



# Economic Research & Analysis

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

FOR RELEASE: June 19, 2015

## OKLAHOMA EMPLOYMENT REPORT – May 2015

### State unemployment rate on the rise in May

Oklahoma's seasonally adjusted **unemployment rate** posted a two-tenths of a percentage point addition to reach 4.3 percent in May. The **U.S. unemployment rate** increased over the month by 0.1 percentage points. The state seasonally adjusted **unemployment rate** improved by 0.3 percentage points over the year.

| MAY 2015      | Unemp. rate* | Labor force* | Employment* | Unemployment* |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| Oklahoma      | 4.3%         | 1,863,210    | 1,783,080   | 80,130        |
| United States | 5.5%         | 157,469,000  | 148,795,000 | 8,674,000     |

\* Data adjusted for seasonal factors

| OKLAHOMA | Unemp. rate* | Labor force* | Employment* | Unemployment* |
|----------|--------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| May '15  | 4.3%         | 1,863,210    | 1,783,080   | 80,130        |
| Apr '15  | 4.1%         | 1,851,000    | 1,775,360   | 75,650        |
| Mar '15  | 3.9%         | 1,832,610    | 1,761,550   | 71,060        |
| 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        |
| May '14  | 4.6%         | 1,779,380    | 1,696,770   | 82,610        |

\* Data adjusted for seasonal factors

In May, statewide seasonally adjusted **employment** rose by 7,720 persons, while **unemployment** increased by 4,490 persons. For the May-to-May period, seasonally adjusted **unemployment** dropped by 2,480 persons (-3.0 percent).

| MAY 2015     | Monthly change* |         | Annual change* |         |
|--------------|-----------------|---------|----------------|---------|
|              | Number          | Percent | Number         | Percent |
| Labor force  | +12,210         | +0.7%   | +83,830        | +2.3%   |
| Employment   | +7,720          | +0.4%   | +86,310        | +5.1%   |
| Unemployment | +4,490          | +5.9%   | -2,480         | -3.0%   |

\* Data adjusted for seasonal factors

This publication is produced by the Economic Research & Analysis (ER&A) division of the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission as a no cost service. All information contained within this document is available free of charge on the OESC website ([www.ok.gov/oesc\\_web/Services/Find\\_Labor\\_Market\\_Statistics/index.html](http://www.ok.gov/oesc_web/Services/Find_Labor_Market_Statistics/index.html)) and through labor market information (LMI) publications developed by the ER&A division. **All statistics are preliminary and have been adjusted for seasonal factors.** Beginning in January 2010, seasonally adjusted LAUS estimates are calculated using a new methodology designed to reduce estimation volatility. More information on this change can be found at [www.bls.gov/lau/lssaqa.htm](http://www.bls.gov/lau/lssaqa.htm). All data is collected under strict guidelines provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. **Although a large amount of data has been presented, this in no way suggests that all data has been included. Due to space restrictions, only relevant industries and sectors are included.** Unless otherwise noted, data is rounded to the nearest 10.

# Oklahoma sheds jobs over the month

Oklahoma's seasonally adjusted **NONFARM EMPLOYMENT** declined by 1,200 jobs (-0.1 percent) in May. Seasonally adjusted **NONFARM EMPLOYMENT** for the U.S. rose by 280,000 jobs (+0.2 percent). Over the year, state **NONFARM EMPLOYMENT** added 15,100 jobs (+0.9 percent).

- In May, six of Oklahoma's nine seasonally adjusted supersectors reported job losses, with **Mining & Logging** (-1,300 jobs) posting the largest drop.
- **Leisure & Hospitality** (+3,600 jobs), **Other Services** (+1,700 jobs) and **Government** (+1,200 jobs) gained jobs over the month.
- The only seasonally adjusted supersector to shed jobs over the year was **Mining & Logging** (-5,400 jobs).
- **Leisure & Hospitality** (+8,700 jobs) claimed the largest year-to-year job gain.

|   | NUMBER OF JOBS*  |                  |                  | CHANGE*            |              |                    |              |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
|   | May '15          | Apr '15          | May '14          | Apr '15 to May '15 |              | May '14 to May '15 |              |
| <b>TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT</b>                                   | <b>1,661,600</b> | <b>1,662,800</b> | <b>1,646,500</b> | <b>-1,200</b>      | <b>-0.1%</b> | <b>15,100</b>      | <b>0.9%</b>  |
| <b>Mining &amp; Logging</b>                                       | <b>54,800</b>    | <b>56,100</b>    | <b>60,200</b>    | <b>-1,300</b>      | <b>-2.3%</b> | <b>-5,400</b>      | <b>-9.0%</b> |
| <b>Construction</b>   | <b>76,700</b>    | <b>77,500</b>    | <b>74,500</b>    | <b>-800</b>        | <b>-1.0%</b> | <b>2,200</b>       | <b>3.0%</b>  |
| <b>Manufacturing**</b>  | <b>133,500</b>   | <b>135,900</b>   | <b>138,600</b>   | <b>-2,400</b>      | <b>-1.8%</b> | <b>-5,100</b>      | <b>-3.7%</b> |
| Non-durable Goods Manufacturing                                   | 40,800           | 40,400           | 40,700           | 400                | 1.0%         | 100                | 0.2%         |
| <b>Trade, Transportation &amp; Utilities</b>                      | <b>304,500</b>   | <b>305,200</b>   | <b>299,600</b>   | <b>-700</b>        | <b>-0.2%</b> | <b>4,900</b>       | <b>1.6%</b>  |
| Wholesale Trade   | 63,900           | 64,100           | 62,900           | -200               | -0.3%        | 1,000              | 1.6%         |
| Retail Trade  | 182,500          | 182,600          | 177,700          | -100               | -0.1%        | 4,800              | 2.7%         |
| Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities                           | 58,100           | 58,500           | 59,000           | -400               | -0.7%        | -900               | -1.5%        |
| <b>Information**</b>  | <b>22,000</b>    | <b>21,800</b>    | <b>21,700</b>    | <b>200</b>         | <b>0.9%</b>  | <b>300</b>         | <b>1.4%</b>  |
| <b>Financial Activities</b>                                       | <b>79,700</b>    | <b>80,300</b>    | <b>79,400</b>    | <b>-600</b>        | <b>-0.7%</b> | <b>300</b>         | <b>0.4%</b>  |
| Real Estate and Rental & Leasing                                  | 20,500           | 20,700           | 20,700           | -200               | -1.0%        | -200               | -1.0%        |
| <b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>                       | <b>187,300</b>   | <b>188,300</b>   | <b>184,300</b>   | <b>-1,000</b>      | <b>-0.5%</b> | <b>3,000</b>       | <b>1.6%</b>  |
| Professional, Scientific & Technical Services                     | 67,600           | 67,300           | 67,200           | 300                | 0.4%         | 400                | 0.6%         |
| Administrative & Support and Waste Management & Remediation Svcs. | 100,700          | 101,800          | 98,600           | -1,100             | -1.1%        | 2,100              | 2.1%         |
| <b>Educational &amp; Health Services</b>                          | <b>229,600</b>   | <b>230,700</b>   | <b>227,500</b>   | <b>-1,100</b>      | <b>-0.5%</b> | <b>2,100</b>       | <b>0.9%</b>  |
| Educational Services  | 19,900           | 20,800           | 19,800           | -900               | -4.3%        | 100                | 0.5%         |
| Health Care & Social Assistance                                   | 209,700          | 209,900          | 207,700          | -200               | -0.1%        | 2,000              | 1.0%         |
| <b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>                                  | <b>162,900</b>   | <b>159,300</b>   | <b>154,200</b>   | <b>3,600</b>       | <b>2.3%</b>  | <b>8,700</b>       | <b>5.6%</b>  |
| Arts, Entertainment & Recreation                                  | 15,500           | 14,900           | 14,700           | 600                | 4.0%         | 800                | 5.4%         |
| Accommodation & Food Services                                     | 147,400          | 144,400          | 139,500          | 3,000              | 2.1%         | 7,900              | 5.7%         |
| <b>Other Services</b>   | <b>60,800</b>    | <b>59,100</b>    | <b>59,200</b>    | <b>1,700</b>       | <b>2.9%</b>  | <b>1,600</b>       | <b>2.7%</b>  |
| <b>Government</b>   | <b>349,800</b>   | <b>348,600</b>   | <b>347,300</b>   | <b>1,200</b>       | <b>0.3%</b>  | <b>2,500</b>       | <b>0.7%</b>  |
| Federal Government  | 46,800           | 46,700           | 46,300           | 100                | 0.2%         | 500                | 1.1%         |
| State Government  | 86,000           | 85,500           | 85,500           | 500                | 0.6%         | 500                | 0.6%         |
| Local Government  | 217,000          | 216,400          | 215,500          | 600                | 0.3%         | 1,500              | 0.7%         |
|   |                  |                  |                  | <b>Jobs</b>        | <b>Pct.</b>  | <b>Jobs</b>        | <b>Pct.</b>  |

\* 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.