

Washington County Profile

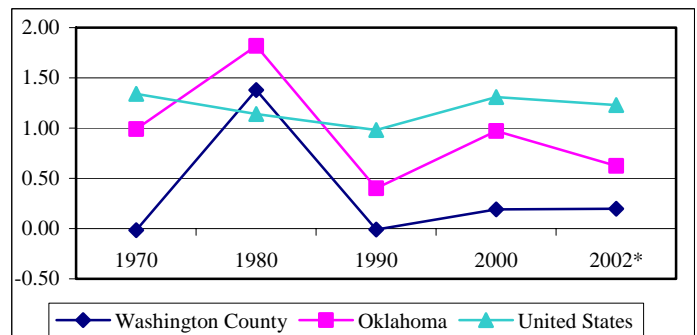


Center for Economic & Community Development

The Center for Economic and Community Development at Rogers State University prepared this Washington County profile containing demographic, economic, residential, and social data for the county and two communities. The Center is an affiliate agency of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce's State Data Center Program and provides economic and demographic data. Available resources include a computer center with high-speed Internet access, a library of electronic and printed materials, and an on-site professional staff. The Center was established in 2002 to promote the region's economic development by utilizing the University's resources in partnership with local business, industry, and entrepreneurs. For more information, call (918) 343-7533.

general pattern for Washington County is similar to Oklahoma, the rate of growth in the county is considerably below the state average. While Oklahoma grew in population, its growth has lagged behind the national average which resulted in the loss of one congressional seat. The population of Washington County and Bartlesville remained almost constant since 1980 while Dewey lost population over each of the last three decades. Thus, Washington County and Bartlesville experienced significant population growth during the 1970's followed by two decades of relative stability.

Figure 1: Average Annual Growth Rate, 1970 – 2002



Source: US Census Bureau
* US Census Bureau Estimate

Population

The population figures for Washington County, Bartlesville, and Dewey are presented in Table 1. According to these data, the populations of Washington County and Bartlesville increased during the 1970's but remained relatively constant since 1980. From 1980 to 2000, Washington County increased its population by only 883 people or less than 2 percent over 20 years. Figure 1 shows the annual growth rates since 1970 for the United States, Oklahoma, and Washington County. While the

Table 1: Population for Washington County & Selected Cities, 1970 – 2002

Area	1970	1980	1990	2000	2002*
Washington Co.	42,277	48,113	48,066	48,996	49,189
Bartlesville	29,672	34,568	34,252	34,746	34,770
Dewey	3,958	3,545	3,326	3,179	3,170

Source: US Census Bureau
*US Census Bureau Estimate

Age & Sex

Table 2 presents the population distribution by sex. Females outnumber males in Washington County, in Oklahoma, and in the United States. The sex ratio is the number of males for every 100 females. Thus a population with equal numbers of males and females has a sex ratio of 100. The Washington County sex ratio of 92.1 means that there is an average of 92.1 males for every 100 females compared to the ratio of 96.6 in the State of Oklahoma. Thus, females

Table 2: Population by Sex, 2000

Area	Male	Female	Sex Ratio
United States	138,053,563	143,368,343	96.3
Oklahoma	1,695,895	1,754,759	96.6
Washington Co.	23,497	25,499	92.1
Bartlesville	16,484	18,264	90.3
Dewey	1,481	1,698	87.2

