Abandoned in their Neighborhoods: Youth Joblessness amidst the Flight of Industry and Opportunity

Produced for: Alternative Schools Network

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Great Cities Institute
University of Illinois at Chicago
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Executive Summary
Introduction

“More Jobs, Less Violence: Connecting Youth to a Brighter Future,” is the title of the 2017 Youth Employment Hearing sponsored by Alternative Schools Network and held at the Chicago Urban League on January 30, 2017. Other co-sponsors of the hearing include Chicago Area Project, Youth Connection Charter School, Westside Health Authority, Black United Fund of IL, National Youth Advocate Program, La Casa Norte, Lawrence Hall, Mount Sinai Medical Center, Heartland Alliance and Metropolitan Family Services. Each of these groups work directly with young people, providing mentorship and employment related opportunities. Elected officials from federal, state and local government attended to hear the data presented and the voices of young people who testified on their experiences related to employment. This report, produced by UIC’s Great Cities Institute, provides a supplement to the voices of the young people and those that work with them.

The message from the young people who have testified at previous annual hearings sponsored by the above groups is loud and clear, “We want to work.” As they share stories, we learn that many of them provide income to a household that is often multi-generational and includes grandmothers, younger siblings and sometimes children of their own. What is also notable is that the young people, based on their knowledge and experience, explicitly make the connection between violence and jobs, and speak about the importance of employment as an alternative to the streets, asserting, “more jobs, less violence.” In the words of the young people:

Jobs solve violence. If you are busy working, you don't have time for violence.

There are so many people who don't have a job, and they get into the wrong things.

Bring youth employment... everyone wants drugs and violence to stop, well then... get us off these streets and get us in some work clothes and you will see the change.

We need these jobs out here; it's real bad out here.

If you want to save lives, you want to see a difference, give these teens jobs.

Young people tell us, based on their experiences and knowledge, that they believe there is a connection between joblessness and crime in their neighborhoods. While not everyone who is without a job engages in violence, these quotes suggest that of those who do, economic reasons are often a motivating factor. Further, they suggest that providing jobs deters them from seeking economic solutions that may involve them in illegal activities. While rampant joblessness may not completely explain violence, we learn from young people that it is no doubt a contributing factor and conversely, providing a job can mitigate the conditions that lead to criminal activities.

In the 2016 hearing, a continuous stream of young people testified to the difference that a job, including summer jobs, has made in creating pathways for life changing opportunities,

I am a product of how good a job can be.

I was headed on a path of tremendous destruction... At the time, was very negative, very destructive. I came from one of the biggest street gangs on the west side of Chicago and I really didn't know where my life was headed. Selling drugs was the option that I thought to provide for my child at the time. [Because of the summer employment program], my life has changed dramatically over the last six years...I have changed in so many ways...knowing what it is to have a job.
A good job can change a person’s life – if you want to make a positive change in these communities, help give teens a job.

So many of the young people who testified, speak about the particular programs and the importance of both mentorship and interacting with people that believe in them.

I want to share the importance of the summer youth employment program and how it helped me. It benefitted me. It gave me an experience that showed me the greater things in life. It gave me the feeling that I could become more, that I could become somebody that matters…without it I don’t know where I would be. I’d probably be where people think a kid like me would end up being just because of where I live.

Jobs are very critical to the lives of our young people. Young people can’t be, what they can't see. If you cannot see positivity, you cannot be positive. If you see negativity, you will be negative.

Thanks to the program, I was able to get nice legal money…I don't want to be a statistic. I was given an opportunity and I was so blessed and thankful.

[Mentors] took me under their wings and showed me the highways and byways and the right way to go out of the pathways of destruction.

These organizations and these jobs they are very critical to the lives of our young people. And you all can make that happen.

I had people to be inspired by. I just wanted to become more. The money that I earned gave me power and a sense of responsibility.

Every young person that testified provided stories and insights on the difference that employment opportunities make in “connecting youth to a brighter future.” They explicitly spoke about the skills and work ethic that they gain through having a job, that they prefer income that a job provides over public assistance or the economy of the streets, and that when they feel they don’t have an alternative to the streets, it produces anxiety and fear.

This report is intended to supplement the voices of young people whose message is loud and clear: they want to work, jobs are a deterrent to engaging in illegal activities, and opportunities to work through youth employment programs make a difference. We can therefore conclude that if opportunities for employment are provided, young people will take advantage of them; that violence prevention must involve job creation for young people; and that programs that provide mentorship and pathways for employment opportunities must have their budgets increased, not slashed.

A report such as this one accomplishes several things: it supplements the voices of young people with data on the expansiveness of the problem; it provides analysis and context for understanding what has given rise to both the conditions and their consequences, including violence; and it concludes with affirming a set of multi-pronged strategies to tackle this deeply entrenched issue.
This 2017 report demonstrates that youth joblessness continues to be disproportionately felt by young people of color, especially black males; that it is chronic and concentrated; that the recession made conditions worse and that for some, recovery is either slow or nonexistent; that it is tied to long term trends in the overall loss of manufacturing jobs; and most notably, that joblessness among young people is tied to the emptying out of jobs from neighborhoods, which is in contrast to jobs that are being centralized in Chicago’s downtown areas where whites are employed in professional level services.

In last year’s report, the Great Cities Institute provided data from 2005 to 2014 on employment/population ratios by race/ethnicity for male and female 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds, as well as the inverse figures on joblessness. In addition, we calculated out of school and out of work rates. What we learned was that during that time period, conditions of joblessness in Chicago were exceedingly high, in comparison to Illinois, the U.S. and the cities of New York and Los Angeles. Particularly shocking was that among 20 to 24 year olds black men, nearly half were neither working nor in school. We learned that these numbers revealed that joblessness persisted over the time period viewed and that “low rates of employment are spatially concentrated in neighborhoods that are racially segregated.”

In this 2017 report, we sought to learn more about the chronic quality of joblessness. To that end, we compiled and calculated various employment data from 1960 to 2015 for 16 to 24 year old males and females by race/ethnicity comparing geographies within Chicago and Chicago with Illinois, the U.S., Los Angeles and New York City. This long view revealed long term trends and confirmed the persistent and chronic nature of the conditions of joblessness among young people in Chicago, most especially for Latinos, and even more dramatically, for Blacks.

What we also learn from this longitudinal view is that the 2008 recession had a dramatic effect on joblessness among young people in Chicago and that for Blacks and Latinos, the recovery is either non-existent or slow. Latino men have been slowest to recover.

It continues to be true for 2017 that high rates of joblessness among young people are concentrated in those neighborhoods that are most racially segregated.

In the 2016 report, we stated that joblessness among young people in Chicago was directly “tied to conditions in their neighborhoods and cannot be seen as distinct from what is happening in neighborhoods themselves.” In this year’s report, we test this further and provide data by community area on location of total jobs as well as jobs by industry: manufacturing, retail and professional and related services. Using Geographic Information System (GIS), we generated maps that demonstrate the dramatic change in the location of jobs within the city of Chicago. Jobs are gone from where they used to exist.

Sifting through the extensive amount of data contained in this report, there are a number of key findings:

**Joblessness persists, particularly for young Black men and women**

- In 2015, employment conditions in Chicago were worse than in Illinois and the U.S. for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds (see Figures 1, 2, and 3).
- The percent of jobless Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds in Chicago increased from 58.7 percent in 2014 to 60.2 percent in 2015 (see Appendix C Figure C2).
- Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year old women in Chicago had a higher jobless rate (60.4 percent) than New York City (44.7), Los Angeles (44.7), Illinois (50.4), and the U.S. (38.3) in 2015 (see Table 2).
- In 2015, Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year old men in Chicago had a higher jobless rate (60 percent) than New York City (50.3), Los Angeles (48.4), Illinois (51.6), and the U.S. (45.2) (see Figure 16).
Joblessness reflects a long-term trend, made worse by the recession

- From 1960 to 2015, employment-to-population ratios for 16 to 19 year olds declined over time in Chicago, most severely after the Great Recession, after which they showed only a slight rebound (see Figures 1, 2, and 3).
- 20 to 24 year olds were worse off in Chicago in 2015 than in 1960. (In Illinois and the U.S., this trend is reversed, where they were better off in 2015 than 1960) (see Figures 1 and 2).
- The Great Recession severely impacted every racial/ethnic group of 16 to 19 year olds in Chicago, Illinois and the U.S. but had the largest impacts in Chicago. Even after a period of recovery from 2010 to 2015, no group of 16 to 19 year olds in Chicago, Illinois and the U.S. had employment-to-population ratios at pre-recession levels (see Figures 4, 5, and 6).
- Latinos in Chicago were the only racial/ethnic group of 16 to 19 year olds that did not show any recovery after the recession but continued to decline after 2010 (see Figure 4).
- While the recession did impact 20 to 24 year olds, it did not impact them as severely as it did 16 to 19 year olds. Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year olds in Chicago, Illinois and the U.S. saw growth from 2000 to 2010 while White (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) declined (see Figures 7, 8 and 9).
- Black 20 to 24 year olds in Chicago, and Illinois were worse off in 2015 than in 1960 with the most severe decline in Chicago (see Figures 7, and 8).

Joblessness is systemic and is tied to the flight of industry from neighborhoods

- Manufacturing was a significant part of Chicago’s economy in 1960, employing 57.8 of working Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year olds, 35 percent of Whites (non-Hispanic or Latino) and 29.6 percent of Blacks (non-Hispanic or Latino).
- A continuous downward trend from 1960 to 2015 left just 10.2 percent of working 20 to 24 year old Hispanic or Latinos in manufacturing and just 2.9 percent of both Black and White 20 to 24 year olds. The subsequent decline indicates that Chicago’s large manufacturing sector was hit harder by the decline in manufacturing than the U.S. as a whole (See Figure 24).
- In Chicago, the decline in manufacturing resulted in an economy with large retail trade and professional and related services sectors – both of which, in 2015 paid lower wages to 20-24 year olds than manufacturing did in 1960 (See Figure 28).
- With the loss of manufacturing in Chicago came the flight of jobs from neighborhoods and the concentration in the central core, where whites (36.8 percent) are employed in professional and related jobs and Blacks (45.7 percent) and Latino (39.7 percent) are in retail (See Figures 25 and 26).
- In 1957, large numbers of jobs were located throughout Chicago’s zip codes with an expansive area making up Chicago’s central area (from Lake Michigan to the East, Chicago’s western boundary to the West, Irving Park and North Center to the North, and New City to the South) having large numbers of jobs. By 2015, jobs become centralized towards the Loop and the South, and West Sides of Chicago in particular have fewer jobs (See Maps 7, 8 and 9).

What we learn from this report is that many neighborhoods in Chicago are economically abandoned sectors with a dramatic loss of industry and opportunity for employment. These neighborhoods have been abandoned, along with the people that live there. It is our hope that this report, *Abandoned in their Neighborhoods: Youth Joblessness Amidst the Flight of Industry and Opportunity*, along with the voices of young people, can result in firm and concerted efforts to reverse the long-term trends that created the conditions and in doing so, restore hope and opportunity for the many young people whose lives do indeed matter. This report concludes with suggestions to initiate a substantive conversation on how to address the issues raised by this report.
**Summary of Data**

**Employment to population ratios by age in Chicago, Illinois, and U.S., 1960-2015** (See Figures 1, 2, and 3.)

- Employment to population ratios for 16 to 19 year olds declined over time in Chicago, most severely after the Great Recession, after which they showed only a small rebound.
- 16 to 19 year olds in Illinois and the U.S. had similar declines but started out with higher ratios before the recession.
- 20 to 24 year olds were worse off in Chicago in 2015 than in 1960.
- In Illinois and the U.S., this trend is reversed, where they were better off in 2015 than 1960.
- In 2015, employment conditions in Chicago were worse than in Illinois and the U.S. for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds.

![Figure 1: Employment to Population Ratio by Age in Chicago, 1960-2015](image.png)


**Employment to population ratios for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds by race/ethnicity in Chicago, Illinois, and U.S., 1960-2015** (See Figures 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9.)

- The Great Recession severely impacted every group of 16 to 19 year olds in Chicago, Illinois and the U.S. but had the largest impacts in Chicago.
- Even after a period of recovery from 2010 to 2015, no group of 16 to 19 year olds in Chicago, Illinois and the U.S. had employment to population ratios at pre-recession levels.
- The racial/ethnic group of 16 to 19 year olds that did not show any recovery after the recession was Hispanic or Latinos in Chicago, which continued to decline after 2010.
- While the recession did impact 20 to 24 year olds, it did not impact them as severely as it did 16 to 19 year olds.
- Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year olds in Chicago, Illinois and the U.S. saw growth from 2000 to 2010 while Whites (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Blacks (non-Hispanic or Latino) declined.
Black 20 to 24 year olds in Chicago and Illinois were worse off in 2015 than in 1960 with the most severe decline in Chicago.


Employment to population ratios for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds by race/ethnicity and gender in Chicago, Illinois, and U.S., 1960-2015 (See Figures 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15.)

- Recovery after the Great Recession has been slow or non-existent for many groups.
- 16 to 19 year old Hispanic or Latino males and females have seen employment to population ratios continuously decline while recovery for Hispanic or Latino and Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year old males has been non-existent.
• In all, no group in 2015 was as well off as they were in 2000.
• In 1960, 16 to 19 year olds males had higher employment to population ratios than females for each respective race/ethnic group. Over time, males decreased while females increased and by 2015, there were many instances of females having higher employment to population ratios than their male counterparts.
• The conditions are slightly different for 20 to 24 year olds where large gaps that existed in 1960 between males and females of respective race/ethnic groups decreased over time and in some instances, females surpassed males.
• For 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds, Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) males had the lowest employment to population ratios across all geographies except in Chicago in 2015, when Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) females had the lowest.

![Figure 10: Employment to Population Ratio for 16-19 Year Olds by Race/Ethnicity and Gender in Chicago, 1960-2015](image)

Out of Work Rates for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds by Race/Ethnicity in the U.S., Illinois, Chicago, New York, and Los Angeles, 2015 (See Table 1, Appendix C1 and C2.)

- New York City and Chicago had the two highest out of work rates for all 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds in 2014 and 2015.
- While racial differences were stark across Chicago, New York City, Los Angeles, Illinois and the U.S., Chicago had the largest gap in out of work rates between racial/ethnic groups occurring between White (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds in 2014 and 2015.
- While in most cases Whites (non-Hispanic or Latino) had the lowest out of work rates followed by Hispanic or Latinos and Blacks (non-Hispanic or Latino), this was not the case in Los Angeles for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds where Hispanic or Latinos had the lowest out of work rates in 2015.
Table 1: Percent of 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds Who Were Out of Work by Race/Ethnicity in the U.S., Illinois, Chicago, New York City, and Los Angeles, 2015

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>20-24</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White (non-Hispanic or Latino)</td>
<td>65.4%</td>
<td>65.0%</td>
<td>73.4%</td>
<td>84.1%</td>
<td>81.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black (non-Hispanic or Latino)</td>
<td>76.7%</td>
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<td>89.2%</td>
<td>41.8%</td>
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<td>85.4%</td>
<td>78.8%</td>
<td>33.6%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>69.9%</td>
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<td>86.6%</td>
<td>81.0%</td>
<td>34.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See Appendix A for n values
Data Source: 2015 American Community Survey, public use files. Tabulations by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Out of Work Rates for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds by Race/Ethnicity and Gender in the U.S., Illinois, Chicago, New York, and Los Angeles, 2015 (See Table 2.)

- Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) males in New York City and Chicago had the two highest out of work rates for 16 to 19 year olds in 2014 and 2015.
- The largest racial/ethnic gaps in out of work rates between Chicago, New York City, Los Angeles, Illinois and the U.S. occurred in Chicago between Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) and White (non-Hispanic or Latino) males and females.
- 20 to 24 year old Hispanic or Latino males in the U.S., and 16 to 19 year and 20 to 24 year old Hispanic or Latino males in Los Angeles had lower out of work rates than Whites (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Blacks (non-Hispanic or Latino).
- White (non-Hispanic or Latino) males and females had the lowest for each other geography of 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year old.

Table 2: Percent of 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds Who Were Out of Work by Race/Ethnicity and Gender in the U.S., Illinois, Chicago, New York City, and Los Angeles, 2015

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<td>White (non-Hispanic or Latino)</td>
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See Appendix A for n values
Data Source: 2015 American Community Survey, public use files. Tabulations by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.
Out of Work and Out of School Rates for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds by Race/Ethnicity in the U.S., Illinois, Chicago, New York, and Los Angeles, 2015 (See Table 3, Appendix C, Figures C3 and C4.)

- As was the case in 2014, in 2015, Chicago had the highest total percent, and highest percent of Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds who were out of work and out of school.
- The largest gap between racial and ethnic groups was in Chicago between Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) and White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds.

Table 3: Percent of 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds Who Were Out of Work and Out of School by Race/Ethnicity in the U.S., Illinois, Chicago, New York City, and Los Angeles, 2015

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<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
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<th>20-24</th>
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<tr>
<td>White (non-Hispanic or Latino)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black (non-Hispanic or Latino)</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Population</td>
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<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: 2015 American Community Survey, public use files. Tabulations by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Out of Work and Out of School Rates for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds by Race/Ethnicity and Gender in the U.S., Illinois, Chicago, New York, and Los Angeles, 2015 (See Table 4 and Figure 16.)

- In 2014 and 2015, Chicago had the highest percent of Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) males both 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 that were out of work and out of school.
- For 20 to 24 year olds males, out of work and out of school rates in Chicago were worse than in Illinois and the U.S. for Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year olds and better for White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds.
- For Hispanic or Latinos, New York City had the highest percentage of out of work and out of school 16 to 19 year old Hispanic or Latino males and females and 20 to 24 year old Hispanic or Latino males while Chicago had the highest percentage of out of work and out of school 20 to 24 year old Hispanic or Latino females.
## Table 4: Percent of 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds Who Were Out of Work and Out of School by Race/Ethnicity and Gender in the U.S., Illinois, Chicago, New York City, and Los Angeles, 2015

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<tr>
<td>White (non-Hispanic or Latino)</td>
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<td>5.7%</td>
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<td>2.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black (non-Hispanic or Latino)</td>
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<td>10.0%</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
<td>11.7%</td>
<td>20.5%</td>
<td>28.5%</td>
<td>35.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>21.3%</td>
<td>19.7%</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
<td>16.2%</td>
<td>16.1%</td>
<td>21.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See Appendix A for n values

Data Source: 2015 American Community Survey, public use files. Tabulations by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.

**Out of school and out of work rates for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds by race/ethnicity in Chicago, 1960-2015** (See Figures 17 and 18.)

- Contrasting prior decades to 2015 shows that the percent of out of work and school 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds has declined from 1960 to 2015. However, even though more 16 to 24 year olds are in work or school, this has not translated to improved employment conditions.
- In most cases for 16 to 19 year olds in Chicago and the U.S. out of work and out of school rates halved from 1960 to 2015.
- For 20 to 24 year olds, out of work and out of school rates declined much more for White (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Hispanic or Latinos than for Blacks (non-Hispanic or Latino).
Figure 17: Percent of 16 to 19 Year Olds Who Were Out of School and Out of Work in Chicago and the U.S. by Race/Ethnicity, 1960-2015

Figure 18: Percent of 20 to 24 Year Olds Who Were Out of School and Out of Work in Chicago and the U.S. by Race/Ethnicity, 1980-2015

Out of school and out of work rates for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds by race/ethnicity and gender in Chicago, 1960-2015 (See Figures 19 and 20.)

- While we saw overall out of work and out of school rates fall for each race/ethnicity, isolating gender shows that rates for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year old women have decreased over time, while rates for 16 to 19 year old males only slightly changed, and rates for 20 to 24 year old males increased.
- For 20 to 24 year old males, Black and Hispanic or Latino rates in 2015 were almost double their 1960 rates, while White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year old males slightly increased their out of work and out of school rate.
Industry Change in Manufacturing, Retail Trade, and Professional and Related Services for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds by Race/Ethnicity from 1960-2015 (See Figures 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26.)

- In Chicago, compared to the U.S., larger concentrations of 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds worked in manufacturing in 1960 and therefore saw larger declines over time, suggesting that Chicago was disproportionally impacted by the decline in manufacturing.
- Among 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds, Hispanic or Latinos, who had the largest concentration in manufacturing employment, have also seen the largest decline over time.
- For Blacks and Hispanics or Latinos, their percentage decline in manufacturing is evident in their percentage increase in retail and services, while Whites increased employment in professional and related services.

Figure 24: Proportion of Racial/Ethnic Groups Employed in Manufacturing by Each Racial/Ethnic Groups Total Employment for 20 to 24 Year Olds in Chicago the U.S., 1960-2015

Annual Wages by Industry for Manufacturing in 1960 and Retail Trade and Professional and Related Services in 2015 for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds (See Figures 27 and 28.)

- Manufacturing wages in 1960 put more 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds in higher income groups compared to retail trade and professional and related services employment in 2015.
- Earnings by industry data combined with the data showing the decline in manufacturing and replacement with retail and service jobs shows that the earning of 16 to 24 year olds have greatly suffered as a result of economic restructuring.
- The decline in earnings from the most prominent services from 1960 to 2015 is exacerbated by a parallel decline in the lower paying employment opportunities.

Maps of Industry Change in Manufacturing, Retail Trade, and Total Private Sector Jobs by Zip Code, 1957, 1970, 2015 (See Maps 3 to 9.)

These maps provide insight into the distribution of jobs in two time periods by Chicago Zip codes. For over five decades, the Illinois Department of Employment security has provided data for the location of jobs for employers covered under the Illinois Unemployment Compensation Act. The following section utilizes this data to provide an overview of the movement of private sector jobs covered by the Illinois Unemployment Compensation Act throughout the Chicago Area. In 1991, new data coding was instituted followed by changes in 2001 from SIC to NAICS code classifications in retail and manufacturing. This next section therefore is meant to provide insight into the distribution in jobs in different time periods rather than absolute losses and gains by zip codes over time. From 1957, 1970, and 2015 data, we see different patterns in the distribution of jobs throughout Chicago.

- Maps 3 and 4 show the number of manufacturing jobs by zip code in 1970 and 2015. In 1970 Chicago's manufacturing sector was distributed throughout all Chicago zip codes, but most notably in the central portion of Chicago near road, rail, and water transportation infrastructure. In 1970, Zip codes from Lake Michigan to the east, Chicago's western boundary, north to Irving Park and North Center, and South to New City, had a large
cluster of Manufacturing Jobs. By 2015, the city lost most of its manufacturing jobs. This change reverberated throughout Chicago, but most notably in the neighborhoods that contained these anchor employers. These conditions have led to associated business and population flight that has compounded the hardship in neighborhoods that lost manufacturing.

- Maps 4 and 5 show the number of retail jobs by zip codes in 1970 and 2015. Large retail centers, in 1970 were located on the South and West Sides. In 2015, these areas no longer had large retail sectors, as most retail jobs are concentrated just north of the Loop.

- Maps 7 and 9 show jobs for all private sector industries in 1957 and 2015. In 1957, Jobs were concentrated across the central portion of Chicago near road, rail, and water transportation infrastructure and in the Loop. By 2015, jobs are less decentralized and more concentrated in the Loop and areas north of the Loop with noticeably more jobs on the North Side and Southwest Sides of Chicago compared to the South, parts of the West Side, and Far North West Side. The change in total private sector jobs over time shows large losses away from transportation infrastructure and increased concentration in the Loop and North Side.
Map 3: Number of Manufacturing Jobs by Zip Code in Chicago, 1970

Number of Manufacturing Jobs by Zip Code, 1970

66 - 5000
5001 - 10000
10001 - 15000
15001 - 20000
20001 - 33000

Map Prepared by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.
Map 4: Number of Manufacturing Jobs by Zip Code in Chicago, 2015

Number of Manufacturing Jobs by Zip Code, 2015

- 66 - 5000
- 5001 - 10000
- 10001 - 15000
- 15001 - 20000
- 20001 - 33000

Numbers suppressed to avoid disclosure of individual data

Map Prepared by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.
Map 5: Number of Retail Jobs by Zip Code in Chicago, 1970

Number of Retail Jobs by Zip Code, 1970

Map Prepared by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.
Map 6: Number of Retail Jobs by Zip Code in Chicago, 2015

Number of Retail Jobs by Zip Code, 2015

0 - 1000
1001 - 3000
3001 - 5000
5001 - 10000
10001 - 18672

Numbers suppressed to avoid disclosure of individual data

Map Prepared by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.
Map 9: Total Number of Private Sector Jobs by Zip Code in Chicago, 2015

Number of Jobs by Zip Code, 2015

- **394 - 5000**
- **5001 - 15000**
- **15001 - 30000**
- **30001 - 50000**
- **50001 - 152016**

Map Prepared by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.
Jobless Rates for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds, 2011 – 2015 (See Maps 10 and 11.)

- The lowest jobless rates in the city are in the predominantly White Community Areas on the North Side and Far North Side where many Community Areas have jobless rates less than half of the South and West Sides.
- For 16 to 19 year olds, communities with high jobless rates are primarily located in the predominantly Black West, South, and Far South sides, with notably high jobless rates on predominantly Hispanic or Latino Northwest and Southwest sides.
- The lowest jobless rates are in Community Areas that border Lake Michigan near the Loop and North Side and Community Areas on the Far North Side with the highest concentrations of the White population.
- Examining jobless rates for 20 to 24 year olds by Community Areas show a sharp contrast between the predominantly Black South and West Sides of Chicago and all other parts of the city that have comparably lower jobless rates.

Map 11: Jobless Rate for 20 to 24 Year Olds by Chicago Community Areas

Percent of Jobless 20 to 24 Year Olds by Chicago Community Area

- 17.1% - 30.0%
- 30.1% - 45.0%
- 45.1% - 60.0%
- 60.1% - 80.9%

Map Prepared by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.
Conclusion

This report, *Abandoned in their Neighborhoods: Youth Joblessness Amidst the Flight of Industry and Opportunity*, dramatically reveals a downward and long-term trend of economic abandonment in many of Chicago’s neighborhoods, leaving behind chronic and concentrated conditions of joblessness that have affected generations of young people.

Examining the period from 1960 to 2015, we see the continual decline of employment/population ratios (rising joblessness) for young people, particularly for Blacks and Latinos.

In Chicago in 1960, compared to the U.S., larger concentrations of 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds worked in manufacturing and saw larger declines over time, suggesting that Chicago was disproportionally impacted by the decline in manufacturing. Among 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds, Hispanic or Latinos, who had the largest concentration in manufacturing employment, have also seen the largest decline over time. For Blacks and Latinos, their percentage decline in manufacturing is paralleled by their percentage increase in retail and services, while Whites increased employment in higher paying professional and related service jobs.

Joblessness disproportionately persists for young people of color and is geographically concentrated. Its roots are structural and have an impact on young people, their households, and their neighborhoods. Reflecting long-term impacts of segregation, racial disparities and economic restructuring, joblessness is a function of structural changes in the economy that date back several decades and was compounded by the 2008 global recession that exacerbated conditions and isolated people even further.

Chronic joblessness has consequences for those who experience it. Depriving young people of the dignity of work leaves “permanent scars,” impedes an overall sense of wellbeing, and can lead to counterproductive behaviors. Quoting from last year’s Great Cities Institute report, *Lost: The Crisis of Jobless and Out of School Teens and Young Adults in Chicago, Illinois and the U.S.*, we restate the following:

There are long-term impacts associated with low rates of employment for young people. We know from previous research, including that produced by Bell and Blanchflower in 2009, entitled, “Youth Unemployment: Déjà Vu?” that youth unemployment causes “permanent scars” (12) where conditions of low rates of employment as youth impact the likelihood of employment later in life, the level of wages, and interestingly, all indicators of life satisfaction. Unemployment, for example, “makes people unhappy” (12).

“Unemployment increases susceptibility to malnutrition, illness, mental stress, and loss of self-esteem, leading to depression” (13). Quoting the U.S. National Longitudinal study of Youth, Bell and Blanchflower point out that youth joblessness ”injures self-esteem, and fosters feelings of externality and helplessness among youth” (13). Again citing other research studies, they also point out that “increases in youth unemployment causes increases in burglaries, thefts and drug offences” (16).

The result is a cycle, where the “permanent scars” lead to conditions that are both a consequence and a precipitating factor that leads to further youth unemployment and parallel social conditions.

Chronic joblessness creates the very conditions that impede overcoming them.
We are left then with questions about what to do. Understanding that residential segregation and economic and occupational restructuring is the structural context for what is happening to our young people of color, is a pointed reminder that chronic and concentrated youth joblessness must be understood in terms of its structural roots and not as a function of individual attributes. Blaming young people for their plight does nothing to remedy their condition. Providing structured opportunities for employment and capacity building does.

In Chicago, over the last forty years, as we witnessed the end of industrialization and the rise of a "global economy," we also witnessed the dramatic departure of jobs from large sections of the city along with the rise in chronic and concentrated joblessness. We have seen the impact of this extensive joblessness, including the pressures on young people to find economic solutions in arenas most available to them, which are often illegal and can lead to violence. In a city that attracted large numbers of people to work in jobs generated by its industrial activity, when the economy shifted, there was not enough done to ensure that those affected by the industrial and occupational restructuring were incorporated into the new economy. Without belaboring the point that more should have been done to stem this tide, it is now incumbent on business, government and the community to tackle this problem and its symptoms.

What is needed are multi-faceted strategies that create direct employment opportunities, particularly as a means to provide first time job opportunities; equip individuals to participate in the new economy; revive economically abandoned neighborhoods; and stop the bleeding of job loss and reverse policies that reward extraction of wealth from communities.

**Strategies:**

Among the possible strategies, there are at least four categories of initial steps for business and corporations, government, and community members and organizations to tackle joblessness among those most affected:

1. Create direct employment opportunities
   a. Reinstate federal, state, and local summer jobs programs
   b. Replicate New Deal strategies
   c. Fund paid mentorship programs
   d. Create apprenticeship programs
   e. Recreate employment subsidy programs

2. Prepare young people from these neighborhoods for the livable wage jobs that do exist and equip them to participate in the emerging economy
   a. Increase public education expenditures
   b. Provide on-the job training
   c. Expand training and workforce development
   d. Remove the impediments to employment, including those related to criminal records

3. Revive economically abandoned neighborhoods
   a. Attract anchor employers that hire neighborhood residents
   b. Assist and incentivize small business development
   c. Create incentives for venture capital investments that are not totally predicated on immediate profit recovery
   d. Enhance conditions for community led initiatives such as worker cooperatives and small business incubators that harness the skills and talents of young people, both of which can become the basis for revitalized commercial districts to supply the much-needed access to a wider range of goods and services
   e. Increase funding for community organizations that provide mentorship and capacity building of young people
4. Stop the bleeding of job loss and reverse policies that reward extraction of wealth from communities
   a. Tie tax incentives for corporations to actual job generation, which are then monitored for adherence to
      agreements with penalties for non-compliance
   b. Accelerate incentives to invest in neighborhoods and evaluate their effectiveness

All of these approaches involve directing effort and resources to individuals as well as the organizations and
government agencies that serve them. Given that industry abandonment was accompanied by the abandonment of
federal resources, the federal government has – and could again – play a key role in providing resources to assist in
reviving neighborhoods and building capacity and opportunity for individuals. Local governments can play a role in
re-establishing anchor institutions in neighborhoods and state government can reinvest in summer employment and
jobs programs that we know are gateways for further employment opportunities. Establishing various task forces to
tackle these urgent issues and provide concrete recommendations may be an immediate first step.

Quoting Father Boyle from Homeboy Industries in Los Angeles, as well as the title of last year’s March 2016 hearing
before the Cook County Commission, “Nothing Stops a Bullet Like a Job.” On the basis of the data produced in this
report, we can conclude that we have the corporate and political responsibility to invest in those affected by years of
economic abandonment and indifference. Reconnecting the disconnected yields benefits for everyone. Doing so
requires that the young people themselves are part of developing further understanding of both the problem and the
solutions.

No doubt, the severity and complexity of chronic and concentrated joblessness among young people most affected,
requires an “all hands on deck” response. As David Elam reminded us during his testimony at the youth employment
hearings in January 2016, “Team work will make the dream work.”

In its February 21st, 2016, lead editorial, the Sunday New York Times, called for Congressional action to address conditions of unemployment in
“minority” communities. Citing the Great Cities Institute report on joblessness among young people, the editorial goes on to express outrage that
Congress has rejected programs that we know work and “that could help rescue a generation of young men from failure and oblivion.”

Specifically, the New York Times editorial references a component of the Recovery Act of 2009, an employment subsidy program that “created
more than 260,000 temporary jobs.” The non-profit, Economic Mobility Corporation, released an analysis in 2013 through which they concluded
that this program, which placed workers largely in the private sector, not only aided local businesses that did the hiring, but also those who were
hired, increasing their likelihood of finding permanent employment.

These promising results suggest that carefully targeted subsidies that place unemployed people into private-sector jobs can be a potent tool in
reducing the devastating unemployment in minority areas of big cities where young people are disconnected from work and civic life.

As the Times points out, employment subsidy programs have been around since the 1930s. They suggest, however, that such programs should be
created to place individuals in the private sector, including those who may have criminal records and need the opportunity to prove themselves as
“motivated workers.” “Carefully developed subsidy programs are worth pursuing even if they do not produce big earnings gains. Getting jobless
young people into the world of work is valuable in itself.”

