

Economic Research & Analysis

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

FOR RELEASE: March 19, 2008

January unemployment rates down in more than threequarters of Oklahoma's 77 counties

Oklahoma's non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped to 4.2 percent in January 2008. McCurtain County reported the state's highest county rate again, and Beckham County claimed the lowest rate. The largest rate increase was seen in Sequoyah County, and Woods County provided the largest over-themonth rate drop.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES*

JANUARY 2008	Area	Unemp.	Monthly	Annual
JANUAR I 2000	Alea	rate	change	change
RATE	Statewide	4.2%	₽ 0.1%	₽ 0.5%
Highest county	McCurtain Co.	6.9%	₽ 0.3%	₽ 0.4%
Lowest county	Beckham Co.	2.4%	₽ 0.1%	₽ 0.5%
Biggest % gain	Sequoyah Co.	6.4%	௴ 0.3%	
Biggest % loss	Woods Co.	5.4%	₽ 0.7%	

^{*}non-seasonally adjusted

State unemployment rate opens 2008 at 4.2 percent

Oklahoma's **non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate** decreased by 0.1 percent to 4.2 percent in January 2008. Statewide **non-seasonally adjusted labor force**, **non-seasonally adjusted employment**, and **non-seasonally adjusted unemployment** were all down over the month. For the January-to-January period, statewide **non-seasonally adjusted unemployment** dropped by more than 12 percent.

REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT*

		UNEMP	LOYME	NT RAT	<u> </u>		
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Jan '08	Dec '07	Nov '07	Jan '07
Oklahoma	1,717,910	1,646,400	71,510	4.2%	4.3%	4.1%	4.7%
United States	152,828,000	144,607,000	8,221,000	5.4%	4.8%	4.5%	5.0%
Region							
Arkansas	1,352,400	1,266,230	86,170	6.4%	5.6%	5.0%	6.0%
Kansas	1,475,850	1,411,820	64,030	4.3%	4.0%	3.8%	4.5%
Louisiana	1,983,530	1,891,890	91,640	4.6%	3.8%	3.4%	4.5%
Missouri	3,009,590	2,829,590	180,000	6.0%	5.2%	4.9%	5.2%
New Mexico	935,930	905,600	30,330	3.2%	3.1%	3.2%	3.9%
Texas	11,566,250	11,029,200	537,050	4.6%	4.3%	4.2%	4.8%

^{*}non-seasonally adjusted

McCurtain County reports highest county rate in January

McCurtain County opened 2008 by claiming Oklahoma's highest county unemployment rate yet again at 6.9 percent, a drop of 0.3 percent over the month. **Hughes County** held the second highest rate of 6.5 percent for the month. **Sequoyah County** rounded out January's three highest county rates at 6.4 percent.

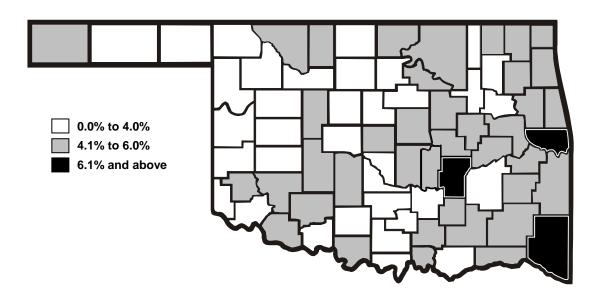
	JANUARY 2008	UNEMPLO	OYMENT RATE				
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Jan '08	Dec '07	Nov '07	Jan '07
McCurtain County	13,450	12,520	930	6.9%	7.2%	6.8%	7.3%
Hughes County	4,670	4,370	310	6.5%	6.8%	6.2%	7.3%
Sequoyah County	18,350	17,170	1,180	6.4%	6.1%	5.5%	6.3%

Beckham County begins year with state's lowest county rate

Beckham County reported the state's lowest county unemployment rate of 2.4 percent in January 2008. **Beaver and Woodward counties** tied for the second lowest rate of 2.6 percent for the month. **Ellis County** claimed the third lowest county unemployment rate of 2.7 percent.

