

# FACTS & FIGURES

**Description:** Named after the Peoria Tribe- Peoria is the largest city on the Illinois River and has become famous as a representation of the average American city because of its demographics and its perceived mainstream Midwestern culture

**Founded:** 1673

**Peoria Area Population:** 462,011

**Elevation:** 659 ft.

**Counties Represented by PACVB:** Bureau, Fulton, Marshall, Mason, Peoria, Stark, Tazewell & Woodford

**Major Highways:** Interstate 74, Interstate 474, Interstate 39 and Interstate I55

**Hotel/Motel Rooms:** 4,768

**Drive Times to Regional Cities:**

Chicago, IL:	2.5 hrs.
St. Louis, MO:	2.5 hrs.
Indianapolis, IN:	3 hrs.
Madison, WI:	3 hrs.
Quad Cities, IA:	1.5 hrs.

**Rooms booked for Sports/Conventions in 2009:** 68,197

**Leisure/Hospitality jobs in Peoria Metropolitan Area:** 15,700

**Universities/Colleges:** Bradley University, Eureka College, Illinois Central College & University of Illinois College of Medicine

**Major Industries:** Caterpillar Inc. World Headquarters, Komatsu America Corp., and L.R. Nelson Corporation

**Newspapers:** Peoria Journal Star

**Noteworthy News:** Peoria was listed in Forbes as one of "America's Best Cheap Cities" in 2009 and as a "Best Place for Businesses and Careers" in 2010

**Wayne A. Downing Peoria International Airport:**

- **8 min. drive to downtown Peoria, IL**
- **5 passenger airlines** (United, Delta, American, Northwest, and Allegiant)
- **Non-stop destinations** (Dallas/Ft. Worth, Las Vegas, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Detroit, Denver, Orlando, Phoenix, and Tampa)

## CONTACT



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**PEORIA AREA**  
CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU