



# Just the Facts

August 2009

## Federal Poverty Levels for 2009:

\$22,050 for a family of 4  
\$18,310 for a family of 3  
\$14,750 for a family of 2

The Federal minimum wage as of July 24, '09 is \$7.25/hour. An individual working 40 hrs/week, 52 weeks/year earns \$15,080 annually.

The minimum wage in IL as of July 1, '09 is \$8.00/hour. An individual working 40 hrs/week, 52 weeks/year earns \$16,640 annually.

***The monthly maximum TANF cash assistance for an IL family of three is \$396.***

A family of three receiving the maximum TANF cash assistance is receiving 26% of the federal poverty level.

### ***Poor Children, Elderly and Disabled***

**525,294** Illinois children are poor (16.6%)

*In families with only one unmarried parent in the household the poverty rate is 39%*

**128,047** residents 65+ are poor (8.9%)

*the poverty rate for women over 65 is 12.4%, for men over 65 it is 7.0%.*

28.9% of disabled Illinois children ages 5-15, and 22.8% of disabled individuals 16-64, live in poverty.

### ***Unemployment in Illinois***

June, '09 unemployment rate in Illinois was 10.3%, the 14th highest in U.S (lowest - North Dakota 4.2%, highest--Michigan 15.2%)

*The Illinois County with the lowest unemployment rate is Brown 3.7% ; the highest is Boone 13.7%*

**Note: Rates reflect only those persons receiving unemployment benefits and actively seeking work.**

***The Illinois Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is set at 5% of the federal refund making it the least generous state EITC in the nation!***

**65,184 IL households are waiting for public housing, exceeding existing units by over 1,300.**

In Illinois, the average fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment is \$829. To afford this level of rent plus utilities, without paying more than 30% of income on housing, a household must earn \$2,765 monthly or \$33,177 annually.

### **Miscellaneous Illinois Facts**

**Illinois ranks (out of 50 states):**

21<sup>st</sup> among states in per pupil expenditures

33<sup>rd</sup> among states in percent of babies born at low birth weight

34<sup>th</sup> among states in infant mortality rate

**For more information about this and other facts please contact:  
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