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NEWS RELEASE

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Unemployment Down, Jobs Up in Majority of Metro Areas in January

Unemployment Rates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Metropolitan Area	January 2025*	January 2024**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	4.0%	4.1%	-0.1
Champaign-Urbana	4.0%	4.7%	-0.7
Chicago-Naperville-Schaumburg	5.0%	4.7%	0.3
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island (IL Section)	6.1%	6.3%	-0.2
Decatur	6.0%	6.7%	-0.7
Elgin	5.2%	6.2%	-1.0
Kankakee	6.3%	7.5%	-1.2
Lake	5.5%	6.6%	-1.1
Peoria	5.5%	6.0%	-0.5
Rockford	5.8%	7.1%	-1.3
Springfield	4.6%	5.0%	-0.4
St. Louis (IL Section)	4.2%	4.9%	-0.7
Illinois Statewide	5.0%	5.2%	-0.2
* Preliminary ** Revised			

SPRINGFIELD – Over-the-year, the unemployment rate decreased in eleven metro areas and increased in one for the year ending January 2025, 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, total nonfarm jobs increased in six metropolitan areas, decreased in five, and was unchanged in one.

“As unemployment decreased over the last year in most metro areas and payroll remains steady, Illinois continues to prioritize region-specific support for jobseekers through local workforce partners,” said **Deputy Governor Andy Manar**. “Illinois also remains laser-focused on investing in our incomparable workforce and creating a positive business environment to bolster economic opportunity in every corner of the state.”

The metro areas which had the largest over-the-year percentage increases in total nonfarm jobs were the Elgin Metro Division (+2.2%, +6,200), the Peoria MSA (+1.8%, +3,000), and the Rockford MSA (+1.5%, +2,200). Total nonfarm jobs in the Chicago-Naperville-Schaumburg Metro

Division were up +19,000 (+0.5%). The metro areas which posted the largest over-the-year decreases in total nonfarm jobs were the Illinois section of the Davenport-Moline-Rock Island IA-IL MSA (-1.1%, -1,000), the Champaign-Urbana MSA (-1.0%, -1,200), and the Decatur MSA (-0.6%, -300). Total nonfarm jobs were unchanged in the Bloomington MSA. Industries that saw job growth in the majority of the twelve metro areas included: Private Education and Health Services (eleven areas); Government (nine areas); and Mining and Construction and Retail Trade (seven areas each).

The metro areas with the largest unemployment rate decreases were the Rockford MSA (-1.3 points to 5.8%), the Kankakee MSA (-1.2 points to 6.3%), and the Lake County Metro (-1.1 points to 5.5%). The Chicago Metro Division reported the only increase (+0.3 point to 5.0%).

Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – January 2025

Metropolitan Area	January 2025*	January 2024**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	93,200	93,200	0
Champaign-Urbana	115,300	116,500	-1,200
Chicago-Naperville-Schaumburg	3,739,900	3,720,900	19,000
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island (IL Section)	86,000	87,000	-1,000
Decatur	46,400	46,700	-300
Elgin	291,000	284,800	6,200
Kankakee	42,100	42,300	-200
Lake	336,900	336,700	200
Peoria	170,300	167,300	3,000
Rockford	144,800	142,600	2,200
Springfield	109,900	109,100	800
St. Louis (IL Section)	235,800	236,200	-400
Illinois Statewide	6,040,500	6,002,300	38,200
*Preliminary **Revised			

The number and composition of metropolitan statistical areas for each state are determined by federal census data. As a result of data derived from the 2020 federal census, Illinois' metropolitan statistical areas have shifted from 14 to 12, with the prior metropolitan statistical areas of Carbondale and Danville reclassified as micropolitan statistical areas. [Micropolitan statistical area data can be found here.](#)