



America After 3PM - 2020

Findings from a survey of 31,055 U.S. households



America After 3PM

America After 3PM is the nation's most comprehensive look at how children spend their time during the hours after school. Conducted roughly every five years, the 2020 report is the fourth edition of the survey. Previous reports were issued in 2004, 2009, and 2014.

America After 3PM serves as a resource for policy makers, educators, parents, and advocates on afterschool program participation, demand for afterschool programs, and expectations and benefits of programs.

America After 3PM 2020 is made possible by the generous support of the New York Life Foundation, Overdeck Family Foundation, The Wallace Foundation, the S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation, Altria Group, the Walton Family Foundation, and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.

Methodology Statement



Overview:

An online survey was conducted using a blend of national consumer panels with the goal of at least 200 completed interviews in every state and the District of Columbia. In states where this goal could not be reached using online panels, targeted sample was used to complete supplementary telephone interviews. To participate, respondents had to have a school age child in their household for whom they are the parent/guardian and live in the United States. The survey was offered in both English and Spanish (new in 2020).

All qualifying respondents (n=31,055) answered questions about how their child/ren are cared for in the hours after school, participation in organized activities, participation in summer experiences, and demographic questions. In addition:

- A sample of respondents who have a child in an afterschool program (n=3,113) continued onto a battery of questions about their afterschool experiences.
- A sample of "non-participants" (n=11,278) were asked questions about their interest in afterschool programs and barriers to participation.
- A sample of both groups were also asked about the benefits of afterschool programs (sample size varies, some questions split sampled for phone interviews).
- A sample of respondents who had a child in a structured summer program in 2019 (n=3,270) were asked a battery of questions about summer experiences.
- A sample of summer "non-participants" (n=9,083) were asked about their interest in summer programs and barriers to participation.

The online interview took on average 13 minutes to complete (this varied by survey path); the phone interview took on average 20-minutes on landline and 23-minutes on mobile phones. All interviews were completed between January 27th and March 17th, 2020.

Data from completed interviews are weighted on race and income within state, and then by state population. All base sizes in footnotes of this report are unweighted.

Changes in Methodology from Previous Waves:

This is the first wave of the America After 3PM Study that was conducted by Edge Research. While we strove to maintain comparability to previous data where possible, we also took steps to make the study relevant for 2020. Question wording was preserved whenever possible, but with the help of the America After 3pm Advisory Committee, some changes were made to update and improve the clarity of wording for respondents.

Several new sections and topics were added this year:

- New screening questions to better capture the afterschool experiences of older youth
- New questions on summertime experiences
- New questions on social and emotional learning and skills
- New questions about STEM and computer science
- More inclusive language around gender

Report Legend: Within the Main Report



- Afterschool participants
- Non-participants
- Summer participants
- All families
- Prior years

Blue/red numbers =

statistically higher/lower

Notes on trend =

↑ higher/↓ lower

Year to Year

Comparative data from "Final" 2014 PPT report

Question wording is in the notes on each page



5 Big Takeaways

- Unmet demand for afterschool has reached an all-time high
- Demand surges as parents see key benefits from afterschool
- Cost and access block participation, pointing to lack of affordable programs

- Inequities evident barriers higher for families with low income
- Parents show strong support for expanding afterschool opportunities



1.

Unmet demand for afterschool has reached an all-time high

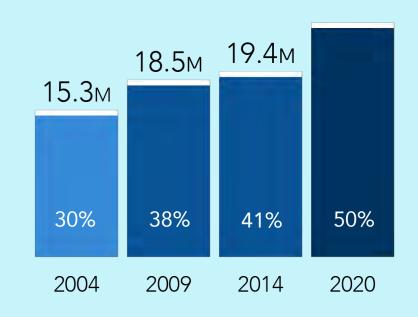


Unmet Demand for Afterschool Skyrockets

Nearly 25 million children would enroll in an afterschool program, if one were available. This is the highest demand in the history of America After 3PM, and marks an increase of 9 million children since 2004, a growth of 60%.

Unmet demand for programs has grown **60%** since 2004







More Students Than Ever Are Missing Out

For every child in afterschool, 3 are waiting for an available program.



% Afterschool Demand By Subgroup



• Parents of color and K-5 express the greatest interest in considering an afterschool program.

		Top2 likely
	Total	50%
vel	Elementary (K-5)	56%
Grade level	Middle School (6-8)	47%
9	High School (9-12)	36%
	Asian	64%
	Black/African American	58%
Race	Hispanic/Latinx	55%
Ra	Native American	45%
	Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	57%
	White	46%
me	Low-income	51%
Income	Higher income	49%

% Afterschool Demand By State among Non-Participants (at child level)



	<u>2020</u>	<u>2014</u>
Alabama	49%↑	41%
Alaska	52%	43%
Arizona	49%↑	34%
Arkansas	48%	45%
California	56%↑	49%
Colorado	48%↑	35%
Connecticut	46%	44%
Delaware	47%	40%
District of Columbia	48%	66%
Florida	58%↑	46%
Georgia	42%	40%
Hawaii	43%	38%
Idaho	40%	42%
Illinois	60%↑	41%
Indiana	42% ↑	31%
Iowa	41%↑	33%
Kansas	38%	31%
Kentucky	45%	44%
Louisiana	50%↑	39%
Maine	48%	44%
Maryland	48%↑	36%
Massachusetts	56%↑	44%
Michigan	54%↑	44%
Minnesota	41%↑	20%
Mississippi	53%	50%
Missouri	44%↑	31%

