

Economic Research & Analysis

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

FOR RELEASE: June 27, 2007

Most Oklahoma unemployment rates on the rise in May

In May 2007, Oklahoma's non-seasonally adjusted state unemployment rate increased by 0.7 percent to 4.5 percent. Of the state's 77 counties, only **Dewey** and **Harmon counties** reported unemployment rate drops for the month. **Coal County** again reported the state's highest county rate, while **Major County** recorded the state's lowest county unemployment rate of 2.8 percent.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES*

MAY 2007	Area	Unemp. Rate	Monthly change	Annual change
RATE	Statewide	4.5%	↑ 0.7%	↑ 0.4%
Highest county	Coal County	7.2%	↑ 1.0%	↑ 0.6%
Lowest county	Major County	2.8%	↑ 0.1%	no change
Biggest % gain	LeFlore Co.	6.6%	↑ 1.8%	--
Biggest % loss	Dewey County	3.0%	↓ 0.1%	--
	Harmon Co.	3.4%	↓ 0.1%	--

*non-seasonally adjusted

Statewide unemployment rate up to 4.5 percent in May

Oklahoma's **non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate** rose to 4.5 percent in May. This increase reflects losses in the state's **non-seasonally adjusted labor force** and **non-seasonally adjusted employment** combined with a major spike in **non-seasonally adjusted unemployment** over the month. This movement is in line with the trend seen each year during the April-to-May period. Over the year, **non-seasonally adjusted labor force, employment** and **unemployment** all reported gains.

REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT*

	MAY 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	May '07	Apr '07	Mar '07	May '06
Oklahoma	1,738,450	1,660,570	77,890	4.5%	3.8%	4.3%	4.1%
United States	152,762,000	145,943,000	6,819,000	4.5%	4.5%	4.4%	4.6%
Region							
Arkansas	1,379,520	1,310,300	69,220	5.0%	4.8%	5.1%	5.2%
Kansas	1,471,170	1,408,560	62,610	4.3%	4.0%	4.3%	4.1%
Louisiana	2,008,230	1,917,800	90,430	4.5%	3.7%	3.8%	3.5%
Missouri	3,040,740	2,909,810	130,930	4.3%	4.3%	5.0%	4.3%
New Mexico	942,580	908,690	33,890	3.6%	3.5%	3.6%	4.3%
Texas	11,491,370	11,048,240	443,130	3.9%	3.9%	4.2%	5.0%

*non-seasonally adjusted

Coal County claims state's highest county rate in May

In May, **Coal County** again reported the state's highest county unemployment rate at 7.2 percent, an over-the-month increase of 1.0 percent. **McCurtain County** claimed the month's second highest county rate of 7.0 percent, and **Sequoyah County** held sole possession of the third highest rate of 6.7 percent. These rates represented monthly increases of 1.3 percent and 1.2 percent, respectively.

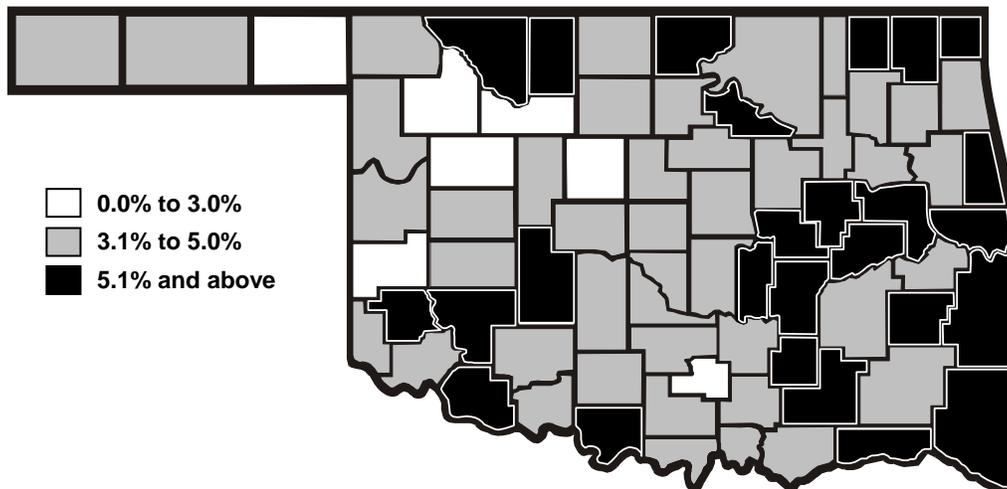
	MAY 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	May '07	Apr '07	Mar '07	May '06
Coal County	2,420	2,240	170	7.2%	6.2%	6.7%	6.6%
McCurtain County	13,840	12,870	970	7.0%	5.7%	6.2%	6.3%
Sequoyah County	18,580	17,330	1,250	6.7%	5.5%	6.0%	5.9%

Major County reports May's lowest county rate

Major County provided the lowest county unemployment rate of 2.8 percent in May. **Beckham County** followed right behind with a rate of 2.9 percent. There was a five-way tie at 3.0 percent for the May's third lowest county rate among **Beaver**, **Dewey**, **Kingfisher**, **Murray** and **Woodward counties**.

	MAY 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	May '07	Apr '07	Mar '07	May '06
Major County	3,950	3,840	110	2.8%	2.7%	3.0%	2.8%
Beckham County	10,580	10,280	310	2.9%	2.5%	2.8%	2.8%
Beaver County	2,970	2,880	90	3.0%	2.4%	2.8%	2.6%
Dewey County	2,370	2,300	70	3.0%	3.1%	3.6%	3.4%
Kingfisher County	7,950	7,700	240	3.0%	2.6%	3.0%	3.0%
Murray County	8,150	7,900	250	3.0%	2.7%	3.1%	3.2%
Woodward County	11,760	11,410	350	3.0%	2.4%	2.7%	2.7%

DISTRIBUTION of UNEMPLOYMENT RATES by COUNTY Preliminary Data for May 2007



LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS for OKLAHOMA
County rankings

	MAY 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	May '07	Apr '07	Mar '07	May '06
1. Coal County	2,420	2,240	170	7.2%	6.2%	6.7%	6.6%
2. McCurtain County	13,840	12,870	970	7.0%	5.7%	6.2%	6.3%
3. Sequoyah County	18,580	17,330	1,250	6.7%	5.5%	6.0%	5.9%
4. Atoka County	5,810	5,430	380	6.6%	5.6%	6.2%	4.5%
5. Hughes County	4,920	4,590	330	6.6%	5.7%	6.4%	6.1%
6. LeFlore County	21,990	20,550	1,450	6.6%	4.8%	5.2%	5.7%
7. Seminole County	10,190	9,530	660	6.5%	5.6%	6.1%	6.0%
8. Woods County	4,130	3,860	270	6.5%	5.3%	5.8%	6.7%
9. Okfuskee County	4,350	4,070	280	6.4%	4.9%	5.5%	5.6%
10. Muskogee County	28,870	27,040	1,830	6.3%	5.5%	6.0%	5.2%
11. McIntosh County	8,290	7,780	510	6.2%	5.4%	5.9%	5.2%
12. Nowata County	4,770	4,480	300	6.2%	4.6%	4.7%	4.4%
13. Caddo County	11,430	10,730	700	6.1%	5.1%	5.6%	5.9%
14. Okmulgee County	17,010	16,020	1,000	5.9%	4.8%	5.3%	5.5%
15. Greer County	1,980	1,860	110	5.8%	4.4%	5.0%	5.0%
16. Choctaw County	6,880	6,500	390	5.6%	4.9%	5.4%	4.7%
17. Latimer County	4,020	3,790	230	5.6%	4.6%	5.0%	5.3%
18. Tillman County	3,480	3,290	200	5.6%	5.2%	5.8%	4.2%
19. Ottawa County	16,880	15,970	910	5.4%	4.6%	5.1%	4.7%
20. Jefferson County	2,330	2,210	120	5.3%	4.4%	5.0%	4.5%
21. Kay County	21,500	20,360	1,150	5.3%	4.5%	4.9%	5.6%
22. Kiowa County	3,790	3,590	200	5.3%	4.5%	5.1%	5.1%
23. Adair County	10,880	10,310	570	5.2%	4.4%	4.9%	4.4%
24. Craig County	6,820	6,470	350	5.2%	4.4%	5.0%	4.3%
25. Alfalfa County	2,260	2,140	110	5.1%	4.2%	4.7%	4.0%
26. Pawnee County	7,940	7,540	410	5.1%	4.3%	4.7%	4.0%
27. Johnston County	4,850	4,610	240	5.0%	4.1%	4.6%	4.5%
28. Delaware County	17,570	16,710	850	4.9%	4.2%	4.8%	4.5%
29. Pottawatomie County	31,580	30,040	1,540	4.9%	4.2%	4.7%	4.8%
30. Cherokee County	21,610	20,580	1,030	4.8%	4.3%	4.8%	4.1%
31. Pushmataha County	5,540	5,270	270	4.8%	4.1%	4.7%	4.8%
32. Comanche County	45,490	43,350	2,130	4.7%	4.2%	4.5%	4.3%
33. Creek County	32,260	30,760	1,510	4.7%	3.9%	4.4%	4.0%
34. Haskell County	5,280	5,040	250	4.7%	4.2%	4.7%	4.4%
35. Mayes County	17,630	16,790	840	4.7%	4.3%	4.7%	4.3%
36. Oklahoma County	339,920	323,870	16,050	4.7%	4.1%	4.6%	4.3%
37. Blaine County	4,920	4,690	230	4.6%	4.0%	4.5%	4.5%
38. Marshall County	6,380	6,090	290	4.5%	3.9%	4.4%	4.4%
39. Pittsburg County	21,740	20,770	970	4.5%	3.8%	4.3%	4.1%

