



Equitable Access to Out-of-School Time Programming in New Mexico: Why it Matters

May Sagbakken, Executive Director,
New Mexico Out-of-School Time Network

Panelists

Sarah Gettler
Chief Executive Officer,
The Boys & Girls Clubs
of Santa Fe/Del Norte

Teahonna James-Belin,
Afterschool Activities
Coordinator, Navajo
Preparatory School

Dr. Leticia Archuleta,
Executive Director,
Health Leadership
High School

Liz Salganek,
Artistic Director,
National Dance Institute
of New Mexico

What is Out-of-School Time (OST)?

From [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)

Out-of-school time (OST) is a supervised program that children and youth regularly attend *when school is not in session*.

- Before- and after-school programs
- Summer programs
- Teen centers
- Internships



Children spend **80%** of their time out-of-school.

About New Mexico Out-of-School Time Network (NMOST)

Mission

Cultivate enriching experiences for children and youth beyond the school day.

Vision

All children and youth in New Mexico have access to high-quality out-of-school time opportunities regardless of zip code and income.



This is Comprehensive Afterschool

Youth-led learning and social activities

Wrap-around and emergency supports for families



Hands-on, project-based learning

STEM, arts, and music



Academic enrichment and support



Planning and preparing for college



Physical activity and healthy food



Trusted, responsive community resource



Culturally relevant



Career awareness, exploration, and preparation



Service learning and community projects

Afterschool helps youth thrive

Afterschool programs provide essential supports children's need to thrive – and help address New Mexico's key priorities for ensuring children's well-being: educational attainment, poverty, child abuse, and juvenile justice.

AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS ACCELERATE STUDENTS' ACADEMIC GROWTH AND SUPPORT THEIR WELL-BEING

Among New Mexico students in afterschool programs:



65% are getting homework help



88% are interacting with their peers and building social skills



64% are engaging in STEM learning opportunities



85% are building confidence



87% are taking part in physical activities



73% are learning responsible decision-making



AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS ARE A SMART INVESTMENT

An overwhelming majority of New Mexico parents favor public funding for afterschool and summer learning programs.



Afterschool



Summer

Research spanning several states shows that **every \$1 invested** in afterschool programs **saves at least \$3** by:

- ✓ Increasing kids' earning potential as adults
- ✓ Improving kids' performance at school
- ✓ Reducing crime and juvenile delinquency



Afterschool Alliance

OST and Higher Attendance

Research shows that quality afterschool programs can influence school-day attendance. They accomplish this by:

- ▶ Providing socialization and peer attention in a supervised venue.
- ▶ Re-establishing the link between effort and results—first in a non-school activity.
- ▶ Engaging students in challenging activities that help them develop persistence, a trait critical to later success in school and life.
- ▶ Providing consistent contact with caring, stable adults.
- ▶ Increasing the sense of belonging at school.

Afterschool and Improved Attendance

- ▶ A 2009 study of 322 7th and 8th grade students at Boys & Girls Clubs across the country found that those attending afterschool programs skipped school fewer times, increased school effort, and gained academic confidence.
- ▶ Pathways to Progress in Minneapolis and St. Paul public schools found “dramatically better school attendance,” with afterschool participants coming to school an average 18.4 more days than their peers (2004).
- ▶ L.A.’s BEST program found that students’ regular school-day attendance improved once they began participating in the afterschool program. That led to higher scores on standardized tests in math, reading, and language arts.

Source: www.attendanceworks.org






OST and Social and Emotional Wellbeing

During the 2023-2024 academic year, 9,079 students engaged in 21st Century Community Learning Center (21st CCLC) afterschool programs in New Mexico (federal funding through PED).

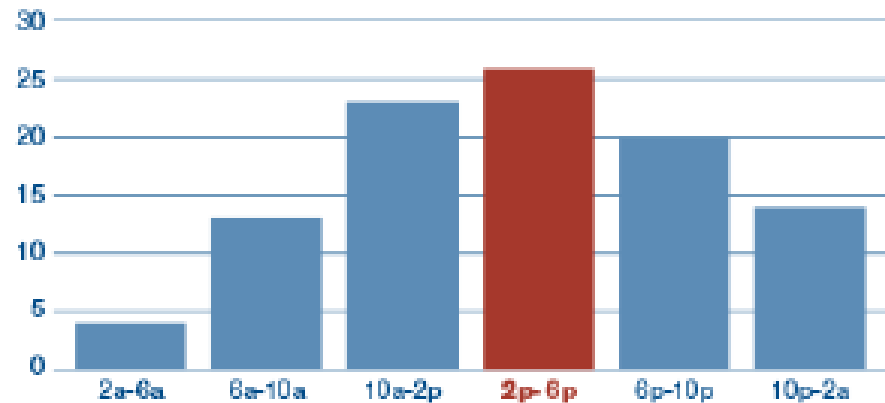
- ▶ Evaluations of 21st CCLC programs in New Mexico and nationally found that they are playing an essential role in supporting the healthy development of young people.
- ▶ A 2022 evaluation of New Mexico's 21st CCLC programs found that overwhelming majorities of K-6th graders and 6th-12th graders agreed that **they feel better about themselves because of the program (79 percent and 66 percent, respectively).**

2 to 6 p.m.: The Prime Time for Juvenile Crime in the U.S.

