



JB Pritzker, Governor
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NEWS RELEASE

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Unemployment Rates Up, Jobs Down in All Fourteen Metro Areas in October

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	October 2020*	October 2019**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	4.1%	3.4%	0.7
Carbondale-Marion	4.6%	3.7%	0.9
Champaign-Urbana	4.1%	3.4%	0.7
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	7.8%	3.2%	4.6
Danville	5.6%	4.7%	0.9
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	4.6%	3.8%	0.8
Decatur	6.7%	4.9%	1.8
Elgin	5.3%	3.7%	1.6
Kankakee	5.2%	4.2%	1.0
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	5.1%	3.5%	1.6
Peoria	5.5%	4.2%	1.3
Rockford	6.4%	5.0%	1.4
Springfield	5.0%	3.5%	1.5
St. Louis (IL-Section)	4.7%	3.7%	1.0
Illinois Statewide	6.5%	3.5%	3.0

* Preliminary | ** Revised

SPRINGFIELD – The number of nonfarm jobs decreased over-the-year in all fourteen Illinois metropolitan areas in October, according to preliminary data released today by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES). The unemployment rate increased over-the-year in all metro areas. The official, BLS approved sub-state unemployment rate and nonfarm jobs series begins in 1990. Data reported prior to 1990 are not directly comparable due to updates in methodology.

“As the state works to mitigate the spread of Covid-19 and protect residents from this deadly virus, IDES will continue to provide services to claimants, job-seekers, and employers as fast as possible,” said Deputy Governor Dan Hynes. “We also need the federal government to take action.

Every metro area and its claimants will be impacted by the expiration of the federal CARES Act unemployment programs in just a few short weeks and IDES and the Pritzker administration will continue to call on the federal government to provide claimant stability through the end of this pandemic.”

The number of nonfarm jobs decreased in all fourteen Illinois metropolitan areas. Total nonfarm jobs were down in Peoria (-9.8%, -16,800), Elgin (-9.1%, -24,200) and Rockford (-8.2%, -12,400). In Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights, jobs were down 7.2% (-275,700). No industry sector saw job gains in a majority of metro areas.

Not seasonally adjusted data compares October 2020 with October 2019. The not seasonally adjusted Illinois unemployment rate was 6.5 percent in October 2020. Nationally, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.6 percent in October 2020. The unemployment rate identifies those individuals who are out of work and seeking employment.

Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – October 2020

Metropolitan Area	October 2020*	October 2019**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	88,200	94,100	-5,900
Carbondale-Marion MSA	56,600	58,800	-2,200
Champaign-Urbana MSA	115,300	118,700	-3,400
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,560,500	3,836,200	-275,700
Danville MSA	26,400	27,400	-1,000
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	177,600	189,000	-11,400
Decatur MSA	46,600	50,600	-4,000
Elgin Metro Division	240,400	264,600	-24,200
Kankakee MSA	44,900	46,900	-2,000
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	394,200	423,100	-28,900
Peoria MSA	154,800	171,600	-16,800
Rockford MSA	138,600	151,000	-12,400
Springfield MSA	103,900	110,400	-6,500
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	233,900	244,200	-10,300
Illinois Statewide	5,766,900	6,178,900	-412,000

*Preliminary | **Revised

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

Labor Market Area	Oct 2020	Oct 2019	Over the Year Change
Rockford MSA			
Boone County	5.3 %	4.5 %	0.8
Winnebago County	6.6 %	5.1 %	1.5
Cities			
Belvidere City	6.1 %	5.3 %	0.8
Freeport City	6.0 %	4.7 %	1.3
Rockford City	8.4 %	6.1 %	2.3
Counties			
Bureau County	3.9 %	3.9 %	0.0
Carroll County	4.2 %	3.4 %	0.8
DeKalb County	5.0 %	3.7 %	1.3
Henry County	4.1 %	4.2 %	-0.1
Jo Daviess County	4.0 %	3.1 %	0.9
Kane County	5.4 %	3.7 %	1.7
Lee County	3.8 %	3.2 %	0.6
McHenry County	5.6 %	2.8 %	2.8
Ogle County	4.4 %	4.1 %	0.3
Stephenson County	4.5 %	3.8 %	0.7
Whiteside County	4.4 %	3.8 %	0.6

Rockford MSA

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 6.4 percent in October 2020 from 5.0 percent in October 2019. The last time the October rate was equal to or higher was in 2015 when it was 6.8 percent.

Total nonfarm employment decreased -12,400 compared to October 2019. Manufacturing (-3,800), Professional-Business Services (-2,100), Educational-Health Services (-1,900), Leisure-Hospitality (-1,800) and Government (-1,100) sectors recorded the largest employment declines over-the-year. Retail Trade (+200) had payroll gains from a year ago.

Ogle County

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 4.4 percent in October 2020 from 4.1 percent in October 2019. The last time the October rate was equal to or higher was in 2018 when it was 4.5 percent.

Total nonfarm employment decreased -750 over the year. The Manufacturing (-250), Leisure-Hospitality (-200), Financial Activities (-125), Government (-100), and Educational-Health Services (-75) sectors recorded the largest employment declines compared to one year ago. Construction (+75) had payroll gains from a year ago.

Stephenson County

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 4.5 percent in October 2020 from 3.8 percent in October 2019. The last time the October rate was equal to or higher was in 2016 when it was 5.5 percent.

Total nonfarm employment decreased -350 over the year. The Leisure-Hospitality (-250), Manufacturing (-125), Other Services (-75) and Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (-75) sectors recorded the largest employment declines compared to one year ago. Construction (+125) and Professional-Business Services (+50) had payroll gains from a year ago.

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. The official monthly unemployment rate series for metro areas, counties and most cities begins in 1990. The official monthly nonfarm jobs series for metro areas begins in 1990 and for non-metropolitan counties it begins in 1999.

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