

# Sterling, Illinois



## Population Characteristics

| TRENDS            | 1990       | 1998 est.  |
|-------------------|------------|------------|
| City              | 15,132     | 14,623     |
| County            | 60,186     | 59,623     |
| State of Illinois | 11,430,602 | 12,045,326 |

### POPULATION DENSITY (1990)

|                   | Land Area        | Density |
|-------------------|------------------|---------|
| City              | 4.1 sq. mi.      | 3690.7  |
| County            | 684.8 sq. mi.    | 87.9    |
| State of Illinois | 55,748.0 sq. mi. | 205.0   |

### GENDER/RACE/ETHNICITY (1990)

|                             |        |        |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|
| Total Population            | 15,132 | 100.0% |
| Male                        | 7,101  | 46.9   |
| Female                      | 8,031  | 53.1   |
| White                       | 13,551 | 89.6   |
| Black                       | 201    | 1.3    |
| Amer. Indian, Eskimo, Aleut | 28     | 0.2    |
| Asian, Pacific Islander     | 65     | 0.4    |
| Other Race                  | 1,287  | 8.5    |
| Hispanic Origin**           | 2,331  | 15.4   |

### HOUSEHOLDS BY TYPE (1990)

|                           |       |        |
|---------------------------|-------|--------|
| Total Households          | 6,136 | 100.0% |
| Family Households         | 4,078 | 66.5   |
| Single-Parent Families    | 741   | 18.2   |
| Non-Family Households     | 2,058 | 33.5   |
| Persons per Household     | 2.47  |        |
| Persons in Group Quarters | 296   |        |

## Labor Market Characteristics

### LABOR FORCE STATUS (1990)

|                      |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| Civilian Labor Force | 7,377 |
| Number Employed      | 6,896 |
| Number Unemployed    | 481   |
| Percent Unemployed   | 6.5   |

### BY INDUSTRY (1990)

|                          |       |        |
|--------------------------|-------|--------|
| Emp. persons 16 years +  | 7,377 | 100.0% |
| Agriculture & related    | 38    | 0.5    |
| Construction, Mining     | 223   | 3.1    |
| Manufacturing            | 2,396 | 32.5   |
| Trans., Comm., Utilities | 323   | 4.4    |
| Wholesale/Retail Trade   | 1,455 | 19.7   |
| F.I.R.E*                 | 254   | 3.4    |
| Services                 | 2,502 | 33.9   |
| Public Administration    | 186   | 2.5    |

\* Finance, Insurance, Real Estate.

### AGE STRUCTURE (1990)

|                  |        |        |
|------------------|--------|--------|
| Total Population | 15,132 | 100.0% |
| Under 18 years   | 3,888  | 25.7   |
| 18 - 24 years    | 1,263  | 8.3    |
| 25 - 44 years    | 4,633  | 30.6   |
| 45 - 54 years    | 1,350  | 8.9    |
| 55 - 64 year     | 1,494  | 10.0   |
| 65 years & over  | 2,504  | 16.5   |
| Median Age       | 34.3   | years  |

\*\* Persons of Hispanic Origin may be of any race.

## Major Employers

### MAJOR EMPLOYERS WITHIN CORPORATE LIMITS ONLY

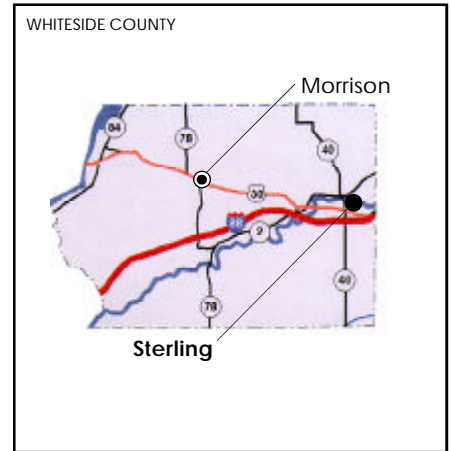
|                                |                    |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Northwestern Steel & Wire Co.  | 1,060              |
| Product/Service:               | Steel              |
| National Manufacturing Co.     | 800                |
| Product/Service:               | Builders' Hardware |
| Wahl Clipper Corp.             | 780                |
| Product/Service:               | Hair Clippers      |
| C G H Medical Center           | 600                |
| Product/Service:               | Medical Supplies   |
| Wal-Mart Stores Inc.           | 470                |
| Product/Service:               | Department Store   |
| Self Help Enterprises          | 450                |
| Product/Service:               | Job Training       |
| Heartland Health Services Inc. | 300                |
| Product/Service:               | Home Health Care   |