The Times Editorial is a call to congressional action but concludes that if Congress fails to act, then this is something that the states should fund.

The idea of employment subsidy programs to place workers in the private sector, as already evidenced, can yield results. A subsidized employment
program for public works, as we saw from the 1930s, could also put people to work, and at the same time, rebuild the decaying infrastructure in
cities and states (Great Cities Institute, A Lost Generation: The Disappearance of Teens and Young Adults from the Job Market, 2016).
Abandoned in their Neighborhoods:
Youth Joblessness amidst the Flight of Industry and Opportunity

Produced for: Alternative Schools Network

January 2017

Great Cities Institute
University of Illinois at Chicago
Introduction

“More Jobs, Less Violence:  Connecting Youth to a Brighter Future,” is the title of the 2017 Youth Employment Hearing sponsored by Alternative Schools Network and held at the Chicago Urban League on January 30, 2017. Other co-sponsors of the hearing include Chicago Area Project, Youth Connection Charter School, Westside Health Authority, Black United Fund of IL, National Youth Advocate Program, La Casa Norte, Lawrence Hall, Mount Sinai Medical Center, Heartland Alliance and Metropolitan Family Services. Each of these groups work directly with young people, providing mentorship and employment related opportunities. Elected officials from federal, state and local government attended to hear the data presented and the voices of young people who testified on their experiences related to employment.  This report, produced by UIC’s Great Cities Institute, provides a supplement to the voices of the young people and those that work with them.

The message from the young people who have testified at previous annual hearings sponsored by the above groups is loud and clear, “We want to work.” As they share stories, we learn that many of them provide income to a household that is often multi-generational and includes grandmothers, younger siblings and sometimes children of their own. What is also notable is that the young people, based on their knowledge and experience, explicitly make the connection between violence and jobs, and speak about the importance of employment as an alternative to the streets, asserting, “more jobs, less violence.” In the words of the young people:

*Jobs solve violence. If you are busy working, you don't have time for violence.*

*There are so many people who don't have a job, and they get into the wrong things.*

*Bring youth employment... everyone wants drugs and violence to stop, well then... get us off these streets and get us in some work clothes and you will see the change.*

*We need these jobs out here; it's real bad out here.*

*If you want to save lives, you want to see a difference, give these teens jobs.*

Young people tell us, based on their experiences and knowledge, that they believe there is a connection between joblessness and crime in their neighborhoods. While not everyone who is without a job engages in violence, these quotes suggest that of those who do, economic reasons are often a motivating factor. Further, they suggest that providing jobs deters them from seeking economic solutions that may involve them in illegal activities. While rampant joblessness may not completely explain violence, we learn from young people that it is no doubt a contributing factor and conversely, providing a job can mitigate the conditions that lead to criminal activities.

In the 2016 hearing, a continuous stream of young people testified to the difference that a job, including summer jobs, has made in creating pathways for life changing opportunities,

*I am a product of how good a job can be.*

*I was headed on a path of tremendous destruction... At the time, was very negative, very destructive. I came from one of the biggest street gangs on the west side of Chicago and I really didn't know where my life was headed. Selling drugs was the option that I thought to provide for my child at the time. [Because of the summer employment program], my life has changed dramatically over the last six years...I have changed in so many ways...knowing what it is to have a job.*
A good job can change a person’s life – if you want to make a positive change in these communities, help give teens a job.

So many of the young people who testified, speak about the particular programs and the importance of both mentorship and interacting with people that believe in them.

I want to share the importance of the summer youth employment program and how it helped me. It benefitted me. It gave me an experience that showed me the greater things in life. It gave me the feeling that I could become more, that I could become somebody that matters…without it I don’t know where I would be. I’d probably be where people think a kid like me would end up being just because of where I live.

Jobs are very critical to the lives of our young people. Young people can’t be, what they can’t see. If you cannot see positivity, you cannot be positive. If you see negativity, you will be negative.

Thanks to the program, I was able to get nice legal money…I don’t want to be a statistic. I was given an opportunity and I was so blessed and thankful.

[Mentors] took me under their wings and showed me the highways and byways and the right way to go out of the pathways of destruction.

These organizations and these jobs they are very critical to the lives of our young people. And you all can make that happen.

I had people to be inspired by. I just wanted to become more. The money that I earned gave me power and a sense of responsibility.

Every young person that testified provided stories and insights on the difference that employment opportunities make in “connecting youth to a brighter future.” They explicitly spoke about the skills and work ethic that they gain through having a job, that they prefer income that a job provides over public assistance or the economy of the streets, and that when they feel they don’t have an alternative to the streets, it produces anxiety and fear.

This report is intended to supplement the voices of young people whose message is loud and clear: they want to work, jobs are a deterrent to engaging in illegal activities, and opportunities to work through youth employment programs make a difference. We can therefore conclude that if opportunities for employment are provided, young people will take advantage of them; that violence prevention must involve job creation for young people; and that programs that provide mentorship and pathways for employment opportunities must have their budgets increased, not slashed.

A report such as this one accomplishes several things: it supplements the voices of young people with data on the expansiveness of the problem; it provides analysis and context for understanding what has given rise to both the conditions and their consequences, including violence; and it concludes with affirming a set of multi-pronged strategies to tackle this deeply entrenched issue.
This 2017 report demonstrates that youth joblessness continues to be disproportionately felt by young people of color, especially black males; that it is chronic and concentrated; that the recession made conditions worse and that for some, recovery is either slow or nonexistent; that it is tied to long term trends in the overall loss of manufacturing jobs; and most notably, that joblessness among young people is tied to the emptying out of jobs from neighborhoods, which is in contrast to jobs that are being centralized in Chicago's downtown areas where whites are employed in professional level services.

In last year’s report, the Great Cities Institute provided data from 2005 to 2014 on employment/population ratios by race/ethnicity for male and female 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds, as well as the inverse figures on joblessness. In addition, we calculated out of school and out of work rates. What we learned was that during that time period, conditions of joblessness in Chicago were exceedingly high, in comparison to Illinois, the U.S. and the cities of New York and Los Angeles. Particularly shocking was that among 20 to 24 year olds black men, nearly half were neither working nor in school. We learned that these numbers revealed that joblessness persisted over the time period viewed and that “low rates of employment are spatially concentrated in neighborhoods that are racially segregated.”

In this 2017 report, we sought to learn more about the chronic quality of joblessness. To that end, we compiled and calculated various employment data from 1960 to 2015 for 16 to 24 year old males and females by race/ethnicity comparing geographies within Chicago and Chicago with Illinois, the U.S., Los Angeles and New York City. This long view revealed long term trends and confirmed the persistent and chronic nature of the conditions of joblessness among young people in Chicago, most especially for Latinos, and even more dramatically, for Blacks. What we also learn from this longitudinal view is that the 2008 recession had a dramatic effect on joblessness among young people in Chicago and that for Blacks and Latinos, the recovery is either non-existent or slow. Latino men have been slowest to recover.

It continues to be true in 2017 that high rates of joblessness among young people are concentrated in those neighborhoods that are most racially segregated.

In the 2016 report, we stated that joblessness among young people in Chicago was directly “tied to conditions in their neighborhoods and cannot be seen as distinct from what is happening in neighborhoods themselves.” In this year’s report, we test this further and provide data by community area on location of total jobs as well as jobs by industry: manufacturing, retail and professional and related services. Using Geographic Information System (GIS), we generated maps that demonstrate the dramatic change in the location of jobs within the city of Chicago. Jobs are gone from where they used to exist.

Sifting through the extensive amount of data contained in this report, there are a number of key findings:

**Joblessness persists, particularly for young Black men and women**

- In 2015, employment conditions in Chicago were worse than in Illinois and the U.S. for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds (see Figures 1, 2, and 3).
- The percent of jobless Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds in Chicago increased from 58.7 percent in 2014 to 60.2 percent in 2015 (see Appendix C Figure C2).
- Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year old women in Chicago had a higher jobless rate (60.4 percent) than New York City (44.7), Los Angeles (44.7), Illinois (50.4), and the U.S. (38.3) in 2015 (see Table 2).
- In 2015, Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year old men in Chicago had a higher jobless rate (60 percent) than New York City (50.3), Los Angeles (48.4), Illinois (51.6), and the U.S. (45.2) (see Figure 16).
Joblessness reflects a long-term trend, made worse by the recession

- From 1960 to 2015, employment to population ratios for 16 to 19 year olds declined over time in Chicago, most severely after the Great Recession, after which they showed only a slight rebound (see Figures 1, 2, and 3).
- 20 to 24 year olds were worse off in Chicago in 2015 than in 1960. (In Illinois and the U.S., this trend is reversed, where they were better off in 2015 than 1960) (see Figures 1 and 2).
- The Great Recession severely impacted every racial/ethnic group of 16 to 19 year olds in Chicago, Illinois and the U.S. but had the largest impacts in Chicago. Even after a period of recovery from 2010 to 2015, no group of 16 to 19 year olds in Chicago, Illinois and the U.S. had employment to population ratios at pre-recession levels (see Figures 4, 5, and 6).
- Latinos in Chicago were the only racial/ethnic group of 16 to 19 year olds that did not show any recovery after the recession but continued to decline after 2010 (see Figure 4).
- While the recession did impact 20 to 24 year olds, it did not impact them as severely as it did 16 to 19 year olds. Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year olds in Chicago, Illinois and the U.S. saw growth from 2000 to 2010 while White (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) declined (see Figures 7, 8 and 9).
- Black 20 to 24 year olds in Chicago, and Illinois were worse off in 2015 than in 1960 with the most severe decline in Chicago (see Figures 7, and 8).

Joblessness is systemic and is tied to the flight of industry from neighborhoods

- Manufacturing was a significant part of Chicago's economy in 1960, employing 57.8 of working Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year olds, 35 percent of Whites (non-Hispanic or Latino) and 29.6 percent of Blacks (non-Hispanic or Latino).
- A continuous downward trend from 1960 to 2015 left just 10.2 percent of working 20 to 24 year old Hispanic or Latinos in manufacturing, and just 2.9 percent of both Black and White 20 to 24 year olds. Chicago's large manufacturing sector in 1960 and subsequent decline meant Chicago was hit harder by the decline in manufacturing than the U.S. as a whole (See Figure 24).
- In Chicago, the decline in manufacturing resulted in an economy with large retail trade and professional and related services sectors – both of which, in 2015 paid lower wages to 20 to 24 year olds than manufacturing did in 1960 (See Figure 28).
- With the loss of manufacturing in Chicago came the flight of jobs from neighborhoods and the concentration in the central core, where whites (36.8 percent) are employed in professional and related jobs and Blacks (45.7 percent) and Latino (39.7 percent) are in retail (See Figures 25 and 26).
- In 1957, large numbers of jobs were located throughout Chicago's zip codes with an expansive area making up Chicago's central portion (from Lake Michigan to the East, Chicago's western boundary to the West, Irving Park and North Center to the North, and New City to the South) having large numbers of jobs. By 2015, jobs become centralized towards the Loop and the South, and West Sides of Chicago in particular have fewer jobs (See Maps 7, 8 and 9).

What we learn from this report is that many neighborhoods in Chicago are economically abandoned sectors with a dramatic loss of industry and opportunity for employment. These neighborhoods have been abandoned, along with the people that live there. It is our hope that this report, Abandoned in their Neighborhoods: Youth Joblessness Amidst the Flight of Industry and Opportunity, along with the voices of young people, can result in firm and concerted efforts to reverse the long-term trends that created the conditions and in doing so, restore hope and opportunity for the many young people whose lives do indeed matter. This report concludes with suggestions to initiate a substantive conversation on how to address the issues raised by this report.
Employment to population ratios by age in Chicago, Illinois, and U.S., 1960-2015 (See Figures 1, 2, and 3.)

Examining employment to population ratios by different age groups from 1960 to 2015 shows that ratios are vastly different between most groups and that trends for each age group varied between place and over time.

Employment to population ratios for 16 to 19 year olds declined over time in Chicago, most severely after the Great Recession, after which they showed only a slight rebound. 16 to 19 year olds in Illinois and the U.S. had similar declines but started out with higher ratios before the recession. 20 to 24 year olds were worse off in Chicago in 2015 than in 1960. In Illinois and the U.S., this trend is reversed, where they were better off in 2015 than 1960. In 2015, employment conditions in Chicago were worse than in Illinois and the U.S. for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds.

Figure 1 shows employment to population ratios by age in Chicago from 1960 to 2015.

- From 1960 to 2000, the employment to population ratio for 16 to 19 year olds in Chicago had a 30.2 percent drop (43.1 percent to 30.1 percent). From 2000 to 2010, the largest decline in employment to population ratio for all age groups occurred for 16 to 19 year olds when the employment to population ratio decreased 45.2 percent to 16.5 in 2010. This shows that 16 to 19-year olds were those most severely impacted by the Great Recession.
- From 2000 to 2010 age groups 25 to 34, 35 to 44 and 45 to 54 showed a slight increase in employment to population ratios while 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds declined, suggesting that the Great Recession affected these age groups differently.
- All age groups showed a slight increase in employment to population ratios from 2010 to 2015 although all age groups did not recover after the recession equally. From 2010 to 2015 there was a 2.2 percentage point increase in employment to population ratio for 16 to 19 year olds and a 5 percent increase for 20 to 24 year olds, still well below pre-2008 levels.
- 25 to 34 year olds had the largest percentage point increase in employment to population ratio from 1960 to 2015 (increasing 14.8 percentage points) while 16 to 19 year olds had the largest employment to population ratio decrease from 1960 to 2015 (decreasing 24.4 percentage points or -56.6 percent).
- When comparing employment to population ratio of 20 to 24 year olds to 25 to 34 year olds, 35 to 44 year olds, and 45 to 54 year olds, gaps were smallest in 1960 and largest in 2015, showing that compared to other age groups, 20 to 24 year olds were worse off in 2015 than in 1960. (From 1960 to 2015, the employment to population ratio of 20 to 24 year olds declined 5.1 percentage points while 45 to 54 year olds increased .3 percentage points, 35 to 44 year olds increased 7.9 percentage points, and 25 to 34 year olds increased 14.8 percentage points).
- In 2000, 18.9 percentage points separated the employment to population ratios for 16 to 19 year olds and those 65 and above. By 2010, 3.2 percentage points separated the two age groups.
Figure 2 shows employment to population ratios by age in Illinois from 1960 to 2015.

- While the employment to population ratio for 16 to 19 year olds decreased 13 percentage points from 1960 to 2000 in Chicago, the employment to population ratio in Illinois for 16 to 19 year olds reflect a slight increase of .9 percentage points.
- In Illinois, the employment to population ratio for 16 to 19 year olds decreased from 2000 to 2010 by 38 percent (16.5 percentage points), which was 2.9 percentage points higher than the decrease in Chicago.
- From 2010 to 2015 there was an 11.9 percent increase in the employment to population ratio for 16 to 19 year old in Illinois (26.9 to 30.1).
- In Illinois, all age groups showed a slight increase in employment to population ratios from 2010 to 2015.
- From 1960 to 1990, the employment to population ratio for 20 to 24 year olds increased 7.8 percentage points (62 to 69.8 percent). From 1990 to 2010, the employment to population ratio decreased to 61.7 percent before increasing to 65.6 in 2015.
Figure 2: Employment to Population Ratio by Age in Illinois, 1960-2015


Figure 3 shows employment to population ratios by age in the U.S. from 1960 to 2015.

- In the U.S., from 1960 to 1980, employment to population ratios for 16 to 19 year olds increased (37.2 percent to 42.2 percent) and decreased slightly to 41.2 percent in 2000.
- From 2000 to 2010, the employment to population ratio for 16 to 19 year olds decreased from 41.2 percent to 26.7 percent, representing a larger percentage point decrease than Chicago and smaller than Illinois over the same time period.
- While the employment to population ratio for 16 to 19 year olds increased 2.2 percentage points in Chicago and 3.2 percentage points in Illinois from 2010 to 2015, the U.S. had an increase of 3.6 percent.
- In the U.S., all age groups showed a slight increase in employment to population ratios from 2010 to 2015.
- From 2010 to 2015, 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds had the largest percentage point increases in employment to population ratios, 16 to 19 year olds with a 3.6 percentage point increase and 20 to 24 year olds with a 4.6 percentage point increase.
- From 1960 to 1990, the employment to population ratio for 20 to 24 year olds in the U.S. increased from 60.5 percent to 69.2 percent before declining to 61.4 percent in 2010.
Employment to population ratios for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds by race/ethnicity in Chicago, Illinois, and U.S., 1960-2015 (See Figures 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9.)

Breaking employment to population ratios down by race/ethnicity, we see gaps between racial/ethnic groups and varying trends over time.

