

Time for a Game-Changing Summer, With Opportunity and Growth for All of America's Youth



Housekeeping Notes

Please introduce yourself in the chat and tell us where you are joining us from.

This briefing is being recorded. You will receive a link to the recording and resources following the conclusion of the presentation.

To make sure everyone can engage with your comment, please make sure you are speaking to "all panelists and attendees" in the chat box!

If you have questions, please use the Zoom's Q&A function at the bottom of your screen, and we will answer them at the end.

For a better view, go to your video settings and check the box "hide non-video participants" under Meetings.



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America After 3PM

America After 3PM is the nation's most comprehensive look at how children spend their time during the hours after school and during the summer. Conducted roughly every five years, the 2020 study is the fourth edition. Previous studies were conducted in 2004, 2009, and 2014.

America After 3PM serves as a resource for policymakers, educators, parents, and advocates on afterschool and summer program participation, demand, and expectations and benefits of programs.

The America After 3PM special report, *Time for a Game-Changing Summer, With Opportunity and Growth for All of America's Youth*, is based on research commissioned and funded by The Wallace Foundation as part of its mission to foster equity and improvements in learning and enrichment for youth people, and in the arts for everyone by supporting and sharing effective ideas and practices.

America After 3PM is made possible by the generous support of the New York Life Foundation, Overdeck Family Foundation, The Wallace Foundation, the S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation, Altria Group, the Walton Family Foundation, and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.

Methodology Statement

America After 3PM summer data includes responses from 29,595 households.

A minimum of 200 interviews were completed in every state and the District of Columbia online and supplemented by phone. Respondents are parents or guardians with a school-age child in their household. The survey was offered in both English and Spanish. Interviews were completed January 27th-March 17th, 2020.

An Advisory Committee comprised of afterschool and summer experts and researchers provided input on the design of the survey instrument.

5 Big Takeaways

- 1.** Participation in summer programs is higher than ever
- 2.** Parents give summer experiences top marks
- 3.** Academic enrichment is important, but parents prioritize building connections, exploration, and being active in the summer
- 4.** Inequities evident—a need for more summer opportunities for families with low incomes
- 5.** More parents than ever before support public funding for summer learning programs

1.

