

NOVEMBER 2025

SOUTHERN 14

NEWSLETTER



Success Story

Austin Surratt came to Wabash Area Development, Inc. searching for help with enrolling in the CDL program at SIC. He had just moved back here from Oklahoma where he had been working with his uncle installing windows. He learned that in order to drive the bigger delivery trucks, he had to get his CDL's. While living on his own in Oklahoma, he could not afford to not work and pay for classes. He decided to come back home where his parents provided him with a place to stay. Austin was having an extremely hard time coming up with the money to pay for the 4-week course.

Austin was directed to come to Wabash Area Development, Inc. to see if we could help him with the cost of his classes. To his surprise, we were not only able to help him with his books and tuition, we were also able to help him with fuel costs and other expenses he incurred while attending classes.

Austin attended the 4-week course, where he obtained his CDL's. Within a month of completion, he was hired at Jung Trucking Services, Inc. He is thankful that WADI helped him get his CDL. He is happy to have a career and become self-sufficient.

Submitted By: Amy Seidel, WADI

OFFICE NOTES:

- Upcoming Board Meeting:
December 9th
- Time: 7:00 pm
- Location: SIC
Building G or Via Zoom

BOARD OFFICE:

- Open M-TR: 8-5
- PO BOX 186 Carmi,
IL 62821
- Phone: 618-382-5024



WADI MONTHLY UPDATE

WADI has 19 new college participants in the fall semester including 14 nursing students, 4 cosmetology students, and 2 physical therapy assistant students. WADI has two new CDL students testing this week as well. In other news, WADI attended the Southern 14 annual retreat. At the retreat they learned about resumes with Marilyn Shores, ICAPS with Angelique Maguire, Narcan Training with Wendy Coles, Fraud/Waste/Abuse with Pam Barbee, AI in the Workplace with Cameron Ireland, and ended the day with a breakout session and fun escape room/team building activity.

SDC MONTHLY UPDATE

Victor Duckworth with SDC states that the fall semester is going well. SDC has two awards, for a participant and worksite, that will be given at the December 9th board meeting. Bohdi Mason, a success story, was recognized as the state Individual Achievement Award winner and the City of Golconda was selected for the Business Leadership Award. The State Grant has been awarded and SDC plans to put on 4 Adult and 4 Youth Out of School WEX. In November SDC had their annual state monitoring, GRF Training, Supportive Services Training, and the CDL Advisory Meeting. Upcoming in December, SDC will have a Case Note and Data Entry Training and well as the regional Zoom with LWIA 25.

SOUTHERN 14 UPDATE

The Office of Equal Opportunity Monitoring and Compliance (EOMC) has completed an Equal Opportunity (EO) compliance review for the Southern 14 Workforce Investment Board. The comprehensive review assists in providing assurance to the Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (DCEO) and the United States Department of Labor (USDOL) that accessibility, both programmatic and physical, comply with State and Federal laws and regulations. The compliance review provided reasonable assurance of compliance with Nondiscrimination and Equal Opportunity provisions of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. The next compliance review will be performed in Fiscal Year 2026-2027. This visit is a large process that takes coordination with all our service providers, locations, and staff. They all worked hard with our office to make sure we were in compliance before EOMC was on-site. We started this process July 1 and were able to have all board office monitoring, self assessments, required documents, and files uploaded and ready for review by October 1. As you can see, we passed with flying colors and want to thank each location for their patience and help!

CHANGES?

- Have you moved?
- Changed phone number?
- New email?
- Please notify the board office at boffice@so14lwib.com with any changes
- It is extremely important to let us know because of travel and communication! Thanks!!

Information about the labor market is presented below for each county in your region. There are four quadrants for each county's portion of the writeup, and documentation for the vital components is described here.

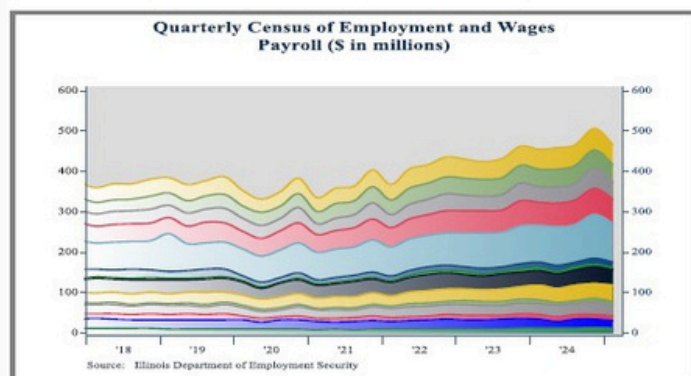
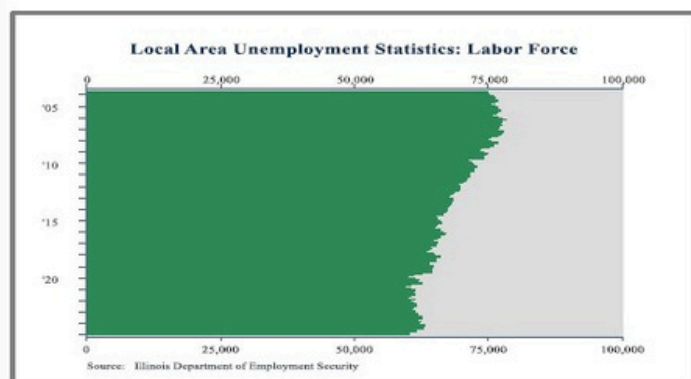
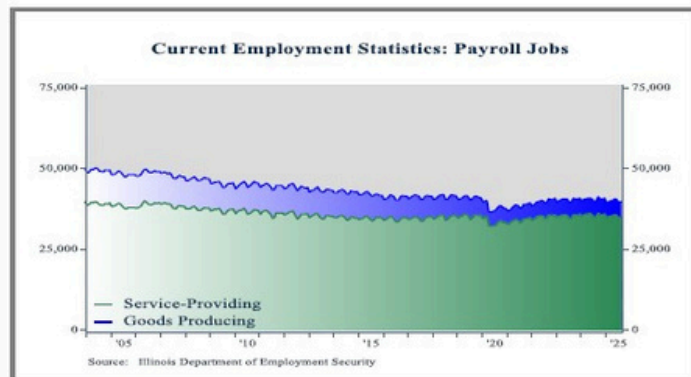
- Top -** payroll jobs data are estimates of the count of filled positions offered by employers in the area. Service-providing jobs are those with employers in industries that do not produce a physical good or product in their line of business. Goods-producing jobs are jobs with employers in the following industries:
- Agriculture and natural resources
 - Mining and mining support
 - Residential, nonresidential, and civil construction
 - Durable and nondurable manufacturing
- Middle -** labor force data are estimates of the count of residents in an area who are either employed or unemployed. Employed residents are operating a business or nonprofit or are working for pay. Unemployed residents are not employed but have actively searched for work during the previous four weeks. The totals exclude children under the age of 16, retirees, and other persons who are neither working nor seeking paid work
- Bottom -** wages paid (\$ in millions) by employers in the area to workers who are covered by the state's unemployment insurance system. These data are from quarterly reports issued to IDES by employers. These data include payments to workers who do not reside in the area, and exclude payments for labor provided under agreements that do not constitute an employer-employee relationship



- Release date of October 23,, 2025

INFORMATION:

- Each issue you will see rotating information and data to keep you all informed in different ways!
- Like to see something included in the monthly newsletter?
- Email boffice@so14lwib.com





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