	JANUARY 2008	UNEMPLO	JNEMPLOYMENT RATE				
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Jan '08	Dec '07	Nov '07	Jan '07
Beckham County	11,830	11,540	280	2.4%	2.5%	2.5%	2.9%
Beaver County	3,160	3,080	80	2.6%	3.0%	2.9%	3.0%
Woodward County	12,200	11,880	320	2.6%	2.8%	2.8%	3.1%
Ellis County	2,340	2,280	60	2.7%	2.8%	2.8%	2.9%

DISTRIBUTION of UNEMPLOYMENT RATES by COUNTY Preliminary data for January 2008



LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS for OKLAHOMA County rankings

		JANUARY 20	800		UNEMP	LOYME	NT RAT	E
		Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Jan ʻ08	Dec '07	Nov '07	Jan '07
1.	McCurtain County	13,450	12,520	930	6.9%	7.2%	6.8%	7.3%
2.	Hughes County	4,670	4,370	310	6.5%	6.8%	6.2%	7.3%
3.	Sequoyah County	18,350	17,170	1,180	6.4%	6.1%	5.5%	6.3%
4.	Coal County	2,450	2,300	150	6.0%	6.5%	5.9%	8.2%
5.	Choctaw County	6,900	6,500	400	5.8%	6.1%	5.8%	6.4%
6.	Okmulgee County	16,340	15,400	940	5.8%	5.9%	5.5%	6.1%
7.	Pushmataha County	5,000	4,710	290	5.8%	5.7%	5.4%	5.5%
8.	Latimer County	4,100	3,870	230	5.6%	5.5%	5.5%	5.6%
9.	LeFlore County	21,540	20,340	1,200	5.6%	5.9%	5.3%	5.8%
10.	Seminole County	10,480	9,900	570	5.5%	5.8%	5.4%	6.6%
11.	Muskogee County	28,940	27,390	1,550	5.4%	5.7%	5.4%	6.9%
	Woods County	4,200	3,970	230	5.4%	6.1%	6.5%	7.5%
13.	Craig County	7,620	7,220	400	5.3%	5.3%	5.0%	5.3%
14.	Jefferson County	2,280	2,160	120	5.3%	5.7%	5.3%	5.5%
15.	McIntosh County	8,260	7,820	440	5.3%	5.7%	5.3%	6.6%
16.	Ottawa County	16,600	15,710	880	5.3%	5.6%	5.1%	6.0%
17.	Adair County	11,010	10,450	560	5.0%	5.2%	5.0%	5.5%
18.	Nowata County	4,920	4,670	250	5.0%	5.5%	5.0%	5.6%
	Caddo County	11,750	11,180	570	4.9%	5.1%	4.8%	6.0%
20.	Delaware County	18,160	17,270	890	4.9%	5.0%	4.7%	5.4%
21.	Greer County	1,950	1,850	100	4.9%	5.2%	5.2%	5.9%
22.	Atoka County	5,720	5,450	270	4.8%	5.1%	5.1%	7.0%
23.	Marshall County	6,280	5,970	300	4.8%	4.9%	4.7%	4.8%
	Tillman County	3,370	3,210	160	4.7%	4.6%	4.8%	5.3%
	Johnston County	5,090	4,860	230	4.6%	4.8%	4.6%	4.6%
	Kiowa County	3,820	3,640	170	4.6%	5.0%	4.8%	5.8%
	Okfuskee County	4,740	4,520	220	4.6%	4.9%	4.9%	5.9%
	Mayes County	18,320	17,500	830	4.5%	4.6%	4.4%	5.2%
	Blaine County	5,010	4,790	220	4.4%	4.7%	4.7%	4.8%
	Creek County	31,160	29,800	1,360	4.4%	4.4%	4.3%	4.9%
	Oklahoma County	322,950	308,590	14,360	4.4%	4.5%	4.3%	4.9%
	Osage County	20,310	19,420	890	4.4%	4.3%	4.3%	4.9%
	Alfalfa County	2,260	2,160	100	4.3%	4.8%	4.5%	5.0%
	Cimarron County	1,190	1,140	50	4.3%	4.6%	4.7%	4.8%
	Comanche County	45,130	43,220	1,900	4.2%	4.3%	4.2%	4.8%
	Grady County	22,970	22,010	960	4.2%	4.2%	4.1%	5.5%
	Cherokee County	23,130	22,190	950	4.1%	4.2%	4.1%	4.8%
	Haskell County	5,680	5,450	230	4.1%	4.3%	4.2%	5.0%
39.	Kay County	22,380	21,460	910	4.1%	4.1%	4.1%	5.6%

