



## CWICstats Dashboard Report 2nd Quarter 2012

### Highlights in this issue

Featured *stats*: Selected Statistics from the American Community Survey (Page 2)

- The population of those with “some college” (no degree) perform worse in terms of median income and employment status than groups with an associate’s degree or above.
- About 20% of the Cook County population of ages 25 and over have some college experience but no degree.
- 73% of the “some college” population have at least 1 year’s worth of college experience and 50% of this population have annual personal incomes below \$25,800.
- Almost a fifth of the “some college” population work in the education or health industry.
- 36% of the “some college” population is African American and about a quarter are between the ages of 25-35.

Labor force measures	Current time period	How current compares to prior time period:	
		Immediately prior	One year prior
<b>Chicago labor force measures</b>	May 2012	April 2012	May 2011
Total in labor force	1,264,004	1,261,655	1,255,446
Total employment	1,139,504	1,133,987	1,111,558
Total unemployment	124,500	127,668	143,888
<b>Cook County labor force measures</b>	May 2012	April 2012	May 2011
Total in labor force	2,589,014	2,585,169	2,569,770
Total employment	2,355,897	2,344,491	2,298,121
Total unemployment	233,117	240,678	271,649
<b>Unemployment rates</b>	May 2012	April 2012	May 2011
Chicago	9.8%	10.1%	10.5%
Cook County	9.0%	9.3%	10.6%
Illinois	8.4%	8.6%	9.4%
United States	7.9%	7.7%	8.7%
<b>Cook County unemployment insurance</b>	June 2012	May 2011	June 2011
Initial unemployment claims	21,248	19,256	23,137

#### Interpreting the arrows

Green solid arrows represent an indicator that has improved compared to prior time period. For example, a *drop* in unemployment would be represented by (), while an *increase* in total employment would be represented by (). Red outlined arrows represent an indicator that has worsened compared to prior time period. A drop in the total labor force would be represented by (), while an *increase* in unemployment would be represented by (). refers to no change.



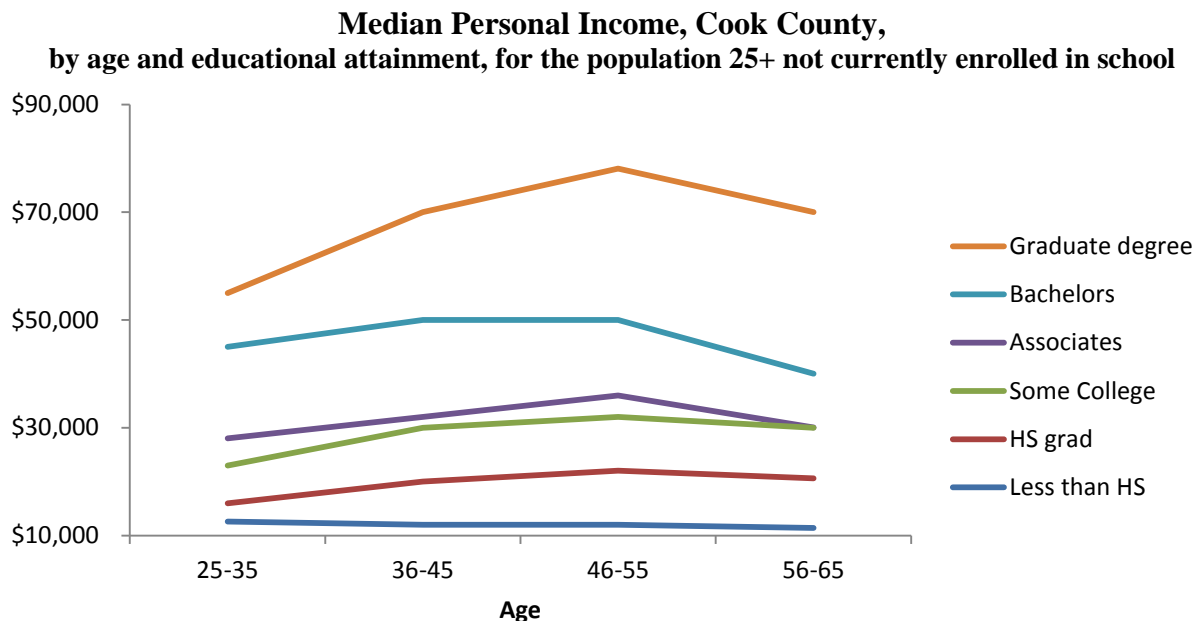
## **Featured stats: Characteristics of Cook County Population that have “Some College” experience but no degree**

The American Community Survey (ACS) is an annual U.S. Census Bureau survey producing data at the national, state, and local level. We use data from the survey<sup>1</sup> to describe some important characteristics of the Cook County population that has enrolled in some sort of college but has not attained a degree (we will call this the “some college” population). This data may help inform the design and operations of the Complete the Degree Program in Chicago.

Complete the Degree (<http://www.completethedegree.org>) is a free service, led by CWIC and other local non-profits that helps individuals who have some college credit to return to school and earn a degree.

