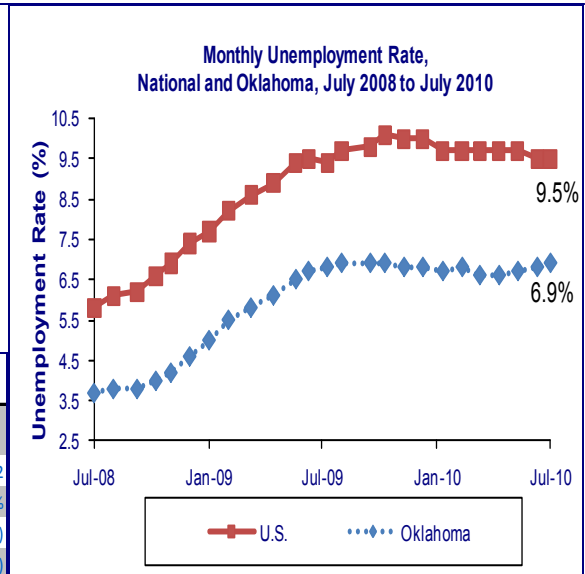


NUMBERS YOU NEED:

Key Oklahoma Economic and Budget Trends: September 2010

1. EMPLOYMENT

Oklahoma's unemployment rate edged up for the third straight month in July, reaching 6.9 percent, while the national rate held steady at 9.5 percent. At the same time, non-farm employment in Oklahoma grew for the fifth straight month, adding 7,000 jobs in July. McCurtain County has Oklahoma's highest unemployment rate at 11.2 percent while Beaver County has the lowest at 3.6 percent. An average of 3,313 workers filed new claims for jobless benefits (UI) in July, which was almost unchanged from June and down 18.1 percent from July 2009.



Oklahoma	Jul-10	Jun-10	Jul-09	Monthly Change	Annual Change
Total Non-Farm Employment (in 000s)	1,543.8	1,536.8	1,529.3	7.0	14.5
Unemployed (in 000s)	121.3	120.7	121.5	0.6	-0.2
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.9%	6.8%	6.8%	0.1%	0.1%
Initial UI Claims (Weekly Avg.)	3,313	3,365	4,046	-52	(733)
Continuing UI Claims (Weekly Avg.)	33,742	33,261	47,591	481	(13,849)

Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics: <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/laus.toc.htm>; <http://www.economagic.com/>; Department of Labor: <http://ows.doleta.gov/unemploy/claims.asp>. Employment and unemployment figures are seasonally-adjusted.

2. INFLATION

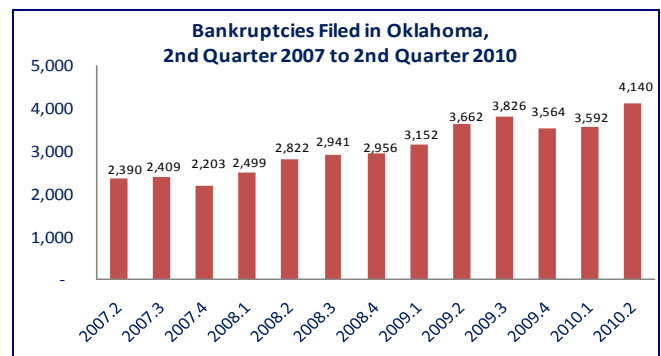
The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the South region fell by 0.1 percent in July for the second straight month, fueling growing concern that the U.S. economy may be in a period of deflation. For the month, the cost of apparel (-2.4 percent) and medical care (-0.7 percent) led declines, while other goods and services rose by 0.8 percent. Over the past twelve months, the CPI has risen by a very modest 1.0 percent, with transportation (+5.7 percent) and energy (3.4 percent) showing the steepest increases.

Inflation (CPI - All Urban Consumers, South Region)	% Change from Prior Month			12-month % Change
	Jul-10	Jun-10	Jul-09	
All Items	-0.1	-0.1	-0.3	1.0
Food and beverages	-0.2	0.0	-0.1	1.0
Housing	0.1	0.6	-0.3	-0.7
Apparel	-2.4	-1.1	-2.9	-2.5
Transportation	0.0	-1.7	-0.6	5.7
Medical care	-0.7	0.2	0.0	3.2
Recreation	-0.3	-0.3	0.2	-2.2
Education and communication	0.3	0.0	0.3	2.5
Other goods and services	0.8	0.0	1.6	2.5
Energy	-0.3	-1.3	-1.9	3.4
All items less food and energy	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.8

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index for the South: <http://www.bls.gov/ro4/cpiso.htm>

3. BANKRUPTCIES

Bankruptcy filings in Oklahoma skyrocketed in the second quarter of 2010, increasing by 15.2 percent compared to the first quarter of the year. Over the past 12 months, there have been 15,122 bankruptcies filed in the state, a 19 percent increase over the 12 previous months. According to Creditcards.com, Oklahoma's bankruptcy rate for the first six months of 2010 was 31st highest in the nation.



