

The 3 Top Reasons Parents Homeschool Children

Although homeschool anecdotes are a dime a dozen, hardcore statistics on this emerging education trend are often few and far between.

But on Tuesday, the U.S. Department of Education released [the latest official numbers](#) on homeschooling in America. Not surprisingly, they continue to rise.

The study, conducted on statistics from 2012, shows that roughly 1.8 million children are being educated at home. This number rose slightly from 1.5 million in 2007, 1.1 million in 2003, and 850,000 in 1999.



When asked to give their reasons for homeschooling, parents named the following three areas as the most important:

- Concern about safety and school environment (91 percent).
- A desire for moral instruction (77 percent).
- Dissatisfaction with academic instruction (74 percent).

Unfortunately, these statistics may already be outdated, as circumstances since 2012 may have escalated the number of families pursuing homeschooling.

Consider, for example, the rising [incidence of chaos](#) America's public schools have witnessed in just the last few years. The fact that teachers are "[powerless to discipline](#)" certainly can't sit well with parents who want their children in a safe environment.

Consider also the rising concern over Common Core. In 2012, Common Core was [hardly a blip on the radar screen](#) of most

Americans. Four years later, many American parents are vehemently opposed to it, and the Common Core Standards are described as a key reason why homeschooling has [increased by 11 percent](#) *in the last year* in North Carolina.

If conditions such as these continue in the public schools, should we really be surprised when more parents decide to take their children's education back into their own hands?

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