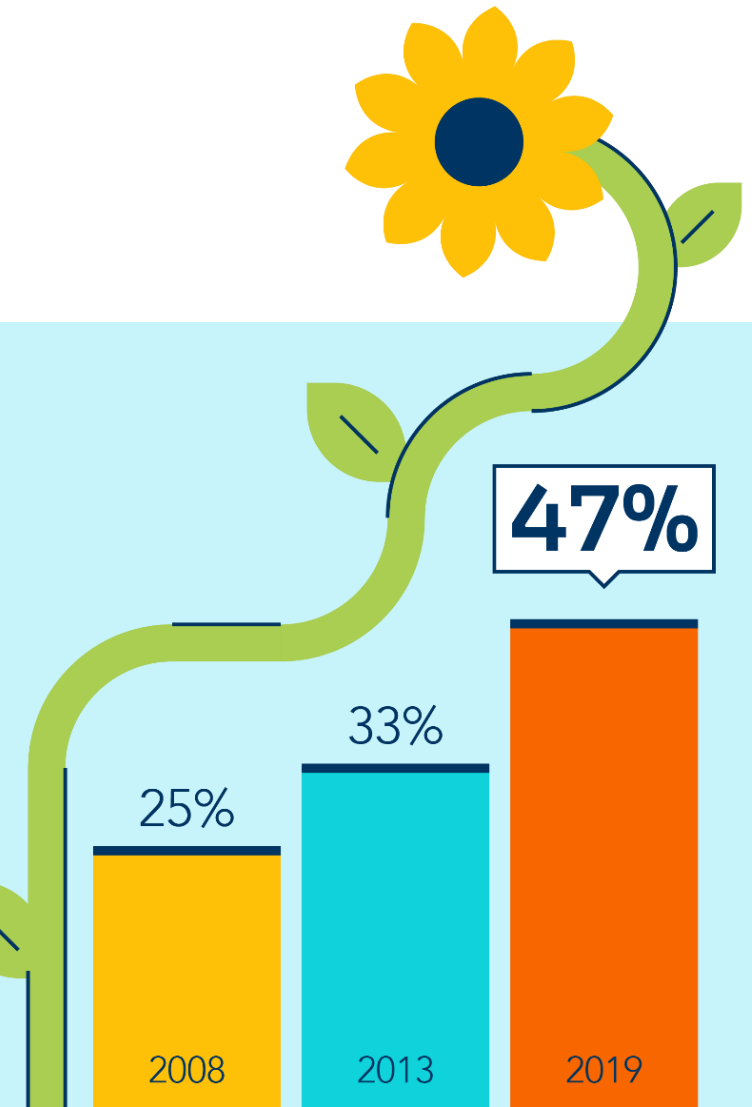


Participation in summer programs is higher than ever.

Summer Participation Soars

Prior to the pandemic, participation in summer programming was at the highest level ever recorded by **America After 3PM**.

12.6 million kids in summer enrichment



Families with kids in summer enrichment

Structured summer experiences are defined as experiences such as participation in a summer learning program, sports program, summer camp, summer school, or summer job or internship, and are different from child care.

What Young People Are Doing

An overwhelming majority of families with a child in a structured summer experience – **88%** – report participation in a voluntary summer program, a STEM camp, or another specialty camp or program.

During the 2019 summer, young people took part in a wide range of structured summer experiences

Among all U.S. school-age children, the percentage and number taking part in various structured summer experiences



Specialty camps or programs
6,796,752 children (11.8%)



STEM camps
1,905,846 children (3.3%)



Voluntary summer program
5,407,551 children (9.4%)



Summer jobs/Internships
1,641,783 children (2.9%)



Optional summer school
1,946,030 children (3.4%)



Mandatory summer school
1,303,094 children (2.3%)

Families Continue to Need Summer Programming During the Pandemic

1 in 3 families (34%) report that their child was in a structured summer experience during the 2020 summer

Among families with a child in a structured summer experience in 2020, families report that their child's summer experience was:

37%

Virtual

36%

In Person

26%

Hybrid



Structured summer experiences are defined as experiences such as participation in a summer learning program, sports program, summer camp, summer school, or summer job or internship.

2.



Parents give summer
experiences top marks.

Parent Satisfaction Is High



65% of parents report extreme satisfaction

95% of parents are satisfied with their child's primary structured summer experience






3.



Academic enrichment is important,
but parents prioritize building connections,
exploration, and being active in the summer.

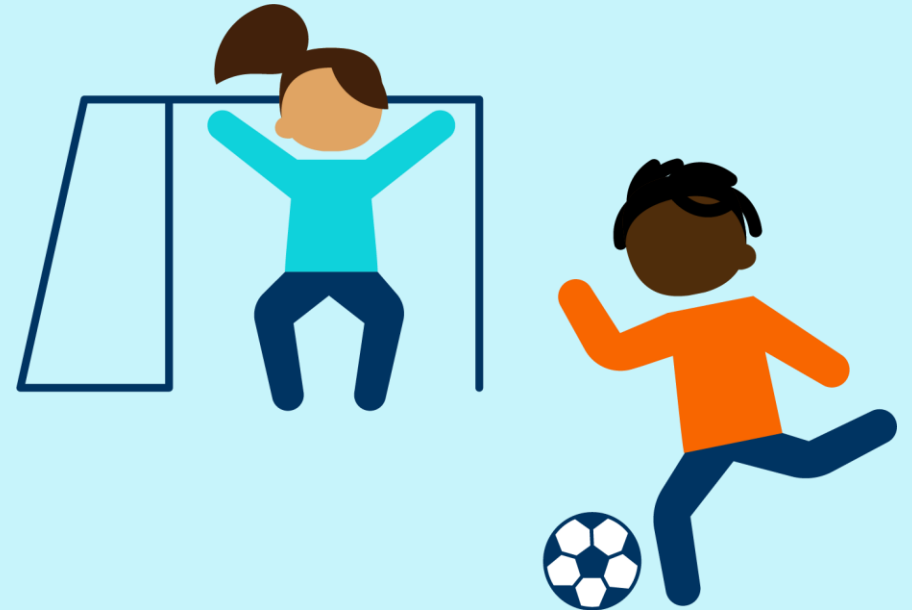
Parents' Vision for Summer Learning

Parents report the following factors as important to their child's summer experience selection:

