2020 Topline Questionnaire

America After 3PM is a national survey of parents or guardians of school–age children who live in their household.

January 27 – March 17, 2020   Total respondents, N= 31,055   Children screened, N= 59,983

Screening Questions and Answers

Below are different options a parent or guardian might use to care for children when the school day ends. During a typical week during the current (2019–2020) school year, please indicate how many of your children are regularly cared for afterschool (approximately 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.) by the following.

Select all that apply.

	CHILD LEVEL	HOUSEHOLD LEVEL
Parent or guardian	59%	67%
Sibling (brother/sister)	9%	12%
Another adult relative (such as a grandparent, aunt or uncle)	12%	15%
Another adult (not a relative, such as a neighbor or paid sitter)	3%	5%
Childcare facility or family childcare center	7%	10%
Looking after him/herself (self-care)	13%	19%
Afterschool program (defined as a program that a child regularly attends that provides a supervised, enriching environment in the hours after the school day ends (typically around 3 p.m.). These programs are usually **offered in schools or community centers and are different from individual activities** such as sports, special lessons, or hobby clubs, and different from childcare facilities that provide supervision but not enrichment.	14%	18%

Child-level sample population base: 59,983   *Household-level sample population base:* 31,055

America After 3PM   Afterschool Alliance

During a typical week of the current school year, how many hours does your child spend in the following types of care? Please respond only for the typical after school hours (approximately 3–6 p.m., maximum of 15 hours per week).

PARENT/GUARDIAN:

Up to 5 hours per week	**39%**
6 – 10 hours per week	**20%**
11 – 14 hours per week	**13%**
15 hours per week	**28%**

Mean: 8.4 hours per week
Median: 10 per week
Sample population base: 19,518

IN THE CARE OF A SIBLING UNDER THE AGE OF 13:

Up to 5 hours per week	**93%**
6 – 10 hours per week	**6%**
11 – 14 hours per week	**1%**
15 hours per week	**1%**

Mean: 2.4 hours per week
Median: 2 hours per week
Sample population base: 1,026

LOOKING AFTER HIMSELF/HERSELF:

Up to 5 hours per week	**65%**
6 – 10 hours per week	**23%**
11 – 14 hours per week	**3%**
15 hours per week	**8%**

Mean: 5.4 hours per week
Median: 5 hours per week
Sample population base: 4,799

IN AN AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM:

Up to 5 hours per week	**61%**
6 – 10 hours per week	**28%**
11 – 14 hours per week	**5%**
15 hours per week	**6%**

Mean: 5.6 hours per week

Median: 5 hours per week

Sample population base: 3,580

ACTIVITIES SUCH AS SPORTS, SPECIAL LESSONS, OR CLUBS THAT HAVE A SPECIFIC FOCUS:

Up to 5 hours per week	**79%**
6 – 10 hours per week	**17%**
11 – 14 hours per week	**1%**
15 hours per week	**2%**

Mean: 3.9 hours per week

Median: 3 hours per week

Sample population base: 14,387

There are a wide range of other organized activities that children might participate in after school. During a typical week in the current school year, how many of your children participate in the following after school (approximately 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.).

Select all that apply.

Organized team sports	**45%**
Special lessons like art, music or dance lessons	**32%**
Clubs that meet occasionally and have a specific focus on a subject, skill or hobby, such as computer coding, leadership, chess, etc.	**19%**
Study group or tutoring	**17%**
Religious activities	**14%**
Work obligations	**10%**
Volunteering	**9%**
Scouting	**8%**
Other	**5%**
None of these	**24%**
Participating in one or more of these activities	**74%**

Sample base population: 31,055

Afterschool Participant Questions and Answers

Please indicate which of the following specific afterschool programs your child participates in during the current school year.

Select all that apply.

Afterschool program run by public school	**50%**
Boys & Girls Club afterschool program	**14%**
Afterschool program run by private school	**14%**
Afterschool program run by city or town (including Parks and Recreation Department)	**13%**
YMCA afterschool program	**10%**
Afterschool program run by religious organization	**8%**
Afterschool program run by a child care center	**8%**
Afterschool program run by library	**7%**
Afterschool program run by museum or science center	**5%**
YWCA afterschool program	**4%**
4-H afterschool program	**4%**
Other	**7%**

Sample population base: 3,113

During the current school year, is your child's afterschool program physically located in a public-school building?

Yes	**76%**
No	**24%**
Don't know	**0%**

Sample population base: 3,113

Typically, how many days per week does your child attend any afterschool program in the current school year?

1	**6%**
2	**14%**
3	**22%**
4	**16%**
5	**40%**
Don't know	**1%**

Average days per week: 3.7
Sample population base: 3,113

On average, excluding any government assistance you might receive, how much money does your family spend on afterschool programs for your child in a typical week during the current school year? An estimate is fine.

