

Afterschool in America

Demand Grows, Opportunity Shrinks

Afterschool programs offer expanded learning opportunities to millions of kids and are a lifeline for working parents, but more families than ever are being left out.

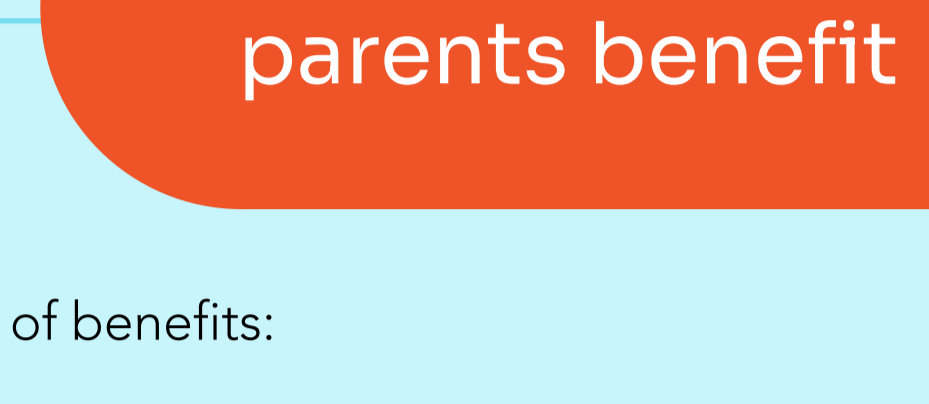
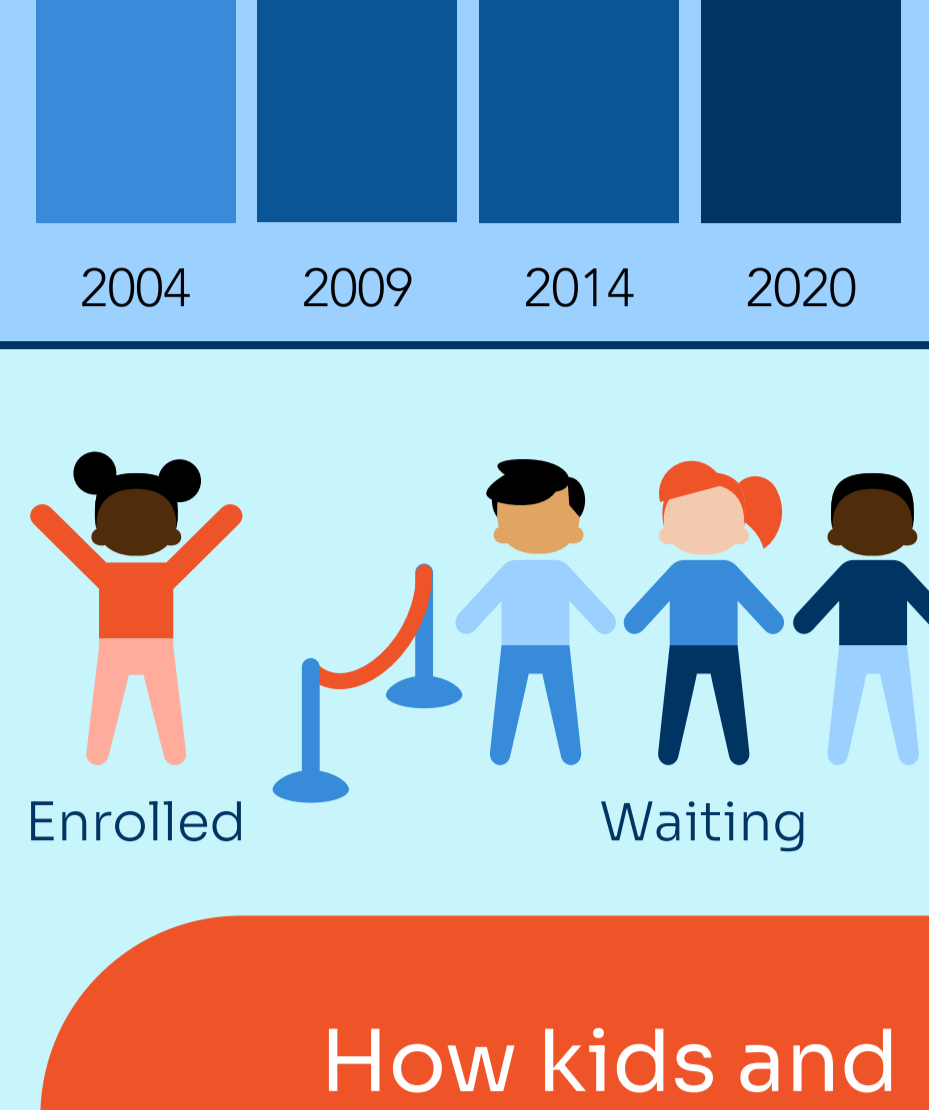
Unmet demand has skyrocketed

