

ABSTRACTS OF STATE REPORTS

SEPTEMBER 2024

COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENT FORECASTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Reports Filed with the General Assembly

The CGFA staff is required to prepare abstracts of reports required to be filed with the General Assembly (25 ILCS 130/10-6). Legislators may receive copies of entire reports by emailing the form that was delivered to their Springfield office to isinfo@ilsos.net or by mailing it to the State Government Report Distribution Center at the Illinois State Library. This report is posted monthly on our website.

Central Management Services, Dept. of

Bureau of Administrative Hearings annual report, FY 2024

The Bureau received 109 new requests for hearings from state agencies, nearly 20% more than in FY 2023. It began hearing matters from the Department of Transportation in FY 2024, causing some of the increase. It has two full-time administrative law judges (ALJs) and a Deputy Director who also hears cases. The Bureau continued exploring options for electronic case management software, and participated in learning events for ALJs. Recommendations include strengthening stakeholder participation, moving to an electronic case management system, and expanding learning opportunities for ALJs. (Exec. Ord. 4 (2017); undated, rec'd Aug. 2024, 11 pp.)

Disabled Hiring Initiative report, FY 2024

On June 30, 2024, 815

participants in the Successful Disability Opportunities (SDO) Program were eligible for vacant state positions. Employees with disabilities were about 11.8% of the state workforce, up from 10.4% in FY 2023. CMS continues to promote and encourage hiring of persons with disabilities through training and resource programs. The report contains updates on 9 initiatives from the past year and 10 for this year. (20 ILCS 405/405-122; issued & rec'd Sept. 2024, 16 pp.)

Chief Procurement Office for the Capital Development Board

Sole-source procurements annual report, FY 2024

The Office used sole-source procurement for two construction-related contracts in FY 2024: with A.L.L. Masonry Construction Co., Inc. for \$81,229 and AGAE Contractors, Inc. for \$504,877. (30 ILCS 500/20-25(d); July 2024, rec'd Aug. 2024, 1 p.)

Chief Procurement Office for Public Institutions of Higher Education

Sole-source procurements annual report, FY 2024

This Office is the independent procurement authority for public universities and the Illinois Math and Science Academy. In FY 2024 the Office handled 176 sole-source transactions for 14 institutions for nearly \$601 million. The report lists numbers of transactions by institution and justification, and gives historical data. (30 ILCS 500/20-25(d); issued & rec'd Aug. 2024, 5 pp.)

Commerce Commission

Office of Retail Market Development annual report, 2024

By May 2024, ICC had certified 96 alternative suppliers for retail electric customers and licensed 365 agents, brokers, and

consultants. Some 1,586,181 customers received electric supply from alternative retail electric suppliers, up 20.3% from 2023. The volume of electricity from those suppliers was little changed from 2023. The Office continues to examine statutory changes that may require rule changes; it made no recommendations. (220 ILCS 5/20-110; issued & rec'd July 2024, 24 pp.)

Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Dept. of

Illinois Works apprenticeship and preapprenticeship program evaluations, 2024

The Illinois Works Jobs Program Act (2019) set a goal for apprentices to do 10% of the hours worked on large public works projects. As of June 30, 2024, 1,080 projects costing \$7.0 billion have been subject to that goal. Illinois Department of Labor data showed that in March 2023 through February 2024, up to 14% of hours worked on some of the projects were by apprentices. The Act also established funding for preapprenticeship training. DCEO issued 10 new Preapprenticeship Program grants and enrolled 523 participants in the first half of the 2024 program year. DCEO received approval for a further \$25 million for Preapprenticeship Program in FY 2025. The Illinois Works Review Panel recommended that DCEO continue to

urge federally registered apprenticeship programs to accept graduates of the Preapprenticeship Program, and that DCEO work with grantees to improve delivery of transition services, such as resume assistance and mentoring, to participants. (30 ILCS 559/20-25(e); issued & rec'd Aug. 2024, 5 pp.)

Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability

Budget summary, FY 2025

Total FY 2025 appropriations were over \$204.2 billion—\$17.8 billion (9.5%) higher than for FY 2024. Appropriations for Special State Funds rose almost \$15 billion, and Highway Funds appropriations rose just over \$2 billion. Federal Trust Funds declined almost \$1.8 billion. The report also gives counts of State Employees' Retirement System members by agency; State Employees Group Insurance; Medicaid; education funding; state-funded retirement systems; state debt and credit ratings; and special fund transfers. (25 ILCS 155/3(12); July 2024, rec'd Sept. 2024, 132 pp. + 4 appendices)

Environmental Protection Agency

Landfill Disposal Capacity Report, 2024

Illinois' 36 landfills received over 45.7 million cubic yards of solid waste in 2023 (which

would be about 17.7 million cubic yards after compaction). Those landfills have a remaining combined available disposal capacity of about 372 million compacted cubic yards. Average projected lifetimes of current landfills range from 9 years in Region 2 (the nine northeastern Illinois counties) to 50 years in Region 4 (east central Illinois). (415 ILCS 20/4; July 2024, rec'd Aug. 2024, 10 pp.)

