

Unemployment rates remain higher than national rate in all but one Metro Area

December 22 2016 2:23 PM



Job growth remains mixed

CHICAGO—This month, 13 of Illinois' metropolitan (metro) areas experienced declines in their over-the-year unemployment rates and one was unchanged. Eight of the metro areas had increases in nonfarm jobs and six reported declines, according to preliminary data released today by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES).

“Job growth in Illinois’ metro areas still lag the rest of the nation,” said IDES Director Jeff Mays. “The metro areas outside of Chicago have experienced more job growth recently than the Chicago metro area, which is a bit of a change from earlier in the year.”

Illinois businesses added jobs in eight metro areas, in which the largest increases were seen in: Champaign-Urbana (+1.9 percent, +2,100), Elgin (+1.4 percent, +3,600), and Kankakee (+1.1 percent, +500). Total nonfarm jobs in the Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division increased (+0.7 percent or +26,400). Illinois businesses lost jobs in six metro areas including Carbondale-Marion (-4.0 percent, -2,400), Decatur (-1.9 percent, -1,000), and Peoria (-1.8 percent, -3,300). The industry sectors recording job growth in the majority of metro areas were: Retail Trade (11 of 14), Education and Health Services (10 of 14), and Government (eight of 14).

Not seasonally adjusted data compares November 2016 with November 2015. The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 5.3 percent in November 2016 and stood at 12.2 percent at its peak in this economic cycle in January 2010. Nationally, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.4 percent in November 2016 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.

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	Nov. Nov.		Over-the-Year Change
	2016	2015	
Bloomington	4.6%	5.3%	-0.7
Carbondale-Marion	5.2%	6.4%	-1.2
Champaign-Urbana	4.5%	5.7%	-1.2
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	5.4%	5.4%	0.0
Danville	6.4%	7.7%	-1.3

Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL 4.8% 5.7% -0.9

Decatur 5.9% 7.3% -1.4

Elgin 4.7% 6.0% -1.3

Kankakee 5.6% 7.1% -1.5

Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI 4.5% 5.5% -1.0

Peoria 5.8% 7.0% -1.2

Rockford 5.8% 7.4% -1.6

Springfield 4.3% 5.6% -1.3

St. Louis (IL-Section) 4.9% 6.6% -1.7

Illinois Statewide 5.3% 5.8% -0.5

** Data subject to revision.*

Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) - November 2016

Metropolitan Area	Nov. 2016*	Nov. 2015**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	95,000	96,200	-1,200

Carbondale-Marion MSA	57,200	59,600	-2,400
Champaign-Urbana MSA	113,800	111,700	2,100
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,737,300	3,710,900	26,400
Danville MSA	29,500	29,600	-100
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	181,100	182,800	-1,700
Decatur MSA	51,600	52,600	-1,000
Elgin Metro Division	264,600	261,000	3,600
Kankakee MSA	46,400	45,900	500
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	413,200	410,200	3,000
Peoria MSA	176,700	180,000	-3,300
Rockford MSA	155,300	154,200	1,100
Springfield MSA	116,500	115,300	1,200
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	238,600	237,600	1,000
Illinois Statewide	6,095,700	6,052,900	42,800

	<i>*Preliminary **Revised</i>		