



STATE AGENDA

WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS

FISCAL YEAR 2020





COUNTY OF WILL

WILL COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING • 302 NORTH CHICAGO STREET • JOLIET, ILLINOIS 60432

Lawrence M. Walsh
Will County Executive

Denise E. Winfrey
Will County Board Speaker

Dear Legislators:

We are pleased to present you Will County's 2019 State Legislative Agenda. As the General Assembly continues its work this session, we are optimistic about positive changes that can happen and we want to clearly articulate our priorities to you.

Will County is not only one of the most diverse counties in Illinois, comprised of urban, suburban, and rural communities, but it is also the fourth largest county and one of the fastest growing in recent years. This diversity and growing population, as well as continued economic expansion in the region, create new demands on local governmental services.

Working in concert with a variety of stakeholders, we have identified a number of priorities for the county and are presenting them to you as part of our legislative agenda. These issues have major impacts on public safety, county finances, and the overall well-being of our residents.

Will County's priorities include but are not limited to: improving infrastructure while maintaining strong fiscal policies, providing residents with excellent public health services, and continuing to improve our response to the ever changing environmental impacts on our region.

Will County recognizes and appreciates the efforts made by both the Governor and the General Assembly to provide funding for critical projects, as well as necessary government resources for counties to successfully care for residents.

Will County welcomes your suggestions regarding additional ways that we can move forward and work together to address the challenges that all our communities face.

Sincerely,

Lawrence M. Walsh
Will County Executive

Denise E. Winfrey
Will County Board Speaker

Will County, Illinois

FY 2019 Legislative Agenda

Will County is the fourth largest county in the State of Illinois and has seen rapid growth over the past several decades. With this growth comes many challenges in balancing new development while maintaining a high quality of life for our residents.

This legislative agenda is the result of a partnership between the Will County Board, the County Executive, and other elected officials. The County Board legislative committee and the Executive's office has worked with local stakeholders to create this agenda which articulates the County's priorities for and illuminates specific projects that are highly relevant to our region.

This agenda is the foundation of our requests, but is not intended to be all-inclusive. As the General Assembly proceeds with the spring session, the Will County Legislative Committee, County Board leadership, and the County Executive will continue to monitor developing legislation and offer opinions on those issues that have more relevance for our communities and residents.

Will County requests the Governor and all legislators to adhere to the following principles:

- **Oppose unfunded mandates that create hardships for local governments**
- **Fund programs as mandated by state law**
- **Oppose legislation that reduces our existing authority**
- **Oppose legislation that erodes our existing revenue base**
- **Honor all of the state's historic financial obligations**
- **Increase funding for infrastructure that improves economic development**
- **Support efforts to balance quality of life issues with future development**

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ELECTED OFFICIALS

WILL COUNTY STATE AGENDA

Mark Ferry
Majority Leader



Mike Fricilone
Minority Leader



Denise E. Winfrey
County Board Speaker



Jackie Traynere
Legislative Committee
Chair



Beth Rice
Legislative Committee
Vice-Chair



**County Board
District #1**
Judy Ogalla



**County Board
District #6**
Don Gould



**County Board
District #10**
Gloria Dollinger



**County Board
District #1**
Laurie Summers



**County Board
District #6**
Joe Van Duyne



**County Board
District #10**
Tyler Marcum



**County Board
District #2**
Amanda Koch



**County Board
District #7**
Steve Balich



**County Board
District #11**
Julie Berkowicz



**County Board
District #2**
Jim Moustis



**County Board
District #7**
Mike Fricilone



**County Board
District #11**
Mimi Cowan



**County Board
District #3**
Donald A. Moran



**County Board
District #8**
Herbert Brooks, Jr.



**County Board
District #12**
Ray Tuminello



**County Board
District #3**
Beth Rice



**County Board
District #8**
Denise E. Winfrey



**County Board
District #12**
Tom Weigel



**County Board
District #4**
Kenneth E. Harris



**County Board
District #9**
Annette Parker



**County Board
District #13**
Mark Ferry



**County Board
District #4**
Jacqueline Traynere



**County Board
District #9**
Rachel F. Ventura



**County Board
District #13**
Tim J. Kraulidis



**County Board
District #5**
Gretchen Fritz



**County Board
District #5**
Meta Mueller

ELECTED OFFICIALS

WILL COUNTY STATE AGENDA

Lawrence M. Walsh
Will County Executive



Shawn Walsh
Will County Regional
Superintendent of Schools

Duffy Blackburn
Will County Auditor



Karen Stukel
Will County Recorder

Andrea Chasteen
Will County Circuit Clerk



Mike Kelley
Will County Sheriff

Lauren Staley Ferry
Will County Clerk



James Glasgow
Will County
States Attorney

Patrick O'Neil
Will County Coroner



Tim Brophy
Will County Treasurer

TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

WILL COUNTY STATE AGENDA

Will County Freight Plan

In 2017, the Will County Community Friendly Freight Mobility Plan was completed as a partnership between the Illinois Department Of Transportation, Will County, the Will County Governmental League, the Will County Center for Economic Development, and other stakeholders. This plan identifies and provides guidance for local freight policies, programs, and investments, while also creating a mechanism for evaluating and prioritizing freight-related projects, recognizing six key areas: safety, mobility, preservation enhancement, workforce, economic competitiveness, and community livability.

The Freight Plan provides recommendations to:

- Improve freight mobility and access
- Embrace new trends, such as e-commerce
- Grow the local economy and skilled workforce
- Enhance the quality of life for local residents
- Comply with federal rules to ensure funding eligibility



The County's freight study is a helpful tool for identifying which projects are most critical to the region (the study identified twenty-five Tier 1 freight-related projects) based on criteria such as preservation enhancement, safety, mobility, economic competitiveness, community sensitivity, and environmental sensitivity. This information will be helpful to the federal, state, and local governments who partner together to identify quality projects to fund from the next federal surface transportation reauthorization bill or potential state capital infrastructure bills.

More information can be found at: www.willcountyfreight.org

TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

WILL COUNTY STATE AGENDA

Capital Bill Priorities

With the strong possibility of a state capital bill for road and infrastructure projects, Will County has positioned itself to make major infrastructure improvements. Will County communities have been significantly challenged to balance the rapid growth of the county's population and continued economic development opportunities related to the freight industry.

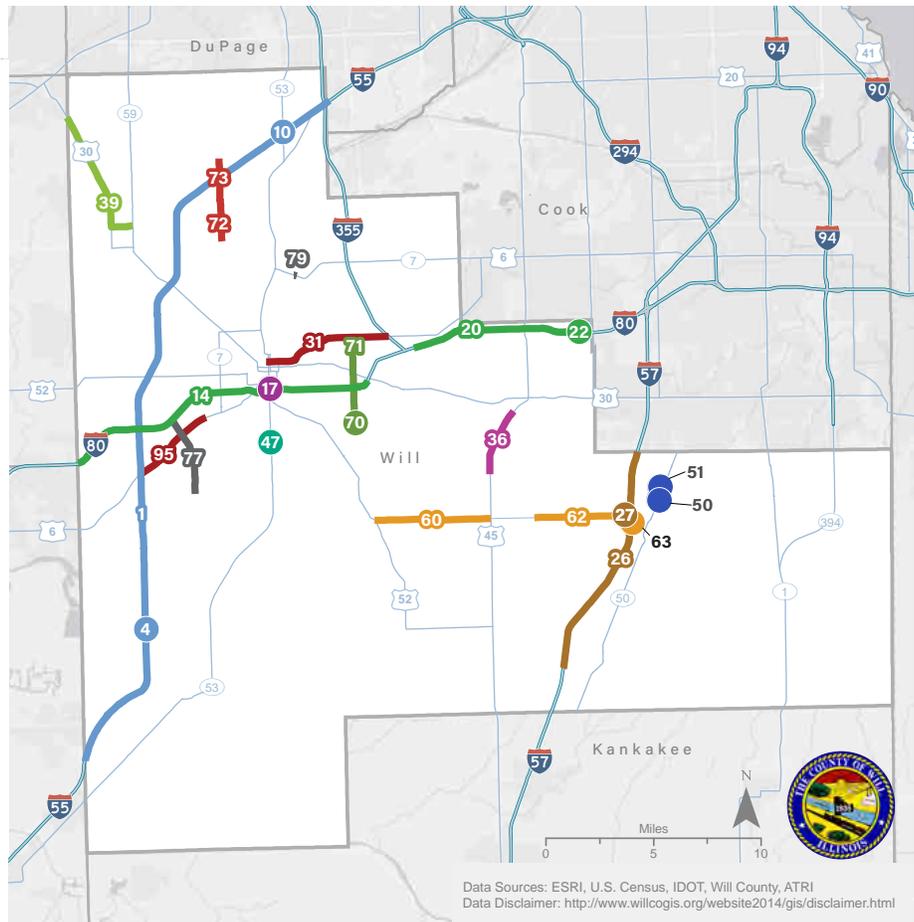
The following major projects will address some of the most significant challenges the County encounters due to a rapidly expanding freight-based economy while also preparing the County for future opportunities and economic growth both at the state level and nationally:

TIER 1 FREIGHT PRIORITY PROJECTS

LEGEND

- 47 IL 53 At Laraway Road
- 27 I-57 from Manhattan-Monee Interchange
- 17 I-80/US 52/IL 53 Interchange
- 50 ILL 50 at Dralle Rd.
- 51 ILL 50 at Governor's Highway
- 63 Monee-Manhattan Road at Hamilton Avenue/ Cleveland Avenue
- 22 I-80 at IL 43 Interchange
- 10 I-55 at IL-53
- 4 I-55 at Lorenzo Road
- 70 Gougur Road/CN Grade Separation
- 72 Weber Road from Airport Road to 135th Street
- 77 Houbolt Bridge connecting I-80 with the CenterPoint Intermodal Center
- 60 Manhattan-Monee Road (1) from U.S. 52 to U.S. 45
- 71 Gougur Road (1) from Laraway Road to U.S. 6
- 62 Manhattan-Monee Road (2) from Center to I-57
- 39 U.S. 30 from Wolfs Crossing Road to IL 59
- 31 U.S. 6 from IL 53 to I-355
- 1 I-55
- 26 I-57 from Wilmington-Peotone Road to I-80
- 20 I-80 from I-355 to Harlem Ave
- 79 IL 7 at IL 171
- 73 Weber Road from 119th St (Rodeo Rd) to 135th St (Romeo Rd) including the I-55 interchange
- 14 I-80 from Ridge Road to U.S. 30
- 36 U.S. 45 from Stuenkel Road to Nebraska Road
- 95 U.S. 6 from Hollywood Blvd to I-55

The top tier projects represent the highest ranking freight-related projects identified in Will County. Projects were evaluated based on the following criteria: Preservation Enhancement; Safety; Mobility; Economic Competitiveness, Community Sensitivity; and Environmental Sensitivity.



TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

WILL COUNTY STATE AGENDA

Major Project Requests:

- Interstate 80 Improvements, Ridge Road to U.S. Route 30 - \$1.234 billion
—— Improve facility condition safety, and also increase capacity
- US Route 6 Modernization, I-55 to Hollywood Boulevard - \$45.8 million
—— Increase capacity, improve safety, and provide alternative connections for freight carriers accessing I-55
- Illinois Route 53 Safety Improvements, N. River Rd. to Doris Ave. - \$40 million
—— Median, intersection and drainage improvements, multi-use path and sidewalk for pedestrian safety, and retaining wall repairs
- Laraway Road Widening and Modernization, Gougar Rd. to Spencer Rd. - \$38.6 million
—— Add a lane in each direction and incorporate intersection and safety improvements
- Eastern Will County Improvements to create east-west connections from Illinois 394 to Interstate 57

TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

WILL COUNTY STATE AGENDA

Interstate 80 Improvements

Request: Will County supports the programming of additional funds to construct add-lanes on I-80 from Route 30 to Ridge Road in order to provide safer and more efficient travel for the public and to accommodate significant truck traffic traveling through the Midwest.

This is a Tier 1 project in the Will County Community Friendly Freight Mobility Plan, it is included in the Will Connects 2040 long-range transportation plan and is part of CMAP's On To 2050 Regional Long-Range Plan.

I-80 is an important link in the nation's interstate system, connecting California to New Jersey. The road plays a vital role as the east-west corridor for moving freight across the country and through Chicago. In fact, the Freight Study found over 63% of goods travel through Will County, but did not originate or end in the county. Thus, this documented movement of goods demonstrates the role that Will County highways play in the regional and national economies.

The Will County section of I-80 stretches through a 16-mile corridor from US Route 30 to Ridge Road, carrying over 110,000 vehicles per day, and up to 30% of those vehicles are trucks. Within the 2-lane corridor, there are eight interchanges, over 40 structures, and four waterway crossings. In the center of the project is the Des Plaines River Bridge which has drawn attention due to its poor condition.

Significant population and employment growth in the region and Will County have contributed to increased travel demand on I-80. This congestion has created significant challenges, and is the only section of I-80 in the country to have a reduced 45 mph speed limit and is a recognized bottleneck for national freight movement.

Since 2002, two rail intermodal terminals have been operating in Will County, attracting new warehousing and distribution facilities to the area. Container trucks access Will County's Inland Port from I-80 at Route 53, an interchange not designed for large trucks and currently a high volume of accidents location. Plans to construct a new bridge over the Des Plaines River directly connecting the northern end of the Inland Port with the existing Houbolt Road interchange is moving towards reality as an alternative point of access from I-80. Future projections show truck traffic volumes growing dramatically on I-80 through Will County without new east-west alternatives, like the proposed Illiana Expressway.

IDOT expects to complete Phase I for the long-term improvements this summer. Funding for design engineering, right of way acquisition and utility relocations is a priority to move the segments to construction as quickly as possible. Estimates for the realignment and replacement of the Des Plaines River Bridges are approximately \$300 million. This segment alone would provide significant safety and operational benefits.

TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

WILL COUNTY STATE AGENDA

U.S. Route 6 Modernization

Request: Will County supports the programming of funds needed for design engineering, right of way acquisition, utility relocation and construction of this critical link in the Will County transportation system between I-55 and the Houbolt Road bridge extension.

This project scored as a Tier 1 project in the Will County Community Friendly Freight Mobility Plan. The scope of work includes making geometric improvements and adding lanes from I-55 to Hollywood Boulevard (Houbolt Bridge). Coupled with the Houbolt Road Extension project, modernizing Route 6 will assist with the movement of freight through this area, improve safety for local residents, provide needed connections to I-55 and offer an alternative route when incidents occur on I-80.

IDOT has indicated that although the Phase I engineering is completed, including environmental documentation, it needs to be updated. They estimate that the update would likely take 36 months and that at this point, they do not have funding available to complete it.

To address this critical need, Will County is partnering with the Village of Channahon and City of Joliet to update the Phase I work.

Funding is needed for design engineering, right of way acquisition, utility relocation and construction of this critical link in the Will County transportation system.



Legislative Districts Impacted: Senate: 43 House: 86

TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

WILL COUNTY STATE AGENDA

Illinois Route 53 Safety Improvements

Request: Will County supports the programming of funds needed for intersection improvements with added turn lane capacity, operational improvements, retaining wall improvements/patching and bike/pedestrian accommodations. Approximately \$40 million in funding is needed to complete Phase II (design) engineering, right of way acquisition, utility relocations and to construct the improvements.

The Will County Community Friendly Freight Mobility Plan identified Illinois Route 53 as a key area of concern based on CMAP's index of freight deficiencies that considers factors such as truck congestion, truck crashes and roadway condition. In addition, in a public survey conducted as part of the planning process Route 53 was mentioned more than any other route or location in Will County needing improvements.

Recognizing many of the safety issues identified along Route 53 between North River Road and Doris Ave. (the I-80 interchange complex is included in the I-80 long-range improvements at IDOT), IDOT began Phase I engineering on some near-term, low cost improvements aimed at addressing safety concerns and congestion and providing maintenance improvements. They expect to complete Phase I this summer.

Improvements will include intersection improvements with added turn lane capacity, operational improvements, retaining wall improvements/patching and bike/pedestrian accommodations.



Legislative Districts Impacted: Senate: 43, 40 House: 86, 79

TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

WILL COUNTY STATE AGENDA

Laraway Road Improvements

Request: Will County and the Eastern Will County communities are seeking assistance from the State of Illinois in improving access along I-57 and in furthering the goal of creating an east-west road that will connect I-394 and I-57.

Laraway Road widening scored as a Tier 3 project in the Will County Community Friendly Freight Mobility Plan and is included in the County's FY 2019-2024 Transportation Improvement program. Laraway Rd. was cited as the fourth most mentioned location as needing improvement in the study's public survey.

Laraway road is a Will County DOT project that will add needed capacity between Gougar road and Spencer road. The County has completed Phase I for the intersections of Cedar Rd. and the sections of Laraway road. between Nelson road. and Cedar road., and Gougar road. to Nelson road. Phase I for the segment between Calistoga Dr. and Spencer Rd. is on-going.

Total project cost is \$38.7 million. Just over \$8 million in federal funds have been obtained for the project to date, leaving a funding need of \$30.7 million.

Funding is needed to complete Phase I engineering for Calistoga drive to Spencer road, to complete Phase II (design engineering) for work between Gougar road and Spencer road. There is also a need for land acquisition, utility relocations and construction and for construction of the intersection at Laraway road and Cedar road.

Additional federal funds will be sought through an application to the U.S. DOT Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) competitive grant program. Local funds not needed for this project will be reprogrammed to address additional infrastructure priorities in the County.

TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

WILL COUNTY STATE AGENDA

Eastern Will County Improvements

Request: Will County and the Eastern Will County communities are seeking assistance from the State of Illinois in improving access along I-57 and in furthering the goal of creating an east-west road that will connect I-394 and I-57.

The Will County Community Friendly Freight Mobility has identified a freight supercluster in Eastern Will County around I-57 and University Park and Monee. The Freight Study projected a 40% increase in industrial development by 2026 with the resulting increase in truck and employee traffic. The study clearly pointed to the need for more east – west connecting routes.

Will County has partnered with the local communities in Eastern Will County – Beecher, Crete, Monee, Peotone, and University Park – to identify needed infrastructure improvements that will improve the movement of goods and the safety of local residents. With I-394 to the east and I-57 along the western edge of this region, these communities lack adequate east-west roads to direct truck movements. Without a solution, this deficiency creates an economic development obstacle for these communities and further safety concerns.

Will County and these Eastern Will County communities are seeking assistance from the State of Illinois in improving access along I-57 and in furthering the goal of creating an east-west road that will connect I-394 and I-57.

Some of the specific improvements identified by Eastern Will County communities include:

- An extension of Crete-Monee Rd. to Illinois 394 with a new intersection at Illinois 394.
- I-57 – Peotone Rd. Interchange reconstruction.
- Monee truck by-pass
- Intersection improvements at Rt. 50 and Peotone Rd
- Addressing Rt. 1 safety issues

Funding is needed to study these improvements and to complete all project phases as determined.

Legislative Districts Impacted: Senate: 40, 17 House: 34, 79, 80

FINANCIAL & BUDGETARY

FINANCIAL & BUDGETARY

WILL COUNTY STATE AGENDA

Financial & Budgetary Issues

Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF)

Request: Will County opposes any attempts by the state to further reduce our taxpayer's fair share of the income tax proceeds. Will County seeks full restoration of the LGDF funds.

In 2018, Will County lost \$2.4 million due to the diversion of these funds. Monies allocated under the Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF) are not a state "grant" but rather a small share of the state income taxes paid by local residents that are returned to support critical local services. Counties have suffered the same economic hardships as the state in recent years and have been forced to make difficult choices to pass balanced budgets and provide critical services.

Will County opposes any attempts by the state to further reduce our taxpayer's fair share of the income tax proceeds. Will County seeks full restoration of the LGDF funds. Any reductions in this long-standing revenue sharing agreement will force counties to diminish basic services to the residents, impacting senior citizens, mental health services, non-profit agencies, and public safety functions.

Sales Tax Administrative Fee

Request: Will County supports legislation to reduce, or completely eliminate, this fee to minimize the burden local taxpayers now pay to disproportionately support IDOR at the expense of local services. In 2018, this fee cost Will County \$490,000.

As part of the State's efforts to balance previous budgets, the Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR) imposed a new 2% administrative fee (surcharge) on the collection of fourteen locally imposed sales taxes, prior to the distribution of the tax revenues to local governments. While there may be a small cost associated with the collection of locally imposed sales taxes, IDOR already collects state sales taxes. IDOR has not provided any justification for, or evidence to support, a 2% administrative fee which cost local governments an estimated \$60 million in annual revenue loss. Will County lost \$490,000 due to this fee.

FINANCIAL & BUDGETARY

WILL COUNTY STATE AGENDA

Probation Funding

Request: Will County supports legislation for alternative funding mechanisms for probation services and we urge the General Assembly to fully fund probation services without diminishing other county revenues. In FY 2019, Will County saw a reduction of 17% or approximately \$811,000 in actual dollars.

Adequate funding for Probation and Detention services throughout the State of Illinois remains a critical issue. The continuation of the support for Probation and Detention funding is essential in order to maintain safer communities by insuring offender accountability. A reduction in funding will only serve to diminish the capability of Court Services Departments to accomplish the mission of creating safer communities and insuring offender accountability.”

In the State Fiscal Year 2019 budget, the salary reimbursement provided to counties for Court Services personnel was significantly reduced. In Will County, the reduction was approximately 17%, or \$811,000 in actual dollars. This reduction in state revenue effects the salary reimbursement for personnel assigned to Adult and Juvenile Probation, Pretrial Services, as well as personnel assigned to work at the River Valley Detention Center. The reduction in State reimbursement in conjunction with a reduction in funding from the county has resulted in a Probation and Court Services Budget deficit of approximately \$395,000.

911 Surcharge Sweeps

Request: Will County supports legislation at the state level that requires critical 911 surcharge funds collected from the 911 surcharge be used exclusively for emergency response purposes and not be swept or diverted for any other purposes.

The purpose of the 911 surcharge is to raise funds for maintenance and improvement of emergency systems. Some states, including Illinois, divert a large portion of fees to non-emergency system related programs. Currently, there is no law that prevents states from doing this. The Federal Communications Commission estimates that since 2009, \$1 billion in surcharge fees have been diverted by states to other purposes.

Diverting funds means emergency responders do not have the funds to maintain, improve, repair and respond to key emergency services. Emergency systems are not getting the full funds they are entitled to under the surcharge, which means the surcharge is more likely to be higher to help bridge the gap. If the surcharge funds were required to be used for its original purpose, fee hikes would most likely not be necessary.

FINANCIAL & BUDGETARY

WILL COUNTY STATE AGENDA

Property Tax Exemptions

Request: Will County encourages the General Assembly to strongly consider the impacts of granting new property tax exemptions that pushes more of the tax burden onto the remaining taxpayers. Will County also supports a comprehensive analysis of all property tax exemptions and their corresponding impacts.

Property tax exemptions for certain properties by their very nature raise property tax rates and increase the property tax burden on all other properties. Each legislative session includes bills to create new exemptions or to increase the amount of existing exemptions. These bills are offered without a comprehensive analysis of all exemptions and the potential impacts.

Before creating new exemptions, or expanding current property tax exemptions, Will County supports a legislature-led effort to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the history of all property tax exemptions and their corresponding impacts. In addition, Will County is asking that the General Assembly consider the impact of new, or expansion of existing, exemptions on other types of properties.

PUBLIC HEALTH

WILL COUNTY STATE AGENDA

Request: Will County supports increased funding for County Health department programming. Specific concern are mental health and behavioral health funding streams. In addition, Will County provides a number of critical health services that are described below.

Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) Collaborative

Will County makes every effort to provide a healthy quality of life for all its citizens by assessing the health needs of the community resulting in a Community Health Improvement Plan. The Community Health Needs Assessment provides the blueprint for the MAPP Collaborative and its partner organizations for three years. It assists residents, institutions, and leaders of Will County by informing them of factors that can improve health, prevent illness, and move the community towards health equity. The Will County Health Department serves as the lead agency.



The Health Department has three locations – Joliet, Bolingbrook, and its newest clinic in Monee. The Federally Qualified Health Center is located next door to the Joliet branch along with the TB clinic. On February 5th we broke ground for the new state of the art Will County Health Department, opening in 2020.

In 2016, the Will County MAPP Collaborative convened to conduct the third iteration of the MAPP process. MAPP Executive Committee members decided that behavioral health, access to dental and primary care, and chronic disease would be the top three strategic issues for the next three years.

PUBLIC HEALTH

WILL COUNTY STATE AGENDA

Behavioral Health

Hub and Spoke is Vermont's system of Medication Assisted Treatment, supporting people in recovery from opioid-use disorder. Nine regional hubs offer daily support for patients with complex addictions. At over seventy-five local Spokes, doctors, nurses, and counselors offer ongoing opioid-use disorder treatment fully integrated with general healthcare and wellness services. This framework efficiently deploys opioid-use disorder expertise and helps expand access to treatment. Illinois is piloting this model. In concept, it provides coordinated patient care, which results in better outcomes and reduced costs.

We ask that these new innovations acknowledge the size of Illinois and in particular Will County. With medication-assisted providers located in our large cities like Joliet, we are not considered a "rural" county. Even though the southeast side of Will County lacks providers, we are not able to qualify for grant dollars from the State because of our mixed geographies. We have successfully increased the number of providers for substance-use disorders but we have not been able to provide services across all of Will County. Lack of public transportation also inhibits patients from reaching daily care.

We are pleased to report that our Federally Qualified Health Center in Joliet is now providing medication-assisted treatment thanks to a federal grant. We are still in need of counselors to support this program. Our Health Department's Behavioral Health staff is unable to absorb the increasing demand for therapy. Improved Medicaid reimbursement and workforce incentives and grants for care givers would enhance our ability to meet the demands for care in the more rural areas of our county. Establishing satellite locations like we did in Monee will improve accessibility in Will County

Over the last 3 years Will County has strengthened our organizational and infrastructural capacity to reduce the occurrence of opioid-use disorder among new and at-risk users, as well as fatal opioid-related overdoses, through activities such as community and provider education, and harm reduction measures, including the use of overdose reversing naloxone. We have expanded access to treatment by adding new care providers of medication assisted treatment, warm handoffs in emergency rooms, and a Safe Passage network. These additional services are helping the uninsured receive treatment almost immediately in order to avoid a fatal overdose. Our focus has shifted to wrap-around services for long-term recovery. Governors State University is preparing Recovery Coaches and we expect to benefit from additional peer-recovery services in our community. We have expanded support groups specifically for opioid users. Our need remains for recovery homes for individuals not involved in the judicial system and especially women. We would like to see funds offered for developing this housing. Our drug court program is a very successful model that we would like to replicate. Additionally, we are interested in dollars for workforce development. Our goal is to help people start and stay in recovery and experience a successful life while in recovery.

PUBLIC HEALTH

WILL COUNTY STATE AGENDA

Suicide

One of our goals for the Mobilizing through Action, Planning and Partnership (MAPP) Behavioral Health Action team is to address the issue of stigma related to mental health and substance use disorders. There is a lot of stigma associated with suicide which has a powerful effect upon a community. Stigma is a shared set of values and negative or unfair beliefs held within a community. Stigma is reinforced when individuals within this group do not wish to make their thoughts and feelings known for fear of being alienated or rejected by the community. The fear of possible rejection and alienation from the community is what compels individuals to silently suffer with their thoughts and feelings. It is when an individual attempts to cope with their thoughts and feelings are no longer adequate that they begin to feel hopeless and helpless as they search for a way to relieve themselves of their emotional pain and some begin to contemplate suicide. For some people, the idea of bringing up the topic is taboo as they believe by talking about suicide may cause people to complete a suicide. Without meaningful dialogue and engagement with information on stigma and mental illness, the values, beliefs and practices held by a community are not likely to change. What we are trying to accomplish with our MAPP Behavioral Health Action team is raising awareness of mental health and substance-related disorders to educate the public and combat stigma which creates a barrier for individuals to accessing care.

