



Economic Research & Analysis

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

FOR RELEASE: October 30, 2007

Most Oklahoma counties see unemployment rate improvement in September

In September, Oklahoma's non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped by one-tenth to 4.1 percent. **McCurtain County** once again reported the state's highest county rate, while **Beckham** and **Ellis** counties shared the lowest rate for the second straight month. **Sequoyah County** saw the largest rate increase over the month, while four counties tied for the largest over-the-month rate drop of 0.5 percent.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES*

SEPTEMBER 2007	Area	Unemp. Rate	Monthly change	Annual change
RATE	Statewide	4.1%	↓ 0.1%	↑ 0.3%
Highest county	McCurtain Co.	6.9%	↓ 0.5%	↑ 1.1%
Lowest county	Beckham Co.	2.7%	no change	↑ 0.2%
	Ellis County	2.7%	no change	↑ 0.1%
Biggest % gain	Sequoyah Co.	6.1%	↑ 0.5%	--
Biggest % loss (four way tie)	Coal County	6.1%	↓ 0.5%	--
	Jefferson Co.	5.3%	↓ 0.5%	--
	McCurtain Co.	6.9%	↓ 0.5%	--
	Ottawa County	5.0%	↓ 0.5%	--

*non-seasonally adjusted

State unemployment rate slips to 4.1 percent in September

Oklahoma's non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate improved by 0.1 percent to 4.1 percent in September. Statewide non-seasonally adjusted labor force and employment recorded small gains, as non-seasonally adjusted unemployment contracted over the month. September's unemployment rate is 0.3 percent higher than the rate reported for September 2006.

REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT*

	SEPTEMBER 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Sep '07	Aug '07	Jul '07	Sep '06
Oklahoma	1,730,900	1,659,950	70,960	4.1%	4.2%	4.9%	3.8%
United States	153,400,000	146,448,000	6,952,000	4.5%	4.6%	4.9%	4.4%
Region							
Arkansas	1,386,900	1,314,040	72,860	5.3%	5.3%	5.9%	4.8%
Kansas	1,484,210	1,420,840	63,380	4.3%	4.3%	4.9%	4.3%
Louisiana	1,986,530	1,899,540	86,990	4.4%	4.1%	4.4%	4.0%
Missouri	3,053,180	2,898,610	154,570	5.1%	5.2%	5.0%	4.8%
New Mexico	948,600	916,870	31,730	3.3%	3.8%	4.2%	3.9%
Texas	11,584,940	11,078,890	506,050	4.4%	4.1%	4.8%	4.7%

*non-seasonally adjusted

McCurtain County retains highest county rate for September

In September, **McCurtain County** again claimed the state's highest county unemployment rate at 6.9 percent for the month. **Hughes County** reported the second highest rate at 6.3 percent. Three counties, **Coal**, **LeFlore** and **Sequoyah**, shared the state's third highest rate of 6.1 percent in September.

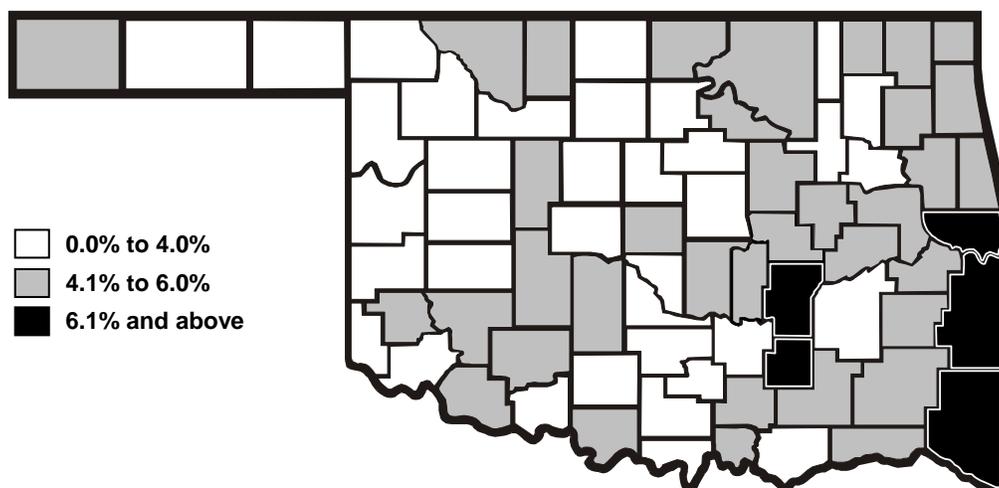
	SEPTEMBER 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Sep '07	Aug '07	Jul '07	Sep '06
McCurtain County	13,220	12,310	910	6.9%	7.4%	8.7%	5.8%
Hughes County	4,830	4,530	300	6.3%	6.5%	8.4%	6.0%
Coal County	2,380	2,240	150	6.1%	6.6%	8.6%	5.3%
LeFlore County	22,160	20,810	1,350	6.1%	5.9%	7.1%	5.2%
Sequoyah County	18,690	17,550	1,140	6.1%	5.6%	6.7%	5.5%

