



Illinois Employment Report

Joint Economic Committee

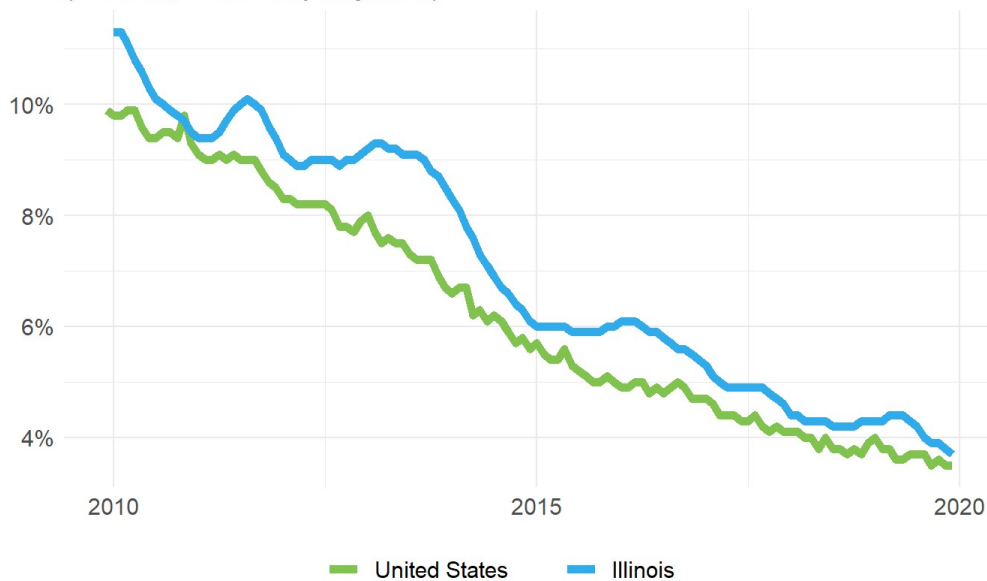
Senator Mike Lee, Chairman

January 24, 2020

Summary

- **Illinois added 8,000 net payroll jobs and the unemployment rate fell by 0.1 percentage point to 3.7 percent in December**, according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data released at 10:00am on January 24, 2020.
- **Over the past twelve months, Illinois added 45,000 payroll jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.6 percentage point from 4.3 percent.
- **In December, Illinois's private sector added 7,600 net private payroll jobs** and over the past twelve months it added 31,600 private payroll jobs in the establishment survey.
- In the household survey, the number of **unemployed fell by 5,962 on net in December**, and over the past year employment rose by 45,905.
- Illinois's **labor force participation rate fell to 64.7 percent** in December from 64.9. Since last year, the labor force participation rate rose by 0.2 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **remained unchanged in December**. State employment and unemployment data for January is scheduled for release March 16, 2020. The national employment situation report for January will be released February 07, 2020.

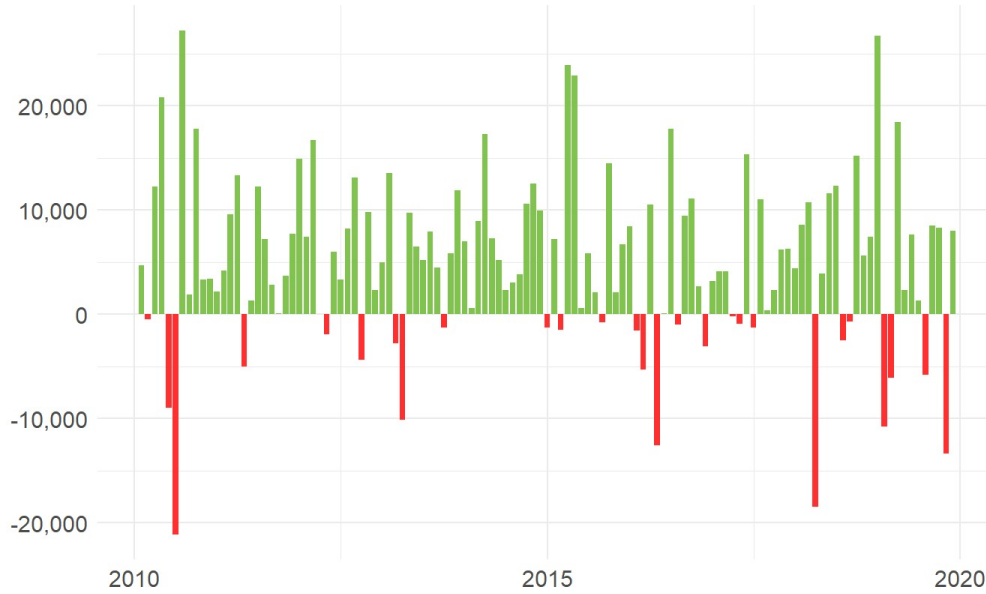
Illinois and U.S. Unemployment Rates
(Percent, Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Illinois Payroll Employment

