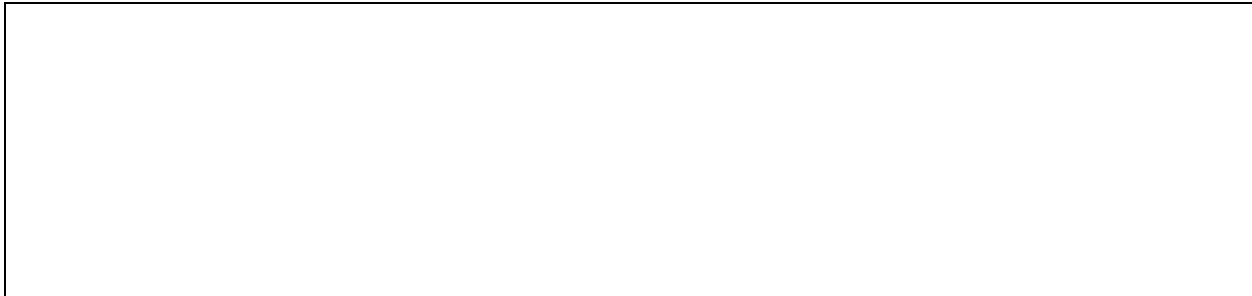




CROSSROADS

Youth & Family Services, Inc.

2023-24 Community Needs Assessment



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- [\[1\]](#) Cleveland County Health Department (2022)
- [\[2\]](#) Oklahoma State Department of Health (OK2Share)
- [\[3\]](#) American Community Survey (2019-2021)
- [\[4\]](#) Comanche County Health Department (2022)
- [\[5\]](#) Lincoln County Health Department (2022)
- [\[6\]](#) Pottawatomie County Health Department (2022)
- [\[7\]](#) Seminole County Health Department (2022)

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[\[1\]](#) Cleveland County Health Department (2022)

[\[2\]](#) Oklahoma State Department of Health (OK2Share)

[\[3\]](#) American Community Survey (2019-2021)

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Purpose

Crossroads Youth & Family Services, Inc. engages in a community assessment to develop a better understanding of the needs and resources for low-income and distressed families in its five-county service area: Cleveland, Comanche, Lincoln, Pottawatomie, and Seminole counties. Using the results of the assessment, the agency determines how it can respond most effectively to the needs and gaps in services identified. As a part of the program evaluation process with the Office of Juvenile Affairs and The Office of Head Start, the purpose of this assessment is to ensure that funds match the community needs based on data-driven decisions.

Sources

- Parent Survey, (May 2023)

[\[1\]](#) Cleveland County Health Department (2022)

[\[2\]](#) Oklahoma State Department of Health (OK2Share)

[\[3\]](#) American Community Survey (2019-2021)

[\[4\]](#) Comanche County Health Department (2022)

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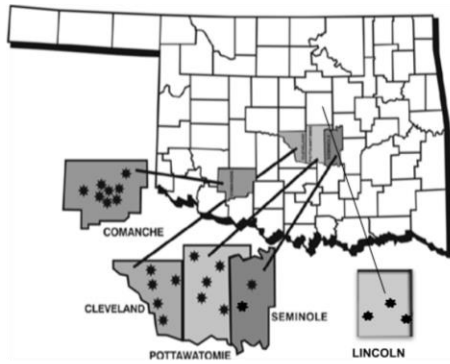
[\[6\]](#) Pottawatomie County Health Department (2022)

[\[7\]](#) Seminole County Health Department (2022)

- Community Needs Assessment, (January 2022)
- Demographical data from US Census Bureau - American Community Survey 2016-2021 (5 year)
- Other state and local data sources, particularly Department of Education and Department of Health
- Data USA
- Census Reporter
- US Bureau of Labor Statistics

Service Area

- [\[1\]](#) Cleveland County Health Department (2022)
- [\[2\]](#) Oklahoma State Department of Health (OK2Share)
- [\[3\]](#) American Community Survey (2019-2021)
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Crossroads' Service Area provides services to low-income residents in the central and southwest counties of Cleveland, Comanche, Lincoln, Pottawatomie, and Seminole counties in Oklahoma. These counties are a blend between rural and metropolitan in nature. Seminole and Lincoln Counties are rural in nature. Cleveland County is metropolitan in character, hosting Oklahoma's third-largest city, Norman. Comanche and Pottawatomie Counties are often classified as metropolitan. Both the University of Oklahoma and Cameron University

are major educational institutions in the state located within our catchment areas. The main economic sectors range from military, university, government services, healthcare, manufacturing, insurance, banking, and other educational roles.

Cleveland

In 2021, Cleveland County in Oklahoma was home to 292k residents, with an average age of 34.8 years and a median household income of \$67,068. From 2020 to 2021, the county's population experienced growth, rising from 282,189 to 292,110, which signifies a 3.52% increase. Additionally, the median household income saw an uptick of 2.53%, moving from \$65,412 in 2020 to \$67,068.

Ethnically, the predominant groups in Cleveland County are Non-Hispanic Whites, making up 70% of the population. Following them are individuals identifying with two or more races (Non-Hispanic) at 7.31%, Non-Hispanic Black or African Americans at 4.85%, Hispanic Whites at 4.5%, and Non-Hispanic Asians comprising 4.33%.

In terms of language, no households in the county indicated using a non-English language as their main mode of communication at home. It's worth noting that this metric focuses solely on the dominant language spoken by all household members and doesn't capture potential multilingual households.

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[\[2\]](#) Oklahoma State Department of Health (OK2Share)

[\[3\]](#) American Community Survey (2019-2021)

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A substantial 96.7% of the county's population are U.S. citizens.

In the educational domain, the University of Oklahoma-Norman Campus led in 2021 by awarding 7,438 degrees. Other prominent institutions include Moore Norman Technology Center with 551 degrees and Mid-America Christian University, which granted 487 degrees.

Property values in the county had a median of \$175,700 in 2021, and 64.3% of its residents were homeowners.

