



## **A Preview of Rhode Island Data from the America After 3 PM Household Survey on Afterschool**

**Care Arrangements:** In the *America After 3 PM* survey, Rhode Island 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 Rhode Island children, 76%, spend some portion of the hours after school in the care of a parent or guardian, 17% of Rhode Island's K-12 youth are responsible for taking care of themselves. These children spend an average of nearly 8 hours per week unsupervised after school.\*
- Eighteen percent of Rhode Island's K-12 youth participate in afterschool programs. On average, afterschool participants spend 10 hours per week in afterschool programs.\* Participation averages 3.7 days per week for 2.6 hours per day.\*
- Other care arrangements include traditional child care centers (21%), sibling care (14%) and non-parental adult care, such as a grandparent or neighbor (16%).

### **Need or Demand for Afterschool**

- Thirty percent 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, 28% 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**

- Ninety-nine percent of Rhode Island parents are extremely or somewhat satisfied with the afterschool program their child attends.\*
- In Rhode Island, the top 2 reasons cited for selecting an afterschool program are child enjoyment, and affordability.\*
- Parents of non-participants believe that their children would benefit most from afterschool programs in the following ways: by having fun, improved social skills, by staying safe and out of trouble, and academic enrichment.\*

#### *\*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](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org).*