

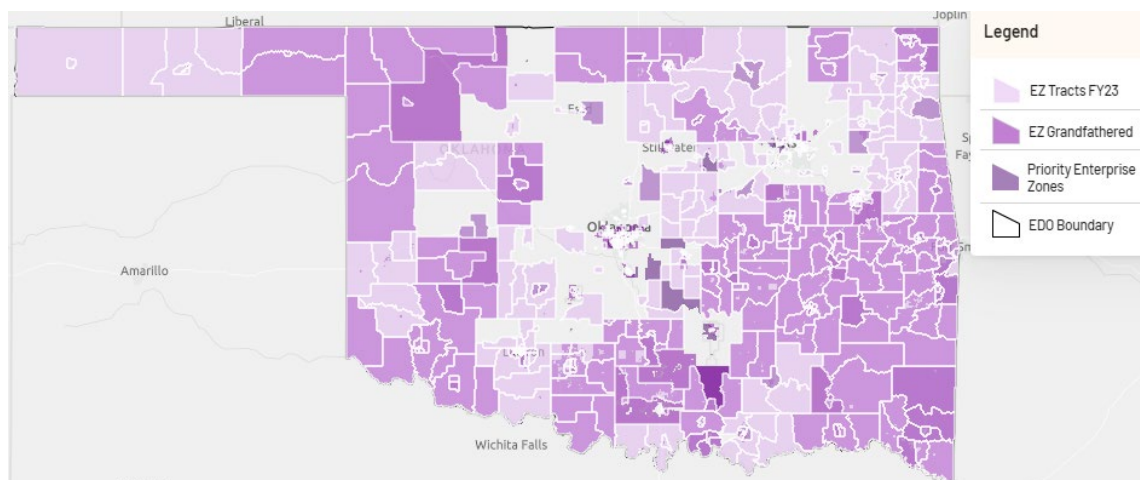
Performance of Oklahoma Enterprise Zones October 2022

Enterprise Zone Definition and Report Purpose

As defined by [62 O.S. 690.2](#), Oklahoma’s Enterprise Zones (EZs) are economically distressed areas based on declining population, lower than average per capita income and higher than average poverty rates. EZs also include areas grandfathered prior to 2000 and Priority Enterprise Zones added by the legislature in 2018.

In accordance with [62 O.S. 690.1](#), the Oklahoma Department of Commerce reviewed current EZs and prepared this report for the Governor, Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. The statute designates information within this report shall include but not be limited to the amount of tax credits granted, jobs added, if known, and the impact on unemployment rates within EZs. Data contained in this report does not allow for determination of the success or failure of policies associated with EZs.

Per statute, all Oklahoma Census Tracts are evaluated every July 1 by the Oklahoma Department of Commerce. As shown below, current FY2023 qualifying tracts are mapped along with Grandfathered and Priority EZ areas on the [LocateOK.com](#) website.



Sources and Methodology

Data contained in this report is primarily “mid-pandemic” from the U.S. Census Bureau and Bureau of Labor Statistics. FY2023 EZ tracts are primarily based on 2020 data, the most current at the time of recent annual evaluation on July 1, 2022. Oklahoma Investment Tax Credit data is the most current available from the Oklahoma Tax Commission reflecting 2019 Oklahoma Tax Returns.