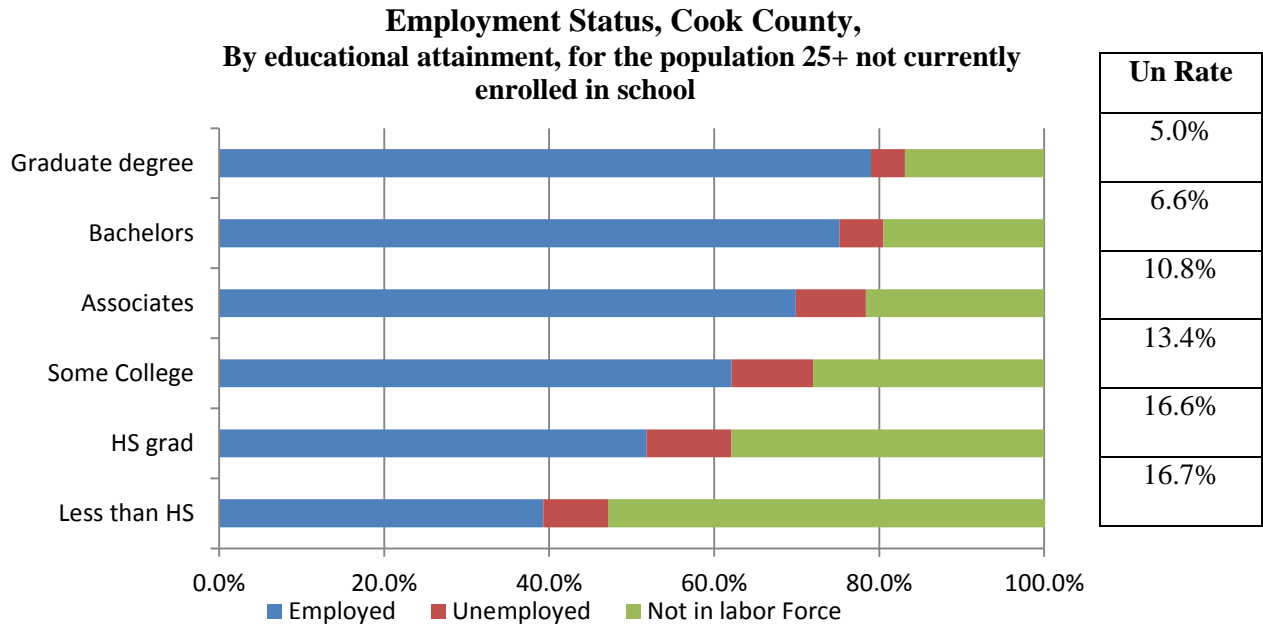
First, we will describe how earnings and labor conditions compare across different levels of educational attainment in Cook County. It is important to understand how the population of those with “some college” experience compares to those with higher levels of education.

As would be expected, the median total personal income (pre-tax) in Cook County for population age 25 and over varies by the highest educational degree attained, as those with graduate degrees have the highest median income and those without a high school degree have the lowest income. In addition, income increases with ages faster for those with more years of education. The median income of “some college” experience is similar to an associate’s degree, but there is a large gap between these groups and those with a bachelor’s degree.



<sup>1</sup> Source: Steven Ruggles, J. Trent Alexander, Katie Genadek, Ronald Goeken, Matthew B. Schroeder, and Matthew Sobek. Integrated Public Use Microdata Series: Version 5.0 [Machine-readable database]. Minneapolis, MN: Minnesota Population Center [producer and distributor], 2010.

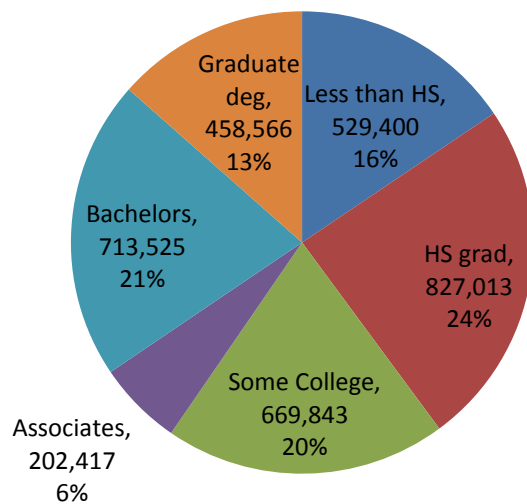
Similar to median earnings, employment status varies by educational attainment in the Cook County population. Those with higher levels of educational attainment are more likely to be employed and less likely to be out of the labor force.



Note: Unemployment Rate (Un Rate) is calculated as number of unemployed divided by total in labor force.

20% of the Cook County population fits into the “some college” category, which makes up almost 670,000 people.

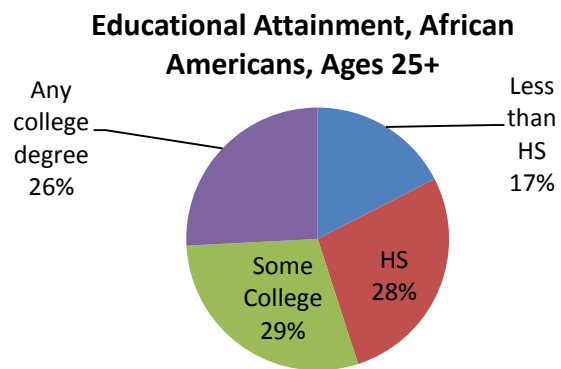
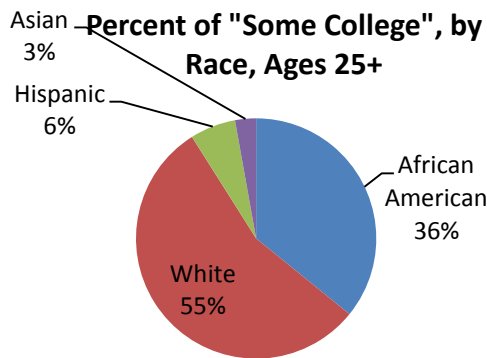
**Highest Level of Educational Attainment, Cook County,  
age 25+, not in school**



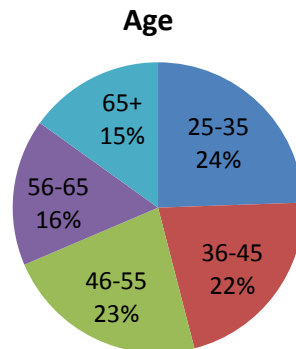
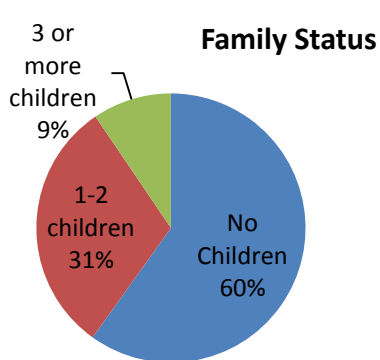
**Demographic facts about the “Some College” population aged 25 and over:**

- 73% have at least 1 year’s worth of college
- 64% are homeowners
- 50% have personal incomes less than \$25,800
- 66,010 (9.9% of the total population) are unemployed
- 66,843 (9.9%) are veterans
- 49,759 of the veterans are over 50 (74%)
- 46% of the population is male and 54% is female

The African American population makes up 36% of those with only “some college” experience, while they make up only 25% of the total population. In addition, only 26% of the African American population has achieved an associate’s degree or higher in Cook County while 29% have only “some college” experience.



