

State Investments in Afterschool and Summer

Growing support for youth, families, and communities



The 50 State Afterschool Network

More than half of U.S. states are choosing to invest in afterschool and summer learning programs to support youth, families, and communities.



State funding is nearly **20 times** greater today than it was in 2000.

States tap afterschool and summer to address key issues

State leaders are investing in afterschool and summer to address key issues in their communities.



Academic recovery and gains



School absenteeism



Workforce development



Helping working families and economic development



Keeping kids safe and healthy



Youth mental well-being

Research shows that programs are effective and in high demand

Student performance and well-being

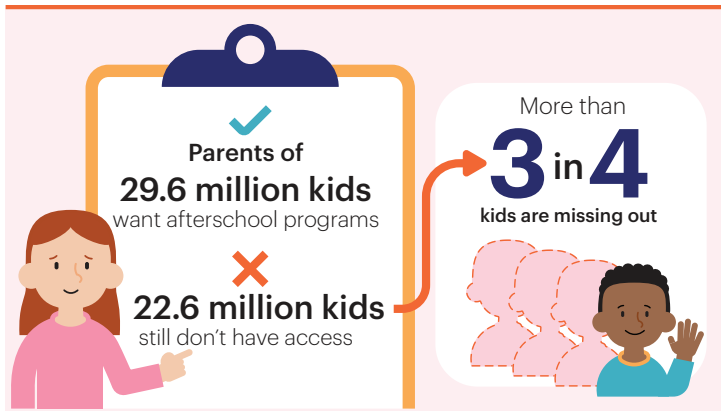
- Youth in programs attend school more often, do better in school, and are more likely to graduate.
- Youth build work and life skills, such as teamwork, problem-solving, communications, and positive decision-making. 89% of parents say programs support young people's well-being.
- Youth explore careers, work with mentors, and develop future plans. Most programs provide STEM learning, a key driver of economic growth.

Economic benefits

- 84% of working parents report that afterschool programs help them keep their jobs.
- Every \$1 invested in afterschool saves at least \$3.
- Businesses lose up to \$300 billion a year in productivity due to employee concerns about whether their children are safe after school.

In demand among families

- Unmet demand for programs has skyrocketed:



- 89% of parents support public funding for afterschool and summer programs. Support is consistent across political groups.

Sources:

Afterschool Alliance. (2021). The Evidence Base for Afterschool and Summer. Retrieved from <http://afterschoolalliance.org/documents/The-Evidence-BaseFor-Afterschool-And-Summer-2021.pdf>

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Afterschool Alliance. (2023). Voters Agree Afterschool Programs are a Priority. Retrieved from <http://afterschoolalliance.org/documents/Voters-Agree-Afterschool-Programs-Are-A-Priority-January-2023.pdf>

Afterschool Alliance. (2025). Lost Opportunity: Afterschool in Demand, But Out of Reach for Many. Retrieved from <https://afterschoolalliance.org/documents/AA3PM-2025/AA3PM-Lost-Opportunity-Afterschool-in-Demand-But-Out-of-Reach-for-Many-Full-Report-2025.pdf>



The Afterschool Alliance is working to ensure that all children and youth have access to quality afterschool programs. Learn more at: www.afterschoolalliance.org

Program Impact

A 2023 study found that among students in afterschool and summer programs:

7 IN 10

improved their engagement in learning

NEARLY

1 IN 2

improved their school attendance

MORE THAN

4 IN 10

demonstrated growth on their state's math or reading assessments

MORE THAN

1 IN 2

improved their GPA

2 IN 5

saw a decrease in school suspensions

Source: U.S. Department of Education. (2023). 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) analytic support for evaluation and program monitoring: An overview of the 21st CCLC performance data: 2021-2022 (18th report).