



North Carolina



North Carolina has seen a steady increase in afterschool program participation during the past 10 years, growing from 10 percent in 2004 to 12 percent in 2009 to 15 percent in 2014. However, the average time children spend in an afterschool program saw a drop in 2014, from 10 hours per week in 2009 to 6 hours in 2014, falling below the national average and contributing to North Carolina's fall out of the top 10 states for afterschool. Unmet demand for afterschool programs continues to grow; nearly 2 in 5 children—more than half a million children—not in an afterschool program who would be enrolled in a program if one were available to them.



North Carolina

DEMAND

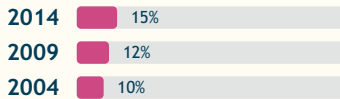
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Children in Afterschool

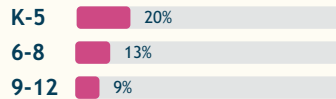
Afterschool program participation in North Carolina



234,908 children in 2014

In 2014, 15% of North Carolina's children participate in an afterschool program, compared to 12% in 2009 and 10% in 2004.

Children in an afterschool program, by grade



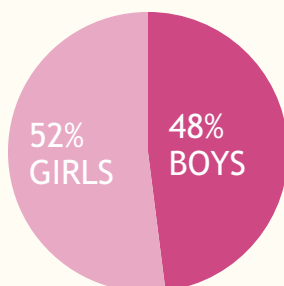
In 2014, 20% of North Carolina's children in grades K-5 participate in an afterschool program, compared to 13% in grades 6-8 and 9% in grades 9-12.

Average time per week children spend in an afterschool program

2014
6 HOURS
4 DAYS

For the purposes of this study, timing was limited to 15 hours per week in afterschool care, reflecting the hours of 3 to 6 p.m.

Children in an afterschool program, by gender



Most families piece together a variety of afterschool solutions, with 69% of North Carolina's K-12 children spending some portion of the hours after school in the care of a parent or guardian. Other afterschool arrangements include traditional child care centers (8%); sibling care (14%); and non-parental adult care, such as a grandparent or neighbor (24%).

Average weekly cost of afterschool programs

2014

\$86

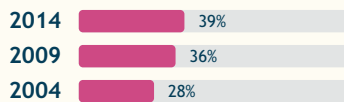
The average weekly cost only includes parents who report that they pay a fee for their child's afterschool program.

Children Unsupervised After School & Unmet Demand

Children who would participate if an afterschool program were available

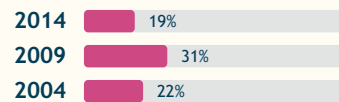
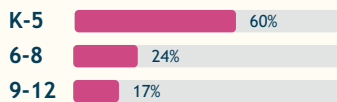
Children who would participate if an afterschool program were available, by grade level

Children unsupervised after school



523,140 children in 2014

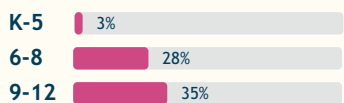
In 2014, 39% of North Carolina's children would participate in an afterschool program if one were available, compared to 36% in 2009 and 28% in 2004.



295,984 children in 2014

In 2014, 19% of North Carolina's children are alone and unsupervised between the hours of 3 and 6 p.m.

Children unsupervised after school, by grade



In 2014, 3% of North Carolina's children in grades K-5 were unsupervised after school, compared to 28% in grades 6-8 and 35% in grades 9-12.

What barriers to afterschool program enrollment are North Carolina families facing?

After lack of need, the predominant challenges parents face enrolling their child in an afterschool program include:

- Preference for alternative activities
- The afterschool programs are too expensive

Average time per week children spend alone & unsupervised after school

2014

7 HOURS

For the purposes of this study, timing was limited to 15 hours per week, reflecting the hours of 3 to 6 p.m.

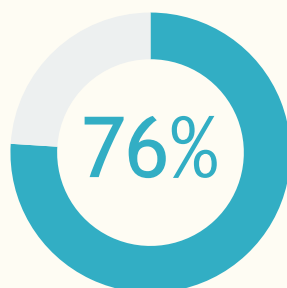
Parent Satisfaction with Afterschool Programs -

Parents satisfied with their child's afterschool program

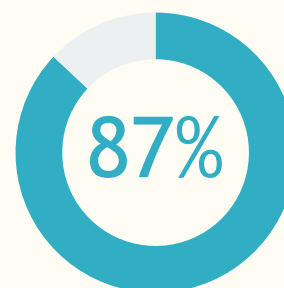


In 2014, 87% of North Carolina's parents are satisfied with their child's afterschool program, compared to 86% in 2009 and 93% in 2004.

Parents satisfied with the quality of care in their child's afterschool program



Parents satisfied with the safe environment of their child's afterschool program



Top 5 activities/services offered by afterschool programs

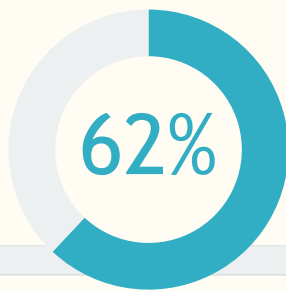
- Opportunities for physical activity
- Beverages, snacks and/or meals
- Homework assistance

Parents agree that afterschool programs help children gain workforce skills

Top 5 factors in parents' selection of an afterschool program

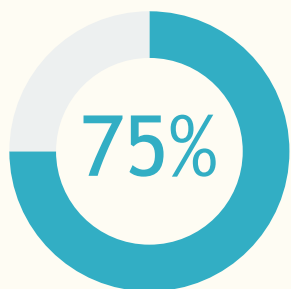
- Quality of care
- Is a safe haven
- Their child enjoys the afterschool

- Music or art
- Opportunities for reading or writing



- program
- Knowledgeable and well-trained staff
 - Program cost

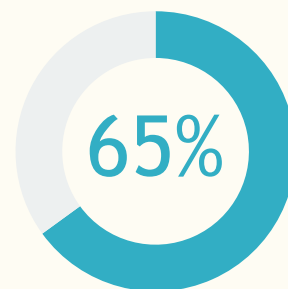
Parents agree that afterschool programs reduce the likelihood that youth will engage in risky behaviors



51%

of afterschool programs are located in a public school building

Parents agree that afterschool programs excite children about learning



Most common afterschool program providers

1. Public school
2. Religious organization
3. YMCAs

Public Support for Afterschool Programs -

86%

of North Carolina parents support public funding for afterschool programs, while just 15% report receiving government assistance with the cost of afterschool.

80%

of North Carolina parents agree that afterschool programs help give working parents peace of mind about their children when they are at work.

80%

of parents agree that afterschool programs help parents keep their jobs.

Footnotes

In North Carolina, 326 households and 1,874 children were screened for this study. According to the Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics data for 2011-2012, the total school enrollment in North Carolina is 1,566,054, which is the foundation for all statewide projections in North Carolina After 3PM.



Afterschool Alliance

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