



United Way
of Payne County



COMMUNITY STATUS REPORT

PUBLICATION YEAR 2023
VOLUME 1

FOR SEVENTY YEARS, UNITED WAY OF PAYNE COUNTY HAS BROUGHT TOGETHER INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF PEOPLE IN PAYNE COUNTY.

WITH A VISION TO CREATE COMMUNITIES WHERE INDIVIDUALS THRIVE AND NEIGHBORS CARE, UNITED WAY OF PAYNE COUNTY IS A “COLLECTIVE IMPACT” ORGANIZATION. BY FOCUSING ON EXTENSIVE COLLABORATION WITH LOCAL NONPROFITS, BUSINESSES, ELECTED OFFICIALS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS, WE CAN IMPLEMENT SOLUTIONS TO SOME OF OUR COMMUNITY’S MOST PERVASIVE CHALLENGES. OUR HOPE IS THAT THE PUBLICATION OF THIS NEW COMMUNITY STATUS REPORT WILL HIGHLIGHT THE PROGRESS THAT HAS BEEN MADE IN OUR COMMUNITY, ALONG WITH THE CHALLENGES STILL AHEAD OF US.

This report provides information on county demographics, education, safety, health, economics, and other topics aimed at bringing awareness to the many needs of those living in six different cities and towns. By identifying and understanding these underlying issues and problems we begin work towards building stronger communities for all. Data is based on the most recent year of information publicly available at the time of collection.

United Way of Payne County has been on the forefront of driving lasting change and community collaboration. This work only continues to grow thanks to the efforts of its partner agencies, community partners, engaged donors and other stakeholders. With your support, we will continue our mission of uniting resources to improve the lives of individuals in Payne County.

OUR FOCUS AREAS

United Way of Payne County does this by investing donated dollars and volunteer time in 22 nonprofit partner agencies and projects that focus on these areas:



Expanding Education

- Literacy
- Academic Achievement
- Information & Referrals
- Character Building
- Community Engagement



Improving Health & Safety

- Access to Safe Shelter
- Access to Care
- Prevention
- Mental Health
- Physical Health
- Quality of Life



Reducing Poverty

- Rent/Utility Assistance
- Financial Education
- Basic Needs Support
- Workforce Development
- Life Skills Development



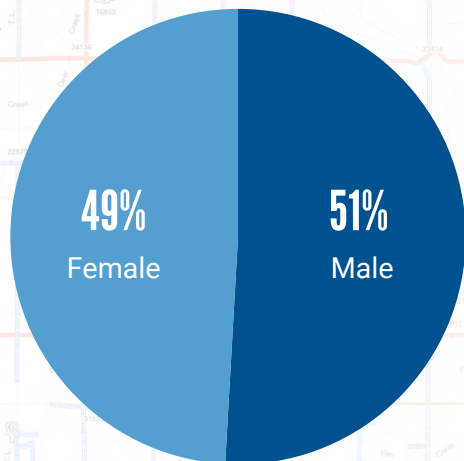
COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

Payne County is the 8th largest county in Oklahoma. The 2022 United States Census Bureau estimated Payne County's population at 82,794. Payne County has seen a growth of 7% since the 2010 census.

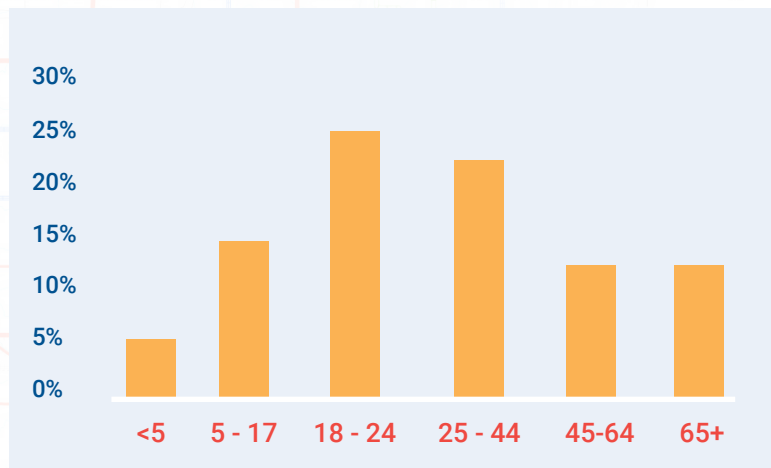


The largest ethnic groups in Payne County are White (79.5%), Two+ Races (6.1%), Asian (4.4%), Black or African American (4.3%) and American Indian and Alaska Native (5.6%). As of 2022, 6.9% of Payne County residents were born outside of the country, this is lower than the national average of 13.6%.

Gender



Age Distribution



Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment Rate
39,510	38,510	2.5%

According to the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission, as of May 2023 Payne County has an unemployment rate of 2.5%. Low unemployment indicates a very tight labor market for employers in Payne County which can stifle opportunities for economic growth. For June 2022, Oklahoma Works provided a labor force participation rate of 55% for Payne County, below the state average of 61%. There is an opportunity to improve the percentage of individuals who are eligible to work in the county and are not participating in the workforce for one reason or another.

POVERTY AND ECONOMIC MOBILITY

Through United Way, communities tackle tough challenges and work with private, public, and nonprofit partners to boost education, economic mobility, and health resources.

To understand how economic factors can influence economic mobility and likelihood of poverty, we highlighted how different economic factors impact a family of one adult and two children which represents a household that most often utilizes United Way of Payne County partners.

Economic mobility describes how someone's economic well-being changes over time. It can refer to changes in economic outcomes for groups of people or generations over time. Most often, economic mobility looks at how someone's income changes over their lifetime. When someone's income improves over their life, that person is considered upwardly mobile. This means their economic situation is getting better over the course of their life. By contrast, when someone's income stays flat or decreases over their life, that person is considered downwardly mobile. Economic mobility is often more useful when scaled to summarize the overall opportunity in a neighborhood, city, or state.



Median Household Income

According to the US Census Bureau, 20.7% of the population in Payne County live in poverty. It is estimated that 2,505 (16.5%) children under that age of 18 are living in poverty.

Payne County, Oklahoma

Oklahoma



Median household income
\$43,686

Median household income
\$56,956



WHAT DOES IT COST TO LIVE IN PAYNE COUNTY?

	1 ADULT				2 ADULTS (1 WORKING)				2 ADULTS (BOTH WORKING)			
	0 Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	0 Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	0 Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children
Living Wage	\$15.81	\$33.23	\$42.50	\$55.91	\$25.91	\$32.13	\$37.06	\$41.18	\$12.95	\$18.57	\$23.55	\$28.11
Poverty Wage	\$6.53	\$8.80	\$11.07	\$13.34	\$8.80	\$11.07	\$13.34	\$15.61	\$4.40	\$5.54	\$6.67	\$7.81
Minimum Wage	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25



Case Study: For 1 adult and 2 children it takes a living wage of \$42.50/hr., or a salary of approximately \$88,000 to live comfortably in Payne County. However the average household income is almost half that amount at \$43,686 or \$21/hr.

