

Number and percentage of homeschooled students, ages 5 through 17 whose parents reported various reasons for homeschooling and their most important reason for homeschooling: 2007

Reasons for homeschooling	Applicable		Most important	
	Number	Percent ¹	Number	Percent
Concern about the environment of other schools ²	1,321,000	88	309,000	21
Dissatisfaction with academic instruction at other schools	1,096,000	73	258,000	17
To provide religious or moral instruction	1,257,000	83	540,000	36
Child has a physical or mental health problem	169,000	11	‡	‡
Child has other special needs	315,000	21	55,000	4
Nontraditional approach to child's education	984,000	65	99,000	7
Other reasons ³	485,000	32	216,000	14

‡ Reporting standards not met.

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

² These include safety, drugs, and 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 family time, finances, travel, and distance.

NOTE: Excludes children who were enrolled in school for more than 25 hours a week and students who were homeschooled primarily because of a temporary illness.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Parent and Family Involvement Survey of the 2007 National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES).

Standard errors and margins of error for the percentage of homeschooled students, ages 5 through 17 whose parents reported various reasons for homeschooling and their most important reason for homeschooling:
2007

Reasons for homeschooling	Applicable		Most important	
	Standard error of percent	Margin of error of percent ¹	Standard error of percent	Margin of error of percent ¹
Concern about the environment of other schools ²	2.5	+/- 4.9	3.4	+/- 6.7
Dissatisfaction with academic instruction at other schools	3.3	+/- 6.4	3.2	+/- 6.3
To provide religious or moral instruction	2.3	+/- 4.5	3.8	+/- 7.5
Child has a physical or mental health problem	1.9	+/- 3.8	‡	‡
Child has other special needs	3.3	+/- 6.5	1.0	+/- 2.0
Nontraditional approach to child's education	4.6	+/- 8.9	1.9	+/- 3.6
Other reasons ³	3.9	+/- 7.6	2.2	+/- 4.4

‡ Reporting standards not met.

¹ Margin of error is based on a 95 percent confidence interval.

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Reasons for homeschooling	Applicable		Most important	
	Standard error of percent	Margin of error of percent ¹	Standard error of percent	Margin of error of percent ¹
Concern about the environment of other schools ²	111,000	+/- 218,000	60,000	+/- 118,000
Dissatisfaction with academic instruction at other schools	104,000	+/- 203,000	49,000	+/- 96,000
To provide religious or moral instruction	113,000	+/- 222,000	78,000	+/- 153,000
Child has a physical or mental health problem	31,000	+/- 62,000	‡	‡
Child has other special needs	55,000	+/- 108,000	15,000	+/- 30,000
Nontraditional approach to child's education	103,000	+/- 201,000	27,000	+/- 53,000
Other reasons ³	72,000	+/- 140,000	36,000	+/- 71,000

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