

Thinkfinity Literacy Network

Quick Facts About Literacy and Parental Education

- Children whose parents had at least a high school diploma or equivalent were more likely to be read to and taught letters, words or numbers than those children whose parents had less than a high school diploma.
U.S. Department of Education. National Center for Education Statistics. (2006). *The condition of education 2006*. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office.
- In 2005, a greater percentage of children whose mothers had a bachelor's or higher degree participated in early childhood center-based programs than children whose mothers had less than a high school diploma.
U.S. Department of Education. National Center for Education Statistics. (2006). *The condition of education 2006*. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office.
- On average, students at ages 13 and 17 whose parents have completed more years of school have higher reading and mathematics scores than do their peers whose parents have had fewer years of education.
Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics. (2003). *America's children: Key national indicators of well-being 2003*. Washington, DC: Author.
- The number of children's books in the home varies by maternal education. Mothers with lower education were more likely to report having fewer books in the home (0-25 books) than mothers with higher education.
Denton, K. and Germino-Hausken, E. (2000). *America's kindergartners*. Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics.
- NAEP reading results for 8th graders show higher levels of parental education were associated with high average scores.
U.S. Department of Education. (2003). *NAEP 2003 reading assessments*. Washington, DC: Author.
- Forty-two percent of children whose mothers had less than a high school education were read to every day in the last week compared to seventy-three percent of children whose mothers' highest education was college graduate or graduate of professional school.
Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics. (2002). *America's children: Key national indicators of well-being*. 2002. Washington, DC: Author.
- A lower percentage of parents with *Below Basic* prose literacy than parents with *Basic*, *Intermediate*, or *Proficient* prose literacy ever talked to their school-age children about things they studied in school. Conversely, higher percentages of parents with *Intermediate* or *Proficient* prose literacy than parents with *Basic* or *Below Basic* prose literacy talked to their school-age children every day about things they studied in school.
Kutner, M., Greenberg, E., Jin, Y., Boyle, B., Hsu, Y., and Dunleavy, E. (2007). *Literacy in everyday life: Results from the 2003 National Assessment of Adult Literacy* (NCES 2007-480). U.S. Department of Education. Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics.