



News Release

Pat Quinn, Governor

For Immediate Release
May 16, 2013

Jay Rowell, Director

Greg Rivara
Media: (312) 793-9635
www.ides.illinois.gov

Unemployment Rate Declines to 9.3 Percent *April Shows Job Growth Over Year; Loss Over Month*

CHICAGO – The April unemployment rate fell to 9.3 percent from 9.5 percent in March, according to preliminary data released today by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES). There were -2,000 fewer jobs over the month yet +40,300 more jobs than one year ago. The data is seasonally adjusted.

“April data reflects the unevenness of this recovery,” IDES Director Jay Rowell said. “The up-and-down movement in the monthly figures masks the 216,000 jobs that have been added during this part of the economic cycle. This uneven path forward likely will continue until consumer and business confidence can be sustained at the national level.”

Illinois has added +216,000 private sector jobs since January 2010 when job growth returned following nearly two years of consecutive monthly declines. Since, the monthly volatility has been significant. When compared to the previous month, Illinois recorded job growth in 27 months and job loss in 13. The unemployment rate increased in seven months, fell in 13 and was unchanged in 10.

Leading growth sectors since January 2010 are Professional and Business Services (+91,600); Education and Health Services (+59,600); and Trade, Transportation and Utilities (+37,600). Government has lost the most jobs since January 2010, down -24,700.

In April 2013, the number of unemployed individuals decreased -18,000 (-2.9 percent) to 611,000. Total unemployed has fallen -141,200 (-18.8 percent) since early 2010 when the state unemployment rate peaked at 11.3 percent for the months of January and February.

The unemployment rate identifies those who are out of work and seeking employment. A person who exhausts benefits, or is ineligible, still will be reflected in the unemployment rate if they actively seek work. Historically, the national unemployment rate is lower than the state rate. The state rate has been lower than the national rate only six times since January 2000. This includes periods of economic expansion and contraction.

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Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

	April 2013	March 2013	April 2012	3-Month Moving Avg.
Illinois	9.3%	9.5%	8.8%*	9.4%
U.S.	7.5%	7.6%	8.1%*	7.6%

* Revised

Illinois Seasonally Adjusted Non-farm Jobs – by Major Industry

Industry Title	April 2013*	March 2013**	April 2012**	Over the Month Change	Over the Year Change	3-Month Moving Avg.	Change from Previous 3-Month Mov. Avg.
Total Nonfarm	5,775,500	5,777,500	5,735,200	-2,000	40,300	5,782,300	-1,100
Mining	10,300	10,300	10,400	0	-100	10,300	0
Construction	177,500	185,400	190,400	-7,900	-12,900	183,400	-2,400
Manufacturing	583,000	583,700	582,600	-700	400	583,500	400
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	1,158,500	1,159,900	1,153,800	-1,400	4,700	1,161,800	-2,400
Information	99,700	99,500	100,400	200	-700	99,700	0
Financial Activities	371,400	371,200	365,000	200	6,400	371,300	200
Professional and Business Services	872,500	869,600	856,900	2,900	15,600	872,700	1,200
Educational and Health Services	880,600	879,600	860,000	1,000	20,600	878,900	1,800
Leisure and Hospitality	536,300	535,100	534,700	1,200	1,600	537,300	-900
Other Services	254,100	253,100	249,400	1,000	4,700	252,900	700
Government	831,600	830,100	831,600	1,500	0	830,700	500

* Preliminary ** Revised

Notes:

- Illinois monthly labor force, unemployed and unemployment rates for years 2008-2012 have been revised as required by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. In February of each year, monthly labor force data for all states are revised to reflect updated sum-of-states controls, Census population controls, seasonal factors, non-farm jobs and unemployment insurance claims inputs. Data were also smoothed to eliminate large monthly changes as a result of volatility in the monthly household (CPS) survey. Comments and tables distributed in prior Illinois unemployment rate news release materials should be discarded because any analysis, including records, previously cited might no longer be valid.
- Seasonally adjusted employment data for subsectors within industries are not available. For not seasonally adjusted jobs data with greater industry detail, go to http://www.ides.illinois.gov/Custom/Library/Statistic/CES/1_NSA_CES_Illinois_MSAs_Jobs_2000_to_Current.XLS.
- "Other Services" includes a wide range of activities in three broad categories: Personal and laundry; repair and maintenance; and religious, grant making, civic and professional organizations.
- Monthly seasonally adjusted unemployment rates for Illinois and the Chicago-Naperville-Joliet Metropolitan Division are available at: <http://www.ides.illinois.gov/page.aspx?item=2509>.

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