

## Did You Know?

Microsoft's Internet Explorer is based upon NCSA Mosaic, which was developed by the National Center for Supercomputing Applications at the University of Illinois. Explorer is distributed under a licensing agreement with Spyglass, Inc. University of Illinois alum, which had previously worked at the NCSA, launched another very popular Internet navigation system, Netscape.

Illinois' gross state product was an estimated \$651.5 billion in 2010, accounting for 4.5 percent of US total gross product. If Illinois were a country it would rank 23rd in the world.

Illinois is home to 21 companies on *Fortune* magazine's list of most admired companies. Five Illinois companies made *Fortune*'s list of the Fastest Growing 100 companies.

According to the 2009 Annual Survey of Manufacturers, Illinois is the top state in construction machinery and hardware manufacturing. The state is in the top five in a number of industries including printing, food, chemical, plastics and rubber, primary metals, and electrical equipment.

Illinois ranked fourth as the headquarters to 31 of the nation's largest companies on the *2011 Fortune 500 List*. Illinois has 21 companies listed on *Inc. Magazine's Inc. 500* in 2011, a listing of the fastest growing privately held companies in the U.S based on revenue growth over the last three years.

There are an estimated 343,100 women-owned firms in Illinois, accounting for 30.5% of all privately held firms. They employ nearly 335,800 people and generate \$53.4 billion in sales. Nationally, Illinois ranks fifth in the number of women-owned firms, employment, and sales.

Illinois' export shipments of merchandise in 2010 totaled \$50.1 billion, the sixth largest figure among the states.

The state's largest export market, by far, is Canada. Illinois exported \$15.0 billion worth of merchandise to Canada in 2010, over one-quarter of the state total. Canada was followed by Mexico (\$4.3 billion), China (\$3.2 billion), Australia (\$2.4 billion), and Germany (\$2.2 billion).

The state's leading export category is machinery manufacturing, which accounted for 23 percent, or \$9.6 billion, of Illinois' total merchandise exports in 2009. Other top exports are Chemicals (\$6.5 billion), Computer and Electronic products (\$5.5 billion), Transportation Equipment (\$5.3 billion), Food (\$2.6 billion), Electronic Equipment, (\$2.6 billion), Fabricated Metal Products (\$2.2 billion); Primary Metals (\$1.3 billion) and Plastic and Rubber Products (\$1.4 billion).

Chicago's O'Hare Airport handled over 882,617 flights in 2010. It served 66.7 million passengers in 2010; 54.8 million domestic and 10.4 million international. O'Hare is the third busiest air port in the world and the second busiest airport in USA.

Three Illinois communities ranked in the top fifty among 222 housing markets nationwide in housing affordability during the first quarter of 2011: Rockford (8th), Quad Cities (27th) and Springfield (41st). Housing affordability is determined by the relationship between median family income and median home prices.

Illinois coal producers mine over 33 million tons of coal per year, accounting for 3% percent of U.S. production. More than 75% of Illinois coal is sold to out-of-state utilities. Illinois has a 250-year supply of coal. Illinois has the largest reported bituminous coal resource of any state in the United States.

Updated: August 2011

