NEWS RELEASE

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Unemployment Down, Unchanged in Majority of Metro Areas for August

Champaign, Chicago, Springfield Metros Reach Consecutive Months of Year-over-Year Job Growth

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	August 2025*	August 2024**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	4.2%	4.3%	-0.1
Champaign-Urbana	4.7%	4.8%	-0.1
Chicago-Naperville-Schaumburg	4.6%	5.7%	-1.1
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island (IL Section)	5.3%	5.3%	0.0
Decatur	6.2%	5.9%	0.3
Elgin	4.6%	4.7%	-0.1
Kankakee	5.7%	5.6%	0.1
Lake	4.6%	4.7%	-0.1
Peoria	4.9%	4.8%	0.1
Rockford	5.5%	5.6%	-0.1
Springfield	4.5%	4.4%	0.1
St. Louis (IL Section)	4.5%	4.5%	0.0
Illinois Statewide	4.7%	5.3%	-0.6

Preliminary I ** Revised

SPRINGFIELD – Over-the-year, the unemployment rate decreased in 6 metro areas, increased in 4, and remained unchanged in 2 for the year ending August 2025, according to data released today by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (DES). Over-the-year, total nonfarm jobs increased in five metropolitan areas, leading to consecutive months with year-over-year growth: Champaign (7 consecutive months); Chicago (14 consecutive months); Springfield (22 consecutive months).

"Even as harmful federal policies create challenges for businesses and workers, Illinois is staying focused on expanding economic opportunity in every corner of the state by investing in workforce and business development," **said Deputy Governor Andy Manar.** "Our greatest asset is our diverse and resilient workforce, and we're committed to building pathways that support lasting growth and prosperity."

The metro areas which posted the largest over-the-year percentage decreases in total nonfarm jobs were the Kankakee MSA (-2.6%, -1,100), the Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA, IL Section (-1.9%, -1,700), and the Peoria MSA (-1.4%, -2,500). The metro areas which had the largest over-the-year percentage increases in total nonfarm jobs were the Springfield MSA (+1.3%, +1,500), the Champaign-Urbana MSA (+1.1%, +1,200) and the Chicago Metro Division (+0.7%, +26,400). Industries that saw job growth in the majority of the twelve metro areas included: Private Education and Health Services (eleven areas) and Mining and Construction (seven areas).

The metro area with the largest unemployment rate decrease was the Chicago-Naperville-Schaumburg Metro Division (-1.1 points to 4.6%) followed by a tie between the Bloomington MSA, Champaign-Urbana MSA, Elgin Metro Division, Lake County Metro Division, and Rockford MSA (-0.1 point each). The metro area with the largest unemployment rate increase was the Decatur MSA (+0.3 point to 6.2%), followed by a tie between the Kankakee MSA, Peoria MSA, and Springfield MSA (+0.1 point each). The IL sections of the Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA and St. Louis MSA saw no change to their unemployment rates.

Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – August 2025

Metropolitan Area	August 2025*	August 2024**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	93,500	94,200	-700
Champaign-Urbana	113,900	112,700	1,200
Chicago-Naperville-Schaumburg	3,843,000	3,816,600	26,400
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island (IL Section)	86,200	87,900	-1,700
Decatur	47,400	47,600	-200
Elgin	292,400	295,100	-2,700
Kankakee	42,000	43,100	-1,100
Lake	352,000	350,200	1,800
Peoria	172,000	174,500	-2,500
Rockford	146,800	146,400	400
Springfield	113,200	111,700	1,500
St. Louis (IL Section)	241,900	243,100	-1,200
Illinois Statewide	6,156,200	6,166,100	-9,900

Preliminary | **Revised

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

Labor Market Area	Aug 2025	Aug 2024	Over-the-Year Change
St. Louis (IL-Section)	**4.5%**	**4.5%**	**0.0**
Bond County	4.5%	4.8%	-0.3
Calhoun County	5.1%	4.3%	0.8
Clinton County	3.5%	3.5%	0.0
Jersey County	4.0%	4.2%	-0.2
Macoupin County	4.8%	4.4%	0.4
Madison County	4.4%	4.5%	-0.1
Monroe County	3.3%	3.2%	0.1
St. Clair County	4.9%	5.0%	-0.1
Cities			
Alton City	5.5%	5.6%	-0.1
Belleville City	5.3%	5.1%	0.2
Collinsville City	4.1%	4.3%	-0.2
East St. Louis City	7.9%	9.0%	-1.1
Edwardsville City	4.1%	4.2%	-0.1
Granite City	5.0%	5.4%	-0.4
O'Fallon City	4.2%	4.5%	-0.3
Counties			
Greene County	4.0%	3.9%	0.1
Randolph County	4.2%	4.3%	-0.1
Washington County	3.6%	3.6%	0.0
Other Areas			
LWIA 21	4.5%	4.3%	0.2
LWIA 22	4.4%	4.5%	-0.1
LWIA 24	4.5%	4.5%	0.0
Southwestern EDR	4.4%	4.5%	-0.1

Metro East Highlights

The August 2025 unemployment rate for the Illinois Section of the St. Louis Metropolitan Statistical Area was 4.5 percent. The unemployment rate was unchanged from August 2024.

Total nonfarm employment decreased -1,200 compared to August 2024.

The Private Education-Health Services (+500), Retail Trade (+200), Other Services (+200), Financial Activities (+100) and Mining-Construction (+100) sectors had payroll gains over-the-year. The Professional-Business Services (-1,200), Leisure-Hospitality (-500), Government (-300), Manufacturing (-100), Transportation-Warehousing-Utilities (-100) and Information (-100) sectors recorded employment declines over-the-year.

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 2024 unemployment rates and total nonfarm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February and March 2025, as required by the U.S. 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.

Disclaimer: The data contained in the metro area employment numbers press releases are not seasonally adjusted, and therefore are subject to seasonal fluctuations due to factors such as changes in weather, harvests, major holidays and school schedules. Current monthly metro data should be compared to the same month from prior years (January 2025 data compared to January 2024 data) as data for these months have similar seasonal patterns. Comparisons should not be made to data for the immediate previous month or other previous non-matching months, as any changes in the data within these time periods may be the result of seasonal fluctuations and not economic factors.