

Key Findings

Education

- While Oklahoma County's graduation rate is on par with the rest of the nation, the quality of education our students are receiving is not preparing them to enter college or the job market.
 - Almost 40% of first-time freshmen are enrolled in remedial classes.
 - The percentage of 2017 ACT-tested high school graduates meeting ACT readiness benchmarks is far below the national average.
 - The percentage of students meeting ACT benchmarks has declined over the last five years.
- Oklahoma spends \$9,604 per child enrolled in K-12 schools. The national average is \$13,897.

Employment

- There is a serious need for a more educated workforce. In the next 10 years, only 23% of all new entry level jobs created in Oklahoma will require a high school diploma or less. As 45% of Oklahomans have an education at this level, this would mean our state will face a 22% gap in educational attainment needed for future jobs created.
- While the unemployment rate is healthy for the state, certain populations are disproportionately affected.
 - The unemployment rate for single mothers was nearly double at 8.3%.
 - Unemployment rates for unmarried African Americans are much higher than the national average (9.8% for men and 8.5% for women).
 - Unemployment is also dramatically higher (7.7%) for individuals without a high school diploma.

Poverty

- 26.8% of children in Oklahoma live in poverty. Some populations are disproportionately impoverished:
 - 42.6% of African American children and 40% of Hispanic children in Oklahoma live in poverty.
 - 64% of children living in poverty in Oklahoma live with a single parent.
 - 54% of children whose parents do not have a high school degree live in poverty in Oklahoma.
- According to Feeding America, Oklahoma is one of the hungriest states in the nation, where 1 out of every 6 Oklahomans struggles with hunger. Statistics show that children are disproportionately affected by hunger in both Oklahoma County and the state.

- While the estimated total number of people experiencing homelessness and chronic homelessness in Oklahoma City was down in 2017, the number of families with children experiencing homelessness was on the rise.
 - 118 families with children were noted as experiencing homelessness, compared to 92 in 2016.
 - 5,474 children experiencing homelessness were enrolled in the Oklahoma City Public School district for 2016-2017 school year.

Cultural Literacy

- Half of Oklahomans report that they have not participated in arts or cultural activities in the last year due to expense.

Health

- Oklahoma is ranked as one of the unhealthiest states in the nation, listed in 46th place in America's Health Rankings by the United Health Foundation.
- Oklahoma's civilian noninstitutionalized population has a 16% noninsured rate.
 - Non-elderly individuals have a 21.5% noninsured rate.
 - Youth 19 and under have a 27.69% noninsured rate.
- Oklahoma has the 2nd highest percentage of births by teenage mothers. Oklahoma County has a higher teen birth rate than the state average.
- Oklahoma City-County exceeds national averages in the following health areas: Overall Mortality Rates, Cardiovascular Disease Mortality, Stroke Mortality, Diabetes Mortality, Hypertension Mortality, Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease Mortality, Chronic Liver Disease/Cirrhosis Mortality, Cancer Mortality, Lung Cancer Mortality, Alzheimer's Mortality, Percentage of physically inactive adults, Chlamydia occurrence, Gonorrhea occurrence, Syphilis occurrence, and Infant Mortality rate.
 - The teen birth rate is 3 times the national average in Oklahoma City-County.
- Oklahoma is ranked 9th in the nation for obesity rates in adults.
- Oklahoma is ranked 11th in the nation for obesity rates in youth 10-17.

Population

- The fastest growing demographic in Oklahoma are Latinos, with an 85% increase since the 2000 census.
 - About 1 in 13 children in the Oklahoma City metro area are Latino.
 - 53% of Oklahoma City Public Schools students are Latino.

Incarceration

- According to a newly-released report from the Prison Policy Initiative, Oklahoma now has the highest incarceration rate in the U.S. Oklahoma's current overall incarceration rate is 1,079 per 100,000 people.
- For over 25 years, Oklahoma has continued to lead the nation in female incarceration. Oklahoma's current incarceration rate for females is 149 per 100,000 people.
- As of January 2018, Oklahoma state prisons were at 112% capacity.
- The Crime and Justice Institute indicates Oklahoma's Department of Corrections' inmate population will grow 25% by 2026.

Juveniles as Victims and Children in Foster Care

- According to the U.S. Department of Justice, as of 2015, the suicide, maltreatment victimization, and suicide to homicide rates for juveniles in OK was above the national average.
 - The maltreatment victimization rate (per 1,000 children under age 18) for 2015 was 12.2 in OK and 8.8 for the nation.
 - The suicide rate (per 1 million juveniles ages 7-17), 1990-2015 was 37.0 for OK and 25.5 for the nation.
 - The ratio of juvenile (ages 7-17) suicide to homicide victimization rates, 1990-2015, was 1.3 for OK and 0.9 for the nation.
- Oklahoma children are cared for by foster families at a higher rate than the national average. In Oklahoma, 6 of every 1000 children are in the care of the Department of Human Services. Nationally, this figure is 4 in 1000.
 - In 2016, there were 46,367 children being cared for by grandparents in the state of Oklahoma and 8,690 in the county.

Juvenile Delinquency

- According to the Oklahoma County Juvenile Bureau, 18.1% of youth referred to Oklahoma County for crime were female and 81.9% were male. The average age of referred youth was 15.85 years old.
- According to the Oklahoma County Juvenile Bureau, a majority of youth placed on probation in Oklahoma County in 2016 were Black, male, and around sixteen years old. The average age of youth placed on probation in 2016 was 15.96 years. Most of the youth served by the Oklahoma County Juvenile Bureau (36%) in 2016 were living with a single mother.