



Beckham

Named for Kentucky Governor John C. W. Beckham at the suggestion of a delegate to the Oklahoma Constitutional Convention, Beckham County was formed at statehood from portions of Greer and Roger Mills counties and is the site of the Oklahoma Traveler Information Center for persons entering Oklahoma on Interstate 40 from Texas.

Sayre, the county seat, was named for Robert H. Sayre, a stockholder in the railroad constructed through Sayre at the time of its founding. The city is the home of Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Sayre campus.

Agriculture, oil and gas are the major industries of the county. Merrick 14 Ranch, located east of Sayre, has produced world champion quarterhorses and Elk City is the host of the Rodeo of Champions held each September. For more information, call the county clerk's office at 580/928-3383.

Districts

County Officials

Cong. 3	Court Clerk	Linda Brown (D)	Sayre
St. Sen. 26,38	Clerk	Ginger Pope (D)	Sayre
St. Rep. 60	Sheriff	Scott Jay (D)	Elk City
D.A. 2	Treasurer	Karletta Bilbrey (D)	Sayre
Ct. of Appeals 6	Assessor	Loretta Hall (D)	Elk City
Ct. of Crim. Appeals... 5	Election Brd. Sec.	Jeannette B. Neff (D)	Sayre
Supreme Ct. Jud. 4	Dist. 1 Comm.	Marvin Stewart (D)	Sayre
N.W. Jud. Adm. 2	Dist. 2 Comm.	Carl Simon (D)	Elk City
	Dist. 3 Comm.	Gary Mayfield (D)	Erick

Property Valuations

	2003-2004 Assessment	2004-2005 Assessment	Increase or Decrease
Real Estate and Improvement	\$60,431,128	\$62,957,534	\$2,526,406
Personal Subject to Tax	\$33,560,785	\$43,546,177	\$9,985,392
Total Locally Assessed	\$93,991,913	\$106,503,711	\$12,511,798
Homestead Exemptions Allowed	\$4,150,959	\$4,140,791	(\$10,168)
Net Assessed Locally	\$89,840,954	\$102,362,920	\$12,521,966
Public Service Assessment	\$24,189,936	\$29,367,748	\$5,177,812
Net Assessed Valuation	\$114,030,890	\$131,730,668	\$17,699,778

County Seat—Sayre (Pop. 4,221) 2003 Estimate

Area (Land & Water)—904.14 square miles

Per Capita Income (2003)—\$21,198 (Ranks 53rd of 77 counties)

Population Stats (2000)—Fem.—9,445, Male—10,354 • **Ethnicity**—Wh.—16,760; Bl.—1,058; Am. Ind.—481; As.—81, Other—7; Pacific Is.—3; Two or more races—330; Hisp.—1,079

Births (2003)—296 • **Deaths (2003)**—254

Unemployment Rate (2003)—2.7%

Labor Force (2003)—10,890

Number of Establishments (2002)—651

Number of Manufacturers (2002)—22

Public Assistance Payments (FY2004)—\$512,781
TANF—\$231,442 • Supplements—Aged—\$71,477; Blind—\$3,367; Disabled—\$208,495

Vehicle Registration (2004)—Automobiles—15,959; Farm Trucks—2,800; Comm., Trucks, Tractors, Trailers—2024; Motor Homes and Travel Trailers—800; Motorcycles—670; Manufactured Homes—51; Tax Exempt Licenses—60; Boats—1,802

Institutions of Higher Learning—Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Sayre

Crime Incidents (2003)—Murder—2; Rape—8; Robbery—2; Fel. Assault—18; Breaking and Entering—57; Larceny—326; Motor Vehicle Theft—19; Arson—6 • Total Crime Index—432; Crime Rate per 1,000—21.63

Farms (2002)—1,012 • **Land in Farms (2002)**—533,250

County Population

1907 (Okla. Terr.)	17,758
1910	19,699
1920	18,989
1930	28,991
1940	22,169
1950	21,627
1960	17,782
1970	15,754
1980	19,243
1990	18,812
2000	19,799
2004 Estimate	19,347

Major Stream Systems—North Fork of Red River, Elm Fork of Red River, and Washita River

Museums and Historic Sites—Old Town Museum at Elk City, RS & K Railroad Museum at Sayre, and the Shortgrass Country Museum at Sayre

Minerals—oil and gas

