



Economic Research & Analysis

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

FOR RELEASE: April 4, 2007

County unemployment rates report movement in February despite relatively steady state numbers

Although the state unemployment rate held steady in February, there was movement among the rates for Oklahoma's 77 counties. **Sequoyah County** reported the state's highest rate and largest rate gain in February, and **Woodward County** claimed the state's lowest rate for the month. **Coal County**, the county with January's highest rate, reported the largest rate drop in February. The state unemployment rate of 4.4 percent is the same as the rate reported in February 2006.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES*

FEBRUARY 2007	Area	Unemp. Rate	Monthly change	Annual change
RATE	Statewide	4.4%	no change	no change
Highest county	Sequoyah Co.	6.7%	↑ 0.8%	↑ 0.5%
Lowest county	Woodward Co.	2.8%	no change	↓ 0.2%
Biggest % gain	Sequoyah Co.	6.7%	↑ 0.8%	--
Biggest % loss	Coal County	6.5%	↓ 1.2%	--

*non-seasonally adjusted

State unemployment rate holds at 4.4 percent in February

Oklahoma's **non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate** held steady in February at 4.4 percent. **Non-seasonally adjusted labor force, employment and unemployment** all expanded slightly for the month, resulting in no change for the unemployment rate.

REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT*

	FEBRUARY 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Feb '07	Jan '07	Dec '06	Feb '06
Oklahoma	1,724,420	1,648,750	75,670	4.4%	4.4%	3.7%	4.4%
United States	151,879,000	144,479,000	7,400,000	4.9%	5.0%	4.3%	5.1%
Region							
Arkansas	1,367,140	1,288,240	78,900	5.8%	5.8%	4.9%	5.9%
Kansas	1,471,090	1,401,610	69,480	4.7%	4.6%	4.1%	4.8%
Louisiana	1,966,570	1,893,740	72,840	3.7%	4.4%	3.6%	4.2%
Missouri	3,045,690	2,872,960	172,740	5.7%	5.1%	4.6%	5.3%
New Mexico	934,110	899,080	35,030	3.7%	3.9%	3.3%	4.9%
Texas	11,520,340	10,977,130	543,210	4.7%	4.7%	4.1%	5.3%

*non-seasonally adjusted

Sequoyah County claims highest county rate in February

Sequoyah County wrestled the state's highest unemployment rate away from **Coal County** in February with a rate of 6.7 percent. This was an increase of 0.8 percent over the month, the largest month-to-month county increase reported for February. **Coal and Hughes counties** shared the month's second highest county rate of 6.5 percent. **Atoka and McCurtain counties** tied at 6.4 percent for Oklahoma's third highest rate in February.

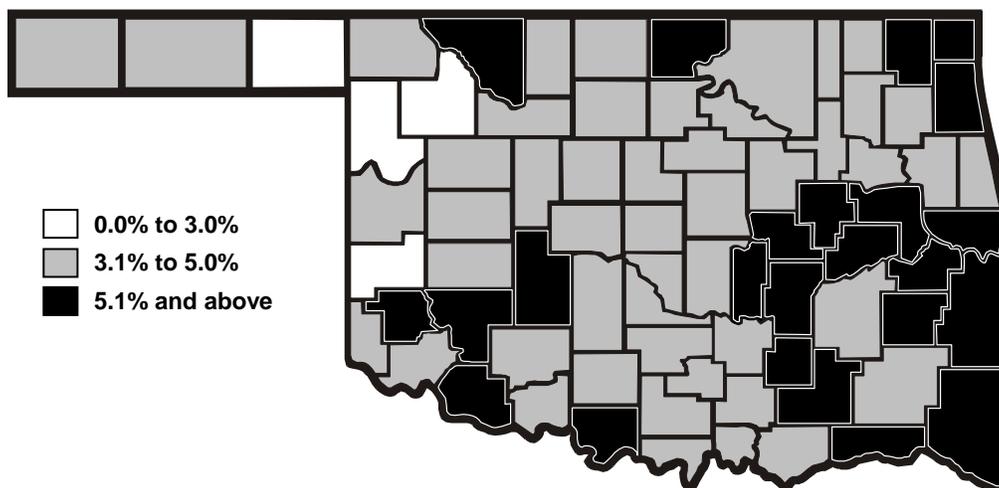
	FEBRUARY 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Feb '07	Jan '07	Dec '06	Feb '06
Sequoyah County	18,620	17,370	1,250	6.7%	5.9%	5.4%	6.2%
Coal County	2,400	2,250	160	6.5%	7.7%	6.1%	6.5%
Hughes County	4,970	4,650	320	6.5%	6.6%	5.5%	6.9%
Atoka County	5,810	5,440	370	6.4%	6.6%	6.0%	5.0%
McCurtain County	13,860	12,980	890	6.4%	6.7%	6.0%	7.0%

Woodward County records state's lowest county rate

In February, **Woodward County** reported the state's lowest county unemployment rate at 2.8 percent. **Beckham County** claimed Oklahoma's second lowest rate of 2.9 percent for February. There was a tie at 3.0 percent for the month's third lowest county rate between **Beaver and Ellis counties**.

	FEBRUARY 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Feb '07	Jan '07	Dec '06	Feb '06
Woodward County	11,620	11,290	330	2.8%	2.8%	2.4%	3.0%
Beckham County	10,290	9,990	300	2.9%	2.9%	2.4%	3.1%
Beaver County	2,980	2,890	90	3.0%	2.9%	2.8%	2.9%
Ellis County	2,180	2,120	70	3.0%	2.7%	2.3%	3.3%

DISTRIBUTION of UNEMPLOYMENT RATES by COUNTY Preliminary Data for February 2007



LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS for OKLAHOMA
County rankings

	FEBRUARY 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Feb '07	Jan '07	Dec '06	Feb '06
1. Sequoyah County	18,620	17,370	1,250	6.7%	5.9%	5.4%	6.2%
2. Coal County	2,400	2,250	160	6.5%	7.7%	6.1%	6.5%
3. Hughes County	4,970	4,650	320	6.5%	6.6%	5.5%	6.9%
4. Atoka County	5,810	5,440	370	6.4%	6.6%	6.0%	5.0%
5. McCurtain County	13,860	12,980	890	6.4%	6.7%	6.0%	7.0%
6. Muskogee County	28,630	26,860	1,780	6.2%	6.5%	5.6%	5.4%
7. Woods County	4,110	3,860	250	6.1%	6.3%	5.2%	6.6%
8. McIntosh County	8,220	7,730	500	6.0%	6.2%	5.2%	5.6%
9. Seminole County	10,120	9,520	610	6.0%	6.2%	5.5%	6.3%
10. LeFlore County	21,870	20,590	1,280	5.8%	5.3%	4.7%	5.8%
11. Choctaw County	6,780	6,390	380	5.7%	6.2%	5.3%	5.9%
12. Okmulgee County	16,860	15,900	960	5.7%	5.6%	4.9%	6.4%
13. Caddo County	11,430	10,790	640	5.6%	5.7%	5.2%	5.9%
14. Okfuskee County	4,340	4,100	240	5.6%	5.7%	5.3%	6.3%
15. Jefferson County	2,380	2,250	130	5.4%	5.2%	4.4%	4.6%
16. Kiowa County	3,770	3,570	200	5.4%	5.5%	4.6%	4.9%
17. Ottawa County	16,520	15,630	890	5.4%	5.4%	5.0%	5.0%
18. Tillman County	3,470	3,280	190	5.4%	5.0%	4.3%	4.7%
19. Greer County	2,010	1,900	110	5.3%	5.6%	5.0%	5.8%
20. Craig County	6,740	6,390	350	5.2%	5.3%	4.3%	4.4%
21. Delaware County	17,040	16,170	880	5.2%	5.2%	4.4%	5.0%
22. Haskell County	5,340	5,060	280	5.2%	4.9%	4.3%	4.6%
23. Kay County	21,520	20,420	1,100	5.1%	5.4%	4.7%	5.3%
24. Latimer County	4,050	3,840	210	5.1%	5.4%	4.5%	5.7%
25. Adair County	10,860	10,320	540	5.0%	5.0%	4.2%	4.7%
26. Nowata County	4,660	4,430	230	5.0%	5.5%	4.5%	5.0%
27. Alfalfa County	2,240	2,130	110	4.9%	5.0%	4.1%	4.7%
28. Cherokee County	20,940	19,940	1,000	4.8%	4.7%	4.1%	4.5%
29. Grady County	23,780	22,640	1,140	4.8%	4.9%	4.6%	4.8%
30. Mayes County	17,400	16,550	840	4.8%	4.9%	4.2%	4.6%
31. Blaine County	4,840	4,610	230	4.7%	4.5%	4.0%	4.4%
32. Pawnee County	7,850	7,480	370	4.7%	5.0%	4.0%	4.5%
33. Pottawatomie County	31,350	29,890	1,460	4.7%	4.7%	4.1%	4.8%
34. Comanche County	45,560	43,450	2,110	4.6%	4.6%	4.0%	4.6%
35. Creek County	32,010	30,530	1,480	4.6%	4.4%	3.8%	4.8%
36. Johnston County	4,860	4,630	220	4.6%	4.6%	3.9%	4.8%
37. Marshall County	6,250	5,960	290	4.6%	4.5%	3.9%	4.7%
38. Oklahoma County	336,860	321,410	15,450	4.6%	4.4%	3.8%	4.5%
39. Cimarron County	1,280	1,220	60	4.5%	4.4%	3.8%	3.8%

