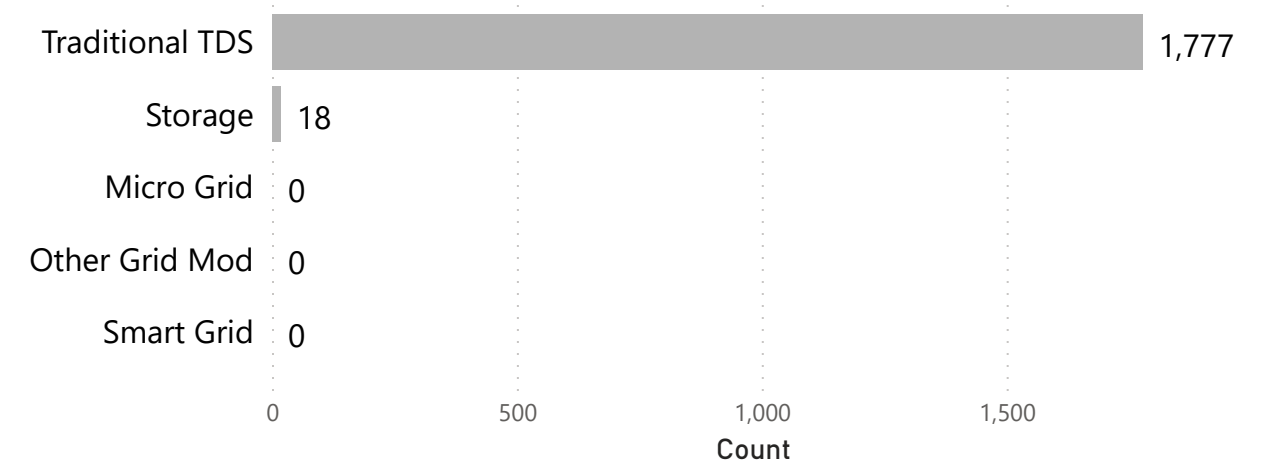
Below are estimated counts of employment in businesses related to energy. Some of these activities might involve fossil fuels. These estimates are susceptible to suppression at the county level, and so employment might be undercounted for some activities.

Region

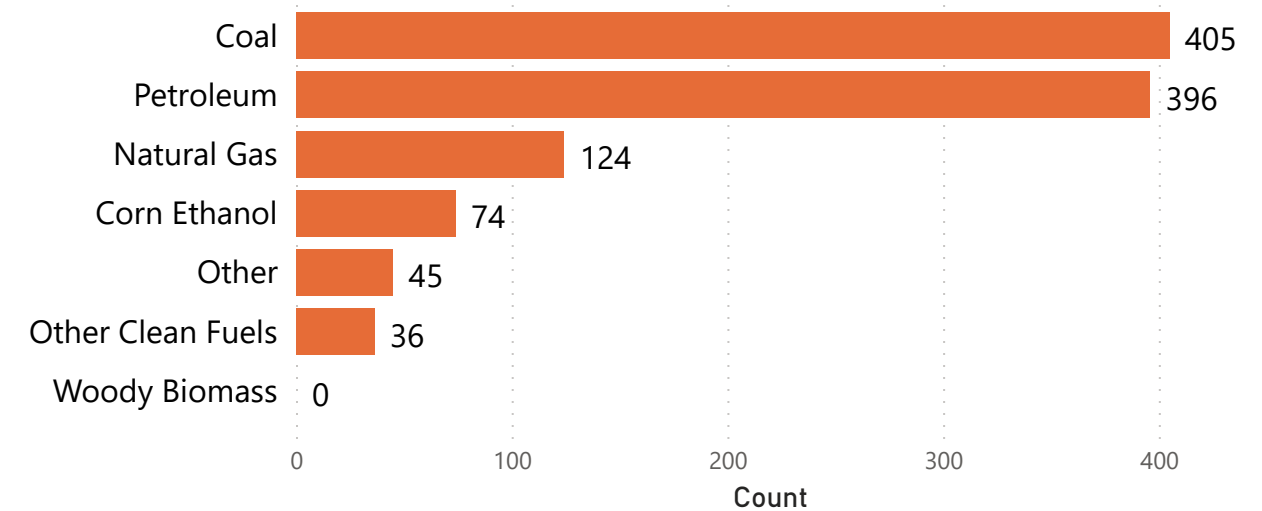
Energy Employment by Activity (Components unavailable for motor vehicles)



Transmission, Distribution, and Storage (TDS)



Fuels by Type



Source: U.S. Department of Energy, 2023 U.S. Energy and Employment Report, County-Level USEER Data.