

Australia's relationship with

Illinois

KEY FACTS

- **Population:** 12,671,821 (7/2019)
- **Major Cities:** Chicago, Aurora, Rockford, Joliet (2016)
- **Gross Domestic Product (GDP):** In 2016, Illinois GDP was \$792 billion and ranked 5th in the United States
- **GDP Growth:** In 2016 Illinois real GDP grew 0.9 percent; the 2015-2016 national change was 0.4 percent
- **Key Industries:** finance, insurance, real estate, rental, and leasing. This industry accounted for 23 percent of Illinois total GDP and had 2.2 percent real growth in 2016
- **Known for:** Architecture, jazz music, deep dish pizza, loyal sports fans.

ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP

Australia is Illinois 5th largest export market in 2016

- **Two-Way Trade (goods only):** \$US 3,101 million (2016)
- **Australia's Exports to Illinois (goods only):** \$US 956 million (2016)
- **Illinois Exports to Australia (goods only):** \$US 2,146 million (2016)



Following a Cloud Gate is a public sculpture by Indian-born British artist Sir Anish Kapoor, that is the centrepiece of AT&T Plaza at Millennium Park in the Loop community area of Chicago, Illinois



PEOPLE TO PEOPLE LINKS

In 2013 Australian visitors spent more than US\$248 million in Illinois

- **Sister City:** Chicago IL – Sydney NSW; Wilmette IL – Mona Vale NSW
- **Representation:** Australia's relationship with Iowa is managed by the **Consulate General in Chicago**.

AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITY

- **Australian Football:** [Chicago Swans Football Club](#)
- **Australian Netball:** [Chicago Netball Club](#)
- **Australian, NZ, American Chamber of Commerce (ANZACC):** Approx 90 Members
- **Australians Living in Illinois:**
 - Jesse Spencer – TV actor “Chicago Fire”
 - Michael Mulcahy – Trombone player Chicago Symphony Orchestra
 - Peter Fitzpatrick – Photographer; Chair of Photography, Columbia College Chicago
 - Peter Pfanner – Executive Director, Chicago Innovation Centre, University of Illinois
 - Rob Charter – Group President, Caterpillar
 - Leanne Redolen – Executive Director, Regional Transport Authority

AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS

Over 23 Australian firms operate out of Illinois. Notable examples include:

- Akuna Capital – options trading
- AMP Limited – banking services
- Amcor Rigid Plastics USA (HQ in MI)
- ASX – Financial products
- Cardno – infrastructure & environmental services
- Coats electronic signage
- Computershare – finance (HQ in MA)
- Crea – marketing
- CSL Behring – plasma protein biotherapeutics
- Daniels Sharpsmart – waste management (plant in WI)
- GHD Group – engineering, architecture & environmental consulting
- James Hardie – home & garden retail
- Jindilli – macadamia based products
- Lendlease – construction & project management
 - established in 1976, the Chicago office has completed more than 600 local projects worth \$19 billion
- Macquarie Group – banking
- Nufarm Americas – agricultural chemical manufacturing
- SenCorp – office services
- Travel Associates – part of the Flight Centre Group
- Westfield – Commercial Real Estate

In 2013, Australian Companies employed nearly 11,000 employees

GLOBAL BUSINESS

There are 36 Fortune 500 companies headquartered in Illinois, including;

- Walgreens Boots Alliance
- McDonalds
- Boeing
- Motorola
- United Airlines
- Caterpillar
- Abbott Laboratories
- John Deere
- CME Group – world's largest futures market
- State Farm Insurance
- The Allstate Corporation

- Mondelez International
- Deere & Company
- Motorola Solutions
- Northern Trust
- Groupon

UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS

There are a number of formal agreements that exist between Australian institutions and universities located in Illinois. Notable examples include:

- University of Adelaide – University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Australian National University – University of Illinois

Nationally Ranked Universities in Illinois

- University of Chicago #3
- Northwestern University #11
- University of Illinois--Urbana-Champaign #52

MAJOR EVENTS

Illinois is host to many world class events, including;

- Annual Lollapalooza Music Festival:
- Annual Ravinia Music Festival: featuring Neil Finn in 2016
- Annual Chicago Art & Design Fair (SOFA): Kirra Galleries Melbourne (glass) exhibited for the last 14 years
- Chicago Architectural Biennial: Inaugural event 2015 – two Australian firms attended



The Chicago Cubs are the 2016 World Series champions