



Economic Research & Analysis

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

FOR RELEASE: January 29, 2008

Unemployment rates up for more than half of Oklahoma's 77 counties in December

Oklahoma's non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose slightly to 4.3 percent in December. **McCurtain County** once again reported the state's highest county rate, while **Woodward County** claimed the lowest. The largest rate increase was seen in **Sequoyah County**, and **Alfalfa County** provided the largest over-the-month rate drop.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES*

DECEMBER 2007	Area	Unemp. Rate	Monthly change	Annual change
RATE	Statewide	4.3%	↑ 0.1%	↑ 0.6%
Highest county	McCurtain Co.	7.4%	↑ 0.5%	↑ 1.4%
Lowest county	Woodward Co.	2.8%	↓ 0.1%	↑ 0.4%
Biggest % gain	Sequoyah Co.	6.5%	↑ 0.7%	--
Biggest % loss	Alfalfa Co.	4.6%	↓ 0.4%	--

*non-seasonally adjusted

Statewide unemployment rate ends year at 4.3 percent

Oklahoma's **non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate** rose by 0.1 percent to 4.3 percent for the month in December 2007. Statewide **non-seasonally adjusted labor force** and **non-seasonally adjusted employment** both reported drops of at least 1.0 percent in December. For the third consecutive month, statewide **non-seasonally adjusted unemployment** grew by more than 15 percent over the year, expanding by 9,850 persons between December 2006 and December 2007.

REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT*

	DECEMBER 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Dec '07	Nov '07	Oct '07	Dec '06
Oklahoma	1,731,200	1,656,690	74,510	4.3%	4.2%	4.2%	3.7%
United States	153,705,000	146,334,000	7,371,000	4.8%	4.5%	4.4%	4.3%
Region							
Arkansas	1,372,670	1,295,010	77,670	5.7%	5.2%	4.9%	4.9%
Kansas	1,484,050	1,424,540	59,510	4.0%	3.7%	3.4%	4.1%
Louisiana	2,012,400	1,936,910	75,490	3.8%	3.2%	3.0%	3.6%
Missouri	3,039,310	2,880,610	158,700	5.2%	4.9%	5.2%	4.6%
New Mexico	944,060	914,720	29,340	3.1%	3.2%	2.8%	3.3%
Texas	11,637,500	11,142,560	494,900	4.3%	4.1%	3.9%	4.1%

*non-seasonally adjusted

McCurtain County retains highest county rate in December

In December, **McCurtain County** claimed Oklahoma's highest county unemployment rate yet again at 7.4 percent, an increase of 0.5 percent over the month. **Coal County** was second for the month at 6.7 percent. **Hughes and Sequoyah counties** shared December's third highest county rate of 6.5 percent.

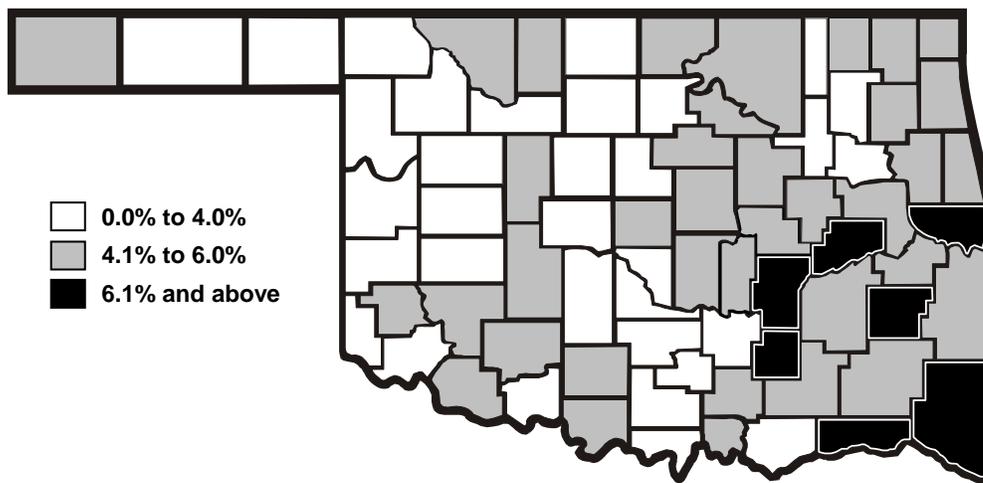
	DECEMBER 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Dec '07	Nov '07	Oct '07	Dec '06
McCurtain County	13,250	12,270	980	7.4%	6.9%	6.5%	6.0%
Coal County	2,460	2,290	170	6.7%	6.1%	6.3%	6.1%
Hughes County	4,840	4,520	310	6.5%	6.3%	6.3%	5.5%
Sequoyah County	18,390	17,190	1,200	6.5%	5.8%	5.2%	5.4%

