

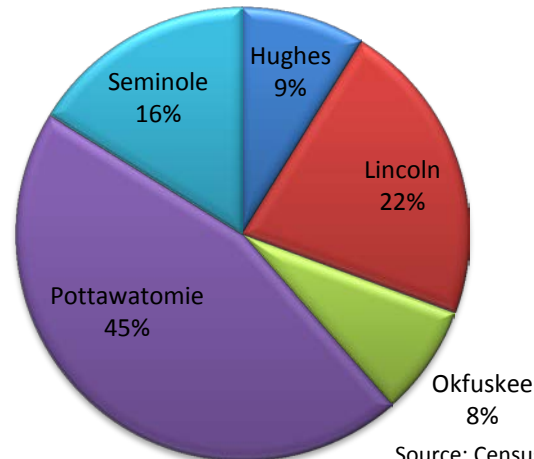
East Central Oklahoma Workforce Briefing

June 2014

The East Central Oklahoma Workforce area consists of five counties: Hughes, Lincoln, Okfuskee, Pottawatomie, and Seminole. These counties have a combined estimated Census population of 157,135. Shawnee, part of the greater Oklahoma City metro area, is the largest city in the region with an estimated population of 30,975. Although the region is located near Oklahoma City and Tulsa, as a whole it has a relatively low population.

- Pottawatomie County, part of the greater Oklahoma City Metropolitan area, is the most populous county in the region with an estimated Census population of 71,158. It also is home to the region’s largest city, Shawnee.
- Lincoln County, also part of the greater Oklahoma City Metropolitan area, is the second largest county in the region with a population of 34,351.
- Okfuskee and Hughes Counties are the smallest in the region, with an estimated population of 12,377 and 13,823 respectively.
- The region has seen limited population change since 2010. Pottawatomie County has experienced the greatest population increase in the region at 2.5%. Over the same period of time this is slightly below the state average population growth of 2.6%. Seminole and Hughes Counties have experienced a population change of -0.2% and -1.3% respectively.

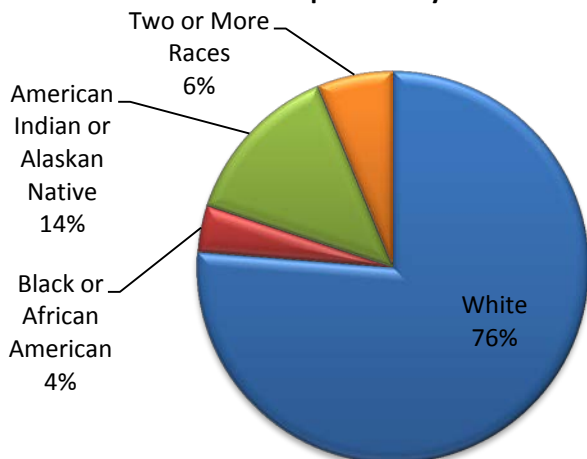
East Central Oklahoma Region Percentage of Population by County



Source: Census Quick Facts

Population Breakdown by Race:

East Central Oklahoma Region Percentage of Population by Race



Source: EMSI 2014.2

- “White alone” is the most populous racial group in the East Central Oklahoma Workforce region making up 76% of the population. This is slightly above the statewide average of 75%. In real numbers, the White population of East Central Oklahoma region is an estimated 114,860.

- With an estimated 20,529 individuals, “American Indian or Alaskan Native” is the second most populous group in the region, consisting of 14% of the population. This is greater than the statewide average of 8%.

- All other racial groups make up a relatively small percentage of the population. The “African-American” population is 4%, while “Asian” and “Native Hawaiian” make up a negligible percent of the population.

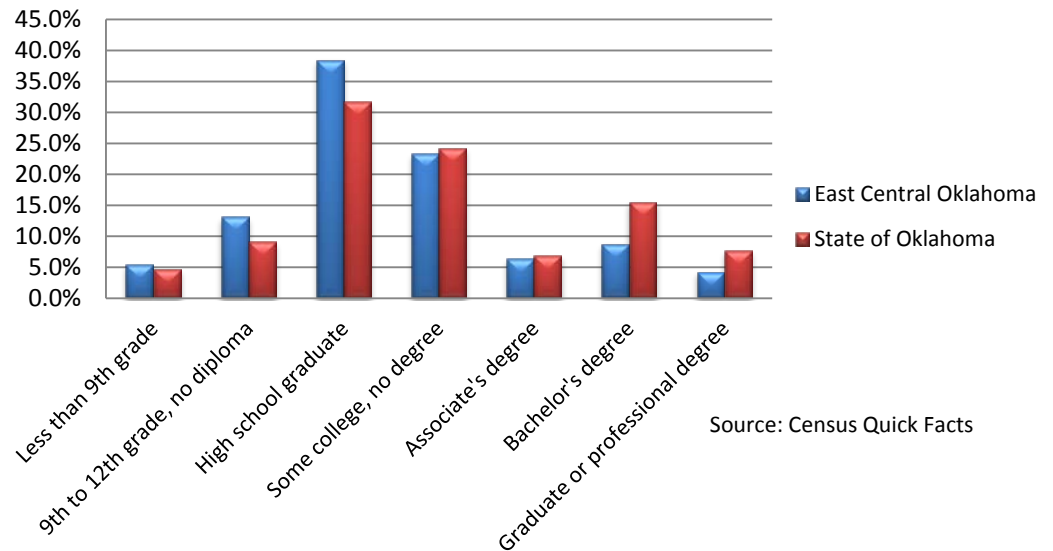
- Hispanics, which are categorized by the

Census bureau as an ethnicity, make up 4% of the population in East Central Oklahoma.

