



Child Care Needs Assessment and Report

*Assessing the child care supply, demand & need
in Herkimer, Madison & Oneida counties in
2011*

Compiled by
The Child Care Council of Cornell Cooperative Extension



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Oneida County

Made possible with funding from the New York State Office of Children and Family Services

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Information for this needs assessment has been obtained from the following sources:

- Child demographic information is reflective of Puzzanchera, C., Sladky, A. and Kang, W. (2010). "Easy Access to Juvenile Populations: 1990-2009." Online. Available: <http://www.ojdp.ncjrs.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/>
- Child Care supply and potential slot information has been obtained through information maintained by the NYS Bureau of Early Childhood Services, Office of Children and Family Services (1/11).
- Child care demand information determined using information gathered from the Census 2000 American Fact Finder.
- Child care utilization and referral and parent follow-up information has been compiled through records maintained by the Mid-York Child Care Coordinating Council on its child care referral database, NACCRAware.
- Information on legally exempt child care was gathered from Mid-York Child Care Coordinating Council, Inc. generated data as well as from information maintained by local county departments of social services.
- All other information in this assessment has been gathered from information gathered by the Mid-York Child Care Council and maintained in their databases.

Dear Readers:

We are pleased to provide you with a copy of the Cornell Cooperative Extension Child Care Needs Assessment for 2011. Enclosed in this report, you will find a great deal of information related to the state of child care services in Herkimer, Madison and Oneida Counties, including supply and demand, cost of care, trend data, quality and satisfaction data for our tri-county area as well as some data related to child care in NYS from the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (NACCRRRA). It is our intent to offer this information to our community partners for use in community planning, while internally, we utilize the information to drive our own program planning and strategic development.

As most people know, during the 2010-11 Fiscal Year, the agency called the Mid-York Child Care Coordinating Council dissolved and the Child Care Council officially became a program of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Oneida County (CCE). Together with all of the other programs at CCE, we eagerly embark upon the process of developing a strategic plan that will drive all of our services and programming for the next 5 years. The information derived from this child care needs assessment and report will be an invaluable resource as we move forward.

The Child Care Council of Cornell Cooperative Extension is currently undergoing a comprehensive assessment of our organization and services for Quality Assurance validation by NACCRRRA in Washington D.C. This validation is the industry's highest standard of excellence in the United States for organizations offering child care resource and referral services. The validation process rigorously examines every aspect of our program from governance and fiscal management to performance of frontline services. The goal, of course, is to ensure that Cooperative Extension's resource, referral and education programs meet best practice standards for providing the highest quality services to parents, programs, providers and the community.

We welcome your feedback and will gladly answer any questions you may have about the data in this report or any of our services. Please feel free to contact us at 315-223-7850, 315-736-3394 or toll-free at 1-888-814-KIDS (5437).

Sincerely,

Lorraine Kinney-Kitchen,
Program Director

Ronald Bunce
Executive Director

Cornell Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment opportunities.

Part I: Child Care Supply

Number of NYS regulated child care programs & number of potential of child care slots by age group

The charts on the following three pages illustrate the number of regulated child care programs, by modality, that are located in Herkimer, Madison and Oneida counties. Regulated programs are those which comply with New York State Office of Children and Family child care regulations to care for children.

The graphs in this section of the Child Care Needs Assessment also illustrate the number of potential family and group family child care slots in each county. **Potential child care slots are the maximum number of slots a program is registered or licensed to serve, regardless of whether or not the slot is currently filled or vacant.** While family and group family child care providers may choose to care for a limited number of children under age 2 years, in doing so the total number of potential slots they may fill decreases.

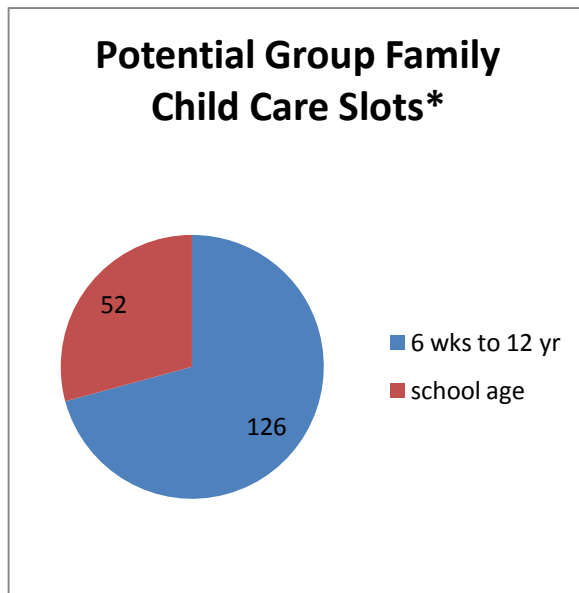
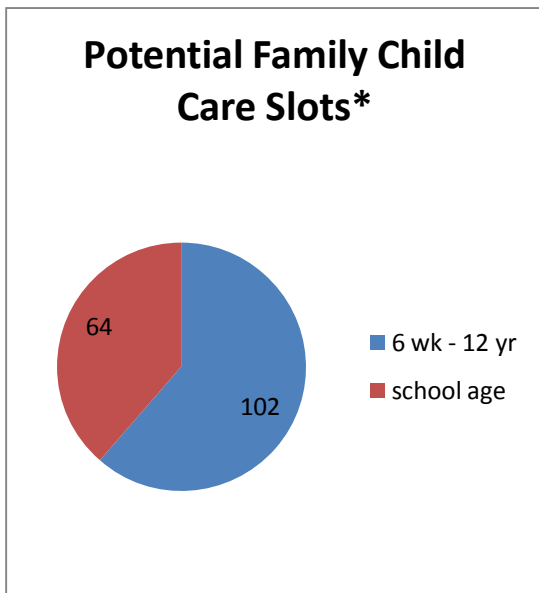
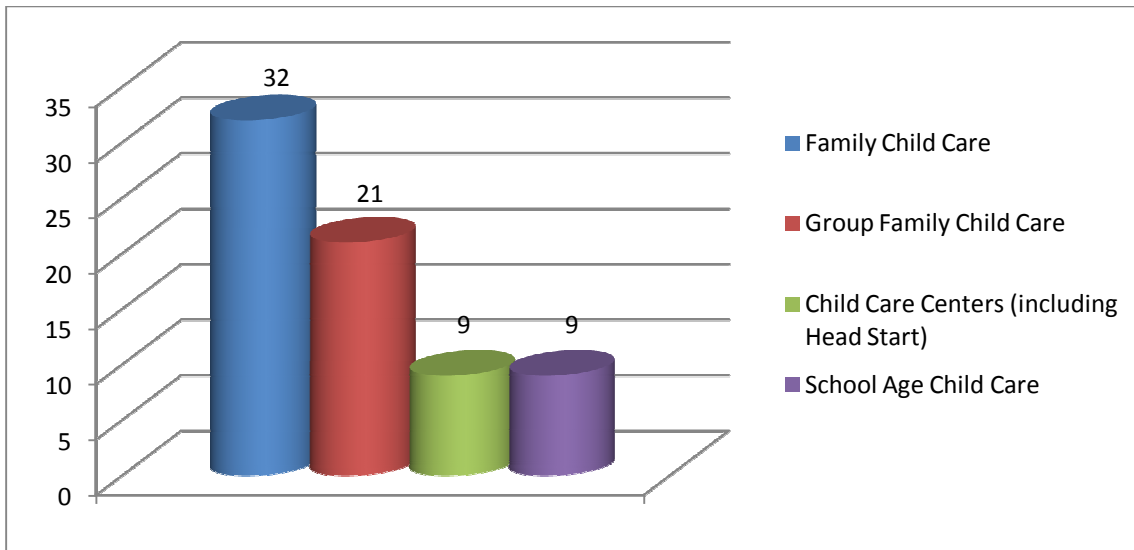
In addition, potential family/group child care slots reflect the Maximum Potential Slots as per the NYS Office of Children and Family Services Child Care Facility System. The average family child care provider is allowed a maximum of two children under the age of two-years, and in a group family child care setting, with two providers giving care, the average number of children under the age of two-years is four. The above charts reflect an estimated number of available slots based upon these averages. However, it is important to note that while a family or group family child care provider's license or registration may allow the provider to care for two or four children under the age of two-years of age, individual providers may choose not to take infants into their program, thereby increasing their maximum potential slots. In this light, the numbers provided are only an estimate of the potential slots available.

Lastly, the graphs located within this section indicate the number of potential child care slots for child care centers and school-age child care programs by age group (see appendix for information on age groups and staff-child ratios). **Potential child care slots are the maximum number of slots a program is registered or licensed to serve, regardless of whether or not the slot is currently filled or vacant.** As the graphs indicate, there is a significant lack of child care slots for infants and toddlers. Not every child care center provides care for these younger children. In fact, in Herkimer County, no licensed child care centers care for infants.

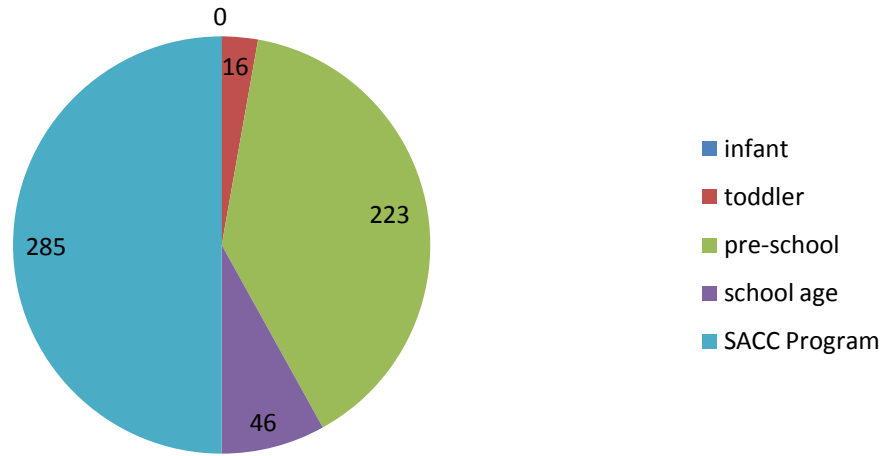
Part I: Child Care Supply Herkimer County

Number of NYS regulated child care programs &
number of potential of child care slots
by age group

NYS Regulated Child Care Programs



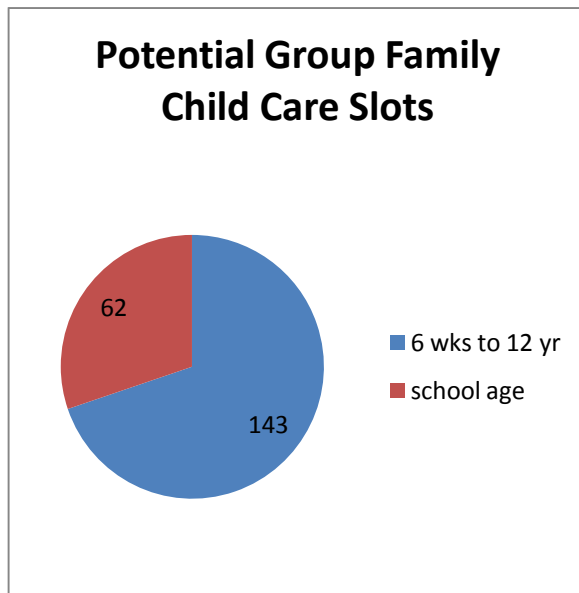
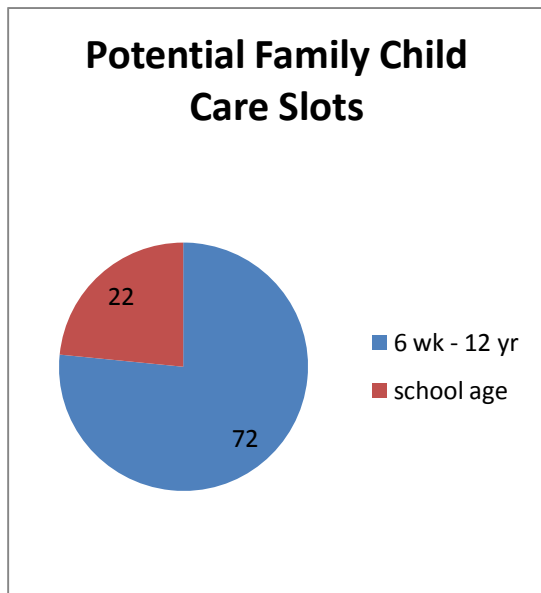
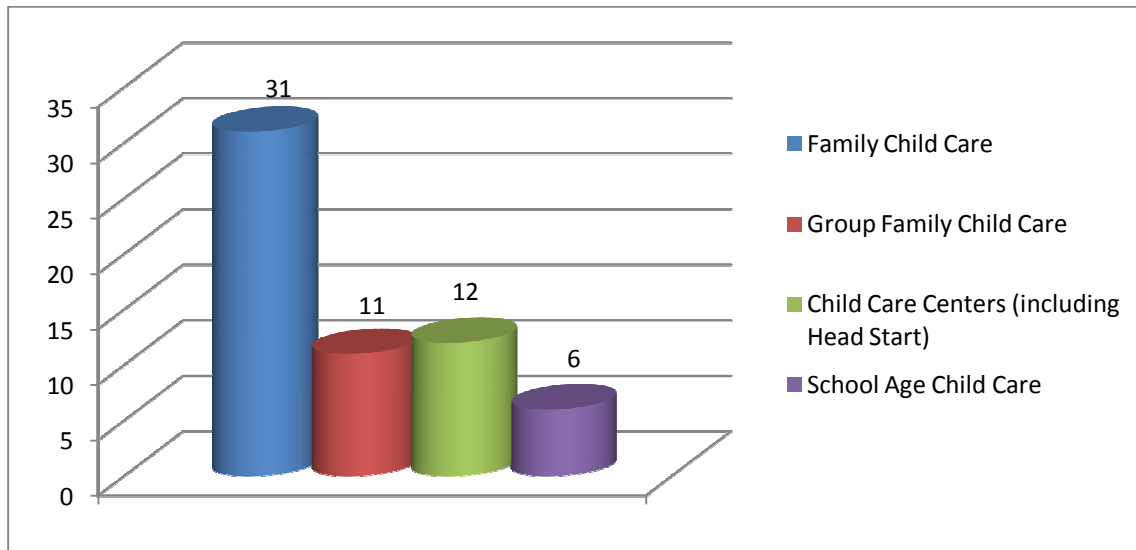
Potential Child Care Center & School Age Program Slots