The majority of the “some college” population doesn’t have children and less than 10% have 3 or more. This population doesn’t appear to have changed much over the last 30 years, as the three youngest age groups each make up about a quarter of the population that is below 65 years old.



Almost a fifth of the employed population with a degree attainment of “some college” works in the education/health/social services industry. This is not unlike the overall Cook County population, where that number is just over a fifth. The Manufacturing and Finance/Insurance/Real Estate industries come at just below 10% and the Retail Trade and Professional/Management/Admin industries hover at just over 10% of the “some college” population. Again, these are similar to the rest of the Cook County population.

**Percent of Employed “Some College” Population, Cook County, by industry type, ages 25 and over:**

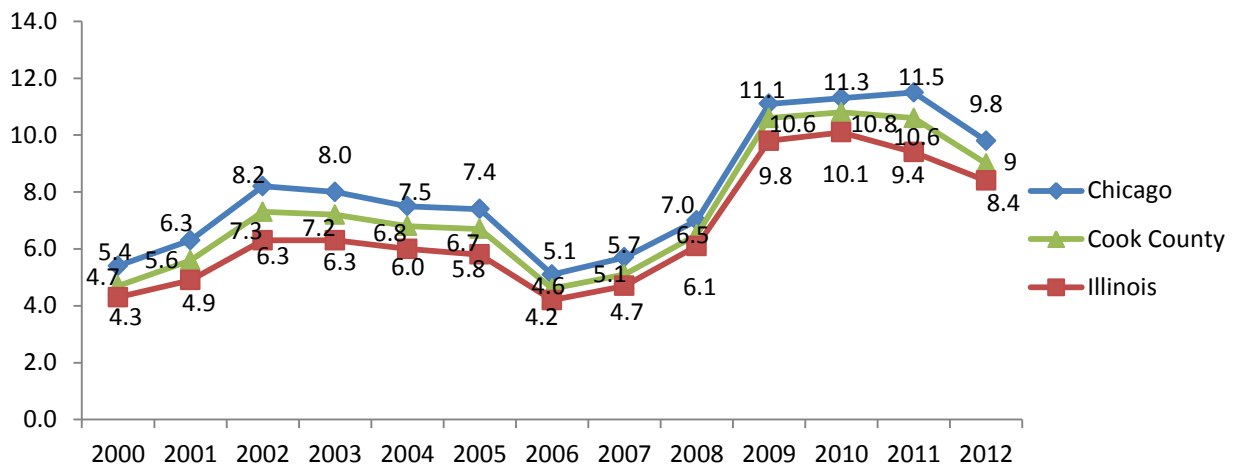
	Manufacturing	Retail Trade	Finance/ Insurance/ Real estate	Professional/ Management/ Admin	Education/ Health
% of employed “some college” population	9.5%	11.5%	9.2%	10.5%	19.9%
% of employed in Cook County total population	11.4%	8.3%	8.6%	14.2%	23.0%



**Job stats**

The unemployment rate during May of 2012 decreased to levels below those reported in 2009 in Chicago, Cook County, and Illinois. During this second quarter of 2012, Chicago had the highest unemployment rate, although the gap between city, county, and state decreased from last year.

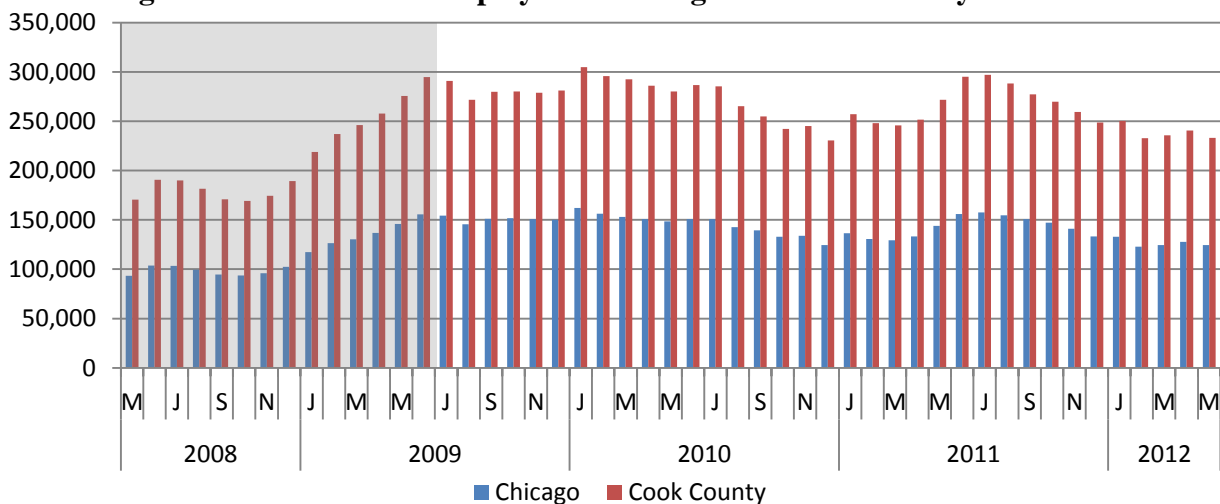
**Figure 1: Chicago, Cook County, and Illinois Unemployment Rates for the Month of May, 2000-2012**



Source: IDES, not seasonally adjusted

The number of unemployed persons in Chicago and Cook County stayed pretty consistent throughout the first five months of 2012, hovering just under 250,000 in Cook County and under 130,000 in Chicago. This trend is the lowest for the first part of the year since 2008.