### BY OCCUPATION (1990)

|                         |       |        |
|-------------------------|-------|--------|
| Emp. persons 16 years + | 7,377 | 100.0% |
| White Collar            | 2,438 | 33.0   |
| Exec. Admin.            | 548   | 22.5   |
| Professional/Tech.      | 1,160 | 47.6   |
| Sales                   | 730   | 29.9   |
| Blue Collar             | 2,966 | 40.3   |
| Clerical                | 895   | 12.1   |
| Other                   | 1,078 | 14.6   |

### MEANS OF COMMUTING TO WORK

|                          |           |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Drive Alone              | 78.4%     |
| Carpool                  | 13.0%     |
| Public Transportation    | 1.4%      |
| Walk, Work at Home       | 5.8%      |
| Other Means              | 1.1%      |
| Mean travel time to work | 13.9 min. |



## Housing Characteristics

### BY TYPE OF DWELLING (1990)

|                         |          |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Total Housing Units     | 6,364    |
| Occupied Housing Units  | 6,072    |
| Percent Owner-Occupied  | 61.7     |
| Percent Renter-Occupied | 38.3     |
| Vacant Housing Units    | 292      |
| Percent Vacant          | 4.6      |
| Median Home Value       | \$42,800 |
| Median Monthly Rent     | \$349    |
| Persons per unit        | 2.38     |
| Owner-Occupied          | 2.91     |
| Renter-Occupied         | 2.03     |

### BY NO. OF UNITS AT ADDRESS (1990)

|                     |       |        |
|---------------------|-------|--------|
| Total Housing Units | 6,364 | 100.0% |
| One unit            | 4,578 | 71.9   |
| 2 - 9 units         | 1,241 | 19.5   |
| 10+ units           | 464   | 7.3    |
| Mobile Home         | 40    | 0.6    |
| Other               | 41    | 0.7    |

## Income Characteristics

### BY INCOME GROUP (1990)

|                          |          |        |
|--------------------------|----------|--------|
| Total Households         | 6,136    | 100.0% |
| Under \$15,000           | 1,711    | 27.9   |
| \$15,000 - \$24,999      | 1,260    | 20.5   |
| \$25,000 - \$34,999      | 1,129    | 18.4   |
| \$35,000 - \$49,999      | 1,189    | 19.4   |
| \$50,000 - \$74,999      | 615      | 10.0   |
| \$75,000 - \$99,999      | 123      | 2.0    |
| \$100,000 and over       | 109      | 1.8    |
| Median Household Income  | \$25,636 |        |
| Median Family Income     | \$31,747 |        |
| Median Non-Family Income | \$14,612 |        |
| Income per Capita        | \$12,880 |        |



## Community Services

City form of local government  
 Phone Number: ..... 815.622.2230  
 Fax Number: ..... 815.622.2231

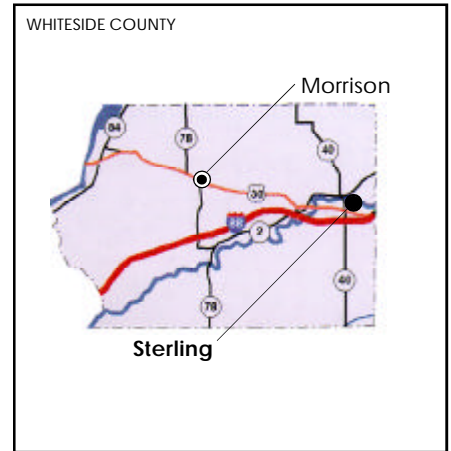
Municipal zoning ordinance in effect.  
 Comprehensive city plan updated: ..... 1996  
 Total Equalized Assessed Value (1998)  
 ..... \$124,136,635

Number of police officers: ..... 29  
 Number of firefighters: ..... 23  
 Fire insurance class in City: ..... 5

Privately contracted commercial, industrial and multi-family waste pick-up service.