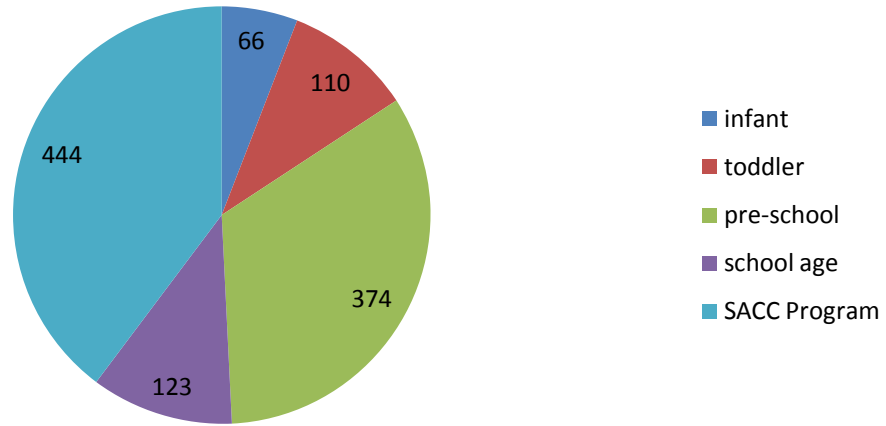
Part I: Child Care Supply Madison County

Number of NYS regulated child care programs & number of potential of child care slots by age group

NYS Regulated Child Care Programs



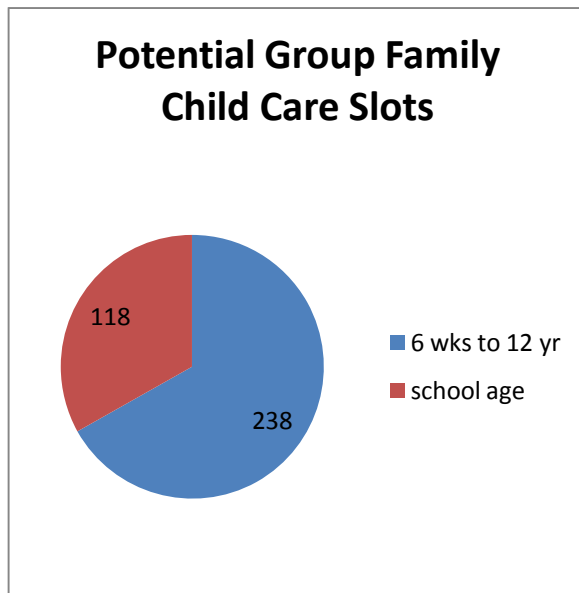
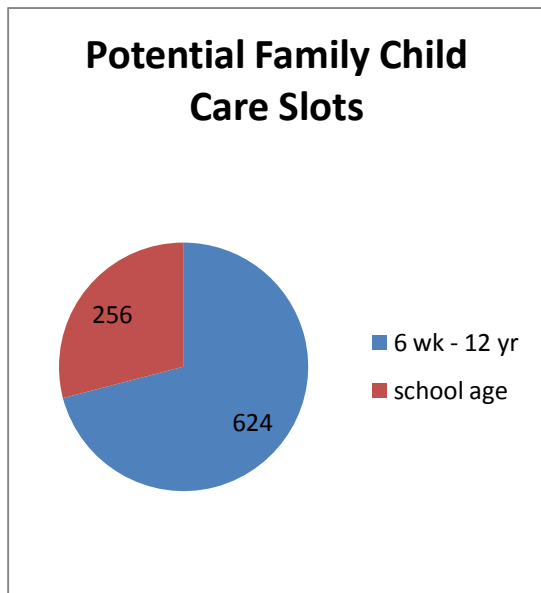
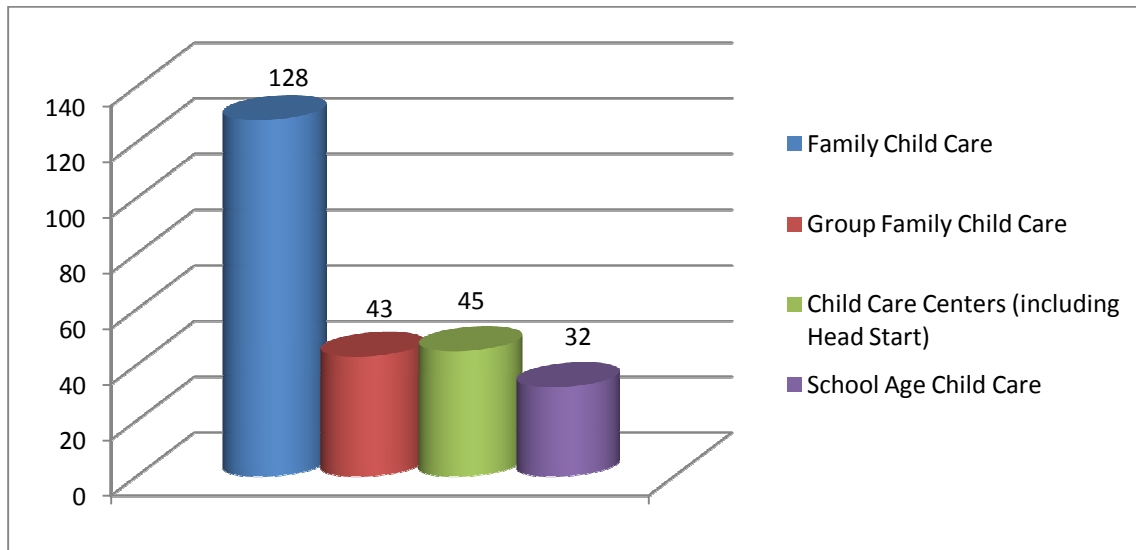
Potential Child Care Center & School Age Program Slots



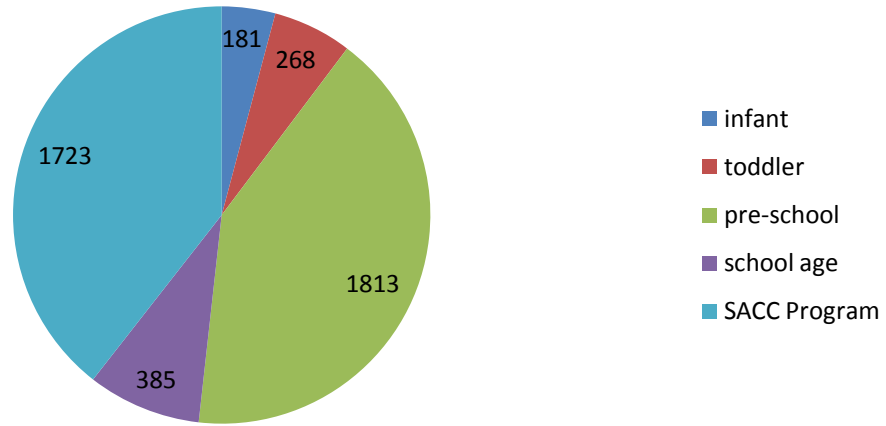
Part I: Child Care Supply Oneida County

Number of NYS regulated child care programs & number of potential of child care slots by age group

NYS Regulated Child Care Programs



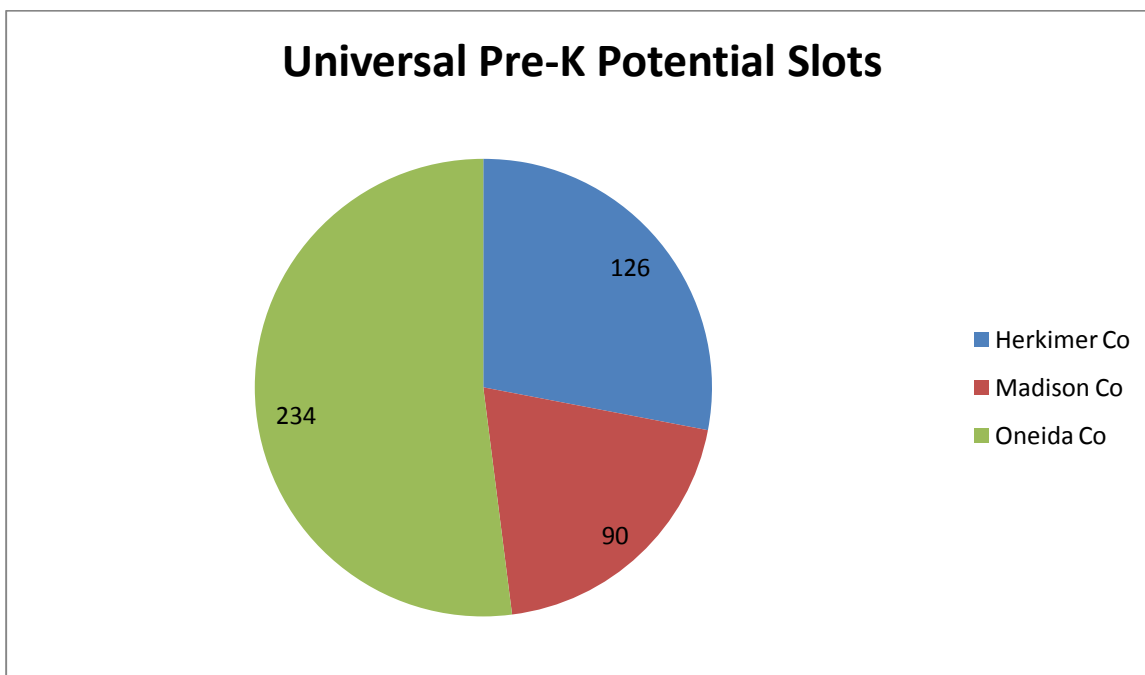
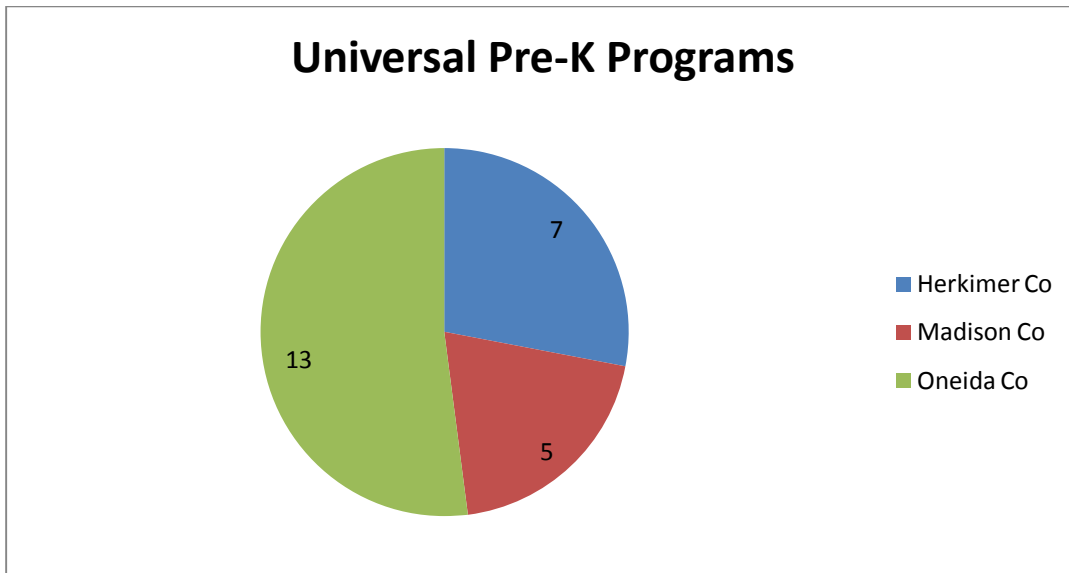
Potential Child Care Center & School Age Program Slots



Part I: Child Care Supply

Universal Pre-Kindergarten

Number of Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program & number of potential slots for Herkimer, Madison & Oneida Counties



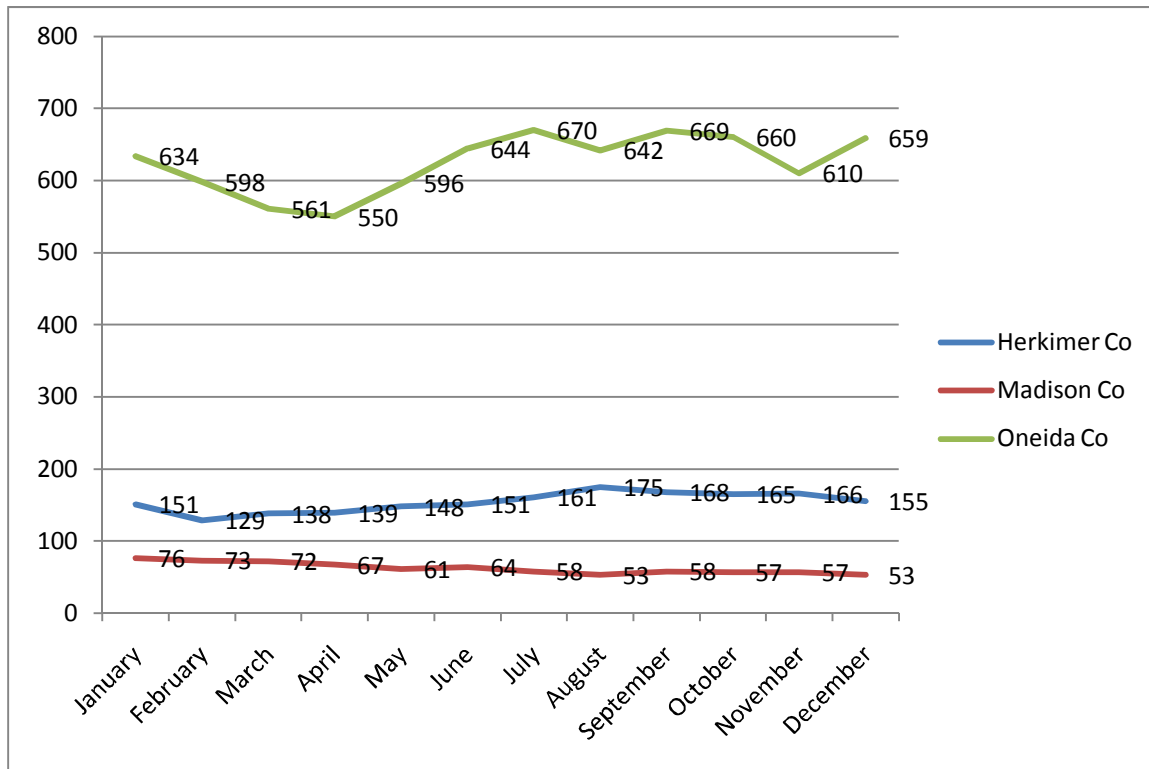
School Districts offering Pre-K Programming

