Nebraska Named a Top 10 State for Afterschool,

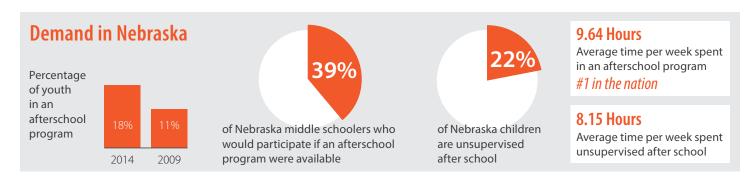
But More Work Remains Before All Nebraska Youth Have Access to Programs

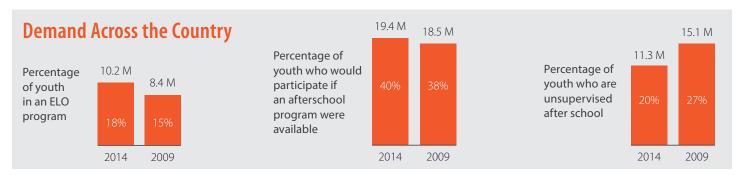
The Afterschool Alliance's 2014 America After 3PM report revealed that **57,201 (18%) youth** in Nebraska participate in an afterschool program. The report also found that Nebraska is first in the nation with the number of hours that participating youth spend in afterschool programs—an average of nearly 10 hours per week, helping us break into the top ten states for afterschool for the first time.

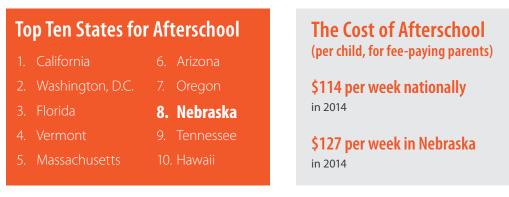
Unfortunately, with only 28% of Nebraska youth eligible for free and reduced price youth participating in afterschool programs, Nebraska ranks #44 in this important category. These are precisely the youth in Nebraska that need these programs the most. Indeed, 81,887 (31%) of Nebraska youth would be enrolled in a program if one were available to them.



With more than 97% of Nebraska parents with children in afterschool programs satisfied with their child's afterschool experience, more work needs to be done to ensure that all children in Nebraska, especially those from our most challenging educational environments, are able to take part in an afterschool program that keeps them safe, inspires learning and supports working parents.



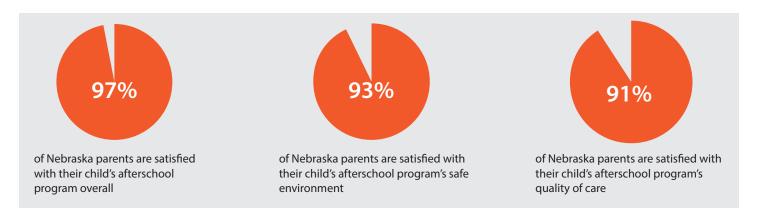






Benefits of Afterschool Programs in Nebraska:

Satisfaction with their child's afterschool program is high among parents fortunate enough to have access to a program. Parents agree that afterschool programs provide a wide range of activities and enriching learning opportunities for their kids.



The top 5 program activities offered in Nebraska afterschool programs:

reading and writing
homework assistance
nutrition
opportunities for physical activity
STEM learning opportunities

Support for After School Programs in Nebraska:

On top of the high (97%) satisfaction rates, 77% of Nebraska parents support public funding for afterschool programs, while just 17% report receiving government assistance with the cost of their child's program.

Parents of all socio-economic levels and political affiliations overwhelmingly support public funding for afterschool programs and recognize that these programs keep kids safe, inspire learning and build comprehensive skills that will help students reach their full potential and succeed in school, college and future careers.

About the Survey:

America After 3PM is the largest national household survey. 37,720 households were surveyed online, covering 56,252 children and receiving 13,709 responses. Data was collected from 2/28/2014-4/17/2014. The Afterschool Alliance contracted with Shugoll Research to collect this data. Child-level statewide projections are based on 2011-2012 total school enrollment data from the U.S. Department of Education. In Nebraska, 200 households and 438 children were screened for this study. Child-level statewide projections and total school enrollment numbers are based on 2011-2012 Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. Total school enrollment for Nebraska is 321,352.

About Beyond School Bells:

Beyond School Bells is Nebraska's statewide afterschool network that works with various stakeholders to foster partnerships and policies to develop, support and sustain high-quality afterschool and expanded learning opportunities for children and youth in Nebraska. Beyond School Bells is one of 47 statewide afterschool networks comprising the National Network of Statewide Afterschool Networks supported by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation (www.mott.org). These networks ensure a coherent, statewide strategy for improving out-of-school time program quality.

