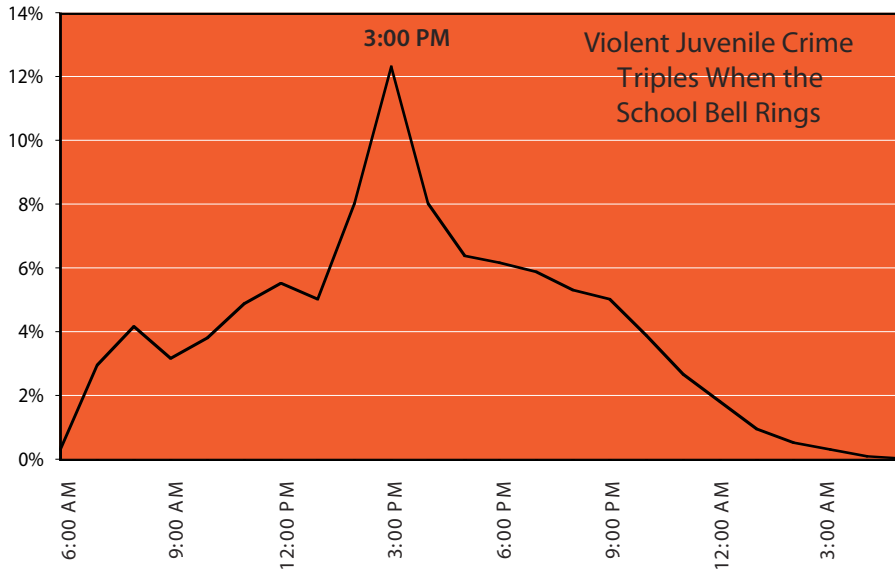


How do children spend their out-of-school hours?

Percent of Violent Juvenile Crime Occurring Each Hour



Nationally, incidence of juvenile violent crime spikes at 3:00 pm — immediately after the school day ends.

The peak hours for juvenile crime are from 3:00 to 6:00 PM. These are also the hours when youth are most likely to become victims of crime, be in an automobile accident, smoke, drink alcohol, or use drugs.

- ▶ A study of after-school programs in 12 high-risk communities found that, among youth participating in the programs, vandalism and stealing **dropped by two-thirds**, violent acts and carrying a concealed weapon **fell by more than half**, and arrests were **cut in half**. School discipline, detention, suspensions and expulsions **dropped by a third**.ⁱ
- ▶ During the summer months, **first time use of alcohol, tobacco and drugs peaks** among youth ages 12 to 17.ⁱⁱ
- ▶ **More than 15 million school-age children** (26 %) care for themselves after school. Among them, more than 1 million are in grades K-5.ⁱⁱⁱ

In Nebraska ...^{iv}

- ▶ Currently, **36% (114,040)** of our state's youth care for themselves after school.
- ▶ **Only 11% (33,895)** of youth in Nebraska participate in expanded learning opportunity programs. 33% (93,351) of Nebraska youth would participate in a program if one were available to them.



Working Mothers and Public Safety Officials Agree

Nine in 10 working mothers agree with the statement: "America could greatly reduce youth violence if Congress expanded prevention efforts like afterschool programs." When asked which strategy would be more effective in reducing school and youth violence, seven out of 10 mothers choose investments in afterschool programs over investments in security measures such as metal detectors. ^{vii}

Nine out of ten police chiefs agreed with the statement: "If America does not make greater investments in after-school and educational child care programs to help children and youth now, we will pay far more later in crime, welfare and other costs." ^{viii}



Families want quality, accessible afterschool opportunities



Nationally, **parents from low-income and minority families report more problems**

finding available, affordable and quality afterschool and summer opportunities for kids than their counterparts in other economic/ethnic categories.

- Low-income and minority parents are much more likely than higher-income and white parents to say they value and have trouble finding high-quality, convenient and affordable after school and summer learning opportunities for their children. ^v
- An evaluation of after school programs found that 74 percent of parents agreed that afterschool programs made it easier to keep their jobs, and 73 percent agreed with the statement that they missed less work now compared to before their child became involved in the program. ^{vi}

ⁱ Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, 2009

ⁱⁱ SAMHSA, 2012

ⁱⁱⁱ Expanding Minds and Opportunities: Creating the Recent Force Field--A Growing Infrastructure for Quality Afterschool and Summer Learning Opportunities, 2013

^{iv} Afterschool Alliance, Nebraska Fact Sheet, 2013

^v Public Agenda, 2004 & Afterschool Alliance: America After 3pm-Special Report on Summer, 2010

^{vi} Policy Study Associates, Inc., 2009

^{vii} Afterschool Alliance, 2006

^{viii} Afterschool Programs: Keeping Kids and Communities Safe, 2007