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OKLAHOMA EMPLOYMENT REPORT – March 2015

State unemployment rate unchanged for month

Oklahoma's seasonally adjusted **unemployment rate** remained at 3.9 percent in March. The **U.S. unemployment rate** also held steady at 5.5 percent for the month. Over the year, the state's seasonally adjusted **unemployment rate** improved by 0.9 percentage points.

MARCH 2015	Unemp. rate*	Labor force*	Employment*	Unemployment*
Oklahoma	3.9%	1,832,470	1,761,450	71,020
United States	5.5%	156,906,000	148,331,000	8,575,000

* Data adjusted for seasonal factors

OKLAHOMA	Unemp. rate*	Labor force*	Employment*	Unemployment*
Mar '15	3.9%	1,832,470	1,761,450	71,020
Feb '15	3.9%	1,812,700	1,742,500	70,210
Jan '15	3.9%	1,794,860	1,725,430	69,430
Dec '14	3.9%	1,782,240	1,712,320	69,920
Nov '14	4.0%	1,781,520	1,710,380	71,140
Oct '14	4.1%	1,780,680	1,707,960	72,710
Mar '14	4.8%	1,785,770	1,699,690	86,080

* Data adjusted for seasonal factors

Statewide seasonally adjusted **employment** grew by 18,950 persons in March, and **unemployment** expanded by 820 persons. Over the year, seasonally adjusted **unemployment** declined by 15,060 persons (-17.5 percent).

MARCH 2015	Monthly change*		Annual change*	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Labor force	+19,760	+1.1%	+46,690	+2.6%
Employment	+18,950	+1.1%	+61,750	+3.6%
Unemployment	+820	+1.2%	-15,060	-17.5%

* Data adjusted for seasonal factors

Job losses hit state in March

Oklahoma's seasonally adjusted **NONFARM EMPLOYMENT** dropped by 12,900 jobs (-0.8 percent) in March, as U.S. seasonally adjusted **NONFARM EMPLOYMENT** gained 126,000 jobs (+0.1 percent). Over the March-to-March period, state **NONFARM EMPLOYMENT** added 13,500 jobs (+0.8 percent).

- In March, all of Oklahoma's seasonally adjusted supersectors reported job losses.
- **Professional & Business Services** (-2,800 jobs) shed the most jobs over the month.
- **Mining & Logging** (-1,800 jobs) and **Other Services** (-400 jobs) posted over-the-year job losses in March.
- **Professional & Business Services** (+8,100 jobs) provided the largest annual gain.

	NUMBER OF JOBS*			CHANGE*			
	Mar '15	Feb '15	Mar '14	Feb '15 to Mar '15		Mar '14 to Mar '15	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	1,659,500	1,672,400	1,646,000	-12,900	-0.8%	13,500	0.8%
Mining & Logging	58,100	60,100	59,900	-2,000	-3.3%	-1,800	-3.0%
Construction	76,500	78,500	75,600	-2,000	-2.5%	900	1.2%
Manufacturing**	135,500	137,400	137,400	-1,900	-1.4%	-1,900	-1.4%
Non-durable Goods Manufacturing	39,900	40,500	40,700	-600	-1.5%	-800	-2.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	304,200	304,300	300,200	-100	0.0%	4,000	1.3%
Wholesale Trade	64,300	64,500	62,900	-200	-0.3%	1,400	2.2%
Retail Trade	180,900	180,700	177,500	200	0.1%	3,400	1.9%
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	59,000	59,100	59,800	-100	-0.2%	-800	-1.3%
Information**	21,600	21,500	21,700	100	0.5%	-100	-0.5%
Financial Activities	80,000	80,600	79,200	-600	-0.7%	800	1.0%
Real Estate and Rental & Leasing	20,800	20,900	20,600	-100	-0.5%	200	1.0%
Professional & Business Services	191,600	194,400	183,500	-2,800	-1.4%	8,100	4.4%
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	68,700	68,700	67,100	0	0.0%	1,600	2.4%
Administrative & Support and Waste Management & Remediation Svcs.	103,700	106,300	98,100	-2,600	-2.4%	5,600	5.7%
Educational & Health Services	230,400	230,600	227,600	-200	-0.1%	2,800	1.2%
Educational Services	20,600	20,600	19,800	0	0.0%	800	4.0%
Health Care & Social Assistance	209,800	210,000	207,800	-200	-0.1%	2,000	1.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	154,500	156,200	154,000	-1,700	-1.1%	500	0.3%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	13,700	13,800	14,600	-100	-0.7%	-900	-6.2%
Accommodation & Food Services	140,800	142,400	139,400	-1,600	-1.1%	1,400	1.0%
Other Services	58,600	59,600	59,000	-1,000	-1.7%	-400	-0.7%
Government	348,500	349,200	347,900	-700	-0.2%	600	0.2%
Federal Government	46,400	46,600	46,000	-200	-0.4%	400	0.9%
State Government	85,700	85,700	86,100	0	0.0%	-400	-0.5%
Local Government	216,400	216,900	215,800	-500	-0.2%	600	0.3%
				Jobs	Pct.	Jobs	Pct.

* Data adjusted for seasonal factors

** Non-seasonally adjusted. Due to employment stability in the Manufacturing and Information supersectors, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) has determined that they do not need to be adjusted for seasonal factors at this time. Non-seasonally adjusted Manufacturing and Information employment is provided for comparison purposes.