

JB Pritzker, Governor
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Unemployment Rate Down in Twelve Metro Areas, Jobs Up in Thirteen *Record Low Unemployment Rate in 3 Metros, 34 Counties in September*

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	Sep 2019*	Sep 2018**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	3.6%	4.0%	-0.4
Carbondale-Marion	3.7%	4.5%	-0.8
Champaign-Urbana	3.5%	4.1%	-0.6
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	3.2%	3.5%	-0.3
Danville	5.0%	5.6%	-0.6
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	3.9%	3.9%	0.0
Decatur	4.9%	5.1%	-0.2
Elgin	3.7%	4.3%	-0.6
Kankakee	4.2%	4.8%	-0.6
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	3.5%	3.8%	-0.3
Peoria	4.3%	4.6%	-0.3
Rockford	5.3%	4.9%	0.4
Springfield	3.5%	4.0%	-0.5
St. Louis (IL-Section)	3.8%	4.3%	-0.5
Illinois Statewide	3.6%	3.9%	-0.3

**Preliminary **Revised*

SPRINGFIELD – The unemployment rate decreased over-the-year in September in twelve Illinois metropolitan areas, increased in one, and was unchanged 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 shows the number of nonfarm jobs increased in thirteen Illinois metropolitan areas and decreased in one.

“The Pritzker administration remains dedicated to creating positive economic advances. The bipartisan Rebuild Illinois capital bill is essential to making critical investments throughout the state that will create an economy that works for everyone,” said Deputy Governor Dan Hynes.

Illinois businesses added jobs in thirteen metro areas, with the largest percentage increases in: Carbondale-Marion (+2.7%, +1,600), Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI (+2.6%, +10,900) and Champaign-Urbana (+2.4%, +2,700). The Chicago-Naperville-

Arlington Heights metro division was up (+0.7% or +27,600). Total nonfarm jobs were down in the Peoria MSA (-0.8%, -1,500).

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

Not seasonally adjusted data compares September 2019 with September 2018. The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 3.6 percent in September 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 3.3 percent in September 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) – September 2019

Metropolitan Area	Sep 2019*	Sep 2018**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	92,800	92,700	100
Carbondale-Marion MSA	60,300	58,700	1,600
Champaign-Urbana MSA	114,700	112,000	2,700
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,830,100	3,802,500	27,600
Danville MSA	27,700	27,600	100
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	186,900	186,700	200
Decatur MSA	53,000	52,000	1,000
Elgin Metro Division	269,200	265,600	3,600
Kankakee MSA	46,800	46,700	100
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	435,300	424,400	10,900
Peoria MSA	175,400	176,900	-1,500
Rockford MSA	154,500	153,000	1,500
Springfield MSA	116,500	115,200	1,300
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	246,700	242,900	3,800
Illinois Statewide	6,219,700	6,158,900	60,800

**Preliminary **Revised*

(continued)



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

Labor Market Area	Sept. 2019	Sept. 2018	Over-the-Year Change
Chicago-Naperville-Elgin IL-IN-WI MSA	3.4%	3.6%	-0.2
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights, IL Metro Division			
Cook County	3.4%	3.6%	-0.2
DuPage County	2.6%	2.8%	-0.2
Grundy County	3.5%	3.6%	-0.1
Kendall County	2.8%	3.0%	-0.2
McHenry County	2.7%	2.9%	-0.2
Will County	3.2%	3.4%	-0.2
Elgin, IL Metro Division			
DeKalb County	3.6%	4.0%	-0.4
Kane County	3.8%	4.3%	-0.5
Lake & Kenosha Counties, IL-WI Metro Division			
Lake County	3.5%	4.0%	-0.5
Cities (with total population of at least 100,000) *			
Aurora City	3.5%	4.0%	-0.5
Chicago City	3.6%	3.8%	-0.2
Elgin City	3.8%	4.0%	-0.2
Joliet City	3.6%	3.8%	-0.2
Naperville City	2.7%	2.8%	-0.1

* 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

Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights, IL Metro Division

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 3.2 percent in September 2019 from 3.5 percent in September 2018. The September 2019 unemployment rate is the lowest September unemployment rate on record.

Total nonfarm employment increased +27,600 compared to September 2018. Educational-Health Services (+14,800), Leisure-Hospitality (+9,000), and Transportation-Warehousing-Utilities (+8,700) sectors reported the largest payroll gains. The Professional-Business Services (-5,900), Retail Trade (-3,800), Information (-3,300), and Construction (-3,100) sectors recorded employment declines compared to one year ago.

Elgin, IL Metro Division

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 3.7 percent in September 2019 from 4.3 percent in September 2018. The last time the September rate was equal to or lower was in 2006 when it was 3.3 percent.

Total nonfarm employment increased +3,600 compared to September 2018. The Professional-Business Services (+1,300), Educational-Health Services (+900), Construction (+900), and Government (+800) sectors reported the largest payroll gains. The Manufacturing (-600), Leisure-Hospitality (-600), and Retail Trade (-300) sectors recorded the largest employment declines compared to one year ago.

Lake & Kenosha Counties, IL-WI Metro Division

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 3.5 percent in September 2019 from 3.8 percent in September 2018. The last time the September rate was equal to or lower was in 2000 when it was 3.0 percent.

Total nonfarm employment increased +10,900 compared to September 2018. Professional-Business Services (+6,000), Construction (+1,800), Leisure-Hospitality (+1,400), and Retail Trade (+1,100) sectors reported the largest payroll gains. The Financial Activities (-900) and Transportation-Warehousing-Utilities (-500) sectors recorded employment declines compared to one year ago.

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.

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