



Lost Opportunity Afterschool in Demand, But Out of Reach for Many



Alaska
Afterschool
Network
Program of
Alaska Children's Trust



Afterschool
Alliance



EDGE
research

America After 3PM

America After 3PM is the nation's most comprehensive look at how children spend their time during the hours after school. Conducted roughly every five years, the 2025 report is the fifth edition of the survey. Previous reports were issued in 2004, 2009, 2014, and 2020.

America After 3PM serves as a resource for policymakers, educators, parents, and advocates on demand for afterschool programs, barriers to afterschool program participation, which students are missing out, and parents' views on afterschool programs.

America After 3PM 2025 is made possible through our partnership with the New York Life Foundation.

5 Big Takeaways

1

Demand for afterschool programs is enormous

2

Parents recognize benefits for kids—**safety, skills, and school engagement**—plus **peace of mind** for working parents

3

Affordability, accessibility, and availability limit participation, with low- and middle-income families affected most

4

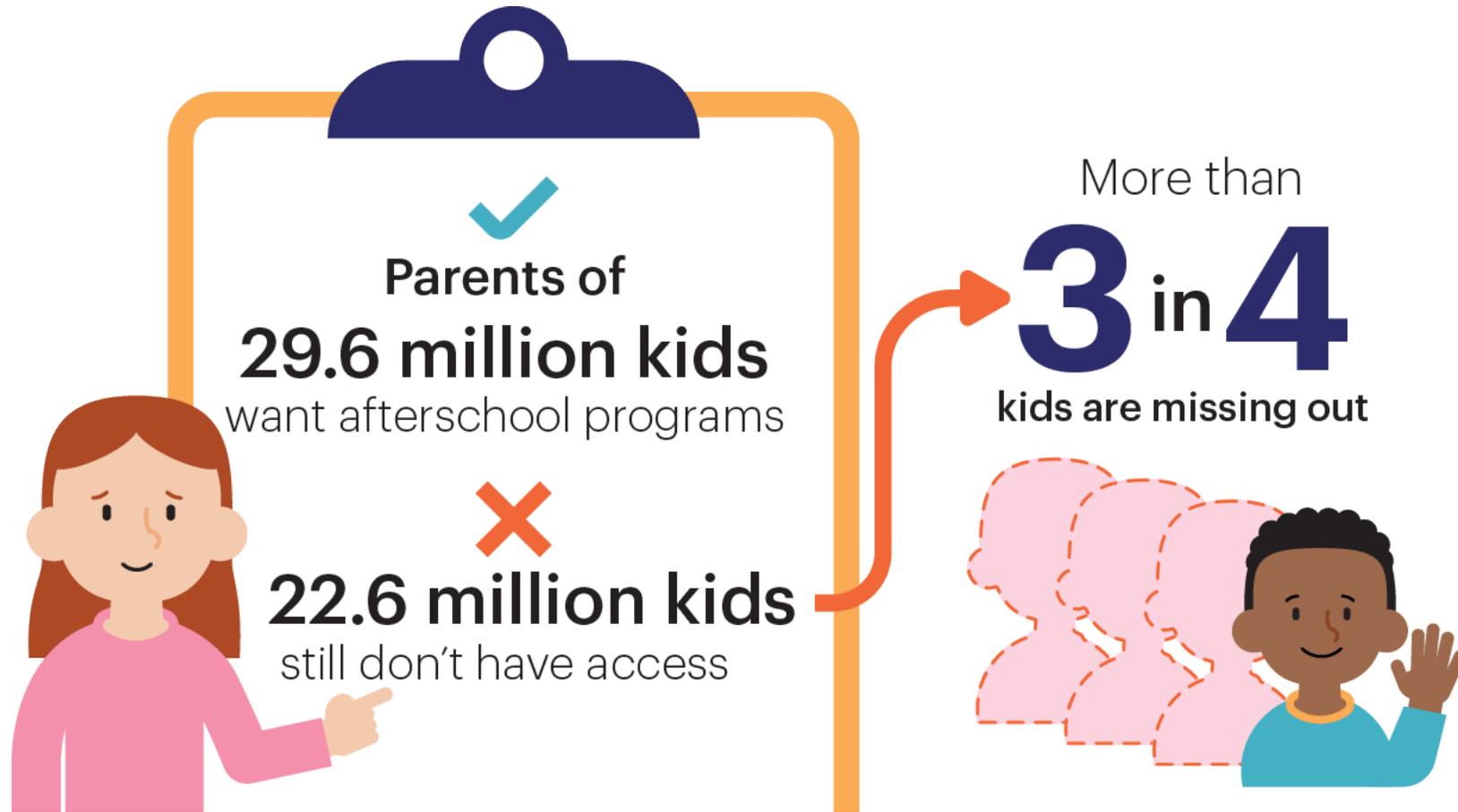
Higher-income households invest **heavily** in out-of-school time activities, spending 9x more than lower income households

