



# Economic Research & Analysis

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## OKLAHOMA EMPLOYMENT REPORT – March 2014

### Statewide unemployment rate hits five-year low in March

Oklahoma's seasonally adjusted **unemployment rate** improved to 4.9 percent in March, marking the first time it has dipped below 5.0 percent since December 2008. The **U.S. unemployment rate** was unchanged at 6.7 percent for the month. The state seasonally adjusted **unemployment rate** also dropped between March 2013 and March 2014.

MARCH 2014	Unemp. rate*	Labor force*	Employment*	Unemployment*
Oklahoma	4.9%	1,823,760	1,734,360	89,400
United States	6.7%	156,227,000	145,742,000	10,486,000

\* Data adjusted for seasonal factors

OKLAHOMA	Unemp. rate*	Labor force*	Employment*	Unemployment*
Mar '14	4.9%	1,823,760	1,734,360	89,400
Feb '14	5.0%	1,825,140	1,734,200	90,940
Jan '14	5.2%	1,824,560	1,730,470	94,090
Dec '13	5.4%	1,823,410	1,724,920	98,480
Nov '13	5.5%	1,822,060	1,722,590	99,480
Oct '13	5.6%	1,821,950	1,720,460	101,480
Mar '13	5.2%	1,811,590	1,716,580	95,020

\* Data adjusted for seasonal factors

Statewide seasonally adjusted **employment** rose by 160 persons over the month, while seasonally adjusted **unemployment** decreased by 1,540 persons. Over the year, seasonally adjusted **unemployment** has dropped by 5,620 persons (-5.9 percent).

MARCH 2014	Monthly change*		Annual change*	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Labor force	-1,380	-0.1%	12,170	0.7%
Employment	160	0.0%	17,780	1.0%
Unemployment	-1,540	-1.7%	-5,620	-5.9%

\* Data adjusted for seasonal factors

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# Oklahoma employment up over month

Oklahoma's seasonally adjusted **NONFARM EMPLOYMENT** expanded by 2,100 jobs (+0.1 percent) in March 2014. U.S. seasonally adjusted **NONFARM EMPLOYMENT** added 192,000 jobs (+0.1 percent) for the month. Over the year, state **NONFARM EMPLOYMENT** grew by 22,900 jobs (+1.4 percent).

- Three of Oklahoma's nine seasonally adjusted supersectors provided all of the job gains in March, with **Educational & Health Services** (+3,200 jobs) leading the way.
- **Other Services** (-1,000 jobs) reported the largest job loss for the month.
- Eight of the nine seasonally adjusted supersectors expanded over the year. **Leisure & Hospitality** (+8,000 jobs) and **Trade, Transportation & Utilities** (+5,700 jobs) contributed more than half of the jobs gained for the March-to-March period.
- In March, **Government** (-1,700 jobs) was the only seasonally adjusted supersector to drop jobs over the year.

	NUMBER OF JOBS*			CHANGE*			
	Mar '14	Feb '14	Mar '13	Feb '14 to Mar '14	Pct.	Mar '13 to Mar '14	Pct.
<b>TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>1,651,600</b>	<b>1,649,500</b>	<b>1,628,700</b>	<b>2,100</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>22,900</b>	<b>1.4%</b>
<b>Mining &amp; Logging</b>	<b>59,700</b>	<b>60,000</b>	<b>59,200</b>	<b>-300</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>0.8%</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>76,700</b>	<b>76,800</b>	<b>73,400</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>	<b>3,300</b>	<b>4.5%</b>
<b>Manufacturing**</b>	<b>137,000</b>	<b>136,000</b>	<b>136,500</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>0.4%</b>
Non-durable Goods Manufacturing	41,600	41,100	41,000	500	1.2%	600	1.5%
<b>Trade, Transportation &amp; Utilities</b>	<b>297,800</b>	<b>297,800</b>	<b>292,100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>5,700</b>	<b>2.0%</b>
Wholesale Trade	63,300	62,500	61,400	800	1.3%	1,900	3.1%
Retail Trade	176,400	177,500	172,600	-1,100	-0.6%	3,800	2.2%
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	58,100	57,800	58,100	300	0.5%	0	0.0%
<b>Information**</b>	<b>20,800</b>	<b>21,100</b>	<b>21,600</b>	<b>-300</b>	<b>-1.4%</b>	<b>-800</b>	<b>-3.7%</b>
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>82,500</b>	<b>82,900</b>	<b>80,600</b>	<b>-400</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>	<b>1,900</b>	<b>2.4%</b>
Real Estate and Rental & Leasing	22,400	22,500	22,200	-100	-0.4%	200	0.9%
<b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>	<b>181,400</b>	<b>181,100</b>	<b>180,000</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>0.8%</b>
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	66,400	65,300	66,500	1,100	1.7%	-100	-0.2%
Administrative & Support and Waste Management & Remediation Svcs.	98,100	98,300	96,700	-200	-0.2%	1,400	1.4%
<b>Educational &amp; Health Services</b>	<b>231,500</b>	<b>228,300</b>	<b>227,800</b>	<b>3,200</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>3,700</b>	<b>1.6%</b>
Educational Services	19,500	19,500	19,300	0	0.0%	200	1.0%
Health Care & Social Assistance	212,000	208,800	208,500	3,200	1.5%	3,500	1.7%
<b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>	<b>157,800</b>	<b>157,700</b>	<b>149,800</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>5.3%</b>
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	15,000	15,200	14,600	-200	-1.3%	400	2.7%
Accommodation & Food Services	142,800	142,500	135,200	300	0.2%	7,600	5.6%
<b>Other Services</b>	<b>58,200</b>	<b>59,200</b>	<b>57,800</b>	<b>-1,000</b>	<b>-1.7%</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>0.7%</b>
<b>Government</b>	<b>348,200</b>	<b>348,600</b>	<b>349,900</b>	<b>-400</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>	<b>-1,700</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>
Federal Government	46,400	46,400	47,700	0	0.0%	-1,300	-2.7%
State Government	86,300	86,100	87,300	200	0.2%	-1,000	-1.1%
Local Government	215,500	216,100	214,900	-600	-0.3%	600	0.3%
				<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. Non-seasonally adjusted Manufacturing and Information employment is provided for comparison purposes.