

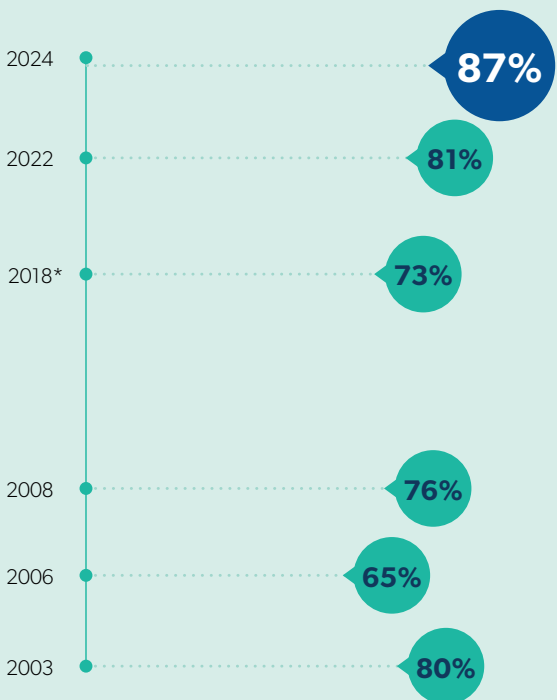
VOTERS SAY

FEBRUARY 2025

# Afterschool Programs are a Necessity

A new national poll of registered voters finds that public support for afterschool programs is at an all-time high. Whether Democratic, Independent, or Republican; rural, urban, or suburban; younger or older; voters agree that programs are an absolute necessity. Why? Programs help parents work, strengthen the economy, and keep kids safe, connected, and engaged in learning. More than ever before, voters want their newly elected leaders to increase funding for afterschool programs<sup>1</sup>

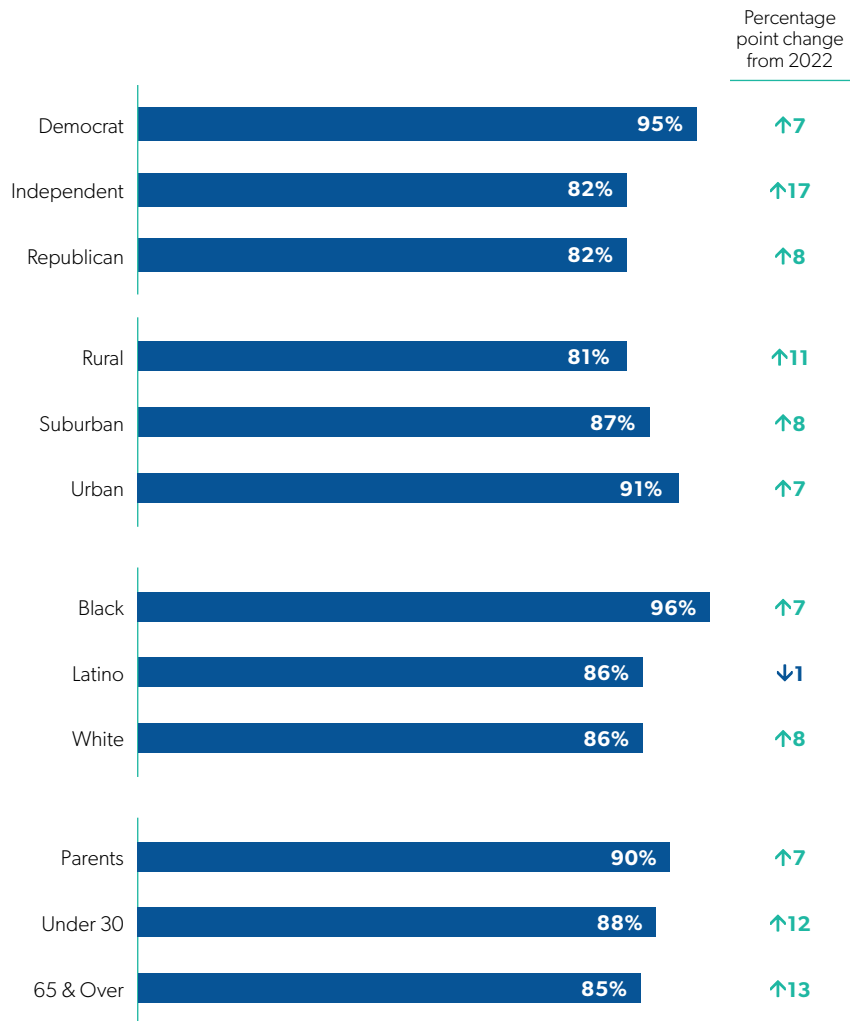
Nearly **9 IN 10 VOTERS** agree that afterschool programs are an absolute necessity for communities, an all-time high for support.



\*2018 is of likely voters

## AGREEMENT SPANS ALL DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS

An overwhelming majority of voters in every demographic group agree that afterschool programs are an absolute necessity. Support grew among most groups, with rural, older, younger, and Independent voters increasing support by more than 10 percentage points since 2022.



<sup>1</sup>The online survey was designed and administered by Lake Research Partners and New Bridge Strategy. The survey was conducted between December 4-11, 2024, reaching 1,400 registered voters, including oversamples of Black, Latino, Asian American and Pacific Islander, and Indigenous registered voters. The margin of error is +/- 3.1%.

# Voters agree that afterschool programs keep kids safe and help them grow, while supporting a thriving economy.



## AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS PROTECT YOUNG PEOPLE.

Voters agree that afterschool programs:



Provide parents peace of mind that their children are safe and supervised



Prevent risky behaviors and exposure to negative influences in-person and online



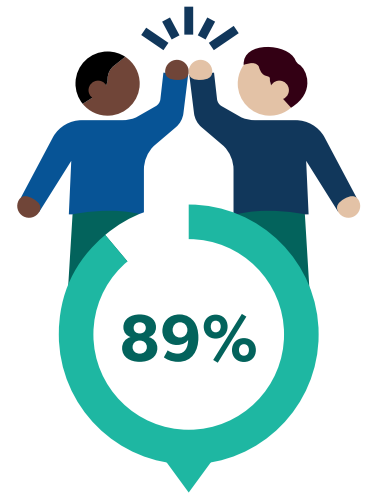
Help children develop communication and social skills, replacing screen time with in-person interaction

## AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS SUPPORT ACADEMIC AND SOCIAL GROWTH AND HELP KIDS GAIN CRITICAL SKILLS.

Voters agree that afterschool programs:

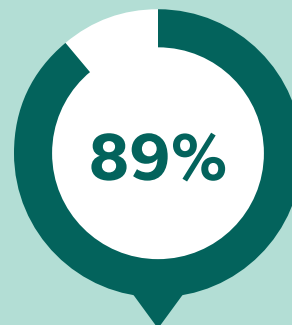


Help children catch up academically and socially



Help young people gain foundational skills like teamwork and communication

## AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS STRENGTHEN THE ECONOMY.

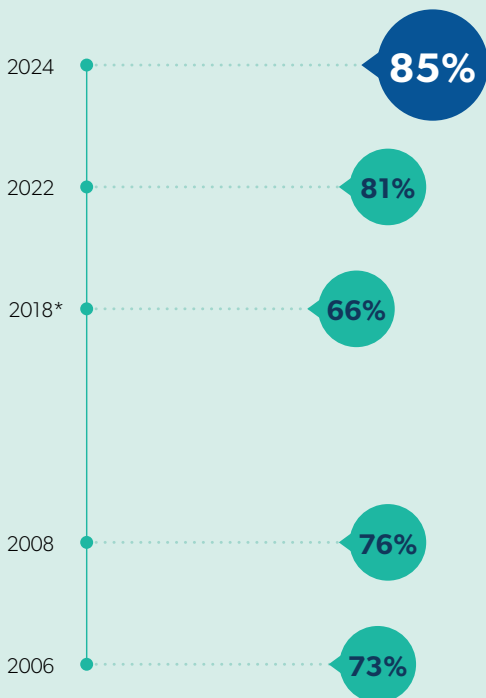


Voters agree that:

Having access to quality, affordable afterschool and summer programs is important to help parents work and to strengthen the economy

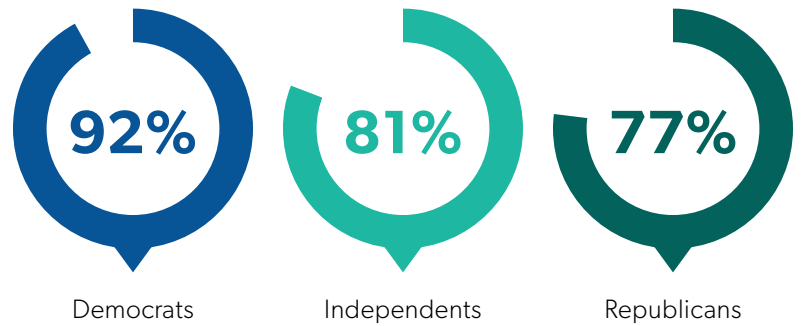


More than **8 IN 10** voters want their newly elected leaders to provide more funding for afterschool.

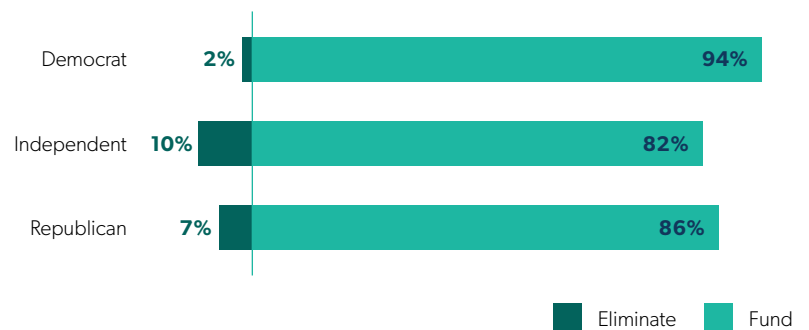


\*2018 asked about afterschool and summer learning programs

**SUPPORT FOR INCREASED FUNDING FOR AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS IS HIGH ACROSS POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS.**



Democrats, Independents, and Republicans overwhelmingly prefer their elected leaders to support federal funding for afterschool and summer programs and oppose eliminating those funds.



In the U.S. today, nearly 25 million children are still waiting for an afterschool program. Learn more at [WWW.AFTERSCHOOLALLIANCE.ORG](http://WWW.AFTERSCHOOLALLIANCE.ORG)



The Afterschool Alliance is working to ensure that all children and youth have access to quality afterschool programs.