Legislative Ethics Commission

Quarterly report, April-June 2024

The Commission had no investigation requests or summary reports to address during the quarter. (5 ILCS 430/25-100(b); July 2024, rec'd Aug. 2024, 1 p.)

Liquor Control Commission

Direct Wine Shipping Report, 2022-23

The Commission licenses and oversees winemakers shipping wine directly to consumers. State sales and excise tax revenues from such direct shipments were \$962,700 in 2023, down from \$1.15 million in 2022. In 2023, 1,908 winery shippers' licenses were issued, up from 1,806 in 2022. License fees were \$930,850 in 2023, up from \$872,950 in 2022. The Commission issued one violation notice and a "cease and desist" order in 2022; no violations were reported in

2023. (235 ILCS 5/3-12(a)(14); undated, rec'd Aug. 2024, 5 pp.)

Public Health, Dept. of
Sickle Cell Statewide Impact and Surveillance Program report, 2024

IDPH created the Illinois Sickle Cell Impact Surveillance System to study the prevalence, impact, and needs of persons with sickle cell disease (SCD). IDPH reports that some 6,000 Illinoisians have SCD—mostly in metropolitan areas where SCD specialists practice. Persons with SCD have an average life expectancy of 52.6 years. Treatment is life-long and complex, including taking penicillin in early childhood; drug therapy to reduce “sickling” of blood cells and complications; and pain management. Some patients may need blood transfusions. Bone marrow transplants and gene therapy may cure SCD, but are not easily accessible. Barriers to care include transportation challenges, specialist shortages, and insurance coverage complications. In FY 2025 the Program accepted its first applications for grants for services to people with SCD. (410 ILCS 460/131-25(a); issued & rec'd July 2024, 27 pp. + 3 appendices)

State Appellate Defender, Office of the

Annual report, FY 2024

The Office's FY 2025 budget is \$40.7 million, down 19.8% from FY 2024. The reduction was for handling appeals under the Pretrial Fairness Act; the number of such appeals dropped in 2024 following changes to Illinois Supreme Court rules. The Office opened 2,032 cases, up from 1,888 in FY 2023. The report describes the Office's history and current work, and gives details on personnel and workloads of the five Appellate Court districts, the Expungement Unit, the Juvenile Defender Resource Center, and the Pretrial Fairness Unit. (725 ILCS 105/10(c)(3) and (e); undated, rec'd Aug. 2024, 27 pp. + attachment)

State Board of Education

Full-Day Kindergarten Task Force interim report, 2024

The Task Force met five times and identified benefits and challenges to implementing statewide, full-day kindergarten. It developed and administered a survey to districts not currently offering such programming. Based on responses, the Task Force will consider the following in making recommendations in a final report: Factors that would allow a district to defer implementing full-day kindergarten; need for state funding for implementation; and

how districts not yet offering full-day kindergarten will fund and operate it. (105 ILCS 5/10-22.18e(e); June 2024, rec'd July 2024, 19 pp. + 7 appendices)

Personal health and safety and sexual health education survey, 2023-24 school year

Of the 827 school districts responding to the survey, 310 reported providing instruction in comprehensive personal health and safety and sexual health education to 539,515 K-12 students. The report also lists numbers of students instructed by age group; the number in each age group opting out; duration of instruction; and whether teachers or outside organizations provided it. (105 ILCS 5/27-9.1a(i); issued & rec'd Aug. 2024, 3 pp.)

Teacher Evaluation Research Project, final report

ISBE commissioned the American Institutes for Research (AIR) to help its Performance Evaluation Advisory Council study the current teacher evaluation system. It found that 89.5% of respondents believe the overall evaluation system measured their professional practice either “extremely accurately” or “somewhat accurately.” Perceptions differed by educators' race and ethnicity; the school's location; and socioeconomic backgrounds of students. Some 92.8%

of respondents thought the formal observation component of the evaluation was fair; but perceptions differed based on educators' race, ethnicity, and location. Ability to get support to improve practice was rated as "not difficult at all" or "somewhat difficult" by 85.6%; 14.4% rated it "extremely difficult". AIR identified several "potential recommendations for consideration" by the Council, but they are not official recommendations to the General

Assembly (S. Res. 774 (2022); June 2024, rec'd July 2024, 152 pp. + 14 appendices)

State Police, Illinois
DNA Testing Accountability Report, FY 2024

ISP labs received 66,898 cases and completed analysis on 63,078. The total forensic assignments backlog was 10,175 at FY 2024 yearend. ISP spent \$20.5 million of state funds on its Biology program, which includes forensic analysis of evidence and maintenance of

the CODIS database of DNA samples from people required to submit them. On June 30, 2024 it had 60 fully trained forensic scientists and approval to hire 16 Biology trainees and 12 forensic scientists. There were 3,297 CODIS "hits" in FY 2024, up from 2,830 in FY 2023. (730 ILCS 5/5-4-3a; July 2024, rec'd Aug. 2024, 10 pp.)

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