Quality Afterschool Programs:

-  Reduce Crime
-  Boost Academics
-  Improve Behavior
-  Lead to Healthier Habits
-  Save Money

Juvenile Crime by Time of Day



#AfterschoolFightsCrime

 FightCrime

 **FIGHT CRIME:
INVEST IN KIDS**
COUNCIL FOR A STRONG AMERICA

America After 3PM

- ▶ America After 3PM is the nation's most comprehensive look at how children spend their time during the hours after school. Conducted roughly every five years, the 2020 report is the fourth edition of the survey. Previous reports were issued in 2004, 2009, and 2014.

5 Big Takeaways

- 1.** Unmet demand for afterschool has reached an all-time high
- 2.** Demand surges as parents see key benefits from afterschool
- 3.** Cost and access block participation, pointing to lack of affordable programs
- 4.** Inequities evident – barriers higher for families with low income
- 5.** Parents show strong support for expanding afterschool opportunities

OST in New Mexico

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



Enrolled



Waiting

54k

In 2019, 53,964 children (16%) would have been enrolled in a summer program if one were available to them.

Kids in afterschool enjoy a wide range of benefits, and parents and families benefit too:

75%

Keeping kids safe and out of trouble

86%

Giving working parents peace of mind

64%

Engaging kids in STEM learning

83%

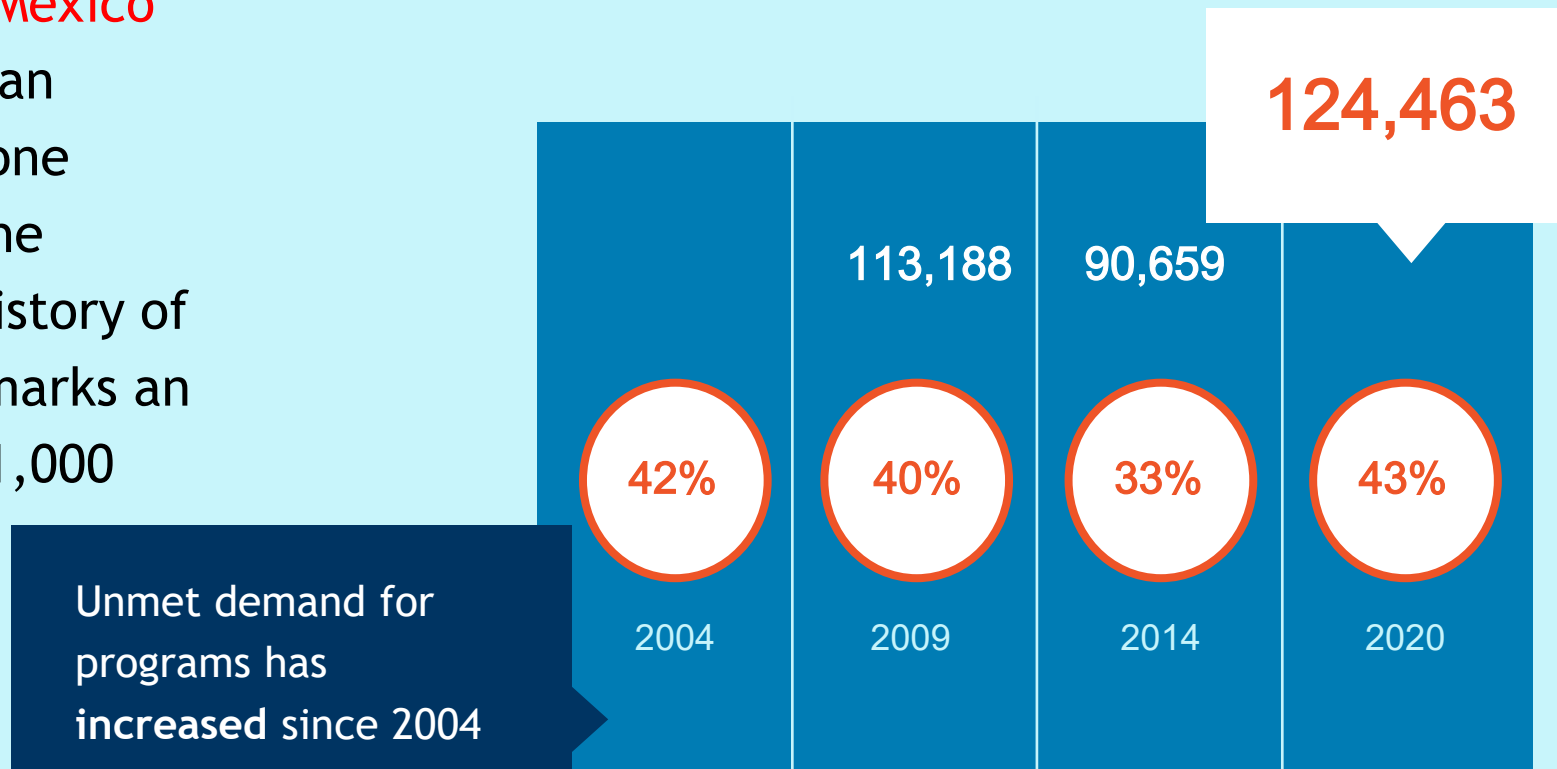
Helping kids build life skills

78%

Providing kids physical activity

Unmet Demand for Afterschool Skyrockets

- ▶ More than **124,000 New Mexico** children would enroll in an afterschool program, if one were available. This is the highest demand in the history of America After 3PM and marks an increase of more than 11,000 children since 2009.



