



NEWS RELEASE

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Unemployment Rate Drops in All Metro Areas for Sixth Consecutive Month

Jobs increase in ten metro areas

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	Nov. 2017	Nov. 2016	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	3.9%	4.6%	-0.7
Carbondale-Marion	4.5%	5.2%	-0.7
Champaign-Urbana	4.2%	4.7%	-0.5
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	4.8%	5.3%	-0.5
Danville	6.0%	6.7%	-0.7
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	3.9%	4.8%	-0.9
Decatur	5.3%	6.0%	-0.7
Elgin	4.4%	4.9%	-0.5
Kankakee	5.0%	5.8%	-0.8
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	3.9%	4.6%	-0.7
Peoria	4.8%	5.9%	-1.1
Rockford	5.1%	6.0%	-0.9
Springfield	4.0%	4.4%	-0.4
St. Louis (IL-Section)	4.5%	5.1%	-0.6
Illinois Statewide	4.7%	5.2%	-0.5

* Data subject to revision.

CHICAGO—Unemployment rates decreased over-the-year in November in all of Illinois’s metropolitan areas, according to preliminary data released today by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES). Data also show nonfarm jobs increased in ten of the metropolitan areas and decreased in four.

“It is encouraging that job growth was reported in ten of the fourteen metro areas,” said IDES Director Jeff Mays. “More than 30,000 of those jobs were created in the Chicago Metro area, so we need continued stronger growth statewide.”

Illinois businesses added jobs in ten metro areas, with the largest increases in: Kankakee (+2.6 percent, +1,200), Lake/Kenosha (+2.4 percent, +9,800), and the Quad Cities (+1.6 percent, +3,000). Total nonfarm jobs in the Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division increased (+0.6 percent or +20,900). Illinois businesses lost jobs in four metro areas, with the largest losses in: Danville (-1.7 percent, -500), Champaign (-0.6 percent, -700), and Decatur (-0.6 percent, -300).

The industry sectors recording job growth in the majority of metro areas included Professional and Business Services, (11 of 14), Mining and Construction (10 of 14), Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (10 of 14), Manufacturing (9 of 14), Education and Health Services (9 of 14), and Leisure and Hospitality (8 of 14).

Not seasonally adjusted data compares November 2017 with November 2016. The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 4.7 percent in November 2017 and stood at 12.2 percent at its peak in this economic cycle in January 2010. Nationally, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 3.9 percent in November 2017 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) – November 2017

Metropolitan Area	November 2017*	November 2016**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	95,500	95,000	500
Carbondale-Marion MSA	59,400	58,800	600
Champaign-Urbana MSA	111,200	111,900	-700
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,776,200	3,755,300	20,900
Danville MSA	28,300	28,800	-500
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	187,200	184,200	3,000
Decatur MSA	51,600	51,900	-300
Elgin Metro Division	259,700	259,200	500
Kankakee MSA	46,900	45,700	1,200
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	418,400	408,600	9,800
Peoria MSA	176,900	176,000	900
Rockford MSA	152,300	152,200	100
Springfield MSA	116,700	117,100	-400
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	240,100	238,700	1,400
Illinois Statewide	6,116,200	6,087,700	28,500

*Preliminary **Revised

(continued)



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

	Nov. 2017	Nov. 2016	Over- the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA			
DeWitt County	4.4%	5.2%	-0.8
McLean County	3.8%	4.6%	-0.8
Peoria MSA			
Marshall County	4.8%	5.8%	-1.0
Peoria County	5.1%	6.2%	-1.1
Stark County	5.2%	6.7%	-1.5
Tazewell County	4.6%	5.7%	-1.1
Woodford County	3.9%	4.8%	-0.9
Ottawa-Streator Area			
Bureau County	4.5%	5.3%	-0.8
LaSalle County	4.9%	5.8%	-0.9
Putnam County	4.3%	4.8%	-0.5
Galesburg Area			
Knox County	4.5%	5.5%	-1.0
Warren County	3.9%	4.6%	-0.7
Cities			
Bloomington City	3.9%	4.5%	-0.6
Galesburg City	4.8%	6.0%	-1.2
Normal City	3.8%	4.6%	-0.8
Pekin City	5.6%	6.3%	-0.7
Peoria City	5.4%	6.4%	-1.0
Counties			
Fulton County	5.7%	6.6%	-0.9
Henderson County	4.2%	5.1%	-0.9
Henry County	4.5%	5.7%	-1.2
Livingston County	4.1%	4.9%	-0.8
Logan County	4.2%	4.8%	-0.6
Mason County	5.4%	6.4%	-1.0

Pontiac Area: The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 4.1 percent in November 2017 from 4.9 percent in November 2016. Nonfarm payroll employment decreased by (-250). Wholesale Trade and Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities each increased by (+25) while Manufacturing (-150) had the largest decline from a year ago.

Note:

Monthly 2016 unemployment rates and total nonfarm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February and March 2017, 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 7,100 positions in November and approximately 83 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 decreased to 3.9 percent in November 2017 when compared to 4.6 percent in November 2016. There were an estimated 3,700 unemployed people in the labor force in November 2017.

Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment increased by (+500). Jobs gains were reported in Construction (+300), Professional & Business Services (+300), Government (+100), Educational & Health Services (+100), Leisure & Hospitality (+100), and Information (+100). Declines were reported in Retail Trade (-500). All other major industry sectors were little changed compared to a year ago.

Peoria MSA: The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 4.8 percent in November 2017 from 5.9 percent in November 2016. There were an estimated 8,600 unemployed people in the labor force in November 2017.

Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment increased by (+900). Job gains were reported in Leisure & Hospitality (+1,800), Manufacturing (+600), Construction (+500), Professional & Business Services (+200), Financial Activities (+100), Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities (+100), Wholesale Trade (+100), and Information (+100). Declines were reported in Educational & Health Services (-1,400), Retail Trade (-700), and Government (-500). All other major industry sectors were stable compared to last year.

Ottawa-Streator Area: The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 4.8 percent in November 2017 from 5.7 percent in November 2016. There were an estimated 3,600 unemployed people in the labor force in November 2017. Over the year, nonfarm payrolls increased by (+25) compared to a year ago. The largest gains occurred in Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities (+150), Leisure & Hospitality (+125), Financial Activities (+100), and Wholesale Trade (+50). Declines were reported in Professional & Business Services (-125) and Retail Trade (-100). All other major industry sectors were stable compared to last year.

Galesburg Area: The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 4.5 percent in November 2017 from 5.5 percent in November 2016. Nonfarm payroll employment increased by (+175). Job gains were led by Leisure & Hospitality (+150) and Retail Trade (+100). Educational & Health Services, Professional & Business Services, Other Services, and Financial Activities each declined by (-50).