

## September Monthly Report and Observations

### Unemployed people in states that cut off benefits early didn't come rushing back to work

These extra federal benefits have become a lightning rod. Many business owners and politicians complain the money is encouraging people to stay home, rather than return to work, leaving employers with a [shortage of workers](#).

But research shows that most people who lose their benefits don't find jobs right away. About two dozen states ended the federal jobless aid earlier this summer in hopes that would drive many more people back to work. But despite a record number of job openings, it didn't. [Unemployed people in states that cut benefits early were only slightly more likely to find jobs than those in states that kept paying](#).

"There wasn't a huge difference in the rate at which they returned to work," said economist Michael Stepien of the University of Toronto, who was part of a team that [conducted the research](#). "There was a huge difference in the amount of benefits these workers received and the amount of money that they spent in their local economy."

### Labor Force/Unemployment Statistics

Region	Unemployment Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Labor Force Participation Rate
Oklahoma	3.2%	1,862,422	1,802,013	60,409	60.5%
United State	4.8%	161,537,000	153,154,000	8,384,000	61.6%

Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics and Oklahoma Employment Security Commission

Oil prices continue moving up, hitting \$70 per barrel recently. This should eventually result in more drilling and a hiring by upstream companies.

### Restaurants Showing Strong Recovery

Oklahoma City ranked as first and Tulsa as fifth on a nationwide report by LendingTree, a marketing lead generator and mortgage broker, examining which cities' restaurants are showing the strongest recovery from the pandemic.

<https://journalrecord.com/2021/09/10/report-restaurants-here-showing-strong-recovery/>

Skydweller Aero announced that it raised \$40 million, which includes an oversubscription of a Series A funding, to continue its designing and producing of a prototype.

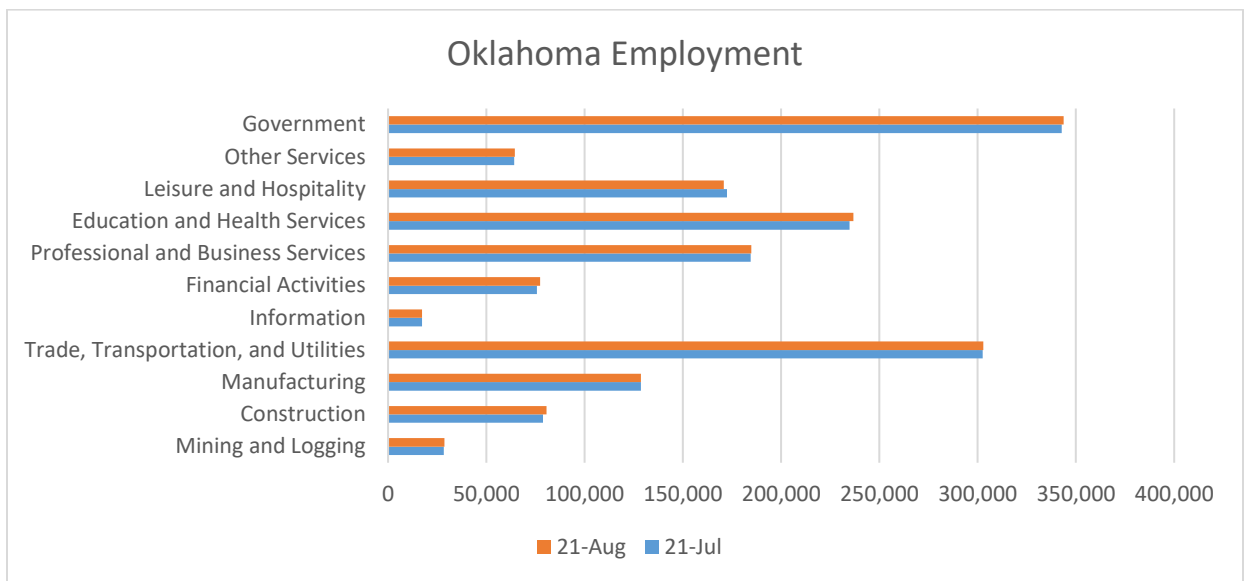
<https://www.oklahoman.com/story/business/2021/09/13/skydweller-aero-oklahoma-raises-funds-solar-powered-aircraft/5697221001/>

<https://journalrecord.com/2021/09/09/skydweller-aero-achieves-new-heights-in-funding/>

### Boeing delivers 22 jets in August; 737 Max 'white tails' nearly gone

Through August, Boeing had delivered 169 of its best-selling 737 Max jets since that aircraft returned to service in late 2020 following a nearly two-year safety ban after the fatal crashes.

Crucially for Spirit Aerosystems in Tulsa, Boeing has virtually eliminated a stockpile of up to 200 unwanted jets known in the industry as "white tails," left by the 737 Max crisis, according to industry sources.