The Great Recession severely impacted every group of 16 to 19 year olds in Chicago, Illinois and the U.S. but had the largest impacts in Chicago. Even after a period of recovery from 2010 to 2015, no group of 16 to 19 year olds in Chicago, Illinois and the U.S. had employment to population ratios at pre-recession levels. The racial/ethnic group of 16 to 19 year olds that did not show any recovery after the recession was Hispanic or Latinos in Chicago, who continued to decline after 2010. While the recession did impact 20 to 24 year olds, it did not impact them as severely as it did 16 to 19 year olds. Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year olds in Chicago, Illinois and the U.S. saw growth from 2000 to 2010 while White (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Black (non-Hispanic or Latinos) declined. Black 20 to 24 year olds in Chicago and Illinois were worse off in 2015 than in 1960 with the most severe decline in Chicago.

Figures 4, 5, and 6 show employment to population ratios for 16 to 19 year olds by race/ethnicity in Chicago, Illinois and the U.S. from 1960 to 2015.

- In Chicago, employment to population ratios from 1960 to 2000 slightly increased for Hispanic or Latino 16 to 19 year olds (35.1 percent to 36.7 percent) while decreasing for Blacks (non-Hispanic or Latino), from 24.9 to 20.2 percent and Whites (non-Hispanic or Latino) from 48.9 to 40.4 percent.
- In Illinois, employment to population ratios increased from 1960 to 2000 for White (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Hispanic or Latino 16 to 19 year olds, increasing from 44.5 percent to 49.6 percent for Whites (non-Hispanic or Latino), increasing from 36.3 percent to 42.8 percent for Hispanic or Latinos, and decreasing slightly for Blacks (non-Hispanic or Latino), from 25.1 to 24.9.
• In 2010, employment to population ratios was higher in Illinois for each racial/ethnic group than in Chicago. In Illinois employment to population ratios for Whites (non-Hispanic or Latino) was 9.2 percentage points higher, for Hispanic or Latinos was 6.1 percentage points higher, and for Blacks (non-Hispanic or Latino) was 4.7 percentage points higher.
• Employment to population ratios in the U.S. in 2000 was higher for each racial/ethnic group compared to 1960.
• While employment to population ratios were nearly the same in 2010 for Hispanic or Latinos in Chicago and the U.S., Whites (non-Hispanic or Latino) in the U.S. had employment to population ratios 5.9 percentage points higher than in Chicago and Blacks (non-Hispanic or Latino) had employment to population ratios in the U.S. 8 percent higher than in Chicago.
• From 2000 to 2010, employment to population ratios decreased for each racial/ethnic group in Chicago, Illinois and the U.S.
• Comparing Chicago, Illinois, and the U.S., White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 year olds had an employment to population ratio percentage point decrease the highest in Chicago (-20.9 percentage points), and Hispanic or Latino and Blacks (non-Hispanic or Latino) decreased the most in Illinois (16 and 12.5 percentage points respectively).
• Each racial/ethnic group showed recovery from the recession and had higher employment to population ratios in 2015 compared to 2010 except for Hispanic or Latinos in Chicago, decreasing 4.3 percentage points.

Tabulations by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.
Figures 7, 8 and 9 show employment to population ratios for 20 to 24 year olds by race/ethnicity in Chicago, Illinois and the U.S. from 1960 to 2015.

- In Chicago from 1960 to 1990, employment to population ratios increased 12.8 percent for White 20 to 24 year olds from 68.1 to 76.8, increased 14.4 percent for Hispanic or Latinos from 58.9 to 67.4, and decreased 12.4 percent for Blacks (non-Hispanic or Latino) from 52.6 to 46.1.
- Employment to population ratios in Chicago for White (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds decreased from 1990 to 2010, decreasing for Whites (non-Hispanic or Latino) by 13.9 percent from 76.8 to 66.1 percent, and decreasing for Blacks (non-Hispanic or Latino) by 16.7 percent from 46.1 to 38.4.
- In Chicago, while employment to population ratios were lower in 2010 than 2000 for White (non-Hispanic or Latino) (-12.9 percent) and Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) (-11.5 percent) 20 to 24 year olds, employment to population ratios increased 7.6 percent for Hispanic or Latinos from 58.9 to 63.4 percent.
- Compared to 1960, 2015 employment to population ratios were higher for each racial/ethnic group in Chicago, Illinois and the U.S. with the exception of Black 20 to 24 year olds in Chicago (-12.8 percentage points) and Illinois (-2.6 percentage points).
- All racial/ethnic groups across all geographies had increases in employment to population ratios from 2010 to 2015.

Employment to population ratios for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds by race/ethnicity and gender in Chicago, Illinois, and U.S., 1960-2015 (See Figures 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15.)

Examining employment to population ratios by race/ethnicity and gender over time shows the large degree to which employment circumstances have changed over time for different genders.

Recovery after the Great Recession has been slow or non-existent for many groups. 16 to 19 year old Hispanic or Latino males and females have seen employment to population ratios continuously decline while recovery for Hispanic or Latino and Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year old males has been non-existent. In all, no group in 2015 were as well off as they were in 2000. In 1960, 16 to 19 year olds males had higher employment to
population ratios than females for each respective race/ethnic group. Over time, males decreased while females increased and by 2015, there were many instances of females having higher employment to population ratios than their male counterparts. The conditions are slightly different for 20 to 24 year olds where large gaps that existed in 1960 between males and females of respective race/ethnic groups decreased over time and in some instances, females surpassed males. For 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds, Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) males had the lowest employment to population ratios across all geographies except in Chicago in 2015, when Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) females had the lowest.


- In Chicago, employment to population ratios from 1960 to 1980 slightly increased for male and female White (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Hispanic or Latino male 16 to 19 year olds while decreasing for Hispanic or Latino females, and Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) male and female 16 to 19 year olds. This trend reversed from 1980 to 2000, as White (non-Hispanic or Latino) males and females and Hispanic or Latino males had decreases in employment to population ratios and Hispanic or Latino females, and Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) females had increases in employment to population ratios.

- Among 16 to 19 year olds in Chicago, from 2000 to 2010 males and females of each race/ethnicity showed decreases in employment to population ratios: White males had a 55.1 percent drop (39 percent to 17.5 percent), White females 49.7 percent (41.9 to 21.1), Hispanic or Latino males 40.7 percent (38.5 to 22.8 percent), Hispanic or Latino females 34.6 percent (34.6 to 22.7), Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) males 52.3 percent (20.2 to 9.7), and Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) females 53.5 percent (20.3 to 9.5).

- In Chicago, after a period from 2000 to 2010 when males and females of each race/ethnic group showed decreases in employment to population ratios, from 2010 to 2015, White (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 year old males and females had increases in employment to population ratios, while Hispanic or Latino 16 to 19 year old males and females continued to decrease.

- Among all groups in Chicago, Illinois and the U.S., Hispanic or Latino 16 to 19 year olds males in Chicago was the only group to not have an increase in employment to population ratio from 2010 to 2015.

- In Chicago, Illinois, and the U.S., the highest employment to population ratios for 16 to 19 year old Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) males occurred in 1960 and for Black 16 to 19 year old females occurred in 2000.

- In 2015, 16 to 19 year old males and females of each racial/ethnic group had lower employment to population ratios in Chicago than in Illinois and the U.S. (This was also true in 2014.)

- Comparing 2015 employment to population ratios in Chicago to the U.S. all racial/ethnicity and gender groups were lower in Chicago: White (non-Hispanic or Latino) males in Chicago were 5.2 percentage points lower, White (non-Hispanic or Latino) females were 11 percentage points lower, Hispanic or Latino males was 10.1 percentage points lower, Hispanic or Latino females was 6.9 percent lower, Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) males was 9.3 percentage points lower, and Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) females was 7.8 percentage points lower.
Figure 10: Employment to Population Ratio for 16-19 Year Olds by Race/Ethnicity and Gender in Chicago, 1960-2015


Figure 11: Employment to Population Ratio for 16-19 Year Olds by Race/Ethnicity and Gender in Illinois, 1960-2015

Figures 13, 14 and 15 show employment to population ratios for 20 to 24 year olds by race/ethnicity and gender in Chicago, Illinois and the U.S. from 1960 to 2015.

- For each respective race/ethnicity, in Chicago, Illinois, and the U.S., employment to population ratios for 20 to 24 year old males were lower in 2015 than 1960, and for females were higher in 2015 than 1960. Additionally, males of each respective race/ethnicity had lower employment to population ratios in 2015 compared to 1960 while females had higher employment to population ratios in 2015 than in 1960.

- In Chicago Illinois and the U.S., employment to population ratios for Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year old males steadily decreased from 1960 to 2010, In Chicago dropping 46.1 percent (73.5 to 39.6 percent), in Illinois 42.5 percent (70.1 to 40.3 percent), and in the U.S. 39.9 percent (73.7 to 44.3 percent).

- Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds males in Chicago were the only group among racial/ethnic groups and genders that did not have an increase in employment to population ratio from 2010 to 2015.

- In Chicago, Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year old males had higher employment to population ratios than White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year old males in 1960 and 2010 but had an employment to population ratio 3.5 percentage points lower in 2015. (In Illinois and the U.S., Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year olds males had higher Employment to population ratios than White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds males.

- Among all groups in Chicago, Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year old females had the greatest percent increase in employment to population ratio from 1960 to 2015, increasing 70 percent (from 36.7 to 62.4).
Figure 13: Employment to Population Ratio for 20-24 Year Olds by Race/Ethnicity and Gender in Chicago, 1960-2015


Figure 14: Employment to Population Ratio for 20-24 Year Olds by Race/Ethnicity and Gender in Illinois, 1960-2015

Out of Work Rates for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds by Race/Ethnicity in the U.S., Illinois, Chicago, New York, and Los Angeles, 2015 (See Table 1, Appendix C1 and C2.)

Comparing New York City, and Los Angeles, the U.S.'s two most populous cities to Chicago, Illinois and the U.S. provides other big city comparisons to analyze employment conditions by race/ethnicity in 2015.

New York City and Chicago had the two highest out of work rates for all 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds in 2014 and 2015. While racial differences were stark across Chicago, New York City, Los Angeles, Illinois and the U.S., Chicago had the largest gap in out of work rates between racial/ethnic groups occurring between White (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds in 2014 and 2015. While in most cases Whites (non-Hispanic or Latino) had the lowest out of work rates followed by Hispanics or Latinos and Blacks (non-Hispanic or Latinos), this was not the case in Los Angeles for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds where Hispanic or Latinos had the lowest out of work rates in 2015.

Table 1 shows the percent of 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds who were out of work by race/ethnicity in 2015. See Appendix C figures C1 and C2 for comparison of 2014 and 2015 figures:

- New York City had the highest total percent of out of work 16 to 19 year olds and 20 to 24 year olds compared to all other geographies in 2015 (as was the case in 2014). Chicago had the second highest percent of 16 to 19 year olds and 20 to 24 year olds that were out of work in 2015 and in 2014.
- The U.S. had the lowest percent of total out of work 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds compared to all other geographies in 2015 and 2014.
- In Chicago, the largest gap in out of work rates between racial/ethnic groups in 2015 occurred between White
(non-Hispanic or Latino) and Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds where 36.5 percentage points separated the groups. The same pattern existed in 2014.

- In 2014, Among 20 to 24 year olds, Chicago had the highest percent of Blacks (non-Hispanic or Latino) that were out of work. This held true in 2015 (60.2 percent). That figure was 9.2 percentage points higher than Illinois, 12.8 percentage points higher than New York City, 13.6 percentage points higher than Los Angeles, and 18.4 percentage points higher than the U.S.

- Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year olds in Chicago in 2015 had an out of work rate of 33.2 percent, 4 percentage points higher than Illinois. The U.S. and Los Angeles had slightly higher out of work rates for Hispanic or Latinos, 33.6 percent and 35.3 percent respectively while New York City had a Hispanic or Latino out of work rate that was 14.5 percentage points higher than Chicago in 2015. In 2014, Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year olds in Chicago had an out of work rate of 36.8 percent, 6.6 percentage points higher than Illinois. The U.S. and Los Angeles had slightly lower out of work rates, 34.8 and 36.8 respectively while New York City had a Hispanic or Latino out of work rate 9 percentage points higher than Chicago.

- Out of work rates were higher for 16 to 19 year olds than 20 to 24 year olds for each respective group and geography in 2014 and 2015.

- From 2014 to 2015, White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds in Illinois, Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds in Chicago, White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds in New York City, and White (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year olds in Los Angeles had higher out of work rates in 2015 than in 2014.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 1: Percent of 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds Who Were Out of Work by Race/Ethnicity in the U.S., Illinois, Chicago, New York City, and Los Angeles, 2015</th>
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See Appendix A for n values
Data Source: 2015 American Community Survey, public use files. Tabulations by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.

**Out of Work Rates for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds by Race/Ethnicity and Gender in the U.S., Illinois, Chicago, New York, and Los Angeles, 2015** (See Table 2.)

Separating out of work rates by gender in the U.S., Illinois, Chicago, New York City, and Los Angeles displays the unevenness of work circumstances experienced by 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year old males and females.

Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) males in New York City and Chicago had the two highest out of work rates for 16 to 19 year olds in 2014 and 2015. The largest racial/ethnic gaps in out of work rates between Chicago, New York City, Los Angeles, Illinois and the U.S. occurred in Chicago between Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) and White (non-Hispanic or Latino) males and females. 20 to 24 year old Hispanic or Latino males in the U.S., and 16 to 19 year and 20 to 24 year old Hispanic or Latino males in Los Angeles had lower out of work rates than Whites (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Blacks (non-Hispanic or Latino). White (non-Hispanic or Latino) males and females had the lowest for each other geography of 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year old.
Table 2 shows the percent of 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds who were out of work by race/ethnicity and gender in 2015. See Appendix C, Figures C3 and C4 for comparison of 2014 and 2015.

- Chicago had the second highest total percentages of out of work 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year old males in 2015 behind New York City, which was also true in 2014.
- Among 20 to 24 year olds, the largest gap in 2015 between racial/ethnic groups occurred for Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) men and women in Chicago where 34.3 percentage points separated Black and White males and 38.6 percentage points separated Black and White females. This gap continues from 2014.
- In 2015, Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 year old males in New York City had the highest out of work rate (94.3 percent) followed by Chicago (88.8 percent), Los Angeles (85.6 percent), Illinois (84.1 percent) and the U.S. (79.5 percent). Compared to 2014, Black males in New York went up in 2015 (5 percentage points) and in Chicago, Black male out of work figures went down less than 1 percent (.9 percentage points).
- In 2015, 20 to 24 year old Hispanic or Latino males and females in Illinois had the lowest out of work rates compared to the other geographies, a pattern which held from 2014.
- Chicago had an 81.5 percent out of work rate for 16 to 19 year old Hispanic or Latino females in 2015. In 2014, that figure was 84.5 percent, down 3 percentage points.

| Table 2: Percent of 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds Who Were Out of Work by Race/Ethnicity and Gender in the U.S., Illinois, Chicago, New York City, and Los Angeles, 2015 |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Male                                           |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| White (non-Hispanic or Latino)                  | 67.6%          | 67.3%          | 72.8%          | 87.4%          | 84.8%          | 30.5%          | 30.6%          | 25.7%          | 44.8%          | 43.6%          |                |                |
| Black (non-Hispanic or Latino)                  | 79.5%          | 84.1%          | 88.8%          | 94.3%          | 85.6%          | 45.2%          | 51.6%          | 60.0%          | 50.3%          | 48.4%          |                |                |
| Hispanic or Latino                              | 72.3%          | 70.8%          | 82.4%          | 84.4%          | 78.6%          | 30.4%          | 25.6%          | 29.2%          | 44.6%          | 30.9%          |                |                |
| Total Population                                | 71.3%          | 71.4%          | 83.2%          | 88.5%          | 81.9%          | 33.9%          | 34.5%          | 39.6%          | 46.9%          | 38.0%          |                |                |
| Female                                         |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| White (non-Hispanic or Latino)                  | 63.0%          | 62.6%          | 74.0%          | 80.9%          | 78.7%          | 30.2%          | 27.8%          | 21.8%          | 37.4%          | 40.1%          |                |                |
| Black (non-Hispanic or Latino)                  | 73.7%          | 78.6%          | 81.5%          | 83.7%          | 92.9%          | 38.3%          | 50.4%          | 60.4%          | 44.7%          | 44.7%          |                |                |
| Hispanic or Latino                              | 73.7%          | 72.1%          | 80.6%          | 86.5%          | 78.9%          | 37.0%          | 33.2%          | 37.6%          | 42.8%          | 39.6%          |                |                |
| Total Population                                | 67.9%          | 68.4%          | 79.6%          | 84.6%          | 80.1%          | 34.0%          | 34.4%          | 42.8%          | 43.1%          | 42.8%          |                |                |

See Appendix A for n values

Data Source: 2015 American Community Survey, public use files. Tabulations by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Out of Work and Out of School Rates for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds by Race/Ethnicity in the U.S., Illinois, Chicago, New York, and Los Angeles, 2015 (See Table 3, Appendix C, Figures C3 and C4.)

