



ILLINOIS CHILD TAX CREDIT WOULD REDUCE CHILD POVERTY & GROW STATE'S ECONOMY

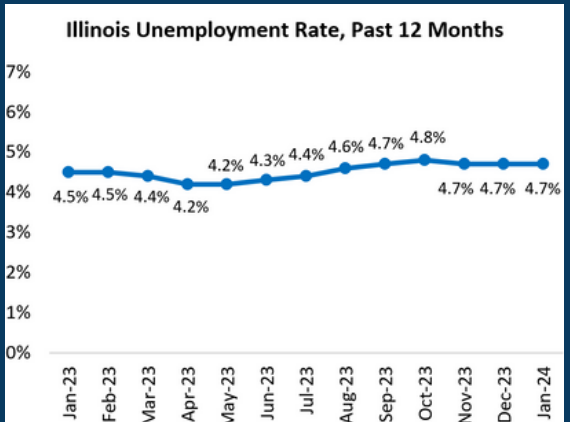
A Child Tax Credit (CTC) would reduce child poverty, deliver tax relief to working families, and reduce government spending on other forms of social assistance in Illinois. The report, *Implementing a Child Tax Credit in Illinois: Economic, Social, and Fiscal Impacts*, co-authored by ILEPI and the Project for Middle Class Renewal (PMCR) at the University of Illinois, finds that certain Child Tax Credit structures could reduce child poverty by between 14% and 23% while growing the economy by as much as \$3 billion per year and creating or saving as many as 17,000 jobs.

Child Tax Credits are already offered in 15 other U.S. states to families. Recently, bills were introduced in both chambers of the Illinois General Assembly to provide a Child Tax Credit to Illinois families.

ILEPI's [study](#) found that Child Tax Credit legislation would cost approximately \$1 billion per year, but costs associated with it would offset thanks to reductions in state spending on assistance for low-income families.

ILEPI Economist Frank Manzo IV said, "America's experience with Child Tax Credits has proven that they are an effective tool for reducing child poverty, delivering tax relief to working families, and addressing racial disparities while also creating jobs and growing our economy."

ILLINOIS ECONOMIC INDICATORS



Jobs added (rank), Dec-22 to Dec-23 = **+29,900 jobs (24)**

State unemployment rate (rank), Jan-24 = **4.7% (47)**

Average private sector wage (rank), Jan-24 = **\$33.84 (17)**

Private sector wage growth from Jan-23 to Jan-24 (rank) = **+1.6% (37)**

Illinois Flash Index (as of Feb-24) = **102.6**

ILEPI'S ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

Please join us for our Annual Fundraiser on Monday, April 8 from 6:00pm-8:00pm at Premier Catering in Countryside, IL.

Visit www.illinoisepi.org/events to register and pay online.

We appreciate your support!



ILLINOIS' NURSING PROFESSION REMAINS IN CRISIS

A systemic staffing crisis marked by widespread labor shortages continues to plague Illinois' healthcare workforce, according to a new survey of Illinois Registered Nurses by the non-profit organization NursesTakeDC. A new ILEPI and PMCR report, *Illinois Nursing in Crisis: A Comprehensive Survey Reveals a Continuing Systemic Level of Staffing Shortages, Moral Distress, and Attrition Among Registered Nurses*, analyzes the survey to find that over half of Illinois' registered nurses (RN) are over age 55, the state is projected to see an RN shortage of 15,000 by 2025, and 34% of existing RNs say they plan to leave the profession in the next twelve months.

Top RN concerns include heavy workloads, lack of awareness about staffing laws, and moral distress due to inadequate staffing. More than 75% of respondents said that a law mandating nurse staffing ratios, improved pay, or a better mix of professional and ancillary staff would draw them back into the profession.

Prior national surveys have shown that states adopting minimum nurse-to-patient ratios (also called "safe patient limits") have substantially reduced the share of nurses reporting that they must care for 6 patients or more as well as rates of moral distress. The share of nurses considering leaving the profession also shrank by 6%. *In 2019, ILEPI found that safe patient limits would help reduce occupational hazards while also improving patient outcomes.*

OTHER RESEARCH:

- A 2022 law that eliminated a two-tiered compensation system for certified auto mechanics at Illinois' car dealerships has **increased paychecks and helped combat a statewide shortage of qualified auto technicians**, while boosting economic activity, increasing state and local tax revenue, and promoting improved vehicle safety and reliability.
- **Nine-in-ten union members voted in favor** of the Workers' Rights Amendment last year, including bipartisan majorities of Democratic and Republican members.



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