

Statewide Long-Term Employment Projections

Long-term industry and occupational employment projections are developed on a two-year schedule. The U.S. Employment and Training Administration (ETA) funds all state projections. State analysts have been provided with guidelines, training and technical support for producing projections. The Projections Suite developed by the Utah Department of Employment Security is used to produce industry and occupational projections.

Industry Employment Projections

Oklahoma industry employment projections are developed using the methodology, software tools, and guidelines developed by the Projections Workgroup and the Projections Managing Partnership.

Linear regression and shift-share analysis techniques have been employed as the primary methods of analysis. Projections for some industries are made at the three-digit or four-digit level under the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

Historical employment data are from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW). Agriculture and non-covered employment data are from the American Community Survey and the Current Employment Statistics program, respectively. Employment for self-employed and unpaid family workers is produced from the projection matrix system based on the Occupational Employment Statistics survey and the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Current Population Survey.

Employment is rounded to the nearest ten. Percent changes are based on un-rounded data.

Goods Producing industries include Agriculture, Mining, Construction, and Manufacturing. Service Providing industries include Transportation and Warehousing; Wholesale trade; Retail trade; Information, Finance and Insurance; Real Estate and Rental and Leasing; Professional, Scientific and Technical Services; Management of Companies and Enterprises; Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services; Educational Services; Health Care and Social Assistance; Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation; Other Services; and Government.

Occupational Employment Projections

The occupational projections reflect the 2000 Standard Occupational Classification system. There are more than 700 detailed occupations. Current employment refers to the estimated annual employment by occupation for all industries based on 2008 data. Projected employment refers to the expected annual employment by occupation based on projections made for all detailed industries in Oklahoma for 2018. Average annual openings are job openings resulting from growth in an occupation and replacement needs in that occupation.

Employment is rounded to the nearest ten. Percentage changes are based on un-rounded data and reflect the percent growth or decline in an occupation over the ten-year period based on un-rounded data.

Most significant source of postsecondary education or training

Each occupation includes a category that best describes the postsecondary education or training needed by most workers to become fully qualified in that occupation. For more information about these categories, see **Measures of Education and Training** (Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2010) technical document at http://www.bls.gov/emp/ep_education_tech.htm.

Additionally, OESC aggregates these categories into three training and educational levels:

Level I: Requires only short-term on-the-job training.

Level II: Requires moderate-term on-the-job training, long-term on-the-job training, work experience in a related occupation, postsecondary vocational award or an associate degree.

Level III: Requires a bachelor's degree or higher.

Limitations:

Forecasting the future is not an exact science. Projections result from careful analysis of available data. However, they are not reflection of what might happen under different conditions. International, national and local events can have significant impacts on Oklahoma's economy. Moreover, the projection model does not take into account factors such as immigration, occupational supply, business relocation, emergence of new occupations or industrial and scientific development.

Please do not use these projections as your sole source of information.