Sources: http://www.abiworld.org/Content/NavigationMenu/NewsRoom/BankruptcyStatistics/Bankruptcy_Filings_1.htm and <http://www.creditcards.com/credit-card-news/bankruptcies-per-capita-state-rank-2010-quarter2-1276.php>

4. WORK SUPPORTS AND PUBLIC BENEFITS

Participation in key work support and safety net programs finally showed signs of leveling off in June. While the number of Oklahomans receiving benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly Food Stamps) increased for the 27th straight month, reaching an all-time high of 588,334 persons, the 0.3 percent enrollment growth in June was only the second time since March 2009 that monthly caseloads grew by less than half of one percent. Similarly, the number of SoonerCare health insurance recipients grew for the 22nd straight month in June, but by only 0.04 percent. Enrollment in the child care subsidy program, TANF cash assistance, and the WIC nutrition program all showed declines in June. With school out for the summer, there were no June enrollment numbers for the School Lunch and School Breakfast programs.

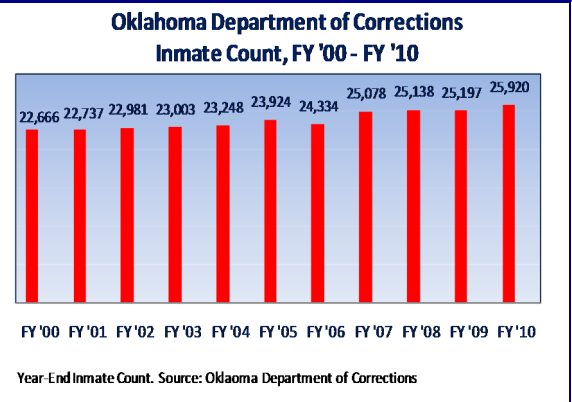
PROGRAM	Jun-10	May-10	Apr-10	Monthly Change (May - Jun 2010)	Monthly Percent Change	Jun-09	Annual Change	Annual Percent change
Child Care subsidies - Persons Participating	39,739	40,303	39,933	(564)	-1.4%	38,889	850	2.2%
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (Food Stamps) - Persons Participating	588,334	586,536	582,051	1,798	0.3%	491,914	96,420	19.6%
SoonerCare (Medicaid) - Persons Participating	695,151	694,898	692,800	253	0.0%	644,905	50,246	7.8%
TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) - Persons Participating	21,198	21,640	21,942	(442)	-2.0%	20,266	932	4.6%
WIC (Women, Infants, Children) Nutrition Program	131,613	131,933	131,795	(320)	-0.2%	131,877	(264)	-0.2%

Source: Oklahoma Department of Human Services: <http://www.okdhs.org/library/stats/sb/> USDA Food and Nutrition Service: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/>

5. Prison Population

After holding steady for two years, Oklahoma's prison population grew by 723 inmates, or 2.9 percent in FY '10. The FY '10 year-end inmate count of 25,920 was 14.4 percent higher than in FY '00 and more than double the inmate count of 20 years ago. In 2009, Oklahoma imprisoned 655 people per 100,000 population, the third highest rate in the nation. Oklahoma's female incarceration rate of 132 per 100,000 was just under twice the national average and was far and away the highest in the nation.

Source: Oklahoma Department of Corrections, U.S. Department of Justice, <http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/content/pub/pdf/pim09st.pdf>



6. STATE REVENUES

After a very strong start to the new fiscal year in July, August's General Revenue (GR) collections presented a mixed picture. While July's collection had exceeded the certified estimate by \$39.3 million, or 11.9 percent, August GR came in \$1.5 million, or 0.4 percent, below the certified estimate. Income tax gross production revenues fell short of expectations, while sales tax and motor vehicle taxes fared better. For the month, GR came in \$15.5 million, or 4.6 percent above August of last year. The personal income tax was the sole major tax which did not grow compared to August 2009. For the first two months of FY '11, GR is up 7.3 percent from FY '10, yet collections remained a full 23.8 percent below their pre-downturn levels of FY '09, an indicator of how steeply revenues plunged during the depths of the recession.

Monthly General Revenue Collections (Amounts in \$ Millions)	Aug '10 (FY '11)	Prior Year Aug '09 (FY '10)	Monthly Change, FY '11 vs FY '10	FY '11 YTD (July - Aug)	Prior Year FY '10 YTD (July - Aug)	FY '09 YTD (July - Aug)	YTD Change, FY '11 vs FY '10
Personal Income Tax	\$ 116.3	\$ 120.2	\$ (3.9)	\$ 247.9	\$ 251.9	\$ 307.2	\$ (4.0)
Corporate Income Tax	\$ 0.6	\$ -	\$ 0.6	\$ 9.0	\$ 0.8	\$ 7.4	\$ 8.2
Gross Production Tax	\$ 28.4	\$ 20.8	\$ 7.6	\$ 52.4	\$ 43.0	\$ 186.6	\$ 9.4
Sales Tax	\$ 136.8	\$ 127.5	\$ 9.3	\$ 275.8	\$ 256.9	\$ 294.5	\$ 18.9
Motor Vehicles Tax	\$ 15.6	\$ 7.8	\$ 7.8	\$ 33.6	\$ 18.7	\$ 37.6	\$ 14.9
Other Sources	\$ 53.1	\$ 59.0	\$ (5.9)	\$ 102.2	\$ 100.8	\$ 113.9	\$ 1.4
Total General Revenue	\$ 350.8	\$ 335.3	\$ 15.5	\$ 720.9	\$ 672.1	\$ 947.2	\$ 48.8

Source: Oklahoma State Treasurer <http://www.ok.gov/treasurer/Newsroom/index.html>

Contact: David Blatt, Director, dblatt@okpolicy.org; 918-794-3944. Chris Hill provided research assistance.

For a complete archive of Numbers You Need, go to: <http://okpolicy.org/numbers-you-need-key-oklahoma-economic-and-budget-trends>