



# NEWS RELEASE

JB Pritzker, Governor  
Raymond P. Marchiori, Acting Director

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CONTACT:  
Rebecca Cisco | 217.524.1219  
[rebecca.cisco@illinois.gov](mailto:rebecca.cisco@illinois.gov)

## Jobs Up in Majority of Metro Areas in January

### Unemployment Rates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Metropolitan Area	January 2024*	January 2023**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	4.4%	3.9%	0.5
Carbondale-Marion	5.1%	4.6%	0.5
Champaign-Urbana	4.6%	4.0%	0.6
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	4.5%	4.4%	0.1
Danville	6.6%	6.0%	0.6
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	5.2%	4.7%	0.5
Decatur	6.8%	5.7%	1.1
Elgin	6.5%	5.5%	1.0
Kankakee	7.5%	6.4%	1.1
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	5.9%	5.0%	0.9
Peoria	6.2%	5.4%	0.8
Rockford	7.3%	6.2%	1.1
Springfield	5.1%	4.5%	0.6
St. Louis (IL-Section)	4.7%	4.1%	0.6
Illinois Statewide	5.1%	4.7%	0.4

\* Preliminary | \*\* Revised

**SPRINGFIELD** – Over-the-year, total nonfarm jobs increased in eight metropolitan areas, decreased in five and was unchanged in one for the year ending January 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 all fourteen metropolitan areas.

“As payrolls continue to grow across industries throughout the state, jobseekers are encouraged to take advantage of new and expanded employment opportunities,” said **Deputy Governor Andy Manar**. “IDES and its workforce partners are uniquely positioned to assist with employment searches and to match workers with employers to ensure they find the best fit for their needs.”

The metro areas which had the largest over-the-year percentage increases in total nonfarm jobs were the Bloomington MSA (+3.8%, +3,600), the Champaign-Urbana MSA (+2.1%, +2,500) and the Carbondale-Marion MSA (+1.4%, +800). The metro areas which had the largest over-the-year percentage decreases were the Springfield MSA (-2.7%, -2,900), the

Decatur MSA (-2.5%, -1,200), and the Davenport-Moline-Rock Island IA-IL MSA (-1.4%, -2,500). Total nonfarm jobs in the Chicago Metro Division were down -0.3% or -11,000. Industries that saw job growth in a majority of metro areas included: Education and Health Services and Government (twelve areas each); and Financial Activities (eight areas).

The metro areas with the largest unemployment rate increases were in Decatur MSA (+1.1 points to 6.8%), the Kankakee MSA (+1.1 points to 7.5%), and the Rockford MSA (+1.1 points to 7.3%). The Chicago Metro Division unemployment rate increased +0.1 point to 4.5%.

### Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – January 2024

Metropolitan Area	January 2024*	January 2023**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	98,100	94,500	3,600
Carbondale-Marion MSA	56,700	55,900	800
Champaign-Urbana MSA	120,100	117,600	2,500
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,735,200	3,746,200	-11,000
Danville MSA	26,400	26,400	0
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	178,000	180,500	-2,500
Decatur MSA	46,700	47,900	-1,200
Elgin Metro Division	258,100	256,200	1,900
Kankakee MSA	42,300	42,200	100
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	413,300	409,100	4,200
Peoria MSA	167,500	166,100	1,400
Rockford MSA	143,400	143,500	-100
Springfield MSA	105,600	108,500	-2,900
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	237,200	236,200	1,000
Illinois Statewide	5,984,400	5,995,000	-10,600

\*Preliminary | \*\*Revised

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

Labor Market Area	Jan 2024	Jan 2023	Over-the-Year Change
<b>Decatur MSA</b>			
Macon County	6.8 %	5.7 %	1.1
<b>Springfield MSA</b>			
Menard County	5.4 %	4.9 %	0.5
Sangamon County	5.0 %	4.5 %	0.5
<b>Cities</b>			
Decatur City	7.6 %	6.2 %	1.4
Rock Island City	5.9 %	5.1 %	0.8
Springfield City	5.3 %	4.6 %	0.7
<b>Counties</b>			
Adams County	4.3 %	3.7 %	0.6
Brown County	2.3 %	2.4 %	-0.1
Calhoun County	5.1 %	4.9 %	0.2
Christian County	5.8 %	5.2 %	0.6
De Witt County	5.1 %	5.0 %	0.1
Greene County	5.1 %	4.9 %	0.2
Hancock County	4.9 %	4.5 %	0.4
Jersey County	4.7 %	3.8 %	0.9
Logan County	5.5 %	4.9 %	0.6
McDonough County	4.8 %	4.4 %	0.4
Macoupin County	5.2 %	4.4 %	0.8
Montgomery County	6.4 %	5.7 %	0.7
Morgan County	4.9 %	4.6 %	0.3
Moultrie County	4.0 %	3.7 %	0.3
Piatt County	4.6 %	3.9 %	0.7
Pike County	5.9 %	5.4 %	0.5
Schuyler County	6.9 %	5.5 %	1.4
Scott County	8.0 %	7.5 %	0.5
Shelby County	6.0 %	4.6 %	1.4
<b>Other Areas</b>			
LWIA 19	6.6 %	5.6 %	1.0
LWIA 20	5.2 %	4.6 %	0.6
LWIA 21	5.5 %	4.8 %	0.7
Central EDR	5.6 %	4.9 %	0.7

**Central Illinois Highlights**

**Decatur MSA**

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased +1.1 percentage points to 6.8 percent in January 2024 from 5.7 percent in January 2023. There were an estimated 2,548 unemployed people in the labor force in January 2024.

The number of total nonfarm jobs in the Decatur metro area decreased by -1,200 compared to last January.

Employment increased in the Retail Trade (+100), Government (+100), Transportation-Warehousing-Utilities (+100) and Other Services (+100) sectors.

Payrolls were unchanged in Information, Wholesale Trade, Financial Activities and Professional-Business Services.

Payroll employment decreased in Construction-Mining (-900), Educational-Health Services (-400), Manufacturing (-200) and Leisure-Hospitality (-100) between January 2023 and January 2024.

**Springfield MSA**

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased +0.6 percentage point to 5.1 percent in January 2024 from 4.5 percent in January 2023. There were an estimated 4,601 unemployed people in the labor force in January 2024.

The number of total nonfarm jobs in the Springfield metro area decreased by -2,900 compared to a year ago.

Payrolls increased in Government (+600), Retail Trade (+200) and Manufacturing (+100).

No payroll changes were reported in Transportation-Warehousing-Utilities and Wholesale Trade.

Payroll employment declined over-the-year in Information (-1,800), Professional-Business Services (-800), Financial Activities (-400), Educational-Health Services (-400), Leisure-Hospitality (-200), Other Services (-100) and Mining-Construction (-100).

**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.