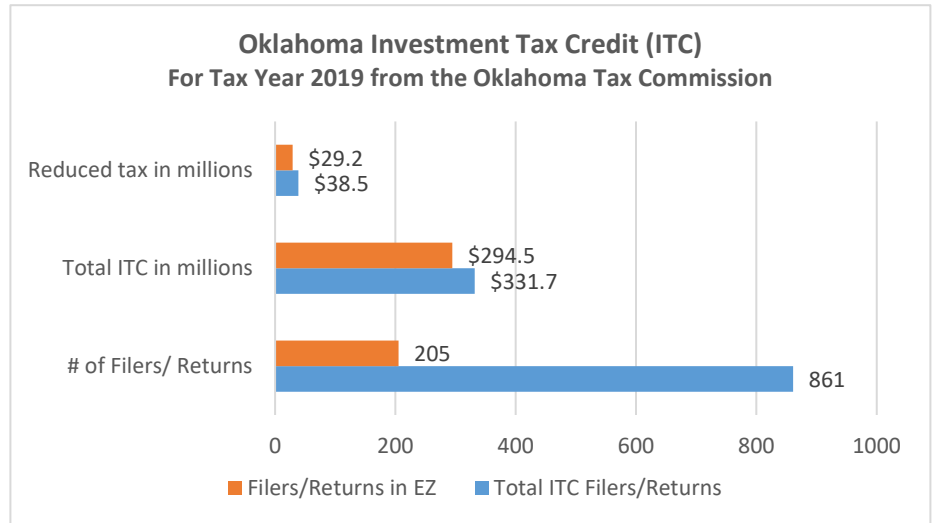
This evaluation includes all current qualifying census tracts and some previous years tracts when comparable. It does not include grandfathered EZ areas due to the fact they were created prior to 2000 in previous decennial census tracts and are not comparable. However, in some cases, current EZ tracts overlap grandfathered EZs. Additionally, Oklahoma’s Priority EZs using 2010 Census Tracts mirroring Oklahoma Federal Opportunity Zones were not evaluated but may also overlap current EZ qualifying tracts.

Oklahoma Investment Tax Credit Tax Year 2019

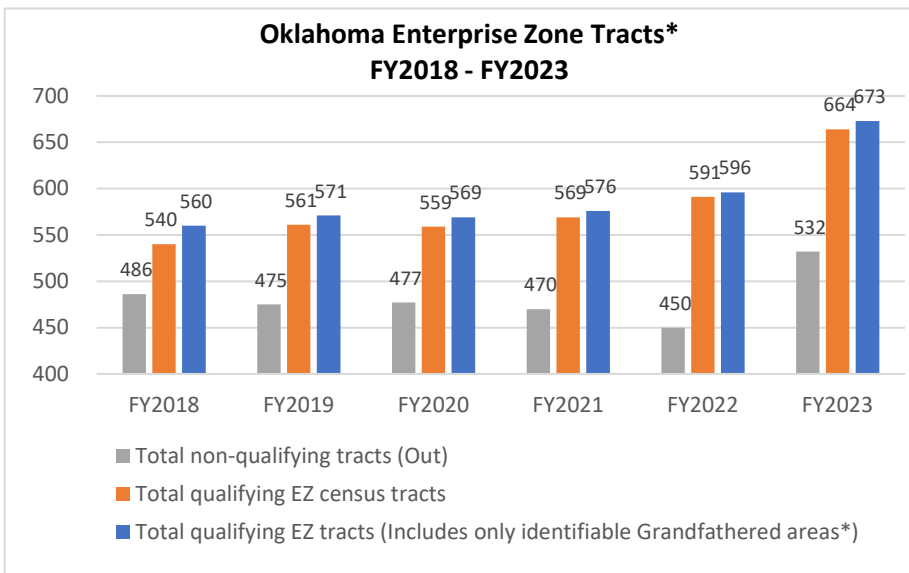
The Oklahoma Investment Tax Credit (ITC) doubles from 1% to 2% if a qualifying project location is in an EZ.

As shown in the chart on the right, 205 or 24% of the 2019 ITC filers were in an EZ.

2019 EZ filers claimed \$294.5 million or 89% of the total ITC. This reduced EZ filers tax by a total of \$29.2 million.



EZ Tract Counts FY2018 – FY2023



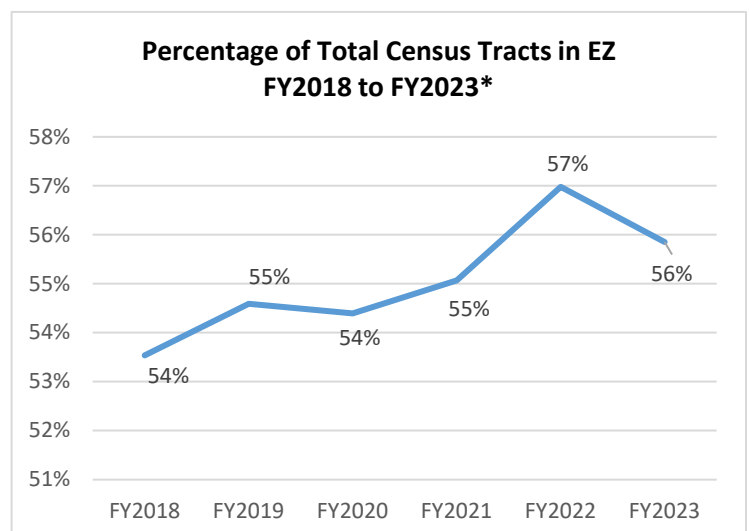
As shown in the chart on the left, beginning in FY2023, EZs were updated to 2020 Census Tracts. With this change, the total number of tracts increased by 159 from previous years.

