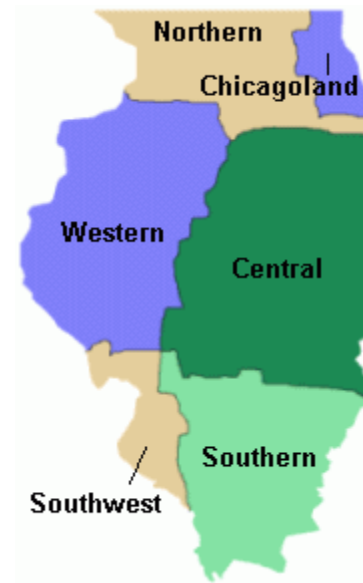




*MILE AFTER  
MAGNIFICENT MILE*

# Illinois

[Illinois Vacation - The State's Official Travel Planning Website](#) [click on this website for more information @](#)



## MAJOR CITIES:



Regions & Cities

Explore the four regions of Illinois, each with its own unique personality.

### Chicago & Beyond

Chicago  
Rockford  
Starved Rock, Utica  
Gurnee

### Land of Lincoln

Springfield  
Bloomington-Normal  
Champaign-Urbana  
Decatur

### Great Rivers Country

Galena  
Moline / Rock Island  
Peoria  
Alton / Elsah / Grafton

### Trails to Adventure

Carbondale  
Makanda  
Harrisburg  
Pomona / Alto Pass / Cobden



# ILLINOIS – CLIMATE

The highest temperature reported in Illinois was 117°F in East St. Louis on July 14, 1954. The lowest temperature reported in Illinois was -36°F in Congerville on January 5, 1999. The most rainfall from a single event was 16.94 inches in Aurora during a 24-hour period spanning July 17-18, 1996. The most precipitation in a year was a virtual tie between New Burnside in 1950 (74.58 inches) and Carbondale in 1945 (74.50 inches). The most snow from a single event appears to be Astoria on February 27-28, 1900 with 37.8 inches.

The most snow for a single winter was 105.1 inches at Antioch during the winter of 1978-1979.

## MONTHLY AND SEASONAL NORMALS:

Month	Temperature (F)	Precipitation (IN)
May	62.5	4.62
June	71.8	4.20
July	75.3	4.05
August	73.5	3.60
September	65.9	3.24

Because of its nearly 400 miles (640 km) length and mid-continental placement, Illinois has a widely varying climate. Most of Illinois has a humid continental climate with hot, humid summers and cool to cold winters. The southernmost part of the state, from about Carbondale southward, borders on a humid subtropical climate with more moderate winters. Average yearly precipitation for Illinois varies from just over 48 inches (1,200 mm) at the southern tip to 35 inches (890 mm) in the northern portion of the state. Normal annual snowfall exceeds 38 inches (970 mm) in Chicago, while the southern portion of the state normally receives less than 14 inches (360 mm).<sup>[1]</sup> The highest temperature recorded in Illinois was 117 °F (47 °C), recorded on July 14, 1954, at East St. Louis, while the lowest temperature was -37 °F (-39 °C), recorded on January 15, 2009, at Rochelle.

Illinois averages around 50 days of thunderstorm activity a year which put it somewhat above average for number of thunderstorm days for the United States. Illinois is vulnerable to tornadoes with an average of 35 occurring annually.

May and June are the wettest months of the year. Flooding is the most damaging weather hazard within the state. Increased warming within urban heat islands leads to an increase in rainfall downwind of cities.

# **CULTURAL ACTIVITIES**

<http://www.enjoyillinois.com/thingstodo/1?tags=Recommended>

Click on this site for more cultural activity ideas

**Art Institute of Chicago** The second-largest art museum in the United States is home to more than 300,000 works of art, including “American Gothic” by Grant Wood, Edward Hopper’s “Nighthawks” and more. Renowned for its rare master works, at The Art Institute visitors can experience one of the world’s most notable collections of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist art. With the addition of its Modern Wing, the museum now features an impressive showcase for its contemporary artworks.

CITY: [Chicago](#)

**Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site** Illinois' only United Nations World Heritage Site. This 2,200-acre site preserves the central section of the largest prehistoric Indian city north of Mexico. An Interpretive Center presents a coherent account of this sophisticated prehistoric culture. Climb Monk’s Mound, see the film and life-size village. Don’t miss annual events that focus on Native American culture.

