



# RICA Texas



Over the past decade, the afterschool program participation rate has steadily increased, staying on par with the national average. However, a decrease in the time children spend in an afterschool program-from an average of 9 hours per week in 2009 to fewer than 7 hours in 2014-as well as a decrease in parent satisfaction with some aspects of their child's afterschool program, such as the variety of activities, has resulted in Texas falling out of the list of top 10 states for afterschool. Despite dropping out of the top 10, 87 percent of Texas parents remain satisfied with their child's afterschool program overall and 4 in 5 parents support public funding for afterschool programs.







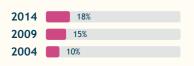
**BENEFITS** 

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FACT SHEET ■ NEWS RELEASE

### Children in Afterschool

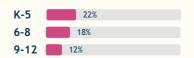
### Afterschool program participation in Texas



#### 880,636 children in 2014

In 2014, 18% of Texas's children participate in an afterschool program, compared to 15% in 2009 and 10% in 2004.

### Children in an afterschool program, by grade



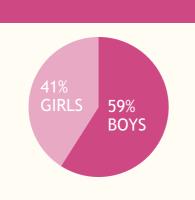
In 2014, 22% of Texas's children in grades K-5 participate in an afterschool program, compared to 18% in grades 6-8 and 12% in grades 9-12.

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

2014

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 Texas's K-12 children spending some portion of the hours after school in the care a parent or guardian. Other afterschool arrangements include traditional child care centers (8%); sibling care (16%); and non-parental adult care, such as a grandparent or neighbor (26%).

### Average weekly cost of afterschool programs

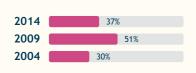
2014



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

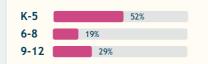
### Children Unsupervised After School & Unmet Demand

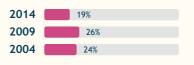




1,516,900 children in 2014

In 2014, 37% of Texas's children would participate in an afterschool program if one were available, compared to 51% in 2009 and 30% in 2004.

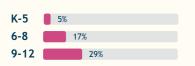




935,057 children in 2014

In 2014, 19% of Texas'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 Texas's children in grades K-5 were unsupervised after school, compared to 17% in grades 6-8 and 29% in grades 9-12.

What barriers to afterschool program enrollment are Texas families facing?

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

- The afterschool programs are too expensive
- Preference for alternative activities

Average time per week children spend alone & unsupervised after school

2014



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, 87% of Texas's parents are satisfied with their child's afterschool program, compared to 91% in 2009 and 88% 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

Parents agree that afterschool programs help children gain workforce skills

Top 5 factors in parents' selection of an afterschool program

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

- Location is convenient
- Is a safe haven
- Their child enjoys the afterschool

- Opportunities for reading or writing
- STEM learning opportunities



- program
- Knowledgeable and well-trained staff
- The hours meet parents' needs

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



**70%** 

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 •

80%

of Texas parents support public funding for afterschool programs, while just 22% report receiving government assistance with the cost of afterschool. 74%

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

69%

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

### **Footnotes**

In Texas, 467 households and 2,792 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 Texas is 4,947,392, which is the foundation for all statewide projections in Texas After 3PM.



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Afterschool updates

Afterschool Storybook Program resources

Afterschool radio