

## Chapter 3: Housing and Community Development Needs

### Demographic Profile:

#### General Population Characteristics:

Jonesboro has a population of 55,515 people based on the 2000 Census and 59,359 based on the U.S. Census Bureau's 2005 Population Estimates. Jonesboro grew 19.3% between 1990 and 2000 (from 46,535 to 55,515). Jonesboro Regional Chamber of Commerce states that Jonesboro is Arkansas' fastest growing city and the 5th largest city in Arkansas. Jonesboro is home to many nationally and internationally known corporations such as: Nestlé; Butterball, L.L.C; Frito-Lay; Hytrol; Post Cereals; Riceland Foods; International Paper; Thomas & Betts; Great Dane Trailers; Quebecor World; and Alberto - Culver.

According to the 2000 Census, 52.4% of Jonesboro's population is between the ages of 20 and 54, 14.4% of the population is in the 25 to 34 year age bracket, and 11.8% of the population is over the age of 65. The median age is 31.8 years old. According to the U.S. Census, in 2000 there were 24,317 housing units in the City with an average household size of 2.38. Of the total 22,319 occupied housing units, 42% are renter-occupied, while 57.9% were owner-occupied units. Married-couple families consist of 48.8% of the households while 15.8% are single parent households.

According to the 2000 Census, 2.6% of the Jonesboro population is foreign born; 18.5% percent of this population are naturalized citizens and 81.5% are not citizens. According to the Jonesboro Urban Renewal and Housing Authority there are two immigrant senior households applying for subsidized housing.

The proportion of lower income households (earning up to 80% of the median income) was higher among Hispanic (31%) and Black (19%) households than for White (16.2%) and Asian (0%) households. According to the Census in 2000, 17.4% of the population and 12.9% of families in Jonesboro had incomes below the poverty line (2006 Federal Poverty Guideline Levels) in 1999. Out of the total population, 22.4% of those under the age of 18 and 12.3% of those 65 and older were living below the poverty line.

The senior population increased by 25.8% from 1990 to 2000, and is expected to continue increasing. The 2000 Census shows there are 2,417 lower income (according to income definitions below) senior households, representing about 9.94% of the total City population.

#### Income Definitions and Distribution:

Throughout the Consolidated Plan, there is reference to "lower income" households, defined as households earning up to 80% of the City of Jonesboro median income. Other common terms in the document are defined below:

1. **Extremely Low Income:** Households earning up to 30% of the City's median income.
2. **Very Low Income:** Households earning between 31-50% of the City's median income.
3. **Low Income:** Households earning between 51-80% of the City's median income.
4. **Housing Problems:** refers to any of the following:
  - A. *Units with physical defects* (lacking complete kitchen or bathroom)
  - B. *Overcrowded conditions*, defined as having more than one person per room
  - C. *Housing cost burden*, including utilities, exceeding 30% of gross income
  - D. *Severe housing cost burden*, including utilities, exceeding 50% of gross income.
5. **Household Types:** Large Related (5 or more related persons); Small Related (2-4 related persons); Other Households (non-senior 1 and 2 person households and unrelated households).

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6. **Poverty Line:** The level of income below which one cannot afford to purchase all basic necessities. The official U.S. Census poverty thresholds do not vary geographically. For 2006 the Federal poverty line for a one person household was \$10,488 if under the age of 65 and \$9,669 if over age 65. For a four person household including two children, the poverty line was \$20,444.

For purposes of housing and community development resource programming, HUD has established income definitions based on the Median Family Income (MFI) for a given Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). These income definitions are presented in Table 3-1 and are the same as the definitions used in the Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) tables. According to the 2000 Census, the median family income was \$42,082. The 2006 federal income limits for the categories are shown below. Throughout this document, the term "lower income households" refers to those with up to 80% of the City's MFI.