Cost and access top the list of roadblocks to afterschool program participation

● 2014 ● 2020



Programs are too expensive

49%

47%



Transportation issues, no safe way to and from program

40%

56%



Lack of available programs

32%

32%

NM State Funding for OST

21st Century Community Learning Center (federal 21st CCLC) funding

Elementary & Secondary Schools Emergency Relief (ESSER III) funding - sunsets September 30th, 2024

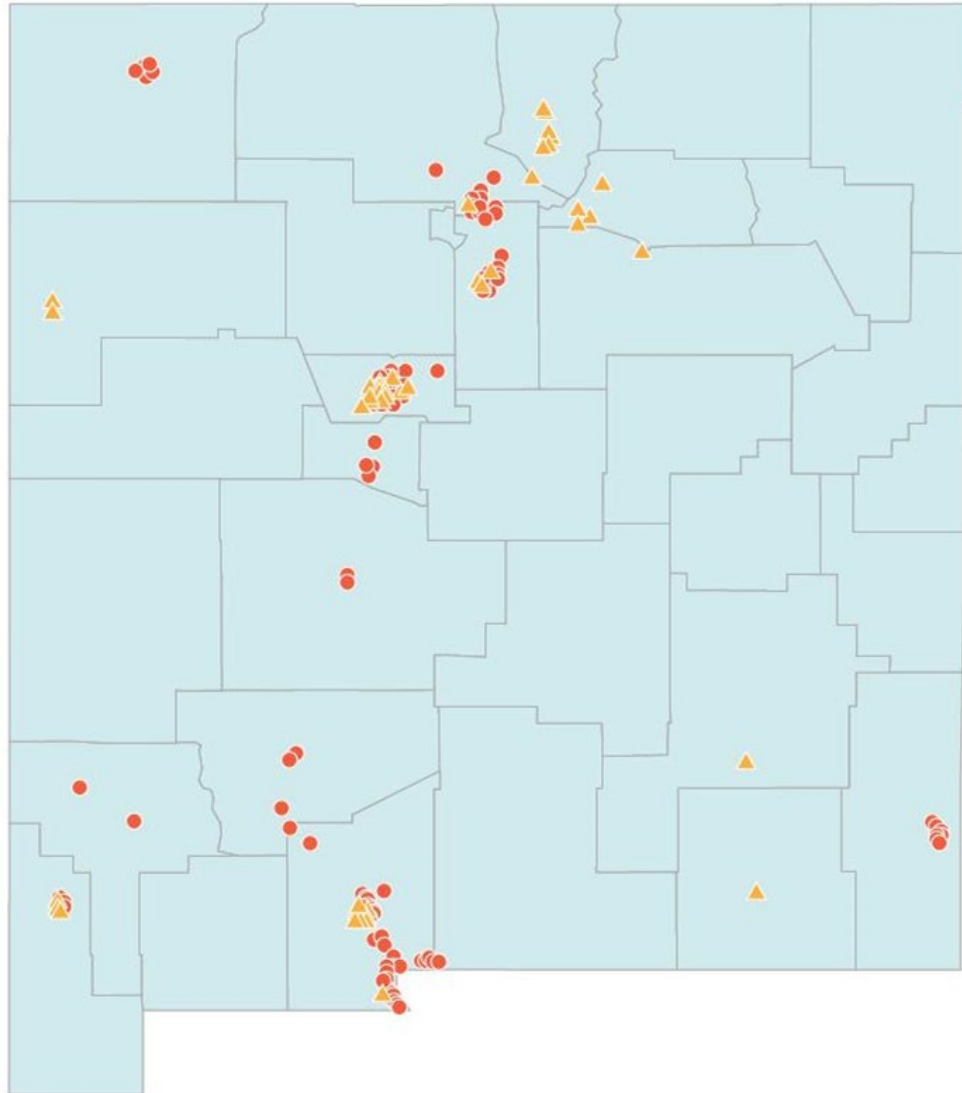
K-12+ OST funding - ended

HB2 2023 Session: \$20M for “out-of-school time learning, summer enrichment, tutoring, and programs to address learning gaps” - 3 years for CBOs