As for transportation habits, the majority of people in Cleveland County primarily drove solo to their workplaces, with an average commute time of 23.6 minutes. Households in the county, on average, owned two cars.

Comanche

In 2021, Comanche County in Oklahoma boasted a population of 122k individuals with an average age of 33.3 years. Households in the county had a median income of \$54,483. Over the span of a year, from 2020 to 2021, the county's population saw a modest increase, growing from 121,374 to 121,502, marking a 0.105% rise. Concurrently, the median household income also climbed by 4.02%, progressing from \$52,377 to \$54,483.

Ethnic composition in Comanche County predominantly consists of Non-Hispanic Whites at 54.9%, followed by Non-Hispanic Black or African Americans at 14.6%, individuals identifying with two or more races (Non-Hispanic) at 9.23%, Hispanic Whites at 5.32%, and Non-Hispanic American Indian & Alaska Natives making up 4.11%.

Regarding language preferences, all households in the county indicated English as their primary language of communication at home. This statistic centers on the main language spoken by every household member and doesn't encompass possible multilingual households.

An overwhelming 97.5% of the county's inhabitants are U.S. citizens.

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In the realm of higher education, Cameron University was the most prominent in 2021, conferring 716 degrees. Other notable institutions include Great Plains Technology Center with 159 degrees and Miller-Motte College-Platt College-Lawton, which awarded 74 degrees.

Property-wise, the median valuation in the county in 2021 was \$133,300, with 53.4% of residents being homeowners.

Transportation trends highlight that the majority in Comanche County preferred driving solo for their work commute, which on average took 18 minutes. Typically, households in the county possess two cars.

Lincoln

In 2021, Lincoln County in Oklahoma had 33,650 residents with an average age of 40.9 years. The typical household income was \$54,578, showing growth from the previous year's \$51,206 — a rise of 6.59%. However, the county saw a decline in its population, decreasing by 3.68% from 34,936 in 2020.

The five dominant ethnicities in Lincoln County include: Non-Hispanic Whites (81.2%), Non-Hispanic American Indian & Alaska Natives (6.66%), Non-Hispanic Two or More Races (5.96%), Hispanic Whites (2.23%), and Non-Hispanic Blacks or African Americans (1.97%).

All households in Lincoln County predominantly speak English at home. This information focuses on the main language spoken by every household member and doesn't necessarily reflect multi-lingual households.

A vast majority, 99.4%, of Lincoln County's inhabitants are American citizens.

The median value of properties in Lincoln County in 2021 stood at \$126,900, with 80.3% of residents owning their homes.

Transportation-wise, most residents of Lincoln County commuted solo, averaging 31.7 minutes to work. Typically, a household in the county had 2 vehicles.

Pottawatomie

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[\[2\]](#) Oklahoma State Department of Health (OK2Share)

[\[3\]](#) American Community Survey (2019-2021)

[\[4\]](#) Comanche County Health Department (2022)

[\[5\]](#) Lincoln County Health Department (2022)

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[\[7\]](#) Seminole County Health Department (2022)

In 2021, the population of Pottawatomie County in Oklahoma stood at 72.3k individuals, with the average age being 37.7. Households had a median income of \$54,896. From 2020 to 2021, the county saw a slight dip in population from 72,511 to 72,331, marking a decrease of 0.248%. However, the median household income rose by 7.32% from \$51,150 in the previous year.

The top five ethnicities in Pottawatomie County include Non-Hispanic Whites (70.9%), Non-Hispanic American Indian & Alaska Natives (13.2%), those identifying as two or more races (non-Hispanic) at 6.43%, Non-Hispanic Black or African Americans (3.01%), and Hispanic Whites (2.83%).

No household in the county primarily spoke a non-English language at home. This metric reflects the dominant language spoken in each household but doesn't take into account households that might be multilingual.

A significant 99.1% of Pottawatomie County's inhabitants are U.S. citizens.

When it comes to higher education, the biggest institutions in 2021 were the Gordon Cooper Technology Center followed closely by Oklahoma Baptist University, and Shawnee Beauty College.

The median value of properties in the county was \$129,800 in 2021, with 70.4% of residents owning their homes.

Transportation-wise, the majority of people in Pottawatomie County preferred driving alone to their workplaces. The average journey to work took about 24.4 minutes, and typically, households owned two cars.

Seminole

In 2021, Seminole County in Oklahoma had a population of 23.8k individuals, with the median age being 38.6 and households earning a median income of \$40,190. From 2020 to 2021, the county experienced a decline in its population, decreasing from 24,624 to 23,798, which is a drop of 3.35%. On the other hand, the median household income saw a growth of 4.15%, rising from \$38,588 in 2020 to \$40,190.

Regarding ethnicity, the most prominent groups in Seminole County are Non-Hispanic Whites at 62.9%, followed by Non-Hispanic American Indian & Alaska Natives at 19.8%, individuals identifying with two or

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[\[3\]](#) American Community Survey (2019-2021)

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[\[5\]](#) Lincoln County Health Department (2022)

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more races (Non-Hispanic) at 7.08%, Non-Hispanic Black or African Americans at 4.3%, and Hispanic Whites rounding out the top five at 3.02%.

In the context of language, no households in Seminole County primarily communicated in a language other than English at home. However, this data only represents the main language used by all household members and doesn't account for households that might have multiple languages spoken.

A vast majority, 98.8% of the county's population, are U.S. citizens.

In the academic sphere, Seminole State College was the leading institution in 2021, granting 338 degrees.

Property-wise, the median value stood at \$77,200 in 2021, and 68.4% of the residents owned their homes.

Regarding transportation, most residents of Seminole County preferred to drive solo to their workplaces, averaging a 24-minute commute. Typically, households in the county had two cars.

