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Here are four ways to support afterschool programs

AFTERSCHOOL IN ALASKA MATTERS

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To support, strengthen, and advocate for quality afterschool programs and activities for children, youth, and families throughout Alaska.

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25,600 children participate in afterschool programs in Alaska.

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80,000 Number of Alaska children between ages six and 17 living in households in which all available parents or guardians are in the workforce.³

24% Percentage of Alaska children who are on their own after school.

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Afterschool programs can contribute to:
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- Decreases in delinquency and violent behavior.
- Reduction in juvenile crime.
- Increased physical activity.
- Increased knowledge of nutrition and health practices.
- Enhanced leadership skills.
- Lower rates of depression and anxiety.

In an analysis of Anchorage high school student behaviors, organized afterschool activities were positively associated with reduced risk behaviors, including reduced odds of smoking, marijuana, and increased odds of receiving As or Bs in school.

71% of Alaska high school students graduate within four years. This graduation rate is the third lowest of any state in the country. Afterschool programs contribute to improved academic performance and higher graduation rates. Participation in one afterschool activity for three days/week during the school year enriches a child's out-of-school experience by the equivalent of approximately 24 additional school days per year.

An estimated 80,000 Alaska children six to 17 years of age live in households in which all available parents or guardians are in the workforce.

Afterschool programs provide help for working parents peace of mind about their children when they are at work.

75% of parents in Alaska agree afterschool programs help working parents keep their jobs.

67% of parents agree afterschool programs help children gain workforce skills, such as teamwork, leadership, and critical thinking.

66% of Alaska parents report their child's afterschool program offers STEM learning opportunities.

78% of Alaska parents agree afterschool programs provide important support for armed service personnel of afterschool programs regularly serve military families, including programs on and off military bases.

45% of full-year afterschool programs operate in the Anchorage School District. States with high afterschool community engagement levels include Alaska, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Utah, and Wyoming.

Over 160 Alaska afterschool programs were included in this point-in-time snapshot of programs that serve approximately 5,000 Alaska youth each year. The programs primarily serve the most at-risk students from high-poverty schools, providing academic enrichment, recreation, cultural activities, and much more. Ten grantees operate 37 sites throughout Alaska.

Garcia, Gabriel for United Way of Anchorage.


Vandell. The Achievement Gap to Real.
### Spotlight on Afterschool in Alaska

**Afterschool programs help fight childhood hunger**

90% of Alaska afterschool programs provide meals or snacks to participants.

**Type of Meals Provided**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-School Meals</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before School</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Among programs offering meals/snacks. Multiple answers allowed.

**Summer programs may add up to 80 additional school days per year.**

Afterschool programs provide important support by increasing school attendance and decreasing juvenile crime.

### Program Availability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Year Programs</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>98% After School</td>
<td>59% Community Space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46% Non-School Days</td>
<td>25% Community Space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32% Before School</td>
<td>15% Other</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Numbers may not sum due to rounding.

### Physical Setting of Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Setting</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Space</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Numbers may not sum due to rounding.

### Time of Year Programs Operate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time of Year Programs</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full Year</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Year Only</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Only</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Type of Program/Activity Offered

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program/Activity</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social/Emotional Learning</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports &amp; Recreation</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health &amp; Wellness</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Enrichment</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family or Parent Activities</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual Performing Arts</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework or Tutoring</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Enrichment</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic Engagement or Community Service</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mentoring</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Enrichment &amp; Understanding</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Literacy</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Drop-In Center</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Many programs serve multiple grade levels.

### Average Student Enrollment in Afterschool Programs

- **Kinder programs**: 64%
- **1st Grade**: 96%
- **2nd Grade**: 95%
- **3rd Grade**: 86%
- **4th Grade**: 88%
- **5th Grade**: 87%
- **6th Grade**: 75%
- **7th Grade**: 42%
- **8th Grade**: 43%
- **9th Grade**: 38%
- **10th Grade**: 38%
- **11th Grade**: 38%
- **12th Grade**: 36%

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### Percent of Programs that Serve Each Grade Level

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinder</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
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<td>75%</td>
</tr>
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**Footnotes:**


2 Vandell, D.L. The Achievement Gap to Real


**INSPIRES**

**LEARNING**

**SAFE & HEALTHY KIDS**

**SUPPORTS WORKING FAMILIES**

**Note:** This point-in-time snapshot of over 160 Alaska afterschool programs was conducted by McDowell Group in 2016. The Alaska Afterschool Network plans to expand this inventory over time to provide an even more comprehensive picture of programs in the state.
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