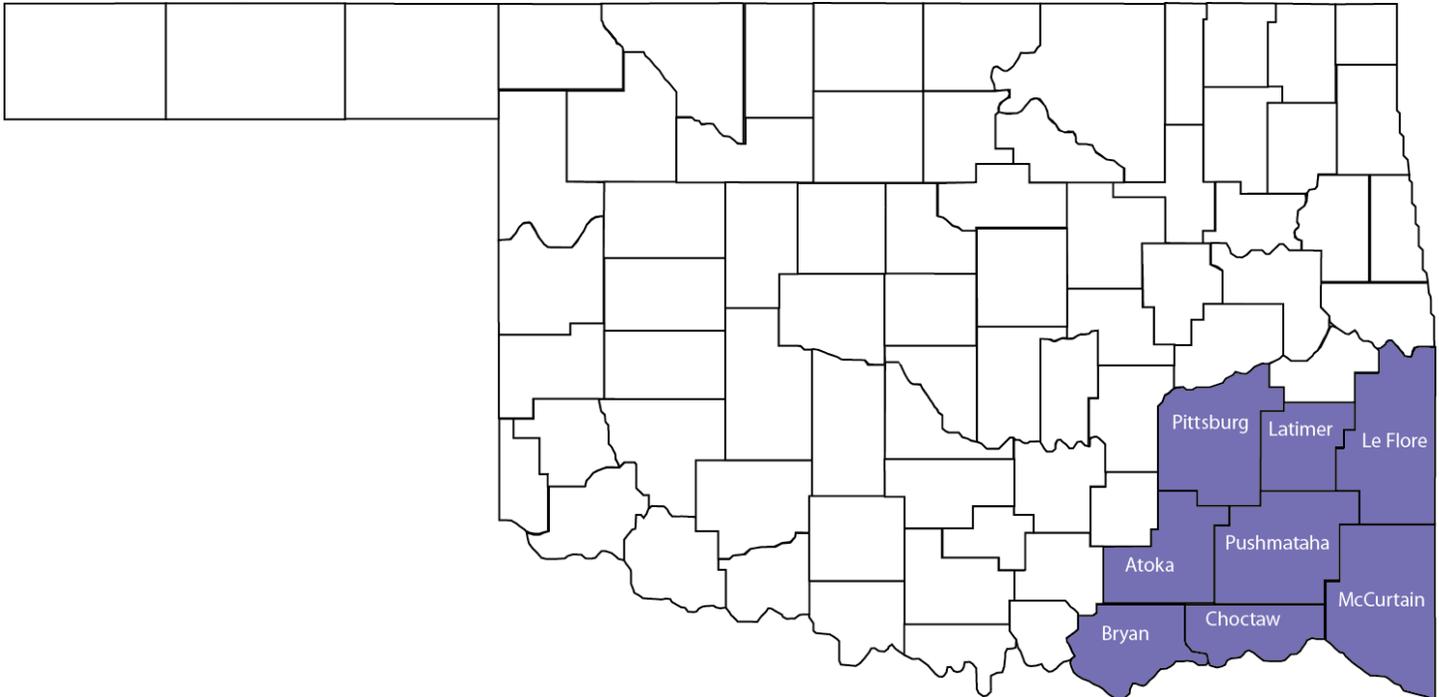


# Southeastern Oklahoma Ecosystem Briefing

October 2014

## Overview

The Southeastern Oklahoma Ecosystem is comprised of eight counties: Atoka, Bryan, Choctaw, Latimer, Le Flore, McCurtain, Pittsburg, and Pushmataha.

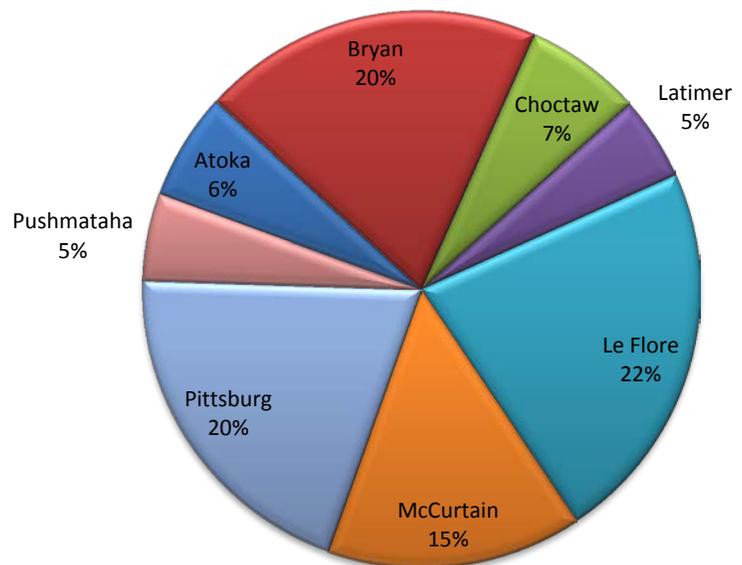


## Population of Southeastern Oklahoma

Atoka, Bryan, Choctaw, Latimer, Le Flore, McCurtain, Pittsburg, and Pushmataha counties combine for an estimated population of 222,740. Southeastern Oklahoma is home to approximately 6% of the population in the state. McAlester is the largest city in the region with an estimated population of 18,300.

- According to the 2013 Census Bureau estimate, Le Flore County is the most populated county in the region with an estimated population of 49,750. Pittsburg County is second with 44,700 people.
- Latimer County is the least populated county in the region, with an estimated population of 10,775
- Since 2010, seven of the eight counties in the region have experienced population decline. McCurtain experienced the smallest decline at -0.3%, while Latimer experienced the highest at -3.4%
- Only Bryan County experienced positive growth, at 4.3%.

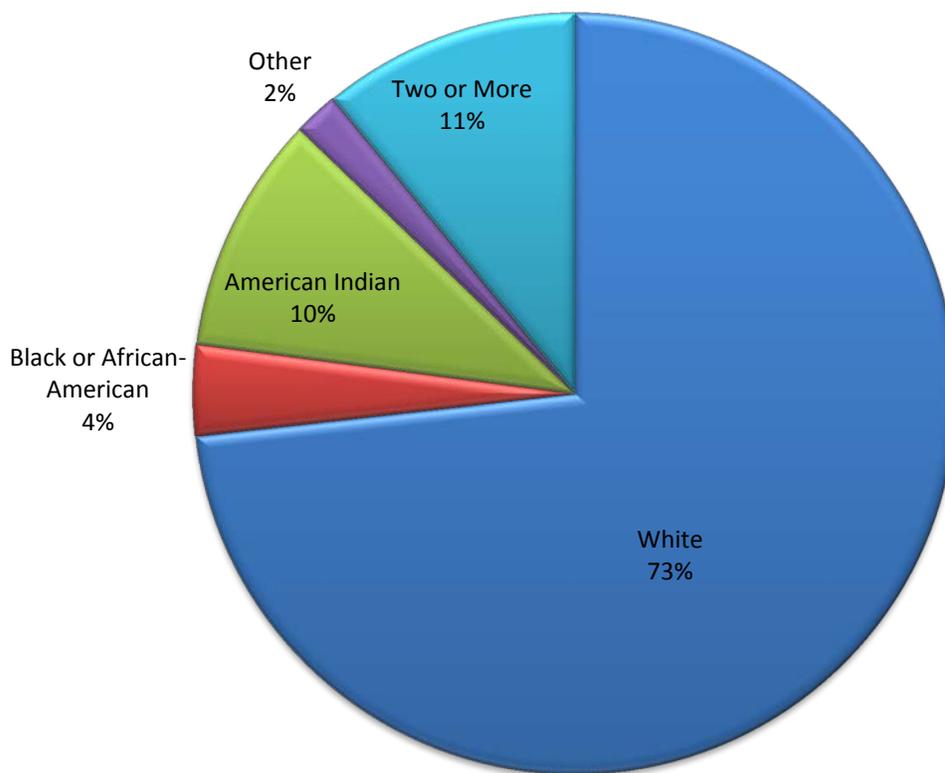
**Southeastern Oklahoma Percentage of Population by County**