Local telephone service provider: ..... GTE  
 Type of central office switch: ..... Digital  
 Fiber optic lines available.  
 Data communication services available.  
 E-911 system? ..... Yes

Number of public libraries/branches ..... 1



## Tax Structure

### PROPERTY TAX

Assessed value is 33.33% of market value.  
 Basic levy for 1998 taxes payable in 1999 (per \$100 of assessed valuation):

|                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| City .....         | 1.38670%        |
| County .....       | 0.83150%        |
| Schools .....      | 4.46750%        |
| Others .....       | 1.66740%        |
| <b>TOTAL .....</b> | <b>8.35310%</b> |

### RETAIL SALES TAX

|                    |              |
|--------------------|--------------|
| State .....        | 5.00%        |
| County .....       | 0.25%        |
| Municipal .....    | 1.00%        |
| <b>TOTAL .....</b> | <b>6.25%</b> |

## Education

### EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (1990)

|                               |             |        |
|-------------------------------|-------------|--------|
| Persons 25 years + .....      | 9,981 ..    | 100.0% |
| Less than 9th grade .....     | 1,411 ..... | 14.1   |
| 9th- 12th grade, no diploma . | 1,186 ..... | 11.9   |
| High school graduate .....    | 3,474 ..... | 34.8   |
| Some college, no degree ..... | 1,862 ..... | 18.7   |
| College Graduate .....        | 2,048 ..... | 20.5   |

### SCHOOL DISTRICTS (1998)

Sterling Consolidated Unit School District #5

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Enrollment .....                        | 3,702   |
| H.S. graduation rate .....              | 79.8%   |
| District dropout rate .....             | 4.4%    |
| District core ACT composite score ..... | 22.1    |
| Expenditure per pupil .....             | \$5,689 |

## Transportation

### HIGHWAY

Community Served by:

|                           |         |
|---------------------------|---------|
| State highways .....      | 2, 40   |
| Federal highways .....    | U.S. 30 |
| Interstate highways ..... | I-88    |

### RAIL SERVICE

Carriers serving community ..... Union Pacific

### AIR SERVICE

Whiteside County Municipal Airport  
 6,500 ft. concrete lighted runway  
 Private maintenance, storage, fuel and charter service available.  
 Commercial Airlines ..... 1  
 Flights per day ..... 2

## Retail Sales

### RETAIL SALES BY STORE GROUP

Total Retail Sales (1998): ..... \$294,581,251

|                                    |       |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| General Merchandise Stores .....   | 32.9% |
| Food Stores .....                  | 13.7% |
| Eating and Drinking Places .....   | 6.2%  |
| Apparel and Accessories .....      | 1.5%  |
| Furniture and Related .....        | 4.9%  |
| Building Materials/Hardware .....  | 9.4%  |
| Automotive and Related .....       | 17.3% |
| Drug Stores and other Retail ..... | 5.6%  |
| Agriculture and Extractive .....   | 7.9%  |
| Manufacturing .....                | 0.6%  |

Number of Retail Establishments: ..... 602

## Quality of Life

### RECREATION

|                             |    |
|-----------------------------|----|
| Number of city parks .....  | 14 |
| Restaurants .....           | 29 |
| Public Golf Courses .....   | 1  |
| Public Tennis Courts .....  | 2  |
| Public Swimming Pools ..... | 2  |
| Health Clubs .....          | 1  |
| Country Clubs .....         | 1  |

### CULTURAL

|                          |    |
|--------------------------|----|
| Number of Churches ..... | 23 |
| Catholic .....           | 2  |
| Protestant .....         | 21 |

## Public Utilities

|                             |                  |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Electricity .....           | ComEd            |
| Natural Gas .....           | NICOR Gas        |
| Cable Television .....      | TCI Cable        |
| Water .....                 | NWC              |
| Waste Water Treatment ..... | City of Sterling |

## Northern Illinois

### Business & Industry Data Center

- Census data
- Custom GIS mapping
- Economic & demographic analysis

### Center for Governmental Studies

Northern Illinois University  
 DeKalb, Illinois 60115-2854  
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 URL: <http://www.niu.edu/bidc>

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