	MAY 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	May '07	Apr '07	Mar '07	May '06
40. Grady County	23,870	22,810	1,060	4.4%	4.0%	4.5%	5.1%
41. Lincoln County	14,970	14,330	640	4.3%	3.7%	4.2%	4.2%
42. Osage County	21,020	20,110	910	4.3%	3.9%	4.3%	4.0%
43. Grant County	2,270	2,170	100	4.2%	3.6%	4.0%	4.1%
44. Canadian County	52,380	50,250	2,140	4.1%	3.5%	3.9%	3.5%
45. Jackson County	12,240	11,750	500	4.1%	3.5%	3.8%	3.5%
46. Logan County	18,530	17,770	750	4.1%	3.5%	3.8%	3.8%
47. Noble County	5,800	5,570	240	4.1%	3.4%	3.8%	3.7%
48. Payne County	33,410	32,030	1,380	4.1%	3.6%	3.9%	3.5%
49. Rogers County	40,580	38,900	1,680	4.1%	3.5%	3.9%	3.7%
50. Tulsa County	298,320	286,140	12,180	4.1%	3.5%	3.9%	3.9%
51. Wagoner County	32,550	31,210	1,340	4.1%	3.6%	4.0%	3.6%
52. McClain County	14,980	14,390	600	4.0%	3.6%	4.0%	3.8%
53. Stephens County	21,100	20,250	840	4.0%	3.4%	3.8%	3.6%
54. Washington County	25,250	24,250	1,000	4.0%	3.3%	3.7%	3.6%
55. Carter County	24,480	23,520	960	3.9%	3.4%	3.8%	4.0%
56. Garvin County	13,580	13,060	530	3.9%	3.2%	3.7%	3.8%
57. Bryan County	20,300	19,540	760	3.8%	3.1%	3.5%	3.8%
58. Cimarron County	1,250	1,200	50	3.8%	3.5%	3.9%	3.1%
59. Cleveland County	120,540	115,960	4,580	3.8%	3.3%	3.7%	3.5%
60. Pontotoc County	20,180	19,440	740	3.7%	3.3%	3.7%	3.8%
61. Texas County	8,830	8,500	330	3.7%	3.2%	3.6%	3.5%
62. Custer County	13,530	13,050	490	3.6%	3.2%	3.4%	3.0%
63. Love County	4,930	4,750	180	3.6%	3.1%	3.5%	3.5%
64. Harmon County	1,470	1,420	50	3.4%	3.5%	3.7%	3.8%
65. Washita County	5,730	5,530	200	3.4%	3.0%	3.5%	3.4%
66. Garfield County	29,380	28,410	960	3.3%	2.8%	3.2%	3.2%
67. Harper County	1,890	1,830	60	3.3%	3.2%	3.4%	3.1%
68. Roger Mills County	1,690	1,640	60	3.3%	2.9%	3.4%	2.6%
69. Cotton County	3,360	3,250	110	3.2%	2.9%	3.3%	3.1%
70. Ellis County	2,220	2,150	70	3.1%	2.6%	2.9%	3.0%
71. Beaver County	2,970	2,880	90	3.0%	2.4%	2.8%	2.6%
72. Dewey County	2,370	2,300	70	3.0%	3.1%	3.6%	3.4%
73. Kingfisher County	7,950	7,700	240	3.0%	2.6%	3.0%	3.0%
74. Murray County	8,150	7,900	250	3.0%	2.7%	3.1%	3.2%
75. Woodward County	11,760	11,410	350	3.0%	2.4%	2.7%	2.7%
76. Beckham County	10,580	10,280	310	2.9%	2.5%	2.8%	2.8%
77. Major County	3,950	3,840	110	2.8%	2.7%	3.0%	2.8%

LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS for OKLAHOMA
By county

	MAY 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	May '07	Apr '07	Mar '07	May '06
Adair County	10,880	10,310	570	5.2%	4.4%	4.9%	4.4%
Alfalfa County	2,260	2,140	110	5.1%	4.2%	4.7%	4.0%
Atoka County	5,810	5,430	380	6.6%	5.6%	6.2%	4.5%
Beaver County	2,970	2,880	90	3.0%	2.4%	2.8%	2.6%
Beckham County	10,580	10,280	310	2.9%	2.5%	2.8%	2.8%
Blaine County	4,920	4,690	230	4.6%	4.0%	4.5%	4.5%
Bryan County	20,300	19,540	760	3.8%	3.1%	3.5%	3.8%
Caddo County	11,430	10,730	700	6.1%	5.1%	5.6%	5.9%
Canadian County	52,380	50,250	2,140	4.1%	3.5%	3.9%	3.5%
Carter County	24,480	23,520	960	3.9%	3.4%	3.8%	4.0%
Cherokee County	21,610	20,580	1,030	4.8%	4.3%	4.8%	4.1%
Choctaw County	6,880	6,500	390	5.6%	4.9%	5.4%	4.7%
Cimarron County	1,250	1,200	50	3.8%	3.5%	3.9%	3.1%
Cleveland County	120,540	115,960	4,580	3.8%	3.3%	3.7%	3.5%
Coal County	2,420	2,240	170	7.2%	6.2%	6.7%	6.6%
Comanche County	45,490	43,350	2,130	4.7%	4.2%	4.5%	4.3%
Cotton County	3,360	3,250	110	3.2%	2.9%	3.3%	3.1%
Craig County	6,820	6,470	350	5.2%	4.4%	5.0%	4.3%
Creek County	32,260	30,760	1,510	4.7%	3.9%	4.4%	4.0%
Custer County	13,530	13,050	490	3.6%	3.2%	3.4%	3.0%
Delaware County	17,570	16,710	850	4.9%	4.2%	4.8%	4.5%
Dewey County	2,370	2,300	70	3.0%	3.1%	3.6%	3.4%
Ellis County	2,220	2,150	70	3.1%	2.6%	2.9%	3.0%
Garfield County	29,380	28,410	960	3.3%	2.8%	3.2%	3.2%
Garvin County	13,580	13,060	530	3.9%	3.2%	3.7%	3.8%
Grady County	23,870	22,810	1,060	4.4%	4.0%	4.5%	5.1%
Grant County	2,270	2,170	100	4.2%	3.6%	4.0%	4.1%
Greer County	1,980	1,860	110	5.8%	4.4%	5.0%	5.0%
Harmon County	1,470	1,420	50	3.4%	3.5%	3.7%	3.8%
Harper County	1,890	1,830	60	3.3%	3.2%	3.4%	3.1%
Haskell County	5,280	5,040	250	4.7%	4.2%	4.7%	4.4%
Hughes County	4,920	4,590	330	6.6%	5.7%	6.4%	6.1%
Jackson County	12,240	11,750	500	4.1%	3.5%	3.8%	3.5%
Jefferson County	2,330	2,210	120	5.3%	4.4%	5.0%	4.5%
Johnston County	4,850	4,610	240	5.0%	4.1%	4.6%	4.5%
Kay County	21,500	20,360	1,150	5.3%	4.5%	4.9%	5.6%
Kingfisher County	7,950	7,700	240	3.0%	2.6%	3.0%	3.0%
Kiowa County	3,790	3,590	200	5.3%	4.5%	5.1%	5.1%
Latimer County	4,020	3,790	230	5.6%	4.6%	5.0%	5.3%