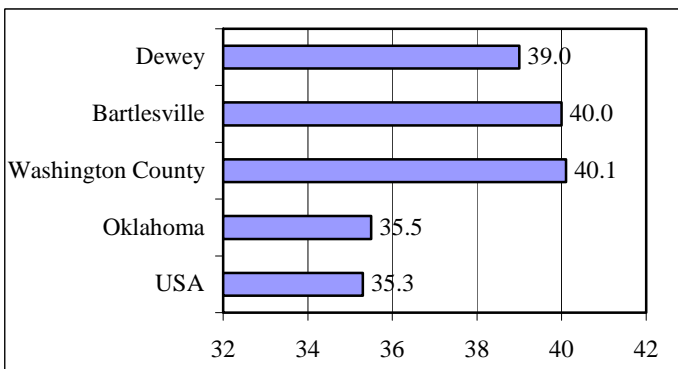
Source: US Census Bureau

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constitute a relatively larger portion of the population in Washington County. The sex ratios of Bartlesville and Dewey are even lower at 90.3 and 87.2 respectively. In general, the sex ratio of an area reflects its unique migration patterns. Traditionally there have been fewer career opportunities for females than males in rural areas. Frequently, females move from rural areas into urban areas where white-collar occupations and career opportunities are more readily available. Older populations frequently move to urban areas where medical and other support services are offered. Since females tend to outnumber males in older age groups, the migration of the elderly population to the urban areas tends to lower the sex ratio in areas such as Bartlesville.

The age composition of a population is frequently expressed by the median age. The median age is defined as the age at which half of the population is younger and half of the population is older. According to the data presented in Figure 2, the population of Washington County is older than the population in Oklahoma or in the United States. For example, the median age in Washington County is 40.1 compared to 35.3 in the United States and 35.5 in Oklahoma. The median age in Bartlesville is 40.0. Thus, the median ages of Washington County and Bartlesville are approximately 5 years older than that of the U.S. and Oklahoma.

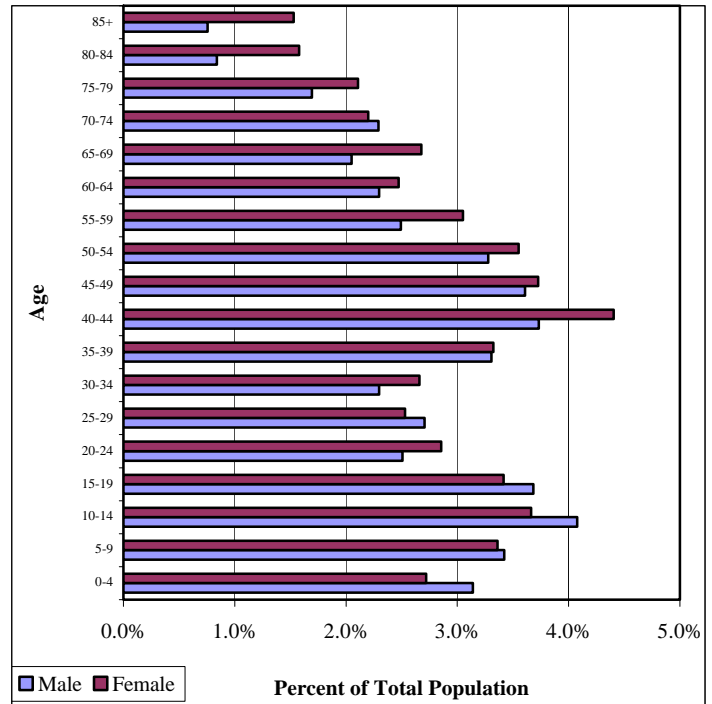
Figure 2: Median Age in Years, 2000



Source: US Census Bureau

A comparison of the population composition of Washington County and the United States presented in Figures 3 and 4 reveals three important developments. First, the age distribution shows the impact of the baby

Figure 3: Washington County Population by Age and Sex, 2000



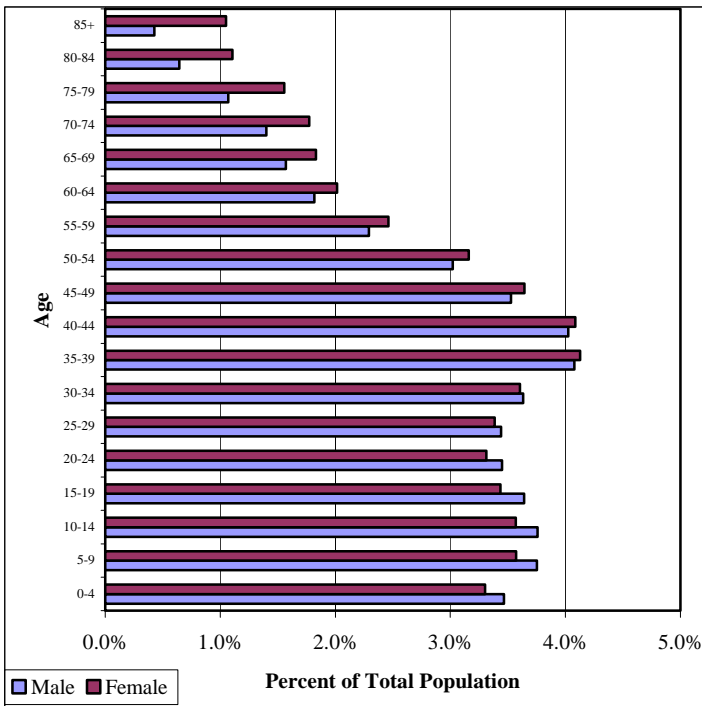
Source: US Census Bureau

boom generation born after World War II. The baby boomers were generally born between 1946 and 1965 reaching a peak in 1958. The baby boomers are indicated by the cohorts 35 to 54 years of age. The baby boom echo was created when the baby boomers became parents themselves. In 1988, 30 years after the peak in the baby boom, there is a peak in the baby boom echo. Consequently, those babies born during the baby boom echo were generally between the ages of 5 and 19 as shown on Figure 3. Thus, there are two peaks illustrated with a dip in births between the baby boom and the echo.

The second observation is the unusually small number of young adults between the ages of 20 and 34 found in Washington County. While some of the size of the cohort can be attributed to declining birth rates between the two peaks, the majority of the decline in the numbers of young adults in Washington County is probably attributed to out-migration. This is particularly evident if one compares the distribution of the population of the United States shown in Figure 4 with Figure 3. Washington County has significantly

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Figure 4: U.S. Population by Age & Sex, 2000



Source: US Census Bureau

fewer persons who are 20 to 34 years of age. This is the age group most likely to seek higher education and career opportunities that require them to relocate. Washington County has probably experienced significant out-migration of young adults to seek education and career opportunities. Although Oklahoma Wesleyan University and Rogers State University are located in Bartlesville, significant numbers of young adults are still moving out of Washington County.

At the time of the 2000 Census, Rogers State University had just become a baccalaureate granting institution. The availability of four-year degrees from RSU in Washington County was too new to have any impact.

A final development shown in Figure 3 is the presence of more people, especially females, in the over 65 age groups. At birth, males outnumber females but the higher death rates for males results in females outnumbering males by age 35 to 40. Higher death rates among males eventually cause females to outnumber males by more than 2:1 in populations over 80. Older populations tend to locate in areas where health care facilities are readily available such as Bartlesville.

Race & Ethnicity

Table 3 and Figure 5 presents the composition of the populations in Washington County, Bartlesville, and Dewey by race and ethnicity. The largest ethnic group is the White population followed by the American Indian group. The third largest group consists of those who identify themselves with two or more racial or ethnic groups.

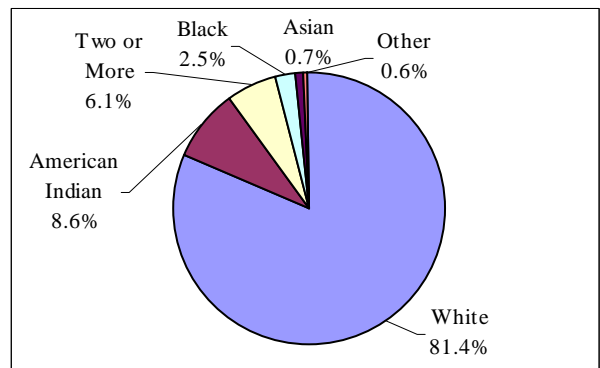
Table 3: Race & Ethnicity, 2000

Area	White	Black	American Indian	Asian	Other	Two or More
Washington County	39,771	1,221	4,214	365	451	2,974
Bartlesville	28,524	1,112	2,496	332	359	1,925
Dewey	2,500	69	350	2	53	205

Source: US Census Bureau

Whites constitute 81.4 percent of the population and American Indians make up about 8.6 percent of the population who consider themselves of one race or ethnicity. In an analysis of data not presented here, over 82 percent of the group who identify with two or more ethnic or racial groups consider themselves White and American Indian. Thus, approximately 14 percent of the population consider themselves either American Indian or American Indian and White. The racial or ethnic distribution of Bartlesville is similar to Washington County except minorities are concentrated in Bartlesville. While Bartlesville has 71 percent of the total county population it has 91 percent of the Black population. Likewise, almost 91 percent of the Asian population in Washington County lives in Bartlesville.

Figure 5: Race & Ethnicity



Source: US Census Bureau

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Household Information

Information on households is presented in Table 4. There are 20,179 households in Washington County with an average household size of 2.40 persons. The average household size in Bartlesville is 2.35 persons compared to the state average of 2.49 and the national average of 2.59. Household size within Washington County is slightly smaller than state or national averages. Likewise, the average family size is somewhat smaller in Washington County.

Table 4: Number & Size of Households

	Number of Households	Average Household Size	Average Family Size
United States	105,480,101	2.59	3.14
Oklahoma	1,342,293	2.49	3.02
Washington County	20,179	2.40	2.91
Bartlesville	14,565	2.35	2.89
Dewey	1,298	2.37	2.91
Oklahoma	1,342,293	2.49	3.02
United States	105,480,101	2.59	3.14

Source: US Census Bureau

Table 5 shows that 69.5 percent of all households consist of families and 30.5 percent consist of nonfamilies. By comparison 68.7 and 68.1 percent of households consist of families in Oklahoma and the United States respectively. Thus, slightly more households in Washington County are composed of family units. In Bartlesville and Dewey, however, the proportion of family units is lower than state and national figures. Further analysis shows that the vast majority of nonfamily households consist of individuals living alone and almost half of them are

Table 5: Household Type

Area	Families	Families w/ children <18	Married Couples	Married Couples w/ children <18	Female Head	Female Head w/ children <18	Non-Family	Alone	Alone 65+
Washington County	69.5	30.5	57.2	22.8	9.3	5.9	30.5	27.5	13.0
Bartlesville	67.5	30.1	54.9	22.1	9.7	6.3	32.5	29.5	14.0
Dewey	67.0	30.6	49.4	20.0	13.3	8.4	33.0	30.0	15.5
Oklahoma	68.7	32.4	53.5	23.2	11.4	7.0	31.3	26.7	10.1
USA	68.1	32.8	51.7	23.5	12.2	7.2	31.9	25.8	9.2

Source: US Census Bureau

age 65 or older. As stated above, 30.5 percent of the households in Washington County consist of nonfamily units while 27.5 percent of the households are individuals living alone and almost half (13 percent) are age 65 or older. In Bartlesville and Dewey, the percentage of households composed of individuals living alone rises to about 30 percent compared with 25.8 percent of the U.S. population. Thus Bartlesville and Dewey have larger proportions of individuals living alone when compared with state or national averages. In addition, these households are much more likely to consist of persons over 65 years of age. In Dewey, 15.5 percent of the households consist of single persons age 65 or older who live alone. This compares with 10.1 percent in Oklahoma and 9.2 percent in the United States. In summary, Washington County has a slightly higher percentage of family units, but the two largest communities, Bartlesville and Dewey, have somewhat higher percentages of nonfamily units and the majority of these are individuals living alone. Approximately one-half of those living alone are over 65 years of age in Bartlesville and Dewey compared to about 35 percent in the United States. Thus, Bartlesville and Dewey both have relatively more persons who are 65 years of age or older and who live alone. This concentration of the elderly may be due to two factors: the availability of medical care services in Bartlesville and their selection of the area for retirement purposes.