Woodward County claims December's lowest county rate

Woodward County held sole possession of the state's lowest county unemployment rate of 2.8 percent in December 2007. **Beckham and Kingfisher counties** tied for the second lowest rate of 2.9 percent for the month. **Murray County** reported the third lowest county rate of 3.1 percent.

	DECEMBER 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Dec '07	Nov '07	Oct '07	Dec '06
Woodward County	11,770	11,440	330	2.8%	2.9%	2.9%	2.4%
Beckham County	10,570	10,270	300	2.9%	2.9%	2.8%	2.4%
Kingfisher County	8,110	7,870	240	2.9%	3.1%	3.0%	2.5%
Murray County	8,260	8,010	250	3.0%	3.0%	3.1%	2.9%

DISTRIBUTION of UNEMPLOYMENT RATES by COUNTY Preliminary data for December 2007



LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS for OKLAHOMA
County rankings

	DECEMBER 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Dec '07	Nov '07	Oct '07	Dec '06
1. McCurtain County	13,250	12,270	980	7.4%	6.9%	6.5%	6.0%
2. Coal County	2,460	2,290	170	6.7%	6.1%	6.3%	6.1%
3. Hughes County	4,840	4,520	310	6.5%	6.3%	6.3%	5.5%
4. Sequoyah County	18,390	17,190	1,200	6.5%	5.8%	5.2%	5.4%
5. Choctaw County	6,620	6,200	420	6.3%	5.9%	5.7%	5.3%
6. Latimer County	3,940	3,700	240	6.2%	6.0%	5.6%	4.5%
7. McIntosh County	8,050	7,560	490	6.1%	5.6%	5.7%	5.2%
8. Greer County	1,940	1,820	120	5.9%	5.5%	5.6%	5.0%
9. Muskogee County	28,330	26,670	1,660	5.9%	5.7%	5.6%	5.6%
10. Seminole County	10,050	9,450	590	5.9%	5.7%	5.8%	5.5%
11. Le Flore County	21,640	20,390	1,250	5.8%	5.6%	5.4%	4.7%
12. Nowata County	4,600	4,340	270	5.8%	5.4%	5.4%	4.5%
13. Woods County	3,920	3,690	230	5.8%	5.9%	5.5%	5.2%
14. Okmulgee County	17,010	16,050	960	5.7%	5.6%	5.6%	4.9%
15. Adair County	11,060	10,460	610	5.5%	5.1%	4.8%	4.2%
16. Caddo County	11,210	10,590	610	5.5%	5.3%	5.2%	5.2%
17. Craig County	6,740	6,370	370	5.5%	5.6%	5.6%	4.3%
18. Okfuskee County	4,250	4,020	230	5.5%	5.5%	5.4%	5.3%
19. Jefferson County	2,370	2,240	130	5.4%	5.5%	5.5%	4.4%
20. Pushmataha County	5,520	5,220	300	5.4%	5.2%	5.1%	3.9%
21. Kiowa County	3,560	3,370	190	5.3%	5.2%	5.4%	4.6%
22. Atoka County	5,750	5,450	300	5.2%	5.3%	5.2%	6.0%
23. Delaware County	17,310	16,410	910	5.2%	5.1%	5.1%	4.4%
24. Ottawa County	16,660	15,790	870	5.2%	5.1%	5.1%	5.0%
25. Johnston County	4,770	4,540	240	5.0%	4.9%	4.8%	3.9%
26. Marshall County	6,310	5,990	320	5.0%	4.8%	4.7%	3.9%
27. Tillman County	3,340	3,180	170	5.0%	5.2%	4.8%	4.3%
28. Blaine County	4,820	4,590	230	4.8%	4.9%	4.9%	4.0%
29. Haskell County	5,180	4,930	250	4.8%	4.7%	4.6%	4.3%
30. Mayes County	17,650	16,800	850	4.8%	4.7%	4.6%	4.2%
31. Cherokee County	21,010	20,020	990	4.7%	4.5%	4.5%	4.1%
32. Kay County	21,170	20,180	990	4.7%	4.5%	4.4%	4.7%
33. Alfalfa County	2,150	2,050	100	4.6%	5.0%	5.3%	4.1%
34. Cimarron County	1,180	1,130	50	4.6%	4.9%	4.9%	3.8%
35. Pottawatomie County	31,550	30,110	1,450	4.6%	4.5%	4.5%	4.1%
36. Comanche County	45,340	43,290	2,060	4.5%	4.5%	4.4%	4.0%
37. Creek County	32,260	30,820	1,430	4.4%	4.4%	4.3%	3.8%
38. Oklahoma County	339,350	324,450	14,890	4.4%	4.3%	4.3%	3.8%
39. Osage County	21,080	20,150	930	4.4%	4.4%	4.3%	3.9%

