



# News Release

**Pat Quinn, Governor**  
**For Immediate Release**  
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## Unemployment Falls in Most Areas Compared to Last Year Chicago, Rockford, Champaign Metros Lead Job Growth

### Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	Apr. 2013*	Apr. 2012
Bloomington-Normal	5.8%	6.2%
Champaign-Urbana	6.6%	7.1%
Chicago-Joliet-Naperville	9.3%	8.8%
Danville	8.9%	9.1%
Davenport-Moline-Rock Isl.	6.2%	6.8%
Decatur	10.3%	9.5%
Kankakee-Bradley	9.8%	10.6%
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	7.7%	8.1%
Peoria	7.9%	7.2%
Rockford	9.9%	10.9%
Springfield	6.4%	6.8%
St. Louis (IL-Section)	7.4%	8.6%

\* Data subject to revision.

**CHICAGO** – April local unemployment rates fell in nine of 12 metro areas compared to last year, according to preliminary data released today by the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES). Not seasonally adjusted data compares April 2013 to April 2012. The largest decreases were in: Metro East (-1.2 points to 7.4 percent), Rockford (-1.0 point to 9.9 percent), and Kankakee-Bradley (-0.8 point to 9.8 percent). The Chicago-Joliet-Naperville Metropolitan Division rate was up +0.5 point to 9.3 percent. Decatur (+0.8 point to 10.3 percent) and Peoria (+0.7 point to 7.9 percent) recorded the largest increases.

Jobs were added in four metro areas and declined in eight. The largest increases were in: Chicago-Joliet-Naperville (+1.3 percent, +47,300), Rockford (+1.1 percent, +1,600), and Champaign-Urbana (+1.0 percent, +1,100). Industry sectors increasing in the most metros were Educational and Health Services (10 of 12) and Financial Activities (nine of 12).

“For the first time since last December, the over-the-year monthly unemployment rates decreased in a majority of our metro areas in

Illinois,” IDES Director Jay Rowell said. “While this is hopefully an indicator of an improving labor market, as in past months, it might be a continuation of the uneven national economic recovery.”

Not seasonally adjusted data compares the current month to the same month of the previous year. The April 2013 not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 8.7 percent and 12.2 percent at its peak in this economic cycle in January 2010. Nationally, the unemployment rate was 7.1 percent in April and 10.6 percent in January 2010 at its peak. The unemployment rate identifies those who are out of work and looking for work and is not tied to collecting unemployment insurance benefits.

### Total Non-farm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – April 2013

Metropolitan Area	April 2013*	April 2012**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington-Normal MSA	90,800	92,500	-1,700
Champaign-Urbana MSA	107,800	106,700	1,100
Chicago-Joliet-Naperville Metro Div.	3,728,200	3,680,900	47,300
Danville MSA	29,400	30,000	-600
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	182,500	183,000	-500
Decatur MSA	50,500	53,400	-2,900
Kankakee-Bradley MSA	43,900	43,600	300
Lake County-Kenosha County Metro Div.	384,400	385,300	-900
Peoria MSA	182,200	184,800	-2,600
Rockford MSA	148,300	146,700	1,600
Springfield MSA	111,500	112,600	-1,100
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	232,600	233,900	-1,300

\*Preliminary \*\*Revised

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

Labor Market Areas	Apr-13	Apr-12
<b>Bloomington-Normal</b>		
McLean County	5.8 %	6.2 %
<b>Peoria MSA</b>		
Marshall County	7.2 %	7.6 %
Peoria County	8.4 %	7.6 %
Stark County	9.2 %	8.5 %
Tazewell County	7.7 %	6.9 %
Woodford County	6.6 %	5.8 %
<b>Ottawa-Streator Area</b>		
Bureau County	8.4 %	8.7 %
LaSalle County	9.7 %	10.2 %
Putnam County	10.9 %	9.3 %
<b>Galesburg Area</b>		
Knox County	7.9 %	7.6 %
Warren County	6.1 %	6.4 %
<b>Cities</b>		
Bloomington City	5.8 %	6.3 %
Galesburg City	7.7 %	8.0 %
Normal City	5.7 %	6.1 %
Pekin City	9.1 %	8.2 %
Peoria City	8.6 %	8.1 %
<b>Counties</b>		
DeWitt County	7.3 %	7.5 %
Fulton County	9.4 %	8.8 %
Henderson County	6.0 %	7.2 %
Henry County	6.8 %	7.1 %
Livingston County	7.4 %	7.4 %
Logan County	7.3 %	7.2 %
Mason County	9.6 %	8.9 %

**Central Illinois Highlights**

**Peoria MSA:**

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose to 7.9 percent in April from 7.2 percent in April 2012.

Non-farm payroll employment decreased -2,600 from one year ago. The largest job gain occurred in Educational-Health Services (+1,000). Manufacturing (-1,700) was down largely due to a temporary layoff. Professional-Business Services (-700) and Construction (-600) also had less employment.

**Bloomington-Normal MSA:**

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped to 5.8 percent in April 2013 from 6.2 percent in April 2012. The last time the April rate was equal to or lower was in 2008 when it was 4.0 percent.

Non-farm payroll employment decreased -1,700 from the previous April. Jobs were added in Financial Activities (+200), Educational-Health Services (+200) and Leisure-Hospitality (+200). Declines occurred in Professional-Business Services (-1,200), Government (-900) and Retail Trade (-300).

**Ottawa-Streator Area:**

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 9.4 percent in April 2013 from 9.8 percent in April 2012. The last time the April rate was equal to or lower was in 2008 when it was 6.5 percent.

Non-farm payroll employment decreased -100 from one year ago. Jobs were added in Other Services (+200), Construction (+125), Transportation-Warehousing-Utilities (+125), and Professional-Business Services (+100). Retail Trade (-350), Manufacturing (-225), and Government (-125) had employment declines.

**Galesburg Area:**

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was nearly unchanged at 7.4 percent in April 2013 compared to 7.3 percent in April 2012.

Over the year, total non-farm payroll jobs were down -100. The Manufacturing sector (+150) added jobs. Declines occurred in Leisure-Hospitality (-100) and Government (-100).

**Note:**

- Monthly 2012 unemployment rates and total non-farm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February 2013, as required by the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (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.