



NEWS RELEASE

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Jobs Up in Most Metro Areas in July

Unemployment Rates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Metropolitan Area	July 2023*	July 2022**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	4.6%	3.7%	0.9
Carbondale-Marion	5.1%	4.2%	0.9
Champaign-Urbana	5.0%	4.0%	1.0
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	4.0%	5.1%	-1.1
Danville	6.6%	4.9%	1.7
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	4.4%	3.7%	0.7
Decatur	6.9%	5.5%	1.4
Elgin	5.3%	4.1%	1.2
Kankakee	6.1%	4.7%	1.4
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	4.9%	3.7%	1.2
Peoria	5.5%	4.3%	1.2
Rockford	6.8%	5.2%	1.6
Springfield	4.8%	4.0%	0.8
St. Louis (IL-Section)	4.9%	3.9%	1.0
Illinois Statewide	4.5%	4.7%	-0.2

* Preliminary | ** Revised

SPRINGFIELD – Over-the-year, total nonfarm jobs increased in thirteen metropolitan areas and decreased in one for the year ending July 2023, according to data released today by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (DES). Over-the-year, the unemployment rate increased in thirteen metropolitan areas and decreased in one.

“We’re encouraged to see continued and consecutive job growth across the state, giving Illinois workers the ability to take advantage of expanded labor market opportunities,” said Deputy Governor Andy Manar. “IDES continues to collaborate with its workforce partners, providing vital resources to bridge jobseekers with employers.”

The metro areas which had the largest over-the-year percentage increases in total nonfarm jobs were the Danville MSA (+2.6%, +700), the Elgin Metro Division (+2.4%, +6,200), the Champaign-Urbana MSA (+2.1%, +2,400), and the Springfield MSA (+2.1%, +2,300). Total nonfarm jobs in the Chicago-Metro Division were up +1.3% or +50,900. Total nonfarm jobs were down slightly in the Kankakee MSA (-0.5%, -200). Industries that saw job growth in a majority of metro areas included: Leisure and Hospitality

(twelve areas); Education and Health Services and Government (eleven areas each).

The metro areas with the largest unemployment rate increases were the Danville MSA (+1.7 points to 6.6%), the Rockford MSA (+1.6 points to 6.8%), the Decatur MSA (+1.4 points to 6.9%), and the Kankakee MSA (+1.4 points to 6.1%). The only metro area with an unemployment rate decrease was the Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metropolitan Division (-1.1 percentage points to 4.0%). The Chicago Metro Division unemployment rate tied 2019 for a record low in the month of July.

Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Metropolitan Area	July 2023*	July 2022**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	96,100	94,600	1,500
Carbondale-Marion MSA	57,500	56,900	600
Champaign-Urbana MSA	116,000	113,600	2,400
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,850,500	3,799,600	50,900
Danville MSA	27,600	26,900	700
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	184,700	182,900	1,800
Decatur MSA	48,300	47,900	400
Elgin Metro Division	266,000	259,800	6,200
Kankakee MSA	42,700	42,900	-200
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	426,800	423,600	3,200
Peoria MSA	172,100	169,100	3,000
Rockford MSA	147,100	147,000	100
Springfield MSA	109,500	107,200	2,300
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	237,200	236,000	1,200
Illinois Statewide	6,171,600	6,073,000	98,600

* Preliminary | ** Revised

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

Labor Market Area	Jul 2023	Jul 2022	Over the Year Change
Rockford MSA			
Boone County	7.2 %	5.4 %	1.8
Winnebago County	6.7 %	5.2 %	1.5
Cities			
Belvidere City	8.6 %	6.5 %	2.1
Freeport City	6.4 %	4.9 %	1.5
Rockford City	8.0 %	6.1 %	1.9
Counties			
Bureau County	6.7 %	4.0 %	2.7
Carroll County	4.5 %	3.5 %	1.0
DeKalb County	5.2 %	4.1 %	1.1
Henry County	5.2 %	4.0 %	1.2
Jo Daviess County	4.1 %	3.1 %	1.0
Kane County	5.4 %	4.2 %	1.2
Lee County	4.9 %	3.9 %	1.0
McHenry County	3.4 %	4.3 %	-0.9
Ogle County	5.6 %	4.2 %	1.4
Stephenson County	5.3 %	4.1 %	1.2
Whiteside County	5.3 %	4.0 %	1.3

Rockford MSA

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 6.8 percent in July 2023 from 5.2 percent in July 2022.

Over the year, nonfarm payrolls were essentially unchanged.

The Leisure-Hospitality (+700), Educational-Health Services (+600), Other Services (+300) and Retail Trade (+200) sectors had the largest payroll gains over the year. The Manufacturing (-1,200), Transportation-Warehousing-Utilities (-300) and Construction (-200) sectors recorded employment declines over the year.

Ogle County

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 5.6 percent in July 2023 from 4.2 percent in July 2022.

Total nonfarm employment increased by +225 over the year.

Construction (+125), Government (+100) and Educational-Health Services (+75) had the largest payroll gains over the year. The Trade-Transportation-Utilities (-200) sector recorded the largest employment declines over the year.

Stephenson County

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 5.3 percent in July 2023 from 4.1 percent in July 2022.

Total nonfarm employment decreased by -125 over the year.

Manufacturing (+75) and Other Services (+50) had the largest payroll gains over the year. Financial Activities (-150), Educational-Health Services (-75) and Professional-Business Services (-50) sectors recorded the largest employment declines over the year.

Note: Monthly 2022 unemployment rates and total nonfarm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February and March 2023, 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.

Disclaimer: The data contained in the metro area employment numbers press releases are not seasonally adjusted, and therefore are subject to seasonal fluctuations due to factors such as changes in weather, harvests, major holidays, and school schedules. Current monthly metro data should be compared to the same month from prior years (February 2023 data compared to February 2022 data) as data for these months have similar seasonal patterns. Comparisons should not be made to data for the immediate previous month or other previous non-matching months, as any changes in the data within these time periods may be the result of seasonal fluctuations and not economic factors.

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