HB2 2024 Session: \$15M for OST and high-dosage tutoring



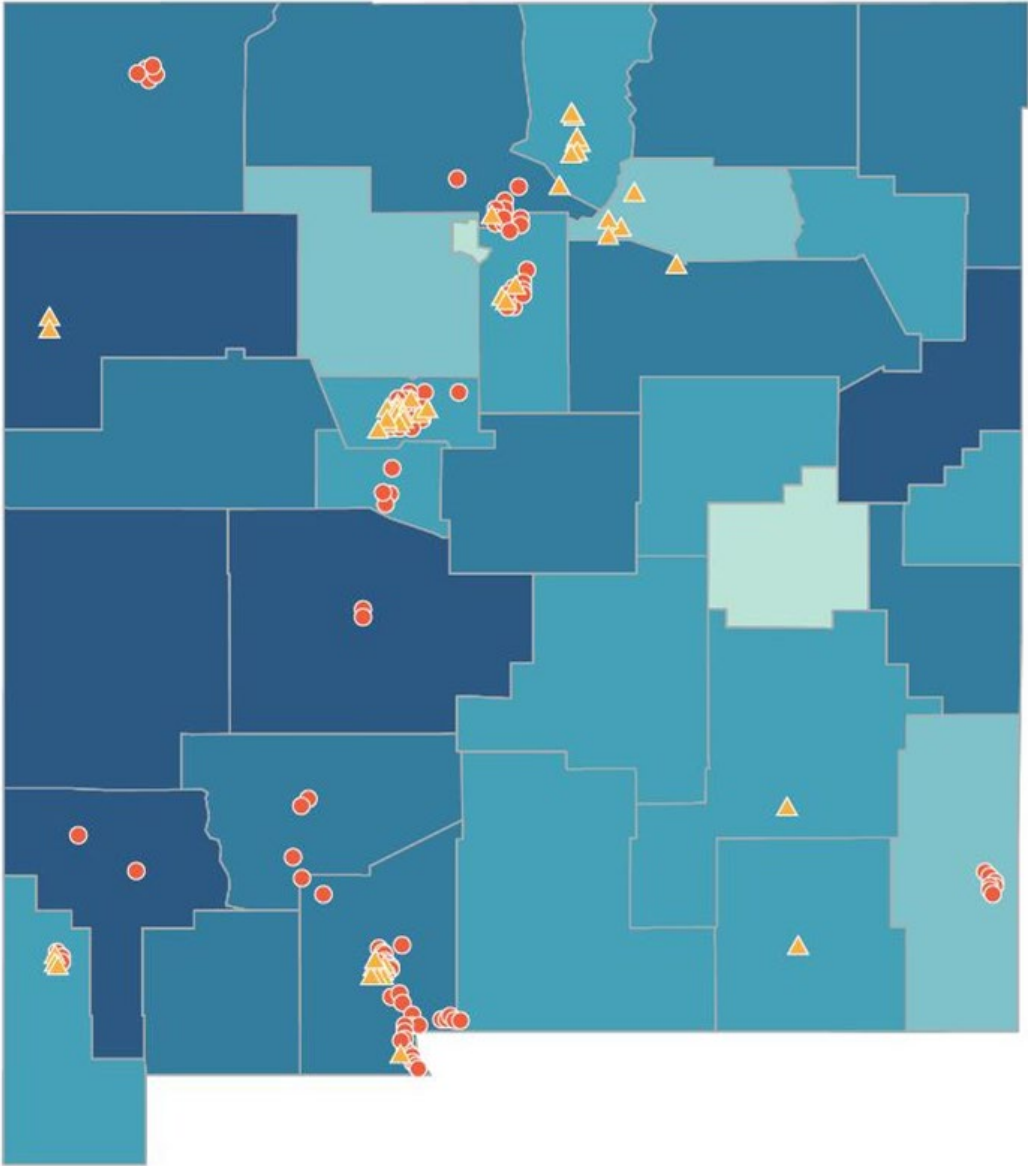
Mapping New Mexico's Gaps



OST programs are concentrated along the Rio Grande corridor, leaving large areas of the state – and tens of thousands of families – with no access to OST opportunities.

- 21st Century Community Learning Centers 2021
- ▲ ESSER III Grant Recipients 2021

Concentrated Poverty



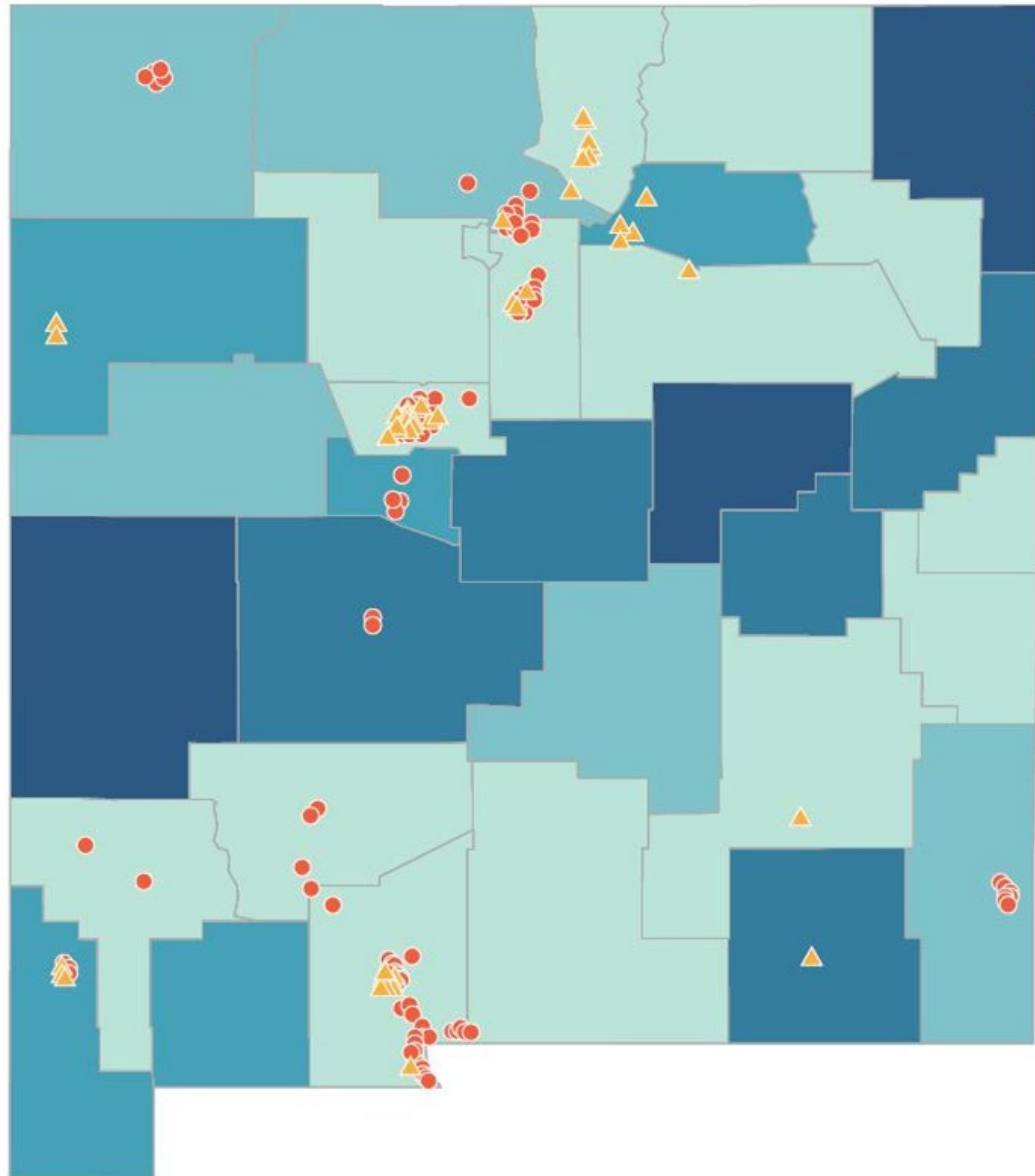
Many areas with high rates of poverty have no OST programs.

