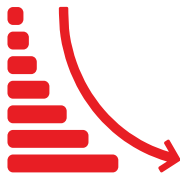


# SUMMER BY THE NUMBERS

## THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP WHAT HAPPENS TO CHILDREN DURING THE SUMMER?



### THE "SUMMER SLIDE"

is what often happens to disadvantaged children during the summer months. They tread water at best or even fall behind, while higher-income children build their skills steadily over the summer months.

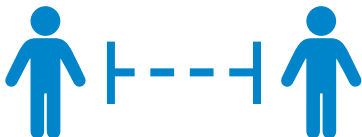


Elementary school students with high levels of attendance (at least five weeks) in voluntary **SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAMS**

experience benefits in math and reading.<sup>1</sup>



High-quality summer programs improve **MATH AND READING SKILLS**, and also build critical social and emotional skills of students. These are skills that will help them not only in school but also in their careers and life.



### THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP

between children from high- and low-income families is roughly thirty to forty percent larger among children born in 2001 than among those born twenty-five years earlier.<sup>2</sup>



Research shows that **HIGH-QUALITY SUMMER PROGRAMS** can make a difference in stemming learning loss and closing the country's educational and opportunity gaps.<sup>3</sup>



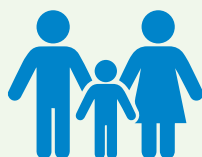
### 9 IN 10 TEACHERS

spend at least three weeks re-teaching lessons at the start of the school year.<sup>4</sup>

Sources: <sup>1</sup> Catherine H. Augustine, Jennifer Sloan McCombs, John F. Pane, Heather L. Schwartz, Jonathan Schweig, Andrew McEachin, and Kyle Siler-Evans. Learning from Summer: Effects of Voluntary Summer Learning Programs on Low-Income Urban Youth. RAND Corporation. (September 2016). <sup>2</sup> New York Times. (Feb 9, 2012). Education Gap Grows Between Rich and Poor, Studies Say. <sup>3</sup> <https://www.wallacefoundation.org/knowledge-center/pages/learning-from-summer-effects-of-voluntary-summer-learning-programs-on-low-income-urban-youth.aspx> <sup>4</sup> Surveyed by the National Summer Learning Association. Retrieved from <http://rer.sagepub.com/content/66/3/227.abstract> and [http://c.ygcdn.com/sites/www.summerlearning.org/resource/resmgr/press\\_releases/nsla\\_summer\\_release\\_130528\\_f.pdf](http://c.ygcdn.com/sites/www.summerlearning.org/resource/resmgr/press_releases/nsla_summer_release_130528_f.pdf) and [http://c.ygcdn.com/sites/www.summerlearning.org/resource/resmgr/Publications/Impact\\_on\\_Teaching\\_and\\_Learn.pdf](http://c.ygcdn.com/sites/www.summerlearning.org/resource/resmgr/Publications/Impact_on_Teaching_and_Learn.pdf)



## ACCESS TO AND DEMAND FOR SUMMER PROGRAMS



**51% OF FAMILIES** not participating in a summer program say they would if one was available to them.<sup>6</sup>



Of families who pay for summer programs, the average weekly reported cost is **\$288 PER CHILD** per week.<sup>7</sup>

## SUMMER HEALTH AND NUTRITION FOR KIDS



In July 2017, only **1 IN 7** children who ate a free or reduced-price school lunch during the 2016-2017 school year were reached by the federally-funded Summer Nutrition Programs, which include the Summer Food Services Program and the National School Lunch Program.<sup>8</sup>



Minority children gain weight up to **TWICE AS FAST** during the unstable months of the summer as during the school year.<sup>9</sup>

## SUMMER JOBS, SUMMER MELT AND OLDER YOUTH



Without summer counseling and support, **ONE-THIRD** of first generation college attenders fall victim to the “summer melt” and fail to enroll in the fall, even after being accepted.<sup>10</sup>



Waiting lists for summer youth jobs are **IN THE THOUSANDS** in most major cities, despite promising findings around reduced crime and mortality rates for participants.<sup>11,12</sup>

Sources: <sup>6</sup> Afterschool Alliance. (2009). American after 3 pm: The most in-depth study of how America's children spend their afternoons. Retrieved from [http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/AA3\\_Full\\_Report.pdf](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/AA3_Full_Report.pdf) <sup>7</sup> Ibid. <sup>8</sup> Hunger doesn't take a vacation: Summer nutrition status report 2018. Food Research and Action Center. Retrieved from <http://frac.org/wp-content/uploads/2018-summer-nutrition-report.pdf> <sup>9</sup> Von Hippel, P. T., Powell, B., Downey, D. B., & Rowland, N. J. (2007). The effect of school on overweight in childhood: gain in body mass index during the school year and during summer vacation. *American Journal of Public Health, 97*(4), 696-702. <sup>10</sup> Castleman, B. L., Page, L. C., Winkle-Wagner, R., Bowman, P. J., John, E. P. S., Meyer, H. D., & Hu, S. (2014). Summer melt: Supporting low-income students through the transition to college. Cambridge, MA: Harvard Education Press. <sup>11</sup> Heller, S. B. (2014). Summer jobs reduce violence among disadvantaged youth. *Science, 346* (6214), 1219-1223. <sup>12</sup> Gelber, A., Isen, A., & Kessler, J. B. (2014). The effects of youth employment: Evidence from New York City summer youth employment program lotteries (No. w20810). National Bureau of Economic Research.