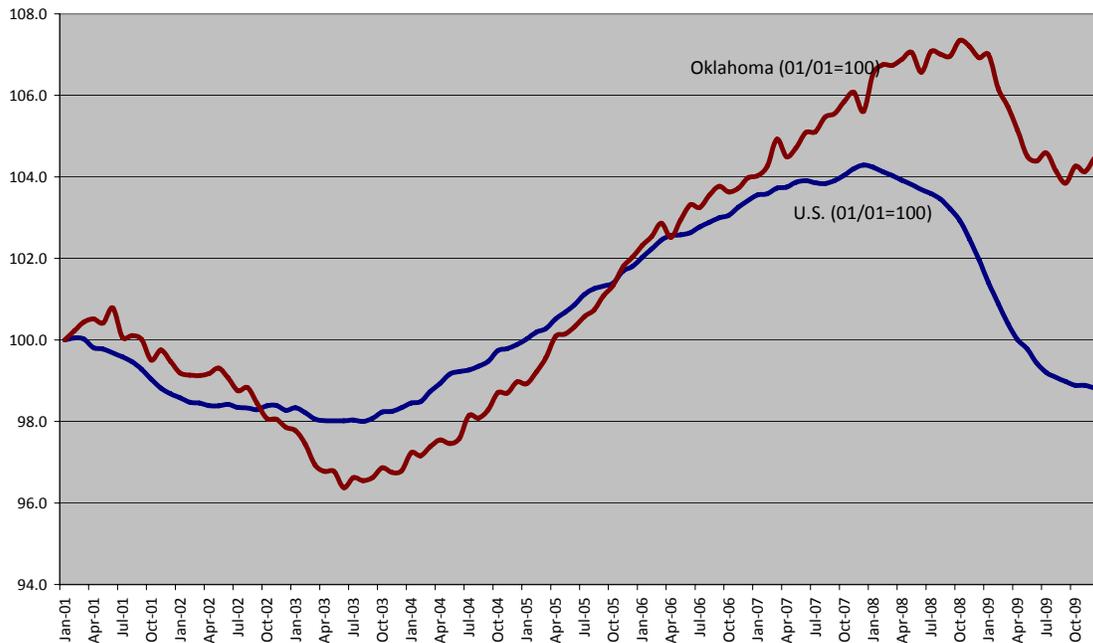


### U.S. and Oklahoma Nonfarm Payroll Employment (Seasonally Adjusted)

Index: January 2001=100

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics



Nonfarm payroll employment measures the number of jobs in the state. The number of jobs and the industries that create those jobs are important indicators of a state's economic health. Payroll employment is one of the most current and reliable indicators of economic conditions and recessionary trends.

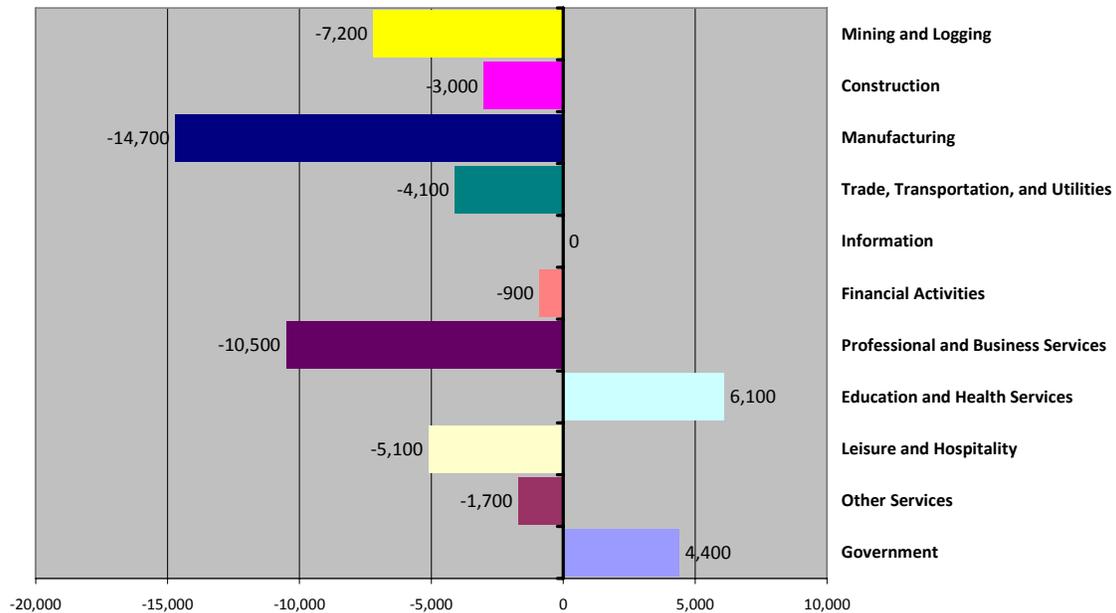
Oklahoma nonfarm payroll employment growth began slowing in early 2008, peaked in October 2008, and has been almost steadily declining through 2009.

U.S. payroll employment began to decline a bit sooner. Since peaking in December 2007, U.S. employment has averaged decreases of about 350,000 jobs a month, while Oklahoma's average monthly decline has been about 4,700 a month. By comparison, during the 2001 recession U.S. employment losses averaged 200,000 a month.

December Oklahoma nonfarm payrolls gained 1,100 over the previous month for a 0.7 percent increase. Oklahoma employment over the year declined by 36,700, seasonally adjusted—a decline of 2.3 percent over the year. By comparison, employment in the U.S. as a whole decreased 3.1 percent over the same period.

**Oklahoma Employment Change by Industry Sector  
December 2008 - December 2009**

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics



Employment growth by industry identifies the types of jobs being created in the state. Conversely, industries with a decreasing employment trend indicate those which are becoming less important in the state's economy. There may also be industries which behave more cyclically, growing during expansion and decreasing in times of economic slowdown or contraction. These changes are crucial in that they help to recognize the types of jobs being lost by individuals. Anticipating what will happen in recovery helps identify whether those jobs will return or what types of new jobs will be created. Consequently, key information for planning re-employment, retraining, and other workforce and economic development programs is contained within these data.

Job losses in Oklahoma have been widespread across most industrial sectors during the current recession. Comparing December 2009 to December 2008, only education and health services and government have seen employment increases. Manufacturing sector has been hardest hit, declining by 14,700 jobs from December 2008 to December 2009. Professional and business services followed shedding 10,500 jobs over the year. The mining and logging industry lost 7,200 jobs while leisure and hospitality employment fell by 4,100 jobs. The broad trade, transportation and utilities industry lost 4,100 jobs over the year. Information employment remained unchanged.

Education and health services saw the largest expansion over the year adding 6,100 jobs. The health care and social assistance subsector makes up almost 90 percent of this industry and accounted for nearly all of job gains during the past year. Government added 4,400 jobs with nearly all of the gains being at the local and federal levels.