

The Summer Struggle for Virginia Families

Affording the Opportunities Parents Want for Youth

Virginia parents want a summer full of opportunity for their children to explore, connect, and grow. But cost puts summer programs out of reach for many.

FAMILIES WANT A SUMMER FULL OF OPPORTUNITY FOR THEIR KIDS



TOP FIVE FACTORS VIRGINIA PARENTS LOOK FOR IN SUMMER PROGRAMS:

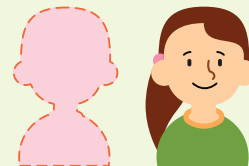
- 1 Safe environment
- 2 Knowledgeable and caring staff
- 3 Opportunities to build confidence
- 4 Support of my child's mental health and well-being
- 5 Time for fun and educational activities; less screen time

TOO MANY VIRGINIA CHILDREN ARE MISSING OUT ON SUMMER PROGRAMS

Parents of
621,936 children
want summer programs

× **300,107**
children don't have access

Nearly 1 in 2 Virginia children are missing out.



Affordability is the top challenge for Virginia families.

SUMMER PROGRAMS ARE OUT OF REACH FOR TOO MANY VIRGINIA FAMILIES DUE TO COST

43%

of parents report cost is a barrier to enrolling their child in a summer program

LOCATION, TRANSPORTATION, AVAILABILITY, AND FINDING INFORMATION ON SUMMER PROGRAMS ARE ALSO BARRIERS



17%

Issues with location or transportation



10%

Programs unavailable



9%

Information on summer programs is not easy to find

Virginia parents give summer programs high marks and want them funded!

PARENTS WHO HAVE FOUND A SUMMER PROGRAM RATE IT HIGHLY

95%

Satisfaction



90% of parents favor public funding for summer learning opportunities

SUPPORT IS STRONG AND BIPARTISAN



99%

Democrats



83%

Independents



92%

Republicans

What You Can Do

Learn more and see recommendations for action at aa3pm.co

About the Survey

America After 3PM is a national online survey of parents or guardians of school-aged children, with supplemental interviews conducted by telephone. Data were collected by Edge Research on behalf of the Afterschool Alliance. In Virginia, 662 households and 1,057 children were screened for this study. Child-level statewide projections are based on total school enrollment numbers for the 2021-2022 school year from the U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics.

The *America After 3PM* summer findings are based on research funded by The Wallace Foundation.

