



# California



California has secured the number one spot in the top 10 states for afterschool, moving up from fourth in 2009. The state's afterschool program participation rate has surged over the past five years, increasing 6 percentage points from 2009 and serving more than 377,000 additional students across California. Despite California's high participation rates, high percentage of parents satisfied with their child's afterschool program overall, and strong support for public funding for afterschool programs, there is still significant unmet demand for afterschool programs in the state. Half of children not enrolled in an afterschool program would be enrolled in one if a program were available to them.



California

DEMAND

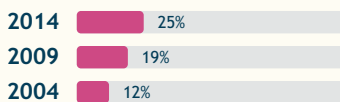
BENEFITS

SUPPORT

FACT SHEET  
 NEWS RELEASE

## Children in Afterschool

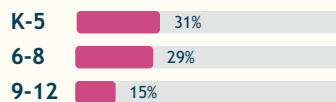
### Afterschool program participation in California



1,661,374 children in 2014

In 2014, 25% of California's children participate in an afterschool program, compared to 19% in 2009 and 12% in 2004.

### Children in an afterschool program, by grade



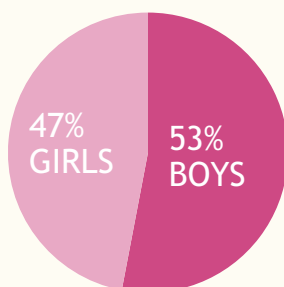
In 2014, 31% of California's children in grades K-5 participate in an afterschool program, compared to 29% in grades 6-8 and 15% in grades 9-12.

### Average time per week children spend in an afterschool program

2014  
**8 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 66% of California'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 (12%); sibling care (19%); and non-parental adult care, such as a grandparent or neighbor (33%).

### Average weekly cost of afterschool programs

2014

**\$621**

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

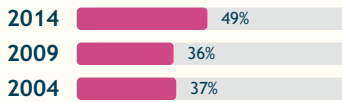
## Children Unsupervised After School & Unmet Demand

Children who would participate if

Children who would participate if

Children unsupervised after school

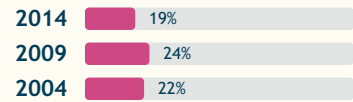
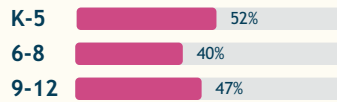
#### an afterschool program were available



2,435,254 children in 2014

In 2014, 49% of California's children would participate in an afterschool program if one were available, compared to 36% in 2009 and 37% in 2004.

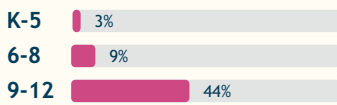
#### an afterschool program were available, by grade level



1,247,699 children in 2014

In 2014, 19% of California'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 California's children in grades K-5 were unsupervised after school, compared to 9% in grades 6-8 and 44% in grades 9-12.

#### What barriers to afterschool program enrollment are California 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

**6 HOURS**

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

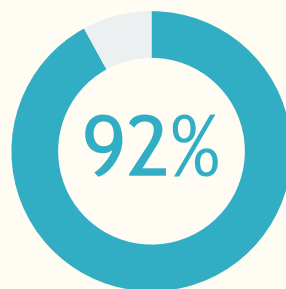
## Parent Satisfaction with Afterschool Programs -

#### Parents satisfied with their child's afterschool program

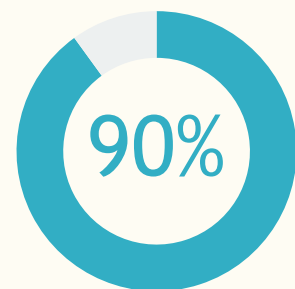


In 2014, 90% of California's parents are satisfied with their child's afterschool program, compared to 97% in 2009 and 94% in 2004.

#### 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

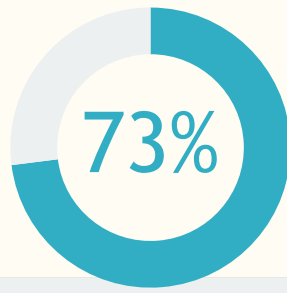
- Homework assistance
- Opportunities for physical activity

#### Parents agree that afterschool programs help children gain workforce skills

#### Top 5 factors in parents' selection of an afterschool program

- Their child enjoys the afterschool program

- Opportunities for reading or writing
- STEM learning opportunities
- Academic programs/clubs



- Is a safe haven
- Knowledgeable and well-trained staff
- Location is convenient
- Quality of care

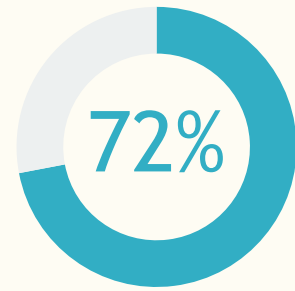
Parents agree that afterschool programs reduce the likelihood that youth will engage in risky behaviors



73%

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. Boys & Girls Clubs
3. Private school

## Public Support for Afterschool Programs -

86%

of California parents support public funding for afterschool programs, while just 16% report receiving government assistance with the cost of afterschool.

80%

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

82%

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

## Footnotes

In California, 854 households and 4,189 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 California is 6,672,185, which is the foundation for all statewide projections in California After 3PM.



**Afterschool Alliance**

1616 H St., NW Suite 820  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
(866) KIDS-TODAY | [Email us](#)

*The 2014 America After 3PM research and report were made possible by the generous support of the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, The Wallace Foundation, the Ford Foundation and the Noyce Foundation, with additional support from the Heinz Endowments, The Robert Bowne Foundation and the Samueli Foundation.*



[Afterschool  
updates](#)

[Afterschool  
Storybook](#)

[Program  
resources](#)

[Afterschool  
radio](#)