

This report provides demographic and socio-economic data for Illinois Congressional District 2.

### **Overview**

Among Illinois' 19 congressional districts, the Second Congressional District is the most geographically and culturally diverse.

The District is a distinct mixture of city, suburban and rural areas. After the 2011 redistricting, it now covers parts of Cook and Will County, and all of Kankakee County. From the tip of Hyde Park, to the south east side of Chicago, extending into the South Suburbs (in such places as Dolton, Harvey, Hazel Crest and Matteson), then extending all the way down to Kankakee, this newly drawn district is expansive. In fact, only about one-third of the district encompasses the city of Chicago.

Consequently, the issues facing the district and its more than 700,000 residents are as diverse as the people themselves. Residents within the city of Chicago contend with issues of gun violence and closing schools. The more agricultural areas of the district, like Momence and Peotone, are very concerned about farming. For every more affluent enclave within the district, like Olympia Fields, there are many indigent areas like Ford Heights, Dolton, and at the District's far southern end, Pembroke Township, which grapples with decay as one of the State's poorest communities.

### **At A Glance**

- The Congressional District's current **population**<sup>1</sup> is 718,507
- Eleven **employers**<sup>2</sup> in the Congressional District have 1,000 or more employees, with eight of those employers being in the health care and social assistance sector, two in educational services, and one in transportation and warehousing
- The Congressional District's percentage of individuals with an **educational attainment** of a bachelor's degree or higher has increased marginally from the 2010 rate<sup>3</sup> of 20.6 percent to the current rate<sup>1</sup> of 21.2 percent
- The **median household income** (in 2011 inflation adjusted dollars) in the District<sup>1</sup> is \$45,572, compared to the State's<sup>4</sup> median household income of \$56,576
- The **home ownership rate** in the District<sup>1</sup> is 55.29 percent, compared to the State's<sup>4</sup> home ownership rate of 60.2 percent

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<sup>1</sup> US Census Bureau, Easy Stats, American Community Survey, Illinois: Congressional District 2 (113th Congress), Illinois:  
<http://www.census.gov/easystats/>

<sup>2</sup> US Census Bureau, North American Industry Classification System, 2011 ZIP Code Business Patterns (NAICS):  
<http://censtats.census.gov/cbpnaic/cbpnaic.shtml>

<sup>3</sup> 2010 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Selected Social Characteristics in the United States, U.S. Census Bureau  
[http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS\\_10\\_1YR\\_DP02&prodType=table](http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_10_1YR_DP02&prodType=table)

<sup>4</sup> US Census, American FactFinder, SELECTED HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS 2011 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates:  
[http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS\\_11\\_1YR\\_DP04&prodType=table](http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_11_1YR_DP04&prodType=table)

## **Economic and Industrial Legacy**

The Second Congressional District was, for most of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, a thriving center of heavy industry centered around Lake Calumet and the Port of Chicago, augmented by the nearby railroad industry which had the Pullman Company as its centerpiece.

The steel industry was a major component, with U.S. Steel at one time employing 20,000 district residents. Wisconsin Steelworks in South Deering closed in March 1980, and U.S. Steel's South Works plant in South Chicago – a source of steel for Chicago skyscrapers such as the Sears Tower – closed in April 1992; both have since been dismantled.

Other notable business and industrial presences in the District include Jays Foods, a manufacturer of snack foods based in Pullman; Allied Tube and Conduit, a piping and electrical manufacturer in Harvey; and UGN Inc., an automotive soundproofing manufacturer with locations in both Chicago Heights and Tinley Park.

## **Unique Resources**

The South Suburban Region is a major transportation and shipping hub domestically and internationally. While the South Suburban Airport promises to be a major economic development engine for the region, there are more immediate opportunities for job creation in the transportation arena.

The Chicago metro area, and especially the South Suburbs, is the *only* place in the US that is serviced by all 6 Class A railroads, which makes the region the biggest hub for freight in the US. The logistics industry (part of transportation and warehousing) is a major user and developer of computer systems and networking and will be hiring thousands of high tech employees in the next 10 years.

