



NEWS RELEASE

Bruce Rauner, Governor
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Unemployment Rate Drops in All Metro Areas for Fifth Consecutive Month

Jobs increase in eight metro areas

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	Oct. 2017	Oct. 2016	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	3.8%	4.8%	-1.0
Carbondale-Marion	4.4%	5.4%	-1.0
Champaign-Urbana	4.1%	4.9%	-0.8
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	4.9%	5.7%	-0.8
Danville	6.0%	6.8%	-0.8
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	4.1%	5.2%	-1.1
Decatur	5.2%	6.1%	-0.9
Elgin	4.2%	5.0%	-0.8
Kankakee	4.8%	5.9%	-1.1
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	3.9%	4.7%	-0.8
Peoria	4.7%	6.0%	-1.3
Rockford	5.0%	6.2%	-1.2
Springfield	4.0%	4.5%	-0.5
St. Louis (IL-Section)	4.4%	5.3%	-0.9
Illinois Statewide	4.7%	5.6%	-0.9

** Data subject to revision.*

CHICAGO—Unemployment rates decreased over-the-year in October in all of Illinois’s metropolitan areas and in all 102 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 eight of the metropolitan areas and decreased in six.

“It is encouraging that the unemployment rate is down statewide and Illinois gained 18,200 jobs over the past year,” said IDES Director Jeff Mays. “However, six of the 14 metro areas did not add jobs, which is a clear sign of the need for more sustained job growth across all areas of the state.”

Illinois businesses added jobs in eight metro areas, with the largest increases in: Carbondale-Marion (+2.1 percent, +1,200), Kankakee (+2.0 percent, +900), and Lake/Kenosha (+1.3 percent, +5,300). Total nonfarm jobs in the Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division increased (+0.6 percent or +20,800). Illinois businesses lost jobs in six metro areas, with the largest losses in: Danville (-1.0 percent, -300), Springfield (-0.9 percent, -1,100), and

Champaign (-0.5 percent, -600).

The industry sectors recording job growth in the majority of metro areas included Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (9 of 14) and Education and Health Services (9 of 14).

Not seasonally adjusted data compares October 2017 with October 2016. The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 4.7 percent in October 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 3.9 percent in October 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 is not tied to collecting unemployment insurance benefits.

Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – October 2017

Metropolitan Area	October 2017*	October 2016**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	95,900	95,000	900
Carbondale-Marion MSA	59,200	58,000	1,200
Champaign-Urbana MSA	111,900	112,500	-600
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,776,100	3,755,300	20,800
Danville MSA	28,300	28,600	-300
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	185,100	184,100	1,000
Decatur MSA	51,500	51,700	-200
Elgin Metro Division	258,500	259,200	-700
Kankakee MSA	46,200	45,300	900
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	418,100	412,800	5,300
Peoria MSA	177,100	176,800	300
Rockford MSA	151,900	152,500	-600
Springfield MSA	115,500	116,600	-1,100
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	240,400	239,100	1,300
Illinois Statewide	6,107,400	6,089,200	18,200

**Preliminary **Revised*

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