Illinois Nonfarm Payroll Jobs Monthly Change (Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Illinois added 8,000 net payroll jobs, or 0.1 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during December. In the prior month, Illinois lost 13,400 jobs. Over the past twelve months, Illinois added 45,000 payroll jobs, or 0.7 percent. Illinois nonfarm payroll employment had increased in 8 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, nonfarm payrolls rose by 145,000 in December, or rose by 0.1 percent. Over the 12-month period ending with December, nonfarm payrolls rose by 2,108,000 jobs, or 1.4 percent. Illinois is tied for 33rd among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During December, Illinois's private-sector added 7,600 jobs, or approximately 0.1 percent. The private-sector in Illinois lost 13,700 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Illinois added 31,600, or 0.6 percent. Illinois private-sector payroll employment has increased in 8 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs rose by 139,000 jobs in December, or 0.1 percent. Over the past 12 months, the national payroll rose by 1,947,000 jobs in the private sector, or rose by 1.5 percent. Illinois is tied for 37th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for a percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

Change in Illinois Payroll Employment by Sector over Past 12 Months



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, seasonally adjusted

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during December were Education and Health Services (4,300) and Leisure and Hospitality (3,200). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Manufacturing (-900) and Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (-1,700).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Education and Health Services (17,100) and Leisure and Hospitality (16,900). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Manufacturing (-1,900) and Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (-4,600).

Illinois Labor Force Statistics

Labor Force Participation

The labor force participation rate in Illinois fell to 64.7 percent in December from 64.9 percent in the prior month. At a labor force participation rate of 64.7 percent, Illinois ranks 20th in the nation. The labor force participation rate in Illinois rose by 0.2 percentage point from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Illinois was 67.3 percent in April 2010. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Illinois occurred in April 2000 when the labor force participation rate hit 69.8 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 64.4 percent, last occurring in September 2018. The series low for the labor force participation rate in Illinois last occurred in December 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 62.8 percent.

The national labor force participation rate remained steady at 63.2 percent in December. That rate rose by 0.2 percentage point from a year earlier. The all-time high for the national labor force participation rate was 67.3 percent in April 2000. The 10-year high for the national labor force participation rate was 65.2 percent in April 2010. The recent 10-year low occurred in September

2015 at a level of 62.4 percent. The series low for the national labor force participation rate was 58.1 percent in December 1954.

Employment-to-Population Ratio

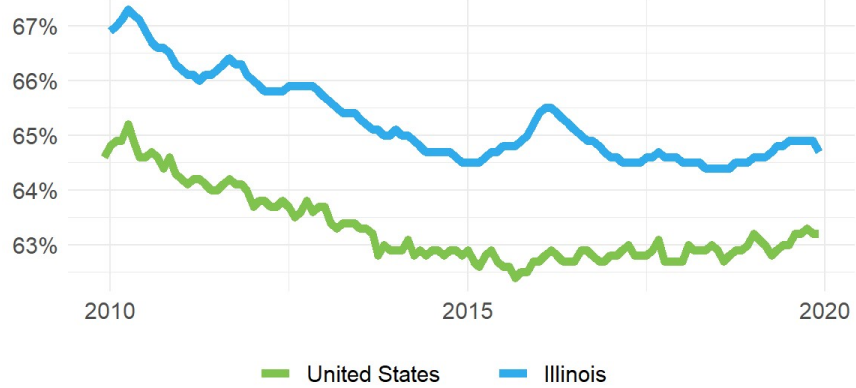
The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Illinois civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, in December fell to 62.3 from 62.4 percent in the prior month. At 62.3 percent, Illinois is tied for 21st among state employment-to-population ratios in the nation. The employment-to-population ratio in Illinois rose by 0.5 percentage point from a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Illinois was 62.4 percent last occurring in November 2019. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Illinois last occurred in February 2000 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 66.9 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 59.2 percent in December 2009. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio in Illinois last occurred in March 1983 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 56.9 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio remained steady at 61 percent in December. That rate rose by 0.4 percentage point from a year earlier.

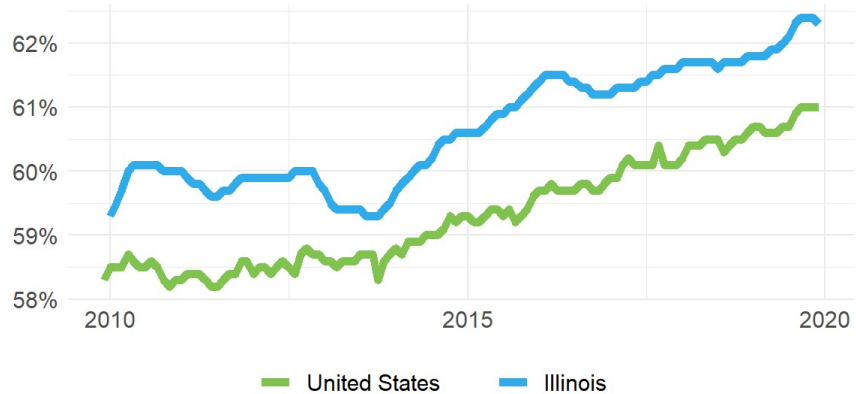
The all-time high for the national employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 percent in April 2000. The 10-year high for the national employment-to-population ratio was 61 percent in December 2019. The recent 10-year low occurred in July 2011 at a level of 58.2 percent. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio was 54.9 percent in October 1949.

Illinois and U.S. Labor Force Participation Rates (Percent, Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Illinois and U.S. Employment-to-Population Ratios (Percent, Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics