

Afterschool Alliance Voter Poll

Data are based on an online survey conducted by Lake Research Partners and New Bridge Strategy between December 4-11, 2024. The survey reached a total of 1,000 registered voters, with additional samples of 100 Black registered voters, 100 Latinx registered voters, 100 Asian American and Pacific Islander registered voters, and 100 Indigenous registered voters. The margin of error is +/-3.1%.¹

All Survey Respondents:

Do you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable impression of afterschool programs?

Very or somewhat favorable overall	80%
Very favorable	38%
Somewhat favorable	42%
Somewhat or very unfavorable overall	6%
Somewhat unfavorable	4%
Very unfavorable	1%
No opinion	14%
Never heard	1%

Number of respondents: 1,400

Do you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable impression of summer programs?

Very or somewhat favorable overall	73%
Very favorable	33%
Somewhat favorable	40%
Somewhat or very unfavorable overall	5%
Somewhat unfavorable	4%
Very unfavorable	1%
No opinion	18%
Never heard	3%

Number of respondents: 1,400

¹ Totals within questions may be different due to rounding.



Do you want your newly elected federal, state and local leaders to provide MORE funding for afterschool programs?

Yes overall	84%
Yes - strongly	59%
Yes - not so strongly	25%
No overall	10%
No - not so strongly	6%
No - strongly	4%
Not sure	6%

Number of respondents: 1,400

If yes, do you want your newly elected federal, state, and local leaders to provide MORE funding for after school programs even if it means you would pay more in taxes?

Yes, even if I paid more in taxes	63%
No, not if I paid more in taxes	25%
Not sure	12%

Number of respondents: 1,176

Some policy makers have proposed eliminating federal funding for afterschool and summer programs. Would you prefer your elected leaders to fund afterschool and summer programs at current levels or eliminate funding for afterschool and summer programs?

Fund overall	88%
Fund at current levels - strongly	65%
Fund at current levels - not so strongly	23%
Eliminate overall	5%
Eliminate funding - not so strongly	2%
Eliminate funding - strongly	3%
Not sure	7%

Number of respondents: 698

Now you are going to see a list of goals for afterschool programs. For each one, please indicate how important of a goal you think it should be for afterschool programs on a scale of 0 to 10 where 0 means not at all important and 10 means very important?

	Very important goal (10)	Important overall (6-10)
Helping children gain the skills and confidence to reach their full potential*	58%	94%
Helping young people develop the skills and confidence to be independent and believe they can make a difference*	56%	94%
Keeping children supervised and safe after the school day ends	61%	93%
Teaching children foundational skills, like communication, teamwork, and problem solving	57%	93%
Helping children make smart decisions and avoid risky behaviors after the school day ends	59%	93%
Helping children develop the skills they need to thrive in school, the workplace, and life	58%	93%
Giving middle and high school students the kind of experiences where they can apply their knowledge to practical real-world situations*	51%	93%
Helping children catch up academically*	57%	92%
Helping children catch up academically and socially*	57%	92%
Supporting children's mental wellbeing by developing communication and social skills, providing opportunities to connect with other children and caring adults, and building life skills.	55%	92%
Providing time and space for children to build friendships*	48%	91%
Helping children learn and grow by giving them the chance to try new things and express themselves*	52%	91%
Giving children access to healthy, nutritious snacks and meals	55%	88%
Helping teens take action to solve issues they care about in their community	44%	88%
Providing time and space for children to build strong connections with caring adults*	42%	87%
Reducing the amount of time children spend on phones and other screens	48%	86%

Number of respondents: Split sampled questions either have 698 or 702 responses. Non-split sampled questions were asked of 1,400 respondents. Split sample questions are denoted by an asterisk.

Based on what you know, how important are afterschool and summer programs for each of the following on a scale of 0 to 10 where 10 means very important and 0 means not important at all.

	Very important (10)	Important overall (6-10)
Strengthening the economic well-being of families by allowing parents to work and provide for their families	49%	90%
Strengthening communities	43%	87%
Helping families connect with each other for support and friendship	40%	85%
Helping families connect with community resources*	40%	85%
Helping families connect with community resources, such as dental clinics, food banks, and mental health services*	44%	84%

Number of respondents: Split sampled questions either have 698 or 702 responses. Non-split sampled questions were asked of 1,400 respondents. Split sample questions are denoted by an asterisk.

How important do you think having access to quality, affordable childcare, afterschool programs, and summer programs is for helping parents work and strengthening the economy?

Important overall	92%
Very important (10)	54%
Neutral (5)	3%
Not important overall	4%
Not important (0)	1%
Not sure	1%

Number of respondents: 702

How important do you think having access to quality, affordable afterschool and summer programs is for helping parents work and strengthening the economy?

Important overall	89%
Very important (10)	48%
Neutral (5)	5%
Not important overall	4%
Not important (0)	2%
Not sure	1%

Number of respondents: 698

Thinking about children and the hours after school, would you say that afterschool programs are an absolute necessity for your community?

Yes overall	87%
Yes - strongly	60%
Yes - not so strongly	27%
No overall	8%
No - not so strongly	6%
No - strongly	2%
Not sure	5%

Number of respondents: 702

Thinking about children and the hours after school, would you say that afterschool and summer programs are an absolute necessity for your community?

Yes overall	86%
Yes - strongly	61%
Yes - not so strongly	26%
No overall	10%
No - not so strongly	7%
No - strongly	2%
Not sure	4%

Number of respondents: 698

Please indicate if you agree or disagree with each of the following statements on a scale of 0 to 10 where 0 means you strongly disagree and 10 means you strongly agree.

	Strongly agree (10)	Agree overall (6-10)
Afterschool programs provide parents peace of mind knowing that their children are safe and supervised*	52%	91%
Afterschool programs help young people catch up academically and socially*	47%	90%
Afterschool programs help young people gain foundational skills, like teamwork and communication*	46%	89%
Afterschool programs help young people catch up academically*	45%	89%
Afterschool programs keep young people safe from crime and violence and help prevent risky behaviors such as drug use and exposure to negative influences in-person and online*	46%	89%
Afterschool programs provide time and space for children to build strong friendships with other children and connect with caring adults.	46%	89%
Afterschool programs help children develop communication and social skills*	47%	89%
Afterschool programs help young people gain life skills, like teamwork and communication*	45%	88%
Afterschool programs support young people's social and emotional wellbeing because they develop confidence by trying new things, connect with others, and work together on activities*	43%	88%
Afterschool programs are a place where young people can develop independence, believe in themselves, and gain skills to solve problems they see around them*	46%	88%
High school students would benefit from afterschool programs that help them apply their learnings to solve real world problems*	44%	88%
Afterschool programs help children develop communication and social skills replacing screen time with in-person interaction*	48%	87%
Afterschool programs support children's mental wellbeing because kids form positive relationships with other children and caring adults, and build life skills*	50%	87%
Afterschool programs help children develop the skills they need to thrive in school, the workplace, and life	45%	87%
Afterschool programs help children gain the skills and confidence to reach their full potential*	47%	87%
Afterschool programs help children gain the skills and confidence to find their purpose and voice*	41%	87%

Afterschool programs help children make smart decisions and avoid risky behaviors such as drug use and exposure to negative influences in-person and online*	46%	86%
Afterschool programs help provide children access to healthy, nutritious snacks and meals	44%	83%

Number of respondents: Split sampled questions either have 698 or 702 responses. Split sample questions are denoted by an asterisk.