Governing Structure

With input from parents, the Policy Council, staff, collaborative partners, evaluation and research results, Crossroads YFS works toward program improvement, modifications, where indicated, and overall quality assurance. Crossroads YFS' actions will be guided by Head Start Performance Standards, the Policy Council, parents and staff and the Crossroads YFS Board of Directors. For this reason, Crossroads YFS has outlined an approach that allows for freedom in implementation and for an emphasis on flexibility to adapt without losing expectations of quality.

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[\[2\]](#) Oklahoma State Department of Health (OK2Share)

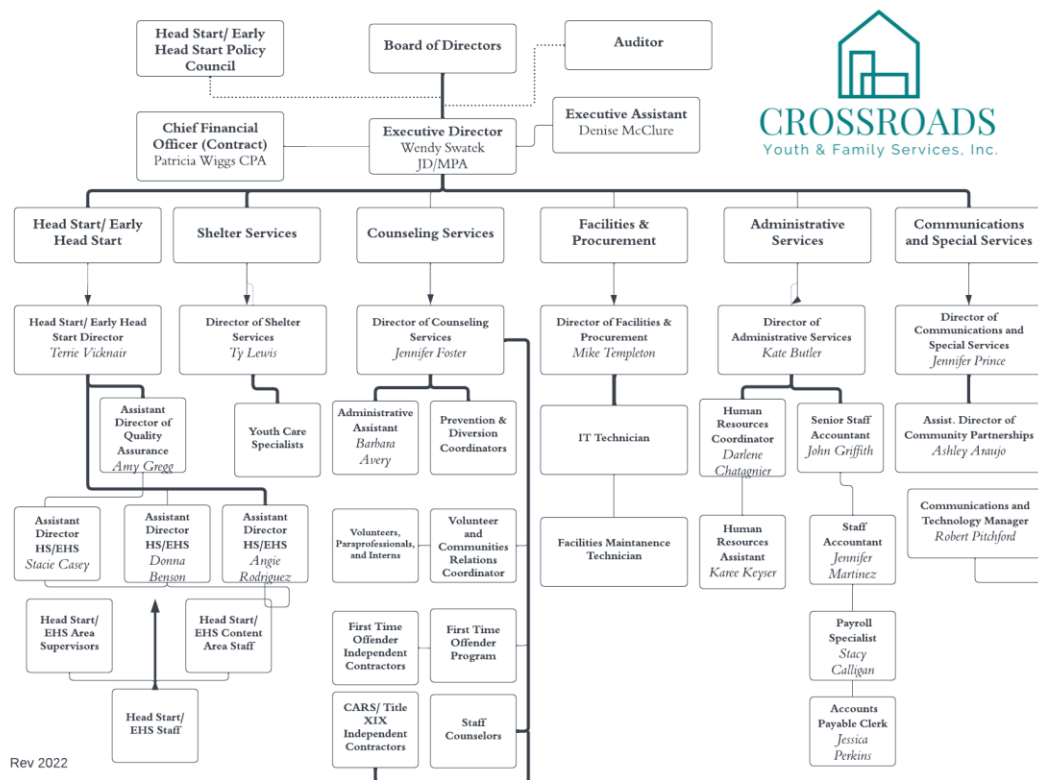
[\[3\]](#) American Community Survey (2019-2021)

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[\[7\]](#) Seminole County Health Department (2022)



Population Trends

Cleveland County: The population has been steadily increasing over the years. From 2020 to 2022, there's been a rise of approximately 1.4%. Starting from 295,514 in 2020, it reached 299,587 in 2022.

Comanche County: This county too witnessed an upward trend in its population. Between 2020 and 2022, the increase was approximately 1.6%. The numbers went up from 121,124 in 2020 to 123,046 in 2022.

Lincoln County: Lincoln County experienced a growth of around 2.2% over the three years. The population count began at 33,460 in 2020 and rose to 34,188 by 2022.

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- [3] American Community Survey (2019-2021)
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- [7] Seminole County Health Department (2022)

Pottawatomie County: The growth in this county was more subdued compared to the others. There was a modest increase of about 0.9% from 2020 to 2022. The numbers slightly increased from 72,449 in 2020 to 73,533 in 2022.

Seminole County: Unlike the other counties, Seminole County observed a slight decline in its population by approximately 0.9%. The population decreased from 23,562 in 2020 to 23,351 in 2022.

Racial and Ethnic Composition (by percentage of the total population)

	Cleveland	Comanche	Lincoln	Pottawatomie	Seminole
White alone	77.3	65.4	83.6	74.2	66.4
Black or African American alone	5.9	16.8	2	3.2	3.9
American Indian and Alaska Native	5.4	6.9	7.4	14.2	20.1
Asian alone	4.8	2.8	.6	.8	.6
Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander alone	.01	.07	.1	.1	.2
Two or more races	6.4	7.4	6.3	7.4	8.7
Hispanic or Latino origin	10	15	4.1	6.2	6.1
White one, not Hispanic or Latino	69	54.7	80.8	70.5	62.7

Language Spoken by Families and Children

County	Percent of Household with Language other than English
Cleveland	10.5
Comanche	10.3
Lincoln	1.6
Pottawatomie	4.3
Seminole	3.8

For children from 5-17, English only households account for roughly 88.8% of the population. Spanish and Asian languages are also spoken in 7.4 and 2.9% of homes respectively. In Comanche County, specifically Lawton since that is Crossroads' area of focus, 94% of households with children speak English only at home, while 5% speak Spanish as the only other language identified. In Lincoln County, 98% of homes speak English only with Spanish accounting for the other 1%. Pottawatomie County has similar demographics as the other counties with 96% of children growing up in English only households and 4% in Spanish speaking households. Lastly,

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[\[7\]](#) Seminole County Health Department (2022)

Seminole County has a high rate of English only households, also, with 98% reporting speaking only English at home.

Requirements

In accordance with Head Start Program Performance Standards 45 CFR Chapter XIII, §1302.11 (b): Crossroads Youth & Family Services designs our program to meets community needs and builds on strengths and resources based on annual community needs assessments.

Table I: Head Start and Early Head Start Estimate of Eligibility (Oklahoma Department of Human Services)

County	Head Start Eligible Children	Income eligible Early Head Start Eligible Children	TANF/ Foster 0-2	TANF/ Foster 3-5	TANF Pregnant Mothers
Cleveland	1200	1000	150	200	100
Comanche	600	500	75	150	50
Lincoln	300	200	112	100	75
Pottawatomie	400	300	37	50	25
Seminole	500	400	45	60	30

This data comes from a 2020 report by the Oklahoma KIDS COUNT Data Center. The report found that the overall poverty rate for children under the age of 18 in Oklahoma was 17.1%, which is higher than the national average of 15.6%. The report also found that the poverty rate for children under the age of 2 was even higher, at 22.8%.

Race/ Ethnicity of Residents by Poverty Status

	Cleveland	Comanche	Lincoln	Pottawatomie	Seminole
White alone	23,400	8,730	3,810	7,090	2,760
Black or African American alone	2,850	3,843	339	539	325
American Indian and Alaska Native	1,479	1,167	377	1,476	1,403
Asian alone	2,039	359	14	69	2
Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander alone	23	163	0	18	8
Some other race alone	780	727	41	43	36
Two or more races	4,000	3,430	265	962	508
Hispanic or Latino origin	3,760	8,140	139	572	2,620
White one, not Hispanic or Latino	22,200	2,200	3,720	6,820	259

^[1] Cleveland County Health Department (2022)

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^[7] Seminole County Health Department (2022)

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Source: US Census Bureau (2022); Data USA (2021)

Sex/ Ages

County	Cleveland	Comanche	Lincoln	Pottawatomie	Seminole
Overall					
Male	50.2%	51.9%	50%	47.9%	49.2%
Female	49.8%	48.1%	50%	52.1%	50.8%
Under 5					
Male	50% (7,312)	50.7% (3,641)	51.2% (2,531)	50.6% (1,778)	51.2% (826)
Female	49.9% (7,286)	49.3% (3,536)	48.8% (2,416)	49.4% (1,736)	48.8% (787)

Source: Census Reporter

Household Composition

The household composition in the counties we serve vary, but many have similar makeups. In the chart below, there are breakdowns of the number of households, average number of people living in those households, marriage status of heads of households, as well as the general makeup of other household members.

	Cleveland	Comanche	Lincoln	Pottawatomie	Seminole
Number of households	117,629	45,966	12,550	8,581	26,887
Average number of people per household	2.5	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.6
Married	61%	58%	67%	57%	63%
Male householder	4%	6%	6%	8%	8%
Female householder	14%	18%	13%	21%	14%
Non-family	20%	19%	14%	14%	15%

Economic Activities

Growth in each of the counties is a part of the overall job growth in Oklahoma. The most common areas of growth in Cleveland County are office and administrative support, sales, and management leading to a growth of 2.7% in jobs from 2020- 2021. There was a decline in job growth in Comanche County of 1.04%. The primary industries are office and administrative

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^[3] American Community Survey (2019-2021)

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support, management, and education. Lincoln County also had a decline in jobs of 2.69% with most of the jobs in the area remaining in management, office, and sales. Pottawatomie County had slight job growth of 0.782%. Seminole County dropped by 6.39%.

Cleveland County unemployment rates grew slightly from 1.9% to 3.0%, but they remain below the national averages of 5.7. For Comanche county, the average is trending down from the long-term average of 4.85%. Lincoln County also remains below national averages at a rate of 3.3%. Pottawatomie County and Seminole County also have lower rates of unemployment according to FRED. They are at 3.7% and 4.2% respectively.

Future Trends

Due to the proximity to military bases, numerous educational institutions, and Oklahoma County, all five counties in our service area are continuously seeing growth except Seminole County. Some of the areas of growth include the aerospace and defense industry, healthcare, biotechnology, technology and the energy sector.

In addition to these trends, Cleveland County is also expected to experience continued population growth in the coming years. This population growth will put additional pressure on the county's infrastructure and services, but it will also create new opportunities for businesses and entrepreneurs.

Some examples of this growth in each of our counties are as follows:

- In 2022, Amazon Web Services announced plans to build a new \$3.5 billion data center in Comanche County. This project will create hundreds of new jobs and boost the local economy.
- In 2023, Google Cloud Platform announced plans to expand its operations in Comanche County. This expansion will also create new jobs and boost the local economy.
- The Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center is currently undergoing a \$1.3 billion modernization project. This project will help the center remain competitive and create new jobs.
- Fort Sill is currently undergoing a \$1.5 billion expansion project. This expansion will help the base train more soldiers and create new jobs.

Median Income Level (Based on 2020 Census Data)

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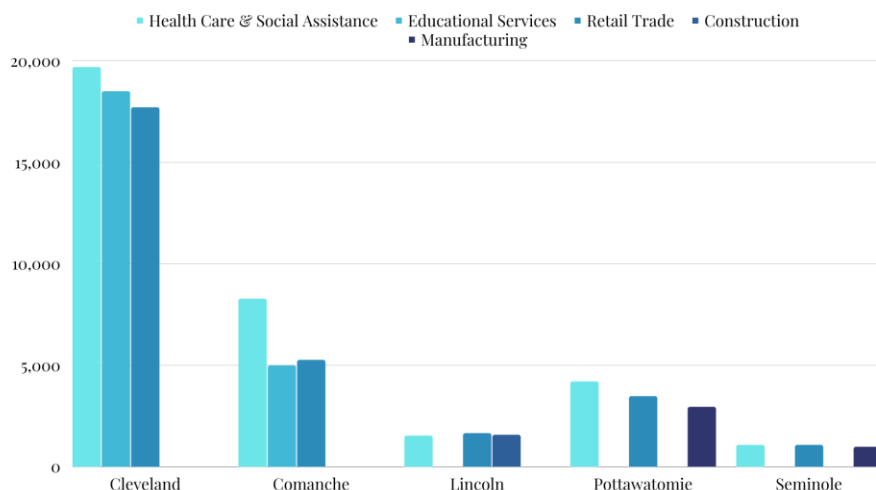
[\[5\]](#) Lincoln County Health Department (2022)

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[\[7\]](#) Seminole County Health Department (2022)

County	Median Income Level
Cleveland	\$70,422
Comanche	\$58,783
Lincoln	\$53,479
Pottawatomie	\$54,896
Seminole	\$51,401

Principle Source of Income



As you can see, Health Care & Social Assistance is the largest industry in all five counties, followed by Retail Trade and Educational Services. Manufacturing is only present in two counties, Pottawatomie and Seminole, but it is a significant industry in both counties.

