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November 2008

# The Pulse OKLAHOMA COUNTY Vital Signs

## Oklahoma's Economy

### The Pulse

Welcome to November's edition of The Pulse. This is the final of a series of updates planned for release this year.

Checking our pulse is essential in monitoring our Vital Signs. The Pulse highlights a specific indicator of human well-being that is contained in United Way of Central Oklahoma's Vital Signs report or is being noticed through United Way's work in the community.

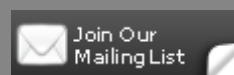
### Oklahoma's Economy

Our state continues to outperform the nation with positive employment growth and a moderate unemployment rate. The United States unemployment rate is 6.1% while Oklahoma's rate, 3.8%, is close to half of that. Although we are topping the nation, Oklahomans have begun to feel the effects of the economy and should be closely monitoring it.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



To contribute research, have a say in what is being monitored or to make a suggestion, send an email to [Heather Elmenhorst](#).



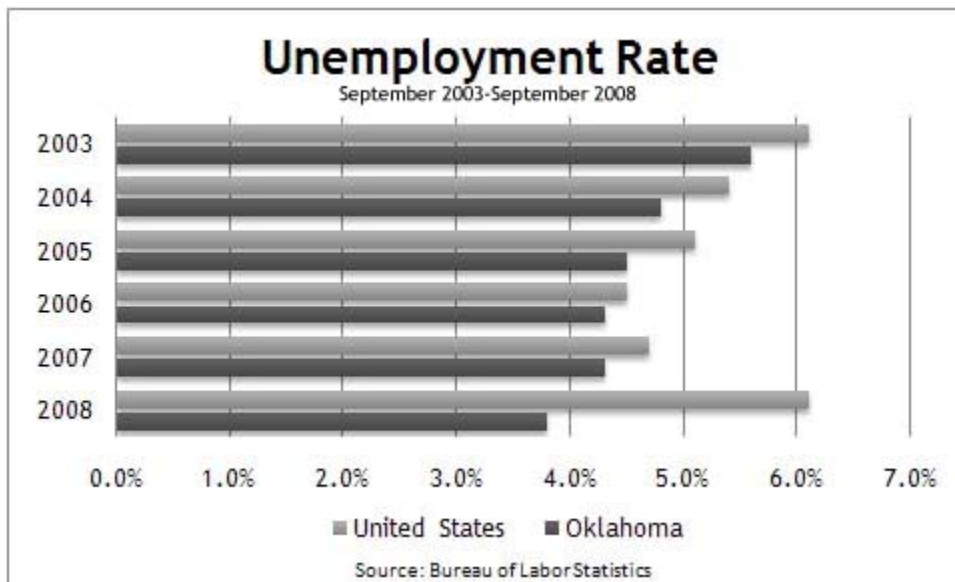
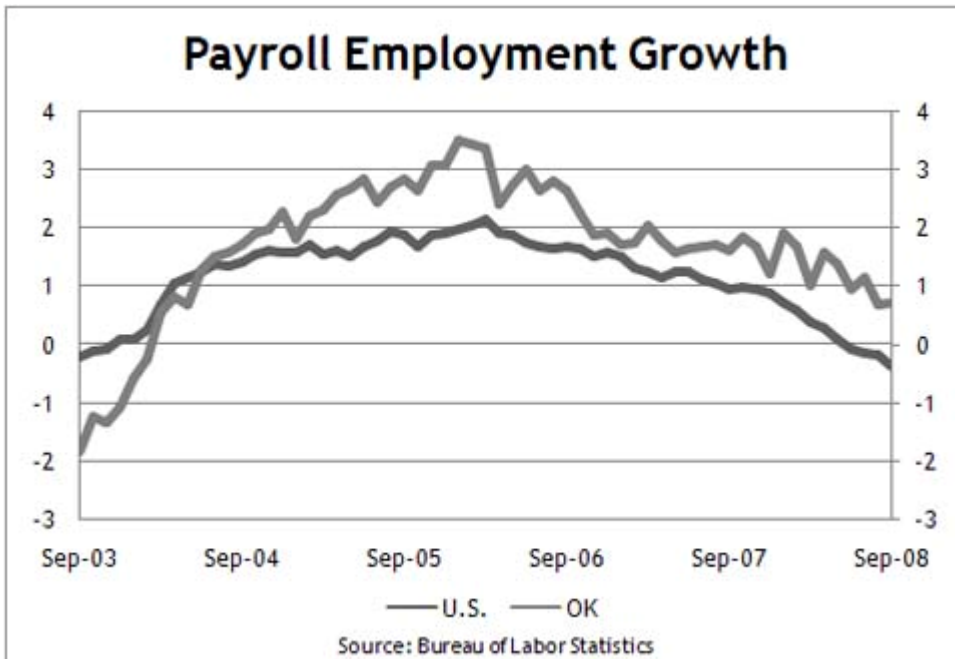
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### More Information

[Bureau of Labor Statistics](#)

[Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City](#)

[The Oklahoma Economy](#)



## United Way's Response

United Way of Central Oklahoma continues to focus on developing Strong Families so that all individuals and families have resources to achieve financial stability as well as access to counseling, debt management, education, job training, and housing.

In 2007, 99,447 families were made sound through programs focused on Strong Families at these agencies:

Calm Waters Center for Children & Families

Citizens Caring for Children

Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Central Oklahoma

A Chance to Change Foundation

Community Literacy Centers

HeartLine

Latino Community Development Agency  
Mental Health Association of Central Oklahoma  
NorthCare  
Parents Assistance Center  
Possibilities, Inc.  
Salvation Army  
Travelers Aid & Homeless Assistance Center  
Variety Health Center  
Youth Cornerstone  
YWCA Oklahoma City

Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma  
Moore Youth & Family Services  
Oklahoma Halfway House  
Positive Tomorrows  
RSVP of Central Oklahoma  
Sunbeam Family Services  
Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City  
YMCA of Greater Oklahoma City  
Youth Services for Oklahoma County

To find out more about one of these Partner Agencies or to become an United Way Allocations Volunteer and help make financial distribution decisions for these agencies and others, email [Crystal Stuhr](mailto:Crystal.Stuhr@unitedwayokc.org) or call 405-236-8441 x236.

## United Way of Central Oklahoma

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The Pulse is a project of [Vital Signs](#); Oklahoma's only broad-based community evaluation with over a decade of trend data in six key areas important to our quality of life.

Interested in printed copies of Vital Signs or a presentation?

Contact [Heather Elmenhorst](mailto:Heather.Elmenhorst@unitedwayokc.org), Research Planning Coordinator; 405.236.8441 x225.

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