

Pat Quinn, Governor

Jay Rowell, Director

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August Unemployment Drops in 11 of 12 Metro Areas *Manufacturing Jobs up in 11 of 12 Metros; State Rate Drops Again*

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	August 2012*	August 2011
Bloomington-Normal	7.3%	7.8%
Champaign-Urbana	8.8%	9.3%
Chicago-Joliet-Naperville	8.8%	10.5%
Danville	11.0%	11.1%
Davenport-Moline-Rock Isl.	7.2%	7.5%
Decatur	11.4%	11.2%
Kankakee-Bradley	11.4%	12.4%
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	8.8%	9.4%
Peoria	8.0%	9.0%
Rockford	11.7%	13.8%
Springfield	7.9%	8.0%
St. Louis (IL-Section)	9.4%	10.1%

* Data subject to revision.

CHICAGO – The August local unemployment rate fell in 11 metro areas compared to last year, according to preliminary data released today by the U.S. Department of Labor and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES). Not seasonally adjusted data compare August 2012 to August 2011. The largest declines: Rockford (-2.1 points to 11.7 percent), Chicago-Joliet-Naperville (-1.7 points to 8.8 percent), Kankakee-Bradley (-1.0 point to 11.4 percent), and Peoria (-1.0 point to 8.0 percent). The state NSA rate has dropped every month this year.

Payrolls increased in seven metros, fell in three and were essentially unchanged in two. Largest increases: Peoria (+2.3 percent, +4,200), Rockford (+2.1 percent, +3,000) and Bloomington-Normal (+1.7 percent, +1,500). Chicago-Joliet-Naperville added jobs (+1.0 percent, +35,000 jobs). Sectors increasing in the most metros: Manufacturing (11 of 12) and Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities (nine of 12).

“This economic cycle is filled with small up-and-down movements in the monthly data, and August shows falling unemployment rates in nearly

every corner of our state,” IDES Director Jay Rowell said. “While the uneven movements shadow the progress that we have made, stronger economic growth will occur when consumer confidence improves.”

Not seasonally adjusted data compares the current month to the same month of the previous year. The August 2012 not seasonally adjusted Illinois unemployment rate was 8.9 percent and 12.3 percent at its peak in this economic cycle in January 2010. Nationally, the unemployment rate was 8.2 percent in August and 10.6 percent in January 2010 at its peak. The unemployment rate identifies those who are out of work and looking for work and is not tied to receiving benefits.

Total Non-farm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – August 2012

Metropolitan Area	August 2012*	August 2011**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington-Normal MSA	89,600	88,100	1,500
Champaign-Urbana MSA	98,600	98,400	200
Chicago-Joliet-Naperville Metro Div.	3,704,400	3,669,400	35,000
Danville MSA	28,400	29,000	-600
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	181,200	181,000	200
Decatur MSA	52,700	53,000	-300
Kankakee-Bradley MSA	42,600	42,500	100
Lake County-Kenosha County Metro Div.	382,300	380,700	1,600
Peoria MSA	186,100	181,900	4,200
Rockford MSA	148,400	145,400	3,000
Springfield MSA	114,200	114,200	0
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	231,400	234,700	-3,300

*Preliminary **Revised

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