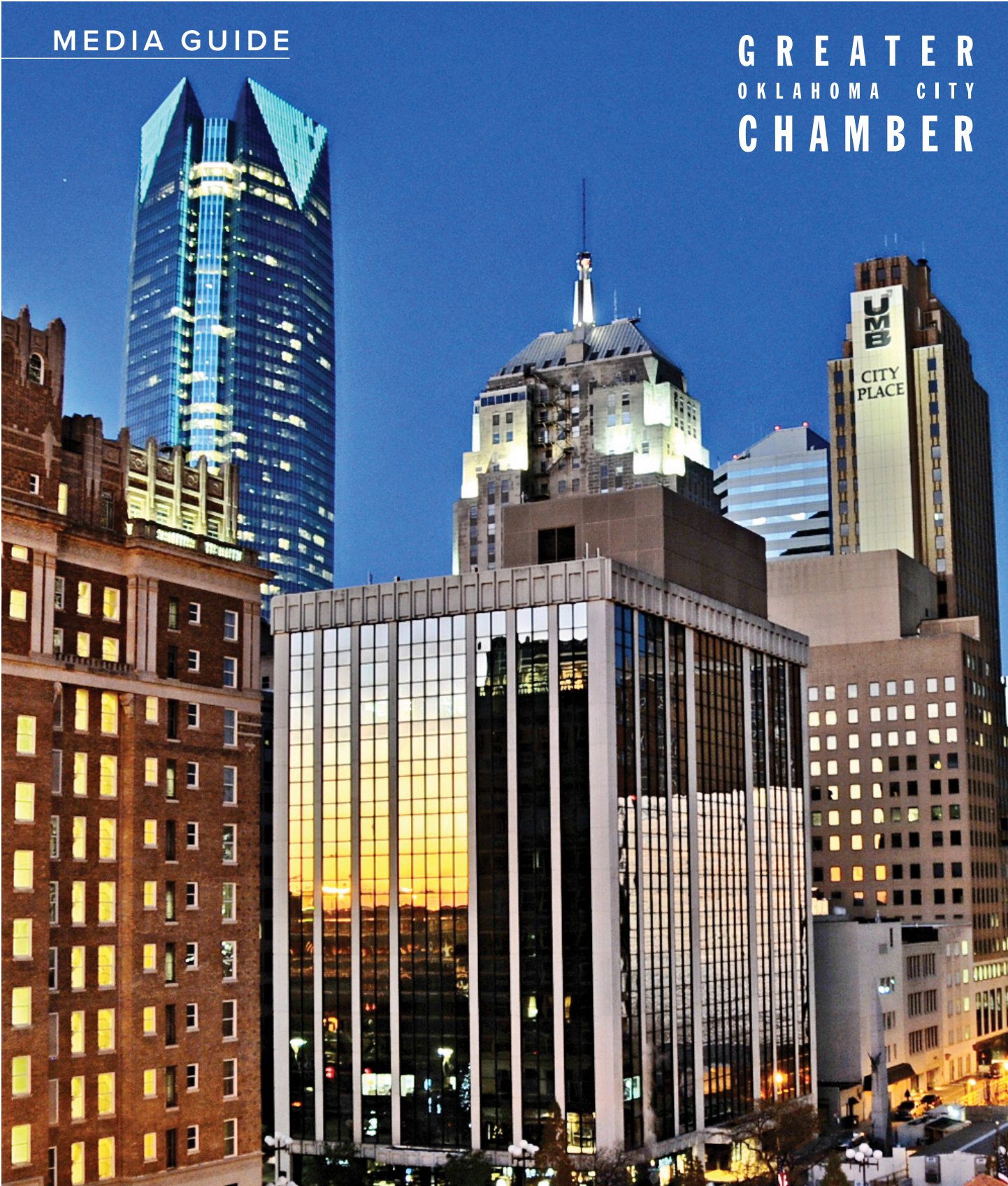


MEDIA GUIDE

GREATER
OKLAHOMA CITY
CHAMBER



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QUICK OKLAHOMA CITY FACTS

- Oklahoma City is the largest city in the State of Oklahoma, with a metro population of more than 1.2 million
- The Oklahoma City proper has a population of 649,058 residents.
- In land area, Oklahoma City is the 3rd largest in the nation.
- Oklahoma City was settled by the historic Land Run of April 22, 1889. The city's population grew to more than 10,000 in a single day.
- I-35, I-40 and I-44 all converge in Oklahoma City. The metropolitan area has 130+ miles of federal interstate and state highways.
- Oklahoma City's top three employers are the State of Oklahoma, Tinker Air Force Base and the University of Oklahoma- Norman.
- Tinker Air Force Base is the largest military air depot in the nation.
- Oklahoma City averages more than 235 days of sunshine per year
- Oklahoma City residents have voted yes to \$2.83 billion worth of investment in their city since 1993. Most of this investment surrounded the MAPS initiatives. The total value of investment projects related to MAPS, both public and private, is more than \$5 billion.
- The world's first installed parking meter was in Oklahoma City, on July 16, 1935.
- The first shopping cart was invented and used in Oklahoma City at Standard Food Markets in 1937.
- The state capitol building at 23rd and Lincoln is the only capitol in the nation with a working oil well on its grounds.
- Oklahoma means "Land of the Red People" in the Choctaw Language.
- Oklahoma was admitted to the Union on November 16, 1907 as the 46th state
- Oklahoma City is equidistant from Los Angeles and New York, and within 500 miles of 53 million people
- Oklahoma's state motto is Labor Omnia Vincit - Labor Conquers All Things

OKLAHOMA CITY'S NATIVE SONS AND DAUGHTERS



- Johnny Bench - Baseball player
- Sam Bradford - NFL athlete
- Charlie Christian - Jazz musician
- Wayne Coyne - Lead singer of The Flaming Lips
- Ralph Ellison - Author
- Blake Griffin - NBA athlete
