



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

**Care Arrangements:** In the *America After 3 PM* survey, South Dakota 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 South Dakota children, 67%, spend some portion of the hours after school in the care of a parent or guardian, 28 % of South Dakota's K-12 youth are responsible for taking care of themselves. These children spend an average of nearly 7 hours per week unsupervised after school.\*
- In contrast, only 16% of South Dakota's K-12 youth participate in afterschool programs. On average, afterschool participants spend 6 hours per week in afterschool programs.\* Participation averages 3 days per week for 1.8 hours per day.\*
- Other care arrangements include traditional child care centers (21%), sibling care (15%) and non-parental adult care, such as a grandparent or neighbor (12%).

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

- More than 21% 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, 27% 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-one percent of South Dakota parents are extremely or somewhat satisfied with the afterschool program their child attends.\*
- In South Dakota, the top 3 reasons cited for selecting an afterschool program are child enjoyment, variety of activities, and affordability\*
- 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, academic enrichment, improved social skills, 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](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org).*