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NEWS RELEASE

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Unemployment Rates Decrease in Twelve Metro Areas

Much of Downstate still suffering job losses

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	July 2016	July 2015	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	5.2%	5.2%	0.0
Carbondale-Marion	6.0%	6.2%	-0.2
Champaign-Urbana	5.1%	5.5%	-0.4
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	5.6%	6.2%	-0.6
Danville	7.1%	7.4%	-0.3
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	5.6%	5.4%	0.2
Decatur	6.7%	7.8%	-1.1
Elgin	5.1%	5.8%	-0.7
Kankakee	6.1%	6.8%	-0.7
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	4.8%	5.3%	-0.5
Peoria	6.3%	6.8%	-0.5
Rockford	6.2%	7.8%	-1.6
Springfield	4.7%	5.3%	-0.6
St. Louis (IL-Section)	5.7%	6.4%	-0.7
Illinois Statewide	5.6%	6.2%	-0.6

** Data subject to revision.*

CHICAGO—Twelve of Illinois’ metropolitan (metro) areas experienced decreases in their over-the-year unemployment rate and eight 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).

“Our job growth rate is still half that of the rest of the country,” said IDES Director Jeff Mays. “Most of our job growth is concentrated primarily in the northeast corner of the state while downstate job growth continues to lag.”

Illinois businesses added jobs in eight metro areas, in which the largest increases were seen in: Elgin (+2.1 percent, +5,300), Rockford (+1.9 percent, +2,900), and Lake-Kenosha (+1.6 percent, +6,800). Total nonfarm jobs in the Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division increased (+1.2 percent or +44,900).

Illinois businesses lost jobs in five metro areas including Carbondale-Marion (-2.5 percent, -1,400), the Quad Cities (-2.3 percent, -4,200), and Decatur (-1.5 percent, -800). The industry sectors recording job growth in the majority of metro areas were:

Retail Trade (nine of 14), Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities (nine of 14), Education and Health Services (eight of 14), Leisure and Hospitality (eight of 14), and Government (eight of 14).

Not seasonally adjusted data compares July 2016 with July 2015. The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 5.6 percent in July 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 July 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. 652**16

Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – July 2016

Metropolitan Area	July 2016*	July 2015**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	91,500	92,800	-1,300
Carbondale-Marion MSA	55,400	56,800	-1,400
Champaign-Urbana MSA	106,500	105,000	500
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,726,800	3,681,900	44,900
Danville MSA	29,200	29,100	100
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	181,100	185,300	-4,200
Decatur MSA	51,000	51,800	-800
Elgin Metro Division	261,200	255,900	5,300
Kankakee MSA	44,300	44,300	-0-
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	421,000	414,200	6,800
Peoria MSA	178,000	179,100	-1,100
Rockford MSA	155,400	152,500	2,900
Springfield MSA	114,600	113,400	1,200
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	233,000	232,500	500
Illinois Statewide	6,029,900	5,986,800	43,100

**Preliminary **Revised*



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

Labor Market Area	Jul-16	Jul-15	Over-the-Year Change
Chicago-Naperville-Elgin IL-IN-WI MSA	5.5%	6.1%	-0.6
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights, IL Metro Division			
Cook County	5.8%	6.4%	-0.6
DuPage County	4.5%	4.9%	-0.4
Grundy County	6.2%	6.9%	-0.7
Kendall County	4.9%	5.5%	-0.6
McHenry County	4.8%	5.4%	-0.6
Will County	5.7%	6.2%	-0.5
Elgin, IL Metro Division			
DeKalb County	5.1%	6.0%	-0.9
Kane County	5.1%	5.7%	-0.6
Lake & Kenosha Counties, IL-WI Metro Division			
Lake County	4.8%	5.3%	-0.5
Cities (with total population of at least 100,000) *			
Aurora City	5.3%	6.0%	-0.7
Chicago City	6.2%	6.9%	-0.7
Elgin City	5.6%	6.0%	-0.4
Joliet City	6.8%	7.6%	-0.8
Naperville City	4.7%	4.9%	-0.2

* Unemployment rates for cities with total population of 25,000 or more can be found at www.ides.illinois.gov/LMI/Pages/Current_Monthly_Unemployment_Rates.aspx

Lake & Kenosha Counties, IL-WI Metro Division

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 4.8 percent in July 2016 decreased from 5.3 percent in July 2015. The last time the July rate was equal to or lower than the current rate was in 2007 when it was 4.8 percent. For the month of July 2016, the estimated number of unemployed people in the labor force was 22,800.

Total nonfarm employment increased +6,800 compared to July 2015. Leisure-Hospitality (+2,100), Transportation-Warehousing-Utilities (+1,900), and Wholesale Trade (+1,500) reported the largest payroll gains. The Retail Trade (-300), Information (-300), and Financial (-200) sectors recorded the largest employment declines compared to one year ago.

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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Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights, IL Metro Division

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 5.6 percent in July 2016 from 6.2 percent in July 2015. The last time the July rate was equal to or lower than the current rate was in 2007 when it was 5.4 percent. For the month of July 2016, the estimated number of unemployed people in the labor force was 217,700.

Total nonfarm employment increased +44,900 compared to July 2015. Leisure-Hospitality (+14,000), Professional-Business Services (+9,000), and Construction (7,100) reported the largest payroll gains. The Manufacturing (-3,100), Wholesale Trade (-1,600), and Financial Activities (-1,500) sectors recorded employment declines compared to one year ago.

Elgin, IL Metro Division

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 5.1 percent in July 2016 from 5.8 percent in July 2015. The last time the July rate was equal to or lower than the current rate was in 2007 when it was 4.5 percent. For the month of July 2016, the estimated number of unemployed people in the labor force was 16,800.

Total nonfarm employment increased +5,300 compared to July 2015. Retail Trade (+1,400), Leisure-Hospitality (+1,300), Construction (+1,200), and Professional-Business Services (+1,000) reported the largest payroll gains. The Wholesale Trade (-700) and Manufacturing (-200) sectors recorded the largest employment declines compared to one year ago.