	MAY 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	May '07	Apr '07	Mar '07	May '06
LeFlore County	21,990	20,550	1,450	6.6%	4.8%	5.2%	5.7%
Lincoln County	14,970	14,330	640	4.3%	3.7%	4.2%	4.2%
Logan County	18,530	17,770	750	4.1%	3.5%	3.8%	3.8%
Love County	4,930	4,750	180	3.6%	3.1%	3.5%	3.5%
Major County	3,950	3,840	110	2.8%	2.7%	3.0%	2.8%
Marshall County	6,380	6,090	290	4.5%	3.9%	4.4%	4.4%
Mayes County	17,630	16,790	840	4.7%	4.3%	4.7%	4.3%
McClain County	14,980	14,390	600	4.0%	3.6%	4.0%	3.8%
McCurtain County	13,840	12,870	970	7.0%	5.7%	6.2%	6.3%
McIntosh County	8,290	7,780	510	6.2%	5.4%	5.9%	5.2%
Murray County	8,150	7,900	250	3.0%	2.7%	3.1%	3.2%
Muskogee County	28,870	27,040	1,830	6.3%	5.5%	6.0%	5.2%
Noble County	5,800	5,570	240	4.1%	3.4%	3.8%	3.7%
Nowata County	4,770	4,480	300	6.2%	4.6%	4.7%	4.4%
Okfuskee County	4,350	4,070	280	6.4%	4.9%	5.5%	5.6%
Oklahoma County	339,920	323,870	16,050	4.7%	4.1%	4.6%	4.3%
Okmulgee County	17,010	16,020	1,000	5.9%	4.8%	5.3%	5.5%
Osage County	21,020	20,110	910	4.3%	3.9%	4.3%	4.0%
Ottawa County	16,880	15,970	910	5.4%	4.6%	5.1%	4.7%
Pawnee County	7,940	7,540	410	5.1%	4.3%	4.7%	4.0%
Payne County	33,410	32,030	1,380	4.1%	3.6%	3.9%	3.5%
Pittsburg County	21,740	20,770	970	4.5%	3.8%	4.3%	4.1%
Pontotoc County	20,180	19,440	740	3.7%	3.3%	3.7%	3.8%
Pottawatomie County	31,580	30,040	1,540	4.9%	4.2%	4.7%	4.8%
Pushmataha County	5,540	5,270	270	4.8%	4.1%	4.7%	4.8%
Roger Mills County	1,690	1,640	60	3.3%	2.9%	3.4%	2.6%
Rogers County	40,580	38,900	1,680	4.1%	3.5%	3.9%	3.7%
Seminole County	10,190	9,530	660	6.5%	5.6%	6.1%	6.0%
Sequoyah County	18,580	17,330	1,250	6.7%	5.5%	6.0%	5.9%
Stephens County	21,100	20,250	840	4.0%	3.4%	3.8%	3.6%
Texas County	8,830	8,500	330	3.7%	3.2%	3.6%	3.5%
Tillman County	3,480	3,290	200	5.6%	5.2%	5.8%	4.2%
Tulsa County	298,320	286,140	12,180	4.1%	3.5%	3.9%	3.9%
Wagoner County	32,550	31,210	1,340	4.1%	3.6%	4.0%	3.6%
Washington County	25,250	24,250	1,000	4.0%	3.3%	3.7%	3.6%
Washita County	5,730	5,530	200	3.4%	3.0%	3.5%	3.4%
Woods County	4,130	3,860	270	6.5%	5.3%	5.8%	6.7%
Woodward County	11,760	11,410	350	3.0%	2.4%	2.7%	2.7%

