

1. Oklahoma's economy created 3,900 jobs between April 2008 and May 2008, which ranked the state as sixth in the nation in terms of the size of the monthly job creation.
2. Oklahoma's economy created 21,300 jobs since May 2007, which translates into a 1.4% employment growth rate and surpasses the 0.1% growth rate in the nation.
3. While Manufacturing employment has decreased 6.6% in the nation over the most recent five years, Oklahoma's Manufacturing employment has grown 6.0% over the same time period.

Oklahoma's seasonally-adjusted employment increased by 3,900 jobs between April and May according to the most recent employment release from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). This employment gain represents the second-largest monthly employment gain in the seven-state region and sixth-largest (tied with Hawaii) employment gain in the nation after the gains in Ohio (9,200 jobs), Texas (8,800 jobs), Michigan (6,100 jobs), Iowa (4,100 jobs) and Illinois (4,000 jobs.) While Oklahoma managed the second-largest absolute monthly employment gain in the region, the state posted the largest monthly percentage gain in the seven-state region.

Over the two most recent months, Oklahoma's employment gain was spread over several sectors with Local Government (1,200 jobs), Manufacturing (700 jobs)*,

Professional Business Services (700 jobs), Financial Activities (400 jobs) and Retail Trade (400 jobs) each posting sizable employment growth for the state's economy.

While the nation experienced an employment loss totalling 62,000 jobs between April and May, seasonally-adjusted employment increased 0.1%, or by 15,200 jobs, in the seven-state region. Five states posted employment gains and only Arkansas posted a loss for the month.

Oklahoma's economy created 21,300 jobs between May 2007 and May 2008, and the state's 1.4% annual employment growth rate is much higher than the nation's 0.1% annual growth rate. The regional economy created 307,000 jobs over the past year with only Missouri suffering an annual employment loss. Without the 307,000 jobs created in the regional economy, most of this coming from Texas, the national economy would have experienced an employment loss totaling 123,000 jobs between May 2007 and May 2008.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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* The Employment data source is the Current Employment Statistics (CES) Program, while the Labor Force & Unemployment data source is the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program. The Oklahoma Employment Security Commission collects this data for the BLS.

REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT TABLE

(seasonally-adjusted)

State/ Region	May 2007	April 2008	May, 2008 (Preliminary)	Monthly % Change	Monthly Job Change	Yearly % Change	Yearly Job Change
Oklahoma	1,560,500	1,577,900	1,581,800	0.2%	3,900	1.4%	21,300
Arkansas	1,203,500	1,207,300	1,207,200	-0.0%	-100	0.3%	3,700
Colorado	2,328,300	2,361,400	2,362,100	0.0%	700	1.5%	33,800
Kansas	1,376,900	1,383,500	1,384,900	0.1%	1,400	0.6%	8,000
Missouri	2,796,700	2,788,800	2,788,800	0.0%	0	-0.3%	-7,900
New Mexico	841,900	850,800	851,300	0.1%	500	1.1%	9,400
Texas	10,331,700	10,561,600	10,570,400	0.1%	8,800	2.3%	238,700
Region	20,439,500	20,731,300	20,746,500	0.1%	15,200	1.5%	307,000
U.S.	137,518,000	137,764,000	137,702,000	-0.0%	-62,000	0.1%	184,000

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Note: Seasonally-Adjusted Manufacturing employment is not available from the BLS, and the Manufacturing employment figure represents non seasonally-adjusted employment. Each of the remaining sectors represents seasonally-adjusted employment growth.

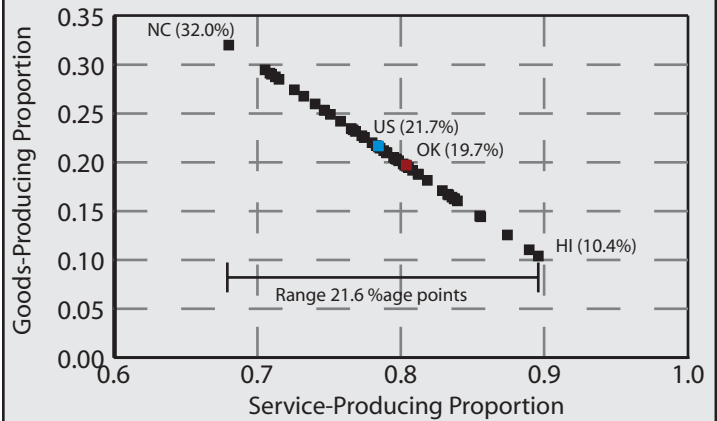
Since 1990, which is the earliest year that the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports state data on-line, the proportion of goods-producing sector employment, which includes the Manufacturing, Construction and Mining industries, has decreased in every state except Wyoming, North Dakota, Montana and Nevada. This shift from goods-producing employment to service-producing employment may be observed in Graph 1 and Graph 2, which relate the proportions of goods- and service-producing employment in each of the fifty states and the U.S. economy in 1990 (Graph 1) and 2008 (in Graph 2).

