



# Poverty in Oklahoma

## Objectives

- ⇒ Understand poverty definitions
- ⇒ Describe current statistics about poverty
- ⇒ Apply the issue of poverty to your life
- ⇒ Generate a list of personal actions
- ⇒ Identify resources on the issue of poverty

## Poverty?

### Dr. Ruby Payne's RESOURCES

*These resources (or the lack of them) have an impact on a person's ability to handle stressful situations.*

**Financial** – having the money to purchase goods and services.

**Emotional** – being able to choose and control emotional responses, particularly to negative situations, without engaging in self-destructive behavior. This is an internal resource and shows itself through stamina, perseverance, and choices.

**Mental** – having the mental abilities and acquired skills (reading, writing, computing) to deal with daily life.

**Spiritual** – believing in divine purpose and guidance.

**Physical** – having physical health and mobility.

**Support systems** – having friends, family, and backup resources available to access in times of need. These are resources external to yourself.

**Relationships/role models** – having frequent access to adult(s) who are appropriate, who are nurturing to the child, and who do not engage in self-destructive behavior.

**Knowledge of hidden rules** – knowing the unspoken cues and habits of a group.

**Coping strategies** – being able to engage in procedural self-talk and the mindsets that allow issues to be moved from the concrete to the abstract. It's the ability to translate from the personal to the issue.

Additional resources added to the list:

**Integrity, Trust** – Trust is linked to two issues: predictability and safety. Can I know with some certainty that this person will do what he/she says? Will it occur every time? The second part is safety: Will I be safe with this person? This is an internal asset.

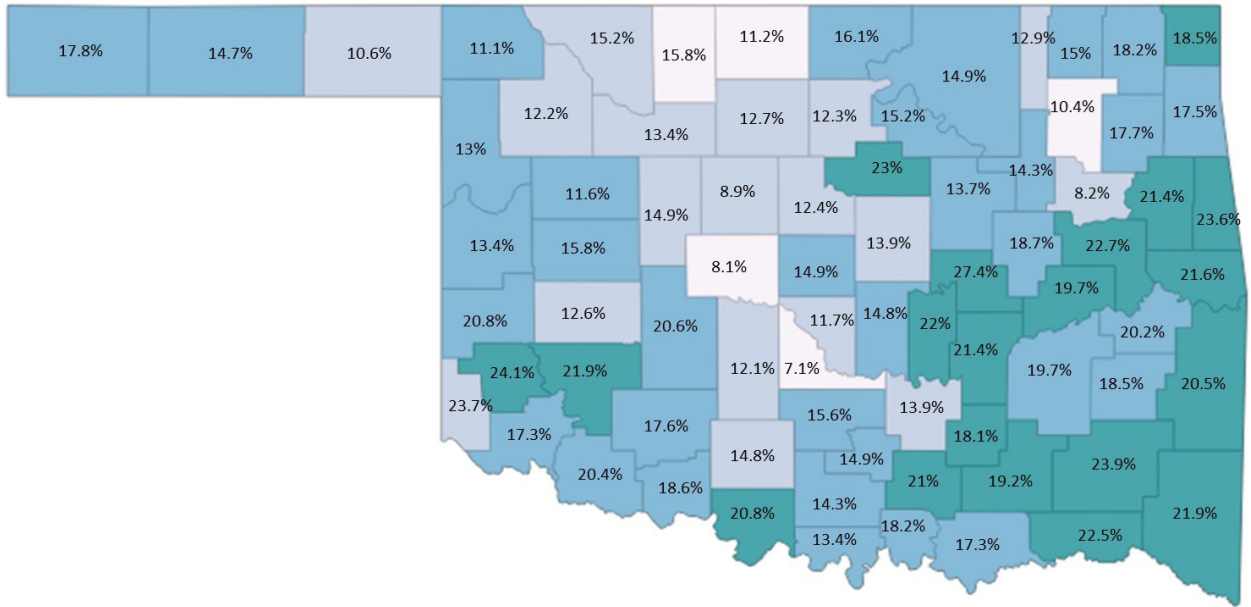
**Motivation, Persistence** – Having the energy and drive to prepare, plan and complete something, such as projects, jobs, and personal changes. This is another internal asset.

**Formal Register** – Having the emotional control, vocabulary, language ability, and negotiation skills to succeed in school and/or work settings.



