Historically, youth success has been measured mostly with test scores and school-related outcomes. However, preparing children for college, careers, and life takes more than just reading, writing, and math. In order to better support our children and youth for the future, we must redefine education to include learning that takes place outside of the classroom, such as afterschool and summer learning programs, and redefine success to include social-emotional and 21st century skill development.

The Rhode Island Afterschool Plus Alliance (RIASPA) in partnership with the Providence Plan created a data story that examined the question: What role do out-of-school time programs in Rhode Island play in promoting youth success?

To answer this question, data from the Rhode Island Department of Education’s 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC) program was used. In 2014, 21st CCLC provided $5,631,913 to support afterschool and summer learning programs in 59 centers in high-poverty and low-performing schools.

### Landscape in Rhode Island

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programs</th>
<th># Youth Eligible to Participate</th>
<th># Youth Participating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Summer Learning</td>
<td>159,191</td>
<td>63,325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Afterschool</td>
<td>159,191</td>
<td>34,704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21st CCLC</td>
<td>56,113</td>
<td>13,631</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hasbro Summer Learning Initiative</td>
<td>42,663</td>
<td>1,525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PASA Initiatives</td>
<td>2,405</td>
<td>6,401</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Higher Engagement in Learning

**Unexcused Absences**

- For every 1 unexcused absence that regular participants had, their peers had 2.6.

**Disciplinary Incidents**

- For every 1 disciplinary suspension that regular participants had, their peers had 2.4.

### Academic-Related Outcomes

- **Coming here has helped me try harder in school (All Youth 4th-8th Grade)**
  - Don’t Agree: 14%
  - Agree a Little: 21%
  - Mostly Agree: 25%
  - Agree a Lot: 40%

### Positive Skills and Beliefs

- **Coming here has helped me feel good about myself (All Youth 4th-8th Grade)**
  - Don’t Agree: 13%
  - Agree a Little: 20%
  - Mostly Agree: 24%
  - Agree a Lot: 43%

Special thanks to the RIASPA Research Advisory and those that provided information for the story: Mary-Kim Arnold, Samantha Brinz, Charlotte Boudreau, Danielle Clark, Ann Durham, Adrienne Gagnon, Stephanie Geller, Michael Grady, Adam Greenman, Elia Guma, Manyclaire Knight, Corinne McKamey, Jan Mermin, Ashley Moore, Joseph Morra, Elana Rosenberg, Jenn Steinfeld, Alexis Stern, and Michelle Un.