Afterschool Alliance COVID Tracking Parent Survey- Fall Results

Data are based on an online survey, conducted by Edge Research October 12th, 2020 to October 29th, 2020 of 1,202 parents.

SURVEY[1]

Screening Questions

Below are different options a parent or guardian might use to care for children when the school day ends. During a typical week during the current (2019-2020) school year, please indicate how many of your children are regularly cared for afterschool (approximately 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.) by the following.

Select all that apply.

Parent or guardian	77%
Sibling (brother/sister)	10%
Another adult relative (such as a grandparent, aunt or uncle)	9%
Another adult (not a relative, such as a neighbor or paid sitter)	2%
Childcare facility or family childcare center	7%
Looking after him/herself (self-care)	14%
Afterschool program, defined as a program that a child regularly attends that provides a supervised, enriching environment in the hours after the school day ends (typically around 3 P.M.). These programs are usually offered in schools or community centers and are different from individual activities such as sports, special lessons, or hobby clubs, and different from childcare facilities that provide supervision but not enrichment. At this time, some of these are open in-person, and some are being offered virtually.	11%

Number of respondents: 1,202

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[1] Totals within questions may be different due to rounding.

During a typical week of the current school year, how many hours does your child spend in the following types of care?

Parent/ guardian:

Up to 5 hours/week	41%
6-10 hours/week	17%
11-14 hours/week	10%
15 hours/week	32%

Mean	8.3 hours
Median	9 hours

Number of respondents: 831

In the care of a sibling under the age of 13:

Up to 5 hours/week	92%
6-10 hours/week	2%
11-14 hours/week	6%
15 hours/week	-

Mean	2.7 hours
Median	2 hours

Number of respondents: 43

Looking after himself/herself:

Up to 5 hours/week	58%
6-10 hours/week	22%
11-14 hours/week	5%
15 hours/week	16%

Mean	6.3 hours
Median	5 hours

Number of respondents: 143

In an afterschool program:

Up to 5 hours/week	54%
6-10 hours/week	38%
11-14 hours/week	3%
15 hours/week	4%

Mean	5.8 hours
Median	5 hours

Number of respondents: 252

Activities such as sports, special lessons, or clubs that have a specific focus:

Up to 5 hours/week	79%
6-10 hours/week	18%
11-14 hours/week	1%
15 hours/week	2%

Mean	4 hours
Median	3 hours

Number of respondents: 554

There are a wide range of other organized activities that children might participate in after school. During a typical week in the current school year, how many of your children participated in the following after school (approximately 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.)?

Select all that apply.

Organized team sports	36%
Special lessons like art, music or dance lessons	17%
Work obligations	8%
Study group or tutoring	7%
Clubs that meet occasionally and have a specific focus on a subject, skill or hobby, such as computer coding, leadership, chess, etc.	6%
Religious activities	6%
Volunteering	4%
Scouting	3%
Other organized activities	3%
None of these	38%
Participating in one or more of these	61%

Number of respondents: 1,202

How is your child's school operating currently?

Open for in-person classes for all students	24%
Open for in-person classes for some students	7%
Hybrid – mix of in-person and virtual classes	28%
Online instruction only	39%
Something else	2%

Number of respondents: 1,202

At this point in time, how is your child attending school?

All in-person classes	27%
All online instruction	49%
A mix of in-person classes and online instruction	22%
Something else	1%

Number of respondents: 1,202

Afterschool Participant Questions

Please indicate which of the following specific afterschool programs your child participates in during the current school year. These could be happening in-person, virtually, or both. Select all that apply.

Afterschool program run by public school	40%
Boys & Girls Club afterschool program	15%
Afterschool program run by city or town (including Parks and Recreation Department)	14%
Afterschool program run by private school	12%
YMCA afterschool program	11%
Afterschool program run by religious organization	10%
Afterschool program run by library	10%
Afterschool program run by a child care center	7%
YWCA afterschool program	6%
Afterschool program run by museum or science center	6%
For-profit organization	5%
4-H afterschool program	4%
Other	7%
Unsure	4%

Number of respondents: 306

How is your child's afterschool program operating this fall?

Open in-person for all students	32%
Open in-person for some students	14%
Hybrid – mix of in-person and virtual sessions	32%
Virtual only	19%
Something else	2%

Number of respondents: 306

At this point in time, how is your child attending the afterschool program?

In-person only	39%
Virtually only	31%
A mix of in-person and virtual	27%
Something else	3%

Number of respondents: 306

During the current school year, is your child's afterschool program physically located in a public school building?

Yes	71%
No	28%
Don't know	1%

Number of respondents: 202

Typically, how many days per week does your child participate in any afterschool program in the current school year (either in-person or virtually)?

1	6%
2	18%
3	24%
4	14%
5	32%
Don't know	5%
Mean	3.5 days

Number of respondents: 306

On average, excluding any government assistance you might receive, how much money does your family spend on afterschool programs for your child, in a typical week during the current school year? An estimate is fine.

Up to $20/week	39%
$21 - $50/week	19%
$51 - $100/week	21%
More than $100/week	21%
Mean (excluding $0)	$97

Number of respondents: 304

Do you receive any governmental assistance with the cost of afterschool programs for your child in an afterschool program (such as reduced cost or child care voucher)?

Yes	23%
No	76%
Don't know	1%

Number of respondents: 306

What is the dollar amount of the governmental assistance for afterschool care that you receive per week for your child? An estimate would be fine.

Up to $25/week	29%
$26-$49/week	9%
$50-$99/week	26%
$100-$199/week	19%
$200 or more/week	17%
Mean (excluding $0)	$91.60

Number of respondents: 52

Does the afterschool program your child attends offer:

Homework or academic help	77%
A safe, supervised learning environment during virtual school days	73%
Reading or writing time	72%
Snacks/meals including healthy options	68%
Science, technology, engineering, math, or computer science learning opportunities	60%
Music or arts	56%
Parent/family activities	51%
Service learning or community service	48%
Cultural programming	42%
College or career exploration (only if child is in grades 6-12)	41%
Before-school programs	40%
Programming to reduce risky behaviors, including substance use, teen pregnancy, and violence (only if child is in grades 6-12)	37%
Transportation	33%

Number of respondents: 306
Respondents with a child in grade 6-12: 125

Does the afterschool program your child attends provide opportunities to do the following?

Interact with peers and build social skills	85%
Physical activity	82%
Build confidence	80%
Learn responsible decision-making	79%
Build life skills	76%
Experience the outdoors	74%

Number of respondents: 306

Overall, how satisfied are you with your child's experience in the afterschool program they attend most regularly?

Extremely or somewhat satisfied overall	**89%**
Extremely satisfied	52%
Somewhat satisfied	37%
Neutral	9%
Somewhat or extremely dissatisfied overall	**1%**
Somewhat dissatisfied	1%
Extremely dissatisfied	0%
Don't know	1%

Number of respondents: 306

Afterschool Non-Participant Questions

If an afterschool program as described above were available in your community, please indicate how likely you would be to have your child participate in such a program, either in-person, virtually, or a hybrid of in-person and virtual, this fall.

Extremely or somewhat likely overall	**54%**
Extremely likely	25%
Somewhat likely	28%
Neither likely nor unlikely	15%
Somewhat or not at all likely overall	**27%**
Somewhat unlikely	12%
Not at all likely	16%
Don't know	4%

Number of respondents: 896

Which of the following types of afterschool programming are you interested in for your child? Please select all that apply. *(Among non-participants who are interested in their child participating in an afterschool program)*

A program that my child attends in person that offers a safe, supervised learning environment during after school hours	45%
Live online sessions with staff and other youth (for example, online exercise activities and Zoom calls with staff and youth to work on projects covering various topics, from cooking to history)	40%
Online videos that walk youth through activities and projects (for example, pre-recorded videos created by program staff that teach youth about art projects, take youth on virtual field trips, or demonstrate science experiments)	39%
Take-home kits (for example, kits with STEM, arts, or writing activities and materials for your child to work on at home)	37%
If my child's school has virtual school days, a program that my child attends in person that offers a safe, supervised learning environment during those virtual school days	30%
Other	1%

Number of respondents: 495

Many factors may influence your decision not to enroll your child/children in afterschool programs. How important is each of the following in your decision not to attend?

	Top two box Extremely/Somewhat important
Due to the coronavirus, I am not comfortable with my child attending an afterschool program	69%
I prefer that my child/children remain with me or another adult during the afterschool hours	62%
Due to the coronavirus, I have no need for afterschool programs	59%
The afterschool programs are too expensive	58%
My child/children are old enough to care for themselves	55%
Concern that afterschool programs would expose my child/children to negative influences, experiences, and values, such as bullying and peer pressure	55%
My child/children do not have a safe way to get to and come home from afterschool programs	51%
The afterschool programs' locations are not convenient	50%
The afterschool programs' hours of operation do not meet my needs	49%
Afterschool programs are not available in my community	44%

Afterschool programs do not address the special needs of my child/children	42%
There are no spaces available in the afterschool program that I would prefer	40%
My child/children has other commitments, such as caring for younger siblings or working	35%

Number of respondents: 896

Summer Specific Questions

THIS PAST SUMMER (2020), did your child participate in a structured summer experience different from childcare (e.g., summer school, summer enrichment or sports program, summer camp)?

