



## Afterschool Progress Report and Consumer Guide: New Mexico

### How New Mexico is Helping to Keep the Lights on After School

#### Afterschool in New Mexico

While New Mexico's percentage of children in self-care trails the national average, 22 percent of children in the state are unsupervised afterschool. That number has increased in recent years while the percentage of kids in afterschool programs has been on the decline. Without focused attention from state leaders, this situation is likely to get even worse due to recent state budget cuts. Fortunately, parents who are lucky enough to have access to afterschool programs are satisfied with the quality of care and the array of activities offered by afterschool programs that engage their children. New Mexico's youth could greatly benefit from increased policy maker attention to afterschool program funding and quality supports.



#### Growth in Afterschool Participation

For more on afterschool availability in New Mexico check out [New Mexico After 3PM](#).

New Mexico	2004	2009
Percentage of Kids in Afterschool Programs	19%	17%
Percentage of Kids in Self Care	19%	22%
Percentage of Parents Extremely/Somewhat Satisfied with Afterschool Program	89%	90%
Percentage of Kids Who Would Participate if an Afterschool Program were Available	42%	40%
Percentage of Kids in Summer Learning Programs	--	28%

Based on the FY2011 funding level and an average per student cost of \$1000, 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21<sup>st</sup> CCLC) can serve 8,653 students in New Mexico. However, that is only a small fraction of the 159,851 kids in New Mexico who are eligible to participate in a 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC program, if more funding were available.



#### Developments in State Afterschool Policy and Funding

For an explanation of specific policy activities in New Mexico check out "State Policy and Funding" on the [Afterschool in New Mexico webpage](#).

- State Offices Administering 21st Century Community Learning Center and Child Care Development Fund Federal Grants
- Current Law that Directly Supports Afterschool Programs
- State Level Councils, Studies, Pilots or Legislative Activity Intended to Advance Afterschool
- Current State Funding for Afterschool Programming
- An Initiative Promoting Quality Afterschool Programming

#### KEY



①  
Much More Work to Be Done



②  
More Effort Necessary Despite Some Progress



③  
Making Progress Yet Considerable Work Still to Be Done



④  
Despite Unmet Need, Showing Great Progress



⑤  
Leading State for Afterschool with Room to Grow

"We have an obligation to our children to make sure that their learning environment is as safe and healthy as possible. I support finding resources to renovate school buildings, improving school nutrition and physical education standards and programs, supporting after-school activities and encouraging schools to be part of the fabric of a community."  
- Tom Udall, U.S. Senate



## Advancements in Afterschool Leadership

To see more partners leading the fight for afterschool in New Mexico check out [Afterschool for All](#).

- Governor Proclamation Supporting *Lights On Afterschool* in 2010
- Statewide Afterschool Network
- Governor's/State Agency Taskforce
- A Member of the U.S. House of Representatives in the House Afterschool Caucus
- A Member of the U.S. Senate in the Senate Afterschool Caucus

## Afterschool Champions

- William Mattiace, Former Mayor of the City of Las Cruces

## State Network



[New Mexico Out-of-School Time Network](#)  
924 Park Avenue SW, Suite D  
Albuquerque, NM 87102  
505-821-3574

## Afterschool Caucus Member(s):

Sen. Tom Udall



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## Consumer Guide: New Mexico

For many adults in America, thinking about the hours after the school day ends conjures up memories of doing homework, playing pick-up basketball, taking guitar or dance lessons or going home to Mom and a snack. But for millions of children today, those images are nothing like their reality. In fact, each day in America, more than 15 million children—some as young as 5 years old—are without supervision at home or on the streets.

The Afterschool Alliance has a host of resources that can help ensure that your child can enjoy the safe environment and proven academic and social gains that afterschool programs can afford.

- The [How to Find an Afterschool Program Guide](#) offers tips to find the best afterschool options for your child.
- The Afterschool Alliance has resources that describe [what to look for in a quality afterschool program](#) with a list of quality characteristics for programs serving each age group.
- For the ambitious parent or community member, the Afterschool Alliance offers a guide on [How to Start an Afterschool Program](#) including links to various best practices, funding resources and child care guidelines.
- New Mexico has a host of resources to support families, program staff and employers in their pursuit of quality afterschool programs that are both available and affordable:
  - [New Mexico Kids Portal](#)
  - [New Mexico Children - Youth and Families Department](#)

## What You Can Do to Support Afterschool in Your State:



**Donate:** The store's [pennies from heaven](#) campaign allows jcpenney shoppers to roundup their purchases to the nearest whole dollar, donating the difference to support afterschool efforts. In 2010, \$61,081 was donated through jcpenney's pennies from heaven campaign in New Mexico.



**Join** the Afterschool Alliance's *Lights On Afterschool* celebration. More than 41 programs in New Mexico participated in [Lights On Afterschool](#) in 2010. Check out *Lights On Afterschool* to find out how to become involved and see which programs are participating in your area.



**Sign On:** Currently, 74 people in New Mexico have signed the Afterschool Alliance [petition to preserve funding for afterschool programs](#). Join them to promote [afterschool for all](#).



**Write** to your Members of Congress and [tell them why afterschool is a crucial resource](#) to the children in your community.

### Methodology:

The 2011 State-by-State Progress Reports and Consumer Guides are sponsored by jcpenney. Scores for the Progress Reports were devised using a range of factors falling under three major categories: Growth in Afterschool Participation, Developments in State Afterschool Policy and Funding and Advancements in State Afterschool Leadership. Data from the America After 3PM survey, also sponsored by jcpenney, was used in assessing the afterschool participation portion of the Progress Reports. Between March and May 2009, 29,754 parents/guardians were surveyed for America After 3PM. The remainder of the Progress Reports and Consumer Guides were created utilizing up to date policy and leadership developments obtained from afterschool leaders in the states, most notably the forty statewide afterschool networks. The 2011 State-by-State Progress Reports and Consumer Guides reflect the data and resources available at the time of their release in October 2011.

For more information on the 2011 State-by-State Progress Reports and Consumer Guides visit: [afterschoolalliance.org/Progress-Reports-Main.cfm](http://afterschoolalliance.org/Progress-Reports-Main.cfm).