



Women in the College Presidency

The American Council on Education (ACE) produced the latest iteration of the American College President Study (ACPS) with generous sponsorship from the TIAA Institute. *The American College President: 2023 Edition* is the ninth iteration of ACPS, and the data it presents provide a comprehensive view of the demographics, challenges, and experiences of college presidents. While there are more women serving as college presidents today than ever before, men continue to outnumber women two-to-one, highlighting a continued need to examine women's educational and professional pathways and their experiences in the college presidency.

Where Women Led

33 percent

Percentage of college presidents in 2022 who were women

29 percent

Percentage of women who led **doctoral institutions**, compared with 70 percent of men

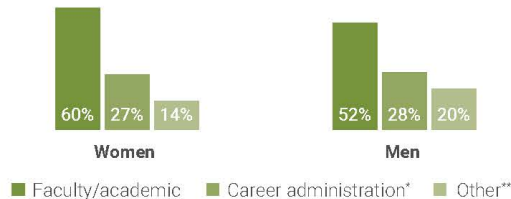
44 percent

Percentage of women presidents at **associate institutions**, the institution type that had the highest share of women leaders

Career Trajectories and Pathways



Women presidents were more likely than men to come from a **faculty or academic background**.



*Such as student affairs officer, auxiliary services or finance.

**Includes public sector/government, business executive, nonprofit executive, and those career paths not listed.

Women presidents were more likely to be promoted to the presidency from within their current institution



Opportunities for Mentoring & Support

More than **two in three women presidents (69 percent)** reported some level of agreement that they struggled to find people who understand the experience of being a president.

Women presidents who indicated that they struggled to find people who could relate to their experience as president, by race and ethnicity*



*Due to small sample sizes, disaggregated data for all racial and ethnic categories (such as Middle Eastern/Arab American women, American Indian/Alaska Native women, Asian/Asian American women, Asian Indian women, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander women and Multiracial women) cannot be reported.

Continued Areas for Development

As the sector seeks to support more women on a pathway to the presidency, these are the top four areas in which current women presidents want more training or development.



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