Afterschool Alliance Fall 2023 Program **Provider Survey - Wave 10 Results**

Data are based on an online survey conducted by Edge Research between October 31 -December 5, 2023. In all, 1,116 providers representing more than 8,800 program sites in 50 states and the District of Columbia participated.

SURVEY¹

Screening questions

Which best describes your program? Please select one.

Afterschool program	52%
Summer program	3%
Year-round program	38%
Other (please specify)	6%

Number of respondents: 1,116

Is it typical for your program to be open or closed at this time of year?

Typically open	96%
Typically closed	2%
Not applicable	2%

¹ Totals within questions may be different due to rounding.



Current status of afterschool programs

Which of the following best describes your program?

We are operating at higher than pre-COVID capacity limits	28%
We are operating at the same level as we were pre-COVID	31%
We are operating at lower than pre-COVID capacity limits	27%
Not sure	8%
Not applicable	6%

Number of respondents: 1,116

Is there a waitlist for your program?

Yes	52%
No	43%
Unsure	2%
Not applicable	3%

Number of respondents: 1,116

Does your program currently offer any of the following for your students? Please select all that apply.

Academic enrichment	94%
Snacks and meals	89%
Time to interact with peers and build social skills	88%
Physical activity opportunities	85%
Homework or academic help	83%
Outdoor activities	83%
STEM learning opportunities	78%
Reading or writing time	78%
Opportunities to develop life skills such as building communication,	
teamwork, and critical thinking skills	77%
Opportunities to talk with peers or staff members about their feelings	
and emotions	75%
Family or parent engagement activities	70%
Access to technology, including computers, laptops, and/or broadband	64%

Leadership opportunities	59%
Mentoring	47%
Employing certified teachers	42%
Other social and emotional supports not mentioned above, including	
specialized mental health or counseling support	33%
Wrap around services that connect students and families to community	
resources (e.g., health or dental clinics, financial planning, mental health	
services, etc.)	30%
Take home activities and other virtual activities	21%
College and career advising or postsecondary transition coaching	21%
Student success coaching	20%
High intensity tutoring	19%
Home visits and/or check in calls with students and families	17%
Special supports to 8th graders to help them successfully transition to	
high school	14%
Ability to earn additional school credits for activities and experiences	
that are not related to remediation or recovery (e.g., earning math	
credits by learning coding or earning social studies credits by taking part	
in a leadership club through the afterschool program)	8%

Number of respondents: 1,116

PROVIDING STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES. Approximately how many staff in your program are providing/coordinating the following support services?

	Mean
High-intensity tutoring	18
Mentoring	15
College and career advising or postsecondary transition coaching	15
Student success coaching	24
Wraparound services that connect students and families to community	14
resources	

PROVIDING STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES. Is the number of adults providing/coordinating the following student support services during the 2023-2024 school year more, less, or about the same as the previous school year?

High intensity tutoring		
	More	34%
	Less	13%
	About the same	50%
	Not sure	3%
Number of respondents: 217		
Mentoring		
	More	33%
	Less	9%
	About the same	52%
	Not sure	6%
Number of respondents: 521		
College and career advising or postsec	ondary transition coaching	
	More	34%
	Less	8%
	About the same	52%
	Not sure	6%
Number of respondents: 233		
Student success coaching		
	More	40%
	Less	12%
	About the same	41%
	Not sure	7%
Number of respondents: 218		
Wraparound services that connect stud	dents and families to community	1
resources	More	34%
	Less	7%
	About the same	55%
	Not sure	55 % 5%
	inot sure	5%

11%

Less

PROVIDING STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES. Approximately how many MORE adults provide the following student support services during this 2023-2024 school year vs. last school year?

	Mean
High-intensity tutoring	7
Mentoring	7
College and career advising or postsecondary transition coaching	4
Student success coaching	4
Wraparound services that connect students and families to community	3
resources	

PROVIDING STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES. Is the number of students who receive the following student support services during the 2023-2024 school year more, less, or about the same as the previous school year?

High intensity tutoring		
	More	41%
	Less	13%
	About the same	41%
	Not sure	5%
Number of respondents: 217		
Mentoring		
	More	34%
	Less	10%
	About the same	49%
	Not sure	6%
Number of respondents: 521		
College and career advising or postsec	ondary transition coaching	
	More	33%
	Less	9%
	About the same	52%
	Not sure	6%
Number of respondents: 233		
Student success coaching		
	More	37%

8%

48%

5%

Less

Not sure

About the same

	About the same	44%
	Not sure	7%
Number of respondents: 218		
Wraparound services that connect s resources	tudents and families to community	
	More	39%

Number of respondents: 330

PROVIDING STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES. Have there been more students seeking high-intensity tutoring, mentoring, college/career advising, and/or student success coaching than you had staff to effectively provide these services?

Yes	37%
No	43%
Not sure	21%

Number of respondents: 695

How is filling student slots compared to before the COVID pandemic?

More difficult to fill student slots than before the pandemic	24%
Less difficult to fill student slots than before the pandemic	26%
The same as before the pandemic	35%
Not sure/Not applicable	15%

IF OPERATING AT REDUCED CAPACITY. You indicated that your program is operating at reduced capacity compared to pre-COVID levels. Which of the following factors are contributing to this? Please select all that apply.

Staffing issues	61%
Lack of interest from families	38%
Increased cost of running in-person programming	34%
Lack of funding or insufficient funding	34%
Lack of access to appropriate space	15%
Other (Please specify)	15%

Number of respondents: 304

This fall, how easy or difficult has it been for your program to hire and/or retain staff?

Very easy	6%
Somewhat easy	16%
Neither easy nor difficult	19%
Somewhat difficult	33%
Very difficult	24%
Not sure	2%

Number of respondents: 1,116

What, if anything, has your program done to attract staff and/or retain staff? Select all that apply.

Increased hourly wages and/or salaries	60%
Provided additional professional development	43%
opportunities	
Provided free childcare for staff	21%
Provided sign-on bonuses	18%
Created more full-time positions	17%
Provided additional paid time off	14%
Provided additional/new health and/or dental benefits	11%
Other (please specify)	7%

My program has not done anything new to attract or	19%
retain staff	

Number of respondents: 1,116

IF SOMEWHAT OR VERY DIFFICULT TO ATTRACT/RETAIN STAFF. Which of the following are making it difficult to hire and retain staff? Select all that apply.

Difficult to compete with salaries/wages offered by other	
companies	71%
Staff burnout	57%
Inability to offer more hours to staff	52%
Limited opportunities to move up within the organization	32%
Lack of awareness of job opportunities within the out-of-	
school time field	24%
Lack of resources and/or tools to recruit and train new	
staff	24%
Other (please specify)	17%
Not sure	2%

Number of respondents: 635

Compared to the 2022-2023 school year, has your program made a change in staffing this fall? Please select all that apply.

Yes, hiring of fewer staff for this fall due to decreased demand for	
programming	6%
Yes, hiring of fewer staff for this fall due to challenges recruiting staff	21%
Yes, hiring of more staff for this fall due to increased demand for	
programming	37%
Yes, increased hours of staff to create full-time position(s)	8%
No change	30%
Not applicable	6%

How are you and/or staff in your program being financially supported? Please select all that apply.

Being paid full salaries	55%
Being paid partial salaries	6%
Being paid hourly	72%
Being provided with paid leave	26%
Full or partial benefits being covered by program	33%
Other (please specify)	4%
Not sure/Not applicable	4%

Number of respondents: 1,116

Has your program's cost-per-child per week for in-person services increased in the last 12 months?

Our program's cost-per-child per week for in-person services has	49%
increased Our program's cost-per-child per week for in-person services has	3%
decreased	
There has been no change	29%
Not sure	19%

Number of respondents: 1,116

IF INCREASED. You said that your program's cost-per-child per week for inperson services has increased in the last 12 months. Please estimate how much the cost-per-child per week has increased.

1-10% increase	53%
11-25% increase	33%
26-50% increase	5%
More than 50% increase	1%
Not sure	7%

IF INCREASED. You said that your program's cost-per-child per week for inperson services has increased in the past 12 months. What do you think is causing that increase? Please select all that apply.

Staffing costs	82%
Inflation	69%
Supplies	58%
Food	49%
Transportation	32%
Facility costs	30%
Other (please specify)	3%
Not sure	1%

Number of respondents: 547

What is the cost-per-child per week for in-person services in your afterschool program this year? Your best estimate is fine. "Cost-per-child" refers to the cost to the program for each participating student per week. This cost is not necessarily the same as the fee charged per child to parents.

\$0	5%
\$1-\$25	6%
\$26-\$50	5%
\$51-\$100	12%
\$101-200	8%
More than \$200	4%
Not sure	58%
Mean (excluding \$0):	\$205.50

When thinking about the future of your afterschool program, which comes closest to your view today, even if neither is exactly right?

Optimistic/Pessimistic

Optimistic overall	72%
Strongly optimistic	38%
Somewhat optimistic	34%
Neutral	22%
Pessimistic overall	6%
Somewhat pessimistic	4%
Strongly pessimistic	2%

Number of respondents: 1,116

Is your organization involved in conversations organized by the school district or individual schools about how best to support students' learning this fall?

Yes	58%
No	31%
Not sure/Not applicable	11%

Supports and resources important to afterschool programs

Which resources would be most helpful to your program right now? Please pick up to 3.

Advice on staff burnout and keeping teams engaged	43%
Advice on funding streams and securing foundation funds	36%
Tools and trainings to prepare staff to deliver high-quality summer	
learning programs	27%
Trainings and resources to support supervisors and managers	27%
Trainings and resources related to recruiting staff and onboarding	
new staff	27%
Tools and resources related to helping provide benefits and	
supports for staff, such as childcare, bonuses, professional	
development, flexible schedules, and creating additional full-time	
positions	25%
Communication tools to help families learn more about the	
supports and benefits of afterschool and summer programs	23%
Advice on how to work with the school district and/or local schools	
about programming	18%
Online educational resources to share with families	14%
Advocacy communication tools to use with decision makers	11%
Information on how to connect with state and local education	
leaders about COVID relief funding, including the American Rescue	
Plan Act funds	8%
Other (if other, please specify)	3%

Concerns

At this point in time, how concerned are you about your students' mental and emotional health?

Extremely or very concerned overall	69%
Extremely concerned	33%
Very concerned	36%
Somewhat concerned	22%
Not too concerned or at all concerned overall	8%
Not too concerned	6%
Not at all concerned	2%
Not sure	1%

Number of respondents: 1,116

At this point in time, how concerned are you about your students experiencing learning loss?

Extremely or very concerned overall	58%
Extremely concerned	28%
Very concerned	30%
Somewhat concerned	28%
Not too concerned or at all concerned overall	13%
Not too concerned	9%
Not at all concerned	4%
Not sure	2%

Number of respondents: 1,116

At this point in time, how concerned are you about finding staff to hire/staffing shortages?

Extremely or very concerned overall	57%
Extremely concerned	34%
Very concerned	24%

Somewhat concerned	23%
Not too concerned or at all concerned overall	17%
Not too concerned	12%
Not at all concerned	5%
Not sure	2%

Number of respondents: 1,116

How concerned are you about your students having adverse childhood experiences (i.e. abuse, neglect, and other household dysfunctions)?

Extremely or very concerned overall	57%
Extremely concerned	27%
Very concerned	29%
Somewhat concerned	26%
Not too concerned or at all concerned overall	16%
Not too concerned	12%
Not at all concerned	4%
Not sure	2%

Number of respondents: 1,116

At this point in time, how concerned are you that there are children in your community who need afterschool programming and are not able to access it?

Extremely or very concerned overall	55%
Extremely concerned	25%
Very concerned	29%
Somewhat concerned	26%
Not too concerned or at all concerned overall	17%
Not too concerned	11%
Not at all concerned	5%
Not sure	3%

How concerned are you about long-term funding and the program's future?

Extremely or very concerned overall	46%
Extremely concerned	24%
Very concerned	22%
Somewhat concerned	28%
Not too concerned or at all concerned overall	24%
Not too concerned	16%
Not at all concerned	8%
Not sure	3%

Number of respondents: 1,116

At this point in time, how concerned are you about your students experiencing food insecurity?

Extremely or very concerned overall	46%
Extremely concerned	19%
Very concerned	27%
Somewhat concerned	31%
Not too concerned or at all concerned overall	22%
Not too concerned	16%
Not at all concerned	6%
Not sure	1%

Number of respondents: 1,116

At this point in time, how concerned are you about your students missing opportunities for social connections with peers and caring adults?

Extremely or very concerned overall	45%
Extremely concerned	19%
Very concerned	26%
Somewhat concerned	27%
Not too concerned or at all concerned overall	26%
Not too concerned	18%
Not at all concerned	8%

1%

Number of respondents: 1,116

How concerned are you about loss of funding to the program this year?

Extremely or very concerned overall	32%
Extremely concerned	16%
Very concerned	15%
Somewhat concerned	24%
Not too concerned or at all concerned overall	40%
Not too concerned	23%
Not at all concerned	17%
Not sure	5%

Number of respondents: 1,116

How concerned are you about waitlists for students/being able to meet the demand for programs?

Extremely or very concerned overall	30%
Extremely concerned	12%
Very concerned	18%
Somewhat concerned	25%
Not too concerned or at all concerned overall	38%
Not too concerned	22%
Not at all concerned	16%
Not sure	7%

How concerned are you about paying for staff health insurance and other benefits?

Extremely or very concerned overall	28%
Extremely concerned	16%
Very concerned	13%
Somewhat concerned	21%
Not too concerned or at all concerned overall	33%
Not too concerned	18%
Not at all concerned	15%
Not sure	18%

Number of respondents: 1,116

At this point in time, how concerned are you about challenges with recruitment and enrollment of families?

Extremely or very concerned overall	23%
Extremely concerned	10%
Very concerned	12%
Somewhat concerned	31%
Not too concerned or at all concerned overall	45%
Not too concerned	28%
Not at all concerned	16%
Not sure	2%

Number of respondents: 1,116

How concerned are you about having to permanently close the program?

Extremely or very concerned overall	16%
Extremely concerned	10%
Very concerned	6%
Somewhat concerned	16%
Not too concerned or at all concerned overall	63%
Not too concerned	26%

Not at all concerned	37%
Not sure	4%

Number of respondents: 1,116

How concerned are you about having to lay off or furlough staff in the months to come?

Extremely or very concerned overall	14%
Extremely concerned	8%
Very concerned	7%
Somewhat concerned	17%
Not too concerned or at all concerned overall	60%
Not too concerned	25%
Not at all concerned	35%
Not sure	9%

Summer questions

Did you offer programming this past summer (2023)?

Yes	85%
No, but typically offer summer programming	3%
No, typically do not offer summer programming	8%
Not applicable	3%
Not sure/to be determined	-

Number of respondents: 1,116

IF OFFERING PROGRAMMING. What changes, if any, did you make to your summer 2023 program compared to previous years? Select all that apply.

Expanded summer program to serve more children	32%
A greater focus on ensuring a balance of academic and	
enrichment activities	28%
More intentionally focusing on students' holistic needs and	
supporting overall well-being	27%
Offered summer programs at more sites than in the past	11%
Decreased number of children served	10%
Offered summer programs at fewer sites than in the past	8%
Offered special supports to 8th graders to help them	
successfully transition to high school	5%
This was our first time offering a summer program	2%
Other (please specify)	6%
None, no changes compared to previous years	23%
Not sure	4%

Number of respondents: 950

Was there a waitlist for your summer program?

Yes	44%
No	50%

Number of respondents: 950

How concerned were you about being able to hire enough staff during your summer program?

Extremely or very concerned overall	50%
Extremely concerned	24%
Very concerned	26%
Somewhat concerned	26%
Not too concerned or at all concerned overall	22%
Not too concerned	13%
Not at all concerned	8%
Not sure	3%

Number of respondents: 950

How concerned were you about being able to adequately support young people's mental health and well-being during your summer program?

Extremely or very concerned overall	40%
Extremely concerned	16%
Very concerned	24%
Somewhat concerned	35%
Not too concerned or at all concerned overall	23%
Not too concerned	15%
Not at all concerned	8%
Not sure	2%

How concerned were you about being able to meet the academic needs of children/learning loss during your summer program?

Extremely or very concerned overall	31%
Extremely concerned	10%
Very concerned	20%
Somewhat concerned	31%
Not too concerned or at all concerned overall	33%
Not too concerned	23%
Not at all concerned	10%
Not sure	4%

Number of respondents: 950

How concerned were you about being able to meet interest/demand from families this past summer?

Extremely or very concerned overall	29%
Extremely concerned	10%
Very concerned	19%
Somewhat concerned	33%
Not too concerned or at all concerned overall	36%
Not too concerned	25%
Not at all concerned	11%
Not sure	2%

Number of respondents: 950

How concerned were you about reduced enrollment this past summer?

Extremely or very concerned overall	19%
Extremely concerned	8%
Very concerned	11%
Somewhat concerned	19%
Not too concerned or at all concerned overall	57%
Not too concerned	30%

Not at all concerned	27%
Not sure	5%

Number of respondents: 950

How concerned were you about the school year being extended through summer months?

Extremely or very concerned overall	11%
Extremely concerned	5%
Very concerned	6%
Somewhat concerned	16%
Not too concerned or at all concerned overall	64%
Not too concerned	32%
Not at all concerned	31%
Not sure	10%

COVID-Relief Funding

Has your organization reached out to or been in conversations with local education leaders about receiving funding through the federal COVID relief funds, including the American Rescue Plan - Elementary & Secondary School **Emergency Relief (ESSER III) funds?**

Yes	34%
No	35%
Not sure/Not applicable	30%

Number of respondents: 1,116

NO CONTACT ABOUT COVID-RELIEF FUNDS. How much of a factor, if any, did the following play in your organization's decision NOT to connect with your local education leaders about federal COVID-relief funds?

We did not know about the COVID-relief funds available for afterschool and summer programming	Major/Minor factor	46%
	Major factor	34%
	Minor factor	11%
	Not a factor	27%
	Not sure	27%
We did not have enough information about COVID-relief funds to make the case to local education leaders	Major/Minor factor	45%
	Major factor	31%
	Minor factor	14%
	Not a factor	25%
	Not sure	30%
We did not know who to reach out to in the district about COVID-relief funds	Major/Minor factor	43%
	Major factor	30%
	Minor factor	13%
	Not a factor	29%
	Not sure	29%

We do not have the organizational capacity to utilize COVID-relief funds	Major/Minor factor	20%
	Major factor	9%
	Minor factor	11%
	Not a factor	45%
	Not sure	35%

Number of respondents: 396

What are your program's primary funding sources? Please check all that apply.

Parent fees	40%
21st Century Community Learning Centers grant (21st CCLC)	34%
Private donations/fundraisers	34%
Foundation/philanthropic grant	24%
State government funds (not 21st CCLC)	23%
Local government funds	22%
Public funding for COVID relief, such as American Rescue Plan,	18%
Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER), or	
Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) funding	
Corporations/businesses	15%
Other federal government programmatic funds (not 21st CCLC or CCDF)	13%
Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF)	8%
AmeriCorps position (funded in part by Corporation for National and	5%
Community Service)	
Savings	5%
Loans	2%
Other	9%
Not sure	8%

IF COVID RELIEF FUNDING. Which of the following has the COVID relief funding helped your afterschool program to do? Please select all that apply.

Expand afterschool program offerings	50%
Hire more staff	48%
Maintain current levels of afterschool programming	48%
Serve more students	47%
Support staff recruitment efforts (e.g., increasing staff	
salaries)	47%
Offer additional afterschool programming	34%
Extend afterschool program hours	17%
Other (please specify)	5%
Not sure	4%
Not applicable	3%

Number of respondents: 195

IF COVID RELIEF FUNDING AND OFFERING OR TYPICALLY OFFER SUMMER PROGRAMMING. Which of the following has or will the COVID relief funding help your summer program to do? Please select all that apply.

Serve more students	54%
Hire more staff	47%
Expand summer program offerings	47%
Support staff recruitment efforts (e.g., increasing staff	
salaries)	45%
Maintain current levels of summer programming	40%
Extend summer program hours	23%
Offer a new summer program	21%
Other (please specify)	3%
Not sure	3%
Not applicable	7%

IF COVID-RELIEF FUNDING. Has your organization partnered with (a community-based organization/local school district) to address learning loss using COVID relief funds?

Yes	41%
No	43%
Not sure	16%

Number of respondents: 203

IF COVID-RELIEF FUNDING AND PARTNERING. What does this partnership entail? Please select all that apply.

Using funds to expand pre-	
existing grant(s)/contract(s) with organization to provide	
afterschool and summer programs	52%
Access to operate organization's afterschool and	
summer program in school building	52%
Using funds to support transportation to/and from	
afterschool and summer programs run by organization	49%
New school district grant(s)/contract(s) provided to	_
organization to run afterschool and/or summer program	42%
Joint professional opportunities with school and	
organization's staff	40%
Staff sharing	28%
Other partnerships with organization not listed [please	17%
specify]	

Number of respondents: 83

IF COVID-RELIEF FUNDING. What changes, if any, will your program need to make when COVID-relief funding ends? Select all that apply.

Reduce programming/activities/support	40%
Reduce the number of staff	38%
Reduce the number of students served	36%
Reduce staff salaries and/or benefits	27%

Reduce hours of operation	22%
Other [please specify]	7%
No changes will need to be made	16%
Not sure	19%

Respondent Profile

How would you describe the setting(s) for your program? Select all that apply.

Rural	38%
Suburban	30%
Urban	39%
State or regional	6%
National	2%

Number of respondents: 1,116

Is your program typically located in a public school?

Yes	68%
No	32%

Number of respondents: 1,116

Which of the following describes your organization? Please select all that apply.

Afterschool program run by a public school or school district	23%
Afterschool program run by a community-based organization	19%
Afterschool program run by another non-profit not listed	15%
Boys & Girls Club	10%
YMCA	9%
Afterschool program run by a child care center	8%
Afterschool program operated by a private, for-profit	
organization	7%
Afterschool program run by a city or town (including Parks and	
Recreation Department)	5%
Afterschool program run by a faith-based organization	4%
4-H	2%
Afterschool program run by a college or university	2%
Afterschool program run by a private school	2%

Afterschool program run by a charter school	2%
After-School All-Stars	1%
Afterschool program run by a library	1%
Afterschool program run by a museum or science center	1%
CampFire program	1%
Girls Inc.	1%
YWCA	1%
Other organization	8%

Number of respondents: 1,199

Please enter your best estimate for the number of students served by your program for each scenario.

Total number of children served during the previous 2022-2023 school year

- <u>-</u>	
0	4%
1-25	5%
26-50	13%
51-100	22%
101-150	11%
151-200	8%
201+	36%

Number of respondents: 1,108

Total number of children that your program served and/or anticipate serving this fall:

0	4%
1-25	6%
26-50	14%
51-100	22%
101-150	11%
151-200	8%
201+	35%

1%

Total number of students estimated in-person this fall:

0	4%
1-25	7%
26-50	15%
51-100	22%
101-150	11%
151-200	8%
201+	33%

Number of respondents: 1,110

Total number of students estimated virtually this spring:

0	91%
1-25	3%
26-50	2%
51-100	2%
101-150	0%
151-200	0%
201+	1%

Number of respondents: 1,116

How many staff is your program employing this fall?

Full time: 18% 1-10 63% 12% 11-25 26-50 4% 51-100 2%

Number of respondents: 1,115

101+

6%

6%

0	13%
1-10	47%
11-25	19%
26-50	10%

Number of respondents: 1,111

Part time:

51-100

101+

What is your best estimate for your program's overall student population and the racial/ethnic backgrounds of the students you typically serve?

	Mean
Asian	5%
Black or African American	25%
Hispanic or Latinx	20%
Native American	4%
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	1%
White	43%

Number of respondents: 1,116

What percentage of the students served qualify for the free or reduced-price lunch program?

25% or less	10%
26-49%	14%
50-75%	21%
More than 75%	43%
Not Sure	12%

What grade level are the students you typically serve? Select all that apply.

Pre-K students	30%
	88%
Elementary school students	
Middle school students	54%
High school students	28%

Number of respondents: 1,116

Has your afterschool program had to close or move to virtual learning at any point this school year due to COVID?

Yes	8%
No	90%
Not sure	2%

Number of respondents: 1,116

IF PROGRAM HAS CLOSED DUE TO COVID. How many days has your afterschool program had to close or move to virtual learning this school year due to COVID? Your best guess is fine.

0 days	27%
1-5 days	18%
6-10 days	3%
11-15 days	1%
16-20 days	-
More than 20 days	25%
Not sure	26%