



Economic Research & Analysis

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FOR RELEASE: April 2, 2008

February unemployment rates down in all Oklahoma counties

Oklahoma's non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 3.5 percent in February 2008. **Sequoyah County** claimed the state's highest county rate, while **Beaver and Beckham counties** shared the lowest rate. Unemployment rates were down in all 77 of Oklahoma's counties, with **McCurtain County** reporting the largest over-the-month rate drop of 1.9 percent.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES*

FEBRUARY 2008	Area	Unemp. rate	Monthly change	Annual change
RATE	Statewide	3.5%	↓ 0.7%	↓ 1.2%
Highest county	Sequoyah Co.	6.1%	↓ 1.0%	↓ 1.0%
Lowest county (tie)	Beaver Co.	2.1%	↓ 0.3%	↓ 0.8%
	Beckham Co.	2.1%	↓ 0.4%	↓ 0.8%
Biggest % gain	None (all county rates down over month)			
Biggest % loss	McCurtain Co.	5.8%	↓ 1.9%	--

*non-seasonally adjusted

State unemployment rate drops in February

Oklahoma's non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased by 0.7 percent in February 2008 to 3.5 percent. Statewide non-seasonally adjusted labor force, non-seasonally adjusted employment, and non-seasonally adjusted unemployment were all down over the month. Statewide non-seasonally adjusted unemployment dropped by more than 18.0 percent over the month and more than 25.0 percent over the year.

REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT*

	FEBRUARY 2008			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Feb '08	Jan '08	Dec '07	Feb '07
Oklahoma	1,703,580	1,643,900	59,690	3.5%	4.2%	4.3%	4.7%
United States	152,503,000	144,550,000	7,953,000	5.2%	5.4%	4.8%	4.9%
Region							
Arkansas	1,350,050	1,273,000	77,050	5.7%	6.4%	5.6%	5.9%
Kansas	1,472,400	1,413,050	59,350	4.0%	4.3%	4.0%	4.4%
Louisiana	1,975,320	1,905,580	69,740	3.5%	4.6%	3.8%	3.5%
Missouri	3,002,990	2,822,380	180,610	6.0%	6.0%	5.2%	5.4%
New Mexico	942,170	909,310	32,860	3.5%	3.2%	3.1%	3.8%
Texas	11,500,870	11,008,920	491,950	4.3%	4.6%	4.3%	4.6%

*non-seasonally adjusted

February's highest county rate recorded in Sequoyah County

Sequoyah County reported Oklahoma's highest county unemployment rate of 6.1 percent in February 2008. **McCurtain County** held the second highest county rate, and **Hughes County** claimed the third highest rate.

	FEBRUARY 2008			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Feb '08	Jan '08	Dec '07	Feb '07
Sequoyah County	18,060	16,950	1,100	6.1%	7.1%	6.1%	7.1%
McCurtain County	13,760	12,960	800	5.8%	7.7%	7.2%	6.8%
Hughes County	4,590	4,350	250	5.3%	6.6%	6.8%	6.9%

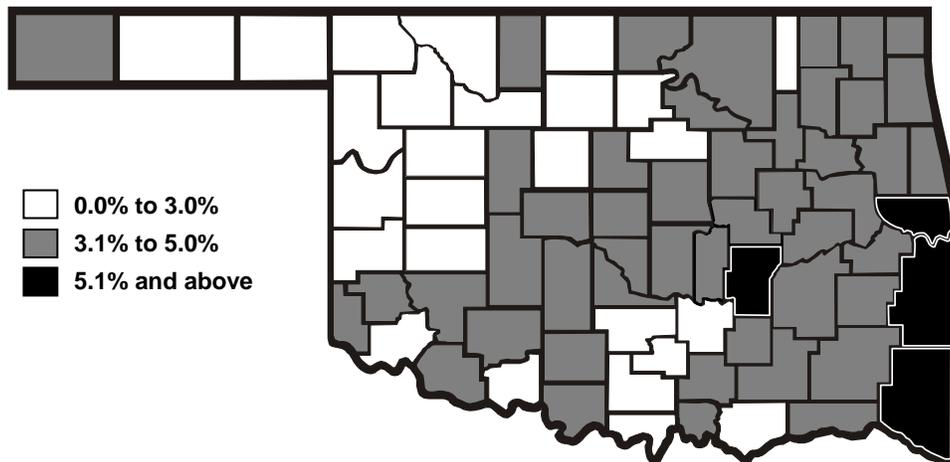
Beaver, Beckham counties share February's lowest county rate

Beaver and Beckham counties tied for the state's lowest county unemployment rate (2.1 percent) in February. **Cotton County** claimed the second lowest county rate. February's third lowest county rate was reported by five counties: **Ellis, Harper, Kingfisher, Roger Mills, and Woodward counties**.

	FEBRUARY 2008			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Feb '08	Jan '08	Dec '07	Feb '07
Beaver County	3,110	3,050	60	2.1%	2.4%	3.0%	2.9%
Beckham County	11,760	11,510	240	2.1%	2.5%	2.5%	2.9%
Cotton County	4,320	4,230	100	2.2%	3.0%	2.9%	3.6%
Ellis County	2,310	2,260	50	2.3%	2.9%	2.8%	3.1%
Harper County	1,870	1,820	40	2.3%	2.8%	3.1%	3.8%
Kingfisher County	8,410	8,220	200	2.3%	2.7%	2.8%	3.1%
Roger Mills County	1,820	1,780	40	2.3%	2.6%	3.0%	3.2%
Woodward County	11,460	11,190	260	2.3%	2.8%	2.8%	3.1%

DISTRIBUTION of UNEMPLOYMENT RATES by COUNTY

Preliminary data for February 2008



LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS for OKLAHOMA
County rankings

	FEBRUARY 2008			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Feb '08	Jan '08	Dec '07	Feb '07
1. Sequoyah County	18,060	16,950	1,100	6.1%	7.1%	6.1%	7.1%
2. McCurtain County	13,760	12,960	800	5.8%	7.7%	7.2%	6.8%
3. Hughes County	4,590	4,350	250	5.3%	6.6%	6.8%	6.9%
4. LeFlore County	21,180	20,090	1,090	5.2%	5.7%	5.9%	6.2%
5. Choctaw County	6,730	6,390	330	4.9%	6.2%	6.1%	5.9%
6. Okmulgee County	15,990	15,220	780	4.9%	5.9%	5.9%	6.1%
7. Muskogee County	28,950	27,600	1,350	4.7%	5.7%	5.7%	6.5%
8. Latimer County	4,180	3,990	190	4.6%	5.6%	5.5%	5.4%
9. Seminole County	10,440	9,960	480	4.6%	5.5%	5.8%	6.3%
10. Adair County	11,030	10,530	490	4.5%	5.6%	5.2%	5.3%
11. McIntosh County	8,210	7,840	370	4.5%	5.6%	5.7%	6.4%
12. Pushmataha County	5,180	4,950	230	4.5%	5.8%	5.7%	5.1%
13. Coal County	2,450	2,340	110	4.4%	5.3%	6.5%	6.8%
14. Ottawa County	16,950	16,210	740	4.4%	5.2%	5.6%	5.8%
15. Atoka County	5,940	5,680	250	4.2%	5.1%	5.1%	6.7%
16. Nowata County	4,690	4,490	200	4.2%	5.1%	5.5%	5.0%
17. Caddo County	11,550	11,070	470	4.1%	4.9%	5.1%	5.8%
18. Delaware County	18,120	17,380	740	4.1%	5.0%	5.0%	5.3%
19. Greer County	1,910	1,830	80	4.1%	4.8%	5.2%	5.5%
20. Tillman County	3,360	3,220	140	4.1%	4.9%	4.6%	5.7%
21. Craig County	7,320	7,030	290	4.0%	4.7%	5.3%	5.1%
22. Okfuskee County	4,630	4,450	190	4.0%	4.6%	4.9%	5.6%
23. Mayes County	17,990	17,300	690	3.9%	4.6%	4.6%	5.0%
24. Creek County	30,600	29,450	1,150	3.8%	4.5%	4.4%	4.9%
25. Jefferson County	2,390	2,300	90	3.8%	5.0%	5.7%	5.5%
26. Kiowa County	3,870	3,720	150	3.8%	4.5%	5.0%	5.4%
27. Osage County	19,940	19,190	750	3.8%	4.8%	4.3%	4.6%
28. Pawnee County	7,450	7,160	290	3.8%	4.6%	4.3%	5.1%
29. Haskell County	5,540	5,340	200	3.7%	4.5%	4.3%	5.2%
30. Johnston County	5,140	4,950	190	3.7%	4.8%	4.8%	4.7%
31. Oklahoma County	317,410	305,780	11,640	3.7%	4.5%	4.5%	5.0%
32. Grady County	22,630	21,810	820	3.6%	4.3%	4.2%	5.2%
33. Marshall County	6,420	6,190	230	3.6%	4.5%	4.9%	4.8%
34. Cherokee County	22,580	21,780	800	3.5%	4.2%	4.2%	4.8%
35. Comanche County	45,000	43,430	1,570	3.5%	4.2%	4.3%	4.8%
36. Harmon County	1,250	1,200	40	3.5%	3.8%	4.2%	4.3%
37. Lincoln County	14,030	13,540	490	3.5%	4.4%	4.1%	4.6%
38. Pottawatomie County	32,940	31,790	1,150	3.5%	4.4%	4.2%	4.7%
39. Blaine County	4,850	4,680	160	3.4%	4.1%	4.7%	4.9%

	FEBRUARY 2008			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Feb '08	Jan '08	Dec '07	Feb '07
40. Kay County	22,900	22,120	780	3.4%	4.2%	4.1%	5.2%
41. Logan County	17,240	16,650	590	3.4%	4.2%	3.8%	4.4%
42. Tulsa County	284,790	275,000	9,790	3.4%	4.1%	4.0%	4.3%
43. Wagoner County	31,750	30,680	1,070	3.4%	4.0%	3.9%	4.4%
44. McClain County	14,340	13,870	470	3.3%	4.0%	3.7%	4.6%
45. Rogers County	39,070	37,780	1,280	3.3%	3.9%	3.9%	4.2%
46. Canadian County	49,800	48,230	1,570	3.2%	3.8%	3.8%	4.4%
47. Cleveland County	113,850	110,200	3,650	3.2%	3.8%	3.8%	4.1%
48. Alfalfa County	2,250	2,180	70	3.1%	4.0%	4.8%	5.0%
49. Cimarron County	1,200	1,170	40	3.1%	3.7%	4.6%	4.6%
50. Pittsburg County	22,850	22,140	710	3.1%	3.9%	4.2%	4.8%
51. Stephens County	21,900	21,220	680	3.1%	3.9%	4.0%	4.2%
52. Carter County	25,530	24,770	760	3.0%	3.6%	3.8%	4.0%
53. Bryan County	21,580	20,960	620	2.9%	3.6%	3.8%	3.8%
54. Garvin County	14,210	13,800	410	2.9%	3.4%	3.5%	3.9%
55. Jackson County	12,320	11,960	360	2.9%	3.5%	3.5%	4.1%
56. Payne County	38,800	37,690	1,120	2.9%	3.4%	3.8%	3.9%
57. Love County	5,130	4,980	150	2.8%	3.5%	3.2%	3.7%
58. Noble County	5,880	5,710	170	2.8%	3.5%	3.4%	4.1%
59. Washington County	27,000	26,240	760	2.8%	3.4%	3.7%	3.9%
60. Pontotoc County	20,300	19,760	550	2.7%	3.2%	3.5%	3.9%
61. Texas County	9,100	8,850	240	2.7%	3.1%	3.4%	3.8%
62. Major County	3,910	3,800	100	2.6%	2.9%	3.1%	3.4%
63. Murray County	8,060	7,850	210	2.6%	3.2%	3.3%	3.4%
64. Washita County	5,910	5,760	150	2.6%	3.1%	3.2%	3.5%
65. Custer County	14,370	14,010	360	2.5%	3.0%	3.1%	3.6%
66. Grant County	2,550	2,480	60	2.5%	2.9%	3.2%	4.0%
67. Woods County	4,210	4,100	110	2.5%	3.3%	6.1%	7.5%
68. Dewey County	2,420	2,360	60	2.4%	3.1%	3.4%	3.7%
69. Garfield County	30,120	29,410	710	2.4%	2.9%	3.1%	3.5%
70. Ellis County	2,310	2,260	50	2.3%	2.9%	2.8%	3.1%
71. Harper County	1,870	1,820	40	2.3%	2.8%	3.1%	3.8%
72. Kingfisher County	8,410	8,220	200	2.3%	2.7%	2.8%	3.1%
73. Roger Mills County	1,820	1,780	40	2.3%	2.6%	3.0%	3.2%
74. Woodward County	11,460	11,190	260	2.3%	2.8%	2.8%	3.1%
75. Cotton County	4,320	4,230	100	2.2%	3.0%	2.9%	3.6%
76. Beaver County	3,110	3,050	60	2.1%	2.4%	3.0%	2.9%
77. Beckham County	11,760	11,510	240	2.1%	2.5%	2.5%	2.9%

LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS for OKLAHOMA
By county

	FEBRUARY 2008			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Feb '08	Jan '08	Dec '07	Feb '07
Adair County	11,030	10,530	490	4.5%	5.6%	5.2%	5.3%
Alfalfa County	2,250	2,180	70	3.1%	4.0%	4.8%	5.0%
Atoka County	5,940	5,680	250	4.2%	5.1%	5.1%	6.7%
Beaver County	3,110	3,050	60	2.1%	2.4%	3.0%	2.9%
Beckham County	11,760	11,510	240	2.1%	2.5%	2.5%	2.9%
Blaine County	4,850	4,680	160	3.4%	4.1%	4.7%	4.9%
Bryan County	21,580	20,960	620	2.9%	3.6%	3.8%	3.8%
Caddo County	11,550	11,070	470	4.1%	4.9%	5.1%	5.8%
Canadian County	49,800	48,230	1,570	3.2%	3.8%	3.8%	4.4%
Carter County	25,530	24,770	760	3.0%	3.6%	3.8%	4.0%
Cherokee County	22,580	21,780	800	3.5%	4.2%	4.2%	4.8%
Choctaw County	6,730	6,390	330	4.9%	6.2%	6.1%	5.9%
Cimarron County	1,200	1,170	40	3.1%	3.7%	4.6%	4.6%
Cleveland County	113,850	110,200	3,650	3.2%	3.8%	3.8%	4.1%
Coal County	2,450	2,340	110	4.4%	5.3%	6.5%	6.8%
Comanche County	45,000	43,430	1,570	3.5%	4.2%	4.3%	4.8%
Cotton County	4,320	4,230	100	2.2%	3.0%	2.9%	3.6%
Craig County	7,320	7,030	290	4.0%	4.7%	5.3%	5.1%
Creek County	30,600	29,450	1,150	3.8%	4.5%	4.4%	4.9%
Custer County	14,370	14,010	360	2.5%	3.0%	3.1%	3.6%
Delaware County	18,120	17,380	740	4.1%	5.0%	5.0%	5.3%
Dewey County	2,420	2,360	60	2.4%	3.1%	3.4%	3.7%
Ellis County	2,310	2,260	50	2.3%	2.9%	2.8%	3.1%
Garfield County	30,120	29,410	710	2.4%	2.9%	3.1%	3.5%
Garvin County	14,210	13,800	410	2.9%	3.4%	3.5%	3.9%
Grady County	22,630	21,810	820	3.6%	4.3%	4.2%	5.2%
Grant County	2,550	2,480	60	2.5%	2.9%	3.2%	4.0%
Greer County	1,910	1,830	80	4.1%	4.8%	5.2%	5.5%
Harmon County	1,250	1,200	40	3.5%	3.8%	4.2%	4.3%
Harper County	1,870	1,820	40	2.3%	2.8%	3.1%	3.8%
Haskell County	5,540	5,340	200	3.7%	4.5%	4.3%	5.2%
Hughes County	4,590	4,350	250	5.3%	6.6%	6.8%	6.9%
Jackson County	12,320	11,960	360	2.9%	3.5%	3.5%	4.1%
Jefferson County	2,390	2,300	90	3.8%	5.0%	5.7%	5.5%
Johnston County	5,140	4,950	190	3.7%	4.8%	4.8%	4.7%
Kay County	22,900	22,120	780	3.4%	4.2%	4.1%	5.2%
Kingfisher County	8,410	8,220	200	2.3%	2.7%	2.8%	3.1%
Kiowa County	3,870	3,720	150	3.8%	4.5%	5.0%	5.4%
Latimer County	4,180	3,990	190	4.6%	5.6%	5.5%	5.4%