5

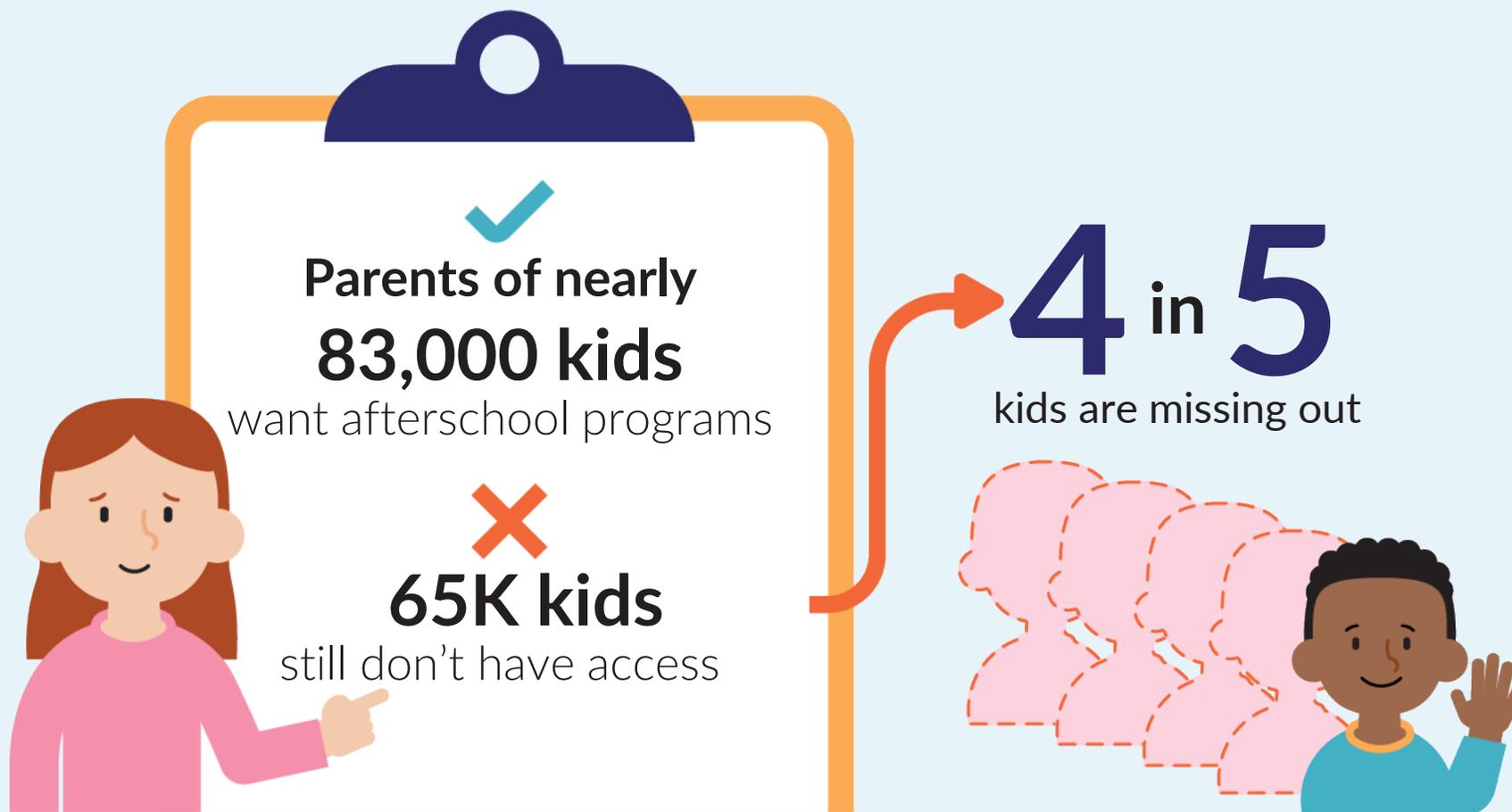
Nationally, **89%** of parents support **public funding** for afterschool, and parent satisfaction with programs has reached **95%**