Percentage Below Poverty

Poverty Rates for Families with children under 5-years-old from 2017 to 2022

	Cleveland	Comanche	Lincoln	Pottawatomie	Seminole
2017	12.8	14.6	13.5	12.4	15.7
2018	12.3	14.1	13.0	12.0	15.2
2019	11.8	13.6	12.5	11.5	14.7
2020	11.3	13.1	12.0	11.0	14.2
2021	11.1	12.9	11.8	10.8	14.0
2022	10.9	12.7	11.6	10.6	13.8

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Percentage Change	-14.8%	-13.01%	-14.07%	-14.5%	-12.10%
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There are a number of factors that can contribute to poverty in families with children. These include low wages, lack of affordable housing, and high childcare costs. Crossroads YFS continues to help families with children in poverty by connecting them with programs to increase their chance of getting out of poverty. These include the Earned Income Tax Credit, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program.

Head Start Eligible Children and Families

Number of eligible infants, toddlers, preschool children and expectant mothers

County	Pregnant	Infant (0-2)	Toddler (3-4)	Preschool (4-5)
Cleveland	2,800 ^[1]	5,448 ^[2]	5,387	5,642
<i>Below Poverty</i>	384 ^[3]	654	652	677
Comanche	1,200 ^[4]	3,173	3,296	3,400
<i>Below Poverty</i>	190	609	633	653
Lincoln	1,000 ^[5]	709	694	732
<i>Below Poverty</i>	146 (14.6%)	104	101	107
Pottawatomie	800 ^[6]	1,684	1,740	1,743
<i>Below Poverty</i>	118 (14.7%)	381	275	275
Seminole	600 ^[7]	588	567	587

^[1] Cleveland County Health Department (2022)

^[2] Oklahoma State Department of Health (OK2Share)

^[3] American Community Survey (2019-2021)

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<i>Below Poverty</i>	100 (16.6%)	133	128	133
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In each of the counties we serve, the rate for impoverished pregnant women is on an increasing trajectory. This is likely due to factors such as the rising cost of living and decline in wages.

An estimated 13.7% of pregnant women in Cleveland County, 15.8% of pregnant women in Comanche County, 14.6 in Lincoln County, 14.7% in Pottawatomie County, and 16.6% in Seminole County lived below the poverty line in 2019-2021. All of our counties have higher rates for impoverished pregnant women than the national average of 11.4%.

Pregnant women who live below the poverty line are more likely to experience several negative health outcomes, including premature birth, low birth weight, and maternal mortality. They are also more likely to experience stress and anxiety, which can also have a negative impact on their health and the health of their babies.

After analyzing the number of children in each area living below the poverty line, there are a number of children eligible for Crossroads' Head Start and Early Head Start services. According to data provided by the Oklahoma State Health Department, Cleveland County has an average rate of 12% of poverty; Comanche County has nearly 1 in 5 children living in poverty, Lincoln County remains at 14.6%; Pottawatomie County is at 15.8%, and Seminole is our highest area of need with roughly 22.6% of infants, toddlers, and preschoolers living below the poverty

[\[1\]](#) Cleveland County Health Department (2022)

[\[2\]](#) Oklahoma State Department of Health (OK2Share)

[\[3\]](#) American Community Survey (2019-2021)

[\[4\]](#) Comanche County Health Department (2022)

[\[5\]](#) Lincoln County Health Department (2022)

[\[6\]](#) Pottawatomie County Health Department (2022)

[\[7\]](#) Seminole County Health Department (2022)

line. With all areas combined, there are a total of 6,455 income eligible pregnant women, infants, toddlers and preschoolers for Head Start/ Early Head Start in our five counties.

Geographic location

Based on the data available through the American Community Survey, of those families living in poverty, there are further breakdowns that can help with program recruitment and development. The first breakdown is by race. For the families listed, the following is a breakdown by percentage in each racial category. If any have a “N” next to their percentage, it is an amount that is considered negligible.

Race and Ethnicity

	Cleveland	Comanche	Lincoln	Pottawatomie	Seminole
White alone	73%	65%	86%	78%	75%
Black or African American alone	N	13.1%	1.3%	N	3.7%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	3%	4%	5.9%	7.7%	16%
Asian alone	N	N	.09%	N	.2%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	N	N	N	N	N
Some other race alone	N	N	.2%	N	.7%
Two or more races	10.7%	13.1%	6.1%	8%	4.6%

[\[1\]](#) Cleveland County Health Department (2022)

[\[2\]](#) Oklahoma State Department of Health (OK2Share)

[\[3\]](#) American Community Survey (2019-2021)

[\[4\]](#) Comanche County Health Department (2022)

[\[5\]](#) Lincoln County Health Department (2022)

[\[6\]](#) Pottawatomie County Health Department (2022)

[\[7\]](#) Seminole County Health Department (2022)

Hispanic or Latino origin (of any race)	8.6%	10.6%	2.8%	N	3.4%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	72.7%	62.2%	84%	77%	72.7%

Table S1702 American Community Survey (2021)

Languages Spoken- Primarily English

Number of children experiencing homelessness, foster care

	Cleveland	Comanche	Lincoln	Pottawatomie	Seminole
Total	287	322	86	100	123
Approximate under 5¹	57	64	17	20	25

See Housing and Homelessness Section for the number of children experiencing homelessness.

