

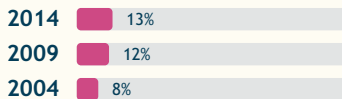


Arkansas

Arkansas has seen a steady increase in the percentage of children participating in an afterschool program—growing from 8 percent in 2004 to 12 percent in 2009 to 13 percent in 2014. However, Arkansas’ afterschool participation rate still falls well below the national average of 18 percent. The average time Arkansas children spend in an afterschool program also falls below the national average in 2014, decreasing from approximately 7 hours per week to just more than 6 hours. Additionally, unmet demand for afterschool programs in Arkansas continues to increase. In 2004, 33 percent of children not enrolled in an afterschool program would participate if a program were available in their community. In 2014, 45 percent of Arkansas children not in an afterschool program would be enrolled if one were available.

Children in Afterschool

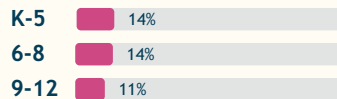
Afterschool program participation in Arkansas



65,107 children in 2014

Participation in afterschool programs has steadily increased over the past decade. In 2014, 10.2 million children are in afterschool programs, up from 8.4 million in 2009 and 6.5 million in 2004.

Children in an afterschool program, by grade

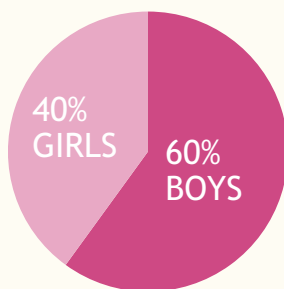


Average time per week children spend in an afterschool program

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 Arkansas’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

\$17

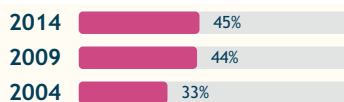
The average weekly cost only includes parents who report that they pay a fee for their child’s afterschool program. One in 5 parents surveyed report receiving government assistance to pay for their child’s afterschool program, at an average of \$113.20 per week.

Children Unsupervised After School & Unmet Demand

Children who would participate if an afterschool program were available

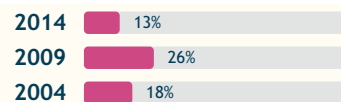
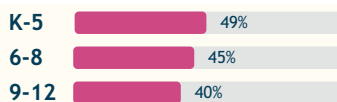
Children who would participate if an afterschool program were available, by grade level

Children unsupervised after school



190,563 children in 2014

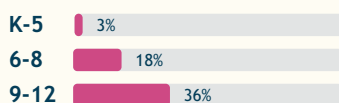
The unmet demand for afterschool — parents who want to enroll their child in a program but say they don't have one available — has increased over the last decade. The parents of a projected 19.4 million children now say they would enroll their child in a program if one were available to



65,107 children in 2014

The number of children alone and unsupervised in the hours after school has decreased, but 1 in 5 children still don't have someone to care for them after school.

Children unsupervised after school, by grade



What barriers to afterschool program enrollment are Arkansas 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

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.

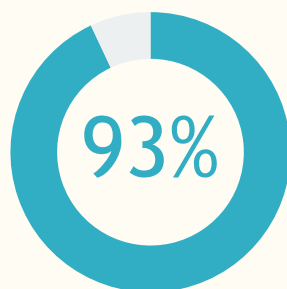
Parent Satisfaction with Afterschool Programs

Parents satisfied with their child's afterschool program

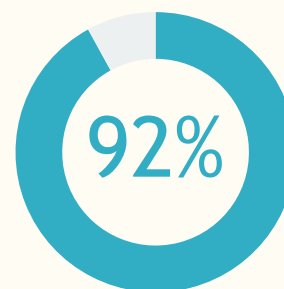


Parents' overall satisfaction with their child's afterschool program has been high over the past decade, where approximately 9 in 10 parents surveyed in 2004, 2009 and 2014 report that they are satisfied.

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

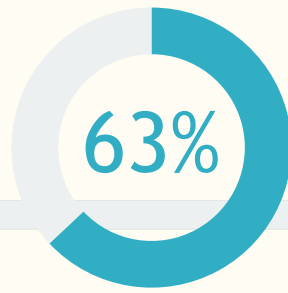
- Opportunities for physical activity
- Beverages, snacks and/or meals
- Homework assistance
- Music or art

Parents agree that afterschool programs help children gain workforce skills

Top 5 factors in parents' selection of an afterschool program

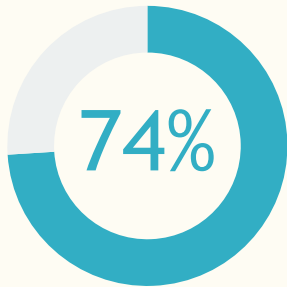
- Is a safe haven
- Quality of care
- Their child enjoys the afterschool program

- Opportunities for reading or writing



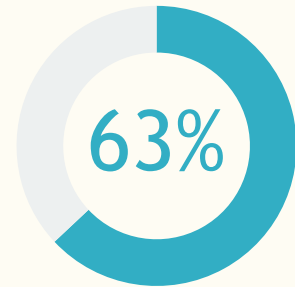
- Program cost
- The hours meet parents' needs

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



82%

Parents agree that afterschool programs excite children about learning



Most common afterschool program providers

1. Public school
2. Boys & Girls Clubs
3. YMCAs

Public Support for Afterschool Programs

84%

More than 5 in 6 parents report that they favor public funding for afterschool opportunities in communities where children and youth have few opportunities, up slightly from 83 percent in 2009.

In 2014, just 20 percent of parents receive public funding to help pay for an afterschool

74%

79%

program.

Healthy Eating and Afterschool Programs

Physical Activity and Afterschool Programs



Afterschool Alliance

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Afterschool
updates

Afterschool
Storybook

Program
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