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In 2006 the Community Service Council of Greater Tulsa became one of nearly fifty community, regional, and national organizations to sponsor a CIC.

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Community Service Council
16 East 16th Street, Suite 202
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74119
918-585-5551

jfigart@csctulsa.org

www.csctulsa.org/cic



Member Agency
United Way
Tulsa Area United Way

CIC Report 18
January 2009

Unemployment

Author: Jan Figart, MS, RN
CSC Associate Director

Tables: Melanie Poulter, MA,
Consultant

Layout: Pat Kroblin
Consultant

Unemployment



What is this indicator?

The employment status data shown in American Community Survey tabulations relate to people 16 years old and over (ACS, 2007, p. 40). The terms used by the US Census Bureau are defined as:

Employed – This category includes all civilians 16 years old and over who either (1) were “at work,” that is, those who did any work at all during the reference week as paid employees, worked in their own business or profession, worked on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers on a family farm or in a family business; or (2) were “with a job but not at work,” that is, those who did not work during the reference week but had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent due to illness, bad weather, industrial dispute, vacation, or other personal reasons. Excluded from the employed are people whose only activity consisted of work around the house or unpaid volunteer work for religious, charitable, and similar organizations; also excluded are all institutionalized people and people on active duty in the United States Armed Forces.

Unemployed – All civilians 16 years old and over are classified as unemployed if they (1) were neither “at work” nor “with a job but not at work” during the reference week, and (2) were looking for work during the last 4 weeks, and (3) were available to start a job. Also included as unemployed are civilians who did not work at all during the

reference week, were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been laid off, and were available for work except for temporary illness. Examples of job seeking activities are: (1) registering at a public or private employment office; (2) meeting with prospective employers; (3) investigating possibilities for starting a professional practice or opening a business; (4) placing or answering advertisements; (5) writing letters of application; and, (6) being on a union or professional register.

Unemployment Rate – The unemployment rate represents the number of unemployed people as a percentage of the civilian labor force. For example, if the civilian labor force equals 100 people and 7 people are unemployed, then the unemployment rate would be 7 percent.

What are the key findings?

Tulsa County’s unemployment rate (5.8%) is comparative to the United States (5.1%) during the American Community Survey Estimate period 2005-2007. The Tulsa County results indicate higher unemployment among teens and young adults 16 to 24 years of age in comparison to adults, and over 11,756 (17%) of the estimated 69,000 people over age 65 years still in the labor force. By race, the African-American or Black population has the highest unemployment at 13.3% and lowest among the Asian population at 2.3%. In the adult population 20-64 years old, graduation from high school

Subject	Total	Margin of Error	In Labor Force	Margin of Error	Employed	Margin of Error	Unemployment Rate	Margin of Error
Population 16 years and over	442,164	+/-609	67.1%	+/-0.5	63.2%	+/-0.6	5.8%	+/-0.5
AGE								
16 to 19 years	29,822	+/-677	49.9%	+/-2.4	42.4%	+/-2.5	15.0%	+/-2.7
20 to 24 years	38,685	+/-174	78.8%	+/-1.9	70.2%	+/-2.4	10.8%	+/-1.9
25 to 44 years	160,495	+/-170	82.5%	+/-1.0	77.8%	+/-1.1	5.5%	+/-0.8
45 to 54 years	83,438	+/-52	81.4%	+/-1.2	78.0%	+/-1.2	4.0%	+/-0.7
55 to 64 years	60,557	+/-100	64.8%	+/-1.7	62.4%	+/-1.9	3.6%	+/-1.0
65 to 74 years	34,916	+/-223	27.1%	+/-1.9	26.7%	+/-1.9	1.4%	+/-0.8
75 years and over	34,251	+/-212	6.8%	+/-1.0	6.8%	+/-1.0	0.8%	+/-1.3
RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN								
One race	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
White	338,898	+/-1,205	66.5%	+/-0.6	63.4%	+/-0.6	4.6%	+/-0.5
Black or African American	44,258	+/-911	67.1%	+/-2.0	58.1%	+/-2.3	13.3%	+/-2.2
American Indian and Alaska Native	18,004	+/-838	67.3%	+/-2.4	62.2%	+/-2.8	7.5%	+/-2.0
Asian	8,526	+/-249	68.7%	+/-4.7	67.0%	+/-4.6	2.3%	+/-1.9
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Some other race	14,022	+/-1,223	76.4%	+/-3.5	71.9%	+/-3.7	5.7%	+/-2.5
Two or more races	17,928	+/-1,299	69.6%	+/-2.6	63.7%	+/-2.6	8.5%	+/-2.3
Hispanic or Latino origin (of any race)	33,347	+/-211	74.1%	+/-2.2	70.7%	+/-2.3	4.7%	+/-1.5
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	321,864	+/-531	66.1%	+/-0.6	62.9%	+/-0.6	4.7%	+/-0.5
Population 20 to 64 years	343,175	+/-234	78.7%	+/-0.6	74.3%	+/-0.7	5.4%	+/-0.5
SEX								
Male	170,133	+/-244	85.3%	+/-0.9	80.8%	+/-1.0	5.1%	+/-0.7
Female	173,042	+/-115	72.1%	+/-1.0	67.9%	+/-1.0	5.8%	+/-0.6
With own children under 6 years	31,128	+/-1,329	67.1%	+/-2.6	61.6%	+/-2.7	8.1%	+/-1.9

Subject	Total	Margin of Error	In Labor Force	Margin of Error	Employed	Margin of Error	Unemployment Rate	Margin of Error
POVERTY STATUS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS								
Below poverty level	43,572	+/-1,891	53.7%	+/-2.7	40.2%	+/-2.3	25.1%	+/-3.0
DISABILITY STATUS								
With any disability	50,574	+/-1,900	45.1%	+/-2.3	38.9%	+/-2.0	13.7%	+/-1.9
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT								
Population 25 to 64 years	304,490	+/-161	78.7%	+/-0.7	74.8%	+/-0.7	4.8%	+/-0.5
Less than high school graduate	34,448	+/-1,782	65.8%	+/-3.0	59.1%	+/-3.0	10.2%	+/-2.0
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	80,043	+/-2,157	75.5%	+/-1.4	70.3%	+/-1.5	6.9%	+/-1.3
Some college or associate's degree	96,924	+/-2,564	79.9%	+/-1.4	76.5%	+/-1.3	4.0%	+/-0.7
Bachelor's degree or higher	93,075	+/-2,557	84.9%	+/-0.9	82.8%	+/-1.0	2.3%	+/-0.6

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey

Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability. The degree of uncertainty for an estimate arising from sampling variability is represented through the use of a margin of error. The value shown here is the 90 percent margin of error. The margin of error can be interpreted roughly as providing a 90 percent probability that the interval defined by the estimate minus the margin of error and the estimate plus the margin of error (the lower and upper confidence bounds) contains the true value. In addition to sampling variability, the ACS estimates are subject to nonsampling error (for a discussion of nonsampling variability, see <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS/accuracy2005-2007.pdf> Accuracy of the Data). The effect of nonsampling error is not represented in these tables.

should be complete; however, 34,448 people have less than a high school education and the highest unemployment at 10.2%. People with a bachelor's degree or higher have the lowest unemployment at 2.3%. Females by gender have a higher unemployment rate (5.8%) than men (5.1%) but female heads of household with own children under 6 years old have the highest unemployment at 8.1%. People in poverty, both males and female, have an unemployment rate of 25.1%. People with disabilities have an unemployment rate of 13.7% and also have the lowest inclusion in the labor force of adults 20-64 years of age at 45.1%.

What are the implications?

A December 1, 2008, report from the National Bureau of Economic Research stated that the United States has been in a recession since December 2007 based on a number of measures including job losses, declines in personal income, and declines in real GDP (NBER, 2008). The projected unemployment rate median for Oklahoma could be 4.9% in 2009 from a current 4.3% in November 2008. This is well below the projected national unemployment rate for 2009 at 9.1 (Unemployment, 2008). Unemployment in population segments will be much worse particularly for low-skilled adults, teen and young adults, and people working part-time or contractual in the current labor force.

References

- ◆ American Community Survey Definitions (2007) retrieved on December 11, 2008 from <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/UseData/Def.htm>ACS Subject Definitions.
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- ◆ Unemployment rate estimates 2009, retrieved on December 11, 2008 <http://www.economicpopulist.org/?q=content/economists-expect-68-unemployment-rate-data-dec-5th>

Census questions?

1-866-758-1060