Percent of Children (under 18 years) Whose Family Income in the Past 12 Months Is Below Poverty Level



- 21st Century Community Learning Centers 2021
- ▲ ESSER III Grant Recipients 2021

Education Attainment



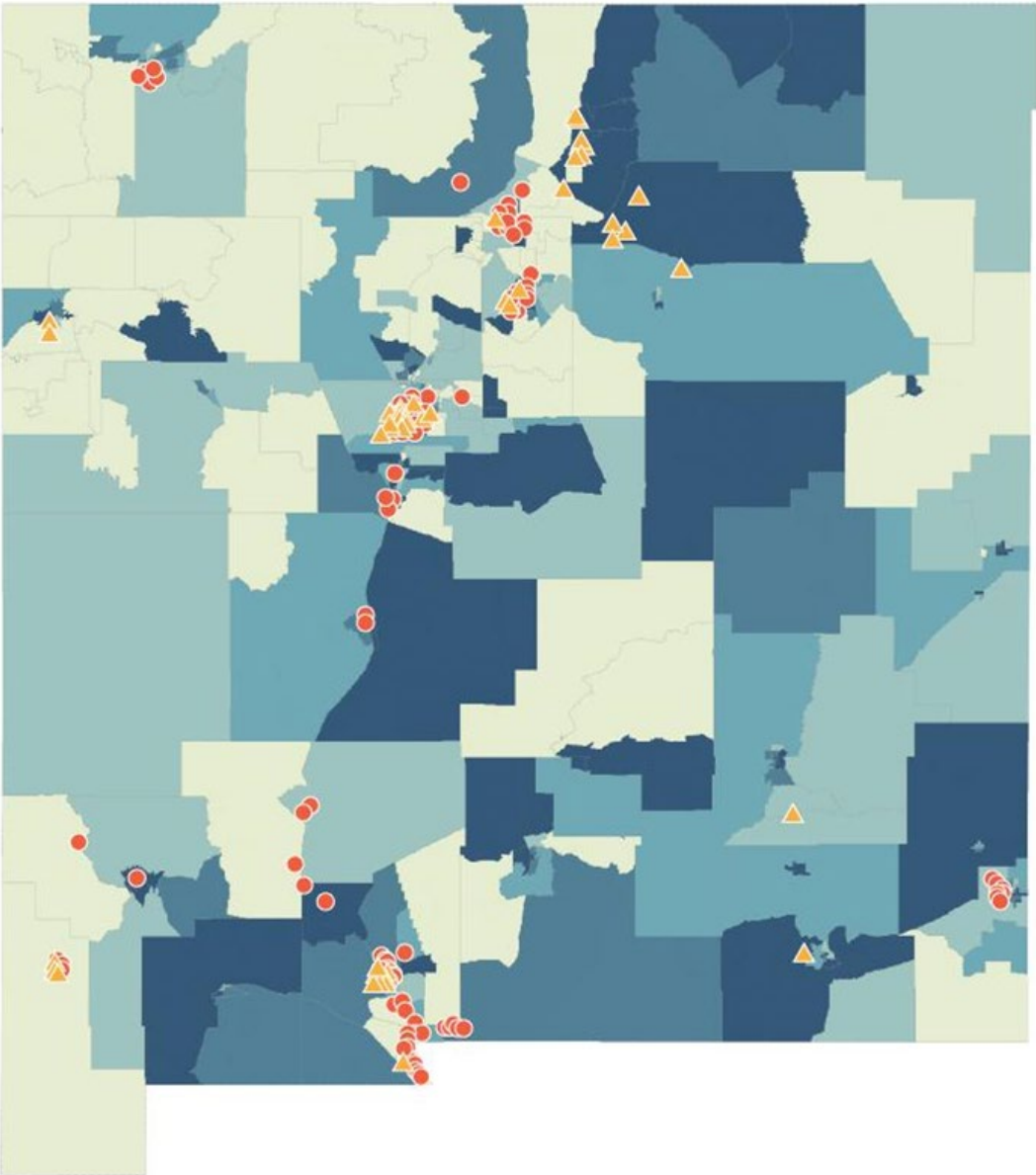
Many children in areas where the majority of adults have no more than a high school education have no access to OST programs.