Adding the dimension of school enrollment to the out of work population displays which populations are disconnected from both work and school. The following data gives insight into the percentages of racial/ethnic groups of 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds that were not engaged with the school system or formal employment in 2014 and 2015.

As was the case in 2014, in 2015, Chicago had the highest total percent, and highest percent of Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds who were out of work and out of school. The largest gaps between racial
and ethnic groups was in Chicago between Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) and White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds.

Table 3 shows the percent of 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds who were out of work and out of school by race/ethnicity in 2015. See Appendix C, Figures C3 and C4 for comparison of 2014 and 2015.

- Comparing the various geographies, Chicago had the highest total percent of out of work and out of school 16 to 19 year olds and 20 to 24 year olds in 2014 and 2015.
- For 16 to 19 year olds in 2015, Chicago's total out of work and out of school rate was .8 percentage points higher than New York City, 1.4 percentage points higher than Los Angeles, 2.1 percentage points higher than the U.S. and 3.1 percentage points higher than Illinois.
- For 20 to 24 year olds in 2015, Chicago's out of work and out of school rate was 4 percentage points higher than New York City, 5.3 percentage points higher than Illinois, 5.6 percentage points higher than the U.S., and 6.9 percentage points higher than Los Angeles.
- Illinois had the lowest out of work and out of school rates for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year old Hispanic or Latinos compared to the other geographies in 2015. The out of work and out of school rate for Hispanic or Latinos in Illinois was 6 percent for 16 to 19 year olds and 16.5 percent for 20 to 24 year olds.
- Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds in Chicago had a 14.2 percentage point higher out of work and out of school rate than in the U.S. while Hispanic or Latinos in Chicago had a 2 percentage point higher out of work and out of school rate than in the U.S.
- In 2015, the gaps between out of work and out of school rates for 20 to 24 year olds between each racial and ethnic group were higher in Chicago than in Illinois and the U.S. when 13.9 percentage points separated White (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year olds, 18.3 percentage points separated Hispanic or Latino and Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds, and 32.2 percentage points separated White (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds.
- White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds had the lower out of work and out of school rates in Chicago than in Illinois and the U.S. The out of work and out of school rate in Chicago for White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds was 5 percentage points lower than Illinois, and 6.5 percentage points lower than the U.S.
- In 2015, all groups in the U.S. had lower out of work and out of school rates compared to 2014.
- From 2014 to 2015, Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds in Illinois had the largest decrease in the percent of population out of work and out of school across all geographies, from 38.6 percent in 2014 to 32.6 percent in 2015 (a drop of 15.5 percent).
- From 2014 to 2015 in Chicago, the percent of Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year old who were out of work and out of school increased 2.6 percentage points, increased for White (non-Hispanic or Latinos) by .6 percentage points, and decreased .4 percentage points for Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds.
- In New York City from 2014 to 2015, the percent of out of work and out of school Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year olds decreased 11 percent (from 27.3 percent to 24.3 percent for Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds and from 24.8 percent to 22.1 percent for Hispanic or Latinos).
- White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds in New York had a slight increases in the percent of population that was out of work and out of school while the percent slightly decreased in Los Angeles (+1.2 percentage points in New York City and -1 percentage point in Los Angeles).
- In Los Angeles from 2014 to 2015, the percent of Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds that were out of work and out of school decreased .6 percentage points (from 29.3 percent to 28.7 percent) while the percent of Hispanic or Latinos increased .3 percentage points (from 16.4 to 16.7 percent).
### Table 3: Percent of 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds Who Were Out of Work and Out of School by Race/Ethnicity in the U.S., Illinois, Chicago, New York City, and Los Angeles, 2015

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<td>Black (non-Hispanic or Latino)</td>
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<td>12.9%</td>
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<td>Hispanic or Latino</td>
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See Appendix A for n values.

Data Source: 2015 American Community Survey, public use files. Tabulations by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.

### Out of Work and Out of School Rates for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds by Race/Ethnicity and Gender in the U.S., Illinois, Chicago, New York, and Los Angeles, 2015

Examining the proportions of racial/ethnic groups of 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds that are not in school and not working by gender displays uneven levels of work and school disconnectedness with 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 males and females.

In 2014 and 2015, Chicago had the highest percent of Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) males both 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 that were out of work and out of school. For 20 to 24 year olds males, out of work and out of school rates in Chicago were worse than in Illinois and the U.S. for Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year olds and better for White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds. For Hispanic or Latinos, New York City had the highest percentage of out of work and out of school 16 to 19 year old Hispanic or Latino males and females and 20 to 24 year old Hispanic or Latino males while Chicago had the highest percentage of out of work and out of school 20 to 24 year old Hispanic or Latino females.

Table 4 shows the percent of 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds who were out of work and out of school by race/ethnicity and gender in 2015. See Figure 16 for comparison of 2014 and 2015.

- Chicago had the highest percentage of total out of work and out of school 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year old males and females in 2015 compared to the U.S., Illinois, New York City, and Los Angeles. In 2014, both Chicago and New York had the highest percentage for males 20 to 24 but for females 16 to 19, the highest percentage was in Los Angeles.
- In 2015, Chicago had the highest percent of Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) males both 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 that were out of work and out of school, which was also true in 2014.
- In Chicago, 42.8 percent of Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) males, 17.6 percent of Hispanic or Latino males, and 8.5 percent of White (non-Hispanic or Latino) males were out of school and out of work.
- For Hispanic and Latinos, New York City had the highest percentage of out of work and out of school 16 to 19 year old Hispanic or Latino males and females and 20 to 24 year old Hispanic or Latino males while Chicago had the highest percentage of out of work and out of school 20 to 24 year old Hispanic or Latino females.
Table 4: Percent of 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds Who Were Out of Work and Out of School by Race/Ethnicity and Gender in the U.S., Illinois, Chicago, New York City, and Los Angeles, 2015

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See Appendix A for n values

Data Source: 2015 American Community Survey, public use files. Tabulations by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Figure 16 shows out of work and out of school rates for 20 to 24 year olds males by race/ethnicity in the U.S., Illinois, Chicago, New York City, and Los Angeles in 2014 and 2015.

- In both 2014 and 2015, among 20 to 24 year olds males, Chicago had higher percentages of Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Hispanic or Latino and a lower percentage of White (non-Hispanic or Latino) that were out of work and out of school than Illinois and the U.S.
- In 2015, the gaps between out of work and out of school rates for 20 to 24 year olds males between each racial and ethnic group were highest in Chicago where 9.1 percentage points separated White (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year olds, 25.2 percentage points separated Hispanic or Latino and Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds, and 34.3 percentage points separated White (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds. A similar pattern existed in 2014.
- In the U.S. in 2015, males in all groups had lower out of work and out of school rates compared to 2014.
- From 2014 to 2015, Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds males in Illinois had the largest decrease in the percent of population out of work and out of school across all geographies and groups (from 44.7 percent in 2014 to 36.7 percent in 2015 (a decrease of 17.9 percent).
- In Chicago, from 2014 to 2015, the percent of Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year old males who were out of work and out of school decreased 2.9 percentage points while decreasing 2.4 percent for Hispanic or Latinos and increasing .1 percentage points for Whites (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds.
- In New York City from 2014 to 2015, the percent of out of work and out of school Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year olds males decreased 19.9 percent (from 27.1 to 21.7 percent), Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year old males decreased 6.5 percent (from 30.8 to 28.8 percent), and White (non-Hispanic or Latino) males increased 12.8 percent (from 10.9 to 12.3 percent).
- In Los Angeles from 2014 to 2015, the percent of Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year old males that were out of work and out of school increased .7 percentage points (from 13.6 to 14.3 percent), Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) males increased 1.1 percentage points (from 30.8 to 31.9 percent) and White (non-Hispanic or Latino) males decreased 1.3 percentage points (from 11.1 to 9.8 percent).
Out of School and Out of Work Rates for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds by Race/Ethnicity in Chicago, 1960-2015 (See Figures 17 and 18.)

Examining out of work and out of school rates from 1960 to 2015 provides a long-range view for assessing the percent of disconnected 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds in Chicago compared to the U.S.

Contrasting prior decades to 2015 shows that the percent of out of work and school 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds has declined from 1960 to 2015. However, even though more 16 to 24 year olds are in work or school, this has not translated to improved employment conditions. In most cases for 16 to 19 year olds in Chicago and the U.S. out of work and out of school rates halved from 1960 to 2015. For 20 to 24 year olds, out of work and out of school rates declined much more for White (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Hispanic or Latinos than for Blacks (non-Hispanic or Latino).

Figure 17 shows the percent of 16 to 19 year olds who were out of work and out of school by race/ethnicity in Chicago and the U.S. from 1960 to 2015.

- In Chicago in 1960, 29.2 percent of Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 year olds were out of work and out of school compared to 27.7 percent of Hispanic or Latino 16 to 19 year olds and 12 percent of White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 year olds.

- Compared to 1960, each racial/ethnic group in Chicago and the U.S. had a lower percent of out of work and out of school rates in 2015. Hispanic or Latino 16 to 19 year olds in Chicago had the largest decrease from 1960 to 2015, decreasing from 27.7 percent to 8.2 percent, a decrease of 70.4 percent. Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 year olds had the second largest percent, from 29.2 percent to 12.9 percent, a decrease of 55.8 percent.

- The gap between White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 year olds and Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 year olds in Chicago that were out of work and out of school decreased from 17.2 percentage points in 1960 to 6.6 percentage points in 2015.

- Each racial/ethnic group had decreases in the percent of out of work and out of school 16 to 19 year olds from 2010 to 2015. The largest decrease was for Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 year olds in Chicago, decreasing from 18.4 percent to 12.9 percent.
Figure 17: Percent of 16 to 19 Year Olds Who Were Out of School and Out of Work in Chicago and the U.S. by Race/Ethnicity, 1960-2015


Figure 18 shows the percent of 20 to 24 year olds who were out of work and out of school by race/ethnicity in Chicago and the U.S. from 1960 to 2015.

- In 1960 in Chicago, 42.6 percent of Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds were out of work and out of school compared to 37.6 percent of Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year olds and 25.3 percent of White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds.

- Compared to 1960, each racial/ethnic group had a lower percent of out of work and out of school rates in 2015 although the percent of Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds decreased only slightly (from 42.6 percent to 39.1 percent).

- White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds had the largest decrease in out of work and out of school rates in Chicago, decreasing from 25.3 percent in 1960 to 6.9 percent in 2015, a decrease of 72.7 percent. Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year olds had the second largest decrease, decreasing from 37.6 percent to 20.8 percent, a decrease of 44.7 percent. Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds decreased slightly, from 42.6 percent in 1960 to 39.1 percent in 2015, a decrease of 8.2 percent.

- In Chicago from 1960 to 2015, the gap between White (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds that were out of work and out of school increased from 17.3 percentage points to 32.3 percentage points. Over the same period, the gap between Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year olds that were out of work increased from 3.5 percentage points to 18.3 percentage points.

- During the entire period from 1960 to 2015, the percent of out of work and out of school Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds was higher in Chicago than in the U.S. while the percent of White (non-Hispanic or Latino) out of work and out of school 20 to 24 year olds was lower in Chicago than in the U.S.

Out of School and Out of Work Rates for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds by Race/Ethnicity and Gender in Chicago, 1960-2015 (See Figures 19 and 20.)

Adding gender to the longitudinal out of work and out of school examination in Chicago and the U.S. provides a deeper understanding into how out of work and out of school rates have changed over time for racial/ethnic groups.

While we saw overall out of work and out of school rates fall for each race/ethnicity, isolating genders shows that rates for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year old women have decreased over time, while rates for 16 to 19 year olds males only slightly changed, and rates for 20 to 24 year old males increased. For 20 to 24 year old males, Black and Hispanic or Latino rates in 2015 were almost double their 1960 rates, while White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year old males slightly increased their out of work and out of school rate.

Figure 19 shows the percent of 16 to 19 year olds who were out of work and out of school by race/ethnicity from 1960 to 2015.

- Smaller percentages of 16 to 19 year olds were out of work and out of school in 1960 to 2015 for each racial/ethnic and gender group.
- 16 to 19 year old Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) females and Hispanic or Latino females experienced drastic decreases in out of work and out of school rates from 1960 to 2015, the rate for Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) females decreasing from 35 percent to 10 percent (a decrease of 71.4%) and Hispanic or Latino females decreasing from 33.1 percent to 8.6 percent (a decrease of 74 percent).
- Out of school and out of work rates peaked for females of each race/ethnic group in 1960 (35 percent for Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) females, 33.1 percent for Hispanic or Latino females, and 14.7 percent for White (non-
Hispanic or Latino) females. Out of school and out of work rates peaked for White (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Hispanic or Latino males in 1980 (21.1 and 20.2 percent respectively) and peaked for Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) males in 1990 (23 percent).


Figure 19: Percent of 16 to 19 Year Olds Who Were Out of School and Out of Work in Chicago by Race/Ethnicity and Gender, 1960-2015

Figure 20 shows the percent of 20 to 24 year olds who were out of work and out of school by race/ethnicity from 1960 to 2015.

- The percent of out of work and out of school 20 to 24 year old males in Chicago increased for each group while the percentages of females decreased.
- The percent of out of work and out of school Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Hispanic or Latino males nearly doubled from 1960 to 2015. During that period, the percent of Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds that were out of work and out of school increased from 22.3 to 42.8 percent and Hispanic or Latinos increased from 9.6 percent to 17.6 percent.
- Out of school and out of work rates for 20 to 24 year olds peaked for females of each race/ethnicity in 1960 and peaked for White (non-Hispanic or Latino) males in 1980 (12.8 percent), for Hispanic or Latino males in 2000 (25.4 percent), and for Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) males in 2010 (45.8 percent).
Industry Change in Manufacturing, Retail Trade, and Professional and Related Services for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds by Race/Ethnicity from 1960-2015 (See 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26.)

The process of economic restructuring, resulting in the offshoring and automation of manufacturing jobs and shift to a retail and service economy has severely impacted U.S. labor markets and impacted various racial/ethnic and age groups different. Examining industry change from 1960 to 2015 by race/ethnicity for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds in Chicago and the U.S. displays that Chicago had larger industry changes in manufacturing, retail trade, and professional and related services for its population and that trends continue to extend away from employment conditions in 1960.

In Chicago, compared to the U.S., larger concentrations of 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds worked in manufacturing in 1960 and therefore saw larger declines over time, suggesting that Chicago was disproportionally impacted by the decline in manufacturing. Among 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds, Hispanic or Latinos, who had the largest concentration in manufacturing employment, have also seen the largest decline over time. For Blacks and Hispanics or Latinos, their percentage decline in manufacturing is evident in their percentage increase in retail and services, while Whites increased employment in professional and related services.

Figure 21 shows the proportion of racial/ethnic groups employed in manufacturing by each racial/ethnic group's total employment for 16 to 19 year olds in Chicago and the U.S. from 1960-2015.

- In Chicago and the U.S., the proportion of 16 to 19 year olds of each racial/ethnic group working in manufacturing steadily declined from 1960 to 2015 with the exception of Blacks (non-Hispanic or Latino) in the U.S. who increased employment in manufacturing from 1960 to 1970 before decreasing from 1970 to 2015.
- Among 16 to 19 year olds, a larger proportion of Hispanic or Latinos in 1960 (45.3 percent) worked in manufacturing compared to White (non-Hispanic or Latino) (26 percent) and Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) (21.9 percent).
• Hispanic or Latino 16 to 19 year olds had the largest percentage point decline in the proportion of population working in manufacturing from 1960 to 2015. In 1960, 45.3 percent of employed Hispanic or Latino 16 to 19 year olds worked in manufacturing compared to just 6.1 percent in 2015, representing 39.2 percentage point (or 86.5 percent) decline.

• From 1960 to 2015, the proportion of employed White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 year olds working in manufacturing declined 94.6 percent from 26 to 1.4 percent while the proportion of Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 year olds declined 98.2 percent from 21.9 to .4 percent.

• Chicago had higher proportions of 16 to 19 year olds of each racial and ethnic group working in manufacturing in 1960 compared to the U.S., however, by 2015, slightly higher proportions of Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) and White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 were working in manufacturing in the U.S. by 1970 and 2000 respectively.

• Higher concentrations of 16 to 19 year olds of each racial/ethnic group worked in manufacturing in 1960 with larger declines over time in Chicago compared to the U.S. suggests that Chicago's manufacturing sector was disproportionally impacted by economic restructuring.
Figure 22 shows the proportion of racial/ethnic groups employed in retail trade by each racial/ethnic group’s total employment for 16 to 19 year olds in Chicago and the U.S. from 1960-2015.