	FEBRUARY 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Feb '07	Jan '07	Dec '06	Feb '06
40. Pittsburg County	21,560	20,590	970	4.5%	4.6%	3.9%	4.6%
41. Pushmataha County	5,480	5,240	250	4.5%	4.7%	3.9%	5.0%
42. Osage County	20,850	19,960	890	4.3%	4.4%	3.9%	4.4%
43. Lincoln County	14,850	14,220	630	4.2%	4.3%	3.8%	4.3%
44. McClain County	14,910	14,280	630	4.2%	4.2%	3.4%	3.7%
45. Wagoner County	32,330	30,980	1,350	4.2%	4.0%	3.5%	4.1%
46. Grant County	2,320	2,220	90	4.1%	4.3%	3.8%	4.0%
47. Canadian County	51,960	49,860	2,100	4.0%	4.0%	3.2%	3.7%
48. Logan County	18,380	17,640	740	4.0%	4.0%	3.5%	3.8%
49. Noble County	5,710	5,480	230	4.0%	4.1%	3.4%	3.9%
50. Payne County	33,430	32,110	1,320	4.0%	3.8%	3.3%	3.7%
51. Stephens County	20,930	20,090	830	4.0%	3.9%	3.3%	3.9%
52. Tulsa County	295,830	284,040	11,800	4.0%	3.9%	3.4%	4.0%
53. Jackson County	12,250	11,770	480	3.9%	3.8%	3.3%	3.6%
54. Rogers County	40,190	38,610	1,580	3.9%	3.9%	3.4%	3.9%
55. Washington County	24,950	23,980	970	3.9%	3.9%	3.3%	3.9%
56. Carter County	24,190	23,260	930	3.8%	4.1%	3.4%	4.3%
57. Cleveland County	119,620	115,080	4,540	3.8%	3.7%	3.1%	3.7%
58. Garvin County	13,450	12,940	510	3.8%	4.0%	3.3%	4.2%
59. Harmon County	1,490	1,430	60	3.8%	3.8%	3.3%	4.1%
60. Cotton County	3,370	3,240	120	3.7%	3.9%	3.1%	3.8%
61. Dewey County	2,400	2,310	90	3.7%	4.2%	3.2%	3.7%
62. Texas County	8,910	8,580	330	3.7%	3.8%	3.2%	3.7%
63. Bryan County	20,040	19,320	720	3.6%	3.6%	3.1%	4.0%
64. Pontotoc County	20,190	19,460	730	3.6%	4.6%	3.1%	4.0%
65. Custer County	13,390	12,920	470	3.5%	3.3%	3.0%	3.2%
66. Love County	4,870	4,700	170	3.5%	3.3%	2.7%	3.8%
67. Harper County	1,830	1,770	60	3.4%	3.5%	3.1%	3.6%
68. Washita County	5,670	5,480	190	3.4%	3.5%	3.1%	3.6%
69. Garfield County	29,020	28,070	950	3.3%	3.2%	2.8%	3.5%
70. Roger Mills County	1,720	1,660	60	3.3%	3.3%	2.8%	3.0%
71. Major County	3,890	3,770	120	3.2%	3.0%	2.7%	3.3%
72. Kingfisher County	7,960	7,710	250	3.1%	3.1%	2.5%	3.0%
73. Murray County	7,840	7,590	250	3.1%	3.3%	2.9%	3.7%
74. Beaver County	2,980	2,890	90	3.0%	2.9%	2.8%	2.9%
75. Ellis County	2,180	2,120	70	3.0%	2.7%	2.3%	3.3%
76. Beckham County	10,290	9,990	300	2.9%	2.9%	2.4%	3.1%
77. Woodward County	11,620	11,290	330	2.8%	2.8%	2.4%	3.0%

LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS for OKLAHOMA
By county

	FEBRUARY 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Feb '07	Jan '07	Dec '06	Feb '06
Adair County	10,860	10,320	540	5.0%	5.0%	4.2%	4.7%
Alfalfa County	2,240	2,130	110	4.9%	5.0%	4.1%	4.7%
Atoka County	5,810	5,440	370	6.4%	6.6%	6.0%	5.0%
Beaver County	2,980	2,890	90	3.0%	2.9%	2.8%	2.9%
Beckham County	10,290	9,990	300	2.9%	2.9%	2.4%	3.1%
Blaine County	4,840	4,610	230	4.7%	4.5%	4.0%	4.4%
Bryan County	20,040	19,320	720	3.6%	3.6%	3.1%	4.0%
Caddo County	11,430	10,790	640	5.6%	5.7%	5.2%	5.9%
Canadian County	51,960	49,860	2,100	4.0%	4.0%	3.2%	3.7%
Carter County	24,190	23,260	930	3.8%	4.1%	3.4%	4.3%
Cherokee County	20,940	19,940	1,000	4.8%	4.7%	4.1%	4.5%
Choctaw County	6,780	6,390	380	5.7%	6.2%	5.3%	5.9%
Cimarron County	1,280	1,220	60	4.5%	4.4%	3.8%	3.8%
Cleveland County	119,620	115,080	4,540	3.8%	3.7%	3.1%	3.7%
Coal County	2,400	2,250	160	6.5%	7.7%	6.1%	6.5%
Comanche County	45,560	43,450	2,110	4.6%	4.6%	4.0%	4.6%
Cotton County	3,370	3,240	120	3.7%	3.9%	3.1%	3.8%
Craig County	6,740	6,390	350	5.2%	5.3%	4.3%	4.4%
Creek County	32,010	30,530	1,480	4.6%	4.4%	3.8%	4.8%
Custer County	13,390	12,920	470	3.5%	3.3%	3.0%	3.2%
Delaware County	17,040	16,170	880	5.2%	5.2%	4.4%	5.0%
Dewey County	2,400	2,310	90	3.7%	4.2%	3.2%	3.7%
Ellis County	2,180	2,120	70	3.0%	2.7%	2.3%	3.3%
Garfield County	29,020	28,070	950	3.3%	3.2%	2.8%	3.5%
Garvin County	13,450	12,940	510	3.8%	4.0%	3.3%	4.2%
Grady County	23,780	22,640	1,140	4.8%	4.9%	4.6%	4.8%
Grant County	2,320	2,220	90	4.1%	4.3%	3.8%	4.0%
Greer County	2,010	1,900	110	5.3%	5.6%	5.0%	5.8%
Harmon County	1,490	1,430	60	3.8%	3.8%	3.3%	4.1%
Harper County	1,830	1,770	60	3.4%	3.5%	3.1%	3.6%
Haskell County	5,340	5,060	280	5.2%	4.9%	4.3%	4.6%
Hughes County	4,970	4,650	320	6.5%	6.6%	5.5%	6.9%
Jackson County	12,250	11,770	480	3.9%	3.8%	3.3%	3.6%
Jefferson County	2,380	2,250	130	5.4%	5.2%	4.4%	4.6%
Johnston County	4,860	4,630	220	4.6%	4.6%	3.9%	4.8%
Kay County	21,520	20,420	1,100	5.1%	5.4%	4.7%	5.3%
Kingfisher County	7,960	7,710	250	3.1%	3.1%	2.5%	3.0%
Kiowa County	3,770	3,570	200	5.4%	5.5%	4.6%	4.9%
Latimer County	4,050	3,840	210	5.1%	5.4%	4.5%	5.7%

	FEBRUARY 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Feb '07	Jan '07	Dec '06	Feb '06
LeFlore County	21,870	20,590	1,280	5.8%	5.3%	4.7%	5.8%
Lincoln County	14,850	14,220	630	4.2%	4.3%	3.8%	4.3%
Logan County	18,380	17,640	740	4.0%	4.0%	3.5%	3.8%
Love County	4,870	4,700	170	3.5%	3.3%	2.7%	3.8%
Major County	3,890	3,770	120	3.2%	3.0%	2.7%	3.3%
Marshall County	6,250	5,960	290	4.6%	4.5%	3.9%	4.7%
Mayes County	17,400	16,550	840	4.8%	4.9%	4.2%	4.6%
McClain County	14,910	14,280	630	4.2%	4.2%	3.4%	3.7%
McCurtain County	13,860	12,980	890	6.4%	6.7%	6.0%	7.0%
McIntosh County	8,220	7,730	500	6.0%	6.2%	5.2%	5.6%
Murray County	7,840	7,590	250	3.1%	3.3%	2.9%	3.7%
Muskogee County	28,630	26,860	1,780	6.2%	6.5%	5.6%	5.4%
Noble County	5,710	5,480	230	4.0%	4.1%	3.4%	3.9%
Nowata County	4,660	4,430	230	5.0%	5.5%	4.5%	5.0%
Okfuskee County	4,340	4,100	240	5.6%	5.7%	5.3%	6.3%
Oklahoma County	336,860	321,410	15,450	4.6%	4.4%	3.8%	4.5%
Okmulgee County	16,860	15,900	960	5.7%	5.6%	4.9%	6.4%
Osage County	20,850	19,960	890	4.3%	4.4%	3.9%	4.4%
Ottawa County	16,520	15,630	890	5.4%	5.4%	5.0%	5.0%
Pawnee County	7,850	7,480	370	4.7%	5.0%	4.0%	4.5%
Payne County	33,430	32,110	1,320	4.0%	3.8%	3.3%	3.7%
Pittsburg County	21,560	20,590	970	4.5%	4.6%	3.9%	4.6%
Pontotoc County	20,190	19,460	730	3.6%	4.6%	3.1%	4.0%
Pottawatomie County	31,350	29,890	1,460	4.7%	4.7%	4.1%	4.8%
Pushmataha County	5,480	5,240	250	4.5%	4.7%	3.9%	5.0%
Roger Mills County	1,720	1,660	60	3.3%	3.3%	2.8%	3.0%
Rogers County	40,190	38,610	1,580	3.9%	3.9%	3.4%	3.9%
Seminole County	10,120	9,520	610	6.0%	6.2%	5.5%	6.3%
Sequoyah County	18,620	17,370	1,250	6.7%	5.9%	5.4%	6.2%
Stephens County	20,930	20,090	830	4.0%	3.9%	3.3%	3.9%
Texas County	8,910	8,580	330	3.7%	3.8%	3.2%	3.7%
Tillman County	3,470	3,280	190	5.4%	5.0%	4.3%	4.7%
Tulsa County	295,830	284,040	11,800	4.0%	3.9%	3.4%	4.0%
Wagoner County	32,330	30,980	1,350	4.2%	4.0%	3.5%	4.1%
Washington County	24,950	23,980	970	3.9%	3.9%	3.3%	3.9%
Washita County	5,670	5,480	190	3.4%	3.5%	3.1%	3.6%
Woods County	4,110	3,860	250	6.1%	6.3%	5.2%	6.6%
Woodward County	11,620	11,290	330	2.8%	2.8%	2.4%	3.0%

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

	FEBRUARY 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Feb '07	Jan '07	Dec '06	Feb '06
Oklahoma	1,724,420	1,648,750	75,670	4.4%	4.4%	3.7%	4.4%
Central WIA	407,190	388,910	18,290	4.5%	4.4%	3.7%	4.4%
Cleveland County WIA	119,620	115,080	4,540	3.8%	3.7%	3.1%	3.7%
East Central WIA	65,640	62,380	3,260	5.0%	5.1%	3.7%	4.4%
Holdenville LLM	9,310	8,750	570	6.1%	6.2%	5.4%	6.6%
Shawnee LLM	56,330	53,630	2,700	4.8%	4.9%	4.3%	4.9%
Eastern WIA	136,460	129,090	7,370	5.4%	5.3%	3.2%	4.2%
Muskogee LLM	69,180	65,560	3,620	5.2%	5.3%	4.5%	4.8%
Okmulgee LLM	16,860	15,900	960	5.7%	5.6%	4.9%	6.4%
Tahlequah-Sallisaw LLM	50,420	47,630	2,790	5.5%	5.2%	4.6%	5.2%
North Central WIA	110,930	106,520	4,400	4.0%	3.9%	4.2%	4.3%
Enid LLM	50,270	48,520	1,760	3.5%	3.4%	3.0%	3.6%
Ponca City LLM	27,230	25,900	1,330	4.9%	5.2%	4.4%	5.0%
Stillwater LLM	33,430	32,110	1,320	4.0%	3.8%	3.3%	3.7%
Northeast WIA	127,510	121,770	5,740	4.5%	4.5%	5.4%	4.3%
Bartlesville LLM	29,610	28,420	1,200	4.0%	4.1%	3.5%	4.1%
Claremore-Pryor LLM	74,630	71,330	3,300	4.4%	4.4%	3.8%	4.3%
Miami-Vinita LLM	23,260	22,020	1,240	5.3%	5.4%	4.8%	4.9%
Northwest WIA	35,300	34,030	1,280	3.6%	3.6%	3.2%	4.2%
Guymon LLM	13,170	12,690	480	3.6%	3.7%	3.1%	3.5%
Woodward LLM	22,140	21,340	800	3.6%	3.6%	3.1%	3.9%
South Central WIA	125,820	120,030	5,800	4.6%	4.6%	0.0%	3.7%
Chickasha LLM	50,120	47,710	2,420	4.8%	4.9%	4.4%	4.7%
Duncan LLM	23,310	22,350	960	4.1%	4.0%	3.4%	4.0%
Lawton LLM	52,390	49,970	2,420	4.6%	4.6%	4.0%	4.6%
Southeast WIA	78,930	74,690	4,250	5.4%	5.4%	0.0%	4.2%
Broken Bow-Idabel-Antlers-Hugo LLM	26,120	24,610	1,510	5.8%	6.2%	5.4%	6.3%
McAlester LLM	25,600	24,430	1,180	4.6%	4.7%	4.0%	4.8%
Poteau LLM	27,210	25,660	1,560	5.7%	5.2%	4.6%	5.6%
Southern WIA	109,900	105,540	4,350	4.0%	4.3%	0.0%	4.0%
Ada LLM	33,640	32,390	1,240	3.7%	4.4%	3.2%	4.0%
Ardmore LLM	36,900	35,550	1,350	3.7%	3.8%	3.2%	4.1%
Durant LLM	39,360	37,600	1,760	4.5%	4.6%	3.9%	4.5%
Southwest WIA	50,580	48,710	1,870	3.7%	3.6%	0.0%	3.7%
Altus LLM	19,510	18,670	850	4.3%	4.3%	3.7%	4.1%
Elk City-Weatherford-Clinton LLM	31,070	30,050	1,020	3.3%	3.2%	2.8%	3.3%
Tulsa WIA	356,540	342,010	14,540	4.1%	4.0%	3.5%	4.1%

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

	FEBRUARY 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Feb '07	Jan '07	Dec '06	Feb '06
Oklahoma	1,724,420	1,648,750	75,670	4.4%	4.4%	3.7%	4.4%
Oklahoma City MSA	580,350	555,120	25,230	4.3%	4.2%	3.6%	4.2%
Tulsa MSA	445,920	427,500	18,420	4.1%	4.1%	3.5%	4.2%
Lawton MSA	45,560	43,450	2,110	4.6%	4.6%	4.0%	4.6%