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NEWS RELEASE

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Metro Area Job Data Mixed

Unemployment Rates Increase in All Metro Areas

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	March 2016	March 2015	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	6.0%	4.6%	1.4
Carbondale-Marion	7.0%	5.8%	1.2
Champaign-Urbana	5.8%	4.8%	1.0
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	6.6%	6.0%	0.6
Danville	8.4%	6.8%	1.6
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	6.5%	5.7%	0.8
Decatur	7.9%	6.9%	1.0
Elgin	6.8%	6.0%	0.8
Kankakee	7.7%	6.9%	0.8
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	6.5%	5.8%	0.7
Peoria	7.7%	6.2%	1.5
Rockford	7.7%	6.8%	0.9
Springfield	6.0%	5.2%	0.8
St. Louis (IL-Section)	6.8%	5.9%	0.9
Illinois Statewide	6.8%	6.0%	0.8

* Data subject to revision.

CHICAGO—All metropolitan areas in Illinois experienced over the year unemployment rate increases for the second consecutive month, according to preliminary data released today by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES).

“Unemployment rates increased in more than half of the metro areas even though they experienced job growth,” said IDES Director Jeff Mays. “The increase in the unemployment rate was largely due to more people entering the labor force”

Illinois businesses added jobs in just eight metros, in which the largest increases were seen in: Lake-Kenosha (+2.5 percent, +9,900), Rockford (+2.4 percent, +3,600), and Elgin (+2.3, +5,600). Total nonfarm jobs in the Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division increased (+1.8 percent or +65,500). Illinois businesses lost jobs in six metro areas including Bloomington (-2.3 percent, -2,200), Danville (-0.7 percent, -200), and the Quad Cities (-0.7 percent, -1,200). The industry sectors recording job growth in the majority of metros were: Education and Health Services (13 of 14), Leisure and Hospitality (11 of 14), Retail (10 of 14), Government (10 of 14), Mining and Construction (nine of 14),

Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (nine of 14), Professional and Business Services (nine of 14), and Other Services (eight of 14).

Not seasonally adjusted data compares March 2016 with March 2015. The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 6.8 percent in March 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 5.1 percent in March 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.

Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – March 2016

Metropolitan Area	March 2016*	March 2015**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	93,200	95,400	-2,200
Carbondale-Marion MSA	56,900	57,000	-100
Champaign-Urbana MSA	111,100	108,900	2,200
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,647,800	3,582,300	65,500
Danville MSA	29,300	29,500	-200
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	179,600	180,800	-1,200
Decatur MSA	50,500	50,600	-100
Elgin Metro Division	253,600	248,000	5,600
Kankakee MSA	44,900	44,200	700
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	401,400	391,500	9,900
Peoria MSA	176,000	176,200	-200
Rockford MSA	151,800	148,200	3,600
Springfield MSA	112,500	110,600	1,900
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	235,000	231,900	3,100
Illinois Statewide	5,932,300	5,853,200	79,100

*Preliminary **Revised

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

	Mar-16	Mar-15	Over the Year Change
Rockford MSA			
Boone County	8.0%	7.0%	1.0
Winnebago County	7.7%	6.8%	0.9
Cities			
Belvidere City	10.0%	8.5%	1.5
Freeport City	7.5%	6.8%	0.7
Rockford City	7.5%	6.4%	1.1
Counties			
Bureau County	7.5%	6.7%	0.8
Carroll County	7.1%	6.1%	1.0
DeKalb County	6.4%	5.5%	0.9
Henry County	7.5%	6.2%	1.3
JoDaviess County	7.4%	6.2%	1.2
Kane County	6.9%	6.1%	0.8
Lee County	6.5%	5.6%	0.9
McHenry County	6.3%	5.7%	0.6
Ogle County	7.3%	6.6%	0.7
Stephenson County	7.1%	7.0%	0.1
Whiteside County	7.0%	6.0%	1.0

Stephenson County

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 7.1 percent in March 2016 from 7.0 percent in March 2015. For the month of March 2016, the number of people unemployed in the labor force was 1,550.

Total nonfarm employment increased by +200 compared to a year ago. Construction (+225) and Professional-Business Services (+75) added the most jobs from March 2015. Manufacturing (-50), Financial Activities (-50), and Government (-50) sectors recorded the largest employment decline compared to one year ago.

Note:

- Monthly 2015 unemployment rates and total non-farm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February and March 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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Rockford MSA Highlights

Help Wanted

Area employers advertised for 5,100 positions in March 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.

Rockford MSA

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 7.7 percent in March 2016 from 6.8 percent in March 2015 as the number of people employed and unemployed in the labor force increased from a year ago. For the month of March 2016, the estimated number of people unemployed in the labor force was 13,200.

Total nonfarm employment increased +3,600 compared to March 2015. Professional-Business Services (+1,200), Retail Trade (+1,100), Educational-Health Services (+700), and Leisure-Hospitality (+400) sectors led other local industries in payroll gains. Construction (-200), Information (-200), and Manufacturing (-100) industries recorded declines compared to one year ago.

Ogle County

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 7.3 percent in March 2016 from 6.6 percent in March 2015. For the month of March 2016, the number of people unemployed in the labor force was 1,900.

Total nonfarm employment increased +425 compared to March 2015. Government (+100), Manufacturing (+100), Educational-Health Services (+75), and Construction (+75) sectors added the most jobs over the year. The Professional-Business Services (-50) sector recorded an employment decline compared to one year ago.