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NEWS RELEASE

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Unemployment Rates Down, Jobs Up in Most Metro Areas, Unchanged in One Compared to July 2020

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	July 2021*	July 2020**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	4.9%	9.2%	-4.3
Carbondale-Marion	5.6%	10.7%	-5.1
Champaign-Urbana	5.1%	9.1%	-4.0
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	8.0%	13.3%	-5.3
Danville	6.5%	11.4%	-4.9
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	5.0%	9.8%	-4.8
Decatur	7.5%	13.7%	-6.2
Elgin	5.6%	12.2%	-6.6
Kankakee	6.1%	11.4%	-5.3
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	4.9%	10.2%	-5.3
Peoria	5.8%	11.9%	-6.1
Rockford	8.7%	16.0%	-7.3
Springfield	5.4%	10.8%	-5.4
St. Louis (IL-Section)	5.5%	11.0%	-5.5
Illinois Statewide	7.0%	12.4%	-5.4

* Preliminary | ** Revised

SPRINGFIELD – The number of nonfarm jobs increased over-the-year in thirteen of the fourteen Illinois metropolitan areas in July 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 decreased over-the-year in all metro areas.

“Today’s data is reflective that reopening and recovery is touching every corner of the state,” said **Deputy Governor Andy Manar**. “With the expiration of federal unemployment programs in a week and a half, IDES is focused on matching jobseekers with employers to continue to assist with statewide economic recovery.”

The number of nonfarm jobs increased in thirteen Illinois metropolitan area and was unchanged in one; the Rockford MSA saw no change in total nonfarm jobs. The metro areas which had the largest over-the-year percentage increases in total nonfarm jobs were the Davenport-Moline-Rock Island IA-IL MSA (+4.4%, +7,500), the Chicago Metro Division (+4.3%, +148,800) and the Peoria MSA (+4.3%, +6,800). The industries that saw job growth in a majority of metro areas included: Leisure & Hospitality (fourteen areas);

Transportation, Warehousing & Public Utilities, Other Services and Government (eleven areas each); Mining & Construction, Manufacturing, Wholesale Trade, Professional & Business Services and Educational & Health Services (nine areas each).

Over-the-year, the unemployment rate decreased in all 14 metropolitan areas; the metro areas with the largest unemployment rate decreases were the Rockford MSA (-7.3 points to 8.7%), the Elgin Metro Division (-6.6 points to 5.6%) and the Decatur MSA (-6.2 points to 7.5%). The Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metropolitan Division unemployment rate fell -5.3 points to 8.0%.

Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – July 2021

Metropolitan Area	July 2021*	July 2020**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	85,800	85,000	800
Carbondale-Marion MSA	55,200	53,500	1,700
Champaign-Urbana MSA	109,900	105,900	4,000
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,597,200	3,448,400	148,800
Danville MSA	26,600	25,800	800
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	177,700	170,200	7,500
Decatur MSA	47,800	46,100	1,700
Elgin Metro Division	241,200	233,100	8,100
Kankakee MSA	43,200	42,200	1,000
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	410,500	394,100	16,400
Peoria MSA	165,500	158,700	6,800
Rockford MSA	136,700	136,700	0
Springfield MSA	103,800	100,000	3,800
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	227,600	224,500	3,100
Illinois Statewide	5,827,700	5,578,100	249,600

*Preliminary | **Revised

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

Labor Market Area	Jul 2021	Jul 2020	Over the Year Change
Rockford MSA			
Boone County	8.8 %	16.0 %	-7.2
Winnebago County	8.7 %	16.1 %	-7.4
Cities			
Belvidere City	11.2 %	19.3 %	-8.1
Freeport City	6.9 %	12.3 %	-5.4
Rockford City	10.5 %	18.8 %	-8.3
Counties			
Bureau County	4.6 %	9.3 %	-4.7
Carroll County	4.0 %	7.9 %	-3.9
DeKalb County	5.6 %	11.7 %	-6.1
Henry County	4.5 %	10.0 %	-5.5
Jo Daviess County	3.7 %	9.8 %	-6.1
Kane County	5.6 %	12.3 %	-6.7
Lee County	4.5 %	9.0 %	-4.5
McHenry County	5.9 %	10.3 %	-4.4
Ogle County	5.5 %	11.4 %	-5.9
Stephenson County	5.2 %	9.7 %	-4.5
Whiteside County	5.0 %	10.4 %	-5.4

Rockford MSA

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 8.7 percent in July 2021 from 16.0 percent in July 2020. The last time the July rate was equal to or lower was in 2019 when it was 6.3 percent.

Total nonfarm employment in July 2021 was unchanged from its July 2020 level of 136,700.

Manufacturing (-2,500), Professional-Business Services (-500), and Retail Trade (-400) sectors recorded the largest employment declines over the year. The largest payroll gains over the year were in Leisure-Hospitality (+1,700), Transportation-Warehousing-Utilities (+600), and Construction (+500).

Ogle County

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 5.5 percent in July 2021 from 11.4 percent in July 2020. The last time the July rate was equal to or lower was in 2019 when it was 4.5 percent.

Total nonfarm employment increased +925 over the year.

Construction (+700) and Leisure-Hospitality (+150) had the largest payroll gains over the year.

Stephenson County

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 5.2 percent in July 2021 from 9.7 percent in July 2020. The last time the July rate was equal to or lower was in 2019 when it was 4.1 percent.

Total nonfarm employment increased +400 over the year. Leisure-Hospitality (+100), Government (+100), and Construction (+100) had the largest payroll gains over the year.

Note: Monthly 2020 unemployment rates and total nonfarm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February and March 2021, 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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