	Opportunities to build life skills	94%		Opportunities to experience the outdoors	86%
	Physical activity	92%		Preventing learning loss	75%
	A variety of activities	90%			

Parents' Vision for Summer Learning

Parents are more likely to report that factors, such as **opportunities to experience the outdoors, physical activity, a variety of activities, and opportunities to build life skills** were important in their decision-making process when selecting a summer program, compared to their selection of an afterschool program.



Opportunities for Social Interaction and Physical Activity Remain Important

Top 10 activities and supports parents report as important in selecting their child's summer experience during the pandemic:

1	Safe environment	90%
2	Knowledgeable and caring staff	88%
3	Safety and cleaning precautions against the coronavirus	86%
4	Opportunities to build life skills	85%
5	Opportunities for social connections with peers and caring adults	84%
6	Physical activity opportunities	80%
7	Variety of activities	79%
8	STEM learning opportunities	79%
9	Helps keep my child from losing academic ground over the summer	78%
10	What my child has enjoyed before	77%

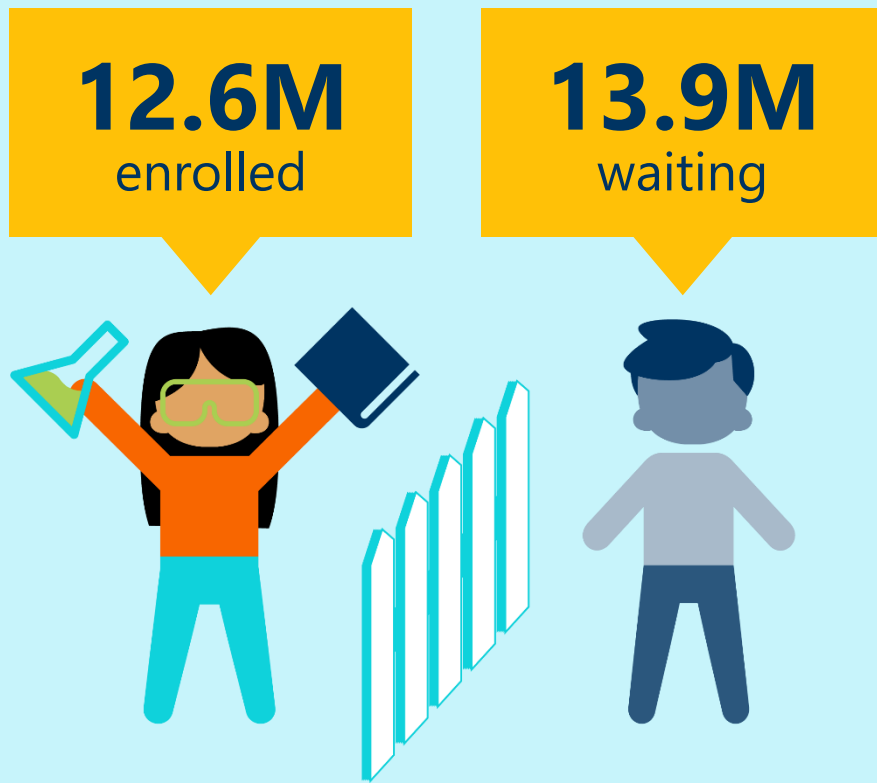
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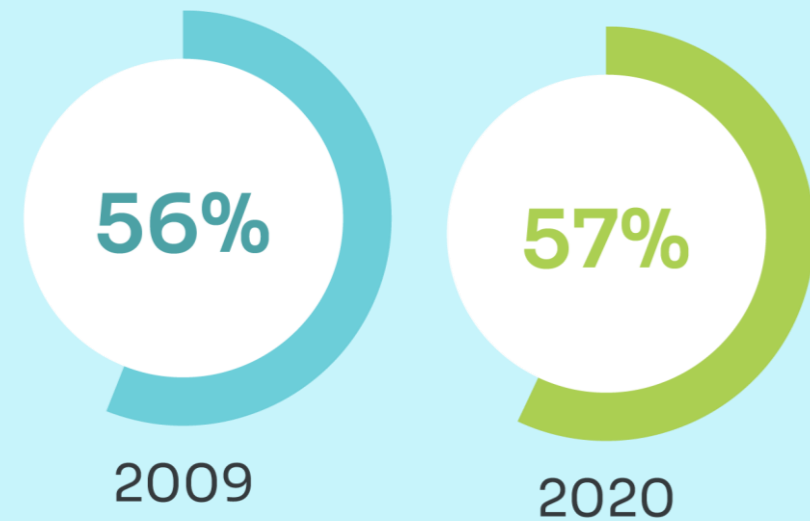
Inequities evident – more summer opportunities for families with low incomes are needed.

