



Alabama



After climbing from an afterschool program participation rate of 10 percent in 2004 to 15 percent in 2009, Alabama lost ground in afterschool program participation in 2014, dropping back down to 13 percent. However, parents who are able to take advantage of afterschool programs in the state are satisfied with their child's program. Ninety-four percent of Alabama parents surveyed are satisfied with their child's afterschool program—5 percentage points higher than the national average. Unmet demand for afterschool programs in Alabama continues to grow, increasing from 29 percent in 2004 to 36 percent in 2009 to 41 percent in 2014.



Alabama

DEMAND

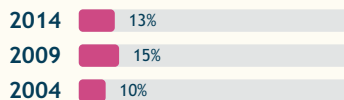
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Children in Afterschool

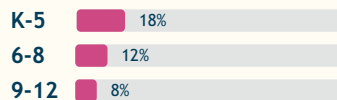
Afterschool program participation in Alabama



104,968 children in 2014

In 2014, 13% of Alabama's children participate in an afterschool program, compared to 15% in 2009 and 10% in 2004.

Children in an afterschool program, by grade



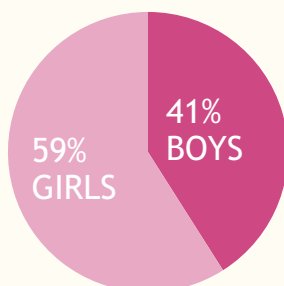
In 2014, 18% of Alabama's children in grades K-5 participate in an afterschool program, compared to 12% in grades 6-8 and 8% in grades 9-12.

Average time per week children spend in an afterschool program

2014
9 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 Alabama'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 (7%); sibling care (13%); and non-parental adult care, such as a grandparent or neighbor (29%).

Average weekly cost of afterschool programs

2014

101 \$

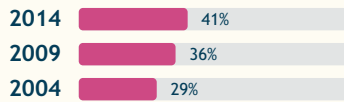
The average weekly cost only includes parents who report that they pay a fee for their child's afterschool program.

Children Unsupervised After School & Unmet Demand

Children who would participate if an afterschool program were available

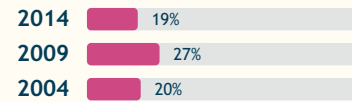
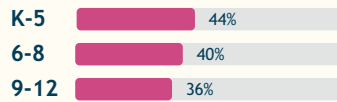
Children who would participate if an afterschool program were available, by grade level

Children unsupervised after school



274,742 children in 2014

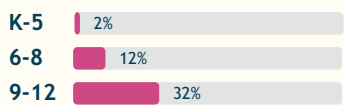
In 2014, 41% of Alabama's children would participate in an afterschool program if one were available, compared to 36% in 2009 and 29% in 2004.



148,052 children in 2014

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

Children unsupervised after school, by grade



In 2014, 2% of Alabama's children in grades K-5 were unsupervised after school, compared to 12% in grades 6-8 and 32% in grades 9-12.

What barriers to afterschool program enrollment are Alabama families facing?

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

- Preference for alternative activities
- Afterschool programs would not benefit their child

Average time per week children spend alone & unsupervised after school

2014

8 HOURS

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

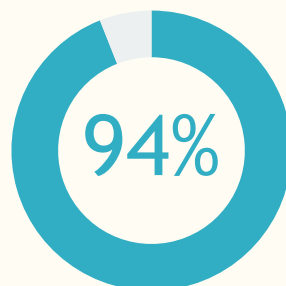
Parent Satisfaction with Afterschool Programs -

Parents satisfied with their child's afterschool program

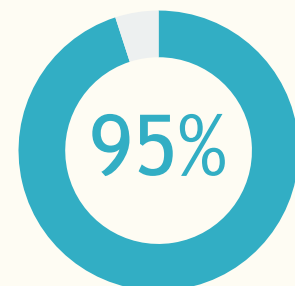


In 2014, 94% of Alabama's parents are satisfied with their child's afterschool program, compared to 93% in 2009 and 90% in 2004.

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

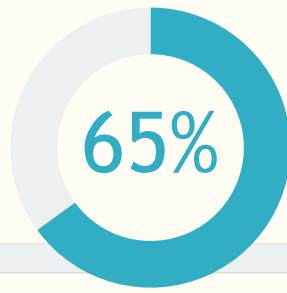
- Opportunities for physical activity
- Homework assistance
- Opportunities for reading or writing

Parents agree that afterschool programs help children gain workforce skills

Top 5 factors in parents' selection of an afterschool program

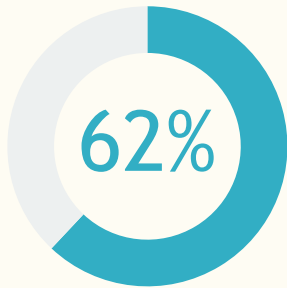
- Location is convenient
- The hours meet parents' needs
- Quality of care

- Beverages, snacks and/or meals
- STEM learning opportunities



- Their child enjoys the afterschool program
- Is a safe haven

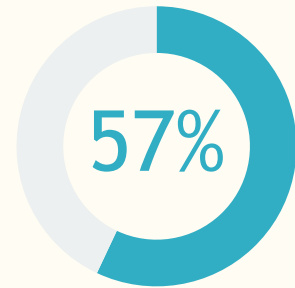
Parents agree that afterschool programs reduce the likelihood that youth will engage in risky behaviors



76%

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. Boys & Girls Clubs

Public Support for Afterschool Programs -

83%

of Alabama parents support public funding for afterschool programs, while just 8% report receiving government assistance with the cost of afterschool.

77%

of Alabama 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 Alabama, 203 households and 793 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 Alabama is 783,343, which is the foundation for all statewide projections in Alabama After 3PM.



Afterschool Alliance

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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.



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