



NEWS RELEASE

JB Pritzker, Governor
Raymond P. Marchiori, Director

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CONTACT:
Rebecca Cisco | 217.524.1219
rebecca.cisco@illinois.gov

Jobs Up in Majority of Metro Areas in April

Unemployment Rates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Metropolitan Area	April 2024*	April 2023**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	3.8%	3.3%	0.5
Carbondale-Marion	4.2%	3.8%	0.4
Champaign-Urbana	3.9%	3.6%	0.3
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	4.3%	3.4%	0.9
Danville	5.3%	5.1%	0.2
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	4.0%	3.6%	0.4
Decatur	5.7%	5.6%	0.1
Elgin	5.2%	4.6%	0.6
Kankakee	5.7%	5.4%	0.3
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	4.8%	4.4%	0.4
Peoria	4.9%	4.5%	0.4
Rockford	5.9%	6.3%	-0.4
Springfield	4.1%	3.6%	0.5
St. Louis (IL-Section)	4.0%	3.7%	0.3
Illinois Statewide	4.4%	3.8%	0.6

* Preliminary | ** Revised

SPRINGFIELD – Over-the-year, total nonfarm jobs increased in ten metropolitan areas and decreased in four for the year ending April 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 thirteen metropolitan areas, and decreased in one.

“Continued job growth across metro areas and industry sectors position both jobseekers and employers to tap into newly created and expanded opportunities to begin or further career growth, **said Deputy Governor Andy Manar**. “IDES is proud to collaborate with its workforce partners to provide critical employment and reemployment services, including matching workers with hiring employers across the state.”

The metro areas which had the largest over-the-year percentage increases in total nonfarm jobs were the Champaign-Urbana MSA (+2.4%, +3,000) and the Elgin Metro (+2.1%, +5,600). In the Chicago Metro, total nonfarm jobs were up +0.2% or +7,600. The metro areas which had the largest over-the-year decreases in total nonfarm jobs

were the Springfield MSA (-2.8%, -3,100), and the Davenport-Moline-Rock Island IA-IL MSA (-1.1%, -2,100). Industries that saw job growth in a majority of metro areas included: Government (fourteen areas); Private Education and Health Services (eleven areas); Wholesale Trade (ten areas); and Manufacturing, Leisure and Hospitality, and Other Services (eight areas each).

The metro areas with the largest unemployment rate increases were the Chicago Metro (+0.9 point to 4.3%), the Elgin Metro (+0.6 point to 5.2%), the Bloomington MSA (+0.5 point to 3.8%), and the Springfield MSA (+0.5 point to 4.1%). The unemployment rate decreased in the Rockford MSA (-0.4 point to 5.9%).

Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – April 2024

Metropolitan Area	April 2024*	April 2023**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	99,700	99,200	500
Carbondale-Marion MSA	59,400	58,600	800
Champaign-Urbana MSA	126,000	123,000	3,000
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,797,400	3,789,800	7,600
Danville MSA	26,800	26,700	100
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	180,800	182,900	-2,100
Decatur MSA	47,700	48,000	-300
Elgin Metro Division	266,500	260,900	5,600
Kankakee MSA	43,000	42,600	400
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	418,800	415,500	3,300
Peoria MSA	170,000	170,600	-600
Rockford MSA	144,900	144,500	400
Springfield MSA	107,600	110,700	-3,100
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	243,200	241,100	2,100
Illinois Statewide	6,124,000	6,084,300	39,700

*Preliminary | **Revised

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

Labor Market Area	Apr 2024	Apr 2023	Over-the-Year Change
Rockford MSA			
Boone County	6.4 %	7.1 %	-0.7
Winnebago County	5.8 %	6.1 %	-0.3
Cities			
Belvidere City	7.9 %	8.6 %	-0.7
Freeport City	5.6 %	5.5 %	0.1
Rockford City	6.9 %	7.0 %	-0.1
Counties			
Bureau County	5.9 %	4.6 %	1.3
Carroll County	4.6 %	3.9 %	0.7
DeKalb County	4.5 %	4.2 %	0.3
Henry County	5.2 %	4.5 %	0.7
Jo Daviess County	4.2 %	3.6 %	0.6
Kane County	5.3 %	4.7 %	0.6
Lee County	4.3 %	4.0 %	0.3
McHenry County	3.9 %	3.1 %	0.8
Ogle County	5.4 %	5.3 %	0.1
Stephenson County	4.8 %	4.6 %	0.2
Whiteside County	4.5 %	4.0 %	0.5

Rockford MSA

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 5.9 percent in April 2024 from 6.3 percent in April 2023.

Total nonfarm employment increased by +400 over-the-year.

The Government (+900), Construction (+400), Leisure-Hospitality (+400) and Private Education-Health Services (+200) had the largest payroll gains over-the-year. The Manufacturing (-1,200), Transportation-Warehousing-Utilities (-300), Professional-Business Services (-200) and Financial Activities (-100) sectors recorded employment declines over-the-year.

Ogle County

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 5.4 percent in April 2024 from 5.3 percent in April 2023.

Total nonfarm employment increased by +525 over-the-year.

Government (+275), Construction (+150) and Leisure-Hospitality (+75) had the largest payroll gains over-the-year. The Trade-Transportation-Utilities (-75) sector recorded employment decline over-the-year.

Stephenson County

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 4.8 percent in April 2024 from 4.6 percent in April 2023.

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

Government (+175), Construction (+100) and Private Education-Health Services (+50) had payroll gains over-the-year. The Financial Activities (-50) and Professional-Business Services (-50) sectors recorded the largest 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.