Unmet Demand is High Overall

For every child in a summer program, one more is waiting to get in.

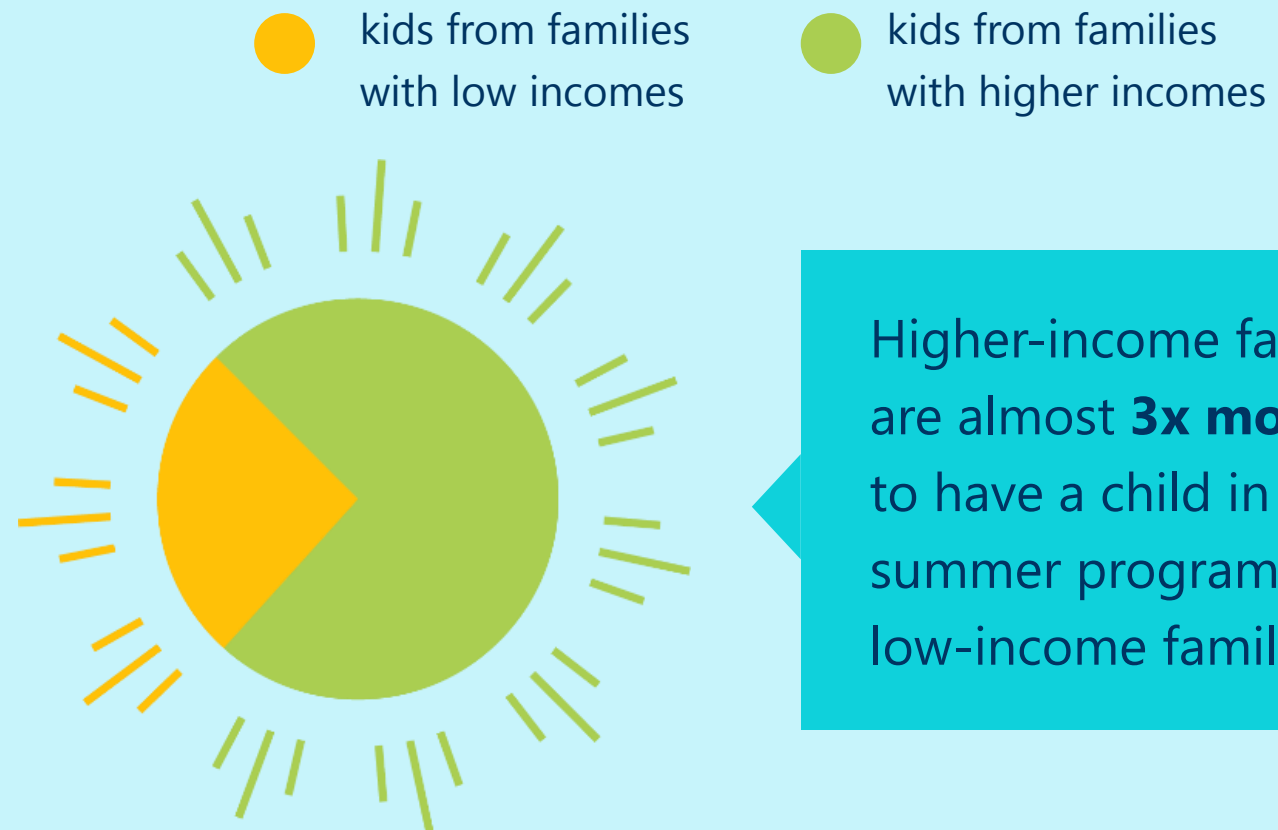
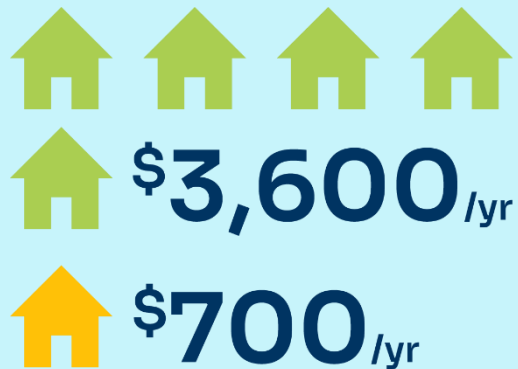


