

here & there



Chicago Illinois

The culturally rich Windy City located on Lake Michigan has established an appealing quality of place for a diverse population, but the price is high for this urban lifestyle when compared to Decatur's affordable cost of living.

The Economic Development Corporation of Macon County has a Cost of Living Index Calculator on their website to serve as a useful tool for local business and industry in their recruitment efforts. We utilized the calculator in this issue to compare living expenses between Chicago and Decatur.

If you are earning \$100,000.00 after-tax income in Chicago, the comparable after-tax income in Decatur is \$81,850.22, but that income stretches much further if you live here. Chicago's cost of living index is 113.5, compared to Decatur's affordable 92.9.

One example of Decatur's low cost of living is to compare the average monthly apartment rent of \$1433 in Chicago, versus \$552 in Decatur - a difference of over \$10,500 annually, just in housing expense. Listed below are other cost of living categories.

Category	Here in Decatur
Housing	31% less than Chicago
Groceries	11% less than Chicago
Utilities	20% less than Chicago
Transportation	17% less than Chicago
Health	18% less than Chicago
Miscellaneous	32% less than Chicago

HERE Decatur, IL



186 North 35th Court
Price: \$550/month rent

Bedrooms 2
 Baths 1

Eat-in kitchen, balcony, carport
 Garbage and water included

THERE Chicago, IL



2831 N. Damien Avenue, Unit 3W
Price: \$1400/month rent

Bedrooms 1
 Baths 1

Eat-in kitchen, hardwood floors,
 assigned parking space, West Town

For the EDC Cost of Living Calculator, visit www.decaturedc.com.

Chicago rental information available at www.realtor.com and Decatur rental information available at www.swartzprop.com.