**Table 3-1: HUD Income Definitions**

Income Group	Percentage of the Area MFI
Extremely Low Income	0 - 30%
Very-Low Income	31 – 50%
Low Income	51 – 80%
Middle Income	81 – 95%
Upper Income	Above 95%

Note: Federal housing and community development resources are typically not available for households with above 80% of the Area MFI

Based on the income definitions specified in Table 3-1, 12.49% of Jonesboro's total households in 2000 were within Extremely Low Income levels, 11.31% were within Very Low Income levels, and 15.21% were within the Low Income level. Thus, households with lower incomes comprised approximately 39% of the total households. Table 3-2 lists the number of renter and owner households based on various income levels and the Household Types (size of household). Table 3-3 shows selected characteristics of householders below poverty level in 2000.

**Table 3-2: Households with Lower Incomes**

	Household income <= 30%			Household income > 30 to <= 50%			Household income >50 to <= 80%			Households with Low Income		
	Renter	Owner	Total	Renter	Owner	Total	Renter	Owner	Total	Renter	Owner	Total
Elderly	403	358	761	146	578	724	238	694	932	787	1,630	2,417
Small Related	836	168	1,004	505	332	837	874	508	1,382	2,215	1,008	3,223
Large Related	132	18	150	189	38	227	102	124	226	423	180	603
All Others	1,014	108	1,122	818	145	963	906	252	1,158	2,738	505	3,243
Total	2,385	652	3,037	1,658	1,093	2,751	2,120	1,578	3,698	6,163	3,323	9,486

Source: SOCD.SHUDUSER.ORG

**Table 3-3: Selected Characteristics of Households below Poverty Level - 2000**

Selected Characteristics	Owner-Occupied Housing Units	Renter-Occupied Housing Units	Total Housing Units
Lacking Complete Plumbing Facilities	0	35	35
1.01 or More Occupants per Room	4	214	218
Built 1939 or Earlier	66	78	144
Householder 65 years and Over	322	316	638
With Public Assistance Income	16	359	375
With Social Security Income	331	433	764
No Telephone Service	51	350	401
Total	811	3,159	3,967

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 3, QT-H10.

**Concentrations of Low Income Population:**

Household income is an important consideration when evaluating housing and community development needs, because low incomes typically constrain people's ability to procure adequate housing or services.

The CDBG program defines low-income concentration as any block group with 51% or more lower income residents (earning 80% or less of the MFI). Maps 1 through 4, located in the appendix, depict the concentrations of lower income households. On the Census tract level, according to the census data available at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock GIS Applications Laboratory, there are 7 tracts (or portions of a tract) that are designated as low income in Jonesboro that have 50.1 percent or more lower income households. These tracts are located in the northwestern and northeastern portions of the City.

**Population Below Poverty Level:**

The poverty line is the level of income below which one cannot afford to purchase all the resources one requires to live. The poverty line is determined by considering the essential resources that an average human adult consumes in one year and then summing their costs. The largest of these resources is typically the rent required to live in an apartment; thus, economists have historically paid particular attention to the real estate market and housing prices in determining the poverty line threshold. The official Census poverty thresholds do not vary geographically, but they are updated annually for inflation using the Consumer Price Index. In places with high housing costs, the poverty line threshold may be lower than what would actually be needed by a household to pay for all essential needs.

The persons living below the poverty level are the most at risk of becoming homeless, since they are typically living paycheck to paycheck and are unable to afford all basic necessities. According to the U.S. Census in 2000, 17.4% of the total population and 12.9% of the families in Jonesboro had incomes below the poverty line in 1999. Out of the total population under 18, 22.7% were living below the poverty line while 12.3% of those 65 and older were living below the poverty line.

According to the 2000 Census, of the 9,279 individuals living below the poverty line in 1999, 76.60% consisted of persons 18 years and over and 23.40% consisted of persons under the age of 18. Seniors age 65 and over represented 9.97% of individuals living below the Federal poverty line.

**Racial/Ethnic Concentrations:**

In Jonesboro the White population constitutes 84.2% of the City residents. Black or African American is the second largest racial/ethnic group in the City (11.5%), followed by the Hispanic (2.3%) population. Comparing the racial/ethnic composition of the population with that of the occupied housing units indicates that 88.0% of households in Jonesboro are headed by non-Hispanic Whites, 9.5% by Black or African American and only 1.5% are headed by Hispanics. Table 3-4 shows race and ethnic composition of persons and households in Jonesboro.

