### Downstream Metals

This cluster manufactures metal containers, prefabricated metal structures, and end-user metal products, like ammunition, kitchenware, hardware, and metal home finishings. The technical report, *Metropolitan Chicago's traded industry clusters*, offers extensive data on the characteristics and performance of the Chicago region's core industrial assets since 2001, available for download at [https://cmap.is/Traded-Clusters](https://cmap.is/Traded-Clusters).

In the Chicago region in 2017, this cluster consisted of

- **$1.6 billion** total output
- **14,000** jobs
- **460** establishments

Middle-skill workers have **greater** opportunity than the regional average.

- **$32,754** (25th percentile)
- **$36,568** (50th percentile)
- **$57,916** (75th percentile)

Wage percentiles

- **24%** of workers have an associate's degree or higher
- **63%** of jobs typically require at least 2 months of on-the-job training

Workers in this cluster tend to be **more** racially diverse than the regional labor force.

- **54%** non-white
- **23%** female
- **39%** over age 50

In 2016, this cluster generated approximately **$8.5 billion** in freight shipments that originate, terminate, or circulate regionally.

- **71%** Truck
- **24%** Multimodal
- **1%** Rail

### Freight mode share, by value

- **15%** Chicago region
- **31%** Midwest
- **35%** Rest of U.S.
- **19%** Global

Source: CMAP analysis of Freight Analysis Framework data (FAF 4.4.1).
Note: Data includes only the Illinois portion of the U.S. Census Bureau combined statistical area. Freight data is not provided for service clusters.

In recent years, the cluster's competitive position weakened as it became **less specialized** in the national context.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chicago</th>
<th>Houston</th>
<th>Dallas</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-6% jobs</td>
<td>+5% total output</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-25% total output</td>
<td></td>
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Source: CMAP analysis of Economic Modeling Specialists International data (Emsi 2018.4).
Note: Job change is from 2001-17, and total output change is from 2007-17.