Many people have equipped themselves with a basic level of knowledge and skills to intervene when they see someone in physical distress. Many people have taken CPR and basic first aid courses and as a result, many lives are saved because people took action. Individuals living in the community were trained to identify signs of physical distress and to act using a specific protocol to save a person's life. Why? Because we know the individual is suffering from an acute physical condition requiring immediate intervention. These acute physical conditions can happen to any one of us and a basic intervention of CPR or first aid can be an immediate intervention which can save a person's life. It is important to have the community trained to act to save a life. Over the past 3 years we have successfully trained over 1,000 people to deliver naloxone to individuals overdosing on opioids. And yet, how many individuals in the community are card carrying Mental Health First Aiders? How many of individuals are trained to identify early signs of emotional distress which also can happen to any one of us in the community? We would like to see all first responders, judges, public defenders, probation officers and teachers trained in mental health first aid. Legislation requiring this training and funding to facilitate this training is imperative.

PUBLIC HEALTH

WILL COUNTY STATE AGENDA

We want members of the public to complete a Mental Health First Aid course. In taking this course, individuals are informed on issues related to mental illness and substance use to increase their level of awareness to identify early signs of distress in others and take appropriate action. We need the public to be more aware to recognize signs of distress and how to act and engage people and assist them toward an appropriate intervention. As most acute physical conditions are treated with the appropriate intervention and immediate care, an individual can recover. These same principles apply to individuals who are experiencing emotional disturbances, we just need to be willing to engage and act.

Building a stronger, healthier, drug free society today and in the years to come by drastically reducing the number of Americans losing their lives to drug addiction in today's crisis, and preparing now to dominate the drug environment of the future. This will be done by preventing initiates to drug use, providing treatment services leading to long-term recovery for those suffering from addiction, and aggressively reducing the availability of illicit drugs in America's communities. (National Drug Control Strategy, 2019)

Access to Oral and Primary Care

Dental diseases among children can be a barrier to their physical growth, self-esteem, capacity to socialize, and their attendance and ability to concentrate in school. Recent studies have associated poor oral health with missed school days and poor school performance. Illinois' fee-for-service Medicaid reimbursements for oral health are the fourth lowest in the nation for children and last in the nation for adults. In Southern Will County, there are fifteen dental offices none of which accept Medicaid. Will County has 361 dentists yielding a ratio of population to dentists of 1950:1 compared to 1410:1 for Illinois and 1340:1 nationally. This is a major health problem that needs to be addressed.

This year the MAPP Collaborative has launched an effort to help residents find and utilize a medical home as an alternative to emergency rooms (ER's), as well as Quick Care Clinics for medical non-emergencies. Collectively we can reduce non-emergency visits to the ER's, lower healthcare costs, and benefit everyone.

When patients have a medical home, care is higher quality and more accessible. In Will County approximately 102,424 adults do not have a medical home. This is important because medical homes provide care coordination. Linking this concept with Behavioral Health Services is also essential.

PUBLIC HEALTH

WILL COUNTY STATE AGENDA

E-Cigarettes

Electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) are devices, often resembling cigarettes, cigars or pipes, designed to deliver nicotine or related substances to users in the form of a vapor. Over the last few years, these products have enjoyed a boom in popularity, thanks largely to marketing claims that promote them as less hazardous alternatives to combustible cigarettes and tout their safety, convenience and cost-effectiveness over commercial tobacco products. On December 18, 2018, the Surgeon General declared that e-cigarette use among youth is an epidemic, and that aggressive steps must be taken to protect our children from nicotine addiction and other associated health risks caused by e-cigarettes. Our state legislators have an important role to play in addressing this public health epidemic. We request that you include e-cigarettes in smoke-free indoor air policies, restrict young peoples' access to e-cigarettes in retail settings, license retailers, implement price policies, and develop educational initiatives targeting young people. We also ask that you implement strategies to curb e-cigarette advertising and marketing that are appealing to young people. Finally, you can implement strategies to reduce access by young people to flavored tobacco products.

COUNTY & REGIONAL ISSUES

COUNTY & REGIONAL ISSUES

WILL COUNTY STATE AGENDA

Voting and Elections

Request: Will County supports legislation that expands voter participation options, strengthens the integrity and security of the voting process, and allows counties to efficiently deliver voter services.

Will County government provides election services through our Will County Clerk, as the election authority. Over the years, numerous changes have occurred as a result of new mandates and law changes. Will County supports changes that make it easier for residents to vote in a cost-effective manner.

Will County opposes any legislation that makes it more difficult to register to vote or participate in the voting process, or increases costs without a dedicated funding mechanism.

Clean Construction or Demolition Debris (CCDD) & Uncontaminated Soil

Request: Will County continues to support legislation that actively pursues efforts both legislatively and legally that requires Clean Construction or Demolition Debris (CCDD) and Uncontaminated Soil Sites (USF) operations to conduct ground water testing and monitoring.

In 2010 the Illinois General Assembly approved legislation that established new requirements for Clean Construction or Demolition Debris (CCDD) and Uncontaminated Soil Sites (USF). Public Act 96-1416 required uncontaminated soil used as fill in mines, quarries and other excavations to be regulated. It also required the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) to propose and submit rules to the Illinois Pollution Control Board (IPCB) that set forth standards for the use of CCDD and uncontaminated soil as fill material. In addition, the 2010 law required that the standards must include standards that protect groundwater.

The IEPA submitted draft rules to the IPCB that mandated ground water monitoring at CCDD and USF operations. After receiving comments and conducting public hearings, the IPCB ultimately approved the rules submitted by the IEPA but declined to adopt standards requiring ground water monitoring at CCDD and USF operations. The ICPB has argued that the “front end” protections contained in the regulations were adequate to protect groundwater at these sites. Will County and the Illinois Attorney General disagreed with the Board’s ruling and joined forces to challenge their ruling in the State Appellate Court and most recently in the Illinois Supreme Court.

Will County has more CCDD and USF operations than any other county in the State of Illinois. The County is concerned that the lack of ground water monitoring requirements at such sites will compromise the safety of the citizens of Will County. Will County will continue to actively pursue efforts both legislatively and legally that requires CCDD and USF operations to conduct ground water testing and monitoring.

COUNTY & REGIONAL ISSUES

WILL COUNTY STATE AGENDA

Off Duty Carry for Sworn County Officers

Request: Will County continues to support legislation to improve public safety, including our sworn law enforcement community, by authorizing sworn county correctional officers to carry firearms off-duty.

The Law Enforcement Officers' Safety Act (18 USC § 926B) was enacted in 2004 and later amended in 2010 and 2013. The purpose of this federal law was to exempt qualified active and retired law enforcement officers from any state or local laws which prohibit them from carrying a concealed weapon "anywhere within the United States." There are specific standards and training requirements to determine if a law enforcement officer is "qualified" in this Act.

The current Illinois statute for Unlawful Use of Weapons (720 ILCS 5/24-2) does not provide for this federally established "substantive right." Furthermore, in Illinois, a "qualified law enforcement officer" could be prosecuted criminally for exercising this right. By amending this law, we can bring Illinois into accordance with the federal law.

Will County supports the intent of the federal law, which began development following the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. That intent was to have as many trained law enforcement personnel as possible carrying concealed weapons in our communities. Our news cycle often contains school shootings, threats of terrorism (foreign and domestic), and law enforcement officers being killed. This proposed legislation could save lives in our state by increasing the chances of having armed law enforcement interlaced in our communities.

COUNTY & REGIONAL ISSUES

WILL COUNTY STATE AGENDA

Water Supply Planning and Management

Request: Will County is requesting the state take a more detailed approach to supporting Water Supply Planning and Management efforts to ensure that communities across our county have a long-term sustainable water supply that supports families and future economic developments.

As a fast-growing county, our communities face a significant threat due to the lack of a long-term sustainable source of drinking water for many of our residents. Regional planning efforts have called for better management of the region's water resources.

The state does not have a dedicated revenue stream for a water supply planning and management program. With an identified funding source, the state could formalize water planning within Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), support regional planning groups, and dedicate a portion to the further work being completed by the Illinois State Water Survey.

COUNTY & REGIONAL ISSUES

WILL COUNTY STATE AGENDA

DuPage River Study

Request: Will County is seeking state assistance to assist with further mitigation efforts along the DuPage River which spans many communities in the northwestern and western portions of Will County. Will and DuPage Counties have partnered on this effort despite the state's failure to fund its share of this study.

The DuPage River and tributaries drain approximately 353 square miles in suburban Cook, DuPage and Will Counties in metropolitan Chicago. The study area has experienced rapid development over the past two decades, and currently includes 40 communities affecting approximately 4,300,000 people. Major storm events occurred in the basin in 1996, 2008, 2009, and most recently in April 2013, resulting in significant overbank flooding in over 20 communities and significant damage to residential and non-residential structures and critical infrastructure and the closure of two major interstate highways (I-80 and I-55) for several days. Average annual flood damages are currently estimated at \$30 million.

CURRENT STATUS:

On July 14, 2015, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Chicago District, signed a Feasibility Cost Share Agreement (FCSA) with the DuPage County Stormwater Management Commission and Will County Executive Office for a study of flooding issues along the DuPage River. The signing of the FCSA triggered the start of a feasibility study that will investigate flood risks within the DuPage River watershed in northeastern Illinois and identify potential solutions to mitigate those risks.