**Table 3-4: Race and Ethnicity by Person and Householder - 2000**

Race/Ethnic Group	Persons		Households				Total-Number	Total-Percent
	Number	Percent	Owner-Number	Owner-Percent	Renter-Number	Renter-Percent		
Non-Hispanic White	46,764	84.2	12,075	62.3	7,298	37.7	19,373	100.0
Non-White Black	6,380	11.5	510	24.0	1,619	76.0	2,129	100.0
Hispanic	1,297	2.3	72	21.7	260	78.3	332	100.00
Asian	592	1.1	70	35.4	128	64.6	198	100.0
Others	482	0.9	83	44.4	104	55.6	187	
<b>Total</b>	<b>55,515</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>12,810</b>	<b>57.7</b>	<b>9,409</b>	<b>42.3</b>	<b>22,219</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: The Lewis Mumford Center for Comparative Urban and Regional Research 2000: Jonesboro, Arkansas, Homeownership by Race and Ethnicity.

Areas with concentrated minority residents may have different needs. Concentration is defined as block groups with above the City average of minority populations. Table 3-5 shows the concentrations of minority populations in Jonesboro.

**Table 3-5: Minority Concentration**

Census Tract	1990		2000	
	Minority Population	Percentage	Minority Population	Percentage
1	1,074	25%	1,402	17%
2	86	2%	504	6%
3	258	6%	439	5%
4	301	7%	1,077	13%
5	43	1%	475	6%
6.01	1,848	43%	773	10%
6.02	0	0%	2,229	27%
7	558	13%	806	10%
8	129	3%	416	5%

### Estimates of Current Housing Needs:

The Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) developed by the Census for HUD provides detailed information on housing needs by income level for different types of households. Detailed CHAS data for the City of Jonesboro, based on the 2000 Census, is displayed in Table 3-6. Based on CHAS, housing problems include: units with physical defects (lacking complete kitchen or bathroom); overcrowded conditions (housing units with more than one person per room); housing cost burden (utilities and/or other costs exceeding 30 percent of gross income); or severe housing cost burden (utilities and/or other costs exceeding 50 percent of gross income). The types of problems vary according to household income, type, and tenure.