Percent of Population 25 Years and Over Whose Highest Education Completed is High School (includes equivalency)



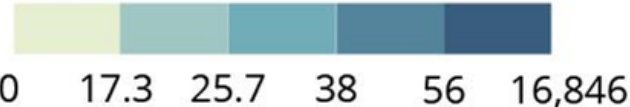
- 21st Century Community Learning Centers 2021
- ▲ ESSER III Grant Recipients 2021

Juvenile Justice



Many areas with high rates of juvenile justice referrals have no OST programs.

Rate, Offenders Per 1000,
2008-2015, Age 0-17 years



- 21st Century Community Learning Centers 2021
- ▲ ESSER III Grant Recipients 2021

Equitable Access to Learning Opportunities

Yazzie-Martinez Court Ruling

PED Strategic Plan 2022/Pillar 4 Goal: Provide equitable access to asset-based support services and learning opportunities that enable all students to thrive in their educational setting regardless of their demographics, family income level, or ability status

IV-F: Extended Learning and Out-of-School Time Opportunities:

- Increase the number of schools that are implementing innovative schedules and programming to engage students outside of “traditional” school hours
- Increase the number and percentage of students who participate in an extended learning or out-of-school-time (OST) program.
- Improve students’ holistic health and well-being and deepen their engagement in school.

Equitable Access to Learning Opportunities

Yazzie-Martinez Court Ruling

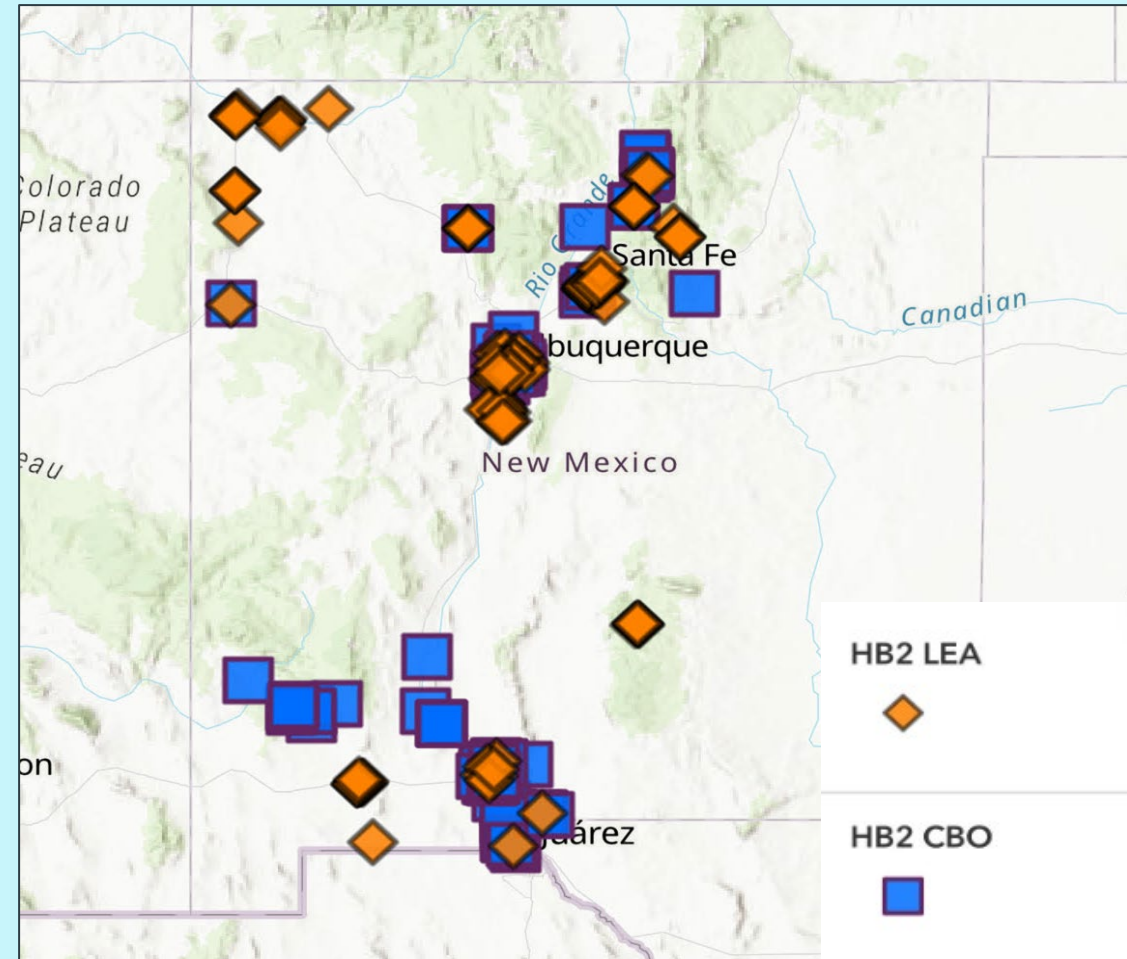
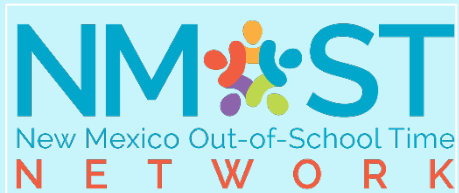
PED action steps (2022):

- ▶ IV-F-1. Increase the number of students participating in the extended learning time program across the state.
- ▶ IV-F-2. Expand culturally and linguistically responsive afterschool programs, including community- and tribal-based programs.
- ▶ IV-F-3. Expand community-based afterschool/summer school programs and/or tutoring programs based on local needs and provide transportation for these programs.

