



**Bruce Rauner, Governor**  
**Jeff Mays, Director**

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Unemployment Rates Increase in Most Metro Areas

### Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

| Metropolitan Area                    | January 2016 | January 2015 | Over-the-Year Change |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------|
| Bloomington                          | 6.5%         | 5.3%         | 1.2                  |
| Carbondale-Marion                    | 7.7%         | 6.5%         | 1.2                  |
| Champaign-Urbana                     | 6.7%         | 5.7%         | 1.0                  |
| Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights | 6.6%         | 6.9%         | -0.3                 |
| Danville                             | 9.1%         | 7.7%         | 1.4                  |
| Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL  | 7.1%         | 6.5%         | 0.6                  |
| Decatur                              | 8.7%         | 7.8%         | 0.9                  |
| Elgin                                | 7.5%         | 6.7%         | 0.8                  |
| Kankakee                             | 8.7%         | 7.9%         | 0.8                  |
| Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI                  | 7.0%         | 6.4%         | 0.6                  |
| Peoria                               | 8.6%         | 7.2%         | 1.4                  |
| Rockford                             | 8.5%         | 7.7%         | 0.8                  |
| Springfield                          | 6.6%         | 5.9%         | 0.7                  |
| St. Louis (IL-Section)               | 7.4%         | 6.8%         | 0.6                  |
| Illinois Statewide                   | 7.1%         | 6.8%         | 0.3                  |

\* Data subject to revision.

**CHICAGO**—Unemployment rates increased in a majority of the metro areas – as did the number of people entering the workforce – indicating many individuals did not find employment, according to preliminary data released today by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES).

“Though more people in Illinois entered the labor force, they were not able to find jobs,” said IDES Director Jeff Mays. “With Illinois trailing the rest of the country in job creation, we need structural reforms to get more people back to work.”

The unemployment rate increased in 13 metro areas and declined in one. Illinois businesses added jobs in nine metros, in which the largest increases were seen in: Rockford (+2.5 percent, +3,700), Lake-Kenosha (+2.1 percent, +8,200), and Carbondale-Marion (+1.8, +1,000). Total nonfarm jobs in the Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division increased (+1.5 percent or +53,100). Illinois businesses lost jobs in four metro areas including Bloomington (-1.2 percent, -1,100), Danville (-1.0 percent, -300), and the Quad Cities (-0.9 percent, -1,700). The industry sectors recording job growth in the majority of metros

were: Retail (13 of 14), Mining and Construction (10 of 14), Education and Health Services (10 of 14), Leisure and Hospitality (nine of 14), Government (nine of 14), Professional and Business Services (eight of 14) and Other Services (eight of 14).

Not seasonally adjusted data compares January 2016 with January 2015. The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 7.1 percent in January 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 5.3 percent in January 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) – January 2016

| Metropolitan Area                                   | January 2016 | January 2015** | Over-the-Year Change |
|---|--------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Bloomington MSA                                     | 92,500       | 93,600         | -1,100               |
| Carbondale-Marion MSA                               | 56,000       | 55,000         | 1,000                |
| Champaign-Urbana MSA                                | 106,500      | 105,400        | 1,100                |
| Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division | 3,601,100    | 3,548,000      | 53,100               |
| Danville MSA  | 28,900       | 29,200         | -300                 |
| Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA                    | 178,200      | 179,900        | -1,700               |
| Decatur MSA   | 50,000       | 50,000         | 0                    |
| Elgin Metro Division                                | 247,500      | 244,100        | 3,400                |
| Kankakee MSA  | 43,800       | 43,100         | 700                  |
| Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division           | 396,600      | 388,400        | 8,200                |
| Peoria MSA  | 174,300      | 174,900        | -600                 |
| Rockford MSA  | 150,900      | 147,200        | 3,700                |
| Springfield MSA                                     | 111,000      | 110,000        | 1,000                |
| Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA                   | 232,100      | 228,200        | 3,900                |
| Illinois Statewide                                  | 5,851,000    | 5,790,000      | 61,000               |

\*\*Revised

- (continued) -

171\*\*16



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

|   | <b>Jan. 16</b> | <b>Jan. 15</b> | <b>Over-<br/>the-<br/>Year<br/>Change</b> |
|---|----------------|----------------|---|
| <b>Davenport-Rock Island-Moline IL-IA MSA</b> |                |                |   |
| Henry County                                  | 8.3 %          | 7.1 %          | <b>1.2</b>                                |
| Mercer County                                 | 9.4 %          | 8.0 %          | <b>1.4</b>                                |
| Rock Island County                            | 8.3 %          | 7.1 %          | <b>1.2</b>                                |
| <b>Cities</b>                                 |                |                |   |
| Galesburg city                                | 8.3 %          | 8.6 %          | <b>-0.3</b>                               |
| Moline city                                   | 8.1 %          | 6.9 %          | <b>1.2</b>                                |
| Rock Island city                              | 6.4 %          | 5.6 %          | <b>0.8</b>                                |
| <b>Counties</b>                               |                |                |   |
| Bureau County                                 | 8.9 %          | 7.9 %          | <b>1.0</b>                                |
| Fulton County                                 | 10.0 %         | 8.9 %          | <b>1.1</b>                                |
| Henderson County                              | 8.7 %          | 6.8 %          | <b>1.9</b>                                |
| Knox County                                   | 8.1 %          | 6.9 %          | <b>1.2</b>                                |
| Stark County                                  | 9.6 %          | 7.8 %          | <b>1.8</b>                                |
| Warren County                                 | 7.1 %          | 5.8 %          | <b>1.3</b>                                |
| Whiteside County                              | 7.7 %          | 7.0 %          | <b>0.7</b>                                |

**Davenport-Moline-Rock Island IL-IA MSA**

**Help Wanted**

Area employers advertised for 4,700 positions in January and approximately 87 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 advertising indicates because some industries, such as construction, typically do not advertise job openings.

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 7.1 percent in January 2016 from 6.5 percent in January 2015. For the month of January 2016, the estimated number of unemployed people in the labor force was 13,600.

Total nonfarm employment decreased -1,700 compared to January 2015. Manufacturing (-700), Educational-Health Services (-600), Leisure-Hospitality (-400), and Wholesale Trade (-300) sectors recorded the largest employment declines compared to one year ago. The Professional-Business Services industry (+300) reported the largest payroll gains.

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 2015 unemployment rates and total non-farm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February 2016, 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.

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