

Economic Research & Analysis

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FOR RELEASE: March 11, 2005

OKLAHOMA LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS January 2005

As you look over this report, you will notice that the local area unemployment data provided has changed. These changes have been instituted due to new statistical area standards that the federal Office of Management and Budget adopted beginning on January 1, 2005. These new standards are based on the 2000 Census as well as Census updates for 2001 and 2002. With these new standards come new statistical designations. For the purposes of this report, we will focus on Metropolitan Statistical Areas, Micropolitan Statistical Areas and Combined Statistical Areas.

METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

Most of you are already familiar with Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). An **MSA** is defined as statistical area associated with at least one urbanized area that has a population of at least 50,000. The MSA is made up of a central county plus adjacent outlying counties with high degree of social and economic integration with the central county as measured through commuting. A **central county** is defined as a county that either has at least 50 percent of its population in urban areas of at least 10,000 population or has within its boundaries a population of at least 5,000 located in a single urban area of at least 10,000 population. **Outlying counties** are counties that have either (a) 25 percent or more of the employed residents of the county work in the central county or (b) at least 25 percent of the employment in the county accounted for by workers who reside in the central county.

When the changes are implemented, Oklahoma will be left with three MSAs: Lawton, Oklahoma City and Tulsa. Enid, which qualified under previous guidelines, lost MSA status because its population is less than 50,000. The county makeup of the Oklahoma City MSA and the Tulsa MSA also changed. Now the Oklahoma City MSA is comprised of Canadian, Cleveland, Grady, Lincoln, Logan, McClain and Oklahoma counties. The Tulsa MSA will include Creek, Okmulgee, Osage, Pawnee, Rogers, Tulsa and Wagoner counties. The Lawton MSA will remain as is.

MICROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

A **Micropolitan Statistical Area** (MicroSA) is a statistical area associated with at least one urban cluster with a population of at least 10,000 but less than 50,000. The MicroSA is made up of the central county plus adjacent outlying counties with a high degree of social and economic integration with the central county as measured through commuting. With the institution of the MicroSA, Oklahoma will report on 17 additional areas.

Micropolitan Statistical Area	Previous Designation	Micropolitan Statistical Area	Previous Designation
Ada MicroSA	Pontotoc County	McAlester MicroSA	Pittsburg County
Altus MicroSA	Jackson County, OK	Miami MicroSA	Ottawa County
Ardmore MicroSA	Carter County, Love County	Muskogee MicroSA	Muskogee County
Bartlesville MicroSA	Washington County	Ponca City MicroSA	Kay County
Duncan MicroSA	Stephens County	Shawnee MicroSA	Pottawatomie County
Durant MicroSA	Bryan County	Stillwater MicroSA	Payne County
Elk City MicroSA	Beckham County	Tahlequah MicroSA	Cherokee County
Enid MicroSA	Enid MSA	Woodward MicroSA	Woodward County
Guymon MicroSA	Texas County		

Please note that the only Micropolitan Statistical Area that encompasses more than one county is the **Ardmore MicroSA** (Carter and Love counties). Aside from the Ardmore MicroSA, all other Micropolitan Statistical Areas are county equivalents (i.e., each MicroSA contains only one county). For this reason, you will see the Micropolitan Statistical Area name representing the geographic region in the preliminary labor force rankings. Carter and Love counties will appear as individual counties.

COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS

A **Combined Statistical Area** is a geographic entity consisting of two or more adjacent central counties with a high degree of employment interchange (i.e., persons living in one statistical area work in the other statistical area.). Oklahoma now has two CSAs: the Oklahoma City-Shawnee CSA and the Tulsa-Bartlesville CSA. These areas will be included in the labor force statistics from now on.

NOTES

The purpose of implementing these changes is to “provide nationally consistent definitions for collecting, tabulating and publishing federal statistics for a set of geographic areas.”

You will notice in the included statistics that only the January 2005 data is represented. As with the industrial employment data (CES program), LAUS statistics are being updated to reflect the new designations, so data may be compared accurately. Labor force data will be updated back to 2000. Data for periods before this time will not be compatible. The updating process has not been completed, so past labor force data has been excluded to avoid any unnecessary confusion. It will be included in future data releases.

For more information on these changes, please visit the Bureau of Labor Statistics website: www.bls.gov.

U.S. and Regional EMPLOYMENT		JANUARY 2005			UNEMP. RATE
		Employment	Unemployment	Labor Force	January 2005
OKLAHOMA		1,617,736	88,783	1,706,519	5.2%
United States		138,682,000	8,444,000	147,125,000	5.7%
REGION	Arkansas	1,214,645	80,751	1,295,396	6.2%
	Kansas	1,372,212	84,801	1,457,013	5.8%
	Louisiana	1,931,120	129,612	2,060,732	6.3%
	Missouri	2,800,327	198,952	2,999,279	6.6%
	New Mexico	862,746	49,242	911,988	5.4%
	Texas	10,413,977	689,749	11,103,726	6.2%

Combined Statistical Area EMPLOYMENT		JANUARY 2005			UNEMP. RATE
		Employment	Unemployment	Labor Force	January 2005
Oklahoma City-Shawnee CSA		578,410	31,729	610,139	5.2%
Tulsa-Bartlesville CSA		444,021	23,476	467,497	5.0%

Metropolitan Statistical Area EMPLOYMENT		JANUARY 2005			UNEMP. RATE
		Employment	Unemployment	Labor Force	January 2005
Oklahoma City MSA		549,977	29,731	579,708	5.1%
Tulsa MSA		421,510	22,285	443,795	5.0%
Lawton MSA		44,440	2,329	46,769	5.0%

Micropolitan Statistical Area EMPLOYMENT		JANUARY 2005			UNEMP. RATE
		Employment	Unemployment	Labor Force	January 2005
Ada MicroSA		16,896	1,069	17,965	6.0%
Altus MicroSA		12,341	605	12,946	4.7%
Ardmore MicroSA		26,353	1,420	27,773	5.1%
Bartlesville MicroSA		22,511	1,191	23,702	5.0%
Duncan MicroSA		18,457	896	19,353	4.6%
Durant MicroSA		14,590	805	15,395	5.2%
Elk City MicroSA		10,762	352	11,114	3.2%
Enid MicroSA		25,800	1,168	26,968	4.3%
Guymon MicroSA		9,716	385	10,101	3.8%
McAlester MicroSA		18,632	1,137	19,769	5.8%
Miami MicroSA		14,906	950	15,856	6.0%
Muskogee MicroSA		25,885	2,074	27,959	7.4%
Ponca City MicroSA		20,648	1,484	22,132	6.7%
Shawnee MicroSA		28,433	1,998	30,431	6.6%
Stillwater MicroSA		32,489	1,516	34,005	4.5%
Tahlequah MicroSA		20,415	1,052	21,467	4.9%
Woodward MicroSA		9,561	381	9,942	3.8%

**COUNTY UNEMPLOYMENT
HIGHEST RATES**

JANUARY 2005

UNEMP. RATE

Employment	Unemployment	Labor Force
8,586	922	9,508
2,001	203	2,204
3,870	386	4,256

January 2005
9.7%
9.2%
9.1%

**COUNTY UNEMPLOYMENT
LOWEST RATES**

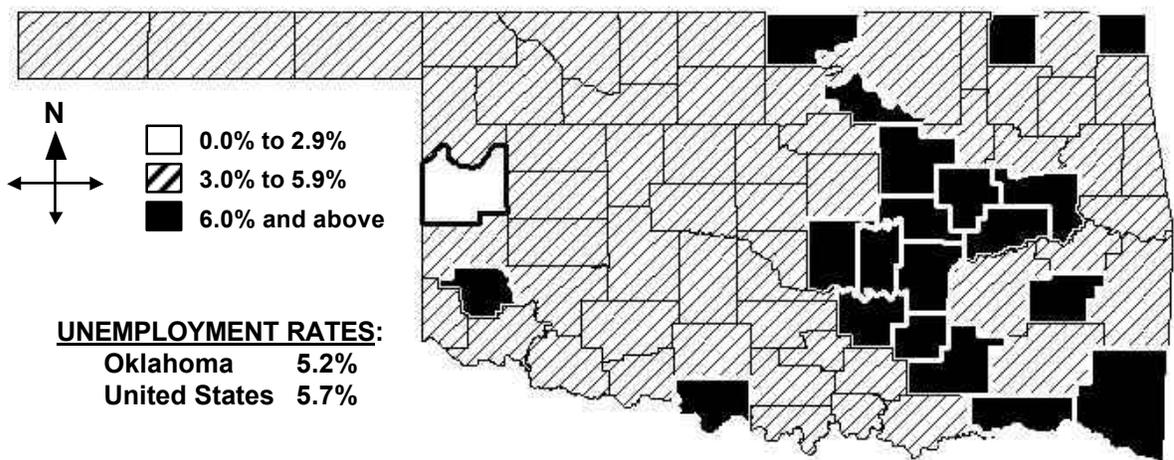
JANUARY 2005

UNEMP. RATE

Employment	Unemployment	Labor Force
1,794	53	1,847
1,992	63	2,055
10,762	352	11,114

January 2005
2.9%
3.1%
3.2%

DISTRIBUTION of UNEMPLOYMENT RATES by COUNTY
Preliminary Data for January 2005



Oklahoma Preliminary Labor Force Statistics

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

January 2005 Preliminary Data

COUNTY	Employment	Unemployment	Labor Force	Unemp. Rate
Adair County	9,343	576	9,919	5.8%
Alfalfa County	2,300	105	2,405	4.4%
Atoka County	5,164	331	5,495	6.0%
Beaver County	2,787	101	2,888	3.5%
Blaine County	4,466	273	4,739	5.8%
Caddo County	11,495	726	12,221	5.9%
Canadian County	47,504	2,092	49,596	4.2%
Carter County	21,957	1,233	23,190	5.3%
Choctaw County	5,940	421	6,361	6.6%
Cimarron County	1,236	50	1,286	3.9%
Cleveland County	113,926	5,275	119,201	4.4%
Coal County	2,001	203	2,204	9.2%
Comanche County	44,440	2,329	46,769	5.0%
Cotton County	3,170	134	3,304	4.1%
Craig County	6,117	336	6,453	5.2%
Creek County	30,411	2,042	32,453	6.3%
Custer County	13,322	487	13,809	3.5%
Delaware County	16,015	894	16,909	5.3%
Dewey County	2,409	82	2,491	3.3%
Ellis County	1,992	63	2,055	3.1%
Garvin County	12,979	612	13,591	4.5%
Grady County	22,018	1,168	23,186	5.0%
Grant County	2,370	93	2,463	3.8%
Greer County	2,036	140	2,176	6.4%
Harmon County	1,351	54	1,405	3.8%
Harper County	1,705	62	1,767	3.5%
Haskell County	4,835	274	5,109	5.4%
Hughes County	4,775	401	5,176	7.7%
Jefferson County	2,213	143	2,356	6.1%
Johnston County	4,067	252	4,319	5.8%
Kingfisher County	6,982	255	7,237	3.5%
Kiowa County	3,906	221	4,127	5.4%
Latimer County	3,722	269	3,991	6.7%
Le Flore County	22,179	1,164	23,343	5.0%
Lincoln County	14,374	856	15,230	5.6%
Logan County	17,138	737	17,875	4.1%
Love County	4,396	187	4,583	4.1%
McClain County	13,732	729	14,461	5.0%
McCurtain County	13,953	1,107	15,060	7.4%
McIntosh County	7,228	566	7,794	7.3%
Major County	3,569	130	3,699	3.5%
Marshall County	5,749	290	6,039	4.8%
Mayes County	15,186	946	16,132	5.9%
Murray County	6,269	308	6,577	4.7%
Noble County	4,654	251	4,905	5.1%

January 2005 Preliminary Data

COUNTY	Employment	Unemployment	Labor Force	Unemp. Rate
Nowata County	4,583	293	4,876	6.0%
Okfuskee County	3,870	386	4,256	9.1%
Oklahoma County	321,286	18,874	340,160	5.5%
Okmulgee County	15,794	1,277	17,071	7.5%
Osage County	19,784	1,175	20,959	5.6%
Pawnee County	7,409	497	7,906	6.3%
Pushmataha County	5,546	315	5,861	5.4%
Roger Mills County	1,794	53	1,847	2.9%
Rogers County	36,719	1,753	38,472	4.6%
Seminole County	8,586	922	9,508	9.7%
Sequoyah County	18,536	1,099	19,635	5.6%
Tillman County	3,215	201	3,416	5.9%
Tulsa County	281,706	14,012	295,718	4.7%
Wagoner County	29,688	1,529	31,217	4.9%
Washita County	5,559	213	5,772	3.7%
Woods County	4,236	154	4,390	3.5%

Oklahoma Workforce Investment Areas	Employment	Unemployment	Labor Force	Unemp. Rate
Central WIA	385,928	21,703	407,631	5.3%
Cleveland County WIA	113,926	5,275	119,201	4.4%
East Central WIA	60,038	4,563	64,601	7.1%
Holdenville LLM	8,645	787	9,432	8.3%
Shawnee LLM	51,393	3,776	55,169	6.8%
Eastern WIA	126,889	8,173	135,062	6.1%
Muskogee LLM	62,801	4,169	66,970	6.2%
Okmulgee LLM	15,794	1,277	17,071	7.5%
Tahlequah-Sallisaw LLM	48,294	2,727	51,021	5.3%
North Central WIA	103,278	5,275	108,553	4.9%
Enid LLM	45,487	2,024	47,511	4.3%
Ponca City LLM	25,302	1,735	27,037	6.4%
Stillwater LLM	32,489	1,516	34,005	4.5%
Northeast WIA	116,037	6,363	122,400	5.2%
Bartlesville LLM	27,094	1,484	28,578	5.2%
Claremore-Pryor LLM	67,920	3,593	71,513	5.0%
Miami-Vinita LLM	21,023	1,286	22,309	5.8%
Northwest WIA	33,642	1,278	34,920	3.7%
Guymon LLM	13,739	536	14,275	3.8%
Woodward LLM	19,903	742	20,645	3.6%
South Central WIA	118,740	6,326	125,066	5.1%
Chickasha LLM	47,245	2,623	49,868	5.3%
Duncan LLM	20,670	1,039	21,709	4.8%
Lawton LLM	50,825	2,664	53,489	5.0%
Southeast WIA	74,807	4,687	79,494	5.9%
Broken Bow-Idabel- Antlers-Hugo LLM	25,439	1,843	27,282	6.8%
McAlester LLM	22,354	1,406	23,760	5.9%
Poteau LLM	27,014	1,438	28,452	5.1%

January 2005 Preliminary Data

Oklahoma Workforce Investment Areas	Employment	Unemployment	Labor Force	Unemp. Rate
Southern WIA	94,068	5,290	99,358	5.3%
Ada LLM	29,875	1,681	31,556	5.3%
Ardmore LLM	32,622	1,728	34,350	5.0%
Durant LLM	31,571	1,881	33,452	5.6%
Southwest WIA	51,071	2,125	53,196	4.0%
Altus LLM	19,634	1,020	20,654	4.9%
Elk City-Weatherford-Clinton LLM	31,437	1,105	32,542	3.4%
Tulsa WIA	339,310	17,726	357,036	5.0%

