



The Afterschool Hours in America

- More than 14 million school age children (25%) are on their own after school. Among them are more than 40,000 kindergarteners. (*America After 3 PM*, May 2004)
- The parents of more than 28 million school-age children work outside the home. (U.S. Department of Labor)
- Only 6.5 million K-12 children (11%) participate in afterschool programs. An additional 15 million would participate if a quality program were available in their community. (*America After 3 PM*, May 2004)
- The hours between 3p.m. and 6p.m. are the peak hours for juvenile crime and experimentation with drugs, alcohol, cigarettes and sex. (Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, 2002)
- 9 in 10 Americans want all children and teens to have some type of organized activity or safe place to go after school. (Election Eve Poll, November 2004)
- More than half of voters (55 percent) think that there are not enough afterschool programs available for children in America today. (Afterschool Alliance Poll, September 2003)

Afterschool Programs Benefit Youth, Families & Communities

- Teens who do not participate in afterschool programs are nearly three times more likely to skip classes than teens who do participate. They are also three times more likely to use marijuana or other drugs, and they are more likely to drink alcohol, smoke cigarettes and engage in sexual activity. (YMCA of the USA, March 2001)
- Parents in New York City said that their child's afterschool program helped them balance work and family life (Policy Studies Associates, Inc., February 2001):
 - ⇒ 60 percent said they missed less work than before because of the program.
 - ⇒ 59 percent said it supported them in keeping their jobs.
- Students in a statewide program in California improved their standardized test scores (SAT-9) in both reading and math by percentages almost twice that of other students and also had better school attendance. The program cut high school drop out by 20%. (University of California Irvine, May 2001 and March 2006)
- Boys and girls in the Quantum Opportunities afterschool program were half as likely to drop out of high school and two and one half times more likely to go on to further education after high school than their peers. (Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, 2000)
- A Brandeis University study estimates that decreased worker productivity due to stress and absenteeism caused by issues related to afterschool care arrangements costs employers \$496.00 to \$1,984.00 per employee, per year, depending on the employee's annual salary. (Community, Families and Work Program at Brandeis University, 2004)
- Students (pre-k through 8th grade) in The After-School Corporation (TASC) supported afterschool programs improved their math scores and regular school day attendance compared to non-participants. High school level afterschool participants passed more Regent exams and earned more high school credits than non-participants. (Policy Studies Associates, July 2004)
- Eighty-seven percent of Citizen Schools' eighth grade participants were promoted to tenth grade on time, while only seventy-four percent of non-participants achieved that objective. This is critical, since earning promotion to tenth grade on-time is a key predictor of high-school graduation (i.e., preventing drop-out). (Citizen Schools, November 2005)