Table 5 also shows that Washington County has fewer households with female heads. In Washington County, 9.3 percent of the households have a female head of the household, compared with 11.4 percent in Oklahoma and 12.2 percent for the United States. Likewise, Washington County has fewer female heads of households with children under the age of 18 when compared with state or national statistics.

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Income

Table 6 presents the income data for Washington County. The median family income in 1999 for Washington County was \$43,514 compared to \$40,709 and \$50,046 for Oklahoma and the United States respectively. Thus Washington County has a higher income level than the State of Oklahoma but less than the United States

Table 6: Washington County Income

Area	Median Family	Per Capita Personal	% Families < Poverty
Bartlesville	\$44,617	\$21,195	9.4
Dewey	\$35,844	\$15,429	13.4
Washington County	\$43,514	\$20,250	8.7
Oklahoma	\$40,709	\$17,646	11.2
United States	\$50,046	\$21,587	9.2

Source: US Census Bureau

One can make similar observations based on the per capita income data except the difference between Washington County and the United States is reduced. The per capita income for Washington County is \$20,250 compared to \$21,587 for the United States. The difference between Bartlesville and the U.S. per capita income is even less. Table 6 shows that the per capita income for Bartlesville is \$21,195 or 98.1 percent of the national average of \$21,587. In contrast the per capita income for Dewey is only \$15,429 or 71.5 percent of the national average. Table 6 also shows that Washington County has fewer families who live below the poverty level than the state or national averages. Consistent with the low per capita income in Dewey, however, the percentage of families living in poverty in this community is higher than state or national averages.

Housing

According to the 2000 Census, 74 percent of the residents in Washington County own homes as shown in Table 7. The percentages are slightly lower for Bartlesville and Dewey, but are still higher than the

averages for Oklahoma or the United States. The most noticeable difference in housing is the median value of the homes. The median value for homes in Washington County is \$63,000 compared to \$70,700 for Oklahoma and \$119,600 for the United States. Similarly, the median monthly rent for those residents of Washington County is roughly 90 percent of the state figure and 67 percent of the national figure. Thus, housing in Washington County is relatively less expensive.

Table 7: Housing

Area	Number of Units	Percent Owner Occupied	Median Value	Median Monthly Rent
Bartlesville	16,091	70.4	64,700	405
Dewey	1,457	70.0	40,500	383
Washington Co.	22,250	74.0	63,000	406
Oklahoma	1,514,400	68.4	70,700	456
United States	115,904,641	66.2	119,600	602

Source: US Census Bureau

Education

Educational attainment statistics for Washington County are shown in Table 8. The residents of Washington County are better educated than the average resident in Oklahoma or the United States. More than 85 percent of the population age 25 or older completed high school compared to 80.6 percent in Oklahoma and 80.4 percent in the United States. Similarly 25.8 percent of Washington County residents completed a bachelor's degree or higher compared with 20.3 percent in Oklahoma and 24.4 in the United States. Residents in Bartlesville have even higher levels of educational attainment. Of the