- Mat Hoffman - BMX athlete
- James Marsden - Actor
- Bobby Mercer - Baseball player
- Megan Mullaly - Actress
- Wes Welker - NFL athlete

BACKGROUND ON OKLAHOMA CITY

Born at the sound of a gunshot, Oklahoma City was settled by a historic land run involving 10,000 homesteaders on April 22, 1889. Located equidistant from both coasts, Oklahoma City has long been hailed as Mid-America's International Connection. The convergence of I-35, I-40 and I-44 as well as the development of Tinker Air Force Base made Oklahoma City into a major interchange on the interstate highway

system – with 130-plus miles of federal interstate and state highways. And with the central location of the nation's major highway arteries, Oklahoma City became a principal distribution center within the state and the southwest region. Efficient transportation has been the cornerstone in the overall planning of Oklahoma City. As a result, getting to any part of the city (622.5 square miles!) takes about 20 minutes or less.



City Development: Metropolitan Area Projects

During the 1970s and 80s, Oklahoma witnessed a decline in the inner-city as residents were choosing to live in the suburbs. For that reason, Metropolitan Area Projects (MAPS) was passed in 1993. Through this initiative, Oklahoma City has succeeded in developing and renovating a series of nine public projects in the downtown core. These included renovations to the Convention Center, Civic Center Music Hall and Oklahoma City fairgrounds, development of the Bricktown Ballpark, Bricktown Canal, Ford Center, Library, Spirit Trolley System, and the Oklahoma River and recreational facilities.

After the success of the original MAPS program, Oklahoma City citizens were ready to take the city's transformation a step further. In November 2001, voters passed a combination sales tax and bond initiative known as MAPS (Metropolitan Area Projects) for Kids. This temporary sales tax was collected for seven years, with 70 percent disbursed to the Oklahoma City School District and 30 percent to the Suburban School Districts.

