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# NEWS RELEASE

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## Unemployment Rates Increase in Most Metro Areas

*Jobs up in half the Metros*

### Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	May 2016	May 2015	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	5.2%	4.5%	0.7
Carbondale-Marion	6.1%	5.6%	0.5
Champaign-Urbana	5.1%	4.8%	0.3
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	5.5%	5.9%	-0.4
Danville	7.3%	6.5%	0.8
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	5.4%	5.2%	0.2
Decatur	6.8%	6.5%	0.3
Elgin	5.3%	5.2%	0.1
Kankakee	6.5%	6.3%	0.2
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	4.9%	4.9%	0.0
Peoria	6.5%	5.8%	0.7
Rockford	6.6%	6.3%	0.3
Springfield	4.8%	4.8%	0.0
St. Louis (IL-Section)	5.8%	5.6%	0.2
Illinois Statewide	5.6%	5.7%	-0.1

*\* Data subject to revision.*

**CHICAGO**—A majority of Illinois’ metropolitan (metro) areas experienced increases in their over-the-year unemployment rate and half of the metro areas had increases in nonfarm jobs, according to preliminary data released today by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES).

“While some metro areas saw job growth, too many didn’t,” said IDES Director Jeff Mays. “Key structural reforms can help the state grow more jobs as we sharpen our efforts to help unemployed job-seekers get back to work.”

Illinois businesses added jobs in seven metro areas, in which the largest increases were seen in: Lake-Kenosha (+2.2 percent, +9,000), Rockford (+1.6 percent, +2,400), and Elgin (+1.2 percent, +3,000). Total nonfarm jobs in the Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division increased (+1.3 percent or +45,900). Illinois businesses lost jobs in seven metro areas including Bloomington (-2.9 percent, -2,800), Carbondale-Marion (-1.6 percent, -900), and the Quad Cities (-1.5 percent, -2,700). The industry sectors recording job growth in the majority of metro areas

were: Education and Health Services (12 of 14), Retail Trade (10 of 14), Leisure and Hospitality (nine of 14), and Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (eight of 14).

Not seasonally adjusted data compares May 2016 with May 2015. The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 5.6 percent in May 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 4.5 percent in May 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) – May 2016

Metropolitan Area	May 2016*	May 2015**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	94,200	97,000	-2,800
Carbondale-Marion MSA	56,400	57,300	-900
Champaign-Urbana MSA	110,700	110,500	200
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,715,500	3,669,600	45,900
Danville MSA	29,300	29,700	-400
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	182,800	185,500	-2,700
Decatur MSA	51,400	51,700	-300
Elgin Metro Division	260,700	257,700	3,000
Kankakee MSA	44,600	45,100	-500
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	416,900	407,900	9,000
Peoria MSA	178,300	180,400	-2,100
Rockford MSA	155,800	153,400	2,400
Springfield MSA	114,700	113,700	1,000
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	239,200	238,100	1,100
Illinois Statewide	6,035,400	6,001,900	33,500

*\*Preliminary \*\*Revised*

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

	May 2016	May 2015	Over- the-Year Change
<b>Bloomington MSA</b>			
DeWitt County	5.8%	5.0%	0.8
McLean County	5.2%	4.4%	0.8
<b>Peoria MSA</b>			
Marshall County	6.3%	5.8%	0.5
Peoria County	6.9%	6.3%	0.6
Stark County	7.5%	5.7%	1.8
Tazewell County	6.3%	5.5%	0.8
Woodford County	5.2%	4.3%	0.9
<b>Ottawa-Streator Area</b>			
Bureau County	6.0%	5.7%	0.3
LaSalle County	6.7%	6.4%	0.3
Putnam County	5.6%	5.6%	0.0
<b>Galesburg Area</b>			
Knox County	6.0%	5.7%	0.3
Warren County	5.3%	4.7%	0.6
<b>Cities</b>			
Bloomington City	5.3%	4.6%	0.7
Galesburg City	6.3%	6.0%	0.3
Normal City	5.4%	4.4%	1.0
Pekin City	7.4%	6.5%	0.9
Peoria City	7.3%	6.5%	0.8
<b>Counties</b>			
Fulton County	7.3%	6.8%	0.5
Henderson County	5.6%	5.3%	0.3
Henry County	6.1%	5.8%	0.3
Livingston County	5.3%	4.9%	0.4
Logan County	5.2%	5.0%	0.2
Mason County	6.7%	6.3%	0.4

**Pontiac Area:** The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 5.3 percent in May 2016 from 4.9 percent in May 2015. Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment increased by (+50). Manufacturing (+100), Government (+75), and Financial Activities (+50) increased while Leisure-Hospitality (-75) reported the largest loss. All other sectors were stable compared to a 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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**Central Illinois Highlights**

**Help Wanted**

Area employers advertised for 8,400 positions in May and approximately 86 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.

**Bloomington MSA:** The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 5.2 percent in May 2016 from 4.5 percent in May 2015. There were an estimated 5,100 unemployed people in the labor force in May 2016.

Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment declined by (-2,800). Job gains were reported in Educational and Health Services (+400), Leisure and Hospitality (+300), and Financial Activities (+300). Declines were reported in Construction (-1,100), Manufacturing (-1,000), Government (-600), Retail Trade (-600), Professional and Business Services (-300), Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (-100), and Wholesale Trade (-100). All other major industry sectors were little changed compared to a year ago.

**Peoria MSA:** The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 6.5 percent in May 2016 from 5.8 percent in May 2015. There were an estimated 12,100 unemployed people in the labor force in May.

Nonfarm payroll employment declined by (-2,100) compared to May 2015. Job gains were reported in Retail Trade (+800), Leisure and Hospitality (+400), and Wholesale Trade (+200). Declines were reported in Manufacturing (-1,900), Professional and Business Services (-600), Government (-300), Construction (-200), Other Services (-200), Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities (-200), and Educational and Health Services (-100).

**Ottawa-Streator Area:** The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 6.5 percent in May 2016 from 6.2 percent in May 2015. Nonfarm payrolls held steady from a year ago. The largest gain occurred in Construction (+100). Educational and Health Services (-100) and Manufacturing (-100) had the largest declines over the year.

**Galesburg Area:** The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 6.0 percent in May 2016 from 5.7 percent in May 2015. Nonfarm payroll employment was (+300) higher than last year. Leisure and Hospitality (+100), Government (+75), Manufacturing (+75), and Other Services (+50) added jobs. All other industry sectors were relatively stable compared to a year ago.