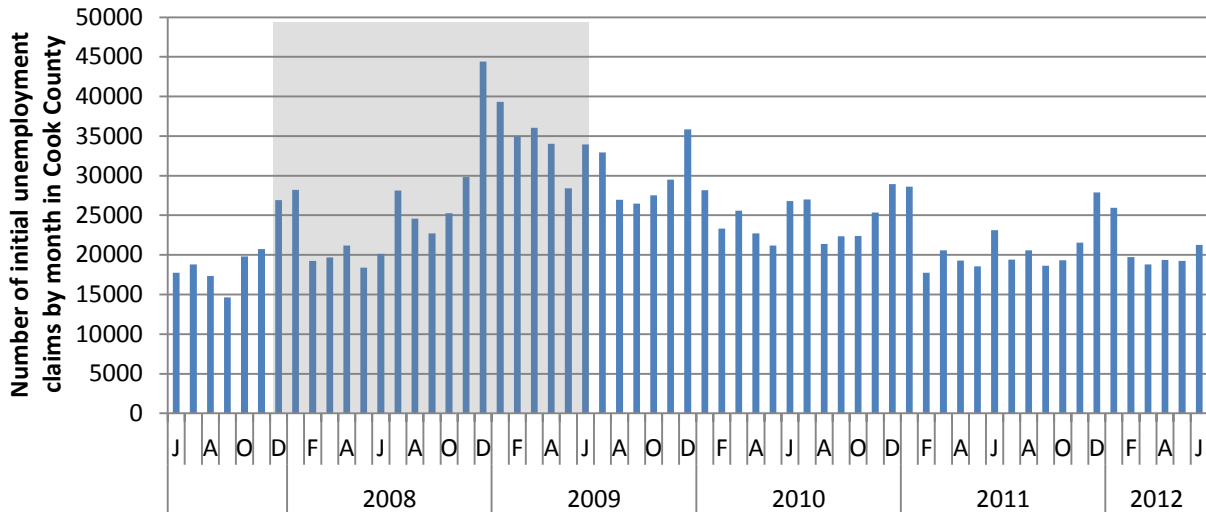
**Figure 2: Number of unemployed in Chicago and Cook County 2008-2012**



Source: IDES, not seasonally adjusted. The NBER-dated recession from December 2007 to June 2009 is shaded in gray.

The number of initial unemployment insurance claims in Cook County has stayed constant around 20,000 since February of 2012, reaching a peak of 21,248 in June. The number of claims for June in a given year is at its lowest since 2008.

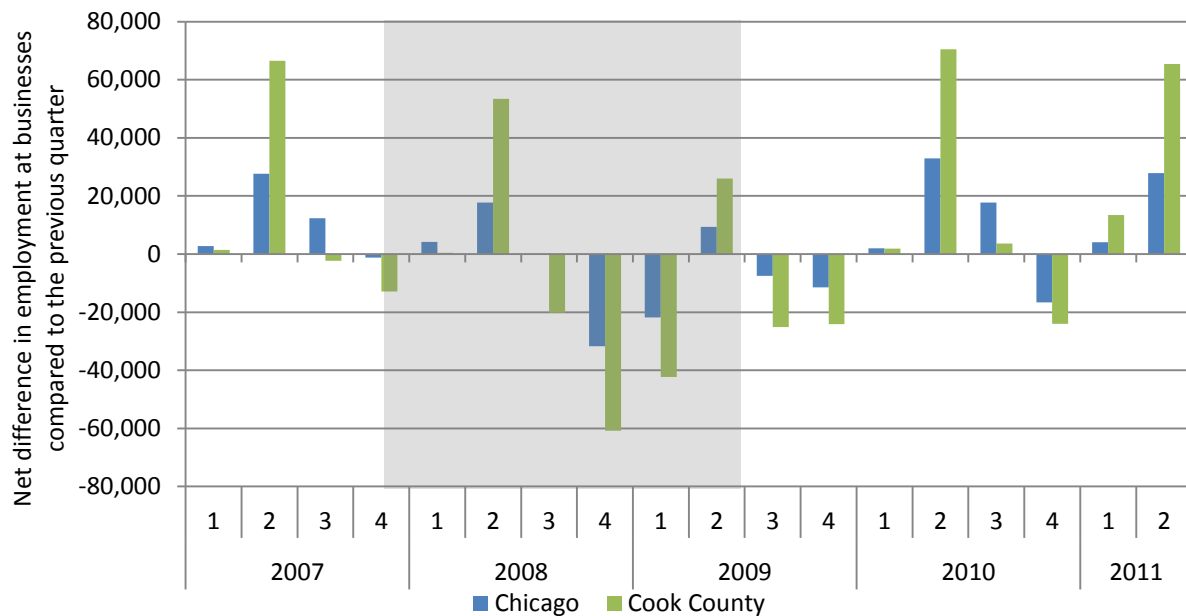
**Figure 3: Initial unemployment insurance claims in Cook County by month 2007-2012**



Source: IDES, not seasonally adjusted. The NBER-dated recession from December 2007 to June 2009 is shaded in gray.

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2011, both Chicago and Cook County gained jobs, 27,884 and 65,399, respectively. The job growth in Cook County and Chicago during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2011 was slightly lower than during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2010.

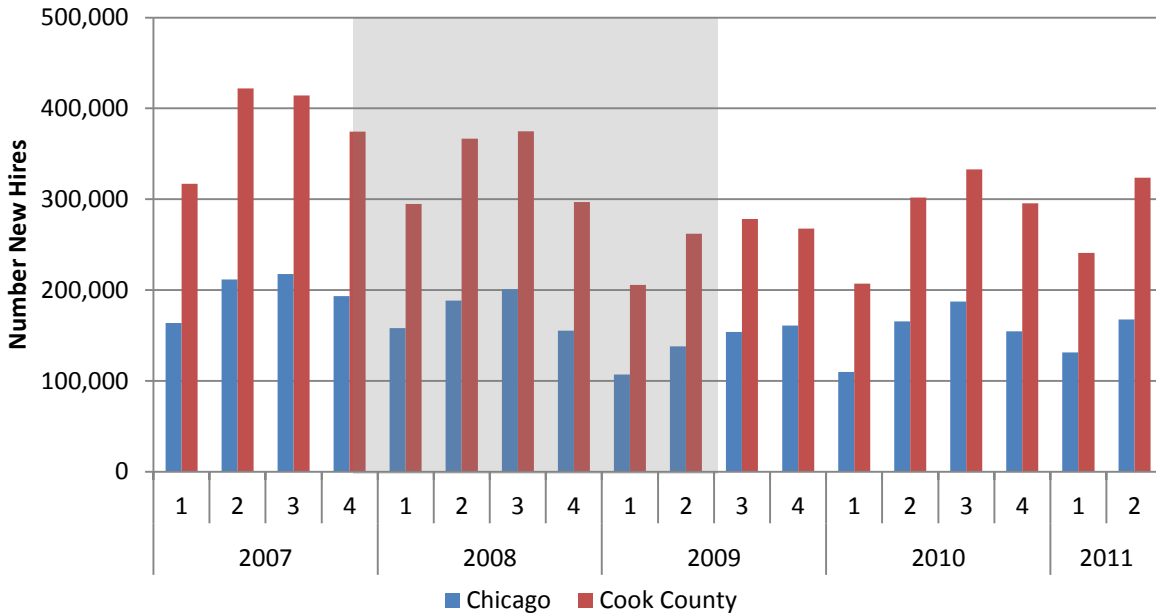
**Figure 4: Chicago and Cook County job flow by quarter 2007-2011**  
(the change in the absolute number of employees at businesses from one period to the next)



Source: IDES, not seasonally adjusted. Note: There is a one-year lag in the data for job flow. The NBER-dated recession from December 2007 to June 2009 is shaded in gray.

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2011, the number of new hires in Chicago and Cook County increased to about 167,000 and 323,000, respectively.

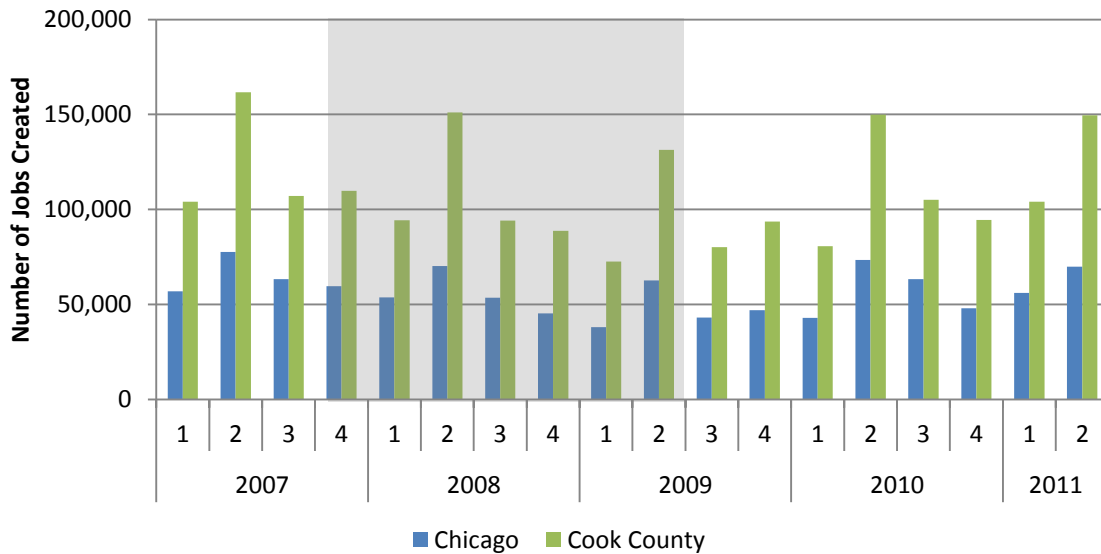
**Figure 5: Chicago and Cook County new hires by quarter 2007-2011**



Source: IDES not seasonally adjusted. Note: There is a one-year lag in the data for new hires. The NBER-dated recession from December 2007 to June 2009 is shaded in gray.

While the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2011 experienced higher job creation than the preceding quarter, it was about the same compared to the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter the year before.

**Figure 6: Job creation in Chicago and Cook County by quarter 2007-2011**



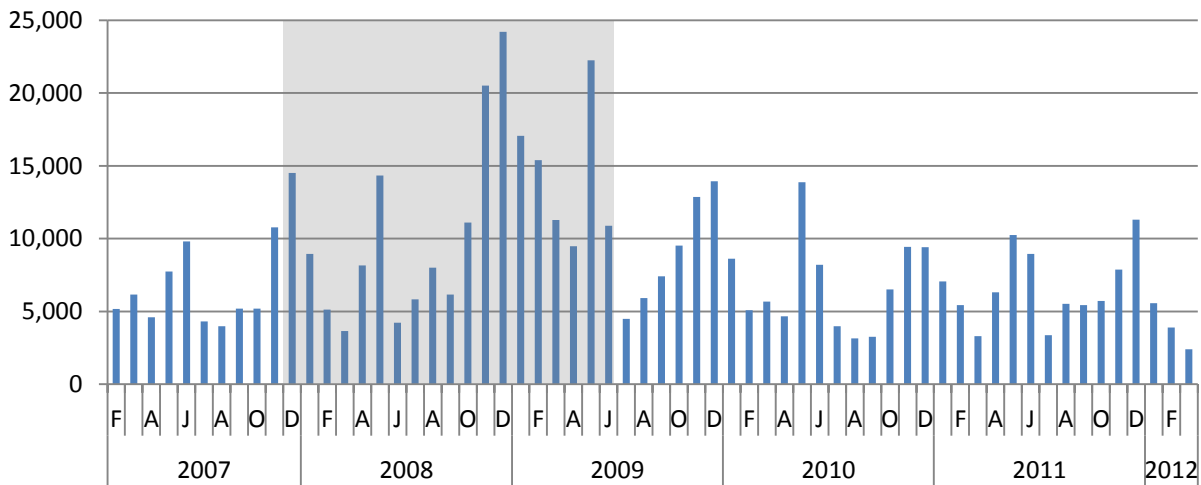
Source: IDES not seasonally adjusted. Note: there is a one-year lag in the data for job creation. The NBER-dated recession from December 2007 to June 2009 is shaded in gray.