		JANUARY 20	08		UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
		Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Jan '08	Dec '07	Nov '07	Jan '07
40.	Lincoln County	14,240	13,660	580	4.1%	4.1%	4.0%	4.8%
41.	Pawnee County	7,560	7,250	310	4.1%	4.3%	4.0%	5.5%
42.	Pottawatomie County	33,920	32,520	1,390	4.1%	4.2%	4.1%	4.8%
43.	Tulsa County	289,970	278,270	11,700	4.0%	4.0%	3.9%	4.3%
44.	Logan County	17,480	16,800	680	3.9%	3.8%	3.9%	4.5%
45.	Pittsburg County	22,850	21,970	880	3.9%	4.2%	3.9%	5.0%
46.	Rogers County	39,790	38,230	1,560	3.9%	3.9%	3.8%	4.3%
47.	Stephens County	21,240	20,400	840	3.9%	4.0%	4.0%	4.3%
48.	McClain County	14,550	14,000	550	3.8%	3.7%	3.7%	4.6%
49.	Wagoner County	32,270	31,050	1,230	3.8%	3.9%	3.8%	4.4%
50.	Bryan County	20,850	20,070	780	3.7%	3.8%	3.7%	3.9%
51.	Canadian County	50,550	48,670	1,880	3.7%	3.8%	3.7%	4.4%
52.	Carter County	24,410	23,510	900	3.7%	3.8%	3.6%	4.4%
53.	Cleveland County	115,500	111,220	4,280	3.7%	3.8%	3.6%	4.2%
54.	Harmon County	1,350	1,300	50	3.7%	4.2%	3.9%	4.3%
55.	Dewey County	2,500	2,410	90	3.6%	3.4%	3.6%	4.2%
56.	Payne County	37,020	35,700	1,320	3.6%	3.8%	3.7%	3.8%
57.	Washington County	26,680	25,760	930	3.5%	3.7%	3.5%	4.0%
58.	Noble County	5,780	5,580	200	3.4%	3.4%	3.5%	4.3%
59.	Jackson County	12,320	11,910	410	3.3%	3.5%	3.5%	4.0%
60.	Pontotoc County	19,740	19,080	660	3.3%	3.5%	3.4%	5.0%
61.	Garvin County	14,370	13,910	460	3.2%	3.5%	3.4%	4.1%
62.	Grant County	2,530	2,450	80	3.2%	3.2%	3.4%	4.2%
63.	Love County	4,880	4,730	150	3.1%	3.2%	3.3%	3.5%
64.	Washita County	5,870	5,690	180	3.1%	3.2%	3.3%	3.7%
65.	Custer County	14,120	13,700	420	3.0%	3.1%	3.1%	3.4%
66.	Garfield County	30,190	29,300	890	3.0%	3.1%	3.1%	3.4%
67.	Texas County	9,140	8,870	270	3.0%	3.4%	3.2%	4.0%
68.	Major County	4,010	3,890	120	2.9%	3.1%	3.0%	3.3%
69.	Murray County	8,120	7,880	240	2.9%	3.3%	2.9%	3.6%
70.	Roger Mills County	1,840	1,790	50	2.9%	3.0%	3.0%	3.3%
71.	Cotton County	4,100	3,980	110	2.8%	2.9%	2.8%	3.8%
72.	Harper County	1,900	1,850	50	2.8%	3.1%	3.1%	3.5%
73.	Kingfisher County	8,330	8,090	230	2.8%	2.8%	2.9%	3.2%
74.	Ellis County	2,340	2,280	60	2.7%	2.8%	2.8%	2.9%
	Beaver County	3,160	3,080	80	2.6%	3.0%	2.9%	3.0%
76.	Woodward County	12,200	11,880	320	2.6%	2.8%	2.8%	3.1%
77.	Beckham County	11,830	11,540	280	2.4%	2.5%	2.5%	2.9%

LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS for OKLAHOMA By county

	JANUARY 20	800		UNEMP	LOYME	NT RAT	E
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Jan '08	Dec '07	Nov '07	Jan '07
Adair County	11,010	10,450	560	5.0%	5.2%	5.0%	5.5%
Alfalfa County	2,260	2,160	100	4.3%	4.8%	4.5%	5.0%
Atoka County	5,720	5,450	270	4.8%	5.1%	5.1%	7.0%
Beaver County	3,160	3,080	80	2.6%	3.0%	2.9%	3.0%
Beckham County	11,830	11,540	280	2.4%	2.5%	2.5%	2.9%
Blaine County	5,010	4,790	220	4.4%	4.7%	4.7%	4.8%
Bryan County	20,850	20,070	780	3.7%	3.8%	3.7%	3.9%
Caddo County	11,750	11,180	570	4.9%	5.1%	4.8%	6.0%
Canadian County	50,550	48,670	1,880	3.7%	3.8%	3.7%	4.4%
Carter County	24,410	23,510	900	3.7%	3.8%	3.6%	4.4%
Cherokee County	23,130	22,190	950	4.1%	4.2%	4.1%	4.8%
Choctaw County	6,900	6,500	400	5.8%	6.1%	5.8%	6.4%
Cimarron County	1,190	1,140	50	4.3%	4.6%	4.7%	4.8%
Cleveland County	115,500	111,220	4,280	3.7%	3.8%	3.6%	4.2%
Coal County	2,450	2,300	150	6.0%	6.5%	5.9%	8.2%
Comanche County	45,130	43,220	1,900	4.2%	4.3%	4.2%	4.8%
Cotton County	4,100	3,980	110	2.8%	2.9%	2.8%	3.8%
Craig County	7,620	7,220	400	5.3%	5.3%	5.0%	5.3%
Creek County	31,160	29,800	1,360	4.4%	4.4%	4.3%	4.9%
Custer County	14,120	13,700	420	3.0%	3.1%	3.1%	3.4%
Delaware County	18,160	17,270	890	4.9%	5.0%	4.7%	5.4%
Dewey County	2,500	2,410	90	3.6%	3.4%	3.6%	4.2%
Ellis County	2,340	2,280	60	2.7%	2.8%	2.8%	2.9%
Garfield County	30,190	29,300	890	3.0%	3.1%	3.1%	3.4%
Garvin County	14,370	13,910	460	3.2%	3.5%	3.4%	4.1%
Grady County	22,970	22,010	960	4.2%	4.2%	4.1%	5.5%
Grant County	2,530	2,450	80	3.2%	3.2%	3.4%	4.2%
Greer County	1,950	1,850	100	4.9%	5.2%	5.2%	5.9%
Harmon County	1,350	1,300	50	3.7%	4.2%	3.9%	4.3%
Harper County	1,900	1,850	50	2.8%	3.1%	3.1%	3.5%
Haskell County	5,680	5,450	230	4.1%	4.3%	4.2%	5.0%
Hughes County	4,670	4,370	310	6.5%	6.8%	6.2%	7.3%
Jackson County	12,320	11,910	410	3.3%	3.5%	3.5%	4.0%
Jefferson County	2,280	2,160	120	5.3%	5.7%	5.3%	5.5%
Johnston County	5,090	4,860	230	4.6%	4.8%	4.6%	4.6%
Kay County	22,380	21,460	910	4.1%	4.1%	4.1%	5.6%
Kingfisher County	8,330	8,090	230	2.8%	2.8%	2.9%	3.2%
Kiowa County	3,820	3,640	170	4.6%	5.0%	4.8%	5.8%
Latimer County	4,100	3,870	230	5.6%	5.5%	5.5%	5.6%