Beckham, Ellis counties share lowest county rate again

Beckham County and **Ellis County** tied for lowest county unemployment rate at 2.7 percent in September. **Beaver**, **Kingfisher** and **Woodward** counties tied at 2.9 percent for September's second lowest county unemployment rate. **Murray County** held sole possession of the third lowest county rate of 3.0 percent.

	SEPTEMBER 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Sep '07	Aug '07	Jul '07	Sep '06
Beckham County	10,510	10,230	280	2.7%	2.7%	3.3%	2.5%
Ellis County	2,140	2,080	60	2.7%	2.7%	3.5%	2.6%
Beaver County	2,890	2,810	80	2.9%	3.0%	3.4%	2.8%
Kingfisher County	8,050	7,820	230	2.9%	3.0%	3.3%	2.7%
Woodward County	11,570	11,240	330	2.9%	2.8%	3.4%	2.6%
Murray County	8,240	7,990	240	3.0%	3.0%	3.4%	2.7%

DISTRIBUTION of UNEMPLOYMENT RATES by COUNTY Preliminary data for September 2007



LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS for OKLAHOMA
County rankings

	SEPTEMBER 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Sep '07	Aug '07	Jul '07	Sep '06
1. McCurtain County	13,220	12,310	910	6.9%	7.4%	8.7%	5.8%
2. Hughes County	4,830	4,530	300	6.3%	6.5%	8.4%	6.0%
3. Coal County	2,380	2,240	150	6.1%	6.6%	8.6%	5.3%
4. LeFlore County	22,160	20,810	1,350	6.1%	5.9%	7.1%	5.2%
5. Sequoyah County	18,690	17,550	1,140	6.1%	5.6%	6.7%	5.5%
6. Seminole County	10,030	9,450	590	5.9%	6.1%	7.2%	5.6%
7. McIntosh County	8,060	7,610	450	5.6%	6.0%	7.2%	5.0%
8. Latimer County	3,940	3,720	220	5.5%	5.9%	6.8%	4.9%
9. Muskogee County	28,530	26,950	1,580	5.5%	5.8%	6.8%	5.1%
10. Okfuskee County	4,290	4,050	240	5.5%	5.8%	7.4%	5.1%
11. Choctaw County	6,790	6,420	370	5.4%	5.6%	6.3%	4.6%
12. Greer County	1,920	1,820	100	5.4%	5.5%	6.4%	4.9%
13. Nowata County	4,690	4,440	250	5.4%	5.3%	6.6%	4.6%
14. Woods County	3,700	3,500	200	5.4%	5.1%	6.5%	5.0%
15. Jefferson County	2,340	2,210	120	5.3%	5.8%	6.5%	4.5%
16. Pushmataha County	5,550	5,250	290	5.3%	5.3%	6.2%	4.1%
17. Caddo County	11,180	10,600	580	5.2%	5.5%	7.3%	5.3%
18. Okmulgee County	16,980	16,090	890	5.2%	5.2%	5.9%	5.0%
19. Alfalfa County	2,080	1,970	110	5.1%	5.5%	6.0%	4.2%
20. Atoka County	5,660	5,370	290	5.1%	5.5%	6.7%	4.7%
21. Craig County	6,700	6,360	340	5.1%	5.4%	5.9%	4.0%
22. Kiowa County	3,550	3,370	180	5.1%	5.4%	5.8%	4.9%
23. Ottawa County	16,620	15,780	830	5.0%	5.5%	6.2%	4.4%
24. Delaware County	17,470	16,620	860	4.9%	5.0%	5.7%	4.2%
25. Adair County	11,060	10,530	530	4.8%	4.8%	5.7%	4.2%
26. Marshall County	6,280	5,970	300	4.8%	4.9%	5.7%	4.1%
27. Blaine County	4,750	4,530	230	4.7%	4.8%	5.6%	4.1%
28. Johnston County	4,780	4,560	220	4.6%	4.8%	5.7%	4.1%
29. Tillman County	3,270	3,120	150	4.6%	4.8%	6.4%	4.4%
30. Cherokee County	20,890	19,950	940	4.5%	4.7%	5.5%	4.2%
31. Kay County	21,070	20,130	940	4.5%	4.6%	5.3%	4.5%
32. Mayes County	17,590	16,800	800	4.5%	4.7%	5.7%	4.1%
33. Haskell County	5,170	4,950	230	4.4%	4.5%	5.4%	4.2%
34. Comanche County	45,390	43,440	1,950	4.3%	4.3%	5.1%	4.1%
35. Creek County	32,300	30,900	1,400	4.3%	4.3%	5.0%	3.9%
36. Pawnee County	7,910	7,570	340	4.3%	4.2%	5.0%	3.7%
37. Pottawatomie County	31,560	30,220	1,350	4.3%	4.5%	5.3%	4.3%
38. Oklahoma County	339,970	325,690	14,280	4.2%	4.3%	5.0%	3.9%
39. Cimarron County	1,150	1,100	50	4.1%	4.5%	5.2%	3.4%