## Business stats

In Illinois, mass layoffs were less than 5,000 during February and March of 2012. Mass layoffs in quarter 1 of 2012 were lower than the first quarter layoffs in the previous 2 years.

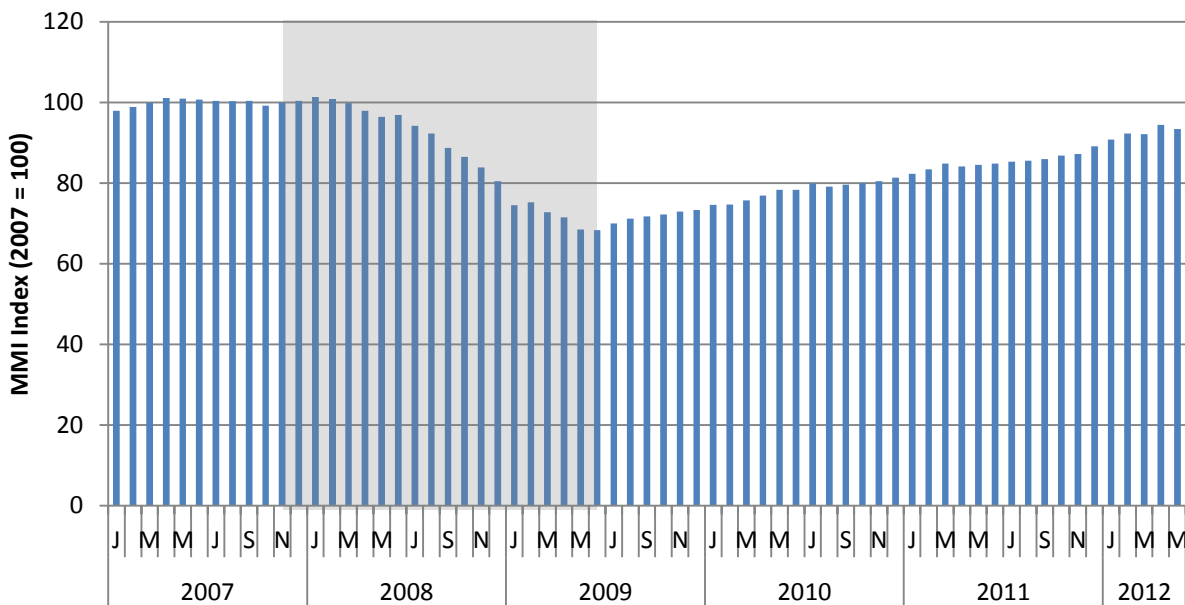
**Figure 1: Workers separated in extended mass layoffs in Illinois 2007-2012 (layoffs that included at least 50 separations and lasted more than 30 days, excluding government and agriculture)**



Source: IDES, not seasonally adjusted. The NBER-dated recession from December 2007 to June 2009 is shaded in gray.

The statistics derived from the Midwest Manufacturing Index, which measures industrial activity, has been on a steady rise since May 2009. Nevertheless, it has not yet reached the 2007 pre-recession level.

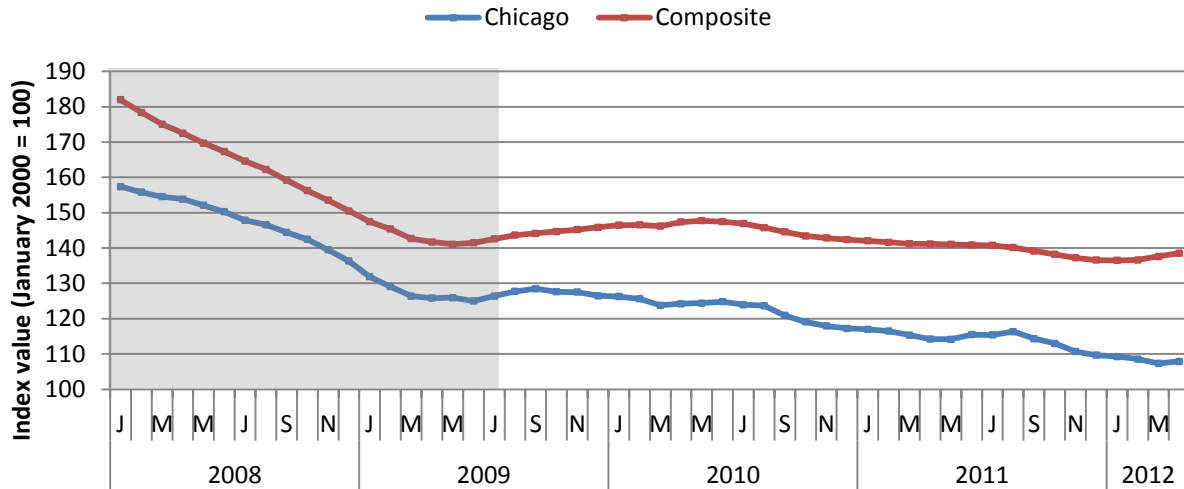
**Figure 2: Midwest Manufacturing Index 2008-2012**



Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, seasonally adjusted. The NBER-dated recession from December 2007 to June 2009 is shaded in gray.

