



Alaska



After losing ground in afterschool program participation from 2004 to 2009, the percentage of Alaska children taking part in an afterschool program crept up slightly, from 18 percent in 2009 to 19 percent in 2014. The percentage of Alaska parents satisfied with their child's afterschool program remains above the national average-more than 9 in 10 parents. Alaska also saw an increase in the percentage of parents extremely satisfied with their child's afterschool program (74 percent), taking the number one spot in the nation.



Alaska

DEMAND

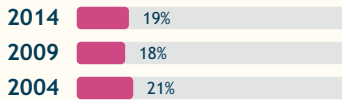
BENEFITS

SUPPORT

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NEWS RELEASE

Children in Afterschool

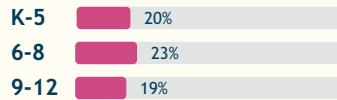
Afterschool program participation in Alaska



25,631 children in 2014

In 2014, 19% of Alaska's children participate in an afterschool program, compared to 18% in 2009 and 21% in 2004.

Children in an afterschool program, by grade



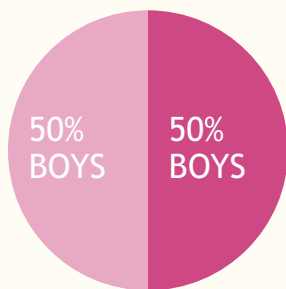
In 2014, 20% of Alaska's children in grades K-5 participate in an afterschool program, compared to 23% in grades 6-8 and 19% in grades 9-12.

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 70% of Alaska'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 (11%); sibling care (16%); and non-parental adult care, such as a grandparent or neighbor (31%).

Average weekly cost of afterschool programs

2014

6 4 1 \$

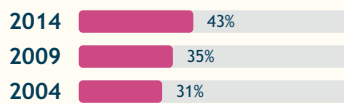
The average weekly cost only includes parents who report that they pay a fee for their child's afterschool program.

Children Unsupervised After School & Unmet Demand

Children who would participate if an afterschool program were available

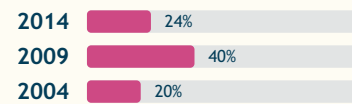
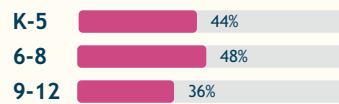
Children who would participate if an afterschool program were available, by grade level

Children unsupervised after school



45,365 children in 2014

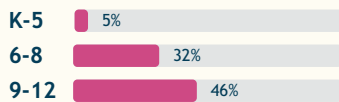
In 2014, 43% of Alaska's children would participate in an afterschool program if one were available, compared to 35% in 2009 and 31% in 2004.



31,445 children in 2014

In 2014, 24% of Alaska's children are alone and unsupervised between the hours of 3 and 6 p.m.

Children unsupervised after school, by grade



In 2014, 5% of Alaska's children in grades K-5 were unsupervised after school, compared to 32% in grades 6-8 and 46% in grades 9-12.

What barriers to afterschool program enrollment are Alaska 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.

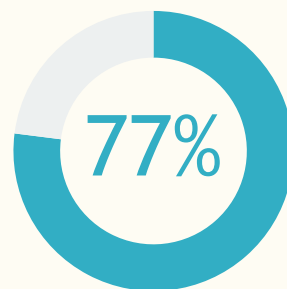
Parent Satisfaction with Afterschool Programs -

Parents satisfied with their child's afterschool program

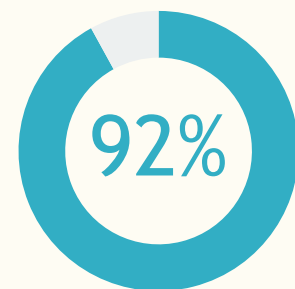


In 2014, 91% of Alaska's parents are satisfied with their child's afterschool program, compared to 95% in 2009 and 58% in 2004.

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

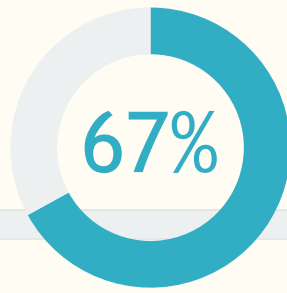
- Opportunities for physical activity
- Homework assistance
- Music or art
- STEM learning opportunities

Parents agree that afterschool programs help children gain workforce skills

Top 5 factors in parents' selection of an afterschool program

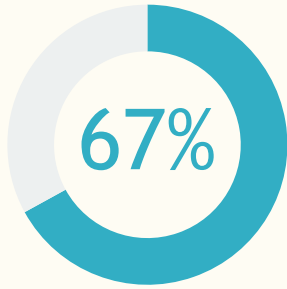
- Is a safe haven
- Quality of care
- The hours meet parents' needs
- Knowledgeable and well-trained staff

- Academic programs/clubs



- Location is convenient

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



88%

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. City or town (including Parks and Recreation Department)
3. Boys & Girls Clubs

Public Support for Afterschool Programs -

78%

of Alaska parents support public funding for afterschool programs, while just 17% report receiving government assistance with the cost of afterschool.

78%

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

75%

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

Footnotes

In Alaska, 207 households and 449 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 Alaska is 132,121, which is the foundation for all statewide projections in Alaska After 3PM.



Afterschool Alliance

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