

Supply and Demand Analysis Washington County

Summary

There is expected to be a greater-than-average need for child care during non-traditional hours in Washington County. Although only 40% of the Wal-mart Distribution Center workforce is living in Washington County, child care is still expected to become a highly needed service. Wal-Mart Distribution Center opened their doors April 1, 2005. They are anticipated to employ 700 the first year and increase to over 1500 within the next year. Shifts vary depending on the department. The current child care supply is not expected to meet the demand for the traditional hours nor for the non-traditional hours. R&R data supporting this conclusion covers an eight month period from July 1, 2004 to March 15, 2005.

Characteristics of Washington County

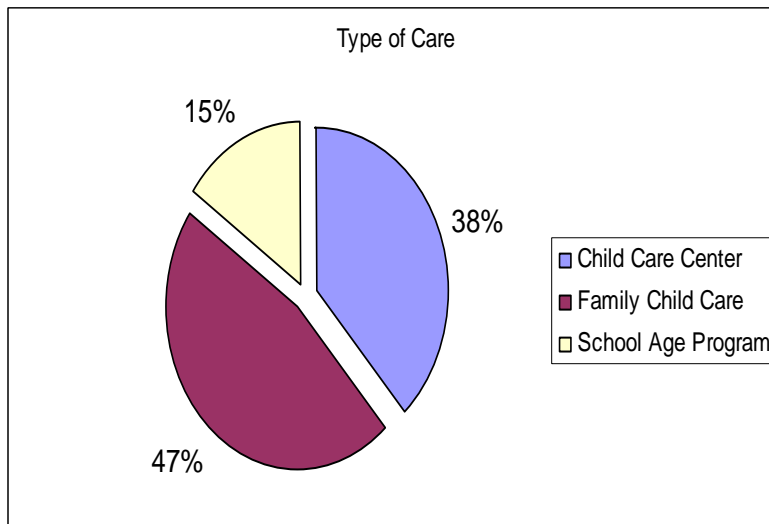
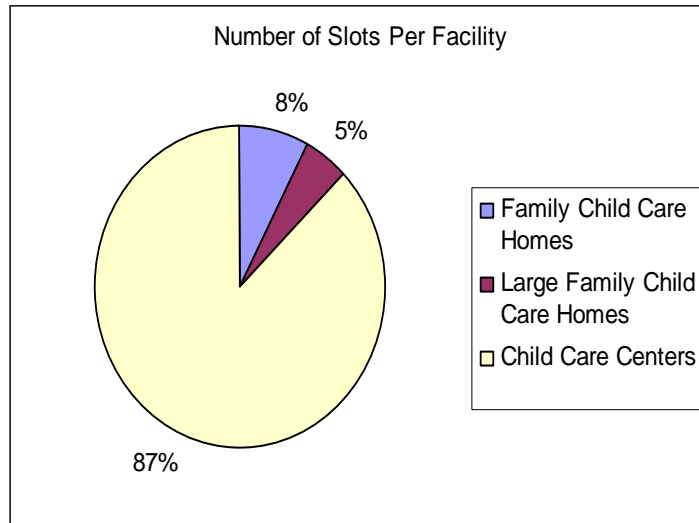
Washington County was chosen for this analysis due to the building of the Wal-Mart Distribution Center in Ochelata and the need for non-traditional hour care in the Bartlesville area. Employees that are hired at the Distribution Center are expected to be low to minimum wage positions with a few exceptions of management. Therefore, the need for providers that will accept subsidy, DHS and Tribal, is another concern for this area. About half of our facilities and homes accept financial assistance clients.

Facilities and homes in the area are most likely to open after 6:00 am, therefore this is not meeting the needs of the many shifts that are beginning at 5:00 pm.

Within the last year, the city of Bartlesville enforced zoning restrictions on Child Care Homes within the City of Bartlesville. This caused any extended hour care to be brought in front of the zoning board for approval. As a result, fewer homes are willing to take children before 7 am or after 7 pm. This leaves only homes outside the Bartlesville City limits to be able to care the non-traditional hour children. As you can see by the charts, there are only a few centers that will accept children in the late evening hours, leaving children to be placed in unregulated care or with family members. Before the Wal-Mart Distribution Center was built, Bartlesville was in need of non-traditional care.

