



NEWS RELEASE

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Jobs Up in Majority of Metro Areas in October

Unemployment Rates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Metropolitan Area	October 2024*	October 2023**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	4.3%	3.9%	0.4
Carbondale-Marion	4.3%	4.3%	0.0
Champaign-Urbana	3.9%	4.1%	-0.2
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	5.5%	4.3%	1.2
Danville	6.2%	5.8%	0.4
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	5.4%	4.7%	0.7
Decatur	5.8%	6.1%	-0.3
Elgin	4.7%	4.7%	0.0
Kankakee	5.4%	5.7%	-0.3
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	4.2%	4.4%	-0.2
Peoria	5.1%	4.8%	0.3
Rockford	5.4%	6.1%	-0.7
Springfield	4.3%	4.2%	0.1
St. Louis (IL-Section)	4.2%	4.3%	-0.1
Illinois Statewide	5.2%	4.5%	0.7

* Preliminary | ** Revised

SPRINGFIELD – Over-the-year, total nonfarm jobs increased in eight metropolitan areas and decreased in six for the year ending October 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 decreased in six areas, increased in six, and was unchanged in two.

“Illinois continues to benefit from job growth and positive economic trends in every corner of the state,” said **Deputy Governor Andy Manar**. “As payroll expansion continues to motivate eager jobseekers, IDES and its local area workforce partners remain focused on providing the necessary services and tools to get workers matched with employers.”

The metro areas which had the largest over-the-year percentage increases in total nonfarm jobs were the Springfield MSA (+1.9%, +2,000), the Champaign-Urbana MSA (+1.7%, +2,100) and the Carbondale-Marion MSA (+1.3%, +800). The metro areas which posted the largest over-the-year decreases in total nonfarm jobs were the Danville MSA (-1.8%, -500) and the Peoria MSA (-1.1%, -

1,900). Total nonfarm jobs in the Chicago Metro Division were nearly unchanged (0.0%, -600). Industries that saw job growth in most of the metro areas included: Government (twelve areas); Private Education and Health Services (eleven areas); Other Services (nine areas); and Mining and Construction (eight areas).

The metro areas with the largest unemployment rate decreases were the Rockford MSA (-0.7 percentage point to 5.4%), the Decatur MSA (-0.3 percentage point to 5.8%) and the Kankakee MSA (-0.3 percentage point to 5.4%). The metro areas with the largest unemployment rate increases were the Chicago Metro (+1.2 points to 5.5%), the Davenport-Moline-Rock Island IA-IL MSA (+0.7 point to 5.4%), the Danville MSA (+0.4 point to 6.2%), and the Bloomington MSA (+0.4 point to 4.3%). There was no unemployment rate change in the Carbondale-Marion MSA and Elgin Metropolitan Division.

Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – October 2024

Metropolitan Area	October 2024*	October 2023**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	101,100	101,400	-300
Carbondale-Marion MSA	60,200	59,400	800
Champaign-Urbana MSA	128,900	126,800	2,100
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,840,400	3,841,000	-600
Danville MSA	26,700	27,200	-500
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	182,500	184,300	-1,800
Decatur MSA	48,500	48,000	500
Elgin Metro Division	267,500	267,300	200
Kankakee MSA	43,800	43,700	100
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	424,300	425,300	-1,000
Peoria MSA	170,800	172,700	-1,900
Rockford MSA	147,700	146,500	1,200
Springfield MSA	110,000	108,000	2,000
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	245,000	243,500	1,500
Illinois Statewide	6,205,100	6,165,200	39,900

*Preliminary | **Revised

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

Labor Market Area	Oct 2024	Oct 2023	Over-the-Year Change
Rockford MSA			
Boone County	5.2 %	6.2 %	-1.0
Winnebago County	5.4 %	6.1 %	-0.7
Cities			
Belvidere City	5.8 %	7.6 %	-1.8
Freeport City	5.9 %	5.9 %	0.0
Rockford City	6.4 %	7.2 %	-0.8
Counties			
Bureau County	5.2 %	5.6 %	-0.4
Carroll County	4.4 %	4.1 %	0.3
DeKalb County	4.5 %	4.6 %	-0.1
Henry County	5.7 %	5.2 %	0.5
Jo Daviess County	3.9 %	3.6 %	0.3
Kane County	4.7 %	4.7 %	0.0
Lee County	4.1 %	4.2 %	-0.1
McHenry County	4.7 %	3.6 %	1.1
Ogle County	4.7 %	4.8 %	-0.1
Stephenson County	4.7 %	4.9 %	-0.2
Whiteside County	4.7 %	4.6 %	0.1

Rockford MSA

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 5.4 percent in October 2024 from 6.1 percent in October 2023.

Total nonfarm employment increased by +1,200 over-the-year.

The Leisure-Hospitality (+900), Mining-Construction (+400), Government (+300) and Private Education-Health Services (+200) sectors had payroll gains over-the-year. The Retail Trade (-200), Manufacturing (-100), Transportation-Warehousing-Utilities (-100), Financial Activities (-100) and Information (-100) sectors recorded employment declines over-the-year.

Ogle County

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 4.7 percent in October 2024 from 4.8 percent in October 2023.

Total nonfarm employment was unchanged over-the-year.

Government (+75), Other Services (+25) and Leisure-Hospitality (+25) had payroll gains over-the-year. The Trade-Transportation-Utilities (-25), Manufacturing (-25), Information (-25), Construction (-25) and Financial Activities (-25) sectors recorded employment declines over-the-year.

Stephenson County

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 4.7 percent in October 2024 from 4.9 percent in October 2023.

Total nonfarm employment increased by +250 over-the-year.

The Government (+75), Professional-Business Services (+75), Construction (+50) and Private Education-Health Services (+25) sectors had payroll gains over-the-year. The Financial Activities (-25) sector recorded the only employment decline 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.