Up to $20 per week	**36%**
$21 - $50 per week	**25%**
$51 - $100 per week	**21%**
More than $100 per week	**18%**

Average per week (excluding $0): $99.40
Sample population base: 3,029

Do you receive any governmental assistance with the cost of afterschool programs for your child (such as reduced cost or child care voucher)?

Yes	**15%**
No	**84%**
Don't know	**1%**

Sample population base: 3,113

If "Yes," what is the dollar amount of the governmental assistance for afterschool care that you receive per week for your child? An estimate would be fine.

Up to $25 per week	**32%**
$26 - $49 per week	**7%**
$50 - $99 per week	**24%**
$100 - $199 per week	**21%**
$200 or more per week	**16%**

Average per week (excluding $0): $97.40
Sample population base: 343

Does the afterschool program your child attends offer:

Select all that apply.

	YES RESPONSES
Homework or academic help	**73%**
STEM (science, math, technology and engineering, and computer science activities combined)	**73%**
Snacks/meals including healthy options	**70%**
Reading or writing time	**69%**
Math activities (such as puzzles, or working with geometric shapes, but excluding math homework help)	**62%**
Music or arts	**58%**
Science learning opportunities	**49%**
Parent/family activities	**43%**
Computer science activities (such as coding or video game development)	**41%**
College or career exploration (shown only if child is in grades 6-12)	**40%**
Technology and engineering activities (such as robots, designing bridges or solving environmental problems)	**39%**
Before-school programs	**37%**
Service learning or community service	**36%**

Programming to reduce risky behaviors, including substance use, teen pregnancy, and violence (shown only if child is in grades 6-12)	**34%**
Transportation	**33%**
Cultural programming	**32%**
Entrepreneurship	**18%**

Sample population base: 3,113

Base of respondents whose child is in grade 6-12: 1,293

Does the afterschool program your child attends provide opportunities to do the following?	
	YES RESPONSES
Build social and emotional skills and competencies (interacting with peers and building social skills, building confidence, learning responsible decision-making, and building life skills combined)	**96%**
Interact with peers and build social skills	**90%**
Physical activity	**85%**
Build confidence	**82%**
Learn responsible decision-making	**73%**
Experience the outdoors	**68%**
Build life skills	**68%**

Sample population base: 3,113

About how often does your child participate in a science, technology, engineering, math, or computer science activity as part of their afterschool program? (Shown only if "Yes" was selected for at least one of the science, technology and engineering, math, or computer science choices in previous question)

Daily	**17%**
2 - 3 times a week	**42%**
Once a week	**23%**
Once a month	**4%**
Less than once a month	**4%**
Not sure	**10%**

Sample population base: 2,256

How important were each of the following reasons in selecting your child's primary afterschool program?

	EXTREMELY/ SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT TOP 2 BOX (5 point scale)
Safety of environment	**93%**
Knowledgeable and caring staff	**93%**
Convenient hours	**91%**
Convenient location	**89%**
Opportunities to build life skills, like interacting with peers, developing social skills, and responsible decision-making	**88%**
Physical activity opportunities	**84%**
Variety of activities	**83%**
Exciting my child about learning	**83%**
Homework or academic help	**80%**
Opportunities for reading or writing	**78%**
Program costs	**76%**
Learning activities not provided during the school day	**72%**

Science, technology, engineering, math, or computer science learning opportunities	**72%**
Sharing my family's values	**72%**
Opportunities to experience the outdoors	**71%**
Snacks/meals including healthy options	**71%**
College or career exploration (shown only if child is in grades 6-12)	**67%**
Programming to reduce risky behaviors, including substance use, teen pregnancy, and violence prevention programs (shown only if child is in grades 6-12)	**66%**
Music or arts	**63%**
Transportation is provided	**46%**

Sample population base: 3,080

Base of respondents whose child is in grade 6-12: 1,286

Overall, how satisfied are you with your child's experience in their primary afterschool program?	
SATISFIED OVERALL	**94%**
Extremely satisfied	**60%**
Somewhat satisfied	**34%**
NEUTRAL	**4%**
DISSATISFIED OVERALL	**2%**
Somewhat dissatisfied	**1%**
Extremely dissatisfied	**0%**
DON'T KNOW	**0%**

Sample population base: 3,113

How satisfied are you with each of the following aspects of your child's primary afterschool program?