Yes	32%
No	68%

Number of respondents: 1,202

THIS PAST SUMMER (2020), was your child's structured summer experience....

In-person	38%
Virtual	30%
Both in-person and virtual	30%
Not sure	2%

Number of respondents: 439

Questions for All

Now that the 2020-2021 school year has started, which of the following activities or experiences do you feel your child needs more opportunities to participate in? Select all that apply.

Physical activity	44%
Opportunities to build life skills, like interacting with peers, developing social skills, and responsible decision making	40%
Activities that excite my child about learning	33%
Opportunities for social connections with peers and caring adults	31%
Science, technology, engineering, math, or computer science learning opportunities	31%
Opportunities to experience the outdoors	27%
Music or arts	26%
Opportunities for reading or writing	25%
Organized sports, including school teams	25%
Homework or academic help	23%
Programming to reduce risky behaviors, including substance use, teen pregnancy, and violence (only asked among 6-12)	12%
College or career exploration	11%
None of the above	9%

Number of respondents: 1,202
Number of respondents grades 6-12: 593

How stressed are you about each of the following?

	Top two box Very/Somewhat stressed
Providing learning support for my child while virtual school and distance learning are offered this fall	54%
Continuing to provide learning support and/or childcare for my child if virtual school and distance learning extends into 2021	54%
Providing childcare during the day while virtual school and distance learning are offered this fall	39%

Number of respondents: 844

Questions for All

How concerned are you about the following:

	Top two box Extremely/Very concerned
Making sure my child stays on track in school	64%
My child's social and emotional well-being	62%
Making sure my child has friendships and personal connections	59%
Too much screen-time	56%
Making sure my child engages in regular physical activity	55%
Juggling working and monitoring my child's distance learning	45%
Technology and internet access for my child to participate in virtual school/ distance learning	41%
Being able to afford extra childcare or afterschool programs if schools are closed	37%
At this point in time, an increase in unsupervised time for my child	36%
Figuring out what to do with my child after the school day ends	34%
At this point in time, an increased likelihood that my child will engage in risky behaviors, such as drug use, unplanned pregnancies, or gang involvement	31%

Number of respondents: 1,202

Thinking about the school year, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

	Top two box Completely/Somewhat agree
All young people deserve access to quality afterschool and summer programs	79%
Afterschool programs help working parents keep their jobs	79%
Afterschool programs provide working parents peace of mind knowing that their children are safe and supervised	78%
Afterschool programs keep kids safe and out of trouble	77%
Afterschool programs allow kids to build positive relationships with caring adults and mentors	77%
Afterschool programs provide additional academic support to help children catch up and keep up in school	77%
The experience of coronavirus makes me appreciate school teachers and afterschool providers more than ever before	75%
Afterschool programs provide support to parents who are trying to find job/s	73%

All children deserve access to quality afterschool programs and activities this fall, even during coronavirus	72%
Afterschool programs help parents build connections to their child's school day education	64%
My child deserves access to quality afterschool programs and activities this fall, while coronavirus continues	61%
The economic conditions created by the pandemic have made it difficult for me to afford placing my children in an afterschool program	48%

Number of respondents: 1,202

As part of the federal government's response to the coronavirus, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Congress should provide additional funding for the K-12 education system:

Completely or somewhat agree overall	**83%**
Completely agree	57%
Somewhat agree	26%
Neutral	13%
Somewhat or completely disagree overall	**3%**
Somewhat disagree	1%
Completely disagree	2%

Number of respondents: 1,202

Congress should provide additional funding for afterschool programs and school age care to operate during virtual school days, so students have access to affordable learning centers that provide a supervised, enriching environment during virtual school days:

Completely or somewhat agree overall	**77%**
Completely agree	49%
Somewhat agree	27%
Neutral	16%
Somewhat or completely disagree overall	**5%**
Somewhat disagree	2%
Completely disagree	3%

Number of respondents: 1,202

Do you favor or oppose public funding for programs that provide afterschool opportunities to students in communities that have few opportunities for children and youth?

Favor overall	**85%**
Favor strongly	53%
Favor somewhat	32%
Oppose overall	**9%**
Oppose somewhat	7%
Oppose strongly	2%

Number of respondents: 1,202

Do you favor or oppose public funding for programs that provide summer learning opportunities to students in communities that have few opportunities for children and youth?

Favor overall	**84%**
Favor strongly	52%
Favor somewhat	32%
Oppose overall	**9%**
Oppose somewhat	6%
Oppose strongly	3%

Number of respondents: 1,202