



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR RELEASE:
March 13, 2024

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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
Carbondale-Marion MSA	5.1 %	4.6 %	0.5
Jackson County	4.8 %	4.5 %	0.3
Williamson County	5.4 %	4.7 %	0.7
Surrounding Counties			
Alexander County	6.2 %	6.5 %	-0.3
Franklin County	6.3 %	5.8 %	0.5
Johnson County	6.8 %	7.0 %	-0.2
Massac County	5.0 %	5.0 %	0.0
Perry County	5.9 %	5.9 %	0.0
Pulaski County	7.6 %	7.4 %	0.2
Randolph County	4.7 %	4.1 %	0.6
Union County	7.1 %	6.6 %	0.5
Harrisburg Area			
Gallatin County	5.3 %	5.3 %	0.0
Hamilton County	4.8 %	3.8 %	1.0
Hardin County	6.1 %	5.7 %	0.4
Pope County	4.5 %	4.6 %	-0.1
Saline County	5.8 %	5.2 %	0.6
White County	4.6 %	4.1 %	0.5
Olney - Mt. Carmel Area			
Edwards County	5.3 %	4.3 %	1.0
Lawrence County	6.4 %	5.7 %	0.7
Richland County	4.5 %	3.8 %	0.7
Wabash County	3.4 %	3.4 %	0.0
Wayne County	5.3 %	4.3 %	1.0
Other Areas			
LWIA 23	5.2 %	4.5 %	0.7
LWIA 24	4.6 %	4.1 %	0.5
LWIA 25	5.4 %	4.9 %	0.5
LWIA 26	5.5 %	5.1 %	0.4
Southern EDR	5.4 %	5.0 %	0.4

Southern Illinois Highlights

Carbondale – Marion Area

The January 2024 unemployment rate was 5.1 percent. This was a +0.5 percentage point increase from the January 2023 rate of 4.6 percent. Total nonfarm employment increased by +800 jobs in January 2024 compared to January a year ago, including a rise in Government (+300) payrolls.

Surrounding Counties

Total nonfarm payrolls decreased by -150 jobs in January 2024 compared to a year ago.

Employment rose among Government (+100), Other Services (+50), Natural Resources and Mining (+50) and Trade-Transportation-Utilities (+25) employers.

No change in employment was reported in the Information or Professional-Business Services sectors.

Payrolls declined among employers in Manufacturing (-125), Educational-Health Services (-75), Construction (-75), Leisure-Hospitality (-25) and Financial Activities (-25).

Harrisburg Area

Total nonfarm employment increased by +450 jobs in January 2024 compared to January 2023.

Employment gains were posted in Educational-Health Services (+250), Government (+200), Financial Activities (+100) and Natural Resources and Mining (+100).

No change was recorded in payrolls in the Professional-Business Services or Construction sectors.

Employment declined in Trade-Transportation-Utilities (-125), Manufacturing (-25), Information (-25) and Leisure-Hospitality (-25).

Olney – Mt. Carmel Area

Total nonfarm employment contracted by -200 jobs in January 2024 compared to January 2023.

Payrolls increased in Other Services (+25) and Information (+25). Payrolls were unchanged year-over-year in Trade-Transportation-Utilities, Professional-Business Services, Educational-Health Services and Government.

In the region, the number of nonfarm payroll jobs decreased in Manufacturing (-125), Financial Activities (-50), Construction (-25), Leisure-Hospitality (-25) and Natural Resources and Mining (-25).

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.