

Kane County Regional Economic Development Update



Fox Valley Sustainability Network

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2020 Unemployment Numbers

Month	Kane County	Illinois	USA
March	3.7%	4.2%	4.4%
April	16.8%	16.8%	14.7%
May	15.0%	14.7%	13.0%
June	N/A	N/A	11.1%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Why is Kane County Unemployment higher than average?

- ▶ Kane County's Top 3 Employment Sectors
 - ▶ Manufacturing
 - ▶ Retail
 - ▶ Healthcare/Medical Services
- ▶ Of those three Manufacturing and Retail were some of the hardest hit initially during the lockdown and continue to struggle.

Illinois Phase IV

- ▶ **Manufacturing:** All manufacturing open with IDPH approved safety guidance
- ▶ **“Non-essential” businesses:** All employees return to work with IDPH approved safety guidance; Employers are encouraged to provide accommodations for COVID-19-vulnerable employees
- ▶ **Bars and restaurants:** Open with capacity limits and IDPH approved safety guidance

Illinois Phase IV (Continued)

- ▶ **Personal care services and health clubs:** All barbershops, salons, spas and health and fitness clubs open with capacity limits and IDPH approved safety guidance
- ▶ **Entertainment:** Cinema and theaters open with capacity limits and IDPH approved safety guidance
- ▶ **Retail:** Open with capacity limits and IDPH approved safety guidance
- ▶ <https://dceocovid19resources.com/restore-illinois/restore-illinois-phase-4/>



Outdoor Dining at Nosh in Geneva had over 350 customers the Sunday after reopening in Phase III

(Source: kcchronicle.com)

When is Phase V?

- ▶ There is currently no expected date for Phase V.
- ▶ “With a vaccine or highly effective treatment widely available or the elimination of any new cases over a sustained period, the economy fully reopens with safety precautions.”





Social Distance Outdoor Diners in St. Charles

(Source: kcchronicle.com)

Local Municipalities Reacted Quickly to Phase III and IV

- ▶ Expedited Outdoor Seating Permitting and Inspections
- ▶ Closure of streets, sidewalks, and parking lots for dining areas
 - ▶ Allowing Tents in Parking Lots
- ▶ Promotion of restaurants that are reopening in partnership with local organizations

Temporary Use Application Requirements for Outdoor Seating Areas				
Elements and/or Location of Outdoor Seating Area	<u>Temporary Use Application</u>	Site Plan	Depiction of Barrier Devices	City License Agreement with Site Plan and Certificate of Insurance
Includes a tent, canopy, or other like structure	Y	Y	Depends if location warrants protection of patrons and/or employees	Only if outdoor seating area is on a public sidewalk or in a street
In a Private Parking Lot	Y	Y	Y	N
In a Street Parking Space (AKA Parklet)	Y	Y	Y	Y

Elgin's Temporary Use Permit Table for Outdoor Seating

Local Programs and Partnerships

▶ RESTORE Aurora Business Relief Fund - Aurora

▶ Small Business Development Center

▶ Waubonsee Community College

▶ College of DuPage

▶ Elgin Community College

▶ Officially reopened during the lockdown!



Kane County Programs and Partnerships

- ▶ Kane County Manufacturing Improvement Voucher w/ IMEC
 - ▶ \$25,000 Matching with up to \$5,000 additional matching funds
- ▶ Kane County Export Grant Matching Funds w/ CRGC
 - ▶ \$5,000 Matching with up to \$5,000 additional matching funds
- ▶ Kane Energy Efficiency Program - Property Assessed Clean Energy (KEEP-PACE)
 - ▶ An innovative financing tool that provides low-cost, long-term funding for energy efficiency, renewable energy and water conservation projects in commercial buildings in Kane County.

Illinois COVID Relief Programs

- ▶ **Business Interruption Grants Program (BIG)**
 - ▶ The BIG Program is available for up to 3,500 businesses that experienced a limited ability to operate due to COVID-19 related closures. The first round closed July 7th.
- ▶ **Rebuild Distressed Communities Program**
 - ▶ Rebuild Distressed Communities is a \$25 million economic recovery program to support Illinois businesses that have sustained property damage as a result of civil unrest during protest and demonstrations on or after May 25th, 2020. Closes July 10th

For more information, visit

<https://dceocovid19resources.com/for-businesses/>

Fabulous Fox! Water Trail

- ▶ Kane County Development, in partnership with KDOT and the KC Forest Preserve, is releasing a series of articles promoting the Fox River and Kane County's many trail systems on Kane County Connects.
- ▶ The series is highlighting topics such as:
 - ▶ Tourism Destinations
 - ▶ Health Benefits
 - ▶ Historic Sites
- ▶ Karen Miller will have more information!