School District	County
Adirondack	Oneida
Canastota	Madison
Dolgeville	Herkimer
Frankfort	Herkimer
Hamilton	Madison
Herkimer	Herkimer
Holland Patent	Oneida
Madison	Madison
Mohawk	Herkimer
Morrisville	Madison
Mount Markham	Madison
Newport	Herkimer
Oriskany	Oneida
Owen D Young	Herkimer
Remsen	Oneida
Rome	Oneida
Sauquoit	Oneida
Stockbridge	Madison
Waterville	Oneida
Westmoreland	Oneida

Part I: Child Care Supply

Legally exempt child care providers

Approved Legally Exempt Child Care Providers



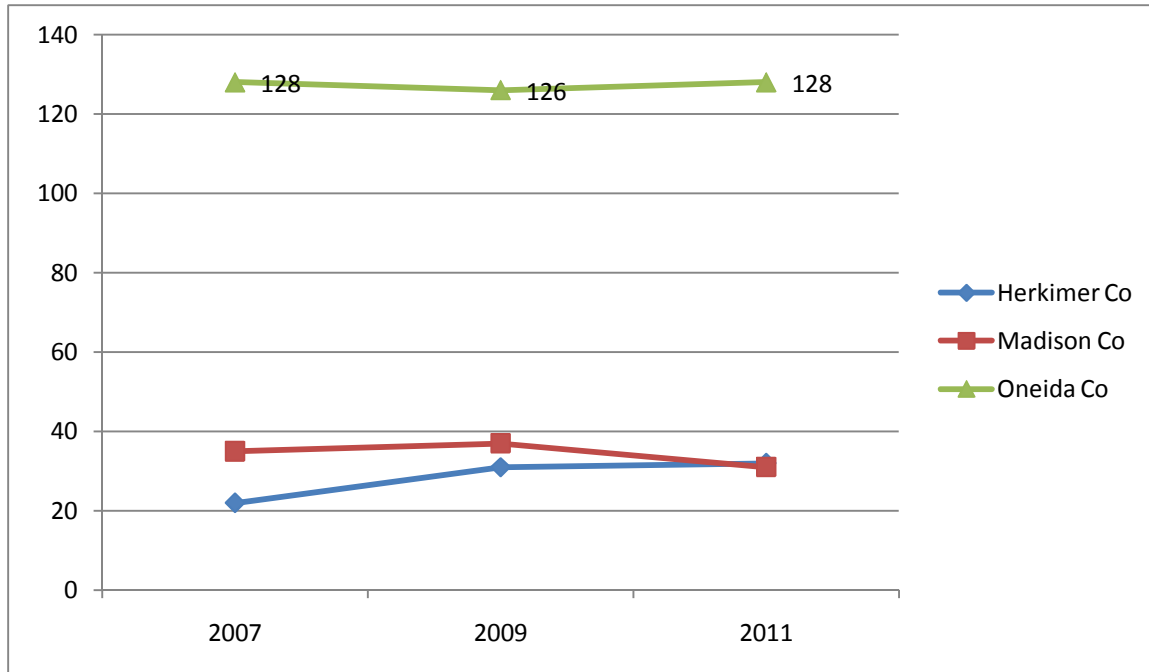
Effective July 31, 2006, the NYS Office of Children and Family Services implemented regulations pertaining to legally exempt child care providers. The regulations require that child care resource and referral agencies across New York State serve as enrollment agencies, responsible for approving, enrolling and monitoring legally exempt providers.

As indicated in the regulations, the Child Care Council reviews and processes legally exempt applications completed by subsidy eligible parents and their selected prospective provider. The number of legally exempt providers illustrated in this graph represents the number of legally exempt child care providers approved to provide care in each of the Child Care Council's counties of service during 2010. The number of applications processed is actually higher.

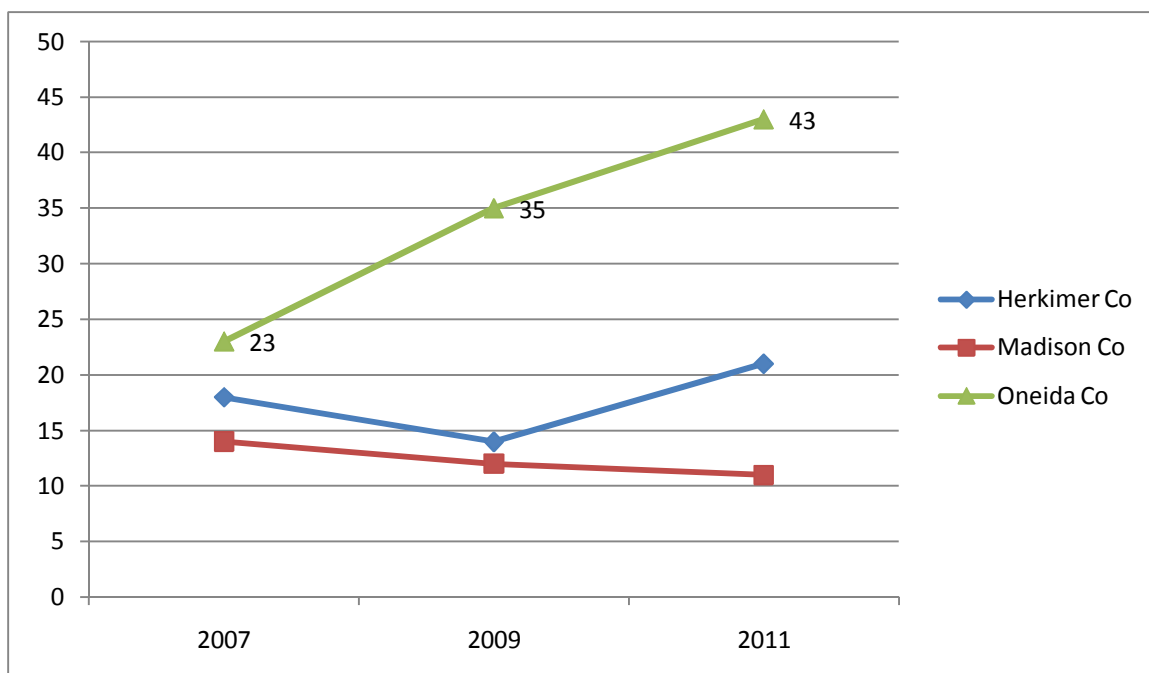
Trends in Child Care Supply, 2007–2010

Part I: Child Care Supply

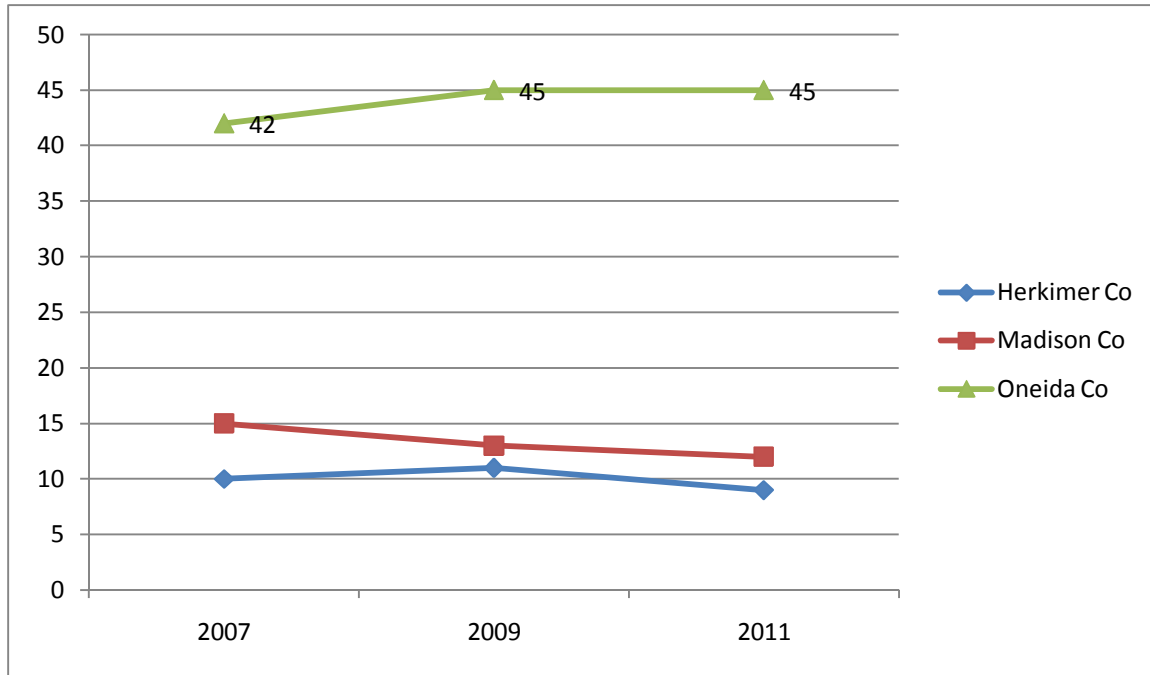
Supply of Family Child Care Programs, 2007—2010



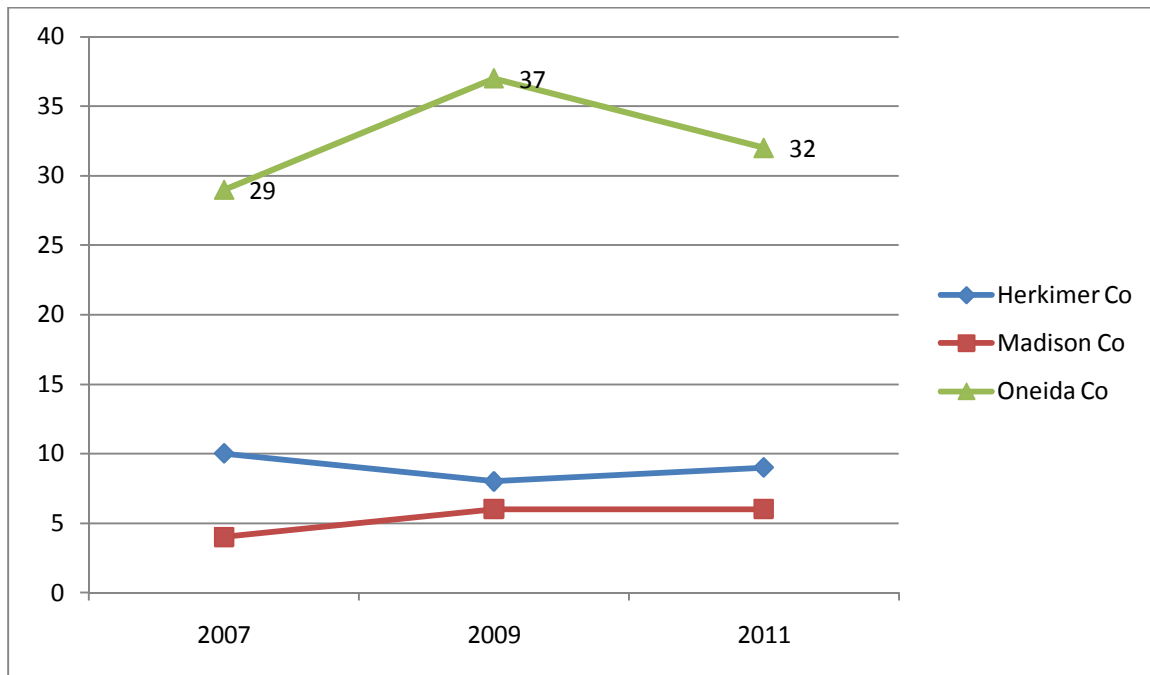
Supply of Group Family Child Care Programs, 2007—2010



Supply of Child Care Centers, 2007—2010*

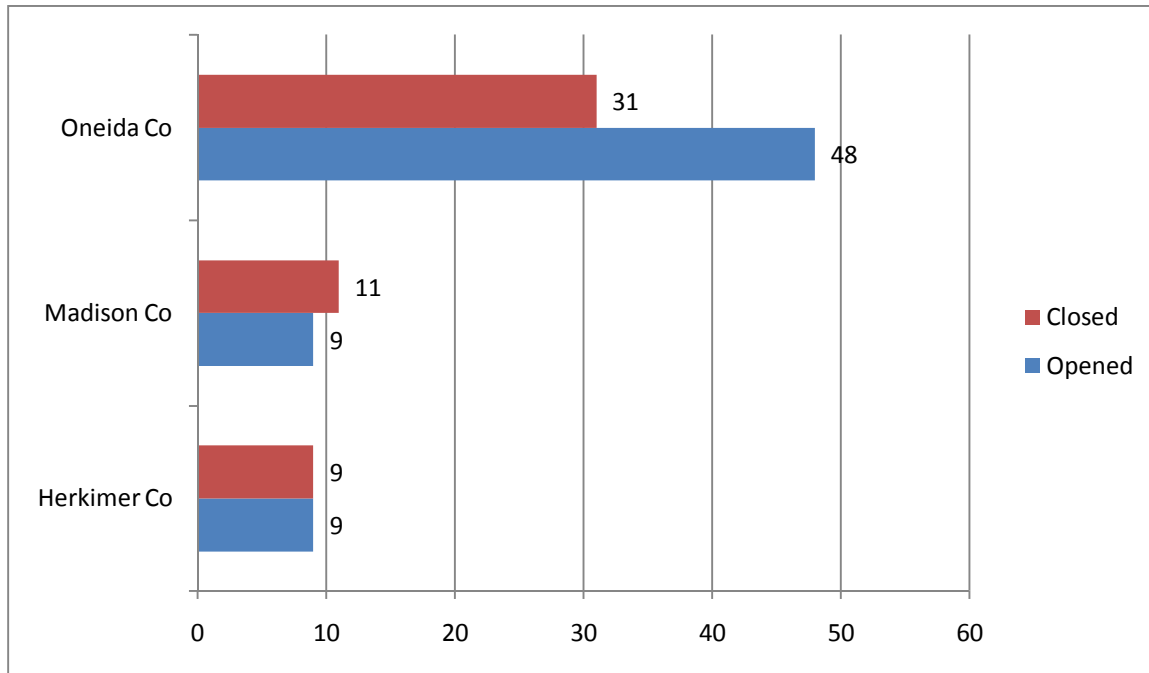


Supply of School Age Child Care Programs, 2007—2010*



*figures include Head Start programs

Part I: Child Care Supply *Opened & Closed Programs, 2010*



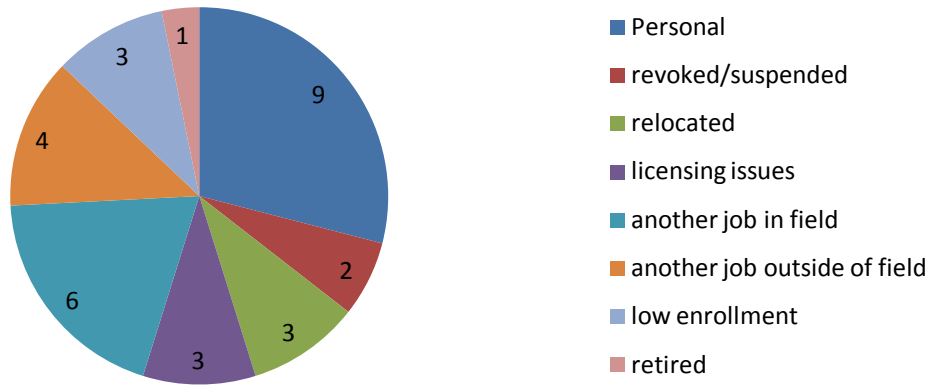
Overall, the Child Care Council recruited 66 new child care programs during 2010. However, because 51 existing programs closed during 2010, the number of total programs (including family/group family child care programs, child care centers, Head Start programs & SACC programs) in each county remained nearly constant.

As the graph on this page indicates, in 2010:

- 9 new programs opened in Herkimer County, and 9 closed
- 9 new programs opened in Madison County, and 11 closed
- 48 new programs opened in Oneida County, and 31 closed

Reasons for Program Closure

(based on exit interview data conducted by The Child Care Council)



Part II: Demand for Care

Child demographics

Child Demographics

Age of Child	Herkimer Co	Madison Co	Oneida Co
Birth-1yr	697	752	2577
2 yr	650	770	2626
3 yr	678	725	2521
4 yr	684	766	2629
5 yr	698	731	2629
6 yr	726	717	2594
7 yr	689	758	2501
8 yr	716	825	2538
9 yr	740	856	2697
10 yr	716	870	2722
11 yr	806	853	2784
12 yr	778	888	2777
TOTAL	8578	9511	28966

Who Needs Care?

Information based on child care demand is based on information compiled in KIDS Count 2000, labor force statistics indicate that in New York State:

⇒ 55 percent of children age 0—5 are likely to need child care

Of that 55 percent:

- ◇ 22 percent will utilize child care centers
- ◇ 21 percent will utilize nursery school programs
- ◇ 12 percent will utilize family child care
- ◇ 45 percent will utilize another form of care

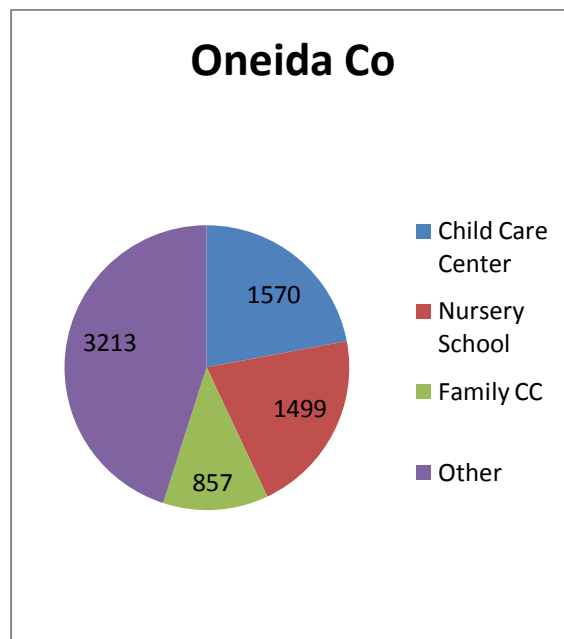
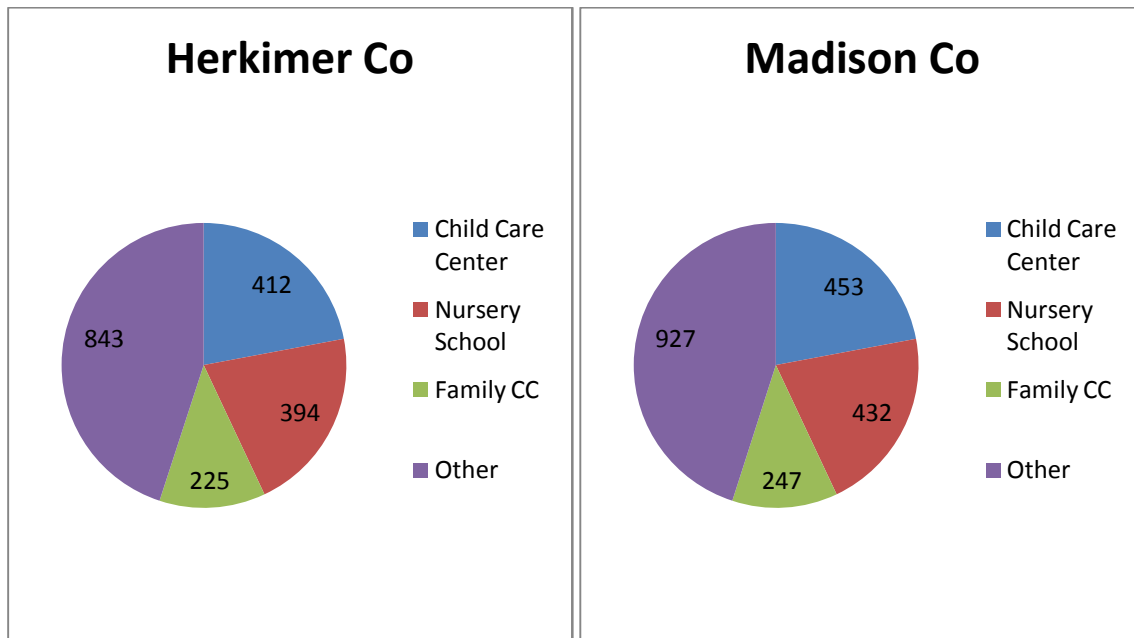
⇒ 45 percent of children ages 6—13 are likely to need child care before and/or after school and/or on school vacations.

The demand for child care considers all children who are in need of care, regardless of the type of child care program they currently utilize, including regulated child care programs (see appendix for definitions) or non-regulated care (see appendix for definitions).

The graphs on the following page outline the current supply of regulated child care slots, and, based on the current demand for child care, the unmet need for additional child care slots.

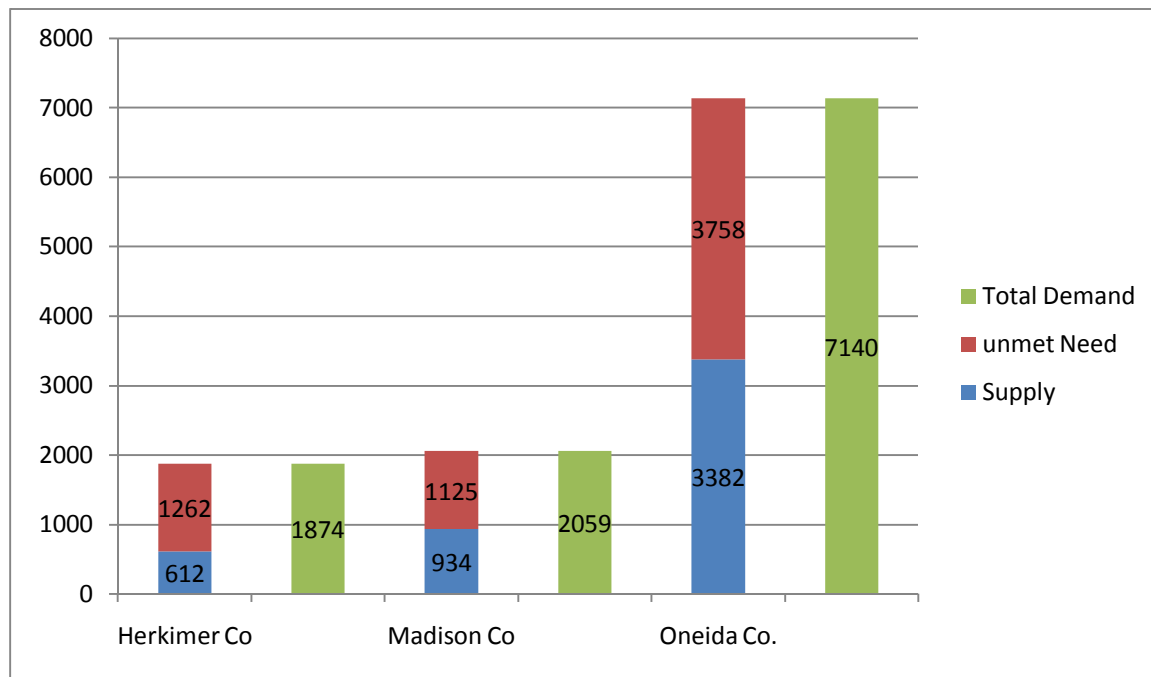
Part II: Demand for Child Care Potential Need Children 6 wks—5 yrs

Utilizing the percentages estimated in “Who Needs Care” on page 12 of this assessment, the following graphs illustrate the potential demand of child care slots for children six-weeks to five-years-old by modality of care that includes child care centers, family(and /group family child care combined) nursery schools and other.



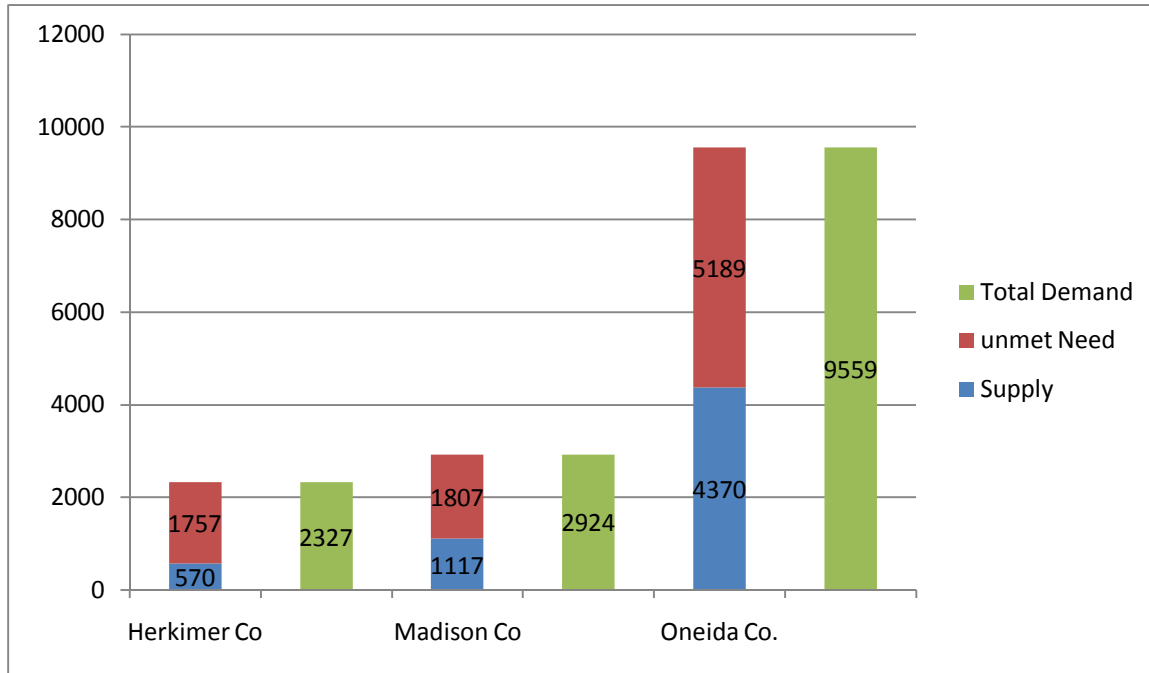
Part II: Demand for Child Care Potential Need Children 6 yrs-12 yrs

The graph below illustrates the total potential demand for child care (green), the number of current child care slots (blue) as well as an estimation of potential unmet need (red) for children six-weeks to five-years-old.



Note: The potential unmet demand for child care does not take into account children who are currently cared for by legally exempt child care providers, in-home nannies, friends, relatives or other unregulated types of care. Supply and demand of care also varies significantly depending on the age of the child and the location care is sought.

Part II: Demand for Child Care Potential Need Children 6 yrs—12 yrs



The graph above illustrates the total number of potential child care slots (green), the number of current child care slots (blue), and an estimation of potential unmet need (red) for children school age children ages six to 12-years-old.

Note: The potential unmet demand for child care does not take into account children who are currently cared for by legally exempt child care providers, in-home nannies, friends, relatives or other unregulated types of care. Or for those school-age children who are left home alone. Supply and demand of care also varies significantly depending on the age of the child and the location care is sought.

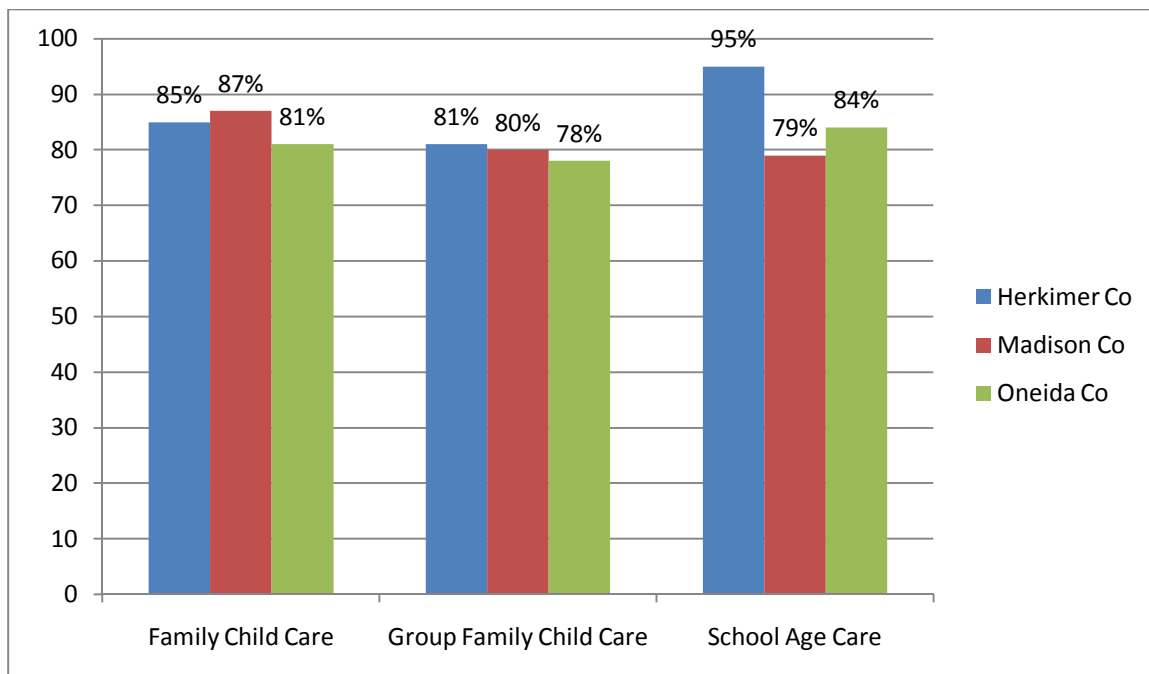
Part III: Child Care Slot Utilization

The graphs on this page illustrate the utilization rate of potential child care slots within Herkimer, Madison and Oneida counties. The rate is based on figures collected from a sample of programs.

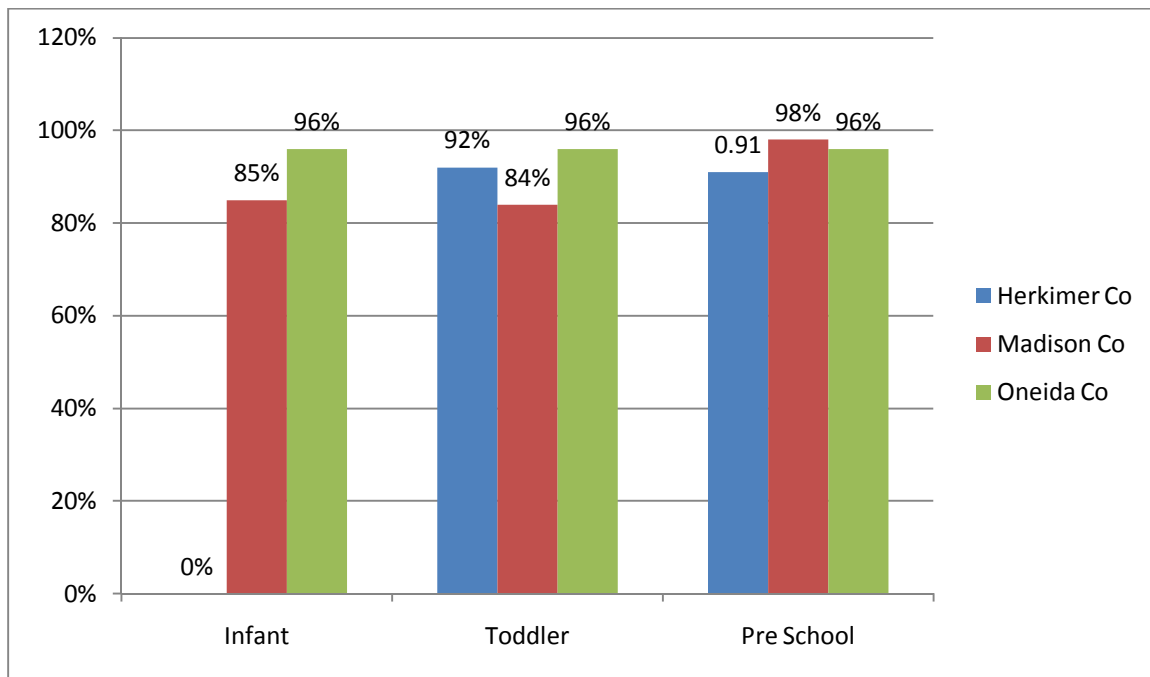
When considering utilization for family/group family child care programs, it is important to keep in mind that potential slots reflect the maximum number of slots a program is registered or licensed to serve, and sometimes does not reflect the actual number of potential slots a program may currently have available. This discrepancy is due to the variation in the maximum number of slots available due to the age of children in care (see appendix for additional information on how the age of children cared for in a family/group family home affects maximum capacity).

Child care slot utilization changes often—sometimes daily. Therefore, it is important to remember that the utilization rate presented in this document is only an estimation of the percent of child care slots utilized within the tri-county area.

Child Care Program Utilization, *Family Child Care, Group Family Child Care & School Age Programs*

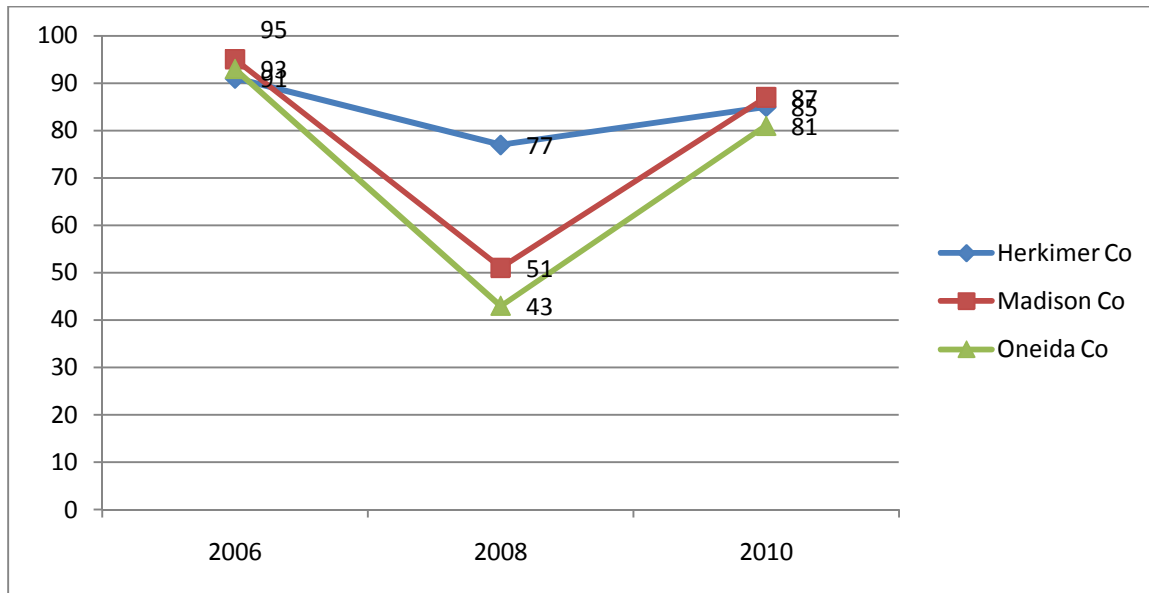


Child Care Center Utilization, by age group and county

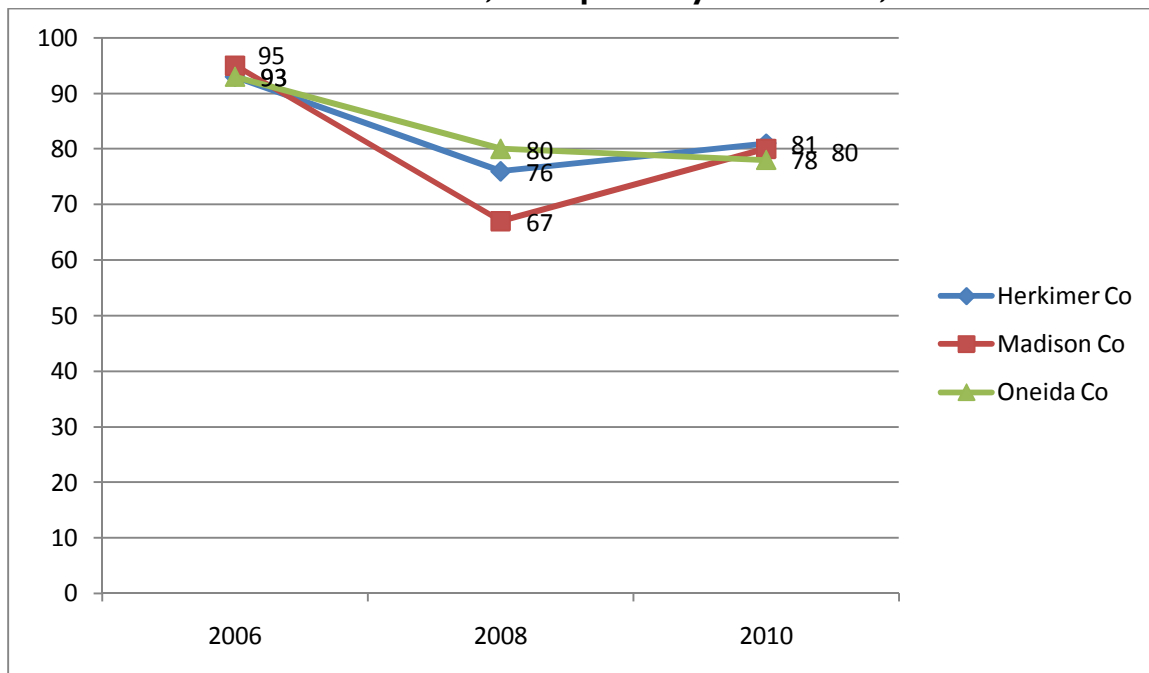


Part III: Child Care Slot Utilization Trends in Utilization

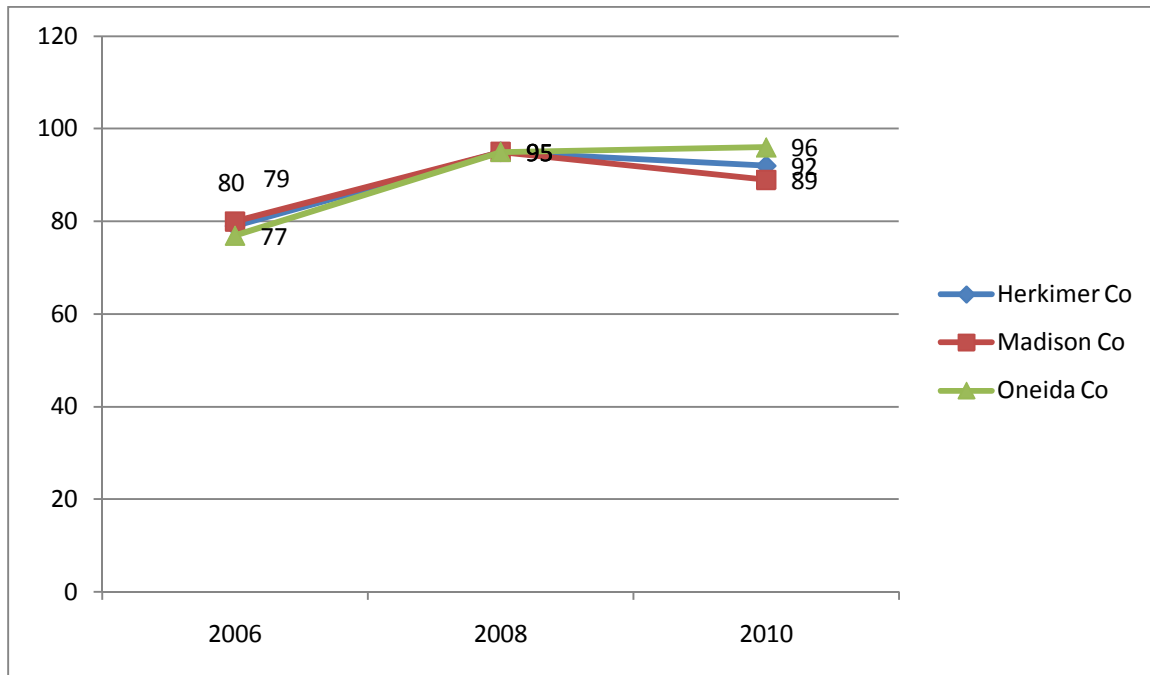
Trends in Child Care Utilization, Family Child Care Programs, 2006—2010



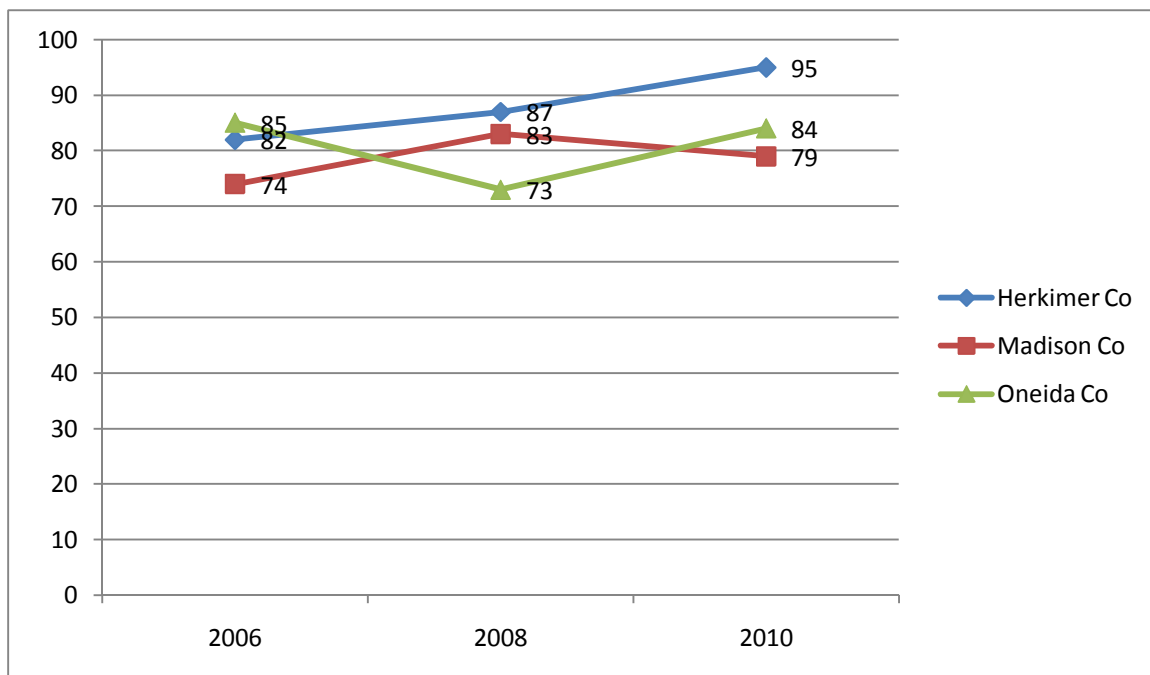
Trends in Child Care Utilization, Group Family Child Care, 2006—2010



Trends in Child Care Utilization, Child Care Centers, 2006—2010



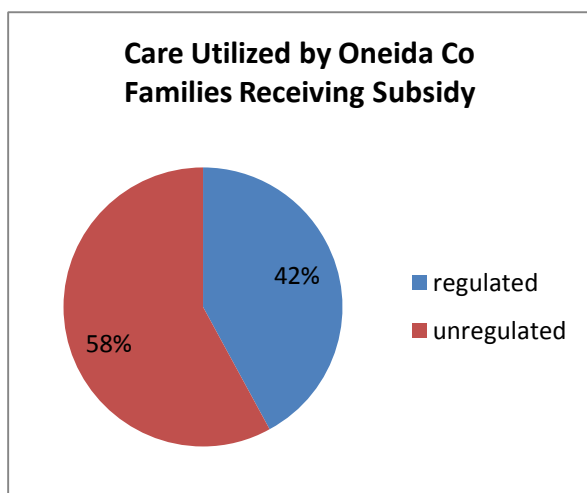
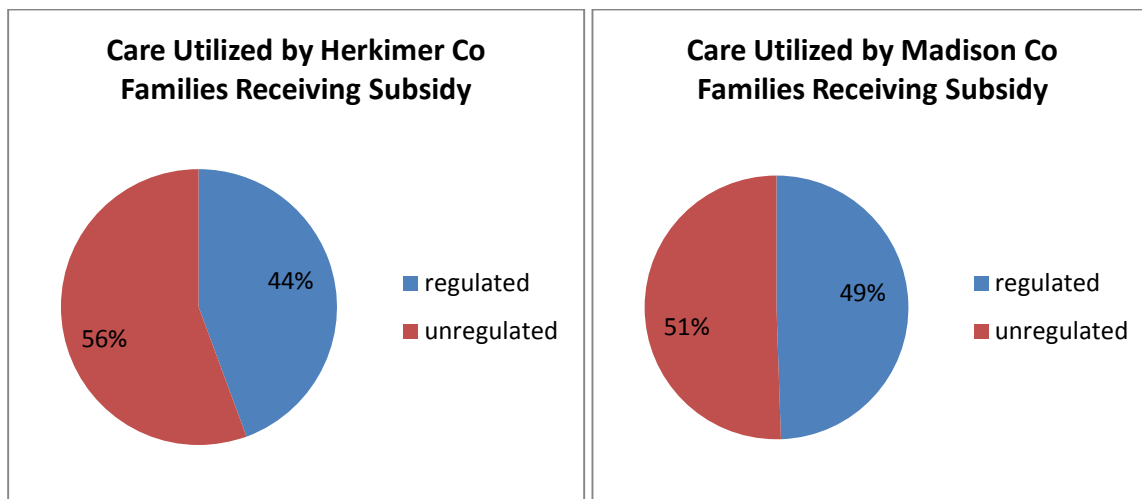
Trends in School-Age Care Utilization, 2006—2010



Part III: Types of care utilized

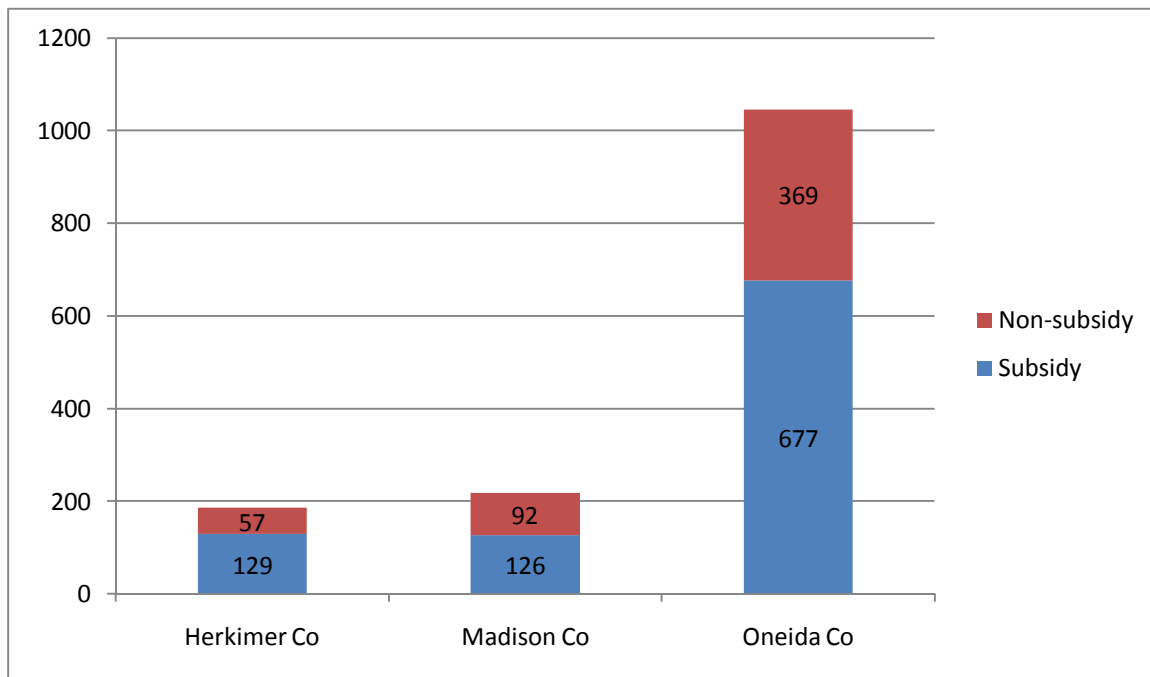
The Herkimer, Madison & Oneida county graphs below illustrate the number of subsidy-eligible children from each county who utilize NYS regulated child care. This information has been obtained from the local county department of social services.

In addition to recognizing the type of care families that receive child care subsidies utilize, it is also important to note that due to lack of available funds, both the Herkimer County and Madison County departments of social services currently maintain a waiting list of eligible families unable to receive child care subsidies for their child(ren). As of December 2010, there are 33 families on the Herkimer County waiting list and 58 on the Madison County waiting list.

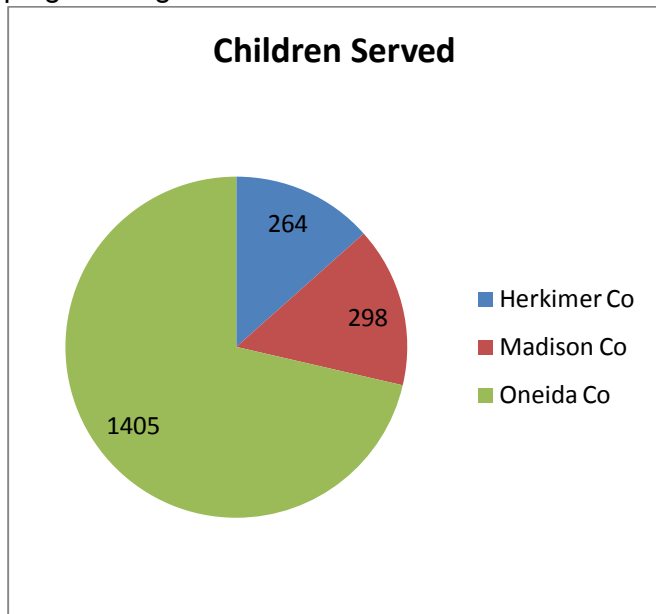


Part IV: Parent Child Care Referrals

Child Care Referrals Provided



The graph above indicates the number of referrals the Child Care Council completed in each of its counties of service in 2010. This number counts separately the number of multiple referrals completed for families, if requested by the family after the initial referral. Multiple referrals for the same family may be the result of different search criteria including location of care, days or hours of care, or modality of program sought.



The graph on the right indicates the number of children these 2010 child care referrals represent. Of the 1,967 children served through referrals:

- ◇ In Herkimer County, 62 percent of children were eligible to receive a subsidy from their county's department of social services to assist with the cost of child care; 38 percent were not eligible for subsidies,
- ◇ In Madison County, 61 percent of children were subsidy-eligibly, 39 percent were not, *and*
- ◇ In Oneida County, 73 percent of children were eligible to receive subsidy, and 28 percent were not.

Part IV: Parent Child Care Referrals

Referral Follow-Up Information

Herkimer County	Subsidy Eligible Children	Non-subsidy Eligible Children	Total Children
Referred	180	84	264
Follow-up info retrieved	58	33	91
Found care as per follow-up	28	16	44
Did not find care as per follow-up*	30	17	47

Madison County	Subsidy Eligible Children	Non-subsidy Eligible Children	Total Children
Referred	183	115	298
Follow-up info retrieved	80	41	121
Found care as per follow-up	22	19	41
Did not find care as per follow-up*	58	22	80

Oneida County	Subsidy Eligible Children	Non-subsidy Eligible Children	Total Children
Referred	1022	383	1405
Follow-up info retrieved	405	154	559
Found care as per follow-up	158	64	222
Did not find care as per follow-up*	247	90	337

*Based on additional follow-up survey information, 41 percent of those parents that did not find care also indicated they had not yet completed their child care search.

Part IV: Parent Child Care Referrals Location of Referral Requests

Herkimer County

	Programs	Slots	Requests for infant care (6 wk-18 mo)	Requests for toddler care (18 mo-3 yr)	Requests for pre-school care (3 yr-5 yr)	Requests for school-age care (5 yr-12 yr)
Cold Brook	0	0	0	0	0	2
Dolgeville	3	23	1	1	2	0
Eagle Bay	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fort Plain			1	0	2	3
Frankfort	9	80	7	3	7	10
Herkimer	18	341	19	17	11	15
Ilion	23	390	19	18	12	12
Jordanville	0	0	0	0	0	0
Little Falls	14	196	20	12	6	18
Middleville	0	0	1	0	1	2
Mohawk	11	178	7	4	5	9
Newport	0	0	2	1	0	0
Old Forge	2	16	0	0	0	0
Poland	10	95	1	0	2	0
Richfield Springs	1	12	3	1	1	2
Salisbury Center	0	0	0	0	1	3
Stratford	0	0	1	2	3	3
Van Hornesville	0	0	0	0	0	0
West Winfield	10	150	2	0	2	2

Madison County

	Programs	Slots	Requests for infant care (6 wk-18 mo)	Requests for toddler care (18 mo-3 yr)	Requests for pre-school care (3 yr-5 yr)	Requests for school - age care (5 yr-12 yr)
Bouckville	0	0	1	0	1	0
Brookfield	0	0	0	0	0	0
Canastota	26	640	17	12	15	21
Cazenovia	5	236	6	0	1	4
Chittenango	17	290	14	8	17	20
Clockville	0	0	0	0	0	0
De Ruyter	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eaton	2	16	2	1	0	0
Erieville	0	0	0	1	1	0
Georgetown	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hamilton	2	138	1	2	1	2
Hubbardsville	2	16	1	1	2	2
Leonardsville	2	98	0	0	0	0
Madison	2	32	2	1	2	2
Morrisville	12	198	5	3	5	0
Munnsville	4	184	5	2	4	5
New Woodstock	2	32	1	0	0	0
Oneida	13	734	24	19	22	41
Peterboro	0	0	0	0	0	0
Solsville	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wampsville	0	0	3	1	0	1
West Edmeston	0	0	0	0	0	1

Oneida County

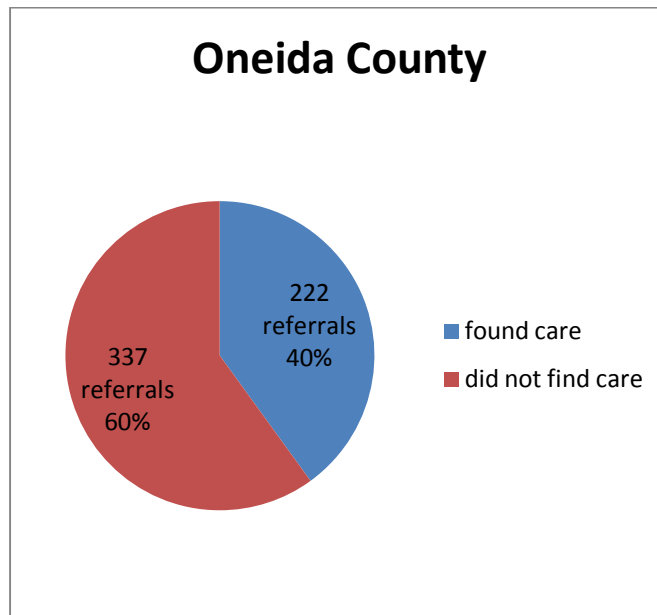
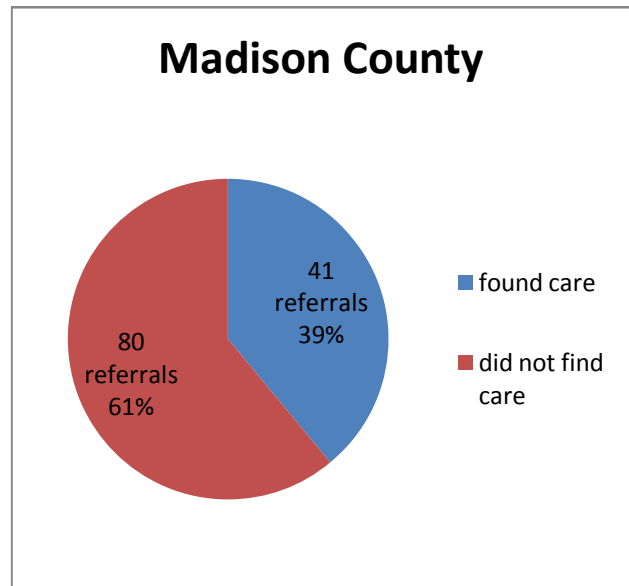
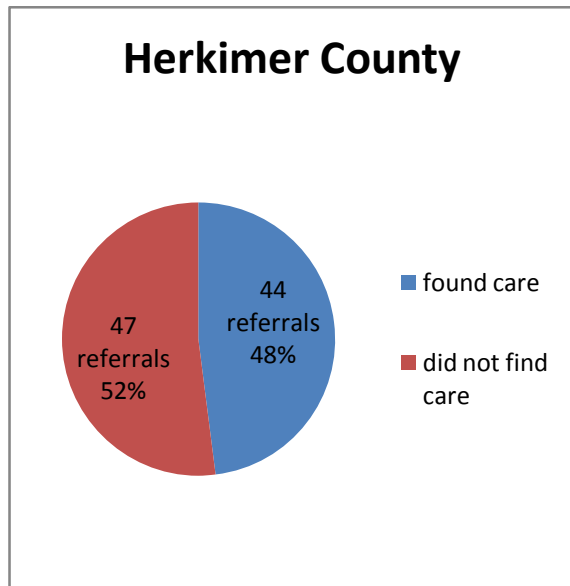
	Providers	Centers	Requests for infant care (6 wk-18 mo)	Requests for toddler care (18 mo-3 yr)	Requests for pre-school care (3 yr-5 yr)	Requests for school-age care (5 yr-12 yr)
Alder Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ava	0	0	2	0	1	0
Barneveld	4	88	1	1	0	0
Blossvale	0	0	4	2	3	6
Boonville	10	238	1	4	0	0
Bridgewater	2	16	1	1	1	0
Camden	5	108	2	2	0	3
Cassville	1	8	1	3	1	1
Chadwicks	3	52	1	0	1	6
Clark Mills	5	48	0	1	2	0
Clayville	1	8	2	0	1	3
Clinton	20	262	21	4	6	8
Deansboro	0	0	1	1	0	2
Deerfield	2	24	0	1	0	4
Durhamville	8	64	1	1	1	5
Floyd	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forestport	0	0	2	0	0	1
Hinckley	0	0	0	0	0	0
Holland Patent	3	34	3	0	0	1
Lee/Lee Center	0	0	5	4	2	5
Marcy	8	92	6	1	0	2
New Hartford	27	462	24	7	5	10
New York Mills	5	84	6	3	2	9
Oneida Castle	3	30	0	1	1	2
Oriskany	12	388	3	2	7	7
Oriskany Falls	1	8	2	0	1	2
Paris	0	0	0	0	0	0
Prospect	2	16	0	0	0	0
Remsen	7	62	2	1	2	4
Rome	80	1856	82	60	48	63
Sangerfield	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sauquoit	9	122	6	1	4	3
Sherrill	6	78	5	2	3	4
Stittville	3	58	0	0	0	0
Sylvan Beach	2	36	0	0	0	0
Taberg	0	0	1	2	0	0
Utica	138	4484	188	161	146	312
Vernon	2	28	6	1	2	0
Vernon Center	1	8	0	2	1	2

Verona	11	120	8	2	1	5
Washington Mills	0	0	1	2	1	0
Waterville	9	98	8	2	5	2
Westernville	0	0	1	3	2	0
Westmoreland	4	76	3	1	1	0
Whitesboro	24	608	19	4	11	14
Woodgate	0	0	2	0	0	0
Yorkville	5	30	10	2	3	4

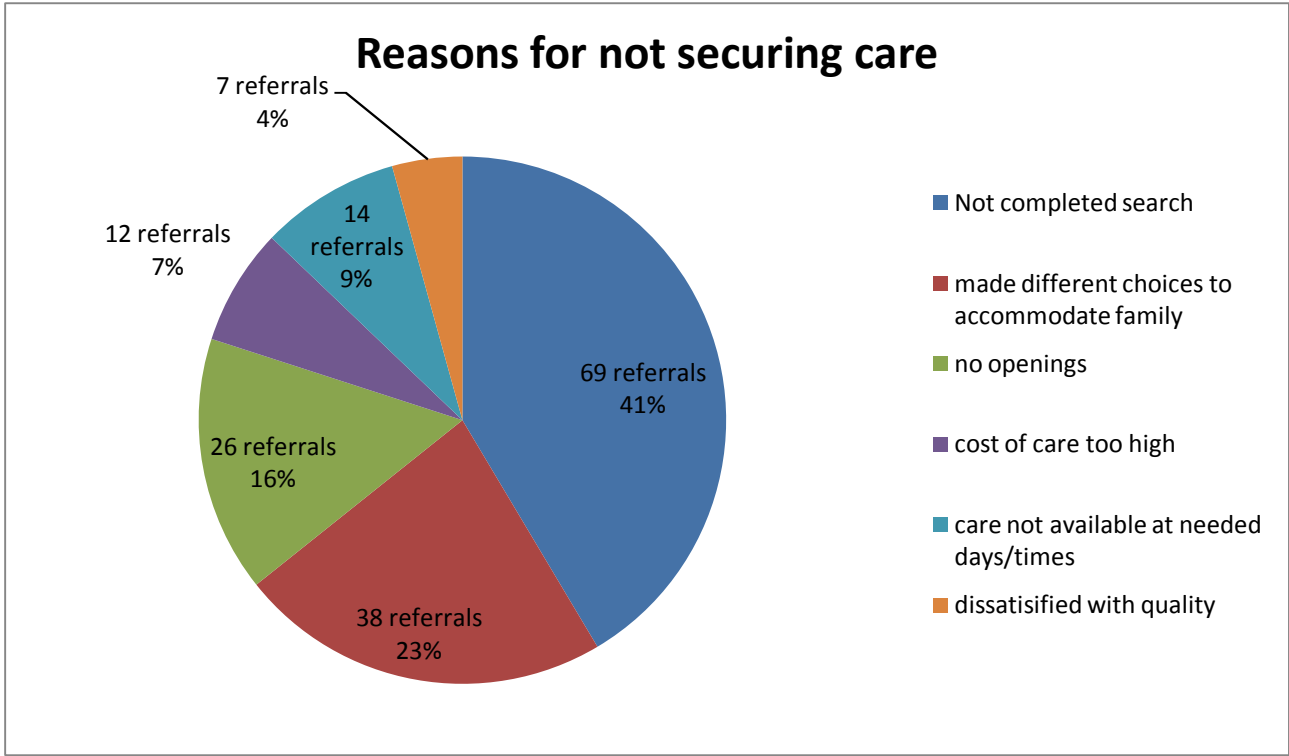
Who found care?

The tables on the previous pages represent the total number of referrals completed for each county in 2010. The tables also indicate the number of quality-assurance follow-up calls that were made to the individuals who requested the initial referral, and the number of those who indicated whether or not they secured care as the result of the referral.

Based on the follow-up information obtained for the each county's total follow-up information:



Why didn't they find care?

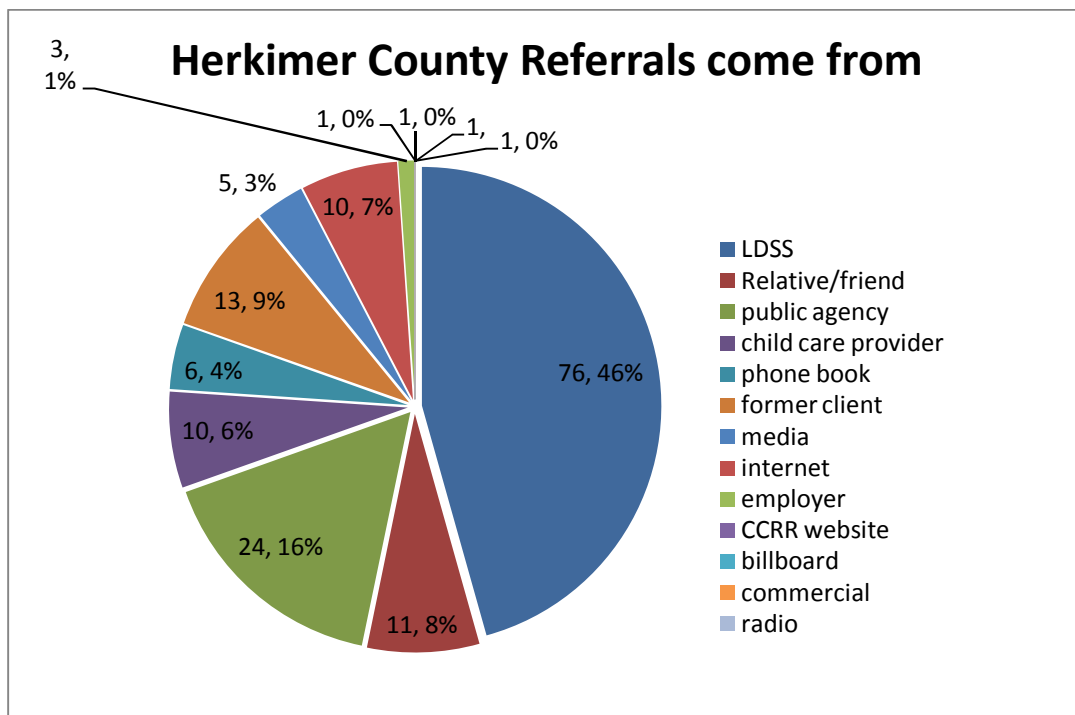


A component of follow-up surveys includes discussing with the parent why they were not able to secure child care following their child care referral. The above graph represents the reasons as indicated by parents responding to follow up surveys.

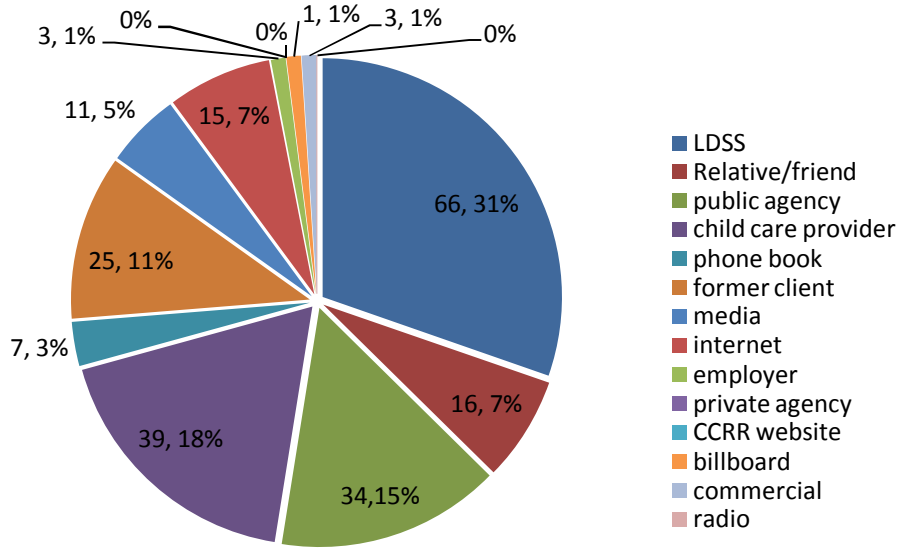
Part IV: Parent Child Care Referrals

Where Do Our Referrals Come From?

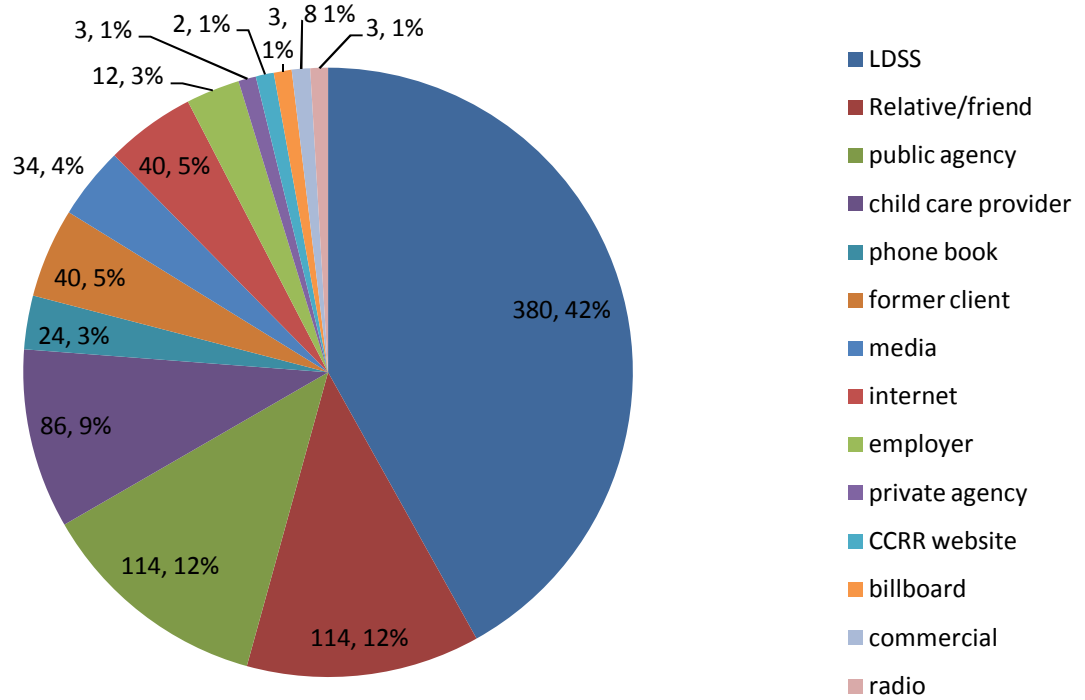
The Child Care Council is committed to raising awareness about our parent referral and education services to community members in each of our counties of service to best assist all families in seeking to secured child care. The graphs on this page illustrate the resources the Child Care Council utilizes to advertise our referral services, and the percentage of parents who indicated each resource as the medium for which they learned of our services.



Madison County Referrals come from



Oneida County Referrals come from



Part V: Cost of Care

As part of our child care program database, the Child Care Council maintains information on the rates that individual programs charge. The following information has been collected from local child care centers and family child care programs and is based on weekly, full time care rates. These rates do not take into account financial aid that programs may offer, including multi-child discounts and sliding fee scales.