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

	MAY 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	May '07	Apr '07	Mar '07	May '06
Oklahoma	1,738,450	1,660,570	77,890	4.5%	3.8%	4.3%	4.1%
Central WIA	410,830	391,890	18,950	4.6%	4.0%	4.4%	4.2%
Cleveland County WIA	120,540	115,960	4,580	3.8%	3.3%	3.7%	3.5%
East Central WIA	66,000	62,570	3,440	5.2%	4.5%	5.0%	5.0%
Holdenville LLM	9,270	8,660	600	6.5%	5.3%	6.0%	5.9%
Shawnee LLM	56,740	53,910	2,830	5.0%	4.3%	4.8%	4.8%
Eastern WIA	137,780	130,260	7,520	5.5%	4.7%	5.2%	4.7%
Muskogee LLM	69,700	66,030	3,680	5.3%	4.6%	5.0%	4.5%
Okmulgee LLM	17,010	16,020	1,000	5.9%	4.8%	5.3%	5.5%
Tahlequah-Sallisaw LLM	51,070	48,220	2,850	5.6%	4.8%	5.2%	4.8%
North Central WIA	111,420	106,910	4,520	4.1%	3.5%	3.9%	3.8%
Enid LLM	50,710	48,960	1,750	3.5%	3.0%	3.4%	3.3%
Ponca City LLM	27,310	25,920	1,390	5.1%	4.3%	4.7%	5.2%
Stillwater LLM	33,410	32,030	1,380	4.1%	3.6%	3.9%	3.5%
Northeast WIA	129,510	123,570	5,930	4.6%	3.9%	4.3%	4.1%
Bartlesville LLM	30,030	28,730	1,300	4.3%	3.5%	3.9%	3.7%
Claremore-Pryor LLM	75,780	72,400	3,370	4.5%	3.9%	4.3%	4.0%
Miami-Vinita LLM	23,700	22,440	1,270	5.3%	4.6%	5.1%	4.6%
Northwest WIA	35,410	34,120	1,290	3.6%	3.1%	3.4%	3.5%
Guymon LLM	13,040	12,580	460	3.6%	3.0%	3.4%	3.3%
Woodward LLM	22,370	21,550	820	3.7%	3.1%	3.5%	3.7%
South Central WIA	126,040	120,290	5,750	4.6%	4.0%	4.5%	4.4%
Chickasha LLM	50,280	47,930	2,350	4.7%	4.1%	4.6%	4.9%
Duncan LLM	23,430	22,460	970	4.1%	3.5%	3.9%	3.7%
Lawton LLM	52,330	49,890	2,440	4.7%	4.1%	4.5%	4.2%
Southeast WIA	79,290	74,780	4,510	5.7%	4.6%	5.1%	5.1%
Broken Bow-Idabel-Antlers-Hugo LLM	26,260	24,640	1,620	6.2%	5.1%	5.7%	5.6%
McAlester LLM	25,760	24,560	1,200	4.6%	4.0%	4.4%	4.3%
Poteau LLM	27,280	25,580	1,690	6.2%	4.7%	5.1%	5.5%
Southern WIA	111,070	106,570	4,500	4.1%	3.5%	3.9%	4.0%
Ada LLM	33,760	32,500	1,270	3.7%	3.3%	3.7%	3.8%
Ardmore LLM	37,560	36,180	1,390	3.7%	3.2%	3.6%	3.8%
Durant LLM	39,750	37,900	1,850	4.7%	3.9%	4.4%	4.2%
Southwest WIA	51,020	49,110	1,910	3.7%	3.2%	3.6%	3.4%
Altus LLM	19,480	18,620	860	4.4%	3.8%	4.2%	4.0%
Elk City-Weatherford-Clinton LLM	31,540	30,490	1,050	3.3%	2.9%	3.2%	3.0%
Tulsa WIA	359,540	344,540	15,010	4.2%	3.6%	4.0%	3.9%

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

	MAY 2007			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	May '07	Apr '07	Mar '07	May '06
Oklahoma	1,738,450	1,660,570	77,890	4.5%	3.8%	4.3%	4.1%
Oklahoma City MSA	585,190	559,380	25,810	4.4%	3.8%	4.3%	4.1%
Tulsa MSA	449,690	430,660	19,020	4.2%	3.6%	4.0%	3.9%
Lawton MSA	45,490	43,350	2,130	4.7%	4.2%	4.5%	4.3%