Afterschool in America
Access to Enrichment Isn't Equal

Children who participate in afterschool programs do better in school, are more engaged in learning, and build critical life and work skills. But barriers to participating in afterschool programs have grown, and disproportionately affect youth in low-income families, especially low-income families of color.

Enrolled Waiting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Enrolled</th>
<th>Waiting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>6.5M</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>8.4M</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>10.2M</td>
<td>-2.4M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>7.8M</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Unmet demand for afterschool programs is high. For every child in a program, three are waiting to get in.

For the first time in more than a decade, the number of kids in afterschool programs decreased by 1.9M from 2014 to 2020. The number of children from low-income households participating in afterschool fell by nearly 2 million children. The number of children from higher income households decreased by a fraction of that amount.

Higher income families are spending more on out-of-school time activities. Families in the highest income bracket spend more than five times as much on out-of-school time activities annually compared to families in the lowest income bracket.

Parents in the highest income bracket (89%) report that their child participates in at least one out-of-school time experience, compared to 6 in 10 parents in the lowest income bracket.

Barriers to participation have increased since 2014, with cost, transportation, and access topping the list of roadblocks. Cost is the number one barrier to afterschool participation reported by low-income families.

Across the board, barriers are higher for low-income families compared to higher income families.

Kids in afterschool enjoy a wide range of benefits:
- 90% Interacting with peers and building social skills
- 73% Engaging in STEM learning
- 85% Taking part in physical activities

Parents with kids in afterschool benefit too:
- 89% Helps working parents keep their job
- 92% Gives working parents peace of mind
- 92% Keeps their kids safe

Parents are satisfied with programs and want greater investments. Afterschool is a smart investment in our children's future. Too many kids are missing out. Help us change that.

Learn more at: http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM/

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