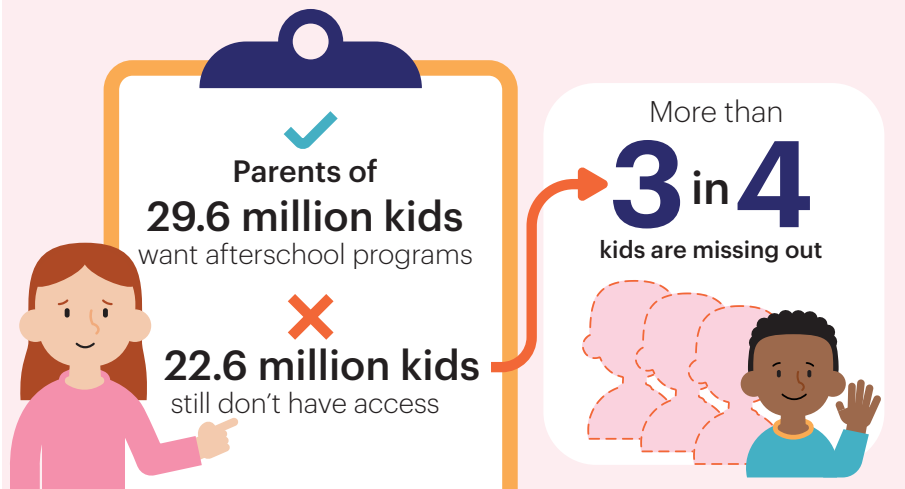


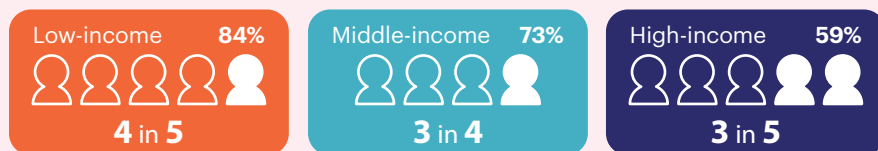
Lost Opportunity

Afterschool Programs in Demand, But Out of Reach for Many

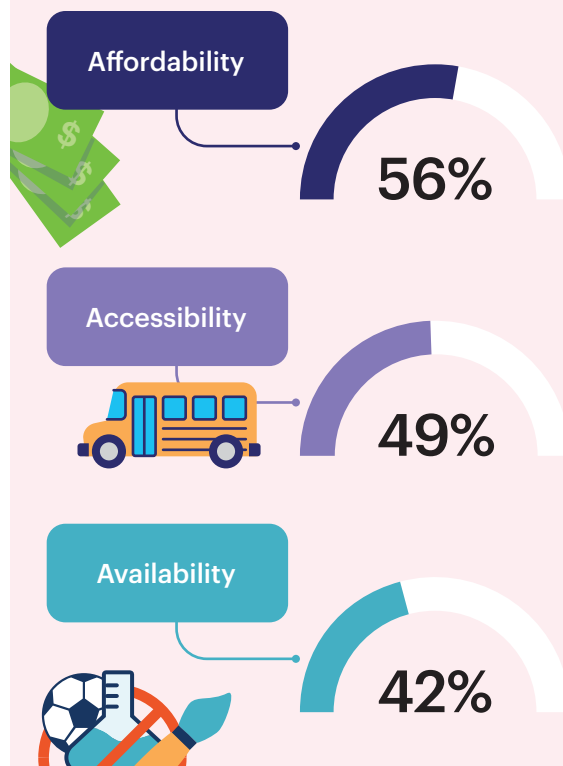
DEMAND FOR PROGRAMS IS ENORMOUS



UNMET DEMAND IS HIGHEST AMONG CHILDREN IN LOW- AND MIDDLE-INCOME FAMILIES



BARRIERS THAT LIMIT PARTICIPATION



PARENTS SEE AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS ADDRESSING THEIR TOP-OF-MIND CONCERNS

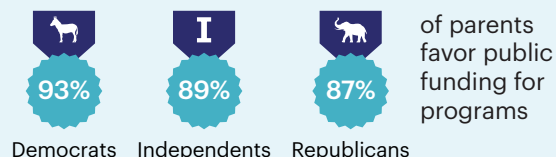
Parents agree that afterschool programs...



PROGRAMS EARN HIGH MARKS



SUPPORT FOR FUNDING AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS IS STRONG AND BIPARTISAN



4 IN 5 PARENTS say afterschool helps them

- ✓ Keep their jobs
- ✓ Boost productivity
- ✓ Reduce stress

Learn more and see recommendations for action at

aa3pm.co

Afterschool programs: an urgent priority in 2025.



Of the nearly 30 million youth whose parents want afterschool programs, more than 3 in 4 are missing out. That's 22.6 million children whose parents would enroll them if a program were available.

Behind the demand: All parents recognize the benefits for kids—safety, skills, and school engagement...

PARENTS SAY AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS:

- ◆ Keep kids safe **(78%)**
- ◆ Help them build social skills and responsible decision-making **(85%)**
- ◆ Encourage fun and learning while decreasing screen time **(86%)**
- ◆ Support well-being **(79%)**
- ◆ Get kids excited about learning and improve school attendance **(75%)**

—plus peace of mind for working parents.

PARENTS WITH A CHILD IN AFTERSCHOOL SAY:

- ◆ The program helps them keep their job or work more hours **(82%)** and lowers their stress because they know their child is safe **(92%)**
- ◆ Their child care arrangements boost their productivity at work **(88%)** and their well-being **(90%)**

Parents give their children's afterschool programs high marks.

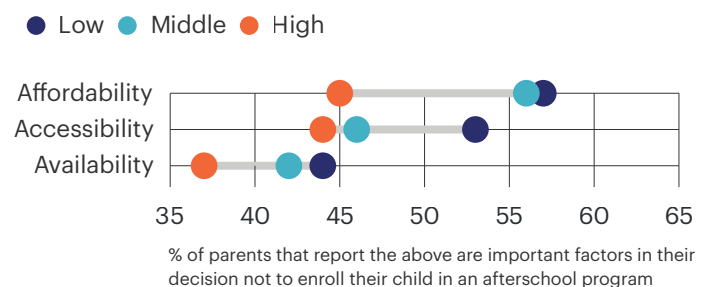
95% of parents are satisfied with their child's afterschool program overall and 85% rate the quality as "excellent" or "very good."

On a scale from 1 to 5, parents' average score is 4.23 for program quality and 4.53 for program satisfaction.

Program affordability, accessibility, and availability limit participation, especially for low- and middle-income families.

Cost is the greatest barrier that prevents families from enrolling their children in a program, followed by transportation issues and lack of programs. Household income plays a major role in determining whether families can access an afterschool program. Unmet demand for afterschool programs is highest for low- and middle-income families; at the same time, these families are most likely to cite challenges such as cost and program availability.

Low- and middle-income families most likely to face barriers to participation



On the other end of the income spectrum, high-income households are investing heavily in activities outside of school and are more likely to report that their child takes part in activities after school.

The gap between annual spending by families with high and low incomes has grown

9x

Families with high income spend 9x more on out-of-school time activities than families with low income (\$6,588 vs \$734)

Parent support for afterschool program access and funding is strong.

Nearly 9 in 10 parents (89%) favor public funding for afterschool opportunities and agree all young people deserve access to quality afterschool and summer programs (87%).

About the Survey

The fifth edition of *America After 3PM* surveyed 30,515 U.S. parents or guardians with a school-age child living in their household, completing at least 200 interviews in all 50 states and Washington, D.C., between January 31 and April 21, 2025. Data were collected by Edge Research on behalf of the Afterschool Alliance. The overall margin of error for the child- and household-level data is +/- < 1%. *America After 3PM 2025* is made possible through our partnership with the New York Life Foundation.

About the Afterschool Alliance

The Afterschool Alliance is working to ensure that all children have access to affordable, quality afterschool programs. Learn more at afterschoolalliance.org



- afterschoolalliance.org
- [afterschool4all](https://afterschool4all.org)
- [afterschool4all](https://afterschool4all.org)
- [afterschool-alliance](https://afterschool-alliance.org)