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Unemployment Rates Down for the Fifth Straight Month, Jobs Up in Most Metro Areas

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	August 2021*	August 2020**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	5.2%	6.8%	-1.6
Carbondale-Marion	6.0%	8.3%	-2.3
Champaign-Urbana	5.6%	7.0%	-1.4
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	7.5%	13.0%	-5.5
Danville	7.1%	8.9%	-1.8
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	5.1%	7.5%	-2.4
Decatur	8.2%	10.6%	-2.4
Elgin	6.1%	9.3%	-3.2
Kankakee	6.7%	9.0%	-2.3
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	5.3%	8.0%	-2.7
Peoria	6.3%	8.9%	-2.6
Rockford	8.3%	10.9%	-2.6
Springfield	5.8%	8.4%	-2.6
St. Louis (IL-Section)	5.7%	8.3%	-2.6
Illinois Statewide	6.8%	11.0%	-4.2

* Preliminary | ** Revised

SPRINGFIELD – The unemployment rate decreased over-the-year in all fourteen Illinois metropolitan areas in August for the fifth straight month according to preliminary data released today by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES). Jobs were up in all metro areas, with the exception of the Bloomington Metropolitan Statistical Area.

“As reopening and recovery efforts continue to impact metro areas across the state, IDES is committed to continuing to assist both claimants and jobseekers who are still looking to reenter the workforce,” said **Deputy Governor Andy Manar**. “Claimants are encouraged to utilize IllinoisJobLink.com to search for work opportunities and take advantage of assistance the Department can provide with workforce development, including job trainings and resume building.”

Over-the-year, total nonfarm jobs increased in thirteen metropolitan areas and decreased in one (Bloomington MSA, -0.6%, -500). The metro areas which had the largest over-the-year percentage increases in total nonfarm jobs were the

Springfield MSA (+3.5%, +3,600); the Davenport-Moline-Rock Island IA-IL MSA (+3.1%, +5,400), the Chicago Metro Division (+2.9%, +102,200) and the Peoria MSA (+2.9%, +4,700). The industries that saw job growth in a majority of metro areas included: Leisure and Hospitality (fourteen areas); Transportation, Warehousing and Public Utilities (eleven areas); Other Services and Government (ten areas each); Manufacturing and Educational and Health Services (nine areas each).

Over-the-year, the unemployment rate decreased in all 14 metropolitan areas; the metro areas with the largest unemployment rate decreases were the Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metropolitan Division (-5.5 points to 7.5%), the Elgin Metropolitan Division (-3.2 points to 6.1%) and the Lake County-Kenosha County, IL-WI Metropolitan Division (-2.7 points to 5.3%). The unemployment rate also decreased over-the-year in all 102 counties for the fifth consecutive month.

Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) –August 2021

Metropolitan Area	August 2021*	August 2020**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	86,500	87,000	-500
Carbondale-Marion MSA	55,200	53,700	1,500
Champaign-Urbana MSA	108,700	105,700	3,000
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,587,500	3,485,300	102,200
Danville MSA	26,200	25,600	600
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	177,400	172,000	5,400
Decatur MSA	48,200	47,200	1,000
Elgin Metro Division	240,500	236,900	3,600
Kankakee MSA	43,000	42,400	600
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	408,600	397,300	11,300
Peoria MSA	165,400	160,700	4,700
Rockford MSA	140,400	138,400	2,000
Springfield MSA	105,200	101,600	3,600
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	230,700	229,800	900
Illinois Statewide	5,817,300	5,652,400	164,900

*Preliminary | **Revised

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