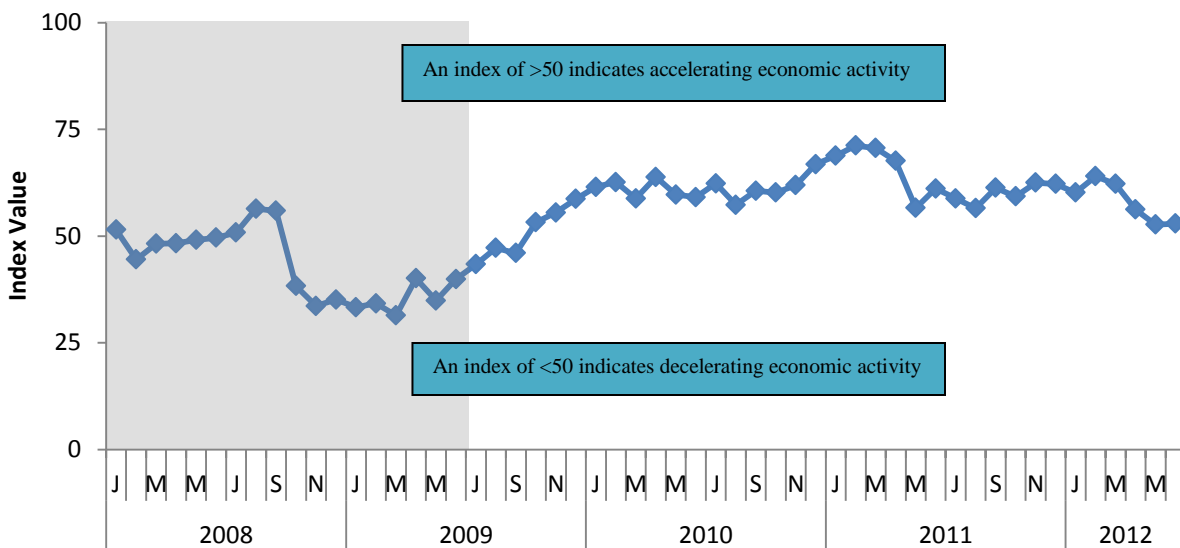
The Case-Shiller Home Price Index for the Chicago Metro Area continues to report decreasing values of residential home values into the first months of 2012, but shows some signs of stability. This is in contrast to the 20 Metro Area Composite, which has started to level out since the end of last year.

**Figure 3: Chicago Area Case-Shiller Home Price Index 2008-2012**



The Chicago Business Barometer, summarizing current business activity, is also known as Chicago Purchasing Manager Index, and is considered to be a leading indicator of the USA economy. Chicago's index value has begun to descend after being level for half a year, as the index value dropped in every month during 2012 from February until May. The index did increase very slightly in June.

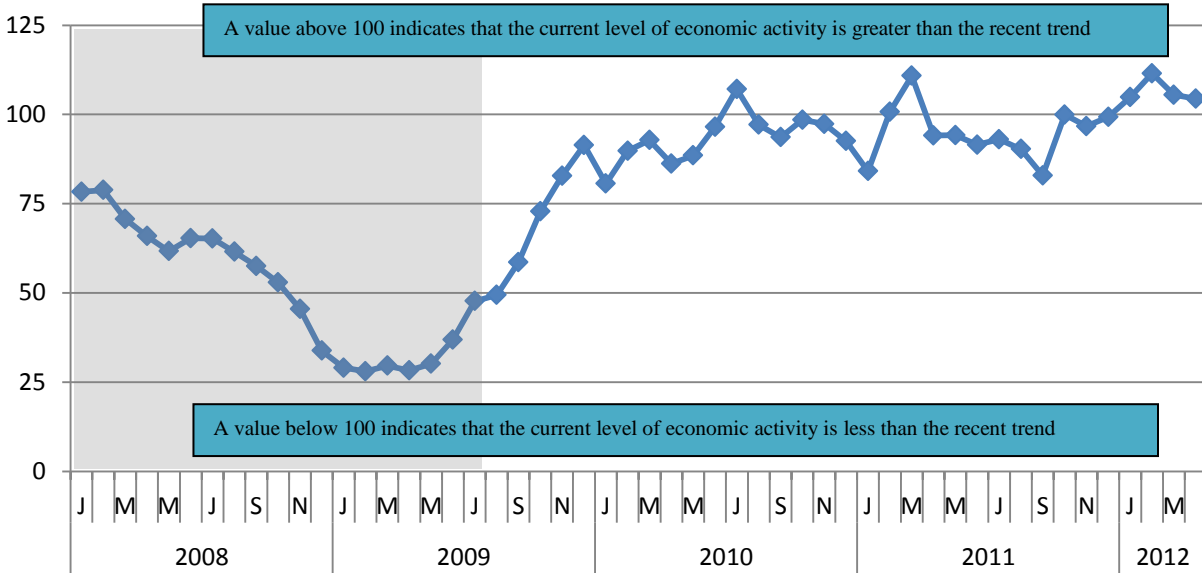
**Figure 4: Chicago Business Barometer 2008-2012**



Source: Institute of Supply Management-Chicago, seasonally adjusted. The NBER-dated recession from December 2007 to June 2009 is shaded in gray.

The University of Illinois' business activity index, which ended 2011 at around 100, has seen an increase and then decrease this year that leave it at 104.4 in April of 2012. Although dropping for the last two months, the index still predicts economic activity that is greater than the recent trend.

