espnW/Aspen Institute
Project Play Survey of Parents on youth sports issues
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About the espnW/Aspen Institute Project Play Survey of Parents on youth sports issues

- Data collected via the ESPN Sports Poll in September 2014 (n=1,511); 50% landline households, 50% cell phone respondents
- Nationally representative: weighted by age, gender, race, and income to match the overall characteristics of Americans 12+
- espnW/Aspen Institute Project Play Survey of Parents on youth sports issues reflects the answers of parents or guardians of children who are <18 (n=322)
What percentage of parents let their kids play sports?

- Let their kids play sports: 80.8%
- Do not let their kids play sports: 8.0%
- Kids are not old enough to play sports: 11.2%
What parents have concerns about

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mothers</th>
<th>Fathers</th>
<th>Parents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emphasis on winning over commitment to having fun</td>
<td>67.2%</td>
<td>64.7%</td>
<td>66.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>70.5%</td>
<td>64.4%</td>
<td>67.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost</td>
<td>74.0%</td>
<td>70.3%</td>
<td>78.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality or behavior of coaches</td>
<td>85.2%</td>
<td>81.5%</td>
<td>89.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risk of injury</td>
<td>89.2%</td>
<td>86.0%</td>
<td>87.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How big of a concern is the cost of participating in youth sports?

**Fathers**
- 40.6%: A big concern
- 33.1%: A small concern
- 1.5%: Not at all a concern
- 24.8%: N/A

**Mothers**
- 37.0%: A big concern
- 23.8%: A small concern
- 2.2%: Not at all a concern
- 37.0%: N/A
How big of a concern is the time commitment required?

**Fathers**
- A big concern: 34.8%
- A small concern: 29.6%
- Not at all a concern: 34.1%
- N/A: 1.5%

**Mothers**
- A big concern: 30.1%
- A small concern: 27.3%
- Not at all a concern: 40.4%
- N/A: 2.2%
How big of a concern is the emphasis on winning over fun?

**Fathers**
- A big concern: 35.3%
- A small concern: 29.4%
- Not at all a concern: 33.8%
- N/A: 1.5%

**Mothers**
- A big concern: 35.0%
- A small concern: 32.2%
- Not at all a concern: 30.6%
- N/A: 2.2%
How big of a concern is the quality or behavior of youth coaches?

**Fathers**
- A big concern: 61.5%
- A small concern: 23.7%
- Not at all a concern: 13.3%
- N/A: 1.5%

**Mothers**
- A big concern: 59.8%
- A small concern: 19.0%
- Not at all a concern: 18.5%
- N/A: 2.7%

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How big of a concern is the risk of injury in youth sports?

**Fathers**
- A big concern: 41.9%
- A small concern: 12.5%
- Not at all a concern: 1.5%
- N/A: 44.1%

**Mothers**
- A big concern: 53.5%
- A small concern: 35.7%
- Not at all a concern: 2.2%
- N/A: 8.6%
What kind of injury are parents most concerned about?

**Fathers**
- Concussions/Head injuries: 41.7%
- Broken bones: 33.9%
- Joint injuries: 13.0%
- Any injury/serious injuries: 7.0%
- Other: 4.3%

**Mothers**
- Concussions/Head injuries: 56.1%
- Broken bones: 28.7%
- Joint injuries: 3.2%
- Any injury/serious injuries: 9.6%
- Other: 2.5%
Have you ever considered keeping your child from playing a sport because of fear of concussions or head injuries?

**Fathers**
- Yes: 77.8%
- No: 20.0%
- N/A: 2.2%

**Mothers**
- Yes: 67.0%
- No: 29.7%
- N/A: 3.2%
Which sport(s) have you considered keeping your child from playing for fear of injuries?

- Football: 82.3%
- Soccer: 20.3%
- Other: 18.3%

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For more information:
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