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Jobs up in Eight Metro Areas

Unemployment rate up in most metros

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	Feb. 2019	Feb. 2018	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	4.8%	4.3%	0.5
Carbondale-Marion	5.0%	5.0%	0.0
Champaign-Urbana	4.8%	4.4%	0.4
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	4.0%	4.6%	-0.6
Danville	6.3%	6.6%	-0.3
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	4.8%	4.8%	0.0
Decatur	6.2%	5.7%	0.5
Elgin	5.9%	5.3%	0.6
Kankakee	6.7%	6.1%	0.6
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	5.3%	5.0%	0.3
Peoria	6.0%	5.7%	0.3
Rockford	6.4%	5.7%	0.7
Springfield	5.1%	4.6%	0.5
St. Louis (IL-Section)	5.1%	4.8%	0.3
Illinois Statewide	4.7%	4.9%	-0.2

** Data subject to revision.*

CHICAGO—Unemployment rates increased over-the-year in February in ten of Illinois’s metropolitan areas, decreased in two, and was unchanged in two, 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 eight of the metropolitan areas.

Illinois businesses added jobs in eight metro areas, with the largest percentage increases in: Peoria (+2.4%, +4,000), Carbondale-Marion (+2.1%, +1,200), Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights (+1.4%, +51,600), and Lake-Kenosha (+1.4%, +5,600). The metro areas showing an over-the-year decrease in total nonfarm jobs were Danville (-2.2%, -600), Bloomington (-1.4%, -1,300), St. Louis-IL Section (-0.4%, -1,000), and Champaign-Urbana (-0.4%, -400).

The industry sectors recording job growth in the majority of metro areas included Manufacturing (10 of 14), Professional

and Business Services (9 of 14), Mining and Construction (8 of 14), and Government (8 of 14).

Not seasonally adjusted data compares February 2019 with February 2018. The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 4.7 percent in February 2019 and stood at 12.2 percent at its peak in this economic cycle in January 2010. Nationally, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.1 percent in February 2019 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) – February 2019

Metropolitan Area	February 2019*	February 2018**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	91,800	93,100	-1,300
Carbondale-Marion MSA	58,500	57,300	1,200
Champaign-Urbana MSA	110,800	111,200	-400
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,749,100	3,697,500	51,600
Danville MSA	27,000	27,600	-600
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	183,500	182,000	1,500
Decatur MSA	51,100	51,200	-100
Elgin Metro Division	259,100	255,700	3,400
Kankakee MSA	45,000	44,700	300
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	415,100	409,500	5,600
Peoria MSA	172,900	168,900	4,000
Rockford MSA	151,300	150,500	800
Springfield MSA	112,100	112,200	-100
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	236,600	237,600	-1,000
Illinois Statewide	6,055,100	5,994,600	60,500

**Preliminary **Revised*

(continued)



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

Labor Market Area	Feb. 2019	Feb. 2018	Over-the- Year Change
Carbondale – Marion MSA	5.0%	5.0%	0.0%
Jackson County	4.6%	4.5%	0.1%
Williamson County	5.3%	5.4%	-0.1%
Surrounding Counties			
Alexander County	6.8%	8.3%	-1.5%
Franklin County	6.5%	6.4%	0.1%
Johnson County	8.6%	8.6%	0.0%
Massac County	6.7%	6.6%	0.1%
Perry County	6.1%	6.0%	0.1%
Pulaski County	8.7%	8.6%	0.1%
Randolph County	4.6%	4.8%	-0.2%
Union County	8.0%	7.9%	0.1%
Harrisburg Area			
Gallatin County	5.7%	6.0%	-0.3%
Hamilton County	5.1%	5.1%	0.0%
Hardin County	7.9%	8.0%	-0.1%
Pope County	6.5%	6.3%	0.2%
Saline County	6.6%	6.8%	-0.2%
White County	4.8%	4.5%	0.3%
Olney – Mt. Carmel Area			
Edwards County	5.3%	4.9%	0.4%
Lawrence County	6.7%	6.3%	0.4%
Richland County	5.0%	4.9%	0.1%
Wabash County	4.7%	4.6%	0.1%
Wayne County	6.2%	6.0%	0.2%
Other Areas			
LWA 23	5.3%	5.1%	0.2%
LWA 24	5.0%	4.7%	0.3%
LWA 25	5.4%	5.4%	0.0%
LWA 26	6.4%	6.4%	0.0%
Southern EDR	5.8%	5.8%	0.0%

Southern Illinois Highlights

Help Wanted

Area employers advertised for 3,100 positions in February and approximately 74 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 need more workers than the help wanted advertising indicates because some industries, such as Construction, typically do not post advertised job openings.

Carbondale – Marion Area

Non-farm employment increased by +1,200 compared to last February.

Employment gains were posted in Government (+600) and the Private Service Providing sector (+600).

Surrounding Counties

Non-farm employment increased by +400 compared to last February.

Employment gains were posted in Leisure & Hospitality (+300), Educational & Health Services (+100), Government (+100), Construction (+100), and Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities (+100).

Employment in Manufacturing (-300) and Retail Trade (-100) declined.

Harrisburg Area

Non-farm employment increased by +400 over the year.

Employment gains were posted in Government (+100) and Educational & Health Services (+100). Slight increases were reported in Leisure & Hospitality, Natural Resources & Mining, Other Services, Financial Activities, Construction, Manufacturing, Information, and Wholesale Trade.

Employment in Retail Trade and Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities declined slightly.

Olney – Mt. Carmel Area

Non-farm employment decreased (-200) over the year.

Slight employment gains were posted in Leisure & Hospitality, Construction, Financial Activities, Professional & Business Services, and Natural Resources & Mining.

Employment in Government (-100), Educational & Health Services (-100), and Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities (-100) declined.

Note: Monthly 2018 unemployment rates and total nonfarm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February and March 2019, 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.

LWA 23 — Local Workforce Area 23 is composed of Clark, Clay, Coles, Crawford, Cumberland, Douglas, Edgar, Effingham, Fayette, Jasper, Lawrence, Marion, Moultrie, and Richland Counties.

LWA 24 — Local Workforce Area 24 is composed of Clinton, Monroe, Randolph, St. Clair, and Washington Counties.

LWA 25 — Local Workforce Area 25 is composed of Franklin, Jackson, Jefferson, Perry, and Williamson Counties.

LWA 26 — Local Workforce Area 26 is composed of Alexander, Edwards, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Johnson, Massac, Pope, Pulaski, Saline, Union, Wabash, Wayne, and White Counties.