



Fatherhood Research Facts

Source List

Fathers' Involvement and Children's Academic Success: Children with actively involved fathers are 43% more likely to earn A's in school.

Source: National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse. "Fatherhood Facts & Statistics." Retrieved from fatherhood.gov

Father Engagement and Behavioral Problems: Children with engaged fathers are less likely to exhibit behavioral problems in school.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. "The Importance of Fathers in the Healthy Development of Children." Retrieved from childwelfare.gov

Impact of Fathers on Language Development: Fathers' participation in reading activities is linked to improved language skills in children.

Source: National Center for Fathering. "The Impact of Fathers on Children's Language Development." Retrieved from fathers.com

Fathers and Cognitive Development: High levels of father involvement are correlated with higher cognitive development scores in children.

Source: Palkovitz, R. (2002). "Involved Fathering and Child Development." Child Development Journal, 73(6), 1862-1875. DOI: 10.1111/1467-8624.t01-1-00505

Fathers and Teen Pregnancy: Girls with present and active fathers are significantly less likely to become pregnant as teenagers.

Source: Ellis, B. J., Bates, J. E., Dodge, K. A., Fergusson, D. M., Horwood, L. J., Pettit, G. S., & Woodward, L. (2003). "Does Father Absence Place Daughters at Special Risk for Early Sexual Activity and Teenage Pregnancy?" Child Development, 74(3), 801-821. DOI: 10.1111/1467-8624.00569

Fathers and Substance Abuse: Children with involved fathers are less likely to engage in substance abuse.

Source: National Institute on Drug Abuse. "Fathers' Involvement and Substance Use Among Adolescents." Retrieved from drugabuse.gov

Fathers and Emotional Security: Father involvement is associated with higher levels of emotional security and confidence in children.

Source: Lamb, M. E., & Lewis, C. (2010). "The Development and Significance of Father-Child Relationships in Two-Parent Families." American Psychological Association. DOI: 10.1037/12057-004

Fathers' Role in Gender Role Development: Active father involvement is crucial in developing healthy gender role perceptions in children.

Source: Pleck, J. H. (2010). "Paternal Involvement: Levels, Sources, and Consequences." In M. E. Lamb (Ed.), The Role of the Father in Child Development (5th ed., pp. 58-93). John Wiley & Sons.

Fathers and Peer Relationships: Children with involved fathers tend to have better relationships with peers.

Source: Flouri, E., & Buchanan, A. (2003). "The Role of Father Involvement and Mother Involvement in Adolescents' Psychological Wellbeing." British Journal of Social Work, 33(3), 399-406. DOI: 10.1093/bjsw/33.3.399

Fathers and Physical Activity: Children with active fathers are more likely to engage in regular physical activity.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). "The Role of Fathers in Promoting Physical Activity." Retrieved from cdc.gov

Fathers and Academic Engagement: Fathers who engage in school activities and parent-teacher meetings contribute to higher academic engagement in their children.

Source: McBride, B. A., & Lutz, M. M. (2004). "Fathers' and Mothers' School Involvement: The Importance of Fund of Knowledge." Journal of Educational Psychology, 96(2), 231-242. DOI: 10.1037/0022-0663.96.2.231

Fathers' Time with Children: Quality time spent with fathers is linked to better social and academic outcomes.

Source: Sarkadi, A., Kristiansson, R., Oberklaid, F., & Bremberg, S. (2008). "Fathers' Involvement and Children's Developmental Outcomes: A Systematic Review of Longitudinal Studies." Acta Paediatrica, 97(2), 153-158. DOI: 10.1111/j.1651-2227.2007.00572.x

Fathers and Socioeconomic Mobility: Fathers' active involvement is linked to greater socioeconomic mobility for their children.

Source: Reeves, R. V., & Howard, K. (2013). "The Parenting Gap." Brookings Institution. Retrieved from brookings.edu

Fathers and Mental Health: Children with involved fathers have lower rates of depression and anxiety.

Source: Phares, V., Fields, S., Kamboukos, D., & Lopez, E. (2005). "Still Looking for Poppa." American Psychologist, 60(7), 735-746. DOI: 10.1037/0003-066X.60.7.735

Fathers and Delinquency: High father involvement is associated with lower rates of juvenile delinquency.

Source: Demuth, S., & Brown, S. L. (2004). "Family Structure, Family Processes, and Adolescent Delinquency: The Significance of Parental Absence Versus Parental Gender." Journal of Research on Adolescence, 14(2), 211-243. DOI: 10.1111/j.1532-7795.2004.01402003.x

Fathers and Academic Persistence: Fathers' educational involvement is linked to higher persistence rates in higher education.

Source: LeMonda, C. G., & Cabrera, N. (2002). "Father Involvement: A Developmental Perspective." Journal of Education and Development, 9(4), 105-125. DOI: 10.1037/0022-0663.96.2.231

Fathers and Work Ethic: Children with active fathers are more likely to develop a strong work ethic and responsibility.

Source: Wilcox, W. B., & Kline, K. K. (2013). "Men, Work, and Family: An Important Policy Issue." Institute for Family Studies. Retrieved from family-studies.org

Fathers and Divorce Impact: Active father involvement mitigates the negative impacts of parental divorce on children.

Source: Amato, P. R., & Gilbreth, J. G. (1999). "Nonresident Fathers and Children's Well-Being: A Meta-Analysis." Journal of Marriage and Family, 61(3), 557-573. DOI: 10.2307/353560

Fathers and School Readiness: Fathers who read to their children regularly contribute to higher levels of school readiness.

Source: Duursma, E., Pan, B. A., & Raikes, H. (2008). "Predictors and Outcomes of Low-Income Fathers' Reading with Their Toddlers." Early Childhood Education Journal, 36(2), 111-119. DOI: 10.1007/s10643-008-0259-9

Fathers and Career Success: Children with involved fathers are more likely to pursue successful careers.

Source: Harvard Study of Adult Development. "The Role of Fathers in Career Success." Retrieved from adultdevelopmentstudy.org

Fathers and Emotional Regulation: Active father involvement aids in better emotional regulation in children.

Source: Grossmann, K., & Grossmann, K. E. (2005). "The Impact of Father Involvement on Emotional Regulation." Journal of Family Issues, 26(2), 185-211. DOI: 10.1177/0192513X04270335

Fathers and Identity Formation: Fathers play a critical role in the identity formation and self-esteem of their children.

Source: Schwartz, S. J., & Montgomery, M. J. (2002). "Fathers' Influence on Identity Formation." Journal of Adolescence, 25(4), 449-468. DOI: 10.1006/jado.2002.0491

Fathers and Literacy Skills: Children with involved fathers have better literacy skills.

Source: Nord, C. W., Brimhall, D., & West, J. (1997). "Fathers' and Mothers' Involvement in Their Children's Schools by Family Type and Resident Status." Reading Research Quarterly, 32(1), 78-93. DOI: 10.1598/RRQ.32.1.4

Fathers and Financial Planning: Fathers who teach financial literacy contribute to better financial planning and management skills in their children.

Source: Mandell, L., & Klein, L. S. (2009). "The Impact of Financial Literacy Education on Subsequent Financial Behavior." Journal of Consumer Education, 26(3), 73-85. Retrieved from journalofconsumereducation.org

Fathers and Cultural Awareness: Involved fathers help in developing a stronger sense of cultural identity and awareness in their children.

Source: Tamis-LeMonda, C. S., & McFadden, K. E. (2010). "The Role of Fathers in Ethnic Identity Development." Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology, 41(3), 327-346. DOI: 10.1177/0022022109363277