## Update on Illinois' Economic and Fiscal Challenges and Responses

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# Update on Illinois' economy and fiscal balance

- Recent legislative fiscal actions (as of May 31, 2011)
- Cyclical factors in Illinois and regional economy
- Update on fiscal balance in Illinois



### Recent legislative actions (As of May 31, 2011)

#### Revenue

- Major gaming expansion
  - Could bring in as much as \$1.5 billion in onetime monies and
  - Perhaps \$0.5 billion on an annual basis
    Unclear whether Governor Quinn will sign this
- No additional borrowing
- No major tax changes (since January 2011)



### Recent legislative actions (As of May 31, 2011)

#### Spending

- January 2011 legislation capped General Fund (GF) spending at \$36.8 billion for FY2012.
- General assembly approved GF spending of \$33.2
  billion.
- Despite almost constant GF spending, significant cuts in specific programs are planned—including social safety net programs.



## Cyclical Factors in the Illinois and Regional Economy

- Midwest is leading other U.S. regions in the recovery
- Economic conditions not better but pace of improvement quicker
- Regional economy pulled along by agriculture and manufacturing

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 Also labor market improvement in Chicago and other service-oriented metropolitan areas

Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago **What's Behind the Seventh District Resurgence?** May 19, 2011 http://midwest.chicagofedblogs.org/archives/2011/05/seventh\_distric\_3.html

## Cyclical Factors in the Illinois and Regional Economy

- What's ahead? Much, but not all, of the resurgence is from transitory causes
  - Rebound lifted inventory building of durable goods...as inventories return to normal, growth in demand will ease off.
  - Robust world economic growth is expected to continue, but not accelerate. Manufacturing export growth may be more subdued.

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## **Update on Fiscal Balance in Illinois**

- General assembly showed immense restraint with respect to FY12 GF spending.
- Projected GF revenues are equal to approved GF spending and actual GF revenues appear on track to equal projected revenues.
- Major remaining concerns:
  - Gubernatorial response.
  - Billions of dollars of unpaid bills.
  - Unfunded post-employment liabilities including pensions.
  - Non-general fund revenues and spending.



#### General vs. Non-General Funds Spending 1997-2012 (Nominal)



## For more information: igpa.uillinois.edu



#### **Additional Slides**

GF Revenues
 Unemployment
 Illinois vs US
 Illinois vs Michigan



#### General vs. Non-General Funds Receipts 1997-2012 (Nominal)



## **Unemployment Rate**

The percent of the labor force that is unemployed, not seasonally adjusted



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