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UNH Research Finds Income Matters When It Comes to Access to After-School Activity

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

(HTTPS://WWW.UNH.EDU/UNHTODAY/NEWS/2017/05/16/UNH-RESEARCH-FINDS-INCOME-MATTERS-WHEN-IT-COMES-ACCESS-AFTER-SCHOOL-ACTIVITY)

DURHAM, N.H. – Higher-income youth are twice as likely to be employed and one-and-a-half times as likely to participate in extracurricular activities as their lower-income counterparts, according to new research released by the Carsey School of Public Policy at the University of New Hampshire. Keeping youth busy after school has been shown to positively impact achievement in school and future earnings.

The research also found that more urban youth participate in extracurricular activities than rural youth, but rural youth are more likely to be employed than urban youth. In addition, the share of youth who are reading, watching TV and using electronics is comparable across income groups, but lower-income youth report participating in these activities for longer hours than their higher-income counterparts.

“This research brings to light an important issue in education,” said Sarah Leonard, a doctoral student in education and a research assistant in the Carsey School. “Policy makers and school systems may consider creating spaces for youth to participate in extracurricular activities across all income ranges by making participation affordable and accessible for everyone.”

The full report can be found here: <https://carsey.unh.edu/publication/after-the-bell> (<https://carsey.unh.edu/publication/after-the-bell>)

The Carsey School of Public Policy conducts research, leadership development, and engaged scholarship relevant to public policy. They address pressing challenges, striving for innovative, responsive, and equitable solutions at all levels of government and in the for-profit and nonprofit sectors.

The University of New Hampshire is a flagship research university that inspires innovation and transforms lives in our state, nation and world. More than 16,000 students from all 50 states and 71 countries engage with an award-winning faculty in top ranked programs in business, engineering, law, health and human services, liberal arts and the sciences across more than 200 programs of study. UNH’s research portfolio includes partnerships with NASA, NOAA, NSF and NIH, receiving more than \$100 million in competitive external funding every year to further explore and define the frontiers of land, sea and space.

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