	JANUARY 20	08	8 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE				
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Jan '08	Dec '07	Nov '07	Jan '07
LeFlore County	21,540	20,340	1,200	5.6%	5.9%	5.3%	5.8%
Lincoln County	14,240	13,660	580	4.1%	4.1%	4.0%	4.8%
Logan County	17,480	16,800	680	3.9%	3.8%	3.9%	4.5%
Love County	4,880	4,730	150	3.1%	3.2%	3.3%	3.5%
Major County	4,010	3,890	120	2.9%	3.1%	3.0%	3.3%
Marshall County	6,280	5,970	300	4.8%	4.9%	4.7%	4.8%
Mayes County	18,320	17,500	830	4.5%	4.6%	4.4%	5.2%
McClain County	14,550	14,000	550	3.8%	3.7%	3.7%	4.6%
McCurtain County	13,450	12,520	930	6.9%	7.2%	6.8%	7.3%
McIntosh County	8,260	7,820	440	5.3%	5.7%	5.3%	6.6%
Murray County	8,120	7,880	240	2.9%	3.3%	2.9%	3.6%
Muskogee County	28,940	27,390	1,550	5.4%	5.7%	5.4%	6.9%
Noble County	5,780	5,580	200	3.4%	3.4%	3.5%	4.3%
Nowata County	4,920	4,670	250	5.0%	5.5%	5.0%	5.6%
Okfuskee County	4,740	4,520	220	4.6%	4.9%	4.9%	5.9%
Oklahoma County	322,950	308,590	14,360	4.4%	4.5%	4.3%	4.9%
Okmulgee County	16,340	15,400	940	5.8%	5.9%	5.5%	6.1%
Osage County	20,310	19,420	890	4.4%	4.3%	4.3%	4.9%
Ottawa County	16,600	15,710	880	5.3%	5.6%	5.1%	6.0%
Pawnee County	7,560	7,250	310	4.1%	4.3%	4.0%	5.5%
Payne County	37,020	35,700	1,320	3.6%	3.8%	3.7%	3.8%
Pittsburg County	22,850	21,970	880	3.9%	4.2%	3.9%	5.0%
Pontotoc County	19,740	19,080	660	3.3%	3.5%	3.4%	5.0%
Pottawatomie County	33,920	32,520	1,390	4.1%	4.2%	4.1%	4.8%
Pushmataha County	5,000	4,710	290	5.8%	5.7%	5.4%	5.5%
Roger Mills County	1,840	1,790	50	2.9%	3.0%	3.0%	3.3%
Rogers County	39,790	38,230	1,560	3.9%	3.9%	3.8%	4.3%
Seminole County	10,480	9,900	570	5.5%	5.8%	5.4%	6.6%
Sequoyah County	18,350	17,170	1,180	6.4%	6.1%	5.5%	6.3%
Stephens County	21,240	20,400	840	3.9%	4.0%	4.0%	4.3%
Texas County	9,140	8,870	270	3.0%	3.4%	3.2%	4.0%
Tillman County	3,370	3,210	160	4.7%	4.6%	4.8%	5.3%
Tulsa County	289,970	278,270	11,700	4.0%	4.0%	3.9%	4.3%
Wagoner County	32,270	31,050	1,230	3.8%	3.9%	3.8%	4.4%
Washington County	26,680	25,760	930	3.5%	3.7%	3.5%	4.0%
Washita County	5,870	5,690	180	3.1%	3.2%	3.3%	3.7%
Woods County	4,200	3,970	230	5.4%	6.1%	6.5%	7.5%
Woodward County	12,200	11,880	320	2.6%	2.8%	2.8%	3.1%

LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS for OKLAHOMA Workforce Investments Areas (WIAs) & Local Labor Markets (LLMs)