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<b>Table 3-6: Housing Problems by Household Income</b>											
Name of Jurisdiction:						Source of Data:			Data Current as of:		
Jonesboro(CDBG), Arkansas						CHAS Data Book			2000		
Renters						Owners					
Household by Type, Income, & Housing Problem	Elderly	Small Related	Large Related	All	Total	Elderly	Small Related	Large Related	All	Total	Total
	1 & 2	(2 to 4)	(5 or more)	Other	Renters	1 & 2	(2 to 4)	(5 or more)	Other	Owners	Households
	member			Households		member			Households		
	households					households					
	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(I)	(J)	(L)
<b>1. Household Income &lt;=50% MFI</b>	549	1,341	321	1,832	4,043	936	500	56	253	1,745	5,788
<b>2. Household Income &lt;=30% MFI</b>	403	836	132	1,014	2,385	358	168	18	108	652	3,037
3. % with any housing problems	63.3	79.8	97	77.1	76.8	68.4	85.7	100	69.4	73.9	76.2
4. % Cost Burden >30%	58.3	78	89.4	76.1	74.5	68.4	83.3	100	69.4	73.3	74.3
5. % Cost Burden >50%	35.2	64.8	66.7	68.9	61.7	33	76.2	77.8	43.5	47.1	58.5
<b>6. Household Income &gt;30% to &lt;=50% MFI</b>	146	505	189	818	1,658	578	332	38	145	1,093	2,751
7. % with any housing problems	69.9	84.6	73.5	81.8	80.6	41	75.3	78.9	57.2	54.9	70.4
8. % Cost Burden >30%	63	80.6	57.7	81.8	77	41	74.1	78.9	57.2	54.5	68.1
9. % Cost Burden >50%	22.6	13.7	7.4	21.9	17.8	20.2	35.8	52.6	33.1	27.8	21.8
<b>10. Household Income &gt;50 to &lt;=80% MFI</b>	238	874	102	906	2,120	694	508	124	252	1,578	3,698
11. % with any housing problems	43.3	28.6	70.6	32.8	34.1	16.1	49.2	50	42.1	33.6	33.9
12. % Cost Burden >30%	43.3	28.1	7.8	31.7	30.4	16.1	49.2	38.7	42.1	32.7	31.4
13. % Cost Burden >50%	12.6	4.5	0	1.1	3.7	4.3	16.7	8.1	17.1	10.6	6.7
<b>14. Household Income &gt;80% MFI</b>	300	1,542	234	1,157	3,233	1,907	5,891	639	1,073	9,510	12,743
15. % with any housing problems	9.7	5.1	31.6	2.1	6.3	2.8	6.1	21.4	12	7.1	6.9
16. % Cost Burden >30%	8.3	1.9	0	2.1	2.4	2.8	5.5	7.8	12	5.9	5
17. % Cost Burden >50%	5	0	0	0	0.5	0.2	0.7	1.6	0.9	0.7	0.6
<b>18. Total Households</b>	1,087	3,757	657	3,895	9,396	3,537	6,899	819	1,578	12,833	22,229
19. % with any housing problems	45	37.8	62.9	45.5	43.6	18.3	14.5	30.2	24.9	17.8	28.7
20. % Cost Burden >30	41.9	35.5	35.8	45	40.2	18.3	13.9	17.8	24.9	16.7	26.6
21. % Cost Burden >50	20.2	17.3	15.5	22.8	19.8	7.6	5.4	6.6	9.4	6.6	12.2

Abbreviation: Hhds = Households. Note: Data presented in this table is based on special tabulations from sample Census data. The number of households in each category usually deviates slightly from the 100% count due to the need to extrapolate sample data out to total households. Interpretations of this data should focus on the proportion of households in need of assistance rather than on precise numbers. Source: HUD Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) Databook,

### **Housing Need Findings:**

The following are the key findings from the CHAS information concerning housing needs in Jonesboro. Cost burden was the primary problem identified for these groups.

1. In general, renter households had a higher level of housing problems (43.6%) than owner households (17.8%). Owners, as a group, had fewer problems and represented a much smaller number of households compared to renters (6,163 lower income renter households compared to 3,323 lower income homeowners). Among all owners, 73.9% of extremely low-income, 54.9% of very low-income, and 33.6% of low-income owner households experienced housing problems. The percentages were significantly higher for renters. For all renters, 76.8% of extremely low income, 80.6% of very low income, and 34.1% of low-income renter households experienced housing problems.
2. Large family households (5 or more related persons) had the highest level of housing problems regardless of income level or tenure. All (100%) extremely low-income large family homeowners and almost all (97%) of extremely low-income large family renters experienced housing problems. A high proportion of very low-income large family owners (78.9%) and renters (73.5%) also experienced housing problems, as did large family renters and homeowners of low-income level (70.6% renter and 50% homeowners).
3. Small family households (2 to 4 related persons) also experienced housing problems. 85.7% of extremely low-income small family homeowners and almost 79.8% of extremely low-income small family renters experienced housing problems. A high proportion of very low-income small family owners (75.3%) and renters (84.6%) also experienced housing problems, as did small family renters and homeowners of low-income level (28.6% renter and 49.2% homeowners).
4. Other households (comprised of non-senior singles and unrelated households) also experienced housing problems among very low-income renter households (81.8%), extremely low income renters (77.1%) and low income renter households (32.8%). Homeowners in this category also had similar housing problems.
5. Seniors accounted for 69.9% of very low income and 63.3% of extremely low-income elderly renters having a housing problem. Also, 68.4% of extremely low-income elderly homeowners had at least one housing problem. Seniors homeowners with housing problems with very low-income total 41.0% and low-income senior homeowners total 16.1 %.
6. Among seniors, small family, and other renter households, the very low-income groups (31-50% of median income) had higher percentages of housing problems than their extremely low income (< 30% of median income) counterparts. This situation may be due to fewer housing assistance programs targeted to the very low income group and insufficient resources to address the needs of extremely low income as well as very low income households. This situation may also create a disincentive for extremely low income households to improve their economic status, since households in the next higher income (very low income group) are experiencing higher percentages of housing problems.