Nearly 25 million children are missing out

The line of kids waiting for afterschool is almost long enough to stretch around the earth.

Unmet demand for programs has grown **60%** since 2004.

For every child in afterschool, **3** are waiting for an available program.



How kids and parents benefit

Kids in afterschool enjoy a wide range of benefits:

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Interacting with peers and building social skills | 90% | Building life skills | 68% |
| Getting help with homework | 73% | Engaging in STEM learning | 73% |
| Taking part in physical activities | 85% | Receiving healthy snacks or meals | 70% |

Parents with kids in afterschool benefit, too:

| | | | |
|--|-----|---|-----|
| Helps working parents keep their job | 89% | Gives working parents peace of mind | 92% |
| Provides support to parents who are trying to find jobs during the pandemic* | 77% | Helps kids develop social skills and make responsible decisions | 84% |
| Keeps their kids safe | 92% | Has knowledgeable and caring staff | 89% |

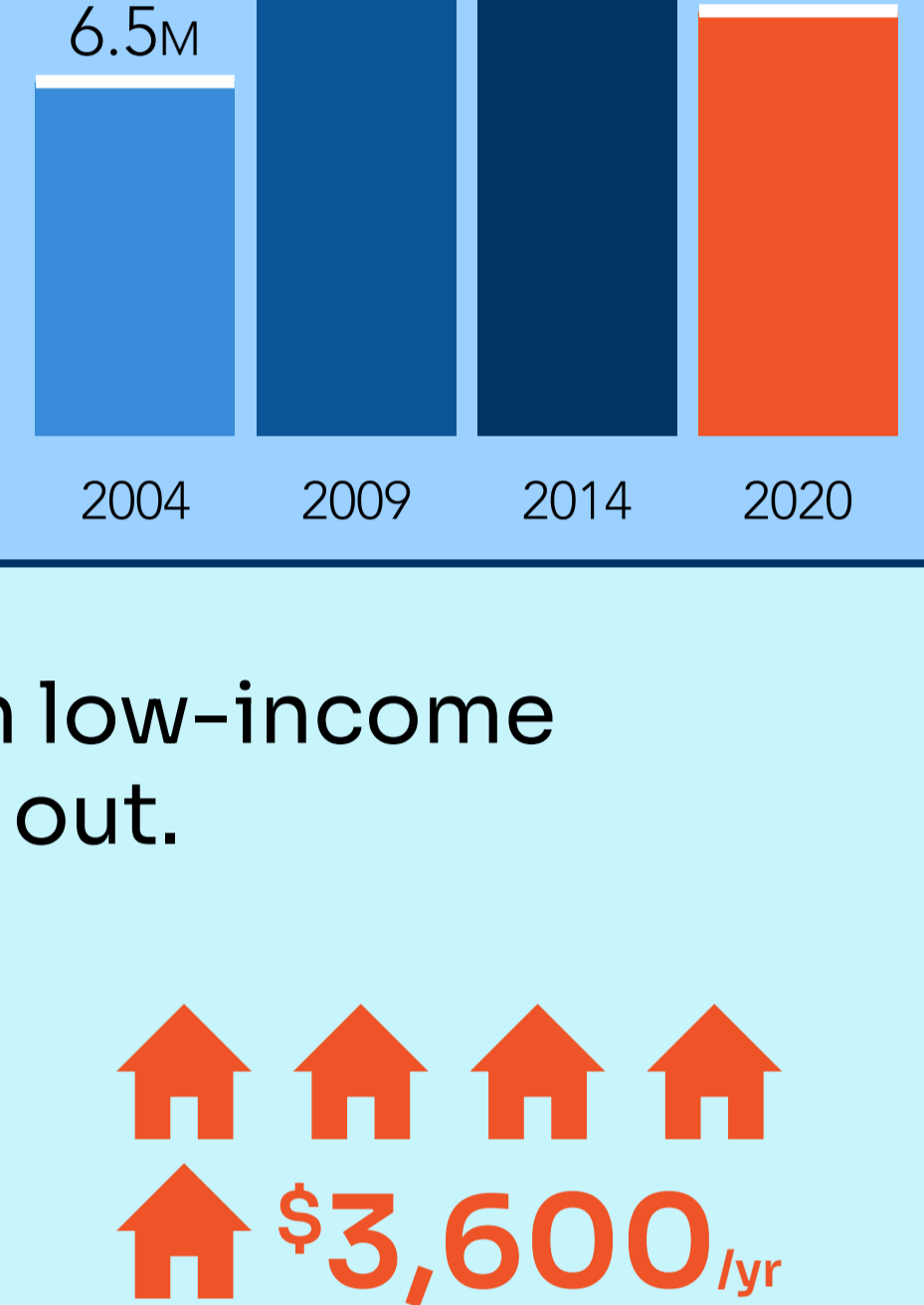
*Findings from a nationally representative survey fielded in October 2020.