The study sought to address impacts of flooding to structures, infrastructure and the transportation system. In addition, there is a high level of concern regarding the health and safety of residents due to impacts on water and sewage systems from the high river and ground water levels. Impacts of groundwater and riverine flooding to this critical infrastructure will be evaluated to minimize risks to residents' health and safety.

On July 31, 2018, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Chicago District released for public review the "DuPage River Draft Detailed Project Report and Integrated Environmental Assessment." The report is available for review under the "Study Documents" tab.

Section 1 Study Overview

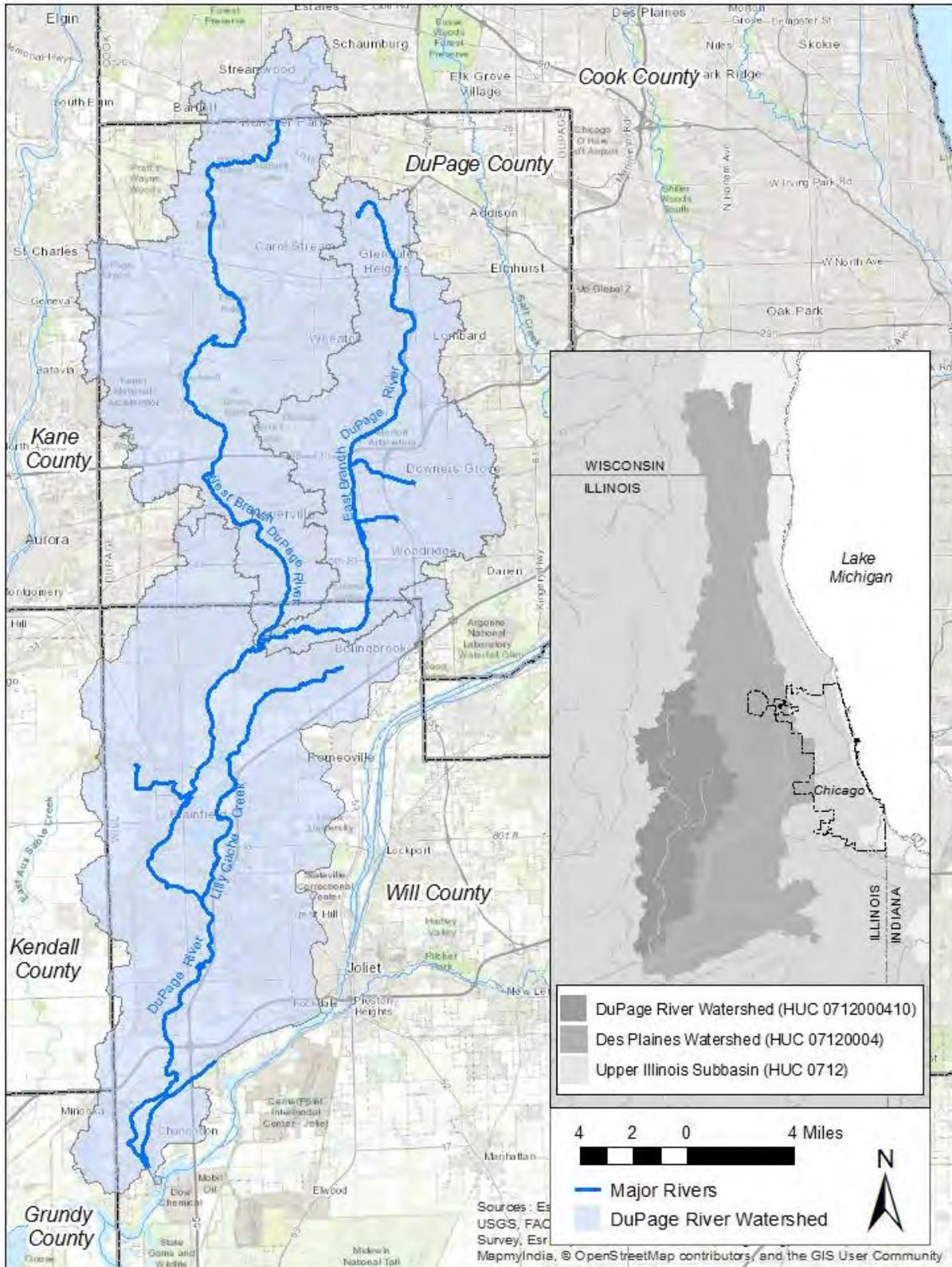


Figure 1-1. Study Area

COUNTY & REGIONAL ISSUES

WILL COUNTY STATE AGENDA

Pharmaceutical and Sharps Take-Back Program

Request: Will County supports legislation that require manufacturers of drugs to implement and fund a statewide take-back program to keep opioids and other potentially hazardous medications out of the hands of addicts and children.

These drugs do not belong in the garbage and should not be flushed down a drain, as they have proven their ability to withstand wastewater treatment at both landfills and municipal systems, causing harm to fish. Because collection programs also tend to receive needles, it is imperative that a Pharmaceutical Take-Back Program include Sharps collection, treatment and disposal. It is also important to recognize that liquid medications and animal medications be included as they pose the same health risks as pills.

Residential Electronic Recycling Program

Request: Will County supports legislation that requires manufacturers of consumer electronics to collect all legacy electronic items to reduce confusion and increase recycling.

Under the new Consumer Electronics Recycling Act (CERA), law, Will County and many other counties, as well as consumers, are facing increased costs for programs that take in fewer items. Residents do not understand why the battery backup for their computer is not accepted, nor why cassette players without a CD player are not accepted. Will County currently pays to recycle items that were formerly covered by the original Illinois electronics law.

This law should include a provision that ensures economic development in Illinois but the recommendations of counties, which often include existing relationships with local recyclers employing local citizens, have no weight under the current law. Local businesses, some that have invested millions of dollars on recycling equipment in our state, are being cut out of providing services and instead Illinois' funds are going to recyclers out-of-state.

WILL COUNTY INFORMATION



WILL COUNTY

Demographic Fact Sheet Spring/Summer 2019

Lawrence M. Walsh
Will County Executive

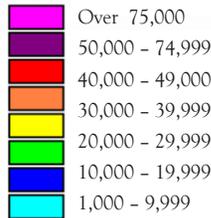
"Will County will establish itself as a regional repository of information including... growth forecasting [and] transportation..."

2002 Will County Land Resource Management Plan
Intergovernmental Cooperation Strategy #5

WILL COUNTY TOWNSHIP

2010 Census Count (with 2000 Census Count)

Wheatland 81,472 (44,349)	DuPage 87,793 (71,745)				
Plainfield 80,318 (45,691)	Lockport 60,010 (42,048)	Homer 39,059 (28,992)			
Troy 45,991 (27,970)	Joliet 87,398 (86,468)	New Lenox 40,270 (29,730)	Frankfort 57,055 (42,048)		
Channahon 10,322 (8,339)	Jackson 4,100 (3,541)	Manhattan 9,218 (5,615)	Green Garden 4,010 (2,556)	Monee 15,669 (13,294)	Crete 23,774 (23,589)
Wilmington 6,193 (6,050)	Florence 933 (642)	Wilton 841 (819)	Peotone 4,431 (3,938)	Will 1,821 (1,568)	Washington 6,263 (3,948)
Reed 6,948 (6,051)	Custer 1,430 (1,463)	Wesley 2,535 (2,568)			



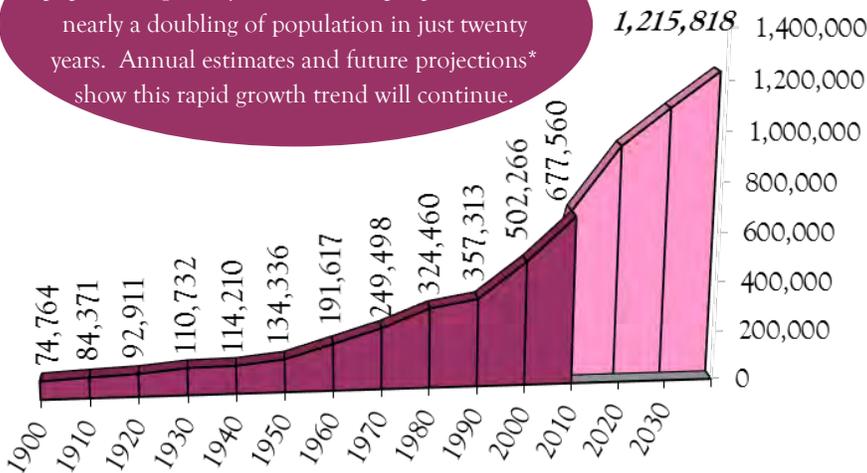
2010 Census Count



WILL COUNTY LAND AREA

- 849 square miles
- 13th largest county in the state
- 2nd largest in the 6 county Chicago Metro region (Cook is larger)
- 37 municipalities 24 townships

Between 1990 and 2010, Will County's population grew by over 320,000 people, which is nearly a doubling of population in just twenty years. Annual estimates and future projections* show this rapid growth trend will continue.



"Is Will County one of the 'Fastest' growing counties in the US?"