Demand for programs has remained high. More than half of families without a child in a program want one.



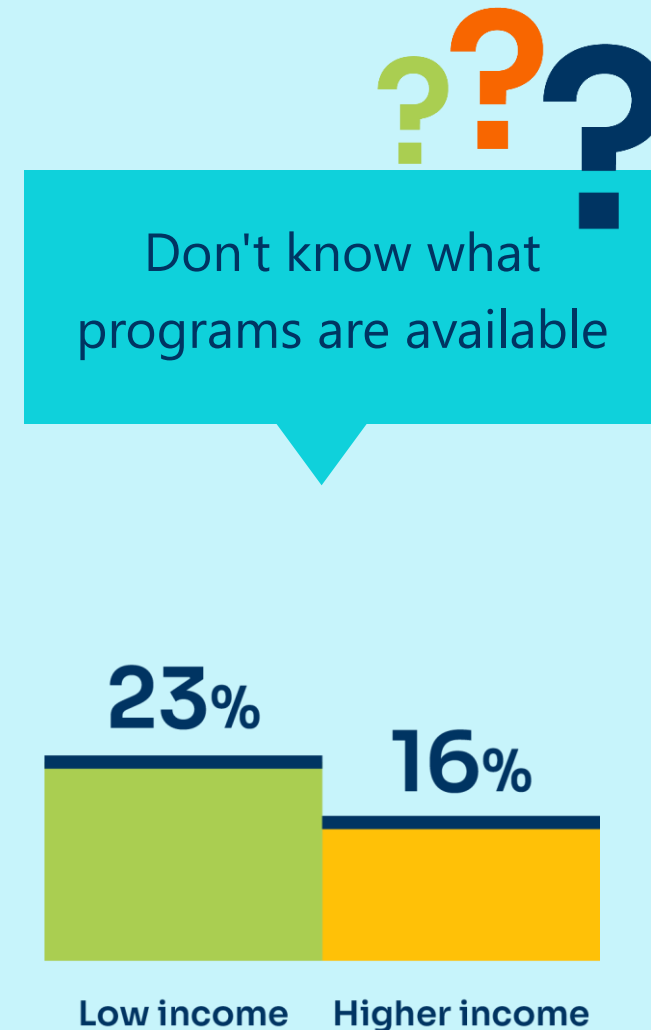
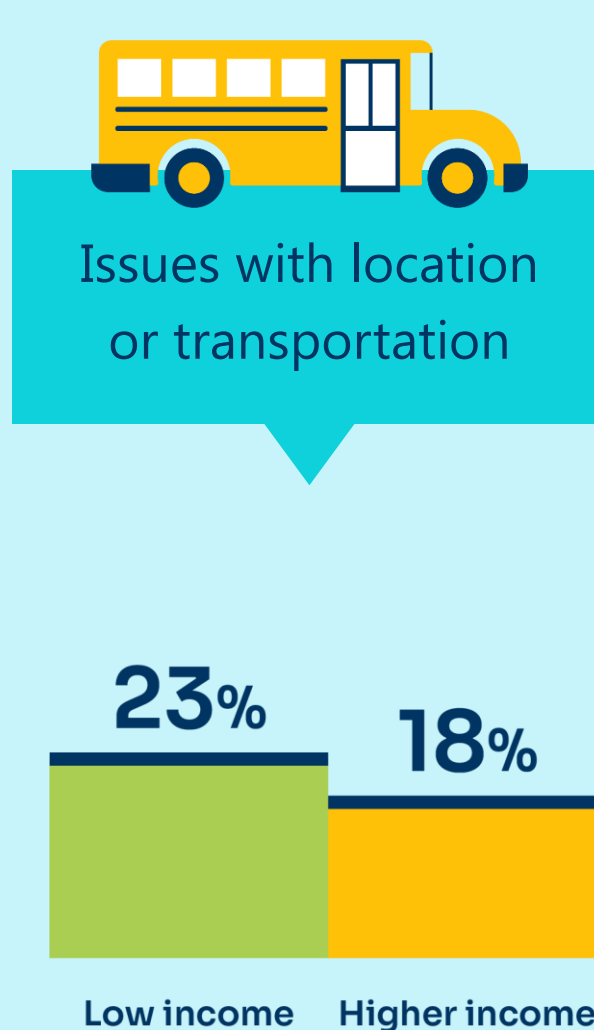
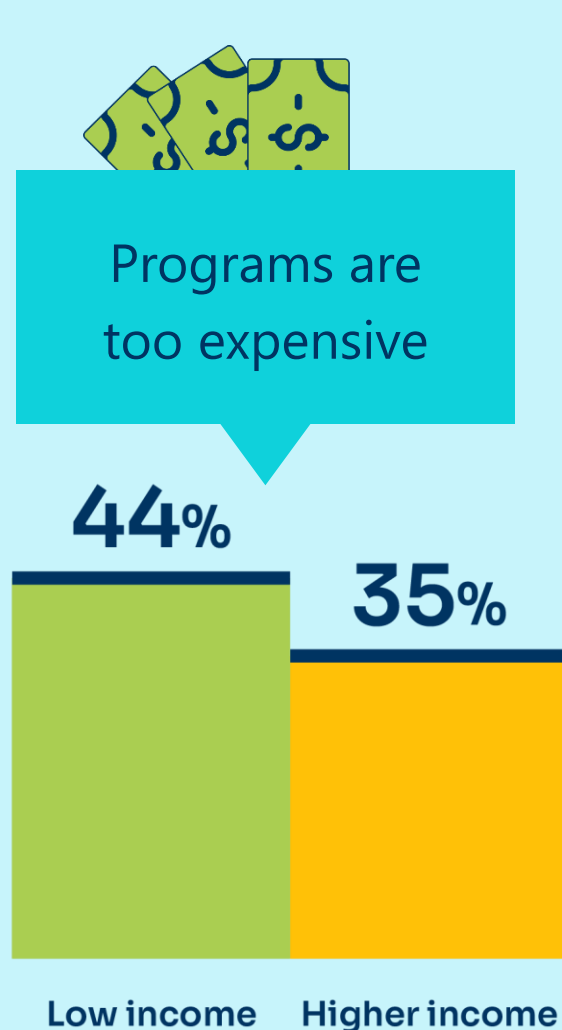
Young People in Low-Income Families More Likely to Miss Out

Families in the highest income bracket **spend 5x more** on out-of-school time activities than families in the lowest income bracket.



Higher-income families are almost **3x more likely** to have a child in a summer program than low-income families.

