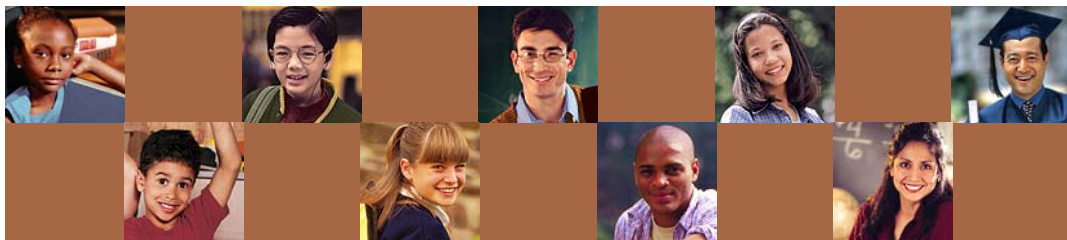


the condition of education 2005



INDICATOR 3

Homeschooled Students

The indicator and corresponding tables are taken directly from *The Condition of Education 2005*. Therefore, the page numbers may not be sequential.

Additional information about the survey data and supplementary notes can be found in the full report. For a copy of *The Condition of Education 2005*, visit the NCES website (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.sap?pubid=2005094>) or contact ED PUBs at 1-877-4ED-PUBS.

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Elementary/Secondary Education

Homeschooled Students

In the spring of 2003, about 1.1 million, or 2.2 percent of all students, were homeschooled in the United States, an increase from 1999.

This indicator examines the number and characteristics of homeschooled students in the United States in 2003. Homeschooled students are school-age children (ages 5–17) in a grade equivalent to at least kindergarten and not higher than 12th grade who receive at least part of their instruction under their parents’ guidance at home and whose attendance at public or private school does not exceed 25 hours per week.

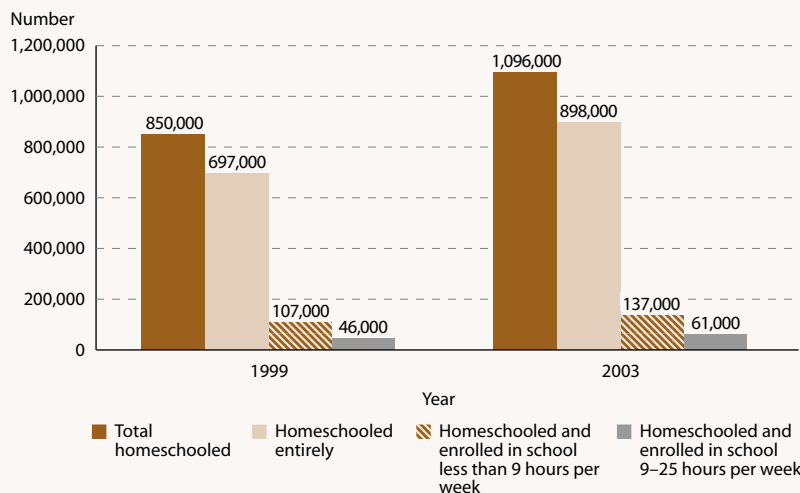
In 2003, the number of homeschooled students was 1.1 million, an increase from 850,000 in 1999 (see supplemental table 3-1). The percentage of the school-age population who were homeschooled increased from 1.7 percent in 1999 to 2.2 percent in 2003. The majority of homeschooled students received all of their education at home (82 percent), but some attended school up to 25 hours per week. Twelve percent of homeschooled students were enrolled in school less than 9 hours per week, and 6 percent were enrolled between 9 and 25 hours.

Homeschooled children tended to be White and from two-parent households in 2003. White children were more likely to be homeschooled than Black or Hispanic children or children from other race/ethnicities, and they constituted the

majority of homeschooled students (77 percent). Eighty-one percent of homeschooled students were in two-parent households and 54 percent were in two-parent households with one parent in the labor force. The latter group of students had a higher homeschooling rate than their peers from families with different family employment characteristics. In 2003, there were no measurable differences in rates of homeschooling among students when considering their household income or the level of their parents’ education.

Parents give many different reasons for homeschooling their children. In 2003, the reasons most frequently reported by parents as being “applicable” were concerns about the school environment (e.g., safety, drugs, or negative peer pressure) (85 percent of parents); a desire to provide religious or moral instruction (72 percent); and dissatisfaction with academic instruction (68 percent) (see supplemental table 3-2). As their “most important” reason, parents most often cited concerns about the school environment and a desire to provide religious or moral instruction.

HOMESCHOOLED STUDENTS: Number and distribution of school-age children who were homeschooled, by amount of time spent in schools: 1999 and 2003



NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding. Homeschooled children are those ages 5–17 educated by their parents full or part time who are in a grade equivalent to kindergarten through 12th grade. Excludes students who were enrolled in public or private school more than 25 hours per week and students who were homeschooled only because of temporary illness.

SOURCE: Princiotta, D., Bielick, S., Van Brunt, A., and Chapman, C. (forthcoming). *Homeschooling in the United States: 2003* (NCES 2005–101), table 1. Data from U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Parent Survey of the National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES), 1999 and Parent and Family Involvement in Education Survey of the NHES, 2003.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- Supplemental Notes 1, 3
- Supplemental Tables 3-1, 3-2
- NCES 2004–115



Homeschooled Students

Table 3-1. Number and percentage distribution of all school-age children who were homeschooled and homeschooling rate, by selected characteristics: 1999 and 2003

Characteristic	1999			2003		
	Number	Percentage distribution	Home-schooling rate ¹	Number	Percentage distribution	Home-schooling rate ¹
Total	850,000	100.0	1.7	1,096,000	100.0	2.2
Homeschooled entirely	697,000	82.0	100.0	898,000	82.0	100.0
Homeschooled and enrolled in school part time	153,000	18.0	100.0	198,000	18.0	100.0
Enrolled in school less than 9 hours per week	107,000	12.6	100.0	137,000	12.5	100.0
Enrolled in school 9–25 hours per week	46,000	5.4	100.0	61,000	5.6	100.0
Race/ethnicity ²						
Black	84,000	9.9	1.0	103,000	9.4	1.3
White	640,000	75.3	2.0	843,000	77.0	2.7
Other	49,000	5.8	1.9	91,000	8.3	3.0
Hispanic	77,000	9.1	1.1	59,000	5.3	0.7
Sex						
Male	417,000	49.0	1.6	569,000	51.9	2.2
Female	434,000	51.0	1.8	527,000	48.1	2.1
Number of children in the household						
One child	120,000	14.1	1.5	110,000	10.1	1.4
Two children	207,000	24.4	1.0	306,000	28.0	1.5
Three or more children	523,000	61.6	2.4	679,000	62.0	3.1
Number of parents in the household						
Two parents	683,000	80.4	2.1	886,000	80.8	2.5
One parent	142,000	16.7	0.9	196,000	17.9	1.5
Nonparental guardians	25,000	2.9	1.4	14,000	1.3	0.9
Parents' participation in the labor force						
Two parents, one in labor force	444,000	52.2	4.6	594,000	54.2	5.6
Two parents, both in labor force	237,000	27.9	1.0	274,000	25.0	1.1
One parent in labor force	98,000	11.6	0.7	174,000	15.9	1.4
No parent in labor force	71,000	8.3	1.9	54,000	4.9	1.8
Household income						
\$25,000 or less	262,000	30.9	1.6	283,000	25.8	2.3
\$25,001–50,000	278,000	32.7	1.8	311,000	28.4	2.4
\$50,001–75,000	162,000	19.1	1.9	264,000	24.1	2.4
\$75,001 or more	148,000	17.4	1.5	238,000	21.7	1.7
Parents' education						
High school diploma or less	160,000	18.9	0.9	269,000	24.5	1.7
Some college or vocational/technical	287,000	33.7	1.9	338,000	30.8	2.1
Bachelor's degree	213,000	25.1	2.6	274,000	25.0	2.8
Graduate/professional degree	190,000	22.3	2.3	215,000	19.6	2.5

¹The homeschooling rate is the percentage of the total subgroup that is homeschooled. For example, in 2003, 2.2 percent of all males were homeschooled.

²Black includes African American and Hispanic includes Latino. Race categories exclude Hispanic unless specified.

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding. Homeschooled children are those ages 5–17 educated by their parents full or part time who are in a grade equivalent to kindergarten through 12th grade. Excludes students who were enrolled in public or private school more than 25 hours per week and students who were homeschooled only because of temporary illness. See *supplemental note 3* for more information about the National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES).

SOURCE: Princiotta, D., Bielik, S., Van Brunt, A., and Chapman, C. (forthcoming). *Homeschooling in the United States: 2003* (NCES 2005–101), tables 1, 2, and 3. Data from U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Parent Survey of the National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES), 1999 and Parent and Family Involvement in Education Survey of the NHES, 2003.

Homeschooled Students

Table 3-2. Number and percentage of school-age children who were homeschooled, by parents' reasons given as important and most important for homeschooling: 2003

Reason	Important		Most important	
	Number	Percent ¹	Number	Percentage distribution
A concern about environment of other schools ²	935,000	85.4	341,000	31.2
A dissatisfaction with academic instruction at other schools	748,000	68.2	180,000	16.5
A desire to provide religious or moral instruction	793,000	72.3	327,000	29.8
Child has a physical or mental health problem	174,000	15.9	71,000	6.5
Child has other special needs	316,000	28.9	79,000	7.2
Other reasons ³	221,000	20.1	97,000	8.8

¹ Percentages do not sum to 100 percent because respondents could choose more than one reason.

² Such as safety, drugs, or negative peer pressure.

³ Parents homeschool their children for many reasons that are often unique to their family situation. "Other reasons" parents gave for homeschooling include the following: It was the child's choice, to allow parents more control over what child was learning, and to provide more flexibility.

NOTE: Homeschooled children are those ages 5–17 educated by their parents full or part time who are in a grade equivalent to kindergarten through 12th grade. Excludes students who were enrolled in public or private school more than 25 hours per week and students who were homeschooled only because of temporary illness. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding. See *supplemental note 3* for more information about the National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES).

SOURCE: Princiotta, D., Bielick, S., Van Brunt, A., and Chapman, C. (forthcoming). *Homeschooling in the United States: 2003* (NCES 2005–101), table 4. Data from U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Parent and Family Involvement in Education Survey of the National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES), 2003.

Homeschooled Students

Table S3. Standard errors for the number and distribution of school-age children who were homeschooled, by amount of time spent in schools: 1999 and 2003

Homeschooling arrangement	1999	2003
Total	71,100	92,300
Homeschooled entirely	64,100	87,200
Homeschooled and enrolled in school for less than 9 hours per week	25,300	36,800
Homeschooled and enrolled in school for 9–25 hours per week	12,900	20,400

SOURCE: Princiotta, D., Bielick, S., Van Brunt, A., and Chapman, C. (forthcoming). *Homeschooling in the United States: 2003* (NCES 2005–101), table A1. Data from U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Parent Survey of the National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES), 1999 and Parent and Family Involvement in Education Survey of the NHES, 2003.

Homeschooled Students

Table S3-1. Standard errors for the number and percentage distribution of all school-age children who were homeschooled and homeschooling rate, by selected characteristics: 1999 and 2003

Characteristic	1999			2003		
	Number	Percentage distribution	Home-schooling rate	Number	Percentage distribution	Home-schooling rate
Total	71,100	†	0.14	92,300	†	0.18
Homeschooled entirely	64,100	2.94	†	87,200	3.56	†
Homeschooled and enrolled in school part time	27,400	2.94	†	41,100	3.56	†
Enrolled in school less than 9 hours per week	25,300	2.81	†	36,800	3.25	†
Enrolled in school 9–25 hours per week	12,900	1.50	†	20,400	1.85	†
Race/ethnicity						
Black	24,800	2.80	0.31	33,900	2.87	0.42
White	62,300	3.36	0.19	77,500	3.88	0.25
Other	17,200	2.01	0.65	31,500	2.80	1.02
Hispanic	17,700	2.06	0.25	21,100	1.92	0.26
Sex						
Male	43,900	3.27	0.17	61,900	3.52	0.24
Female	46,100	3.27	0.19	58,200	3.52	0.23
Number of children in the household						
One child	20,300	2.53	0.24	22,300	1.97	0.28
Two children	27,100	3.06	0.14	45,100	3.74	0.22
Three or more children	65,200	3.97	0.30	80,200	4.35	0.36
Number of parents in the household						
Two parents	68,300	3.26	0.21	82,700	3.55	0.23
One parent	25,000	2.91	0.16	42,600	3.61	0.32
Nonparental guardians	14,400	1.70	0.82	11,100	1.01	0.74
Parents' participation in the labor force						
Two parents, one in labor force	53,800	4.27	0.55	73,700	4.73	0.67
Two parents, both in labor force	39,800	3.92	0.17	44,100	3.72	0.18
One parent in labor force	21,800	2.53	0.16	39,800	3.30	0.33
No parent in labor force	18,800	2.21	0.48	23,700	2.16	0.78
Household income						
\$25,000 or less	45,000	4.31	0.27	56,000	4.32	0.45
\$25,001–50,000	36,700	4.00	0.24	49,900	4.06	0.37
\$50,001–75,000	25,500	2.62	0.30	51,100	4.46	0.46
\$75,001 or more	26,500	2.65	0.28	45,800	3.79	0.33
Parents' education						
High school diploma or less	26,500	2.88	0.15	51,600	4.24	0.32
Some college or vocational/technical	37,300	3.85	0.25	57,700	4.60	0.36
Bachelor's degree	36,200	3.49	0.42	47,200	3.92	0.48
Graduate/professional degree	39,800	4.17	0.46	44,200	3.67	0.51

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: Princiotta, D., Bielick, S., Van Brunt, A., and Chapman, C. (forthcoming). *Homeschooling in the United States: 2003* (NCES 2005–101), tables A1, A2, and A3. Data from U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Parent Survey of the National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES), 1999 and Parent and Family Involvement in Education Survey of the NHES, 2003.

Homeschooled Students

Table S3-2. Standard errors for the number and percentage of school-age children who were homeschooled, by parents' reasons given as important and most important for homeschooling: 2003

Reason	Important		Most important	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percentage distribution
A concern about environment of other schools	85,800	2.41	54,900	3.97
A dissatisfaction with academic instruction at other schools	74,200	4.54	36,100	3.12
A desire to provide religious or moral instruction	86,900	4.01	53,600	4.27
Child has a physical or mental health problem	39,600	3.32	19,400	1.69
Child has other special needs	57,100	4.32	24,700	2.11
Other reasons	48,400	4.01	22,000	2.07

SOURCE: Princiotta, D., Bielick, S., Van Brunt, A., and Chapman, C. (forthcoming). *Homeschooling in the United States: 2003* (NCES 2005-101), table A4. Data from U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics Parent and Family Involvement in Education Survey of the National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES), 2003.