



JB Pritzker, Governor
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NEWS RELEASE

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Statewide Unemployment Rate Continues to Drop, Payroll Jobs Up in July

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) announced today that the unemployment rate fell -0.1 percentage point to 4.4 percent, while nonfarm payrolls increased by +31,200 in July, based on preliminary data provided by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and released by IDES. The June monthly change in payrolls was revised from the preliminary report, from +18,800 to +16,000 jobs. The June unemployment rate was unchanged from the preliminary report, remaining at 4.5 percent. The July payroll jobs estimate and unemployment rate reflect activity for the week including the 12th.

In July, the industry sectors with the largest over-the-month gains in employment include: Professional and Business Services (+10,000), Manufacturing (+6,300), and Trade, Transportation and Utilities (+5,700). The industry sectors that reported monthly payroll declines include: Construction (-1,400) and Educational and Health Services (-1,400).

“As the statewide unemployment rate continues to drop and continued claims levels for unemployment benefits remain at historic lows, IDES encourages employers and jobseekers to utilize the Department’s robust employment services tools for reentry into the workforce,” said **Deputy Governor Andy Manar**. “Whether it be participating in or a hosting a job fair, training or skills building, IDES has the tools needed to assist in the growth of the expanding labor market.”

“After Illinois reached the lowest unemployment rate since the onset of the pandemic in June, it’s encouraging to see the state’s unemployment rate continue to drop while seeing continued growth in key industries,” said **DCEO Director Sylvia I. Garcia**. “Looking ahead, DCEO continues to focus on expanding equitable workforce training opportunities, providing incentives to companies who invest in Illinois’ workforce, and providing resources and training opportunities for job seekers.”

The state’s unemployment rate was +0.9 percentage point higher than the national unemployment rate reported for July, which was 3.5 percent, down -0.1 percentage point from the previous month. The Illinois unemployment rate was down -1.8 percentage points from a year ago when it was at 6.2 percent.

Compared to a year ago, nonfarm payroll employment increased by +236,600 jobs, with gains across nearly all major industries. The industry groups with the largest jobs increases include: Leisure and Hospitality (+61,800), Professional and Business Services (+56,700), and Trade, Transportation and Utilities (+44,600). The Mining sector (-100) was the only industry sector that reported an over-the-year decline in payroll employment. In July, total nonfarm payrolls were up +4.1 percent over-the-year in Illinois and up +4.2 percent in the nation.

The number of unemployed workers was down from the prior month, a -1.1 percent decrease to 287,200 and was down -27.1 percent over the same month one year ago. The labor force was almost unchanged (0.0 percent) over-the-month and up +2.2 percent over-the-year. The unemployment rate identifies those individuals who are out of work and seeking employment. An individual who exhausts or is ineligible for benefits is still reflected in the unemployment rate if they actively seek work.

In May 2020, Governor Pritzker launched [Get Hired Illinois](#), a new one-stop-shop website to help connect job seekers with hiring employers in real time. The site features virtual job fairs, no-cost virtual training, and includes [IllinoisJobLink.com](#) (IJL), the state’s largest job search engine, which recently showed 43,596 posted resumes with 161,574 available jobs.



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Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

	Jul-22	Jun-22	Jul-21	3-month Moving Average	Over-the- Month Change	Over-the- Year Change
Illinois	4.4%	4.5%	6.2%	4.5%	-0.1	-1.8
U.S.	3.5%	3.6%	5.4%	3.6%	-0.1	-1.9

Illinois Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Jobs – by Major Industry

	Jul-22 Current *	Jun-22 Prior month**	Jul-21 Year Ago	Over-the- Month	Over-the- Year	3-month Moving Avg	Change from Previous 3-month Moving Avg
IL - Total Nonfarm	6,060,300	6,029,100	5,823,700	31,200	236,600	6,034,200	20,200
IL - Mining	6,500	6,500	6,600	0	-100	6,500	0
IL - Construction	228,800	230,200	222,600	-1,400	6,200	229,000	1,300
IL - Manufacturing	579,000	572,700	552,700	6,300	26,300	574,700	2,600
IL - Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	1,223,500	1,217,800	1,178,900	5,700	44,600	1,219,000	2,500
IL - Information	93,800	93,500	89,500	300	4,300	93,500	400
IL - Financial Activities	408,200	406,000	405,800	2,200	2,400	407,300	300
IL - Professional and Business Services	973,400	963,400	916,700	10,000	56,700	966,200	3,400
IL - Educational and Health Services	917,300	918,700	907,700	-1,400	9,600	917,400	1,100
IL - Leisure and Hospitality	585,200	581,800	523,400	3,400	61,800	580,000	6,900
IL - Other Services	247,000	245,200	237,000	1,800	10,000	246,000	200
IL - Government	797,600	793,300	782,800	4,300	14,800	794,400	1,500

* Preliminary
**Final

- Monthly 2017-2021 seasonally adjusted labor force data for Illinois, and all other states, have been revised as required by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The monthly historical revisions to state labor force estimates reflect new national benchmark controls, state working-age population controls, outlier specifications, seasonal factors, as well as updated total nonfarm jobs and unemployment benefits claims inputs. Illinois labor force data were also smoothed to eliminate large monthly changes as a result of volatility in the monthly Current Population Survey (CPS) and national benchmarking. For these reasons, the comments and tables citing unemployment rates in previous news releases/materials may no longer be valid.
- Monthly seasonally adjusted unemployment rates for Illinois and the Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metropolitan Division are available [here](#).
- Monthly 2017-2021 seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment data for Illinois have been revised. To control for potential survey error, the estimates are benchmarked annually to universal counts derived primarily from unemployment insurance tax reports.
- Not seasonally adjusted jobs data with industry detail are available [here](#). “Other Services” include activities in three broad categories: personal and laundry; repair and maintenance; and religious, grant making, civic and professional organizations. Seasonally adjusted data for subsectors within industries are not available.

About the Department of Employment Security

The Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) provides vital employment services to Illinois workers, employers, and job seekers with resources including [Job Fairs](#) and [IllinoisJobLink.com](#), analyzes and disseminates actionable [Labor Market Information](#), and administers the [Unemployment Insurance Program](#). To see the full range of services provided by IDES, and for the latest news concerning the department, visit [IDES.Illinois.gov](#).

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