	<u> 2020</u>	<u>2014</u>
Montana	50%	38%
Nebraska	46%↑	31%
Nevada	51%↑	39%
New Hampshire	42%	36%
New Jersey	55%↑	36%
New Mexico	43%	33%
New York	66%↑	49%
North Carolina	47%↑	39%
North Dakota	38%	34%
Ohio	50%	53%
Oklahoma	45%	40%
Oregon	44%	44%
Pennsylvania	46%	50%
Rhode Island	44%	30%
South Carolina	43%↓	51%
South Dakota	34%	32%
Tennessee	51% ↑	31%
Texas	55%↑	37%
Utah	50%	47%
Vermont	39%	33%
Virginia	51%↑	35%
Washington	63%↑	36%
West Virginia	46%	48%
Wisconsin	34%	33%
Wyoming	54%	45%



2.

Demand surges as parents see key benefits from afterschool



Benefits Afterschool Programs Offer Students

Kids in afterschool enjoy a wide range of benefits:

	Interacting with peers and building social skills	90%
	Getting help with homework	73%
L.	Taking part in physical activities	85%

**	Building life skills	68%
Ž.	Engaging in STEM learning	73%
Ö	Receiving healthy snacks or meals	70%



Benefits Afterschool Programs Offer Parents

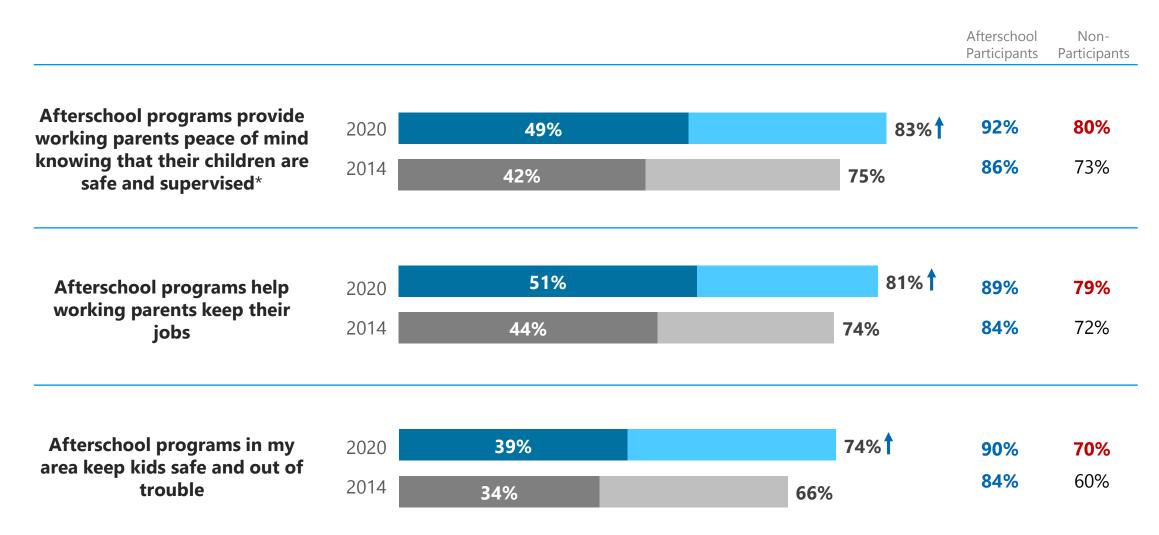
Parents with kids in afterschool benefit too:

	Helps working parents keep their job	89%	19	Gives working parents peace of mind	92%
	Provides support to parents who are trying to find jobs during the pandemic*	77%		Helps kids develop social skills and make responsible decisions	84%
\odot	Keeps their kids safe	92%	P	Has knowledgeable and caring staff	89%

% Agree with Afterschool Value



Appreciation for the benefits of afterschool has grown since 2014, among participants and non-participants.



% Completely Agree with Value by Race/Ethnicity & Income



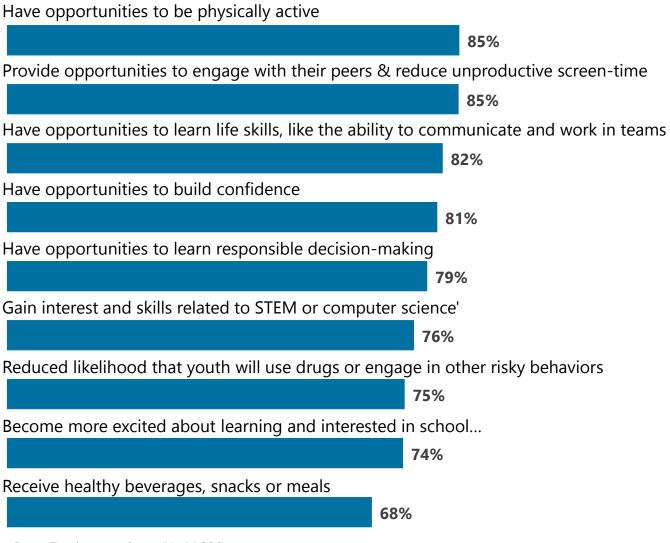
	Asian American	Black/ African American	Hispanic/ Latinx	Native American	White	Low-income
All young people deserve access to quality afterschool and summer programs	51%	68%	64%	69%	59%	62%
Afterschool programs provide working parents peace of mind knowing that their children are safe and supervised	45%	56%	51%	48%	48%	49%
Afterschool programs help working parents keep their jobs	48%	54%	52%	55%	50%	50%
Afterschool programs allow kids to build positive relationships with caring adults and mentors	36%	49%	44%	48%	38%	42%
Afterschool programs in my area keep kids safe and out of trouble	36%	47%	43%	40%	37%	41%
Afterschool programs help parents build connections to their child's school day education	33%	40%	35%	33%	28%	34%

Black/African American parents are the most likely to completely agree with the value of afterschool programs

% Agree with Afterschool Benefits



 Strong majorities of parents say that afterschool pays off for students by supporting wellness, life skills, and schoolwork.



% Completely Agree with Benefits by Race/Ethnicity & Income



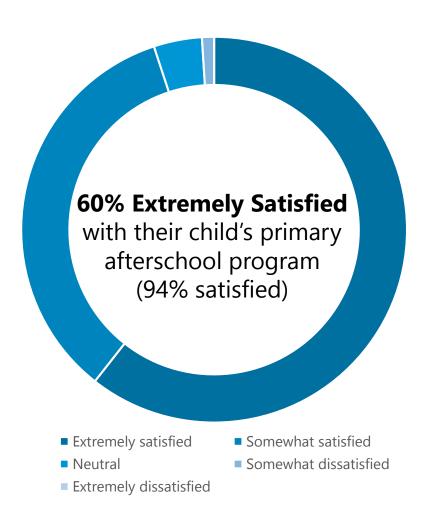
	Asian American	Black/ African American	Hispanic/ Latinx	Native American	White	Low- income
Have opportunities to be physically active	46%	57 %	53%	61%	49%	53%
Have opportunities to learn life skills	45%	55%	52%	54%	43%	51%
Provide opportunities to engage with their peers and reduce unproductive screen time	48%	55%	53%	53%	49%	52%
Have opportunities to build confidence	46%	53%	51%	54%	43%	50%
Become more excited about learning and interested in school	38%	50%	46%	49%	37%	45%
Have opportunities to learn responsible decision-making	39%	50%	48%	47%	39%	46%
Gain interest and skills related to STEM	42%	49%	49%	47%	39%	46%
Reduced likelihood that youth will use drugs or engage in other risky behaviors	36%	46%	44%	42%	36%	42%
Receive healthy beverages, snacks or meals	31%	44%	39%	43%	33%	41%

Black, Hispanic, Native
American, and Low Income
parents are more likely to
completely agree with most or
all of the benefits of afterschool
programs

% Afterschool Satisfaction



• Satisfaction with the afterschool program experience is high, even more so than in 2014.



2020: 60% †
2014: 50%

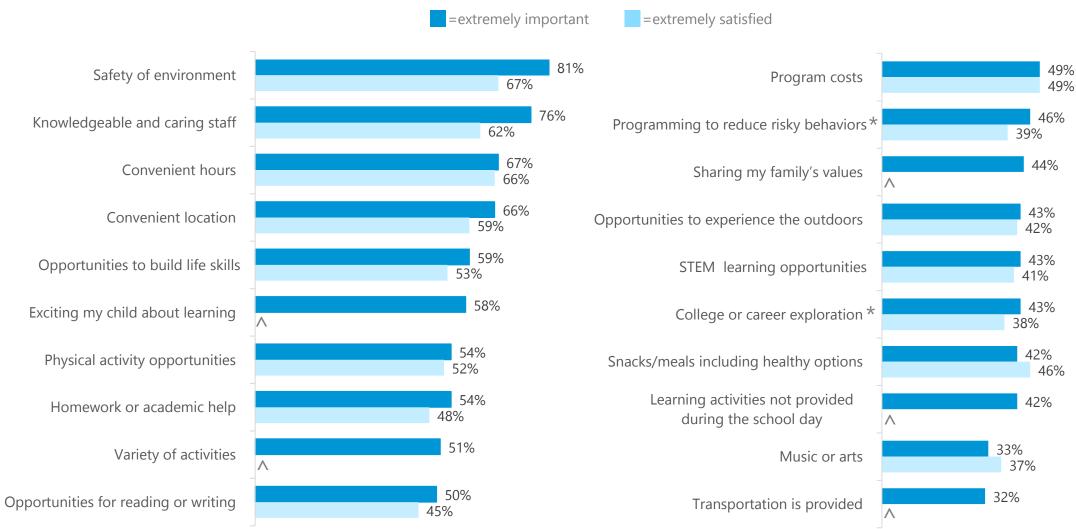
Total Satisfied
2020: 94% †
2014: 89%

% Extremely Satisfied	by Key De 2020	
K-5 th grade	60% 🛉	51%
6 th -8 th grade	59% 🕇	44%
9 th -12 th grade	64% ↑	56%
	A	
White	60% 🕇	51%
Black	64% 🕇	59%
Hispanic	63%	54%
Asian	43% 🕇	36%
Native American	67%	67%
Low-income	66% ↑	55%
10+ hours/week	59%	n/a
3-9 hours/week	58%	n/a
<3 hours/week	62%	n/a
Demal	CE 0/ A	F00/
Rural	65% ↑	50%
Suburbs	56% ↑	50%
Urban	63% 🛉	51%

% Satisfaction on Key Drivers



According to parents, afterschool programs in 2019-2020 delivered on what mattered most.



