



local labor market update for the **OKLAHOMA CITY AREA**



a publication from the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission and the OKC Eastside, OKC Reno, and OKC Southside workforce centers

Covering 4th Quarter 2011

The **Oklahoma City Local Labor Market (LLM)** is comprised of Canadian, Logan and Oklahoma counties.

During fourth quarter 2011, **Oklahoma Employment Security Commission (OESC)** staff at the Oklahoma City workforce centers matched job seekers with open positions for a number of employers, including SMX Staffing and MDV Nash Finch. In addition, career fair events were held for Schneider Trucking, LMS Intellibound, USIC, Pro Drivers, and Chipotle Grill.

The 30th Semi-Annual Oklahoma City Job Fair, sponsored by **OESC**, was held November 10, 2011. More than 100 employers registered for this event, and it was attended by over 1,600 job seekers. This job fair is known as Central Oklahoma's premier job fair because of its wide variety of employers as well as its great selection of quality job seekers.

SPOTLIGHT ON

ON-THE-JOB TRAINING

OESC's On-the-Job Training (OJT) program reimburses employers for costs associated with training new employees. Because training is planned, organized and conducted by employers at their workplace, they can customize the training to address their specific needs. An employer's local workforce center will provide pre-screened applicants for the OJT position, assist in designing the individualized training, and reimburse the employer between 50 percent and 90 percent of the new hire's training costs during the training period. Assistance is available at no cost to employers. Unemployed Oklahoma workers laid off since January 1, 2008, who have been unemployed for more than 19 weeks are eligible to participate. This creates a situation where employers get the workers they need at a reduced cost, while long-term unemployed job seekers get back to work and expand their skills in a hands-on environment. For more information on the OJT program, contact your local workforce center at the phone number provided below.

LOCAL WORKFORCE CENTERS

OKC EASTSIDE Brenda Orange, Manager
7401 N.E. 23rd St., Oklahoma City, OK (405) 713-1890

OKC RENO Elfreda Fields, Manager
416 B Hudiberg Circle, OKC, OK (405) 639-3640

OKC SOUTHSIDE Donna Sanders, Manager
4509 S. I-35 Svc. Rd., OKC, OK (405) 670-9100

OKLAHOMA EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION (OESC)

In 2011, OESC

- served **156,815 job seekers** through workforce centers
- assisted **70,005 customers** enter employment
- listed **107,689 job openings**
- processed **123,416 unemployment insurance (UI) claims**
- injected **more than \$441.7 million in UI benefits** into Oklahoma's economy

EMPLOYMENT & UNEMPLOYMENT

Dec. 2011	LLM	State
Labor force	399,239	1,758,774
Employment	376,263	1,651,303
Unemployment	22,976	107,471
Unemployment rate	5.8%	6.1%

Source: OESC Economic Research & Analysis

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

4Q 2011	LLM	State
Initial claims	14,023	58,278
Continued claims	121,249	515,476

Source: OESC Unemployment Insurance Division

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

OKC workforce centers

4Q 2011	Center	State
Registrations	5,098	35,770
Entered employment	11,176	64,724
Employer contacts	2,507	7,131
Job openings	6,495	22,360

Source: OESC Workforce Services Division