Chicago is the largest inland general cargo port in America, and the city as a whole is the commercial transportation crossroads of the nation. But a recent study conducted by the Illinois International Port District demonstrated the need for a new direction of the Port of Chicago, citing lack of attention and investment.

A revitalized Port of Chicago, with new and more focused management, could easily support another 1,000 direct full-time jobs, as well as approximately 2,500 new induced and indirect jobs. Many of the jobs created would be well-paying positions in manufacturing, wholesale trade, and waste management and remediation, and would be an addition to the several hundred local construction jobs created by the refurbishment, rehabilitation, and upgrade of existing Port infrastructure, both on land and in the water.

## **Population Patterns**

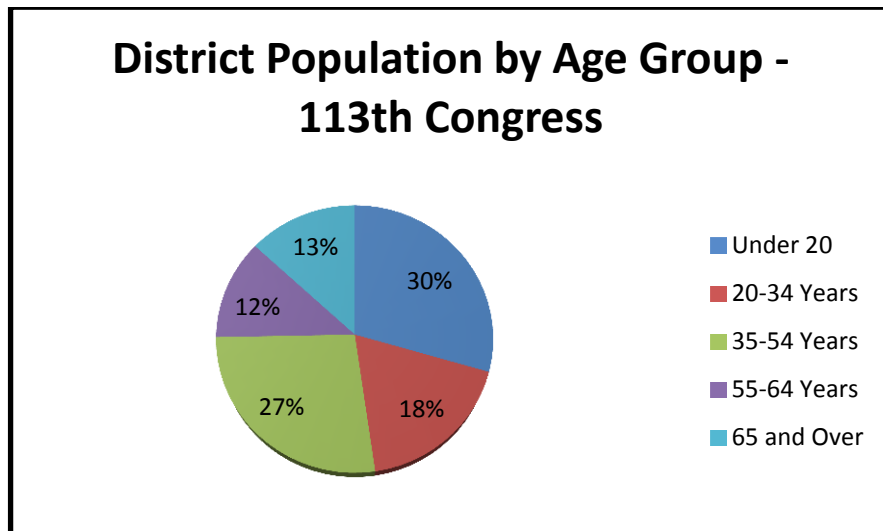
Over 700,000 thousand people reside in the district. A majority of the district's residents, more than 55 percent, are African American. Around one-quarter are White, and about one-tenth are Hispanic. *Following the redistricting, 59 percent of the Second Congressional District's population resides in the suburbs, with a total of 98.4 percent living in Cook County.* The District's white population (almost 30 percent of its residents) now primarily resides in the southern suburbs and a few far southeastern Chicago neighborhoods such as East Side and Hegewisch.

Several suburbs closer to Chicago near Interstate 57 have black populations exceeding 75 percent: Calumet Park, Dolton, Harvey, Hazel Crest, Markham, Phoenix and Riverdale. In contrast, there are five

suburbs further southeast with white populations exceeding 75 percent: Homewood, Lansing, South Chicago Heights, Steger and Thornton. These predominantly white suburbs surround Ford Heights, however, which has the District's most racially one-sided population, being 96 percent black. Hispanics represent 10 percent of the District's population, with sizable communities in East Side and Chicago Heights.

In contrast, cities like Kankakee, about 60 miles from Chicago, with nearly 28,000 residents, have a more even racial composition of 50 percent White, 41 percent Black and 9 percent Hispanic.

<b>Total Population Estimates</b>			
	<i>111<sup>th</sup> Congress Jan 2009-Jan 2011</i>	<i>112<sup>th</sup> Congress Jan 2011-Jan 2013</i>	<i>113<sup>th</sup> Congress Jan 2013-Jan 2015</i>
<b>Congressional District</b>	614,084 <sup>5</sup>	NA	718,507 <sup>1</sup>
<b>Illinois<sup>6</sup></b>	12,870,316	12,872,257	TBD



<sup>5</sup> US Census, Fast Facts for Congress, Total Population, Congressional District 2 (111th Congress), Illinois  
<http://www.census.gov/fastfacts/>

<sup>6</sup> Averages calculated using the following sources: Illinois: Population by Race Alone or in Combination and Hispanic or Latino Origin, for All Ages and for 18 Years and Over: 2000 and 2010:

[http://www2.illinois.gov/census/Documents/2010%20Data/2010\\_IL%20Pop%20x%20RaceAloneincomb\\_%20Hispanic\\_Totals%20and%20over.pdf](http://www2.illinois.gov/census/Documents/2010%20Data/2010_IL%20Pop%20x%20RaceAloneincomb_%20Hispanic_Totals%20and%20over.pdf)

Table 13. Intercensal Resident Population—States: 2001 to 2009

<http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/2012/tables/12s0013.pdf>

US Census, American Fact Finder, American Community Survey 2011

[http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS\\_11\\_1YR\\_B01003&prodType=table](http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_11_1YR_B01003&prodType=table)

US Census, State & County QuickFacts, Illinois: <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/17000.html>

<sup>7</sup> US Census Bureau, Easy Stats, American Community Survey, Illinois: Congressional District 2 (113th Congress), Illinois:

<http://www.census.gov/easystats/>

Population by Race		
	District <sup>7</sup>	State <sup>8</sup>
White	36.7%	78.0%
Black or African-American	55.5%	14.8%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.1%	0.6%
Asian	0.8%	4.8%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.1%
Some Other Race	4.4%	NA
Two or More Races	2.4%	1.7%

## Education

There are variety of educational institutions situated throughout the District, including Governors State University in University Park, Kankakee Community College in Kankakee, Prairie State College in Chicago South Suburban College in South Holland and Olive-Harvey College, a Chicago city college, in Pullman. Additionally, the University of Chicago is directly west of the District's northern end.

- The high school graduation rate in the District is slightly higher than that of the State
- Almost 15 percent of District residents have obtained a bachelor's degree

Educational Attainment				
	District <sup>9</sup>	% of District	State <sup>10</sup>	% of State
<b>Population 25 and older</b>	462,275	462,275	8,521,694	8,521,694
<b>Less than 9th grade</b>	25,882	5.6%	480,820	5.6%
<b>9th to 12th grade, No Diploma</b>	40,707	8.8%	610,761	7.2%
<b>High School Graduate (Includes equivalency)</b>	140,350	30.4%	2,351,322	27.6%
<b>Some College, No Degree</b>	124,565	26.9%	1,811,978	21.3%
<b>Associate's Degree</b>	32,575	7.0%	622,949	7.3%
<b>Bachelor's Degree</b>	58,020	12.6%	1,645,334	19.3%
<b>Graduate or Professional Degree</b>	40,176	8.7%	998,530	11.7%

<sup>8</sup> US Census, 2011 State & County QuickFacts: <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/17000.html>

<sup>9</sup> US Census Bureau, Easy Stats, American Community Survey, Illinois: Congressional District 2 (113th Congress), Illinois: <http://www.census.gov/easystats/>

<sup>10</sup> US Census, American FactFinder, SELECTED SOCIALCHARACTERISTICS IN THE UNITED STATES 2011 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates:

[http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS\\_11\\_1YR\\_DP02&prodType=table](http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_11_1YR_DP02&prodType=table)

## Housing

- The **home ownership rate** in the District<sup>1</sup> is approximately 55 percent, compared to the State's<sup>4</sup> home ownership rate of 60.2 percent

Housing Occupancy				
	District <sup>9</sup>	% of District	State <sup>11</sup>	% of State
<b>Total Housing Units</b>	300,810	300,810	5,296,209	5,296,209
<b>Occupied Housing Units</b>	256,882	85.4%	4,737,208	89.5%
<b>Owner-Occupied Housing Units</b>	166,310	55.3%	3,190,282	60.2%
<b>Renter-Occupied Housing Units</b>	90,572	30.1%	1,546,926	29.2%
<b>Vacant Housing Units</b>	43,928	14.6%	559,001	10.6%

## Unemployment

- Eleven percent of the population 16 years and over in Illinois<sup>12</sup> is unemployed, compared to 19.8 percent in the District<sup>13</sup>

