The Illinois Economic Policy Institute (ILEPI) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan research organization that uses advanced statistics and the latest forecasting models to promote thoughtful economic growth for businesses and working families.

**KEY FACTS**

- We have published over 200 reports since our founding in 2013.
- Our research has been cited in over 100 news stories every year for the past five years.
- Our focus areas include: transportation funding, prevailing wage policy, apprenticeship training, responsible bidding, climate jobs, workers’ rights, minimum wage policy, economic development, and tax and budget policy.
- We maintain an updated toolkit on the Rebuild Illinois capital program on our website—with fact sheets, revenue estimates, funding breakdowns, maps, and links to legislation.

**RECENT POLICY CHANGES INFLUENCED BY OUR RESEARCH**

1. The $45 billion Rebuild Illinois capital program
2. The Illinois Safe Roads Amendment
3. Funding for the I-80 reconstruction project
4. Performance-based programming for transportation projects
5. The Climate and Equitable Jobs Act
6. The first $15 minimum wage in the Midwest
7. The Workers’ Rights Amendment
8. A stronger Illinois Prevailing Wage Act
9. The WorkShare Illinois program
10. Legal adult-use recreational cannabis

**OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

1. Contractor Director: **Joe Benson**, President, Southfield Corporation
2. Economic Development Director: **Jeremy Grey**, Executive Vice President, Hilco Redevelopment Partners
3. Labor-Management Director: **Marc Poulos**, Executive Director, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa Foundation for Fair Contracting
4. Union Director: **James Sweeney**, President-Business Manager, IUOE Local 150
5. Hospitality Director: **Karen Kent**, President, UNITE HERE Local 1
6. Utilities Director: **DeShana Forney**, Senior Director of Government and Community Relations, Peoples Gas
7. Clean Energy Director: **Chynna Hampton**, Equity Director, Climate Jobs Illinois
8. Higher Education Director: **Dr. Robert Bruno**, Professor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
9. Republican Director: **Dave Sullivan**, Former Illinois State Senator
10. Democratic Director: **Vacant**

**MEET THE STAFF**

Josh Weger  
*Executive Director*

Frank Manzo IV  
*Economist*

Mary Tyler  
*Transportation Director*

Andrew Wilson  
*Policy Analyst*

Grace Dunn  
*Research Associate*