Cost Tops Barriers to Participating

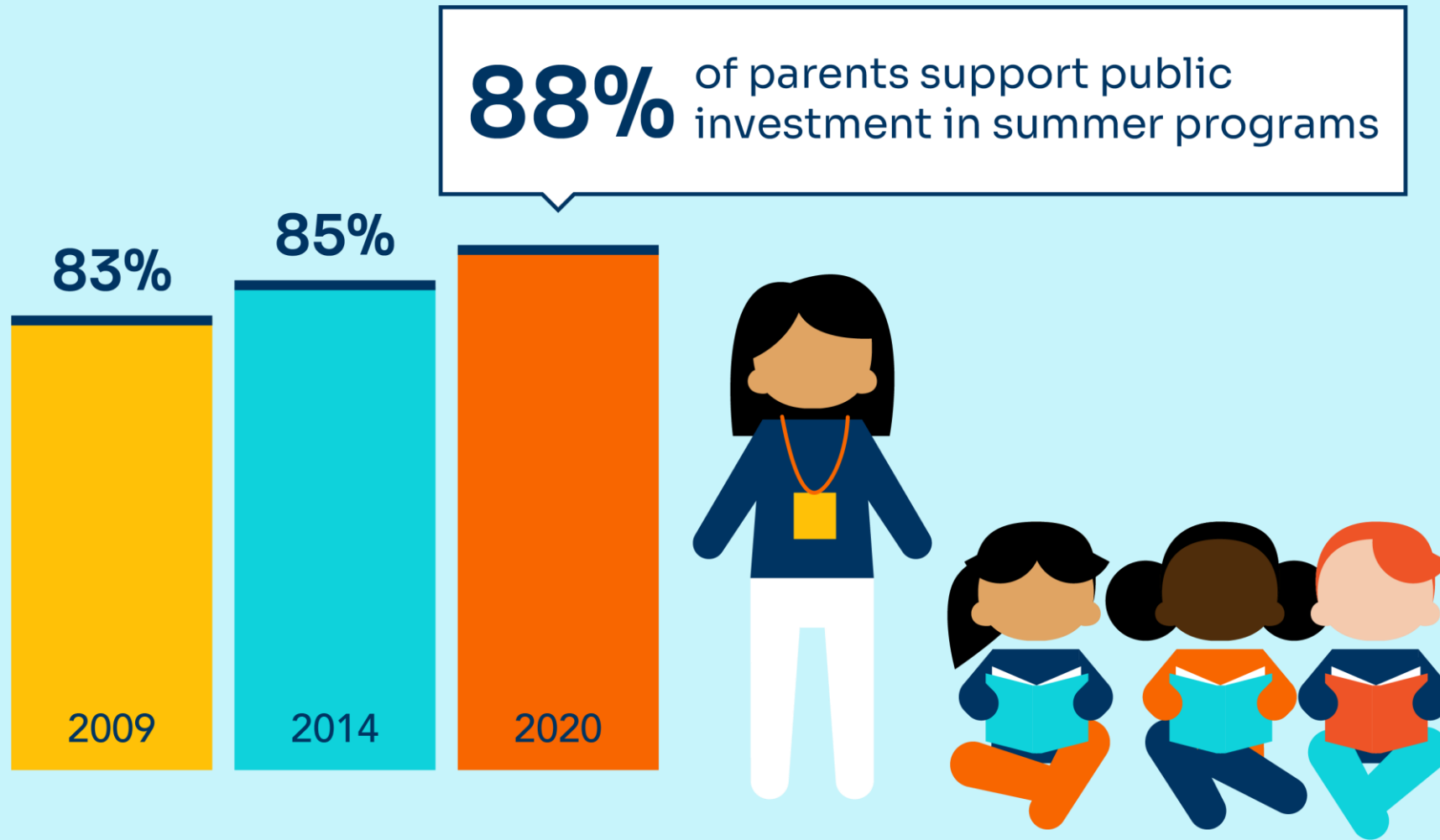


5.



More parents than ever
support public funding for
summer learning programs.