Unemployment Rates		
	% in District	% in State
<b>16 years and over</b>	19.8%	11.0%
<b>One Race</b>	N	N
<b>White</b>	14.5%	9.2%
<b>Black or African American</b>	21.6%	22.1%
<b>American Indian or Alaskan Native</b>	N	22.7%
<b>Asian</b>	N	7.6%
<b>Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander</b>	N	N
<b>Some Other Race</b>	19.1%	12.9%
<b>Two or More Races</b>	N	14.0%
<b>Population 20 to 64</b>	18.4%	10.2%
<b>Male</b>	20.8%	10.7%
<b>Female</b>	16.2%	9.7%
<b>with own children under 6</b>	23.4%	12.7%

\* An 'N' entry indicates that data for this geographic area cannot be displayed because the number of sample cases is too small

<sup>11</sup> US Census, American FactFinder, SELECTED HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS 2011 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates:

[http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS\\_11\\_1YR\\_DP04&prodType=table](http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_11_1YR_DP04&prodType=table)

<sup>12</sup> US Census, American FactFinder, EMPLOYMENT STATUS 2011 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Illinois:

<http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?src=bkmk>

<sup>13</sup> EMPLOYMENT STATUS 2011 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Congressional District 2 (112<sup>th</sup> Congress):

<http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/searchresults.xhtml?refresh=t#none>

## Health Care

Hospitals in the District include Ingalls Memorial Hospital in Harvey, Advocate South Suburban Hospital in Hazel Crest, Franciscan St. James Hospitals in Chicago Heights and Olympia Fields, Advocate Trinity Hospital in Calumet Heights, La Rabida Children's Hospital in South Shore, and South Shore Hospital in South Chicago.

- There are eight health care and social assistance sector employers in the District who employ 1,000 or more
- Seventeen percent of the population in Cook County<sup>14</sup> is uninsured, compared to 9 percent in Will County<sup>14</sup> and 13.1 percent in the State<sup>15</sup>
- In all three geographical regions, those 18 to 64 years of age are the most likely to be without insurance

## Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

### Illinois<sup>16</sup>

- According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, approximately 80 percent of eligible individuals participate in SNAP in Illinois
- Sixteen percent of the State population (1 in 6 people) receives SNAP benefits
- Almost 71 percent of all SNAP participants are in families with children
- In Illinois, 88 percent of households receiving SNAP have income below the poverty line (about \$22,000 for a family of four in 2012), and 46 percent of households are in deep poverty, with income below 50 percent of the poverty line
- The average monthly SNAP benefit per person per meal is \$1.55\*
- Moody's Analytics estimates that in a weak economy, \$1 in SNAP benefits generates \$1.70 in economic activity

\* - This amount includes the temporary 13.6 percent boost in benefits provided by the recent economic recovery legislation, which will expire in November 2013

### District<sup>17</sup>

- The American Community Survey (ACS) provides a snapshot of SNAP participants in 2007-2009 for each congressional district. At the time of the study, about 17 percent of households in the District received SNAP
- Almost 65 percent of households within the District receiving SNAP benefits have children under 18 years
- Approximately 86 percent of households receiving SNAP benefits are Black or African American, 9 percent Hispanic or Latino, 4.8 percent White alone, and 4 percent are categorized as "some other race" by the USDA Food and Nutrition Service
- The median income of SNAP households is about \$19,000

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<sup>14</sup> US Census Bureau, American FactFinder, HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE STATUS, 2011 American Community Survey 1-Yr Estimates, Cook and Will Counties:

[http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS\\_11\\_1YR\\_S2701&prodType=table](http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_11_1YR_S2701&prodType=table)

<sup>15</sup> SOURCE: US Census Bureau, American FactFinder, HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE STATUS, 2011 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Illinois:

[http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS\\_11\\_1YR\\_S2701&prodType=table](http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_11_1YR_S2701&prodType=table)

<sup>16</sup> Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, Illinois Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, *Who Does SNAP Reach?*

<http://www.cbpp.org/files/1-14-13fa/IL.pdf>

<sup>17</sup> United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service (Published Sept 2011):

[http://www.fns.usda.gov/ORA/SNAPCharacteristics/Illinois/Illinois\\_2.pdf](http://www.fns.usda.gov/ORA/SNAPCharacteristics/Illinois/Illinois_2.pdf)