NM Investments in Out-of-School Time

Funding from HB2 in 2023 (\$20M) supported programming at 78 school sites around the state; 40 of these were operated by Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) and 38 were run by Community-Based Organizations (CBOs).

HB2 in 2024 (\$15M) with \$8.5M for Advanced Tutoring resulted in drastic budget cuts for schools.



2025 State Funding Ask (FY26)

For the upcoming session, a coalition of afterschool providers request the following:

1. **\$20M in funding dedicated to supporting community-based organizations (sustain and expand afterschool programming/reach 20,000 children and youth x \$1000 per child).**
2. **\$20M for LEAs to sustain and expand afterschool programming (20,000 children and youth x \$1000 per child).**
3. **Out-of-school time (OST) programs and high-dosage tutoring (HDT) and/or literacy projects should be funded separately.**

OST Funding Supports



Impact of Internship Program

- Participation in the internship program **confirmed a career path for students.**
- Student **gains in personal and career development.**
- **Expanded student vocabulary** and ability to understand context in industry.
- The internship **stipend helped students** with purchases for personal needs and coping with life's unexpected challenges.

STUDENT VOICE

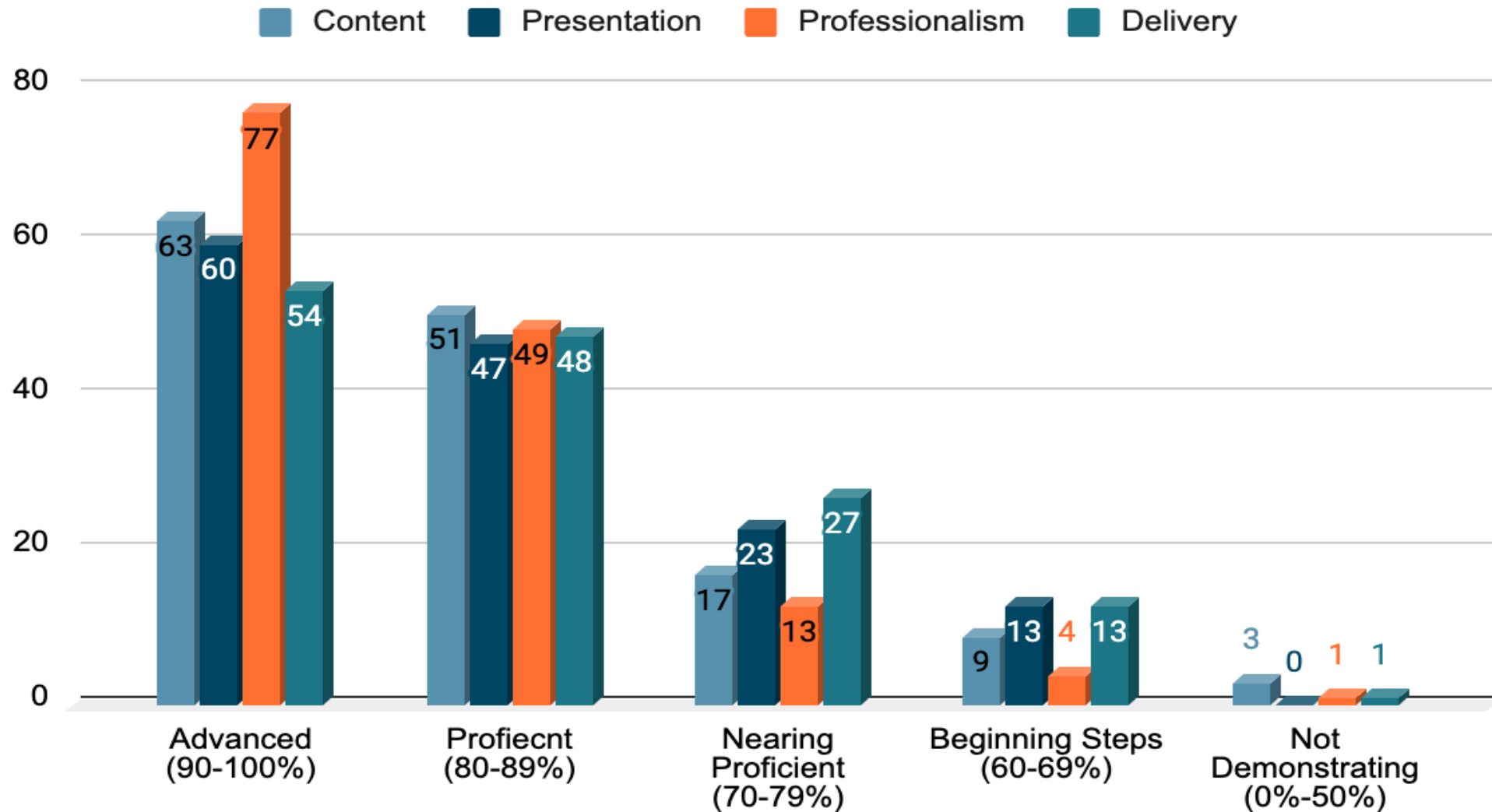
"It definitely did (confirmed career path). I'm looking to get my real estate license in October. They (internship supervisor) helped me choose my career path and I'm really happy about that. They also motivated me to go to college as I wasn't planning on going to college."

"I want to be in the medical field, it was definitely a great experience."

"A positive outcome I gained from my internship was knowing what to do when my friends hit rock bottom. Factors like the death of a loved one, car accidents, break ups, or other factors can contribute to one facing a mental challenge. This also taught me that getting help doesn't mean you're weak, and getting help is going to benefit you long-term."

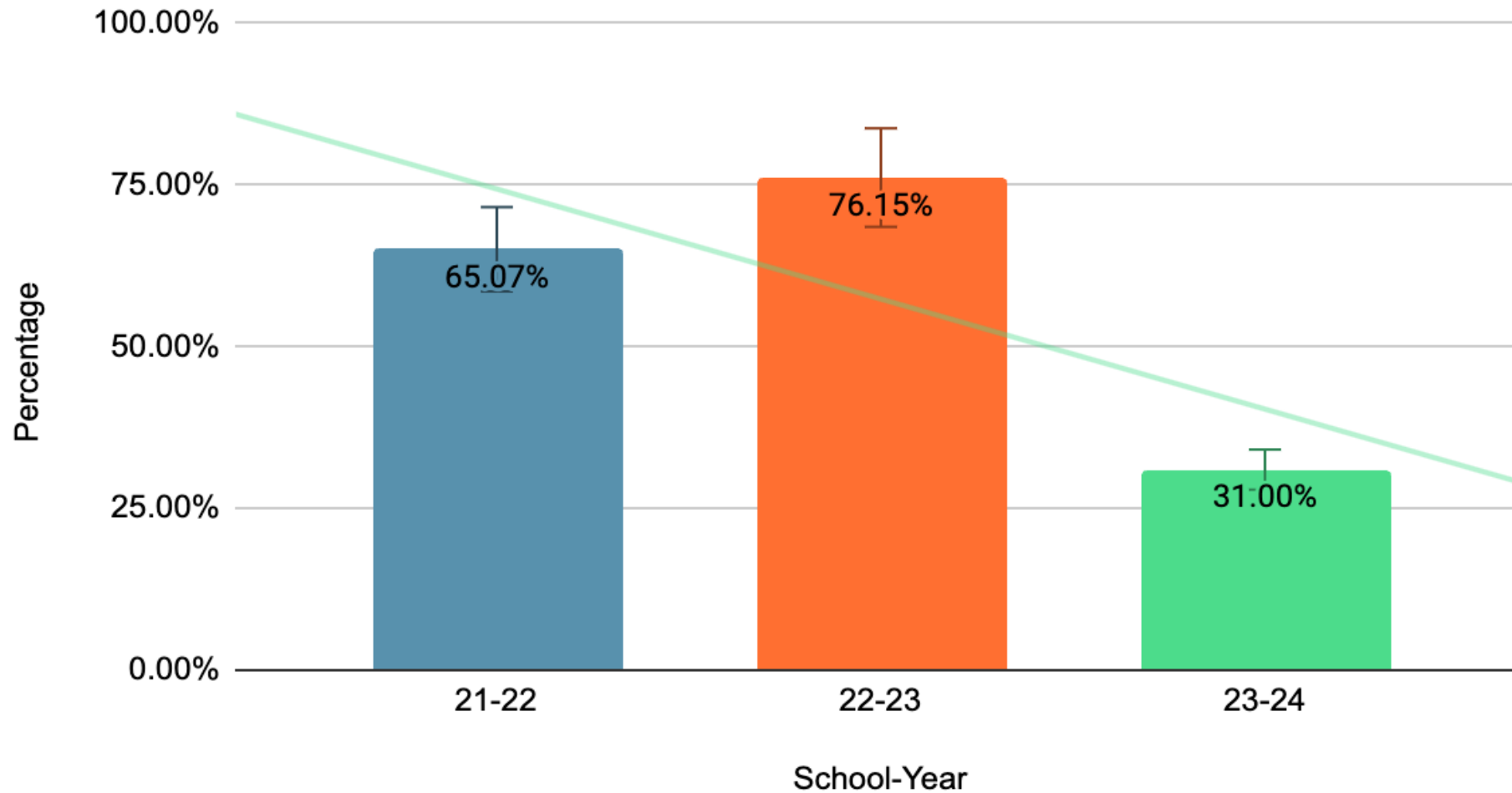
"Getting paid was helpful because I needed the money at the moment. I hit rock bottom after a car accident I was involved in on May 5th, I had just paid for gas and was left with less than \$50 and being left without a vehicle life is hard. With the money I received I am in a better space."

OST Moving Education from Theory to Practice



OST Practicums Improved Attendance

Chronic Absenteeism Rate



POST SECONDARY OPPORTUNITIES

How did your internship(s) help with your plans after high school?: All Students