1 Demand for afterschool programs is enormous

Afterschool: An urgent priority for families



In Alaska, afterschool is also in demand



Low- and middle-income kids are missing out



Unmet demand is at an all time high in Alaska



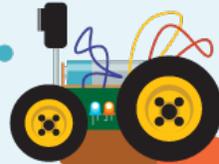
2

Behind the demand: All parents recognize benefits for kids—safety, skills, and school engagement—plus peace of mind for working parents

Afterschool keeps Alaska kids safe and engaged

Parents agree that afterschool programs...

89% Help kids build skills



79% Engage kids in learning and improve school attendance

76% Keep kids safe

86% Reduce screen time



Afterschool helps Alaska parents, too

BENEFITS TO PARENTS:*

80% Helps them keep their job or work more hours

88% Leads to less stress because they know their child is safe

92% Boosts productivity at work

85% Positively impacts overall well-being

**Among parents with a child in an afterschool program*



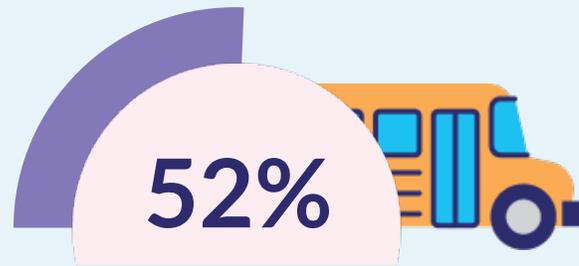
3

Program affordability, accessibility, and availability limit participation, with choice most limited for low- and middle-income families