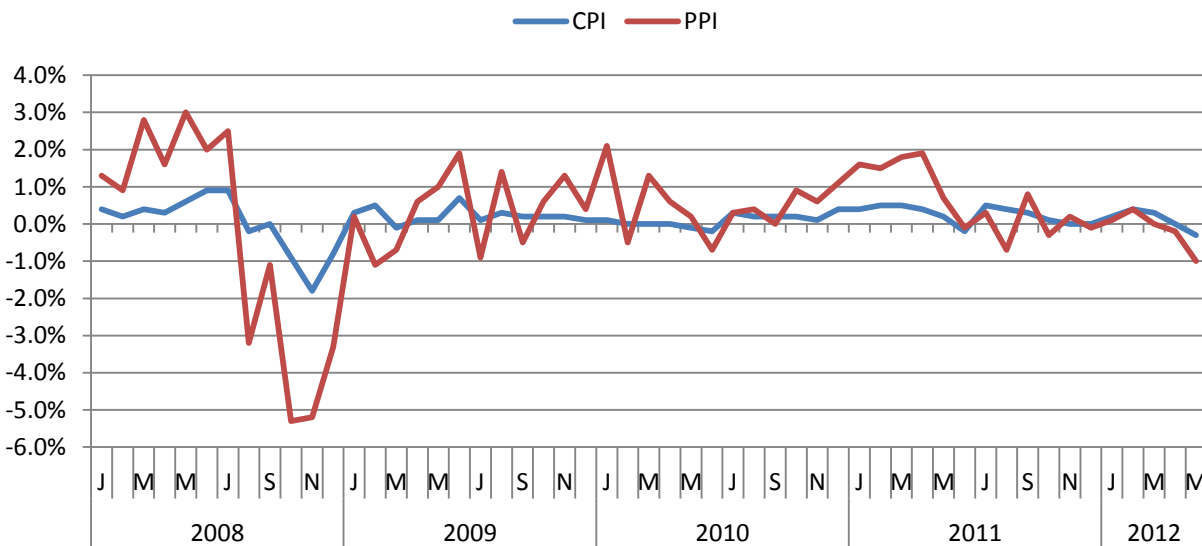
**Figure 5: Chicago Business Activity Index 2008-2012**



Source: University of Illinois Regional Economic Analysis Laboratory (REAL), seasonally adjusted. The NBER-dated recession from December 2007 to June 2009 is shaded in gray.

The CPI and the PPI have demonstrated a decline since February of 2012 after growing for a couple months before that. As monthly inflation can be volatile, the most important takeaway seems to be that both CPI and PPI have been relatively unchanged over the last year.

**Figure 6: Consumer Price Index and Producer Price Index, Monthly Inflation 2008-2012**



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, seasonally adjusted. The NBER-dated recession from December 2007 to June 2009 is shaded in gray.

## Definitions, Sources, and Notes

### Employment Data

**IDES** develops unemployment rates for metropolitan areas, counties and cities through a complex, multi-step process that includes a variety of data inputs, such as total non-farm employment estimates, unemployment insurance claims, population and employment data from the Census Bureau and employment and unemployment controls used to adjust for groups not covered by the Unemployment Insurance system.

- **Total in labor force** Included are all persons in the civilian non-institutional population classified as either employed or unemployed.
- **Total employed** includes those who, during the reference week (the week including the twelfth day of the month), (a) did any work as paid employees, worked in their own business or profession or on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in an enterprise operated by a member of their family, or (b) were not working but who had jobs from which they were temporarily absent. Each employed person is counted only once, even if he or she holds more than one job.
- **Unemployed** as measured by IDES are those individuals who had no employment during the reference week, were available for work (except for temporary illness) and had made specific efforts to find employment some time during the 4 week-period ending with the reference week. Persons who were waiting to be recalled to a job from which they had been laid off need not have been looking for work to be classified as unemployed.
- **Unemployment rate** is the total unemployed as a percent of the civilian labor force. The rates are not seasonally adjusted.
- **Initial unemployment claims** come from the **Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES)** administrative data. They are requests for determination of insured status (new claim) or notices filed when a break in job attachment has occurred (additional claim). Insured status refers to qualifying base period wages with an insured employer and the determination of the individual's weekly benefit amount.

### Featured stats

All data are from the 2010 American Community Survey, which is conducted by the Census Bureau each year. In order to access the data, we used the American FactFinder website, which is run by the U.S. Census Bureau.

- **American Community Survey** is an ongoing survey produced by the Census Bureau that provides data every year for a representative sample of the country and local areas.
- **Some College** is defined as someone who attended some institution post high school but did not complete any post high school degree.
- **Educational Attainment** is the highest level of education achieved by the respondent. We collapsed the categories to include Less than a High School diploma, Graduated High School, At Least Some College (including Associates' degrees), and At Least a Bachelor's Degree.
- **Total Personal Income** is the total pre-tax income from the previous year for an individual.

### Job stats

The **job change** statistics below come from Local Employment Dynamics (LED), a partnership between IDES and the U.S. Census Bureau to develop information about local workforce and labor market conditions. This information is built from sources that cover more than 90% of total wage and salary civilian jobs, primarily state and federal administrative records. Exclusions to this coverage include federal government workers, agricultural workers, domestic workers, and the self-employed.

- **Net job flow** is the total difference in employment at businesses from one period to the next.
- **New hires** is the number of current employees who were not employed by their current employer in the previous quarter.
- **Job creation** is the number of new jobs created by expansion of existing firms or establishment of new firms within the area.

### Business stats

- **Mass layoffs** are all layoffs reported to **IDES** in which 50 or more employees were separated for 30 or more days. It excludes government and agriculture.
- The **Midwest Manufacturing Index** is produced by the **Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago**. It is the composite measure of hours worked in manufacturing companies in 15 industries in Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Indiana, seasonally adjusted.
- **Home Price Index** is the Case-Shiller Home Price Index published by **Standard and Poor's**. It measures the seasonally adjusted changes in residential home values in 20 Metropolitan areas.
- The **Chicago Business Barometer** is a seasonally adjusted index produced by the **Institute for Supply Management – Chicago**. It is based on a survey of Chicago area purchasing managers working for local, national, or multinational firms.
- The **Chicago Business Activity Index** is produced by the **University of Illinois Regional Economics Application Laboratory**. It measures the business cycle status of the six-county Chicago area. It tends to lead the local business cycle by two-to-three months. For more information, see: <http://www.real.illinois.edu/>
- The **Consumer Price Index** measures the seasonally adjusted average change in prices paid for a market basket of goods and services by urban consumers as calculated by BLS.

- The **Producer Price Index** measures the seasonally adjusted average change over time in the selling prices received by domestic producers for their commodities produced as calculated by BLS.

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*This report was prepared by the CWICstats team from Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.*

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The Chicago Workforce Investment Council (CWIC) is a non-profit organization created in 2009 to ensure that Chicago has a skilled and educated workforce to keep our businesses, economy, communities, and families healthy and productive. CWIC monitors over \$300 million of public investment in education and workforce training, and coordinates resources to ensure these investments support the overall health of our economy.

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