

For Immediate Release  
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## Unemployment Rates up in Most Metro Areas

### *Job Growth Continues to Lag*

#### Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	November 2015	November 2014	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	5.4%	5.0%	0.4
Carbondale-Marion	6.9%	6.3%	0.6
Champaign-Urbana	5.7%	5.3%	0.4
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	5.2%	5.8%	-0.6
Danville	7.7%	7.3%	0.4
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	5.8%	5.8%	0.0
Decatur	7.6%	7.4%	0.2
Elgin	6.1%	5.9%	0.2
Kankakee	7.2%	6.9%	0.3
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	5.6%	5.5%	0.1
Peoria	7.1%	6.3%	0.8
Rockford	7.5%	7.2%	0.3
Springfield	5.7%	5.5%	0.2
St. Louis (IL-Section)	6.7%	6.5%	0.2
Illinois Statewide	5.8%	6.0%	-0.2

\* Data subject to revision.

**CHICAGO** – Unemployment rates increased in 12 metro areas, decreased in one and was unchanged in one. Eight 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 November 2015 with November 2014.

Illinois businesses lost jobs in eight metro areas including Carbondale-Marion (-1.8 percent, -1,000), Quad Cities (-1.7 percent, -3,200), and Lake-Kenosha (-1.5 percent, -6,300). Illinois businesses added jobs in six metros, in which the largest increases were seen in: Elgin (+2.0 percent, +5,000), Champaign-Urbana (+1.5 percent, +1,700), Danville (+1.4 percent, +400), and Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division (+1.3 percent or +46,900). The industry sectors recording job growth in the majority of metros were: Transportation, Warehousing and Public Utilities (nine of 14), Leisure and Hospitality (eight of 14), and Education and Health Services (eight of 14).

“While the increase in unemployment rates will garner most of the headlines, more troubling is Illinois’ extremely low employment growth rate this past year,” said IDES Director Jeff Mays. “Out of 102 counties in Illinois, 96 remain below their pre-recession 2007 peak employment levels.”

The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 5.8 percent in November 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 November 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) – November 2015

Metropolitan Area	November 2015*	November 2014**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	96,400	95,500	900
Carbondale-Marion MSA	55,100	56,100	-1,000
Champaign-Urbana MSA	111,800	110,100	1,700
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,672,800	3,625,900	46,900
Danville MSA	29,800	29,400	400
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	181,400	184,600	-3,200
Decatur MSA	51,000	51,600	-600
Elgin Metro Division	260,000	255,000	5,000
Kankakee MSA	45,900	46,100	-200
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	400,200	406,500	-6,300
Peoria MSA	179,600	180,100	-500
Rockford MSA	152,300	152,600	-300
Springfield MSA	113,500	112,100	1,400
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	230,900	232,000	-1,100
Illinois Statewide	5,989,600	5,953,900	35,700

\*Preliminary \*\*Revised

(continued)

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

	<b>Nov. 2015</b>	<b>Nov. 2014</b>	<b>Over- the-Year Change</b>
<b>Decatur MSA</b>			
Macon County	7.6%	7.4%	0.2
<b>Springfield MSA</b>			
Menard County	5.4%	5.2%	0.2
Sangamon County	5.8%	5.6%	0.2
<b>Cities</b>			
Decatur City	8.4%	8.3%	0.1
Springfield City	6.1%	6.0%	0.1
<b>Counties</b>			
Adams County	5.6%	4.9%	0.7
Brown County	3.8%	3.6%	0.2
Calhoun County	7.4%	7.5%	-0.1
Cass County	6.5%	6.1%	0.4
Christian County	7.4%	6.8%	0.6
DeWitt County	6.1%	5.7%	0.4
Douglas County	5.7%	5.2%	0.5
Greene County	6.9%	6.1%	0.8
Jersey County	7.1%	6.5%	0.6
Logan County	5.8%	5.7%	0.1
Macoupin County	7.0%	6.6%	0.4
Montgomery County	8.5%	8.0%	0.5
Morgan County	5.5%	5.5%	-0-
Moultrie County	5.1%	4.6%	0.5
Piatt County	5.5%	5.0%	0.5
Pike County	5.1%	4.9%	0.2
Schuyler County	6.4%	5.8%	0.6
Scott County	5.8%	6.0%	-0.2
Shelby County	6.9%	6.2%	0.7
<b>Other Areas</b>			
LWA 19	7.4%	7.1%	0.3
LWA 20	6.0%	5.7%	0.3
LWA 21	6.9%	6.5%	0.4
Central EDR	6.5%	6.2%	0.3

**Note:**

Monthly 2014 unemployment rates and total nonfarm 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.

**Central Illinois Highlights**

**Help Wanted**

Area employers advertised for 7,000 positions in November and approximately 84 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 actually need more workers than the help wanted advertising indicates because some industries, such as Construction, typically do not post advertised job openings.

**Decatur MSA**

The November 2015 not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 7.6 percent from 7.4 percent in November 2014. There were an estimated 3,900 unemployed people in the labor force in November 2015.

The total number of nonfarm jobs in the Decatur metro area declined by (-600) compared to one year ago. Payrolls increased in Professional and Business Services (+400) and Construction (+200). Declines were reported in Government (-300), Leisure and Hospitality (-200), Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (-200), Education and Health Services (-200), Retail Trade (-100), Other Services (-100), and Wholesale Trade (-100). All other major industry sectors were unchanged compared to one year ago.

**Springfield MSA**

The unemployment rate rose to 5.7 percent in November 2015 from 5.5 percent in November 2014. There were an estimated 6,500 unemployed people in the labor force in November 2015. The rate remains below the comparable state rate of 5.8 percent. The data is not seasonally adjusted.

The Springfield metro area nonfarm job total increased by (+1,400) compared to a year ago. Payroll increases were reported in Educational and Health Services (+900), Retail Trade (+400), Construction (+300), Leisure and Hospitality (+200), Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (+100), and Other Services (+100). Declines were reported in Information (-200), Government (-100), Financial Activities (-100), Manufacturing (-100), and Professional and Business Services (-100). All other major industry sectors were little changed compared to last year.