Nearly 9 in 10 Parents Support Investment in Summer Learning Programs

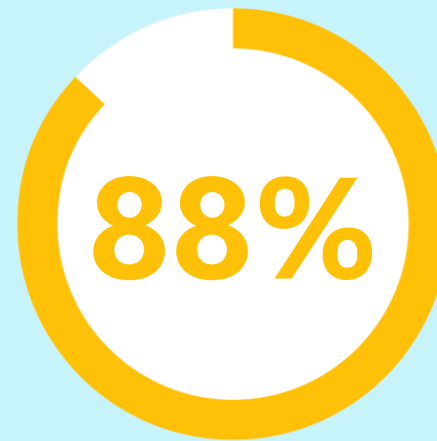


Nearly 9 in 10 Parents Support Investment in Summer Learning Programs

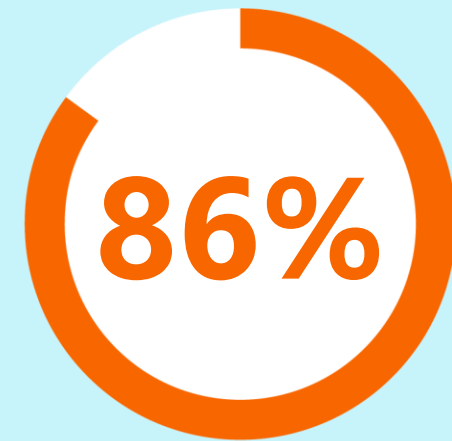
Strong, bipartisan support:



 Democrats



 Independents



 Republicans

What's Happening in Summer 2021?

But providers are worried about...

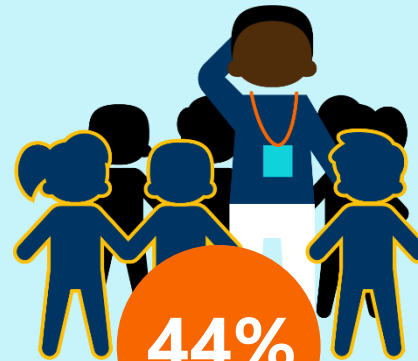
79%

of summer programs plan to offer in-person and/or virtual activities



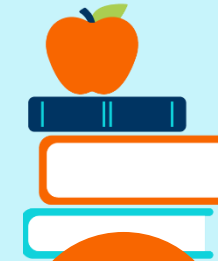
52%

Reduced enrollment due to COVID-19



44%

Hiring enough staff



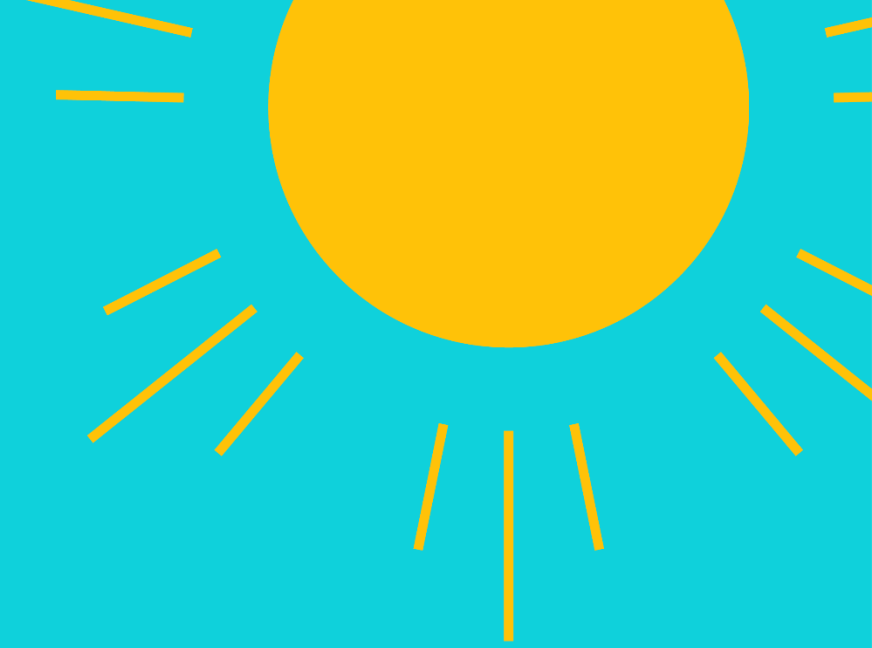
42%

Addressing learning loss



36%

Having the resources to meet families' needs



LEARN MORE:

www.afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM

