



America After 3PM
Findings by Grade Level

Each day in America, millions of kids go home to an empty house after school. In recent years, the growth of quality, affordable afterschool programs—programs that keep kids safe, inspire learning and help working families—has begun to offer parents of these children positive alternatives. Over the past five years, afterschool programs have played an increasingly important role in providing valuable after school opportunities across all grade levels.

In 2009, nearly 30,000 families were surveyed to learn how many children are in afterschool programs, how many are unsupervised after school and how these numbers compare to five years ago. Building upon and updating a similar study conducted in 2004, *America After 3PM*, sponsored by the JCPenney Afterschool Fund, gives the most comprehensive and accurate picture to date of what this nation’s youth are doing each day after school. RTi, a market research firm, conducted the research for the Afterschool Alliance.

America After 3PM finds there are significant differences in how students at different grade levels spend their after school hours, as well as differences in satisfaction, attitudes toward afterschool programs and barriers to enrollment.

	Elementary School (K-5)	Middle School (6-8)	High School (9-12)
Percentage of Kids in Afterschool Programs	17	12	7
Percentage of Kids in Self Care	4	30	55
Percentage of Kids in Sibling Care	11	13	N/A
Percentage of Kids Who Would Participate if a Program were Available	41	36	32
Percentage of Parents Satisfied with Afterschool Programs	89	88	91

- The parent or guardian is the primary caregiver after the school day ends for elementary (73 percent) and middle school (65 percent) students.
- Among high school age youth, self care is the primary after school care arrangement. (55 percent). Self care is also reported at substantial levels among middle school students (30 percent).
- Four percent of elementary age children are in self care.



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By Grade Level Look at Self Care¹		
Grade level	% of children in grade level in self care	Number of children in self care
Grades K to 5	4%	1,133,989
Grades 6 to 8	30%	3,722,219
Grades 9 to 12	55%	8,640,751
All Grades	26%	15.1 million

Afterschool Program Participation and Satisfaction by Grade Level

Afterschool program participation is highest at the elementary school level, with 17 percent of elementary students participating in afterschool programs, followed by 12 percent of middle school students. Only seven percent of high school students participate in afterschool programs.

By Grade Level Look at Afterschool Participation		
Grade level	% children in grade level in afterschool	Number of children in afterschool
Grades K to 5	17%	4,505,912
Grades 6 to 8	12%	1,391,495
Grades 9 to 12	7%	1,095,297
All Grades	15%	8.4 million

Satisfaction with afterschool programs is strong and comparable across grade levels – nine in 10 parents (89 percent) overall are satisfied with the afterschool programs their children attend. However, satisfaction with specific features of afterschool programs suggests that different factors drive satisfaction for parents of students of different ages.

- Parents of elementary school aged children report greater satisfaction with location.
- Parents with children in middle school report greater satisfaction with transportation and tutoring.
- Those with children in high school are more satisfied with those areas pertaining to ‘life skills,’ such as access to mentors, workforce skills, technology and community service.

¹ A note of caution about the self care data: Experts believe parents are hesitant to admit that children are unsupervised, so the numbers reported regarding self care may underestimate the number of children actually in self care.



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Barriers to Enrollment by Grade Level

After lack of need because a parent is home after school, the top barriers to enrollment vary by grade level.

- Cost and hours of operation are larger hurdles to parents of elementary aged children.
- Quality of care and academics are bigger barriers among parents of non-high school children.
- Availability is a barrier across grade levels, but especially among middle and high school aged children.

By Grade Level Look at Kids Who Would Participate if an Afterschool Program Were Available		
Grade level	% of children in grade level likely to participate	Number of children likely to participate
Grades K to 5	41%	6,546,590
Grades 6 to 8	36%	3,143,596
Grades 9 to 12	32%	3,745,100
All Grades	38%	18.5 million

State-by-State Grade Level Findings

The following pages present state-by-state grade level findings for afterschool participation, self care and likely participants. Separate tables for each state present percentages of kids in each category as well as projected numbers of kids by grade level. Note that the elementary, middle and high school projections do not add up to the total number of children in each category because different projection bases were used. For the state totals, the total school age population was tabulated according population numbers from the U.S Census Bureau. Conversely, data from the U.S Department of Education showing grade level enrollment in public and private schools was used as the base for all grade level projections.



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Grade Level Breakdowns by State

A

ALASKA	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	14%	10%	5%
Number of Kids	9,911	3,439	1,765
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	12%	48%	61%
Number of Kids	9,088	14,854	23,796
Percent Likely to Participate	36%	43%	15%
Number of Kids	18,535	13,360	8,467

ALABAMA	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	10%	8%	4%
Number of Kids	48,898	13,477	7,647
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	3%	23%	58%
Number of Kids	14,866	44,261	124,190
Percent Likely to Participate	31%	25%	21%
Number of Kids	94,403	44,526	48,920

ARIZONA	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	19%	9%	4%
Number of Kids	108,344	24,321	14,745
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	7%	33%	48%
Number of Kids	42,374	80,567	188,639
Percent Likely to Participate	29%	35%	18%
Number of Kids	122,976	81,405	71,800

ARKANSAS	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	6%	1%	1%
Number of Kids	15,600	1,118	2,136
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	2%	22%	47%
Number of Kids	6,301	25,984	66,418
Percent Likely to Participate	40%	37%	30%
Number of Kids	81,278	40,719	42,427



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C

CALIFORNIA	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	14%	3%	4%
Number of Kids	479,319	58,947	74,891
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	3%	20%	37%
Number of Kids	108,849	299,846	856,511
Percent Likely to Participate	28%	26%	27%
Number of Kids	763,793	384,261	505,544

COLORADO	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	13%	4%	7%
Number of Kids	59,880	6,756	16,507
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	3%	30%	58%
Number of Kids	13,423	55,327	142,041
Percent Likely to Participate	32%	34%	21%
Number of Kids	94,476	63,770	45,542

CONNECTICUT	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	8%	5%	4%
Number of Kids	25,681	6,747	7,990
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	2%	26%	59%
Number of Kids	6,536	37,872	111,749
Percent Likely to Participate	31%	30%	22%
Number of Kids	76,583	41,208	41,608

D

DELAWARE	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	12%	9%	5%
Number of Kids	11,999	3,206	2,495
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	3%	30%	49%
Number of Kids	1,757	10,754	22,066
Percent Likely to Participate	33%	12%	19%
Number of Kids	17,276	4,014	6,784



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F

FLORIDA	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	15%	9%	3%
Number of Kids	248,265	62,905	32,926
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	3%	23%	51%
Number of Kids	47,279	156,114	430,038
Percent Likely to Participate	31%	20%	25%
Number of Kids	317,502	123,073	201,912

G

GEORGIA	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	9%	4%	10%
Number of Kids	85,492	17,060	50,374
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	5%	25%	46%
Number of Kids	44,141	104,299	218,661
Percent Likely to Participate	34%	19%	12%
Number of Kids	243,734	68,725	55,284

H

HAWAII	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	20%	20%	1%
Number of Kids	21,534	9,358	722
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	3%	31%	76%
Number of Kids	9,285	15,239	46,024
Percent Likely to Participate	36%	31%	26%
Number of Kids	25,173	10,983	17,110



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I

IOWA	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	9%	3%	1%
Number of Kids	24,132	3,576	1,306
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	5%	37%	58%
Number of Kids	12,616	45,248	96,382
Percent Likely to Participate	28%	18%	31%
Number of Kids	54,613	20,865	50,719

IDAHO	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	7%	6%	1%
Number of Kids	11,674	3,787	1,110
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	5%	32%	51%
Number of Kids	6,376	21,493	40,956
Percent Likely to Participate	31%	17%	13%
Number of Kids	31,544	10,598	10,460

ILLINOIS	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	10%	15%	15%
Number of Kids	138,703	74,048	104,194
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	2%	27%	57%
Number of Kids	28,398	167,419	383,735
Percent Likely to Participate	40%	25%	27%
Number of Kids	364,230	130,502	166,017

INDIANA	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	15%	12%	4%
Number of Kids	89,984	31,948	11,720
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	4%	24%	57%
Number of Kids	25,328	62,548	192,335
Percent Likely to Participate	28%	29%	23%
Number of Kids	102,842	67,841	69,927



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K

KANSAS	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	11%	8%	1%
Number of Kids	28,886	8,233	810
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	4%	47%	61%
Number of Kids	10,962	52,917	95,243
Percent Likely to Participate	30%	24%	14%
Number of Kids	56,481	25,423	20,094

KENTUCKY	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	9%	8%	5%
Number of Kids	36,417	13,188	9,553
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	3%	31%	55%
Number of Kids	11,272	48,555	116,506
Percent Likely to Participate	23%	37%	19%
Number of Kids	63,752	56,651	34,687