Herkimer County

Infant/Toddler

Modality	Minimum	Maximum	Average
Child Care Centers (6 weeks-18 months)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Child Care Centers (19 months-35 months)	\$185.00	\$185.00	\$185.00
Family Child Care (6 weeks-23 months)	\$75.00	\$150.00	\$128.28
Family Child Care (24 months-35 months)	\$70.00	\$150.00	\$123.29

Preschool

Modality	Minimum	Maximum	Average
Child Care Centers (3-5 years)	\$125.00	\$170.00	\$147.50
Family Child Care (3-5 years)	\$70.00	\$150.00	\$123.10

School Age

Modality	Minimum	Maximum	Average
Child Care Centers (5-12 years)	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00
Family Child Care (5-12 years)	\$100.00	\$150.00	\$126.67

Madison County

Infant/Toddler

Modality	Minimum	Maximum	Average
Child Care Centers (6 weeks-18 months)	\$117.50	\$220.00	\$178.62
Child Care Centers (19 months-35 months)	\$102.50	\$200.00	\$166.38
Family Child Care (6 weeks-23 months)	\$90.00	\$175.00	\$139.02
Family Child Care (24 months-35 months)	\$90.00	\$175.00	\$136.07

Preschool

Modality	Minimum	Maximum	Average
Child Care Centers (3-5 years)	\$182.00	\$195.00	\$188.50
Family Child Care (3-5 years)	\$90.00	\$175.00	\$134.32

School Age

Modality	Minimum	Maximum	Average
Child Care Centers (5-12 years)	\$125.00	\$180.00	\$152.50
Family Child Care (5-12 years)	\$80.00	\$155.00	\$131.28

Oneida County

Infant/Toddler

Modality	Minimum	Maximum	Average
Child Care Centers (6 weeks-18 months)	\$110.00	\$160.00	\$135.00
Child Care Centers (19 months-35 months)	\$104.00	\$160.00	\$132.00
Family Child Care (6 weeks-23 months)	\$80.00	\$250.00	\$138.63
Family Child Care (24 months-35 months)	\$80.00	\$250.00	\$136.00

Preschool

Modality	Minimum	Maximum	Average
Child Care Centers (3-5 years)	\$100.00	\$160.00	\$119.86
Family Child Care (3-5 years)	\$80.00	\$225.00	\$136.34

School Age

Modality	Minimum	Maximum	Average
Child Care Centers (5-12 years)	\$120.00	\$135.00	\$130.00
Family Child Care (5-12 years)	\$50.00	\$165.00	\$123.85

Appendix I— Child Care Program Definitions

Types of New York State Regulated Child Care:

Child Care Center—care for a group of children for more than three hours per day, not in a personal residence, which must meet NYS Office of Children and Family Services licensing regulations for facility, health, safety, staffing and educational programming. In this setting, children are cared for in groups separated by age (infants—6 weeks to 18 months; toddlers—18 to 36 months; preschoolers—3 & 4 year olds; school-age—5 to 12 year olds).

Registered Family Child Care—child care provided in the child care professional’s personal residence (or other home setting) for up to six children including the provider’s own (if not yet enrolled in kindergarten)- and no more than two children can be under two years of age with an expanded capacity to serve two additional school-age children. Family child care programs must be registered by the NYS Office of Children & Family Services. Fingerprinted and passed prior to opening.

Licensed Group Family Child Care—child care provided in the home setting by a primary child care professional and an assistant for up to 12 children including the provider’s own (if not yet enrolled in kindergarten) and there must be one adult for every two children under two years of age in care, with an expanded capacity to serve two to four additional school-age children (depending on their licensed capacity). Group family child care providers are licensed by the NYS Office of Children & Family Services.

School-age Child Care Program—care for a group of school age children from kindergarten through age 12 before and after school and at times when school is not in session. Many school-age programs provide care during school vacations and holidays. School-age care may be provided by child care centers, family/group family child care homes, public schools, youth recreation groups, religious organizations and other community groups. Depending on the sponsoring organization, school-age care programs are regulated by NYS Office of Children and Family Services or the NYS Department of Education.

New York State Pre-Kindergarten—state funded public school pre-kindergarten programs offered to four-year-olds by school districts electing to participate in the Universal or Experimental Pre-K Programs. Available programs are advertised to families through their local school districts. These half-day programs may operate at a school or non-school site and can be coordinated with other programs to provide extended care in the mornings and later afternoons to allow for full-day care (often called wrap-around programs).

Head Start/Early Head Start—a federally funded program for three to five-year-olds (six-weeks to three-year-olds for Early Head Start) for families who meet established household income criteria. Head Start offers a comprehensive child development program, including health, nutrition and family support services. Parent involvement is an integral part of the program. Head Start programs can be part-day, full-day or home-based.

Modalities of Care Exempt from New York State Regulation:

Preschool/nursery school—care programs for three to five-year-olds. Preschools operate for less than three hours a session, two to five times a week, and often follow a school-year schedule. Preschools may voluntarily register with NYS Department of Education, which sets guidelines for facility, staff and programming.

In-home care—full or part-day child care provided by an adult (sometimes a relative) or Nanny in the child's home. According to legislation passed in 1998, parents are allowed to request fingerprints from prospective caregivers (who will provide in-home care for more than 15 hours per week) from the State Department of Criminal Justice.

Legally exempt care—child care provided in the home setting for no more than two children who are not related to the provider. Legally exempt providers are not required to be certified by NYS Office of Children and Family Services, however, effective July 31, 2006 new regulations will require additional monitoring of legally exempt providers. Legally exempt providers caring for subsidy eligible children receive payment for care services by the local Department of Social Services (at a rate lower than regulated child care programs).

Informal child care—child care that is provided in the home setting for relatives, or no more than two children who are not related to the caregiver. Informal child caregivers do not receive payment for their child care service through child care subsidies. I am under the impression that legally exempt is always for subsidy eligible children and that informal care is when someone is caring for 2 or less unrelated children in the providers own home. Is that your understanding as well? If so, we should add another category of informal care.

Appendix II— Child Care Program Oversight

Based on information provided by the National Association for Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies in their publication “We Can Do Better: NACCRRRA’s Ranking of State Child Care Center Standards and Oversight (2009)”, New York State child care centers oversight includes state monitoring visits that are conducted four times/year, programs to licensing staff ratios do not exceed 50:1, licensing staff is required to have a Bachelor’s degree in a related field and online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents.

In NACCRRRA’s report “Leaving Children to Chance: Small Family Child Care Homes”, oversight requirements include the inspection of family child care providers before licensing and when there are complaints, licensed FCC providers and their substitutes and assistants are required to have background checks, providers must follow nine of 10 health requirements – handwashing, meals/snacks, immunizations, universal health requirements, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and after hour care, and regulations that address nine of 10 safety requirements– SIDS prevention, discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from water hazards, fire drills/emergency plans, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation.

The New York State portions of these two NACCRRRA documents have been reprinted with permission from NACCRRRA on the following pages of this document.

Child Care Centers in New York

Overall Score: 105/150 (70%)

Rank¹: 6

	Score	Percent	Rank
Oversight	38/50	76%	8
Regulation	67/100	67%	16



Child Care Center Costs in 2009

Average annual fees paid for an infant in a center: \$13,676

Average annual fees paid for a 4-year-old in a center: \$10,847

Child Care Center Oversight

Benchmarks for Ranking	Meets
1. All centers and family child care homes caring for unrelated children for a fee are licensed.	
2. Child care centers are inspected at least four times a year, including visits by licensing, health and fire personnel. Some visits are unannounced.	
3. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
4. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in ECE* or a related field.	
5. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents.	

Child Care Center Regulations

Benchmarks for Ranking	Meets	Benchmarks for Ranking	Meets
1. Staff:child ratios are in compliance with NAEYC** accreditation standards.		6. Lead teachers are required to have 24 hours or more of annual training.	
2. Group size requirements are in compliance with NAEYC accreditation standards.		7. Background checks require use of fingerprints to check state and FBI records and checks of state child abuse registry and sex offender registry.	
3. Center directors are required to have a bachelor's degree or higher in ECE or a related field.		8. Programs are required to address six developmental domains.***	
4. Lead teachers are required to have a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or an associate degree in ECE or related field.		9. Programs are required to address 10 basic regulations of health and safety standards.**** Corporal punishment is not allowed.	
5. Lead teachers have initial training, including orientation and training in fire safety and other health and safety issues. One staff member on duty must be certified in first aid and CPR.		10. Programs are required to encourage parent involvement, communicate with parents daily or on an ongoing basis and allow parental visits.	

Key Fully Meets Substantially Meets Partially Meets Marginally Meets Does not meet N/A = Not Available

¹Out of 50 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Department of Defense. *Early childhood education **National Association for the Education of Young Children. ***Six developmental domains are language/literacy, cognitive/intellectual, social, emotional, physical and cultural. ****Ten areas are immunizations, guidance/discipline regulations, diapering and handwashing, fire drills, medication administration, incident reporting, placing infants on backs to sleep, hazardous materials, playground surfaces under outdoor equipment and emergency preparedness.

Source for cost information: National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies. *Parents and the High Cost of Child Care: 2010 Update* - based on 2009 data.

All WCDB data is sourced from a survey of state licensing directors conducted by the National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies in December 2010. Note: Information was also verified against state regulations.

Child Care Centers in New York

Strength

- ✓ Complaint inspections are unannounced.
- ✓ Program activities must address all six developmental domains (social, physical, language/literacy, cognitive/intellectual, emotional and cultural).
- ✓ Health and safety standards address 10 of 10 basic standards (immunizations, guidance/discipline, diapering/handwashing, fire drills, medicine administration, following safe sleeping practices to prevent Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), emergency preparedness, playground surfaces, hazardous material, and incident reporting).
- ✓ Inspection and complaint reports are available online.

Weakness

- X Center director education requirements do not meet NACCRRRA's recommended standard.
- X Lead teacher education requirements do not meet NACCRRRA's recommended standard.
- X Center staff are required to have initial training in fire safety but are not required to have training in orientation or other health and safety topics.
- X Center staff are required to complete only 15 hours of annual training.
- X Center staff are required to undergo background checks, but this does not include a federal criminal records check of all staff. A check of the child abuse registry is required, but the background check does not include a check of the sex offender registry.
- X Parent involvement is not specifically addressed.

Recommendations

- Require every child care center and family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Require center directors to have a bachelor's degree or higher in early childhood education or a related field.
- Increase the education requirements for lead teachers to a CDA credential or an associate degree in early childhood education.
- Require center staff to have orientation training and health topics before caring for children.
- Increase the annual training requirements for teachers to 24 hours including CPR and first-aid renewal.
- Require a check of individuals' federal criminal history.
- Require a check of the sex offender registry.
- Require programs to encourage parent involvement.

State of Small Family Child Care Homes in New York

37% of total points	Score: 52/140 Rank: 23
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Number of children in care when state licensing begins:*	3
Inspection or visit before being licensed:	Yes

Supply of FCC Homes in 2008

Number of FCC homes	13,956
Number of spaces/slots in FCC homes	144,828

Average Price of Child Care in FCC Homes in 2008

For an infant	\$9,737
For a 4-year old	\$9,155

Weaknesses

- Allows providers to care for up to two children for pay without being licensed.
- Routine inspection visits are not required to be unannounced.
- Exempt providers receiving subsidies and family members over the age of 12 do not have to undergo background checks.
- Check of sex offender registries and juvenile records are not explicitly included in background checks.
- Does not require providers to have completed a high school education or GED.
- Providers are only required to have 15 hours of initial training. Only one of the eight specific areas is required: health and safety. Providers are not required to have training in first aid and CPR prior to working with children.
- Does not have requirements regarding contracts with parents, informing parents of the use of substitutes and having written policies for parents.
- Providers are only required to have two of eight learning materials – materials that promote language/literacy skills and those that are culturally sensitive.
- Providers are only required to offer one of eight learning activities – opportunities for active play.

Strengths

- Inspects FCC providers before licensing and when there are complaints.
- Licensed FCC providers and their substitutes and assistants are required to have background checks.
- Providers must follow nine of 10 health requirements – handwashing, meals/snacks, immunizations, universal health requirements, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and after hour care.
- Regulations address nine of 10 safety requirements – SIDS prevention, discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from water hazards, fire drills/emergency plans, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation.

Recommendations

- Require providers caring for one or more unrelated children to be regulated.
- Increase the frequency of inspections of homes to at least annually.
- Ensure routine inspections are unannounced.
- Conduct background checks on family members over age 12 and exempt providers receiving subsidies.
- Use sex offender registries and juvenile records to conduct background checks.
- Require providers to have a high school diploma or GED and a CDA, college courses in early childhood education, or an AA degree within three years of licensing.
- Increase the number of hours of initial training required to 40 hours including CPR, first aid, child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, child guidance, and business practices.
- Require providers to inform parents when a substitute will care for their child and to have written policies and contracts to give to parents.
- Require providers to have specific toys and materials to promote all areas of development.
- Require providers to offer learning activities, read to children, introduce mathematical concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, encourage self-help skills, and limit TV viewing.

State of Small Family Child Care Homes in New York

Small Family Child Care Standards		Small Family Child Care Standards	
Standards for Ranking	Scores	Standards for Ranking	Scores
1. Requires FCC homes to be inspected/visited before being licensed, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.*		8. Requires FCC providers to have at least 24 hours of annual training (including CPR and first aid renewal).	
2. Requires FCC home inspections/visits (routine and when there are complaints) to be unannounced.*		9. Requires FCC providers to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents on use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
3. Requires licensed FCC providers, their substitutes and assistants, family members over 12 years of age, and exempt providers receiving subsidies to have a background check.		10. Requires FCC providers to have toys and materials available in eight different developmental areas.ºº	
4. Background checks include checks criminal records, juvenile records, child abuse registries and sex offender registries. Checks of federal records are based on fingerprints.		11. Requires FCC providers to offer learning opportunities in eight different areas.ººº	
5. Requires FCC providers to have a high school diploma or GED, and have the CDA®, college courses in ECEº or an Associate's degree initially or within 3 years of starting to provide child care.		12. Limits the total number of children that can be cared for in a small FCC home based on the ages of children in care.	
6. Requires FCC providers to have at least 40 hours of initial training (including CPR and first aid).		13. Addresses 10 critical health areas ºººº	
7. Requires FCC providers to have initial training in eight specific areas.º		14. Addresses 10 critical safety issues ººººº	

Key:



*States receive a score of 0 if they do not license small family child care homes. States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect or visit before licensing. States receive a score of 0 if the number of children the provider (including the provider's children) could care for pay is seven or above. The total maximum points a state could receive is 140.

ºOut of 50 states, plus the District of Columbia and the U.S. Department of Defense. ºTo derive the total number of children in care, NACCRRRA started with the number of children in care when state licensing begins. One child was added if the state does not include the provider's own children in establishing its licensing threshold. One child was added for each family exempted before licensing begins. ºCredit is given for licensing, fire, safety and health inspections. ºChild Development Associate credential. ºEarly Childhood Education. ºThe eight areas of initial training are child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid. ººThe eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language and literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages and materials that are culturally sensitive. ºººThe eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce mathematical concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills and limit use of television. ººººThe 10 health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health requirements, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care. ºººººThe 10 safety areas are: SIDS prevention, discipline/prohibiting corporal punishment, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from swimming pools and other water sources, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations reviewed by staff at the National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state resource and referral and/or state licensing staff and are current as of 2/1/2010. Source for capacity and price information: National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. All capacity and price information reported are 2008 data.

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