94%

Parent satisfaction is at an all-time high. 94% of parents are satisfied with their child's afterschool program.

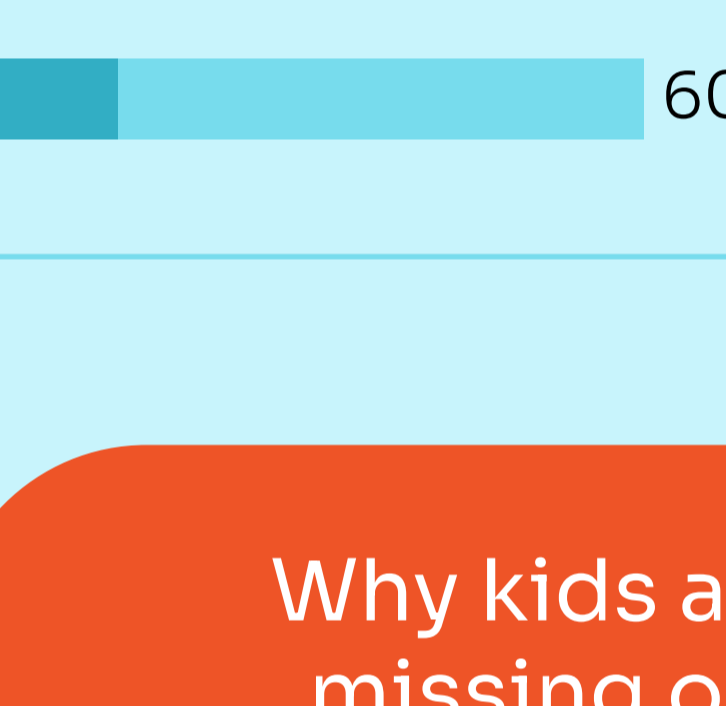
Participation drops, inequities prominent

For the first time in more than a decade, the number of kids in afterschool programs decreased.



Kids from families with low-income are more likely to miss out.

Families in the highest income bracket spend **5x** more on out-of-school time activities each year than families in the lowest income bracket.



