



# ALLEGHENY COUNTY AFTER 3PM



America After 3PM surveyed parents in Allegheny County to examine how children spend the hours between 3 and 6 p.m.—the hours after school ends and before parents typically return home from work. It highlights the trends in afterschool program participation, documents the benefits associated with participation in afterschool programs, and measures public support for afterschool programs.

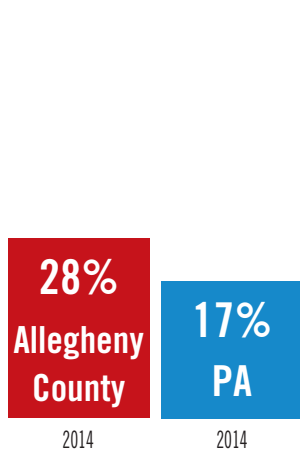
America After 3PM revealed that **52,646 children (28%) in Allegheny County participate** in an afterschool program, yet **94,764 children (70%) would be enrolled** in a program if one were available to them.

With **92% of Allegheny County’s parents satisfied with their child’s afterschool program** and **80% agreeing that afterschool programs give working parents peace of mind**, more work needs to be done to ensure that all children in Allegheny County are able to take part in an afterschool program that keeps them safe, inspires learning and supports working parents.

## OVERALL DEMAND FOR AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

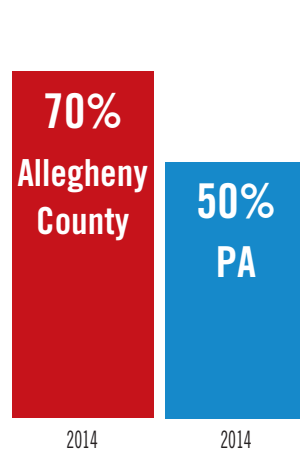
**Afterschool Program Participation**

Allegheny County compared to Pennsylvania



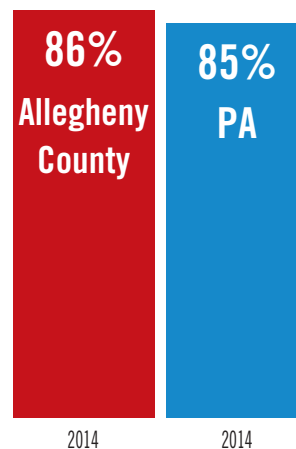
**Demand for Afterschool Programs**

Allegheny County compared to Pennsylvania



**Support for Public Funding**

Allegheny County compared to Pennsylvania



**18%**

of children are unsupervised after school in 2014 for an average of 2.94 hours per week.

On average, children spend **6.91 hours and 3.49 days per week** in an afterschool program.

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## Allegheny County Parents are Satisfied with their Child's Afterschool Program

- 92% are satisfied with their child's afterschool program overall.
- 88% are satisfied with their child's afterschool program's safe environment.
- 73% are satisfied with their child's afterschool program's quality of care.
- Allegheny County parents cited as their top five reasons for selecting an afterschool program: the program is a safe haven (84%), the hours meet their needs (83%), their child enjoys the afterschool program (83%), quality of care (76%) and knowledgeable and well-trained program staff (76%).

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## Afterschool Programs Provide a Wide Range of Benefits to Allegheny County's Children and Families

- 67% of parents agree that afterschool programs can help excite children about learning.
- 66% of parents agree that afterschool programs help children gain workforce skills, such as teamwork, leadership and critical thinking.
- 72% of Allegheny County parents agree that afterschool programs can help reduce the likelihood that youth will engage in risky behaviors, such as commit a crime or use drugs, or become a teen parent.
- The top five activities Allegheny County parents report are offered by their child's afterschool program are opportunities for physical activity (88%), academic programs/clubs (78%), STEM learning opportunities (76%), beverages, snacks and/or meals (75%) and music or art (74%).

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## Allegheny County Parents Support Public Funding for Afterschool Programs

- 86% of Allegheny County parents support public funding for afterschool programs, while just 26% report receiving government assistance with the cost of their child's program.
- 80% of Allegheny County parents agree that afterschool programs help give working parents peace of mind about their children when they are at work.
- 73% of Allegheny County parents agree that afterschool programs help working parents keep their jobs.

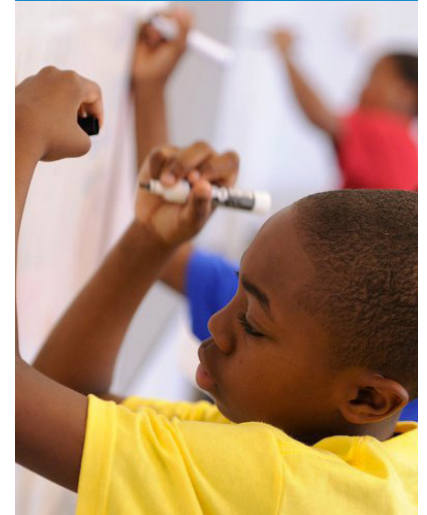
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### ABOUT THE SURVEY

The percentages and projected numbers of children and families in *America After 3PM* are based on survey responses from parents. The Afterschool Alliance contracted with Shugoll Research to collect the data. Nationally, 30,720 households were screened, and 13,709 households completed in-depth interviews via an online survey using a blend of national consumer panels. At least 200 households completed interviews in every state and the District of Columbia, between Feb. 28 and April 17, 2014. In Allegheny County 127 households and 549 children were screened for this study. Child-level statewide projections and total school enrollment numbers are based on data reported to the United Way of Allegheny County Needs Assessment and Action Plan and pulled from the Census Bureau (2010) and Kids Count (2009, 2010). Total school enrollment for Allegheny County is 188,023. For additional information about *America After 3PM*, visit: <http://afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM>.

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## Snapshot of Afterschool Programs in Allegheny County



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**36%** of Allegheny County children in an afterschool program qualify for the Federal Free and Reduced Price Lunch Program.

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In Allegheny County, the top three providers of afterschool programs are afterschool programs run by a public school, Boys & Girls Club afterschool programs and YMCA afterschool programs.

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**72%** of afterschool programs in Allegheny County are located in a public school building.

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On average, Allegheny County families who pay for their child's afterschool program spend \$145 per week.

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After lack of need, the predominant obstacles to enrollment include:

*Lack of a safe way for child to get to and come home from afterschool programs.*

*Preference for alternative activities.*