



Montana



The percentage of Montana children taking part in afterschool programs has changed very little over the past 10 years, hovering between 12 and 14 percent. Currently at 13 percent, the participation rate in afterschool programs is well below the national average. Although afterschool program participation has changed little, unmet demand for afterschool programs in Montana has grown from 26 percent in 2004 to 38 percent in 2014.



Montana

DEMAND

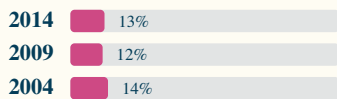
BENEFITS

SUPPORT

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NEWS RELEASE

Children in Afterschool -

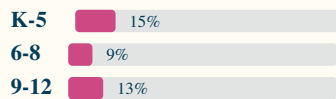
Afterschool program participation in Montana



18,814 children in 2014

In 2014, 13% of Montana's children participate in an afterschool program, compared to 12% in 2009 and 14% in 2004.

Children in an afterschool program, by grade



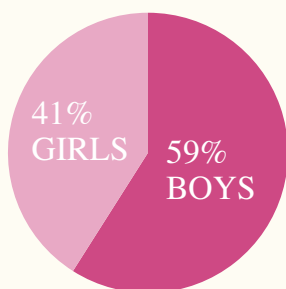
In 2014, 15% of Montana's children in grades K-5 participate in an afterschool program, compared to 9% in grades 6-8 and 13% in grades 9-12.

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 76% of Montana'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 (12%); and non-parental adult care, such as a grandparent or neighbor (27%).

Average weekly cost of afterschool programs

2014
\$50.1

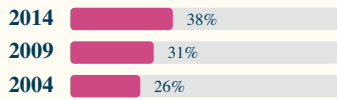
The average weekly cost only includes parents who report that they pay a fee for their child's afterschool program.

Children Unsupervised After School & Unmet Demand -

Children who would participate if an afterschool program were available

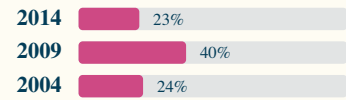
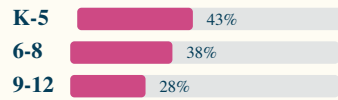
Children who would participate if an afterschool program were available, by grade level

Children unsupervised after school



49,273 children in 2014

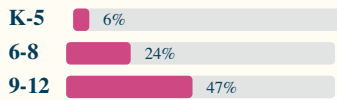
In 2014, 38% of Montana's children would participate in an afterschool program if one were available, compared to 31% in 2009 and 26% in 2004.



33,479 children in 2014

In 2014, 23% of Montana's children are alone and unsupervised between the hours of 3 and 6 p.m.

Children unsupervised after school, by grade



In 2014, 6% of Montana's children in grades K-5 were unsupervised after school, compared to 24% in grades 6-8 and 47% in grades 9-12.

What barriers to afterschool program enrollment are Montana 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

6 HOURS

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

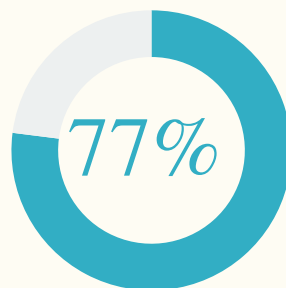
Parent Satisfaction with Afterschool Programs -

Parents satisfied with their child's afterschool program

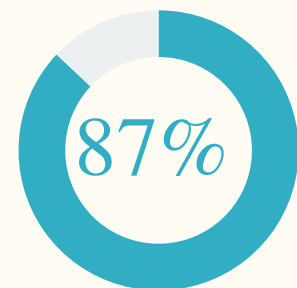


In 2014, 93% of Montana's parents are satisfied with their child's afterschool program, compared to 62% in 2009 and 80% in 2004.

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
- Beverages, snacks and/or meals
- Opportunities for reading or writing
- STEM learning opportunities
- Homework assistance

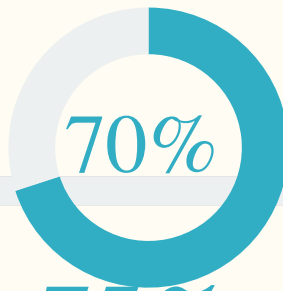
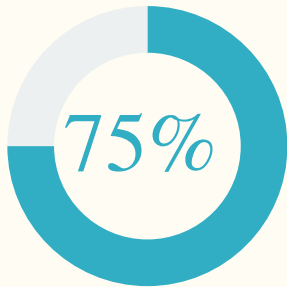
Parents agree that afterschool programs help children gain workforce skills

Top 5 factors in parents' selection of an afterschool program

- Their child enjoys the afterschool program
- Location is convenient
- Quality of care
- Variety of activities

- Is a safe haven

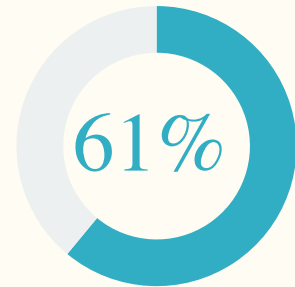
Parents agree that afterschool programs reduce the likelihood that youth will engage in risky behaviors



75%

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. City or town (including Parks and Recreation Department)

Public Support for Afterschool Programs

86%

of Montana parents support public funding for afterschool programs, while just 7% report receiving government assistance with the cost of afterschool.

77%

of Montana 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 Montana, 211 households and 416 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 Montana is 148,139, which is the foundation for all statewide projections in Montana After 3PM.



Afterschool Alliance

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