Base=Afterschool participants (varies by item)

^{*} Reduced base for whom items are relevant

[^] N/A, satisfaction not measured

Importance by Race/Ethnicity & Income

	Asian American	Black/ African American	Hispanic/ Latinx	Native American	White	Low- income
Safety of environment	79%	83%	83%	84%	78%	80%
Knowledgeable and caring staff	72%	82%	78%	84%	73%	77%
Convenient hours	66%	72 %	69%	64%	67%	66%
Convenient location	71%	67%	67%	70%	65%	68%
Opportunities to build life skills	58%	67%	64%	72%	54%	63%
Exciting my child about learning	61%	65%	63%	74%	52%	64%
Homework or academic help	59%	65%	59%	67%	47%	60%
Physical activity opportunities	47%	55%	58%	52%	51%	54%
Variety of activities	52%	54%	56%	48%	46%	54%
Opportunities for reading or writing	55%	58%	54%	62%	44%	55%
Program costs	49%	56%	43%	46%	45%	54%

	Asian American	Black/ African American	Hispanic/ Latinx	Native American	White	Low- income
Sharing my family's values	4/70	48%	45%	50%	40%	49%
Programming to reduce risky behaviors	57%	50%	45%	49%	38%	48%
STEM learning opportunities	4770	47%	50%	39%	36%	44%
Opportunities to experience the outdoors	42%	44%	42%	47%	40%	44%
Snacks/meals including healthy options	36%	46%	44%	41%	38%	48%
Learning activities not provided during the school day	42%	46%	46%	44%	37%	45%
College or career exploration	65%	50%	47%	32%	31%	42%
Transportation is provided	2 1 70	37%	28%	38%	27%	34%

Base=Afterschool participants (varies by item)



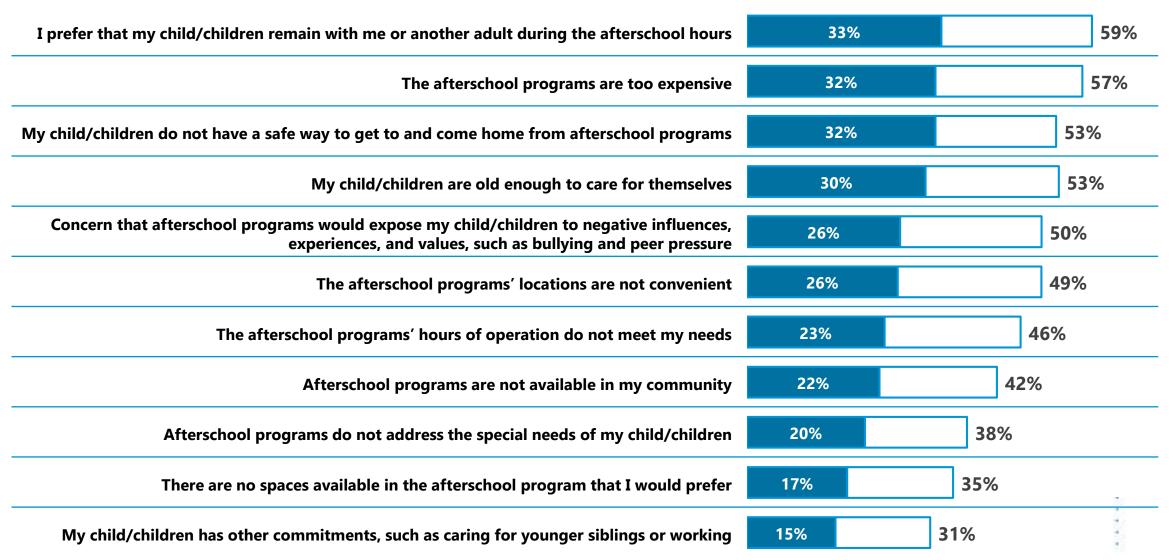
3.

Cost and access block participation, pointing to lack of affordable programs

% Barriers to Afterschool



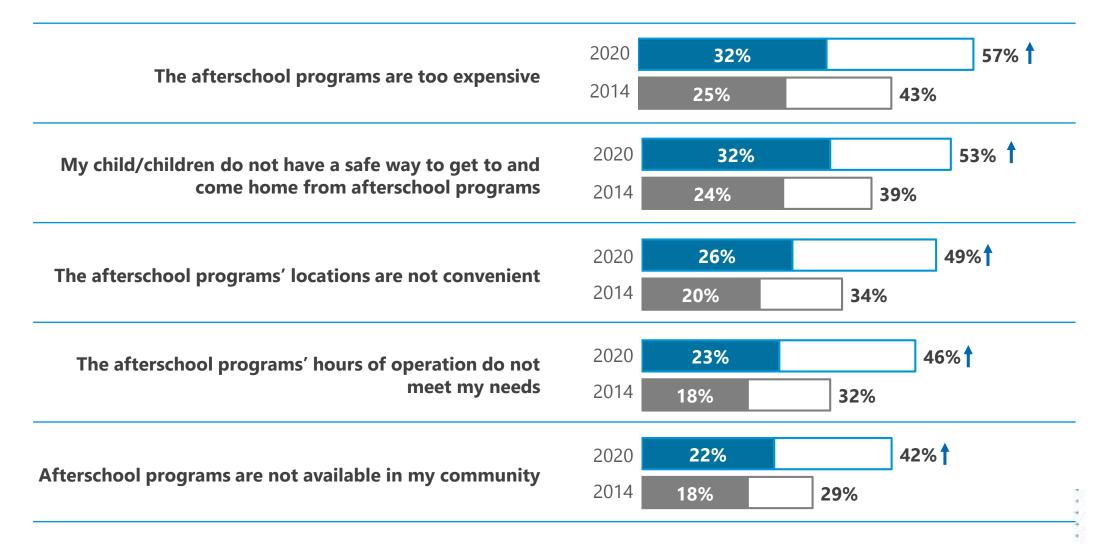
Expense and personal preference as the top reasons more students do not enroll in afterschool programs.



