

From a Time of Risk to a Time of Opportunity

This is Afterschool



The hours after the last school bell rings and before parents typically return home from work is a time of endless opportunities and potential for young people. It can be a time of learning and growth, when kids explore new topics in fields like science, technology, engineering, and math; discover new interests; and develop their communication, teamwork, and leadership skills alongside supportive mentors. It can also be a time of risk, as an October 2019 report by Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, a membership organization of more than 5,000 police chiefs, sheriffs, prosecutors, and other law enforcement leaders, found.



9 in 10 adults agree that afterschool programs are important to their community

Although juvenile crime has dramatically decreased in the past decade, *From Risk to Opportunity: Afterschool Programs Keep Kids Safe When Juvenile Crime Peaks* determined that nationally, the hours between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. are the peak time for juvenile crime.¹

In the U.S., for every 1 young person in an afterschool program that inspires learning, provides enriching activities, and keeps them safe, there are 2 more who are waiting to get in. Public support for afterschool is high, with 9 in 10 adults agreeing that afterschool programs are important to their community, but there are not enough programs today to meet the needs of all children and families. The new Fight Crime: Invest in Kids data is further evidence of the need to do more to help ensure that all youth are able to take advantage of the benefits and supports that afterschool programs provide.

Juvenile Crime in Oregon

Analyzing data obtained from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting database, Fight Crime: Invest in Kids' report, *From Risk to Opportunity: Afterschool Programs Keep Kids Safe When Juvenile Crime Peaks*, determined that 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. is the peak time for juvenile crime in Oregon during school days, with 29% of crimes occurring during this time period. However, it is worthwhile to note that the 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. window has the second highest peak, with close to 1 in 4 juvenile crimes occurring during this time (24%). It is also important to note that in some instances, law enforcement agencies may code a criminal activity as noon or midnight if the exact time of the offense is unknown or unclear. Looking at the hourly crime rate breakdown in Oregon, midnight has the highest recorded offenses at 12%, three percentage points higher than the next highest time.

In Oregon, 65% of parents agree that afterschool programs help to give parents peace of mind about their children when they are at work and 56% agree that afterschool programs help to keep kids safe and out of trouble. Yet, for every student in an afterschool program, 2 more would participate if a program were available.

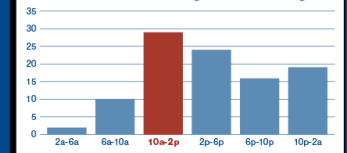
With 221,708 students in Oregon waiting to get into an afterschool program, increased investment in afterschool programs is needed.

The Prime Time for Juvenile Crime in Oregon

Quality Afterschool Programs:

- 🔍 Reduce Crime
- 📖 Boost Academics
- 👍 Improve Behavior
- ❤️ Lead to Healthier Habits
- 💰 Save Money

Juvenile Crime by Time of Day



#AfterschoolFightsCrime

FightCrime

FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS
COUNCIL FOR A STRONG AMERICA

Program Spotlight

Todos Juntos | Clackamas County, OR



Photo Source: Todos Juntos

In 2000, Todos Juntos first began as a Latin Club and soccer program serving gang-involved middle school youth in Clackamas County, Oregon. Since its inception, it has evolved into a program that provides a wide range of services and supports—from robotics to academic help—to more than 1,800 K-12th graders and families at nine schools. Students in the program, which include youth who are identified as at-risk by school counselors and referred to the program and youth who are first time offenders in the juvenile justice system and referred to the program by the Clackamas County Juvenile Department, are able to take part in programming that is tailored to their needs. For example, students who have had behavioral incidents at school may take part in Todos Juntos's Boys Council or Girls Circle, small group programming where

staff and students create a safe space and build trust with one another. Through small group programming, students learn what their emotional triggers are, how to manage conflict, and how to treat others with respect. Students also engage in larger group activities to build meaningful relationships with one another and learn to work in a team.

Over the past two years, the program has worked with the Molalla River Middle School on an In-School Diversion program that combines restorative justice and community service to reduce student expulsions and suspensions. The program has reported that the middle school has found a reduction in school day suspensions since the program was started.

Source

¹ Fight Crime: Invest in Kids. (2019). *From Risk to Opportunity: Afterschool Programs Keep Kids Safe When Juvenile Crime Peaks*. Retrieved from www.strongnation.org/articles/930-from-risk-to-opportunity-afterschool-programs-keep-kids-safe



Afterschool Alliance

afterschoolalliance.org

The Afterschool Alliance is working to ensure that all children and youth have access to quality afterschool programs. Learn more at: www.afterschoolalliance.org