Source: ACS 2008-2012

### Southeastern Oklahoma Population Breakdown by Race:

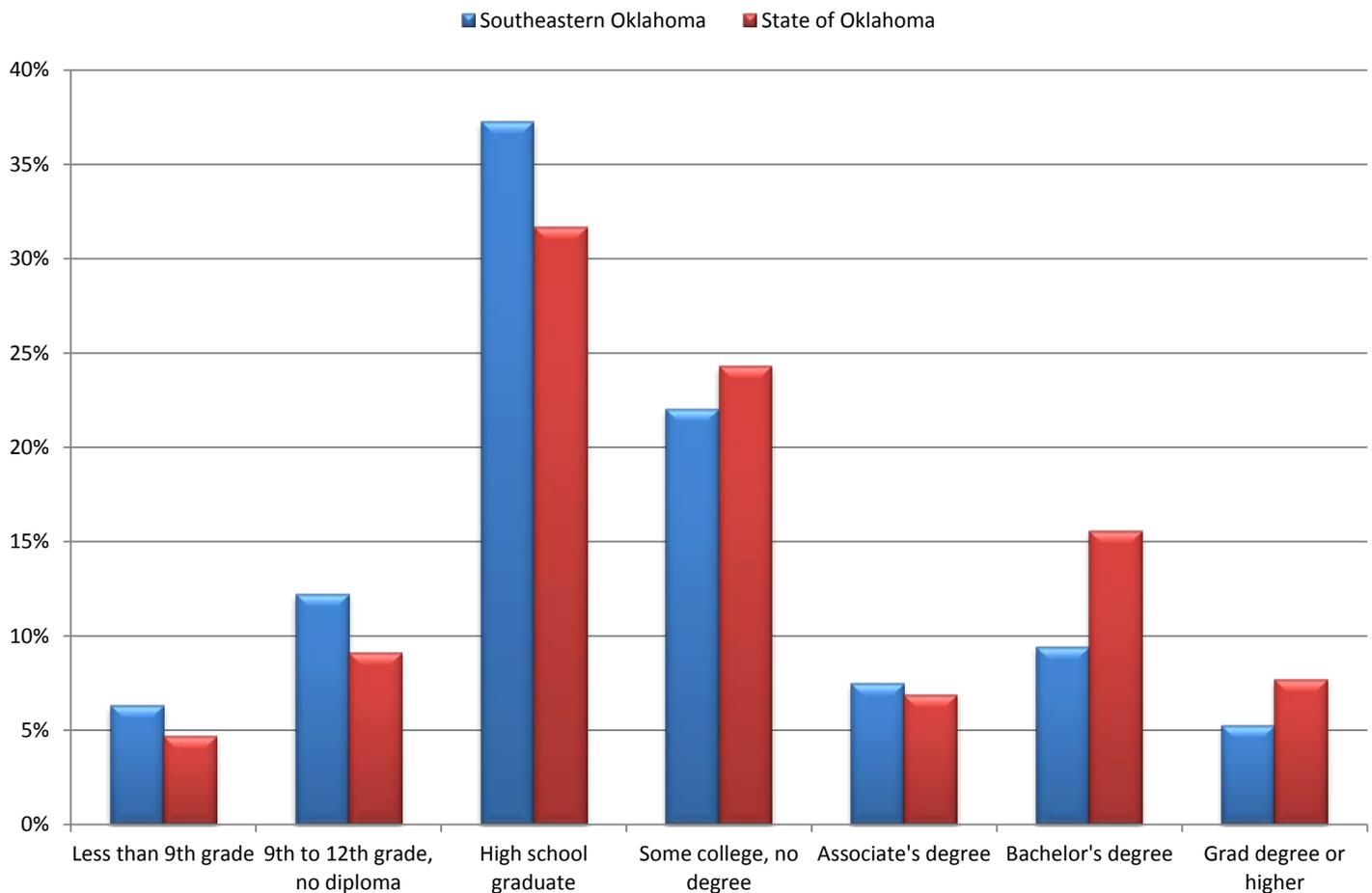
- 72.9% of residents in Southeastern Oklahoma identify themselves as White. This is below the statewide average of 75.5%.
- With 24,262 people, Two or More Races is the second most populous group in Southeastern Oklahoma. They account for 10.9% of the population.
- American Indian makes up 10.1% of the population, while Black or African-American consists of 3.8%. Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander and Asian accounts for a negligible percentage of the population.
- Hispanics, which are categorized as an ethnicity by the Census Bureau, make up 4.5% of the total population in Southeastern Oklahoma, below the statewide average of 9.6%.



Source: ACS 2008-2012

### Educational Attainment in Southeastern Oklahoma:

- 81.5% of people residing in Southeastern Oklahoma have attained at least a high school diploma.
- Southeastern Oklahoma lags behind the state averages in attainment of Bachelor’s degree and Grad degree or higher.
- Southeastern Oklahoma has a higher attainment of Associate’s degree than the state average.
- In terms of the furthest level of educational attainment, Southeastern Oklahoma has a higher level of “Less than 9<sup>th</sup> grade”, “9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade”, and “High school graduate” than state averages.
- Southeastern Oklahoma has some ground to cover to catch up with state averages for individuals with Bachelor’s degrees. Currently 9.4% of individuals in Southeastern Oklahoma have a Bachelor’s degree, compared with 15.6% across the state. Fortunately, there are colleges and universities in the region to help educate the local workforce.

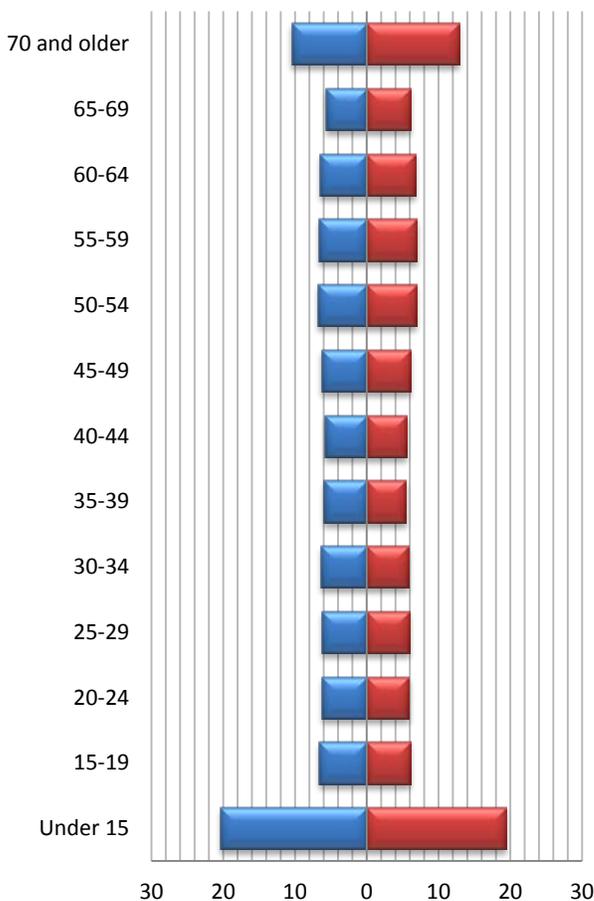


Source: ACS 2008-2012

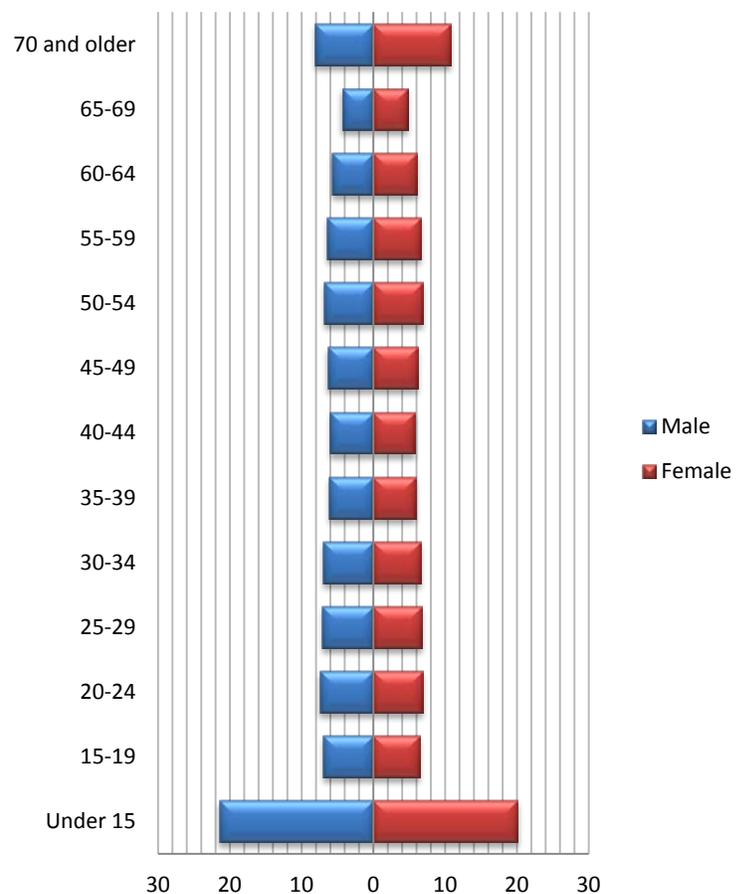
**Age and Sex Data in Southeastern Oklahoma:**

- According to EMSI’s second quarter of 2014 population estimate, there are 228,250 people living in Southeastern Oklahoma. Of that, there are 113,950 men and 114,300 women. 49.9% of the population in Southeastern Oklahoma is male and 50.1% is female.
- Statewide, EMSI calculates Oklahoma has a population of 3,867,960. Of that, men make up 50.4% of the population, while women make up 49.6%. In real numbers that comes out to 1,950,115 men and 1,917,845 women.
- The general trend in population figures is fairly consistent when comparing the Southeastern Oklahoma to the rest of the state. The population pyramids show similar bulge areas, specifically amongst youth and baby boomer age ranges, with both charts showing smaller percentages of individuals in the 35-39 and 40-44 age brackets.
- Southeastern Oklahoma’s hourglass shape is a little less pronounced than the state average. Southeastern Oklahoma has a lower percentage of individuals under the age of 25.
- The largest age cohort in Southeastern Oklahoma is Under 15.

**Southeastern Oklahoma Age/Sex Data  
Percentage of Population**



**Oklahoma Age/Sex by Percentage of  
Population**

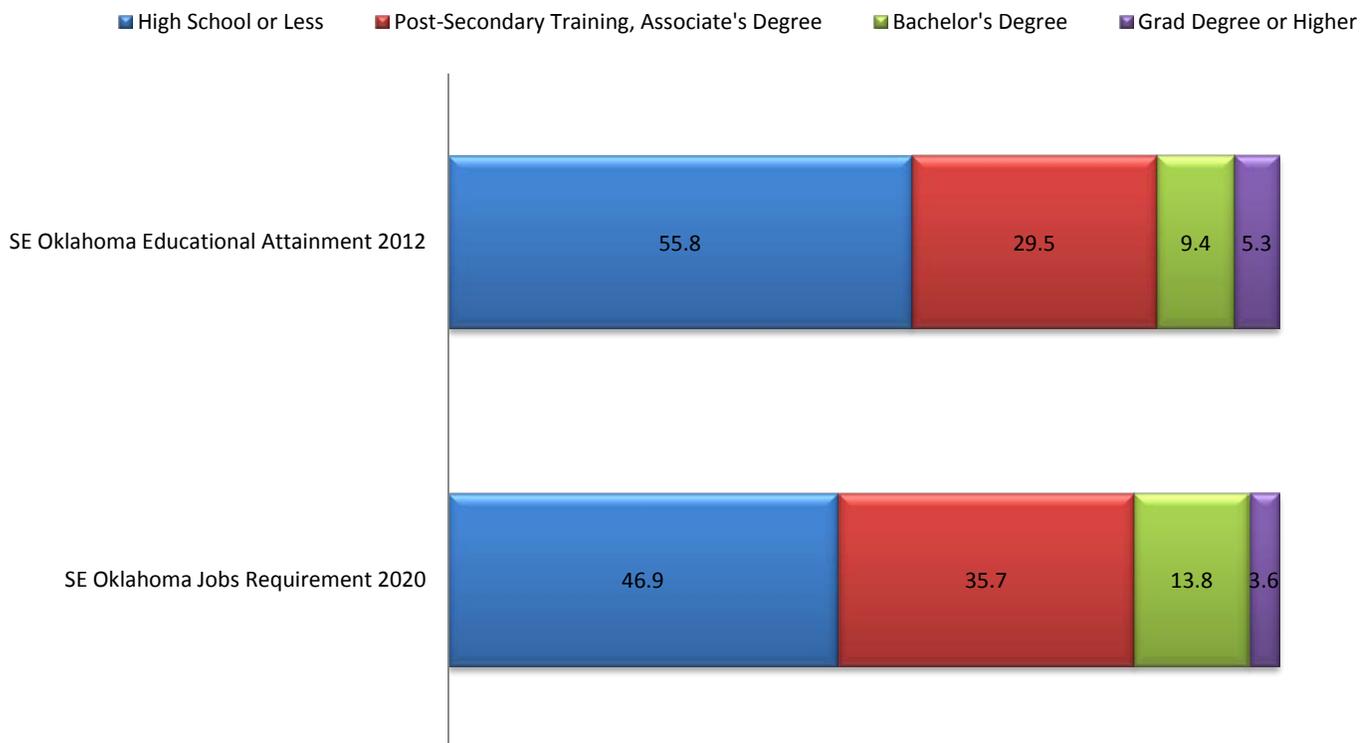


Source: EMSI 2014.2

## Southeastern Oklahoma Education Gap

- Based on projected demand, Southeastern Oklahoma will continue to have a large percentage of jobs that require a high school degree or less. However, by 2020 there will be a gap for jobs that require post-secondary training or an Associate’s Degree. Fortunately, there are colleges and universities in the region to provide necessary skills to residents and help alleviate the training gap.
- There is a gap in three of the four sectors listed below. The largest gap comes in jobs requiring High School diploma or less by 2020. This indicates that based on current demand, there will be fewer jobs that require high school degrees or less and more individuals whose highest academic attainment is high school or less. This trend could cause an underqualified workforce.
- The job gap will also be present for jobs requiring post-secondary training, or a Bachelor’s degree.
- There is a slight surplus of individuals in the Grad Degree or Higher category compared with job requirements for that sector in 2020.

### Southeastern Oklahoma Educational Gap for Jobs by 2020



Source: EMSI 2014.2 Class of Worker; US Census Quick Facts

## Southeastern Oklahoma Educational Assets

CareerTechs, colleges and universities in Southeastern Oklahoma are instrumental in developing the regions workforce. They are assets that allow the region and the rest of the state to supply organizations and companies with the labor and skills necessary to keep them operational and competitive in a global economy.

### CareerTechs

#### Kiamichi Technology Center

- (Antlers, Atoka, Durant, Hugo, Idabel, McAlester, Poteau, Spiro, Talihina)

### Colleges and Universities

In addition to the Career Techs in the region, there are three colleges and universities.