CITY: [Collinsville](#)

**Black Hawk State Historic Site** Wonderful for families and friends, this wooded, steeply rolling 208-acre tract, borders the Rock River in the city of Rock Island. Prehistoric Indians and 19th-Century settlers made homes here, but the area is most closely identified with the Sauk nation and its great warrior, Black Hawk. Voted one of the “7 Wonders of Illinois,” this pristine park offers beautiful trails for hiking and walking only. Picnic areas are also available. While at the park be sure to visit the Watch Tower Lodge that houses the John Hauberg Indian Museum. The museum features Sauk and Meskwaki Native American Indian artifacts and displays depicting the four seasons and life of these tribes. A new exhibit tells the story of the Sauk and Meskwaki—how they came to live in the Quad City area, why they no longer live here, and, as the piece de resistance, a four-by-eight-foot scale model of the city of Saukenuk one of the largest Native American Indian settlements in the United States.

CITY: [Rock Island](#)

**John Deere Pavilion** The legend of John Deere lives on at the world’s most comprehensive agricultural exhibit. Showcases vintage and modern-day equipment, interactive agricultural displays and feature film. Largest collection of John Deere merchandise anywhere.

CITY: [Moline](#)

**Chicago Pedway Tour** The Chicago Pedway Tour will lead you through the Pedway, the backdrop for an amusing and enlightening tour of some of the hot-spots (or a least warm-spots) of downtown Chicago. The tour focuses on interesting anecdotes and tales about some of the great buildings downtown, but it’s also a study of the city underneath the city. The Pedway is a strange and wonderful place and adds so much to the city’s personality. These are great tours for Chicagoans who want to learn more about the city and for tourists who want a full Chicago experience without ever going outside. The tour is 90 minutes and is \$20. Monday/Thursday/Saturday at 10:30 am. Please note: the start location for the Monday and Thursday tour is at 40 W. Lake St. in the “Gallery of Shops.” The start location for the Saturday tour is at start at Block 37 – 108 N. State St.

CITY: [Chicago](#)

**National Great Rivers Museum** Located adjacent to the Melvin Price Locks and Dam, this museum is dedicated to telling the story of the Mississippi River, from its colorful history to its modern-day role as a major transportation

corridor. The museum features kid-friendly, interactive and computer animated exhibits. Steer a towboat through the locks and dam via simulator, measure your water consumption or come face-to-face with river fish in the aquarium.

CITY: [Alton](#)

**Chicago History Museum** The Chicago History Museum is a major museum and research center for Chicago and American history. From permanent galleries to special exhibitions and exciting programs, people of all ages are able to experience the past and better understand the present. Please call for museum hours, pricing and exhibitions.

CITY: [Chicago](#)

**Bald Knob Cross** A national symbol of faith, this 111-foot-tall cross, when illuminated at night, can be seen over an area of 7,500 square miles atop the most prominent elevation in Southern Illinois. The cross is surrounded by the Shawnee National Forest.

CITY: [Alto Pass](#)

**Baha'i House Of Worship** One of only seven in the world and the only one in North America, the Baha'i House of Worship is the largest and oldest surviving Baha'i Temple. Standing on the shores of Lake Michigan, the auditorium, with its walls of lace-like ornamentation and its dome rising 135 feet above the main floor, offers a scene of unsurpassed beauty. It is surrounded by exquisite gardens and fountains. This imposing and dramatic structure has received numerous design awards, and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

CITY: [Wilmette](#)

**Amish Country Tours with ACM Tours** ACM Tours is a full service, receptive tour guide company with many special services available at no additional cost. We literally open the door to fabulous Illinois Amish Country! We are ready to assist you with meals, attractions, lodging and step on guide service. We have available trained, professional, local step-on guides who are well versed in the history, customs and folklore of this most unique part of Illinois.

CITY: [Arthur](#)

**Arthur Amish Country Information Center** This visitor's center offers maps and information on the entire Amish area, including the 150 Amish craft shops that dot the countryside surrounding the village of Arthur.

