

Table 230. Children With Parental Involvement in Home Literacy Activities: 1993 to 2007

[In percent, except number of children (8,579 represents 8,579,000). For children 3 to 5 years old not yet enrolled in kindergarten who participated in activities with a family member. Based on the School Readiness Early Childhood Program Participation Surveys of the National Household Education Surveys Program; see source and Appendix III. See also Table 231]

Characteristic	Children (1,000)		Read to ¹		Told a story ¹		Taught letters, words, or numbers ¹		Visited a library ²	
	1993	2007	1993	2007	1993	2005	1993	2005	1993	2007
Total	8,579	8,686	78	83	43	54	58	77	38	36
Age:										
3 years old.....	3,889	3,755	79	84	46	54	57	75	34	36
4 years old.....	3,713	3,738	78	83	41	53	58	77	41	35
5 years old.....	976	1,193	76	83	36	55	58	80	38	39
Race/ethnicity:										
White, non-Hispanic.....	5,902	4,664	85	91	44	53	58	76	42	41
Black, non-Hispanic.....	1,271	1,312	66	78	39	54	63	81	29	25
Hispanic ³	1,026	1,899	58	68	38	50	54	74	26	27
Other.....	381	812	73	87	50	64	59	82	43	46
Mother's home language: ⁴										
English.....	7,805	7,244	81	88	44	55	58	78	39	38
Not English.....	603	1,312	42	57	36	45	52	69	26	24
Mother's highest education: ⁴										
Less than high school.....	1,036	808	60	56	37	39	56	70	22	20
High school.....	3,268	2,048	76	74	41	51	56	78	31	29
Vocational ed or some college.....	2,624	2,658	83	86	45	57	60	79	44	33
College degree.....	912	1,849	90	95	48	56	56	75	55	43
Graduate/professional training or degree.....	569	1,194	90	95	50	64	60	76	59	53

¹ Three or more times in the past week. ² At least once in the past month. ³ Persons of Hispanic origin may be any race.

⁴ Excludes children with no mother in the household and no female guardian.

Source: U.S. National Center for Education Statistics, Statistical Brief, NCES 2000–026, November 1999; the Early Childhood Program Participation Survey, National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES), 2005, unpublished data; and the NHES School Readiness Survey, 2007, unpublished data, <<http://nces.ed.gov/nhes>>.

Table 231. Children's School Readiness Skills: 1993 to 2007

[In percent. For children 3 to 5 years old not yet enrolled in kindergarten. Based on the School Readiness Surveys of the National Household Education Survey Program; see source for details. See also Table 230]

Characteristic	Recognizes all letters		Counts to 20 or higher		Writes name		Reads or pretends to read storybooks		Has 3 to 4 skills	
	1993	2007	1993	2007	1993	2007	1993	2005	1993	2005
Total	21	32	52	63	50	60	72	70	35	42
Age:										
3 years old.....	11	17	37	47	22	34	66	67	15	24
4 years old.....	28	38	62	73	70	76	75	73	49	55
5 years old.....	36	59	78	84	84	88	81	72	65	66
Sex:										
Male.....	19	31	49	61	47	56	68	70	32	40
Female.....	23	33	56	65	53	63	76	71	39	45
Race/ethnicity:										
White, non-Hispanic.....	23	36	56	69	52	64	76	75	39	47
Black, non-Hispanic.....	18	37	53	69	45	58	63	67	31	44
Hispanic ¹	10	15	32	41	42	49	59	55	22	26
Other.....	22	39	49	69	52	61	70	79	36	48
Mother's employment status: ²										
Employed.....	23	34	57	66	52	63	75	72	39	46
Unemployed.....	17	14	41	42	46	41	67	61	29	32
Not in the labor force.....	18	31	49	60	47	58	68	69	32	39
Family type:										
Two parents.....	22	33	54	64	51	62	74	72	37	44
None or one parent.....	18	27	49	57	47	52	65	65	31	36
Poverty status: ³										
Above threshold.....	24	35	57	67	53	64	74	75	40	47
Below threshold.....	12	21	41	48	41	46	64	54	23	26

¹ Persons of Hispanic origin may be any race. ² Excludes children with no mother in the household and no female guardian.

³ Children are considered poor if they lived in households with incomes below the poverty threshold, which is a dollar amount determined by the federal government to meet the household's need, given its size and composition. For more information about the poverty threshold, see text, section 13.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, U.S. National Center for Education Statistics, *Home Literacy Activities and Signs of Children's Emerging Literacy*, 1993, NCES 2000–026, November 1999; the Early Childhood Program Participation Survey, National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES), 2005, unpublished data; and the NHES School Readiness Survey, 2007, unpublished data, <<http://nces.ed.gov/nhes>>.