Table 8: Education – Persons 25 Years & Over

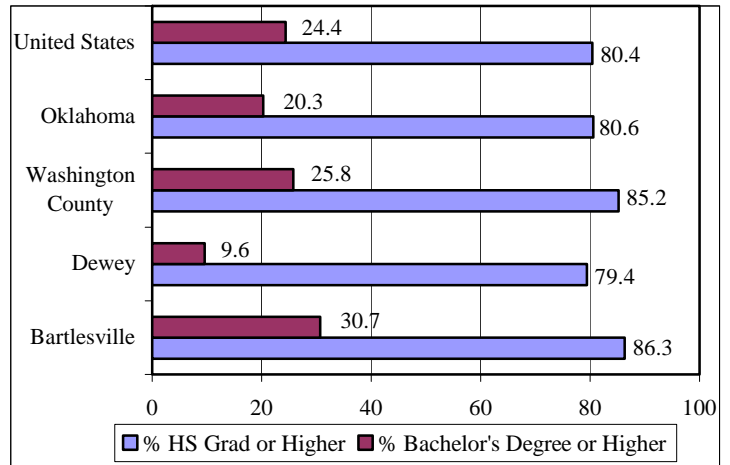
	% HS Grad or Higher	% Bachelor's Degree or Higher
Bartlesville	86.3	30.7
Dewey	79.4	9.6
Washington County	85.2	25.8
Oklahoma	80.6	20.3
United States	80.4	24.4

Source: US Census Bureau

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Bartlesville residents age 25 and over, 30.7 percent completed at least a bachelor’s degree. Figure 6 provides a graphic summary of educational attainment. The higher educational attainment level of the Bartlesville population probably reflects the presence of a major oil company headquarters and its research facilities in the city. In sharp contrast to Bartlesville, the population in Dewey has significantly fewer residents who completed a four-year college degree or higher. Only 9.6 percent of the residents age 25 and over completed a baccalaureate degree or higher. Overall, Washington County has an educated population that is attractive to knowledge-based industries.

Figure 6: Education – Persons 25 & Over



Source: US Census Bureau

Employment

Table 9 describes the occupational data for the civilian population age 16 years and over who reside in Washington County. The most striking feature of the occupational data for Washington County is the similarity with data for the entire United States. The percentage of workers in each occupational category for Washington County is very similar to that of the nation as a whole. For example, 33.9 percent of the employed civilians in Washington County are employed in Management, Professional, and Related occupations compared to 33.6 percent for the United States workers. Likewise, other categories of occupations are very similar.

The distribution of employed civilians in Washington County by industry, however, is somewhat different from that of the United States. For example, Table 10 shows that 4.5 percent of the Washington County population is employed in agriculture compared to 1.9 percent nationally. In addition, more workers are employed in manufacturing and retail trade but fewer are employed in information and professional industries. Perhaps the most striking contrast is the percentage of workers employed in manufacturing. Approximately 17 percent of the workers are employed in the production of goods which is well above the Oklahoma average of 12.5 percent.

Table 9: Occupational Data

Occupation	USA	Oklahoma	Washington County		Bartlesville		Dewey	
	Percent	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Management, Professional, & Related	33.6	30.3	7,243	33.9	5,600	37.6	296	21.8
Service Occupation	14.9	15.5	3,265	15.3	2,272	15.3	329	24.2
Sales & Office Occupations	26.7	26.6	5,567	26.1	3,792	25.5	369	27.2
Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	0.7	0.9	72	0.3	33	0.2	2	0.1
Construction, Extraction, & Maintenance	9.4	11.3	2,191	10.3	1,291	8.7	101	7.4
Production, Transportation, & Material Moving	14.6	15.4	3,011	14.1	1,901	12.8	260	19.2

Source: US Census Bureau

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Table 10: Employment by Industry

