



NEW JERSEY AFTER 3PM

America After 3PM surveyed parents in New Jersey to examine how children spend the hours between 3 and 6 p.m.—the hours after school ends and before parents typically return home from work. It highlights the trends in afterschool program participation, documents the benefits associated with participation in afterschool programs, and measures public support for afterschool programs.

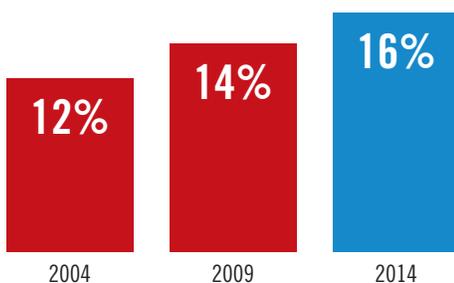


America After 3PM revealed that **231,279 children (16%) in New Jersey** participate in an afterschool program, yet **422,067 children (36%) would be enrolled** in a program if one were available to them.

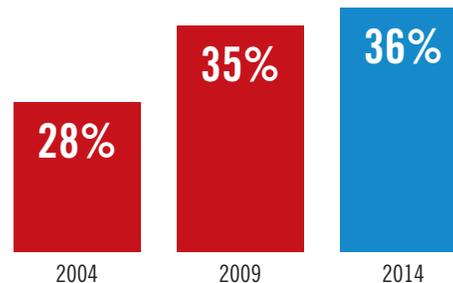
With **87% of New Jersey's parents satisfied with their child's afterschool program** and **78% agreeing that afterschool programs give working parents peace of mind**, more work needs to be done to ensure that all children in New Jersey are able to take part in an afterschool program that keeps them safe, inspires learning and supports working parents.

OVERALL DEMAND FOR AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

Afterschool Program Participation in New Jersey



Demand for Afterschool Programs in New Jersey



19%
of children are unsupervised after school in 2014 for an average of 8.46 hours per week.

On average, children spend **6.58** hours and **3.57** days per week in an afterschool program.

New Jersey Parents are Satisfied with their Child's Afterschool Program

- 87% are satisfied with their child's afterschool program overall.
- 88% are satisfied with their child's afterschool program's safe environment.
- 84% are satisfied with their child's afterschool program's quality of care.
- New Jersey parents cited as their top five reasons for selecting an afterschool program: location is convenient (85%), quality of care (85%), the program is a safe haven (83%), the hours meet their needs (80%) and knowledgeable and well-trained program staff (80%).

Afterschool Programs Provide a Wide Range of Benefits to New Jersey's Children and Families

- 59% of parents agree that afterschool programs can help excite children about learning.
- 64% of parents agree that afterschool programs help children gain workforce skills, such as teamwork, leadership and critical thinking.
- 74% of New Jersey parents agree that afterschool programs can help reduce the likelihood that youth will engage in risky behaviors, such as commit a crime or use drugs, or become a teen parent.
- The top five activities New Jersey parents report are offered by their child's afterschool program are homework assistance (80%), opportunities for physical activity (76%), STEM learning opportunities (69%), beverages, snacks and/or meals (68%) and opportunities for reading or writing (65%).

New Jersey Parents Support Public Funding for Afterschool Programs

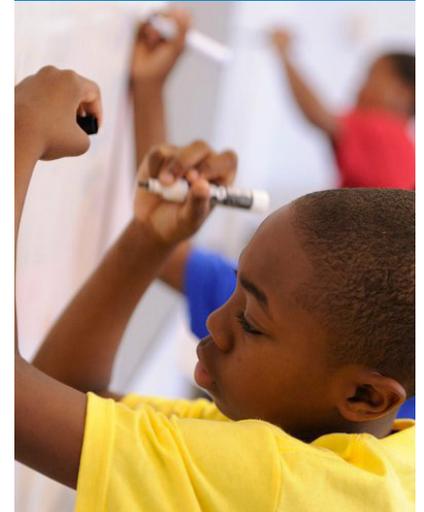
- 82% of New Jersey parents support public funding for afterschool programs, while just 21% report receiving government assistance with the cost of their child's program.
- 78% of New Jersey parents agree that afterschool programs help give working parents peace of mind about their children when they are at work.
- 73% of New Jersey parents agree that afterschool programs help working parents keep their jobs.

ABOUT THE SURVEY

The percentages and projected numbers of children and families in *America After 3PM* are based on survey responses from parents. The Afterschool Alliance contracted with Shugoll Research to collect the data. Nationally, 30,720 households were screened, and 13,709 households completed in-depth interviews via an online survey using a blend of national consumer panels. At least 200 households completed interviews in every state and the District of Columbia, between Feb. 28 and April 17, 2014. In New Jersey 320 households and 1,636 children were screened for this study. Child-level statewide projections and total school enrollment numbers are based on 2011-2012 Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. Total school enrollment for New Jersey is 1,410,236. For additional information about *America After 3PM*, visit: <http://afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM>.

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Snapshot of Afterschool Programs in New Jersey



43% of New Jersey children in an afterschool program qualify for the Federal Free and Reduced Price Lunch Program.

In New Jersey, the top three providers of afterschool programs are afterschool programs run by a public school, YMCA afterschool programs and Boys & Girls Club afterschool programs.

82% of afterschool programs in New Jersey are located in a public school building.

On average, New Jersey families who pay for their child's afterschool program spend \$144 per week.

After lack of need, the predominant obstacles to enrollment include:

Preference for alternative activities.

Lack of a safe way for child to get to and come home from afterschool programs.