#### Carl Albert State College

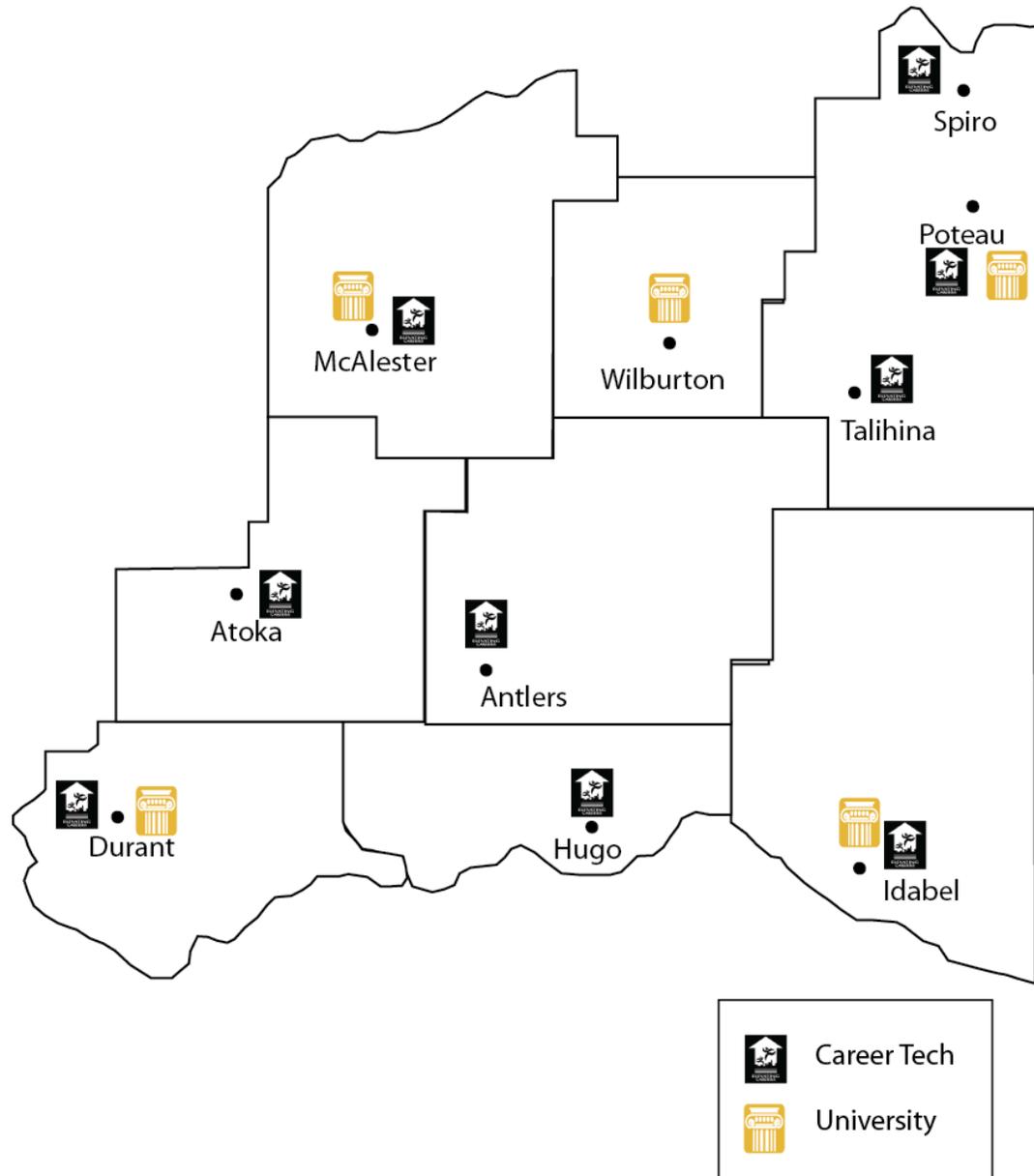
- (Poteau)

#### Eastern Oklahoma State College

- (McAlester, Wilburton)

#### Southeastern Oklahoma State University

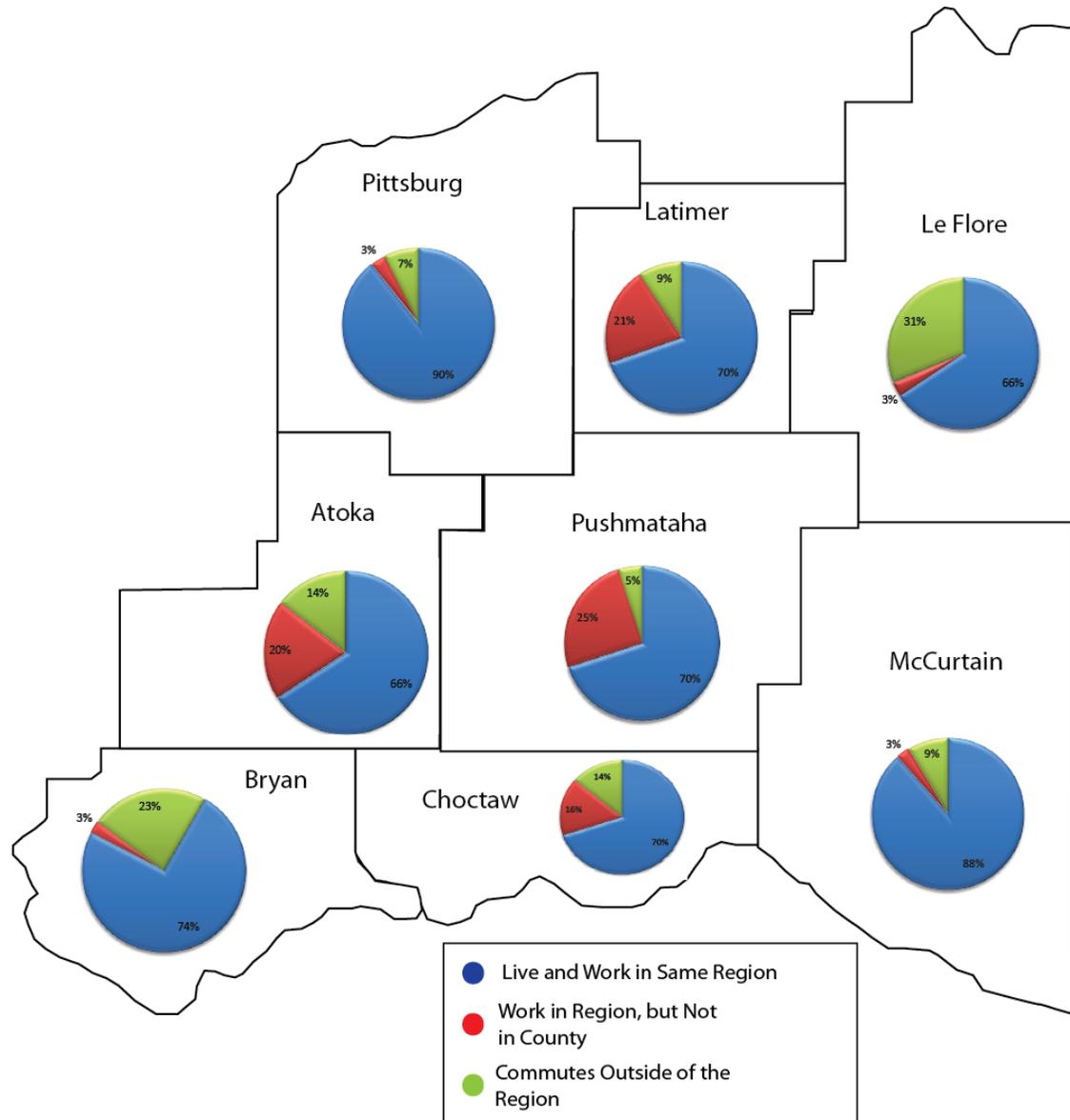
- (Durant, Idabel)



Source: OK CareerTech; Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

## Commuter Data

- According to the commuting data, 76% of the people in Southeastern Oklahoma work in the county they live, 7% stay within the region, but travel outside their county, and 17% commute outside the region for work.
- Six of the eight counties have at least 70% of workers live and work in the same region.
- Le Flore and Bryan County are two of the largest counties in the region, but have the largest percentage of the workforce travel outside the region for work.
- Pittsburg County is home to the largest city in the region (McAlester) and has the highest percentage of people who live and work in the same county.
- Atoka, Latimer, and Pushmataha all have more than 20% of their workforce leave the county, but stay in the region. These counties also have the smallest workforce in the region
- The commuter data shows that as a whole, the majority of people in Southeastern Oklahoma live and work in the same region. This illustrates that residents in the region would prefer to stay within close distance to their homes when commuting to their workplaces.