In late 2009, Oklahoma City leadership brought another comprehensive city improvement package to voters with a list of eight new projects.

With a projected cost of \$777 million, Oklahoma City voters agreed and voted "yes" to the extension of an existing one-cent sales tax to fund these projects. Known as MAPS 3, this program will build a new 70-acre downtown park, new convention center, downtown modern transit, more than 50 miles of biking and walking trails, improvements to the Oklahoma River and State Fairgrounds and several senior health and wellness centers. More importantly, MAPS 3 will continue to position Oklahoma City as a hub for sports, recreation, learning, cultural and convention facilities. The tax began on April 1, 2010, and will be collected for seven years and nine months.

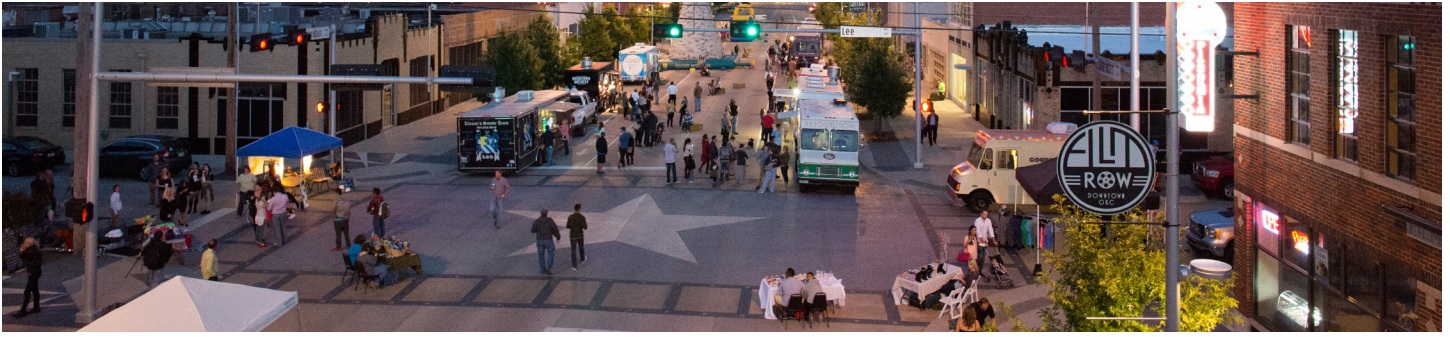
OKLAHOMA CITY INFORMATION

Date Founded	1889
Date Incorporated	1907
Population	649,058
Land Area	621 sq. miles
Elevation	1,285 ft. above sea level
Average Annual Precipitation	36.5 inches per year
Average January Temperature	50 degrees Fahrenheit (high) 29 degrees Fahrenheit (low)
Average July Temperature	94 degrees Fahrenheit (high) 72 degrees Fahrenheit (low)
Average Sunshine Days	More than 235 days per year
Major Industries	Oil and gas, aviation and health care

OKLAHOMA CITY HOTELS

LOCATION	NUMBER OF HOTELS	NUMBER OF ROOMS
Central Downtown	15	2,528
Northeast	21	1,359
Northwest	48	5,150
Southeast	21	1,572
Southwest/Airport	61	6,060
Oklahoma City Total	166	16,666

OKLAHOMA CITY ACCOLADES



#1

- Place to Start a Business (WalletHub, May 2018)
- City with high salary and low cost of living (GoBankingRates, March 2018)
- Place in the Nation to Turn a House into a Rental (Zillow, August 2014)
- Home Value Increases since Pre-Recession Highs of 2007 – (Wall Street Journal, December 2013)

#2

- Best Wind Capacity (American Wind Energy Association, March 2018)
- Best Cities to Open a Coffee Shop (Frontier Business, April 2018)
- Lowest Cost of Living Cities over 500,000 population (COLI Report, February 2018)
- Top 50 Military Friendly Cities (MilitaryFriendly.com, June 2013)
- Small Businesses (The Business Journal, February 2013)