Accessibility and availability are greater barriers for Alaska families



Affordability



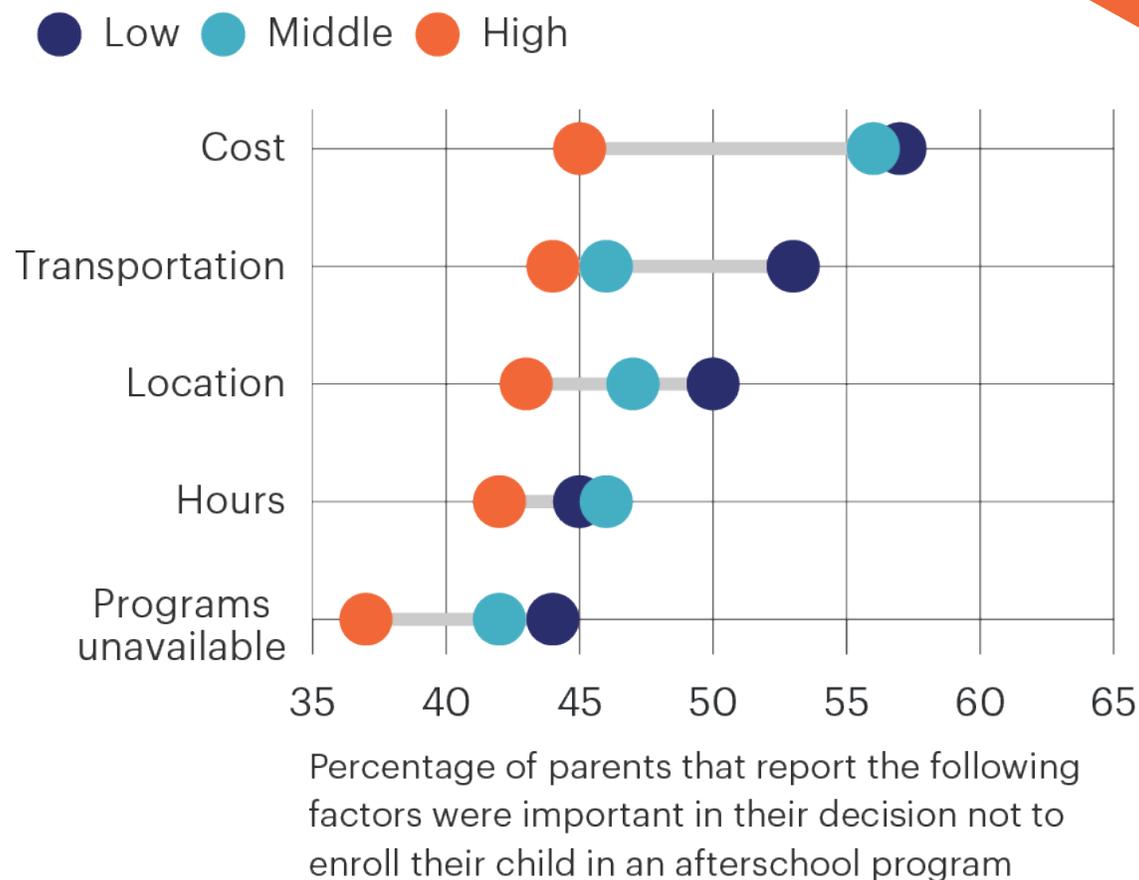
Accessibility



Availability

Low- and middle-income families face the biggest barriers

Families with low incomes and middle-class families are more likely than high-income families to cite challenges such as cost and program availability



4

Higher-income households are investing more heavily in out-of-school time activities, and spending on these activities increased significantly over the past five years

Gap between families grows

Families with high income spend 9x more on out-of-school time activities than families with low income (\$6,588 to \$734)

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After adjusting for inflation:

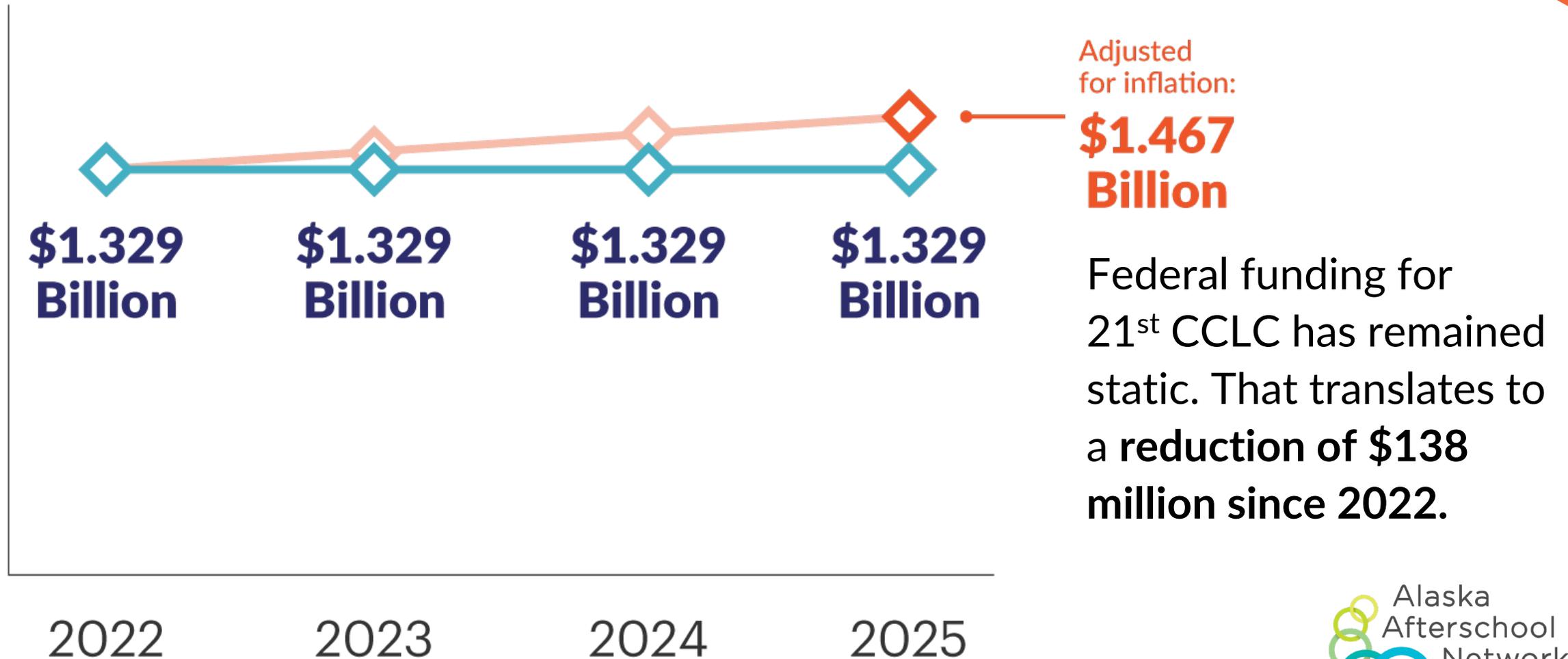
- Spending by families in the highest income bracket grew by more than \$2,000
- Spending by families in the lowest income bracket decreased

Income drives ability to participate

Children in high-income families are more than twice as likely as children in low-income families and 40% more likely than children in middle-income families to participate in an afterschool program



Funding is not keeping up with inflation



Adjusted
for inflation:

**\$1.467
Billion**

Federal funding for 21st CCLC has remained static. That translates to a **reduction of \$138 million** since 2022.

5

Parents with a child in an afterschool program say afterschool programs provide a wide range of benefits

Alaska parents give afterschool programs high marks



Quality Rating



Satisfaction

Parent satisfaction
remains high

2025 – 96%

2020 – 97%

2014 – 91%

2009 – 95%

2004 – 58%

Parents are happy with their programs

Alaska parents reporting satisfaction with the following:

Activities and supports 	
Physical activity	89%
Opportunities for reading or writing	96%
Time to experience the outdoors	80%
Healthy snacks and meals	71%
Homework help	83%

Building foundational skills 	
Develop social skills	85%
Work on communication, teamwork, critical thinking, leadership, and entrepreneurship skills	76%
Learn responsible decision-making	80%
Build confidence	73%

College and career readiness* 	
College or career exploration opportunities	77%
Work-based learning experiences	52%