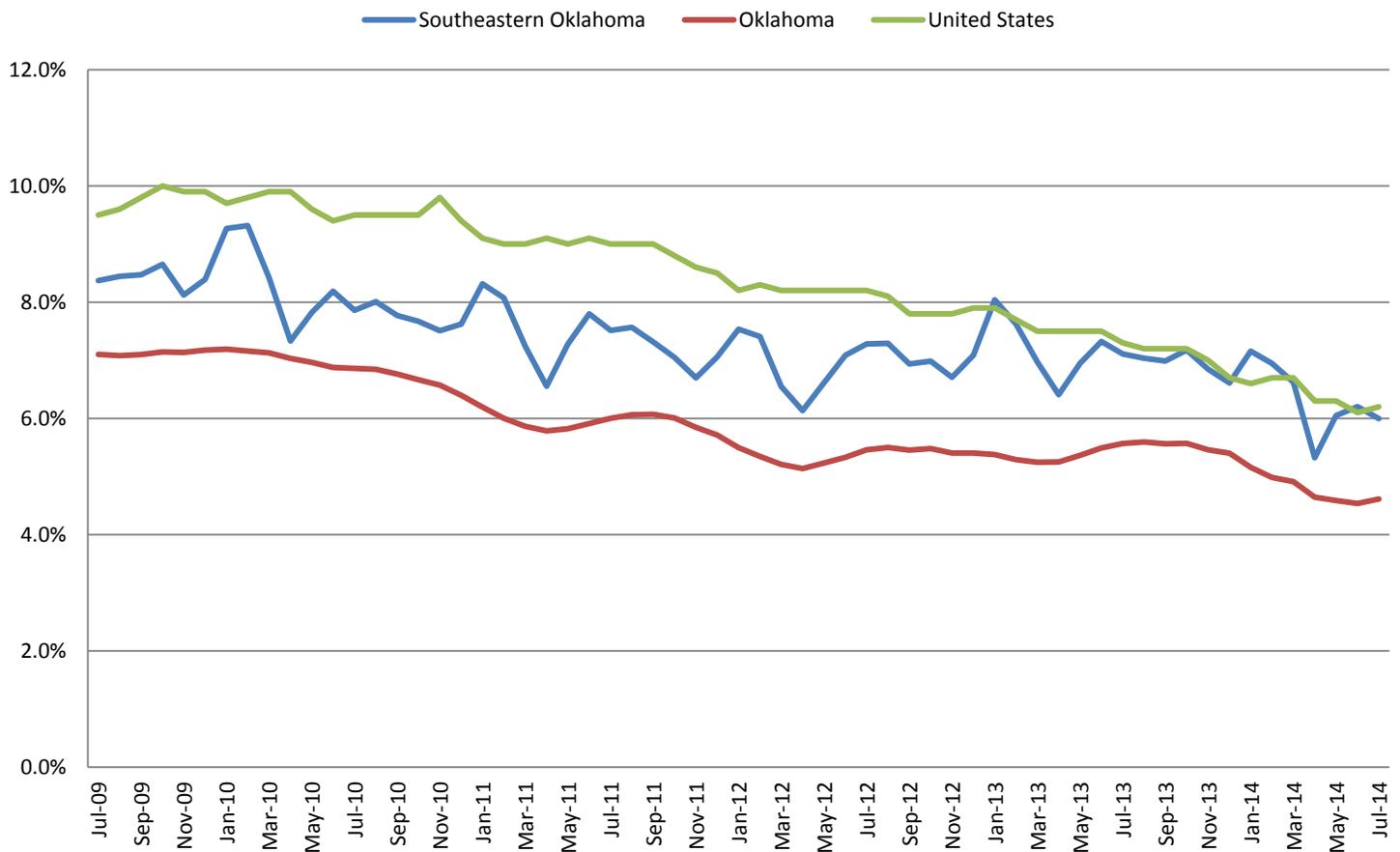
Source: ACS Residence County to Workplace County Flows for the United States and Puerto Rico

## Economic Data

### Unemployment Rate:

- Throughout the five year historical unemployment rate, Southeastern Oklahoma has stayed above the state average of Oklahoma.
- Southeastern Oklahoma stayed below the national average from July 2009 until January 2013. Since then, Southeastern unemployment rate has hovered around the national average. The July 2014 unemployment rate for Southeastern Oklahoma is 6%.
- Both Southeastern Oklahoma and the State of Oklahoma have maintained a gradual declining trend in unemployment rates since peaking in February 2010.

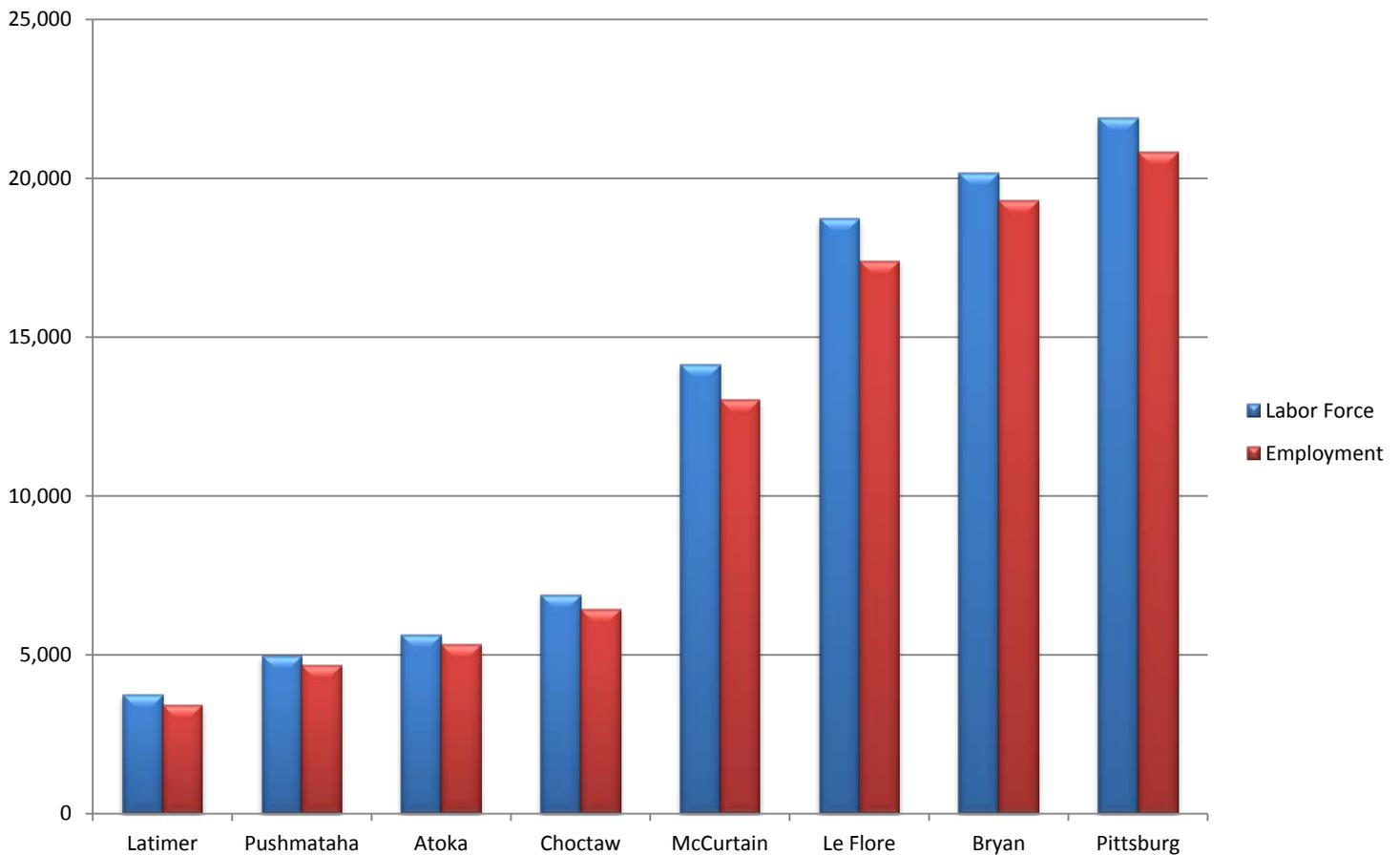
**Five Year Unemployment Rate- Southeastern Oklahoma, State, and Nationally**



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

**Total Employment:**

- In real numbers, 96,215 people in Southeastern Oklahoma are in the labor force, and 90,450 are employed. That equates to 94% of the labor force in the region is employed.
- Interestingly, Le Flore County is the most populous county in the region, but is third in the region in labor force and employment. This is consistent with Le Flore County having the largest percentage of workers commute outside of the region for work.
- Bryan and Pittsburg counties have the largest labor force in the region, and also have the lowest unemployment rate at 4.3% and 4.9% respectively.



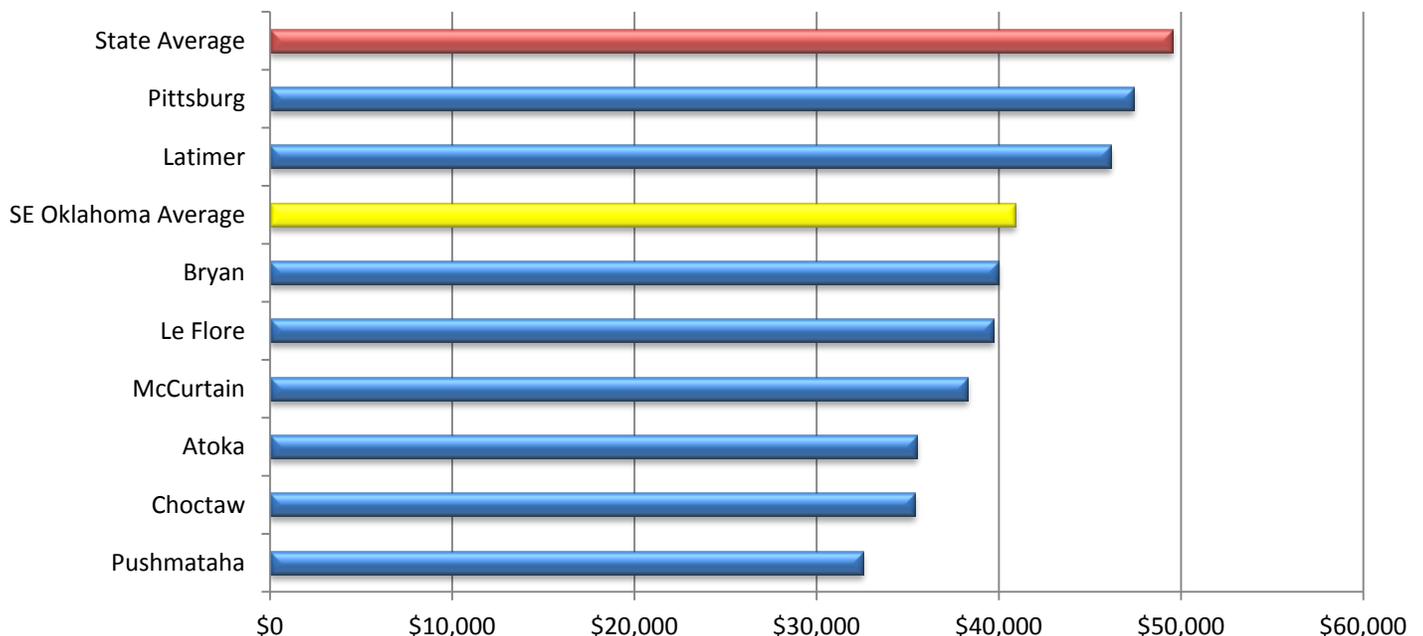
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

**Top Industries in Southeastern Oklahoma**

Industry
Health Care and Social Assistance
Manufacturing
Accommodation and Food Services
Construction
Other Services (except Public Administration)
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction
Transportation and Warehousing
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services
Finance and Insurance
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services

**Wages by County:**

- The Southeastern Oklahoma average wage is \$40,900; this is less than the state average of \$49,550 by \$8,650. The gap between the Southeastern Oklahoma counties and the state average ranges from \$2,150 less in Pittsburg County to \$17,000 less in Pushmataha County.
- As a region, the average wages are below the state average.
- Bryan and Le Flore counties are two of the most populous counties in the region, but have the average wages lower than the regional average.
- Pittsburg County has the largest workforce in the region, and the highest average wage.
- Latimer County is has the smallest workforce and the highest unemployment rate, but has the second highest average wage in the region.

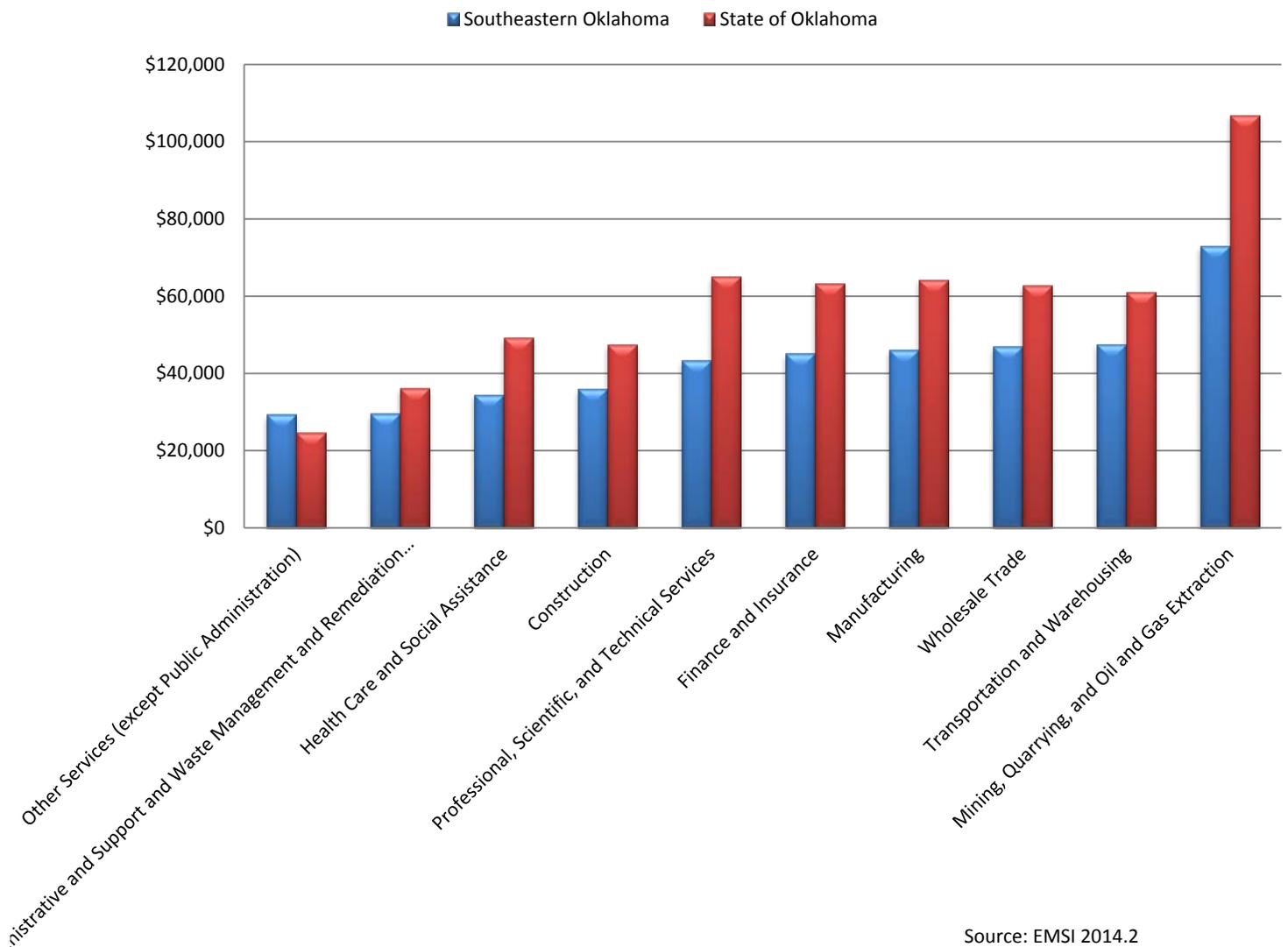


Source: EMSI 2014.2

**Wages by Industry:**

- All industry earnings in Southeastern Oklahoma except “Other Services” lag behind state averages. The largest wage difference occurs in the “Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas” industry. Statewide this position earns \$33,960 more than in Southeastern Oklahoma.
- The industries in Southeastern Oklahoma that compare closest to state averages are, “Other Services”, and “Administrative and Support and Waste Remediation Services”.
- “Mining Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction,” is the only top industries in Southeastern Oklahoma that is above the state’s yearly average earnings of \$49,550.

**Average Earnings by Industry in Southeastern Oklahoma and Sate of Oklahoma**



Source: EMSI 2014.2

## Major Employers in Southeastern Oklahoma

Listed below are some of the more significant employers in the region. Commerce in Southeastern Oklahoma is not primarily concentrated in any one area; however there are a significant number of entertainment, education, and health and social service employers in the area.

Employer	City	Industry
Choctaw Nation Of Oklahoma	Durant	American Indian Tribal Government
Tyson Poultry	Broken Bow	Poultry Processing
Department of Defense	McAlester	Ammunition Manufacturing
Choctaw Casino - Durant	Durant	Casino
Indian Health Services	Talihina	American Indian Tribal Government
O K Foods	Heavener	Poultry Processing
McAlester Regional Hospital	McAlester	General Medical and Surgical Hospital
Department Of Corrections	McAlester	Correctional Institution
Nabors Drilling	Pocola	Drilling Oil and Gas Wells
Southeastern Oklahoma State	Durant	Colleges, Universities and Professional Schools
Durant Public Schools	Durant	Elementary and Secondary Schools
Choctaw Casino - Pocola	Pocola	Casino
McAlester Public Schools	McAlester	Elementary and Secondary Schools
Medical Center Of Southeast Oklahoma	Durant	General Medical and Surgical Hospital
Wal-Mart	McAlester; Durant; Poteau	Warehouse Clubs and Supercenters
Kiamichi Technology Centers	Multiple Locations	Vocational School
Delaware North Hospitality	Durant	Full Service Restaurant
Select Energy Services	Alderson	Support Activities for Oil and Gas
Poteau Public Schools	Poteau	Elementary and Secondary Schools
Big Lots	Durant	General Warehousing and Storage
International Paper	Valliant	Mill
Little Dixie Community Action	Hugo	Social Advocacy Organization
Choctaw Casino	Grant	Casino
Spirit AeroSystems	McAlester	Aircraft Manufacturing
Oklahoma Department Of Veterans Affairs	Talihina	Nursing Care Facilities

Source: EMSI 2014.2, OneSource

## Ecosystems Impact in Southeastern Oklahoma on Occupations and Salaries

The Oklahoma Department of Commerce identified five ecosystems in Oklahoma important to the economy to generate wealth, have employment growth potential, or where the state has a competitive advantage (Aerospace and Defense, Energy, Agriculture and Bioscience, Information and Financial Services, and Transportation and Distribution). In each ecosystem, there are critical occupations necessary for future growth and advancement. In addition to the five statewide ecosystems, there are ecosystems at the regional level important for regional economies.

### Aerospace & Defense

Based on 2014 job numbers there are 2,350 jobs in the Aerospace & Defense Ecosystem in Southeastern Oklahoma with average earnings of approximately \$49,500

As a projection of demand by 2020, total employment in the Aerospace and Defense ecosystem will increase to 2,650 jobs in Southeastern Oklahoma, an increase of 300 for the region.

The list below encompasses some of the critical occupations for the Aerospace and Defense ecosystem in Southeastern Oklahoma. However, these occupations are not solely intended to serve the Aerospace and Defense ecosystem, they are driven by demand and individuals with these work backgrounds will have transferable skills to other ecosystems.

SOC	Occupation	Median Hourly Earnings	Education Level
55-9999	Military occupations	\$15.32	N/A
49-9041	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	\$22.37	Long-term on-the-job training
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	\$15.30	Moderate-term on-the-job training
51-4041	Machinists	\$16.97	Long-term on-the-job training
51-2092	Team Assemblers	\$13.28	Moderate-term on-the-job training
51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	\$16.52	Moderate-term on-the-job training
51-2011	Aircraft Structure, Surfaces, Rigging, and Systems Assemblers	\$16.30	Moderate-term on-the-job training
49-9071	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	\$15.36	Long-term on-the-job training
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	\$10.03	Short-term on-the-job training
49-9043	Maintenance Workers, Machinery	\$14.35	Moderate-term on-the-job training

Source: EMSI 2014.2

As previously mentioned, the critical occupations above are necessary for the Aerospace & Defense ecosystem to thrive. Just as important, these critical occupations are necessary for other industries as well. Other industries that demand these occupations include machinery manufacturing, poultry processing, machine shops, and oil and gas manufacturing, among others in Southeastern Oklahoma.

## Energy

Based on 2014 job numbers there are 5,100 jobs in the Energy Ecosystem in Southeastern Oklahoma with average earnings of \$72,800.

As a projection of demand, by 2020 total employment in the Energy ecosystem will grow to 5,900 jobs in Southeastern Oklahoma, an addition of 800 jobs for the region.

The list below encompasses some of the critical occupations for the Energy ecosystem in Southeastern Oklahoma. However, these occupations are not solely intended to serve the Energy ecosystem, they are driven by demand and individuals with these work backgrounds will have transferable skills to other ecosystems.

SOC	Description	Median Hourly Earnings	Education Level
47-5013	Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, and Mining	\$19.04	Moderate-term on-the-job training
47-5071	Roustabouts, Oil and Gas	\$16.20	Moderate-term on-the-job training
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$19.20	Postsecondary non-degree award
47-2073	Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators	\$18.24	Moderate-term on-the-job training
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	\$15.30	Moderate-term on-the-job training
49-9051	Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers	\$23.88	Long-term on-the-job training
47-5012	Rotary Drill Operators, Oil and Gas	\$19.57	Moderate-term on-the-job training
47-5021	Earth Drillers, Except Oil and Gas	\$21.60	Moderate-term on-the-job training
47-2061	Construction Laborers	\$11.45	Short-term on-the-job training
47-5031	Explosives Workers, Ordnance Handling Experts, and Blasters	\$18.15	Long-term on-the-job training

Source: EMSI 2014.2

As previously mentioned, these occupations are necessary for the Energy ecosystem to thrive. Just as important, they are necessary for other industries as well. Other industries that demand these occupations include support activities for oil and gas, general freight trucking, drillings, and pipeline construction, among others.

## Agriculture & Bioscience

Based on 2014 job numbers there are 5,750 jobs in the Agriculture & Bioscience ecosystem in Southeastern Oklahoma with average earnings of \$39,300.

As a projection of demand, by 2020 total employment in the Agriculture and Bioscience ecosystem will decrease to 5,650 jobs, a loss of 100 jobs for the region.

The list below encompasses some of the critical occupations for the Agriculture and Bioscience ecosystem in Southeastern Oklahoma. However, these occupations are not solely intended to serve the Agriculture and Bioscience ecosystem, they are driven by demand and individuals with these work backgrounds will have transferable skills to other ecosystems.

SOC	Description	Median Hourly Earnings	Education Level
51-3022	Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	\$11.95	Short-term on-the-job training
51-3023	Slaughterers and Meat Packers	\$9.22	Short-term on-the-job training
45-2092	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	\$9.00	Short-term on-the-job training
51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers	\$11.17	Short-term on-the-job training
45-4022	Logging Equipment Operators	\$16.04	Moderate-term on-the-job training
53-7064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	\$12.85	Short-term on-the-job training
51-9111	Packaging and Filling Machine Operators and Tenders	\$14.10	Moderate-term on-the-job training
49-9071	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	\$15.36	Long-term on-the-job training
51-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	\$24.12	Postsecondary non-degree award
51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	\$16.52	Moderate-term on-the-job training

Source: EMSI 2014.2

As previously mentioned, these occupations are necessary for the Agriculture & Bioscience ecosystem to thrive. Just as important, they are necessary for other industries as well. Other industries that demand these occupations include poultry processing, logging, log and paper mills, and general warehousing and storage, among others in Southeastern Oklahoma.