	DECEMBER 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Dec '07	Nov '07	Oct '07	Dec '06
40. Lincoln County	14,990	14,360	630	4.2%	4.0%	4.0%	3.8%
41. Payne County	32,580	31,220	1,360	4.2%	4.2%	4.1%	3.3%
42. Pittsburg County	21,670	20,760	910	4.2%	4.2%	4.2%	3.9%
43. Pawnee County	7,870	7,550	320	4.1%	4.1%	4.2%	4.0%
44. Stephens County	21,180	20,310	870	4.1%	4.1%	4.0%	3.3%
45. Grady County	23,820	22,850	960	4.0%	4.1%	4.1%	4.6%
46. Grant County	2,190	2,100	90	4.0%	4.1%	3.9%	3.8%
47. Rogers County	40,590	38,980	1,610	4.0%	3.9%	3.8%	3.4%
48. Tulsa County	298,850	286,760	12,090	4.0%	4.0%	3.9%	3.4%
49. Bryan County	20,450	19,660	790	3.9%	3.8%	3.8%	3.1%
50. Carter County	24,680	23,730	950	3.9%	3.8%	3.7%	3.4%
51. Logan County	18,530	17,800	730	3.9%	3.9%	3.7%	3.5%
52. Wagoner County	32,530	31,280	1,260	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%	3.5%
53. Washington County	25,430	24,440	990	3.9%	3.8%	3.8%	3.3%
54. Canadian County	52,340	50,340	2,000	3.8%	3.7%	3.7%	3.2%
55. Dewey County	2,330	2,240	90	3.8%	4.1%	3.7%	3.2%
56. Garvin County	13,480	12,960	510	3.8%	3.6%	3.7%	3.3%
57. McClain County	14,980	14,410	570	3.8%	3.8%	3.7%	3.4%
58. Noble County	5,710	5,490	220	3.8%	3.6%	3.5%	3.4%
59. Cotton County	3,380	3,250	130	3.7%	3.5%	3.6%	3.1%
60. Jackson County	11,980	11,540	440	3.7%	3.8%	3.7%	3.3%
61. Cleveland County	120,540	116,170	4,370	3.6%	3.7%	3.6%	3.1%
62. Washita County	5,540	5,340	200	3.6%	3.6%	3.5%	3.1%
63. Texas County	8,430	8,130	300	3.5%	3.6%	3.7%	3.2%
64. Harmon County	1,420	1,370	50	3.4%	3.7%	3.8%	3.3%
65. Love County	4,960	4,790	170	3.4%	3.3%	3.3%	2.7%
66. Pontotoc County	20,680	19,980	700	3.4%	3.3%	3.4%	3.1%
67. Custer County	13,110	12,670	440	3.3%	3.4%	3.4%	3.0%
68. Major County	3,840	3,720	130	3.3%	3.3%	3.3%	2.7%
69. Roger Mills County	1,670	1,610	60	3.3%	3.4%	3.6%	2.8%
70. Ellis County	2,190	2,120	70	3.2%	3.0%	3.0%	2.3%
71. Garfield County	29,280	28,350	930	3.2%	3.3%	3.3%	2.8%
72. Beaver County	2,910	2,820	90	3.1%	3.2%	3.1%	2.8%
73. Harper County	1,750	1,700	60	3.1%	3.4%	3.5%	3.1%
74. Murray County	8,260	8,010	250	3.0%	3.0%	3.1%	2.9%
75. Beckham County	10,570	10,270	300	2.9%	2.9%	2.8%	2.4%
76. Kingfisher County	8,110	7,870	240	2.9%	3.1%	3.0%	2.5%
77. Woodward County	11,770	11,440	330	2.8%	2.9%	2.9%	2.4%

LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS for OKLAHOMA
By county

	DECEMBER 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Dec '07	Nov '07	Oct '07	Dec '06
Adair County	11,060	10,460	610	5.5%	5.1%	4.8%	4.2%
Alfalfa County	2,150	2,050	100	4.6%	5.0%	5.3%	4.1%
Atoka County	5,750	5,450	300	5.2%	5.3%	5.2%	6.0%
Beaver County	2,910	2,820	90	3.1%	3.2%	3.1%	2.8%
Beckham County	10,570	10,270	300	2.9%	2.9%	2.8%	2.4%
Blaine County	4,820	4,590	230	4.8%	4.9%	4.9%	4.0%
Bryan County	20,450	19,660	790	3.9%	3.8%	3.8%	3.1%
Caddo County	11,210	10,590	610	5.5%	5.3%	5.2%	5.2%
Canadian County	52,340	50,340	2,000	3.8%	3.7%	3.7%	3.2%
Carter County	24,680	23,730	950	3.9%	3.8%	3.7%	3.4%
Cherokee County	21,010	20,020	990	4.7%	4.5%	4.5%	4.1%
Choctaw County	6,620	6,200	420	6.3%	5.9%	5.7%	5.3%
Cimarron County	1,180	1,130	50	4.6%	4.9%	4.9%	3.8%
Cleveland County	120,540	116,170	4,370	3.6%	3.7%	3.6%	3.1%
Coal County	2,460	2,290	170	6.7%	6.1%	6.3%	6.1%
Comanche County	45,340	43,290	2,060	4.5%	4.5%	4.4%	4.0%
Cotton County	3,380	3,250	130	3.7%	3.5%	3.6%	3.1%
Craig County	6,740	6,370	370	5.5%	5.6%	5.6%	4.3%
Creek County	32,260	30,820	1,430	4.4%	4.4%	4.3%	3.8%
Custer County	13,110	12,670	440	3.3%	3.4%	3.4%	3.0%
Delaware County	17,310	16,410	910	5.2%	5.1%	5.1%	4.4%
Dewey County	2,330	2,240	90	3.8%	4.1%	3.7%	3.2%
Ellis County	2,190	2,120	70	3.2%	3.0%	3.0%	2.3%
Garfield County	29,280	28,350	930	3.2%	3.3%	3.3%	2.8%
Garvin County	13,480	12,960	510	3.8%	3.6%	3.7%	3.3%
Grady County	23,820	22,850	960	4.0%	4.1%	4.1%	4.6%
Grant County	2,190	2,100	90	4.0%	4.1%	3.9%	3.8%
Greer County	1,940	1,820	120	5.9%	5.5%	5.6%	5.0%
Harmon County	1,420	1,370	50	3.4%	3.7%	3.8%	3.3%
Harper County	1,750	1,700	60	3.1%	3.4%	3.5%	3.1%
Haskell County	5,180	4,930	250	4.8%	4.7%	4.6%	4.3%
Hughes County	4,840	4,520	310	6.5%	6.3%	6.3%	5.5%
Jackson County	11,980	11,540	440	3.7%	3.8%	3.7%	3.3%
Jefferson County	2,370	2,240	130	5.4%	5.5%	5.5%	4.4%
Johnston County	4,770	4,540	240	5.0%	4.9%	4.8%	3.9%
Kay County	21,170	20,180	990	4.7%	4.5%	4.4%	4.7%
Kingfisher County	8,110	7,870	240	2.9%	3.1%	3.0%	2.5%
Kiowa County	3,560	3,370	190	5.3%	5.2%	5.4%	4.6%
Latimer County	3,940	3,700	240	6.2%	6.0%	5.6%	4.5%

	DECEMBER 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Dec '07	Nov '07	Oct '07	Dec '06
LeFlore County	21,640	20,390	1,250	5.8%	5.6%	5.4%	4.7%
Lincoln County	14,990	14,360	630	4.2%	4.0%	4.0%	3.8%
Logan County	18,530	17,800	730	3.9%	3.9%	3.7%	3.5%
Love County	4,960	4,790	170	3.4%	3.3%	3.3%	2.7%
Major County	3,840	3,720	130	3.3%	3.3%	3.3%	2.7%
Marshall County	6,310	5,990	320	5.0%	4.8%	4.7%	3.9%
Mayes County	17,650	16,800	850	4.8%	4.7%	4.6%	4.2%
McClain County	14,980	14,410	570	3.8%	3.8%	3.7%	3.4%
McCurtain County	13,250	12,270	980	7.4%	6.9%	6.5%	6.0%
McIntosh County	8,050	7,560	490	6.1%	5.6%	5.7%	5.2%
Murray County	8,260	8,010	250	3.0%	3.0%	3.1%	2.9%
Muskogee County	28,330	26,670	1,660	5.9%	5.7%	5.6%	5.6%
Noble County	5,710	5,490	220	3.8%	3.6%	3.5%	3.4%
Nowata County	4,600	4,340	270	5.8%	5.4%	5.4%	4.5%
Okfuskee County	4,250	4,020	230	5.5%	5.5%	5.4%	5.3%
Oklahoma County	339,350	324,450	14,890	4.4%	4.3%	4.3%	3.8%
Okmulgee County	17,010	16,050	960	5.7%	5.6%	5.6%	4.9%
Osage County	21,080	20,150	930	4.4%	4.4%	4.3%	3.9%
Ottawa County	16,660	15,790	870	5.2%	5.1%	5.1%	5.0%
Pawnee County	7,870	7,550	320	4.1%	4.1%	4.2%	4.0%
Payne County	32,580	31,220	1,360	4.2%	4.2%	4.1%	3.3%
Pittsburg County	21,670	20,760	910	4.2%	4.2%	4.2%	3.9%
Pontotoc County	20,680	19,980	700	3.4%	3.3%	3.4%	3.1%
Pottawatomie County	31,550	30,110	1,450	4.6%	4.5%	4.5%	4.1%
Pushmataha County	5,520	5,220	300	5.4%	5.2%	5.1%	3.9%
Roger Mills County	1,670	1,610	60	3.3%	3.4%	3.6%	2.8%
Rogers County	40,590	38,980	1,610	4.0%	3.9%	3.8%	3.4%
Seminole County	10,050	9,450	590	5.9%	5.7%	5.8%	5.5%
Sequoyah County	18,390	17,190	1,200	6.5%	5.8%	5.2%	5.4%
Stephens County	21,180	20,310	870	4.1%	4.1%	4.0%	3.3%
Texas County	8,430	8,130	300	3.5%	3.6%	3.7%	3.2%
Tillman County	3,340	3,180	170	5.0%	5.2%	4.8%	4.3%
Tulsa County	298,850	286,760	12,090	4.0%	4.0%	3.9%	3.4%
Wagoner County	32,530	31,280	1,260	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%	3.5%
Washington County	25,430	24,440	990	3.9%	3.8%	3.8%	3.3%
Washita County	5,540	5,340	200	3.6%	3.6%	3.5%	3.1%
Woods County	3,920	3,690	230	5.8%	5.9%	5.5%	5.2%
Woodward County	11,770	11,440	330	2.8%	2.9%	2.9%	2.4%