% Barriers to Afterschool



• In a revised version of the question, more families report expense and access barriers this year.

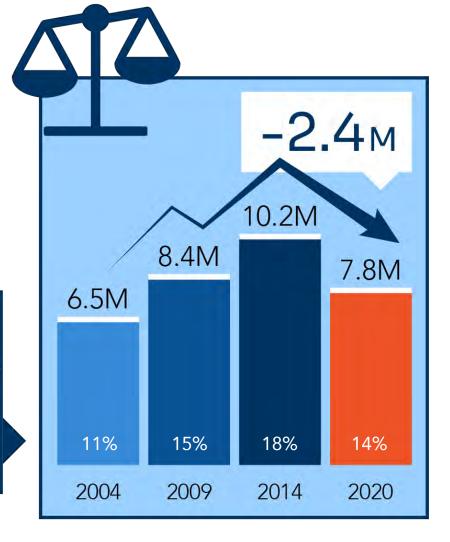




Afterschool Participation Declines

As high levels of parents reported barriers to participation, afterschool program participation saw a decrease for the first time ever.

For the first time in more than a decade, the number of kids in afterschool programs decreased.



^{*}Projections for child-level data represent the 57.4 million children and youth in the United States based on numbers from the U.S. Census Bureau's October 2018 Current Population Survey, https://www.census.gov/data/tables/2018/demo/school-enrollment/2018-cps.html

% Afterschool Program Participation By State (child level)

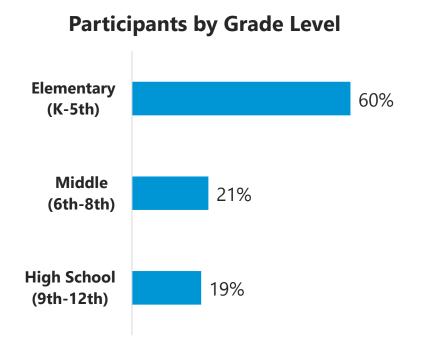


	<u>2020</u>	<u>2014</u>
Alabama	11%	13%
Alaska	17%	19%
Arizona	13%	16%
Arkansas	12%	13%
California	17%↓	25%
Colorado	9%↓	15%
Connecticut	14%	17%
Delaware	11%↓	18%
District of Columbia	24%↓	35%
Florida	17%↓	22%
Georgia	18%	16%
Hawaii	18%↓	26%
Idaho	10%	8%
Illinois	14%↓	18%
Indiana	12%	11%
Iowa	9%	14%
Kansas	13%	14%
Kentucky	11%	15%
Louisiana	11%	15%
Maine	9%↓	18%
Maryland	16%	16%
Massachusetts	15%	19%
Michigan	11%	13%
Minnesota	14%	15%
Mississippi	14%	16%
Missouri	14%	14%

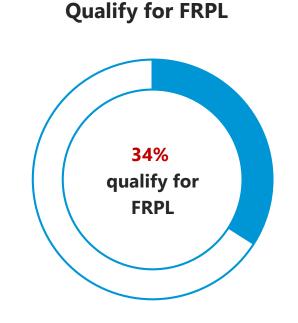
	<u>2020</u>	<u>2014</u>
Montana	11%	13%
Nebraska	10%↓	18%
Nevada	15%↓	24%
New Hampshire	14%	17%
New Jersey	15%	16%
New Mexico	14%↓	21%
New York	15%↓	21%
North Carolina	12%	15%
North Dakota	15%	20%
Ohio	10%↓	15%
Oklahoma	9%	11%
Oregon	13%	16%
Pennsylvania	11%↓	17%
Rhode Island	12%↓	22%
South Carolina	13%	13%
South Dakota	14%	14%
Tennessee	13%	18%
Texas	14%↓	18%
Utah	6%	10%
Vermont	22%	24%
Virginia	12%	15%
Washington	12%↓	17%
West Virginia	12%↓	19%
Wisconsin	13%	13%
Wyoming	16%	15%

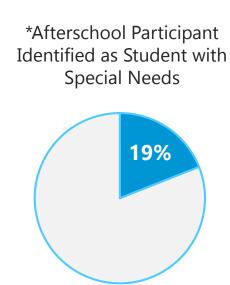
Demographics: Afterschool Participants (Child Level)





