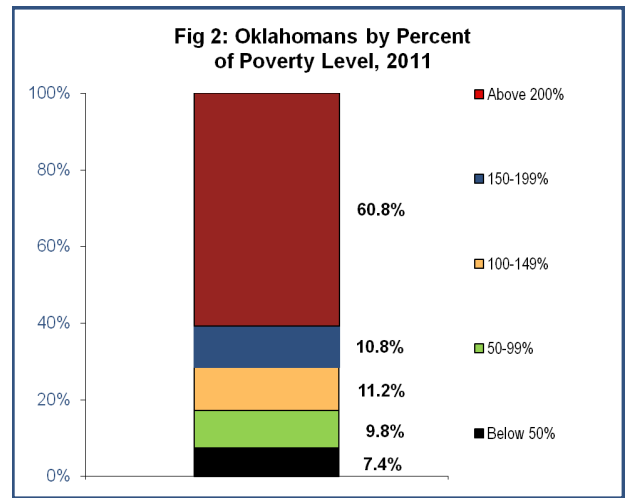
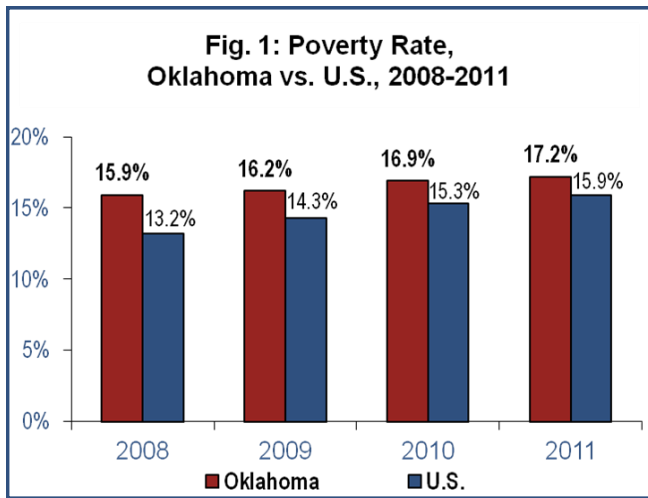


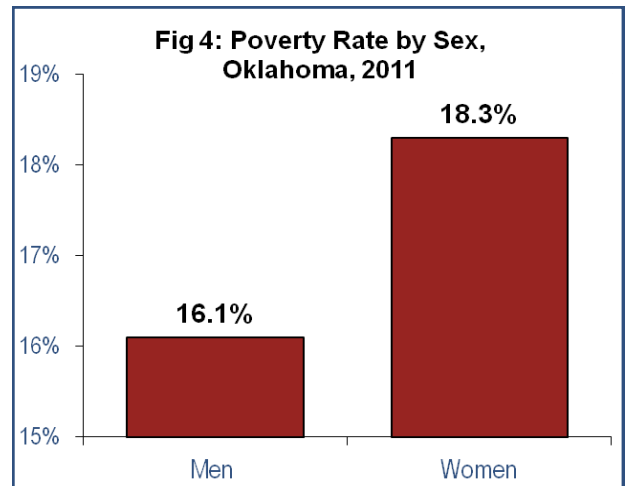
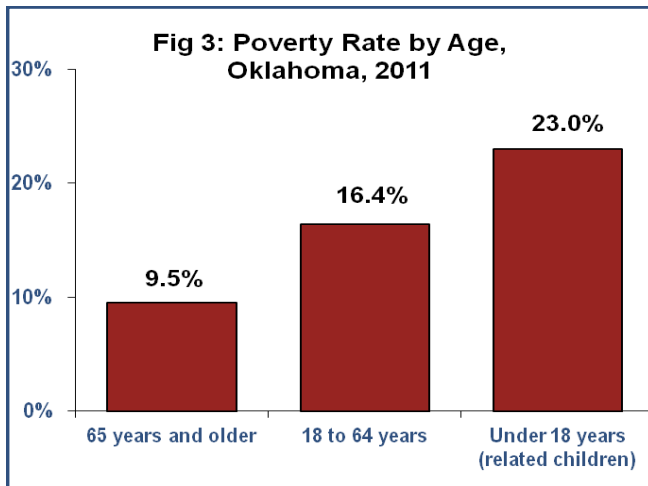
OKLAHOMA'S POVERTY PROFILE: 2011

On September 12, 2012, the US Census Bureau released new state-level data from the American Community Survey on poverty in 2011. This report highlights key aspects of poverty in Oklahoma:

- Some 633,298 Oklahomans, one out of every six (17.2 percent), lived in poverty in 2011. Oklahoma's poverty rate rose from 16.9 percent in 2010. While the state's rate rose less than the national average in 2010, Oklahoma's poverty rate remains 1.3 percentage points above the nation as a whole and was 17th highest among the states (Fig. 1). The poverty level in 2011 was \$23,021 for a family of four.
- The rate of *extreme poverty*— less than half the federal poverty level— is 7.4 percent (Fig. 2).