Source: Oklahoma Employment Security Commission

## Oklahoma's energy industry is rebounding. But can it be sustained?

**Jack Money** Oklahoman

A post-pandemic economic bounce has boosted the outlook for many players in the Oklahoma oil and gas industry, but there's trepidation about how far the industry can soar.

Tax collections on the industry jumped more on a percent-change basis than any other industry in recent months. Some companies are hiring. Things look good, for the moment.

<https://www.oklahoman.com/story/business/energy-resource/2021/09/16/recovering-oklahoma-energy-industry-remains-future-focused/5754064001/>

Blue Road Investments is building a new industrial park at Pole Road and SE 89<sup>th</sup> in OKC. The park will include 403,000 square feet of buildings completed by Q2 of 2022.

<https://journalrecord.com/2021/09/23/construction-launches-on-industrial-park/>

Fact Checked Claims about Unemployment and Oklahoma's Labor Shortage

<https://www.readfrontier.org/stories/we-fact-checked-claims-about-unemployment-and-oklahomas-labor-shortage/>

Response to a new employment program for people who are panhandling exceeded expectations during the first week. A Better Way reaches out to people at panhandling hotspots and offers them a day's work beautifying public spaces instead of asking drivers and pedestrians for money. The program offers them lunch and a \$65 daily wage for litter removal in parks and other public areas. They can participate up to five times.

<https://journalrecord.com/2021/09/24/a-chance-for-panhandlers-to-earn-a-days-wage/>

<https://www.okc.gov/departments/planning/programs/homelessness/a-better-way>

A contract has been announced for the replacement of the B-52 engines. Much of the installation work will occur at Tinker, including necessary flight system programming.

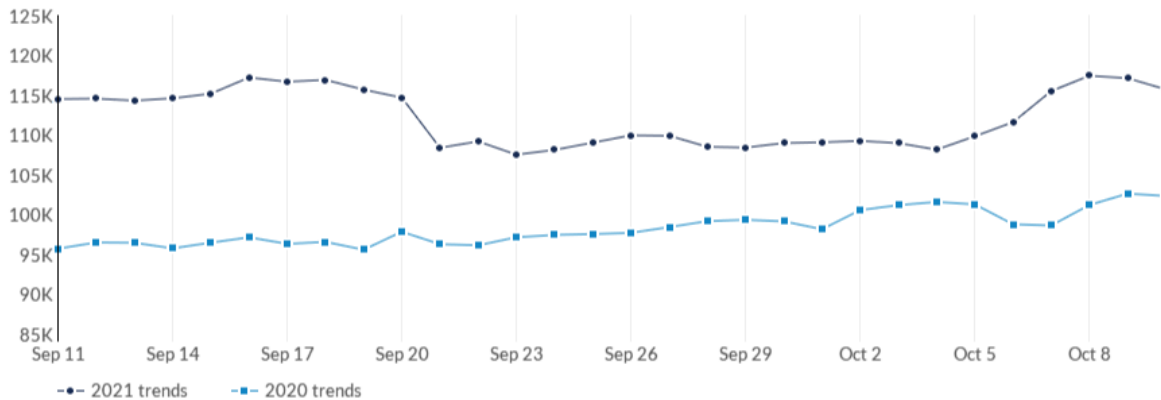
<https://www.ainonline.com/aviation-news/defense/2021-09-25/rolls-royce-selected-b-52-re-engining-program>

The price of oil going up will cause more drilling, which will cause more jobs.

<https://www.cnn.com/2021/09/27/investing/oil-price-forecast-goldman-sachs/index.html>

#### Unique Postings Trend

This view displays the most recent 30 days of job postings activity to show near-term trends. It does not reflect your timeframe.