Population Growth is measured two ways:

- 1) Percent Change; and
- 2) Numeric Change

2010 Census Count	Change from 2000 Census Estimate
677,560	+ 175,349 (+ 25.88%)

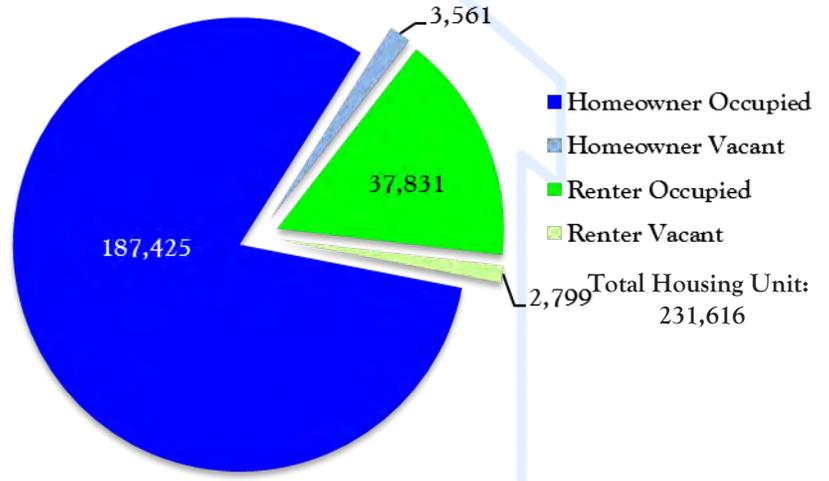
Rankings	in	% Change	IL	# Change
	in	% Change	109	
	US	# Change	27	

102 counties in IL
3,142 counties/county equivalents in US

Lawrence M. Walsh - Will County Executive
Denise Winfrey - County Board Speaker

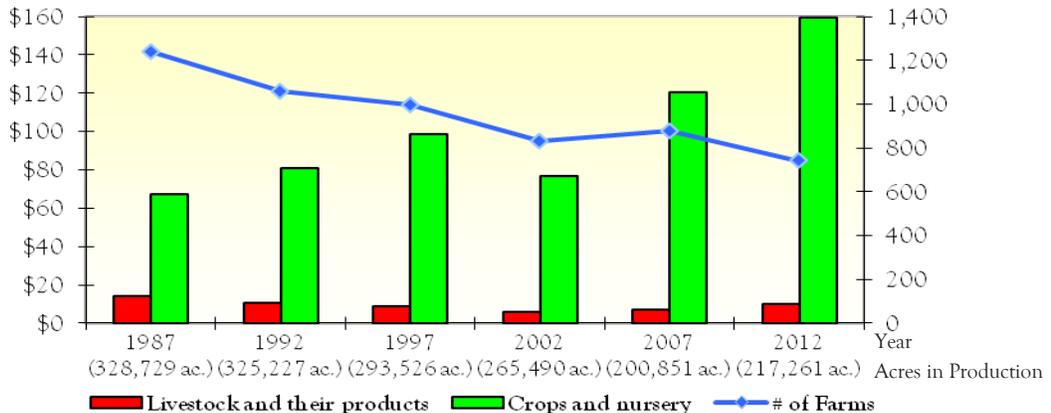
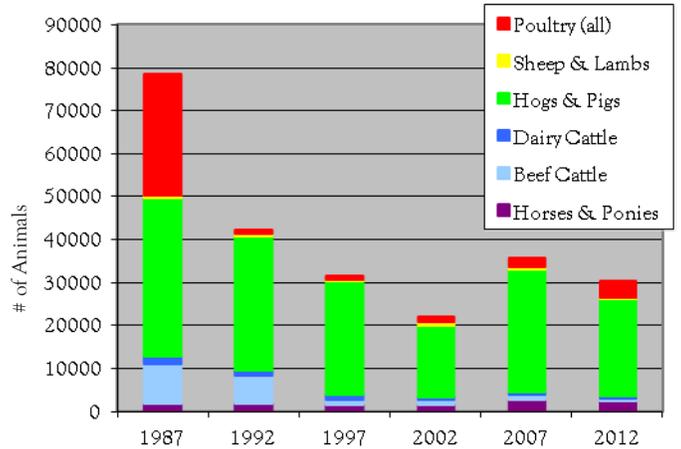
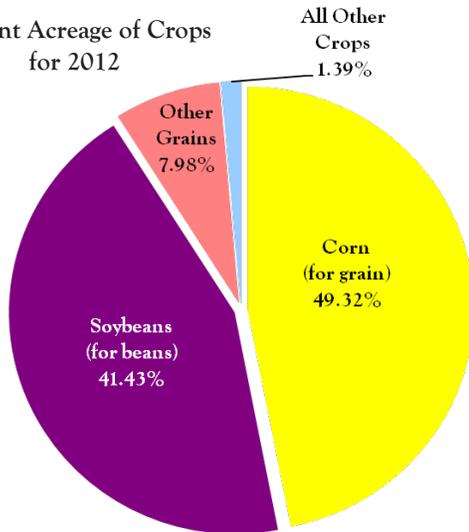
Land Use & Development Committee
 David Dubois, AICP - Land Use Director
 Don Moran - Chair
 Mark Ferry - Vice Chair
 Steve Balich, Amanda Koch
 Jackie Traynere, Rachel Ventura
 Tom Weigel
 Land Use Department - Planning Staff
 Brian Radner, AICP - Development Review Director
 Colin Duesing, Jessica Gal
 Janine Farrell - Historic Preservation Manager

Will County 2010 Housing Units



Agricultural Census in Will County

Percent Acreage of Crops for 2012



WHAT IS THE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD OF WILL COUNTY

Our Purpose

The Workforce Investment Board of Will County plays a key role in the economic vitality of our County. The Board brings together a myriad of employment, training, and educational services, transforming them into a comprehensive and easily accessed system that supports the development of a world-class workforce. The Board builds the workforce system to develop quality employees for employers and to develop quality opportunities for employees. This system makes it easy for business to make connections with a qualified pool of applicants and to access other workforce development services. This system is also intended to make it easy for people to learn about and access a broad range of employment, education, and related services.

Our Members

There are 35 business and public sector executives that make up the Workforce Investment Board. They represent a diverse group of stakeholders in sectors such as health care, manufacturing, government, and education. The members share a vision to ensure the economic vitality of the County and are advocates for an integrated workforce development system.

Our Activities

The Workforce Investment Board of Will County has four committees steering this group towards accomplishing its vision and mission:

Communications, Executive, System & Trends, and Youth. These committees support industry-based workforce development

strategies, workforce transportation initiatives, labor market analysis and community planning, and other advisory groups that support the mission.

Vision

The Board envisions Will County with a vibrant economy bolstered by a workforce ready for today and tomorrow's careers.

The Workforce Investment Board of Will County helps build a system supporting an education and workforce

system aligned with the skills that business' need, ensuring continued local and regional economic vitality.

Our Regional Collaboration

The Workforce Investment Board of Will County is involved in a consortium comprised of the seven Workforce Boards in the Chicago metropolitan area. This consortium focuses on a number of regional initiatives aimed at supporting business, the community, and the region's economic prosperity, such as technology, healthcare, and manufacturing industries.

These initiatives provide broader career awareness for individuals at all levels, development of occupational career awareness for youth, and model initiatives that help the current workforce advance skills relevant to the labor market.

Mission

The Board, in collaboration with our private and public sector partners, will lead the creation and implementation of systems that meet our community's workforce needs.

Values

The Board endorses workforce initiatives that conform to high standards of excellence and accountability.

The Board will Expect collaboration and encourage innovation in all workforce initiatives.



116 N. Chicago Street, Suite 101
Joliet, IL 60432
815-727-5670
www.willcountyworkforceboard.com



Workforce Investment Board of Will County Key WIOA policy areas

Investments

Invest more and more effectively: We need greater and more effective public investments in workforce education and training tied to market-outcomes. Business leaders have varying opinions about government spending, but many of us feel a greater public investment in skills development is a must. Investing small amounts of money in an issue this large is not effective and does not produce the type of return on investment that impact real change. If businesses are going to continue to grow the economy, we need public investments in workforce development activities.

Local Flexibility

Continue to give local Workforce Development Boards the flexibility to address what is most critical in our local area. Allowing for flexibility ensures that the system is agile enough to modify programs and strategies to quickly respond to economic changes in an area. Local flexibility in how funds are spent and what strategies are implemented is the most responsive approach to addressing business and community needs.

Accountability

The WIOA includes some very strong accountability measures for customers who obtain occupational skill training (skill attainment, credential attainment, employment, wages, etc), however the accountability measures for successfully serving business customers are not yet fully developed. We would advocate for a measure that does more than just “count” the number or percentage of business customers. Business satisfaction surveys and return on investment can be better indicators of how successfully the system is meeting business needs.

Work-Based Learning

Continue to support the emphasis on work-based learning experiences but eliminate the disincentive to leverage non-federal/private resources. Work-based learning opportunities are a critical skill development avenue for many job seeking youth and adults. In fact, the WIOA encourages the use of work-based learning opportunities and even requires 20% of youth funds be spent on these activities. However, this mandatory percentage does not permit Boards to leverage and count non-WIOA funds (i.e. wages an employer pays a youth directly rather than accessing WIOA subsidy) toward the 20 percent requirement. Allowing this locally would expand resources to allow for service to a larger number of youth.

Return on Investment Calculations

Time Frame: **July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017** (PY14, PY15, and PY16)

Post program wages from Illinois Workforce Development System (IWDS) Performance Management Report: **\$24,693,011**

Total WIA/WIOA Allocations for PY14, PY15, and PY16: \$11,618,558

Minus non-Career Scholarship (training) operating costs: \$ 2,731,530

Total Investment: **\$ 8,887,027**

(Total operating costs = \$9,105,101 and approximately 30% of operating costs (\$2,731,530) can be attributable to costs unrelated to Career Scholarships/Training – ie youth, resource room, MWC, etc. so they were removed from the calculation).