Child Care Supply

There are 52 licensed Family Child Homes, Large Family Child Care Home and Child Care Centers in Washington County. The total licensed capacity equals 2,403. Roughly nine out of every ten children are in a child care center. Twenty-four of the licensed programs are Family Child Care Homes, 8 are Large Family Child Homes and the remaining 20 are Child Care Centers.



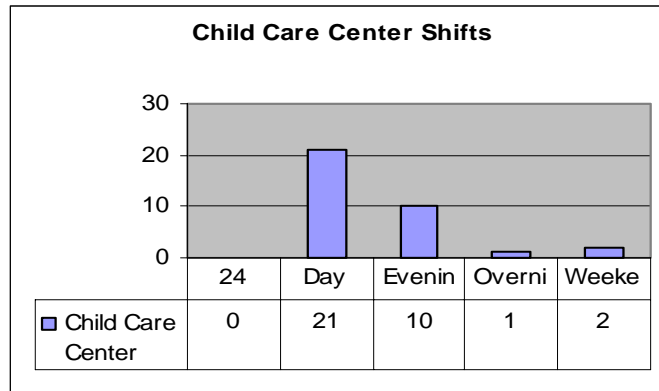
Child Care providers reported a total of 441 vacancies.

Vacancy information is not tracked by shift, so no conclusions can be drawn from the data about vacancies for non-traditional hours care.

Non-traditional Schedules by Type of Care

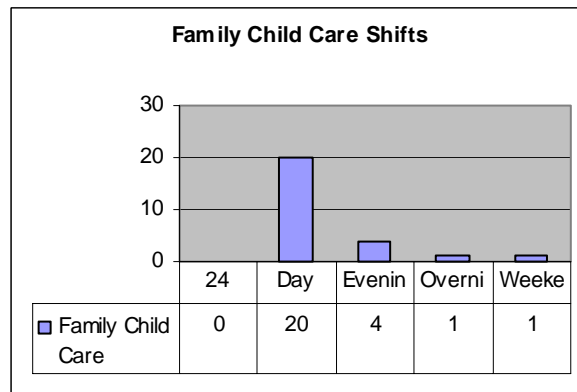
Currently we have no homes or facilities that operate 24 hours. These are the hours that are most likely to meet the needs of Wal-Mart Distribution Center and the other shift work employers in Washington County. Under new zoning regulations in the City of Bartlesville, Family Child Care Homes and Large Family Child Care Homes are not permitted to operate outside the hours of 7 am to 7 pm. This leaves Child Care Centers and Family Child Care Homes outside of Washington County to meet the needs of the business community.

Of all three options, Child Care Centers are most likely to offer families the non-traditional schedules at this time.

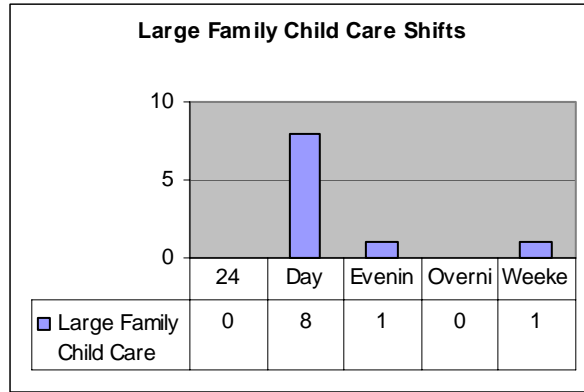


Of the 20 child care centers with responses, 10 of them offered evening care that extended past 6:00pm. One offered overnight care and 2 offered the weekend option.