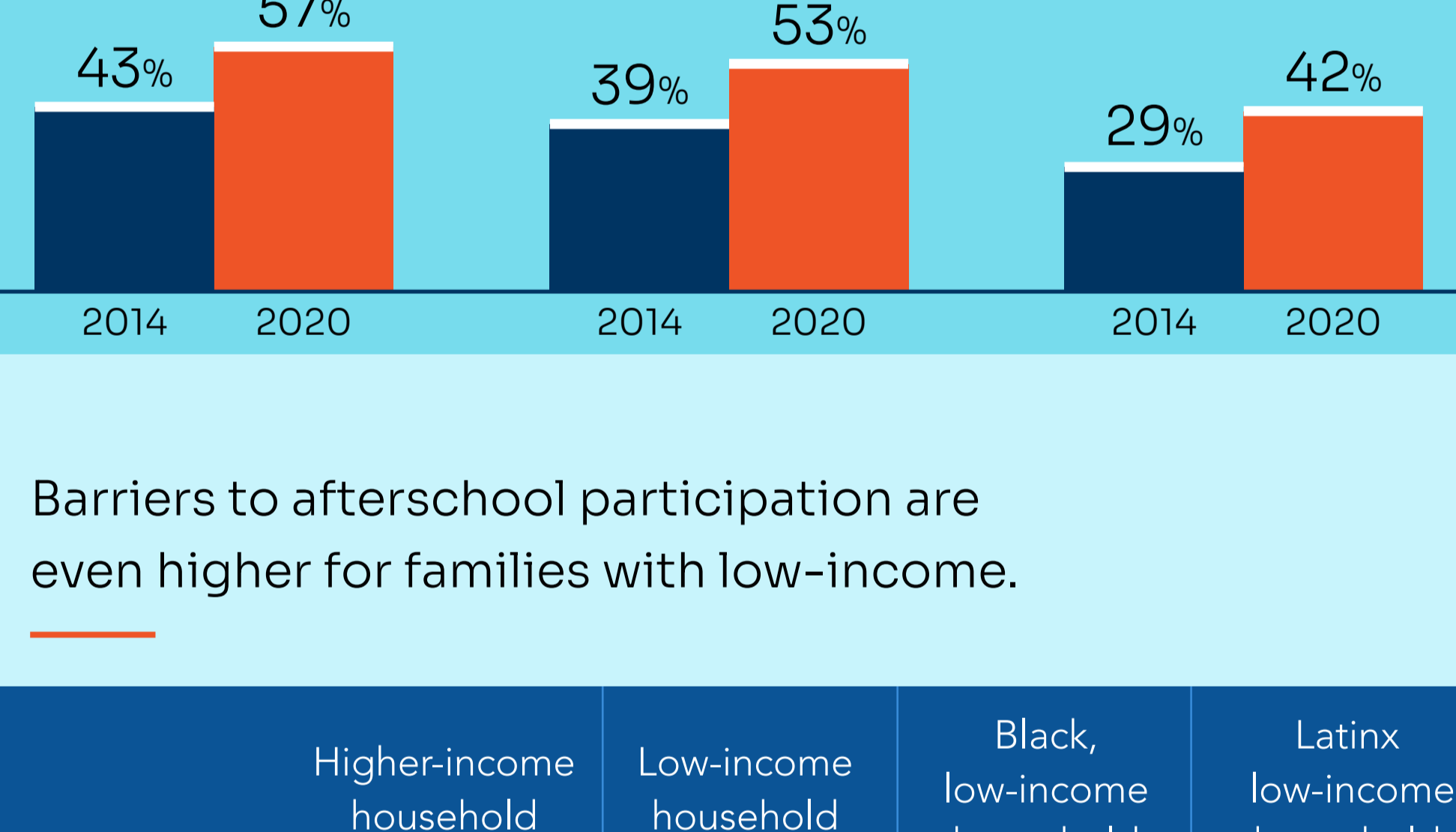
Parents reporting their children participate in at least one out-of-school time experience.



