

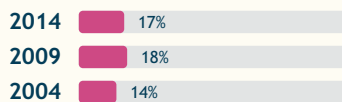


# Connecticut

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).

## Children in Afterschool

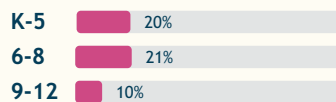
### Afterschool program participation in Connecticut



99,710 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

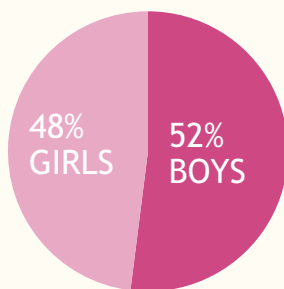


### Average time per week children spend in an afterschool program

2014  
**7** 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 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

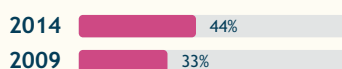
2014

**241** \$

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

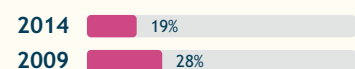
### Children who would participate if an afterschool program were available



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



### Children unsupervised after school



2004 22%

213,766 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

9-12 34%

2004 26%

109,150 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

K-8 13%  
9-12 35%

#### 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.

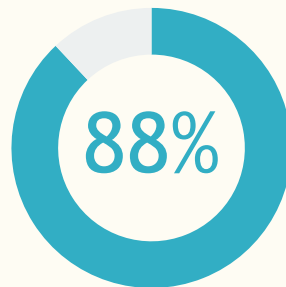
## Parent Satisfaction with Afterschool Programs

#### Parents satisfied with their child's afterschool program

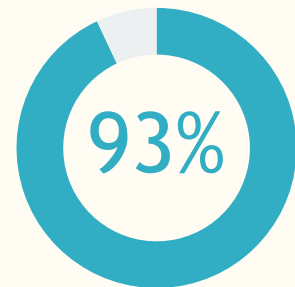
2014 96%  
2009 95%  
2004 90%

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

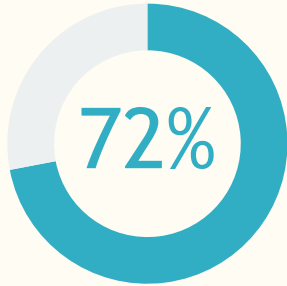
- Homework assistance
- Opportunities for physical activity
- Academic programs/clubs
- Beverages, snacks and/or meals
- Opportunities for reading or writing

#### Parents agree that afterschool programs help children gain workforce skills

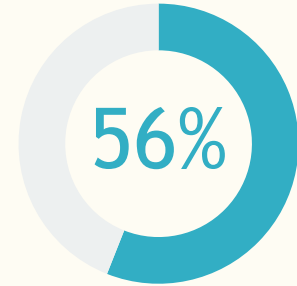
#### Top 5 factors in parents' selection of an afterschool program

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



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%**

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 program.

**70%**

**74%**

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## Healthy Eating and Afterschool Programs

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## Physical Activity and Afterschool Programs



Afterschool Alliance

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