



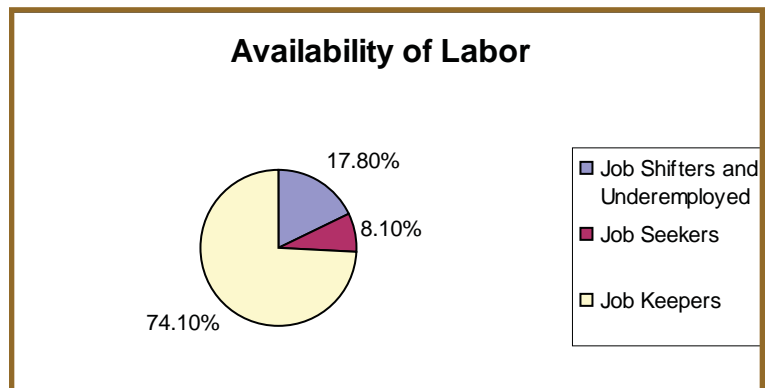
2007 WESTERN OKLAHOMA LABOR FORCE

Counties included are: Beckham, Caddo, Custer, Dewey, Greer, Kiowa & Washita.
Within Caddo County, only residents at or north of Highway 152 were included.

Approximately 40,978 of the 64,273 adults who live in the Western Oklahoma area are employed, which is equal to 63.8% of the population who is 18 years of age or older.

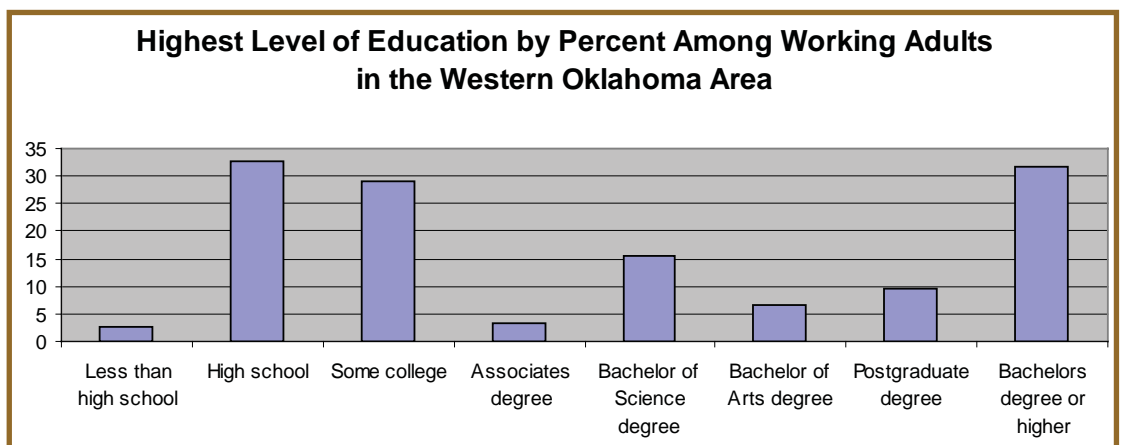
Availability of Labor

This study has identified 7,942 workers who are currently available for other work. The categories of Job Shifters and the Underemployed (described below) are included in this estimate. Some workers are both Job Shifters and Underemployed, so the total number of workers in both categories is somewhat less than their sum. Additionally, there are those adults who are not working but want to work (Job Seekers), and those workers who are not underemployed and have not looked for work in the past three months (Job Keepers), which can be included in the pool of potential workers. These two groups total another 36,637 potential workers for a grand total of approximately 44,579 adults who are either in the labor force or want to be in it.



Education

The percentage of workers in the Western Oklahoma area with a least a Bachelors degree is about one-third of the current work force (Table 2) and about two-thirds of the workers have had at least some college.