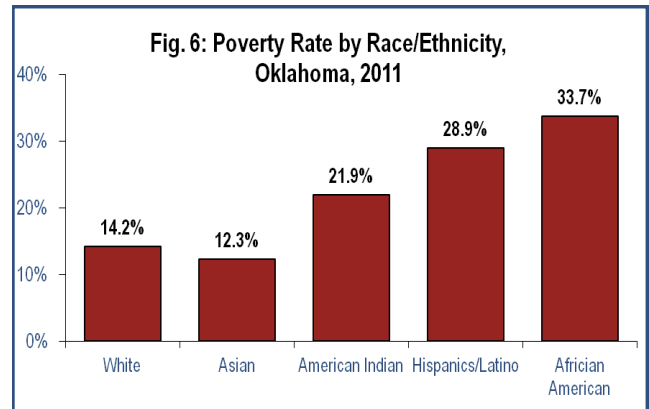
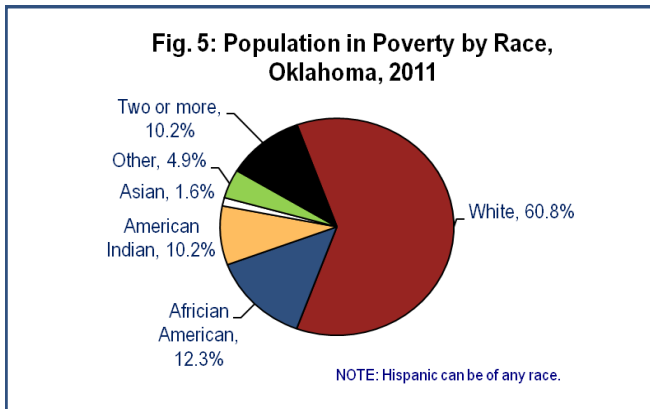


- The poverty rate for children (23.0 percent) is higher than that of working-age adults (16.4 percent) or seniors (9.5 percent). The poverty rate for children decreased 1.5 percentage points in 2011 (Fig. 3).
- The poverty rate for women (18.3 percent) is 2.2 percentage points higher than the rate for men (Fig. 4).

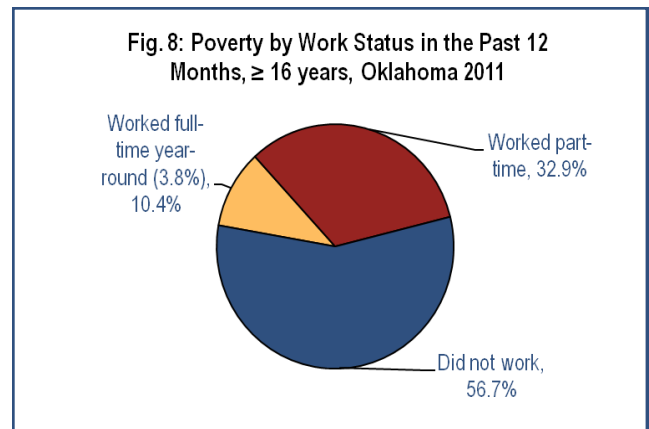
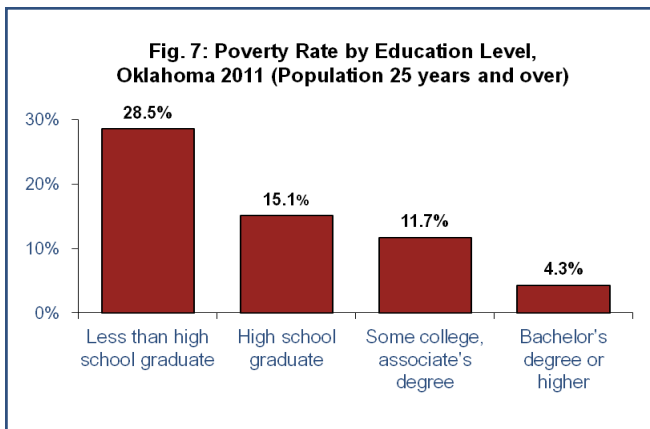


Source: All data from American Community Survey, 2011, U.S. Census Bureau at www.uscensus.gov

- A majority (60.8 percent) of Oklahomans in poverty are White (Fig. 5).
- Within Oklahoma, African-Americans (33.7 percent), Hispanics/Latinos (28.9 percent), and Native Americans (21.9 percent) have the highest rates of poverty (Fig. 6). The poverty rate for African Americans increased by 3.6 percentage points while the poverty rate for whites by only 0.3 percentage points in 2011. The poverty rate for Asians decreased by 3.2 percentage points and the poverty rate for American Indians decreased by 2.9 percentage points. The poverty rate for Hispanics/Latinos also decreased, but by only 0.9 percentage point



- Poverty is closely correlated with education— someone with only a high school degree is four times as likely to be poor as a college graduate, and those without a GED or high school diploma are almost seven times likelier to be poor than college graduates. About a quarter of Oklahomans in poverty, over age 25 (28.5 percent), did not graduate high school.



- Among working-age adults living in poverty, about 1 in 3 (36.7 percent) worked either part-time or full-time in 2011 (Fig. 8).
- Among Oklahoma families with children, families headed by single mothers are four and a half times more likely to be in poverty (43.9 percent) than families headed by married couples (9.5 percent) (Fig. 9).

