

Pat Quinn, Governor

Jay Rowell, Director

For Immediate Release  
August 21, 2014

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## Unemployment Falls in Every Metro for Fourth Consecutive Month *All 102 Counties Record Over-the-Year Declines for Second Consecutive Month*

### Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

| Metropolitan Area          | July 2014* | July 2013 |
|----------------------------|------------|-----------|
| Bloomington-Normal         | 6.5%       | 8.0%      |
| Champaign-Urbana           | 7.2%       | 9.0%      |
| Chicago-Joliet-Naperville  | 6.8%       | 9.6%      |
| Danville                   | 9.5%       | 12.0%     |
| Davenport-Moline-Rock Isl. | 6.6%       | 6.8%      |
| Decatur                    | 9.5%       | 13.0%     |
| Kankakee-Bradley           | 8.7%       | 11.3%     |
| Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI        | 6.8%       | 8.4%      |
| Peoria                     | 7.6%       | 9.6%      |
| Rockford                   | 9.4%       | 11.6%     |
| Springfield                | 6.5%       | 8.1%      |
| St. Louis (IL-Section)     | 6.9%       | 8.7%      |

\* Data subject to revision.

**CHICAGO** – July unemployment rates fell in every Illinois metro area for the fourth consecutive month and most are at six year lows, according to preliminary data released today by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES). Rates also fell in all 102 counties for the second consecutive month. Not seasonally adjusted data compares July 2014 with July 2013.

Illinois businesses added jobs in six metros. Largest increases: Champaign-Urbana (+2.0 percent, +2,000), Lake-Kenosha (+1.8 percent, +7,400), Chicago-Joliet-Naperville (+1.0 percent, +36,000) and Danville (+1.0 percent, +300). Largest decreases: Peoria (-1.6 percent, -2,800), Bloomington-Normal (-0.7 percent, -600), Kankakee-Bradley (-0.7 percent, -300) and Decatur (-0.6 percent, -300).

“Falling unemployment rates reflect a growing Illinois economy, although more still needs to be done,” IDES Director Jay Rowell said. “As companies do more with less, changes in federal job training strategies to ensure programs impart specific skills needed by local employers also will help with long- term economic growth.”

Not seasonally adjusted data compares the current month to the same month of the previous year. The July 2014 not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 7.0 percent and 12.2 percent at its peak in this economic cycle in January 2010. Nationally, the unemployment rate was 6.5 percent in July 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 collecting unemployment insurance benefits. Historically, the state unemployment rate is higher than the national rate.

### Total Non-farm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – July 2014

| Metropolitan Area                     | July 2014* | July 2013** | Over-the-Year Change |
|---------------------------------------|------------|-------------|----------------------|
| Bloomington-Normal MSA                | 86,800     | 87,400      | -600                 |
| Champaign-Urbana MSA                  | 103,400    | 101,400     | 2,000                |
| Chicago-Joliet-Naperville Metro Div.  | 3,822,800  | 3,786,800   | 36,000               |
| Danville MSA                          | 29,000     | 28,700      | 300                  |
| Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA      | 184,900    | 184,400     | 500                  |
| Decatur MSA                           | 50,800     | 51,100      | -300                 |
| Kankakee-Bradley MSA                  | 43,000     | 43,400      | -300                 |
| Lake County-Kenosha County Metro Div. | 408,000    | 400,600     | 7,400                |
| Peoria MSA                            | 176,400    | 179,200     | -2,800               |
| Rockford MSA                          | 148,100    | 147,700     | 400                  |
| Springfield MSA                       | 110,600    | 110,700     | -100                 |
| Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA     | 225,600    | 225,800     | -200                 |

\*Preliminary \*\*Revised

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