January 2005 Unemployment Rate Ranking by County/County Equivalent

COUNTY/COUNTY EQUIVALENT	Employment	Unemployment	Labor Force	Unemp. Rate
Seminole County	8,586	922	9,508	9.7%
Coal County	2,001	203	2,204	9.2%
Okfuskee County	3,870	386	4,256	9.1%
Hughes County	4,775	401	5,176	7.7%
Okmulgee County	15,794	1,277	17,071	7.5%
Muskogee Micropolitan Statistical Area	25,885	2,074	27,959	7.4%
McCurtain County	13,953	1,107	15,060	7.4%
McIntosh County	7,228	566	7,794	7.3%
Latimer County	3,722	269	3,991	6.7%
Ponca City Micropolitan Statistical Area	20,648	1,484	22,132	6.7%
Choctaw County	5,940	421	6,361	6.6%
Shawnee Micropolitan Statistical Area	28,433	1,998	30,431	6.6%
Greer County	2,036	140	2,176	6.4%
Creek County	30,411	2,042	32,453	6.3%
Pawnee County	7,409	497	7,906	6.3%
Jefferson County	2,213	143	2,356	6.1%
Atoka County	5,164	331	5,495	6.0%
Nowata County	4,583	293	4,876	6.0%
Miami Micropolitan Statistical Area	14,906	950	15,856	6.0%
Ada Micropolitan Statistical Area	16,896	1,069	17,965	6.0%
Caddo County	11,495	726	12,221	5.9%
Tillman County	3,215	201	3,416	5.9%
Mayes County	15,186	946	16,132	5.9%
Johnston County	4,067	252	4,319	5.8%
Adair County	9,343	576	9,919	5.8%
Blaine County	4,466	273	4,739	5.8%
McAlester Micropolitan Statistical Area	18,632	1,137	19,769	5.8%
Lincoln County	14,374	856	15,230	5.6%
Osage County	19,784	1,175	20,959	5.6%
Sequoyah County	18,536	1,099	19,635	5.6%

January 2005 Unemployment Rate Ranking by County/County Equivalent

COUNTY/COUNTY EQUIVALENT	Employment	Unemployment	Labor Force	Unemp. Rate
Oklahoma County	321,286	18,874	340,160	5.5%
Pushmataha County	5,546	315	5,861	5.4%
Haskell County	4,835	274	5,109	5.4%
Kiowa County	3,906	221	4,127	5.4%
Carter County	21,957	1,233	23,190	5.3%
Delaware County	16,015	894	16,909	5.3%
Durant Micropolitan Statistical Area	14,590	805	15,395	5.2%
Craig County	6,117	336	6,453	5.2%
Noble County	4,654	251	4,905	5.1%
McClain County	13,732	729	14,461	5.0%
Grady County	22,018	1,168	23,186	5.0%
Bartlesville Micropolitan Statistical Area	22,511	1,191	23,702	5.0%
LeFlore County	22,179	1,164	23,343	5.0%
Comanche County	44,440	2,329	46,769	5.0%
Tahlequah Micropolitan Statistical Area	20,415	1,052	21,467	4.9%
Wagoner County	29,688	1,529	31,217	4.9%
Marshall County	5,749	290	6,039	4.8%
Tulsa County	281,706	14,012	295,718	4.7%
Murray County	6,269	308	6,577	4.7%
Altus Micropolitan Statistical Area	12,341	605	12,946	4.7%
Duncan Micropolitan Statistical Area	18,457	896	19,353	4.6%
Rogers County	36,719	1,753	38,472	4.6%
Garvin County	12,979	612	13,591	4.5%
Stillwater Micropolitan Statistical Area	32,489	1,516	34,005	4.5%
Cleveland County	113,926	5,275	119,201	4.4%
Alfalfa County	2,300	105	2,405	4.4%
Enid Micropolitan Statistical Area	25,800	1,168	26,968	4.3%
Canadian County	47,504	2,092	49,596	4.2%
Logan County	17,138	737	17,875	4.1%
Love County	4,396	187	4,583	4.1%
Cotton County	3,170	134	3,304	4.1%
Cimarron County	1,236	50	1,286	3.9%
Harmon County	1,351	54	1,405	3.8%
Woodward Micropolitan Statistical Area	9,561	381	9,942	3.8%
Guymon Micropolitan Statistical Area	9,716	385	10,101	3.8%
Grant County	2,370	93	2,463	3.8%
Washita County	5,559	213	5,772	3.7%
Custer County	13,322	487	13,809	3.5%
Kingfisher County	6,982	255	7,237	3.5%
Major County	3,569	130	3,699	3.5%
Harper County	1,705	62	1,767	3.5%
Woods County	4,236	154	4,390	3.5%
Beaver County	2,787	101	2,888	3.5%
Dewey County	2,409	82	2,491	3.3%
Elk City Micropolitan Statistical Area	10,762	352	11,114	3.2%
Ellis County	1,992	63	2,055	3.1%
Roger Mills County	1,794	53	1,847	2.9%