ROI = \$24,693,011 divided by 8,887,027 = \$2.78

WHERE THE JOBS ARE – WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS

JANUARY 2019



The Workforce Investment Board analyzed recent postings pulled from internet job boards to develop an understanding of current job demand and employer needs. The jobs summarized here were posted online from 1/1/19 through 1/31/19. The data source, Help Wanted Online, uses web spider crawler technology to scour online job boards and assigns an occupational code to each job posting.

Job Postings by Month		
January	December	November
7,185	6,540	6,898

Job Type	
Full-Time	6,591
Part-Time	2,466
Contract / Internship	335

Top 20 Occupations by Number of Job Postings				
Occupation	Job Postings	Entry-Level Wage	Average Wage	Experienced Wage
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	349	\$10.70	\$18.51	\$27.85
Retail Salespersons	305	\$8.25	\$12.57	\$19.26
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	273	\$12.37	\$22.81	\$33.72
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	205	\$9.44	\$15.11	\$22.20
Registered Nurses	195	\$23.18	\$36.17	\$44.53
Security Guards	176	\$9.77	\$15.13	\$22.53
Customer Service Representatives	168	\$10.01	\$16.74	\$25.69
Combined Food Prep & Serving Workers, Incl. Fast Food	145	\$8.25	\$9.76	\$12.12
First-Line Supervisors of Office & Administrative Support Workers	127	\$15.31	\$26.60	\$40.06
Stock Clerks- Stockroom, Warehouse, or Storage Yard	122	\$8.53	\$12.32	\$18.41
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	113	\$10.21	\$19.80	\$32.21
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	110	\$16.70	\$29.33	\$44.21
Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping	99	\$8.43	\$13.24	\$19.18
Cashiers	95	\$8.25	\$10.21	\$13.04
Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers	91	\$8.62	\$17.00	\$27.79
Nursing Assistants	86	\$9.32	\$12.63	\$16.88
General and Operations Managers	85	\$20.50	\$58.24	\$107.92
Coaches and Scouts	85	\$8.27	\$17.14	\$30.36
Teachers and Instructors, All Other	84	\$9.79	\$23.28	\$48.05
Supv. of Transp. & Material-Moving Mach & Vehicle Operators	84	\$13.91	\$24.51	\$37.78

EMSI 2019.1

Occupation Categories	
Sales & Related	1,078
Office & Administrative Support	843
Transportation & Material Moving	723
Food Preparation & Serving Related	617
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Management	593
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair	444
Education, Training, & Library	399
Production	398
Computer & Mathematical	292
Business & Financial Operations	290
Protective Service	223
Healthcare Support	218
Architecture & Engineering	214
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports	185
Building & Grounds Cleaning	165
Personal Care & Service	165
Community & Social Services	150
Life, Physical, & Social Science	90
Construction & Extraction	46
Others (2)	45
Total (22)	7,185

Where are the Jobs? – Will County, January 2019

Source: Help Wanted Online (HWOL), a service of The Conference Board www.conference-board.org. Job posting data summarized here covers Will County, IL. Data has been retrieved from hundreds of online job boards and company websites. The following postings are excluded: (1) Bulk Employers (includes work at home opportunities, training opportunities, and companies that re-post ads from other employers on their own site, obscuring the name of the employer) and (2) Third Party Postings (job boards that simply re-post opportunities from other sites already collected by HWOL). When not specified, positions are listed in both full and part time counts in Job Type breakdown. This report should not be used as a comprehensive list of available jobs in Will County. Some industries use other methods for hiring and may not be reflected in this report.

WILL COUNTY WORKFORCE UPDATE

October – December (4th Quarter) 2018

The following report compares the most significant changes in employment and wages for Will County Illinois. The information is compiled and presented by the Workforce Investment Board of Will County each quarter.

Employment Trends

Industries in Will County, Illinois with the largest changes as of 4Q2018 was Transportation and Warehousing (4,245) followed by Manufacturing (463). Please note the upsurge in the Transportation and Warehousing number is due to the reclassification of Wholesale Trade jobs to Transportation and Warehousing over the past year.

Employment Changes by Industry

Industry Description	2017 Jobs	2018 Jobs	2017–2018 Growth	2017–2018 Percent Growth
Transportation and Warehousing	19,485	23,730	4,245	22%
Manufacturing	22,877	23,340	463	2%
Accommodation and Food Services	21,413	21,875	462	2%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Svcs	11,995	12,277	282	2%
Administrative Support/Waste Management	18,269	18,549	280	2%
Construction	16,585	16,752	167	1%
Other Services (except Public Administration)	13,336	13,449	163	1%
Government	33,720	33,776	56	0%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	944	971	27	3%
Health Care and Social Assistance	28,172	28,192	20	0%
Mining, Quarrying, Oil and Gas Extraction	206	203	(3)	(1%)
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	4,516	4,501	(15)	(0%)
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	3,437	3,401	(36)	(1%)
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	914	870	(44)	(5%)
Utilities	1,718	1,670	(48)	(3%)
Educational Services	5,164	5,101	(63)	(1%)
Finance and Insurance	5,348	5,277	(71)	(1%)
Information and Technology	2,403	2,300	(103)	(4%)
Retail Trade	31,961	31,844	(117)	(0%)
Wholesale Trade	19,897	17,726	(2,171)	(11%)
	262,360	265,806	3,446	1%

Source: EMSI Q1 2019 - QCEW Employees, Non-QCEW Employees, and Self-Employed

Occupations

The following chart shows the employment changes by occupation. Transportation and Material Moving Occupations led the growth in 4Q2018 with an addition of 2,416 positions – nearly five times more than the second highest occupation of Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations with 432 positions. Sales and Related Occupations experienced the largest decline, decreasing 424 positions year over year.

Employment Changes by Occupation

Occupation Description	2017 Jobs	2018 Jobs	2017-2018 Change	2017-2018 Percent Change	2017 Average Hourly Earnings
Transportation and Material Moving	28,057	30,473	2,416	9%	\$16.33
Food Preparation and Serving Related	21,786	22,218	432	2%	\$10.93
Building, Grounds Cleaning, Maintenance	8,302	8,656	354	4%	\$14.28
Production	19,452	19,576	124	1%	\$17.46
Personal Care and Service	8,077	8,175	98	1%	\$12.14
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	10,065	10,161	96	1%	\$23.20
Healthcare Support	6,357	6,444	87	1%	\$16.38
Construction and Extraction	12,251	12,335	84	1%	\$29.72
Office and Administrative Support	36,271	36,320	49	0%	\$16.84
Protective Service	5,015	5,058	43	1%	\$25.82
Business and Financial Operations	9,956	9,996	40	0%	\$31.69
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, Media	3,552	3,592	40	1%	\$20.99
Architecture and Engineering	3,167	3,198	31	1%	\$36.16
Life, Physical, and Social Science	1,305	1,313	8	1%	\$30.93
Community and Social Service	2,913	2,919	6	0%	\$22.65
Military-only	611	617	6	1%	\$15.82
Management	17,897	17,901	4	0%	\$48.76
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	13,979	13,978	(1)	(0%)	\$37.22
Legal	1,176	1,173	(3)	(0%)	\$48.20
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	468	465	(3)	(1%)	\$14.07
Education, Training, and Library	18,033	18,022	(11)	(0%)	\$25.34
Computer and Mathematical	5,009	4,981	(28)	(1%)	\$36.79
Sales and Related	28,661	28,237	(424)	(1%)	\$18.29
	262,360	265,806	3,446	1%	

Source: EMSI Q1 2019 - QCEW Employees, Non-QCEW Employees, and Self-Employed

Largest Growth Occupations

Occupations with largest growth in Will County, Illinois are in Transportation; Food Preparation; Building, Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance; and Healthcare Support Occupations.

The chart below indicates the percentage of change in each of those occupations during the 4Q2018. Occupations in Transportation and Material Moving indicate the strongest growth over the past year.

Occupations with Largest Growth	2017-2018 Change	2017 – 2018% Change	Avg. Hourly Earnings	Entry Level Wages	Experienced Wages
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	2,416				
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	995	11%	\$12.48	\$8.34	\$19.56
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	393	23%	\$15.88	\$10.54	\$24.55
Packers and Packagers, Hand	378	13%	\$10.91	\$8.25	\$15.26
Food Preparation and Serving-Related Occupations	432				
Combined Food Preparation/Serving Workers, Incl. Fast Food	327	5%	\$9.76	\$8.25	\$12.12
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation/Serving Workers	35	3%	\$15.11	\$9.44	\$22.20
Food Preparation Workers	21	1%	\$10.70	\$8.25	\$14.13
Building Grounds Cleaning, Maintenance Occupations	354				
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids/Housekeeping Cleaners	288	8%	\$13.24	\$8.43	\$19.18
Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	45	4%	\$11.88	\$8.69	\$17.23
First-Line Supervisors of Housekeeping and Janitorial Workers	14	6%	\$19.39	\$11.71	\$30.86
Healthcare Support Occupations	84				
Home Health Aides	43	4%	\$11.92	\$10.18	\$14.05
Nursing Assistants	14	1%	\$12.63	\$9.32	\$16.88
Massage Therapists	13	4%	\$17.33	\$9.36	\$30.82

Source: EMSI Q1 2019 - QCEW Employees, Non-QCEW Employees, and Self-Employed

This reflects a sample of largest growth occupations in those occupational clusters. Not all occupations are listed.

