



NEWS RELEASE

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Jobs Up in Majority of Metro Areas in May

Unemployment Rates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Metropolitan Area	May 2024*	May 2023**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	4.2%	3.6%	0.6
Carbondale-Marion	4.6%	4.2%	0.4
Champaign-Urbana	4.2%	3.8%	0.4
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	4.8%	3.7%	1.1
Danville	5.6%	5.5%	0.1
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	4.4%	4.2%	0.2
Decatur	5.8%	5.8%	0.0
Elgin	4.9%	4.5%	0.4
Kankakee	5.6%	5.3%	0.3
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	4.5%	4.3%	0.2
Peoria	5.0%	4.6%	0.4
Rockford	5.6%	6.2%	-0.6
Springfield	4.2%	3.9%	0.3
St. Louis (IL-Section)	4.3%	3.9%	0.4
Illinois Statewide	4.8%	4.0%	0.8

* Preliminary | ** Revised

SPRINGFIELD – Over-the-year, total nonfarm jobs increased in ten metropolitan areas and decreased in four for the year ending May 2024, 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 twelve metropolitan areas, decreased in one and was unchanged in one.

“Steady, consistent job growth continues to benefit workers and employers in every corner of the state,” said **Deputy Governor Andy Manar**. “Investing in a strong, viable workforce ecosystem which remains advantageous to our diverse labor force continues to be a top priority.”

The metro areas which had the largest over-the-year percentage increases in total nonfarm jobs were the Champaign-Urbana MSA (+2.5%, +3,100), the Bloomington MSA (+1.7%, +1,700), and the Elgin Metro (+1.7%, +4,500). In the Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metropolitan Division, total nonfarm jobs were up +0.1% or +4,900. The metro areas which had the largest over-the-year decreases in total nonfarm jobs were the Springfield MSA (-2.0%, -2,200), the Davenport-Moline-Rock Island IA-IL MSA (-1.5%, -2,700) and the Decatur MSA (-1.0%, -500). Industries that saw job growth in a

majority of metro areas included: Government (twelve areas); Private Education and Health Services and Other Services (eleven areas each); Wholesale Trade (ten areas); and Manufacturing (eight areas).

The metro areas with the largest unemployment rate increases were the Chicago Metro Division (+1.1 points to 4.8%), and the Bloomington MSA (+0.6 point to 4.2%). The unemployment rate decreased in the Rockford MSA (-0.6 point to 5.6%) and was unchanged in the Decatur MSA.

Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – May 2024

Metropolitan Area	May 2024*	May 2023**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	99,700	98,000	1,700
Carbondale-Marion MSA	58,100	57,400	700
Champaign-Urbana MSA	125,800	122,700	3,100
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,822,200	3,817,300	4,900
Danville MSA	27,000	26,900	100
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	181,400	184,100	-2,700
Decatur MSA	47,700	48,200	-500
Elgin Metro Division	268,900	264,400	4,500
Kankakee MSA	43,500	43,000	500
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	423,300	420,800	2,500
Peoria MSA	171,500	171,600	-100
Rockford MSA	146,000	145,700	300
Springfield MSA	108,000	110,200	-2,200
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	244,500	242,600	1,900
Illinois Statewide	6,173,600	6,127,100	46,500

*Preliminary | **Revised

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

Labor Market Area	May 2024	May 2023	Over-the-Year Change
Rockford MSA			
Boone County	5.6 %	6.8 %	-1.2
Winnebago County	5.6 %	6.1 %	-0.5
Cities			
Belvidere City	6.5 %	8.0 %	-1.5
Freeport City	5.9 %	5.8 %	0.1
Rockford City	6.6 %	7.1 %	-0.5
Counties			
Bureau County	5.9 %	4.7 %	1.2
Carroll County	4.5 %	4.0 %	0.5
DeKalb County	4.6 %	4.3 %	0.3
Henry County	5.3 %	4.8 %	0.5
Jo Daviess County	4.1 %	3.4 %	0.7
Kane County	5.0 %	4.6 %	0.4
Lee County	4.5 %	4.2 %	0.3
McHenry County	4.1 %	3.2 %	0.9
Ogle County	5.1 %	5.1 %	0.0
Stephenson County	4.8 %	4.7 %	0.1
Whiteside County	4.7 %	4.3 %	0.4

Rockford MSA

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 5.6 percent in May 2024 from 6.2 percent in May 2023.

Total nonfarm employment increased by +300 over-the-year.

The Government (+700), Mining-Construction (+500) and Leisure-Hospitality (+200) sectors had the largest payroll gains over-the-year. The Manufacturing (-1,000), Professional-Business Services (-300), Transportation-Warehousing-Utilities (-200) and Financial Activities (-100) sectors recorded employment declines over-the-year.

Ogle County

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 5.1 percent in May 2024 was unchanged from May 2023.

Total nonfarm employment increased by +325 over-the-year.

Government (+200), Construction (+100) and Other Services (+50) had the largest payroll gains over-the-year. The Trade-Transportation-Utilities (-100) and Professional-Business Services (-25) sectors recorded employment declines over-the-year.

Stephenson County

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 4.8 percent in May 2024 from 4.7 percent in May 2023.

Total nonfarm employment increased by +275 over-the-year.

Government (+200), Construction (+25), Other Services (+25) and Private Education-Health Services (+25) had payroll gains over-the-year. The Financial Activities (-25) and Trade-Transportation-Utilities (-25) sectors recorded employment declines over-the-year.

Note: Monthly 2023 unemployment rates and total nonfarm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February and March 2024, 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.

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 (January 2024 data compared to January 2023 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.