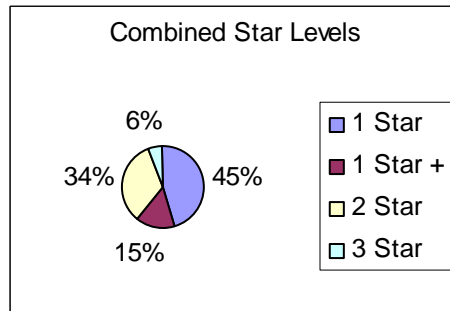
Family Child Care Homes outside of the City of Bartlesville are more likely to offer the non-traditional hour option. The 24 homes offer limited availability for the non-traditional hour trend in Washington County.



In the Large Family Child Care Home category, 1 of the 8 offer evening care and one offers weekend care.



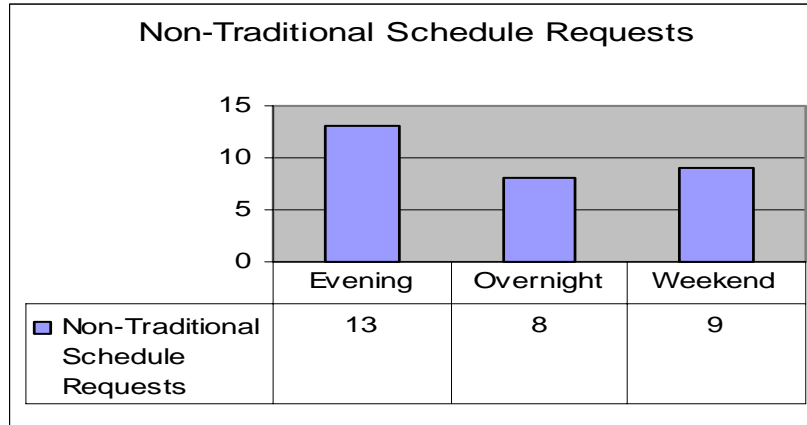
Quality of Care: Star Ratings



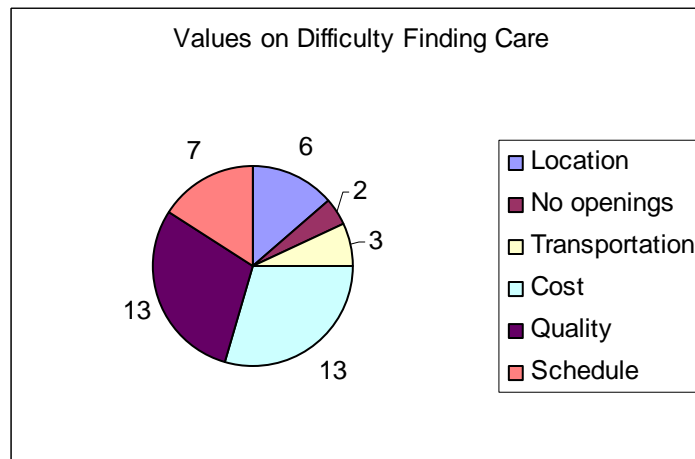
There are three, 3 Star facilities in Washington County. These three facilities have few vacancies and are compiling waiting lists. There are no 3 Star Family Child Care Homes in Washington County. With the exception of Child Care Centers, most of the children are placed in 1 Star home's. Fifty-five percent of children in centers are in 2 Star or higher facilities.

Demand for Child Care

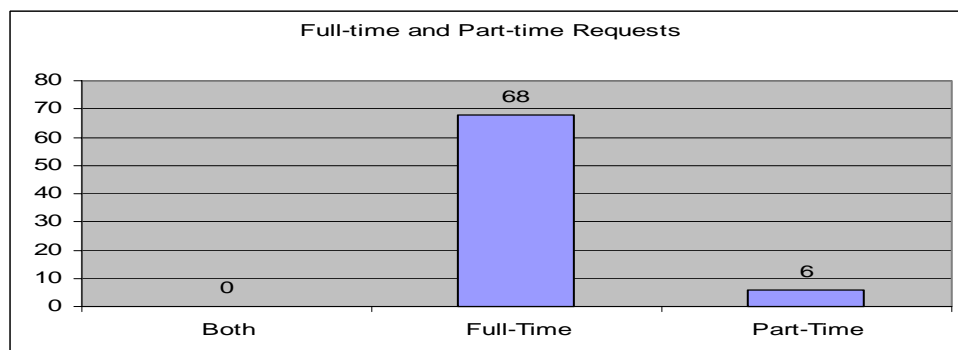
In Washington County, R&R received 67 requests for help finding child care between July 1, 2004 and March 15, 2005. Forty-four percent of referrals received were for non-traditional schedules. Thirteen requests were for evening care, 8 for overnight and 9 for weekend care.