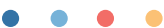
	1 ADULT				2 ADULTS (1 WORKING)				2 ADULTS (BOTH WORKING)			
	0 Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	0 Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	0 Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children
Food	\$3,926	\$5,795	\$8,707	\$11,540	\$7,198	\$8,966	\$11,564	\$14,071	\$7,198	\$8,966	\$11,564	\$14,071
Child Care	\$0	\$8,366	\$16,731	\$25,097	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,366	\$16,731	\$25,097
Medical	\$2,991	\$10,128	\$10,138	\$10,063	\$7,371	\$10,138	\$10,063	\$10,216	\$7,371	\$10,138	\$10,063	\$10,216
Housing	\$8,402	\$10,545	\$10,545	\$14,524	\$8,882	\$10,545	\$10,545	\$14,524	\$8,882	\$10,545	\$10,545	\$14,524
Transportation	\$5,477	\$9,851	\$12,045	\$14,484	\$9,851	\$12,045	\$14,484	\$15,530	\$9,851	\$12,045	\$14,484	\$15,530
Civic	\$3,074	\$6,107	\$6,821	\$9,300	\$6,107	\$6,821	\$9,300	\$7,395	\$6,107	\$6,821	\$9,300	\$7,395
Other	\$4,253	\$7,420	\$8,755	\$9,610	\$7,420	\$8,755	\$9,610	\$10,749	\$7,420	\$8,755	\$9,610	\$10,749
Required annual income after taxes	\$28,254	\$58,343	\$73,873	\$94,750	\$46,960	\$57,402	\$65,697	\$72,617	\$46,960	\$65,768	\$82,428	\$97,714
Annual taxes	\$4,632	\$10,784	\$14,536	\$21,550	\$6,933	\$9,430	\$11,398	\$13,027	\$6,933	\$11,492	\$15,522	\$19,214
Required annual income before taxes	\$32,885	\$69,127	\$88,409	\$116,300	\$53,893	\$66,833	\$77,095	\$85,644	\$53,893	\$77,261	\$97,950	\$116,927

(Source: livingwage.mit.edu)

Housing

On average, an individual needs an hourly wage of \$16.46 to afford a two-bedroom apartment in Payne County. The average wage of renters in the county is \$11.34 per hour. Payne County is one of the top five most expensive areas for housing in the state. In 2021, 22.7% of the population was living with severe housing problems in Payne County. From 2014 to 2021, the indicator grew by 2.7% (National Low Income Housing Coalition)

United Way Partners



Food Insecurity

The Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma reports that 13,150 people live with hunger in Payne County. This is a food insecurity rate of 16.1% in comparison to 14.6% for Oklahoma and 10.5% in the United States. Of those living with food insecurity 17.5% are children under the age of 18.

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Access to Affordable Childcare

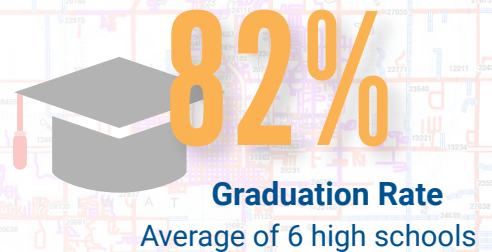
The federal definition of affordable child care costs 7% or less of annual household income. Based on data from MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), **childcare in Payne County is 12% (\$8,336) of annual income**. According to the 2021 Payne County Health Department 7.43% of respondents for the Community Needs Assessment indicated access to affordable childcare is a vital need.

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EDUCATION

For the 2023 school year, there are 26 public schools serving 9,965 students in Payne County (there are two private schools, serving 173 students). 98% of all K-12 students in Payne County are educated in public schools compared to the OK state average of 95%.



Research shows growing up in poverty is one of the greatest threats to healthy childhood development. "It increases the likelihood that a child will be exposed to factors that can impair brain development and lead to poor academic, cognitive, and health outcomes." (Kids Count)

- 16% of students within the education system of Payne County are considered disabled
- 59% of students within the education systems of Payne County are considered economically disadvantaged

Reading Proficiency

A recent national study commissioned by the Annie E. Casey Foundation shows that students who do not read proficiently by third grade are four times more likely to leave high school without a diploma than proficient readers. It is considered a critical measure for high school graduation which leads to later success in life. Poverty compounds the problem. Students who have lived in poverty are three times more likely to drop out or fail to graduate on time than their more affluent peers.

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The following chart highlights the 2022 4th grade reading and math proficiency levels across several of the public-school districts in Payne County compared to the Oklahoma and national levels. In many cases, Payne County school districts have lower proficiency levels compared to the state, and when looking at the national proficiency levels, all districts with the exception of Stillwater are lower.

