OKLAHOMA EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION



Economic Research & Analysis

...Bringing Oklahoma's Labor Market to Life!

FOR RELEASE: September 15, 2006

AUGUST UNEMPLOYMENT RATE EDGES UP TO 4.0 PERCENT

- Oklahoma's statewide non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate grew by 0.2 percent in August to 4.0 percent. Over the month, non-seasonally adjusted labor force (-16,964 persons) and employment (-19,380 persons) both contracted, while non-seasonally adjusted unemployment (+2,416 persons) expanded.
- Oklahoma's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate also increased by two-tenths of a percent, settling at 4.2 percent in August. Seasonally adjusted labor force (+1,895 persons) and unemployment (+3,136 persons) increased over the month, as seasonally adjusted employment (-1,241 persons) shrunk by one-tenth of a percent.

	Non-seasona	ally Adjusted			Seasonally Adjusted			
Month	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate
Aug '05	1,743,431	1,671,191	72,240	4.1%	1,746,832	1,669,933	76,899	4.4%
Sep '05	1,746,485	1,674,549	71,936	4.1%	1,749,834	1,672,385	77,449	4.4%
Oct '05	1,759,920	1,689,483	70,437	4.0%	1,751,626	1,674,685	76,941	4.4%
Nov '05	1,762,998	1,693,150	69,848	4.0%	1,751,850	1,676,846	75,004	4.3%
Dec '05	1,753,184	1,683,787	69,397	4.0%	1,752,851	1,678,843	74,008	4.2%
Jan '06	1,738,918	1,661,983	76,935	4.4%	1,753,575	1,685,258	68,317	3.9%
Feb '06	1,739,826	1,668,661	71,165	4.1%	1,754,172	1,690,413	63,759	3.6%
Mar '06	1,747,693	1,674,488	73,205	4.2%	1,757,040	1,686,672	70,368	4.0%
Apr '06	1,750,408	1,687,676	62,732	3.6%	1,757,866	1,688,833	69,033	3.9%
May '06	1,756,948	1,685,350	71,598	4.1%	1,758,053	1,686,010	72,043	4.1%
Jun '06	1,785,453	1,712,762	72,691	4.1%	1,760,923	1,692,838	68,085	3.9%
Jul '06	1,774,767	1,707,019	67,748	3.8%	1,756,495	1,686,566	69,929	4.0%
Aug '06	1,757,803	1,687,639	70,164	4.0%	1,758,390	1,685,325	73,065	4.2%

		Non-seasonall	y Adjusted		Seasonally A		
August 2006		Labor Force	Labor Force Employment Une		Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment
		1,757,803	1,687,639	70,164	1,758,390	1,685,325	73,065
CHANGE	Monthly #	-16,964	-19,380	2,416	1,895	-1,241	3,136
	Monthly %	-1.0%	-1.1%	3.6%	0.1%	-0.1%	4.5%
	Annual #	14,372	16,448	-2,076	11,558	15,392	-3,834
	Annual %	0.8%	1.0%	-2.9%	0.7%	0.9%	-5.0%
Participation rate*		64.2%	61.6%		64.2%	61.5%	

^{*} Participation rate represents the ratio of Labor Force or Employment compared to the general population of Oklahoma.