**Parents of middle and high school students*

Safe environment and staff are most important to rural parents



Support is high across
political affiliations

92%

Support funding
for afterschool
programs



Alaska parents in favor
of funding afterschool
programs is at an all-time
high

Policy recommendations and opportunities

◆ Increase funding for afterschool programs

◆ Remove barriers that prevent children from participating

◆ Invest in afterschool program staff

◆ Support the priorities of parents

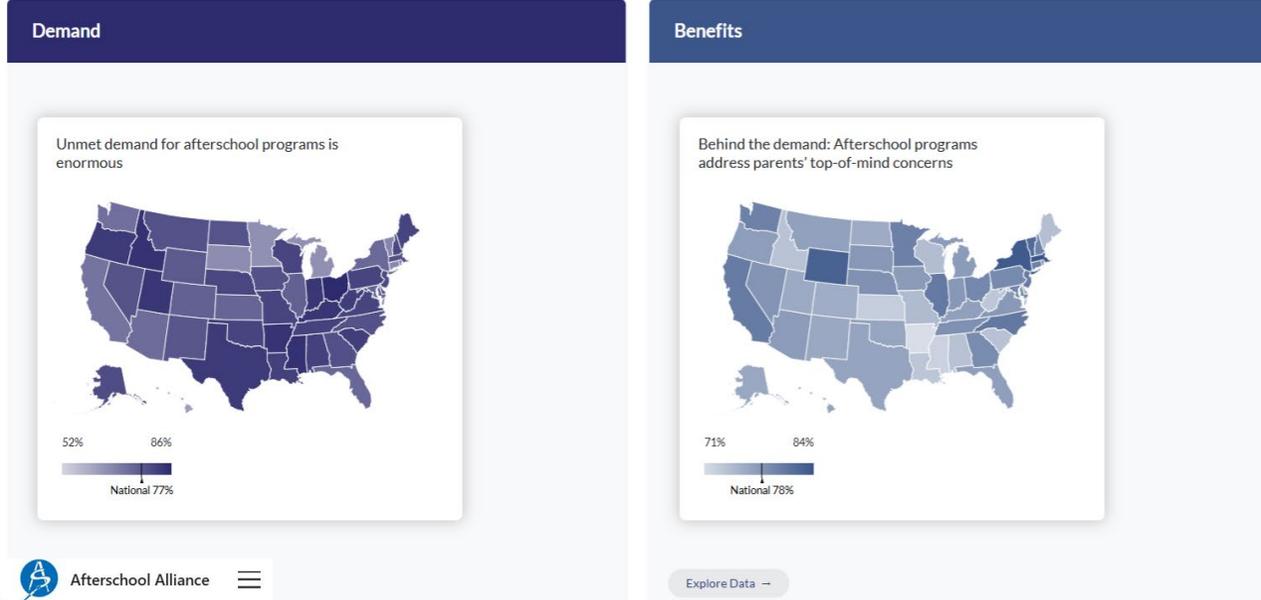
◆ Build the capacity of afterschool programs

Visit aa3pm.co to learn more

Find national and state-level data

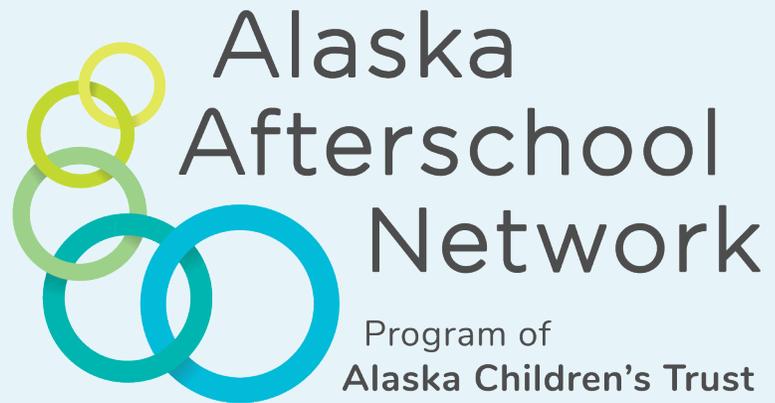
Data Dashboard

The Afterschool Alliance's fifth edition of *America After 3PM* provides new insights about children and families during the hours of 3 to 6 p.m., when schools let out and many parents are working. Data from parents show afterschool programs remain an urgent priority, and millions of families who want to participate are missing out.



- America After 3PM Quick Links**
- National and State Dashboards →
 - Executive Summary →
 - National Fact Sheet →
 - National Press Release →

Visit aa3pm.co to learn more



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