	JANUARY 20	08		UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Jan ʻ08	Dec '07	Nov '07	Jan '07
OKLAHOMA	1,717,910	1,646,400	71,510	4.2%	4.3%	4.1%	4.7%
Central WIA	390,980	374,070	16,910	4.3%	4.4%	4.2%	4.9%
Oklahoma City LLM	390,980	374,070	16,910	4.3%	4.4%	4.2%	4.9%
Cleveland County WIA	115,500	111,220	4,280	3.7%	3.8%	3.6%	4.2%
Norman LLM	115,500	111,220	4,280	3.7%	3.8%	3.6%	4.2%
East Central WIA	68,050	64,970	3,070	4.5%	4.7%	4.5%	5.3%
Holdenville LLM	9,410	8,890	530	5.6%	5.8%	5.6%	6.6%
Shawnee LLM	58,640	56,090	2,550	4.3%	4.5%	4.3%	5.1%
Eastern WIA	138,300	131,460	6,840	4.9%	5.1%	4.8%	5.7%
Muskogee LLM	69,470	66,250	3,220	4.6%	4.9%	4.6%	5.7%
Okmulgee LLM	16,340	15,400	940	5.8%	5.9%	5.5%	6.1%
Tahlequah-Sallisaw LLM	52,490	49,810	2,680	5.1%	5.1%	4.8%	5.5%
North Central WIA	117,490	113,420	4,070	3.5%	3.6%	3.6%	4.1%
Enid LLM	52,320	50,680	1,640	3.1%	3.3%	3.3%	3.6%
Ponca City LLM	28,150	27,040	1,110	3.9%	4.0%	3.9%	5.4%
Stillwater LLM	37,020	35,700	1,320	3.6%	3.8%	3.7%	3.8%
Northeast WIA	132,090	126,360	5,730	4.3%	4.5%	4.2%	4.8%
Bartlesville LLM	31,600	30,430	1,170	3.7%	4.0%	3.8%	4.2%
Claremore-Pryor LLM	76,270	72,990	3,280	4.3%	4.3%	4.2%	4.8%
Miami-Vinita LLM	24,220	22,940	1,280	5.3%	5.5%	5.1%	5.8%
Northwest WIA	36,610	35,460	1,150	3.1%	3.5%	3.5%	4.0%
Guymon LLM	13,480	13,080	400	3.0%	3.4%	3.3%	3.9%
Woodward LLM	23,130	22,380	750	3.2%	3.5%	3.6%	4.1%
South Central WIA	125,390	120,170	5,220	4.2%	4.2%	4.1%	4.9%
Chickasha LLM	49,270	47,190	2,080	4.2%	4.3%	4.2%	5.3%
Duncan LLM	23,520	22,560	960	4.1%	4.2%	4.1%	4.4%
Lawton LLM	52,590	50,420	2,180	4.1%	4.2%	4.1%	4.8%
Southeast WIA	79,520	75,360	4,170	5.2%	5.5%	5.1%	5.8%
Broken Bow-Idabel- Antlers-Hugo LLM	25,350	23,730	1,620	6.4%	6.6%	6.2%	6.7%
McAlester LLM	26,950	25,840	1,110	4.1%	4.4%	4.2%	5.1%
Poteau LLM	27,220	25,790	1,430	5.3%	5.6%	5.1%	5.6%
Southern WIA	111,910	107,780	4,130	3.7%	3.9%	3.7%	4.6%
Ada LLM	34,110	33,000	1,110	3.3%	3.5%	3.4%	4.7%
Ardmore LLM	37,410	36,120	1,280	3.4%	3.6%	3.4%	4.1%
Durant LLM	40,390	38,660	1,740	4.3%	4.4%	4.3%	4.9%
Southwest WIA	53,090	51,420	1,670	3.1%	3.3%	3.3%	3.8%
Altus LLM	19,420	18,690	730	3.8%	4.0%	4.0%	4.6%
Elk City-Weatherford- Clinton LLM	33,660	32,730	940	2.8%	2.9%	2.9%	3.3%
Tulsa WIA	348,990	334,730	14,260	4.1%	4.1%	4.0%	4.4%
Tulsa LLM	348,990	334,730	14,260	4.1%	4.1%	4.0%	4.4%

LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS for OKLAHOMA Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs)

	JANUARY 20	UNEMP	OYMEN	IT RATE			
	Labor Force Empl.		Unempl.	Jan '08	Dec '07	Nov '07	Jan '07
OKLAHOMA	1,717,910	1,646,400	71,510	4.2%	4.3%	4.1%	4.7%
Oklahoma City MSA	558,240	534,960	23,280	4.2%	4.2%	4.0%	4.7%
Tulsa MSA	437,390	419,410	17,980	4.1%	4.1%	4.0%	4.5%
Lawton MSA	45,130	43,220	1,900	4.2%	4.3%	4.2%	4.8%