Nationally, goods-producing sector employment decreased from 21.7% of total nonfarm employment in 1990 to 15.6% of total nonfarm employment in 2008. In Oklahoma, goods-producing employment decreased from 19.7% to 17.3% of total nonfarm employment over the same time period. Additionally, as may be seen from the graphs, the range between the state with the highest proportion of goods-producing employment and state with the lowest percentage has narrowed between 1990 and 2008 from 21.6 percentage points to 14.4 percentage points.

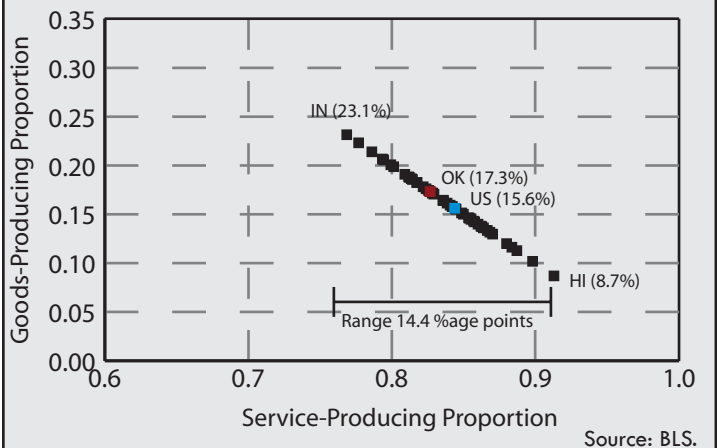
The decrease in the proportion of employment in the goods-producing sector does not indicate that the value of production attributable to the goods-producing sector has also decreased. In fact, real GDP accounted for by the goods-producing sector has increased 32.6% nationally 22.4% in Oklahoma since 1990.

Additionally, the lower proportion of goods-producing employment does not necessarily indicate that employment in the goods-producing industries has also fallen. While national employment in the goods-producing sector has decreased by 1.5 million jobs since 1990, all of which is attributable to the Manufacturing industry, goods-producing employment in Oklahoma has increased by over 33,000 jobs over the same time period. It is true that Manufacturing employment has decreased from its peak employment of over 176,000 jobs in Oklahoma ten years ago. However, in the past 5 years, manufacturing employment in Oklahoma has experienced a resurgence as may be observed in Graph 3. In the most recent five years, Oklahoma's Manufacturing employment has grown 6.0% while manufacturing employment decreased 6.6% in the nation over the same time period.

GRAPH 1: 1990 SERVICE- AND GOODS-PRODUCING EMPLOYMENT PROPORTIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

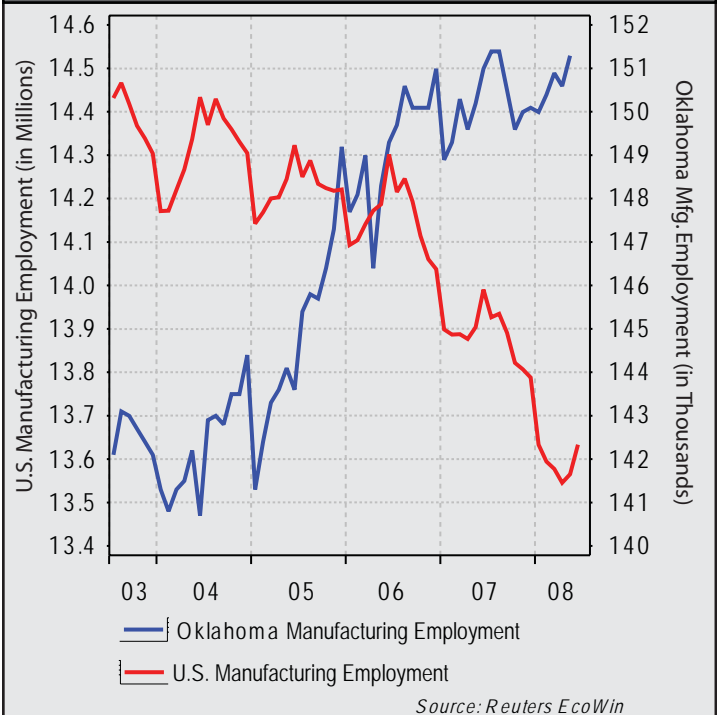


GRAPH 2: 2008 SERVICE- AND GOODS-PRODUCING EMPLOYMENT PROPORTIONS IN THE UNITED STATES



Source: BLS.

GRAPH 3: U.S. AND OKLAHOMA MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT SINCE 2003



Source: Reuters EcoWin