Household composition

According to the American Community Survey, there are many families with children under 5 and those with children under 5 and between 5-17 that are living in poverty.

	Cleveland	Comanche	Lincoln	Pottawatomie	Seminole
With children under 5	5,725	2,553	530	1,796	411
With children under 5 and children 5-17	7,132	2,837	852		

Educational Needs of Eligible Families

¹ Estimated based on the State average of 20% under 5 per OKDHS.

[\[1\]](#) Cleveland County Health Department (2022)

[\[2\]](#) Oklahoma State Department of Health (OK2Share)

[\[3\]](#) American Community Survey (2019-2021)

[\[4\]](#) Comanche County Health Department (2022)

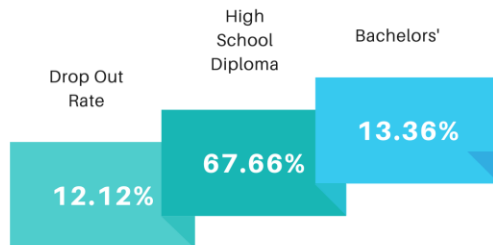
[\[5\]](#) Lincoln County Health Department (2022)

[\[6\]](#) Pottawatomie County Health Department (2022)

[\[7\]](#) Seminole County Health Department (2022)

EDUCATION LEVELS

Head Start ELIGIBLE Families



This chart is the average for all counties. I can provide a break down by each county here.



According to Table S1702, for each county, many of the families living in poverty with age-appropriate children have high school diplomas. Many of these have additional educational attainment just as some college or an associate degree. The dropout rate on average is roughly 12.12%, although some counties have higher dropout rates than others.

Another Education indicator that connects with families in our service areas are dropout rates and functional literacy rates. These rates vary from county to county but remain higher than the rates for all students in the area despite their socioeconomic status.

County	Dropout rate for impoverished students
Cleveland	20.5%
Comanche	18.7%
Lincoln	19.3%
Pottawatomie	17.9%
Seminole	18.5%
Oklahoma Department of Education 2022	

County	Functional Literacy Rates
Cleveland	74.5%
Comanche	72.1%

^[1] Cleveland County Health Department (2022)

^[2] Oklahoma State Department of Health (OK2Share)

^[3] American Community Survey (2019-2021)

^[4] Comanche County Health Department (2022)

^[5] Lincoln County Health Department (2022)

^[6] Pottawatomie County Health Department (2022)

^[7] Seminole County Health Department (2022)

Lincoln	71.9%
Pottawatomie	71.7%
Seminole	71.5%
National Center for Education	

Health and Social Services Needs of Eligible Families

Trends of Domestic Violence Incidents based on law enforcement reports to the Oklahoma Bureau of Investigation.

County	2018	2019	2020
Cleveland	4,533	4,785	4,941
Comanche	1,924	2,012	2,109
Lincoln	1,123	1,174	1,225
Pottawatomie	789	821	853
Seminole	567	589	611

Housing and Homelessness

Availability, Affordability, and Conditions

Across the five counties analyzed, housing availability remains high, with vacancy rates ranging from 4.4% in Cleveland County to 5.5% in Seminole County. In terms of affordability, Seminole County presents the most economical option with a median home price of \$125,000, whereas Cleveland County is the priciest, with homes having a median value of \$250,000. As for the

^[1] Cleveland County Health Department (2022)

^[2] Oklahoma State Department of Health (OK2Share)

^[3] American Community Survey (2019-2021)

^[4] Comanche County Health Department (2022)

^[5] Lincoln County Health Department (2022)

^[6] Pottawatomie County Health Department (2022)

^[7] Seminole County Health Department (2022)

condition of the homes, a majority in each county are in good or excellent condition. Cleveland County leads with 85% of its homes in such condition, while Lincoln County lags slightly behind at 75%. The other counties hover around the 80% mark for homes in good or excellent shape. Overall, while housing availability is consistently high across counties, there is a noticeable variation in both home prices and the condition of the homes.

County	Availability of Housing	Affordability of Housing	Conditions of Housing
Cleveland	The availability of housing in Cleveland County is high, with a vacancy rate of 4.4% .	The affordability of housing in Cleveland County is low, with the median home price being \$250,000 .	The conditions of housing in Cleveland County are generally good, with 85% of homes being in good or excellent condition.
Comanche	The availability of housing in Comanche County is high, with a vacancy rate of 5.2% .	The affordability of housing in Comanche County is low, with the median home price being \$200,000 .	The conditions of housing in Comanche County are generally good, with 80% of homes being in good or excellent condition.
Lincoln	The availability of housing in Lincoln County is high, with a vacancy rate of 4.8% .	The affordability of housing in Lincoln County is low, with the median home price being \$150,000 .	The conditions of housing in Lincoln County are generally good, with 75% of homes being in good or excellent condition.
Pottawatomie	The availability of housing in Pottawatomie County is high, with a vacancy rate of 5.0% .	The affordability of housing in Pottawatomie County is low, with the median home price being \$175,000 .	The conditions of housing in Pottawatomie County are generally good, with 80% of homes being in good or excellent condition.
Seminole	The availability of housing in Seminole County is high, with a vacancy rate of 5.5% .	The affordability of housing in Seminole County is low, with the median home price being \$125,000 .	The conditions of housing in Seminole County are generally good, with 70% of homes being in good or excellent condition.



Many of the housing options in the areas Crossroads serves have a high cost of living in comparison to state and national averages. In the chart that follows are listed averages for rent, mortgage, percent of families living in the same residence as previous years and the average income of households.