L

LOUISIANA	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	12%	6%	7%
Number of Kids	47,607	10,529	14,978
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	2%	19%	44%
Number of Kids	5,186	34,767	94,794
Percent Likely to Participate	39%	41%	29%
Number of Kids	122,276	71,773	53,704

M

MAINE	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	11%	15%	0%
Number of Kids	11,748	7,104	0
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	5%	28%	60%
Number of Kids	6,181	14,711	43,047
Percent Likely to Participate	32%	22%	24%
Number of Kids	23,158	9,357	16,653



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MARYLAND	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	14%	6%	1%
Number of Kids	72,046	11,740	2,681
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	3%	41%	49%
Number of Kids	14,560	94,906	152,312
Percent Likely to Participate	25%	40%	26%
Number of Kids	81,631	84,717	74,295

MASSACHUSETTS	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	11%	10%	4%
Number of Kids	68,651	20,727	12,522
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	3%	24%	58%
Number of Kids	13,628	62,837	198,554
Percent Likely to Participate	27%	35%	21%
Number of Kids	110,594	68,310	76,603

MICHIGAN	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	7%	15%	4%
Number of Kids	65,037	61,158	19,316
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	3%	35%	53%
Number of Kids	27,139	154,330	289,271
Percent Likely to Participate	33%	24%	20%
Number of Kids	237,480	82,712	108,523

MINNESOTA	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	11%	6%	4%
Number of Kids	52,767	11,764	10,558
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	9%	54%	60%
Number of Kids	42,782	112,178	181,593
Percent Likely to Participate	29%	27%	28%
Number of Kids	99,916	55,956	77,414



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MISSISSIPPI	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	9%	6%	4%
Number of Kids	26,598	7,590	4,200
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	4%	30%	59%
Number of Kids	11,187	38,234	95,083
Percent Likely to Participate	48%	52%	36%
Number of Kids	107,969	64,094	51,528

MISSOURI	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	14%	8%	2%
Number of Kids	78,628	17,480	6,905
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	2%	29%	59%
Number of Kids	14,300	75,705	179,650
Percent Likely to Participate	24%	27%	27%
Number of Kids	87,719	61,922	84,180

MONTANA	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	14%	11%	2%
Number of Kids	11,315	4,139	1,016
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	12%	51%	63%
Number of Kids	8,666	18,806	32,182
Percent Likely to Participate	32%	26%	14%
Number of Kids	15,769	8,446	6,718

N

NEBRASKA	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	4%	2%	<1%
Number of Kids	6,425	983	259
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	5%	39%	57%
Number of Kids	9,919	28,595	55,501
Percent Likely to Participate	32%	21%	21%
Number of Kids	41,039	14,894	21,683



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NEVADA	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	14%	6%	4%
Number of Kids	31,203	6,842	4,715
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	7%	35%	53%
Number of Kids	16,220	33,078	63,750
Percent Likely to Participate	37%	34%	19%
Number of Kids	61,582	32,577	22,327

NEW HAMPSHIRE	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	14%	8%	0%
Number of Kids	17,890	4,572	0
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	6%	35%	63%
Number of Kids	5,974	18,900	47,670
Percent Likely to Participate	31%	15%	29%
Number of Kids	22,802	7,277	20,411

NEW JERSEY	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	12%	7%	5%
Number of Kids	95,872	25,349	25,742
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	5%	33%	49%
Number of Kids	43,017	111,108	223,233
Percent Likely to Participate	29%	35%	26%
Number of Kids	180,487	112,905	110,880

NEW MEXICO	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	10%	8%	1%
Number of Kids	23,444	5,752	1,372
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	2%	14%	30%
Number of Kids	5,113	11,965	28,542
Percent Likely to Participate	36%	22%	29%
Number of Kids	38,662	17,533	30,655



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NEW YORK	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	20%	34%	8%
Number of Kids	301,373	229,234	82,179
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	6%	32%	49%
Number of Kids	98,701	262,333	463,025
Percent Likely to Participate	34%	21%	26%
Number of Kids	361,234	113,330	247,940

NORTH CAROLINA	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	18%	8%	5%
Number of Kids	143,424	28,282	20,163
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	4%	28%	70%
Number of Kids	36,079	97,852	303,944
Percent Likely to Participate	25%	34%	20%
Number of Kids	149,200	112,538	85,418

NORTH DAKOTA	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	9%	1%	0%
Number of Kids	4,964	313	0
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	6%	39%	62%
Number of Kids	3,746	9,534	21,035
Percent Likely to Participate	38%	22%	7%
Number of Kids	14,541	5,491	2,196