- The proportion 16 to 19 year olds of each racial/ethnic group working in retail trade was higher in 2015 than in 1960 in Chicago and the U.S.
- In Chicago, the largest increase in proportion of each racial/ethnic group working in retail trade for 16 to 19 year olds between 1960 and 2015 was for Hispanic or Latinos. In 1960, 28.1 percent of Hispanic or Latino 16 to 19 year olds worked in retail trade. By 2015, 54.9 percent of Hispanic or Latinos worked in retail trade, an increase of 95.4 percent.
- The proportion of the White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 year olds population working in retail trade increased from 34.1 percent in 1960 to 49.4 percent in 2010 before declining 22.7 percent to 38.2 percent from 2010 to 2015.
- The proportion of the Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 year olds in Chicago working in retail trade peaked in 1990 at 51.8 percent and declined to 42.7 percent in 2010 before increasing to 46.1 percent in 2015.
- In 1960, a higher proportion of 16 to 19 year olds of each racial/ethnic group was employed in retail trade in Chicago compared to the U.S. This trend switched in 1990 to 2015 when there was a larger proportion of each population working in retail trade in the U.S. compared to Chicago. This suggests that retail trade growth for 16 to 19 year olds is larger in the U.S. than Chicago.

Figure 23 shows the proportion of racial/ethnic groups employed in professional and related services by each racial/ethnic group’s total employment for 16 to 19 year olds in Chicago and the U.S. from 1960-2015.

- The proportion of White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 year olds working in professional and related services in Chicago increased from 7.9 percent in 1960 to 32.9 percent in 2015, an increase of 25 percentage points, representing the largest percentage point increase for any racial/ethnic group.
- In Chicago from 2010 to 2015, the proportion of White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 year olds working in professional and related services increased from 28.4 percent to 32.9 percent while declining slightly for Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Hispanic or Latino 16 to 19 year olds.
- In the U.S. from 2010 to 2015, the proportion of 16 to 19 year olds of each racial/ethnic group working in professional and related services declined but most severely for Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 year olds (-28.2 percent).
- From 1960 to 1990 and in 2010, a larger proportion of Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 year olds worked in professional and related services than White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 year olds.
- From 1960 to 2015 for each racial/ethnic group, increases in the percent of each respective group working in professional and related service was larger in Chicago than in the U.S.
- From 1980 to 1990, the percent of employed Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 year olds decreased in Chicago from 23.3 percent to 14.6 percent (a decrease of 37.3 percent) and decreased in the U.S. from 21.2 percent of 14.9 percent (a decrease of 29.7 percent). During that period, the proportion of employed Hispanic or Latinos slightly decreased in Chicago and the U.S. while the proportion of employed Whites (non-Hispanic or Latino) slightly increased.
- From 1990 to 2015, growth in the proportion of each racial/ethnic group employed in professional and related services was larger in Chicago than in the U.S.
Figure 23: Proportion of Racial/Ethnic Groups Employed in Professional and Related Services by Each Racial/Ethnic Groups Total Employment for 16 to 19 Year Olds in Chicago and the U.S., 1960-2015


Figure 24 shows the proportion of racial/ethnic groups employed in manufacturing by each racial/ethnic group's total employment for 20 to 24 year olds in Chicago and the U.S. from 1960-2015.

- In 1960, a larger proportion of 20 to 24 year olds of each racial/ethnic group was employed in manufacturing compared to 16 to 19 year olds (See figure 23).
- In 1960, the largest proportion of employed 20 to 24 year olds by racial/ethnic group to work in manufacturing was Hispanic or Latinos (57.8 percent). A smaller proportion of employed White (non-Hispanic or Latino) (35 percent) and Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) (29.6 percent) 20 to 24 year olds worked in manufacturing.
- Blacks (non-Hispanic or Latino) from 1960 to 1970 in the U.S. were the only group in the U.S. or Chicago to have a larger proportion of 20 to 24 year olds working in manufacturing between years. Each other racial and ethnic group in Chicago and the U.S. steadily declined from 1960 to 2015.
- Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year olds had the largest percentage point decline in the proportion of population working in manufacturing from 1960 to 2015. In 1960, 57.8 percent of employed Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year olds worked in manufacturing compared to just 10.2 percent in 2015, representing 47.6 percentage point (or 82.4 percent) decline.
• From 1960 to 2015, the proportion of employed White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds working in manufacturing declined 91.7 percent from 35 to 2.9 percent for Whites (non-Hispanic or Latino) and 90.2 percent from 29.6 to 2.9 for Blacks (non-Hispanic or Latino)

• Just as is the case for 16 to 19 year olds, higher concentrations of 20 to 24 year olds of each racial/ethnic group working in manufacturing in 1960 saw larger declines over time in Chicago compared to the U.S., suggesting that Chicago’s manufacturing sector was disproportionally impacted by economic restructuring.

![Figure 24: Proportion of Racial/Ethnic Groups Employed in Manufacturing by Each Racial/Ethnic Groups Total Employment for 20 to 24 Year Olds in Chicago the U.S., 1960-2015](image)


Figure 25 shows the proportion of racial/ethnic groups employed in retail trade by each racial/ethnic group’s total employment for 20 to 24 year olds in Chicago and the U.S. from 1960-2015

• The proportion 20 to 24 year olds of each racial/ethnic group working in retail trade was higher in 2015 than in 1960 in Chicago and the U.S.

• In 1960, 25.8 percent of Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) employed 20 to 24 year olds, 17.2 percent of Hispanic or Latinos, and 14.1 percent of Whites (non-Hispanic or Latino) worked in retail trade.
• From 1960 to 2015, the percent of employed Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds increased to 45.7 percent, Hispanic or Latinos increased to 39.7 percent, Whites (non-Hispanic or Latinos) increased to 28.9 percent, increases of 77.1 percent, 130.8 percent, and 105 percent respectively.

• In Chicago in 1960, the proportion of employed Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds was 9.3 percentage points more than the proportion of Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds working in retail trade in the U.S. Comparatively, the proportion of employed Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year olds working in retail trade was .2 percentage points higher in Chicago than the U.S. and for White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds was 3.8 percentage points less in Chicago than in the U.S.

• In 2015, the gaps in the proportion of employed 20 to 24 year olds by each race/ethnicity between Chicago and the U.S. was 5.7 percentage points for Blacks (non-Hispanic or Latino), 2.2 percentage points for Hispanic or Latinos, and 5.7 percentage points lower in Chicago than in the U.S. for Whites (non-Hispanic or Latino).

• The largest period of growth in the employed proportion of each racial/ethnic group working in retail trade occurred from 2000 to 2015, when the proportion of employed Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds increased from 30.7 percent to 45.7 percent (an increase of 48.9 percent), the proportion of employed Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year olds increased from 27 percent to 39.7 percent (an increase of 47 percent), and the proportion of employed White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds increased from 20.2 percent to 28.9 percent (an increase of 43.1 percent),

• From 2010 to 2015, the proportion of each racial/ethnic group working in retail trade increased more in Chicago than in the U.S.

Figure 26 shows the proportion of racial/ethnic groups employed in professional and related services by each racial/ethnic group’s total employment for 20 to 24 year olds in Chicago and the U.S. from 1960-2015.

- The proportion of White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds working in professional and related services increased from 13 percent in 1960 to 36.8 percent in 2015, an increase of 23.8 percentage points, representing the largest percentage point increase for racial/ethnic groups.
- The proportion of employed 20 to 24 year olds of each racial/ethnic group working in professional and related services increased more in Chicago than in the U.S. and the most for White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds in Chicago.
- In 1960, .2 percentage points higher of a proportion of employed White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds worked in professional and related services in Chicago than the U.S. By 2015, 12.9 percentage points higher of White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds worked in professional and related services in Chicago than the U.S.
- In Chicago from 2010 to 2015, the proportion of Hispanic or Latino 20 to 24 year olds working in professional and related services decreased from 20.1 to 17.3 while increasing slightly for White (non-Hispanic or Latino) and Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 20 to 24 year olds.
- In the U.S. from 2010 to 2015, the proportion of 16 to 19 year olds of Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 year olds working in professional and related services declined from 23.2 percent to 21.3 percent, increased for Hispanic or Latinos from 16.1 to 17.8 percent, and slightly increased from 23.8 to 23.9 percent for Whites (non-Hispanic or Latino).
- From 1960 to 2015 for each racial/ethnic group, increases in the percent of each respective group working in professional and related service growth was larger in Chicago than in the U.S.
Annual Wages by Industry for Manufacturing in 1960 and Retail Trade and Professional and Related Services in 2015 for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds (See Figures 27 and 28.)

While we know that manufacturing jobs have largely been replaced by retail trade and professional and related services, contrasting the income earned by manufacturing employees in 1960 to the earning of retail and professional and related services in 2015 provides a comparison about the economic quality of the jobs that have replaced manufacturing.

Manufacturing wages in 1960 put more 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds in higher income groups compared to retail trade and professional and related services employment in 2015. Earnings by industry data combined with the data showing the decline in manufacturing and replacement with retail and service jobs shows that the earning of 16 to 24 year olds have greatly suffered as a result of economic restructuring. The decline in earnings from the most prominent services from 1960 to 2015 is exacerbated by a parallel decline in the lower paying employment opportunities.
Figure 27 shows annual wages by industry for manufacturing in 1960, and Retail Trade and Professional and Related Services in 2015 for 16 to 19 Year Olds.

- Larger proportions of 16 to 19 year olds working in manufacturing in 1960 were in higher income groups compared to those working in retail trade and professional and related services in 2015.
- 23.4 percent of 16 to 19 year olds working in manufacturing in 1960 made between $20,000 and $39,999 compared to just 5 percent of those working in retail trade in 2015 and 4.7 percent of those working in professional and related services in 2015.
- There was a smaller proportion of 16 to 19 year olds working in manufacturing in the lowest income cohort in 1960 compared to 16 to 19 year olds working in retail trade and professional and related services.
- For 16 to 19 year olds in Chicago in 2015, 94.4 percent of those working in retail trade and 94.5 percent of those working in professional and related services made between $0 and $19,999 annually. Comparatively, 75.6 percent of 16 to 19 year olds working in manufacturing in 1960 made between $0 and $19,999 annually.

Figure 27: Annual Wages by Industry for Manufacturing in 1960, and Retail Trade and Professional and Related Services in 2015 for 16 to 19 Year Olds in Chicago.

Data Source: 1960, Decennial Census and 2015 American Community Survey, public use files.
Tabulations by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Figure 28 shows annual wages by industry for manufacturing in 1960, and Retail Trade and Professional and Related Services in 2015 for 20 to 24 Year Olds.

- Among 20 to 24 year olds, larger proportions working in manufacturing in 1960 were in the $20,000 to $39,999 and $40,000 to $59,999 income groups compared to those working in retail trade and professional and related services in 2015.
- 20 to 24 year olds working in retail trade in 2015 had the highest concentration in the $0 to $19,999 income cohort (70.8 percent compared to 60.8 percent for professional and related services and 35.9 percent in manufacturing).
- 20 to 24 year olds working in manufacturing had the largest proportion of workers in the $20,000 to $39,999 and $40,000 to $59,999 income cohorts. In 1960, 48.6 percent of 20 to 24 year olds working in manufacturing earned between $20,000 and $39,999 compared to 24.5 percent of retail trade workers and 28.3 percent of professional and related services workers. 14.4 percent of those working in manufacturing were in the $40,000 to $59,999
income cohort compared to just 7.9 percent of professional and related services workers and 3.7 percent of retail trade workers.

- Professional and related services had the largest proportion of employees in the $60,000 to $79,000 income group by a slight margin. 2.3 percent of professional and related services workers earned $60,000 to $79,999 compared to 1 percent of manufacturing workers and .7 percent of retail workers.

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**Figure 28: Annual Wages by Industry for Manufacturing in 1960, and Retail Trade and Professional and Related Services in 2015 for 20 to 24 Year Olds in Chicago.**

- 70.8% for $0 - $19,999
- 60.8% for $20,000 to $39,999
- 48.6% for $40,000 - $59,999
- 28.3% for $60,000 - $79,999

Data Source: 1960, Decennial Census and 2015 American Community Survey, public use files.
Tabulations by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.
**Map 1: Chicago Community Area and Zip Code Map**

Map 1 shows Chicago Community Area and zip code tabulation areas for reference to the maps that follow. In the following section, total job counts in 1957, 1970, and 2015, manufacturing jobs in 1970 and 2015, and retail jobs in 1970 and 2015 are aggregated to zip code tabulation areas. To have consistent areas over time, some zip codes were combined. Data is presented with 2015 zip code boundaries. Jobless rates are aggregated to Chicago Community Areas.

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### Chicago Community Areas and Zip Codes

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**Note:** Community Area Numbers are indicated in black and Zip Codes in green.

Map 2 shows population by race/ethnicity by census tract in Chicago with Community Area boundaries. This map provides reference to where racial and ethnic groups are located in Chicago for the following maps. Chicago is known for being one of the most racially and ethnically segregated cities in the U.S. and the maps that follow illustrate different conditions endured by populations living in different areas in Chicago.

- In Chicago’s South, Southeast, Far South, and Far Southeast Sides, Community Areas with predominantly Black populations include Burnside (100 percent), Avalon Park (97.4 percent), Auburn Gresham (96.9 percent), Chatham (96.6 percent), Roseland (96.1 percent), Greater Grand Crossing (96.1 percent), Washington Park (96 percent), Washington Heights (95.8 percent), Englewood (95 percent), Riverdale (94.2 percent), South Shore (93.6 percent), Calumet Heights (93.5 percent), West Pullman (93.4 percent), West Englewood (93.2 percent), Oakland (92.6 percent), Fuller Park (92.3 percent), Grand Boulevard (90.7 percent), Woodlawn (85.3 percent), Pullman (82.8 percent), South Chicago (74.1 percent), Douglas (70.7 percent), Kenwood (67.7 percent), Morgan Park (66 percent), and South Deering (65.1 percent).

- In Chicago’s West Side, Community Areas with predominantly Black populations include West Garfield Park (95.6 percent), East Garfield Park (91.3 percent), North Lawndale (89 percent), and Austin (83 percent).
Maps of Industry Change in Manufacturing, Retail Trade, and Total Private Sector Jobs by Zip code, 1957, 1970, 2015 (See Maps 3 to 9.)

The following maps display private sector employment from historical surveys of Employment Covered under the Illinois Unemployment Compensation Act. These maps provide insight into the distribution of jobs in two time periods by Chicago Zip codes. For over five decades, the Illinois Department of Employment security has provided data for the location of jobs for employers covered under the Illinois Unemployment Compensation Act. The following section utilizes this data to display an overview of the movement of private sector jobs covered by the Illinois Unemployment Compensation Act throughout the Chicago Area. In 1991, new data coding was instituted followed by changes in 2001 from SIC to NAICS code classifications in retail and manufacturing. This next section therefore is meant to provide insight into the distribution in jobs in different time periods rather than absolute losses and gains by zip codes over time (see appendix A for more detail). Therefore, the maps that follow displaying the location of jobs are meant to be comparisons in the distribution of jobs in respective years and not direct calculations of jobs gained and lost over time. From 1957, 1970, and 2015 data, we see different patterns in the distribution of jobs throughout Chicago.

Maps 3 and 4 show the number of manufacturing jobs by zip code in 1970 and 2015. In 1970 Chicago's manufacturing sector was present throughout all Chicago zip codes, but most notably in the central portion of Chicago near road, rail, and water transportation infrastructure. In 1970, zip codes from Lake Michigan to the east, Chicago's western boundary, north to Irving Park and North Center, and South to New City, had a large cluster of Manufacturing Jobs. By 2015, the city lost most of its manufacturing jobs. This change reverberated throughout Chicago, but most notably in the neighborhoods that contained these anchor employers. These conditions have led to associated business and population flight that has compounded the hardship in neighborhoods that lost manufacturing.

Maps 4 and 5 show the number of retail jobs by zip codes in 1970 and 2015. Large retail centers, in 1970, were located on the South and West Sides. In 2015, these areas no longer have large retail sectors, as most retail jobs are concentrated just north of the Loop.

Maps 7 to 9 show jobs of all private sector industries in 1957, 1970, and 2015. In 1957, Jobs were concentrated across the central portion of Chicago near road, rail, and water transportation infrastructure and in the Loop. By 2015, jobs are less decentralized and move into the Loop and area north of the Loop with noticeably more jobs on the North Side and Southwest Sides of Chicago compared to the South, parts of the West Side, and Far North West Side. The change in total private sector jobs over time shows large losses away from transportation infrastructure and increased concentration in the Loop and North Side.

Map 3 shows the number of manufacturing jobs by zip code in Chicago in 1970.

