

COLES COUNTY

Total Population: 53,196

- Children under age 5: 2,819
- Children ages 5 to 9: 2,779
- Children ages 10 to 14: 2,938

Coles County is a rural county that provides a unique blend of educational and employment opportunities for its residents. The influence of Eastern Illinois University and Lake Land College creates a culturally diverse population as well as a major source of non-farm employment.

Many of Coles County’s low-skilled workers are forced to find employment with temporary employment agencies. Challenges faced by workers include instability of employment, “non-traditional” work schedules, and lack of affordable, quality child care. In addition, migrant workers provide seasonal agricultural labor in Coles County. Eastern Illinois University, Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) assists families by providing consumer education materials in both Spanish and English.

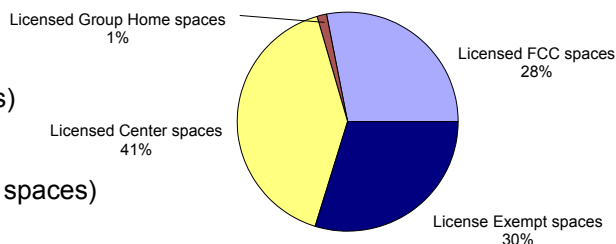
Eastern Illinois University CCR&R offers financial assistance through the Illinois Department of Human Services to low-income families to help lessen the economic burden of child care costs. Many students receive child care assistance. In addition, CCR&R provides information to families on choosing quality child care and actively recruits child care providers who may help meet the needs of families.

Child Care Capacity

There are a total of 123 child care facilities listed with the local CCR&R with a capacity to serve 2,218 children.

Of those facilities, there are a total of:

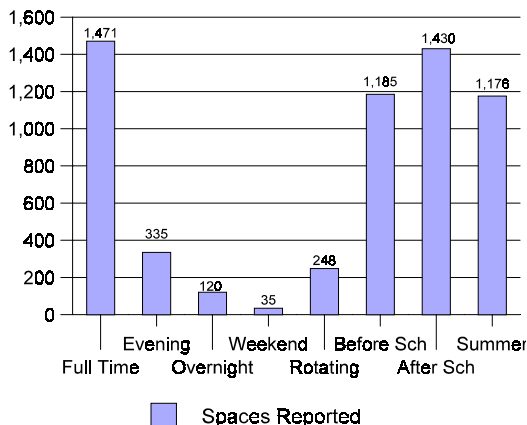
- 79 Licensed Family Child Care (626 spaces)
- 2 Licensed Group Homes (30 spaces)
- 16 Licensed Centers (905 spaces)
- 26 License Exempt Centers & Homes (657 spaces)



Child Care Capacity by Age Group and Schedule

Child care programs listed with the local CCR&R report the potential capacity by age group and schedule, as shown below. The actual enrollment or available spaces may vary.*

Age Group	Spaces Reported
Infants	139
Toddlers	161
2 Years	228
3 & 4 Years	624
5 & Ks	647
School-Age B/A School	472
School-Age Summer Care	434



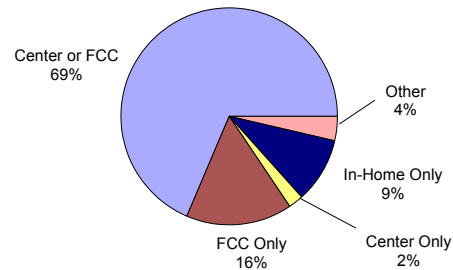
* For more information about these data, please refer to “Understanding The County Data Pages” at the beginning of this section.

Child Care Requests

In Coles County, 437 families called the CCR&R to request care for 727 children.

Of those requests:

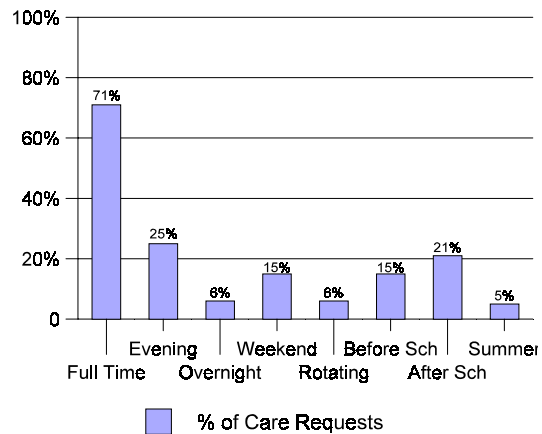
- 499 were for either Center or Family Child Care
- 116 were for Family Child Care Only
- 17 were for Center Only
- 69 were for In-Home Only
- 26 were for Other Types of Care



Requests by Age Group and Schedule

Individuals calling the local CCR&R requested the types of care by the ages and schedules shown below.

Age Group	% Requested
Infants	21%
Toddlers	12%
2 Years	12%
3 & 4 Years	19%
5 & Ks	7%
School-Age	29%

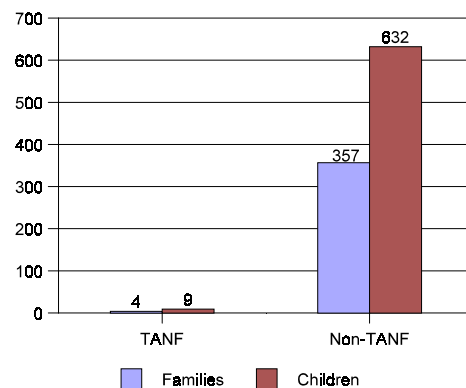


Assistance Paying for Care

The average provider rate for full-time care for an infant in Coles County is \$76.46 per week, which is about 8% of the state median weekly family income of \$997.

Assistance in paying for child care is provided through subsidies by DHS. In June 2001, there were a total of 361 families receiving subsidies for 641 children in care. This figure includes both TANF and non-TANF recipients.

Out of the 123 child care facilities in Coles County, 103 (84%) report that they accept DHS child care subsidies.



For more information about child care in Coles County, contact the Child Care Resource & Referral office: 800-545-7439

Data is from Fiscal Year 2001 (July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001)