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Unemployment Rate Falls in All Metros - Jobs Increase in Ten Metros

Fifth month this year that the unemployment rate fell in all metros

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	July 2018	July 2017	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	4.2%	4.3%	-0.1
Carbondale-Marion	4.9%	5.0%	-0.1
Champaign-Urbana	4.5%	4.6%	-0.1
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	4.1%	5.3%	-1.2
Danville	5.9%	6.8%	-0.9
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	3.7%	4.2%	-0.5
Decatur	5.6%	5.7%	-0.1
Elgin	4.4%	4.6%	-0.2
Kankakee	4.7%	5.1%	-0.4
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	4.0%	4.2%	-0.2
Peoria	4.9%	5.5%	-0.6
Rockford	5.0%	5.6%	-0.6
Springfield	4.0%	4.3%	-0.3
St. Louis (IL-Section)	4.6%	4.9%	-0.3
Illinois Statewide	4.3%	5.1%	-0.8

** Data subject to revision.*

CHICAGO—Unemployment rates decreased over-the-year in July in all of Illinois’s metropolitan areas, 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 ten of the metropolitan areas.

“The number of employed people increased in all metro areas, which contributed to the decrease in the unemployment rate,” said IDES Director Jeff Mays. “This has driven the unemployment rate down to near record lows across the state. In fact, the Chicago metro area had its lowest July unemployment rate on record.”

Illinois businesses added jobs in ten metro areas, with the largest increases in: Kankakee (+5.9 percent, +2,700), Elgin (+2.0 percent, +5,100), and Champaign-Urbana (+1.5 percent, +1,600). Total nonfarm jobs in the Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division increased (+1.2 percent or

+46,500). Illinois businesses lost jobs in three metro areas: Carbondale-Marion (-0.7 percent, -400), Danville (-0.4 percent, -100), and Bloomington (-0.3 percent, -300).

The industry sectors recording job growth in the majority of metro areas included Leisure and Hospitality (12 of 14), Manufacturing (10 of 14), Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities (10 of 14), Professional and Business Services (10 of 14), and Education and Health Services (8 of 14).

Not seasonally adjusted data compares July 2018 with July 2017. The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 4.3 percent in July 2018 and stood at 12.2 percent at its peak in this economic cycle in January 2010. Nationally, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.1 percent in July 2018 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) – July 2018

Metropolitan Area	July 2018*	July 2017**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	91,900	92,200	-300
Carbondale-Marion MSA	56,200	56,600	-400
Champaign-Urbana MSA	108,000	106,400	1,600
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,812,000	3,765,500	46,500
Danville MSA	28,000	28,100	-100
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	186,700	186,100	600
Decatur MSA	51,600	50,900	700
Elgin Metro Division	263,100	258,000	5,100
Kankakee MSA	48,700	46,000	2,700
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	429,000	425,600	3,400
Peoria MSA	172,000	171,500	500
Rockford MSA	152,100	151,100	1,000
Springfield MSA	113,100	113,100	0
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	237,200	234,800	2,400
Illinois Statewide	6,151,300	6,075,400	75,900

**Preliminary **Revised*

(continued)



**Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates
(percent) for Local Counties and Areas**

Labor Market Area	July 2018	July 2017	Over-the- Year Change
Carbondale-Marion MSA	4.9%	5.0%	-0.1%
Jackson County	4.7 %	4.7%	0.0%
Williamson County	5.0%	5.3%	-0.3%
Other Area Counties			
Alexander County	8.8%	9.5%	-0.7%
Franklin County	6.2%	6.5%	-0.3%
Johnson County	7.3%	7.5%	-0.2%
Massac County	7.5%	7.5%	0.0%
Perry County	6.7%	6.3%	0.4%
Pulaski County	7.7%	7.9%	-0.2%
Randolph County	4.6%	4.7%	-0.1%
Union County	5.6%	6.0%	-0.4%
Harrisburg Area			
Gallatin County	5.9%	5.7%	0.2%
Hamilton County	4.0%	4.3%	-0.3%
Hardin County	8.2%	8.6%	-0.4%
Pope County	6.0%	6.4%	-0.4%
Saline County	6.7%	6.6%	0.1%
White County	4.0%	4.7%	-0.7%
Olney - Mt. Carmel Area			
Edwards County	3.8%	4.4%	-0.6%
Lawrence County	5.6%	6.0%	-0.4%
Richland County	4.3%	4.8%	-0.5%
Wabash County	4.2%	5.1%	-0.9%
Wayne County	5.4%	5.9%	-0.5%

Southern Illinois Highlights

Help Wanted

Area employers advertised for 2,300 positions in July and approximately 77 percent sought full-time employment, according to Help Wanted Online data compiled by the Conference Board, which is a global, independent business membership and research association. Employers need more workers than the help wanted advertising indicated because some industries, such as Construction, typically do not post advertised job openings.

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.9 percent in July 2018 in the Carbondale-Marion Metropolitan Statistical Area (Jackson and Williamson Counties). This is a (-0.1%) decrease compared to July 2017, when the jobless rate was 5.0 percent. Unemployment decreased in 19 counties in the Southern Region and remained unchanged in two compared to one year-ago.

Area employers continued to show demand in Retail Trade, Health Care and Social Assistance, Public Administration, and Manufacturing in July 2018.

Decreased hiring demand occurred in Accommodation and Food Services, Construction, Utilities, and Mining.

Top occupations for hire in July 2018 included Truck Drivers, Registered Nurses, Retail Salespersons and Supervisors, Medical and Health Services Managers, and Maintenance and Repair Workers.

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.

Note: Monthly 2017 unemployment rates and total nonfarm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February and March 2018, as required by the U.S. BLS. Comments and tables distributed for prior metro area news releases should be discarded as any records or historical analysis previously cited may no longer be valid.

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