### **Disproportionate Housing Need Findings:**

Disproportionate need refers to any need that is more than 10 percentage points above the need demonstrated for the total households. For example, 62.9% of large renter families (a subset of renter households) experienced housing problems, compared to 43.6% of all renter households and 28.7% of all households. Thus, large families and all renters have a disproportionate need for housing assistance. The following are those groups that have been found to have a disproportionate housing need.



### **Extremely Low Income Households (0-30 Percent MFI)**

All extremely low-income households experienced a disproportionate housing need, with 76.2% of this income group having housing problems compared to 28.7% for all City households. Overall renter households had more housing problems compared to homeowners. Large family households had the most needs followed by small family households and other households. The disproportionate housing needs among this income group are summarized below:

1. 76.8% of renters had housing problems (consisting of 97% of large families, 79.8% small families, 77.1% of other households (non senior singles and unrelated households), and 63.3% of senior households).
2. 73.3% of homeowners had housing problems (consisting of 100% of large families, 83.3% of small families, 69.4% of other households, and 68.4% of senior households).

### **Very Low Income Households (31-50 Percent MFI)**

All very low-income households (except senior homeowners) also had a disproportionate housing need compared to the general population, with 70.4% of this income group having housing problems compared to 28.7% for all City households. Overall, renter households had more housing problems compared to homeowners. Among renters, small families had the highest need (84.6%) while all other households come next with 81.8%. Practically all categories have almost similar high needs. Among owners, large families had the most needs followed by small families and other households. The disproportionate housing needs of this group are summarized below:

1. 80.6% of renters had housing problems (consisting of 81.8% of other households, 84.6% of small families, 73.5% of large families and 69.9% of senior households).
2. 54.9% of homeowners had housing problems (consisting of 78.9% of large families, 75.3% of small families, 57.2% of other households and 41.0% of senior households).

### **Low Income Households (51-80 Percent MFI)**

Low-income households (with the exception of senior homeowners and small family renters) also had a disproportionate housing need. Overall, renter households had more housing needs compared to owners. Among homeowners in this income group, all households except seniors had disproportionate housing needs.

1. 34.1% of renters had housing problems (consisting of 70.6% of large families, 28.6% of small families, 32.8% of other households, and 43.3% of senior households).
2. 33.6% of homeowners had housing problems (consisting of 49.2% of small families, 42.1% of other households, 50.0% of large families and 16.1% of senior households).

## **Special Needs Populations:**

Certain segments of the population may have more difficulty in finding decent, affordable housing due to their special needs. "Special needs" groups include seniors, disabled persons, female-headed households, large households, persons with AIDS, and persons with alcohol and/or other drug addictions.

**Seniors:**

The 2000 Census reports that there are 6,557 Jonesboro residents over age 65, equal to 11.8% of the population. This age group increased by 25.9% from 1990 to 2000, and also increased slightly as a portion of the total population. According to the 1990 Census, 4,268 households in Jonesboro were headed by persons 65 years and older, 3,438 (80.6%) of which were owner households. The 2000 Census lists 4,216 households headed by persons 65 years or older, 3,293 (78.1%) of which were owner households. The above senior age group will likely rise in the future as the "baby boomer" population ages and medical advances allow individuals to live longer. According to the Jonesboro Urban Renewal and Housing Authority, the Jonesboro Ecumenical Center currently has 69 subsidized senior housing units in the City of Jonesboro which house approximately 8% percent of the City's 787 lower income senior renter households. More affordable senior housing will be needed in the future, as the number of senior households continues to increase.

