

New Research Shows Afterschool Workforce More Stable, Better Educated

New National AfterSchool Association research shows that afterschool professionals offer more dedicated years of service in their field, have a higher level of education and are better compensated than previously believed. The study findings offer great insights into the strength and education of those invested in the afterschool industry.

The findings are based on the NAA Benefits Survey conducted among afterschool professionals. Here's a snapshot of some findings:

- Approximately 73% of respondents were members of NAA and represented 47 states.
- 34% have a Masters or Doctorate degree and another 11% have completed some post-graduate work
- 41% work in organizations or programs with 20 or less staff members
- 39% have been with their current employer for more than 10 years.
- 47% have been in the afterschool field for more than 10 years.
- 78% have a child-adult ratio of 1:15 or less
- The top benefits received were: Paid holiday (78%), paid sick leave (74%), paid vacation (71%) and health insurance benefits (70%)
- 70% are salaried employees
- 52% received an increase in compensation in at least the last year
- 45% are required to obtain at least 16 training hours annually for continued employment

“What these results tell us is that investments made in the afterschool profession are making positive impacts in our field”, said Gina Warner, Executive Director of the National Afterschool Association.

“Understanding the needs and demands of the afterschool workforce is vital to our work and will help us make the case for the funding streams and policy changes necessary to support these professionals.”

NAA plans to conduct the Benefits Survey on an annual basis as a tool for study and an opportunity to highlight changes in the industry.