Participant Gender Male Female 50.4% Other 0.2%





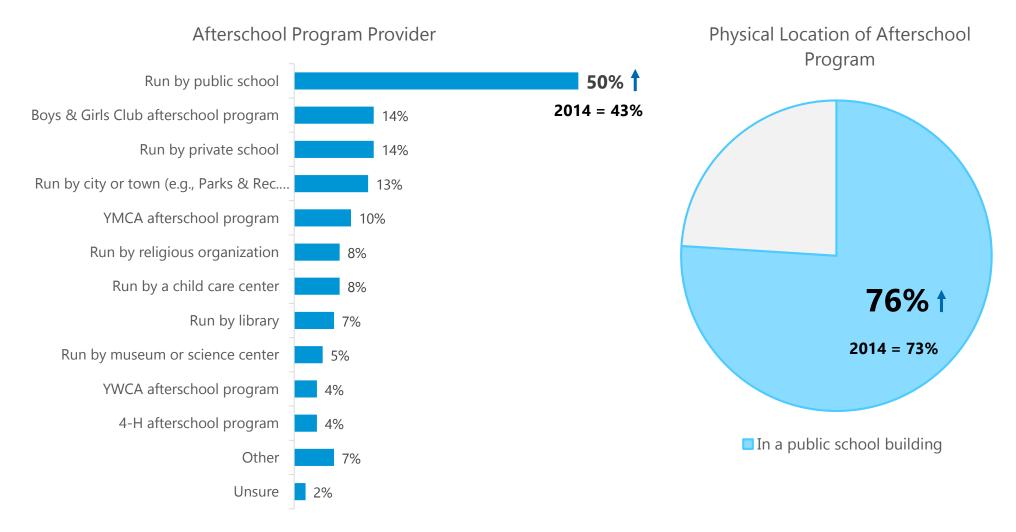
Race/Ethnicity

White	Hispanic/Latinx	Black/African American	Asian	Native American	Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander
60%	21%	19%	7%	2%	1%

% Afterschool by Provider & Setting



- Afterschool programs continue to be linked with public schools, and this has increased over the last six years.
- Few differences by race or ethnicity.

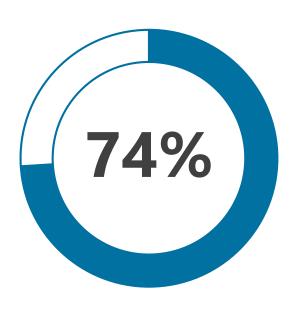


% Households in Activities

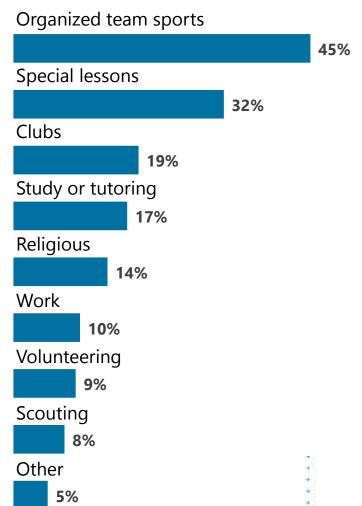


• Three-quarters of children participate in at least 1 afternoon hobby or activity. Team sports is the most common.

Participating in at least 1 Afternoon Activity



- Urban and Suburban more likely to participate (76%)
- White parents more likely to report participating (74%)
- **FRPL** families less likely to participate (62%)
- Higher reports of activities:
 DC (87%), New Jersey (82%)
- Lower reports of activities:
 Kentucky (67%), Oregon (67%)

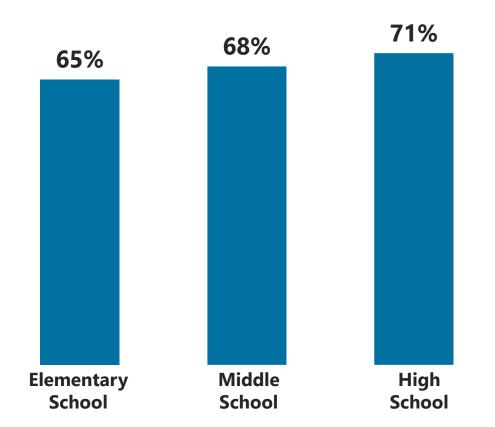


% Activities By Grade



• Participating in afterschool activities continues to grow as students progress through their academic career.

Participation in activities such as sports, special lessons, hobby clubs, etc.:



	Total
Kindergarten	52%
First grade	57%
Second grade	59%
Third grade	61%
Fourth grade	65%
Fifth grade	65%
Sixth grade	66%
Seventh grade	65%
Eighth grade	65%
Ninth grade	67%
Tenth grade	67%
Eleventh grade	67%
Twelfth grade	68%



4.

Inequities evident – barriers higher for families with low income

% Barriers by Income

	Total	Low-Income	Higher Income
I prefer that my child/children remain with me or another adult during the afterschool hours	59%	62%	58%
The afterschool programs are too expensive	57%	61%	55%
My child/children do not have a safe way to get to and come home from afterschool programs	53%	58%	50%
My child/children are old enough to care for themselves	53%	49%	55%
Concern that afterschool programs would expose my child/children to negative influences, experiences, and values, such as bullying and peer pressure	50%	53%	48%
The afterschool programs' locations are not convenient	49%	51%	48%
The afterschool programs' hours of operation do not meet my needs	46%	48%	45%
Afterschool programs are not available in my community	42%	44%	40%
Afterschool programs do not address the special needs of my child/children	38%	41%	36%
There are no spaces available in the afterschool program that I would prefer	35%	37%	35%
My child/children has other commitments, such as caring for younger siblings or working	31%	30%	31%

