

"I promised to invest in education, job training and job creation. Before COVID hit us, we did that."

- Gov. J.B. Pritzker, announcing plans to reduce FY 2021 spending by \$700 million on Dec. 15

Illinois Dept. of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

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Illinois

Pop. (2020): 12,862,980 Median household income (2020): \$65,003 Credit Rating: BBB-/Negative

Pop. growth 2020–2025: -0.1% Median age (2020): 38 Right-to-work state: No

5th



2019 GDP (in millions of current US\$) \$885,583

Legislative Update

- New laws that took effect Jan. 1 include a measure that reduces restrictions
 on opening a business for those with past criminal offenses and defines the
 terms and provides flexibility to various state departments to review the
 circumstances surrounding past offenses. Another measure that strengthens
 support for minority-owned companies allows some firms to qualify for the
 Business Enterprise Program if they meet municipal-level qualifications.
- In February, Gov. Pritzker announced the release of \$500 million in state
 funding for the University of Illinois System's Illinois Innovation Network
 (IIN) and Discovery Partners Institute (DPI) a network of research and
 innovation hubs intended to serve as a magnet for technology and talent.
 IIN and DPI are expected to create or fill 48,000 new-economy jobs over the
 next decade, according to the latest economic impact study conducted by the
 Boston Consulting Group.
- In late August, Gov. Pritzker announced that the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity would provide \$39.5 million to support statewide economic development. The grants are support by the \$45 billion Rebuild Illinois capital plan and are intended to speedily implement infrastructure upgrades in underserved communities in Illinois.