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

	DECEMBER 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Dec '07	Nov '07	Oct '07	Dec '06
Oklahoma	1,731,200	1,656,690	74,510	4.3%	4.2%	4.2%	3.7%
Central WIA	410,220	392,590	17,620	4.3%	4.2%	4.2%	3.7%
Cleveland County WIA	120,540	116,170	4,370	3.6%	3.7%	3.6%	3.1%
East Central WIA	65,670	62,450	3,220	4.9%	4.8%	4.7%	4.4%
Holdenville LLM	9,090	8,540	550	6.0%	5.9%	5.9%	5.4%
Shawnee LLM	56,590	53,920	2,670	4.7%	4.6%	4.6%	4.3%
Eastern WIA	136,390	129,230	7,160	5.2%	5.0%	4.9%	4.6%
Muskogee LLM	68,910	65,510	3,400	4.9%	4.8%	4.8%	4.5%
Okmulgee LLM	17,010	16,050	960	5.7%	5.6%	5.6%	4.9%
Tahlequah-Sallisaw LLM	50,460	47,680	2,790	5.5%	5.1%	4.8%	4.6%
North Central WIA	109,830	105,560	4,280	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%	3.4%
Enid LLM	50,380	48,670	1,710	3.4%	3.5%	3.5%	3.0%
Ponca City LLM	26,870	25,670	1,210	4.5%	4.3%	4.2%	4.4%
Stillwater LLM	32,580	31,220	1,360	4.2%	4.2%	4.1%	3.3%
Northeast WIA	128,990	123,140	5,860	4.5%	4.5%	4.4%	3.9%
Bartlesville LLM	30,040	28,780	1,260	4.2%	4.0%	4.1%	3.5%
Claremore-Pryor LLM	75,550	72,190	3,360	4.5%	4.4%	4.3%	3.8%
Miami-Vinita LLM	23,400	22,170	1,240	5.3%	5.3%	5.2%	4.8%
Northwest WIA	34,480	33,260	1,220	3.5%	3.6%	3.5%	3.1%
Guymon LLM	12,520	12,080	440	3.5%	3.6%	3.7%	3.1%
Woodward LLM	21,960	21,180	780	3.5%	3.6%	3.5%	3.1%
South Central WIA	125,610	120,110	5,500	4.4%	4.4%	4.3%	4.0%
Chickasha LLM	50,010	47,860	2,150	4.3%	4.3%	4.2%	4.4%
Duncan LLM	23,540	22,540	1,000	4.2%	4.2%	4.2%	3.4%
Lawton LLM	52,060	49,710	2,350	4.5%	4.5%	4.4%	4.0%
Southeast WIA	77,820	73,480	4,340	5.6%	5.4%	5.2%	4.7%
Broken Bow-Idabel-Antlers-Hugo LLM	25,390	23,700	1,700	6.7%	6.2%	6.0%	5.4%
McAlester LLM	25,610	24,460	1,150	4.5%	4.4%	4.4%	4.0%
Poteau LLM	26,820	25,320	1,500	5.6%	5.4%	5.3%	4.6%
Southern WIA	111,800	107,410	4,400	3.9%	3.8%	3.8%	3.5%
Ada LLM	34,160	32,940	1,210	3.6%	3.4%	3.5%	3.2%
Ardmore LLM	37,900	36,530	1,370	3.6%	3.6%	3.5%	3.2%
Durant LLM	39,740	37,940	1,810	4.5%	4.5%	4.4%	3.9%
Southwest WIA	49,780	48,000	1,790	3.6%	3.6%	3.6%	3.2%
Altus LLM	18,900	18,110	790	4.2%	4.2%	4.2%	3.7%
Elk City-Weatherford-Clinton LLM	30,890	29,890	990	3.2%	3.3%	3.2%	2.8%
Tulsa WIA	360,060	345,290	14,770	4.1%	4.1%	4.0%	3.5%

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

	DECEMBER 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Dec '07	Nov '07	Oct '07	Dec '06
Oklahoma	1,731,200	1,656,690	74,510	4.3%	4.2%	4.2%	3.7%
Oklahoma City MSA	584,540	560,390	24,160	4.1%	4.1%	4.0%	3.6%
Tulsa MSA	450,200	431,600	18,600	4.1%	4.1%	4.0%	3.5%
Lawton MSA	45,340	43,290	2,060	4.5%	4.5%	4.4%	4.0%