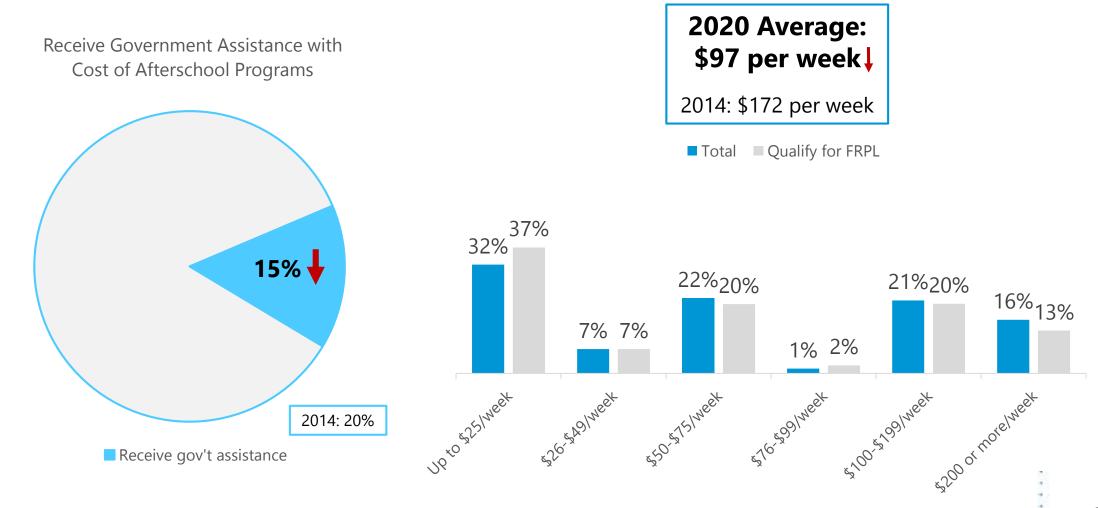
% Barriers by Race/Ethnicity

	Total	Asian	Black/ African American	Hispanic/ Latinx	Native American	Native Hawaiian/ Pac Island	White
I prefer that my child/children remain with me or another adult during the afterschool hours	59%	58%	59%	62%	63%	60%	59%
The afterschool programs are too expensive	57%	66%	58%	57%	49%	56%	57%
My child/children do not have a safe way to get to and come home from afterschool programs	53%	57%	58%	60%	53%	58%	50%
My child/children are old enough to care for themselves	53%	51%	52%	50%	44%	49%	54%
Concern that afterschool programs would expose my child/children to negative influences, experiences, and values, such as bullying and peer pressure	50%	54%	54%	56%	49%	49%	47%
The afterschool programs' locations are not convenient	49%	58%	56%	53%	50%	49%	47%
The afterschool programs' hours of operation do not meet my needs	46%	53%	51%	49%	43%	39%	44%
Afterschool programs are not available in my community	42%	46%	46%	42%	34%	48%	40%
Afterschool programs do not address the special needs of my child/children	38%	37%	45%	42%	38%	34%	35%
There are no spaces available in the afterschool program that I would prefer	35%	44%	42%	39%	30%	39%	33%
My child/children has other commitments, such as caring for younger siblings or working	31%	32%	33%	32%	24%	37%	31%

\$ Afterschool Assistance



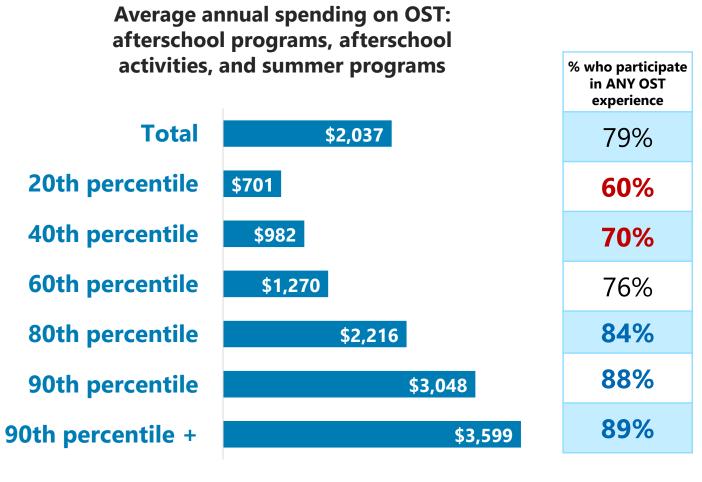
- Those with government assistance to help cover costs of afterschool programs is down 5% since 2014.
- Those who receive assistance appear to be spending substantially less/week.



Opportunity Gap Analysis



- When it comes to annual spending on ALL OST activities and programs, families in the highest income bracket spend more than 5x as much as those in the lowest bracket
- While majorities in all income brackets participate in some form OST activity, this is significantly lower among those in the lowest income bracket.





5.

Parents show strong support for expanding afterschool opportunities

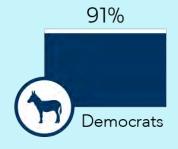


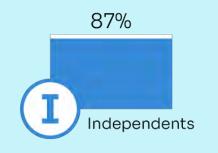
Nearly 9 in 10 parents support investment in afterschool programs

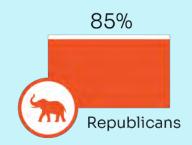
87% of parents favor public funding of afterschool programs to expand opportunities for kids in underserved communities



Support is strong and bipartisan:







% Support Afterschool Advocacy



Support for Afterschool Alliance's policy agenda continues to hold strong.

"Afterschool opportunities to students in communities that have few opportunities for children and youth"

2020: Strongly Favor 57% **† 2014:** Strongly Favor 52%

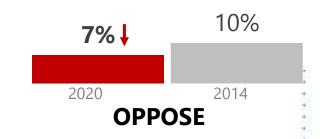
2020 Favor (strongly+somewhat)

- Dem (91%)
- Rep (**85%**)
- Urban (90%)
- Suburban (87%)
- Rural (86%)
- Participants (92%)
- Non-participants (86%)
- Asian (89%)
- Black/African American (88%)
- Latinx/Hispanic (88%)
- Native American (90%)
- White (87%)

2014 Favor (strongly+somewhat)

- Dem (91%)
- Rep (80%)
- Urban (89%)
- Suburban (84%)
- Rural (83%)
- Participants (89%)
- Non-participants (83%)
- Asian (85%)
- Black/African American (91%)
- Latinx/Hispanic (87%)
- Native American (77%)
- White (84%)





Fall 2020 Parent Survey Findings



- After COVID concerns, the main barriers to participating in afterschool remain very similar to pre-COVID
 - Half or more cite expense; exposure to negative influences; safe transit; convenience
- Despite concerns, demand is high
 - Even amidst COVID, 49% of children would participate in a program if one were available
- Parents report they are managing, but worry about their kids
 - Most concerned about staying on track in school; social and emotional well-being; friendships; screen time; physical activity
- Parents want programs to offer more than academics
 - When asked what children need, parents want physical activity; opportunities to build life skills; activities to excite them about learning; social connections with peers
- Parent support for public funding remains strong
 - 85% (Oct.) vs. 87% (pre-COVID)

Winter/Spring 2021 Provider Survey Findings



PROVIDERS INCREASINGLY OPEN AND DELIVERING FOR STUDENTS:

Physically open in some capacity

SPRING 2020

WINTER/SPRING 2021

19%

75%

More than 4 in 5 providers that are open report offering academic enrichment, time to interact with peers, and physical activity

PROVIDERS' CONCERNS ABOUT THE FUTURE REMAIN:

86% Concerned about the program's long-term funding and future

46% Concerned about providing in-person services in the fall



HOME > NATIONAL > DEMAND SELECT A STATE/REGION OR A SPECIAL TOPIC HOME > NATIONAL > WASHINGTON > DEMAND National Overview Select a topic Demand Benefits Challenges Support SELECT A STATE/REGION OR A SPECIAL TOPIC Oregon Select a topic Challenges Pennsylvania Rhode Island Washington After 3PM The number of children left without afterschool in Washington is South Carolina The number of children left without afterschool is high In Washington, unmet demand for afterschool South Dakota programs has reached an all-time high, with Tennessee nearly 649,000 children who would be enrolled in 24.6 million children would participate in an afterschool program if one were available in Texas a program if one were available to them. Demand For every child in an afterschool program Children who would participate in an count for afterschool in Washington surges as parents in Washington afterschool program if one were available 2020 Utah see key benefits from afterschool, including Vermont keeping kids safe, helping them learn and grow, and providing peace of mind for working families. Virginia As families face barriers to participation, such as Washington cost and accessibility, there is strong support the behind public funding for afterschool programs in West Virginia afford; Wisconsin 2004 2009 2014 2020 5 more children are waiting to get in Wyoming For every child in an afterschool 648,752 kids would participate in an program, 5 more children are waiting to get in Metropolitan Areas afterschool program if one were available to GA- Atlanta Parent satisfaction with afterschool TX- Dallas Children who would participate in an Children alone and unsupervised after programs is high afterschool program if one were available, CA- Los Angeles by grade level Arkansas-Mississippi Delta Region Parents overwhelmingly support public funding for afterschool VA- Richmond 6-8 9-12 Fact Sheets & Key Findings > Share this page 🖸 😝 😲 🛅 Download this page 🕒 Fact Sheets & Key Findings > Children who would participate in an afterschool program if one were available 133,508 kids were alone and unsupervised In Washington, 778 households and 1,495 children were between the hours of 3 and 6 p.m. in 2020 screened for this study. Child-level statewide projections and total school enrollment numbers are based on 2018-Children alone and unsupervised after Average time per week children spend 2019 Department of Education, National Center for school, by grade level alone and unsupervised after school Education Statistics. Total school enrollment for Washington is 1,160,429. 6-8 9-12

National 50%

2020

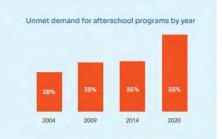


For years, afterschool programs have kept kids safe, inspired them to learn, and offered parents peace of mind that their children are constructively engaged in the hours between the end of the school day and when parents return from work.

Yet, in New Jersey, America After 3PM found that for every child in an afterschool program, 3 are waiting to get in, with 214,645 children alone and unsupervised after school.

The number of students left without afterschool in New Jersey is on the rise

There are now 650,628 children (55%) in New Jersey who would be enrolled in an afterschool program if one were available to them. In the last decade, the number of children unable to access afterschool programs has grown in New Jersey by 205,633.



New Jersey children who are fortunate enough to take part in afterschool programs are receiving critical supports

97% of New Jersey parents are satisfied with their child's afterschool program. New Jersey children in afterschool programs are:

	Building life skills	72%
	Getting help with homework	89%
ů,	Engaging in STEM or computer science learning opportunities	77%



Additionally, New Jersey parents report high levels of satisfaction with supports in their child's afterschool program, including:

0	A safe environment	93%
62	Knowledgeable and caring staff	89%



Moreover, New Jersey parents report that afterschool programs are a lifeline for working families:

of parents with a child in an afterschool program agree that the program helps them keep their job or work more hours

of parents overall agree that afterschool programs provide working parents peace of mind.





Afterschool in New Jersey





How kids and parents benefit

http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM



Special reports coming up

Late May

Summer

Fall 2021

STEM

Winter 2021

Rural communities

Winter/Spring 2022

Well-being, including social and emotional learning and protective factors