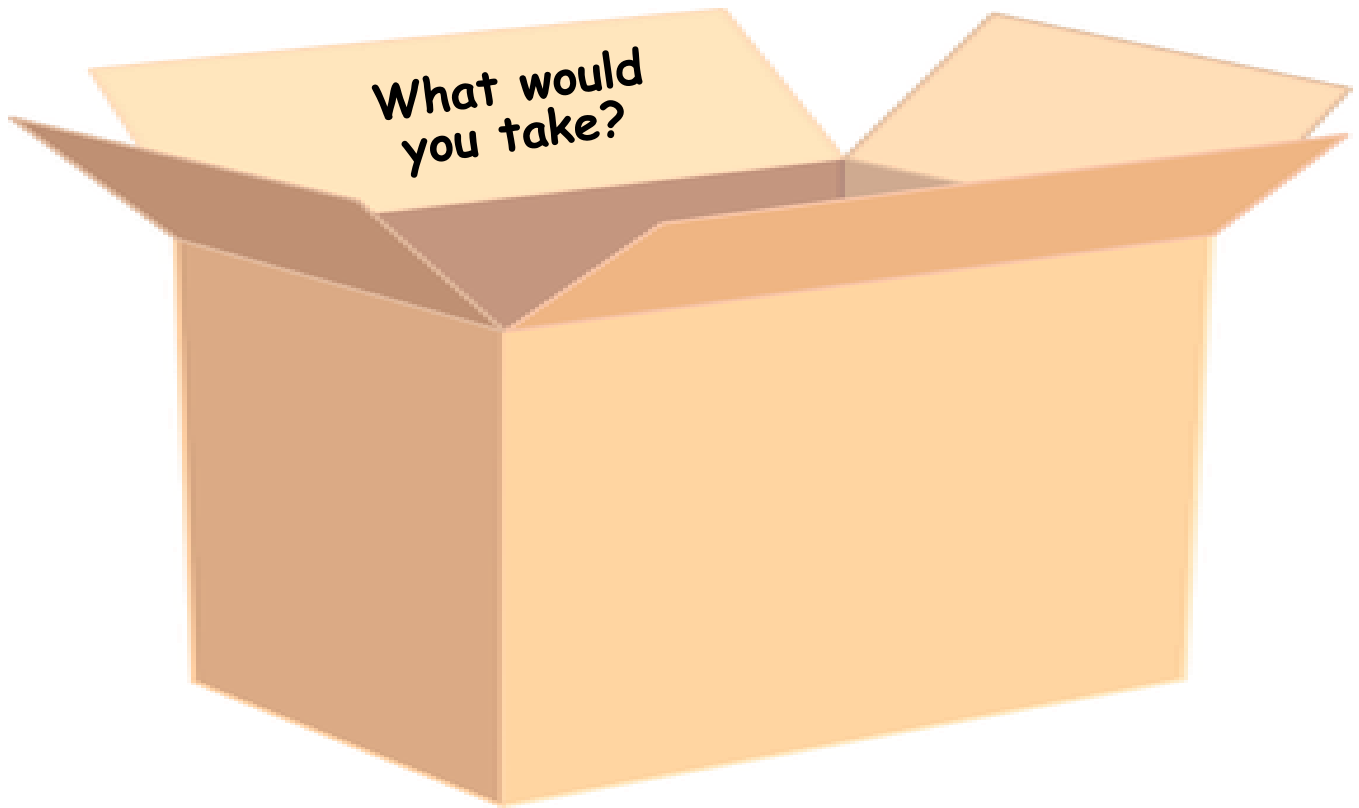
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# Poverty Rates by County: 2019



Generated from SAIPE data; <https://www2.census.gov>





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## What can I do?

*I, \_\_\_\_\_  
pledge to carry out the following  
action to turn the tide of  
poverty in my community:*



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*Today's Date* \_\_\_\_\_

*Target Date for Action(s) to be completed* \_\_\_\_\_



**Southern Rural Development Center Turning the Tide on Poverty initiative:**

Rachel Welborn, (662) 325-3207, [www.srdc.msstate.edu/tide](http://www.srdc.msstate.edu/tide)

***Bridges out of Poverty*** by Ruby Payne, et. al.: <http://www.bridgesoutofpoverty.com/>

Aha Process, Inc. A Ruby Payne Company, [ahaprocess.com](http://ahaprocess.com)

**Census data:** <https://www.census.gov/>

Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates: [http://www.census.gov/did/www/saipe/data/interactive/saipe.html?s\\_appName=saipe&map\\_yearSelector=2014&map\\_geoSelector=aa\\_c#view=Mapping](http://www.census.gov/did/www/saipe/data/interactive/saipe.html?s_appName=saipe&map_yearSelector=2014&map_geoSelector=aa_c#view=Mapping)

**Horizon Initiative:** [www.HorizonInitiative.org](http://www.HorizonInitiative.org)

**Poverty Simulation kit/activity** (Information, training, and/or purchase): Missouri Assn. for Community Action, n(573) 634-2969, [www.communityaction.org](http://www.communityaction.org)

**Study Circles and training:** Everyday Democracy: [www.everyday-democracy.org](http://www.everyday-democracy.org)

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