

2007

*Ottawa Area Chamber of
Commerce & Industry*

Economic Development Task Force

Community Profile



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Tourism Statistics

Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri, Indiana and Michigan are the top 5 states from which Ottawa attracts visitors.

LaSalle County ranked 16th in Illinois for counties that generate the most tourism-related revenue. More than \$132 million was spent in LaSalle County in 2005, which generated a payroll of \$27.22 million. The travel industry employed 134,000 people in the county and generated \$6.89 million in state tax receipts and \$2.52 million in local tax receipts.

On average, visitors to Ottawa spent \$116 per person per day in 2004.

In 2005, they spent \$26 per day on transportation (the highest expenditure), \$23 for food and \$18 for shopping.

The primary activities for leisure travelers include: dining, shopping, sightseeing, entertainment and visiting a museum.

In 2005, the average age of visitors to Ottawa was 43; and, the majority were married. The median annual household income was \$64,000 - \$69,000.

In 2005, most people traveled by car. Summer and fall were the most popular travel seasons in 2005.



Community Facilities (available within 10 miles)

Bed & Breakfasts	5
Churches	30+
Country Clubs	2
Health Clubs	4
Hotels/Motels	8
Number of Rooms	425
Lake/River Name	Illinois & Fox
Lodges	2
Public Golf Courses	4
Public Swimming Pool	2
Restaurants	88
River Public Access	Yes
Theaters	1
YMCA	1

Recreation

Illinois River	<p>Ottawa is 80 miles southwest of Chicago on I-80 and Illinois 23 at the confluence of the Illinois and Fox Rivers.</p>
Fox River	
Illinois & Michigan Canal	
Starved Rock State Park	
Matthiessen State Park	
Illini State Park	
Buffalo Rock State Park	

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Ottawa Snapshot Demographic Profile

County	LaSalle
Elevation	480 ft.
Land Area	7.3 sq. mi.
Population	
City	18,500
20-mile radius	115,900
30-mile radius	219,000



Median Resident Age 38.2 years

Employment Statistics

Labor Force

(Tri-County Area of LaSalle, Bureau and Putnam) 80,959

Unemployed 4,634

Percentage 5.7%

Total Employed 76,075

Community Union Activity

(Data from December 2004 Illinois Labor Relations Board)

Labor Relations Board Elections

Number in last 5 years 0

Number won by unions 0

Number won by company 0

Work Stoppage Occurrences

Number in last 5 years 0

Number of Employees involved 0

Traffic Counts

25,000 cars go through Ottawa everyday based on statistics from the Illinois Department of Transportation. For more detailed maps and information, go to: <http://www.dot.state.il.us/maps.html>

Education Facilities

Type	Schools	Teachers	Enrollment
Elementary 2 parochial (K-8) 4 public (3:K-4) (1:5-6)	6	183	2426
Junior High (7,8)	1	38	526
Senior High (9-12) 1 parochial 1 public	2	138	1870
Trade & Technical	0		
Community College	1	127	4047
Four Year College/ University	0		



Emergency Services

Fire Department

Full Time	28
Part Time	0
Volunteer	0
City Fire Insurance Class	5

Police Department

Full Time	41
Part Time	0
Volunteer	0
Emergency 911 System	Yes
Rescue Squad	Yes

Transportation

Motor Carrier Transportation

Federal Highways	2
State Highways	2
Interstate Highways	2
I-80 (E-W) I-39 (N-S)	
Package Delivery	Yes

Motor Freight Terminals	4
Interstate Carriers	22
Intrastate Carriers	22

Air Transportation

		Distance		
Chicago O'Hare International		90 miles		
Chicago Midway		80 miles		
Illinois Valley Regional		15 miles		
SkyDive Chicago, Ottawa		6 miles		
Runway	6000ft	Charter Service	Yes	
Fuel	Yes	Private Aircraft Storage	Yes	
Lighted Runway	Yes	Private Aircraft Maint.	Yes	
Surface	Concrete			

Water Transportation

Adjoins Navigable Waterway	Yes
Waterway Name	Illinois River
Channel Depth	9 feet
Public Barge	Yes
Public Dock	Yes
Season Length	11 months
Private Barge	Yes

Rail Transportation

CSX Railroad 5-day service/week with additional frequency depending on the quality & type of products shipped

Illinois Railway Daily service (Interchange with Burlington Northern and CSX)

Local Piggyback	No (Nearest piggyback is 85 miles)
Local Container	No (Nearest container is 85 miles)

Wage Rates

Occupation	LaSalle County (2006)	
	Entry	Top
Accountant/Auditor	13.53	20.30
Assembler-Electronic	7.58	10.77
Assembler-Production	10.50	20.02
Assembler-All Other	6.47	10.07
Computer Operator	8.48	15.40
Computer Programmer	18.48	35.77
Data Entry Operator	9.47	11.85
Drill or Punch Press Operator	10.48	16.34
Engineer-Civil	25.22	32.72
Engineer-Mechanical	17.62	32.99
Janitor/Porter/Cleaner	6.69	11.51
Laborer	8.51	17.08
Machinist	11.64	18.30
Maintenance Mechanic	11.97	18.24
Office Clerk	7.39	12.11
Secretary	7.16	11.10
Sheet Metal Worker	25.93	26.77
Ship-Recv. Clerk	9.10	14.39
Systems Analyst-Computer	18.81	25.46
Systems Analyst-Management	18.87	29.48
Technician-Laboratory	14.91	18.43
Technician-EMT	6.93	19.84
Technician-Pharmacy	9.27	11.24
Tool & Die Maker	15.85	22.62
Warehouse Worker	7.36	14.99
Industrial Truck Operator	11.77	18.45
Welder	11.61	15.32
Word Processor	7.72	17.20

Note: Ottawa has lower wages than the state average in eighteen of the twenty-eight wage categories.

Tax Structure

Property tax rates per \$100 assessed valuation.
Valuation is 33.3% of real property and rate varies based on location.

Tax Year	Tax Rate
2005	9.5890
2004	9.5467
2003	9.1936
2002	9.1261
2001	9.1002
2000	9.0564
1999	8.6419
County Tax Rate	1.0668
City Tax Rate	1.5779
Total Sales Tax Rate	7.00%
School Tax Rate	6.5
Local Tax – Electricity	5%
Local Tax – Telephone	0%
Local Tax – Natural Gas	5%
Local Tax – Water	3%

Ottawa is the county seat of LaSalle County

Local Government

Government Type	Commission/ Village
Subdivision Ordinance (with Design Standards)	Yes
Home Rule	No
County Zoning	Yes
Municipal Zoning	Yes
Competitive Communities Initiatives	Yes
Enterprise Zone	Yes
Foreign Trade Zone	No
Tax Increment Financing District	Yes
Illinois Representative District	76
Illinois Senate District	38
US Congressional District	11

Local Major Employers

B & B Electronics Electronic interface components	96 employees
Zip-Pak Plastic Zippers	45 employees
Clover Technologies Printer Cartridges	450 employees
Mitsuboshi Belting Automotive Belts	168 employees
Community Hospital of Ottawa Health Services	635 employees
Ottawa Dental Lab Denture manufacturer	105 employees
GE Advanced Materials Plastic processing	275 employees
Pilkington Glass Maker	157 employees
PetsMart Warehouse distribution	800 employees
HR Imaging Partners Photo processing/yearbooks	425 employees
OfficeMax Telemarketing	318 employees
Pleasant View Luther Home Senior Care	230 employees
Seattle Sutton's Healthy Eating Meal plans	170 employees
U.S. Silica Company Sand	120 employees
Heritage Woods Assisted Living Senior Care Facility	50 employees
Tyson Foods Meat Distributor	130 employees

Utilities

Electric & Gas

Electric Supplier	Ameren IP
Gas Supplier	Nicor Gas

Water

Water Supplier	Municipal
Water Source	Deep Wells

	Gallons/Day	Liters/Day
Storage Capacity	1,600,000	6,057,000
Daily Treatment Capacity	5,600,000	21,199,000
Average Daily Demand	2,300,000	8,707,000
Peak Daily Demand	3,200,000	12,113,000
Excess Capacity	2,400,000	4,543,000

Waste Water Treatment

Type of Plant	Secondary
Process	Activated Sludge

	Gallons/Day	Liters/Day
Treatment Capacity	4,000,000	15,100,000
Present Load	2,800,000	10,600,000
Excess Capacity	1,200,000	2,271,000

Telephone

Local Telephone Supplier	SBC Ameritech
Long Distance Carriers	Vary
Digital Switching	Yes
Fiber Optics	Yes

Financial Institutions

Banks

6

First National Bank
 Union Bank
 Old Second Bank
 First State Bank
 First Federal Savings Bank
 Ottawa Savings Bank

Credit Unions

3

Bakelite Credit Union
 Financial Plus Credit Union
 LaSalle County School Employees Credit Union

Climate

Average Temperature

Summer 82°F (27.77C)
 Winter 21.6°F (-5.77C)

Average Precipitation

Rain 34.79 Inches (88.37cm)
 Snow 28.00 Inches (71.12cm)

Health Facilities

Hospitals	1
Community Hospital of Ottawa	
Hospital Beds	124
Doctors	47
Dentists	20
Local Clinic Available	Yes
Local Emergency Treatment Center	Yes