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NEWS RELEASE

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Payroll Jobs Down in Twelve Metro Areas as Impact of COVID-19 Begins

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	March 2020*	March 2019**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	2.8%	4.4%	-1.6
Carbondale-Marion	3.2%	4.6%	-1.4
Champaign-Urbana	2.6%	4.3%	-1.7
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	5.0%	3.9%	1.1
Danville	3.8%	5.7%	-1.9
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	4.2%	4.8%	-0.6
Decatur	4.4%	5.8%	-1.4
Elgin	3.8%	5.5%	-1.7
Kankakee	4.2%	6.0%	-1.8
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	3.7%	5.2%	-1.5
Peoria	3.9%	5.5%	-1.6
Rockford	4.6%	6.0%	-1.4
Springfield	3.1%	4.7%	-1.6
St. Louis (IL-Section)	3.0%	4.6%	-1.6
Illinois Statewide	4.4%	4.4%	0.0

* Preliminary | ** Revised

SPRINGFIELD –The number of nonfarm jobs decreased over-the-year in March in twelve Illinois 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 shows the unemployment rate temporarily decreased over the year due to the shrinking of the labor force as businesses began to close and workers transitioned due to COVID-19. The unemployment rate and labor force fell in thirteen metropolitan areas.

“From day one, this administration has pursued policies that support our working families and help lift up every Illinoisan,” said Deputy Governor Dan Hynes. “Keeping our communities safe during the COVID-19 outbreak remains a top priority and we will continue to champion worker protections, expand access to our benefits systems, and support small businesses navigating this challenging time.”

Data shows the number of nonfarm jobs decreased in twelve Illinois metropolitan areas and increased in two. Total nonfarm jobs were down in Rockford (-4.0%, -6,000), Peoria (-2.5%, -4,300), and Lake-Kenosha (-1.7%, -7,200). Jobs were also down in Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights (-0.2%, -8,800). Illinois businesses added jobs in Kankakee (+2.0%, +900) and Champaign-Urbana (+1.3%, +1,500). The industry sectors recording job growth in the majority of metro areas included Education and Health Services (10 of 14).

Not seasonally adjusted data compares March 2020 with March 2019. The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 4.4 percent in March 2020 and stood at 12.2 percent at its peak in this economic cycle in January 2010. Nationally, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.5 percent in March 2020 and 10.6 percent in January 2010, at its peak. The unemployment rate identifies those individuals who are out of work and seeking employment.

Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – March 2020

Metropolitan Area	March 2020*	March 2019**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	91,700	92,200	-500
Carbondale-Marion MSA	57,700	58,600	-900
Champaign-Urbana MSA	116,600	115,100	1,500
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,733,500	3,742,300	-8,800
Danville MSA	26,800	27,200	-400
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	184,200	185,000	-800
Decatur MSA	49,400	50,200	-800
Elgin Metro Division	256,800	258,400	-1,600
Kankakee MSA	46,100	45,200	900
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	406,500	413,700	-7,200
Peoria MSA	165,000	169,300	-4,300
Rockford MSA	144,200	150,200	-6,000
Springfield MSA	108,100	109,400	-1,300
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	237,900	238,600	-700
Illinois Statewide	6,008,900	6,048,700	-39,800

*Preliminary | **Revised

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

Labor Market Area	Mar 2020	Mar 2019	Over the Year Change
Carbondale-Marion MSA	3.2 %	4.6 %	-1.4
Jackson County	2.7 %	4.2 %	-1.5
Williamson County	3.5 %	5.0 %	-1.5
Surrounding Counties			
Alexander County	5.2 %	6.4 %	-1.2
Franklin County	4.3 %	6.2 %	-1.9
Johnson County	4.7 %	7.5 %	-2.8
Massac County	4.1 %	6.1 %	-2.0
Perry County	3.6 %	5.8 %	-2.2
Pulaski County	6.2 %	8.2 %	-2.0
Randolph County	2.6 %	4.1 %	-1.5
Union County	5.0 %	7.2 %	-2.2
Harrisburg Area			
Gallatin County	4.3 %	5.4 %	-1.1
Hamilton County	3.1 %	4.9 %	-1.8
Hardin County	5.2 %	7.5 %	-2.3
Pope County	4.3 %	6.2 %	-1.9
Saline County	4.6 %	5.9 %	-1.3
White County	3.1 %	4.5 %	-1.4
Olney - Mt. Carmel Area			
Edwards County	3.9 %	4.9 %	-1.0
Lawrence County	3.8 %	5.7 %	-1.9
Richland County	3.2 %	4.9 %	-1.7
Wabash County	3.0 %	4.5 %	-1.5
Wayne County	3.6 %	5.6 %	-2.0
Other Areas			
LWIA 23	3.1 %	4.6 %	-1.5
LWIA 24	2.9 %	4.5 %	-1.6
LWIA 25	3.4 %	5.1 %	-1.7
LWIA 26	4.1 %	5.9 %	-1.8
Southern EDR	3.7 %	5.4 %	-1.7

Southern Illinois Highlights

Carbondale – Marion Area

The March 2020 unemployment rate decreased to 3.2 percent, a decline of (-1.4) from the March 2019 rate of 4.6 percent. This is the lowest March unemployment rate on record for the Carbondale-Marion MSA. Non-farm employment in March 2020 decreased by -900 compared to last March.

Employment losses were posted in Government (-100).

Surrounding Counties

Non-farm employment increased by +150 compared to last March.

Employment gains were posted in Leisure and Hospitality (+150), Construction (+100), Educational and Health Services (+75), and Manufacturing (+50).

March non-farm employment posted declines in Professional and Business Services (-100), Trade, Transportation and Utilities (-50), Natural Resources and Mining (-25) and Financial Activities (-25) compared to March 2019. No payroll changes were reported in Information, Other Services, and Government.

Harrisburg Area

Non-farm employment decreased by (-275) over the year.

Employment gains were posted in Educational and Health Services (+150), Professional & Business Services (+50), and Leisure and Hospitality (+25).

Employment declined in Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (-200), Construction (-175), Other Services (-50), and Natural Resources and Mining (-25).

Payrolls were unchanged in Manufacturing, Information, Financial Activities, and Government.

Olney – Mt. Carmel Area

Non-farm employment increased by +150 over the year.

Employment gains were posted in Government (+150), Educational and Health Services (+125), and Trade, Transportation and Utilities (+75). Slight employment gains were posted in Natural Resources and Mining, Information, Professional and Business Services, and Leisure and Hospitality.

Employment declined in Manufacturing (-150) with slight declines in and Construction, Financial Activities and Other Services.

Note: Monthly 2019 unemployment rates and total nonfarm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February and March 2020, 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.