

# 2025 Ardmore 3H Task Force Report

State of Homelessness and Housing in Our Community

presented and facilitated by



# Purpose of 3H Task Force

The 3H Task Force was convened by Ardmore Behavioral Health Collaborative (ABHC) in November of 2024. The task force is focused on homelessness, housing, and health.

The purpose of the task force is:

- to create a pathway for clear, direct communication
- to understand the issue in our community
- to identify ways to address the issue and reduce obstacles
- to use collective power to create solutions and work together

### **3H Task Force Members**

- Carter County Health Department
- City of Ardmore
- Community Youth Services of Southern Oklahoma
- Family Shelter of Southern Oklahoma
- Grace Center of Southern Oklahoma
- Lighthouse Behavioral Wellness Centers
- Mercy Hospital Ardmore
- Salvation Army
- Ardmore Behavioral Health Collaborative —facilitator



# What is Homelessness?

An individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate night-time residence is considered homeless.

## 2 Types of Homelessness

### UNSHELTERED

staying in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings

### **SHELTERED**

staying in shelters or transitional housing, staying in hotels/motels, doubled up

### **SUB-CATEGORIES**

### **Shelters/Transitional Housing:**

domestic violence shelters, homeless shelters, youth shelters, trailers provided by FEMA, housing paid for by programs such as transitional housing, etc.

### Hotel/Motels:

staying in hotels/motels due to lack of adequate alternatives, regardless of who pays for the hotel/motel

### **Doubled Up:**

Staying with other people due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason

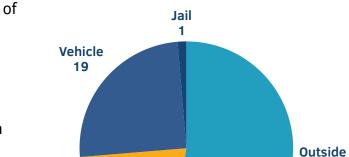


# What We Know: Unsheltered Homeless

The 3H Task Force conducted an Unsheltered Count in January of 2025. Twenty-two people from six partnering agencies conducted the surveys during the last week of January.

### Survey locations included

- · Ardmore Public Library
- · Ardmore Soup Kitchen
- Community Youth Services of Southern Oklahoma
- Encampments
- · Family Shelter of Southern Oklahoma
- Grace Center of Southern Oklahoma
- Panhandling hot spots
- St Philip's Episcopal Church
- Lighthouse Urgent Recovery Center



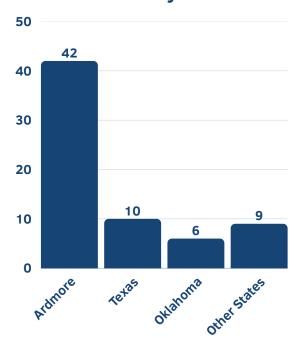
"Where did you sleep

last night?"

Substandard Housing
16

204 surveys were conducted and **67 individuals were identified as unsheltered**.

### "Where are you from?"



- 63% from Ardmore
- **15%** from Texas
- 9% from somewhere else in Oklahoma
- 13% other US states

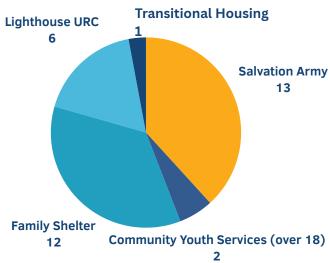
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# What We Know: Sheltered Homeless

**Sheltered Homelessness,** often called "hidden homelessness," is incredibly difficult to quantify. There are solid sources of information that can inform the scope of the population, but it is impossible to truly calculate a number. The following information has been gathered from listed sources and gives a clearer, although not completely comprehensive, picture of what sheltered homelessness looks like in Ardmore.



### 64 individuals were staying in shelters.



42 adults staying in shelters.

In addition to the sheltered adults, **22 children** under the age of 18 were staying in shelters.

- 8 at Community Youth Services
- 14 at the Family Shelter of Southern Oklahoma



Using a method designed to quantify doubled-up homelessness, published in the Housing Policy Debate Journal, OSDH epidemiologist Jackson Seerberger, was able to create a report on estimated doubled-up homelessness in Oklahoma using Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs). The south-central area includes Ardmore, Duncan, Sulphur, and Madill. It should be noted this is the smallest population level the data can be broken into. The report estimates **1,289 individuals** doubling up with a margin of error of 667 meaning the estimate is a range of **622-1,956 individuals** doubling up in this area.

# What We Know: Sheltered Homeless



### **SOUTHERN OKLAHOMA AMBULANCE SERVICE (SOAS)**

From January 1, 2025 to August 20, 2025 Southern Oklahoma Ambulance Service (SOAS) as made 34 runs involving 5 area hotel/motels. SOAS was able to identify the number of these patients who used these hotel/motels as their listed address, they also identified which patients utilized the ambulance service at a hotel/motel more than once. With this information, SOAS determined they have served between **5-27 patients who have living in a hotel/motel as their primary residence.** 



### **ABHC - HOTEL/MOTEL INFORMATION**

The ABHC Team visited the following hotel/motels during May and June and gathered information about guests potentially utilizing hotel/motels as their primary residence.

- Super 8—area churches occasionally pay for rooms for people in need of a place to stay
- Red Roof Inn—decorations and items on doors/balcony
- **Guest Inn**—the rooms toward the back of the motel appeared to be used a residences. Items like bikes, grills, a basketball goal wreath on doors, etc. were present)
- Motel 6—owner/manager reported that homeless individuals frequently stayed for a night or two when they had the money to do so. Also reported some guests on disability that had been staying for a long period of time.
- Economy Inn—owner reported 8 to 9 residents who had been there for over a year
- **Econolodge**—reported they do have residents that stay on a weekly basis because they have no other place to stay but not at this time due to the Valero turnaround
- Budget Inn—no information gathered
- Chief Motel—no information gathered
- Days Inn—no information gathered

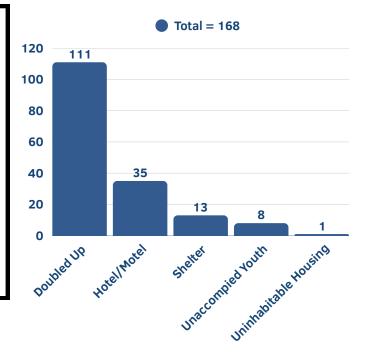
# What We Know: Sheltered Homeless

### >>> HOMELESSNESS IN SCHOOLS

The McKinney-Vento Act is a federal law that provides educational rights and services to children and youth experiencing homelessness, ensuring they can enroll, attend, and succeed in school. It defines homeless children and youth as those lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and establishes requirements for states and school districts to eliminate barriers to their education, such as ensuring immediate enrollment and providing transportation to their school of origin. The law also requires each school district to appoint a local liaison to assist homeless students and their families.

Ardmore City Schools identified **168 students** in the 2024-2025 school year who were homeless according to the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

### **ACS McKinney-Vento Data**





# What We Know: Housing in Oklahoma

According to the National Low Income Housing Coalition, Oklahoma is missing nearly 85,000 affordable rental homes for people with extremely low incomes (those making at or below 30% of their area's median income).

- 137,094 extremely low-income renter households across Oklahoma
  - 74% of extremely low-income renters are "severely cost burdened" meaning they spend more than half their income on housing
- These families typically earn around \$30,000 or less per year (for a family of four)
- Only 52,376 affordable rental homes are actually available for these families
- That means only 38 homes exist for every 100 extremely low-income families who need them
- In Oklahoma City metro area only 21 homes per 100 families
- To afford a typical two-bedroom apartment in Oklahoma, a family needs to earn about \$43,640 annually

Target 137,094
OR
25%
Renter households that are extremely low income

-84,718
Shortage of rental homes affordable and available for extremely low income renters

\$30,000
Average income limit for 4-person extremely low income

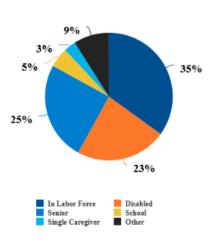
\$43,640

Annual household income needed to afford a two-bedroom rental home at HUD's

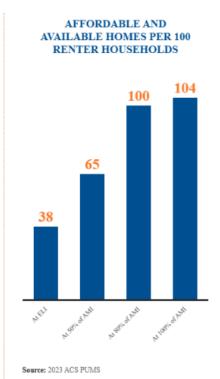
Fair Market Rent.

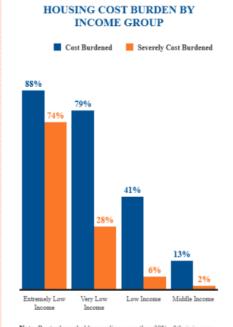
Percent of extremely low income renter households with severe cost burden

### EXTREMELY LOW INCOME RENTER HOUSEHOLDS



Note: Mutually exclusive categories applied in the following order: senior, disabled, in labor force, enrolled in school, single adult caregiver of a child under 7 or a person with a disability, and other. Thirteen percent of extremely low-income renter households include a single adult caregiver, 53% of whom usually work at least 20 hours per week. Eleven percent of extremely low-income renter householders are enrolled in school, 48% of whom usually work at least 20 hours per week. Source: 2023 ACS PUMS
Source: 2023 ACS PUMS





Note: Renter households spending more than 30% of their income on housing costs and utilities are cost burdened; those spending more than half of their income are severely cost burdened. Source: 2023 ACS PUMS

# What We Know: Housing in Ardmore

- There are 11,234 housing units in the City of Ardmore
  - Nearly 40% of Ardmore households rent their home
    - 15% of housing units in Ardmore of multifamily structures implying that 25% of Ardmore households (about 2,800) rent a single family house or unit of some type.
  - It is estimated there are 1,658 multifamily units in Ardmore
    - 615 out of 1,658 are income based or income capped
    - 180 additional units are in voucher friendly multifamily structures
- There are 18,887 housing units in Carter County
  - Over 32% of Carter County households rent their home
    - Of these renter occupied units over 41% are cost burdened, meaning they spent over one third of their income on rent



prepared by:

ABHC

Ardmore 3H Task Force