Apr 14th, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

A Time-Series Analysis of Employment in Danville, Illinois

Jonathan Bates
Illinois Wesleyan University

Diego Mendez-Carbajo, Faculty Advisor
Illinois Wesleyan University

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc

Part of the Economics Commons

http://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc/2012/oralpres5/4

This Event is brought to you for free and open access by The Ames Library, the Andrew W. Mellon Center for Curricular and Faculty Development, the Office of the Provost and the Office of the President. It has been accepted for inclusion in Digital Commons @ IWU by the faculty at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@iwu.edu.

©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.
A TIME-SERIES ANALYSIS OF EMPLOYMENT IN DANVILLE, ILLINOIS

Jonathan Bates and Diego Mendez-Carbajo*
Economics Department, Illinois Wesleyan University

This study analyzes employment in the Danville, Illinois metropolitan area from 1990 to 2011. Employment is measured as the number of people working for pay, including self-employed persons and persons holding jobs but not currently working for a number of reasons. A time-series analysis of employment reveals seasonal, cyclical, and long-term trends, which aids in understanding the past and present state of Danville’s economy. Monthly data ranging from January 1990 through December 2011 was collected by and obtained from the United States Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics, totaling 264 observations. Over this time period, employment has decreased gradually from 38,607 to 32,746 persons. Seasonal patterns indicate that summer months typically have higher numbers of employed citizens than winter months. A moving average approximation suggests cyclical changes coincide with economic expansions and contractions.