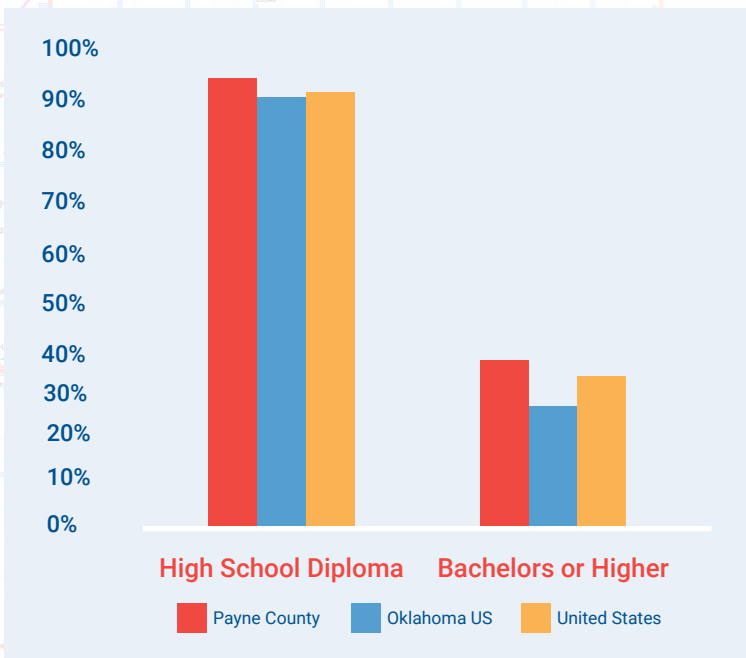
	School District					
	Stillwater	Perkins-Tyron	Cushing	Yale	Oklahoma	National
Elementary Average Reading Proficiency	35%	22%	23%	22%	24%	32%
Elementary Average Math Proficiency	35%	25%	33%	24%	27%	35%

www.publicschoolreview.com

Adult Education and Literacy

Even with a high level of education attainment among adults in Payne County, there are still gaps that create risks around literacy issues for adults.

Educational Attainment



Payne County Literacy

- 2.3% of the adult population with less than 9th grade education
- 6.0% of 18-24 year-olds with no high school diploma
- 5.0% of adults over age 25 with no high school diploma
- 5.5% with 9th - 12th education
- 2.3% are unable to read third grade level books, a newspaper, job applications, prescription labels and road signs



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HEALTH

Many factors influence how well and how long we live, from our access to affordable housing or well-paying jobs to opportunities for a good education for children. The Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) measures health outcomes and breaks them down into specific categories of prevalent data related to quality of life and mortality.

The Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) show the following outcomes trend data for Payne County. This data shows that the three biggest areas of opportunity for improvement in Payne County are binge drinking prevalence, minimal fruit consumption prevalence, and mental health.

Latest Health Outcomes for Payne County				
	2020	Trends (2016-2020)	Status	Oklahoma
Smoking Prevalence	18.60%			19.10%
COPD*/Emphysema/Chronic Bronchitis Prevalence	5.60%			8.50%
Binge Drinking Prevalence	19.70%			11.60%
Obesity Prevalence	34.00%			36.40%
Physical Activity (PA) Prevalence (any/last 30 days)	79.70%			71.40%
Aerobic PA Prevalence (150 mins/week)	41.10%			37.30%
Minimal Vegetable Consumption Prevalence^	21.70%			21.50%
Minimal Fruit Consumption Prevalence^	52.00%			48.40%
Depression Prevalence	23.20%			22.90%
Asthma Prevalence	11.10%			10.80%
Diabetes Prevalence	8.70%			13.00%
Hypertension Prevalence	31.00%			51.60%
Health Care Coverage Prevalence	86.90%			84.20%
Personal Doctor Prevalence	76.80%			70.20%
Physical Health Not Good (14+ days/last 30 days)	9.50%			12.70%
Mental Health Not Good (14+ days/last 30 days)	16.70%			15.90%
Mortality Data				
Cardiovascular Disease Age-Adjusted Death Rate	248.9			299.8
Cancer Age-Adjusted Death Rate	161.8			170.7