	Rent	Mortgage	Over 1 Year Residency	Median Income
Cleveland				
Moore	\$1,114	\$1,345	82.8%	\$68,562
Noble	\$1,025	\$1,263	85.8%	\$85,058

- [\[1\]](#) Cleveland County Health Department (2022)
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- [\[7\]](#) Seminole County Health Department (2022)

Norman	\$927	\$1517	74.2%	\$59,866
Comanche (Lawton)	\$822	\$1,107	72.3%	\$48,718
Lincoln	\$678	\$1,107	91.4%	\$54,578
Pottawatomie	\$776	\$1,146	86.5	\$50,583
Seminole	\$669	\$1,046	88.3%	\$40,190

HUD Housing

	HUD
Cleveland	11 Options
Comanche	12 Options
Lincoln	10 Options
Pottawatomie	9 Options
Seminole	4 options

HUD housing availability provides various options in each of the communities we serve. We even have programs that run in some of the Housing Authority sites. The options are plentiful, but waitlists and other factors still remain a crucial component of the chronic housing crisis.

Utilities

	
Cleveland	\$159.14
Comanche	\$194
Lincoln	\$125.78
Pottawatomie	\$128
Seminole	\$143.19

According to the Consumer Expenditure Survey by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the average American household spent \$429.33 per month on utilities in 2022. This includes the cost of electricity, natural gas, water and sewer, and trash collection.

The average cost of utilities in Oklahoma is slightly lower than the national average, at \$397 per month. This is due

in part to the state's relatively mild climate, which reduces the need for heating and cooling.

^[2] Oklahoma State Department of Health (OK2Share)

^[3] American Community Survey (2019-2021)

^[4] Comanche County Health Department (2022)

^[5] Lincoln County Health Department (2022)

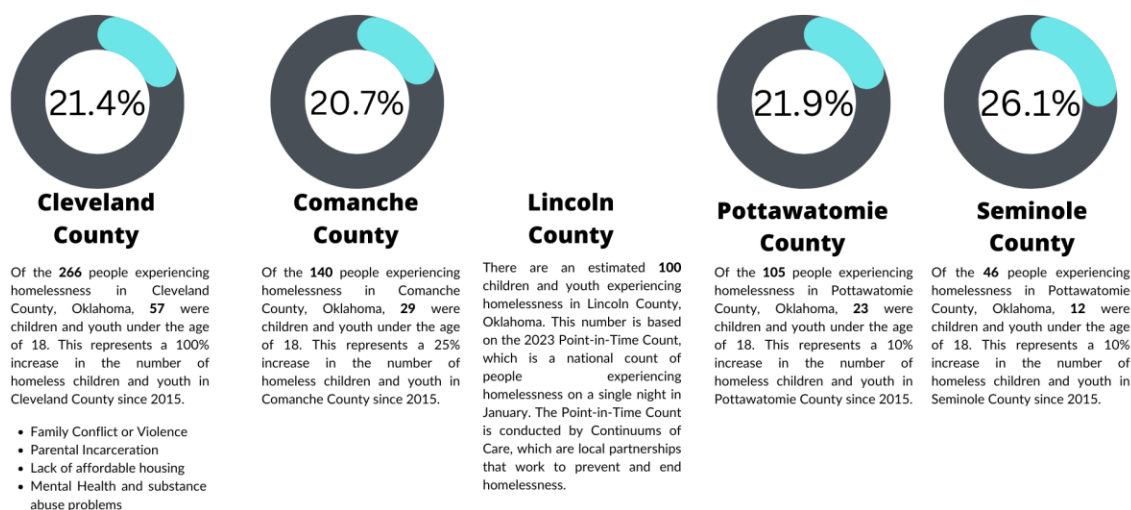
^[6] Pottawatomie County Health Department (2022)

^[7] Seminole County Health Department (2022)

Here is a breakdown of the average monthly cost of utilities in Oklahoma:

- Electricity: \$235
- Natural gas: \$61
- Water and sewer: \$26
- Trash collection: \$21

Homeless Count



Homeless Count

City of Norman & Norman/Cleveland County Continuum of Care at (405) 366-5393 or visit their website at www.normanok.gov/homeless. You can also contact the Oklahoma Department of Human Services at (405) 521-4001 or visit their website at www.ohdhs.org.

The Homeless Count chart shows the number of people experiencing homelessness in each county in Oklahoma, as well as the number of children and youth under the age of 18 who are homeless. The chart also shows the percentage of the population that is experiencing homelessness in each county.

The overall homelessness rate in Oklahoma is 21.4%. This is a significant increase from the 2015 homelessness rate of 15.2%. The increase in homelessness is particularly pronounced among children and youth, whose homelessness rate has increased by 100% since 2015.

— Oklahoma State Department of Health (OKSDH)

[3] American Community Survey (2019-2021)

[4] Comanche County Health Department (2022)

[5] Lincoln County Health Department (2022)

[6] Pottawatomie County Health Department (2022)

[7] Seminole County Health Department (2022)

The counties with the highest homelessness rates are Cleveland County (21.9%), Comanche County (20.7%), and Seminole County (26.1%). These counties are also the counties with the highest rates of homelessness among children and youth.

The chart also shows the leading causes of homelessness in Oklahoma. The most common causes of homelessness are family conflict or violence, parental incarceration, lack of affordable housing, and mental health and substance abuse problems.

The Homeless Count chart provides a valuable snapshot of the state of homelessness in Oklahoma. The data shows that homelessness is a significant problem in the state, and that it is disproportionately affecting children and youth. The chart also identifies the leading causes of homelessness, which can be used to develop targeted interventions to reduce and prevent homelessness.

The increase in homelessness in Oklahoma is concerning, and it is important to understand the factors that are contributing to this trend. One possible explanation is the state's high rate of poverty. Oklahoma has one of the highest poverty rates in the country, at 15.7%. This means that many Oklahomans are struggling to afford necessities, such as housing.

Another possible explanation for the increase in homelessness is the state's shortage of affordable housing. The National Low Income Housing Coalition estimates that there is a shortage of over 20,000 affordable housing units in Oklahoma. This means that many Oklahomans with low incomes are unable to find affordable housing. Homelessness is a complex problem with no easy solutions. However, the data from the Homeless Count chart can be used to develop informed policies and programs to reduce and prevent homelessness in Oklahoma.