CITY: [Arthur](#)

**University of Illinois Arboretum** The University of Illinois Arboretum is a living laboratory, including plant collections and facilities that support the teaching, research and public service programs of several units throughout campus. Central to the Arboretum was the development of the "All American Selection Trial Gardens" established by a bequest from Miles C. Hartley in the early 90s. Other highlights of the Arboretum include the Welcome Garden, Hosta Garden, Kari Walkway and native ponds plantings, the Idea Garden, sponsored by Champaign County Master Gardeners, and the Japanese Tea and Dry Gardens at the Japan House.

CITY: [Urbana](#)

**Frank Lloyd Wright's Unity Temple** Unity Temple was Wright's first public commission, and is the only surviving public building from his Prairie period. The Unity Temple Restoration Foundation offers a wide range of programs, including year round tours, concerts, workshops and lectures.

CITY: [Oak Park](#)

**Chicago Cultural Center** Chicago's architectural showplace for the lively and visual arts. Daily programs and exhibitions covering a wide range of the performing, visual and literary arts are presented by the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs. See the world's largest Tiffany stained-glass dome. It was initially built for dual purposes. It was the city's central library and a monument dedicated to the Civil War's Grand Army of the Republic. Since 1977 the building has housed cultural entities that included galleries, an auditorium, and the city's office of cultural affairs. The building architects are Shepley, Rutan and Coolidge.

CITY: [Chicago](#)

**Bronzeville Children's Museum** First and only African American children's museum in the country for children ages 3-9. Interactive exhibits, unique programs. Focus on culture, history and contributions of African Americans.

CITY: [Chicago](#)




**Primrose Farm** This 1930s living history farm features a farmhouse, barns, livestock, farm discovery trails, fruit orchard, garden plots and a picnic pavilion.

CITY: [St. Charles](#)

## **GROCERY SHOPPING**

<p>Big Star Easy Way Food Stores Little Giant Harris Teeter IGA The Kroger Company</p>	<p>Bi-Lo, LLC Piggly Wiggly Save-A-Lot Whole Foods Market, Inc. Publix Super Market Schnucks</p>
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## **SHOPPING**

Area 	City 	Mall 
Central IL	Bloomington IL	<a href="#">Eastland Mall</a>
Central IL	Champaign IL	<a href="#">Market Place Shopping Center</a>
Central IL	Forsyth IL	<a href="#">Hickory Point Mall</a>
Central IL	Galesburg IL	<a href="#">Sandburg Mall</a>
Central IL	Normal IL	<a href="#">Shoppes at College Hills</a>
Central IL	Peoria IL	<a href="#">Northwoods Mall</a>

Central IL	Peoria IL	<a href="#">The Shoppes at Grand Prairie</a>
Central IL	Quincy IL	<a href="#">Quincy Mall</a>
Central IL	Springfield IL	<a href="#">White Oaks Mall</a>
Central IL	Springfield IL	<a href="#">White Oaks Plaza</a>
Central IL	Tuscola IL	<a href="#">Tanger Outlets of Tuscola</a>
Chicago region	Algonquin IL	<a href="#">Algonquin Commons</a>
Chicago region	Aurora IL	<a href="#">Chicago Premium Outlets</a>
Chicago region	Aurora IL	<a href="#">Westfield Fox Valley Shopping Centre</a>
Chicago region	Bloomington IL	<a href="#">Stratford Square Mall</a>
Chicago region	Bolingbrook IL	<a href="#">The Promenade Bolingbrook</a>
Chicago region	Bourbonnais IL	<a href="#">Northfield Square Mall</a>
Chicago region	Calumet City IL	<a href="#">River Oaks Center</a>
Chicago region	Chicago Ridge IL	<a href="#">Chicago Ridge Mall</a>
Chicago region	Chicago IL	<a href="#">Ford City Mall</a>
Chicago region	Chicago IL	<a href="#">Harlem Irving Plaza</a>
Chicago region	Chicago IL	<a href="#">Shops at North Bridge</a>
Chicago region	Chicago IL	<a href="#">The 900 Shops</a>
Chicago region	Chicago IL	<a href="#">Water Tower Place</a>
Chicago region	Deer Park IL	<a href="#">Deer Park Town Center</a>
Chicago region	Gurnee IL	<a href="#">Gurnee Mills</a>
Chicago region	Huntley IL	<a href="#">Huntley Outlet Center</a>
Chicago region	Joliet IL	<a href="#">Louis Joliet Mall</a>
Chicago region	Lincolnshire IL	<a href="#">Lincolnshire Commons</a>
Chicago region	Lincolnwood IL	<a href="#">Lincolnwood Town Center</a>
Chicago region	Lombard IL	<a href="#">Yorktown Center</a>
Chicago region	Matteson IL	<a href="#">Lincoln Mall</a>
Chicago region	Mount Prospect IL	<a href="#">Randhurst</a>
Chicago region	Niles IL	<a href="#">Golf Mill Shopping Center</a>
Chicago region	North Riverside IL	<a href="#">North Riverside Park Mall</a>
Chicago region	Northbrook IL	<a href="#">Northbrook Court</a>
Chicago region	Oak Brook IL	<a href="#">Oakbrook Center</a>

Chicago region	Oak Park IL	<a href="#">Downtown Oak Park</a>
Chicago region	Orland Park IL	<a href="#">Orland Square</a>
Chicago region	Peru IL	<a href="#">Peru Mall</a>
Chicago region	Rockford IL	<a href="#">CherryVale Mall</a>
Chicago region	Schaumburg IL	<a href="#">Streets Of Woodfield</a>
Chicago region	Schaumburg IL	<a href="#">Woodfield Shopping Center</a>
Chicago region	Skokie IL	<a href="#">Westfield Old Orchard Shopping Centre</a>
Chicago region	St. Charles IL	<a href="#">Charlestowne Mall</a>
Chicago region	Vernon Hills IL	<a href="#">Westfield Hawthorn Shopping Centre</a>
Chicago region	West Dundee IL	<a href="#">Spring Hill Mall</a>
Quad cities	Moline IL	<a href="#">SouthPark Mall Moline</a>
Southern IL	Alton IL	<a href="#">Alton Square</a>
Southern IL	Carbondale IL	<a href="#">University Mall Carbondale</a>
Southern IL	Fairview Heights IL	<a href="#">St. Clair Square</a>
Southern IL	Marion IL	<a href="#">Illinois Star Centre Mall</a>

<http://www.mallseeker.com/illinoismalls.aspx>

Click the link above for more information on all of the shopping malls in Illinois

## **PHARMACIES**

Walgreens

CVS Pharmacy

Target

Kroger

Rite Aid

Wal-Mart

Meijer

## POST OFFICES/SHIPPING



<https://www.usps.com/welcome.htm> click here for more information



<http://www.fedex.com/us/> click here for more information



<http://www.ups.com/> click here for more information

## TIME ZONES

### Illinois Time Zone - Illinois Current Local Time – Central Standard Time

Illinois is on Central Daylight Time beginning Mar 09, 2014 thru Nov 02, 2014

[http://localtimes.info/North\\_America/United\\_States/Illinois/](http://localtimes.info/North_America/United_States/Illinois/)

## COST OF LIVING IN ILLINOIS

Cost of Living	Illinois, IL	United States
<u>Overall</u>	<b>96</b>	<b>100</b>
<u>Grocery</u>	<b>97.1</b>	<b>100</b>
<u>Health</u>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
<u>Housing</u>	<b>87</b>	<b>100</b>
<u>Utilities</u>	<b>101</b>	<b>100</b>
<u>Transportation</u>	<b>104</b>	<b>100</b>
<u>Miscellaneous</u>	<b>98</b>	<b>100</b>

Our cost of living indices are based on a US average of 100. An amount below 100 means Illinois, IL is cheaper than the US average. A cost of living index above 100 means Illinois, IL is more expensive.

Overall, Illinois, IL cost of living is 95.60

[http://www.bestplaces.net/cost\\_of\\_living/state/illinois](http://www.bestplaces.net/cost_of_living/state/illinois) click here for more information



## **MINIMUM WAGE**

State	2016 Minimum Wage	2016 Tipped Wage
IL	\$8.25	\$4.95

<http://www.minimumwage.com/in-your-state/> click here for more information—click on IL

## **WORKMAN'S COMPENSATION**

<http://www.iwcc.il.gov/>

Click here for more information

## **TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**

Champaign	Champaign-Urbana MTD
Chicago	Chicago TA, METRA, PACE Suburban Bus
Peoria	CityLink
Rock Island	MetroLink
St. Louis	Madison County Transit, St. Louis Metro

<http://www.apta.com/resources/links/unitedstates/Pages/IllinoisTransitLinks.aspx>click here for more information