



Bruce Rauner, Governor
Jeff Mays, Director

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
Wednesday, November 25, 2015

Anjali Julka
Phone: 312.793.9635

Vicki Niederhofer
Phone: 618.277.8491

Illinois Metros See Minimal Job Growth; Seven Metro Areas Lose Jobs

Unemployment Rates Continue Downward Trend

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	October 2015	October 2014	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	4.8%	5.0%	-0.2
Carbondale-Marion	6.1%	6.1%	0.0
Champaign-Urbana	5.1%	5.3%	-0.2
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	5.0%	6.1%	-1.1
Danville	6.9%	7.3%	-0.4
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	5.6%	5.8%	-0.2
Decatur	6.8%	7.2%	-0.4
Elgin	5.4%	5.7%	-0.3
Kankakee	6.4%	6.7%	-0.3
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	5.0%	5.4%	-0.4
Peoria	6.6%	6.2%	0.4
Rockford	6.8%	7.0%	-0.2
Springfield	5.1%	5.4%	-0.3
St. Louis (IL-Section)	5.9%	6.3%	-0.4
Illinois Statewide	5.3%	6.0%	-0.7

* Data subject to revision.

CHICAGO – Unemployment rates in Illinois fell in 12 metro areas, increased in one and remained the same in one. Seven metro areas across the state saw job loss compared to a year ago, according to preliminary data released today by the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Not seasonally adjusted data compares October 2015 with October 2014.

Illinois businesses lost jobs in seven metro areas including the Quad Cities (-2.1 percent, -3,900), Carbondale-Marion (-1.6 percent, -900), and Peoria (-1.0 percent, -1,800). Illinois businesses added jobs in six metros, in which the largest increases were seen in: Danville (+1.7 percent, +500), Elgin (+1.6 percent, +4,200), and Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division (+1.4 percent or +49,600). The industry sectors recording job growth in the majority of metros were: Retail Trade (nine of 14), Leisure and Hospitality (nine of 14), Transportation, Warehousing and Public Utilities (eight of 14), and Education and Health Services (eight of 14).

“We are thankful for every single job we have gained since the national recovery began in July 2009,” IDES Director Jeff Mays said. “However, at Thanksgiving 2015, too few Illinois residents are feeling this turnaround.”

The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 5.3 percent in October 2015 and stood at 12.2 percent at its peak in this economic cycle in January 2010. Nationally, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.8 percent in October 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 2015

Metropolitan Area	October 2015*	October 2014**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	96,200	95,500	700
Carbondale-Marion MSA	54,900	55,800	-900
Champaign-Urbana MSA	111,500	110,400	1,100
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,668,400	3,618,800	49,600
Danville MSA	29,700	29,200	500
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	180,900	184,800	-3,900
Decatur MSA	51,100	51,300	-200
Elgin Metro Division	259,500	255,300	4,200
Kankakee MSA	45,600	45,600	0
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	402,800	406,500	-3,700
Peoria MSA	178,600	180,400	-1,800
Rockford MSA	151,900	152,500	-600
Springfield MSA	113,500	112,300	1,200
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	231,300	232,600	-1,300
Illinois Statewide	5,990,400	5,949,300	41,100

*Preliminary **Revised

(continued)

1035**15



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

	Oct. 2015	Oct. 2014	Over-the- year Change
IL Section of St. Louis	5.9%	6.3%	-0.4%
Bond	4.9%	5.6%	-0.7%
Calhoun	6.1%	6.8%	-0.7%
Clinton	4.2%	4.7%	-0.5%
Jersey	5.8%	6.1%	-0.3%
Macoupin	6.0%	6.1%	-0.1%
Madison	5.8%	6.2%	-0.4%
Monroe	4.2%	4.8%	-0.6%
St. Clair	6.4%	6.9%	-0.5%
Cities:			
Alton	8.5%	9.1%	-0.6%
Belleville	6.5%	7.1%	-0.6%
Collinsville	5.6%	6.5%	-0.9%
East St. Louis	12.0%	12.4%	-0.4%
Granite City	8.0%	8.0%	0.0%
O'Fallon	5.4%	5.9%	-0.5%
Counties:			
Greene	5.5%	5.8%	-0.3%
Randolph	5.3%	5.8%	-0.5%
Washington	3.8%	4.1%	-0.3%
Other Areas:			
LWA 21	5.8%	6.1%	-0.3%
LWA 22	5.8%	6.1%	-0.3%
LWA 24	5.8%	6.3%	-0.5%
Southwestern Economic Development Region	5.8%	6.2%	-0.4%

Note:

- Monthly 2014 unemployment rates and total non-farm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February 2015, as required by the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (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.
- LWA— Local Workforce Area 21 is composed of Calhoun, Greene, Jersey, Macoupin, Montgomery, Morgan, Scott and Shelby Counties.
LWA— Local Workforce Area 22 is composed of Bond and Madison Counties.
LWA— Local Workforce Area 24 is composed of Clinton, Monroe, Randolph, St. Clair and Washington Counties.

###

Metro East Highlights

Help Wanted

Area employers advertised for 6,000 job openings in October and approximately 93 percent sought full-time employment, according to Help Wanted OnLine data compiled by the Conference Board. It is a global, independent business membership and research association. Employers actually need more workers than the help wanted ad indicates because some industries, such as construction, typically do not advertise job openings.

The October 2015 unemployment rate for the Illinois Section of the St. Louis Metropolitan Statistical Area decreased to 5.9 percent, a -0.4 point decline from the October 2014 rate of 6.3 percent. The last time the October unemployment rate was equal to or lower was 2007 (5.6 percent). The data is not seasonally adjusted.

The number of employed individuals increased by 8,839 to 328,843 in October 2015 from 320,004 in October 2014. The labor force increased by 7,897 to 349,323 in October 2015 from 341,426 in October 2014. In October 2015, there were 20,480 unemployed people in the labor force. This is a decline of 942, compared to the October 2014 total unemployed, 21,422.

Over the year, nonfarm payrolls decreased by (-1,300). Employment increased in Mining and Construction (+100) and Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities (+100).

Government (-400) showed the greatest number of job losses over the year. Other declines included Manufacturing (-200), Retail Trade (-200), Financial Activities (-200), Other Services (-200), Professional and Business Services (-100), and Educational and Health Services (-100).

Employment in Wholesale Trade, and Leisure and Hospitality remained stable, with no change reported in October 2015 compared to the October payrolls the prior year.