#4

- Leading Location for Business (Area Development Magazine, April 2014)
- Most Aspirational City (The Daily Beast, July 2013)
- Fastest Growing Economies in the U.S. (U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, June 2014)

#5

- Best Cities to Work for a Small Business (Wallet Hub, May 2014)
- Middle Class Job Creation (New Geography, October 2013)
- Best Cities for Young Entrepreneurs (Nerd Wallet, October 2013)
- Best Cities to Start a Business (Nerd Wallet, April 2013)

#7

- Best Cities for Aspiring Millennial Homeowners (GoBankingRates March 2018)
- Best Metros for Small Business (Business Journals, April 2014)
- Best Cities to Invest in Housing (Forbes, December 2013)

G R E A T E R
O K L A H O M A C I T Y
C H A M B E R

ACCOLADES CONTINUED

#8

Best U.S. City for Solar Power (Google, January 2018)
Employment Satisfaction (Fast Company, June 2014)
Most Economic Momentum (Complex, December 2013)

#9

- Best Places to Go 2018 (Money, April 2018)
 - Incredible Solo Vacations to Take in the South (Southern Living, March 2018)
 - Best State to Make a Living (Forbes, June 2014)
 - Fastest Growing Cities in America (CNN Money, March 2014)
 - Most Affordable City (Forbes, March 2014)
 - Best City for Job Seekers (Nerd Wallet, January 2014)
-

#10

- Best Cities for New Small Businesses (LendingTree, March 2018)
 - Best City to Drive a Car (Nerd Wallet, June 2014)
 - Where Workers in their Prime are Moving (Forbes, January 2014)
-

#11

- Best Big Cities for New College Grads (January 2018)
 - Cities Where Your Paycheck Goes the Furthest (GOBankingRates April 2018)
-

#12

- Best Cities to Start a Business (WalletHub, March 2014)
- "Brainiest" Metro (The Atlantic Cities, July 2013)
- Fastest Growing Cities in the U.S. (Forbes, April 2013)

FUN FACTS

Oklahoma City is the **Horse Show Capital of the World**.

The **Boathouse District** along the Oklahoma River is the official U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Training Site for rowing and canoe/kayak.

The Oklahoma National Stockyards is the world's largest stocker and feeder cattle operation.

Oklahoma City is home to the Museum of Osteology which is the only museum of its kind displaying hundreds of skulls and skeletons from all corners of the world.

The **National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum** holds the largest collection of Western art and artifacts.

H&8th Night Market is a pet- and family-friendly food truck festival on the last Friday of the month from March through September in Oklahoma City's thriving **Midtown district**. The event is free to the public and draws crowds of between 30,000-40,000 each month, making it unofficially the largest monthly food truck event in the U.S. based on attendance.

The Oklahoma City Zoo is ranked the third **best zoo** for kids in the nation according to Child Magazine and was a top five finalist in Microsoft's "America's Favorite Zoo" contest.

ESPN ranked the **Oklahoma City Thunder** as no. 1 for fan appreciation and team community commitment.

Green Goodies, a popular cupcake , frozen treats, coffee and more restaurant, won the Food Network's **Cupcake Wars** in 2013.

Cattlemen's Steakhouse, Oklahoma's oldest continually operated restaurant, in Stockyard City has been in OKC since 1910 and has served steak to President George Bush (while he was President), John Wayne, Ronald Regan and Gene Autry. Cattlemen's was also featured in Diners, Drive-In's and Dives on the Food Network and the Travel Channel's Man vs. Food.

The Boathouse District has the world's tallest adventure course and the tallest stainless steel slide in America.

The **Chickasaw Bricktown Baseball stadium** is made up of 480,000 bricks to the exterior of the ballpark and if those brick were stacked, they would reach 23 miles into the sky.