Legend



Better than state outcome



± 0.5 from state outcome



Worse than state outcome



Access to Healthcare

Accessible healthcare is a first step to ensuring the overall wellness of individuals and families. Access to affordable healthcare and affordable insurance helps prevent chronic diseases and disabilities, improves quality of life and reduces the likelihood of premature death.

While progress has been made in Payne County, there still remains a vulnerable portion of our residents that need access to affordable insurance and healthcare.

	Payne	Oklahoma
Insured (health insurance) (2021)	86.3%	84%
Uninsured (health insurance) (2021)	11.9%	14%

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SAFETY

Index Crimes in Oklahoma

In 2020, Oklahoma law enforcement agencies reported 123,194 Index Crimes (Murder, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny (Theft), and Motor Vehicle Theft), a decrease of 2.5% from 2019 and a decrease of 5.2% compared to 2018. The largest increase (6.6%) in Index Crimes reported in 2020 occurred for the Violent Crime Category (Murder, Rape, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault). However, Violent Crime reported in 2020 was 3.8% lower than that reported in 2018.

By comparison, Payne County has seen an increase of 8.3% in Index Crimes from 2019 and 11.2% from 2018. The largest percentage increase of Index Crimes reported in 2020 occurred for the violent crime category at 10.3%. The non-violent crime category still showed significant increase at 8.0% over 2019.

Index Crimes Comparison for Payne County

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Murder	3	1	6	0
Rape	52	79	63	70
Robbery	11	15	11	13
Aggravated Assault	155	176	144	164
Burglary	428	378	352	394
Larceny	1,464	1,259	1,390	1,454
Motor Vehicle Theft	130	144	130	178
Arson	21	10	21	19
Total	2,264	2,062	2,117	2,292

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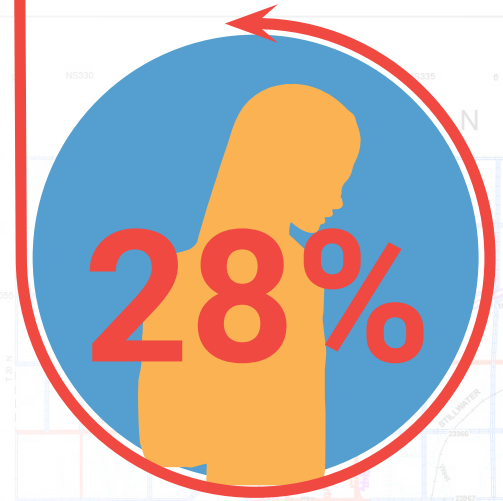
Child Abuse and Neglect

For fiscal year 21 (2020-21), OKDHS Child Welfare Services reports there were 996 child abuse investigations with 279 substantiated in Payne County. This is a 28% substantiated rate and one of the highest in the state. Of the unsubstantiated cases there were 37 which failed to cooperate and 26 of which the families were unable to be located. One item to note is that the 279 substantiated cases reflect a duplicated count of children substantiated to be victims of child abuse or neglect. This is not the number of individual children impacted.

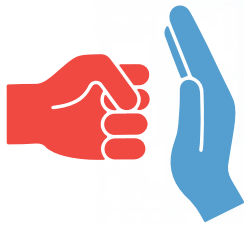
United Way Partners



FY 2021 28% increase in reports of child abuse



64% of calls to the Wings of Hope crisis line in 2022 were reports of intimate partner violence.



Domestic Violence

According to World Population Review, about 49.1% of Oklahoma women and 40.7% of Oklahoma men experience domestic violence in their lifetimes, including intimate partner physical violence, intimate partner rape, or intimate partner stalking. This is one of the highest in the United States. Oklahoma ranks third in the U.S. for the number of women killed by men in single-victim, single-offender homicides.

In Oklahoma, which consistently ranks among states with the highest rates of women killed by men, 2020 produced a record number of domestic violence reports: 27,089 abuses perpetrated by family members, current or former significant others and roommates were reported to Oklahoma law enforcement agencies, including murder, sex crimes, threats and assaults, according to a crime report from the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation. That was the highest number in at least 20 years. **That same year, Payne County averaged 1 incident for every 200 people.** In 2022, Wings of Hope Family Crisis Services had over 700 calls to their crisis line, with over 450 of the 700 clients reporting intimate partner violence.

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WHAT DOES THIS TELL US?

This report and the data gathered demonstrates that living in poverty has a wide range of negative impacts on the overall well-being of individuals and families.

Key Takeaways:

- Access to affordable housing continues to be a key issue in Payne County with nearly 23% of the population living with severe housing problems.
- Rising trends in low reading proficiency among children can lead to further effects on adult literacy and poor educational attainment.
- Crimes have risen year over year in Payne County with violent crimes as the largest category increase in 2020.
- Payne County continues to be one of the highest counties in the state for children substantiated to be victims of child abuse or neglect.
- Domestic violence in Payne County, like the state, is a significant problem with Wings of Hope receiving over 700 calls in 2022.

These are prevalent challenges in our community and making significant improvements will require extensive collaboration, innovation, and integrated solutions by community partners, members, and leaders.

WHAT DO WE DO WITH THIS?

United Way of Payne County is committed to:

OUR MISSION

Improve lives of individuals in Payne County by uniting resources.

OUR VISION

Payne County is a community where individuals thrive because neighbors care.

This report is to be used as the starting point for annual reports in the future identifying trends and changes in the well-being of the communities in Payne County.

Additional goals of the Board of Directors for UWPC is to use this report to:

- Understand the pervasive issues that impact the health, education and financial stability of Payne County citizens.
- Track change over time and determine if the work of agencies is having impact.
- Inform our community investment (allocations to agencies and programs) decisions.
- Evaluate our “portfolio” of partner agencies ensuring we are meeting our community’s greatest needs.
- Build a board that reflects the makeup of our community.

On-going assessment of how UWPC allocates donors’ contributions to best address the needs in Payne County is of utmost importance and the cornerstone to our long-standing commitment to accountability. This community status report is part of fulfilling that commitment.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Volunteer

Nonprofits throughout the communities in Payne County depend on volunteers to further their mission, assist clients and run the organization. The time you give to individuals and nonprofits can make a huge impact in our county. Whether you have one hour or one day, there are a variety of ways for you to volunteer. Volunteer opportunities span United Way of Payne County's areas of focus and impact: health, education, financial stability, and life-enhancing.

Donate

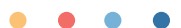
Your financial support will make a difference in the community. Gifts to UWPC or other nonprofits help ensure greater program stability and resources that are key to making positive changes to improve the lives of those in Payne County.

Advocate

Speaking up and taking action on issues you care about can shape policy and legislation that impacts the systems we live by every day. Do the research, vote, and speak to your legislators and representatives to advocate for yourself and others.

Get The Help You Need

Taking care of you and your family are a great place to start in helping others. There are resources throughout Payne County that can get you connected to the help you need, such as rental assistance, food pantries, affordable housing, health resources, child care, after-school programs, caregiver support, financial programs, literacy and job programs. Contact 2-1-1 to get started.



SOURCES

- [DataUSA](#)
- [Kids Count – Annie E. Casey Foundation](#)
- [Living Wage - MIT](#)
- [National Low Income Housing Coalition](#)
- [Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation](#)
- [Oklahoma State Department of Health](#)
- [Oklahoma Department of Education](#)
- [Oklahoma Employment Security Commission](#)
- [Oklahoma Literacy Council](#)
- [Oklahoma Policy Institute](#)
- [Oklahoma Works](#)
- [Payne County Health Department](#)
- [Public School Review](#)
- [Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma](#)
- [Stillwater Literacy Council](#)
- [U.S. Census Bureau](#)

METHODOLOGY

Many local and national data sources were used to create this community status report. In some cases, data was readily available and easy to obtain. In several instances, accessing current data was challenging and highlights data necessary to help us better understand the needs of Payne County. This section explains what data sources were used and specific methodology to help understand how data was gathered and statistics calculated.

- “Poverty is measured in the United States by comparing a person’s or family’s income to a set poverty threshold or minimum amount of income needed to cover basic needs. People whose income falls under their threshold are considered poor.”(*IRP-Univ. Wisconsin*)
- The Census Bureau determines poverty status by using an official poverty measure (OPM) that compares pre-tax cash income against a threshold that is set at three times the cost of a minimum food diet in 1963 and adjusted for family size. The OPM uses calculations of these three elements—income, threshold, and family—to estimate what percentage of the population is poor. The official poverty estimates are drawn from the Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplement (CPS ASEC), which is conducted in February, March, and April with a sample of approximately 100,000 addresses per year.
- Third grade reading proficiency represents the percentage of third grade students scoring at or above the proficient level on the Oklahoma 3rd grade reading state test. The test was called the Oklahoma Core Curriculum Test prior to 2016-2017 school year, and beginning in the 2016-2017 school year it changed to the Oklahoma State Testing Program (OSTP).
- The Oklahoma State Testing Program (OSTP) is a criterion-referenced test (CRT) designed to indicate whether students have achieved the competencies defined by the Oklahoma Academic Standards (OAS). Each student’s performance is compared to a preset standard of expected achievement by subject at each grade level. The level of academic rigor that students must meet is established by the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education approved more rigorous standards beginning with the 2016-2017 school year.

- Average Math Proficiency – The percentage of students in school that scored at or above ‘proficient’ levels in math, as designated by Oklahoma and its state tests.

Average Reading Proficiency – The percentage of students in school that scored at or above ‘proficient’ levels in reading/language arts, as designated by Oklahoma and its state tests.

<https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/subject/publications/stt2022/pdf/2023010NP4.pdf>

<https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/subject/publications/stt2022/pdf/2023011NP4.pdf>

- “Parents struggling with financial hardship have fewer resources available to foster their children’s development and are more prone to face severe stress and depression, which can interfere with effective parenting. These findings underscore the importance of two-generation approaches to ending poverty, which addresses the needs of parents and children to help them succeed together. Where families live also matters. When communities are safe and have strong institutions, good schools and quality support services, families and their children are more likely to thrive.” (*Kids Count 2021*)
- As of December 31, 2021, there are 439 local law enforcement agencies reporting crime statistics to the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation. OSBI subsequently submits this crime data to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Traditionally, the FBI’s UCR Program accepted data via the Summary Reporting System (SRS). However, as of January 1, 2021, the FBI no longer accepts SRS data and now only accepts incident-based reporting data compatible with the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS). With the changes at the federal level, local law enforcement agencies in Oklahoma transitioned from submitting their crime data via SRS to submitting data into Oklahoma’s State Incident-Based Reporting System (SIBRS), which OSBI maintains in addition to the SRS.
- This change to incident-based reporting classifies offenses differently than in the UCR so comparative Payne County data was not readily available for 2021. Follow-up Community Status Reports will be able to use the new reporting beginning with 2021 for comparative data in the future.
- Domestic violence is a violent crime, violence, or abuse in a domestic setting, such as in cohabitation or marriage. Domestic violence is often used as a synonym for intimate partner violence, which involves a spouse or intimate partner in an intimate partner relationship.

CREDITS

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