	EXTREMELY/ SOMEWHAT SATISFIED TOP 2 BOX (5 point scale)
Safety of environment	**92%**
The hours meet my needs	**91%**
Knowledgeable and caring staff	**89%**
Opportunities to build life skills, like interacting with peers, developing social skills, and responsible decision-making	**84%**
Physical activity opportunities	**83%**
Program convenience, such as location or transportation is provided	**83%**
Program costs	**80%**
Opportunities for reading or writing	**77%**
Homework or academic help	**76%**
Snacks/meals including healthy options	**73%**
Opportunities to experience the outdoors	**72%**
Science, technology, engineering, math, or computer science learning opportunities	**67%**
College or career exploration or readiness (shown only if child is in grades 6-12)	**63%**
Music or arts	**63%**
Programming to reduce risky behaviors, including substance use, teen pregnancy, and violence (shown only if child is in grades 6-12)	**61%**
Addresses the special needs of my child	**57%**

Sample population base: 3,080

Base of respondents whose child is in grade 6-12: 1,286

Below are a set of statements we hear from families about their afterschool programs. How much do you agree or disagree with each? The program allows me to …

	COMPLETELY/ SOMEWHAT AGREE TOP 2 BOX (5 point scale)
Keep my job or work more hours	**78%**
Build skills through classes and/or workshops	**71%**
Connect with community resources (e.g., dental clinics, financial planning, mental health services)	**57%**

Sample population base: 3,113

Based on what you know or have heard, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements regarding afterschool programs and the hours afterschool? (Participants only)

	COMPLETELY/ SOMEWHAT AGREE TOP 2 BOX (5 point scale)
All young people deserve access to quality afterschool and summer programs	**93%**
Afterschool programs provide working parents peace of mind knowing that their children are safe and supervised	**92%**
Afterschool programs in my area keep kids safe and out of trouble	**90%**
Afterschool programs help working parents keep their jobs	**89%**
Afterschool programs allow kids to build positive relationships with caring adults and mentors	**89%**
Afterschool programs help parents build connections to their child's school day education	**78%**
Information on afterschool programs is readily available in my community	**77%**
It is difficult to afford afterschool programs	**51%**
It is difficult to find an appropriate afterschool program for my child	**44%**

Sample population base: 3,087

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that children can benefit from afterschool programs in the following ways? (Participants only)

	COMPLETELY/ SOMEWHAT AGREE TOP 2 BOX (5 point scale)
Provide opportunities to engage with their peers and reduce unproductive screen time	92%
Have opportunities to be physically active	90%
Have opportunities to learn life skills, like the ability to communicate and work in teams	90%
Have opportunities to build confidence	90%
Have opportunities to learn responsible decision-making	89%
Become more excited about learning and interested in school, helping them improve their attendance in and attitude toward school	85%
Reduced likelihood that youth will use drugs or engage in other risky behaviors	84%
Gain interest and skills related to science, technology, engineering, math, or computer science	82%
Receive healthy beverages, snacks or meals	79%

Sample population base: 3,085

Do you favor or oppose public funding for programs that provide afterschool opportunities to students in communities that have few opportunities for children and youth? (Participants only)

FAVOR OVERALL	92%
Strongly favor	69%
Somewhat favor	24%
OPPOSE OVERALL	5%
Somewhat oppose	3%
Strongly oppose	2%
DON'T KNOW	3%

Sample population base: 3,113

Nonparticipant questions and answers

An "Afterschool Program" is a program that a child regularly attends that provides a supervised, enriching environment in the hours after the school day ends, typically around 3 p.m. These programs are usually offered in schools or community centers and are different from individual activities such as sports, special lessons, or hobby clubs, and different from childcare facilities that provide supervision but not enrichment. If an afterschool program as described above were available in your community, please indicate how likely you would be to have any of your children participate in such a program.

	CHILD LEVEL	HOUSEHOLD LEVEL
LIKELY OVERALL	**50%**	**59%**

Child-level sample population base: 51,818
Household-level sample population base: 11,278

Many factors may influence your decision not to enroll your child/children in afterschool programs. How important is each of the following in your decision not to attend?

	EXTREMELY/SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT TOP 2 BOX (5 point scale)
I prefer that my child/children remain with me or another adult during the afterschool hours	**59%**
The afterschool programs are too expensive	**57%**
My child/children do not have a safe way to get to and come home from afterschool programs	**53%**
My child/children are old enough to care for themselves	**53%**
Concern that afterschool programs would expose my child/children to negative influences, experiences, and values, such as bullying and peer pressure	**50%**
The afterschool programs' locations are not convenient	**49%**
The afterschool programs' hours of operation do not meet my needs	**46%**
Afterschool programs are not available in my community	**42%**
Afterschool programs do not address the special needs of my child/children	**38%**
There are no spaces available in the afterschool program that I would prefer	**35%**

My child/children has other commitments, such as caring for younger siblings or working	31%