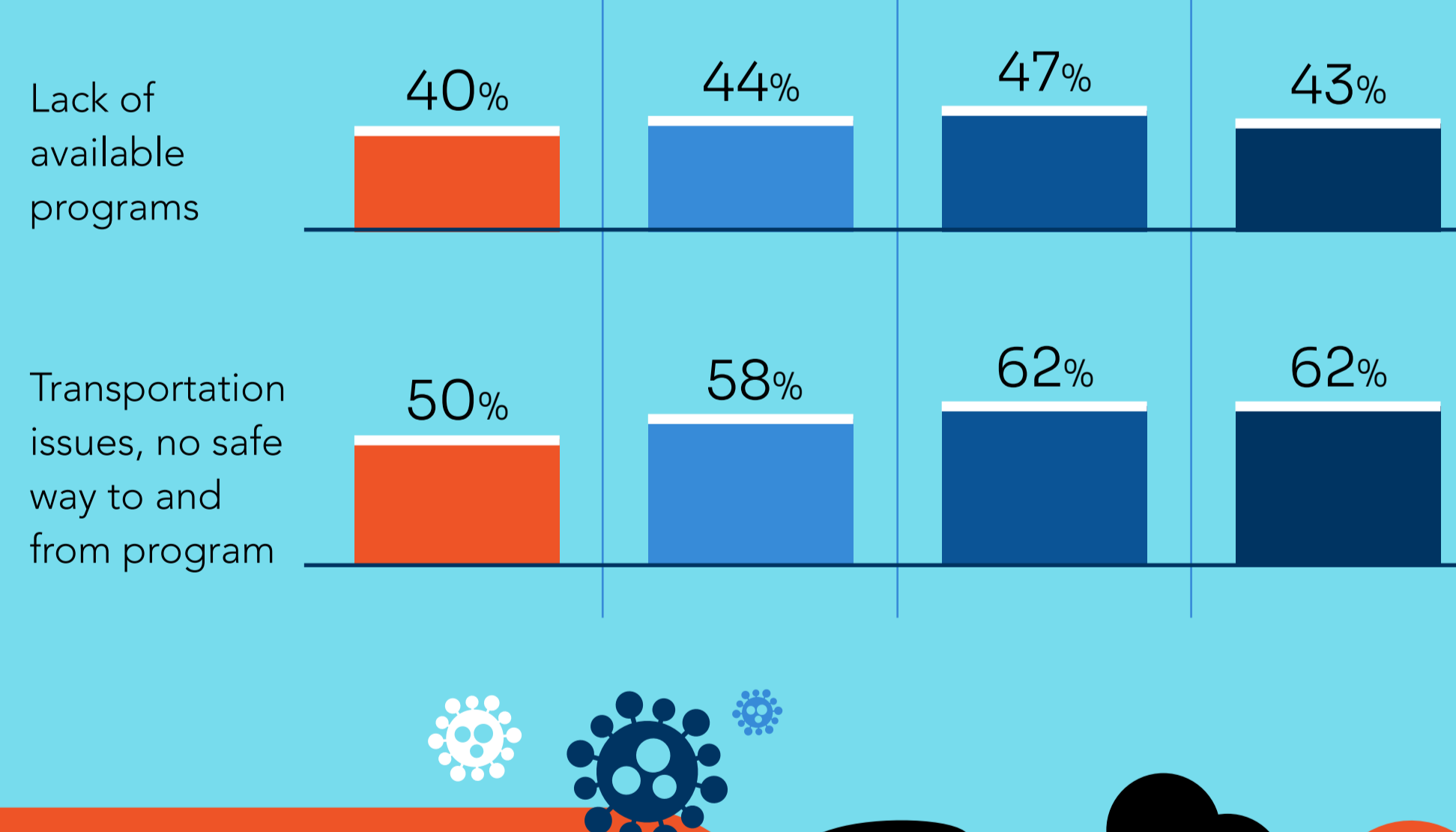
Why kids are missing out

Today, more families are struggling to afford and find an afterschool program.