Source: EMSI – economicmodeling.com-2021.1

### Banks could suffer massive wave of job losses, analysts say

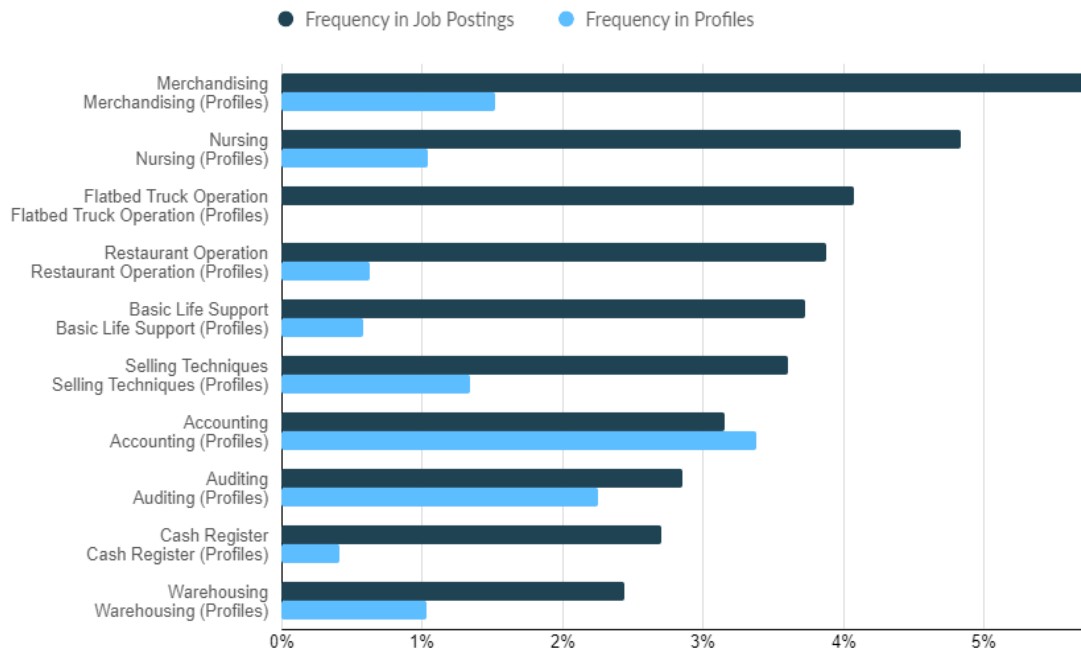
About 100,000 positions could vanish over the next five years as large U.S. banks invest more in digital banking and other technologies, Wells Fargo analysts predicted in a research note this week. Roles slated to disappear include branch managers, call center employees and tellers. Artificial intelligence, cloud computing and robots will play a larger role in daily banking functions like taking payments, approving loans and detecting fraud.

Consumers should expect fewer bank branches across the nation, and those that remain will likely shrink in size.

"Branches will likely show a decline, especially given greater digital banking adoption during the pandemic," according to Wells Fargo. "Many branches that were closed during the pandemic will likely remain closed permanently [and] new future mergers will likely reduce branches, too."

## Skills in Oklahoma Job Postings

### Top Hard Skills



Skills	Postings	% of Total Postings	Profiles	% of Total Profiles
Merchandising	165,973	6%	15,587	2%
Nursing	139,803	5%	10,744	1%
Flatbed Truck Operation	117,868	4%	0	0%
Restaurant Operation	112,262	4%	6,428	1%
Basic Life Support	107,814	4%	5,963	1%
Selling Techniques	104,397	4%	13,770	1%
Accounting	91,229	3%	34,713	3%
Auditing	82,459	3%	23,193	2%
Cash Register	78,258	3%	4,284	0%
Warehousing	70,633	2%	10,648	1%

Source: EMSI – economicmodeling.com-2021.1

## Local Business Services Representatives

Name	LWDB	Email	Counties
Carol Samuels	Central	<a href="mailto:carolsamuels@cowib.org">carolsamuels@cowib.org</a>	Lincoln, Potawatomie, Hughes, Okfuskee, Seminolle
Bill Wade	Central	<a href="mailto:williamwade@cowib.org">williamwade@cowib.org</a>	Oklahoma, Cleveland, Canadian, Logan
Dana Clark	Central	<a href="mailto:danaclark@cowib.org">danaclark@cowib.org</a>	COWIB Manager
Wes Mitchell	Green Country	<a href="mailto:wmitchell@greencountryworks.org">wmitchell@greencountryworks.org</a>	Divided by Business
Amber Cutshaw	Green Country	<a href="mailto:acutshaw@greencountryworks.org">acutshaw@greencountryworks.org</a>	Divided by Business
De'Andre Fahie	Green Country	<a href="mailto:dfahie@greencountryworks.org">dfahie@greencountryworks.org</a>	Divided by Business
Lorri Romero	Northeast	<a href="mailto:lorri.romero@northeastworkforceboard.com">lorri.romero@northeastworkforceboard.com</a>	All of Northeast
Erin Glass	South Central	<a href="mailto:Erin@SCWORKFORCEBOARD.ORG">Erin@SCWORKFORCEBOARD.ORG</a>	Caddo, Grady, McClain, & Stephens
Kelly Davis	South Central	<a href="mailto:Kelly@SCWORKFORCEBOARD.ORG">Kelly@SCWORKFORCEBOARD.ORG</a>	Tillman, Cotton, Jefferson, & Comanche
Aubre McMichael	Southern	<a href="mailto:amcmichael@swb-ok.com">amcmichael@swb-ok.com</a>	All of Southern
Mikel Robinson	Western	<a href="mailto:MikelRobinson@wowdb.org">MikelRobinson@wowdb.org</a>	Roger Mills, Dewey, Custer, Blaine, Kingfisher, Bechham, Washita, Harmon, Greer, Kiowa, Jackson
Laura Hammontree	Western	<a href="mailto:laurahammontree@wowdb.org">laurahammontree@wowdb.org</a>	Texas, Beaver, Harper, Woods, Ellis, Woodward, Major, grant, Garfield, Noble, Payne, Kay