



Connecticut



After an increase in afterschool program participation from 2004 to 2009, Connecticut saw a slight dip in the percentage of children taking part in an afterschool program—from 18 percent to 17 percent—bringing Connecticut below the national average. Additionally, the average time children in Connecticut spend in an afterschool program decreased, from 8 hours in 2009 to 6.73 hours in 2014, also below the national average. However, nearly all Connecticut parents who are able to take advantage of afterschool programs are satisfied with their child's afterschool program (96 percent).



Connecticut

DEMAND

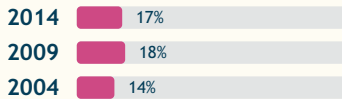
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Children in Afterschool

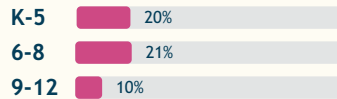
Afterschool program participation in Connecticut



99,710 children in 2014

In 2014, 17% of Connecticut's children participate in an afterschool program, compared to 18% in 2009 and 14% in 2004.

Children in an afterschool program, by grade



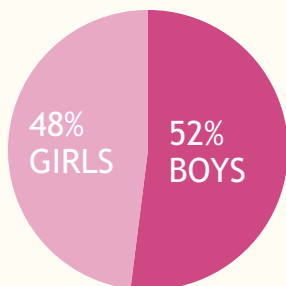
In 2014, 20% of Connecticut's children in grades K-5 participate in an afterschool program, compared to 21% in grades 6-8 and 10% in grades 9-12.

Average time per week children spend in an afterschool program



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 68% of Connecticut'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 (9%); sibling care (15%); and non-parental adult care, such as a grandparent or neighbor (29%).

Average weekly cost of afterschool programs

2014



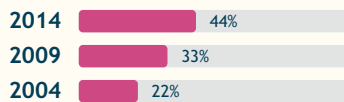
The average weekly cost only includes parents who report that they pay a fee for their child's afterschool program.

Children Unsupervised After School & Unmet Demand

Children who would participate if an afterschool program were available

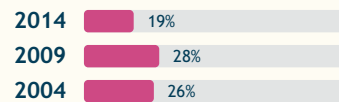
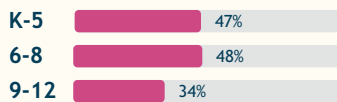
Children who would participate if an afterschool program were available, by grade level

Children unsupervised after school



213,766 children in 2014

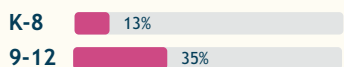
In 2014, 44% of Connecticut's children would participate in an afterschool program if one were available, compared to 33% in 2009 and 22% in 2004.



109,150 children in 2014

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

Children unsupervised after school, by grade



In 2014, 13% of Connecticut's children in grades K-8 were unsupervised after school, compared to 35% in grades 9-12.

What barriers to afterschool program enrollment are Connecticut families facing?

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

- Preference for alternative activities
- Lack of a safe way for child to get to and come home from afterschool programs

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

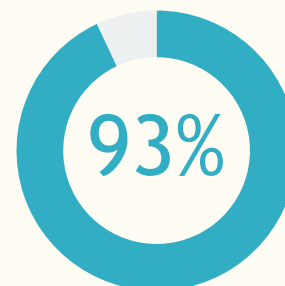


In 2014, 96% of Connecticut's parents are satisfied with their child's afterschool program, compared to 95% in 2009 and 90% in 2004.

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

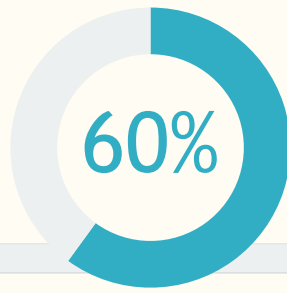
- Homework assistance
- Opportunities for physical activity
- Academic programs/clubs

Parents agree that afterschool programs help children gain workforce skills

Top 5 factors in parents' selection of an afterschool program

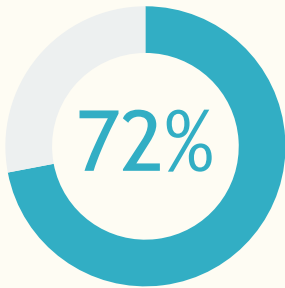
- Quality of care
- Is a safe haven
- Location is convenient

- Beverages, snacks and/or meals
- Opportunities for reading or writing



- Knowledgeable and well-trained staff
- Their child enjoys the afterschool program

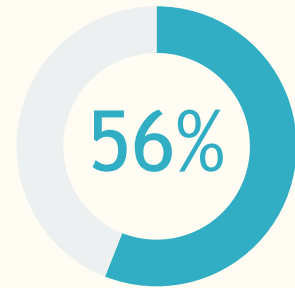
Parents agree that afterschool programs reduce the likelihood that youth will engage in risky behaviors



82%

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. YMCAs
3. Boys & Girls Clubs

Public Support for Afterschool Programs -

86%

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

70%

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

74%

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

Footnotes

In Connecticut, 213 households and 685 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 Connecticut is 589,998, which is the foundation for all statewide projections in Connecticut After 3PM.



Afterschool Alliance

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