	FEBRUARY 2008			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Feb '08	Jan '08	Dec '07	Feb '07
LeFlore County	21,180	20,090	1,090	5.2%	5.7%	5.9%	6.2%
Lincoln County	14,030	13,540	490	3.5%	4.4%	4.1%	4.6%
Logan County	17,240	16,650	590	3.4%	4.2%	3.8%	4.4%
Love County	5,130	4,980	150	2.8%	3.5%	3.2%	3.7%
Major County	3,910	3,800	100	2.6%	2.9%	3.1%	3.4%
Marshall County	6,420	6,190	230	3.6%	4.5%	4.9%	4.8%
Mayes County	17,990	17,300	690	3.9%	4.6%	4.6%	5.0%
McClain County	14,340	13,870	470	3.3%	4.0%	3.7%	4.6%
McCurain County	13,760	12,960	800	5.8%	7.7%	7.2%	6.8%
McIntosh County	8,210	7,840	370	4.5%	5.6%	5.7%	6.4%
Murray County	8,060	7,850	210	2.6%	3.2%	3.3%	3.4%
Muskogee County	28,950	27,600	1,350	4.7%	5.7%	5.7%	6.5%
Noble County	5,880	5,710	170	2.8%	3.5%	3.4%	4.1%
Nowata County	4,690	4,490	200	4.2%	5.1%	5.5%	5.0%
Okfuskee County	4,630	4,450	190	4.0%	4.6%	4.9%	5.6%
Oklahoma County	317,410	305,780	11,640	3.7%	4.5%	4.5%	5.0%
Okmulgee County	15,990	15,220	780	4.9%	5.9%	5.9%	6.1%
Osage County	19,940	19,190	750	3.8%	4.8%	4.3%	4.6%
Ottawa County	16,950	16,210	740	4.4%	5.2%	5.6%	5.8%
Pawnee County	7,450	7,160	290	3.8%	4.6%	4.3%	5.1%
Payne County	38,800	37,690	1,120	2.9%	3.4%	3.8%	3.9%
Pittsburg County	22,850	22,140	710	3.1%	3.9%	4.2%	4.8%
Pontotoc County	20,300	19,760	550	2.7%	3.2%	3.5%	3.9%
Pottawatomie County	32,940	31,790	1,150	3.5%	4.4%	4.2%	4.7%
Pushmataha County	5,180	4,950	230	4.5%	5.8%	5.7%	5.1%
Roger Mills County	1,820	1,780	40	2.3%	2.6%	3.0%	3.2%
Rogers County	39,070	37,780	1,280	3.3%	3.9%	3.9%	4.2%
Seminole County	10,440	9,960	480	4.6%	5.5%	5.8%	6.3%
Sequoyah County	18,060	16,950	1,100	6.1%	7.1%	6.1%	7.1%
Stephens County	21,900	21,220	680	3.1%	3.9%	4.0%	4.2%
Texas County	9,100	8,850	240	2.7%	3.1%	3.4%	3.8%
Tillman County	3,360	3,220	140	4.1%	4.9%	4.6%	5.7%
Tulsa County	284,790	275,000	9,790	3.4%	4.1%	4.0%	4.3%
Wagoner County	31,750	30,680	1,070	3.4%	4.0%	3.9%	4.4%
Washington County	27,000	26,240	760	2.8%	3.4%	3.7%	3.9%
Washita County	5,910	5,760	150	2.6%	3.1%	3.2%	3.5%
Woods County	4,210	4,100	110	2.5%	3.3%	6.1%	7.5%
Woodward County	11,460	11,190	260	2.3%	2.8%	2.8%	3.1%

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

	FEBRUARY 2008			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Feb '08	Jan '08	Dec '07	Jan '07
OKLAHOMA	1,703,580	1,643,900	59,690	3.5%	4.2%	4.3%	4.7%
Central WIA	384,460	370,660	13,800	3.6%	4.4%	4.4%	4.9%
Oklahoma City LLM	384,460	370,660	13,800	3.6%	4.4%	4.4%	4.9%
Cleveland County WIA	113,850	110,200	3,650	3.2%	3.8%	3.8%	4.1%
Norman LLM	113,850	110,200	3,650	3.2%	3.8%	3.8%	4.1%
East Central WIA	66,630	64,090	2,550	3.8%	4.7%	4.7%	5.2%
Holdenville LLM	9,220	8,790	430	4.7%	5.6%	5.8%	6.3%
Shawnee LLM	57,410	55,290	2,120	3.7%	4.6%	4.5%	5.0%
Eastern WIA	136,570	130,600	5,970	4.4%	5.3%	5.1%	5.7%
Muskogee LLM	68,910	66,120	2,790	4.1%	4.9%	4.9%	5.5%
Okmulgee LLM	15,990	15,220	780	4.9%	5.9%	5.9%	6.1%
Tahlequah-Sallisaw LLM	51,670	49,270	2,400	4.6%	5.5%	5.1%	5.7%
North Central WIA	119,640	116,280	3,360	2.8%	3.4%	3.6%	4.0%
Enid LLM	52,070	50,770	1,300	2.5%	3.0%	3.3%	3.6%
Ponca City LLM	28,770	27,830	940	3.3%	4.0%	4.0%	5.0%
Stillwater LLM	38,800	37,690	1,120	2.9%	3.4%	3.8%	3.9%
Northeast WIA	131,120	126,420	4,700	3.6%	4.3%	4.5%	4.7%
Bartlesville LLM	31,690	30,730	960	3.0%	3.7%	4.0%	4.1%
Claremore-Pryor LLM	75,170	72,460	2,710	3.6%	4.3%	4.3%	4.7%
Miami-Vinita LLM	24,260	23,240	1,030	4.2%	5.1%	5.5%	5.6%
Northwest WIA	35,670	34,800	870	2.4%	3.0%	3.5%	4.0%
Guymon LLM	13,410	13,070	350	2.6%	3.0%	3.4%	3.7%
Woodward LLM	22,260	21,730	520	2.4%	2.9%	3.5%	4.1%
South Central WIA	125,490	121,150	4,340	3.5%	4.2%	4.2%	4.8%
Chickasha LLM	48,530	46,760	1,770	3.6%	4.3%	4.3%	5.2%
Duncan LLM	24,290	23,520	770	3.2%	4.0%	4.2%	4.4%
Lawton LLM	52,680	50,880	1,810	3.4%	4.2%	4.2%	4.7%
Southeast WIA	79,420	75,850	3,560	4.5%	5.5%	5.5%	5.7%
Broken Bow-Idabel- Antlers-Hugo LLM	25,670	24,300	1,370	5.3%	7.0%	6.6%	6.3%
McAlester LLM	27,030	26,130	900	3.3%	4.2%	4.4%	4.9%
Poteau LLM	26,720	25,420	1,290	4.8%	5.5%	5.6%	6.0%
Southern WIA	114,760	111,280	3,480	3.0%	3.7%	3.9%	4.2%
Ada LLM	34,510	33,560	960	2.8%	3.3%	3.5%	3.9%
Ardmore LLM	38,720	37,600	1,120	2.9%	3.5%	3.6%	3.9%
Durant LLM	41,520	40,120	1,400	3.4%	4.2%	4.4%	4.7%
Southwest WIA	53,190	51,760	1,430	2.7%	3.2%	3.3%	3.8%
Altus LLM	19,330	18,700	630	3.2%	3.8%	4.0%	4.5%
Elk City-Weatherford- Clinton LLM	33,860	33,060	800	2.4%	2.8%	2.9%	3.3%
Tulsa WIA	342,780	330,810	11,980	3.5%	4.2%	4.1%	4.4%
Tulsa LLM	342,780	330,810	11,980	3.5%	4.2%	4.1%	4.4%

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

	FEBRUARY 2008			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unempl.	Feb '08	Jan '08	Dec '07	Jan '07
OKLAHOMA	1,703,580	1,643,900	59,690	3.5%	4.2%	4.3%	4.7%
Oklahoma City MSA	549,320	530,080	19,240	3.5%	4.3%	4.2%	4.7%
Tulsa MSA	429,590	414,490	15,100	3.5%	4.2%	4.1%	4.4%
Lawton MSA	45,000	43,430	1,570	3.5%	4.2%	4.3%	4.8%