

Good News

August 2017

Oklahoma

State Headlines

Oklahoma GDP Grows In First Quarter – Oklahoman

Economic growth in Oklahoma outpaced the nation in the first quarter of 2017 as the state continues to recover from an energy-related downturn. Real gross domestic product grew by 1.9 percent in Oklahoma in the first quarter, while the nation's GDP grew by 1.2 percent. Oklahoma ranked No. 11 for GDP growth in the first quarter of this year. The state's GDP was \$188.7 billion in the first quarter, up from \$180.4 billion in the year-earlier quarter.

Indian Gaming Helps Drive Rural Oklahoma Economies – Oklahoman

Rural areas in Oklahoma are getting major economic benefits from Indian gaming, with two-thirds of the jobs created by the industry coming in rural areas. Oklahoma's 131 Indian gaming facilities directly employ about 28,000 people, with two-thirds of those in rural areas. Almost 57 percent of employees at casinos and other gaming facilities were not members of tribes. Including indirect and induced employment – the additional jobs from related industries – Indian gaming employment in Oklahoma totals 42,700 jobs.

Regional Headlines

State's Largest Cities Have Framework For New Business – Oklahoman

Oklahoma City (No.1) and Tulsa (No. 4) ranked in the top five in WalletHub's 2017 list of Best Large Cities to Start a Business. The ranking evaluated 150 cities based on metrics that truly impact the spread of innovation in a state. Measurements included number of new company starts, revenue growth, five-year survivals, industry diversity, venture investment and talent. Our performance against these measures reaffirms that the state's two largest cities are inviting to people who want to start a business.

Mercy To Build New Hospital In OKC – Oklahoman

Construction on a new six-story Mercy Hospital is expected to begin later this year beside the Oklahoma Heart Hospital South in Oklahoma City. The new hospital will be around 228,000 SF with an estimated cost of more than \$150 million. It will include 72 patient beds and space for an intensive care unit and pharmacy.

Bartlesville Industrial, Retail Development Strong – Examiner-Enterprise

Industrial and retail development was one of the positives in the fiscal year that ended June 30, and Bartlesville Development Authority President David Wood said he sees continued growth ahead. Several new facilities joined the industrial park in 2016-17, Springs Global US took possession of a 50,000 SF warehouse, and a small tract was transferred to Priority Bargains Outlet. Retail developments include the Silver Lake Village Shopping Center and an Atwood's Ranch and Home.

Tulsa Area Home Sales Rise Nearly 9 Percent – Tulsa World

Home sales in the Tulsa area jumped 8.73 percent in June compared to the same month a year ago, according to the Greater Tulsa Association of Realtors. A total of 1,457 closed listings were posted, which was 67 more than in June 2016. The average sales price rose 6.10 percent going from \$183,761 to \$194,965.

Enid City Commission Approves Downtown Hotel Plans – Enid News

Preliminary plans for construction of a Best Western GLo were unanimously approved by the Enid City Commission. GLo is a new construction boutique hotel brand described as breaking the "suburban cookie-cutter" hotel image. Final plans and specifications are expected to be done by mid-August.

Courtesy of:



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