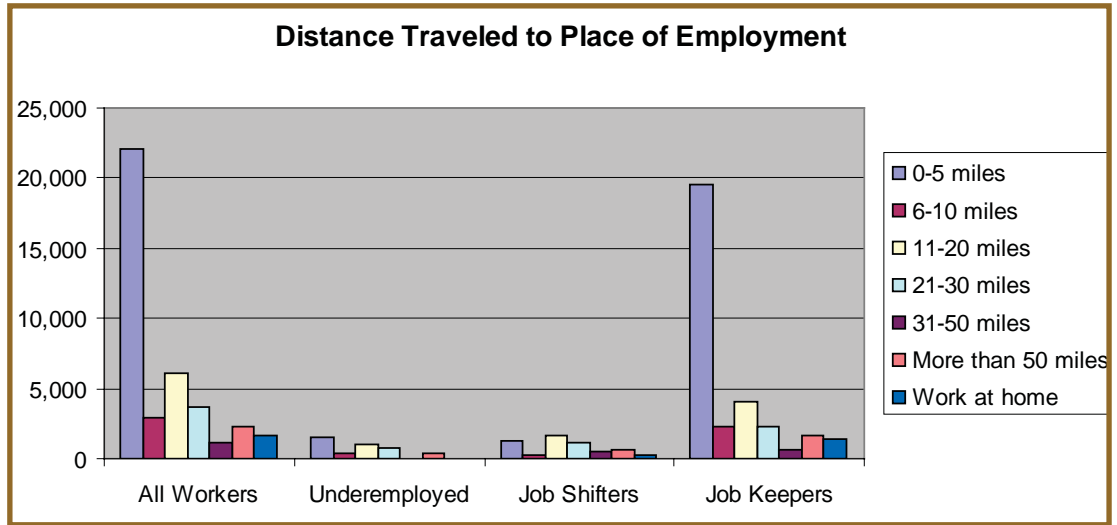


Commuting Patterns

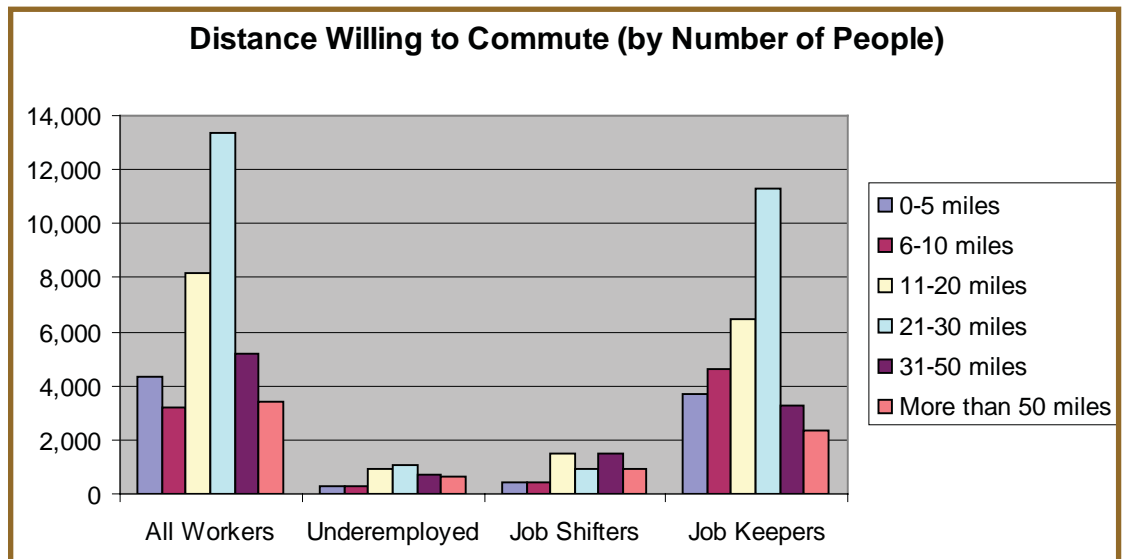
About forty-seven percent of workers (46.8%) live and work in the same county and all but about ten percent of workers are employed in one of the counties in the study area.

About 7,171 workers (or 17.4%) living in the Western

Oklahoma area already commute at least 21 miles to work and an additional 14.8% commute 11-20 miles as shown in Table 7.



Over half of all workers (53.5%) indicate a willingness to commute distances of 21 miles or more to their job and only 18.3% said that they would not commute more than ten miles to work.



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