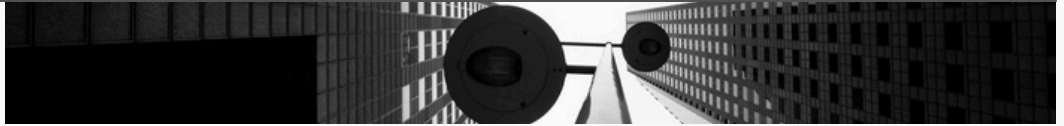


JUNE 2026

SOUTHERN 14

NEWSLETTER



Success Story

Dominick Pearson started as a Work Experience in July 2025 at Mt. Carmel High School as a custodian. He was a WOVSED participant in high school with an IEP/learning disability and had never had a job. He had a stellar work ethic, as all of his monitoring tools had rave remarks. The high school requested a Work Experience extension which WADI was happy to provide. He finished his participation in February of this year. The school district kept him on as a substitute custodian until there was a full time opening. In April, he was hired full time at the district. Nelda and Ryan T. are so proud of him!

OFFICE NOTES:

- Upcoming Board Meeting: September 8th
- Time: 7:00 pm
- Location: SIC Building G or Via Zoom

BOARD OFFICE:

- Open M-TR: 8-5
- PO BOX 186 Carmi, IL 62821
- Phone: 618-382-8869



WADI MONTHLY UPDATE

WADI has had 2 more CDL graduates. They have both landed jobs. 8 of WADI's LPN participants are going on to ADN. They have 3 new participants going into the Frontier Community College CNA Program. WADI ended up having 10 participants enter the Fairfield Memorial Hospital Pre apprenticeship program which began on June 1st. It is 8 weeks long. They also have 2 interns at Motorad. One in IT and one in engineering. The Skillforge participants continue to attain valuable certificates that will assist them in getting their next job. WADI's WIOA staff attended IWDS 2.0 training at Man-Tra-Con on May 27th and 28th where they learned a great deal of hands on experience.

SDC MONTHLY UPDATE

SDC has 2 employed on the State Grant at this time; 1 in Alexander County and 1 in Pulaski County. The funding has almost all been spent but the process is ongoing. For the Out of School Youth WEX, SDC has 2 employed at this time. There is 1 in Massac County, and 1 in Pulaski County. SDC is working on adding about 8 more Out of School Youth on WEX because they still have funding. SDC has one In-School Youth from Pulaski. They have 1 Dislocated Worker employed in Union County. As of this writing, SDC is contacting other WEX workers specifically in Massac, Union & Pulaski counties. They have contacted the area high schools and are meeting with seniors that want to do work between graduation and starting school in the fall.



CHANGES?

- Have you moved?
- Changed phone number?
- New email?
- Please notify the board office at boffice@so14lwib.com with any changes
- It is extremely important to let us know because of travel and communication! Thanks!!

SOUTHERN 14 UPDATE

We have sent out our Requests for Proposals for Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth programs. You can see those available on our website at www.so14lwib.com. The RFP will be due July 31, 2026. We anticipate bringing this to the committee for review before the September Board meeting. We have been preparing to move to our new office. The movers were able to get our large furniture moved this week and we are settling in! We have a few incumbent worker projects going on and have been approached by the company that purchased Champ Labs to do some training. DCEO has tentatively approved the project, which will be about \$30K. We will be requesting additional funds in our 1E grant to cover the cost of the project. Even though Trade is not in effect at the current time, the DOJ wants to ensure that the program is ready when needed so we were awarded a small grant \$7,800. \$2,200 is to provide Trade's share of the OneStop center and the remaining funds are for administrative salary & benefits.

WE ARE MOVING/HAVE MOVED!

- Southern 14 is moving/have moved!
 - Where: SIC Building/Illinois WorkNet Center
 - Physical Address: 1700 College Ave Carmi, IL 62821
 - Mailing Address: PO Box 186 Carmi, IL 62821
 - Phone Number: (618) 382-8869
- Do you need office furniture? Call 618-382-8869 to come and take a look at what is left!



Released: May 7, 2026

INFORMATION:

- Each issue you will see rotating information and data to keep you all informed in different ways!
- Like to see something included in the monthly newsletter?
- Email boffice@so14lwib.com

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

Labor Market Area	Mar 2026	Mar 2025	Over-the-Year Change
Carbondale Area			
Jackson County	5.5%	4.3%	1.2
Harrisburg Area			
Gallatin County	5.1%	4.4%	0.7
Hamilton County	5.4%	4.2%	1.2
Hardin County	5.2%	4.7%	0.5
Pope County	6.5%	4.4%	2.1
Saline County	5.0%	4.2%	0.8
White County	6.2%	4.4%	1.8
Olney - Mt. Carmel Area			
Edwards County	14.9%	4.2%	10.7
Lawrence County	5.3%	4.0%	1.3
Richland County	4.8%	3.5%	1.3
Wabash County	5.7%	3.5%	2.2
Wayne County	6.5%	3.8%	2.7
Regional Counties			
Alexander County	6.6%	6.5%	0.1
Franklin County	5.6%	4.7%	0.9
Jefferson County	5.8%	4.5%	1.3
Johnson County	5.5%	4.5%	1.0
Massac County	4.6%	3.5%	1.1
Perry County	5.6%	4.5%	1.1
Pulaski County	6.4%	5.7%	0.7
Union County	5.5%	4.4%	1.1
Williamson County	4.8%	4.0%	0.8
Cities			
Carbondale City	5.9%	4.9%	1.0
Other Areas			
LWIA 23	4.8%	3.7%	1.1
LWIA 24	4.6%	3.7%	0.9
LWIA 25	5.3%	4.3%	1.0
LWIA 26	5.9%	4.2%	1.7
Southern EDR	5.6%	4.3%	1.3

Southern Illinois Highlights

Carbondale Area

Total nonfarm payrolls decreased by -500 jobs in March 2026, compared to March 2025.

Employment gains were posted in Government (+125), Leisure-Hospitality (+75) and Construction (+50).

Payroll job losses occurred among employers in the Private Education-Health Services (-475), Trade-Transportation-Utilities (-125), Manufacturing (-50), Professional-Business Services (-50), Financial Activities (-25), Information (-25), Natural Resources-Mining (-25) and Other Services (-25) sectors.

Harrisburg Area

Total nonfarm payrolls decreased by -200 jobs in March 2026, compared to March 2025.

Employment gains were posted in Construction (+75), Government (+50), Financial Activities (+25), Leisure-Hospitality (+25) and Professional-Business Services (+25).

Year-over-year, payroll totals were unchanged among employers in Manufacturing and Other Services.

Payroll job losses occurred among employers in the Private Education-Health Services (-225), Natural Resources-Mining (-50), Trade-Transportation-Utilities (-50) and Information (-25) sectors.

Olney - Mt. Carmel Area

Total nonfarm payrolls decreased by -1,075 jobs in March 2026, compared to March 2025.

Employment gains were posted in the Natural Resources-Mining (+25) sector.

Year-over-year, payroll totals were unchanged among employers in Financial Activities, Government and Information.

Payroll job losses occurred among employers in the Manufacturing (-675), Private Education-Health Services (-225), Trade-Transportation-Utilities (-125), Leisure-Hospitality (-50), Construction (-25), Other Services (-25) and Professional-Business Services (-25) sectors.