



NEWS RELEASE

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Pace of Job Growth Moderates in Most Metro Areas

Unemployment rate drops second month in a row in all metro areas

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	July 2017	July 2016	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	4.5%	5.3%	-0.8
Carbondale-Marion	5.1%	5.9%	-0.8
Champaign-Urbana	4.8%	5.2%	-0.4
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	4.8%	6.0%	-1.2
Danville	7.1%	7.3%	-0.2
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	4.4%	5.3%	-0.9
Decatur	5.9%	6.7%	-0.8
Elgin	4.7%	5.2%	-0.5
Kankakee	5.4%	6.2%	-0.8
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	4.3%	4.9%	-0.6
Peoria	5.5%	6.4%	-0.9
Rockford	5.8%	6.4%	-0.6
Springfield	4.4%	4.8%	-0.4
St. Louis (IL-Section)	5.0%	5.9%	-0.9
Illinois Statewide	4.9%	5.9%	-1.0

** Data subject to revision.*

CHICAGO—Unemployment rates decreased over-the-year in July in all of Illinois’ metropolitan areas and all but two counties, according to preliminary data released today by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES). Data also show nonfarm jobs increased in nine of the metropolitan areas, decreased in four and were unchanged in one.

“The rate of job growth has lessened in most metros that showed gains,” said IDES Director Jeff Mays. “While the gains in the Chicago area over the past year are promising, the drop in the unemployment rate is mostly due to the decline in the labor force.”

Illinois businesses added jobs in nine metro areas, with the largest increases in: Carbondale-Marion (+2.3 percent, +1,300), Springfield (+2.2 percent, +2,500), Bloomington (+2.1 percent, +1,900), and Lake (+2.1 percent, +8,800). Total nonfarm jobs in the Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division increased (+0.6 percent or +23,800). Illinois businesses lost jobs in four metro areas including: Danville (-1.4 percent, -400), Decatur (-0.8 percent, -400), and the Quad Cities (-0.5 percent, -900).

The industry sectors recording job growth in the majority of metro areas included Mining and Construction (nine of 14), Professional and Business Services (nine of 14), and Leisure and Hospitality (eight of 14).

Not seasonally adjusted data compares July 2017 with July 2016. The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 4.9 percent in July 2017 and stood at 12.2 percent at its peak in this economic cycle in January 2010. Nationally, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.6 percent in July 2017 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 it is not tied to collecting unemployment insurance benefits.

Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – July 2017

Metropolitan Area	July 2017*	July 2016**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	92,400	90,500	1,900
Carbondale-Marion MSA	58,200	56,900	1,300
Champaign-Urbana MSA	105,200	105,000	200
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,763,700	3,739,900	23,800
Danville MSA	27,800	28,200	-400
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	183,400	184,300	-900
Decatur MSA	50,900	51,300	-400
Elgin Metro Division	254,600	255,000	-400
Kankakee MSA	44,500	43,700	800
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	426,700	417,900	8,800
Peoria MSA	176,300	175,600	700
Rockford MSA	151,300	151,300	0
Springfield MSA	115,900	113,400	2,500
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	234,800	233,100	1,700
Illinois Statewide	6,067,700	6,028,300	39,400

*Preliminary **Revised

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