Current FY2023 EZ tracts total 673 out of 1,205. Tracts will be reviewed again on July 1, 2023.

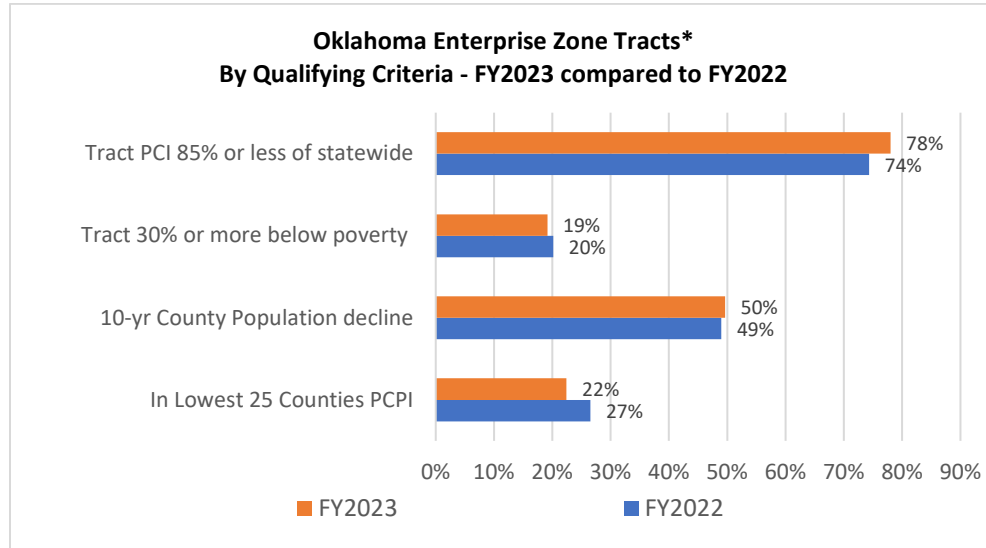
As shown in the chart on the right, FY2023 EZ tracts represent 56% of Oklahoma's 1,205 total census tracts.

From FY2018 to FY2023, the number of qualifying EZ tracts increased 2%. However, in the past year, EZ tracts decreased by 1%.

***Note:** Bottom two charts do not reflect all grandfathered and priority EZs as those were defined prior to this report and are not comparable to current census tracts. Only EZs where a 2020 tract overlap are included.