**Frail Elderly:**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that Consolidated Plans discuss the housing needs of the "frail elderly." For the purposes of this document, the frail elderly are persons age 65 and older with a disability that limits their mobility or their ability to take care of themselves. The 2000 Census indicated that 49.4% of the elderly population in Jonesboro has a disability. The Census counted 2,993 disabled among residents in the City who are 65 years of age or older (Table 3-8). Of these disabilities, 687 were self-care disabilities, and 1,431 were go-outside-home disabilities. It should be noted that seniors might have more than one type of disability; therefore, the number of disabilities do not necessarily correspond to the number of seniors with disabilities. Table 3-7 denotes the residential care facilities that are available to these populations.

**Table 3 - 7: Residential Care Facilities**

<b>Name of Facility</b>	<b>Capacity</b>
Rosehaven Retirement Home	37
Rosehaven Villa	35
St. Bernards Village	58
Mid-South Health Systems	34
Jonesboro Human Development Center	128

Sources: Rosehaven Retirement Home, Rosehaven Villa, St. Bernards Village, Mid-South Health Systems, and Jonesboro Human Development Center

**Persons with Disabilities:**

Persons with disabilities often face greater housing challenges than the population as a whole due to their sometimes limited incomes and special physical or developmental needs. High percentages of such households, particularly disabled elderly and renter households, pay large proportions of their incomes for housing and/or live in housing that does not meet their needs. Affordable accessible housing is therefore a high priority need for this group. Accessible streets and public facilities is another need for persons with disabilities.

The 2000 Census counted 7,998 residents age 16 to 64 in Jonesboro with a disability. The Census tallied 5,140 employment disabilities among residents in that age group (Table 3-8). The Census further showed that 776 persons in that age group lived with a mobility or self-care limitation. Since some persons may have more than one type of disability, the number of disabilities does not necessarily correspond to the number of persons with disabilities.

No accurate figures exist for the number of housing units in the City that are disability accessible. The City helps



physically disabled low-income households make minor accessibility modifications to their homes by funding a Home Access Program. Modifications typically consist of grab bars, adaptive steps, wheelchair ramps and other similar modifications.

**Table 3-8: Types of Disabilities**

<b>Total Disabilities Tallied:</b>	11,509
Disabilities Tallied for Population 16 to 64 years:	7,998
Sensory Disability	1,122
Physical Disability	2,691
Mental Disability	1,766
Self-Care Disability	776
Going Outside the Home Disability	2,275
Employment Disability	5,140
Disabilities Tallied for Population 65 years and Over:	2,993
Sensory Disability	1,045
Physical Disability	2,102
Mental Disability	904
Self-Care Disability	687
Going Outside the Home Disability	1,431

Source: Census 2000, Table QT-P21

**Mentally Disabled:**

According to the local community Mental Health Department (Mid-South Health Systems), mental health needs in the County continue to exceed available support services. Since 1988, major initiatives have been implemented to form a stronger client-centered community based public mental health system that assists adults with mental illness and children and adolescents with emotional disturbance. Restructuring the public mental health system allowed the system to very effective. Now the responsibility, accountability and authority for the types of services are placed at the community level, since most individuals serviced by the public mental health system reside in the community.

Families Inc., a support service also for those diagnosed with mental illness served 481 low income individuals in 2006. They unfortunately had to turn away 28 clients due to funding shortage. They are currently working on a school based program that would allow them to assist 65 more youths through the local school system.

**Developmentally Disabled:**

Opened in 1974, the Jonesboro Human Development Center is nationally accredited, state-operated residential service for people with developmental challenges. The JHDC can house up to 120 people and is licensed by the state of Arkansas to provide adult services as an Intermediate Care Facility. The center teaches basic life and employment skills to individuals with a primary diagnosis of mental retardation. An array of services is provided by the facility including crisis intervention, training in behavioral control, medical care, and assistance in coordinating the transition of people served at the center back into community living arrangements. The goal of the facility is to help those being served reach their maximum potential while providing them respect, dignity, training, and support.

Because of the nature and focus of their service everyone who is admitted is potentially a transition candidate. Each person who lives there is evaluated annually to determine if he or she has advanced to the point where transition is a route to take. For some it may take several years, for others a matter of a few months. But everyone has the potential to go from being a long-term resident to transitioning back to a community setting. They directly served approximately 250 people in 2006 and another 20 indirectly through assistance in coordinating services with other providers.

Pathfinders is a housing facility for developmentally disabled adults. Presently they have a 10-bed residential facility and are interested in growing. They opened a new workshop to assist clients with job development skills. Also, they are looking to build an eight (8) unit apartment complex to assist more clients.

**Female-Headed Households:**

The 2000 Census indicated that about 4,352 households were female-headed households, which represented 8.2% of all City households. Low-income female-headed households have special needs for affordable housing and supportive housing in particular. Affordable childcare is also a need for this group. According to Crowley’s Ridge Development Council, Inc. Head Start Community Assessment document, 71% of low income women surveyed stated that acquiring affordable childcare was a problem.

Victims of domestic violence are a special class of female-headed households. The most recent report by the Women’s Crisis Center of Craighead County shows that in Year 2006 there were 2,459 crisis calls to police in the county related to domestic violence. Based on Jonesboro having 67.7% of the County’s total population, it is estimated there are about 267 of those calls came from Jonesboro. According to the Women’s Crisis Center for Battered Women and Children, it provides counseling, legal assistance, transportation, and shelter each year to about 134 Jonesboro victims of domestic violence.

Affordable housing is a critical need for survivors of domestic violence who seek to separate from their abuser but have limited means to support and shelter themselves and their dependent children. Jonesboro provides funding to the Support Network for Battered Women which provides shelter and transitional housing for victims of domestic violence. In addition to housing, residents are provided supportive services such as counseling, legal assistance, transportation, and childcare. Residents are provided comprehensive case management which includes education and job training as part of their transition to independent living.

**Large Households:**

Large households (those with five or more persons) have special housing needs due to their income and the lack of adequately sized, affordable housing. As a result, large households often live in overcrowded conditions. The 2000 Census reports 1,476 households with five or more members in Jonesboro, representing 6.6% of the total households (Table 3-9). Large renter-households were less prevalent (657 households) than large owner-occupied households (819 households).

The special census tabulations for HUD (Table 3-6) indicated that among the large households in the City, 62.9 percent renter and 30.2 owner households experienced at least one housing problem. This illustrates that Jonesboro has a need for affordable housing units with three or more bedrooms.

**Table 3-9: Large Household Profile**

Housing	Number			Percentage of All Households		
	Owner	Renter	Total	Owner	Renter	Total
All Households	12,833	9,396	22,229	57.6%	42.4%	100%
Large Households	819	657	1,476	3.7%	2.9%	6.6%

Source: Census 2000, QT-H2 Table

**Persons with HIV/AIDS:**

According to NARAN (Northeast Arkansas Regional Aids Network), there are 52 residents in Craighead County

recorded with AIDS. In addition, there have been 116 recorded cases of people with HIV in the County. To date, there have been 91 individuals diagnosed with AIDS and 156 individuals diagnosed with HIV.

### **Persons with Alcohol/Other Drug Addiction**

Alcohol/other drug abuse (AODA) is defined as excessive and impairing use of alcohol or other drugs, including addiction. The National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism estimates the number of men with drinking problems (moderate or severe abuse) at 14 to 16% of the adult male population and the number of women with similar problems at 6%. Abusers of alcohol and other drugs have special housing needs during treatment and recovery. Crowley's Ridge Development Council (CRDC) of Northeast Arkansas provides appropriate settings for treatment and recovery for the City of Jonesboro and Craighead County. CRDC indicated that there were 420 adult admissions and 19 adolescent admissions to the County's substance abuse programs from January 2006 to December 2006. To date, (January through May 2007), there have been 167 adult admissions and 7 adolescent admissions to the program.

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