Sample population base: 11,211

Based on what you know or have heard, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements regarding afterschool programs and the hours afterschool? (Non-participants only)

	COMPLETELY/ SOMEWHAT AGREE TOP 2 BOX (5 point scale)
All young people deserve access to quality afterschool and summer programs	82%
Afterschool programs provide working parents peace of mind knowing that their children are safe and supervised	80%
Afterschool programs help working parents keep their jobs	79%
Afterschool programs allow kids to build positive relationships with caring adults and mentors	74%
Afterschool programs in my area keep kids safe and out of trouble	70%
Afterschool programs help parents build connections to their child's school day education	60%
It is difficult to afford afterschool programs	60%
Information on afterschool programs is readily available in my community	56%
It is difficult to find an appropriate afterschool program for my child	48%

Sample population base: 11,221

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that children can benefit from afterschool programs in the following ways? (Non-participants only)

	COMPLETELY/ SOMEWHAT AGREE TOP 2 BOX (5 point scale)
Provide opportunities to engage with their peers and reduce unproductive screen time	83%
Have opportunities to be physically active	83%
Have opportunities to learn life skills, like the ability to communicate and work in teams	79%
Have opportunities to build confidence	78%
Have opportunities to learn responsible decision-making	76%
Gain interest and skills related to science, technology, engineering, math, or computer science	75%
Reduced likelihood that youth will use drugs or engage in other risky behaviors	72%
Become more excited about learning and interested in school, helping them improve their attendance in and attitude toward school	71%
Receive healthy beverages, snacks or meals	65%

Sample population base: 11,219

Do you favor or oppose public funding for programs that provide afterschool opportunities to students in communities that have few opportunities for children and youth? (Non-participants only)

FAVOR OVERALL	86%
Strongly favor	54%
Somewhat favor	32%
OPPOSE OVERALL	8%
Somewhat oppose	6%
Strongly oppose	2%
DON'T KNOW	6%

Sample population base: 11,280

Questions for all

How much money does your family spend on other activities—such as sports, hobbies or clubs—during the school year for your child? Your best estimate is fine. Please do not include the cost of any afterschool care programs your child(ren) might participate in when answering this question.

$0/year	**5%**
$1-$500/year	**38%**
$501-$1,000 /year	**21%**
$1,001-$2,000 /year	**13%**
$2,001-$3,000/year	**7%**
$3,001-$5,000/year	**6%**
$5,001-$7,000/year	**3%**
$7,001-$10,000/year	**2%**
More than $10,000/year	**2%**
Not sure	**2%**

Average (excluding $0): $1,499.30
Sample population base: 10,136

Based on what you know or have heard, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements regarding afterschool programs and the hours afterschool?

	COMPLETELY/ SOMEWHAT AGREE TOP 2 BOX (5 point scale)
All young people deserve access to quality afterschool and summer programs	**84%**
Afterschool programs provide working parents peace of mind knowing that their children are safe and supervised	**83%**
Afterschool programs help working parents keep their jobs	**81%**
Afterschool programs allow kids to build positive relationships with caring adults and mentors	**77%**

Afterschool programs in my area keep kids safe and out of trouble	**74%**
Afterschool programs help parents build connections to their child's school day education	**64%**
Information on afterschool programs is readily available in my community	**60%**
It is difficult to afford afterschool programs	**58%**
It is difficult to find an appropriate afterschool program for my child	**47%**

Sample population base: 14,296

In general, to what extent do you agree or disagree that children can benefit from afterschool programs in the following ways?

	COMPLETELY/ SOMEWHAT AGREE TOP 2 BOX (5 point scale)
Provide opportunities to engage with their peers and reduce unproductive screen time	**85%**
Have opportunities to be physically active	**85%**
Have opportunities to learn life skills, like the ability to communicate and work in teams	**82%**
Have opportunities to build confidence	**81%**
Have opportunities to learn responsible decision-making	**79%**
Gain interest and skills related to science, technology, engineering, math, or computer science	**76%**
Reduced likelihood that youth will use drugs or engage in other risky behaviors	**75%**
Become more excited about learning and interested in school, helping them improve their attendance in and attitude toward school	**74%**
Receive healthy beverages, snacks or meals	**68%**

Sample population base: 14,297

Do you favor or oppose public funding for programs that provide afterschool opportunities to students in communities that have few opportunities for children and youth?

FAVOR OVERALL	**87%**
Strongly favor	**57%**
Somewhat favor	**30%**
OPPOSE OVERALL	**7%**
Somewhat oppose	**5%**
Strongly oppose	**2%**
DON'T KNOW	**6%**

Sample population base: 14,393

About the survey

America After 3PM

Afterschool Alliance