Wage Information

Sectors in Will County, Illinois with the highest average wages per worker for 4Q2018 was construction (\$6,626), followed by Finance and Insurance (\$6,398) and Manufacturing (\$6,358).

Average Monthly Wages by Industry 2015 - 2017

Industry	Average Monthly Wages				Average Monthly Wages – New Hires			
	2015	2017	2015–2017 Change	2015–2017 Percent Change	2015	2017	2015–2017 Change	2015–2017 Percent Change
Accommodation and Food Services	\$1,530	\$1,585	\$55	4%	\$1,111	\$1,125	\$14	1.3%
Admin, Support ,Waste Management	\$3,367	\$3,348	(\$19)	-1%	\$2,404	\$2,272	(\$132)	-5.5%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	\$2,270	\$1,930	(\$340)	-15%	\$1,166	\$1,038	(\$128)	-11.0%
Construction	\$6,590	\$6,626	\$36	1%	\$5,208	\$4,585	(\$623)	-12.0%
Finance and Insurance	\$5,916	\$6,399	\$483	8%	\$3,744	\$3,637	(\$107)	-2.9%
Health Care and Social Assistance	\$4,373	\$4,283	(\$90)	-2%	\$2,691	\$2,673	(\$18)	-0.7%
Information	\$4,264	\$4,248	(\$16)	0%	\$2,546	\$2,445	(\$101)	-4.0%
Management of Companies	\$4,024	\$4,419	\$395	10%	*	*	*	*
Manufacturing	\$6,395	\$6,358	(\$37)	-1%	\$4,611	\$3,951	(\$660)	-14.3%
Other Services (except Public Admin)	\$2,999	\$3,134	\$135	5%	\$1,828	\$1,869	\$41	2.2%
Professional, Scientific, Tech Services	\$5,673	\$6,109	\$436	8%	\$3,862	\$4,084	\$222	5.7%
Public Administration	\$5,718	\$5,712	(\$6)	0%	\$2,801	\$2,944	\$143	5.1%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	\$3,748	\$3,888	\$140	4%	\$2,336	\$2,729	\$393	16.8%
Retail Trade	\$2,753	\$2,673	(\$80)	-3%	\$1,650	\$1,630	(\$20)	-1.2%
Transportation and Warehousing	\$4,262	\$4,048	(\$214)	-5%	\$3,397	\$2,986	(\$411)	-12.1%
Wholesale Trade	\$6,472	\$6,328	(\$144)	-2%	\$4,441	\$3,691	(\$750)	-16.9%

Source: U.S. Census, Local Employment Dynamics

*Data significant distorted, fuzzed value released

Average Monthly and New Hire Wages 2015 - 2017

Geographic Area	Average Monthly Wages			Average Monthly Wages – New Hires		
	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017
Will County	\$4,107	\$4,220	\$4,301	\$2,698	\$2,820	\$2,815
Chicago Metro Region	\$4,885	\$4,982	\$5,109	\$3,211	\$3,314	\$3,411
State of Illinois	\$4,540	\$4,633	\$4,745	\$2,975	\$3,078	\$3,127

Source: U.S. Census, Local Employment Dynamics

Unemployment Information

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for Will County, Illinois was 3.9% as of December 2018 compared to one year earlier of 5.1%.

As of 4Q2018, total residents in the labor force was 352,745, a decrease of 7,927 from the previous year.

Unemployment Rates

Geographic Area	December 2016	December 2017	December 2018
National	4.7%	3.9%	3.7%
Illinois	5.3%	4.7%	4.4%
Cook County	5.3%	5.1%	3.8%
DuPage County	4.1%	3.9%	2.9%
Grundy County	6.3%	6.0%	4.7%
Kane County	5.5%	4.5%	5.9%
Kankakee County	6.2%	5.0%	5.9%
Kendall County	4.5%	4.3%	3.4%
Lake County	5.2%	4.2%	5.3%
McHenry	4.8%	4.5%	3.5%
Will County	5.3%	5.1%	3.9%

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security - Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), Bureau of Labor Statistics

Job Stats

Indicator	December 2016	December 2017	December 2018
Total Residents in Labor Force	358,227	360,672	352,745
Total Residents Employed	339,180	342,357	340,913
Total Residents Unemployed	19,047	18,315	13,700
Unemployment Rate	5.1%	5.1%	3.9%
Initial Unemployment Claims	4,761	4,499	3,630 (Nov 2018)

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security

Demographic Profile

The population in Will County, Illinois is 695,164, growing 2.2% per the American Community Survey data ranking the County 4th (out of 102 counties) in the State of Illinois.

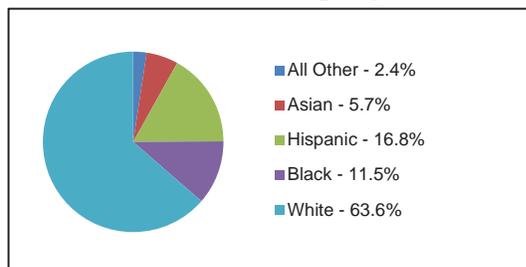
The median household income is \$82,477.

Of individuals 25 and older in Will County, Illinois, 33.6% have a bachelor's degree or higher which ranks 36th (out of 102 counties) in the State of Illinois.

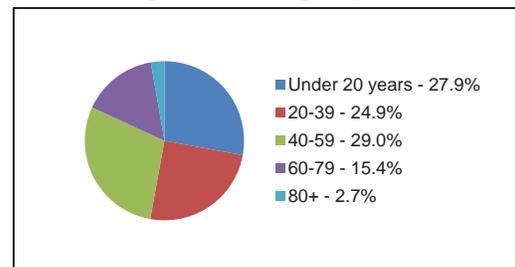
People & Income Overview	Value	State Ranking
Population (2018) ¹	695,164	4
% Growth since 2010 Census	2.2%	6
Households (2017)	226,668	4
Per Capita Personal Income (2017)	\$50,638	8
Median Household Income (2017)	\$82,477	6
Poverty Rate (2017)	7.0%	96
Education Attainment	Value	State Ranking
H.S. Diploma or More - % of Adults 25+ (2017 ACS 5yr)	90.8%	29
Bachelor's Deg. or More - % of Adults 25+ (2017 ACS 5yr)	33.6%	36
Industry Overview (2017) - (By place of work)	Value	State Ranking
Manufacturing - % all jobs in County	9.4%	54
Transportation & Warehousing - % all jobs in County	7.3%	11
Health Care, Social Assistance - % all jobs in County	11.1%	44

Source: ¹ EMSI Q1 2019; STATS America
State Ranking based on 102 Counties

2018 Race Demographics¹



2018 Age Demographics¹



ELECTED OFFICIALS & KEY CONTACTS

Will County Board

County Board District #1

Judy Ogalla	Executive Committee Legislative & Policy Committee
Laurie Summers	Executive Committee Legislative & Policy Committee Public Health & Safety Committee - Chair

County Board District #2

Amanda Koch	Capital Improvements Committee Land Use & Development Committee Public Health & Safety Committee
Jim Moustis	Executive Committee Finance Committee Public Works & Transportation Committee

County Board District #3

Donald A. Moran	Capital Improvements Committee – Vice-Chair Executive Committee Public Works & Transportation Committee – Chair
Beth Rice	Legislative & Policy Committee – Vice-Chair Public Health & Safety – Vice-Chair

County Board District #4

Kenneth E. Harris	Executive Committee Finance Committee - Chair
Jacqueline Traynere	Executive Committee Finance Committee – Vice-Chair Land Use & Development Committee Legislative Committee – Chair

County Board District #5

Gretchen Fritz	Capital Improvement Committee
Meta Mueller	Legislative Committee Public Health & Safety Committee Public Works & Transportation Committee

County Board District #6

Don Gould	Public Health & Safety Committee Public Works & Transportation Committee
Joe Van Duyne	Capital Improvements Committee Public Works & Transportation Committee – Vice Chair

County Board District #7

Steve Balich	Land Use & Development Committee
Mike Fricilone Minority Leader	Executive Committee Finance Committee

County Board District #8

Herbert Brooks, Jr.	Capital Improvements Committee - Chair Executive Committee Finance Committee Judicial Committee – Vice-Chair Legislative & Policy Committee
Denise E. Winfrey Speaker of the Board	Executive Committee – Chair Ex-Officio Member of All Committees

County Board District #9

Annette Parker	Public Health & Safety Committee
Rachel Ventura	Capital Improvements Committee Finance Committee Judicial Committee Land Use & Development Committee

County Board District #10

Gloria Dollinger	Finance Committee Judicial Committee
Tyler Marcum Democratic Whip	Capital Improvements Committee Executive Committee Finance Committee Judicial Committee - Chair Legislative & Policy Committee Public Works & Transportation Committee

County Board District #11

Julie Berkowicz	Legislative & Policy Committee
Mimi Cowan	Judicial Committee Legislative & Policy Committee Public Works & Transportation Committee

County Board District #12

Ray Tuminello	Capital Improvements Committee Public Works & Transportation Committee
Tom Weigel	Judicial Committee Land Use Committee

County Board District #13

Mark Ferry Majority Leader	Executive Committee – Vice-Chair Finance Committee Land Use & Development Committee – Vice-Chair Public Health & Safety Committee Public Works & Transportation Committee
Tim Kraulidis	Judicial Committee Legislative & Policy Committee

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