



A Preview of Alaska Data from the *America After 3 PM* Household Survey on Afterschool

Care Arrangements: In the *America After 3 PM* survey, Alaska parents/guardians were asked about their children's regular participation in various afterschool care arrangements. (Note: Care arrangements add up to greater than 100% due to multiple regular care arrangements for many children.)

- While most Alaska children, 74%, spend some portion of the hours after school in the care of a parent or guardian, 20% of Alaska's K-12 youth are responsible for taking care of themselves. These children spend an average of nearly 6 hours per week unsupervised after school.*
- Twenty-one percent of Alaska's K-12 youth participate in afterschool programs.
- Other care arrangements include traditional child care centers (34%), sibling care (9%) and non-parental adult care, such as a grandparent or neighbor (10%).

Need or Demand for Afterschool

- More than 46% of the K-12 youth in self-care would be likely to participate in an afterschool program if one were available in the community.*
- Similarly, 31% of all children not in afterschool would be likely to participate if an afterschool program were available in the community, regardless of their current care arrangement.*

Satisfaction with Afterschool Programs

- In Alaska, the top 3 reasons cited for selecting an afterschool program are affordability, child enjoyment, and lack of other available programs.*
- Parents of non-participants believe that their children would benefit most from afterschool programs in the following ways: by having fun, by staying safe and out of trouble, by having help completing homework, and improved physical activity.*

**Caution: Small Sample Size*

Findings from the America After 3 PM household survey are based on parent/guardian responses to survey questions about after school care arrangements during the 2002-2003 school year. GE Consumer Finance and RTi-DFD conducted the survey and analyzed the data for the Afterschool Alliance, with support from the JCPenney Afterschool Fund. A complete analysis of state-level data and a full report from the survey will be available later this year. National data and previews of state data are available at www.afterschoolalliance.org.