	SEPTEMBER 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Sep '07	Aug '07	Jul '07	Sep '06
40. Grady County	23,930	22,940	990	4.1%	4.2%	4.9%	5.0%
41. Osage County	21,060	20,200	850	4.1%	4.1%	4.6%	3.9%
42. Lincoln County	15,010	14,410	590	4.0%	4.2%	4.8%	3.9%
43. Pittsburg County	21,690	20,820	860	4.0%	4.2%	4.9%	3.9%
44. Grant County	2,200	2,110	90	3.9%	4.1%	4.4%	3.8%
45. Payne County	32,490	31,230	1,260	3.9%	4.2%	4.9%	3.4%
46. Washington County	25,440	24,460	980	3.9%	4.0%	4.3%	3.3%
47. Dewey County	2,280	2,200	90	3.8%	3.4%	4.0%	2.9%
48. Rogers County	40,620	39,080	1,540	3.8%	3.8%	4.5%	3.5%
49. Stephens County	21,150	20,360	800	3.8%	3.9%	4.6%	3.3%
50. Tulsa County	298,860	287,480	11,380	3.8%	3.9%	4.4%	3.6%
51. Bryan County	20,170	19,430	750	3.7%	3.7%	4.1%	3.4%
52. Carter County	24,530	23,630	900	3.7%	3.7%	4.3%	3.5%
53. Logan County	18,550	17,870	680	3.7%	3.8%	4.4%	3.5%
54. Garvin County	13,440	12,950	490	3.6%	3.8%	4.5%	3.4%
55. Jackson County	12,000	11,560	440	3.6%	3.8%	4.5%	3.3%
56. Wagoner County	32,520	31,360	1,170	3.6%	3.7%	4.4%	3.4%
57. Canadian County	52,370	50,530	1,840	3.5%	3.6%	4.3%	3.2%
58. Cleveland County	120,870	116,610	4,260	3.5%	3.6%	4.2%	3.2%
59. Cotton County	3,320	3,210	120	3.5%	3.6%	4.0%	3.1%
60. Texas County	8,430	8,130	300	3.5%	3.6%	4.3%	3.2%
61. McClain County	14,980	14,470	520	3.4%	3.5%	4.4%	3.5%
62. Noble County	5,680	5,490	200	3.4%	3.8%	4.2%	3.4%
63. Pontotoc County	20,400	19,710	700	3.4%	3.4%	4.9%	3.3%
64. Harmon County	1,410	1,360	50	3.3%	3.2%	3.8%	3.8%
65. Harper County	1,760	1,710	60	3.3%	3.1%	3.7%	2.8%
66. Washita County	5,490	5,310	180	3.3%	3.5%	4.3%	3.1%
67. Custer County	13,000	12,580	420	3.2%	3.5%	4.3%	3.0%
68. Love County	4,930	4,770	160	3.2%	3.3%	4.0%	3.4%
69. Garfield County	29,040	28,130	910	3.1%	3.3%	3.8%	3.0%
70. Major County	3,800	3,680	120	3.1%	3.1%	3.5%	2.7%
71. Roger Mills County	1,620	1,570	50	3.1%	3.3%	4.1%	2.8%
72. Murray County	8,240	7,990	240	3.0%	3.0%	3.4%	2.7%
73. Beaver County	2,890	2,810	80	2.9%	3.0%	3.4%	2.8%
74. Kingfisher County	8,050	7,820	230	2.9%	3.0%	3.3%	2.7%
75. Woodward County	11,570	11,240	330	2.9%	2.8%	3.4%	2.6%
76. Beckham County	10,510	10,230	280	2.7%	2.7%	3.3%	2.5%
77. Ellis County	2,140	2,080	60	2.7%	2.7%	3.5%	2.6%

LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS for OKLAHOMA
By county

	SEPTEMBER 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Sep '07	Aug '07	Jul '07	Sep '06
Adair County	11,060	10,530	530	4.8%	4.8%	5.7%	4.2%
Alfalfa County	2,080	1,970	110	5.1%	5.5%	6.0%	4.2%
Atoka County	5,660	5,370	290	5.1%	5.5%	6.7%	4.7%
Beaver County	2,890	2,810	80	2.9%	3.0%	3.4%	2.8%
Beckham County	10,510	10,230	280	2.7%	2.7%	3.3%	2.5%
Blaine County	4,750	4,530	230	4.7%	4.8%	5.6%	4.1%
Bryan County	20,170	19,430	750	3.7%	3.7%	4.1%	3.4%
Caddo County	11,180	10,600	580	5.2%	5.5%	7.3%	5.3%
Canadian County	52,370	50,530	1,840	3.5%	3.6%	4.3%	3.2%
Carter County	24,530	23,630	900	3.7%	3.7%	4.3%	3.5%
Cherokee County	20,890	19,950	940	4.5%	4.7%	5.5%	4.2%
Choctaw County	6,790	6,420	370	5.4%	5.6%	6.3%	4.6%
Cimarron County	1,150	1,100	50	4.1%	4.5%	5.2%	3.4%
Cleveland County	120,870	116,610	4,260	3.5%	3.6%	4.2%	3.2%
Coal County	2,380	2,240	150	6.1%	6.6%	8.6%	5.3%
Comanche County	45,390	43,440	1,950	4.3%	4.3%	5.1%	4.1%
Cotton County	3,320	3,210	120	3.5%	3.6%	4.0%	3.1%
Craig County	6,700	6,360	340	5.1%	5.4%	5.9%	4.0%
Creek County	32,300	30,900	1,400	4.3%	4.3%	5.0%	3.9%
Custer County	13,000	12,580	420	3.2%	3.5%	4.3%	3.0%
Delaware County	17,470	16,620	860	4.9%	5.0%	5.7%	4.2%
Dewey County	2,280	2,200	90	3.8%	3.4%	4.0%	2.9%
Ellis County	2,140	2,080	60	2.7%	2.7%	3.5%	2.6%
Garfield County	29,040	28,130	910	3.1%	3.3%	3.8%	3.0%
Garvin County	13,440	12,950	490	3.6%	3.8%	4.5%	3.4%
Grady County	23,930	22,940	990	4.1%	4.2%	4.9%	5.0%
Grant County	2,200	2,110	90	3.9%	4.1%	4.4%	3.8%
Greer County	1,920	1,820	100	5.4%	5.5%	6.4%	4.9%
Harmon County	1,410	1,360	50	3.3%	3.2%	3.8%	3.8%
Harper County	1,760	1,710	60	3.3%	3.1%	3.7%	2.8%
Haskell County	5,170	4,950	230	4.4%	4.5%	5.4%	4.2%
Hughes County	4,830	4,530	300	6.3%	6.5%	8.4%	6.0%
Jackson County	12,000	11,560	440	3.6%	3.8%	4.5%	3.3%
Jefferson County	2,340	2,210	120	5.3%	5.8%	6.5%	4.5%
Johnston County	4,780	4,560	220	4.6%	4.8%	5.7%	4.1%
Kay County	21,070	20,130	940	4.5%	4.6%	5.3%	4.5%
Kingfisher County	8,050	7,820	230	2.9%	3.0%	3.3%	2.7%
Kiowa County	3,550	3,370	180	5.1%	5.4%	5.8%	4.9%
Latimer County	3,940	3,720	220	5.5%	5.9%	6.8%	4.9%

