



# Fact Sheet

## Oklahoma Needs 66,879 Housing Units by 2020

Key findings from the 2015 Oklahoma Housing Needs Assessment\* and solutions proposed by state housing stakeholders at the 2016 Regional Housing Forums^

**44,000**  
units needed for ownership

**22,879**  
units needed for rentals

**17%** for households that earn less than 60% of median income

**51%** for households that earn less than 60% of median income

**19%** of owners are housing cost over-burdened

**40%** of renters are housing cost over-burdened



### Are you concerned with the lack of affordable housing in Oklahoma?

Here are 3 ways you can take action:

- Learn more about your community's housing needs by visiting [www.oklahomahousingneeds.org](http://www.oklahomahousingneeds.org) to view the 2015 Oklahoma Housing Needs Assessment.
- Join the Oklahoma Coalition for Affordable Housing. Visit our website at [www.affordablehousingcoalition.org](http://www.affordablehousingcoalition.org) and follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/okcoalition](http://www.facebook.com/okcoalition).
- Be an advocate for more affordable housing by visiting with elected officials, networks and friends about the long- and short-term implications of the affordable housing shortage across the state.

Oklahoma Coalition for Affordable Housing  
405-418-6224 | [www.affordablehousingcoalition.org](http://www.affordablehousingcoalition.org) | [ocah@outlook.com](mailto:ocah@outlook.com)

# Topics Interrelated to Affordable Housing

The findings below are interrelated when it comes to Oklahoma's affordable housing shortage. Homeless populations are more vulnerable in the event of a disaster. Plus, lead-based paint is typically more likely to be present in housing units occupied by low-to-moderate income households. Effective affordable housing policy can mitigate the impact of natural and man-made disasters by encouraging the development and preservation of safe, secure and disaster-resilient housing for Oklahoma's most vulnerable populations.

## Homeless Findings

- Absence of affordable housing alternatives across the state is the largest cause of homelessness.
- Community zoning regulations must work to promote the development of housing for all income levels.

## Lead-based Paint Findings

- An estimated 240,229 housing units have lead-based paint hazards.
- Of those, 19,761 are occupied by low-to-moderate income households with children under age 6 present.

## Disaster Resiliency Findings

Communities need to:

- Update, maintain or create Hazard Mitigation Plans, especially in areas with social vulnerabilities.
- Strengthen building codes related to tornadoes and other natural disasters.
- Support regulations that prevent development in floodplains.
- Plan for disaster shelters, especially in affordable housing units.

## Fair Housing Findings

- 70% of affordable housing units are located in areas marked by poverty.
- 62% are in areas where a majority of residents are not white.
- 13% have no access to transit services.
- 56% have limited access to on-demand transit services.

## Stakeholder-Proposed Solutions for Homelessness<sup>^</sup>

1. Work with the Department of Corrections to establish housing options for those who have been incarcerated.
2. Increase regional availability of resources for the homeless, including transportation, childcare and more supportive housing for unaccompanied minors.
3. Create marketing programs to educate the public on the facts surrounding homelessness.
4. Establish housing options at apartment complexes by designating units for homeless individuals who pass a background check.

## Stakeholder-Proposed Solutions for Lead-Based Paint<sup>^</sup>

1. Find a balance between reducing lead-based paint and preserving existing housing, particularly where tax credits are concerned.
2. Increase awareness of lead-based paint hazards and provide assistance in mitigation.

## Stakeholder-Proposed Solutions for Disaster Resiliency<sup>^</sup>

1. Increase regulation of insurance companies regarding rebuilding following natural disasters.
2. Explore more affordable options for safe rooms and shelters, especially in affordable housing units.
3. Help counties create Hazard Mitigation Plans and Local Emergency Planning Commissions and learn more about emergency response.
4. Require alarm warning systems for publicly funded developments and use a gap map to coordinate siren placement.
5. Create educational materials regarding storm safety, especially for those living in assisted housing about storm safety.

## Stakeholder-Proposed Solutions for Fair Housing<sup>^</sup>

1. Increase fair housing enforcement, especially for disability compliance and accessibility.
2. Increase review of plans for new housing to enforce building codes that take fair housing needs into account.
3. De-cluster poverty by investing in fair and affordable housing in areas that do not have high poverty rates.
4. Work to reduce the stigma of fair and affordable housing through public education.
5. Increase funding for fair and affordable housing, especially for those with disabilities, the elderly and those living in rural areas.

\*The 2015 Needs Assessment was commissioned by the Oklahoma Department of Commerce and the Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency with funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Block Grant Disaster Recovery program.

<sup>^</sup>Six Regional Housing Forums were held from May to July 2016 in Alva, Ardmore, Lawton, Oklahoma City and Tulsa. Sponsored by the Oklahoma Coalition for Affordable Housing and the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, Oklahoma City Branch.