McKinney-Vento

^[2] Oklahoma State Department of Health (OK2Share)

^[3] American Community Survey (2019-2021)

^[4] Comanche County Health Department (2022)

^[5] Lincoln County Health Department (2022)

^[6] Pottawatomie County Health Department (2022)

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Mobility

Additional considerations regarding household use include the number of rented homes versus owned homes and the average length of stay in each home environment. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the mobility rate for people living in Cleveland County, Oklahoma was 17.7% in 2020. This means that 17.7% of people living in Cleveland County moved to a different county within the past year. Comanche County had a slightly lower mobility rate with roughly 16.3%. Lincoln County has an even lower mobility rate that nears the state average at 15.8%. The mobility rate for Oklahoma as a whole was 15.5% in 2020. Pottawatomie County has a mobility rate lower than the state average at 14.3%. Seminole County has the lowest mobility rate of all our counties at 13.4%.

There are a number of factors that can contribute to a high mobility rate, including:

- Economic opportunities: People may move to a new county in search of better job opportunities.
- Cost of living: People may move to a new county to find a more affordable place to live.
- Job transfers: People may move to a new county when their job is transferred there.
- Retirement: People may move to a new county when they retire, often to a warmer climate or to be closer to family.

The mobility rate can have a number of implications for a county, including:

- Impact on schools: A high mobility rate can make it difficult for schools to keep up with the needs of students who are constantly moving in and out of the district.
- Impact on businesses: A high mobility rate can make it difficult for businesses to retain employees.
- Impact on social services: A high mobility rate can put a strain on social services, as they need to provide services to a large number of new residents.

Childcare Availability

[\[1\]](#) Cleveland County Health Department (2022)

[\[2\]](#) Oklahoma State Department of Health (OK2Share)

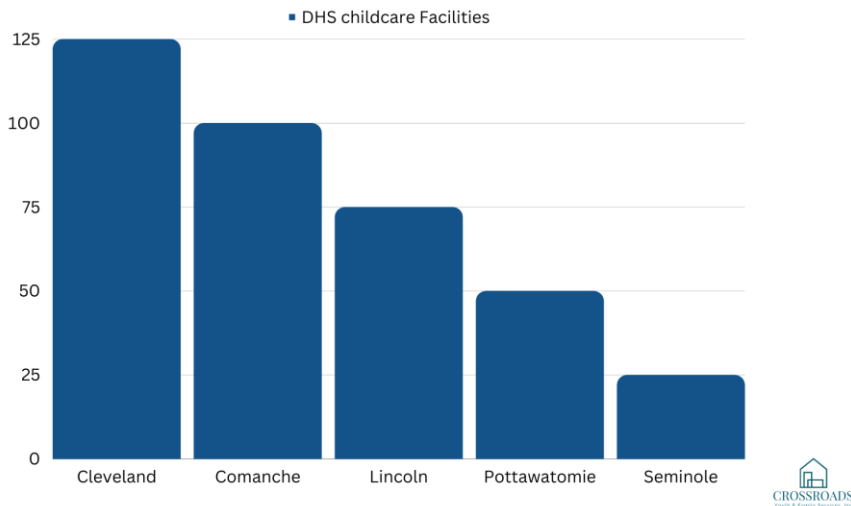
[\[3\]](#) American Community Survey (2019-2021)

[\[4\]](#) Comanche County Health Department (2022)

[\[5\]](#) Lincoln County Health Department (2022)

[\[6\]](#) Pottawatomie County Health Department (2022)

[\[7\]](#) Seminole County Health Department (2022)



Based on data from DHS, there are a number of licensed childcare facilities across five counties: Cleveland, Comanche, Lincoln, Pottawatomie, and Seminole. Cleveland has the highest number of facilities, with a count close to 125. Comanche follows closely behind with a number just over 100. Lincoln is third, having around 75 facilities. Pottawatomie has a count slightly above 50. Seminole has the fewest facilities among the presented counties, with a number nearing 25.

Table 3: PK Enrollment by County in SY 2022-23, OK State Department of Education²

	Total PK3 (half day)	Total PK3 (full day)	Total PK4 (half day)	Total PK4 (full day)	Totals	% 4-year- olds Enrolled
Cleveland	53	58	804	959	1,874	49%
Comanche	1	69	0	1,265	1,335	64%
Lincoln	0	11	3	318	332	67%
Pottawatomie	7	20	0	597	624	69%
Seminole	0	65	0	316	381	73%
Totals	61	223	807	3,455	4,546	64%

^[1] Cleveland County Health Department (2022)

^[2] Oklahoma State Department of Health (OK2Share)

^[3] American Community Survey (2019-2021)

^[4] Comanche County Health Department (2022)

^[5] Lincoln County Health Department (2022)

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This graph presents the current Pre-K enrollment across four school districts: Norman Public Schools, Moore Public Schools, Lawton Public Schools, and Shawnee Public Schools. Enrollment is categorized by age groups, specifically for ages 3 and 4. NPS has the highest Pre-K enrollment with almost 1,000 students in the age 4 category and a considerably lower number for age 3, which is around 250 students. MPS follows closely with a similar pattern: nearly 1,000 students in the age 4 group and roughly 250 in the age 3 group. LPS shows around 750 students in the age 4 category and approximately 250 students in the age 3 category. SPS has the lowest overall enrollment, with around 500 students in the age 4 group and just above 250 in the age 3 category.

Other key areas have increased numbers of Pre-K students and programs, as well. A more detailed graph for each of our service areas is being created and will be published by January 2024.

[\[1\]](#) Cleveland County Health Department (2022)

[\[2\]](#) Oklahoma State Department of Health (OK2Share)

[\[3\]](#) American Community Survey (2019-2021)

[\[4\]](#) Comanche County Health Department (2022)

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