	SEPTEMBER 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Sep '07	Aug '07	Jul '07	Sep '06
LeFlore County	22,160	20,810	1,350	6.1%	5.9%	7.1%	5.2%
Lincoln County	15,010	14,410	590	4.0%	4.2%	4.8%	3.9%
Logan County	18,550	17,870	680	3.7%	3.8%	4.4%	3.5%
Love County	4,930	4,770	160	3.2%	3.3%	4.0%	3.4%
Major County	3,800	3,680	120	3.1%	3.1%	3.5%	2.7%
Marshall County	6,280	5,970	300	4.8%	4.9%	5.7%	4.1%
Mayes County	17,590	16,800	800	4.5%	4.7%	5.7%	4.1%
McClain County	14,980	14,470	520	3.4%	3.5%	4.4%	3.5%
McCurtain County	13,220	12,310	910	6.9%	7.4%	8.7%	5.8%
McIntosh County	8,060	7,610	450	5.6%	6.0%	7.2%	5.0%
Murray County	8,240	7,990	240	3.0%	3.0%	3.4%	2.7%
Muskogee County	28,530	26,950	1,580	5.5%	5.8%	6.8%	5.1%
Noble County	5,680	5,490	200	3.4%	3.8%	4.2%	3.4%
Nowata County	4,690	4,440	250	5.4%	5.3%	6.6%	4.6%
Okfuskee County	4,290	4,050	240	5.5%	5.8%	7.4%	5.1%
Oklahoma County	339,970	325,690	14,280	4.2%	4.3%	5.0%	3.9%
Okmulgee County	16,980	16,090	890	5.2%	5.2%	5.9%	5.0%
Osage County	21,060	20,200	850	4.1%	4.1%	4.6%	3.9%
Ottawa County	16,620	15,780	830	5.0%	5.5%	6.2%	4.4%
Pawnee County	7,910	7,570	340	4.3%	4.2%	5.0%	3.7%
Payne County	32,490	31,230	1,260	3.9%	4.2%	4.9%	3.4%
Pittsburg County	21,690	20,820	860	4.0%	4.2%	4.9%	3.9%
Pontotoc County	20,400	19,710	700	3.4%	3.4%	4.9%	3.3%
Pottawatomie County	31,560	30,220	1,350	4.3%	4.5%	5.3%	4.3%
Pushmataha County	5,550	5,250	290	5.3%	5.3%	6.2%	4.1%
Roger Mills County	1,620	1,570	50	3.1%	3.3%	4.1%	2.8%
Rogers County	40,620	39,080	1,540	3.8%	3.8%	4.5%	3.5%
Seminole County	10,030	9,450	590	5.9%	6.1%	7.2%	5.6%
Sequoyah County	18,690	17,550	1,140	6.1%	5.6%	6.7%	5.5%
Stephens County	21,150	20,360	800	3.8%	3.9%	4.6%	3.3%
Texas County	8,430	8,130	300	3.5%	3.6%	4.3%	3.2%
Tillman County	3,270	3,120	150	4.6%	4.8%	6.4%	4.4%
Tulsa County	298,860	287,480	11,380	3.8%	3.9%	4.4%	3.6%
Wagoner County	32,520	31,360	1,170	3.6%	3.7%	4.4%	3.4%
Washington County	25,440	24,460	980	3.9%	4.0%	4.3%	3.3%
Washita County	5,490	5,310	180	3.3%	3.5%	4.3%	3.1%
Woods County	3,700	3,500	200	5.4%	5.1%	6.5%	5.0%
Woodward County	11,570	11,240	330	2.9%	2.8%	3.4%	2.6%

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

	SEPTEMBER 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Sep '07	Aug '07	Jul '07	Sep '06
Oklahoma	1,730,900	1,659,950	70,960	4.1%	4.2%	4.9%	3.8%
Central WIA	410,890	394,090	16,800	4.1%	4.2%	4.8%	3.8%
Cleveland County WIA	120,870	116,610	4,260	3.5%	3.6%	4.2%	3.2%
East Central WIA	65,720	62,650	3,070	4.7%	4.9%	5.8%	4.6%
Holdenville LLM	9,120	8,580	540	5.9%	6.2%	7.9%	5.6%
Shawnee LLM	56,600	54,080	2,530	4.5%	4.7%	5.5%	4.4%
Eastern WIA	136,730	130,040	6,700	4.9%	5.0%	5.8%	4.5%
Muskogee LLM	69,120	65,920	3,200	4.6%	4.9%	5.7%	4.3%
Okmulgee LLM	16,980	16,090	890	5.2%	5.2%	5.9%	5.0%
Tahlequah-Sallisaw LLM	50,640	48,030	2,610	5.2%	5.1%	6.0%	4.7%
North Central WIA	109,150	105,090	4,060	3.7%	3.9%	4.5%	3.5%
Enid LLM	49,910	48,240	1,670	3.3%	3.5%	4.0%	3.1%
Ponca City LLM	26,760	25,620	1,140	4.2%	4.5%	5.1%	4.3%
Stillwater LLM	32,490	31,230	1,260	3.9%	4.2%	4.9%	3.4%
Northeast WIA	129,130	123,530	5,600	4.3%	4.5%	5.1%	3.8%
Bartlesville LLM	30,130	28,900	1,240	4.1%	4.2%	4.6%	3.5%
Claremore-Pryor LLM	75,690	72,490	3,190	4.2%	4.3%	5.0%	3.8%
Miami-Vinita LLM	23,310	22,140	1,170	5.0%	5.5%	6.1%	4.3%
Northwest WIA	33,910	32,750	1,160	3.4%	3.4%	4.1%	3.1%
Guymon LLM	12,460	12,040	430	3.4%	3.5%	4.2%	3.1%
Woodward LLM	21,450	20,710	730	3.4%	3.3%	4.0%	3.1%
South Central WIA	125,570	120,350	5,220	4.2%	4.2%	5.1%	4.2%
Chickasha LLM	50,100	48,010	2,090	4.2%	4.3%	5.3%	4.6%
Duncan LLM	23,490	22,570	920	3.9%	4.1%	4.8%	3.5%
Lawton LLM	51,980	49,770	2,220	4.3%	4.3%	5.1%	4.1%
Southeast WIA	78,500	74,280	4,230	5.4%	5.5%	6.5%	4.7%
Broken Bow-Idabel-Antlers-Hugo LLM	25,550	23,980	1,570	6.2%	6.5%	7.6%	5.1%
McAlester LLM	25,620	24,540	1,080	4.2%	4.4%	5.2%	4.1%
Poteau LLM	27,330	25,760	1,570	5.8%	5.7%	6.7%	5.0%
Southern WIA	110,810	106,620	4,200	3.8%	3.9%	4.7%	3.5%
Ada LLM	33,840	32,660	1,180	3.5%	3.6%	4.7%	3.3%
Ardmore LLM	37,700	36,400	1,300	3.5%	3.5%	4.1%	3.3%
Durant LLM	39,270	37,560	1,710	4.4%	4.5%	5.2%	3.9%
Southwest WIA	49,490	47,790	1,700	3.4%	3.6%	4.3%	3.2%
Altus LLM	18,880	18,110	770	4.1%	4.2%	4.9%	3.8%
Elk City-Weatherford-Clinton LLM	30,610	29,680	930	3.0%	3.2%	3.9%	2.9%
Tulsa WIA	360,130	346,150	13,980	3.9%	3.9%	4.5%	3.7%

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

	SEPTEMBER 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Sep '07	Aug '07	Jul '07	Sep '06
Oklahoma	1,730,900	1,659,950	70,960	4.1%	4.2%	4.9%	3.8%
Oklahoma City MSA	585,680	562,520	23,160	4.0%	4.1%	4.7%	3.7%
Tulsa MSA	450,250	432,680	17,570	3.9%	4.0%	4.5%	3.7%
Lawton MSA	45,390	43,440	1,950	4.3%	4.3%	5.1%	4.1%