Barriers to participation reported by parents:

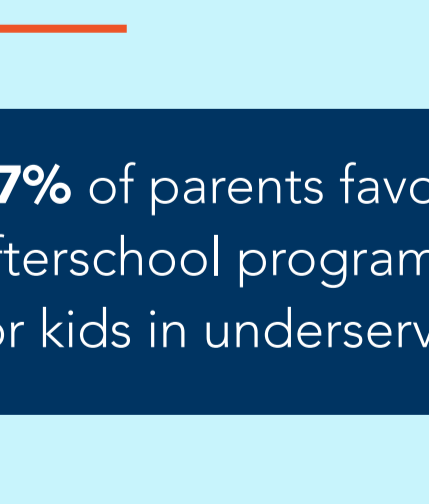
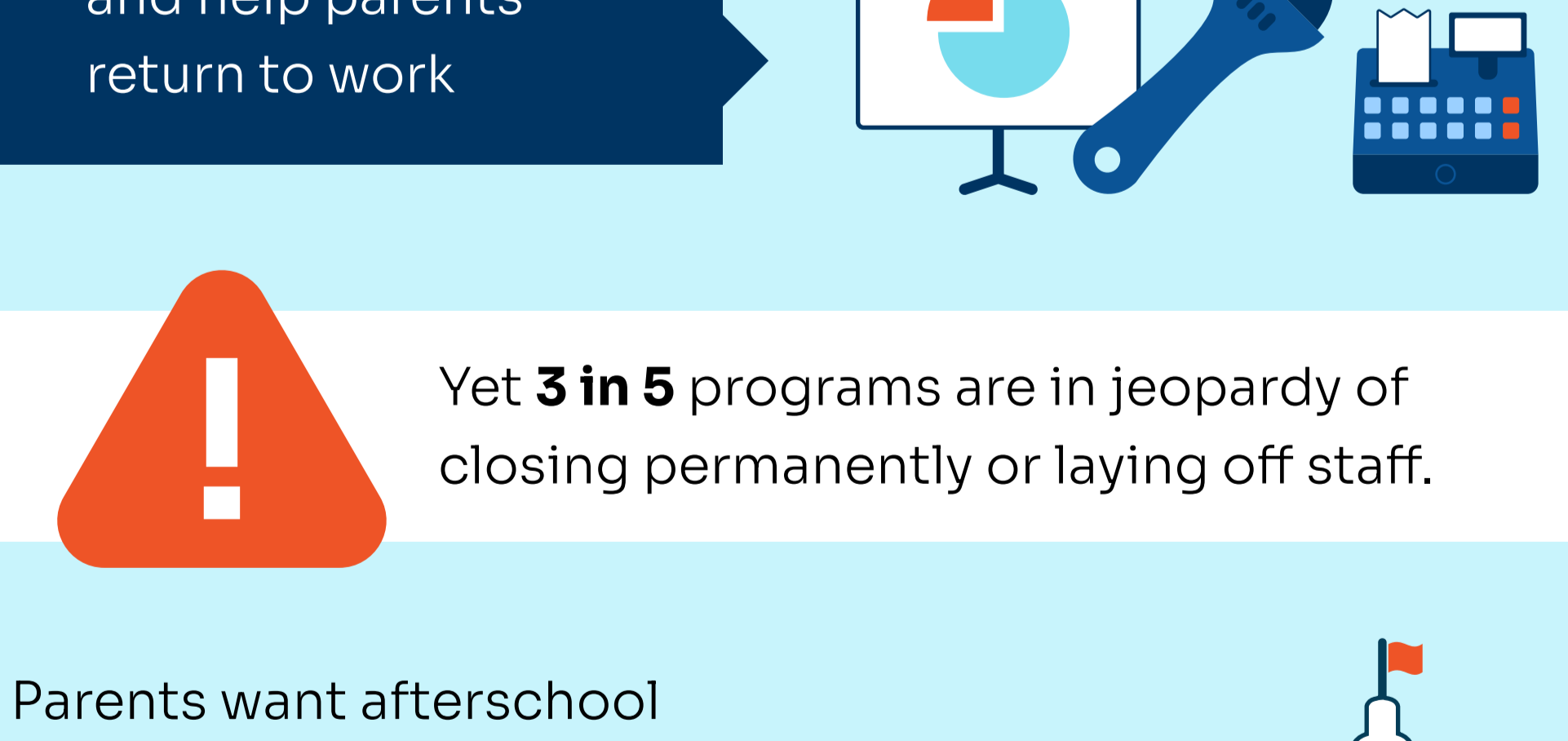


Barriers to afterschool participation are even higher for families with low-income.