Industry	USA	Oklahoma	Washington Co		Bartlesville		Dewey	
	Percent	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Agriculture, etc.	1.9	4.1	968	4.5	597	4.0	28	2.1
Construction	6.8	6.9	1,518	7.1	858	5.8	98	7.2
Manufacturing	14.1	12.5	3,655	17.1	2,488	16.7	241	17.8
Wholesale Trade	3.6	3.4	693	3.2	454	3.0	51	3.8
Retail Trade	11.7	12.0	3,014	14.1	2,254	15.1	194	14.3
Transportation, etc.	5.2	5.6	692	3.2	391	2.6	41	3.0
Information	3.1	2.7	422	2.0	323	2.2	14	1.0
Finance, Insurance, etc.	6.9	6.0	1,180	5.5	830	5.6	54	4.0
Professional, etc.	9.3	7.3	1,564	7.3	1,089	7.3	115	8.5
Education, Health	19.9	20.5	4,396	20.6	3,209	21.6	278	20.5
Arts, Entertainment	7.9	7.5	1,342	6.3	996	6.7	109	8.0
Other Service, excluding Public Administration	4.9	5.6	1,267	5.9	940	6.3	98	7.2
Public Administration	4.8	5.9	638	3.0	460	3.1	36	2.7

Source: US Census Bureau

Table 11 presents information on place of work for workers who are 16 years of age or older. In Washington County 78.6 percent of the workers are employed in the same county as their residence compared with 76.2 percent in Oklahoma and 73.3 percent in the United States. In Bartlesville, 82.8 percent of the workers are employed in the same county as they reside.

Table 11: Place of Work for Workers 16 Years & Over

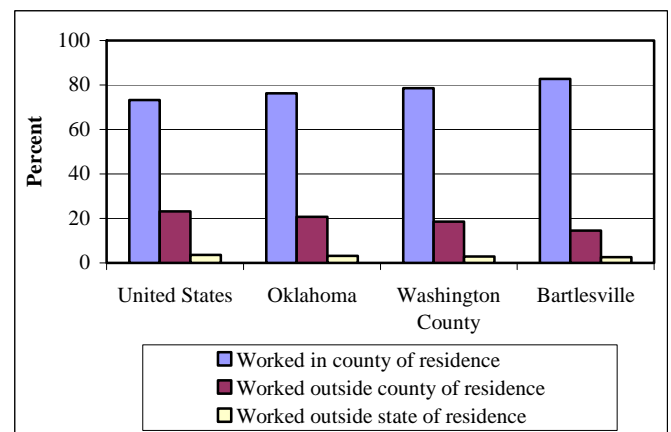
	United States	Oklahoma	Washington County	Bartlesville
Inside county of residence	73.3	76.2	78.6	82.8
Outside county of residence	23.1	20.7	18.5	14.6
Outside state of residence	3.6	3.2	2.9	2.6

Source: US Census Bureau

Figure 7 illustrates that Bartlesville workers are more likely to work in the same county as they reside when compared with county, state, or national averages. Workers in Bartlesville and Washington County are much less likely to work in another county than workers in Rogers County for example. Approximately 55 percent of the workers in Rogers County work outside their county of residence and most work in Tulsa County. Although most workers

in Washington County have easy access to Tulsa, far fewer of them are employed in the Tulsa Metropolitan area when compared with workers in Rogers County. Employment in Tulsa would require longer commutes and Bartlesville appears able to provide sufficient jobs locally, which makes commuting outside the community unnecessary.

Figure 7: Place of Work for Workers 16 Years & Over



Source: US Census Bureau

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Center for Economic & Community Development

Rogers State University established the Center for Economic and Community Development to foster economic development and address the educational needs of business and industry in northeastern Oklahoma. One of the primary functions of the Center is to assist entrepreneurs who wish to start or expand their business. The professional staff at the Center provides assistance with business plans, financial planning, management, marketing, production, and workforce training. Most services are provided free of charge.

The Center is also a regional research and community data center. The Oklahoma Department of Commerce has designated the Center as an affiliate of the Business and Industry Data Center Program

(BIDC). As an affiliate of the BIDC, the Center provides information, training, and technical assistance to government, academic, and other non-profit organizations that directly serve business. In addition, the Center also conducts basic and applied research that focuses on the regional economy and population of northeastern Oklahoma. The Center can also assist businesses with feasibility and marketing studies as well as survey research services.

For additional information on available services, contact:

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