O

OHIO	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	9%	5%	8%
Number of Kids	93,203	23,886	50,046
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	5%	43%	71%
Number of Kids	61,497	208,739	445,990
Percent Likely to Participate	28%	20%	11%
Number of Kids	232,643	90,142	65,318



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OKLAHOMA	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	10%	3%	2%
Number of Kids	33,564	4,388	4,043
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	4%	21%	64%
Number of Kids	11,369	34,848	118,588
Percent Likely to Participate	34%	35%	38%
Number of Kids	82,453	48,404	66,635

OREGON	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	8%	10%	2%
Number of Kids	28,023	13,376	4,672
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	6%	28%	67%
Number of Kids	23,921	39,755	121,637
Percent Likely to Participate	36%	27%	27%
Number of Kids	81,494	33,115	49,228

P

PENNSYLVANIA	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	14%	9%	4%
Number of Kids	130,480	43,486	30,089
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	3%	36%	52%
Number of Kids	24,671	175,562	353,621
Percent Likely to Participate	22%	35%	22%
Number of Kids	195,328	172,823	141,194

R

RHODE ISLAND	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	19%	16%	10%
Number of Kids	16,741	7,200	5,198
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	2%	25%	66%
Number of Kids	4,363	10,647	38,652
Percent Likely to Participate	34%	29%	29%
Number of Kids	18,606	10,132	16,615



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S

SOUTH CAROLINA	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	13%	8%	2%
Number of Kids	44,984	13,959	3,393
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	1%	16%	49%
Number of Kids	4,532	27,469	108,358
Percent Likely to Participate	41%	40%	34%
Number of Kids	115,989	61,144	73,100

SOUTH DAKOTA	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	9%	10%	1%
Number of Kids	7,242	3,881	555
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	7%	41%	73%
Number of Kids	4,312	12,253	30,277
Percent Likely to Participate	30%	8%	25%
Number of Kids	14,052	2,475	11,016

T

TENNESSEE	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	13%	9%	3%
Number of Kids	74,763	22,115	7,538
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	1%	22%	54%
Number of Kids	9,188	51,697	158,998
Percent Likely to Participate	29%	27%	26%
Number of Kids	112,539	59,435	83,079

TEXAS	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	13%	12%	6%
Number of Kids	312,346	126,452	76,532
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	3%	35%	53%
Number of Kids	84,178	384,921	670,629
Percent Likely to Participate	34%	38%	44%
Number of Kids	658,377	344,309	537,582



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U

UTAH	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	2%	4%	<1%
Number of Kids	7,366	4,179	396
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	4%	34%	63%
Number of Kids	11,626	43,299	96,908
Percent Likely to Participate	36%	31%	21%
Number of Kids	86,662	30,799	33,177

V

VERMONT	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	9%	6%	<1%
Number of Kids	3,758	2,158	86
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	4%	43%	62%
Number of Kids	1,633	12,157	22,384
Percent Likely to Participate	32%	17%	23%
Number of Kids	12,193	4,989	9,163

VIRGINIA	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	15%	9%	3%
Number of Kids	95,819	23,574	11,030
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	5%	36%	54%
Number of Kids	37,271	105,324	213,161
Percent Likely to Participate	23%	24%	28%
Number of Kids	102,576	70,704	107,791

W

WASHINGTON	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	8%	8%	4%
Number of Kids	53,361	22,997	12,643
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	4%	37%	52%
Number of Kids	23,653	96,325	187,788
Percent Likely to Participate	30%	25%	16%
Number of Kids	120,355	58,546	55,274



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WEST VIRGINIA	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	11%	11%	1%
Number of Kids	18,040	7,942	890
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	1%	19%	42%
Number of Kids	1,969	14,872	35,367
Percent Likely to Participate	22%	31%	16%
Number of Kids	22,555	19,851	13,958

WISCONSIN	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	9%	9%	4%
Number of Kids	40,819	19,605	13,275
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	10%	46%	72%
Number of Kids	50,841	101,169	226,448
Percent Likely to Participate	26%	16%	24%
Number of Kids	98,611	32,256	71,772

WYOMING	K to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12
Percent in Grade Level in Afterschool	5%	4%	2%
Number of Kids	2,703	1,180	478
Percent in Grade Level in Self Care	3%	42%	54%
Number of Kids	1,874	8,827	14,175
Percent Likely to Participate	31%	11%	11%
Number of Kids	10,000	2,820	3,781