A critical time to invest in kids

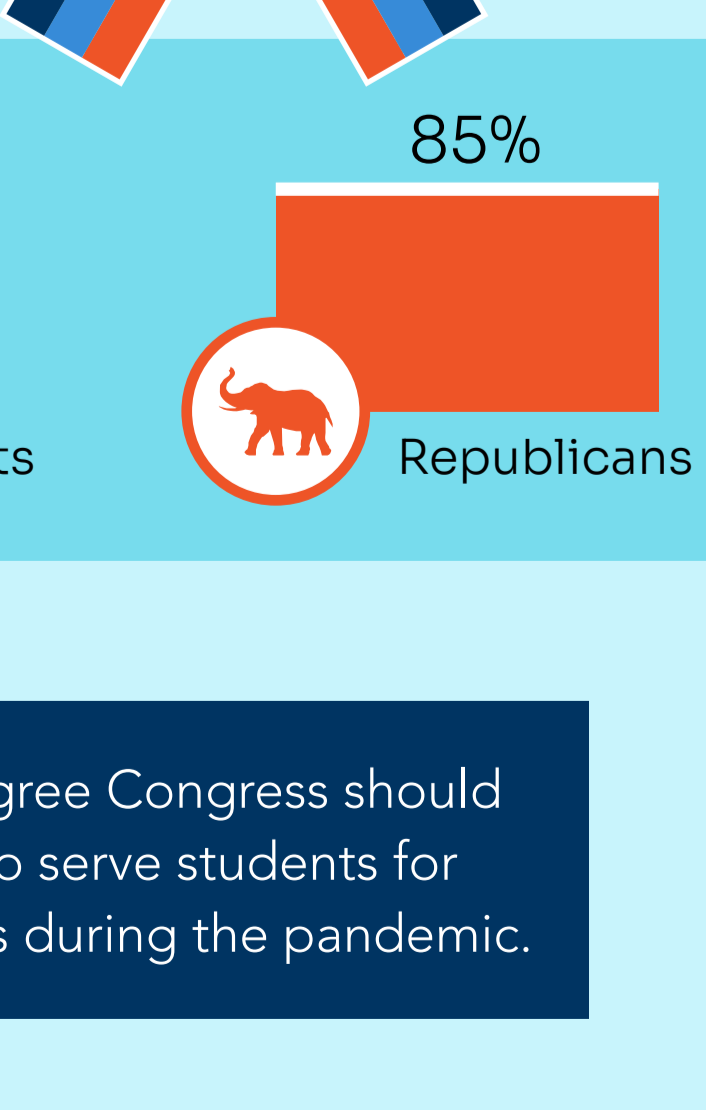
Afterschool programs can...



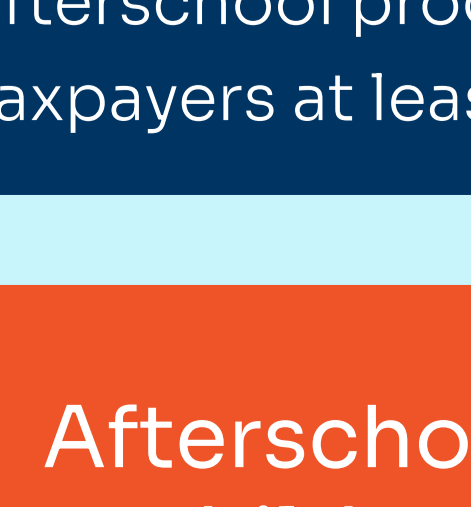
Yet **3 in 5** programs are in jeopardy of closing permanently or laying off staff.

Parents want afterschool programs funded.

87% of parents favor public funding of afterschool programs to expand opportunities for kids in underserved communities.



Support is strong and bipartisan:



77% of parents agree Congress should fund afterschool to serve students for virtual school days during the pandemic.

Every \$1 invested in afterschool programs saves taxpayers at least \$3 by:

- ↑ improving kids' school performance
- ↑ increasing their earning potential
- ↓ reducing crime and welfare costs

Afterschool is a smart investment in our children's future. Too many kids are missing out. Help us change that.