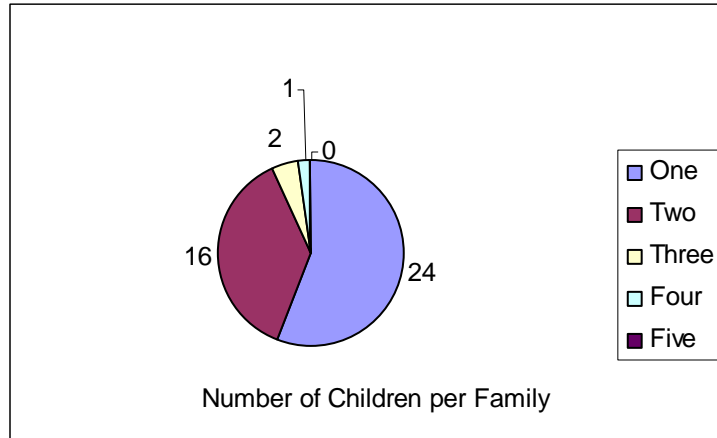
"Cost" and "quality" were the top two difficulties in searching for child care with each having 13 responses. "Schedule" followed with 7 responses then "location" and "transportation." "No openings" was the least of difficulties in finding care.



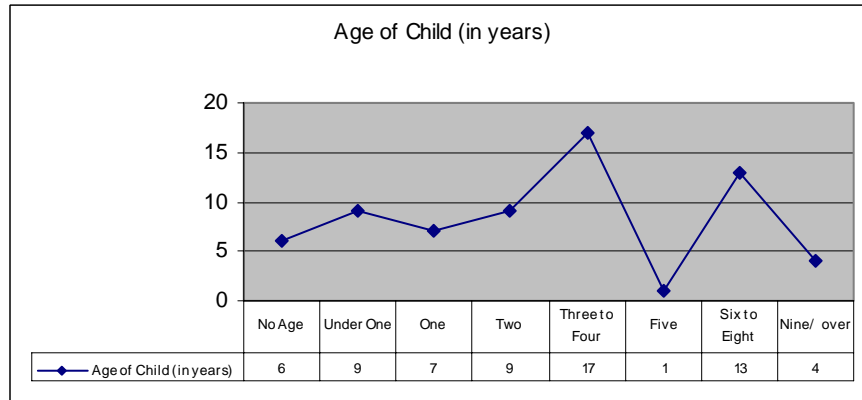
The majority of calls are parents seeking full time child care. Parents requested full time care for 68 of the 74 requests. Only 6 requested part time care in this area.



Most families sought care for one child. Of the 104 requests, 65 of them were for one child, 31 for two, 7 for 3 and 1 for four.



Care was most requested for three to four-year-olds with 28 referrals. The number 6 in the following chart represents calls where parents did not give the age of the child or the child had not been born.



Action Plan

The R&R will continue to collect additional data to analyze the need for additional non-traditional hour care. Staff will work with child care providers on opening their schedules up to evening and weekend care along with any new providers who might be starting the child care business. The number of potential slots will be presented to the child care community through meetings and on-

site visits. If needed, Sx6 and DTCD staff will take providers non-traditional schedules in front of the zoning board.

Sources

Supply and demand data are from the R&R's NACCRRAware child care database.

Wal-Mart Distribution Center personnel department supplied information on the number of employee, wage brackets, and shifts.