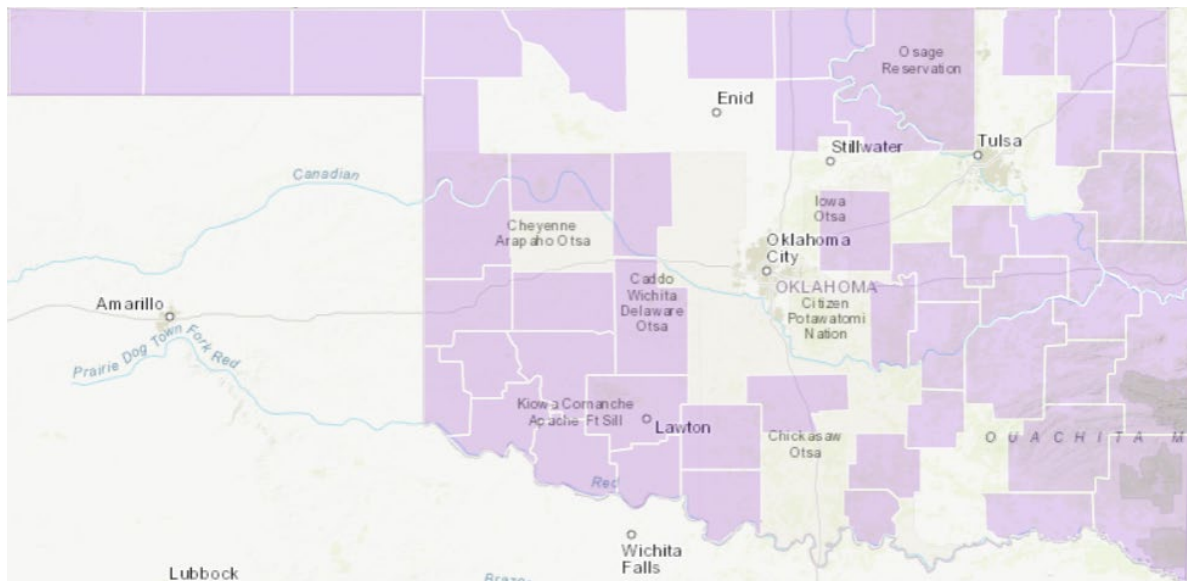


EZ Tract Qualifying Criteria



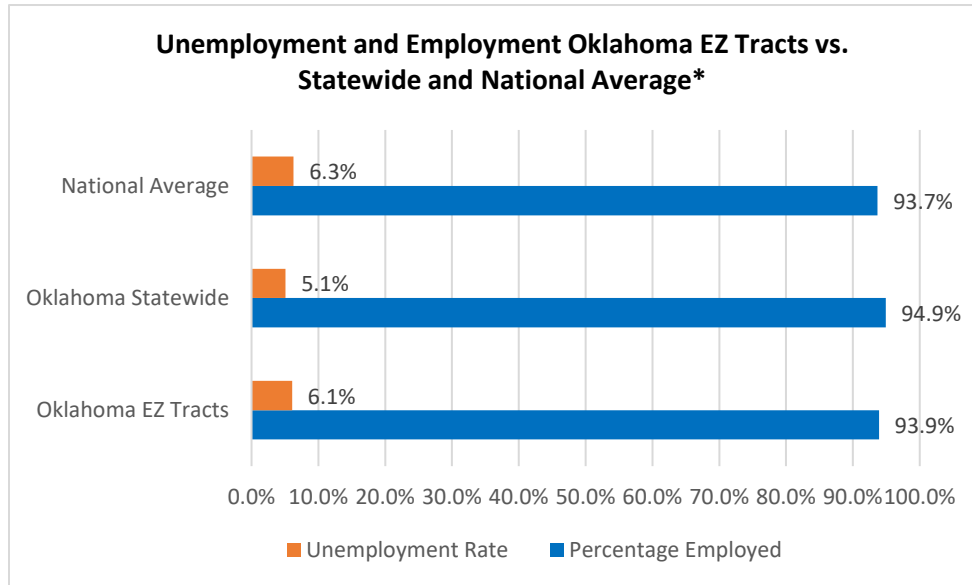
***Note:** Tracts can qualify on multiple criteria but meeting any single criteria does qualify in an EZ.

- As shown in the chart above, the largest qualifying criteria continues to be **Per Capita Income (PCI) 85% or less of statewide**.
- As shown in the chart above and depicted in the map below, **10-year county population decline is the 2nd largest criteria** for current EZs. 52 out of 77 counties experienced a 10-year population decline from 2011 to 2021. This is a net increase of 4 counties compared to FY2022.



Unemployment in FY2023 EZ Tracts

<u>FY2023 Civilian Labor Force (2020 Data (most current))</u>	<u>Oklahoma FY2023 EZ Tracts</u>
Civilian Labor Force	955,211
Employed	897,131
Unemployed	58,080
Unemployment Rate in EZs	6.1%



- As shown in the above table and chart, the unemployment rate in current EZ tracts is 6.1%. This is 1% higher than the state average, but 0.2% less than the national average of 6.3%.

***Note:** Data is from U.S. Census 2020 data. Although 2021 data was available for state and national, 2020 was the most recent at the tract level.