- In 1970, zip codes from Lake Michigan to the east, Chicago's western boundary, north to Irving Park and North Center, and South to New City, making up the center portion of Chicago, had a cluster of manufacturing jobs. Zip codes with the highest number of manufacturing jobs included 60639 (33,000) and 60607 (20,896) on the West Side of Chicago, 60609 (22,335) and 60632 (22,051) on Chicago's Southwest Side, 60611 (22,334) near the Loop, 60642+60622 (21,076) on the Far North Side, and 60618 (21,033) on Chicago's North Side.
Map 3: Number of Manufacturing Jobs by Zip Code in Chicago, 1970

Map Prepared by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.
Map 4 shows the number of manufacturing jobs by zip code in Chicago in 2015.

- The three zip codes with the most manufacturing jobs included 60614 (8,180), 60609 (6,373), and 60633 (5,414). No other community areas had more than 5,000 manufacturing jobs in 2015 as manufacturing jobs were spread more evenly throughout the city compared to 1970.

Map Prepared by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.
Map 5 shows the number of retail jobs by zip code in Chicago in 1970.

- In 1970, most retail jobs were in the 60624 (18,672) and 60644 (5,179) zip codes on the West Side, and 60609 (11,646) zip code on the South Side, and 60601 (5,292), 60602 (14,910), 60603 (10,254), and 60604 (5,457) zip codes in the Loop and 60610 and 60654 (16,206) zip codes north of the Loop.

Map 5: Number of Retail Jobs by Zip Code in Chicago, 1970

Map Prepared by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.
Map 6 shows the number of retail jobs by zip code in Chicago in 2015.

- The four zip codes (3 zip code areas due to combining) with the most retail jobs in Chicago in 2015 were 60611 (13,181), 60610 + 60654 (5,246), and 60614 (6,619), all located north of the Loop. Retail clusters existed on the North, Northwest, and Southwest Sides of the City.
Map 7 shows the total number of jobs by zip code in Chicago in 1957.

- Zip codes from Lake Michigan to the east, Chicago's western boundary, north to Irving Park and North Center, and south to New City (See Map 1 for location of Community Areas) represent a cluster of areas with the most jobs.
- In Chicago's central portion, most of the jobs were located along the two Interstate highways, I-55 and the northern portion I-90. The maximum jobs were along the I-55, zip codes 60608 (57,579), 60609 (68,131), 60607 (60,223), 60610 + 60654 (64,853), 60604 (60,785) and 60603 (68,425) likely because of its close proximity to railroad facilities located in the western part of Chicago.
- In the Far South Side of Chicago, significant number of jobs were located in the zip code 60617 (35,844) that has the South Chicago, Calumet heights and East Side Community Areas.
- The West Side and Near North Side zip codes 60614 (43,206), 60622 + 60642 (40,370), 60624 (34,744) and 60612 (36,185) also had large number of jobs.
Map 7: Total Number of Private Sector Jobs by Zip Code in Chicago, 1957

Number of Jobs by Zip Code, 1957

- 394 - 5000
- 5001 - 15000
- 15001 - 30000
- 30001 - 50000
- 50001 - 152016

Map Prepared by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.
Map 8 shows the total number of jobs by zip code in Chicago in 1970.

- In Chicago’s central portion, jobs stated to become concentrated in the present day loop in zip codes 60610 + 60654 (61,931), 60611 (59,842), 60661 + 60606 (93,045), 60603 (78,385) and 60604 (58,080). In contrast, the number of jobs on the Southwest Side and West Side decreased.

- Comparing 1957 to 1970, the loss in jobs is more pronounced in the South Side of the Chicago as compared to the North Side of the city.
Map 8: Total Number of Private Sector Jobs by Zip Code in Chicago, 1970

Map 9 shows the total number of private sector jobs by zip code in Chicago in 2015.

- Most of the jobs are located in the central portion of the city in the zip codes 60610 + 60654 (77,894), 60611 (152,016), 60601 (82,440), 60603 (47,919) and 60604 (41,298) in the community areas; River North, New East Side and Magnificent Mile.

- Concentrations of jobs become centralized in 2015 whereas they are more spread out in 1970 as shown in map 10.

- There is a significant difference between the number of jobs in the zip codes lying on the North Side and South Side of Chicago. Most of the zip codes on the North Side of Chicago have similar number of jobs whereas the number varies across different zip codes on the South Side. The zip codes around South Side and Englewood and West Englewood area have comparatively very few jobs to other zip codes.
Map 9: Total Number of Private Sector Jobs by Zip Code in Chicago, 2015

Number of Jobs
by Zip Code, 2015

- 394 - 5000
- 5001 - 15000
- 15001 - 30000
- 30001 - 50000
- 50001 - 152016

Map Prepared by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.
Jobless Rates for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds, 2011 – 2015 (See Map 10 and 11.)

For 16 to 19 year olds, communities with high jobless rates are primarily located on the predominantly Black West, South, and Far South sides, with notably high jobless rates on predominantly Hispanic or Latino Northwest and Southwest sides. The lowest jobless rates are in Community Areas border Lake Michigan near the Loop and North Side and Community Areas on the Far North Side with the highest concentrations of White population.

Examining jobless rates for 20 to 24 year olds by Community Areas show a sharp contrast between the predominantly Black South and West Sides of Chicago and all other parts of the city that have comparably lower jobless rates. The lowest jobless rates in the city are in the predominantly White Community Areas on the North Side and Far North Side where many Community Areas have jobless rates less than half of the South and West Side rates.

Map 10 shows the jobless rate for 16 to 19 year olds by Chicago Community Areas, 2011 to 2015

- A cluster of Community Areas including Pullman (95.5 percent), Roseland (94.5 percent), West Pullman (94.2 percent), Hegewisch (93.3 percent), Chatham (94.5 percent) and Woodlawn (93.7 percent) on the South and Far South Sides have some of the highest jobless rates for 16 to 19 year olds in the city. These areas have predominantly African American population.
- Also, Community Areas on the West Side with high Black population had jobless rates over 90 percent for 16 to 19 year olds including East Garfield Park (94.1 percent), West Garfield Park (92.7 percent) and Austin (90.8 percent).
- Many predominantly Hispanic or Latino Community Areas on the Southwest and Northwest Sides had high jobless rates between 80 and 90 percent.
- Most of the Community Areas with jobless rates for 16 to 19 year olds that were lower than 80 percent were on the North and Far Northwest sides.
- On average, most Community Areas in the city have a jobless rate above 80 percent.
Map 10: Jobless Rate for 16 to 19 Year Olds by Chicago Community Areas

Map Prepared by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.
Map 11 shows the jobless rate for 20 to 24 year olds by Chicago Community Areas, 2011 to 2015

- As is the case for 16 to 19 year olds, most of the Community Areas on the South Side of city have high jobless rate for 20 to 24 year olds.
- A cluster of Community Areas in on the South Side, Englewood (67.2 percent), West Englewood (70.2 percent), Washington park (80.9 percent), Greater grand Crossing (65.7), Woodlawn (67.1 percent), Grand Boulevard (65.3 percent) and Kenwood (63 percent) have among the highest jobless rates for 20 to 24 year olds in the city.
- The Community Areas on the West Side, West Garfield Park (72.5 percent) and North Lawndale (65.8 percent) also have high jobless rates for 20 to 24 year olds. Community Areas with slightly lower jobless rates, but are still above 50 percent for 20 to 24 year olds include South Lawndale (59.5 percent), West Garfield Park (58 percent) and Austin (59.7 percent).
- In contrast, a cluster of Community Areas on North and Northwest Sides of city, such as West Town (26.1 percent), Logan Square (26 percent), Near North Side (26.7 percent), Lincoln Park (21.4 percent), Lake View (17.1 percent), North Center (21.8 percent), Uptown (24.1), Lincoln Square (27 percent) have the lowest jobless rates for 20-24 years olds across the city. White and Hispanic or Latino populations predominantly inhabits these Community Areas.
- On average, the jobless rates across Community Areas are lower for 20 to 24 year olds compared to 16 to 19 year olds.
Map 11: Jobless Rate for 20 to 24 Year Olds by Chicago Community Areas

Percent of Jobless 20 to 24 Year Olds by Chicago Community Area

- 17.1% - 30.0%
- 30.1% - 45.0%
- 45.1% - 60.0%
- 60.1% - 80.9%

Map Prepared by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.
Conclusion

This report, *Abandoned in their Neighborhoods: Youth Joblessness Amidst the Flight of Industry and Opportunity*, dramatically reveals a downward and long-term trend of economic abandonment in many of Chicago’s neighborhoods, leaving behind *chronic and concentrated* conditions of joblessness that have affected generations of young people.

Examining the period from 1960 to 2015, we see the continual decline of employment/population ratios (rising joblessness) for young people, particularly for Blacks and Latinos.

In Chicago in 1960, compared to the U.S., larger concentrations of 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds worked in manufacturing and saw larger declines over time, suggesting that Chicago was disproportionally impacted by the decline in manufacturing. Among 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds, Hispanic or Latinos, who had the largest concentration in manufacturing employment, have also seen the largest decline over time. For Blacks and Latinos, their percentage decline in manufacturing is paralleled by their percentage increase in retail and services, while Whites increased employment in higher paying professional and related service jobs.

Joblessness disproportionately persists for young people of color and is geographically concentrated. Its roots are structural and have an impact on young people, their households, and their neighborhoods. Reflecting long-term impacts of segregation, racial disparities and economic restructuring, joblessness is a function of structural changes in the economy that date back several decades and was compounded by the 2008 global recession that exacerbated conditions and isolated people even further.

Chronic joblessness has consequences for those who experience it. Depriving young people of the dignity of work leaves “permanent scars,” impedes an overall sense of wellbeing, and can lead to counterproductive behaviors. Quoting from last year’s Great Cities Institute report, *Lost: The Crisis of Jobless and Out of School Teens and Young Adults in Chicago, Illinois and the U.S.*, we restate the following:

> There are long-term impacts associated with low rates of employment for young people. We know from previous research, including that produced by Bell and Blanchflower in 2009, entitled, “*Youth Unemployment: Déjà Vu?*” that youth unemployment causes “permanent scars” (12) where conditions of low rates of employment as youth impact the likelihood of employment later in life, the level of wages, and interestingly, all indicators of life satisfaction. Unemployment, for example, “makes people unhappy” (12).

> “Unemployment increases susceptibility to malnutrition, illness, mental stress, and loss of self-esteem, leading to depression” (13). Quoting the U.S. National Longitudinal study of Youth, Bell and Blanchflower point out that youth joblessness “injures self-esteem, and fosters feelings of externality and helplessness among youth” (13). Again citing other research studies, they also point out that “increases in youth unemployment causes increases in burglaries, thefts and drug offences” (16).

> The result is a cycle, where the “permanent scars” lead to conditions that are both a consequence and a precipitating factor that leads to further youth unemployment and parallel social conditions.

Chronic joblessness creates the very conditions that impede overcoming them.
We are left then with questions about what to do. Understanding that residential segregation and economic and occupational restructuring is the structural context for what is happening to our young people of color, is a pointed reminder that chronic and concentrated youth joblessness must be understood in terms of its structural roots and not as a function of individual attributes. Blaming young people for their plight does nothing to remedy their condition. Providing structured opportunities for employment and capacity building does.

In Chicago, over the last forty years, as we witnessed the end of industrialization and the rise of a “global economy,” we also witnessed the dramatic departure of jobs from large sections of the city along with the rise in chronic and concentrated joblessness. We have seen the impact of this extensive joblessness, including the pressures on young people to find economic solutions in arenas most available to them, which are often illegal and can lead to violence. In a city that attracted large numbers of people to work in jobs generated by its industrial activity, when the economy shifted, there was not enough done to ensure that those affected by the industrial and occupational restructuring were incorporated into the new economy. Without belaboring the point that more should have been done to stem this tide, it is now incumbent on business, government and the community to tackle this problem and its symptoms. What is needed are multi-faceted strategies that create direct employment opportunities, particularly as a means to provide first time job opportunities; equip individuals to participate in the new economy; revive economically abandoned neighborhoods; and stop the bleeding of job loss and reverse policies that reward extraction of wealth from communities.

**Strategies:**

Among the possible strategies, there are at least four categories of initial steps for business and corporations, government, and community members and organizations to tackle joblessness among those most affected:

1. Create direct employment opportunities
   - a. Reinstate federal, state, and local summer jobs programs
   - b. Replicate New Deal strategies
   - c. Fund paid mentorship programs
   - d. Create apprenticeship programs
   - e. Recreate employment subsidy programs

2. Prepare young people from these neighborhoods for the livable wage jobs that do exist and equip them to participate in the emerging economy
   - a. Increase public education expenditures
   - b. Provide on-the-job training
   - c. Expand training and workforce development
   - d. Remove the impediments to employment, including those related to criminal records

3. Revive economically abandoned neighborhoods
   - a. Attract anchor employers that hire neighborhood residents
   - b. Assist and incentivize small business development
   - c. Create incentives for venture capital investments that are not totally predicated on immediate profit recovery
   - d. Enhance conditions for community led initiatives such as worker cooperatives and small business incubators that harness the skills and talents of young people, both of which can become the basis for revitalized commercial districts to supply the much-needed access to a wider range of goods and services
   - e. Increase funding for community organizations that provide mentorship and capacity building of young people
4. Stop the bleeding of job loss and reverse policies that reward extraction of wealth from communities
   a. Tie tax incentives for corporations to actual job generation, which are then monitored for adherence to agreements with penalties for non-compliance
   b. Accelerate incentives to invest in neighborhoods and evaluate their effectiveness

All of these approaches involve directing effort and resources to individuals as well as the organizations and government agencies that serve them. Given that industry abandonment was accompanied by the abandonment of federal resources, the federal government has – and could again – play a key role in providing resources to assist in reviving neighborhoods and building capacity and opportunity for individuals. Local governments can play a role in re-establishing anchor institutions in neighborhoods and state government can reinvest in summer employment and jobs programs that we know are gateways for further employment opportunities. Establishing various task forces to tackle these urgent issues and provide concrete recommendations may be an immediate first step.

Quoting Father Boyle from Homeboy Industries in Los Angeles, as well as the title of last year's March 2016 hearing before the Cook County Commission, “Nothing Stops a Bullet Like a Job.” On the basis of the data produced in this report, we can conclude that we have the corporate and political responsibility to invest in those affected by years of economic abandonment and indifference. Reconnecting the disconnected yields benefits for everyone. Doing so requires that the young people themselves are part of developing further understanding of both the problem and the solutions.

No doubt, the severity and complexity of chronic and concentrated joblessness among young people most affected, requires an “all hands on deck” response. As David Elam reminded us during his testimony at the youth employment hearings in January 2016, “Team work will make the dream work.”

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1 In its February 21st, 2016, lead editorial, the Sunday New York Times, called for Congressional action to address conditions of unemployment in “minority” communities. Citing the Great Cities Institute report on joblessness among young people, the editorial goes on to express outrage that Congress has rejected programs that we know work and “that could help rescue a generation of young men from failure and oblivion.”

Specifically, the New York Times editorial references a component of the Recovery Act of 2009, an employment subsidy program that “created more than 260,000 temporary jobs.” The non-profit, Economic Mobility Corporation, released an analysis in 2013 through which they concluded that this program, which placed workers largely in the private sector, not only aided local businesses that did the hiring, but also those who were hired, increasing their likelihood of finding permanent employment.

These promising results suggest that carefully targeted subsidies that place unemployed people into private-sector jobs can be a potent tool in reducing the devastating unemployment in minority areas of big cities where young people are disconnected from work and civic life.

As the Times points out, employment subsidy programs have been around since the 1930s. They suggest, however, that such programs should be created to place individuals in the private sector, including those who may have criminal records and need the opportunity to prove themselves as “motivated workers.” “Carefully developed subsidy programs are worth pursuing even if they do not produce big earnings gains. Getting jobless young people into the world of work is valuable in itself.”

The Times Editorial is a call to congressional action but concludes that if Congress fails to act, then this is something that the states should fund.

The idea of employment subsidy programs to place workers in the private sector, as already evidenced, can yield results. A subsidized employment program for public works, as we saw from the 1930s, could also put people to work, and at the same time, rebuild the decaying infrastructure in cities and states (Great Cities Institute, A Lost Generation: The Disappearance of Teens and Young Adults from the Job Market, 2016).
Appendix A: Definitions, Data Sources and Methodology

Definitions
Employment is defined by the U.S. Census Bureau as all civilians 16 years old and over who either (1) were "at work," that is, those who did any work at all during the reference week as paid employees, worked in their own business or profession, worked on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers on a family farm or in a family business; or (2) were "with a job but not at work," that is, those who did not work during the reference week but had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent due to illness, bad weather, industrial dispute, vacation, or other personal reasons. Excluded from the employed are people whose only activity consisted of work around the house or unpaid volunteer work for religious, charitable, and similar organizations; also excluded are all institutionalized people and people on active duty in the United States Armed Forces.