## Information & Financial Services

Based on 2014 job numbers there are 3,120 jobs in the Information & Financial Services ecosystem in Southeastern Oklahoma with average wages of \$47,520.

As a projection of demand, by 2020 total employment in the Information and Financial Services ecosystem will increase to 3,330 jobs in Southeastern Oklahoma, an increase of 210 jobs for the region.

The list below encompasses some of the critical occupations for the Information and Financial Services ecosystem in Southeastern Oklahoma. However, these occupations are not solely intended to serve the Information and Financial Services ecosystem, they are driven by demand and individuals with these work backgrounds will have transferable skills to other ecosystems.

SOC	Occupation	Median Hourly Earnings	Education Level
43-3071	Tellers	\$9.82	Short-term on-the-job training
13-2011	Accountants and Auditors	\$21.87	Bachelor's degree
13-2072	Loan Officers	\$21.39	Bachelor's degree
43-4131	Loan Interviewers and Clerks	\$11.24	Short-term on-the-job training
49-2022	Telecommunications Equipment Installers and Repairers, Except Line Installers	\$17.56	Postsecondary non-degree award
13-2082	Tax Preparers	\$12.98	Moderate-term on-the-job training
11-3031	Financial Managers	\$31.29	Bachelor's degree
43-4141	New Accounts Clerks	\$11.37	Moderate-term on-the-job training
43-3011	Bill and Account Collectors	\$11.91	Moderate-term on-the-job training
41-3031	Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents	\$32.19	Bachelor's degree

Source: EMSI 2014.2

As previously mentioned, these occupations are necessary for the Information & Financial Services ecosystem to thrive. Just as important, they are necessary for other industries as well. Other industries that demand these occupations include commercial banking, consumer lending, and payroll services among others.

## Transportation & Distribution

Based on 2014 job numbers there are 4,500 jobs in the Transportation & Distribution ecosystem in Southeastern Oklahoma with average earnings of \$47,600.

As a projection of demand, by 2020 total employment in the Transportation and Distribution ecosystem will increase to 5,000 jobs in Southeastern Oklahoma, a gain of 500 jobs for the region.

The list below encompasses some of the critical occupations for the Transportation and Distribution ecosystem in Southeastern Oklahoma. However, these occupations are not solely intended to serve the Transportation and Distribution ecosystem, they are driven by demand and individuals with these work backgrounds will have transferable skills to other ecosystems.

SOC	Description	Median Hourly Earnings	Education Level
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$19.20	Postsecondary non-degree award
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	\$10.03	Short-term on-the-job training
53-3033	Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers	\$11.07	Short-term on-the-job training
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	\$16.33	Short-term on-the-job training
53-7064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	\$12.85	Short-term on-the-job training
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	\$15.30	Moderate-term on-the-job training
49-3031	Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists	\$15.91	Long-term on-the-job training
43-5071	Shipping, Receiving, and Traffic Clerks	\$12.14	Short-term on-the-job training
53-4031	Railroad Conductors and Yardmasters	\$23.73	Moderate-term on-the-job training
53-4011	Locomotive Engineers	\$22.74	Moderate-term on-the-job training

Source: EMSI 2014.2

As previously mentioned, these occupations are necessary for the Transportation & Distribution ecosystem to thrive. Just as important, they are necessary for other industries as well. Other industries that demand these occupations include General Freight Trucking, general warehousing and storage, and poultry processing, among others.

## Health Care (Regional Complementary)

Based on 2014 job numbers there are 6,400 jobs in the Health Care ecosystem in Southeastern Oklahoma with average wages of \$38,600.

As a projection of demand, by 2020 total employment in the Health Care ecosystem will grow to 7,750 jobs in Southeastern Oklahoma, an addition of 1,350 jobs for the region.

The list below encompasses some of the critical occupations for the Health Care ecosystem in Southeastern Oklahoma. However, these occupations are not solely intended to serve the Health Care ecosystem, they are driven by demand and individuals with these work backgrounds will have transferable skills to other ecosystems.

SOC	Description	Median Hourly Earnings	Education Level
31-1014	Nursing Assistants	\$9.89	Postsecondary non-degree award
39-9021	Personal Care Aides	\$8.84	Short-term on-the-job training
29-2061	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$16.89	Postsecondary non-degree award
29-1141	Registered Nurses	\$26.62	Associate's degree
31-1011	Home Health Aides	\$9.08	Short-term on-the-job training
31-9092	Medical Assistants	\$11.88	Postsecondary non-degree award
43-6013	Medical Secretaries	\$11.44	Moderate-term on-the-job training
29-2041	Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics	\$12.89	Postsecondary non-degree award
31-9091	Dental Assistants	\$14.61	Postsecondary non-degree award
29-2021	Dental Hygienists	\$34.31	Associate's degree

Source: EMSI 2014.2

As previously mentioned, these occupations are necessary for the Health Care ecosystem to thrive. Just as important, they are necessary for other industries as well. Other industries that demand these occupations include Nursing Care Facilities, Home Health Care Services, Hospitals, and Physicians' offices, among others.

## Construction (Regional Complementary)

Based on 2014 job numbers there are 8,550 jobs in the Construction ecosystem in Southeastern Oklahoma with average wages of \$42,250.

As a projection of demand, by 2020 total employment in the Construction ecosystem will grow to 8,900 jobs in Southeastern Oklahoma, an addition of 350 jobs for the region.

The list below encompasses some of the critical occupations for the Construction ecosystem in Southeastern Oklahoma. However, these occupations are not solely intended to serve the Construction ecosystem, they are driven by demand and individuals with these work backgrounds will have transferable skills to other ecosystems.

SOC	Description	Median Hourly Earnings	Education Level
47-2061	Construction Laborers	\$11.45	Short-term on-the-job training
47-2031	Carpenters	\$12.73	Apprenticeship
11-9021	Construction Managers	\$17.77	Bachelor's degree
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$19.20	Postsecondary non-degree award
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	\$10.03	Short-term on-the-job training
47-2111	Electricians	\$18.63	Apprenticeship
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	\$15.30	Moderate-term on-the-job training
47-2141	Painters, Construction and Maintenance	\$11.87	Moderate-term on-the-job training
51-4041	Machinists	\$16.97	Long-term on-the-job training
47-2152	Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	\$17.70	Apprenticeship
47-2151	Pipelayers	\$14.50	Short-term on-the-job training

Source: EMSI 2014.2

As previously mentioned, these occupations are necessary for the Construction ecosystem to thrive. Just as important, they are necessary for other industries as well. Other industries that demand these occupations include site preparation contractors, general freight trucking, poultry processing, and oil and gas pipeline construction, among others in Southeastern Oklahoma.

## Manufacturing (Regional Complementary)

Based on 2013 job numbers there are 7,100 jobs in the Manufacturing ecosystem in Southeastern Oklahoma with average wages of \$46,000.

As a projection of demand, by 2020 total employment in the Manufacturing ecosystem will increase to 7,250 jobs in Southeastern Oklahoma, a gain of 150 jobs for the region.

The list below encompasses some of the critical occupations for the Manufacturing ecosystem in Southeastern Oklahoma. However, these occupations are not solely intended to serve the Manufacturing ecosystem, they are driven by demand and individuals with these work backgrounds will have transferable skills to other ecosystems.

SOC	Description	Median Hourly Earnings	Education Level
51-3022	Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	\$11.95	Short-term on-the-job training
51-3023	Slaughterers and Meat Packers	\$9.22	Short-term on-the-job training
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	\$10.03	Short-term on-the-job training
51-2092	Team Assemblers	\$13.28	Moderate-term on-the-job training
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	\$15.30	Moderate-term on-the-job training
51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	\$16.52	Moderate-term on-the-job training
51-4041	Machinists	\$16.97	Long-term on-the-job training
49-9071	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	\$15.36	Long-term on-the-job training
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$19.20	Postsecondary non-degree award
49-9041	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	\$22.37	Long-term on-the-job training

Source: EMSI 2014.2

As previously mentioned, these occupations are necessary for the Manufacturing ecosystem to thrive. Just as important, they are necessary for other industries as well. Other industries that demand these occupations include general freight trucking, site preparation contractors, poultry processing, and oil and gas pipeline construction, among others.