

JB Pritzker, Governor

For Immediate Release
Friday, January 25, 2019

Contact: Bob Gough Phone: 217-685-4454 Bob.Gough@illinois.gov

Most Metro Areas Continue Adding Jobs

Unemployment rate up in thirteen metros

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	Dec. 2018	Dec. 2017	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	4.5%	3.6%	0.9
Carbondale-Marion	5.2%	4.3%	0.9
Champaign-Urbana	4.4%	3.7%	0.7
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	3.6%	4.9%	-1.3
Danville	6.4%	5.7%	0.7
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	4.5%	4.1%	0.4
Decatur	6.2%	5.1%	1.1
Elgin	5.7%	4.4%	1.3
Kankakee	5.9%	5.0%	0.9
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	4.9%	4.0%	0.9
Peoria	5.7%	4.8%	0.9
Rockford	6.3%	4.9%	1.4
Springfield	5.0%	3.9%	1.1
St. Louis (IL-Section)	4.9%	4.1%	0.8
Illinois Statewide	4.4%	4.7%	-0.3

** Data subject to revision.*

CHICAGO—Unemployment rates increased over-the-year in December in thirteen of Illinois’s metropolitan areas, and decreased in one, 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 twelve of the metropolitan areas.

“The new administration is committed to growing the economy and creating good jobs in regions across the state,” said **Deputy Governor Dan Hynes**. “Governor Pritzker has taken action in his first weeks in office to support working families and help prepare workers for employment in growing industries. Our top priority is getting the state’s economy back on track and the governor looks forward to continuing to work with business leaders and workers to build a thriving state.”

Illinois businesses added jobs in twelve metro areas, with the largest percentage increases in: Kankakee (+5.0 percent, +2,400), Lake-Kenosha (+2.3 percent, +9,700), Davenport-Moline-Rock Island (+1.2 percent, +2,200), and Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights (+1.1 percent, +41,500). The Springfield MSA saw a decrease over-the-year (-0.4 percent, -400).

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

Not seasonally adjusted data compares December 2018 with December 2017. The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 4.4 percent in December 2018 and stood at 12.2 percent at its peak in this economic cycle in January 2010. Nationally, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 3.7 percent in December 2018 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) – December 2018

Metropolitan Area	December 2018*	December 2017**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	94,100	94,100	0
Carbondale-Marion MSA	57,700	57,600	100
Champaign-Urbana MSA	113,400	112,500	900
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,817,800	3,776,300	41,500
Danville MSA	28,400	28,300	100
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	189,300	187,100	2,200
Decatur MSA	52,000	51,500	500
Elgin Metro Division	263,200	260,900	2,300
Kankakee MSA	50,400	48,000	2,400
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	426,200	416,500	9,700
Peoria MSA	172,600	172,200	400
Rockford MSA	153,900	153,000	900
Springfield MSA	112,500	112,900	-400
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	242,600	241,300	1,300
Illinois Statewide	6,189,400	6,117,400	72,000

**Preliminary **Revised*

###