Employment to Population Ratio
Employment to Population Ratio is a calculation of the proportion of the total civilian non-institutionalized population that is employed. Employment-population Ratio is the inverse of the out of work rate.

Out of Work or Jobless Rate
The Out of Work or Jobless Rate is a calculation of the proportion of the total civilian non-institutionalized population that is unemployed or not in the labor force. The out of work or jobless rate is the inverse of employment to population ratio.

Out of Work Out of School Rate
Out of Work Out of School Rate is a calculation of the proportion of the total civilian non-institutionalized population that is not enrolled in school and unemployed or not in the labor force.

Data Sources and Methodology
The three main sources of data for the Analysis were American Community Survey and Decennial Census Public Use Microdata Sample data, Where Workers Work, and American Community Survey 5-year estimates.

The U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey is a national monthly survey that produces annual demographic, socioeconomic, employment, income, education, and behavioral estimates for households and individuals. About 3.54 million addresses are sampled each year to calculate estimates.

ACS Public Use Microdata Sample data for 2010 and 2015 was used with 2010, 2000, 1990, 1980, 1970 and 1960 Decennial Census PUMS data to calculate 1960 to 2015 data for employment to population ratios, employment to population ratios by family income, out of work rates, out of work and out of school rates, proportion of out of work and out of school population without a high school diploma, employment by industry, and annual wages by industry. Person weights provided in the data were used to generate estimates.

1970 and 2015 Where Workers Work publications were used to generate estimates of jobs by zip codes. 2015 zip code boundaries were used and in instances needed to be combined to reflect 1970 boundaries. Where Workers Work provides job counts by zip codes for Employment Covered under the Illinois Unemployment Compensation Act. Where Workers Work reports published after 1991 note that comparison of 1991 data with years prior is improper due to a change in worksite coding procedures. In 1991, new data coding was instituted followed by changes in 2001 from SIC to NAICS code classifications in retail and manufacturing. SIC coding categorizes total employment by 11 major industry sectors while NAICS categorizes by 21. The comparisons therefore are meant to provide insight in the distribution of jobs in respective years and not direct calculations of jobs gained and lost over time.

Jobless rate maps by Chicago Community Area were calculated using 2011 to 2015 ACS 5-year estimates. Community Area figures were calculated by aggregating census tracts.
### Appendix B: \( n \) Values

#### Appendix B Table B1: Number of the Population that was out of work by race/ethnicity in 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>16-19</th>
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<th></th>
<th>20-24</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>6,034,614</td>
<td>237,697</td>
<td>18,218</td>
<td>76,109</td>
<td>30,803</td>
<td>3,747,072</td>
<td>143,089</td>
<td>13,716</td>
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<tr>
<td>(non-Hispanic or Latino)</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>1,849,130</td>
<td>88,548</td>
<td>39,864</td>
<td>84,760</td>
<td>15,835</td>
<td>1,396,797</td>
<td>84,119</td>
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<td>(non-Hispanic or Latino)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino</td>
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<td>1,616,054</td>
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<td>169,408</td>
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<td>313,122</td>
<td>87,836</td>
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</table>

Data Source: 2015 American Community Survey, public use files. Tabulations by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.

#### Appendix B Table B2: Number of the Population that was out of work by race/ethnicity and gender in 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>3,193,717</td>
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<td>1,936,940</td>
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<td>(non-Hispanic or Latino)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>980,317</td>
<td>44,055</td>
<td>19,518</td>
<td>45,523</td>
<td>7,818</td>
<td>761,213</td>
<td>42,670</td>
<td>20,517</td>
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<td>(non-Hispanic or Latino)</td>
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<td>Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>1,397,330</td>
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<td>19,336</td>
<td>57,890</td>
<td>51,016</td>
<td>759,635</td>
<td>24,255</td>
<td>10,041</td>
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<td>Total Population</td>
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<td>51,775</td>
<td>169,366</td>
<td>160,941</td>
<td>3,945,610</td>
<td>137,706</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
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<th>20-24</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
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<tr>
<td>White</td>
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<td>9,654</td>
<td>36,963</td>
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<td>1,810,132</td>
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<td>Black</td>
<td>868,813</td>
<td>44,493</td>
<td>20,346</td>
<td>39,237</td>
<td>8,017</td>
<td>635,584</td>
<td>41,449</td>
<td>21,869</td>
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<td>(non-Hispanic or Latino)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>1,352,203</td>
<td>50,946</td>
<td>20,125</td>
<td>57,010</td>
<td>49,114</td>
<td>856,419</td>
<td>29,198</td>
<td>11,548</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Population</td>
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<td>225,255</td>
<td>54,184</td>
<td>157,883</td>
<td>81,432</td>
<td>3,750,537</td>
<td>152,181</td>
<td>45,092</td>
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</table>

Data Source: 2015 American Community Survey, public use files. Tabulations by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.
### Appendix B Table B3: Number of the Population that was out of school and out of work by race/ethnicity in 2015

<table>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White (non-Hispanic or Latino)</td>
<td>522,371</td>
<td>18,163</td>
<td>1,555</td>
<td>3,807</td>
<td>1,666</td>
<td>1,653,991</td>
<td>58,358</td>
<td>3,962</td>
<td>17,701</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black (non-Hispanic or Latino)</td>
<td>252,716</td>
<td>10,331</td>
<td>6,072</td>
<td>11,048</td>
<td>2,298</td>
<td>831,751</td>
<td>53,703</td>
<td>27,528</td>
<td>34,298</td>
<td>8,913</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>323,506</td>
<td>10,476</td>
<td>3,974</td>
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<td>10,788</td>
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<td>30,188</td>
<td>13,501</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Population</strong></td>
<td>1,195,974</td>
<td>40,190</td>
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<td>3,685,548</td>
<td>150,711</td>
<td>46,765</td>
<td>108,917</td>
<td>48,142</td>
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</table>

Data Source: 2015 American Community Survey, public use files. Tabulations by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.

### Appendix B Table B4: Number of the Population that was out of school and out of work by race/ethnicity and gender in 2015

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White (non-Hispanic or Latino)</td>
<td>288,170</td>
<td>11,256</td>
<td>817</td>
<td>2,099</td>
<td>1,150</td>
<td>845,708</td>
<td>32,856</td>
<td>2,414</td>
<td>9,047</td>
<td>3,418</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black (non-Hispanic or Latino)</td>
<td>147,803</td>
<td>6,754</td>
<td>3,581</td>
<td>6,148</td>
<td>1,286</td>
<td>491,892</td>
<td>30,285</td>
<td>14,626</td>
<td>19,529</td>
<td>5,035</td>
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<td>Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>168,335</td>
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<td>1,826</td>
<td>7,718</td>
<td>6,286</td>
<td>410,546</td>
<td>12,894</td>
<td>6,045</td>
<td>22,610</td>
<td>12,544</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Population</strong></td>
<td>657,012</td>
<td>23,485</td>
<td>6,224</td>
<td>17,860</td>
<td>9,629</td>
<td>1,896,138</td>
<td>79,382</td>
<td>23,676</td>
<td>57,023</td>
<td>22,642</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>White (non-Hispanic or Latino)</td>
<td>234,201</td>
<td>6,907</td>
<td>738</td>
<td>1,708</td>
<td>516</td>
<td>808,283</td>
<td>25,502</td>
<td>1,548</td>
<td>8,654</td>
<td>3,024</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black (non-Hispanic or Latino)</td>
<td>104,913</td>
<td>3,577</td>
<td>2,491</td>
<td>4,900</td>
<td>1,012</td>
<td>339,859</td>
<td>23,418</td>
<td>12,902</td>
<td>14,769</td>
<td>3,878</td>
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<td>155,171</td>
<td>5,436</td>
<td>2,148</td>
<td>6,496</td>
<td>4,502</td>
<td>494,129</td>
<td>17,294</td>
<td>7,456</td>
<td>23,315</td>
<td>16,764</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Population</strong></td>
<td>538,962</td>
<td>16,705</td>
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<td>13,725</td>
<td>6,450</td>
<td>1,789,410</td>
<td>71,329</td>
<td>23,089</td>
<td>51,894</td>
<td>25,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: 2015 American Community Survey, public use files. Tabulations by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Appendix C Figure C1: shows out of work rates for 20 to 24 year olds by race/ethnicity in the U.S., Illinois, Chicago, New York City, and Los Angeles in 2014 and 2015.

Appendix C Figure C1: Percent of 16 to 19 Year Olds Who Were Out of Work by Race/Ethnicity in the U.S., Illinois, and Chicago New York and Los Angeles, 2014 and 2015

Data Source: 2014 and 2015 American Community Survey, public use files.
Tabulations by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Appendix C Figure C2: shows out of work rates for 20 to 24 year olds by race/ethnicity in the U.S., Illinois, Chicago, New York City, and Los Angeles in 2014 and 2015.

Appendix C Figure C2: Percent of 20 to 24 Year Olds Who Were Out of Work by Race/Ethnicity in the U.S., Illinois, and Chicago, New York City and Los Angeles, 2014 and 2015

Data Source: 2015 American Community Survey, public use files.
Tabulations by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.
Appendix C Figure C3 shows out of work and out of school rates for 16 to 19 year olds by race/ethnicity in the U.S., Illinois, Chicago, New York City, and Los Angeles in 2014 and 2015.

![Appendix C Figure C3: Percent of 16 to 19 Year Olds Who Were Out of Work and Out of School by Race/Ethnicity in the U.S., Illinois, and Chicago, New York City, and Los Angeles, 2014 and 2015](image)

Data Source: 2014 and 2015 American Community Survey, public use files.
Tabulations by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Appendix C Figure C4 shows out of work and out of school rates for 20 to 24 year olds by race/ethnicity in the U.S., Illinois, Chicago, New York City, and Los Angeles in 2014 and 2015.

![Appendix C Figure C4: Percent of 20 to 24 Year Olds Who Were Out of Work and Out of School by Race/Ethnicity in the U.S., Illinois, and Chicago, New York City and Los Angeles, 2014 and 2015](image)

Data Source: 2014 and 2015 American Community Survey, public use files.
Tabulations by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.
Appendix D: Percent of the out of work and out of school population without a high school diploma for 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds by race/ethnicity in the U.S., Illinois, Chicago, New York, and Los Angeles, 2015

A high school diploma can improve the probability of obtaining a job or secondary education for the out of work and out of school population. Examining the percent of out of work and out of school populations without a high school diploma displays the percent of the population that is disadvantaged by the absence of such a qualification.

While Chicago had the highest percent of out of work and out of school 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds, it had the lowest percent of that population without a high school diploma compared to New York City, Los Angeles, Illinois, and the U.S. Fewer 20 to 24 year olds were out of work and out of school without a high school diploma compared to 16 to 19 year olds in each geography except for Whites (non-Hispanic or Latino) in Chicago and Los Angeles.

Appendix D Table D1 shows the percent of out of work and out of school 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds that did not have a high school diploma by race/ethnicity in 2015.

- Chicago had the lowest total percent of 16 to 19 year olds who were out of work and out of school that did not have a high school diploma (30.7 percent) compared to all other geographies in 2015.
- Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 year olds had the highest proportion of the out of work and out of school population without a high school diploma in Illinois (41.9), Chicago (32.8) and Los Angeles (47.3) while Hispanic or Latino 16 to 19 year olds had the highest proportion in the U.S. (41) and New York City (40.8).
- Illinois and the U.S. had higher percentages of 16 to 19 year olds who were out of work and out of school that did not have a high school diploma for each racial/ethnic group than Chicago in 2015.
- Nearly half of Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 year olds that were out of work and out of school did not have a high school diploma in Los Angeles, 14.5 percentage points higher than in Chicago and 15.3 percentage points higher than New York.
- Percentages of the out of work and out of school population were smaller in each geography for 20 to 24 year olds compared to 16 to 19 year olds with the exception of Whites (non-Hispanic or Latino) in Chicago and Los Angeles.
- New York City had the highest total percentage of out of work and out of school 20 to 24 year olds without a high school diploma (25.6) followed by Los Angeles (24.3), Chicago (23.5), the U.S. (23) and Illinois (22.1).
- The racial/ethnic group of 20 to 24 year olds with highest percent of out of work and out of school populations without high school diplomas for their respective geographies was Hispanic or Latinos in the U.S. (28.8), New York City (34.1), and Los Angeles (32.9), Whites (non-Hispanic or Latinos) in Chicago (29.2) and Blacks (non-Hispanic or Latinos) in Illinois (27.2).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>16-19</th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>20-24</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White (non-Hispanic or Latino)</td>
<td>37.7%</td>
<td>34.5%</td>
<td>27.7%</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
<td>19.6%</td>
<td>19.7%</td>
<td>29.2%</td>
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<td>Black (non-Hispanic or Latino)</td>
<td>36.5%</td>
<td>41.9%</td>
<td>32.8%</td>
<td>32.0%</td>
<td>47.3%</td>
<td>24.5%</td>
<td>27.2%</td>
<td>26.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino</td>
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<td>33.7%</td>
<td>27.7%</td>
<td>40.8%</td>
<td>35.6%</td>
<td>28.8%</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
<td>15.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>38.3%</td>
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<td>30.7%</td>
<td>34.2%</td>
<td>33.8%</td>
<td>23.0%</td>
<td>22.1%</td>
<td>23.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: 2015 American Community Survey, public use files. Tabulations by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.

### Appendix D Table D2: Number 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 Year Olds that Were Out of School and Out of Work with No High School Diploma by Race/Ethnicity in 2015

<table>
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<th>16-19</th>
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<th></th>
<th>20-24</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White (non-Hispanic or Latino)</td>
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<td>737</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>323,551</td>
<td>11,520</td>
<td>1,158</td>
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<td>92,194</td>
<td>4,329</td>
<td>1,991</td>
<td>3,534</td>
<td>1,086</td>
<td>203,874</td>
<td>14,623</td>
<td>7,299</td>
</tr>
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<td>Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>132,738</td>
<td>3,535</td>
<td>1,100</td>
<td>5,803</td>
<td>3,839</td>
<td>260,541</td>
<td>5,897</td>
<td>2,137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>458,271</td>
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<td>10,738</td>
<td>5,433</td>
<td>847,807</td>
<td>33,302</td>
<td>11,000</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Data Source: 2015 American Community Survey, public use files. Tabulations by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.
Appendix E: Employment to population ratio by family income, 2015

Examining employment to population ratios by family income provides insight into how the financial circumstances of families impact the employment conditions of youth.

There is an inconclusive trend about the employment to population ratios in Chicago by family income as they do not appear to follow any pattern of increasing as incomes go up, as is the case in the U.S. Starting at the second income group in the U.S., employment to population ratios increase to an upper income group before starting to decrease again. This decrease could be because more affluent families do not rely on or encourage 16 to 19 year old family members to work. While figures for Chicago and Illinois follow less of a coherent pattern, the top employment to population ratios are toward the upper income groups while lower employment to population ratios are towards the upper income groups. The implications for higher family incomes having higher employment to population ratios for younger members of families means those from families in most need of income are not gaining employment, further deepening conditions of inequality.

Appendix E Figure E1 shows employment to population ratios of 16 to 19 year olds by family income in Chicago, Illinois, and the U.S. in 2015.

- Chicago’s highest employment to population ratio for 16 to 19 year olds by family income group in 2015 was the $80,000-$99,999 group with an employment to population ratio of 26.3 percent.
- In 2015 in Illinois and the U.S., employment to population ratios were highest in the $80,000 to $99,999 and $100,000 to $149,999 family income range for 16 to 19 year olds.
- The $20,000 to $39,999 family income range had the lowest employment to population ratio for 16 to 19 year olds in Chicago, Illinois and the U.S., although the $60,000 to $79,999 income cohort was just .1-percentage point higher in Chicago.

Data Source: 2015 American Community Survey, public use files. Tabulations by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.
Appendix E Figure E2 employment to population ratios of 16 to 19 year olds by family income in Chicago, Illinois, and the U.S. in 2015.

- The $40,000 - $59,999 family income group had the highest employment to population ratios of for White (non-Hispanic or Latino) (35.1 percent) and Hispanic or Latino (27.1 percent) 16 to 19 year olds.
- The second highest employment to population ratio for a family income group for Hispanic or Latino 16 to 19 year olds was the less than $20,000 group and for White (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 year olds was the $80,000 to $99,999 income group.
- The highest employment to population ratio by family income group for Black (non-Hispanic or Latino) 16 to 19 year olds was the $80,000 - $99,999 group, with an employment to population ratio of 42.2 percent. The next highest employment to population ratio for an income group was the $100,000 - $149,000 group, with an employment to population ratio 12.5 percentage points lower.
- The lowest employment to population ratios by income groups for each racial/ethnic group was the $150,000 and over group.

Data Source: 2015 American Community Survey, public use files. Tabulations by Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.