Educational Attainment in East Central Oklahoma

- 83.2% of individuals living in the East Central Oklahoma Workforce region have attained at least a high school degree. This is below the statewide average of 86.2%.
- As a whole, the East Central Oklahoma Workforce region lags behind the state averages for all categories of post-secondary education.
- It will be important for Colleges, Universities, and Career Techs to proactively reach out to prospective students in the region to make known what learning opportunities are available at various institutions. This will be an important aspect in the coming years, as the East Central region has lower than state average educational attainment in all categories.

Highest Level of Educational Attainment in East Central Oklahoma and Statewide



East Central Oklahoma Educational Assets

Colleges, Universities, and Career Techs are vital in developing the workforce of East Central Oklahoma. There are several Career Techs, Colleges, and Universities that help develop the regions workforce. These institutions help supply organizations and companies with the labor and skills necessary for today's economy.

Career Techs

There are two Career Techs in the East Central Workforce area with three locations:

- **Gordon Cooper Technology Center** (Shawnee, Seminole)
- **Wes Watkins Technology Center** (Wetumka)

Source: Oklahoma Career Tech

Colleges and Universities

There are 3 colleges and universities in the region:

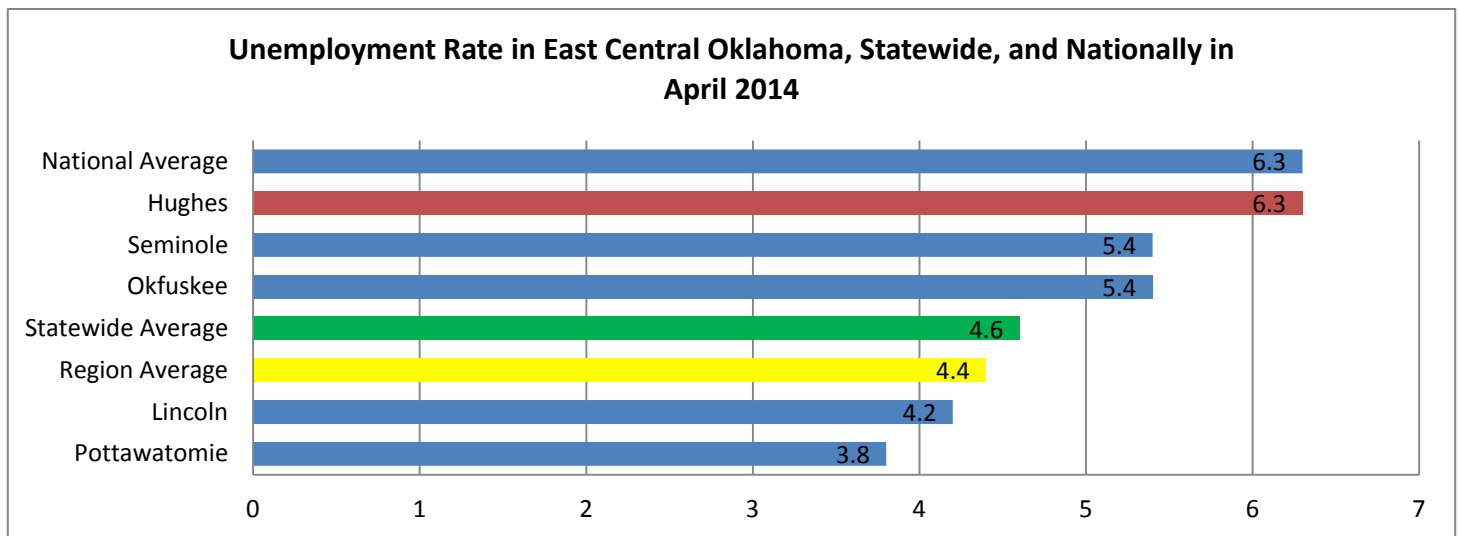
- **Oklahoma Baptist University** (Shawnee)
- **Seminole State College** (Seminole)
- **St. Gregory's University** (Shawnee)

Source: Oklahoma State Regents of Higher Education

Economic Data

Unemployment Rate

- According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the estimated region-wide unemployment rate in East Central Oklahoma for April 2014 is 4.4%.
- The region's average unemployment rate of 4.4% is slightly below the statewide unemployment rate of 4.6% and well below the national average of 6.3%.
- In real numbers, the East Central Oklahoma labor force consists of 71,702 people, with 3,175 currently unemployed.
- Pottawatomie County has the lowest unemployment rate in the region at 3.8%, while Hughes County has the highest unemployment rate at 6.3%.



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Wages by Industry

- The industry most prominently represented in the East Central Oklahoma Workforce region based on job numbers in 2013 is Healthcare and Social Assistance. Other highly represented jobs include Manufacturing, Construction, and Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction.
- All of the industries in the region have earnings lower than the state average, most notably in Mining Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction, and Professional Services.

Description	2013 Jobs	2014 Regional Earnings	2014 State Earnings
Health Care and Social Assistance	5,506	\$34,652	\$49,184
Manufacturing	4,975	\$53,675	\$64,326
Construction	2,876	\$32,985	\$47,395
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	1,817	\$68,683	\$106,998
Finance and Insurance	1,642	\$46,850	\$63,463
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	1,176	\$42,053	\$65,130
Transportation and Warehousing	1,061	\$50,385	\$61,143
Wholesale Trade	1,013	\$49,430	\$62,746